

# Intro to Robotics with Raspberry Pi!

## Section 2. Physical Computing – Motion Control

# Outline

## Generating and Controlling Motion with Raspberry Pi

### **Motor Operation**

Different Types of Motors

How DC Motors Work

### **Controlling DC Motors**

Powering Motors

Controlling Motor Speed with PWM

### **Measuring Motor Speed**

Using Wheel Encoders

Measuring Rotations

Calculating Speed (Rotation and Translation)

### **Closed-Loop Speed Control**

Maintaining a Constant Speed

### **Intro to Navigation**

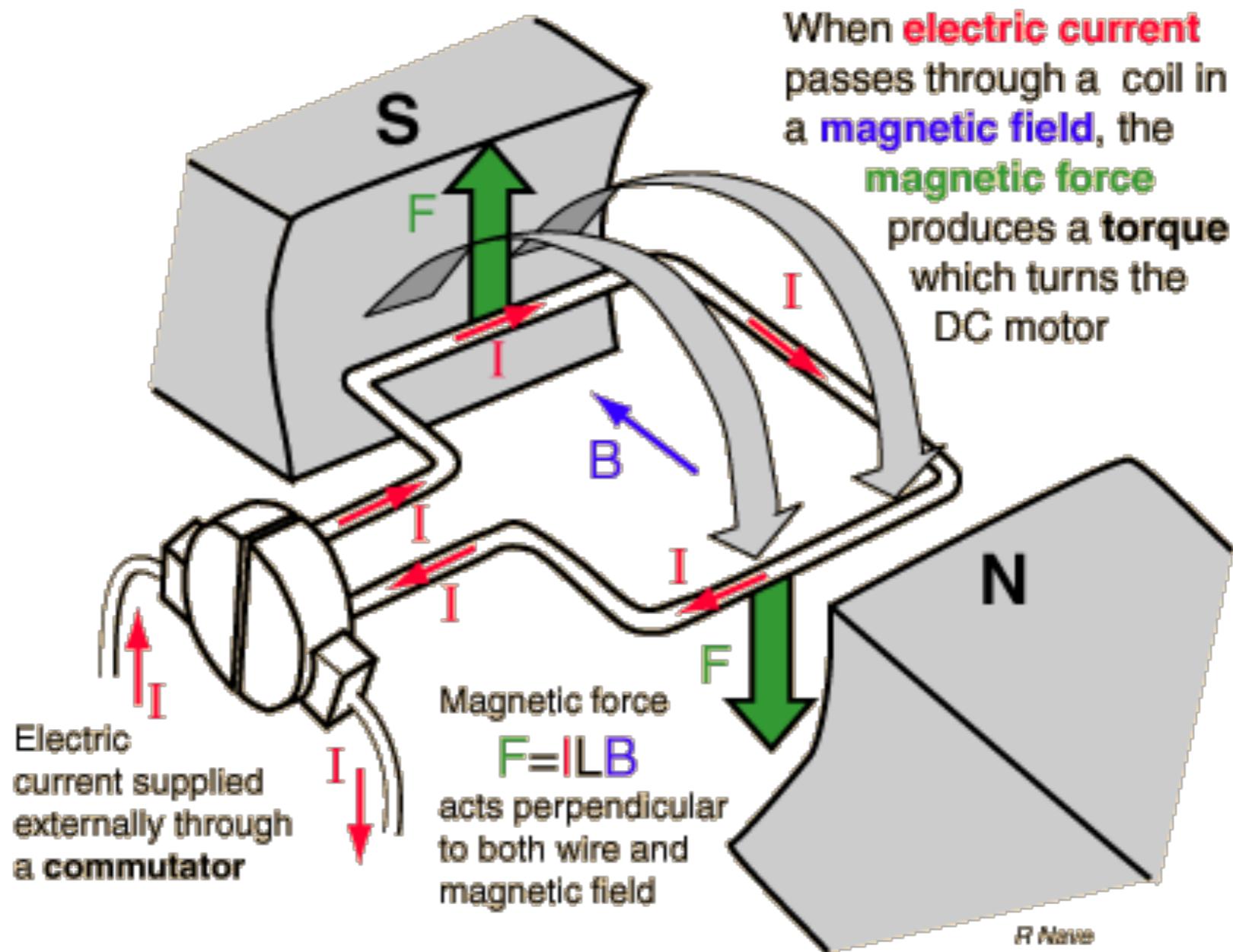
Controlling Direction

Differential Steering and Turning

# **Motor Operation**

# What is a Motor?

- Machine powered by electricity or internal combustion that supplies motive power
- A motor converts **electrical** power → **mechanical** power.



# Different Types of Motors

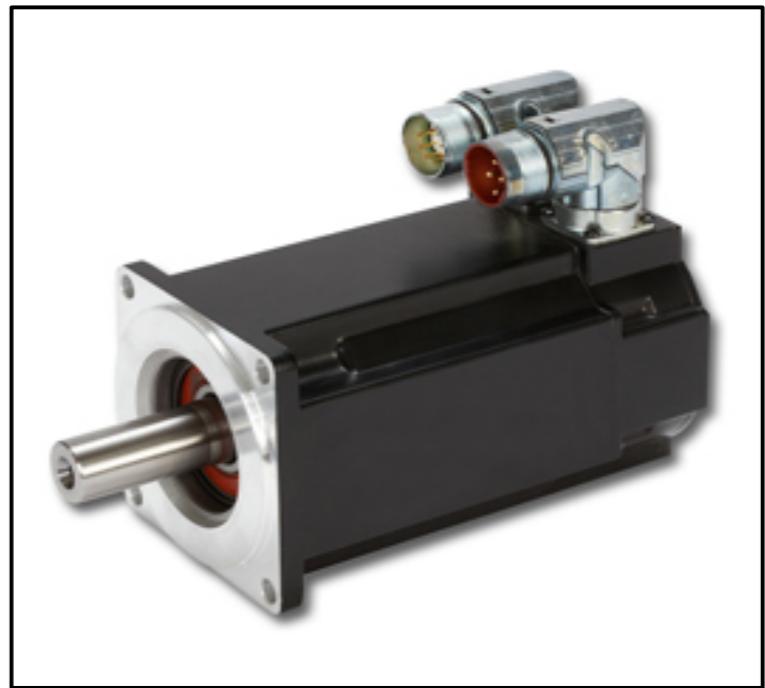
- **DC Motors**

Electric motor that runs on direct current electricity.

Two main types: Brush DC & Brushless DC motor

Brush DC motor uses an internal power supply with stationary magnets.

Brushless DC motors use a rotating permanent magnet.



# Different Types of Motors

- **Stepper Motors**

Brushless DC motor that divides full rotation into multiple steps.



The motor's position can move and hold at one of these steps without any feedback sensor.



Used in Floppy disk drives, plotters, CD ROMs, scanners and many other appliances.

# Different Types of Motors

- **Servo Motors**

Not a class of DC motor *per se*,  
but an assembly of:

DC motor + gear set + control  
circuit + position sensor.

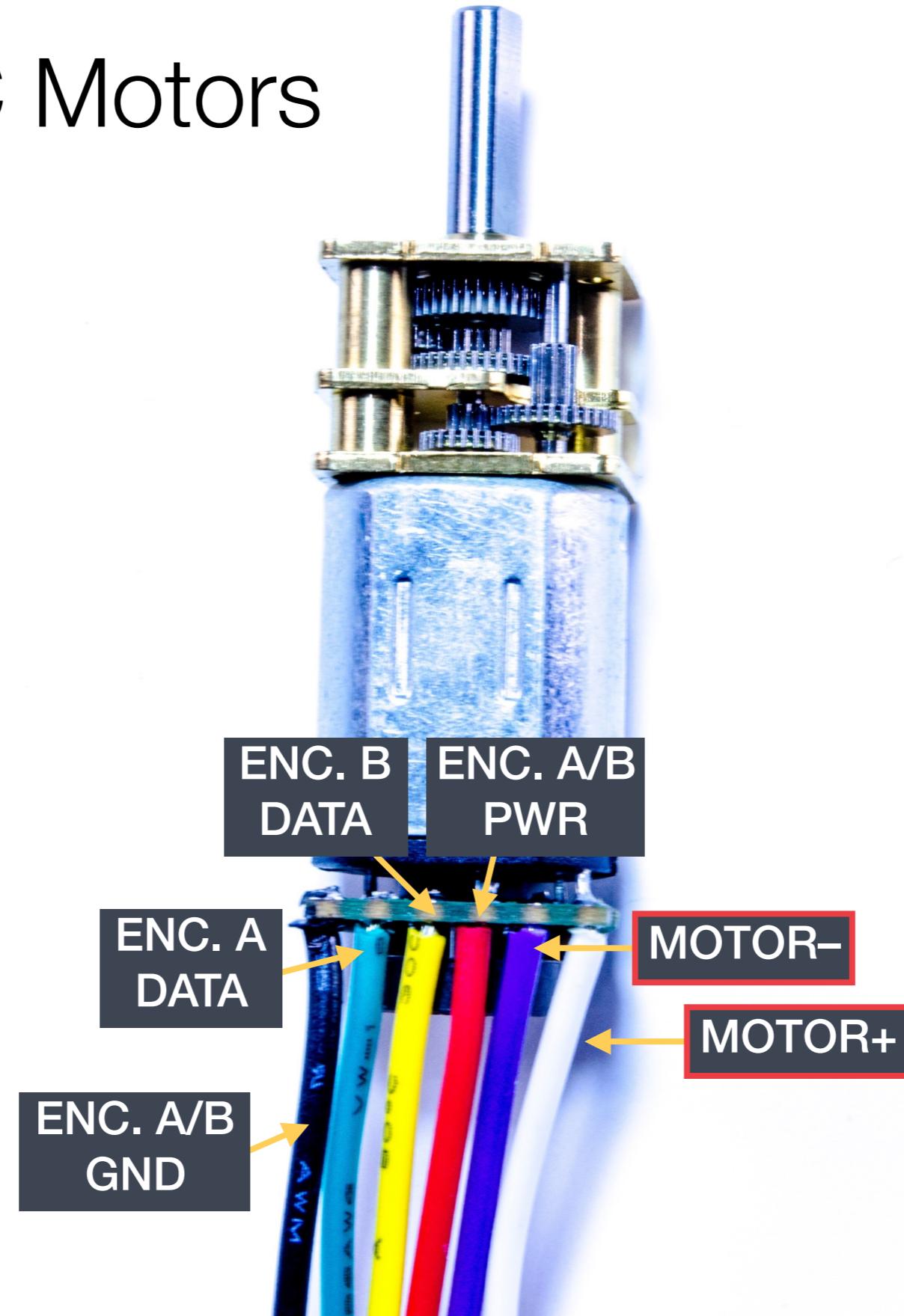
Always built including position  
feedback device.

