

WEEK 9/20-9/27
AUTONOMOUS



 ROBO RAIDERS
SCARSDALE • 12331

Section 1: What is Autonomous?



Autonomous Game Phase

- Self-driving
- 30 seconds (need to optimize!)

Video 3:08 - 4:41



Section 2: Setup

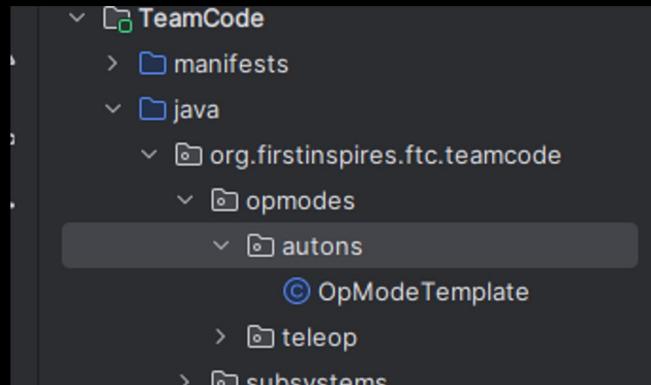


GitHub Repo

- Clone the [Unit 2 Repo](#):

```
git clone https://github.com/Scarsdale-Robotics/2024-2025-Training-Program-U2.git
```

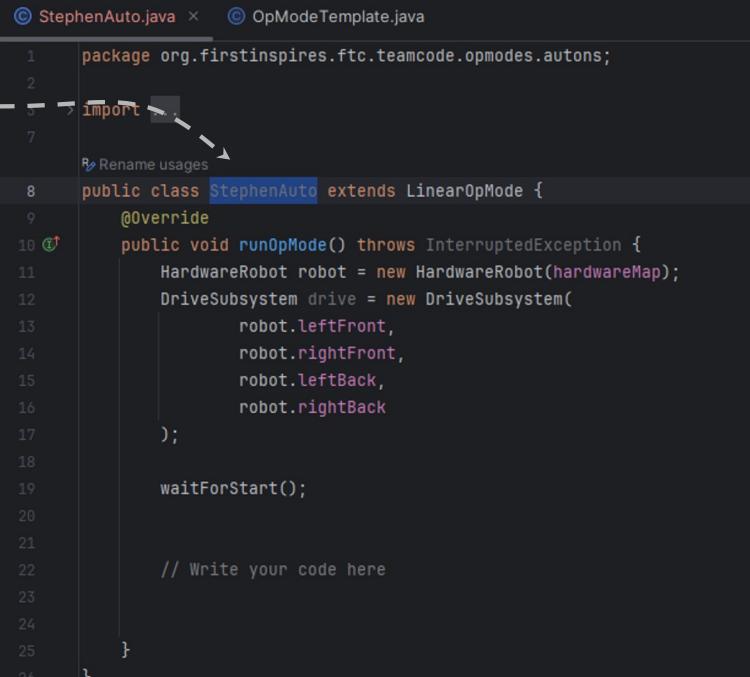
- Open it in Android Studio and wait for Gradle to build.
- Create and checkout a new branch called “[your name]-auton-dev”.
- Navigate the file tree to the “autons” folder.



New OpMode

- Create a new class called “[Your name]Auto” and copy (or write) the opmode template code into it.

Make sure to _____
rename the class!



```
StephenAuto.java x  OpModeTemplate.java
1 package org.firstinspires.ftc.teamcode.opmodes.autons;
2
3 import com.qualcomm.robotcore.eventloop.opmode.LinearOpMode;
4 import com.qualcomm.robotcore.hardware.HardwareMap;
5 import com.qualcomm.robotcore.hardware.DriveSubsystem;
6 import com.qualcomm.robotcore.hardware.Servo;
7
8 public class StephenAuto extends LinearOpMode {
9     @Override
10    public void runOpMode() throws InterruptedException {
11        HardwareRobot robot = new HardwareRobot(hardwareMap);
12        DriveSubsystem drive = new DriveSubsystem(
13            robot.leftFront,
14            robot.rightFront,
15            robot.leftBack,
16            robot.rightBack
17        );
18
19        waitForStart();
20
21        // Write your code here
22    }
23
24
25
26 }
```



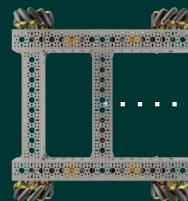
Section 3: Sensors

Motor Encoders

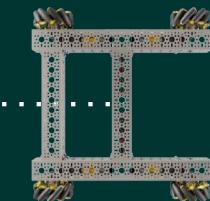
- To track how far the robot drives, we'll be using **motor encoders**, which measure how much a motor turns in "ticks".
- However, we need to figure out the **conversion** between ticks and distance.

rightBack Encoder:

0 ticks



500 ticks



$$\text{distance} = 500 * (\text{conversion factor})$$

Encoder Math

Let's figure out how to convert encoder ticks to distance.

Mecanum Wheel Specs

- Ticks per revolution = 537.7 ticks/rev
- Wheel Circumference ≈ 11.87in
→ Distance per revolution = 11.87in/rev
- Distance per tick = $(11.87\text{in}/\text{rev}) / (537.7\text{ticks}/\text{rev}) \approx 0.02208 \text{ in/tick}$.

Or, **45.2899 ticks/in.**

Keep in mind that you may need to tweak this value!

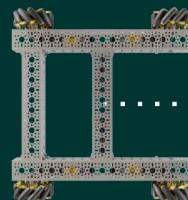


Encoder Math

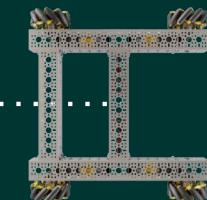
So, a distance of 500 ticks is roughly equal to 11.04in!

rightBack Encoder:

0 ticks



500 ticks



$$\text{distance} = 500 * 0.02208\text{in} = 11.04\text{in}$$

Distance Tracking Code

Let's implement distance tracking! We'll reuse parts of Teleop code.

