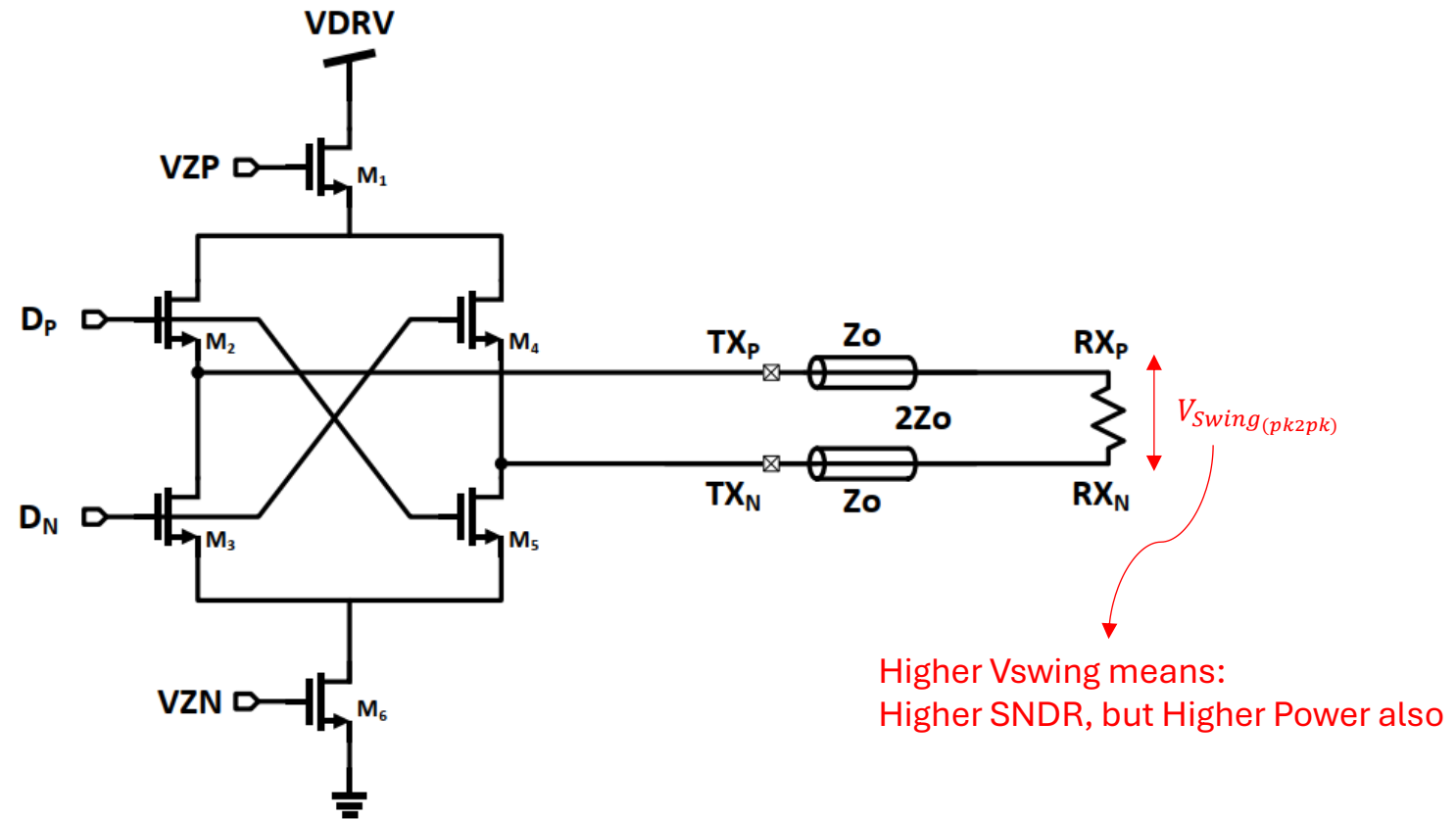


Tx Driver - VM

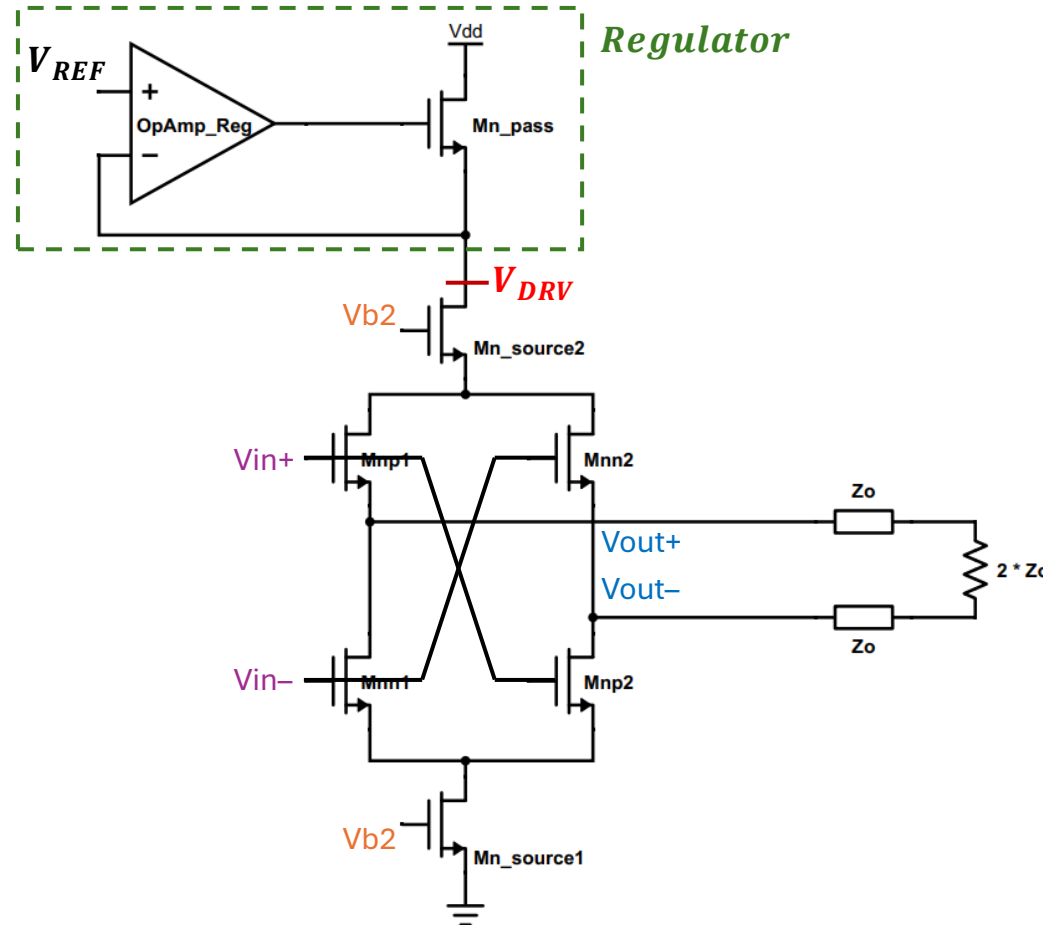
1 Gbps

Muhammad Aldacher

Voltage-Mode Driver (VM)



1) Without Replica



