

# SECTION 4: MOSFETS

ECE 322 – Electronics I

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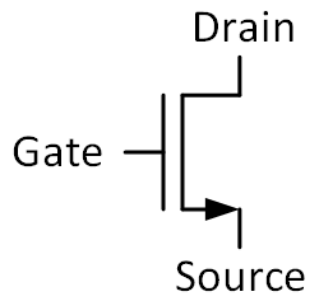
# MOSFET Device Introduction

# MOSFETs

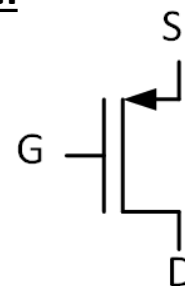
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- We now turn our attention to another type of transistor, the **MOSFET**:
  - ▣ **Metal Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistor**
- Many similarities to the BJT:
  - ▣ Three terminals
  - ▣ Voltage at one terminal controls current between the other two
    - A transconductance device
  - ▣ Two polarities: N-channel and P-channel MOSFETS
    - Our focus will primarily be N-channel MOSFETs (NMOS devices)

## N-Channel (NMOS):



## P-Channel (PMOS):

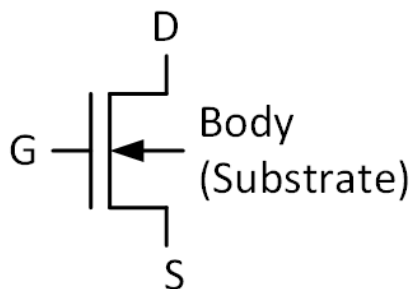


# MOSFETs

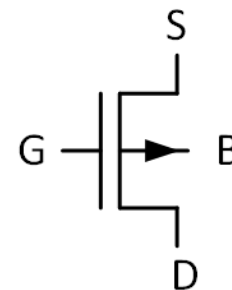
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- MOSFETs are actually **four-terminal** devices
  - ▣ Fourth terminal is the **body, substrate, or bulk**
- The body is often tied to the source, and we can mostly ignore it
  - ▣ Discrete devices
- Other times we must account for the body potential effect on device behavior
  - ▣ Often the case in integrated circuits

NMOS:

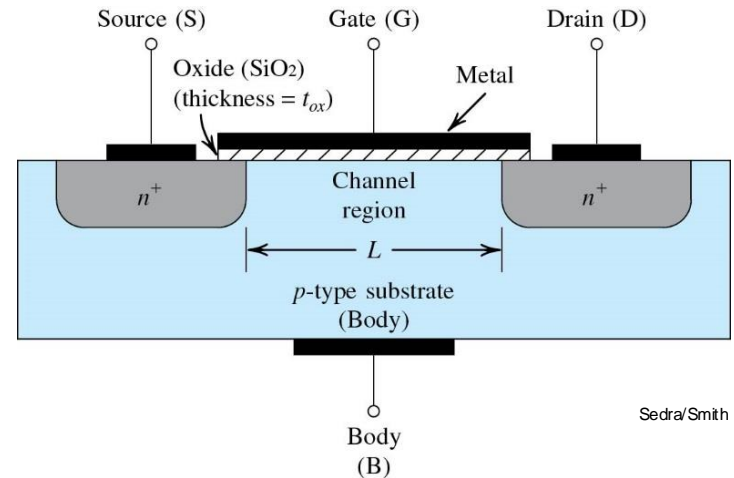
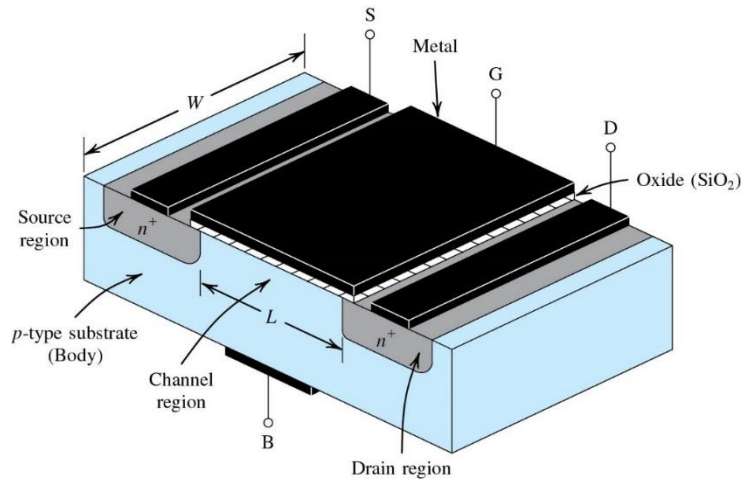


PMOS:



# Physical Structure - NMOS

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- P-type substrate
- N+ source and drain
- **Metal gate electrode**, and source/drain/body contacts
- Thin **oxide** insulates the gate from the rest of the device
- Region of substrate between the drain and source is the **channel**
  - Channel dimensions: W and L
  - We'll see later why this is called an n-channel (NMOS) device

# Terminal Voltages and Currents

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- Terminal voltages and currents named as shown
  - Again, lower-case  $v/i$  and upper-case subscript represents **total** (AC and DC) voltage and current
- For an NMOS device in typical operation:

$$v_{GS} \geq 0$$

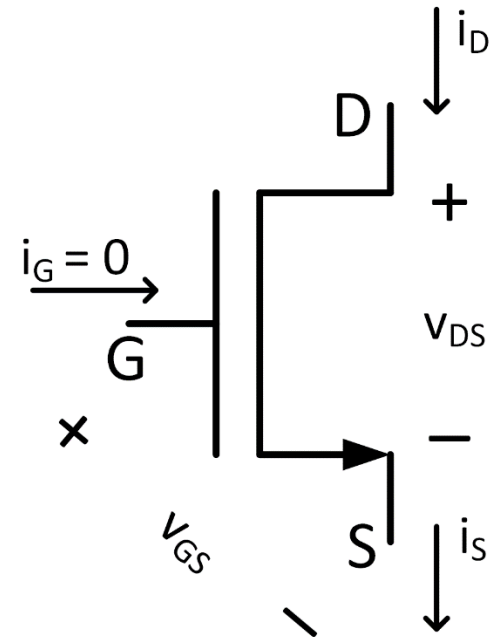
$$v_{DS} \geq 0$$

- Gate oxide does not allow current to flow, so

$$i_G = 0$$

and

$$i_D = i_S$$



# MOSFET Operating Regions

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- Three MOSFET operating regions:
  - ▣ Cut-off
  - ▣ Triode
  - ▣ Saturation
- A MOSFET's operating region is determined by its terminal voltages
- Next, we will look in detail at each of these three regions, along with their  $i - v$  characteristics

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# Cut-Off Region



# Cut-Off Region

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- Gate and source both grounded

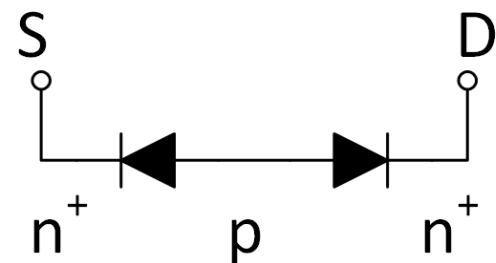
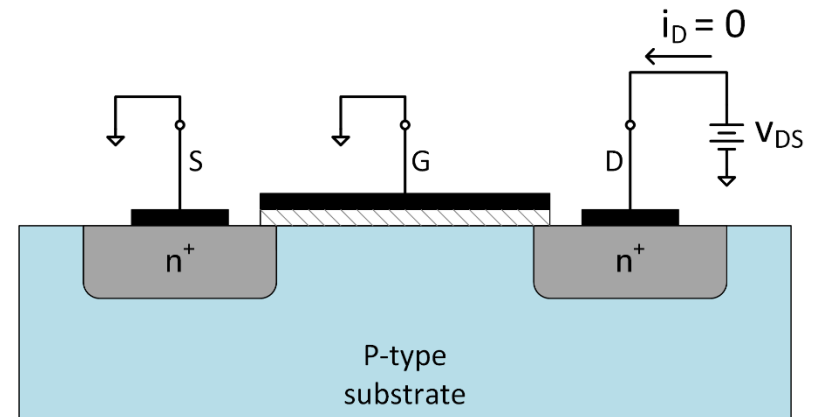
$$v_{GS} = 0$$

- Drain-to-source pathway looks like two back-to-back diodes
  - ▣ Very high drain-source resistance ( $r_{DS} = \infty$ )

- Even for  $v_{DS} > 0$ , no current will flow

$$i_D = 0$$

- Looks like an open switch
  - ▣ Similar to BJT cut-off operation

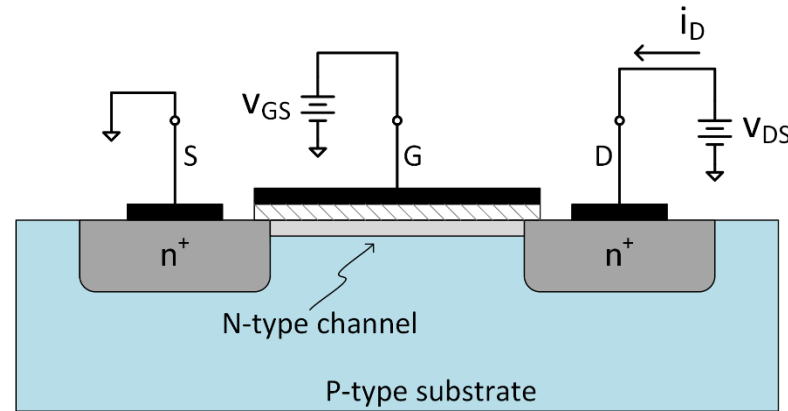


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# Triode Region

# Triode Region – Inversion

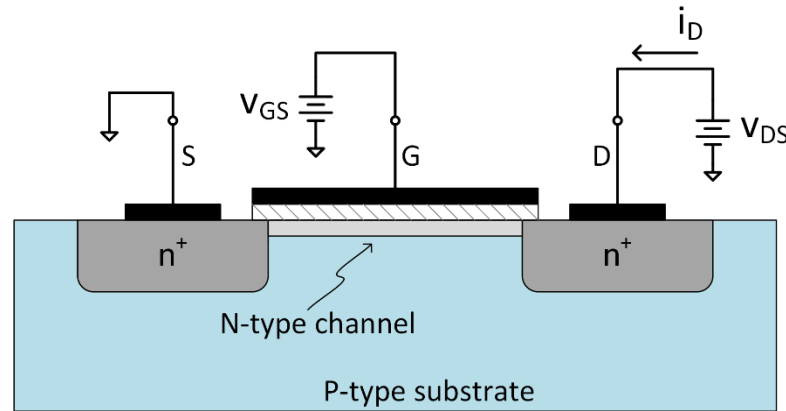
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- Now,  $v_{GS}$  is increased, while  $v_{DS}$  is kept small
  - Electric field established across gate oxide
  - Holes in p-type substrate repelled deeper into substrate
  - Electrons from drain and source attracted to region below the gate
- For large enough  $v_{GS}$ , p-type material below the gate is ***inverted*** to n-type
  - An ***inversion layer***
  - ***Induced n-type channel connects drain to source***
  - Now, current can flow in response to  $v_{DS}$ ,  $i_D > 0$