Declare the conversion factor outside the loop

Show distance using telemetry

```
19         waitForStart();  
20  
21     // Distance tracking code.  
22     double IN_PER_TICK = 0.02208;  
23     while (opModeIsActive()) {  
24         // Teleop control.  
25         double forward = -gamepad1.left_stick_y;  
26         drive.driveRobotCentric( right: 0, forward, turn: 0);  
27  
28         // Show the tracked distance in telemetry.  
29         double rightBackEncoder = drive.getRightBackPosition();  
30         double distance = rightBackEncoder * IN_PER_TICK;  
31         telemetry.addData( caption: "Tracked Distance", distance);  
32         telemetry.update();  
33     }  
34 }
```

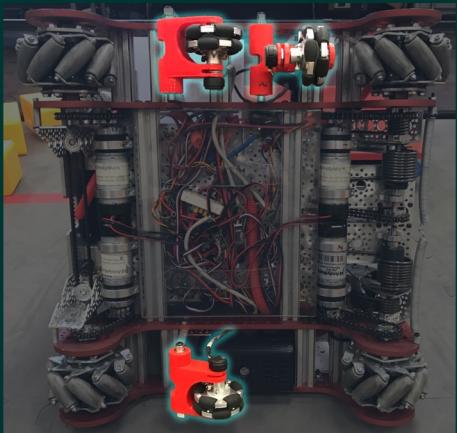
Get encoder position

Calculate distance



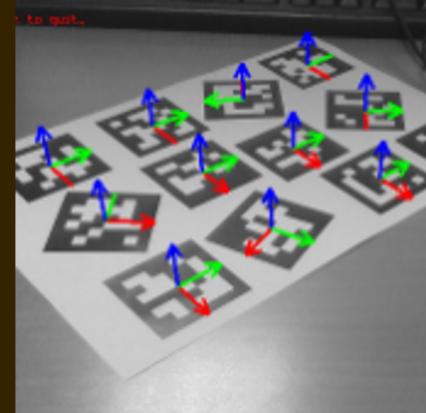
Other Sensors We Have

- Dead wheel odometry



- Super precise
- Easy to code
- May drift over time
- [Odometry tutorial](#)

- AprilTag Pose Estimation



- Super accurate
- Harder to code/tune
- Won't always have access to an AprilTag

This is Computer Vision -- not this week!

Section 3: Intro To Control Theory



What is Control Theory?

- Imagine you are coding a self-driving car to park itself:



★ **Essential Question:** How do you park accurately and consistently?

- The field of control theory tries to solve this problem.

Section 3.1: Open-Loop Control

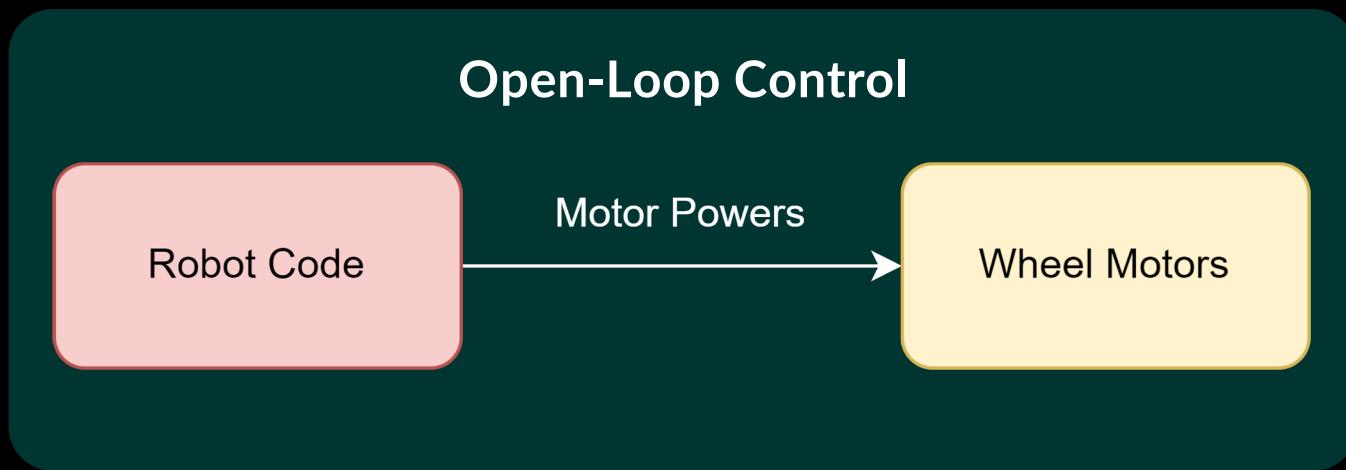
Open-Loop Control

- Assuming we know the travel distance, one solution is to drive at a certain speed for a certain duration.



Open-Loop Control

- This is called “open-loop control” because there’s no sensor feedback loop.



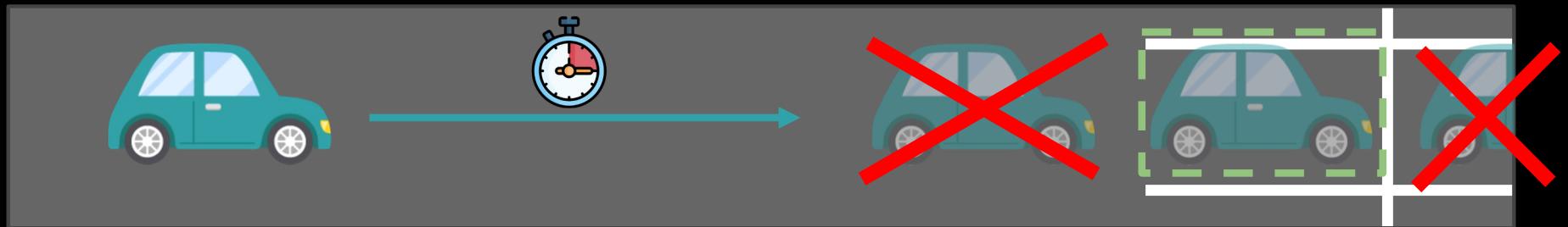
Open-Loop Control

- Let's try implementing this idea on the robot!

```
19         waitForStart();  
20  
Set power -----> 21         // Open-loop control.  
22         drive.driveRobotCentric( right: 0, forward: 0.5, turn: 0);  
23  
Wait 3s -----> 24         sleep( milliseconds: 3000);  
25  
Stop robot -----> 26         drive.stopController();  
27         |  
28     }  
29 }
```

Open-Loop Control Is Not Great

- Open-loop control is often inconsistent.
 - Varying motor speeds, external interference, low voltage, etc.

