



Electrical and Computer Engineering Department

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ECE 2200L:

Experiment Number 8

Current-Voltage Characteristics of the Junction Field Effect

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Background Information:

This experiment explores the current-voltage characteristics of the Junction Field Effect Transistor (JFET). The primary objective is to analyze the relationships between terminal currents and voltages within the JFET, gaining insight into key parameters such as the saturation current (I_{dss}) and pinch-off voltage (V_p). The experiment includes both simulation and practical measurement components. Using DC sweep simulation, the transfer characteristic is obtained by varying gate-to-source voltage (V_{gs}) to determine the drain current (I_d) response. Additionally, a DC bias simulation of a self-biased circuit is performed to identify the operating points, including V_{ds} and I_d . These results are then cross-referenced with theoretical hand calculations to ensure accuracy. This comprehensive study provides practical experience with the JFET's behavior, bridging theoretical concepts and real-world measurements essential for understanding high-speed semiconductor devices.

Objective:

To study the relationships between the terminal currents and terminal voltages in the Junction Field Effect Transistor (JFET). A JFET is another useful 3-terminal device that has structure and characteristics very similar to Metal Semiconductor Field Effect Transistors (MESFET) used in high-speed III-V compound-based semiconductor devices.

Pre-Lab:

Read and understand the characteristic and parameters of JFET.

- 1) Find the Transfer Characteristic of JFET by running “DC sweep Simulation”.

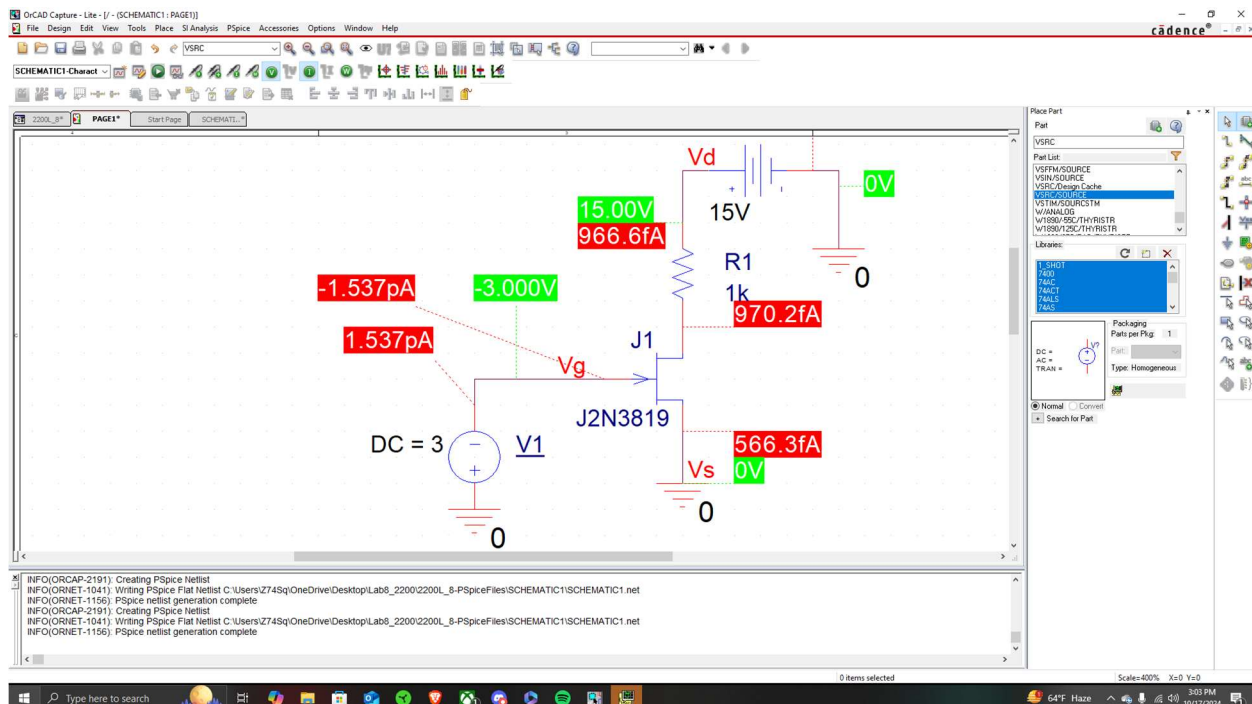
Sweep the V_{gs} for given range to get a plot I_d as a function of V_{gs} .

