

## ***Single Stage Amplifiers***

- ***Basic Concepts***
- ***Common Source Stage***
- ***Source Follower***
- ***Common Gate Stage***
- ***Cascode Stage***

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## ***References***

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- **B. Razavi, "Design of Analog CMOS Integrated Circuits", McGraw-Hill, 2001.**

## *Single Stage Amplifiers*

- **Basic Concepts**
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### ***Basic Concepts I***

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- **Amplification is an essential function in most analog circuits !**
- **Why do we amplify a signal ?**
  - The signal is too small to drive a load
  - To overcome the noise of a subsequent stage
  - Amplification plays a critical role in feedback systems

**In this lecture:**

- **Low frequency behavior of single stage CMOS amplifiers:**
  - Common Source, Common Gate, Source Follower, ...
- **Large and small signal analysis.**
- **We begin with a simple model and gradually add 2nd order effects**

➡ **Understand basic building blocks for more complex systems.**

## Approximation of a nonlinear system

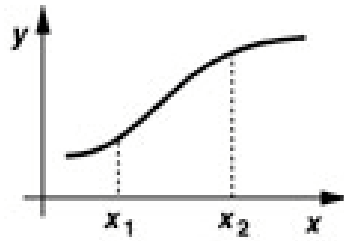
### Input-Output Characteristic of a nonlinear system

$$y(t) \approx \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x(t) + \alpha_2 x^2(t) + \dots + \alpha_n x^n(t) \quad x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$$

### In a sufficiently narrow range:

$$y(t) \approx \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x(t)$$

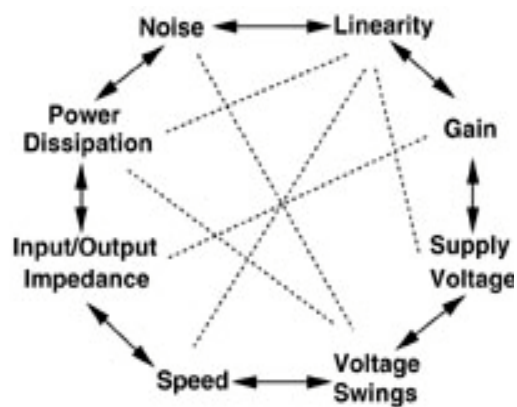
where  $\alpha_0$  can be considered the operating (bias) point and  $\alpha_1$  the small signal gain



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## Analog Design Octagon



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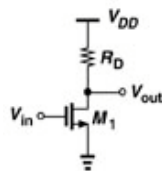
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## Single Stage Amplifiers

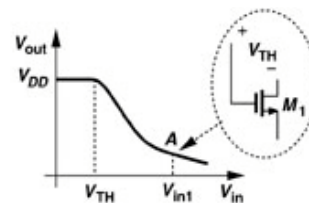
- **Basic Concepts**
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### Common Source Stage with Resistive Load



(a)



(b)

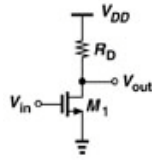
$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D I_D$$

**M1 in the saturation region:**  $V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2$

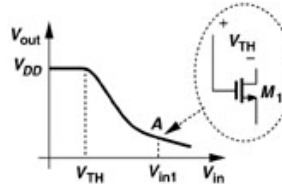
**M1 in limit of saturation:**  $V_{in1} - V_{TH} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in1} - V_{TH})^2$

**M1 in the linear region:**  $V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} \left[ (V_{in} - V_{TH}) V_{out} - \frac{V_{out}^2}{2} \right]$

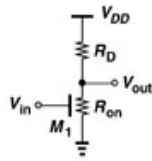
## Common Source Stage with Resistive Load



(a)



(b)



(c)

**M1 in deep linear region:**

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} \frac{R_{on}}{R_{on} + R_D} = \frac{V_{DD}}{1 + \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} R_D (V_{in} - V_{TH})}$$

## Common Source Stage with Resistive Load

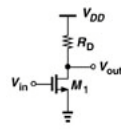
**M1 in the saturation region:**

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{\mu_n C_{ox} W}{2L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2$$

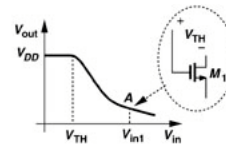
**Small signal gain:**

$$A_v = \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = -R_D \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH}) = -g_m R_D$$

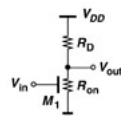
**Same relation can be derived from the small signal equivalent circuit**



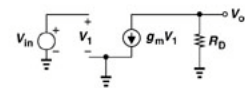
(a)



(b)



(c)

