

# VisualTCAD

**Semiconductor Device Simulator**

Version 1.7.2

**VisualTCAD User's Guide:**

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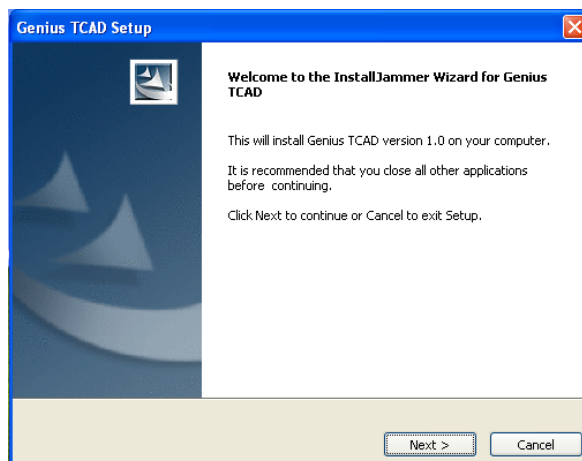
## Contents

The VisualTCAD device simulation software works on both Windows and Linux platform. In the following sections, we shall outline the installation procedures on both platform, and the procedure to start the graphical user interface and the command-line interface.

---

## Installing on Windows

The installation package comes as an executable file. Double clicking on it will start the installation wizard (**Figure 1.1, p. 1**).



**Figure 1.1** Welcome message.

We recommend install Paraview, a versatile visualization software package, to examine the output file generated by Genius. The installer of Paraview is included, and the user can choose to install it.

After installation, we can test the installation with the bundled examples. Please click `Start > All Programs > Cogenda Genius TCAD > VisualTCAD` to start the Simulation manager, and follow the tutorial in **Chapter 2, “Tutorials”, p. 15**.

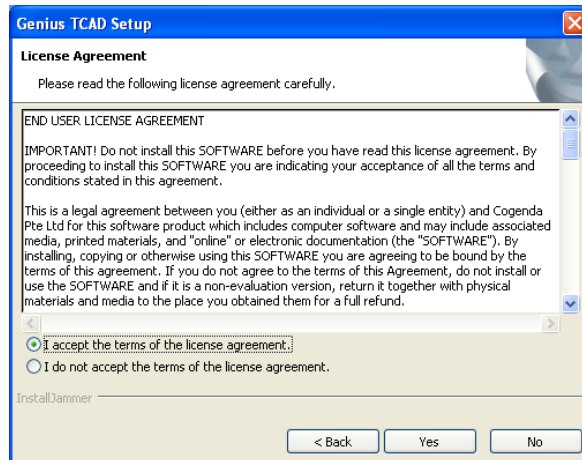


Figure 1.2 License agreement.

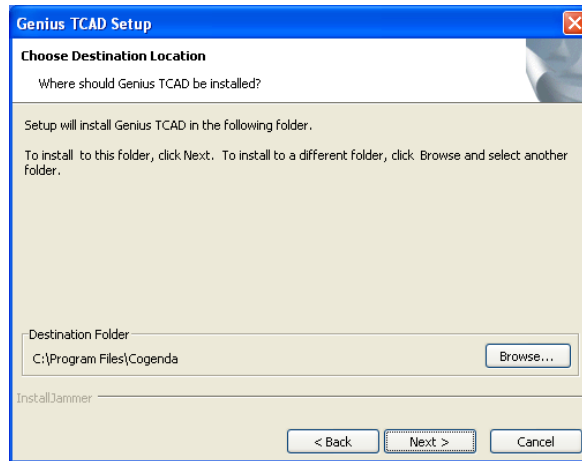


Figure 1.3 Choosing target installation directory.

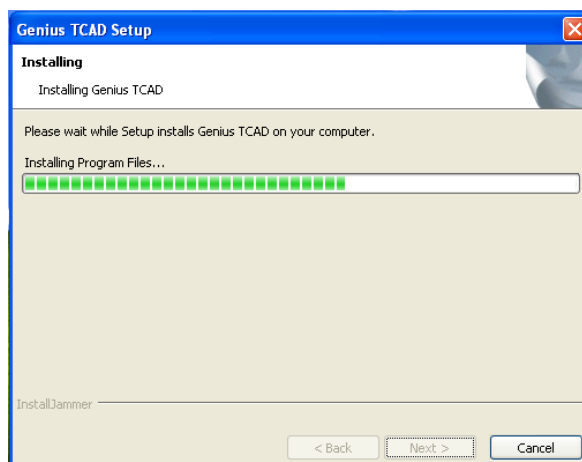


Figure 1.4 Copying files.

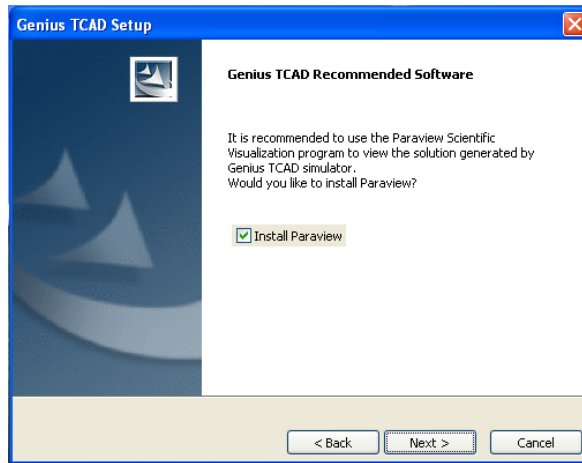


Figure 1.5 Optional software packages.

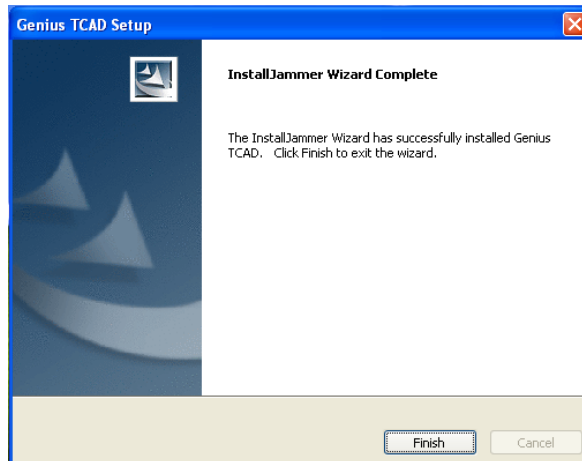


Figure 1.6 Installation completed.

## Installing on Linux

The installation package of the Linux version is a self-extracting program, typically named as `Cogenda-Linux-<version>.bin`. The same package includes binaries and data files for several Linux platforms, include Redhat Enterprise Linux release 5 and release 6, 32- and 64-bit platforms.

**Installing** Typically we will run the installer as a super user (root):

```
$ su
$ ./Cogenda-Linux-1.7.4.bin
```

The installer will check the operating system and the prerequisite software needed to run VisualTCAD. If the operating system is recognized, it lists the editions suitable on this platform in the following menu, along with the features contained in each edition.

```
Checking the machine architecture: found rhel5-64
```

```
Editions recommended on this machine:
```

```
-----
[ 1] VisualTCAD-flexlm-1.7.4-1-rhel5-64
    Platform: rhel5-64    Features: FloatingLicense
-----
[ 2] VisualTCAD-full-flexlm-1.7.4-1-rhel5-64
    Platform: rhel5-64    Features: Full,FloatingLicense
-----
[ 3] VisualTCAD-full-ib-flexlm-1.7.4-1-rhel5-64
    Platform: rhel5-64    Features: Full,InfiniBand,FloatingLicense
-----
[ 0] Show all editions.
-----
```

The user may choose from the menu the edition to be installed. The basic edition [1] is suitable for most users. The full edition [2] contains advanced products such as VisualFab and VisualParticle that requires special licenses. The ib edition [3] only runs on cluster computers with Infiniband interconnect hardware. The user may also enter 0 to see a full list of editions included in the package.

If the operating system is not recognized, all editions will be displayed, and the user may choose one that matches his platform most closely.

The installer then prompts the user to input the target installation directory, the default location is `/opt/cogenda`.

The end user license agreement will be displayed, and one must enter `y` to accept it. It then prints out a summary of this installation, and asks the user to confirm.

```

===== Installation Summary =====
Install to           : /opt/cogenda
Platform            : rhel5-64
Features            : Full,FloatingLicense
-----
Is the above correct? [Y/exit]

```

The installer proceeds to unpack the executable binaries and data files. Finally, it asks the user if a shortcut link is to be created to point to the installed version of the software. If one accepts the default setting, a soft-link named `/opt/cogenda/current` will be created.

```

Make a link to the installed version? [Y/n]
Enter a name for the installed version [current]

```

After installation, a typical directory structure would look like the following.

```

/opt/
|- cogenda/
    |- current -> releases/VisualTCAD-flexlm-1.7.4-1-rhel5-64
    |
    |- previous -> releases/VisualTCAD-flexlm-1.7.4-rhel5-64
    |
    |- documents/
        |- 1.7.4/
            |- ...
        +- 1.7.4-1/
            |- ...
    |
    |- releases/
        |- VisualTCAD-flexlm-1.7.4-rhel5-64
        +- VisualTCAD-flexlm-1.7.4-1-rhel5-64
    |
    |- repo/
        |- ...
        |- ...

```

---

## Installing the Floating License on Linux

FlexLM provides floating license, and enable computers in the same network to share the same license on the license server. When Cogenda software runs on other machines, they obtain the license from node00 via network. This documents describes how to work with the license manager program, assuming that the license server runs on the computer node00, and that Cogenda software are installed in a shared directory `/opt/cogenda`. It is also assumed that users' home directories are shared among all hosts with NFS or other distributed file system.

### Starting FlexLM Server

Copy the `cogenda.lic` file to `/opt/cogenda/cogenda.lic`. The content of the file looks something like the following

```
SERVER node00 any
VENDOR COGENDA
USE_SERVER

FEATURE VTCAD COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 4 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE VFAB COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 4 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE VPTKL COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 4 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_MISC COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 100 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_COMMON COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_DDM2 COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_EBM3 COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_AC COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_SPICE COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_OPTICAL COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GENIUS_HIDDM1 COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GDS2MESH COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
FEATURE GSEAT COGENDA 1.000 31-mar-2012 32 SN=Customerxxx SIGN="..."
```

Each line corresponds to a feature. This file shows a license with all features enabled, with 32-way parallel computation enabled in the Genius simulator.

One first enter the Cogenda environment with the command below.

```
$ source /opt/cogenda/1.7.3/bin/setenv.sh
```

One then starts the license server with the following command on node00. It is not necessary to use root privilege.

```
$ lmgrd -c /opt/cogenda/cogenda.lic -l /tmp/flexlm.log
```



The `lmgrd` command starts the FlexLM server, read in the license file, saves the log messages to `/tmp/flexlm.log`, and turned to background running. If the server is correctly started, the end of `flexlm.log` file should contain the followings.

```
14:07:56 (lmgrd) License file(s): /opt/cogenda/cogenda.lic
14:07:56 (lmgrd) lmgrd tcp-port 27000
14:07:56 (lmgrd) Starting vendor daemons ...
14:07:56 (lmgrd) Started COGENDA (internet tcp_port 48793 pid 19111)
14:07:56 (COGENDA) FLEXnet Licensing version v11.10.0.0 build 95001 x64_lsb
14:07:56 (COGENDA) Server started on localhost for: VTCAD
14:07:56 (COGENDA) VFAB VPTKL GENIUS_MISC
14:07:56 (COGENDA) GENIUS_COMMON GENIUS_DDM2 GENIUS_EBM3
14:07:56 (COGENDA) GENIUS_AC GENIUS_SPICE GENIUS_OPTICAL
14:07:56 (COGENDA) GENIUS_HIDDM1 GDS2MESH GSEAT
14:07:56 (COGENDA) EXTERNAL FILTERS are OFF
14:07:56 (lmgrd) COGENDA using TCP-port 48793
```

The license server is running on TCP port 27000 of node00.

## Verifying the FlexLM Server

Usually Cogenda software will automatically find the license server running on the local network, but it is advised to explicitly configure the location of the license server. One creates a config file `.flexlmrc` under his/her home directory, i.e. `$HOME/.flexlmrc`. The content of the file would be

```
COGENDA_LICENSE_FILE=@node00
```

One can use the `lmstat` command to verify if one can successfully query the license server. For example, one can run the command on node03, and expect the following output:

```
$ lmstat
lmstat - Copyright (c) 1989-2011 Flexera Software, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Flexible License Manager status on Thu 1/5/2012 14:17

License server status: 27000@node00
License file(s) on hydrogen: /opt/cogenda/cogenda.lic:

node00: license server UP (MASTER) v11.10
```

Vendor daemon status (on hydrogen):

```
COGENDA: UP v11.10
```

Finally, one can use the `lmdown` command.

## Merging with other licenses managed by FlexLM

If one is using FlexLM licenses issued by other vendor as well as that from Cogenda, he/she can manage them with a single instance of FlexLM server.

To do this, one needs to copy all "Vendor Daemons" from all vendors, along with the `lmgrd` program, to the same directory, i.e. `/opt/flexlm/bin`. Cogenda's vendor daemon is located at `/opt/cogenda/1.7.3/bin/COGENDA`.

One then copies all the license files to `/opt/flexlm/license/`, and starts the flexlm server with the command.

```
$ /opt/flexlm/bin/lmgrd -l /tmp/flexlm.log \  
-c /opt/flexlm/license/cogenda.lic:/opt/flexlm/license/synopsys.lic
```

Note how license files from various vendors are concatenated with semicolon in the `-c` option.

## Using the Graphical Interface

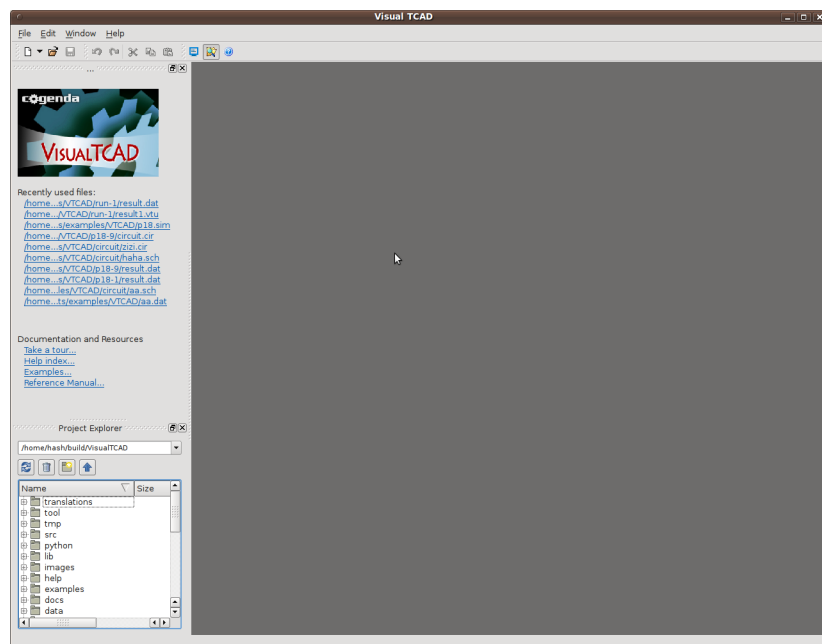
VisualTCAD is the integrated graphical user interface of the Genius device simulation package.

To start VisualTCAD in Windows, please click **Start** ▷ **All Programs** ▷ **Cogenda Genius TCAD** ▷ **VisualTCAD** in the Start Menu.

In Linux, one types the following command in a shell.

```
$ /opt/cogenda/1.7.2/VisualTCAD/bin/VisualTCAD &
```

The main window of VisualTCAD is shown in **Figure 1.7, p. 9**.



**Figure 1.7** The VisualTCAD Main Window

### Checking License Status

To check the license status, click in the menu **Help** ▷ **License**. The license status dialog shown in **Figure 1.8, p. 10**. If you download the trial version of Genius from the website, the default license file included in the package is valid for one month only. Some advanced features are disabled and at most 2 processors are supported. You need to register your copy with Cogenda in order to continue using Genius. To register, click the register button, and email the generated registration code to Cogenda or a sales representative.

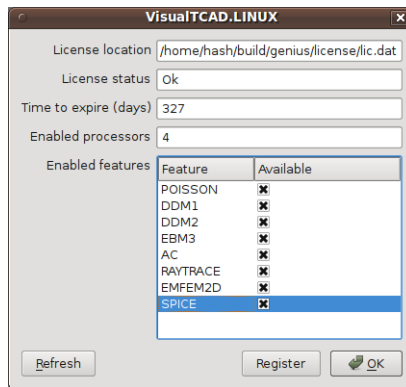


Figure 1.8 The License Status Dialog

Every release bears a unique version string, which should be quoted when requesting technical support from Cogenda. The version number of the release can be checked by clicking the menu **Help > About**, and the version number is shown in the dialog **Figure 1.9, p. 10**.



Figure 1.9 The About Dialog

## Using the Command-line Interface

This section outlines the command-line usage of Genius under Linux. A similar command-line interface exists under Windows, but is rarely used.

**Configuration** After the installation, one may want to test the installation with the following steps. Daily usage can be (and usually should be) performed under a normal user account, instead of using the root account.

We first copy the examples to our home directory:

```
$ cp -r /opt/cogenda/genius/examples $HOME/genius_examples
$ cd $HOME/genius_examples/PN_Diode/2D
```

For convenience, we add the installation directory to his PATH environment for his convenience. With the bash shell one can type

```
$ export PATH=$PATH:/opt/cogenda/genius/bin
```

or with csh

```
# set PATH=$PATH:/opt/cogenda/genius/bin
```

Now we try running the PN diode example with one single processor:

```
$ genius -n 4 -i pn2d.inp
```

### Running with one CPU

The running log will be output to screen. It is pretty long, we show only the beginning and ending portions here:

```
*****
*      888888      88888888      88      888      88888      888      888      8888888      *
*  8          8  8          8 8      8      8      8      8      8          *
*  8          8          8 8      8      8      8      8      8          *
*  8          88888888      8 8      8      8      8      8      8888888      *
*  8          8888      8          8 8      8      8      8          8      *
*  8          8  8          8      8 8      8      8      8          8      *
*      888888      88888888      888      88      88888      88888888      88888888      *
*
*  Parallel Three-Dimensional General Purpose Semiconductor Simulator  *
```

```

*
* This is Genius Commercial Version 1.7.2 with double precision.
*
* Copyright (C) 2008-2011 by Cogenda Company.
*****
Constructing Simulation System...

```

```

External Temperature = 3.000000e+02K
Setting each voltage and current source here...done.

```

```
...
```

```
...
```

```
DC Scan: V(Anode) = 2.000000e+00 V
```

its	Eq(V)	Eq(n)	Eq(p)	Eq(T)	Eq(Tn)	Eq(Tp)	delta x
0	3.69e-03	4.42e-05	5.79e-05	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00
1	7.67e-11	3.89e-06	3.07e-06	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	4.93e-02
2	7.98e-15	3.44e-07	3.55e-07	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	2.87e-03
3	2.57e-15	3.47e-08	3.52e-08	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	2.87e-04
4	1.97e-15	4.09e-09	2.72e-09	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	2.11e-05
5	1.92e-15	5.06e-10	1.68e-10	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	0.00e+00	1.09e-06

```
CONVERGED_PNORM_RELATIVE
```

```
Write System to XML VTK file pn2d.vtu...
```

```
Write System to CGNS file pn2d.cgns...
```

```
Write Boundary Condition to file bc.inc...
```

```
Genius finished. Total time is 1 min 2.78475 second. Good bye.
```

### Running with Multiple CPUs

We can run Genius with more than one CPUs, using the `-n` option to specify the number of CPUs to utilize.

```
$ genius -n 2 -i pn2d.inp
```

### Registering

If you download the trial version of Genius from the website, the default license file included in the package is valid for one month only. Some advanced features are disabled and at most 2 processors are supported. You need to register your copy with Cogenda in order to continue using Genius. To register, simply type

```
$ genius -r
```

and a registration code will be displayed on screen.

```
*****
To register your copy, email the following registration code:
81e434677a0bb0501aabd85d07b9f621feb19ba6ca5f24ff987e583fa083b48a771796178
ac1d9de40cc53f2980fd12de936febdcadb16e3b66b08e9e0bd314fc511f63cd2264b9ab1
b10635ad3a515ec4f62e101d86206fd7694ae938210d0a406eda6bece9b760f28f916c88d
d83010470068fe55afbcdf8da09c4aed0d9d
```

Please email this registration code to Cogenda or its redistributors. You will be given the license file `lic.dat`. Copy it to

```
/opt/cogenda/genius/license/lic.dat
```

and overwrite the old file. Genius now should work under registered mode, with all options you subscribed turned on.

## Command Line Options

The command line options for Genius are listed below:

### *Name*

```
genius -- Genius 3D parallel simulator
```

### *Synopsis*

```
genius [ -n ncpus ] -i filename
genius -r
```

### *Options*

```
-n ncpus      Number of processors to be used in the simulation
-i filename   Input file to the simulator
-r           Register the copy with Cogenda
```





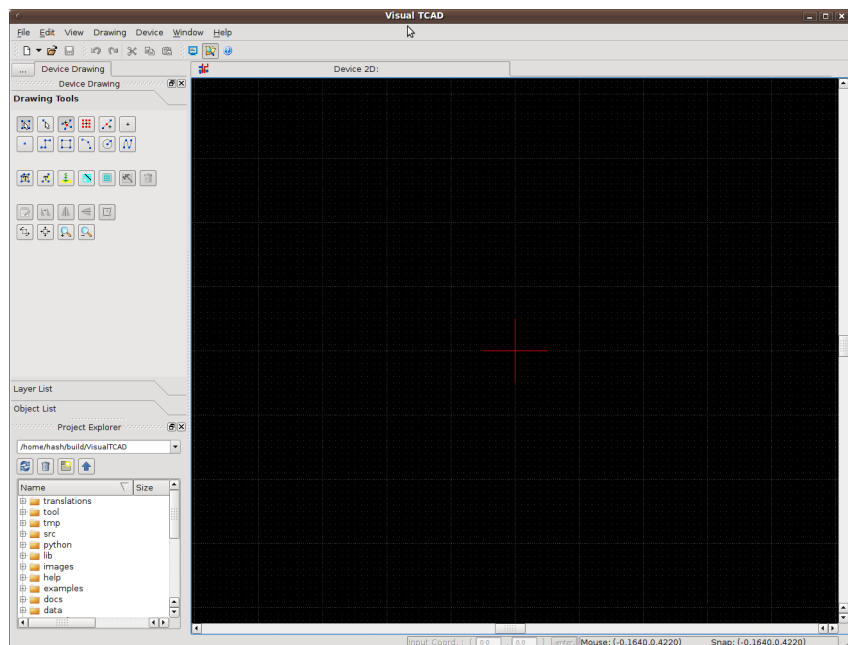
VisualTCAD is the integrated graphical user interface of the Genius device simulation package. This chapter provides a step-by-step tutorial to the VisualTCAD graphical user interface.

## Simulate a PN Junction Diode

Our first attempt is to simulate the forward I-V characteristics of a short-base PN junction diode. The files of this tutorial are located at `VisualTCAD/examples/tutorial/t`

### Building the Diode Structure



The first step is to construct the diode structure. Choose in the menu `File > New Device Drawing`, which will start the 2D device drawing window, as shown in **Figure 2.1, p. 15**.



**Figure 2.1** The 2D Device Drawing Window


## Simple Mouse Operations

The coordinates of the mouse cursor is displayed in the status bar at the right-bottom corner of the main window. The default unit of the coordinates is micron, but this can be changed by the user.

To zoom-in or zoom-out the viewport, one can click the  Zoom-in or  Zoom-out tool button. Alternatively, one could simply scroll the mouse wheel up or down. The zooming will leave the view under the mouse cursor stationary.

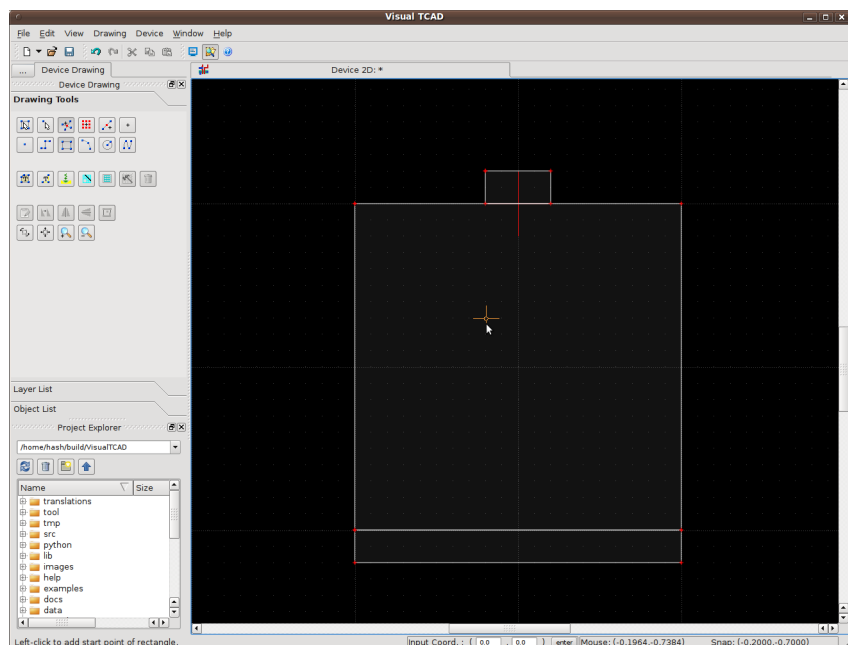
To translate the viewport, one can hold the mid-button (wheel) of the mouse and drag the viewport.

## Drawing Device Outline


We start by drawing a box representing the body of the silicon diode. Choose from the drawing tools  Add Rectangle.

We define the first corner of the rectangle by clicking at the coordinates  $(-1, 0)$ . One may notice that in the Add Rectangle tool, the mouse cursor is snapped to the background grid.<sup>1</sup> Click again at  $(1, -2)$  to define the other corner, and complete the rectangle. This closed rectangle region is slightly shaded.

We then proceed to define the anode and cathode by drawing the two rectangles  $(-0.2, 0.2)-(0.2, 0)$  and  $(-1, -2)-(1, -2.2)$ , respectively. The outline of the device structure is shown in **Figure 2.2, p. 16**.

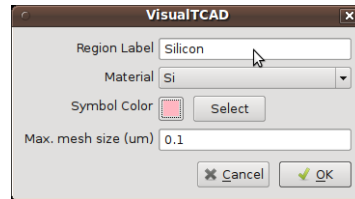


**Figure 2.2** The Outline of the PN Junction Diode

<sup>1</sup> The default snap mode is  Auto-Snap, which is appropriate in most occasions. The snapping modes are described in detail in a separate documentation.

