

A Simple and Analytical Parameter-Extraction Method of a Microwave MOSFET

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Abstract—A simple and accurate parameter-extraction method of a high-frequency small-signal MOSFET model including the substrate-related parameters and nonreciprocal capacitors is proposed. Direct extraction of each parameter using a linear regression approach is performed by Y -parameter analysis on the proposed equivalent circuit of the MOSFET for high-frequency operation. The extracted results are physically meaningful and good agreement has been obtained between the simulation results of the equivalent circuit and measured data without any optimization. Also, the extracted parameters, such as g_m and g_{ds} , match very well with those obtained by dc measurement.

Index Terms—CMOS, modeling, parameter extraction, microwave, small-signal equivalent circuit.

I. INTRODUCTION

SMALL-SIGNAL modeling and parameter extraction of microwave transistors are not new issues. There are several well-established small-signal models, along with their related parameter-extraction methods for MESFETs, high electron-mobility transistors (HEMTs), and HBTs [1], [2]. However, CMOS now can operate at microwave frequencies. Although CMOS technology has many advantages over others, such as low cost, high integration, and the possibility of a single-chip solution, it is not easy to adapt the conventional small-signal models of compound semiconductors and parameter-extraction methods to CMOS devices. CMOS circuits are fabricated on a resistive substrate. To account for this difference, some parameters associated with substrate parasitics must be added to conventional models [3]–[7]. In addition, conventional models that allow simple direct extraction of parameters do not include a nonreciprocal capacitance, and this hurts their accuracy. Macro models were previously presented [3], a curve-fitting method for the extraction of the model elements was used [6], and nonreciprocal capacitance was not considered [7].

In this paper, we propose a simple, direct, and accurate parameter-extraction method for a small-signal MOSFET model including the substrate-related parameters and a complete set of nonreciprocal capacitors [8], [9]. This study focuses on a physics-based small-signal equivalent circuit of the microwave MOSFET and an accurate parameter-extraction approach

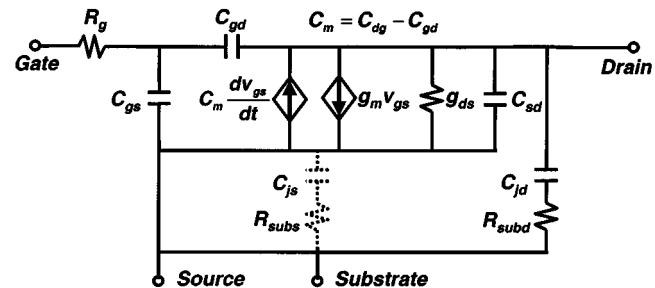


Fig. 1. Small-signal equivalent circuits of the MOSFET for microwave modeling. C_{js} and R_{sub} are excluded because the substrate is tied to the source. $C_m = C_{dg} - C_{gd}$ is a trans-capacitance taking care of the different effects of the gate and drain on each other.

by Y -parameter analysis from measured S -parameters. Our method can be considered an initial method of an optimization procedure for more complete models.

II. PARAMETER-EXTRACTION METHOD

We have proposed the small-signal equivalent circuit of a MOSFET for microwave modeling shown in Fig. 1. It is composed of physics-based parameters, including nonreciprocal capacitance and substrate-related parameters. The modeling and parameter extraction of a MOSFET with substrate-related parameter are much more complicated than that of a III–V FET. In this paper, we propose a direct extraction method of elements related to the substrate parameter for a three-terminal configuration. This model is suitable for the case of zero source-body bias in circuit. In a three-terminal configuration, C_{js} and R_{sub} are excluded because the substrate is tied to the source, as in most high-frequency applications.

Four intrinsic capacitances, i.e., C_{gs} , C_{gd} , C_{dg} , and C_{sd} , are required for the three-terminal model. The overlap capacitances are merged with the correspondent intrinsic capacitances.