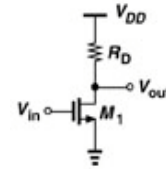
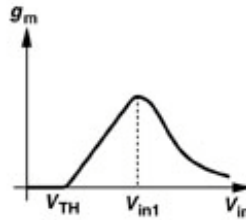
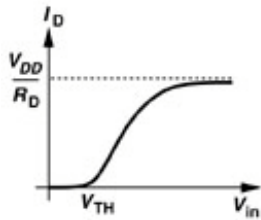


**Small signal model for the saturation region**

**To minimize nonlinearity, the gain equation must be a weak function of signal dependent parameters such as  $g_m$  !**

### Example 1

Sketch  $I_D$  and  $g_m$  of M1 as a function of the  $V_{in}$ :



• M1 in the saturation region:

$$I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$g_m = \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{GS}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})$$

• M1 in the linear region:

$$I_D = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} \left[ (V_{in1} - V_{TH}) V_{out} - \frac{V_{out}^2}{2} \right]$$

$$g_m = \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{GS}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} V_{out}$$

$$V_{out} = \frac{V_{DD}}{1 + \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} R_D (V_{in} - V_{TH})}$$

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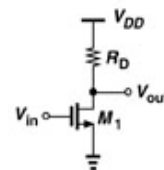
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### Voltage Gain of a Common Source Stage

$$A_v = -g_m R_D$$

$$A_v = -\sqrt{2\mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} I_D} \frac{V_{RD}}{I_D}$$

$$A_v = -\sqrt{2\mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} \frac{V_{RD}}{\sqrt{I_D}}}$$



How to increase  $A_v$  ?

Trade-offs:

- Increase  $W/L$  → Greater device capacitances.
- Increase  $V_{RD}$  → Limits  $V_{out}$  swing.
- Reduce  $I_D$  → Greater Time Constant.

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## Taking Channel Length Modulation into account

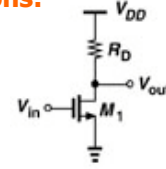
Calculating  $A_v$  starting from the Large Signal Equations:

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2 (1 + \lambda V_{out})$$

$$A_v = \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = -R_D \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH}) (1 + \lambda V_{out}) - R_D \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2 \lambda \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}}$$

$$A_v = -R_D g_m - R_D I_D \lambda A_v$$

$$A_v = -\frac{R_D g_m}{1 + R_D \lambda I_D} \xrightarrow{\lambda I_D = 1/r_O} A_v = -g_m \frac{r_O R_D}{r_O + R_D}$$

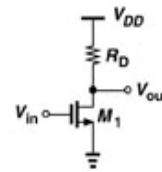
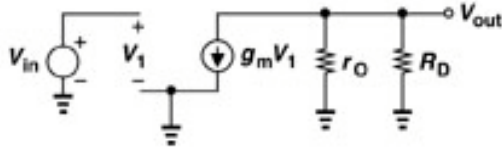


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## Taking Channel Length Modulation into account

Calculating  $A_v$  starting from the Small Signal model:



$$\left. \begin{aligned} g_m V_1 (r_O // R_D) &= -V_{out} \\ V_1 &= V_{in} \end{aligned} \right\} A_v = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = -g_m (r_O // R_D)$$

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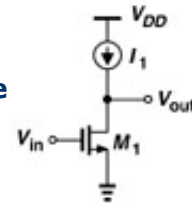
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## Example 2

Assuming M1 biased in saturation, calculate the small signal voltage gain :

- $I_1$ : Ideal current source  $\Rightarrow$  Infinite Impedance

$$A_v = -g_m r_O$$



- **Intrinsic gain of a transistor:**  
This quantity represents the maximum voltage gain that can be achieved using a single device.

$$I_{D1} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2 (1 + \lambda V_{out}) = I_1$$

- **Constant Current:**  
As  $V_{in}$  increases,  $V_{out}$  must decrease such that the product remains constant

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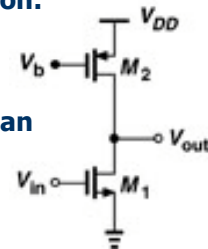
## CS Stage with Current-Source Load

- Both transistors operate in the saturation region:

$$A_v = -g_m (r_{O1} // r_{O2})$$

- The output impedance and the minimum required VDS of M2 are less strongly coupled than the value and voltage drop of a resistor.

