

# Module 2 – Circuits and Electrical Components

## Topic 1 – Basic Circuit Concepts

### Lesson 1: Circuit Elements and Constitutive Relationships

#### Role of Electronics in Mechatronic Devices

- Electronic design is a critical part of mechatronic design
- Electrical signals carry information between the MCU, sensors, actuators, and users
- Electrical currents also drive motors, which may be used in direct or indirect actuation of the device



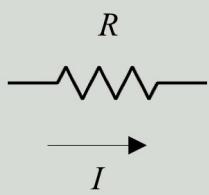
#### Basic Circuit Elements



Name	Reference Symbol	Units	Circuit Symbol
Resistor	$R$	Ohms ( $\Omega$ )	
Capacitor	$C$	Farads (F)	
Inductor	$L$	Henry (H)	
Ideal Voltage Source	$V$	Volts (V)	
Ideal Current Source	$I$	Amps (A)	

# Constitutive Relationships

## Resistance



$$V = IR$$

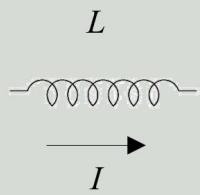
Ohm's Law

## Capacitance



$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{1}{C} I$$

## Inductance



$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{1}{L} V$$

1:40 / 11:26

▶ Speed: 1.0x | ← | → | ⏪ | ⏹ | ⏹

# Switches

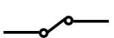
Switches may be either **toggle** or **push-button** switches

## Toggle Switches

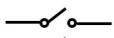
Single Pole, Single Throw (SPST)



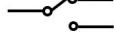
Single Pole, Double Throw (SPDT)



Double Pole, Single Throw (DPST)



Double Pole, Double Throw (DPDT)

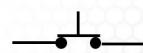


## Push-Button Switches

Normally Open (NO)



Normally Closed (NC)



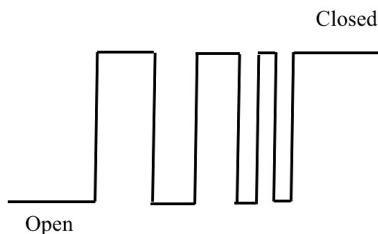
2:30 / 11:26

▶ Speed: 1.0x | ← | → | ⏪ | ⏹ | ⏹

# Switch Bouncing

- When switches are toggled, mechanical contacts rebound off of each other
- This happens over very short timescales - too fast for us, 
- MCU may see switch toggle several times very quickly - can result in unwanted behavior

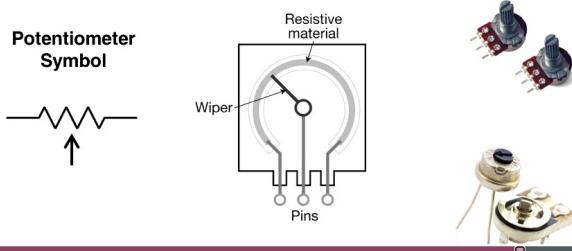
*Switch debouncing  
circuits or algorithms  
can fix this*



▶ Speed: 1.0x

# Potentiometers

- Potentiometers and rheostats are **variable resistors** that can be tuned to precise values
- Useful for **user interfaces**, or to adjust resistance to precise level in circuit design (resistors only come in discrete values)



▶ Speed: 1.0x

# Alternating Current (AC) vs Direct Current (DC)

- AC signals have sinusoidally varying voltage
- DC signals have a constant voltage over time - DC is a special case of AC with a frequency of zero

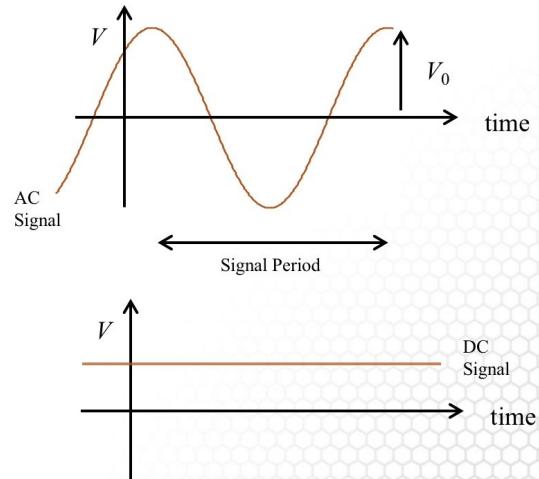
AC voltage signal:  $V = V_0 \sin(\omega t + \theta)$

Root Mean Square (RMS) Voltage:

$$V_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T V^2 dt} = 0.707V_0$$

Root Mean Square (RMS) Current:

$$I_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T I^2 dt} = 0.707I_0$$



6:16 / 11:26

Speed 1.0x

## Impedance

- When dealing with AC signals, concept of resistance must be generalized to impedance
- Impedance is a generalized form of resistance - it measures the opposition that a circuit presents to a current when an AC voltage is applied

Ohm's Law for AC Circuits

$$Z = \frac{V}{I}$$

Complex values

Complex number



6:47 / 11:26

Speed 1.0x

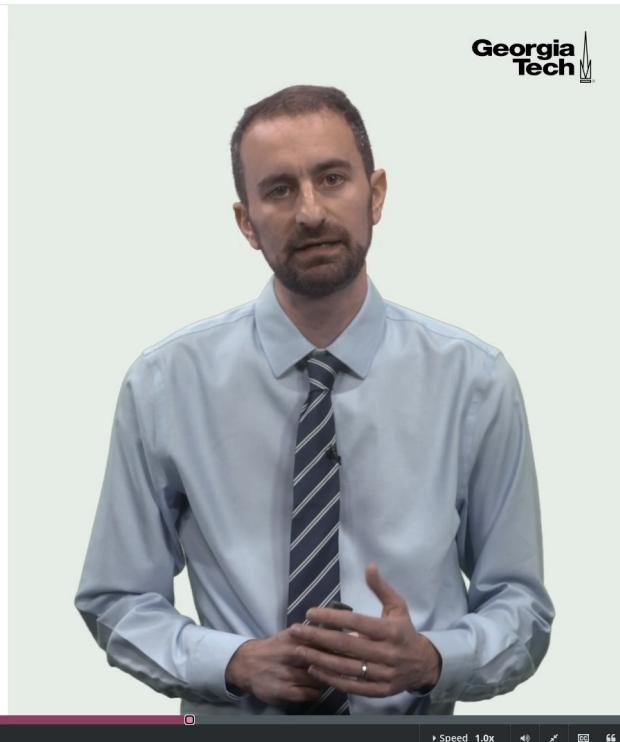
# Impedance

- When dealing with AC signals, concept of resistance must be generalized to impedance
- Impedance is a generalized form of resistance - it measures the opposition that a circuit presents to a current when an AC voltage is applied

Impedance is an imaginary quantity:

$$Z = R + jX$$

$R = \text{resistance}$        $X = \text{reactance}$



# Power

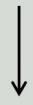
- Power dissipated by a circuit element is the current that flows through the element multiplied by the voltage drop across the element

$$P(t) = I(t)V(t)$$

DC Voltage

$$P = IV = I^2R$$

AC Voltage



Instantaneous Power

Average Power

$$P(t) = V_0 I_0 \sin(\omega t + \theta_v) \sin(\omega t + \theta_I)$$

$$\longrightarrow P(t) = V_0 I_0 \cos(\theta_v - \theta_I)$$



# Power Dissipation

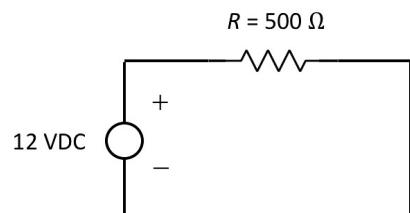
- The heat generated by circuit elements depends on the **power dissipated** by the circuit element
- When designing circuits, must make sure that all elements can handle the expected power dissipation - otherwise elements will overheat
- Power is measured in Watts

5.1Ω resistor, rated at 0.25 Watts



# Power Dissipation

- Example: For the example circuit below, what resistor power rating is needed for the resistor  $R$ ?



$$I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{12 V}{500 \Omega} = 24 \text{ mA}$$

The resistor must have a power rating **greater than 0.29 W**.

$$P = I^2 R = 0.29 \text{ Watts}$$



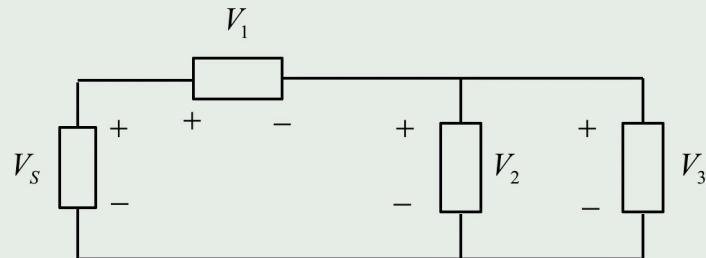
## Lesson 2 – Circuits Analysis and Voltage Regulation

### Kirchhoff's Voltage Law



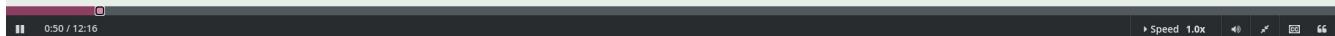
- Sum of voltage drops and rises around any closed path in a circuit is equal to zero.

$$\sum_{i=1}^N V_i = 0$$



*Kirchhoff's Voltage Law*

$$V_S - V_1 - V_2 = 0 \quad V_S - V_1 - V_3 = 0$$

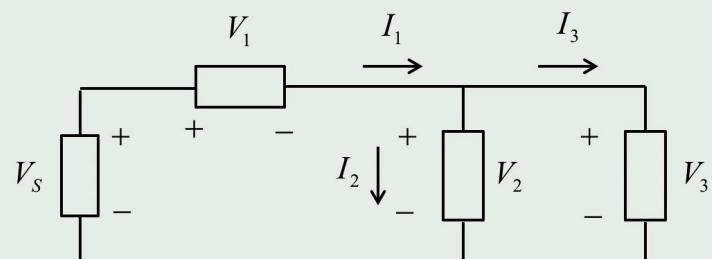


### Kirchhoff's Current Law



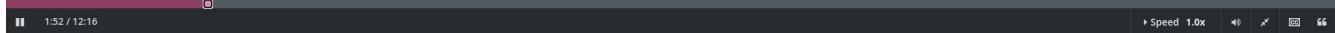
- Sum of current into (or out of) a node is zero
- A node is the junction between different branches of a circuit

$$\sum_{i=1}^N I_i = 0$$



*Kirchhoff's Current Law*

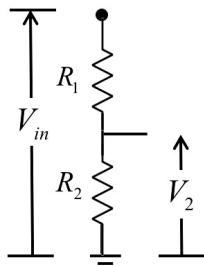
$$I_1 - I_2 - I_3 = 0$$



# Voltage Dividers



- Sometimes we need to step down a source voltage to power a circuit element (such as a sensor or processor)
  - A **voltage divider**, created by placing two resistors in series, can be used for this purpose



$$V_2 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V_{in}$$

(derived using Kirchhoff's Laws)

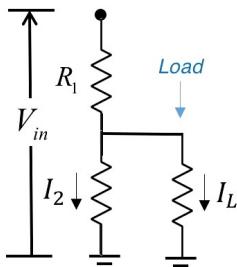


2:37 / 12:16

Speed 1.0x

# Voltage Dividers

- **Caveat:** Do not use a voltage divide to power a load. Any current passing through load ( $R_2$ ) will also pass through  $R_1$ , dissipating power and generating heat
  - If you need to step down voltage to power a load, use a voltage regulator instead
  - Only for use in **low-current applications**. Use high values of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  (in the 1 k $\Omega$  - 10 k $\Omega$  range)



$$\text{Power Dissipated by } R_1: \quad R_1(I_2 + I_L)^2$$

Voltage dividers are commonly used for sensor interfacing or reading potentiometer values.

