

ANALOG INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

— o —

FUNDAMENTALS

*and*


APPLICATIONS

VIDEO COURSE

STUDY GUIDE

Return for use by other employees

MAGNETIC PERIPHERALS INC.

 a subsidiary of  
CONTROL DATA CORPORATION

P.O. Box 12313  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73157

RIGID DISK ENGINEERING

1984

### THIS COURSE IS INTENDED FOR

1. Electrical engineers who have graduated some time ago and feel the need to refresh and update their knowledge on transistor circuits.
2. Electrical engineers who have graduated recently but feel the need to have a quick review and then go much more in depth and coverage than normally encountered in undergraduate study of transistor circuits.
3. Other engineers and scientists who like to acquire the necessary knowledge on transistor circuits in a very short time.

### THE GOALS OF THE COURSE ARE

1. Starting with the fundamentals, present a thorough and extensive understanding of the low-frequency behavior of the bipolar transistor.
2. Present and discuss in detail commonly used discrete and integrated analog circuits.
3. Provide design oriented practical information that can be used readily.
4. Provide the necessary tools, skills, and confidence for analyzing as well as designing analog transistor circuits.

### HOW THE GOALS ARE ACHIEVED

1. By solving one practical circuit problem after another.
2. By demonstrating the actual performance characteristics of some of the widely used circuits that are discussed.
3. By putting together circuits that are commonly used as building blocks to design more complex circuits.

### SUGGESTED STUDY FORMAT

1. View the videotape.
2. Then try to reproduce all derivations on your own. Since the lectures are entirely on analysis and discussion of practical and useful circuits, being able to derive all the results by oneself demonstrates intimate knowledge and understanding of the circuits involved.

## PREFACE

The course deals with bipolar transistor analog circuits that are essential in the design of a large variety of amplifiers. The entire series consists of 19 videotapes, averaging about 43 minutes in length, devoted to a thorough understanding of widely used amplifier circuits. For convenience, the series is divided into four modules.

### Module A: Bipolar Transistor Fundamentals and Basic Amplifier Circuits.

The characteristics of diodes and bipolar transistors are presented and discussed. Then the small-signal equivalent circuits are derived. Large and small-signal characteristics of common-emitter, common-base, common-collector, and composite transistor amplifiers are derived and discussed. (Seven lectures with five demonstrations.)

### Module B: Current Sources and Applications.

Widely used dc current sources are presented and discussed in detail. (Four lectures with one demonstration.)

### Module C: The Differential Amplifier.

The differential amplifier is discussed in detail. (Four lectures with three demonstrations.)

### Module D: Class A, B, and AB Output Stages and $\mu$ A741 Operational Amplifier.

Class A, class B, and class AB output stages are discussed in detail. Finally, the versatility of the circuits discussed in various modules is demonstrated by showing how they are put together in the design of the  $\mu$ A741 operational amplifier. (Four lectures with two demonstrations.)

#### PREREQUISITES

1. Working knowledge of circuit theory. Knowledge of Laplace transformation is not necessary.
2. Understanding of basic transistor circuits. Determined individuals can acquire this knowledge while taking this videotaped course since it covers the basics as well as more advanced material.

#### REFERENCES

1. Analysis and Design of Analog Integrated Circuits, P.R. Gray and R.G. Meyer, Wiley 1977. This is a basic reference and can be used as textbook to supplement the videotaped lectures.
2. Basic Integrated Circuit Engineering, D.J. Hamilton and W.G. Howard, McGraw Hill, 1975.
3. Introduction to Integrated Circuits, V.H. Grinich and H.G. Jackson, McGraw Hill, 1975.
4. Applied Electronics, J.F. Pierce and T.J. Paulus, Bell and Howell, 1972.

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MODULE  
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MODULE  
D



MODULE A  
LECTURE SUMMARIES  
1 → 7

1. Characteristics of diodes and transistors.

The pn junction diode equation is presented and discussed. The input and output characteristics of the bipolar transistor are derived from the Ebers-Moll model. Circuit models are obtained with  $V_{be}$  or  $I_b$  as a dependent parameter. Departures from the Ebers-Moll model are discussed.

Demonstration: The output voltage of a discrete transistor is compared with an integrated circuit.

2. The small-signal equivalent circuit of transistors.

Using the forward-active-region large-signal characteristics of the transistor, the small-signal input- and output- equivalent circuits are obtained.  $r_{\pi}$ ,  $g_m$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $r_o$  are defined graphically as well as mathematically.

3. The common-emitter amplifier.

The large-signal characteristics of the common-emitter amplifier with resistive load are presented. The small-signal characteristics are derived, and the expression of gain as a function of the operating point is obtained and plotted. The common-emitter amplifier with current-source load is discussed.

Demonstration: The transfer characteristics of common-emitter amplifiers with resistive and current-source loads are compared.

4. The common-base and the common-emitter amplifier.

General analysis of transistor circuits. The large-signal characteristics of the common-base and common-emitter amplifiers are derived. The operating point of a transistor circuit having a resistance and a voltage source connected in series with each terminal lead and ground is obtained. The small-signal equivalent circuits facing each source are derived.

Demonstration: Distortions caused by voltage and current excitations are compared for small and not so small sinusoidal output-signal amplitudes.

5. Input and output-equivalent circuits. Input- and output-equivalent circuits for the common-emitter, common-base, and common-collector amplifiers are obtained with and without the  $r_o$  of the transistor.

6. CC-CC, CC-CE, and CE-CB amplifiers. Equivalent circuits of composite CC-CC, CC-CE, and CE-CB transistors are obtained. The large- and small-signal characteristics of the cascode amplifier are derived.

Demonstration: The collector characteristics of the transistor are compared with the cascode-connected transistor.

7. Biasing. The power-supply sensitivities of base-current and base-voltage controlled-bias circuits are compared. Fixed collector-current bias circuits using one and two power supplies are given. The need for using dc current sources for biasing is shown.

Demonstration: Power supply sensitivities of fixed base-current and fixed base-voltage bias circuits are compared.

## MODULE B

### LECTURE SUMMARIES

8 → 11

8. Dc current sources. The ideal and actual dc current source characteristics are presented. Methods are given for measuring the output characteristic curve. Equivalent circuits of current sources using a single transistor with one or two power supplies are derived. The basic integrated circuit used for current source generation is introduced and discussed.
9. Dc current sources. Current sources based on a common reference are given. Causes for mismatches in current sources are discussed. The Widlar current source is introduced and its reduced dependence on power supply voltages is shown.
10. Widlar and cascode current sources. The output equivalent circuits of the Widlar and cascode current sources are derived. Different value current source circuits based on a common reference are given. A stabilized bias circuit for an amplifier is discussed.  
Demonstration: The characteristics of a simple, a Widlar, and a cascode current source are compared.
11. The common-emitter amplifier with resistive and active loads. The large- and small-signal characteristics of the common-emitter amplifier are discussed graphically and analytically for three kinds of loads: resistive, ideal current source, and actual current source. The expression showing the dependence of the gain on the output operating point is derived.

## MODULE C

### LECTURE SUMMARIES

12 → 15

12. The differential amplifier. The large- and small-signal characteristics of the differential amplifier are derived. Input- and output-equivalent circuits are given.

Demonstration The transfer characteristics and the variations of the base-to-emitter voltages of the differential amplifier are displayed.

13. The differential amplifier.(Cont'd). The input is decomposed into the common- and difference-mode components, and the corresponding half circuits are obtained. The expressions for the common- and difference-mode gains are derived. The common-mode-rejection ratio is defined and a method for improving it is given. Mismatches in resistor and saturation current values are shown to result in the offset voltage.

14. The differential amplifier.(Cont'd). Offset current is defined and calculated. A method for measuring offset voltage and current is given. The input resistance and the gain of two differential amplifiers are compared. A differential amplifier with an active load is presented and the effect of mismatches in saturation currents on the output voltage is calculated.

Demonstration: A method for measuring ratios of saturation currents is given.

15. The differential amplifier.(Cont'd). The common- and difference-mode gains of the differential amplifier with active load are calculated. The expression for the offset voltage is obtained. A current difference amplifier using a single power supply is presented and discussed.

Demonstration: The transfer characteristics of the differential amplifier with active load is displayed. The effect of mismatches in saturation currents is demonstrated.

## MODULE D

### LECTURE SUMMARIES

16 → 19

16. The class-A emitter-follower output stage. The transfer characteristic of the class-A emitter-follower output stage is derived and plotted. The small-signal gain is calculated and is shown to be practically constant regardless of the value of the collector current. Expressions for instantaneous and average output power and power conversion efficiency are obtained.

Demonstration: The transfer characteristic and input and output waveforms of the class-A output stage are demonstrated.

17. The class-A and class-B output stages. Instantaneous and average power dissipation expressions for the class-A output stage are obtained and plotted. The points for maximum collector power and standby collector power dissipation are shown on the load line. The transfer curve of the class-B emitter-follower output stage showing crossover distortion is presented. Various waveforms needed for power calculations are given, and the power conversion efficiency is obtained.

18. The class-AB output stage. The transfer characteristic of the class-AB output stage is derived as a function of the base-to-base voltage, and it is plotted to show how crossover distortion can be eliminated. Means for generating the base-to-base voltage are presented and discussed.

Demonstration: The transfer characteristics and waveforms associated with the class-AB amplifier are demonstrated.

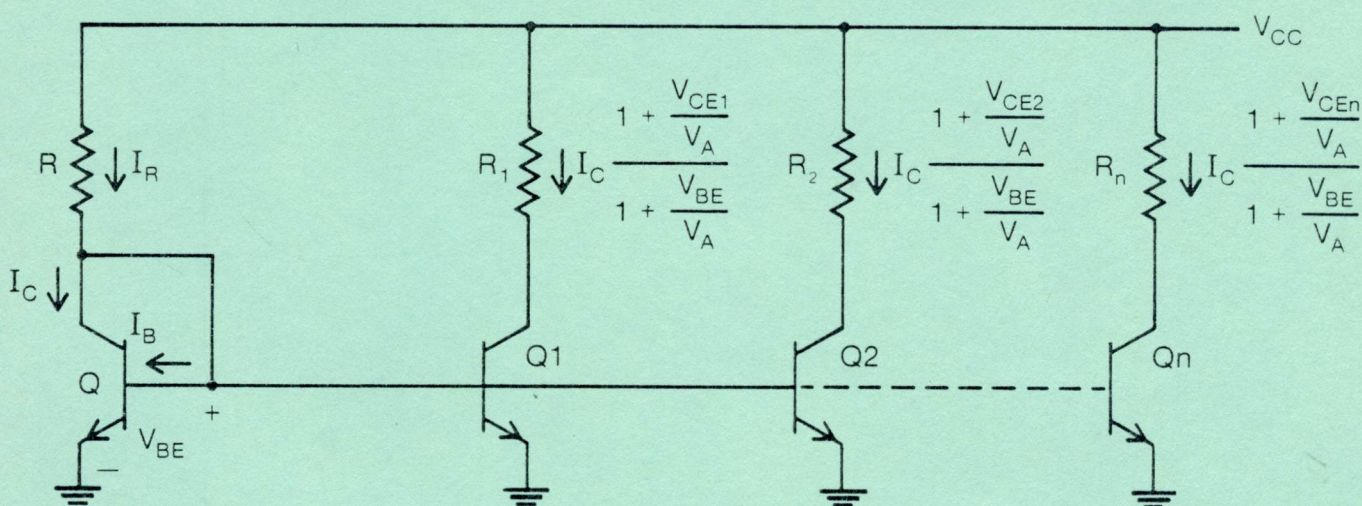
19. The  $\mu$ A741 operational amplifier. The  $\mu$ A741 operational amplifier is used as an example to show how the various circuits presented and discussed in previous lectures are put together to design an integrated circuit operational amplifier. With the two inputs grounded and the output at zero, all quiescent currents are calculated. Then, the amplifier is partitioned into the input differential stage, the intermediate gain stage, and the output stage. The small-signal input- and output- equivalent circuits are calculated for each stage and then put together to determine the overall gain. Feedback is used to stabilize the gain.