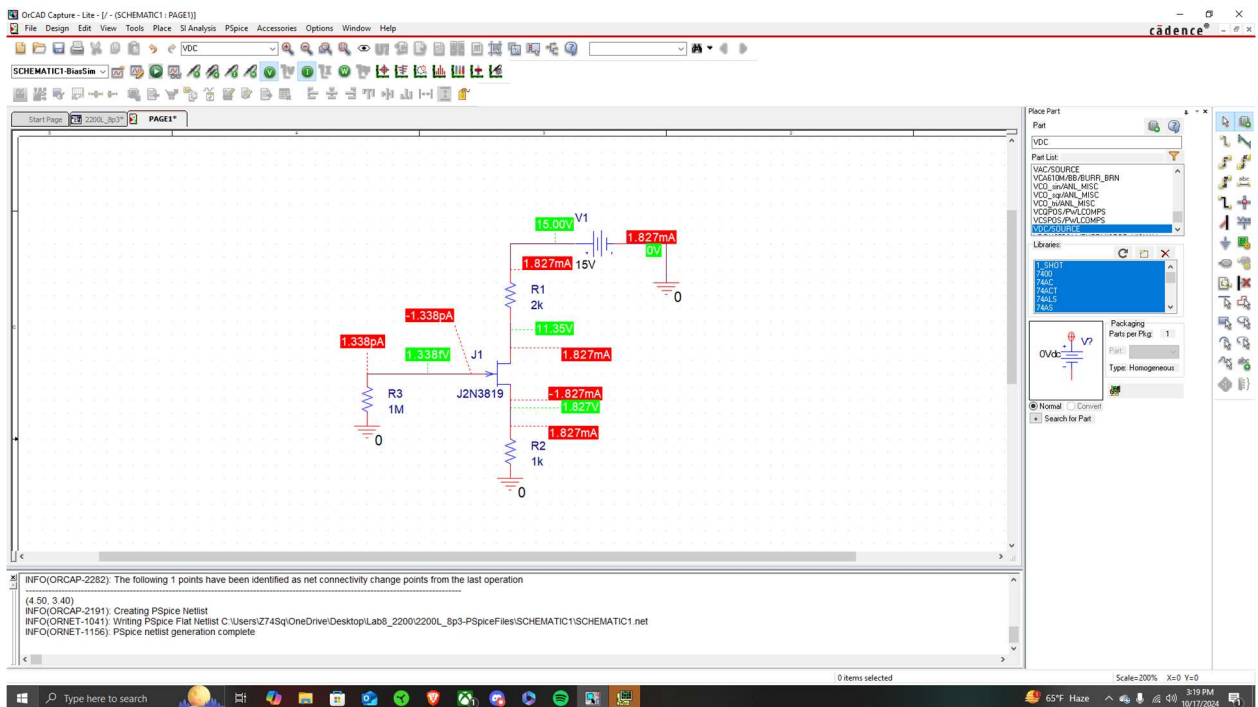
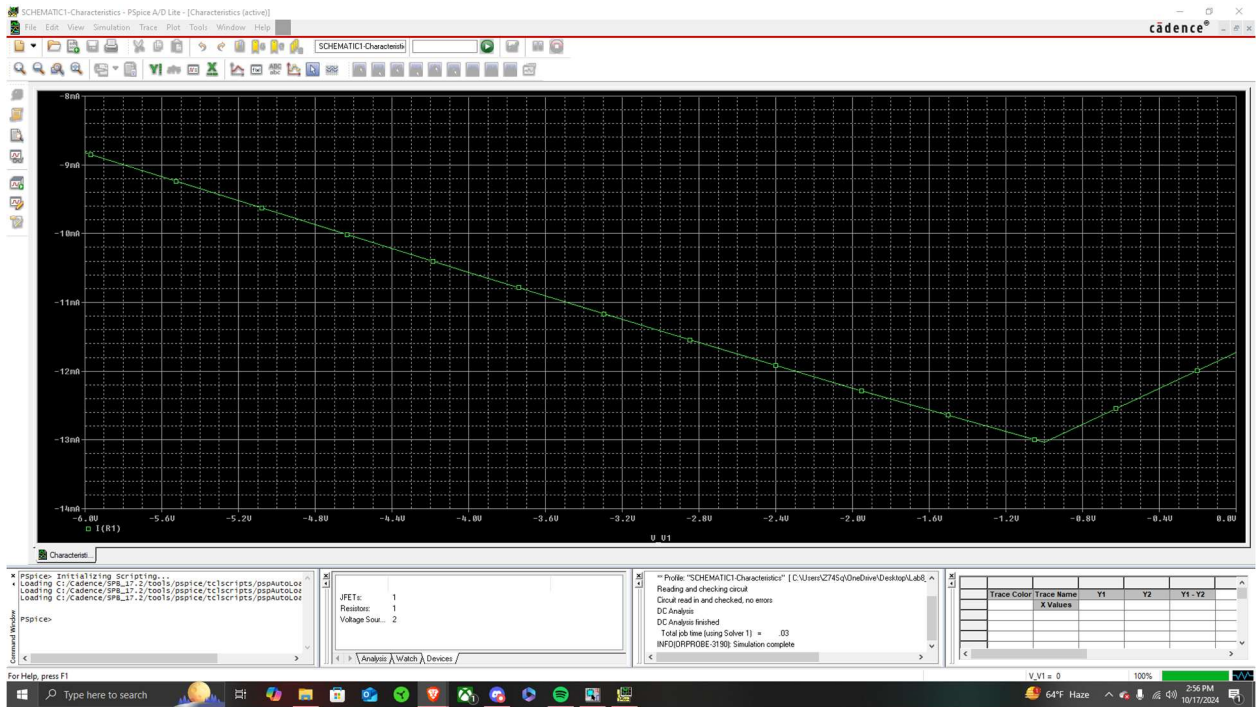
- 2) From the Transfer Characteristic find JFET parameters:

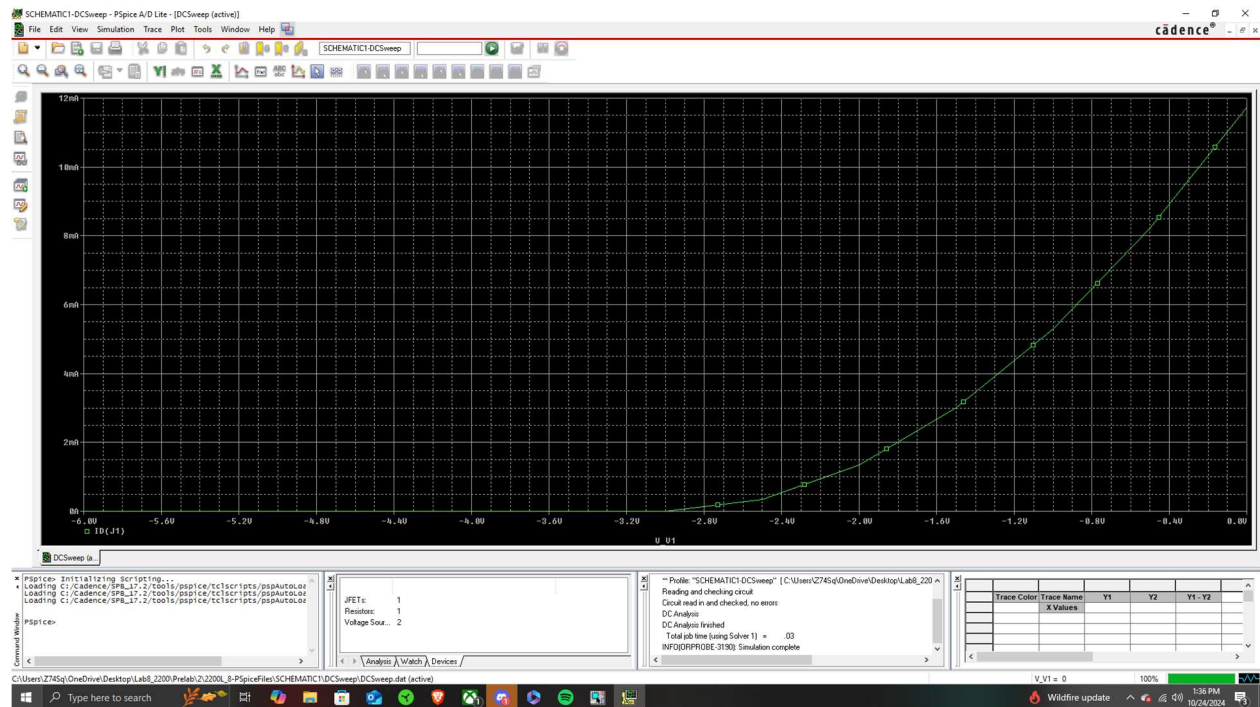
Saturation Current (I_{dss})

Pinch-off voltage (V_p).

