

A Quick User Guide on
Stanford University
Carbon Nanotube Field Effect Transistors (CNFET)
HSPICE Model
v. 2.2.1

Patent Pending.

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Carbon Nanotube Field Effect Transistors HSPICE implementation based on “A Circuit-Compatible SPICE model for Enhancement Mode Carbon Nanotube Field Effect Transistors” by Jie Deng and H.-S. Philip Wong.

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1. Model Files

Table 1. Summary of Model Files

| File Name | Description |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| CNFET.lib | CNFET Models. |
| PARAMETERS.lib | Global parameters for the model. |

Additional Files

| File Name | Description |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>User Guide</i> | |
| Stanford CNFET Model Quick User Guide.doc | This User Guide in Word format. |
| Stanford CNFET Model Quick User Guide.pdf | This User Guide in PDF format. |
| <i>References/Publications</i> | |
| CNFET Model Part1.pdf | Describes the core of this model. |
| CNFET Model Part2.pdf | Describes the complete model. |
| Gate Cap 1D FET.pdf | Describes in detail inter-CNT charge screening as implemented in this model. |
| Jie Deng Thesis.pdf | Thesis work describing this model. |
| <i>Sample Decks</i> | |
| cnfet_sample.sp | Example HSPICE deck using this model. |

This documentation pertains to the model files in the Carbon Nanotube Field Effect Transistor (CNFET) HSPICE Model package. A brief summary and description of the model files included in the package are shown in Table 1.

The package should include all and only these files, plus this User Guide document. A summary of the model scope is in 2. *Scope of the Model*; details regarding model usage and instantiation can be found in 3. *Model Usage*; lastly, 4. *Global Parameters* describes the various global parameters that can be adjusted.

2. Scope of the Model

Table 2 below summarizes the scope of the model.

Table 2. Summary of the Scope of the CNFET Model

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Device Types | n-type/p-type CNFET |
| Device Dimensions: | |
| Channel Length (Minimum) | ~10nm |
| Channel Length (Maximum) | Unlimited |
| Channel Width (Minimum) | 4nm |
| Channel Width (Maximum) | Unlimited |
| Number of CNTs / device (Minimum) | 1 ¹ |
| Number of CNTs / device (Maximum) | Unlimited |
| Additional Effects / Practical Non-idealities: | |
| Schottky Barrier Effects | Yes: requires CNT source/drain degenerate doping |
| Parasitics | CNT, Source/Drain, and Gate resistances and capacitances |
| CNT Charge Screening Effects | Standard Model: Yes; Uniform Model: Limited |
| Metallic Chiralities | No |

This model was designed for unipolar, MOSFET-like CNFET devices, where each device may have one or more carbon nanotubes (CNTs). The minimum channel length is ~10nm, as various complex quantum mechanisms which describe the sub-10nm regime are not modeled here. In principle, this model has no limitations on the maximum channel length of the CNFET. For channel lengths longer than 100 nm, the device is treated as a long-channel device. The transition from the short channel model (10 nm < L_g < 100 nm) to the long channel model (L_g > 100 nm) is continuous and is automatically handled by the model.

Schottky Barrier (SB) effects are modeled and can be observed using this model. The SB model incorporated in this model requires that the doping level in the doped source/drain extension region be above the first conduction band of the carbon nanotube; otherwise the model may yield inaccurate results.

¹ For a single-CNT device (*tubes*=1), set *Pitch* to the default value of 20nm or greater.

3. Model Usage

The model is implemented in HSPICE. This section illustrates how to instantiate the model in HSPICE.

3.1 Model Variants – Standard Model vs Uniform Model

Two model variants are available:

- 1) Standard CNFET Model [Recommended]
- 2) Uniform-tubes CNFET Model

In both cases, multiple carbon nanotubes are allowed under the same gate (i.e. multiple tubes per device). In the Standard Model, charge screening effects between multiple nanotubes in the same device are handled by the model. In the Uniform Model, charge screening effects are approximated to be uniform for all CNTs in the device.

In the Standard CNFET Model (Standard Model), the nanotubes in a given device are automatically grouped into two groups: the two CNTs at two ends (with only one neighboring nanotube) and the other $n-2$ CNTs in between (each with two neighbors to the sides). The CNTs at the ends observe less charge screening effects than those in the middle. Thus, this model accounts for charge screening effects on drive current and device performance more accurately and is thus the standard model. See Section 3.3 for details on instantiation.

