

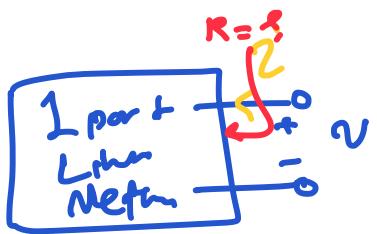
EE 332: Devices and Circuits II

Lecture 3: Single-stage Amplifiers (Part 1)

Prof. Sajjad Moazeni

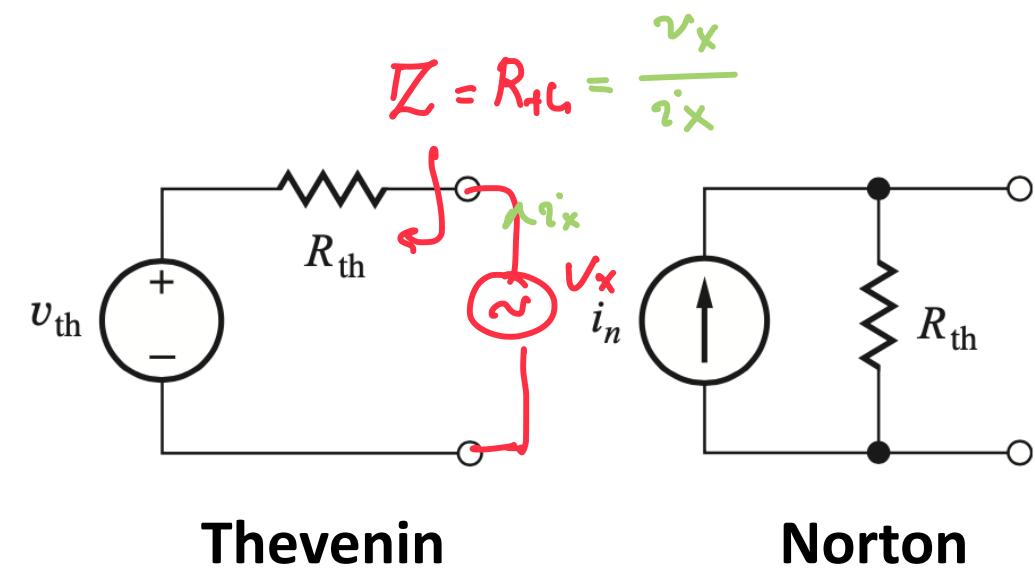
smoazeni@uw.edu

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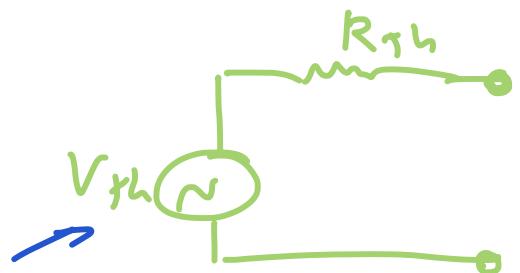


Thevenin/Norton Models

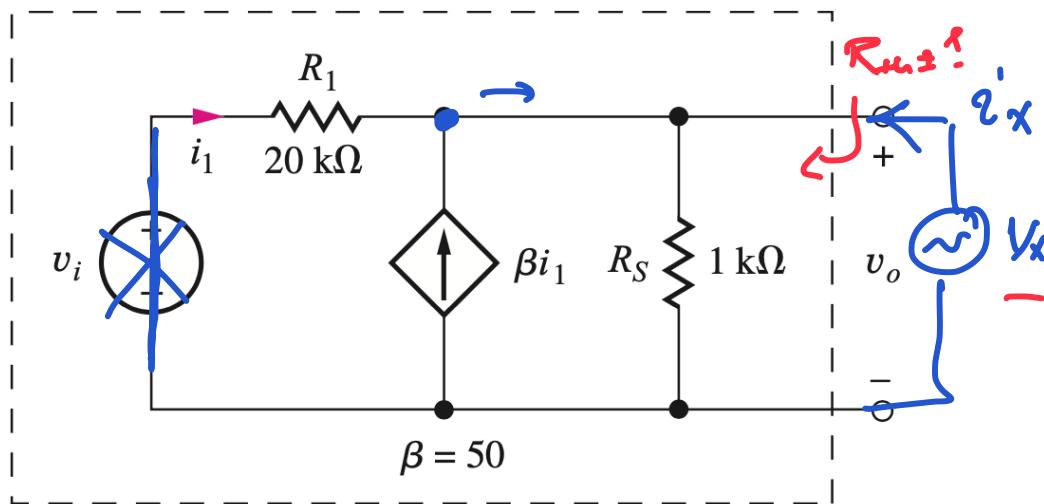
- **Thevenin** equivalent theorem: any one-port linear network can be reduced to a single voltage source in series with a resistance (can have a complex impedance).
 - **Norton** equivalent: similar to Thevenin theorem, but this time a current source in parallel to a single resistance.
 - Notice:
 - V_{th} is the open-circuit voltage of the port
 - I_n is the short-circuit current of the port
 - R_{th} is the impedance “seen” through the port by nulling the independent sources
 - $V_{th} = I_n \times R_{th}$



An example ...



- Derive the Thevenin & Norton models (Method: Calculate open-circuit V_o and Measure output impedance by nulling independent sources)



$$\begin{cases} \dot{i}_1 = (v_i - v_o) / R_1 \\ \frac{v_o}{R_S} = (\beta + 1) \dot{i}_1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow v_o = v_{th}$$

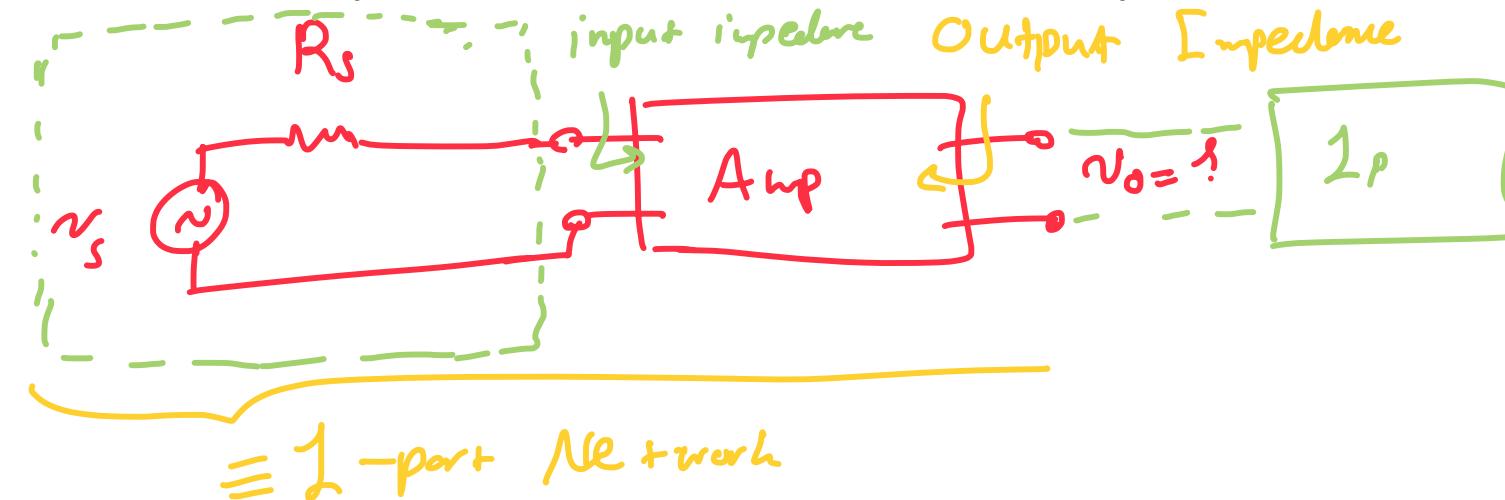
$$\dot{i}_{R_S} = v_x / R_S$$

$$\dot{i}_1 = -v_x / R_1$$

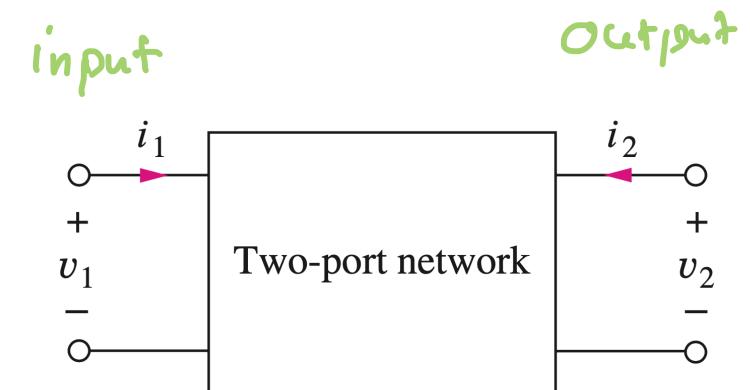
$$\Rightarrow KCL: \cancel{\dot{i}_1} (\beta + 1) = \cancel{\dot{i}_{R_S}} - \dot{i}_x \Rightarrow \frac{v_x}{R_1} (\beta + 1) = \dot{i}_x - \frac{v_x}{R_S} \Rightarrow R_{th} = \frac{v_x}{\dot{i}_x}$$

Input/Output Impedance

- Two-port model from circuit theory



* input impedance when output is open!



$$\mathbf{v}_1 = z_{11}\mathbf{i}_1 + z_{12}\mathbf{i}_2$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = z_{21}\mathbf{i}_1 + z_{22}\mathbf{i}_2$$

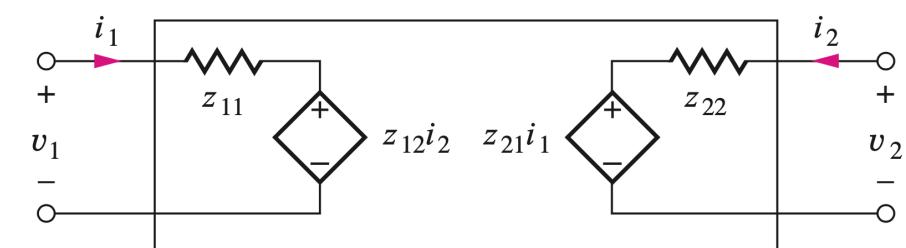


Figure C.4 Two-port z-parameter representation.

Ideal vs Non-ideal Amplifier

- Ideal amplifier (Fig. a)

$$y(t) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x(t)$$

Annotations: α_0 is labeled "n_o" with a red arrow. A red bracket under the term $\alpha_1 x(t)$ is labeled "gain". A red bracket under the term $\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x(t)$ is labeled "n_{in}".

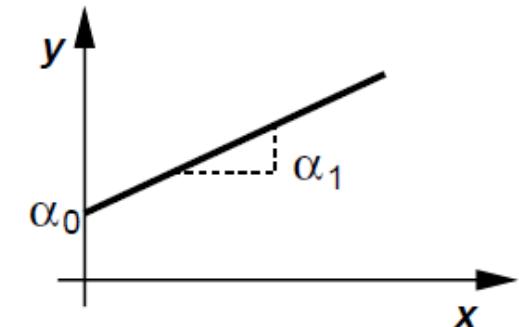
- Large-signal characteristic is a straight line
- α_1 is the “gain”, α_0 is the “dc bias”

- Nonlinear amplifier (Fig. b)

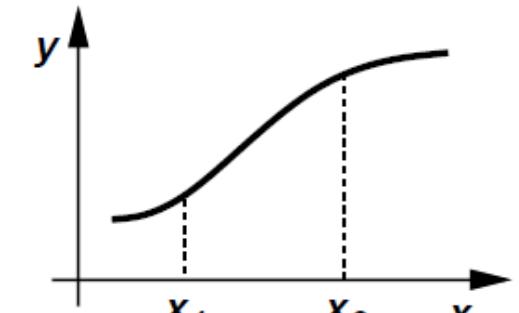
$$y(t) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 x(t) + \alpha_2 x^2(t) + \dots + \alpha_n x^n(t)$$

Annotation: The entire equation is underlined with a red wavy line.