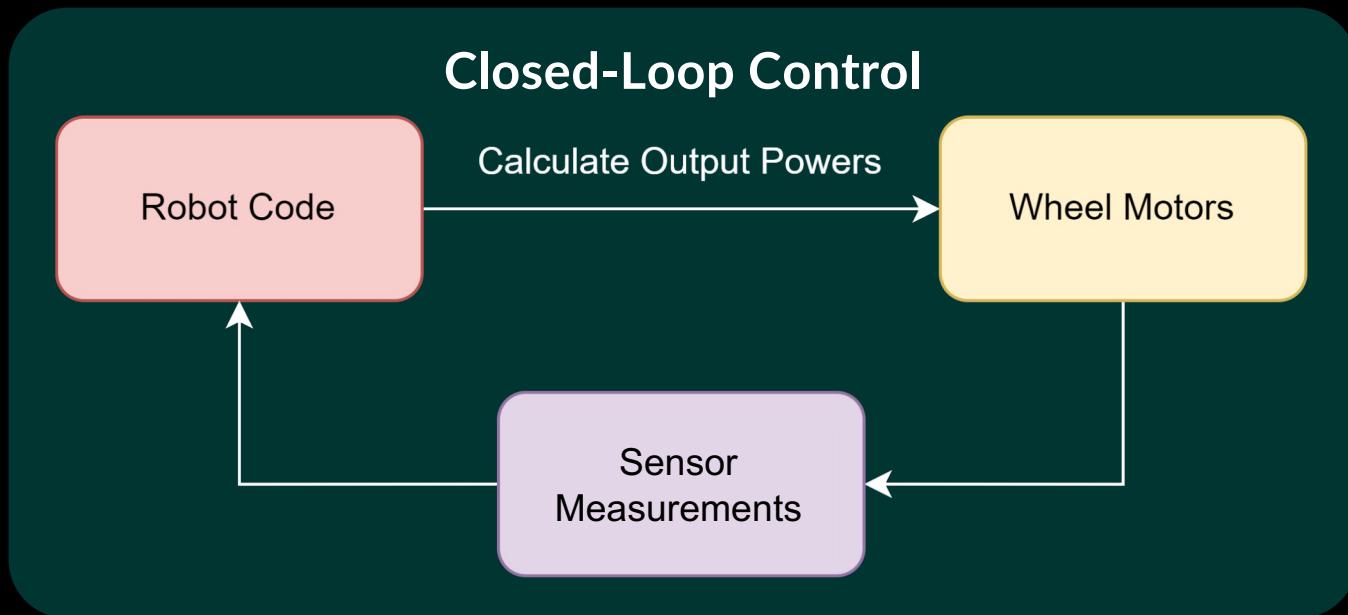


How do we fix this?

Section 3.2: Closed-Loop Control

Closed-Loop Control

- What if we use sensor feedback to correct the robot as it drives?

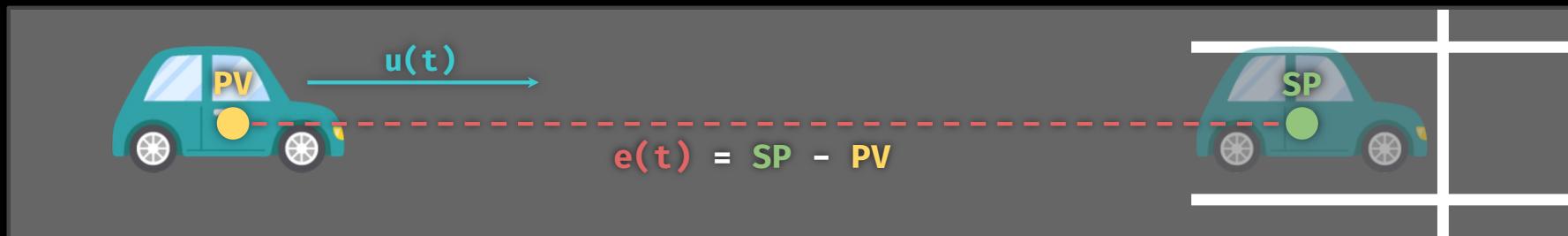


Closed-Loop Control

Let's first define some terms

- Setpoint or **SP** = target position
- Process Value or **PV** = car position
- Error or **e(t)** = **SP** - **PV** = required displacement
- Control output or **u(t)** = drive power

(t) means “at the current time”!



Closed-Loop Controllers

- A **closed-loop controller** tries to drive the **process value** to the **setpoint**.
 - In other words, it tries to drive the **error** to **zero**.



Let's see some examples of these controllers!



