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DEPARTMENT OF

ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

A Major Project Report On

"Design and implementation of low power high speed analog comparator using 45nm technology"

Submitted in partial fulfillment for the award of degree of Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Communication Engineering

Submitted by

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2BL22EC121

Under the Guidance of

Prof. M. S. Jolad

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VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY,

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CERTIFICATE

This is Certified that the Major Project work entitled "**Design and implementation of low power high speed analog comparator using 45nm technology** " carried out by **Vijayalaxmi M Bilur** bonafide student of **VP Dr P.G Halakatti College of Engineering and Technology, Vijayapura** in partial fulfillment for the award of **Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Communication Engineering** of the **Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi** during the year 2025-2026. It is certified that all corrections/suggestions indicated for internal assessment have been incorporated in the report deposited in the departmental library. The Major Project report has been approved as it satisfies the academic requirement in respect of project work prescribed for the said degree.

Guide	HOD	Principal
Prof. M. S. Jolad	**Dr. J. S. Gonal**	**Dr. Manjunath P**

External Viva

Name of the examiners **Signature with date**

1.

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B.L.D.E.A's

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DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

DECLARATION

We, students of VII semester B.E, at the department of Electronics & Communication Engineering, hereby declare that, the major project entitled "**Design and implementation of low power high speed analog comparator using 45nm technology**" embodies the report of our major project work, carried out by us under the guidance of **Prof. M. S. Jolad,** We also declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the work reported here in does not form part of any other report or dissertation on the basis of which a degree or award was conferred on an earlier occasion on this by any student.

Place: Vijayapura **Date:**

Name of the Student **USN**

Vijayalaxmi M Bilur **2BL22EC121**

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ABSTRACT

The increasing demand for high-speed and energy-efficient integrated circuits has made the design of analog comparators a key area of focus in modern VLSI systems. An analog comparator is an essential building block used in Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs), signal processing circuits, and communication systems, where it performs critical decision-making based on analog signal comparison. This project involves the design and implementation of a low-power, high-speed analog comparator using 45 nm CMOS technology, with the objective of achieving a balance between speed, power efficiency, and accuracy. The comparator circuit is implemented using a pre-amplifier stage followed by a regenerative latch, ensuring fast operation with low static power consumption. The design was modeled and simulated using Cadence Virtuoso with 45 nm CMOS process parameters. Transistor sizing and biasing were carefully optimized to minimize propagation delay, power dissipation, and offset voltage. Simulation results confirm that the implemented comparator achieves high-speed performance with low power consumption, demonstrating efficient operation at reduced supply voltages suitable for nanoscale technologies. The results validate that the designed comparator is well-suited for use in high-speed ADCs, memory circuits, and portable low-power electronic systems. The work highlights the effectiveness of 45 nm CMOS technology in achieving superior performance for analog circuit design, emphasizing its relevance in the development of next-generation, low-power mixed-signal integrated systems.

Keywords:

Analog Comparator, Low Power, High Speed, 45 nm Technology, CMOS, Cadence Virtuoso, Propagation Delay, Power Dissipation, VLSI Design

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INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER: 1

INTRODUCTION

The continuous scaling of VLSI technology has made it possible to design circuits that achieve both power consumption and high-speed operation, which are essential requirements in today's electronic systems. Among various analog components, the comparator is a fundamental circuit used in Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs), signal detection systems, and communication circuits. It compares two input voltages and generates a digital output, serving as a key interface between analog and digital domains.

Designing a comparator that offers high speed while maintaining low power consumption is challenging because improving one parameter often compromises the other. High-speed designs typically consume more power, while low-power designs tend to operate slower. Therefore, achieving an optimal trade-off between speed, power, and accuracy is an important objective in comparator design.

With the advent of 45 nm CMOS technology, it is now possible to enhance circuit performance while operating at lower supply voltages. However, scaling introduces new challenges such as leakage currents, process variations, and reduced voltage headroom, which can degrade analog performance. Careful design optimization, including proper transistor sizing and biasing, is necessary to overcome these limitations and ensure reliable operation.

In this project, a low-power, high-speed analog comparator is designed and implemented using Cadence Virtuoso with 45 nm CMOS process parameters. The comparator utilizes a pre-amplifier and regenerative latch architecture, which improves sensitivity and reduces offset while ensuring fast switching with low power dissipation. Simulation results confirm efficient performance with reduced delay and power consumption compared to conventional designs.

This work demonstrates that using nanoscale CMOS technology, it is possible to design compact, energy-efficient, and high-performance comparators suitable for applications in ADCs, portable devices, and communication systems. The implementation highlights the potential of deep-submicron technology in developing next-generation low-power, high-speed VLSI circuits.

1.1 BASICS OF COMPARATOR

The comparator is a circuit that compares an analog signal with another analog signal or reference and outputs a binary signal based on the comparison.

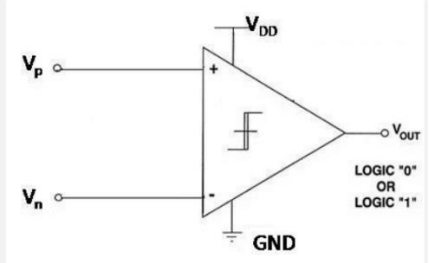

Figure 1 : Schematic of comparator

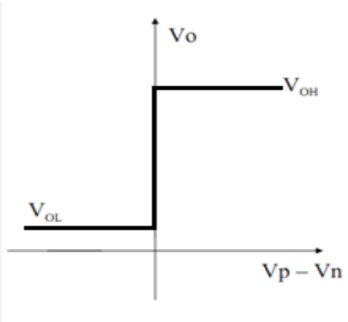

Figure 2 : Ideal voltage transfer characteristic of comparator

Fig. 1 shows the schematic symbol of the comparator. Fig. 2 shows its ideal transfer characteristics. VP is the input voltage (Pulse voltage) applied to the positive input terminal of comparator and Vn is the reference voltage (constant DC voltage) applied to the negative terminal of comparator. Now if Vp , the input of the comparator is at a greater potential than the Vn, the reference voltage, then the output of the comparator is a logic 1, where as if the Vp is at a potential less than the Vn , the output of the comparator is at logic 0.

If Vp > Vn , then Vo= logic 1 and If Vp < Vn , then Vo= logic 0. Thus a comparator compares two input analog value and gives binary output. In ideal case, binary signals can have two values at any point. But actually there is a transition region between the two binary states. It is important for the comparator to pass quickly through the transition region of the analog signal. The presentation on comparators will first examine the requirements and characterization of comparators. It will be seen that comparators can be divided into open-loop and regenerative comparators. The open-loop comparators are basically op-amps without compensation. Regenerative comparators use positive feedback, similar to sense amplifiers or flip-flops, to accomplish the comparison of the magnitude between two signals. A third type of comparator emerges that is a combination of the open-loop and regenerative comparators. This combination results in comparators that are extremely fast.

LITERATURE SURVEY

CHAPTER: 2

LITERATURE SURVEY

Analog comparators are important components in mixed-signal circuits such as ADCs, sensor interfaces and communication systems. They compare two input voltages and generate a digital-level output. As CMOS technology has advanced to 45 nm, comparators must operate with higher speed and reduced power consumption. However, deep-submicron technologies face challenges like increased device mismatch, lower intrinsic gain and higher sensitivity to process variations. Because of this, many researchers have proposed improved comparator structures suitable for 45 nm design.

To achieve better low-voltage operation and minimize kickback noise, **Dubey et al.[1]** introduced the double-tail dynamic comparator. Their design uses two separate tail transistors for the input and latch stages, allowing faster operation at reduced supply voltages. They showed that the double-tail architecture offers lower delay and improved power efficiency when compared to single-tail comparators, making it suitable for low-power and medium-speed ADCs.

Since mismatch becomes more significant in 45 nm CMOS, **Kumar et al.[2]** focused on a preamplifier-based comparator. Their design adds a small preamplifier before the latch to reduce input-referred offset and improve decision accuracy. Although this method increases power consumption slightly because of the preamplifier, it provides much better sensitivity and stability. This architecture is therefore preferred in applications where offset performance is important.

For high-speed applications such as flash ADCs, **Mukti et al.[3]** demonstrated a latch-type comparator operating in 45 nm technology. Their design uses strong regenerative feedback and optimized transistor sizing to achieve very fast comparison speed. Although it consumes more dynamic power, it is suitable for circuits where speed is the main requirement.

A broad comparison of different comparator designs was conducted by **Sharma et al.[4],** who evaluated double-tail, preamplifier-based and latch-type comparators in deep-submicron technologies. They highlighted the importance of layout techniques such as device matching and symmetric placement, especially in 45 nm, to reduce offset and noise. Their study shows that each architecture has strengths depending on the design requirements.

To ensure stable operation under variations in process, voltage and temperature, **Rahman et al.[5]** proposed a comparator with simple adaptive biasing. Their design keeps the delay more consistent and improves reliability across different operating conditions. This approach is useful in modern low-power designs where PVT changes can significantly affect performance.

