

note:  $\angle a(jw)f$   
 $= \angle a(jw)$  because  
 $f = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} = \text{constant}$

- $PM \equiv \text{phase margin} = 180^\circ - \angle a(jw)f$  where  $|a(jw)f| = 1$  ( $PM \approx 75^\circ$  above)
- $GM \equiv \text{gain margin} = |a(jw)f|$  at frequency,  $w_{180}$ , where  $\angle a(jw)f = -180^\circ$

Frequency Compensation:

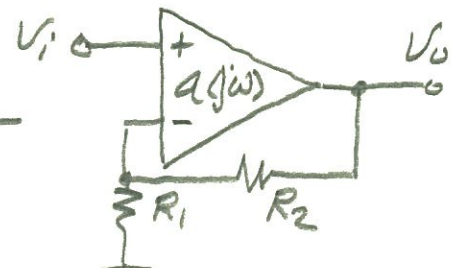
$$A(s) = \frac{a(s)}{1 + \underbrace{a(s)f}_{\text{loop transmission}}} = \frac{a(s)}{1 + T(s)}$$

at DC,  $a(s)f = T_0 = a_0 f \equiv \text{loop gain}$

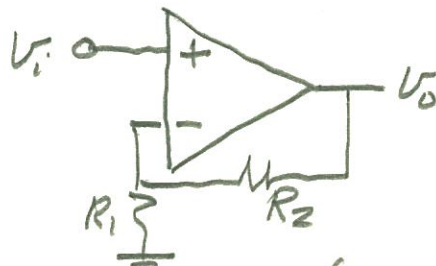
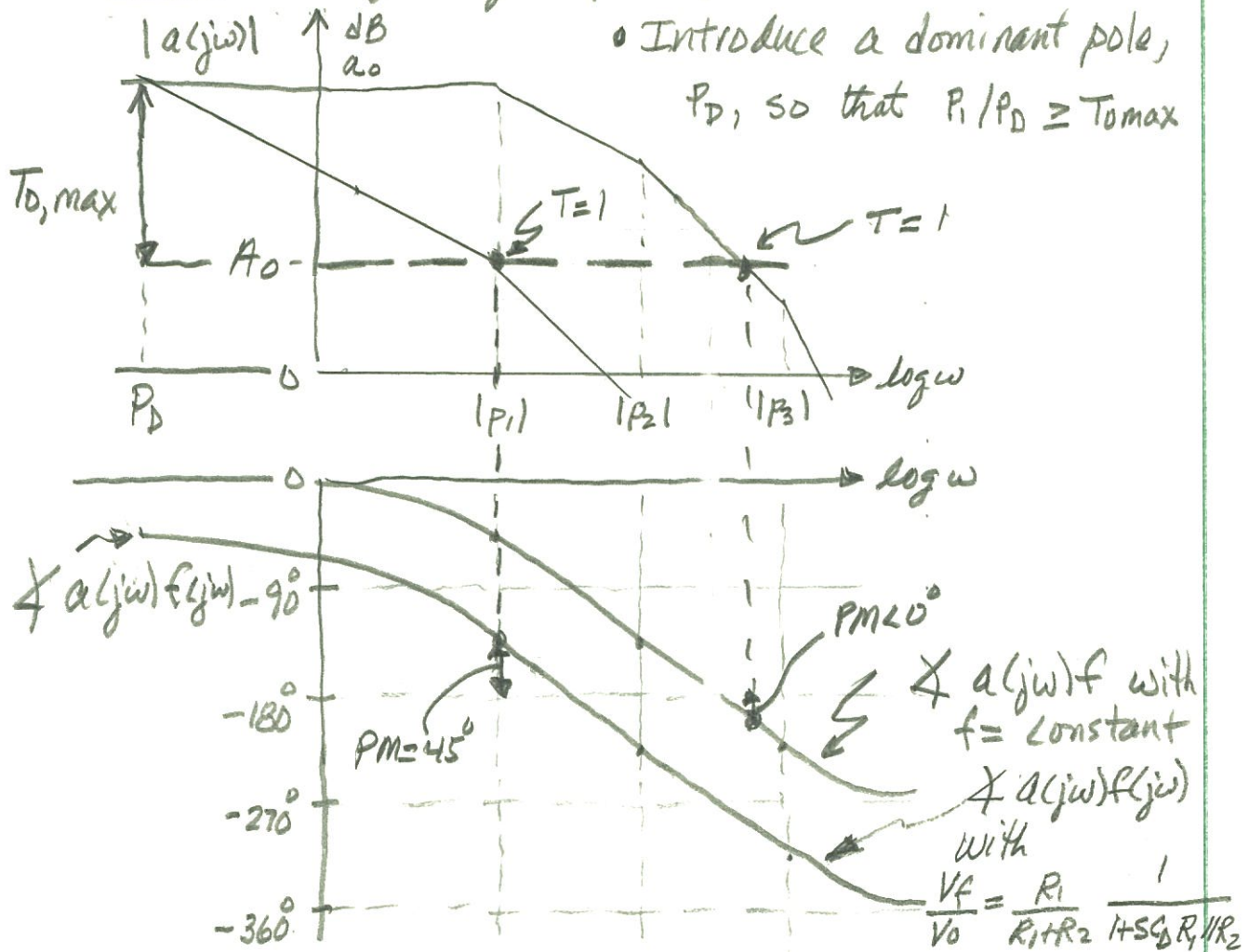
Instability occurs when  $A(s) \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\Rightarrow A(s) = \frac{a(s)}{1 + a(s)f} \rightarrow \frac{a(s)}{1 - 1} = \frac{a(s)}{0} \rightarrow \infty$$

