

# Controls (PID)



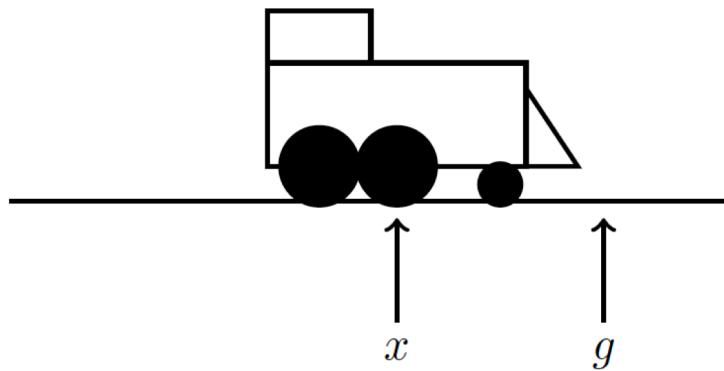
## Intro. to Autonomous Robotics

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Dept. of Computer Science  
University of Alabama

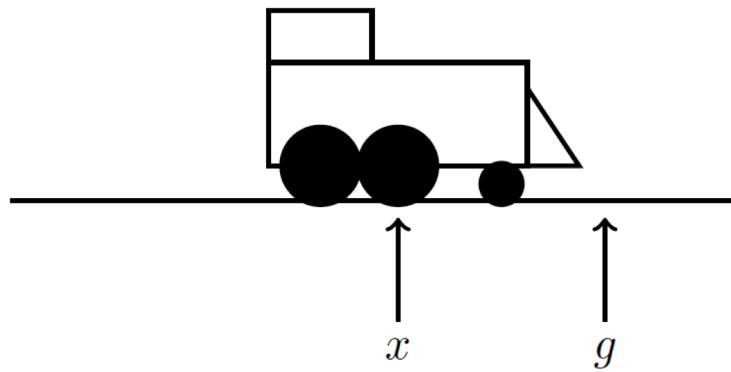
# The Role of Control

- Robotics tasks are often defined by achievement goals:
  - Ex. *Go to (x , y)*
- Other tasks in robotics are defined by maintenance goals:
  - Ex. Drive at 0.5m/s
- Two common types of control systems
  - **Open-loop (feed-forward) control**
  - **Closed-loop (feedback) control**

# Open-loop control



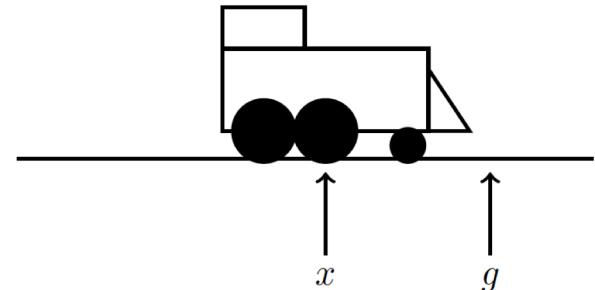
# Open-loop control



```
def openLoop(x, g):  
  
    # Calculate the distance to travel:  
    d = g - x  
  
    # Cover that distance in one second:  
    for one second:  
        drive forward at speed of d / second
```

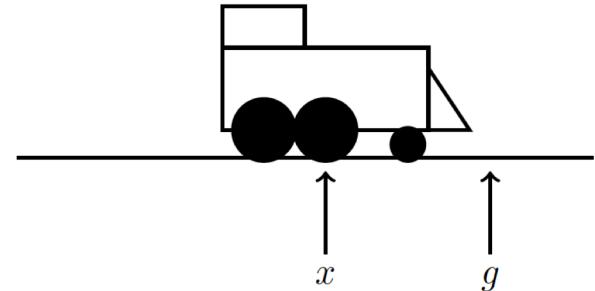
# Open-loop control

- Unrealistic assumption of **instantaneous speed change** from 0 to desired d/s
- Even after reaching target speed, **friction and mechanical imperfection** will make it impossible to maintain d/s
- Overtime **small errors** in speed will result in significant errors in the final position



