

# Pulse Width Modulation

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Module 17

12/3/2023

## 1 Pulse With Modulation

**Pulse Width Modulation:** Contrlling the pulse of a digital signal for a given period

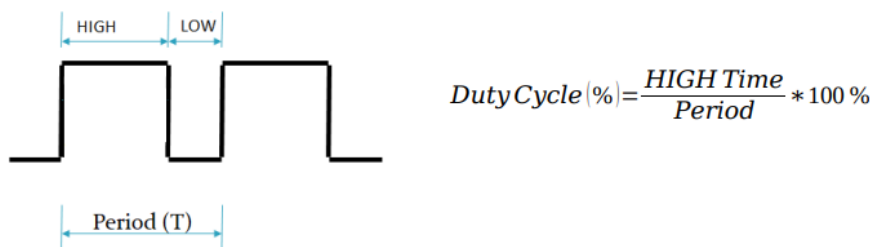
- Typically, the width of the pulse is HIGH half of the period and LOW the other half, but can changed
- HIGH 40% of the period, and LOW 60%
- HIGH 75% of period, and LOW 25%



Things that use PWMs:

- Motors
- Lighting for dimmer or brighter light
- Audio signals

**Duty cylce** is th epercent of the pulse HIGH compared to the period → PWM is expressed as a duty cycle

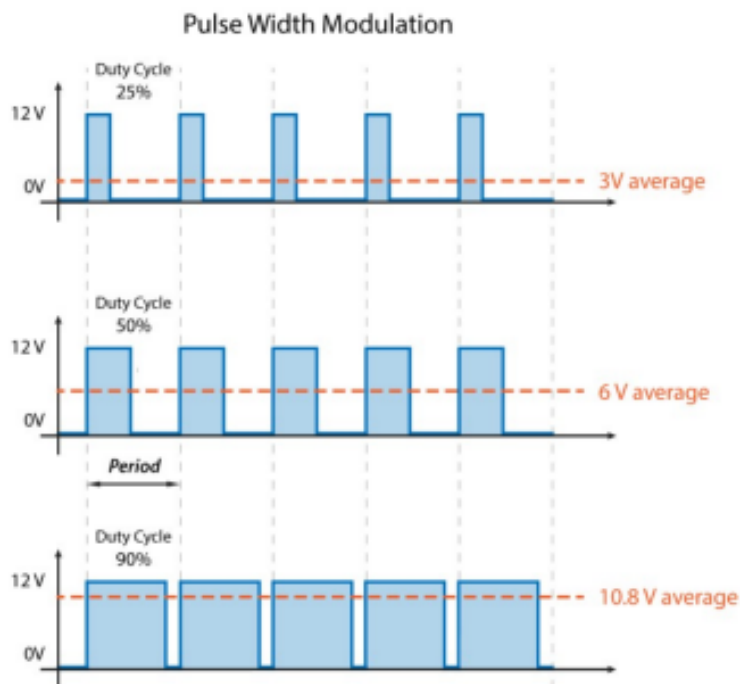


### 1.1 Average Voltage Value

A smaller duty cycle delivers an effective lower voltage value

- Motor turn slower or light appear dimmer

- $V_{average} = DutyCycle * V_{HIGH}$

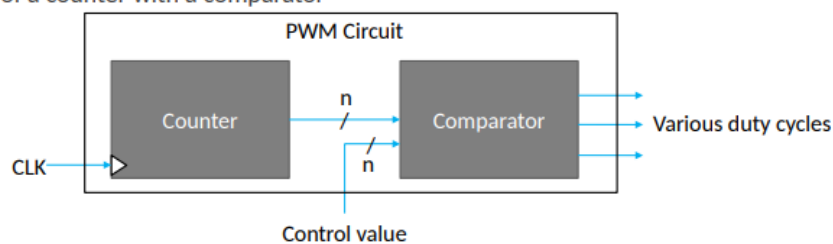


## 2 Creating PWM

created by comparing a control to a count Value

- **Frequency:** determined by the master clock and the size of the counter
- **resolution:** determined by the size of the counter and the comparator
- **duty cycle:** determined by how the outputs of the comparator are used.

\* This technique is not exclusive to this course, microcontrollers generate PWM using this method of a counter with a comparator



The resolution of the duty cycle is a function of the size of the counter → Every change in one bit of the control value will adjust the duty cycle by the resolution.

$$DC \text{ resolution}(\%) = \frac{1}{2^n} * 100$$

where n is the number of bits in counter.

- Frequency of the PWM is a function of the master clock and size of the counter.

$$f_{PWM} = \frac{f_{CLK}}{2^n}$$

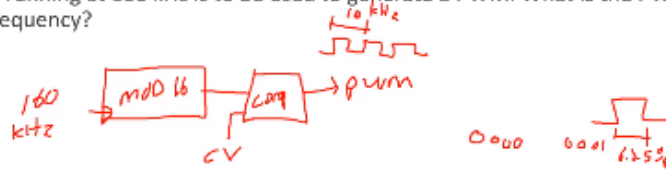
Where n is the number of bits in counter

## 2.1 PWM control Value

The control value is used to specify a duty cycle

- It is compared to the current count of the counter
- The output of the comparator will create different duty cycle → Equal | Less than | Greater than

\* A 4-bit counter running at 160 kHz is to be used to generate a PWM. What is the PWM resolution and frequency?



$$DC\ res = \frac{1}{2^4} \times 100 = 6.25\%$$

$$f_{pwm} = \frac{160\ kHz}{2^4} = 10\ kHz$$

The output of the comparator will create different duty cycle

- Equal →  $Duty\ Cycle(\%) = \frac{1}{2^n} * 100$
- Less Than →  $Duty\ Cycle(\%) = \frac{ControlValue}{2^n} * 100$
- Greater Than →  $Duty\ Cycle(\%) = \frac{2^n - Control\ value - 1}{2^n} * 100$

### 2.1.1 Achieving 100% Duty Cycle

- OR equal and less than together
- $Duty\ Cycle(\%) = \frac{ControlValue + 1}{2^n} * 100$