- 3) Run “DC Bias Simulation” for the “Self-Biased Circuit” to find V_{ds} and I_d .
- 4) Find I_d by hand calculation as explained in lecture notes. Using the value of I_d , find V_{ds} . Make a table and compare your simulation (part 3) and hand calculations.







Hand calculations/derivation

$$I_D = I_{Dss} \left(1 - \frac{R_S I_D}{V_P} \right)^2$$

$$V_P = V_{gs} \text{ when } I_D = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{I_D}{I_{Dss}}} + \frac{R_S I_D}{V_P} = 1$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{(R_S I_D)^2}{V_P^2} + \frac{I_D}{I_{Dss}} - 1 = 0$$

Table data

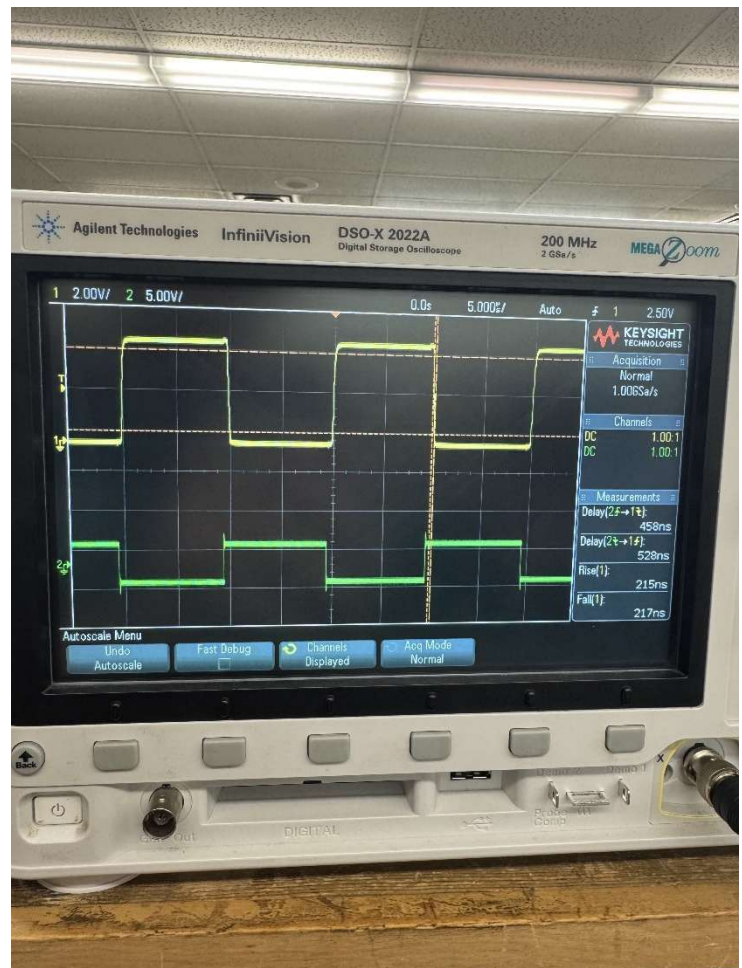
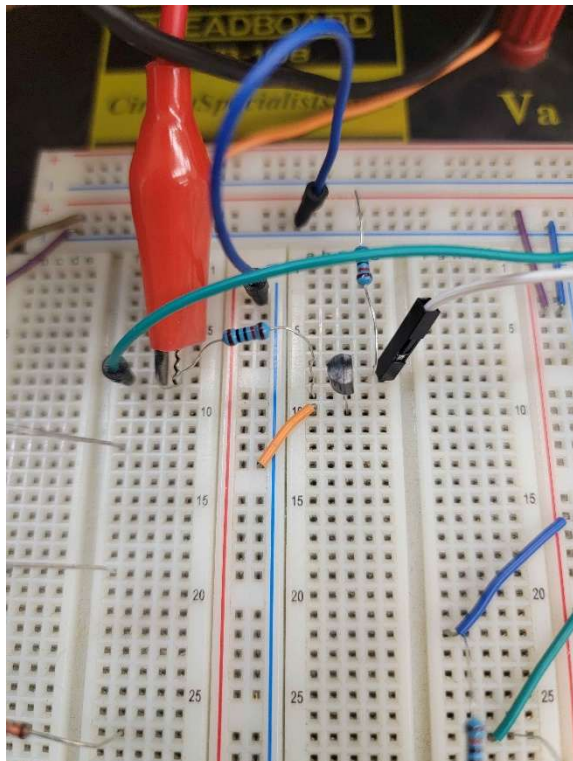
Vgs (V)	Id (mA)
-6.0	0.0
-5.5	0.1
-5.0	0.3
-4.5	0.7
-4.0	1.5
-3.5	2.5
-3.0	3.8
-2.5	5.5
-2.0	7.5
-1.5	9.2
-1.0	10.5
-0.5	11.8
0.0	12.0

