

## Analog IC Design – Cadence Tools

### Lab 03

### Cascode Amplifier

## Part 1: Sizing Chart

Use  $V^* = 150 \text{ mV}$  and  $I_D = 10 \text{ uA}$ . Use  $V_{DD} = 3\text{V}$

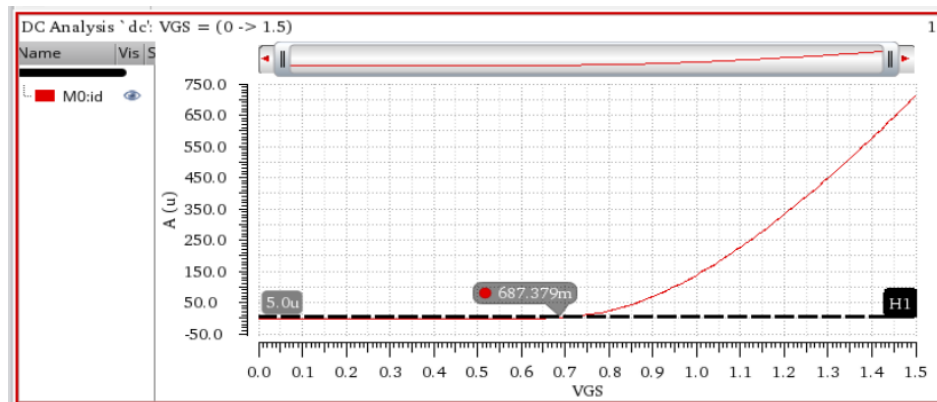
For a square-law device,  $V^* = V_{ov}$ , however, for a real MOSFET they are not equal.

The lower the  $V^*$  the higher the gain, but the larger the area and the lower the speed.

$$g_m = 2 \cdot I_D / V^* = (2 \cdot 10 \cdot 10^{-6}) / 150 \cdot 10^{-3} = 133.33 \mu$$

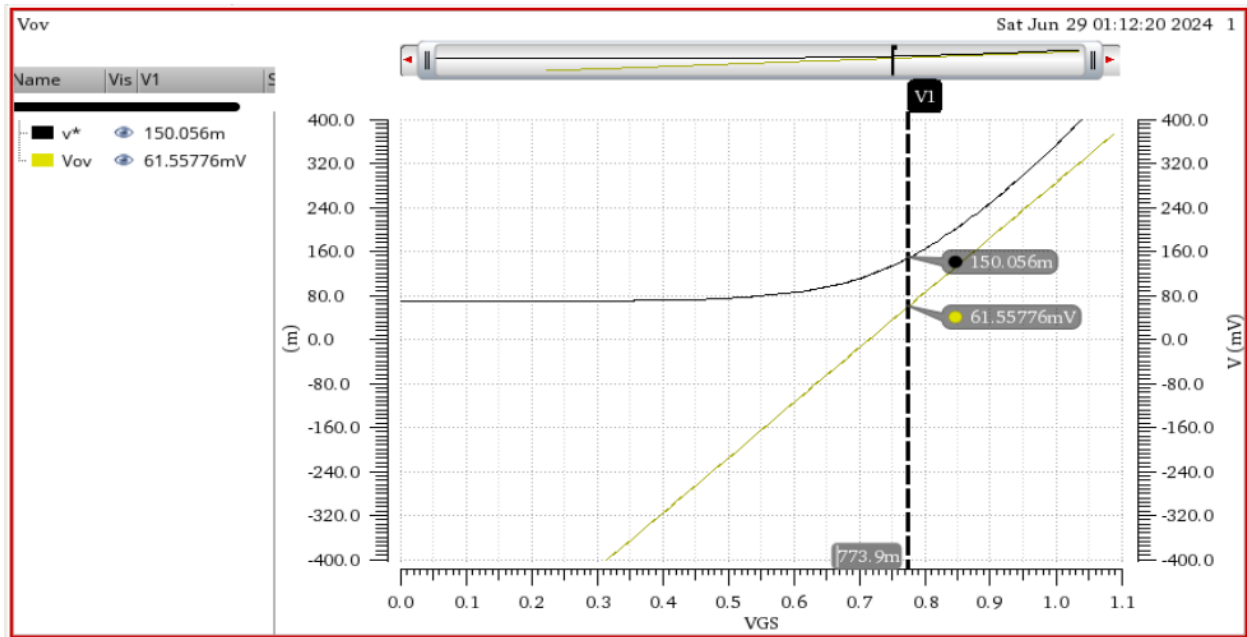
$$V_{ov} = V_{GS} - V_{TH}$$

1. We use  $W = 10 \mu\text{m}$  &  $L = 0.5 \mu\text{m}$  &  $V_{DS} = V_{DD}/2 = 3/2 = 1.5 \text{ V}$
2. make a sweep for  $V_{GS}$  from 0 to  $V_{DS}$  with  $10 \text{ mV}$  steps  
0:10m:1.5v
3. plot the  $I_D$  Vs  $V_{GS}$  >>> determine the  $V_{TH}$  value.



