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# How do Supercap Auto Balancing SAB™ MOSFETs work?





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# Example

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Series-connect a pair of supercapacitors  
Capacitor value  $C1$  equal to  $C2$   
Rated for 2.7V  
Power supply of 4.6V

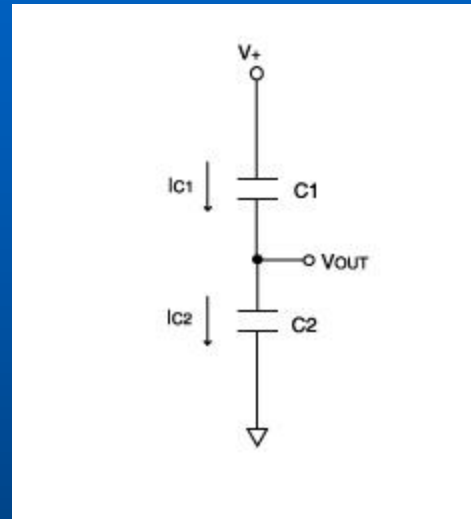


## Two Supercapacitors in Series

$$V_+ = + 4.6V$$

$I_{c1}$  is leakage of C1

$I_{c2}$  is leakage of C2



If  $I_{c1} = I_{c2}$

$$V_{OUT} = V_+ / 2 = 2.30V$$

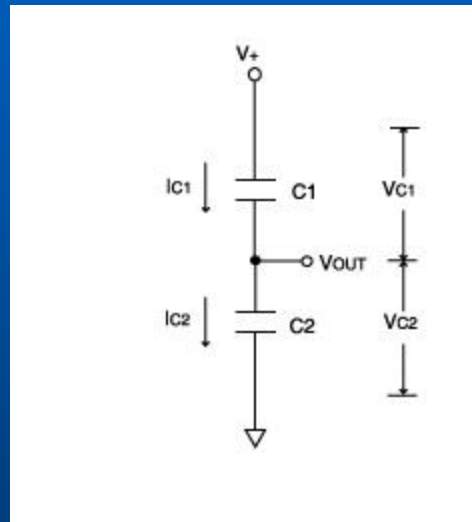
The two supercapacitors are exactly balanced only if  $I_{c1}$  is exactly and perfectly equal to  $I_{c2}$ .

Total leakage current equals  $I_{c1}$ .



# Two Supercapacitors in Series

$V_+ = + 4.6V$



If  $I_{C1} > I_{C2}$

$V_{OUT}$  rises until  $I_{C1} = I_{C2}$

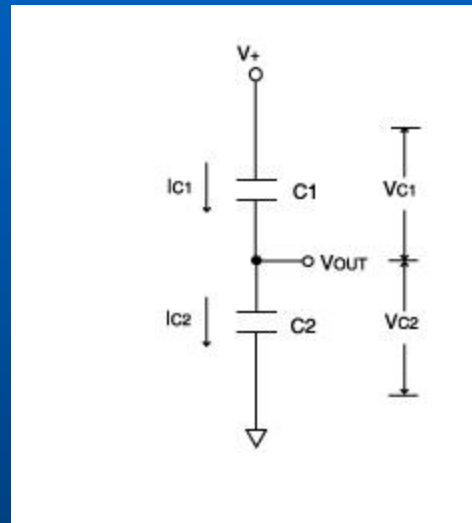
If  $V_{C2} = V_{OUT} > 2.7V$ , C2 is damaged due to over – voltage

Total leakage current equals  $I_{C1}$ .