CMOS technology scales to 45 nm, the behavior of transistors becomes less predictable due to factors like short-channel effects, mobility degradation and increased leakage currents**. Patel et al.[6]** discussed that these issues directly affect comparator performance, especially delay and offset. They explained that smaller devices introduce higher mismatch between transistor pairs, which results in larger offset voltages. This makes accurate comparison difficult unless special design techniques such as proper sizing, matching and calibration are used. Their study shows that understanding device behavior in 45 nm is essential before choosing the right comparator architecture.

Another major challenge mentioned by **Reddy et al.[7]** is kickback noise, which appears when the latch transitions during regeneration. Kickback noise can disturb the input signal and reduce the accuracy of the comparator, especially in ADC front-ends. They showed that double-tail comparators naturally reduce kickback due to their separated stages, while latch-based comparators need additional measures like buffer stages or controlled clocking. Their work highlights that reducing kickback noise is important for reliable operation in high-speed and low-voltage environments.

To achieve low-power operation in deep-submicron designs, **Soni et al.[8]** explored different power-saving techniques such as optimized tail currents, clock gating and careful biasing. They noted that in 45 nm technology, even small reductions in switching activity and bias current can significantly lower overall power consumption. Their findings show that low-power comparators must balance transistor size, bias current and regeneration strength in order to meet speed requirements without increasing power.

Comparator performance is not only determined by schematic design but also strongly influenced by layout quality. **Verma et al.[9]** emphasized that layout techniques like common-centroid placement, equal routing lengths and symmetrical device arrangement help reduce mismatch and offset. They also explained that parasitic capacitances introduced during layout can affect delay and cause errors during high-speed switching. Hence, for 45 nm comparators, proper layout design is as important as the circuit architecture itself.

SOFTWARE AND TOOL REQUIREMENT

CHAPTER: 3

SOFTWARE AND TOOL REQUIREMENT

3.1 Cadence Virtuoso

Cadence is an Electronic Design Automation (EDA) environment that allows integrating in a single framework different applications and tools (both proprietary und from other vendors), allowing to support all the stages of IC design and verification from a single environment. These tools are completely general, supporting different fabrication technologies. When particular technology is selected, of configuration and technology related files are employed for customizing the Cadence environment. This set of files is commonly referred as a design kit. The Cadence tool kit consist of several programs for different applications such as schematic drawing, layout, verification, and simulation. These applications can be used on various computer platforms. The open architecture also allows for integration of tools from other vendors or of own design. The integration of all these tools done by a program called Design Framework II (DFW) The DFW-application is the cornerstone in the Cadence environment. It provides a common user interface and a common data base to the tools used. This makes it possible to switch between different applications without having to convert the data base.

3.2 Cadence Schematic editor

To create the schematic the tool Virtuose Schematic Editor is used. This editor is an interactive system for building schematics by instantiating some basic components (transistors, capacitances, etc.) and to connect them to each other. The values (properties) of the components can be edited to suit the specifications. Likewise, text and comments can also be included In order create a circuit in the schematic editor instances or circuit components like transistors, supply nets and wires should be added. To add an instance T should be pressed from the keyboard. This will open up a Component Browser. This will list all the components housed within the NCSU Analog Parts library and gives the ability to search for a specific component from the Filter. The required components can be searched and placed in the window, Wires can be added among the chosen components by pressing 'W' from the keyboard and make appropriate connections across all transistor elements. This will some in very handy during simulation, especially when dealing with circuits with several components. It is often advisable to add Pin names to each of the I/O terminals in a circuit. Thus, the pins can be added to the schematic by clicking on the pin symbol anil make appropriate connections all 1/0 ports. The VDD and VSS pins should be chosen to be Input Output when selecting the Direction during pin creation. Further, the "Check and Save" option will check for errors in the schematic and save the current design if no errors are found.

3.3 Schematic and Symbol Creation

The editor will also create symbols of the cells so that they can he used in other parts of the construction. When dealing with large circuits its often advisable to generate symbols for each sub-circuit in the design and perform all simulations by placing the corresponding symbols in a testbench. The symbol can be generated by creating a cell view from schematic cell view. The input and output pins in the symbol can be rearranged as per the design needs. Once the symbol is created it will popup. By default, Cadence will generate a rectangular symbol, however the generated symbol can be edited as per the user needs. After the symbols have been created the various symbols can be combined to form a Test Circuit. The test circuit can be fed with a suitable input in the form of transient pulse or any analog signal along with a required DC supply. These lest circuits can be checked for its functionality by performing various simulation analysis like Transient, DC and AC analysis.

3.4 Virtuoso Analog Design Environment

Virtuoso Analog Design Environment L. is the entry-level analog design and simulation environment for the Virtuoso custom design platform. Analog Design Environment Lis the industry's leading task-based environment for simulating and analyzing full custom, analog, and RF-IC designs. It features a graphical user interface, integrated waveform display, distributed processing, and interfaces to popular third-party simulators.

The ADEL window Features are as follows:

1. Easy-to-use interactive simulation environment.

2. Built-in waveform display and signal analysis capabilities

3. An integral part of the Virtuoso custom design platform.

METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER: 4

METHODOLOGY

The design and analysis of the low-power, high-speed analog comparator were carried out using Cadence Virtuoso, which provides a complete environment for analog circuit development. The process began by creating a new library and attaching the required CMOS technology file (PDK). This ensured that the transistor models and design rules used in the project were accurate and suitable for simulation.

The comparator circuit was then designed at the transistor level using the Virtuoso Schematic Editor. MOSFETs, biasing components, and reference nodes were selected from the technology library and connected according to the comparator architecture. Basic transistor sizing and bias conditions were chosen from theoretical calculations to ensure proper operation during reset and comparison phases.

After completing the schematic, simulations were performed using Cadence Analog Design Environment. Different analyses such as DC operating point, transient response, and parametric sweeps were carried out to study the input–output characteristics, delay, switching behavior, and offset performance of the comparator. These simulations helped verify whether the circuit met the required speed and low-power objectives.

Based on the simulation results, several iterations of tuning were performed by adjusting transistor widths, lengths, and bias currents. Each updated version of the design was re-simulated to observe improvements and ensure stability across different input conditions. This iterative procedure helped refine the comparator's performance and finalize a design that met the required specifications.

Finally, the overall design process was documented by capturing waveforms, simulation results, and key performance parameters from Cadence ADE. These results were analyzed and compared with expected theoretical behavior to validate the correctness of the comparator design. This systematic approach ensured that the final comparator design was both efficient and reliable for low-power and high-speed applications.

4.1 CONVENTIONAL SINGLE TAIL COMPARATOR

The conventional dynamic comparator is also called as conventional Single Tail Comparator. They are widely used in A/D converters, with high input impedance, rail to-rail output swing, and no static power consumption.

It includes two modes of operation: Reset Phase and Comparison phase. Block diagram shows the operation of the comparator. Figure 3 shows the operation of a conventional single-tail comparator. In the reset phase (CLK = 0), the tail transistor is OFF and output nodes are precharged.M7 and M8 pull the internal nodes to a fixed level. When CLK goes high, the comparison phase begins. The tail transistor turns ON, and the input difference discharges one node faster. Outn and Outp finally settle to logic levels based on the input comparison.