On the other hand, the Uniform-tubes CNFET Model (Uniform Model) is an approximation to the Standard Model to speed up runtime. It simplifies the modeling of charge screening effects by considering uniform tubes, that is, all tubes are identical and experience the degree of same charge screening. Tubes can be set to either all have charge screening from 1 neighboring CNT or charge screening from two neighboring CNTs. Naturally, due to the approximation, this model is less accurate than the Standard Model, but can improve runtime up to 2x faster. See Section 3.3 for details on instantiation.

The Standard Model is recommended as it is most accurate and already quite fast. The Uniform Model is provided for those who find the Standard Model runtime too long or who do not need high accuracy. Note that the Uniform Model and the Standard Model converge in two cases: i) when the number of CNTs / device is two, and ii) when the number of CNTs goes to infinity (or realistically, just much greater than 2). Thus in either of these cases, using the Uniform Model should yield identical or similar results as the Standard Model.

3.2 Convergence and Settings

For improved convergence and run times, include the following lines of code at the beginning of the SPICE deck:

```
*****
.options POST
.options AUTOSTOP
.options INGOLD=2      DCON=1
.options GSHUNT=1e-12  RMIN=1e-15
.options ABSTOL=1e-5   ABSVDC=1e-4
.options RELTOL=1e-2   RELVDC=1e-2
.options NUMDGT=4      PIVOT=13

.param  TEMP=27
*****
```

3.3 Model Instantiation

To instantiate the devices in the model, the library must be included at the beginning of the SPICE deck:

```
.lib 'CNFET.lib' CNFET
```

This will allow you to instantiate any of the following models:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| NCNFET | Standard n-type CNFET model. |
| PCNFET | Standard p-type CNFET model. |
| NCNFET_uniform | Uniform-tubes n-type CNFET model. |
| PCNFET_uniform | Uniform-tubes p-type CNFET model. |

The other model file (PARAMETERS.lib) included in the package is automatically referenced by the top level model files; thus, it should never be instantiated directly in the SPICE deck.

The only file that should ever be modified is the PARAMETERS.lib file, which holds the global device parameters. The main model file (CNFET.lib) should never be modified (and you should find no need to ever modify it).

Then to instantiate a CNFET device, use the appropriate syntax below. The usage of this model is similar to that of the Si CMOS model.

*Top level n-CNFET Standard Model:

```
XDevice Drain Gate Source Sub NCNFET < Lch=L_channel Lgeff=Lceff Lss=L_sd Ldd=L_sd
Efi=Efo Kgate=Kox Tox=4.0e-9 Csub=20.0e-12 Ccsd=Ccsd CoupleRatio=CoupleRatio Vfbn=0.0 Dout=1.0
Sout=0.0 Pitch=20e-9 Wgate=sub_pitch n1=19 n2=0 tubes=1 >
```

*Top level n-CNFET Uniform Model:

```
XDevice Drain Gate Source Sub NCNFET_uniform < Lch=L_channel Lgeff=Lceff Lss=L_sd
Ldd=L_sd Efi=Efo Kgate=Kox Tox=4.0e-9 Csub=20.0e-12 Ccsd=Ccsd CoupleRatio=CoupleRatio Vfbn=0.0
Dout=1.0 Sout=0.0 Pitch=20e-9 Wgate=sub_pitch CNTPos=1.0 n1=19 n2=0 tubes=1.0 >
```

*Top level p-CNFET Standard Model:

```
XDevice Drain Gate Source Sub PCNFET < Lch=L_channel Lgeff=Lceff Lss=L_sd Ldd=L_sd
Efi=Efo Kgate=Kox Tox=4.0e-9 Csub=20.0e-12 Ccsd=Ccsd CoupleRatio=CoupleRatio Vfbp=0.0 Dout=1.0
Sout=0 Pitch=20.0e-9 Wgate=sub_pitch n1=19 n2=0 tubes=1 >
```

