

---

# **D/A Converters**

**ECE 376 Embedded Systems**

**Jake Glower - Lecture #17**

Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding  
lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

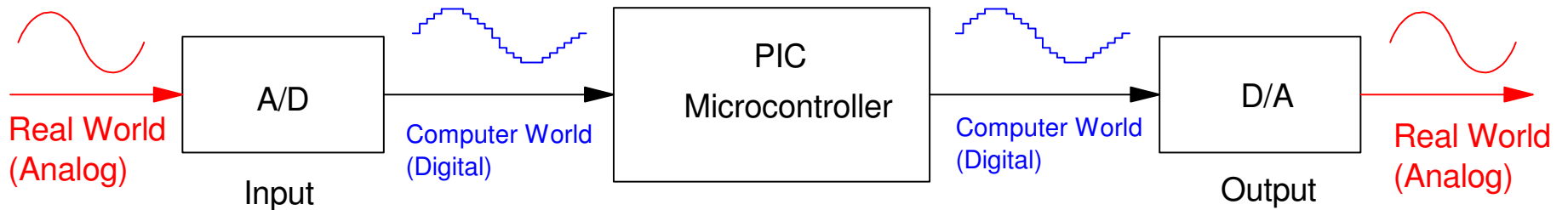
---

# D/A Converters

A/D: Allows you to input analog signals to a PIC

D/A: Allows you to output analog signals from a PIC

- Output a sine wave to drive a speaker (rather than a square wave)
- Output other periodic waveforms, creating an electronic cello, violin, tuba, etc
- Control the speed of a DC motor
- Control the brightness of an LED, and
- Control the speed of an AC motor to name a few.



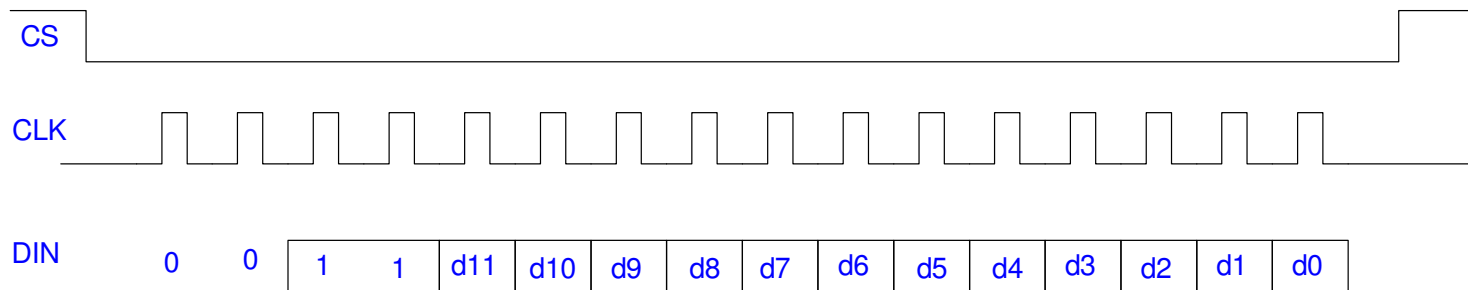
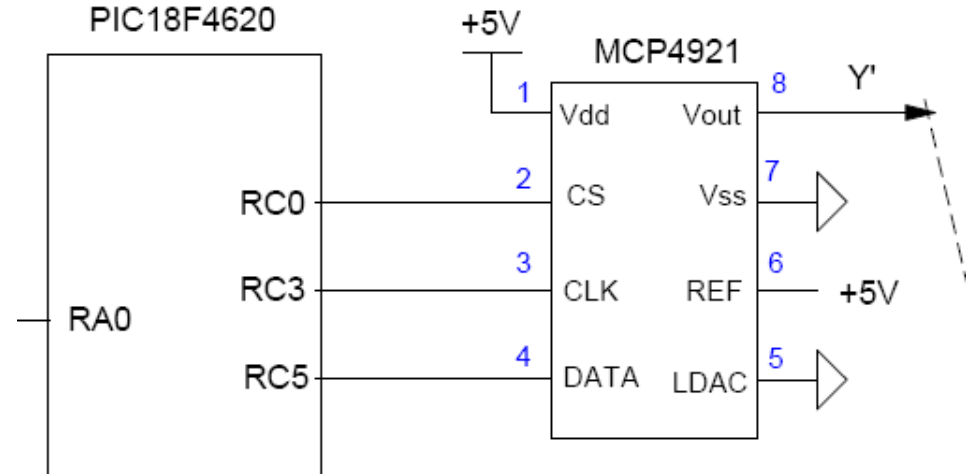
# D/A with a PIC Microcontroller

## MCP4921: External D/A chip

- PIC doesn't come with a D/A

### Procedure: Send 16-bits of data

- Pull CS low (start of message)
- Send 0011
  - This sets the output to 0% to 100% of Ref.
- Send 12 bits of data, MSB first
  - 0 (0x000) outputs 0V
  - 4095 (0xFFF) outputs 5V
- Pull CS low (end of message).



---

## Software: D/A Driver

```
void D2A(unsigned int X)
{
    unsigned char i;
    TRISC0 = 0;
    TRISC3 = 0;
    TRISC5 = 0;

    // Add 0011 to the first four bits to set up the D/A
    X = X & 0x0FFF;
    X = X + 0x3000;
    RC0 = 1;
    RC3 = 1;

    // CS goes low to select the D/A chip
    RC0 = 0;

    // Send out 16 bits of data
    for (i=0; i<16; i++) {
        if (X & 0x8000) RC5 = 1; else RC5 = 0;
        RC3 = 0;
        X = X << 1;
        RC3 = 1;
    }

    // CS goes high to terminate the communicaitons
    RC0 = 1;
}
```