A Self Study Subject

# FUNDAMENTALS & APPLICATIONS OF ANALOG INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

PART I

LOW FREQUENCY ANALYSIS & DESIGN



Study Guide  
for

## MODULE A

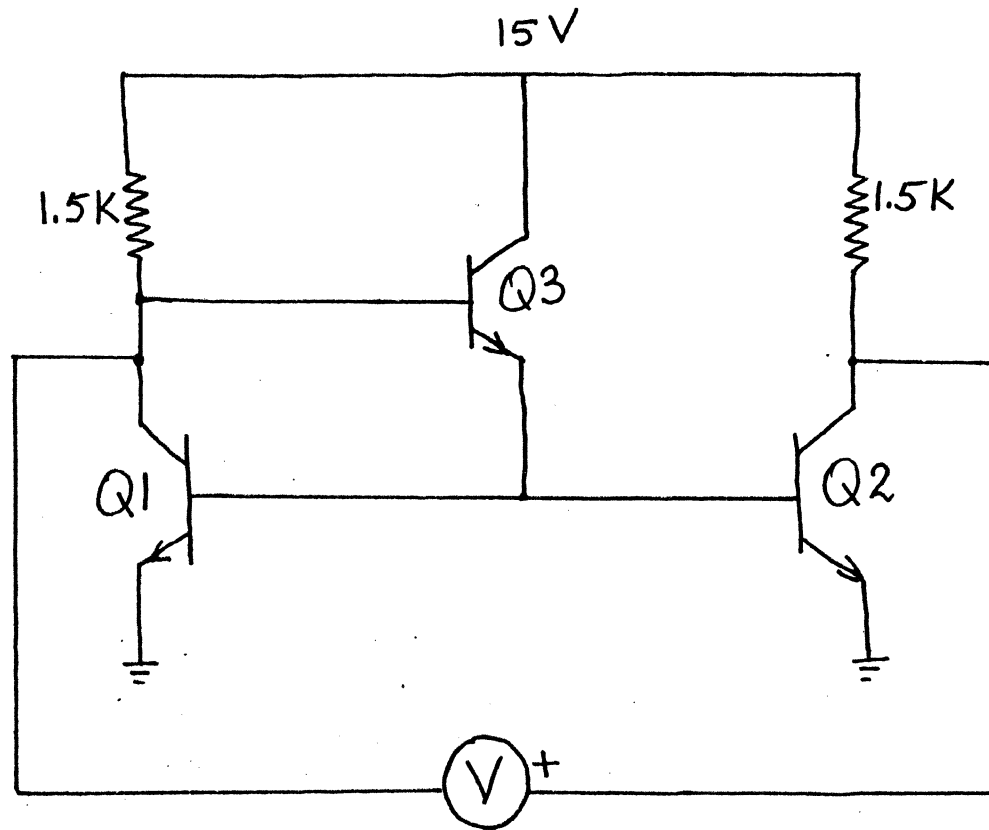
### Bipolar Transistor Fundamentals & Basic Amplifier Circuits



Colorado State University  
Engineering Renewal  
& Growth Program

Aram Budak

# L1: Comparison of a Discrete Transistor Circuit with an Integrated Circuit



Voltmeter Reading

Discrete: 380 mV

Integrated Circuit: 12 mV

Demonstration

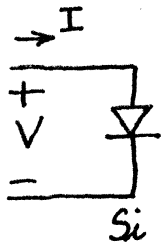


## Integrated Circuits

- Advantages:
1. Circuits containing a large number of elements can be fabricated as a unit on a chip.
  2. Size, weight, and cost are reduced.
  3. Devices of the same kind have well-matched characteristics. (Ratios of identical resistor values or identical transistor saturation currents are close to unity.)
  4. Device characteristics are quite uniform and track well with temperature. (Base-to-emitter voltages of transistors located on isothermal lines change by the same amount and almost at the same time with changes in temperature.)

- Disadvantages:
1. Inflexibility. Once manufactured, component values cannot be changed.
  2. Absolute values cannot be attained precisely. (Resistor values may be 25% off the desired values.)
  3. Choice of component values is restricted. ( $1\text{ M}\Omega$  resistor values and  $0.1\ \mu\text{F}$  capacitor values are impractical.)
  4. Inductors are unavailable.
  5. Compatible active devices are difficult to obtain. (Complementary NPN and PNP bipolar transistors of equal quality are difficult to fabricate on the same chip.)

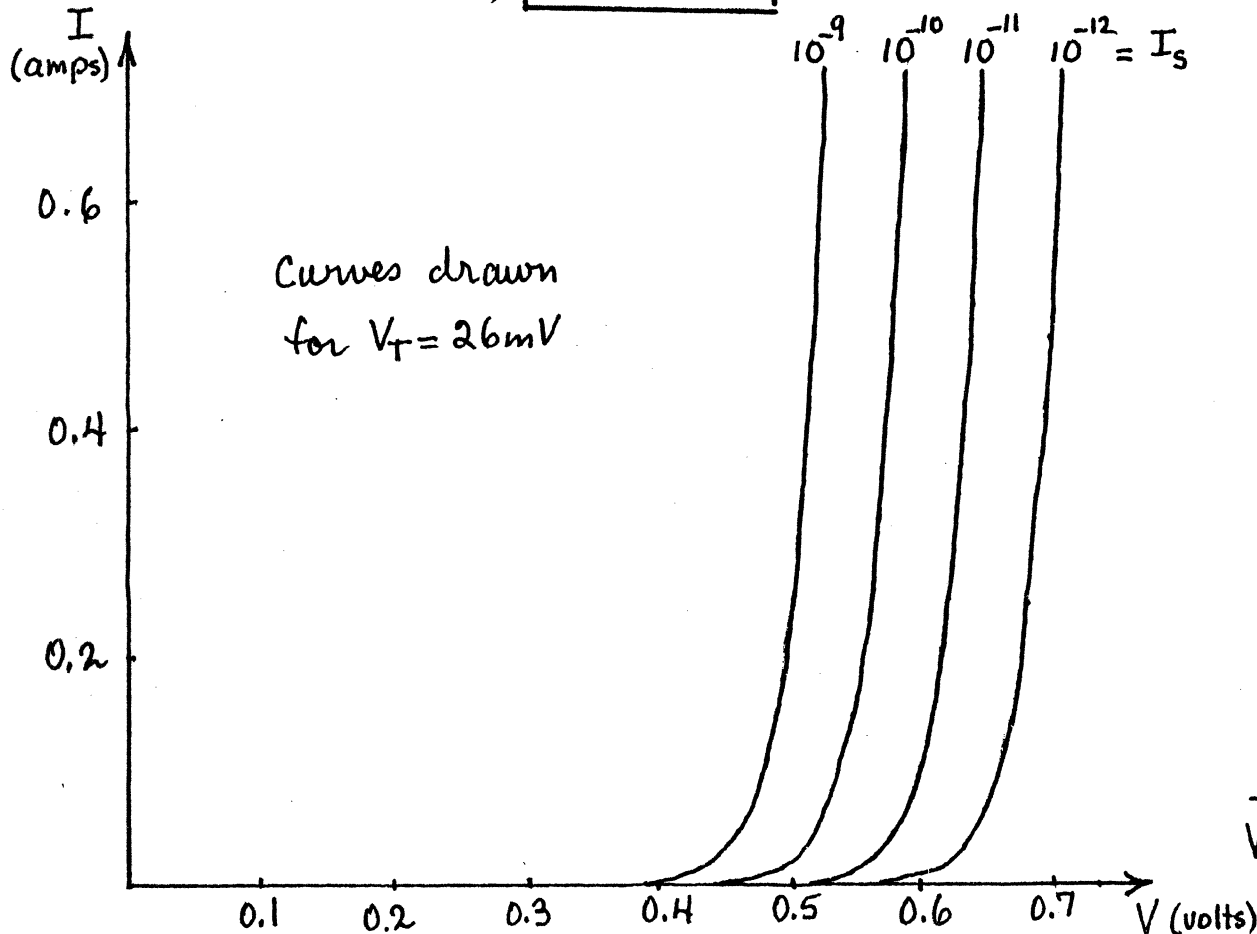
# The Idealized pn Junction Diode



From semiconductor theory

$$I = I_s (e^{\frac{V}{V_T}} - 1)$$

For  $T = 27^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $V_T = 26\text{mV}$



$I_s$  = saturation current  
 $V_T$  = thermal voltage =  $\frac{kT}{q}$   
 $k$  = Boltzmann's constant  
 $T$  = absolute temperature  
 $q$  = electronic charge  
 [More generally  $I = I_s (e^{\frac{qV}{\eta kT}} - 1)$   
 where  $\eta = 1 \sim 2$ ]

Only one constant,  $I_s$ , is needed to characterize the diode.

$I_s$  is a strong function of temperature (for Si at room temp.,  $I_s$  doubles every  $10^\circ\text{C}$ )

At fixed  $I$ ,  $V$  decreases approx.  $2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ .

$\frac{I}{I_s}$	$10^7$	$10^8$	$10^9$	$10^{10}$	$10^{11}$	$10^{12}$
$V$ (mV)	419	479	539	599	659	718

For  $\frac{V}{V_T} \leq -5$  (corresponding to  $V \leq -130\text{mV}$  at room temp.),  $e^{\frac{V}{V_T}} \leq 0.0067$ .  $I \cong -I_s$

For  $\frac{V}{V_T} \geq 5$  (corresponding to  $V \geq 130\text{mV}$  at room temp.)  $e^{\frac{V}{V_T}} \geq 148.41$ .  $I \cong I_s e^{\frac{V}{V_T}}$

From now on, when the diode is conducting  $I = I_s e^{\frac{V}{V_T}}$ . (We shall keep in mind that this equation is inaccurate for very small currents; in particular, it predicts  $V = -\infty$  to make  $I = 0$ , which of course is wrong since it takes  $V = 0$  to make  $I = 0$ .)

Let  $I_0$  represent the diode current when the voltage across is  $V_0$ , i.e.,

$$I_0 = I_s e^{\frac{V_0}{V_T}}$$

If the voltage is changed from  $V_0$  to  $V_0 + \Delta V$ , the current becomes

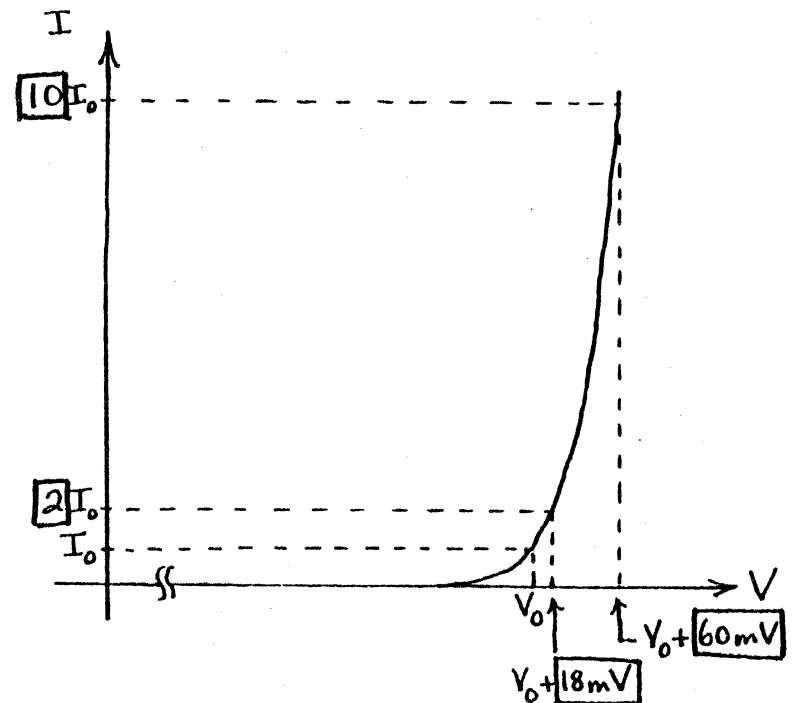
$$I = I_s e^{\frac{V_0 + \Delta V}{V_T}} = \left( I_s e^{\frac{V_0}{V_T}} \right) e^{\frac{\Delta V}{V_T}} = I_0 e^{\frac{\Delta V}{V_T}}$$

For  $\Delta V = 18\text{mV}$ ,

$$I = I_0 e^{18/26} = 1.998 I_0 \cong 2 I_0$$

For  $\Delta V = 60\text{mV}$ ,

$$I = I_0 e^{60/26} = 10.051 I_0 \cong 10 I_0$$



1. It takes a change of 18mV to double the diode current.
2. It takes a change of 60mV to change the diode current by a factor of 10.