C_{gd} and C_{dg} are the two nonreciprocal capacitance components for the three-terminal model [8]. The capacitive effect of the drain on the gate is represented by C_{gd} , and the capacitive effect of the gate on the drain is represented by C_{dg} . In general, C_{dg} is different from C_{gd} . $C_m = C_{dg} - C_{gd}$ is a transcapacitance taking care of the different effects of the gate and the drain on each other in terms of charging currents. Similarly, g_m is a transconductance taking care of the different effects of these two terminals on each other in terms of transport currents [9]. If C_{gd} and C_{dg} are set to be equal, as in most conventional models, a large error may be introduced since charge conservation does not hold. In the ac simulation, the transcapacitance has to be included for accurate prediction of transadmittances Y_{21} and Y_{12} .

Manuscript received January 13, 2001. This work was supported by the Micro Information and Communication Remote Object-oriented Systems Research Center, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, and by the Korea Ministry of Science and Technology under the Tera-level Nanodevice Project.

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Publisher Item Identifier S 0018-9480(02)05205-5.

Without nonreciprocal gate–drain capacitance, it is impossible to model $\text{Im}[Y_{21}]$ and $\text{Im}[Y_{12}]$ accurately at the same time. In the case of a four-terminal model with separate substrate terminals, a similar approach can be extended by including other nonreciprocal capacitances.

The resistance R_g represents the effective gate resistance that consists of the distributed channel resistance and the gate electrode resistance [10]. These effects are approximated by a single effective lumped gate resistance, as shown in the equivalent circuit of the MOSFET shown in Fig. 1. For simplicity and ease of extraction, source–drain resistances were not included in the model. Omitting source–drain resistances will have a slight effect on R_g and g_m values. However, these extracted R_g and g_m are adequate for fitting network parameters and can also be used as initial values for further optimization. R_g significantly affects the input admittance Y_{11} at high frequency. The drain junction capacitance and the bulk spreading resistance are represented by C_{jd} and R_{subd} , respectively. As the operation frequency increases, the impedance of the junction capacitance reduces. Thus, the substrate coupling effects through the drain junction and substrate resistance become significant for the output admittance Y_{22} . The parasitic inductances were not included since their effects are small up to 10 GHz.

Direct extraction using a linear-regression approach is performed by Y -parameter analysis on the equivalent circuit of the MOSFET for high-frequency operation. In our approach, an optimization process, which may have uncertainties in obtaining physical parameters, is not required. The small-signal equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 1 can be analyzed in terms of Y -parameters as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{11} &= \left. \frac{I_1}{V_1} \right|_{V_2=0} \\ &= \frac{j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= \frac{\omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})}{1 + \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{12} &= \left. \frac{I_1}{V_2} \right|_{V_1=0} \\ &= \frac{-j\omega C_{gd}}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= \frac{-\omega^2 C_{gd}(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g - j\omega C_{gd}}{1 + \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{21} &= \left. \frac{I_2}{V_1} \right|_{V_2=0} \\ &= \frac{g_m - j\omega C_m - j\omega C_{gd}}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= \frac{g_m - j\omega C_{dg}}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= \frac{g_m - \omega^2 C_{dg}(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g - j\omega C_{dg} - j\omega g_m R_g (C_{gs} + C_{gd})}{1 + \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{22} &= \left. \frac{I_2}{V_2} \right|_{V_1=0} \\ &= g_{ds} + \frac{j\omega C_{jd}}{1 + j\omega C_{jd} R_{\text{subd}}} + j\omega C_{sd} + j\omega C_{gd} \\ &\quad + \frac{\omega^2 C_{gd} R_g (C_{gd} + C_m) + j\omega g_m C_{gd} R_g}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= g_{ds} + \frac{j\omega C_{jd}}{1 + j\omega C_{jd} R_{\text{subd}}} \\ &\quad + j\omega C_{sd} + j\omega C_{gd} \\ &\quad + \frac{\omega^2 C_{gd} C_{dg} R_g + j\omega g_m C_{gd} R_g}{1 + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g} \\ &= g_{ds} + \frac{\omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\omega^2 C_{gd} C_{dg} R_g + \omega^2 g_m R_g^2 C_{gd} (C_{gs} + C_{gd})}{1 + \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{j\omega C_{jd}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} + j\omega C_{sd} + j\omega C_{gd} \\ &\quad + \frac{j\omega g_m R_g C_{gd} - j\omega^3 C_{gd} C_{dg} (C_{gs} + C_{gd}) R_g^2}{1 + \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

