

**6.002**

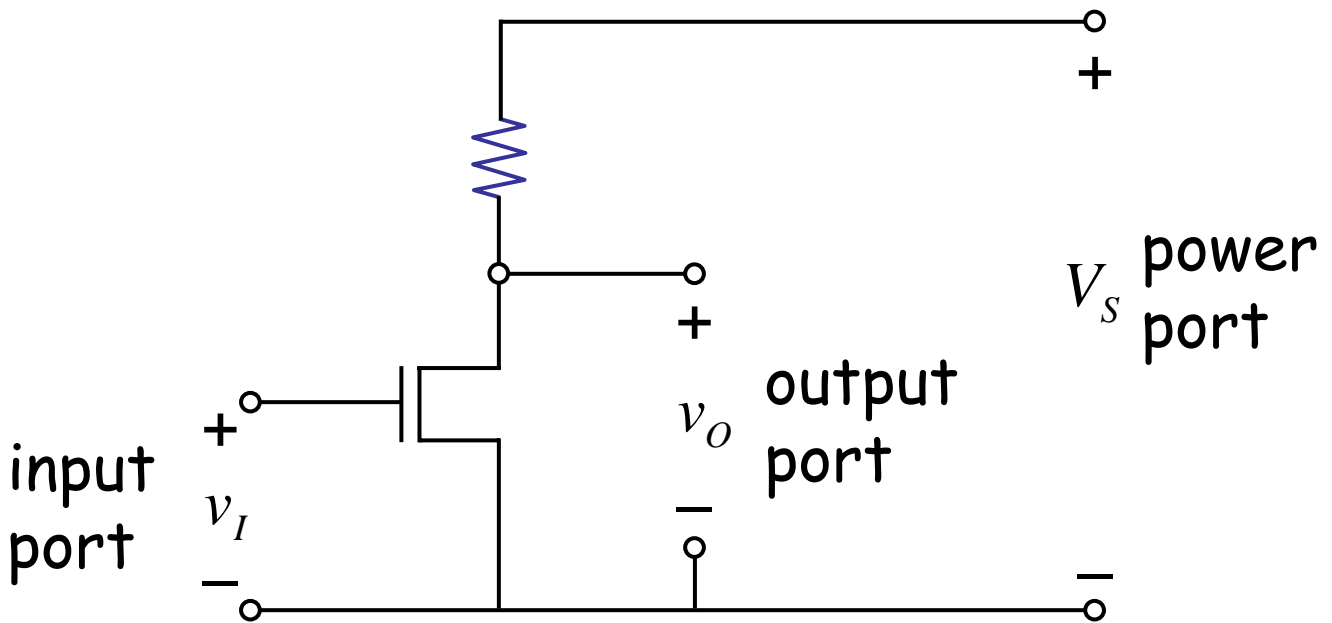
**CIRCUITS AND  
ELECTRONICS**

# The Operational Amplifier Abstraction

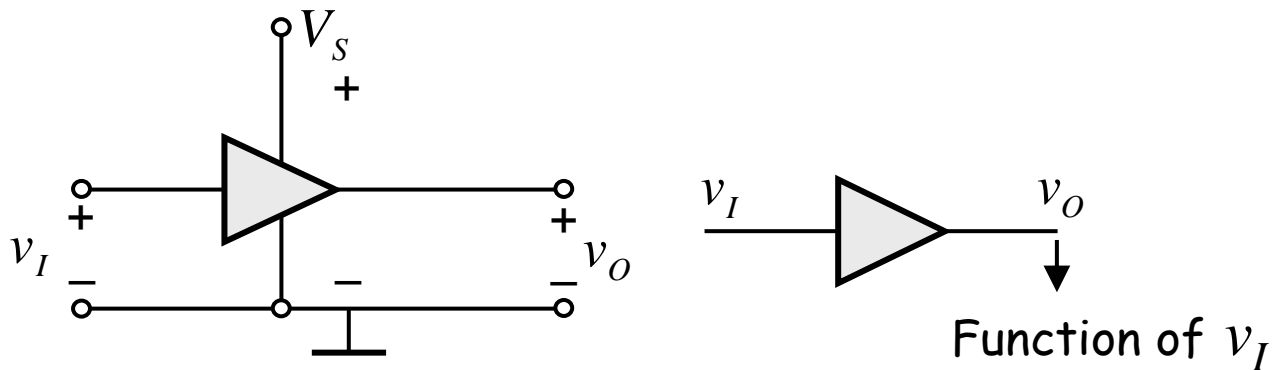
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# Review

