

# Electronic Devices and Circuits Lab (EE2301)

## Experiment 7 : MOSFET Characteristics

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### 1 Aim

our aim is to understand MOSFET characteristics i.e. both output and transfer characteristics

#### MOSFET:

The metal–oxide–semiconductor field-effect transistor (MOSFET, MOS-FET, or MOS FET) is a type of insulated-gate field-effect transistor that is fabricated by the controlled oxidation of a semiconductor, typically silicon. The voltage of the covered gate determines the electrical conductivity of the device; this ability to change conductivity with the amount of applied voltage can be used for amplifying or switching electronic signals.

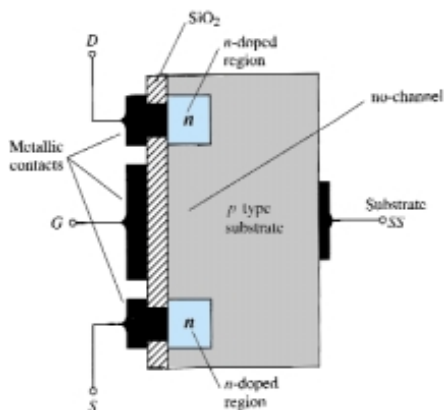


Figure 1: NMOSFET

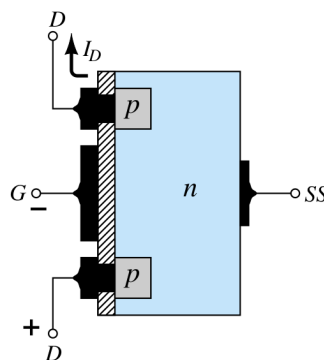
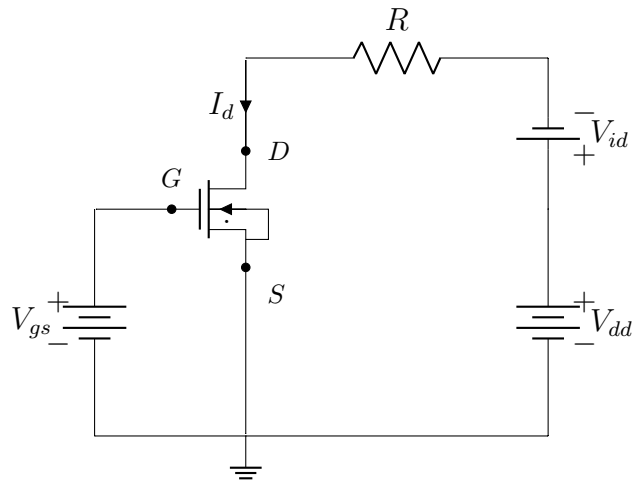


Figure 2: PMOSFET

## NMOSFET(GROUP 1)



NMOSFET circuit diagram

- Given  $R = 1k\Omega$  and  $V_{id} = 0V$ .

### Output characteristics

- Vary drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ) and measure the drain current( $I_d$ ) with a fixed gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ).
- Now plot  $I_d$  vs  $V_{dd}$  for a fixed  $V_{gs}$ .

### Transfer characteristics

- Vary gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ) and measure the drain current( $I_d$ ) with a fixed drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ).
- Now plot  $I_d$  vs  $V_{gs}$  for a fixed  $V_{dd}$ .

## 2 Problem statement(Group 1)

- Group 1 - NMOSFET

- Plot the  $I_D$ - $V_D$  output characteristics ( $V_G = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  V) and mark the important regions of operation.
- Plot the  $I_D$ - $V_G$  transfer characteristics for ( $V_D = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  V).
- Explain the working of the MOSFET and the nature of the characteristics.