$$V_{Swing(pk2pk)} = V_{DRV} = V_{REF}$$

For $V_{Swing(pk2pk)} = 500 \text{ mV}$:

$$V_{REF} = V_{DRV} = 500 \text{ mV}$$

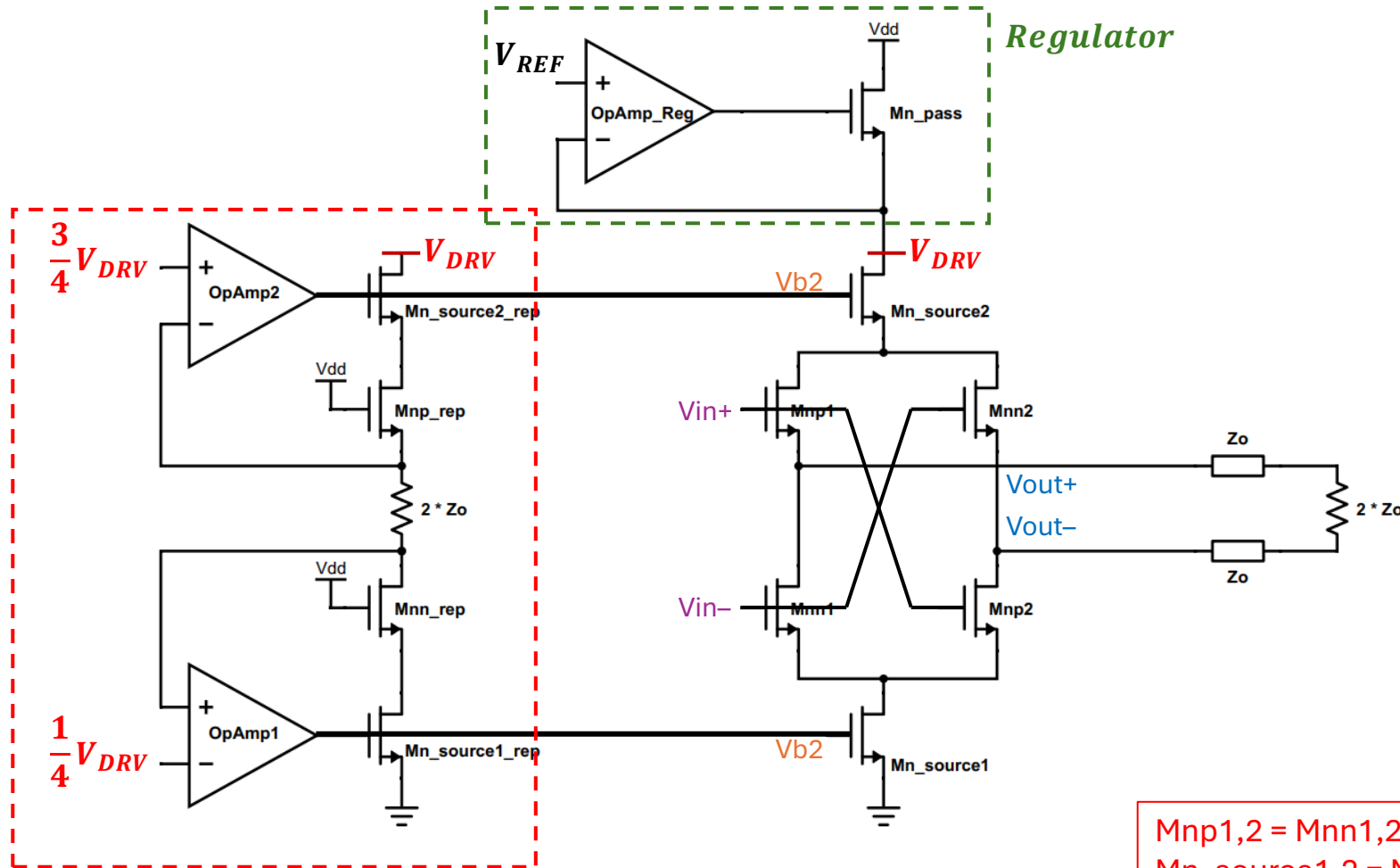
Device Sizing:

- Input devices ($Mnp1,2$ & $Mnn1,2$) act as switches, so we should increase W (reducing R_{ON}) to improve headroom.
- Bias devices ($Mn_source1,2$) should have their W & gate voltages $V_{b1,2}$ adjusted so that the output voltages would be at $\frac{3}{4} V_{DRV}$ & $\frac{1}{4} V_{DRV}$.

$$\begin{array}{lll} Mnp1,2 = Mnn1,2 : & L = L_{MIN} & , \quad m=100x \\ Mn_source1,2 : & L = L_{MIN} & , \quad m=200x \end{array}$$

2) With Replica

$$V_{Swing(pk2pk)} = V_{DRV} = V_{REF}$$



- For the L of the Bias devices (Mn_source1,2), We can use minimum L, because the feedback loops in the replica branch will adjust the currents to give the correct output swing anyway.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mnp1,2} = \text{Mnn1,2} = \text{Mnp1,2_rep} = \text{Mnn1,2_rep} : L &= L_{\text{MIN}} \quad , \quad m=100x \\ \text{Mn_source1,2} = \text{Mn_source1,2_rep} : L &= L_{\text{MIN}} \quad , \quad m=200x \end{aligned}$$

Testbenchs & Setups

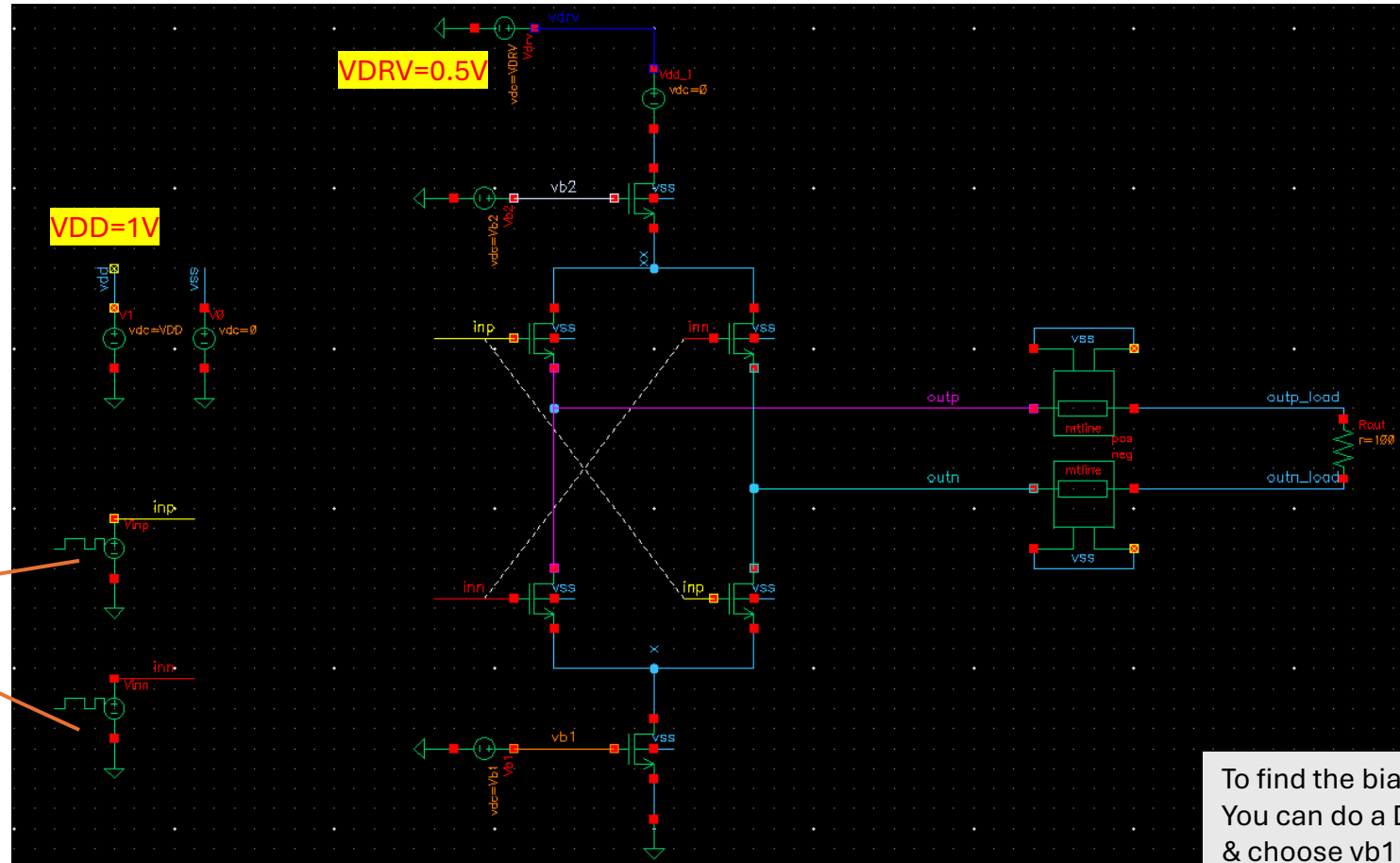
- $V_{DD} = 1V$
- Data-Rate = 1 Gb/s
- $V_{SWING} = 0.5V$ (pk2pk)