---

---

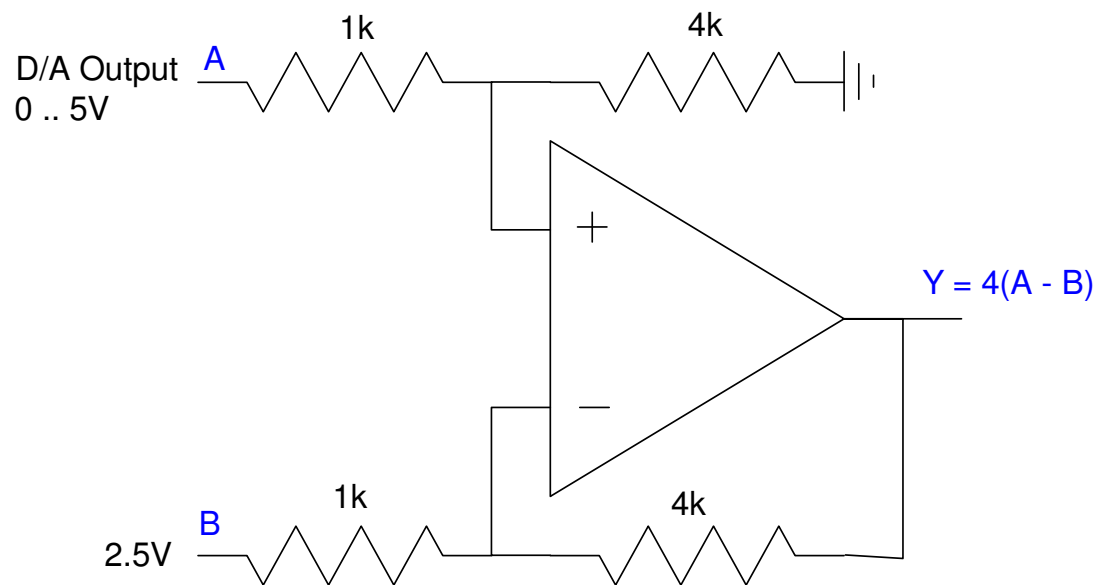
# Electronic Function Generator

Binary Output: Square wave

- Creates a harsh sound

Analog Output: Square / Sawtooth / Triangle / Sine wave

Step #1: Convert 0..5V to -10V .. +10V



---

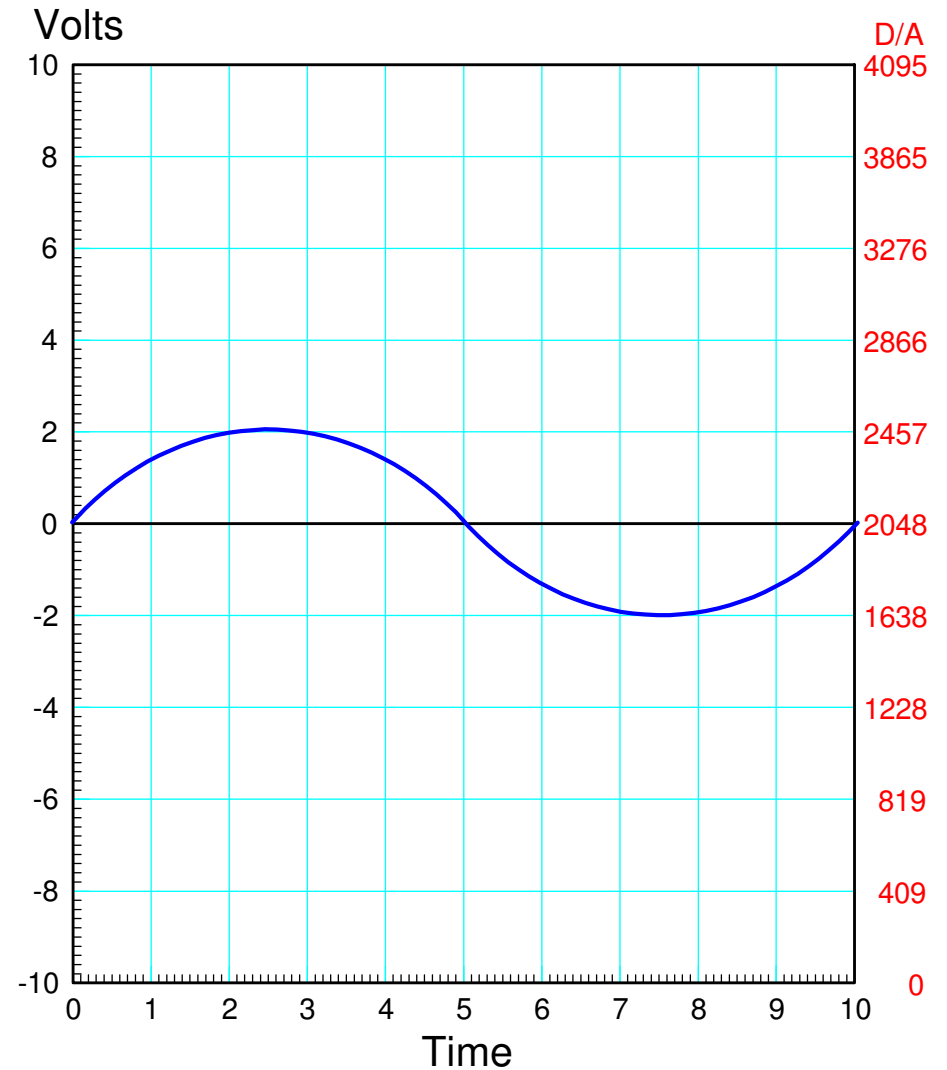
## Step #2: Create waveforms

- Assume the output goes -2V to +2V

The output voltage is related to the number you send to the D/A as