## 3 Procedure

### NMOSFET-GROUP 1

#### Output characteristics

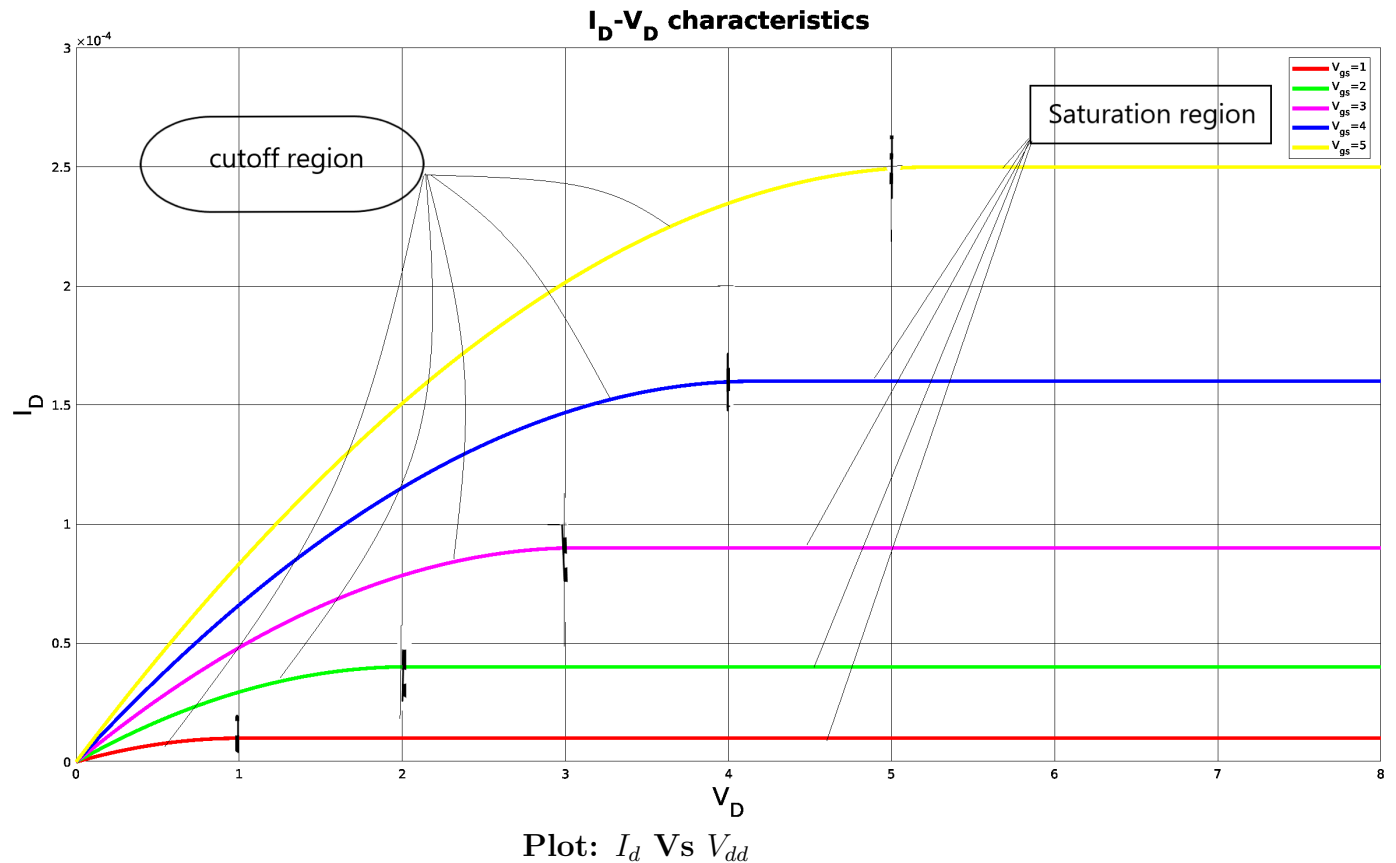
- First we need to write spice scripts for the NMOSFET circuit with given values and varying drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ).
- Now we need to fix the gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ) and run dc simulation of drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ) and print the drain current( $I_d$ ).
- Now we need to do the same for 5 different gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ) values i.e. for  $V_G = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  V.
- Now we need to plot the drain current( $I_d$ ) vs drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ) for the 5 different gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ) in the same figure using matlab or octave.

#### Transfer characteristics

- First we need to write spice scripts for the NMOSFET circuit with given values and varying gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ).
- Now we need to fix the drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ) and run dc simulation of gate bias( $V_{gs}$ ) and print the drain current( $I_d$ ).
- Now we need to do the same for 5 different gate bias( $V_{dd}$ ) values i.e. for  $V_D = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  V.
- Now we need to plot the drain current( $I_d$ ) vs gate bias( $V_{dd}$ ) for the 5 different drain bias( $V_{dd}$ ) in the same figure using matlab or octave.
- We should now analyze the obtained results and explain the circuit working.

