



**Credit Hours System**



**Cairo University**  
**Faculty of Engineering**

**ELCN201 - Electronics-2**

**Project 2: Frequency Response & Current Mirror**

**Program: CCEE**

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## Problem (1): Frequency Response

Design the amplifier with the following specifications:

- $A_v$  (mid-band gain)  $\geq 26\text{dB}$
- Accommodate an input signal with frequency band from 500Hz to 30 MHz
- Current consumption  $\leq 100\mu\text{A}$
- $C_L = 0.5\text{ pF}$

Design Procedure:

Note:  $K_p = 40\mu\text{A}/\text{V}^2$  from the model parameters

We choose  $I_D = 95\mu\text{A}$

By direct analysis on the schematic or using the SSM:

$$KCL: \frac{V_{out}}{R} = \frac{V_{in} - V_{out}}{r_o} + g_m V_{sg}, \quad V_{sg} = V_{in},$$

Substituting and rearranging:

$$V_{out} \left( \frac{1}{r_o} + \frac{1}{R} \right) = V_{in} \left( \frac{1}{r_o} + g_m \right) \rightarrow \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = A_v = \left( \frac{1}{r_o} + g_m \right) (R // r_o)$$

$$\lambda = 0 \rightarrow r_o = \infty \rightarrow R_{out} = (R // r_o) = R, \quad R_{in} = \frac{1}{g_m}, \quad A_v = g_m R$$

From the gain spec:  $A_v \geq 26\text{dB} \rightarrow$  To leave a margin, let  $A_v = 28\text{dB} \rightarrow A_v = 10^{\frac{28}{20}} \cong 25$

AC Analysis:

$$f_L = \frac{1}{2\pi * R_{in} * C} = \frac{g_m}{2\pi * C} = 500\text{ Hz}$$

$$f_H = \frac{1}{2\pi * R_{out} * C_L} = \frac{1}{2\pi * R * C_L} = 30\text{ MHz} \rightarrow R = 10.61\text{ kohm} \rightarrow \text{let } R = 12\text{ kohm} \text{ to make some margin for ignoring } r_o.$$

$$\text{Hence, } g_m = \frac{A_v}{R} \cong 2\text{ mS} \rightarrow \text{substituting in } f_L = \frac{g_m}{2\pi * C} \rightarrow C \cong 637\text{ nF}$$

$$I_D = \frac{K_p}{2} * (|V_{SG}| - |V_{tp}|)^2$$

$$g_m = \text{sqrt} \left( \mu_p * C_{ox} * \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) * I_D * 2 \right) \rightarrow \frac{W}{L} = 526 \rightarrow \text{let } L = 1\mu\text{m} \text{ and } W = 526\mu\text{m}$$

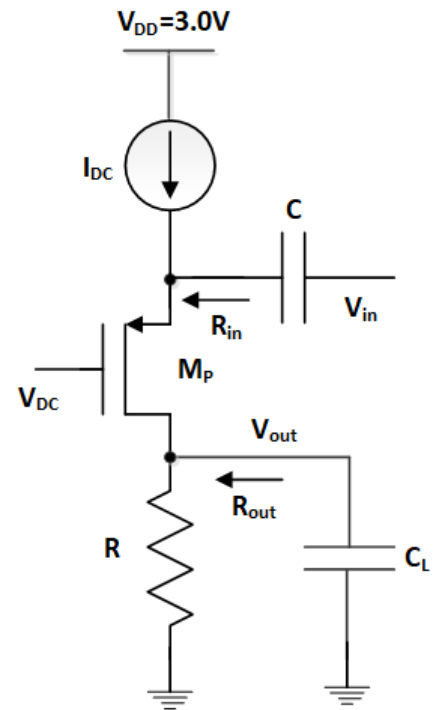
$$\text{Using Square law: } I_D = \frac{1}{2} * \mu_p * C_{ox} * \frac{W}{L} * V_{ov}^2 \rightarrow V_{ov} = 0.095 \cong 0.1$$

$$\text{From Sat. Condition: } V_{DG} \leq |V_{tp}| \rightarrow I_{DC} * R - V_{DC} \leq 0.8 \rightarrow V_{DC} \geq 0.34 \rightarrow \text{let } V_{DC} = 0.5\text{V}$$

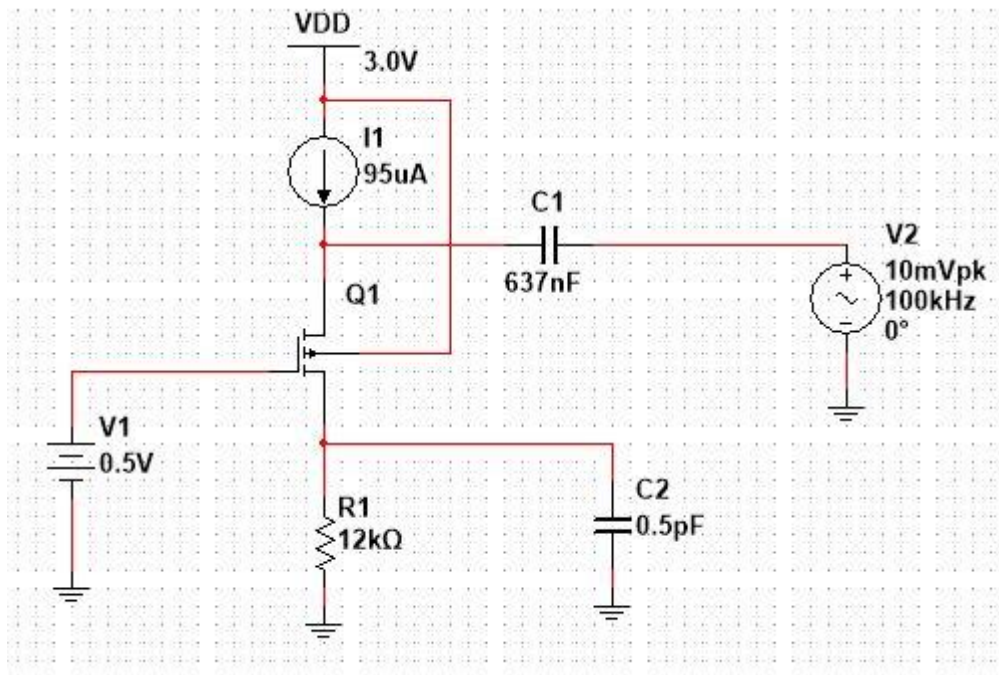
a) Calculate the input linear range and the output signal swing for your design.

$$LIR: V_{in} \leq 0.2 * V_{eff} = 0.02\text{V}$$

$$\text{Swing: } V_{outmin} = 0\text{V}, V_{outmax} - V_G \leq |V_{tp}| \rightarrow V_{outmax} = 1.3\text{V}, \text{ Swing} = 1.3\text{V}$$



Document the design procedure and the results of the following simulations:  
Circuit Schematic



**DC analysis and show the Q-point ( $I_{SD}$ ,  $V_{SD}$ ,  $V_{eff}$ ), and VDC**

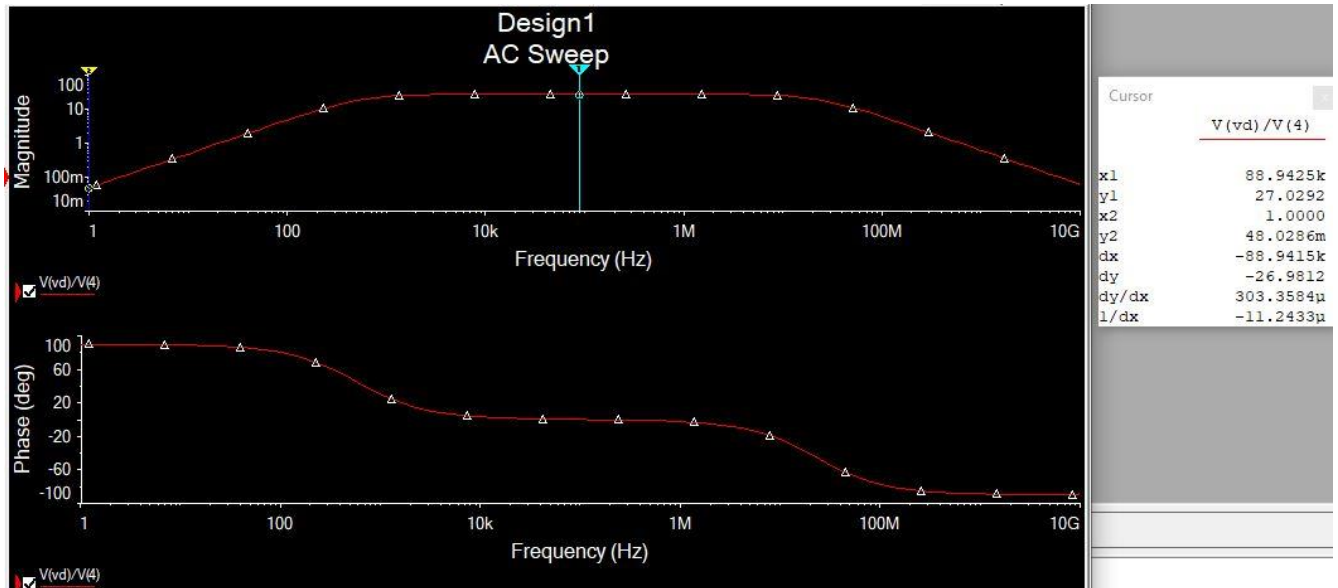
DC Operating Point

Design1			
DC Operating Point Analysis			
	Variable	Operating point value	
1	V(vg)	500.00000 m	
2	V(vs)-V(vd)	451.10681 m	
3	V(vs)-V(vg)-0.8	291.10681 m	
4	I(MQ1[IS])	95.00000 u	

