

SENtral® M&M

Motion & Measurement Modules

General Description

PNI's SENtral M&M motion and measurement modules provide accurate heading and orientation data in a small, lowpower-consumption, and easy-to-integrate package. A module incorporates the SENtral motion coprocessor, a magnetometer, an accelerometer, a gyroscope, and an optional barometric pressure sensor with different SENtral M&M versions comprising different sensor models.

Unlike other inertial measurement units (IMUs) requiring extensive sensor fusion algorithm development and sensor calibration work, the Sentral M&M modules are pre-engineered to provide high accuracy motion tracking, heading, environmental data. And this is obtained at a fraction of the power used by any other solution on the market.

The SENtral M&M comes ready to integrate into a user's systemThe on-board EEPROM contains SENtral's configuration file and this automatically uploads into SENtral RAM when powered up.

With the SENtral M&M modules you can quickly and easily incorporate industryleading motion-tracking and orientation measurement in your mobile device. We're sure you'll be impressed.

Features

- All-in-one motion & orientation tracking module, incorporates the SENtral motion coprocessor, 3-axis gyroscope, 3-axis accelerometer, 3-axis magnetometer, and barometric pressure sensor.
- Low power consumption.
- 11x11 mm footprint and SMT design for ease of integration into a user's system
- Multiple versions with different sensors.

Applications

- Personal Navigation & LBS
- Gaming & Augmented Reality
- Movement Science & Fitness

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1 Product Overview

The SENtral M&M Motion and Measurement Module is a castellated printed-circuit assembly that makes it easy to quickly integrate a complete motion-sensor-fusion system into a wearable or mobile device. A module incorporates the SENtral Motion Coprocessor, a magnetometer, an accelerometer, a gyroscope, and an optional barometric pressure sensor with different SENtral M&M versions integrating different sensor models. The SENtral Motion Coprocessor manages and uses data from the sensors to provide reliable motion tracking and an accurate compass heading, while consuming about 1% of the power of a comparable ARM-based sensor fusion microprocessor. SENtral outputs Euler angles (aka heading, pitch, and roll), quaternions, and sensor data. Quaternions uniquely define orientation and, unlike Euler angles, do not experience a singularity (i.e. gimbal lock) when pointing straight up. They easily can be converted to Euler angles, the rotation vector, and the rotation matrix (aka DCM), as discussed in Appendix I.

1.1 SENtral Features and Benefits

At the heart of the SENtral M&M module is PNI's revolutionary SENtral Motion Coprocessor. Listed below are some of the features and benefits of this device.

- Low power consumption. Offloads sensor processing from the less efficient host CPU, consuming <1% of the power of a general purpose microprocessor running a comparable sensor fusion algorithm. Provides the ability to tailor the tradeoff between power consumption and motion-tracking performance.
- **Industry-leading heading accuracy.** Unparalleled heading accuracy for consumer electronics applications.
- **Continuous hard and soft-iron auto-calibration.** Unlike other motion-tracking products, SENtral calibrates for both hard-iron and soft-iron magnetic distortion. Specifically, soft-iron distortion is quite difficult to correct, and can contribute up to 90° of error. It can be caused by materials widely used in mobile and consumer electronic devices, such as EMI shielding tape and other shielding. Additionally, since a host system's magnetic signature can change over time and temperature, SENtral's continuous auto-calibration ensures accuracy over time.
- **Magnetic anomaly compensation.** With SENtral, heading and motion tracking is unaffected by short-term magnetic anomalies, such as rebar in buildings, desks, speakers etc., that can easily throw off the accuracy. SENtral establishes if a transient magnetic anomaly is present and compensates for this.
- **Sensor flexibility.** SENtral works with most common consumer electronics motion sensors, so designers can choose the sensors most appropriate for their systems.
- **Small form-factor.** 1.6x1.6x0.5 mm chip-scale package on 0.4 mm pitch. Uses little PCB real estate, allowing for painless integration.
- **I**²**C** interface. Uses industry-standard I^2C protocol in a low-power implementation to interface to the sensors and the host, so system integration is straightforward. Standard, Fast, Fast Plus, and High Speed are supported on the host bus.
- **Outputs.** SENtral natively outputs Euler angles (heading, pitch, and roll), quaternions, rotational velocity, linear acceleration, and magnetic field.
- **Pass-Through** allows for direct communication with devices on the I^2C sensor bus.

1.2 SENtral M&M System Overview

[Figure 1-1](#page-4-1) provides a reference schematic for SENtral M&M modules. While this diagram applies for most versions of the SENtral M&M, the White and Blue M&M modules differ from what is shown and the Purple and Pink include an additional pressure sensor (not shown). Section [7](#page-29-0) addresses additional functionality provided by the pressure sensor on the Pink & Purple M&M modules. Specific schematics for each module are available from PNI on request. How to interface with the SENtral M&M is covered in more detail in Section [3.](#page-8-0)

Figure 1-1: SENtral M&M Module Reference Schematic

A few points on diagram:

- The layout shows a discrete magnetometer, accelerometer, and gyroscope. SENtral M&M modules generally incorporate a combo sensor that combines the gyroscope and accelerometer into a single device or all three sensors into a single device.
- SENtral acts as a slave on a host system $I²C$ bus. This does not need to be a dedicated bus, although it is shown this way in the schematic.
- The SCLM and SDAM lines can be used to monitor SENtral's I^2C sensor bus, but this is not necessary. These lines are optional and may be left unconnected.
- If the host will poll SENtral, rather than running in an interrupt-driven manner, it is not necessary to connect GPIO[6], the host interrupt line, to the host system.
- GPIO[4] is intended for future use and currently serves no purpose. This can be left unconnected.

