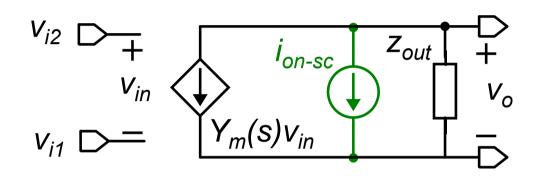
Amplifier Norton schematization with output referred noise source



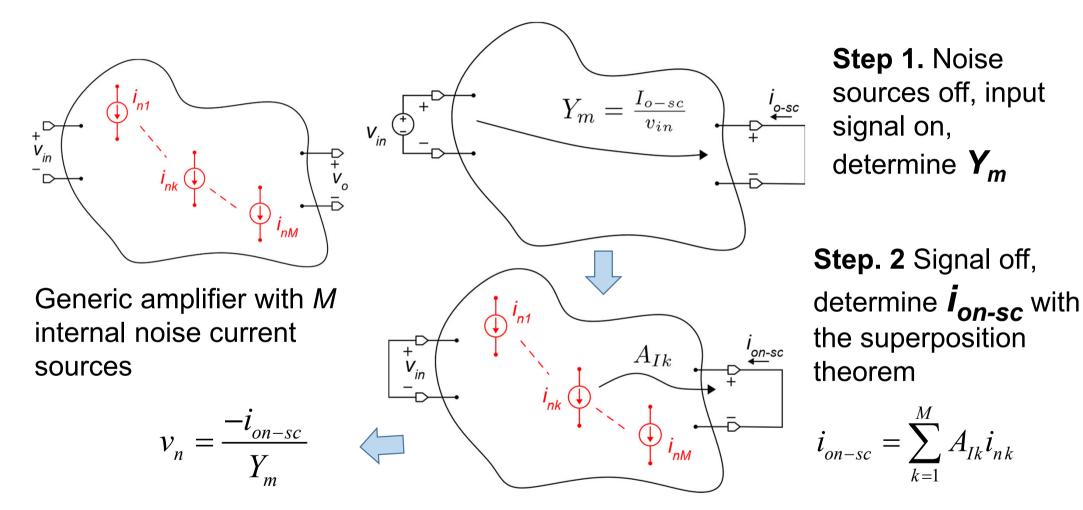
VO

It is possible to model any amplifier (whole amplifier or single amplifier stage) with a Norton equivalent circuit of the output port and take into account noise with an additional current source *i*on-sc

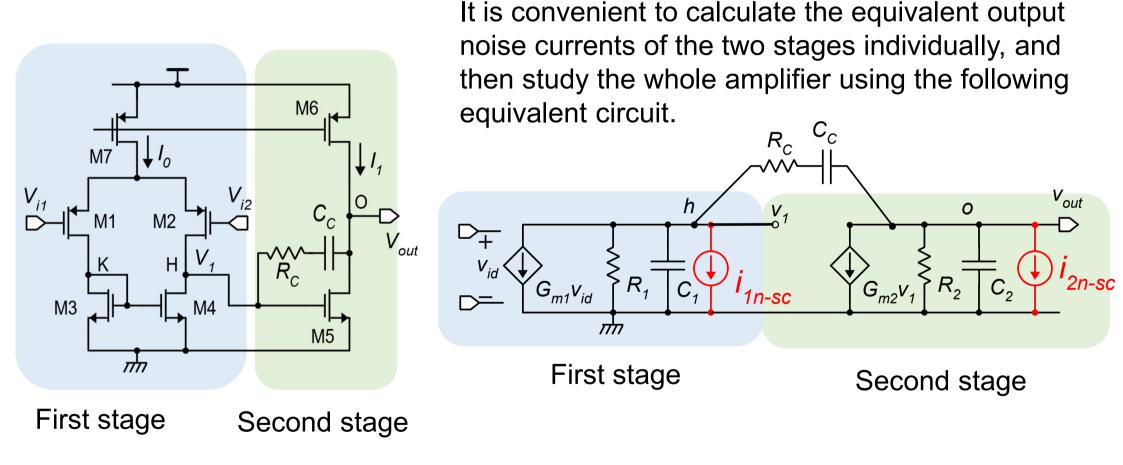
$$v_{o} = -(Y_{m}v_{in} + i_{on-sc})Z_{out} = -Y_{m}Z_{out}\left(v_{in} + \frac{i_{on-sc}}{Y_{m}}\right)$$
General input-output law of a voltage amplifier with noise/offset: $v_{o} = A_{V}(v_{in} - v_{n})$

$$A_{V} = -Y_{m}Z_{out}$$
Input referred noise voltage
$$v_{n} = \frac{-i_{on-sc}}{Y_{m}}$$

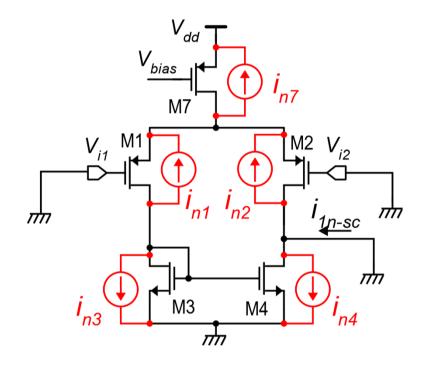
General method to calculate the input referred noise / offset



Application of the method to the two-stage op-amp



Output noise short circuit current of the first stage

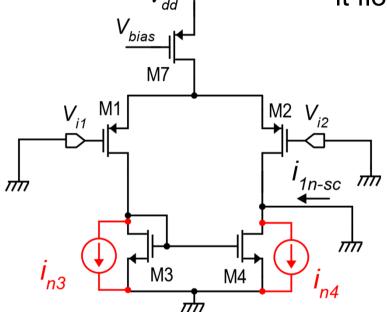


In order to calculate the output noise short-circuit current, we need to calculate the current gains A_{Ik} , from each one of the MOSFET noise sources to the output short circuit current.