$V_{DC} = 0.5V$ ,  $V_{SD} = 0.45V$ ,  $V_{eff} = 0.29V$ ,  $I_D = 95uA$

## AC analysis and show the gain (frequency response) up to 1GHz.

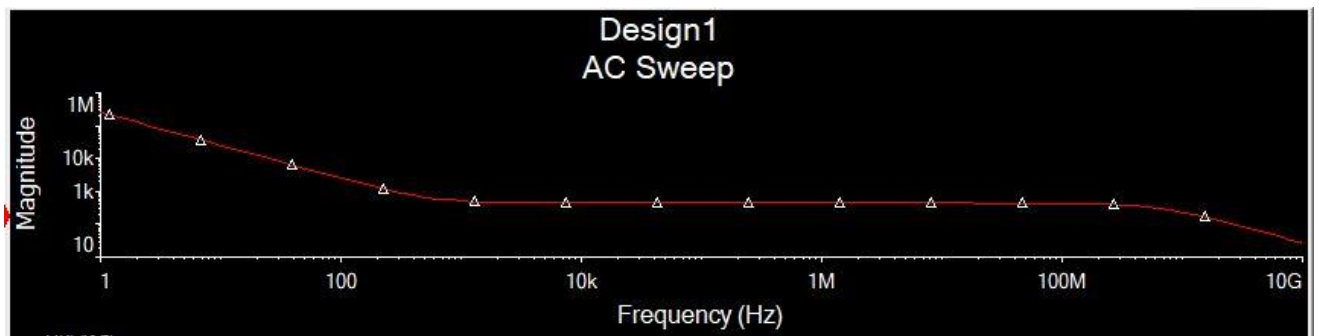
Magnitude and Phase are both shown. The gain is annotated on the right.



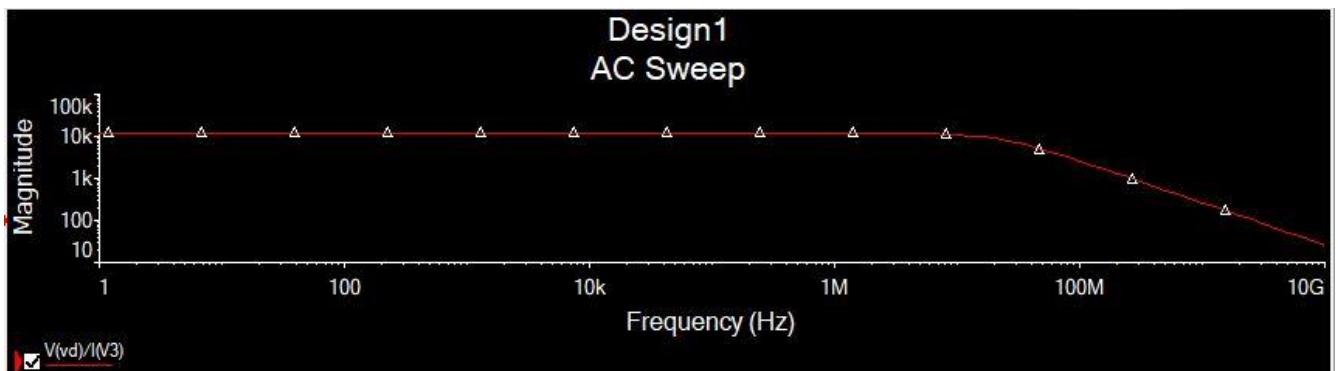
Gain = 27  $\approx$  28.6dB. The requirement is satisfied

## AC analysis and show Rin, and Rout vs. frequency (up to 10GHz).

### Rin vs frequency

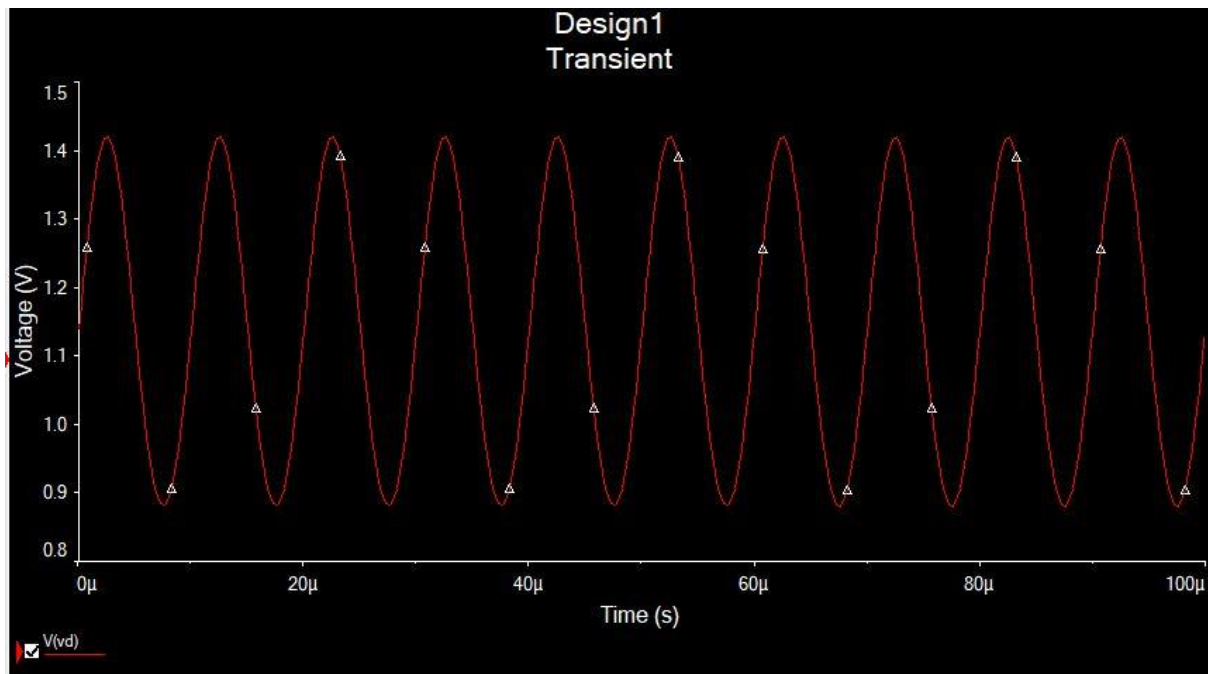


### Rout vs frequency

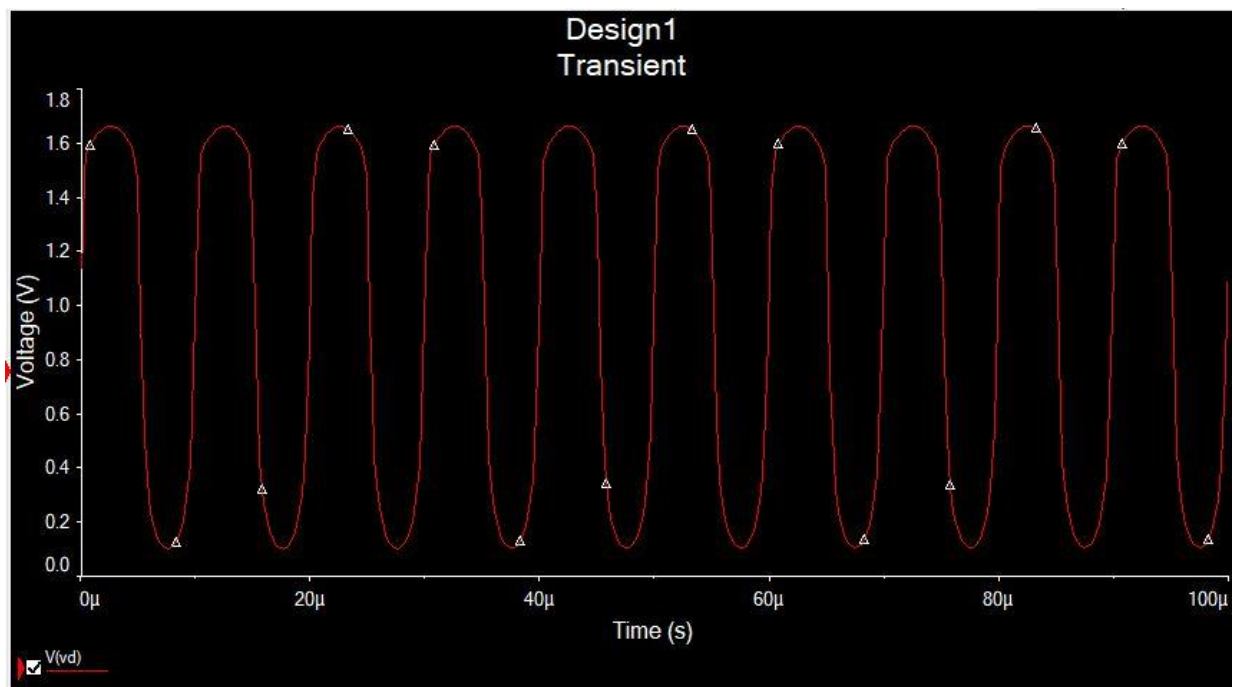


**Transient analysis with  $V_{in}=A.\sin(2\pi ft)$  and plot  $V_{out}$ . Where  $A=10\text{mV}$  and  $f=100\text{kHz}$**