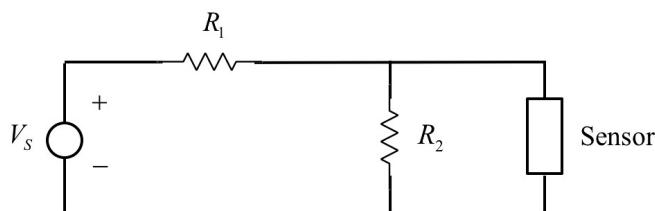


4:06 / 12:16

▶ Speed 1.0x

# Example: Designing a Voltage Divider

Problem: A certain sensor requires an input voltage of 5 VDC. You have a voltage source available which only provides 15 VDC. Design a voltage divider (find  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ) that will allow you to power the sensor from this power supply.



$$V_2 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V_S \quad \rightarrow \quad 5 V = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} 15 V$$

$$\text{Select } R_1 = 1 \text{ k}\Omega \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{3} = \frac{R_2}{1000 + R_2}$$

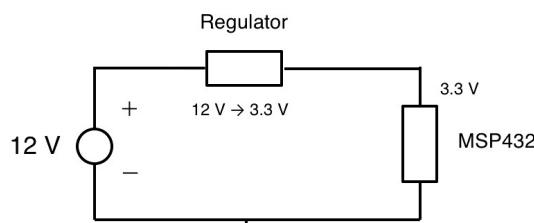
$$\rightarrow R_2 = 500 \Omega$$

If a 500  $\Omega$  resistor is not available or we need tight tolerances, we can use a potentiometer.



## Voltage Regulators

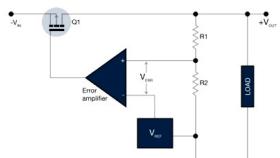
- Voltage regulators are semi-conductor devices provide an efficient, stable mechanism for stepping down input voltages
- Regulators provides a **single output voltage** (e.g., 5 V) for a **range of input voltages** (e.g., 7-35 V)
- Useful when powering components / processors from a battery



# Voltage Regulators

- **Linear voltage regulators** use an op-amp and transistor to achieve stable output voltage
- **Power is dissipated** as heat continuously during operation
- Must ensure that regulator has adequate power rating for particular application, and should **attach to heat sink**
- **Power dissipation** computed as:  $P = I(V_{in} - V_{out})$

Linear Regulator Schematic



Linear Regulators have a **dropout voltage**: how much higher input voltage must be than desired output voltage

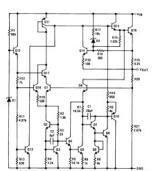


8:54 / 12:16

Speed: 1.0x

# Voltage Regulators

- Typical linear voltage regulator: Texas Instruments LM7805



Courtesy of Texas Instruments

- Output voltage: 5V
- Input voltage range: 7-35V
- Maximum current provided: 1.5A
- Dropout voltage: 2V
- Cost: ~\$1

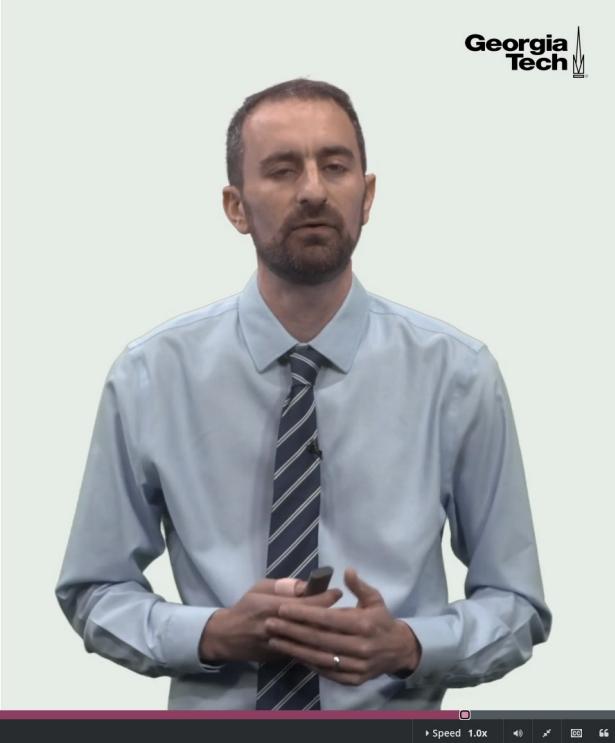
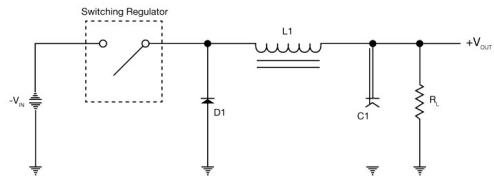


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Speed: 1.0x

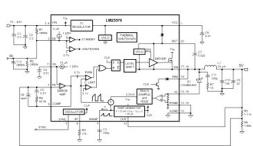
# Voltage Regulators

- **Switching regulators** uses a switching element to transform input voltage into a periodic signal with lower average voltage
- Capacitors, inductors, and other elements are used to smooth pulsed voltage
- Switching regulators are **more efficient** and generate **less heat** than linear regulators



# Voltage Regulators

- Typical switching voltage regulator (Buck Converter): Texas Instruments LM25576



Courtesy of Texas Instruments

- Output voltage: Adjustable down to 1.225V
- Input voltage range: 6-42V
- Maximum current provided: 3A
- Cost: ~\$4.80



## Lesson 3 – Amplifier Circuits

# Signal Amplification

- Oftentimes in mechatronic design signals will need to be amplified to be used appropriately
- For instance, many sensors output voltage signals that are too small to be read by microcontroller

$V_{out} = GV_{in}$   
Amplifier Gain

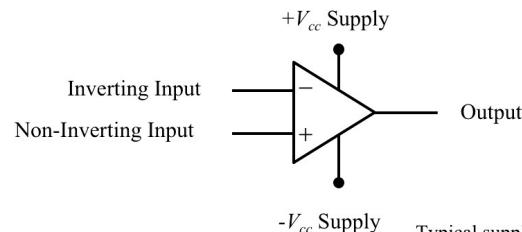


A thermocouple is a common sensor that requires signal amplification prior to interfacing with a microcontroller.

0:37 / 10:50Speed 1.0x▶◀▶▶▶

# Operational Amplifiers (Op-Amps)

- Op-amps are circuit components used to amplify voltage levels within a circuit
- Also used for other purposes (will be discussed)
- Built from transistors, diodes, resistors, capacitors

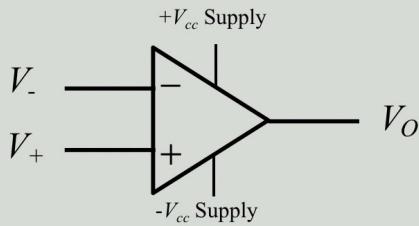


Typical supply voltage is typically +/- 15V or +/- 12V

1:21 / 10:50Speed 1.0x▶◀▶▶▶

# Operational Amplifiers (Op-Amps)

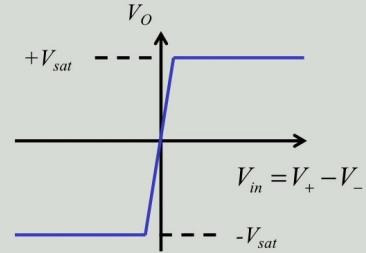
- Open-loop operation of op-amps



$$V_O = K_{OL} (V_+ - V_-)$$

$$K_{OL} \approx 10^5 \text{ or } 10^6$$

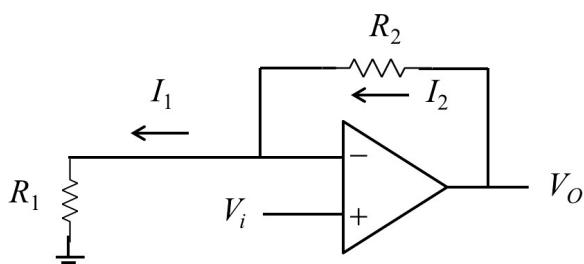
$V_O$  saturates at  $V_{sat}$  which is typically slightly smaller than supply voltage (~13V)



Op-amps in “open loop” configuration are called **comparators**.

# Operational Amplifiers (Op-Amps)

- Non-inverting op-amp circuit - uses closed-loop configuration
- Used to amplify voltage signal
- Amplifier gain determined by resistance values  $R_1$  and  $R_2$



Note: Rail (supply) voltages no longer shown.

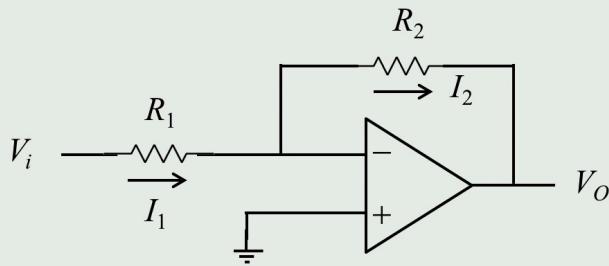
Amplifier Gain

$$V_O = \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1} V_i = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) V_i$$

- By sizing  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  appropriately, can amplify  $V_i$  to value we need at output  $V_O$
- Since resistors only come in discrete values, sometimes need to make  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  a **potentiometer** so it can be tuned to precise value we need.