Compensate for  $T_{0,max}$  ( $T_{0,max} = a_0 \equiv \text{worst case}$ )

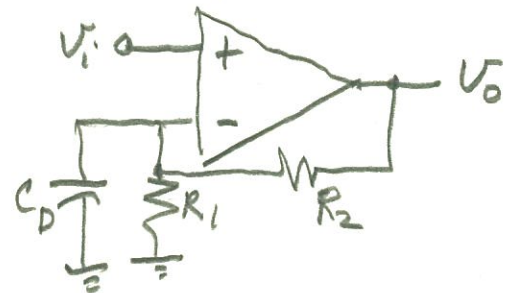


(A) Narrowbanding frequency compensation:



• for the value of  $T_0$  shown, the amplifier is unstable.

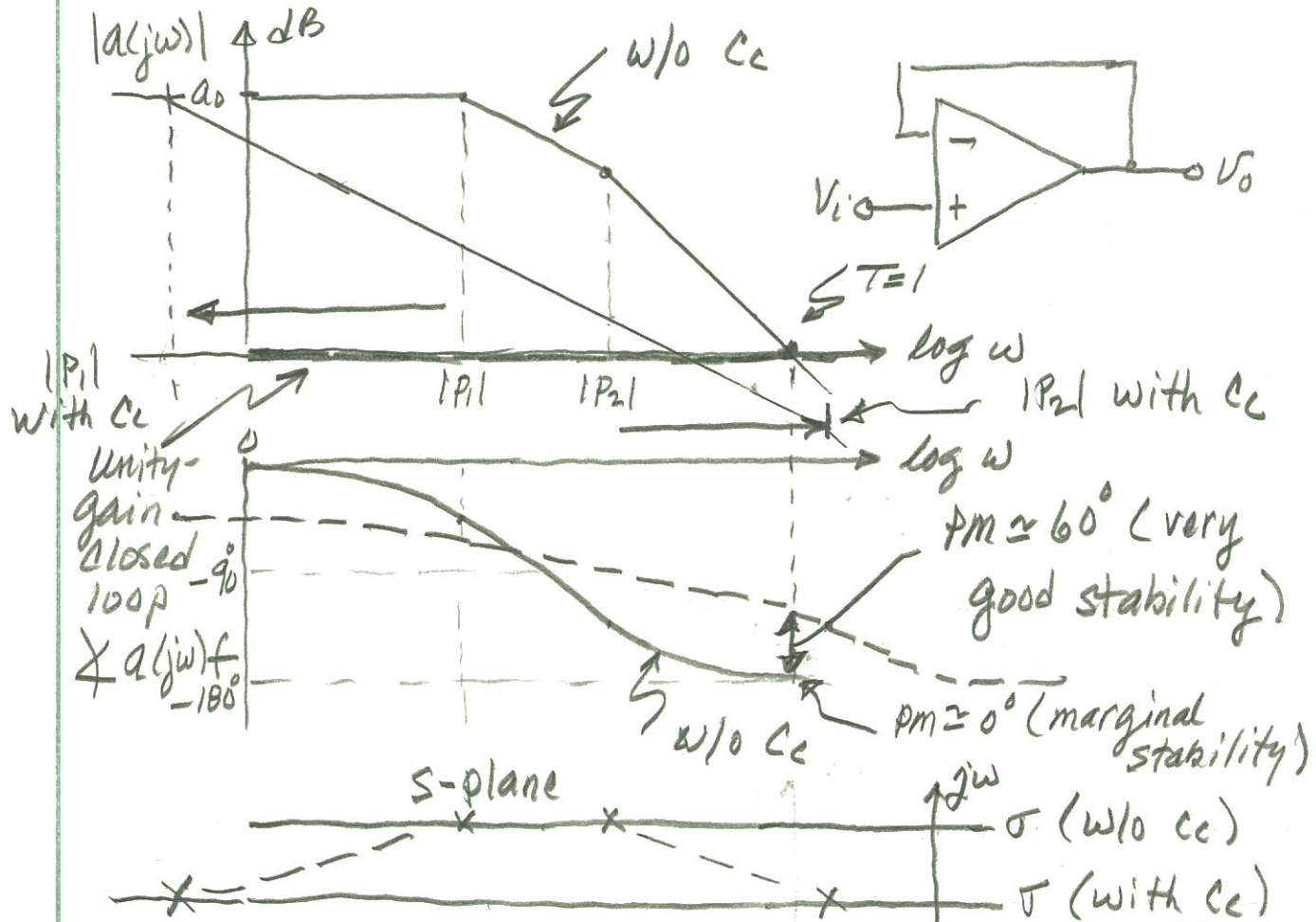
