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DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING
ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS
Cascode Amplifier

Numerical 1:

For the circuit shown below in figure 1,

- Determine DC parameters of both the stages
- Determine overall voltage gain A_{V_T} in dB
- Determine input and output impedance
- Determine output voltage

Given: $V_{BE_1} = V_{BE_2} = 0.6V$, $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 100$

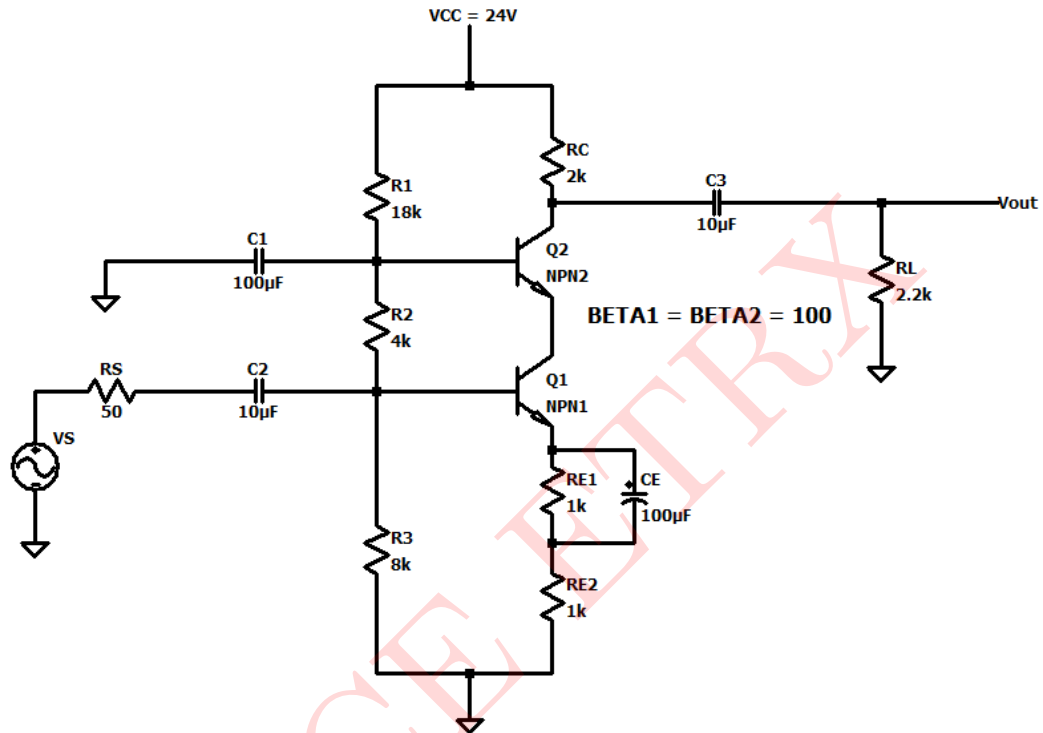


Figure 1: Circuit 1

Solution:

DC analysis of cascode(CE-CB):

$$V_{B_1} = \frac{R_3}{R_1 + R_2 + R_3} \times V_{CC} = \frac{8k\Omega}{18k\Omega + 4k\Omega + 8k\Omega} \times 24V = 6.4V$$

$$V_{B_2} = \frac{R_3 + R_2}{R_1 + R_2 + R_2} \times V_{CC} = \frac{8k\Omega + 4k\Omega}{8k\Omega + 4k\Omega + 8k\Omega} \times 24V = 9.6V$$

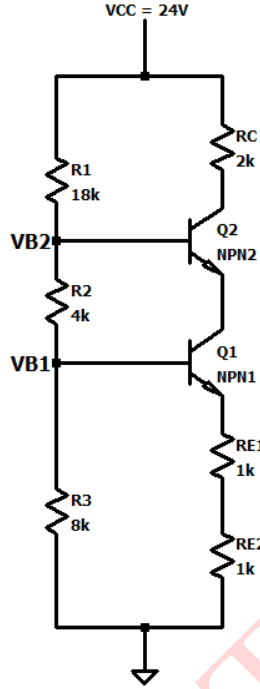


Figure 2: DC equivalent circuit

$$\therefore V_{E1} = V_{B1} - V_{BE1} = 6.4V - 0.6V = \mathbf{5.8V}$$

$$\text{Also, } V_{E1} = \frac{I_{E1}}{R_E}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I_{E1} &= \frac{V_{E1}}{R_E} \quad (\because R_E = R_{E1} + R_{E2} = 1k\Omega + 1k\Omega = 2k\Omega) \\ &= \frac{5.8V}{2k\Omega} = \mathbf{2.9mA} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore I_{C1} = I_{C2} = I_{E1} = I_{E2}$$

