Dragonfly temperature sensing

While the Dragonfly's software does not have (yet) specific support for temperature sensors, they can be used thanks to the analog sensor reading capabilities, and the nice linearility of the voltage sensing.

We have tested and calibrated the LM61 sensor, the same we use for the focuser range of products, as it has very good accuracy, range, and is quite easy to assemble.



The temperature sensors have 3 wires, 2 of them provide power (+5v and ground) while the 3rd one will output the temperature (in a proportional voltage).

Red is +5v, white is ground, with the green/blue cable being the sensor output.

To attach the sensor to the Dragonfly, it is suggested to use sensor inputs closer to the ground, that is, sensor 8, then 7... any number of sensors can be attached, as seen here in this setup with 3 of them.



To get the temperature, in °C, the formula is:

Temp = (sensor reading - 121) / 1.9558

conversely, given a temperature, to calculate the matching reading:

Reading = (temperature * 1.9558) + 121

We can use the analog sensor options on the Dragonfly panel to, for instace, activate a heater if the temperature drops below 0°C.

Less Settings for Sensor 8		×	Ì
Sensor name Dome temp	If open display	If closed display Too cold	y
Analog settings			
Current reading: 157			
Min: 0 Max:	121		
OK Car	ncel		

Currently, the temperature is at 18.4°C (that reading of 157).

We can easily use a macro (check our express tutorials) to get the heater running:

Editing ma	cro 20: empty
	he temp goes below 121 Heater activated as temperature inside below 0 Type the body of the push message (the subject will always be 'Message from your dragonfly'; you can type up to 120 characters) then press enter.
Apply now Back – don't forget to shut it off when	Cancel the temperature rises again or the roof is open!