For operation frequency up to 10 GHz, by using the assumption that $\omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2 \ll 1$, the Y -parameters can be approximated as follows:

$$Y_{11} \approx \omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g + j\omega(C_{gs} + C_{gd}) \quad (5)$$

$$Y_{12} \approx -\omega^2 C_{gd}(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g - j\omega C_{gd} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{21} &\approx g_m - \omega^2 C_{dg}(C_{gs} + C_{gd})R_g \\ &\quad - j\omega C_{dg} - j\omega g_m R_g (C_{gs} + C_{gd}) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{22} &\approx g_{ds} + \frac{\omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} + \omega^2 C_{gd} C_{dg} R_g \\ &\quad + \omega^2 g_m R_g^2 C_{gd} (C_{gs} + C_{gd}) \\ &\quad + \frac{j\omega C_{jd}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{jd}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} + j\omega C_{sd} + j\omega C_{gd} + j\omega g_m R_g C_{gd} \\ &\quad - j\omega^3 C_{gd} C_{dg} (C_{gs} + C_{gd}) R_g^2. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The validity of the assumption that $\omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2 \ll 1$ will be checked after each parameter is extracted. All the components of the equivalent circuit are extracted by the Y -parameter analysis and analytical equations are derived from real and imaginary parts of the Y -parameters. g_m is obtained from the y -intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{21}]$ versus ω^2 and g_{ds} is extracted from the y -intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{22}]$ versus ω^2 at the low frequency range. R_g , C_{gd} , C_{gs} , and C_{dg} can be obtained by (11)–(14) as follows:

$$g_m = \text{Re}[Y_{21}]|_{\omega^2=0} \quad (9)$$

$$g_{ds} = \text{Re}[Y_{22}]|_{\omega^2=0} \quad (10)$$

$$R_g = \text{Re}[Y_{11}] / (\text{Im}[Y_{11}])^2 \quad (11)$$

$$C_{gd} = -\text{Im}[Y_{12}] / \omega \quad (12)$$

$$C_{gs} = (\text{Im}[Y_{11}] + \text{Im}[Y_{12}]) / \omega \quad (13)$$

$$C_{dg} = -\text{Im}[Y_{21}] / \omega - g_m R_g (C_{gs} + C_{gd}). \quad (14)$$

For the extraction of substrate components, R_{subd} and C_{jid} , Y_{sub} is first defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{\text{sub}} &= Y_{22} - g_{\text{ds}} - \omega^2 C_{\text{gd}} C_{\text{dg}} R_g - \omega^2 g_m R_g^2 C_{\text{gd}} \\ &\quad \times (C_{\text{gs}} + C_{\text{gd}}) - j\omega C_{\text{sd}} - j\omega C_{\text{gd}} - j\omega g_m R_g C_{\text{gd}} \\ &\quad + j\omega^3 C_{\text{gd}} C_{\text{dg}} (C_{\text{gs}} + C_{\text{gd}}) R_g^2 \\ &= \frac{\omega^2 C_{\text{jid}}^2 R_{\text{subd}}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{\text{jid}}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} + \frac{j\omega C_{\text{jid}}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{\text{jid}}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

R_{subd} is obtained from the slope of the relationship for $\omega^2/\text{Re}[Y_{\text{sub}}]$ versus ω^2 by (16) as follows:

$$\frac{\omega^2}{\text{Re}[Y_{\text{sub}}]} = \omega^2 R_{\text{subd}} + \frac{1}{C_{\text{jid}}^2 R_{\text{subd}}}. \quad (16)$$

C_{jid} is obtained from (17) as follows:

$$C_{\text{jid}} = \left(\frac{\omega^2 R_{\text{subd}}}{\text{Re}[Y_{\text{sub}}]} - \omega^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2 \right)^{-1/2}. \quad (17)$$

Finally, C_{sd} is obtained from (8) as

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{sd}} &= \frac{\text{Im}[Y_{22}]}{\omega} - C_{\text{gd}} - \frac{C_{\text{jid}}}{1 + \omega^2 C_{\text{jid}}^2 R_{\text{subd}}^2} \\ &\quad - g_m R_g C_{\text{gd}} + \omega^2 C_{\text{gd}} C_{\text{dg}} (C_{\text{gd}} + C_{\text{gs}}) R_g^2. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

III. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

The proposed direct extraction method was applied to determine the parameters of the test devices, which were multifingered n -MOSFETs fabricated by 0.35- μm technology. S -parameters are measured in the common source–substrate configuration using on-wafer RF probes and an HP 8510C vector network analyzer. The initial calibration was performed on a separate ceramic calibration substrate using a SOLT calibration method. Before the extraction process, parasitic components of input and output pads have to be removed. To remove on-wafer pad parasitics, a deembedding technique was carried out by subtracting Y -parameters of the open pad structure from Y -parameters of the measured device. The parameter extraction has been performed for an n -MOSFET with 100- μm width having 20-unit gate fingers. All the small-signal parameters were extracted using (9)–(18).

Fig. 2 shows the extraction results of conductances g_m and g_{ds} at $V_{\text{gs}} = 1 \text{ V}$ and $V_{\text{ds}} = 2 \text{ V}$. Transconductance g_m of 16.6 mS was obtained from the Y -intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{21}]$ versus ω^2 , as shown in Fig. 2(a), and the conductance g_{ds} of 0.31 mS was extracted from the intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{22}]$ versus ω^2 , at the low-frequency range, as shown in Fig. 2(b). In Fig. 3, $\omega^2/\text{Re}[Y_{\text{sub}}]$ is linearly proportional to ω^2 and R_{subd} of 191 Ω was determined from the slope.

In Fig. 4, the frequency dependence of extracted parameters such as R_g , C_{gd} , C_{gs} , C_{dg} , C_{jid} , and C_{sd} at $V_{\text{gs}} = 1 \text{ V}$ and $V_{\text{ds}} = 2 \text{ V}$ are shown. The results show that the extracted parameters remain almost constant with frequency. This verifies that those components are frequency independent and the proposed

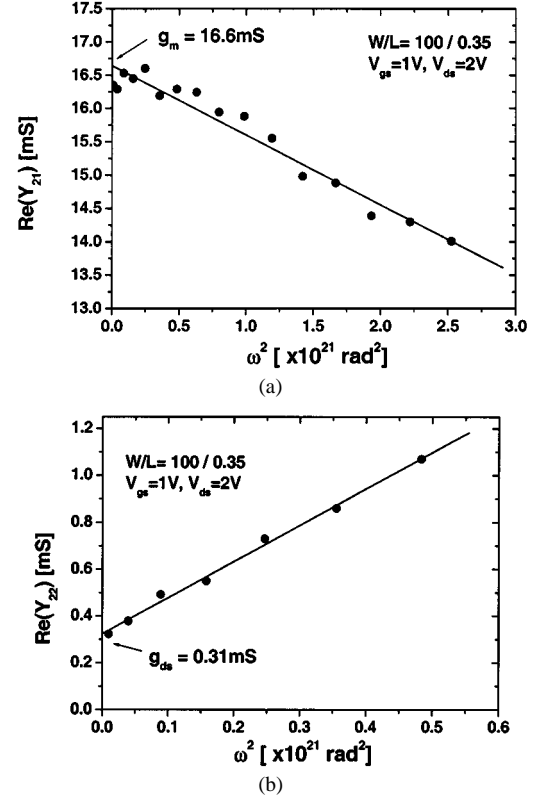


Fig. 2. Extraction results of conductances g_m and g_{ds} . (a) g_m were obtained from the Y -intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{21}]$ versus ω^2 . (b) g_{ds} was extracted from the intercept of $\text{Re}[Y_{22}]$ versus ω^2 at the low-frequency range.

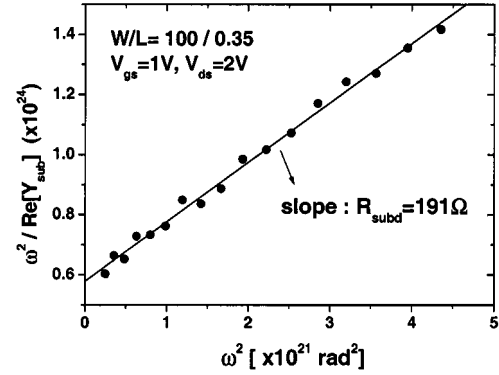


Fig. 3. R_{subd} was determined from the slope of $\omega^2/\text{Re}[Y_{\text{sub}}]$ as a function of ω^2 .

