



## IDENTIFYING DATA

### Microelectronics Design

Subject	Microelectronics Design			
Code	V05G300V01622			
Study programme	(*)Grao en Enxeñaría de Tecnoloxías de Telecomunicación			
Descriptors	ECTS Credits	Choose	Year	Quadmester
	6	Optional	3rd	2nd
Teaching language	Spanish			
Department				
Coordinator	Rodríguez Andina, Juan José			
Lecturers	Cao Paz, Ana María Rodríguez Andina, Juan José Rodríguez Pardo, María Loreto			
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General description	The main purposes of this course are for the students: 1) To get acquainted with integrated circuits (ICs) and micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMs) fabrication technologies. 2) To get acquainted with CMOS fabrication processes for ICs and MEMs. 3) To analyze the physical structure of passive components and active devices in CMOS technology. 4) To get acquainted with the basic aspects of MEMs design. 5) To work with CAD tools for the design of CMOS ICs			

## Competencies

Code	
B6	CG6: The aptitude to manage mandatory specifications, procedures and laws.
B9	CG9: The ability to work in multidisciplinary groups in a Multilanguage environment and to communicate, in writing and orally, knowledge, procedures, results and ideas related with Telecommunications and Electronics.
B13	CG13 The ability to use software tools that support problem solving in engineering.
C42	(CE42/SE4): The ability to apply electronics as support technology in other fields and activities and not only in information and communication technologies.
C43	(CE43/SE5): The ability to design analogical and digital electronics circuits of analogical to digital conversion and vice versa, of radiofrequency, of feeding and electrical energy conversion for computing and telecommunication engineering.
D4	CT4 Encourage cooperative work, and skills like communication, organization, planning and acceptance of responsibility in a multilingual and multidisciplinary work environment, which promotes education for equality, peace and respect for fundamental rights.

## Learning outcomes

Expected results from this subject	Training and Learning Results		
To know and understand integrated circuits (ICs) and micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMs) fabrication processes.		C42	
To know and understand CMOS fabrication processes for ICs and MEMs, as well as the corresponding design methodologies and the steps in the development of an IC.	B6	C43	
To know and be capable of analyzing the physical structure of resistors, capacitors, and transistors in CMOS technology.	B6 B9	C43	D4
To know and understand the basic aspects of MEMs design and their basic structures		C42	
To be capable of working with CAD tools for the design of CMOS ICs	B6 B9 B13		D4

<b>Contents</b>	
Topic	
Chapter 1: Introduction (1h)	Course introduction. Purposes and planning of the course. Basic concepts in the design of integrated circuits (ICs) and micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMs).
Chapter 2: Fabrication steps for ICs and MEMs (2h)	Introduction to ICs and MEMs fabrication. Planar technology. Micromachining and micromolding technologies. CMOS IC fabrication steps. Structure of MOS transistors. Fabrication example: CMOS inverter. Layout. MEMs fabrication steps: bulk micromachining, surface micromachining, and LIGA.
Chapter 3. ICs and MEMs fabrication processes (3h)	Silicon wafers. Epitaxial layers. Dielectric layers. Oxidation. Deposition. Semiconductor layers. Dopant diffusion. Ion implantation. Photolithography. Etching. Metalization.
Chapter 4. Modeling of MOS transistors (3h).	MOS transistors: analytical model. Higher-order effects. Fundamentals of Spice modeling and simulation. Spice models of MOS transistors.
Chapter 5. Physical structure of basic elements (2h)	Specification of the physical structure of a MOS transistor. Specification of the physical structure of a resistor. Specification of the physical structure of a capacitor. Types of physical specifications. Influence of physical design in the behavior of a device. Design rules. Design methodologies and tools.
Chapter 6. Resistor layout strategies (1h)	Lateral diffusion. Effective geometric dimensions. Influence of the terminals. Long resistors. Unit resistors. Stacked resistors. Neighborhood effects. Dummies. Interdigitated and common centroid structures.
Chapter 7. Capacitor layout strategies (1h)	Oxide thickness gradient, lateral diffusion, and neighborhood effects. Area and perimeter unit capacitances.
Chapter 8. Transistor layout strategies (2h)	Transistor with high aspect ratio. Stacked transistors. Interdigitated structures.
Chapter 9. Physical design case studies (3h)	Basic current mirror. Self-biased differential amplifier.
Lab assignment 1. Introduction to IC design tools (2h)	Introduction to physical design tools. Basic layout elements and individual nMOS and pMOS transistors. Design Rule Check (DRC). Predesigned elements and transistors.
Lab assignment 2. CMOS inverter (4h)	Schematic design of a CMOS inverter. Corrections for symmetrical response. Simulation with capacitive loads. Layout design and DRC. Layout Versus Schematic (LVS). Post-layout simulation (without and with capacitive load). Comparison with schematic simulation.
Lab assignment 3. MOS transistor layout strategies (2h)	Layout of pMOS and nMOS transistors. Snake, stacked, and interdigitated structures. Dummy structures.
Lab assignment 4. Passive components layout strategies (2h)	Layouts of resistors and capacitors. Linear, snake, stacked and interdigitated structures. Dummy structures.
Lab assignment 5. Physical design of analog functional blocks: current mirror and differential pair (3h)	Layouts of a basic current mirror and a self-biased pMOS differential amplifier.