- Large signal excursions around bias point
- Varying “gain”, approximated by polynomial
- Causes distortion of signal of interest



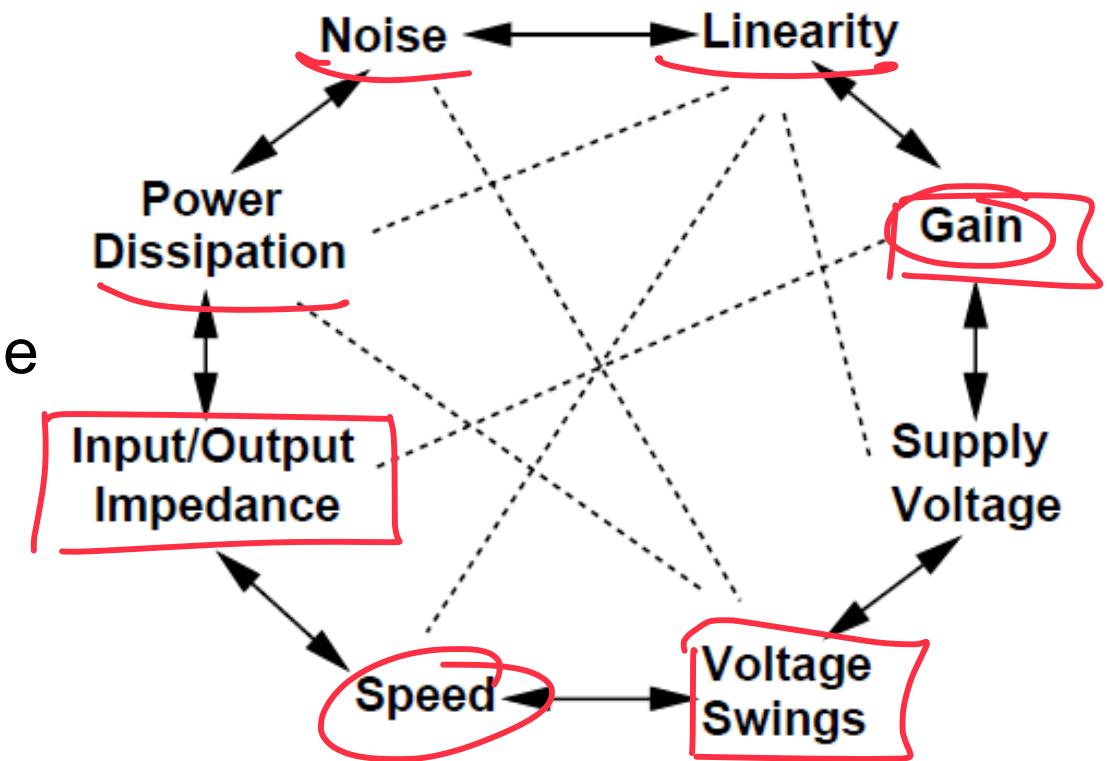
(a)



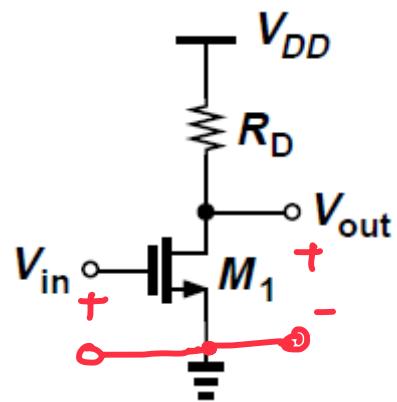
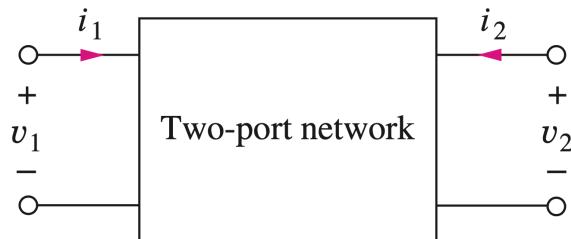
(b)

Analog Design Tradeoff

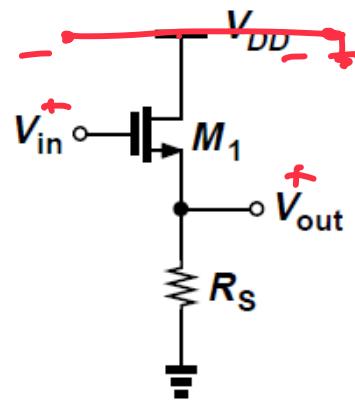
- Along with gain and speed, other parameters also important for amplifiers
- Input and output impedances decide interaction with preceding and subsequent stages
- Note that linearity will be analyzed using the large-signal models (not the small-signal!)
- Performance parameters trade with each other
 - Multi-dimensional optimization problem



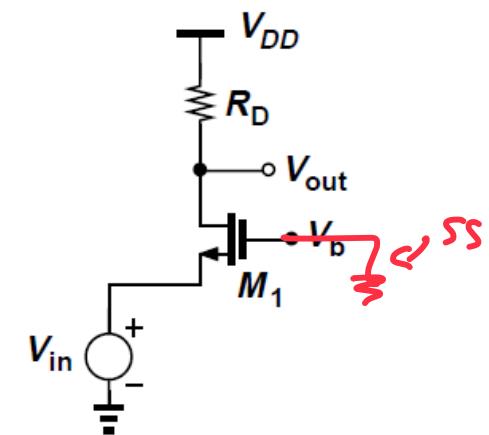
Common-“X” Single-stage Amps.



Common-Source
Amp

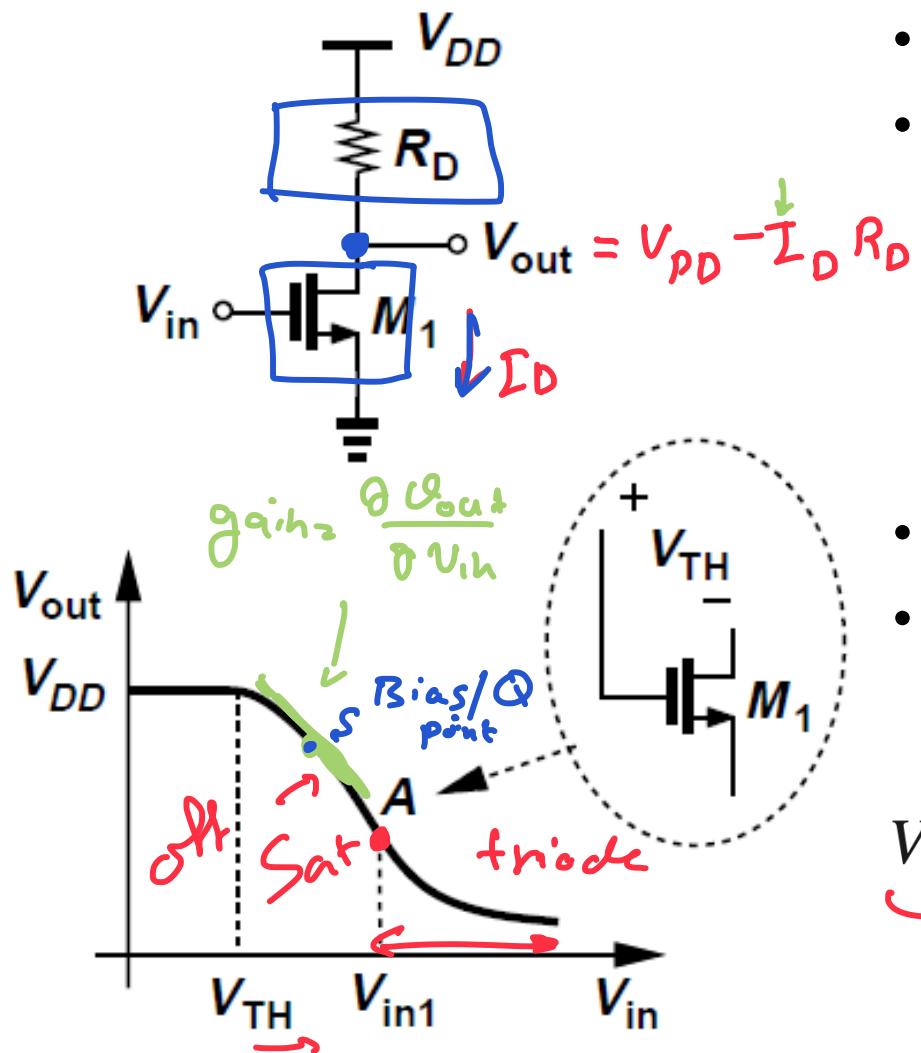


Common-Drain
(Source follower)



Common-gate

Common-Source stage with Resistive load



- For $V_{in} < V_{TH}$, M_1 is off and $V_{out} = V_{DD}$
- When $V_{in} > V_{TH}$, M_1 turns on in saturation region, V_{out} falls

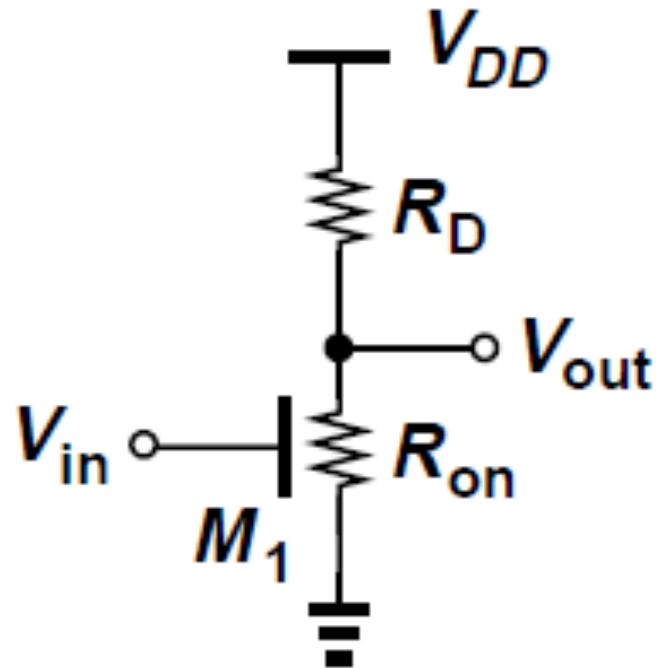
I_D in Sat.

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2$$

- When $V_{in} > V_{in1}$, M_1 enters triode region
- At point A, $V_{out} = V_{in1} - V_{TH}$

$$V_{in1} - V_{TH} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in1} - V_{TH})^2$$

Common-Source stage with Resistive load



- For $V_{in} > V_{in1}$,

I_D in triode

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{in} - V_{TH}) V_{out} - V_{out}^2]$$

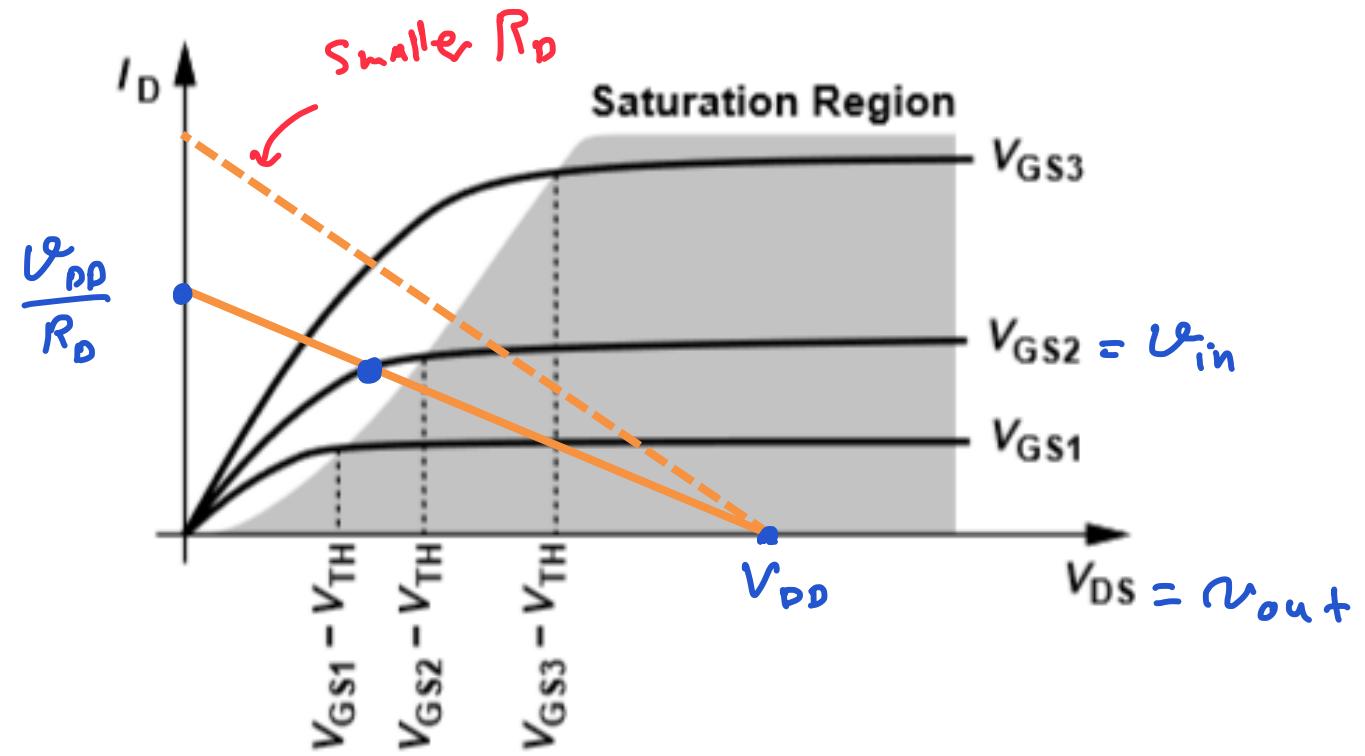
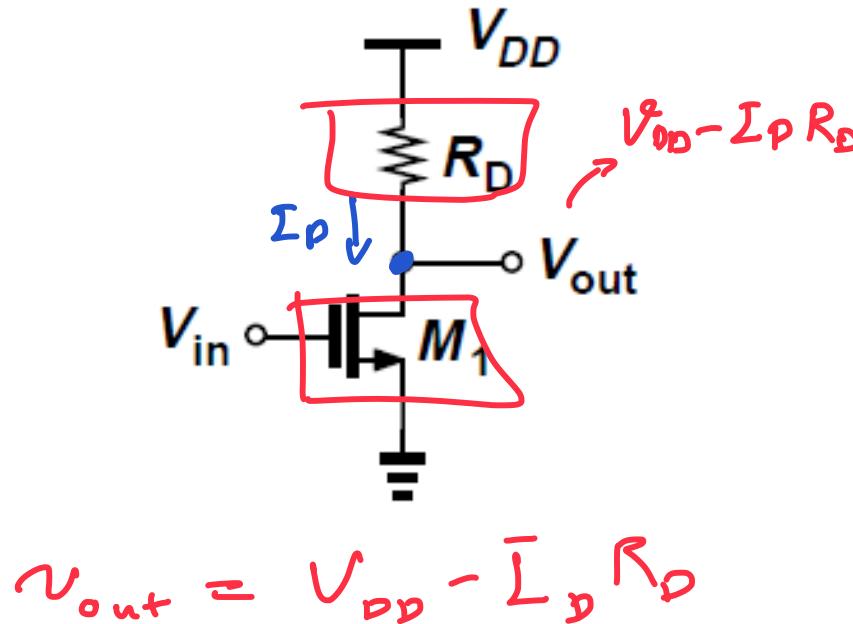
- If V_{in} is high enough to drive M_1 into deep triode region so that $V_{out} \ll 2(V_{in} - V_{TH})$,

