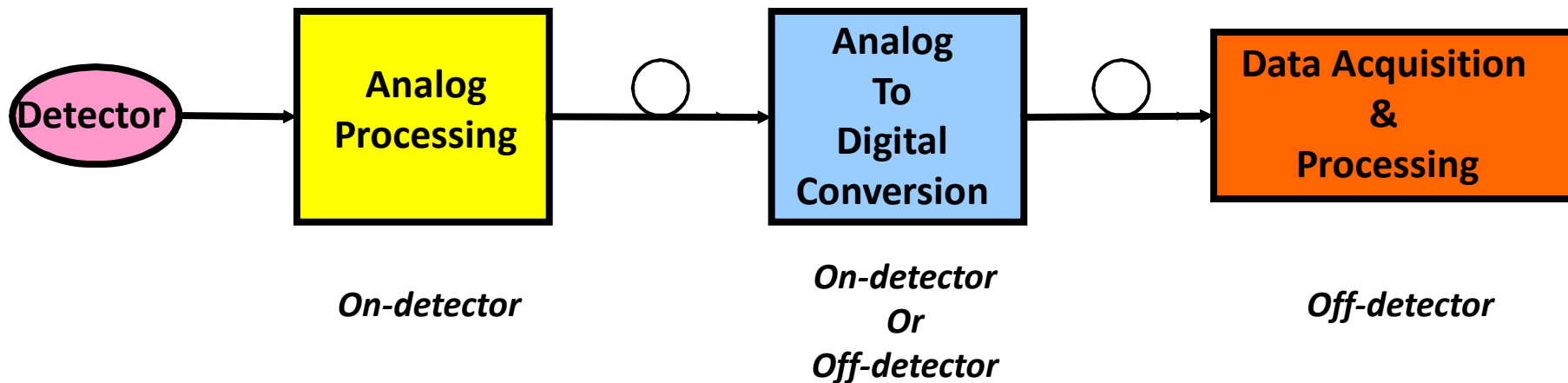


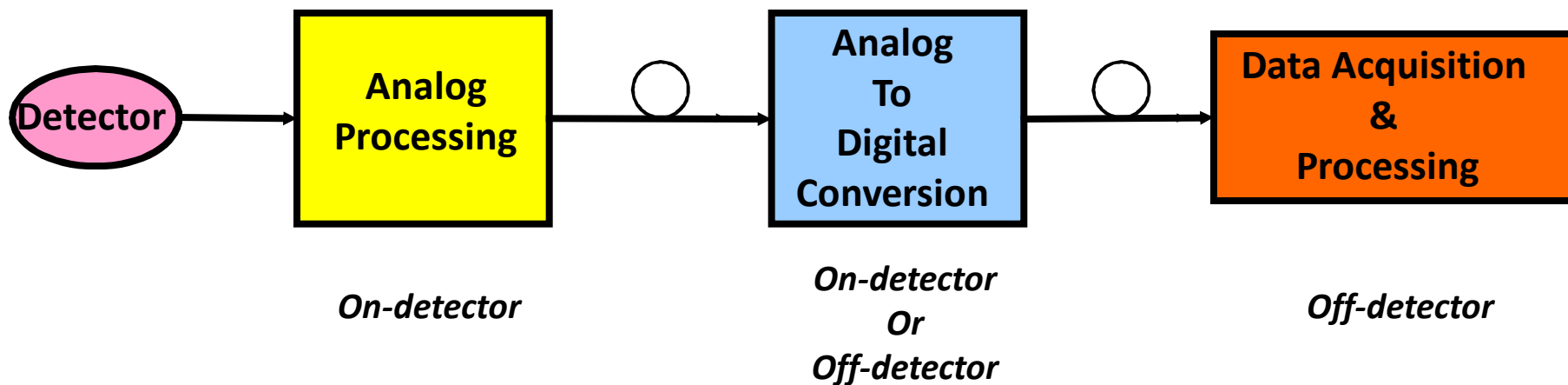
Introduction to Electronics in HEP Experiments

Philippe Farthouat
CERN

- ◆ I have “stolen” a lot from the previous summer student lectures from Christophe de la Taille and Jorgen Christiansen and from colleagues from the PH electronics group (PH-ESE)
- ◆ Useful and more complete information can be found in the following sites:
 - ◆ CERN technical training ELEC 2005:
<http://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=62928>
 - ◆ LEB/LECC/TWEPP workshops from last 12 years:
<http://lhc-electronics-workshop.web.cern.ch/lhc%2Delectronics%2Dworkshop/>
 - ◆ PH-ESE seminars:
<http://indico.cern.ch/categoryDisplay.py?categId=1591>



- ◆ Analog processing
- ◆ Analog to digital conversion
- ◆ Technology evolution
- ◆ Off-detector digital electronics

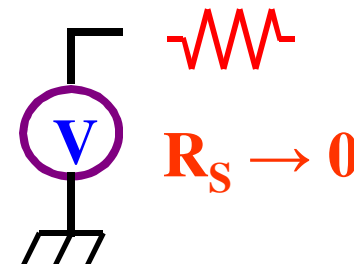


- ◆ Analog processing
- ◆ Analog to digital conversion
- ◆ Technology evolution
- ◆ Off-detector digital electronics

- ◆ A few basic reminders
- ◆ Modelisation of the detector
- ◆ Charge and current amplifiers
- ◆ Noise
- ◆ Example of a preamplifier design

◆ Voltage generators or source

- ◆ Ideal source : constant voltage, independent of current (or load)
- ◆ In reality : non-zero source impedance R_S



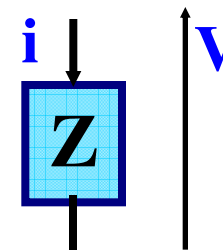
◆ Current generators

- ◆ Ideal source : constant current, independent of voltage (or load)
- ◆ In reality : finite output source impedance R_S



◆ Ohms' law

- ◆ $Z = R, 1/j\omega C, j\omega L$
- ◆ Note the sign convention



Frequency domain & time domain

◆ Frequency domain :

- ◆ $V(\omega, t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$
 - ◆ Described by **amplitude** and **phase** (A, ϕ)
- ◆ **Transfer function** : $H(\omega)$ [or $H(s)$]
- ◆ The ratio of output signal to input signal in the frequency domain assuming **linear** electronics
- ◆ $V_{out}(\omega) = H(\omega) V_{in}(\omega)$

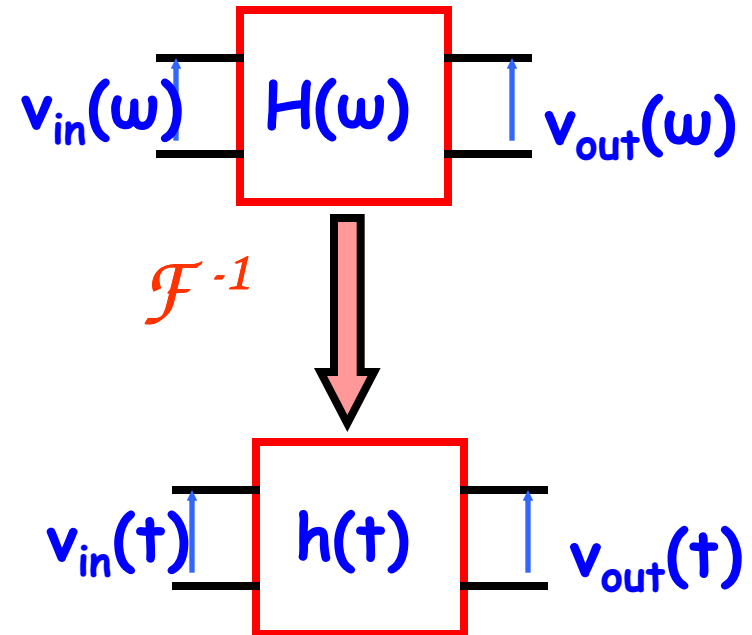
◆ Time domain

- ◆ **Impulse response** : $h(t)$
- ◆ The output signal for an **impulse** (delta) input in the time domain
- ◆ The output signal for **any** input signal $v_{in}(t)$ is obtained by convolution * :
- ◆ $V_{out}(t) = v_{in}(t) * h(t) = \int v_{in}(u) * h(t-u) du$

◆ Correspondance through Fourier transforms

$$X(\omega) = F\{x(t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

- ◆ A few useful Fourier transforms in appendix below



Appendix: Fourier Transform

$$F(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

Usual functions

$$\delta(t) \rightarrow 1$$

$$v(t) \rightarrow \frac{1}{j\omega}$$

$$e^{-at} \rightarrow \frac{1}{j\omega + a}$$

$$1 - e^{-at} \rightarrow \frac{1}{j\omega(j\omega + a)}$$

$$t^{n-1} e^{-at} \rightarrow \frac{1}{(j\omega + a)^n}$$

Linearity

$$ah_1(t) + bh_2(t) \rightarrow aF_1(\omega) + bF_2(\omega)$$

Integration/derivation

$$h(t) \rightarrow F(\omega); h'(t) \rightarrow j\omega F(\omega)$$

$$h(t) \rightarrow F(\omega); \int h(t) dt \rightarrow \frac{F(\omega)}{j\omega}$$

IMPEDANCES

Capacitor

$$Q = CV$$

$$I(t) = CV'(t)$$

$$I(\omega) = Cj\omega V(\omega)$$

$$Z(\omega) = \frac{V(\omega)}{I(\omega)} = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$$

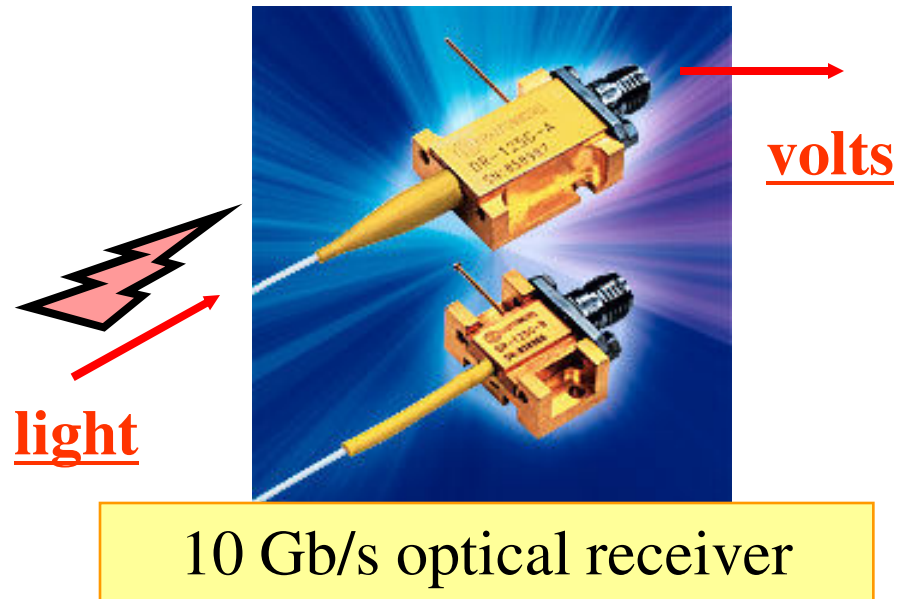
Inductor

$$V(t) = LI'(t)$$

$$V(\omega) = Lj\omega I(\omega)$$

$$Z(\omega) = \frac{V(\omega)}{I(\omega)} = j\omega L$$

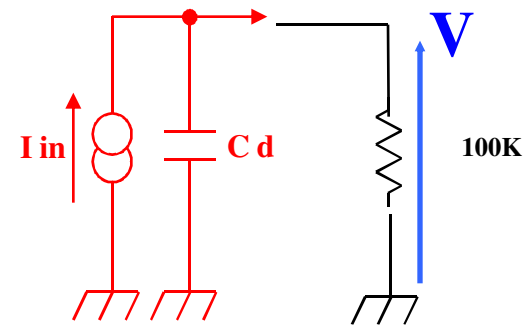
- ◆ Example of **photodiode** readout
 - ◆ Used in high speed optical links
 - ◆ Signal : $\sim 10 \mu\text{A}$ when illuminated
 - ◆ Modelisation :
 - ◆ Ideal **current source** lin
 - ◆ pure capacitance C_d
- ◆ Simple I to V converter : **R**
 - ◆ $R = 100 \text{ k}\Omega$ gives 1V output for $10 \mu\text{A}$



- ◆ Speed ?
 - ◆ Transfer function $H(\omega) = v_{\text{out}}/i_{\text{in}}$
 - ◆ H has the dimension of Ω and is often called « **transimpedance** » and even more often (improperly) « gain »

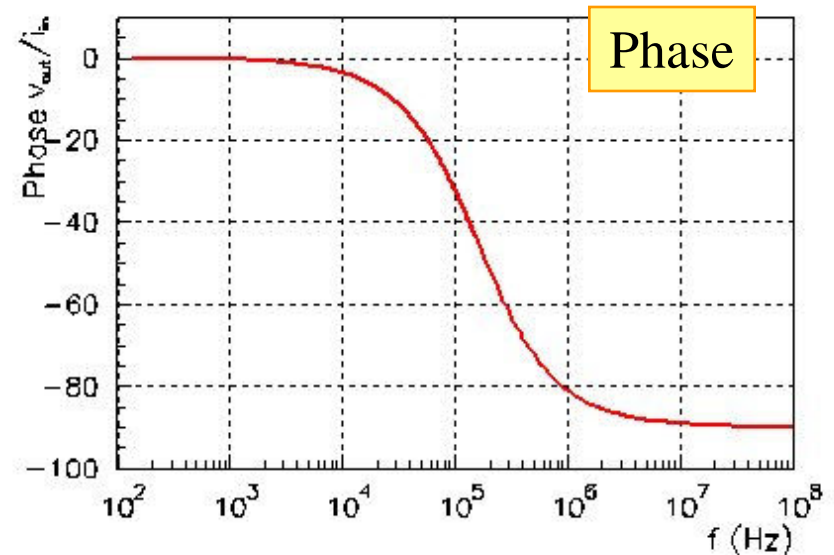
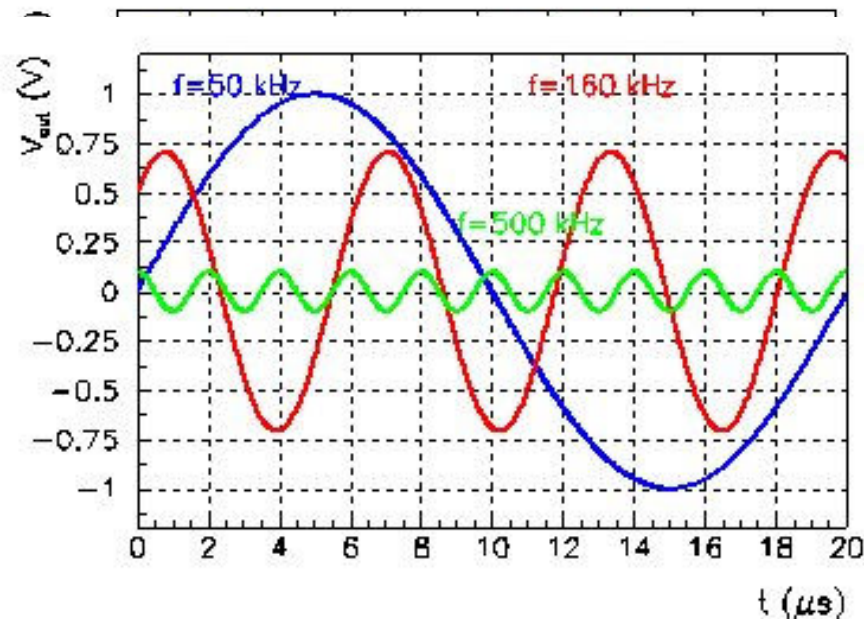
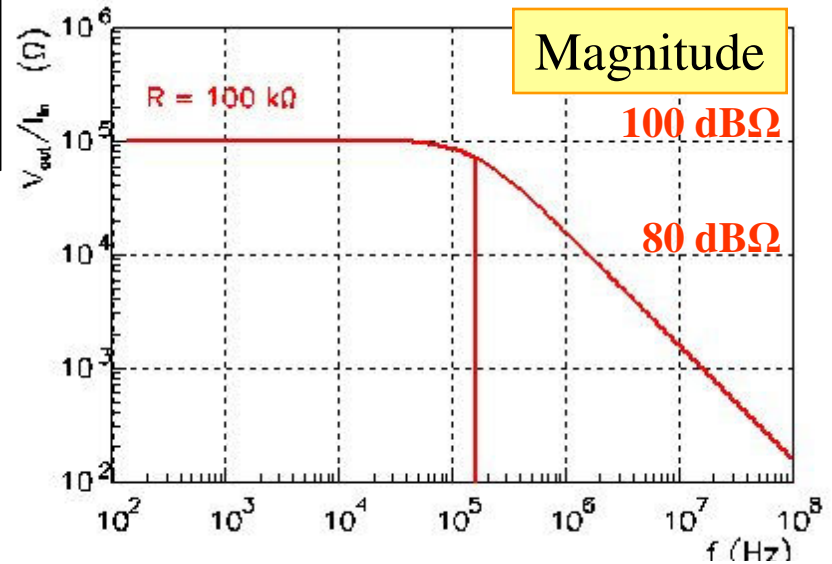
$$H(\omega) = \frac{1}{j\omega C_d + \frac{1}{R}} = \frac{1}{C_d(j\omega + \frac{1}{RC_d})}$$