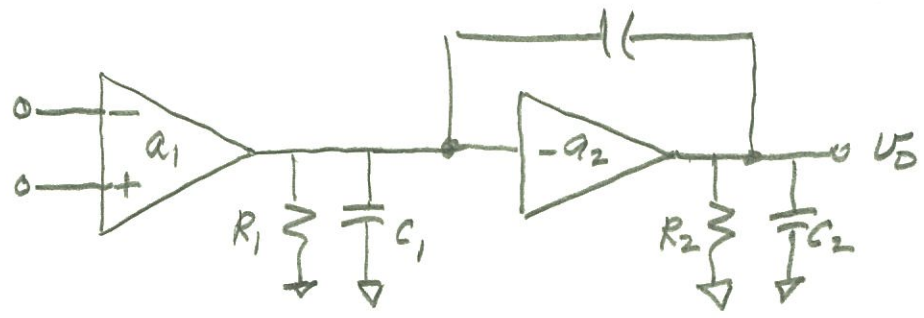
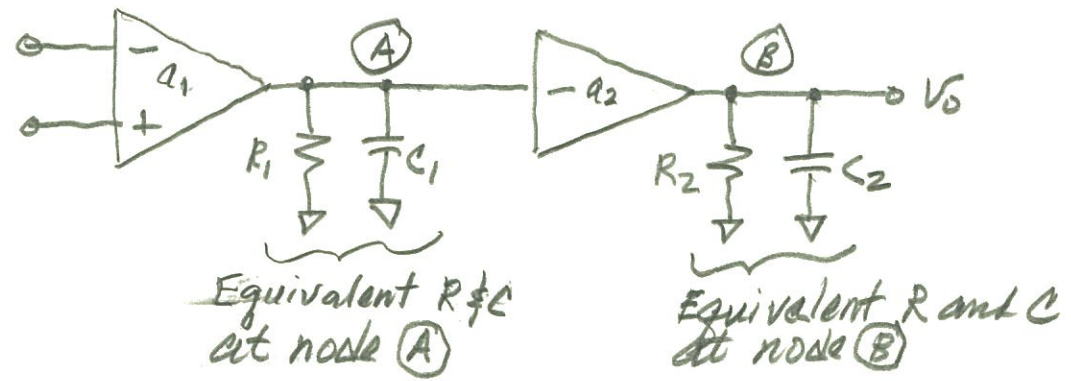
Add a dominant pole so that  $P_1/P_D = T_{0max}$ . This yields  $PM = 45^\circ$ . Put a pole in  $f(jw)$  as shown:



• Closed-loop amp is stable but usable bandwidth is greatly decreased.