Testbench

A) Without Replica

LIB: analogLib
CELL: vprbs

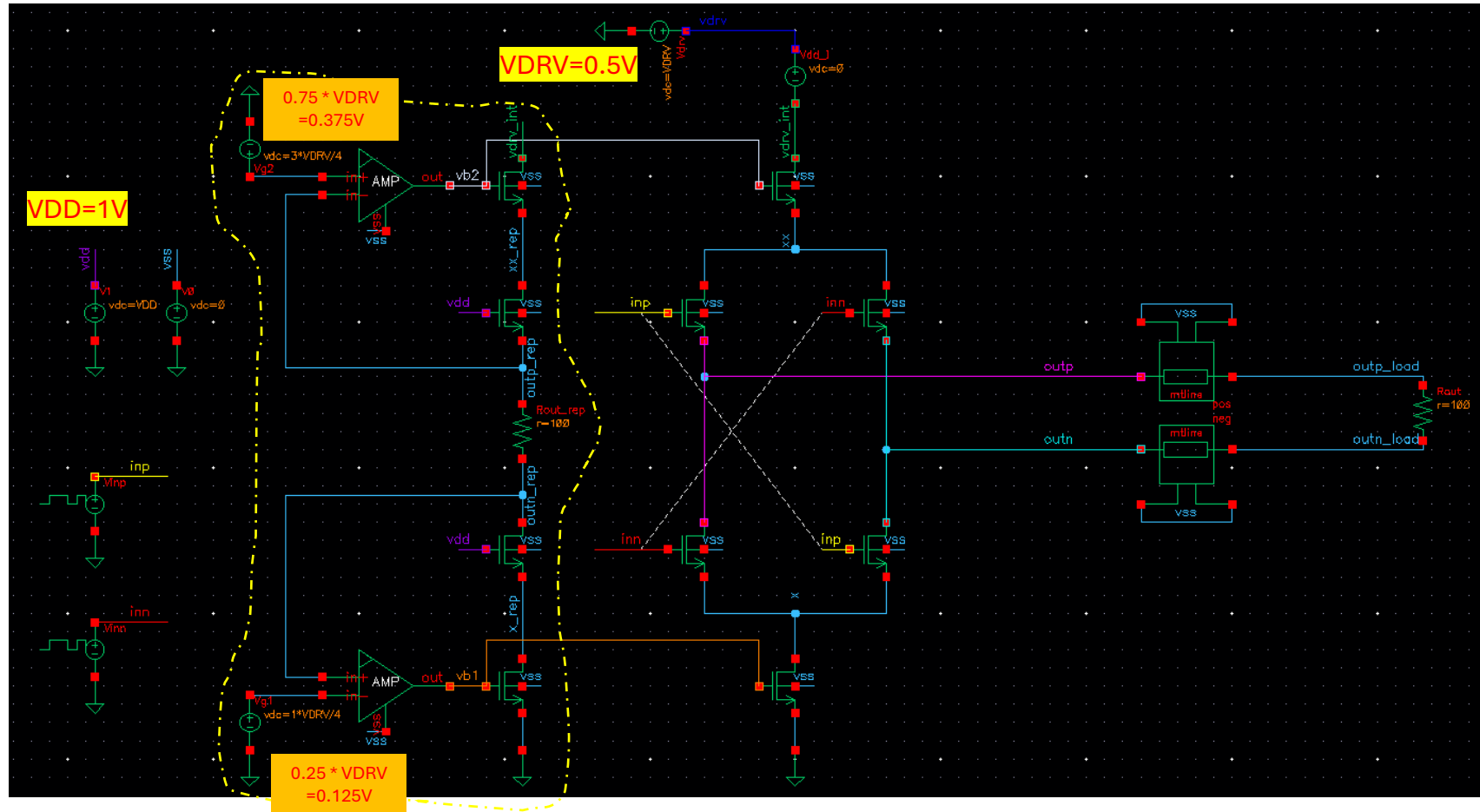
Zero value: 0 V / 1 V
One value: 1 V / 0 V
Bit period: 1 ns
Rise/Fall times: 20 ps
Edge type: linear
Trigger: Internal
LFSR Mode: PN32



To find the bias voltages vb1 & vb2, You can do a DC-sweep with inp=1 & inn=0, & choose vb1 & vb2 that would give outputs of $\frac{3}{4} V_{DRV}$ & $\frac{1}{4} V_{DRV}$.