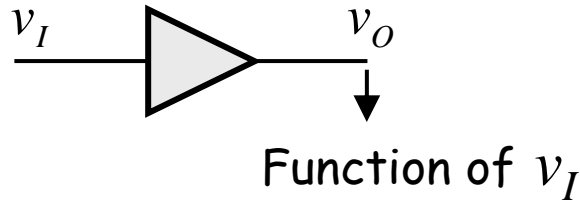
## ■ MOSFET amplifier — 3 ports



## ■ Amplifier abstraction



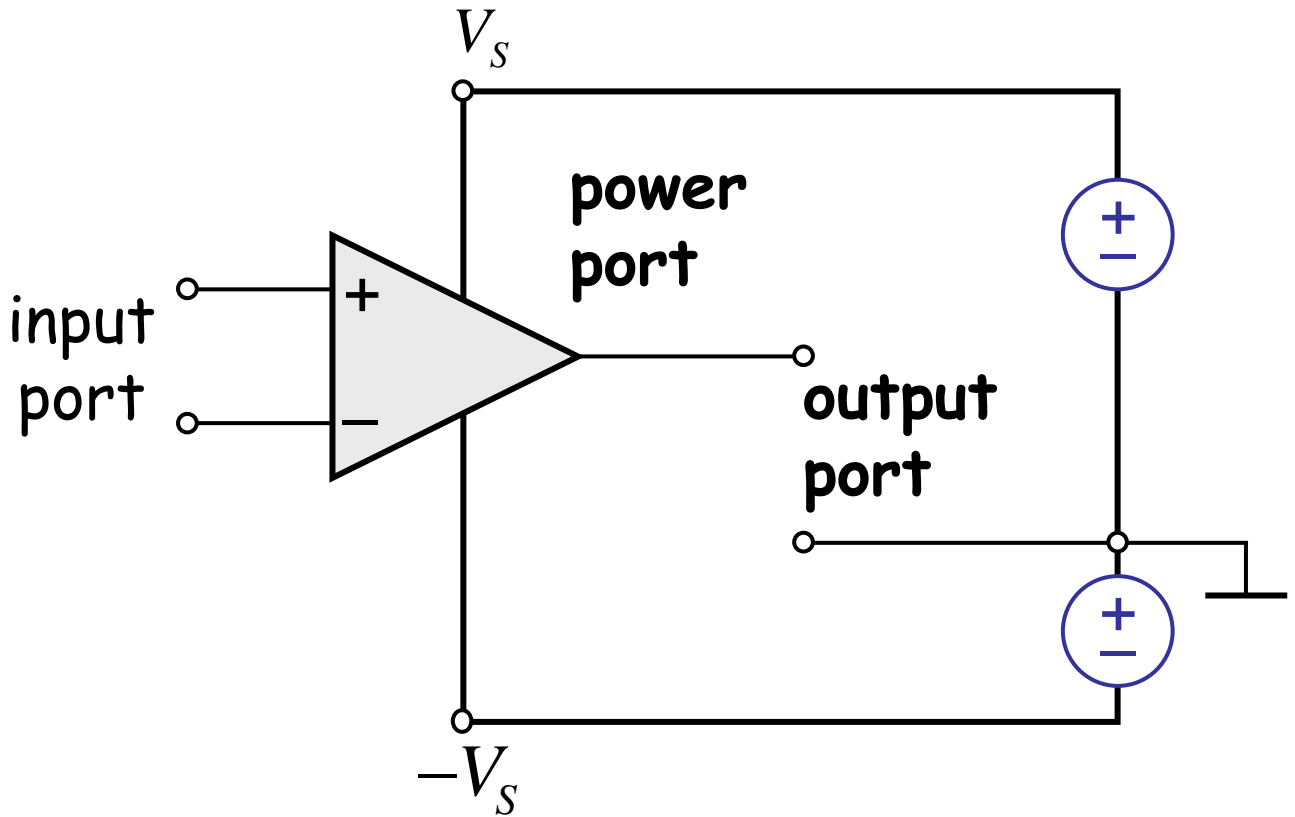
# Review



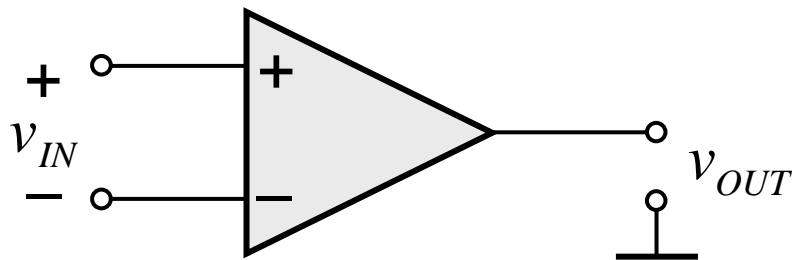
- Can use as an abstract building block for more complex circuits (of course, need to be careful about input and output).
- **Today**  
Introduce a more powerful amplifier abstraction and use it to build more complex circuits.

