

# EE 230

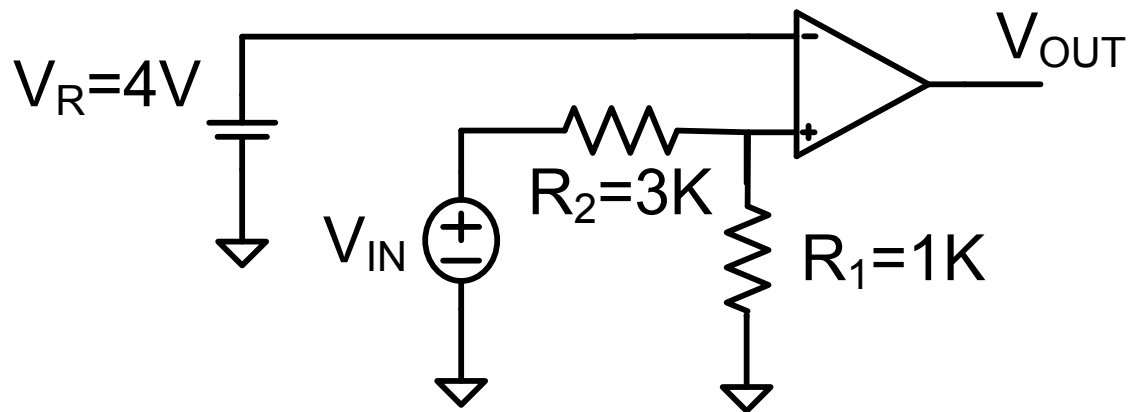
## Lecture 21

### Nonlinear Op Amp Applications

- Nonlinear analysis methods
- Comparators with Hysteresis

# Quiz 15

Plot the transfer characteristics of the following circuit. Assume the op amp has  $V_{\text{SATH}}=12\text{V}$  and  $V_{\text{SATL}}=-12\text{V}$ .



And the number is ?

1

3

8

5

4

2

?

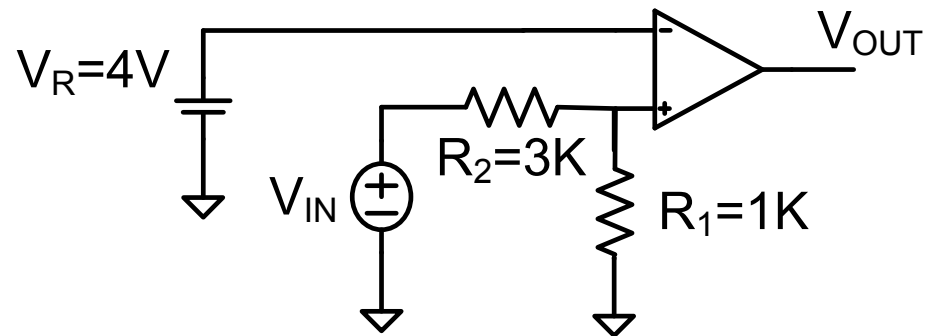
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9

7

# Quiz 15

Plot the transfer characteristics of the following circuit. Assume the op amp has  $V_{SATH}=12V$  and  $V_{SATL}=-12V$ .

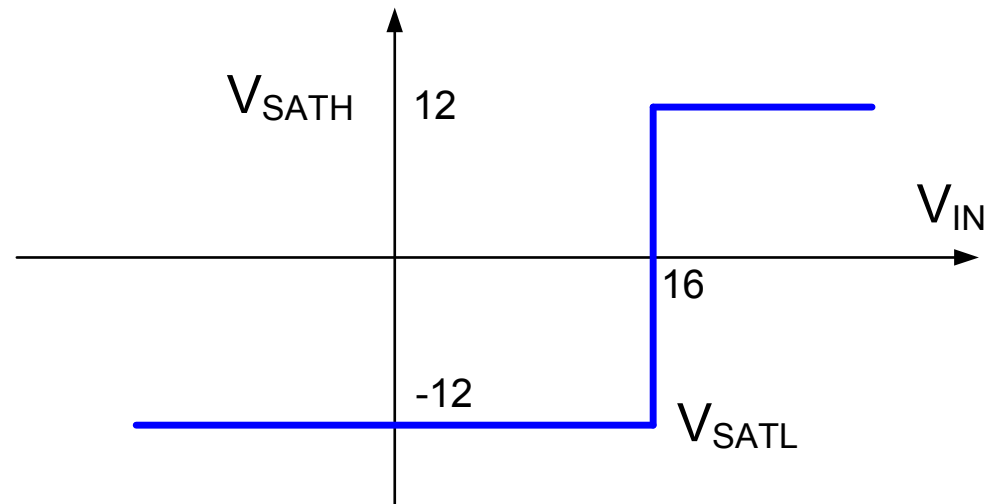


Solution:

$$V^+ = \frac{V_{IN}}{4}$$

$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{SATH} & \text{if } V^+ > V_R \\ V_{SATL} & \text{if } V^+ < V_R \end{cases}$$

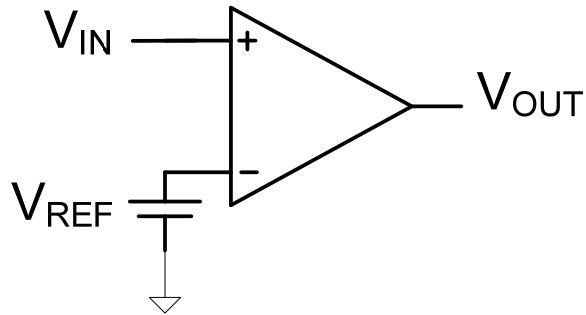
$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{SATH} & \text{if } V_{IN} > 16V \\ V_{SATL} & \text{if } V_{IN} < 16V \end{cases}$$



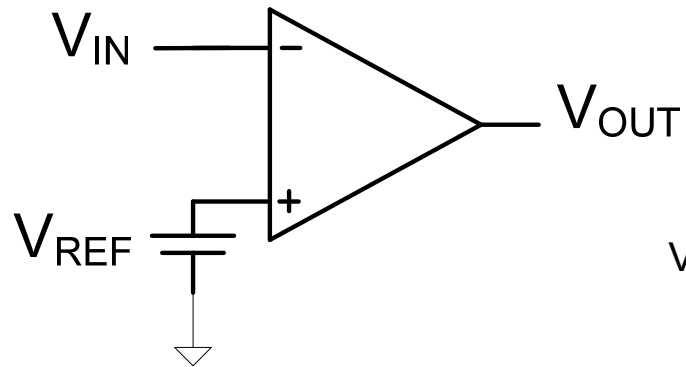
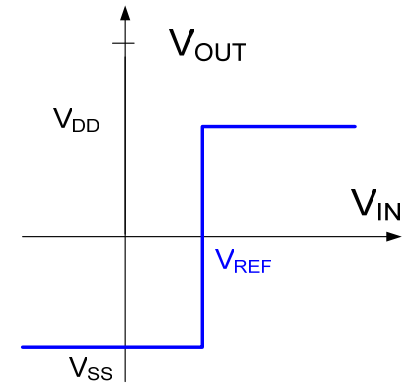
## Review from Last Lecture

# The Comparators

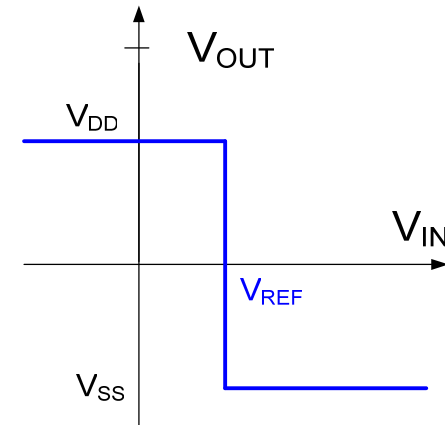
(Assume  $V_{SATH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{SATL} = V_{SS}$ )



$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{DD} & \text{for } V_{IN} > V_{REF} \\ V_{SS} & \text{for } V_{IN} < V_{REF} \end{cases}$$



$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{DD} & \text{for } V_{IN} < V_{REF} \\ V_{SS} & \text{for } V_{IN} > V_{REF} \end{cases}$$



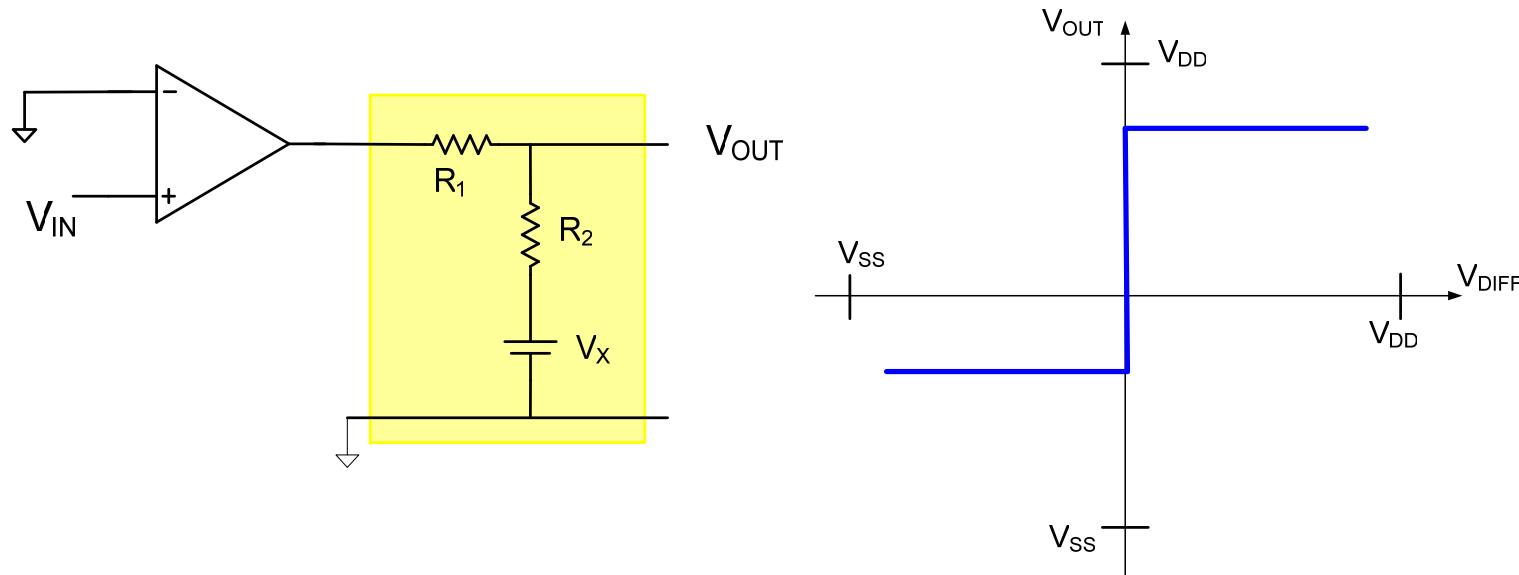
Op Amps make good comparators when operated open-loop



Some ICs are manufactured to serve only as comparators and often have better performance than op amps

## Review from Last Lecture

# The Op Amp is Highly Nonlinear when Over-Driven



The comparator circuit is also highly nonlinear

Many useful applications of op amps when operating nonlinearly

Many other nonlinear devices exist that are also very useful

# Nonlinear Circuits and Applications

Definition: A circuit is nonlinear if one or more devices in the circuit do not operate linearly

- Superposition can not be used to analyze circuit
- Nonlinear circuit applications
  - Will first consider applications where op amp operates nonlinearly
  - Will then consider other nonlinear devices

**Will first discuss the concepts of nonlinear circuits and nonlinear circuit analysis techniques**

Review from Last Lecture

# Methods of Analysis of Nonlinear Circuits

Will consider three different analysis requirements and techniques for some particularly common classes of nonlinear circuits

## 1. Circuits with continuously differential devices

Interested in obtaining transfer characteristics of these circuits or outputs for given input signals

## 2. Circuits with piecewise continuous devices

interested in obtaining transfer characteristics of these circuits or outputs for a given input signals

## 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Interested in obtaining relationship between small-signal inputs and the corresponding small-signal outputs. Will assume these circuits operate linearly in some suitably small region around the operating point

Other types of nonlinearities may exist and other types of analysis may be required but we will not attempt to categorize these scenarios in this course



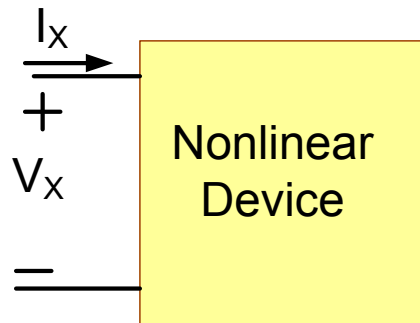
# 1. Nonlinear circuits with continuously differential devices

