

Electeng 311

Electronics Systems DesignMOSFETs

Seho Kim

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- What is a switch?
- Why MOSFETs?
- MOSFETs overview
- Different MOSFET types
- Characteristic curves
- Breakdown voltage
- Conduction loss
- Switching loss
- Safe operating area
- MOSFET drivers

Learning outcomes



- Understand the operation of an ideal switch.
- Recognise different MOSFET types.
- Understand and be able to explain how MOSFETs turns on and off.
- Understand a MOSFET body diode.
- Able to explain different MOSFET operation regions.
- Calculate simple power loss in a MOSFET and understand absolute temperature ratings.
- Able to interpret a MOSFET datasheet for application requirements.
- Understand the need for a MOSFET driver.



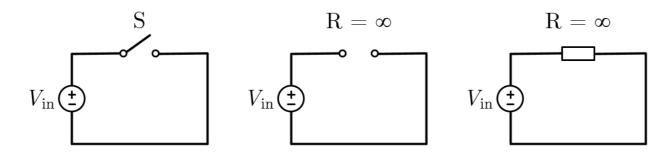
Switches

What is a switch?

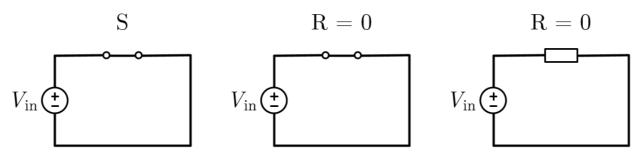
Ideal switch



- Electrical engineering relies on the ability to control the flow of current.
- A switch can 'turn on' to let the current flow.
- A switch can 'turn off' to stop the current flow.



An opened ideal switch acts as an infinite impedance.



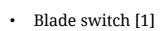
A closed ideal switch acts as a zero impedance.

Different types of switches

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N E W Z E A L A N D

- Switches are used everywhere from light switches to microcontrollers.
- Oldest forms of switches were activated physically.
- Relays energise an electro-magnet to activate.
- Vacuum tubes were regularly used in early to mid 1900s.
- Large, expensive or short lifetime.



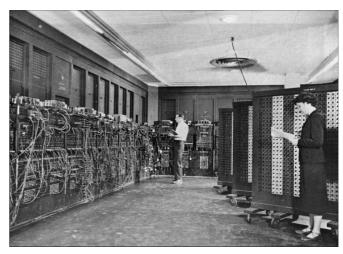




Relay [2]



Vacuum tube [3]

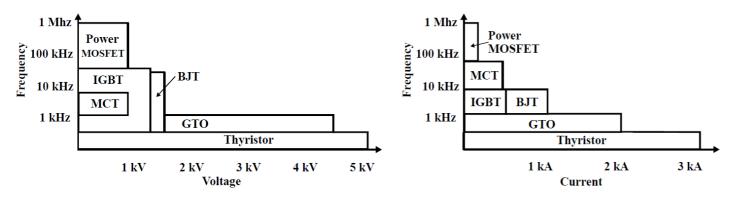


- ENIAC, the first fully electronic general-purpose programmable computer [4]
 - [1] https://electronics.stackexchange.com/questions/199389/knife-blade-on-off-switch-for-an-a-c-circuit
 - [2] https://www.beta.com.tw/products_detail/54.htm
 - [3] https://www.tubesandmore.com/products/vacuum-tube-7025-wa-tube-amp-doctor-high-grade-premium-selected

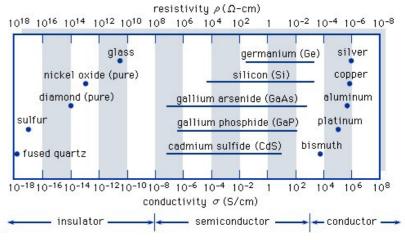
Semiconductors



- The search for cheaper, smaller, efficient switches continued in mid-1900s.
- Semiconductors have conductivity somewhere between a conductor (e.g. copper) and an insulator (e.g. glass).
- Semiconductor switches are considered to be solid-state with no moving parts.
- Different semiconductor devices are suitable for different switching applications breakdown voltage, switching time and efficiency.
- Bipolar junction transistors quite popular several decades ago.



Power semiconductor operating regions [6]



Conductivity of semiconductors [5]



A piece of silicon [7]



A transistor [8]

⁵¹ https://www.britannica.com/science/semiconductor

https://en.wikinedia.org/wiki/Silicon

^[7] Rashid, M. H. (Ed.). (2001). Power electronics handbook

^[8] https://www.jaycar.co.nz/pn100-npn-multi-replacement-transistor/p/ZT2283



MOSFETs

Overview

MOSFETs – Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor



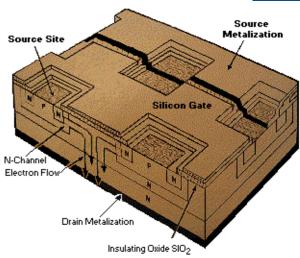
- Commonly used in electronics from CPUs to inverters.
- Micro metres (um) long. Most MOSFET devices are arrays of tiny MOSFET cells.
- · Fast switching.
- Easily controllable.
- Relatively high voltage and current ratings.



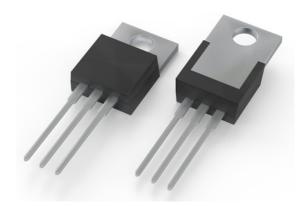




• NAND flash drive [11]



Array of MOSFET cells [9]



• Off the shelf MOSFETs [12]

^{0]} https://www.amd.com/en/products/ryzen-threadripper

Seho Kim, Department of Electrical, Computer, Software, Electronic (2021)

MOSFETs – different types



- Arrow pointing up for N-type. Down for P-type.
- N-type enhancement is often used for switching applications.