Input stage with noise current sources of all devices

Effect of i_{n3} , i_{n4}

 i_{n4} is directly connected to the output port, then it flows directly into the output short circuit:

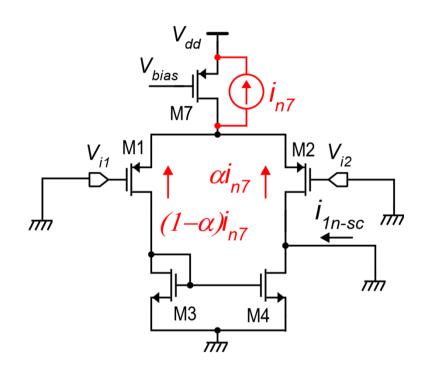


$$A_{I4} = 1$$

 i_{n3} is directly connected to the input of the current mirror. It sees a low resistance towards the mirror and high resistance towards M1 ($2r_{d1}$). Then it flows almost completely into the mirror and reaches the output port after an inversion (caused by the mirror).

$$A_{I3} \cong -1$$

Effect of i_{n7}



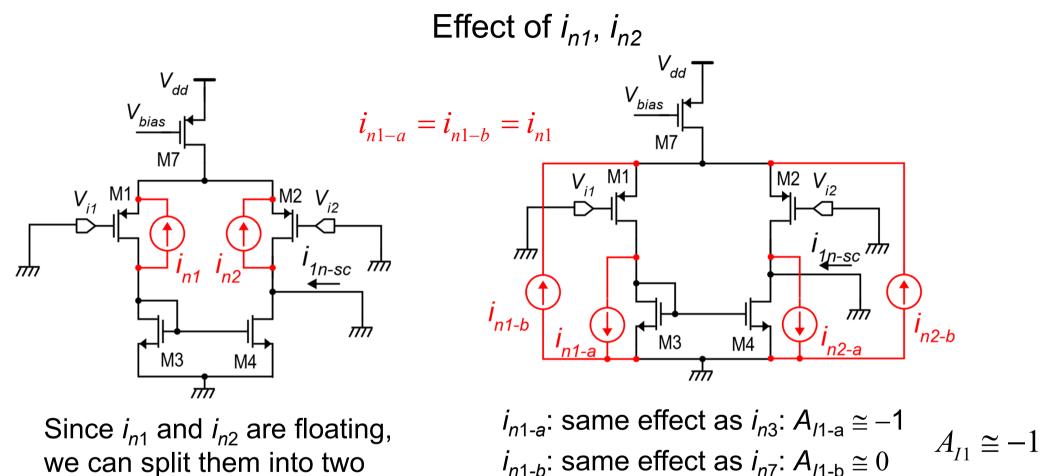
$$i_{on-cc}(i_{n7}) \cong i_{n7} \left[\alpha - (1-\alpha) \right] = i_{n7} \left[2\alpha - 1 \right]$$

In the case of perfect symmetry and zero input differential voltage (V_{id} =0), which is the case that we are analyzing:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \implies i_{1n-sc} \left(i_{n7} \right) \cong 0 \qquad A_{17} \cong 0$$

If a relatively large input differential voltage is present, α can be significantly different from 0.5 and the effect of i_{n7} is no more negligible.

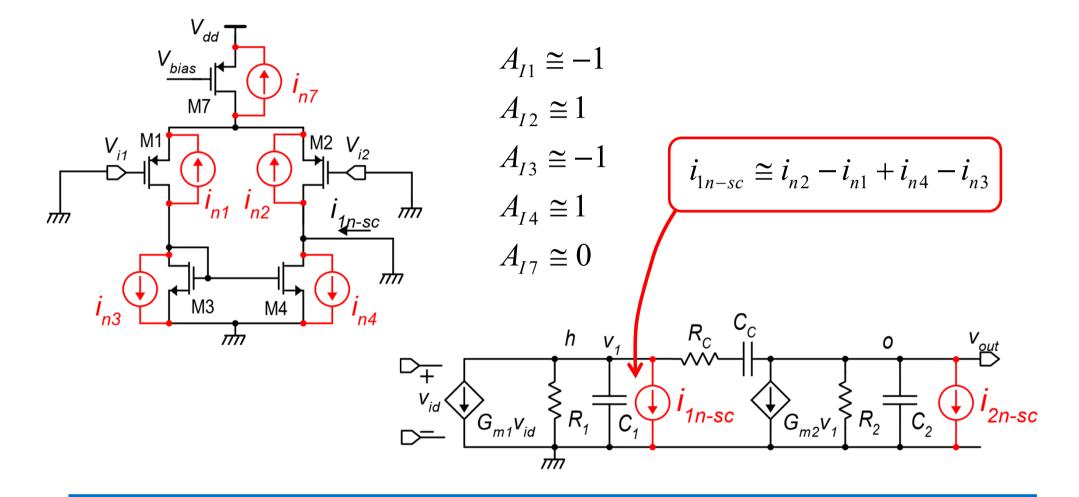
In the following part of this analysis, we will consider α =0.5



we can split them into two sources with a terminal at *gnd*.

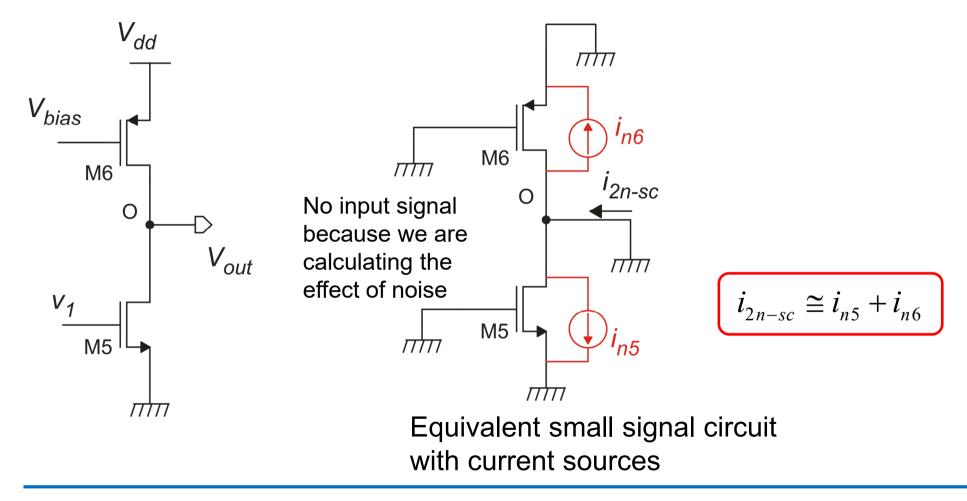
Repeating the procedure for i_{n2} $A_{I2} \cong 1$

