

# EE 435

## Spring 2010

### Lecture 1

### Course Outline

### Amplifier Design Issues

Instructor:

Randy Geiger  
2133 Coover  
[rlgeiger@iastate.edu](mailto:rlgeiger@iastate.edu)  
294-7745

Teaching Assistant:

Alex Lee  
[alexlsh@iastate.edu](mailto:alexlsh@iastate.edu)

# Course Information:

## Analog VLSI Circuit Design

Lecture: MWF 10:00 Rm 204 Marsten

Labs:	Wed	11:00-1:50	Rm 2046 Coover
	Wed	6:10-9:00	Rm 2046 Coover

Course Wiki: <http://wikis.ece.iastate.edu/vlsi>

### Course Description:

Basic analog integrated circuit and system design including design space exploration, performance enhancement strategies, operational amplifiers, references, integrated filters, and data converters.

# Course Information:

## **Lecture Instructor:**

Randy Geiger  
351 Durham  
Voice: 294-7745  
e-mail: [rlgeiger@iastate.edu](mailto:rlgeiger@iastate.edu)  
WEB: [www.randygeiger.org](http://www.randygeiger.org)

## **Laboratory Instructors:**

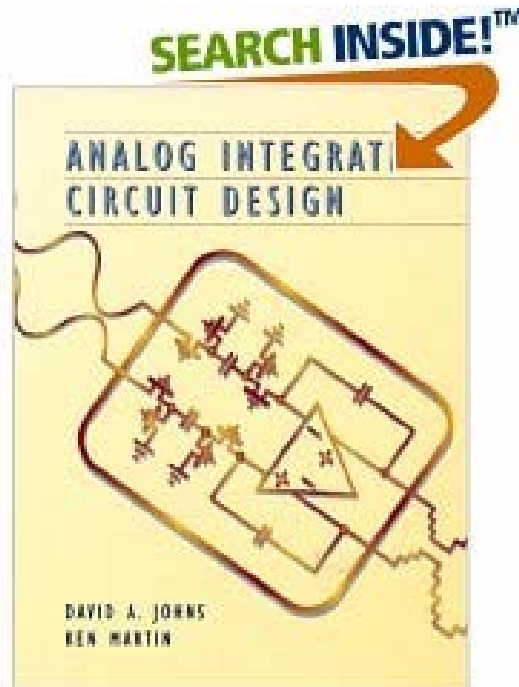
Chongxue Zhang and Tao Zeng  
Room 2205 Coover  
Voice: 294-0490  
e-mail: [chongxue@iastate.edu](mailto:chongxue@iastate.edu)  
e-mail: [zt123@iastate.edu](mailto:zt123@iastate.edu)

# Course Information:

Required Text:

## **Analog Integrated Circuit Design**

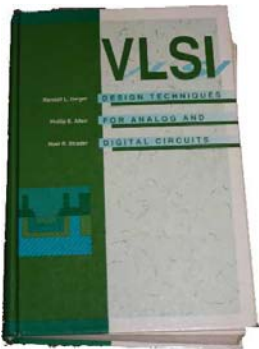
by D. Johns and K. Martin, Wiley, 1997



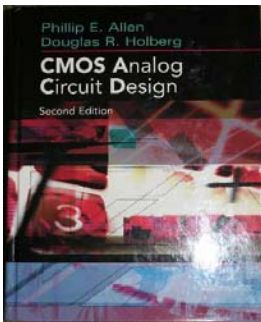
# Course Information:

## Reference Texts:

**VLSI Design Techniques for Analog and Digital Circuits**  
by Geiger, Allen and Strader, McGraw Hill, 1990



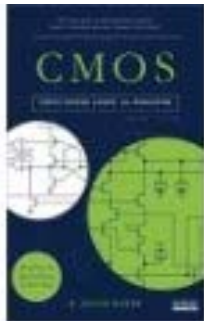
**CMOS Analog Circuit Design**  
by Allen and Holberg, Oxford, 2002.



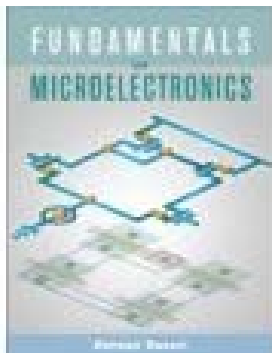
# Course Information:

Reference Texts:

**CMOS: Circuit Design, Layout, and Simulation – Second Edition** by J. Baker, Wiley, 2007.

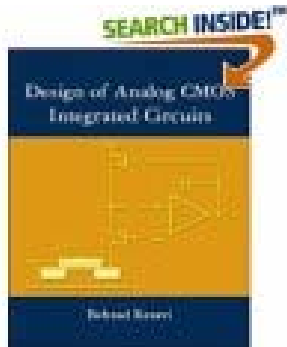


**Fundamentals of Microelectronics**  
by B. Razavi, McGraw Hill, 2008

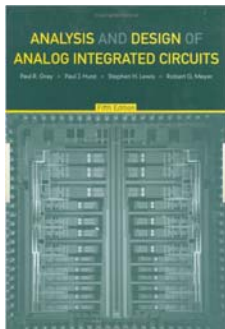


# Course Information:

## Reference Texts:



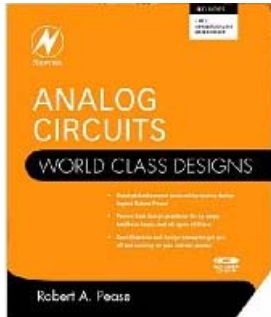
**Design of Analog CMOS Integrated Circuits**  
by B. Razavi, McGraw Hill, 1999



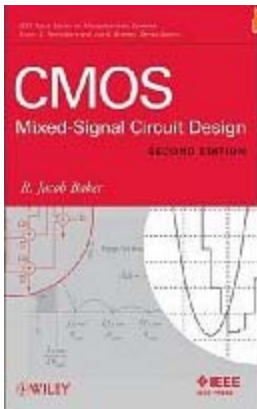
**Analysis and Design of Analog Integrated Circuits-5<sup>th</sup> Edition**  
Gray, Hurst, Lewis and Meyer, Wiley, 2009

