ELEC 423/6051 Introduction to Analog VLSI  
Fall 2014

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR:
Glenn Cowan, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Office: EV5.167, Telephone: 848-2424 Ext. 4108  
Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, noon to 1:30 pm.

LECTURE:
Monday/Wednesday 10:15 – 11:30 AM, MB-S2.115

LABORATORY:
Friday 14:45 – 17:30. Scheduled for Ugrads only.

USEFUL TEXTBOOKS WORTH CONSULTING:

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

ELEC 423 Introduction to Analog VLSI (4 credits)

OVERALL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of the course is for students to gain analysis and design skills necessary for Analog IC design, either in industry or academia. The syllabus, assignments, project, and tests have been developed based on the analysis and design problems analog IC designers face.

By the end of the term, students should be able to:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of MOS terminal characteristics and capacitive effects.
2. Create integrated circuit layouts showing an awareness of the underlying process technology and layout parasitics as well as their impact on circuit performance.
3. Show a working knowledge of and an ability to analyze basic gain stages, current mirrors, and active loads. Students should be able to make choices among these building blocks.
4. Select the length, width, and bias level of transistors with an awareness of biasing trade-offs associated with the transistor’s level of inversion.
5. Analyze a circuit to determine input and output referred noise power spectral density. Students should also be able to propose design modifications to reduce noise levels and be able to determine which transistors contribute most to noise levels.

6. Analyze a circuit to determine input and output referred offsets. Students should also be able to propose design modifications to reduce offsets and be able to determine which transistors contribute most to offsets.

7. Analyze various single-stage and two-stage opamp circuits to determine gain (differential and common-mode), frequency response, output resistance, short-circuit transconductance, input common-mode range, and output signal range. Students should be able to compensate an opamp for closed loop stability, given a certain feedback factor.

8. Compute an opamp’s required dc gain, slew rate, and unity-gain frequency based on the required closed-loop settling dynamics of a sample-and-hold system.

9. Recognize situations that require common-mode feedback and propose a suitable common-mode feedback scheme comprised of a common-mode detector, an amplifier, and a control mechanism. Students should also make choices that lead to a stable common-mode feedback loop with loop dynamics similar to the differential-mode loop.

10. Apply the Barkhausen criteria to a circuit or system in order to determine if it is likely to oscillate. Students should be able to analyze various ring-oscillators and LC oscillators to compute the required gain for oscillation and the approximate frequency of oscillation.


12. Analyze basic voltage and current reference circuits

**Prerequisite Material:**

This course assumes that students have a basic command of the following topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background Topics</th>
<th>Sections from Microelectronics 6th Ed. (Sedra and Smith)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DC, square-law operation of MOSFETs</td>
<td>5.1, 5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-frequency small-signal models of MOSFETs</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AC and DC analysis of single transistor amplifiers with resistive loads</td>
<td>5.3, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of circuits with operational amplifiers</td>
<td>2.1-2.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Tentative Lecture Schedule:** Please note that this is tentative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topics</th>
<th>Lab Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sept 3rd</td>
<td>Introduction of Course, student information sheet</td>
<td>Schematic tutorial, dc sweeps of NMOS and PMOS devices</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review of MOS transistor operation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sept 8th</td>
<td>Review of DC and AC analysis of MOS transistor circuits</td>
<td>AC/Transient analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 10th</td>
<td>Weak Inversion, body effect, capacitors, differential pairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 15th</td>
<td>Bode plots, active loads, current mirrors, cascodes</td>
<td>Current mirrors, active loads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 17th</td>
<td>Process Technology and layout considerations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 22nd</td>
<td></td>
<td>Layout tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sept 24th</td>
<td>Noise: signal descriptions, models, analysis, design considerations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sept 29th</td>
<td>Mismatch: Causes, models, analysis, design considerations</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 1st</td>
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ASSIGNMENTS:
A combination of paper/pencil and CAD based assignments will be given. These will reinforce concepts developed in class and prepare students for the project.

PROJECT:
A design project will be given in the second half of the semester. Due Mon, Dec 1st.

GRADING SCHEME:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergrad Students</th>
<th>Graduate Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments/Labs</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Please note that the Midterm exam will count. No alternate scheme in which the midterm is not counted will be offered. During the midterm test and the final exam, only one of the two ENCS-approved calculators (CASIO FX-300MS and SHARP EL-531) will be allowed.

Assignments, labs, and the project must be accompanied by a signed copy of ENCS’s Expectations of Originality form.


NOTES ON PLAGIARISM (Source: The Academic Integrity Website: [http://provost.concordia.ca/academicintegrity/plagiarism/]):

The most common offense under the Academic Code of Conduct is plagiarism which the Code defines as “the presentation of the work of another person as one’s own or without proper acknowledgement.” This could be material copied word for word from books, journals, internet sites, professor’s course notes, etc. It could be material that is paraphrased but closely resembles the original source. It could be the work of a fellow student, for example, an answer on a quiz, data for a lab report, a paper or assignment completed by another student. It might be a paper purchased through one of the many available sources. Plagiarism does not refer to words...
alone - it can also refer to copying images, graphs, tables, and ideas. “Presentation” is not limited to written work. It also includes oral presentations, computer assignments and artistic works. Finally, if you translate the work of another person into French or English and do not cite the source, this is also plagiarism.

In Simple Words:
Do not copy, paraphrase or translate anything from anywhere without saying where you obtained it!

LIST OF SERVICES
Concordia Counseling and Development offers career services, psychological services, student learning services, etc.
http://cdev.concordia.ca/

The Concordia Library Citation and Style Guides:
http://library.concordia.ca/help/howto/citations.html

Advocacy and Support Services
http://supportservices.concordia.ca/

Student Transition Centre
http://stc.concordia.ca/

New Student Program
http://newstudent.concordia.ca/

Access Centre for Students with Disabilities
http://supportservices.concordia.ca/disabilities/

Student Success Centre
http://studentsuccess.concordia.ca/

The Academic Integrity Website
http://provost.concordia.ca/academicintegrity/

Financial Aid & Awards
http://web2.concordia.ca/financialaid/

Health Services
http://www-health.concordia.ca/