$$I = I_s e^{\frac{V}{V_T}}$$

$$\frac{I}{I_s} = e^{\frac{V}{V_T}}$$

$$\ln \frac{I}{I_s} = \frac{V}{V_T}$$

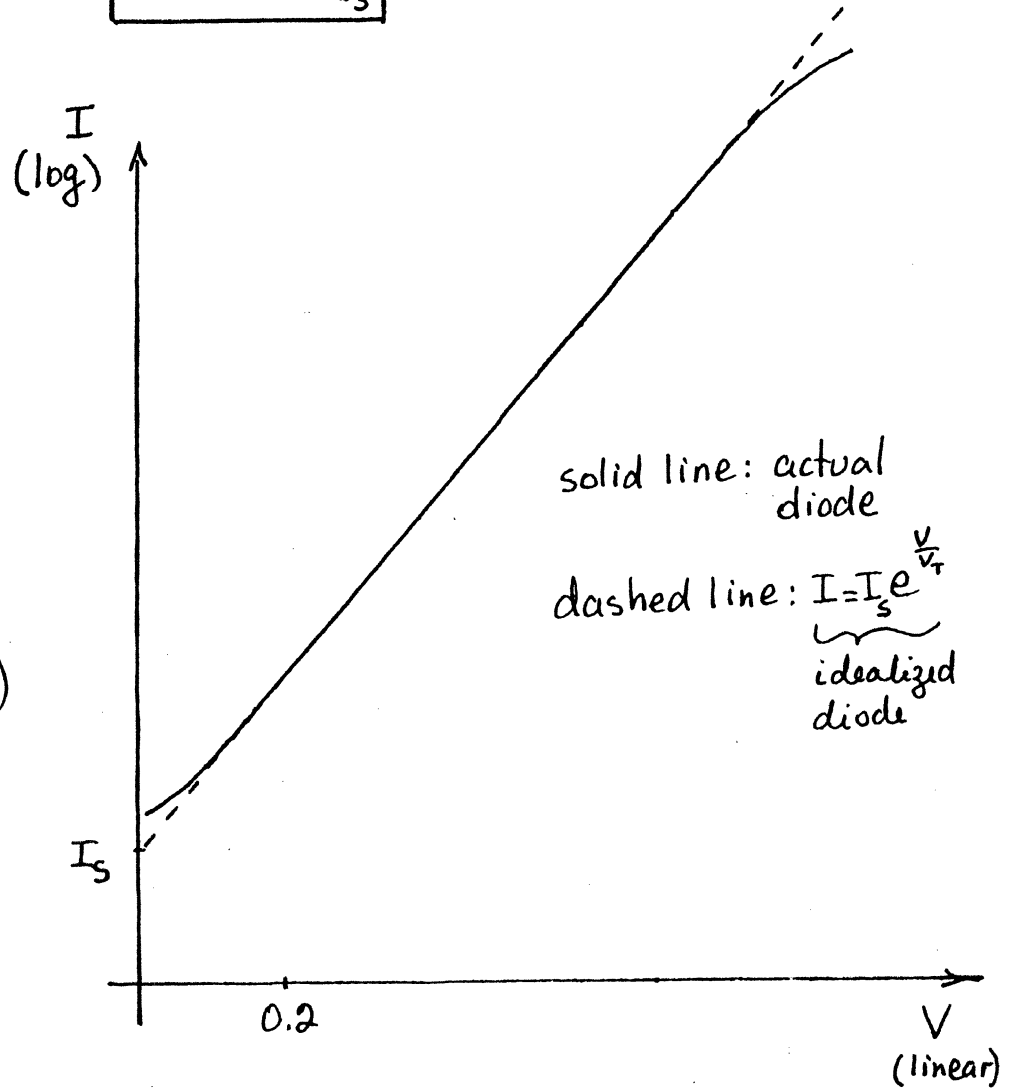
$$V = V_T \ln \frac{I}{I_s}$$

Also,  $\ln I = \ln I_s + \frac{V}{V_T}$ .

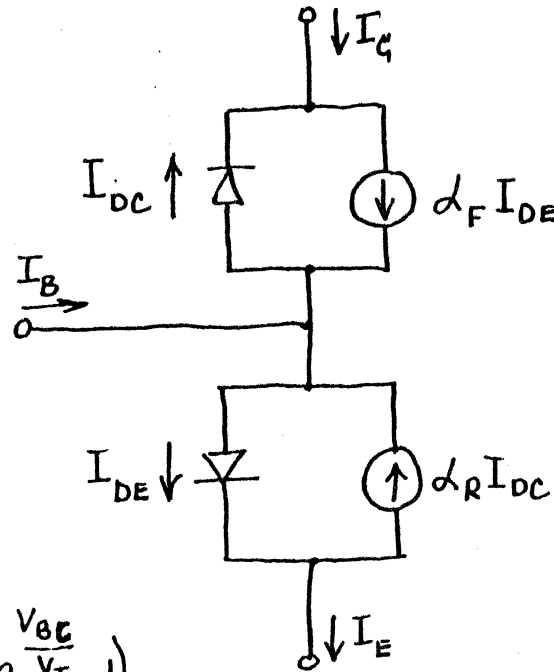
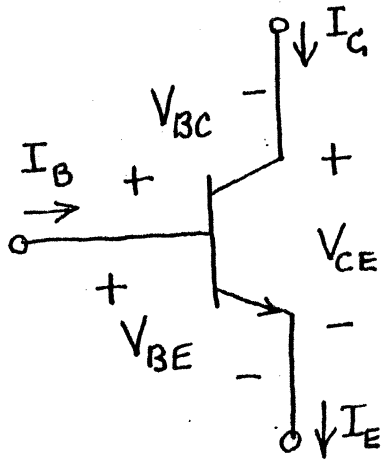
Hence, when  $I$  is plotted vs.  $V$  on semi-log paper, a straight line with a slope of  $\frac{1}{V_T}$  results.

The  $I$ -axis intercept is  $I_s$ , the saturation current.

A best straight line fit (dashed) can be drawn to characterize the actual (solid) diode curve. The two curves match very well over at least three to four decades of current.



# The Idealized Transistor



Ebers-Moll model of the transistor

$\alpha_F$  = forward alpha  
 $\cong 0.99$

$\alpha_R$  = inverse alpha  
 $\cong 0.5 - 0.8$

$I_{CS}$  = collector diode sat. current

$I_{ES}$  = emitter diode sat. current

$$I_{DE} = I_{ES} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) \quad I_{DC} = I_{CS} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_C = \alpha_F I_{DE} - I_{DC} = \alpha_F I_{ES} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) - I_{CS} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) \\ I_E = I_{DE} - \alpha_R I_{DC} = I_{ES} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) - \alpha_R I_{CS} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) \end{array} \right\} \text{Ebers-Moll eqs.}$$

$$I_B = I_E - I_C = (1 - \alpha_F) I_{ES} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) + (1 - \alpha_R) I_{CS} \left( e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_T}} - 1 \right) ; \quad V_{BC} = V_{BE} - V_{CE}$$

$$\alpha_F I_{ES} = \alpha_R I_{CS} = I_S \quad \text{typical values of } I_S = 10^{-15} - 10^{-14} \text{ A}$$

$$\beta_F = \text{forward beta} = \frac{\alpha_F}{1 - \alpha_F}$$

$$\beta_R = \text{inverse beta} = \frac{\alpha_R}{1 - \alpha_R}$$

$$\beta_F = \begin{cases} 50 - 500 \text{ NPN} \\ 10 - 100 \text{ PNP} \end{cases}$$

$$\beta_R = 1 - 5$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_B &= \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta_F}{\beta_R} e^{-\frac{V_{CE}}{V_T}} \right) - I_s \left( \frac{1}{\beta_F} + \frac{1}{\beta_R} \right) \\ I_C &= I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left( 1 - \frac{1+\beta_R}{\beta_R} e^{-\frac{V_{CE}}{V_T}} \right) + \frac{I_s}{\beta_R} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ exact eqs.}$$

Assume  $V_{CE} \geq 10V_T$  (260mV) ; then  $\frac{\beta_F}{\beta_R} e^{-\frac{V_{CE}}{V_T}} \ll 1$ ,  $\frac{1+\beta_R}{\beta_R} e^{-\frac{V_{CE}}{V_T}} \ll 1$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_B &\approx \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F} - I_s \left( \frac{1}{\beta_F} + \frac{1}{\beta_R} \right) \\ I_C &\approx I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} + \frac{I_s}{\beta_R} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

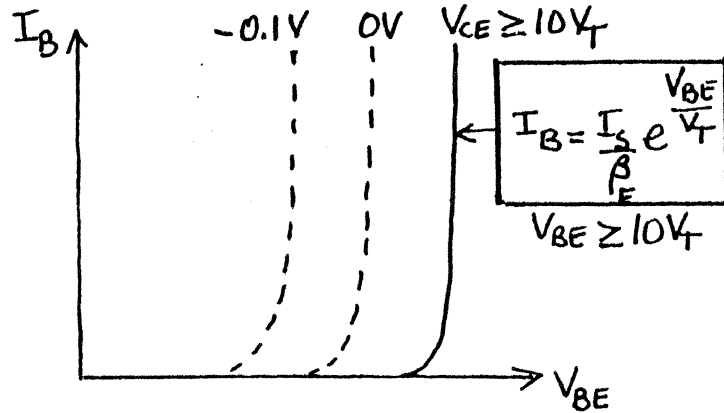
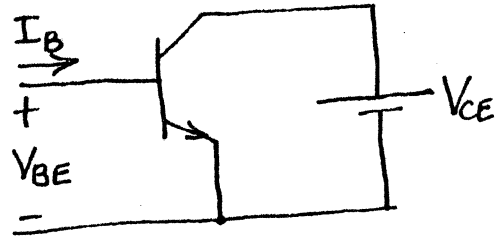
Assume further  $e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \gg 1 + \frac{\beta_F}{\beta_R}$  (thus excluding very small currents)

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_B &\approx \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F} \\ I_C &\approx I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

approx. eqs that will be used henceforth  
in the forward active region

$$I_C = \beta_F I_B$$

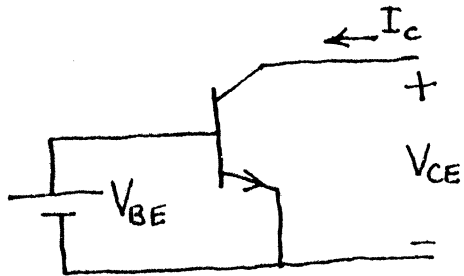
# The Input Characteristics



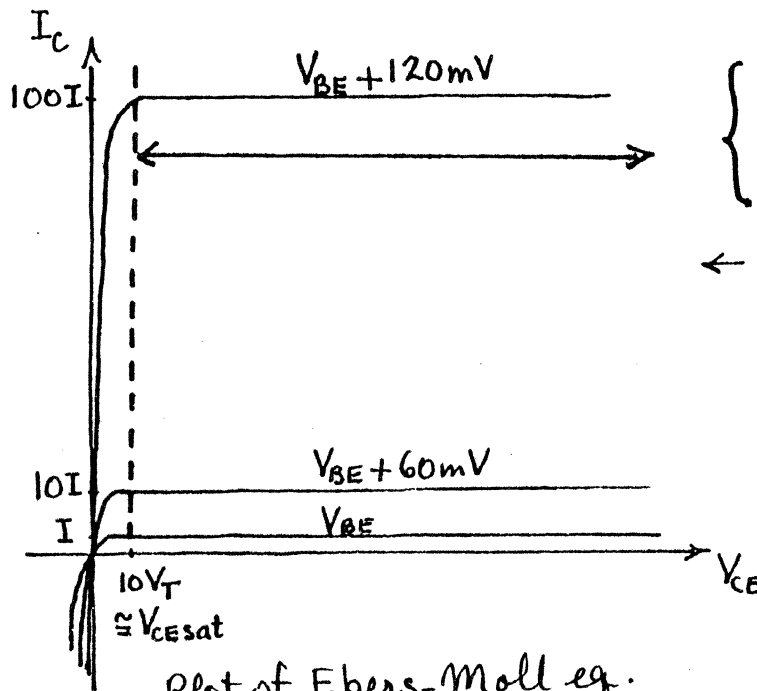
These characteristics are also temperature dependent: approx.  $-2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$  at constant  $I_B$ .

