VE320 – Summer 2021

Introduction to Semiconductor Devices

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Chapter 11 Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor Field Effect Transistors: More Concepts

Outline

Nonideal Effects:

11.1 Subthreshold conduction

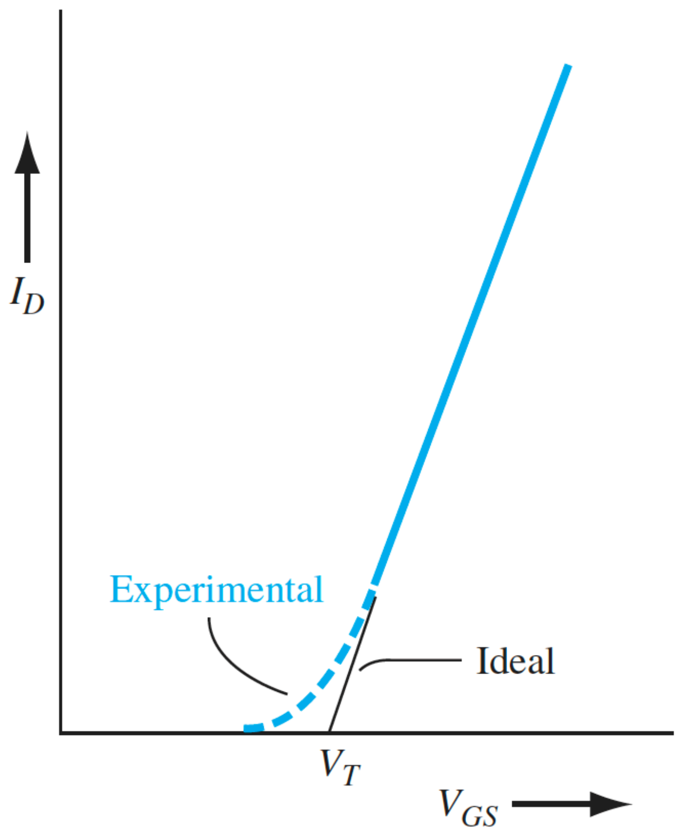
11.2 Channel length modulation

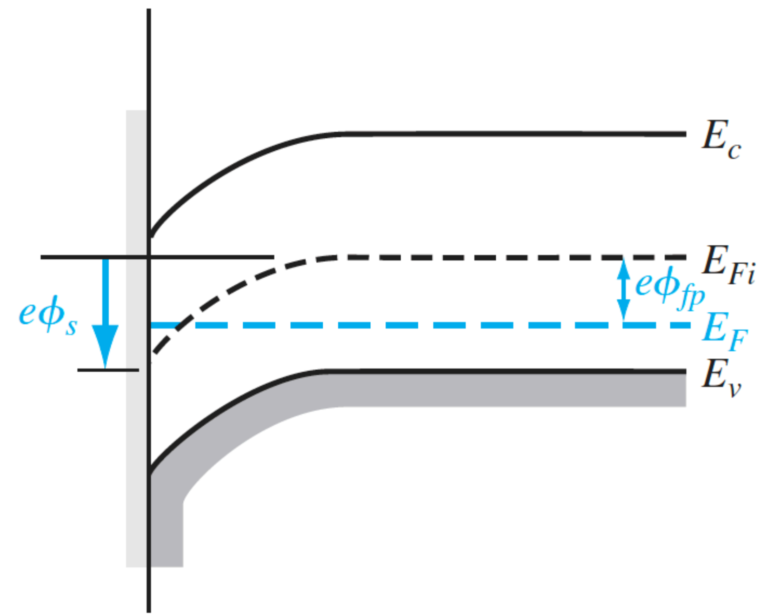
11.3 Velocity Saturation

11.4 Short Channel Effect

11.1 Subthreshold conduction

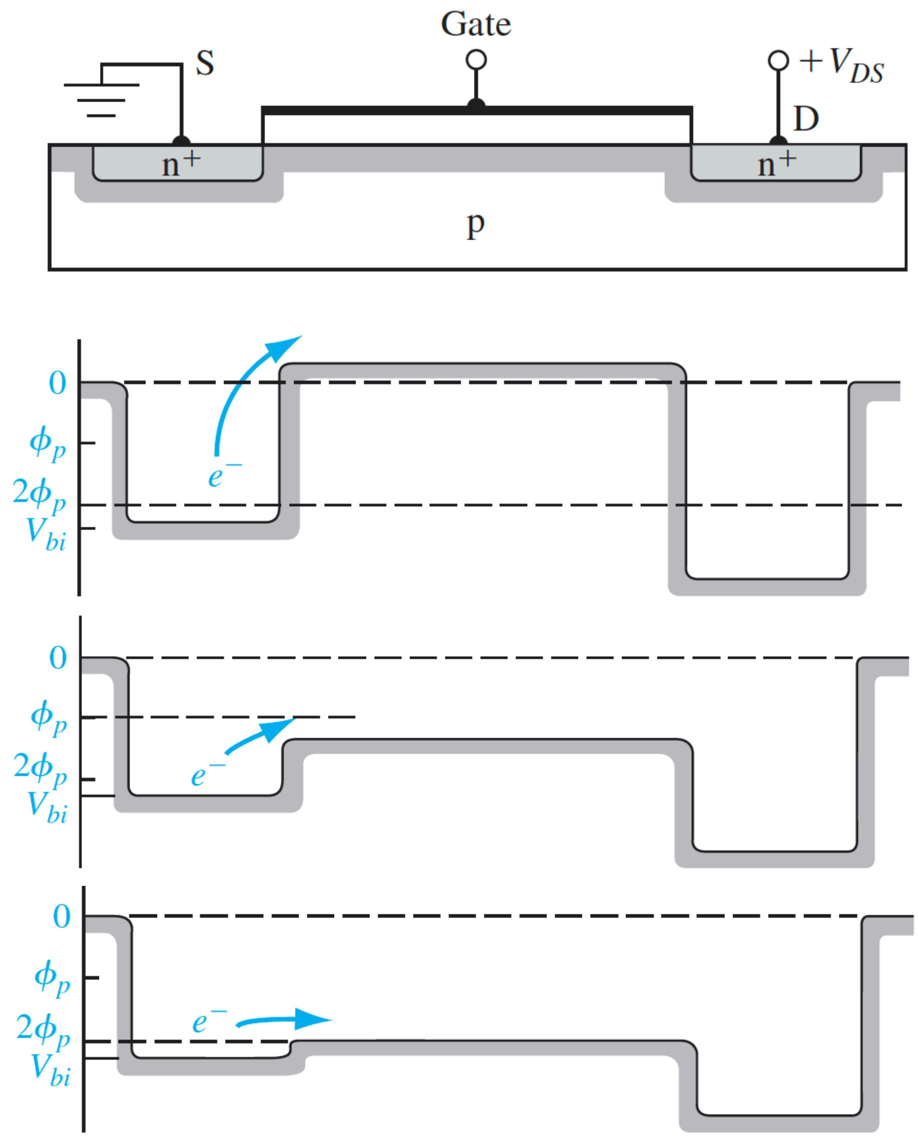
$$V_{GS} < V_T$$





$$\phi_{fp} < \phi_s < 2\phi_{fp}.$$

11.1 Subthreshold conduction