Controlled by changing the  
duration of control signal's positive  
pulse (determines shaft position).



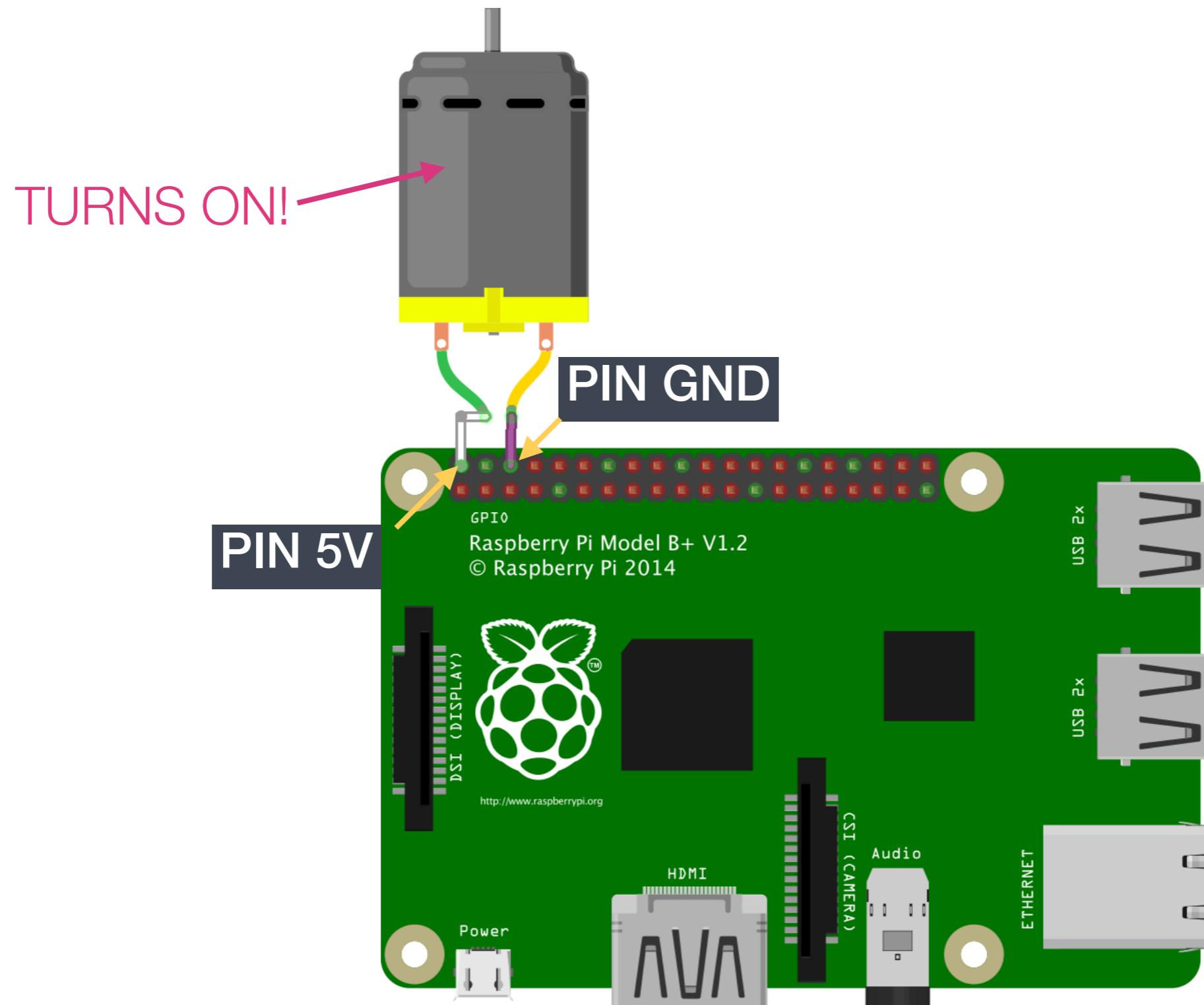
# Controlling DC Motors

# Denbot's DC Motors



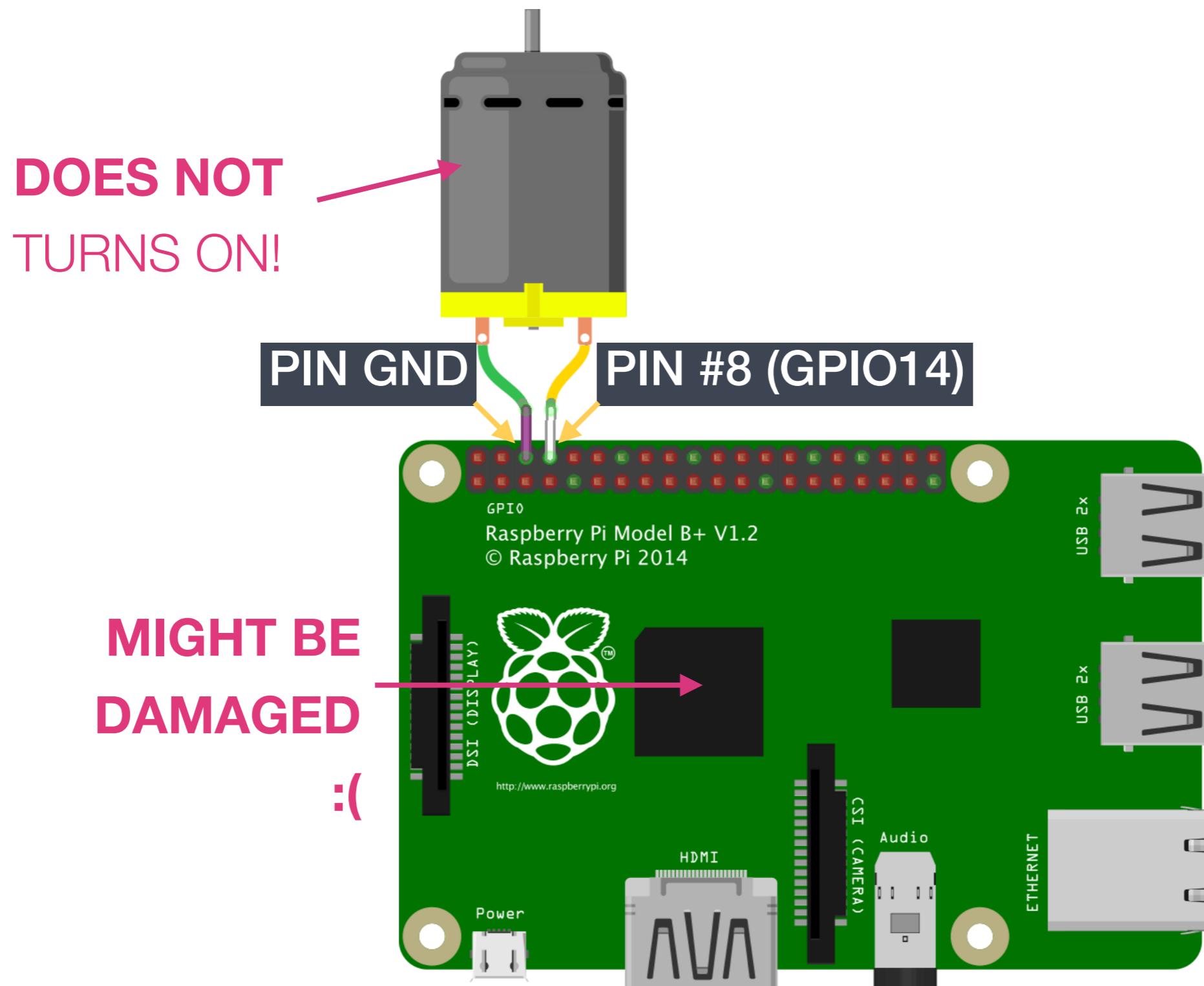
- The DC motors used in this class use 6 connections for Power, Motion, and Speed Data.

