## EE 435

#### Lecture 15

#### **Compensation of Feedback Amplifiers**

## Analysis of Internal Node Compensated Two-Stage Op Amps



Consider single-ended input-output (differential analysis only slightly different) Can't get everything but can get most of the small-signal results Since internal node compensated, must have  $p_1 << p_2$ 

#### Analysis of Internal-Node Compensated Two-Stage Op Amps



$$\begin{array}{l} V_2 \left( sC_C + G_{OF1} + G_{OP1} \right) + G_{mF1} V_{IN} = 0 \\ V_{OUT} \left( sC_L + G_{OP2} + G_{OF2} \right) + G_{mF2} V_2 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$A_{V}(s) = \frac{-G_{mF1}}{sC_{C} + G_{OF1} + G_{OP1}} \bullet \frac{-G_{mF2}}{sC_{L} + G_{OP2} + G_{OF2}}$$

## Analysis of Internal-Node Compensated Two-Stage Op Amps



 $G_{\underline{\mathsf{mF2}}}$ 

$$\begin{split} A_{V0} = & \left( \frac{G_{mF1}}{G_{oF1} + G_{OP1}} \right) \left( \frac{G_{mF2}}{G_{OF2} + G_{OP2}} \right) & |p_2| = \frac{\left( G_{OF2} + G_{OP2} \right)}{C_L} \\ BW = |p_1| \\ & |p_1| = \frac{\left( G_{OF1} + G_{OP1} \right)}{C_C} & BW = |p_1| \\ & GB = \frac{G_{mF1}G_{mF2}}{\left( G_{OF2} + G_{OP2} \right)C_C} \end{split}$$

#### Analysis of Load Compensated Two-Stage Op Amps



Can't get everything but can get most of the small-signal results

#### Analysis of Externally Compensated Two-Stage Op Amps



$$A_{V0} = \left(\frac{G_{mF1}}{G_{OF1} + G_{OP1}}\right) \left(\frac{G_{mF2}}{G_{OF2} + G_{OP2}}\right) \qquad |p_2| = \frac{(G_{OF2} + G_{OP2})}{C_c}$$
$$BW = |p_2|$$
$$|p_1| = \frac{(G_{OF1} + G_{OP1})}{C_1} \qquad GB = \frac{G_{mF1}G_{mF2}}{(G_{OF1} + G_{OP1})}$$



If 
$$V_2 = -AV_1$$
 then for A large  
 $C_{1EQ} = C(1 + A) \approx CA$ 
 $C_{2EQ} = C(1 + \frac{1}{A}) \approx C$ 

Thus, a large effective capacitance can be created with a much smaller capacitor if a capacitor bridges two nodes with a large inverting gain !!

Note: The symbol "A" used in the Miller Capacitance should not be confused with the gain of the op amp



If 
$$V_2 = -AV_1$$
 then for A large  
 $C_{1EQ} = C(1 + A) \approx CA$ 
 $C_{2EQ} = C(1 + \frac{1}{A}) \approx C$ 

- If A changes with frequency, C<sub>1EQ</sub> and C<sub>2EQ</sub> are no longer pure capacitors
- More useful for giving a concept than for accurate actual analysis because of frequency dependence of A

The Basic Concept – from capacitance multiplication





$$X = [V_X - (-AV_X)]sC = V_X s[C(1+A)]$$

thus

$$Z_{IN} = \frac{V_X}{I_X} = \frac{1}{s[C(1+A)]}$$

So, if A is constant, input looks like a capacitor of value  $C_{EQ}=C(1+A)$ 



Does not behave as a capacitor for  $\omega > p$ 

#### Internal-Node Miller-Compensated Two-Stage Op Amp



Standard Internal Node Compensation

Miller Compensation

The second stage amplifier can be used to create a Miller capacitance at its input with no circuit overhead!