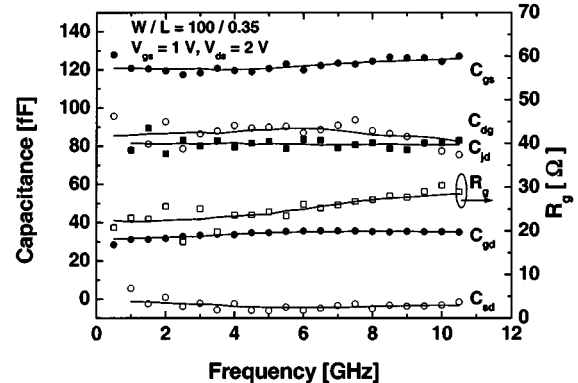


Fig. 4. Frequency dependence of extracted parameters for an n -MOSFET having 100- μm width and biased to $V_{\text{gs}} = 1 \text{ V}$ and $V_{\text{ds}} = 2 \text{ V}$. Extracted parameters remain almost constant with frequency, verifying that the method is accurate and reliable.

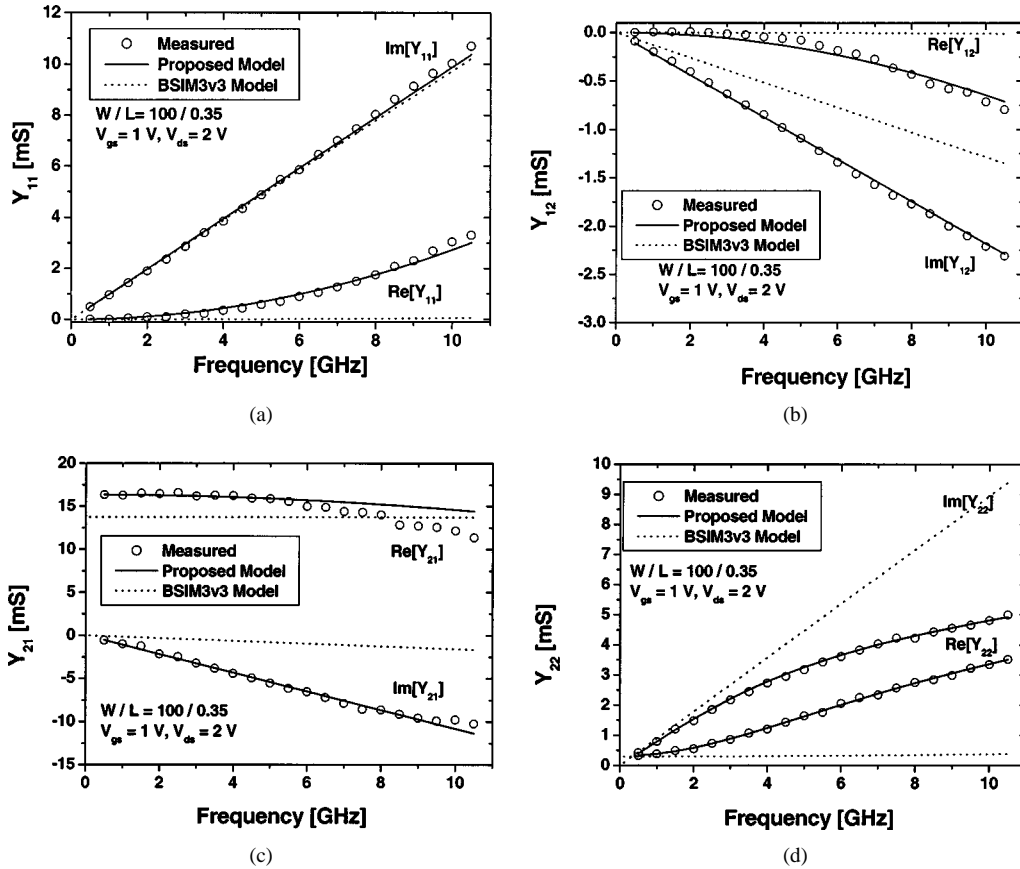


Fig. 5. Y -parameters of measurement (symbol), proposed model (solid line), and BSIM3v3 model (dotted line) for the n -MOSFET biased to $V_{gs} = 1$ V and $V_{ds} = 2$ V. (a) Y_{11} . (b) Y_{12} . (c) Y_{21} . (d) Y_{22} . The frequency range is from 0.5 to 10.5 GHz. The simulated results with the proposed model match the measured Y -parameters very well without any optimization after parameter extraction.

TABLE I
AVERAGE VALUES OF THE EXTRACTED PARAMETERS FOR AN n -MOSFET
HAVING 100- μ m WIDTH AND BIASED TO $V_{gs} = 1$ V AND $V_{ds} = 2$ V

g_m	16.6 mS
g_{ds}	0.31 mS
R_g	25.3 Ω
C_{gd}	34 fF
C_{gs}	122.4 fF
C_{dg}	86 fF
R_{subd}	191 Ω
C_{jd}	81.1 fF
C_{sd}	-3.1 fF

extraction method is accurate and reliable. Due to the nonreciprocity, C_{dg} is larger than C_{gd} . For the extracted parameter values, $\omega^2(C_{gs} + C_{gd})^2 R_g^2$ is calculated to be 0.055, even at 10 GHz, which is much smaller than one. This verifies the validity of using the assumption in simplifying (1)–(4) to (5)–(8). The average values of the extracted parameters are summarized in Table I.