2 SENtral Specifications¹

2.1 Performance Characteristics

Table 2-1: Performance Characteristics

2.2 Electrical Characteristics

Table 2-2: Absolute Maximum Ratings

CAUTION:

Stresses beyond those listed above may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only. Operation of the device at these or other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied.

Footnote

1. Specifications subject to change.

Table 2-3: Operating Conditions

Footnote:

1. SENtral's I²C Host Interface supports Standard, Fast, Fast Plus, and High Speed Modes. High Speed Mode (3400 kHz) is supported with a reduced range of V_{DD} and bus capacitance. SENtral's I²C sensor bus interface supports Standard, Fast, and Fast Plus Modes. Pass-Through state, which connects the sensor bus and host bus, supports Standard and Fast Modes.

3 Interface

The SENtral M&M pin-out is given in [Table](#page-8-1) 3-1. Pin-outs also are given alongside the device mechanical drawings in Section [5.](#page-25-0) See [Table](#page-7-0) 2-3 for the operating ranges of DVDD, DVDD2, and AVDD. A discussion of the communication interface follows the table.

Pin Name	Description	M&M Orange, Red, Green, & Yellow Pin#	M&M White Pin#	M&M Blue Pin#
DVDD	Digital Supply Voltage - Sensors & EEPROM	1	NA	$\overline{2}$
DVDD ₂	Supply Voltage - SENtral	$\overline{2}$	D ₁	$\overline{2}$
AVDD	Analog Supply Voltage - Sensors	$\overline{7}$	NA	$\overline{7}$
GND	Ground	8	D ₂	8
SCLS	I ² C host bus SCL clock line	3	B1	3
SDAS	I ² C host bus SDA data line	5	A ₁	5
SDAM	I ² C sensor bus SDA data line	9	A ₄	9
SCLM	I ² C sensor bus SCL clock line	10	B4	10
GPIO[0]	SENtral Accelerometer Interrupt	-1	D4	--
GPIO[1]	SENtral Magnetometer Interrupt	--	C ₄	--
GPIO[2]	SENtral Gyroscope Interrupt	--	A3	--
GPIO[3]	Reserved	$-$	B3	--
GPIO[4]	Reserved	6	A2	6
GPIO[5]	Reserved	$\qquad \qquad -$	B2	--
GPIO[6]	Host Event Interrupt	4	C ₁	4
SA ₀	Slave Address Pin 0	$\qquad \qquad -$	C ₃	--
VCAP	Regulator Capacitor		D ₃	
Reserved	Reserved (not connected)		C ₂	1, 12, 13

Table 3-1: SENtral M&M Module Pin Assignments

Communication with the host processor is via SENtral's $I²C$ host interface, where the SENtral M&M acts as a slave device and the host's processor acts as the master. The host interrupt line informs the host system when SENtral has updated measurement data. The SENtral Motion Coprocessor on the SENtral M&M module communicates with the module's sensors over the sensor bus, where SENtral is the I^2C master and the sensors are slave devices.

SENtral's I²C interfaces comply with NXP's UM10204 specification and user manual, rev 04. Standard, Fast, Fast Plus, and High Speed modes of the $I²C$ protocol are supported by SENtral's $I²C$ host interface. Below is a link to this document.

http://www.nxp.com/documents/user_manual/UM10204.pdf

3.1 I ²C Timing

SENtral's I^2C timing requirements are set forth below, in [Figure 3-1](#page-9-1) and [Table](#page-10-1) 3-2. For the timing requirements shown in [Figure 3-1,](#page-9-1) transitions are 30% and 70% of V_{DD} .

Figure 3-1: I ²C Timing Diagram

Table 3-2: I ²C Timing Parameters

3.2 I ²C Host Interface (Host Bus)

The host will control the SENtral M&M on the host bus via SENtral's I^2C host interface. The host interface consists of 2 wires: the serial clock, SCLS, and the serial data line, SDAS. Both lines are bi-directional. SENtral is connected to the host bus via the SDAS and SCLS pins, which incorporate open drain drivers within the device. Note the SENtral M&M module incorporates 4.7 k Ω pull-up resistors on the host bus clock and data lines, so if the host system also incorporates pull-up resistors on these line the resistors will act in parallel.

The SENtral M&M's **7-bit** I²C slave address is $0x28$ (0b0101000). The shifted address is 0x50.

Data transfer is always initiated by the host. Data is transferred between the host and SENtral serially through the data line, SDAS, in an 8-bit transfer format. The transfer is synchronized by the serial clock line, SCLS. Supported transfer formats are single-byte read, multiple-byte read, single-byte write, and multiple-byte write. The data line can be driven

either by the host or SENtral. Normally the serial clock line will be driven by the host, although exceptions can exist when clock-stretching is implemented in Pass-Through State.