Testbench

B) With Replica



Channel Settings (mtline)

→ For $Z_0 = 50$ Ohms:

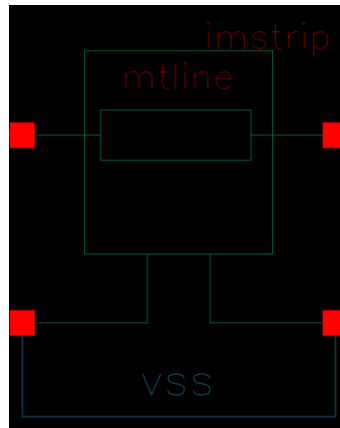
$$Z_0 \approx \frac{87}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r + 1.41}} \ln \left(\frac{5.98 H}{0.8 W + T} \right)$$

Dielectric_const = $\epsilon_r = 4.8$

Dielectric_thickness = $H = 360\mu$

Line_width = $W = 625\mu$

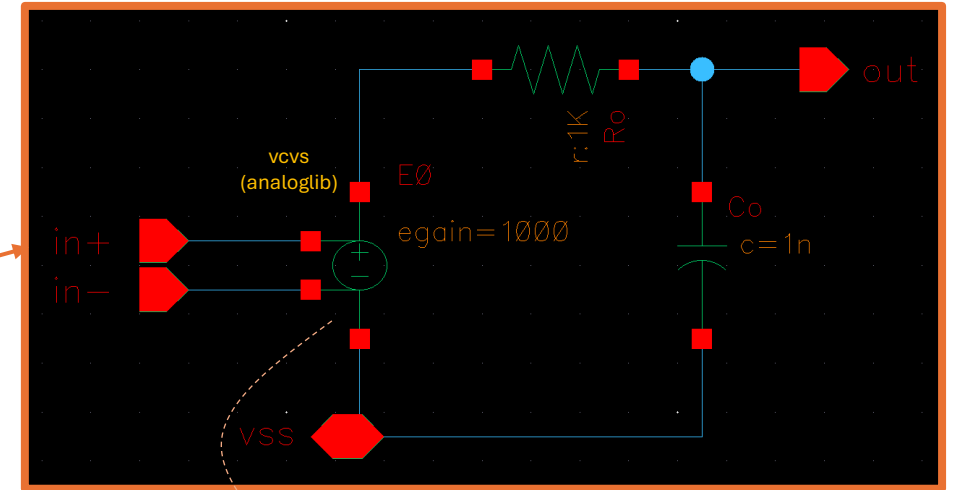
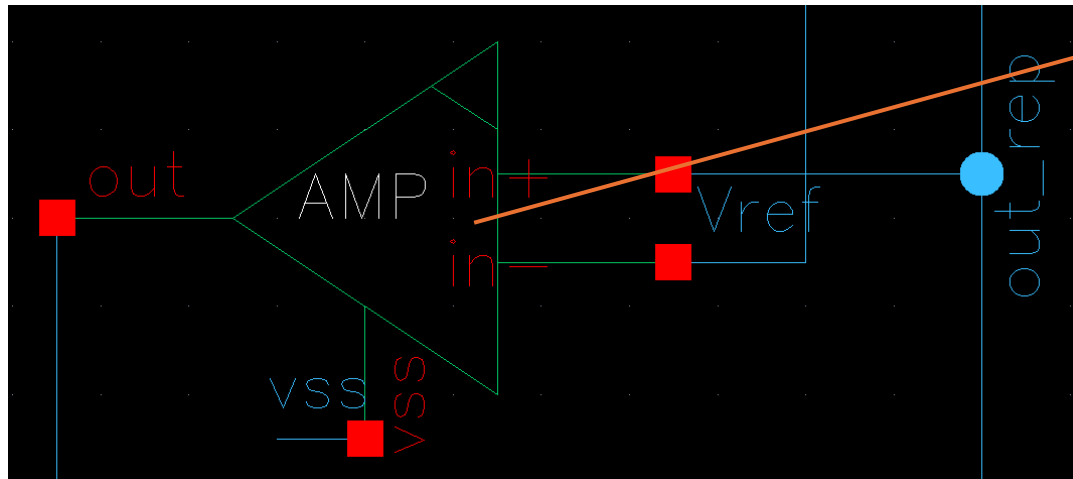
Line_thickness = $T = 17.78\mu$



Library Name	analogLib
Cell Name	mtline

CDF Parameter	Value
Num of lines (excluding ref1)	1
Model name	
Physical length	100m M
Multiplicity factor	1
Max signal frequency	
Type of Input	FieldSolver
Generate noise?	no
Transmission line type	microstrip
Model type	wideband
Rel dielectric const of layer	4.8
Dielectric layer thickness	360u
Signal line width	625u
Signal line thickness	17.78u
Signal line spacing	