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} \frac{R_{on}}{R_{on} + R_D}$$

$$= \frac{V_{DD}}{1 + \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} R_D (V_{in} - V_{TH})}$$

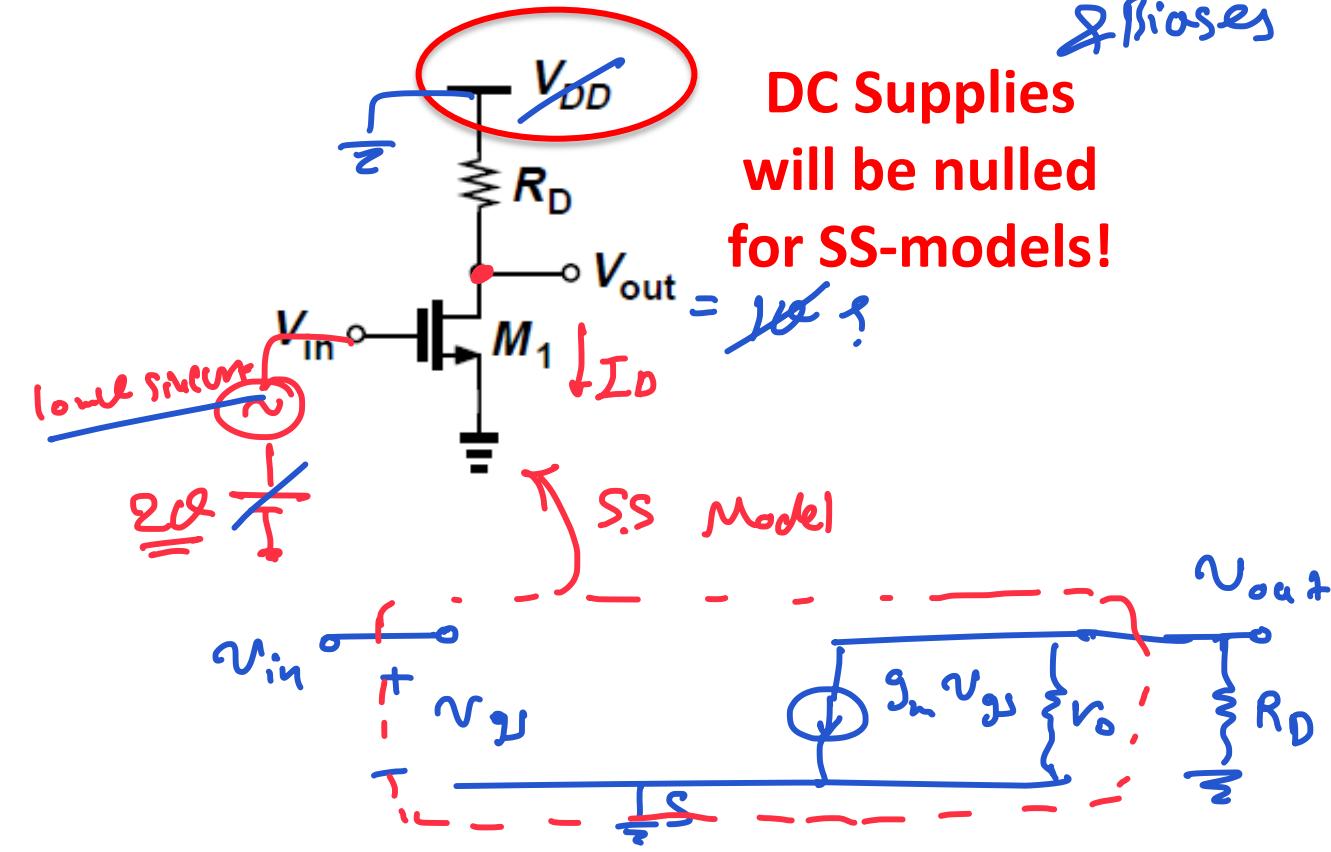
Load-line & Bias point

- Visualizing the “equations” by load-lines to find the operating (bias) point

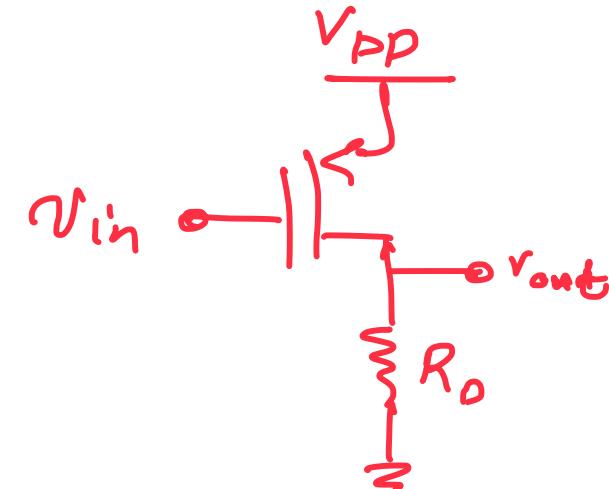


Small-signal models for CS Stage

Notice the notations for small-signal in this book! (V_{in} = small-signal source)



For NMOS



S. S
Model

For PMOS

Common-Source stage with Resistive load

- Taking derivative of I_D equation in saturation region, small-signal gain is obtained

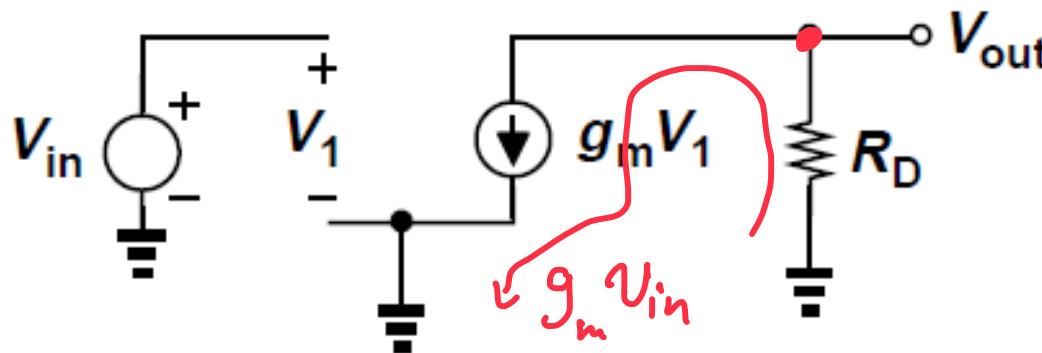
$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$A_v = \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial V_{in}}$$

$$= -R_D \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})$$

$$= -g_m R_D$$

large-signal / general form



- Same result is obtained from small-signal equivalent circuit

$$\underline{V_{out} = -g_m V_1 R_D = -g_m V_{in} R_D \Rightarrow A_v = -g_m R_D}$$

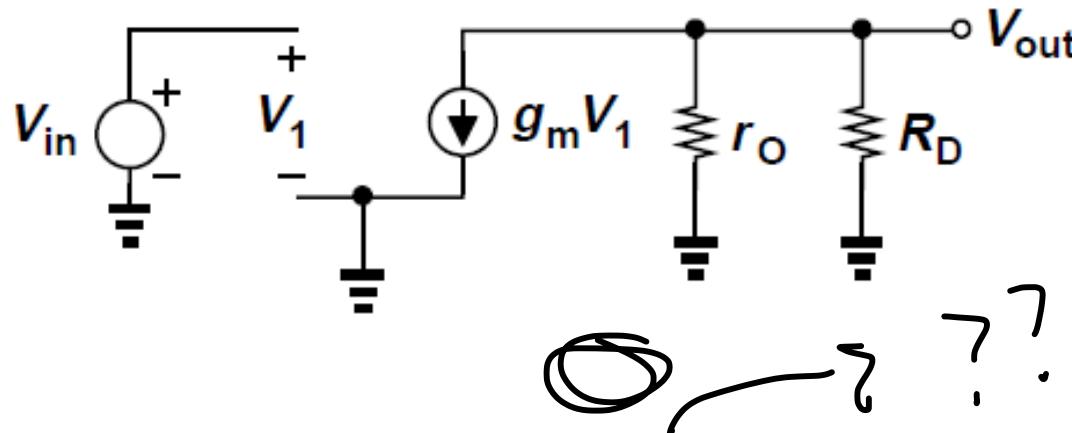
- g_m and A_v vary for large input signal swings according to

$$\underline{g_m = \mu_n C_{ox} (W/L) (V_{GS} - V_{TH})}$$

- This causes non-linearity!!!

Common-Source stage with Resistive load

- Above result is also obtained from small-signal equivalent circuit



$$V_1 = V_{in}$$

$$g_m V_1 (r_O \parallel R_D) = -V_{out}$$

$$V_{out} / V_{in} = \underline{-g_m (r_O \parallel R_D)}$$

- For large values of R_D , channel-length modulation of M_1 becomes significant, V_{out} equation becomes

$$V_{out} = V_{DD} - R_D \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{in} - V_{TH})^2 (1 + \lambda V_{out})$$

- Voltage gain is

$$A_v = -g_m \frac{r_O R_D}{r_O + R_D}$$

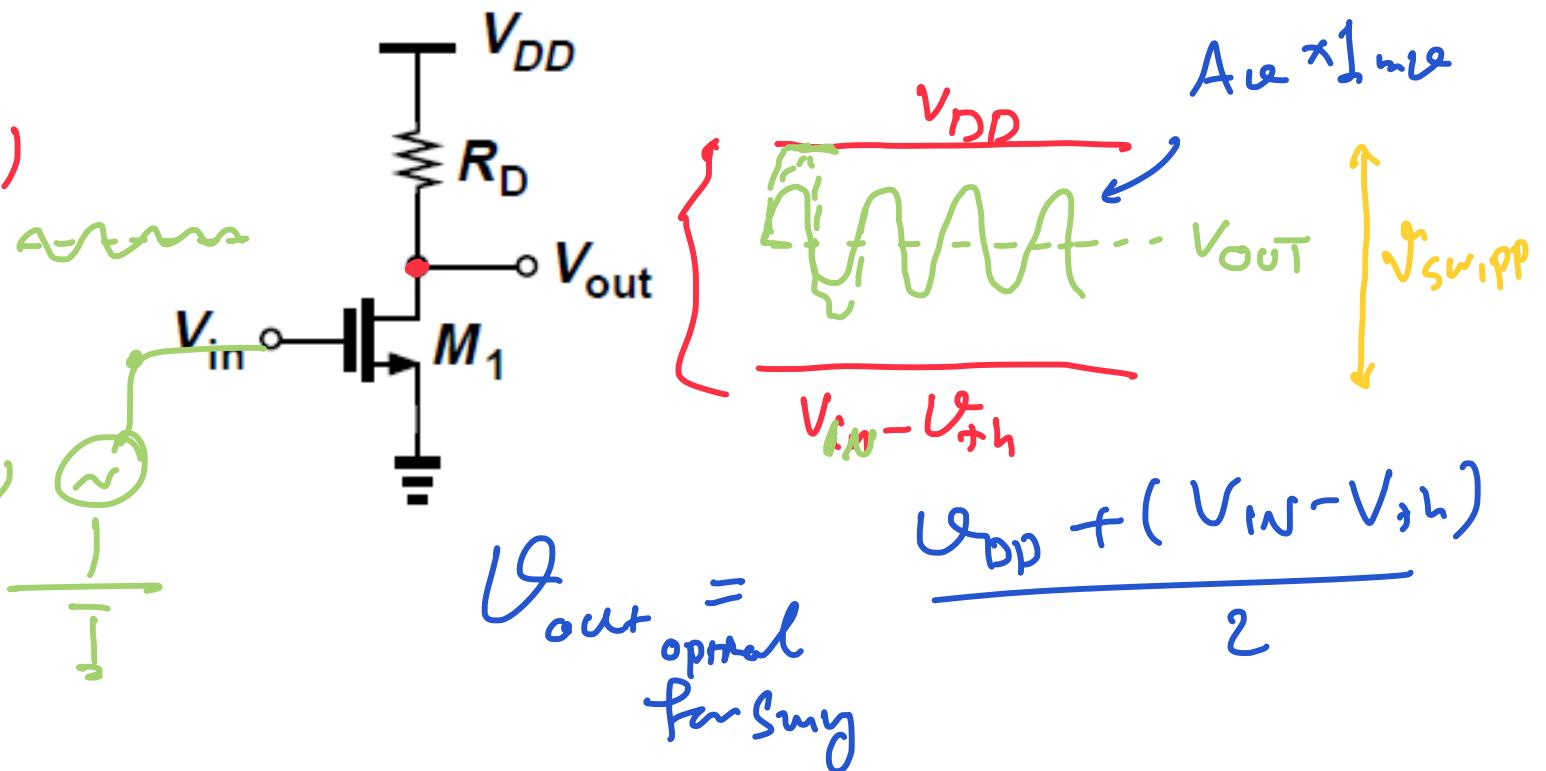
CS Stage Example

- What's the voltage swing of V_{out} ? What's the optimal bias point for V_{out} to achieve max swing?
Range of V_{out} s.t. M_1 is in Sat.

