Lecture 21

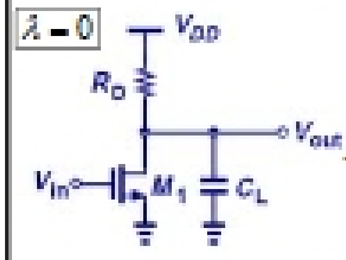
OUTLINE

- Frequency Response
  - Review of basic concepts
  - high-frequency MOSFET model
  - CS stage
  - CG stage
  - Source follower
  - Cascode stage

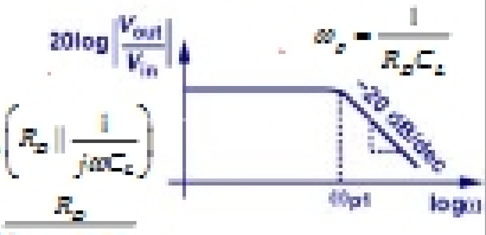
- Reading: Chapter 11

A_v Roll-Off due to C_L

- The impedance of C_L decreases at high frequencies, so that it shunts some of the output current to ground.

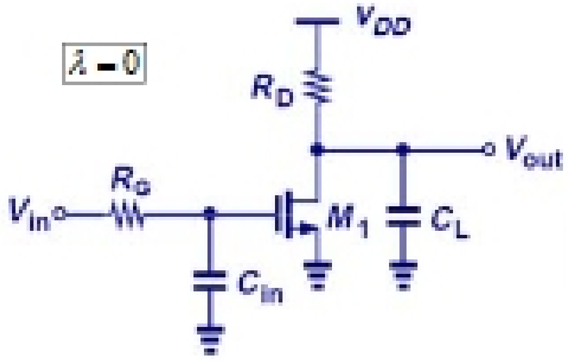


$$A_v = -g_m\left(R_D \parallel \frac{1}{j\omega C_L}\right) = -g_m\frac{R_D}{1+j\omega R_D C_L}$$



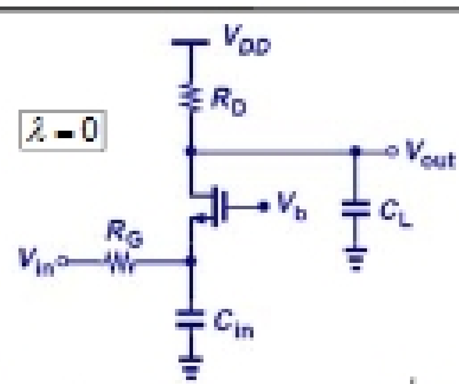
- In general, **if node *j* in the signal path has a small-signal resistance of R_j to ground and a capacitance C_j to ground, then it contributes a pole at frequency $(R_jC_j)^{-1}$**

Pole Identification Example 1



$$|\omega_{p1}| = \frac{1}{R_G C_{in}} \qquad |\omega_{p2}| = \frac{1}{R_D C_L}$$

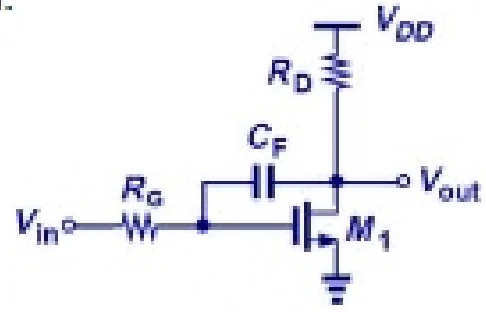
Pole Identification Example 2



$$|\omega_{p1}| = \frac{1}{\left(R_G \parallel \frac{1}{g_m}\right)C_{in}} \qquad |\omega_{p2}| = \frac{1}{R_D C_L}$$

Dealing with a Floating Capacitance

- Recall that a pole is computed by finding the resistance and capacitance between a node and (AC) GROUND.
- It is not straightforward to compute the pole due to C_F in the circuit below, because neither of its terminals is grounded.



Miller's Theorem

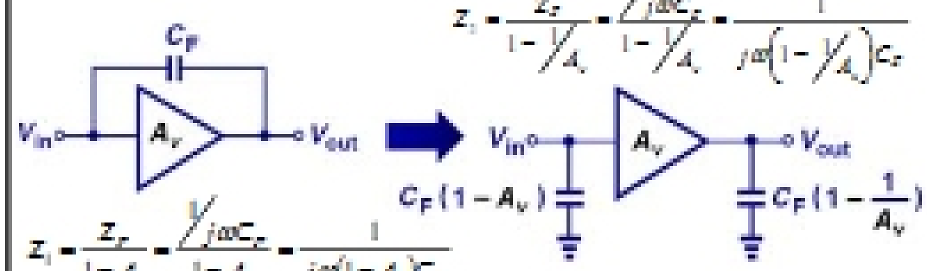
- If A_v is the voltage gain from node 1 to 2, then a floating impedance Z_F can be converted to two grounded impedances Z_1 and Z_2:

$$\frac{V_1 - V_2}{Z_F} = \frac{V_1}{Z_1} \Rightarrow Z_1 = Z_F\frac{V_1}{V_1 - V_2} = Z_F\frac{1}{1 - A_v}$$

$$\frac{V_1 - V_2}{Z_F} = -\frac{V_2}{Z_2} \Rightarrow Z_2 = -Z_F\frac{V_2}{V_1 - V_2} = Z_F\frac{1}{1 - 1/A_v}$$