Accumulation

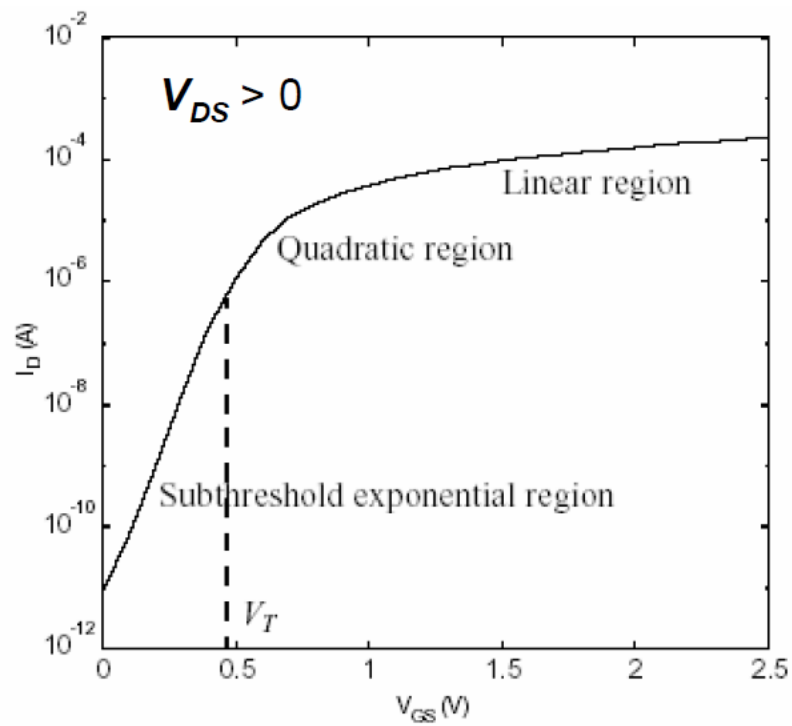
Weak inversion

Inversion

11.1 Subthreshold conduction

Subthreshold Conduction (Leakage Current)

- The transition from the ON state to the OFF state is gradual. This can be seen more clearly when I_D is plotted on a logarithmic scale:



- In the subthreshold ($V_{GS} < V_T$) region,

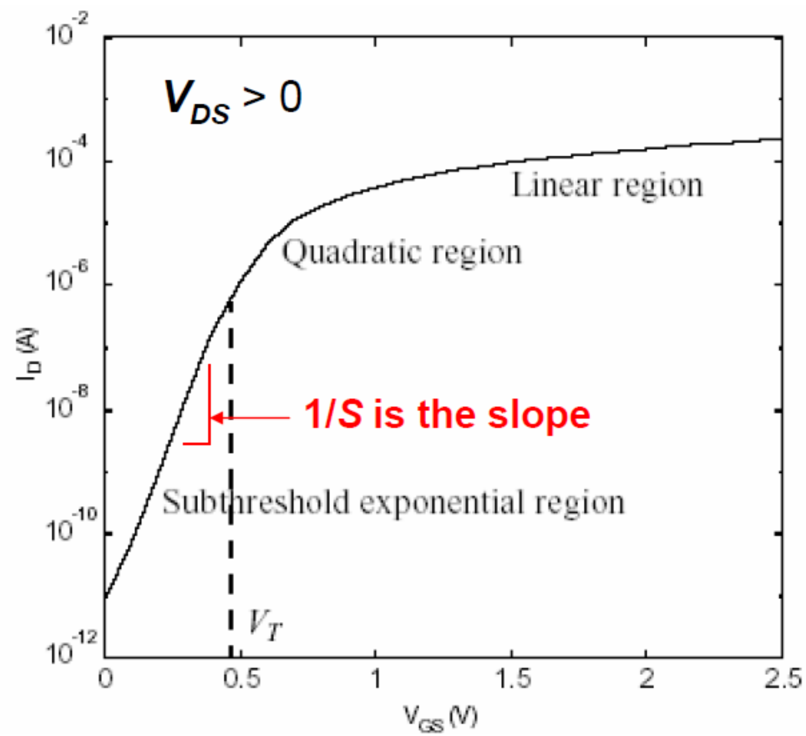
$$I_D \propto \exp\left(\frac{qV_{GS}}{nkT}\right)$$

This is essentially the channel-source pn junction current.
(Some electrons diffuse from the source into the channel, if this pn junction is forward biased.)