$$|V_{DS2, \min}| = |V_{GS2} - V_{TH2}|$$



- This value can be reduced to a few hundred millivolts by simply increasing the width of M2.
- If  $r_{O2}$  is not sufficiently high, the length and width of M2 can be increased to achieve a smaller  $\lambda$  while maintaining the same overdrive voltage.
- The penalty is the large capacitance introduced by M2 at the output node.
- Increasing L2 while keeping W2 constant increases  $r_{O2}$  and hence the voltage gain, but at the cost of higher  $|V_{DS2}|$  required to maintain M2 in saturation

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## CS with Source Degeneration

Large Signal model:

$$G_m = \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{in}} = \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{GS}} \frac{\partial V_{GS}}{\partial V_{in}}$$

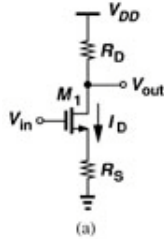
$$V_{GS} = V_{in} - I_D R_S$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{GS}}{\partial V_{in}} = 1 - \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{in}} R_S$$

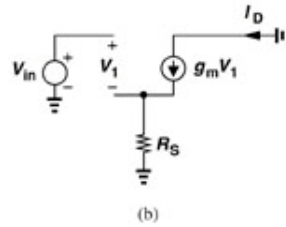
$$G_m = \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{GS}} \left( 1 - R_S \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_{in}} \right)$$

$$G_m = g_m (1 - R_S G_m)$$

$$G_m = \frac{g_m}{1 + g_m R_S}$$



Small Signal model:



$$G_m = \frac{I_D}{V_{in}} = \frac{g_m V_1}{V_1 + g_m V_1 R_S}$$

$$G_m = \frac{g_m}{1 + g_m R_S}$$

$$A_v = -G_m R_D$$

$$A_v = -\frac{g_m R_D}{1 + g_m R_S}$$

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## CS with Source Degeneration

$$G_m = \frac{g_m}{1 + g_m R_S} = \frac{1}{1/g_m + R_S}$$

$$\text{for } R_S \gg 1/g_m \Rightarrow G_m \approx 1/R_S$$

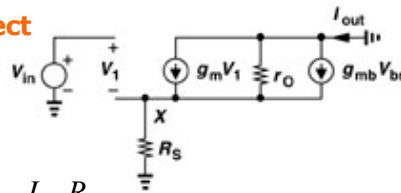
⇒  $I_D$  is linearized at the cost of lower gain.

Small Signal model including body effect and channel length modulation:

$$I_{out} = g_m V_1 - g_{mb} V_X - \frac{V_X}{r_o}$$

$$= g_m (V_{in} - I_{out} R_S) + g_{mb} (-I_{out} R_S) - \frac{I_{out} R_S}{r_o}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_m = \frac{I_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{g_m r_o}{R_S + [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S] r_o}$$

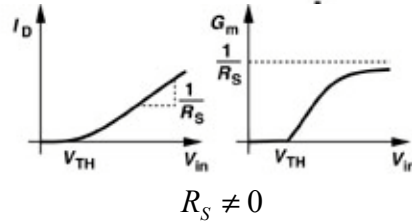
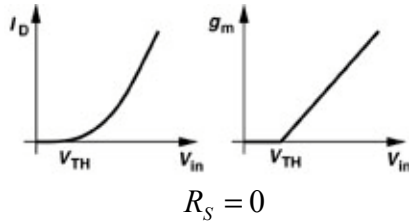
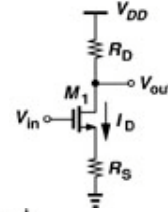


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## With and Without Source Degeneration

$$G_m = \frac{g_m r_o}{1 + [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S] r_o}$$



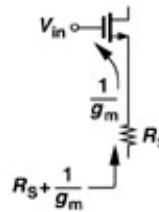
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## Estimating Gain by Inspection

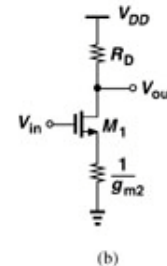
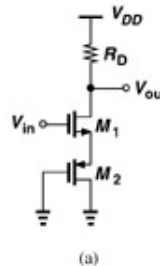
$$A_v = -\frac{g_m R_D}{1 + g_m R_S} = -\frac{R_D}{1/g_m + R_S}$$

$$\text{Gain} = -\frac{\text{Resistance seen at the Drain}}{\text{Total Resistance in the Source Path}}$$