Compensation capacitance reduced by approximately the gain of the second stage! (the value of the two C<sub>c</sub>'s are not the same)

Since the gain of the second stage is not constant, however, a new analysis is needed

If  $C_C$  is small enough, this can become an internally compensated op amp with internal-node compensation





(Intuitive Analysis based upon C<sub>CEFF</sub> capacitance assumption)



- To find the high-frequency pole p<sub>2</sub>, the circuit has changed
- At high frequencies C<sub>C</sub> looks like a short circuit
- Define G<sub>2</sub> to be conductance facing C<sub>L</sub> for pole analysis



Note the F2 block is now "diode connected" at high frequencies

$$G_2 = G_{OP1} + G_{OF1} + G_{OP2} + G_{OF2} + G_{MF2} \simeq G_{MF2}$$



Will be shown later that C<sub>C</sub> introduces a zero in the gain function

$$A_{V0} = \left(\frac{G_{MF1}}{G_{OF1} + G_{OP1}}\right) \left(\frac{G_{MF2}}{G_{OF2} + G_{OP2}}\right) \qquad BW = \left(G_{OF1} + G_{OP1}\right) \left(\frac{G_{OF2} + G_{OP2}}{C_C G_{MF2}}\right) = \frac{G_{OF1} + G_{OP1}}{C_{CEFF}}$$

$$GB = \frac{G_{MF1}G_{MF2}}{\left(G_{OF2} + G_{OP2}\right)C_C} \qquad \text{If zero does not affect GB} \qquad GB = \frac{G_{MF1}}{C_{F1}}$$

C<sub>c</sub>

$$A(s) \simeq \frac{\left(\frac{s}{z_1} + 1\right)G_{MF1}G_{MF2}}{s^2C_CC_L + sC_CG_{MF2} + (G_{OF1} + G_{OP1})(G_{OF2} + G_{OP2})}$$



No, because the  $C_c$  decreased by the same factor!

## Basic Two-Stage Op Amp



- o Essentially just a cascade of two common-source stages
- o Same gain and pole expressions as developed for the cascade
- o Compensation Capacitor  $C_C$  used to get wide pole separation
- o Two poles in amplifier
- o No universally accepted strategy for designing this seemingly simple amplifier

Pole spread  $\cong 3 \beta A_{01} A_{02}$  makes  $C_C$  unacceptably large

#### Basic Two-Stage Op Amp (with Miller Compensation)



o Reduces C<sub>C</sub> by approximately A<sub>02</sub>

- o Pole spread  $\simeq 3 \beta A_{01}A_{02}$  makes size of C<sub>C</sub> manageable
- o One of the most widely used op amp architectures

#### Basic Two-Stage Miller Compensated Op Amp



**By inspection** (Notation:  $p_1 = -\tilde{p}_1$ ,  $p_2 = -\tilde{p}_2$ )



Will also get these results from a more complete (and time consuming) analysis This analysis was based only upon finding the poles and <u>will miss zeros if they exist</u>

(Will now obtain the actual gain which will show zeros if they exist)



(with Miller compensation)

Differential Small Signal Equivalent



**Differential Small Signal Equivalent** 



$$I_{\chi} = V_{\chi} (g_{02} + g_{04}) + g_{m2} \frac{V_{d}}{2} + g_{m4} V_{4}$$

$$V_{4} (g_{m3} + g_{01} + g_{03}) + g_{m1} \left( -\frac{V_{d}}{2} \right) = 0$$

$$I_{\chi} = V_{\chi} (g_{02} + g_{04}) + g_{m2} V_{d} \left( \frac{1 + \frac{g_{m1}}{g_{m2}} \left( \frac{g_{m4}}{g_{m3} + g_{02} + g_{03}} \right)}{2} \right)$$

$$I_{\chi} \cong V_{\chi} (g_{02} + g_{04}) + g_{m2} V_{d} \left( \frac{g_{m4}}{g_{m3} + g_{02} + g_{03}} \right) + g_{m2} V_{d} \right)$$

Differential Small Signal Equivalent







Since  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are matched as are  $M_3$  and  $M_4$ 

 $g_{md} = g_{m1}$  $g_{od} = g_{02} + g_{04}$ 

**Differential Small Signal Equivalent** 



**Differential Small Signal Equivalent** 



(with Miller compensation)



(This happens to be the general form for a two-stage structure with a quarter circuit and counterpart circuit !)