In Fig. 5, the simulation results for Y -parameters obtained by using the equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 1 with extracted values are compared with the measured data for $V_{gs} = 1$ V and $V_{ds} = 2$ V. The proposed model is also compared with the BSIM3v3 model. It shows that the simulation results matched well with the measurements without any optimization after parameter extraction. The proposed model is more accurate than the BSIM3v3

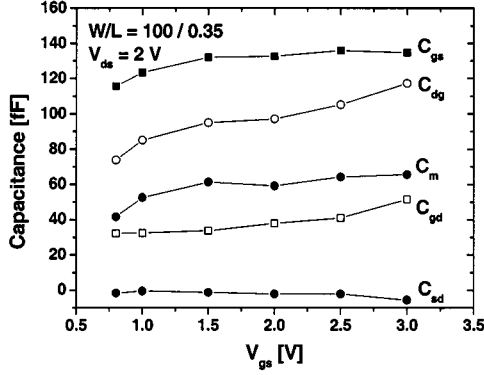
model, as shown in Fig. 5. The nonreciprocal capacitances C_{gd} and C_{dg} contribute to match $\text{Im}[Y_{12}]$ and $\text{Im}[Y_{21}]$. Excluding transcapacitance could result in a significant error on $\text{Im}[Y_{21}]$ at high frequency. The substrate coupling significantly contributes to the real part of the output admittance Y_{22} at high frequency. The discrepancy observed in $\text{Re}[Y_{21}]$ between the measured and modeled data, as shown in Fig. 5(c), is probably because $\text{Re}[Y_{21}]$ data were not used in our parameter extraction. The total error [11] between measured and simulated Y -parameters of the proposed model calculated as follows by (19) is only 0.4%:

$$\varepsilon_{\text{tot}}(Y) = 100 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \sum_{ij} \left\{ \sum_{\text{freq}} \frac{|\text{meas}Y_{ij} - \text{sim}Y_{ij}|^2}{|\text{meas}Y_{ij}|^2} \right\} \frac{1}{N_{\text{freq}}} \quad (19)$$