11.1 Subthreshold conduction

Slope Factor (or Subthreshold Swing) *S*

- ***S*** is defined to be the inverse slope of the log (I_D) *vs.* V_{GS} characteristic in the subthreshold region:



$$\boxed{S \equiv n\left(\frac{kT}{q}\right)\ln(10)}$$

Units: Volts per decade

Note that ***S*** $\geq$ 60 mV/dec at room temperature:

$$\left(\frac{kT}{q}\right)\ln(10) = 60\,\mathrm{mV}$$

11.1 Subthreshold conduction

V_T Design Trade-Off

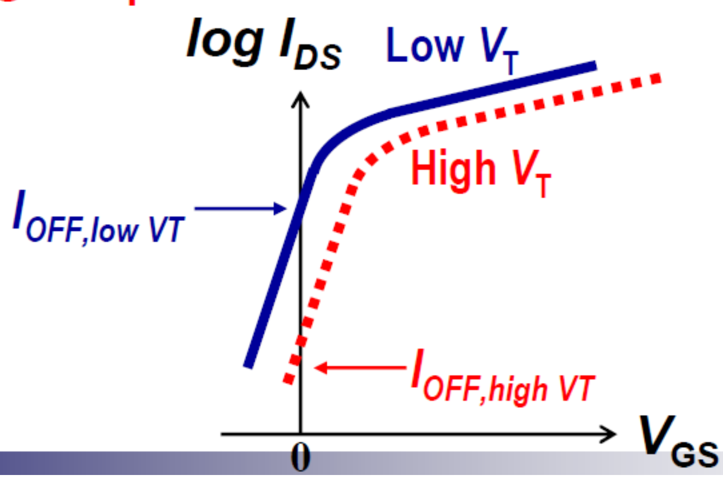
(Important consideration for digital-circuit applications)

- Low V_T is desirable for high ON current

$$I_{DSAT} \propto (V_{DD} - V_T)^{\eta} \qquad 1 < \eta < 2$$

where V_{DD} is the power-supply voltage

...but high V_T is needed for low OFF current



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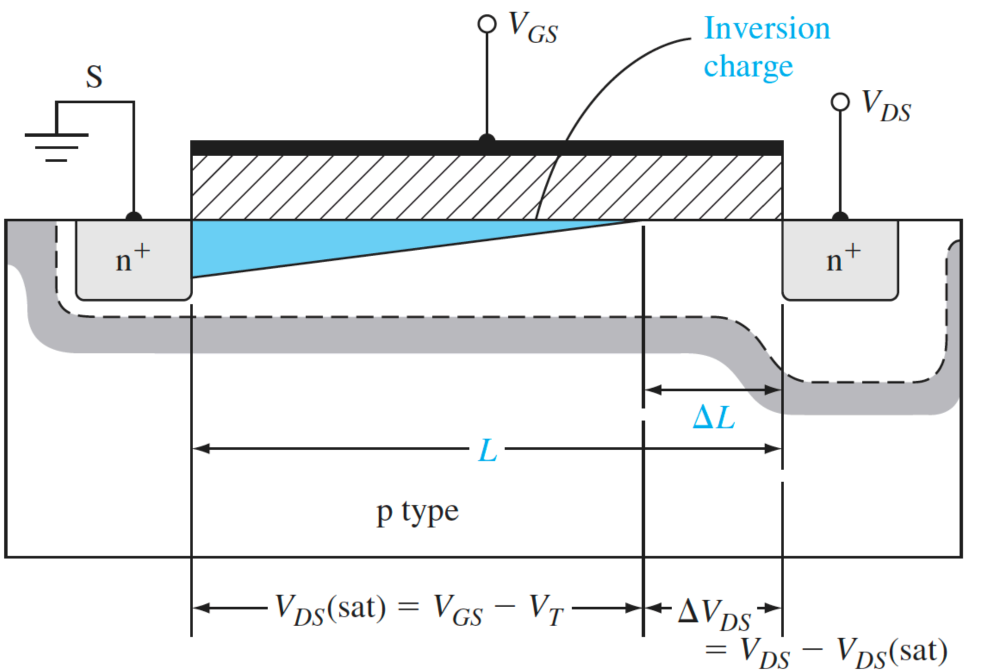
11.2 Channel length modulation



$$I'_D = \frac{k'_n}{2} \cdot \frac{W}{L} \cdot \left[(V_{GS} - V_T)^2 (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \right]$$