$$\text{Volts} = \left( \frac{\text{D/A}}{4095} \right) \cdot 20V - 10V$$

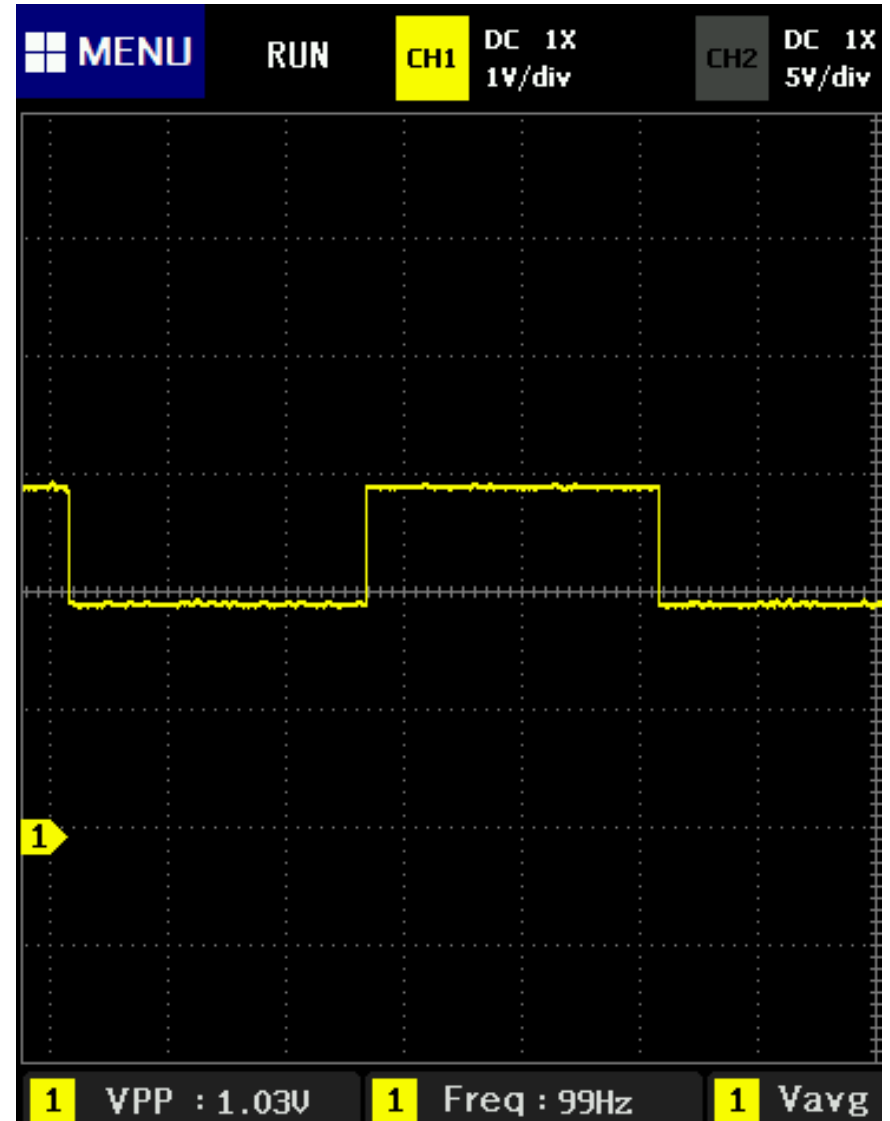
- -2V = 1638
- +2V = 2457



## Square Wave

- 100 Hz
- Counting to 620 = 1ms

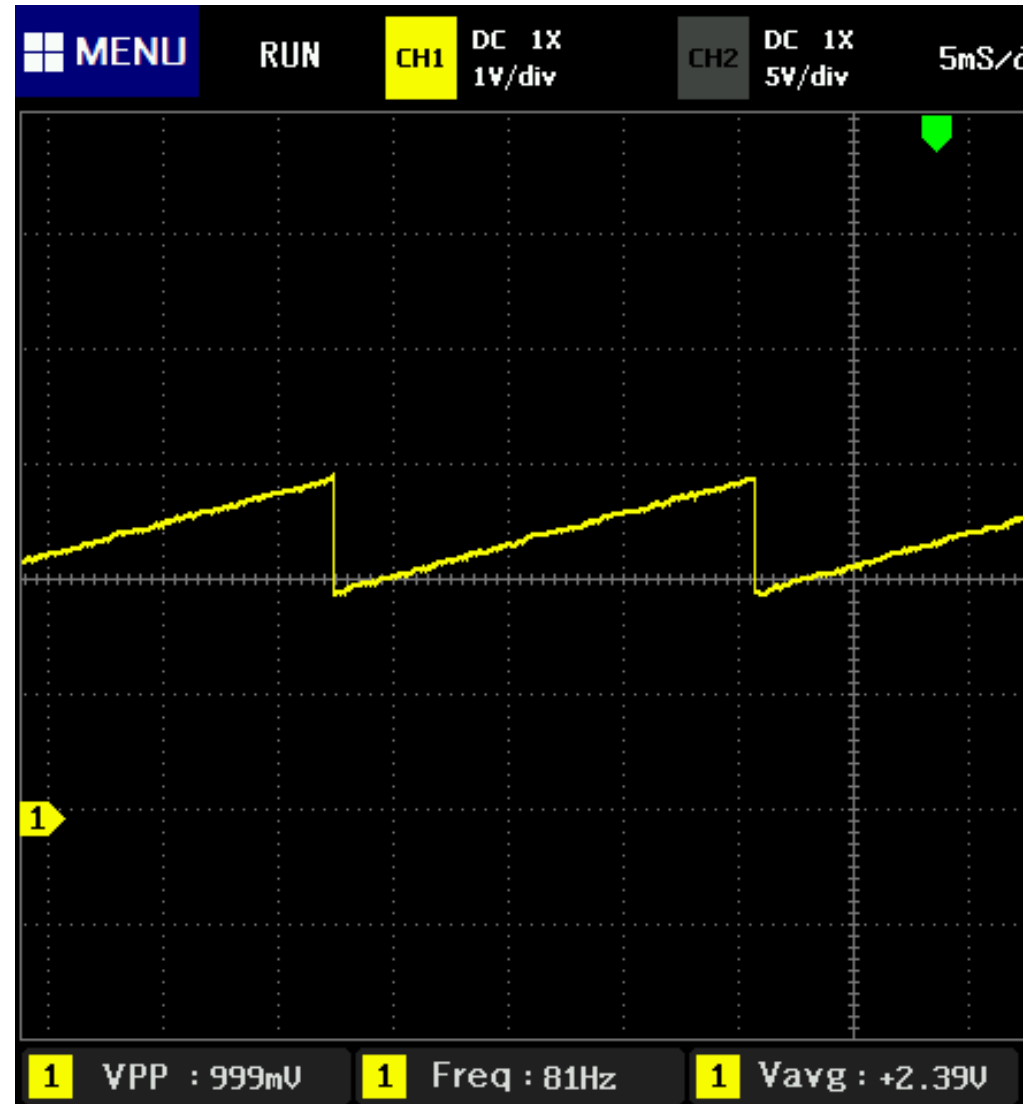
```
while(1) {  
    D2A(1638);  
    for(i=1; i<3100; i++);  
    D2A(2457);  
    for(i=0; i<3100; i++);  
}
```



# Sawtooth Wave

- 81 Hz

```
x = 1638;
while(1) {
  D2A(x);
  x = x + 10;
  if(x > 2457) x = 1638;
  for(i=0; i<100; i++);
}
```