Use KVL and KCL for analysis

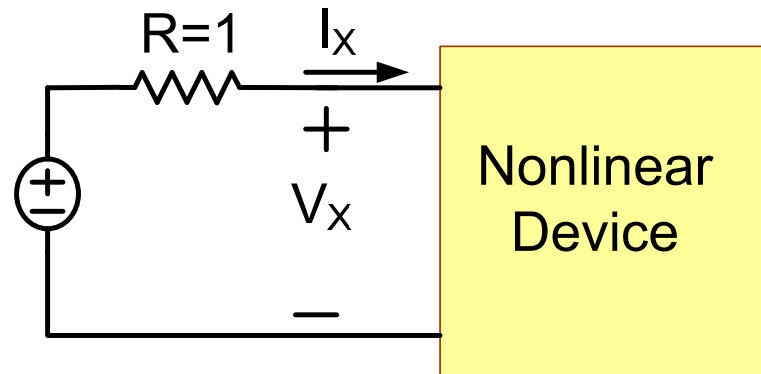
Represent nonlinear models for devices either mathematically or graphically

Solve the resultant set of equations for the variables of interest

Example:



$$I_x = 3e^{V_x} V_{IN}$$



Circuit with Nonlinear Device  $V_x=?$

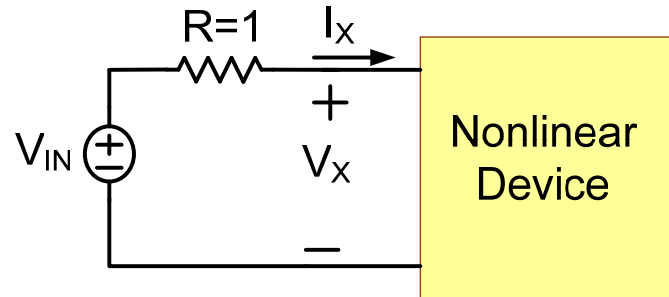
$$\left. \begin{aligned} (V_{IN} - V_x)G &= I_x \\ I_x &= 3e^{V_x} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} (V_{IN} - V_x) &= I_x R \\ V_{IN} &= V_x + 3Re^{V_x} \end{aligned}$$

Solution relating  $V_x$  to  $V_{IN}$  is highly nonlinear

Explicit expression for  $V_x$  in terms of  $V_{IN}$  does not exist !

# 1. Nonlinear circuits with continuously differential devices

Example:



$$V_X = ?$$

$$V_{IN} = V_X - 3Re^{V_X}$$

Solution relating  $V_X$  to  $V_{IN}$  is highly nonlinear

Explicit expression for  $V_X$  in terms of  $V_{IN}$  does not exist !



Solution for even modestly more complicated circuits can be really messy



Explicit expressions for  $V_{IN}$  or  $V_X$  or both are often impossible to obtain



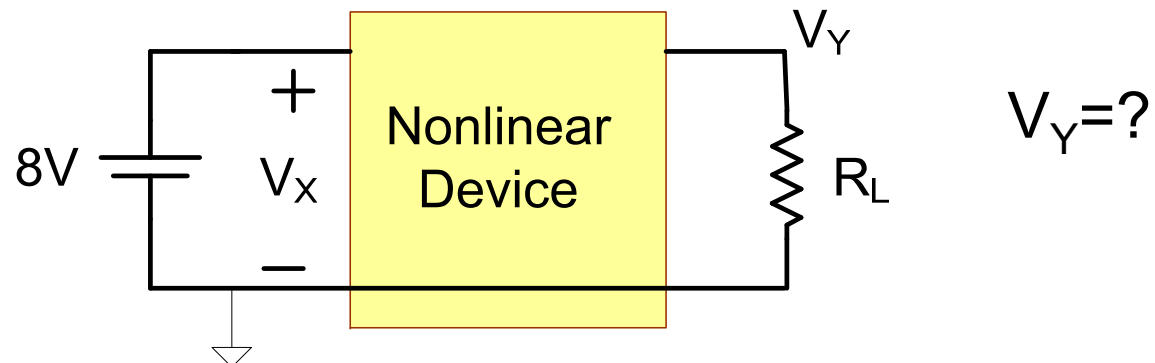
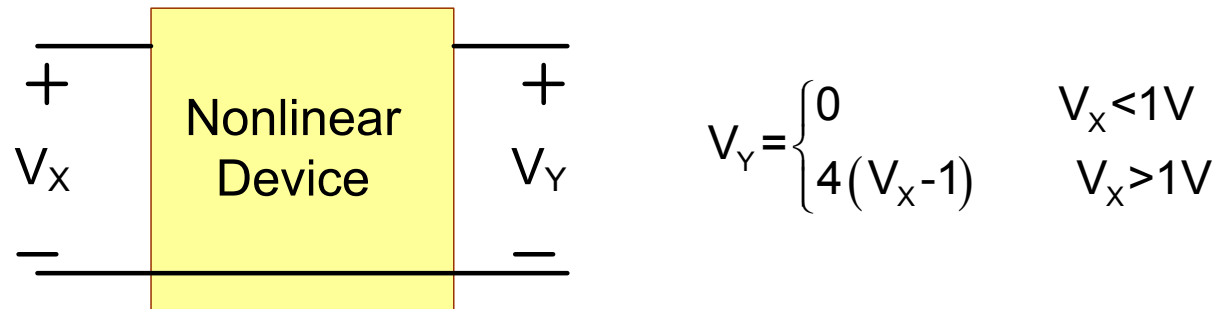
Most useful nonlinear circuits will have reasonably simple final expressions for output variables of interest and a systematic procedure for analyzing these circuits



## 2. Circuits with piecewise continuous devices

1. Guess region of operation
2. Solve resultant circuit using the previous method
3. Verify region of operation is valid
4. Repeat the previous 3 steps as often as necessary until region of operation is verified

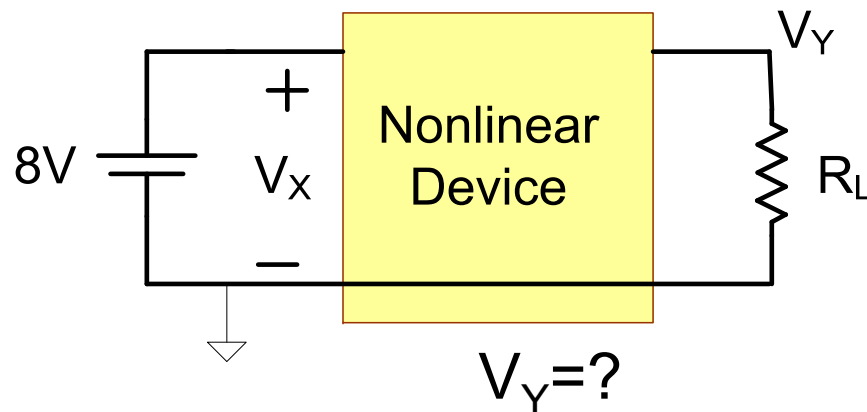
Example:



## 2. Circuits with piecewise continuous devices

1. Guess region of operation
2. Solve resultant circuit using the previous method
3. Verify region of operation is valid
4. Repeat the previous 3 steps as often as necessary until region of operation is verified

Example:



$$V_Y = \begin{cases} 0 & V_x < 1V \\ 4(V_x - 1) & V_x > 1V \end{cases}$$

Region 1  
Region 2

Guess Region 1

$$V_Y = 0V$$

verify  $V_x < ? 1V$

$$V_x = 8V$$

Verification fails (solution not valid)

Guess Region 2

$$V_Y = 4(8 - 1) = 28V$$

verify  $V_x > ? 1V$

$$V_x = 8V$$

$$V_x = 8V > 1V$$

Verification passes (solution valid)

$$V_Y = 28V$$

### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Determine the operating point (using method 1 or 2 discussed above after all small signal independent inputs are set to 0)

Develop small signal (linear) model for all devices in the region of interest (around the operating point or “Q-point”)

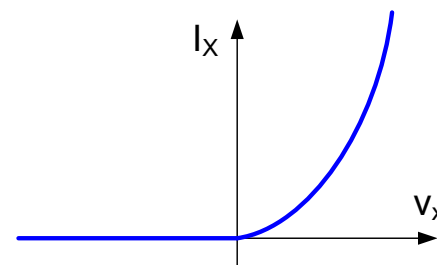
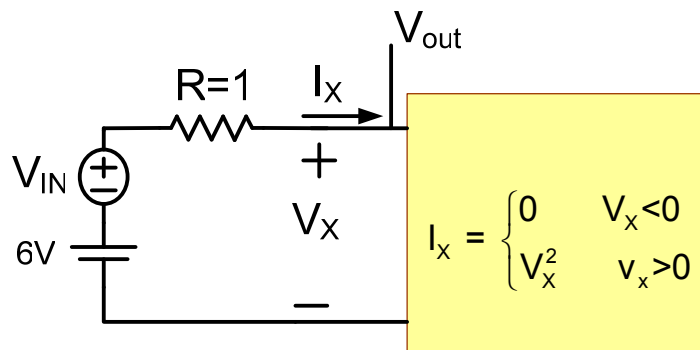
Create small signal equivalent circuit by replacing all devices with small-signal equivalent

Solve the resultant small-signal (linear) circuit

Can use KCL, KVL, and other linear analysis tools such as superposition, voltage and current divider equations, Thevenin and Norton equivalence

Determine boundary of region where small signal analysis is valid

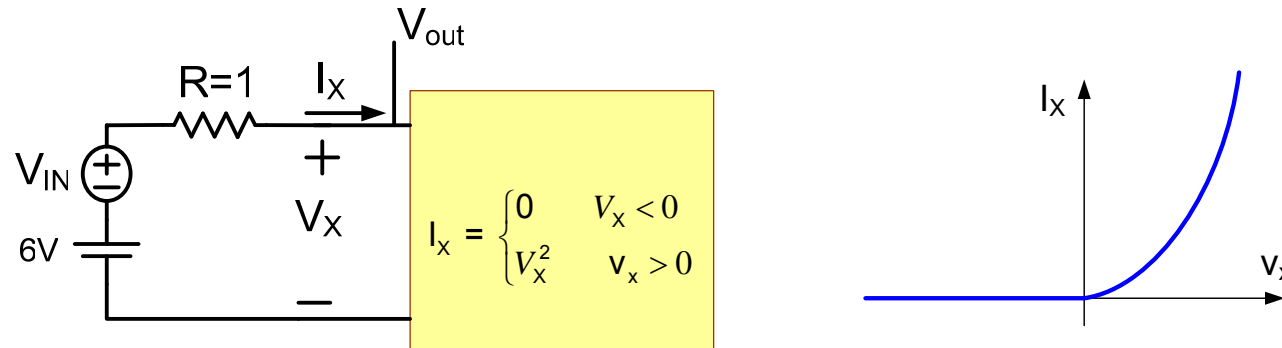
Example:



$V_{IN}$  is a small signal, much smaller than 6V

### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Example:



$V_{IN}$  is a small signal, much smaller than 6V

Will go through the mechanics of this process at this time but will develop and justify the steps later in the course !

This is a very useful process that is used widely in the electronics field and in many other fields as well

Students will not be expected to do this type of analysis until the process is formally developed

### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Determine the operating point (using method 1 or 2 discussed above after all small signal independent inputs are set to 0)

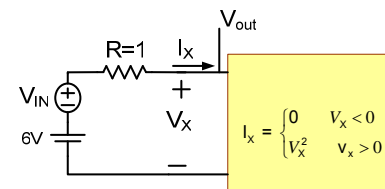
Develop small signal (linear) model for all devices in the region of interest (around the operating point or “Q-point”)

Create small signal equivalent circuit by replacing all devices with small-signal equivalent

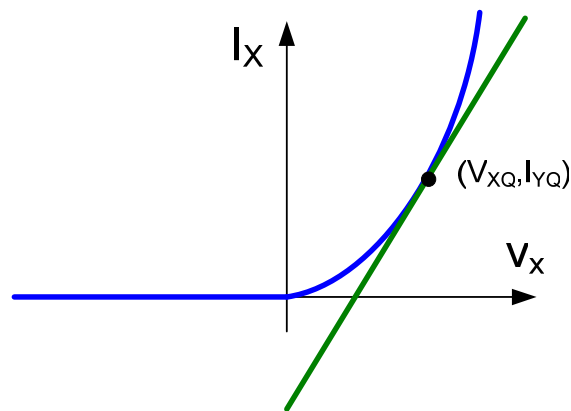
Solve the resultant small-signal (linear) circuit

Can use KCL, KVL, and other linear analysis tools such as superposition, voltage and current divider equations, Thevenin and Norton equivalence

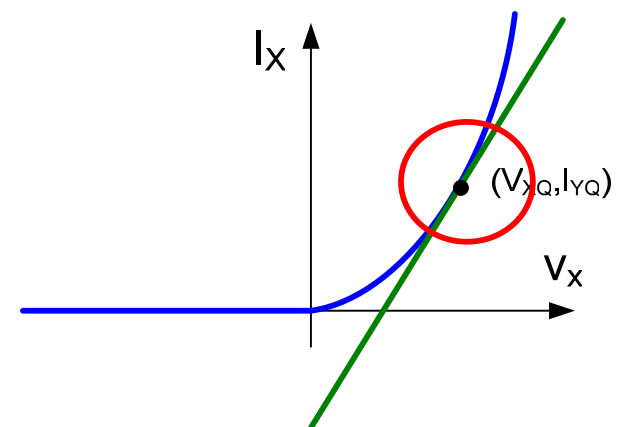
Determine boundary of region where small signal analysis is valid