- ◆ $1/RC_d$ is called a « **pole** » in the transfer function



◆ Bode plot

- ◆ Magnitude (dB) $20\log|H(\omega)| = 20\log\left|\frac{1}{C_d(j\omega + \frac{1}{RC_d})}\right|$
- ◆ -3dB bandwidth : $f_{-3dB} = 1/2\pi RC_d$
 - ◆ $R=10^5\Omega$, $C_d=10\text{pF} \Rightarrow f_{-3dB}=160\text{ kHz}$
 - ◆ At f_{-3dB} the signal is attenuated by 3dB = $\sqrt{2}$, the phase is -45°
- ◆ Above f_{-3dB} , gain rolls-off at -20dB/decade



◆ **Impulse response**
$$h(t) = F^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{C_d(j\omega + \frac{1}{RC_d})}\right)$$

$$= \frac{R}{\tau} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau}\right)$$

◆ τ (*tau*) = $RC_d = 1 \mu\text{s}$: time constant

◆ **Step response** : rising exponential

$$h(t) = F^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{j\omega} \times \frac{1}{C_d(j\omega + \frac{1}{RC_d})}\right)$$

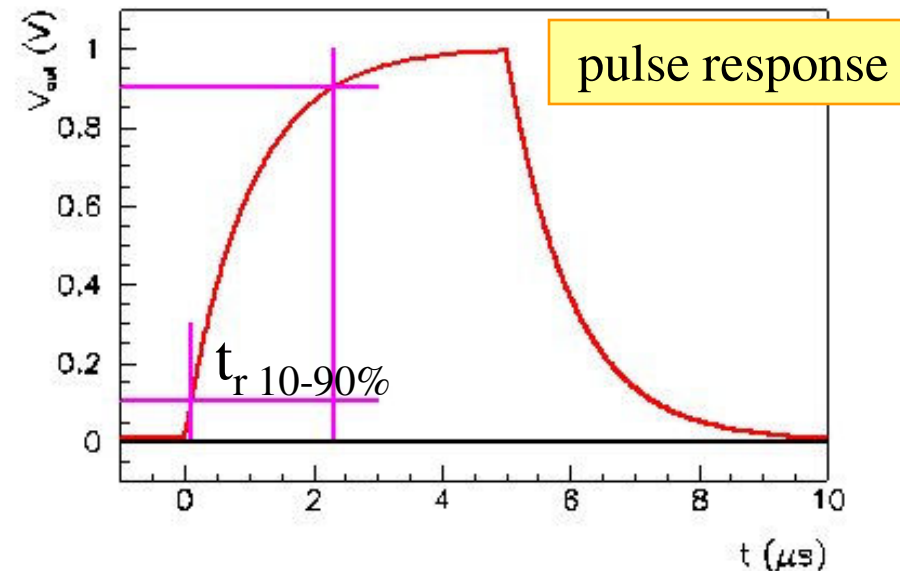
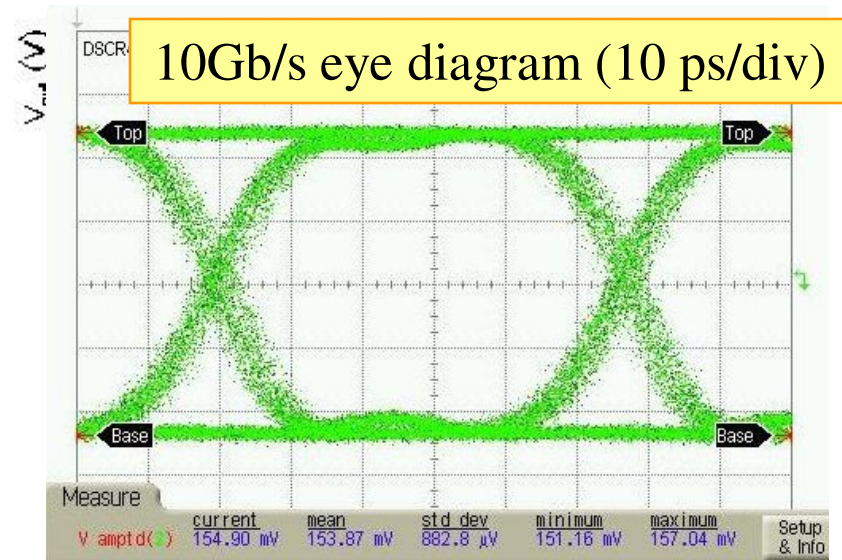
$$= R(1 - \exp(-\frac{t}{\tau}))$$

◆ **Rise time** : $t_{10-90\%} = 2.2 \tau$

◆ « eye diagram »

◆ **Speed** : $\sim 10 \mu\text{s} = 100 \text{ kb/s}$!

◆ 5 orders of magnitude away from a 10 Gb/s link !



◆ Y is a source linked to X

◆ $y = \mu x$

◆ Open loop

◆ $x = \delta e$

◆ $y = \mu x$

◆ $s = \sigma y = \sigma \mu \delta e$

◆ Closed loop

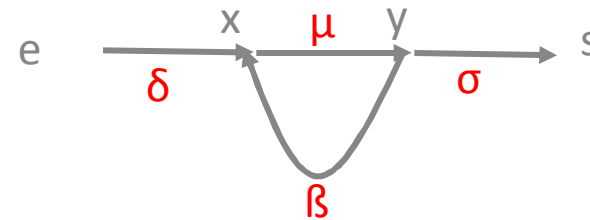
$$x = \delta e - \beta y$$

$$y = \mu x = \mu \delta e - \mu \beta y$$

$$y = \frac{e \delta \mu}{1 + \beta \mu}$$

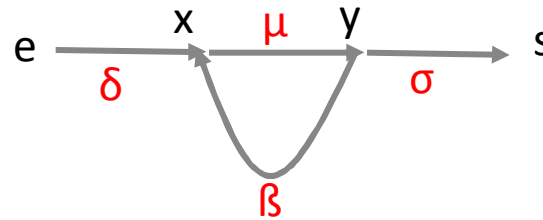
$$s = \sigma y = \frac{e \sigma \delta \mu}{1 + \beta \mu}$$

$$\frac{s}{e} = \frac{\sigma \delta \mu}{1 + \beta \mu}$$



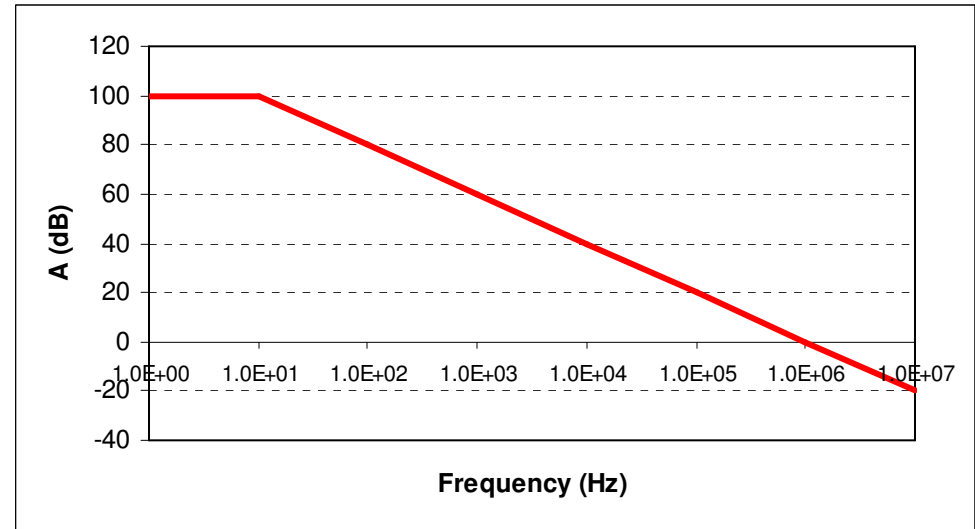
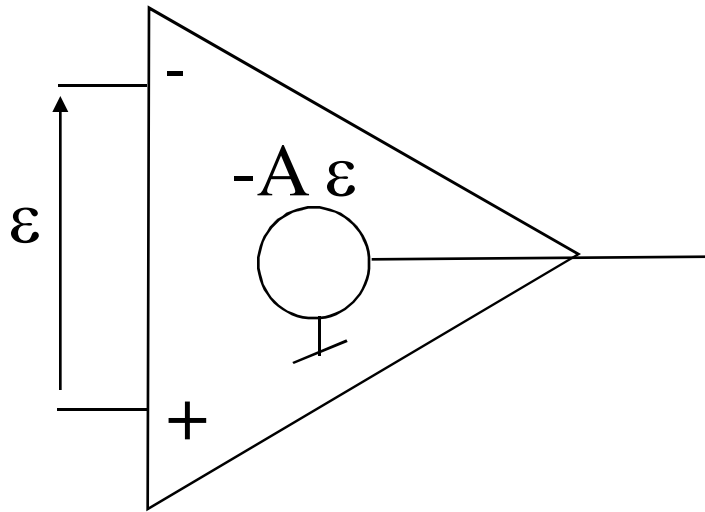
◆ μ is the open loop gain

◆ $\beta \mu$ is the loop gain



- ◆ In electronics
 - ◆ μ is an amplifier gain
 - ◆ β is the feedback loop
- ◆ If μ is large enough the gain of the system is independent of the amplifier gain

$$\frac{s}{e} = \frac{\sigma\delta\mu}{1 + \beta\mu} \approx \frac{\sigma\delta}{\beta}$$



- ◆ Gain A very large
- ◆ Input impedance very high
 - ◆ i.e input current = 0
- ◆ $A(\omega)$ as shown

◆ Direct gain calculation

$$V_{in} = -\varepsilon + I R1$$

$$V_{out} = -A\varepsilon ; V_{out} = (R1 + R2)I$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{A}{1 + A \frac{R1}{R1 + R2}}$$

◆ Feedback equation

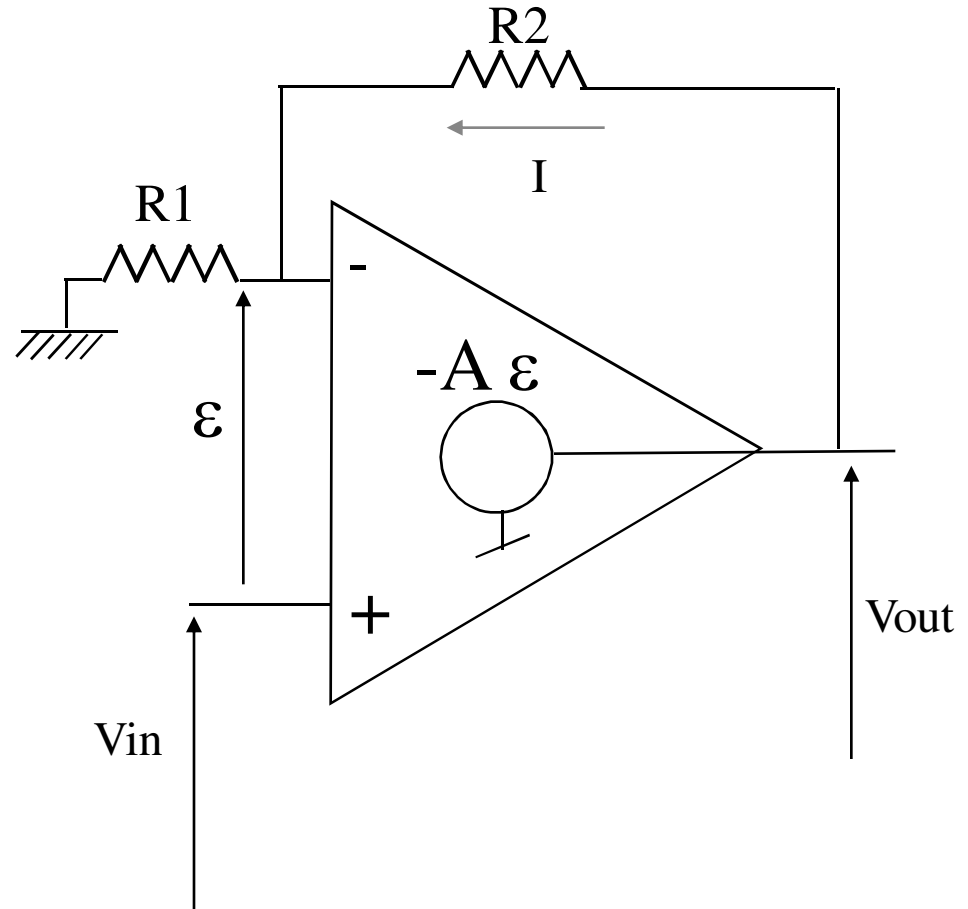
$$\frac{s}{e} = \frac{\sigma \delta \mu}{1 + \beta \mu}$$

$$\mu = A; \beta = \frac{R1}{R1 + R2}; \delta = \sigma = 1$$

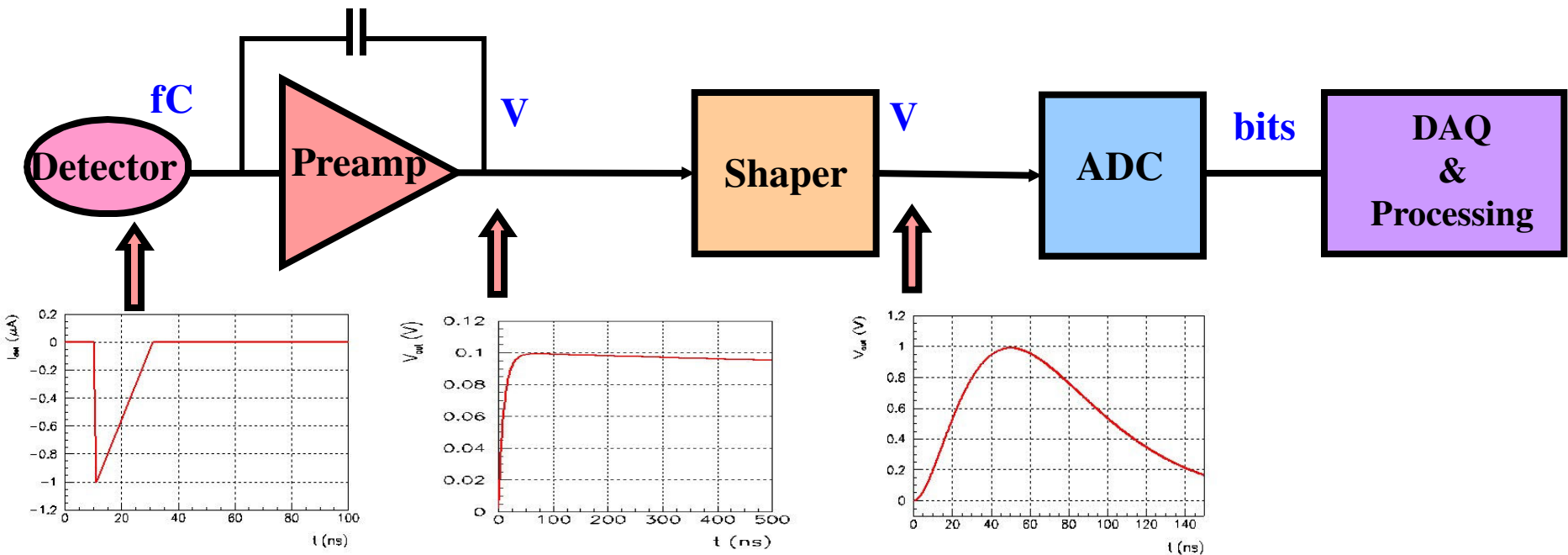
$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{A}{1 + A \frac{R1}{R1 + R2}}$$