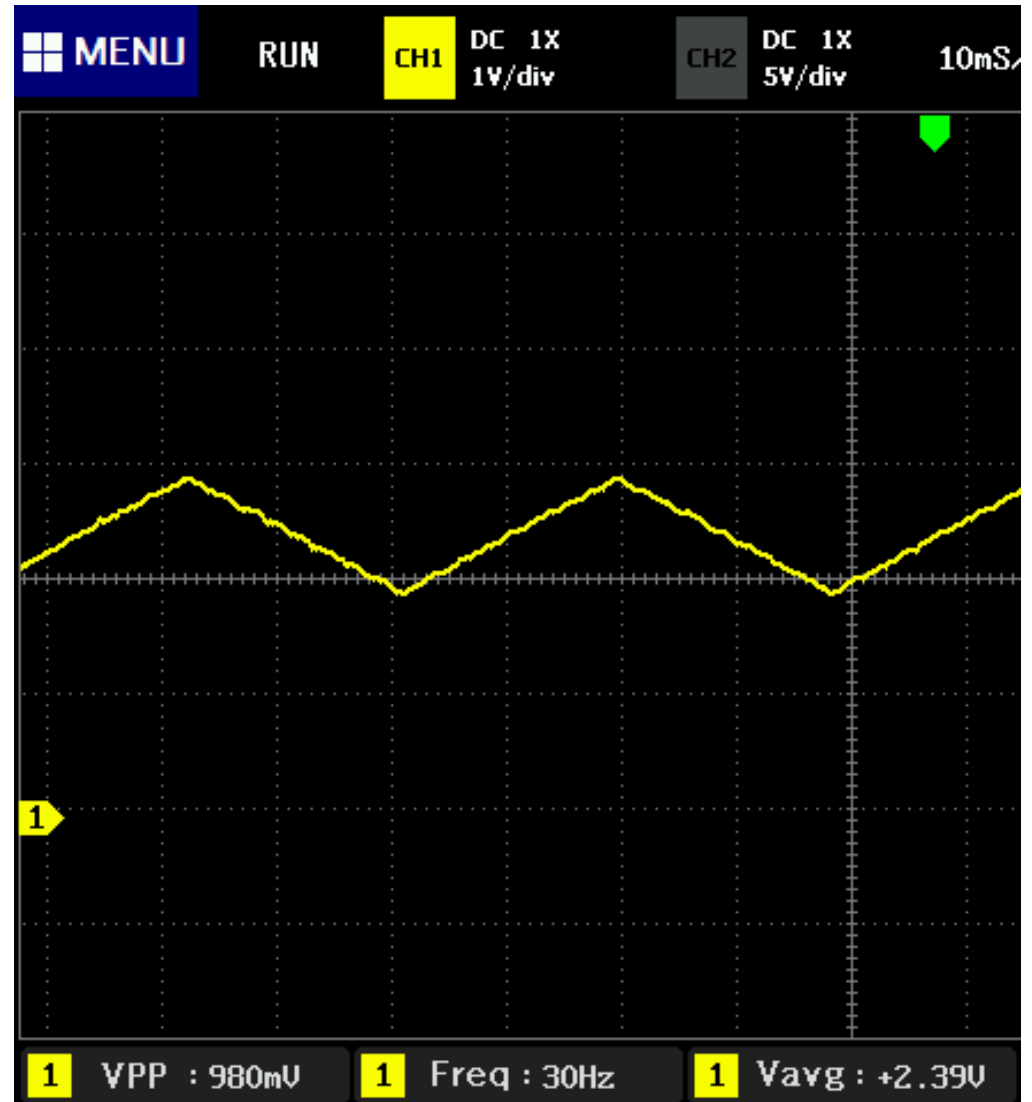




# Triangle Wave

- 30 Hz

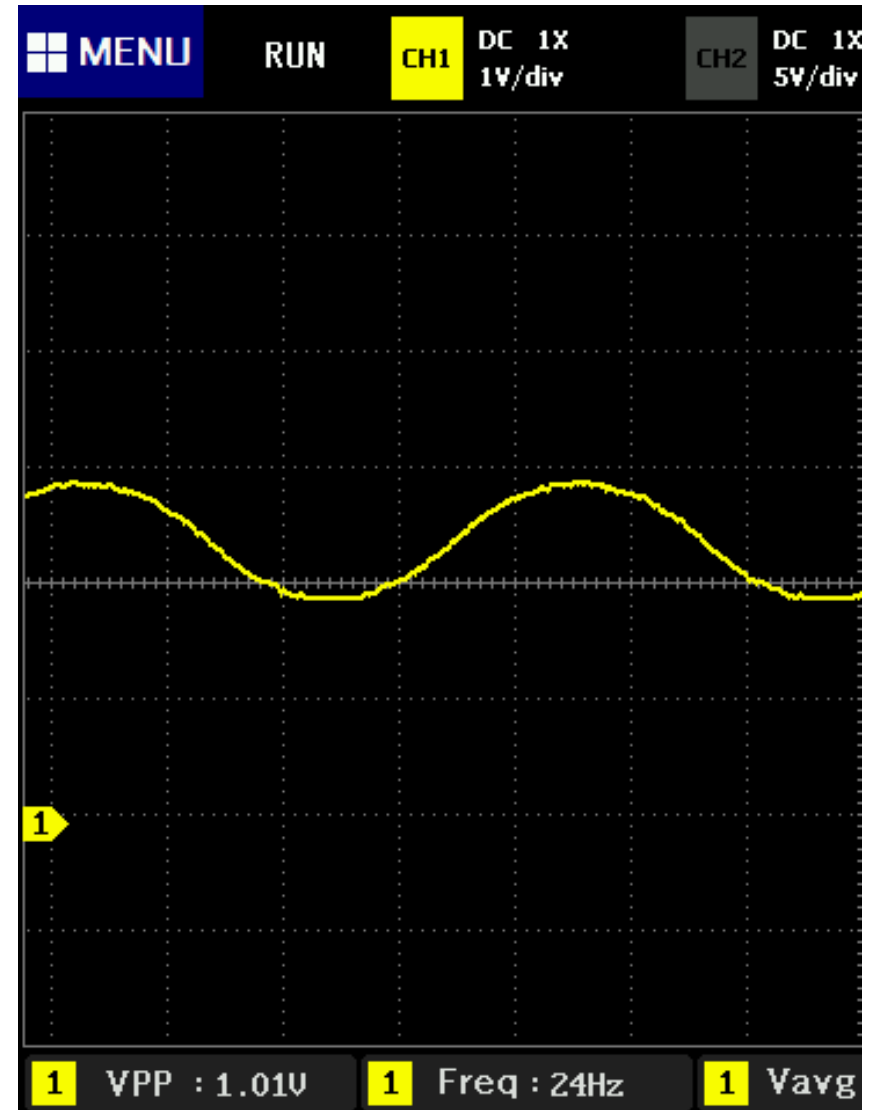
```
x = 1638;  
dx = +10;  
while(1) {  
    D2A(x);  
    x = x + dx;  
    if(x > 2457) dx = -10;  
    if(x < 1638) dx = +10;  
    for(i=0; i<100; i++);  
}
```