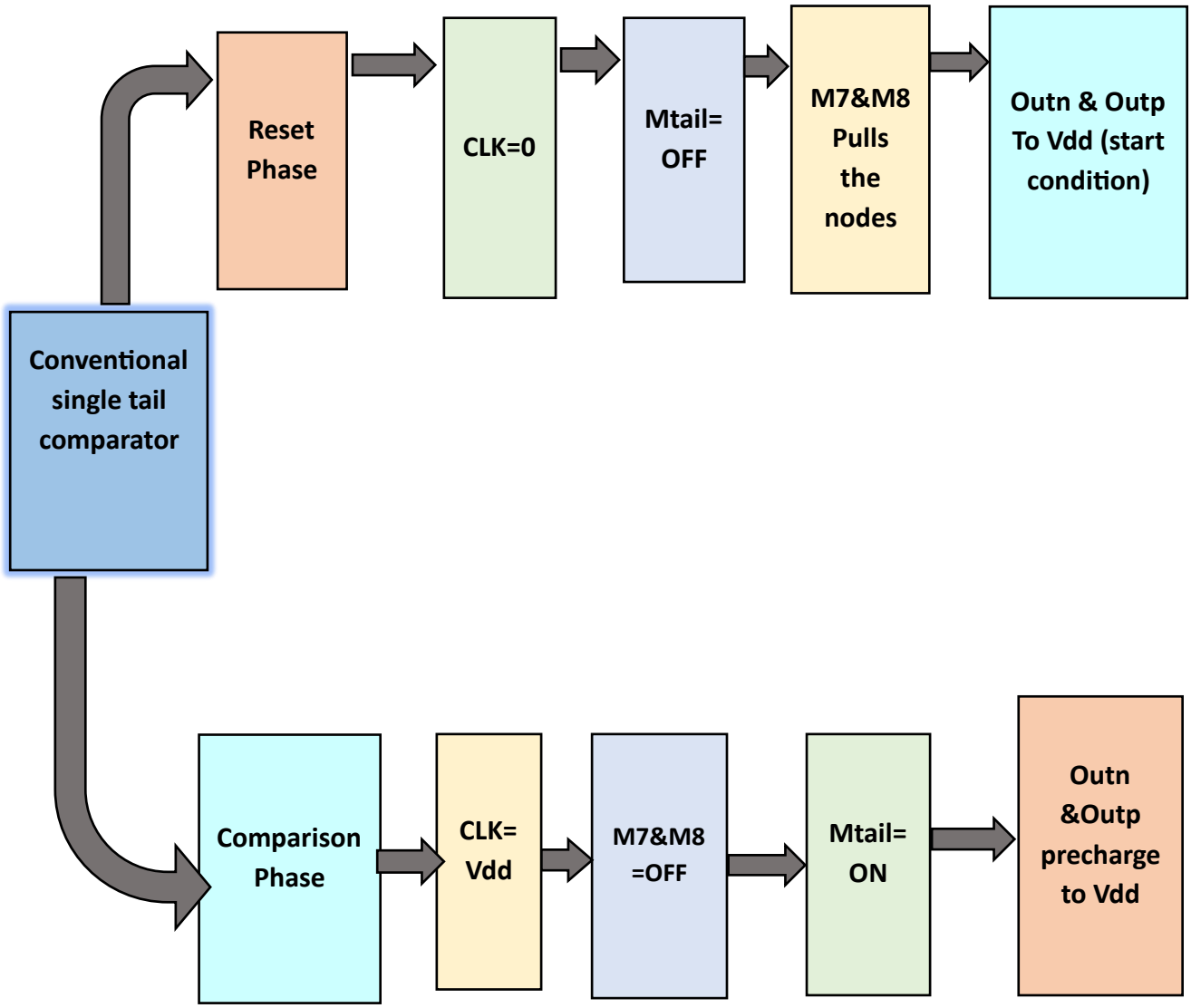

Figure 3 : Block diagram of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.1.1 SCHEMATIC

The figure 4 schematic represents the complete transistor-level implementation of the conventional single-tail dynamic comparator designed in Cadence Virtuoso Schematic Editor using 45nm CMOS technology. The circuit follows the classic StrongARM latch architecture, which has become the industry standard for high-speed, low-power dynamic comparison applications. The schematic clearly illustrates the fundamental building blocks: a differential input pair consisting of matched NMOS transistors that perform initial voltage comparison, cross-coupled PMOS load transistors providing positive feedback for regenerative amplification, cross-coupled NMOS latch transistors that lock decisions and generate full-swing digital outputs, a single tail NMOS transistor dynamically controlling the comparison phase, and clock-controlled PMOS reset transistors that precharge internal nodes during reset phase. All transistor dimensions have been carefully optimized through iterative simulation to balance propagation delay, power consumption, offset voltage, and noise immunity.

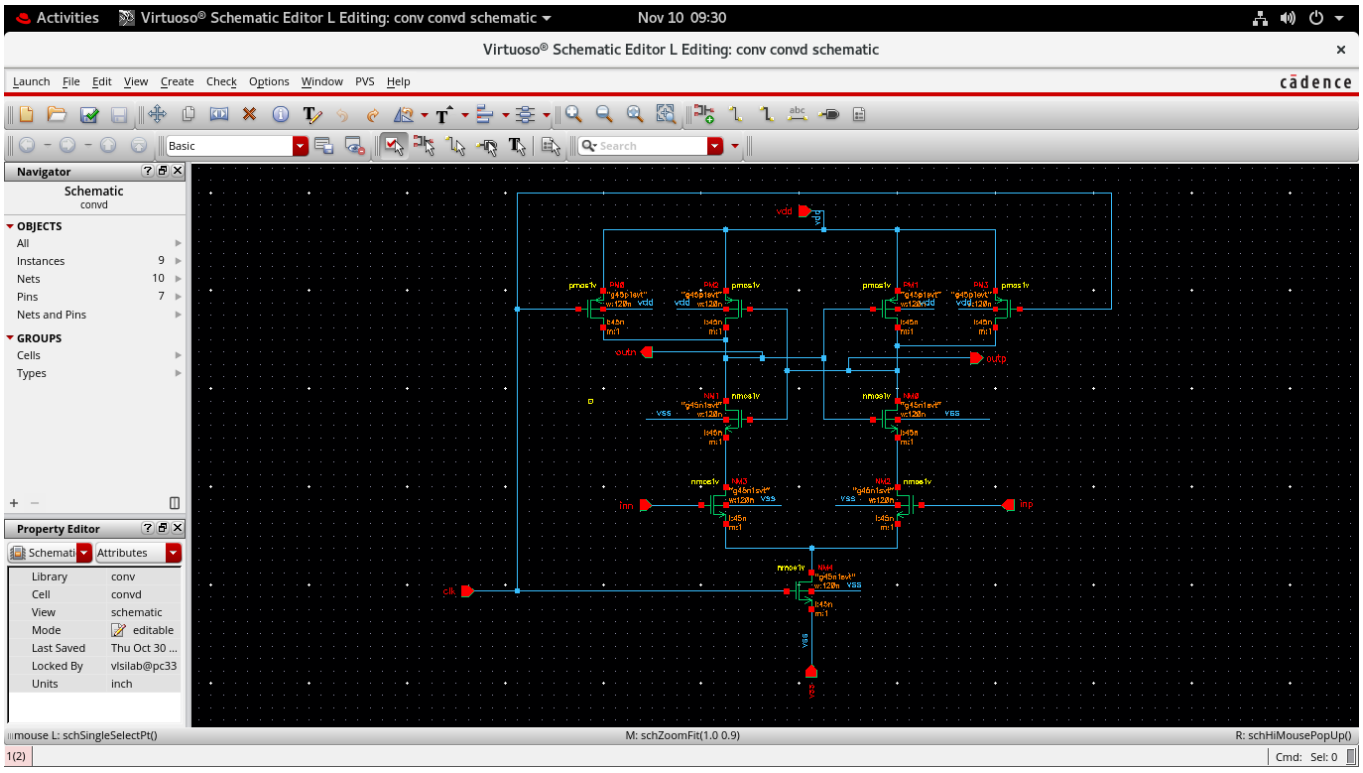

Figure 4 : Schematic diagram of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.1.2 SYMBOL

The figure 5 is comparator symbol represents the hierarchical abstraction of the detailed transistor-level schematic into a clean, reusable functional block created using Cadence Virtuoso Symbol Editor. This symbol encapsulates internal circuit complexity behind a simple representation, following standard conventions for analog and mixed-signal design hierarchies. Pin placement adheres to industry best practices: differential input pins (INP, INN) and clock input (CLK) are positioned on the left side representing stimuli entering the comparator, differential output pins (OUTP, OUTN) are placed on the right indicating decision outputs, power supply (VDD) is positioned at the top while ground (VSS) is at the bottom. Each pin is clearly labeled with descriptive names matching corresponding schematic terminals, ensuring unambiguous connectivity when instantiated in higher-level designs.