# Course Information:

## Reference Texts:



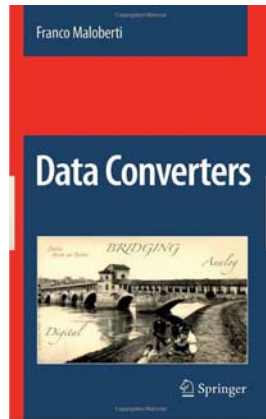
**Analog Circuits**  
by Robert Pease, Newnes, 2008



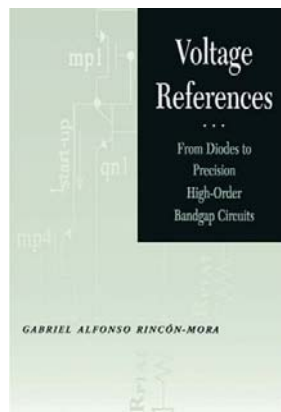
**CMOS Mixed-Signal Circuit Design – 2<sup>nd</sup> edition**  
by Jacob Baker, Wiley, 2009

# Course Information:

## Reference Texts:



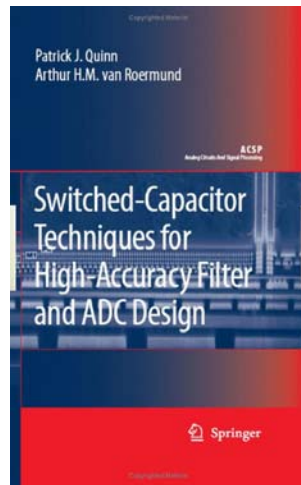
**Data Converters**  
by Franco Maloberti, Springer, 2007



**Voltage References**  
by Gabriel Rincon-Mora, Wiley, 2002

# Course Information:

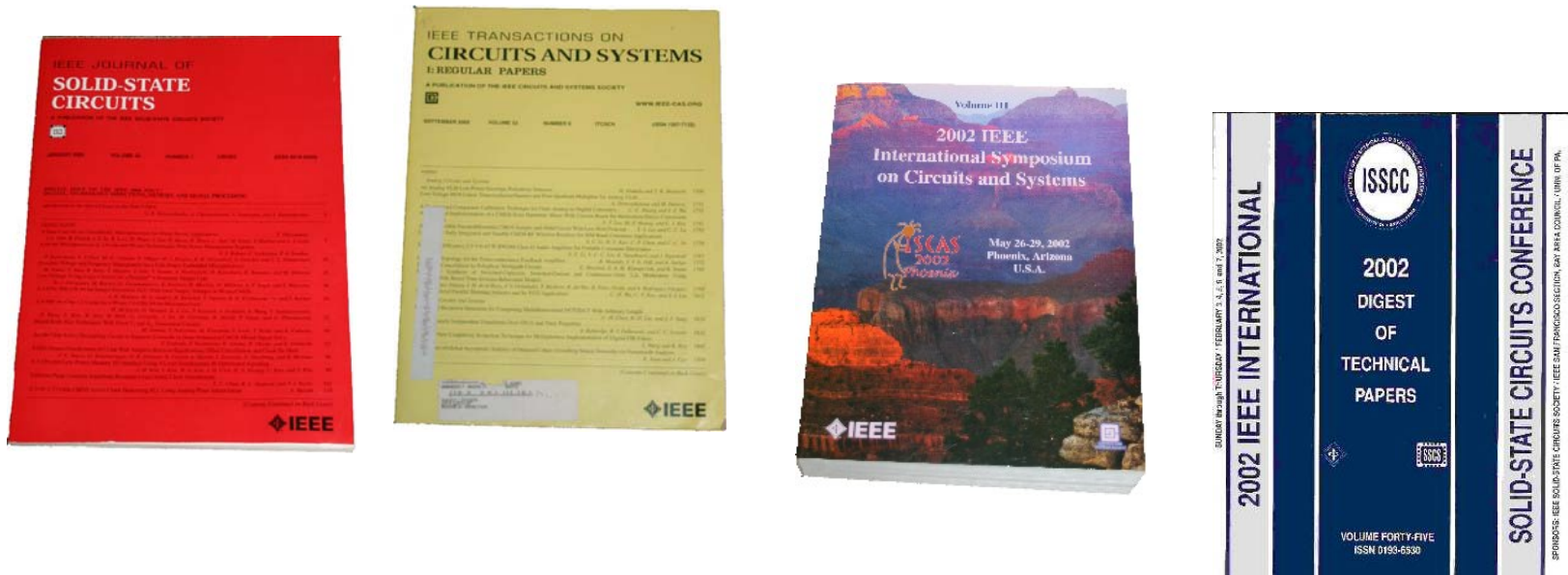
## Reference Texts:



**Switched-Capacitor Techniques for High-Accuracy Filter and ADC Design**  
by Patrick Quinn and Arthur Van Roermund,  
Springer, 2007

# Course Information:

## Reference Materials:





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# Course Information:

**Grading:** Points will be allocated for several different parts of the course. A letter grade will be assigned based upon the total points accumulated. The points allocated for different parts of the course are as listed below:

2 Exams	100 pts each
1 Final	100 pts.
Short Quizzes	15 pts. each
Homework	100 pts.total
Lab and Lab Reports	100 pts.total
Design Project	100 pts.

# Course Information:

## **Design Project:**

The design project will be the design of an 8-bit to 10-bit digital to analog converter (DAC). Additional details about the design project will be given after relevant material is covered in class. The option will exist to have this project fabricated through the MOSIS program. The design should be ready for fabrication and post-layout simulations are to be included as a part of the project.

There will also be an operational design project that will be graded as a part of the laboratory component of the course

# Course Information:

**Course Wiki**    <http://wikis.ece.iastate.edu/vlsi>

A Wiki has been set up for circuits and electronics courses in the department. Links to WEB pages for this course are on this Wiki. Students are encouraged to use the Wiki to share information that is relevant for this course and to access materials such as homework assignments, lecture notes, laboratory assignments, and other course support materials. In particular, there is a FAQ section where issues relating to the material in this course are addressed. Details about not only accessing a Wiki but using a Wiki to post or edit materials are also included on the Wiki itself. Students will be expected to periodically check the Wiki for information about the course.