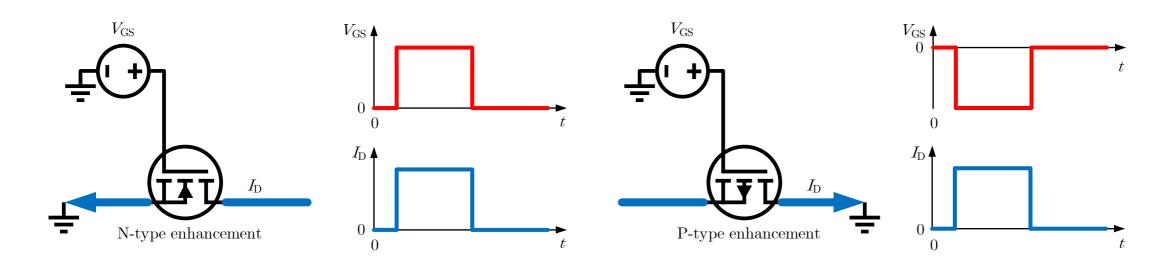
N-type enhancement N-type depletion P-type enhancement P-type depletion Source Source N-type depletion P-type enhancement P-type depletion

MOSFET type	Positive $V_{ m GS}$	$V_{\rm GS}$ = $0{ m V}$	Negative $V_{\rm GS}$
N-type enhancement	ON	OFF	OFF
N-type depletion	ON	ON	OFF
P-type enhancement	OFF	OFF	ON
P-type depletion	OFF	ON	ON

MOSFETs – enhancement mode



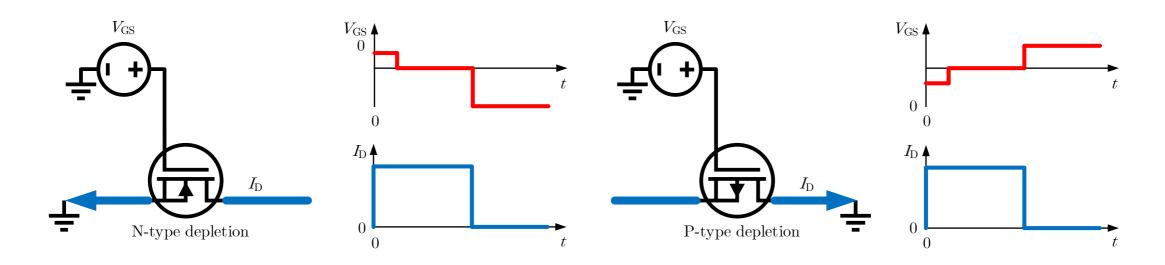
- Two modes of MOSFETS: enhancement and depletion modes.
- Enhancement is the most common.
- Enhancement MOSFETs are nominally turned off. (Naturally turned off when no voltage is applied to the gate)
- N-type enhancement mode **turns on** with **positive voltage** at the gate.
- P-type enhancement mode **turns on** with **negative voltage** at the gate.



MOSFETs – depletion mode



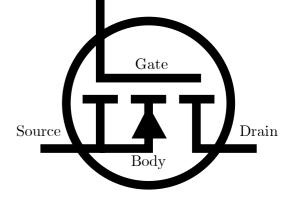
- Depletion MOSFETs are nominally turned on.
- Note that depletion mode MOSFETs can also go into enhancement mode.
- A depletion MOSFET turns on if no voltage applied at the gate or enhancement condition is met.
- N-type depletion mode **turns on** with **positive voltage or no voltage** at the gate.
- P-type depletion mode **turns on** with **negative voltage or no voltage** at the gate.

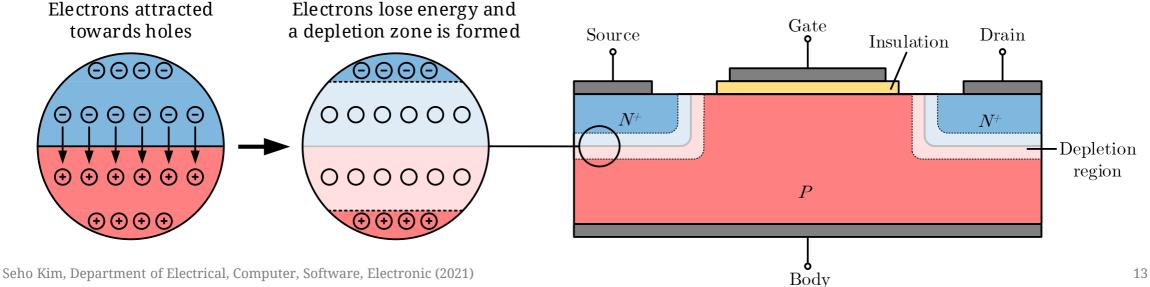


MOSFETs – N-type enhancement structure



- N-type enhancement MOSFET has two N regions at the source and drain with a P region in between.
- P-N junctions: lots of electrons on one side and lots of holes on the other side.
- Electrons are naturally attracted to holes.
- Once electrons reach the holes in a P-N junction, their energy to move is 'depleted'.
- This forms depletion zones in the middle of P-N junctions.
- At rest, no electron can flow from the source to drain of the MOSFET.

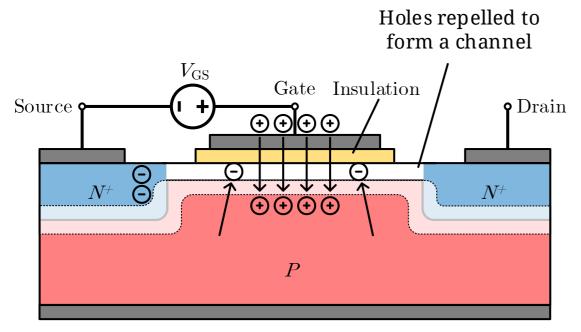


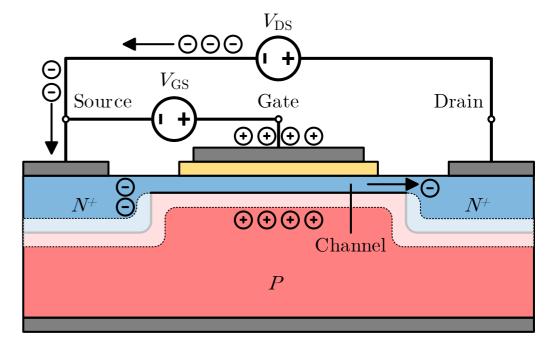


MOSFETs – N-type enhancement structure



- Positive voltage applied to the gate 'repels' the holes near the gate, while electrons move towards the gate.
- This forms a channel between the source and the drain.
- When an external voltage source is applied, electrons can freely flow from the source to the drain through the channel.
- Note that conventional current flows from the drain to the source.

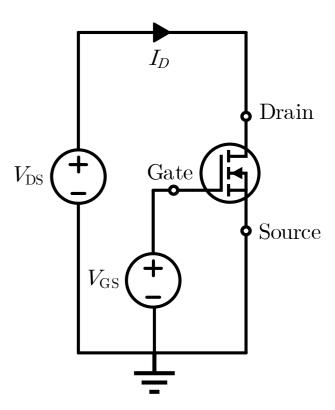




MOSFETs – overview



- Today, MOSFETs are predominantly used to process information and power.
- N-type and P-type MOSFETs.
- Enhancement and depletion modes.
- Electrons always move towards holes.
- P-N junctions and depletion zone.
- N-type enhancement most commonly used for switching purposes.
- Positive voltage to the gate to turn on the N-type MOSFET.



