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# Computational Microelectronics L3 (Pre-recorded)

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# Newton method

# Kirchhoff's current law

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- OUT node

- Sum of two branch currents must vanish:

$$I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out}) + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out}) = 0$$

A nonlinear function



Another nonlinear function



- Nonlinearity is the root cause of difficulties.

# Counterexample

- Consider a linear system, instead of a nonlinear system.

- The KCL reads

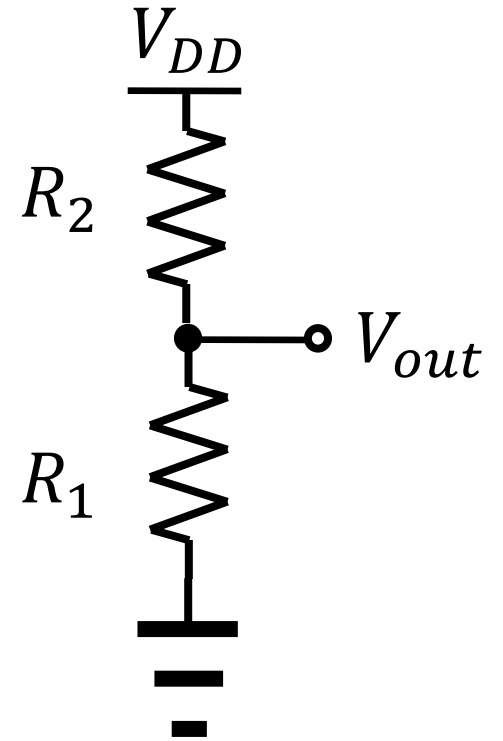
$$I_{R1}(V_{out}) = I_{R2}(V_{out})$$

- For resistors, Ohm's law must be applied.

$$\frac{V_{out}}{R_1} = \frac{V_{DD} - V_{out}}{R_2}$$

- Solution can be found immediately

$$V_{out} = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} V_{DD}$$



# Discussion

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- Remember our previous L2.
  - When  $V_{in}$  is 0.5 V and  $V_{out}$  is 0.7 V, we have  $I_{Dn} = 1.77 \mu\text{A}$  and  $I_{Dp} = -7.92 \mu\text{A}$ .
  - In L2, we increased  $V_{out}$  by 0.1 V.
  - Q) Why increased?
  - A) In order to balance two currents. (We know that  $I_{Dn}$  must be increased.)
  - Q) Why 0.1 V?
  - A) Just heuristically.
  - Can we find a better way to update  $V_{out}$ ?

# Our approach

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- With an initial set of  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$ , the KCL (usually) does not hold.

$$I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out}) + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out}) \neq 0$$

- We assert that a better solution,  $V_{out} + \delta V_{out}$ , satisfies the KCL.

$$I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out} + \delta V_{out}) + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out} + \delta V_{out}) = 0$$

- Now, we want to find an equation for  $\delta V_{out}$ .
- The exact equation for  $\delta V_{out}$  is still very difficult to solve.
- An appropriate approximation is needed.

# Linear approximation

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- Key step toward a practical method

- An exact equation

$$I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out} + \delta V_{out}) + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out} + \delta V_{out}) = 0$$

- An approximate equation

$$I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out}) + \left. \frac{\partial I_{Dn}}{\partial V_{out}} \right|_{V_{in}, V_{out}} \delta V_{out} + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out}) + \left. \frac{\partial I_{Dp}}{\partial V_{out}} \right|_{V_{in}, V_{out}} \delta V_{out} \approx 0$$

# Calculation of update

- After simple manipulation,
  - An approximate equation for  $\delta V_{out}$  can be re-arranged as:

$$\left[ \left. \frac{\partial I_{Dn}}{\partial V_{out}} \right|_{V_{in}, V_{out}} + \left. \frac{\partial I_{Dp}}{\partial V_{out}} \right|_{V_{in}, V_{out}} \right] \delta V_{out} = - \left[ I_{Dn}(V_{in}, V_{out}) + I_{Dp}(V_{in}, V_{out}) \right]$$

- Two terms:
  - Value of  $I_{Dn} + I_{Dp}$  evaluated at the present solution set
  - Sensitivity of  $I_{Dn} + I_{Dp}$  with respect to change of solution



# Case) Saturation region

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- Function value

- It is straightforward to evaluate the currents:

$$I_{Dn} = \frac{KP_n}{2} \frac{W_{effn}}{L_{effn}} (1 + LAMBDA_n \times V_{out}) (V_{in} - V_{tn})^2$$

$$I_{Dp} = -\frac{KP_p}{2} \frac{W_{effp}}{L_{effp}} \left(1 - LAMBDA_p \times (V_{out} - V_{DD})\right) (V_{in} - V_{DD} - V_{tp})^2$$

- (We can derive similar expressions in the linear region.)