Example:



Will linearize the circuit at the operating point (Q-point  $(V_{xQ}, I_{xQ})$ )



Linear region shown

### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Determine the operating point (using method 1 or 2 discussed above after all small signal independent inputs are set to 0)

Develop small signal (linear) model for all devices in the region of interest (around the operating point or “Q-point”)

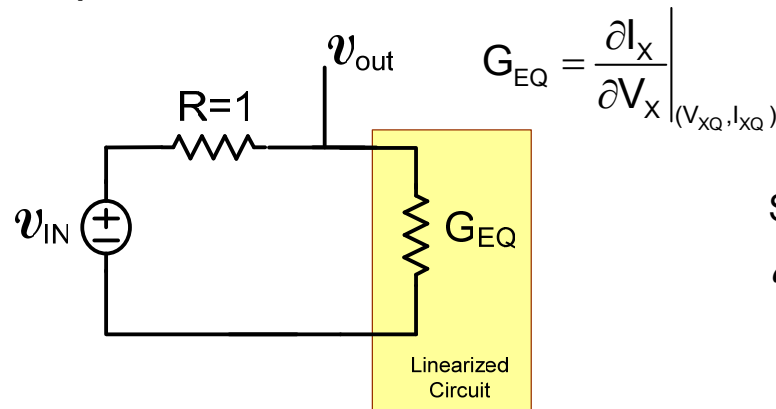
Create small signal equivalent circuit by replacing all devices with small-signal equivalent

Solve the resultant small-signal (linear) circuit

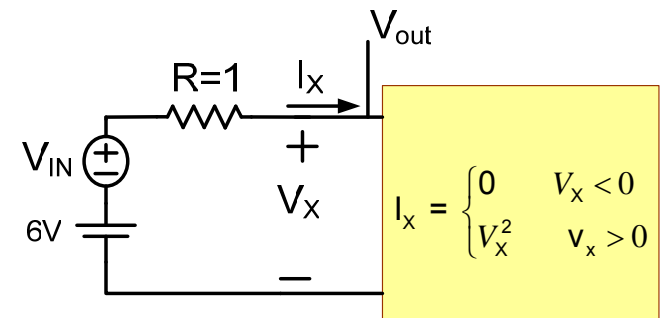
Can use KCL, KVL, and other linear analysis tools such as superposition, voltage and current divider equations, Thevenin and Norton equivalence

Determine boundary of region where small signal analysis is valid

Example:



Small-signal equivalent circuit



Solution of Small-Signal Linear Circuit

$$v_{OUT} = \frac{1}{1 + RG_{EQ}} v_{IN}$$

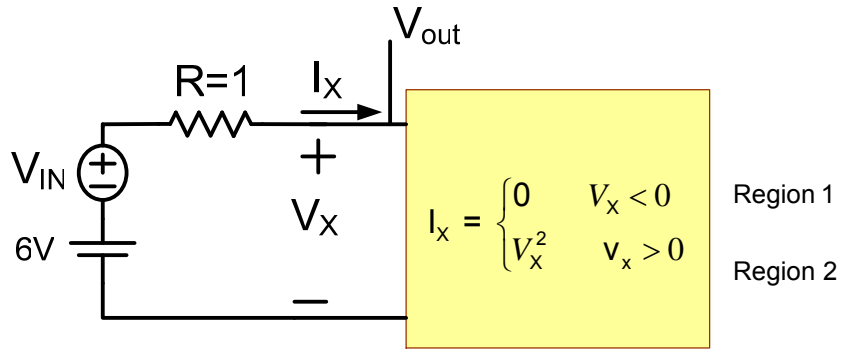
Overall output if required

$$V_{OUT} = V_{OUTQ} + v_{OUT} = V_{XQ} + \frac{1}{1 + RG_{EQ}} v_{IN}$$

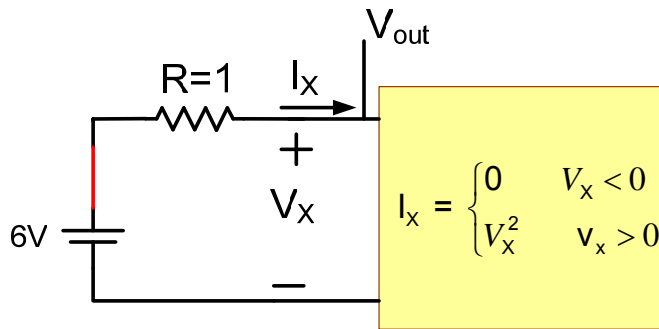


### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

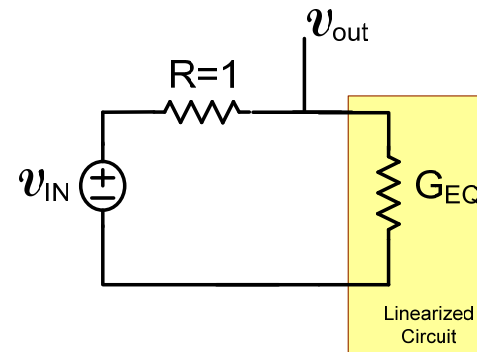
Example:



Circuit with small-signal sources zeroed out



Small signal equivalent circuit



Guess Region 2 (must verify  $V_x > 0$ )

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6 &= I_x R + V_x \\ I_x &= V_x^2 \end{aligned} \right\} V_x^2 R + V_x - 6 = 0$$

with  $R=1$ , obtain the solution

$$V_x = 2 \quad (V_{xQ}, I_{xQ}) = (2, 4)$$

verify  $V_x > 0$

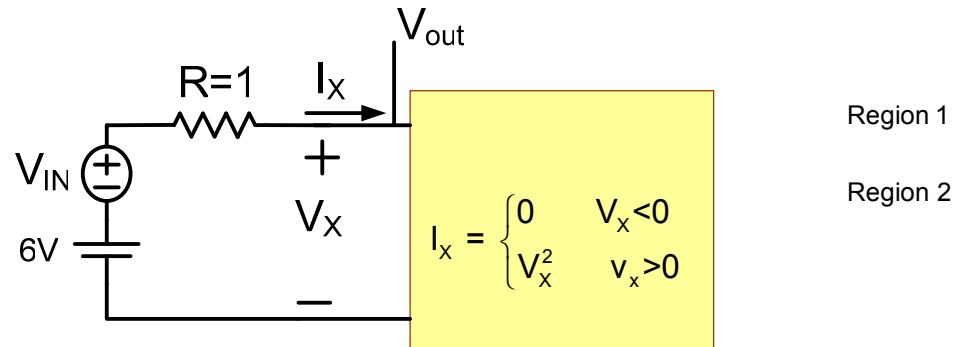
$$G_{EQ} = \left. \frac{\partial I_x}{\partial V_x} \right|_{(V_{xQ}, I_{xQ})}$$

$$G_{EQ} = \left. \frac{\partial V_x^2}{\partial V_x} \right|_{(V_{xQ}, I_{xQ})} = 2V_x \Big|_{(2,4)} = 4$$

$$v_{OUT} = \frac{1}{1 + RG_{EQ}} v_{IN} = \frac{1}{1 + 1 \cdot 4} v_{IN} = 0.2 \cdot v_{IN}$$

### 3. Circuits with small-signal inputs that vary around some operating point

Example:



$$v_{OUT} = 0.2 \cdot v_{IN}$$

$$V_{OUT} = V_{XQ} + \frac{1}{1+RG_{EQ}} v_{IN} = 2 + 0.2 \cdot v_{IN}$$

If  $V_{IN} = 0.1 \sin \omega t$ ,

$$v_{OUT} = .02 \sin \omega t$$

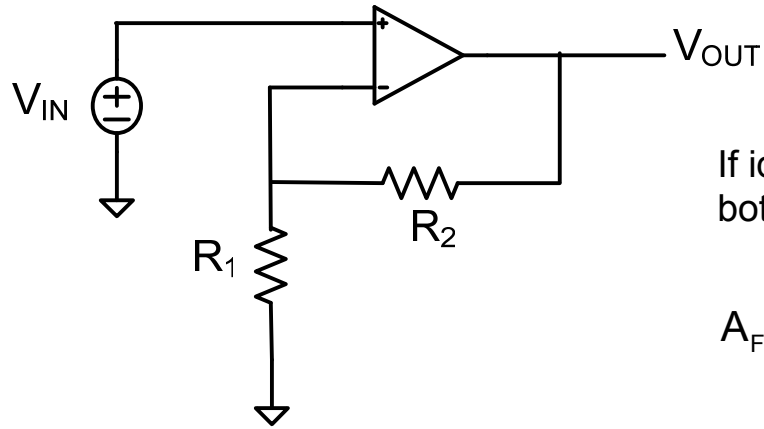
$$V_{OUT} = 2 + .02 \sin \omega t$$

# Nonlinear Circuits

Will now investigate several nonlinear circuits



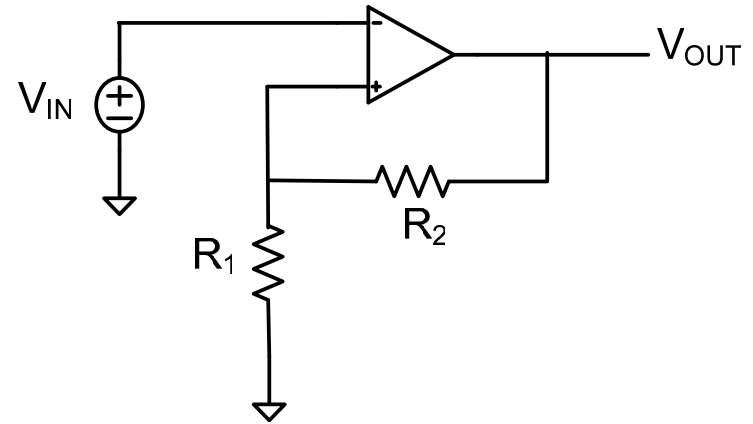
Before trashing the “bad” circuit which we saw was unstable, lets see if it has any useful properties!



If ideal op amps  
both have gain

$$A_{FB} = 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

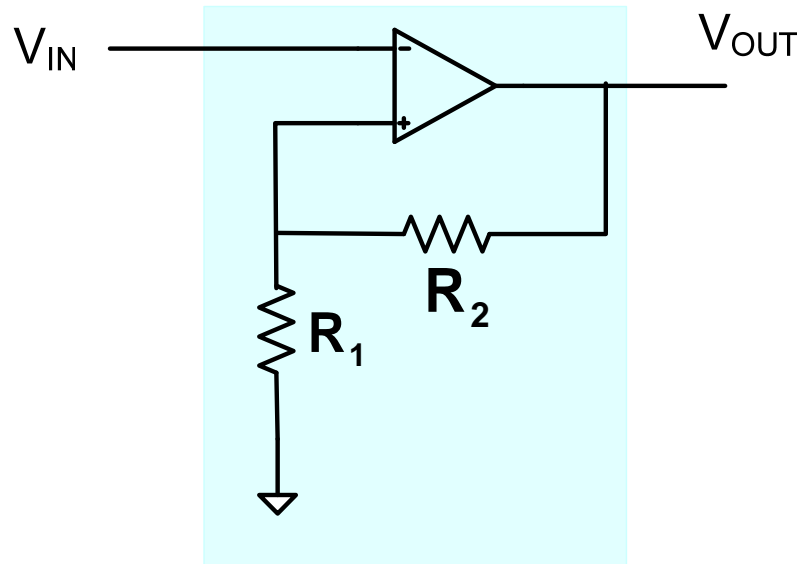
Usually the good circuit



Usually the bad circuit

This circuit is unstable !

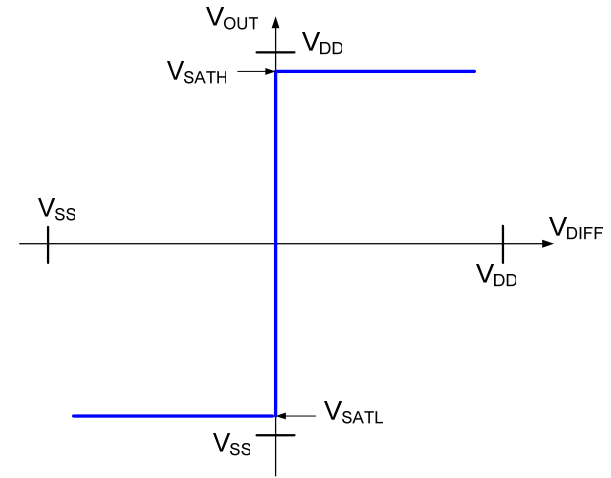
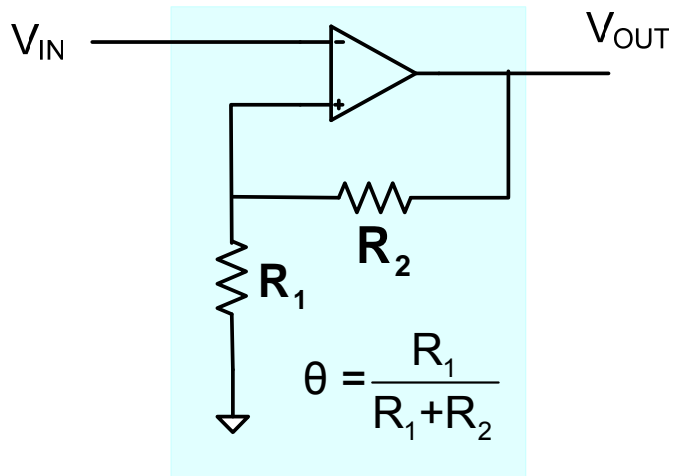
# Consider this circuit



This circuit is an unstable noninverting amplifier and is usually not useful as an amplifier

But what does the circuit really do?