*Top level p-CNFET Uniform Model:

```
XDevice Drain Gate Source Sub PCNFET_uniform < Lch=L_channel Lgeff=Lceff Lss=L_sd
Ldd=L_sd Efi=Efo Kgate=Kox Tox=4.0e-9 Csub=20.0e-12 Ccsd=Ccsd CoupleRatio=CoupleRatio Vfbp=0.0
Dout=1.0 Sout=0 Pitch=20.0e-9 Wgate=sub_pitch CNTPos=1.0 n1=19 n2=0 tubes=1 >
```

The ports definitions *Drain*, *Gate*, *Source*, *Sub* for the CNFET are the same as that for a CMOS device. The ports *Drain* and *Source* are not interchangeable in this model due to implementation details. Since the CNFET sits on an insulator, the port *Sub* can also act as a backgate in some applications, e.g. for a double gate CNFET. But the dominant driving gate should always be connected to the *Gate* port since the model utilizes a few approximations for the substrate.

The device parameters indicated in the < ... > are optional and can be set differently for each device instance. If omitted, default or global values set in the parameter definition file are used. The syntax for setting a parameter is:

parameter_name = *value or parameter*

The assigned values shown in the code above are the default values (or global parameter value) for the parameters. See Table 3 for the definitions and default values of the device parameters (Figure 1 illustrates some of these parameters).

Table 3. Device Parameter Definitions and Default Values

| Device Parameter | Description | Default Value |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Lch | Physical channel length ² . | 32.0nm (Set by global parameter <i>L_channel</i>) |
| Lgeff | The mean free path in the intrinsic CNT channel region due to non-ideal elastic scattering. | 200.0nm (Set by global parameter <i>Lceff</i>) |
| Lss | The length of doped CNT source-side extension region. | 32.0nm (Set by global parameter <i>L_sd</i>) |
| Ldd | The length of doped CNT drain-side extension region. | 32.0nm (Set by global parameter <i>L_sd</i>) |
| Efi | The Fermi level of the doped S/D tube. | 0.6 eV (Set by global parameter <i>Efo</i>) |
| Kgate | The dielectric constant of high-k top gate dielectric material (planer gate). | 16.0 (Set by global parameter <i>Kox</i>) |
| Tox | The thickness of high-k top gate dielectric material (planer gate). | 4.0nm |
| Csub | The coupling capacitance between the channel region and the substrate (backgate effect). | 20.0pF/m (for a 10μm thick SiO ₂) |
| Ccsd | The coupling capacitance between channel region and source/drain region. | 0.0pF/m (Set by global parameter <i>Ccsd</i>) |
| CoupleRatio | The percentage of Ccsd that corresponds to the coupling capacitance between the channel and drain. | 0.0 (Set by global parameter <i>CoupleRatio</i>) |
| Vfbn, Vfbp | Flatband voltage for n-CNFET and p-CNFET, respectively. | 0.0eV, 0.0eV |
| Dout | The property of the drain-side output: 0: the drain output is connected to metal contact, 1: the drain output is connected to another CNFET directly. | 0 |
| Sout | The property of the source-side output: 0: the source output is connected to metal contact, 1: the source output is connected to another CNFET directly. | 0 |
| Pitch | The distance between the centers of two adjacent CNTs within the same device ³ . | 20.0nm |
| Wgate | The width of metal gate ⁴ . | 6.4nm (set by global parameter <i>sub_pitch</i>) |

² This model may not be valid for channel lengths below 10nm where other quantum mechanical effects may need to be considered.

³ This parameter is used to model the charge screening effects.

⁴ This parameter is used to include interconnect capacitance, approximated as 0.213 fF/μm, assuming a G/S/D contact height of 64nm and contact spacing of 32nm.

| | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| CNTPos | The position of CNT under the gate (only for Uniform Models): 0: the tube is in the middle and sees two adjacent neighbors, 1: the tube is at edge of the device and sees only 1 neighboring CNT. | 1 |
| (n1, n2) | The chirality of tube ⁵ . | (19, 0) |
| tubes | The number of tubes in the device. | 1 |