$$V_{out} > V_{GS} - V_{th}$$

$$V_{out} > V_{ag} - V_{th}$$

$$1 \text{ mle} \frac{\sin(\omega t)}{I_a}$$



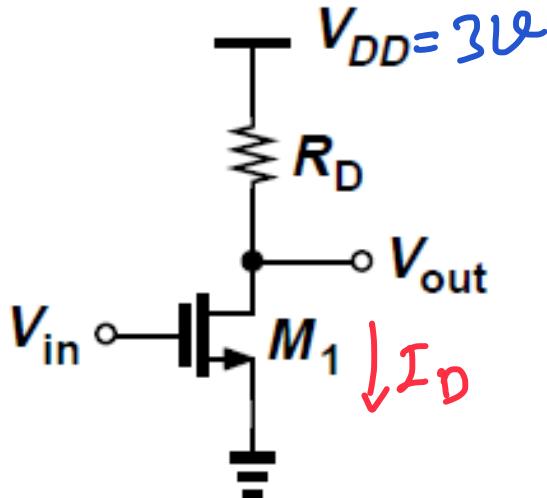
B

CS Stage Example

$$g_m = \frac{2 I_D}{V_{DD}}$$

Bios

- Find $\underline{V_{in}}$ & $\underline{R_D}$ value such that: $\underline{V_{out}} = \underline{V_{DD}/2}$ & $|Gain| > 10$



$$\mu_n C_{ox} = 50 \mu\text{A/V}^2$$

$$W/L = 10$$

$$V_{TH} = 0.3 \text{ V}$$

$$\lambda = 0.1V^{-1}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A_v = g_m R_D \geq 10 \Rightarrow \frac{2 I_D}{V_{DD}} \times R_D = 10 \\ \cancel{V_{out}} = V_{DD} - R_D I_D \Rightarrow R_D I_D = \frac{V_{DD}}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{OD} = \dots \Rightarrow V_{IN} = V_{OD} + V_{TH} = \dots$$

$$V_{out} \approx \frac{V_{DD}}{2} = V_{DD} - I_D R_D$$

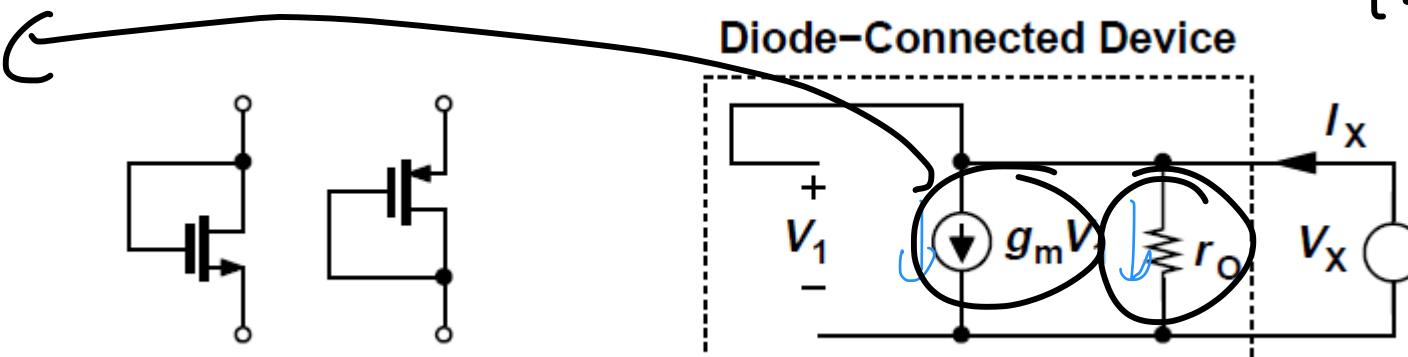
Diode-Connected MOSFET

- A MOSFET can operate as a small-signal resistor if its gate and drain are shorted, called a “diode-connected” device
- Transistor always operates in saturation (why?)

$$I_{CS} = g_m V_x$$

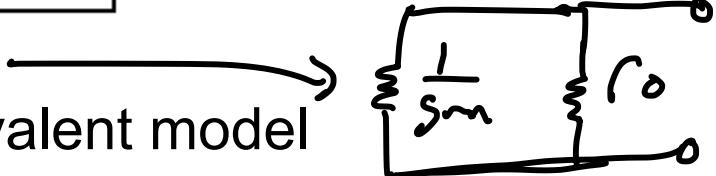
$$\frac{1}{g_m} = \frac{V_x}{I_x}$$

$$\frac{1}{g_m} = \frac{1}{r_o}$$



Goal: figure out impedance looking int. the device

$$I_x = \frac{V_x}{r_o} + g_m V_x$$



- Impedance of the device can be found from small-signal equivalent model

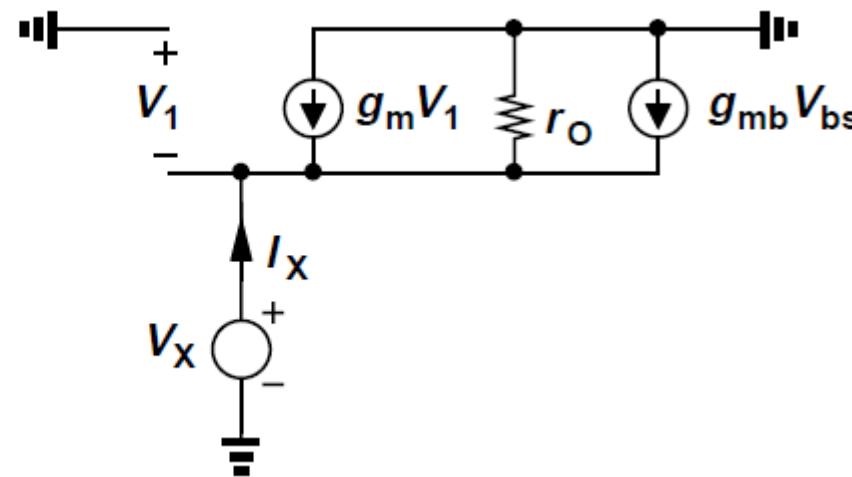
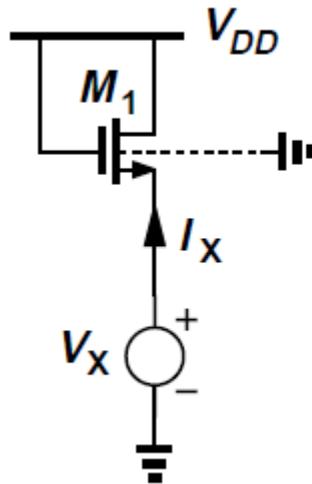
$$V_1 = V_x$$

$$I_x = V_x/r_o + g_m V_x \quad R_{in} = \frac{1}{g_m} \parallel r_o$$

$$V_x/I_x = (1/g_m) \parallel r_o \approx 1/g_m$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{g_m}$$

Diode-Connected MOSFET



- Including body-effect, impedance “looking into” the source terminal of diode-connected device is found as

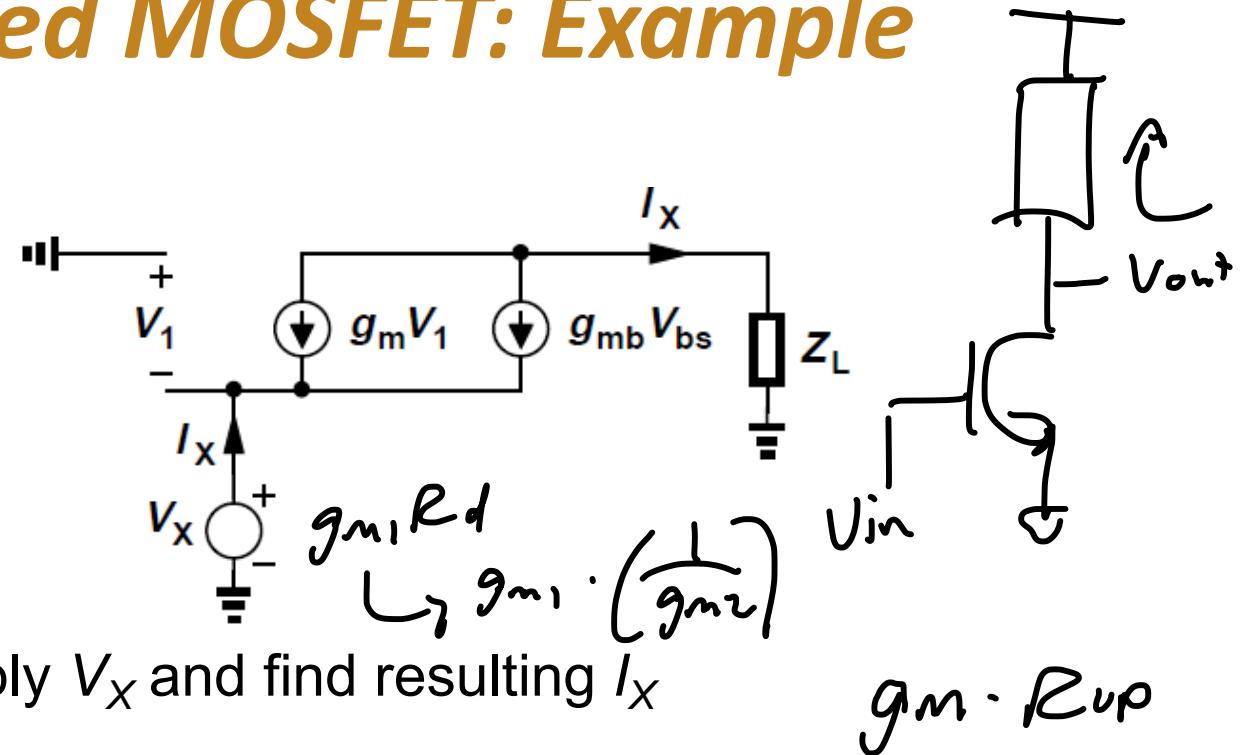
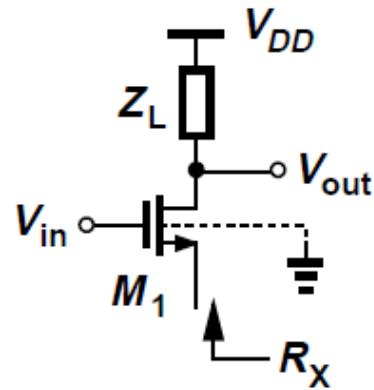
$$V_1 = -V_x \quad V_{bs} = -V_x$$

$$(g_m + g_{mb})V_x + \frac{V_x}{r_o} = I_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{V_x}{I_x} &= \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb} + r_o^{-1}} \\ &= \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb}} \| r_o \\ &\approx \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb}} \end{aligned}$$