**$A = 10\text{mV}$**



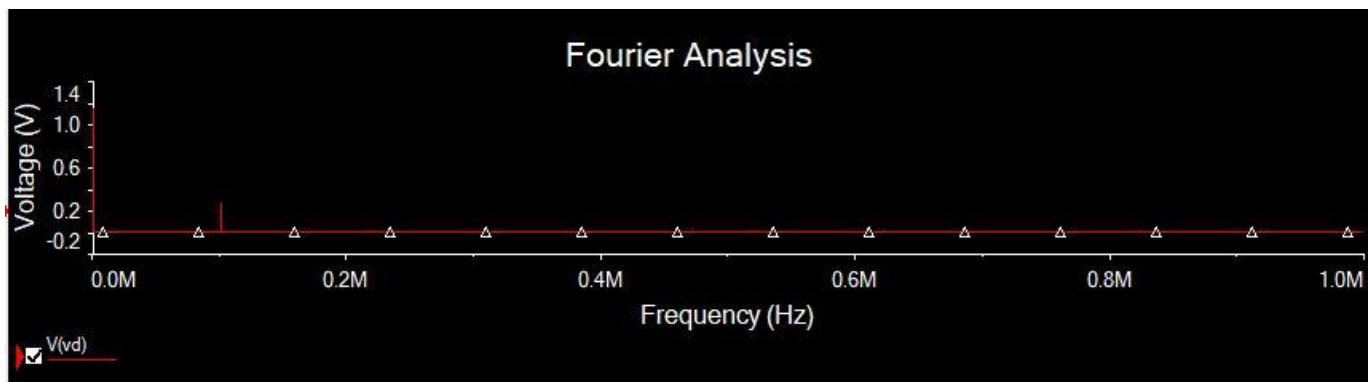
**$A = 100\text{mV}$**



**Perform Fourier analysis for the same two cases of the transient analysis and. plot Vout in the frequency domain. Calculate HD2, HD3, and THD.**

**Case 1: A = 10mV**

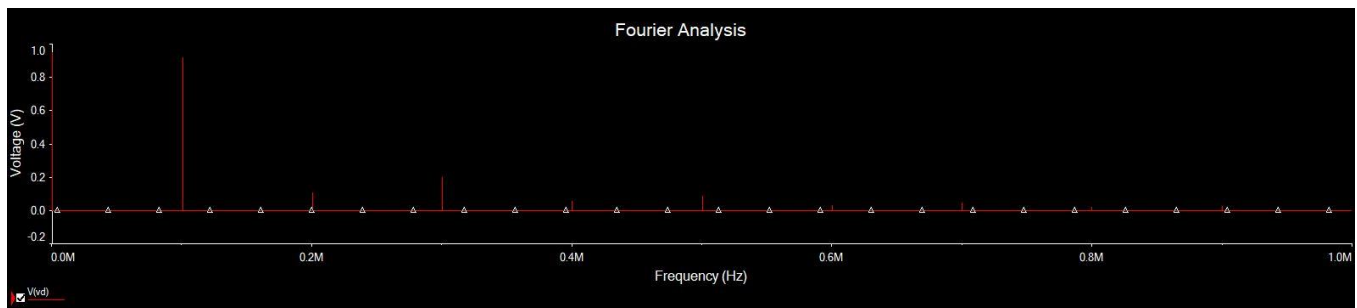
Design 1						
1	Fourier analysis for V(vd):					
2	DC component:	1.14457				
3	No. Harmonics:	9				
4	THD:	2.34722 %				
5	Grid size:	256				
6	Interpolation Degree:	1				
7						
8	Harmonic	Frequency	Magnitude	Phase	Norm. Mag	Norm. Phase
9	0	0	1.14457	0	4.24715	0
10	1	100000	0.269492	0.0690633	1	0
11	2	200000	0.00632336	-89.409	0.023464	-89.478
12	3	300000	0.00016594	-0.25145	0.000615753	-0.32051
13	4	400000	1.32494e-05	-13.002	4.91644e-05	-13.071
14	5	500000	1.01877e-05	2.35491	3.78034e-05	2.28585
15	6	600000	8.57151e-06	2.98916	3.18062e-05	2.9201
16	7	700000	7.24366e-06	4.20279	2.6879e-05	4.13372



$$\begin{aligned} \text{HD} &= (\text{Harmonic}/\text{fundamental}) * 100 \\ \text{HD2} &= (0.0063/0.2695) * 100 = 2.346 \% \\ \text{HD3} &= (0.000166/0.2695) * 100 = 0.0616 \% \\ \text{THD} &= 2.347 \% \end{aligned}$$

## Case 2: A = 100mV

1	Fourier analysis for V(vd):				
2	DC component:	0.950619			
3	No. Harmonics:	9			
4	THD:	27.4828 %			
5	Grid size:	256			
6	Interpolation Degree:	1			
7					
8	Harmonic	Frequency	Magnitude	Phase	Norm. Mag
9	0	0	0.950619	0	1.03284
10	1	100000	0.920397	-0.11399	1
11	2	200000	0.10514	89.6692	0.114233
12	3	300000	0.196823	-0.3918	0.213846
13	4	400000	0.0565486	89.4757	0.0614394
14	5	500000	0.0850352	-0.7111	0.0923897
15	6	600000	0.031003	89.2762	0.0336843
16	7	700000	0.0440795	-1.0866	0.0478919



$$HD = (\text{Harmonic/fundamental}) * 100$$

$$HD_2 = (0.10514/0.920397) * 100 = 11.4 \%$$

$$HD_3 = (0.196823/0.920397) * 100 = 21.4 \%$$

$$THD = 27.48 \%$$

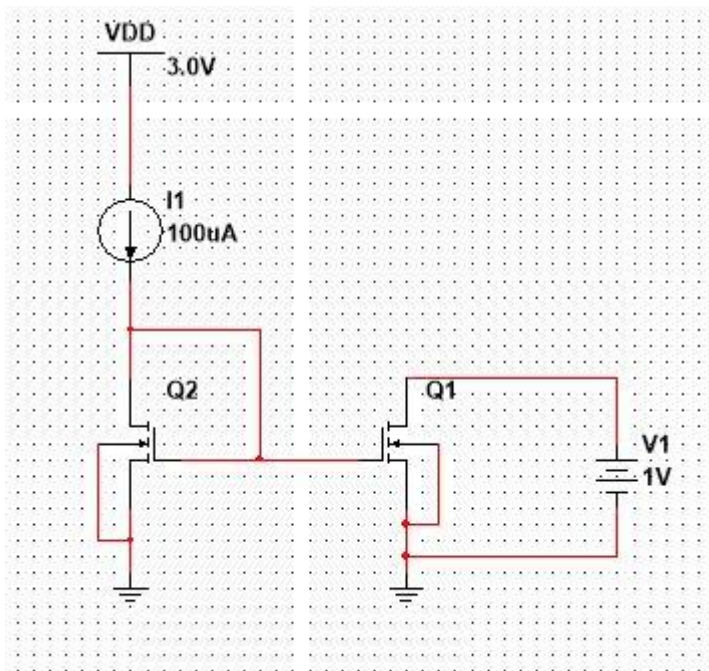
## Discussion:

- The specs on the gain and current consumption are satisfied by a good margin.
- $R_{in}$  and  $R_{out}$  are the close to the hand calculations.
- The circuit doesn't consume a large DC voltage and could have even worked reasonably with a lower current consumption.
- For  $V_{in}$ 's amplitude = 10mV – within  $V_{in}$ 's linear input range -- the presence of distortion harmonics is almost negligible and hence there's little or no distortion.
- For  $V_{in}$ 's amplitude = 100mV – beyond  $V_{in}$ 's linear input range -- the presence of distortion harmonics is noticeable and the signal is visibly distorted.
- The distortion increases as the value of  $V_{in}$  exceeds its linear range as elaborated through the transient simulations on signals with amplitudes 10mV and 100mV and also as can be seen from the value of the THD.
- By careful inspection of the harmonics, we can notice that the odd harmonics make for a larger distortion.



## Problem (2): Current Mirror

### Circuit Schematic



**(a) Design the simple current mirror in Fig. 2(a) such that  $I_{in}=100\mu A$ ,  $I_{out}=200\mu A$ , and  $V_{eff}$  is 0.2V for all transistors. Use  $L=1\mu m$ .**

### Design Procedure

From the given model parameters:  $K_n = \mu_n C_{ox} = 120\mu A/V^2$ ,  $V_{tn} = 0.7$

Given that  $L_1 = L_2 = 1\mu m$ ,  $V_{eff} = 0.2V$ ,  $I_{in} = 100\mu A$ ,  $I_{out} = 200\mu A$

$$I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{W}{L}\right) \cdot V_{ov}^2 \rightarrow W/L = 41.6667 \approx 42$$