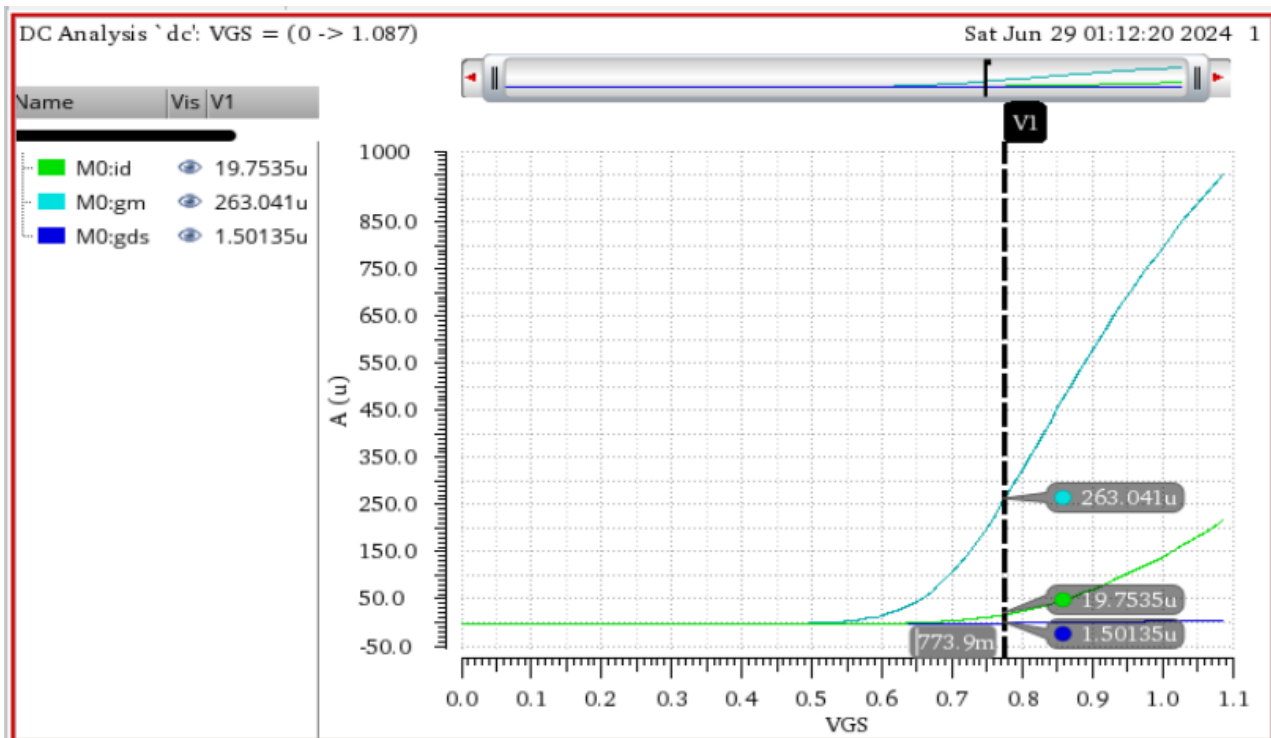
(the  $V_{th}$  is  $687.379 \text{ mV} = 0.687$ )

4. make another sweep for  $V_{GS}$  from 0 to  $0.4 + V_{TH}$  with  $10 \text{ mV}$  steps >> 0:10m:(0.4+0.787) >> 0:10m:1.08.
5. make expressions for  $V^*$  &  $V_{ov}$  by calculator  $V^* = 2I_D/g_m$  and  $V_{ov} = V_{GS} - V_{TH}$ .
6. plot them overlaid and we locate the point at which  $V^* = 150 \text{ mV}$   
They should be the same scales.