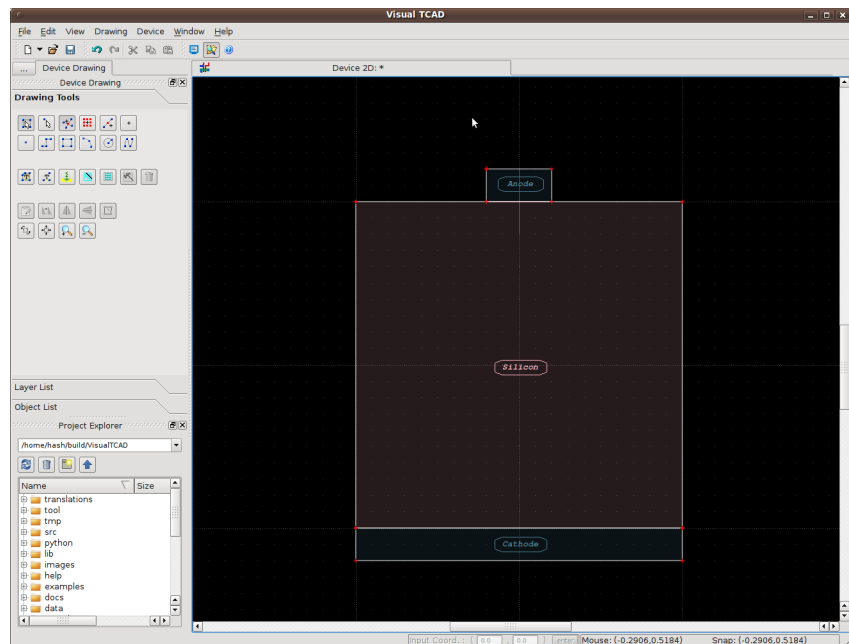
### Assigning Material Regions

Every enclosed region in the drawing must be labelled and assigned a material. To label such a region, one chooses the **Add Region Label** tool, and click within one of the regions. We first click at (0, -1), which prompts a dialog as shown in **Figure 2.3, p. 17**. We key in the label *Silicon*, the maximum mesh size of 0.1 micron in this region, choose the *Si* material from the list, and click OK.



**Figure 2.3** Device Region Label Dialog

One notices that the region is now filled with the pink color representing the silicon material. We similarly assign the *Anode* and *Cathode* regions, both of the *Al* material, and the drawing becomes as in **Figure 2.4, p. 17**.

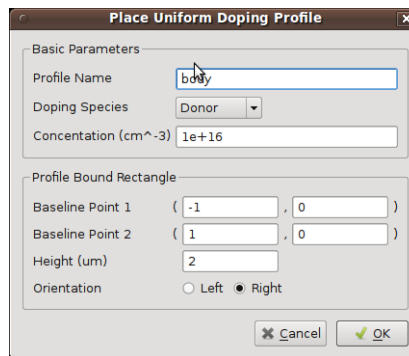


**Figure 2.4** The Regions of the PN Junction Diode

### Placing Doping Profiles

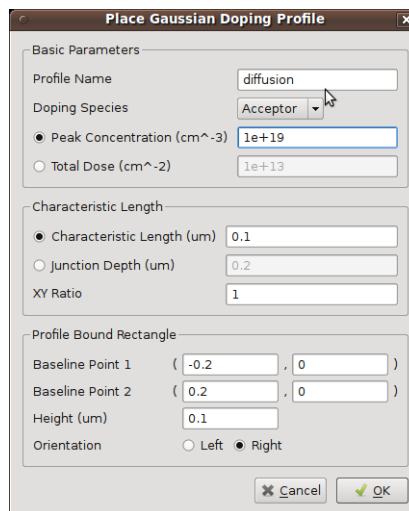
Doping is essential for semiconductor devices to function. To place a doping profile to the device, one chooses the **Add Doping Profile** tool. A doping box consists of a baseline and a height, and the available doping functions include uniform, Gaussian and Erf. We first place the uniform body doping in the entire silicon region.

In the Doping Profile state, we click first at (-2,0) and then at (2,0) to define the baseline, and finally click at (2,-2) to define the height of the doping box. A menu pops up and ask for the doping function, where we choose Uniform Doping Profile in this case. A dialog pops up for us to key in the doping profile parameters, as shown in **Figure 2.5, p. 18**. We shall name the profile *body*, and a n-type doping concentration of  $1 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^3$ .



**Figure 2.5** Uniform Doping Profile Dialog

The p-type diffusion is then defined. We draw another doping box with baseline (-0.2,0)-(0.2,0) and height to (0.2,-0.2). We choose the Gaussian doping function and in the dialog shown in **Figure 2.6, p. 18**, we key in the peak concentration  $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^3$ , and the characteristic length  $0.1 \mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure 2.6** Gaussian Doping Profile Dialog

The final doping profile of the diode is shown in **Figure 2.7, p. 19**. Note the different color representing the n- and p-type doping profiles.

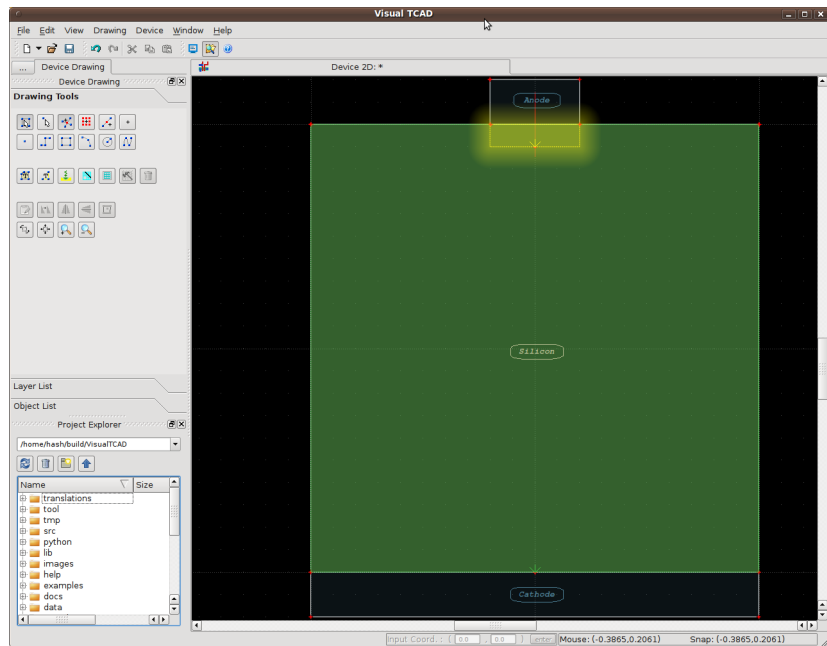



Figure 2.7 The Doping Profiles of the PN Junction Diode

### Meshing

The numerical device simulation always relies on a mesh grid that divides the device into many small elements. Click on the  Do Mesh tool, and accepts the default parameters in the mesh parameter dialog. The initial mesh is shown in **Figure 2.8, p. 19**. One may notice that the PN junction is slightly highlighted with shading.

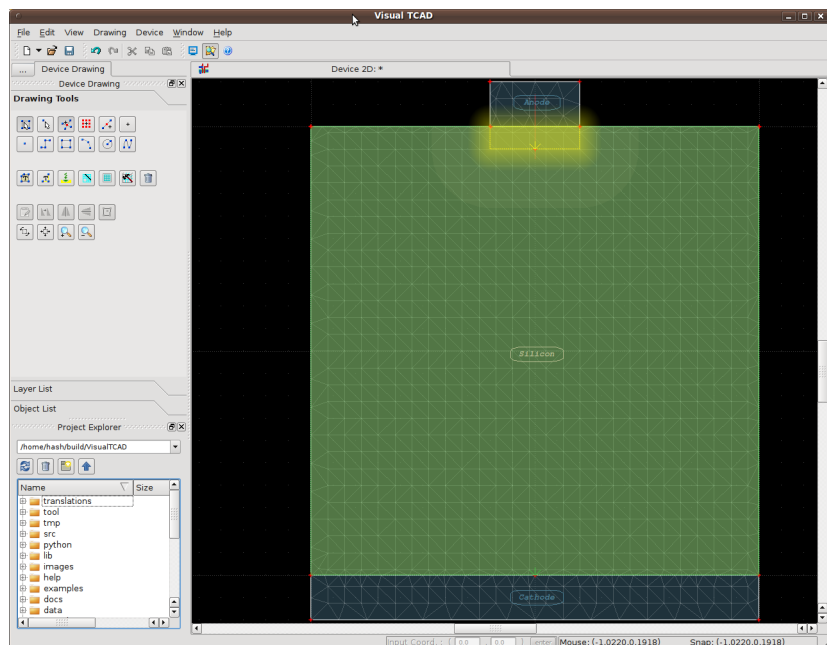
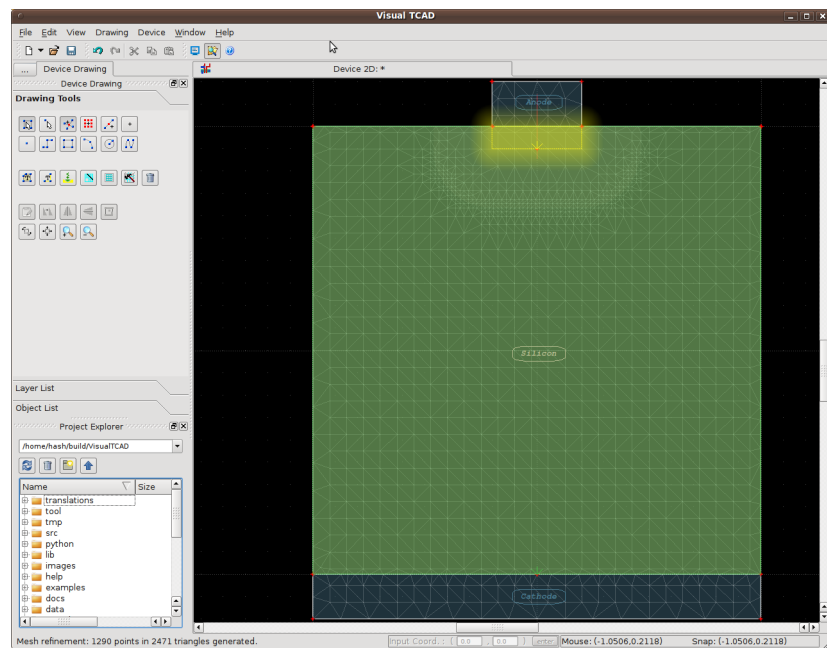


Figure 2.8 The Initial Mesh Grid of the PN Junction Diode

This initial mesh grid is not ideal for device simulation, as the junction region would require finer mesh grids. One may use the **Mesh Refinement** tool to refine the initial mesh. Accepting the default refine parameters, one sees the mesh is refined at the junction region, where the gradient of doping concentration is steep. We do 2 refinements in sequence, and the final mesh is shown in **Figure 2.9, p. 20**.



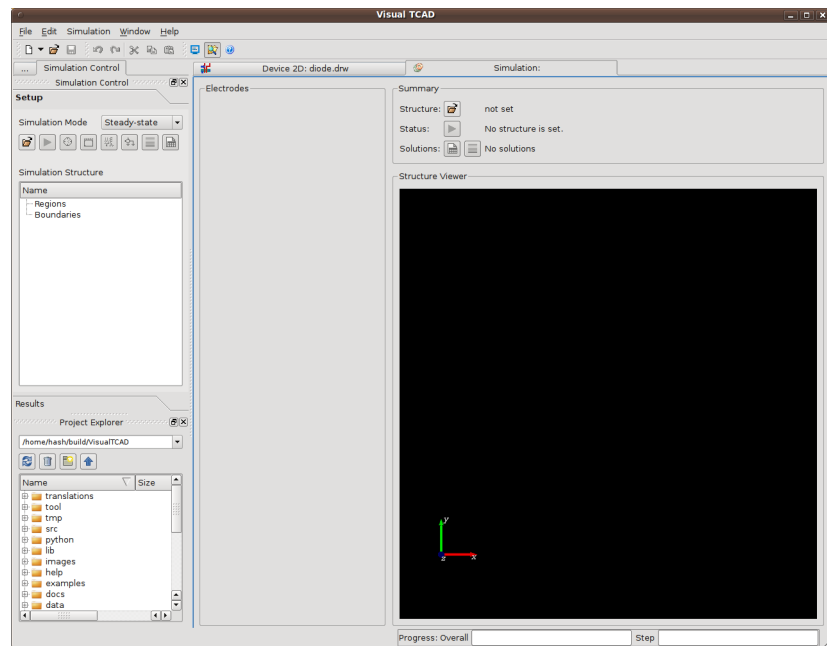
**Figure 2.9** The Final Refined Mesh Grid of the PN Junction Diode

### Saving the Device

We save the drawing with **Save**, and key in the file name `diode.drw`. Additionally, we choose in the menu **Device > Save Mesh to File** to export the mesh grid to `diode.tif`.


## Simulating the I-V Characteristics

We start by creating a new simulation control window by clicking in the menu `File > New Device Simulation`. The empty simulation control window is shown in **Figure 2.10, p. 21**.



**Figure 2.10** The Device Simulation Control Window

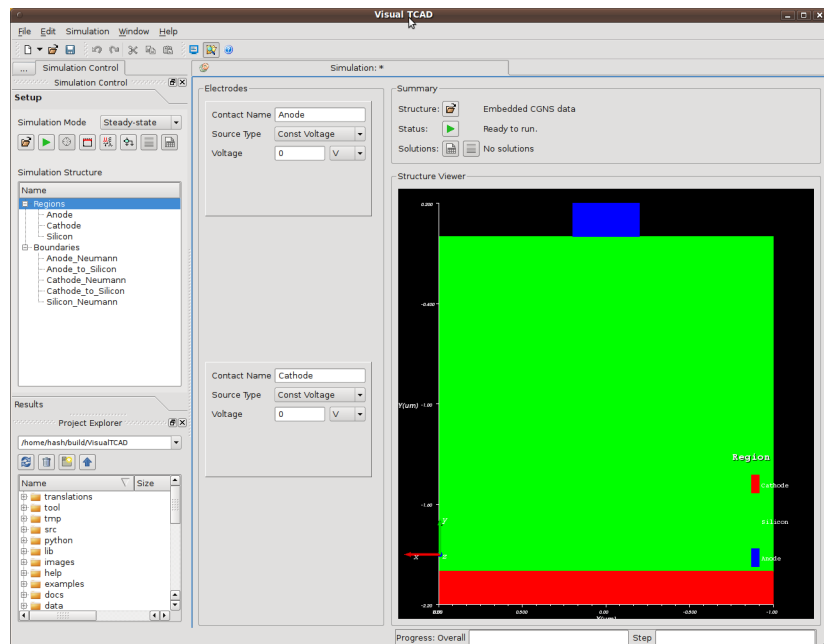
### Loading Device Structure

We first load the diode device structure by clicking  `Load` button in the Summary section of the simulation control window. We select the `diode.tif` file we just created. It takes a few seconds for VisualTCAD and Genius to analyse the tif file. When it finishes, the device structure is visualized in the Structure Viewer, and the automatically identified device electrodes are listed in the Electrodes section. In this case we have the *Anode* and the *Cathode*.

One may notice that in the Simulation Control dock widget, the default Simulation Mode is *Steady-state*, and the other choices are *Transient* and *Circuit-element*. There is also the list of regions and boundaries in the device structure. Clicking on a region or boundary name would highlight the corresponding region or label in the Structure Viewer. The user can setup physical models, boundary conditions and other solver options from the various tools in the dock widget, but the options are too vast to be described here.


### Setting DC Sweep

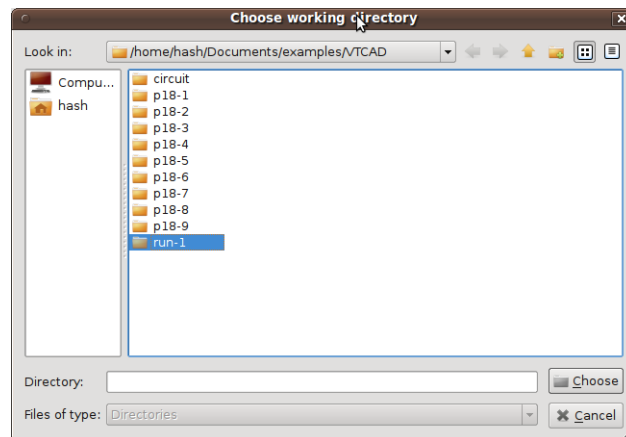
For this simple simulation of the I-V characteristics, it is sufficient to setup the electrical sources attached to the electrodes of the device. While the cathode is grounded, the anode voltage will be swept from 0 to 1 volt. We change the source type of anode to *Voltage Sweep*, and set the start, stop and step voltages to 0, 1, and 0.05 volt, respectively.



**Figure 2.11** The Structure and Electrodes of the Simulated Device


### Starting Simulation Job

We save the simulation setup to the file `diode.sim`. To start the simulation job, click the  Run and choose a working directory in the dialog shown in [Figure 2.12, p. 22](#). We create a new directory called `run1`, and all the simulation results will be kept in this directory.



**Figure 2.12** Choosing a Working Directory for the Simulation Run

### Monitoring Progress

As the simulation proceeds, the progress is updated in the status bar, at the right-bottom corner of the window, as shown in [Figure 2.13, p. 23](#). In addition, simulation solutions are listed in the Results pane in the dock widget. For advanced users, the running log message is available in the process monitor, which is activated by clicking  Console in the toolbar.



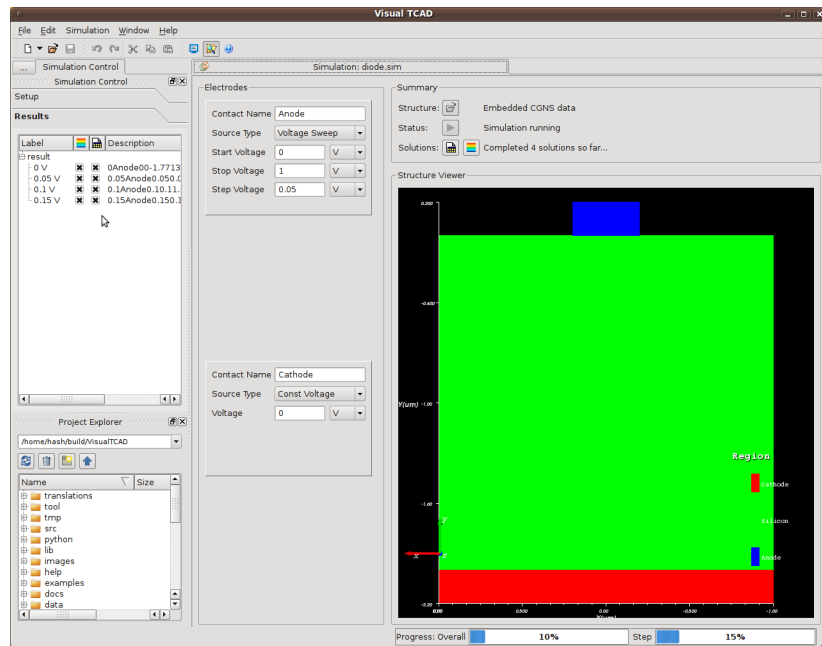

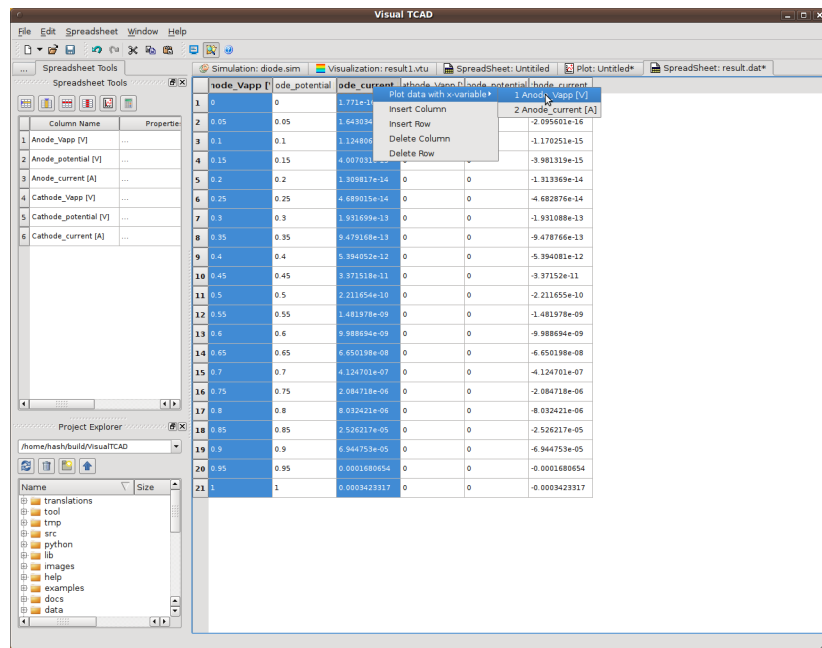


Figure 2.13 The Device Simulation in Progress

## Examining the I-V Characteristics

### Opening the Spreadsheet

After the simulation completes, we wish to plot the I-V characteristics of this forward-biased PN junction diode. We can click the  Show IV Data button to open the spreadsheet containing the terminal information of the solutions. The spreadsheet is shown in **Figure 2.14, p. 24**.



**Figure 2.14** Spreadsheet of the Simulated Terminal Characteristics

### Plotting the I-V Curve

We first select the columns *Anode\_Vapp* and *Anode\_current*. As in most GUI applications, one can select multiple columns by clicking on the column header and holding the Control key. When the two columns are selected, right-click to activate the context menu, and choose to plot the data using as the *Anode\_Vapp* x-variable, as shown in **Figure 2.14, p. 24**. The plot appears in a new plot window, as shown in **Figure 2.15, p. 25**.

### Setting Plot Options

To change the axes settings, click **Edit Axes** in the dock widget. In the axes property dialog shown in **Figure 2.16, p. 25**, select the *Left y-axis* and key in the title, scale and range of the axis.

To change the curve plotting settings, select the curve name from the list in the dock widget, and click **Edit Legend**. In the dialog window shown in **Figure 2.17, p. 25**, set the line and symbol options.

The final plot is shown in **Figure 2.18, p. 26**.

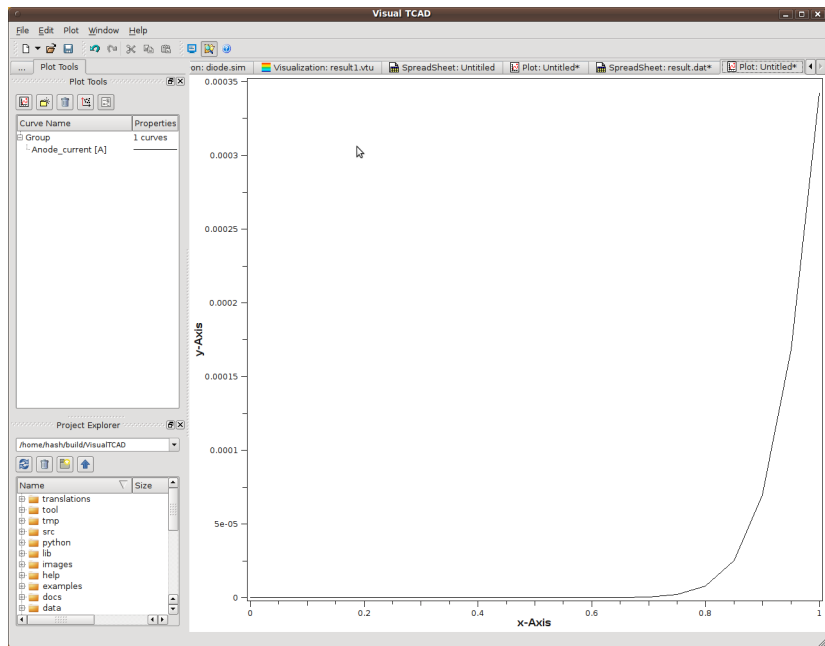


Figure 2.15 Diode I-V Characteristics in Linear Scale

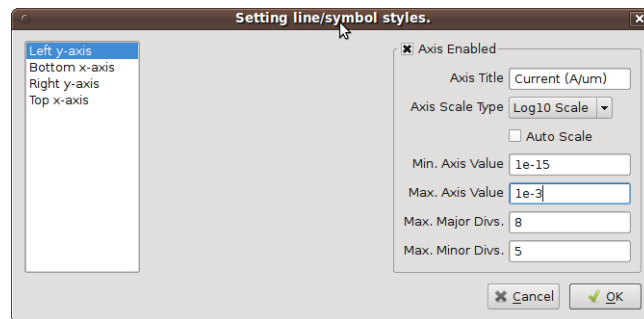


Figure 2.16 Axis Property Dialog

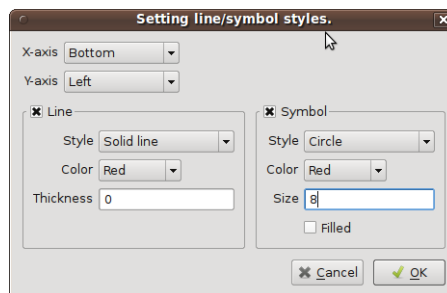


Figure 2.17 Plot Style Dialog

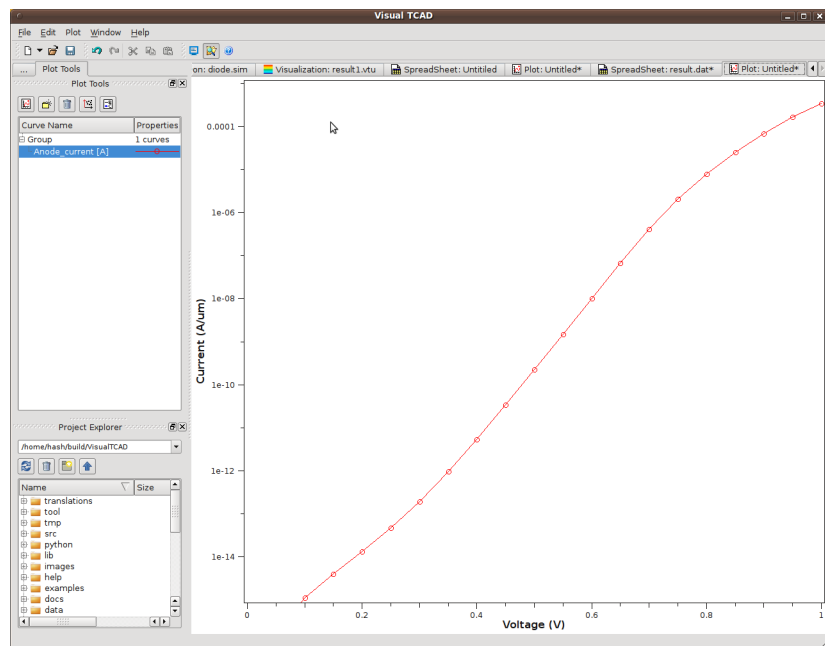
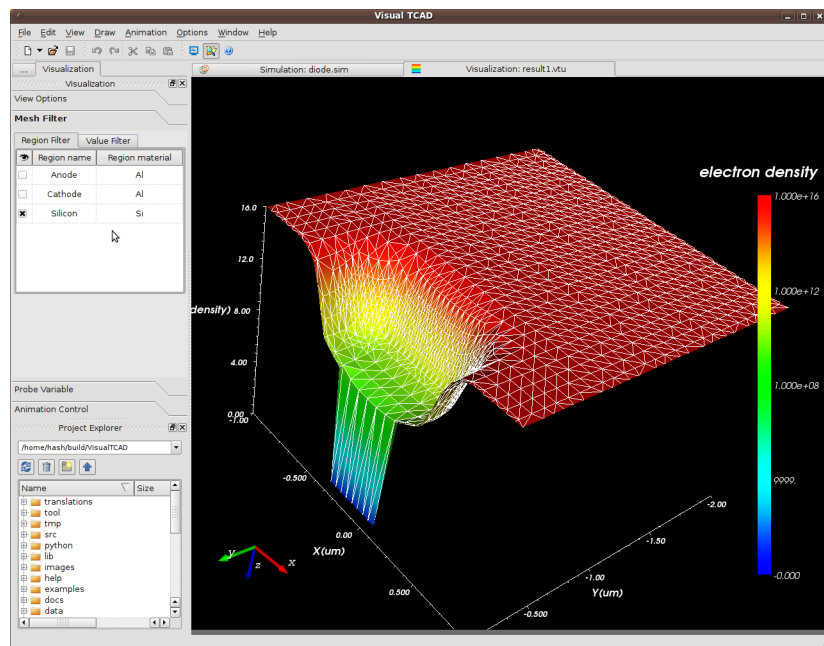


Figure 2.18 Diode I-V Characteristics in Log Scale

## Visualizing the Solutions

We switch back to the Simulation Control window, and in the Result list, we select all solutions. Right-click and in the context menu click **Open Visualization**. A new visualization window is opened.