An example N-type enhancement MOSFET circuit



MOSFETs

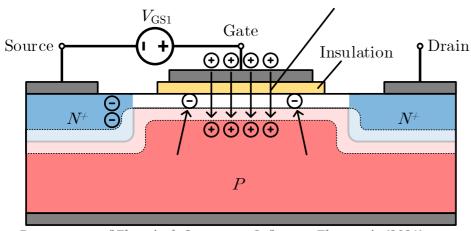
Characteristics

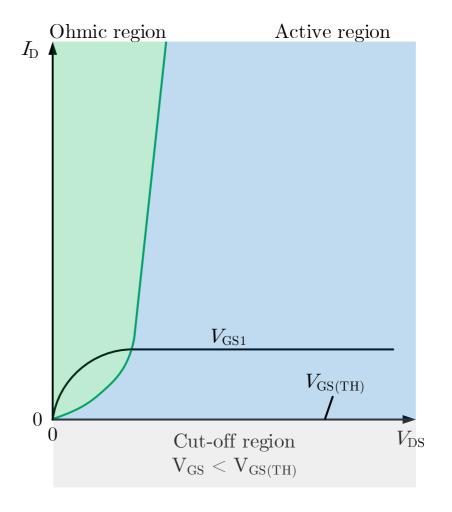
MOSFETs – operating regions



- A sufficient amount of charge is needed at the gate to form a channel between the source and drain.
- Gate threshold voltage ($V_{GS(TH)}$) is the minimum voltage required to turn the MOSFET on.
- Cut-off region when $V_{GS} \leq V_{GS(TH)}$.
- Ohmic region when V_{DS} increases proportionally to I_{D} .
- Active region when I_D and V_{DS} are independent of each other.

Electric field has to be stronger than the threshold to form a channel.

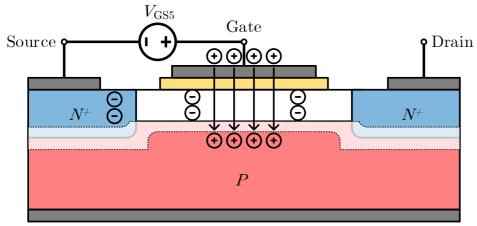


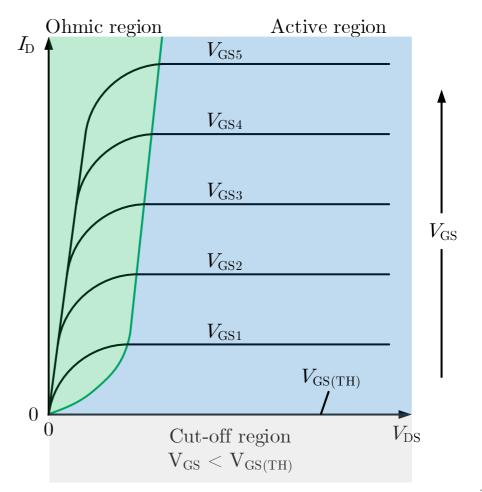


MOSFETs – operating regions



- As a switch, the MOSFET should pass as much current as possible when turned on.
- Larger V_{GS} results in more charge accumulating at the gate to generate a stronger electric field.
- The stronger the electric field, the larger the channel.
- Large channels allow for higher current to flow within the switch (I_D) .
- The control of current flow using the electric field is called "field-effect".





MOSFET - FQP13N10



- The MOSFET used in this project is <u>FQP13N10</u>.
- The datasheet can be referred to find the $V_{\rm GS(TH)}$ and different operating regions of the MOSFET.
- In this MOSFET, the maximum current (I_D) of 12.8A flows when V_{GS} is at least 15V.
- For a short amount of time, a much higher I_D can be pulsed.
- Note the operating regions are drawn in log scale.

Absolute Maximum Ratings T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.

Symbol		Parameter		FQP13N10	Unit
I _D	Drain Current	- Continuous (T _C = 25	5°C)	12.8	Α
		- Continuous (T_C = 10	00°C)	9.05	A
I _{DM}	Drain Current	- Pulsed	(Note 1)	51.2	Α
V _{GSS}	Gate-Source Vol	tage		± 25	V

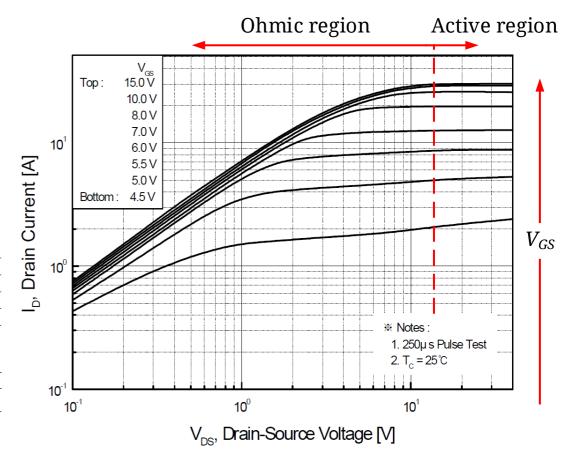
Electrical Characteristics To

T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted

Symbol	Parameter	Test Conditions		Тур	Max	Unit
On Cha	On Characteristics					
V _{GS(th)}	Gate Threshold Voltage	$V_{DS} = V_{GS}, I_{D} = 250 \mu A$	2.0		4.0	V

Notes:

- 1. Repetitive Rating: Pulse width limited by maximum junction temperature.
 - *I*_D and *V*_{GS} characteristics from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]

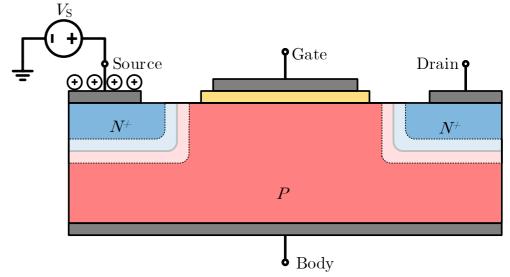


On-region characteristics from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]

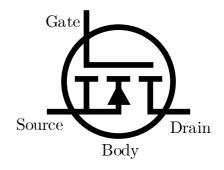
MOSFETs – body and source



- The source and body are tied together for MOSFETS used for switching large currents.
- If voltage potential in the source is higher than the body, the depletion region increases and $V_{\rm GS(TH)}$ increases.
- If the MOSFET operates at a fixed V_{GS} , the maximum current through the drain (I_D) is reduced due to a higher $V_{GS(TH)}$.
- In order to ensure I_D stays at the maximum level, the source and the body are tied together.
- Often the symbols will indicate hat the source and body are tied together so there are only three terminals in the MOSFET instead of four.