# Threshold Voltage

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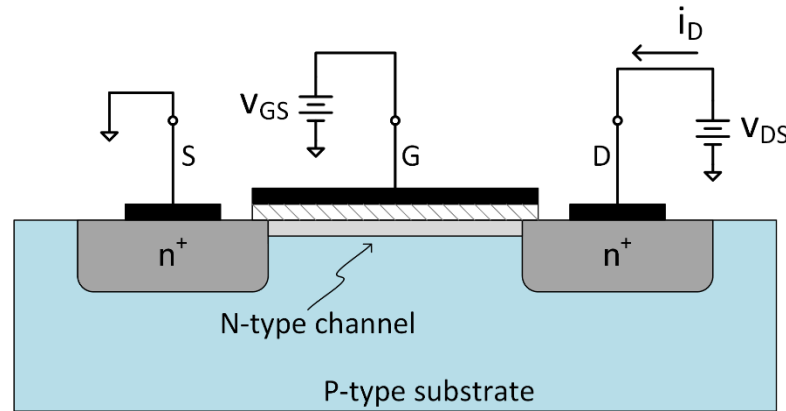
- Channel is induced once  $v_{GS}$  exceeds a certain voltage:
  - ▣ The **threshold voltage**

$$v_{GS} \geq V_t$$

- ▣ A device parameter
  - ▣ Typically,  $V_t = 300 \text{ mV} \dots 1 \text{ V}$
- As  $v_{GS}$  increases beyond  $V_t$ , the induced channel gets deeper
- As long as  $v_{DS}$  is small ( $v_{DS} \ll V_t$ ), channel depth is uniform

# Overdrive Voltage

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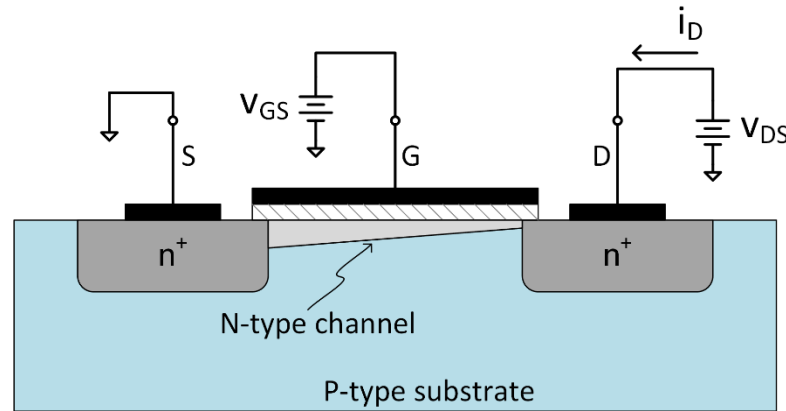
- A channel is induced once  $v_{GS}$  exceeds the threshold voltage
- $v_{GS}$  in excess of the threshold voltage is called the **overdrive voltage** or **effective voltage**:

$$v_{OV} = v_{GS} - V_t$$

- As we will soon see,  $v_{OV}$  plays an important role in determining device behavior

# Triode Region

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- As  $v_{DS}$  increases:
  - ▣ Voltage varies along the channel
    - $v_S$  near the source,  $v_D$  near the drain
  - ▣ Gate-to-channel voltage decreases closer to the drain
  - ▣ Channel depth decreases closer to the drain
    - Channel is tapered
- More current flows with increasing  $v_{DS}$ , but channel resistance increases as channel becomes more tapered

# Triode Region - $i$ - $v$ Relationship

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- Drain current in the triode region:

$$i_D = \mu_n C_{ox} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left[ (v_{GS} - V_t) - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS} \right] v_{DS}$$

$$i_D = \mu_n C_{ox} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left[ v_{OV} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS} \right] v_{DS}$$

where:

- $\mu_n$ : electron mobility
- $C_{ox}$ : oxide capacitance
- $W$ : channel width
- $L$ : channel length

- We can also express the drain current as

$$i_D = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left[ v_{OV} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS} \right] v_{DS} = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left[ v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right]$$

where:

- $k'_n = \mu_n C_{ox}$  is the **process transconductance parameter**

# Triode Region - $i$ - $v$ Relationship

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- Triode region:

$$v_{GS} > V_t$$

$$v_{DS} < v_{OV}$$

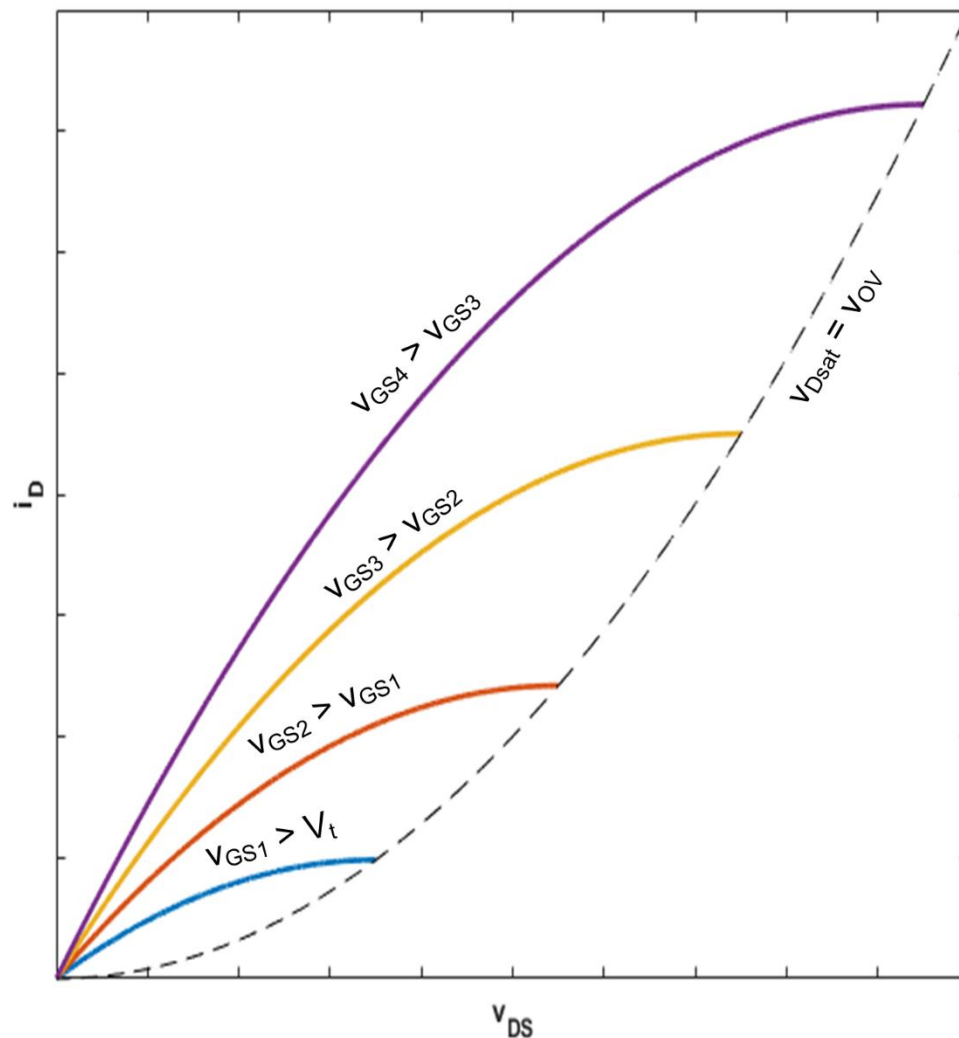
- For  $v_{DS} \ll v_{ov}$

- Nearly a linear resistance
- Resistance linearly proportional to  $v_{OV}$

$$r_{DS} = \frac{1}{k'_n \frac{W}{L} v_{OV}}$$

- As  $v_{DS}$  increases

- Channel taper increases
- $r_{DS}$  increases
- $i_D$ - $v_{DS}$  slope decreases



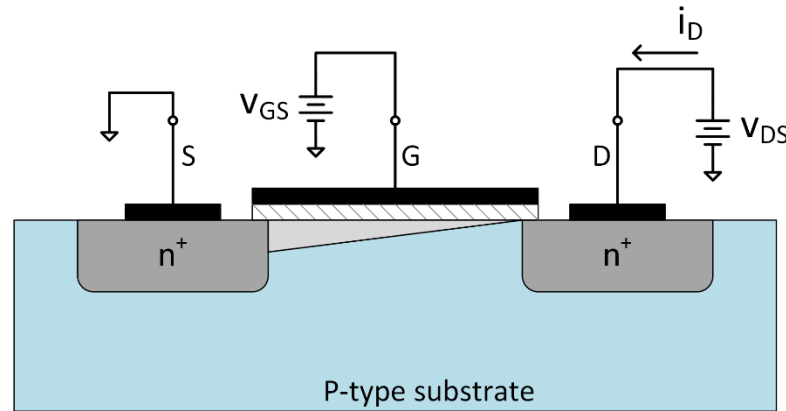


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# Saturation Region

# Device Operation – Channel Pinch-Off

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- Eventually, for large enough  $v_{DS}$ 
  - ▣ Gate-to-channel voltage near the drain no longer exceeds  $V_t$
  - ▣ Channel **pinch-off** occurs
  - ▣ Channel disappears at the edge of the drain
- Pinch-off occurs when:

$$v_{GD} = V_t = v_{GS} - v_{DS}$$

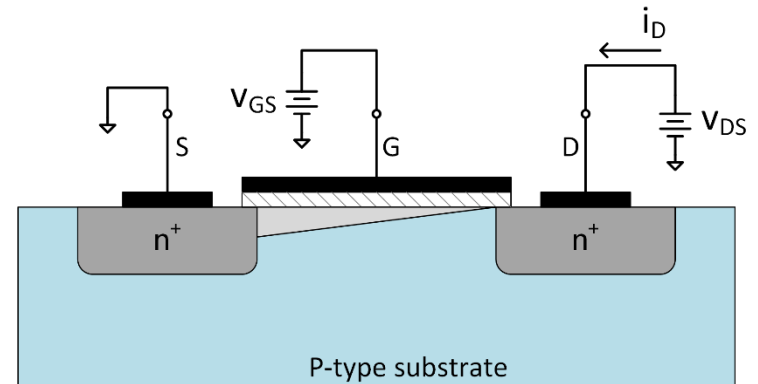
$$v_{DS} = v_{GS} - V_t$$

$$v_{DS} = v_{OV}$$

# Saturation Region

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- Once channel pinch-off occurs:
  - Voltage at the drain-end of the channel remains  $v_{OV}$ , even as  $v_{DS}$  increases
  - Any increase in  $v_{DS}$  beyond  $v_{OV}$  is dropped across the depletion region surrounding the drain
  - Voltage across the length of the channel is fixed at  $v_{OV}$
  - Pinched-off channel shape does not change with  $v_{DS}$
  - Drain current **saturates** at a constant value for constant  $v_{GS}$
  - Analogous to the forward-active region for BJTs



# Saturation - $i$ - $v$ Relationship

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- Drain current in the saturation region still given by

$$i_D = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left[ v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right]$$

- But now, the voltage from the drain-end to source-end of the channel is  $v_{OV}$
- Replacing  $v_{DS}$  with  $v_{OV}$ , the drain current relationship becomes

$$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) v_{OV}^2 = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) (v_{GS} - V_t)^2$$