3.2.1 I ²C Transfer formats

[Figure 3-2](#page-11-1) illustrates writing data to registers in single-byte or multiple-byte mode.

------------- Data Transferred (n bytes + acknowledge) -------------

Figure 3-2: I ²C Slave Write Example

The I^2C host interface supports both a read sequence using repeated START conditions, shown in [Figure 3-3,](#page-11-2) and a sequence in which the register address is sent in a separate sequence than the data, shown in [Figure 3-4](#page-11-3) and [Figure 3-5.](#page-11-4)

Data Transferred (n bytes + acknowledge)

Figure 3-3: I ²C Slave Read Example, with Repeated START

Figure 3-4: I ²C Slave Write Register Address Only

From Host to SENtral ----Data Transferred (n bytes + acknowledge) ----From SENtral to Host

Figure 3-5: I ²C Slave read register from current address

3.3 I ²C Sensor Interface (Sensor Bus)

Understanding how the sensor interface operates is not necessary when using the SENtral M&M module. However, understanding the sensor interface is useful if there is a need to communicate directly with a sensor or the EEPROM in Pass-Through state.

The SENtral Motion Coprocessor on the SENtral M&M module communicates with the module's accelerometer, gyroscope, magnetometer and pressure sensor over the module's sensor bus, where SENtral is the $I²C$ master and the sensors are slave devices. On the sensor bus, SENtral initiates data transfer and generates the serial clock. The two wires comprising the sensor bus are SDAM, the serial data line, and SCLM, the serial clock. Both are bidirectional and driven by open drain transistors within SENtral. These can be monitored by the host, but should not be written to by the host. Each line is attached to a 4.7 k Ω pull-up resistor. SENtral's I^2C sensor interface supports Standard mode with a rate up to 100 kbit/s, Fast mode with a rate up to 400 kbit/s, and Fast Plus mode with a rate up to 1000 kbit/s.

3.4 Host Interrupt/GPIO Lines

GPIO[6] provides an interrupt to the host whenever a defined event occurs. Exactly which types of events will trigger an interrupt are set by the EnableEvents register, which is discussed in Section [4.2](#page-14-1) This interrupt line can be used to signal the host that new results are available for reading. Alternately, the host may poll SENtral's EventStatus register, discussed in Section [0,](#page-16-1) to determine if any events of interest have been updated. If polling will be used, PNI recommends polling on a regular interval such that an error event will be identified in a timely manner.

GPIO[4] is not currently used, and generally should be left unconnected. This is also true for GPIO[3] and GPIO[5], which are only accessible on the SENtral White M&M.

4 Operation

[Figure 4-1](#page-13-1) provides a flow chart of the SENtral M&M module's initialization process, and a discussion of this process follows in Section [4.1](#page-14-0) **For the registers, all multi-byte elements are stored and transmitted using the Little Endian convention: the least significant byte is stored at the lowest address and transmitted first over the** $I²C$ **bus.**

Figure 4-1: SENtral Initialization Sequence

Once the initialization sequence is complete, there are three states in which SENtral may reside: Normal Operation, Standby, and Pass-Through. [Figure 4-2](#page-13-2) indicates the recommended way to get from one state to another, and these states are discussed in detail in Sections [4.2](#page-14-1) and [0](#page-16-1) (Normal Operation), [4.4](#page-19-0) (Standby), and [4.5](#page-20-0) (Pass-Through).

4.1 Power-Up

After powering up or issuing a ResetReq command, SENtral automatically initializes the registers and loads the SENtral Configuration File from the onboard EEPROM, as indicated in [Figure 4-1.](#page-13-1) The Configuration File contains information specific to the particular SENtral M&M flavor, and is discussed more thoroughly in the SENtral Motion Coprocessor Technical Datasheet. Once the upload is complete, SENtral enters Initialized State and waits for instructions from the host.

Table 4-1: Configuration File Upload from EEPROM Registers

The host should confirm a successful EEPROM upload by following the steps below:

- Read the value from the SentralStatus register.
- Check bit [0], the EEPROM bit, to ensure an EEPROM is detected by SENtral.
- Check bit $[1]$, the EEUploadDone bit. If this is '0' then the Configuration File upload is not complete, and reread the SentralStatus register until bit $[1] = 1$.
- Once bit $[1] = 1$, check bit $[2]$, the EEUpload Error bit. If this is '0', then the upload was successful.

If the Configuration File upload failed, send a Reset command by writing 0x01 to the ResetReq register or power off/power on the device. If the issue persists, refer to the SENtral Motion Coprocessor datasheet for debugging hints.

4.2 Initial Register Set-Up

After the initialization process is complete, it is necessary to configure a few of SENtral's registers before running in Normal Operation. These registers are given in [Table](#page-15-0) 4-2.

Perform the following operations to run SENtral as desired.