Putting all contribution together for the first stage:

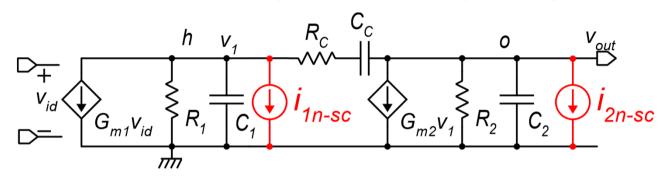


P. Bruschi – Design of Mixed Signal Circuits

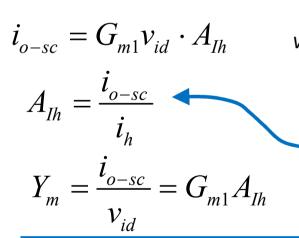
Equivalent output noise current of the second stage

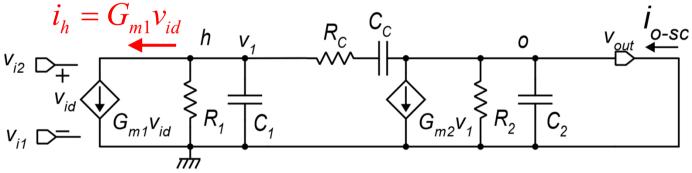


Putting the two stages together

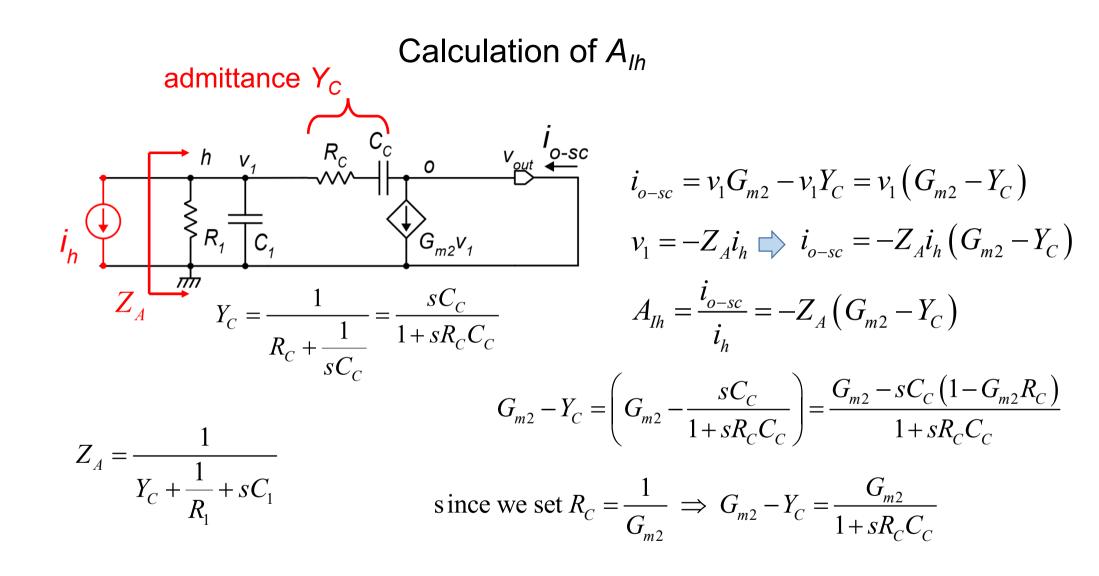


Step 1. Calculate the Y_m of the op-amp





A_{lh} is the transfer function (current gain) from a
current source connected between node h and gnd to the output short circuit current



Calculation of A_{Ih}

$$Z_{A} = \frac{1}{\frac{sC_{C}}{1+sC_{C}R_{C}} + \frac{1}{R_{1}} + sC_{1}}} = \frac{R_{1}(1+sC_{C}R_{C})}{1+s(C_{C}R_{1} + C_{C}R_{C} + C_{1}R_{1}) + s^{2}R_{C}C_{C}R_{1}C_{1}}}$$

$$G_{m2} - Y_{C} = \frac{G_{m2}}{1+sR_{C}C_{C}}$$

$$A_{Ih} = -Z_{A}(G_{m2} - Y_{C}) = \frac{-G_{m2}R_{1}}{1+s(C_{C}R_{1} + C_{C}R_{C} + C_{1}R_{1}) + s^{2}R_{C}C_{C}R_{1}C_{1}}$$

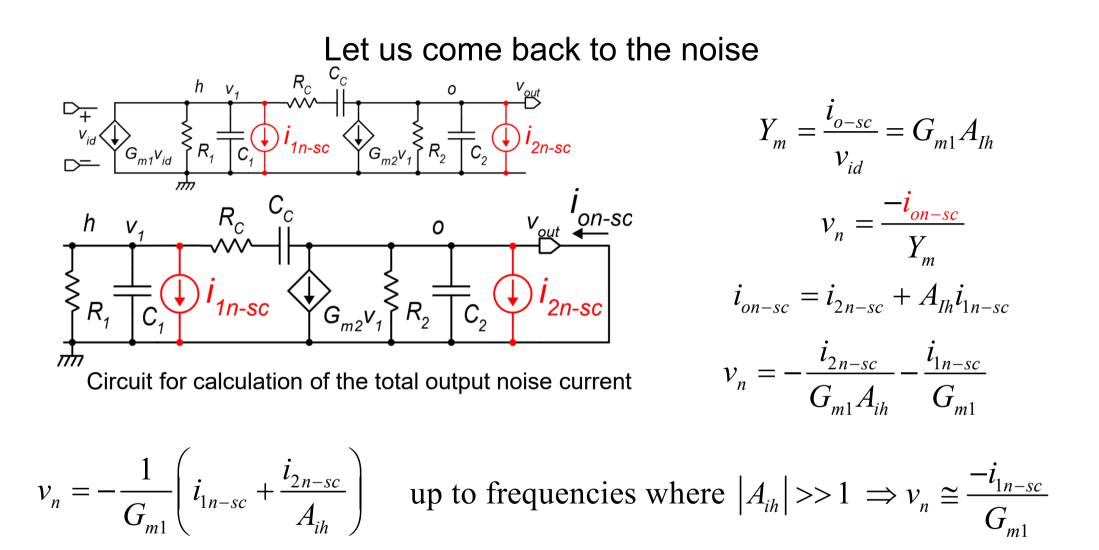
$$dc \text{ value: } A_{Ih}(0) = -G_{m2}R_{1} \qquad |A_{Ih}|_{dB}$$