<b>Planning</b>			
	Class hours	Hours outside the classroom	Total hours
Master Session	18	45	63
Practice in computer rooms	13	19.5	32.5
Projects	6	27	33
Presentations / exhibitions	1	2.5	3.5
Short answer tests	1	3.5	4.5
Troubleshooting and / or exercises	2	7	9
Practical tests, real task execution and / or simulated.	1	3.5	4.5

\*The information in the planning table is for guidance only and does not take into account the heterogeneity of the students.

<b>Methodologies</b>	
	Description
Master Session	The professor will present the relevant concepts of the course. Before each lecture, students must carry out a preparatory analysis of the topics to be addressed, aiming at their active participation. Practical examples and case studies will be developed and analyzed. Attendance will be recorded. Competencies CE42 and CE43 will be addressed in these sessions
Practice in computer rooms	Students will work in groups of two people, using IC CAD tools. All relevant steps in the physical design of an IC will be practically studied. Attendance will be recorded, and performance of each group in each lab assignment will be evaluated. Competencies CE43 and CG13 will be addressed in these sessions

Projects	Students will work in small teams (C-type groups) in the physical design and characterization of a circuit consisting of active devices and passive components, under the close guidance of professors. Attendance will be recorded. The activities to be developed by each team are: - Analysis of possible solutions and design alternatives. - Critical analysis of the design process developed. - Demonstration of the circuits designed in the project. - Preparation of a report where results are presented, analyzed, and discussed. Competencies CE43, CG6, CG9, CG13, and CT4 will be addressed in these sessions.
Presentations / exhibitions	Each group of students will publicly present their project to professors and the other students in the group. Anyone in the audience will be allowed to ask questions about the project. Competencies CE43, CG6, CG9, and CT4 will be addressed in these sessions.

### Personalized attention

Methodologies	Description
Master Session	Professors will personally assist students with doubts and questions they may have about either theoretical contents or lab assignments, as well as in the development of the projects and the preparation of the public presentations. Office hours will be scheduled for both individual and group sessions.
Practice in computer rooms	Professors will personally assist students with doubts and questions they may have about either theoretical contents or lab assignments, as well as in the development of the projects and the preparation of the public presentations. Office hours will be scheduled for both individual and group sessions.
Projects	Professors will personally assist students with doubts and questions they may have about either theoretical contents or lab assignments, as well as in the development of the projects and the preparation of the public presentations. Office hours will be scheduled for both individual and group sessions.
Presentations / exhibitions	Professors will personally assist students with doubts and questions they may have about either theoretical contents or lab assignments, as well as in the development of the projects and the preparation of the public presentations. Office hours will be scheduled for both individual and group sessions.

### Assessment

	Description	Qualification	Training and Learning Results
Projects	Each group of students must deliver a detailed written report about the project they developed. Contributions from each team member must be clearly stated and identified. The methodology used for task distribution and coordination within the group must also be clearly explained. Evaluation will be based on: - Analysis of design alternatives - Design correctness - Layout compaction - Use of adequate layout strategies to minimize the effect of process variations and to assure good matching wherever required. - Formal issues: structure, clarity, conciseness, and completeness of the report. Use of suitable figures and discussion of significant data. Reports are due two days before the public presentation of the work. To pass the course, the group the student belongs to must achieve in the report a mark of 5 or higher in a 0-10 scale.  Competencies CE43, CG6, CG9, CG13, and CT4 will be assessed in these projects.	15	B6 C43 D4 B9 B13

