

# LECTURE 13

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# Lecture 13

## 16. Nyquist-Rate D/A Converters

### 16.2 Binary-Scaled Converters

### 16.3 Thermometer-Code Converters

### 16.4 Hybrid Converters



# Current-Mode Converters

Current-mode D/A converters → **Higher-speed** applications

## Resistor-based converters

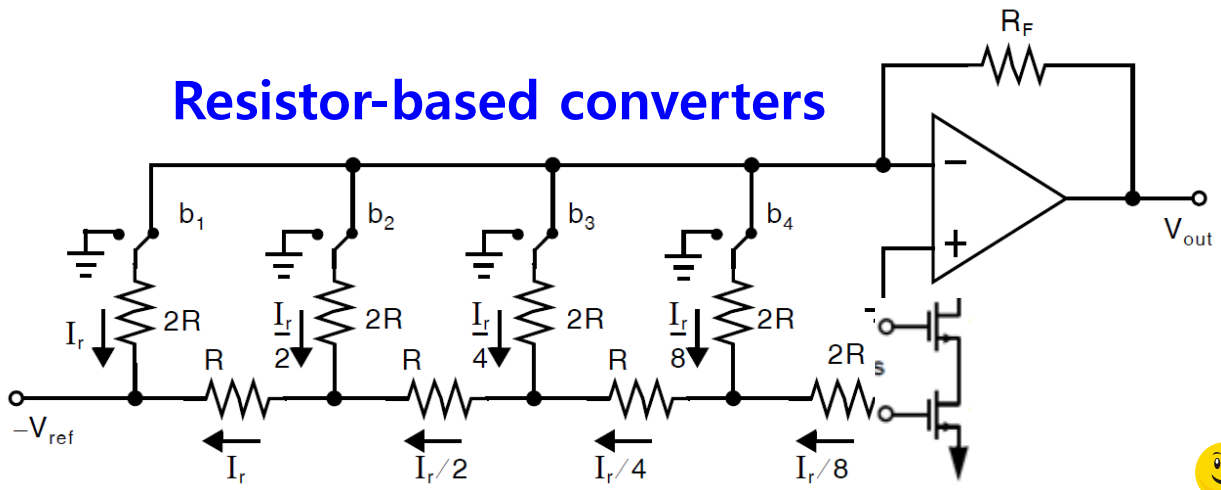
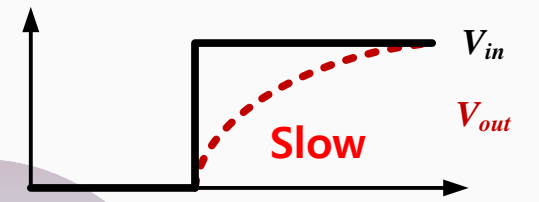


Fig. 16.10 4-bit R-2R-Based Converters



Response of resistor-based converter



Higher-speed



**Glitch**  
 Current matching

## Current-mode converters

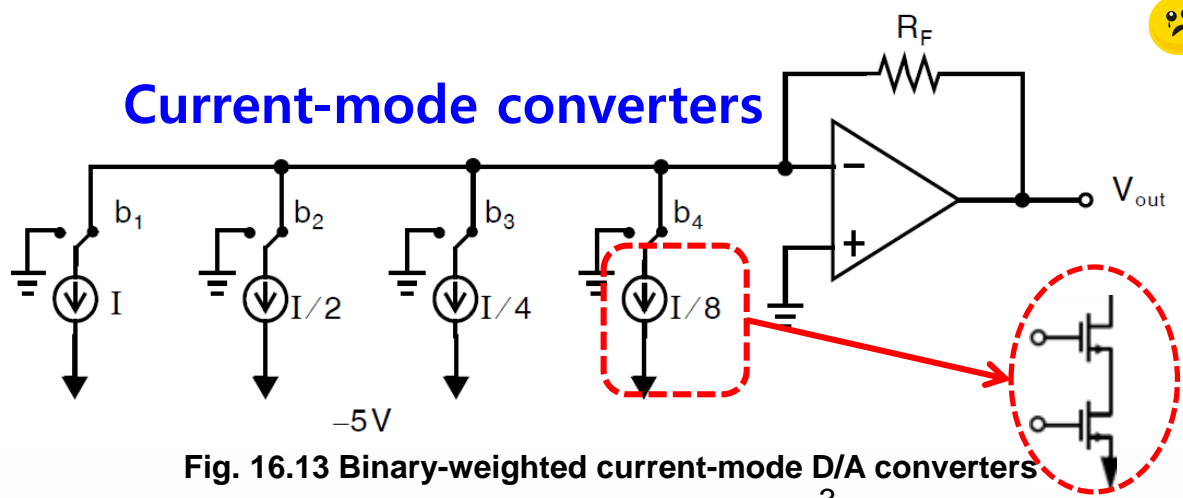
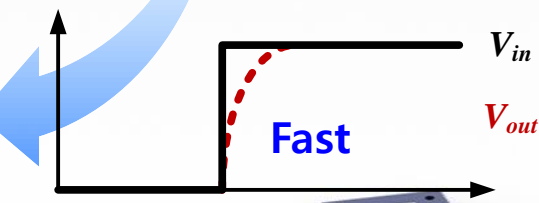
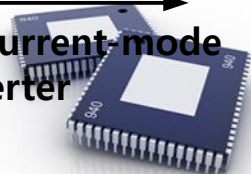