# Consider this circuit



$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{SATH} & V_{DIFF} > \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0} \\ A_0 V_{IN} & \frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0} < V_{DIFF} < \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0} \\ V_{SATL} & V_{DIFF} < \frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0} \end{cases}$$

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

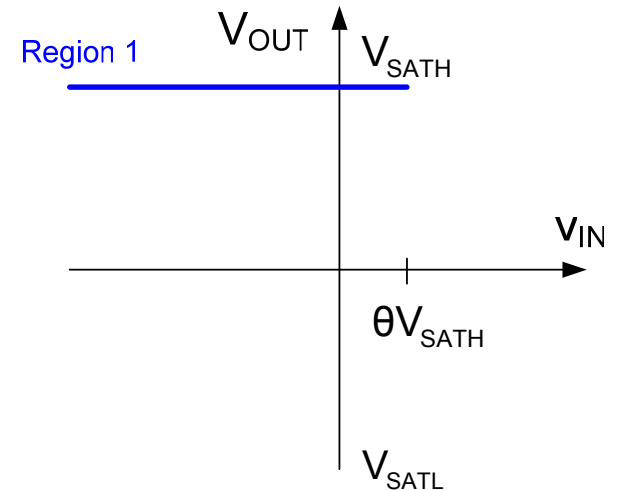
Assume in Region 1 (must verify)

$$V_{OUT} = V_{SATH}$$

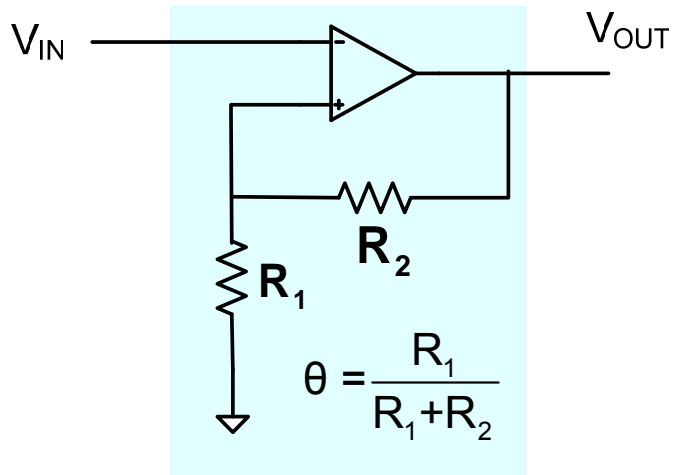
Valid for

$$\theta V_{SATH} - V_{IN} > \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0}$$

$$\theta V_{SATH} > V_{IN}$$



# Consider this circuit



$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{SATL} \\ A_0 V_{IN} \\ V_{SATH} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} V_{DIFF} > V_{SATH}/A_0 \\ V_{SATL}/A_0 < V_{DIFF} < V_{SATH}/A_0 \\ V_{DIFF} < V_{SATL}/A_0 \end{cases}$$

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

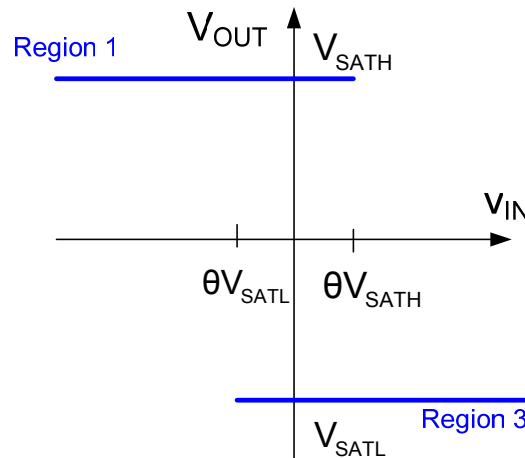
Assume in Region 3 (must verify)

$$V_{OUT} = V_{SATL}$$

Valid for

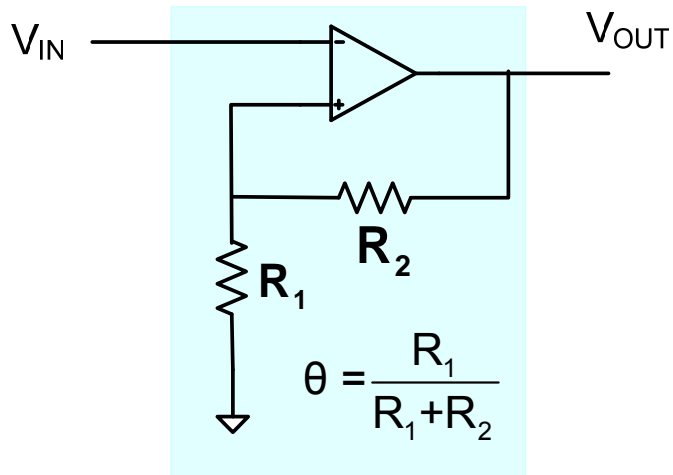
$$\theta V_{OUT} - V_{IN} < \frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0}$$

$$\theta V_{SATL} < V_{IN}$$



Note two-valued for a range of  $V_{IN}$

# Consider this circuit



$$V_{OUT} = \begin{cases} V_{SATH} \\ A_0 V_{IN} \\ V_{SATL} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} V_{DIFF} > \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0} \\ \frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0} < V_{DIFF} < \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0} \\ V_{DIFF} < \frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0} \end{cases}$$

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

Assume in Region 2 (must verify)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_{DIFF} &= \theta V_{OUT} - V_{IN} \\ V_{OUT} &= A_0 V_{DIFF} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$V_{OUT} = \left( \frac{1}{\theta - A_0^{-1}} \right) V_{IN}$$

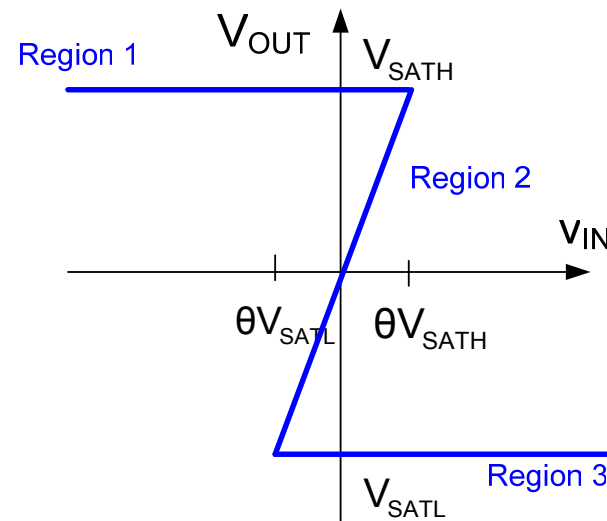
$$V_{OUT} = \left( \frac{1}{\theta} \right) V_{IN}$$

Valid for

$$\frac{V_{SATL}}{A_0} < \theta V_{OUT} - V_{IN} < \frac{V_{SATH}}{A_0}$$

(must use exact value for  $V_{OUT}$  to avoid degenerate conditions)

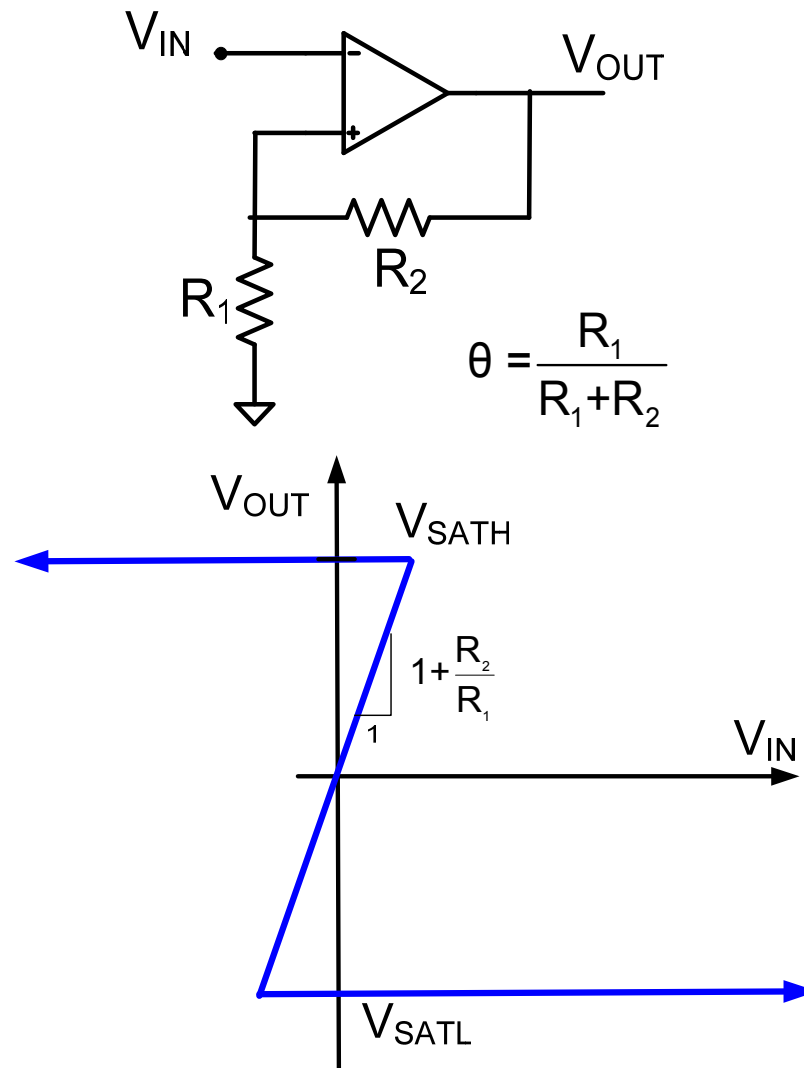
$$\theta V_{SATL} < V_{IN} < \theta V_{SATH}$$



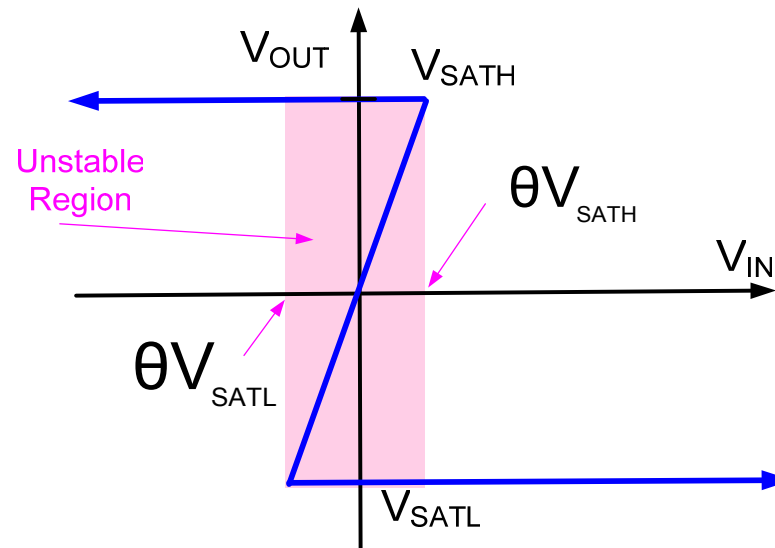
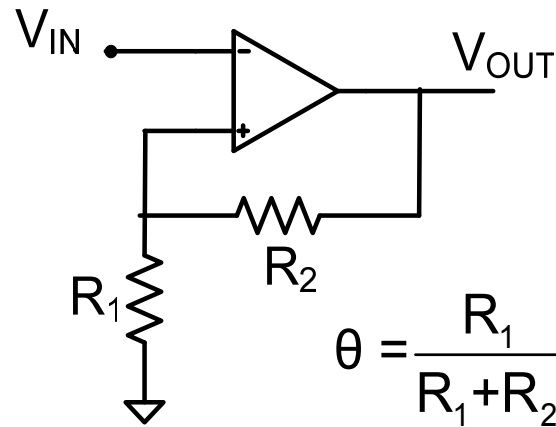
Note tripple-valued for a range of  $V_{IN}$