# Course Information:

## E-MAIL:

I encourage you to take advantage of the e-mail system on campus to communicate about any issues that arise in the course. I typically check my e-mail several times a day. Please try to include "EE 435" in the subject field of any e-mail message that you send so that they stand out from what is often large volumes of routine e-mail messages.

# Topical Coverage

- Op Amp and Comparator Design
  - Design strategies
  - Usage and performance requirements
  - Building Blocks
    - Current Mirrors
    - Common Source, Common Drain and Common Gate Amplifiers
  - Simulation Strategies
  - Compensation
  - Amplifier Architectures

# Topical Coverage (cont)

- Data converters :  $A/D$  and  $D/A$ 
  - Nyquist-rate
  - Oversampled (if time permits)
- Voltage References
  - Bandgap References
  - $V_T$  References
- Integrated Filter Design
  - Switched Capacitor
  - Continuous-Time
- Phase-locked Loops (if time permits)

# The MWSCAS Challenge

**53rd IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems**



**Seattle, Washington**

**August 1st-4th, 2010**

## **Call for Papers**

The International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems (MWSCAS) is the oldest Circuits and Systems symposia sponsored by the IEEE. The 53rd symposium will be held in Seattle, Washington from 1st to 4th August 2010. MWSCAS 2010 will include oral and poster sessions; student contest; tutorials given by experts in circuits and systems topics; and special sessions. Topics include, but not limited to:

- Analog Circuits and Signal Processing
- Digital Circuits and Computer Arithmetic
- Programmable logic, VLSI, CAD and Layout
- Linear and Non-linear Circuits and Systems
- Nanoelectronics and Nanotechnology
- Communication and Wireless Systems
- Embedded Electronics
- Image Processing and Multimedia Systems
- RF, Microwave, and Optical Systems
- Neural Networks and Fuzzy Systems
- Control Systems, Mechatronics, and Robotics
- Optics and Photonics
- Power Electronics
- Bioengineering Circuits and Systems
- System Architectures
- Innovative Technologies
- MEMS/NEMS

# The MWSCAS Challenge

Prospective authors are invited to submit a 4-page Full Paper describing original work. Only electronic submissions will be accepted. Papers should include title, abstract, and topic category from the list above in standard IEEE two-column format for consideration as lecture or poster. Both formats have the same value, and presentation method will be chosen for suitability. All submissions should be made electronically through the conference website at <http://mwscas.eecs.wsu.edu>. Students are encouraged to participate in the best student paper award contest. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings subject to advance registration of at least one of the authors. For more information about Seattle, check out [Seattle's Visitor and Convention Bureau website](#).

## Important Dates

Proposals for Special Sessions and Tutorials	February 19, 2010
Regular and Student Papers	March 12, 2010
Special Session (INVITED) Paper Submission	April 23, 2010
Notification of Acceptance	May 10, 2010
Publication-ready Manuscripts (pdf)	June 4, 2010
Conference Pre-registration	June 11, 2010
Receipt of IEEE Copyright Form (accepted papers only)	June 11, 2010

- One letter grade increase in grade will be made retroactive if a paper relating to AMS circuit design is accepted and presented at the MWSCAS
- This would be a great opportunity to make a technical contribution and get experience/exposure in the research community
- Cost of attending the conference will be the responsibility of the student but the department and university often help cover costs if requests are made

What is an operational amplifier ?



# Fundamental Amplifier Design Issues

- Designer must be aware of what an amplifier really is
- Designer must be aware of the real customer needs
- Design requirements for application-specific amplifier dramatically different than those of catalog part
- Many amplifiers are over-designed because real needs of customer not conveyed
- Conventional wisdom will not necessarily provide best or even good or even viable solution

# How does an amplifier differ from an operational amplifier?

- When operated linearly, an operational amplifier is an amplifier that is intended to be used in a feedback application
  - Feedback is needed to improve linearity and gain accuracy
- The more general amplifier is generally used open-loop
- Conventional wisdom : an open-loop amplifier is much simpler to design and use than an op amp, will have better high-frequency performance, and will be less linear

# What is an Operational Amplifier?

Lets see what the experts say !



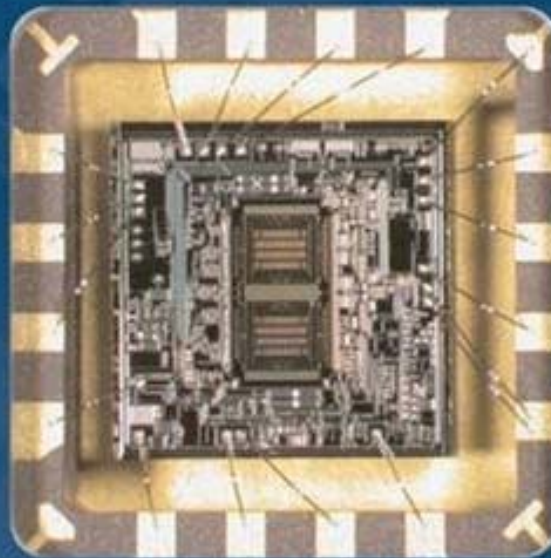
Consider one of the most popular textbooks on the subject used in the world today

# What is an amplifier?

- Voltage Amplifier?
  - Voltage, Current, Transresistance, Transconductance
  - Physical stimulus to electrical output
- Many Amplifier Architectures Exist
  - Common Source, Common Drain, Common Gate, Operational Amplifier, Two-stage, OTA, Fully Differential, Single-Ended, Instrumentation, LNA, Current Mirror,.....