$$|A_{Ih}(0)| >> 1$$

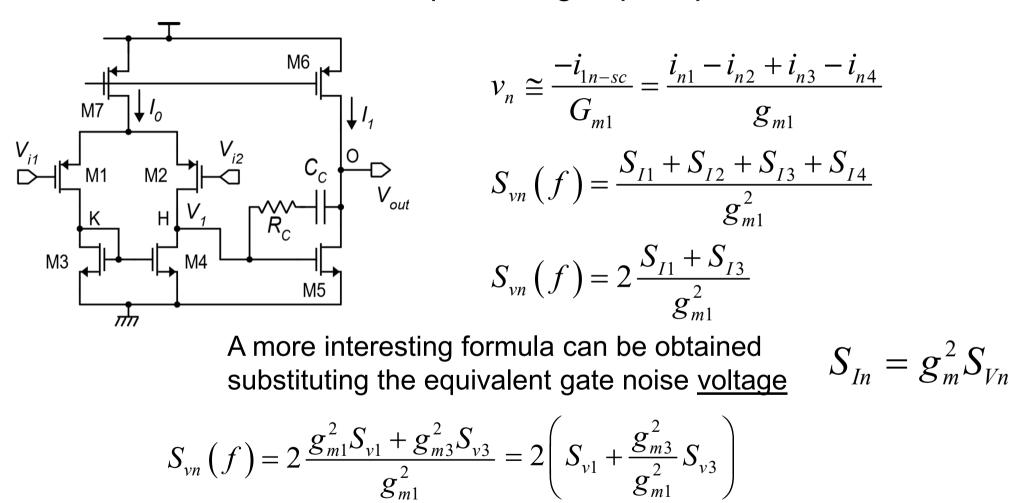
$$qualitative frequency dependence \qquad 0 \text{ dB}$$

$$Q_{B}$$

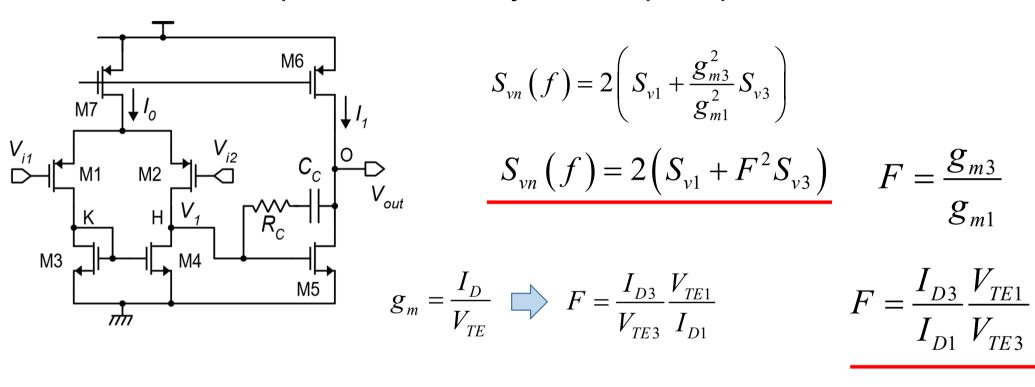
$$A_{Ih} \text{ drops below 1 (0 dB)} = -G_{m2}R_{1} \qquad |A_{Ih}|_{dB}$$