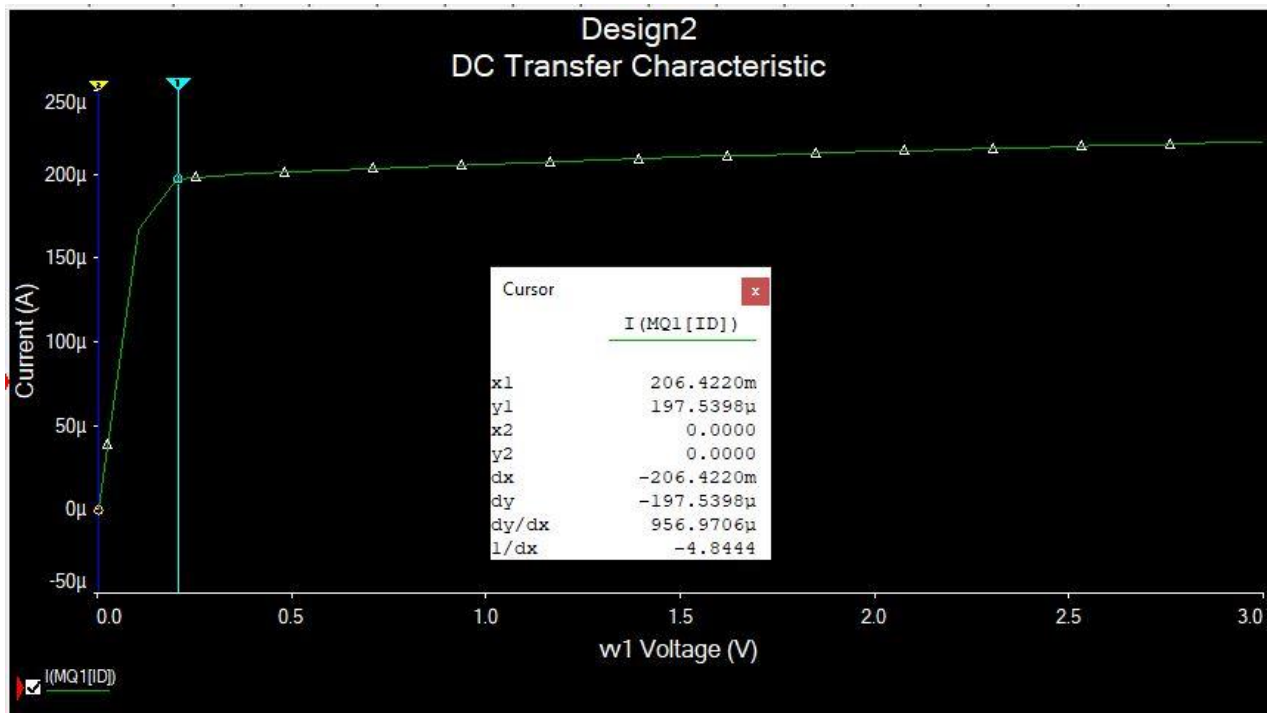
$$L_1 = 1\mu m \rightarrow W_1 = 42\mu m$$

$$\text{To get } I_{out} = 200\mu A = 2 \cdot I_{in} \rightarrow W_2 = 2 \cdot W_1 = 84\mu m$$

$$V_{compliance} = V_{eff} = 0.2V$$

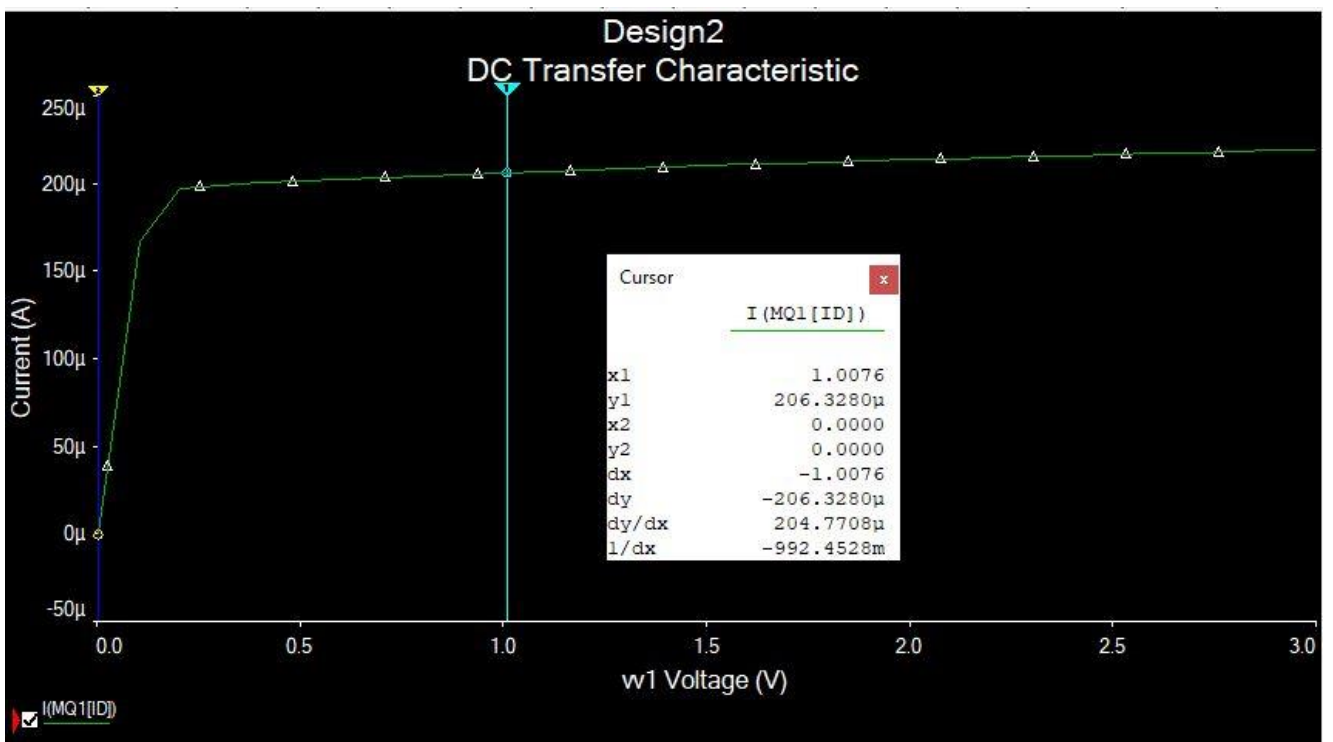


## Iout vs Vout



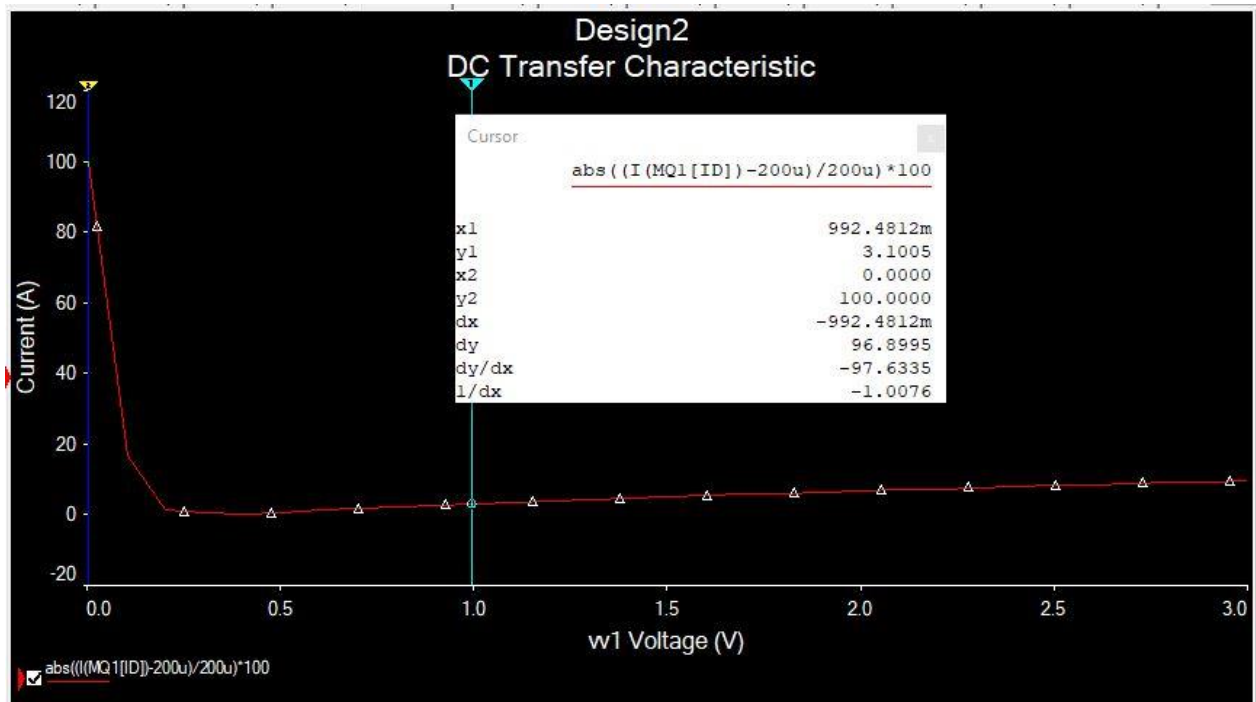
Vcompliance = 206mV. Close to analytical value.

## Iout vs Vout (cursor at Vout = 1V)



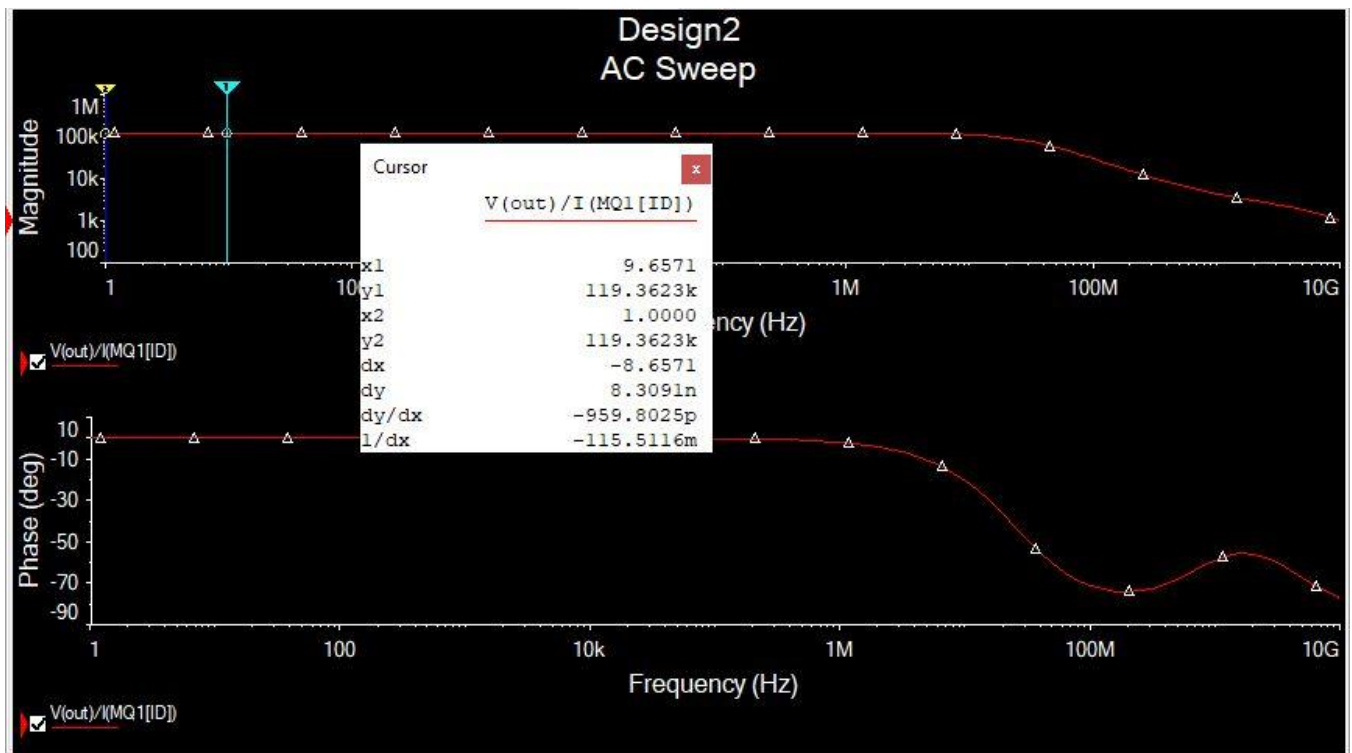
$$\text{Error} = ((206-200)/200) * 100 = 3\%$$