List of Parts:

- 3819 JFET (or equivalent), part number for PSpice is J2N3819.
- Resistors; 100Ω, 1KΩ, 100KΩ

Lab Report:

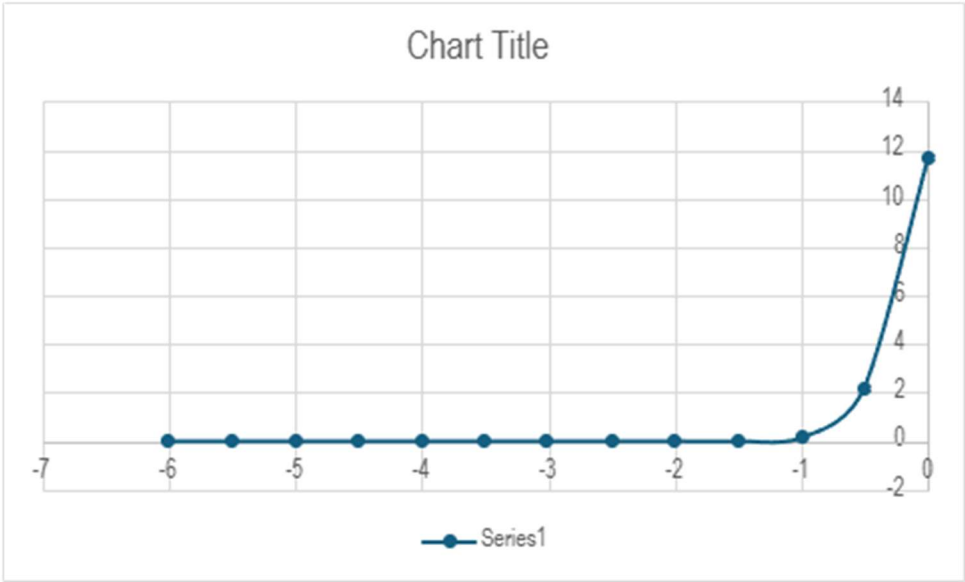
- 1) Find the Transfer Characteristic of JFET by changing V_{gs} for given values and find the Drain current (I_d) for each.
Complete a table and plot the Transfer Characteristic.
- 2) From the Transfer Characteristic find JFET parameters:
Saturation Current (I_{dss})
Pinch-off voltage (V_p).
- 3) Construct the “self-biased circuit” and measure the operating points of the JFET (V_{DS} , I_D).
- 4) Use the JFET equation to find the drain current I_D . Then find the JFET operating point (V_{DS} , I_D).
- 5) Compare the operating points from prelab and parts 3 and 4 of the experiment.



Procedure 1

Idss (first one)

Vgs (V)	Vrd (V)	Id (mA)
0.00	11.787	11.67376
-0.51	2.1628	2.142022
-1.00	0.140	0.138655
-1.50	0	0
-2.01	0	0
-2.50	0	0
-3.01	0	0
-3.50	0	0
-4.00	0	0
-4.50	0	0
-5.00	0	0
-5.50	0	0
-6.00	0	0



Procedure 3

Parameter	Measured	Calculated	Simulation
Vds (V)	13.087	12.12132	9.523
Id (mA)	0.637076	0.951	1.827

Procedure 5

	Parameter	Calculated	Simulation	Deviation	% Error	
1	Vds (V)	12.12132	9.523	2.598320000000001	21.43594922005195	
2	Id (mA)	0.951	1.827	-0.876	92.11356466876973	

Conclusion:

This experiment demonstrated the current-voltage characteristics of the JFET through simulation and practical measurements. Key parameters like saturation current (I_{DSS}) and pinch-off voltage (V_p) were extracted, and the self-biased circuit provided insights into operating points (V_{ds} , I_d). While some discrepancies were observed between theoretical, simulated, and measured results, these highlighted the impact of real-world factors. Overall, the lab reinforced key concepts, linking theory with practical application essential for understanding JFET behavior.