



CREATIVE PROGRAMMING AND COMPUTING

Lab: Reactive Agents

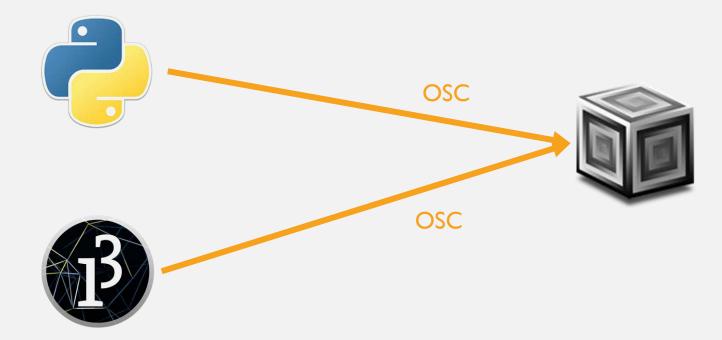
REACTIVE AGENTS

- Reactive agents behave like ...
- We will see two kind of reactive agents:
 - Music composition with Python
 - Physics-related reactive agents
- We want to connect our agent to some effect
 - A musical instrument with SuperCollider

OVERVIEW

REACTIVE AGENTS

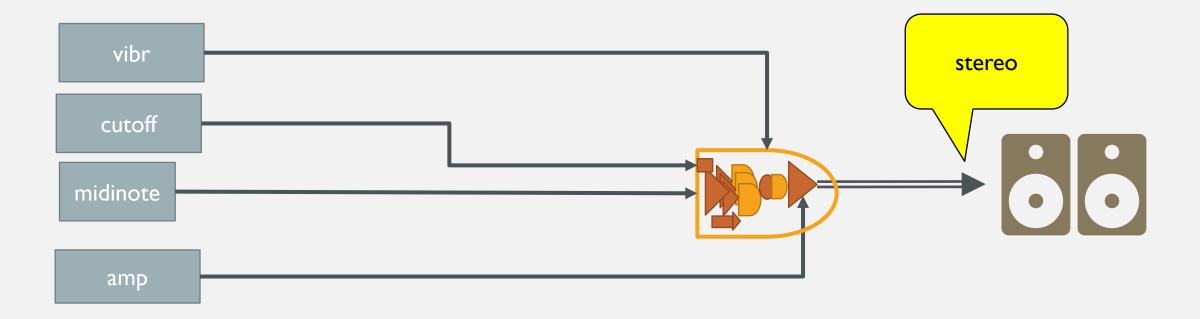
- We first create an instrument in SuperCollider
- We will control the instrument with Python and Processing using the OSC protocol
- Depending on what we need to do, we will control different parameters



DEFINITION OF THE INSTRUMENT

In super_collider_instrument you can find moogs.scd, with the definition of an instrument:

• Arguments are: midinote, vibr (vibrato), cutoff, amp (amplitude)



We will use Python to create an automatic composition:

- create an automatic composition
- send the parameters of the composition to the OSC instrument

Exercize 0

Run and make sure example.py works with moogs.scd



We will first test OSC in Processing in testOSC.pde

- we install the library oscP5
- first test: we map mouse's x and y position into cutoff and vibrato
 - MouseX ranges between 0 and width \rightarrow vibrato is designed to oscillate around 0
 - MouseY ranges between 0 and height -> cutoff is designed to range between 0 and 1
- Mapping:
 - float cutoff = map(mouseY, 0, height,0,1);
 - float vibrato = map(mouseX, 0, width, -0.5, 0.5);

Exercize 0

Run and make sure testOSC.pde works with moogs.scd







requires the package python-osc

We will use Python to create an automatic composition:

- create an automatic composition
 - define a composition starting from an initial set of parameters (note, effect, duration, amplitude, etc.)
 - write a function that at each step changes the parameters depending on what is playing in that moment
 - Compositions are then generated by different algorithms and functions
- send the parameters of the composition to the OSC instrument
 - sleep to the time required to play the note (the duration)

Let's see how

We will use Python to create an automatic composition:

• create an automatic composition \rightarrow class Composition

• send the parameters of the composition to the OSC instrument \rightarrow class InstrOsc

classes.py

InstrOsc

Attributes

name of the message client for OSC

Methods

send(*data) send via OSC

Agent(thread)

Attributes

instr: an InstrOSC

composer the Composition at the current moment **Methods**

action (main thread function): while the thread is active :

- it calls composer.next() to update the composition
- it sends the data of the notes to the instrument
- it sleeps for the duration of the note

Composition

Attributes

midinote current note dur duration of the note in beats amp: amplitude

BPM: beats per minute

Methods

next(): compute the next note of the composition ABSTRACT



Actual Composition

- inherits Composition
- adds attributes, if needed
- Implements next()

```
# classes.py
class Composition:
    def __init__(self, id=ID_START,
                 midinote=ID_START,
                       dur=0,
                       amp=0,
                       BPM=120):
        self.id = id
        self.midinote = midinote
        self.dur = dur
        self.amp = amp
        self.BPM = BPM
    def next(self):
       pass
```

- See the class Composition on the left
 - id is the ID, and starts from ID_START=-1
 - midinote is the current midinote
 - dur is the duration of the note in beats with reference to BPM
 - amp is the amplitude
- next() is an abstract method: it is not implemented
 - we create a child class to use different compositions

- Composition is a generic composition
- Your actual composition is a child that inherits it
- In the init, it initialize the class
- In next() you implement the composition

Example of next(): play a random note and every 10 notes randomly changes the BPM

```
# example.py
class Random_Next(Composition):
    def __init__(self, BPM=60):
        Composition.__init__(self, BPM=BPM)
    def next(self):
        if self.id ==ID_START:
            self.id=10 // start the countdown
       if self.id >0: // countdown is not over: play a random note
            self.midinote = int(np.random.randint(60,84))
            self.dur = float(2**np.random.randint(-3, 0))
            self.amp = float(np.random.choice([0,1,1,1]))
            self.id-=1
        else: // countdown is over: change BPM, start a new countdown
            self.BPM=np.random.randint(60, 120)
            self.id=10
            self.next()
```