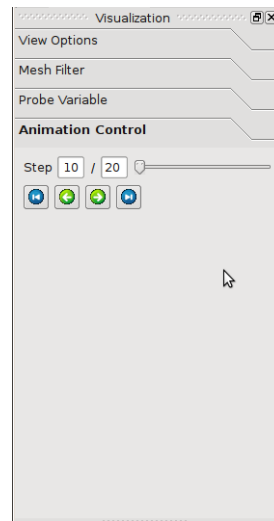
Suppose we want to plot the electron concentration profile in the device, choose in the menu **Draw** **Draw Pseudo Color** **Electron density**. In the visualization window, one can hold the left mouse button and drag in the visualization window. Scrolling the mouse wheel would zoom-in or -out the view, and dragging with the middle button (wheel button) would pan the view. As shown in **Figure 2.19, p. 27**, the electron concentration is represented by the color scale. Check in the menu **Options** **Signed Log Scale** to enable the log scale for the z axis.



**Figure 2.19** Electron Concentration in the Silicon Region of the Diode

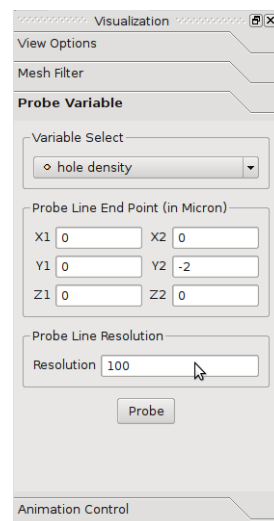
**Filter** One can filter the areas to be included or excluded in the visualization, in the Mesh Filter section in the dock widget. We choose to filter by region names, as shown in **Figure 2.19, p. 27**.

**Animation** We have included all the solutions in the visualization, each solution at a different anode voltage. The electron profile is different for each solution. In the Animation Control section of the dock widget, we can step through the solutions by clicking the **Next** and **Previous** buttons.



**Figure 2.20** Animation Control

**Probe** We can probe the hole concentration along the straight line (0,0)-(0,-2) in the Probe section in the dock widget, as shown in **Figure 2.21, p. 28**. After clicking the Probe button, a spreadsheet containing the interpolated values of hole concentration is opened. We can then plot the hole concentration along the cut-line, as shown in **Figure 2.22, p. 29**.



**Figure 2.21** Probe Control

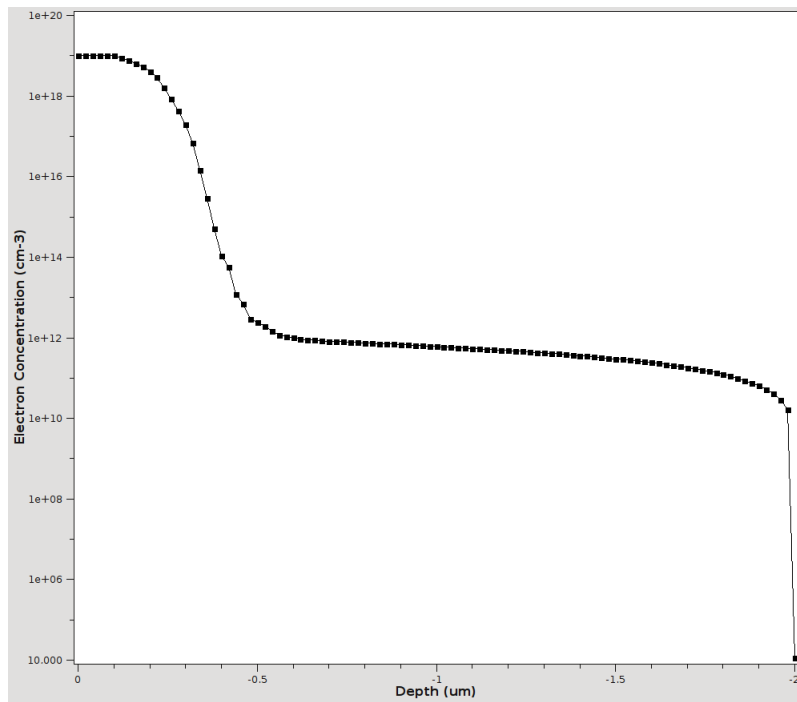


Figure 2.22 Hole Concentration Along the Probe Line

## Summary

In the preceding sections, we went through the steps of simulating the I-V characteristics of a PN junction diode. This illustrates the basic flow of device simulation in VisualTCAD.

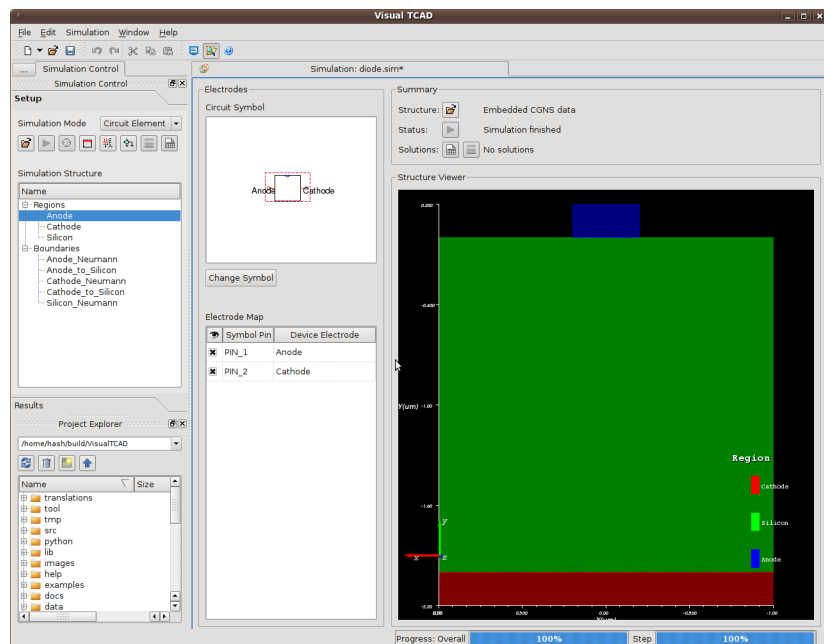


## Simulate a Diode Rectifier Circuit

We can combine the semiconductor device simulation with SPICE circuit simulation. This section shows the steps to demonstrate the rectifying effect of the PN diode. The files of this tutorial are located at `VisualTCAD/examples/tutorial/tut2`.

### Assigning Circuit Symbol

We open the simulation file `diode.sim` again, and change the Simulation Mode to *Circuit-element*. Since this is a two-terminal device, the default circuit symbol with two pins is displayed, as shown in **Figure 2.23, p. 31**.



**Figure 2.23** Default Symbol for the Two-Terminal Device

We want a more suitable symbol for the diode, so we click `Change Symbol`, and in the dialog (**Figure 2.24, p. 32**), we choose the diode symbol.

Then we must map the two device electrodes to the two pins in the circuit symbol, as shown in **Figure 2.25, p. 32**. We save to another file named `diode-circuit.sim`.

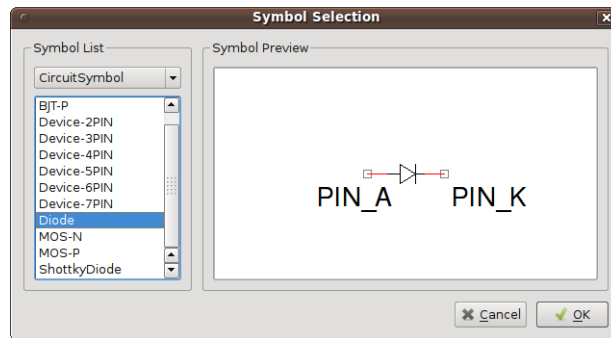


Figure 2.24 Dialog for Selecting Circuit Symbol

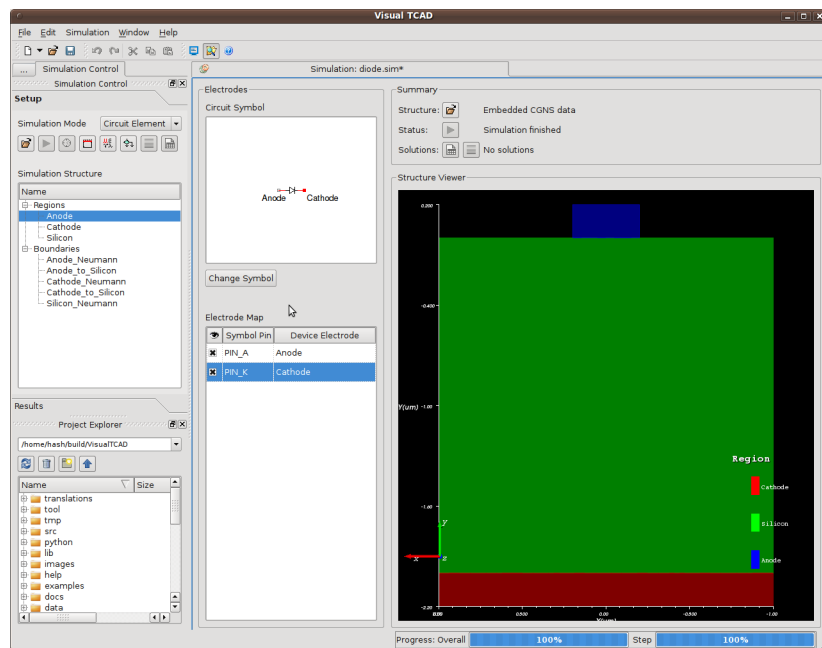
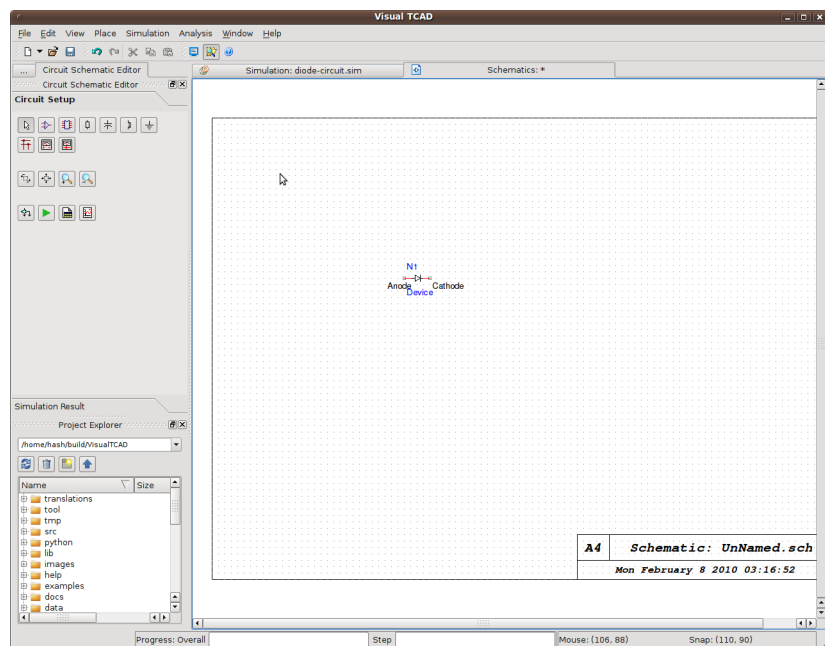


Figure 2.25 Circuit Symbol for the Diode

## Drawing Circuit Schematic

We proceed to draw the circuit schematic. Click in the menu `File > New Circuit Schematic` to open a new schematic capturing window. We first place the numerical device component by clicking `Numerical Device` in the dock widget. Select `diode-circuit.sim` in the dialog. The diode symbol appears at the mouse cursor and can be placed to the schematic with a click.



**Figure 2.26** Placing the Semiconductor Diode Device Model in the circuit

The other symbol components can be placed using `Component` tool, the dialog for selecting components is shown in [Figure 2.27, p. 34](#). For common components like resistors and capacitors, one can alternatively use the shortcut buttons in the dock widget.

Finally one use the `Wire` tool to connect the components together. The completed circuit schematic is shown in [Figure 2.28, p. 34](#).

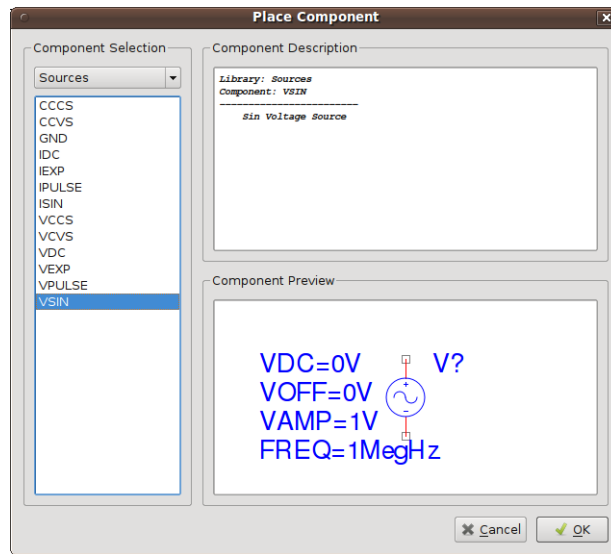


Figure 2.27 Dialog for Selecting Components

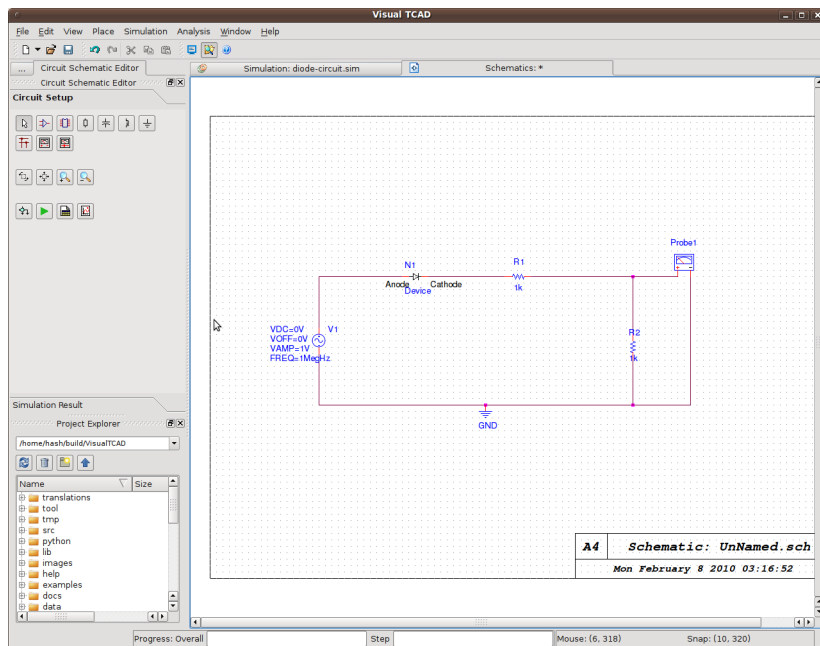

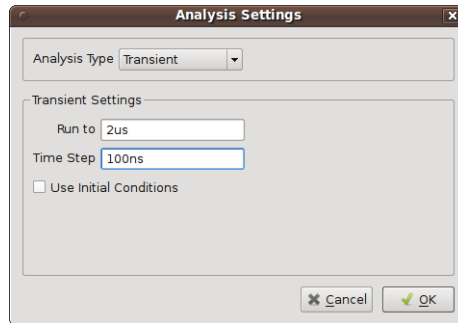



Figure 2.28 The Completed Rectifier Circuit Schematic

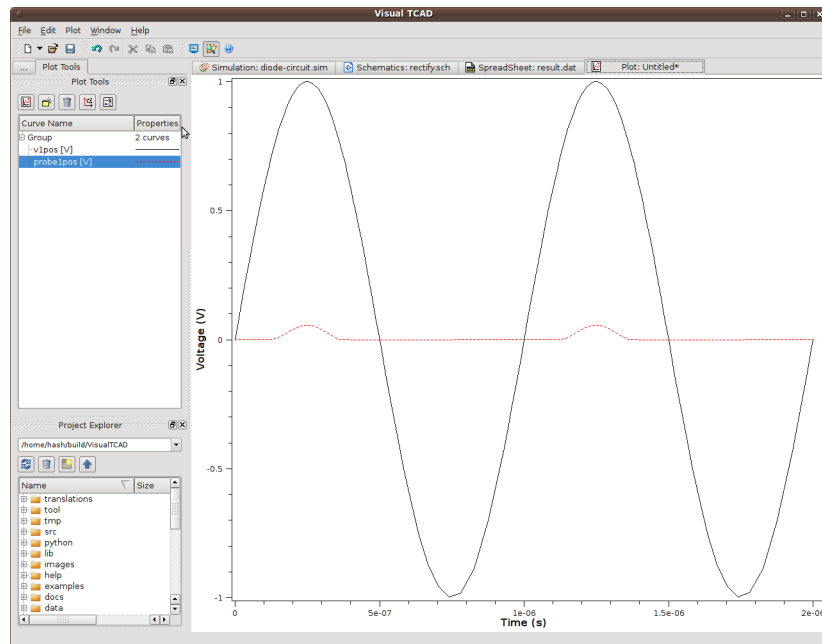
## Simulating the Circuit

We want to do transient mode simulation, so we setup the timing with the  Setup Simulation tool, as shown in **Figure 2.29, p. 35**.



**Figure 2.29** Dialog for Setting Up Transient Analysis

We click the  Run Simulation tool to start the simulation. The monitoring and analysis procedure is similar to that in the previous example. In the result spreadsheet, we plot the columns *probe1pos* and *v1pos*, using *time* as the x-variable. The waveform plot is shown in the **Figure 2.30, p. 35**.



**Figure 2.30** The Voltage of the Sine Source and the Voltage Probe, as Functions of Time



## Summary

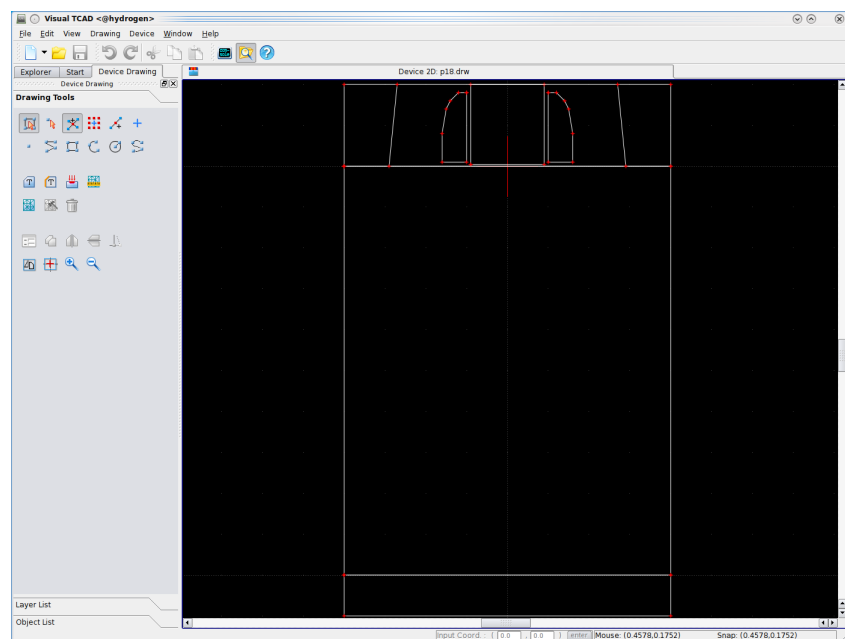
In this section, we outlined the procedure of simulating devices in circuit. This integrated approach allows one to combine the accuracy of device simulation with the power of SPICE circuit simulation.

## A 0.18um MOSFET

The files of this example are located at VisualTCAD/examples/MOSFET.

### Building MOSFET Device Structure

As in the previous diode example, we shall start with drawing the device structure of the MOSFET transistor. We first draw the outline of the device with the  Add Rectangle and the  Add Polyline tools, as shown in **Figure 2.31, p. 37**.



**Figure 2.31** Outline of a MOSFET transistor.

#### Polyline Tool

To draw a polyline or polygon, one can use the polyline tool. Single-click to add a point to the line, double-click to add the last point of the line. If the first point and the last point coincide, a polygon is formed. To cancel the unfinished polyline, click the right mouse button.

#### Exact Coordinates Input




In some cases, it is desirable to enter the exact coordinates of the points of a line. For example, the thickness of the gate oxide of this MOSFET is 4nm, making it difficult to locate the corners of the gate electrode using a mouse. Therefore, we draw the electrode by keying in the exact coordinates.

We first enter the polyline tool. In the status bar, a coordinates input area appears, as shown in **Figure 2.32, p. 38**. After one enters the x- and y-coordinates in the blanks, and click the enter button, a point is added to the polyline. One can similarly use this function in other drawing tools.



**Figure 2.32** Exact coordinates input area.

### Clone and Mirror

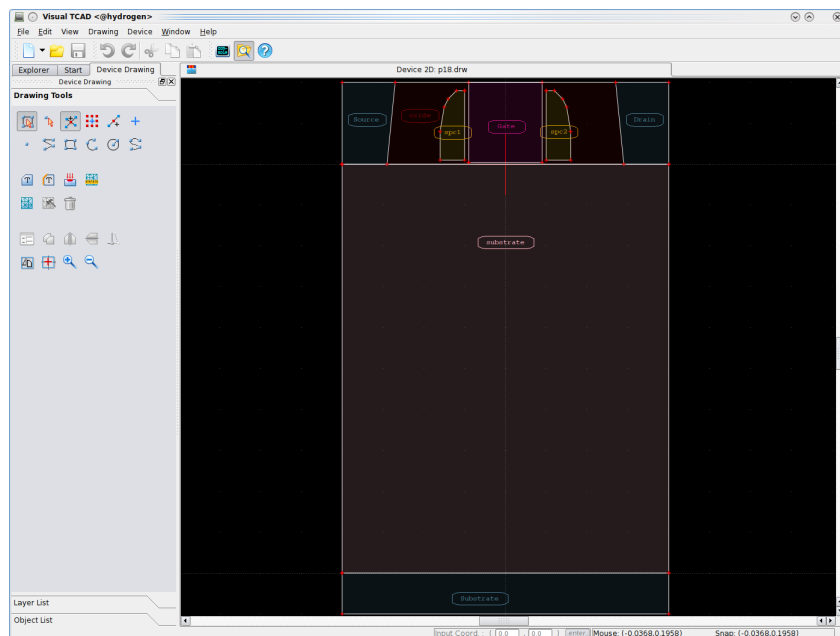
Some times one desire to make a copy of an object, or make a mirror image of an object. For example, the side-wall spacers around the gate of the MOSFET transistor are symmetrical, so one hope to draw one of them and make the other by mirroring. The ,  MirrorX and  MirrorY tools can help you on these tasks.

### Labelling Material Regions

One then label each region, assign a name and a material to it. Optionally, one can set a mesh-size constraint to each region. The regions are shown in **Figure 2.33**, **p. 38**, and the parameters for the regions are listed in **Table 2.1**, **p. 38**.

Region	Material	Mesh Size / $\mu\text{m}$
substrate	Silicon	0.05
Source	Al	0.04
Drain	Al	0.04
Gate	NPolySi	0.1
Substrate	Al	0.05
spc1	Nitride	0.1
spc2	Nitride	0.1

**Table 2.1** Regions of the MOSFET transistor.



**Figure 2.33** Regions of the MOSFET transistor.

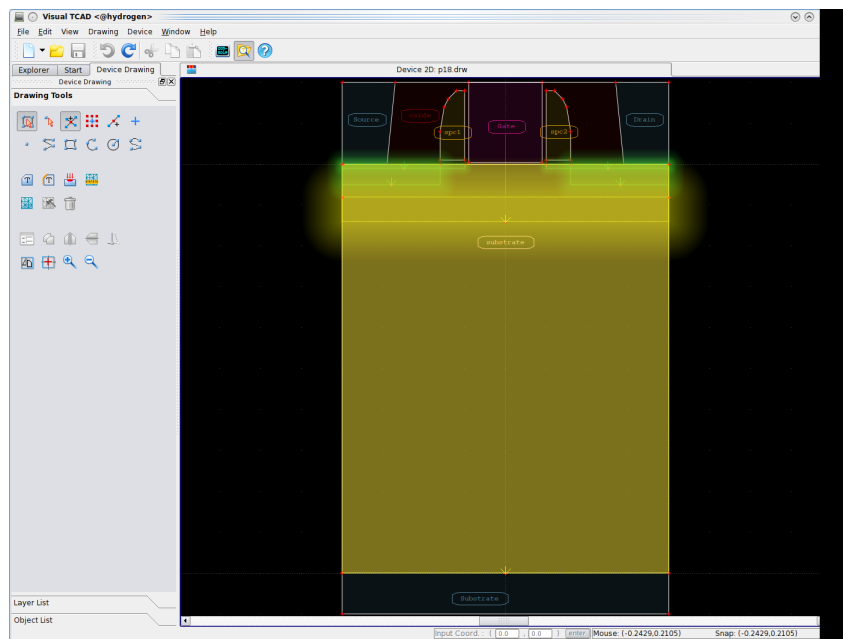


### Doping Profiles

One then define the doping profiles in the MOSFET. The position of the doping boxes are shown in **Figure 2.34, p. 39** and the doping profile parameters shown in **Table 2.2, p. 39**.

Name	Profile	Type	Peak Conc. / $\text{cm}^{-3}$	Char. L / $\mu\text{m}$
Substrate	uniform	Acceptor	$5 \times 10^{16}$	-
Channel	gaussian	Acceptor	$1 \times 10^{18}$	0.1
LDD_S/LDD_D	gaussian	Donor	$2 \times 10^{19}$	0.02
Source/Drain	gaussian	Donor	$1 \times 10^{20}$	0.04

**Table 2.2** Doping Profiles Parameters.



**Figure 2.34** Doping Profiles of the MOSFET transistor.

### Mesh Grid

To make sure the mesh in the MOSFET channel region is fine enough, we use the **Mesh size constrain** tool to apply two constraints, shown in cyan color in **Figure 2.35, p. 40**. After two refinements, the final mesh is generated. We save the mesh to a **.tif** file for further simulations.

