



# Revolution AV+ Electronic Compass

## General Description

The Revolution AV+ (TNT4000) provides stable azimuth, pitch, and roll measurements in dynamic conditions. An enhanced version of our Revolution GS compass, the AV+ includes a full suite of precision, 3-axis, MEMS sensors and an optional dual-axis electrolytic tilt sensor for the ultimate in near-level accuracy. A high-performance microcontroller orchestrates the fast measurement sequence, sensor calibration adjustments, frame-of-reference translations, trigonometric calculations, and advanced signal processing required to provide accurate heading, pitch, and roll outputs.

The AV+'s sensor suite consists of the following:

- 3-axis angular rate gyros
- 3-axis accelerometer
- 3-axis magnetometer
- 2-axis eTilt sensor

Each sensor is sampled at over 200 readings per second using a 12-bit SAR A/D converter with multiplexed inputs. The readings are averaged to produce eleven, 27.5 Hz, raw signal streams. The raw measurements are calibrated and combined to provide azimuth, pitch, roll, inclination, acceleration, and other outputs. Calibrated measurements are available as outputs to be used by external navigation algorithms. Serial outputs from the AV+ are compatible with earlier True North Revolution compasses. These include standard NMEA 0183 HDT, HDG, and XDR sentences, as well as the proprietary HTM ASCII sentence. Advanced binary messages are available at fast data rates (up to 56K baud) for applications requiring additional outputs. Examples of available binary data

include inclination, input voltage level, ambient temperature, and both raw and calibrated sensor measurements. In all, there are more than 50 quantities available in binary output form.

The advanced capabilities of the AV+ are supported by updated Revolution PC software that simplifies engineering verification and integration tasks. The software provides the following functionality:

- Monitor and change compass settings
- Perform magnetic calibration
- Capture selected measurement data (spreadsheet-compatible file format)
- Maintain communication and setting logs



*For more information, pricing, and availability, please e-mail [info@tntc.com](mailto:info@tntc.com).*

## Features

### ◆ **Static Accuracy**

- ⇒ Azimuth within 0.5° typical (0.1° resolution)
- ⇒ Pitch and roll within 0.2°

### ◆ **Dynamic Performance**

- ⇒ Gyro gimbal equations performed in firmware
- ⇒ Azimuth within 3° typical for rates < 250 °/sec
- ⇒ Pitch and roll within 1° typical for rates < 250 °/sec

### ◆ **Wide Operating Range**

- ⇒ Ambient temperature -40° to 105°C (-40° to 220°F)
- ⇒ ±250°/sec angular rate
- ⇒ Total magnetic field (earth + hard-iron) to ±1.5 Gauss
- ⇒ ±80° dip angle range
- ⇒ Total acceleration field to 1.5g (gravity = 1g)
- ⇒ ±90° Pitch & ±180° roll using accels

### ◆ **Fast Response**

- ⇒ Up to 27.5 calibrated measurements per second
- ⇒ Wake from standby in 50 msec

### ◆ **Single Supply Operation**

- ⇒ 6 to 45V unregulated DC
- ⇒ Reverse polarity protection

### ◆ **Low Power**

- ⇒ 40 mA operating
- ⇒ 10 mA idle
- ⇒ 5 mA standby

### ◆ **Wide Selection of ASCII or Binary Output data**

- ⇒ Heading, pitch, and roll
- ⇒ Temperature, input voltage, and dip angle
- ⇒ Magnetometer X, Y, and Z
- ⇒ Total, horizontal, and vertical magnetic field strength
- ⇒ Raw and conditioned gyro data

### ◆ **Two independent serial channels**

- ⇒ Full-duplex RS-232 for the external RJ12
- ⇒ Either RS-232 or full-duplex RS-485 for the internal connector

### ◆ **In-System Configuration and Test**

- ⇒ Laptop can be connected while unit operates in situ
- ⇒ Perform hard and soft iron calibration
- ⇒ Monitor outputs and change user-definable settings

The rate gyros are high stability, low noise, and vibration rejecting components. A unique, interlocking PCB design creates a rigid 3D configuration to maintain positional stability over temperature. Each gyro is sampled at over 200 Hz using a 12-bit, SAR-type A/D converter.

Inertial sensors include both a tri-axis accelerometer and a dual-axis electrolytic tilt (eTilt) sensor. Either the eTilt sensor or the accelerometer can be used for long-term pitch and roll measurements. Both sensors are calibrated over their full tilt and operating temperature range to eliminate bias, sensitivity, and cross-axis effects.

The Revolution AV+ is plug compatible with all of True North's Revolution compasses: Upgrade, Low Power (LP), and GS. Identical NMEA sentences are available in all devices, however the AV+ also accepts the GPS RMC sentence input for magnetic variation and ground speed (to correct acceleration error when circling). The gyros can be turned on and off with seamless transfer between static and dynamic modes of operation.

Tuning the AV+ is as easy as setting a time constant. There are 3 independent time constants that control pitch, roll, and azimuth complementary filters. Like the GS, the AV+ has separate serial channels for the external RJ12 and internal J2 connector; there are independent baud rates and separate on/off options for automatic data. If binary data is desired, additional parameters are available to select which items to transmit.

The Revolution AV+ comes with an upgraded version of True North's PC software that is backward compatible with the entire Revolution compass line. The magnetic calibration procedure required upon installation is identical. Cabling and power requirements are similar.

# Specifications

## Heading Performance

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Conditions</u>
Accuracy <sup>1</sup>	± 0.5° rms ± 3.0° rms	Static, Tilt < 35° Dip < 60° Dynamic, rate < 150°/sec
Repeatability	± 0.3°	Static, no filter
Response time	36 msec	Minimum, no filter
Dip Angle Range	± 80°	
Tilt Range	± 90° Pitch/± 180° Roll	With accelerometers
Update rate	27.5 measurements per second	

<sup>1</sup> May require calibration after installation to eliminate effect of local magnetic field

## Pitch and Roll Performance

Accuracy	± 0.2°	Factory calibrated
Repeatability	± 0.2°	No filter
Range	± 90° Pitch/± 180° Roll	± 42° w/ eTilt only
Settling time	50 msec	Gyros enabled

## Electrical

Supply Voltage (V <sub>DD</sub> )	6 - 45Vdc unregulated	
Supply Current	40 mA operating 10 mA idle 5 mA standby	typical typical typical

## Environmental

Operating Temp	-40 to 105°C	
Storage Temperature	-50 to 150°C	
Humidity	0 to 90%	Non-condensing
Shock	200g	Max horizontal

## Mechanical

Box	Hammond Mfg1591MFL
PCB Size	1.8"W x 3.0"L x 0.6"H
PCB Mounting	4 #4 screws, 1.4" x 2.6" spacing
Connectors	8 pin, single-row, 0.1" friction header 6 pin RJ12 modular jack
Weight	3 oz. in box

## Interface

Signal type	RS-232 and RS-485
Baud rate	2400, 4800, 9600, 19200, or 38400 bps
Character Format	8 data, no parity, 1 stop
Input Buffer Size	110 characters
Output Buffer Size	110 characters
Output Format	NMEA 0183 and binary
Output Data Rate	1 to 1650 sentences per minute
Operating Modes	Continuous or sample
Angle Units	Degrees, mils, radians, 16-bit integer