# Two Supercapacitors in Series

$V_+ = + 4.6V$



If  $I_{C2} > I_{C1}$

$V_{OUT}$  drops until  $I_{C1} = I_{C2}$

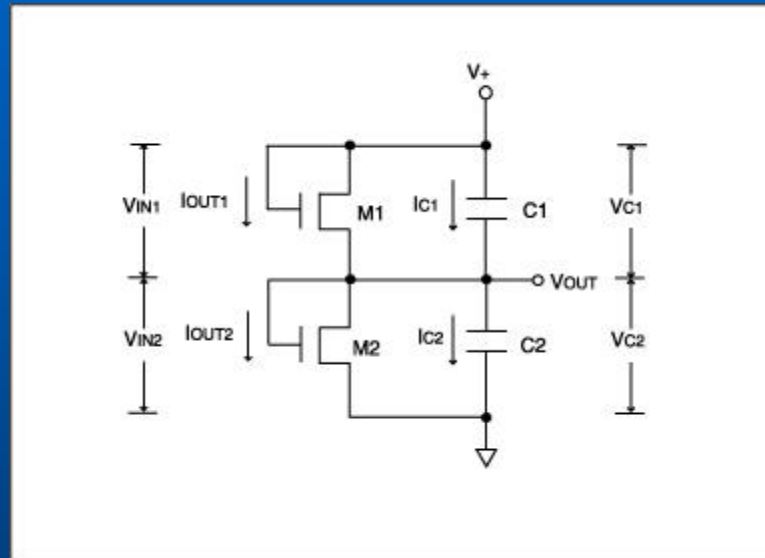
If  $V_{C1} (V_+ - V_{OUT}) > 2.7V$ , C1 is damaged due to over-voltage

Total leakage current equals  $I_{C2}$ .



## Two Supercapacitors in Series with a SAB MOSFET across each Supercapacitor

$V_+ = + 4.6V$



M1 connects across  $C1$ ,  $V_{IN1} = V_{C1}$

M2 connects across  $C2$ ,  $V_{IN2} = V_{C2}$

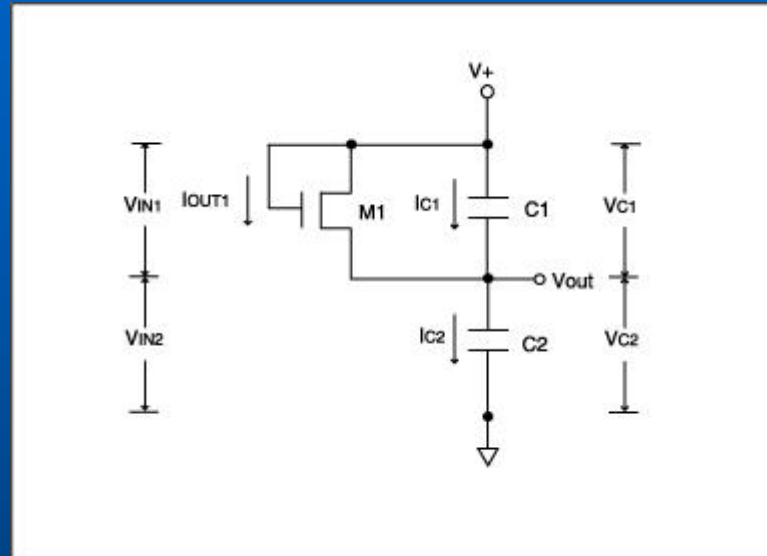
$V_+ = V_{IN1} + V_{IN2} = V_{C1} + V_{C2}$