**Reading:** Chapter 15 from A & L.

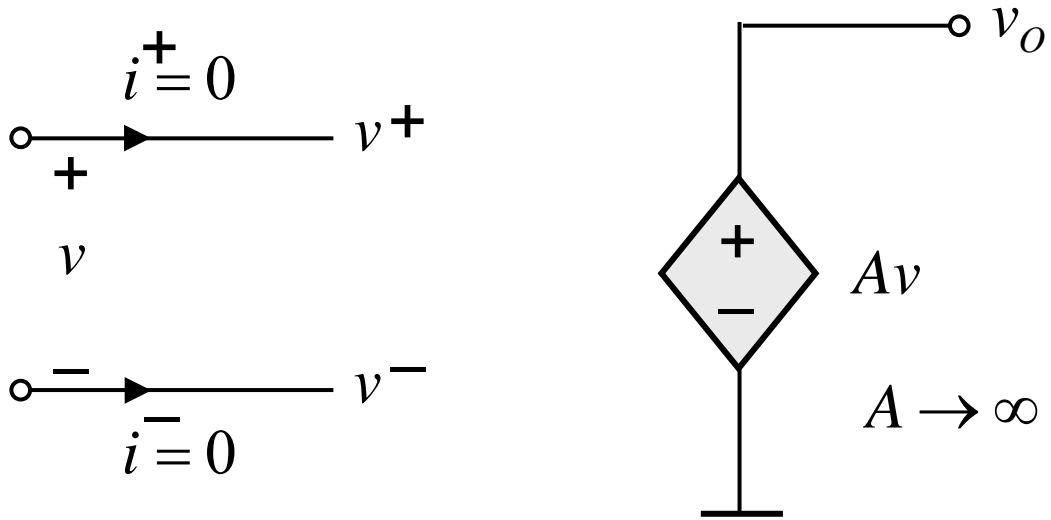
# Operational Amplifier Op Amp



More abstract representation:

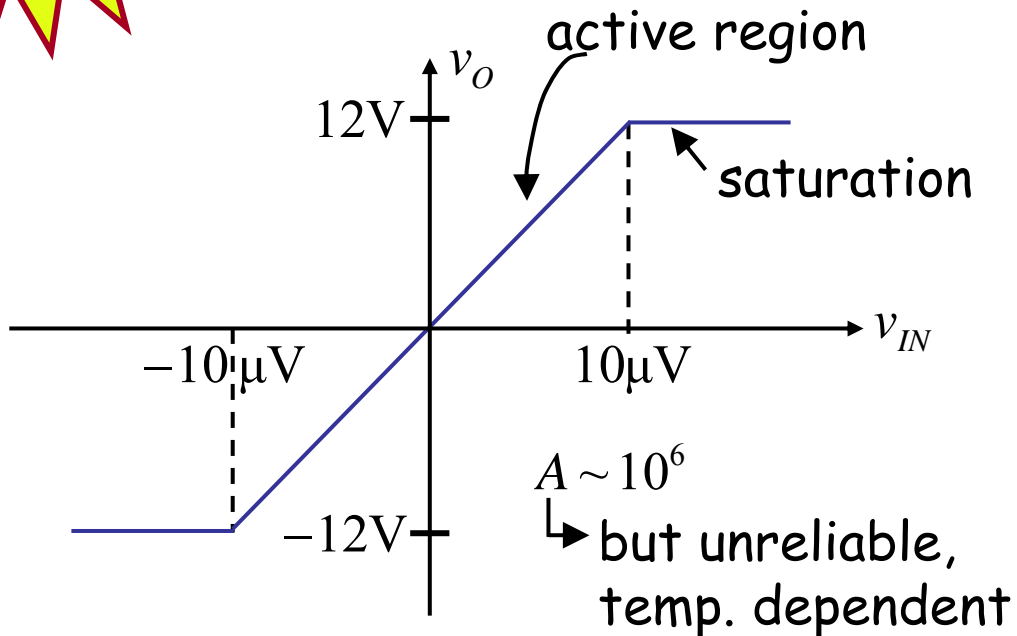
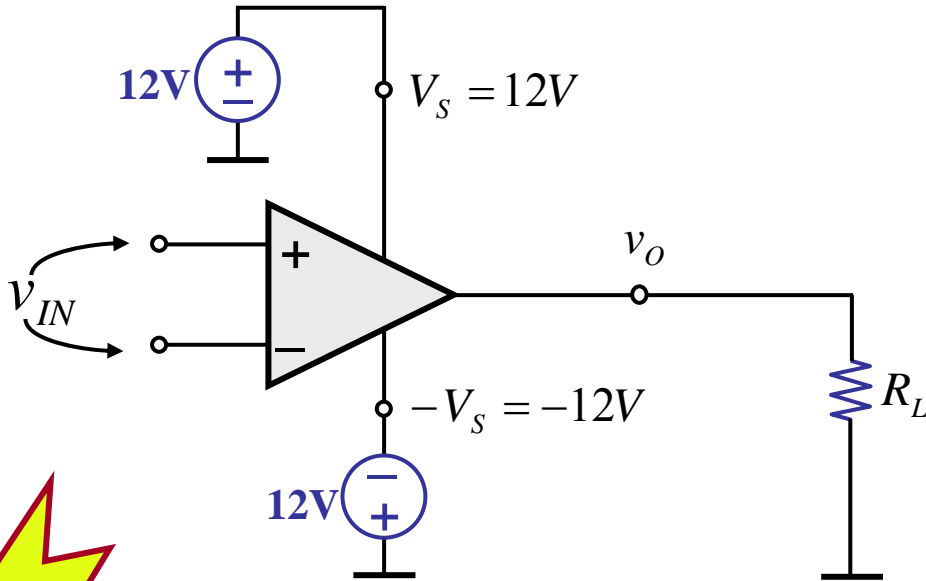