$V_{GS} = 773.9\text{mV}$  when the  $v^* = 150\text{mV}$

7. Plot  $I_D$ ,  $g_m$ , and  $g_{ds}$  vs  $V_{GS}$ . Find their values at  $V_{GSQ}$ .



8. Get the WQ  $ID_Q=10u$   $ID_X=19.75$   $W_X=10u$

$$ID = \frac{ID_Q}{ID_X} = \frac{(\frac{W}{L})_Q}{(\frac{W}{L})_X} \gg L_Q = L_X \quad W_Q = (\frac{10u}{19.75u}) * 10u = 5.06u$$

9. calculate  $gm_Q$  and  $gds_Q$  using ratio and proportion (cross multiplication).

$$ID = \frac{ID_Q}{ID_X} = \frac{(gm)_Q}{(gm)_X} \gg gm_x = \frac{263.041u * 10u}{19.75u} = 133.188 u$$

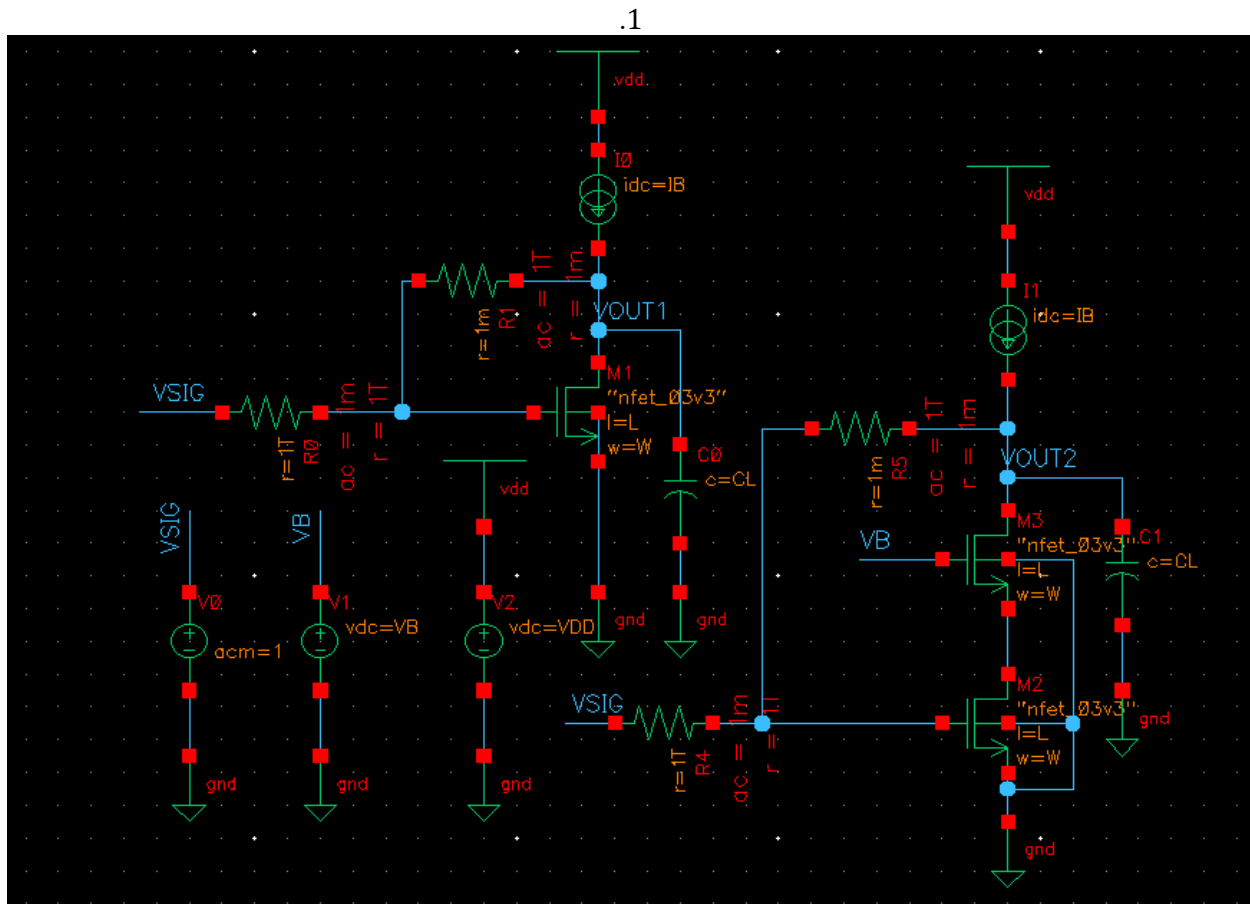
$$ID = \frac{ID_Q}{ID_X} = \frac{(gds)_Q}{(gds)_X} \gg gds_x = \frac{1.5013u * 10u}{19.75u} = 0.7601 u$$