- ▣ Purely a function of  $v_{GS}$  (or  $v_{OV}$ )
- ▣ Independent of  $v_{DS}$

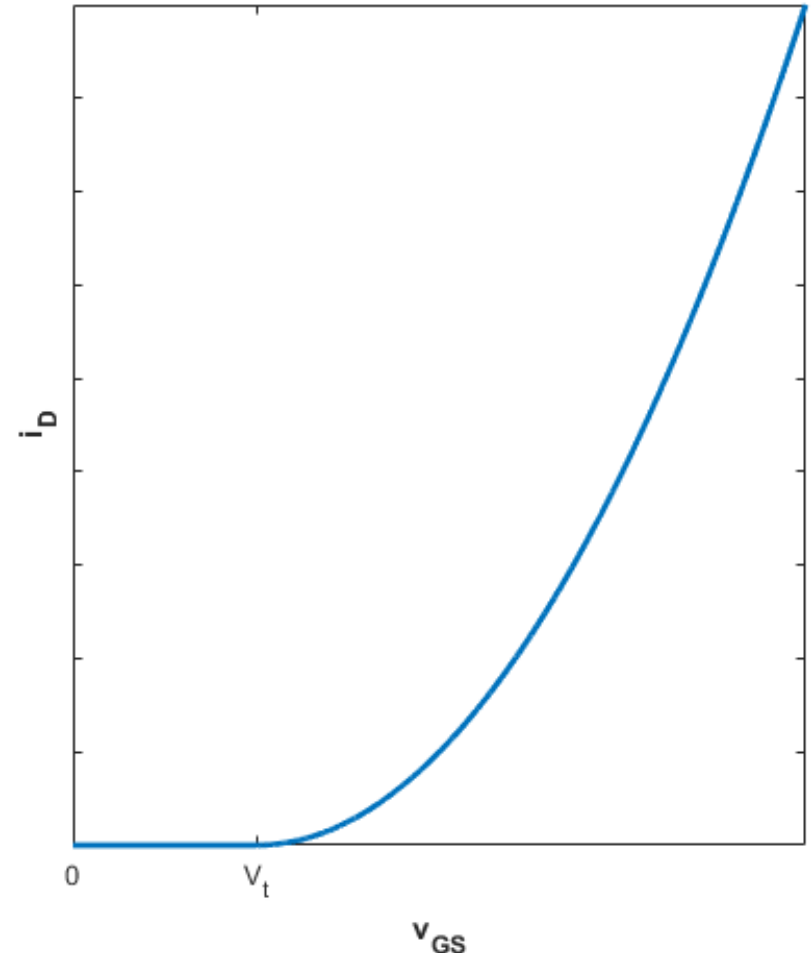
# Input I-V Characteristic

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- In saturation, drain current has a **quadratic** dependence on  $v_{GS}$  ( $v_{OV}$ )

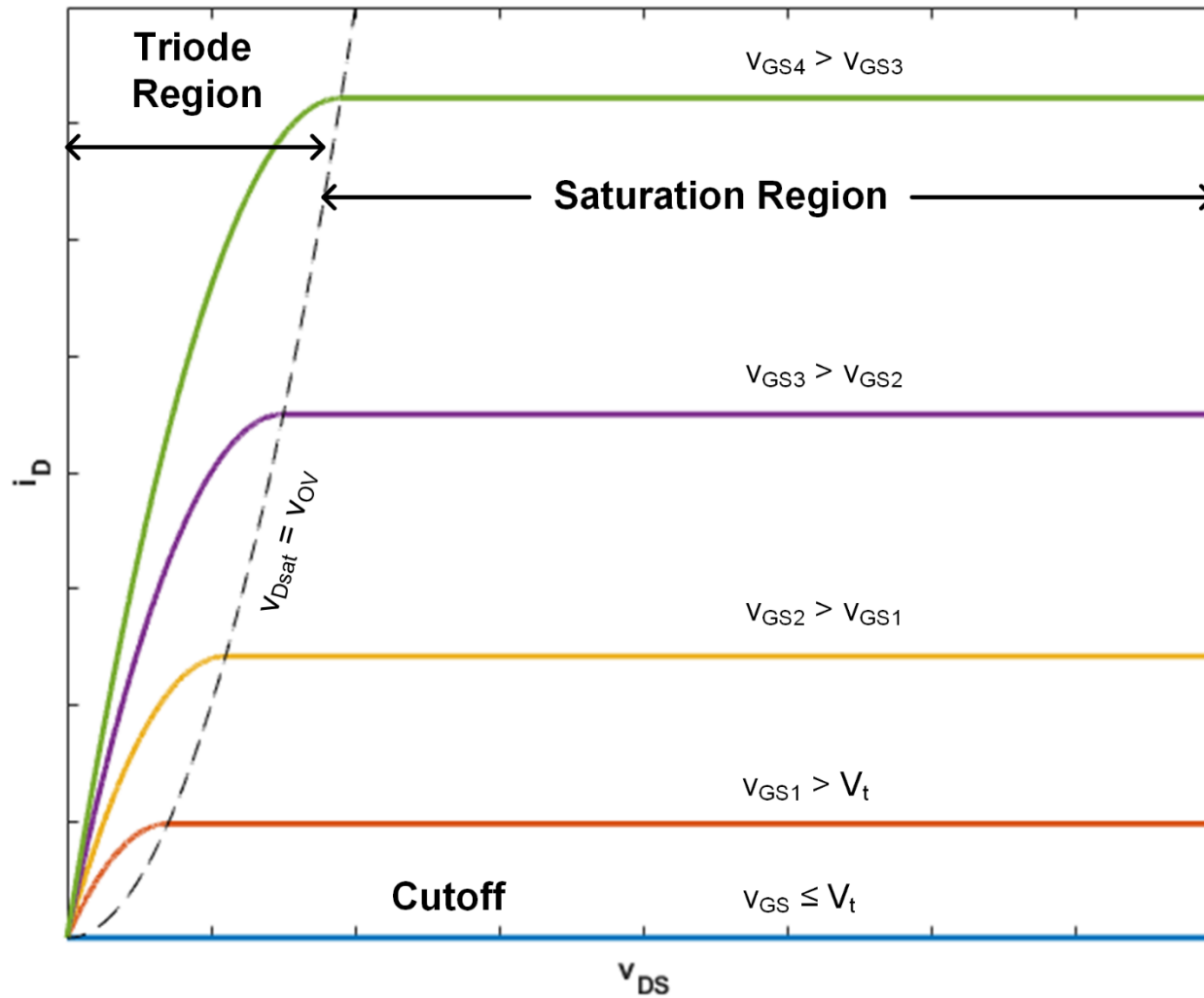
$$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_t)^2$$

$$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} v_{OV}^2$$



# Output I-V Characteristic

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# NMOS Operating Regions – Summary

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## □ Cutoff:

- $v_{GS} < V_t$
- $i_D = 0$

## □ Triode:

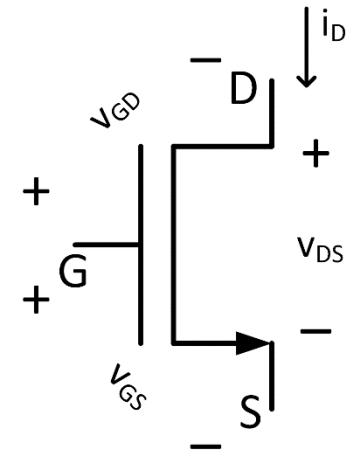
- $v_{GS} > V_t$
- $v_{DS} < v_{OV}$  or  $v_{GD} > V_t$

$$\square i_D = \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} \left( v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right) = k'_n \frac{W}{L} \left( v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right)$$

## □ Saturation:

- $v_{GS} > V_t$
- $v_{DS} > v_{OV}$  or  $v_{GD} < V_t$

$$\square i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_{tp})^2 = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} v_{OV}^2$$



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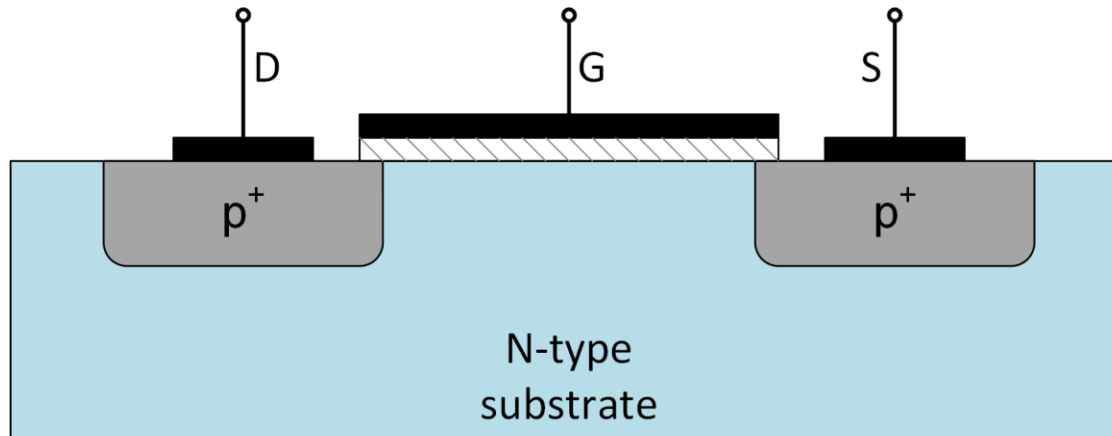
# P-Channel MOSFETs



# P-Channel MOSFETs

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- Voltage polarities and doping types reversed relative to NMOS
  - N-type substrate
  - P<sup>+</sup> drain and source
  - Negative threshold voltage:  $V_{tp} < 0$
  - Negative overdrive voltage:  $v_{OV} = v_{GS} - V_{tp} < 0$
  - Channel induced for  $v_{GS} \leq V_{tp}$
  - Substrate connected to source or most positive circuit voltage



# PMOS – Operating Regions

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## □ Cutoff:

- $v_{GS} > V_{tp}$
- $i_D = 0$

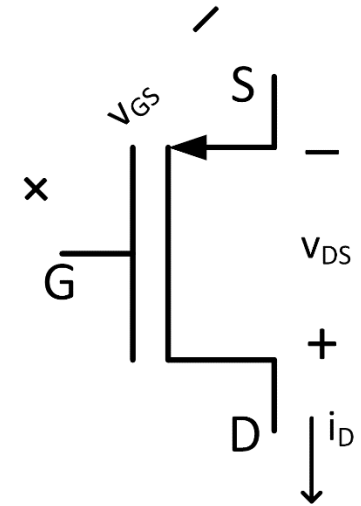
## □ Triode:

- $v_{GS} < V_{tp}, |v_{GS}| > |V_{tp}|$
- $v_{DS} > v_{OV}, |v_{DS}| < |v_{OV}|$

- $$i_D = \mu_p C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} \left( v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right) = k'_p \frac{W}{L} \left( v_{OV} v_{DS} - \frac{1}{2} v_{DS}^2 \right)$$