◆ Ideal Opamp

$$A = \infty; \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{R1 + R2}{R1}$$

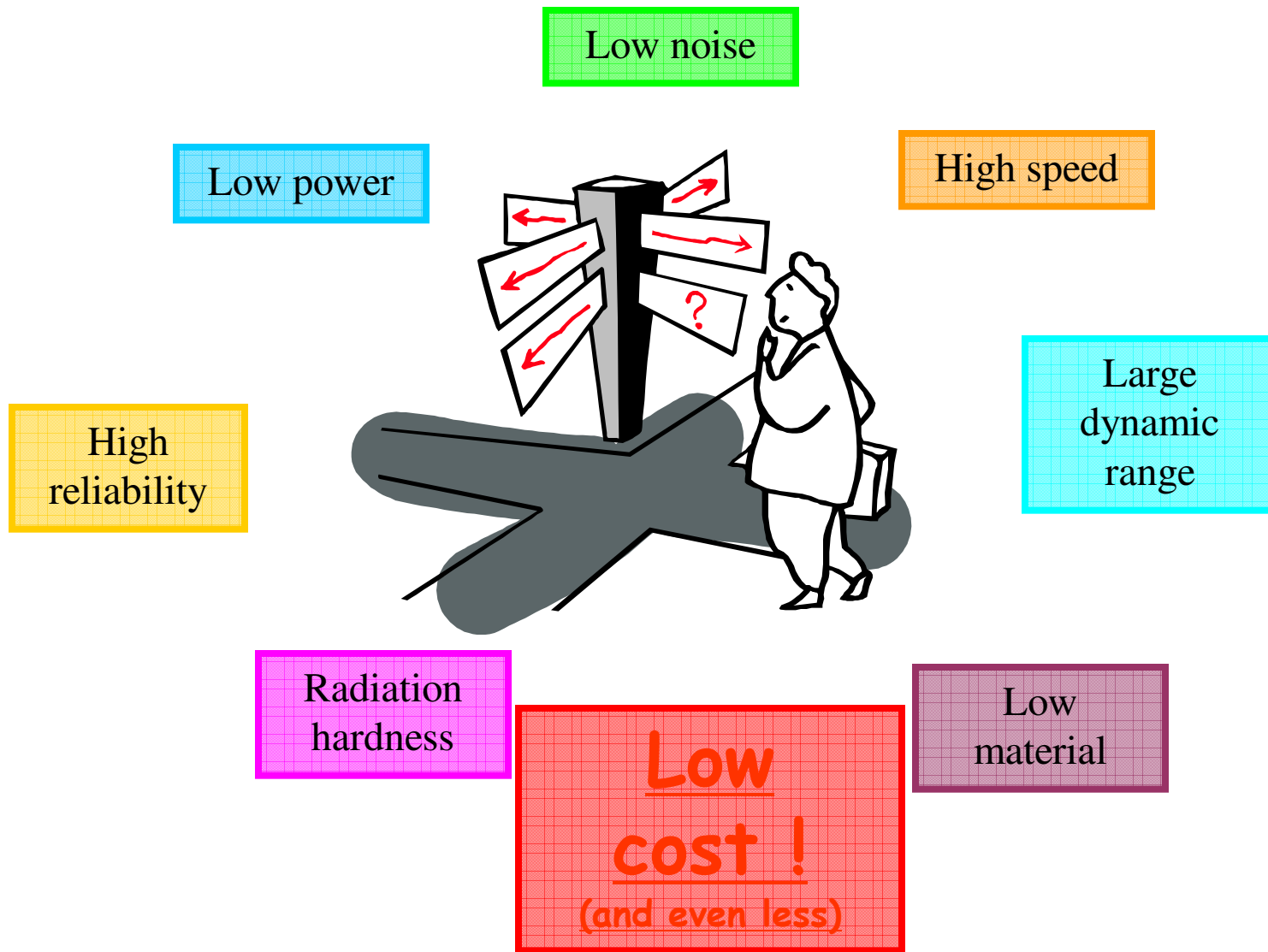


- ◆ Most front-ends follow a similar architecture

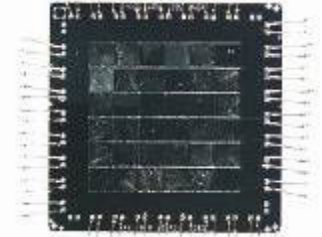


- Very small signals (fC) -> need **amplification**
- Measurement of **amplitude** and/or **time** (ADCs, discris, TDCs)
- Several thousands to millions of channels

Readout electronics : requirements

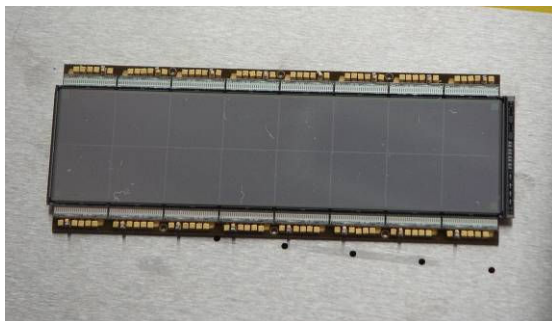


- ◆ A large variety
- ◆ A similar modelization

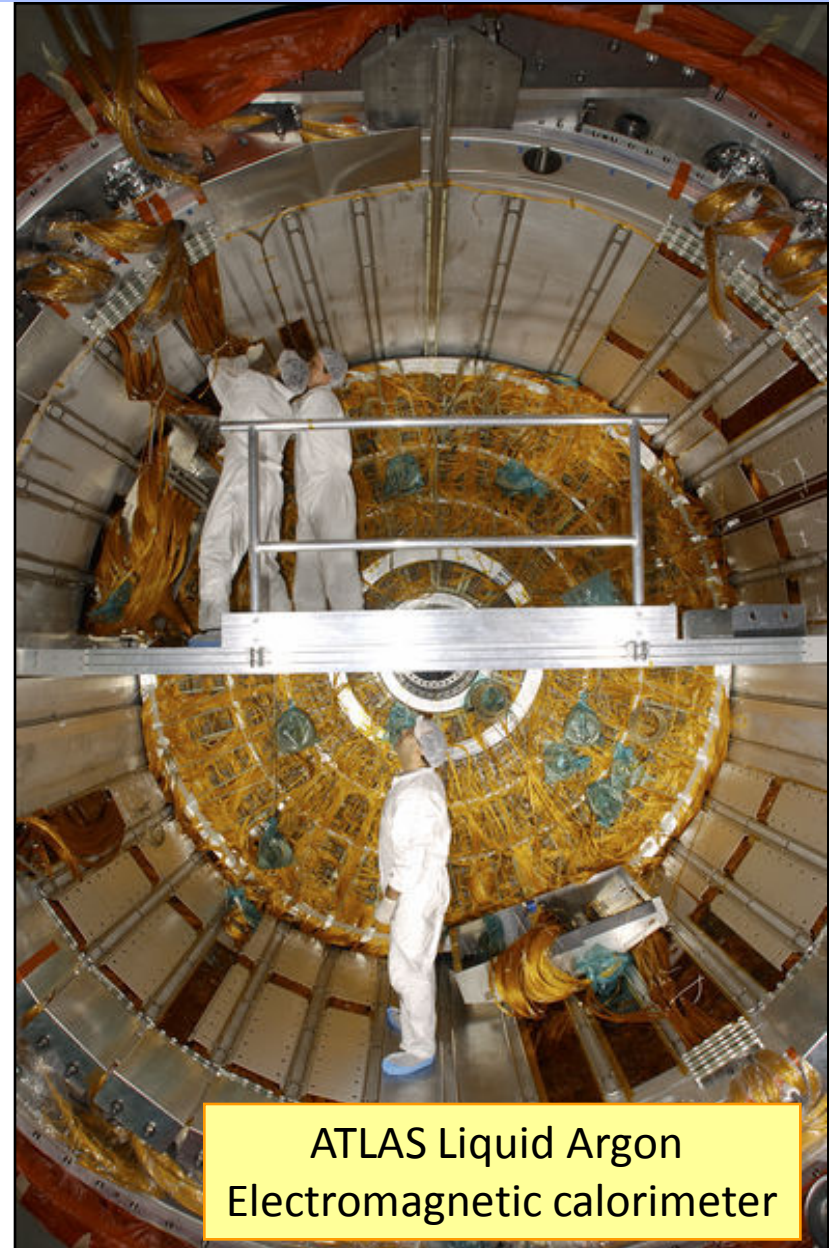


6x6 pixels, 4x4 mm²

CMS Pixel module



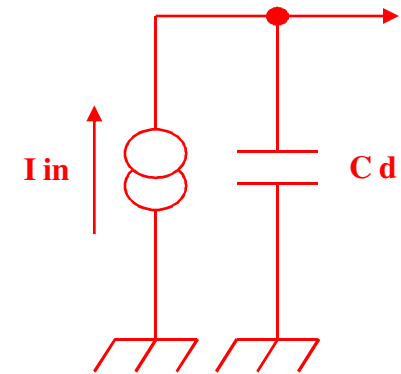
PMT for Antares



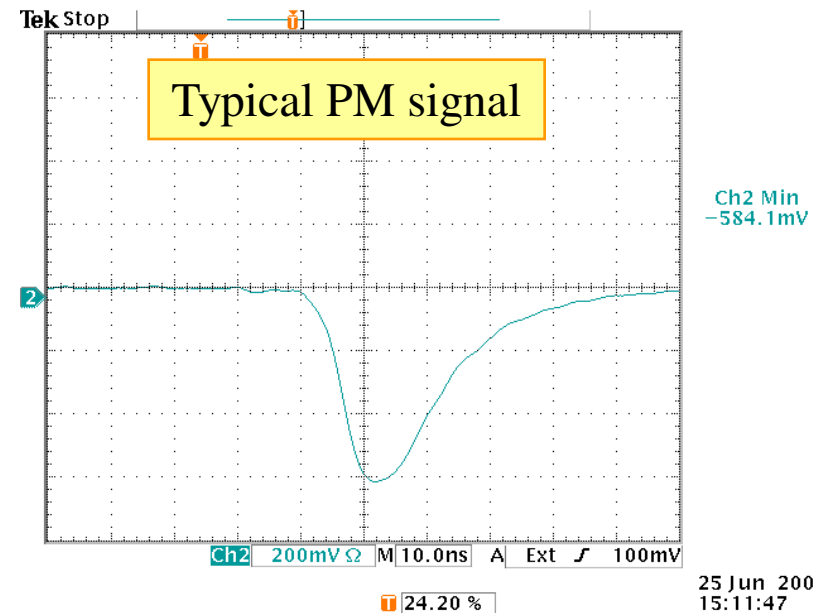
ATLAS Liquid Argon
Electromagnetic calorimeter

Detector modelization

- ◆ Detector = capacitance C_d
 - ◆ Silicon : 0.1-10 pF
 - ◆ PMs : 3-30pF
 - ◆ Ionization chambers 10-1000 pF
- ◆ Signal : current source
 - ◆ Silicon : $\sim 1\text{fC}/100\mu\text{m}$
 - ◆ PMs : 1 photoelectron $\rightarrow 10^5\text{-}10^7 e^-$
 - ◆ Wire chambers : a few $10^3 e^-$
 - ◆ Modelized as an impulse (Dirac) : $i(t)=Q_0\delta(t)$
- ◆ Missing :
 - ◆ High Voltage bias
 - ◆ Connections, grounding
 - ◆ Neighbours
 - ◆ Calibration...



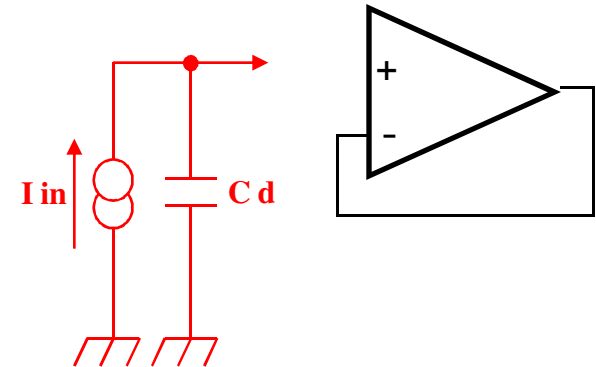
Detector modelisation



25 Jun 2003
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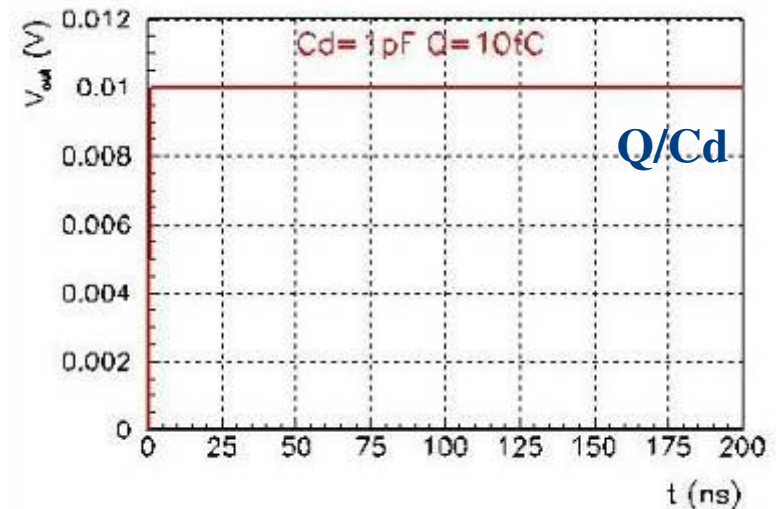
◆ Signal

- ◆ Signal = current source
- ◆ Detector = capacitance C_d
- ◆ Quantity to measure
 - ◆ Charge => integrator needed + ADC
 - ◆ Time => discriminator + TDC



◆ Integrating on C_d

- ◆ Simple : $V = Q/C_d$
- ◆ « Gain » : $1/C_d$: 1 pF \rightarrow 1 mV/fC
- ◆ Need a follower to buffer the voltage...
- ◆ Input follower capacitance : $C_a // C_d$
- ◆ Gain loss, possible non-linearities
- ◆ Crosstalk
- ◆ Need to empty C_d ...