Diode-Connected MOSFET: Example

- Find R_X if $\lambda = 0$



- Set independent sources to zero, apply V_X and find resulting I_X

$$V_1 = -V_X$$

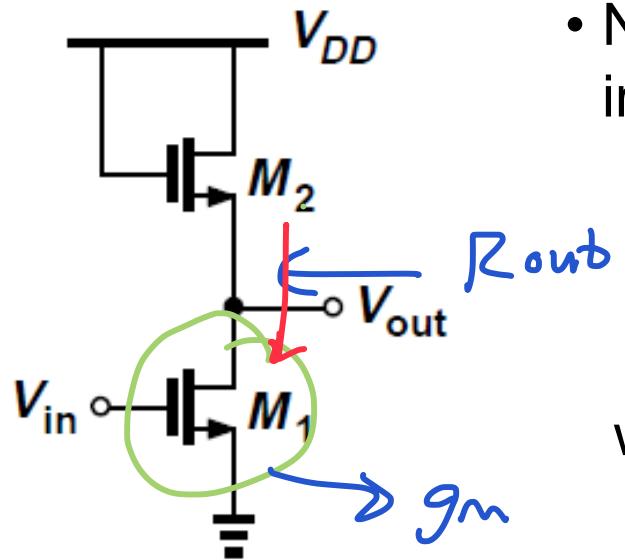
$$V_{bs} = -V_X$$

$$(g_m + g_{mb})V_X = I_X$$

$$\frac{V_X}{I_X} = \frac{1}{g_m + g_{mb}}$$

- Result is same compared to when drain of M_1 is at ac ground, but only when $\lambda = 0$
- Loosely said that looking into source of MOSFET, we see $1/g_m$ when $\lambda = \gamma = 0$

CS Stage with Diode-Connected Load



- Neglecting channel-length modulation, using impedance result for diode-connected device,

$$A_v = -g_{m1} \frac{1}{g_{m2} + g_{mb2}}$$

$$= -\frac{g_{m1}}{g_{m2}} \frac{1}{1 + \eta}$$

$\propto \sqrt{W \times I_D}$

$$\eta = g_{mb2}/g_{m2}$$

$$I_{D1} = I_{D2}$$

- Expressing g_{m1} and g_{m2} in terms of device dimensions,

$$A_v = -\sqrt{\frac{(W/L)_1}{(W/L)_2}} \frac{1}{1 + \eta}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{Body effect}}$

- This shows that gain is a weak function of bias currents and voltages, i.e., relatively linear input-output characteristic

Process Variations in CMOS

- Real-world is non-deterministic ...
- Additionally many parameters such as mobility (μ) is temperature sensitive
- We use term “**PVT**” dependent: Process-Voltage-Temperature sensitive
- There are all sort of process variations: wafer-to-wafer, chip-to-chip, etc.
- We normally model the variations using Gaussian models and simulate circuit performance using **NMOS PMOS**
 - Process corners such as: typical-typical, fast-fast, etc.
 - Monte-Carlo Simulations

“Golden” design rules to minimize the impacts of PVT variations:

- *Rely on ratios as opposed to absolute values*
- *Make circuits symmetric*

CS Stage with Diode-Connected Load

- From large-signal analysis,

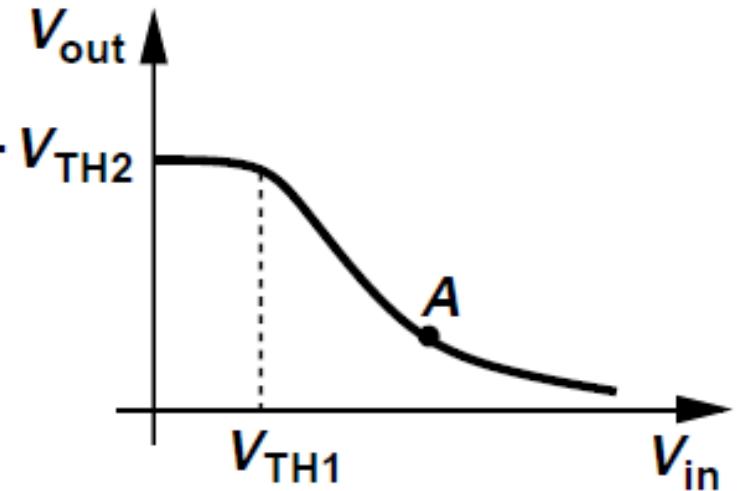
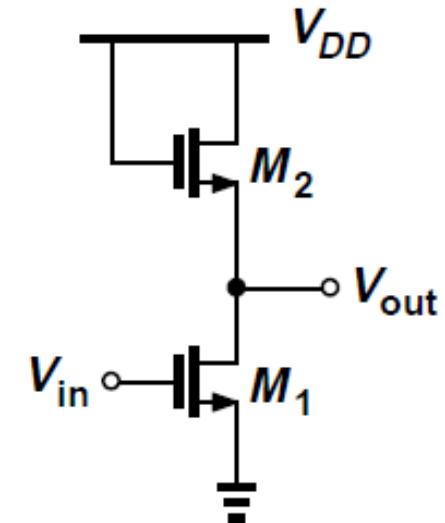
$$\frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \left(\frac{W}{L} \right)_1 (V_{in} - V_{TH1})^2 = \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \left(\frac{W}{L} \right)_2 (V_{DD} - V_{out} - V_{TH2})^2$$

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{W}{L} \right)_1} (V_{in} - V_{TH1}) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{W}{L} \right)_2} (V_{DD} - V_{out} - V_{TH2})$$

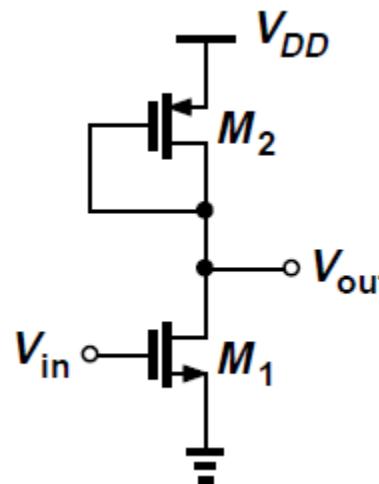
- For $V_{in} < V_{TH1}$, $V_{out} = V_{DD} - V_{TH2}$

- When $V_{in} > V_{TH1}$, previous large-signal analysis predicts that V_{out} approximately follows a single line $V_{DD} - V_{TH2}$

- As V_{in} exceeds $V_{out} + V_{TH1}$ (to the right of point A), M_1 enters the triode region and the characteristic becomes nonlinear.



CS Stage with Diode-Connected PMOS device



- Diode-connected load can be implemented as a PMOS device, free of body-effect
- Small-signal voltage gain neglecting channel-length modulation

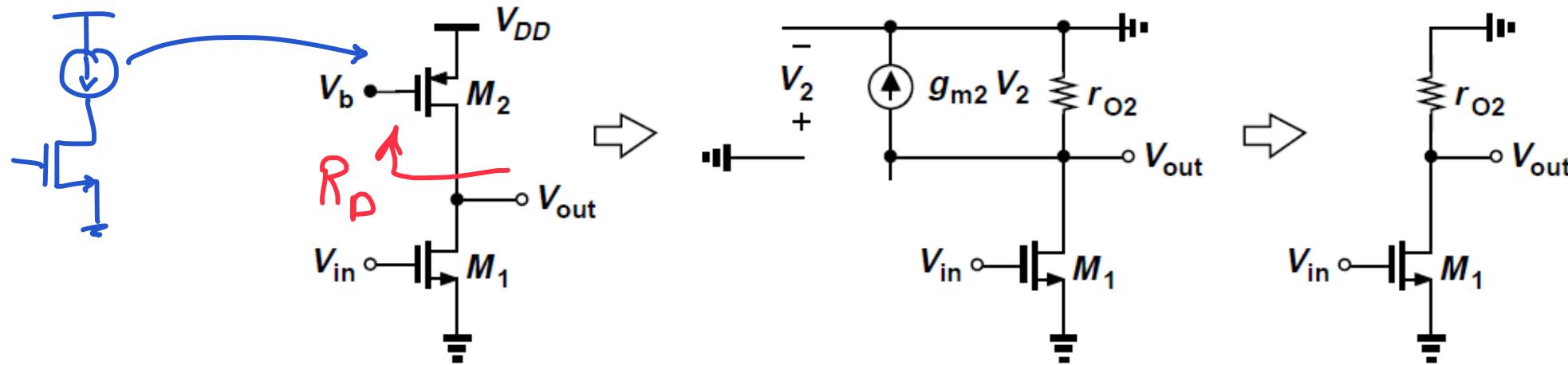
$$A_v = -\sqrt{\frac{\mu_n(W/L)_1}{\mu_p(W/L)_2}}$$

- Gain is a relatively weak function of device dimensions
- Since $\mu_n \approx 2\mu_p$, high gain requires “strong” input device (large W/L₁) and “weak” load device (small W/L₂)
- Voltage-swing?

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_{out\ max} = V_{DD} - V_{fhp} - V_{OD_2} \\ V_{out\ min} = V_{GS1} - V_{thn} \end{array} \right\} X V_{sw,pp} = V_{DD} - \underline{\underline{V_{fhp}}} - V_{OD_2} > V_{OD_2}$$

*active
load*

CS Stage with Current-Source Load



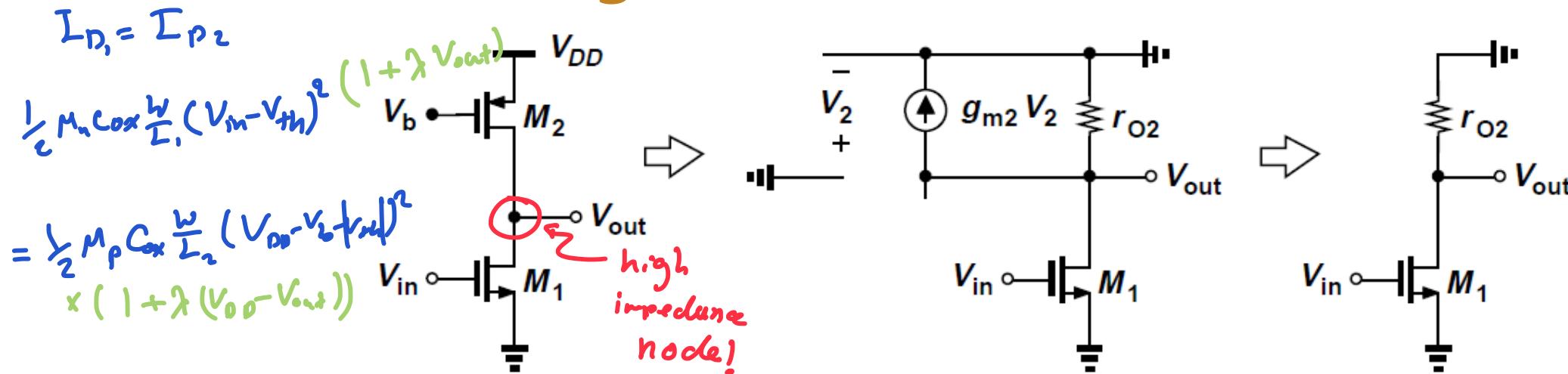
- Current-source load allows a high load resistance without limiting output swing
- Voltage gain ?

$$- g_m \left(\cancel{R_D} \parallel r_{o1} \right)$$

r_{o2}

- Overdrive of M_2 can be reduced by increasing its width, r_{o2} can be increased by increasing its length

CS Stage with Current-Source Load



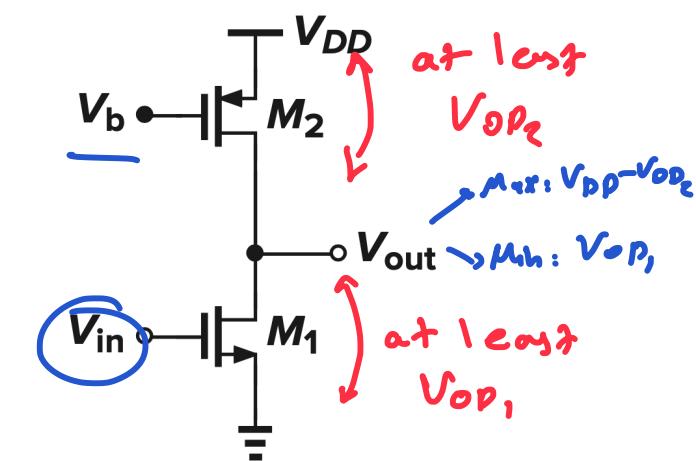
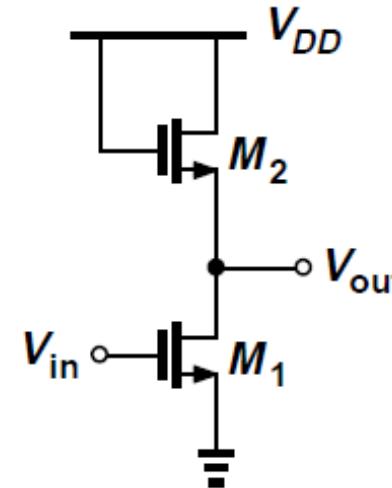
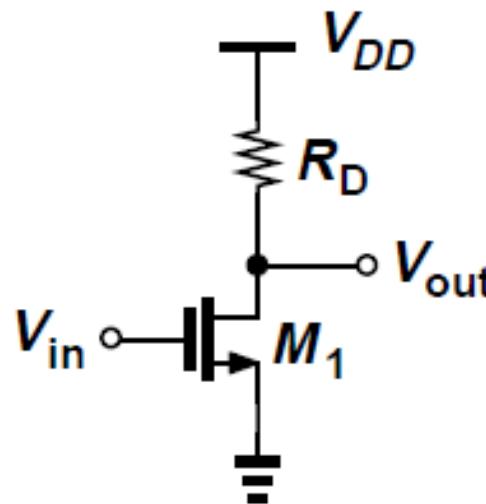
- Output bias voltage is not well-defined (why?)