# The Output Characteristics

$V_{BE}$  held constant



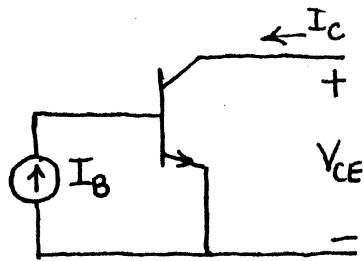
$$I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \text{ (forward active region)}$$



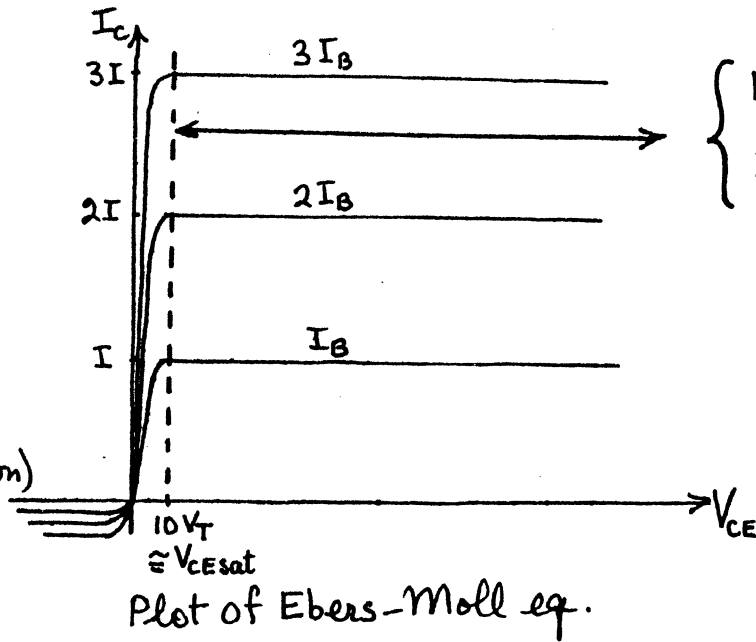
Forward active region  
 $I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}$   
 ← Note uneven spacing on linear  $I_C$  scale

$I_C$	$I_S = 10^{-15}$	$I_S = 10^{-14}$
$1\mu\text{A}$	539mV	479mV
$100\mu\text{A}$	659mV	599mV
$10\text{mA}$	778mV	718mV

$I_B$  held constant

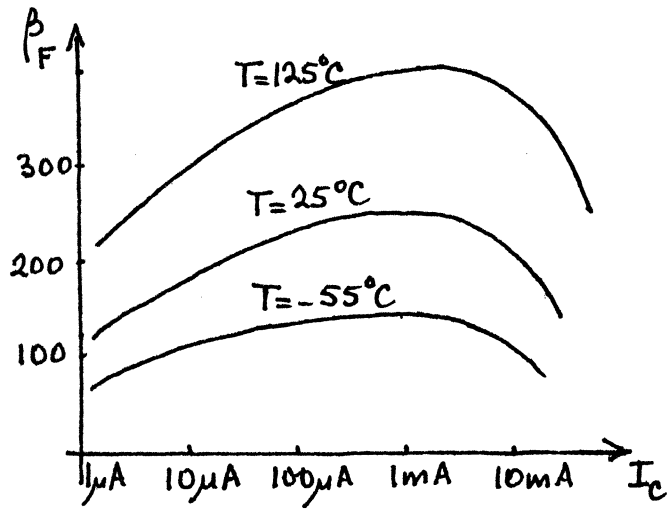


$I_C = \beta_F I_B$  (forward active region)

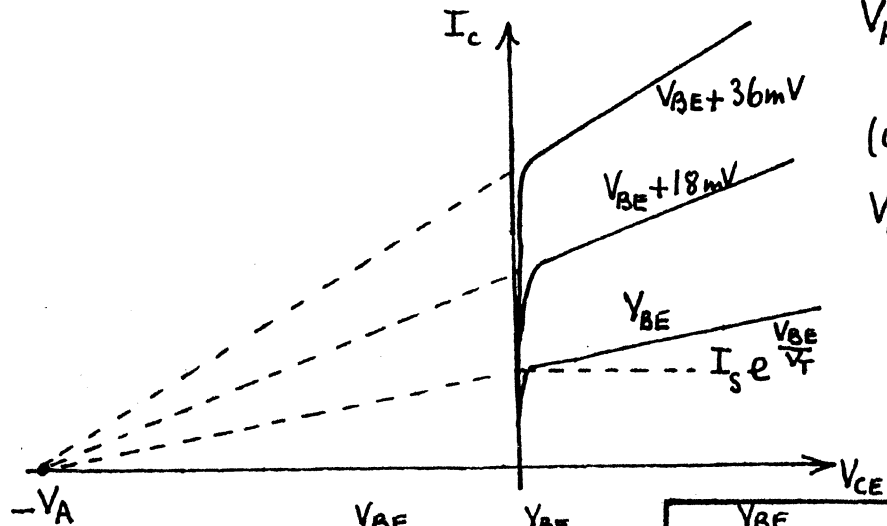


Forward active region  
 $I_C = \beta_F I_B$   
 $\beta_F$  is the most important parameter  
 Note even spacing

The actual transistor



$\beta_F$  depends on  $I_C$  and temp. (7000ppm/°C)  
 Nonetheless,  $\beta_F$  will be assumed constant.



$V_A =$  Early Voltage  
 (indep. of temp.)  
 $V_A = 50-130V$

$$I_C = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} + I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$I_C = \beta_F I_B \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right)$$



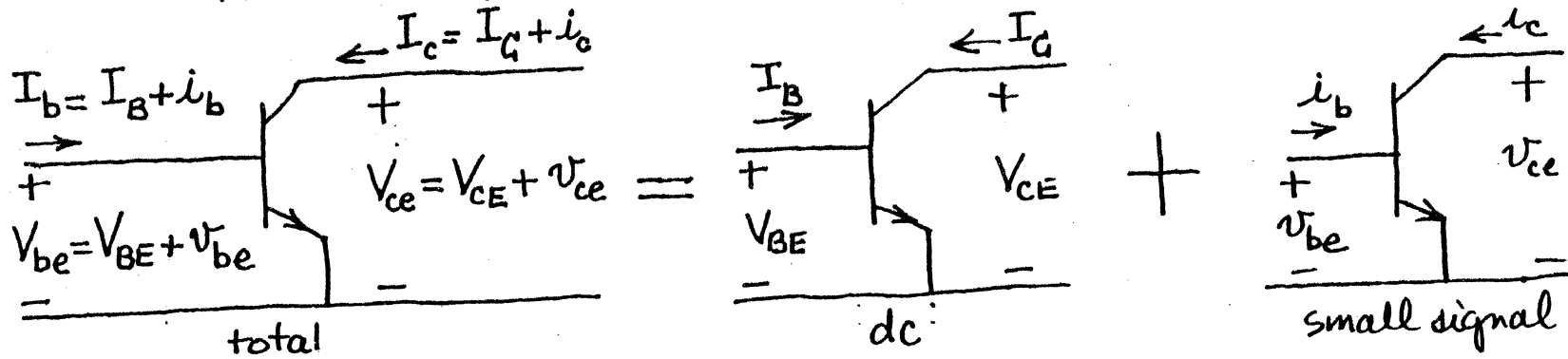
# L2: Small-Signal Equivalent Circuit

## Signal Notation

dc: upper-case symbol with upper-case subscript -  $I_B, V_{CE}$

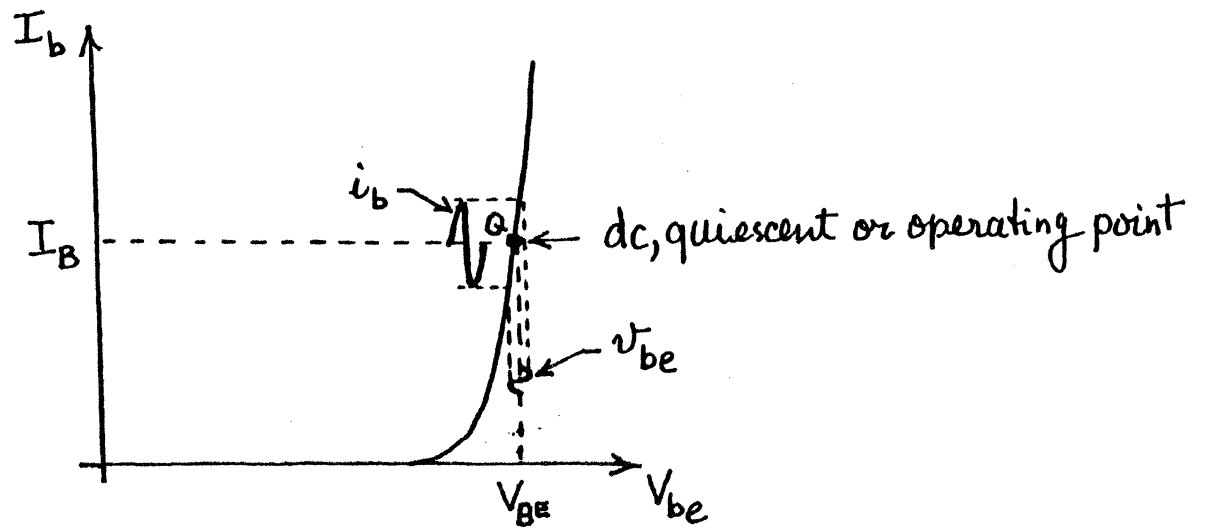
small signal: lower-case symbol with lower-case subscript -  $i_b, v_{ce}$

total: upper-case symbol with lower-case subscript -  $I_b, V_{ce}$



## Input Model

### 1. Graphical



## 2. Mathematical Model

In the forward active region  $I_b = \frac{I_s}{\beta_F} e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}}$ . We also know that  $I_b = I_B + i_b$ .

Since  $V_{be} = V_{BE} + v_{be}$  and  $e^x \approx 1 + x$  for  $|x| \ll 1$ , we can write

$$I_b = \frac{I_s}{\beta_F} e^{\frac{V_{BE} + v_{be}}{V_T}} = \frac{I_s}{\beta_F} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} e^{\frac{v_{be}}{V_T}} \approx \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F} \left(1 + \frac{v_{be}}{V_T}\right) \quad \text{for } \left|\frac{v_{be}}{V_T}\right| \ll 1.$$

Even for  $v_{be} = 10\text{mV}$ , the approx. value given by  $(1 + \frac{v_{be}}{V_T}) = 1 + \frac{10}{26} = 1.38$  is within 6% of the exact value given by  $e^{\frac{v_{be}}{V_T}} = e^{\frac{10}{26}} = 1.47$ . So for small signals,  $|v_{be}| \leq 10\text{mV}$ ,

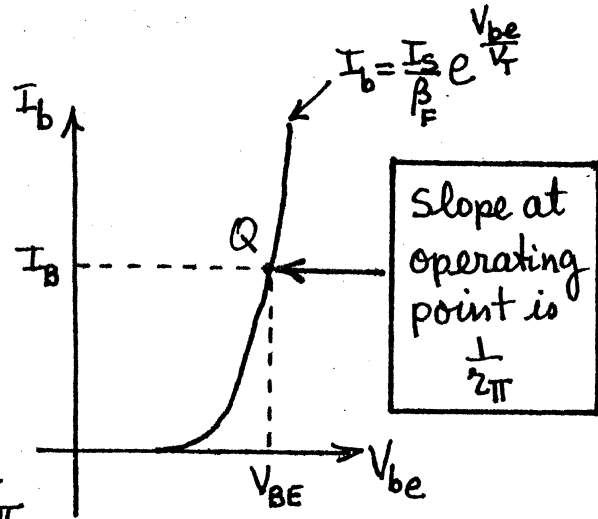
$$I_b = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F} + \frac{v_{be}}{\frac{\beta_F V_T}{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}} = I_B + \underbrace{\frac{v_{be}}{r_{\pi}}}_{i_b} \quad \text{where } \boxed{I_B = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F}} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{r_{\pi} = \frac{\beta_F V_T}{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}} = \frac{V_T}{I_B}}$$

What is  $r_{\pi}$ ?

$$I_b = \frac{I_s}{\beta_F} e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}}$$

$$\left. \frac{dI_b}{dV_{be}} = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F V_T} \right|_{V_{be} = V_{BE}}$$

$$\frac{dI_b}{dV_{be}} = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F V_T} = \frac{I_B}{V_T} = \frac{1}{r_{\pi}}$$



$$r_{\pi} = \frac{\beta_F V_T}{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}} = \frac{V_T}{I_B}$$

$r_{\pi}$  varies with operating point

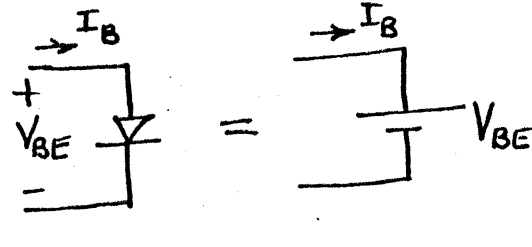
At room temp.

$$r_{\pi} = \frac{V_T}{I_B} = \frac{26 \times 10^{-3}}{I_B} \Omega = \frac{26 \times 10^{-3}}{I_{B \mu A} \times 10^{-6}} \Omega$$

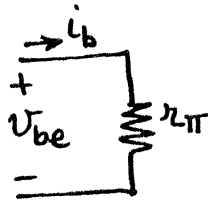
$$r_{\pi} = \frac{26 \times 10^3}{I_{B \mu A}} \Omega = \boxed{\frac{26 \text{ K}\Omega}{I_{B \mu A}}}$$