Ideal OpAmp



Library Name	analogLib
Cell Name	vcvs
CDF Parameter	
Type of transfer char	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Linear <input type="radio"/> PWL
Smoothing Factor	
Voltage gain	1000
Multiplier	
Maximum Output Voltage	1
Minimum Output Voltage	0

Simulation Setup

Name	Value
Filter <input type="text" value="Filter"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tests	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tran	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Simulator	spectre
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Analyses	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tran	0 VAR("sim_time")
Click to add analysis	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design Variables	
Click to add test	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Global Variables	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sim_time	1000n
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VDD	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vsw_pk2pk	500m
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VDRV	Vsw_pk2pk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vb2	665m
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vb1	280m
Click to add variable	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parameters	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corners	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nominal	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TT	
Click to add corner	

Choosing Analyses -- ADE Assembler

Analysis

<input checked="" type="radio"/> tran	<input type="radio"/> dc	<input type="radio"/> ac
<input type="radio"/> noise	<input type="radio"/> xf	<input type="radio"/> sens
<input type="radio"/> dcmatch	<input type="radio"/> acmatch	<input type="radio"/> stb
<input type="radio"/> pz	<input type="radio"/> lf	<input type="radio"/> sp
<input type="radio"/> envlp	<input type="radio"/> pss	<input type="radio"/> pac
<input type="radio"/> pstb	<input type="radio"/> pnoise	<input type="radio"/> pxf
<input type="radio"/> psp	<input type="radio"/> qpss	<input type="radio"/> qpac
<input type="radio"/> qpnoise	<input type="radio"/> qpxf	<input type="radio"/> qpss
<input type="radio"/> hb	<input type="radio"/> hbac	<input type="radio"/> hbstb
<input type="radio"/> hbnoise	<input type="radio"/> hbsp	<input type="radio"/> hbx

Transient Analysis

Stop Time

Accuracy Defaults (errpreset)

☐ Transient Noise

Dynamic Parameter ☐

☐ HV_solution

Enabled ☒

Options...