# Controlling DC Motors



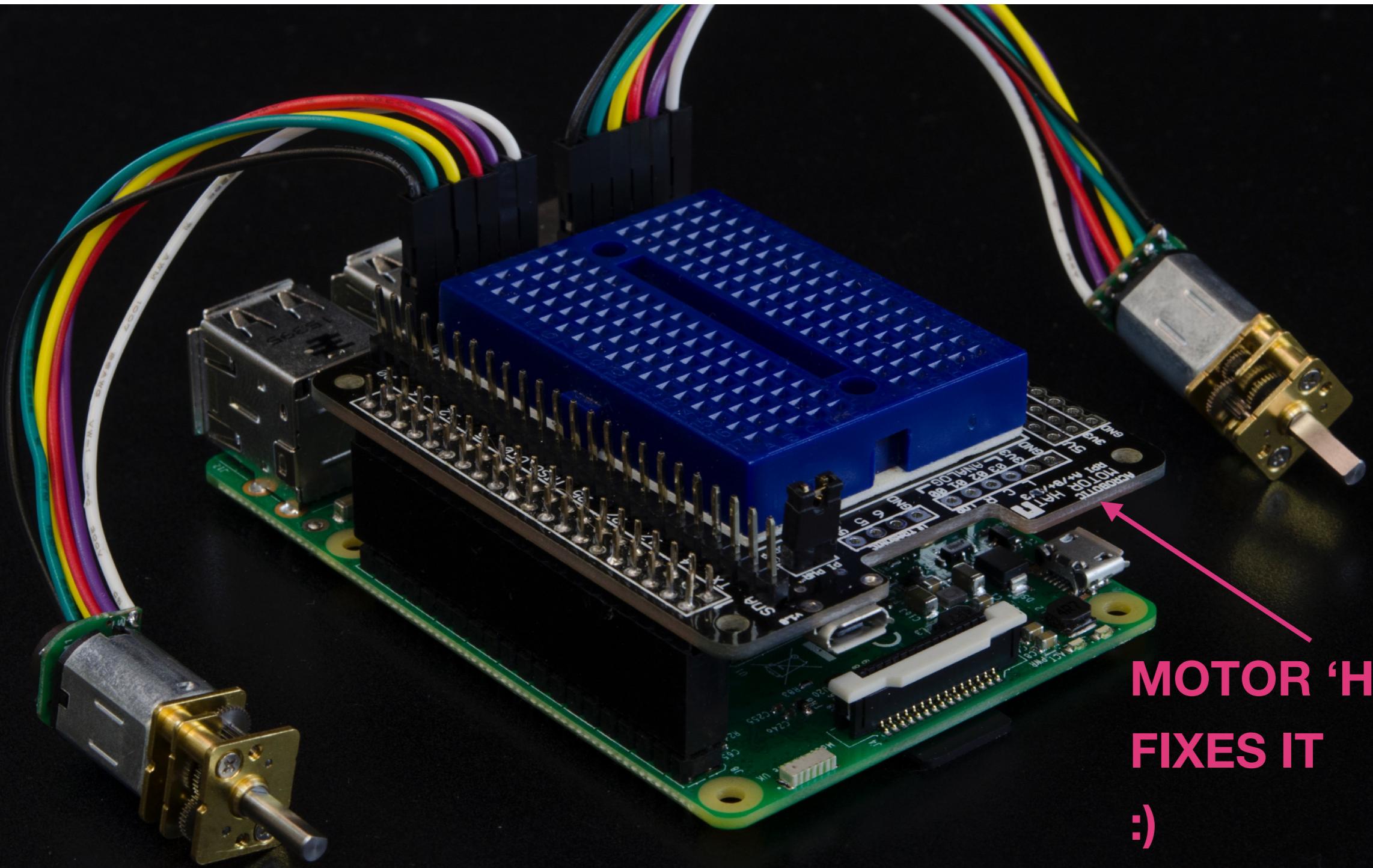
- The DC motors used in this class can be powered directly from the 5V supply of the Raspberry Pi!

# Controlling DC Motors (Do Not Attempt)



- The Raspberry Pi I/O pins **cannot** supply enough current to operate this motor directly!

# Controlling DC Motors



MOTOR 'HAT'  
FIXES IT  
:)

- The Motor HAT I/O pins **can** supply enough current to operate the motor directly!

# Controlling Speed Using PWM

- A PWM signal is a **digital signal** whose average value of voltage (and current) is controlled by turning the switch between supply and load on and off at a fast rate.

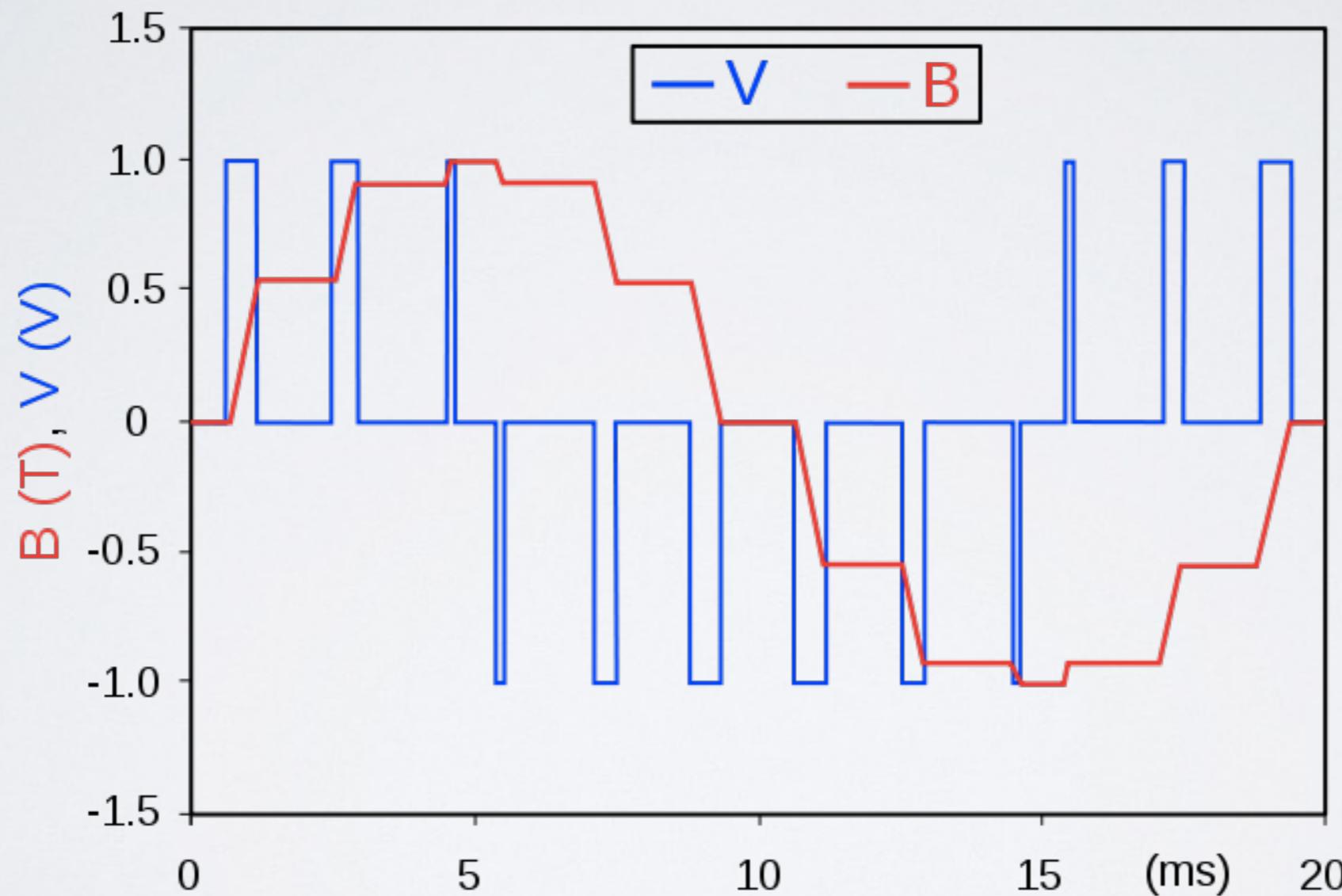
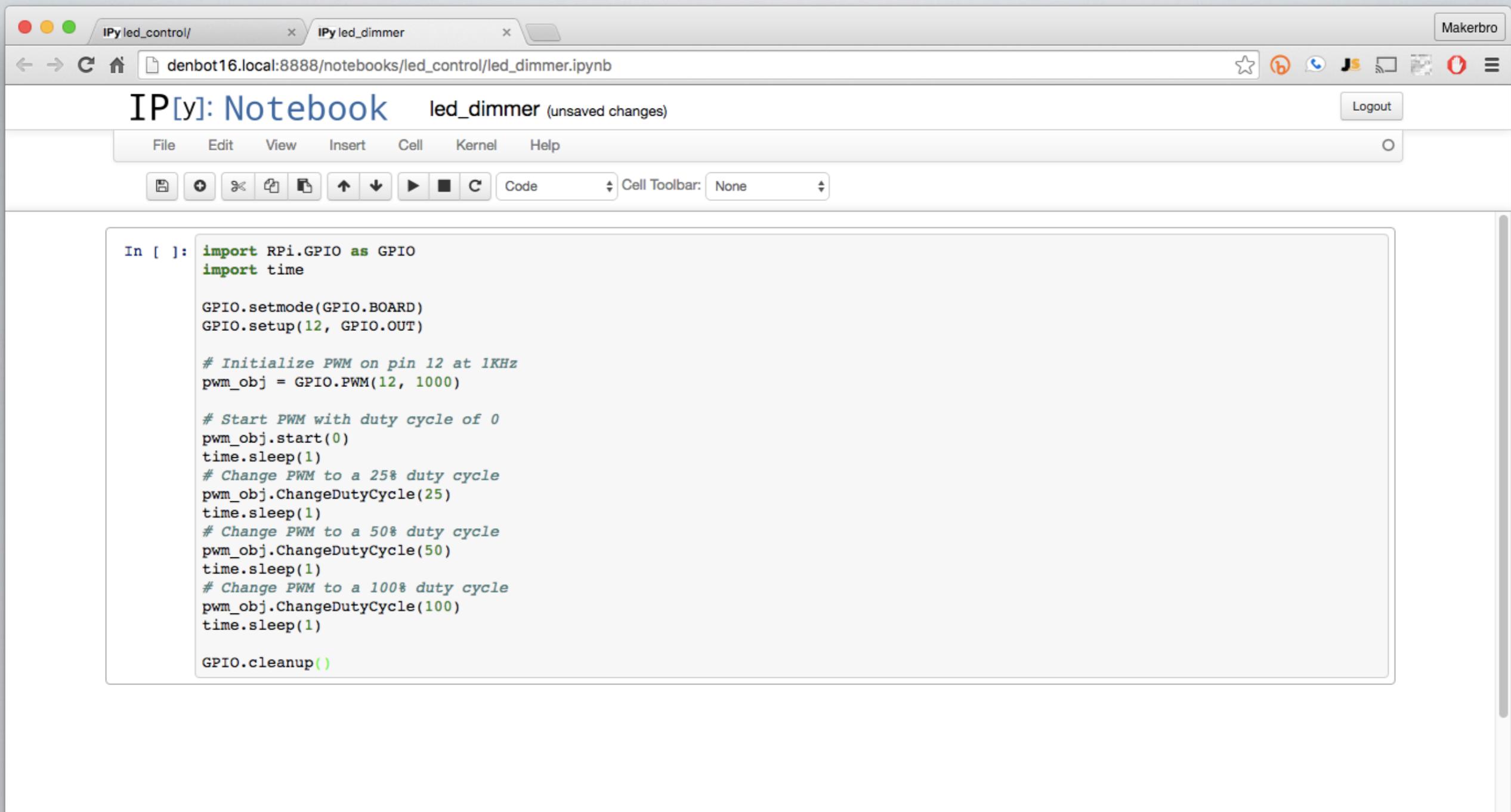