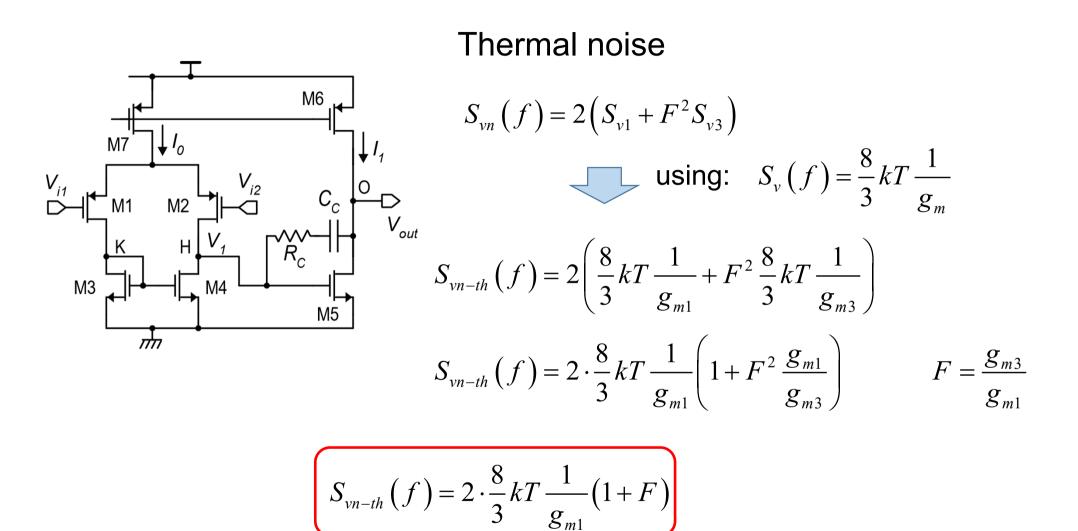
In the simple 2-stage op-amp



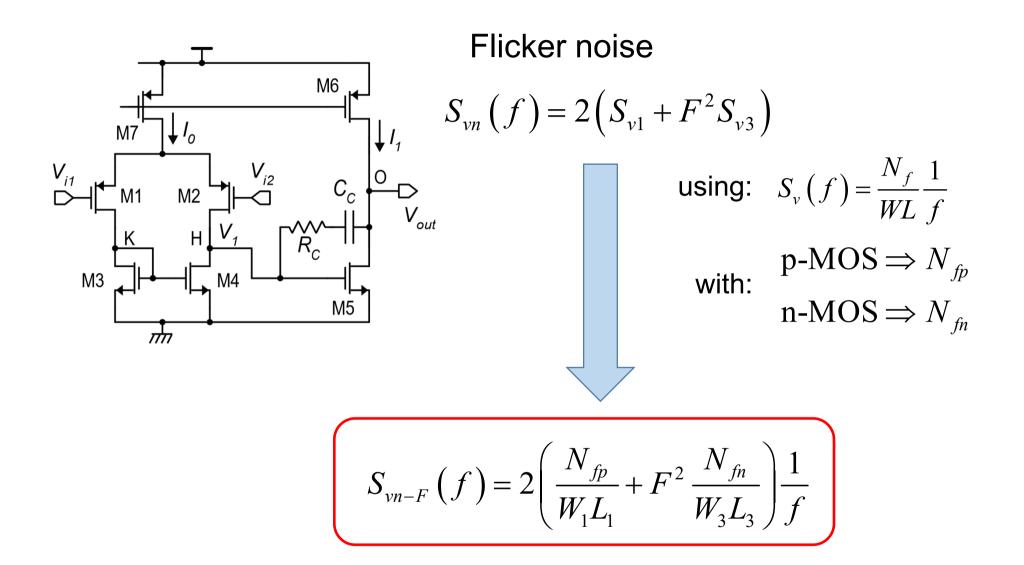
Input noise density of the op-amp



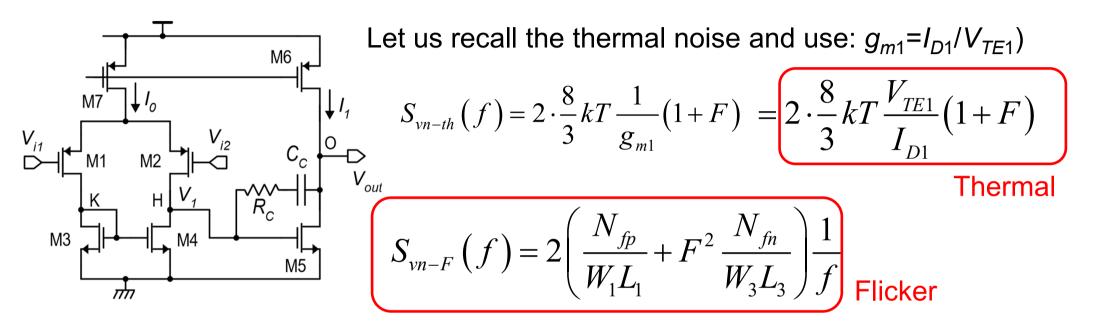
<u>For this amplifier</u> $I_{D3} = I_{D1}$, then: $F = \frac{V_{TE1}}{V_{TE3}}$



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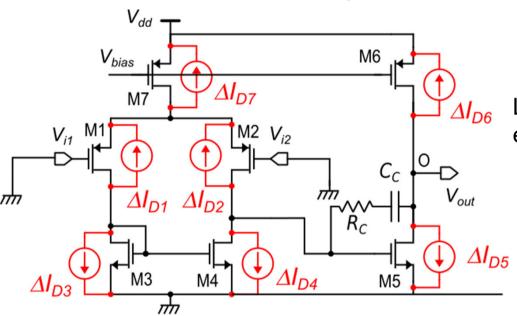


General considerations about the op-amp noise:



- For both the thermal and flicker noise, it is convenient to set F<<1 (V_{TE1} << V_{TE3})
- The larger I_{D1} , the lower the input <u>thermal noise</u> voltage density
- A small V_{TE1} helps obtaining small <u>thermal noise</u> densities with lower current
- A small <u>flicker noise density</u> can be obtained using large M1 and M3 areas

Input offset voltage of the op-amp



Op-amp with the equivalent current sources that takes into account parameter variations $v_n \cong \frac{-i_{1n-sc}}{G_{m1}} = \frac{i_{n1} - i_{n2} + i_{n3} - i_{n4}}{g_{m1}}$ Let us just replace the noise current sources with the equivalent current sources of parameter variations

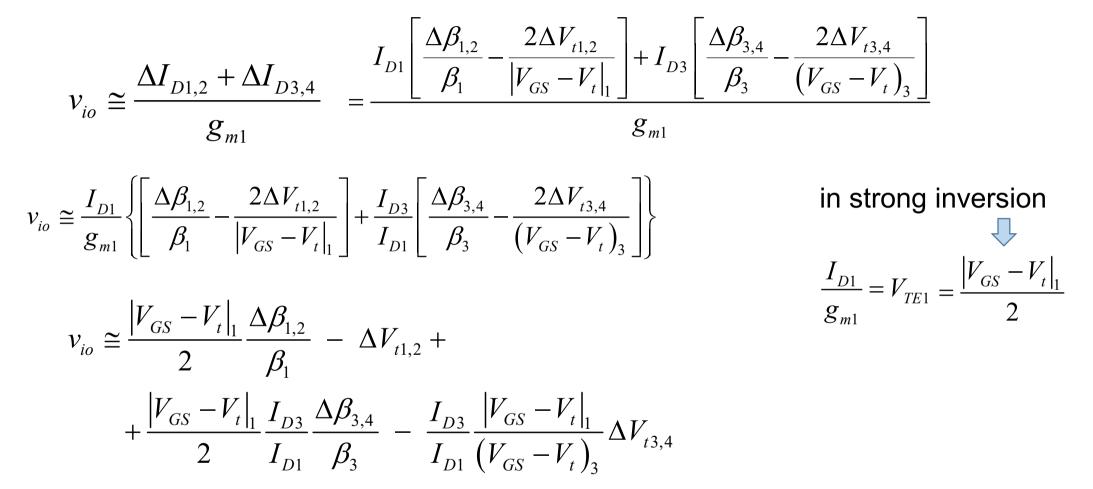
$$v_{io} \cong \frac{\Delta I_{D1} - \Delta I_{D2} + \Delta I_{D3} - \Delta I_{D4}}{g_{m1}}$$

Note that M1,M2 and M3,M4 form pairs of matched devices.