Presentations / exhibitions	Each student must provide an individual 5-minute public presentation of the part of the project he/she carried out (including planning / coordination tasks, if applicable). Presentations will be scheduled in the last (1-hour) classroom session of the corresponding group. At the end of each presentation, the student must give suitable replies to questions from the audience, which will consist of professors and the other students in the group, who must attend the whole session. Evaluation will be based on the content, formal issues, and deliverance of the presentation, as well as on the way the student replies to questions from the audience. Students asking relevant questions will get additional score for them. To pass the course, the student must achieve in his/her presentation (plus additional score if applicable) a mark of 5 or higher in a 0-10 scale.  Competencies CE43, CG6, CG9, and CT4 will be assessed in these presentations.	15	B6 C43 D4 B9
Short answer tests	An intermediate continuous evaluation 1-hour written test will be held during one of the classroom sessions, covering course contents lectured so far. This test is the last chance for students to decide whether or not they opt for continuous evaluation. All students completing the test implicitly choose to follow continuous evaluation. The remaining students have to explicitly declare their choice. The lack of declaration from a student means he/she will not follow continuous evaluation. The test will consist of short answer questions, accounting for 20% of the global mark. Another 1-hour test (covering the same course contents and with the same duration and evaluation criteria) will be held in the date of the final exam. It is compulsory for students not in continuous evaluation. Students in continuous evaluation can also voluntarily complete it. In that case, the score they will receive in this part of the course evaluation will be the one achieved in this second test. Also in the date of the final exam, a 1-hour written test (compulsory for all students) will be held, covering the remaining classroom contents. The test will be divided in two parts. The first one will consist of short answer questions, accounting for 5% of the global mark. To pass the course, students must achieve in each of the tests (the second one will also consist of design problems or exercises) a mark or 4 or higher in a 0-10 scale. Competencies CE42 and CE43 will be assessed in these tests	25	C42 C43
Troubleshooting and / or exercises	In the date of the final exam, a second 1-hour written test (compulsory for all students) will be held, covering the remaining classroom contents not included in the first written test. This second test will be divided in two parts. The second part will consist of design problems or exercises, accounting for 15% of the global mark. To pass the course, students must achieve in this second test (also consisting of short answer questions) a mark or 4 or higher in a 0-10 scale. Competencies CE42 and CE43 will be assessed in this test.	15	C42 C43
Practical tests, real task execution and / or simulated.	All students, in continuous evaluation or not, must complete Lab Assignment 2 and deliver a written report with the achieved results and conclusions. The report is due before the last scheduled lab session. Lab assignment 2 and the corresponding report account for 15% of the global mark. A continuous evaluation 1-hour lab test using an IC CAD tool will be held in the last scheduled lab session. Another similar test will be held in the date of the final exam. It is compulsory for students not in continuous evaluation. Students in continuous evaluation can also voluntarily complete it. In that case, the score they will receive in this part of the course evaluation will be the one achieved in this second test. Lab tests account for 15% of the global mark. To pass the course, students must achieve a mark or 4 or higher in a 0-10 scale in both Lab Assignment 2 and the lab test. Competencies CE43 and CG13 will be assessed in this part	30	B13 C43

### Other comments on the Evaluation

In order to pass the course, students must achieve a global mark of 5 or higher in a 0-10 scale. The global mark will be obtained as the weighted summation of the scores obtained in the different parts of the course. A minimum score is required in each of these parts. For students not achieving the minimum score in any of the parts, the global mark will be the lower value between 4 and the weighted summation of scores.

Students not in continuous evaluation will be evaluated as follows:

- Final written and lab tests will account for the same percentage of the global mark as in the case of students in continuous

evaluation.

- They must develop a project and deliver the corresponding report and public presentation (in the same sessions and with the same criteria as students in continuous evaluation). Reports are due two days before public presentation.

Minimum scores in the different parts for students not in continuous evaluation are the same as for students in continuous evaluation.

Students not passing the course in the first call will have the opportunity to attend a second call. Requirements to pass the course will be the same as in the first call. In the second call, students must complete the two written tests and the lab test. No new projects and presentations will be allowed except for students not having achieved the minimum required scores on them. Project reports are due seven days before the date of the test.

Students who achieved the minimum scores in written and lab tests but not in project reports or presentations, will not need to complete the tests again, but only deliver project reports and presentations. However, they can voluntarily (in written) give up tests scores (at least seven days before the date of the second call) and complete all the tests again.

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### **Sources of information**

José Antonio Rubio Solà, **Diseño de circuitos y sistemas integrados**,

Stephen A. Campbell, **Fabrication Engineering at the Micro-and Nanoscale**, 4<sup>a</sup>,

J. Franca, Y. Tsvividis (eds.), **Design of analog VLSI circuits for telecommunications and signal processing**,

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### **Recommendations**

#### **Subjects that are recommended to be taken simultaneously**

Analogue Electronics/V05G300V01624

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#### **Subjects that it is recommended to have taken before**

Digital Electronics/V05G300V01402

Physics: Fundamentals of Electronics/V05G300V01305

Electronic Technology/V05G300V01401

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#### **Other comments**

All conclusions achieved both in the written tests and in the projects must be adequately justified. Non-trivial concepts cannot be assumed but they have to be explained. The methodologies used by the student will be taken into account in the computation of his/her marks. No auxiliary resources, including but not limited to documentation, can be used in the written tests.

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