# Circuit model (ideal):



- i.e.
- ◆  $\infty$  input resistance
  - ◆  $0$  output resistance
  - ◆ "A" virtually  $\infty$
  - ◆ No saturation

# Using it...

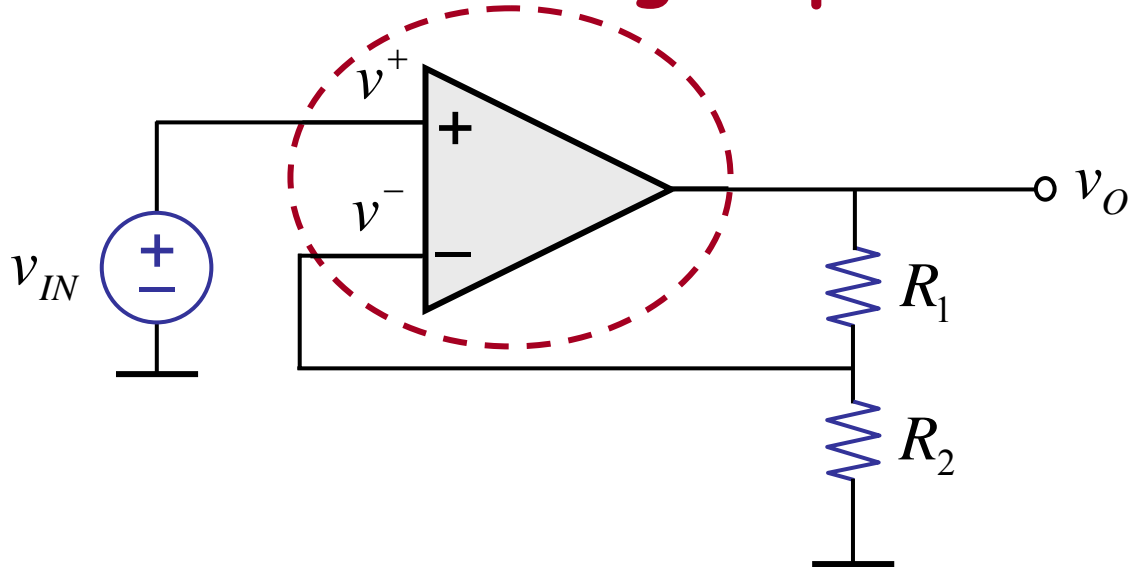


(Note: possible confusion with MOSFET saturation!)