## Percentage of Error graph of (Iout vs Vout) cursor at Vout = 1V



From the cursor, Error = 3.1%. This the same result obtained above.

## Rout vs frequency



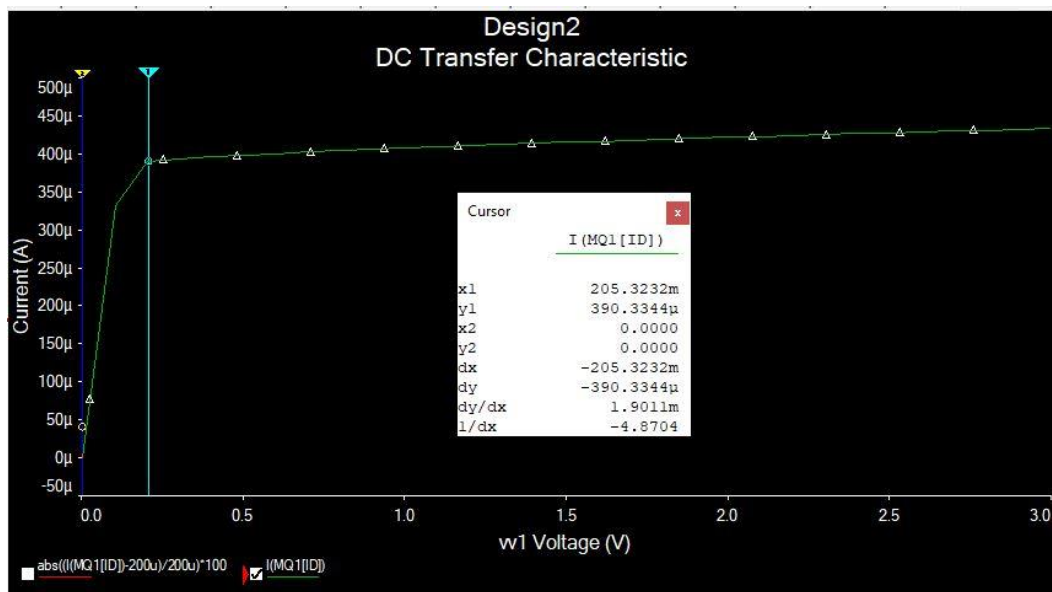
Rout = 119.4kohm

**Repeat (a) for  $I_{in}=200\mu A$  and  $I_{out}=400\mu A$ .  $V_{eff}$  should be kept at 0.2V.**

**$I_{in} = 200\mu A$ ,  $I_{out} = 400\mu A$**

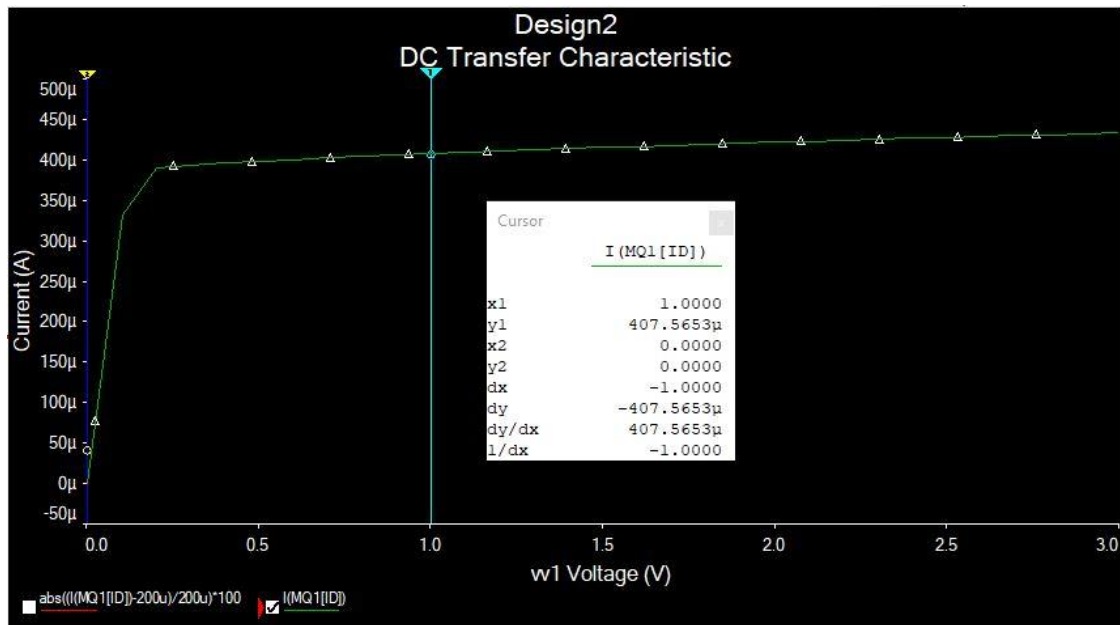
It is required to keep  $V_{eff}$  at 0.2V. Since we double the current, we need to double the device width also. So  $W1 = 84\mu m$  and  $W2 = 168\mu m$