Miller Multiplication

- Applying Miller's theorem, we can convert a floating capacitance between the input and output nodes of an amplifier into two grounded capacitances.
- **The capacitance at the input node is larger than the original floating capacitance.**



$$Z_1 = \frac{Z_F}{1-\frac{1}{A_v}} = \frac{\frac{1}{j\omega C_F}}{1-\frac{1}{A_v}} = \frac{1}{j\omega\left(1-\frac{1}{A_v}\right)C_F}$$

$$Z_1 = \frac{Z_F}{1-A_v} = \frac{\frac{1}{j\omega C_F}}{1-A_v} = \frac{1}{j\omega(1-A_v)C_F}$$

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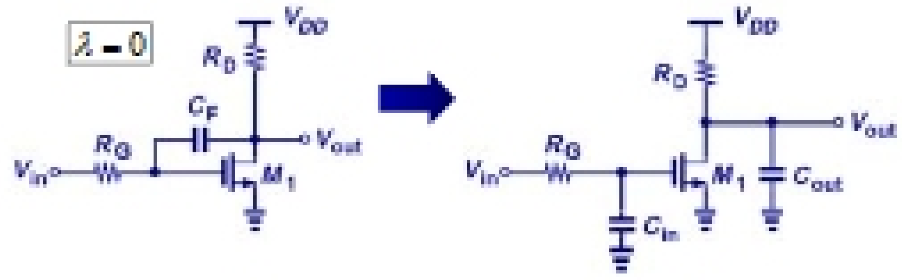
Application of Miller's Theorem



$$\omega_{in} = \frac{1}{R_G(1+g_m R_D)C_F} \qquad \omega_{out} = \frac{1}{R_D\left(1+\frac{1}{g_m R_D}\right)C_F}$$

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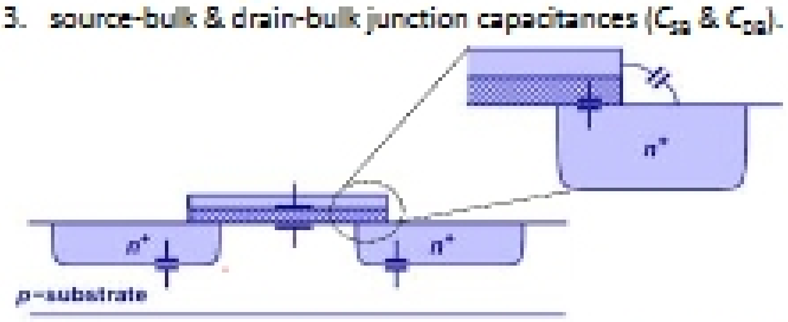
MOSFET Intrinsic Capacitances

The MOSFET has intrinsic capacitances which affect its performance at high frequencies:

1. gate oxide capacitance between the gate and channel,
2. overlap and fringing capacitances between the gate and the source/drain regions, and
3. source-bulk & drain-bulk junction capacitances (C_{SB} & C_{DB}).



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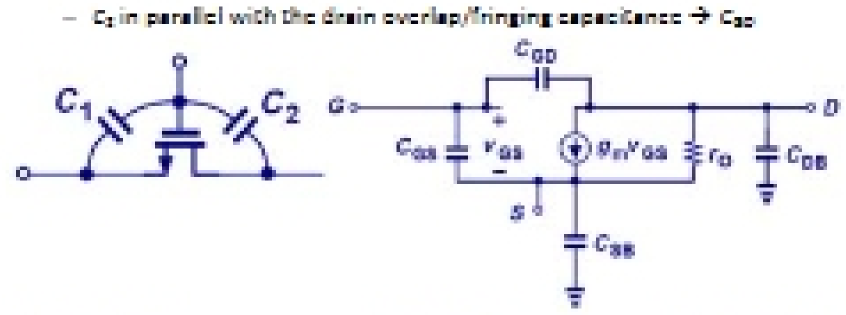
High-Frequency MOSFET Model