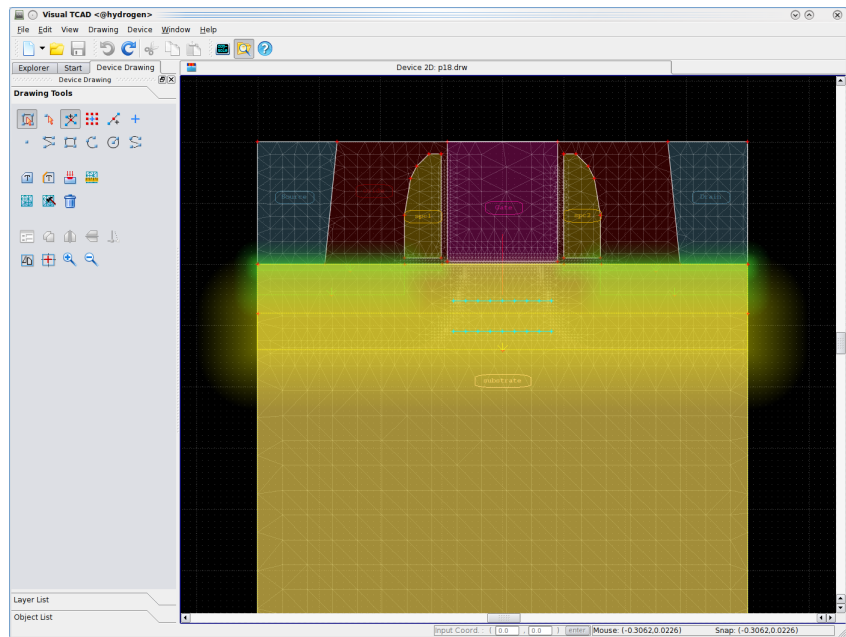
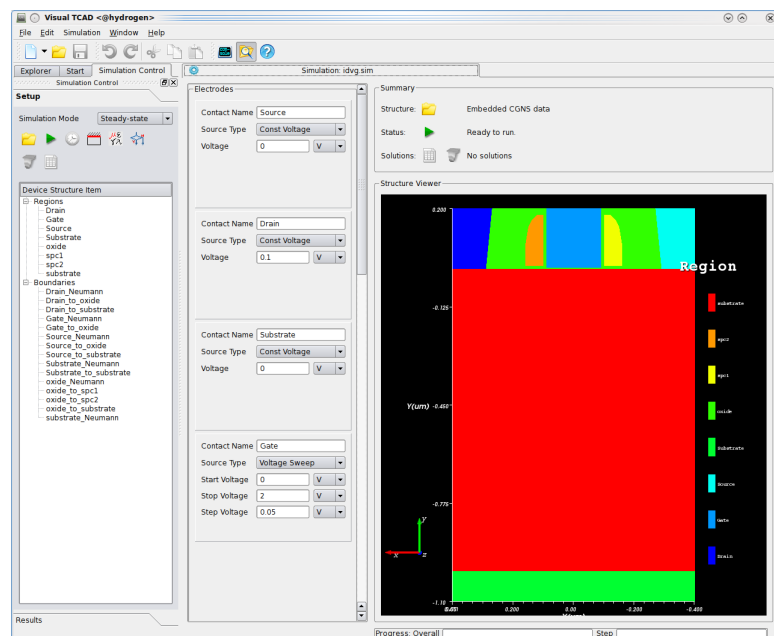


Figure 2.35 Final mesh grid of the MOSFET transistor.

## Simulating I-V Curves

As in the previous diode simulation, we create a device simulation and load the .tif file containing the mesh grid of the MOSFET. As shown in **Figure 2.36, p. 41**, we are in the steady-state simulation mode, the source and substrate terminals are grounded. The drain terminal is connected to a constant voltage source of 0.1 V. We shall sweep the gate terminal from 0 to 2 V to obtain the transfer characteristics of the MOSFET.




**Figure 2.36** Simulation setup for calculating the Id-Vg curve of the MOSFET.

We submit the simulation for running, and shall observe that the drain voltage is first ramped up from 0 to 0.1 V, before the actual gate voltage scan begins. This drain ramp-up is necessary to ensure the convergence of the simulation.

After running the simulation, we obtain the spreadsheet containing the terminal voltage/current information in the sweep. We plot the drain current against the gate voltage, and obtain the Id-Vg curve shown in **Figure 2.37, p. 42**.

One can also visualize the electron concentration in the device, as shown in **Figure 2.38, p. 42**.

It might be interesting to click the  Play tool-button to play the animation, and watch the change of electron density as gate voltage increases.

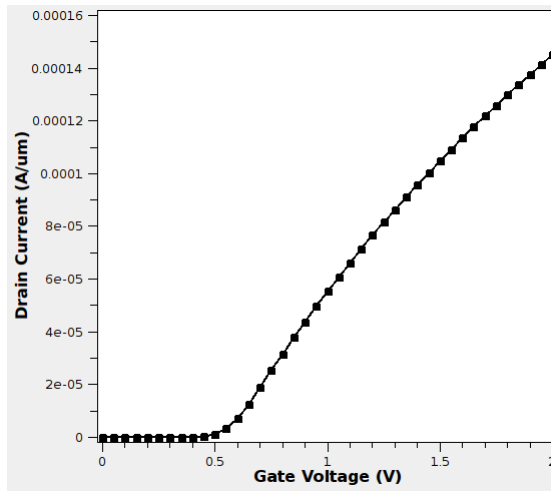


Figure 2.37 Simulated Id-Vg curve of the MOSFET.

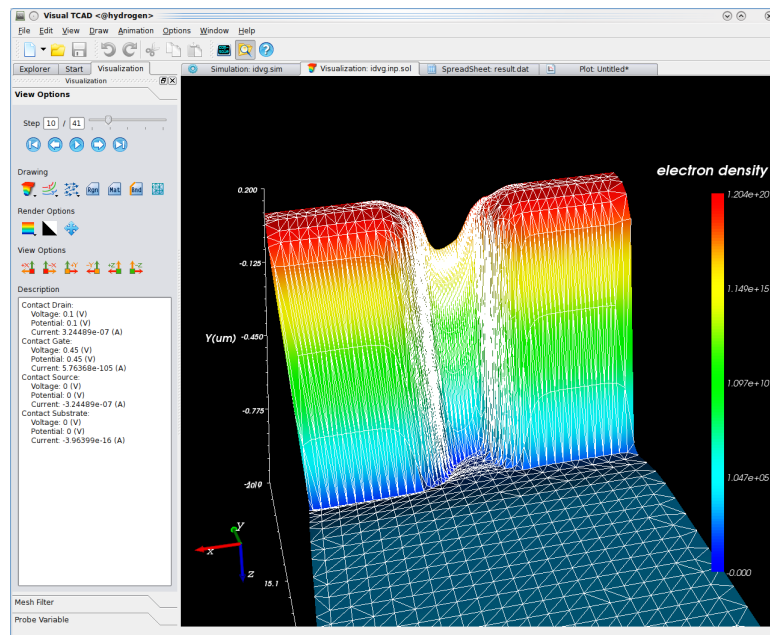

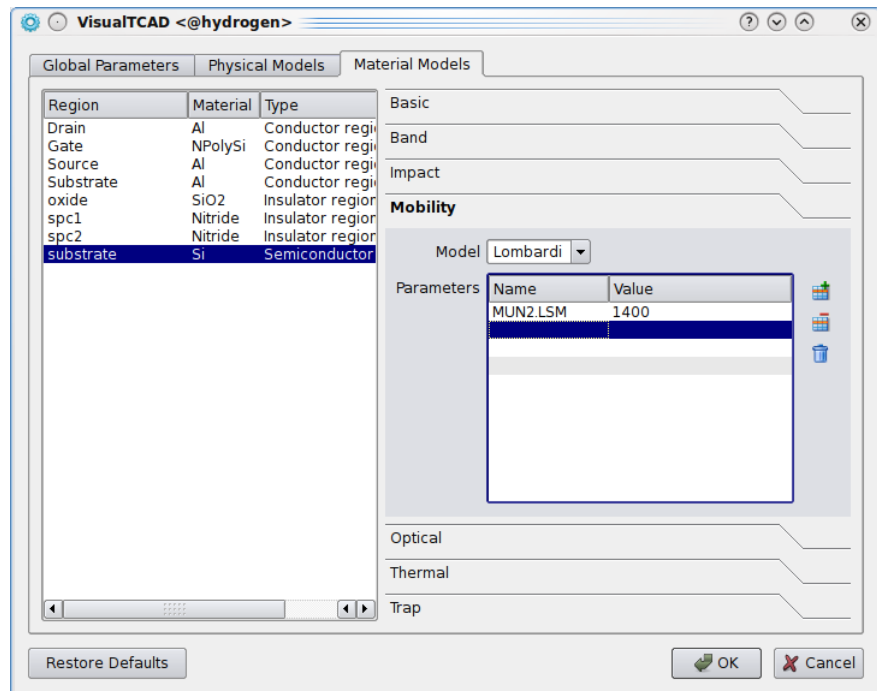


Figure 2.38 Electron concentration at Vg=0.45V.

## Setting Mobility Model Parameters

So far we have always been using the default physical models and material parameters. In practice, we often need to modify these parameters to model certain aspects of the real device more accurately. VisualTCAD allows you to modify models and parameters in material regions and at boundaries.

For example, suppose we want to use the Lombardi mobility model, which describes the carrier mobility in the inversion layer more accurately. We click the  Physical Model tool button, and in the material models tab of the physical model dialog (**Figure 2.39, p. 43**), we select the substrate region. Since this is a semiconductor region, we can choose the mobility model of it. We select the Lombardi mobility model. From the user manual, we found the list of parameters for the Lombardi model, which is reproduced here in **Table 2.3, p. 43**. We want to slightly reduce the electron mobility, and set the MUN2.LSM parameter to 1400.



**Figure 2.39** Setting mobility model and parameters.

Symbol	Parameter	Unit	Si:n	Si:p
$\alpha$	EXN1.LSM / EXP1.LSM	-	0.680	0.719
$\beta$	EXN2.LSM / EXP2.LSM	-	2.0	2.0
$\zeta$	EXN3.LSM / EXP3.LSM	-	2.5	2.2

**Table 2.3** Parameters of Lombardi mobility model

Symbol	Parameter	Unit	Si:n	Si:p
$\lambda$	EXN4.LSM / EXP4.LSM	-	0.125	0.0317
$\gamma$	EXN8.LSM / EXP8.LSM	-	2.0	2.0
$\mu_0$	MUN0.LSM / MUPO.LSM	$\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$	52.2	44.9
$\mu_1$	MUN1.LSM / MUP1.LSM	$\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$	43.4	29.0
$\mu_2$	MUN2.LSM / MUP2.LSM	$\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$	1417.0	470.5
$P_c$	PC.LSM	$\text{cm}^{-3}$	0 (fixed)	$9.23 \times 10^{16}$
$C_r$	CRN.LSM / CRP.LSM	$\text{cm}^{-3}$	$9.68 \times 10^{16}$	$2.23 \times 10^{17}$
$C_s$	CSN.LSM / CSP.LSM	$\text{cm}^{-3}$	$3.43 \times 10^{20}$	$6.10 \times 10^{20}$
$B$	BN.LSM / BP.LSM	cm/s	$4.75 \times 10^7$	$9.93 \times 10^6$
$C$	CN.LSM / CP.LSM	-	$1.74 \times 10^5$	$8.84 \times 10^5$
$D$	DN.LSM / DP.LSM	-	$5.82 \times 10^{14}$	$2.05 \times 10^{14}$
$v_{\text{sat0}}$	VSATNO / VSATPO	cm/s	2.47	2.47
$\beta$	BETAN / BETAP	-	2.0	1.0
$\alpha$	VSATN.A / VSATP.A	-	0.8	0.8

**Table 2.4** Parameters of Lombardi mobility model

We can now run the simulation again, and observe the change to the Id-Vg curve, as a result of the change in the mobility model.

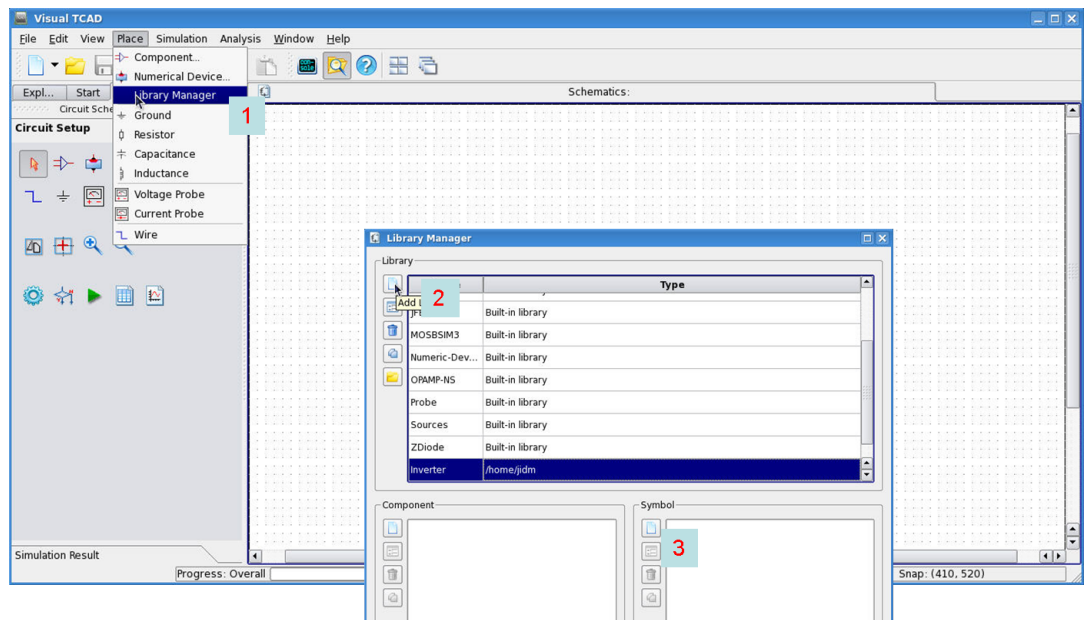
## Mix-Mode Simulation of Inverter IO Circuit

As in the previous cmos simulation, we can create a device structure of inverter and do Mix-Mode simulation. So we need draw a structure of inverter, the detail step refer to mosfet structure building(“**Building MOSFET Device Structure**”, p. 37), here we omit the drawing structure step. About this example we need draw a inverter symbol, then use VisuaTCAD to do Mix-Mode simulation.

We can combine the semiconductor device simulation with SPICE circuit simulation. This section shows the steps to demonstrate the output characteristic of Inverter. The files of this tutorial are located at VisualTCAD/examples/Inverter.

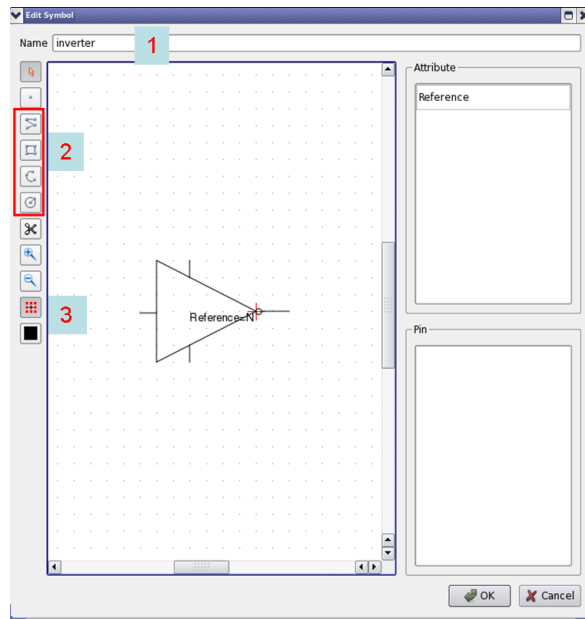
### Creating Symbol and Mapping Device Electrode

The first step is to draw the symbol of Inverter. Choose in the menu **File** > **New Circuit Schematic**, then choose in the menu **Place** > **Library Manager** which will start the Library drawing window, as shown in **Figure 2.40, p. 45**. Click the child window **Add Library**, input the Library name inverter, and last click to add symbol.



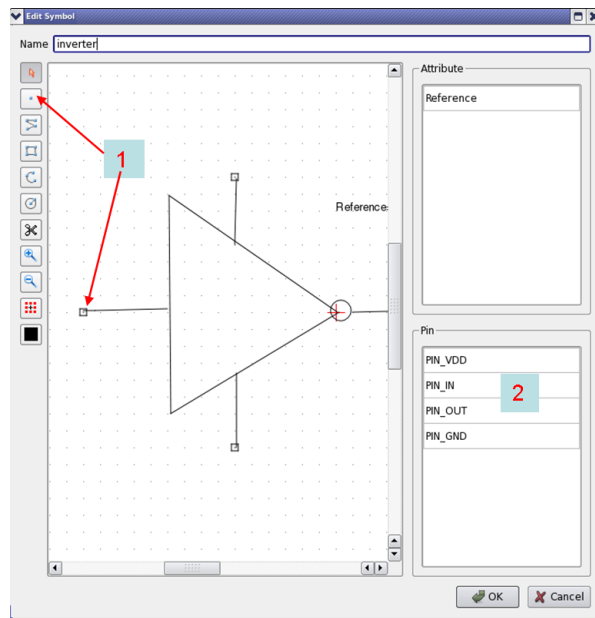
**Figure 2.40** draw new symbol

Now we can obtain the child window of drawing symbol, as shown in **Figure 2.41, p. 46**. First input the symbol name, then add the line or circles, in the process user can using Enable/disabled grid snapping mode as needed.



**Figure 2.41** inverter symbol

When we finish the symbol drawing, we need add the pin of the symbol to connect with other device of the circuit, here we need 4 pins, named PIN\_VDD, PIN\_GND, PIN\_IN, PIN\_OUT, the pin name is must begin with PIN\_. the drawing process and is shown in **Figure 2.42, p. 46**.

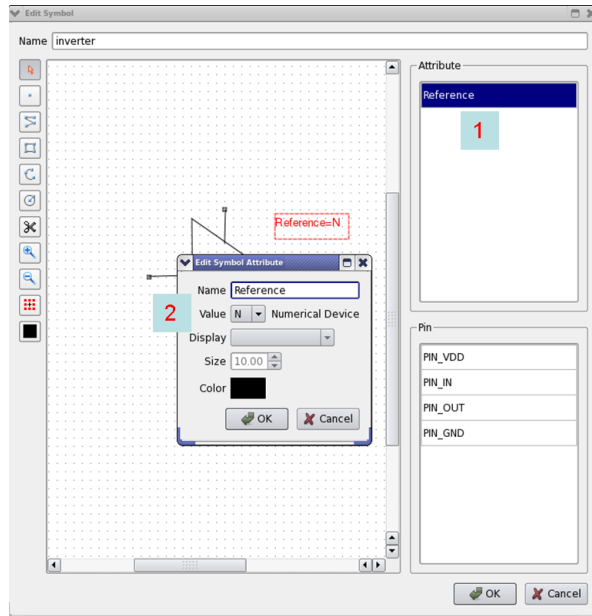


**Figure 2.42** pin property

Last step for drawing the symbol is define the reference attribute. About the inverter device here we choose the value N, and it stands for Numerical Device.

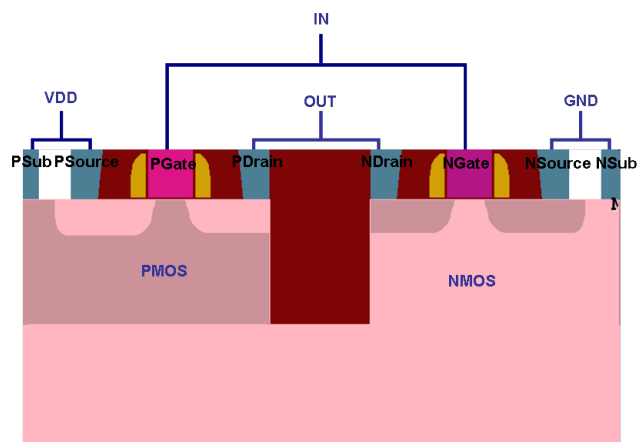


Which can use in Mix-Mode simulation. The child window is shown in **Figure 2.43, p. 47.**



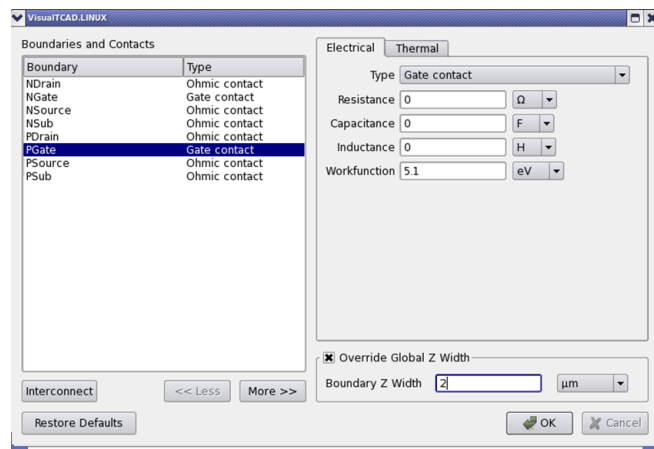
**Figure 2.43** editing symbol attribute

Our 2D inverter structure is shown in **Figure 2.44, p. 47.** Here total have 8 electrodes, we need connect each 2 electrodes like **Figure 2.44, p. 47,** finally we have 4 electrodes as our symbol of inverter.



**Figure 2.44** 2D inverter structure

before the interconnect, we need do boudary setting like **Figure 2.45, p. 48**



1. Edit Workfunction

Boundary	workfunction
Ngate	4.1
Pgate	5.1

2. Edit Z Width

Boundary	Z Width
NDrain	1
NGate	1
NSource	1
NSub	1
PDrain	2
PGate	2
PSource	2
PSub	2

Figure 2.45 boundary parameter setting

About Numerical simulation, as shown in **Figure 2.46, p. 48**. We use interconnect command to connect each 2 electrodes, such as connecting PSub to PSource, connecting PGate to NGate, connecting PDrain to NDrain and connecting NSub to NSource. It is shown in **Figure 2.47, p. 49**. At the same time we need define the new electrode as VDD, IN, OUT and GND. it is shown in **Figure 2.48, p. 49**. The new electrode OUT ia attached to current source so choosing Interconnect Floating setting is true, as shown in **Figure 2.49, p. 50**.

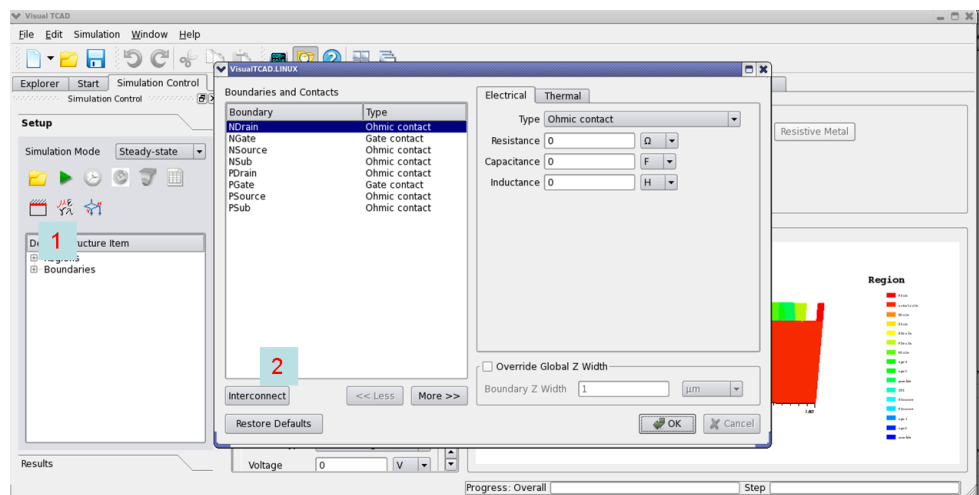


Figure 2.46 boundary Condition and Interconnect

When we finish the boudary setting and interconnect setting, we need change the Simulation Mode to Circuit Element, Since this is a four-terminal device, the default circuit symbol with four pins is displayed, as shown in **Figure 2.50, p. 50**. We want a more suitable symbol for the inverter, so we click Change Symbol, we change the symbol to we have edited before, as shown in **Figure 2.51, p. 51**.

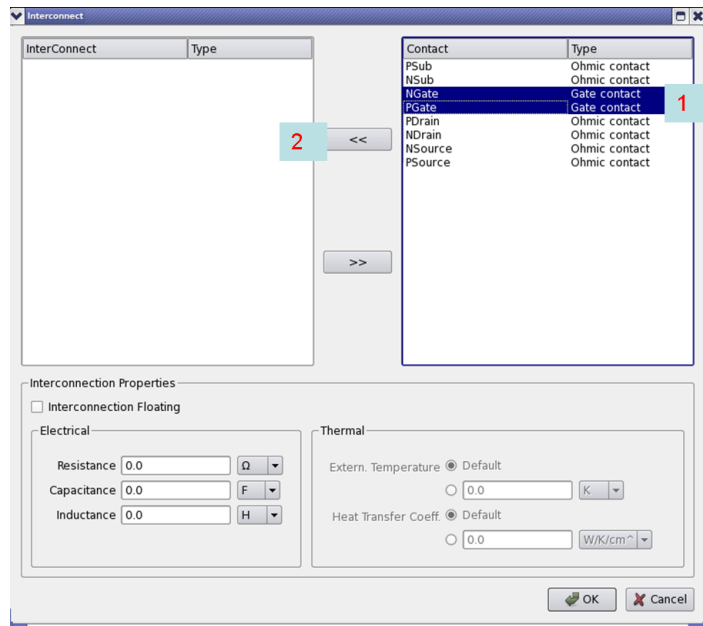


Figure 2.47 choose the contact to interconnect

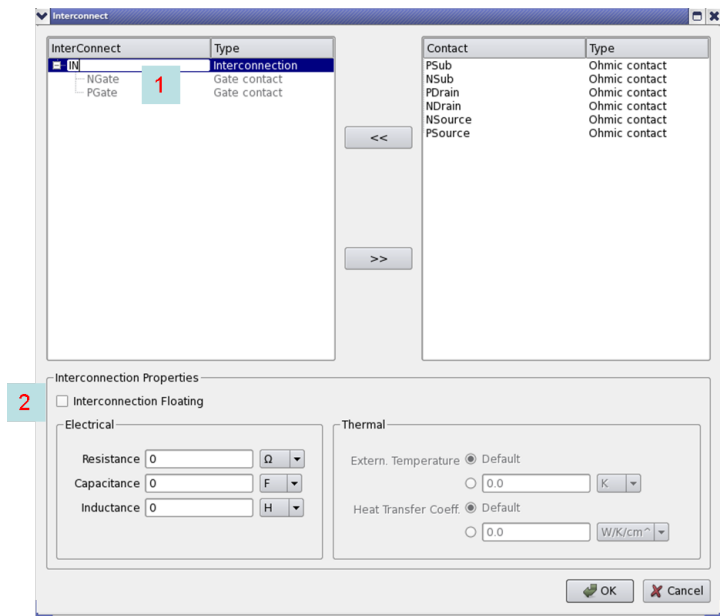


Figure 2.48 define new contact

Then we must map the four device electrodes to the four pins in the circuit symbol, as shown in [Figure 2.52, p. 51](#). We save to the file named `inverter.sim`.

