

# MOSFET Current-Voltage Characteristics

COE 360

Principles of VLSI Design

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Computer Engineering Department

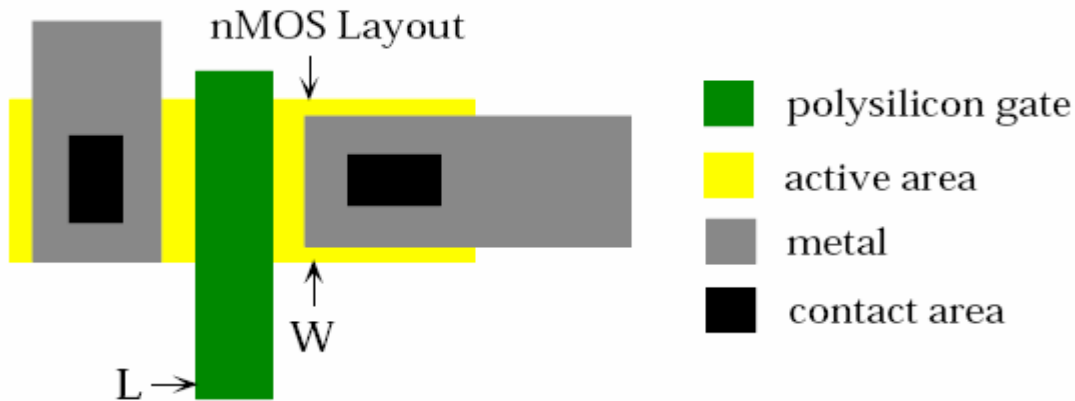
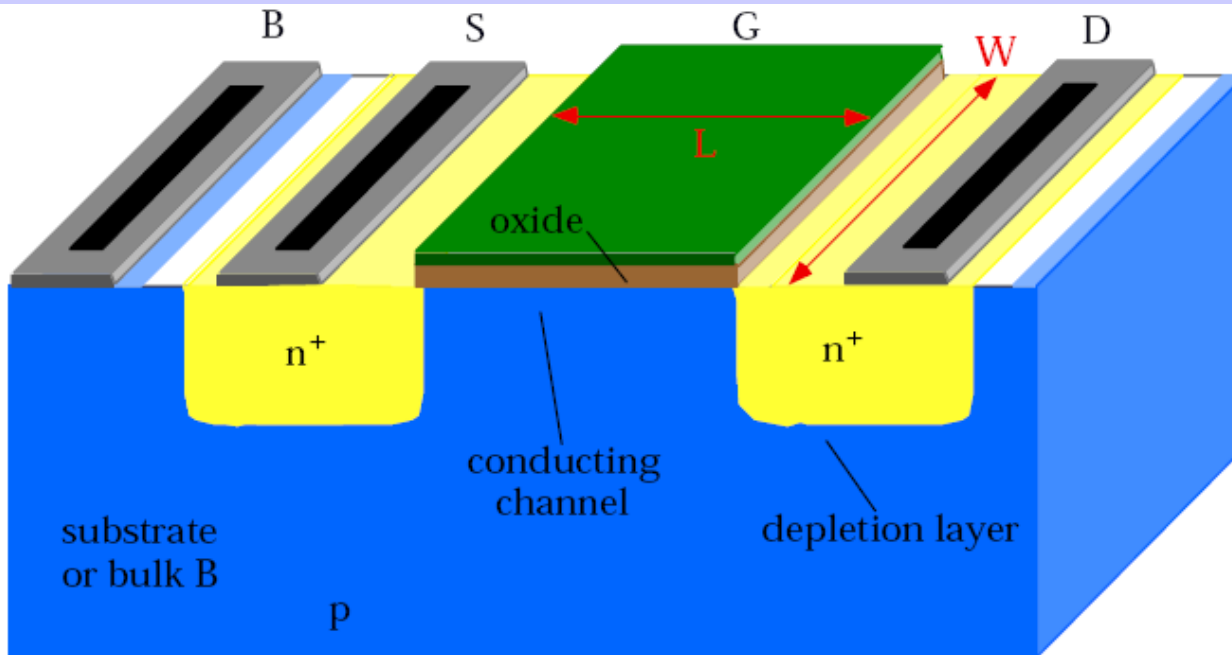
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals

# Outline

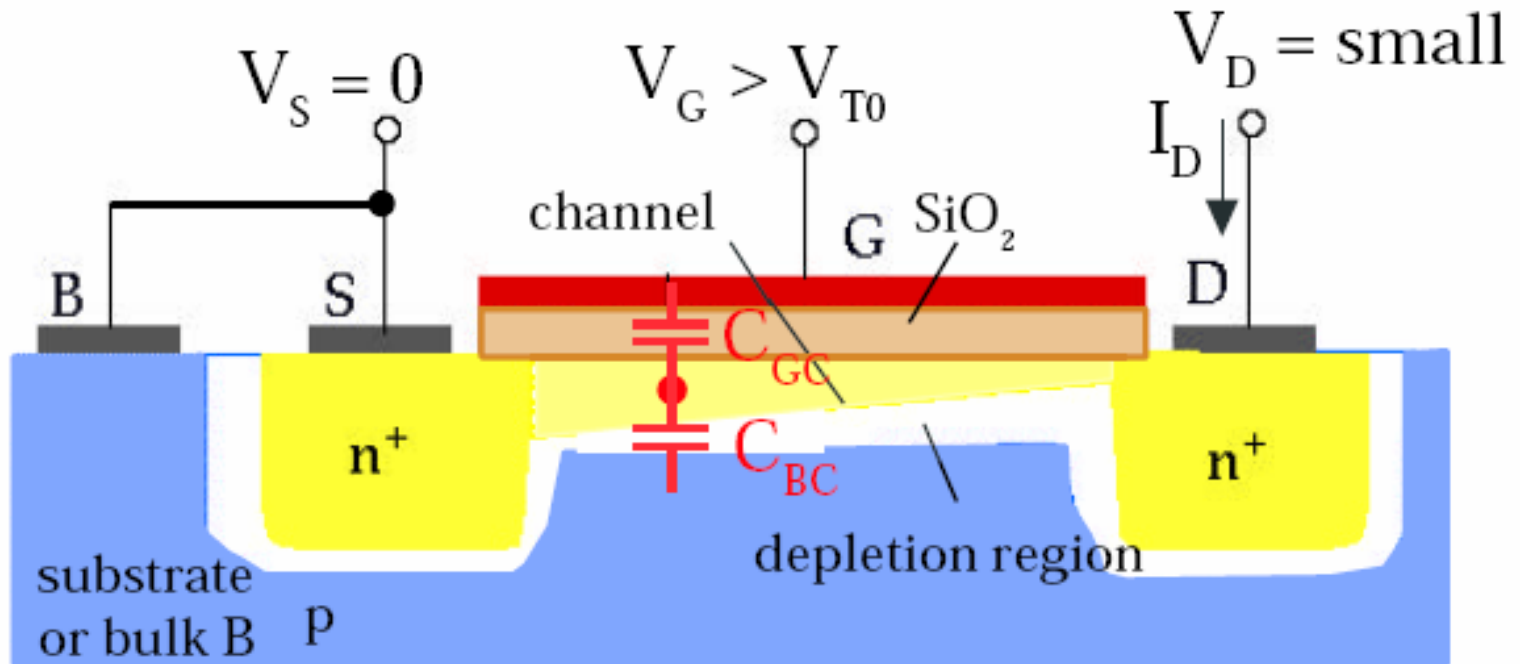
- ❖ MOS Operation Regions
- ❖ MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics
- ❖ Linear Region Current Equation
- ❖ Saturation Region Current Equation
- ❖ Channel Length Modulation
- ❖ Effective Channel Length and Width