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## 2.1.2 Function and Characteristics of the Ideal Op Amp

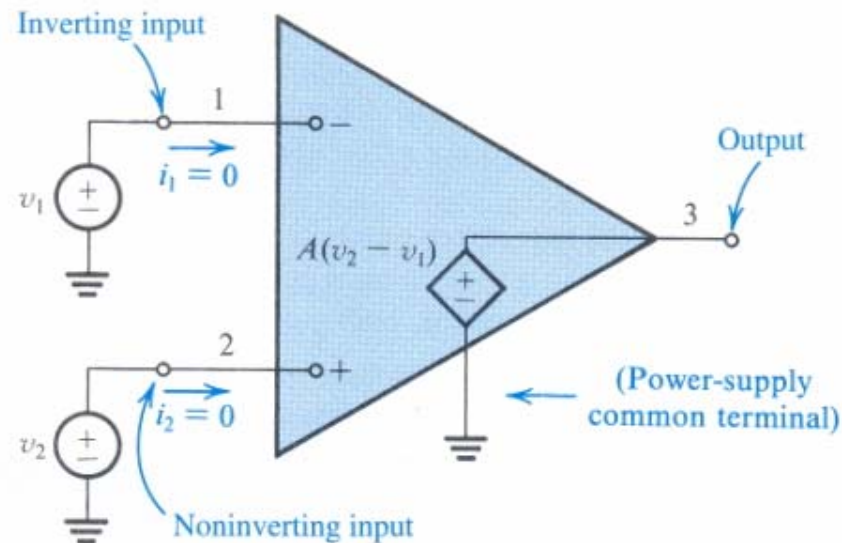
We now consider the circuit function of the op amp. The op amp is designed to sense the difference between the voltage signals applied at its two input terminals (i.e., the quantity  $v_2 - v_1$ ), multiply this by a number  $A$ , and cause the resulting voltage  $A(v_2 - v_1)$  to appear at output terminal 3. Here it should be emphasized that when we talk about the voltage at a terminal we mean the voltage between that terminal and ground; thus  $v_1$  means the voltage applied between terminal 1 and ground.

The ideal op amp is not supposed to draw any input current; that is, the signal current into terminal 1 and the signal current into terminal 2 are both zero. In other words, the input impedance of an ideal op amp is supposed to be infinite.

How about the output terminal 3? This terminal is supposed to act as the output terminal of an ideal voltage source. That is, the voltage between terminal 3 and ground will always be equal to  $A(v_2 - v_1)$ , independent of the current that may be drawn from terminal 3 into a load impedance. In other words, the output impedance of an ideal op amp is supposed to be zero.



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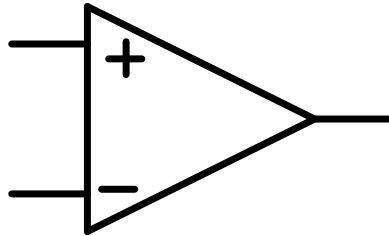


**FIGURE 2.3** Equivalent circuit of the ideal op amp.

**TABLE 2.1** Characteristics of the Ideal Op Amp

1. Infinite input impedance
2. Zero output impedance
3. Zero common-mode gain or, equivalently, infinite common-mode rejection
4. Infinite open-loop gain  $A$
5. Infinite bandwidth

# What is an Operational Amplifier?



## Textbook Definition:

- Voltage Amplifier with Very Large Gain
  - Very High Input Impedance
  - Very Low Output Impedance
- Differential Input and Single-Ended Output

This represents the Conventional Wisdom !

# Why are Operational Amplifiers Used?

**Harold Stephen Black** (April 14, 1898 – December 11, 1983) was an American [electrical engineer](#), who revolutionized the field of applied electronics by inventing the [negative feedback](#) amplifier in 1927. To some, his invention is considered the most important breakthrough of the twentieth century in the field of [electronics](#), since it has a wide area of application. This is because all electronic devices (vacuum tubes, bipolar transistors and MOS transistors) invented by mankind are basically nonlinear devices. It is the invention of negative feedback which makes highly linear amplifiers possible. Negative feedback basically works by sacrificing gain for higher linearity (or in other words, smaller [distortion](#) or smaller [intermodulation](#)). By sacrificing gain, it also has an additional effect of increasing the bandwidth of the amplifier. However, a negative feedback amplifier can be unstable such that it may oscillate. Once the stability problem is solved, the negative feedback amplifier is extremely useful in the field of electronics. Black published a famous paper, *Stabilized feedback amplifiers*, in 1934.



# Why are Operational Amplifiers Used?

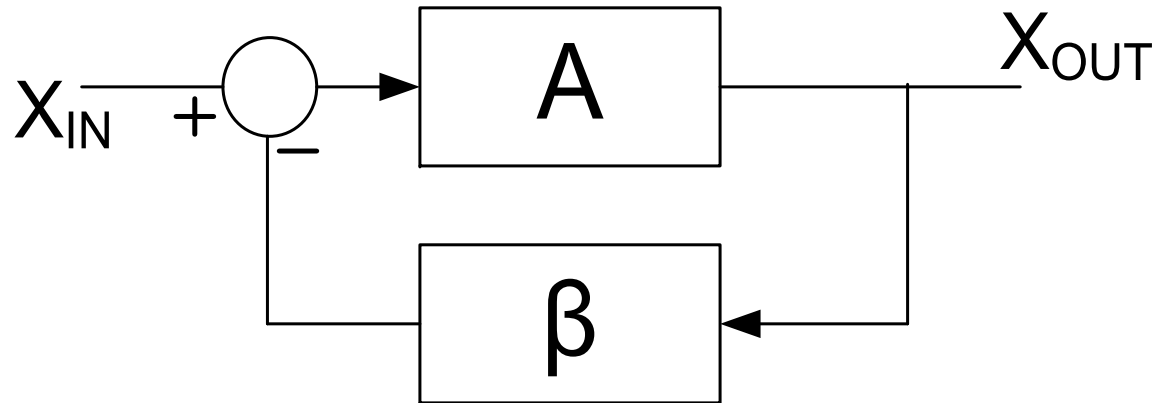
*H. Black, "Stabilized Feed-Back Amplifiers", Electrical Engineering, vol. 53, no. 1, pp. 114–120, Jan. 1934*



“Due to advances in vacuum-tube development and amplifier technique, it now is possible to secure any desired amplification of the electrical waves used in the communication field. When many amplifiers are worked in tandem, however, it becomes difficult to keep the over-all circuit efficiency constant, variations in battery potentials and currents, small when considered individually, adding up to produce serious transmission changes for the over-all circuit. Furthermore, although it has remarkably linear properties, when the modern vacuum tube amplifier is used to handle a number of carrier telephone channels, extraneous frequencies are generated which cause interference between the channels. To keep this interference within proper bounds involves serious sacrifice of effective amplifier capacity or the use of a push-pull arrangement which, while giving some increase in capacity, adds to maintenance difficulty.