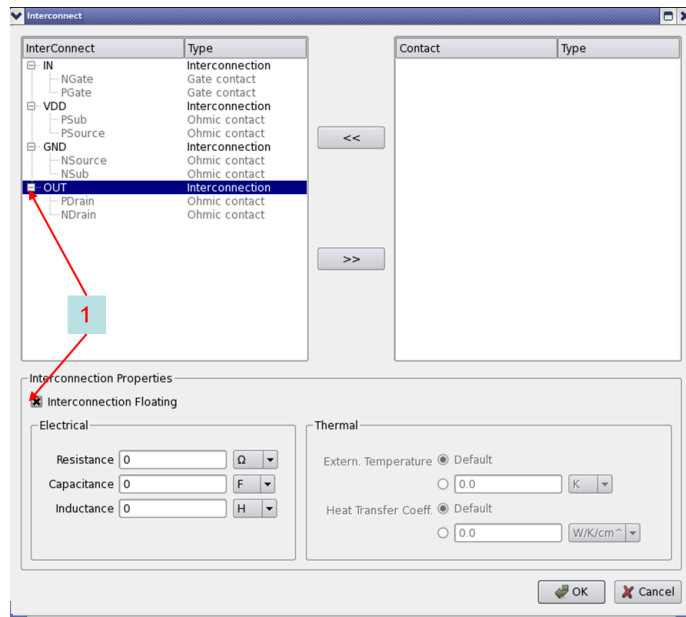


Figure 2.49 Interconnect Floating setting

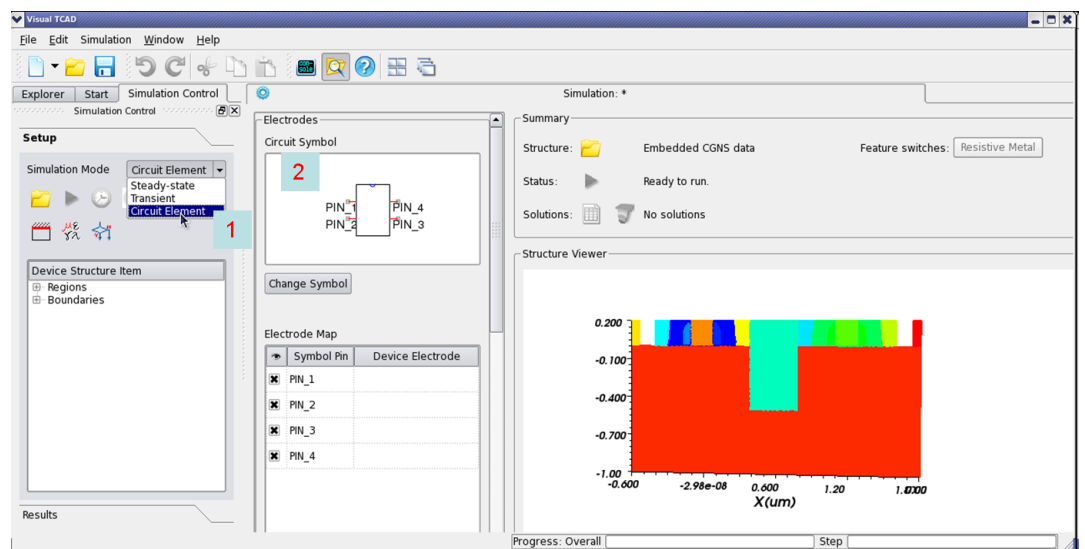


Figure 2.50 Change Simulation Mode

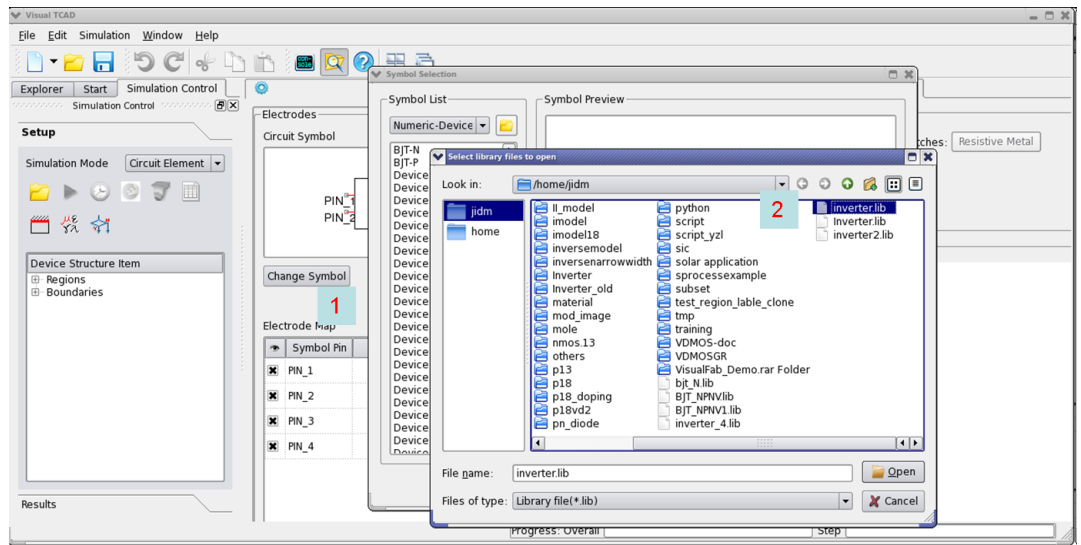


Figure 2.51 change symbol setting

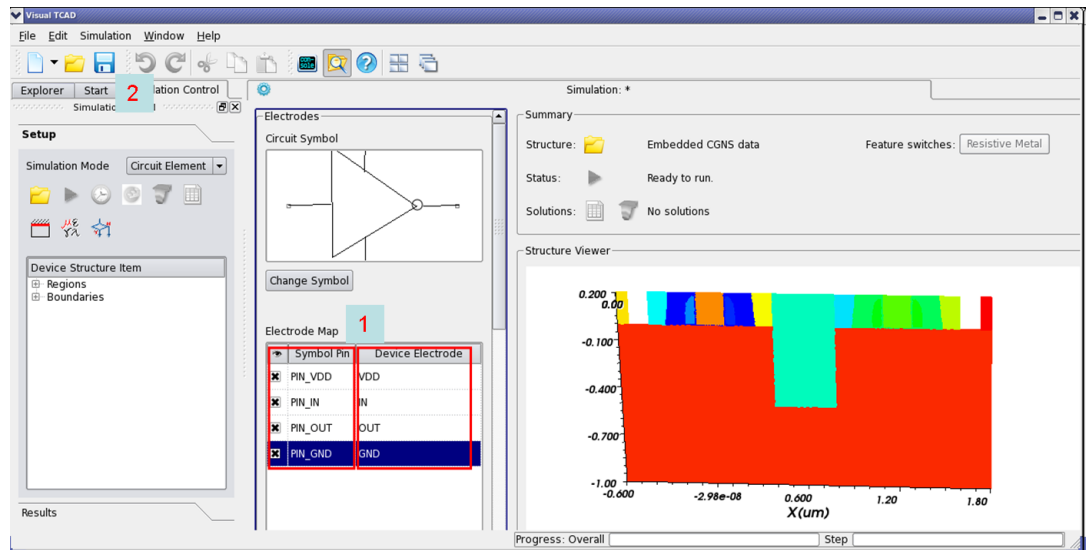


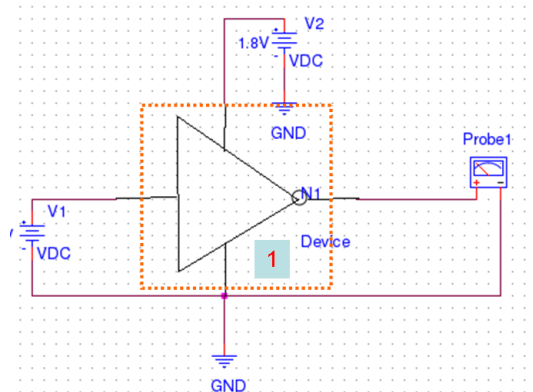




Figure 2.52 mapping setting

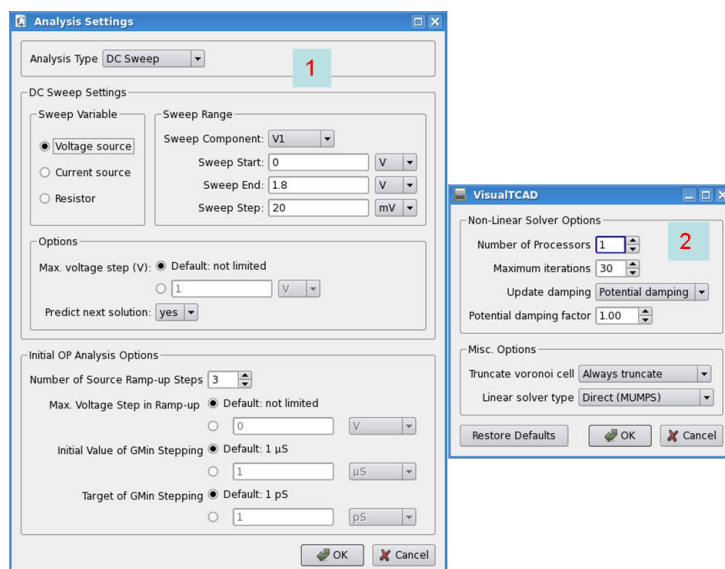
## Mixed-Mode Simulation

When we finish the device setting, we need open a new circuit Schematic window and do circuit simulation, then choose  Numerical Device menu to draw our inverter symbol and click  Component menu to draw Voltage source, we can click corresponding menu to add Voltage Probe, Ground and Wire. The final circuit is shown in **Figure 2.53, p. 52**.




**Figure 2.53** Circuit Schematics of inverter simulation

We want to do DC sweep Mode simulation, so we setup the sweep setting with the  Setup Simulation tool and  Solver Options tool, as shown in **Figure 2.54, p. 52**.



**Figure 2.54** simulation condition setting and solver Options setting

We click the  Run Simulation tool to start the simulation. The monitoring and analysis procedure is similar to that in the previous example. In the result spreadsheet, we plot the columns *Output Voltage* and *Input Voltage*, using *Input Voltage* as the x-variable. The waveform plot is shown in the **Figure 2.55, p. 53**.

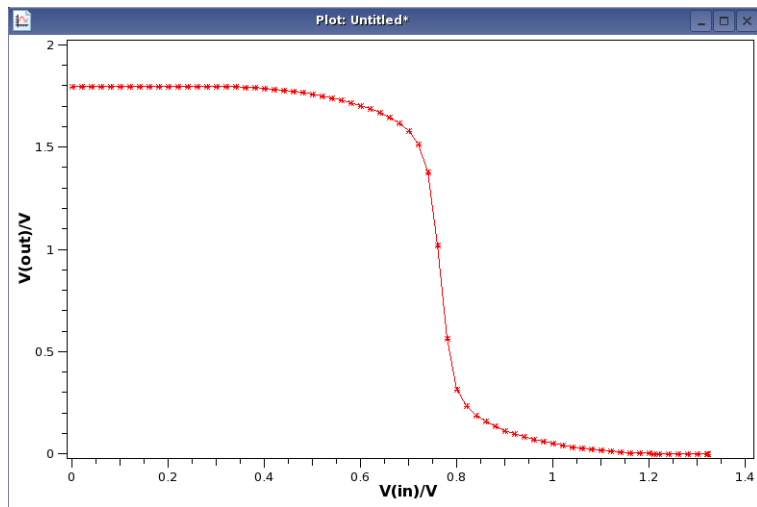


Figure 2.55 Simulation result

## Scripting and Automation

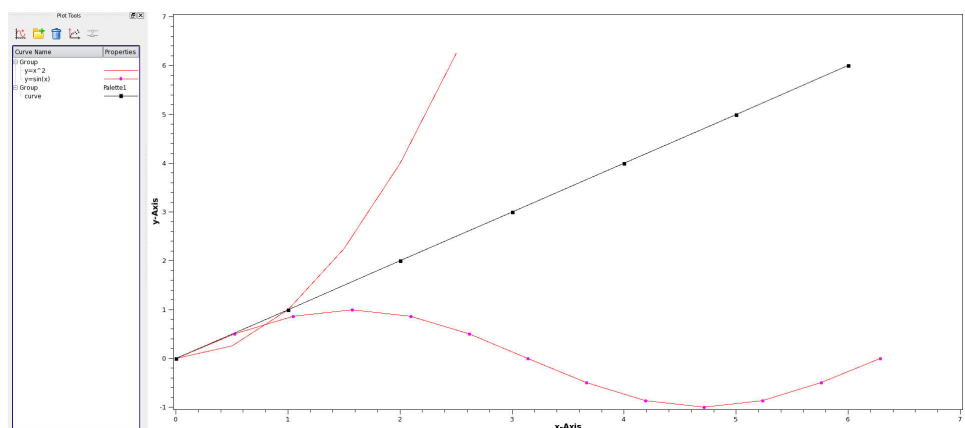
When building the diode and MOSFET in the previous sections, we used tools `Drawing Device Outline`, `Assigning Material Regions`, `Placing Doping Profiles` and `Meshing`, etc. in the GUI, to draw the device structure step by step. If the structure is complicated, this process will take some time to complete. It would be okay to do this once, but if you are to build several MOSFET devices, identical in all respects but different gate lengths, the repetition becomes a burden.

To set you free from the tedious work, VisualTCAD provides scripting functionality in several modules, which, among other things, can generate the device structure automatically. More importantly, one does not have to write the scripts from scratch. In the case of device drawing, after one drew a first device structure in GUI, he can export the drawn structure to a script file. One then use this generated script file as the template, and with minor modifications, run the script to generate new device structures.

The scripting language in VisualTCAD is Python, which is a general purpose programming language with many useful libraries and utilities. In this section, we shall see some examples on scripting in a few modules of VisualTCAD.

### Example 1: Curve Plotting

We create a new X-Y Plot window, and in the menu choose `Plot > Run Python script` to run the script `plot.py` located in the `examples/VisualTCAD/script` directory. Curves are plotted in the window, as shown in **Figure 2.56, p. 54**. This figure has two group curves and the first group has two curves.



**Figure 2.56** script build plot result

Let us look at the script file for details. In the following code segment, we first insert a curve group at position 0 (first group), which may contain a set of curves.



We then define two arrays of numbers, `xData` and `yData`. One observe that they have the same number of items, and the corresponding items follow the relation  $y = x^2$ . The next two commands define some curve properties such as a color, line style and symbol style, and assign a title to the curve. Finally, we insert the curve to group 0, and at position 0 in the group. The two numerical arrays are used as x- and y-coordinates of the curve.

```
## insert Group 0
plot.insertCurveGroup(0, 'Group', '')

# Curve 0 in Group 0
xData = [0,0.5,1,1.5,2,2.5]
yData = [0,0.25,1,2.25,4,6.25]
properties = {'hasLine':1, 'lineColor':'#ff0000',
              'lineStyle':1, 'lineWidth':1, 'hasSymbol':0,
              'symbolColor':'#000000', 'symbolStyle':1,
              'symbolSize':6, 'symbolFilled':1}
title = 'y=x^2'
plot.insertCurve(0,0,xData,yData,title,properties)
```

The following two lines illustrates how to use the list constructing syntax of Python to define two numerical arrays for plotting the function  $y = x^2$ .

```
xData = [i*pi/6 for i in xrange(13)]
yData = [sin(x) for x in xData]
```

## Example 2: Spreadsheet

After creating a new Spreadsheet window, we choose in the menu `Spreadsheet > Run Script` to run the spreadsheet .py script, the result is shown in **Figure 2.57**, **p. 56**.

		kljfdk			
1	1	1	2	1	1
2	2	2	4	2	2
3	3	3	6	3	3
4	4	4	8	4	4
5	5	5	10	5	5
6	6	6	12	6	6

**Figure 2.57** script build spreadsheet result

Some explanation of the script follows. The function `setColumnData` is for setting entries of a column using the data in a numerical array. In this example, we define an array `colData` and assign it to column 0.

```
# set column data
colData = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
spreadsheet.setColumnData(0,colData);
...
```

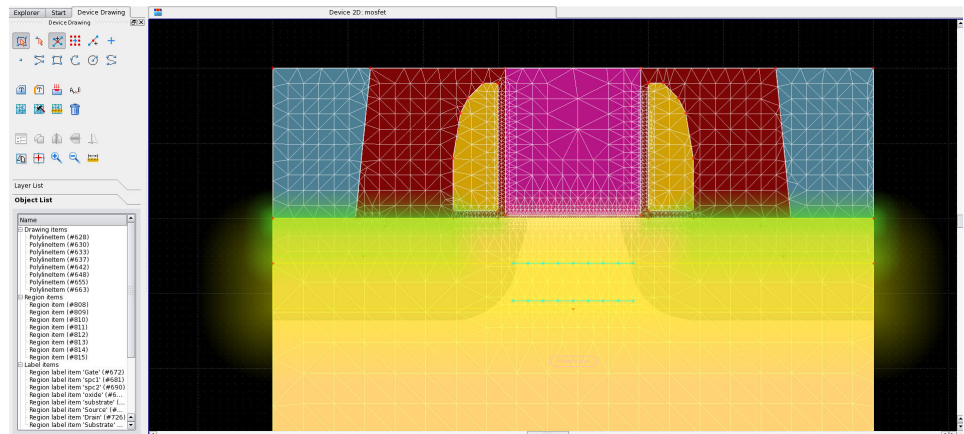
One can apply mathematical expression (coded in Python) to the data of some columns, and assign the result to a column. The following segment shows how to calculate the absolute value of the sum of the first two columns, and assign it to the 3rd column in the spreadsheet.

```
# calc Column
spreadsheet.calcColumn(2, "abs(cols[1]+cols[2])");
```

One can get and set title of columns with the `getColumnName` and `setColumnName` functions, and save the spreadsheet to a file using the `saveToFile` function.

## Example 3: Building MOSFET Device Structure

After creating a new device 2d window, we choose in the menu **Device**  $\triangleright$  **Run Python Script** to run the script file named `mosfet.py`. A MOSFET structure is created by the script, as shown in **Figure 2.58**, p. 57.



**Figure 2.58** script build the MOSFET device structure

The first section of the script consists of commands to draw outlines of the device. As an example, in the following segment, we define a polygon with the coordinates of its corner points. Note that the last point coincide with the first, so that it forms a closed polygon. Then we add the polygon the the device structure using the function `addPolyLineItem`:

```
# PolyLineItem (#0)
points = (-400,0),(400,0),(400,1000),(-400,1000),(-400,0)
device2d.addPolyLineItem(points)
```

The second section defines the material regions of the device. As shown below, each region must have a label and a material name. A point in the region (`pos`) is used to identify among the many regions in the structure. Optionally, one can set mesh area constraint and assign a color. Finally, the region label is added to the device with the function `addRegionLabelItem`.

```
# RegionLabelItem 'Gate' (#44)
label = 'Gate'
material = 'NPolySi'
pos = (1.77778,-92.8889)
areaConstrain = 10000
color = '#cc71585'
device2d.addRegionLabelItem(label,material,pos,
                             areaConstrain,color)
```

The next section of the code defines mesh-size-control items. We wish to divide the segment (-80,60)-(80,60) by at least 8 mesh grids. We add this constraint with the `addMeshSizeCtrlItem` function, as shown below.

```
# MeshSizeCtrlItem (#116)
division = 8
points = (-80,60),(80,60)
device2d.addMeshSizeCtrlItem(division,points)
```

One important step is to set the doping profiles in the device. In the following lines, we define the source LDD doping profile, which has a gaussian distribution function. The profile attributes such as baseline, depth, normal direction, characteristic lengths, xy ratio, label of the profile, peak doping concentration, doping type, and doping species, must be set. The doping profile is then added with the function `addDopingProfileItem`.

```
# DopingProfileItem 'LDD_S' (#134)
attributes = {'label':'LDD_S', 'type':'Gauss',
              'property':'Nd',
              'n.peak':2e+19, 'polarity':1.0,
              'baseline_center':(-250,0),
              'baseline_length':300.0,
              'depth':10.0, 'unit_normal':(0,1),
              'xy.ratio':1.0, 'y.char':20.0}
device2d.addDopingProfileItem(attributes)
```

We can save the completed device structure to file. A mesh is needed for simulation, and the `doMesh` function is invoked for this purpose. Finally, we export the mesh in the TIF format so that it can be used in simulations.

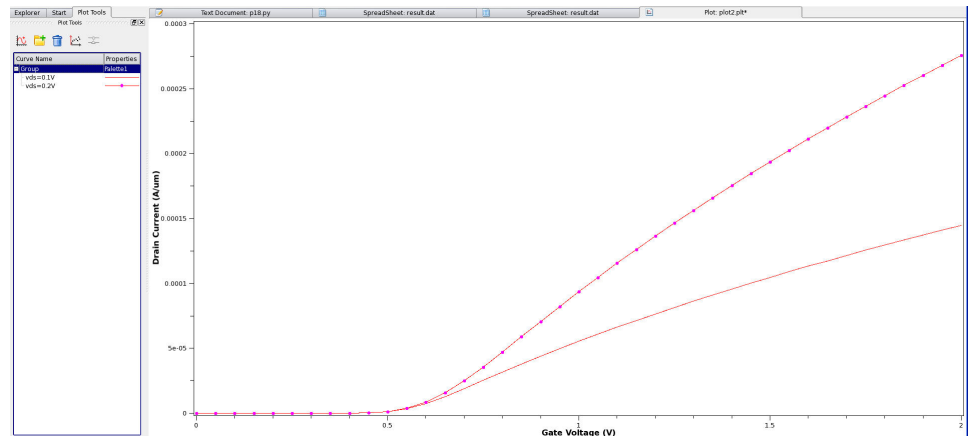
```
## save to file
device2d.saveToFile('/home/user/example/mosfet.drw');

## do mesh
device2d.doMesh()

## export mesh
device2d.exportMesh('/home/user/example/mosfet.tif');
```

## Example 4: Using More Than One Window:

After simulating the MOSFET constructed in the last section, we can plot the Id-Vg curves use script file. An example script for this is provided (p18.py), and the result is shown in **Figure 2.59**, p. 60.



**Figure 2.59** script build Id-Vg curve plot result

This involves two modules in VisualTCAD, spreadsheet and plotting, and the script must operate at the global scope, using the mainwindow object `mw`. We open this script file in VisualTCAD's text editor, and run it with the menu item `Tools > Run as Python Script`.

The script first opens the simulated IV data `p18/result.dat` and `p18vd2/result.dat` in two spreadsheet windows, using the `openDocumentFromFile` function. User will need to modify the path to the data filename. Then it creates a new plotting window.

```
# open spreadsheet file
file = '/home/user/p18/result.dat'
mw.openDocumentFromFile(file)

# open spreadsheet file
file = '/home/user/p18vd2/result.dat'
mw.openDocumentFromFile(file)

plotA = mw.newWindow("Plot", "plot2")
```

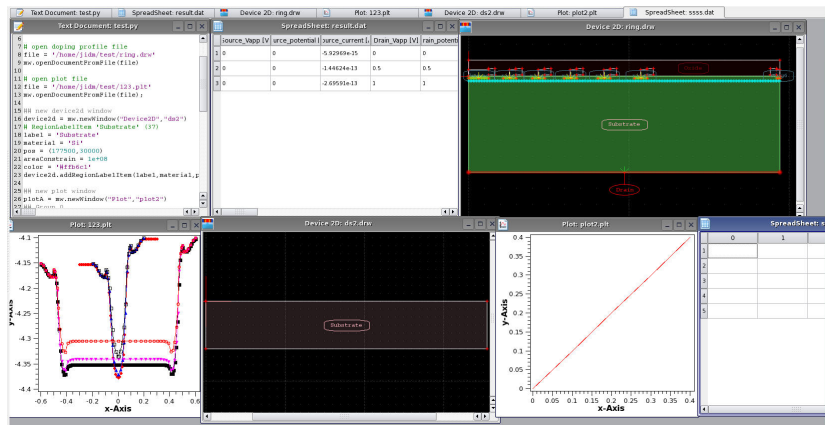
The windows are numbered, we obtain the spreadsheet with the `getWindowByNumber` function, and read data from it. The curve is then added to the plotting window, as we have done in the first example.

```
# insert Curve 1 in Group 0

spreadsheet = mw.getWindowByNumber(2);
Xdata = spreadsheet.getColumnData(3)
Ydata = spreadsheet.getColumnData(2)
properties = {'hasLine':1,'lineColor':'#ff0000',
             'lineStyle':1, 'lineWidth':1,'hasSymbol':1,
             'symbolColor':'#ff00ff', 'symbolStyle':0,
             'symbolSize':6,'symbolFilled':1}

title = 'vds=0.2V'
plotA.insertCurve(0,1,Xdata,Ydata,title,properties)
```

One can use scripts to operate on more windows to automate TCAD simulation and data analysis, as in the testMainWindow.py script, and the result is shown in **Figure 2.60, p. 61**.



**Figure 2.60** script build testMainWindow result
















## Summary

With these examples we illustrated how one can use scripting for generating the device structure, plotting the 2D curves and manipulating spreadsheets, etc. Through scripting, one can save much time and increase the efficiency of TCAD simulation and analysis.



## Device Drawing

### Structure Drawing

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Adding Geometry Item</b>		
Add Point		Add a point item to the drawing.
Add Polyline		Add a polyline item to the drawing.
Add Rectangle		Add a rectangle item to the drawing, which will be converted to a closed polyline item.
Add Arc		Add a circle arc item to the drawing.
Add Circle		Add a circle item to the drawing.
Add Spline		Add a spline item to the drawing.
<b>Labeling Device Region and Boundary</b>		
Add Region Label		Add a material region label to the device structure.
Add Boundary Label		Add a boundary label to the device structure.
<b>Selecting Objects</b>		
Select Object		Select a graph item (polyline, rectangle, arc, etc.), a label or a mesh-size-constraint item. This also switches to the solid editing mode for moving objects.
Select Point		Select a vertex point. This also switches to the rubber-band editing mode for moving vertices.
<b>General Editing Operations</b>		
Edit Properties		Edit properties (e.g. coordinates of polygon vertices) of the current drawing item.
Make a Clone		Make a copy of the selected drawing items.
Mirror Horizontally		Flip the current drawing item in the horizontal direction.
Mirror Vertically		Flip the current drawing item in the vertical direction.
Move points		Enter the corner point editing mode. User can select a vertex in the highlighted polygon and move the vertex.

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Snap</b>		
Auto Snap		Enter the automatic snapping mode. Mouse coordinates are snapped to a nearby grid point or a vertex in existing drawing.
Grid Snap		Enter the grid snapping mode. Mouse coordinates are snapped to a nearby grid point.
Line Snap		Enter the line snapping mode. Mouse coordinates are snapped to a point on a nearby line segment.
Horizontal Line Snap		Enter the horizontal line snapping mode. Mouse coordinates are snapped to a point on a nearby line, the line segment currently being drawn is kept horizontal.
Vertical Line Snap		Enter the vertical line snapping mode. Mouse coordinates are snapped to a point on a nearby line, the line segment currently being drawn is kept vertical.
No Snap		Enter the free-hand drawing mode. No snapping of coordinates is applied.

## Polygon Properties Dialog

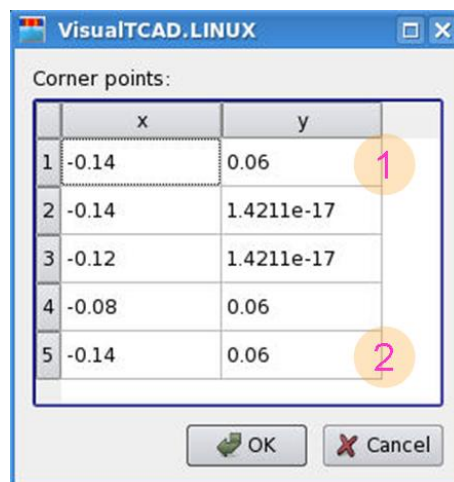


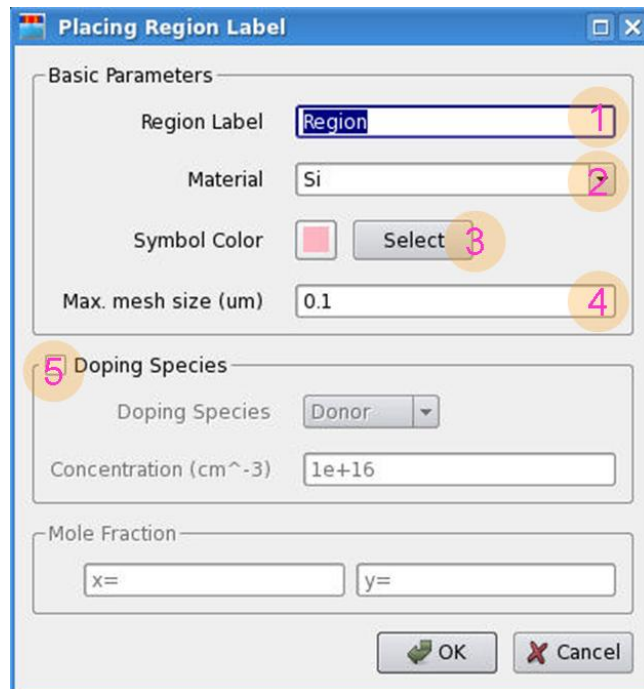
Figure 3.1 Polygon Property Editing Dialog.

### # Description

if necessary, divide the dialog items into a few categories.

- 1 x- and y-coordinates of the first corner point of the polygon
- 2 Coordinates of the last corner point of a polygon must coincide with the first corner.