- Intrinsic gain of M_1 decreases with I_D (Why?)

$V_{GS} > V_{th}$
 $\text{ON} \rightarrow \text{Sat}?$

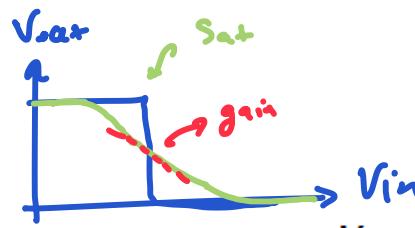
Summary of CS Amps.

$V_{DS} > V_{GS} - V_{th}$
 V_{SD}

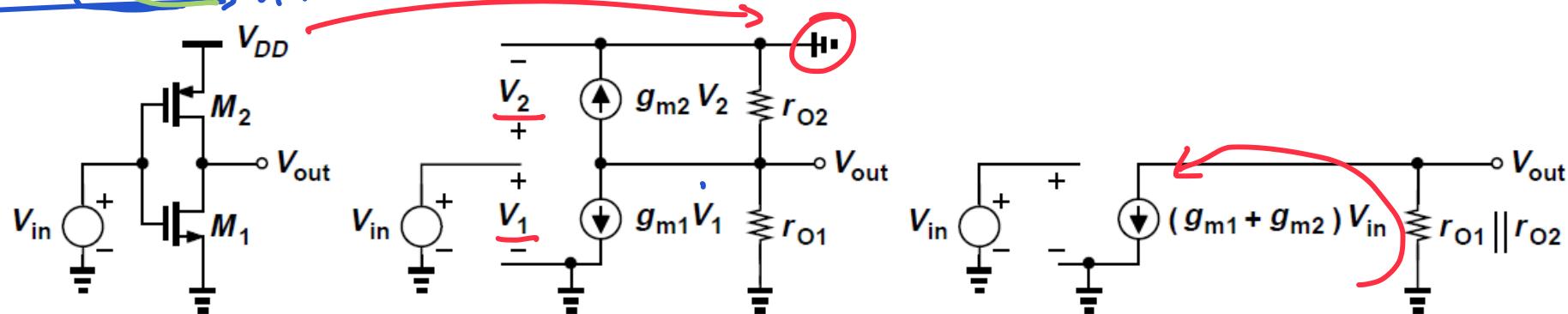


$$\text{gain} = ?$$

Voltage,?
Swing



CS Stage with Active Load



- Input signal is also applied to gate of load device, making it an “active” load
- M_1 and M_2 operate in parallel and enhance the voltage gain
- From small-signal equivalent circuit,

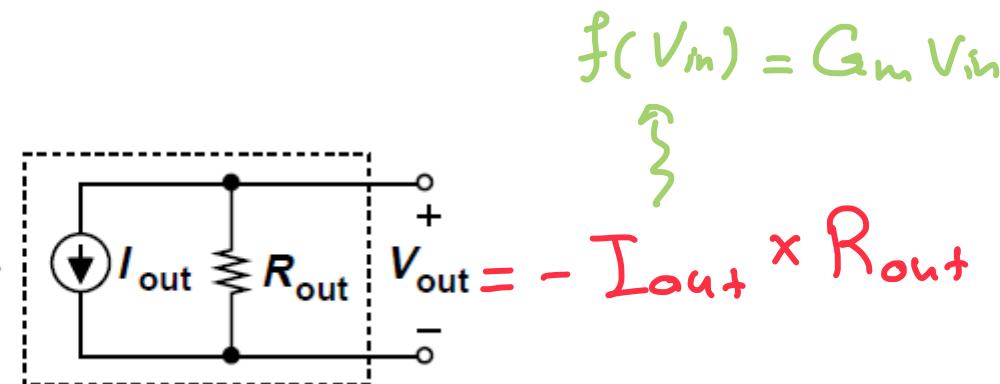
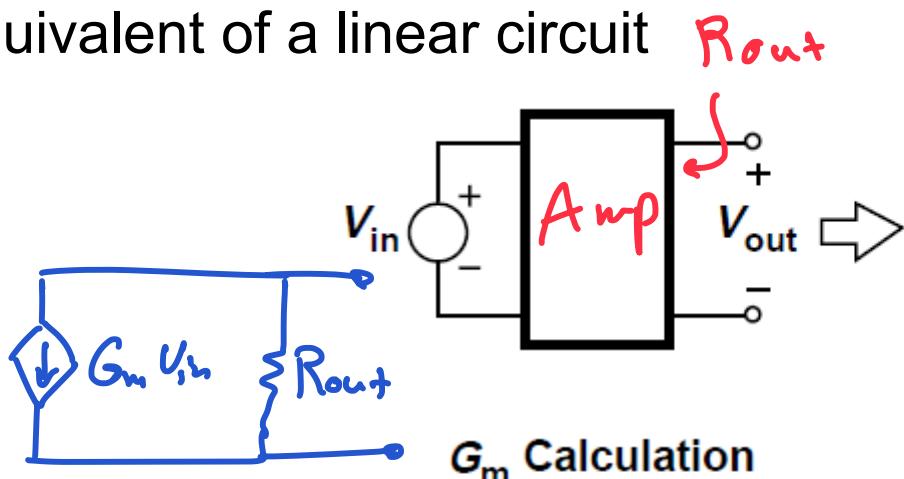
$$-(g_{m1} + g_{m2})V_{in}(r_{O1}||r_{O2}) = V_{out}$$

$$A_v = -(g_{m1} + g_{m2})(r_{O1}||r_{O2})$$

- Same output resistance as CS stage with current-source load, but higher transconductance
- Bias current of M_1 and M_2 is a strong function of PVT (why?)

Lemma

- In a linear circuit, the voltage gain is equal to $-G_m R_{out}$
 - G_m denotes the transconductance of the circuit when output is shorted to ground
 - R_{out} represents the output resistance of the circuit when the input voltage is set to zero
- Norton equivalent of a linear circuit



$$f(V_m) = G_m V_m$$

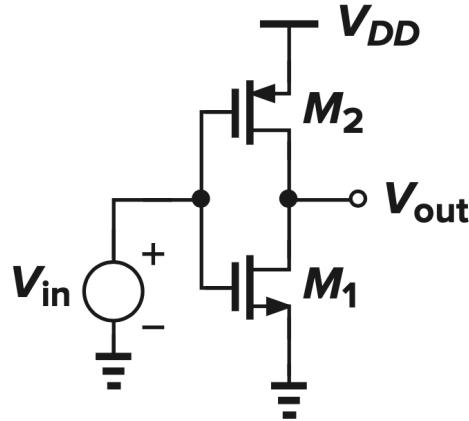
$$V_{out} = -I_{out} \times R_{out}$$

$$G_m = \frac{I_{out}}{V_{in}}$$

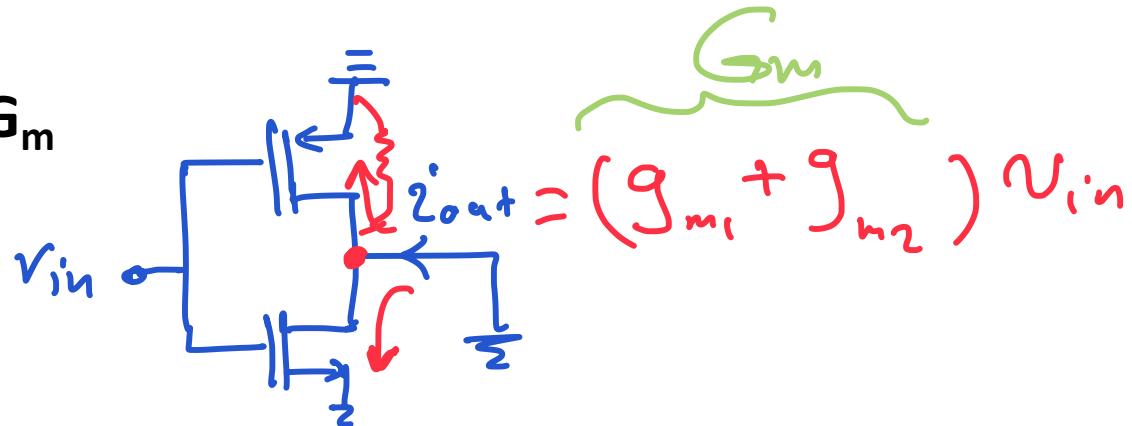
$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = -G_m R_{out}$$

Short output

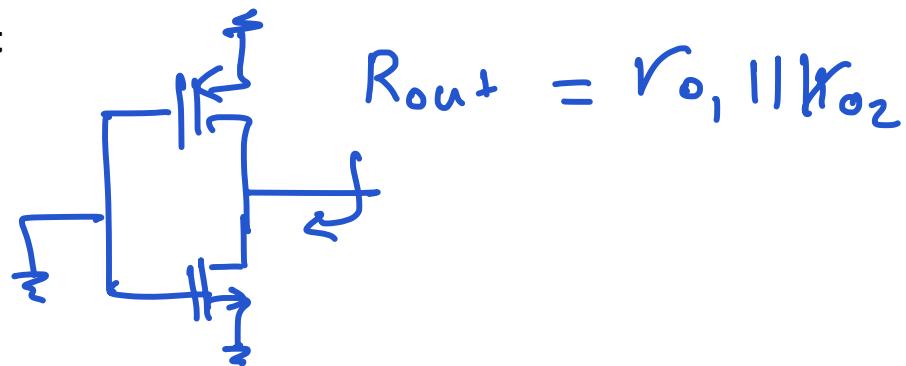
Using the Lemma ...



1. Find G_m



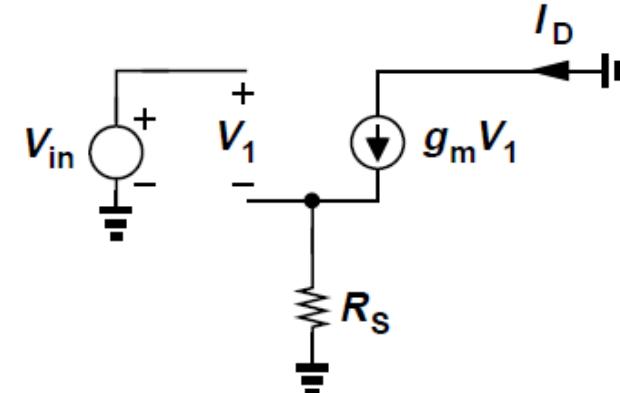
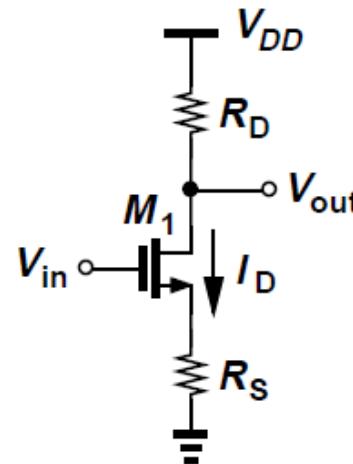
2. Find R_{out}



3. Gain = $\underline{G_m R_{out}}$

CS Stage with Source Degeneration

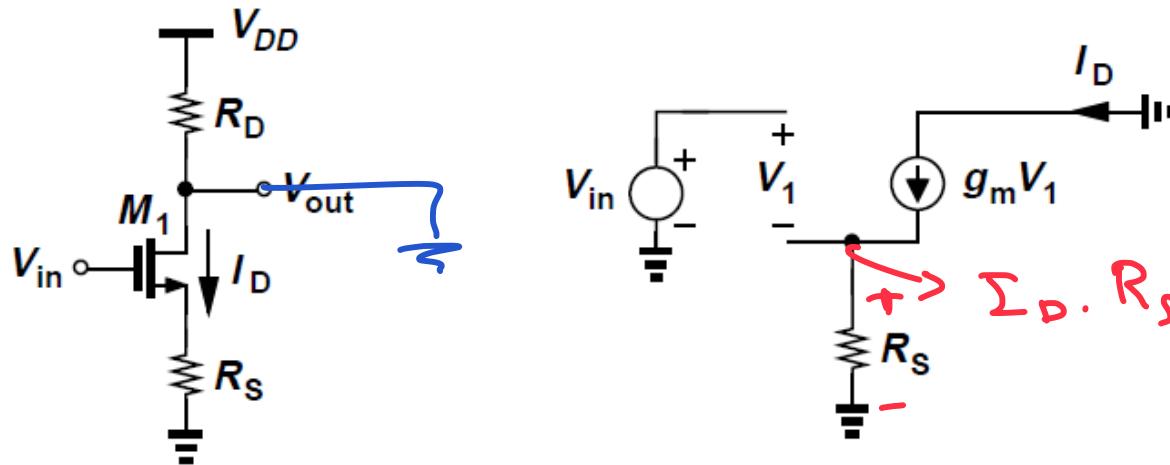
↓ gain
↑ linearity



- Degeneration resistor R_S in series with source terminal makes input device more linear
 - As V_{in} increases, so do I_D and the voltage drop across R_S
 - Part of the change in V_{in} appears across R_S rather than gate-source overdrive, making variation in I_D smoother
- Gain is now a weaker function of g_m