(with Miller compensation)



Solving we obtain:

$$\mathbf{V}_{\text{OUT}} = \mathbf{V}_{\text{d}} \frac{\mathbf{g}_{\text{mo}}(\mathbf{g}_{\text{mo}} - \mathbf{sC}_{\text{C}})}{\mathbf{s}^{2}\mathbf{C}_{\text{C}}\mathbf{C}_{\text{L}} + \mathbf{s}[\mathbf{g}_{\text{mo}}\mathbf{C}_{\text{C}} + (\mathbf{C}_{\text{C}}(\mathbf{g}_{\text{oo}} + \mathbf{g}_{\text{od}}) + \mathbf{C}_{\text{L}}\mathbf{g}_{\text{od}})] + \mathbf{g}_{\text{oo}}\mathbf{g}_{\text{od}}}$$

1

This simplifies to:

$$\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{OUT}} \cong \mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{d}} \frac{\mathbf{g}_{\mathsf{md}} (\mathbf{g}_{\mathsf{mo}} - \mathbf{sC}_{\mathsf{C}})}{\mathbf{s}^{2} \mathbf{C}_{\mathsf{C}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathsf{L}} + \mathbf{sg}_{\mathsf{mo}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathsf{C}} + \mathbf{g}_{\mathsf{oo}} \mathbf{g}_{\mathsf{o}}}$$

(This happens to be the general form for a two-stage structure with a quarter circuit and counterpart circuit !)

(with Miller compensation)

Differential Small Signal Equivalent

Summary:

$$A(s) = \frac{g_{md}(g_{mo} - sC_{C})}{s^{2}C_{C}C_{L} + sg_{mo}C_{C} + g_{oo}g_{od}}$$
  
where for the 7T implementation

$$g_{md} = g_{m1} = g_{m2}$$
$$g_{m0} = g_{m5}$$
$$g_{od} = g_{o2} + g_{o4}$$

$$\mathbf{g_{oo}} = \mathbf{g_{o5}} + \mathbf{g_{o6}}$$

Note presence of single RHP zero!

How does this compare to the intuitive approximate analysis that obtained only the poles?

**Detailed analysis** 

**Inspection Analysis** 



#### Same denominator so same poles and also same dc gain !

## Small Signal Analysis of Two-Stage Miller-Compensated Op Amp

(with Miller compensation)

$$A(s) = \frac{g_{md}(g_{m0} - sC_{C})}{s^{2}C_{C}C_{L} + sg_{m0}C_{C} + g_{oo}g_{od}}$$

S

Note this is of the form:

(Notation: 
$$p_1 = -\tilde{p}_1$$
  $p_2 = -\tilde{p}_2$   $z_1 = -\tilde{z}_1$ )

$$A(s) = A_0 \frac{\frac{z}{\tilde{z}_1} + 1}{\left(\frac{s}{\tilde{p}_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{\tilde{p}_2} + 1\right)}$$

This has two negative real-axis poles and one positive real-axis zero



(with Internal node compensation .... i.e. not Miller compensation)

Differential Small Signal Equivalent





(with Internal node compensation)

Differential Small Signal Equivalent



Solving we obtain:

$$V_{OUT} = V_{d} \frac{g_{m0}g_{md}}{(sC_{L} + g_{00})(sC_{C} + g_{0d})}$$

This can be approximated by :

$$V_{OUT} = V_d \frac{g_{m0}g_{md}}{s^2 C_C C_L + s C_C g_{00} + g_{00} g_{0d}}$$

Can show this is the same as was obtained by inspection !

How does the Gain of the Two-Stage Miller-Compensated Op Amp Compare with Internal Compensated Op Amp?