## □ Saturation:

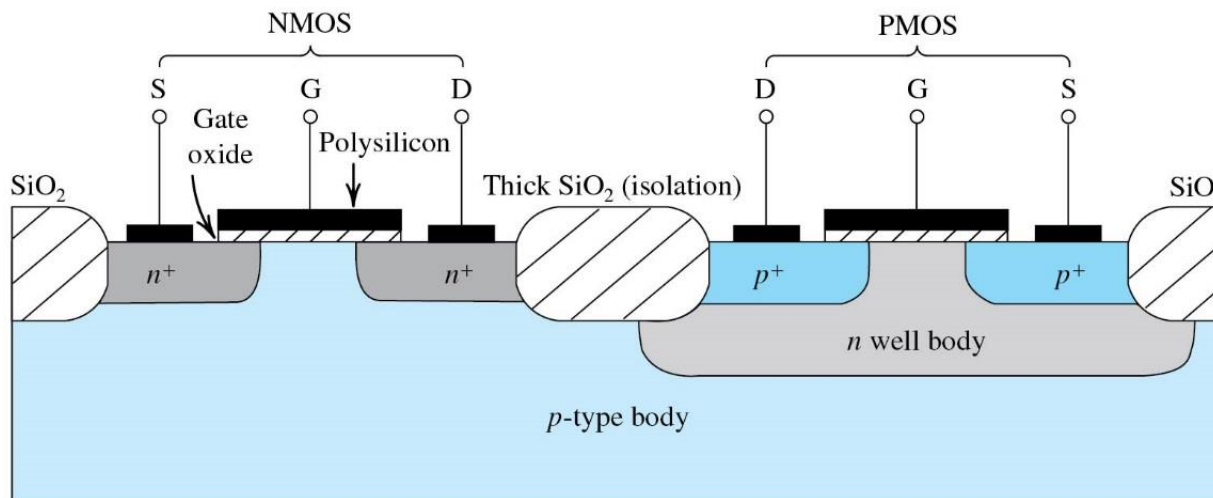
- $v_{GS} < V_{tp}, |v_{GS}| > |V_{tp}|$
- $v_{DS} < v_{OV}, |v_{DS}| > |v_{OV}|$
- $$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_p \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_{tp})^2 = \frac{1}{2} k'_p \frac{W}{L} v_{OV}^2$$



# CMOS

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- Complementary MOS or **CMOS**
  - Both NMOS and PMOS fabricated on the same chip
- P-type substrate
- PMOS devices fabricated in ***n wells***
- Most modern MOS chips are fabricated using CMOS technology



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# Large-Signal MOSFET Model

# Equivalent Circuit Models

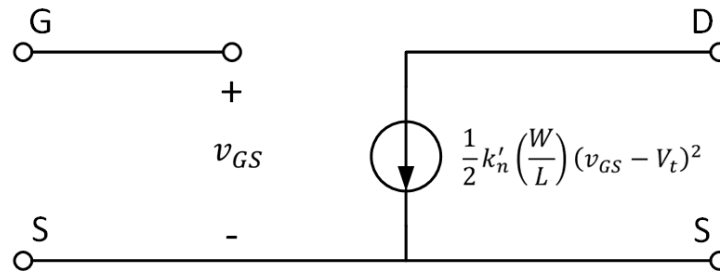
29

- As was the case for BJTs, we use two types of equivalent-circuit models for MOSFETs:
- ***Large-signal model***
  - ▣ Models the transistor's behavior to DC signals
  - ▣ Used to determine the transistor's DC operating point
- ***Small-signal model***
  - ▣ Models the behavior in response to small signals
  - ▣ Describes the response to the AC signals to be amplified
  - ▣ Properties of the small-signal model determined by the DC operating point

# Large-Signal Model – Saturation

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- Large-signal behavior in the saturation region is modeled by the following circuit:

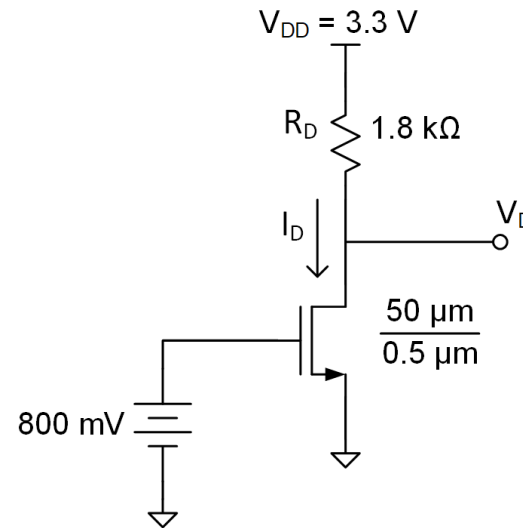


- Replace the transistor with the appropriate model to determine the DC operating point (Q-point)
- Saturation-region bias assumed
  - ▣ If incorrect, model will say otherwise
- Because  $i_G = 0$ , ***we generally do not need to explicitly use the equivalent circuit model for large-signal analysis for MOSFETs***
  - ▣ Often just use the I-V model

# DC Operating Point – Example 1

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- Determine  $I_D$  and  $V_D$  for the following circuit
  - ▣ Is the device operating in the saturation region?
- The process transconductance parameter:



$$\mu_n = 500 \frac{cm^2}{V \cdot s}$$

$$C_{ox} = 3.8 \frac{fF}{\mu m^2}$$

$$V_t = 500 mV$$

$$L = 0.5 \mu m$$

$$W = 50 \mu m$$

$$k'_n = \mu_n C_{ox} = 500 \times 10^{-4} \frac{m^2}{V \cdot s} \cdot \frac{3.8 \times 10^{-15} F}{1 \times 10^{-12} m^2} = 190 \frac{\mu A}{V^2}$$

- Use the saturation region large-signal model
  - ▣ I-V model, not necessarily the equivalent-circuit model
  - ▣ Analysis will indicate if saturation assumption is incorrect

# DC Operating Point – Example 1

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- Drain current in saturation:

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) (V_{GS} - V_t)^2$$

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 190 \frac{\mu A}{V^2} \cdot \left( \frac{50 \mu m}{0.5 \mu m} \right) (800 mV - 500 mV)^2$$

$$I_D = 855 \mu A$$

- Voltage at the drain:

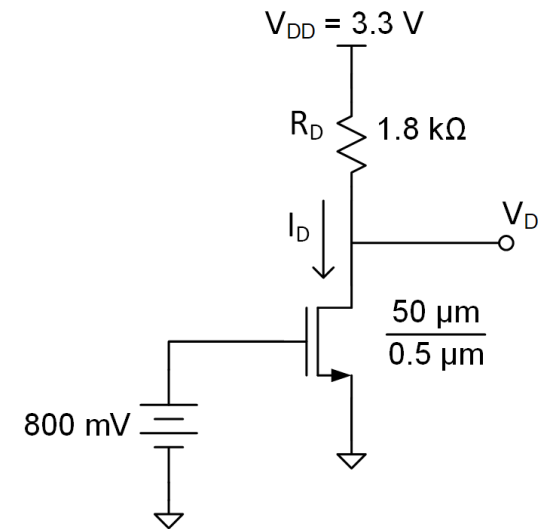
$$V_D = V_{DD} - I_D R_D$$

$$V_D = 3.3 V - 855 \mu A \cdot 1.8 k\Omega$$

$$V_D = 1.76 V$$

- The device is operating in the saturation region
  - The drain-to-source voltage exceeds the overdrive voltage

$$V_{DS} = V_D = 1.76 V > V_{OV} = V_{GS} - V_t = 300 mV$$





# DC Operating Point – Example 2

33

- For the same circuit, determine  $V_{GS}$  for  $V_D = 1\text{ V}$ 
  - ▣ Is the device still operating in the saturation region?

- For  $V_D = 1\text{ V}$

$$I_D = \frac{V_{DD} - V_D}{R_D} = \frac{3.3\text{ V} - 1\text{ V}}{1.8\text{ k}\Omega}$$

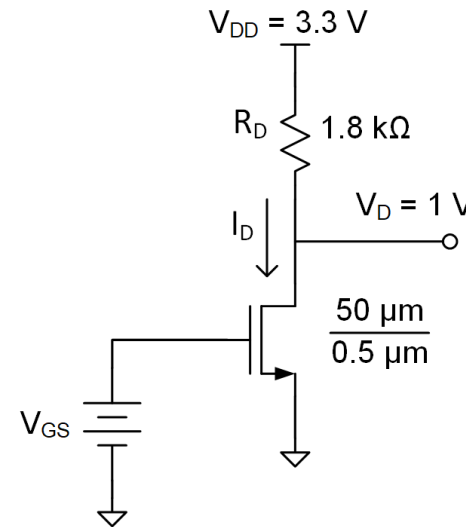
$$I_D = \frac{2.3\text{ V}}{1.8\text{ k}\Omega} = 1.28\text{ mA}$$

- Assuming saturation-region operation

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 190 \frac{\mu\text{A}}{\text{V}^2} \cdot \left( \frac{50\ \mu\text{m}}{0.5\ \mu\text{m}} \right) \cdot V_{OV}^2 = 1.28\text{ mA}$$

- Solving for the overdrive voltage

$$V_{OV} = 367\text{ mV}$$



$$\mu_n = 500 \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{V} \cdot \text{s}}$$

$$C_{ox} = 3.8 \frac{\text{fF}}{\mu\text{m}^2}$$

$$V_t = 500\text{ mV}$$

$$L = 0.5\ \mu\text{m}$$

$$W = 50\ \mu\text{m}$$

# DC Operating Point – Example 2

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- The required gate-to-source voltage is

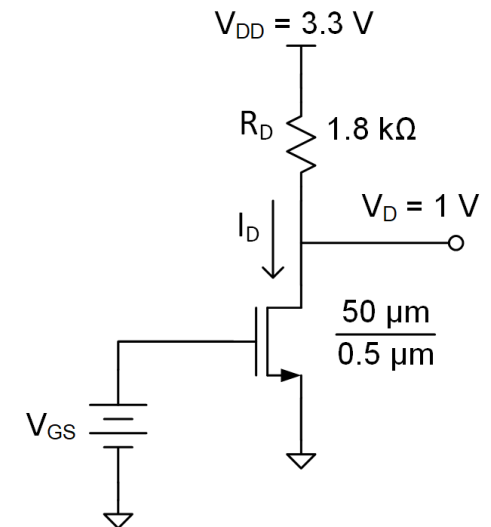
$$V_{GS} = V_t + V_{OV}$$

$$V_{GS} = 500 \text{ mV} + 367 \text{ mV}$$

$$V_{GS} = 867 \text{ mV}$$

- The drain-to-source voltage exceeds the overdrive voltage
  - ▣ The transistor is operating in the saturation region

$$V_{DS} = 1 \text{ V} > V_{OV} = 367 \text{ mV}$$



# DC Operating Point – Example 3

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- Find  $R_D$  and  $R_S$  for

$$I_D = 200 \mu A \text{ and } V_D = 200 \text{ mV}$$

- First, determine  $R_D$

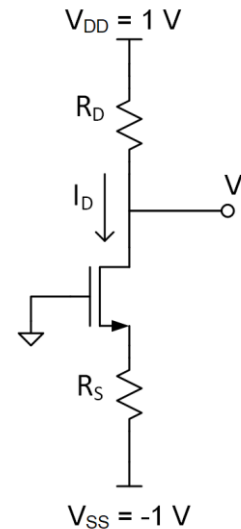
$$R_D = \frac{V_{DD} - V_D}{I_D} = \frac{1 \text{ V} - 200 \text{ mV}}{200 \mu A}$$

$$R_D = 4 \text{ k}\Omega$$

- Drain current in saturation is given by

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}^2 \rightarrow V_{OV} = \sqrt{\frac{2I_D L}{k'_n W}}$$

$$V_{OV} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \cdot 200 \mu A \cdot 0.5 \mu m}{400 \mu A/V^2 \cdot 15 \mu m}} = 182.6 \text{ mV}$$



$$k'_n = 400 \frac{\mu A}{V^2}$$

$$V_t = 500 \text{ mV}$$

$$L = 0.5 \mu m$$

$$W = 15 \mu m$$

# DC Operating Point – Example 3

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- The gate-to-source voltage is

$$V_{GS} = V_t + V_{OV} = 500 \text{ mV} + 182.6 \text{ mV}$$

$$V_{GS} = 683 \text{ mV}$$

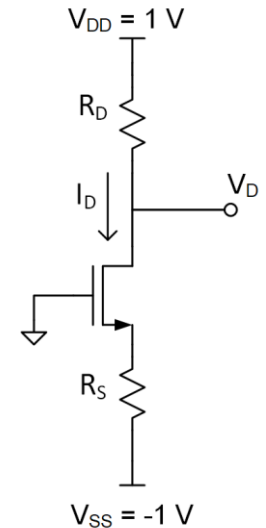
- The gate is grounded, so the source voltage is

$$V_S = V_G - V_{GS} = -683 \text{ mV}$$

- The source resistance is given by

$$R_S = \frac{V_S - V_{SS}}{I_D} = \frac{-683 \text{ mV} - (-1 \text{ V})}{200 \mu\text{A}}$$

$$R_S = 1.59 \text{ k}\Omega$$



# DC Operating Point – Example 4

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- Find  $I_D$  and  $R_D$  for  $V_D = 100 \text{ mV}$ 
  - ▣ What is the drain-to-source resistance,  $r_{DS}$ ?