- Set the sensor output data rates (ODRs): MagRate, AccelRate, and GyroRate. If a sensor rate is set to 0x00, SENtral will shutdown the sensor and disable SENtral background calibration. There are two major points regarding setting these registers:
	- \circ The AccelRate and GyroRate register values should be 1/10th the desired ODR, while the MagRate value should match the desired ODR. For example, if the desired ODR is 30 Hz for the magnetometer, 100 Hz for the accelerometer, and 200 Hz for the gyroscope, then the respective register values should be 0x1E (30_d) , 0x0A (10_d) , and 0x14 (20_d) .
	- o The actual accelerometer and gyro ODRs are limited to the ODRs supported by the specific sensors. **If the AccelRate or GyroRate register values do not correspond to a supported ODR, then the next highest ODR will be used.** For instance, if the GyroRate register is set to 0x14, which corresponds to 200 Hz, but the gyro supports 95 Hz, 190 Hz, and 380 Hz, then the actual gyro ODR will be 380 Hz since this is the closest supported rate above that requested by the register.
- Establish the quaternion output data rate, where the quaternion output data rate equals GyroRate divided by QRateDivisor. The default for QRateDivisor is 0x00, which is interpreted as '1' and results in the quaternion output data rate equaling GyroRate.
- Establish how SENtral's orientation and sensor data is to be output. The AlgorithmControl register allows the user to select either quaternion or Euler angles (heading, pitch, and roll) for orientation outputs, and either scaled or raw sensor data outputs. The defaults are quaternions and scaled sensor data.
- Establish which events will trigger an interrupt to the host by configuring the EnableEvent register. PNI specifically recommends enabling bit [1], the Error interrupt bit, in addition to whichever other interrupts the user wants.

Example steps to do this are below:

- Write 0x1E0A0F to the MagRate register. Since SENtral automatically increments to the next register, this also populates the AccelRate and GyroRate registers. This sets MagRate to 100 Hz, AccelRate to 100 Hz, and GyroRate to 150 Hz.
- Write 0x02 to the QRateDivisor Register. This sets the quaternion output data rate to be half the GyroRate. This step is optional, as the default register value of 0x00 sets the quaternion output data rate equal to GyroRate.
- Write 0x06 to the AlgorithmControl register. This enables heading, pitch, and roll orientation outputs and raw sensor data outputs. This step is optional, as the default register value of 0x00 results in outputs of quaternions and scaled sensor data.
- Write 0x07 to the EnableEvents register. This sets the host to receive interrupts from SENtral whenever the quaternion results registers (QX, QY, QZ, and QW) are updated, an error has been detected, or SENtral has been Reset but the Configuration File has not been uploaded. If the host regularly will poll SENtral, rather than run in an interrupt-driven manner, it is not necessary to set the EnableEvents register.

Note: It is necessary to set the MagRate, AccelRate, AND GyroRate registers to non-zero values for the SENtral algorithm to function properly and to obtain reliable orientation and scaled sensor data. If a [Sensor]Rate register is left as 0x00 after power-up, or is changed to 0x00, this effectively disables that sensor within the SENtral algorithm. Also, the CalStatus, MagTransient, and AlgorithmSlow bits become undefined.

4.3 Running in Normal Operation

After performing the steps listed above, SENtral is ready to start generating orientation data. The registers used to run in Normal Operation are given in [Table](#page-15-0) 4-2, the steps to follow comes after this, and a flow diagram is given in [Figure 4-3.](#page-18-2)

Register Name	Address	Register Value	
HostControl	0x34	$[0]$ 1 = RunEnable $0 =$ Enable Initialized State (Standby State generally is preferred since enabling Initialized State resets the SENtral algorithm, including calibration data.)	
EventStatus 0x35		'1' indicates a new event has been generated. [0] CPUReset [1] Error [2] QuaternionResult [3] MagResult [4] AccelResult [5] GyroResult	

Table 4-3: Normal Operation Registers

Below are the steps to follow when operating in Normal Operation state.

- a) Write 0x01 to the HostControl register. This sets the RunEnable bit to '1' and enables the sensors and the SENtral algorithm.
- b) If operating in an interrupt-driven mode, then the host waits until it receives an interrupt signal from SENtral. Alternatively the host may operate on a polling basis, rather than an interrupt-driven basis, in which case the interrupt line may not be used.
- c) Once an interrupt is received by the host or the host otherwise decides to read new data, read the EventStatus register.
- d) Interpret and act on the EventStatus register in the priority shown in [Figure 4-3.](#page-18-2) If bit $[1]$, the Error bit, is '1', see Section [4.3.1.](#page-18-0) If bits $[2]$, $[3]$, $[4]$, or $[5]$, the Results bits, are '1', see Section [4.3.2.](#page-18-1) Bit [0], the CPUReset bit, should never be '1', since this bit only can be '1' after a Reset or powering up and prior to loading the Configuration File, and on the SENtral M&M module loading of the Configuration File is automatically performed after powering up.
- e) Repeat steps c and d until new orientation data is not needed and/or the host decides to enter a different state.

Reading the EventStatus register clears it. It is possible for more than one bit position to be '1' in the EventStatus register, especially if the host does not always read the EventStatus register after receiving an interrupt. Similarly, if multiple bits are set to '1' in the EventStatus register, once the register is read all the bits will be set to '0'. For this reason the EventStatus register should be processed in the priority shown in [Figure 4-3,](#page-18-2) as information will be cleared for events that are not handled.