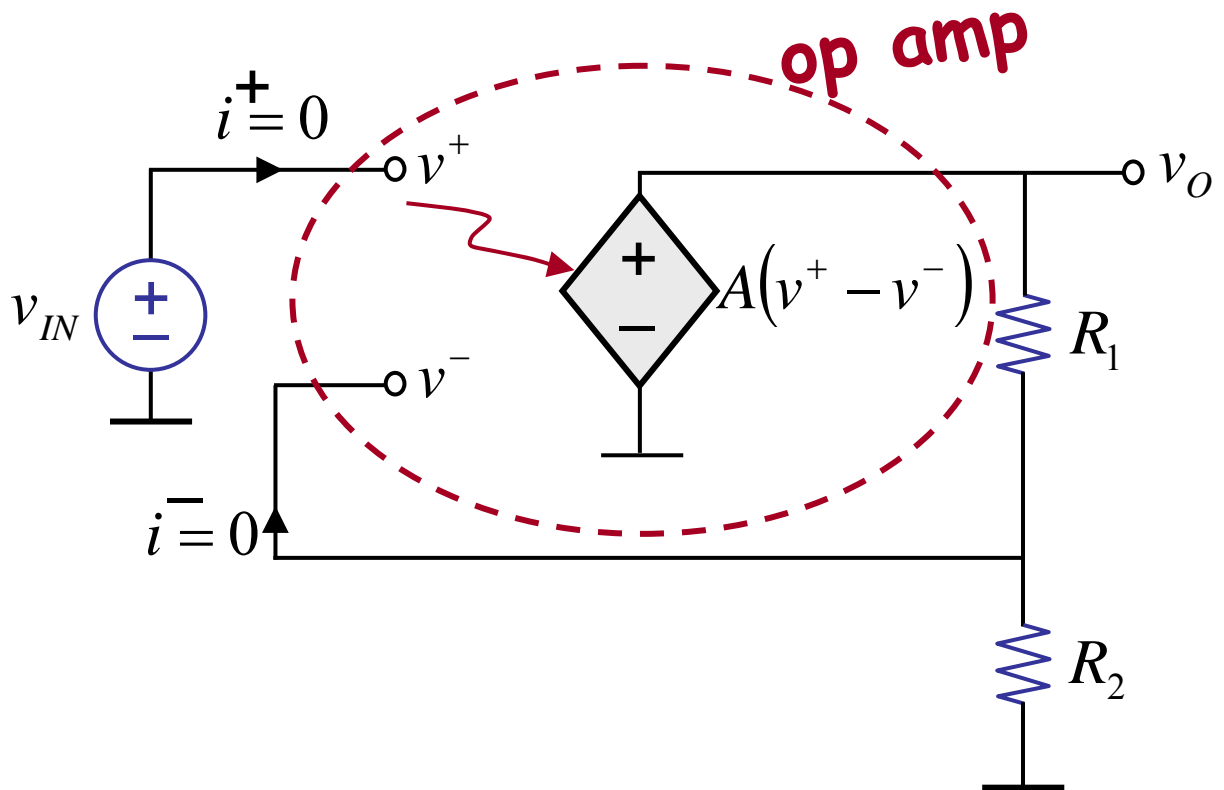
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# Let us build a circuit...

## Circuit: noninverting amplifier



### Equivalent circuit model



Let us analyze the circuit:

Find  $v_O$  in terms of  $v_{IN}$ , etc.

$$v_O = A(v^+ - v^-)$$

$$= A\left(v_{IN} - v_O \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\right)$$

$$v_O \left(1 + \frac{AR_2}{R_1 + R_2}\right) = Av_{IN}$$

$$v_O = \frac{Av_{IN}}{1 + \frac{AR_2}{R_1 + R_2}}$$

What happens when "A" is very large?



# Let's see... When A is large

$$v_O = \frac{Av_{IN}}{1 + \frac{AR_2}{R_1 + R_2}} \approx \frac{Av_{IN}}{\frac{AR_2}{R_1 + R_2}}$$
$$\approx v_{IN} \underbrace{\frac{(R_1 + R_2)}{R_2}}_{\text{gain}}$$

Suppose

$$A = 10^6$$
$$R_1 = 9R$$
$$R_2 = R$$

$$v_O = \frac{10^6 \cdot v_{IN}}{1 + \frac{10^6 R}{9R + R}}$$
$$= \frac{10^6 \cdot v_{IN}}{1 + 10^6 \cdot \frac{1}{10}}$$
$$v_O \approx v_{IN} \cdot 10$$