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(B) Pole-splitting Compensation (Miller Compensation):



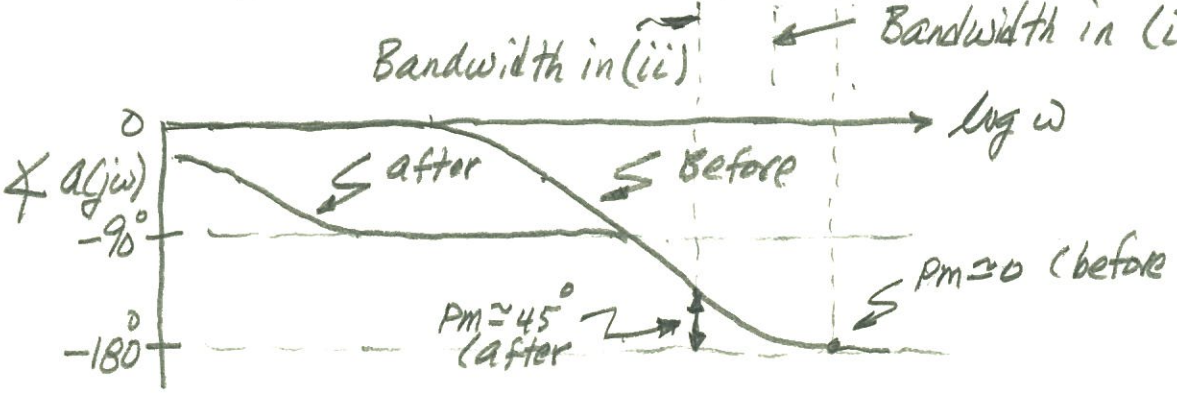
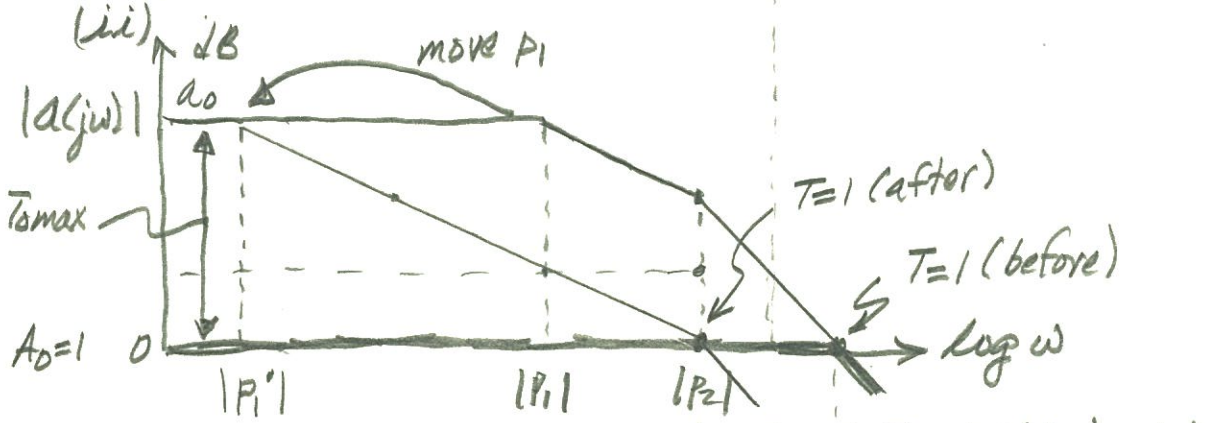
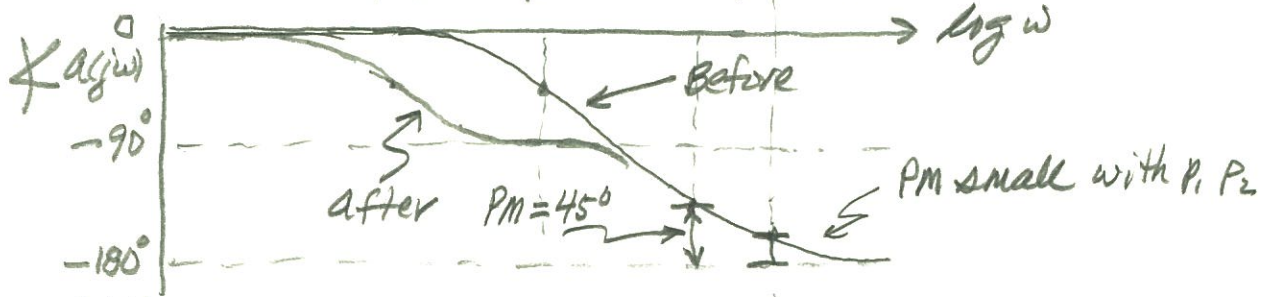
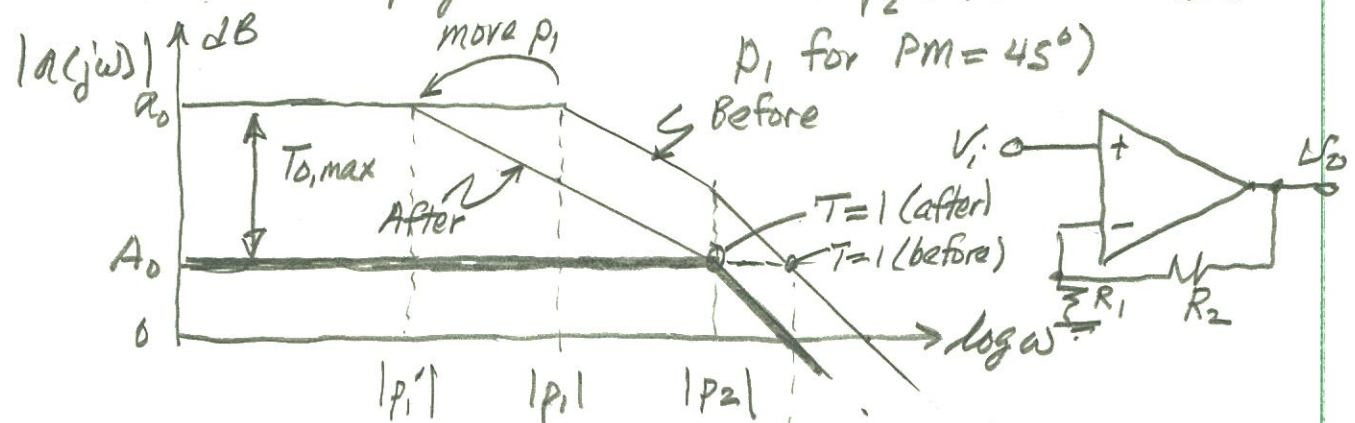
$$P_2 = -\frac{1}{R_2 C_2} \cdot g_{m2} R_2$$

