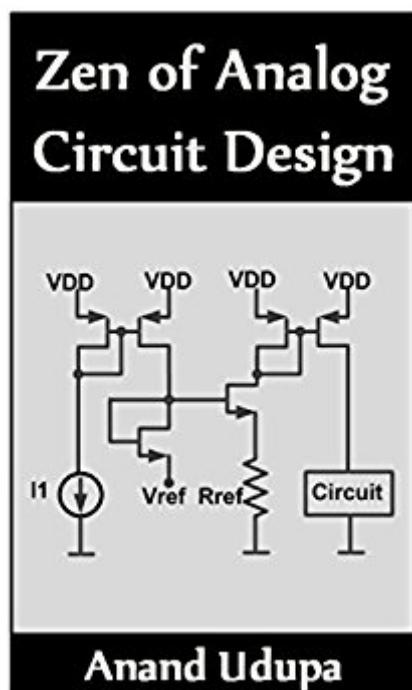


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# Zen Of Analog Circuit Design



## Synopsis

Zen of Analog Circuit Design RECENTLY UPDATED WITH NEW CONTENT From 2011 till 2013, I taught a course titled Analog Design for all which covered concepts starting with MOS transistors and progressed till the design of two-stage amplifiers. The course introduced concepts in a manner that led the student to the synthesis of new circuits, not merely their analysis. But I still felt that there was a more intuitive way to introduce Analog Circuit Design, one that would bring out the beauty of the subject so that the student could “stop and smell the roses”. But why a “Zen of Analog”? Because the foundational concepts in Analog closely mirror human relationships! The purpose of this book is to take a simplified and intuitive path to unlock some profound secrets of Analog. The protagonist of this book is Ang-Lao, a medieval monk who brings his insights into the Analog world to solve the challenges in human relationships. The book addresses a problem statement that much of Analog Circuit Design tries to solve - how do you realize an ideal buffer? It starts with the simple concepts of voltage sources and current sources. From the I-V curve of the MOS transistor, we see how it behaves much like a Voltage controlled current source (VCCS). The inherent challenge in getting even a simple two-transistor circuit to work is the conflict arising from having two such current source-like elements in series. The digital inverter is shown to be one such circuit that can function like an analog amplifier, albeit over a narrow range of input voltage. The effect of loading on such a circuit is illustrated graphically and is shown as an added challenge in getting it to work in an analog manner. Having understood the complications involved, we see how through the strikingly simple but immensely powerful concept of feedback, one of the two transistors can be modified subtly to make it behave like a voltage source. In that process, we realize our first approximation to an ideal analog buffer. We then see how manifestations of the same concept leads us to the synthesis of a whole bunch of two transistor circuits - source followers, common source amplifiers with gm-load and with diode-connected load, and differential amplifiers . The concepts used in synthesis of such elegant circuits are also extended to the analysis of much more complex circuits, for example, a Voltage to Current (V2I) conversion circuit. We introduce the concept of small signal parameters, gm, gds, showing the calculations for the gain and output impedance of our circuits, and quantifying how good each of our buffers really are. The narrative switches between concepts of Electronics and the story of Aman-Ra, an engineer from Medieval Egypt. Struggling with his relationships, his guiding light is Ang-Lao, who teaches him the secret to happy relationships. For some, this book will signal the end of the fear of Analog. For others, it will be the start of a love story. Concepts covered  
- Characteristics of Voltage & Current sources  
- Ideal & non-ideal sources  
- Controlled sources  
- Active

and passive elements  
o-V characteristics of a MOSFET  
oMOS transistor as a Voltage controlled current source  
oDigital inverter as Analog amplifier  
oOperating point  
oCommon source (CS) amplifier  
oEffect of loading on a CS amplifier  
oFeedback  
oHow can you make a MOSFET behave like a voltage source?  
oSynthesis of a CS amplifier with diode-connected load  
oAnalysis of a V2I circuit including an introduction to current mirror  
oSynthesis of CS amplifier with gm-load  
oSynthesis of source follower circuit  
oSmall signal parameters: gm, gds  
oSmall-signal gain and output impedance  
oSynthesis of a differential amplifier  
oSynthesis of an Operational amplifier  
oRealizing the buffer using the Operational Amplifier

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I used to know how transistors worked. I wouldn't want this to be my first introduction to them. I'm still looking for the pyramids on my data sheets.

An interesting twist but not super useful.

Great book for gaining an intuitive understanding of circuits. This has a very different (but welcome)

approach. Anyone that has had trouble in the past with understanding how IC chips work should check this book out.

Excellent reference book.

Nice book. Does use analogies related to personal relationships that may/may-not be required. However well worth reading it.

Very hard to navigate on Kindle but that kind of goes with any technical books. Content wise, nice primer.

Pretty amazing book. Very interesting way of looking at Analog Circuit design through simple stories and real psychological analogies. Thoroughly enjoyed it!

Not enough content to make it worth \$5.

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