CS Stage with Source Degeneration

*at vsing
Lemma*



- Nonlinearity of circuit is due to nonlinear dependence of I_D (and consequently g_m) upon V_{in}
- Equivalent transconductance G_m of the circuit can be defined as

$$\begin{cases} V_{in} = V_1 + I_{out} R_S \\ I_D = g_m V_1 \end{cases}$$

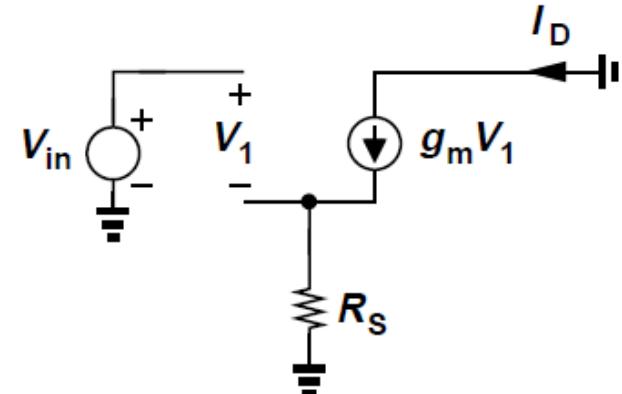
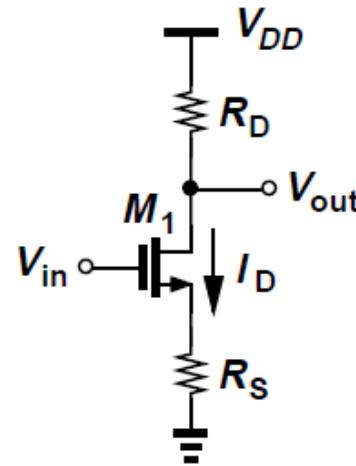
$$G_m = \frac{g_m}{1 + g_m R_S}$$

R_{out}

$$A_v = -G_m R_D$$

$$= \frac{-g_m R_D}{1 + g_m R_S}$$

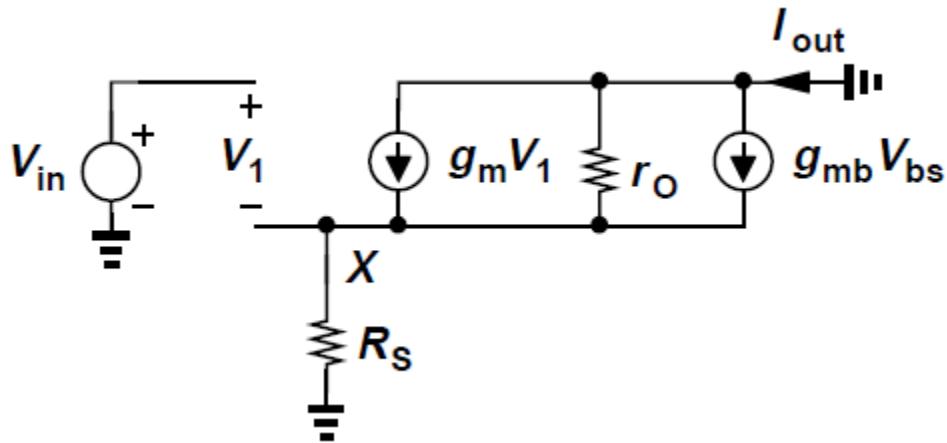
CS Stage with Source Degeneration



$$\begin{aligned}A_v &= -G_m R_D \\&= \frac{-g_m R_D}{1 + g_m R_s}\end{aligned}$$

- As R_s increases, G_m becomes a weaker function of g_m and hence I_D
- For $R_s \gg 1/g_m$, $G_m \approx 1/R_s$, i.e., $\Delta I_D \approx \Delta V_{in}/R_s$.
- Most of the change in V_{in} across R_s and drain current becomes a “linearized” function of input voltage

CS Stage with Source Degeneration



- Including body-effect and channel-length modulation, G_m is found from modified small-signal equivalent circuit

$$V_{in} = V_1 + I_{out} R_s$$

$$I_{out} = g_m V_1 - g_{mb} V_X - \frac{I_{out} R_s}{r_o}$$

$$= g_m (V_{in} - I_{out} R_s) + g_{mb} (-I_{out} R_s) - \frac{I_{out} R_s}{r_o}$$

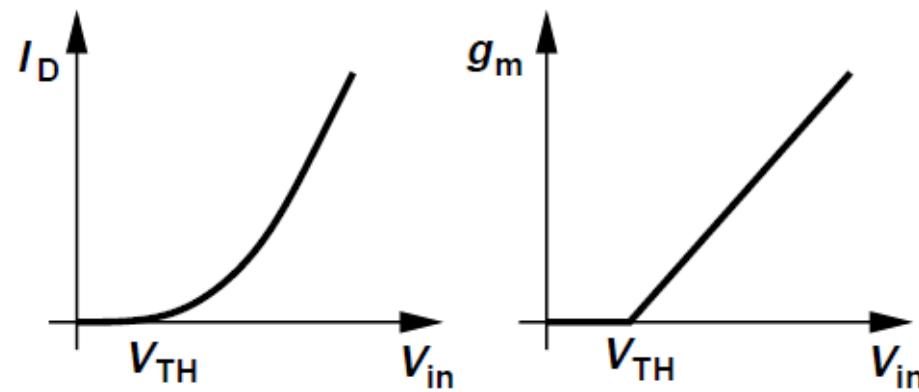
$$G_m = \frac{I_{out}}{V_{in}}$$

$$= \frac{g_m r_o}{R_s + [1 + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_s] r_o}$$

Body - effect.

CS Stage with Source Degeneration: Large-signal Behavior

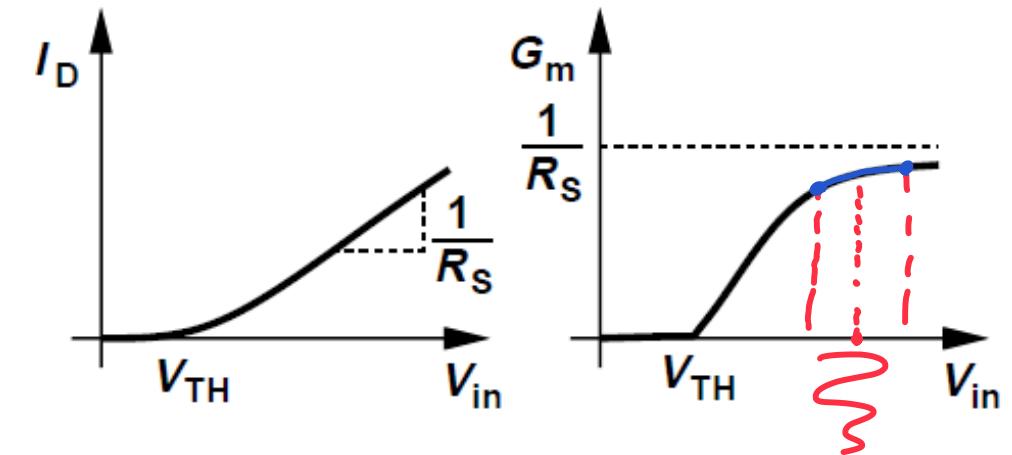
$R_S=0$



$$G_m = g_m \propto (V_{in} - V_{th})$$

- I_D and g_m vary with V_{in} as derived in calculations in Chapter 2

$R_S \neq 0$



- At low current levels, turn-on behavior is similar to when $R_S=0$ since $1/g_m \gg R_S$ and hence $G_m \approx g_m$
- As overdrive and g_m increase, effect of R_S becomes more significant

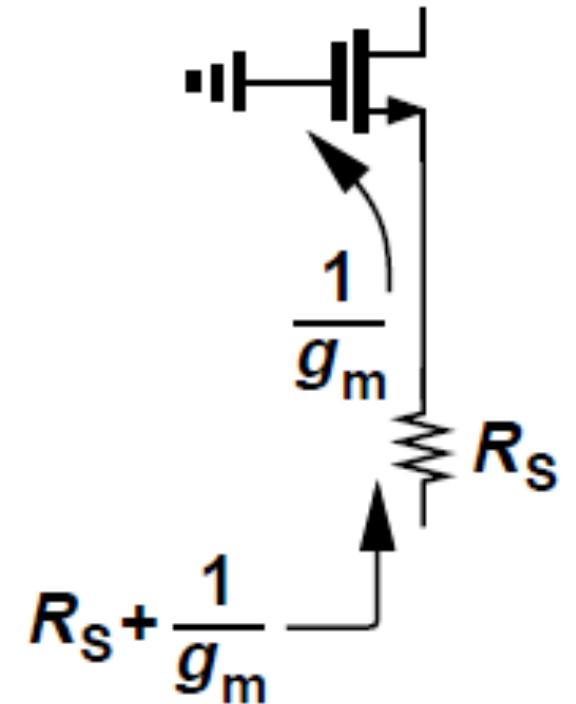
$$G_m = \frac{g_m}{1 + g_m R_S} \approx \frac{1}{R_S}$$

CS Stage with Source Degeneration

- Small-signal derived previously can be written as

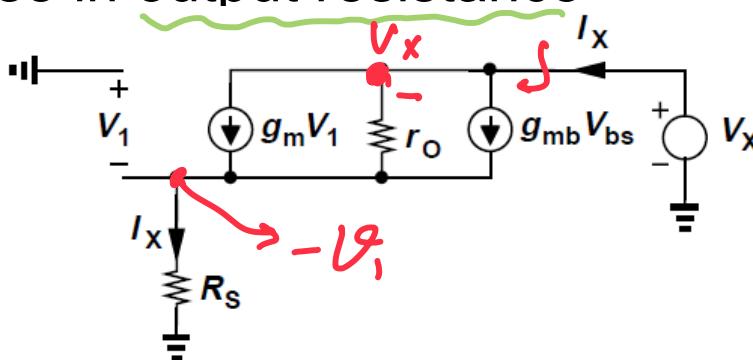
$$A_v = -\frac{R_D}{\frac{1}{g_m} + R_S}$$

- Denominator = Series combination of inverse transconductance + explicit resistance seen from source to ground
- Called “resistance seen in the source path”
- Magnitude of gain = Resistance seen at the drain/ Total resistance seen in the source path



CS Stage with Source Degeneration

- Degeneration causes increase in output resistance



- Ignoring R_D and including body effect in small-signal equivalent model,

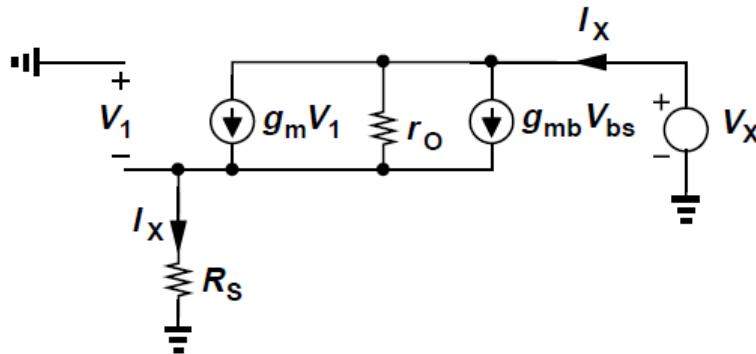
$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_1 &= -I_X R_S, \\ I_X - (g_m + g_{mb})V_1 &= I_X + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S I_X \\ r_o[I_X + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S I_X] + I_X R_S &= V_X \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{out} &= [1 + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S]r_o + R_S \\ &= [1 + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o]R_S + r_o \\ &= r_o + R_S + g_m r_o R_S \end{aligned}$$

- r_o is boosted by a factor of $\{1 + (g_m + g_{mb})R_S\}$ and then added to R_S
- Alternatively, R_S is boosted by a factor of $\{1 + (g_m + g_{mb})r_o\}$ and then added to r_o