- The device is in the triode region:

$$V_{OV} = V_{GS} - V_t = 2 \text{ V} - 500 \text{ mV} = 1.5 \text{ V}$$

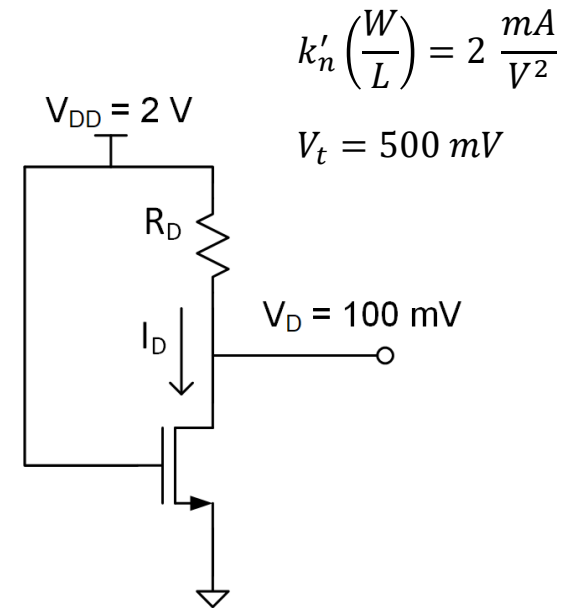
$$V_{DS} = 100 \text{ mV} < V_{OV}$$

- Drain current in triode is given by

$$I_D = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \left( V_{OV} - \frac{1}{2} V_{DS} \right) V_{DS}$$

$$I_D = 2 \frac{\text{mA}}{\text{V}^2} (1.5 \text{ V} - 50 \text{ mV}) 100 \text{ mV}$$

$$I_D = 290 \mu\text{A}$$



# DC Operating Point – Example 4

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- The required drain resistance:

$$R_D = \frac{V_{DD} - V_D}{I_D} = \frac{1.9 \text{ V}}{290 \mu\text{A}}$$

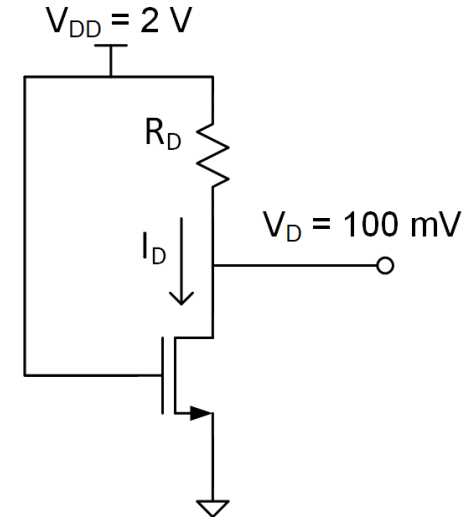
$$R_D = 6.55 \text{ k}\Omega$$

- The drain-to-source resistance in the triode region is given by:

$$r_{DS} = \frac{1}{k'_n \frac{W}{L} V_{OV}}$$

$$r_{DS} = \frac{1}{2 \frac{\text{mA}}{\text{V}^2} 1.5 \text{ V}}$$

$$r_{DS} = 333 \Omega$$



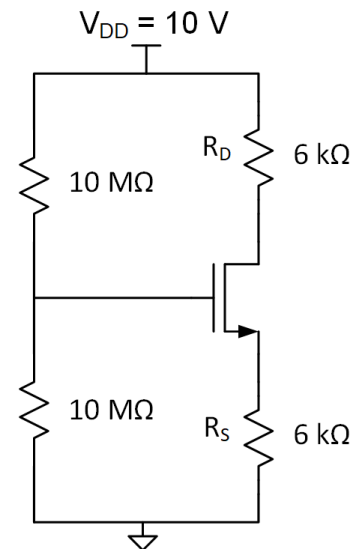
# DC Operating Point – Example 5

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- Find  $I_D$ ,  $V_G$ ,  $V_D$ , and  $V_S$  for the following circuit
- The gate voltage is simply set by the voltage divider

$$V_G = 10 V \frac{10 M\Omega}{10 M\Omega + 10 M\Omega}$$

$$V_G = 5 V$$



$$k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) = 1 \frac{mA}{V^2}$$

$$V_t = 1 V$$

- Assuming operation in the saturation region, drain current is

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) (V_{GS} - V_t)^2 = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) (V_G - I_D R_S - V_t)^2$$

$$I_D = 0.5 \frac{mA}{V^2} (5 V - I_D R_S - 1 V)^2$$

# DC Operating Point – Example 5

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$$I_D = 0.5 \frac{mA}{V^2} (4 V - I_D \cdot 6 k\Omega)^2$$

- This is a quadratic equation for  $I_D$

$$I_D = 18E3 I_D^2 - 24 I_D + 8E - 3$$

- Two possible solutions:

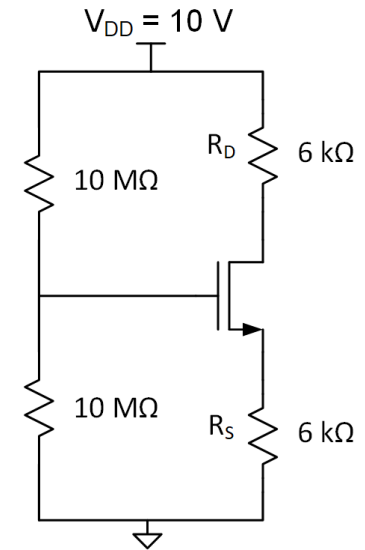
$$I_D = 889 \mu A \text{ or } I_D = 500 \mu A$$

- For  $I_D = 889 \mu A$

$$V_D = V_{DD} - I_D R_D = 10 V - 889 \mu A \cdot 6 k\Omega = 4.67 V$$

$$V_S = I_D \cdot R_S = 889 \mu A \cdot 6 k\Omega = 5.33 V$$

$$V_{GS} = V_G - V_S = -333 mV$$





# DC Operating Point – Example 5

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- For  $I_D = 889 \mu A$ 
  - $V_{GS} < 0$
  - The transistor is in the cut-off region
- The valid solution to the quadratic equation must be

$$I_D = 500 \mu A$$

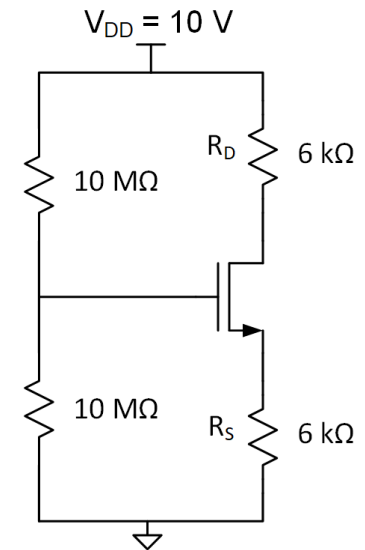
- The drain and source voltages are

$$V_D = V_{DD} - I_D R_D = 10 V - 500 \mu A \cdot 6 k\Omega$$

$$V_D = 7 V$$

$$V_S = I_D \cdot R_S = 500 \mu A \cdot 6 k\Omega$$

$$V_S = 3 V$$



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# Channel-Length Modulation

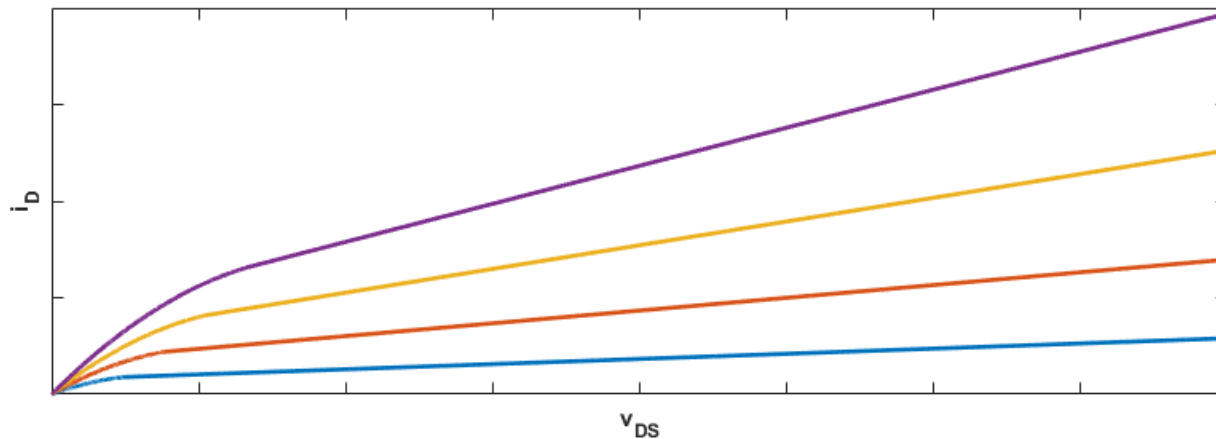
# Channel-Length Modulation

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- So far, our MOSFET model in the saturation region models drain current as independent of  $v_{DS}$

$$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) v_{OV}^2$$

- Flat I-V characteristic in the saturation region
- In reality, current increases as  $v_{DS}$  increases