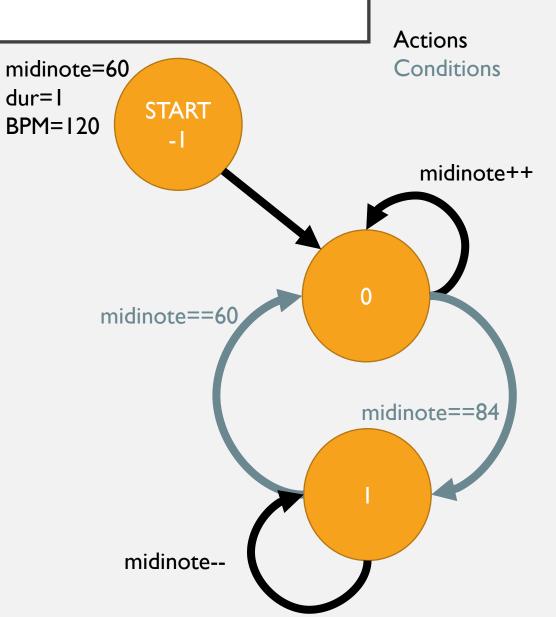
Exercize 0

Run and make sure example.py works with moogs.scd



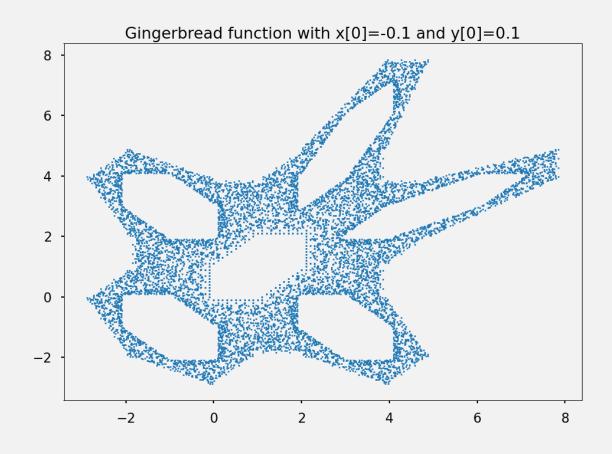
Exercize I:simple_next.py

- Implement this silly algorithm
- starts with midinote = 60 and duration = 1
- Increase midinote at each step
 - until it is equal to 84
- Decrease midinote at each step
 - until it is equal to 60
- And so on...



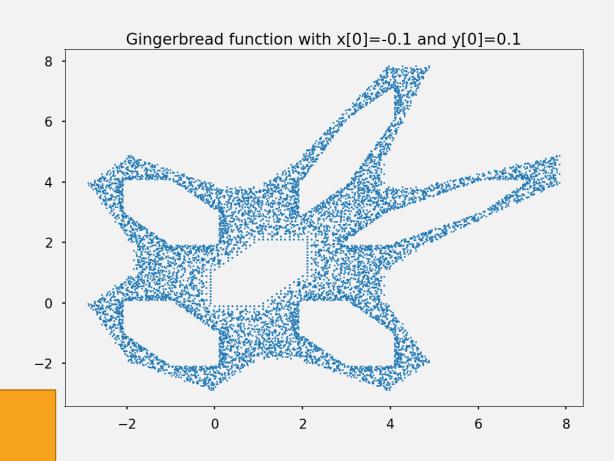
Exercize 2: Let's use the Gingerbread function

- Two variables x(n) and y(n) with n is a count
 - x(0) = -0.1 and y(0) = 0.1
- At each step
 - x(n+1) = 1 y(n) + |x(n)|
 - y(n+1) = x(n)
- map x(n) and/or y(n) to duration and midinote
 - They range between -3 and 8 in this case
 - remap them into meaningful value



Exercize 2: Let's use the Gingerbread function

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 - y(n+1) = x(n)
- map x(n) and/or y(n) to duration and midinote
 - They range between -3 and 8 in this case
 - remap them into meaningful value



Challenge: add "creativity" to the GingerBread by adding randomicity

- We used Python to create a reactive agent to create a composition
 - following strict rules
 - We can add randomness to make compositions change
 - We control note, duration and amplitude



- We will use Processing to create reactive agents inspired by physics
 - And use those agents to control the timbre of the instrument
 - We will control the cutoff and the vibrato

We will first test OSC in Processing in testOSC.pde

- we install the library oscP5
- We will use mouse's x and y position
 - MouseX ranges between 0 and width
 - MouseY ranges between 0 and height
- We need to find a nice mapping between them and the cutoff or vibr.
 - vibr is designed to oscillate around 0
 - cutoff is designed to range between 0 and 1
- We map position of the agent with cutoff and vibr
 - float cutoff = map(mouseY, 0, height,0,1);
 - float vibrato = map(mouseX, 0, width, -0.5, 0.5);

constrain is a clipping

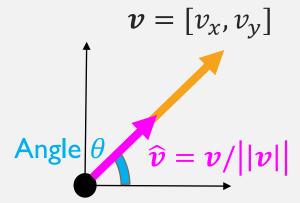
```
# test0SC.pde
import oscP5.*; import netP5.*;
int PORT = 57120;
OscP5 oscP5; NetAddress ip_port;
void setup(){
                                               void sendEffect(float cutoff, float vibrato){
  oscP5 = new OscP5(this, 55000);
                                                 OscMessage effect =
  ip_port = new NetAddress("127.0.0.1", PORT);
                                                             new OscMessage("/note_effect");
  size(1280, 720); background(0);
                                                 effect.add("effect");
                                                 effect.add(cutoff);
                                                 effect.add(vibrato);
void draw(){
                                                 oscP5.send(effect, ip_port);
  background(0);
  rectMode(CENTER); fill(255);
  ellipse(mouseX, mouseY, 10, 10);
  float cutoff = map(mouseY, 0, height,0,1);
  float vibrato = map(mouseX, 0, width, -0.5, 0.5);
  sendEffect(cutoff, vibrato);
```