However, by building an amplifier whose gain is made deliberately, say 40 decibels higher than necessary (10000 fold excess on energy basis) and then feeding the output back to the input in such a way as to throw away the excess gain, **it has been found possible to effect extraordinary improvement in constancy of amplification and freedom from nonlinearity.**”

# Why are Operational Amplifiers Used?



Input and Output Variables intentionally designated as “X” instead of “V”

$$\frac{X_{out}}{X_{in}} = A_F = \frac{A}{1 + A\beta} = \underset{\approx}{A \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\beta}$$

**Op Amp is Enabling Element Used to Build Feedback Networks !**

# What Characteristics are Needed for Op Amps?

$$A_F = \frac{A}{1 + A\beta} \approx \frac{1}{\beta}$$

## 1. Very Large Gain

To make  $A_F$  insensitive to variations in  $A$

To make  $A_F$  insensitive to nonlinearities of  $A$

# What Characteristics are Needed for Op Amps?

## 1. Very Large Gain

and ...

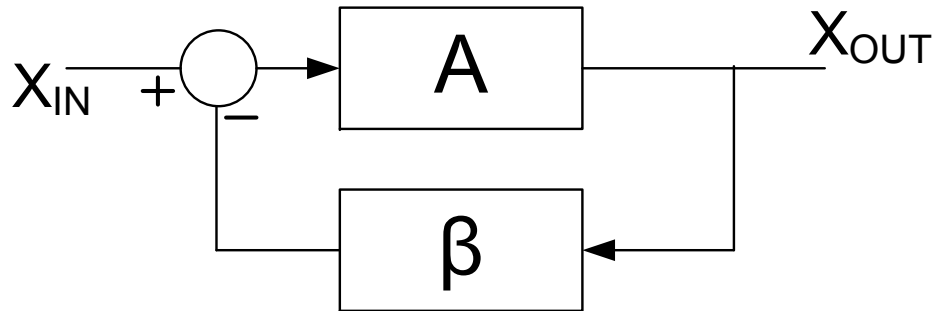
2. Low Output Impedance
3. High Input Impedance
4. Large Output Swing
3. Large Input Range
4. Good High-frequency Performance
5. Fast Settling
6. Adequate Phase Margin
7. Good CMRR
8. Good PSRR
9. Low Power Dissipation
10. Reasonable Linearity
11. . . .

# What Characteristics are **Really** Needed for Op Amps?

- For Catalog Component
  - Those that are needed for the data sheet
- For Integrated Op Amp
  - Only those that are needed for the specific application
  - Often only one or two characteristics are of concern in a specific application

**Avoid over-design to meet performance specifications that are not needed!**

# Amplifier Types



$$A_F = \frac{X_{OUT}}{X_{IN}} = \frac{A}{1 + A\beta} \quad \begin{matrix} A \rightarrow \infty \\ \approx \end{matrix} \frac{1}{\beta}$$

Port Variables		Type of Amplifier		Amplifier Terminology
X <sub>in</sub>	X <sub>out</sub>	A	β	
V	V	Voltage	Voltage	Op Amp
V	I	Transconductance	Transresistance	Transconductance
I	V	Transresistance	Transconductance	Transresistance
I	I	Current	Current	Current

What type of operational amplifier is needed?

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

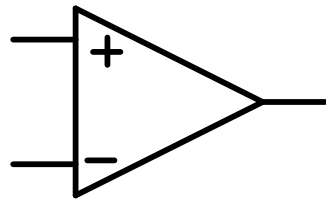
Port Variables		Amplifier Terminology	Ideal Port Impedances	
Xin	Xout		Input	Output
V	V	Op Amp	$\infty$	0
V	I	<b>T</b> ransconductance	$\infty$	$\infty$
I	V	<b>T</b> ransresistance	0	0
I	I	Current	0	$\infty$

Different types of op amps can be used in feedback amplifier but summing network performs different functions depending upon type of op amp used !

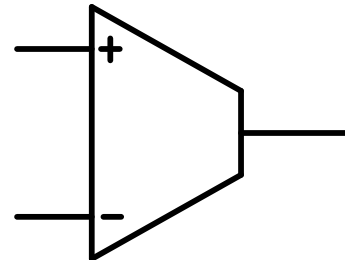
**Dramatic Differences in Ideal Port Impedances!**

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

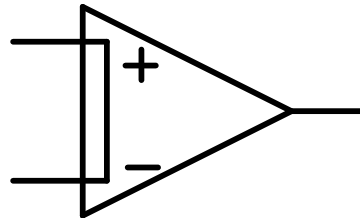
## Four Basic Types of Operational Amplifiers:



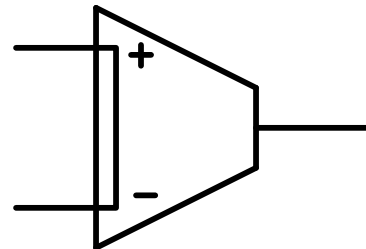
Voltage



Transconductance

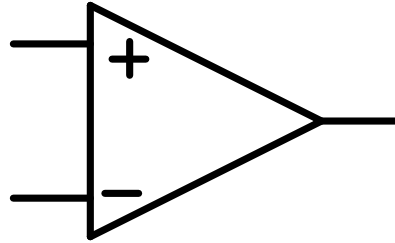


Transresistance



Current

# What is an Operational Amplifier?



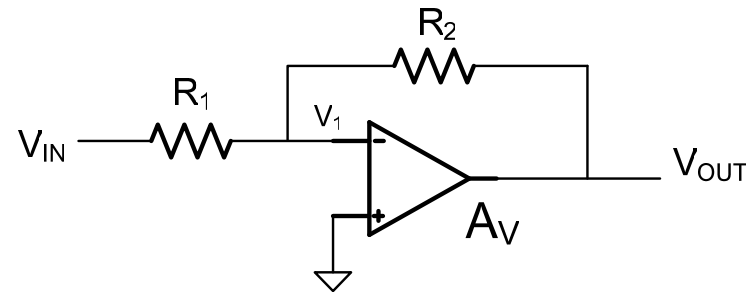
## Textbook Definition:

- Voltage Amplifier with Very Large Gain
  - Very High Input Impedance
  - Very Low Output Impedance
- Differential Input and Output

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

**Example: Standard Textbook Analysis of Finite Gain Voltage Amplifier**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_1 &= \left( \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \right) V_{OUT} + \left( \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \right) V_{IN} \\ V_{OUT} &= -A_V V_1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

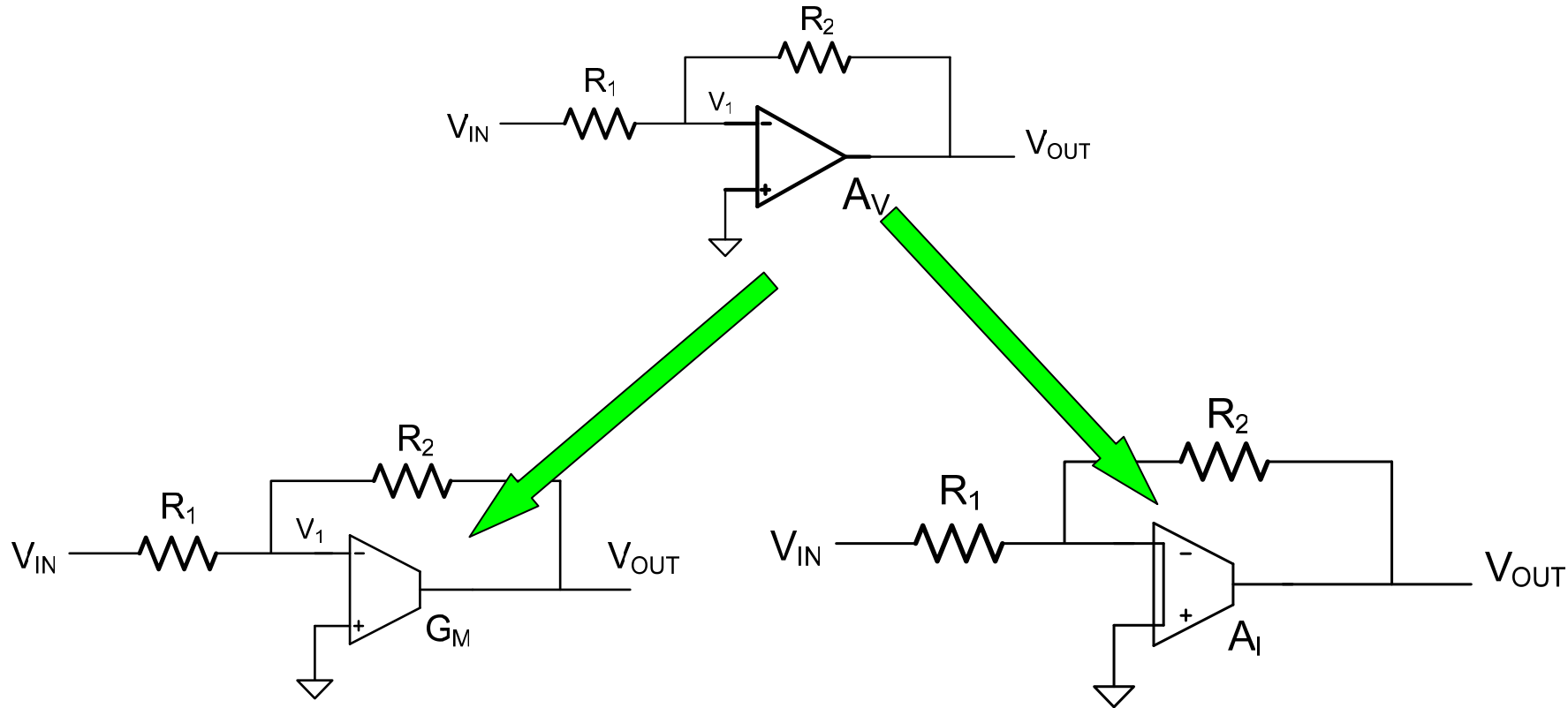


$$A_{VF} = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} = \frac{-\frac{R_2}{R_1}}{1 + \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) \left( \frac{1}{A_V} \right)} \underset{A_V \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} -\frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

**Implicit Assumption: Op Amp is a high gain voltage amplifier with infinite input impedance and zero output impedance**

**Does this imply that operational amplifiers (at least for this application) should be good voltage amplifiers?**

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

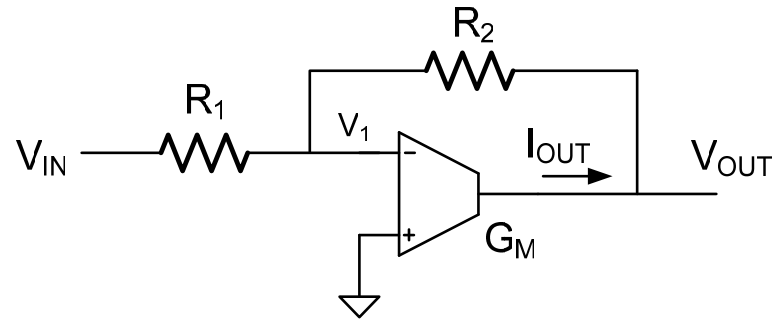


How would this feedback voltage amplifier perform if the voltage op amp were replaced with a transconductance op amp or a current op amp?