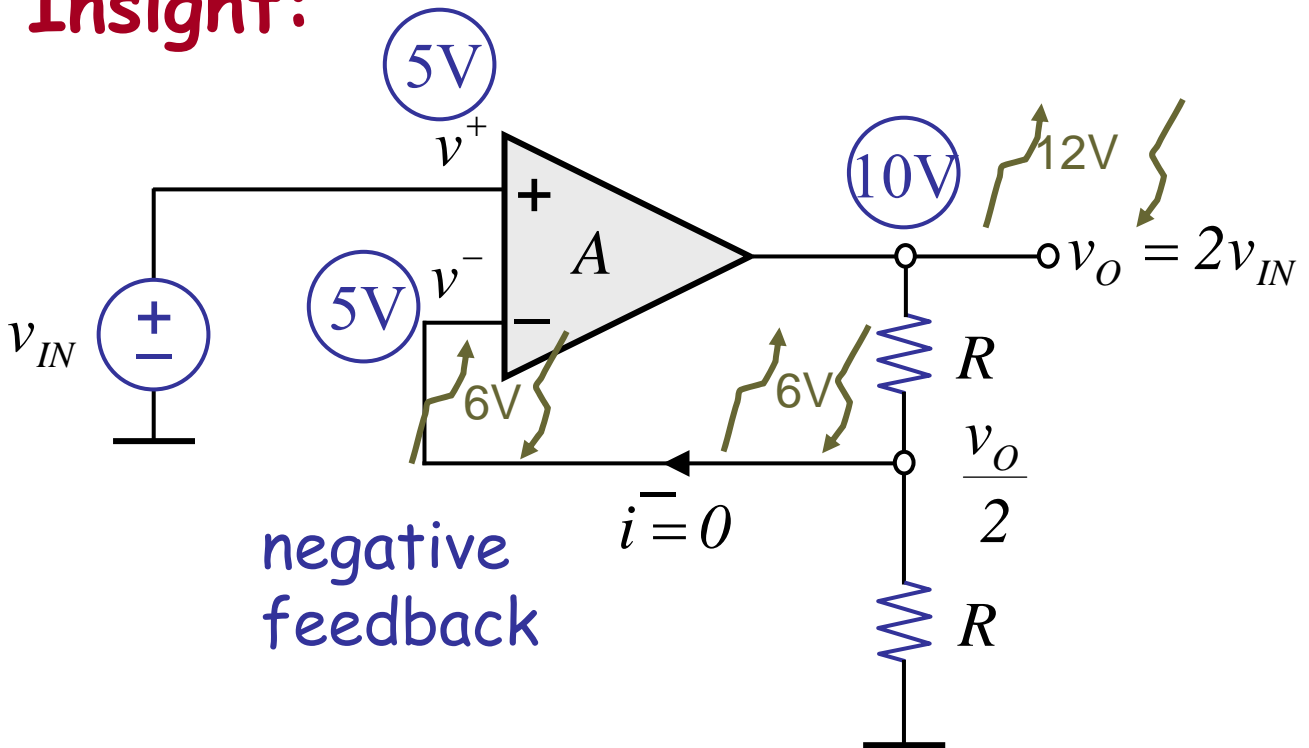


Gain:

- determined by resistor ratio
- insensitive to  $A$ , temperature, fab variations

# Why did this happen?

## Insight:



e.g.  $v_{IN} = 5V$

Suppose I perturb the circuit...

(e.g., force  $v_o$  momentarily to 12V somehow).