Exercize 0

Run and make sure testOSC.pde works with moogs.scd

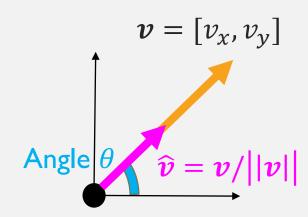


We will see how to play with motion in 2D with Processing



- The basic element are **vectors**, as in linear algebra and in physics:
 - 2D world \rightarrow 2-component vector $v = [v_x, v_y]$
 - We compute magnitude ||v|| and with respect to the origin ${m o}=[0,0]$
 - We compute angle $\angle v$ with respect to axis $\widehat{x} = [1 \ 0]$
 - The versor is $\widehat{v} = v/||v||$

We will see how to play with motion in 2D with Processing



• The basic element are **vectors**, as in linear algebra and in physics:

- Processing provides the object **PVector** as
 - PVector v = new PVector(v_x,v_y);
 - PVector is defined for 3D world; when initialized with 2 values, the third is automatically set to 0
 - PVector have a set of methods, such as add(Pvector), mag(), mult(float), normalize(), etc.
 - See https://processing.org/reference/PVector.html

- Let's create a processing script to display a circle that follows the mouse
- Agent has position, velocity and acceleration; mouse is converted into a Pvector
 - $p(n) = [p_x, p_y]; v(n) = [v_x, v_y]; a(n) = [a_x, a_y];$
- Remember that acceleration is

•
$$a(n) = \frac{v(n)-v(n-1)}{\Delta t}$$

- Δt is a constant, we can choose any value: we choose 1
- Therefore we can write $a(n) = v(n) v(n-1) \rightarrow v(n) = a(n) + v(n-1)$
- And p(n) = v(n) + p(n-1)

- Let's create a processing script to display a circle that follows the mouse
- Algorithm:
 - 1. Compute the vector that points from the object's to the mouse's locations
 - $m(n) = mouse = [mouse_x, mouse_y]$
 - $\Delta_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{n}) \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{n})$
 - 2. Normalize the vector and scale it to a given constant value (use c=CONSTANT_ACC=10)
 - $\widetilde{\Delta}_m(n) = \frac{\Delta_m(n)}{||\Delta_m||(n)} c$
 - 3. assign the vector to object's acceleration; update velocity and position accordingly
 - $a(n) = \widetilde{\Delta}_m(n); v(n) = v(n-1) + a(n); p(n) = p(n-1) + v(n)$
 - 4. draw the object

```
# movingBall.pde
AgentMover mover;
void setup(){
  mover=new AgentMover();
  size(1280, 720);
  background(0);
}

void draw(){
  background(0);
  mover.update();
  mover.draw()
}
```

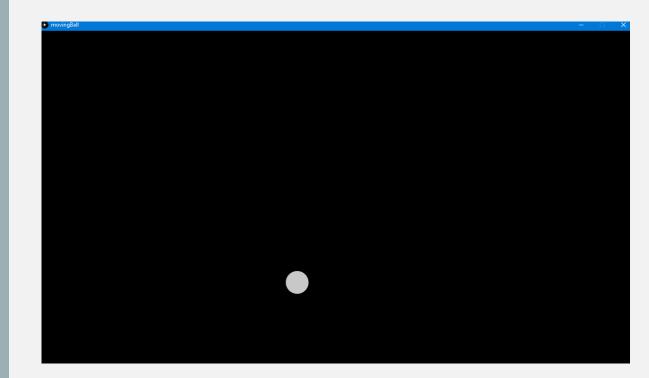
Look at mouseX, mouseY, .sub(), .normalize(), .mult()

```
# AgentMover.pde
int RADIUS_CIRCLE=50; int LIMIT_VEL=50; int ACC=2;
class AgentMover{
  PVector pos, vel, acc;
  AgentMover(){
    this.pos = new PVector(random(width), random(height));
    this.vel= new PVector(random(-2, 2), random(-2, 2));
    this.acc = new PVector(random(2), random(2));}
  void update(){
    PVector mouse = new PVector(mouseX, mouseY);
    /* your code here. */
    this.vel.add(this.acc);
    this.vel.limit(LIMIT_VEL);
    this.pos.add(this.velocity); }
  void draw(){
    fill(200);
    ellipse(this.pos.x, this.pos.y, // ... }
```

- Let's create a processing script to display a circle that follows the mouse
- Algorithm:
 - 1. Compute the vector that points from the object's to the mouse's locations
 - $m(n) = mouse = [mouse_x, mouse_y]$
 - $\Delta_{\mathbf{m}}(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{n}) \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{n})$
 - 2. Normalize the vector and scale it to a given constant value (use c=CONSTANT_ACC=10)
 - $\widetilde{\Delta}_m(n) = \frac{\Delta_m(n)}{||\Delta_m||(n)} c$
 - 3. assign the vector to object's acceleration; update velocity and position accordingly
 - $a(n) = \widetilde{\Delta}_m(n); v(n) = v(n-1) + a(n); p(n) = p(n-1) + v(n)$
 - 4. draw the object
 - 5. Map mover's position to vibrato and cutoff in computeEffect()

What if we change the constant value?

Try it!



NEWTON'S LAWS

We can keep playing with Physics introducing the concept of **force**.