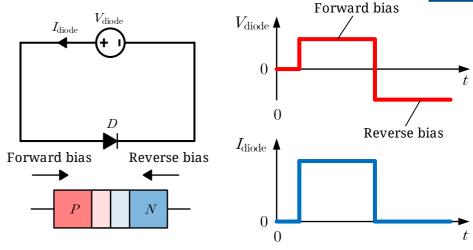
N-type enhancement



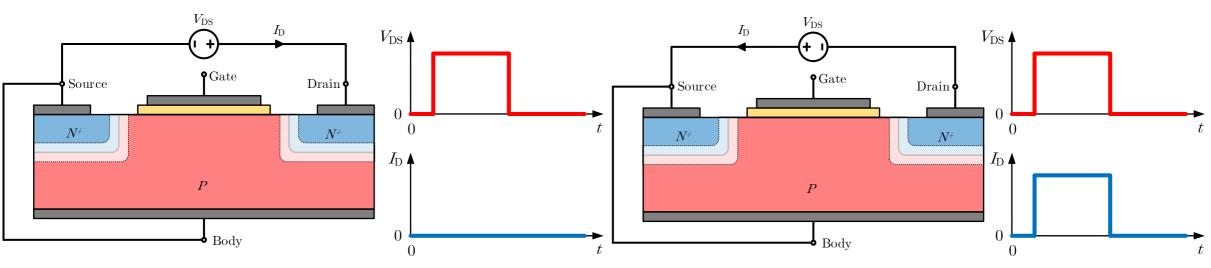
MOSFETs – body diode

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- When the MOSFET is forward biased, no current flows without positive voltage on the gate.
- When the MOSFET is reverse biased, current flows without any voltage to the gate.
- This one directional current flow acts like a diode so it is called a 'body diode'.



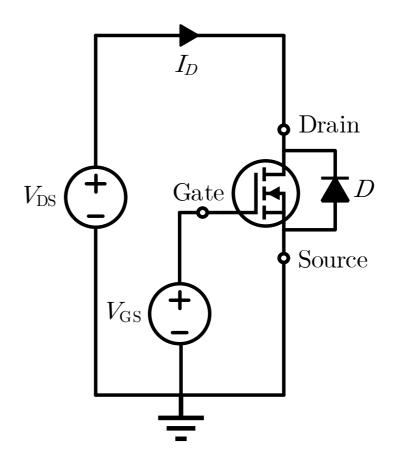
· Operation of a diode



MOSFETs – body diode



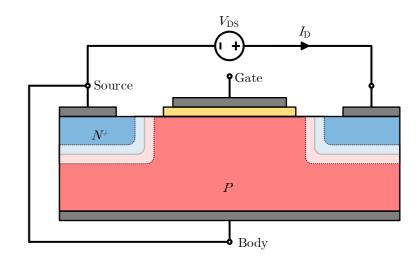
• MOSFET body diode is often drawn in the diagrams to include the current flow in the reverse direction.



MOSFETs – breakdown voltages



- The maximum voltage that can be applied to the switch across the drain and source (V_{DSS}) is listed in the absolute maximum ratings as 100V for FQP13N10.
- If $V_{\rm DSS(MAX)} > 100$ V, the MOSFET shorts across the drain and source so current flows freely and the MOSFET does not work like a switch.
- The <u>drain source breakdown voltage</u> (BV_{DSS}) is also listed in the off-characteristics to show the maximum rating of the switch again.
- Usually, switches are chosen to operate well within the absolute maximum ratings. In actual circuits, transients in the system cause voltage spikes that may exceed the calculated voltages for the switches.
- As a rule of thumb, select switches that has a breakdown voltage at least 30% higher than the maximum voltage stress.



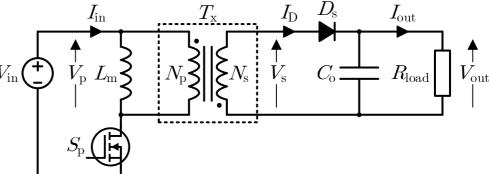
Symbol	Parameter		FQP13N ²	0		Unit	
V _{DSS}	Drain-Source Voltage		100			V	
Electrica	al Characteristics To = 25°C unle	ss otherwise noted.					
Symbol	Parameter	Test Condition	ons Min	Тур	Max	Uni	

• Breakdown voltages from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]

MOSFETs – example flyback converter



- Example flyback converter parameters:
- Input voltage (V_{in}): 30V
- Output voltage (V_{out}): 30V
- Turns ratio $(\frac{N_p}{N_s})$: 1
- Operating frequency: 100kHz
- Duty cycle: 0.5
- MOSFET maximum voltage: 100V
- Coupling factor = 1
- Discontinuous conduction mode



MOSFETs – switch voltage

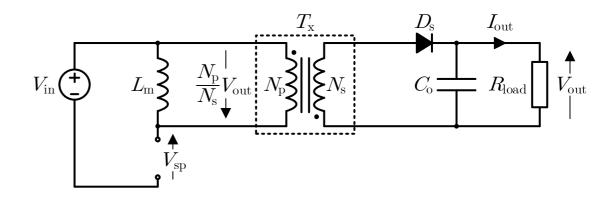


- When the switch is off, the switch sees the input voltage (V_{in}) and output voltage (V_{out}) .
- Output voltage on the secondary is kept up by the capacitor. Secondary voltage is reflected to the primary by the turns ratio $\binom{N_p}{N_s}$.
- Switch voltage is given by:

•
$$V_{\rm sp(max)} = V_{\rm in} + \frac{N_{\rm p}}{N_{\rm s}} V_{\rm out}$$

•
$$V_{\text{sp(max)}} = 30 + 1 \times 30 = 60\text{V}$$

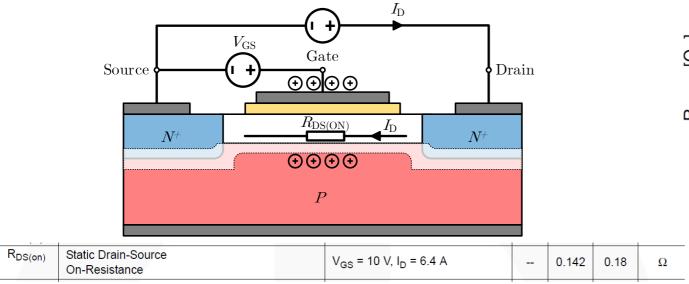
- FQP13N10 has absolute maximum rating of 100V across the switch.
- Check the simulations for any transients above 100V.