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

Consider using OTA for “Op Amp”

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_{OUT} &= -G_M V_1 \\ V_1 &= \left( \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \right) V_{OUT} + \left( \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \right) V_{IN} \\ V_{OUT} &= V_1 + I_{OUT} R_2 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



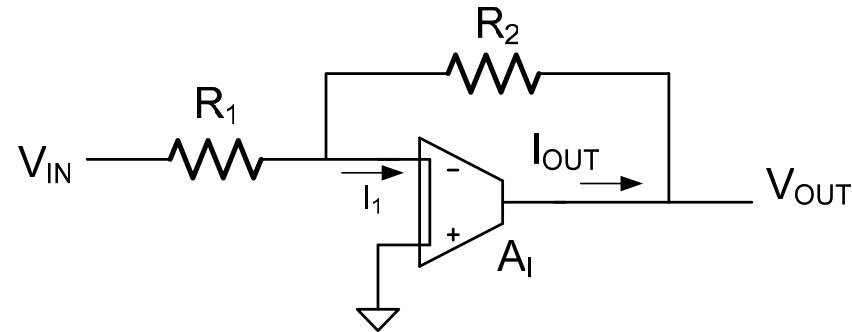
$$A_{VF} = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} = \frac{-\frac{R_2}{R_1}}{1 + \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) \left( \frac{1}{G_M R_2 - 1} \right)} \stackrel{G_M \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} -\frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

**Voltage gain with feedback is identical to that obtained with a “voltage” Op Amp provided  $G_M$  large !**

# What type of operational amplifier is needed?

Consider using Current Amplifier for “Op Amp”

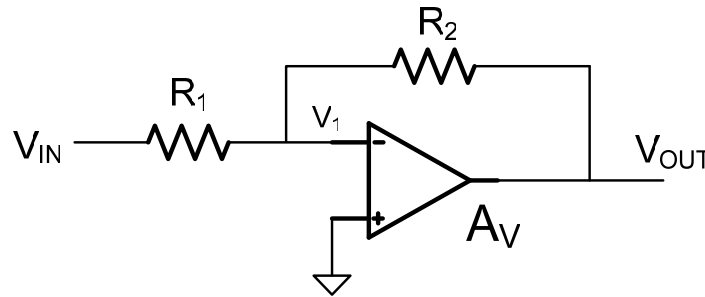
$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_{\text{OUT}} &= I_{\text{OUT}} R_2 \\ I_1 &= \frac{V_{\text{IN}}}{R_1} + \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{R_2} \\ I_{\text{OUT}} &= -A_I I_1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$



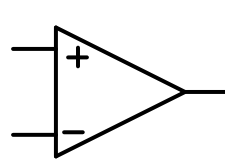
$$A_{\text{VF}} = \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}}} = \frac{-\frac{R_2}{R_1}}{1 + \frac{1}{A_I}} \stackrel{A_I \rightarrow \infty}{\simeq} \rightarrow -\frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

**Voltage gain with feedback is identical to that obtained with a “voltage” Op Amp provided  $A_I$  large !**

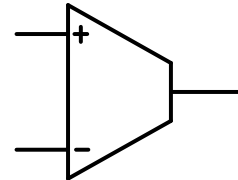
# What type of operational amplifier is needed?



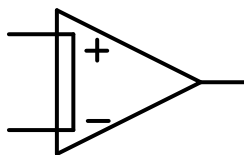
All four types of amplifiers will give the same closed loop gain provided the corresponding open loop gain is sufficiently large !



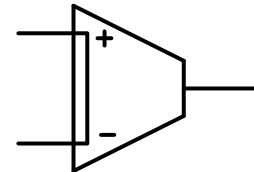
Voltage



Transconductance



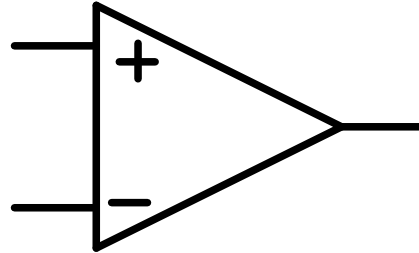
Transresistance



Current

A large gain is needed for an operational amplifier and if the gain is sufficiently large, the type of amplifier and the port input and output impedances are not of concern

# What is an Operational Amplifier?

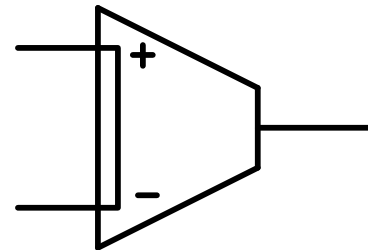
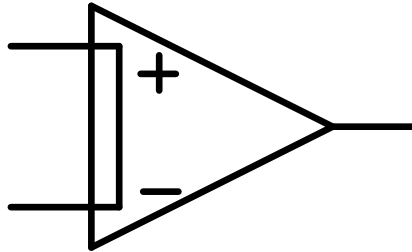
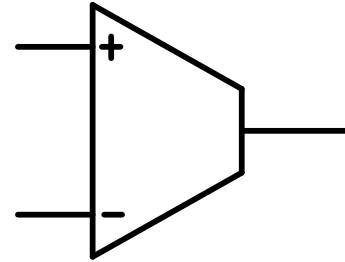
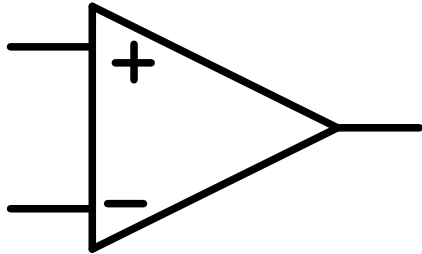


Textbook Definition:

- Voltage Amplifier with Very Large Gain
  - Very High Input Impedance
  - Very Low Output Impedance
- Differential Input and Single-Ended Output