$$\therefore I_{C1} = I_{C2} = I_{E1} = I_{E2} = \mathbf{2.9mA}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I_{B1} = I_{B2} &= \frac{I_{E1}}{(1 + \beta)} \\ &= \frac{2.9mA}{100} = \mathbf{29\mu A} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore V_{C2} &= V_{CC} - I_{C2} - R_C \\ &= 24V - (2.9mA)(2k\Omega) \\ &= 24V - 5.8V = \mathbf{18.2V} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore V_{E2} &= V_{B2} - V_{BE2} \\ &= 9.6V - 0.6V = \mathbf{9V} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore V_{E2} = V_{C1} = \mathbf{9V}$$

Small signal parameters:

$$r_{\pi} = r_{\pi_1} = r_{\pi_2} = \frac{\beta V_T}{I_{CQ}}$$

$$= \frac{100 \times 26mV}{2.9mA} = \mathbf{0.8965k\Omega}$$

$$g_m = g_{m_1} = g_{m_2} = \frac{I_{CQ}}{V_T}$$

$$= \frac{2.9mA}{26mV} = \mathbf{111.538mA/V}$$

Mid-frequency AC equivalent circuit:

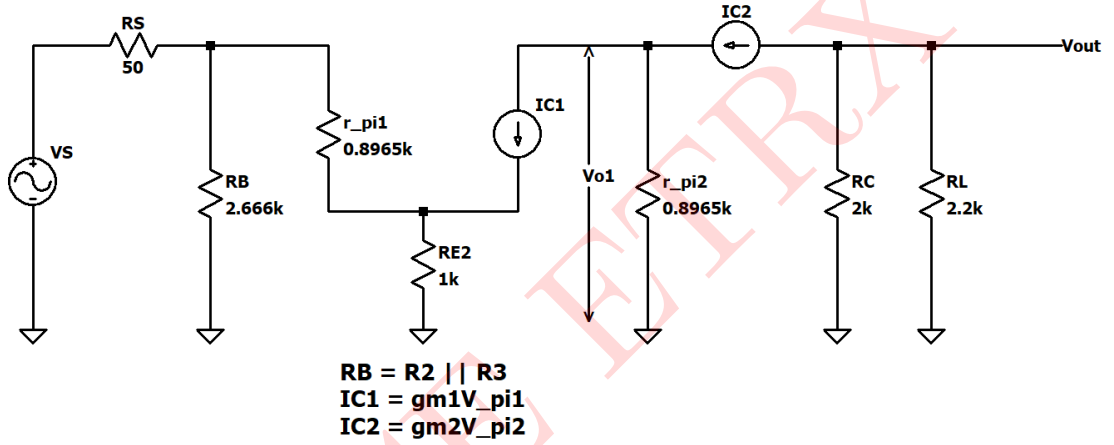


Figure 3: Mid-frequency AC equivalent circuit

Input impedance,

$$Z_i = R_B \parallel (r_{\pi_1} + (1 + \beta_1)R_{E_2})$$

$$= R_2 \parallel R_3 \parallel (r_{\pi_1} + (1 + \beta_1)R_{E_2}) \quad (\because R_B = R_2 \parallel R_3)$$

$$= 4k\Omega \parallel 8k\Omega \parallel (0.8965k\Omega + (101)1k\Omega)$$

$$= \frac{4k\Omega \times 8k\Omega}{4k\Omega + 8k\Omega} \parallel 101.8965k\Omega$$

$$= 2.666k\Omega \parallel 101.8965k\Omega$$

$$= \frac{2.666k\Omega \times 101.8965k\Omega}{2.666k\Omega + 101.8965k\Omega} = \mathbf{2.598k\Omega}$$