Fig. 16.13 Binary-weighted current-mode D/A converters

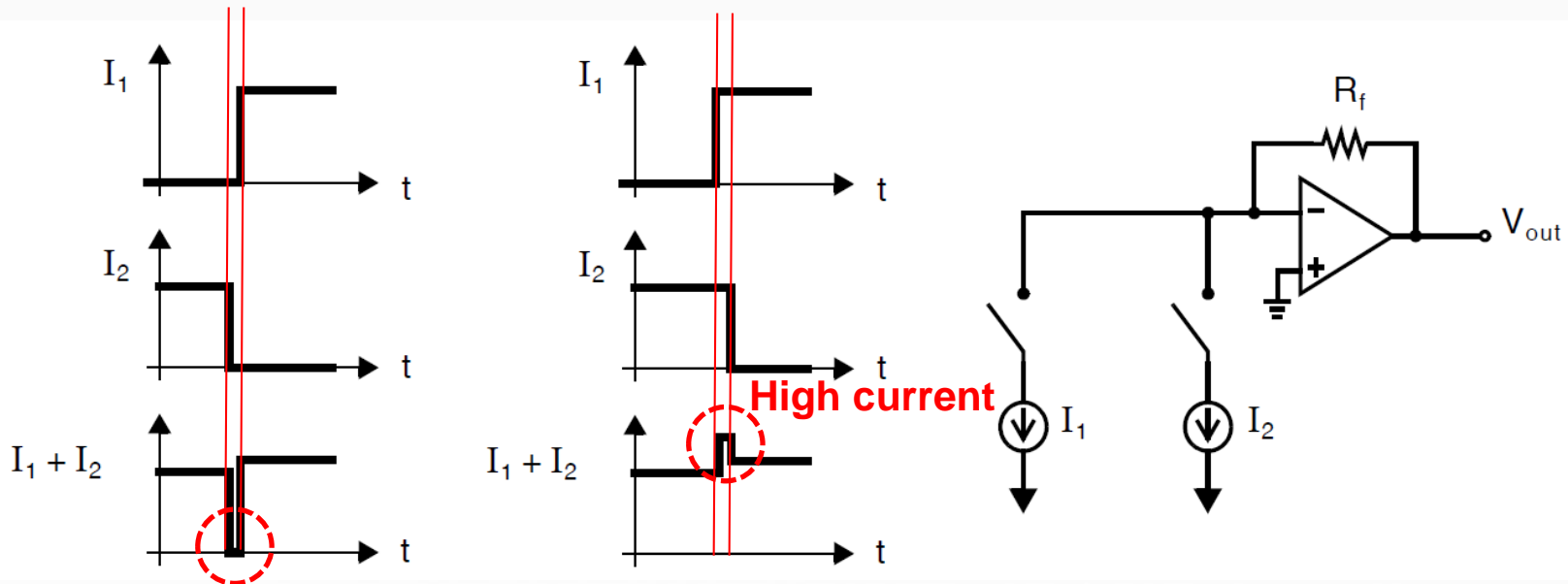


Response of current-mode converter



# Glitches

## Problem of current mode converters : Glitches



**zero** Fig. 16.14 Glitches.  $I_1$  represents the MSB current, and  $I_2$  represents the sum of the N-1 LSB currents

Different currents, different branch  
Delays are not matched  $\Rightarrow$  Temporarily fall to zero or high current