### 3. Circuit Model

dc model  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_B = \frac{I_S}{\beta_F} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \\ V_{BE} = V_T \ln \frac{\beta_F I_B}{I_S} \end{array} \right.$



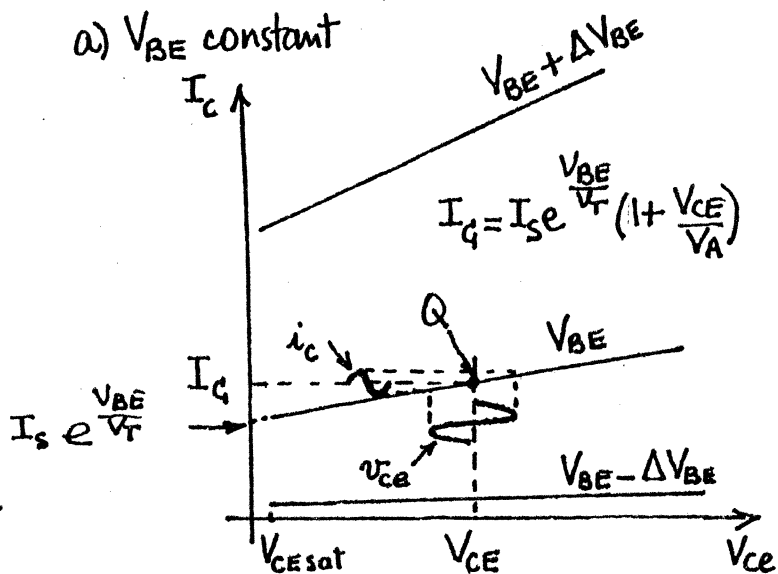
Small-signal model  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} i_b = \frac{v_{be}}{r_{\pi}} \\ v_{be} = i_b r_{\pi} \end{array} \right.$



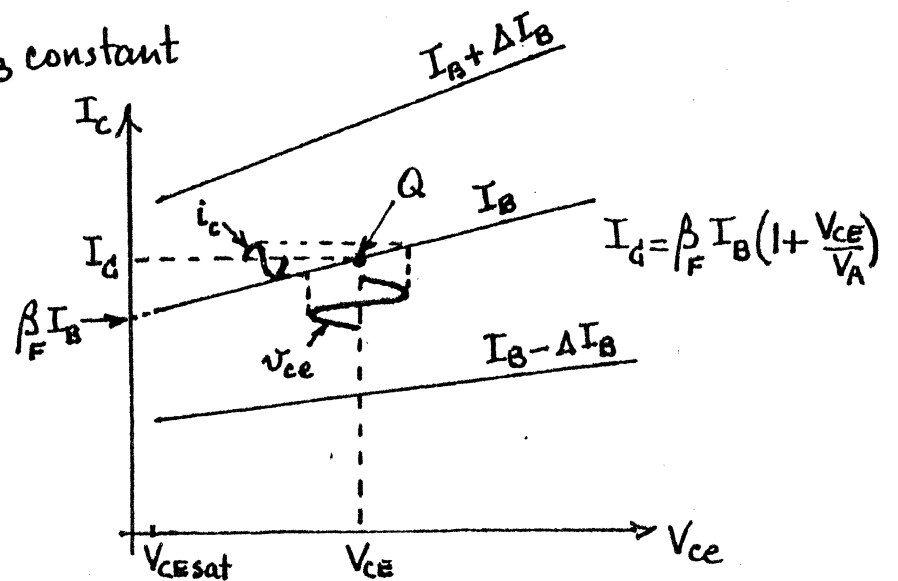
### Output Model

#### 1. Graphical

a)  $V_{BE}$  constant



b)  $I_B$  constant



## 2. Mathematical Model

a) In terms of changes in  $V_{be}$  and  $V_{ce}$

In the forward active region  $I_c = I_s e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{ce}}{V_A}\right) = I_Q + i_c$

$$I_c = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE} + v_{be}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE} + v_{ce}}{V_A}\right) = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} e^{\frac{v_{be}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A} + \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$\approx I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{v_{be}}{V_T}\right) \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A} + \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$= I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right) + I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right) \frac{v_{be}}{V_T} + I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A} + I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \frac{v_{be}}{V_T} \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A}$$

second-order effect; neglect this term

$$\approx I_Q + \underbrace{g_m v_{be} + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o}}_{i_c} \text{ where}$$

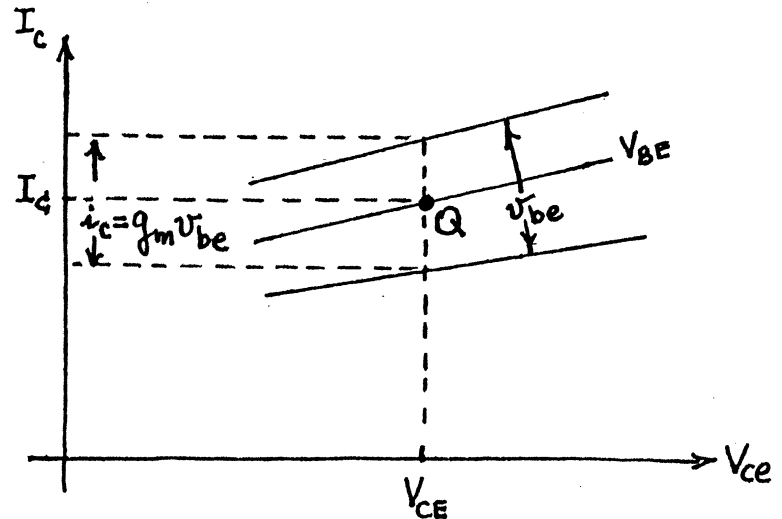
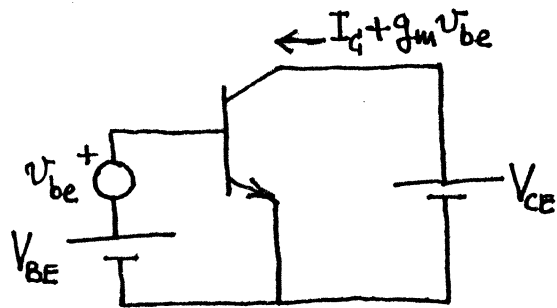
$$I_Q = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right), \quad g_m = \frac{I_Q}{V_T}, \quad r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}$$

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What is  $g_m$ ?

If  $v_{ce} = 0$ ,

$$I_c = I_Q + \underbrace{g_m v_{be}}_{i_c}$$



$$g_m = \frac{I_c}{V_T}$$

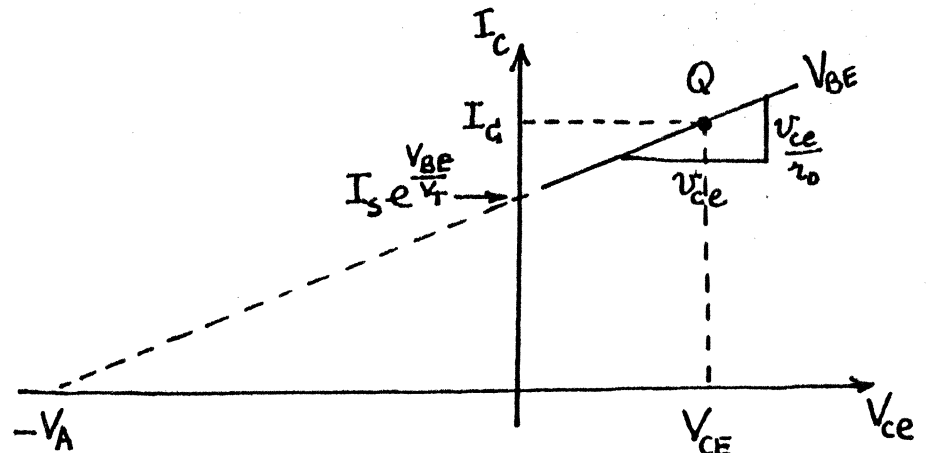
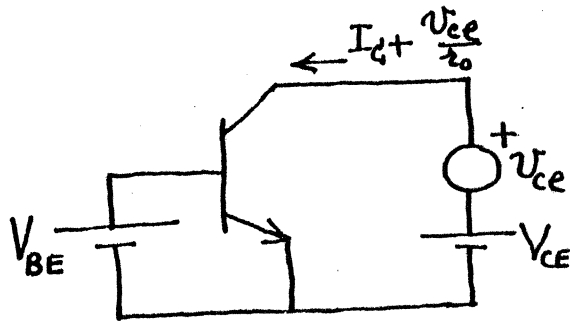
$g_m$  varies with operating point

$g_m$  is the short-circuit ( $v_{ce}=0$ ) transconductance

What is  $r_o$ ?

If  $v_{be} = 0$ ,

$$I_c = I_Q + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o} \approx i_c$$



$r_o$  is  $\frac{1}{\text{slope}}$  of output characteristic curve

$$r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}} = \frac{V_A}{I_Q \text{ with } V_{CE}=0} = \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_Q}$$

$r_o$  varies with operating point. The higher  $I_Q$  the lower  $r_o$ .

b) In terms of changes in  $I_b$  and  $V_{ce}$

In the forward active region  $I_c = \beta_F I_b (1 + \frac{V_{ce}}{V_A}) = I_Q + i_c$

$$I_c = \beta_F (I_B + i_b) (1 + \frac{V_{CE} + v_{ce}}{V_A}) = \beta_F I_B (1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}) + \beta_F I_B \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A} + \beta_F i_b (1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}) + \beta_F i_b \frac{v_{ce}}{V_A}$$

second-order effect neglect

$$\approx I_Q + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o} + \beta'_F i_b \approx i_c$$

where

$$I_Q = \beta_F I_B (1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}), \quad r_o = \frac{V_A}{\beta_F I_B}, \quad \beta'_F = \beta_F (1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A})$$

Comparing the a and b results we see that  $I_c = \underbrace{I_Q + g_m v_{be}}_{\text{from a}} + \underbrace{\frac{v_{ce}}{r_o} + \beta'_F i_b}_{\text{from b}}$

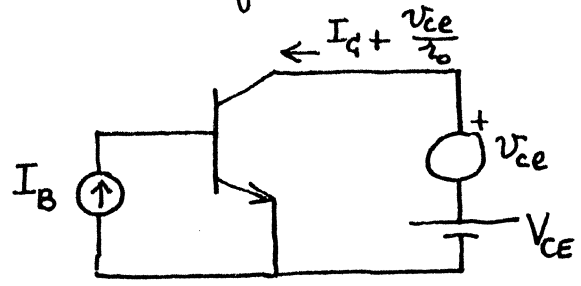
Hence  $\beta'_F i_b = g_m v_{be}$

Since  $v_{be} = i_b r_{\pi}$ ,  $\beta'_F = g_m r_{\pi}$

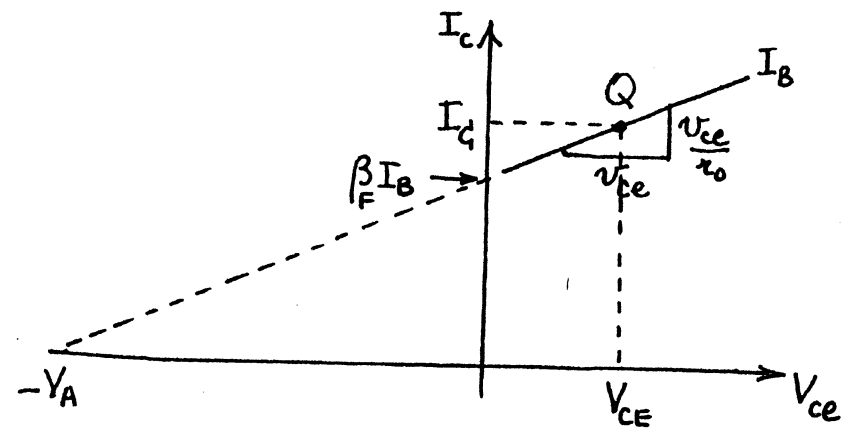
What is  $r_o$ ? (alternative definition)

If  $i_b = 0$ ,  

$$I_c = I_Q + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o}$$



$$r_o = \frac{V_A}{\beta_F I_B} = \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_C}$$



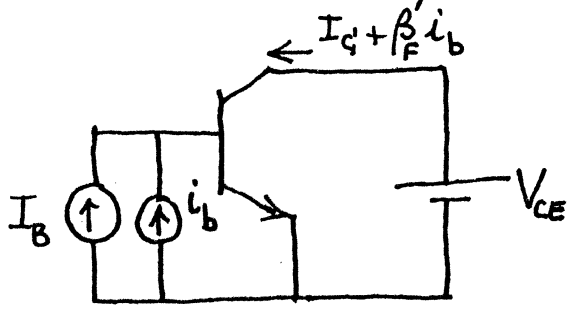
$r_o$  is  $\frac{1}{\text{slope}}$  of output characteristic curve

It is worth repeating:  $r_o$  varies with operating point.