**$I_{out}$  vs  $V_{out}$**



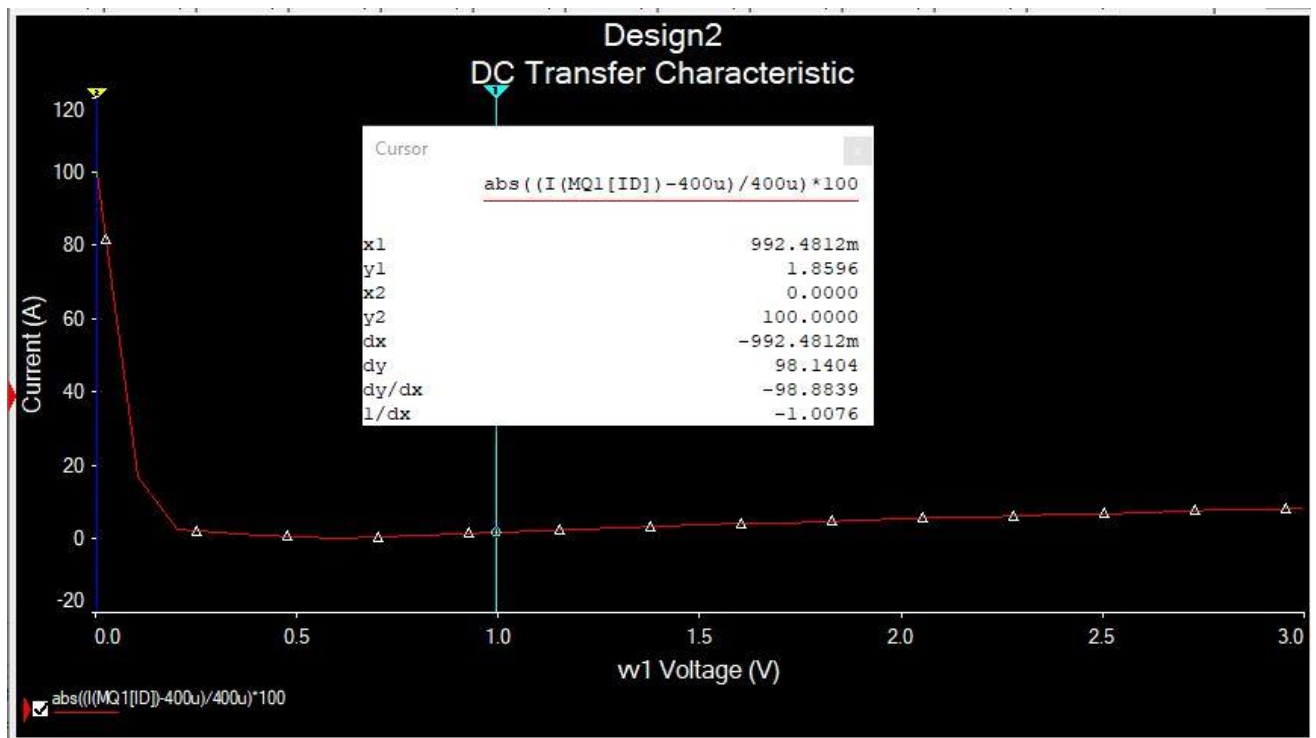
$V_{compliance} = 205mV$

**$I_{out}$  vs  $V_{out}$  (cursor at  $V_{out} = 1V$ )**



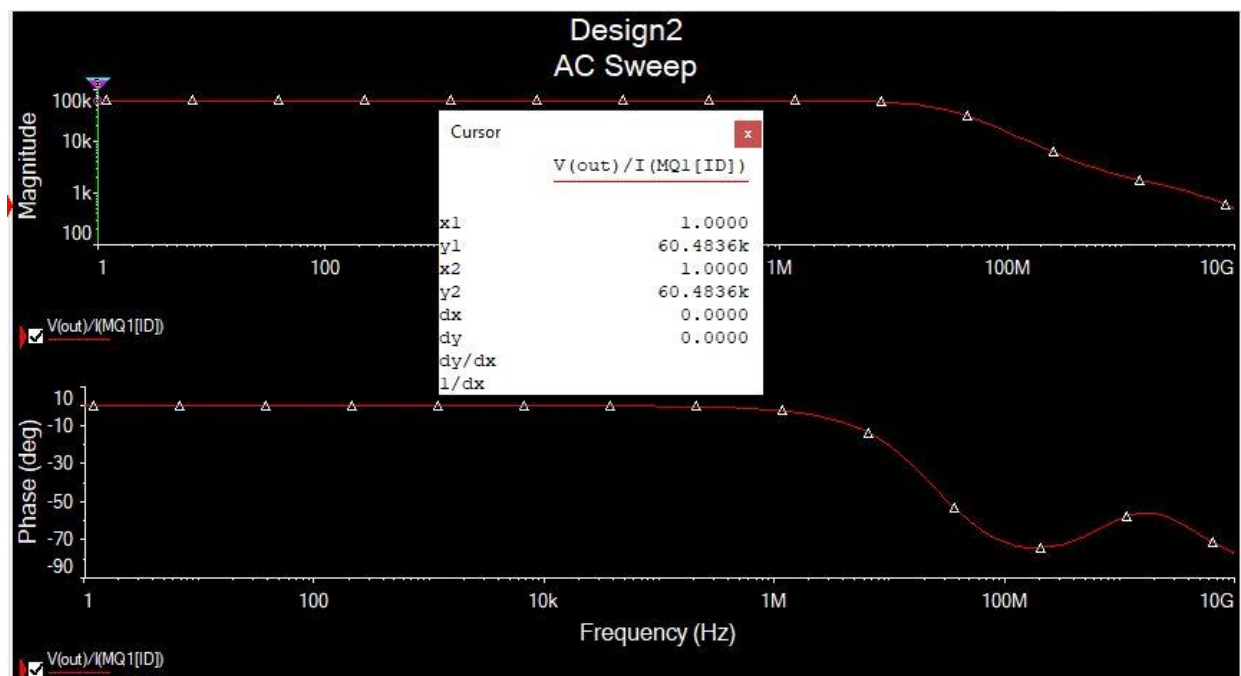
Error =  $((407.56-400)/400) * 100 = 1.8\%$

## Percentage of Error graph of (Iout vs Vout) cursor at Vout = 1V



From the cursor, Error = 1.86%, Almost same Result obtained above

## Rout vs frequency



Rout = 60.5kohm.

As Iout is doubled, Rout is almost exactly halved.

## Cascode Current Mirror

The circuit diagram shows a differential amplifier configuration. It consists of two NMOS transistors, Q1 and Q2, whose sources are connected to ground. The gates of Q1 and Q2 are connected to a common biasing network. This network includes a PMOS transistor Q3, whose source is connected to a 3.0V VDD supply and whose gate is connected to its drain. A current source I1, represented by a circle with a downward arrow, is connected between VDD and the gates of Q1 and Q2. The current source is labeled with a value of 100uA. The drains of Q1 and Q2 are connected to a load network. This network includes a PMOS transistor Q4, whose source is connected to the drain of Q1 and whose gate is connected to its drain. An AC voltage source V2, represented by a circle with a tilde symbol, is connected between the drain of Q4 and the drain of Q2. The AC source is labeled with a peak voltage of 1Vpk, a frequency of 1kHz, and a phase of 0°. A DC voltage source V1, represented by a battery symbol, is connected between the drain of Q4 and ground, with a value of 1V.

Design3

### DC Transfer Characteristic

Current (A)

w1 Voltage (V)

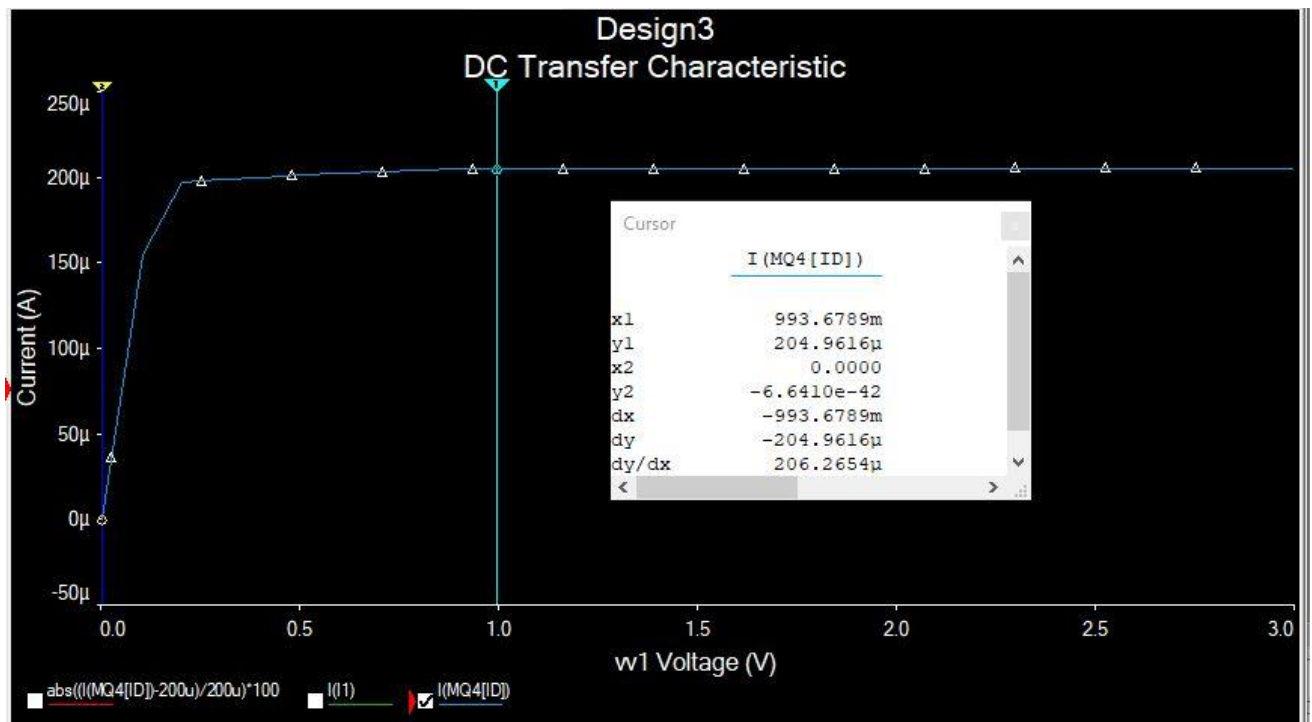
Cursor

I (MQ4 [ID])	
x1	409.6081m
y1	200.1098μ
x2	0.0000
y2	-6.6410e-42
dx	-409.6081m
dy	-200.1098μ
dy/dx	488.5397μ

☐  $\text{abs}((I(MQ4[ID]) - 200\mu) / 200\mu) * 100$ 
☐  $I(I)$ 
☒  $I(MQ4[ID])$

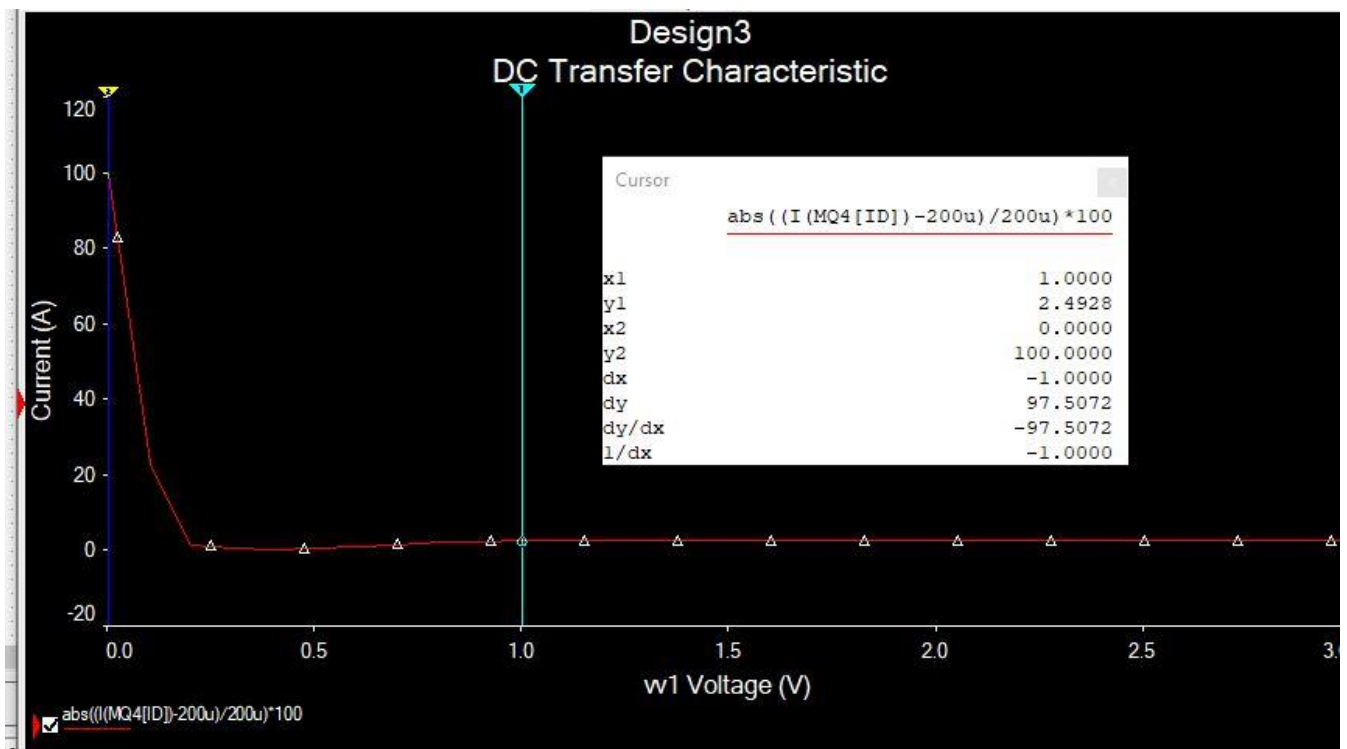
13

## Iout vs Vout (cursor at Vout = 1V)



Error =  $((205-200)/200) * 100 = 2.5\%$ , a slight decrease in the error compared to the normal current mirror