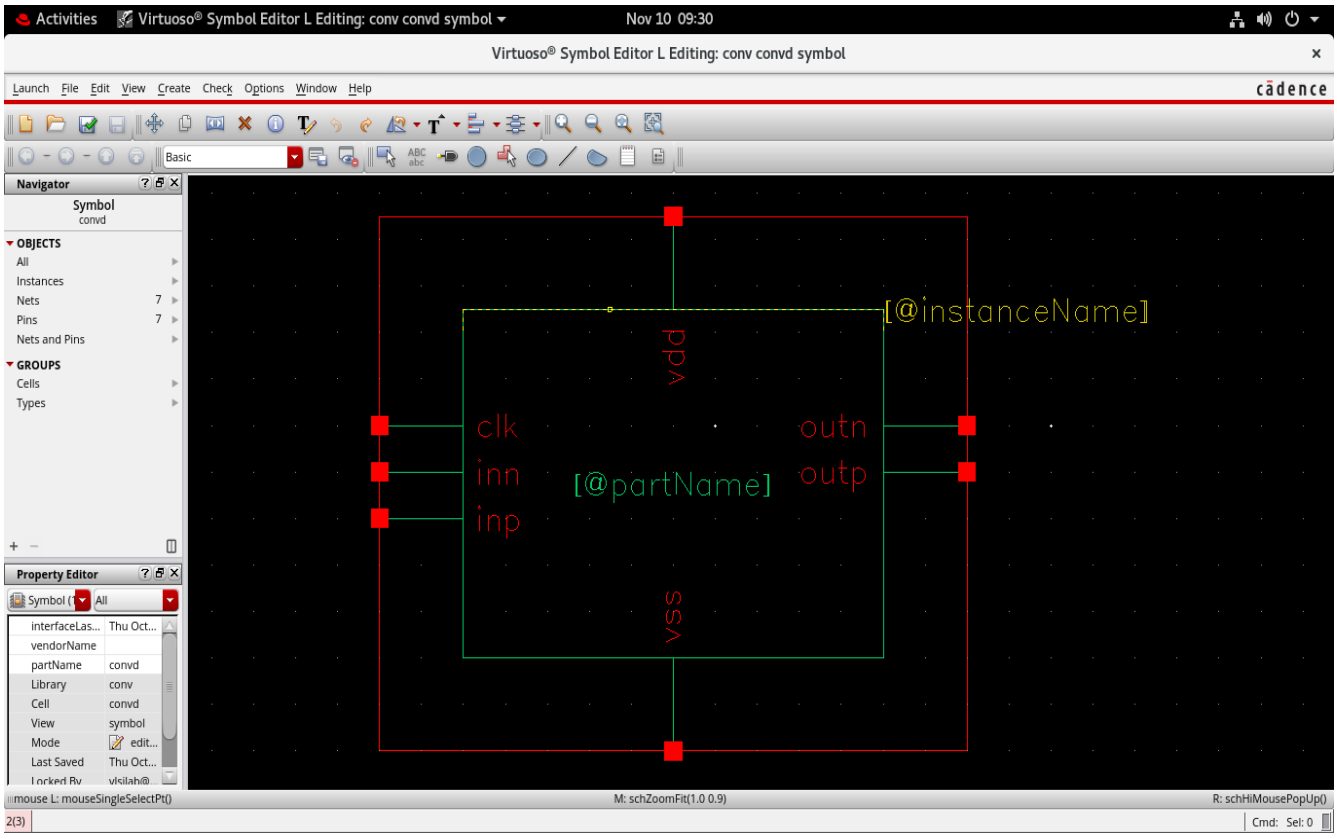

Figure 5 : Symbol of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.1.3 TEST CIRCUIT

The figure 6 testbench schematic illustrates the comprehensive simulation environment constructed to characterize the single-tail dynamic comparator's performance across various operating conditions. The previously created comparator symbol is instantiated as the Device Under Test with all external connections properly established for controlled stimulus application and measurement. The testbench incorporates multiple voltage sources: differential input voltage sources (VINP and VINN) configured to provide controlled differences ranging from 1mV to 100mV for systematic delay characterization, a clock generator providing periodic pulses with realistic rise/fall times (50-100ps) and controllable frequency from 100MHz to 1GHz, DC voltage sources supplying stable power (VDD at 1.0V) and ground reference.

The testbench enables comprehensive transient analysis observing time-domain behavior across complete clock cycles including reset and regeneration phases. Input stimulus waveforms create differential voltage steps, ramps, or sinusoidal variations depending on the specific metric being evaluated. Output nodes (OUTP and OUTN) are monitored throughout simulation, enabling extraction of critical parameters including propagation delay from clock edge to output transition, output voltage swing verification, regeneration behavior analysis, and switching characteristics under various conditions. This testbench serves as the standardized evaluation platform for both comparator architectures, ensuring fair comparison through identical stimulus conditions, load configurations, and measurement methodologies.

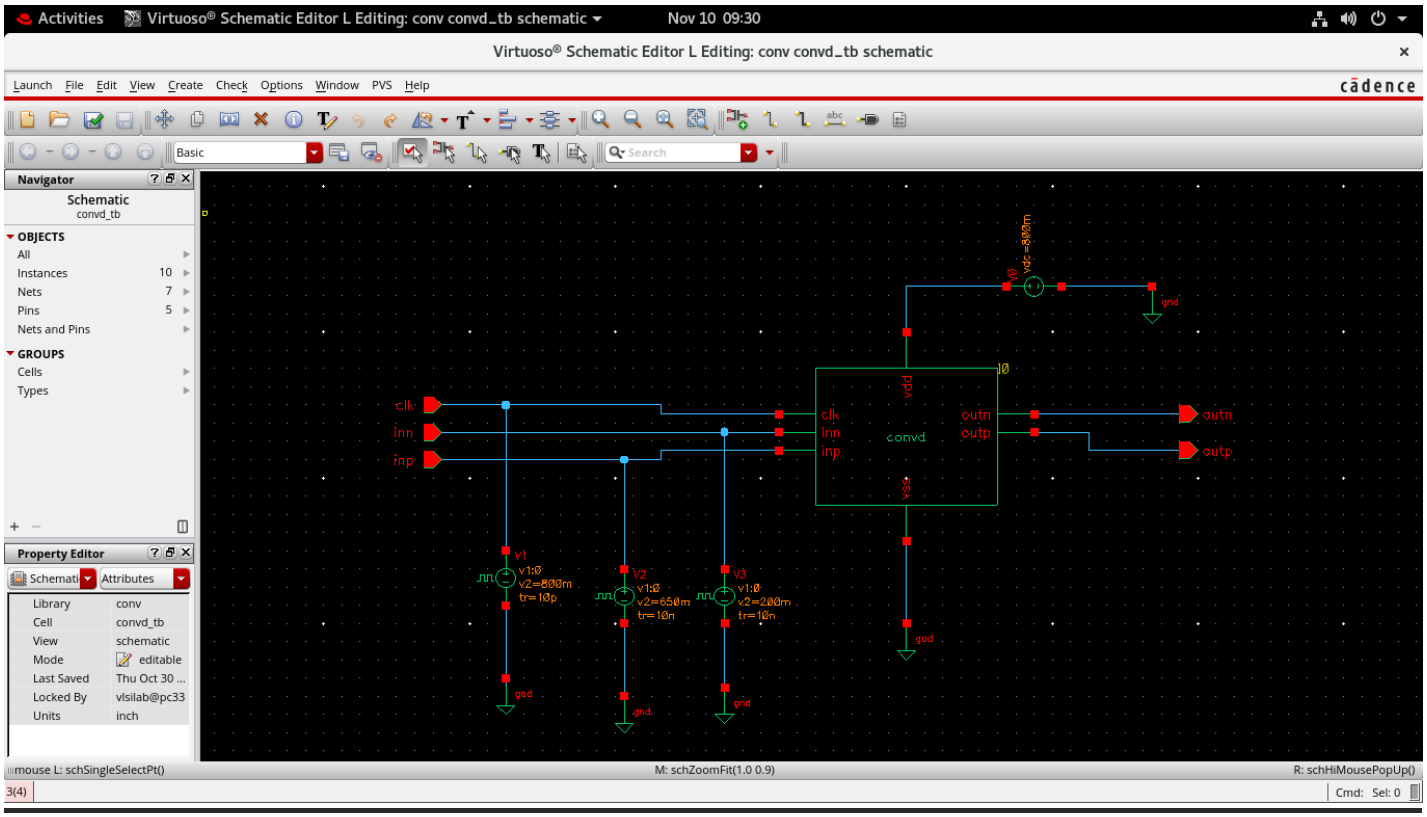

Figure 6 : Test Circuit of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.1.4 SIMULATION RESULT

The figure 7 is the waveform plot captured in Cadence Virtuoso Visualization and Analysis displays transient simulation results demonstrating the dynamic operation of the single-tail comparator over multiple complete clock cycles. The plot contains traces representing different nodes: the clock input showing periodic transitions controlling operational phases, differential input voltage pair (INP and INN) with controlled difference applied, and differential output signals (OUTP and OUTN) exhibiting characteristic dynamic comparator behavior. During reset phase when clock is low, both outputs are pre-charged to logic high (VDD level), placing the comparator in a known initial state. When clock transitions high triggering evaluation phase, the tail transistor enables current flow through the differential input pair based on input voltage difference. Regenerative cross-coupled feedback rapidly amplifies this initial current difference, causing one output to pull down toward ground while the other remains high, with regeneration speed depending on input voltage magnitude.