Section 3.2.1: Bang-Bang Controller

The Bang-Bang Controller

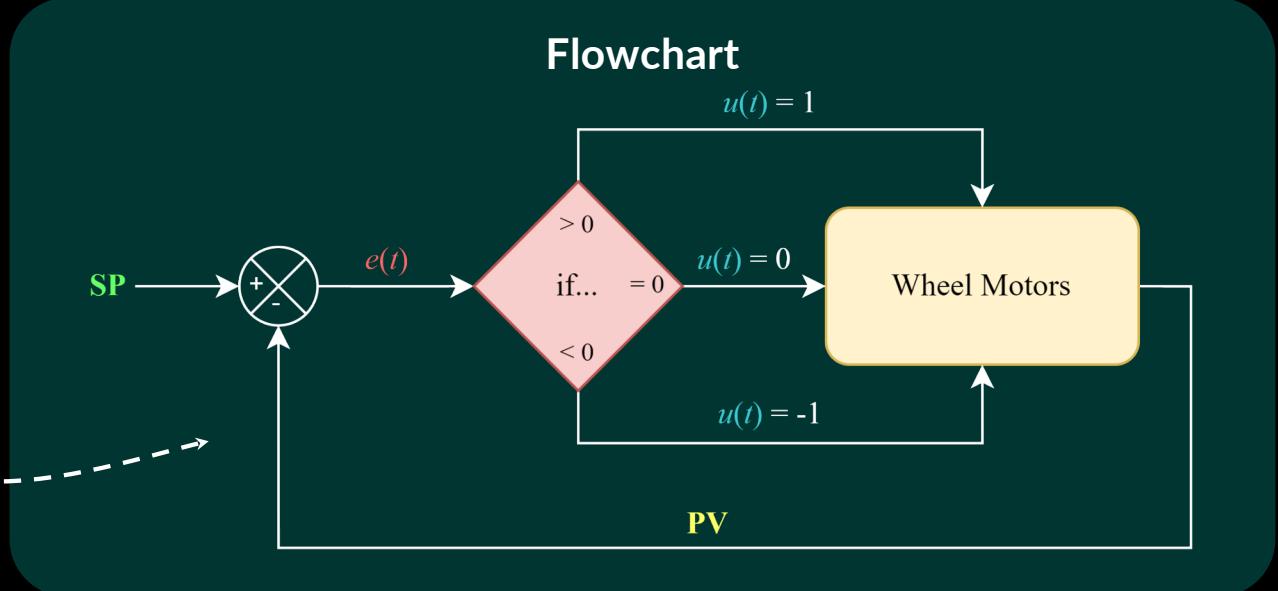
The car must follow these rules:

- If error is **positive**, drive forward.
- If error is **negative**, drive in reverse.
- If error is **zero**, stop.

These all say the same thing!

Control Law

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & e(t) > 0 \\ 0, & e(t) = 0 \\ -1, & e(t) < 0 \end{cases}$$



The Bang-Bang Controller

- Let's implement it in code!

Get error

Control law conditions

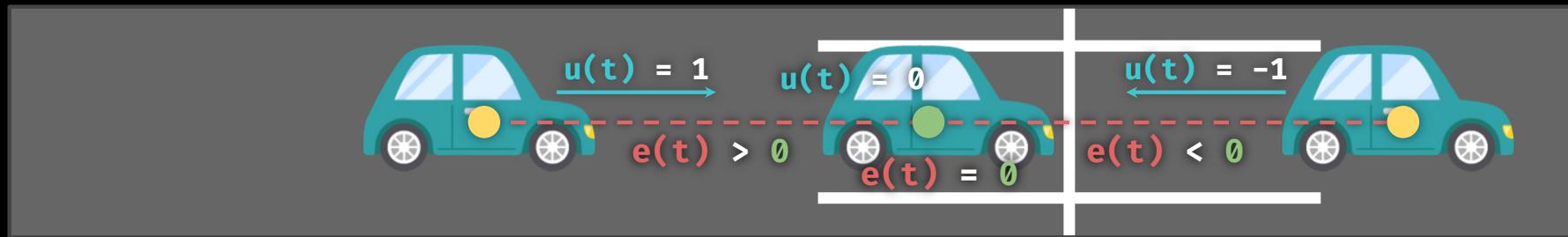
Telemetry is
always nice!

```
19         waitForStart();
20
21         // Bang-Bang Controller.
22         double setpoint = 1000;
23         while (opModeIsActive()) {
24             // Calculate error.
25             → double encoderPosition = drive.getRightBackPosition();
26             double error = setpoint - encoderPosition;
27
28             // Control law.
29             → if (error > 0) {
30                 drive.driveRobotCentric(right: 0, forward: 1, turn: 0);
31             }
32             if (error == 0) {
33                 drive.driveRobotCentric(right: 0, forward: 0, turn: 0);
34             }
35             if (error < 0) {
36                 drive.driveRobotCentric(right: 0, forward: -1, turn: 0);
37             }
38
39             // Show the encoder position in telemetry.
40             telemetry.addData(caption: "Encoder Position", encoderPosition);
41             telemetry.update();
42         }
```