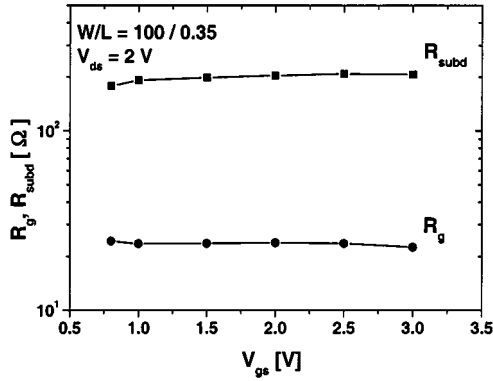
The total error in the S -parameter calculated as follows by (20) is 0.18%:

$$\varepsilon_{\text{tot}}(S) = 100 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \sum_{ij} \left\{ \sum_{\text{freq}} \frac{|\text{meas}S_{ij} - \text{sim}S_{ij}|^2}{|\text{meas}S_{ij}|^2} \right\} \frac{1}{N_{\text{freq}}} \quad (20)$$

In Fig. 6, gate-bias dependences of the extracted small-signal parameters for the n -MOSFET biased to $V_{ds} = 2$ V are shown.



(a)



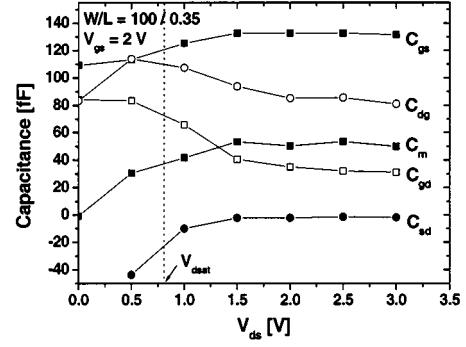
(b)

Fig. 6. Gate-bias dependence of small-signal parameters for an n -MOSFET having $100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ width and biased to $V_{ds} = 2\text{ V}$. (a) Capacitances. (b) R_g and R_{subd} .

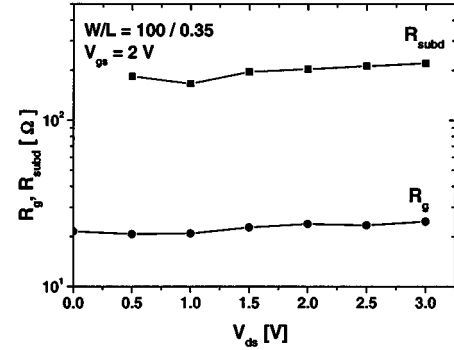
The gate-bias dependences of extracted capacitances is shown in Fig. 6(a). C_{gs} and C_{gd} are composed of the intrinsic components C_{gsi} and C_{gdi} and the overlap components C_{gso} and C_{gdo} . In the saturation region, intrinsic capacitances C_{gdi} and C_{sd} are almost zero because the drain voltage does not influence the device charges. The total gate-to-drain capacitance C_{gd} is dominated by the overlap capacitance C_{gdo} . As gate bias increases for constant V_{ds} , C_{gd} and C_{dg} increase due to an increase of the intrinsic capacitance. C_{gs} and C_m increase with V_{gs} near the threshold voltage at the onset of the strong inversion region and are almost constant in the strong inversion saturation region.

The extracted R_g and R_{subd} with gate bias are shown in Fig. 6(b) and they are almost constant with gate bias in the strong inversion region.

In Fig. 7, drain-bias dependence of the extracted small-signal parameters for the n -MOSFET biased to $V_{gs} = 2\text{ V}$ is shown. The drain-bias dependence of extracted capacitance is shown in Fig. 7(a). The vertical line at $V_{ds} = 0.81\text{ V}$ is the boundary between the linear and saturation regions. The transistor is biased in the linear region with low V_{ds} . The intrinsic behavior of the transistor becomes symmetric in terms of drain and source. Thus, the intrinsic capacitances C_{gsi} and C_{gdi} are almost the same at $V_{ds} = 0\text{ V}$. In Fig. 7(a), the difference between C_{gs} and C_{gd} at $V_{ds} = 0\text{ V}$ is due to the parasitic C_{gb} , which is included in the C_{gs} . C_{gb} of the gate contact pad component and poly-to-well capacitance in the field oxide becomes the major



(a)



(b)

Fig. 7. Drain-bias dependence of small-signal parameters for an n -MOSFET having $100\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ width and biased to $V_{gs} = 2\text{ V}$. (a) Capacitances. (b) R_g and R_{subd} .

part of the parasitic capacitance. At $V_{ds} = 0\text{ V}$, C_{dg} is the same as C_{gd} and $C_m = 0$. C_m increases with a V_{ds} increase in the linear region and is almost constant for high V_{ds} in the saturation region. C_{sd} becomes negative in the linear region because raising the drain voltage will increase the effective reverse bias at the drain end and will cause the magnitude of the inversion layer charges to decrease. In the saturation region for higher V_{ds} , gate-to-drain capacitance C_{gd} is almost the same as C_{gdo} .