# Operational Amplifiers (Op-Amps)

- Inverting op-amp circuit
- Used to amplify voltage signal **and invert it**
- Gain determined by resistance values  $R_1$  and  $R_2$



Amplifier Gain

$$V_O = -\frac{R_2}{R_1} V_i$$

- By sizing  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  appropriately, can amplify  $V_i$  to value we need at output  $V_O$
- Inverting op-amps are sometimes used **current-to-voltage converters** to convert a current output from a sensor to a voltage output

5:16 / 10:50

Speed 1.0x

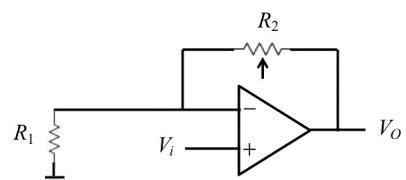
## Example: Amplifier Design

Using an op-amp, design a circuit that takes an input voltage  $V_i$  and produces an output voltage  $V_O = kV_i$  which is tunable from  $1 \leq k \leq 10$ . Determine the circuit components needed and an expression for the value of  $k$  in terms of the circuit component values.

- Use a non-inverting op-amp circuit to amplify the voltage
- Because we want a variable (or tunable) gain, make one (or both) of the resistors a potentiometer

$$V_O = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) V_i$$

$$\rightarrow k = 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$



- If we select  $R_1 = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$ , then  $R_2$  can be a potentiometer that can be tuned between 0 and  $9 \text{ k}\Omega$

7:36 / 10:50

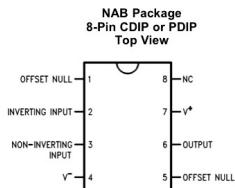
Speed 1.0x

# Common Op-Amp: LM741

- Supply ("rail") voltage of +/- 15V
- Cost: ~\$0.87
- Note: Input terminals to op-amps are very high impedance ( $M\Omega$  range) - almost no current flows into input terminals



Courtesy of Texas Instruments



## Single Supply Op-Amps

- Sometimes it can be hard to generate a large negative supply voltage in a circuit to use for rail input
- **Single-supply** op-amps eliminate the need for negative rail voltage. Negative supply can be tied to ground.
- Example: Texas Instruments TLE2022 single supply op-amp

Courtesy of Texas Instruments

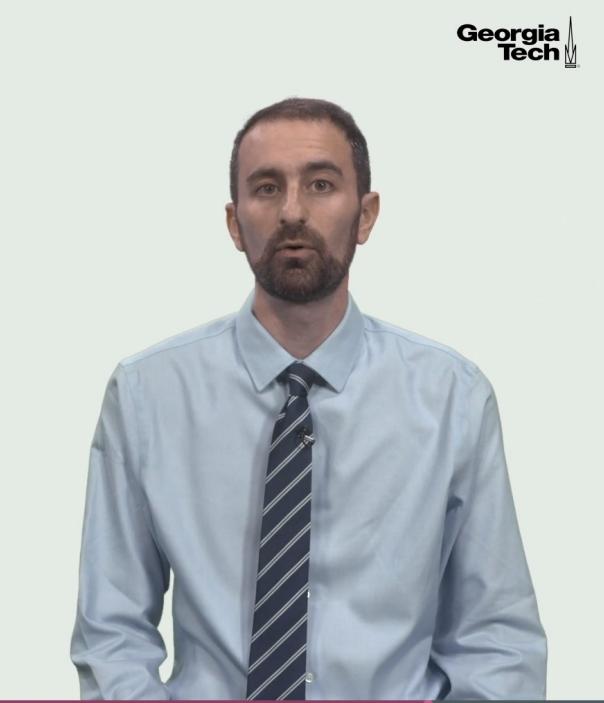
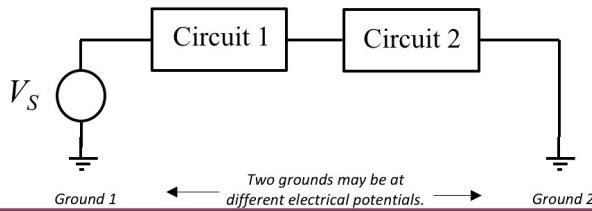
Non-inverting amplifier using single

Georgia Tech

8:51 / 10:50 | Speed 1.0x | ← → | 66

# Grounding

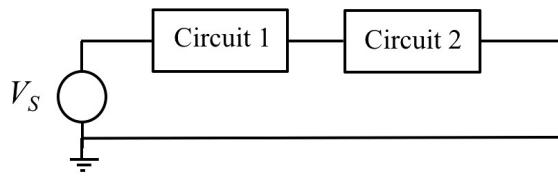
- Mechatronic devices are often comprised of several different circuits, circuit boards, and electronic components
- **Ground loops** can cause series problems (bias and noise) in circuit operation due to feedback currents
- Ground loops occur when circuits grounded to different electrical potentials are connected together



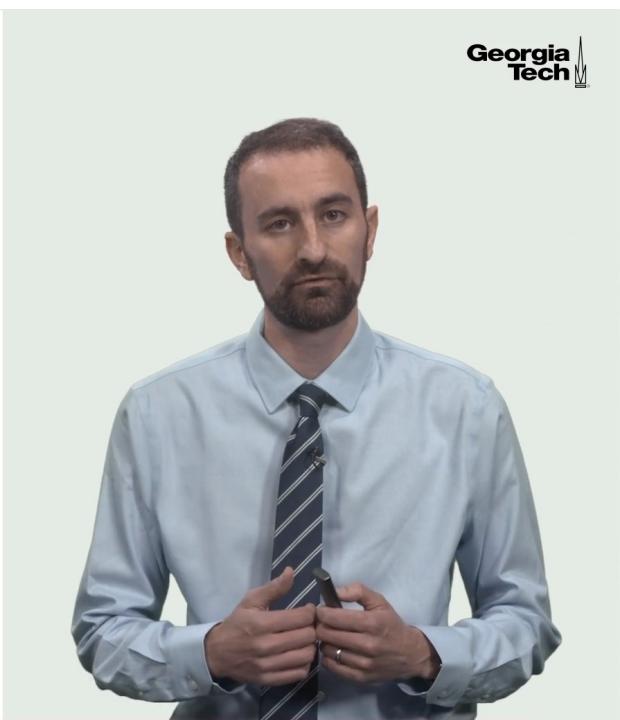
9:21 / 10:50      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%

# Grounding

- Should make sure that all ground points are tied to the same ground on the device
- This is known as a **common ground**
- Grounding problems are often manifested by unexplained behavior of circuit elements caused by feedback currents
- Usually fixed by tying all components to common ground



Common ground



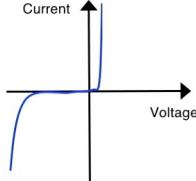
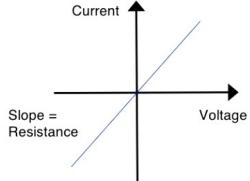
▶ 10:06 / 10:50      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%

# Topic 2 – Semiconductors Circuits Elements

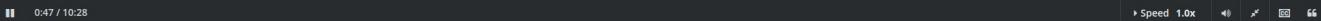
## Lesson 1 – Diodes , LEDs and Photodiodes

### Semiconductors

- Semiconductors are special materials that are between conductors and insulators that exhibit a **nonlinear relationship** between voltage and current
- Resistors have a **linear voltage-current response** according to Ohm's Law
- Semiconductors exhibit a nonlinear response which is useful in various mechatronics circuits



*Voltage-Current Response for Resistor*      *Voltage-Current Response for Diode (Semiconductor)*

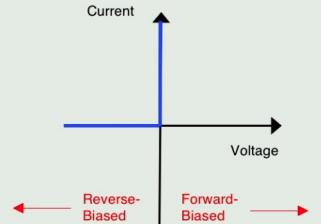
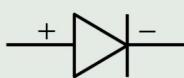




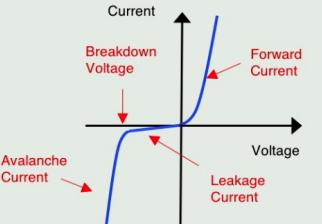
### Diodes

- Diodes are semiconductor devices that (ideally) only allow **current to flow one way**
- Diodes are used various roles in mechatronic devices as lights (**LEDs**), sensors (**photodiodes**), and circuit protection devices (**flyback diodes**)
- Real diodes exhibit very small resistance when **forward-biased**, and when negative-biased allow current to flow in reverse only after exceeding “breakdown voltage”

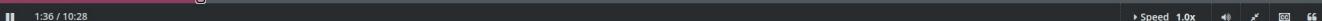
**Symbol**



*Ideal Diode Voltage-Current Response*



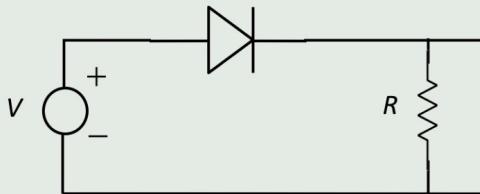
*Actual Diode Voltage-Current Response*





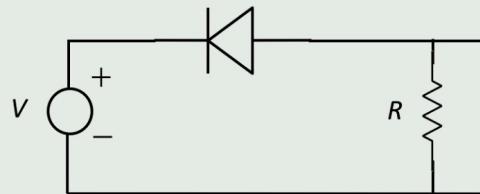
# Diodes

Diode in **Forward-Biased** Configuration



- Current flows through circuit approximately according to  $V = IR$
- Resistance of diode when forward-biased is very low (a few Ohms)

Diode in **Reverse-Biased** Configuration

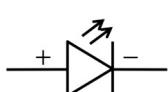


- Very little current flows through circuit unless V is higher than the breakdown voltage
- Reverse-biasing is usually used to try to eliminate current flow in a certain direction

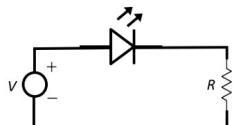
# Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)

- Light emitting diodes (LEDS) are diodes which **emit light** when forward-biased
- Static voltage drop of about 2-4V occurs when current flows through LED (forward-biased)
- Color of LED determined either by semiconductor material or plastic housing over diode

**Symbol**

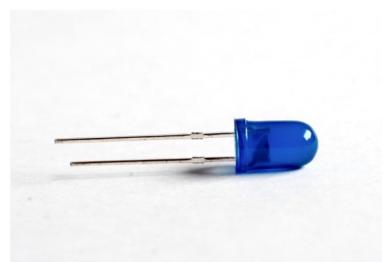


Basic LED Circuit



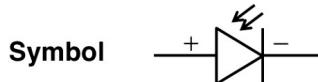
Typical blue LED:

- 3.4V drop when forward biased
- Maximum current of 30 mA
- Cost: ~\$0.50

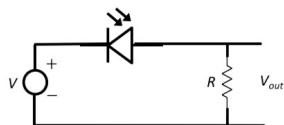


# Photodiodes

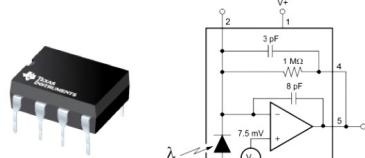
- Photodiodes are the opposite of LEDs - they allow current to pass through when light shines on them
- Amount of current passed by diode is proportional to the amount of light it receives
- Commonly used as ambient light sensors (i.e., night lights, etc.)