**Example:**

$$A_v = -\frac{R_D}{1/g_{m1} + 1/g_{m2}}$$



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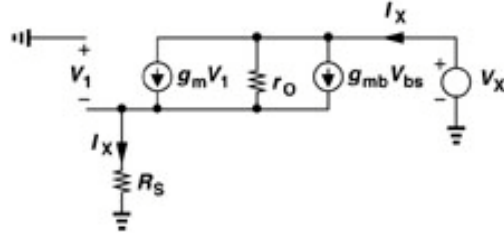
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## Output Resistance of Degenerated CS

$$V_1 = -I_X R_S$$

The current flowing in  $r_o$ :

$$\begin{aligned} I_X - (g_m + g_{mb})V_1 \\ = I_X + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S I_X \end{aligned}$$



$$\Rightarrow V_X = r_o [I_X + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S I_X] + I_X R_S$$

$$R_{out} = \frac{V_X}{I_X} = r_o [1 + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S] + R_S$$

$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o]R_S + r_o$$

$$R_{out} \approx (g_m + g_{mb})r_o R_S + r_o$$



$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S]r_o$$

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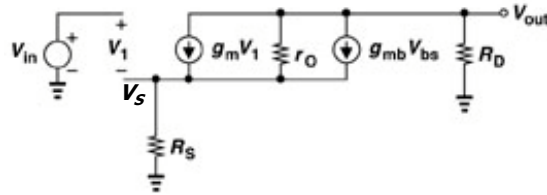
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## Voltage Gain of Degenerated CS

The current through  $R_S$  must equal that through  $R_D$ :

$$I_{R_D} = I_{R_S} = \frac{V_{out}}{R_D}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_S = -V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D}$$



The current through  $r_o$ : 
$$I_{r_o} = -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D} - (g_m V_1 + g_{mb} V_{BS})$$

$$I_{r_o} = -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D} - \left[ g_m \left( V_{in} + V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right) + g_{mb} V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right] \Rightarrow V_{out} = I_{r_o} r_o - \frac{V_{out}}{R_D} R_S$$

$$V_{out} = -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D} r_o - \left[ g_m \left( V_{in} + V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right) + g_{mb} V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right] r_o - V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = -\frac{g_m r_o R_D}{R_D + R_S + r_o + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S r_o}}$$

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### Voltage Gain of Degenerated CS

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = - \frac{g_m r_O R_D}{R_D + R_S + r_O + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S r_O}$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = - \frac{g_m r_O}{R_S + [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S] r_O} \frac{R_D [R_S + r_O + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S r_O]}{R_D + R_S + r_O + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S r_O}$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = G_m (R_{out} // R_D)$$

The output resistance of a degenerated CS stage:

$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S] r_O$$

The Transconductance of a degenerated CS stage:

$$G_m = \frac{I_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{g_m r_O}{R_S + [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S] r_O}$$

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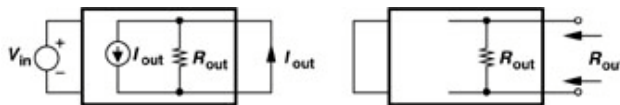
### General expression to calculate $A_v$ by inspection

Lemma:

$$A_v = -G_m R_{out}$$

$G_m$  : the transconductance of the circuit when the output is shorted to grounded.

$R_{out}$  : the output resistance of the circuit when the input voltage is set to zero.



- For high voltage gain the output resistance must be high!  
 → A "buffer" is needed to drive a low-impedance load.  
 The source follower can operate as a voltage buffer.

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## Single Stage Amplifiers

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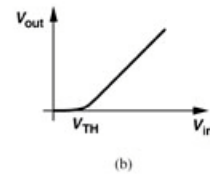
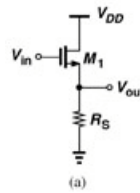
### Source Follower (Common Drain)

#### Large Signal Behavior

**M1 turns on in saturation:**

$$V_{out} = I_D R_S$$

$$V_{out} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH})^2 R_S$$



**To calculate  $g_m$  :**

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH}) \left(1 - \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} - \frac{\partial V_{TH}}{\partial V_{in}}\right) R_S$$

**Since,**  $V_{TH} = V_{TH0} + \gamma \left( \sqrt{2\Phi_F + V_{SB}} - \sqrt{2\Phi_F} \right)$

$$\frac{\partial V_{TH}}{\partial V_{in}} = \frac{\partial V_{TH}}{\partial V_{SB}} \frac{\partial V_{SB}}{\partial V_{in}} = \frac{\gamma}{2\sqrt{2\Phi_F + V_{SB}}} \frac{\partial V_{SB}}{\partial V_{in}}$$

$$= \eta \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}}$$

### Source Follower Voltage Gain

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH}) \left(1 - \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} - \frac{\partial V_{TH}}{\partial V_{in}}\right) R_S$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH}) \left(1 - \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} - \eta \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}}\right) R_S$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH}) R_S}{1 + \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH}) R_S (1 + \eta)}$$