Figure 4-3: SENtral Normal Operation Flow

A discussion of how to handle the events follows.

4.3.1 Error

In the event of an error, SENtral will trigger an error interrupt and SENtral will enter Standby State. See the Section [4.6](#page-22-0) for recommendations on Troubleshooting and/or reset SENtral by sending 0x01 to the ResetReq register, at address 0x9B.

4.3.2 Read Results

The Results Registers' addresses, formats, and full-scale ranges are given below in [Table](#page-19-1) [4-4.](#page-19-1) For an explanation of how to convert quaternions to the rotation vector, the rotation matrix, or Euler angles (heading, pitch, and roll), see Appendix I. The resolution is 32 kHz for all timestamps.

Note: All multi-byte elements are stored and transmitted using the Little Endian convention: the least significant byte is stored at the lowest address and transmitted first over the \hat{f} *C bus.*

Table 4-4: Results Registers

4.4 Standby State

In Standby State overall system power consumption is dramatically reduced because both the SENtral algorithm and the sensors are shut down. [Table](#page-20-1) 4-5 provides the registers associated with Standby State.

Table 4-5: Standby Registers

The steps to enter and exit Standby State are given below:

- Write 0x01 to the AlgorithmControl register. This places SENtral in Standby State.
- Read the AlgorithmStatus register. If bit [0] is '1', then SENtral is in Standby State. This step is optional.
- When you are ready to exit Standby State, write 0x00 to the AlgorithmControl register. This takes SENtral out of Standby State and normally will place it back into Normal Operation.
- Read the Algorithm Status register. If bit $[0]$ is '0', then SENtral is not in Standby State. This step is optional.

4.5 Pass-Through State

In Pass-Through State, SENtral's sensor and host interfaces are connected by internal switches so the host system can communicate directly with the sensors or EEPROM. To enter Pass-Through State, SENtral first either should be in Standby or Initialized State. Consequently, in Pass-Through State the SENtral algorithm, host interrupt line, and sensors are disabled, unless a sensor is directly turned on by the host. When exiting Pass-Through State, SENtral will return to its prior state.

Note: When entering Pass-Through State the sensor's registers retain the values established by SENtral, and when exiting Pass-Through State any register changes will be retained.

Uses for the Pass-Through State include:

- Direct control of sensors, if desired.
- Debugging.
- Communication with the dedicated EEPROM, if implemented. Specifically, if a new Configuration File is generated, the host can write this into the EEPROM when in Pass-Through State, as discussed in the SENtral Motion Coprocessor datasheet.

Since operating in Pass-Through State requires stopping the SENtral algorithm, Pass-Through State is not recommended for accessing sensor data unless reliable heading data is not required. If sensor data and reliable heading data are both desired, they can both be accessed during Normal Operation from the Results Registers, as given in [Table](#page-19-1) 4-4.

[Table](#page-21-0) 4-6 provides the registers associated with Pass-Through State.

Register Name	Address	Register Value
AlgorithmControl	0x54	$[0]$ 1 = Standby Enable $0 =$ Disable Standby State
AlgorithmStatus	0x38	$[0]$ 1 = SENtral in Standby State $0 =$ SENtral not in Standby State
PassThroughControl	0xA0	$[0]$ 1 = Enable Pass-Through State 0 = Disable Pass-Through State
PassThroughStatus	0x9E	[0] 1 = SENtral in Pass-Through State. 0 = SENtral not in Pass-Through State.

Table 4-6: Pass-Through Registers

The steps to go in and out of Pass-Through State are given below.

- Write 0x01 to the AlgorithmControl register. This places SENtral in Standby State.
- Write 0x01 to the PassThroughControl register. This places SENtral in Pass-Through State.
- Read the PassThroughStatus register. If bit [0] is '1', then SENtral is in Pass-Through State. This step is optional.
- When you are done in Pass-Through State, write 0x00 to the PassThroughControl register. This terminates Pass-Through mode and returns SENtral to Standby State.
- Write 0x00 to the AlgorithmControl register. This takes SENtral out of Standby State and normally will place it back into Normal Operation.

4.6 Troubleshooting

This section provides guidance in troubleshooting SENtral, and is divided into hardwarerelated and software-related errors.

4.6.1 Hardware-Related Error Conditions

Possible indications of a hardware-related problem are given below in [Table](#page-22-2) 4-7.

Register Name	Address	Error Indication
EventStatus	0x35	[0] 1 = CPURest. SENtral Configuration File needs uploading. See Section 4.1.
SentralStatus	0x37	[2] $1 = EEUploadError$. Issue with uploading from the dedicated EEPROM. See Section 4.1.
MagRate	0x55	$0x00 - Value$ lost
AccelRate	0x56	$0x00 - Value$ lost
GyroRate	0x57	$0x00 - Value$ lost

Table 4-7: Hardware-Related Error Indications

In the event of such errors, SENtral will enter Standby State, shut down the sensors, and generate an interrupt to the host. Possible reasons for hardware-related errors include problems with the EEPROM upload, power transients detected by power management, and errors in software detected by Watchdog. Often the error can be cleared by sending the ResetReq command.