11.2 Channel length modulation

$$I_D = \begin{cases} 0 & V_{GS} - V_T < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}\mu_n C_{ox}\frac{W}{L}(V_{GS} - V_T)^2 & 0 \le V_{GS} - V_T < V_{DS} \\ \mu_n C_{ox}\frac{W}{L}[(V_{GS} - V_T)V_{DS} - \frac{1}{2}V_{DS}^2] & V_{GS} - V_T \ge V_{DS} \end{cases}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$I_D = \begin{cases} \sim \exp\left(\frac{eV_{GS}}{nkT}\right)[1 - \exp(\frac{-eV_{DS}}{kT})] & V_{GS} - V_T < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}\mu_n C_{ox}\frac{W}{L}(V_{GS} - V_T)^2(1 + \lambda V_{DS}) & 0 \le V_{GS} - V_T < V_{DS} \\ \mu_n C_{ox}\frac{W}{L}[(V_{GS} - V_T)V_{DS} - \frac{1}{2}V_{DS}^2] & V_{GS} - V_T \ge V_{DS} \end{cases}$$

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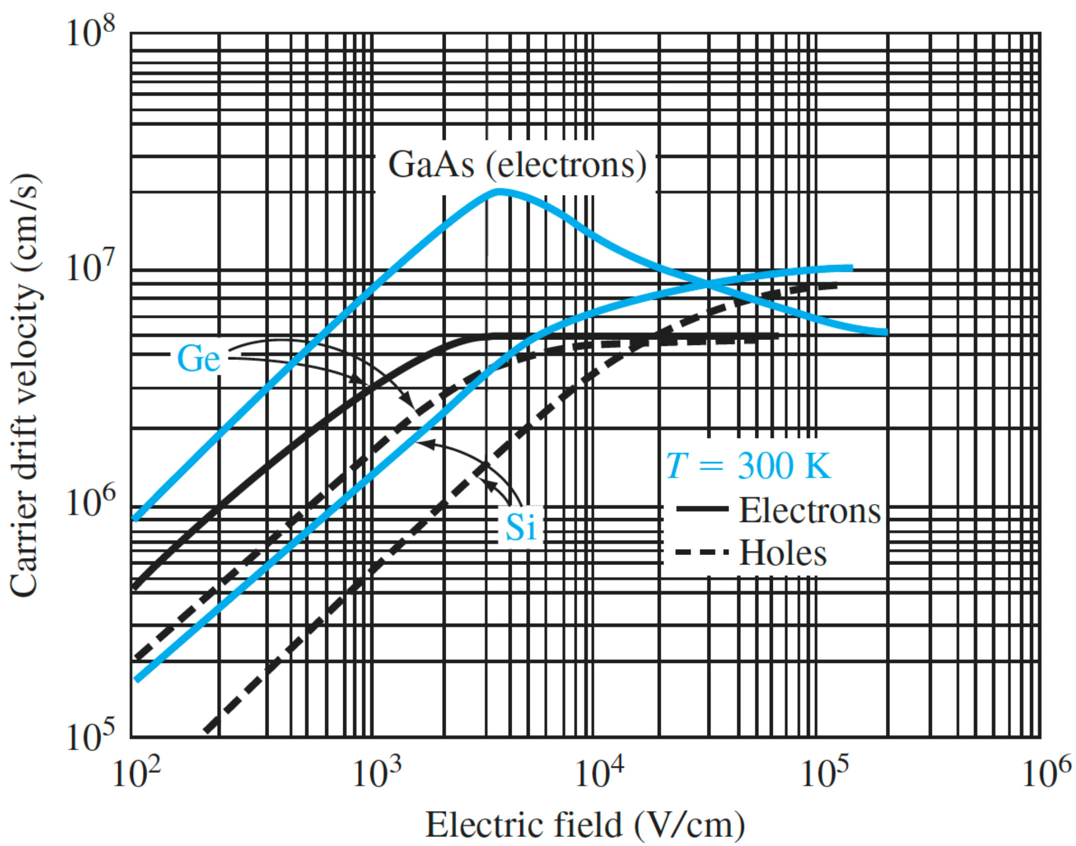
11.3 Velocity Saturation

$$\boxed{v_d \rightarrow v_{th}}$$

- Electric field is heating up electrons
- Electrons transfer energy to lattice to reach thermal equilibrium



$$v_n = \frac{v_s}{\left[1+\left(\frac{E_{on}}{E}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}}$$

$$v_p = \frac{v_s}{\left[1+\left(\frac{E_{op}}{E}\right)^{2}\right]^{1/2}}$$

Probably a typo in textbook

11.3 Velocity Saturation

$$\boxed{v_d \rightarrow v_{th}}$$

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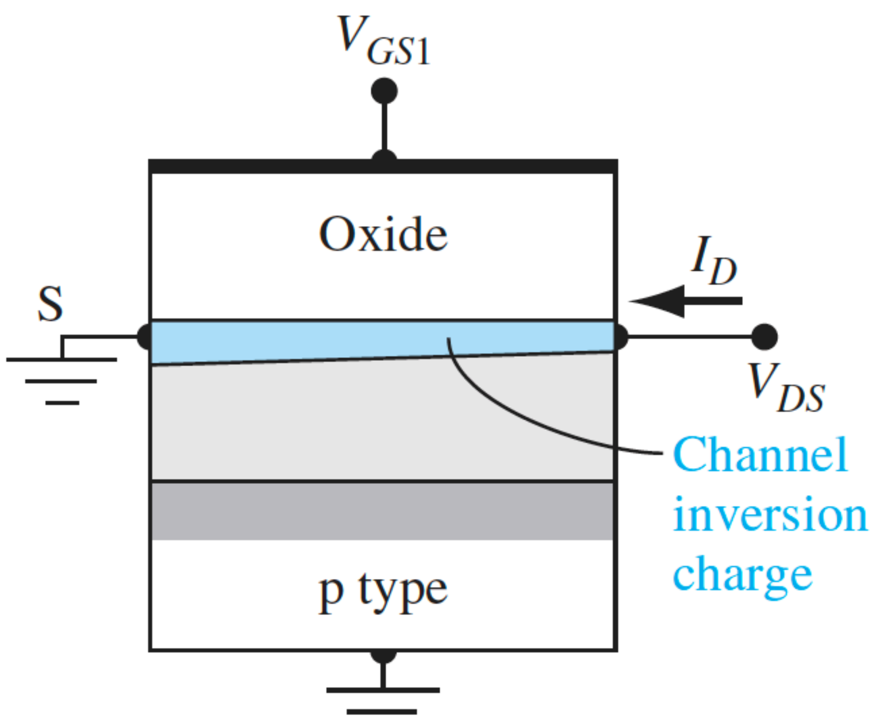