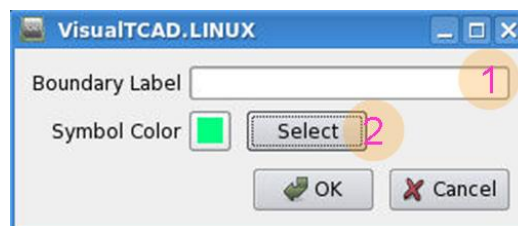
## Add Region Label



**Figure 3.2** Add Region Label.

- | # | Description  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Inputs the name of the region label, each region has one name, it can not be reused    |
| 2 | Selects the material for the region from genius material library, more than 50 choices |
| 3 | Selects the symbol color for the region  |
| 4 | Sets the maximum mesh size for the region material                                     |
| 5 | Selects the doping species, it can introduce uniform doping profile for the region     |

### Add Boundary Label



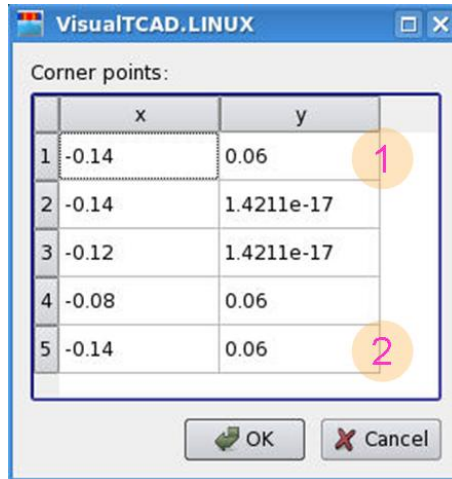
**Figure 3.3** Add Boundary Label.

- | # | Description   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Inputs the boundary label name, its properties can be set in boundary command |
| 2 | Selects the symbol color for the boundary                                     |

### Edit properties












**# Description**

- 1 x- and y-coordinates of the first corner point of the polygon, double click to change the coordinate value.
- 2 Coordinates of the last corner point of a polygon must coincide with the first corner.



**Figure 3.4** Edit properties.

## Device and Simulation

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Profiles and Mesh Settings</b>		
Add Doping Profile		Add a impurity doping (donor or acceptor) profile to the device.
Add Mole Fraction Profile		Add a mole fraction profile for the compound semiconductor material in the device.
Set Mesh Size Constraint		Add a mesh size constraint item to the device.
<b>Meshing</b>		
Do Mesh		Generate a mesh for the device.
Refine Existing Mesh		Refine the existing mesh.
Mesh Quality Statistics		Show statistics on the mesh quality.
Mesh 3D View		Show 3D visualization of the mesh and doping profile.
Delete Existing Mesh		Destroy the existing mesh grid.
<b>Input/Output</b>		
Save Mesh to File		Save the generated mesh to a file in TIF format.
Run Python Script		Run a device drawing Python script.
Export Python Script		Export the procedures to draw the present device as a Python script.

**Add Doping Profile** VisualTCAD provide total 4 kinds of doping profiles recently, including Uniform Doping Profile, Gaussian Doping Profile, Erf Doping Profile and Dataset Doping Profile etc.



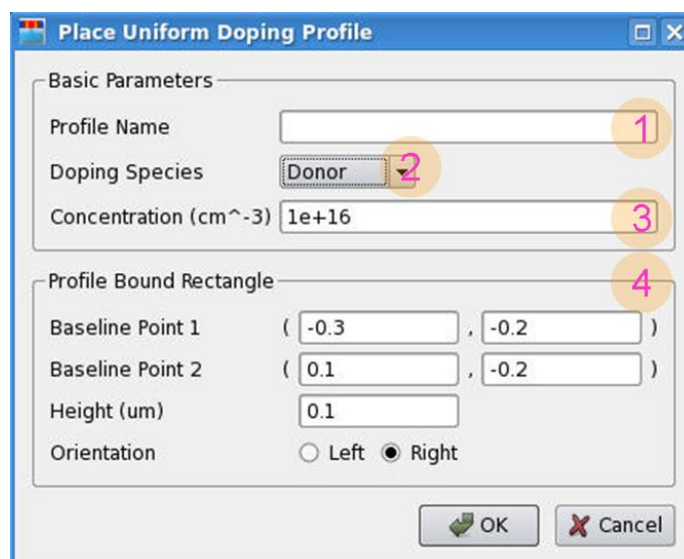
**Figure 3.5** Doping Profile Type.

### Uniform Doping Profile

#	Description
1	Inputs Doping Profile name
2	Chooses Doping Species: Donor or Acceptor
3	Inputs Concentration of the Uniform Doping Profile
4	Uniform Doping Profile, in the bound region the doping profile is uniform distribution and out of the bound region has none doping distribution

### Gaussian Doping Profile

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>#</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
| 1        | Inputs Doping Profile name  |
| 2        | Chooses Doping Species: Donor or Acceptor   |
| 3        | Inputs Concentration of Doping Profile, two styles to choose: concentration peak or Total Dose.   |
| 4        | Characteristic Length, two styles to choose: Y Characteristic Length or Doping Concentration at depth, the Distance to doping Box parameter is a relative depth to the edge of bound rectangle. The doping setting has 4 groups total, but the combination of Total Dose and Doping Concentration is invalid. |
| 5        | Sets XY Ratio, the value is equal to X.char/Y.char  |
| 6        | Gaussian Doping Profile, in the bound region the doping profile is uniform distribution and out of the bound region the doping profile is gaussian distribution   |



**Figure 3.6** Uniform Doping Profile.

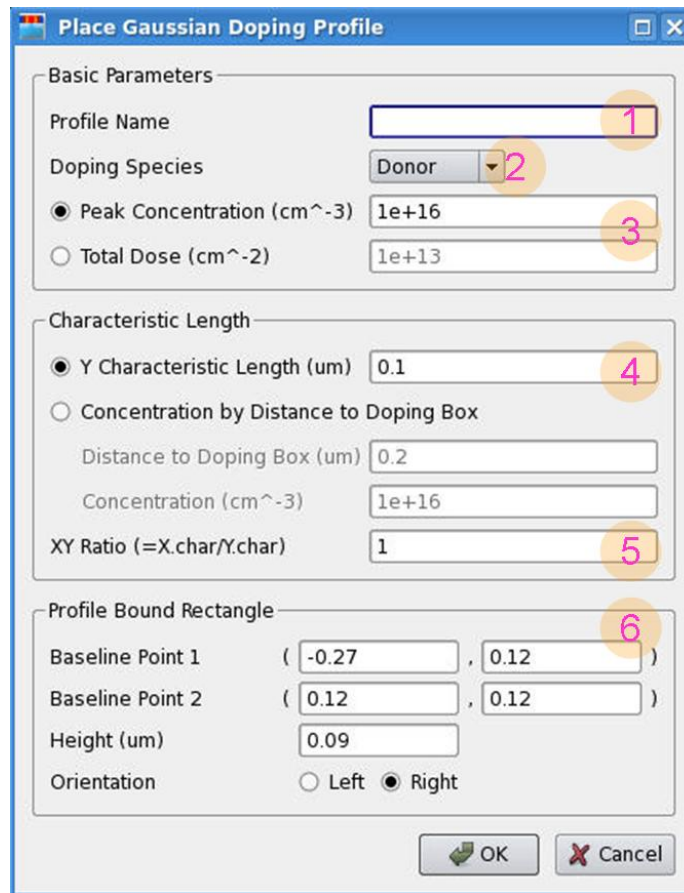


Figure 3.7 Gaussian Doping Profile.

## Erf Doping Profile

#	Description
1	Inputs Doping Profile name
2	Chooses Doping Species: Donor or Acceptor
3	Refers to Gaussian doping Profile
4	Refers to Gaussian doping Profile
5	Refers to Gaussian doping Profile
6	Erf Doping Profile, in the bound region the doping profile is uniform distribution and out of the bound region the doping profile is erf distribution

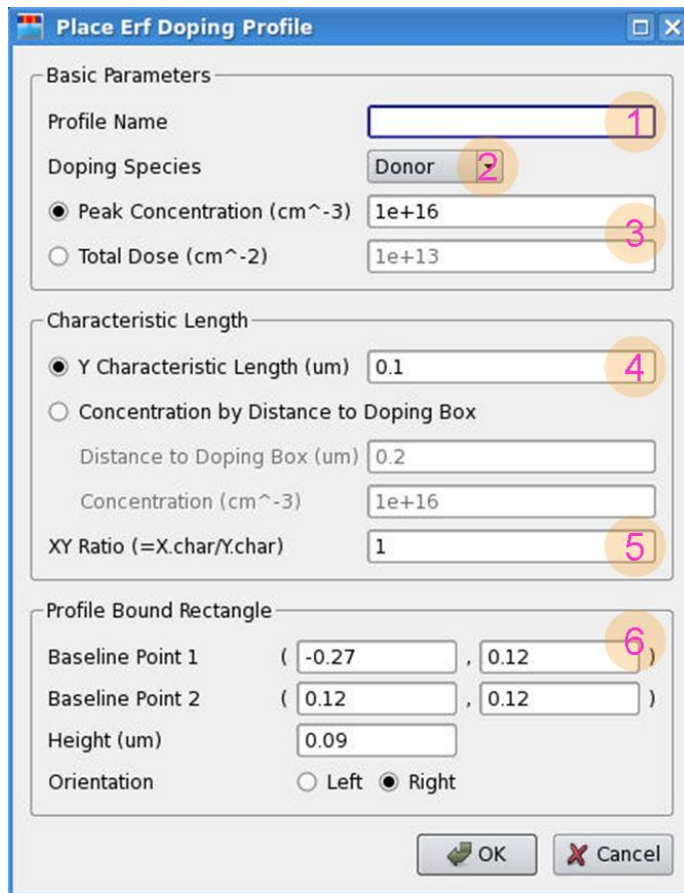


Figure 3.8 Erf Doping Profile.

**Dataset Doping Profile**

Chooses profile dataset style, total 3 kinds of dataset doping: only 1D, only 2D and Both.

#	Description
1	Inputs Doping Profile name
2	Chooses Doping Species, Donor or Acceptor
3	About only 1D option, importing the one-dimension doping data, it including 2 columns, first column is coordinate and its unit is \$nMeter\$, the second column is doping concentration and its unit is \$iCubic\cMeter\$. the doping data can come from the opened data file or look for the data file by the data path.
4	When VisualTCAD introduces the data from the data file, VisualTCAD needs interpolation the mesh point data, the default linear interpolation, here provides the logarithmic interpolation, also.
5	In the bound rectangle region introduces one-dimension dataset file, the baseline from point1 to point2 is the begin of the one-dimension doping data,the end of doping profile is expanded to the edge of the box, out of the bound region has none doping distribution.

**Dataset Doping Profile**



# **Description**

1 About only 2D option, importing the two-dimension doping data, it including 3 columns, first column is x-coordinate and its unit is  $\text{\$nMeter\$}$ , the second column is y-coordinate and its unit is  $\text{\$nMeter\$}$ , the third column is doping concentration and its unit is  $\text{\$ICubiccMeter\$}$ . the value of the rectangle has been changed to 0, it means only the baseline from point 1 to point 2 is significant, VisualTCAD makes the center of the baseline as the 2D doping origin, the doping data file introduces the two-dimension doping profile from the center of the baseline to the doping coordinate of the doping file, the x-coordinate positive direction is left direction.

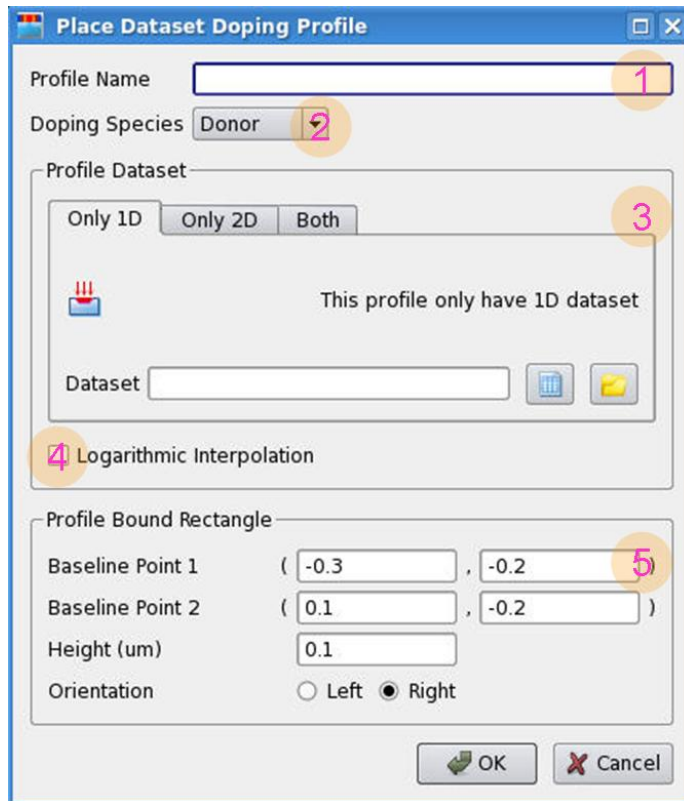


Figure 3.9 1D Dataset Doping Profile.

**Dataset Doping Profile**

# **Description**

1 About Both option, in the bound rectangle region the doping profile is as the same as only 1D option and the doping data from 1D data, out of the bound rectangle region the doping profile is as the only 2D option doping profile and the origin is the the box baseline point2, and the left 2D doping of the box is symmetric with the right of the box. in the bound region is significant only for one-dimension doping data, out of the bound rectangle, the point 1 and point 2 is significant for two-dimension doping data.

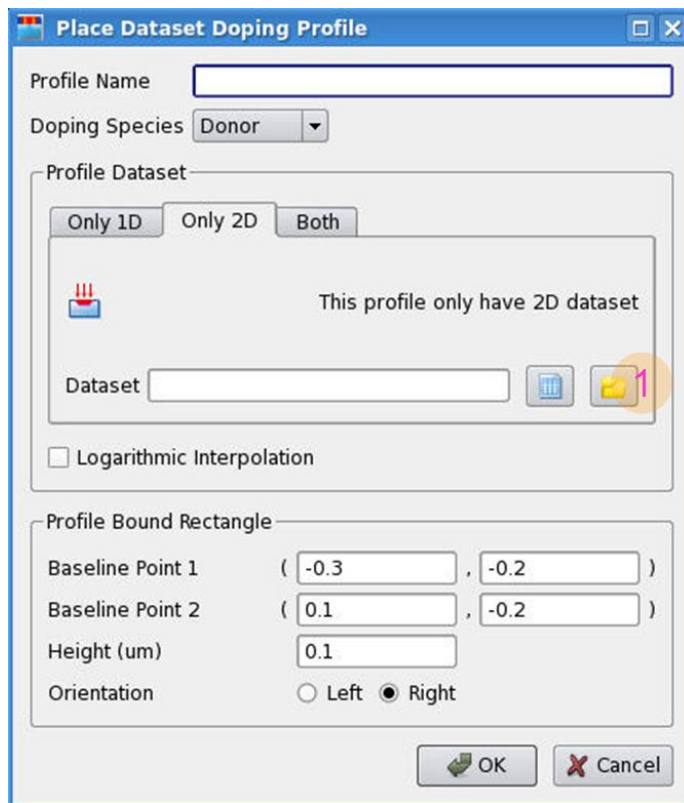
**Place mole Fraction Profile**

If the device includes the polycrystalline material, VisualTCAD introduces 2 methods to place the mole fraction of the compound, linear fraction and gaussian fraction.

**Linear mole Fraction Profile**

**# Description**

- 1 Inputs the linear mole fraction profile name
- 2 Inputs the range of mole fraction profile
- 3 The linear mole fraction profile is introduced to the bound rectangle region from the baseline to the end of the bound rectangle



**Figure 3.10** 2D Dataset Doping Profile.

**Gaussian mole Fraction Profile**

**# Description**

- 1 Inputs the gaussian mole fraction profile name
- 2 Inputs the parameter of the gaussian mole fraction, including the peak, characteristic length and ratio.
- 3 Gaussian mole fraction Profile, in the bound region the doping profile is uniform mole fraction and out of the bound region the mole fraction profile is gaussian distribution.

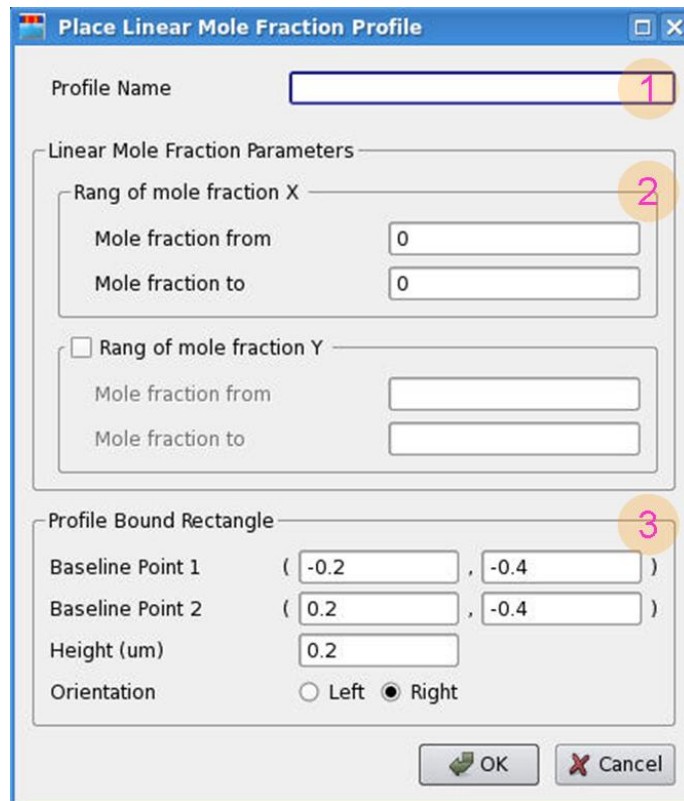
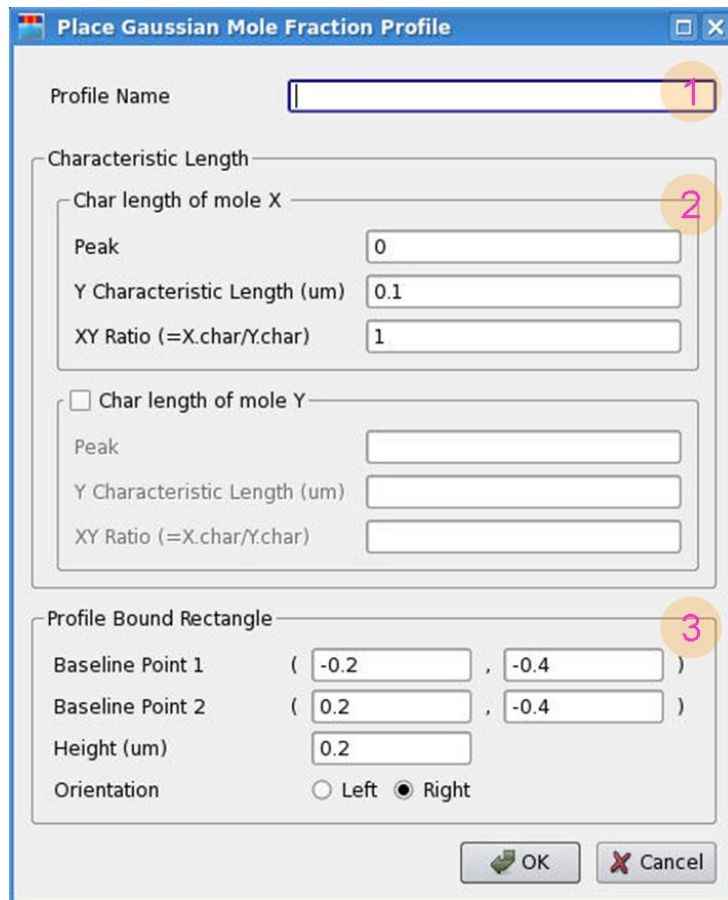


Figure 3.12 Linear Mole Fraction Profile.



**Figure 3.13** Gaussian Mole Fraction Profile.

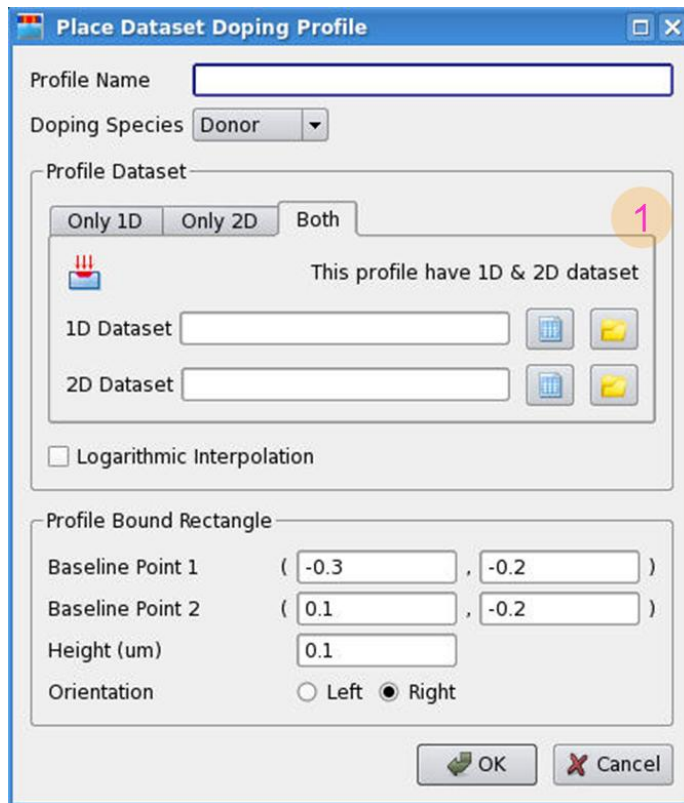


Figure 3.11 Both 1D&2D Dataset Doping Profile.

### Do mesh

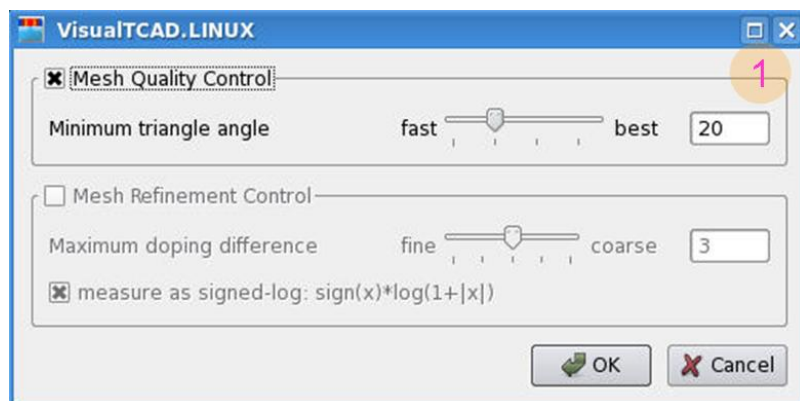


Figure 3.14 do mesh.

**# Description**

- 1 The minimum angle constraint of the triangle mesh is from 15 to 32 degree, the triangle angle is wider the mesh quality is better, but at the same time the rate of generating mesh is become slow

# Description

## Refine

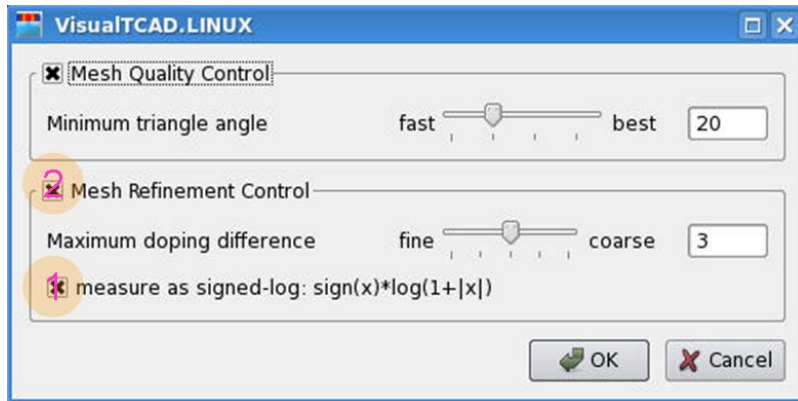


Figure 3.15 refine.

# Description

- 1 Calculates the doping Gradient and Specifies the refinement is based on the specified quantity logarithm.
- 2 Refinement the mesh in doping Gradient greater than or equal to an order of magnitude, here the range of doping Gradient is from 1 to 5.

## Mesh Statistics



Figure 3.16 mesh statistics

#	Description
1	Statistics the mesh point number, triangle number, mesh size and mesh quality etc.
2	Statistics the disposition of the triangle angle

### Mesh 3D view

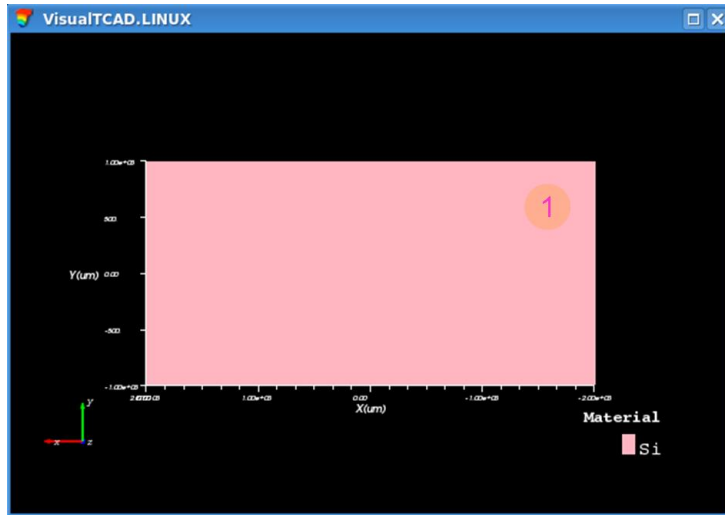


Figure 3.17 Mesh 3D view.

#	Description
1	User can rotate the structure in the windows and view in any visual angle

### Save mesh file to

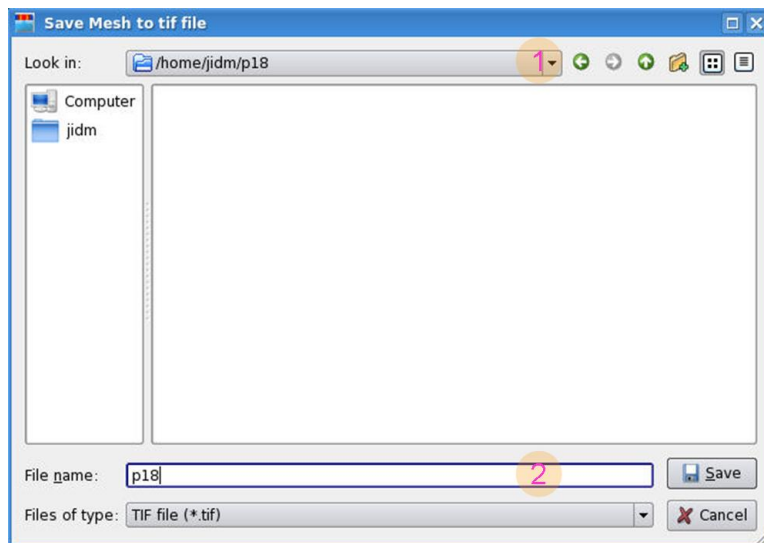


Figure 3.18 Save Mesh File To.