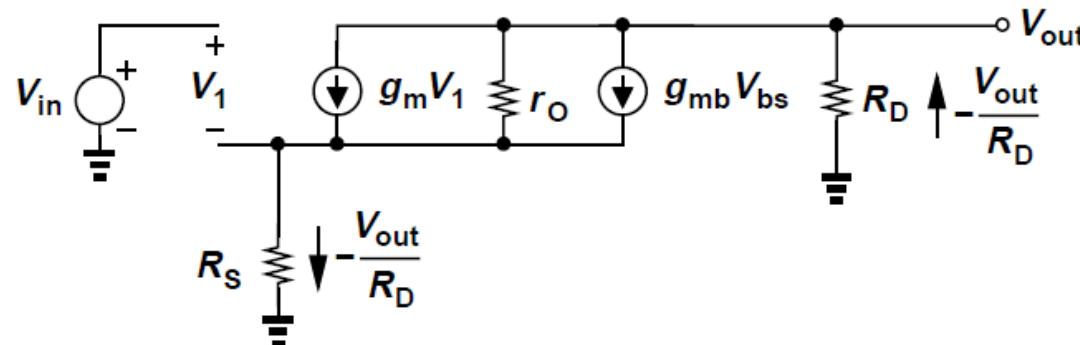
CS Stage with Source Degeneration

- Compare $R_S = 0$ with $R_S > 0$



- If $R_S = 0$, $g_m V_1 = g_{mb} V_{bs} = 0$ and $I_X = V_X/r_o$
- If $R_S > 0$, $I_X R_S > 0$ and $V_1 < 0$, obtaining negative $g_m V_1$ and $g_{mb} V_{bs}$
- Thus, current supplied by V_X is less than V_X/r_o and hence output impedance is greater than r_o

CS Stage with Source Degeneration



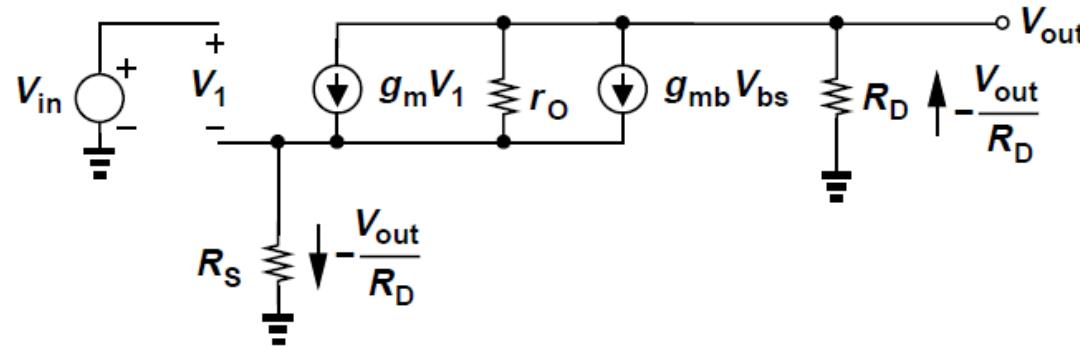
- To compute gain in the general case including body effect and channel-length modulation, consider above small-signal model
- From KVL at input,

$$V_1 = V_{in} + V_{out} R_s / R_D$$

- KCL at output gives

$$\begin{aligned} I_{ro} &= -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D} - (g_m V_1 + g_{mb} V_{bs}) \\ &= -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D} - \left[g_m \left(V_{in} + V_{out} \frac{R_s}{R_D} \right) + g_{mb} V_{out} \frac{R_s}{R_D} \right] \end{aligned}$$

CS Stage with Source Degeneration



- Since voltage drops across r_O and R_S must add up to V_{out} ,

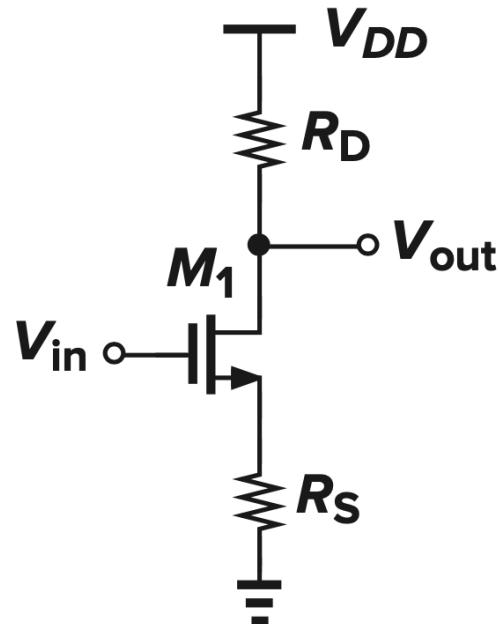
$$\begin{aligned}V_{out} &= I_{ro}r_O - \frac{V_{out}}{R_D}R_S \\&= -\frac{V_{out}}{R_D}r_O - \left[g_m \left(V_{in} + V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right) + g_{mb}V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D} \right] r_O - V_{out} \frac{R_S}{R_D}\end{aligned}$$

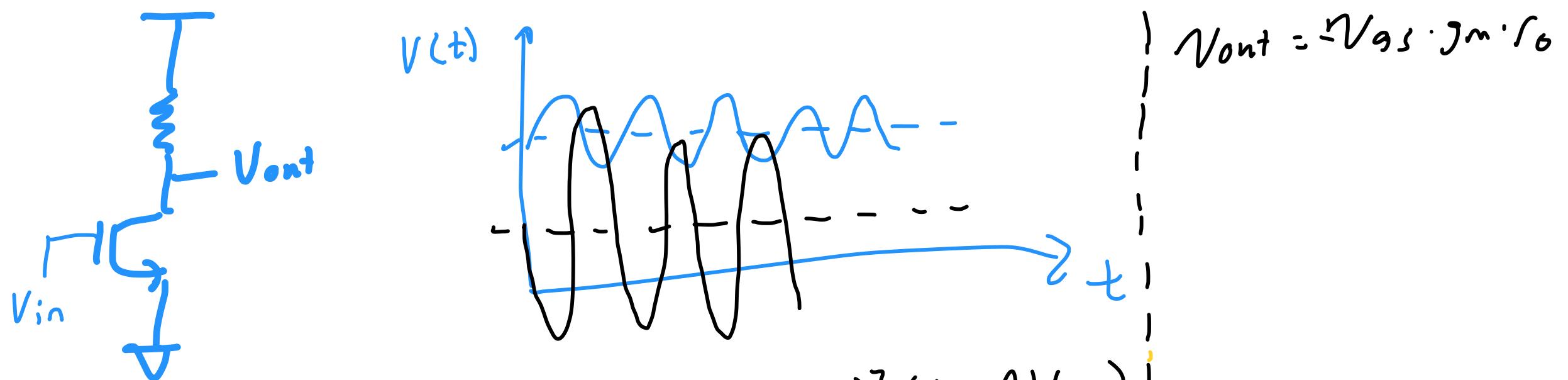
- Voltage gain is therefore

$$\boxed{\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{-g_m r_O R_D}{R_D + R_S + r_O + (g_m + g_{mb}) R_S r_O}}$$

CS Stage with Source Degeneration

- Calculate the gain using the lemma ($A_v = -G_m R_{out}$):



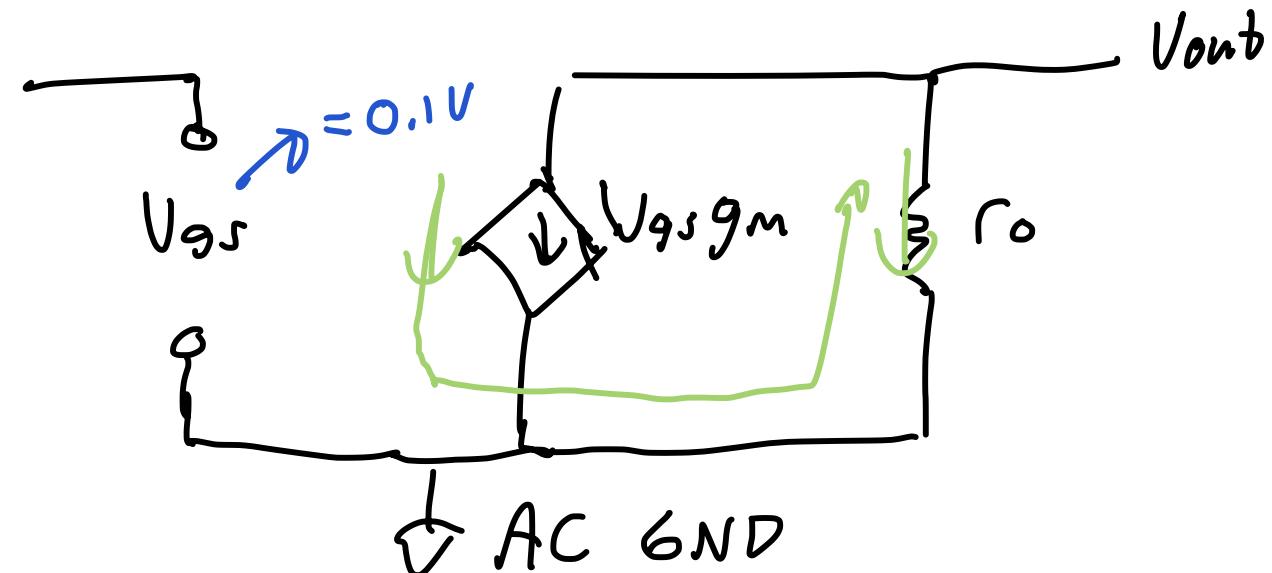


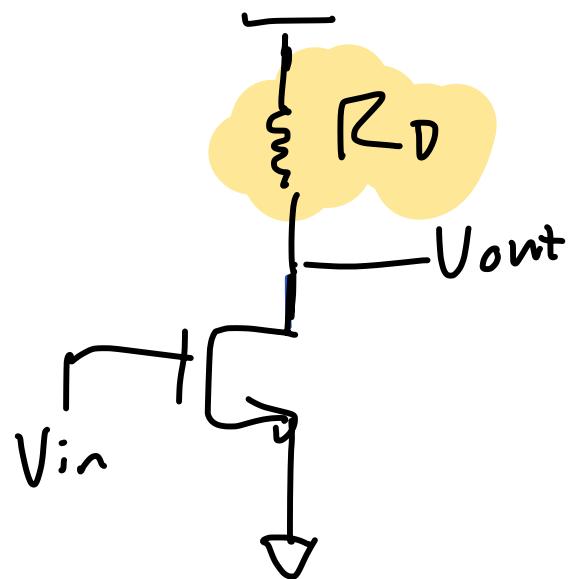
$$\bar{I}_d = -\frac{1}{2} N_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{gs} - V_{TH})^2 (1 + \gamma V_{DS})$$

$$\frac{d \bar{I}_D}{d V_{DS}} = \frac{1}{r_0}$$

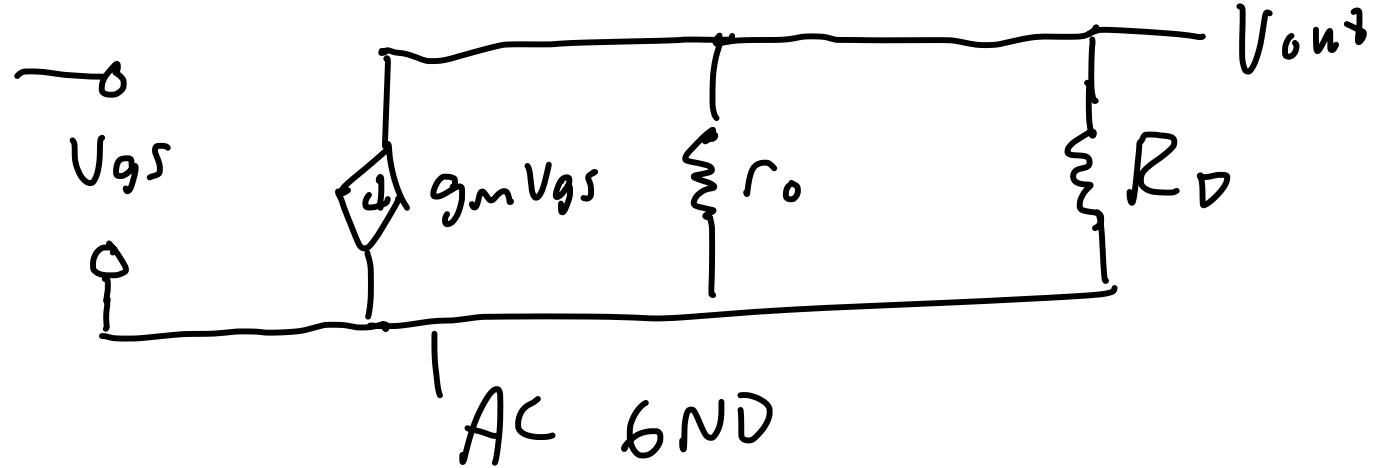
$$\frac{d \bar{I}_{DS}}{d V_{GS}} = g_m$$

$$\Delta i = \frac{V_{out}}{r_0} + V_{GS} g_m$$





$$A_V = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} ? :$$



$$V_{out} = -g_m V_{gs} (r_o \parallel R_D)$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = -g_m (r_o \parallel R_D)$$

if $r_o \gg R_D$

$$\hookrightarrow \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} \approx -g_m R_D$$