$$E_{DS} = \frac{V_{DS}}{L}$$

As the transistor size scales down, the electric field intensity E increases.

$$E_{on} = \frac{V_{DSAT}}{L}$$

11.3 Velocity Saturation

$$\boxed{v_d \rightarrow v_{th}}$$

As the transistor size scales down, the electric field intensity E increases.

- Electric field is heating up electrons
- Electrons transfer energy to lattice to reach thermal equilibrium

$$I_{DSAT} = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{GS} - VT - \frac{1}{2}V_{DS}\right)V_{DS}$$

$$= C_{ox}W\left(V_{GS} - VT - \frac{1}{2}V_{DSAT}\right)\frac{V_{DSAT}}{L}\mu_n$$

$$I_{DSAT} = WC_{ox}\left[V_{GS} - V_T - \frac{V_{DSAT}}{2}\right]v_{sat}$$

where $V_{DSAT} = \frac{L}{\mu_n}v_{sat}$

11.3 Velocity Saturation

Unified model

$$I_D = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad V_{GT} \le 0$$

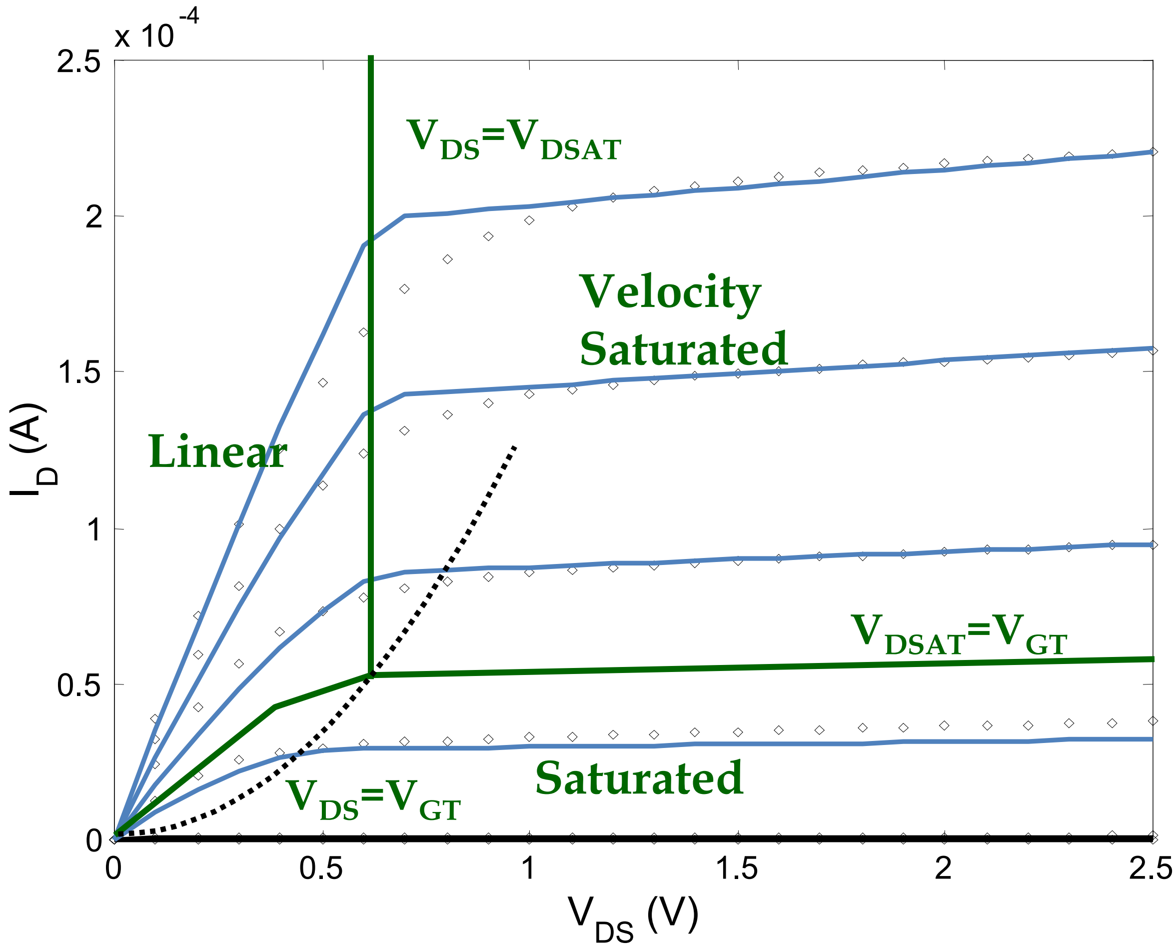
$$I_D = k'\frac{W}{L}\left(V_{GT}V_{min} - \frac{V_{min}^2}{2}\right) \qquad \text{for } V_{GT} \ge 0$$

