

# Unit 2 Report: Motor models, oscillators and PWM

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## Report overview

Lab assignments 5-9 have had you focus on new ways to more accurately model your motors, how to build oscillator circuits and how to use them to implement pulse width modulation. At the core of these labs you have made use of circuit building basics and motor control essentials that you covered in the first four assignments.

In this Unit 2 report we would like you to reflect on the circuit designs and concepts you have covered in lab 5 through 9. Expand on how each assignment builds upon the prior one, culminating in a refined motor drive circuit. Your report has no minimum or maximum length but you are expected to give a well-formatted report containing thoughtful evaluations **as well as measured data and plots** in support of your report.

## Report requirements

Please review your prelab and lab outlines. Consider using the questions you've answered in lab to guide your comments and reflections. Please include any plots that were generated but not submitted along with a past lab summary.

**In addition to** your reflections and summaries, your report should address the following aspects:

- The issue of the earth ground connection of the oscilloscope (reference Experiment 5, Figure 5)
  - What would happen in the three possible measurement configurations:
    - Both ground leads connected to the positive battery terminal
    - Both ground leads connected to the MOSFET drains
    - One ground lead connected to the positive battery terminal, the other ground lead connected to a MOSFET drain
  - How would each motor behave? What measurements would you expect to see on the oscilloscope?
- Pulse width modulation control of our motors
  - What are the advantages of PWM versus a variable voltage source? Make note of the physical properties of the motor.
- The improved IV models of the motor (reference Experiment 6, Questions 6-10)

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- In terms of physical properties, why do the ramp up and ramp down IV profiles differ? Are their slopes similar? Why or why not?
- The role of buffer circuits
  - What circuit elements in our overall design (reference Experiment 8, Figure 3) are acting as buffers? Why do we use them? What could happen if we did not include these buffers?

## Things to avoid

Your lab report should be clearly written and thorough. Avoid the following pitfalls:

- Vague, nonspecific statements (example of vague statement: The circuit performed better.)
  - Instead, describe your circuit behavior clearly with references to appropriate voltage, current, and power values (with units included).
- Referring indirectly to circuit values
  - Instead, support your statements with values measured in lab by showing them in tables and plots. Refer to specific nodes and reference or include appropriate circuit diagrams.
- Poor formatting and grammar
  - Instead, proofread your report and make it easy to read. The report should clearly convey what you've learned in lab and your observations.

Just do your best and feel free to discuss these topics with classmates, but **do not just copy answers** or you will be penalized for plagiarism.