4.6.2 Software-Related Error Conditions

Possible indications of software-related errors are given below in [Table](#page-23-1) 4-8:

Table 4-8: Software-Related Error Indications

If the ErrorRegister indicates a non-zero value, then the value provides additional information on the sensor that is causing a problem, as given in [Table](#page-23-2) 4-9.

Table 4-9: ErrorRegister Indications

If the RAMVersion register values do not correspond to the expected Configuration File revision level, as given in [Table](#page-24-0) 4-10, certain features or functions that are expected to be

available may not be available, or they may not function as expected. This normally can be remedied by generating the latest Configuration File revision level using the SENtral Configuration Tool and then loading this into the onboard EEPROM, as discussed in the SENtral Technical Datasheet.

Table 4-10: RAMVersion Register Values

5 Package Information

Figure 5-1: SENtral Orange, Red, Green, & Yellow M&M Mechanical Drawing

Figure 5-2: SENtral White M&M Mechanical Drawing

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Figure 5-3: SENtral Blue M&M Mechanical Drawing

6 Assembly Guidelines

Figure 6-1: SENtral Orange, Red, Green, & Yellow M&M Solder Pad Layout

PNI Sensor Corporation Doc #1020129 revG SENtral M&M Technical Datasheet Page 27 Dimensions in [inches]
mm

Figure 6-3: SENtral Blue M&M Solder Pad Layout

7 SENtral M&Ms with Pressure Sensors Overview

SENtral M&M Pink and M&M Purple include barometric pressure sensors. In addition to expanding the range of applications and features that the M&M's support, pressure sensors are an important component in accurate dead-reckoning and indoor navigation. The pressure sensors used also provide temperature.

Application Functionality

- Barometric pressure for weather forecasting
- Floor and elevator detection for indoor navigation
- Slope detection and altimeter for outdoor navigation
- Climbing speed

Ambient temperature

This data is available in addition to the SENtral quaternion and algorithm outputs.

7.1 System Schematics

Our M&M modules are an ideal way to test the functionality of a SENtral based system. Full size schematics are provided upon request for those wishing to integrate a discrete solution into their system.

Figure 7-1: SENtral M&M Purple Schematic

Key components include PNI SENtral, Bosch Sensortech BMI160 Gyro/Accel , BMM150 Magnetometer and BMP280 Pressure sensor.

Figure 7-2: SENtral M&M Pink Schematic

Key components include PNI SENtral, ST Micro LSM6DS3 Gyro/Accel, AKM AK9911 Magnetometer and ST Micro LPS25H Pressure Sensor

7.2 Specifications

Sensor data available through SENtral is output at scale factors detailed in the following table;

1. Least Significant Bit

7.3 Interface

Pressure sensor data is available separate from the quaternion outputs and can be accessed without the need to wakeup the inertial sensors on the board. The data can be accessed at the following registers.

Table 7-1 Pressure Senor Data Accesss

Appendix I – Converting Quaternions

SENtral outputs orientation data in quaternions, using a North-East-Down (NED) convention. This is done to avoid the singularities inherent in using Euler angles (heading, pitch, and roll), and because the fusion algorithms are easier to implement with quaternions. However, normally quaternions are not the desired final output format. Most end users will want heading, pitch, and roll, while Android looks for a rotation vector and generally uses a rotation matrix for orientation. Plus, Android and Win8 both expect data to be presented in the East-North-Up (ENU) convention. This appendix discusses how to convert SENtral's output quaternions into these other output formats.

Converting from NED to ENU

While the North-East-Down (NED) convention is common in many industries, both Android and Windows 8 use the East-North-Up convention. Below is the equation to convert from NED to ENU.

$$
Q_{\text{ENU}} = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{\text{INU}} & 0.707 & 0.707 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_{\text{W}} & -Q_{\text{Z}} & Q_{\text{Y}} & -Q_{\text{X}} \\ Q_{\text{Z}} & Q_{\text{W}} & -Q_{\text{X}} & -Q_{\text{Y}} \\ -Q_{\text{Y}} & Q_{\text{X}} & Q_{\text{W}} & -Q_{\text{Z}} \\ Q_{\text{X}} & Q_{\text{Y}} & Q_{\text{Z}} & Q_{\text{W}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -0.707 & 0.707 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.707 & 0.707 \\ 0.707 & -0.707 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.707 & -0.707 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
$$

Heading, Pitch, and Roll

Most end users will want orientation data reported as heading, pitch, and roll. Below are the Excel transformation equations. Note that for other programs, such as Matlab, the ATAN2 arguments may be reversed.

- Heading = atan2[$(Qx^2 Qy^2 Qz^2 + Qw^2)$, 2* $(QxQy + QzQw)$]
- Pitch = $\text{asin}[-2*(\text{OxQz} \text{QyQw})]$
- Roll = atan2[$(-Qx^2 Qy^2 + Qz^2 + Qw^2)$, 2* $(QxQw + QyQz)$]

Where:

- Results are in radians.
- The quaternions are the outputs from SENtral in NED convention.
- Heading increases as the device rotates clockwise around a positive Z axis, and the range is 0° – 360°. (i.e. it matches what you would expect on a compass.)
- Pitch increases when pitching upward and the range is $\pm 180^\circ$.
- Roll increases when rolling clockwise and the range is $\pm 90^\circ$.