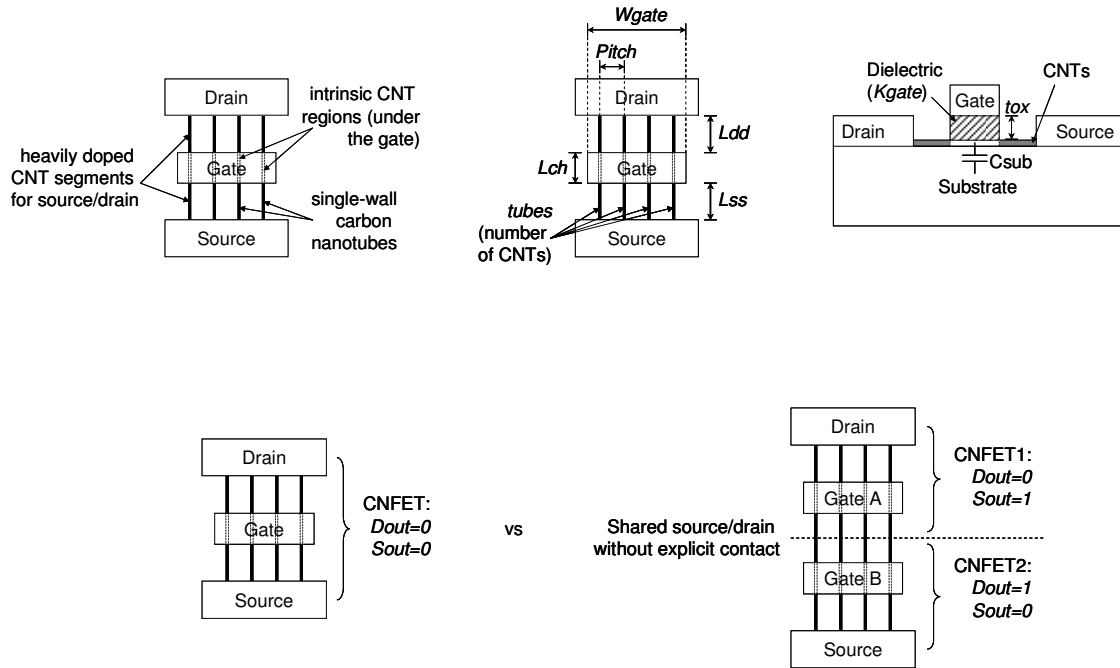


Figure 1. Illustration of Modeled CNFET Device and Relevant Parameters.

⁵ The CNT chirality should be that of a semiconducting CNT. The model does not model metallic chiralities and will not report an error if a metallic chirality is given.

4. Global Parameters

In addition to the device parameters which can be individually set for each device instance, there are some global parameters in the “PARAMETERS.lib” file which can be modified to change the default values for device parameters or values used in model calculations⁶. The definition and values of those global parameters are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. Global Parameter Definitions and Values⁶

| Global Parameters | Description | Default Value |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| L_channel | Physical gate length. | 32.0nm |
| Lceff | The mean free path in intrinsic CNT. | 200.0nm |
| L_sd | The length of doped CNT source/drain extension region. | 32.0nm |
| Efo | The Fermi level of n+/p+ doped source/drain CNT regions. This parameter is internally limited to be above the first conduction band. | 0.6eV (~0.8% doping level) |
| Kox | The dielectric constant of high-k gate oxide material. | 16.0 |
| Ccsd | The coupling capacitance between channel region and source/drain region. | 0.0pF/m |
| CoupleRatio | The percentage of Ccsd that corresponds to the coupling capacitance between the channel and drain. | 0.0 |
| sub_pitch | Sub-lithographic (e.g. CNT gate width) pitch | 6.4nm |
| Klowk | The dielectric constant of low-k oxide material. | 2.0 |
| Ksub | The dielectric constant of back gate (substrate) dielectric material. | 4.0 |
| lambda_op | The Optical Phonon backscattering mean-free-path in Metallic CNTs ⁷ . | 15.0nm |
| lambda_ap | The Acoustic Phonon backscattering mean-free-path in Metallic CNTs. | 500.0nm |
| photon | The optical phonon energy. | 0.16eV |
| L_relax | Fitting parameter. Carrier relaxation range at drain side, used to match band-to-band tunneling current. | 40.0nm |
| Leff | The mean free path in p+/n+ doped CNT. | 15.0nm |
| phi_M | The work function of Source/Drain metal contact | 4.6eV |
| phi_S | CNT work function | 4.5eV |

⁶ Several other global parameters are also defined in the PARAMETERS.lib model file but should not be changed, such as natural constants and model critical values.

⁷ These parameters are used by the model to derive related semiconducting CNT parameters and do not imply metallic CNTs are handled by the model.

5. References

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