$I_{C1} + I_{OUT1} = I_{C2} + I_{OUT2}$



## Two Supercapacitors in Series with a SAB MOSFET across each Supercapacitor

$V_+ = + 4.6V$



If  $I_{C2} > I_{C1}$

$V_{OUT}$  drops until M1 is turned on

M2 is turned off,  $I_{OUT2}$  is zero

$I_{OUT1} + I_{C1} = I_{C2}$

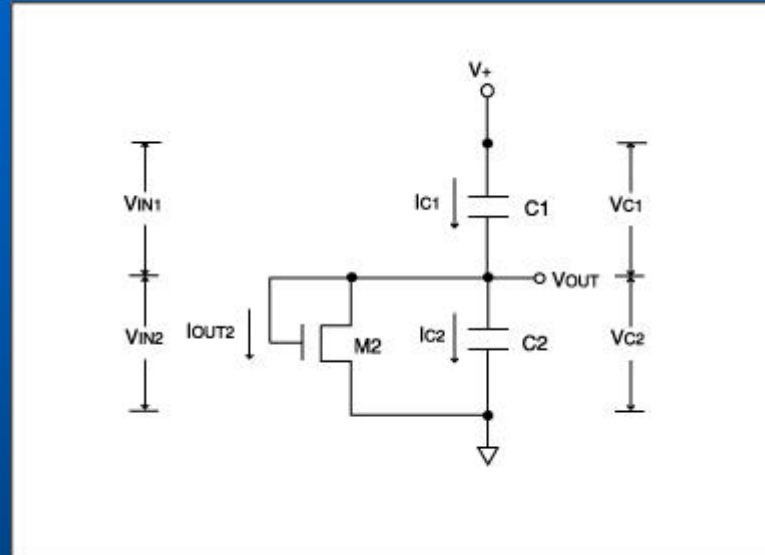
$V_{OUT} \approx 2.25V$  for  $I_{C2} \approx 10 \times I_{C1}$

Total leakage current equals  $I_{C2}$  at 2.25V.



## Two Supercapacitors in Series with a SAB MOSFET across each Supercapacitor

$$V_+ = + 4.6V$$



If  $I_{C1} > I_{C2}$

V<sub>OUT</sub> rises until M2 is turned on

M1 is turned off, I<sub>OUT1</sub> is zero

$I_{OUT2} + I_{C2} = I_{C1}$

$V_{OUT} \approx 2.35V$  for  $I_{C1} \approx 10 \times I_{C2}$

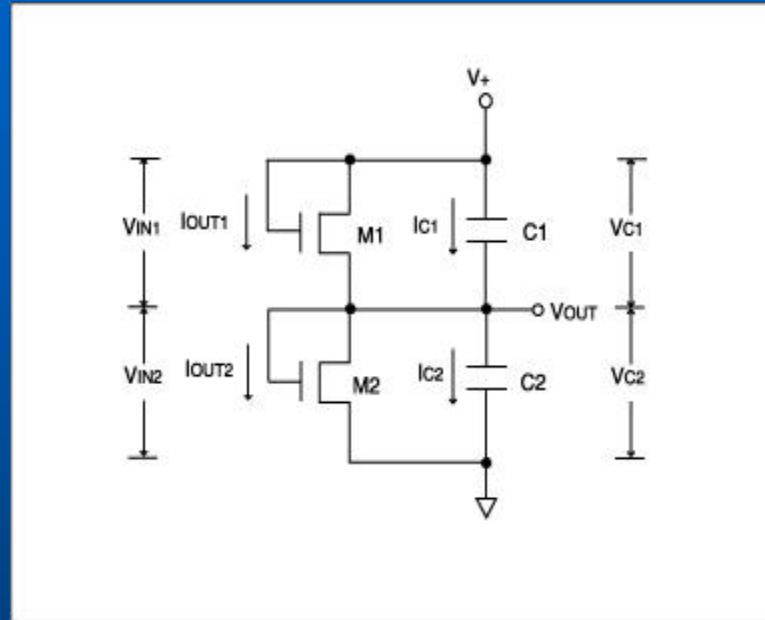
Total leakage current equals I<sub>C1</sub> at 2.25V.





## Two Supercapacitors in Series with a SAB MOSFET across each Supercapacitor

$$V_+ = + 4.6V$$



When  $I_{c1} = I_{c2}$   $V_{OUT} \approx 2.30V$

M2 is slightly turned on

M1 is slightly turned on

$I_{OUT1} + I_{c1} = I_{OUT2} + I_{c2}$

Pick minimum  $I_{OUT1}$  value so that  $I_{OUT1} \ll I_{c1}$

Total leakage current equals  $\sim I_{c1}$



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# Summary

- \* SAB MOSFETs balances supercapacitors
- \* Less leakage currents
- \* Simple and yet elegant solution
- \* Scalable and stackable
- \* Totally automatic
- \* Adjusts for changing conditions



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THANK YOU for watching