Fast-Transient Low-Dropout Regulator

Main Points

- Introduction
- Design specs
- Design methodology
- Simulation results
- Design challenges

Introduction

1. Who are we

2. Our goals
   Robust power management unit

3. What is an LDO
   Is it really an LDO?

Design Specs

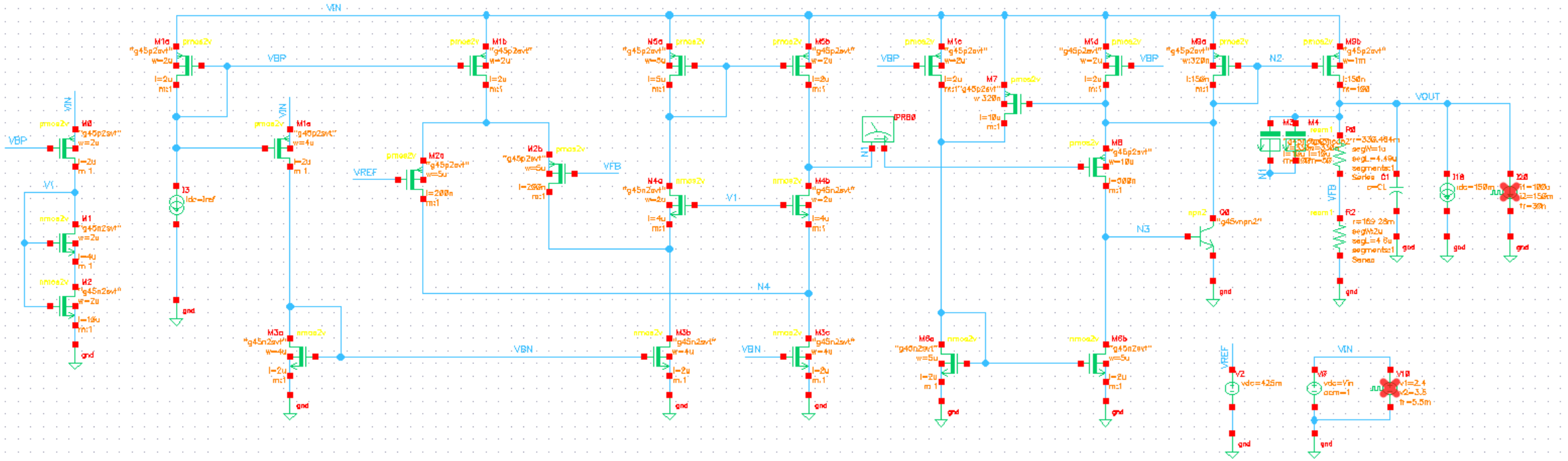
Design Methodology

- LDO Topology

We want a stable fast-transient topology

- Error Amplifier's Topology

How is the input and output's swings?



Design Methodology

- Static gain error

Map it into $V_{ref}, \beta \; and \; A_{v_{error\; amplifier}}$.

- Stability constraints

Hard to achieve. What about Miller compensation?

- Load and Line regulation

How to make the current change negligible?