Impulse response

Ideal charge preamplifier

◆ Ideal opamp in transimpedance

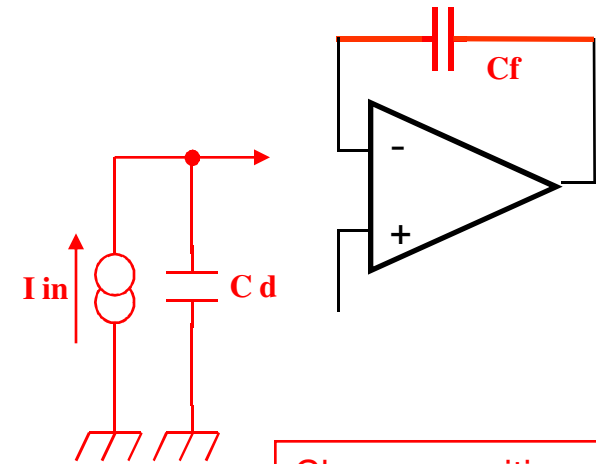
- ◆ Shunt-shunt feedback
- ◆ Transimpedance : v_{out}/i_{in}
 - ◆ $V_{in}=0 \Rightarrow V_{out}(\omega)/i_{in}(\omega) = -Z_f = -1/j\omega C_f$
- ◆ **Integrator** : $v_{out}(t) = -1/C_f \int i_{in}(t)dt$

$$v_{out}(t) = -Q/C_f$$

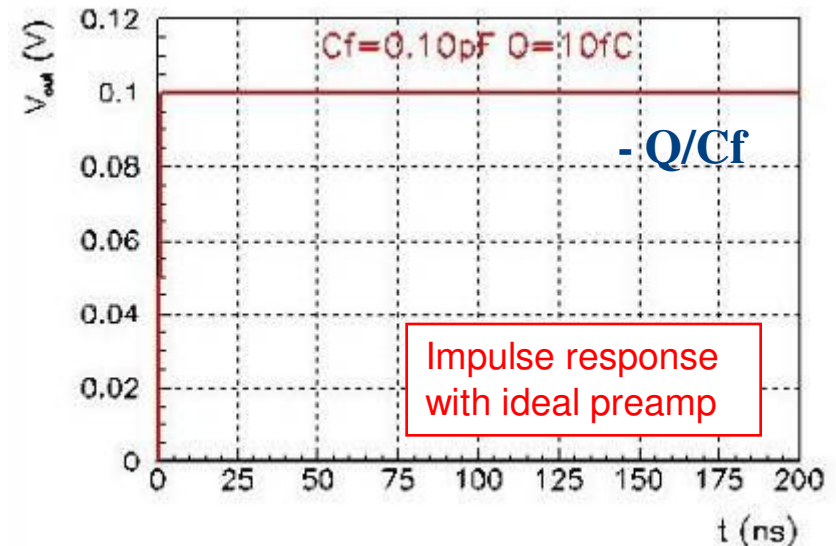
- ◆ « Gain » : $1/C_f$: 0.1 pF \rightarrow 10 mV/fC
- ◆ C_f determined by maximum signal

◆ Integration on C_f

- ◆ Simple : $V = -Q/C_f$
- ◆ Unensitive to preamp capacitance C_{PA}
- ◆ Turns a short signal into a long one
- ◆ **The front-end of 90% of particle physics detectors...**
- ◆ **But always built with custom circuits...**

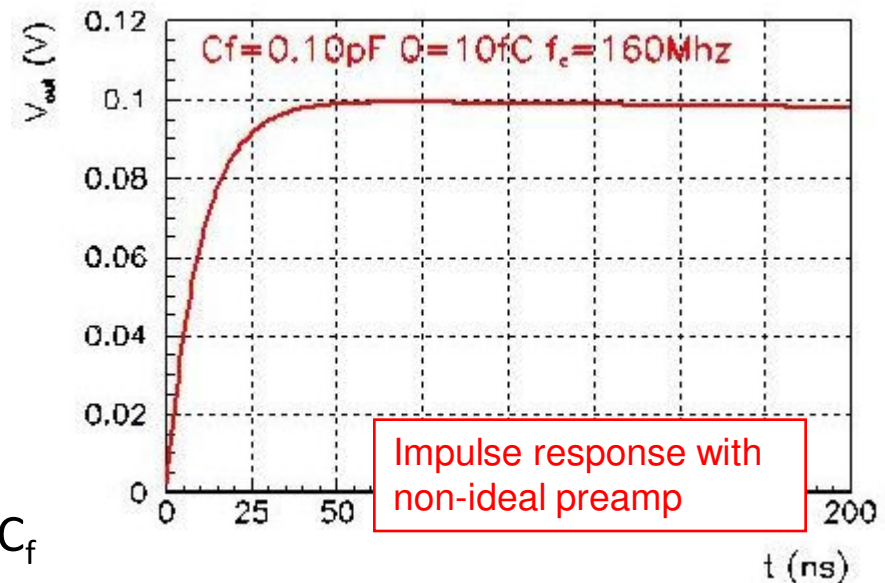
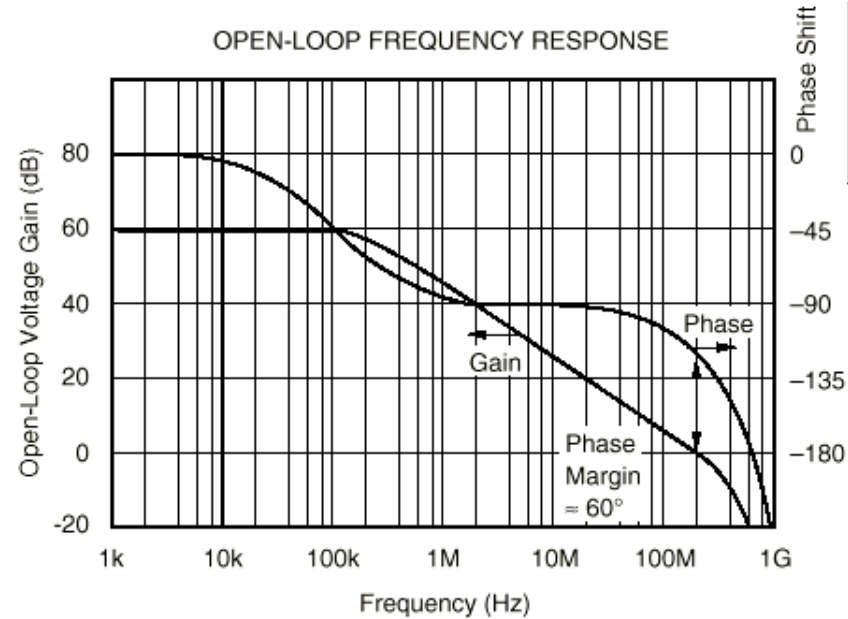


Charge sensitive preamp



Non-ideal charge preamplifier

- ◆ Finite opamp gain $\frac{V_{out}(\omega)}{I_{in}(\omega)} = \frac{-Z_f}{1 + \frac{C_d}{G_0 C_f}}$
 - ◆ Small signal loss in $C_d / G_0 C_f \ll 1$ (ballistic deficit)
- ◆ Finite opamp bandwidth
 - ◆ First order open-loop gain
 - ◆ $G(\omega) = G_0 / (1 + j \omega / \omega_0)$
 - ◆ G_0 : low frequency gain
 - ◆ $G_0 \omega_0 : \omega_c$ gain bandwidth product
- ◆ Preamp risetime
 - ◆ Due to gain variation with ω
 - ◆ Time constant : τ (tau) = $C_d / G_0 \omega_0 C_f$
 - ◆ Rise-time : $t_{10-90\%} = 2.2 \tau$
 - ◆ Rise-time optimised with $G_0 \omega_0$ (ω_c) or C_f



$$V_{in} = \varepsilon$$

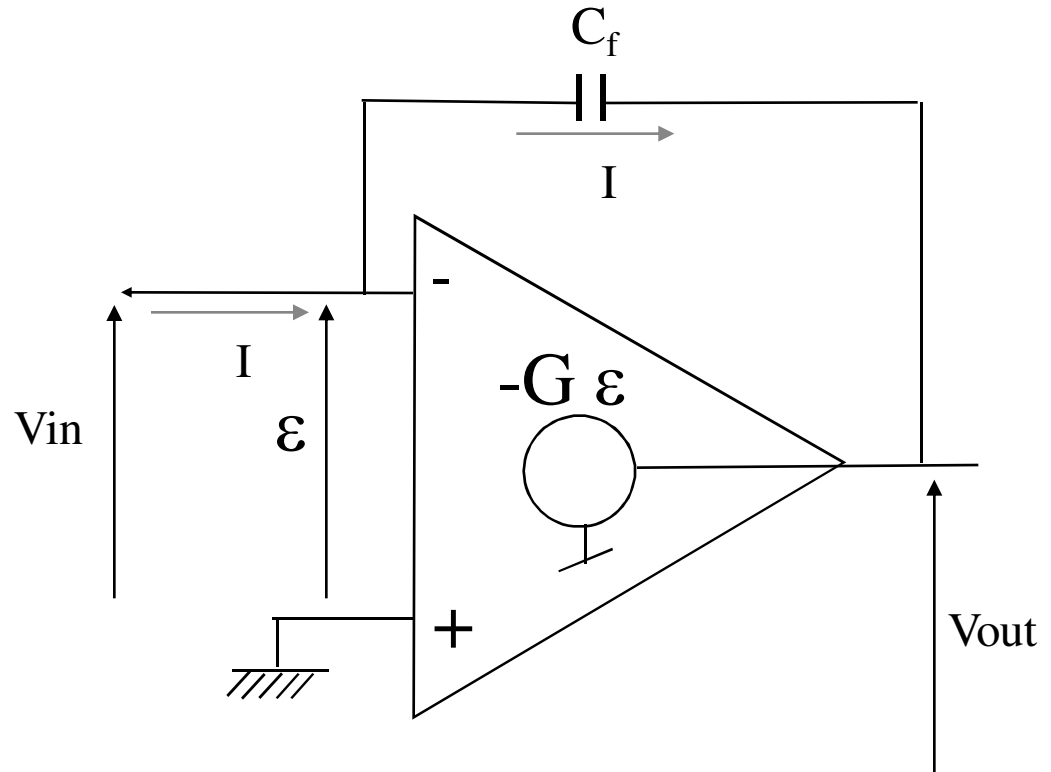
$$V_{out} = -G\varepsilon ; V_{out} = -\frac{1}{C_f j\omega} I + \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{V_{in}}{I} = Z_{in} = \frac{1}{C_f j\omega(1+G)} \approx \frac{1}{C_f j\omega G}$$

$$G = \infty \rightarrow Z_{in} = 0$$

$$G = \frac{G_0}{1 + \frac{j\omega}{\omega_0}}$$

$$Z_{in} = \frac{1 + \frac{j\omega}{\omega_0}}{C_f j\omega G_0} = \frac{1}{j\omega C_f G_0} + \frac{1}{C_f G_0 \omega_0}$$



Charge preamp seen from the input

- ◆ Input impedance with ideal opamp
 - ◆ $Z_{in} = Z_f / G+1$
 - ◆ $Z_{in} \rightarrow 0$ for ideal opamp
 - ◆ « Virtual ground » : $V_{in} = 0$
 - ◆ Minimizes sensitivity to detector impedance
 - ◆ Minimizes crosstalk

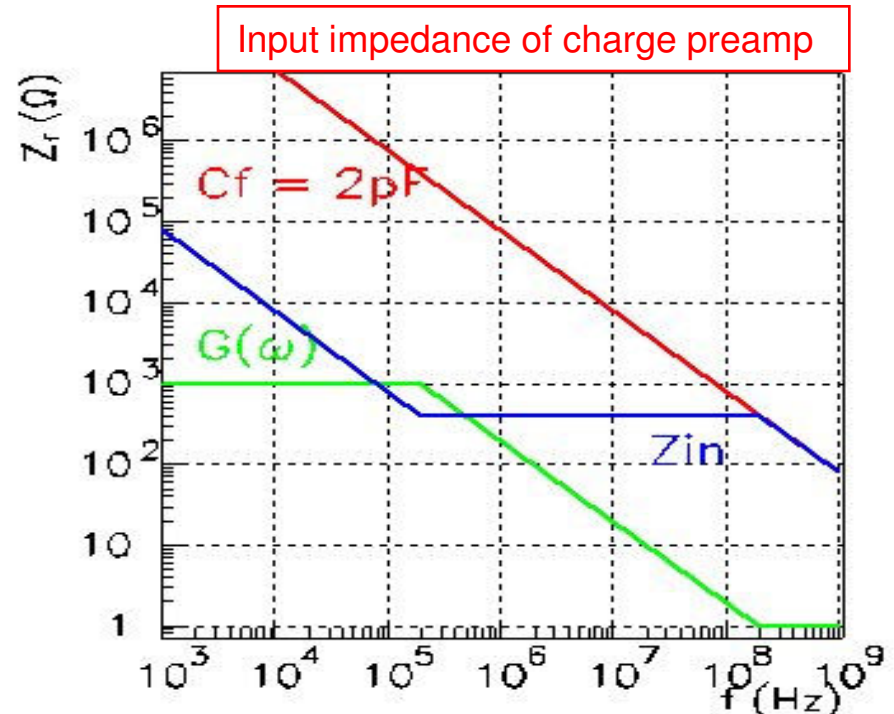
- ◆ Input impedance with real opamp

$$Z_{in} = \frac{1}{j\omega G_0 C_f} + \frac{1}{G_0 \omega_0 C_f}$$

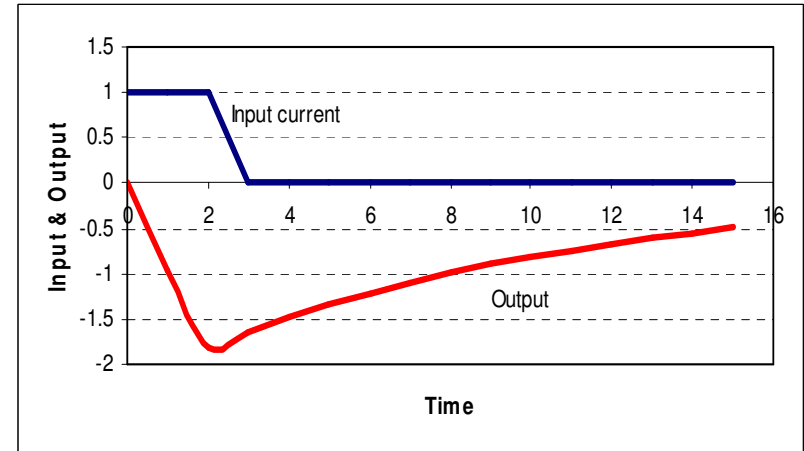
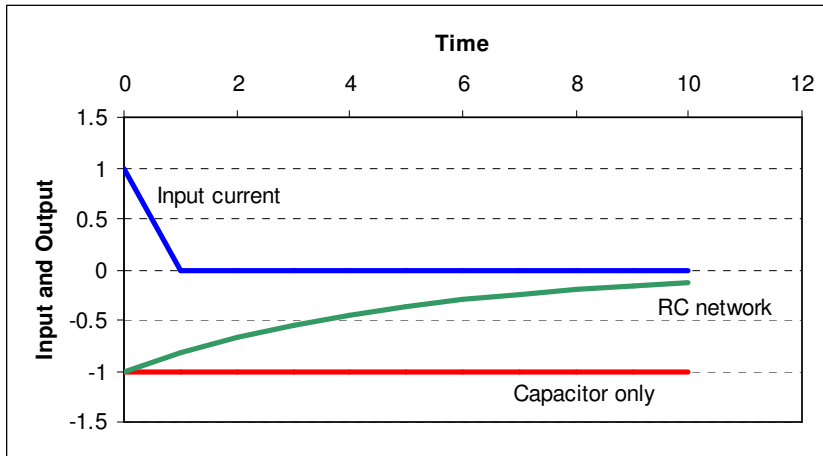
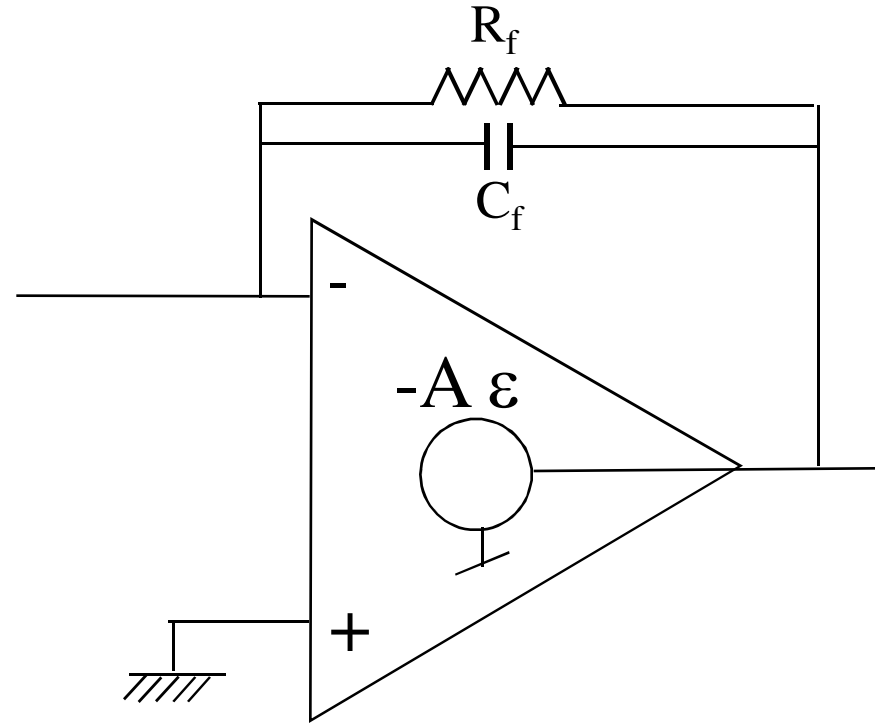
- ◆ **Resistive term** : $R_{in} = \frac{1}{G_0 \omega_0 C_f} = \frac{1}{\omega_c C_f}$

- ◆ Example : $\omega_c = 10^9$ rad/s $C_f = 2$ pF
 $\Rightarrow R_{in} = 500\Omega$