Then, we can group their parameter variation sources into single contributions that contain only matching errors

$$v_{io} \cong \frac{\Delta I_{D1,2} + \Delta I_{D3,4}}{g_{m1}}$$

Input offset voltage of the op-amp



P. Bruschi – Design of Mixed Signal Circuits

Input offset voltage of the op-amp

$$v_{io} \approx \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{2} \frac{\Delta \beta_{1,2}}{\beta_1} - \Delta V_{t1,2} + \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{2} \frac{I_{D3}}{I_{D1}} \frac{\Delta \beta_{3,4}}{\beta_3} - \frac{I_{D3}}{I_{D1}} \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{V_{GS} - V_t}_3 \Delta V_{t3,4}$$

$$F = \frac{g_{m3}}{M_{m3}} - \frac{I_{D3}}{M_{m3}} \frac{V_{TE1}}{M_{m3}} + \frac{V$$

$$F = \frac{S_{m3}}{g_{m1}} = \frac{DS}{I_{D1}} \frac{TE1}{V_{TE3}}$$
 in strong inversion: $V_{TE1} = \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{2}$, $V_{TE3} = \frac{(V_{GS} - V_t)_3}{2}$

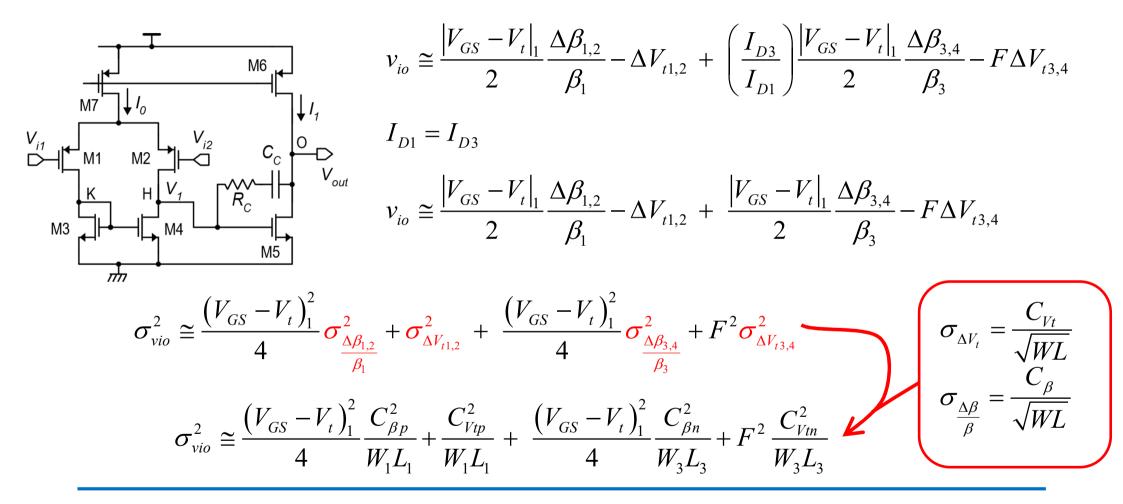
$$v_{io} \cong \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{2} \frac{\Delta \beta_{1,2}}{\beta_1} - \Delta V_{t1,2} + \left(\frac{I_{D3}}{I_{D1}}\right) \frac{|V_{GS} - V_t|_1}{2} \frac{\Delta \beta_{3,4}}{\beta_3} - F \Delta V_{t3,4}$$

Contribution of the input pair devices

Contribution of the mirror devices

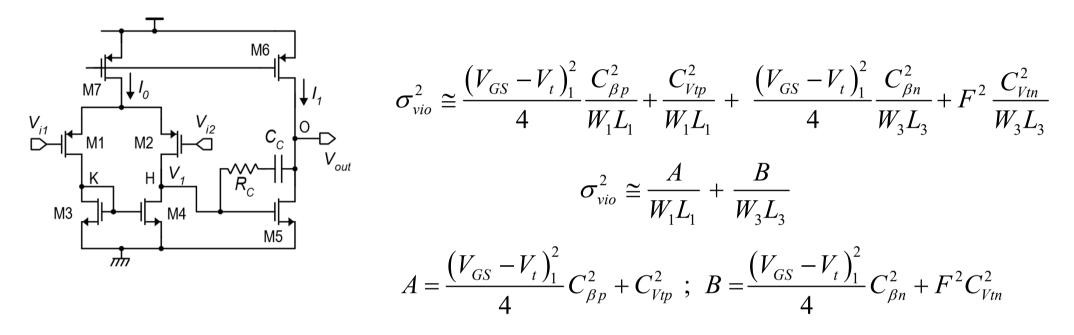
F

Input offset voltage of the op-amp: standard deviation



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Design for input offset voltage



Total gate area of the input pair and mirror:

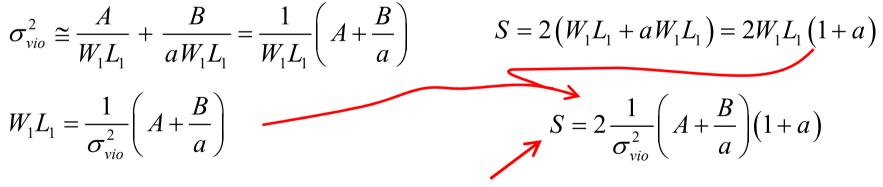
 $S = 2\left(W_1L_1 + W_3L_3\right)$

Offset voltage: area optimization procedure

$$\sigma_{vio}^{2} \cong \frac{A}{W_{1}L_{1}} + \frac{B}{W_{3}L_{3}}$$

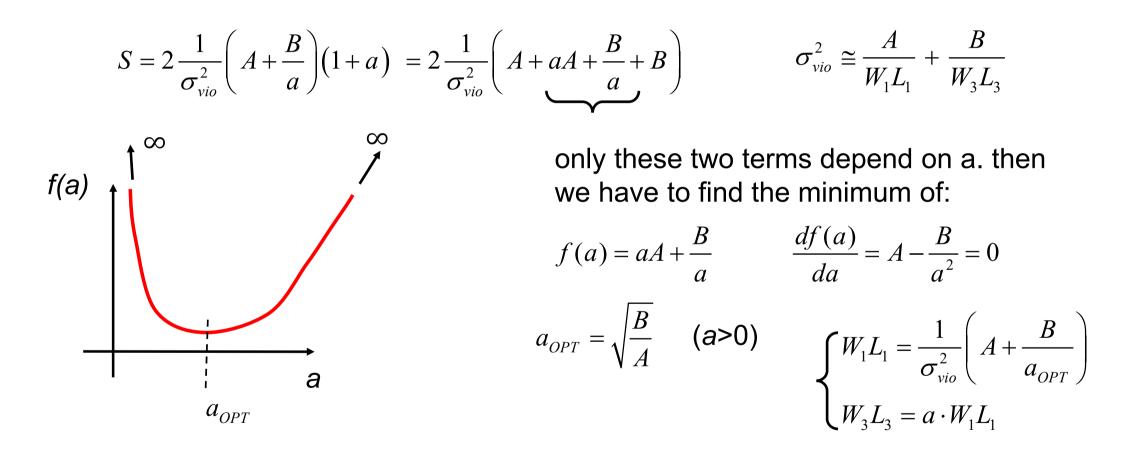
$$W_{3}L_{3} = a \cdot W_{1}L_{1}$$
Example: if *a*=1, we are assigning the same area to the input pair and to the mirror

Optimization problem: find the value of *a* that allows obtaining the required σ_{vio} with the minimum area occupation.