- Achieving PSR proposals

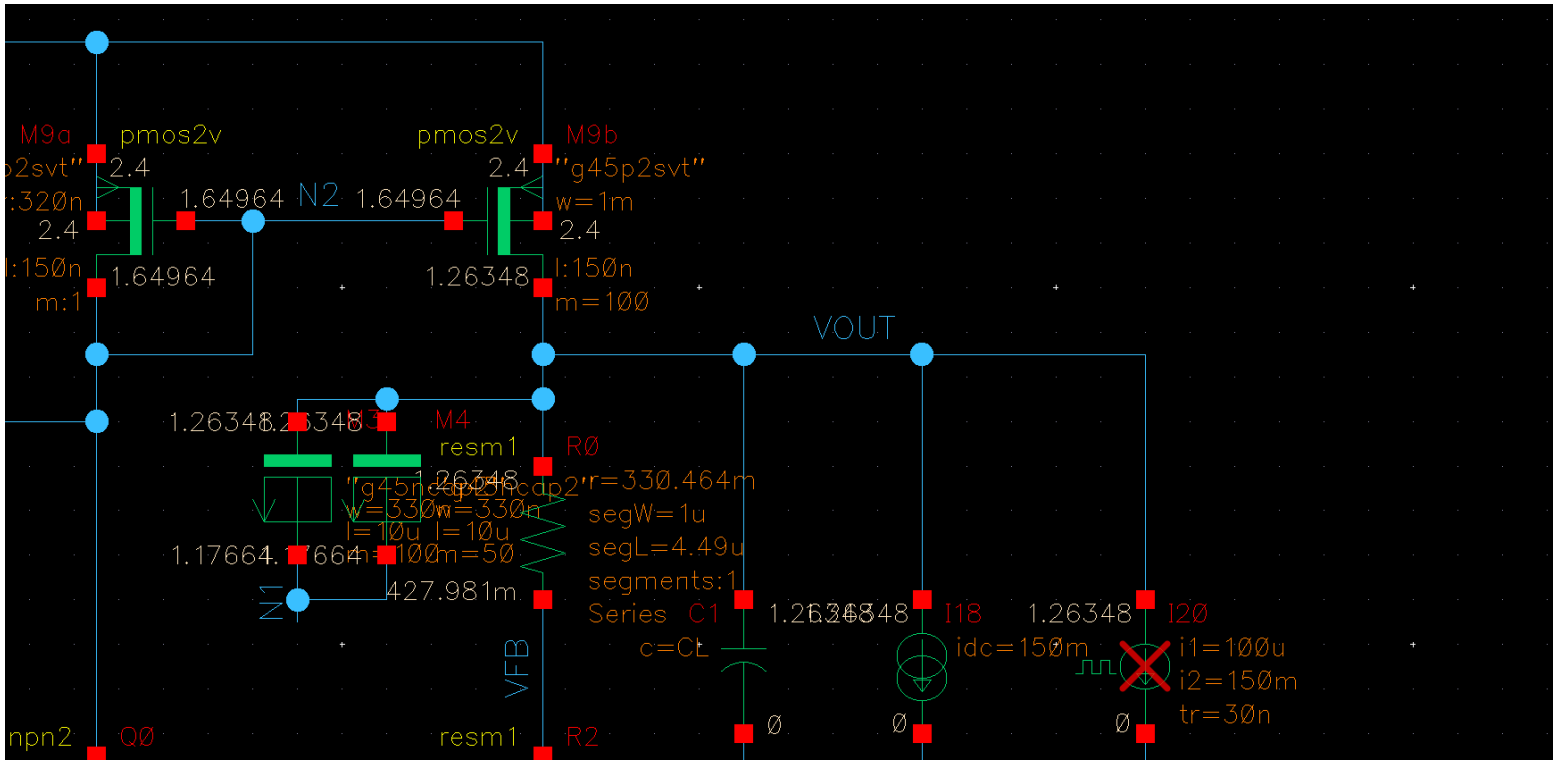
Simulation Results

1. DC operating parameters simulation
2. Transient load simulation
3. Transient input simulation
4. Stability analysis and PSR
5. Figure of merit
6. Specs achieved