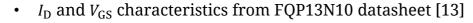


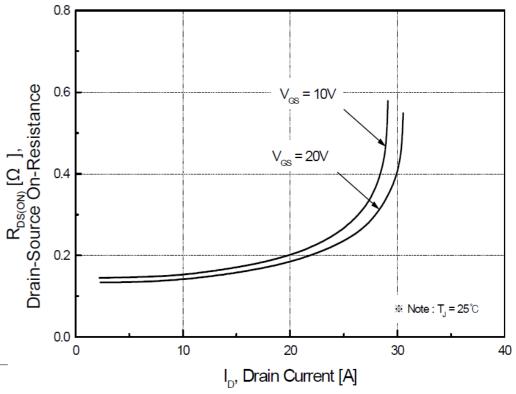
MOSFETs – on-characteristics



- On-resistance $(R_{DS(ON)})$ includes all resistances in the MOSFET in the path of current flow.
- A higher V_{GS} provides a wider channel to reduce $R_{DS(ON)}$.
- A trade-off between shorter channel length reducing $R_{\rm DS(ON)}$ and longer channel lengths improving breakdown voltage.







On-region characteristics from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]

MOSFETs – conduction loss



- Switch RMS current is given by:
- $I_{\text{sw,rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t_s} \int_0^{t_s} I^2(t) dt}$
- Here, when switch is conducting:

•
$$I(t) = \frac{I_{\text{sw,peak}}}{Dt_{\text{s}}} t$$

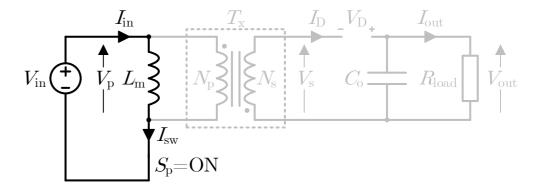
•
$$I_{\text{sw,rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t_s} \int_0^{Dt_s} \frac{I_{\text{sw,peak}}^2 t^2}{D^2 t_s^2} dt} = \frac{I_{\text{sw,peak}}^2 D^3 t_s^3}{3D^2 t_s^3} = \sqrt{\frac{D}{3}} I_{\text{sw,peak}}$$

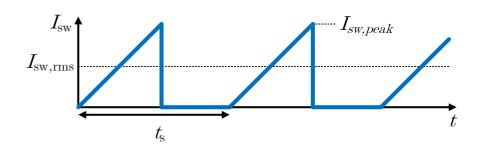
•
$$I_{\text{sw,rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{D}{3}} I_{\text{sw,peak}}$$

• In this example, $I_{\text{sw,peak}} = 4A$ and $R_{\text{ds,on}} = 0.142 \text{m}\Omega$.

•
$$I_{\text{sw,rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.5}{3}} \times 4 = 1.63 \text{A}$$

- Conduction loss is given by:
- $P_{\text{cond}} = I_{\text{sw,rms}}^2 R_{\text{ds,on}}$
- $P_{\text{cond}} = 1.63^2 \times 0.142 = 377 \text{mW}$



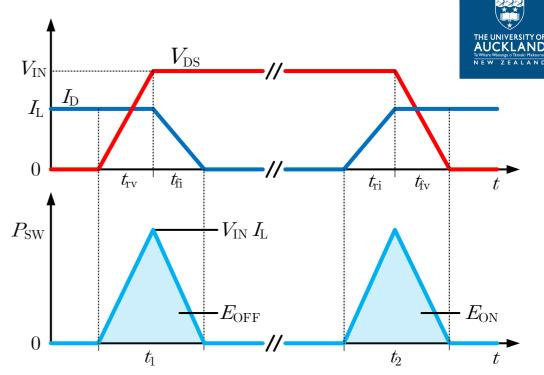


R _{DS(on)}	Static Drain-Source On-Resistance	V _{GS} = 10 V, I _D = 6.4 A	 0.142	0.18	Ω

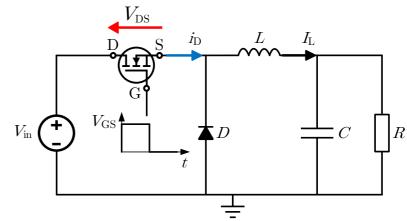
On-resistance from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]

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- Switching losses (P_{sw}) is the power lost when the MOSFET turns on or off.
- A very simplified example is shown here.
- Energy lost $(E) = \frac{1}{2} V_{in} I_L (t_{rv} + t_{fi}) + \frac{1}{2} V_{in} I_L (t_{ri} + t_{fv})$
- Energy lost $(E) = E_{ON} + E_{OFF}$
- Switching loss $(P_{SW}) = \frac{1}{T} E_{TOTAL} = (E_{ON} + E_{OFF}) f$
- Assume $t_{rv} = t_{fi}$ and $t_{ri} = t_{fv}$
- $\therefore P_{SW} = (V_{in}I_{L}t_{fi} + V_{in}I_{L}t_{ri})f$



• Example switching waveforms when MOSFET turns on or off

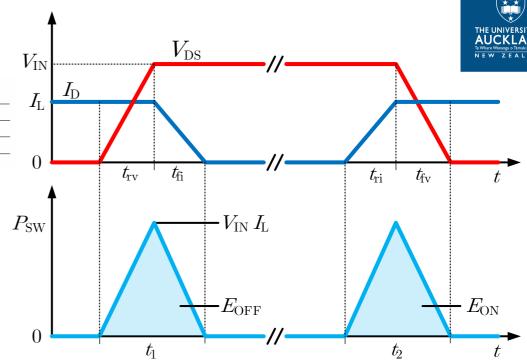


An example circuit using a MOSFET

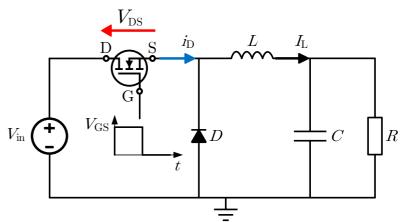
Switching Characteristics

t _{d(on)}	Turn-On Delay Time	V _{DD} = 50 V, I _D = 12.8 A,	 5	20	ns
t _r	Turn-On Rise Time	$R_G = 25 \Omega$	 55	120	ns
t _{d(off)}	Turn-Off Delay Time	G a	 20	50	ns
t _f	Turn-Off Fall Time	(Note 4)	 25	60	ns

- Switching characteristics from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]
- In this example, $V_{\text{in}} = 30\text{V}$, $I_{\text{sw,peak}} = 4\text{A}$ and f = 100kHz.
- $t_{ri} = t_{fv} = 55$ ns
- $t_{fi} = t_{rv} = 25$ ns
- $P_{SW} = (V_{in}I_Lt_{fi} + V_{in}I_Lt_{ri})f$
- $P_{SW} = (30 \times 4 \times 55n + 30 \times 4 \times 25n)100k$
- $P_{SW} = 960 \text{mW}$
- Switching losses tend to be much higher than conduction losses.
- Switching losses are proportional to switching frequency.
- Note that in the flyback converter operating in discontinuous conduction mode, the current is 0A at turn on.