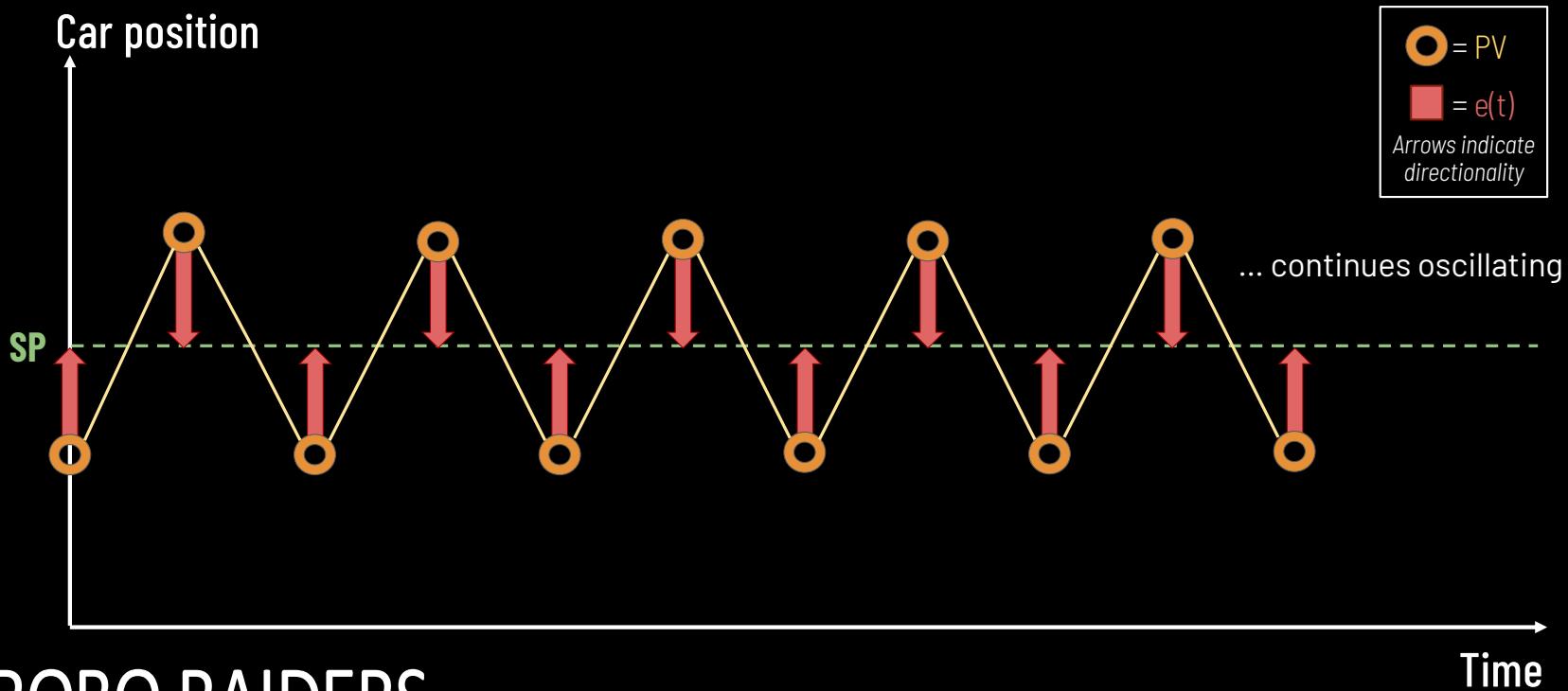
The Bang-Bang Controller

How does this perform?



Oscillations!

The Bang-Bang Controller



Section 3.2.2: P Controller

The P Controller

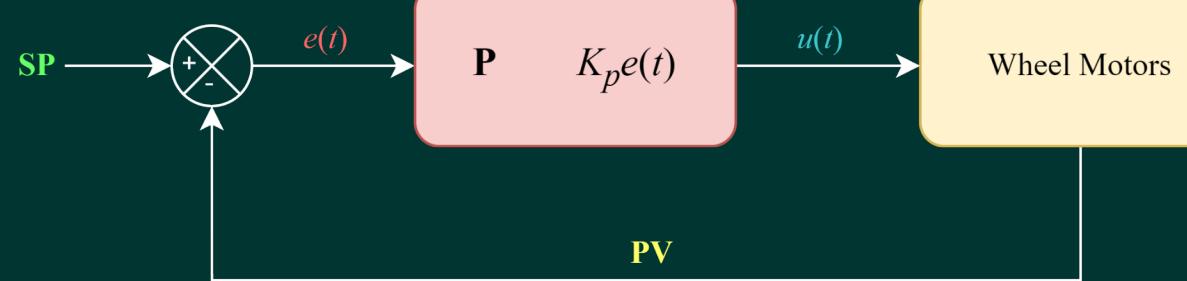
- Normally, you would **slow down** as you approach the space.
- Let's make the power output **proportional** to error (hence the **P**).

Control Law

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

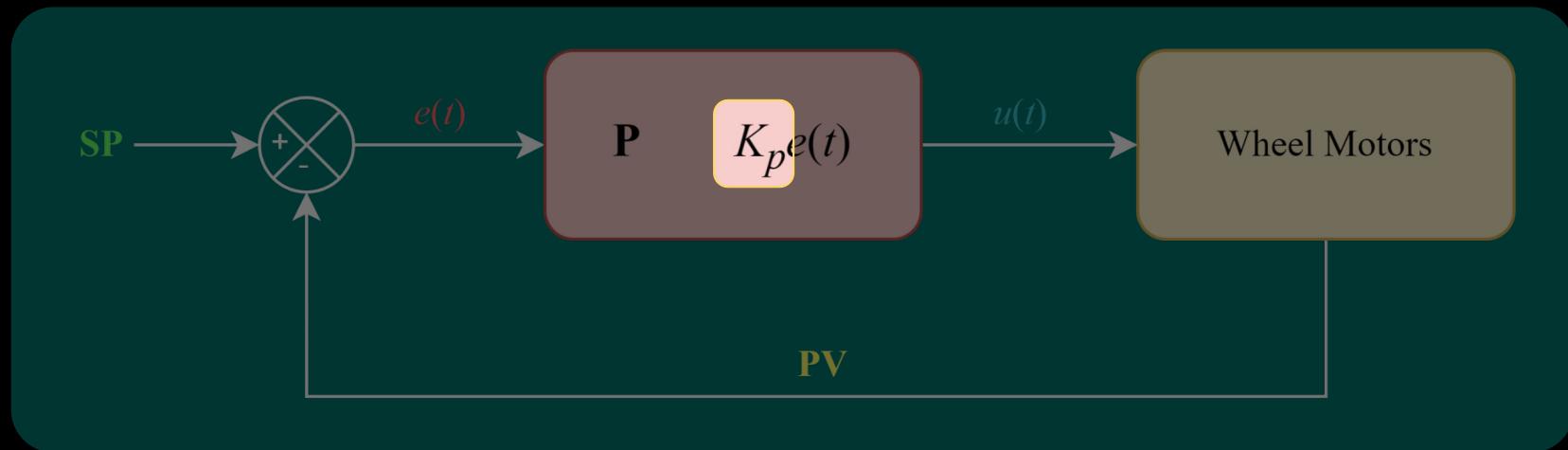
K_p is a constant

Flowchart



The P Controller

- K_p is a term you need to **tune**, or adjust through trial and error.
 - Low $K_p \rightarrow$ sluggish movement
 - High $K_p \rightarrow$ bang-bang



The P Controller

- Let's implement code for it!