We translate Newtons' laws into Processing PVector

- I. First Law: a object's PVector velocity will remain constant (even 0) if in a state of equilibrium, i.e., the sum of the force applied to it is zero
- 2. Second Law: Object's Prector acceleration equals Prector force divided by object's mass
 - We can assume the mass is equal to 1
- 3. Third Law: if we calcolate a Pvector force of object A on object B,
 - we must apply the force PVector.mult(f, -I) that B exerts on A

NEWTON'S LAWS

 In order to dealing with forces, we implement a method applyForce(Pvector force)

to our AgentMover

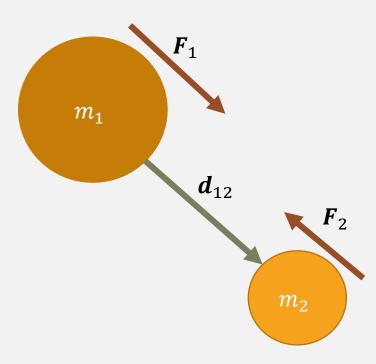
- Remember that after applied the acceleration, we need to reset it
 - the object will keep moving due to velocity

```
# AgentMover.pde
int RADIUS_CIRCLE=50; int LIMIT_VEL=50;
int ACC=2;
class AgentMover{
  PVector position, velocity,
  acceleration; float mass;
  AgentMover() { /* ... */ }
  void update(){
    this.velocity.add(this.acceleration);
    this.position.add(this.velocity);
    this.acceleration.mult(0);}
  void computeEffect(){/*...*/}
  void draw() { /* ... */ }
  void applyForce(Pvector force) {
     PVector f = force.get()
     f.div(this.mass);
     this.acceleration.add(f);}
```

Gravity occurs among any pair of objects following the formula

$$F_1 = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{||d_{12}||^2} \ \widehat{d}_{12} = -F_2$$

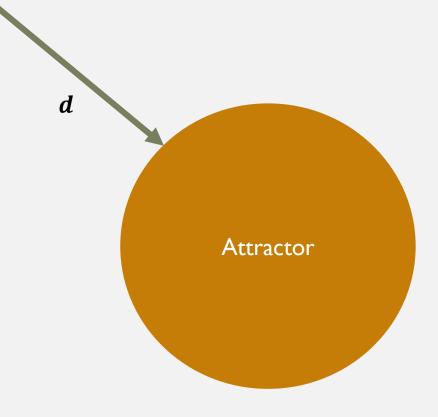
- $G = 6.67428 \cdot 10^{-11} is$ the universal gravity constant. We will set it to I
- $\widehat{\boldsymbol{d}}_{12}$ is the vector going from object with mass m_1 to object with mass m_2
- The two objects are attracted with each other with the same force, but opposite directions
- If $m_1 \gg m_2$, we have $\|{\pmb a}_1\| = \left\|\frac{{\pmb F}_1}{m_1}\right\| \ll \left\|\frac{{\pmb F}_2}{m_2}\right\| = \|{\pmb a}_2\|$
 - For two objects of greatly different masses, the acceleration of the bigger is neglectable



Mover

Let's define a mover-attractor system

- The attractor is much bigger than the mover
 - so we neglect the force toward the mover
- Start from the previous example, neglect the mouse
- Place (and show) the attractor in the center of the screen
- Place the mover
- when computing the distance, constrain it between two values as
 - dist=constrain(dist, v1,v2);



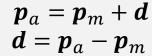
 p_m

Mover

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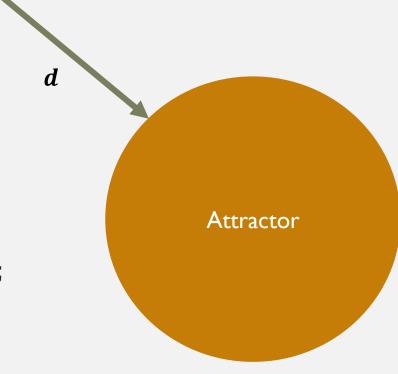
 \boldsymbol{p}_a

Attractor

Mover

Let's define a mover-attractor system

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 - so we neglect the force toward the mover
- Start from the previous example, neglect the mouse
- Place (and show) the attractor in the center of the screen
- Place the mover
- when computing the distance, constrain it between two values as
 - dist=constrain(dist, v1,v2);
 - map the distance to the cutoff value as cutoff=map(dist, v1, v2, 0, 1);



GRAVITY AND ATTRACTION

Mover

Let's define a mover-attractor system

- The attractor is much bigger than the mover
 - so we neglect the force toward the mover
- Start from the previous example, neglect the mouse
- Place (and show) the attractor in the celemonth and a moving_ball_fluid.pde
- Place the mover
- when computing the distance, constrain
 - dist=constrain(dist, v1,v2);
 - map the distance to the cutoff value as Cutof

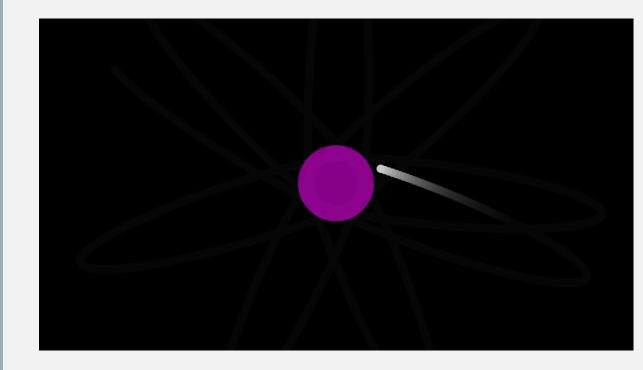
```
# moving_ball_fluid.pde

PVector computeGravityForce(AgentMover mover){
    /* your code here*/
}
void draw(){
    PVector gravityForce=computeGravityForce(mover);
    mover.computeEffect(dist);
    /* ... */
}
```

GRAVITY AND ATTRACTION

Suggestions:

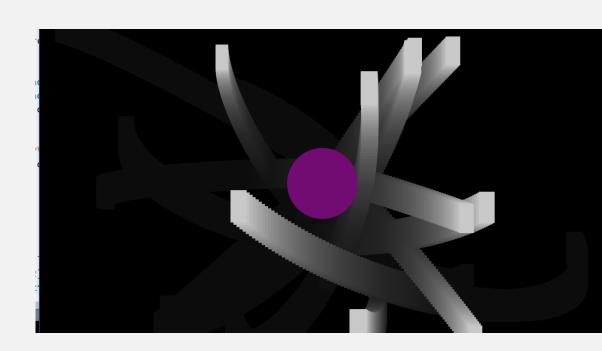
- Play with transparency
- Make the attractor follow the mouse
- If you change the sign of the force, you get a **repeller**, from which your movers run away
- Build a system with multiple attractors and repellers
 - Make attractors and repellers slowly move in the screen



PLAYING WITH ANGLES

Challenge: what if we use rectangle instead of circles for the agent?

- we need to rotate the object towards the direction of velocity
 - AgentMover.velocity.heading() → angle
 - https://processing.org/reference/PVector_heading_.html
- By rotating the whole area with pushMatrix()
 and popMatrix()
 - saves and restore the current screen



PLAYING WITH ANGLES

Challenge: what if we use rectangle instead of circles for the agent?

- we need to rotate the object towards the direction of velocity
 - AgentMover.velocity.heading() → angle
 - https://processing.org/reference/PVector_heading_.html
- By rotating the whole area with pushMatrix() and popMatrix()
 - saves and restore the current screen

```
pushMatrix();
rectMode(CENTER);
translate(position.x,
          position.y);
rotate(angle);
// draw rect
popMatrix();
```

AgentMover.pde

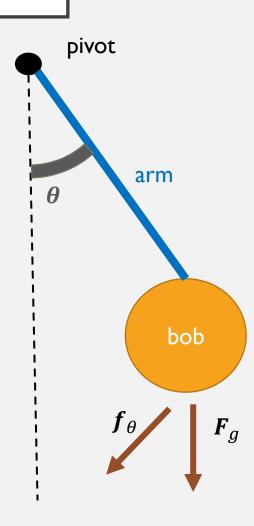
/* ...*/

class AgentMover{

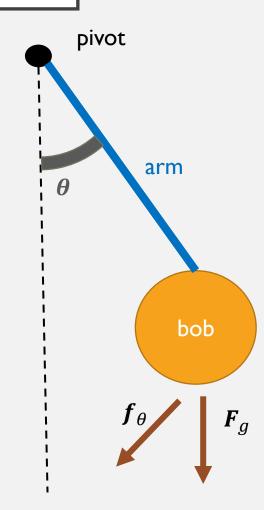
void action(){

this.planning();

- Let's use forces to model a pendulum
- A pendulum is composed of a pivot, an arm and a mass
- When moved from rest (equilibrium), we create an angle θ
- The acceleration of the mass toward the center depends on the force of gravity F_g and the angle θ
- Instead of acting on the 2D position of the mass, we will act on the 1D angle of the arm
 - angle instead of position
 - ,angular velocity and angular acceleration



- We are in the 1-dimensional world: a_{θ} , v_{θ} , θ are scalars
- $f_{\theta} = \left(-Gm\frac{\sin(\theta)}{r}\right)$ with G = 9.8 and r length of the arm
- a_{θ} is updated by adding $\frac{f_{\theta}}{m}$ with m the mass of the "bob"



- We are in the 1-dimensional world: a_{θ} , v_{θ} , θ
- $f_{\theta} = \left(-Gm\frac{\sin(\theta)}{r}\right)$ with G = 9.8 and r length
- We compute massPos as pivotPos + r cos or sin(theta)

pivot

arm

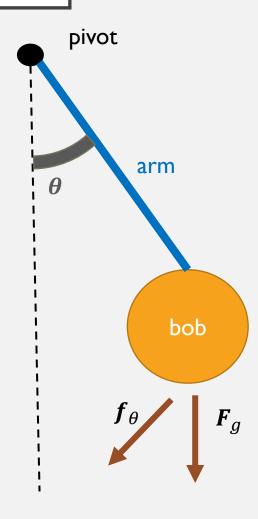
bob

• a_{θ} is updated by adding $\frac{f_{\theta}}{m}$ with m the mass of the "bob"

```
# AgentPendulum.pde
class AgentPendulum{
   PVector pivotPos, massPos; float angle, aVel, aAcc; float r, mass, radius;
   AgentPendulum(float x, float y, float r, float mass){
      this.pivotPos = new PVector(x, y);
      this.mass=mass; this.r=r; this.angle=random( -PI/2, -PI/4); /* other? */}
   void update(){this.aVel+=this.aAcc; this.angle+=this.aVel; this.aAcc=0;
      this.massPos.set(this.r*sin(this.angle), this.r*cos(this.angle));
      this.massPos.add(this.pivotPos); }
   void applyForce(float force){ /* your code */ }
   void draw(){/* 1) draw pivot; 2) draw arm with line; 3) draw mass */}
}
```

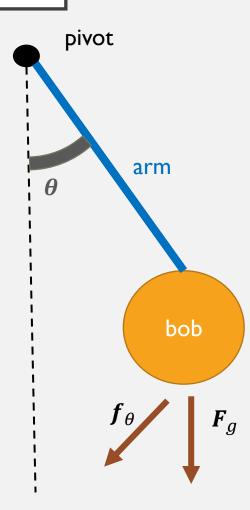
- We are in the 1-dimensional world: a_{θ} , v_{θ} , θ are scalars
- $f_{\theta} = \left(-Gm\frac{\sin(\theta)}{r}\right)$ with G = 9.8 and r length of the arm
- a_{θ} is updated by adding $\frac{f_{\theta}}{m}$ with m the mass of the "bob"

```
# pendulum.pde
AgentPendulum pendulum; float G=9.8; int MASS_TO_PIXEL=10;
void setup(){size(1280, 720); background(0);
  pendulum=new AgentPendulum(width/2, height/4, height/2, 100); }
float computeForce(AgentPendulum pendulum){/* your code */}
void draw(){rectMode(/* ... */
  float force= computeForce(pendulum);
  pendulum.applyForce(-1*G*sin(pendulum.angle)/pendulum.r);
  pendulum.update();
  pendulum.draw();
}
```