# Case) Saturation region

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- Sensitivity
  - Partial derivative with respect to  $V_{out}$  is taken:

$$\frac{\partial I_{Dn}}{\partial V_{out}} = \frac{KP_n}{2} \frac{W_{effn}}{L_{effn}} LAMBDA_n (V_{in} - V_{tn})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial I_{Dp}}{\partial V_{out}} = \frac{KP_p}{2} \frac{W_{effp}}{L_{effp}} LAMBDA_p (V_{in} - V_{DD} - V_{tp})^2$$

- (We can derive similar expressions in the linear region.)

# Numeric values

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- When  $V_{in} = 0.5$  V, the correct value of  $V_{out}$  is about 1.157565 V.
  - Let us assume that we start from  $V_{out} = 1.1$  V.
  - Then, the function value is -2.189  $\mu$ A.
  - The sensitivity is 33.75  $\mu$ A/V.
  - The calculated update is 0.064859 V.
- Try again with  $V_{out} = 1.164859$  V.
- The calculated update is -0.007204 V.
- Try again with  $V_{out} = 1.157655$  V.
- The calculated update is -0.000089 V.

# Newton method

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- We want to solve the following equation:

$$f(x) = 0$$

- Assume an approximate solution,  $x_n$ .
- Evaluate the function value,  $f(x_n)$ . (It should vanish, but it does not.)
- Evaluate the sensitivity,  $\left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n}$ .
- Calculate the update,  $\delta x = -f(x_n) / \left( \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} \right)$ .
- Repeat the above procedure with  $x_{n+1} = x_n + \delta x$ .

# Application of Taylor's theorem

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- True solution is  $\alpha$ .

$$f(\alpha) = 0$$

- By using the Taylor's theorem,

$$f(\alpha) = f(x_n) + \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} (\alpha - x_n) + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} \right|_{\xi_n} (\alpha - x_n)^2$$

(Note that  $\xi_n$  is between  $x_n$  and  $\alpha$ .)

- After simple manipulation,

$$x_n - f(x_n) / \left( \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} \right) - \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \left( \left. \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} \right|_{\xi_n} \right) / \left( \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} \right) (x_n - \alpha)^2$$

# Quadratic convergence

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- The LHS can be further simplified.

- Remember that

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \delta x = x_n - f(x_n) / \left( \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} \right)$$

- Therefore,

$$x_{n+1} - \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \left( \left. \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} \right|_{\xi_n} \right) / \left( \left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x_n} \right) (x_n - \alpha)^2$$