Example switching waveforms when MOSFET turns on or off



An example circuit using a MOSFET

MOSFETs – thermal characteristics

- As the temperature of the MOSFET increases, $R_{\rm DS(ON)}$ also increases that leads to higher power loss.
- The capacity of the MOSFET to handle $I_{\rm D}$ also reduces as the temperature increases.
- Care should be taken to not exceed the maximum junction temperature of 175C as listed in the datasheet for FQP13N10.

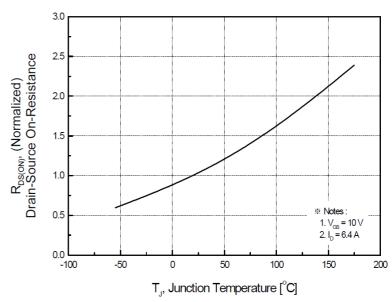
Thermal Characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	FQP13N10	Unit
$R_{\theta JC}$	Thermal Resistance, Junction-to-Case, Max.	2.31	°C/W
$R_{\theta JA}$	Thermal Resistance, Junction-to-Ambient, Max.	62.5	°C/W

- Thermal resistance from FQP13N10 datasheet [13]
- Given the information in the datasheet, the maximum power dissipation in the MOSFET can be estimated.
- For ambient temperature of 25C:

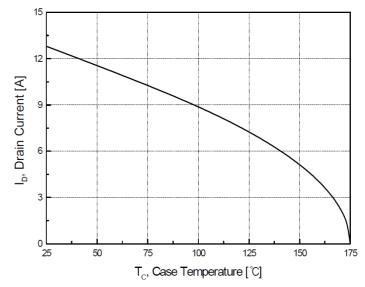
•
$$\frac{1}{R_{\theta IA}}(T_{\text{junction}} - T_{\text{ambient}}) = P_{\text{MAX}}$$

•
$$P_{\text{MAX}} = \frac{1}{62.5} (175 - 25) = 2.4 \text{W}$$





• On-resistance variation against temperature [13]

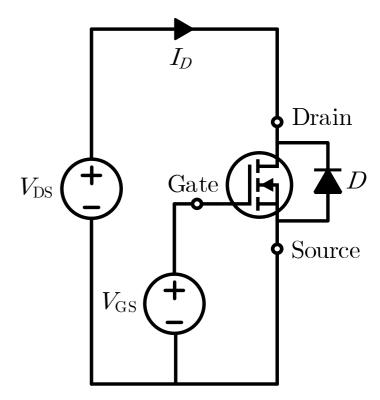


Maximum drain current against temperature

MOSFETs – summary



- Different operating regions Ohmic, active and cut-off.
- Source to body connection and body diode.
- Breakdown voltages: 100V for FQP13N10.
- Conduction losses: $P_{\text{cond}} = I_{\text{sw,rms}}^2 R_{\text{ds,on}}$.
- $R_{ds,on}$ decreased when V_{GS} is higher.
- Usually a trade-off between breakdown voltages and $R_{ds,on}$.
- Switching losses: $P_{SW} = (E_{ON} + E_{OFF})f = P_{SW} = (V_{in}I_Lt_{fi} + V_{in}I_Lt_{ri})f$
- Maximum junction temperature: 175°C for FQP13N10.



• An example N-type enhancement MOSFET circuit

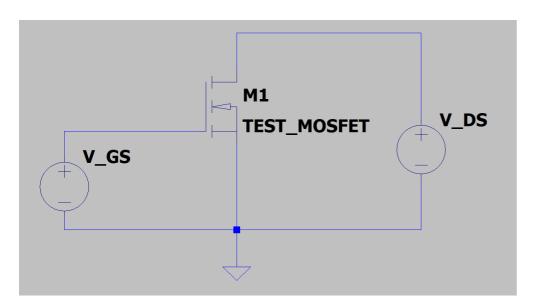


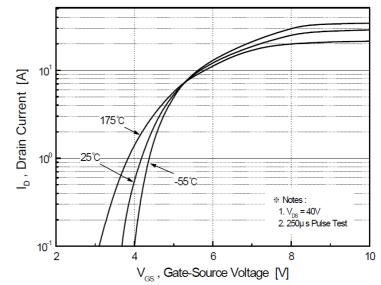
MOSFETs

Drivers and simulation examples

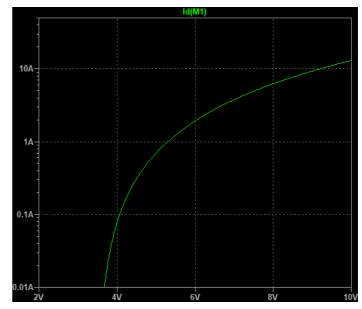
MOSFETs – simulation model

- A simple MOSFET model can be made on LTSpice to approximate the operation.
- More accurate simulation models quickly get much more complicated and involves a lot of empirical data.
- For the purposes of this course, the simulation model can be downloaded from [14].





Transfer characteristics [13]



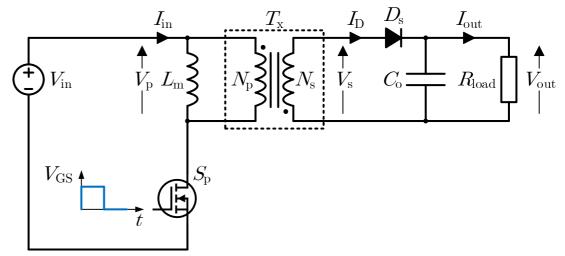
Simulation of a simple MOSFET model

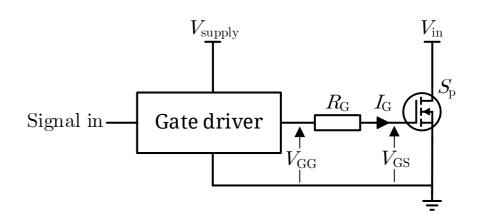


MOSFETs – drivers



- Generally, a separate circuit called **MOSFET drivers** are used to turn MOSFETs on and off.
- MOSFET drivers are specifically designed to achieve high voltage across the gate and source (V_{GS}) and current into the gate (I_G) that may not be achievable by using a standard controller circuit.
- MOSFET driver is needed to:
 - Achieve high V_{GS} to increase I_D flow through the switch as shown before in the characteristics curve.
 - High V_{GS} helps to improve the conduction loss as $R_{DS(ON)}$ is reduced.
 - Achieve high current into the gate (I_G) helps to charge the gate faster for to enable higher switching frequency.
 - Faster switching times helps to reduce switching losses.
- MOSFET driver can be considered as a 'power amplifier' for the gate.