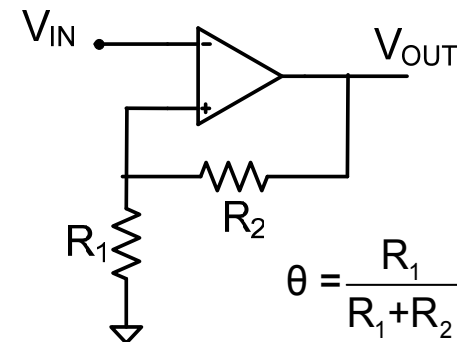
# Comparator with Hysteresis



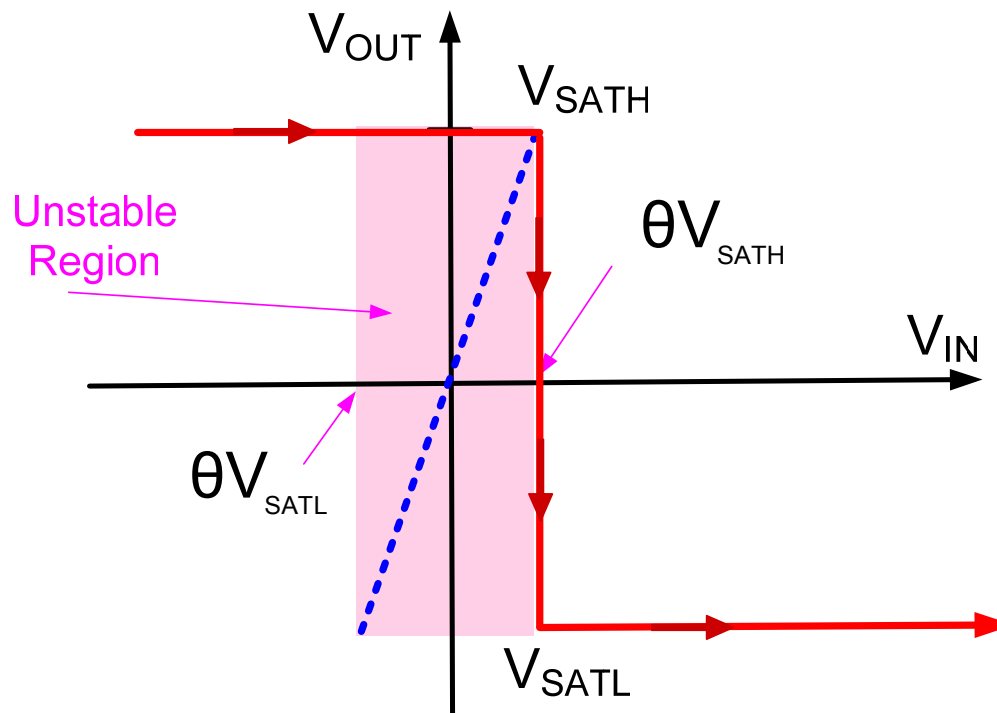
# Comparator with Hysteresis



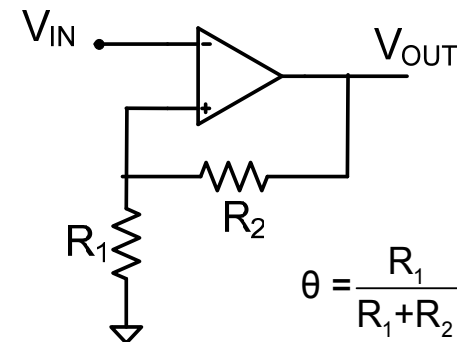
# Comparator with Hysteresis



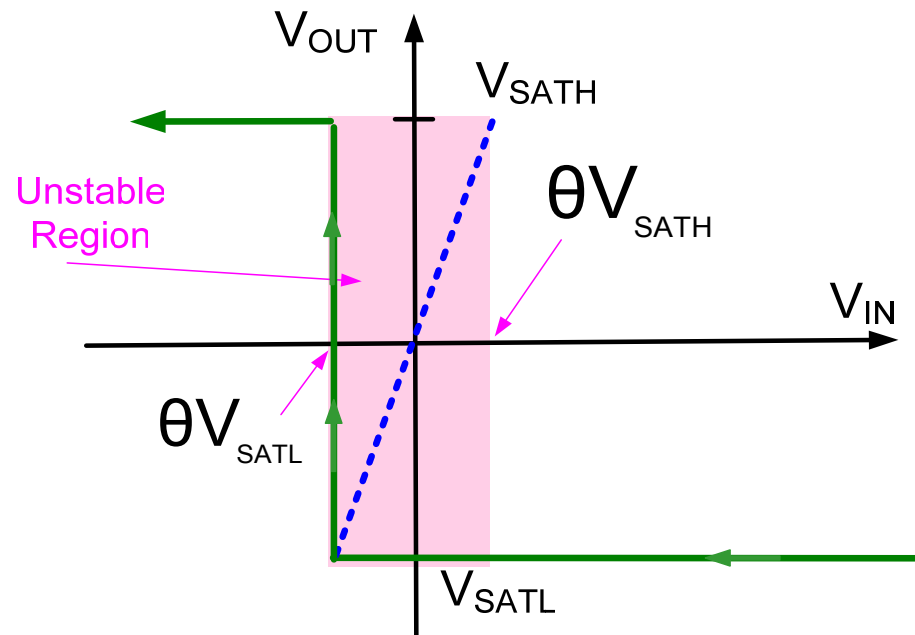
If unstable region is entered from the left



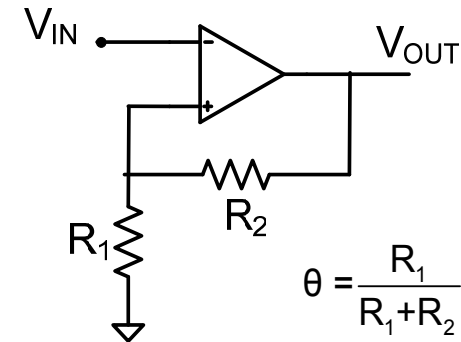
# Comparator with Hysteresis



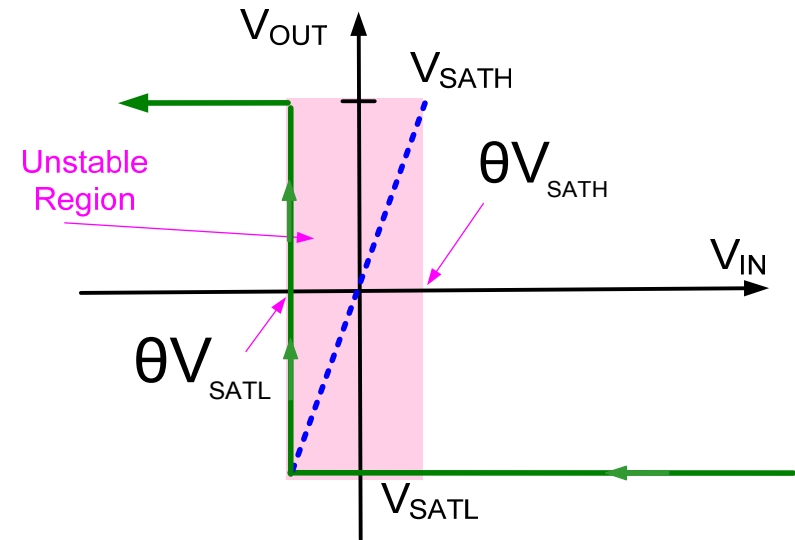
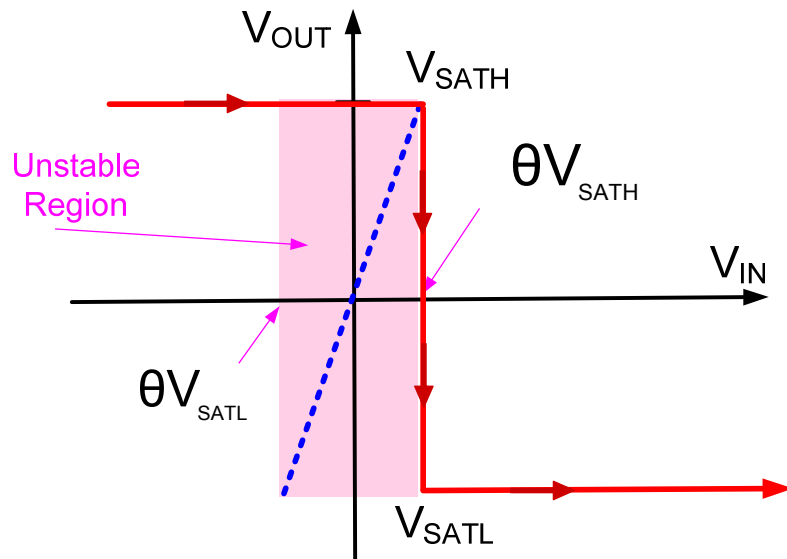
If unstable region is entered from the right



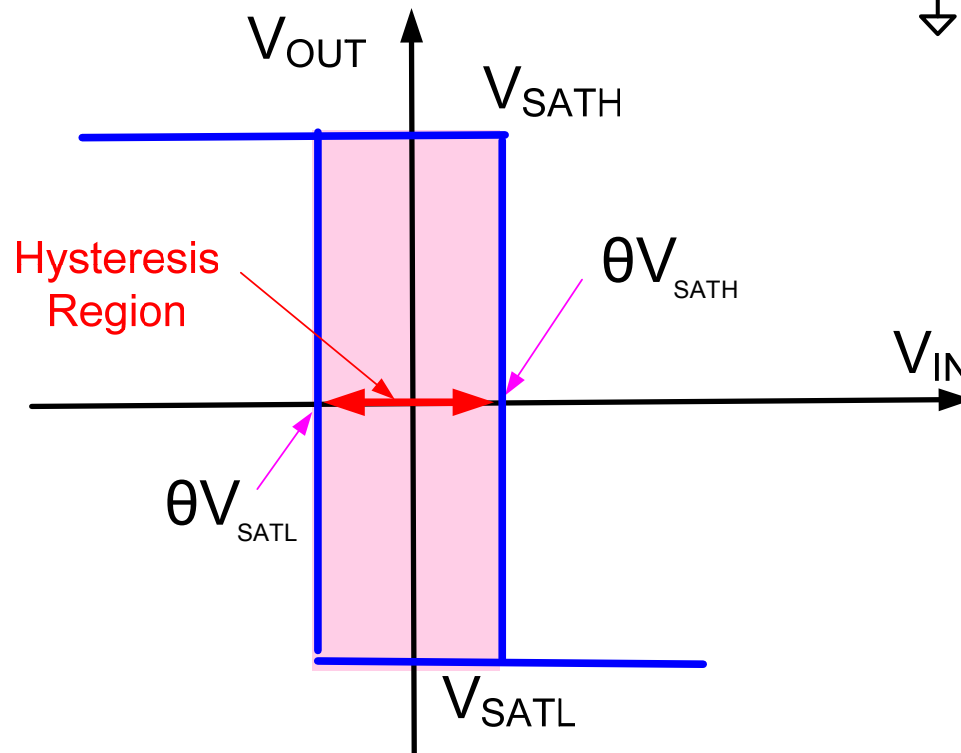
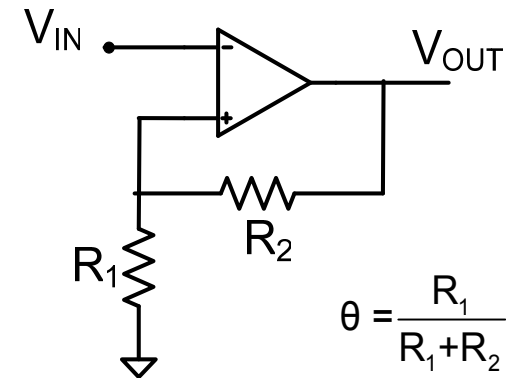
# Comparator with Hysteresis



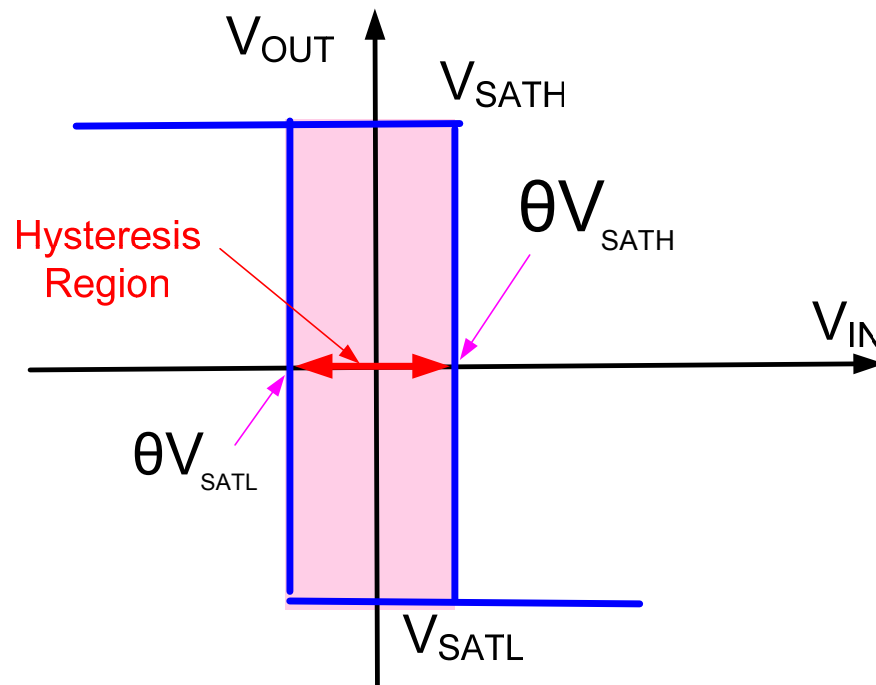
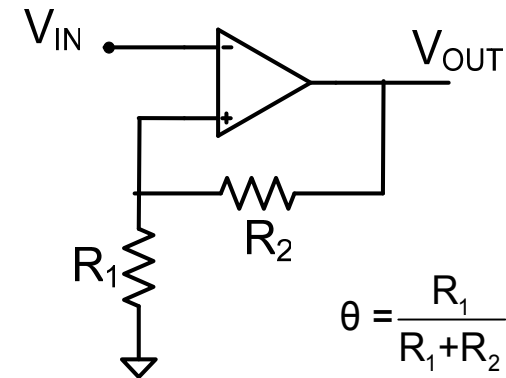
If unstable region is entered from the left or right



