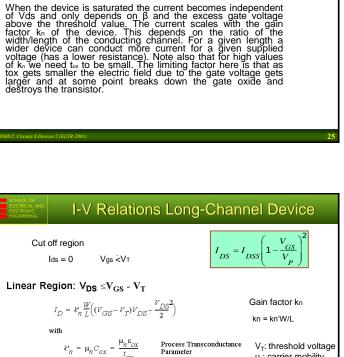


Current-Voltage Relations Long-Channel Device In the cut-off region the device does not conduct. There is a specific voltage, which depends on the CMOS manufacturing process (Vt), that must be exceeded in order to induce sufficient charge in the channel to allow conduction to take place. In the linear region the current varies linearly with Vds for small values of Vds where the quadratic term can be ignored. Thus the device acts a a simple resistor in this region for small Vds. When the device is saturated the current becomes independent of Vds and only depends on β and the excess gate voltage above the threshold value. The current scales with the gain factor k_n of the device. This depends on the ratio of the width/length of the conducting channel. For a given length a wider device can conduct more current for a given supplied voltage (has a lower resistance). Note also that for high values of k_n we need $t_{\rm ox}$ to be small. The limiting factor here is that as tox gets smaller the electric field due to the gate voltage gets larger and at some point breaks down the gate oxide and destroys the transistor.



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