Rotation Vector

The rotation vector is the first three elements of the quaternion output, Qx, Qy, and Qz. The fourth element, Qw, is not included in the rotation vector. The rotation vector in ENU convention will be the first three elements of Q_{ENU}, discussed above.

Rotation Matrix, or Direction Cosine Matrix (DCM)

The rotation matrix, also known as the direction cosine matrix (DCM), can be established from the quaternion output using the following conversion. Q_{ENU} values can be substituted to give the rotation matrix with an ENU convention.

 \blacksquare

Appendix II – Parameter Transfer

Note: Implementing the parameter transfer process is not necessary when using SENtral, but can be useful for enabling a warm start, for setting the sensor ranges to non-default values, and/or for reading the device driver IDs.

This appendix provides the protocol for implementing SENtral's parameter transfer process. A parameter transfer involves the host either loading parameter values into SENtral, or retrieving parameter values currently used by SENtral.

Register Usage

Table [A2-0-1](#page-34-1) provides the registers used for the parameter transfer process.

Table A2-0-1: Registers Used for Parameter Transfer

The parameter transfer process is invoked and terminated by appropriately setting the ParamTransfer bit in the AlgorithmControl register. Ten (10) registers are used for the transfer and for handshaking between SENtral and the host. One set of four registers is allocated to upload a parameter value to SENtral, and another set of four registers is used to retrieve a currently saved parameter from SENtral. Values shorter than four bytes can be transferred using only some of the registers. Two registers implement the handshake mechanism between SENtral and the host. Note that data is stored in little Endian format.

Parameter Load

[Figure A2-0-1](#page-35-0) shows the Parameter Load process by which the host loads parameter data into SENtral.

Figure A2-0-1: Parameter Load Process

Initially the parameter values must be written into the LoadParamByte registers followed by sending a non-zero parameter number into the ParamRequest register. The parameter numbers are given in Table [A2-0-2.](#page-37-0) **The MSB of the ParamRequest register should be set to '1' to indicate a Load procedure.** All five bytes can be written using a single I^2C

transaction. **AFTER** the first parameter is written, the ParamTransfer bit in the AlgorithmControl register must be set to '1'. Sentral acknowledges receipt of a parameter value by setting ParamAcknowledge equal to ParamRequest, and the host should check the ParamAcknowledge register after writing the first parameter.

Once SENtral acknowledges successfully uploading the first parameter, the host can begin writing the remaining parameters in a loop. Reading the ParamAcknowledge register is optional for subsequent parameters. The host terminates the load procedure by setting the ParamRequest register to 0x00 and the AlgorithmControl register's ParamTransfer bit to '0'.

Parameter Retrieve

The Parameter Retrieve flowchart is given in [Figure A2-0-2.](#page-36-0)

Figure A2-0-2: Parameter Retrieve Process

The process is initiated by the host writing to the ParamRequest register the desired (nonzero) parameter number. **The MSB of ParamRequest register should be '0' to indicate a Retrieve procedure.** After writing to the ParamRequest register, the ParamTransfer bit in the AlgorithmControl register must be set to '1'. Next, the host should perform repetitive reads of the ParamAcknowledge register until it contains the requested parameter number.

Now the host can read the RetrieveParamByte registers to obtain the parameter value. Note the host can read the ParamAcknowledge and RetrieveParamByte registers using a single five-byte read transaction. Also, the RetrieveParamByte values are given in little Endian format, such that RetrieveParamByte3 contains the least significant byte of the parameter's 4-byte float value. The host can continue reading other parameters by varying (normally incrementing) the parameter number contained in the ParamRequest registers. Reading the ParamAcknowledge register is optional for subsequent parameters. The procedure is terminated by the host writing 0x00 to the ParamRequest and AlgorithmControl registers.

Interleaving Parameter Load and Retrieve

The host can interleave the Parameter Load and Parameter Retrieve processes during a single process invocation. This can be done for each parameter by setting the MSB bit of the ParamRequest register appropriately. Note that SENtral can be copying a new value into a RetrieveParamByte register while a Parameter Load operation is requested. Interleaving can be utilized by the host as an additional check that the parameter value was updated correctly.

Parameters

The parameter numbers and associated names are given below in Table [A2-0-2.](#page-37-0) A discussion on the WarmStart, SensorRange, and DriverID parameters follows.