- # **Description**
- 1 Chooses the file's saving path
- 2 Inputs the file name and save the mesh structure file

### Run python

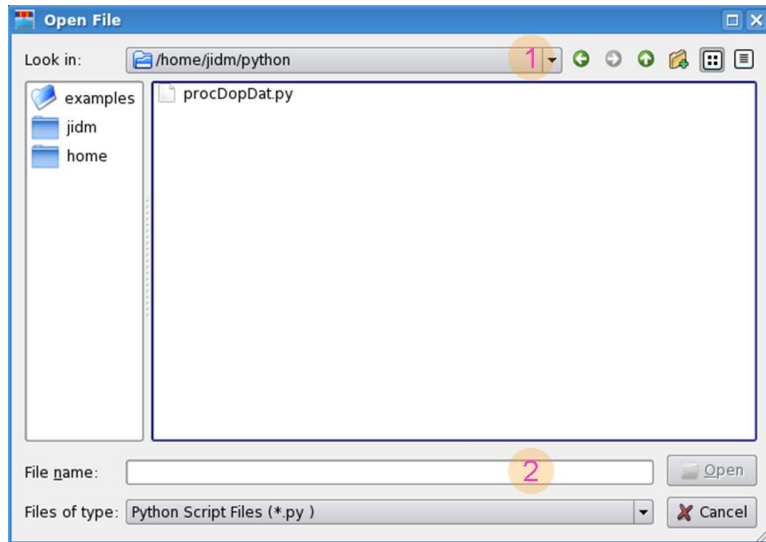


Figure 3.19 run python.

- # **Description**
- 1 Chooses the exist python file's path
- 2 Selects the python file and open it

### Export python

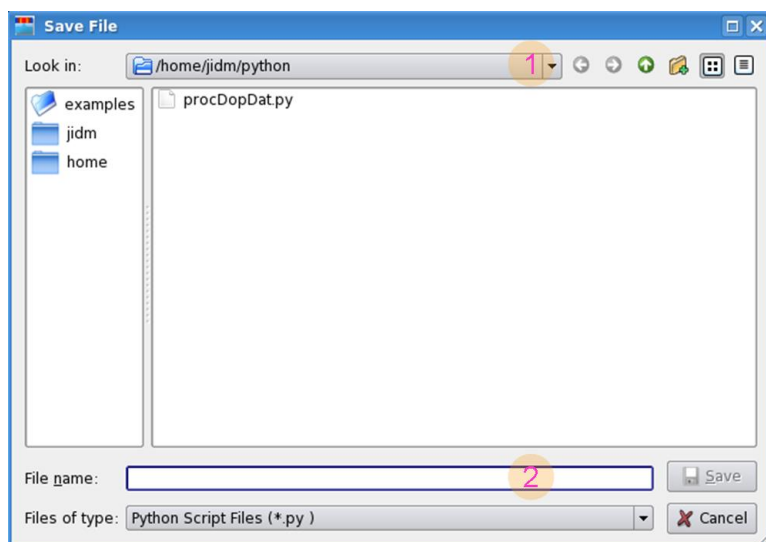


Figure 3.20 Export python.



<b>#</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Chooses the file's saving path
2	Inputs the file's name and saves the python deck file

## Device View

**Menu**

**Icon**

**Description**

**Device View**












- Fit to View
- Center Origin Point
- Zoom In
- Zoom Out
- Ruler



- Center the device drawing, and scale it to fit the screen size.
- Center the screen at the origin of the device coordinates.
- Zoom in, with the point under the mouse cursor fixed in view.
- Zoom out, with the point under the mouse cursor fixed in view.
- Add a ruler item for measure the linear distance between two points.

# Device Simulation

## Simulation Setting

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>simulation setting</b>		
Load		Open a structure file.
Resistive Metal		Turn on the resistive metal model (new in 1.7.1).
Run		Running the device simulation.
Write Deck File		Save the device simulation configuration to a directory, which will contain the command file (.inp) and mesh file (.cgns) and data files (if needed).
<b>Solve</b>		
Time Control		Time parameters in Transient simulation.
Sweep Control		DC sweep parameters in DC Steady-state simulation.
Boundary Condition		Boundary and Contact settings of the device.
Physical Model		Physical Model and Material Model parameters.
Solver Options		Numerical solver paramters, including Number of Processors in parallel simulation.
<b>Output</b>		
Show IV Data		Open the IV data file.
Show Visualization		Open the .vtu file to visualize the internal variables (potential and carrier concentrations, etc.) in the device.

## Load

#	Description
1	Chooses the exist structure file's path
2	Selects the structure file and open it

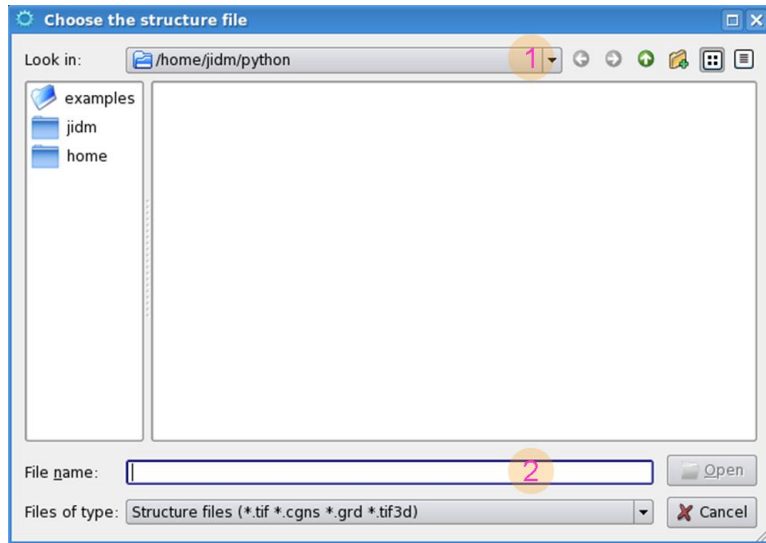


Figure 3.21 load structure file.

### Resistive Metal

When the device exist the boundary of the metal, user should be set it to "Soder pad" Boundary and open the "Resistive Metal" button before load the device structure in the "Device Simulation" window.

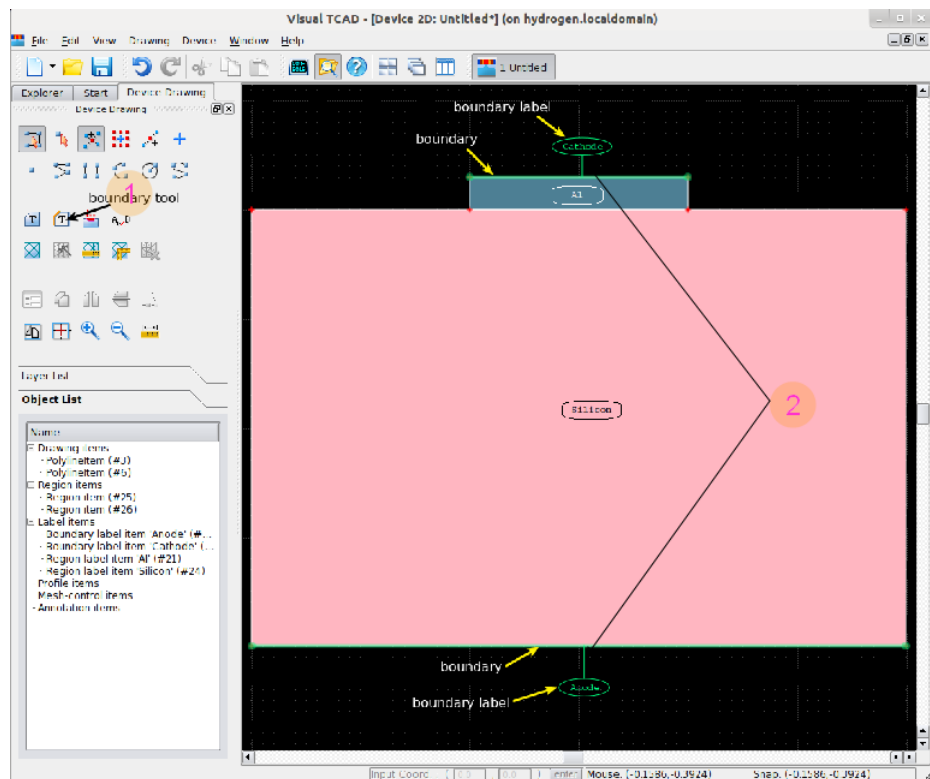


Figure 3.22 define boundary.

- # **Description**
- 1 Choose boundary tool
- 2 Add boundary label(Anode and Cathode)

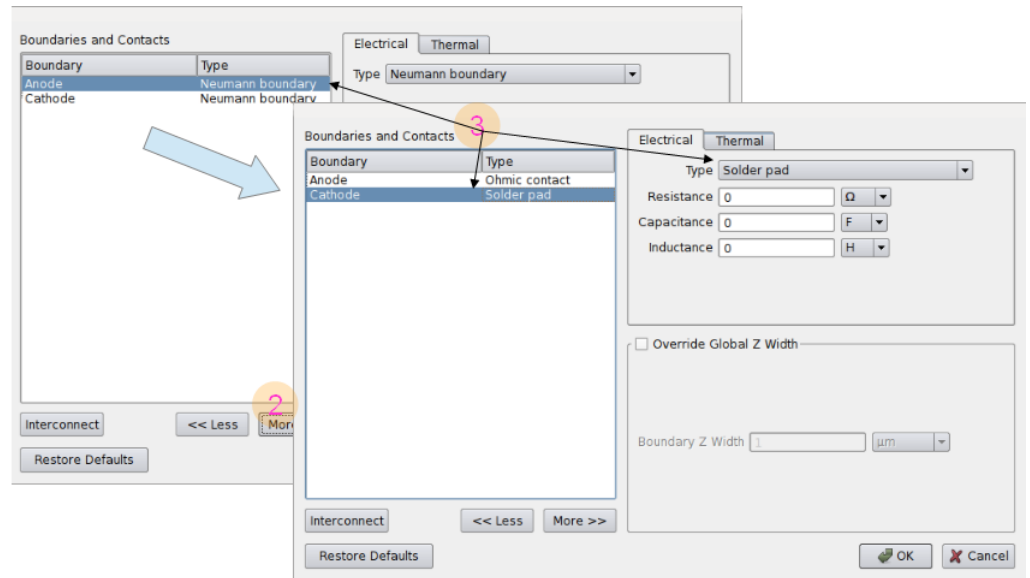


Figure 3.23 change boundary setting.

- # **Description**
- 1 In "Device Simulation" window, load the mesh, and click "Boundary Settings"
- 2 Click "More>>" to see the full list
- 3 Change from "Neumann" to "Ohmic" and "Solder pad" boundary conditions, respectively.

## Run simulation

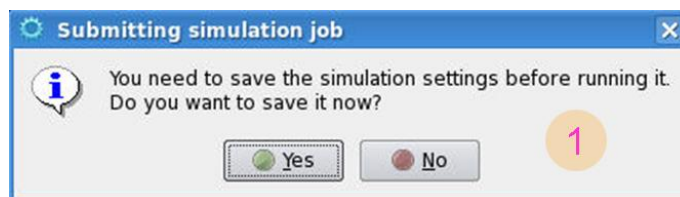


Figure 3.24 run simulation.

- # **Description**
- 1 When user runs the simulation, VisualTCAD will remind user to save the simulation settings before running it

## write deck file

# **Description**

- 1 User can transform the simulation to genius deck file and run the deck file in Genius to finish the simulation.

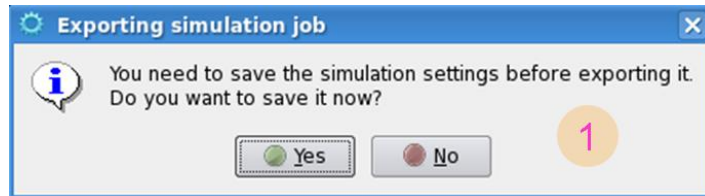


Figure 3.25 write deck file.

### Time Control

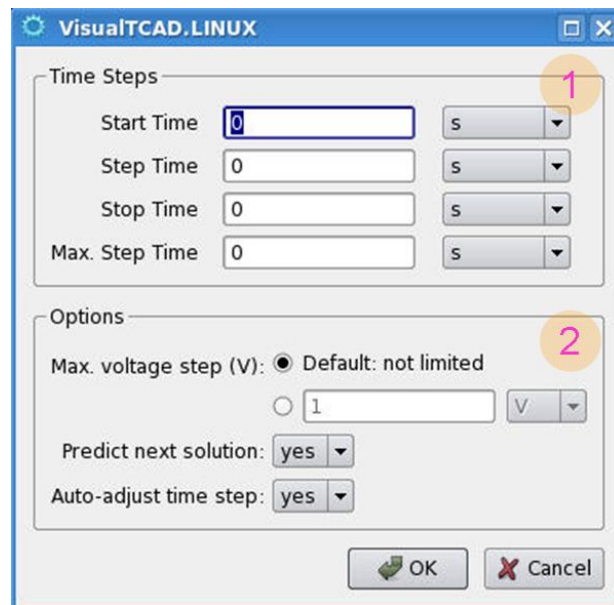


Figure 3.26 time control.

# **Description**

- 1 For transient simulation, the time control setting needs set start time, step time, stop time and Maximum step time etc.
- 2 Other options, user can choose to set maximum voltage step

### Boundary condition

# **Description**

- 1 Clicks to choose the boundary
- 2 Chooses the contact type, total includes many types, here chooses the ohmic contact
- 3 Sets ohmic contact parameters, some contact have no parameters, such as Neumann boundary.
- 4 Sets boundary z width, the priority is higher than global z width setting.

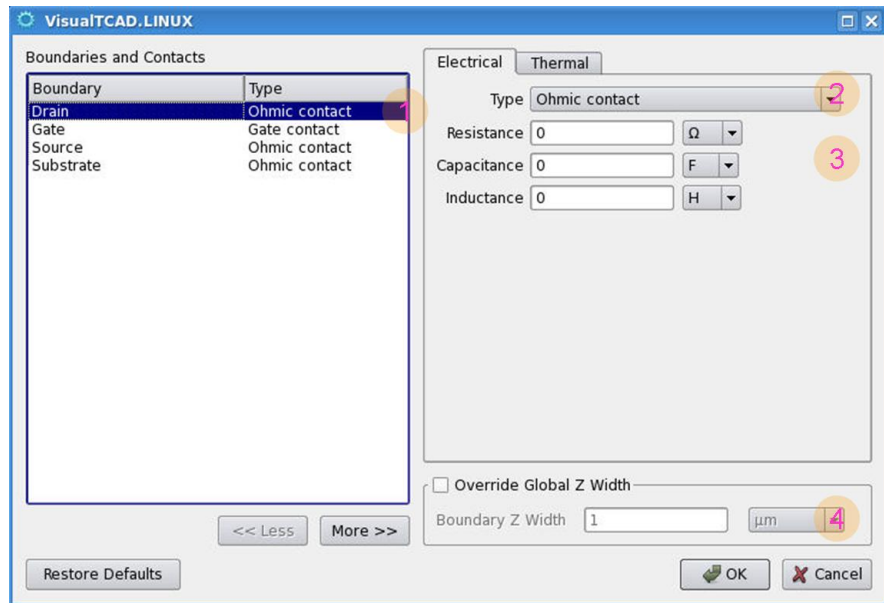


Figure 3.27 Boundary condition.

physical model

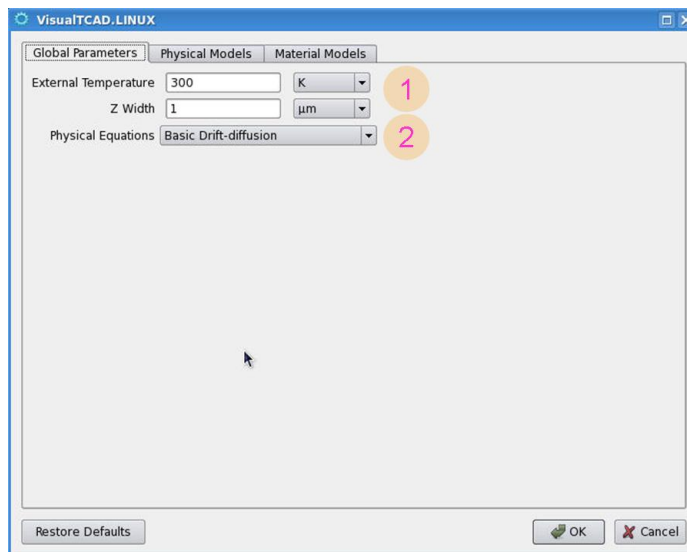


Figure 3.28 Global model.

# **Description**

- 1 Sets global parameter, temperature and z width parameters
- 2 Chooses the physical equations, including Basic Drift-diffusion equations, Drift-diffusion equations with lattice heating and Energy-balanced drift-diffusion equations. Here chooses Basic Drift-diffusion equations

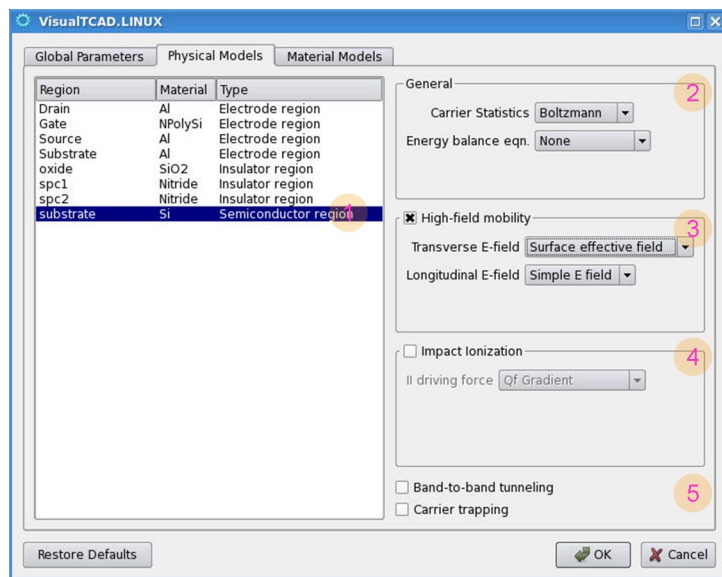


Figure 3.29 physical model.

# **Description**

- 1 Sets physical model of silicon material and other materials choosing the default model
- 2 Carrier statistics, chooses Boltzmann distribution or Fermi-Dirac distribution. Energy balance equation, When the Energy-Balance equation solver is selected in the METHOD command, this parameter selectively enables the equations for lattice temperature, electron temperature and hole temperature.
- 3 Transverse E-Field, Use effective surface electric field for carrier mobility calculation at insulator-semiconductor interface. Longitudinal, Synonym to Mobility.Force. When H.Mob is enabled, this parameter selects the driving field used in high-field mobility calculation.
- 4 When ImpactIonization is enabled, this parameter selects the driving field used in impact ionization coefficient calculation. including Qf Gradient, E dot J, E along mesh-edge and simple E field.
- 5 Activates the Band-to-Band Tunneling (BBT) generation, and selects whether the BBT generation should be calculated with the local model or the non-local model. Only the local model is currently implemented. Whether the Carrier trapping is enables



# **Description**

- 1 Sets material model of silicon material and other materials choosing the default model
- 2 Basic model, including Default model only
- 3 Basic model, user can modify the parameter of the model by clicking the right button Add Property and input the parameter Name and Value. User can inputs print as the parameter Name and 1 as the Value, then runs the simulation, all parameters setting of the selected model are printed in Log file.
- 4 Other Material model, using the same method, user can modify other model by modifying the model parameters, the model including Band, Impact, Mobility, Optical, Thermal and Trap.

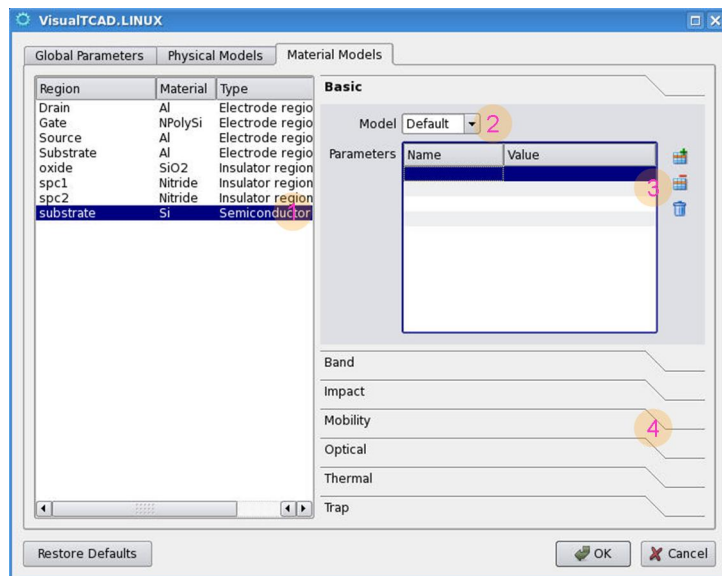


Figure 3.30 material model.

**Solver Options**

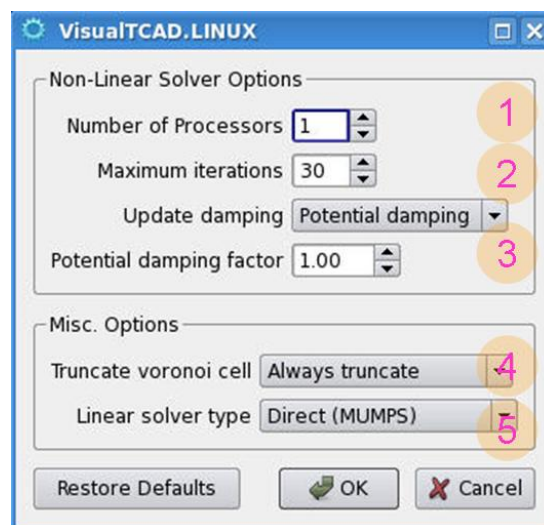











Figure 3.31 Solver options.

<b>#</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Chooses the number of processor of simulation
2	Chooses the maximum iterations, the default setting is 30
3	Chooses whether using update damping and sets potential damping factor
4	Selects the element truncation strategy used in simulation, including Always truncate, Never truncate and truncate at boundary.
5	Selects the linear solver algorithm, including Direct(MUMPS), Direct(SuperLU), iterative(BCGS+ASM) and iterative(BCGS+ILU).

## Circuit Schematics

### Place Circuit Component

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>device setting</b>		
Component		Add a Spice component (compact model) to the circuit.
Numerical Device		Add a numerical device to the circuit, for mix-mode simulation.
<b>Common Circuit Components</b>		
Ground		GND.
Resistor		Add a resistor component.
Capacitance		Add a capacitor component.
Inductance		Add an inductor component.
<b>Probe</b>		
Voltage Probe		Add a voltage probe to the circuit, for monitoring voltage difference between two circuit nodes.
Current Probe		Add a current probe to the circuit, for monitoring current through a circuit branch.
<b>Connection</b>		
Wire		Add wirings to the circuit.

### Component

#	Description
1	According to user need to select component
2	Simple description of the component
3	Component preview window

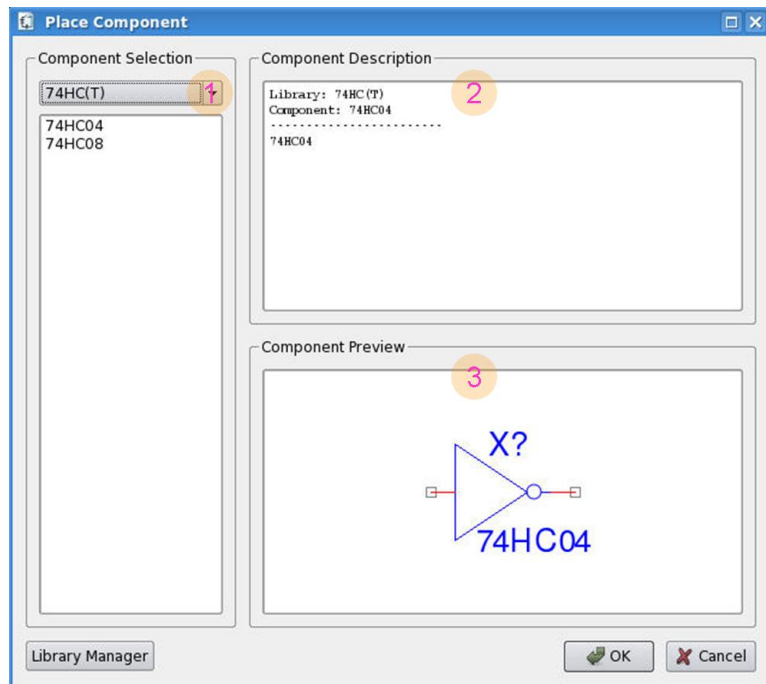


Figure 3.32 Component.

## Numerical Device

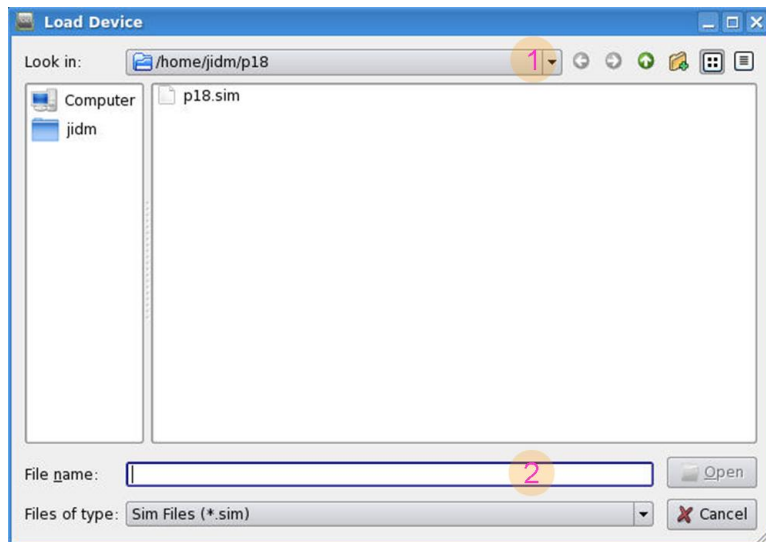





Figure 3.33 Numerical Device.

#	Description
1	Load the device component file's path
2	Selects the device component file and opens it

## Simulation Control

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Circuit simulation setting</b>		
Simulation Setup		Choosing the analysis type and setting analysis parameters.
Solver Options		Numerical solver parameters, including Number of Processors in parallel simulation.
Run Simulation		Start the simulation.
Check Netlist		Check the validity of the circuit netlist.
View Netlist		Viewing the netlist file (in SPICE format).
Write Deck Files		Save the circuit simulation to a directory, which contains the circuit netlist, Genius command file, mesh file and other data files (if needed).

## Setup Simulation

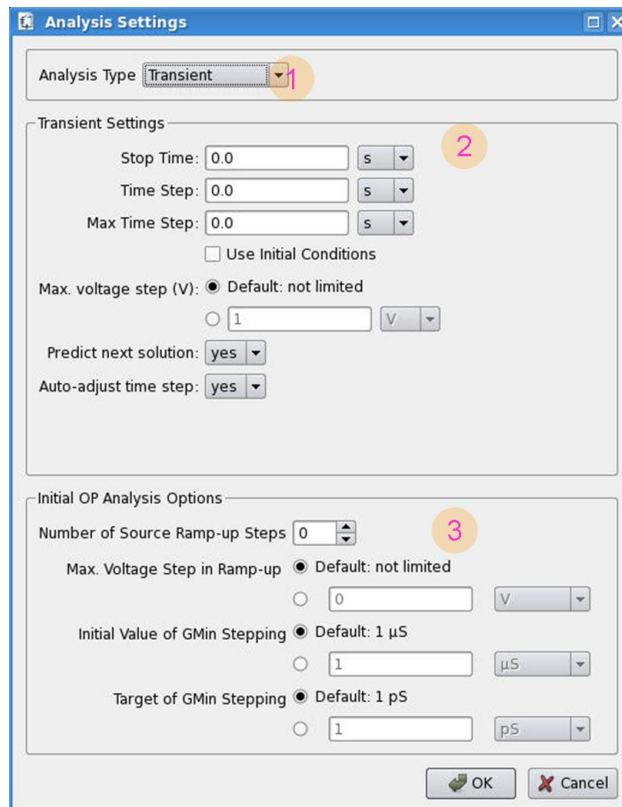


Figure 3.34 Setup simulation transient analysis.