Light Measurement Circuit



Texas Instruments  
OPT101 Photodiode



- Integrated combination of photodiode and amplifier
- Easy to integrate with MCU for light detection
- Cost: ~\$9

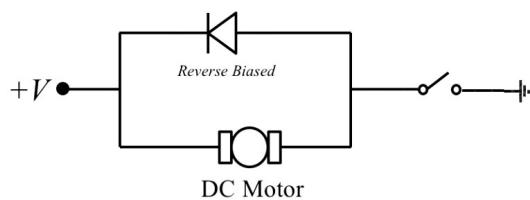
Courtesy of Texas Instruments

5:31 / 10:28

Speed: 1.0x

# Flyback Diodes

- Consider following circuit in which motor is activated using mechanical switch (or transistor)



- Motor has high inductance  $L$
- When motor switched off, voltage develops across motor terminals according to:

$$V = L \frac{di(t)}{dt}$$

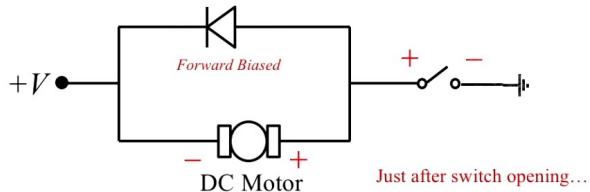


6:51 / 10:28

Speed: 1.0x

# Flyback Diodes

- Consider following circuit in which motor is activated using mechanical switch (or transistor)



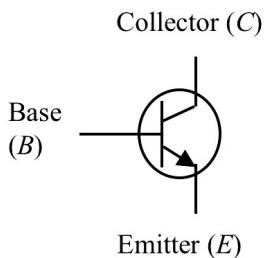
- High voltage of opposite polarity across switch terminals just after switch opening
- May cause wear on switch due to arcing, or blow out transistor
- Flyback diode** provides alternative path for current in motor coil and mitigates arcing / excessive current through transistor



## Lesson 2 – Bipolar Junction Transistors ( BJTs )

# Bipolar Junction Transistors (BJTs)

- Bipolar junction transistors (BJTs) are common circuit elements used primarily as a **solid-state switch**
- BJTs switch a current path on or off by activating a second “base” path



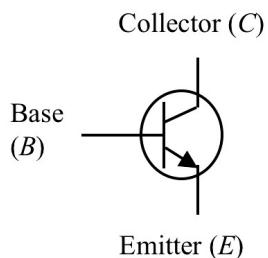
- BJT is **current controlled device** where amount of current supplied at *B* determines current flow from *C* to *E*
- **Small base current allows much larger current** to flow from collector to emitter
- Three states: Off, Linear, and Saturation State, determined by voltages at *C*, *B*, and *E*
- Only **Off** and **Saturation** states are usually used in mechatronics applications



0:56 / 16:18 ► Speed 1.0x ⏪ ⏩ 🔍

# Bipolar Junction Transistors (BJTs)

- Voltage at emitter ( $V_E$ ) always lower than voltage at base ( $V_B$ ) by about 0.6V
- Must always have  $V_C > V_E$



$$V_{BE} = V_B - V_E$$

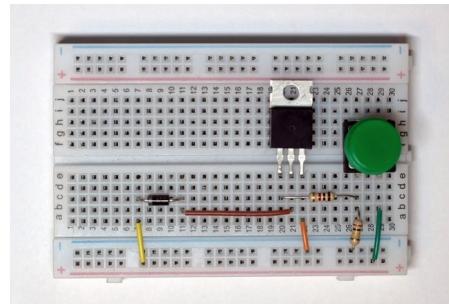
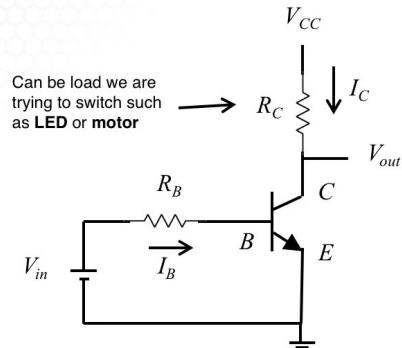
$$V_{CE} = V_C - V_E$$



1:51 / 16:18 ► Speed 1.0x ⏪ ⏩ 🔍

# Transistor Switch Circuits

- In many mechatronic devices, loads that require **high current** (motors, LEDs, etc) must be switched on and off by devices that only accept and provide low current (MCUs)
- Transistor switch circuits are used to **switch high power loads from low-power devices**

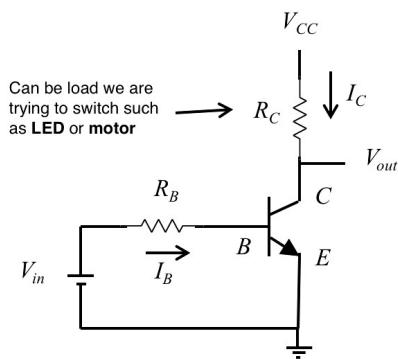


Transistor switch circuit using BJT (Darlington) transistor

2:30 / 16:18      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%

# Transistor Switch Circuits

- In many mechatronic devices, loads that require **high current** (motors, LEDs, etc) must be switched on and off by devices that only accept and provide low current (MCUs)
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### Three States of BJT Transistors

**Off state:**  $V_{BE} < \sim 0.6 \text{ V}$   $\longrightarrow I_C = 0 \quad V_{out} = V_{cc}$   
(No current flows through load)

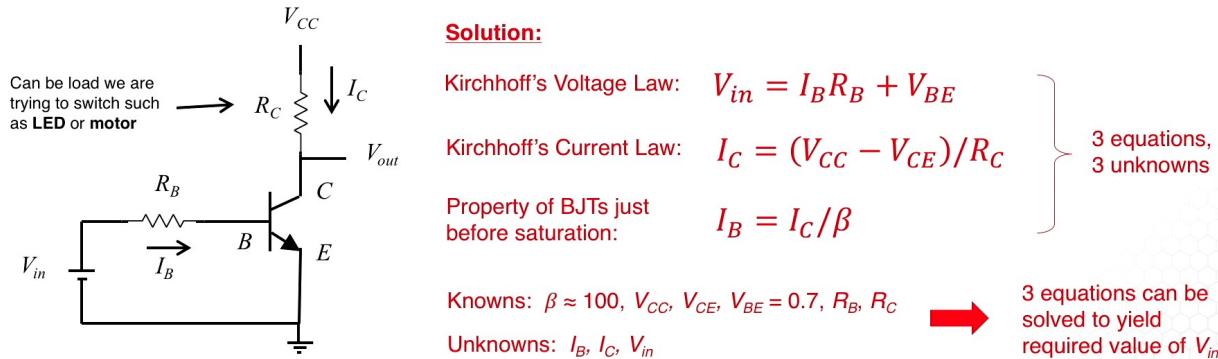
**Linear state:**  $\sim 0.6 \text{ V} < V_{BE} < \sim 0.7 \text{ V}$   $\longrightarrow I_C = \beta I_B \quad \beta \approx 100$   
 $V_{CE} > 0.2 \text{ V}$

**Saturation state:**  $V_{BE} > \sim 0.7 \text{ V}$   $\longrightarrow I_C > 0 \quad V_{out} = V_{CE} = 0.2 \text{ V}$   
(Current flows through load)

4:10 / 16:18      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%

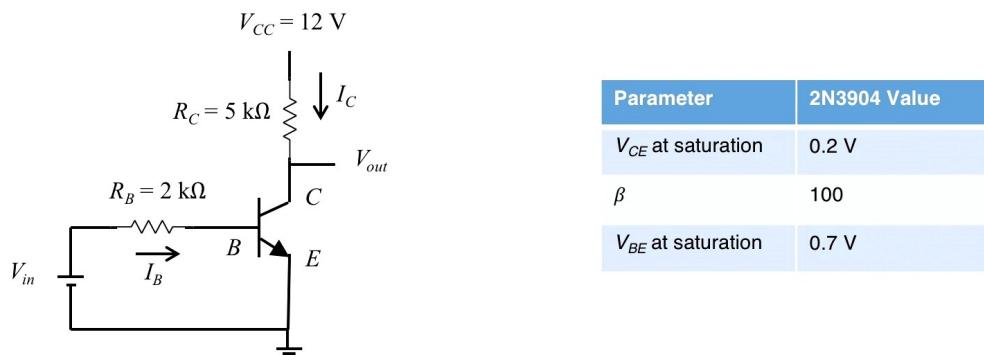
# Transistor Switch Circuits

- Let's design a transistor switch circuit to control current flow  $I_C$  using input voltage  $V_{in}$
- When  $V_{in} = 0$  (off state) no current flows between collector and emitter and thus  $I_C = 0$  (and  $V_{out} = V_{CC}$ )
- Question: What voltage  $V_{in}$  is required to switch transistor **from off state to saturation state**, allowing current to flow through load?