Get error

Multiply by K_P

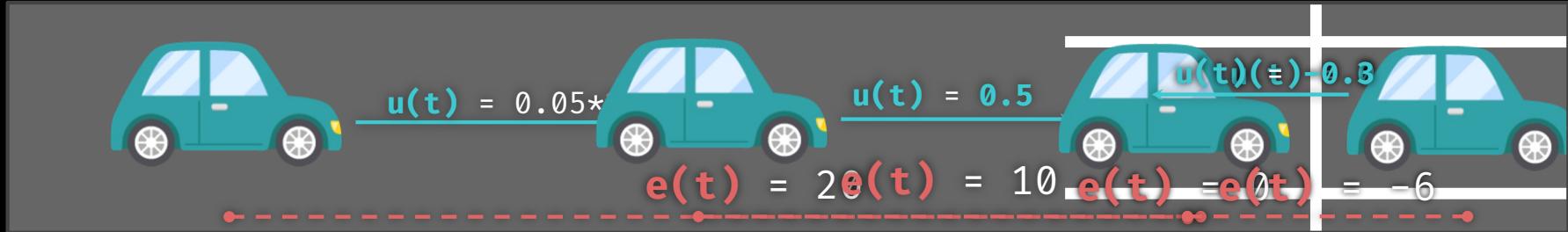
Telemetry!

```
19  waitForStart();
20
21  // P Controller.
22  double setpoint = 1000;
23  double kP = 0.01;
24  while (opModeIsActive()) {
25    // Calculate error.
26    double encoderPosition = drive.getRightBackPosition();
27    double error = setpoint - encoderPosition;
28
29    // Control law.
30    > double u_t = kP * error;
31    drive.driveRobotCentric( right: 0, u_t, turn: 0);
32
33    // Show info in telemetry.
34    telemetry.addData( caption: "Encoder Position", encoderPosition);
35    telemetry.addData( caption: "u_t", u_t);
36    telemetry.update();
37
38 }
```

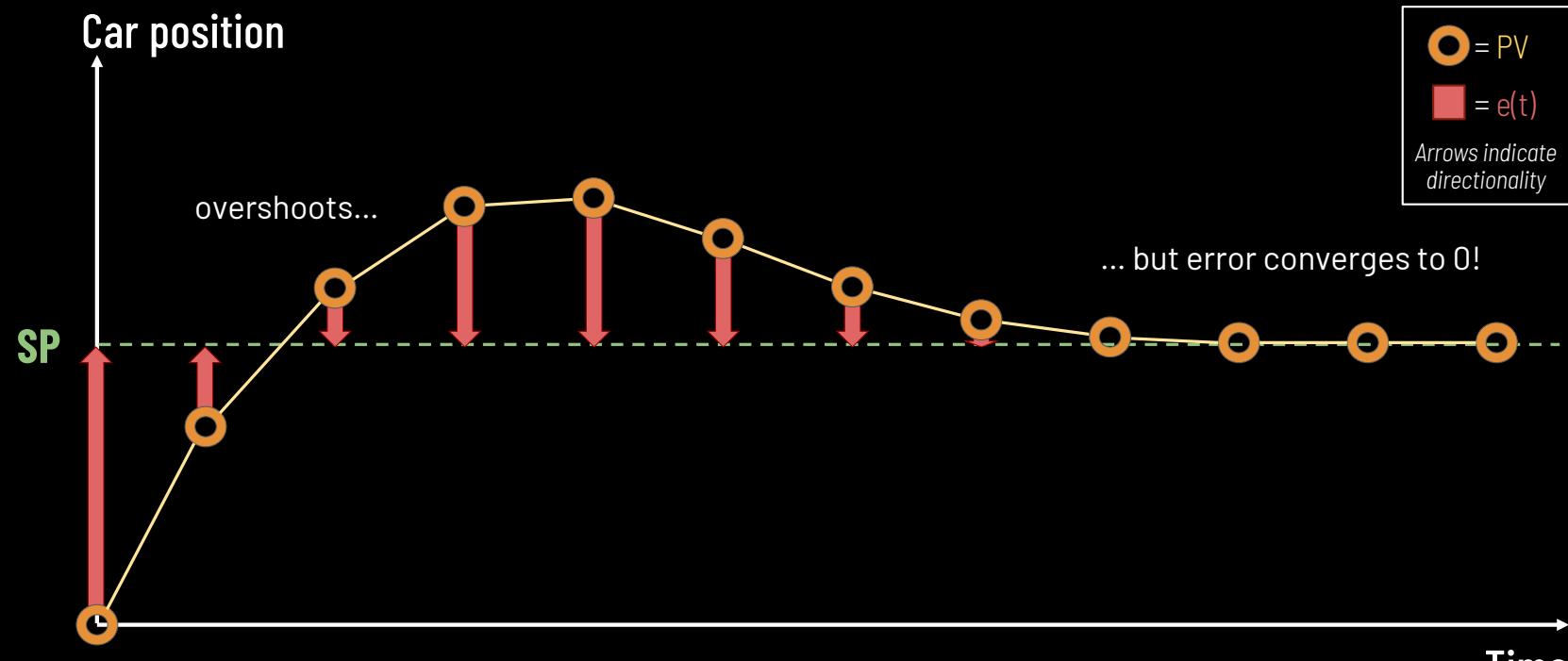


The P Controller

- How does it perform? (Assume $K_p = 0.05$)



The P Controller



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Section 3.2.3: PD Controller