- ◆ Determines the input time constant :
 $t = R_{eq} C_d$
- ◆ **Good stability**

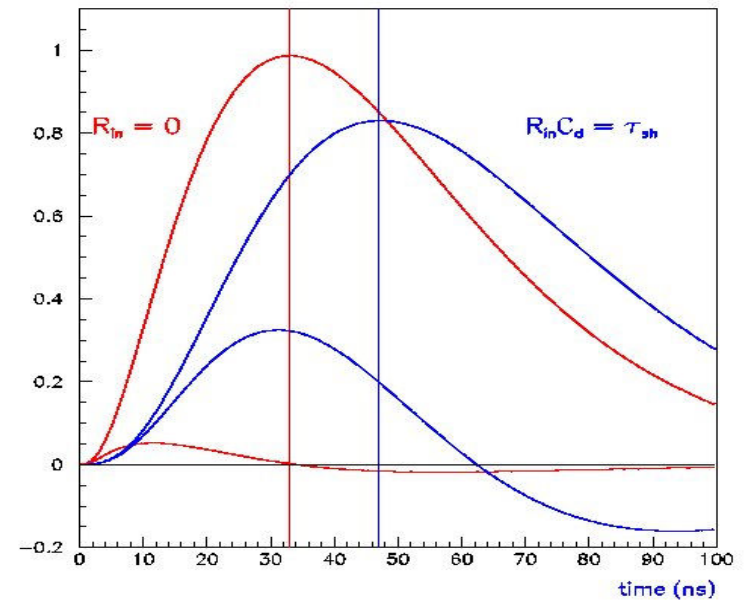
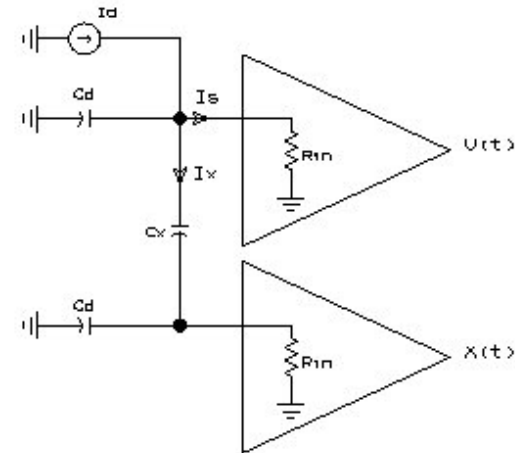


- ◆ It is necessary to discharge the feedback capacitor
 - ◆ Successive input pulses would add up until saturation
- ◆ Several ways to do it, the simpler being to put a resistor in parallel



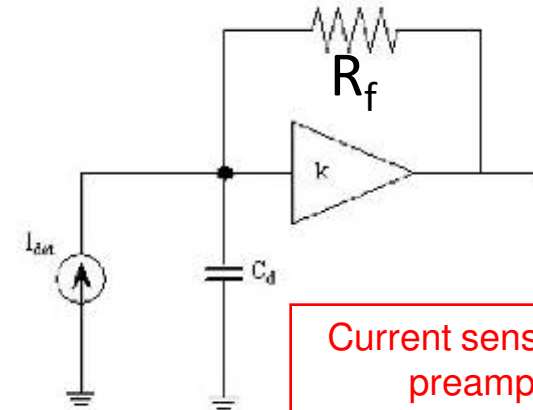
- ◆ Capacitive coupling between neighbours
 - ◆ Crosstalk signal is **differentiated and with same polarity**
 - ◆ Small contribution at signal peak
 - ◆ Proportionnal to C_x/C_d and preamp input impedance
 - ◆ Slowed derivative if $R_{in}C_d \sim t_p \Rightarrow$ non-zero at peak

- ◆ Inductive coupling
 - ◆ Inductive common ground return
 - ◆ “Ground apertures” = inductance
 - ◆ Connectors : mutual inductance



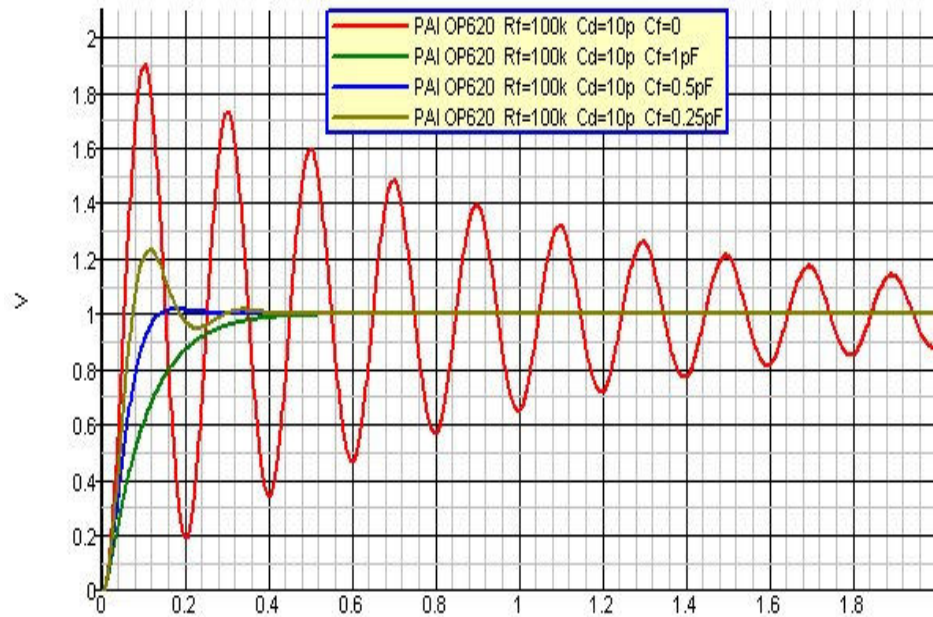
◆ Transimpedance configuration

- ◆ $V_{out}(\omega)/i_{in}(\omega) = -R_f / (1 + Z_f/GZ_d)$
- ◆ Gain = R_f
- ◆ High counting rate
- ◆ Typically optical link receivers



◆ Easily oscillatory

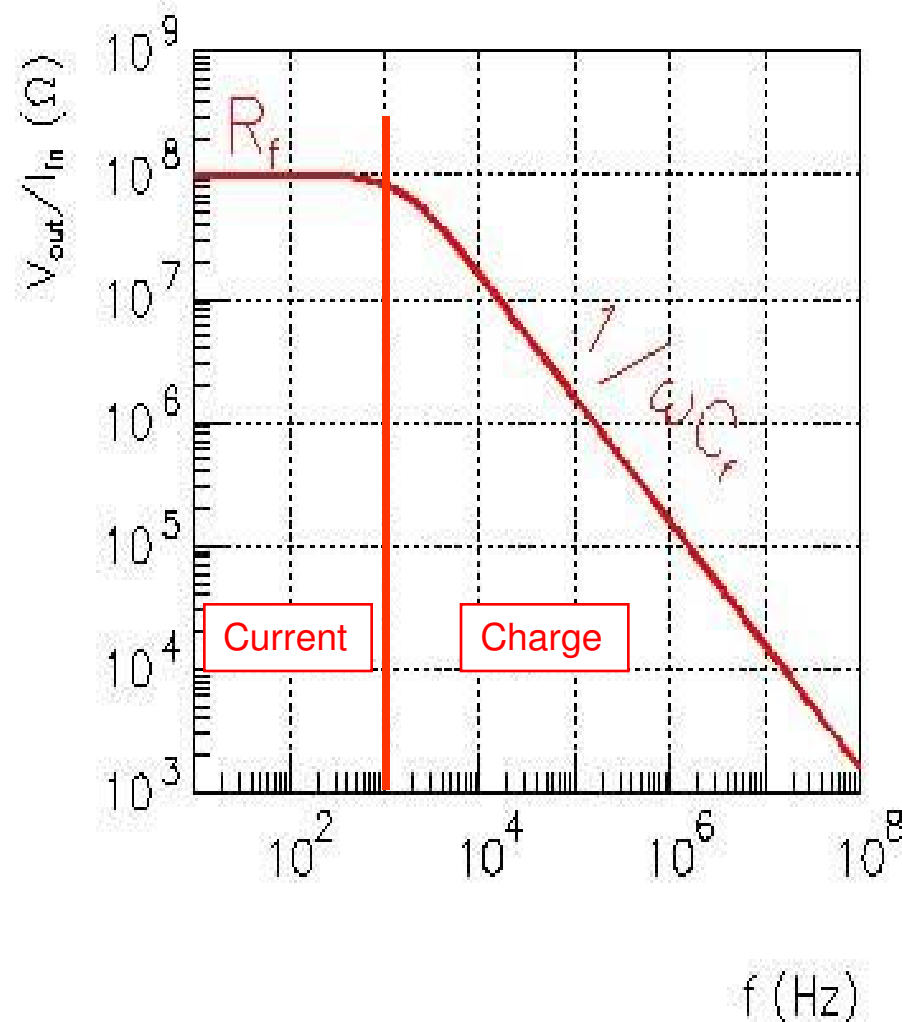
- ◆ Unstable with capacitive detector
- ◆ Inductive input impedance
- ◆ Resonance at :
$$F_{res} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_{eq}C_d}}$$
- ◆ Quality factor :
$$Q = \frac{R}{\sqrt{\frac{L_{eq}}{C_d}}}$$
 - ◆ $Q > 1/2 \rightarrow$ ringing
- ◆ Damping with capacitance C_f in parallel to R_f
 - ◆ Easier with fast amplifiers



Step response of current sensitive preamp ^{iv}

Charge vs Current preamps

- ◆ Charge preamps
 - ◆ Best noise performance
 - ◆ Best with short signals
 - ◆ Best with small capacitance
- ◆ Current preamps
 - ◆ Best for long signals
 - ◆ Best for high counting rate
 - ◆ Significant parallel noise
- ◆ Charge preamps are not slow, they are long
- ◆ Current preamps are not faster, they are shorter (but easily unstable)

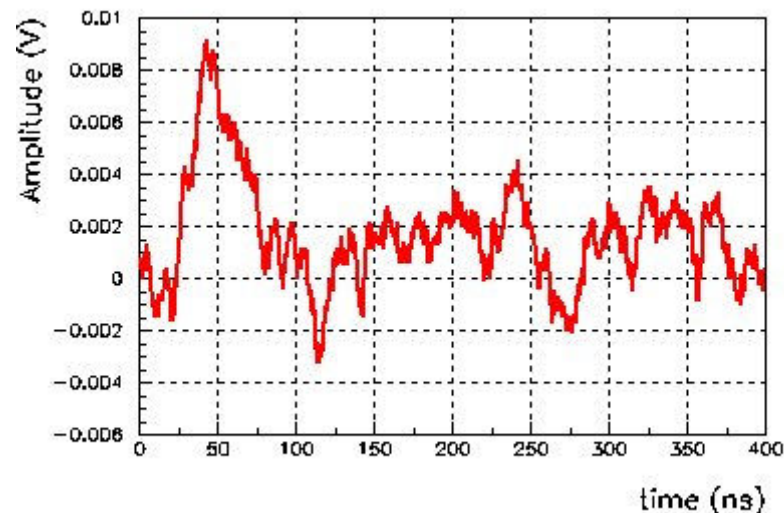


◆ Definition of Noise

- ◆ Random fluctuation superimposed to interesting signal
- ◆ Statistical treatment

◆ Three types of noise

- ◆ Fundamental noise (Thermal noise, shot noise)
- ◆ Excess noise ($1/f$...)
- ◆ Parasitics -> EMC/EMI (pickup noise, ground loops...)



◆ Modelization

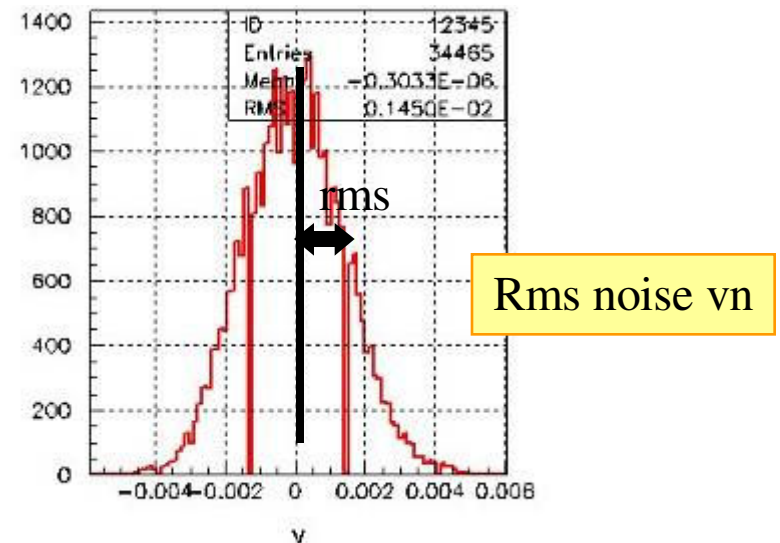
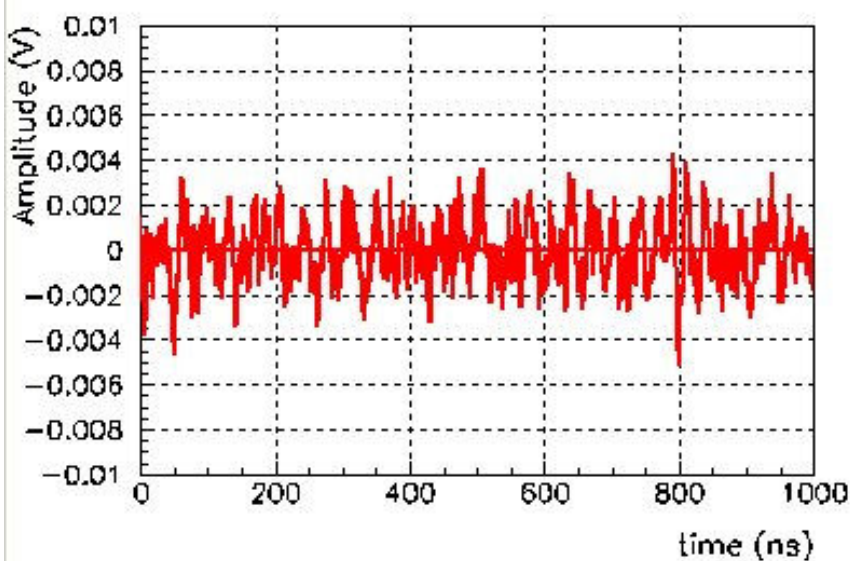
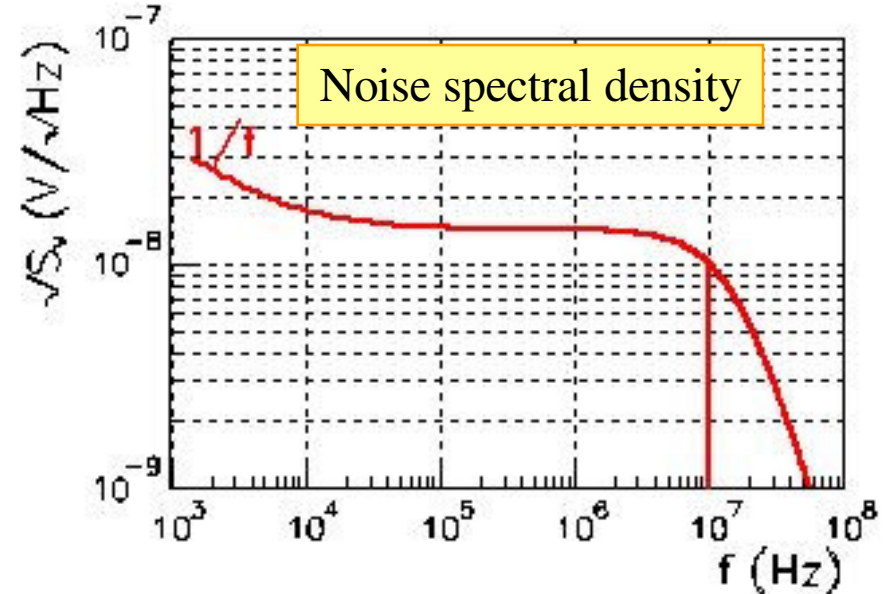
- ◆ Noise generators : e_n, i_n
- ◆ Noise spectral density of e_n & i_n : $S_v(f)$ & $S_i(f)$
 - ◆ $S_v(f) = |\mathcal{F}(e_n)|^2$ (V^2/Hz)
 - ◆ $S_i(f) = |\mathcal{F}(i_n)|^2$ (A^2/Hz)