What is  $\beta'_F$ ?

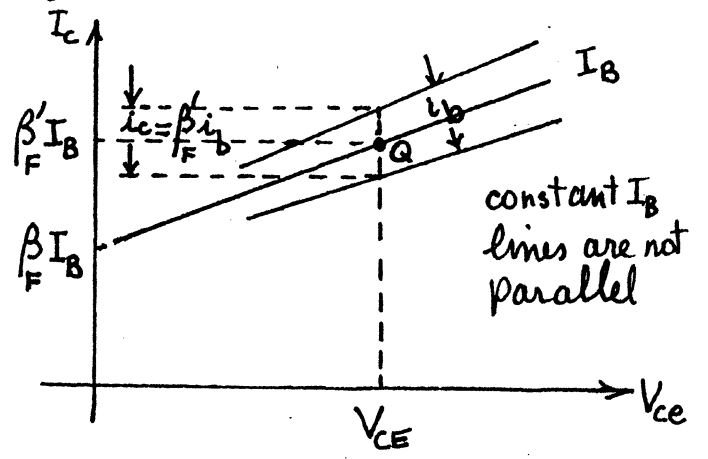
If  $v_{ce} = 0$ ,  

$$I_c = I_Q + \beta'_F i_b$$



$$\beta'_F = \beta_F \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right)$$

$\beta'_F = \beta_F$  if  $V_{CE} = 0$ .

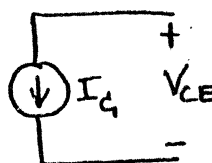
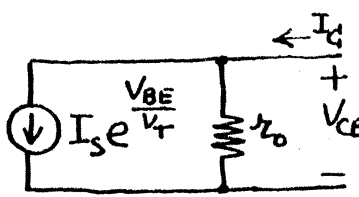


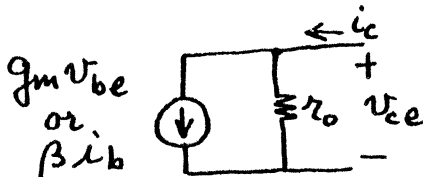
$\beta'_F$  is the short-circuit ( $v_{ce} = 0$ ) current gain

Henceforth the symbol  $\beta$  will be used to designate  $\beta'_F$ .

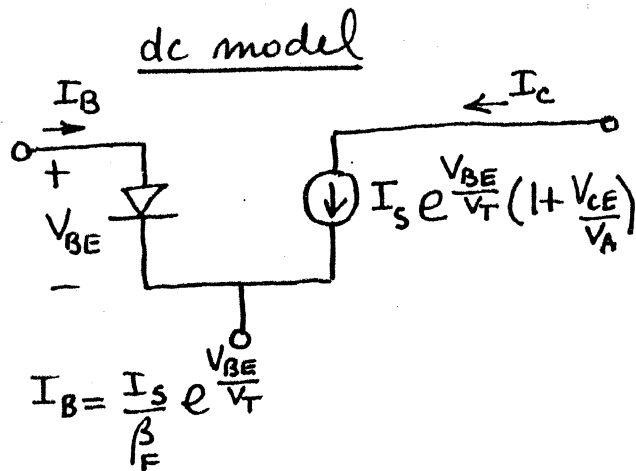
$\beta_F$  "does not" depend on operating point.  $\beta'_F$  does because constant  $I_B$  lines are not parallel.

### 3. Circuit Model

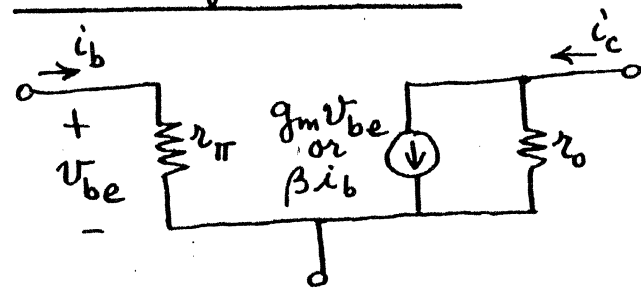
dc model:  $I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right)$   or  $I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T} + \frac{V_{CE}}{r_o}}$  

small-signal model:  $i_c = g_m v_{be} + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o} = \beta i_b + \frac{v_{ce}}{r_o}$  

### The complete model

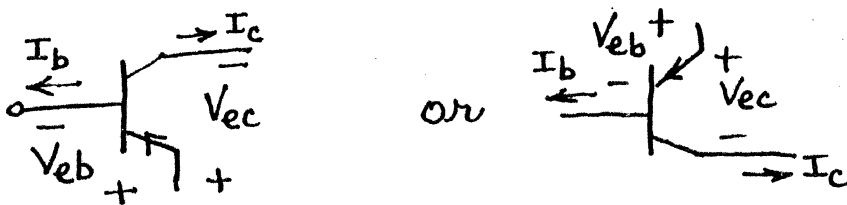


### small-signal model



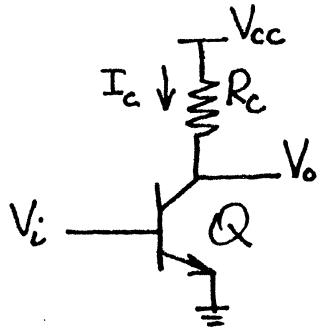
### Low frequency hybrid-π model

### Convention to be used for PNP transistor



# L3: The Common-Emitter Amplifier with Resistive Load

Simplified Analysis (Ignoring Early effect, i.e.,  $r_o = \infty$ )



$$V_o = V_{cc} - R_c I_c$$

$$I_c = I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}$$

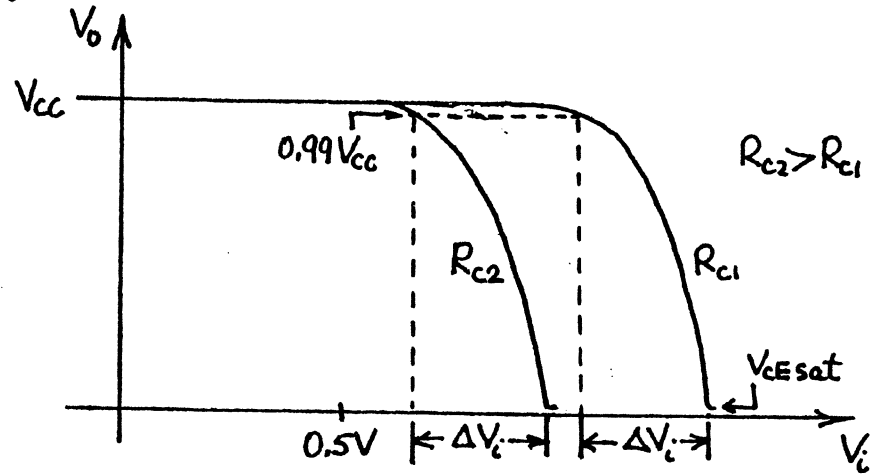
$$\boxed{V_o = V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}} \quad V_{ce\text{sat}} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc}$$

This equation is not valid for very small currents because  $(e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} - 1)$  has been replaced by  $e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}$ .

What is the small-signal gain?

Find the slope of the  $V_o$  vs  $V_i$  curve.

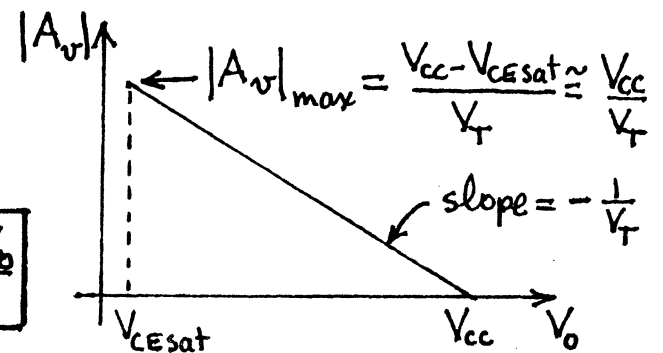
$$\text{Small-signal gain} = \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = A_v = -\frac{R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{V_T} = \boxed{-\frac{V_{cc} - V_o}{V_T}}$$



How much  $\Delta V_i$  does it take to drive the output from  $0.99V_{cc}$  to  $0.01V_{cc}$ ?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 0.99V_{cc} &= V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \\ 0.01V_{cc} &= V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i + \Delta V_i}{V_T}} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \Delta V_i &= V_T \ln 99 \\ &\approx 120\text{mV} \end{aligned}$$

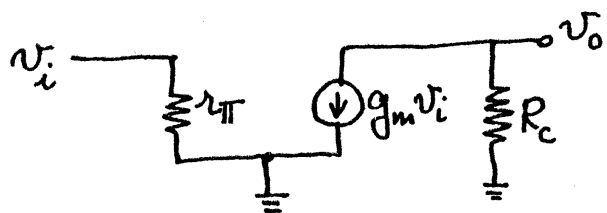
Independent of  $V_{cc}$  and  $R_c$ , it takes 120mV.





# Alternative Derivation of small-signal gain

Use the small-signal model



$$v_o = -g_m v_i R_c$$

$$A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = -g_m R_c = -\frac{I_C}{V_T} R_c$$

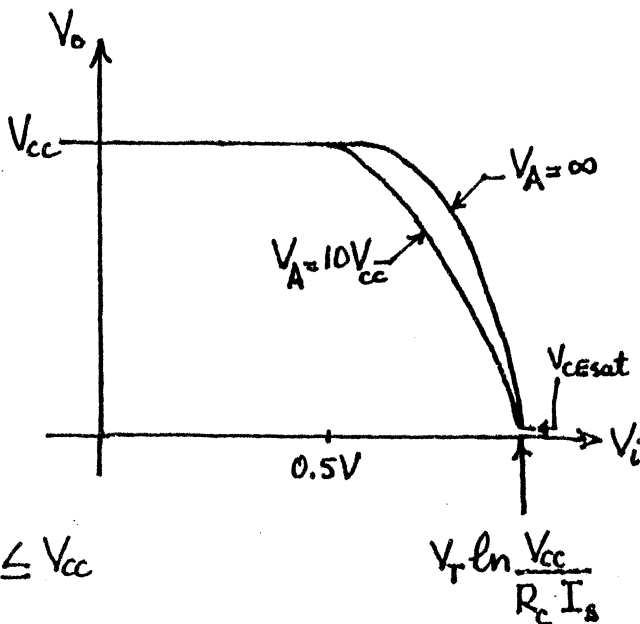
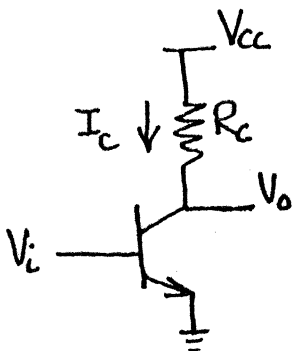
$|A_v|_{\max}$  occurs when

$I_C = I_{C, \max}$  which occurs when the transistor is sat.

$$|A_v|_{\max} = \frac{I_{C, \max}}{V_T} R_c = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CE, \text{sat}}}{V_T} \approx \boxed{\frac{V_{CC}}{V_T}}$$

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## More exact analysis (Including the Early effect)



$$V_o = V_{CC} - R_c I_C = V_{CC} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right)$$

$$V_o = V_{CC} \frac{1 - \frac{R_c I_s}{V_{CC}} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{1 + \frac{R_c I_s}{V_A} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}$$

$$V_{CE, \text{sat}} \leq V_o \leq V_{CC}$$

$\Delta V_i$  to drive  $V_o$  from  $0.99V_{CC}$  to  $0.01V_{CC}$ :

$$\Delta V_i = V_T \ln \left[ 99 \left( \frac{0.99V_{CC} + V_A}{0.01V_{CC} + V_A} \right) \right]$$