## Parabolic Sine Wave

- of Mutant Ninja Warrior fame
- Season #1, episode #2

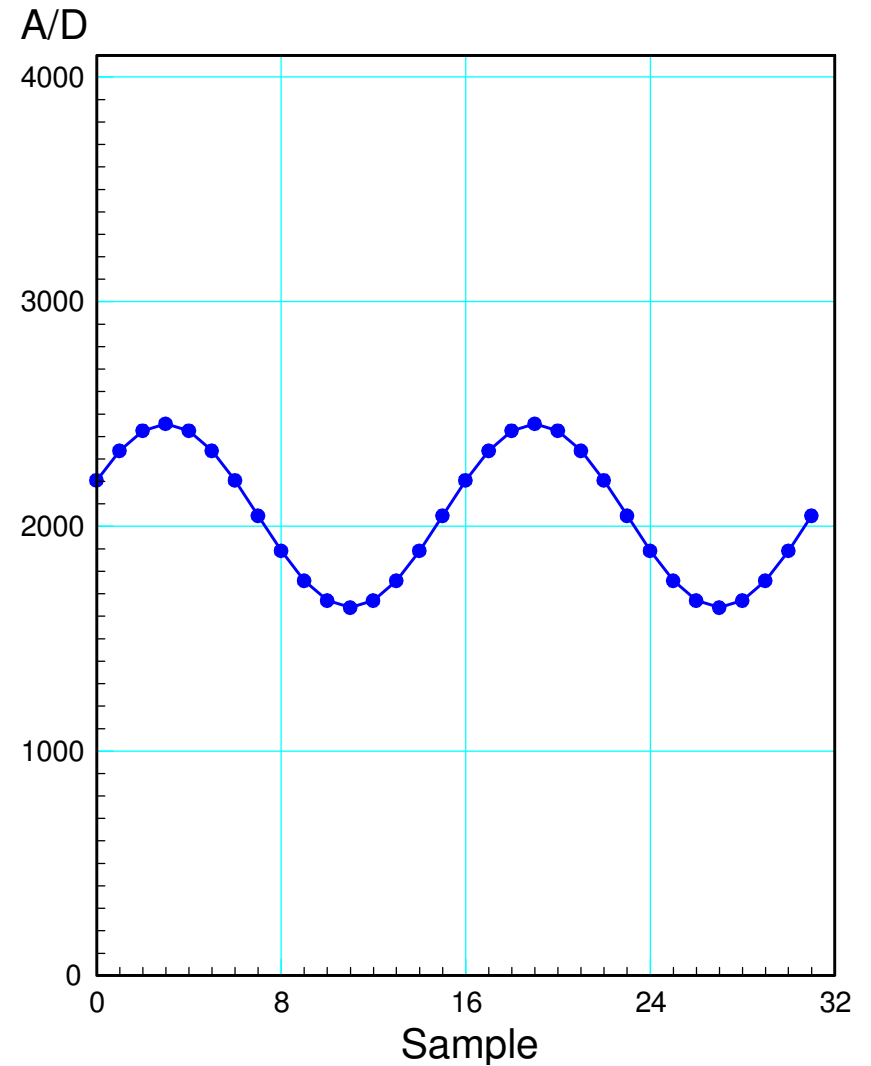
```
//Parabolic Sine Wave
x = 0;
dx = 0;
while(1) {
    x = (x + 1) % 64;
    if(x == 0) dx = dx ^ 1;
    if(dx) y = 2048 + (2 * x * (64-x))/5;
    else y = 2048 - (2 * x * (64-x))/5;
    D2A(y);
    for(i=0; i<100; i++);
}
```



## Sine Wave:: Look-Up Table

- Generate from matlab

```
t = [1:16]' / 16 * 2 * pi;  
y = sin(t) * 409 + 2047;  
y = round(y);  
2204.  
2336.  
2425.  
2456.  
2425.  
2336.  
2204.  
2047.  
1890.  
1758.  
1669.  
1638.  
1669.  
1758.  
1890.
```