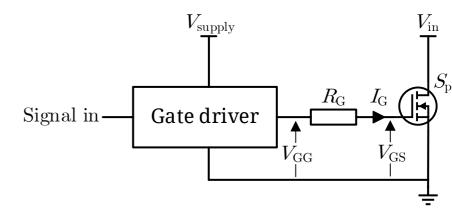
MOSFETs - UC3843 driver



- The MOSFET is driven by UC3843 chip in this project.
- Ideally, there would be no gate resistance from the MOSFET driver to the gate of the MOSFET.
- Sometimes, the switching is too fast and needs to be slowed down to reduce transients (overshoots and ringing) caused by parasitics that could damage the circuit.
- Gate resistance can be approximated by:

•
$$R_{\rm G} = \frac{V_{\rm GG}}{I_{\rm G}}$$

- If $V_{GG} = 15V$ and $I_{G} = 1A$,
- $R_{\rm G} = \frac{15}{1} = 15\Omega$
- Here, 1A is from the UC3843 datasheet.
- In the practical circuit, the value may require some adjustment as parasitics are difficult to predict.



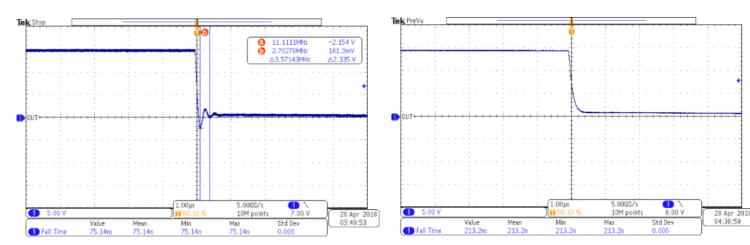


Figure 4. External Gate Resistor $R_{GATE} = 0-\Omega$

Figure 5. Critically Damped External Gate Resistor $R_{GATE} = 7-\Omega$

Scope measurements of a MOSFET with and without gate resistance.





Appendix

MOSFETs – safe operating area



• Maximum voltage and current defined in the datasheet as 100V and 51.2A (pulsed).

Absolute Maximum Ratings T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.

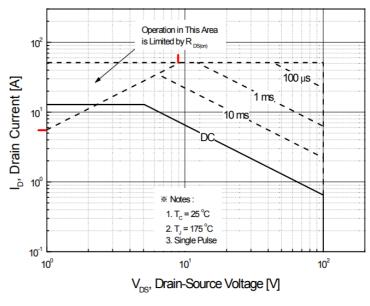
Symbol		Parameter		FQP13N10	Unit
V _{DSS}	Drain-Source Vol	Itage		100	V
I _D	Drain Current	- Continuous (T _C = 25	°C)	12.8	Α
	A	- Continuous (T _C = 10	0°C)	9.05	Α
I _{DM}	Drain Current	- Pulsed	(Note 1)	51.2	Α

Electrical Characteristics

C = 25°C unless otherwise noted

Symbol	Parameter	Test Conditions	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
On Cha	On Characteristics					
R _{DS(on)}	Static Drain-Source On-Resistance	V _{GS} = 10 V, I _D = 6.4 A		0.142	0.18	Ω

- Operation is limited by the maximum $R_{DS(on)}$.
- At $V_{\rm DS} = 1$ V, $I_{\rm D} = \frac{V_{\rm DS}}{R_{\rm DS(on),max}} = \frac{1}{0.18} = 5.56$ A
- At $I_D = 51.2$ A, $V_{DS} = I_D R_{DS(on),max} = 51.2 \times 0.18 = 9.22$ V
- Switch can only operate within the region bound by these two points.



Maximum safe operating area [13]

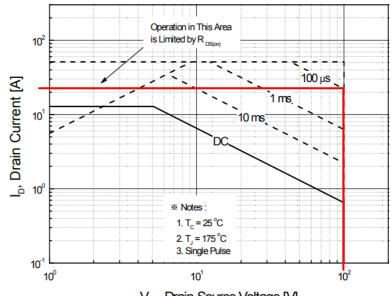
• On-resistance variation vs temperature [13]

MOSFETs – safe operating area

- According to the datasheet: $T_{j(max)} T_c = P_{D(max)} \times Z_{\theta jc}$
- Here, $P_{D(max)}$ is the power loss during the pulse and $Z_{\theta jc}$ is the thermal response in °C/W.
- For example, a single pulse of 100 μ s has $Z_{\theta ic} \approx 0.07$ °C/W.
- If $V_{\rm DS} = 100 \text{V}$, what is the maximum pulse current?
- $T_{j(max)} = 175$ °C and $T_{c} = 25$ °C
- $175 25 = 100 \times I_D \times 0.07$
- $\frac{150}{100 \times 0.07} = 21.4$ A

Absolute Maximum Ratings T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted

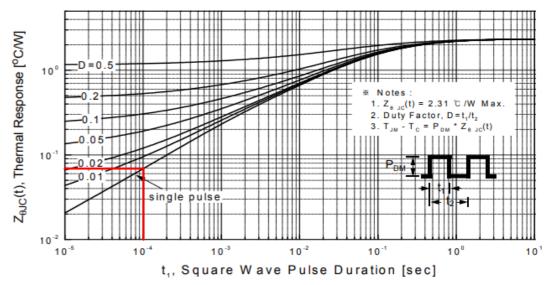
Symbol	Parameter	FQP13N10	Unit
P _D	Power Dissipation (T _C = 25°C)	65	W
	- Derate above 25°C	0.43	W/°C
T _J , T _{STG}	Operating and Storage Temperature Range	-55 to +175	°C





V_{DS}, Drain-Source Voltage [V]

• Maximum safe operating area [13]



Transient thermal response curve [13]

MOSFETs – safe operating area

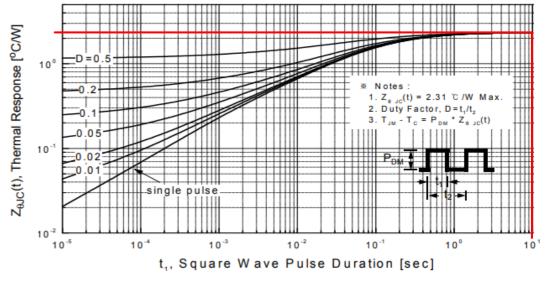


- When duty cycle is increased, $Z_{\theta jc}$ is higher so P_D gets smaller.
- At the other end of the spectrum, if D = 0.5 and pulse is 10 s long: $Z_{\theta \text{jc}(\text{max})} = 2.31 \, ^{\circ}\text{C/W}$
- $175 25 = P_{D(max)} \times 2.31$
- $\therefore P_{D(max)} = 65.0W$

Absolute Maximum Ratings T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.