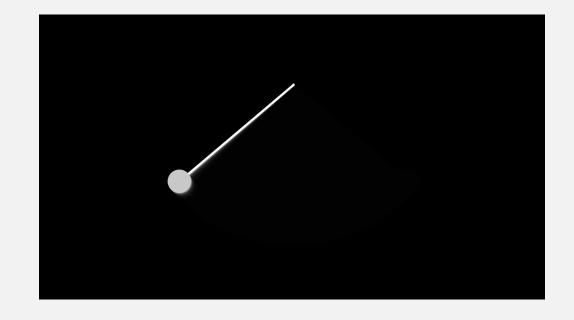
What kind of musical parameter can you map into a pendulum movement?

- The pendulum oscillates around the theta = 0
 - map theta into the vibrato
 - map magnitude of angular velocity into cutoff



The pendulum will go on forever

- Apply a dumping 0.99 to velocity at every step
- If the motion is too fast, which parameters you can change to slow it down?



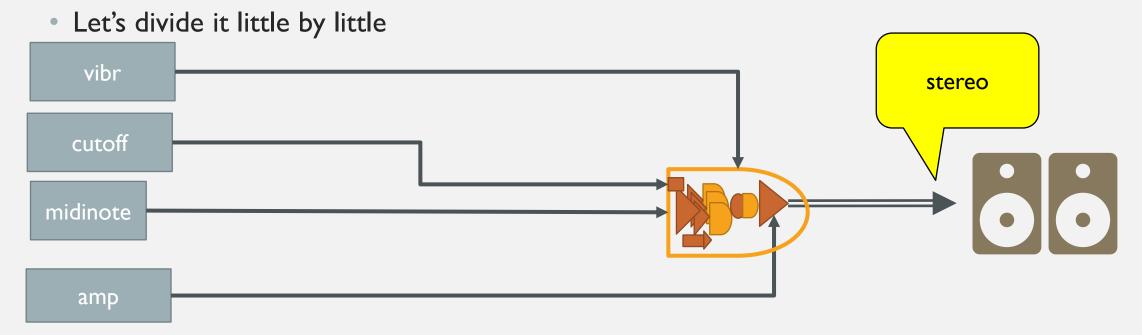
Previously on MAE...

- Super Collider is a framework composed of two elements
 - A language with editor and interpreter
 - A server for sound synthesis
- You use the language to create instruments and melodies, patterns, effects
- Than you send the commands to the server for executing it
- Useful shortcuts (in macOS CMD=CTRL)
 - CTRL + B → server boot
 - CTRL+N → new script
- CTRL+ENTER → execute line/block (in round parenthesis)

- CTRL + . → stop execution
- CTRL + / → comment/decomment line(s)
- CTRL + SHIFT + P → clean the interpreter window

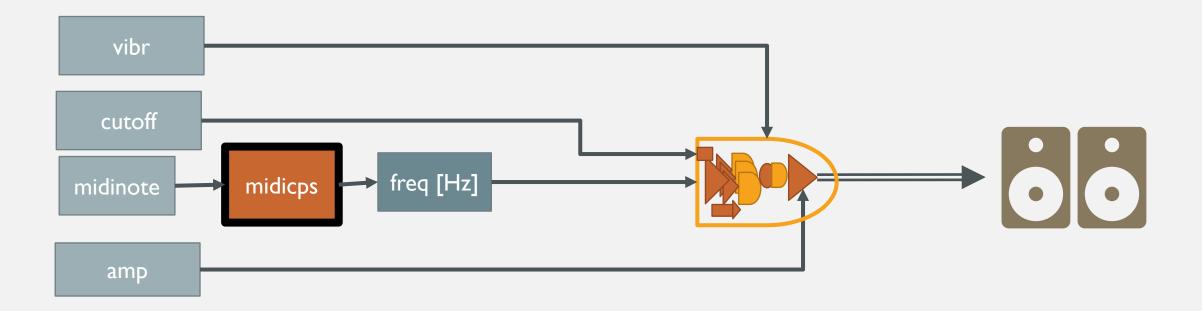
In super_collider_instrument you can find moogs.scd, with the definition of an instrument:

- arg vibr=0, cutoff=0.5, midinote=60, amp=0;
- Arguments are: midinote, vibr (vibrato), cutoff, amp (amplitude)