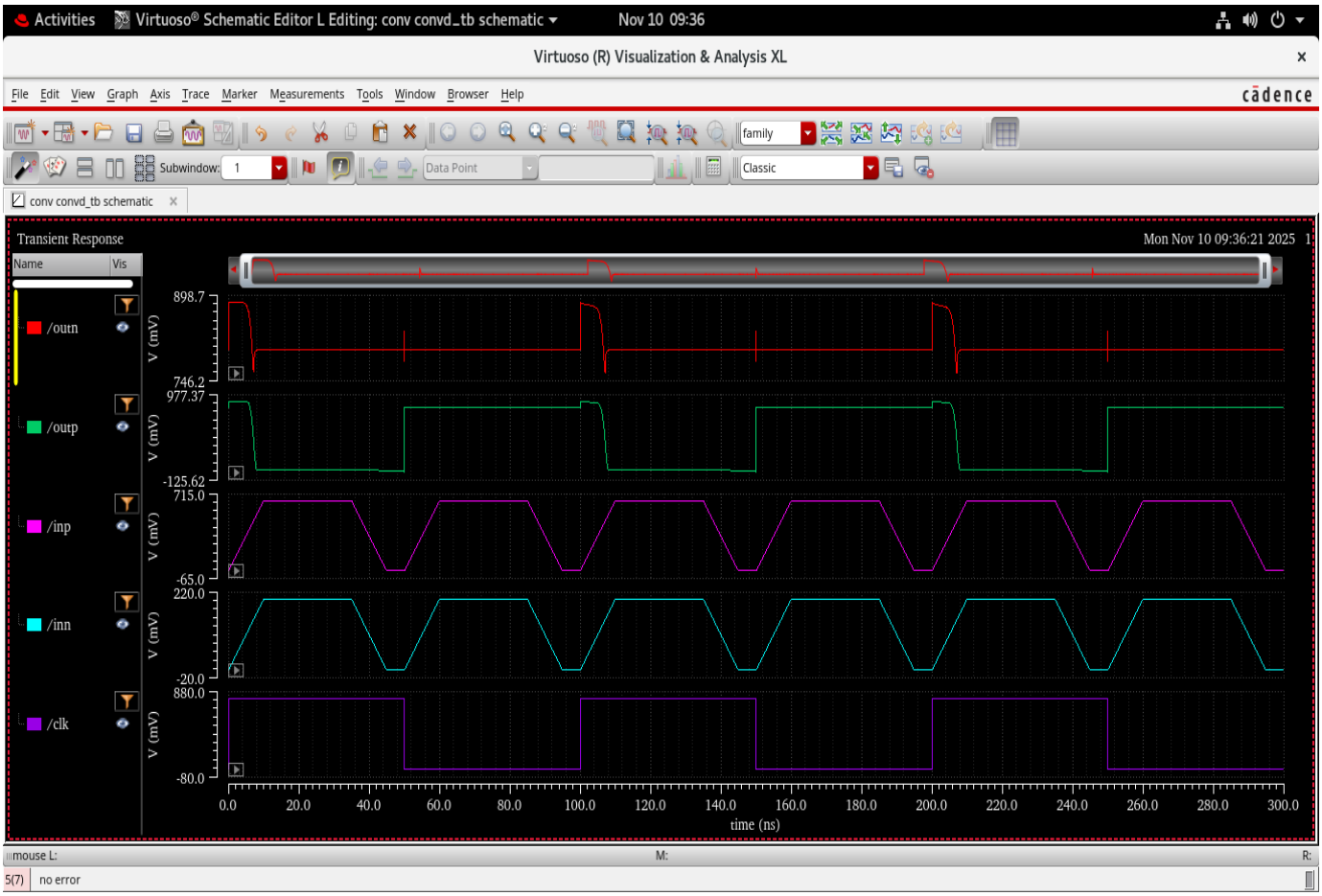

Figure 7 : Output Waveform of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.2 DYNAMIC DOUBLE TAIL COMPARATOR

4.2.1 SCHEMATIC

The figure 8 represents a schematic of modified double-tail dynamic comparator that enhances speed and sensitivity in low-voltage applications. The architecture consists of two separate tail transistors, Mtail1 for the input stage and Mtail2 for the latch stage, allowing each section to be optimized independently for better performance. The input differential pair (M1 and M2) compares the applied input signals INP and INN and generates corresponding voltages at the intermediate nodes fp and fn. A key improvement in this design is the addition of two cross-coupled control transistors, MC1 and MC2, which actively increase the voltage difference (ΔVfp/fn) between the intermediate nodes during the evaluation phase. This enhanced differential signal significantly accelerates the regeneration process of the latch stage, which is formed by the cross-coupled PMOS transistors M7 and M8 along with NMOS transistors M9 and M10. The reset transistors MR1 and MR2 ensure that the output nodes are pre charged properly during the reset phase, while M3 and M4 help restore the internal nodes fp and fn. When the clock goes high, both stages work together to quickly amplify even a small input voltage difference into a strong and accurate digital output. Overall, this modified comparator offers improved speed, lower delay, better sensitivity, and reliable operation at reduced supply voltages, making it superior to the conventional double-tail dynamic comparator design.

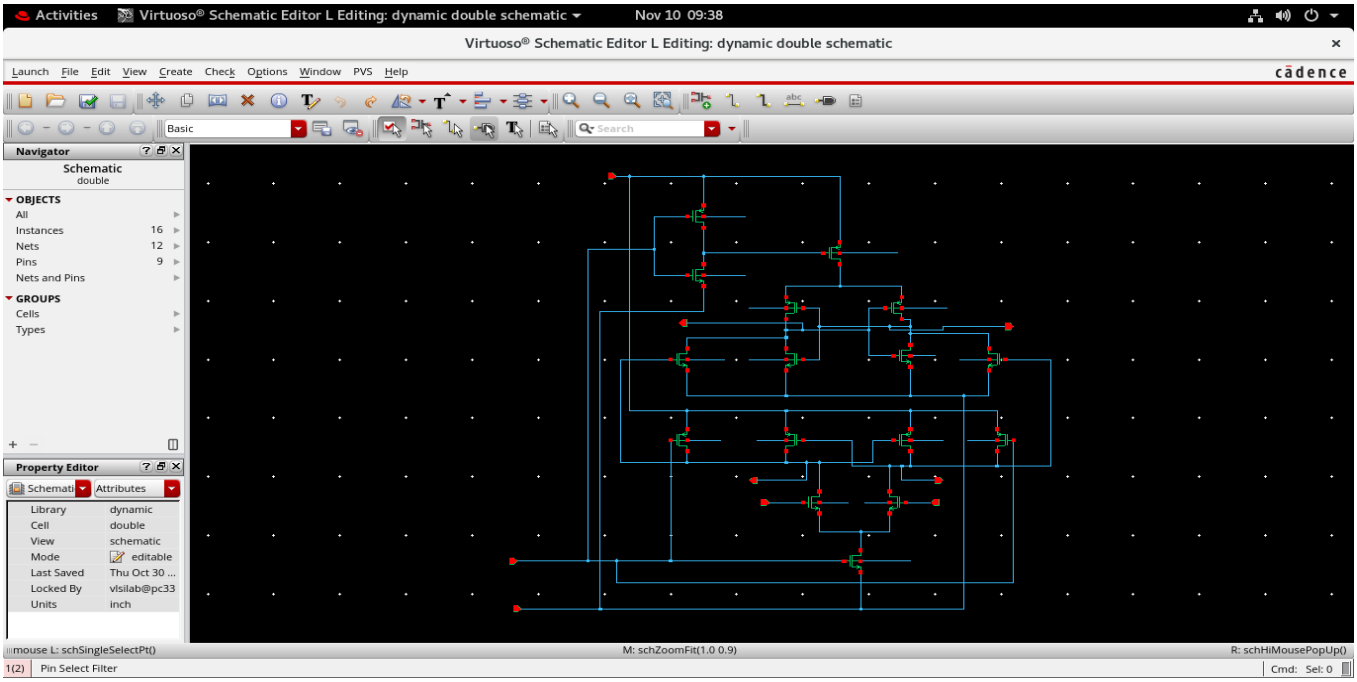

Figure 8 : Schematic diagram of Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

4.2.2 SYMBOL

The figure 9 is the symbol view provides an abstract, hierarchical representation of the double circuit for use in higher-level designs. The symbol employs a standard rectangular format with clearly defined pin interfaces: input pins (clk, inn, innp) positioned on the left edge, output pins (fn, fp, outn, outp) on the right edge, and power supply pins (vdd, vss) at the top and bottom respectively. This pin arrangement follows conventional design practices, enhancing readability and ease of integration into larger system schematics.

The symbol abstracts the underlying transistor-level complexity while maintaining complete electrical connectivity through properly defined pin interfaces. Instance and part name labels are incorporated using parameterized text that automatically populates during instantiation. This symbol-based hierarchical design methodology enables efficient design reuse, improves schematic clarity in complex systems, and facilitates top-down design approaches in integrated circuit development.