Image credit: Zureks -  
Own work, CC BY-SA  
3.0.

- The longer the switch is **on** compared to the **off** periods, the higher the total power supplied.

# Controlling DC Motors With PWM



The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs open: "IPy led\_control/" and "IPy led\_dimmer". The "IPy led\_dimmer" tab is active, displaying an IPython Notebook interface. The title bar says "IP[y]: Notebook" and "led\_dimmer (unsaved changes)". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Insert, Cell, Kernel, Help, and a Logout button. Below the menu is a toolbar with various icons for file operations like save, new, and copy. The main area contains a code cell labeled "In [ ]:" with the following Python script:

```
In [ ]: import RPi.GPIO as GPIO
import time

GPIO.setmode(GPIO.BOARD)
GPIO.setup(12, GPIO.OUT)

# Initialize PWM on pin 12 at 1KHz
pwm_obj = GPIO.PWM(12, 1000)

# Start PWM with duty cycle of 0
pwm_obj.start(0)
time.sleep(1)
# Change PWM to a 25% duty cycle
pwm_obj.ChangeDutyCycle(25)
time.sleep(1)
# Change PWM to a 50% duty cycle
pwm_obj.ChangeDutyCycle(50)
time.sleep(1)
# Change PWM to a 100% duty cycle
pwm_obj.ChangeDutyCycle(100)
time.sleep(1)

GPIO.cleanup()
```

- The Motor HAT has its own PWM generator chip, so we won't use RPi.GPIO's PWM functionality!

# Controlling DC Motors With PWM

- Let's go ahead and wire our first motor:

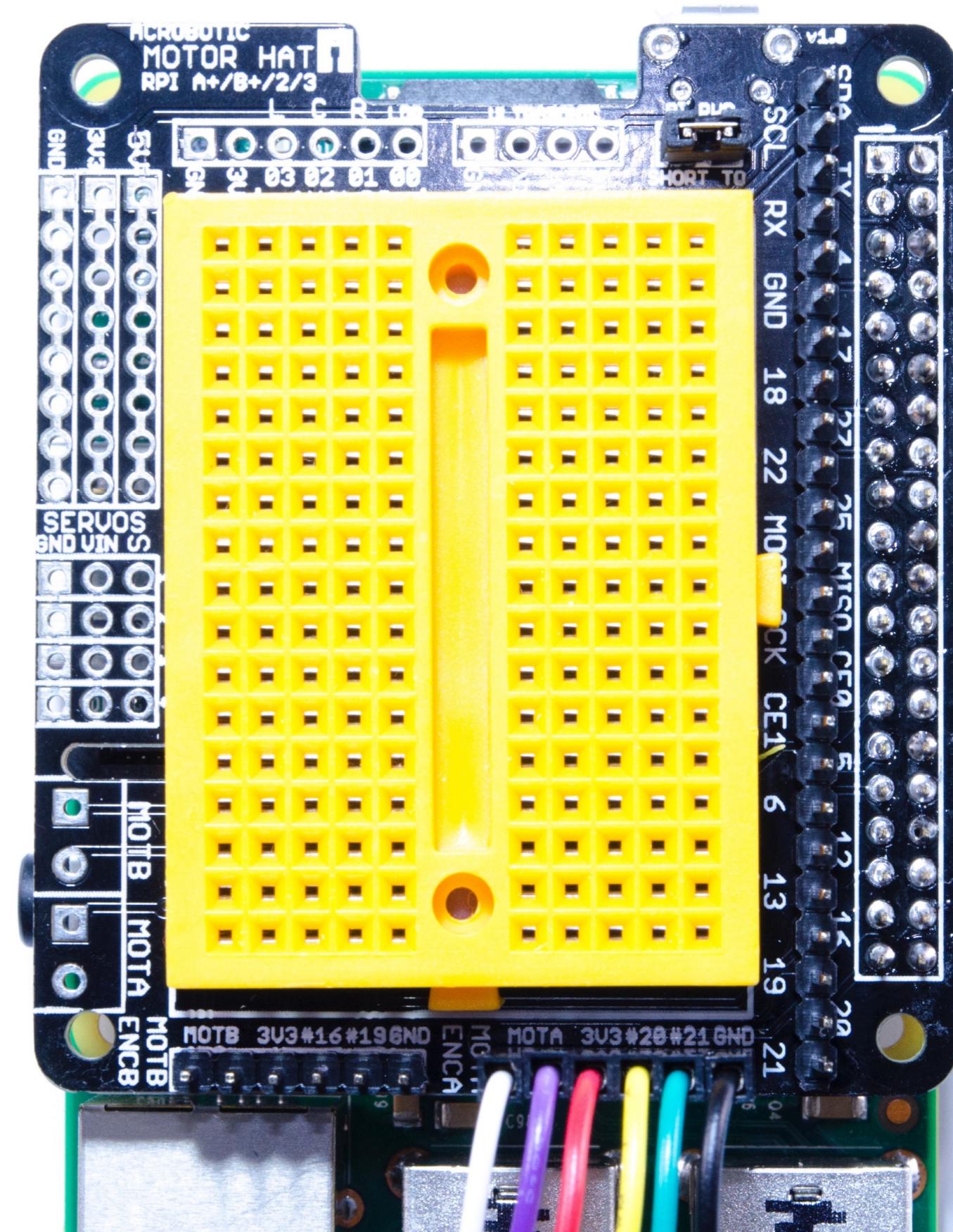
**MOTA:** White, Purple (interchangeable)

**3V3:** Red

**#20:** Yellow

**#21:** Green

**GND:** Black



# Controlling DC Motors With PWM

- Let's use the **PCA9685 module** inside the **motor\_control** directory to generate a PWM signal (similar to dimming the LED)!

```
>>> from PCA9685 import Driver
```

```
>>> Driver().setFrequency(1000)
```

```
>>> Driver().setOn(Driver().CHANNEL_0)
```

```
>>> Driver().setPWM(Driver().CHANNEL_1, 2047)
```

MOTOR A

**Direction:** CHANNEL\_0

**Speed:** CHANNEL\_1

MOTOR B

**Direction:** CHANNEL\_2

**Speed:** CHANNEL\_3

- Direction can be either **On** or **Off**.
- Speed ranges between **0** and **4095**.



# Controlling DC Motors With PWM

- As always, let's use **Python** on our Raspberry Pi's Operating System to control the DC motors.
- Connect to your Raspberry Pi via SSH or VNC.
- From a Terminal window, navigate to the **motor\_control** directory.