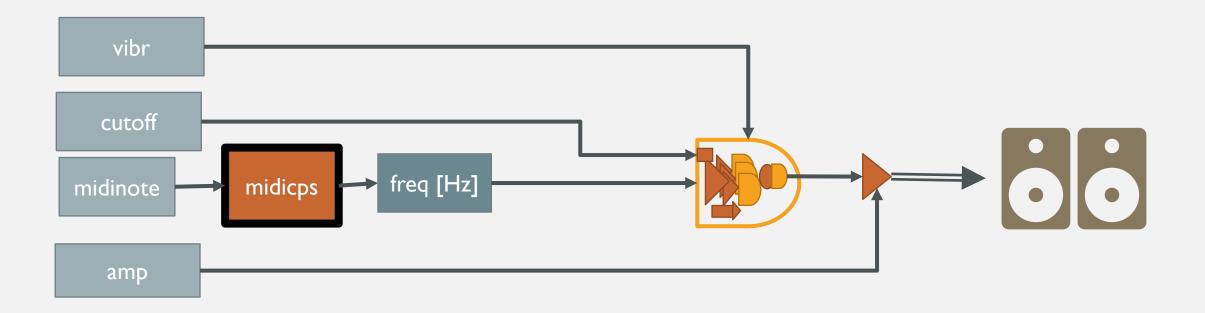


First: midinote is converted to a frequency in Hz with the midicps function

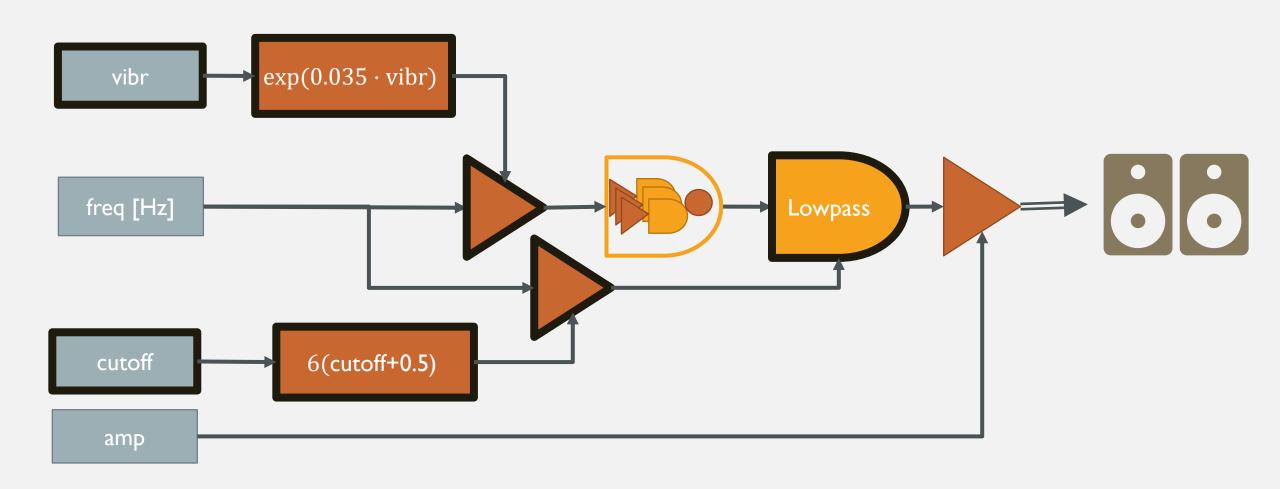
• Input a midinote, returns the pitch frequency



Secondly, the amplitude is multiplied to the output of the instrument to control the volume

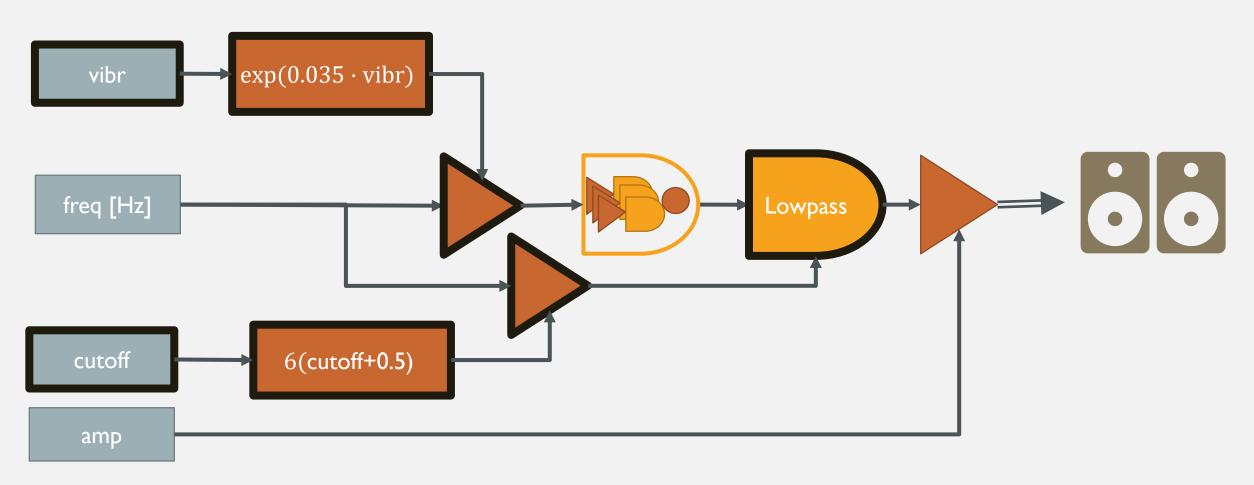


Vibrato is a number around 0 that allows to jiggle around the correct pitch



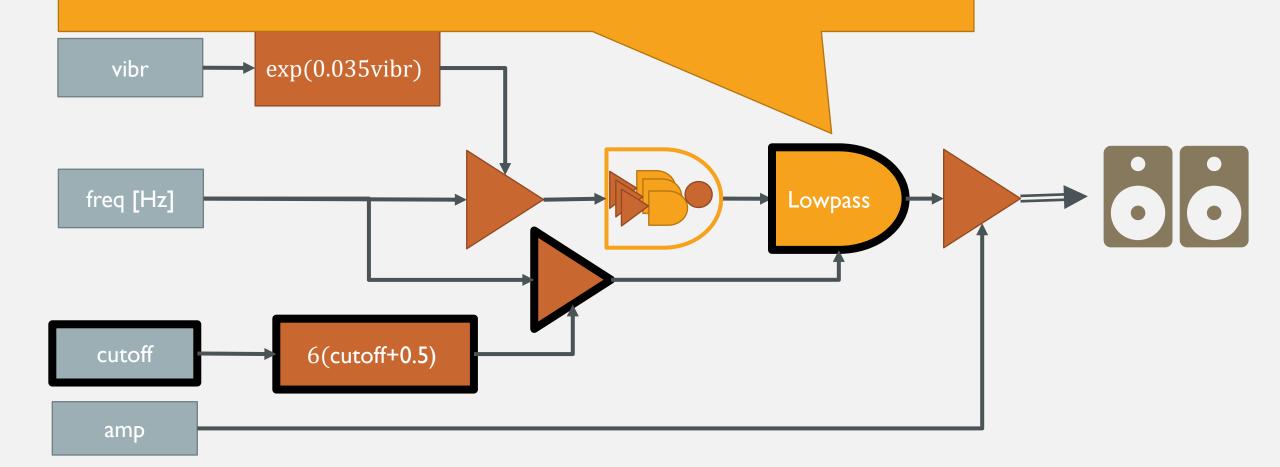
Let's change the moog to include vibrato and wah-wah effect This is the responsible for the vibrato When vibr is $0 \rightarrow \text{pitch} = \text{freq} \rightarrow \text{no vibrato}$. Vibr oscillates around $0 \rightarrow pitch$ oscillates around freq $\rightarrow vibrato$ $\exp(0.035 \cdot \text{vibr})$ vibr x: -1.55555556 y: 0.947011119 1.2 freq [Hz] 0.8 6(cutoff+0.5) cutoff amp