$$P_1 = -\frac{1}{R_1 C_1} \cdot \frac{1}{g_{m2} R_2} \cdot \left(\frac{C_1}{C_c}\right)$$

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Choosing the value of  $C_c$  Based on closed-loop gain:

(i) closed-loop gain  $> 1$ : (Assume  $p_2$  fixed and move



Bandwidth in (ii) ← Bandwidth in (i)

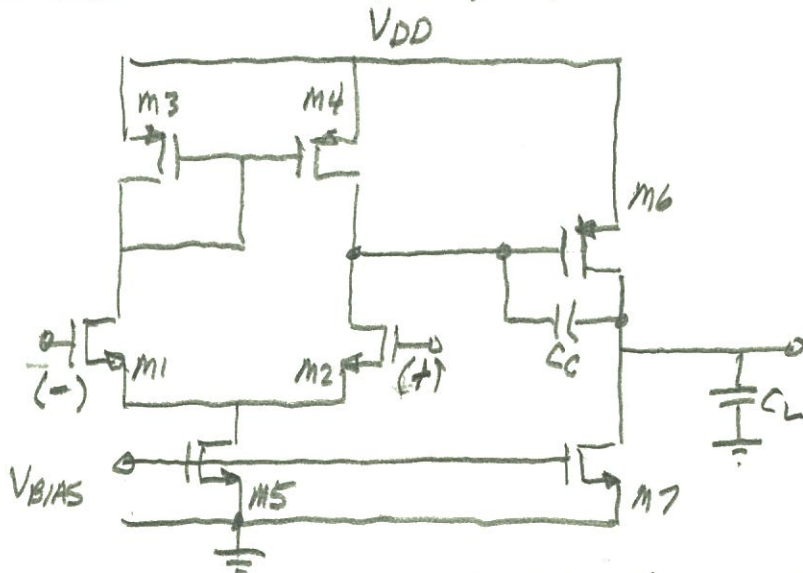
If we compensate for unity-gain stability (i.e., the worst case), and then use with  $A_0 > 1$ , bandwidth is lost. Design guideline: Do not over compensate!