OK Cancel Defaults Apply Help

Time Step Algorithm State File Output EM/IR Output

SIMULATION INTERVAL PARAMETERS

start

outputstart

TIME STEP PARAMETERS

step

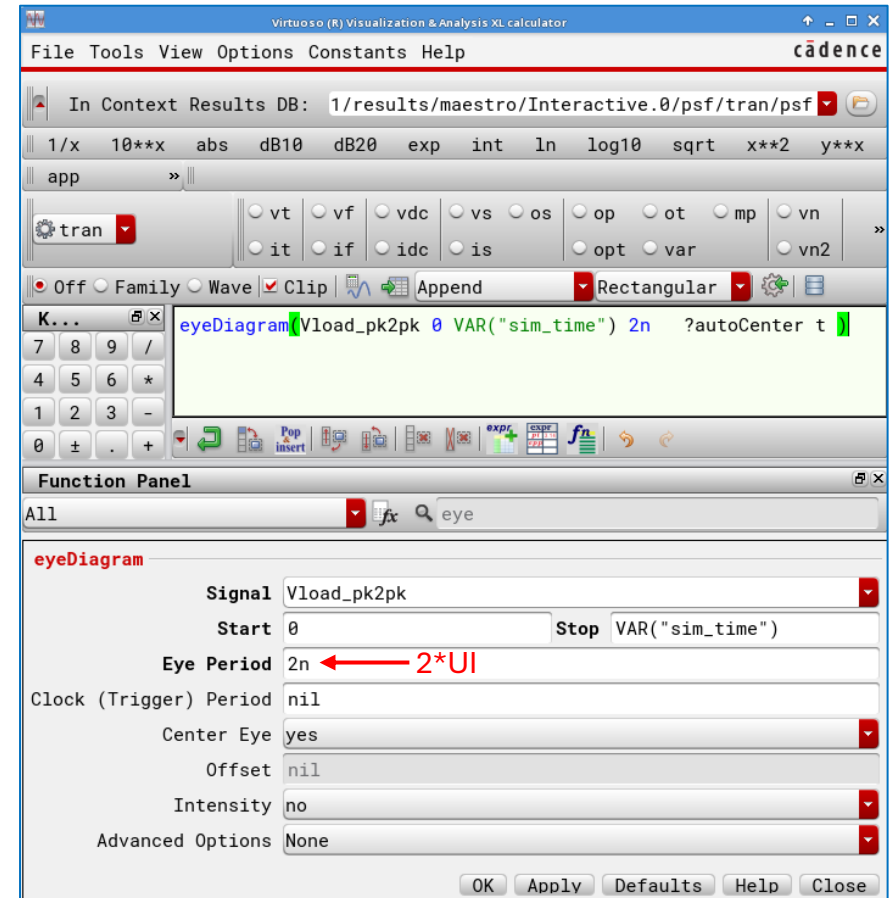
maxstep

minstep

Measurements

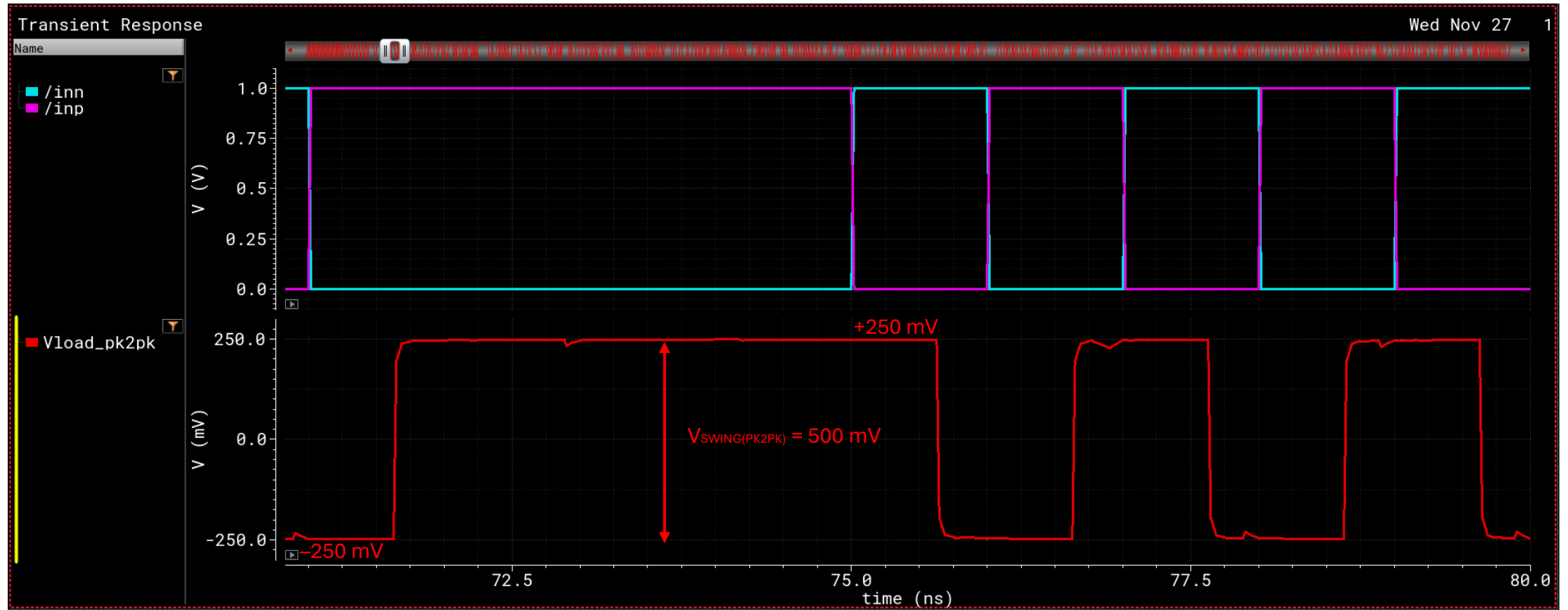
Name	Type	Details	EvalType
Filter	Filter	Filter	Filter
*** Voltages ***	expr		point
	signal	/inp	point
	signal	/inn	point
	signal	/outp	point
	signal	/outn	point
	signal	/outp_load	point
	signal	/outn_load	point
	signal	/x	point
	signal	/xx	point
	signal	/vdrv	point
	signal	/vb2	point
	signal	/vb1	point
	signal	/x_rep	point
	signal	/xx_rep	point
	signal	/outp_rep	point
	signal	/outn_rep	point
*** Currents ***	expr		point
/Vdd_I/PLUS_I	signal ...	/Vdd_I/PLUS	point
/Rout/PLUS_I	signal ...	/Rout/PLUS	point
*** Outputs ***	expr		point
Vtxout_pk2pk	expr	(VT("/outp") - VT("/outn"))	point
Vtxout_eye	expr	eyeDiagram(Vtxout_pk2pk 0 VAR("sim_time") 2e-09 ?autoCenter t)	point
Vload_pk2pk	expr	(VT("/outp_load") - VT("/outn_load"))	point
Vload_eye	expr	eyeDiagram(Vload_pk2pk 0 VAR("sim_time") 2e-09 ?autoCenter t)	point

eyeDiagram(VT("/outp_load")-VT("/outn_load") 0 VAR("sim_time") 2n ?autoCenter t)