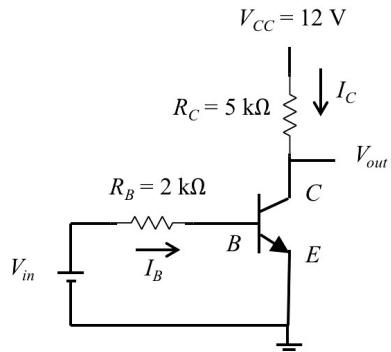
## Example: Transistor Switch Circuits

- Consider the **2N3904 BJT transistor**. Several parameters from the datasheet for this transistor are below.
- What is the input voltage needed to switch on the load (initiate saturation) if the load resistance is  $R_C = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $R_B = 2 \text{ k}\Omega$ ? Assume  $V_{CC} = 12 \text{ V}$ .



# Example: Transistor Switch Circuits

- Consider the **2N3904 BJT transistor**. Several parameters from the datasheet for this transistor are below.
- What is the input voltage needed to switch on the load (initiate saturation) if the load resistance is  $R_C = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$  and  $R_B = 2 \text{ k}\Omega$ ? Assume  $V_{CC} = 12 \text{ V}$ .



Step 1:  $I_C = \frac{(V_{CC} - V_{CE})}{R_C} = \frac{(12 - 0.2)}{5000} = 2.4 \text{ mA}$

Step 2:  $I_B = \frac{I_C}{\beta} = \frac{0.024}{100} = 0.024 \text{ mA}$

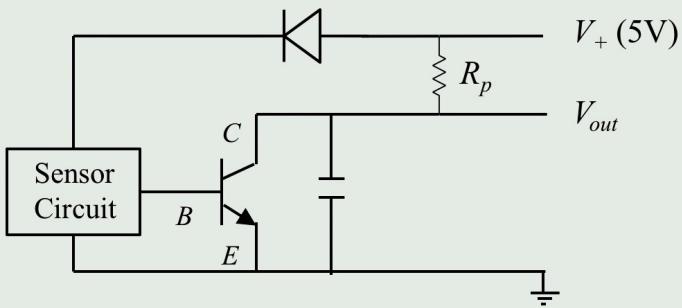
Step 3:  $V_{in} = I_B R_B + V_{BE} = 0.000024 \times 2000 + 0.7$

→  $V_{in} = 0.747 \text{ V}$

*To switch on load, input voltage must be greater than 0.74 V.*

## Open Collector Output

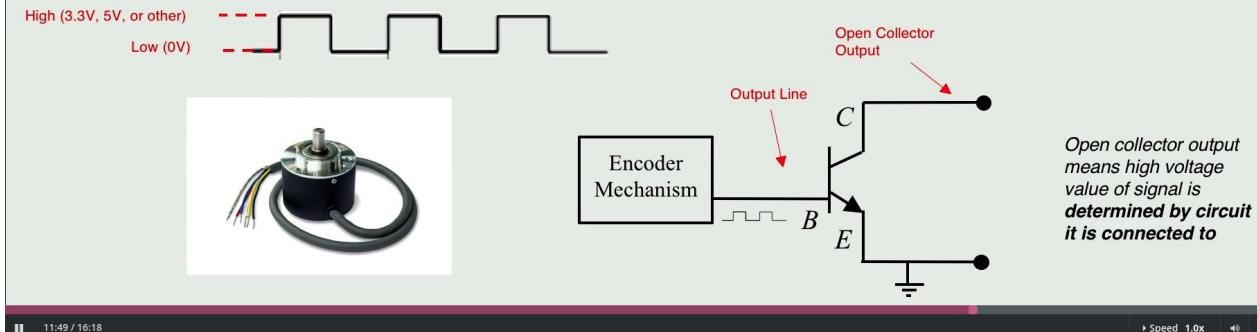
- BJT transistors are also commonly used to build **open collector output** circuits
- These are used to connect certain sensors to digital input pins on the MCU, allowing sensors with different output ranges to be read as **digital high or low** at the desired logic voltage (usually 3.3V or 5V)



- Output of sensor drives base of transistor
- $R_p$  is “pull-up” resistor connected from reference voltage  $V_+$  to output  $V_{out}$
- When sensor is low, transistor is in OFF state and no current flows from C to E →  $V_{out} = 5\text{V}$
- When sensor is high, transistor is in saturation and current flows from C to E →  $V_{out} \approx 0$
- Reference voltage  $V_+$  can be set to any desired voltage (e.g., 3.3V for MSP432)

## Example: Encode Open Collector Outputs

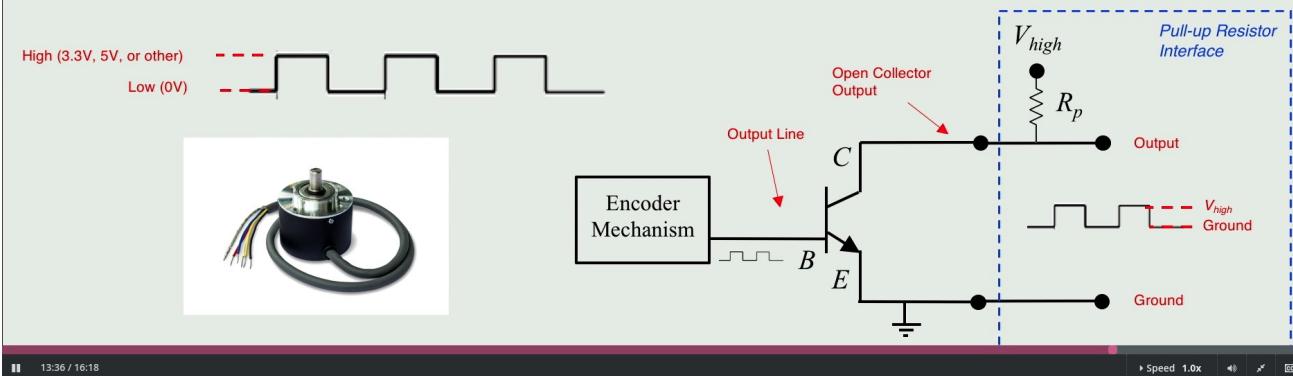
- **Encoders** are sensors that connect to rotating devices to measure angular speed or position
- They output a **square wave** as the shaft rotates - alternating between high and ground
- To be able to interface with logic levels at different voltages, most encoders have **open collector outputs**. They can be attached to pull-up resistors at the desired logic-high voltage.



11:49 / 16:18      Speed: 1.0x      40%      16:9      100%

## Example: Encode Open Collector Outputs

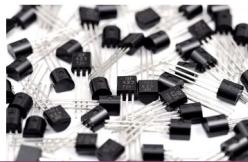
- **Encoders** are sensors that connect to rotating devices to measure angular speed or position
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13:36 / 16:18      Speed: 1.0x      40%      16:9      100%

# Common BJTs

Part No.	Max $V_{CE}$	Max $V_{BE}$	Max $I_C$	Power Dissipation at 25 deg C
2N2222	30 V	5 V	800 mA	0.5 W
2N3904	40 V	6 V	200 mA	0.625 W
MJE51	40 V	4 V	4 A	40 W
TIP3055	60 V	7 V	15 A	90 W



## Lesson 3 – Metal-Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistors ( MOSFETs )

### High Power - Low Power Interface

- Typical **loads** in mechatronics devices (motors, servos, LEDs, etc) require relatively large current
  - Motors: ~500 mA - 50+ A
  - LEDs: ~20 mA
- **Microcontrollers** operate at much lower current levels
  - Maximum current draw from, or current into, an input/output pin on MSP432 is 6 mA
- Trying to power a motor directly from a microcontroller pin will break it! **Do not** do this.

**Low Power Devices**



**High Power Devices**



Courtesy of Texas Instruments



Georgia Tech

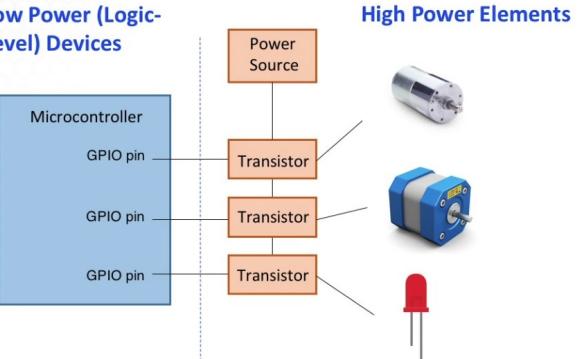
0:38 / 15:42

Speed 1.0x

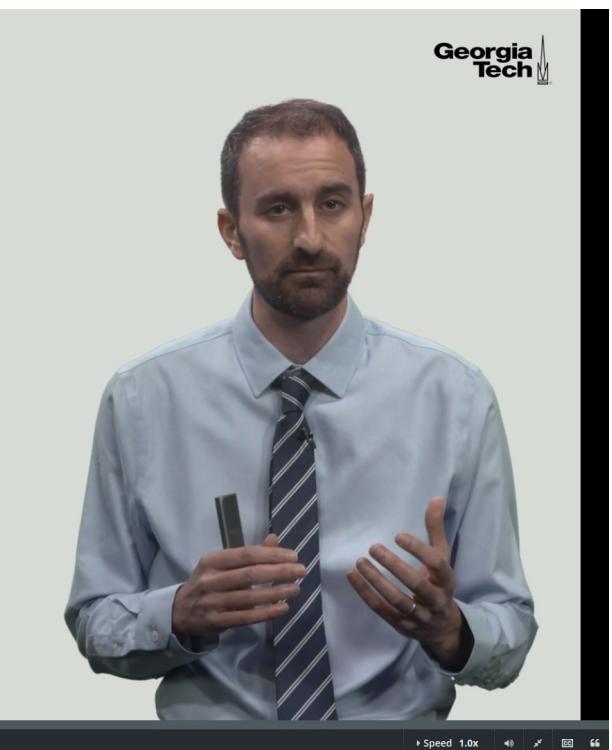
### High Power - Low Power Interface

- Transistors are commonly used to create an interface between high power and low power devices in a circuit

**Low Power (Logic-Level) Devices**



**High Power Elements**



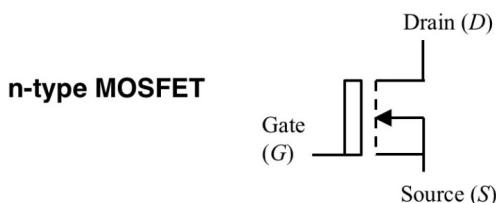
Georgia Tech

2:16 / 15:42

Speed 1.0x

# MOSFET Transistors

- Metal-Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistors (MOSFETs) are common type of transistor used for switching
- Unlike BJTs, MOSFETs use **voltage** as the switching signal, rather than current
- MOSFET is therefore **voltage-controlled** device where voltage supplied at gate  $G$  determines current flow from (or resistance between)  $D$  to  $S$