To play a 220Hz sine wave,

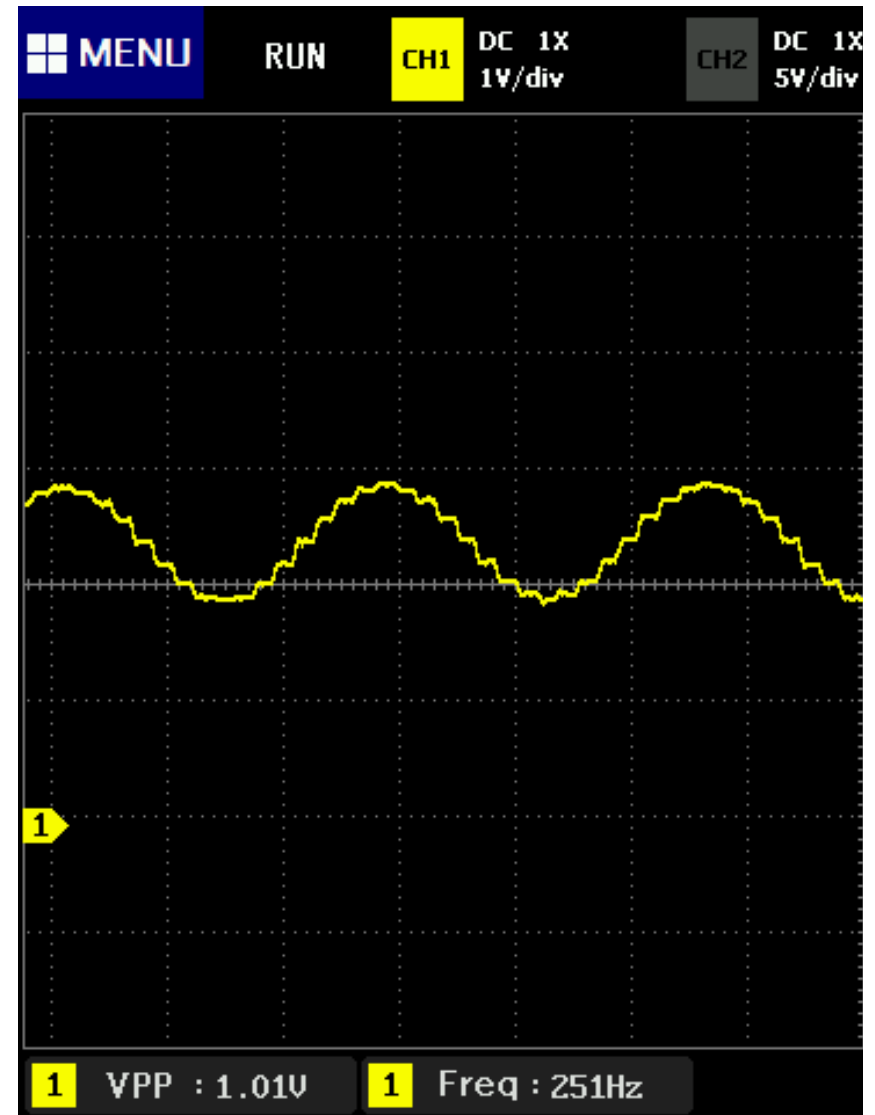
One cycle =  $1/220$  second (4.54ms)

Each D/A call =  $4.54\text{ms} / 16 = 286.1\mu\text{s}$

```
const unsigned int TABLE[16] = {2204, 2336,  
2425, 2456, 2425, 2336, 2204, 2047, 1890, 1758,  
1669, 1638, 1669, 1758, 1890, 2047};
```

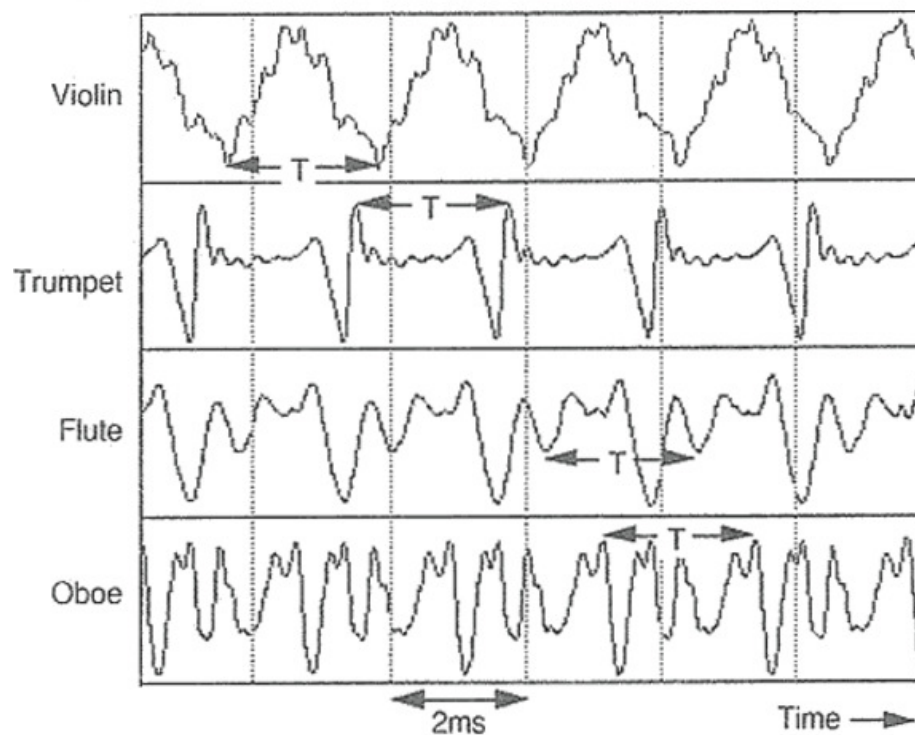
```
// in the main routine  
unsigned int i, j;
```

```
while(1) {  
    i = (i + 1) % 16;  
    D2A(TABLE[i]);  
    for(j=0; j<177; j++);  
}
```