The PD Controller

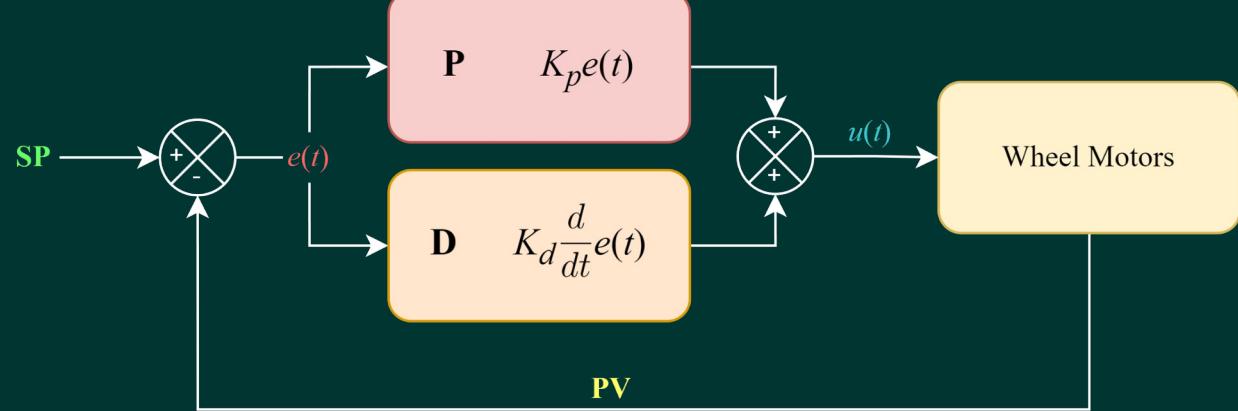
- Normally, you would gradually **press the brakes** to not overshoot the space.
- We can model this behavior by decreasing the power based on the robot's velocity, or the **Derivative** of error.

Control Law

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

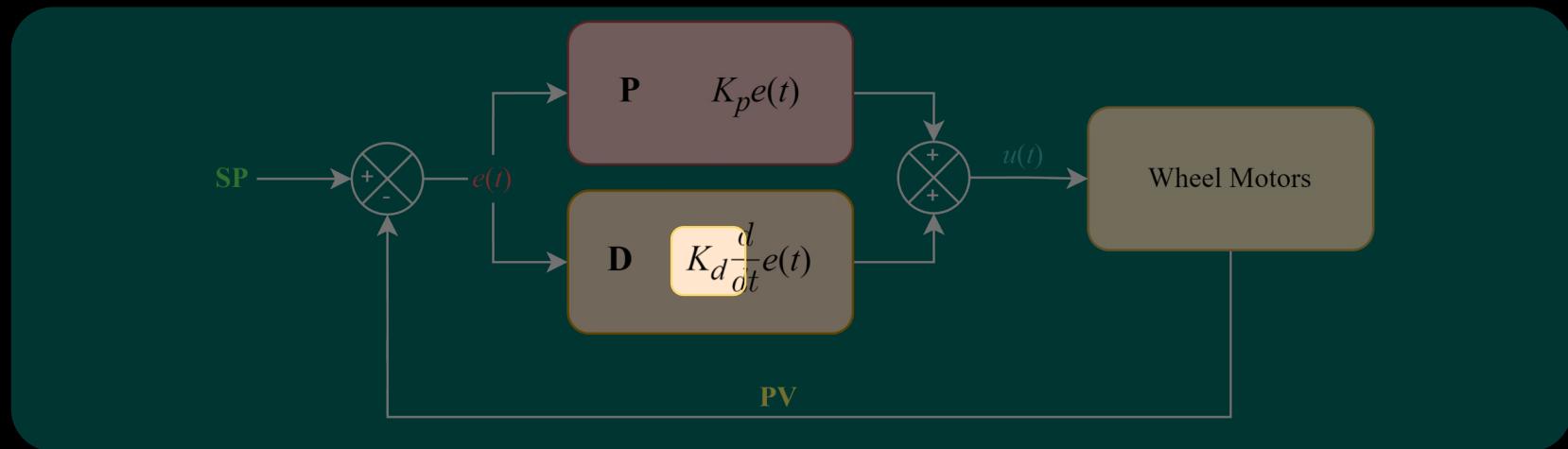
K_p and K_d are constants

Flowchart



The PD Controller

- You will also need to tune K_d .
 - Low $K_d \rightarrow$ still overshooting
 - High $K_d \rightarrow$ stuttering or jittering



The **PD** Controller

- How can we calculate the derivative?

Slope formula

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

- Intuitive
- Simpler (last error only)
- Prone to high-frequency noise

Five-Point Stencil ([Wikipedia](#))

$$\frac{de(t)}{dt} \approx \frac{-e(t) + 8e(t - \Delta t) - 8e(t - 3\Delta t) + e(t - 4\Delta t)}{12\Delta t}$$

- Less intuitive
- More complex (keep track of last four errors and deltaTimes)
- Very robust against noise

The PD Controller

- Let's implement it using the slope formula!

Initialize a timer object

Calculate error and derivative

Control law

Update derivative variables

Telemetry!!

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



The PD Controller



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Section 3.2.4: PID Controller