We need to find the minimum of this function of a

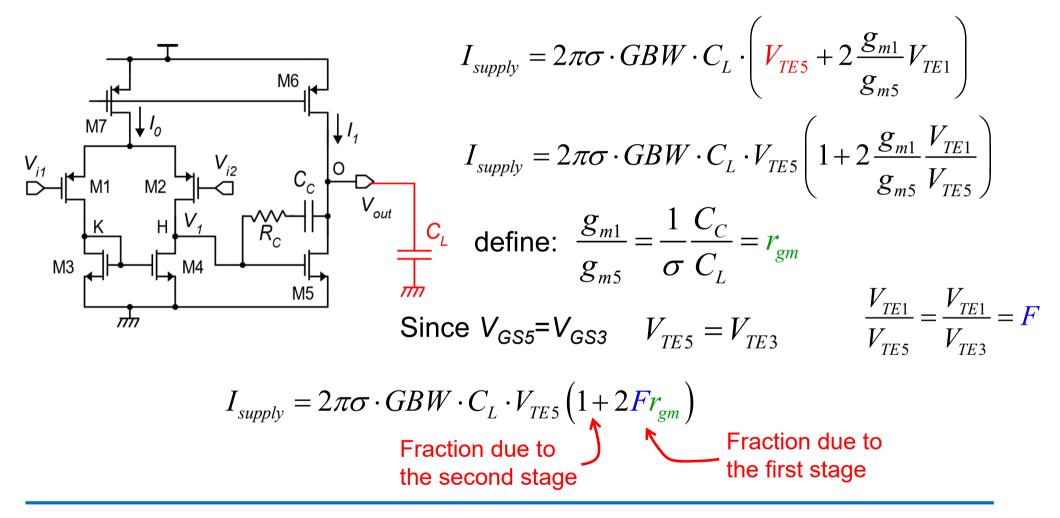
Offset voltage: area optimization procedure



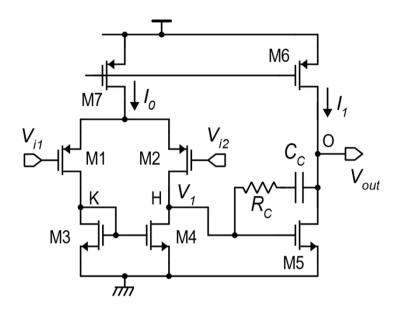
Current consumption of the op-amp

- In this section, we will consider the main factors that affect the current consumption of the operational amplifier.
- We have already found an expression that ties the current consumption with the GBW specification
- Here, we will review that expression, introducing also the role of the "F" parameter that comes from the noise and offset analysis
- After that, we will find an expression of the current consumption that highlights the relationship with the thermal noise specification

GBW and supply current (from the *GBW* and φ_m design procedure)



Current consumption of the op-amp - role of the thermal noise spec



input thermal noise voltage PSD:

If the "dominant" specification is the thermal noise PSD (S_{Vn-th}), we can use a different expression

Let us start again from the general formula:

$$I_{supply} = 2g_{m1}V_{TE1} + g_{m5}V_{TE5}$$
... and consider the expression of the input thermal noise voltage PSD:

$$\frac{8}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{$$

$$S_{vn-th} = 2 \cdot \frac{8}{3} kT \frac{1}{g_{m1}} (1+F) \implies g_{m1} = 2 \cdot \frac{8}{3} kT \frac{1}{S_{vn-th}} (1+F) - \frac{1}{3} kT \frac{1}{S_{vn-t$$

Current consumption of the op-amp

$$I_{supply} = 2g_{m1}V_{TE1} + g_{m5}V_{TE5} = 2g_{m1}V_{TE1}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}\frac{g_{m5}}{g_{m1}}\frac{V_{TE5}}{V_{TE1}}\right) = 2g_{m1}V_{TE1}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2r_{gm}F}\right)$$

$$g_{m1} = 2 \cdot \frac{8}{3}kT\frac{1}{S_{vn-th}}(1+F)$$

$$I_{supply} = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{8}{3}kT\frac{1}{S_{vn-th}}(1+F)V_{TE1}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2r_{gm}F}\right)$$

$$\frac{1}{r_{gm}}\frac{1}{F}$$
Note: F and 1/F appear: an optimum F value can be calculated
Note: $I_{supply} \propto \frac{1}{S_{vn-th}}$

$$I_{supply} = \frac{32}{3}kT(1+F)\frac{V_{TE1}}{S_{vn-th}}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2r_{gm}F}\right)$$
Fraction due to the first stage
Fraction due to the second stage

Examples

Case 1: $GBW = 10 \text{ MHz}, C_{L-\text{max}} = 10 \text{ pF}, \sigma = 3 V_{TE5} = 150 \text{ mV}, V_{TE1} = 50 \text{ mV}, C_C = C_L$

$$F = \frac{V_{TE1}}{V_{TE3}} = \frac{V_{TE1}}{V_{TE5}} = \frac{1}{3} \qquad r_{gm} = \frac{g_{m1}}{g_{m5}} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{C_C}{C_L} = \frac{1}{3} \qquad I_{supply} = 2\pi\sigma \cdot GBW \cdot C_L \cdot V_{TE5} \left(1 + 2Fr_{gm}\right)$$
$$I_{supply} = 2\pi\sigma \cdot GBW \cdot C_L \cdot V_{TE5} \left(1 + \frac{2}{9}\right) = 6.28 \cdot 3 \cdot 10 \times 10^6 \cdot 10 \times 10^{-12} \cdot 0.15 \cdot \frac{11}{9} = 345 \text{ }\mu\text{A}$$