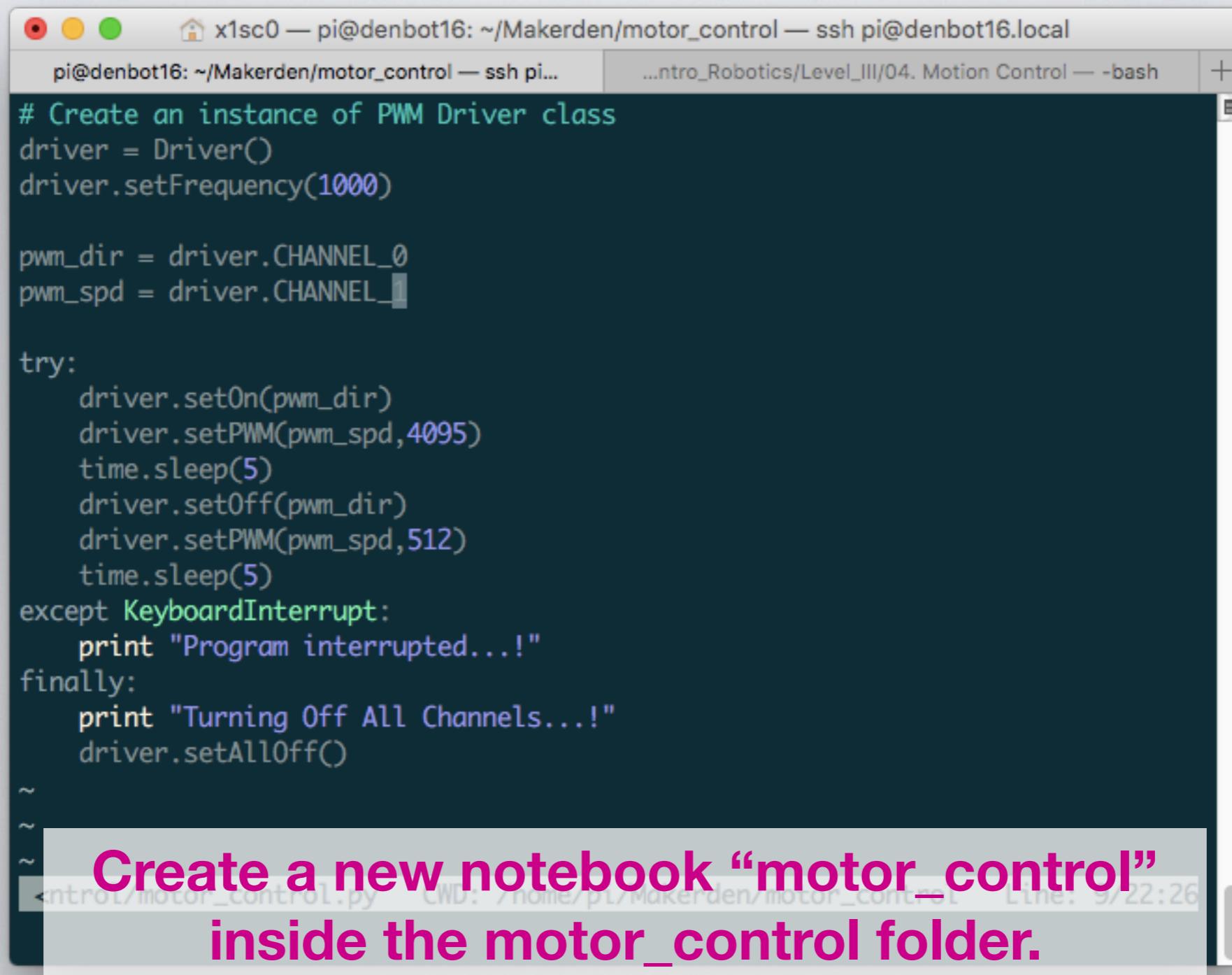
```
cd ~/Mak erden/motor_control
```

- Fire up an interactive Python session.

```
python
```

# Controlling DC Motors With PWM

- Let's use the **PCA9685 module** to generate a PWM signal (similar to dimming the LED)!



The screenshot shows a terminal window with three tabs. The active tab displays Python code for controlling DC motors using the PCA9685 module. The code initializes a Driver object, sets frequencies, and performs a sequence of PWM operations on two channels. It includes try/except/finally blocks for handling interruptions and turning off all channels at the end.

```
# Create an instance of PWM Driver class
driver = Driver()
driver.setFrequency(1000)

pwm_dir = driver.CHANNEL_0
pwm_spd = driver.CHANNEL_1

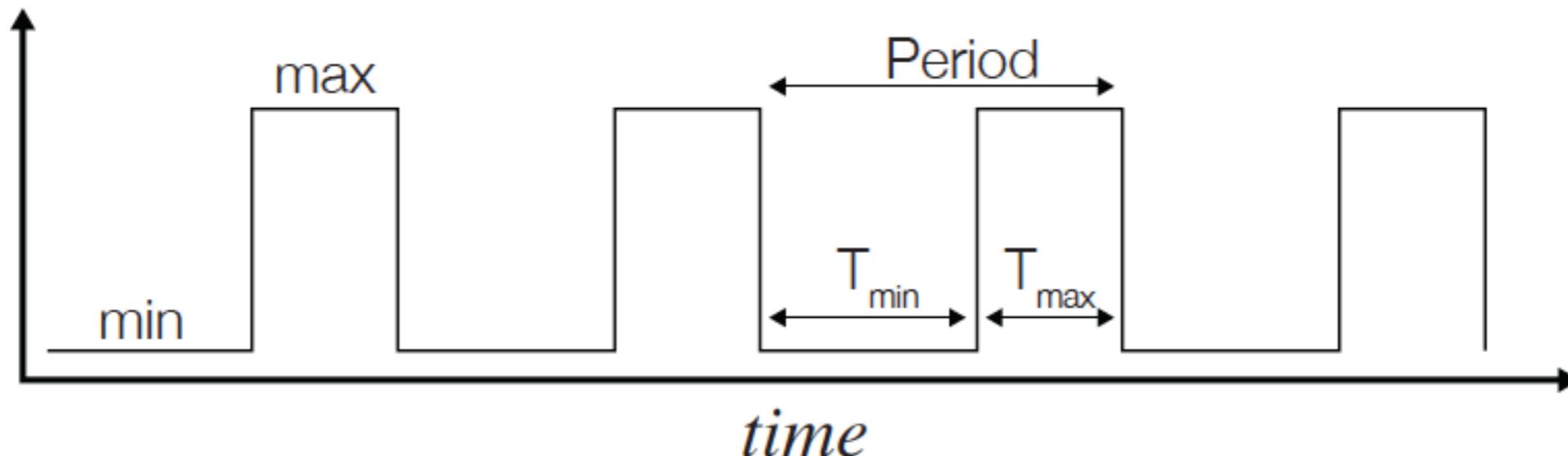
try:
    driver.setOn(pwm_dir)
    driver.setPWM(pwm_spd, 4095)
    time.sleep(5)
    driver.setOff(pwm_dir)
    driver.setPWM(pwm_spd, 512)
    time.sleep(5)
except KeyboardInterrupt:
    print "Program interrupted...!"
finally:
    print "Turning Off All Channels...!"
    driver.setAllOff()

~
```

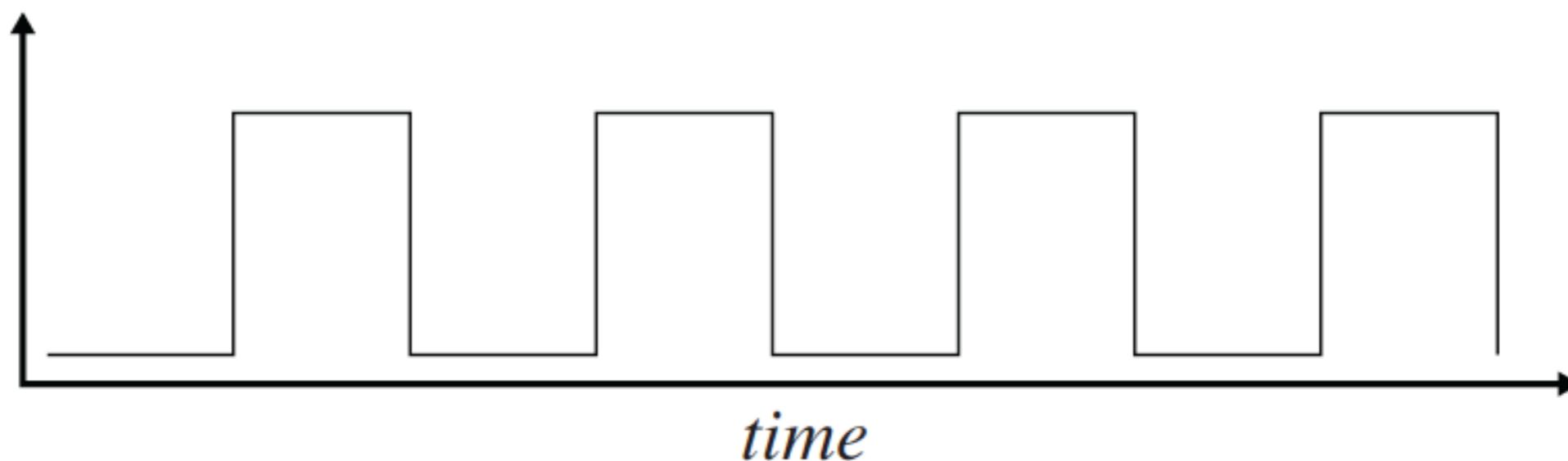
**Create a new notebook “motor\_control” inside the motor\_control folder.**

# Controlling Motor Speed With PWM

Rectangular or Pulse Wave



Special case: Square Wave ( $T_{\min} = T_{\max}$ )