- Quadratic convergence

# Caution for practical application

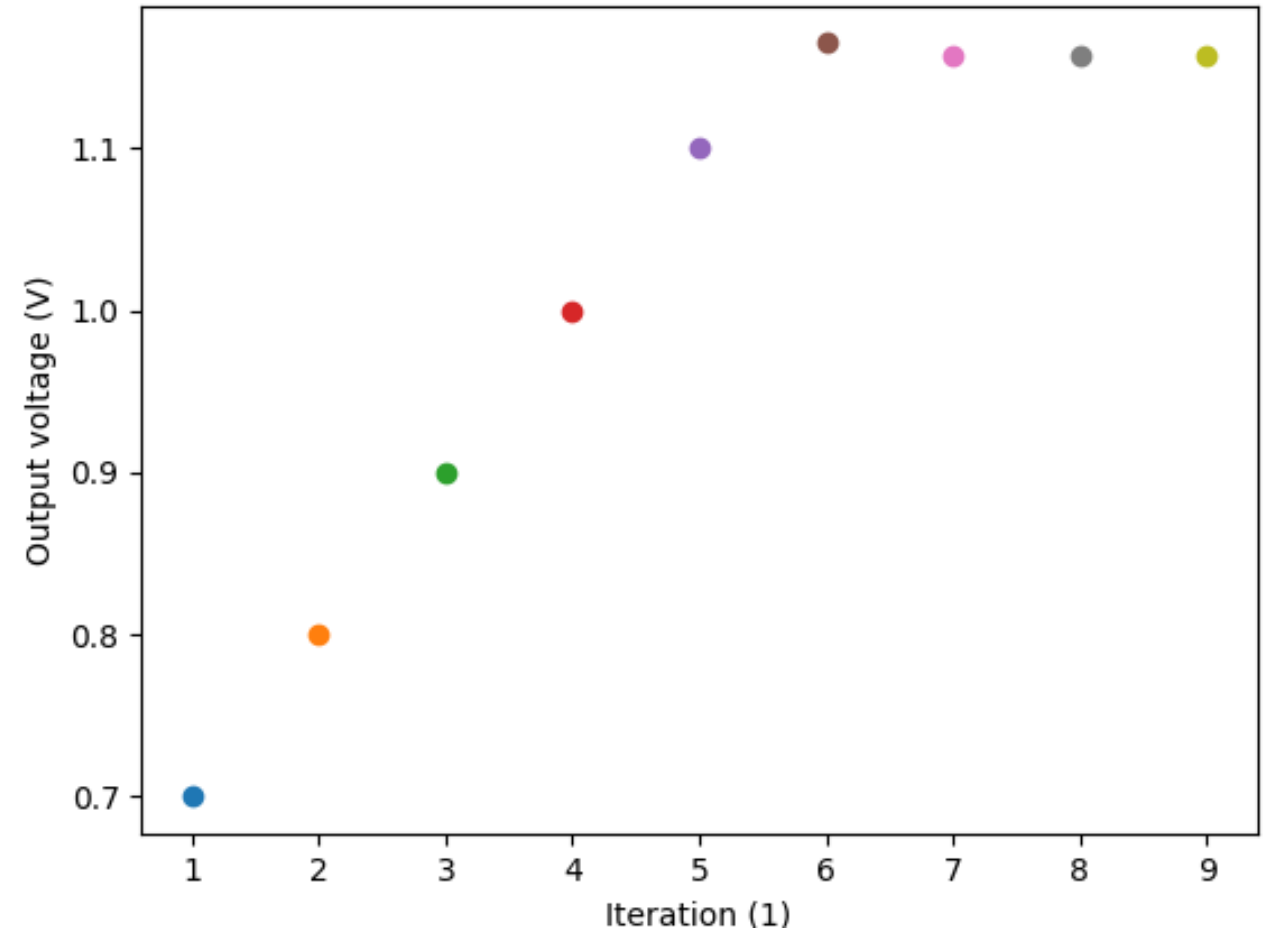
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- The Newton method is sensitive to  $x_n$ .
  - Let us assume that we start from  $V_{out} = 1.0$  V. (Still,  $V_{in} = 0.5$  V)
  - Then, the update becomes 0.263083 V.
  - It suggests that our next solution is 1.263083 V, which exceeds  $V_{DD}$ .
- It is very important to start from a reasonable initial solution.
  - When we have too large update, it should be damped.
  - For example, we can limit the (absolute update) up to 0.1 V.
  - Also,  $V_{out}$  is bounded within  $[0, V_{DD}]$ .

# Number of iterations

- When we have a voltage change smaller than 1  $\mu\text{V}$ , the calculation stops.
  - Start at  $\frac{V_{DD}}{2}$ .
  - Maximum (absolute) change is limited to 0.1 V.
  - 9 iterations at  $V_{in} = 0.5 \text{ V}$

```
1 0.7 0.1
2 0.7999999999999999 0.1
3 0.8999999999999999 0.1
4 0.9999999999999999 0.1
5 1.0999999999999999 0.1
6 1.1648592592592593 0.06485925925925938
7 1.1576546605493248 -0.007204598709934521
8 1.1575659813078383 -8.86792414864831e-05
9 1.1575659678253083 -1.3482529929426225e-08
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# Homework#3

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- Due: AM08:00, September 19
- Problem#1
  - Calculate the voltage transfer curve, once again. But, in this time, solve the problem with the Newton method.

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**Thank you for your attention!**