# **Description**

- 1 Selects the analysis type. Here choosing transient simulation type
- 2 Sets the transient simulation condition
- 3 Initial operator point analysis options, including the number of ramp-up steps of the biggest nonzero External Source by Attach statement, the maximum voltage steps, initial value of Gmin stepping and target of Gmin stepping. The purpose of the initial setting is making the simulation more convergence.

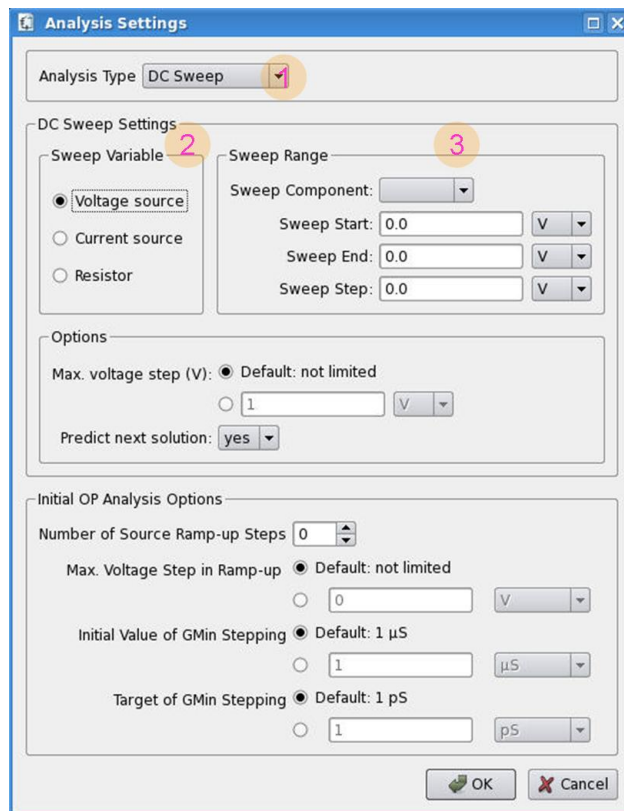


Figure 3.35 Setup simulation DC sweep analysis.

# **Description**

- 1 Selects the analysis type, here choosing DC Sweep simulation type
- 2 Selects the sweep variable
- 3 Selects the sweep component and sets the sweep range

# **Description**

- 1 Selects the analysis type, here choosing AC Sweep simulation type
- 2 Selects the AC sweep step spacing linear or logarithmic and sets the sweep range

- # **Description**
- 1 Selects the analysis type, here choosing Operation Point simulation type
- 2 Here no settings are needed

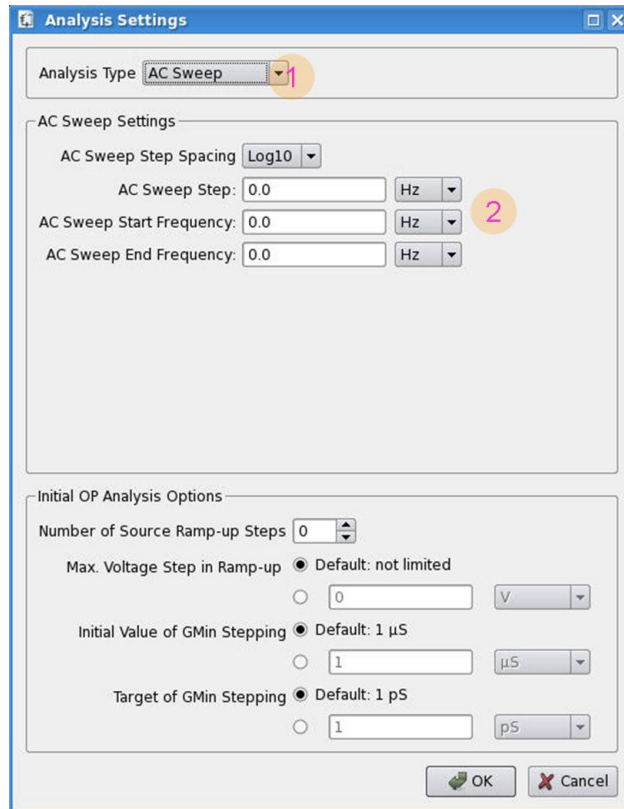


Figure 3.36 Setup simulation AC sweep analysis.

### Check netlist

- # **Description**
- 1 When user finishes the circuit schematic, user need check the netlist, when it is OK, user can run the circuit simulation.



Figure 3.38 check netlist.

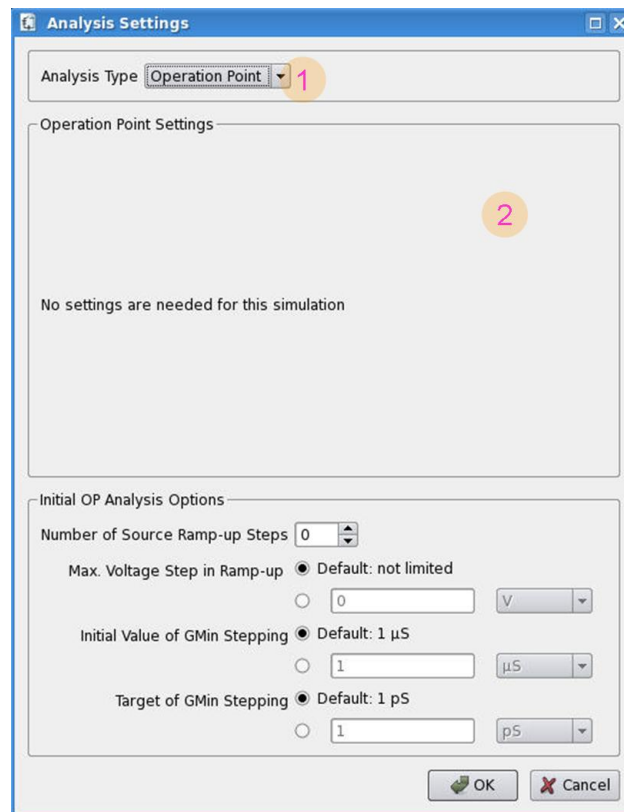


Figure 3.37 Setup simulation operation point analysis.

## View netlist

#	Description
1	According to the circuit schematic, VisualTCAD generates the netlist automatically, the netlist file includes circuit components and wire connection etc.



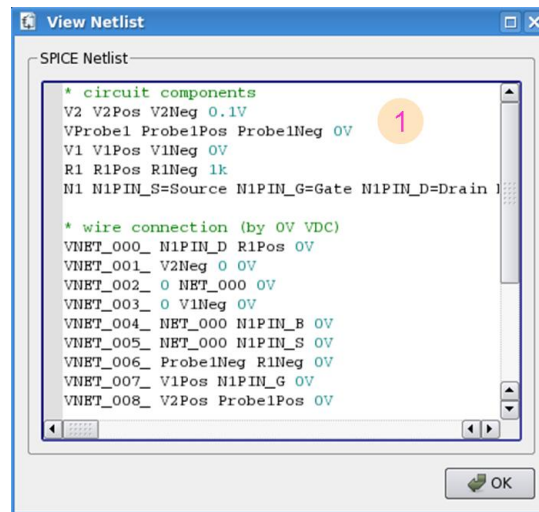


Figure 3.39 View netlist.

## Result Analysis

**Menu**

**Icon**

**Description**

**Simulation Results**

- Load Spice Raw File
- Plot Probe Wave



Open the simulated waveform in a spreadsheet window.  
 Plot the waveform of voltage and current probes.

## Schematics View

### Menu

### Icon

### Description

#### Schematics View

Fit to View

Center Origin Point

Zoom In

Zoom Out



Move the schematics to center and scale it to the fit the screen size.









Move the schematics to center.

Zoom in.

Zoom out.

# Device Visualization

## View

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>General Options</b>		
Switch Background Color		Toggle the screen background color between black and white.
Inverse Y of View Point		Toggle the direction of the y-axis between up and down.
<b>Camera Options</b>		
Reset View		Reset camera position, orientation and focal parameters.
View at +X		View the device from the direction of +x axis.
View at -X		View the device from the direction of -x axis.
View at +Y		View the device from the direction of +y axis.
View at -Y		View the device from the direction of -y axis.
View at +Z		View the device from the direction of +z axis.
View at -Z		View the device from the direction of -z axis.

## Draw

### Menu

### Icon

### Description

#### Device Drawing

Draw Device Region

Draw Device Material

Draw Device Boundary

Draw Mesh



Plot the regions in the device structure.

Plot the materials in the device structure.

Plot the boundary and interfaces in the device structure.

Plot the mesh elements in the device structure.

#### Device Variable Plotting

Draw Pseudo Color

Draw Contour

Draw Vector



Draw a pseudo color plot of the selected variable.







Draw a contour line (surface) plot of the selected variable.

Draw a vector plot of the selected variable.

## Animating the simulation result

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Animation Control</b>		
First Frame		Show the first frame of the simulation results.
Previous Frame		Show the previous frame.
Next Frame		Show the next frame.
Last Frame		Show the last frame.
Play/Pause		Play (or Pause) the animation.
<b>Add Frames</b>		
Add Frame(s)		Add frames (.vtu files) to the animation.

# Spreadsheet

Menu	Icon	Description
<b>Spreadsheet Operation</b>		
Insert Row		Insert one row in the spreadsheet.
Insert Column		Insert one column in the spreadsheet.
Delete Row		Delete the selected rows in the spreadsheet.
Delete column		Delete the selected columns in the spreadsheet.
Plot Column		Plot the data in selected columns.
Calculator		Use mathematical calculator to calculate data entries in the selected column.
<b>Scripting</b>		
Run Python Script		Run a spreadsheet Python script.

## Plot column

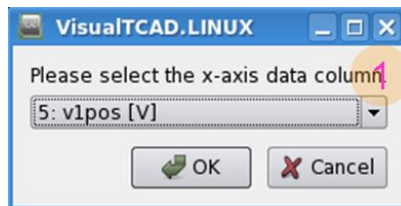


Figure 3.40 plot column.

#	Description
1	User need select at least two columns and set one column data as x-axis data column
2	

## Calculator

#	Description
1	VisualTCAD offers calculate function, user can obtain the expression
2	The calculate data come from the column data.
3	The expression can include the function of VisualTCAD offers, including absolute value calculate and square calculate etc.

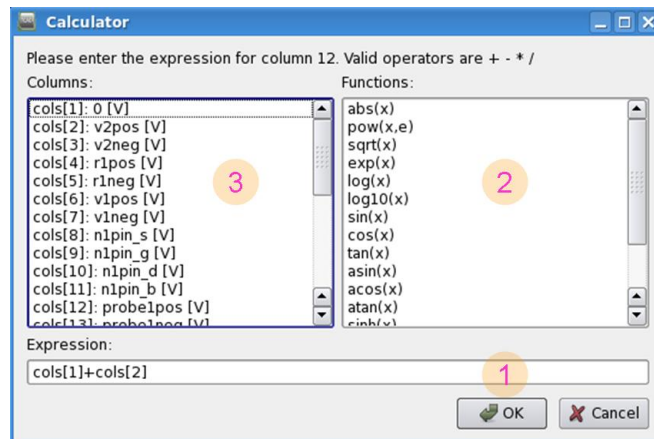


Figure 3.41 Calculator.



# XY Plotting

## Menu

### Plot Data Source

- Insert Curve
- Insert Group
- Delete



- Insert curve in the current group.
- Insert group in the plot.
- Delete the selected curve or group.

### Edit Plot Properties

- Edit Axis Properties
- Edit Curve Properties
- Palette Manager



- Edit the axis properties, e.g. the axis scale, range and tick marks.
- Edit the curve properties, eg. the line style, symbol style and color.
- Edit the plot curve style palletes.

### Input/Output

- Run Python Script
- Export Python Script

- Run a Python for curve plotting..
- Export the current plot to a python script file.

## Insert Curve

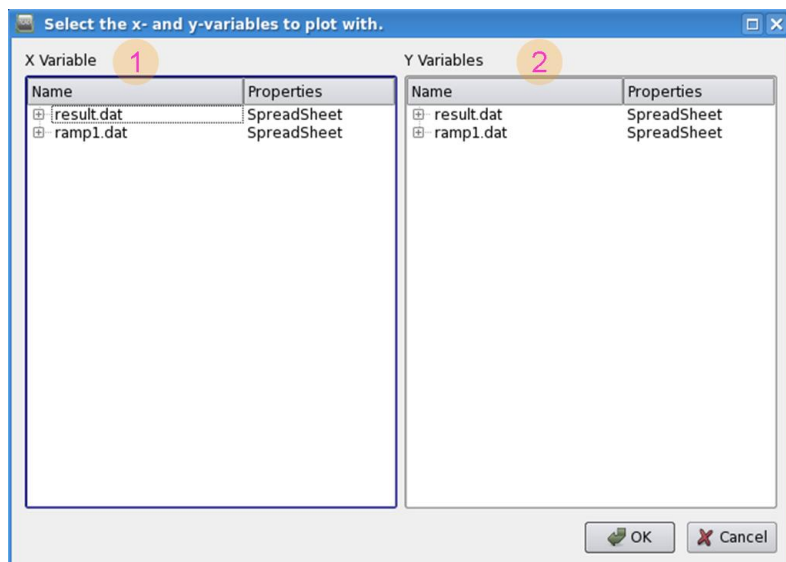


Figure 3.42 insert curve.

- | # | Description  |
|---|--|
| 1 | User can insert several curve to one plot, the x- and y-variable come from the open any data file. the left window is for choosing the x-variable and only can choose one column data. |
| 2 | The right window is for choosing y-variables, user can choose several column data as y variables at the same time.   |

### Edit Axis Properties



Figure 3.43 Edit Axis Properties.

- | # | Description  |
|---|--|
| 1 | User can edit the plot axis properties, inputs the left y-axis title |
| 2 | Selects the Axis Scale type, linear scale, logarithmic scale etc.    |
| 3 | Inputs the range of value of the axis.                               |

### Edit Curve properties

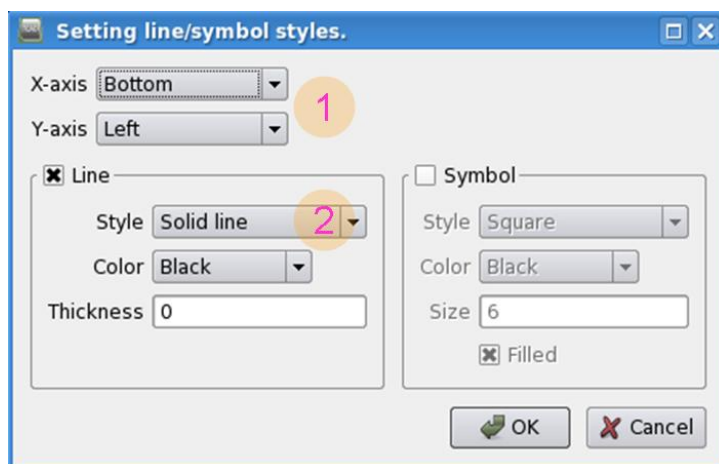


Figure 3.44 Edit Curve Properties.

- | # | Description   |
|---|---|
| 1 | User can edit each curve properties and select each line axis style |
| 2 | Selects each curve line and symbol style                            |

## Palette Manager

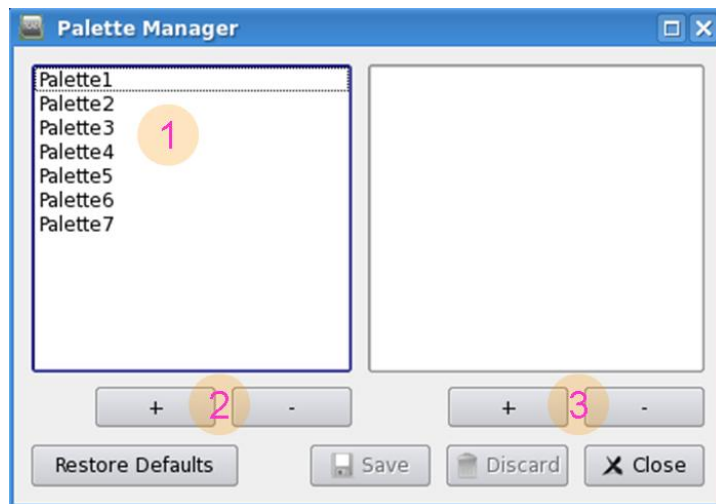


Figure 3.45 Palette Manager.

- | # | Description   |
|---|---|
| 1 | VisualTCAD offers 7 palettes for user   |
| 2 | User can edit new palette   |
| 3 | User can edit new curves of the selected palette and restore default palettes |

# Text Editor

## Search

### Menu

- Find
- Find Next
- Find Previous
- Replace

### Icon

### Description

- Search a string in the text.
- Go to the next match in the text.
- Go to the previous match in the text.
- Replace the matched string.

## Find

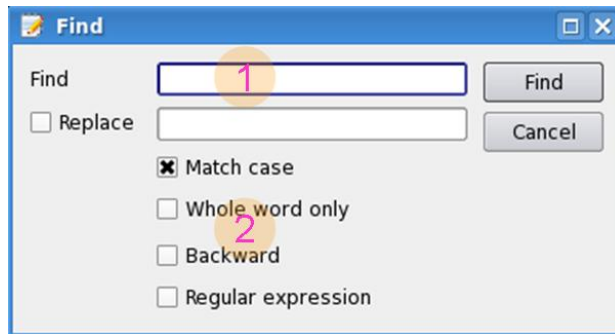


Figure 3.46 Find.

### #

### Description

- 1 Inputs the find text
- 2 Selects the properties

## Replace

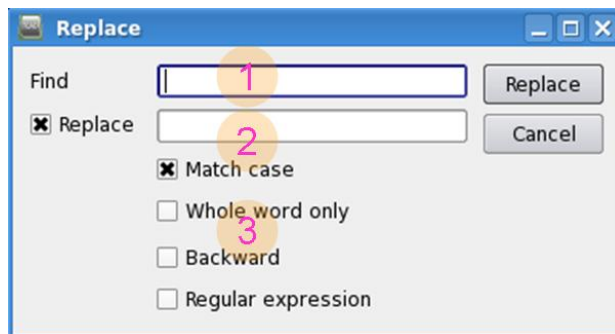


Figure 3.47 Replace.

<b>#</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Inputs the find text
2	Inputs the replace text
2	Selects the properties

## Options

**Menu**

**Icon**

**Description**

**Spreadsheet**

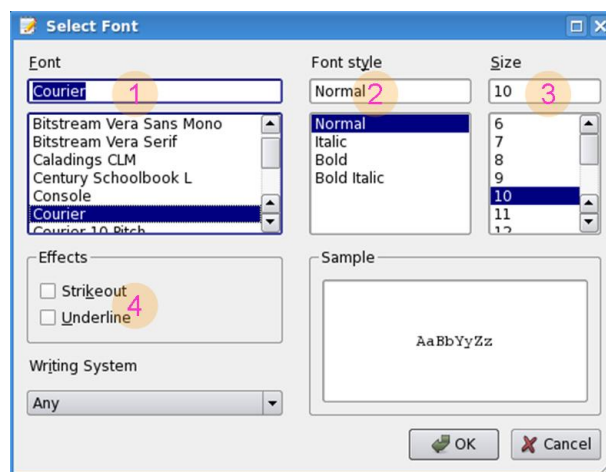
Syntax HighLight Mode

Highlight the text with the selected syntax mode, eg.Genius,Spice,Python,XML or no-highlight.

Font Settings

Font settings of the text window.

### Font Settings



**Figure 3.48** Font Settings.

- | # | Description            |
|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Selects the font       |
| 2 | Selects the font style |
| 3 | Selects the font size  |
| 4 | Other effects          |

## Tools

**Menu****Icon****Description****Simulation Tools**

Run As Genius Deck

Run Genius device simulator with the current file as the command input.

Run As SPICE Deck

Run SPICE circuit simulator with the current file as the circuit deck.

Run As Python Script

Run the text file as a Python Script.





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## Device2D Drawing

### Class Device2DScript

The Device2DScript exposes APIs for device2d drawing in python language.

#### Method scriptType

```
scriptType()
```

**Returns** Object name "device2dscript".

#### Method addPolyLineItem

```
addPolyLineItem(points)
```

**Arguments** `points` list, a list of points which to build a poly line. For example, `points = (-400,0), (400,0), (400,1000), (-400, 1000)`, `addPolyLineItem(points)` will draw `line((-400,0), (400,0))`, `line((400,0), (400,100))`, `line((400, 1000), (-400,1000))`.

#### Method addRegionLabelItem

```
addRegionLabelItem(label,material, pos, areaConstrain=0.01,  
strColor="#ffb6c1")
```

**Arguments** `label` string, name of the region label item.

`material` string, name of material which used in region.

`pos` point, region item position.

`areaConstrain` double, set region mesh area constrain.

strColor string, name of color which used in region.

### Method addRegionDoping

```
addRegionDoping(label,property, concentration)
```

**Arguments** label string, name of the region.

property string, property of region,"Nd" or "Na".

concentration double, concentration of region.

### Method addRegionMoleFraction

```
addRegionMoleFraction(label, x, y=-1.0)
```

**Arguments** label string, name of the region.

x double, x fraction.

y double, y fraction.

### Method addDataset

```
addDataset(xList, yList, vList, dsName="")
```

**Arguments** xList list, list of x coordinate position.

yList list, list of y coordinate position.

vList list, list of value.

dsName string, name of dataset.

**Returns** dataset label for this dataset, which append SHA1 to dsName.

### Method addDataset

```
addDataset(type, filename)
```

**Arguments** type string, 1D or 2D dataset file.

filename string, dataset file name.

**Returns** dataset label for this dataset, which append SHA1 to filename.

### Method addDopingProfileItem

```
addDopingProfileItem(attr)
```

**Arguments** attr list, a list of name and value pair for profile item.

### Method addMoleFractionItem

```
addMoleFractionItem(attr)
```

**Arguments** attr list, a list of name and value pair for mole fraction item.

### Method addBoundaryItem

```
addBoundaryItem(label, segment, strColor="#ff0000")
```

**Arguments** label string, label for boundary item.

segment list, point p1 and p2 to decide item region.

strColor string, background color for item.

### Method addMeshSizeCtrlItem

```
addMeshSizeCtrlItem(division, points)
```

**Arguments** division int, number of division.

points list, start point and end point to decide MeshSizeCtrlItem.

### Method addRulerItem

```
addRulerItem(points)
```

**Arguments** points list, start point and end point to decide RulerItem.

### Method addPointItem

```
addPointItem(point)
```

**Arguments** point list, (x, y) to decide PointItem.

### Method doMesh

```
doMesh( optimization = 1, meshCmd = "pzADenQq30", max_d=3.0,  
signed_log=true)
```

**Arguments** optimization int, times to refine mesh.

meshCmd string, command to do mesh.

max\_d double.

signed\_log bool.

### Method exportMesh

```
exportMesh( filename)
```

**Arguments** filename string, name of tif file when export mesh.

### Method clear

```
clear()
```

### Method saveToFile

```
saveToFile(filename)
```

**Arguments** filename string, filename to save file, which can be relative or absolute filename, if relative, save in current directory where program is running.

### Method setTitle

```
setTitle( title)
```

**Arguments** `title` string, title for Device2D SubWindow.

---

## Curve Plot

### PlotScript

The PlotScript exposes APIs for curve plotting in python language.

#### Method scriptType

```
scriptType( )
```

**Returns** Return the object name "plotscript".

#### Method curveGroupCount

```
curveGroupCount( )
```

**Returns** Return the count of curve groups.

#### Method curveCountAt

```
curveCountAt( group)
```

**Arguments** group int, group index.

**Returns** Return curve count at group group

#### Method insertCurveGroup

```
insertCurveGroup( pos, groupTitle="Group", groupPalette = QString())
```

**Arguments** pos int, index of curve group.

groupTitle string, title for this curve group.

groupPalette string, palette name for this curve group.

#### Method removeCurveGroup

```
removeCurveGroup( int pos)
```

**Arguments** pos int, index of curve group which will be deleted .

### Method `setGroupTitle`

```
setGroupTitle( group, title)
```

**Arguments** group int, index of curve group.  
title string, title for curve group.

### Method `insertCurve`

```
insertCurve( group, pos, xData, yData, title = "curve", properties  
= QVariant())
```

**Arguments** group int, index of curve group.  
pos int, index of curve in curve group.  
xData list, data for x coordinate .  
yData list, data for y coordinate.  
title string, title for the curve.  
properties list, a list of curve properties.

### Method `clear`

```
clear()
```

### Method `saveToFile`

```
saveToFile( filename)
```

**Arguments** filename string, save to file with filename.

### Method `setTitle`

```
setTitle( title)
```

**Arguments** title string, title for plot subwindow.

---

## SpreadSheet

### class SpreadSheetScript

The SpreadSheetScript class exposes APIs for spreadsheet operations in python language.

#### Method scriptType

```
scriptType()
```

**Returns** Return the object name "ssheetscript".

#### Method getColumnName

```
getColumnName( column)
```

**Arguments** column int, index of column, index from 0.

**Returns** Return the name of column.

#### Method getColumnData

```
getColumnData( column)
```

**Arguments** column int, index of column, index from 0.

**Returns** Return data in column.

#### Method insertRows

```
\GSyntax{insertRows}( row, count)
```

**Arguments** row int, row index where rows will be inserted.

count int, number of rows will be inserted.

#### Method insertColumns

```
insertColumns( column, count)
```



**Arguments** column int, column index where columns will be inserted.

count int, number of columns will be inserted.

### Method `setColumnData`

```
setColumnData( column, data)
```

**Arguments** column int, index of column.

data list, assign data to column.

### Method `setColumnName`

```
setColumnName( column, name)
```

**Arguments** column int, index of column.

name string, name for column.

### Method `calcColumn`

```
calcColumn( column, expression)
```

**Arguments** column int, index of column.

expression string, expression to compute data for column.

### Method `saveToFile`

```
saveToFile( filename)
```

**Arguments** filename string, save to file with filename.

### Method `setTitle`

```
setTitle( title)
```

**Arguments** setTitle string, title for spreadsheet subwindow.

**Method clear**

```
clear()
```

---

## MainWindow

### Class MainWindowScript

The MainWindowScript class exposes APIs for operations in top level in python language.

#### Method scriptType

```
scriptType()
```

**Returns** Return the object name "mainwindowscript".

#### Method openDocumentFromFile

```
openDocumentFromFile( filename)
```

**Arguments** filename string, name of file which to open.

#### Method saveAllToFile

```
saveAllToFile( filepath)
```

**Arguments** filepath string, path to save content of all subwindow to file .

#### Method newWindow

```
newWindow( type, title)
```

**Arguments** type string, type of window, type can be "Device2D" "Plot" or "SpreadSheet".  
title string, title for window.

**Returns** Return a pointer which point to created window, if failed, return NULL.

#### Method getWindowByName

```
getWindowByName( subWindowName)
```

**Arguments** subWindowName string, name of subWindow.

**Returns** If find a subwindow which has name \GSyntax {subWindowName}, return a pointer which point to it, else return NULL.

### Method getWindowByNumber

```
getWindowByNumber( number)
```

**Arguments** number int, index of subwindow.

**Returns** If find a subwindow which has index \GSyntax {\GSyntax {number}}, return a pointer which point to it, else return NULL.