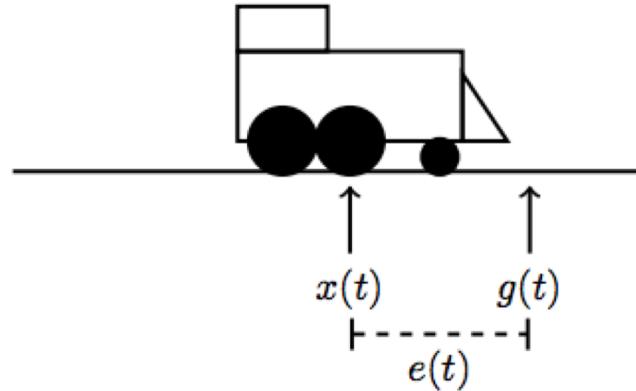
# Avoiding Open-loop Control Issues

- Continuously monitor the current “**error**” in the system and update the control signal to push the “**error**” toward zero.
- Responds to **actual state** of the system (robot) and is able to **make adjustments** when systems fails to behave as expected.



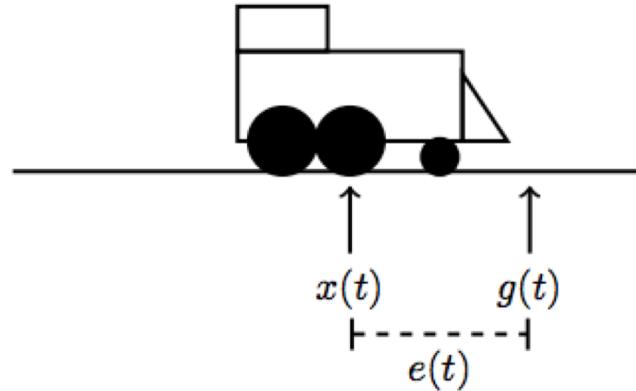
# Proportional Control

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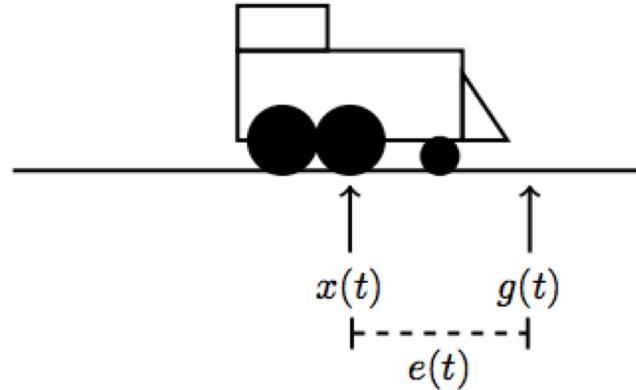
$g(t)$  - The goal state of a system at time  $t$

$e(t)$  - Error at time  $t$  determine by  $e(t) = g(t) - x(t)$

$u(t)$  - Control signal at time  $t$

# Proportional Control

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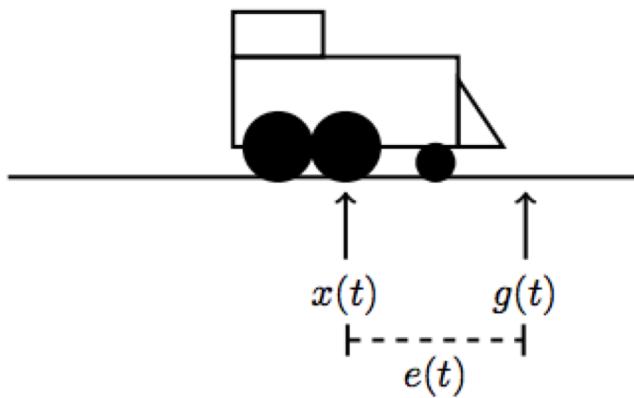
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$u(t)$  - Control signal at time  $t$

$K_p$  - Gain Controls how large the control signal will be for a particular error value.