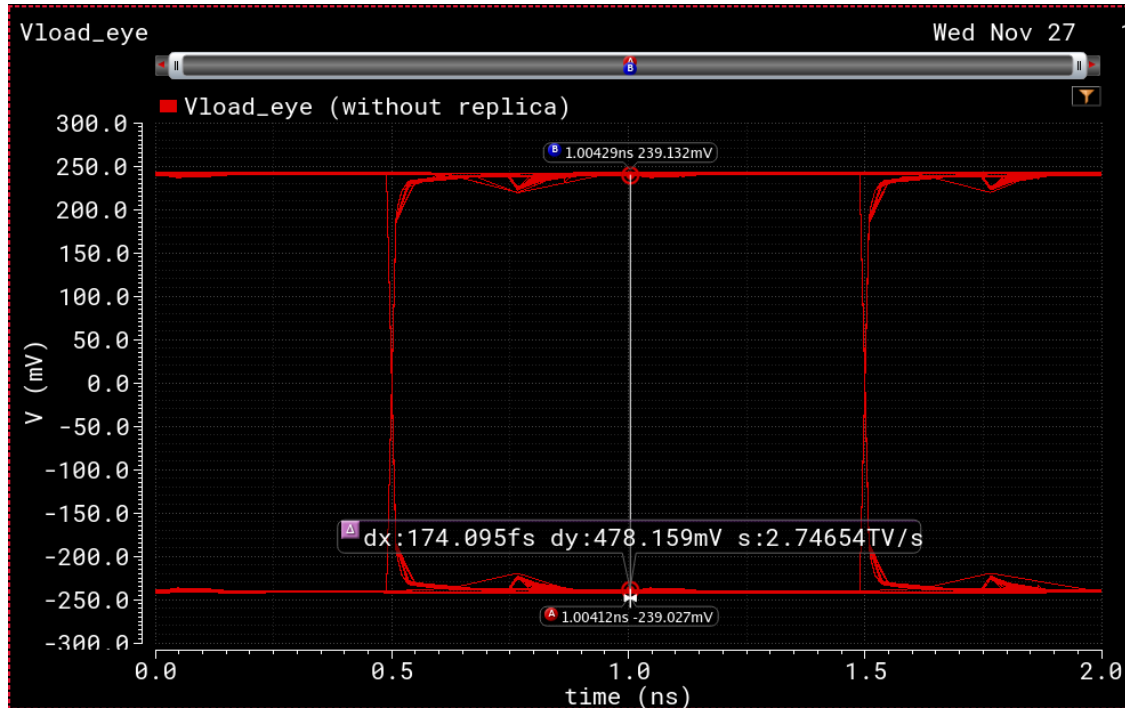


Simulations & Results

Waveforms

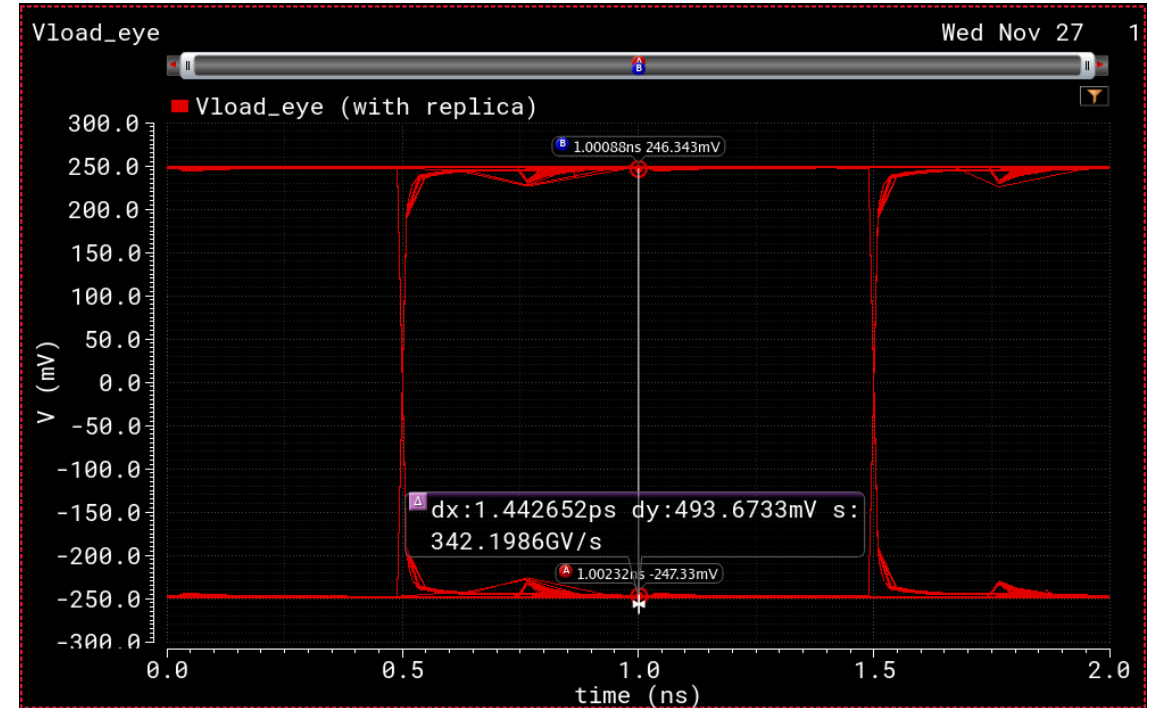


Waveforms (Eye-Diagrams)



No Replica:

$$V_{SW(pk2pk)} = 478.16 \text{ mV}$$



With Replica:

$$V_{SW(pk2pk)} = 493.67 \text{ mV}$$

➔ More Accurate Swing, at the expense of additional power drawn by an extra branch & the OpAmps

[\(For more info on how to measure Eye Diagrams\)](#)

Current Consumption

- Total current drawn = 5 mA

(2.5 mA from main driver + 2.5 mA from Replica branch)
(OpAmps not included)