Input impedance with R_S ,

$$Z_{in} = Z_i + R_S$$

$$= 2.598k\Omega + 50\Omega = \mathbf{2.648k\Omega}$$

Output impedance,

$$Z_o = R_C \parallel R_L$$

$$= \frac{2k\Omega \times 2.2k\Omega}{2k\Omega + 2.2k\Omega} = \mathbf{1.047k\Omega}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{V_1} &= \frac{V_{o_1}}{V_i} \\
&= \frac{-1}{1 + g_m R_{E_2}} \\
&= \frac{-1}{1 + (111.538 \text{mA/V})(1 \text{k}\Omega)} \\
&= \frac{-1}{1 + 111.538} = \mathbf{-0.00885}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{V_2} &= \frac{V_{out}}{V_{o_1}} \\
&= g_m(R_C \parallel R_L) \\
&= 111.538 \text{mA/V}(2 \text{k}\Omega \parallel 2.2 \text{k}\Omega) \\
&= 111.538 \text{mA/V} \left(\frac{2 \text{k}\Omega \times 2.2 \text{k}\Omega}{2 \text{k}\Omega + 2.2 \text{k}\Omega} \right) \\
&= 111.538 \text{mA/V} \times 1.047 \text{k}\Omega = \mathbf{116.78}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{V_T} &= A_{V_1} \times A_{V_2} \\
&= -0.00885 \times 116.78 = \mathbf{-1.037}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{V_{T_S}} &= A_{V_T} \times \frac{Z_i}{Z_i + R_S} \\
&= -1.037 \times \frac{2.598 \text{k}\Omega}{2.598 \text{k}\Omega + 50 \Omega} \\
&= -1.307 \times 0.98 = \mathbf{-1.017}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore A_{V_{T_S}} &= \frac{V_{out}}{V_S} \\
\therefore V_{out} &= A_{V_{T_S}} \times V_S \\
&= -1.017 \times 20 \text{mV} = \mathbf{-20.34 \text{mV}}
\end{aligned}$$

SIMULATED RESULTS:

Above circuit is simulated in LTspice and results are as follows:

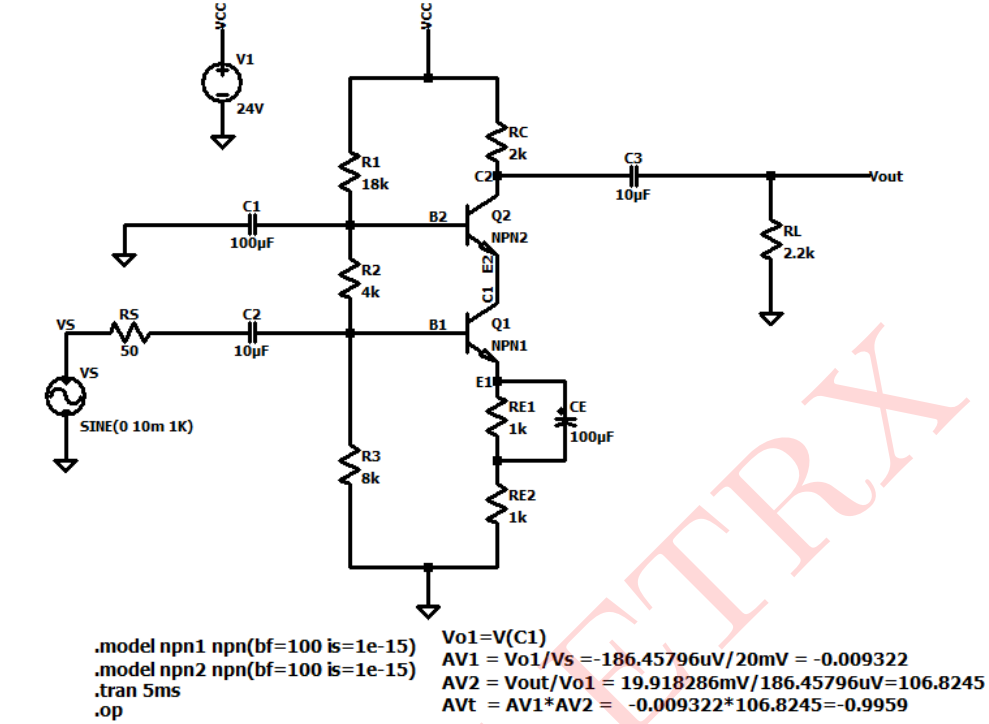


Figure 4: Circuit Schematic

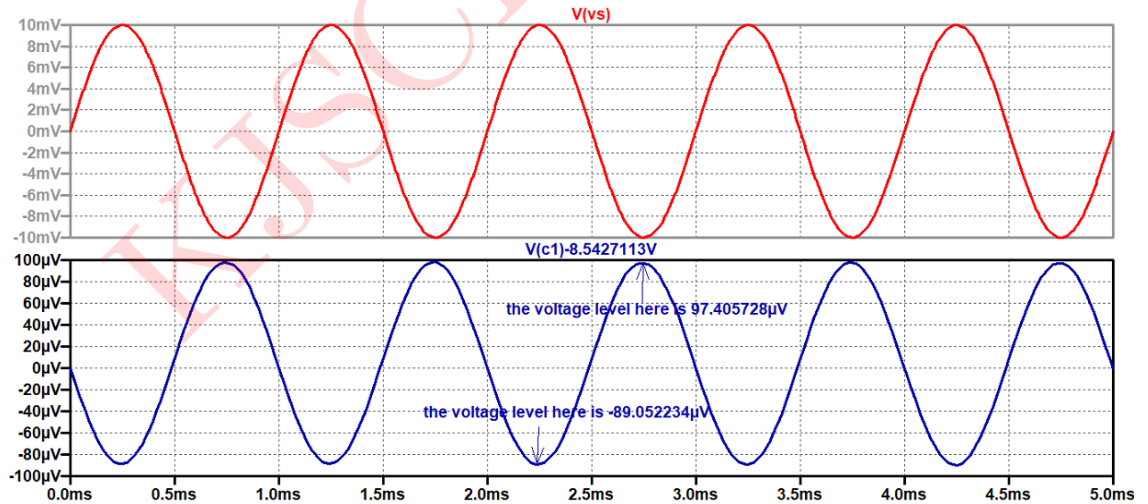


Figure 5: Input and output waveforms for Stage 1 voltage gain

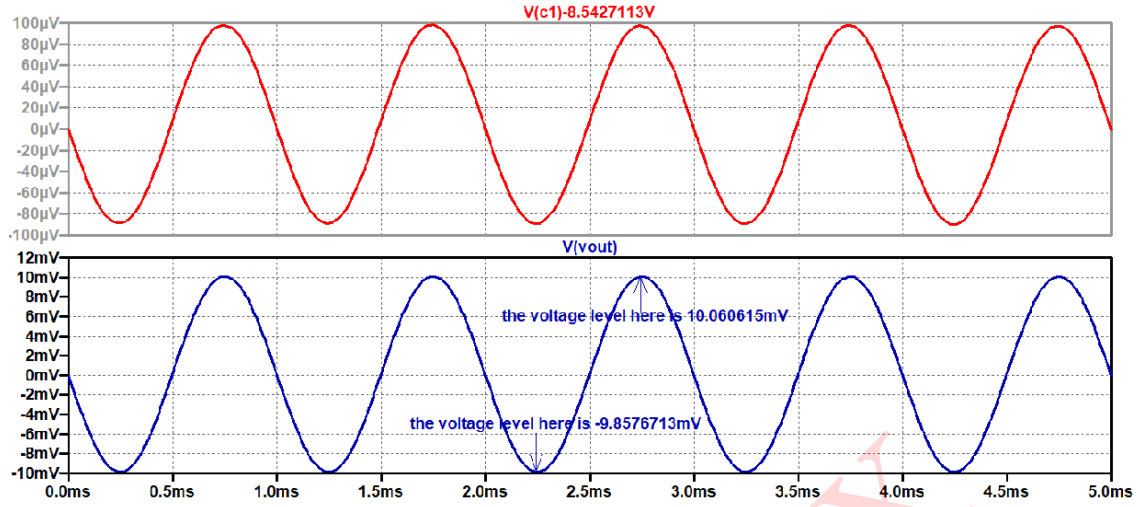


Figure 6: Input and output waveforms for Stage 2 voltage gain

Comparison between theoretical and simulated values:

Parameters	Theoretical values	Simulated values
1st stage DC parameters: $V_{B1}, V_{C1}, V_{E1}, I_{C1}, I_{B1}, I_{E1}$	6.4V, 9V, 5.8V, 2.9mA, 29 μ A, 2.9mA	6.1173V, 8.5427V, 8.3773V, 2.6620mA, 26.6205 μ A, 2.6688mA
2nd stage DC parameters: $V_{B2}, V_{C2}, V_{E2}, I_{C2}, I_{B2}, I_{E2}$	9.6V, 18.2V, 9V, 2.9mA, 29 μ A, 2.9mA	9.2824V, 18.7286V, 8.5427V, 2.6356mA, 26.356 μ A, 2.6620mA
Voltage gain of 1st stage A_{V1}	-0.00885	-0.009322
Voltage gain of 2nd stage A_{V2}	116.78	106.8245
Overall voltage gain $A_{V_{TS}}$	-1.017	-0.9959
Input impedance of 1st stage Z_{in}	2.648k Ω	—
Output impedance of 2nd stage Z_o	1.047k Ω	—
Output voltage V_{out}	-20.34mV	-19.9182mV

Table 1: Numerical 1

Numerical 2:

A two stage circuit is shown below in figure 7. It's E-MOSFET parameters are $k_{n1} = k_{n2} = 1.2mA/V^2$, $V_{TN1} = V_{TN2} = 1.5V$