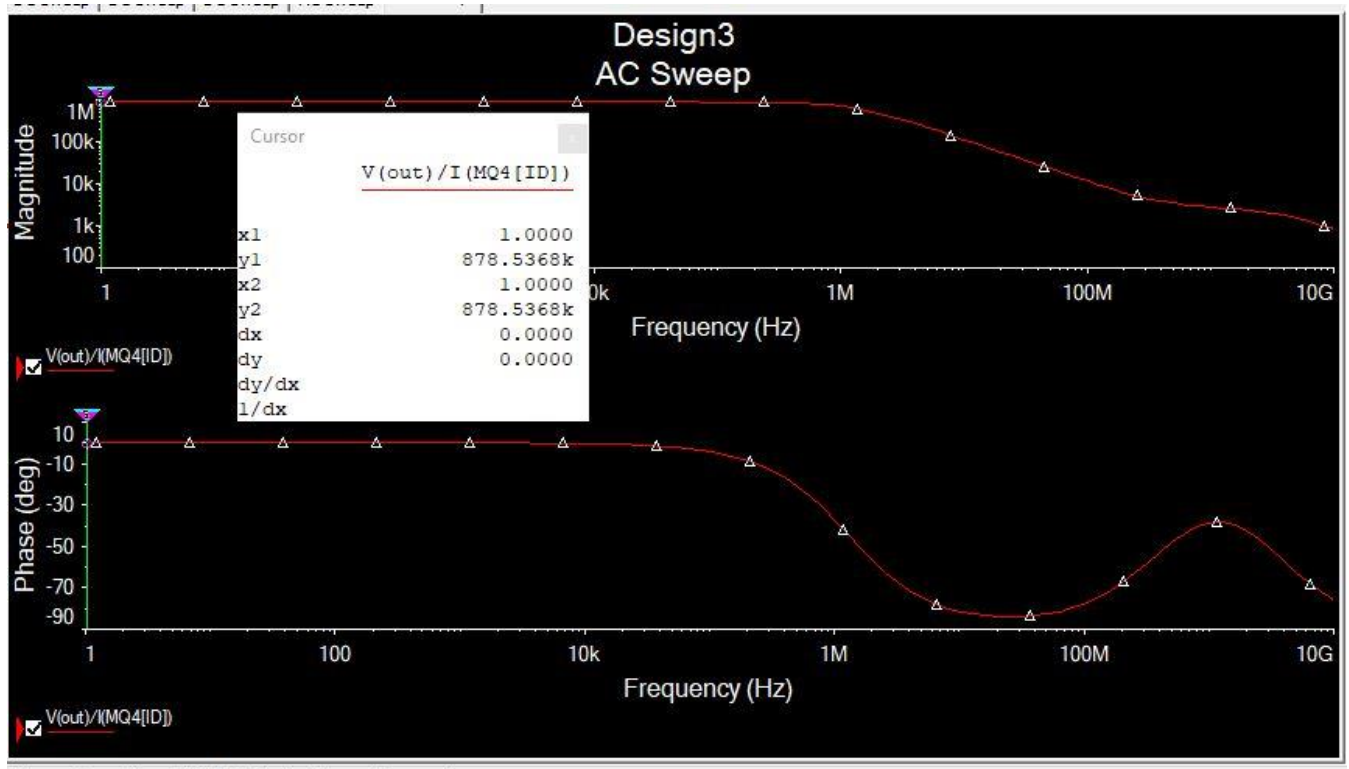
## Percentage of Error graph of (Iout vs Vout) cursor at Vout = 1V



From the cursor, Error = 2.49%, Almost same Result obtained above.



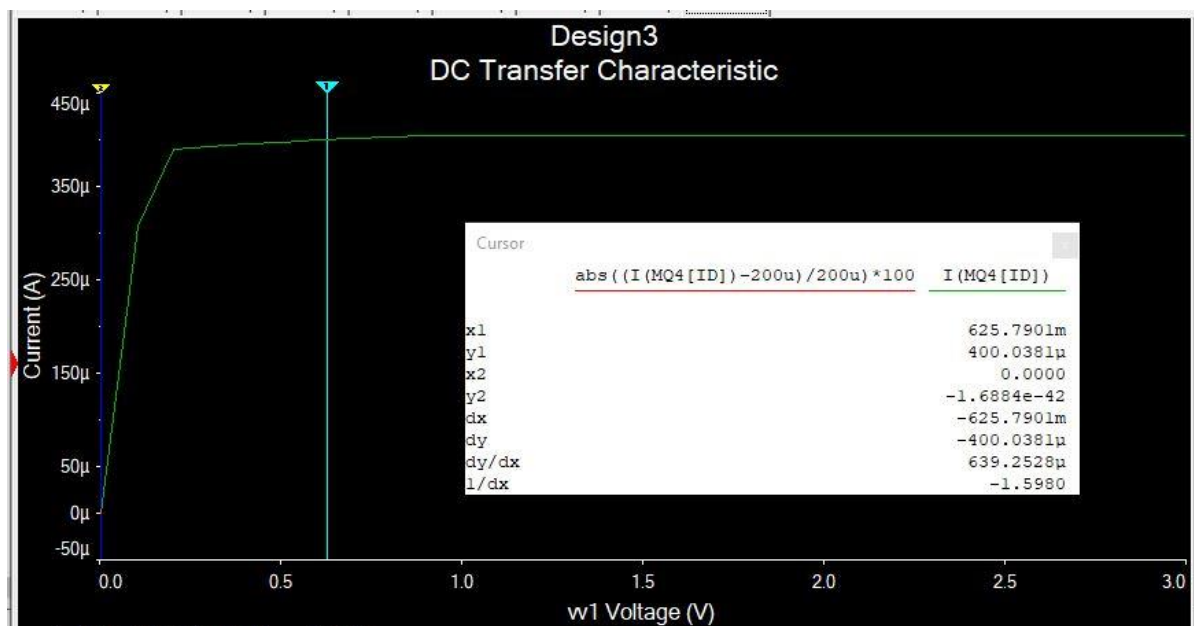
## Rout vs frequency



$R_{out} = 878.5\text{kohm}$ , which is a massive increase compared to the normal current mirror at the same conditions.