## Electronic Tuba

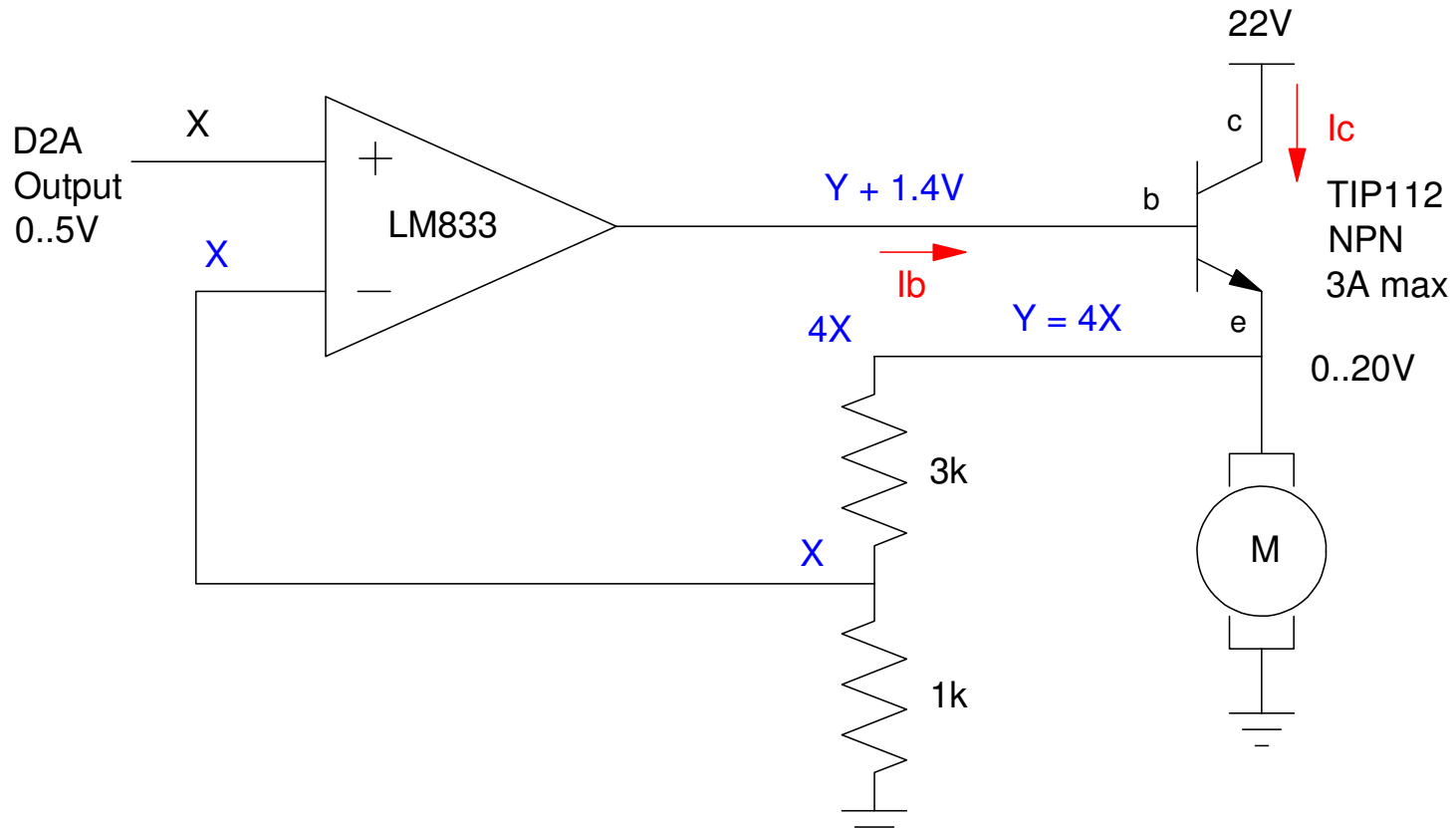
Note that if you change the look-up table, you change the signal sent to the speaker. The signal determines what type of instrument you're mimicking:



[http://www.feilding.net/sfuad/musi3012-01/html/lectures/009\\_hearing\\_IV.htm](http://www.feilding.net/sfuad/musi3012-01/html/lectures/009_hearing_IV.htm)

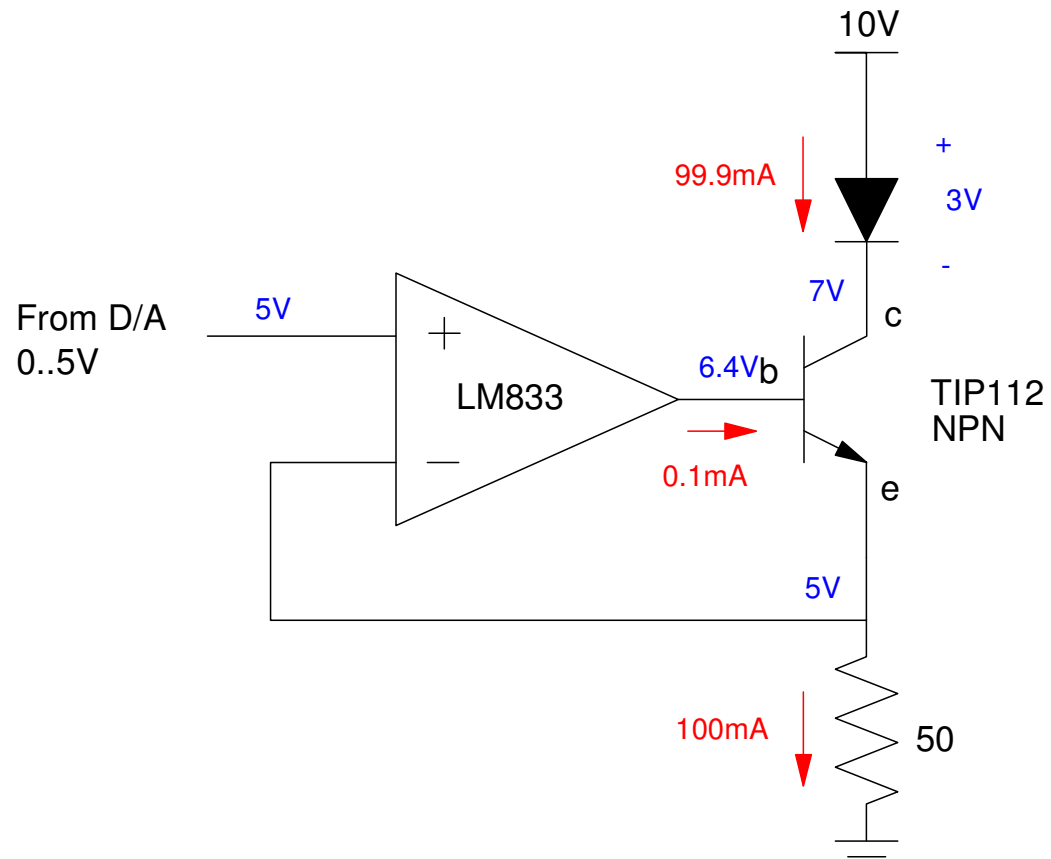
# DC Motor: Speed Control

- Voltage = Speed (approx)
- 0V .. 20V with 4095 steps



## Current Source:

- Control the brightness of an LED (current = lumens)
- Control the torque of a DC servo motor (current = torque)



# DC Servo Motor: Speed Control

## AMD 30A8V

- Voltage range: +20V to +80V
- Current Limit: Up to 20A
- Higher efficiency (data sheets say 90%)
- Protection circuitry ( doesn't die as easily )

## Just connect

- REF+ D/A output (0..5V)
- REF- 2.5V
- Adjust the gain
  - +30V at +5V,
  - -30V at -5V



## Advanced Motion Controls 30A8V Brush Type PWM Servo Amplifier

★★★★★ Be the first to [write a review](#).