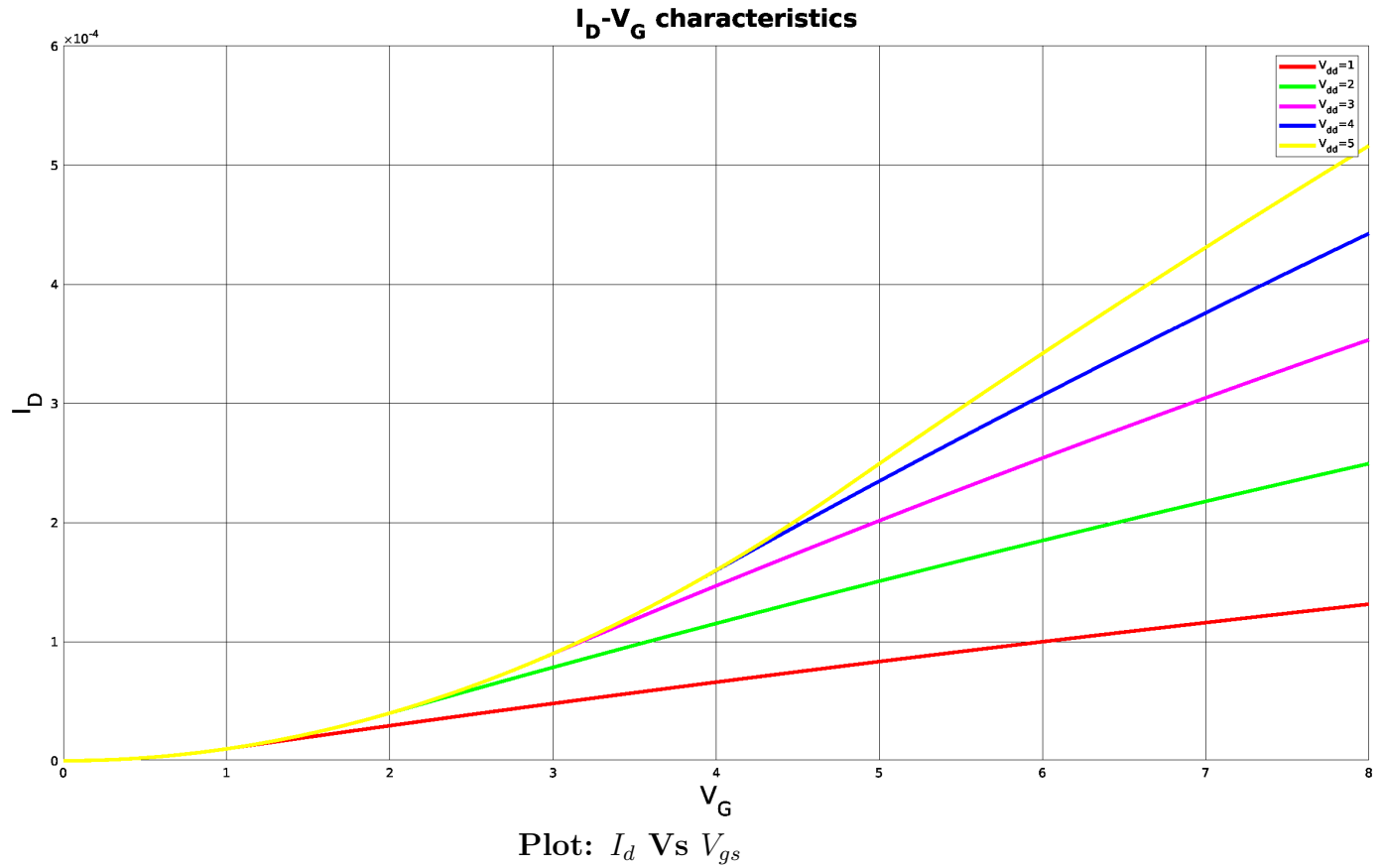
## 4 Results and observations

### Output characteristics



- In the above plot the drain current increases upto a value and then saturates at that value.
- As the value of  $V_G$  increases the current saturation value( $I_{DS}$ ) decreases and the saturation voltage decreases( $V_{DS}$ ) saturates quickly.
- The MOSFET used here is an enhancement type NMOSFET i.e. there is no n-channel initially between n-doped regions.
- The output characteristics are similar to the BJT but here it is voltage controlled whereas in BJT it is current controlled.

## Transfer characteristics



- In the above plot the drain current( $I_d$ ) increases as the gate bias( $V_G$ ) increases.
- As the value of  $V_{dd}$  increases the slope of the plot  $I_d$  vs  $V_G$  increases too.
- The plot looks like a parabola whose equation is given by.