$I_{in} = 200\mu\text{A}$ ,  $I_{out} = 400\mu\text{A}$

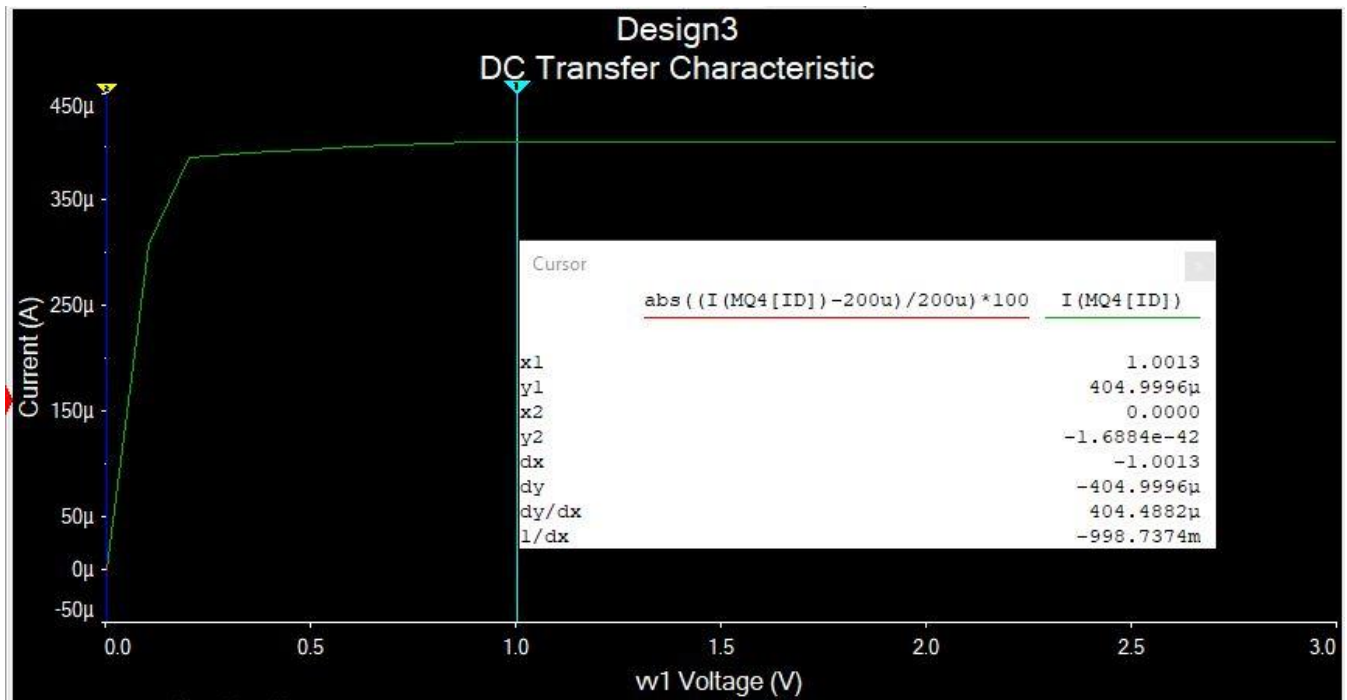
## Iout vs Vout



$V_{compliance} = 609\text{mV}$

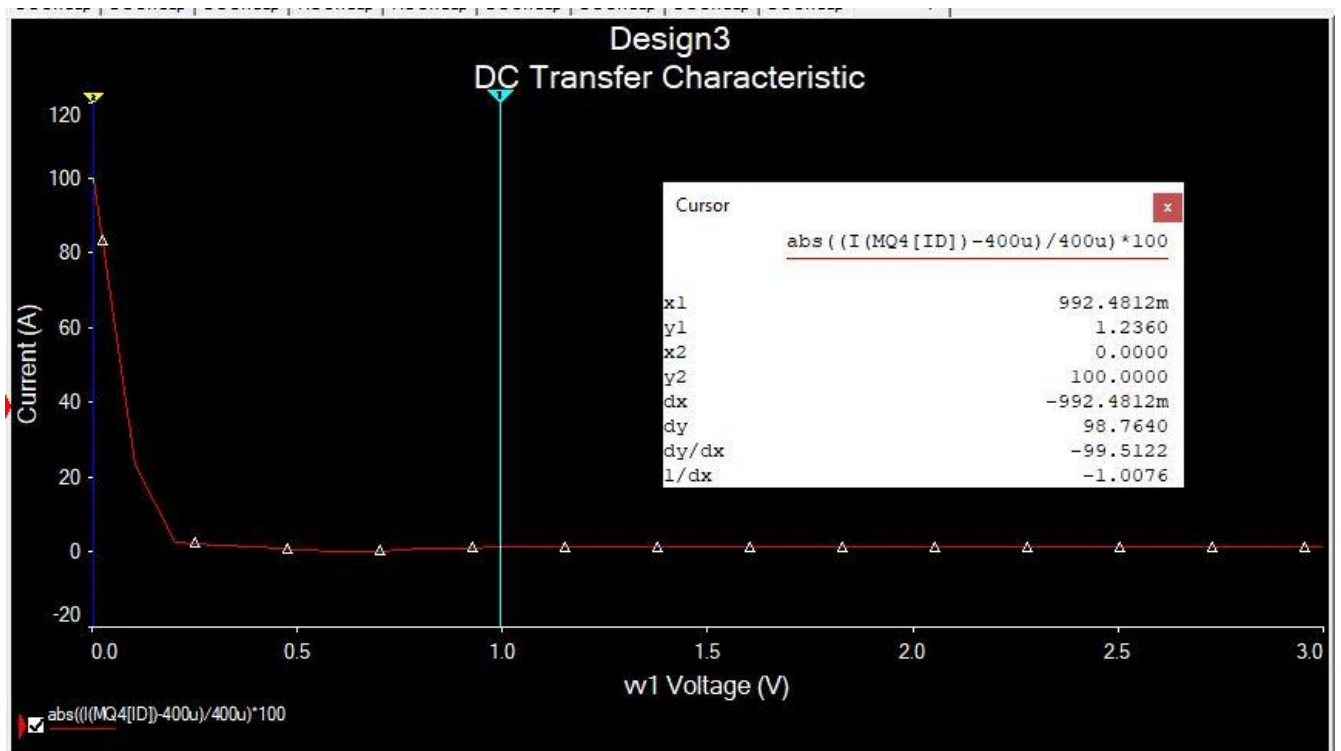


## Iout vs Vout (cursor at Vout = 1V)



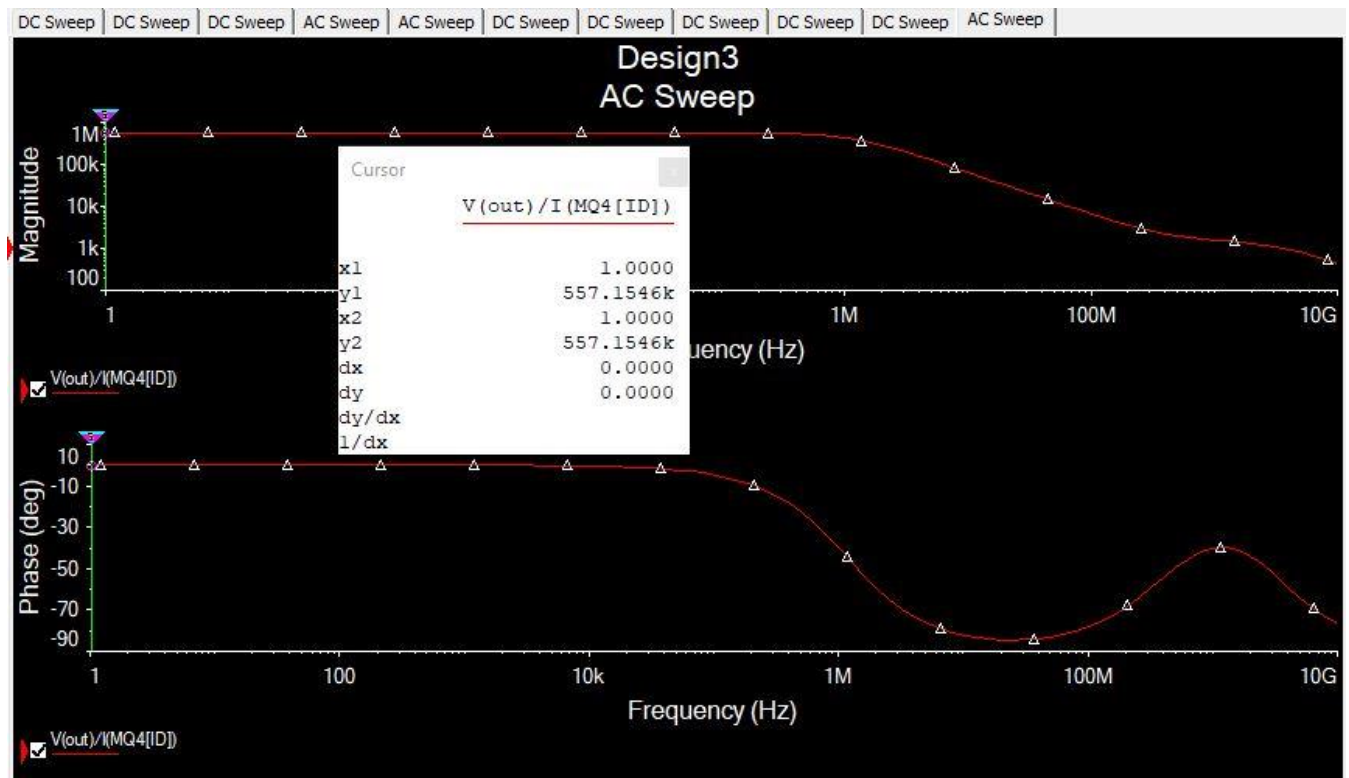
Error =  $((405-400)/400) * 100 = 1.25.5\%$ , a slight decrease in the error compared to the normal current mirror.

## Percentage of Error graph of (Iout vs Vout) cursor at Vout = 1V



From the cursor, Error = 1.24%, Almost same Result obtained above.

## Rout vs frequency



$R_{out} = 557\text{kohm}$ , which is a massive increase compared to the normal current mirror at the same conditions.

Compared to the cascode with  $I_{in} = 100\mu\text{A}$ ,  $I_{in}=200\mu\text{A}$  decreases  $R_{out}$  quite a bit.

## Performance Comparison

	Simple Current Mirror		Cascode Current Mirror	
$I_{in}$	100 $\mu\text{A}$	200 $\mu\text{A}$	100 $\mu\text{A}$	200 $\mu\text{A}$
$V_{compliance}$	206mV	205mV	409mV	609mV
Error in Current (at 1V)	3.1%	1.86%	2.5%	1.25%
$R_{out}$	120 kohm	60 kohm	879 kohm	557 kohm

Note: 1V was taken as a reference value for measuring the error in the current, but any voltage beyond  $V_{compliance}$  will show the same trend.

## Discussion:

- $I_{out}$  isn't exactly equal to  $I_{in}$ . This can be due to ignoring the early effect or the differences in the  $V_{DS}$  values, and more importantly in real life it is due to mismatches.
- As  $I_{out}$  increases,  $R_{out}$  decreases.
- The cascode current mirror greatly boosts  $R_{out}$ , resulting in a much more reliable current mirror. This is demonstrated by the almost constant curve of  $I_{out}$  in the case of the cascode as opposed to the normal current mirror where  $I_{out}$  continues to increase as  $V_{out}$  increases. This was also demonstrated by the lower percentage errors in the currents.
- Generally, as  $I_{out}$  increases, the mismatching effect is less apparent, and the error decreases whether it is a cascode or a simple current mirror.
- The cascode current mirror, however, requires a larger compliance voltage for proper operation as a current mirror. This decreases the voltage headroom.
- For this reason, the cascode isn't preferred in recent applications where the supply voltage is already low.