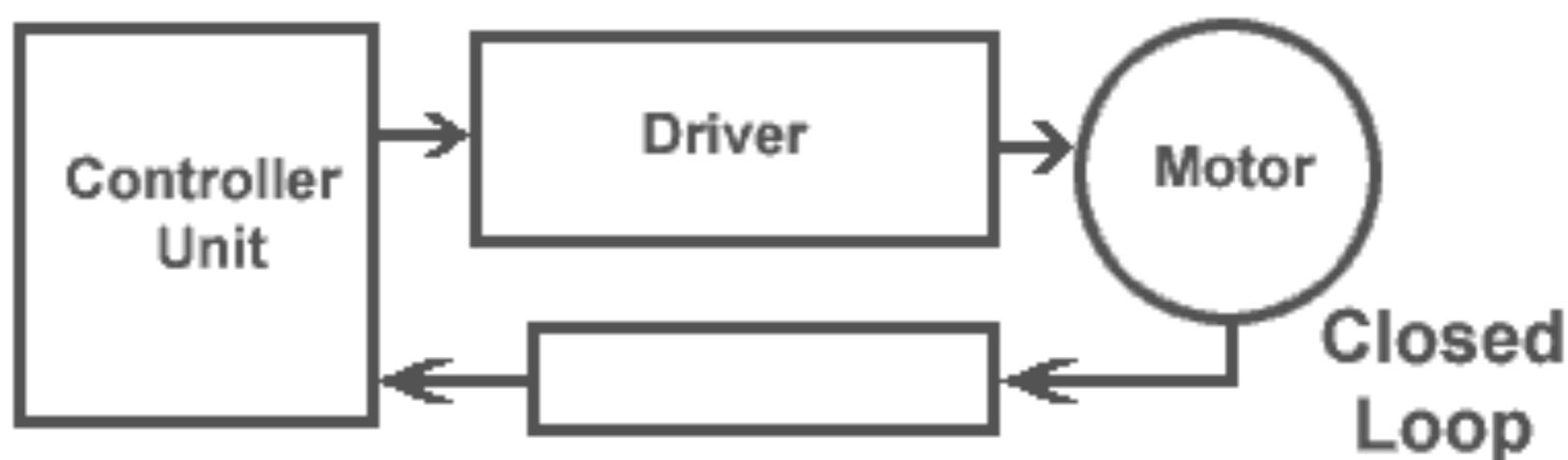
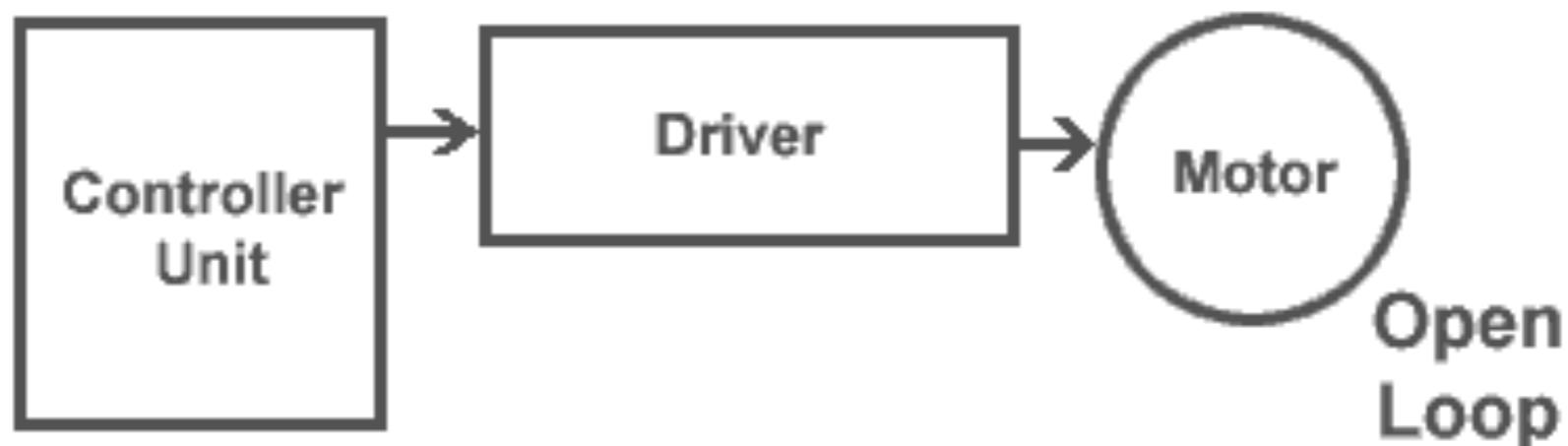
$$\text{Frequency} = 1/\text{Period}$$

$$\text{Duty Cycle} = 100\% \times T_{\max}/(T_{\max}+T_{\min})$$

# **Measuring Motor Speed**

# Controlling Motor Speed: Open-Loop

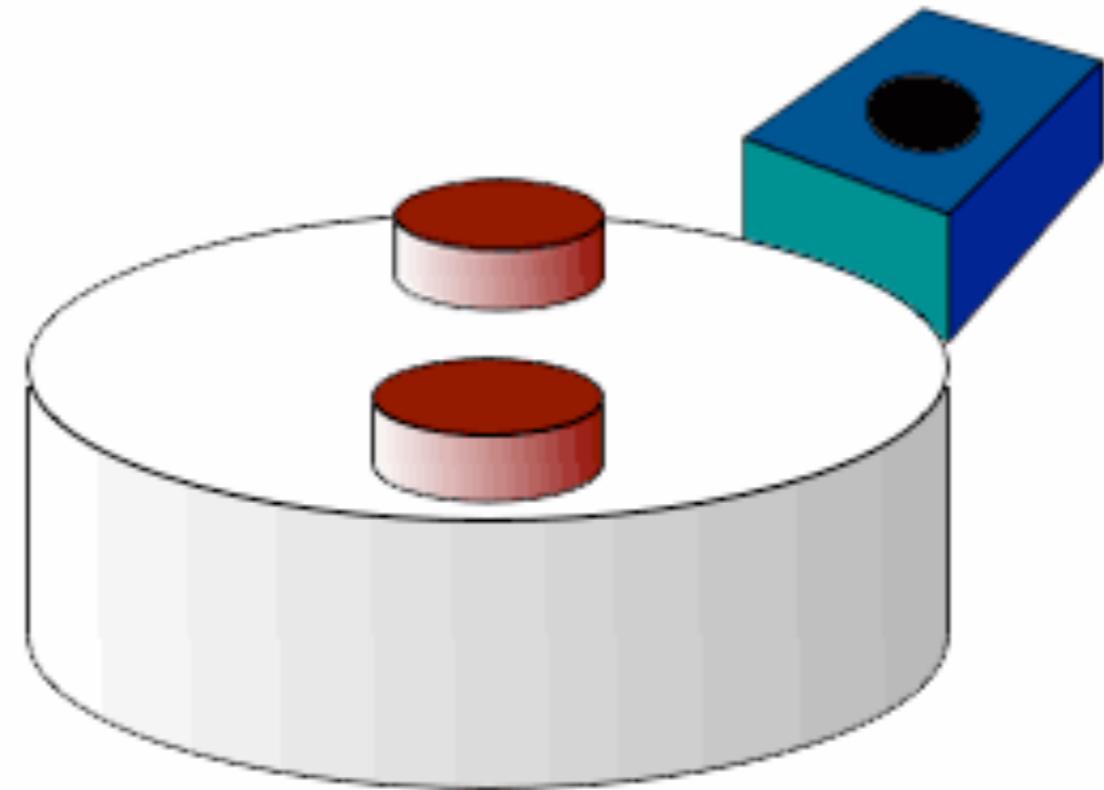
- Insofar, we've applied individual control efforts to the motor speed and assumed the desired results (speed) were achieved.