DC OP Simulation

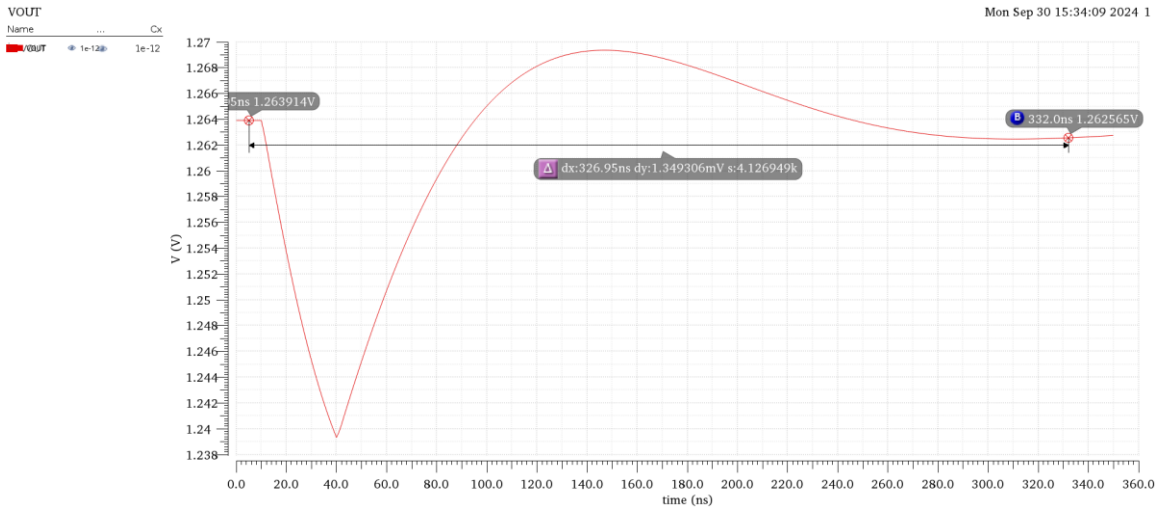
1. Max output error

Evaluated at Minimum $loop\ gain$ (minimum V_{in} &minimum β)