with $V_{min} = \min(V_{GT}, V_{DS}, V_{DSAT})$,

$V_{GT} = V_{GS} - V_T$,

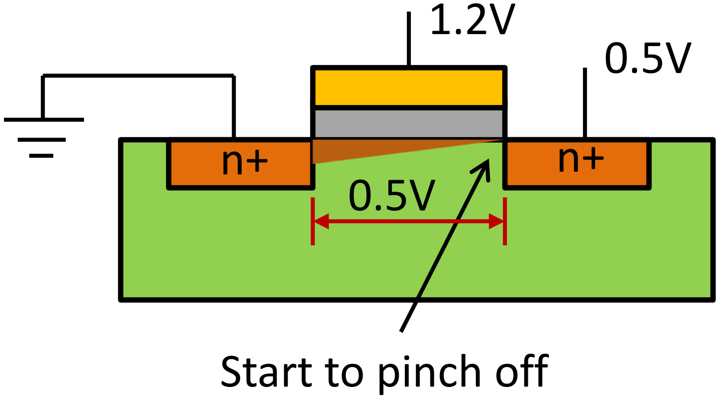
and $V_T = V_{T0} + \gamma\left(\sqrt{|-2\phi_F + V_{SB}|} - \sqrt{|-2\phi_F|}\right)$

11.3 Velocity Saturation



Example

V_T=0.7 , V_{gs} = 1.2 V, V_{sat} = 1V



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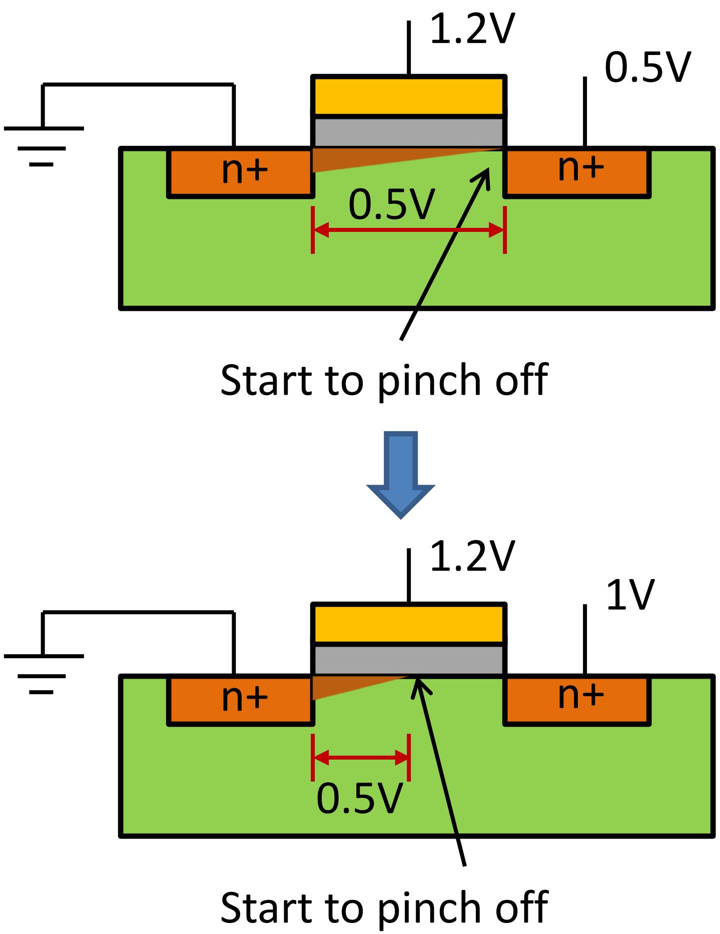

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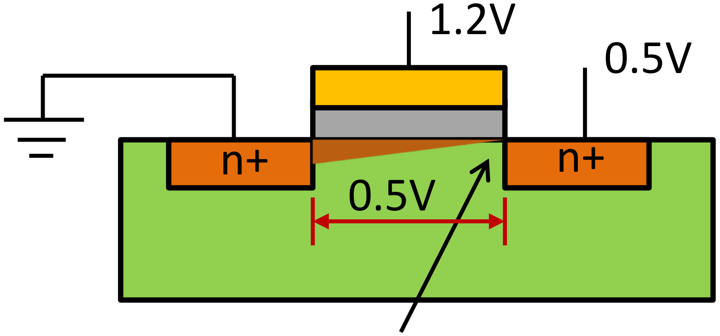
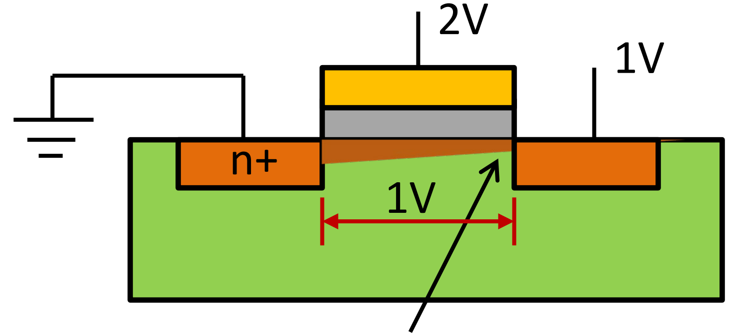
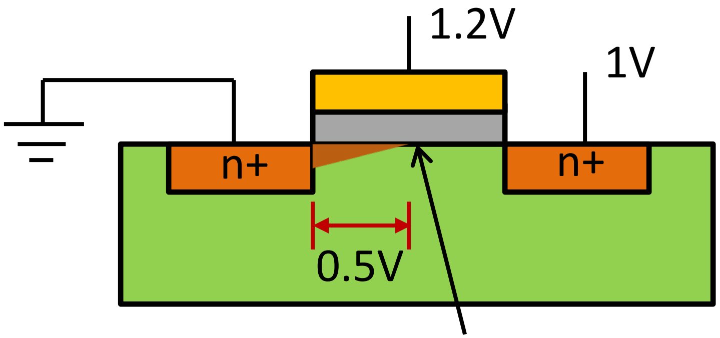


