

①

COGS 300 Movement 03 Sep 16/25

Warm up: Draw as many circles  
as you can acting  
with "physics"  
(like last time)



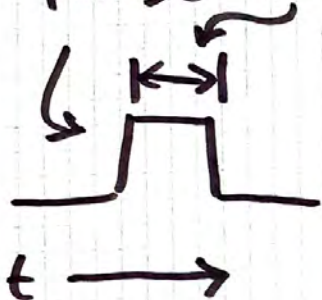
What direction  
are they  
moving?

IO1    MO1    MO2    MO3    MO4  
         Control    02    03    04  
         01

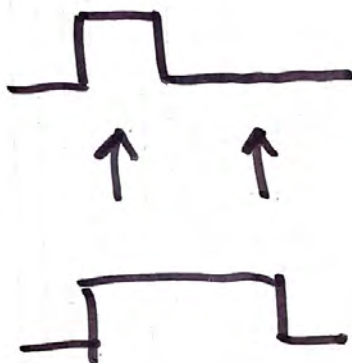
Modulation

②

Pulse width modulation

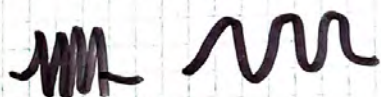
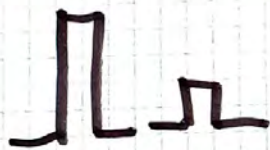


Dimmer  
PWM ~



AM Amplitude

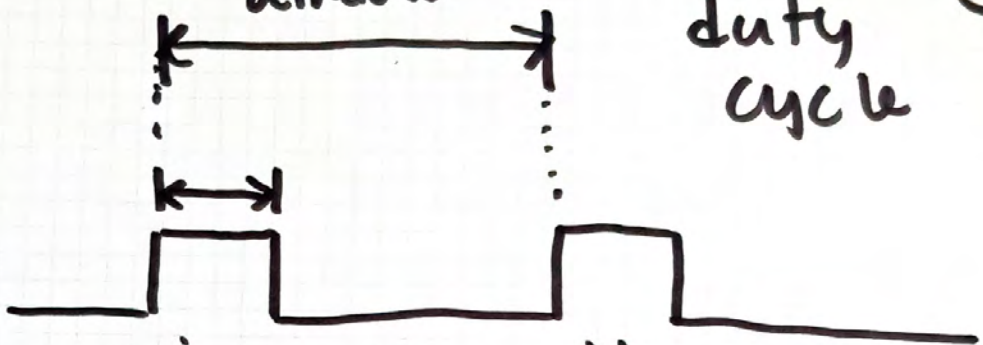
FM Frequency



③

duty cycle

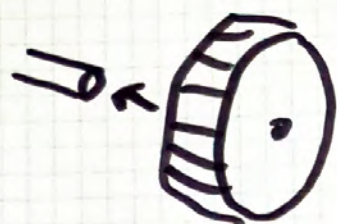
window



A A A A

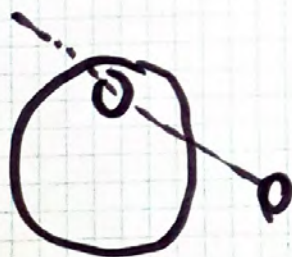


④

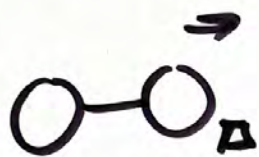


Design  
challenge:

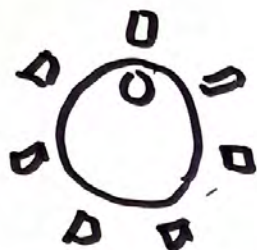
How do you measure  
the wheel?



5



ML

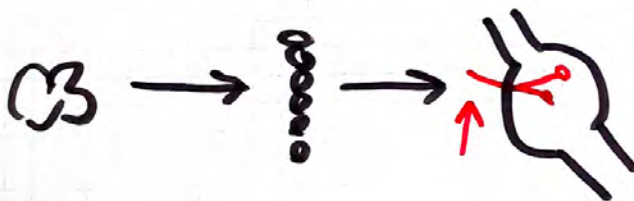


hi res.

optical encoder



PWM is like motor neuron communication



1 pulse  
=  
1 twitch






COGS 300


movement 03

sept 16/25

Today we are starting to move towards control. You've already seen our topic for today:

pulse width modulation.

 send out a pulse

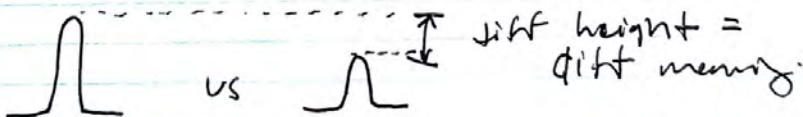
 the pulse has a width

→ or the microcontroller, etc.  
the Arduino measures the width.  
to modulate


some value of interest

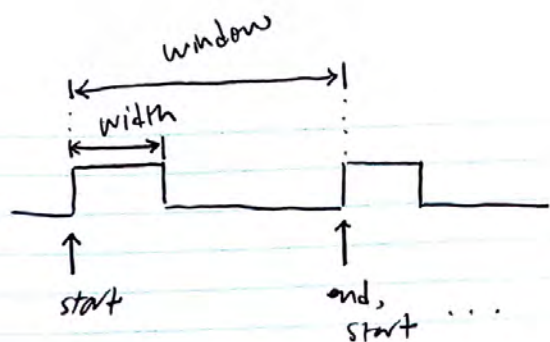
This is a common paradigm.

AM : Amplitude modulation



FM : frequency modulation

 diff wave length  
= diff meaning



duty  
cycles

more width =  
more duty

more on = brighter (LED)

more on = faster (Motor)

★ Motor driver. activity + demo.

You can see that the motor driver doesn't include a sensor.

★ How can you measure how far the wheel has turned?

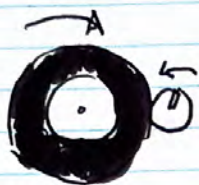
Time: potentially! What about load?

Voltage: We'd need to hook it in,  
why not more direct?

etc.

⋮

Potentiometer is encoder



This works! but...

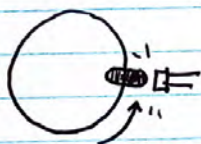


↑ what happens here?

at some point, we need a counter.

\* Counter demo.

If we attach a notch or pin to a wheel, we can count.



1, 2, 3 ---

It's bad but it works!

Design a better counter-style encoder.

Connection to muscles:

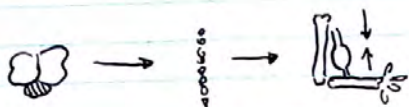
our body needs to know where it is in space, too.



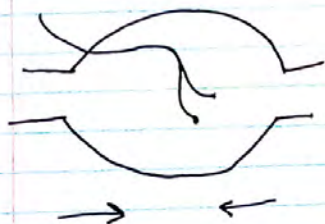


(4)

PWM is "like" <sup>motor</sup> neuron communication (to muscles).



Zoom in:



one pulse = 1 twitch



small contraction



bigger



perceptible.

PWM is a model of motor neurons.  
+ muscle movement.

you can stimulate motor neurons with electricity. Some people make products + research for this.

Re: piano-playing robot.

is this similar or diff to a robot?

Are our muscles "just" motors?