Transient Load Simulation

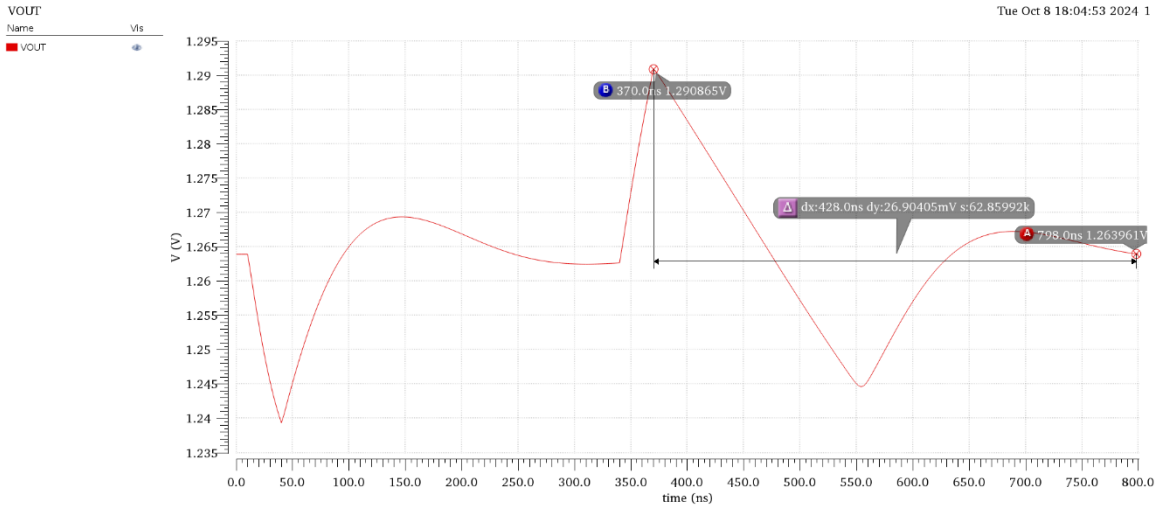
1. Load regulation



Transient Load Simulation

1. Load regulation

2. Overshoot

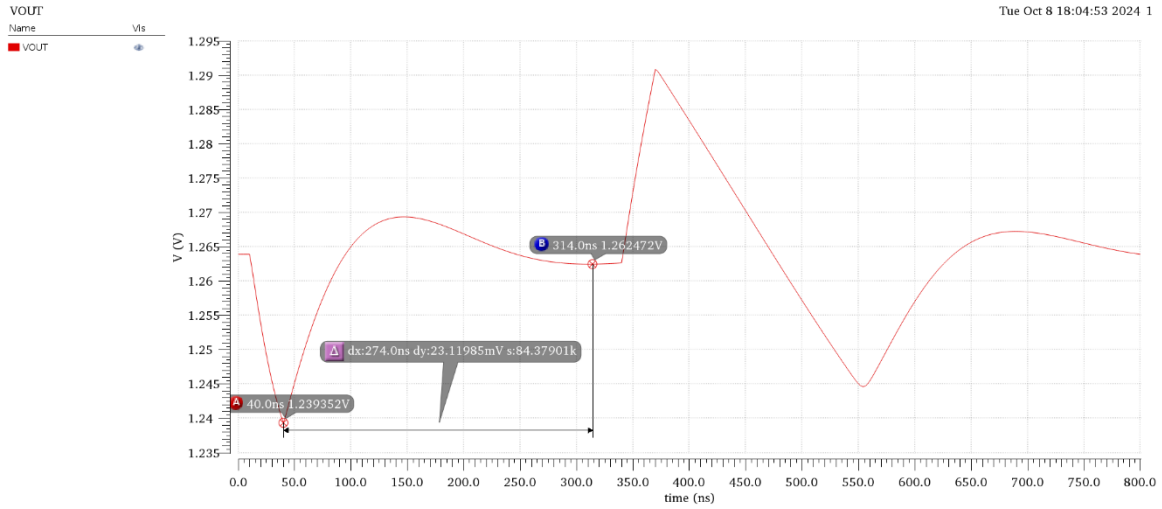


Transient Load Simulation

1. Load regulation

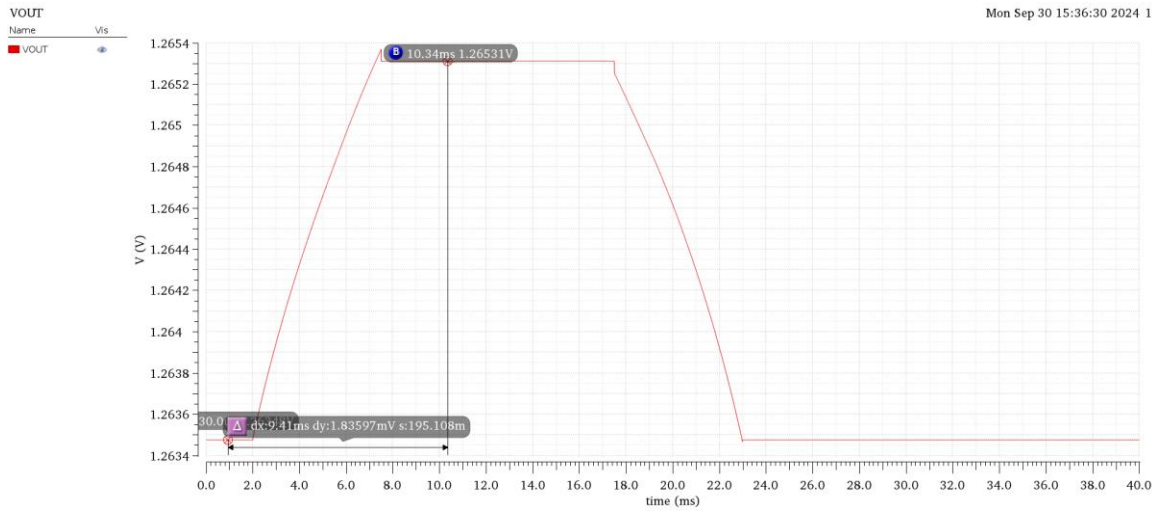
2. Overshoot

3. Undershoot



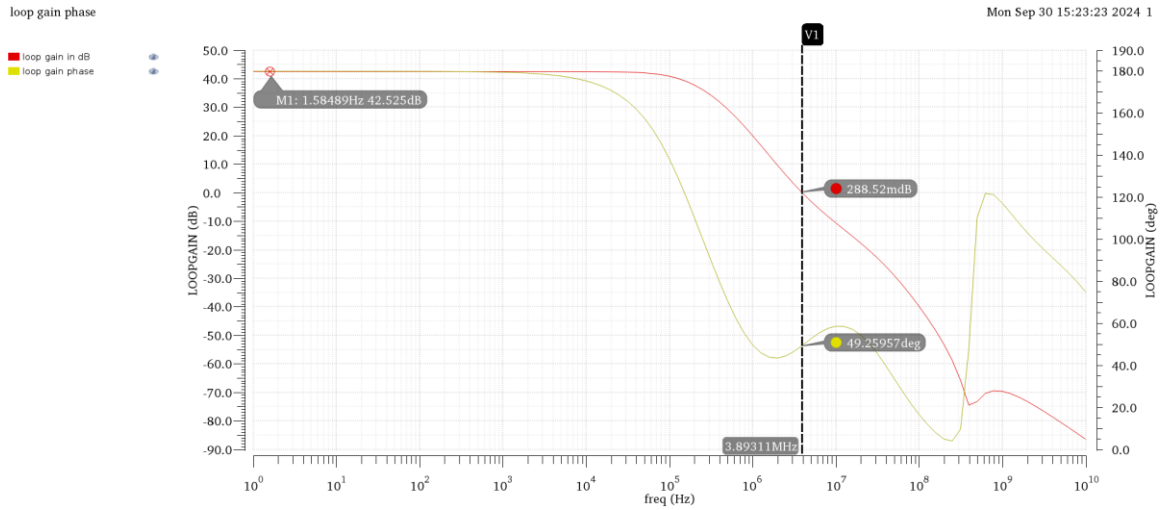
Transient Load Simulation

1. Line regulation



Stability Analysis and PSR

1. Phase Margin



Stability Analysis and PSR

1. Phase Margin

2. PSR

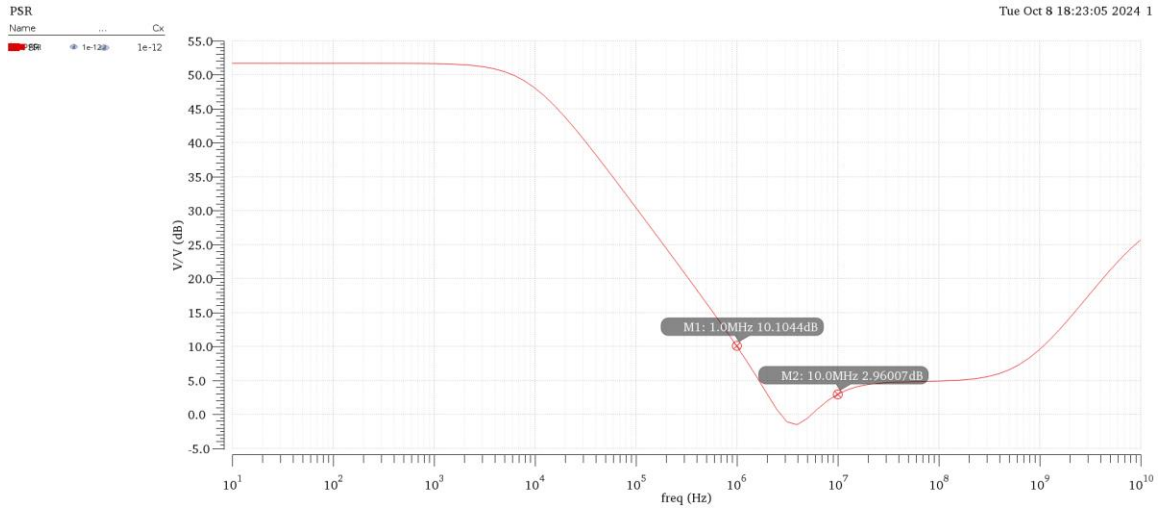


Figure of Merit

$$FOM = \frac{C_L * \Delta V_{out} * I_Q}{I_{L,max}^2} = 2.16 * 10^{-6}\ (ns)$$

Achieved Specs

Spec	Required	Achieved
Technology used	$45nm\ CMOS$	
Supply Voltage	$2.4\ V \rightarrow 3.5\ V$	–
Output Voltage	$0.85\ V \rightarrow 1.25\ V$	–
Untrimmed output voltage accuracy	$< \pm 6\%$	1%
Load Current	$0.1\ mA \rightarrow 150\ mA$	–
Undershoot/Overshoot	$< 50\ mV$	$27\ mV$
Phase margin	$> 45^o$	49^o
Max Load Capacitance	$1\ nF$	–
Line Regulation	$< 2\ mV/V$	$1.7\ mV/V$
Load Regulation	$< 50\ mV/A$	$9\ mV/A$
Power Supply Rejection at 1 MHz	$30\ dB$	$10\ dB$
Power Supply Rejection at 10 MHz	$20\ dB$	$4\ dB$
FOM	–	$2.16 * 10^{-6}\ (ns)$

Design Challenges

1. PSR
   Bypass device length, low-pass filter and El-Nozahy's paper

2. Load regulation
   Magical mismatch effect

3. Line regulation
   Decrease the bypass current change

Thank You

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