We also have,  $g_m = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{out} - V_{TH})$

$$\Rightarrow Av = \frac{g_m R_S}{1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S}$$

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### Source Follower Voltage Gain

#### Small Signal Equivalent Circuit

$$V_{out} = [g_m V_1 + g_{mb} V_{BS}] R_S$$

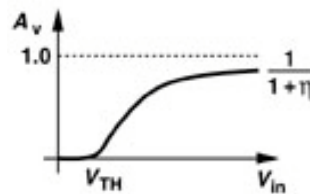
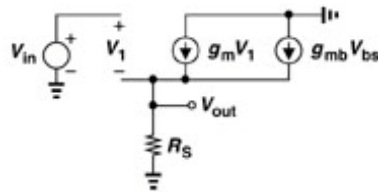
$$= [g_m (V_{in} - V_{out}) - g_{mb} V_{out}] R_S$$

$$\Rightarrow Av = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{g_m R_S}{1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S}$$

Since:  $g_{mb} = \eta g_m$

And for:  $g_m R_S \gg 1$

$$\Rightarrow Av \approx \frac{1}{(1 + \eta)}$$

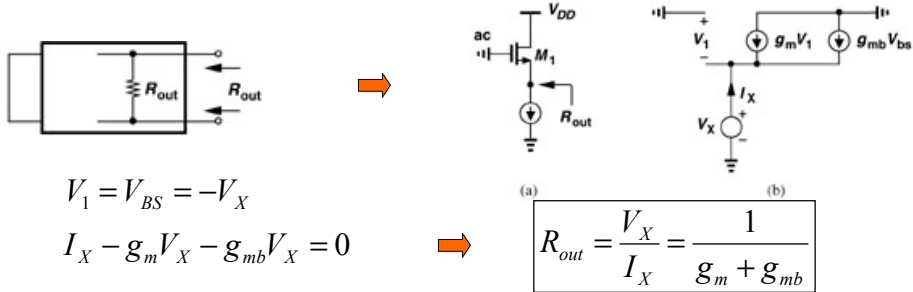


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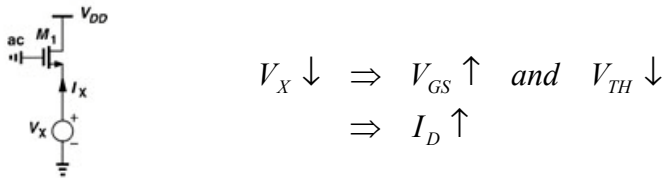
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## Source Follower Output Resistance

$R_{out}$  : the output resistance when the input voltage is set to zero.



**Body Effect** decreases the output resistance of source followers.



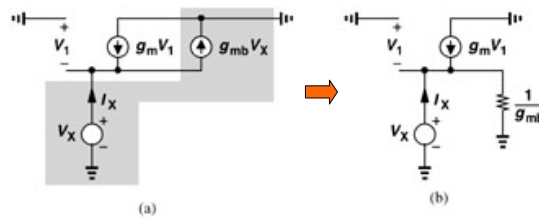
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## Source Follower body effect

$R_{out}$  : the output resistance when the input voltage is set to zero.

### Small Signal Model Simplification



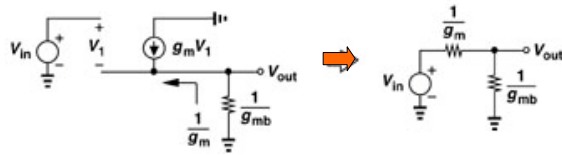
Note that the value of the current source  $g_{mb} V_{bs}$  is linearly proportional to the voltage across it.

$$R_{out} = \frac{1}{g_m} // \frac{1}{g_{mb}} = \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb}}$$

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### Source Follower Thévenin Equivalent

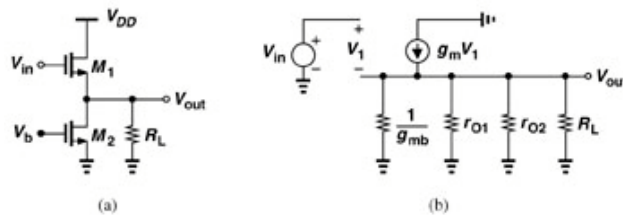


$$A_v = \frac{\frac{1}{g_{mb}}}{\frac{1}{g_m} + \frac{1}{g_{mb}}} = \frac{g_m}{g_m + g_{mb}}$$

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### Channel Length Modulation in M1 and M2



$$A_v = \frac{\frac{1}{g_{mb}} // r_{O1} // r_{O2} // R_L}{\frac{1}{g_{mb}} // r_{O1} // r_{O2} // R_L + \frac{1}{g_m}}$$