Based on Slides of Kenneth R. Laker, University of Pennsylvania

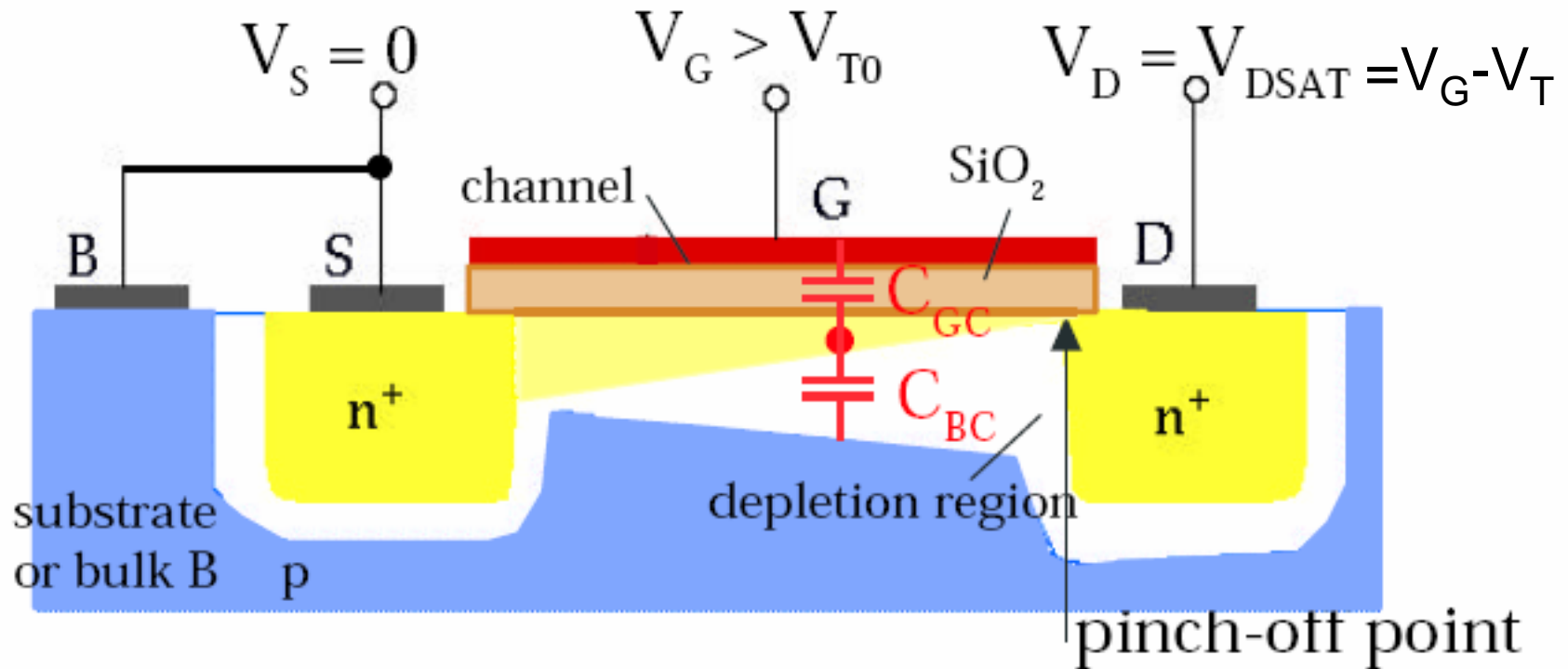
# NMOS Transistor Structure



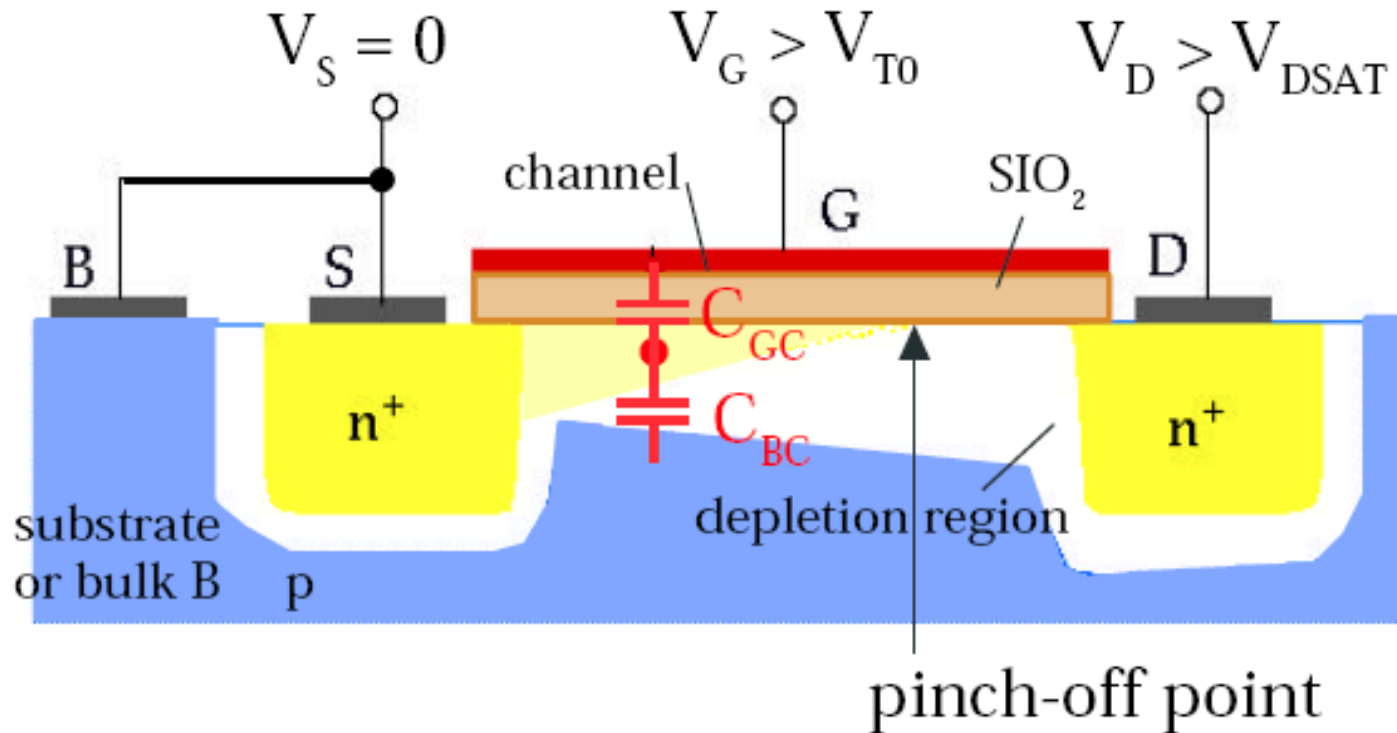
# NMOS Transistor in Linear Region



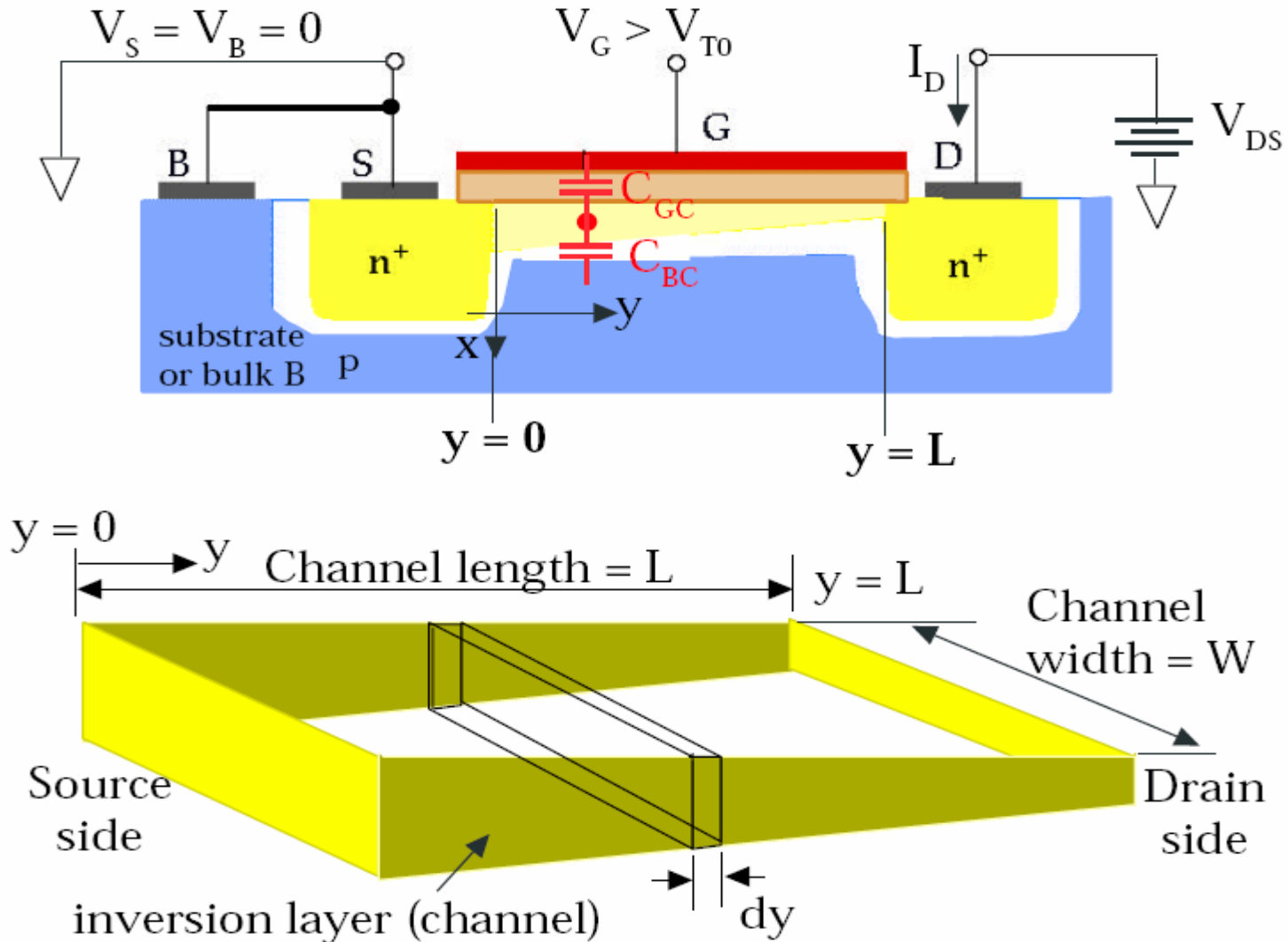
# NMOS Transistor at Edge of Saturation



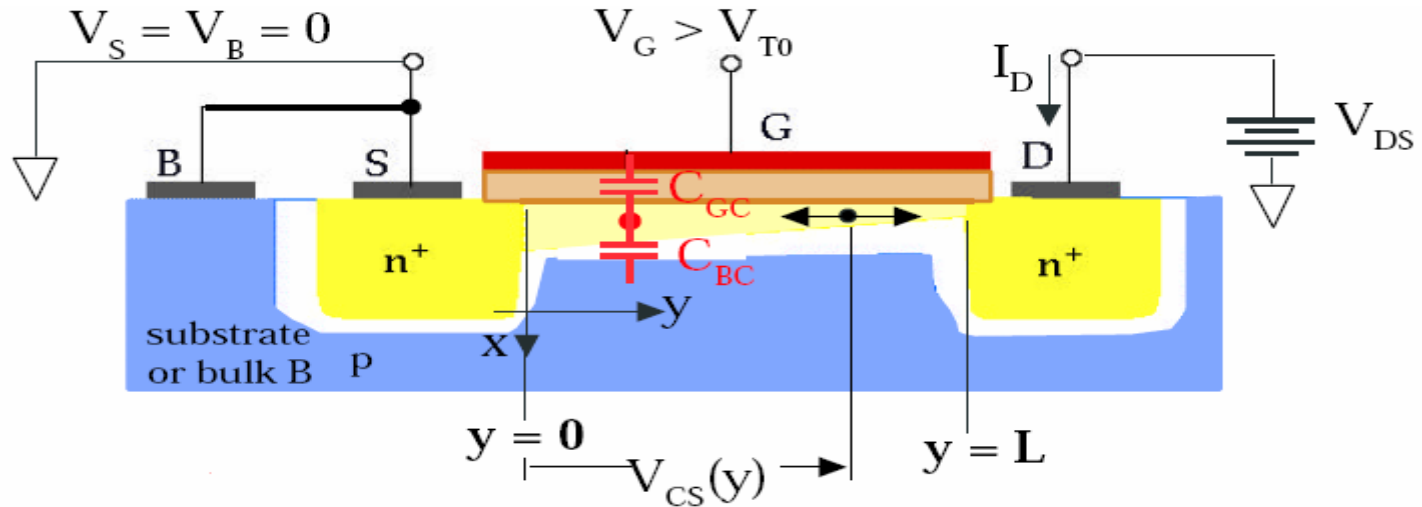
# NMOS Transistor in Saturation



# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics



# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics



## Boundary conditions:

$$V_{CS}(y = 0) = V_S = 0$$

$$V_{CS}(y = L) = V_{DS}$$

## Mobile charge in channel:

$$Q_I(y) = -C_{ox} [V_{GS} - V_{CS}(y) - V_{T0}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_n Q_I(y) &= \left( \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{V} \cdot \text{s}} \right) \left( \frac{\text{C}}{\text{cm}^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{\text{C} \cdot \text{s}}{\text{V}} = \frac{I}{V} \end{aligned}$$

$$dR = -\frac{dy}{W} \left( \frac{1}{\mu_n Q_I(y)} \right)$$

$\mu_n$  = electron mobility  
 =  $\text{cm}^2/\text{Vsec}$   
 [ $\mu \rightarrow U0$  in SPICE]