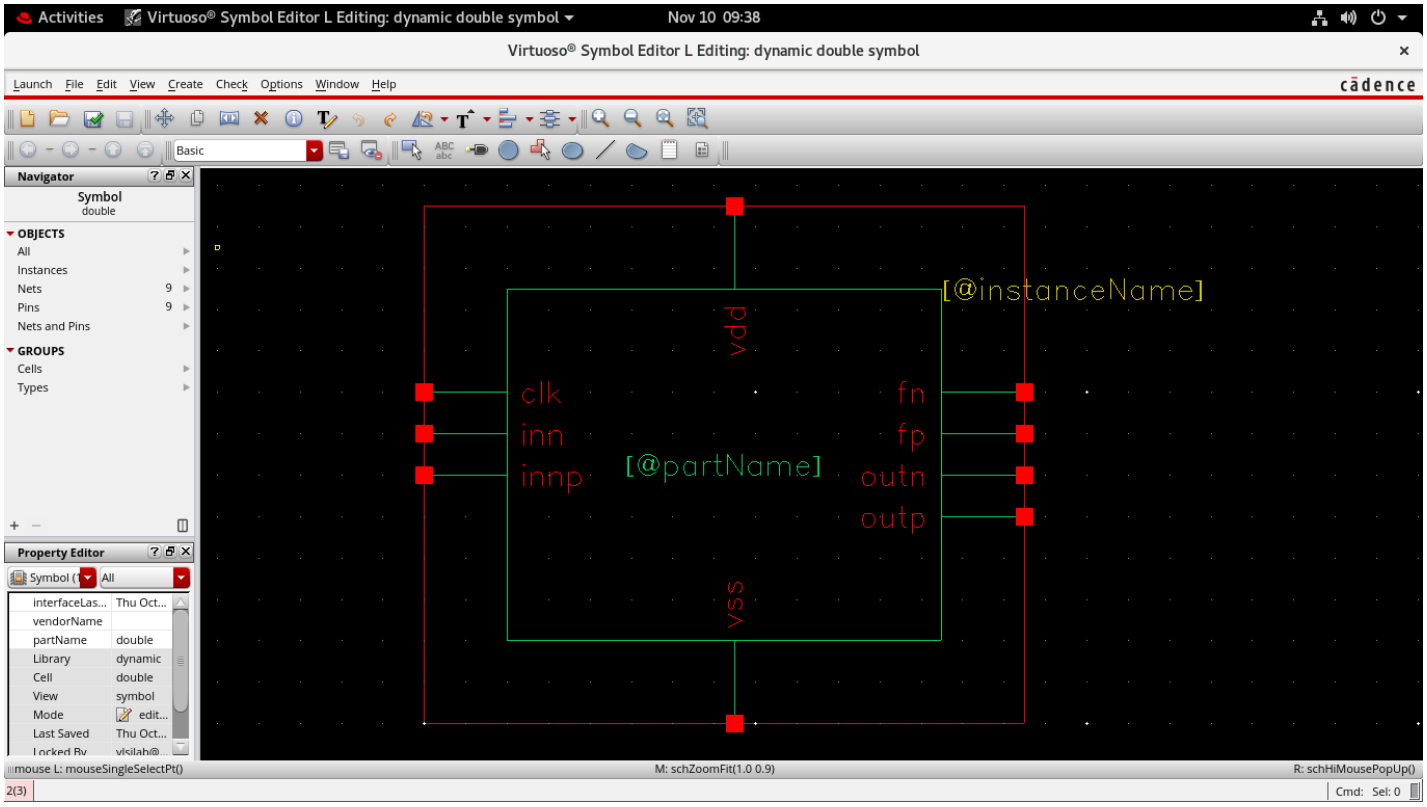

Figure 9 : Symbol of Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

4.2.3 TEST CIRCUIT

The figure 10 testbench schematic serves as the simulation environment for comprehensive circuit verification. It incorporates an instance of the double circuit symbol along with configured voltage sources that provide necessary input stimuli and power supply connections. The voltage sources are precisely configured with specific timing parameters: pulse generators with defined rise times (tr=10ns), voltage levels, and appropriate periodicity to emulate realistic operating conditions for the circuit under test.

The testbench architecture follows standard verification methodology, with input signals (clk, inn, innp) driven by independent voltage sources and power rails (vdd, vss) properly connected. This setup enables controlled testing scenarios where circuit behavior can be observed under various input conditions. The hierarchical approach allows the complex transistor-level implementation to be abstracted as a single block, simplifying the simulation setup while maintaining complete functional accuracy.

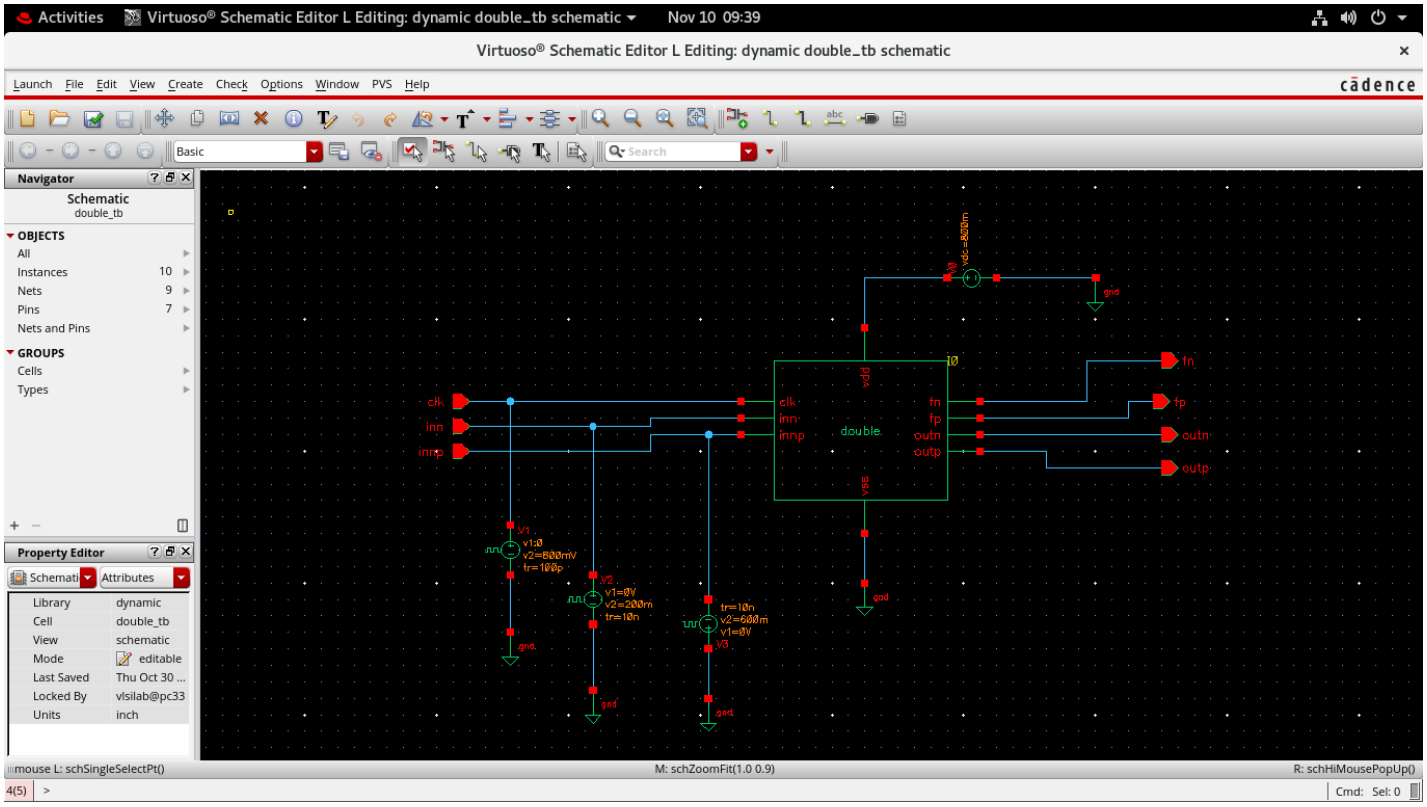

Figure 10 : Test Circuit of Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

4.2.4 SIMULATION RESULT

The figure 11 is the transient simulation provides critical insights into the time-domain behavior of the double circuit under test conditions. Using the Virtuoso Visualization & Analysis XL tool, a transient response analysis was configured over a 300ns time window to capture multiple operational cycles of the circuit. The simulation monitors key signals including the clock input (clk), differential input pairs (inn, inp), and corresponding output signals (fn, fp, outn, outp), allowing comprehensive observation of signal propagation and circuit dynamics.

The resulting waveform visualization demonstrates the circuit's functional behavior with clear temporal relationships between input stimuli and output responses. Each signal trace is displayed with appropriate voltage scaling, enabling precise measurement of critical parameters such as rise/fall times, propagation delays, and signal integrity. The simulation results validate the circuit's operational characteristics and confirm that the design meets its intended specifications under the applied test conditions.