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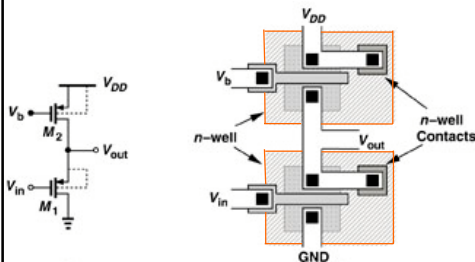
## Source Follower Characteristics

+ High input impedance and Moderate output impedance

- Nonlinearity

$$V_{TH} \propto \sqrt{V_{SB}}$$

PMOS source follower with  $V_{SB}=0$

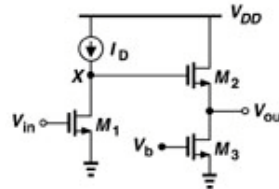


$$\begin{aligned} \mu_p < \mu_n &\Rightarrow g_{mp} < g_{mn} \\ &\Rightarrow R_{outp} > R_{outn} \end{aligned}$$

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- Limited voltage swing

Example:



Without the source follower stage:

$$V_X > V_{GS1} - V_{TH1}$$

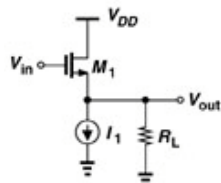
With the source follower stage:

$$V_X > V_{GS2} + (V_{GS3} - V_{TH3})$$

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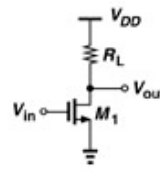
## Low Load Impedance: CS vs SF

Source Follower Amplifier



$$A_{vSF} \approx \frac{R_L}{R_L + 1/g_m}$$

Common Source Amplifier



$$A_{vCS} \approx -g_m R_L$$

Assuming  $R_L = 1/g_m$

$$A_{vSF} \approx 1/2$$

$$A_{vCS} \approx -1$$

➔ Source Followers are not necessarily efficient drivers.

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## Single Stage Amplifiers

- **Basic Concepts**
- **Common Source Stage**
- **Source Follower**
- **Common Gate Stage**
- **Cascode Stage**

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### Common Gate Stage

#### Large Signal Behavior

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - I_D R_D$$

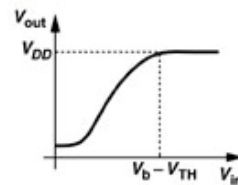
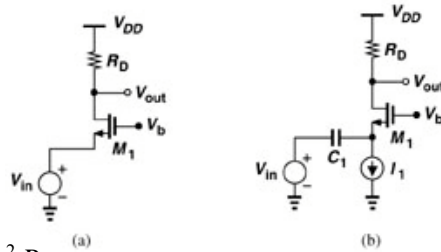
Assuming M1 in saturation:

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_b - V_{in} - V_{TH})^2 R_D$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = -\mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_b - V_{in} - V_{TH}) \left( -1 - \frac{\partial V_{TH}}{\partial V_{in}} \right) R_D$$

$$\frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_b - V_{in} - V_{TH}) (1 + \eta) R_D$$

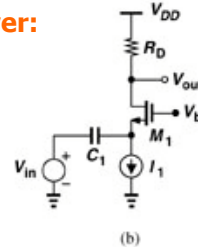
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A_v = g_m (1 + \eta) R_D}$$



## Common Gate Stage Input Resistance

Same as Output Resistance of Source Follower:

$$R_{in} = \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb}}$$

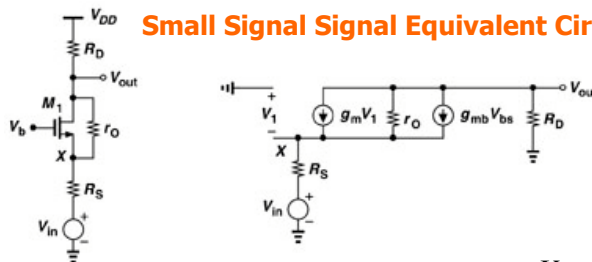


Body Effect:

- increases  $A_v$
- decreases  $R_{in}$

## Common Gate Gain

Small Signal Signal Equivalent Circuit



The current through  $R_S$  is equal to  $-V_{out}/R_D$ :  $V_1 - \frac{V_{out}}{R_D} R_S + V_{in} = 0$