## Assumptions:

$$V_{T0}(y) = V_{T0}$$

$$V_{GS} > V_{T0}$$

$$V_{GD} = V_{GS} - V_{DS} > V_{T0}$$



# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics

$$Q_I(y) = -C_{ox}[V_{GS} - V_{CS}(y) - V_{T0}]$$

$$dR = -\frac{dy}{W} \left( \frac{1}{\mu_n Q_I(y)} \right)$$

$$dV_{CS} = I_D dR = -\frac{I_D}{W \mu_n Q_I(y)} dy$$

Boundary conditions:

$$V_{CS}(y=0) = V_S = 0$$

$$V_{CS}(y=L) = V_{DS}$$

Integrating along the channel

$$0 \leq y \leq L$$

$$\text{and } 0 \leq V_{CS} \leq V_{DS}$$

$$\int_0^L I_D dy = -W \mu_n \int_0^{V_{DS}} Q_I(y) dV_{CS}$$

$$\int_0^L I_D dy = W \mu_n C_{ox} \int_0^{V_{DS}} [V_{GS} - V_{CS} - V_{T0}] dV_{CS}$$

$$I_D \Big|_{y=0}^{y=L} = W \mu_n C_{ox} \left[ (V_{GS} - V_{T0}) V_{CS} - V_{CS}^2 / 2 \right] \Big|_{V_{CS}=0}^{V_{CS}=V_{DS}}$$

$$= W \mu_n C_{ox} [(V_{GS} - V_{T0}) V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2 / 2]$$

$$I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0}) V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics

$$I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

$$= \frac{k'}{2} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

$$= \frac{k}{2} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

$$k' = \mu_n C_{ox}$$

[k' -> KP in SPICE]

$$k = k' \frac{W}{L}$$

# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics

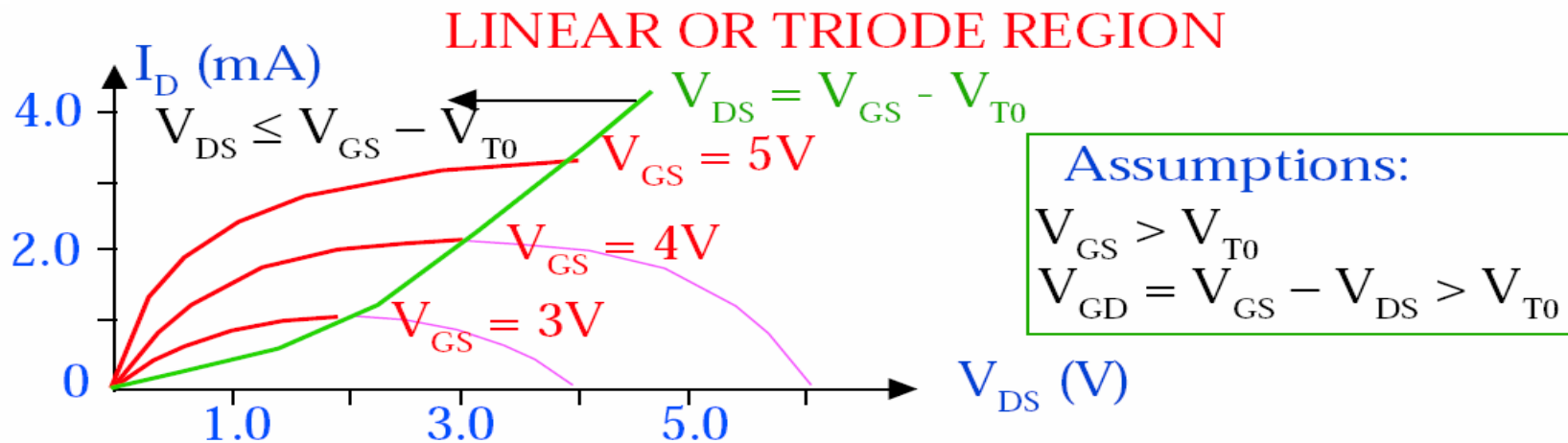
## ❖ Example

For an n-MOS transistor with  $\mu_n = 600 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vsec}$ ,  $C_{\text{ox}} = 7 \times 10^{-8} \text{ F/cm}^2$ ,  $W = 20 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L = 2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ,  $V_{T0} = 1.0 \text{ V}$ , plot the relationship between  $I_D$  and  $V_{DS}$ ,  $V_{GS}$ .

$$I_D = \frac{k}{2} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2] \quad \text{where} \quad k = \mu_n C_{\text{ox}} \frac{W}{L}$$

$$k = \mu_n C_{\text{ox}} \frac{W}{L} = (600 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vsec})(7 \times 10^{-8} \text{ F/cm}^2) \frac{20 \text{ }\mu\text{m}}{2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}} = 0.42 \text{ mA/V}^2$$

$$I_D = 0.21 \text{ mA/V}^2 [2(V_{GS} - 1.0) V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$