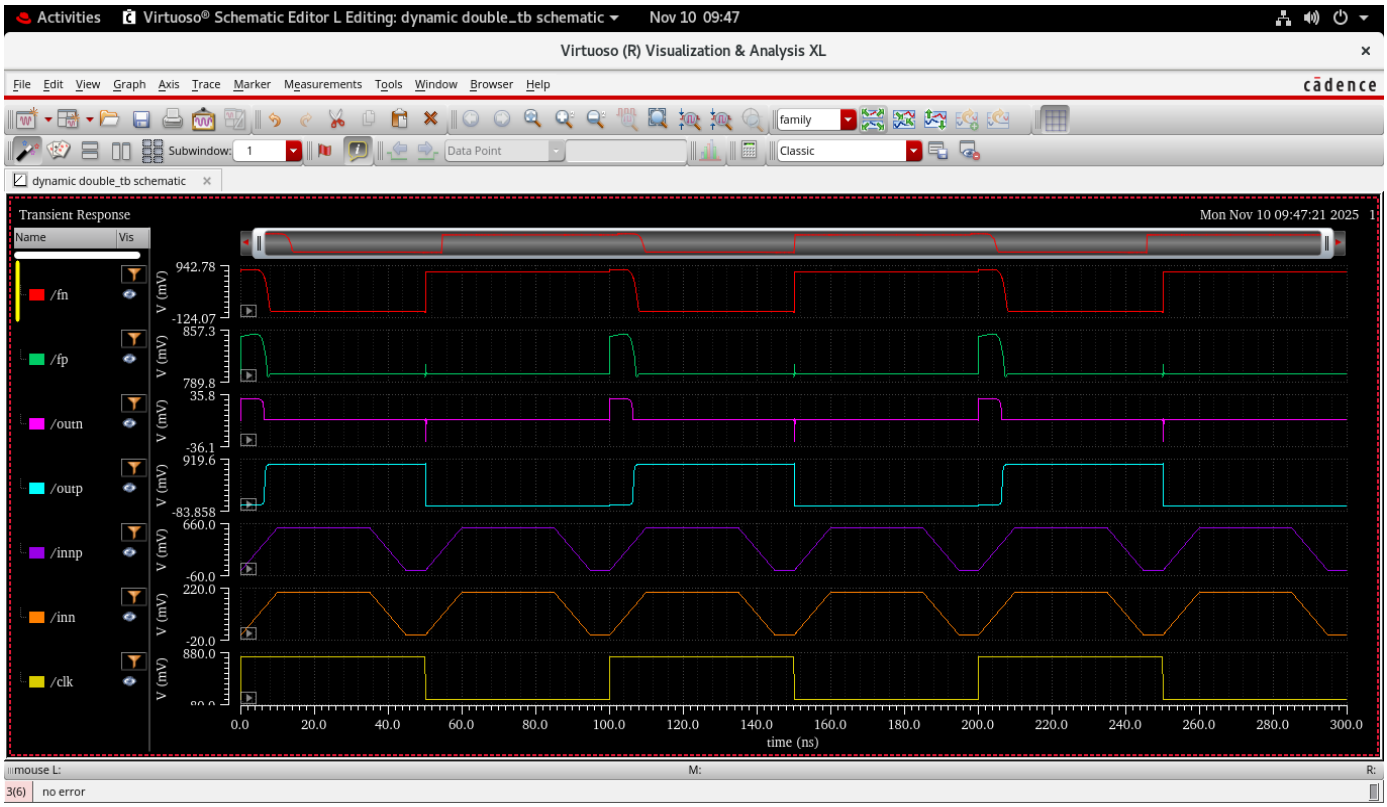

Figure 11 : Output Waveform of Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

4.3 POWER ANALYSIS

4.3.1 CONVENTIONAL SINGLE TAIL COMPARATOR

The figure 12 illustrates the average power consumption obtained from the Cadence Virtuoso XL Analysis Table, where the simulation result shows a value of 361.3 µW. This indicates that the circuit under test requires relatively higher power during operation, reflecting the characteristics of architectures that draw continuous current. The displayed power value helps in evaluating the overall efficiency and performance of the comparator design.

The power analysis of the Conventional Single-Tail Comparator shows that it consumes significantly higher average power during operation due to the continuous current flow through its single tail transistor. Since the differential pair remains biased throughout the comparison phase, the circuit exhibits noticeable static power dissipation. This higher power requirement is a characteristic limitation of single-tail architectures, making them less suitable for low-power applications compared to dynamic comparator designs.

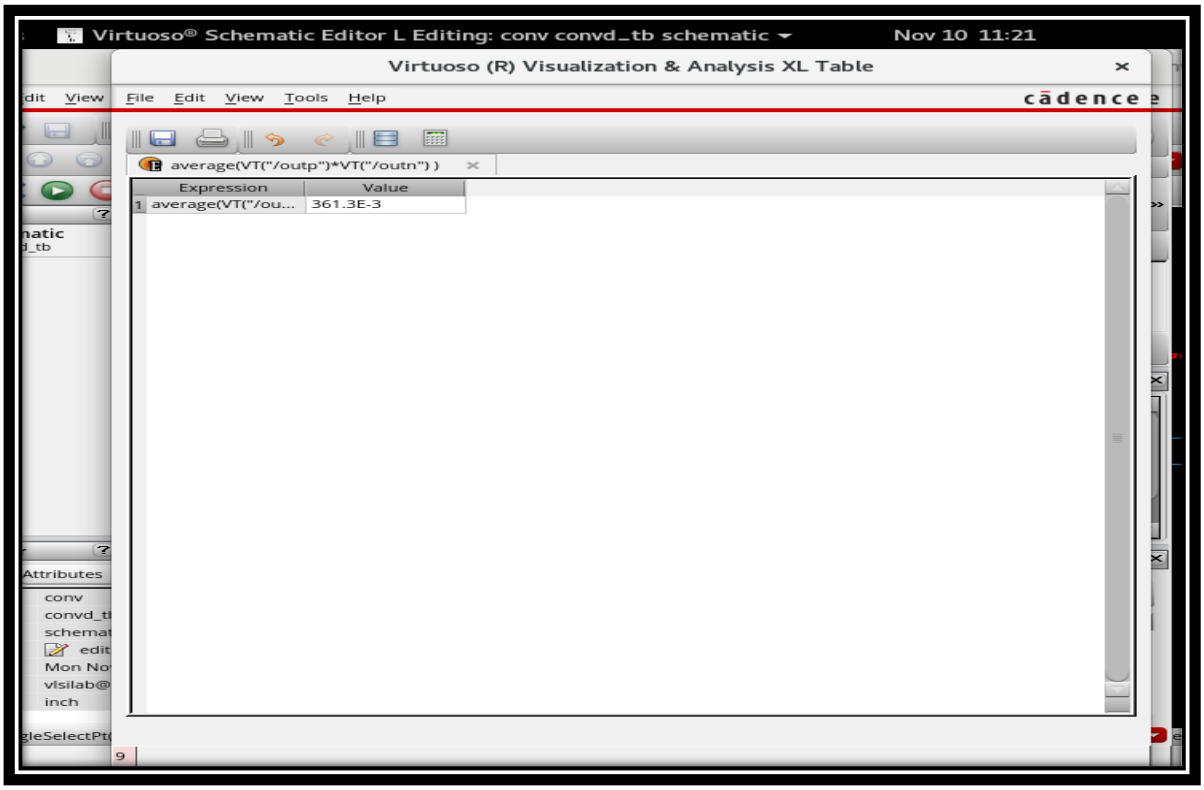

Figure 12 : Average Power of Conventional Single Tail Comparator

4.3.2 DYNAMIC DOUBLE TAIL COMPARATOR

The figure 13 displays the simulated average power consumption obtained from the Cadence Virtuoso XL Analysis Table, which records a value of 59.46 µW. This extremely low power requirement highlights the high efficiency of the circuit, demonstrating that the design operates with minimal energy usage during the evaluation phase. Such reduced power consumption is a key advantage of low-power comparator architectures.

The Dynamic Double-Tail Comparator demonstrates significantly lower power consumption because its operation relies on dynamic nodes that charge and discharge only during the evaluation phase. Unlike static architectures, no continuous current flows through the circuit, which greatly reduces both static and dynamic power dissipation. The separation of the input and latch stages further improves energy efficiency, making the double-tail structure highly suitable for high-speed and low-power analog-to-digital converter designs.