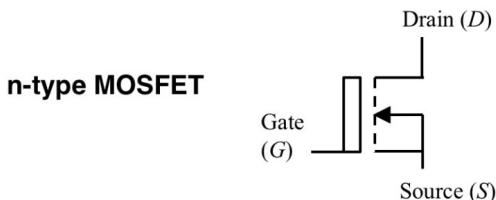


3:11 / 15:42

Speed: 1.0x

# MOSFET Transistors

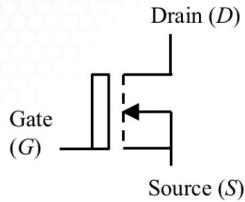
- Key states of operation: **Off**, and **Saturation (On)**
- State of MOSFET depends on **voltage applied to gate G**
- **Off State**: Drain-source resistance is very high → no current flows from  $D$  to  $S$
- **Saturation (On) State**: Drain-source resistance is very low ( $< 1 \Omega$ ) and current flows from  $D$  to  $S$



4:23 / 15:42

Speed: 1.0x

# MOSFET Transistors



Internal resistance at MOSFET gate is very high ( $\sim 10^{14} \Omega$ )

Thus no current flows into gate (gate circuit “separate” from drain-source circuit)



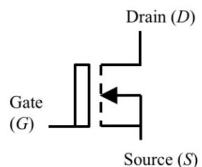
# MOSFET Transistors

## Important values:

$V_{GS}$  : Gate-source voltage

$V_{GS(\text{th})}$  : Threshold gate-source voltage. If  $V_{GS} < V_{GS(\text{th})}$ , transistor is in OFF state. If  $V_{GS}$  is significantly higher than  $V_{GS(\text{th})}$ , transistor is in ON (saturation) state.

$V_{DS}$  : Drain-source voltage

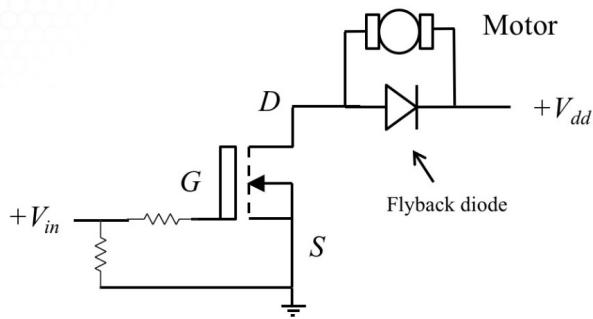


Thus, like BJT, MOSFET acts as a solid-state switch. Switching times are usually in the **nanosecond** range.



# MOSFET Switching Circuits

- MOSFETs are commonly used to **switch high-power loads** (motors, LEDs, etc) **from logic-level devices** such as microcontrollers
- They act to separate high-power and low-power portions of circuit
- Typical **motor driver** circuit using a MOSFET



- When  $V_{in}$  is below threshold voltage, transistor is OFF and no current flows through motor
- When  $V_{in}$  is well above threshold voltage, transistor is ON and current flows through motor
- Flyback diode protects MOSFET from large voltage buildup when transistor is switched from on to off
- Resistor used to ground gate terminal when  $V_{in} = 0$  to turn transistor completely off

8:46 / 15:42      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%

## Example MOSFETs

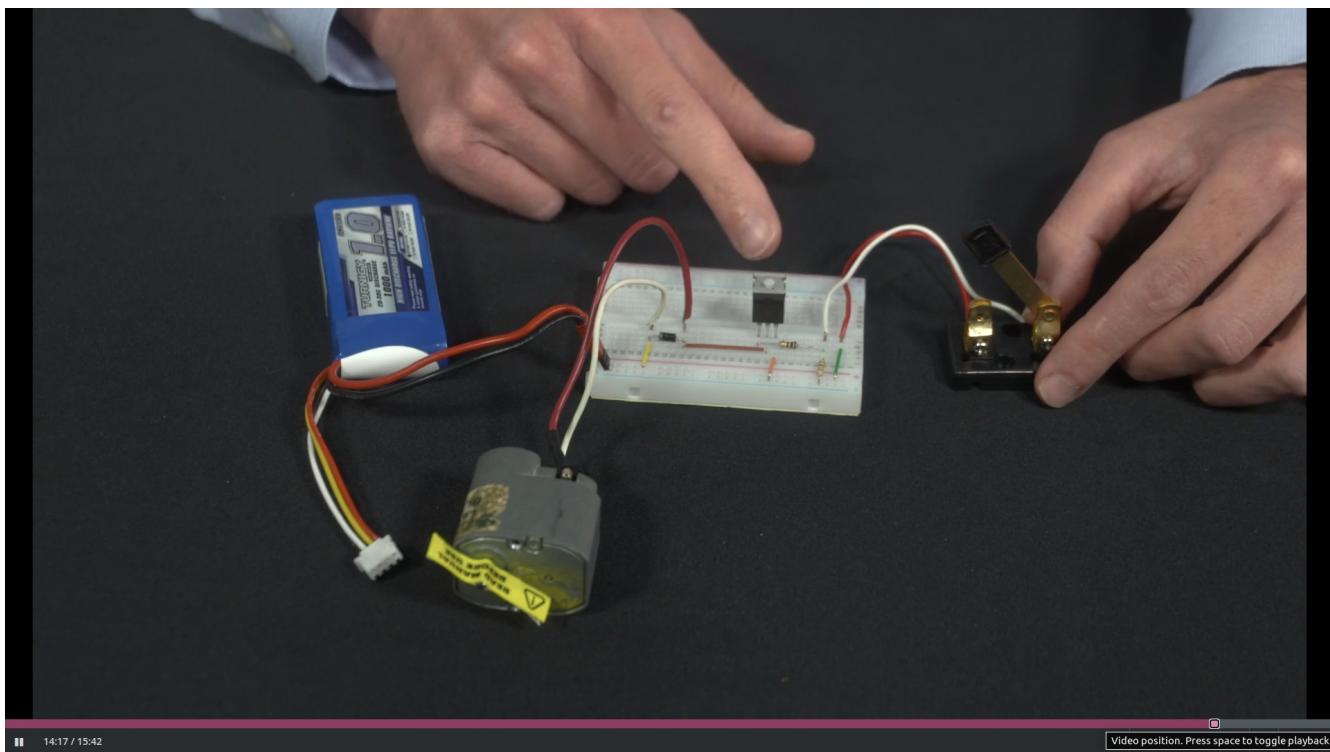
Part No.	On Resistance $R_{DS(on)}$	Max Drain Current $I_D$ (max)	Power Dissipation $P_D$	Gate Threshold Voltage $V_{GS(th)}$
2N7002	1.7 Ω	115 mA	200 mW	2.1 V
4N60	2.5 Ω	4 A	38 W	4 V
IRL540	0.077 Ω	28 A	150 W	2 V

$R_{DS(on)}$  : Resistance between drain and source terminals when MOSFET is fully on.

$I_D$  (max) : Max current that can be passed between drain and source.



10:41 / 15:42      Speed: 1.0x      40%      66%



14:17 / 15:42

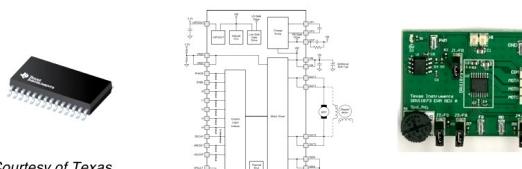
Video position. Press space to toggle playback

# Example Circuits For Mechatronic Devices

## Lesson 1 – H-Bridges And Motor Driver Circuits

### Driving High-Power Loads

- A mechatronic device typically includes one or more **high-power loads**
  - Motors, LEDs, solenoids, servos, etc.
- These loads **cannot be switched on and off** directly from a microcontroller output pin
- **Motor driver circuits** and **H-Bridges** are designed as the interface between logic-level device (MCU) and motor or servo



Courtesy of Texas Instruments

0:37 / 16:57

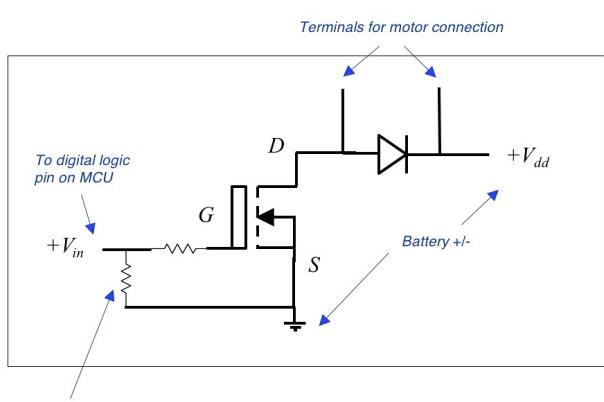
Speed 1.0x

Georgia Tech



### Simple Motor Driver Circuit

- A simple motor driver circuit can be built from a few components: battery, power MOSFET, and diode



Resistor needed to drive gate

To digital logic pin on MCU

+V<sub>in</sub>

Terminals for motor connection

G

S

D

+V<sub>dd</sub>

Battery +/-

1:59 / 16:57

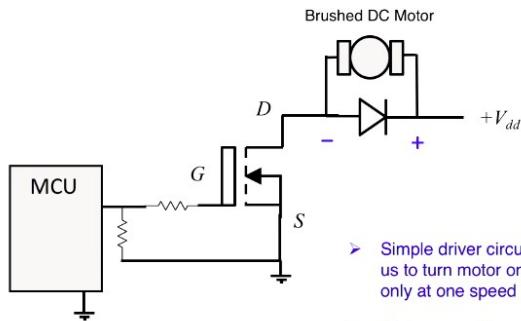
Speed 1.0x

Georgia Tech



# Simple Motor Driver Circuit

- Logic high on MCU digital output pin will turn motor ON
- Logic low on MCU digital output pin will turn motor OFF



- Simple driver circuit allows us to turn motor on, but only at one speed
- Motor can only run forward, and not reverse

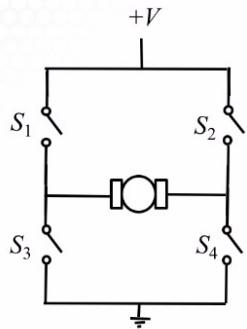


4:18 / 16:57

▶ Speed 1.0x ⏸ 🔍 CC 66

## H-Bridge Drives

- H-Bridges are commonly used to **switch direction of current through a motor**
- Allows a digital device to activate motor rotation in **both directions**