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• Choosing  $C_c$ : (Assumptions for now) Approximate Method.

- Assume no RHP zeros
- $|P_3| \gg |P_2|$
- Impedance of  $C_c = \frac{1}{sC_c} \ll$  surrounding impedances at high frequencies.

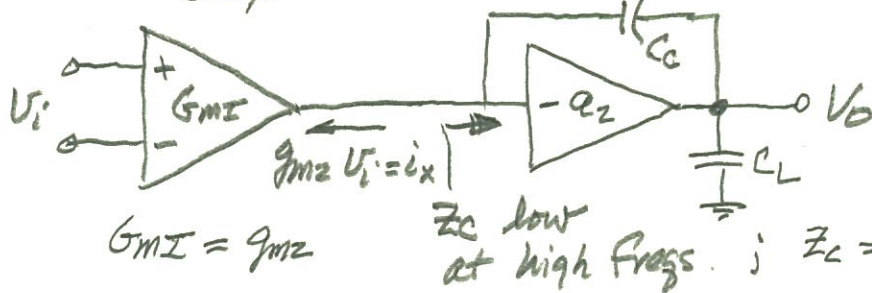
case (i): Two-stage opamp with Miller Compensation



Differential transconductance stage

Single-ended common-source amplifier

• Consider the model of the two-stage Miller compensated opamp below. We will use an approx. analysis at high frequencies where  $T \rightarrow 1$  and PM is determined.

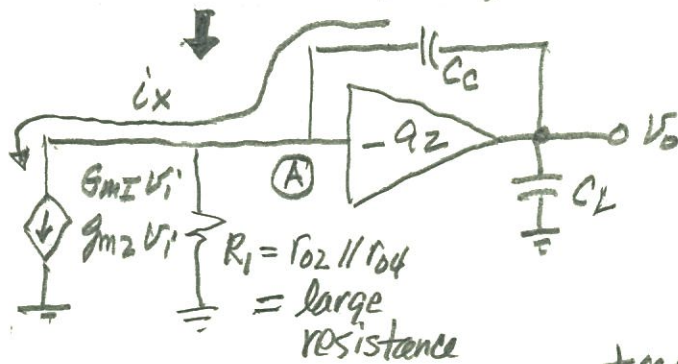


$G_{m1} = g_{m2}$

$Z_c$  low at high frqs.

Assume:  $Z_c = \frac{1}{sC_c(1+a_2(s))}$

$\ll R_1$

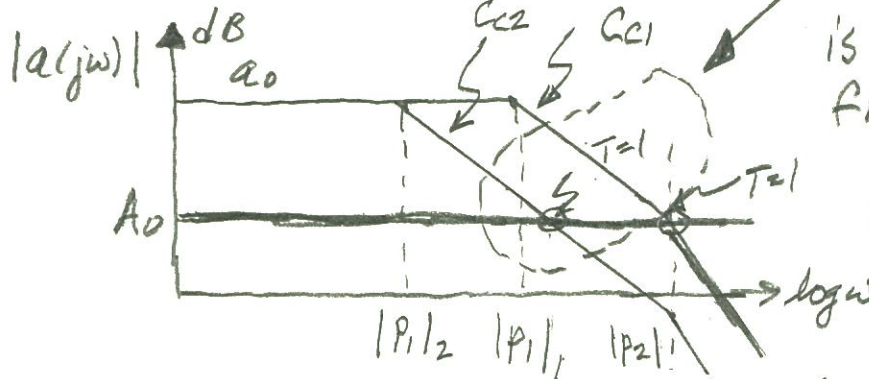


$R_1 = r_{o2} \parallel r_{o4} =$  large resistance

$\therefore$  Most of  $g_{m2} V_i$  flows through  $C_c$  treat (A) as ground.