◆ Rms noise V_n

- ◆ $V_n^2 = \int e_n^2(t) dt = \int S_v(f) df$

◆ When going through a device $H(2\pi f)$

- ◆ $S_{vout}(f) = |H(2\pi f)|^2 S_{vin}(f)$



Calculating electronics noise

◆ Fundamental noise

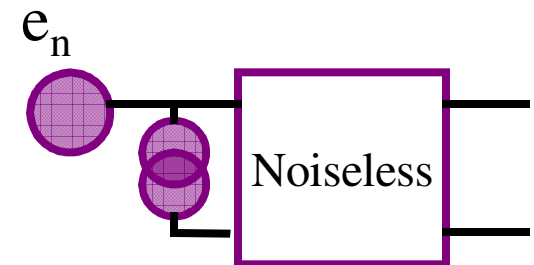
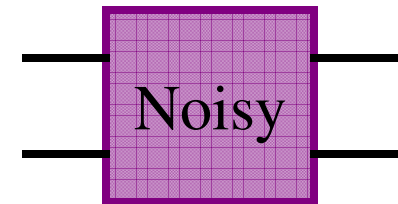
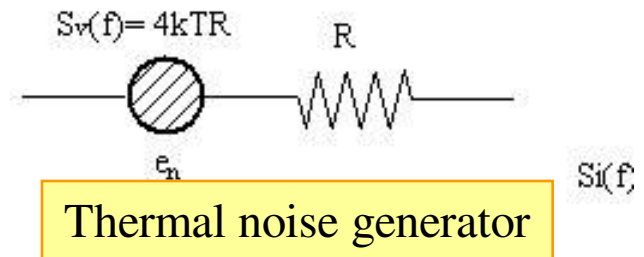
- ◆ Thermal noise (**resistors**) : $S_v(f) = 4kTR$
- ◆ Shot noise (**junctions**) : $S_i(f) = 2qI$
- ◆ 1/f noise in CMOS devices

◆ Noise referred to the input

- ◆ All noise generators can be referred to the input as **2** noise generators :
- ◆ A voltage one e_n in series : **series noise**
- ◆ A current one i_n in parallel : **parallel noise**
- ◆ Two generators : no more, no less... why ?
 - ◆ **To take into account the source impedance**

◆ Golden rule

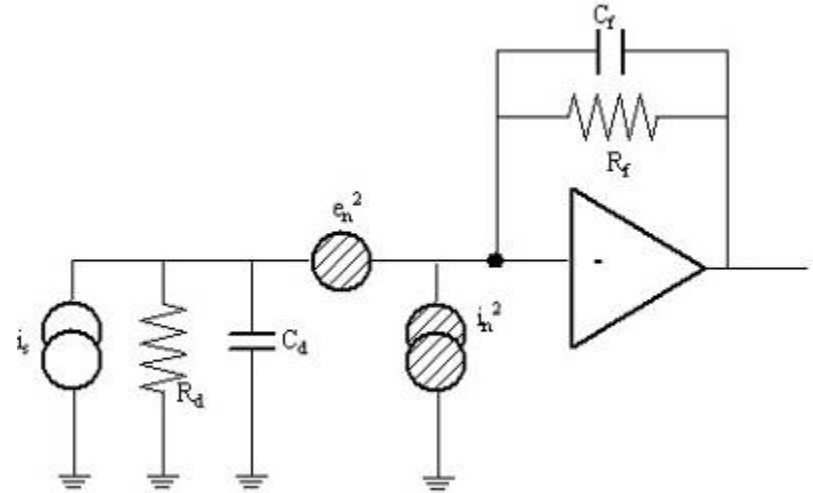
- ◆ **Always calculate the signal before the noise**
what counts is the signal to noise ratio
- ◆ Don't forget noise generators are $V^2/Hz \Rightarrow$ calculations in module square
- ◆ Practical exercise next slide



Noise generators referred to the input

Noise in charge pre-amplifiers

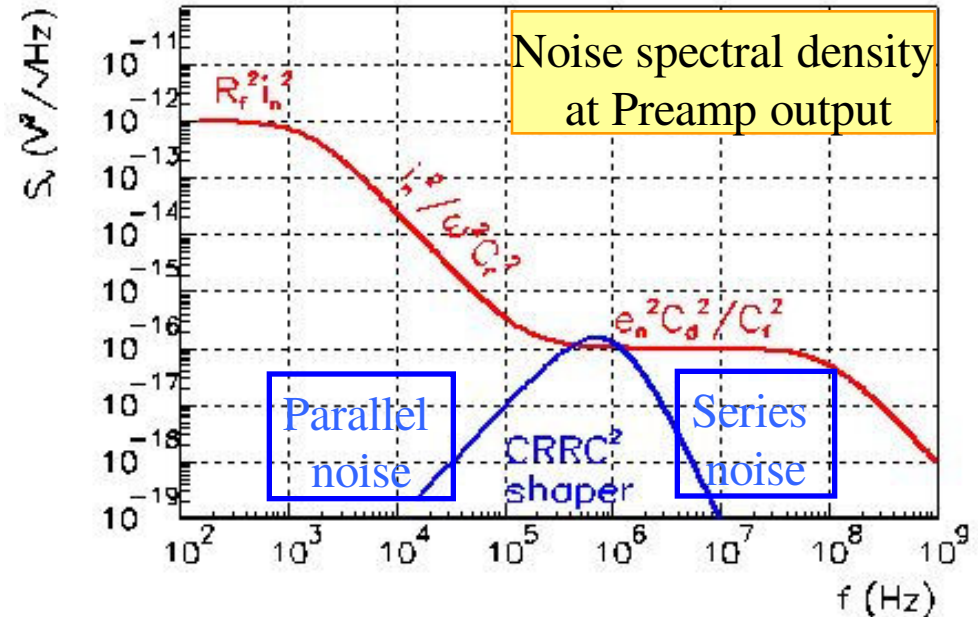
- ◆ 2 noise generators at the input
 - ◆ Parallel noise : (i_n^2) (leakage currents)
 - ◆ Series noise : (e_n^2) (preamp)



- ◆ Output noise spectral density :

$$S_v(\omega) = \frac{i_n^2 + \frac{e_n^2}{|Z_d|^2}}{\omega^2 C_f^2} = \frac{i_n^2}{\omega^2 C_f^2} + \frac{e_n^2 C_d^2}{C_f^2}$$

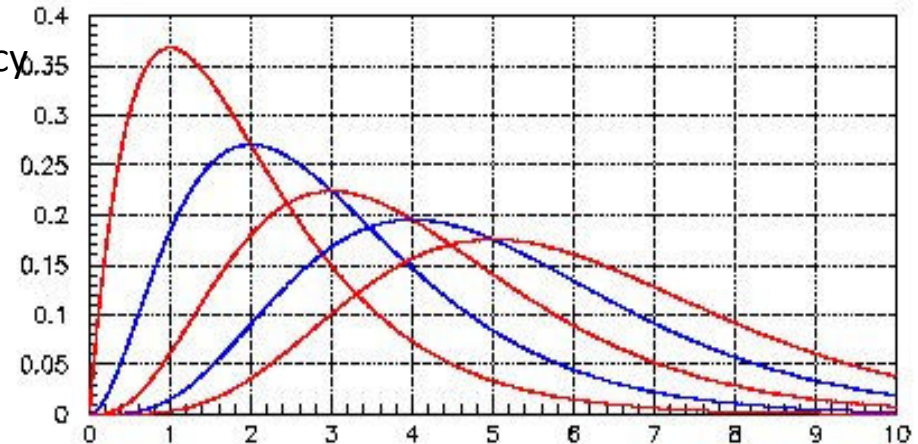
- ◆ Parallel noise in $1/\omega^2$
- ◆ Series noise is flat, with a « noise gain » of C_d/C_f
- ◆ *rms* noise V_n
 - ◆ $V_n^2 = \int S_v(\omega) d\omega/2\pi \rightarrow \infty$ (!)
 - ◆ Benefit of shaping...



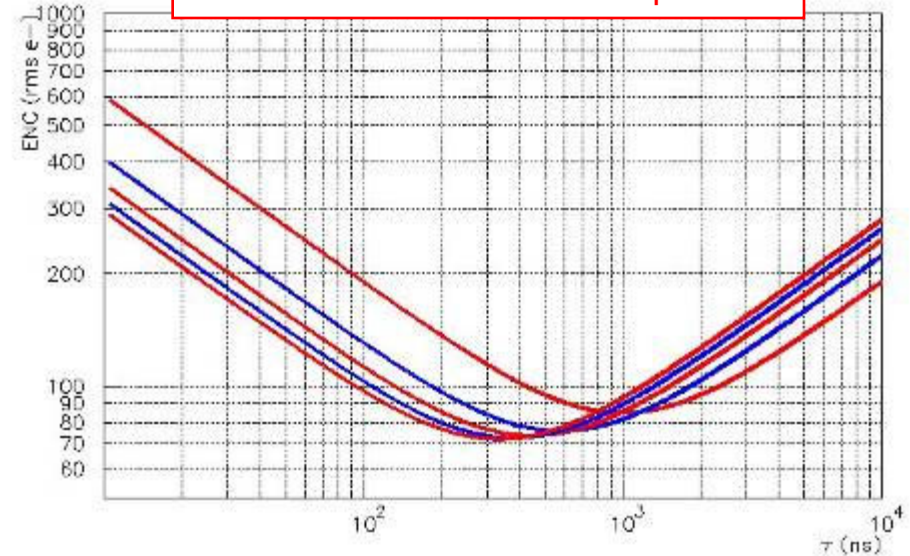
Equivalent Noise Charge (ENC) after CRRCⁿ

- ◆ Noise reduction by optimising useful bandwidth
 - ◆ Low-pass filters (**RCⁿ**) to cut-off high frequency noise
 - ◆ High-pass filter (**CR**) to cut-off parallel noise
 - ◆ -> pass-band filter **CRRCⁿ**
- ◆ Equivalent Noise Charge : ENC
 - ◆ Noise referred to the input in electrons
 - ◆ $ENC = Ia(n) e_n C_t / \sqrt{\tau} \oplus Ib(n) i_n \sqrt{\tau}$
 - ◆ Series noise in $1/\sqrt{\tau}$
 - ◆ Paralle noise in $\sqrt{\tau}$
 - ◆ 1/f noise independant of τ
 - ◆ Optimum shaping time $\tau_{opt} = \tau_c / \sqrt{2n-1}$
- ◆ Peaking time t_p (5-100%)
 - ◆ $ENC(t_p)$ independent of n
- ◆ Complex shapers are **obsolete** :
 - ◆ Power of **digital filtering**
 - ◆ Analog filter = CRRC ou CRRC²

Step response of CR RCⁿ shapers



ENC vs tau for CR RCⁿ shapers



Equivalent Noise Charge (ENC) after CRRCⁿ

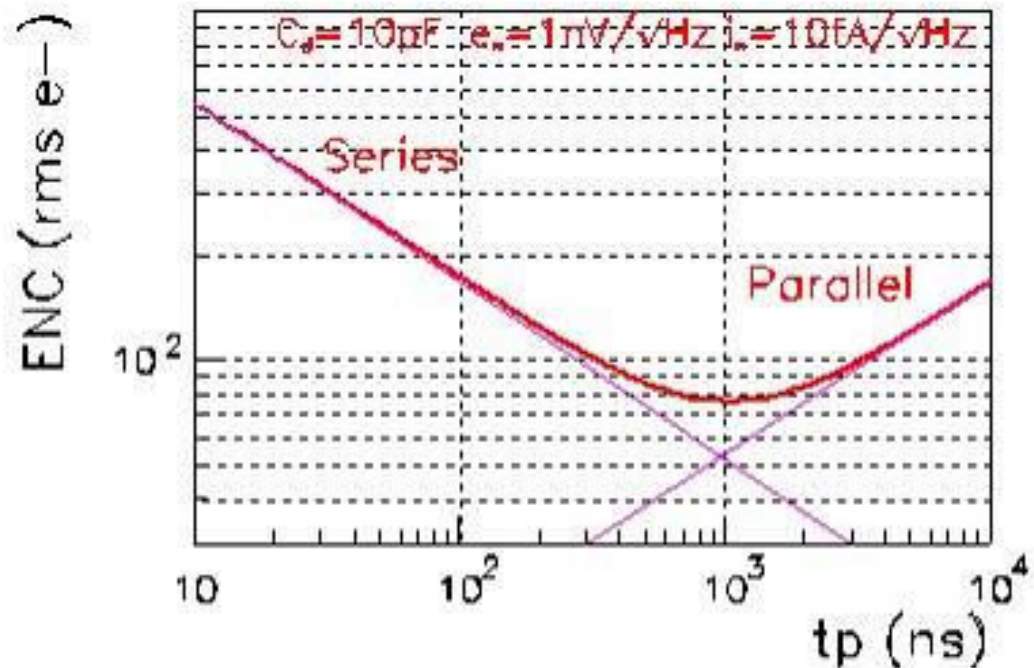
- ◆ A useful formula : ENC (e⁻ rms) after a CRRC² shaper :

$$ENC = 174 \frac{e_n C_{tot}}{\sqrt{t_p}} \oplus 166 i_n \sqrt{t_p}$$

- ◆ e_n in nV/√Hz, i_n in pA/√Hz are the **preamp** noise spectral densities
- ◆ C_{tot} (in pF) is dominated by the detector (C_d) + input preamp capacitance (C_{PA})
- ◆ t_p (in ns) is the shaper peaking time (5-100%)

◆ Noise minimization

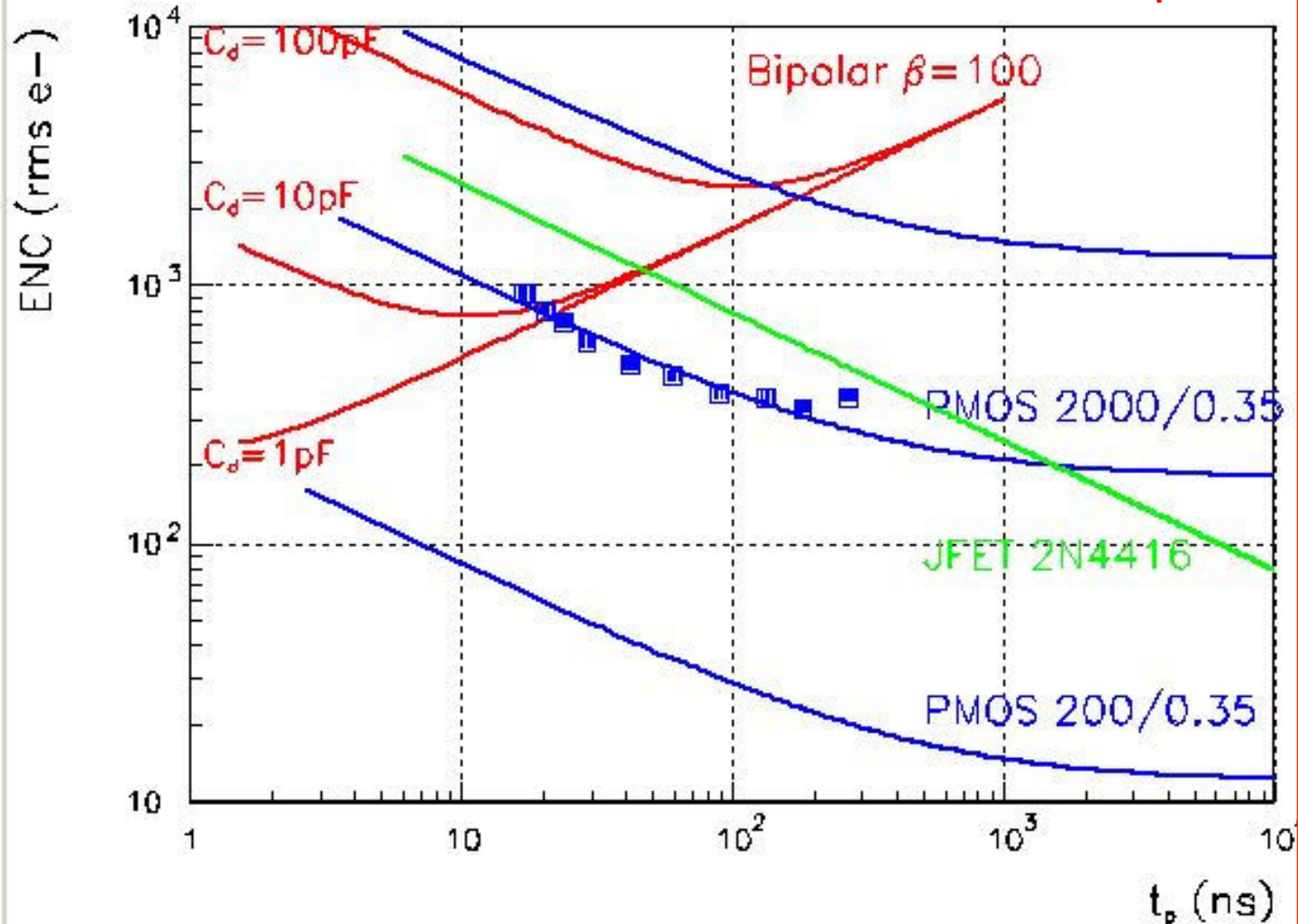
- ◆ Minimize source capacitance
- ◆ Operate at optimum shaping time
- ◆ Preamp series noise (e_n) best with high trans-conductance (g_m) in input transistor
- ◆ => large current, optimal size