#### Simple pole calculations for 2-stage op amp

Since the poles of the 2-stage op amp must be widely separated, a simple calculation of the poles from the characteristic polynomial is possible.

Assume  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are the poles and  $|p_1| << |p_2|$ 



$$p_2 = -a_1$$
 and  $p_1 = -a_0/a_1$ 

# Example

A feedback amplifier has a characteristic polynomial of

# $D(s) = s^2 + 9000s + 1.8E3$

Without using the quadratic equation, determine the poles by inspection and determine the ratio of the two poles.

# solution

A feedback amplifier has a characteristic polynomial of

# $D(s) = s^2 + 9000s + 1.8E3$ $D(s) = s^2 + 9000s + 1.8E3$ $P_{h}$ =-9000 $D(s) = s^2 + 9000s + 1.8E3$ $P_1 = -2$

Ratio = 4500

Can now use these results to calculate poles of Basic Two-stage Miller Compensated Op Amp

From small signal analysis:

$$A(s) = \frac{g_{md}(g_{m5} - sC_{c})}{s^{2}C_{c}C_{L} + sg_{m5}C_{c} + g_{oo}g_{od}} \qquad g_{md} = g_{m1} = g_{m2}$$

$$p_{2} = -\frac{g_{m5}}{C_{L}} \qquad p_{1} = -\frac{g_{oo}g_{od}}{g_{m5}C_{C}}$$

$$A_{0} = \frac{g_{m5}g_{md}}{g_{oo}g_{od}}$$

$$GB = \frac{g_{m5}g_{md}}{g_{oo}g_{od}} \bullet |p_{1}| = \frac{g_{m5}g_{md}}{g_{oo}g_{od}} \bullet \frac{g_{oo}g_{od}}{g_{m5}C_{C}} = \frac{g_{md}}{C_{C}}$$

#### From Previous Inspection



Note the simple results obtained from inspection agree with the more time consuming results obtained from a small signal analysis

# Feedback applications of the twostage Op Amp



How does the amplifier perform with feedback?

How should the amplifier be compensated?

# Feedback applications of the twostage Op Amp **Open-loop Gain** $A(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)}$ Standard Feedback Gain $A_{FB}(s) = \frac{A(s)}{1 + A(s)\beta(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{D(s) + N(s)\beta(s)} \stackrel{\text{def n}}{=} \frac{N_{FB}(s)}{D_{FB}(s)}$ $N_{FR}(S) = N(S)$ $D_{FR}(s) = D(s) + \beta(s)N(s)$

- Open-loop and closed-loop zeros identical (for standard feedback gain)
- Closed-loop poles different than open-loop poles
- Often  $\beta(s)$  is not dependent upon frequency
- Open-loop zeros, gain, and  $\beta$  play a key role in determining closed-loop poles

# Feedback applications of the twostage Op Amp

Standard Feedback Gain

 $A_{FB}(s) = \frac{A(s)}{1 + A(s)\beta(s)} = \frac{\beta(s)}{1 + \frac{1}{A(s)\beta(s)}}$ 

**Open-loop Gain** 

$$A(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)}$$

Alternate Feedback Gain (often FB is not of "standard" form)

$$A_{FB}(s) = \frac{\frac{1}{\beta_1(s)}}{1 + \frac{1}{A(s) \ \beta(s)}} = \frac{\frac{\beta(s)}{\beta_1(s)} N(s)}{D(s) + N(s) \ \beta(s)}$$

In either case, denominators are the same and characteristic equation defined by

$$D_{FB}(s) = D(s) + \beta(s)N(s)$$

Often  $\beta(s)$  and  $\beta_1(s)$  are not dependent upon frequency and in this case

 $N_{FB}(s) = N(s)$ 

#### Basic Two-Stage Op Amp with Feedback

(with Miller compensation)



How does the Gain of the Two-Stage Miller-Compensated Op Amp Compare with Internal Compensated Op Amp with feedback  $A_{FB} = \frac{A}{1 + AB}$ ?