- Calculate the DC parameters of the circuits i.e V_{G1} , V_{G2} , V_{GS1} , I_{D1} , I_{D2} , V_{D2} , V_{S1} , V_{S2} , V_{DS2} , V_{D1} , V_{DS1} and V_{GS2}
- Calculate input impedance of the circuit
- Calculate output impedance of the circuit
- Calculate voltage gain of the circuit

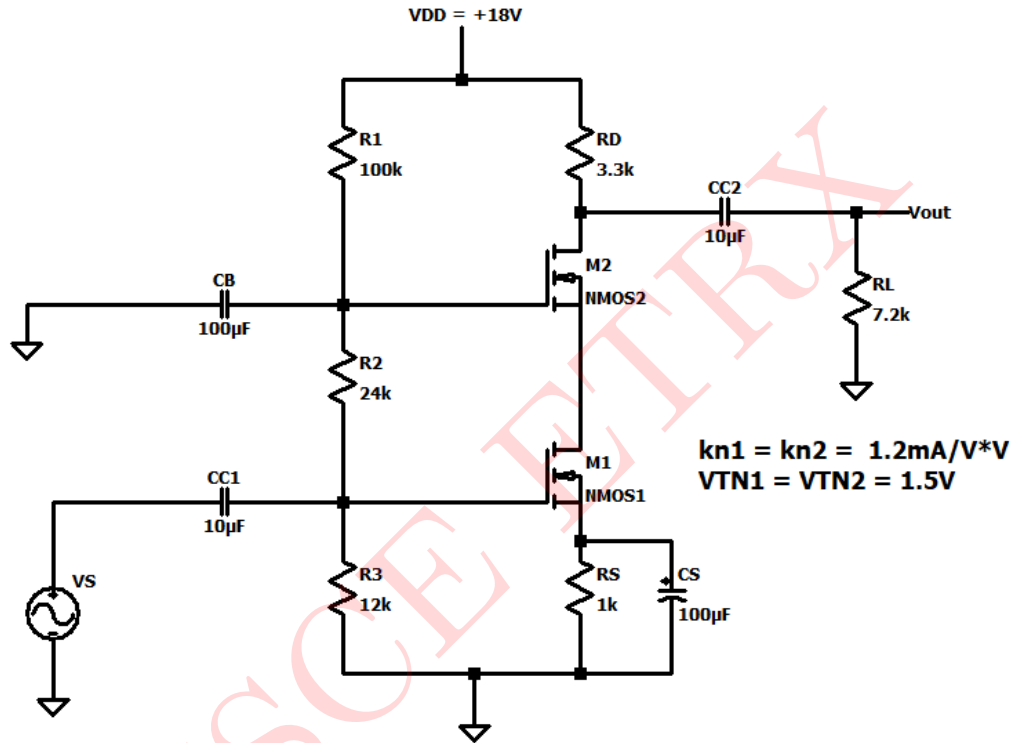


Figure 7: Circuit 2

Solution:

DC analysis:

$$R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$$

$$= 100k\Omega + 24k\Omega + 12k\Omega = \mathbf{136k\Omega}$$

$$V_{G1} = \frac{R_3}{R_T} \times V_{DD} = \frac{12k\Omega}{136k\Omega} \times 18V = \mathbf{1.588V}$$

$$V_{G2} = \frac{R_2 + R_3}{R_T} \times V_{DD} = \frac{24k\Omega + 12k\Omega}{136k\Omega} \times 18V = \mathbf{4.764V}$$

