Orientation sensor documentation Adafruit BNO055

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Introduction

The purpose of this project is to extract data from the BNO055 9-axis absolute orientation sensor. The device works as an accelerometer, gyroscope and magnetometer and can collect other useful information from the environment, like temperature, Euler heading, quaternion etc. (official documentation: BST BNO055 DS000 12 (adafruit.com)).

Diagram of classes

The UML diagram of the project is presented in Figure 1:

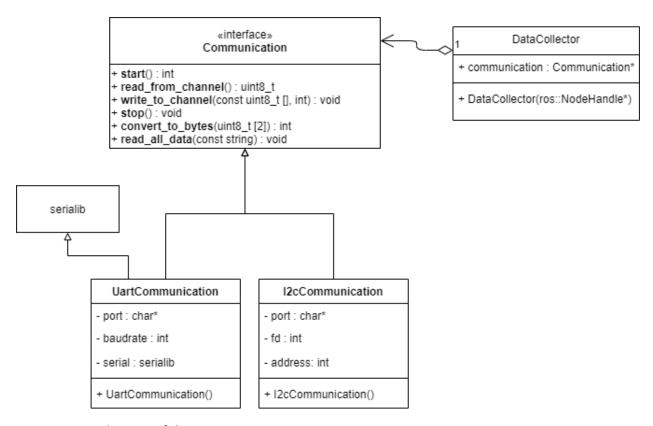


Figure 1: UML diagram of the project

There are 2 possible ways for the sensor to communicate with the sensor: UART or I2C. Communication interface is a generic class the defines the pure virtual functions required to establish the connection. Both communications implement the methods inherited, so inside "DataCollector" class, there is only one pointer to a "Communication" object.

Functionality & "use-case" scenario

UART communication is based on sending requests and receiving responses. These 2 are represented as byte arrays. For example, to read the "CHIP ID" value (which is A0), the following array should be written to the channel: $\{0xAA, 0x01,0x00,0x01\}$. The values from the array represent the start byte (always "AA", the operation: "read", register address respectively the number of bytes to be read).

I2C communication is done almost like UART. When we want to read/write data from/to the channel, we only write the slave address (usually 0x28 but depends on the system), the register address and, in case it is a write request, the data to be written. Before running the project, the user has to setup the parameters in "/config/my_params.yaml" file. Then, the project can be launched using the "roslaunch package name> <name_of_the_launch_file>" command. For example:

\$ roslaunch orient sensor orient sensor.launch

When the project is launched, a console message will appear on the screen and the user will have to choose the type of communication ("0" for UART and "1" for I2C). The baud rate and port name are taken from the param file.

The functionality of each method from "Communication.h" is described in Table 1:

Function name	Input	Output	Description
start()	None	Integer	Opens the
			communication channel.
stop()	None	None	Closes the
			communication channel.
convert_to_bytes(p)	p = Array of 2 bytes (p[0])	Integer	Utility function used to
	is MSB)		convert the response
			from the channel into
			integer.
read_from_channel()	None	Byte (uint8_t)	Reads bytes from the
			channel. Returns the last
			byte read.
write_to_channel(p1,p2)	p1 = Array of bytes.	None	Writes bytes to the
	p2 = Size of the array.		channel.
read_all_data(p)	p = the abbreviation of	None	Gets the data according
	the data to be		to the given input. Calls
	displayed. Possible		"read_from_channel" &
	values (const strings):		"write_to_channel"
	ACC		methods, using the
	MAG		corresponding byte array
	GYR		for each type of data.
	EUL		Prints integers.
	QUA		
	LIA		
	GRV		

The function responsible with each data extraction is "read_all_data(const string opt)", where "opt" is the name of the data ("ACC", "MAG" etc). The user declares a "DataCollector" object and instantiates the communication depending on the choice (UART or I2C). Then, the user calls the previous function. For example, to get the acceleration, the following line of code is written: "<DataCollectorObj>.communication -> read_all_data("ACC")". The abbreviation for each type of data is like in the datasheet.

Sensor data description

Data name	Description
ACC	Acceleration data along the 3-axis. (m/s ²)
MAG	Magnetometer – measures magnetic field and provides poles orientation. (micro Tesla)
GYR	Gyroscope – measures/maintains orientation and angular velocity along the 3-axis. (deg/s)
EUL	Orientation in space. (X,Y,Z) = (Heading, Roll, Pitch) (deg)
QUA	Orientation in space. (quaternion units)
LIA	Linear acceleration of the sensor along the 3-axis. (m/s²)
GRV	Measures the gravity along the 3-axis.

Note: The last 4 properties are available only in "fusion operating modes"!