$$s^2C_CC_L + sC_Cg_{00} + g_{00}g_{0d}$$

$$A_{FB}(s) \cong \frac{g_{m0}g_{md}}{s^2 C_C C_L + s C_C g_{00} + \beta g_{m0} g_{md}}$$

Zero in open-loop gain introduces the  $-\beta g_{md}$  term in FB configuration

#### How was compensation done before the work of Fullagar ?



Internal node capacitor  $C_C$  or Miller  $C_C$  added externally Or "load compensation" before output buffer added externally

Termed "externally compensated"

# $\begin{array}{l} \text{Basic Two-Stage Op Amp} \\ \text{(with Miller compensation)} & {}^{A_{FB}} = \frac{A}{1+A\beta} \\ \\ & & \\$

 $\rm V_{SS}$ 

#### **Review of Basic Concepts**

Consider a second-order factor of a denominator polynomial, P(s), expressed in integer-monic form

 $P(s)=s^2+a_1s+a_0$ 

Then P(s) can be expressed in several alternative but equivalent ways

$$s^{2} + s\frac{\omega_{0}}{Q} + \omega_{0}^{2}$$
$$s^{2} + s2\zeta\omega_{0} + \omega_{0}^{2}$$
$$(s - p_{1})(s - p_{2})$$

and if complex conjugate poles,

$$(s+\alpha+j\beta)(s+\alpha-j\beta)$$

 $(s-re^{j\theta})(s-re^{-j\theta})$ 

and if negative real-axis poles

 $(s - p_1)(s - kp_1)$ 

These are 7 different 2-paramater characterizations of the second-order factor and it is easy to map from any one characterization to any other !

 $\{a_1 \ a_0\} \ \{\omega_0 \ Q\} \ \{\omega_0 \ \zeta\} \ \{p_1 \ p_2\} \ \{\alpha \ \beta\} \ \{r \ \theta\} \ \{p_1 \ k\}$ 

#### **Review of Basic Concepts**



Observe: Q=0.5 corresponds to two identical real-axis poles Q=.707 corresponds to poles making 45° angle with Im axis

# What closed-loop pole Q is typically required when compensating an op amp?





Recall:

Typically compensate so closed-loop poles make angle between 45° and 90° from imaginary axis

Equivalently: 0.5 < Q < .707

#### Basic Two-Stage Op Amp



(because it increases the pole Q and thus requires a larger  $C_C$ !) Closed-form expression for  $C_c$ !

#### Basic Two-Stage Op Amp

(with Miller compensation)

Standard Feedback Gain

$$A_{FB}(s) \cong \frac{g_{md}(g_{m0} - sC_{c})}{s^{2}C_{C}C_{L} + sC_{C}(g_{m0} - \beta g_{md}) + \beta g_{md}g_{m0}}$$

$$Q = \sqrt{\frac{C_{L}}{C_{C}}} \sqrt{\beta} \frac{\sqrt{g_{mo}} g_{md}}{g_{mo} - \beta g_{md}} \qquad C_{C} = \frac{C_{L}\beta}{Q^{2}} \frac{g_{mo}}{(g_{mo} - \beta g_{md})^{2}}$$

Question: Can we express  $C_C$  in terms of the pole spread k instead of in terms of Q? Recall when criteria  $2\beta A_o < k < 4\beta A_o$  was derived (Lect 13), started with expression:

No! Relationship between k and Q was developed for 2<sup>nd</sup>-order lowpass open-loop gain (i.e. no zeros present!)

#### Basic Two-Stage Op Amp with Feedback

(with Internal Node compensation)



#### Status on Compensation

Generally not needed for single-stage op amps

Analytical expressions were developed with  $A_{FB} = \frac{A}{1 + A\beta}$  for Two-stage with internal node compensation (no OL zeros) Two-stage with load compensation (no OL zeros) Two-stage with basic Miller compensation (OL zero, single series comp cap)

Will now develop a more general compensation strategy



# Stay Safe and Stay Healthy !

## End of Lecture 15