$$u(t) = K_p e(t)$$

# Proportional Control



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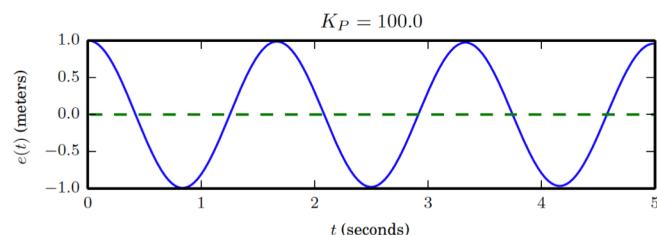
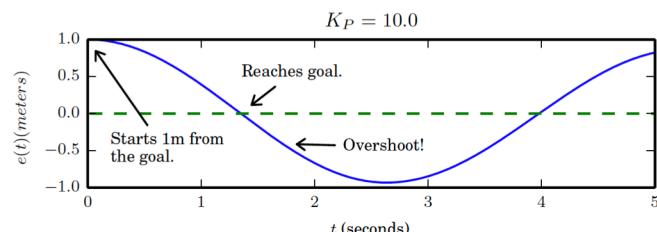
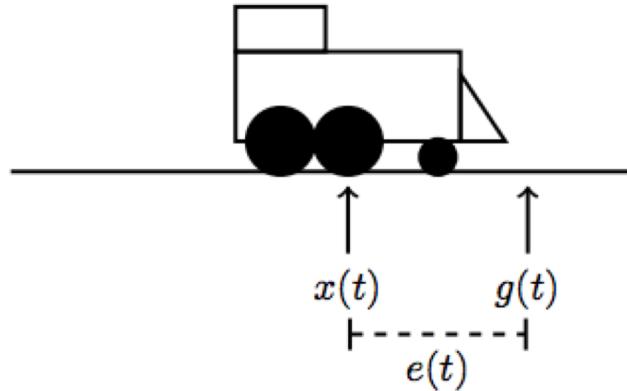
$K_p$  - Gain Controls how large the control signal will be for a particular error value.

```
def p_controller(robot, g, K_P):
    while true:
        e = g - robot.x
        u = K_P * e
        robot.move(u)
```

$$u(t) = K_p e(t)$$

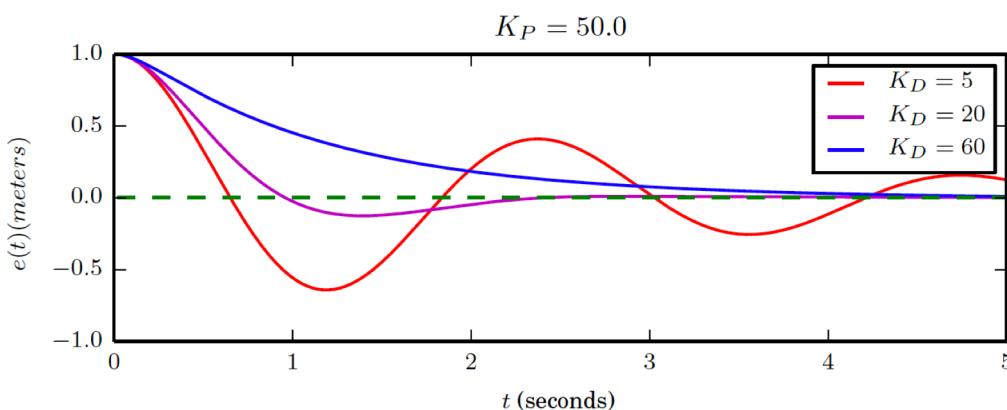
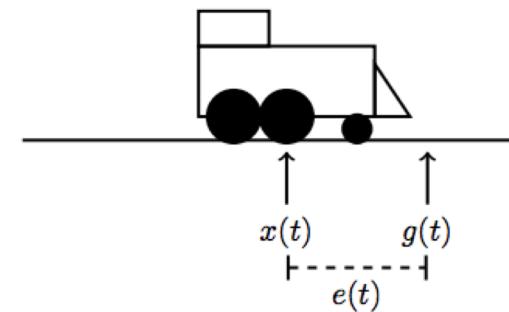
# Proportional Control

- Overshoots the goal
- Over-corrects
- Moves back and forth indefinitely
- Changing  $K_P$  doesn't solve the problem



# Proportional Derivative Control

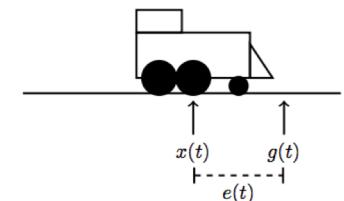
- If error is **going down quickly, ease off** on the control signal
- If error is **going up quickly, increase** the control signal