# Comparator with Hysteresis



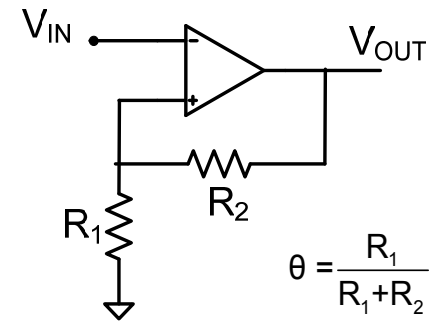
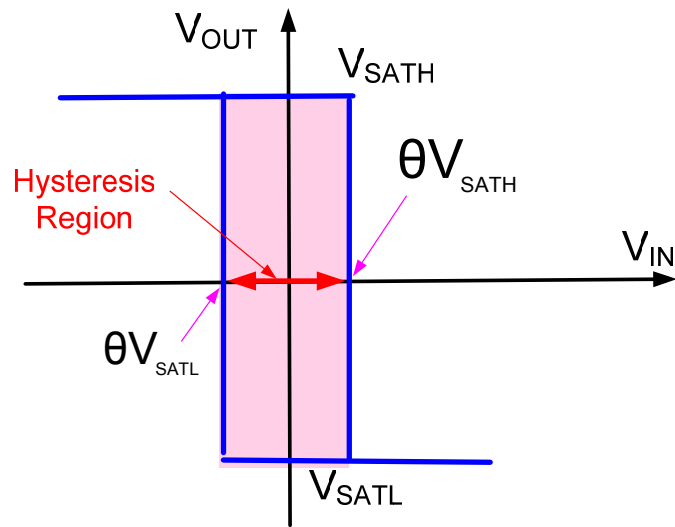
# Comparator with Hysteresis



Width of Hysteresis Region

$$\theta (V_{SATH} - V_{SATL})$$

# Comparator with Hysteresis



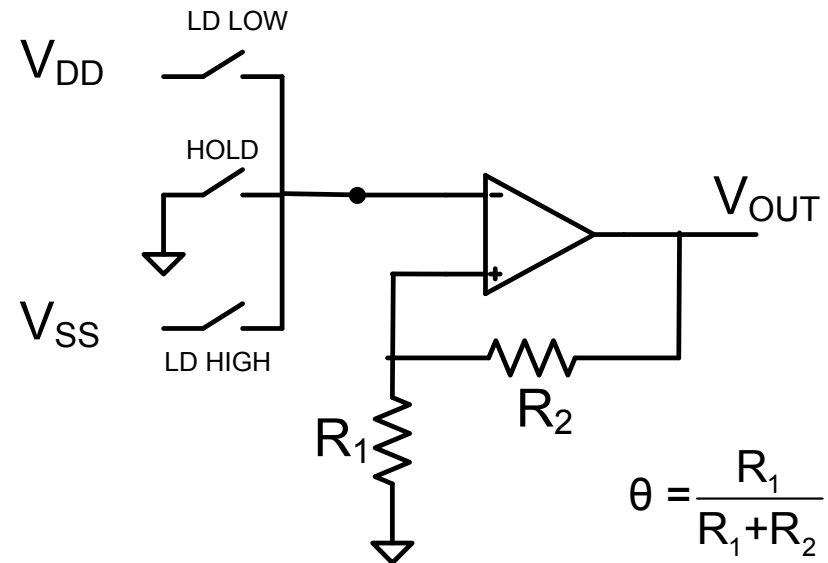
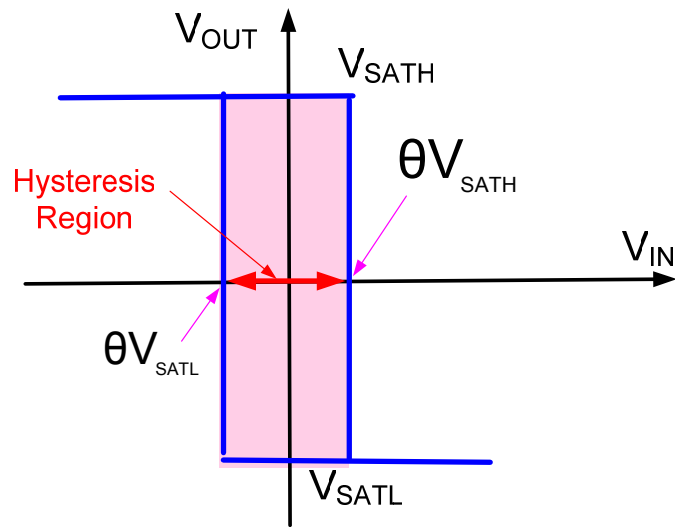
Width of Hysteresis Region

$$\theta (V_{SATH} - V_{SATL})$$

- Bistable if  $V_{IN}$  is in the hysteresis window
- Often  $\theta$  is very small
- Widely used in control applications
- Serves as a memory if  $V_{IN}=0$

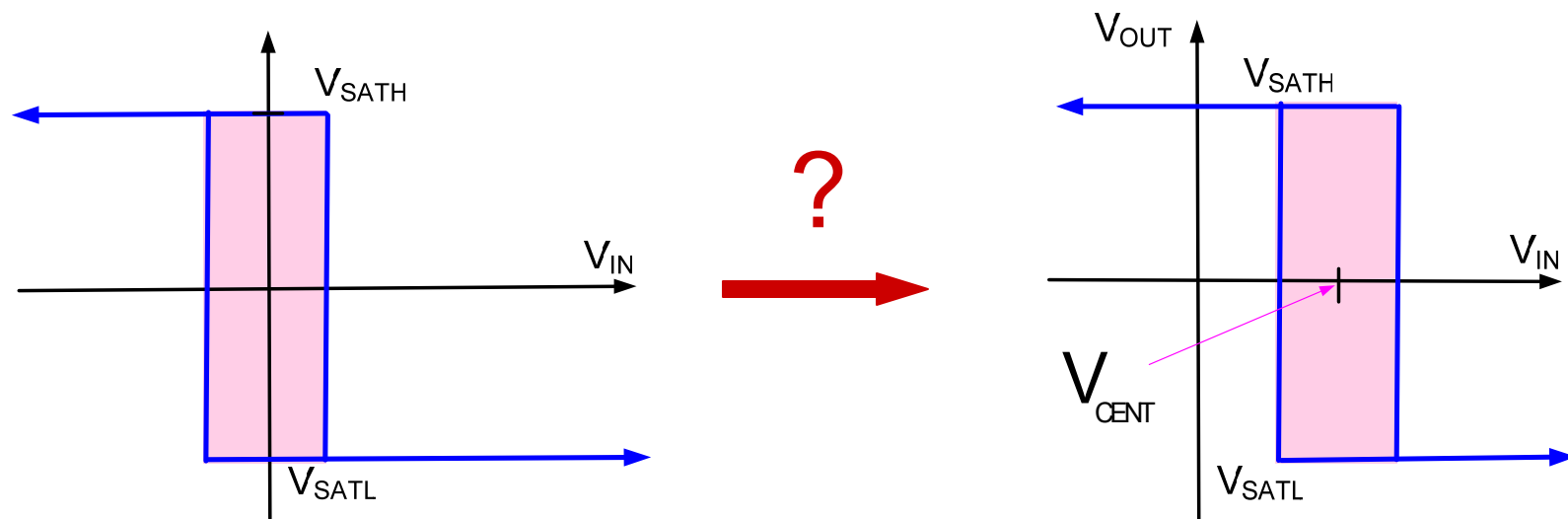


# Comparator as Boolean Memory

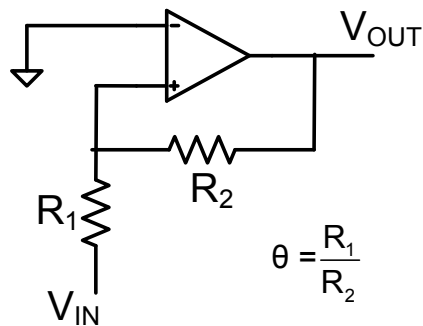
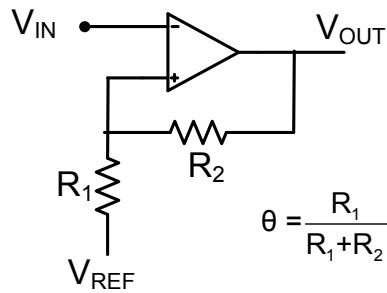
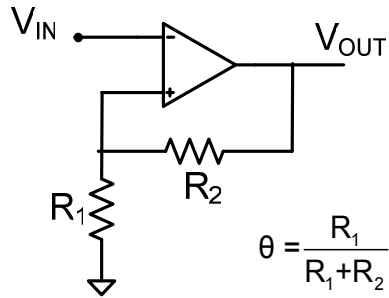


- Not cost-competitive with other memory structures
- May be useful, though, in limited applications

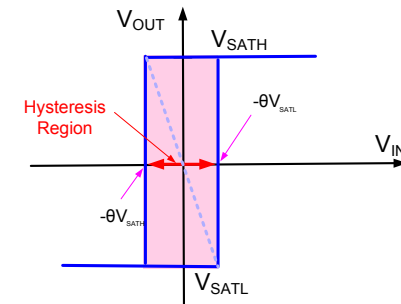
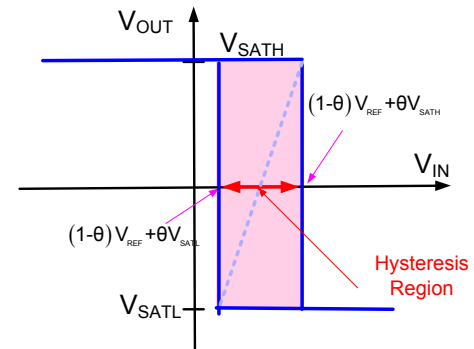
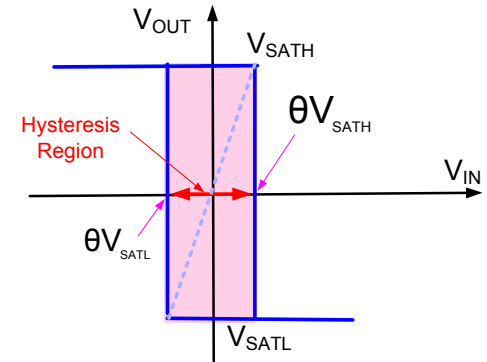
# Movement of Hysteresis Loop



# Modifications of Comparator with Hysteresis

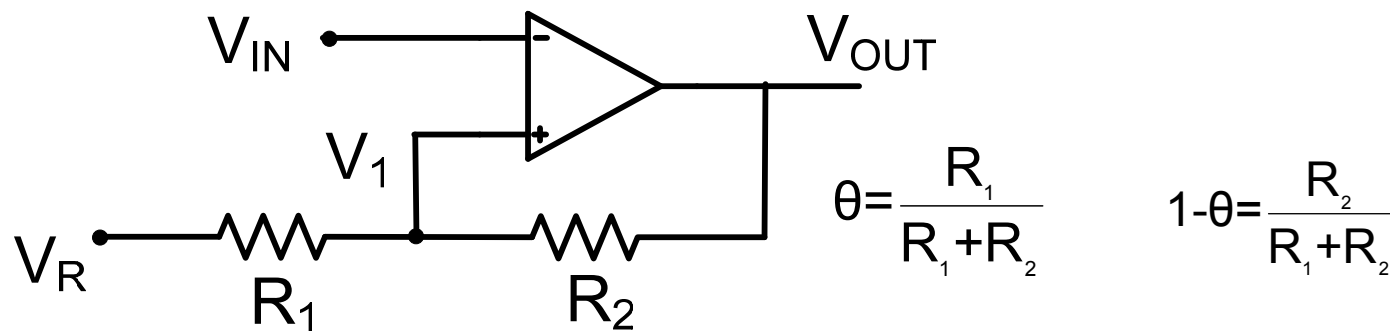


Note this is the basic inverting amplifier with op amp terminals interchanged



Many other ways to control position and size of hysteresis window

# Movement of Hysteresis Loop



Consider adding a dc voltage  $V_R$

Edges of hysteresis loop determined by condition where  $V^+ = V^-$

For this circuit that is where

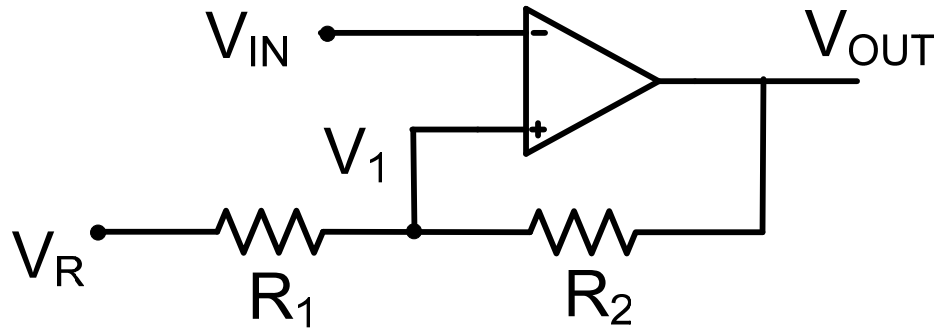
$$V_1 = V_{IN}$$

It follows from the 2-input voltage divider equation that

$$V_1 = \theta V_{OUT} + (1 - \theta) V_R$$

Substituting the second equation into the first, the edges of the hysteresis loop can be obtained by solving for the two possible values of  $V_{OUT}$ ,  $V_{SAT H}$  and  $V_{SAT L}$