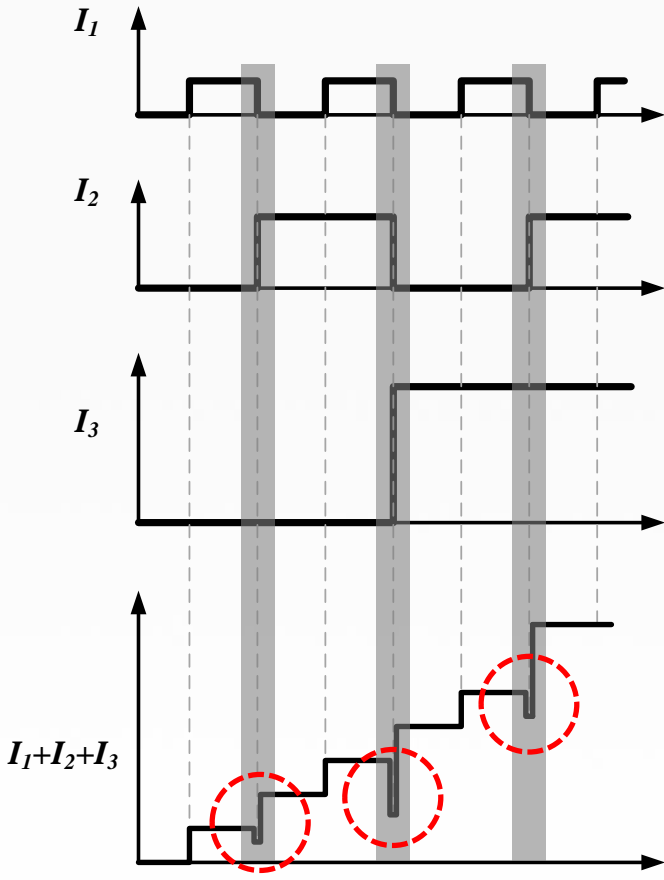


Use **thermometer code** to reduce glitches



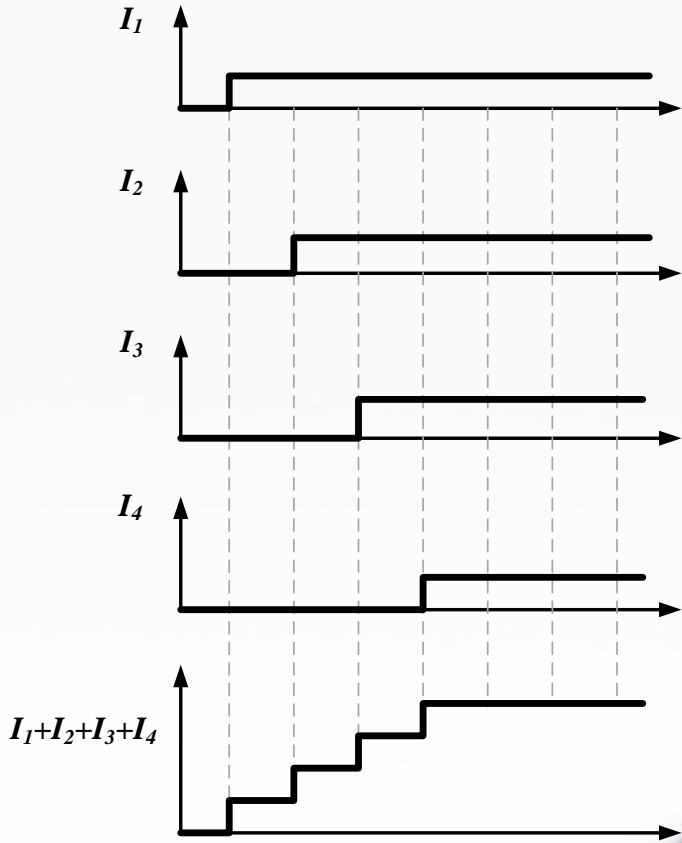
# Binary code vs Thermometer code

Binary code(3bit)



Glitch may be occurred

Thermometer code(2bit)



Glitch can be reduced



# Thermometer-Based D/A Converters

Glitch problems → Thermometer-code

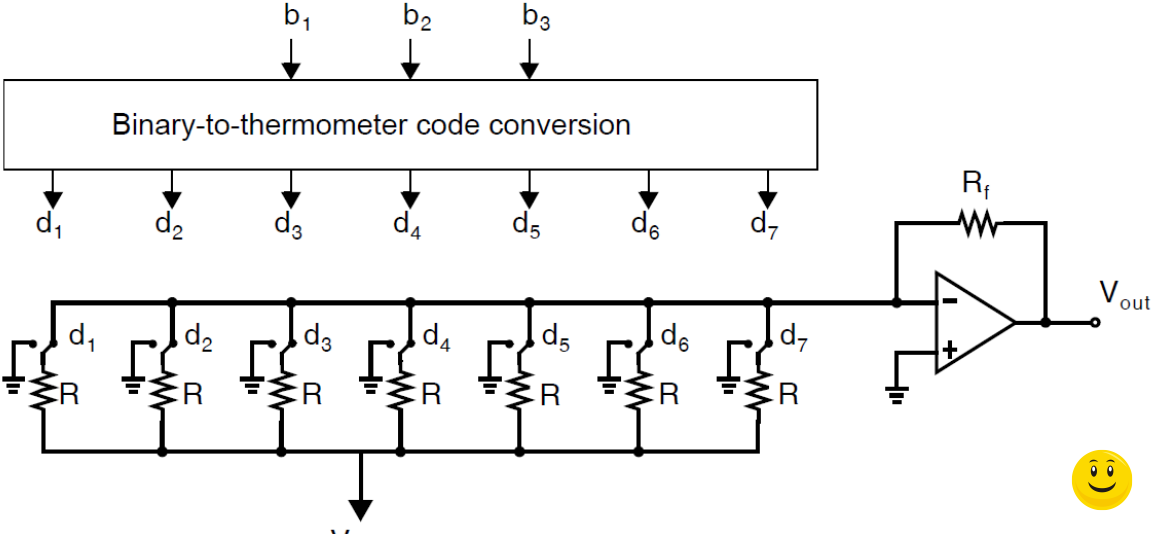


Fig. 16.15 A 3-bit thermometer-based D/A converters

- 😊 Guaranteed monotonicity  
Glitch ↓
- 😞  $2^N - 1$  resistor

Decimal	Binary			Thermometer Code						
	$b_1$	$b_2$	$b_3$	$d_1$	$d_2$	$d_3$	$d_4$	$d_5$	$d_6$	$d_7$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
5	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
6	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1