$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_d \frac{de(t)}{dt}$$

$$\frac{de(t)}{dt} \approx \frac{e(t) - e(t - \Delta t)}{\Delta t}$$

# Proportional Derivative Control



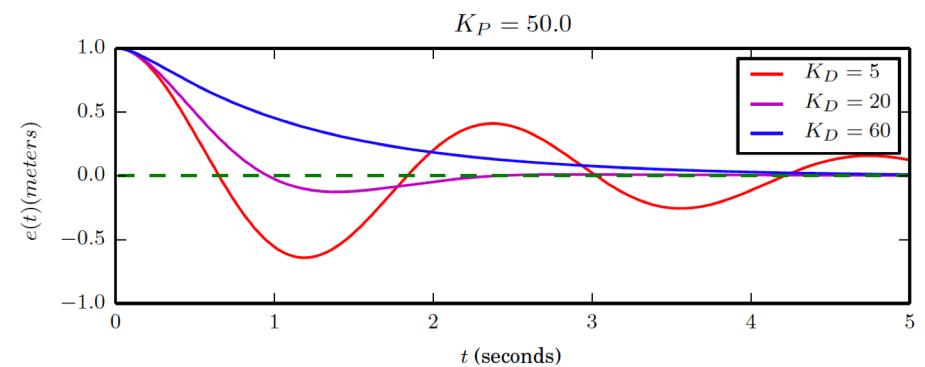
```
def pd_controller(robot, g, K_P, K_D):

    # Keep track of previous error
    e_prev = g - robot.x

    while true:
        e = g - robot.x

        # Calculate approximate derivative
        dedt = (e - eprev) / robot.dt

        u = K_P * e + K_D * dedt
        robot.move(u)
        eprev = e
```



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# Proportional Control

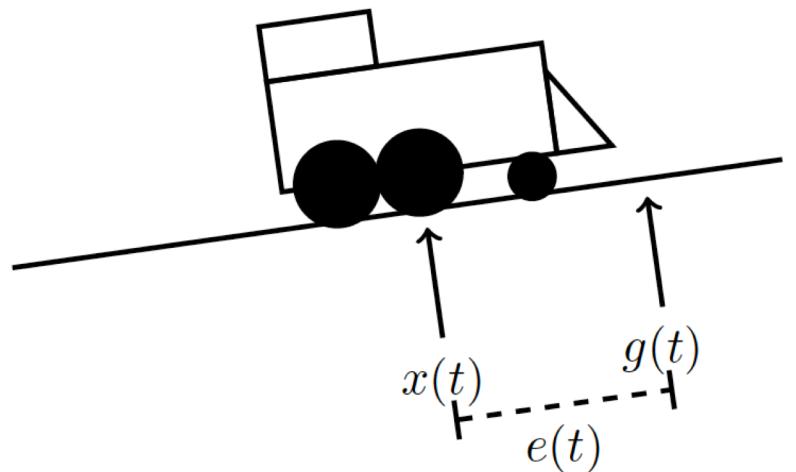
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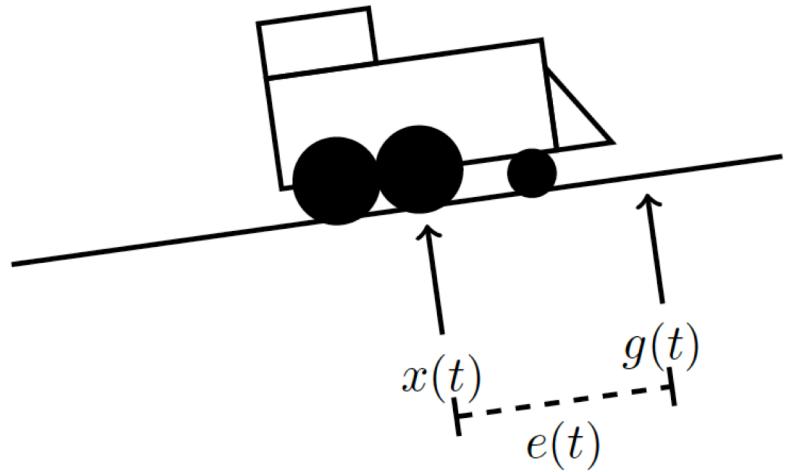
        # Calculate approximate derivative
        dedet = (e - eprev) / robot.dt