**If the high input impedance and low output impedance are not needed, how about the other property?**

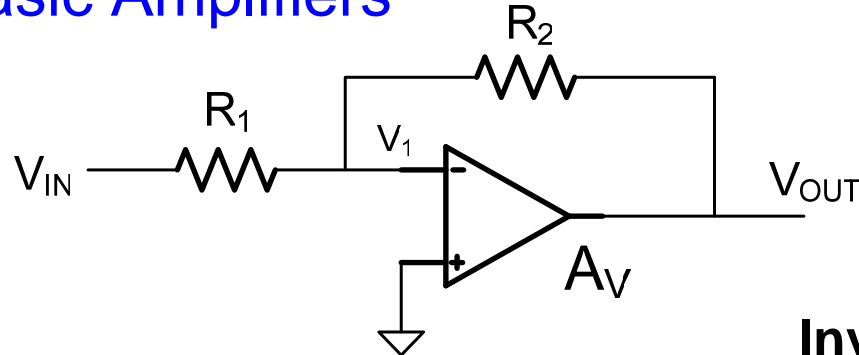
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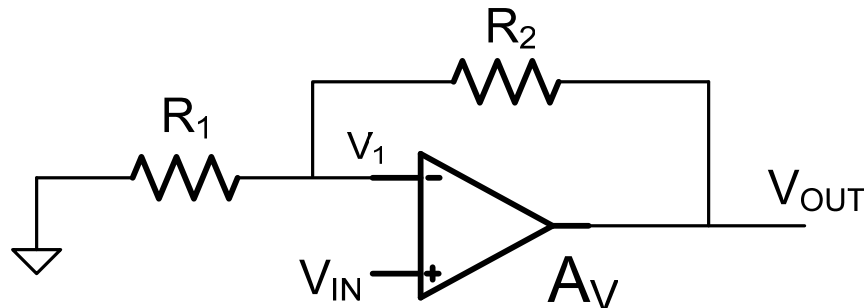
- Amplifier with Very Large Gain
- Differential Input and Single-Ended Output ?

# Are differential input and single-ended outputs needed?

## Consider Basic Amplifiers



**Inverting Amplifier**

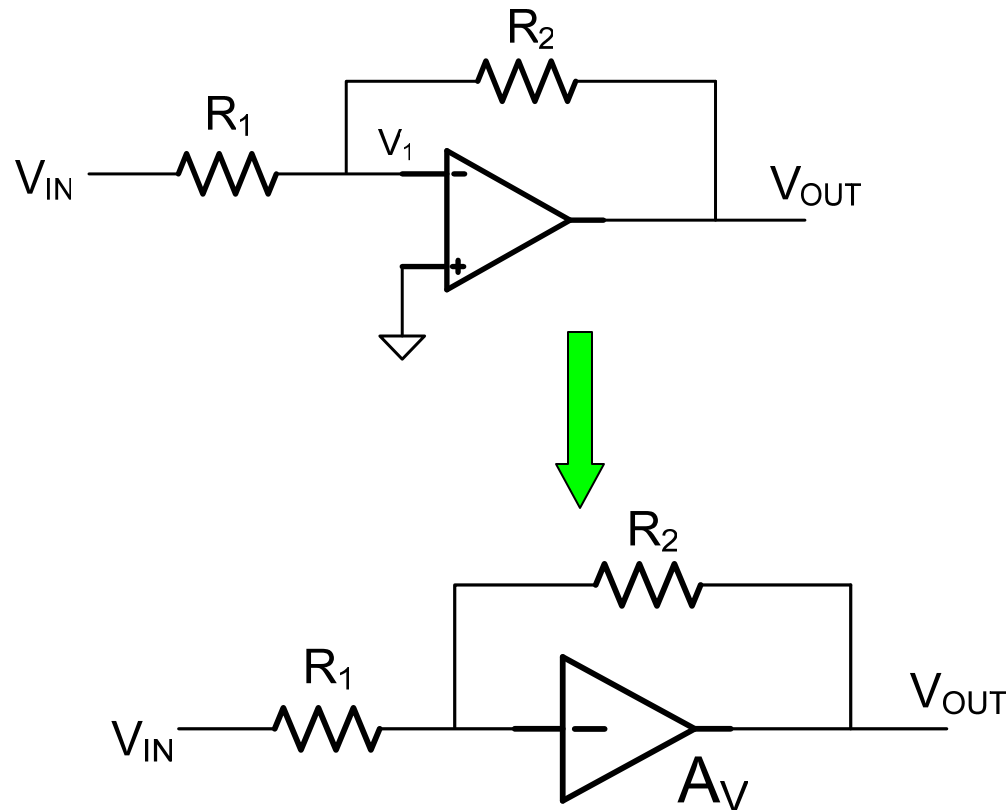


**Noninverting Amplifier**

**Only single-ended input is needed for Inverting Amplifier !**

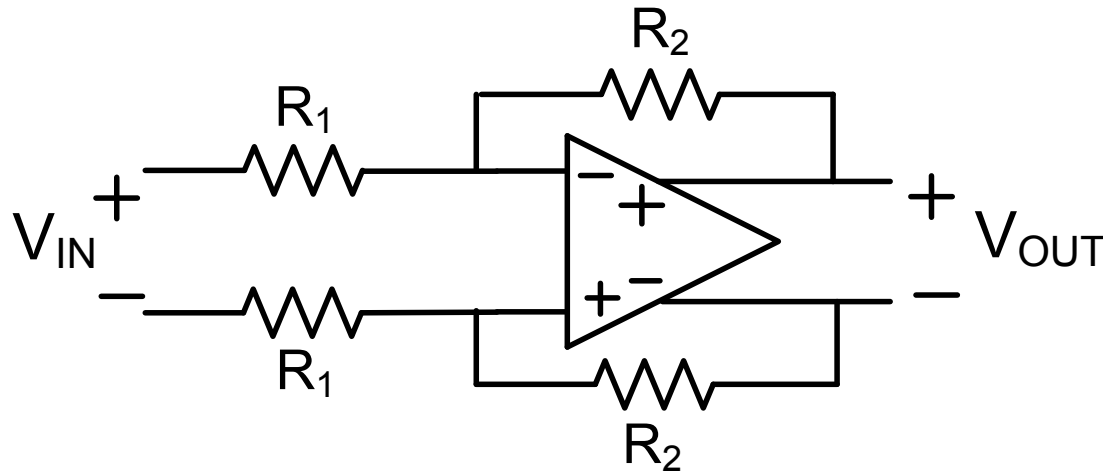
**Many applications only need single-ended inputs !**

# Basic Inverting Amplifier Using Single-Ended Op Amp



**Inverting Amplifier with Single-Ended Op Amp**

# Fully Differential Amplifier



- Widely (almost exclusively) used in integrated amplifiers
- Seldom available in catalog parts