Symbol	Parameter	FQP13N10	Unit
P _D	Power Dissipation (T _C = 25°C)	65	W
	- Derate above 25°C	0.43	W/°C
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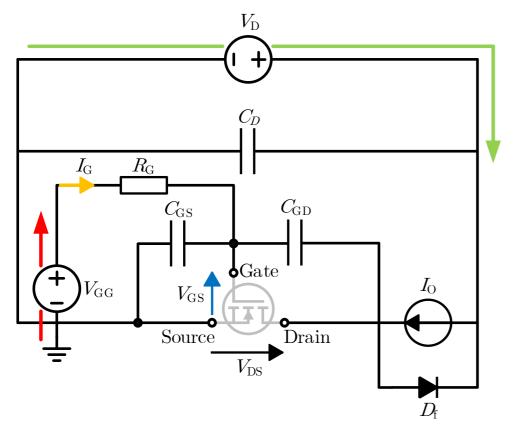
• The datasheet numbers here assume $T_{\rm c}$ stays constant at 25°C. $Z_{\rm \theta jc}$ will change in real life scenarios as $T_{\rm c}$ changes.

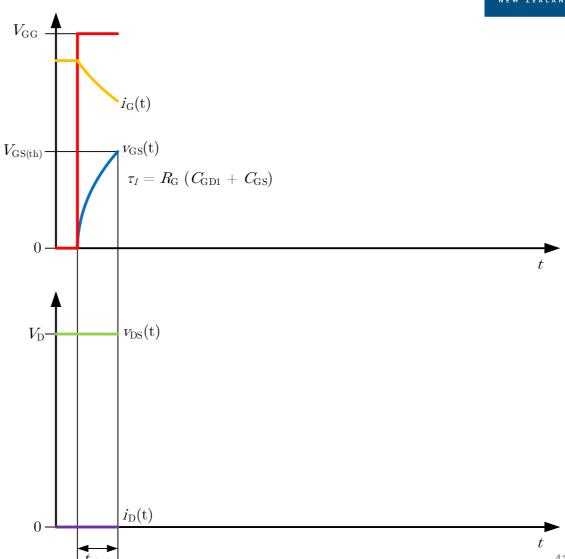


• Transient thermal response curve [13]

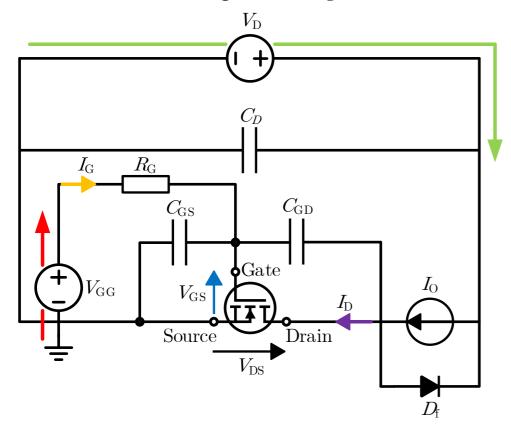
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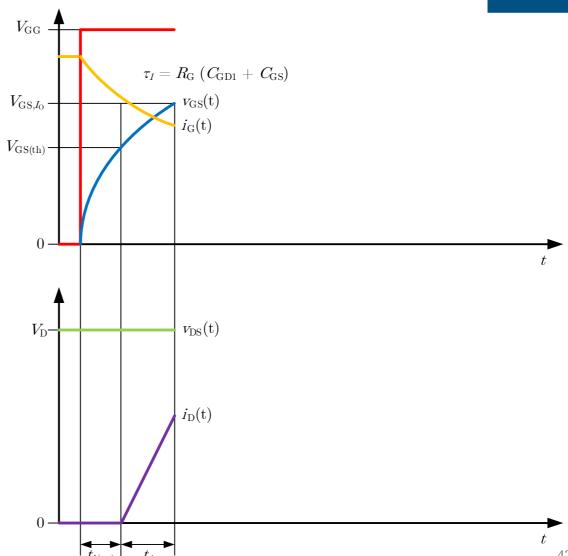
- Voltage (V_{GG}) applied at the gate.
- Capacitors (C_{GS} and C_{GD}) charge up.





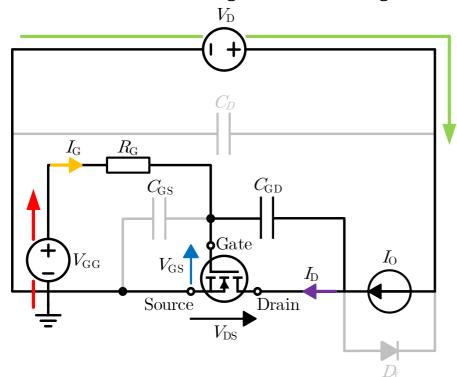
- Threshold voltage ($V_{GS(TH)}$) is reached.
- Switch starts conducting current (I_D).

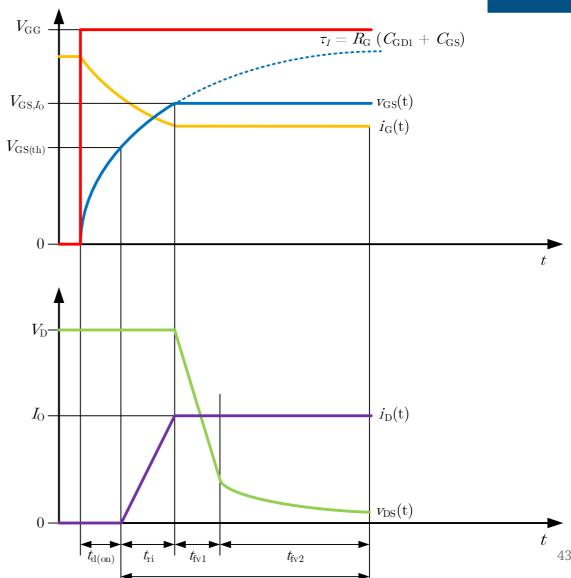




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- All I_O into the switch as I_D.
- No current through D_f and C_{GS} .
- $v_{\rm DS}$ reduces as switch is fully turned on. This is the transition from ohmic region to active region.





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- V_{GS} continues to rise towards V_{GG} .
- Switch fully on so $V_{DS(ON)} = I_D R_{DS(ON)}$.