# Movement of Hysteresis Loop



$$\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \quad 1 - \theta = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

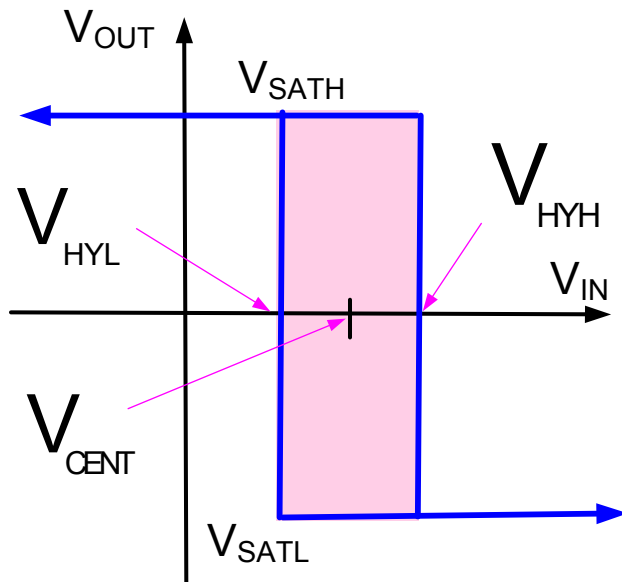
$$V_{SATH} \cong V_{DD} \quad V_{SATL} \cong V_{SS}$$

Shifted Inverting Comparator with Hysteresis

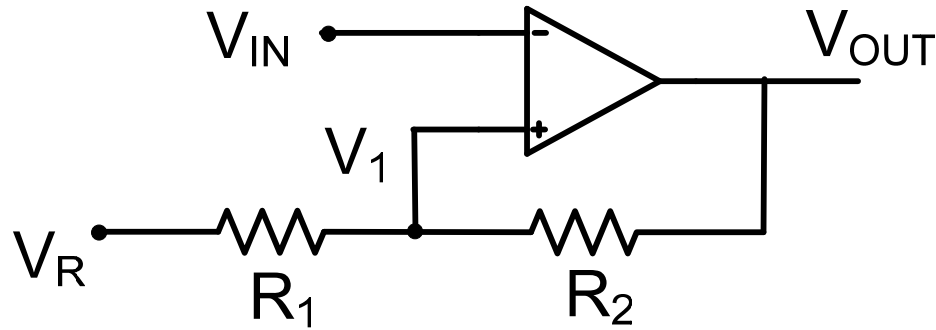
$$V_{IN} = \theta V_{OUT} + (1 - \theta) V_R$$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_{HYH} = \theta V_{SATH} + (1 - \theta) V_R \\ V_{HYL} = \theta V_{SATL} + (1 - \theta) V_R \end{array} \right.$$



# Movement of Hysteresis Loop



$$\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \quad 1 - \theta = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_{HYH} = \theta V_{SATH} + (1 - \theta) V_R$$

$$V_{HYL} = \theta V_{SATL} + (1 - \theta) V_R$$

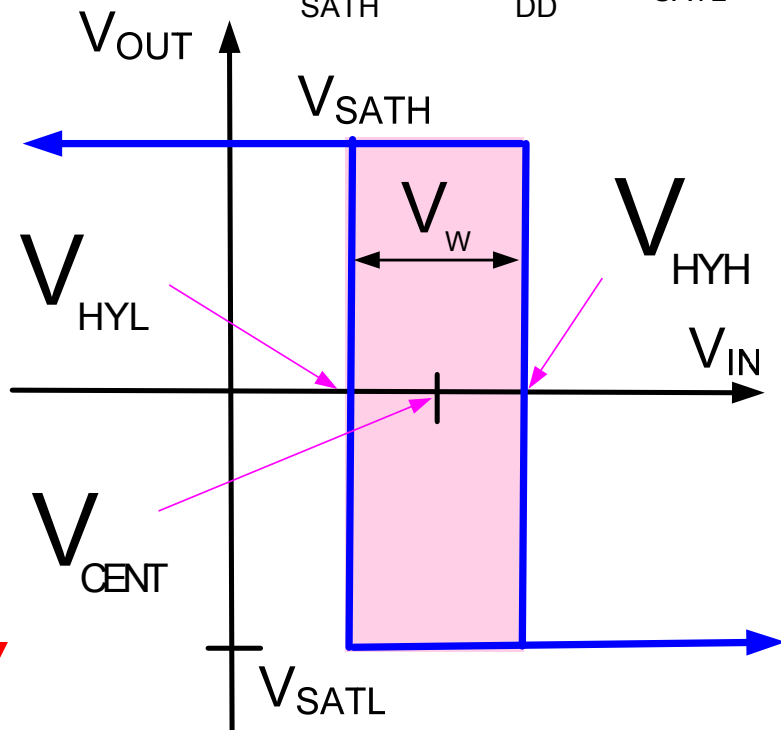
$$V_{SATH} \cong V_{DD} \quad V_{SATL} \cong V_{SS}$$

$$V_W = V_{HYH} - V_{HYL}$$

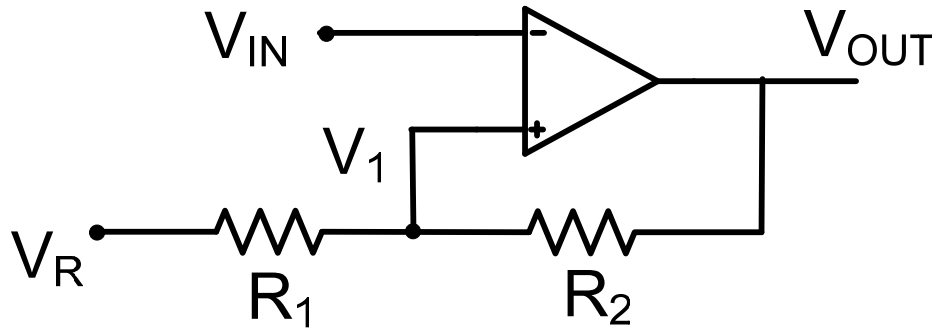
$$V_W = \theta (V_{SATH} - V_{SATL})$$

$$V_{CENT} = \frac{V_{HYH} + V_{HYL}}{2}$$

$$V_{CENT} = \left( \frac{\theta (V_{SATH} + V_{SATL})}{2} \right) + (1 - \theta) V_R$$



# Movement of Hysteresis Loop

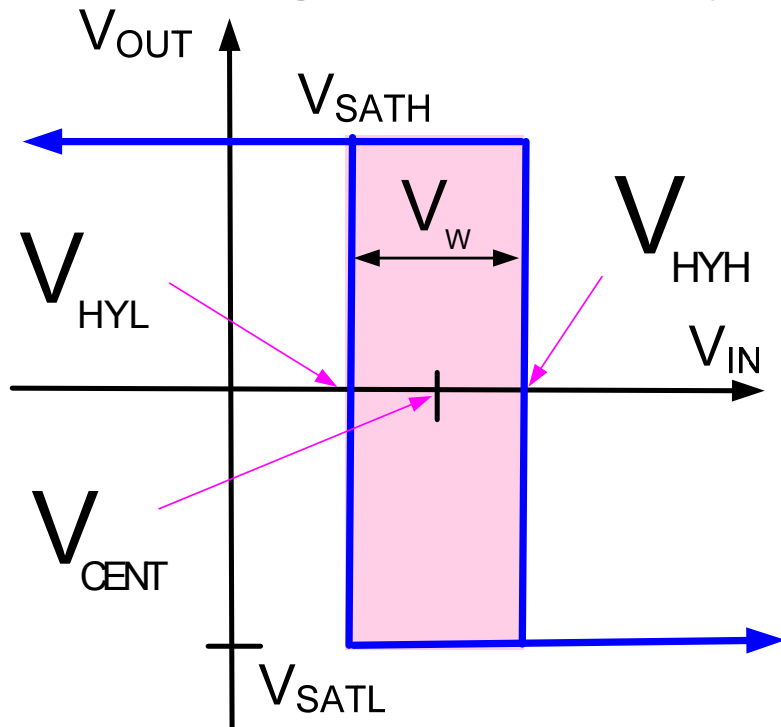


$$\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_W = \theta (V_{SATL} - V_{SATH})$$

Shifted Inverting Comparator with Hysteresis

$$V_{CENT} = \left( \frac{\theta (V_{SATH} + V_{SATL})}{2} \right) + (1 - \theta) V_R$$



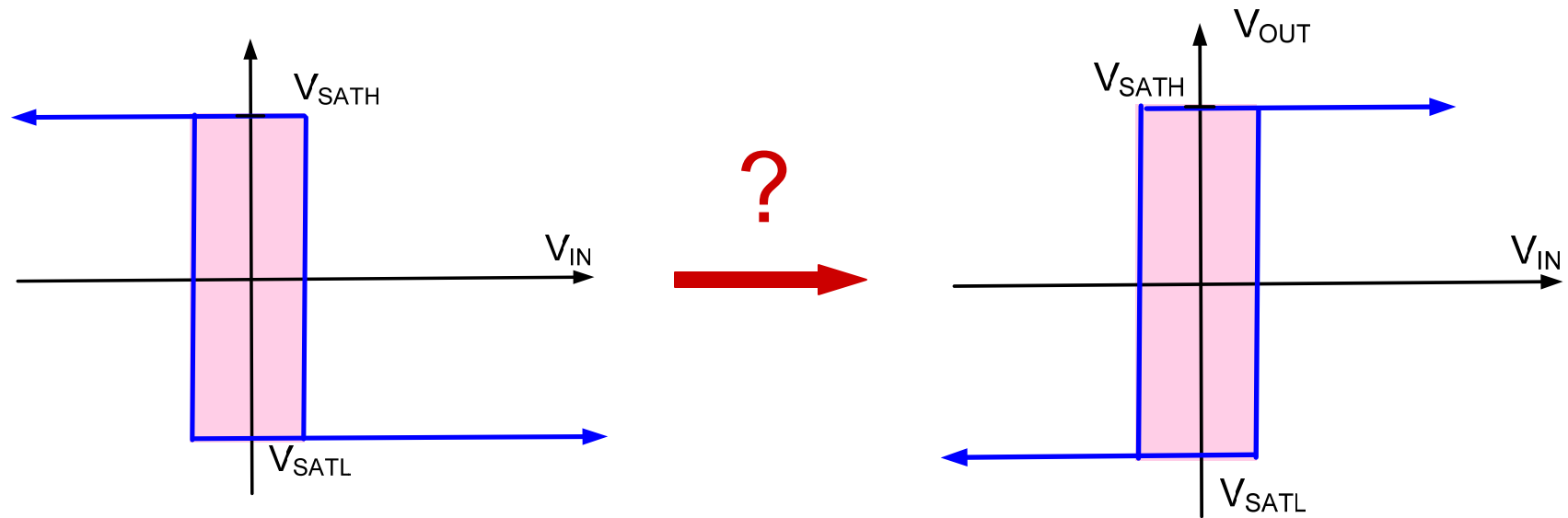
If  $V_{SATH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{SATL} = V_{SS} = -V_{DD}$

$$V_W = 2\theta V_{DD}$$

$$V_{CENT} = (1 - \theta) V_R$$

Shift can be to left or right depending upon sign of  $V_R$

# Inversion of Hysteresis Loop



Inverting Comparator with Hysteresis

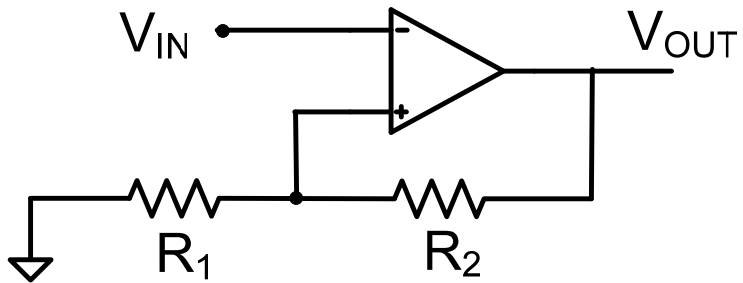
Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis

## Strategies

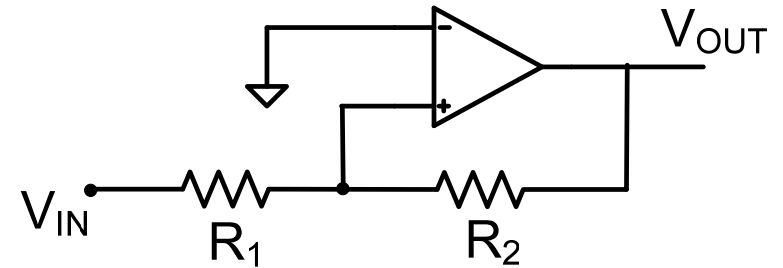
- Precede or follow inverting structure with an inverting amplifier
- Modify input location



# Inversion of Hysteresis Loop



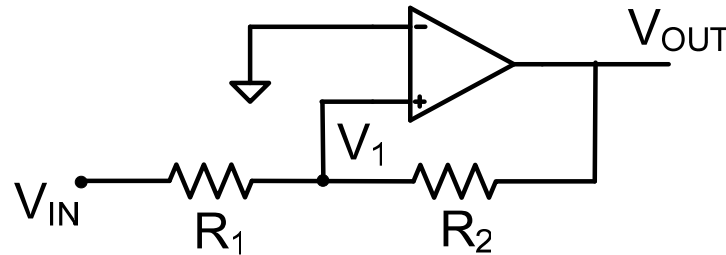
**Inverting Comparator with Hysteresis**



**Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis ?**



# Inversion of Hysteresis Loop



$$\theta_1 = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

**Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis ?**

Edges of hysteresis loop determined by condition where  $V^+ = V^-$

For this circuit that is where

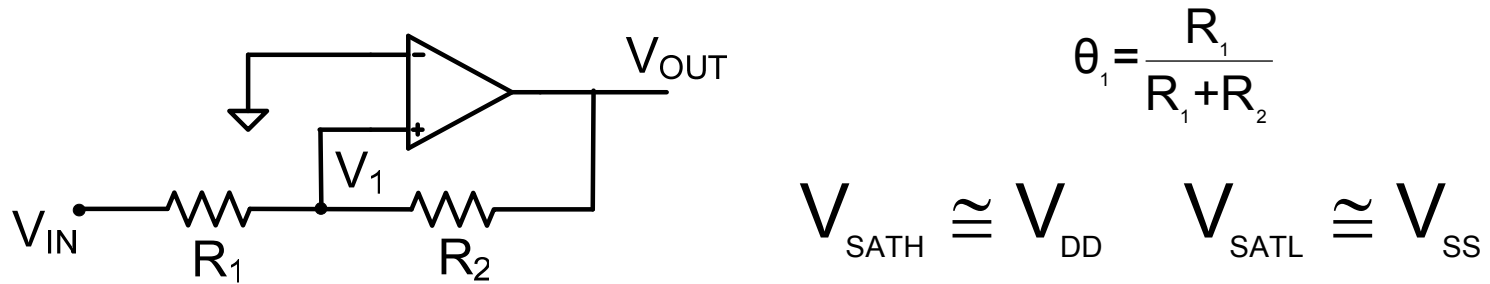
$$V_1 = 0$$

It follows from the 2-input voltage divider equation that

$$V_1 = \theta_1 V_{OUT} + (1 - \theta_1) V_{IN}$$

Substituting the second equation into the first, the edges of the hysteresis loop can be obtained by solving for the two possible values of  $V_{OUT}$ ,  $V_{SAT H}$  and  $V_{SAT L}$

# Inversion of Hysteresis Loop



Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis ?

$$0 = \theta_1 V_{OUT} + (1 - \theta_1) V_{IN} \longrightarrow \begin{cases} 0 = \theta_1 V_{SATH} + (1 - \theta_1) V_{HYL} \\ 0 = \theta V_{SATL} + (1 - \theta) V_{HYH} \end{cases}$$

Solving, we obtain

$$V_{HYH} = \frac{\theta_1}{\theta_1 - 1} V_{SATL}$$

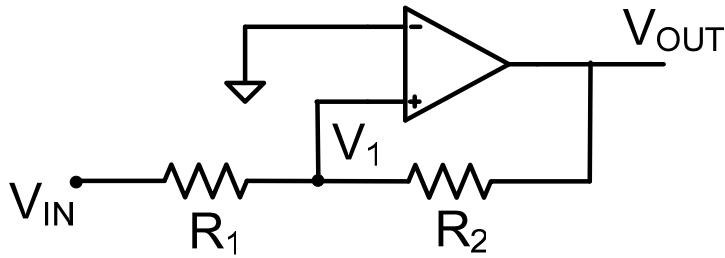
$$V_{HYL} = \frac{\theta_1}{\theta_1 - 1} V_{SATH}$$

If we define  $\theta$  as  $\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$  we obtain

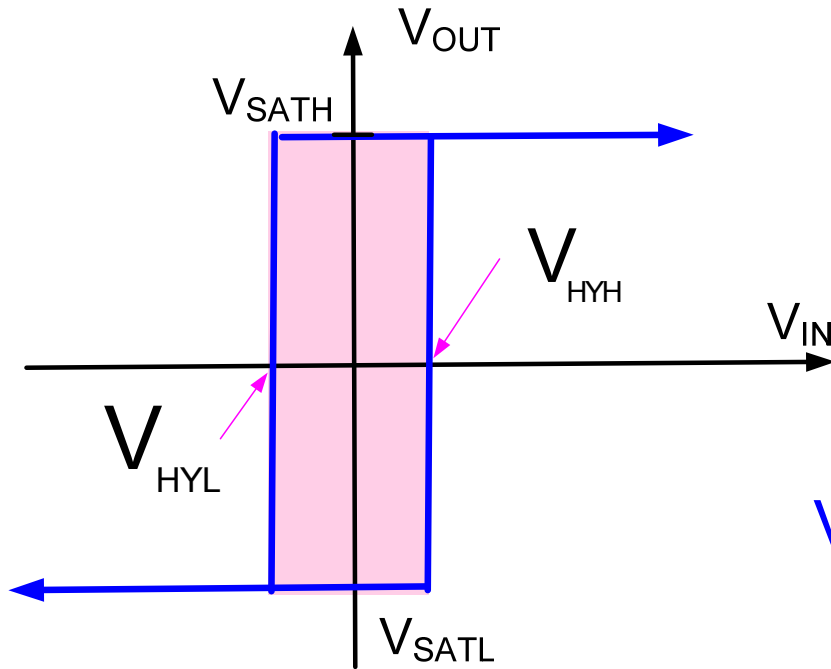
$$V_{HYH} = -\theta V_{SATL}$$

$$V_{HYL} = -\theta V_{SATH}$$

# Inversion of Hysteresis Loop



**Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis**



$$\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

$$V_{SATH} \cong V_{DD} \quad V_{SATL} \cong V_{SS}$$

$$V_{HYH} = -\theta V_{SATL}$$

$$V_{HYL} = -\theta V_{SATH}$$

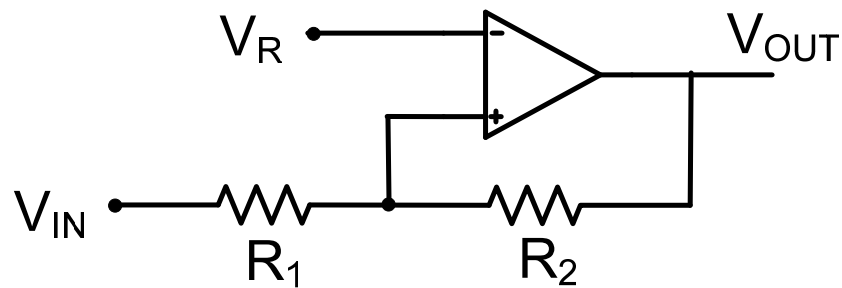
If  $V_{SATH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{SATL} = V_{SS} = -V_{DD}$

$$V_{HYH} = \theta V_{DD}$$

$$V_{HYL} = -\theta V_{DD}$$



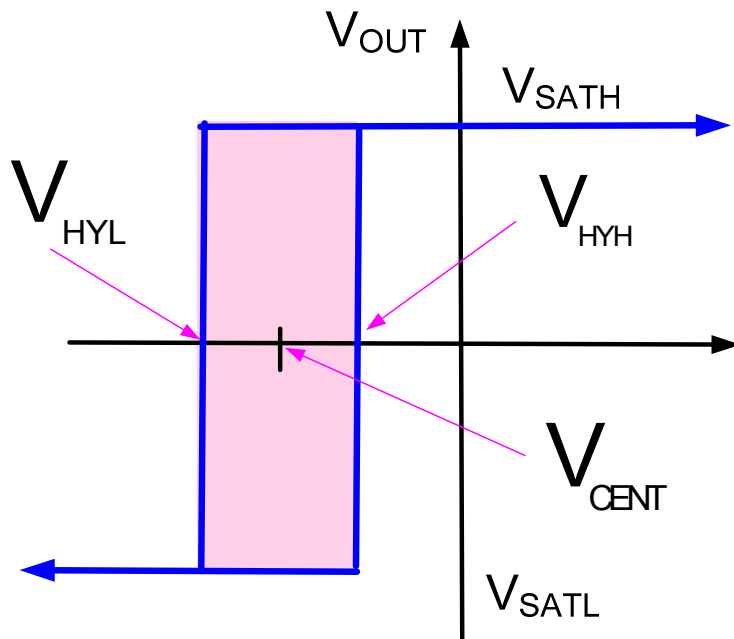
# Shifted Inverted Hysteresis Loop



$$\theta = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

$$V_{SATH} \cong V_{DD} \quad V_{SATL} \cong V_{SS}$$

## Shifted Noninverting Comparator with Hysteresis



$$V_{HYH} = (1+\theta)V_R - \theta V_{SATL}$$

$$V_{HYL} = (1+\theta)V_R - \theta V_{SATH}$$

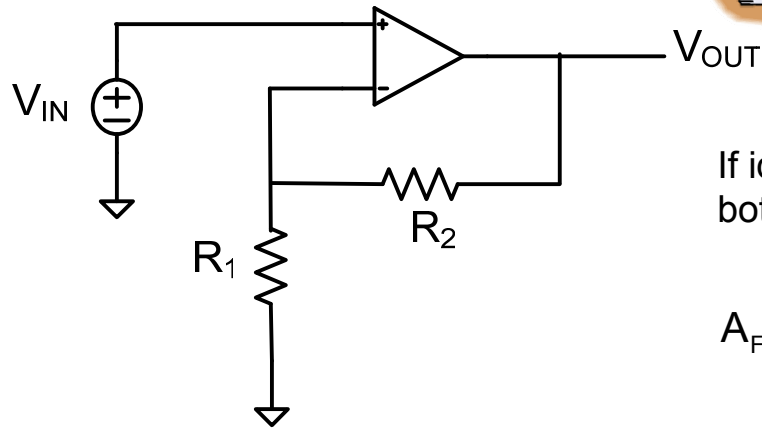
$$V_{CENT} = (1+\theta)V_R - \theta \left( \frac{V_{SATH} - V_{SATL}}{2} \right)$$

If  $V_{SATH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{SATL} = V_{SS} = -V_{DD}$

$$V_{HYH} = (1+\theta)V_R + \theta V_{DD} \quad V_{HYL} = (1+\theta)V_R - \theta V_{DD}$$



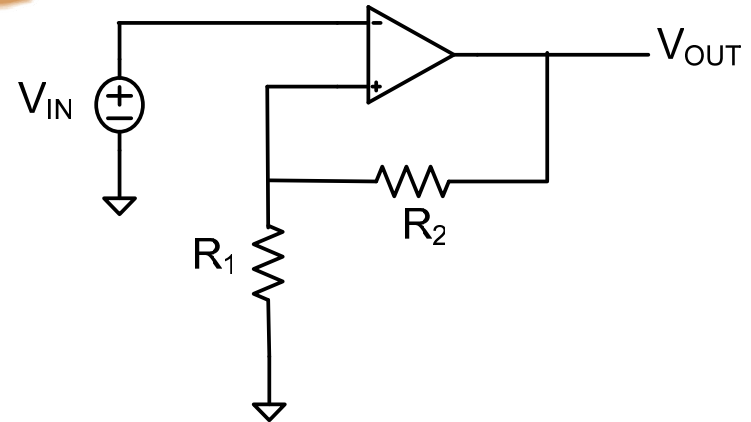
How about the other circuit?



Usually the good circuit

If ideal op amps  
both have gain

$$A_{FB} = 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$



Usually the bad circuit

This circuit is unstable !

Will now analyze the “usually good” circuit using nonlinear analysis method

**End of Lecture 21**