$$ro = 1/gds = 666.067 k\Omega$$

## PART 2: Cascode for Gain

### 1. OP Analysis

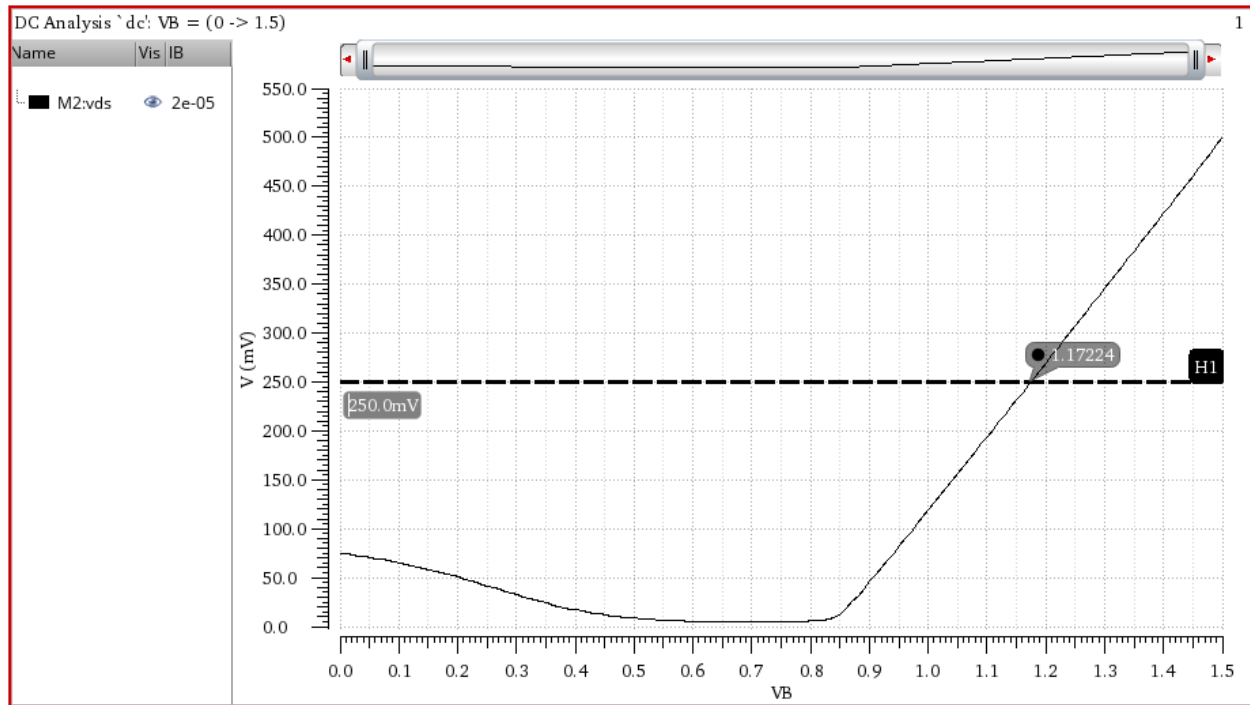
- 1) Create a new cell and schematic. Use  $I_B = 20\mu A$ ,  $L = 0.5\mu m$ ,  $W$  as selected in Part 1, and  $C_L = 1pF$ .



2)  $(V_{DS})_{M2}$  Vs  $V_B$ :

$$V_{DS} = V^* + 100\text{mV} = 150\text{mV} + 100\text{mV} = 250\text{mV}$$

The value found for  $V_B$  is 1.172 V.