# Thermometer-Code Charge-redistribution D/A Converters

## Binary-array D/A converters

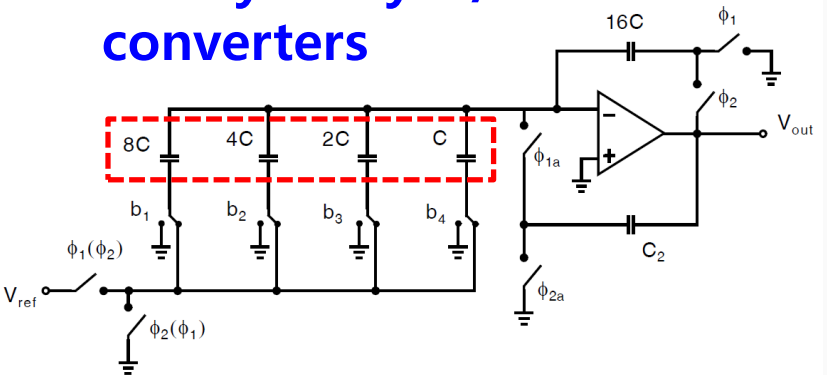
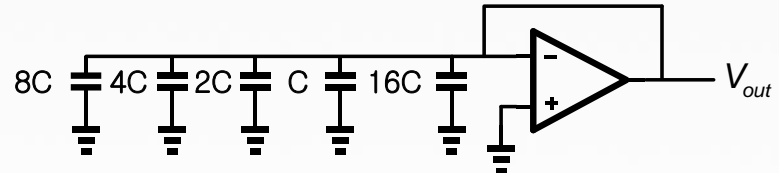
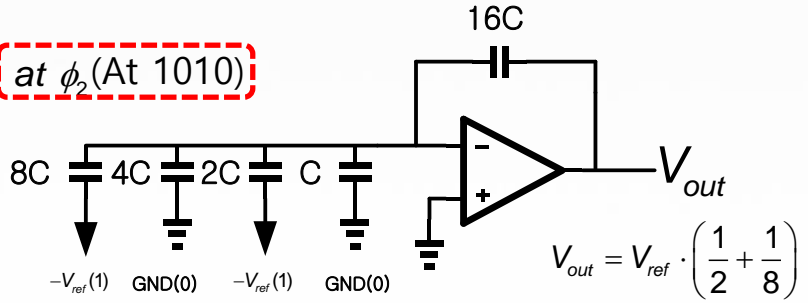


Fig. 16.12 Binary-array charge-redistribution D/A converter

at  $\phi_1$



at  $\phi_2$  (At 1010)

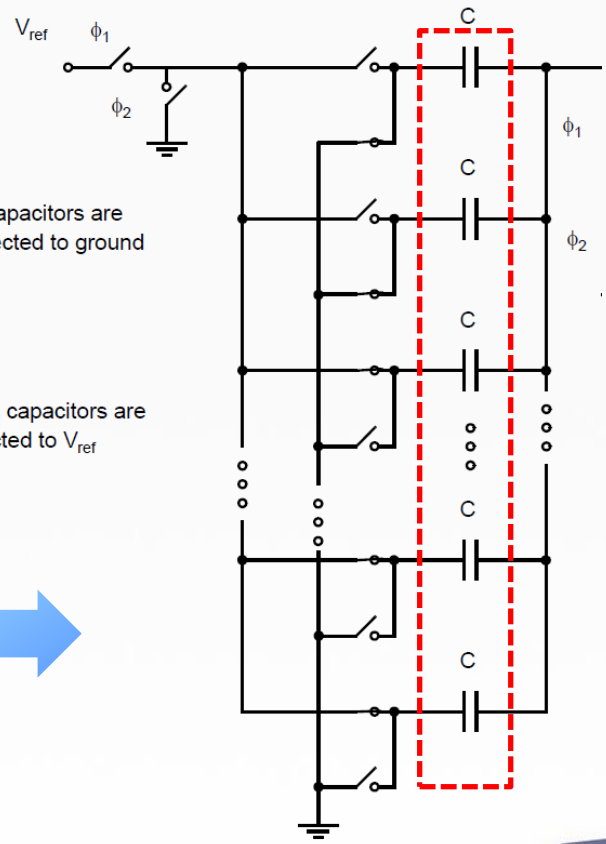


$$V_{out} = V_{ref} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} \right)$$