ENC for various technologies

◆ ENC for $C_d=1, 10$ and 100 pF at $I_D = 500$ μ A

◆ MOS transistors best between 20 ns – 2 μ s



Parameters

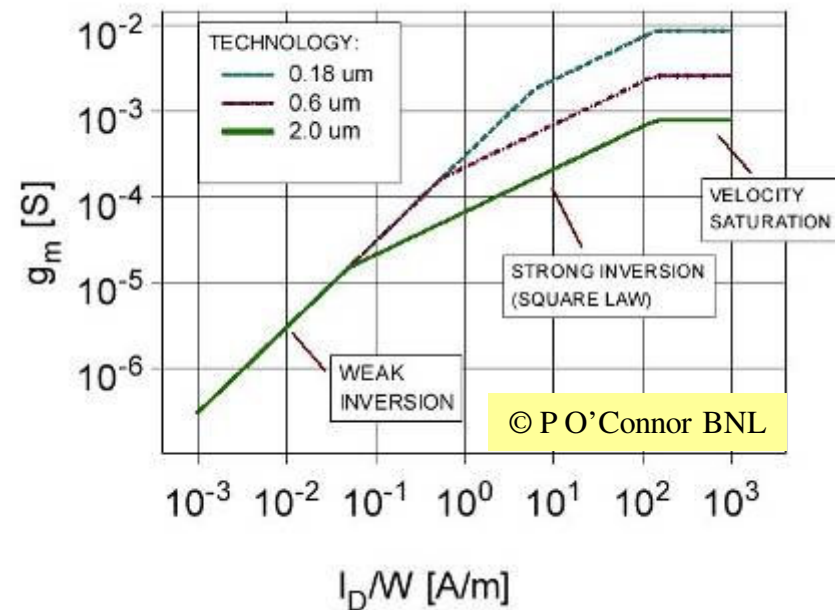
Bipolar :

- $g_m = 20$ mA/V
- $R_{BB'} = 25$ Ω
- $e_n = 1$ nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- $I_B = 5$ μ A
- $i_n = 1$ pA/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- $C_{PA} = 100$ fF

PMOS 2000/0.35

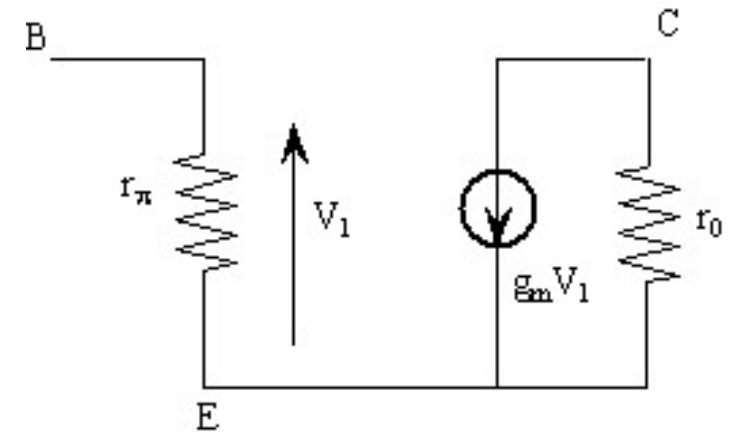
- $g_m = 10$ mA/V
- $e_n = 1.4$ nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- $C_{PA} = 5$ pF
- $1/f$:

- ◆ Capacitive matching : strong inversion
 - ◆ g_m proportionnal to $W/L \sqrt{I_D}$
 - ◆ C_{GS} proportionnal to $W \cdot L$
 - ◆ ENC propotionnal to $(C_{det} + C_{GS}) / \sqrt{g_m}$
 - ◆ Optimum W/L : $C_{GS} = 1/3 C_{det}$
 - ◆ Large transistors are easily in moderate or weak inversion at small current



- ◆ Optimum size in weak inversion
 - ◆ g_m proportionnal to I_D (indep of W, L)
 - ◆ ENC minimal for C_{GS} minimal, provided the transistor remains in weak inversion

- ◆ Performant design is at transistor level
- ◆ Simple models
 - ◆ Hybrid π model
 - ◆ Similar for bipolar and MOS
 - ◆ Essential for design

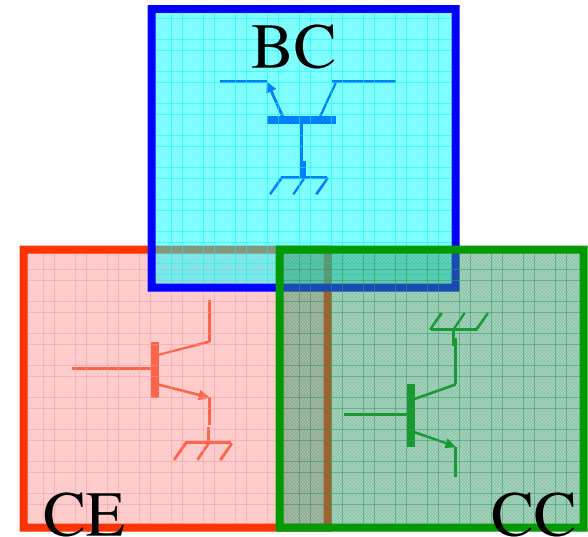


Low frequency hybrid model of bipolar

■ Three basic bricks

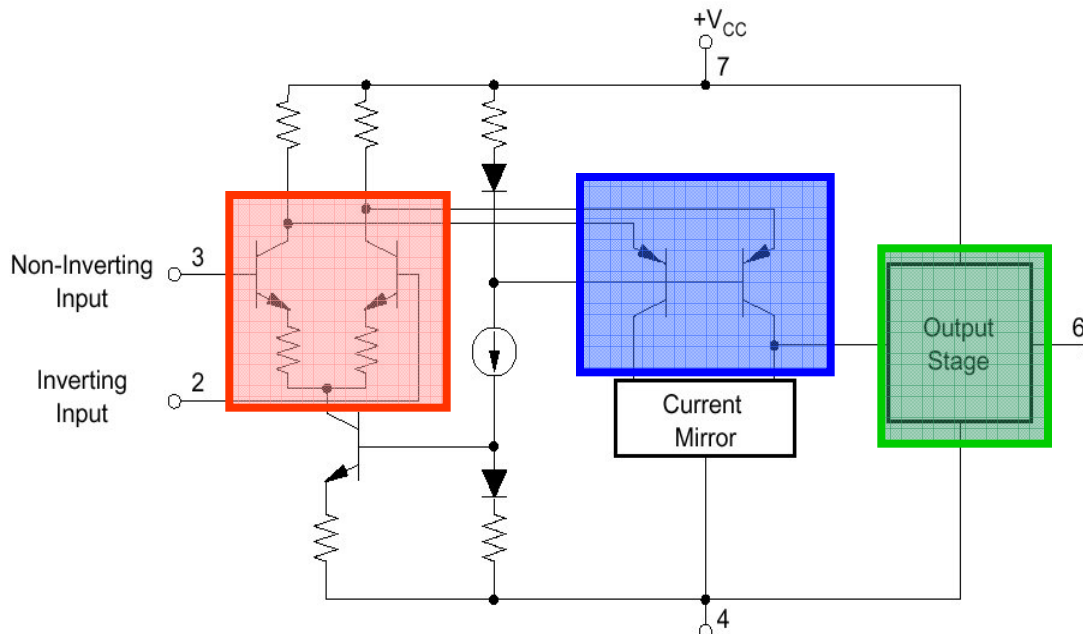
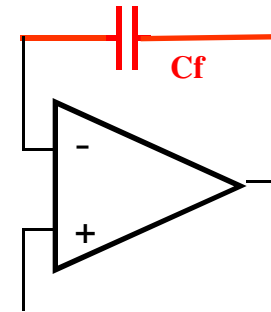
- Common emitter (CE) = V to I (transconductance)
- Common collector (CC) = V to V (voltage buffer)
- Common base (BC) = I to I (current conveyor)

- ◆ Numerous « composites »
 - ◆ Darlington, Paraphase, Cascode, Mirrors...

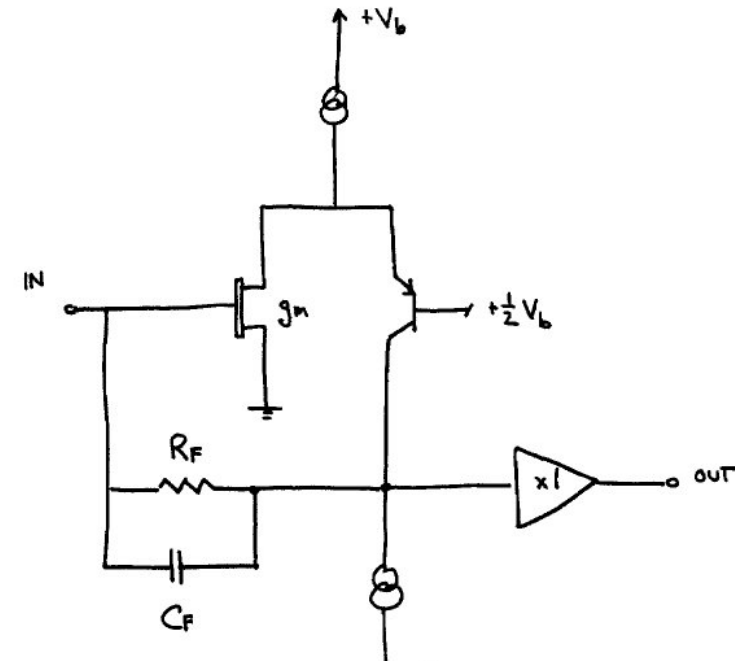


Example : designing a charge preamp (1)

- ◆ From the schematic of principle
 - ◆ Using of a fast opamp (OP620)
 - ◆ Removing unnecessary components...
 - ◆ Similar to the traditionnal schematic «Radeka 68 »



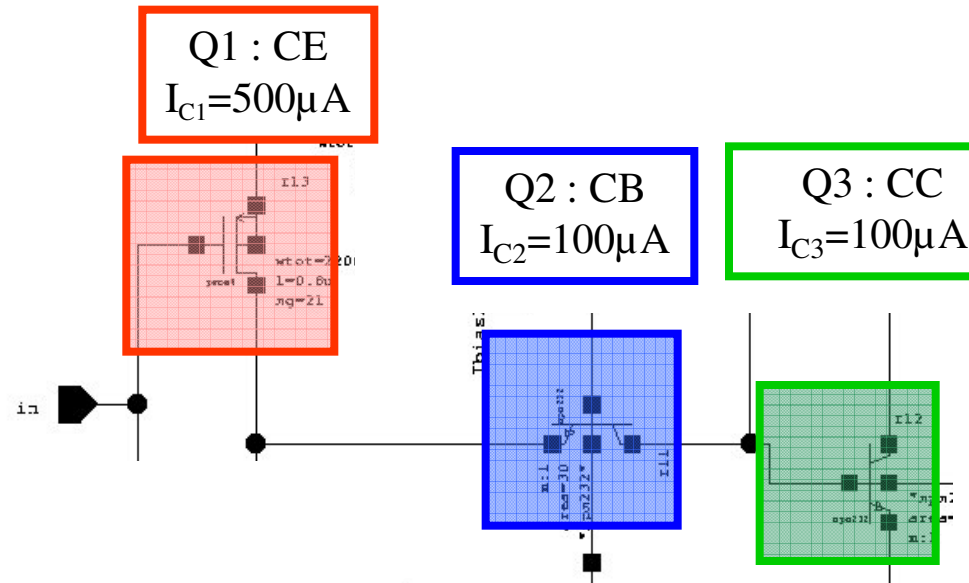
Schematic of a OP620 opamp ©BurrBrown



Charge preamp ©Radeka 68

Example : designing a charge preamp (2)

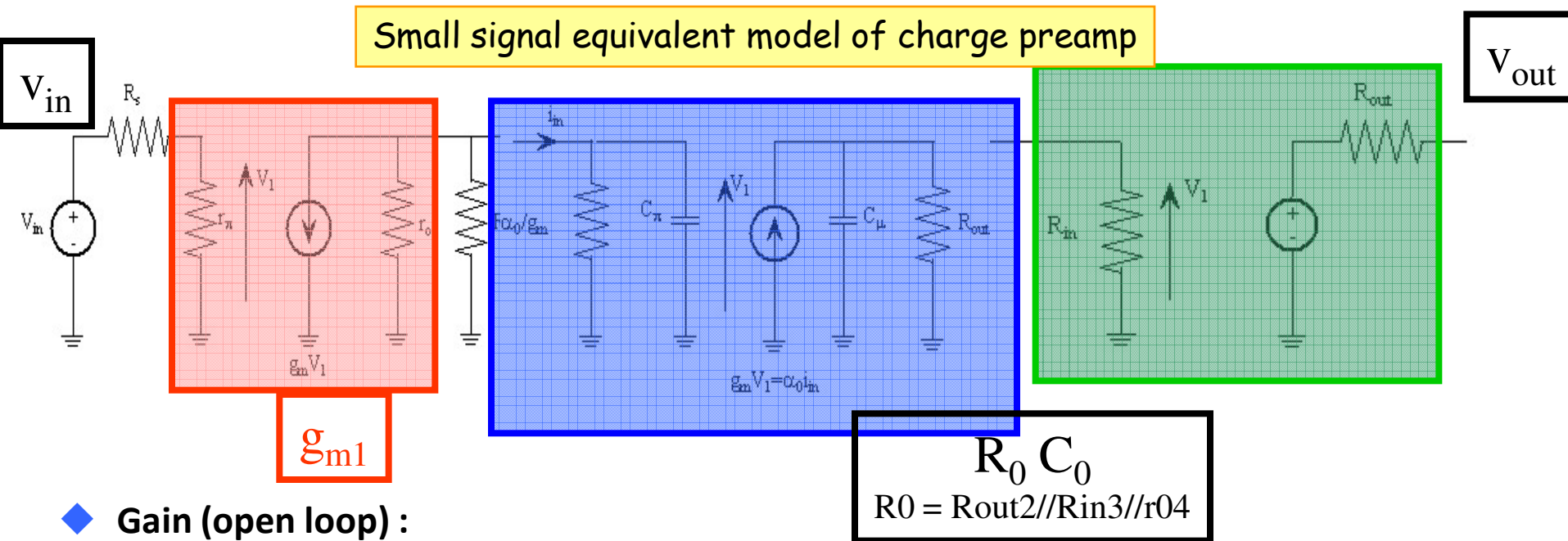
- ◆ Simplified schematic
- ◆ Optimising components
 - ◆ What transistors (PMOS, NPN ?)
 - ◆ What bias current ?
 - ◆ What transistor size ?
 - ◆ What is the noise contributions of each component, how to minimize it ?
 - ◆ What parameters determine the stability ?
 - ◆ What is the saturation behaviour ?
 - ◆ How vary signal and noise with input capacitance ?
 - ◆ How to maximise the output voltage swing ?
 - ◆ What the sensitivity to power supplies, temperature...