$$I_D = k(V_G - V_T)^2, \quad V_G > V_T \quad (1)$$

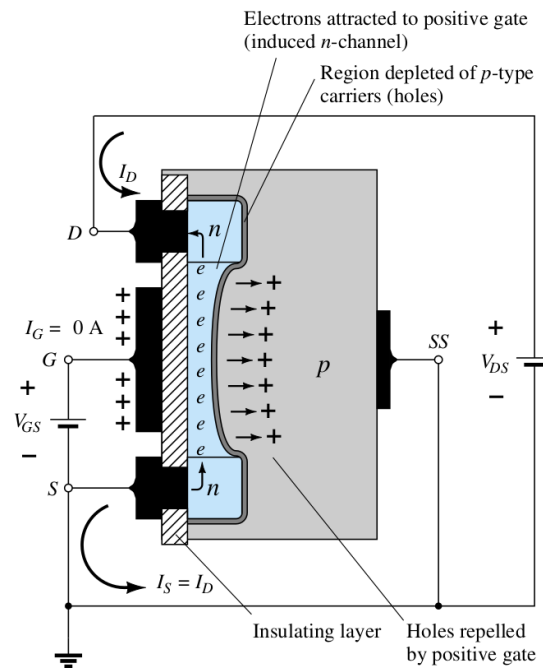
$$I_D = 0, \quad V_G \leq V_T \quad (2)$$

where  $k$  is a constant and  $V_T$  is the value of  $V_G$  at which  $I_D=0$ .

- We can see from the graph that the value of  $k$  increases with increase in  $V_{dd}$  where as  $V_T$  doesn't.

## Working the MOSFET circuit

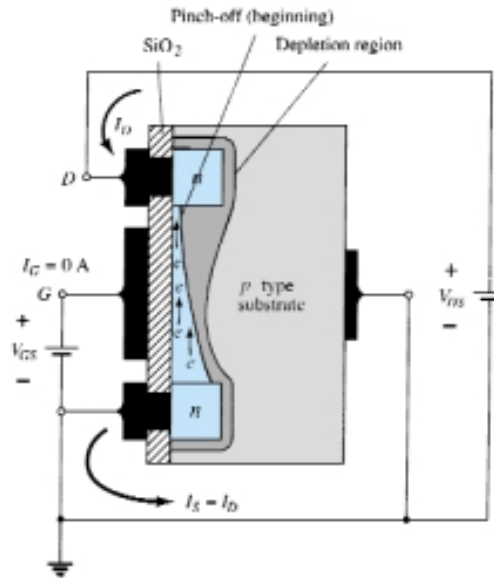
- If  $V_{GS}$  is set at 0 V and a voltage applied between the drain and source of the device, the absence of an n-channel will result in a current of effectively zero amperes.
- Now if we set the both  $V_{DS}$  and  $V_{GS}$  at some positive voltage greater than 0 V, establishing the drain and gate at a positive potential with respect to the source. The positive potential at the gate will pressure the holes (since like charges repel) in the p-substrate along the edge of the  $SiO_2$  layer to leave the area and enter deeper regions of the p-substrate, as shown in the figure.



**Figure 3: n-Channel formation in the NMOSFET.**

- As  $V_{GS}$  increases in magnitude, the concentration of electrons near the  $SiO_2$  surface increases until eventually the induced n-type region can support a measurable flow between drain and source. The level of  $V_{GS}$  that results in the significant increase in drain current is called the threshold voltage and is given the symbol  $V_T$ .
- The above reasons explain the transfer characteristics of the NMOSFET circuit.

- Now if we hold  $V_{GS}$  constant and increase the level of  $V_{DS}$ , the drain current will eventually reach a saturation level. The leveling off of  $I_D$  is due to a pinching-off process depicted by the narrower channel at the drain end of the induced channel as shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 4: Change in channel and depletion region with increasing level of  $V_{DS}$  for a fixed value of  $V_{GS}$**

- If  $V_{GS}$  is held fixed at some value such as 8 V and  $V_{DS}$  is increased from 2 to 5V, the voltage  $V_{DG}$  i.e  $V_{DS}-V_{GS}$  will drop from -6 to -3 V and the gate will become less and less positive with respect to the drain.
- This reduction in gate-to-drain voltage will in turn reduce the attractive forces for free carriers (electrons) in this region of the induced channel, causing a reduction in the effective channel width. Eventually, the channel will be reduced to the point of pinch-off and a saturation condition will be established.
- Even though the channel width is reduced there is high density of carriers for the current flow.
- The above reasons explain the output characteristics of the NMOSFET circuit.

## 5 Conclusions

- The saturation level for  $V_{DS}$  is related to the level of applied  $V_{DS}$  by  $V_{DS_{sat}} = V_{GS} - V_T$ .
- We also note that there is no current at gate ( $I_G$ ) due to the insulating material.
- MOSFET is a voltage controlled device which is a lot flexible than BJT.
- Key advantage of a MOSFET is that it requires almost no input current to control the load current.
- The MOSFET is the most widely used type of transistor and the most critical device component in integrated circuit (IC) chips..

## 6 References

- Electronic devices and circuit theory by ROBERT BOYLESTAD and LOUIS [Link](#)
- MOSFET-Wikipedia [Link](#)

*Thank you*