Start to pinch off



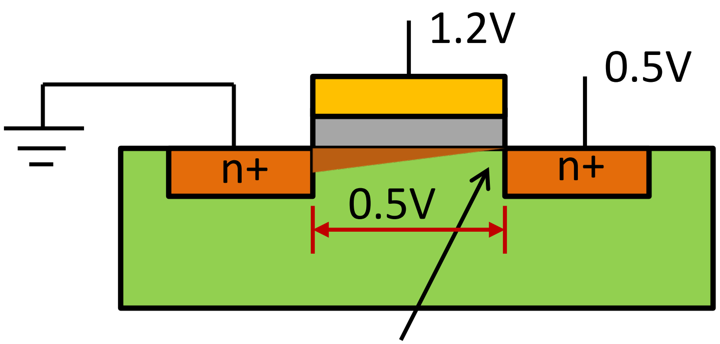
- NO pinch off
- Velocity saturation starts



Start to pinch off

Example

$V_T = 0.7$, $V_{gs} = 1.2$ V, $V_{sat} = 1$V



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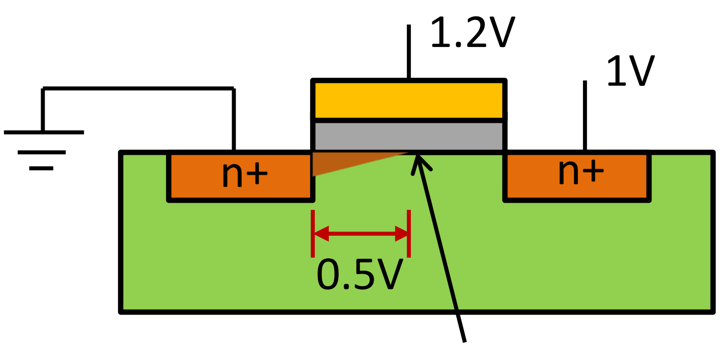

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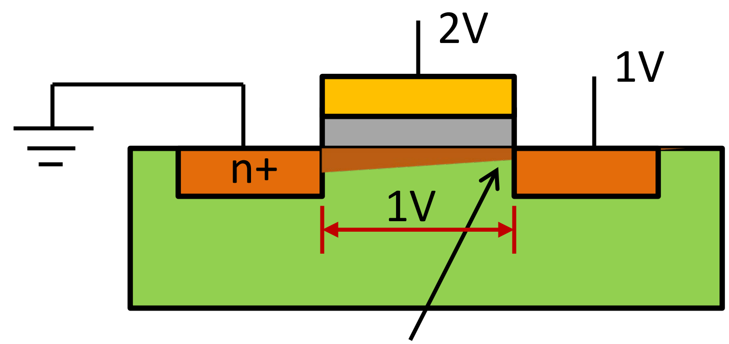
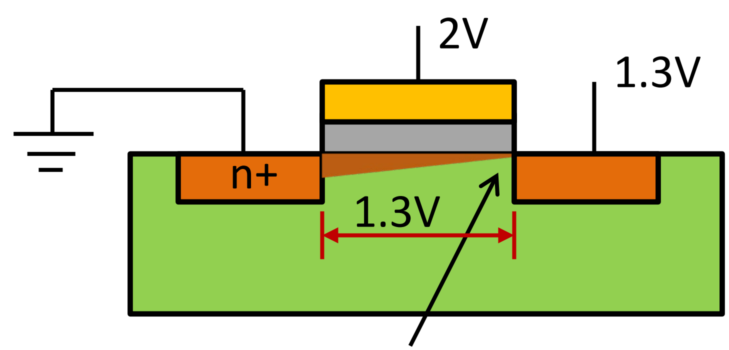