### 3) Parameters of M1, M2 & M3

Parameters M1

Parameters M2

Parameters M3

Parameters	Value
model	"nfet_03v3"
L	L
w	W
id	10u
vgs	778.3m
vds	778.3m
vth	711.1m
vdsat	124.8m
gm	133.2u
gds	929.5n
gmb	47.63u
cdb	-620a
cgd	-945.6a
cgs	-4.969f
csb	-928.8a
region	2

Parameters	Value
model	"nfet_03v3"
L	L
w	W
id	10u
vgs	782.7m
vds	294.3m
vth	711.7m
vdsat	127.2m
gm	131.6u
gds	1.967u
cdb	-638.4a
cgd	-1.019f
cgs	-5.055f
csb	-947.1a
csb	-947.1a
region	2

Parameters	Value
model	"nfet_03v3"
L	L
w	W
id	10u
vgs	877.7m
vds	488.4m
vth	807.2m
vdsat	128.5m
gm	132.4u
gds	1.181u
cdb	-535.4a
cgd	-1.005f
cgs	-5.06f
csb	-800.2a
csb	-800.2a
region	2

#### 4) Check that all transistors operate in saturation.

in simulation outputs,

$V_{DS} > V_{GS} - V_{th}$  >>>> all transistors operate in saturation.

all transistors operate in region 2 which is the saturation region.

#### 5) Do all transistors have the same $v_{th}$ ? Why?

No, in M1 is approximately equal to M2 But the M3 is very different

$V_{DS}$  is directly proportional to  $V_{th}$   $M1 > M2 > M3$

It is reduced due to DIBL effect.

Higher  $V_{TH}$  because it influences the body because Source voltage.

#### 6 What is the relation ( $\ll$ , $<$ , $=$ , $>$ , $\gg$ ) between $g_m$ and $g_{ds}$ ?

$$g_m \gg g_{ds}.$$

#### 7 What is the relation ( $\ll$ , $<$ , $=$ , $>$ , $\gg$ ) between $g_m$ and $g_{mb}$ ?

$$g_m \gg g_{mb}.$$

#### 8 What is the relation ( $\ll$ , $<$ , $=$ , $>$ , $\gg$ ) between $c_{gs}$ and $c_{gd}$ ?

$$C_{gs} \gg C_{gd}$$

#### 9 What is the relation ( $\ll$ , $<$ , $=$ , $>$ , $\gg$ ) between $c_{sb}$ and $c_{db}$ ?

$$C_{sb} \gg C_{db}$$

## 2. AC Analysis

1) Create a new simulation configuration. Perform AC analysis (1Hz:10GHz, logarithmic, 10points/decade) to simulate gain and bandwidth.

Choosing Analyses -- ADE L (73)

Analysis

☐ tran ☐ dc ☒ ac ☐ noise

☐ xf ☐ sens ☐ dcmatch ☐ stb

☐ pz ☐ sp ☐ envlp ☐ pss

☐ pac ☐ pstb ☐ pnoise ☐ pxf

☐ psp ☐ qpss ☐ qpac ☐ qpnoise

☐ qpxf ☐ qpsp ☐ hb ☐ hbac

☐ hbnoise ☐ hbsp

AC Analysis

Sweep Variable

☒ Frequency

☐ Design Variable

☐ Temperature

☐ Component Parameter

☐ Model Parameter

☐ None

Sweep Range

☒ Start-Stop Start  Stop

☐ Center-Span

Sweep Type

Logarithmic ☒ Points Per Decade

☐ Number of Steps

Add Specific Points ☐

Specialized Analyses

None

Enabled ☒

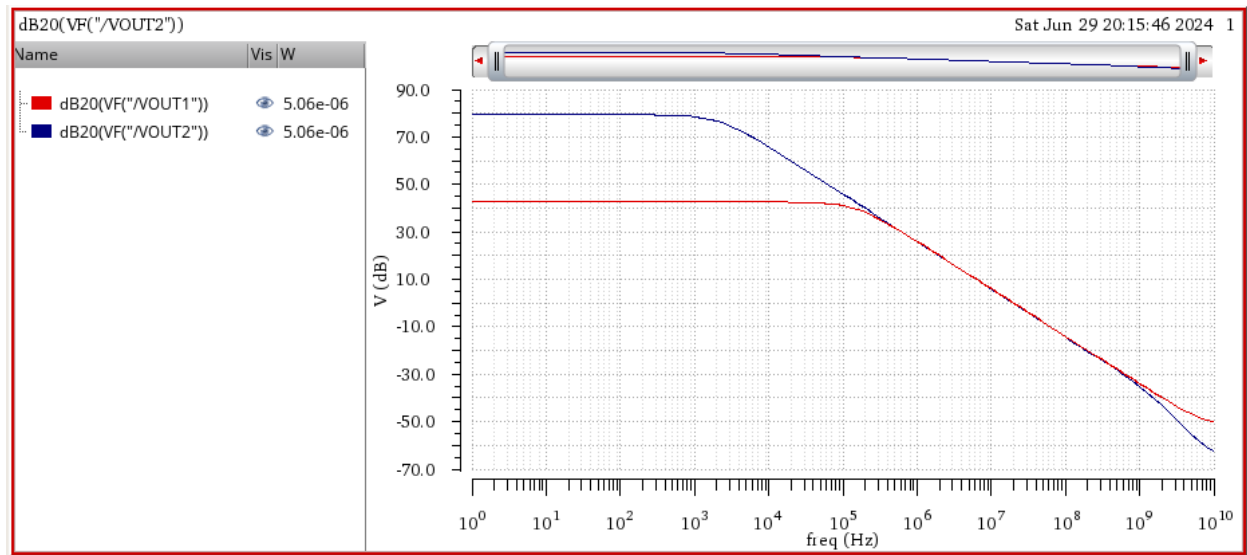
Options...