For  $V_{CC} = 15V$ ,  $V_A = 120V$

$$\Delta V_i = 123 \text{ mV}$$

## Small-signal gain as a function of operating point

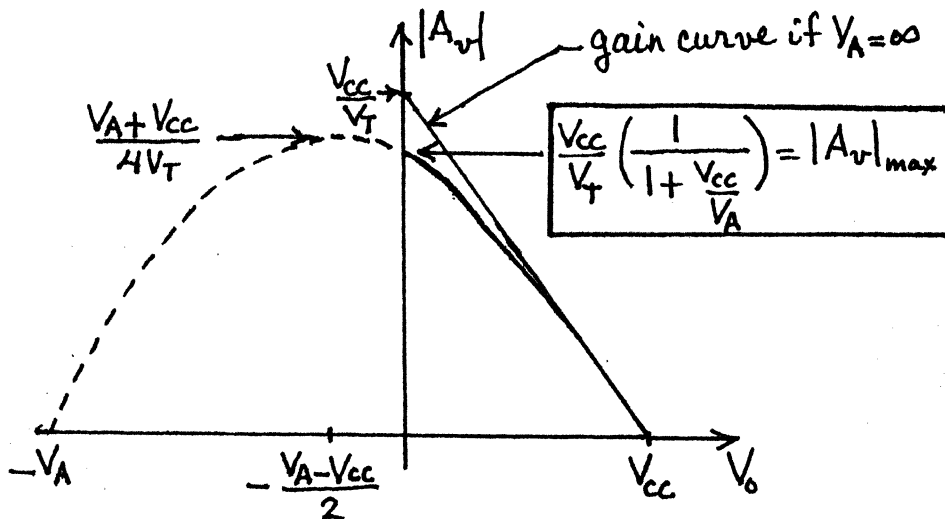
$$A_v = \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = -\frac{R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{V_T} \left[ \frac{1 + \frac{V_{cc}}{V_A}}{\left(1 + \frac{R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{V_A}\right)^2} \right]$$

Since  $R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right) = V_{cc} - V_o$ , we obtain

$$A_v = -\frac{(V_{cc} - V_o)(V_A + V_o)}{V_T (V_A + V_{cc})}$$

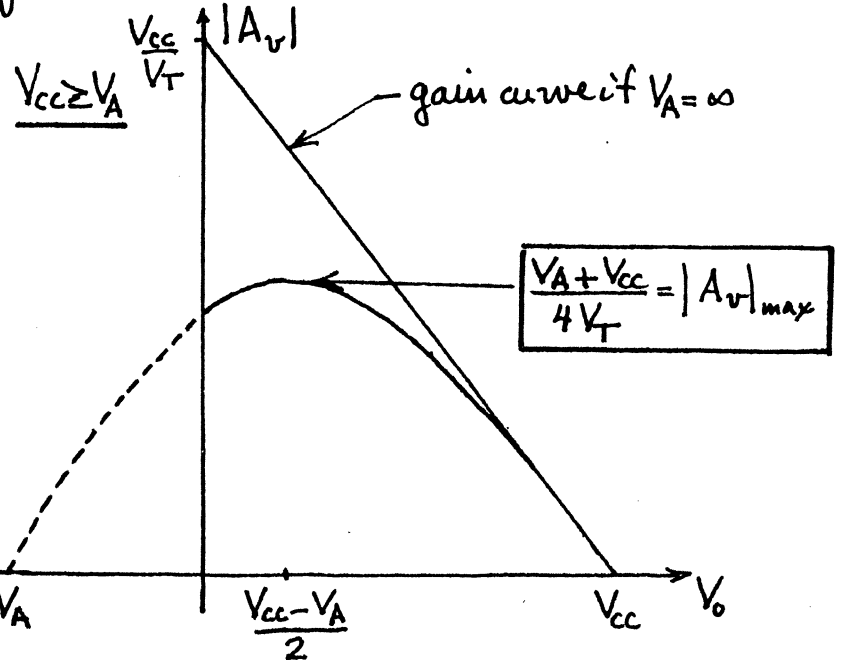
The  $A_v$  vs.  $V_o$  curve is a parabola with center at  $V_o = \frac{V_{cc} - V_A}{2}$ .  
Therefore two cases are of interest:  $V_{cc} \leq V_A$  and  $V_{cc} \geq V_A$ .

$V_{cc} \leq V_A$  (the usual case)



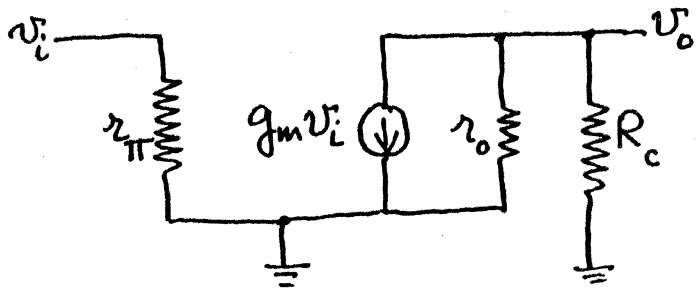
$|A_v|_{\max}$  occurs at sat.

In either case  $|A_v|$  is less than predicted by the tangent drawn to the parabola at  $V_o = V_{cc}$ . This tangent represents the  $|A_v|$  vs.  $V_o$  curve for  $V_A = \infty$ . More gain is obtainable if  $V_{cc} \geq V_A$ .



$|A_v|_{\max}$  occurs at  $\frac{V_{cc} - V_A}{2}$

## Alternative derivation of gain using the small-signal model



$$v_o = -g_m v_i \frac{r_o R_c}{r_o + R_c} \quad A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \boxed{-g_m \frac{r_o R_c}{r_o + R_c}}$$

To see how the gain varies with the

operating point, use  $g_m = \frac{I_c}{V_T}$  and  $r_o = \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_c} = \frac{V_A + V_{CC} - R_c I_c}{I_c}$  and obtain

$$A_v = -\frac{I_c R_c (V_A + V_{CC} - I_c R_c)}{V_T (V_A + V_{CC})} = \boxed{-\frac{(V_{CC} - V_o)(V_A + V_o)}{V_T (V_A + V_{CC})}} \quad \text{which agrees with previous result.}$$

Example: What is the gain if  $V_{CC} = 15V$  and  $V_A = 120V$ ? Choose operating point to maximize the gain. Assume small-signal operation.

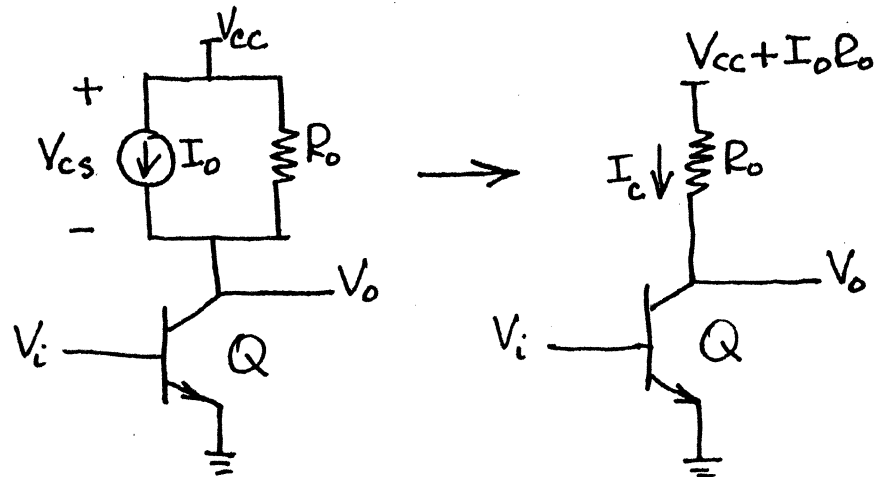
$$A_v = -\frac{(V_{CC} - V_o)(V_A + V_o)}{V_T (V_A + V_{CC})} = -\frac{(15 - V_o)(120 + V_o)}{0.026 (120 + 15)} = \boxed{-\frac{(15 - V_o)(120 + V_o)}{3.51}}$$

Since  $V_{CC} < V_A$ , maximum gain occurs at sat. So,  $V_o = V_{CEsat} \approx 0$

$$A_v \approx -\frac{15 \times 120}{3.51} = \boxed{-512.8} \quad \text{To achieve this gain, make } I_c R_c \approx 15V.$$

Note that the  $I_c R_c$  product (not the individual values of  $R_c$  and  $I_c$ ) determines the gain, maximum or otherwise.

# The Common-Emitter Amplifier with Current-Source Load



If  $V_{cc} = 15V$ ,  $I_0 = 100\mu A$ , and  $R_0 = 1M\Omega$ ,  $V_{cc} + I_0 R_0 = 115V$ .  
An effective power supply voltage of 115V is obtained using an actual power supply voltage of only 15V.

For proper operation

$$V_{cs} \geq V_{CESat}$$

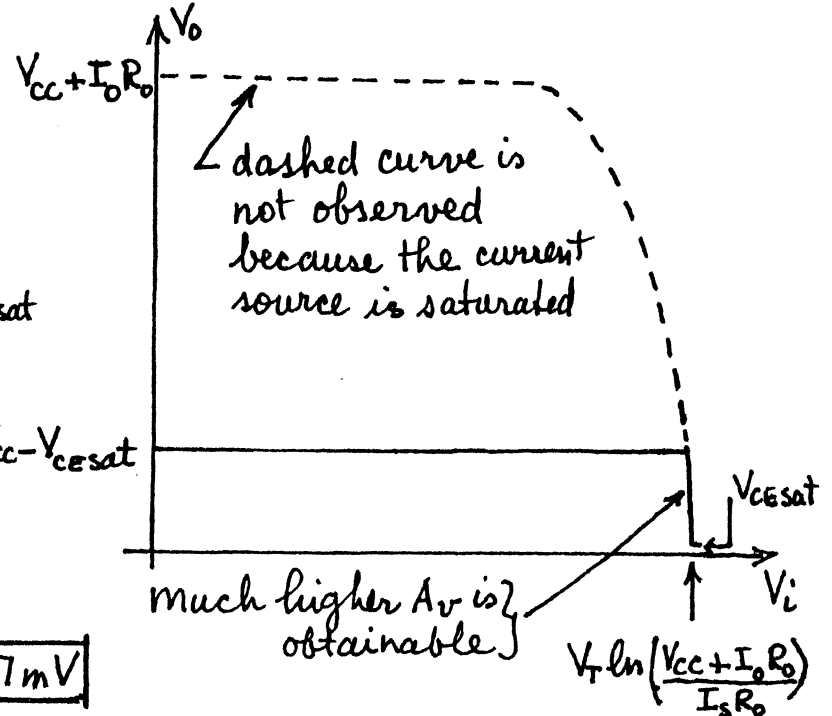
$$V_o = (V_{cc} + I_0 R_0) - R_0 I_c = (V_{cc} + I_0 R_0) - R_0 I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right)$$

$$V_o = V_{cc} \frac{\left(1 + \frac{I_0 R_0}{V_{cc}}\right) - \frac{I_s R_0}{V_{cc}} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{1 + \frac{I_s R_0}{V_A} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}} \quad \text{for } V_{CESat} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc} - V_{CESat}$$

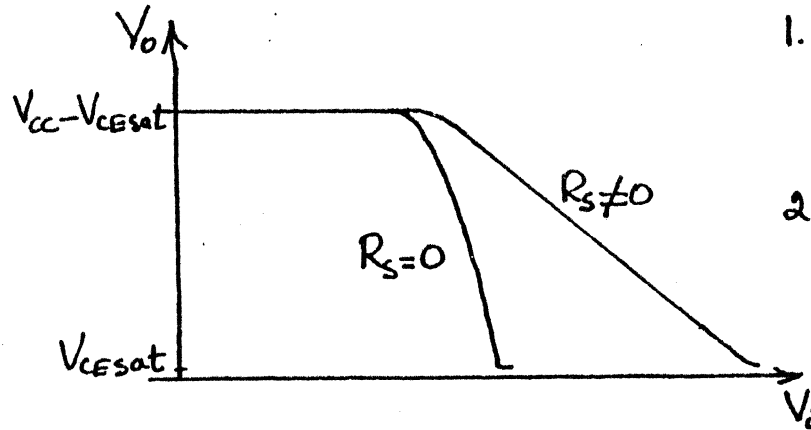
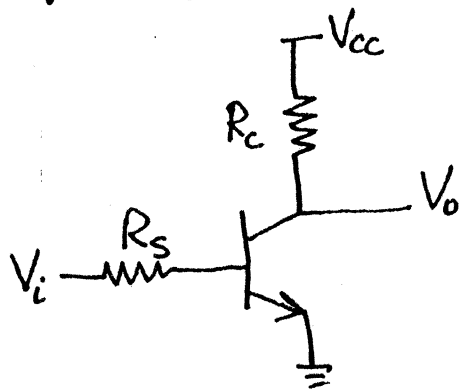
To drive  $V_o$  from  $V_{cc} - V_{CESat} \approx V_{cc}$  to  $V_{CESat} \approx 0$

requires a  $\Delta V_i$  of  $\Delta V_i = V_T \ln \left[ \left(1 + \frac{V_{cc}}{V_A}\right) \left(1 + \frac{V_{cc}}{I_0 R_0}\right) \right]$

For  $V_{cc} = 15V$ ,  $V_A = 120V$ ,  $I_0 = 100\mu A$ ,  $R_0 = 1M\Omega$ ,  $\Delta V_i = \boxed{6.7mV}$

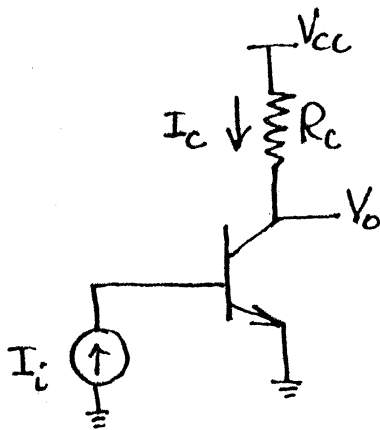


## Effect of Source Resistance



1. Onset of conduction is pretty much independent of  $R_s$ .
2. The larger  $R_s$ , the more linear the  $V_o$  vs  $V_i$  curve and the smaller the incremental gain.