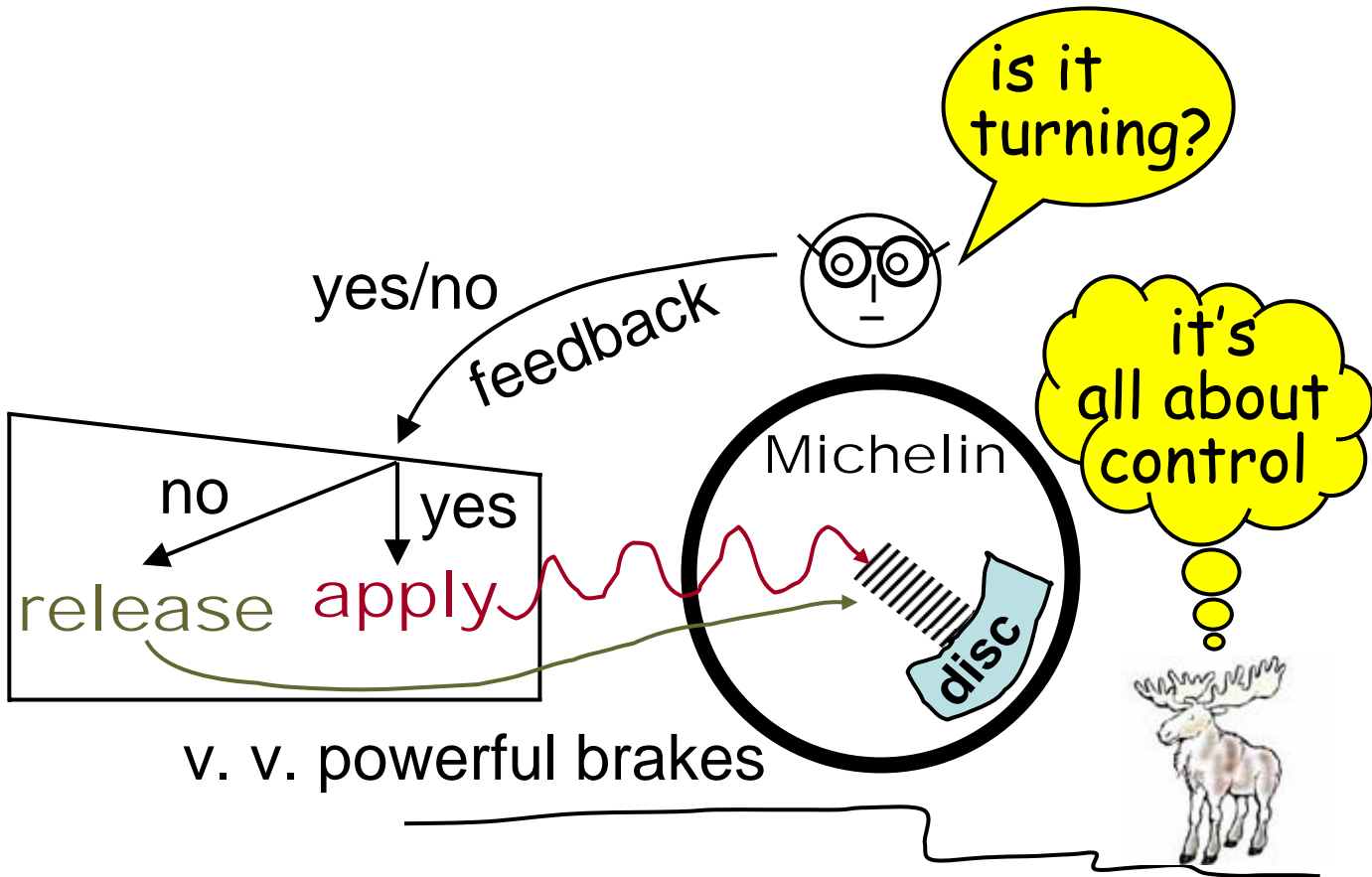
Stable point is when  $v^+ \approx v^-$ .

**Key:** negative feedback  $\rightarrow$  portion of output fed to  $-ve$  input.

e.g. Car antilock brakes  
 $\rightarrow$  small corrections.

# Question: How to control a high-strung device?

## Antilock brakes



## More op amp insights:

Observe, under negative feedback,

$$v^+ - v^- = \frac{v_O}{A} = \frac{\left(\frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1}\right)v_{IN}}{A} \rightarrow 0$$

$$v^+ \approx v^-$$

We also know

$$i^+ \approx 0$$

$$i^- \approx 0$$

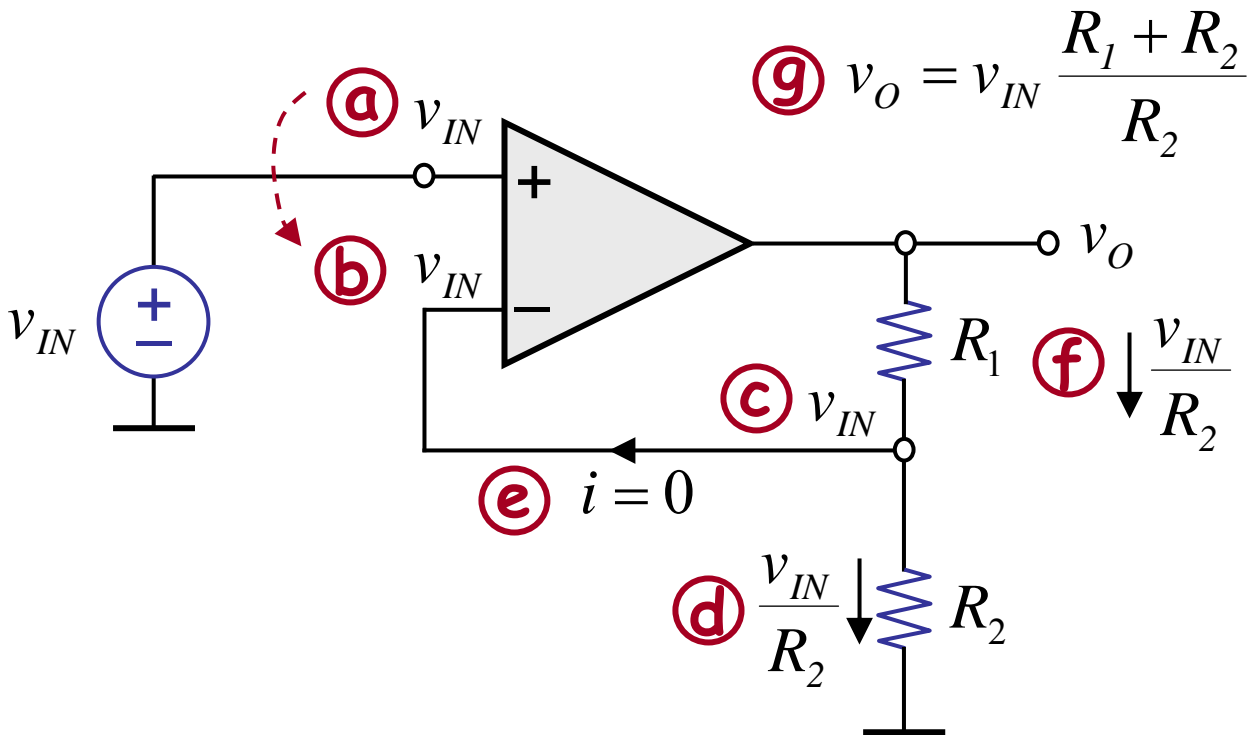
→ yields an easier analysis method  
(under negative feedback).