Hence,  $i_x = G_m I V_i$   
 $V_o = \frac{i_x}{s C_c}$

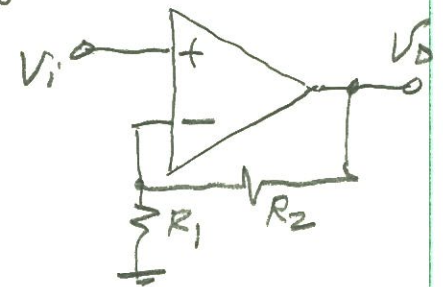
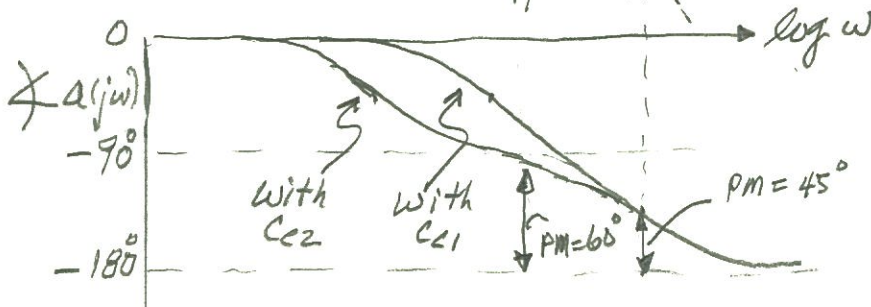
$$V_o = \frac{G_m V_i}{s C_c} \Rightarrow \frac{V_o(s)}{V_i} = \frac{G_m I}{s C_c}$$



is valid for these frequencies.

Note:  $C_{c2} > C_{c1}$

$P_2$  stays same.



Closed-loop gain =  $A_0$

case (i):  $C_{c1}$  chosen with  $A_0$   
 for  $PM = 45^\circ$ .

$$\left| \frac{V_o}{V_i}(j\omega) \right| = \frac{G_m I}{\omega C_c}$$

$\omega_{ULT}$  = "unity loop gain" frequency  
 =  $\omega$  where  $|a(j\omega)| = 1$

For  $PM = 45^\circ$ ,  $\omega_{ULT} = \omega_2$  (second pole freq)

$$\therefore \left| \frac{V_o}{V_i}(j\omega_2) \right| = A_0 = \frac{G_m I}{\omega_2 C_{c1}} \Rightarrow \boxed{C_{c1} = \frac{G_m I}{\omega_2 A_0}}$$

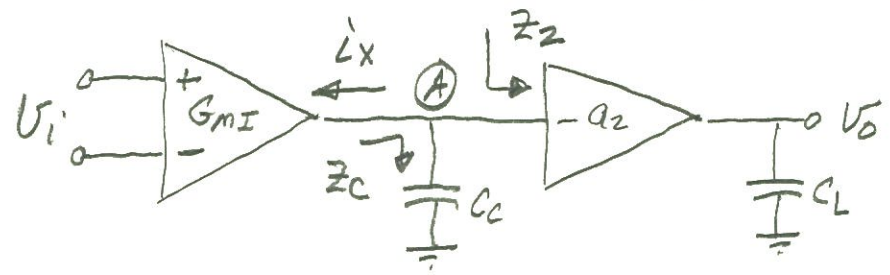
case (ii)  $C_{c2}$  chosen with  $A_0$  for  $PM = 60^\circ$ :

Note:  $\omega_{ULT} < \omega_2$  in this case. It can be shown  
 that  $\omega_{ULT} = \frac{\omega_2}{1.73}$  for  $PM = 60^\circ$

$$\therefore \left| \frac{V_o}{V_i}(j\frac{\omega_2}{1.73}) \right| = A_0 = \frac{G_m I}{\frac{\omega_2}{1.73} C_{c2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{C_{c2} = \frac{1.73 G_m I}{\omega_2 A_0}}$$

- Remarks:
- Smaller  $A_0$  requires larger  $C_c$
  - Complex dependence on  $G_{mI}$  (more later)

Case (ii): Two-stage opamp with shunt compensation capacitance. (Not practical - just for comparison)



$C_c$  is huge capacitor. Thus,  $Z_c \ll Z_2$  at high frequencies.