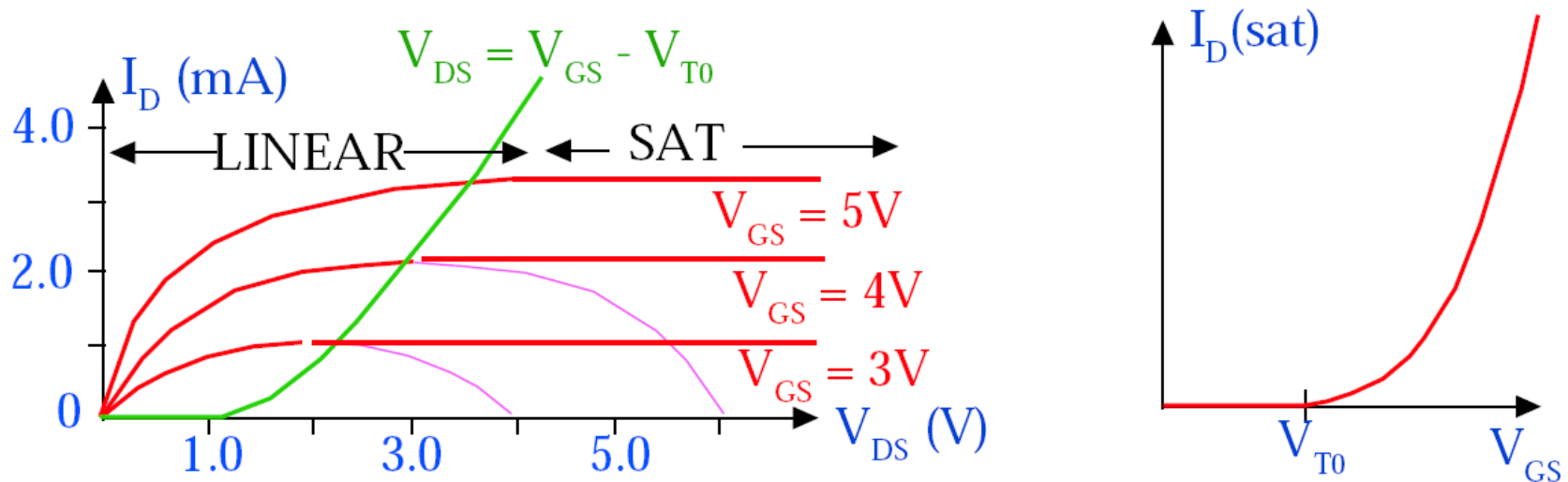
# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics

$$V_{DS} \geq V_{GS} - V_{T0} = V_{DSAT} \quad \text{SATURATION REGION}$$

$$I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2] \quad @V_{DS} = V_{DSAT} = V_{GS} - V_{T0}$$

$$= \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_{T0})(V_{GS} - V_{T0}) - (V_{GS} - V_{T0})^2]$$

$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_{T0})^2$$



# Channel Length Modulation

Boundary conditions:

$$V_{CS}(y = 0) = V_S = 0 \quad \longrightarrow$$

$$Q_I(y) = -C_{ox} [V_{GS} - V_{CS}(y) - V_{T0}]$$

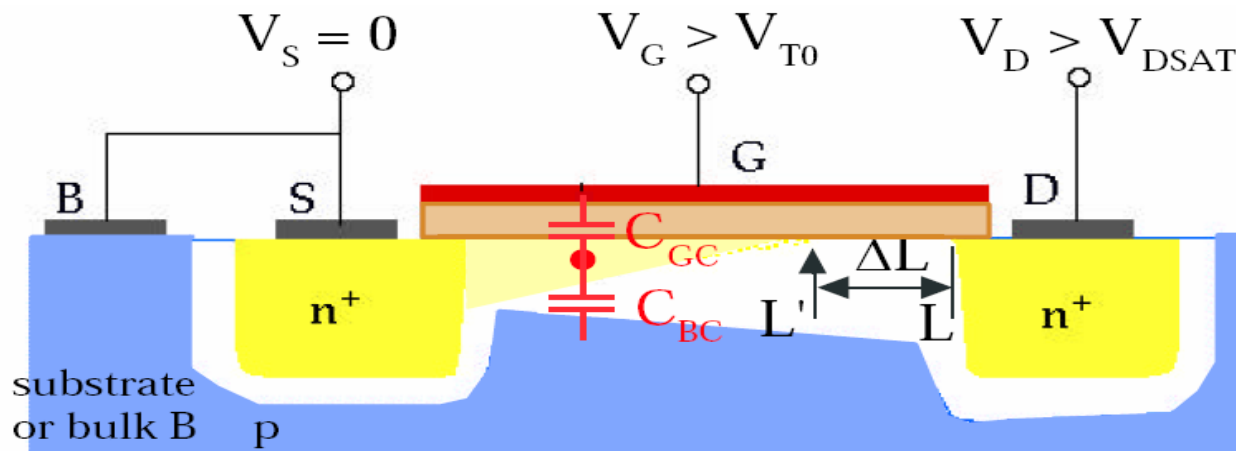
$$Q_I(y = 0) = -C_{ox} [V_{GS} - V_{T0}]$$