- The gate oxide capacitance can be decomposed into a capacitance between the gate and the source (C_1) and a capacitance between the gate and the drain (C_2).
  - In saturation, $C_1 \cong (2/3) \times C_{gate}$, and $C_2 \cong 0$. ($C_{gate} = C_{ox}WL$)
  - C_1 in parallel with the source overlap/fringing capacitance → C_{GS}
  - C_2 in parallel with the drain overlap/fringing capacitance → C_{GD}



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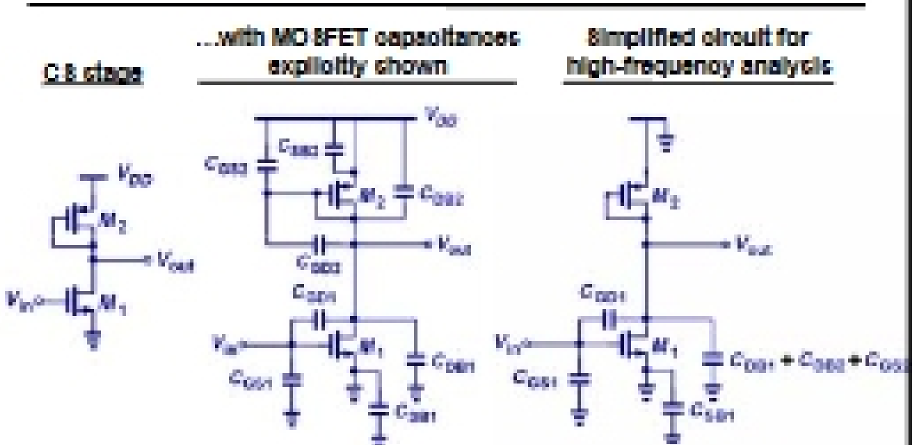
Example



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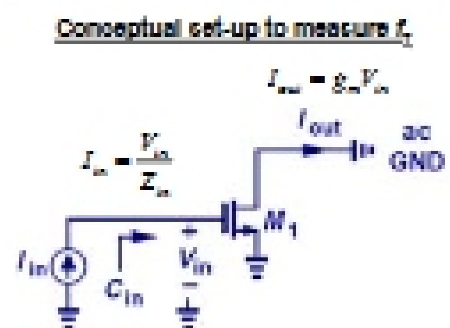
Transit Frequency

- The "transit" or "cut-off" frequency, f_T, is a measure of the intrinsic speed of a transistor, and is defined as the frequency where the current gain falls to 1.

Conceptual set-up to measure f_T



$$\left|\frac{I_{out}}{I_{in}}\right| = |g_m Z_{in}| = \left|g_m\left(\frac{1}{j\omega_T C_{in}}\right)\right| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_T = \frac{g_m}{C_{in}}$$

$$2\pi f_T = \frac{g_m}{C_{GS}}$$

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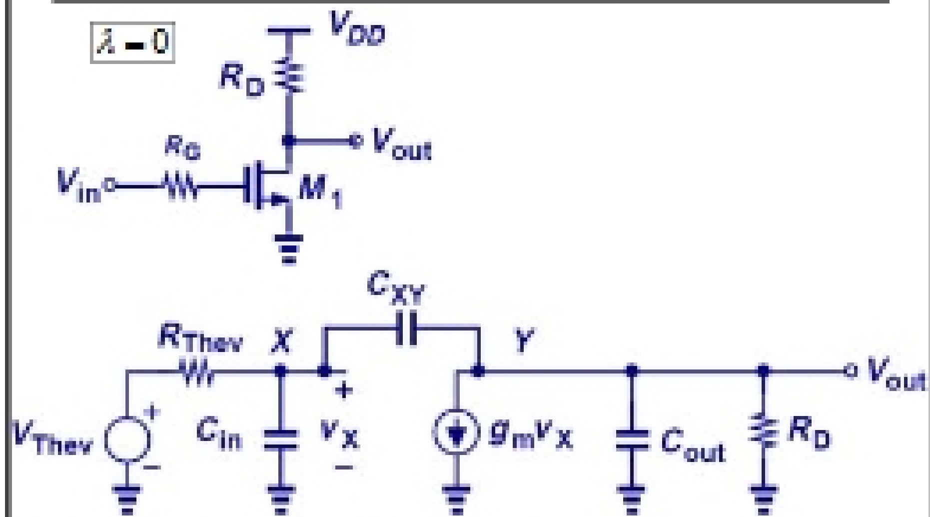
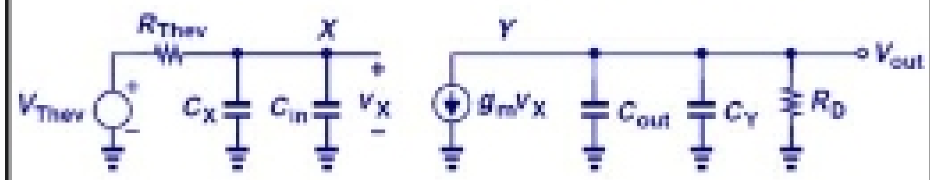
Small-Signal Model for CS Stage