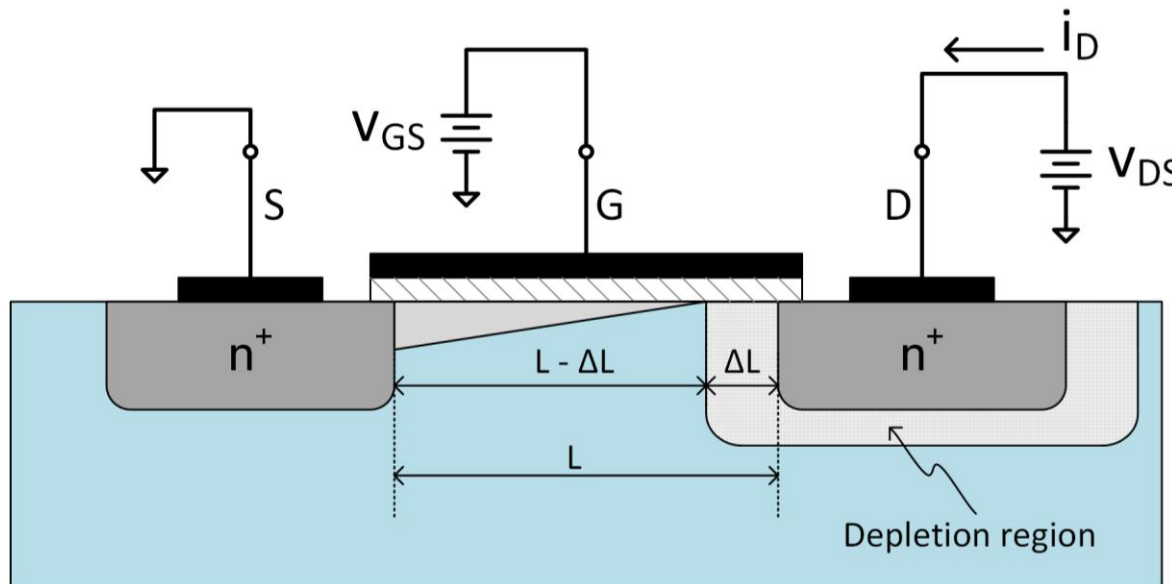


- Increase in  $i_D$  due to **channel-length modulation**

# Channel-Length Modulation

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- Justification for constant saturation current was:
  - ▣ Channel shape does not change after pinch-off occurs
  - ▣ Any additional  $v_{DS}$  is dropped across the depletion region surrounding the drain
- ***But, as  $v_{DS}$  increases, the drain depletion region increases, and the channel length decreases***



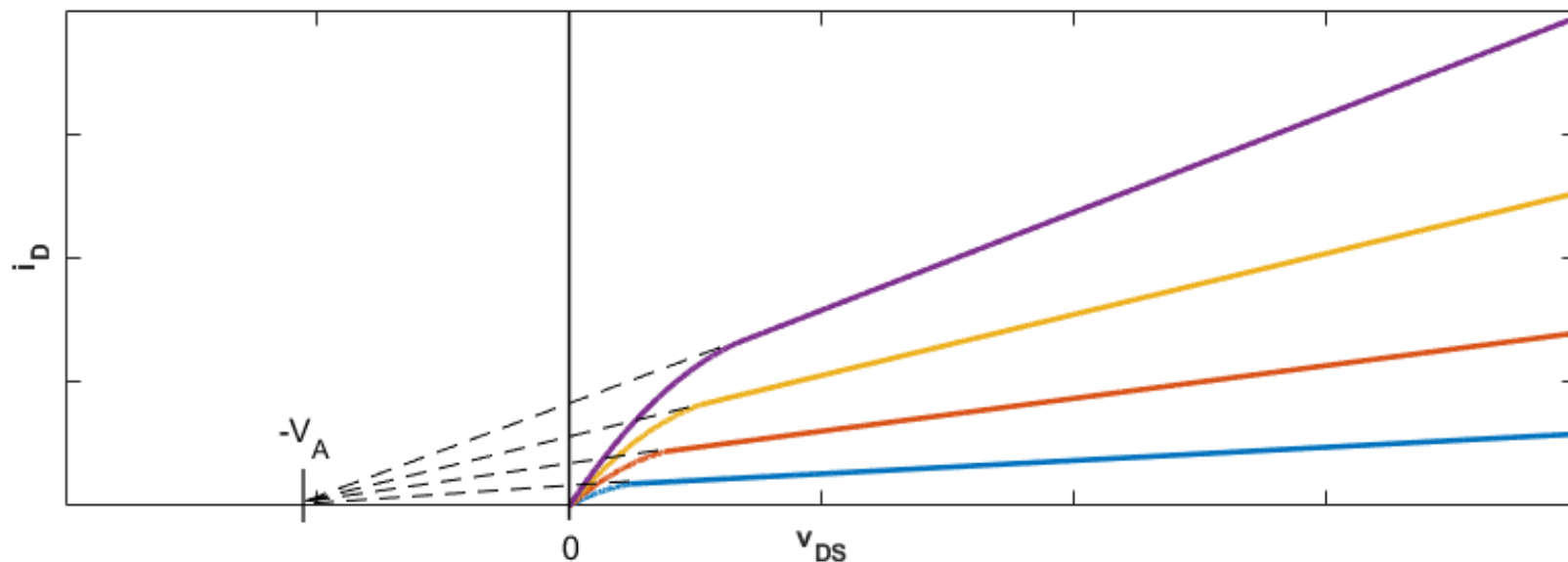
# Channel-Length Modulation

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- Drain current is inversely proportional to channel length

$$i_D \propto \frac{1}{L}$$

- So, as  $v_{DS}$  increases,  $L$  decreases, and  $i_D$  increases
  - ▣ Non-zero slope in the saturation region of the  $i_D$ - $v_{DS}$  curve:



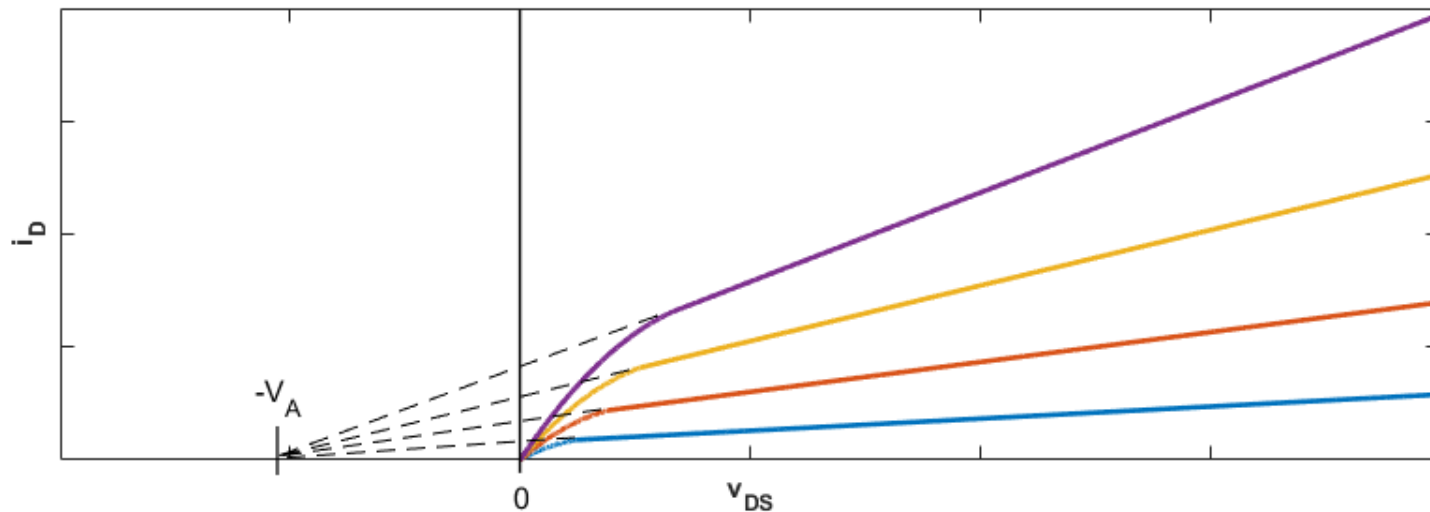
# Channel-Length Modulation

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- This effect is accounted for by the **channel-length modulation parameter,  $\lambda$**

$$i_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_t)^2 (1 + \lambda v_{DS})$$

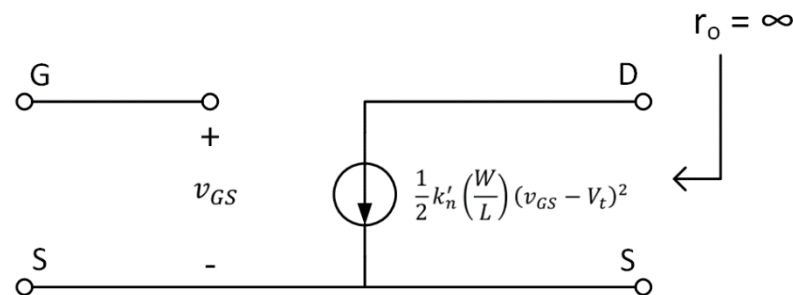
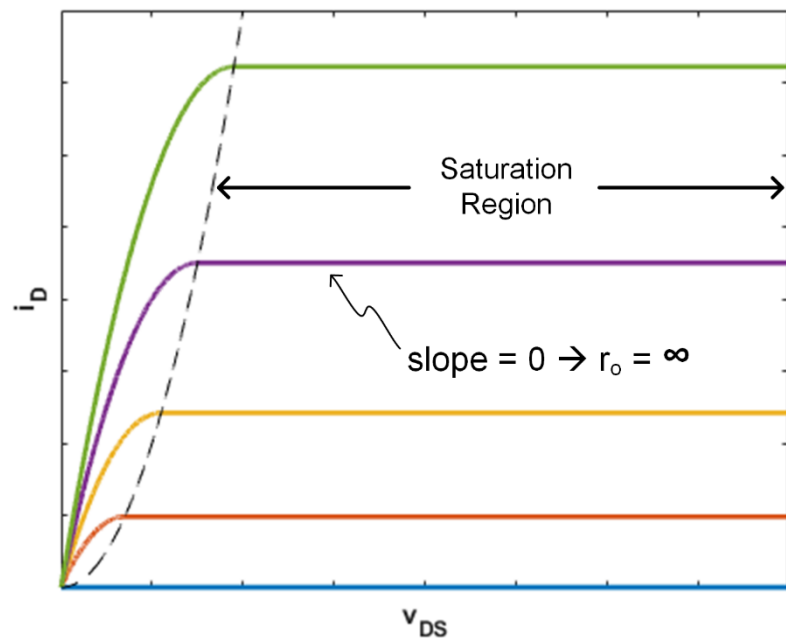
- $\lambda$  is inversely proportional to channel length,  $L$
- $\lambda$  related to the **Early voltage**:  $\lambda = \frac{1}{V_A}$



# Output Resistance

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- Slope of the  $i_D$ - $v_{DS}$  characteristic is the inverse of the transistor's **output resistance**
  - ▣ Resistance seen looking into the drain
- Constant saturation current implies **infinite output resistance**