$$V_{CS}(y = L) = V_{DS}$$



$$Q_I(y = L) = -C_{ox} [V_{GS} - V_{DS} - V_{T0}]$$

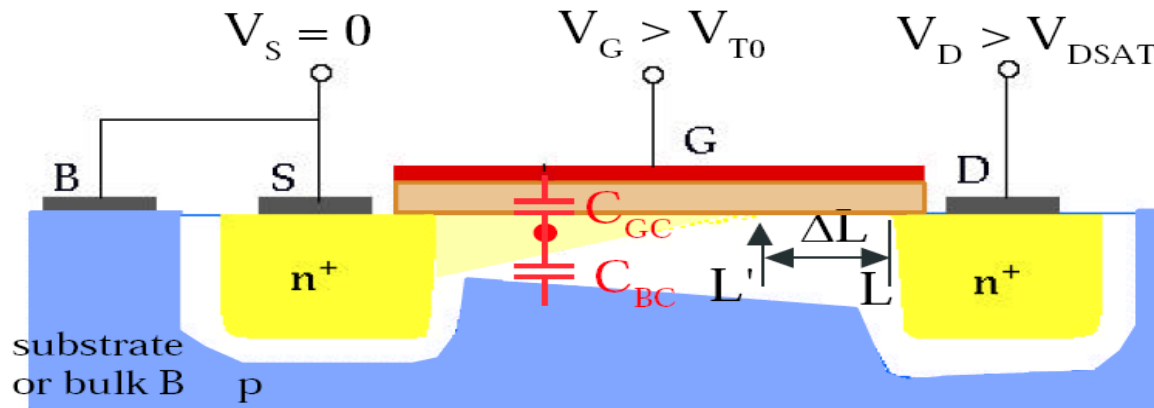
$$= 0 @ V_{DS} = V_{DSAT}$$



$$L' = L - \Delta L \quad \text{effective channel length}$$

$$V_{CS}(y = L') = V_{DSAT}$$

# Channel Length Modulation



$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{\text{ox}}}{2} \frac{W}{L'} (V_{GS} - V_{T0})^2 = \frac{\mu_n C_{\text{ox}}}{2} \frac{W}{L(1 - \frac{\Delta L}{L})} (V_{GS} - V_{T0})^2$$

where  $\Delta L \propto \sqrt{V_{DS} - V_{DSAT}}$

empirical relation:  $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{\Delta L}{L}} = 1 + \lambda V_{DS}$  [ $\lambda \rightarrow$  LAMBDA in SPICE]

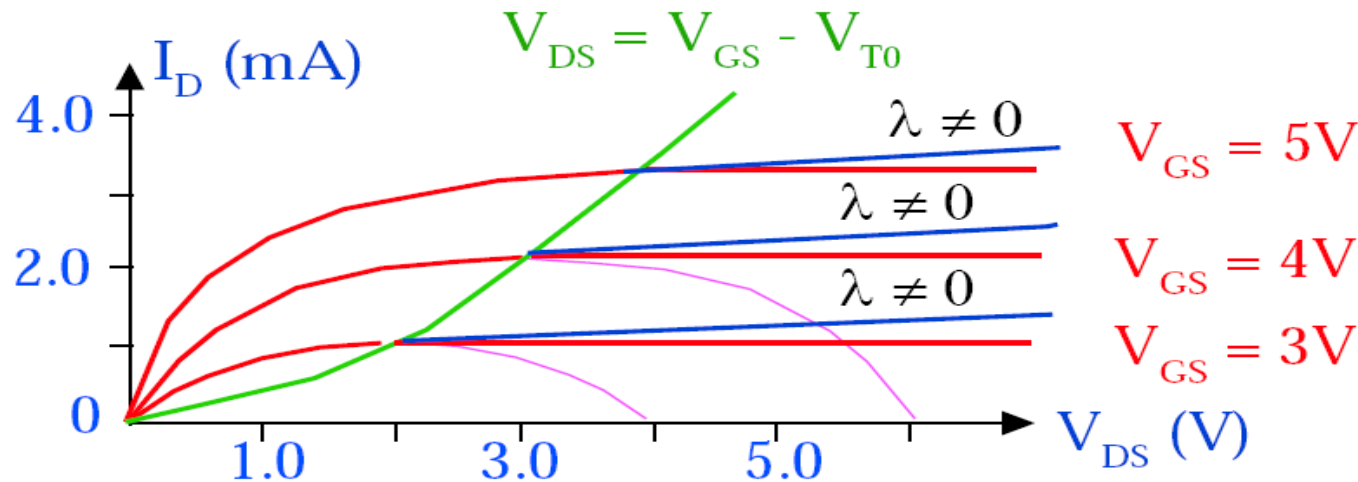
$\lambda$  = channel length modulation coefficient ( $V^{-1}$ )