… Applying Miller's Theorem



$V_{Thev} = V_{in}$

$R_{Thev} = R_G$

$C_X = C_{GD}\,(1 + g_m R_D)$

$C_Y = C_{GD}\,\left(1 + \frac{1}{g_m R_D}\right)$

$$\omega_{p,in} = \frac{1}{R_{Thev}\left(C_{in} + (1 + g_m R_D)C_{GD}\right)}$$

$$\omega_{p,out} = \frac{1}{R_D\left(C_{out} + \left(1 + \frac{1}{g_m R_D}\right)C_{GD}\right)}$$

Note that $\omega_{p,out} > \omega_{p,in}$

Direct Analysis of CS Stage

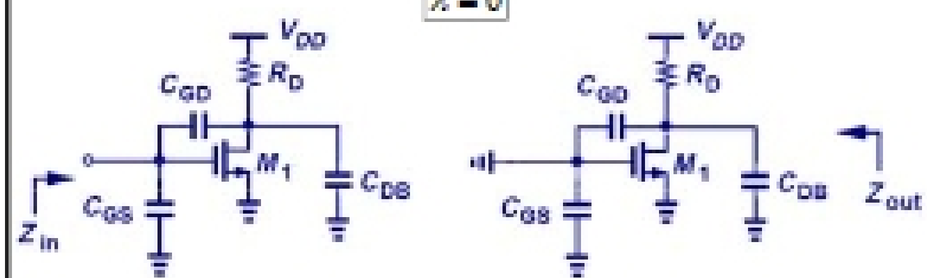
- Direct analysis yields slightly different pole locations and an extra zero:

$$\omega_z = \frac{g_m}{C_{XY}}$$

$$\omega_{p1} = \frac{1}{(1 + g_m R_D)C_{XY}R_{Thev} + R_{Thev}C_{in} + R_D(C_{XY} + C_{out})}$$

$$\omega_{p2} = \frac{(1 + g_m R_D)C_{XY}R_{Thev} + R_{Thev}C_{in} + R_D(C_{XY} + C_{out})}{R_{Thev}R_D(C_{in}C_{XY} + C_{out}C_{XY} + C_{in}C_{out})}$$

I/O Impedances of CS Stage

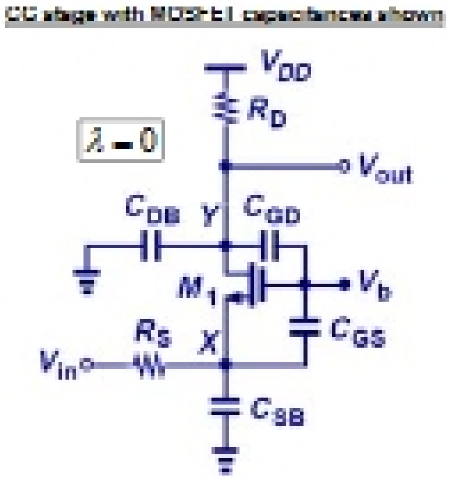


$$Z_{in} \approx \frac{1}{j\omega\left[C_{GS} + (1 + g_m R_D)C_{GD}\right]}$$

$$Z_{out} = \frac{1}{j\omega\left[C_{GD} + C_{DB}\right]} \,\|\, R_D$$

CG Stage: Pole Frequencies

CG stage with MOSFET capacitances shown



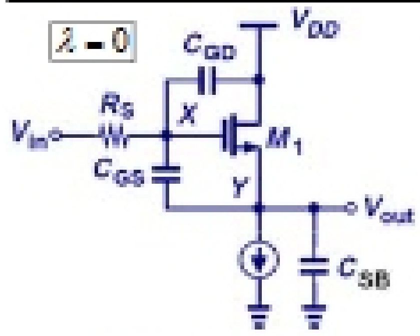
$$\omega_{p,X} = \frac{1}{\left(R_S \,\|\, \frac{1}{g_m}\right)C_X}$$

$$C_X = C_{GS} + C_{SB}$$

$$\omega_{p,Y} = \frac{1}{R_D C_Y}$$

$$C_Y = C_{GD} + C_{DB}$$

AC Analysis of Source Follower



- The transfer function of a source follower can be obtained by direct AC analysis, similarly as for the emitter follower

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{1 + (j\omega)\frac{C_{GS}}{g_m}}{a(j\omega)^2 + b(j\omega) + 1}$$

$$a = \frac{R_S}{g_m}\left(C_{GD}C_{GS} + C_{GD}C_{SB} + C_{GS}C_{SB}\right)$$

$$b = R_S C_{GD} + \frac{C_{GD} + C_{SB}}{g_m}$$