Parameter Number	Parameter Name	ParamRequest Value	
		Load	Retrieve
$1 - 35$	WarmStart[1] to WarmStart[35]	$0x81$ to 0xA3	$0x01$ to 0x23
$36 - 73$	Reserved		
74	SensorRange[mag:accel]	0xCA	0x4A
75	SensorRange[gyro]	0xCB	0x4B
77	DriverID[mag:accel]		0x4D
78	DriverID[gyro]		0x4E
80	AlgorithmID		0x50

Table A2-0-2: Parameter Numbers

WarmStart

A significant number of parameters are used in the SENtral algorithm as it executes, and these parameters are refined as the SENtral device is used. These include

parameters associated with SENtral's continuous background calibration function and gyro bias correction. When SENtral is powered down or otherwise re-initialized, these parameters also are re-initialized and the parameter refinement process must start over. The parameter transfer process provides the ability to save these parameters to the host as they are refined, and to reload them if the parameters within SENtral are re-initialized. Thus, if the WarmStart parameters periodically are retrieved from SENtral and saved by the host, it is possible to effectively warm-start SENtral after it is re-initialized by reloading the WarmStart parameters into SENtral that previously were saved to the host.

To effectively enable a warm-start process, it is necessary to periodically save all 35 WarmStart parameters, and to reload all of them after SENtral is re-initialized.

SensorRange

The dynamic ranges of the sensors used in conjunction with SENtral normally are set as part of the Configuration File. Typically the gyroscope will be set to 2000 dps, the accelerometer to ± 2 g or ± 4 g, and the magnetometer to ± 1 µT. However, there may be instances when it is desirable to change the dynamic range. For instance, if SENtral will be used in an application with frequent shock, such as jogging, it may be necessary to increase the accelerometer range to something greater than ± 4 g.

SensorRange[mag:accel] loads or retrieves the magnetometer range data in ParamByte0 and ParamByte1, while the accelerometer range data is in ParamByte2 and ParamByte3. For example, a likely readout for SensorRange[mag:accel] in the 4x RetrieveParamByte registers is 0xE8030200, corresponding to a magnetometer dynamic range of $0x03E8$ ($\pm 1000 \mu T$) and an accelerometer dynamic range of $0x0002$ (± 2 g). SensorRange[gyro] loads or retrieves the gyroscope range in ParamByte0 and ParamByte1, while ParamByte2 and ParamByte3 are reserved and should be 0x00.

DriverID and AlgorithmID

Sensor driver and algorithm revision information can be retrieved using the Parameter Transfer process. Table [A2-0-3](#page-39-0) indicates how these parameters are defined. ParameterBytes 2 and 3 for Parameter Numbers 78 and 80 are 0x00 and reserved for future use.

Table A2-0-3: DriverID & AlgorithmID Definition

Appendix III – Measuring Current Consumption

All SENtral M&M modules, except the White and Blue versions, have two distinct electrical supply lines. One line is for both the EEPROM and the sensors, and one is for just SENtral. The pins for these voltages are labeled DVDD and DVDD2, respectively. To measure the current on these lines, PNI recommends placing a 1 Ω resistor in series with the DVDD pin to measure combined current consumption for the EEPROM and sensors, and a 100 Ω resistor in series with the DVDD2 pin to measure current consumption by SENtral.

The SENtral Blue M&M has a single DVDD pin that supplies current for SENtral, the EEPROM and the sensors. However, the current consumption of only the SENtral Motion Coprocessor can be measured by modifying the module, as given in the two options listed below.

- 1. Replace a zero-ohm resistor with a 100Ω resistor and measure voltage across the resistor.
- 2. Remove the zero-ohm resistor, then solder wires in series with a connected ammeter.

The location of the zero-ohm resistor is given below, and a discussion of the two implementation methods follows.

Figure A3-0-1: SENtral Blue M&M Zero-Ohm Resistor Location

Method 1: Replace zero-ohm resistor with 100 Ω resistor.

This method provides flexibility in terms of measuring with either a voltmeter or an oscilloscope, although it may be slightly difficult to implement as holding the probes in the proper position can be tricky. As long as the resistor is $\leq 100 \Omega$, there is no need to remove it, as it should not affect performance.

To measure average current consumption, simply touch either side of the 100 Ω resistor with the voltmeter's probe tips and measure the voltage drop. Convert to current consumption using: $\mu A = 10^* mV$, assuming a 100 Ω resistor.

It is possible to observe the current consumption waveform using an oscilloscope. In this case, place a 100 μ F capacitor in parallel with the 100 Ω resistor. This reduces the measurement bandwidth so the waveform can be better observed.

Note that SENtral's bypass capacitors are electrically connected nearest the device after the sense resistor or the voltage meter's resistor. This will bandlimit the measurement to ~1.5 kHz for a 100 Ω resistor. The onboard bypass capacitance totals $1.1 \mu F$.

Method 2: Remove zero-ohm resistor and place ammeter in series.

This method is relatively straight forward to implement, as the probes are physically soldered to the PCB. To help prevent damage to the PCB surface pads, PNI strongly recommends implementing a strain relief for the wires.

Note that the burden voltage of a typical digital multimeter (ammeter) is $\sim 100 \mu V/\mu A$, or 100 Ω . PNI has tested such an ammeter in the Method 2 scenario and seen that it does not affect operation. Also note that negative voltages produced by transient currents are smoothed by the local bypass capacitors.

Also, it may be difficult to measure DC current using ammeters with very fast measurement times due to the periodic wake/sleep cycles of SENtral. Consequently, handheld DMMs with relatively long measurement integration times work well for making average current measurement. Precision benchtop meters with an averaging or smoothing filter also can work well.

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