**Feedback Control**

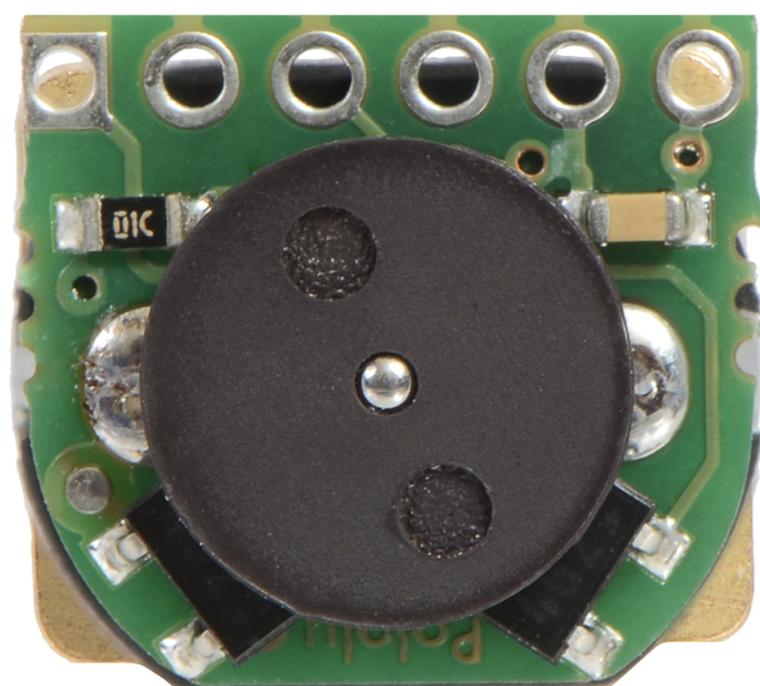
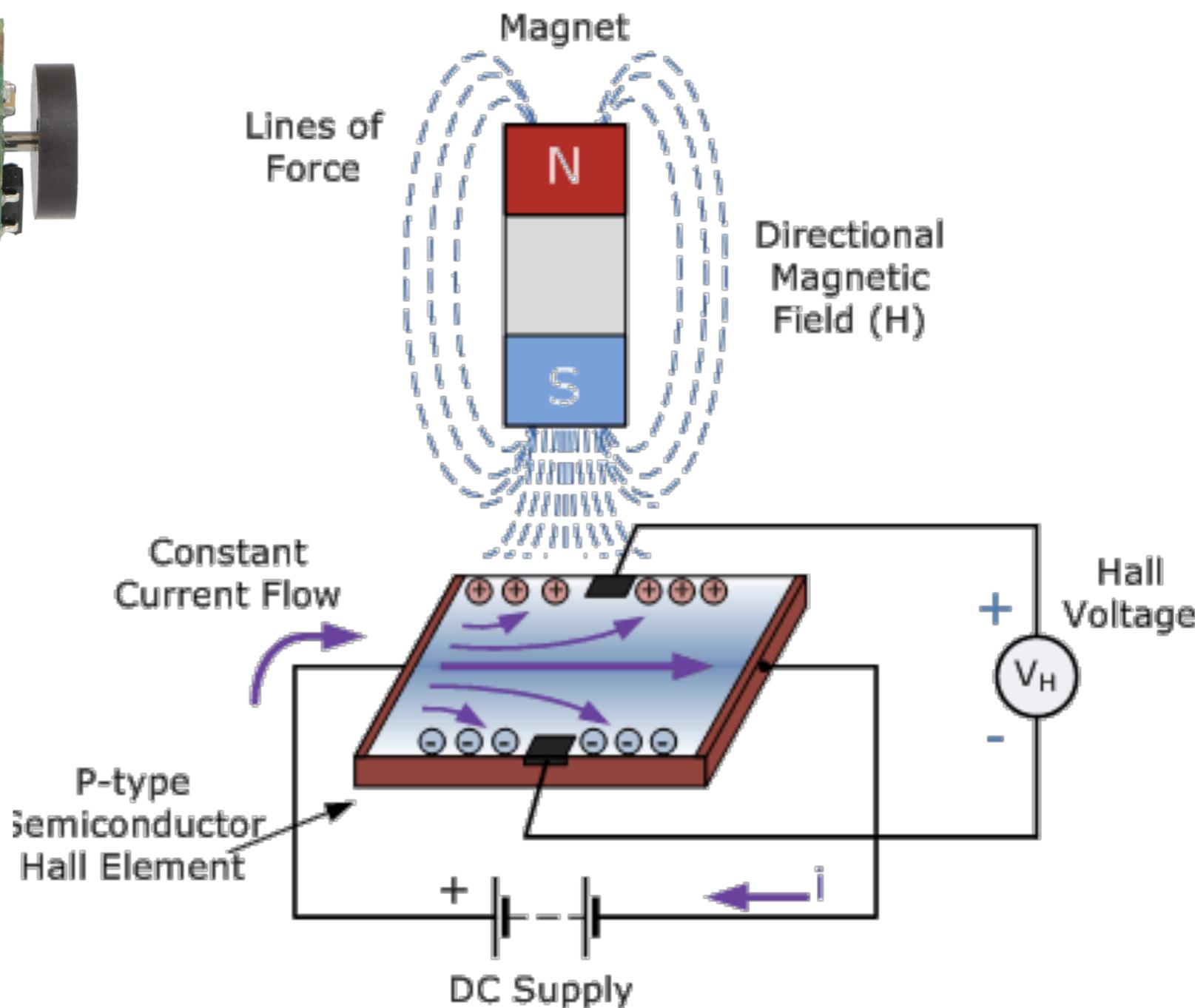
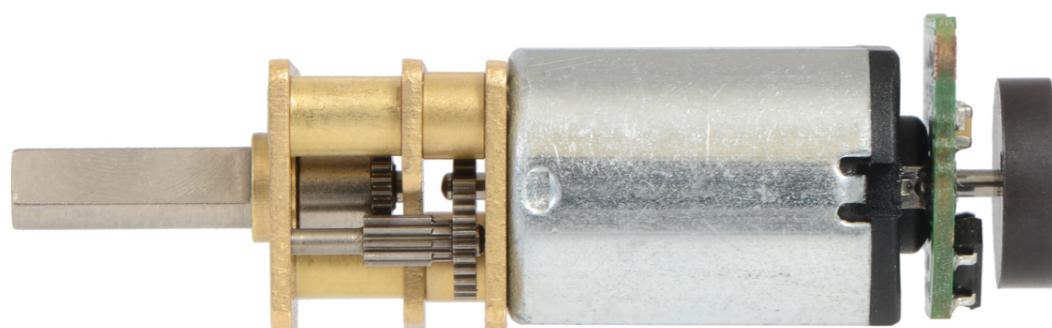
# Measuring Motor Speed

- Controlling motor speed accurately requires that we measure actual speed.
- Easiest way to measure motor speed is to measure shaft rotations



- Rotary encoders can be used to convert the angular position of motor shaft to a digital code.
- Most popular rotary encoders are either optical or magnetic

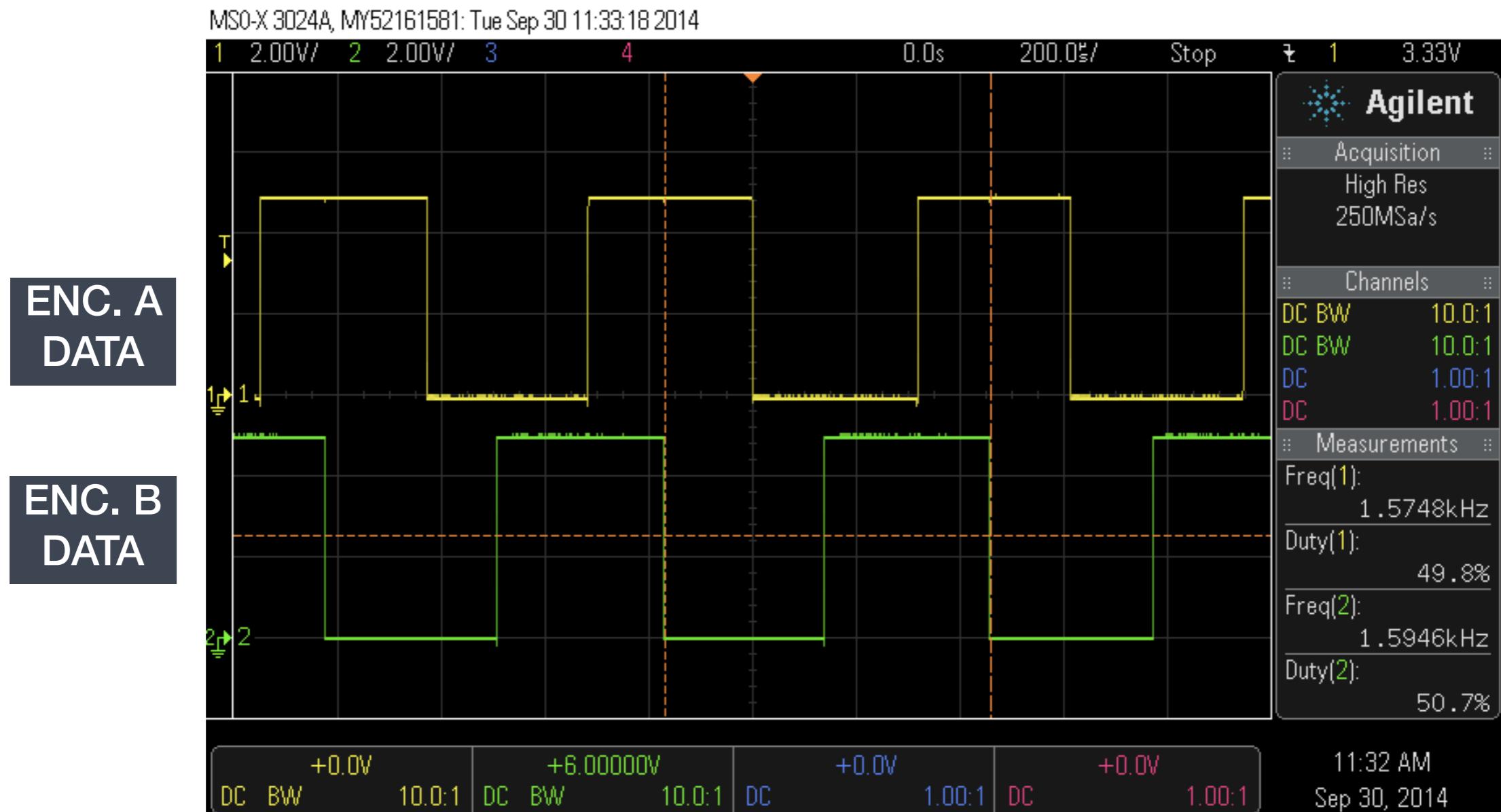
# Measuring Motor Speed (Wheel Encoders)



- Denbot's rotary encoder uses 2 Hall Effect sensors to detect the rotation of two magnets mounted on motor shaft

# Measuring Motor Speed (Wheel Encoders)

- Let's use the **Encoder module** to read a digital (gray code) signal!