Simplified schematic of charge preamp

Example : designing a charge preamp (3)

- ◆ Small signal equivalent model
 - ◆ Transistors are replaced by hybrid π model
 - ◆ Allows to calculate open loop gain



- ◆ Gain (open loop) :

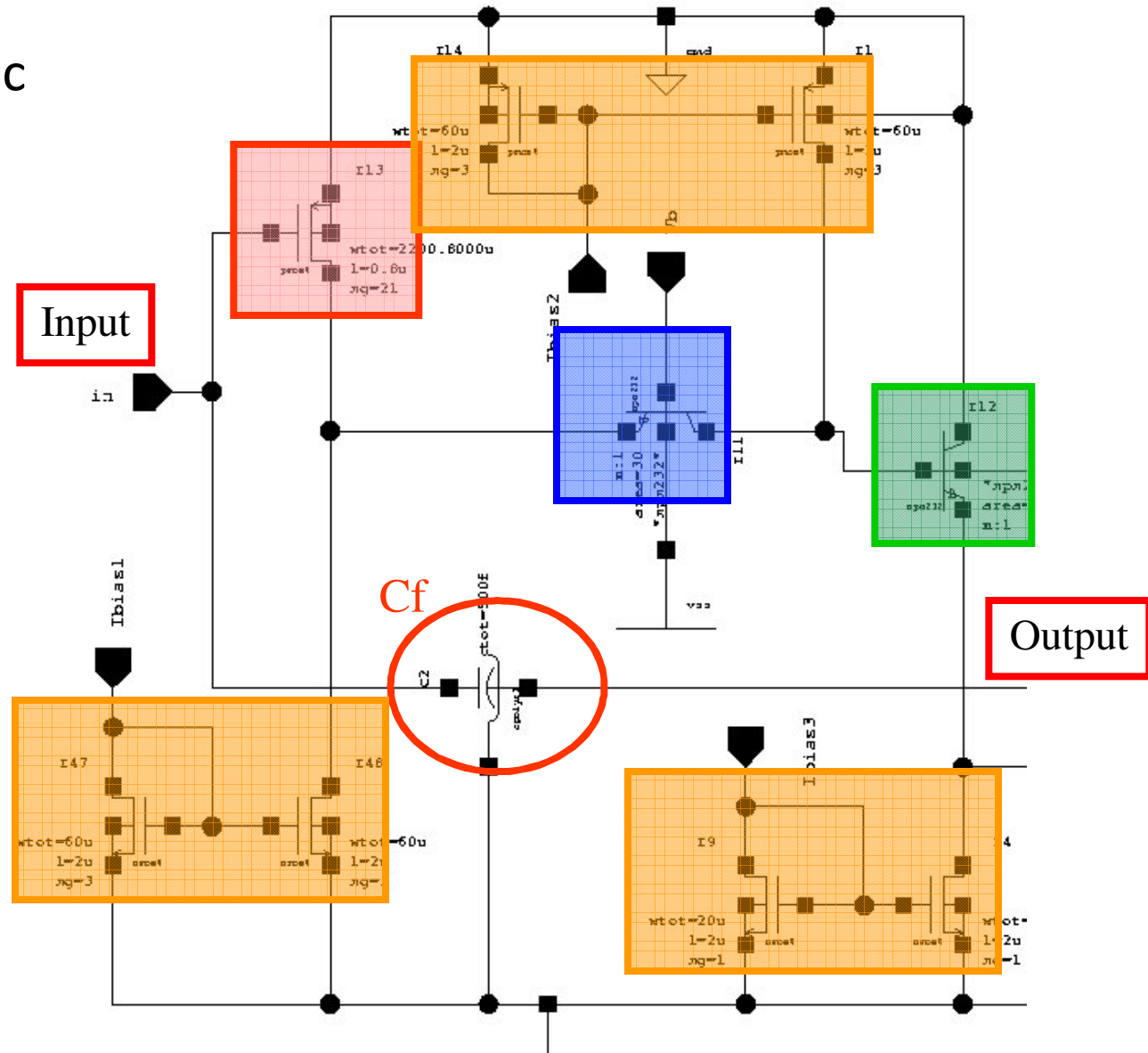
$$v_{out}/v_{in} = -g_{m1} R_0 / (1 + j\omega R_0 C_0)$$

- ◆ Ex : $g_{m1}=20\text{mA/V}$, $R_0=500\text{k}\Omega$, $C_0=1\text{pF} \Rightarrow G_0=10^4$ $\omega_0=210^6$ $G_0\omega_0=2 \cdot 10^{10} = 3 \text{ GHz} !$

Example : designing a charge preamp (4)

◆ Complete schematic

- ◆ Adding bias elements

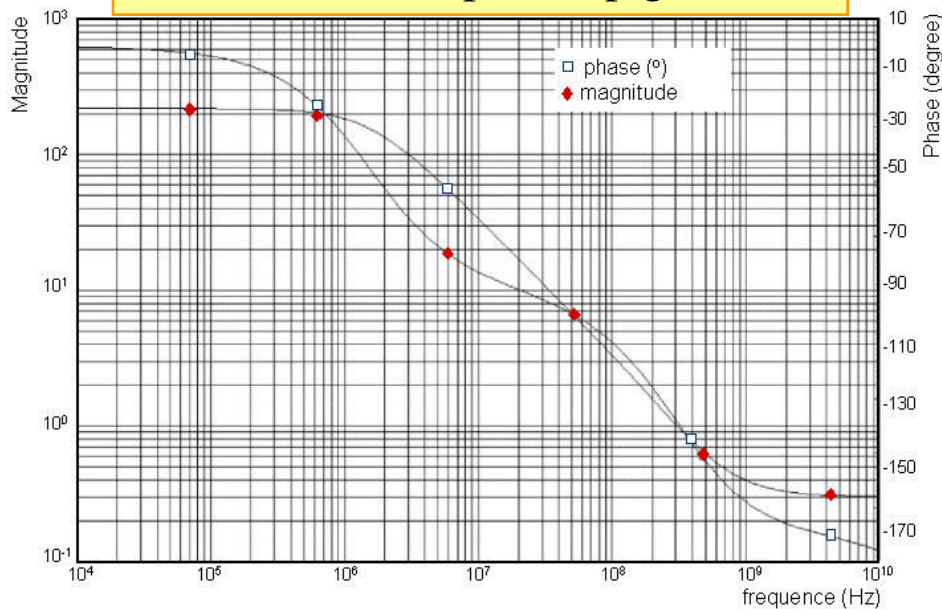


Example : designing a charge preamp (5)

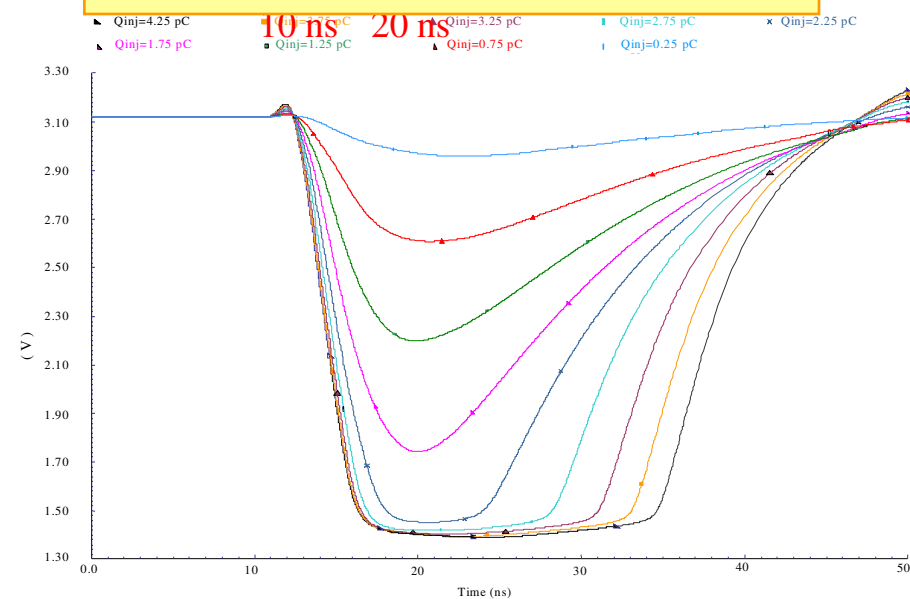
◆ Complete simulation

- ◆ Checking hand calculations against 2nd order effects
- ◆ Testing extreme process parameters (« corner simulations »)
- ◆ Testing robustness (to power supplies, temperature...)

Simulated open loop gain



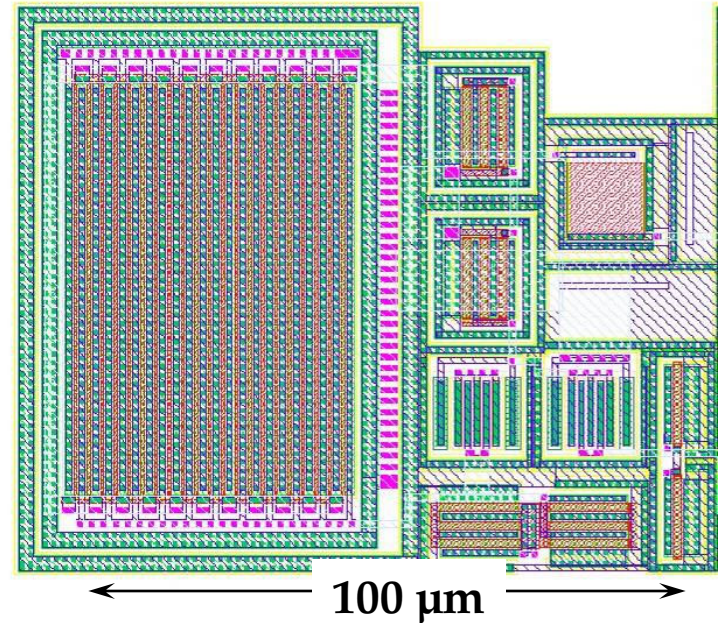
Saturation behaviour



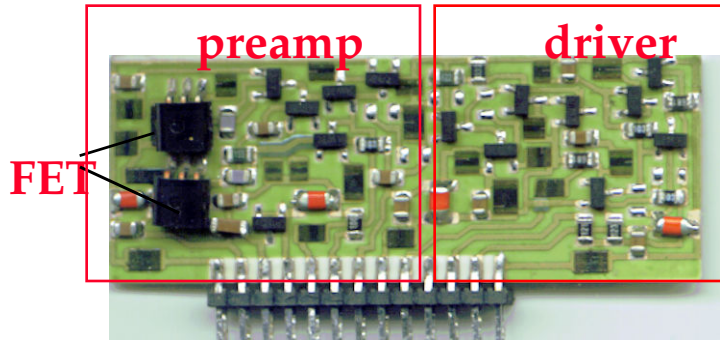
1 MHz

Example : designing a charge preamp (6)

- ◆ Layout
 - ◆ Each component is drawn
 - ◆ They are interconnected by metal layers
- ◆ Checks
 - ◆ DRC : checking drawing rules (isolation, minimal dimensions...)
 - ◆ ERC : extracting the corresponding electrical schematic
 - ◆ LVS (layout vs schematic) : comparing extracted schematic and original design
 - ◆ Simulating extracted schematic with parasitic elements
- ◆ Generating GDS2 file
 - ◆ Fabrication masks : « reticule »

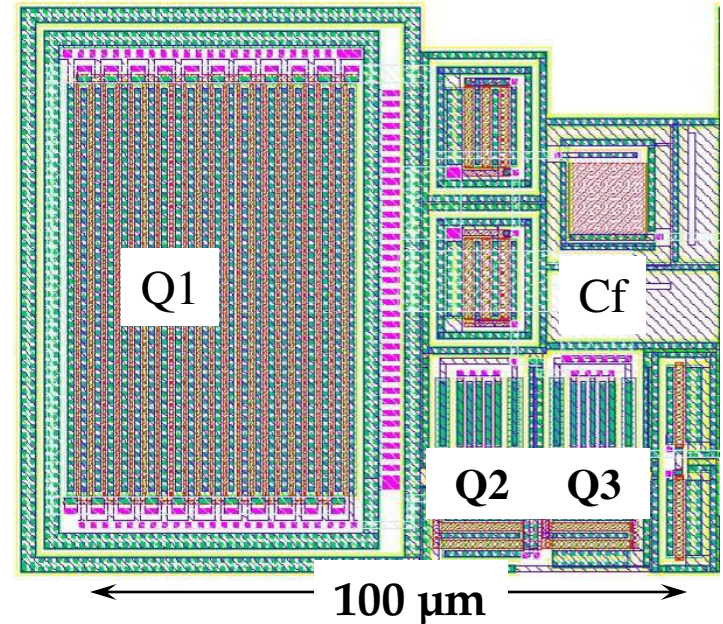
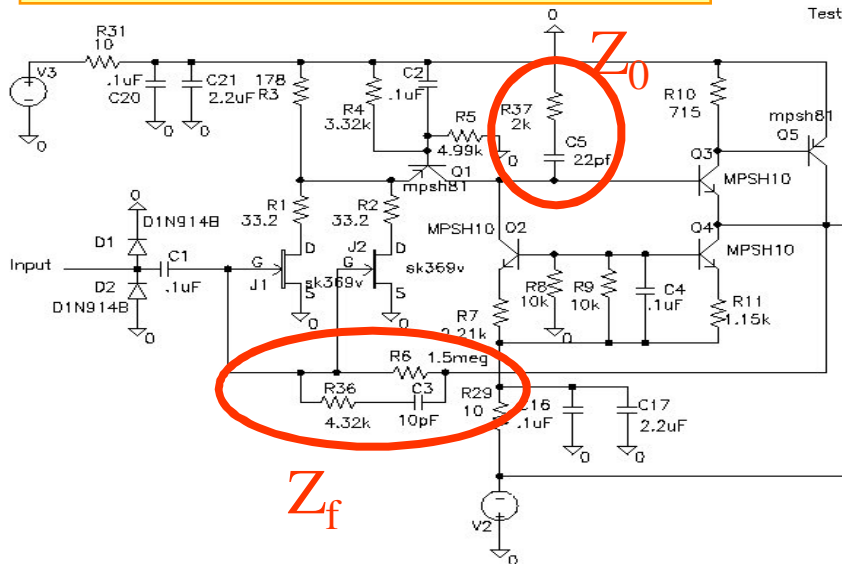


◆ Acces to microelectronics

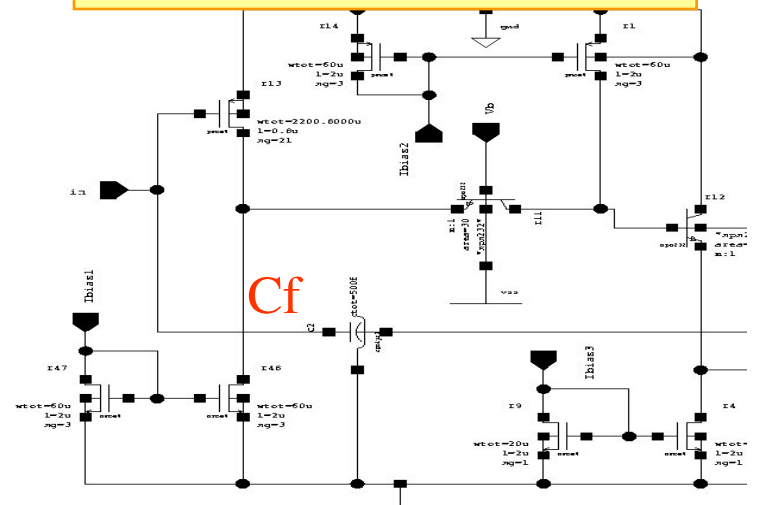


6 cm

Charge preamp in SMC hybrid techno



Charge preamp in 0.8µm BiCMOS



◆ Charge sensitive preamplifiers

- ◆ Output proportionnal to the incoming charge

$$v_{\text{out}}(t) = - Q/C_f$$

- ◆ « Gain » : $1/C_f$; $C_f = 1 \text{ pF} \rightarrow 1 \text{ mV/fC}$
- ◆ Transforms a short pulse into a long one
- ◆ Low input impedance \rightarrow current sensitive
- ◆ Virtual resistance R_{in} \rightarrow stable with capacitive detector
- ◆ The front-end of 90% of particle physics detectors...
- ◆ But always built with custom circuits...

◆ Noise minimization

- ◆ Minimize source capacitance
- ◆ Operate at optimum shaping time
- ◆ Preamp series noise (en) better with high trans-conductance (gm) in input transistor