😊 Guaranteed monotonicity Glitch ↓

😞  $2^N - 1$  capacitor

## Thermometer-code D/A converters



Top capacitors are connected to ground

Bottom capacitors are connected to  $V_{ref}$

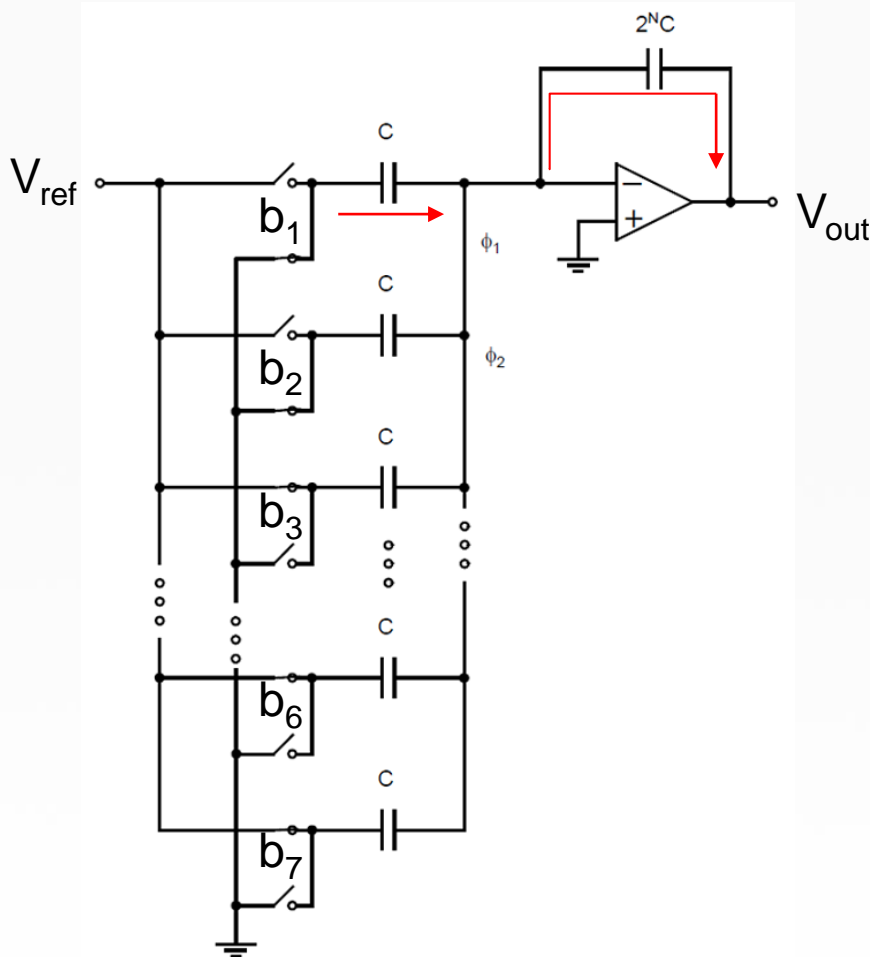


Fig. 16.16 Thermometer-code charge-redistribution D/A converters



# Example 1

Calculate the  $V_{out}$  when  $b_1b_2b_3b_4b_5b_6b_7 = 0000001, 0011111$



$$b_1b_2b_3b_4b_5b_6b_7 \Rightarrow N = 3\text{bit}$$

$$(-V_{out})2^N C = (-V_{ref})(nC)$$

$$V_{out} = \frac{nC}{2^N C} V_{ref}, \quad (n = \text{number of } 1)$$

- $b_1b_2b_3b_4b_5b_6b_7 = 0000001$

$$V_{out} = \frac{1C}{2^3 C} V_{ref} = \frac{1}{8} V_{ref}$$

- $b_1b_2b_3b_4b_5b_6b_7 = 0011111$

$$V_{out} = \frac{5C}{2^3 C} V_{ref} = \frac{5}{8} V_{ref}$$



Fig. 16.16 Thermometer-code charge-redistribution D/A converters



# Thermometer-Code Current-Mode D/A Converters

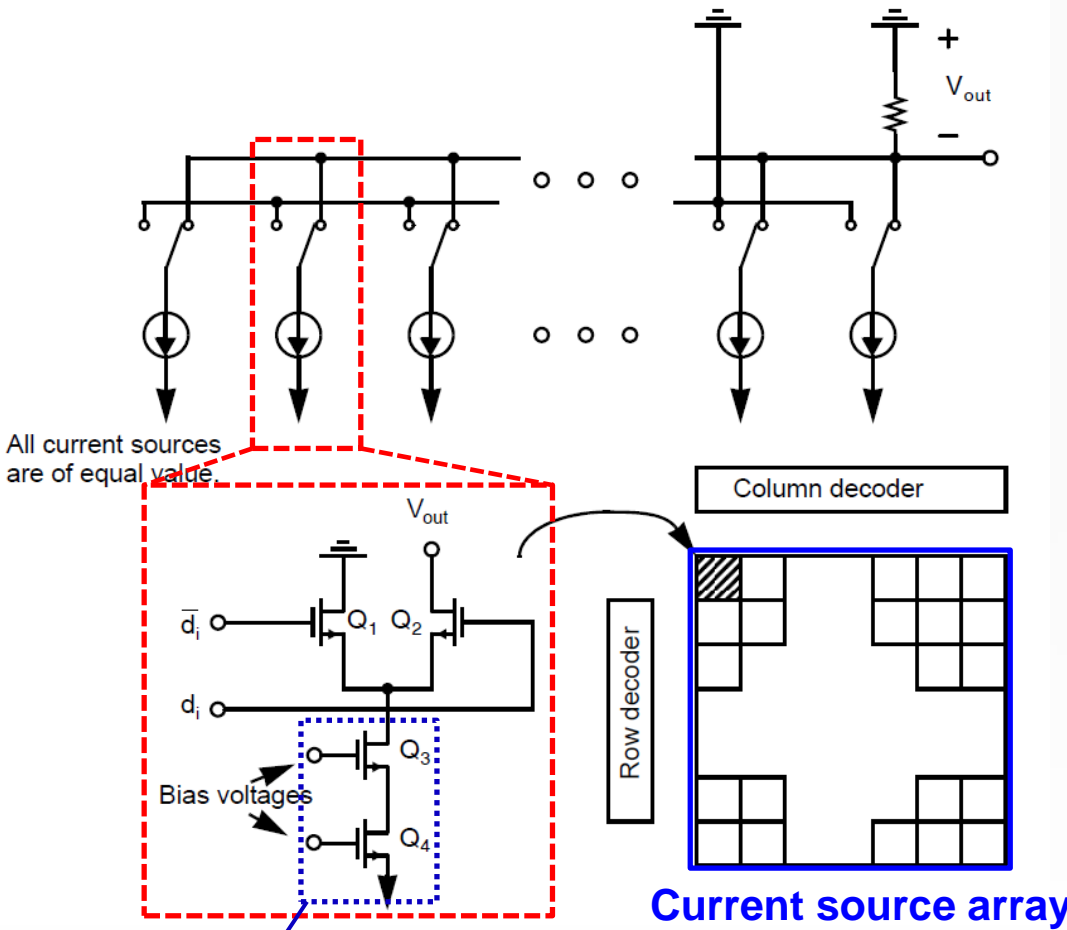
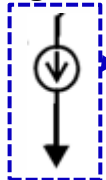