The extracted capacitance parameters correctly model the bias dependence of the intrinsic capacitance. Since the conventional CV measurements using a large CV test structure are less sensitive to extract small capacitance values in short-channel microwave MOSFETs, measuring S -parameters of microwave MOSFETs themselves in the high-frequency range of gigahertz is better than conventional CV measurements. The proposed parameter-extraction method can be applied to accurate intrinsic capacitance modeling at the gigahertz operation. Extracted R_g and R_{subd} with drain bias are shown in Fig. 7(b) and they are almost constant with drain bias.

In Fig. 8, g_m and g_{ds} extracted from the S -parameter measurement and those obtained from dc measurement are compared. Extracted g_m and g_{ds} as a function of V_{gs} with gate bias for $V_{ds} = 2\text{ V}$ are shown in Fig. 8(a) and extracted g_m and g_{ds} as a function of V_{ds} with drain bias for $V_{gs} = 2\text{ V}$ are shown in Fig. 8(b). They match very well with each other, verifying the validity of the extraction method. The extraction results correctly modeled the bias dependence of g_m and g_{ds} in the linear and saturation regions.

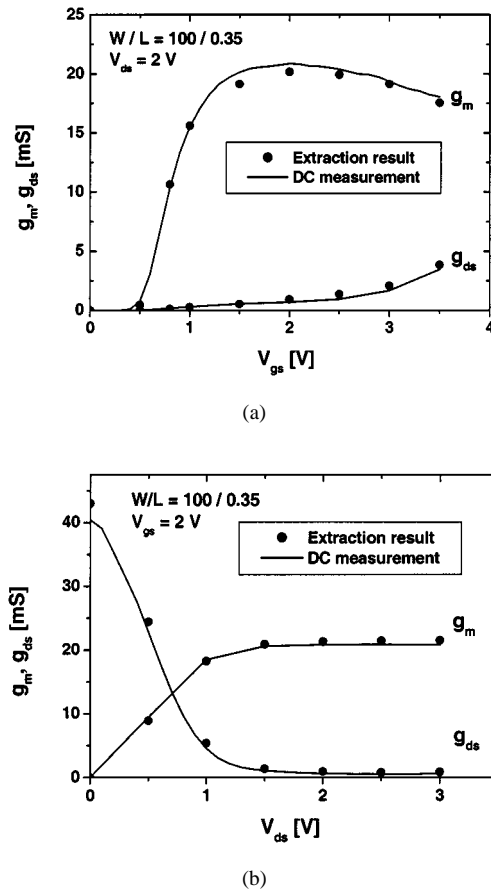


Fig. 8. (a) Extracted g_m and g_{ds} with gate bias for $V_{ds} = 2$ V. (b) Extracted g_m and g_{ds} with drain bias for $V_{gs} = 2$ V. g_m and g_{ds} extracted from the S -parameter measurement and those obtained from dc measurement are compared.

For a conventional I - V model, g_m and g_{ds} are derived by differentiating I_{ds} . Although I_{ds} fit well with the measurements, the slope may have large errors. This can have very serious consequences in analog circuit design. The proposed extraction method from S -parameters can directly extract the conductances g_m and g_{ds} without differentiation, and these results are more accurate.

IV. CONCLUSION

A novel direct extraction method for obtaining accurate high-frequency small-signal parameters for a MOSFET including substrate-related parameters and nonreciprocal capacitors has been demonstrated. The extracted results are physically meaningful and good agreement has been obtained between the simulation results of the equivalent circuit and measured data without any optimization. The extracted parameters, such as g_m and g_{ds} , also match very well with those obtained by dc measurement.

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