OK Cancel Defaults Apply Help

2- Use calculator to create expressions for circuit parameters (DC gain, BW, GBW, and UGF) and export them to adexl.

dB20(VF("/VOUT1"))	
ymax(dB20(VF("/VOUT1")))	43.12
ymax(mag(VF("/VOUT1")))	143.3
bandwidth(VF("/VOUT1") 3 "l...	147.2k
gainBwProd(VF("/VOUT1"))	21.14M
unityGainFreq(VF("/VOUT1"))	21.3M
dB20(VF("/VOUT2"))	
ymax(dB20(VF("/VOUT2")))	79.88
ymax(mag(VF("/VOUT2")))	9.86k
bandwidth(VF("/VOUT2") 3 "l...	2.089k
gainBwProd(VF("/VOUT2"))	20.65M
unityGainFreq(VF("/VOUT2"))	20.74M

3) Report the Bode plot (magnitude) of CS and cascode **appended on the same plot.**



4) Using small signal parameters from OP simulation, perform hand analysis to calculate DC gain, BW, and GBW of both circuits.

Parameters	Value	Parameters	Value
model	"nfet_03v3"	model	"nfet_03v3"
L	L	L	L
W	W	W	W
id	10u	id	10u
vgs	782.687m	vgs	877.686m
vds	294.314m	vds	488.373m
vth	711.652m	vth	807.233m
vdsat	127.17m	vdsat	128.54m
gm	131.611u	gm	132.409u
gds	1.96746u	gds	1.18092u
gmb	47.0675u	gmb	40.4952u
cdb	-638.448a	cdb	-535.371a
cgd	-1.01882f	cgd	-1.00515f
cgs	-5.05539f	cgs	-5.05995f
csb	-947.093a	csb	-800.215a

Gain

CS  $A_v = g_{m1} \cdot r_{o1} = 143.3 = 20 \log(143.3) = 43.12 \text{ dB}$

calculate DC  $A_v = (g_{m2} + g_{mb2}) r_{o2} g_{m3} r_{o3}$

$= (131.611 \mu + 47.067 \mu) \cdot (1/1.967 \mu) \cdot 132.41 \mu \cdot (1/1.1809 \mu) = 10.185 \text{ k} = 80.159 \text{ dB}$

Bw

For CS:  $BW = \frac{1}{(2\pi r_{o1} C_L)} = 149.3 \text{ kHz}$

For Cascode:  $BW = \frac{1}{2\pi(r_{o2} + (1 + (g_{m2} + g_{mb2})r_{o2})r_{o3}) C_L} = 2.31 \text{ KHz}$



GBW & UGF:

For CS:  $GBW = UGF = A_v * BW = 24.23 \text{ MHz}$

For Cascode:  $GBW = UGF = A_v * BW = 23.515 \text{ MHz}$

5) Report a table comparing the DC gain, BW, UGF, and GBW of both circuits from simulation and hand analysis.

Analysis	Analytical			Simulation		
Quantity	Gain	BW	GBW & UGF	Gain	BW	GBW & UGF
CS	43.12dB	149.3 kHz	24.23 MHz	43.12dB	147.2k	21.3M
Cascode	10.185k	2.31KHZ	23.515MHz	9.86k	2.089k	20.47M

6) Comment on the results

The bandwidth of the cascode amplifier is much less than the conventional amplifier, but the gain of the cascode amplifier is much greater than the conventional amplifier. This means that almost the same bandwidth is achieved. It is a mixture of gain and bandwidth because more weight increases the bandwidth and vice versa.