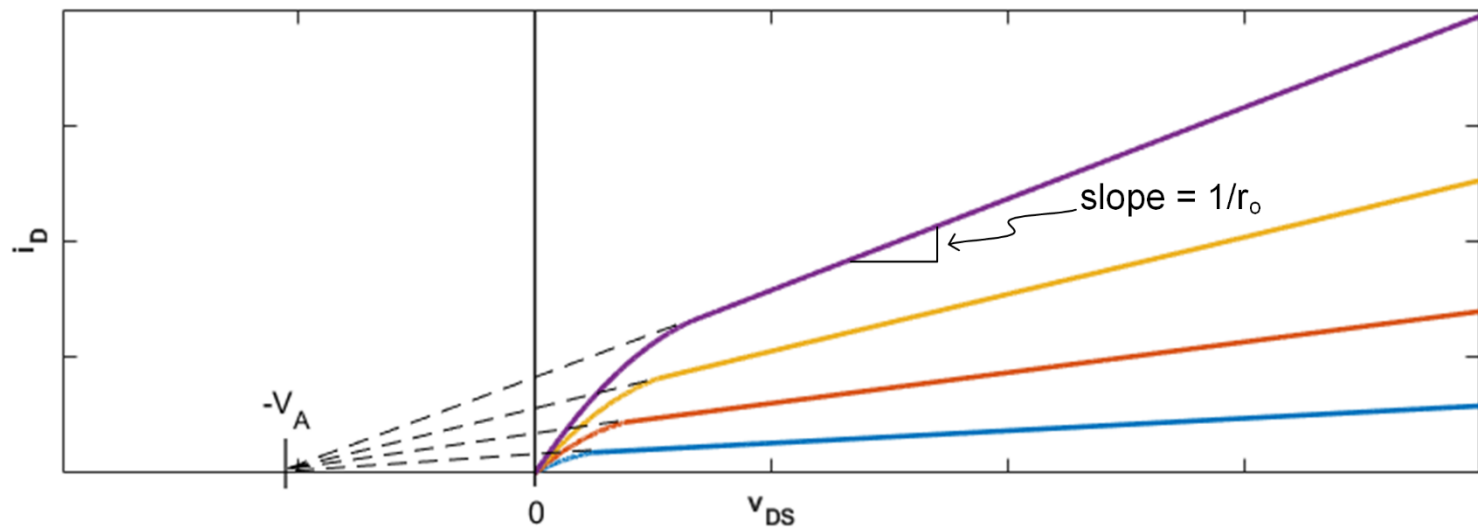
# Output Resistance

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- Output resistance given by

$$r_o = \left[ \frac{\partial i_D}{\partial v_{DS}} \right]^{-1}$$

- ▣ The inverse of the slope of the  $i_D$ - $v_{DS}$  characteristic
- Channel-length modulation results in finite output resistance

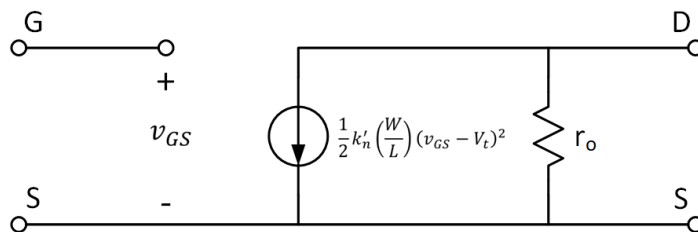




# Output Resistance

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- Model the finite output resistance due to channel-length modulation by adding a resistor to our large-signal model



- Output resistance given by

$$r_o = \left[ \frac{\partial i_D}{\partial v_{DS}} \right]^{-1} = \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial v_{DS}} \left( \frac{1}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_t)^2 (1 + \lambda v_{DS}) \right) \right]^{-1}$$

$$r_o = \left[ \frac{\lambda}{2} k'_n \frac{W}{L} (v_{GS} - V_t)^2 \right]^{-1}$$

$$r_o = \frac{1}{\lambda I'_D} = \frac{V_A}{I'_D}$$

50

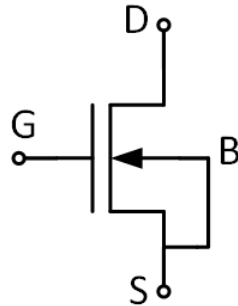
# The Body Effect

# The Body Effect

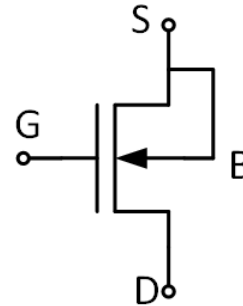
51

- So far, we have largely ignored the connection to the substrate
  - ▣ Equivalently, we have assumed it to be tied to the source:

NMOS:



PMOS:



- This a valid assumption for ***discrete*** devices
  - ▣ Not so for MOSFETs on integrated circuits (ICs)

# The Body Effect

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- For integrated circuits, the substrate is typically tied to the most negative supply voltage for NMOS devices
  - PMOS n-wells tied to the most positive supply voltage
- Substrate for a given device may well be biased below its source voltage (above for PMOS)
  - This is the bias voltage for the channel region
- **For  $V_{SB} > 0$  ( $V_{SB} < 0$  for PMOS), the *threshold voltage is effectively increased***
  - This is the *body effect*

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# MOSFETs as Switches

# MOSFETs as Switches

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- Our focus is on the use of MOSFETs for ***linear amplifiers*** in ***analog circuits***
  - ▣ Operation in the ***saturation*** region
- MOSFETs are also useful as ***switches*** in ***digital circuits***
  - ▣ Microprocessors contain *billions* of MOSFETs used as switches on a single chip
- When operating as a switch, MOSFETs alternate between the ***triode*** (on, closed) and ***cutoff*** (off, open) regions

# Triode/Cutoff Region Models

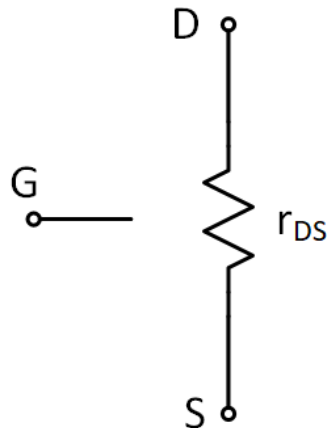
55

- MOSFETs used as **switches** operate alternately in the **triode** (closed) and **cutoff** (open) regions
- Equivalent circuit models:

## Triode Region (ON):

- $V_{GS} > V_t$ 
  - $V_{GS} = V_{DD}$

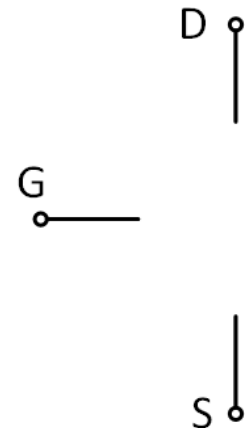
- Switch is on
- $I_D \geq 0$
- $V_{DS} = I_D r_{DS} < V_{OV}$



## Cutoff Region (OFF):

- $V_{GS} < V_t$ 
  - $V_{GS} = 0$

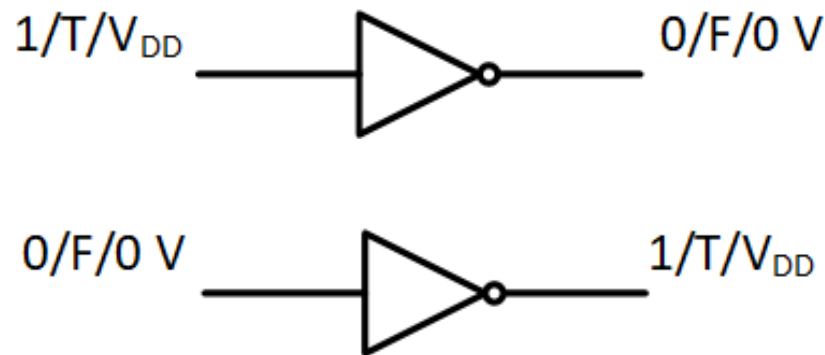
- Switch is off
- $I_D = 0$
- $V_{DS} = V_{DD}$



# Inverters

56

- The ***inverter*** is a fundamental building block of ***digital logic circuits***
- Output is the ***inverse*** of the input
  - ▣ When the input is a logic high (1/T) the output is low (0/F)
  - ▣ When the input is low (0/F) the output is high (1/T)

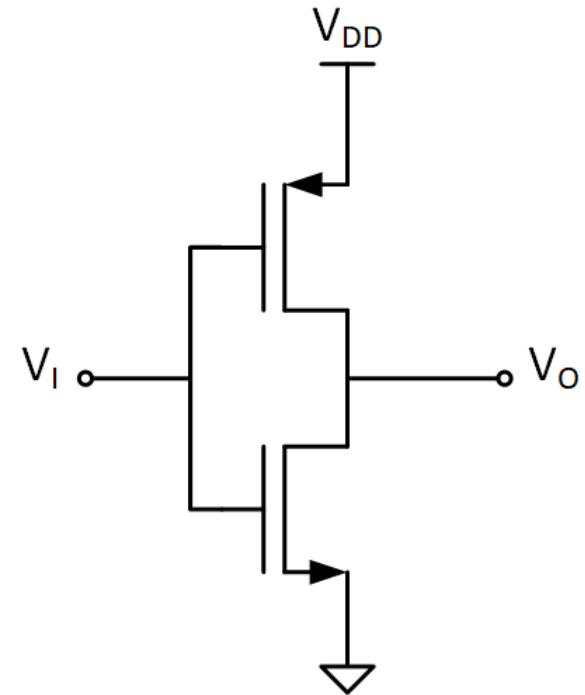




# CMOS Inverter

57

- CMOS inverters make use of NMOS and PMOS devices acting as switches
  - ▣ Input applied to gate of each device
  - ▣ Output taken from their drain terminals
  - ▣ When one switch is on, the other is off
  - ▣ Output connected to either  $V_{DD}$  or ground



# CMOS Inverter

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## □ Input is high:

- $V_I = V_{DD}$

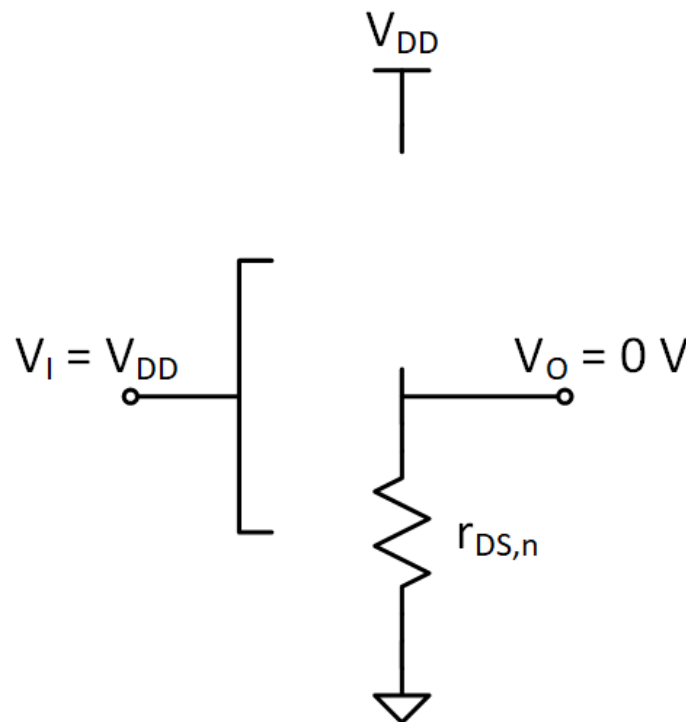
- $|V_{GS_p}| = 0\text{ V} < |V_{t_p}|$

  - PMOS device is off

- $V_{GS_n} = V_{DD} > V_{t_n}$

  - NMOS device is on

- $V_O \approx 0\text{ V}$



# CMOS Inverter

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## □ Input is low:

- $V_I = 0\text{ V}$

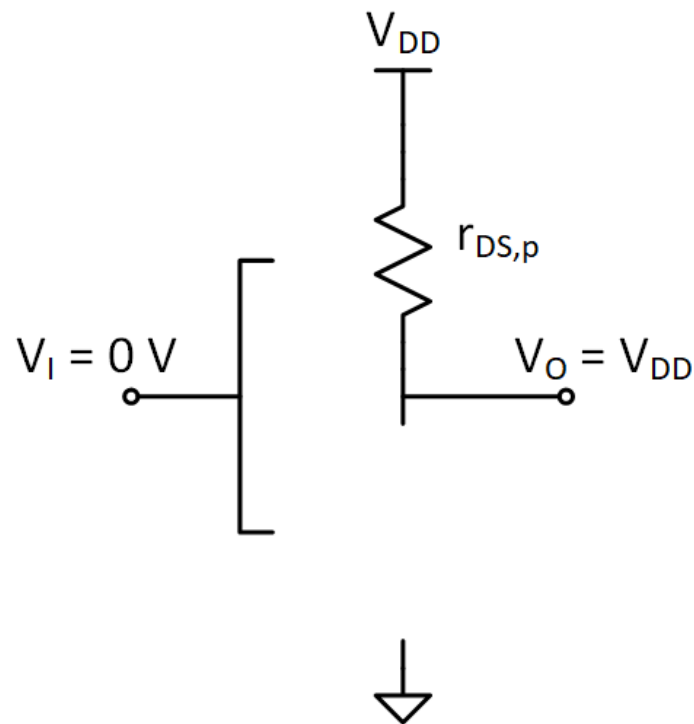
- $|V_{GS_p}| = V_{DD} > |V_{t_p}|$

  - PMOS device is on

- $V_{GS_n} = 0\text{ V} < V_{t_n}$

  - NMOS device is off

- $V_O \approx V_{DD}$



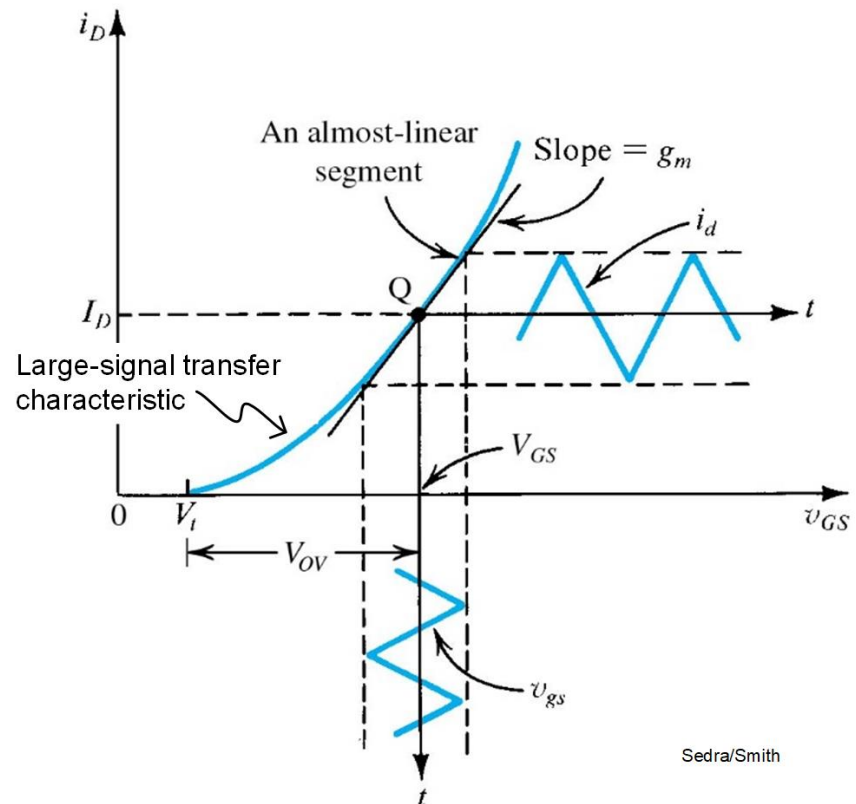
60

# Small-Signal Models

# MOSFET Small-Signal Hybrid- $\pi$ Model

61

- Just as with BJTs, we use the large-signal model to determine the MOSFET's **DC operating point**
  - ▣ DC terminal voltages and drain current
- Need a **small-signal model** to describes the MOSFETs response to small signals
  - ▣ To describe its behavior as an amplifier
- Small-signal model parameters determined by the DC operating point



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# MOSFET Small-Signal Hybrid- $\pi$ Model

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- Similar to the BJT hybrid- $\pi$  model
  - ▣ But, input resistance at the gate is infinite:

$$i_g = 0$$

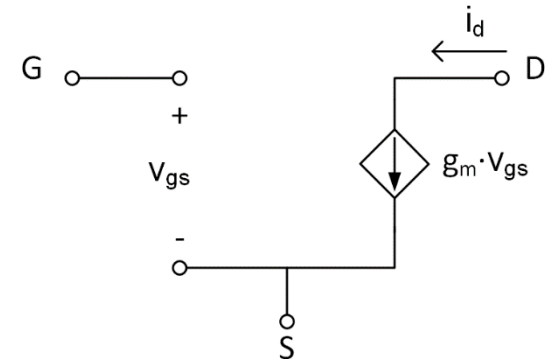
- **Transconductance**,  $g_m$ , defined as

$$g_m \equiv \frac{\partial i_d}{\partial v_{gs}}$$

- ▣ Where  $i_d$  and  $v_{gs}$  are the **small-signal components** of the drain current and gate-source voltage, respectively
- Transconductance determined by the DC operating point:

$$g_m = \mu_n C_{ox} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) (V_{GS} - V_t)$$

$$g_m = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}$$



# MOSFET Small-Signal Hybrid- $\pi$ Model

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$$g_m = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}$$

- Recall that DC drain current is given by

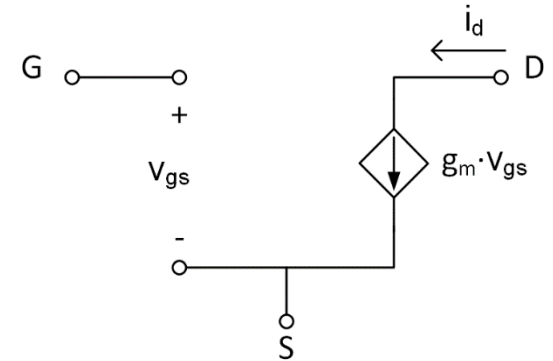
$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}^2$$

- Solving for  $V_{OV}$ :

$$V_{OV} = \sqrt{\frac{2I_D}{k'_n \frac{W}{L}}}$$

- Substituting the  $V_{OV}$  expression into the  $g_m$  expression:

$$g_m = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) \sqrt{\frac{2I_D}{k'_n \frac{W}{L}}} = \sqrt{2k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) I_D}$$



# MOSFET Small-Signal T-Model

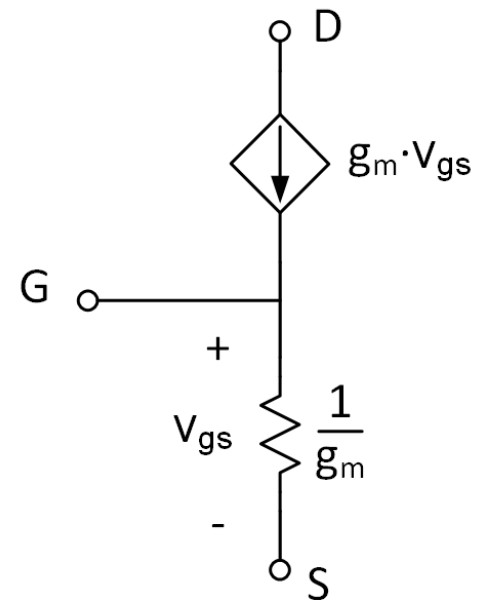
64

- An alternative small-signal MOSFET model is the T-model
  - ▣ As with the BJT T-model, useful when there is source resistance
- Though not immediately obvious, note that  $i_g = 0$

$$i_d = i_s = g_m v_{gs}$$

- Resistance seen looking into the source:

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





# MOSFET Small-Signal Models

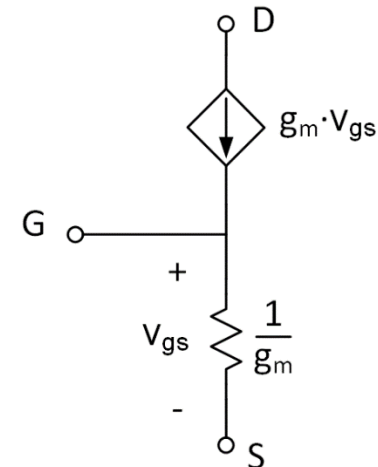
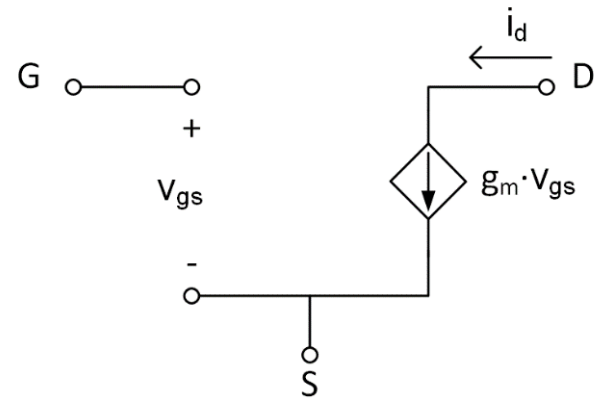
65

- In summary:
  - Transconductance in terms of overdrive voltage:

$$g_m = k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}$$

- Transconductance in terms of drain current:

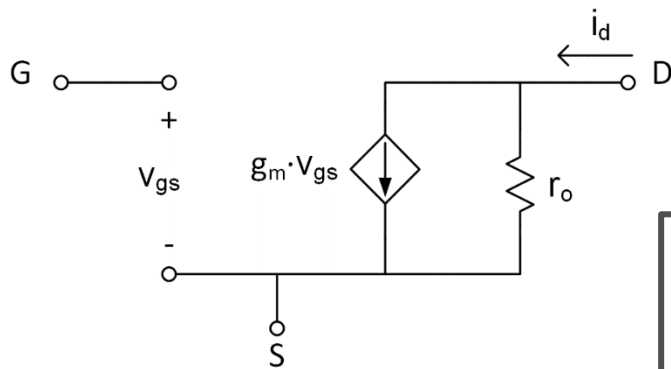
$$g_m = \sqrt{2k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) I_D}$$



# Small-Signal Models – Finite $r_o$

66

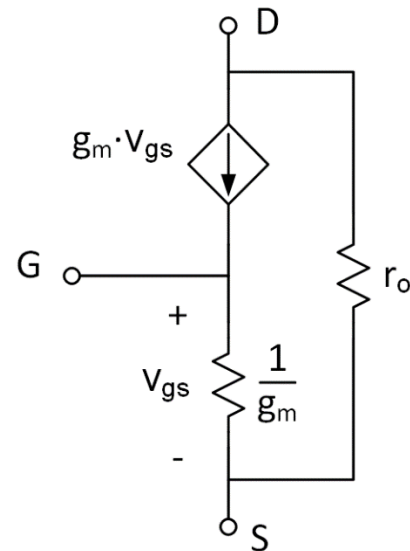
- We have seen that we can add output resistance to the large-signal model to account for channel-length modulation
  - Can do the same for the small-signal model
  - Will rarely, if ever, do this for the large signal model, but often will for the small-signal model



$$r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_D}$$

$$V_A = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$I_D = \frac{1}{2} k'_n \left( \frac{W}{L} \right) V_{OV}^2$$



# Using the MOSFET Models

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- In the next section of the course, we will look at the analysis and design of MOSFET amplifiers
  - ▣ Bias network and DC operating point
  - ▣ Signal-path
  
- As was the case for BJT amplifiers, our general procedure will be:
  - ▣ ***Large-signal analysis***
    - DC operating point
    - Small-signal model parameters
  - ▣ ***Small-signal analysis***
    - Circuit gain