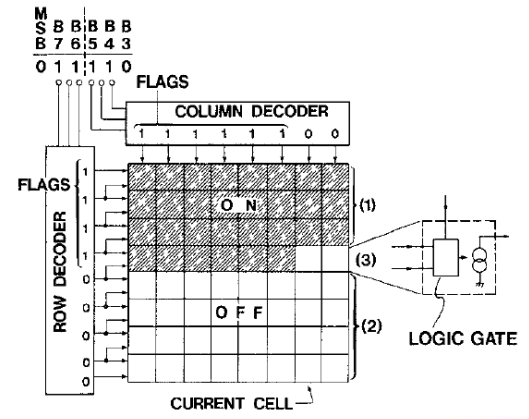
Fig. 16.17 Thermometer-code current mode D/A converter



## Operation

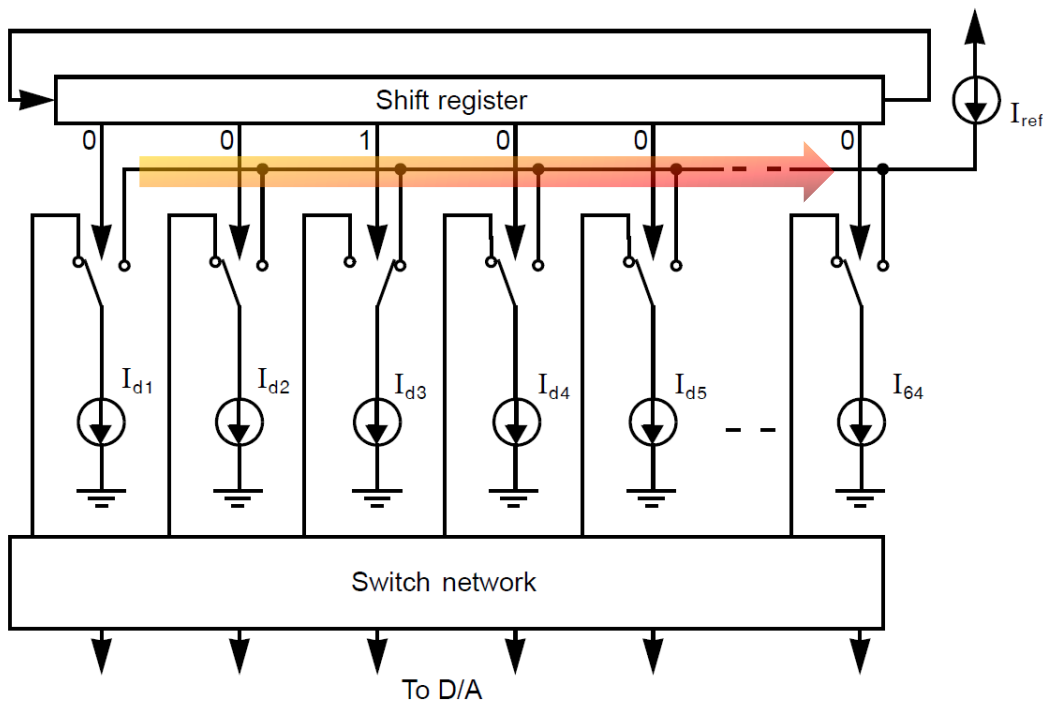
- $d_i = 0$ , current source = off
- $d_i = 1$ , current source = on

→ Row/Column  
 → monotonicity, decoder area ↓



# Matched Current Sources

Current sources should be **matched** each other → **Calibrated!**



## Operation

1. Shift register shifts
2.  $I_{di}$  is connected to  $I_{ref}$
3.  $I_{di}$  is set to  $I_{ref}$

Fig. 16.19 Dynamically matching current sources for 6 MSB

😊  $I_{di} = I_{ref}$  (accurately match)