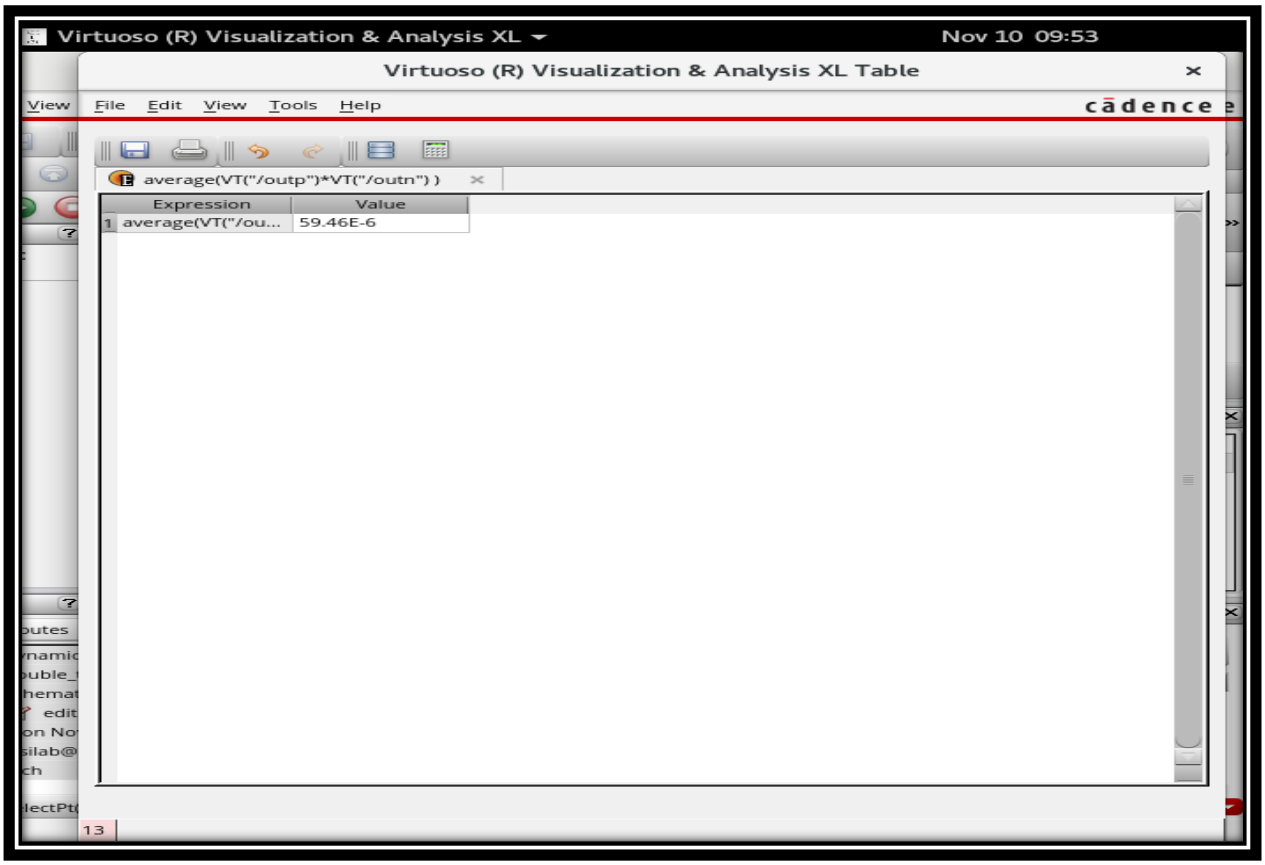

Figure 13 : Average Power of Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

4.4 GENERAL COMPARISON

This table compares Conventional Single Tail Comparator with Dynamic Double Tail Comparator across seven key parameters. The conventional design offers high power consumption, fewer transistors, and smaller area, but suffers from slower speed, moderate accuracy, longer propagation delay, and narrower input range. In contrast, the dynamic double tail comparator requires less power and more area with additional transistors, but delivers significantly better performance through faster speed, higher accuracy, shorter delays, and wider input range, making it suitable for high-performance applications.

Table 1: General Parameter Comparison of Conventional Single Tail Comparator and Dynamic Double Tail Comparator.

Parameters	Conventional Single Tail Comparator	Dynamic Double Tail Comparator
Power Consumed	High power consumption	Low power consumption
Transistor Count	Less transistors compared to double tail comparator	More transistors compared to single tail comparator
Area Requirement	Smaller area	Larger area
Speed	Relatively slow	Much faster
Accuracy	Moderate accuracy	Better accuracy
Propagation Delay	Longer delay	Shorter delay

4.5 COMPARISON BETWEEN POWER AND DELAY

The below table compares the Conventional Single Tail Comparator and the Dynamic Double Tail Comparator in terms of power and delay. The Dynamic Double Tail design shows much lower power consumption (59.46 µW) and faster operation (5.146 ns) compared to the Single Tail Comparator, which consumes 361.3 µW and has a delay of 8.798 ns. This indicates that the Dynamic Double Tail Comparator is more efficient for low-power, high-speed applications.

Table 2: Power And Delay Comparison of Conventional Single Tail Comparator and Dynamic Double Tail Comparator

Comparators	Power(µW)	Delay(ns)
Conventional Single Tail Comparator	361.3	8.798
Dynamic Double Tail Comparator	59.46	5.146

ADVANTAGES

CHAPTER: 5

ADVANTAGES

1. High-Speed Decision Making

The analog comparator provides extremely fast voltage comparison due to latch-based or dynamic circuit design, ensuring rapid logic transitions essential in high-frequency and real-time systems.

2. Low Power Dissipation

The comparator consumes very little static and dynamic power through optimized biasing and switching mechanisms. When implemented in 45 nm CMOS, the reduced supply voltage further minimizes power consumption.

3. High Sensitivity and Precision

The design can detect even small input voltage differences with high accuracy due to enhanced transconductance and optimized differential input stages, which are crucial for analog-to-digital conversion.

4. Low Propagation Delay

The 45 nm transistors' high switching speed, combined with the comparator's regenerative latch action, significantly reduces delay time, improving overall performance in time-critical applications.

5. Compact Silicon Area

The analog comparator requires fewer transistors and interconnections, and in 45 nm technology, the device dimensions are much smaller — enabling dense integration with other analog and digital blocks.

6. Improved Noise Immunity

Proper differential design and matched transistor pairs reduce input-referred noise and offset, ensuring reliable operation even under noisy or low-signal conditions.

7. Ease of Integration with Mixed-Signal Circuits

Being designed in 45 nm CMOS, the comparator can be easily embedded in mixed-signal or SoC designs, allowing seamless communication with digital logic, ADCs, and control units.

8. Enhanced Energy Efficiency

The combination of low voltage operation, fast switching, and regenerative feedback offers a superior energy–delay tradeoff, making it ideal for portable and high-speed devices.

APPLICATIONS

CHAPTER: 6

APPLICATIONS

1. Analog-to-Digital Converters (ADCs)

Used as a decision-making element in flash, pipeline, and successive-approximation ADCs for high-speed data conversion.

2. Communication Systems

Applied in signal detection, modulation, and demodulation circuits where fast and accurate voltage comparison is essential.

3. Memory Circuits and Sense Amplifiers

Used for reading small voltage differences in SRAM, DRAM, and non-volatile memory arrays.

4. Data Acquisition Systems

Employed in sensor interfaces and biomedical devices for rapid and energy-efficient signal conversion.

5. Clock and Timing Circuits

Used in phase detectors and oscillators to generate or synchronize clock signals.

6. Portable and Low-Power Devices

Ideal for battery-operated electronics where power efficiency and speed are both critical.

7. Signal Processing Units

Integrated into mixed-signal and digital signal processing circuits for threshold detection, level shifting, and waveform shaping.

8. Instrumentation and Measurement Systems

Applied in precision measurement devices, comparators are used for detecting analog voltage levels and generating trigger signals with minimal delay.

CONCLUSION

CHAPTER: 7

CONCLUSION

In this project, the design and implementation of the conventional dynamic comparator, modulated double-tail dynamic comparator, and low-power high-speed analog comparator were successfully carried out using 45 nm CMOS technology. The main objective was to achieve a comparator design that operates efficiently with reduced power consumption and improved speed performance.

The conventional dynamic comparator provides a simple structure and fast decision-making capability but suffers from higher power dissipation and limited speed under low supply voltage conditions. To overcome these drawbacks, the modulated double-tail comparator was designed, which effectively separates the input and latch stages. This modification enhances speed, reduces kickback noise, and achieves lower power consumption, making it suitable for low-voltage and high-speed applications such as ADCs.

Additionally, the low-power high-speed analog comparator was designed to ensure stable operation even under minimal supply voltages. By optimizing the transistor sizing and biasing conditions, the comparator achieves a better trade-off between speed and power efficiency. The post-layout simulation results indicate significant improvements in terms of delay, power, and speed compared to conventional designs.

Overall, the project demonstrates that with proper circuit optimization in 45 nm technology, it is possible to design comparators that are compact, energy-efficient, and capable of high-speed operation. These designs can be effectively implemented in modern VLSI systems, high-speed data converters, and mixed-signal applications, where both speed and low power are crucial parameters.

FUTURE SCOPE

CHAPTER: 8

FUTURE SCOPE

1.Advancement to Deep Submicron Technologies

The designed comparator can be migrated to smaller process nodes such as 28 nm, 16 nm, or FinFET-based technologies. This will further reduce power consumption, improve switching speed, and enhance device reliability, enabling compatibility with next-generation integrated circuits.

2.Integration with System-on-Chip (SoC) Platforms

The comparator can be embedded within complex SoC or mixed-signal ICs to perform high-speed decision-making in compact, low-power designs used in portable and high-performance systems.

3.Adaptive and Self-Calibrating Designs

Future designs can incorporate self-biasing and offset cancellation techniques that automatically adjust for process, voltage, and temperature variations — improving accuracy, stability, and manufacturing yield.

4.Ultra-Low Voltage and Energy-Efficient Operation

Research can focus on achieving reliable comparator operation under sub-threshold or near-threshold voltages (<0.8 V), which is crucial for IoT devices, biomedical electronics, and energy-harvesting systems.

5.Enhanced Noise and Offset Compensation

Introducing dynamic latch balancing, cross-coupled structures, and digital calibration methods can minimize input-referred noise and offset voltage, improving the comparator's precision in noisy environments.

6.Integration with High-Speed Data Converters

The design can be optimized for use in high-resolution ADCs and mixed-signal processors where fast and accurate decision-making directly impacts conversion speed and overall performance.

7.Use of AI-Based Circuit Optimization

Machine learning techniques can be applied to automatically optimize design parameters such as sizing, biasing, and threshold voltage for the best trade-off between speed, power, and accuracy.

REFERENCES

CHAPTER: 9

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