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        robot.move(u)
        eprev = e
```



# Proportional Integral Derivative Control

- Integral term allows the controller to **look backwards in time**.
- "stores up" the error that the system sees over time.
- As long as the error fails to reach zero, the integral term will steadily increase in magnitude.

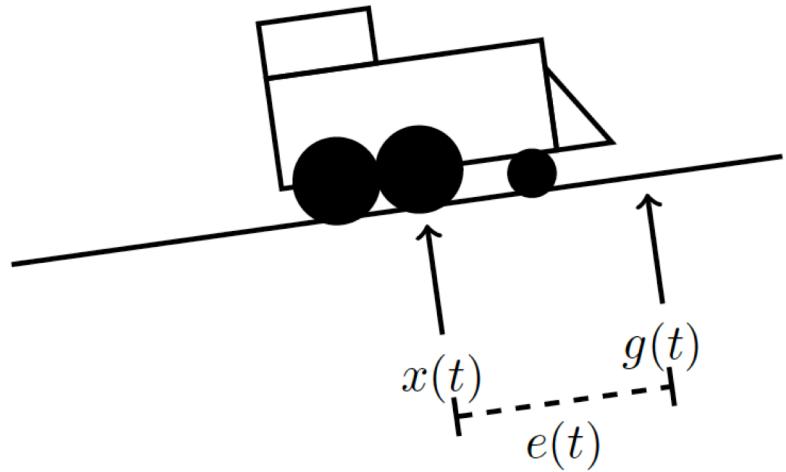


integral term

$$u(t) = K_P e(t) + \boxed{K_I \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau} + K_D \frac{de(t)}{dt}$$

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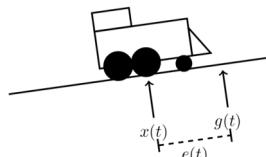


integral term

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$$K_I \int_0^t e(t') dt' \approx \sum_{i=1}^{t/\Delta t} e(i\Delta t) \Delta t$$

# Proportional Integral Derivative Control

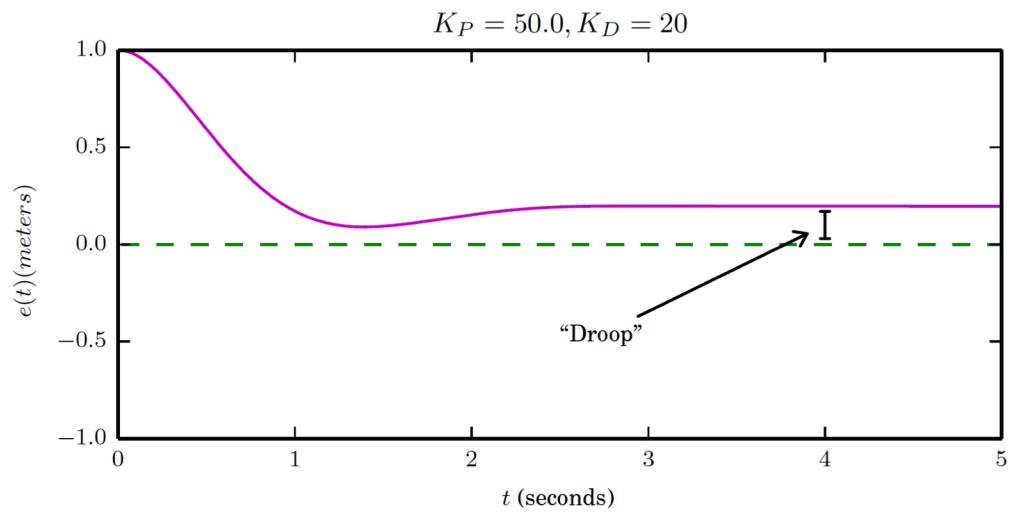
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integral term

$$K_I \int_0^t e(t') dt' \approx \sum_{i=1}^{t/\Delta t} e(i\Delta t) \Delta t$$



# Proportional Integral Derivative Control

```

def pid_controller (train , g, K_P , K_I , K_D ):

    e_prev = g - train .x # Keep track of previous error
    e_sum = 0 # accumulator for integral term

    while True :

        # Current Error
        e = g - train .x

        # Integral Approximation
        e_sum = e_sum + e * train .dt

        # Derivative Approximation
        dedt = (e - e_prev ) / train .dt

        # Control signal
        u = K_P * e + K_I * e_sum + K_D * dedt

        # New Command
        train .throttle (u)

        # Store error
        e_prev = e
    
```