# Matched Current Sources

The method for calibrating and using one of the current sources

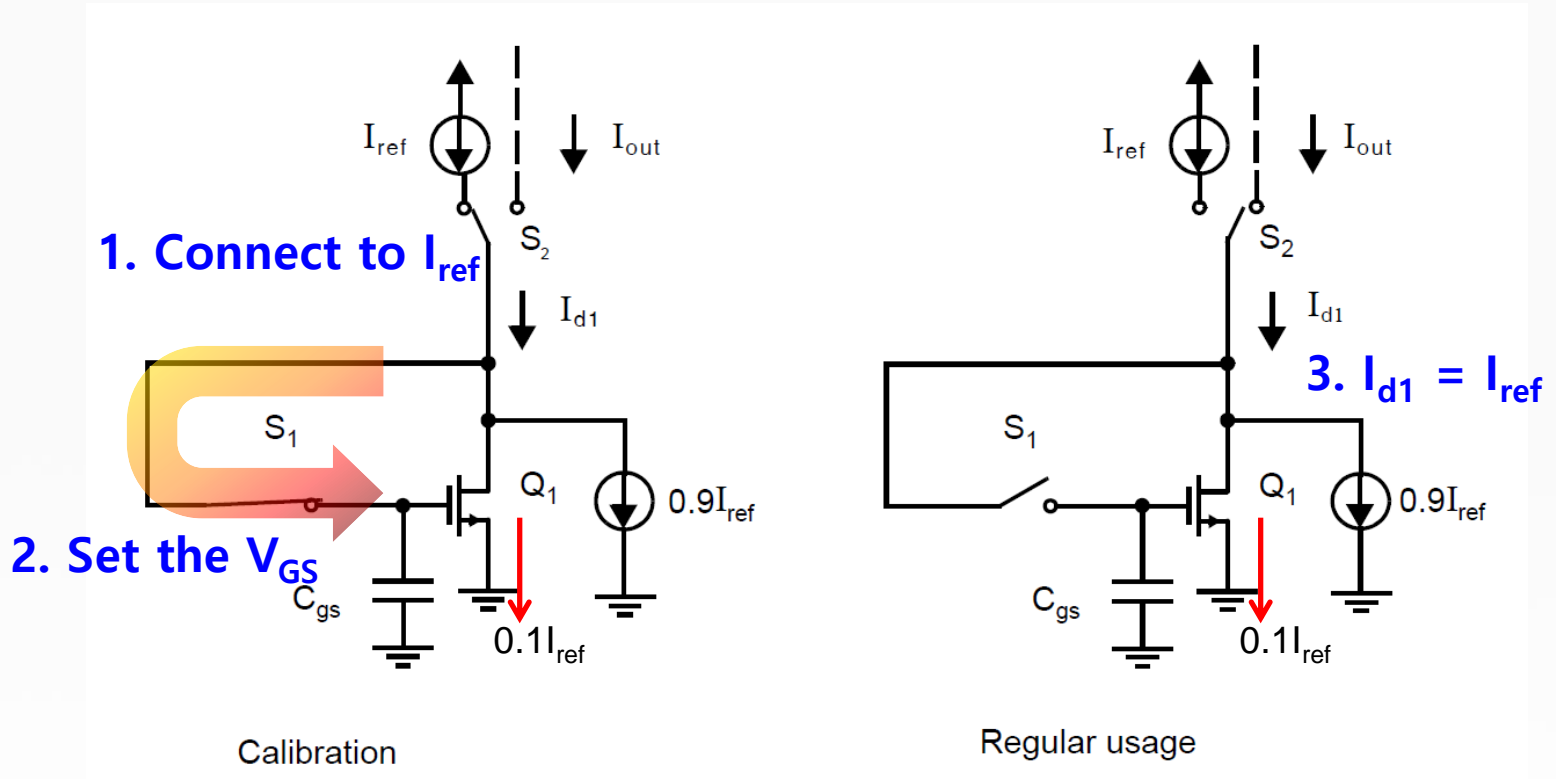


Fig. 16.20 Dynamically setting a current source,  $I_{d1}$



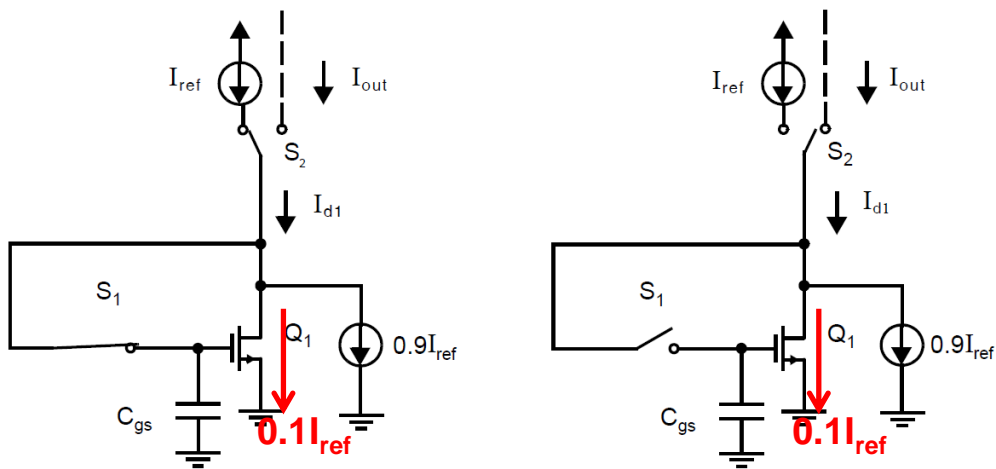
# Example 2

## 1) Find $W/L$ for the $Q_1$ .

Assume that  $V_{GS} = 3V$  when  $I_{ref} = 500\mu A$ ,  $V_{TH} = 1V$ ,  $\mu_n C_{ox} = 92 \mu A/V^2$ .