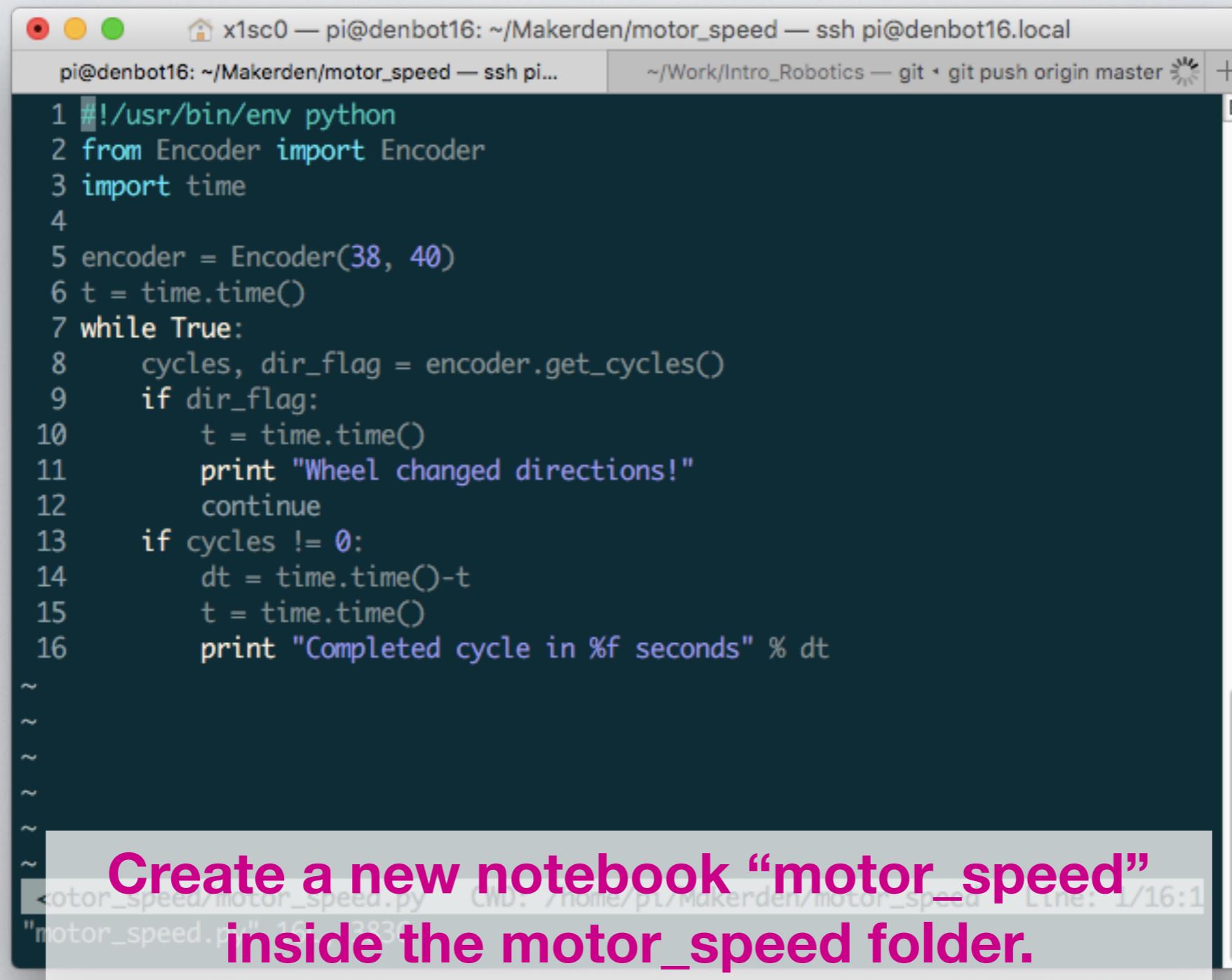


```
>>> from Encoder import Encoder
```

```
>>> cycles, dir_flag = Encoder(38,40).get_cycles()
```

# Controlling DC Motors With PWM

- Let's use the **Encoder module** to read a digital (gray code) signal!



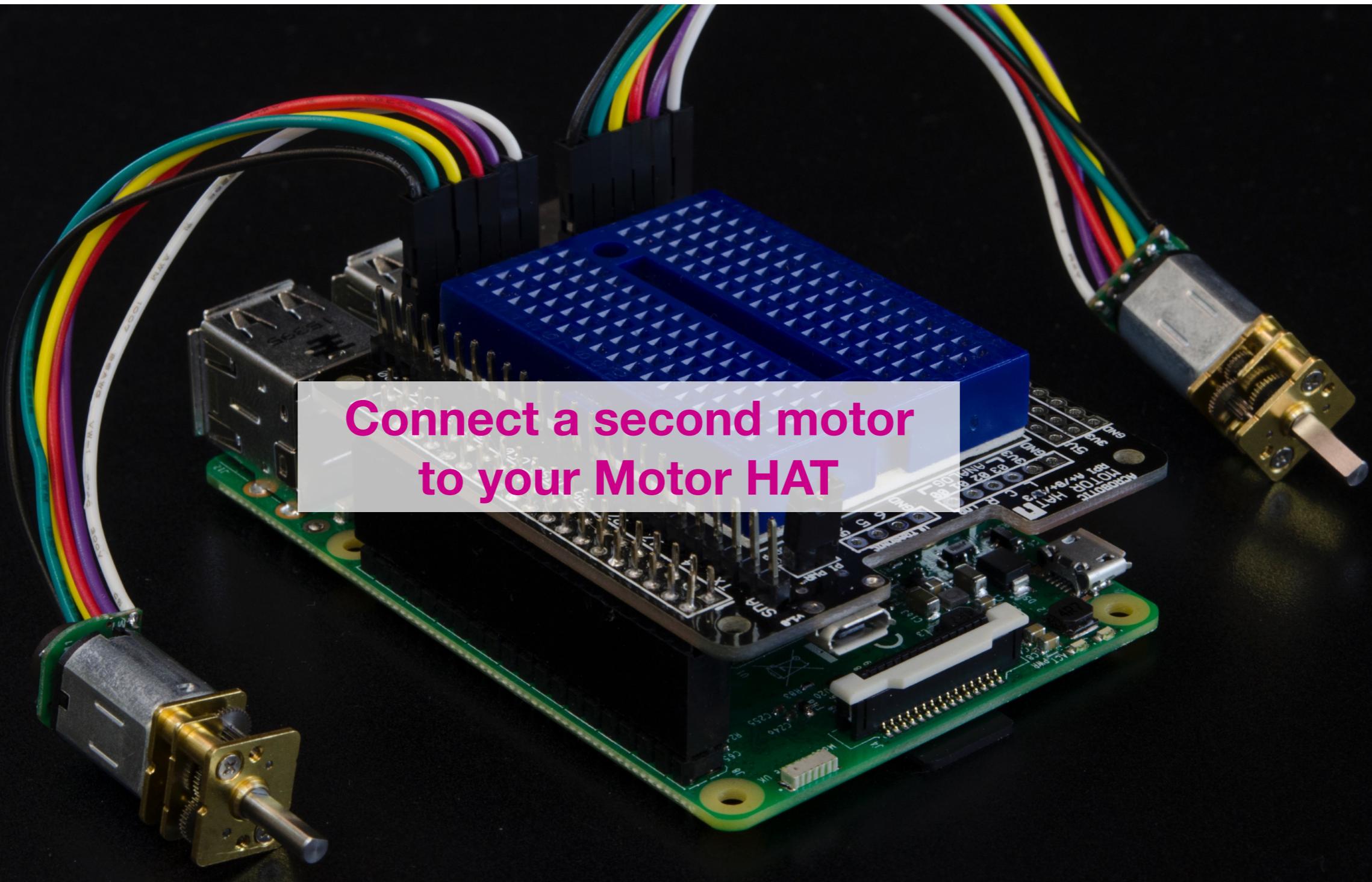
```
x1sc0 — pi@denbot16: ~/Makerden/motor_speed — ssh pi@denbot16.local
pi@denbot16: ~/Makerden/motor_speed — ssh pi... ~|Work/Intro_Robotics — git + git push origin master +
```

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2 from Encoder import Encoder
3 import time
4
5 encoder = Encoder(38, 40)
6 t = time.time()
7 while True:
8     cycles, dir_flag = encoder.get_cycles()
9     if dir_flag:
10         t = time.time()
11         print "Wheel changed directions!"
12         continue
13     if cycles != 0:
14         dt = time.time()-t
15         t = time.time()
16         print "Completed cycle in %f seconds" % dt
~
~
```

Create a new notebook “motor\_speed” inside the motor\_speed folder.

# **Intro to Navigation**

# Programming Simple Movements Commands



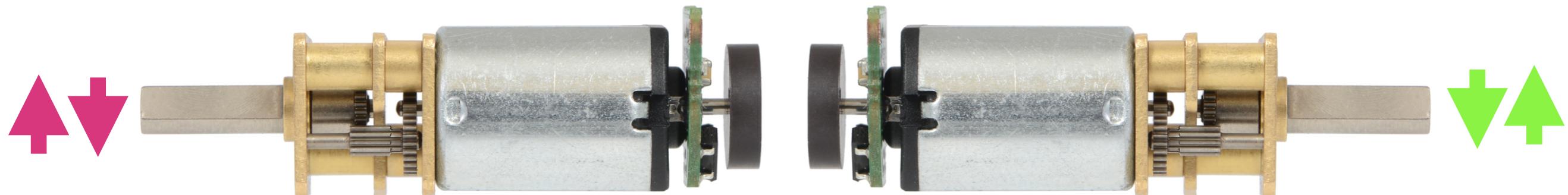
- Using the PCA9685 module we can control 2 motors simultaneously and prescribe the movement

# Programming Simple Movements Commands

- We'd like to have a custom module that allows us to set the movement of our robot so that we can call:

```
>>> motion.forward(2)
```

```
>>> motion.left(5)
```



- We need to specify the time for how long these commands are run!