Condition: Used

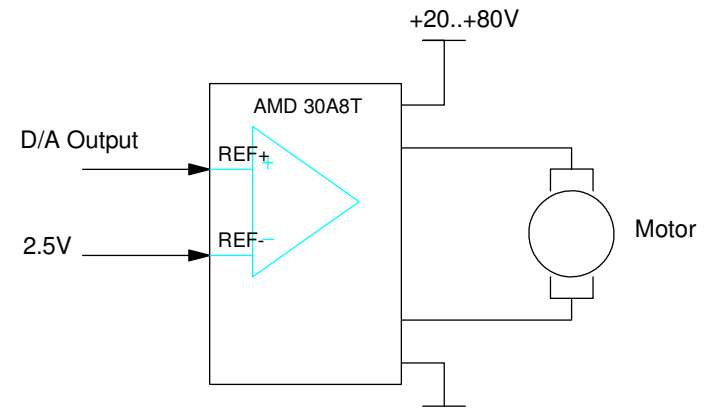
Quantity:

More than 10 available  
**79 sold** / [See feedback](#)

Price: **US \$39.99**

[Buy It Now](#)

[Add to cart](#)





# BLDC Motor: Speed Control

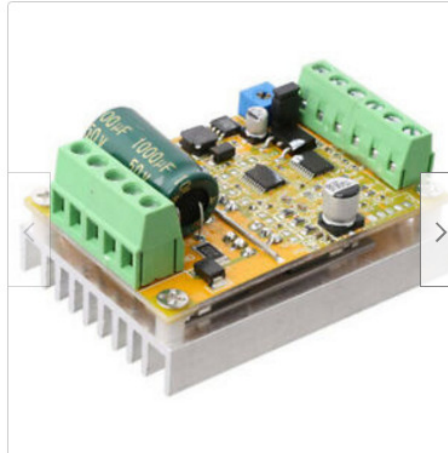
- 3-Phase AC Synchronous Motor
- Use a motor driver (\$14 on ebay for 380W)

## These boards

- Take an analog input (0..5V), and
- Generate 3-phase AC waveforms
- With a frequency (i.e. speed) proportional to the input voltage

## D/A outputs 0..5V

- Controls the speed
- Also sets the direction (another binary input)



380W 3 Phases Brushless Motor Controller Board(No/Without Hall Sensor)BLDC D0Q6

★★★★★ Be the first to [write a review](#).

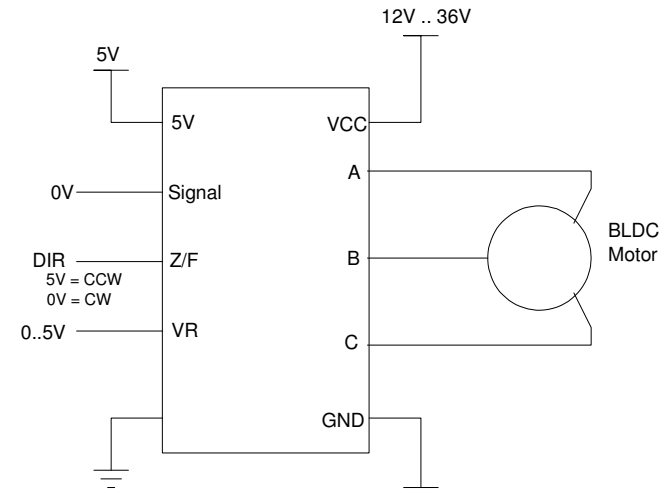
Condition: New

Bulk savings:

Buy 1  
\$13.98/ea

Buy 2  
\$13.28/ea

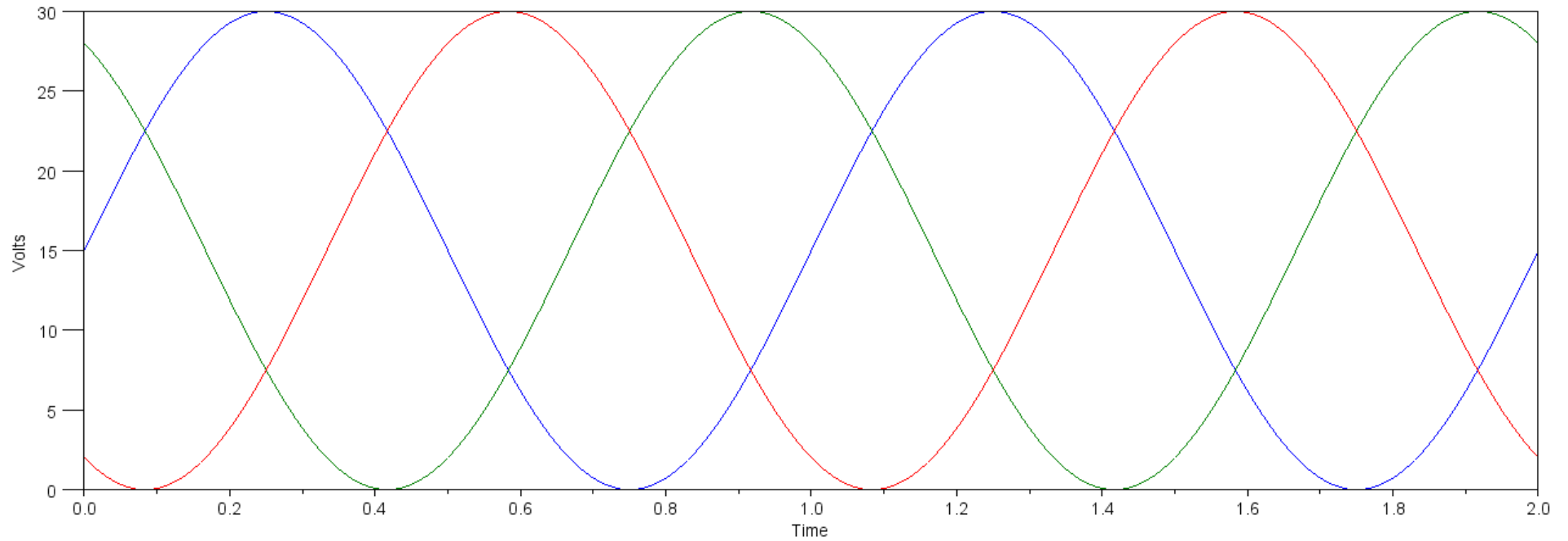
Buy 3  
\$13.14/ea



---

# Output Waveform

- Frequency = Speed



$V_a, V_b, V_c$

$V_{ab}, V_{bc}, V_{ca}$  remove the DC offset

---