## 2) What is the expected variation of the current?

If switch  $S_1$  cause a random charge injection by  $1mV$ ,



Calibration

Regular usage

**Fig. 16.20 Dynamically setting a current source,  $I_{d1}$**

- $W/L = 0.27$
- $V_{GS} = 3V$

- $W/L = 0.35$
- $V_{GS} = 2.76V$

Sol 1)

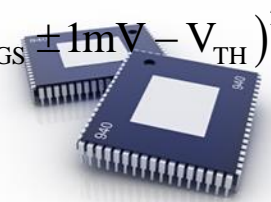
$$0.1 \cdot I_{ref} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$\frac{W}{L} = \frac{0.2 \cdot 500\mu A}{92\mu A/V^2 (3-1)^2} = 0.27$$

Sol 2)

$$I_{out} = 0.9I_{ref} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} \pm 1mV - V_{TH})^2$$

$$I_{out} = 450\mu A + \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} \pm 1mV - V_{TH})^2 = 500\mu A \pm 0.3\mu A$$



# Example 2(Cont.)

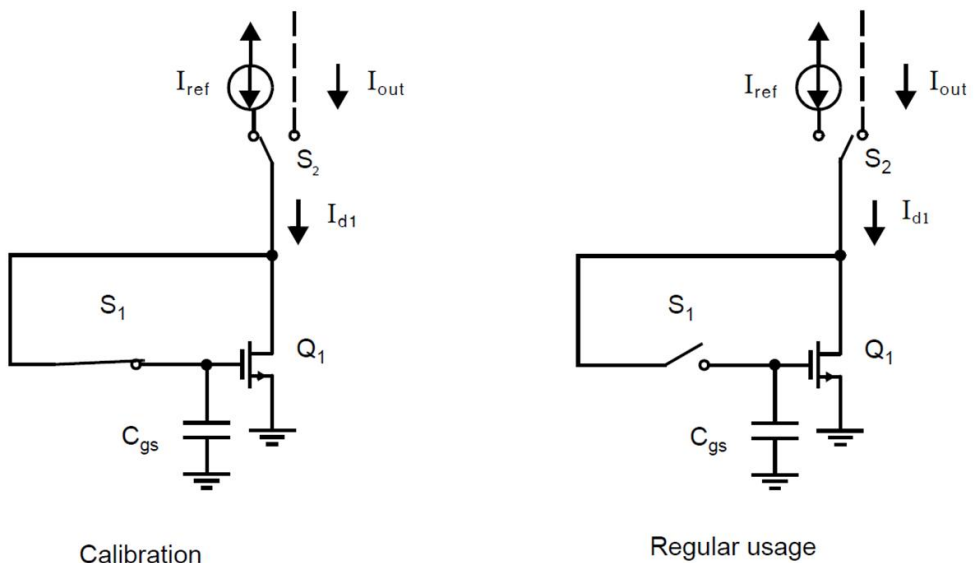
## 1) Find W/L for the $Q_1$ .

Assume that  $V_{GS} = 3V$  when  $I_{ref} = 500\mu A$ ,  $V_{TH} = 1V$ ,  $\mu_n C_{ox} = 92 \mu A/V^2$ .

## 2) What is the expected variation of the current?

If switch  $S_1$  cause a random charge injection by 1mV,

### Without current source



Calibration

Regular usage

Fig. 16.20 Dynamically setting a current source,  $I_{d1}$

Sol 1)

$$I_{ref} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$\frac{W}{L} = \frac{2 \cdot 500 \mu A}{92 \mu A / V^2 (3-1)^2} = 2.7$$

Sol 2)

$$I_{out} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_n C_{ox} \frac{W}{L} (V_{GS} \pm 1mV - V_{TH})^2$$

$$= \boxed{500 \mu A \pm 3 \mu A}$$

Charge injection effect ↑



# Example 3

Find  $W/L$  of the  $M_2$ . ( $V_{TH} = 0.7V \rightarrow V_{TH} = 0.82V$ )

Assume that  $V_{GS} = 3V$ ,  $(W/L)_{M1} = 15$ ,  $I_{ref} = 500\mu A$ ,  $\mu_n C_{ox} = 12.6 \mu A/V^2$ .

Sol)

$$I_{ref} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mu_n C_{ox} \cdot \left(\frac{W}{L}\right) \cdot (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$500\mu A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 12.6\mu A/V^2 \cdot 15 \cdot (3 - 0.7)^2$$

$$450\mu A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 12.6\mu A/V^2 \cdot 15 \cdot (3 - 0.82)^2$$

$$50\mu A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 12.6\mu A/V^2 \cdot \left(\frac{W}{L}\right)_{M2} \cdot (3 - 0.82)^2$$

$$\left(\frac{W}{L}\right)_{M2} = 1.67$$