$$V_{GS1} = V_{G1} - V_{S1}$$

$$= 1.588V - I_{D1}R_S$$

$$= 1.588V - I_{D1}(1k\Omega) \quad \dots(1)$$

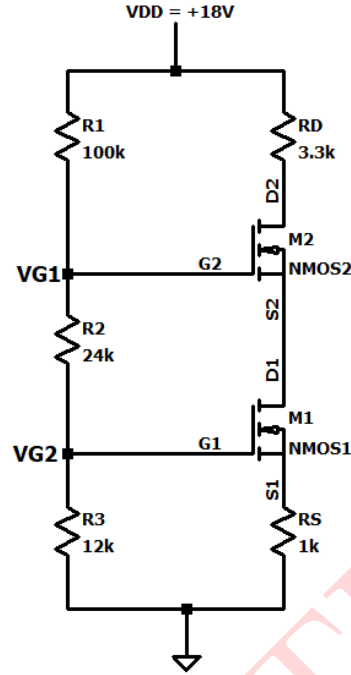


Figure 8: DC equivalent circuit

In MOSFET,

$$I_{D1} = k_{n1}(V_{GS1} - V_{TN1})^2$$

$$I_{D1} = 1.2mA/V^2(V_{GS1} - 1.5V)^2 \quad \dots(2)$$

Put (2) in (1), we get

$$V_{GS1} = 1.588 - [1.2mA/V^2(V_{GS} - 1.5V)^2] (1k\Omega)$$

$$V_{GS1} = 1.588 - 1.2(V_{GS}^2 - 3V_{GS} + 2.25)$$

$$V_{GS1} = -1.2V_{GS}^2 + 3.6V_{GS} - 1.112$$

$$0 = -1.2V_{GS}^2 + 2.6V_{GS} - 1.112$$

$$V_{GS1} = 1.580V \text{ or } V_{GS1} = 0.586V$$

We reject the value $V_{GS} = 0.586V$ ($\because V_{GS1} > V_{TN1}$)

$$V_{GS1} = \mathbf{1.580V}$$

$$\text{Also, } V_{GS1} = V_{GS2} = \mathbf{1.580V}$$

$$I_{D1} = k_{n1}(V_{GS1} - V_{TN1})^2$$

$$= 1.2mA/V^2(1.580V - 1.5V)^2$$

$$= 1.2mA/V^2(0.08)^2 = \mathbf{7.68\mu A}$$

$$\therefore I_{D1} = I_{D2} = \mathbf{7.68\mu A}$$

$$V_{D2} = V_{DD} - I_{D2}R_D$$

$$= 18V - (7.68\mu A)(3.3k\Omega)$$

$$= 18V - 0.025V = \mathbf{17.97V}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_{S_1} &= I_{D_1} R_S \\
&= (7.68 \mu A)(1k\Omega) = \mathbf{0.0076V}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\because V_{GS_1} &= V_{GS_2} = V_{G_2} - V_{S_2} \\
1.580V &= 4.764V - V_{S_2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$V_{S_2} = 4.764V - 1.580V = \mathbf{3.184V}$$

$$\because V_{DS_2} = V_{D_2} - V_{S_2}$$

$$V_{DS_2} = 17.97V - 3.184V = \mathbf{14.786V}$$

$$\because V_{D_1} = V_{S_2} = \mathbf{3.184V}$$

$$V_{DS_1} = V_{D_1} - V_{S_1}$$

$$V_{DS_2} = 3.184V - 0.0076V = \mathbf{3.1764V}$$

Small signal parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}
g_{m_1} &= g_{m_2} = 2k_n(V_{GS} - V_{TN}) \\
&= 2 \times 1.2mA/V^2(1.580V - 1.5V) = \mathbf{0.192mA/V}
\end{aligned}$$

Mid-frequency AC equivalent circuit:

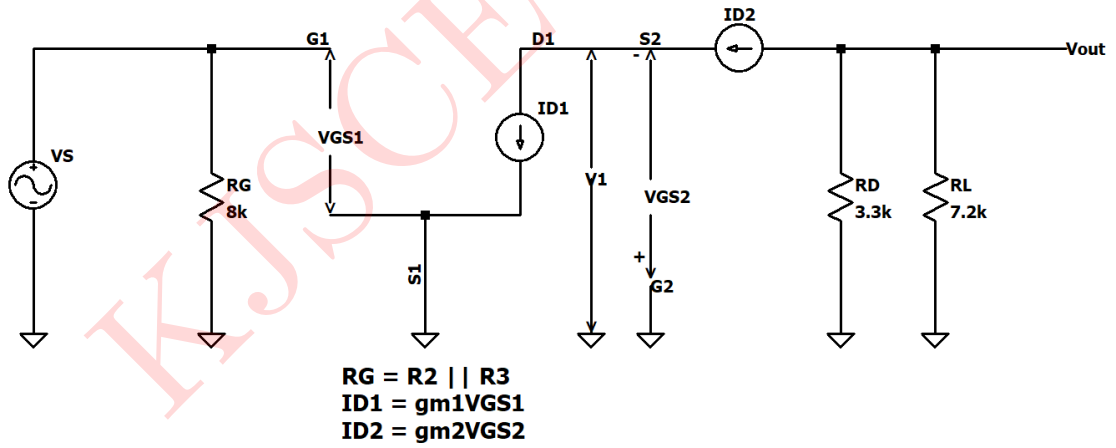


Figure 9: Mid-frequency AC equivalent circuit

Input impedance,

$$\begin{aligned}
Z_i &= R_G \\
&= R_2 \parallel R_3 \\
&= 24k\Omega \parallel 2k\Omega \\
&= \frac{24k\Omega \times 2k\Omega}{24k\Omega + 2k\Omega} = \mathbf{8k\Omega}
\end{aligned}$$