The current through  $r_O$  is equal to  $-V_{out}/R_D - g_m V_1 - g_{mb} V_1$ :

$$r_O \left( \frac{-V_{out}}{R_D} - g_m V_1 - g_{mb} V_1 \right) - \frac{V_{out}}{R_D} R_S + V_{in} = V_{out}$$

$$r_O \left[ \frac{-V_{out}}{R_D} - (g_m + g_{mb}) \left( V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} - V_{in} \right) \right] - \frac{V_{out}}{R_D} R_S + V_{in} = V_{out}$$

## Common Gate Gain

### Common Gate Amplifier:

$$A_{vCG} = \frac{(g_m + g_{mb})r_o + 1}{R_D + R_S + r_o + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o R_S} R_D$$

### Degenerated Common Source Amplifier:

$$A_{vCS} = -\frac{g_m r_o}{R_D + R_S + r_o + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o R_S} R_D$$

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## Common Gate Stage Input Resistance

Since  $V_I = -V_X$ :

$$V_X = R_D I_X + r_o [I_X - (g_m + g_{mb})V_X]$$

$$\frac{V_X}{I_X} = \frac{R_D + r_o}{1 + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o}$$

$$R_{in} \approx \frac{R_D}{(g_m + g_{mb})r_o} + \frac{1}{(g_m + g_{mb})}$$

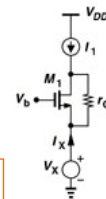
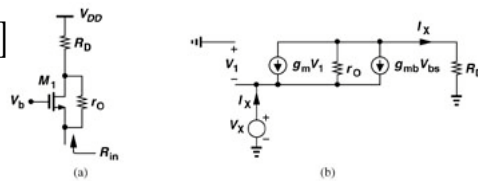
• Assume  $R_D = 0$  :

$$R_{in} = \frac{1}{1/r_o + (g_m + g_{mb})}$$

• Replace  $R_D$  by ideal current source:

$$R_{in} = \infty$$

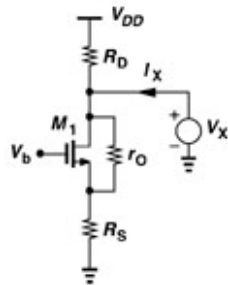
➔  $R_{in}$  of a common gate stage is low only if  $R_D$  is small.



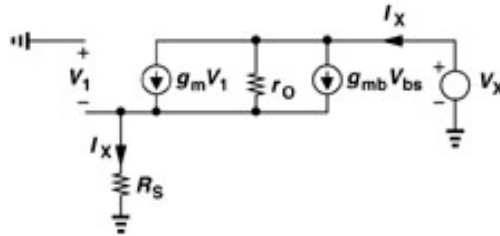
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## Common Gate Stage Output Impedance



Similar to Output Impedance of a Degenerated Common Source Stage



$$R_{out} = ([1 + (g_m + g_{mb})r_O]R_S + r_O) // R_D$$

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## Single Stage Amplifiers

- **Basic Concepts**
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- **Source Follower**
- **Common Gate Stage**
- **Cascode Stage**

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## Biasing of a Cascode Stage

The cascade of CS stage and a CG stage is called "cascode".

M1 : the input device  
M2 : the cascode device

Biasing conditions:

• M1 in saturation:

$$V_X = V_b - V_{GS2}$$

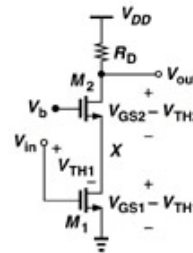
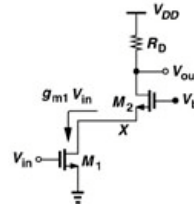
$$V_b - V_{GS2} \geq V_{in} - V_{TH1}$$

$$V_b \geq V_{in} + V_{GS2} - V_{TH1}$$

• M2 in saturation:

$$V_{out} - V_X \geq V_b - V_X - V_{TH2}$$

$$V_{out} \geq V_{in} - V_{TH1} + V_{GS2} - V_{TH2}$$



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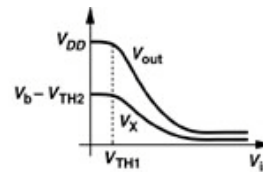
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## Cascode Stage Characteristics

Large signal behavior:

As  $V_{in}$  goes from zero to  $V_{DD}$   
For  $V_{in} < V_{TH}$  M1 and M2 are OFF

$$\Rightarrow V_{out} = V_{DD}$$



Output Resistance:

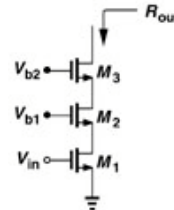
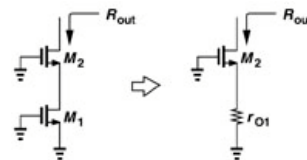
• Same common source stage with a degeneration resistor equal to  $r_{O1}$

$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{O2}]r_{O1} + r_{O2}$$

$$R_{out} \approx (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{O2}r_{O1}$$

• M2 boosts the output impedance of M1 by a factor of  $g_m r_{O2}$

• Triple cascode  $R_{out} \uparrow\uparrow$   
 $\Rightarrow$  difficult biasing at low supply voltage.