- NO pinch off
- Velocity saturation starts



- Starts to pinch off
- Velocity saturation

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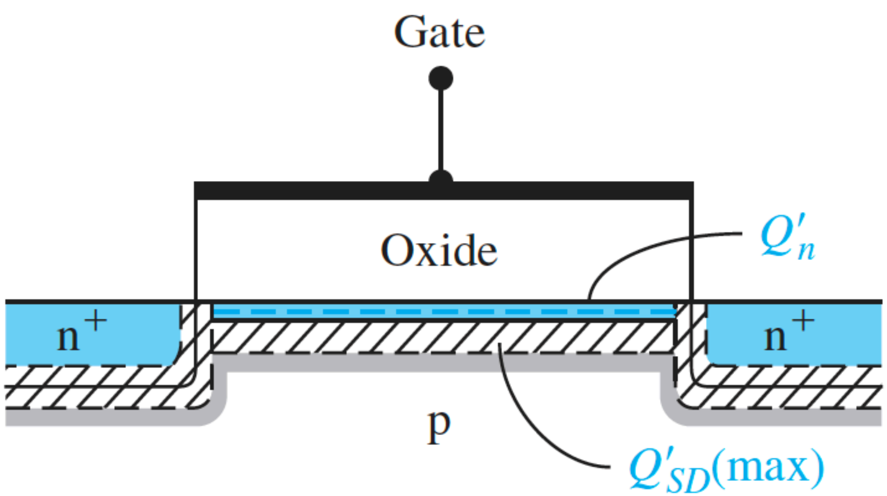
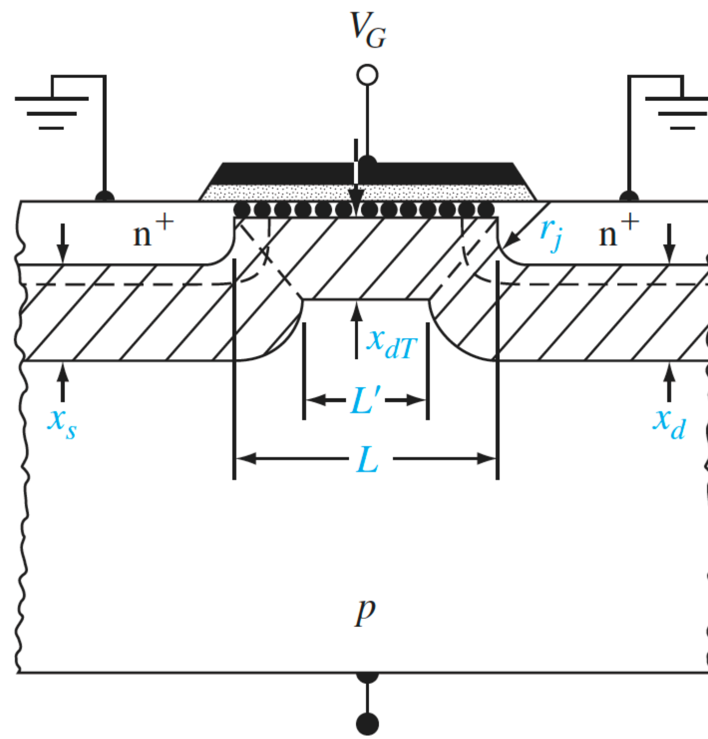


A long channel device



A short channel device

11.4 Short Channel Effect

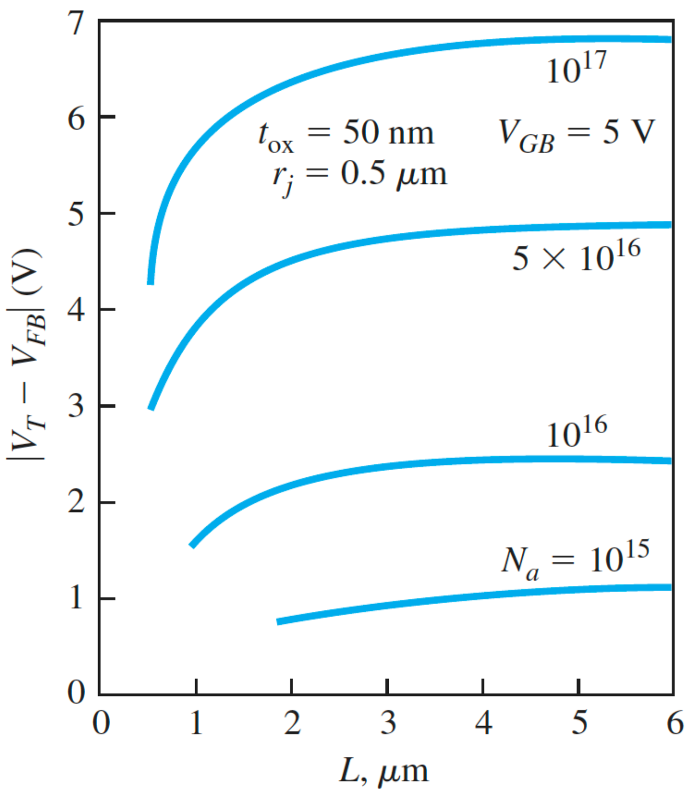


Figure 11.16 | Threshold voltage versus channel length for various substrate dopings. (*From Yau [26].*)

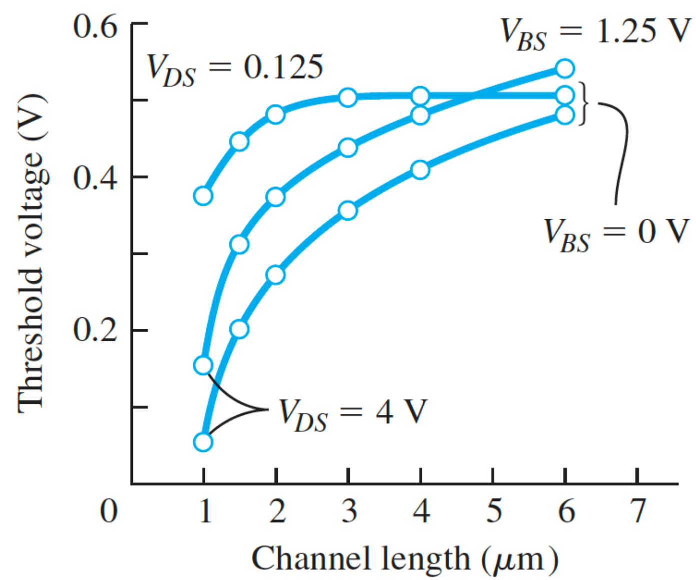


Figure 11.17 | Threshold voltage versus channel length for two values of drain-to-source and body-to-source voltage. (*From Yang [25].*)