Output impedance,

$$\begin{aligned} Z_o &= R_D \parallel R_L \\ &= \frac{3.3k\Omega \times 7.2k\Omega}{3.3k\Omega + 7.2k\Omega} = \mathbf{2.26k\Omega} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{V_1} &= \frac{V_1}{V_s} \\ &= \frac{-V_{gs2}}{V_{gs1}} \\ &= \frac{-V_{gs1}}{V_{gs1}} \quad (\because V_{gs2} = V_{gs1}) \\ &= \mathbf{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{V_2} &= \frac{V_o}{V_1} \\ &= \frac{-g_{m2}V_{gs2}(R_D \parallel R_L)}{-V_{gs2}} \\ &= g_{m2}(R_D \parallel R_L) \\ &= 0.192mA/V(3.3k\Omega \parallel 7.2k\Omega) \\ &= 0.192mA/V \left(\frac{3.3k\Omega \times 7.2k\Omega}{3.3k\Omega + 7.2k\Omega} \right) \\ &= 0.192mA/V \times 2.26k\Omega = \mathbf{0.433} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{V_T} &= A_{V_1} \times A_{V_2} \\ &= -1 \times 0.433 = \mathbf{-0.433} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also, } A_{V_T} &= \frac{V_{out}}{V_S} \\ \therefore V_{out} &= A_{V_T} \times V_S \\ &= -0.433 \times 20mV = \mathbf{-8.66mV} \end{aligned}$$

SIMULATED RESULTS:

Above circuit is simulated in LTspice and results are as follows:

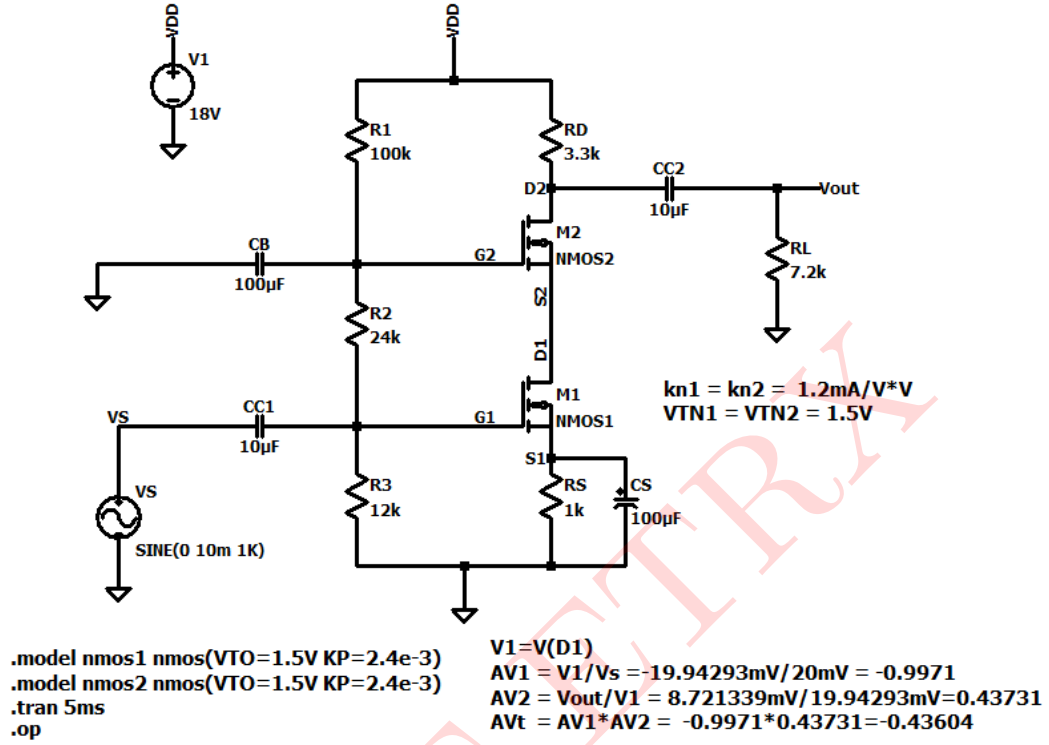


Figure 10: Circuit Schematic

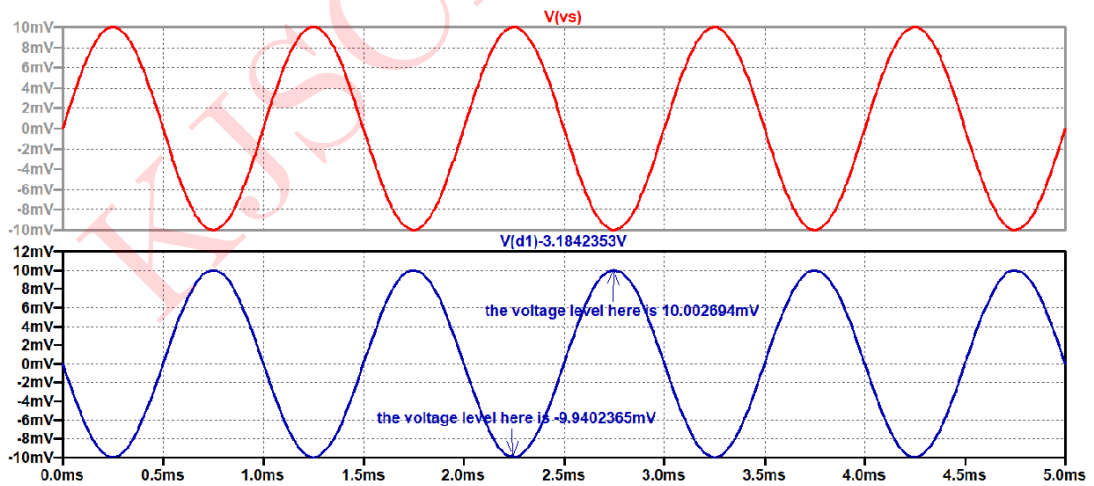


Figure 11: Input and output waveforms for Stage 1 voltage gain

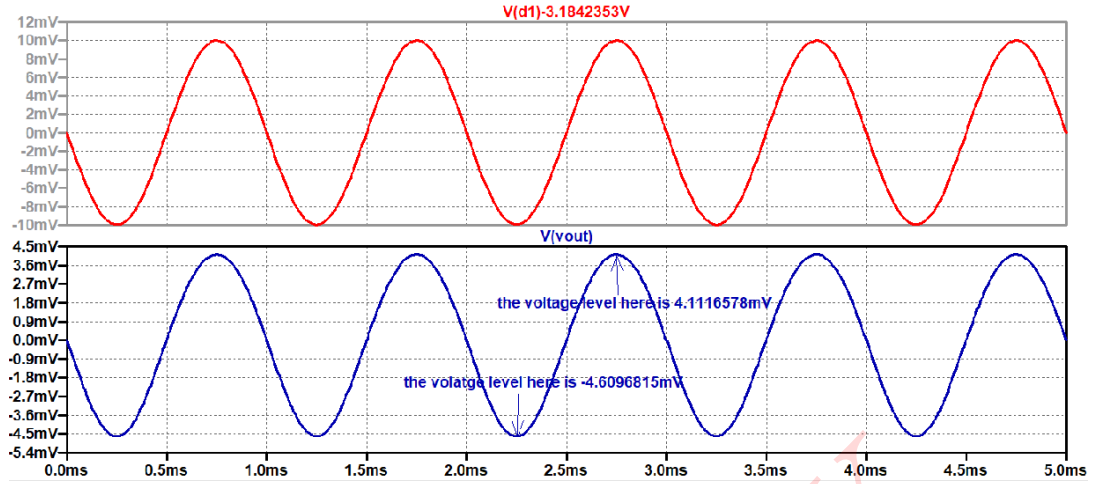


Figure 12: Input and output waveforms for Stage 2 voltage gain

Comparison between theoretical and simulated values:

Parameters	Theoretical values	Simulated values
1st stage DC parameters: V_{G_1} , V_{D_1} , V_{S_1} , I_{D_1}	1.588V, 3.184V, 0.0076V, 7.68 μ A	1.58824V, 3.1824V, 0.00776V, 7.7696 μ A
2nd stage DC parameters: V_{G_2} , V_{D_2} , V_{S_2} , I_{D_2}	4.764V, 17.97V, 3.184V, 7.68 μ A	4.7647V, 17.9744V, 3.1842V, 7.7706 μ A
Voltage gain of 1st stage A_{V_1}	-1	-0.009322
Voltage gain of 2nd stage A_{V_2}	0.433	0.43731
Overall voltage gain A_{V_T}	-0.433	-0.43604
Input impedance of 1st stage Z_i	8k Ω	—
Output impedance of 2nd stage Z_o	2.26k Ω	—
Output voltage	-8.66mV	-8.7213mV

Table 2: Numerical 2