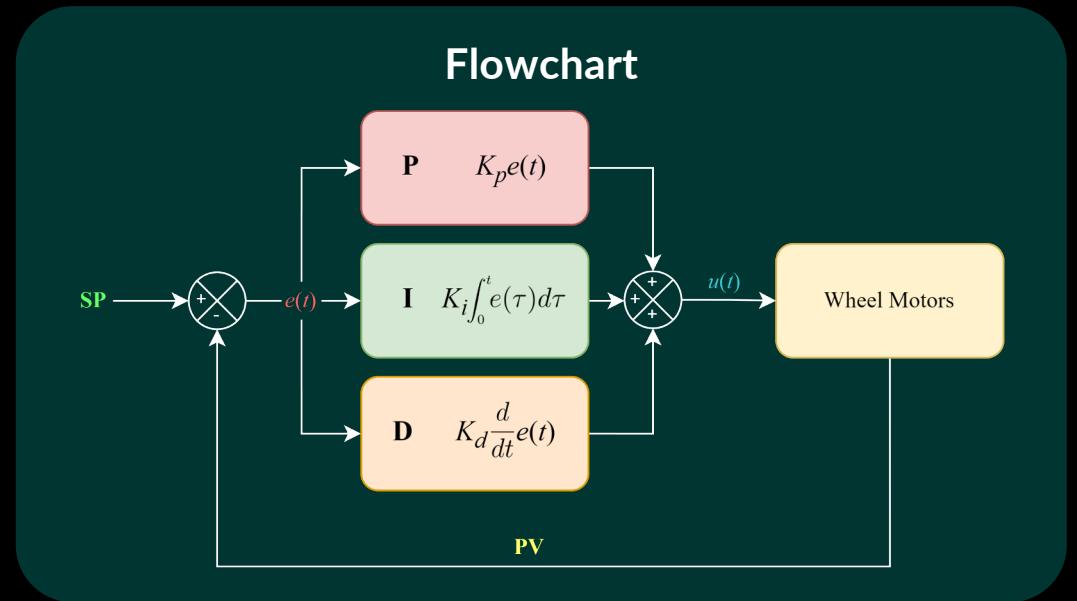
The PID Controller

- You do **not** need a PID controller for this lab!
- For systems such as an arm/lift, where the motor has to **counteract gravity or friction**, a PD controller might not output enough force to reach the setpoint.
- An **Integrator** accumulates small errors and nudges the system to the **setpoint**.

Control Law

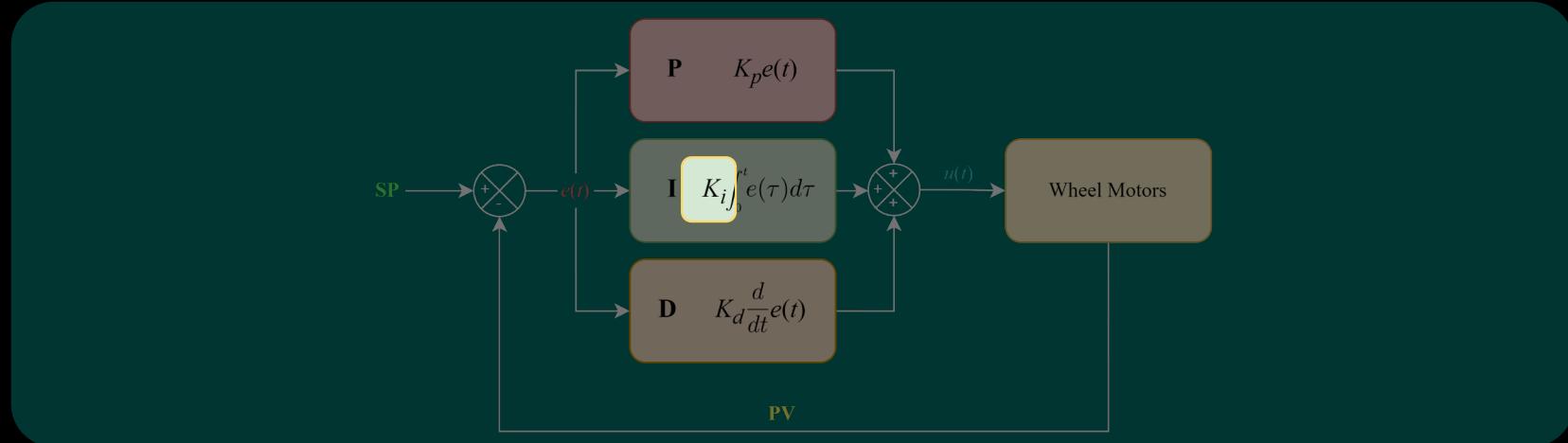
$$u(t) = K_p e(t) + K_i \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau + K_d \frac{d}{dt} e(t)$$

K_p , K_i , and K_d are constants



The PID Controller

- Tuning K_i :
 - Low $K_i \rightarrow$ slow convergence to setpoint
 - High $K_i \rightarrow$ oscillations that keep getting larger



The PID Controller

- Code implementation (Slope formula for derivative)

```
22 // PID Controller Using Slope Formula.          42 // Update integral.
23 double setpoint = 1000;                      43 integral += deltaTime * error;
24 double kP = 0.01;                            44
25 double kI = 0;                             45 // Calculate derivative.
26 double kD = 0.001;                          46 double derivative = (error - lastError) / deltaTime;
27                                         47
28 // For finding integral.                    48 // Control law.
29 double integral = 0;                      49 double u_t = kP*error + kI*integral + kD*derivative;
30                                         50 drive.driveRobotCentric( right: 0, u_t, turn: 0);
31 // For finding derivative.                 51
32 double lastError = 1000;                   52 // Update lastError and runtime for next loop.
33 ElapsedTime runtime = new ElapsedTime( startTime: 0); 53 lastError = error;
34                                         54 runtime.reset();
35 while (opModeIsActive()) {                  55
36     double deltaTime = runtime.seconds();   56 // Show info in telemetry.
37                                         57 telemetry.addData( caption: "Encoder Position", encoderPosition);
38     // Calculate error.                   58 telemetry.addData( caption: "P", value: kP * error);
39     double encoderPosition = drive.getRightBackPosition(); 59 telemetry.addData( caption: "I", value: kI * integral);
40     double error = setpoint - encoderPosition; 60 telemetry.addData( caption: "D", value: kD * derivative);
41                                         61 telemetry.addData( caption: "u_t", u_t);
42                                         62 telemetry.update();
43                                         63 }
```

Key Takeaways

- **Closed-loop control** is generally preferred over open-loop control.
 - You should still try both for this lab!

For closed-loop control:

- Your objective is to **drive error to zero**.
 - You can use **motor encoders** as the sensor, although alternatives exist.
 - There are different types of closed-loop controllers, many of which **need manual tuning**, so try to be patient!
- ★ **If you ever need help, ask one of us!**