# Insightful analysis method under negative feedback

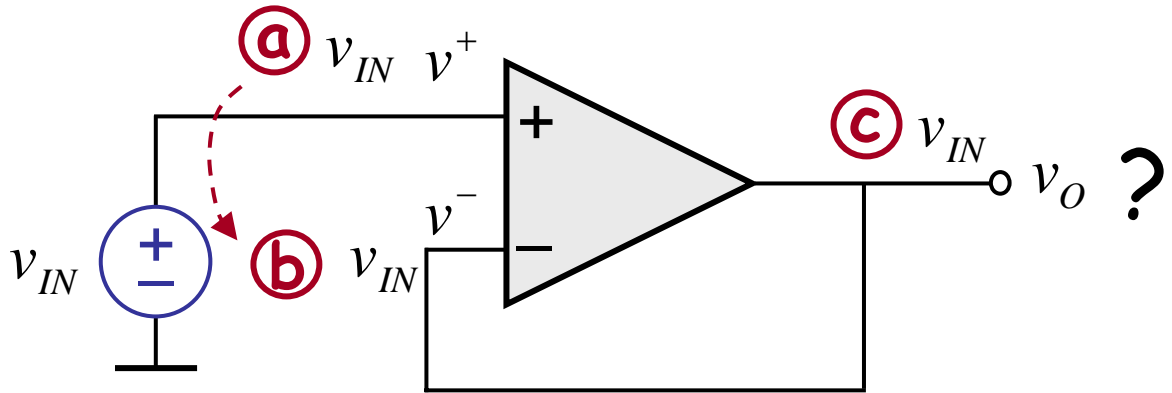
$$v^+ \approx v^-$$

$$i^+ \approx 0$$

$$i^- \approx 0$$



# Question:



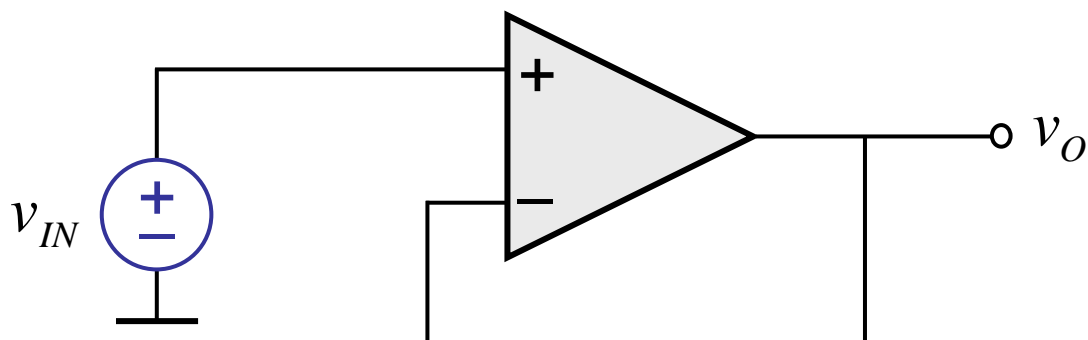
$$v_O \approx v_{IN}$$

or 
$$v_O = v_{IN} \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2}$$

with  $R_1 = 0$

$$R_2 = \infty$$

# Why is this circuit useful?



$$v_O \approx v_{IN}$$

## Buffer

voltage gain = 1

input impedance =  $\infty$

output impedance = 0

current gain =  $\infty$

power gain =  $\infty$