Case 2: as above, but the GBW specification is replaced by noise specs:

$$\sqrt{S_{vn-th}} = 1 \text{ nV} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}} \implies S_{vn-th} = 10^{-18} \text{ V}^2 / \text{Hz}$$

$$I_{supply} = \frac{32}{3} kT (1+F) \frac{V_{TE1}}{S_{vn-th}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2r_{gm}F} \right) = \frac{32}{3} 4 \times 10^{-21} \frac{4}{3} \frac{0.05}{10^{-18}} \left(1 + \frac{9}{2} \right) = 15.6 \text{ mA}$$

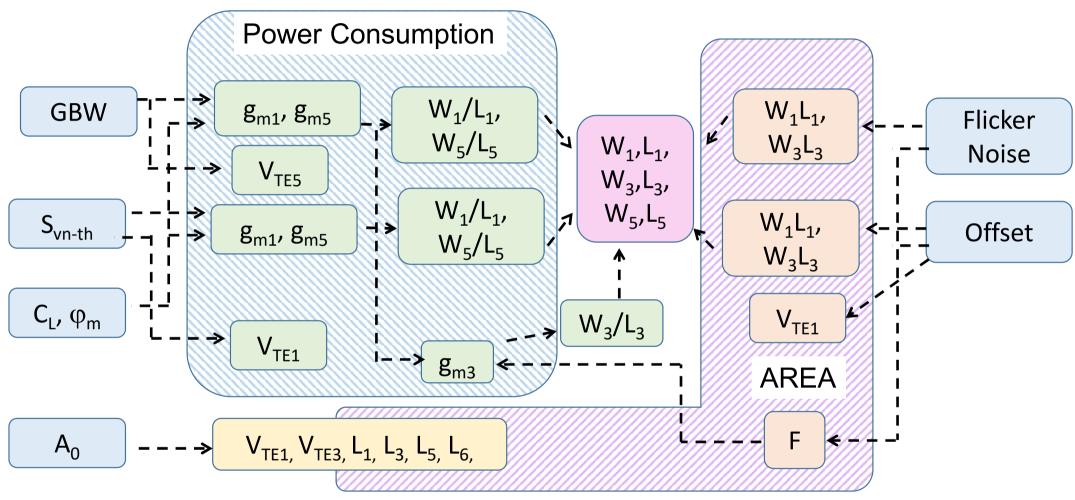
Consistent and contrasting specifications

As we have seen in previous example, the GBW specification and thermal noise density specification are consistent, since for both the following rule holds: the stricter the specification, the higher the required supply-current.

If the design include both specifications, then one of them is likely to be dominant. In the previous example, the noise specification dominates: the minimum supply current required to meet the required noise specification is much larger the current required for the given GBW-C_L combination. Then, if we design the amplifier for the noise density, we certainly meet the GBW requirement.

Other specification pairs are likely to be contrasting: thermal noise and speed are in contrast with the supply current specification. The same can be said about flicker noise and area.

Action of various specifications:



Commercial products: high speed - low thermal noise CMOS op-amp



Burr-Brown Products from Texas Instruments



SBOS271D - MAY 2003 - REVISED JUNE 2007

Low-Noise, High-Speed, 16-Bit Accurate, CMOS OPERATIONAL AMPLIFIER

FEATURES

low power?

- High Bandwidth: 150MHz
 - 16-Bit Settling in 150ns
 - → Low Noise: 3nV/√Hz
 - Low Distortion: 0.003%
 - Low Power: 9.5mA (typ) on 5.5V
 - Shutdown to 5µA
 - Unity-Gain Stable
 - Excellent Output Swing: (V+) - 100mV to (V-) + 100mV
 - Single Supply: +2.7V to +5.5V
 - Tiny Packages: MSOP and SOT23

APPLICATIONS

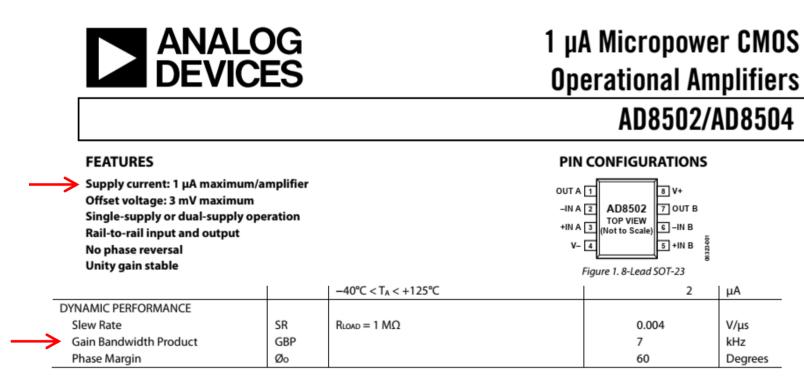
- 16-Bit ADC Input Drivers
- Low-Noise Preamplifiers
- IF/RF Amplifiers
- Active Filtering

DESCRIPTION

The OPA300 and OPA301 series high-speed, voltage-feedback, CMOS operational amplifiers are designed for 16-bit resolution systems. The OPA300/OPA301 series are unity-gain stable and feature excellent settling and harmonic distortion specifications. Low power applications benefit from low quiescent current. The OPA300 and OPA2300 feature a digital shutdown (Enable) function to provide additional power savings during idle periods. Optimized for single-supply operation, the OPA300/OPA301 series offer superior output swing and excellent common-mode range.

The OPA300 and OPA301 series op amps have 150MHz of unity-gain bandwidth, low $3nV/\sqrt{Hz}$ voltage noise, and 0.1% settling within 30ns. Single-supply operation from 2.7V (±1.35V) to 5.5V (±2.75V) and an available shutdown function that reduces supply current to 5µA are useful for portable low-power applications. The OPA300 and OPA301 are available in

Commercial product: low power op-amp



Parameter	Symbol	Conditions	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
NOISE PERFORMANCE						
Peak-to-Peak Noise		0.1 Hz to 10 Hz		6		μV p-p
Voltage Noise Density	en	f = 1 kHz		190		nV/√Hz
Current Noise Density	in	f = 1 kHz		0.1		pA/√Hz