Cutoff is a factor that controls how many frequencies to keep in a lowpass, and gives a wah-wah effect

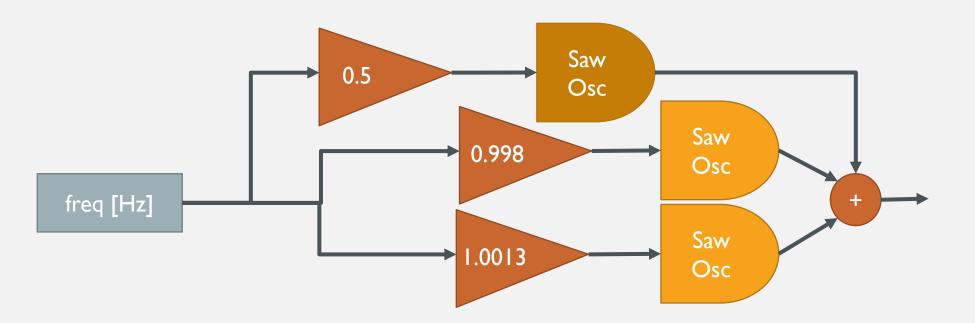


This is the wah-wah like

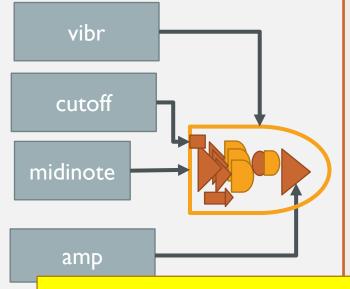
We insert a lowpass filter that cuts a variable number of harmonics. Cutoff=0 \rightarrow cutoff frequency = 6 (cutoff+0.5) freq = 3 freq \rightarrow we keep three harmonics Cutoff = I \rightarrow cutoff frequency = 9 freq \rightarrow we keep nine harmonics By varying *cutoff* dynamically we create an open-close effect that sounds like a wah-wah



- Lastly, the instrument is based on three saw oscillators:
 - two generate the tone (slightly out-of-tune to create baptiments)
 - One is a sub-harmonic (half the pitch frequency)



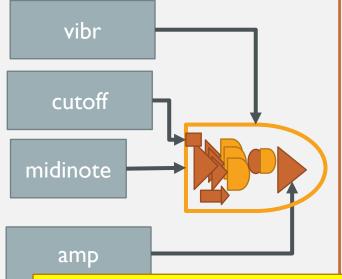
Final implementation



```
# moogs.scd
(SynthDef("moog", {
   arg vibr=0, cutoff=0.5, midinote=60, amp=0;
   var osc1, osc2, osc3, f0, vib_int, cutoff_freq, fil_osc, freq;
   freq=midicps(midinote);
   f0=exp(vibr*0.035)*freq;
   osc1=Saw.ar(f0*1.0013);
   osc2=Saw.ar(f0*0.998);
   osc3=Saw.ar(f0*0.5);
   cutoff_freq=((cutoff+0.5)*6)*freq;
   fil_osc=BLowPass.ar(in:osc1+osc2+osc3,
                        freq:cutoff_freq.min(20000));
   Out.ar([0,1]
                      /fil_osc);}).add;
```

Why?

Final implementation



```
# moogs.scd
(SynthDef("moog", {
   arg vibr=0, cutoff=0.5, midinote=60, amp=0;
   var osc1, osc2, osc3, f0, vib_int, cutoff_freq, fil_osc, freq;
   freq=midicps(midinote);
   f0=exp(vibr*0.035)*freq;
   osc1=Saw.ar(f0*1.0013);
   osc2=Saw.ar(f0*0.998);
   osc3=Saw.ar(f0*0.5);
   cutoff_freq=((cutoff+0.5)*6)*freq;
   fil_osc=BLowPass.ar(in:osc1+osc2+osc3,
                        freq:cutoff_freq.min(20000));
   0ut.ar([0,1]
                      /fil_osc);}).add;
```

This will choose the minimum between the cutoff_freq and 20,000 Hz and therefore avoid the cutoff frequency gets too high

```
# moogs.scd
// test it
~instr=Synth(\moog);
// setting the note
~instr.set(\midinote, 62, \amp, 1);
//setting the cutoff
~instr.set(\cutoff, 3);
```

```
# moogs.scd
// Creating an OSC receiver (Python only)
NetAddr("127.0.0.1",57120);
OSCdef('OSCreceiver',
       arg msg;
       var note, amp, cutoff, vibr;
       msg.postln;
       note=msg[2];
       amp=msg[3];
       ~instr.set(\midinote,note,
                        \amp,amp);
    "/note_effect",);
```