Simple H-Bridge Schematic

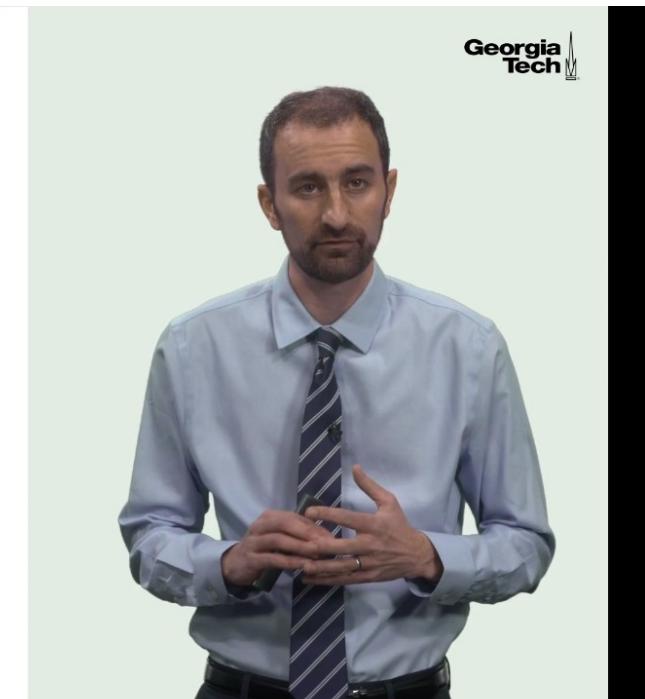
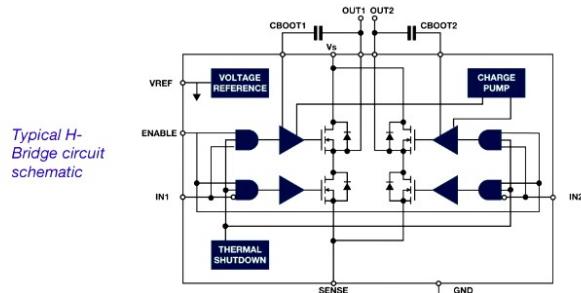
- When switches  $S_1$  and  $S_4$  are open and  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are closed, motor turns one direction
- When switches  $S_1$  and  $S_4$  are closed and  $S_2$  and  $S_3$  are open, motor turns other direction
- Schematic looks like an H!

5:26 / 16:57

▶ Speed 1.0x ⏸ 🔍 CC 66

# H-Bridge Drives

- Real H-Bridges are built from transistors, diodes, and logic gates. Transistors act as switching elements.
- They have very fast switching times (~ nanosecond range)
- Many have **built-in flyback diodes**

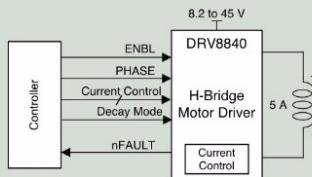


## TI DRV8840 Motor Driver IC (H-Bridge)

- Integrated circuit consisting of H-Bridge and supporting components
- Made to drive brushed DC motors and stepper motors
- Cost: ~\$2.95



Courtesy of Texas Instruments



### Simple Brushed DC Motor Setup:

- Enable (ENBL) line connected to MCU digital input/output pin - used to **switch motor on and off**
- Phase (PHASE) line connected to MCU digital input/output pin - used to **set direction of rotation**
- Other lines not needed - used for more advanced functionality

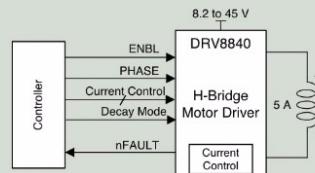
Maximum Continuous Motor Drive Current	5 A
Maximum Power Supply (Motor) Voltage	45 V
Digital Input Voltage	3.3 V or 5V

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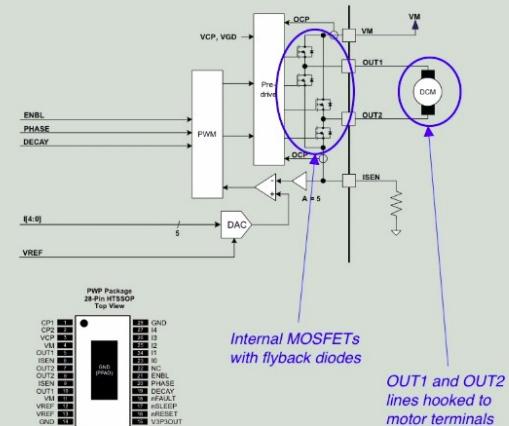


Courtesy of Texas Instruments

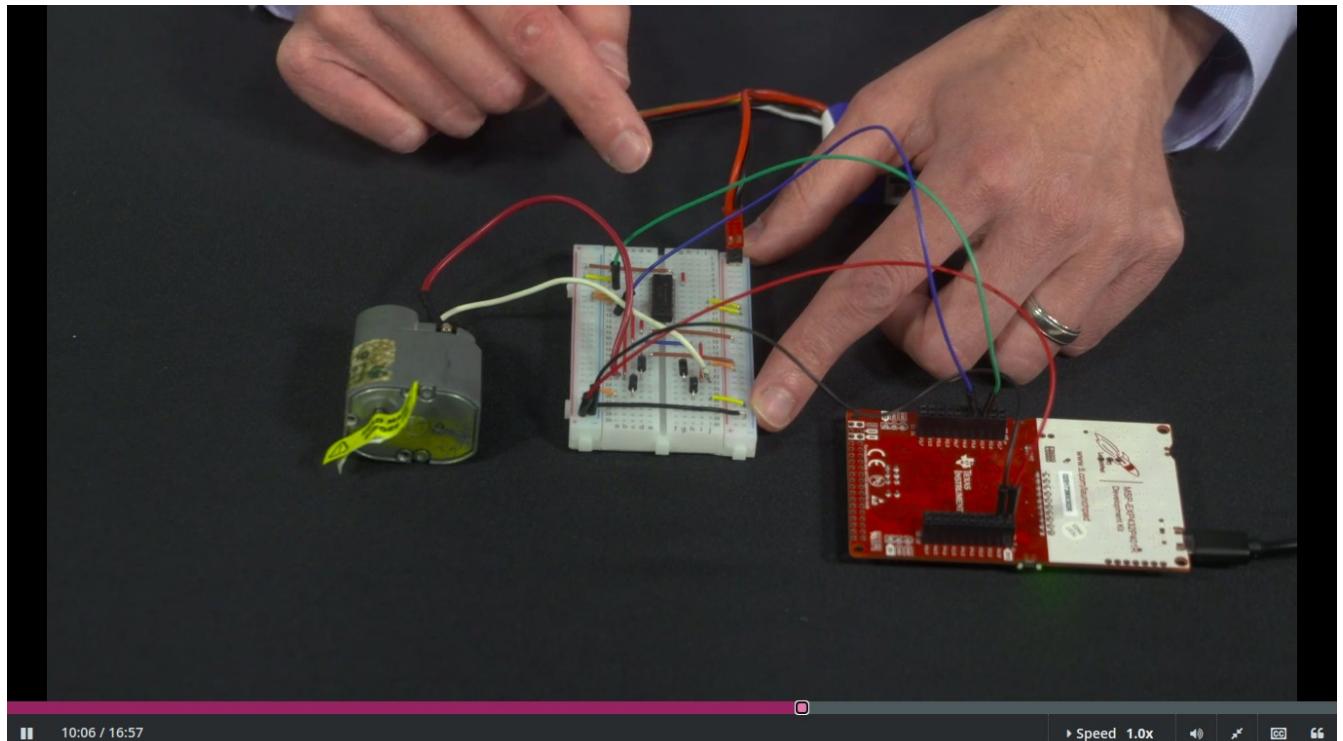


Maximum Continuous Motor Drive Current	5 A
Maximum Power Supply (Motor) Voltage	45 V
Digital Input Voltage	3.3 V or 5V

## Internal Circuit Diagram:



9:27 / 16:57      Speed 1.0x      ▶      🔍      CC      ⏴



# Example H-Bridges

- Note: When driving a load, the load current **passes through H-Bridge** and transistors heat up
- H-Bridge should have **power dissipation rating** sufficient for particular load it is driving – use spec sheet values to calculate power dissipation for your application

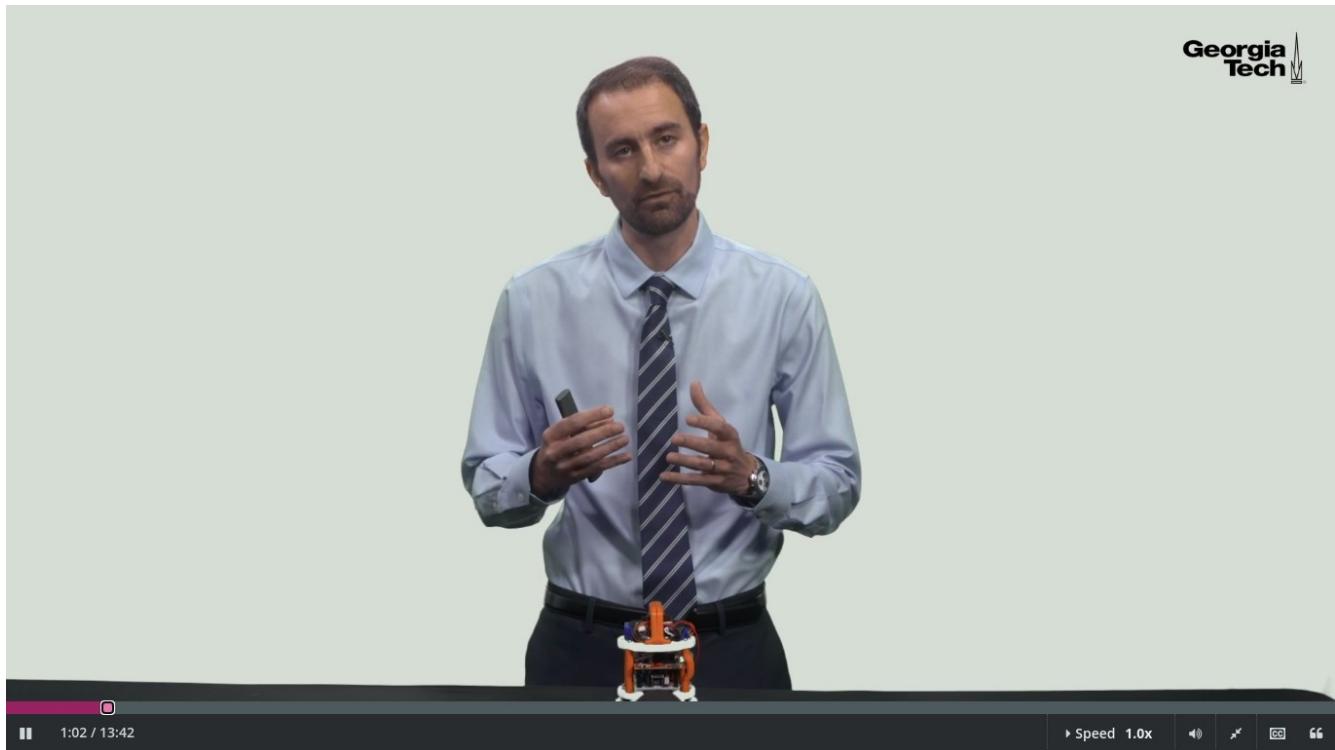
Part No.	Maximum Drive Current	Operating Supply Voltage
34931	5 A	5-36 V
SN754410	1 A	0-36 V
L298	4 A	0-46 V