Hence,  $V_A = -\frac{G_{mI} V_i}{s C_c}$   
 $V_o = -a_2 V_A$

$$V_o(s) = \frac{a_2 G_{mI} V_i(s)}{s C_c}$$

$$\frac{V_o(s)}{V_i} = \frac{a_2 G_{mI}}{s C_c}$$

For  $PM = 45^\circ$ : Closed-loop gain must intersect the previous curves at  $\omega_{ULT}$  for the desired PM

Hence,  $\left| \frac{V_o}{V_i}(j\omega_{ULT}) \right| = A_0 = \frac{a_2 G_{mI}}{\omega_2 C_{c1}}$

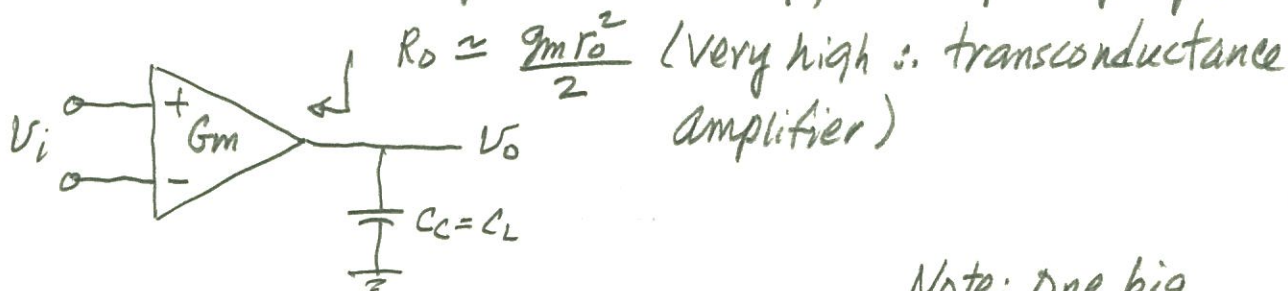
$$\therefore C_{c1} = \frac{a_2 G_{mI}}{\omega_2 A_0}$$

$C_{c1}$  bigger by  $a_2$  because we did not take advantage of Miller multiplication effect

For  $PM = 60^\circ$ ,

$$C_{c2} = \frac{1.73 a_2 G_{mI}}{\omega_2 A_0}$$

Case (iii): Single-stage cascode opamp with shunt load capacitance (e.g., telescopic opamp)



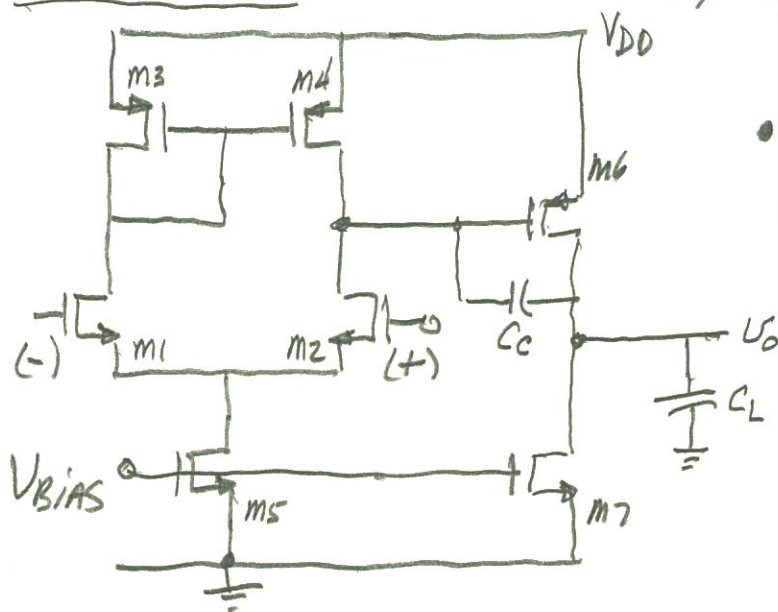
$P_m = 45^\circ$ :  $C_{c1} = C_{L1} = \frac{G_{m1}}{\omega_2 A_o}$

$P_m = 60^\circ$ :  $C_{c2} = C_{L2} = \frac{1.73 G_{m1}}{\omega_2 A_o}$

Note: One big point here: Might need to add capacitance in parallel with  $C_L$  for desired  $P_m$ .

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Actual Circuit: CMOS two-stage opamp compensation



• Relate the equations derived on page 147 to the circuit parameters of the ubiquitous two-stage opamp

First stage:

$G_{mI} = g_{m2}$   
 $R_I = r_{o2} \parallel r_{o4}$

Second-stage:

$G_{mII} = g_{m6}$   
 $R_{II} = r_{o6} \parallel r_{o7}$