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## Cascode Stage Voltage Gain

$$A_v = -G_m R_{out}$$

$$G_m \approx g_{m1}$$

**Ideal Current Source:**

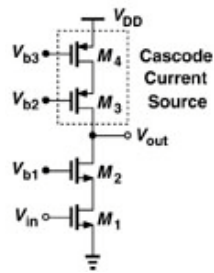
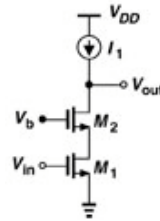
$$R_{out} \approx (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{O2}r_{O1}$$

$$A_v \approx (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{O2} g_{m1}r_{O1}$$

**Cascode Current Source:**

$$R_{out} \approx g_{m2}r_{O2}r_{O1} // g_{m3}r_{O3}r_{O4}$$

$$A_v \approx g_{m1}(g_{m2}r_{O2}r_{O1} // g_{m3}r_{O3}r_{O4})$$



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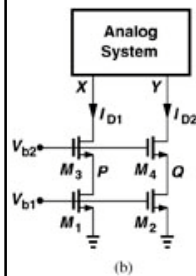
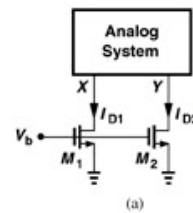
## Shielding Property

Assume  $V_x$  is higher than  $V_y$  by  $\Delta V$ .

Calculate the resulting difference between  $I_{D1}$  and  $I_{D2}$  (with  $\lambda \neq 0$ ).

$$I_{D1} - I_{D2} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox} W}{2 L} (V_b - V_{TH})^2 (\lambda V_{DS1} - \lambda V_{DS2})$$

$$I_{D1} - I_{D2} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox} W}{2 L} (V_b - V_{TH})^2 (\lambda \Delta V_{DS})$$



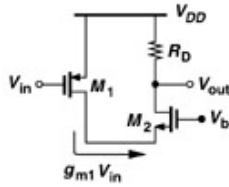
$$\Delta V_{PQ} = \Delta V \frac{r_{O1}}{[1 + (g_{m3} + g_{mb3})r_{O3}]r_{O1} + r_{O3}} \approx \frac{\Delta V}{(g_{m3} + g_{mb3})r_{O3}}$$

$$I_{D1} - I_{D2} = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox} W}{2 L} (V_b - V_{TH})^2 \frac{\lambda \Delta V}{(g_{m3} + g_{mb3})r_{O3}}$$

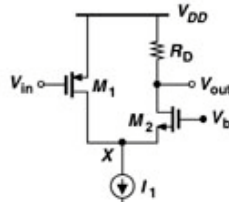
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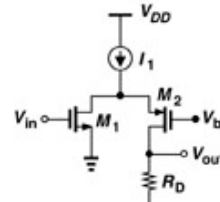
## Folded Cascode



Simple Folded Cascode

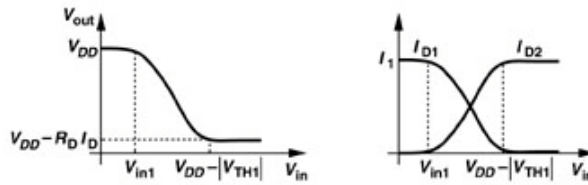


Folded Cascode with biasing



Folded Cascode with NMOS input

### Large Signal Characteristics:



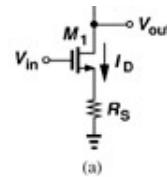
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## Output Resistance of Folded Cascode

### Degenerated Common Source Stage:

$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_{m1} + g_{mb1})r_{o1}]R_S + r_{o1}$$

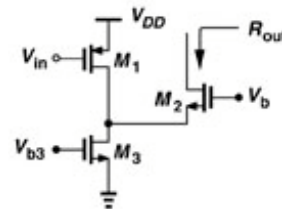


### Folded Cascode Stage:

$$M_1 \Rightarrow M_2$$

$$R_S \Rightarrow r_{o1} // r_{o3}$$

$$R_{out} = [1 + (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{o2}](r_{o1} // r_{o3}) + r_{o2}$$



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