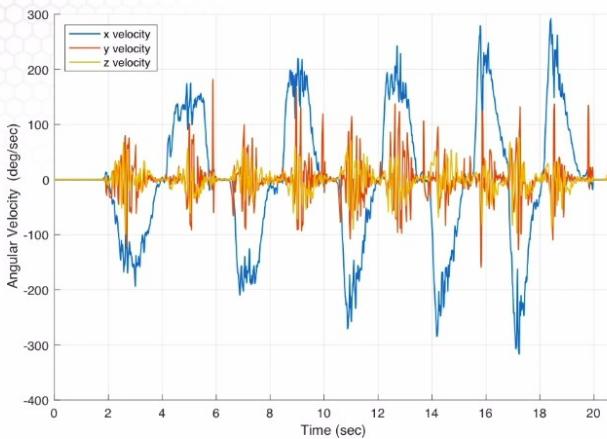
14:41 / 16:57

Speed 1.0x

## Lesson 2 – Signal Conditioning Circuits



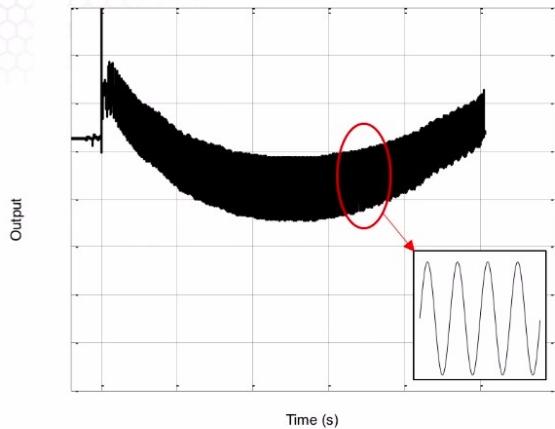
## Why Do We Need Signal Conditioning?



- Data from a three-axis gyroscope (Bosch BNO055)
- Note high frequency noise that corrupts otherwise smooth signal
- When reading this signal, we will usually get better performance from our device if we can **filter out some of this noise before using the signal**
- This requires a **low-pass filter**



# Why Do We Need Signal Conditioning?



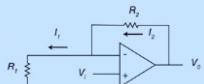
- Data from a thermopile sensor looking at sky and ground repeatedly at high frequency
- Ambient temperature changes over longer time-scales, add a **moving bias** to signal
- Signal of interest is **high-frequency**, want to remove moving bias *before reading* by microcontroller
- This requires a **high-pass filter**



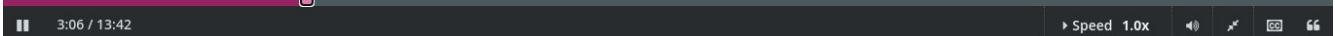
## Signal Conditioning

- Signal conditioning is often a necessary aspect of sensor integration
- **Two components** of signal conditioning:

**Amplifying sensor outputs**  
to appropriate range for reading  
by microcontroller



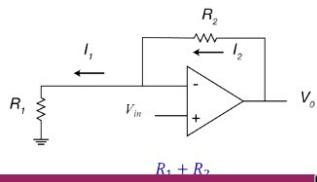
**Reducing noise and bias in an output signal**



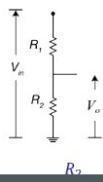
# Signal Amplification

- Microcontrollers read analog signals using an **analog-to-digital converter** (ADC)
- May need to **amplify** or **reduce** voltage output from sensor to appropriate range for ADC
- We have already discussed how to amplify signals using **op-amp circuits**, and reduce voltages using a **voltage divider**

Non-Inverting Op-Amp Circuit



Voltage Divider



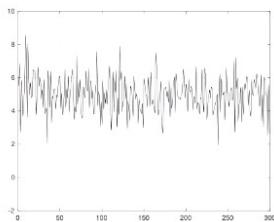
3:40 / 13:42

Speed 1.0x

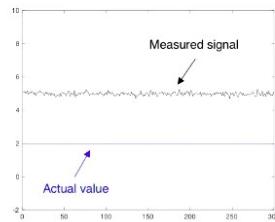
# Filtering

- Filtering is process of **attenuating unwanted components** of the signal while **allowing other components to pass**
  - Unwanted components are usually noise or bias, or both

Noisy Signal



Biased Signal



4:36 / 13:42

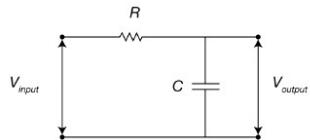
Speed 1.0x

# Low Pass Filters



- Low pass filters **attenuate (or remove) high frequency content** from the signal
- For mechatronics devices, we usually want to remove high-frequency noise
- Low-pass filters usually used for this purpose

Passive Low Pass Filter  
(RC Circuit)



- Does not require external power
- Filter time constant:

$$\tau = RC$$



5:15 / 13:42

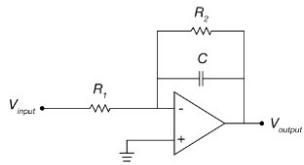
▶ Speed 1.0x ⏪ ⏩ 🔍

# Low Pass Filters



- Low pass filters **attenuate (or remove) high frequency content** from the signal
- For mechatronics devices, we usually want to remove high-frequency noise
- Low-pass filters usually used for this purpose

Active Low Pass Filter  
(Op-Amp Circuit)



- Amplifies and filters input signal
- Filter time constant:

$$\tau = R_2 C$$

- Filter gain:

$$G = R_2/R_1$$



6:26 / 13:42

▶ Speed 1.0x ⏪ ⏩ 🔍

# Effect of Time Constant

**Higher  $\tau$**  means more noise is attenuated,  
but filtered signal will lag actual signal more.

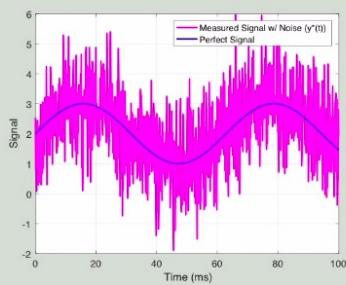
**Lower  $\tau$**  means less noise is attenuated,  
but filtered signal will lag actual signal less.

7:10 / 13:42

Speed 1.0x

# Effect of Time Constant

## Noisy Signal



Filtered Signal:  $\tau = 10 \text{ ms}$

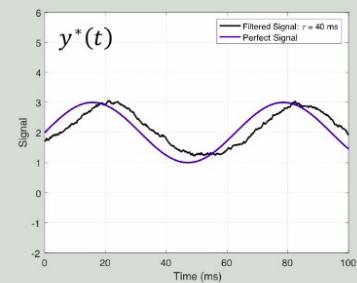
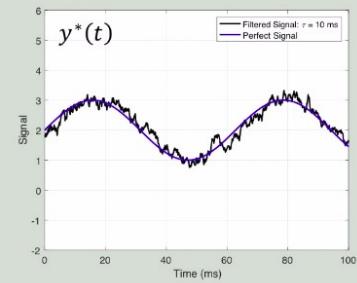
Filtered Signal:  $\tau = 40 \text{ ms}$

Sensor

$$y(t) = 2 + \sin(100t) + N(t)$$

Low Pass Filter

$$\begin{array}{c} R \\ \parallel \\ C \end{array} \quad \tau = RC$$



8:31 / 13:42

Speed 1.0x



# Digital Low Pass Filter

- Low pass filter can also be implemented in **software** rather than in circuitry
- Let's look at a first-order low pass filter implemented in software

## Formula for first-order digital filter

$$y(k) = (1 - \alpha)x(k) + \alpha y(k - 1)$$

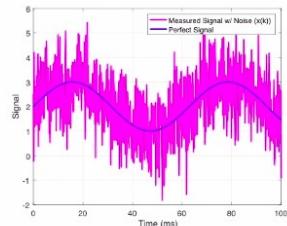
$y(k)$  = filtered signal at timestep  $k$

$x(k)$  = signal at timestep  $k$

$\alpha = e^{-2\pi T/\tau}$  (constant)

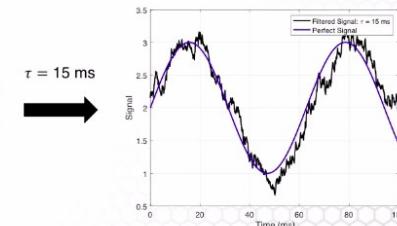
$T$  = sampling interval

## Raw Signal



$T = 0.1 \text{ ms}$

## Digitally Filtered Signal

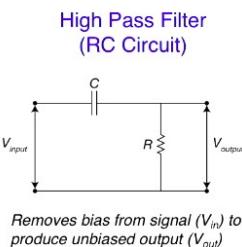
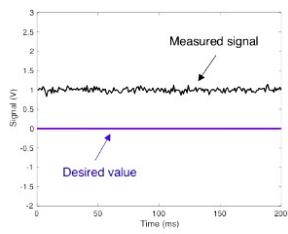


11:26 / 13:42

Speed 1.0x

# Removing Biases

- A **DC bias** is a fixed voltage offset that we would like to remove
- Example: A certain sensor produces a **1 V output** when reading an **input of zero**.
- What type of circuit will remove this bias, so that the output is 0 V when the input is zero?



12:30 / 13:42

Speed 1.0x