# Channel Length Modulation

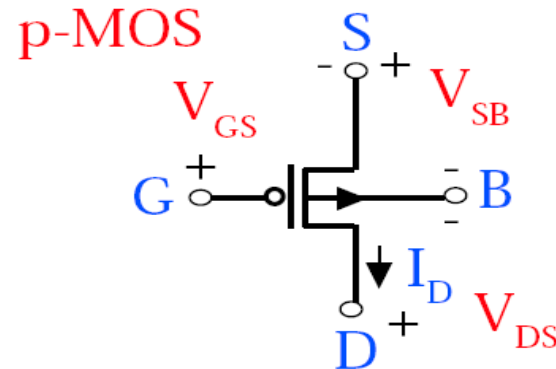
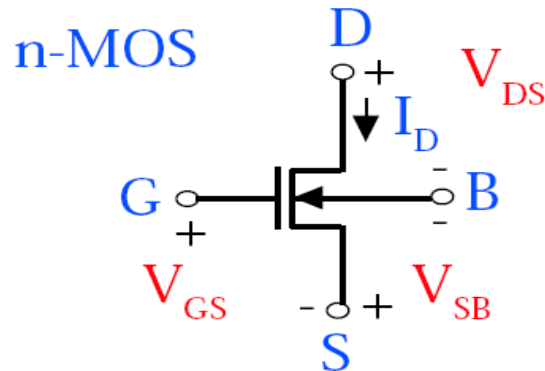
$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{\text{ox}} W}{2 L'} (V_{\text{GS}} - V_{\text{T0}})^2 = \frac{\mu_n C_{\text{ox}} W}{2 L(1 - \frac{\Delta L}{L})} (V_{\text{GS}} - V_{\text{T0}})^2$$

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{\Delta L}{L}} = 1 + \lambda V_{\text{DS}}$$

$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{\text{ox}} W}{2 L} (V_{\text{GS}} - V_{\text{T0}})^2 (1 + \lambda V_{\text{DS}})$$



# MOS Current-Voltage Characteristics



n-MOS  $I_D = 0$  for  $V_{GS} \leq V_T$

$$I_D(\text{lin}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} \left[ 2(V_{GS} - V_T(V_{SB}))V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2 \right] \quad V_{GS} > V_T, V_{DS} < V_{GS} - V_T$$

$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_n C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_T(V_{SB}))^2 (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \quad V_{GS} > V_T, V_{DS} \geq V_{GS} - V_T$$

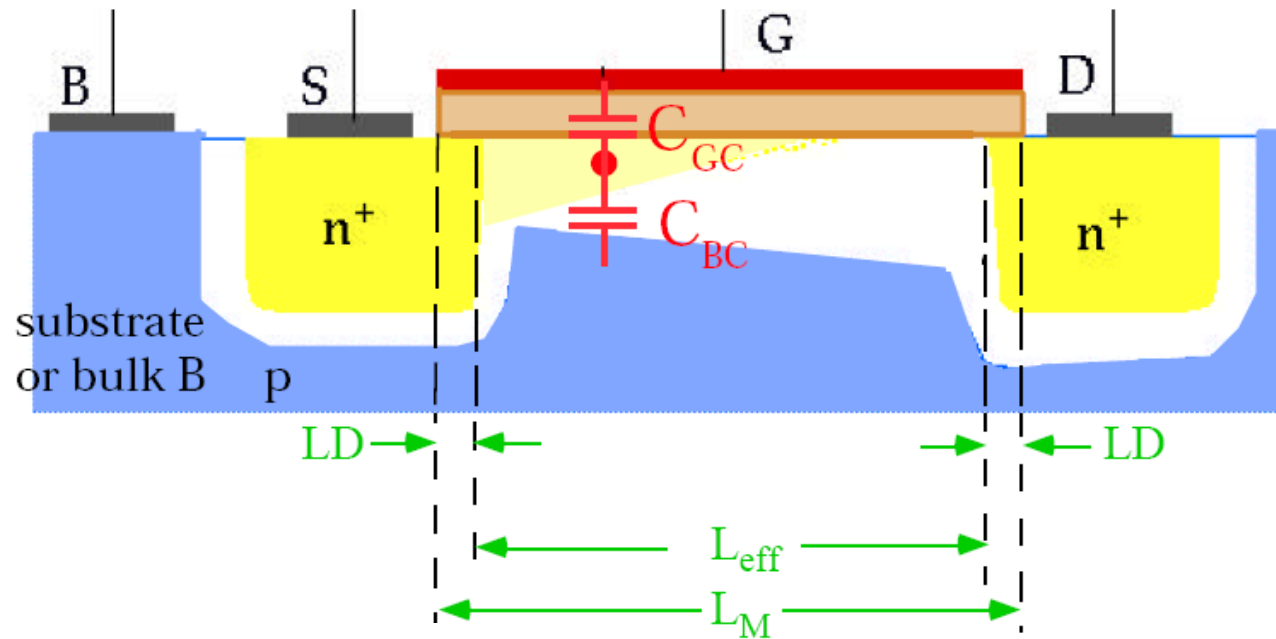
p-MOS  $I_D = 0$  for  $V_{GS} \geq V_T$

$$I_D(\text{lin}) = \frac{\mu_p C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} \left[ 2(V_{GS} - V_T(V_{SB}))V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2 \right] \quad V_{GS} < V_T, V_{DS} > V_{GS} - V_T$$

$$I_D(\text{sat}) = \frac{\mu_p C_{ox}}{2} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_T(V_{SB}))^2 (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \quad V_{GS} < V_T, V_{DS} \leq V_{GS} - V_T$$



# Effective Channel Length and Width



SPICE Parameters

$$L_{eff} = L_M - 2LD - DL$$

$LD$  -> under diffusion

$DL$  -> error in photolith and etch

$$W_{eff} = W_M - DW$$

SPICE Parameters

$DW$  -> error in photolith and etch