## Current Source Drive



$$V_o = V_{cc} - R_c I_c$$

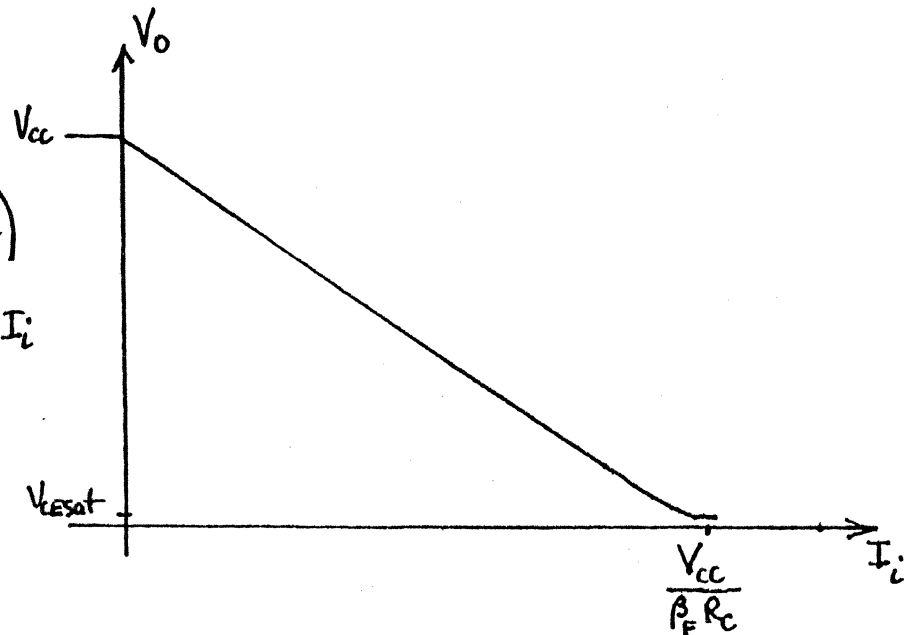
$$= V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right)$$

But  $I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} = \beta I_B = \beta I_i$

$$V_o = V_{cc} - R_c \beta I_i \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right)$$

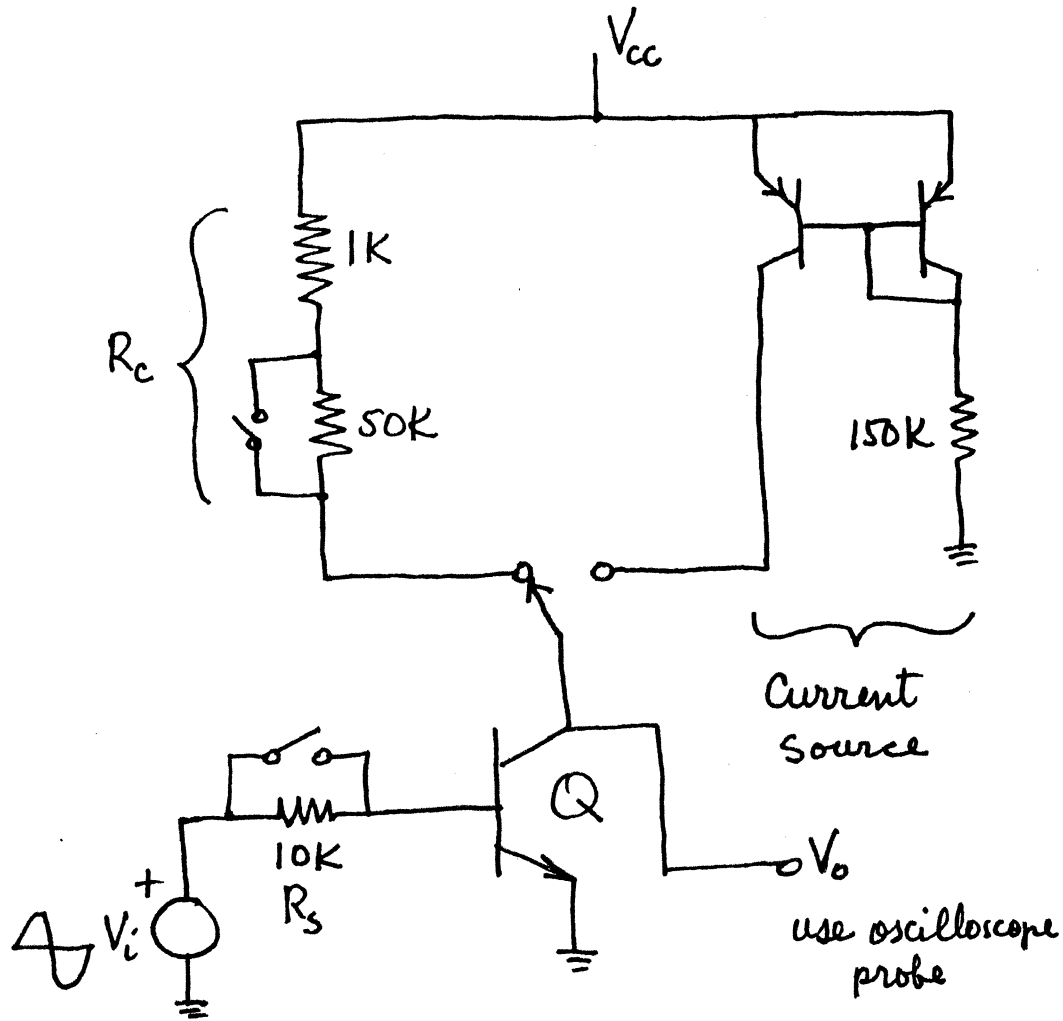
$$V_o = V_{cc} \frac{1 - \frac{\beta R_c I_i}{V_{cc}}}{1 + \frac{\beta R_c I_i}{V_A}}$$

$$V_{cesat} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc}$$



For  $V_A = \infty$   $V_o$  vs  $I_i$  curve is linear with slope  $-\beta R_c$ .

# Demonstration: Common-emitter Amplifier

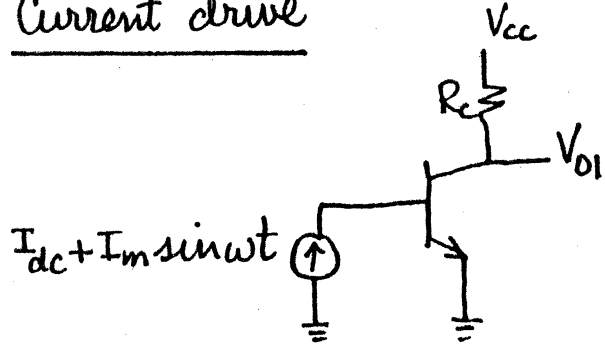


## $V_o$ vs $V_i$

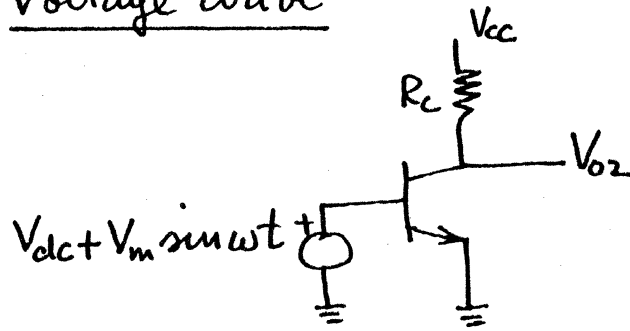
1.  $R_s = 0, R_c = 1K$   
Vary  $V_{CC}$
2.  $R_s = 0, V_{CC} = 15V$   
Change  $R_c$  from  $1K$  to  $51K$
3.  $R_c = 1K, V_{CC} = 15V$   
Change  $R_s$  from  $0$  to  $10K$
4.  $R_s = 0, V_{CC} = 15V$   
Current-source load

# L4: Comparison of distortion caused by current and voltage excitations

## Current drive



## Voltage drive



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- Assume
1.  $V_{o1dc} = V_{o2dc} = V_{odc}$  (adjust  $I_{dc}$  and  $V_{dc}$  to obtain this result)
  2.  $V_{o1acm} = V_{o2acm} = V_{om}$  (adjust  $I_m$  and  $V_m$  to obtain this result when output amplitude is small)
  3.  $V_A \gg V_{cc}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{o1} &= V_{cc} - \beta R_c (I_{dc} + I_m \sin \omega t) \\
 &= \underbrace{V_{cc} - \beta R_c I_{dc}}_{V_{odc}} - \underbrace{\beta R_c I_m \sin \omega t}_{V_{om}} \\
 &= \boxed{V_{odc} - V_{om} \sin \omega t}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{o2} &= V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc} + V_m \sin \omega t}{V_T}} \\
 &= V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}} e^{\frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{V_T}} \\
 &\approx V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}} \left[ 1 + \frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{V_T} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{V_m}{V_T} \right)^2 \sin^2 \omega t \right] \\
 &= \underbrace{V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}}}_{V_{odc}} - \underbrace{R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}} \frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{V_T}}_{V_{om}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{V_T} \right) \\
 &= \boxed{V_{odc} - V_{om} \sin \omega t - \frac{V_{om} V_m}{2 V_T} \sin^2 \omega t}
 \end{aligned}$$

Assumption 1 is satisfied if

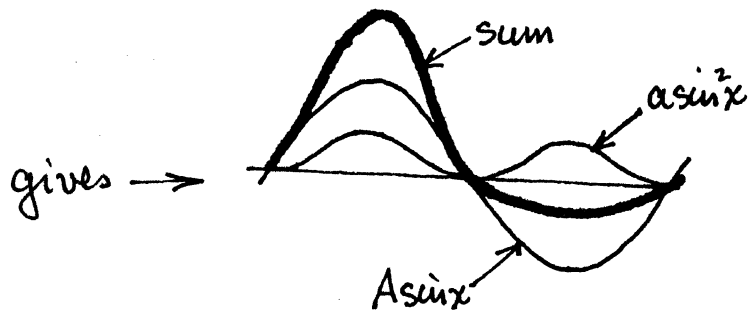
$$\beta \frac{I_{dc}}{F} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}} = I_c$$

Assumption 2 is satisfied if

$$\beta I_m = I_s e^{\frac{V_{dc}}{V_T}} \frac{V_m}{V_T} = \frac{I_c}{V_T} V_m = g_m V_m \text{ which}$$

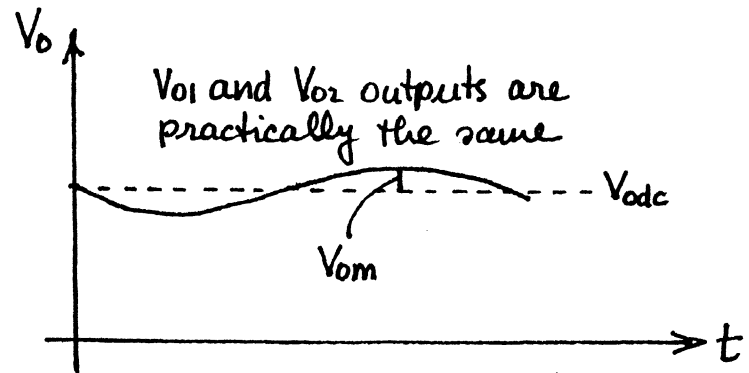
simplifies to  $\underline{V_m = I_m r_{\pi}}$

Note that  $A \sin x + a \sin^2 x$

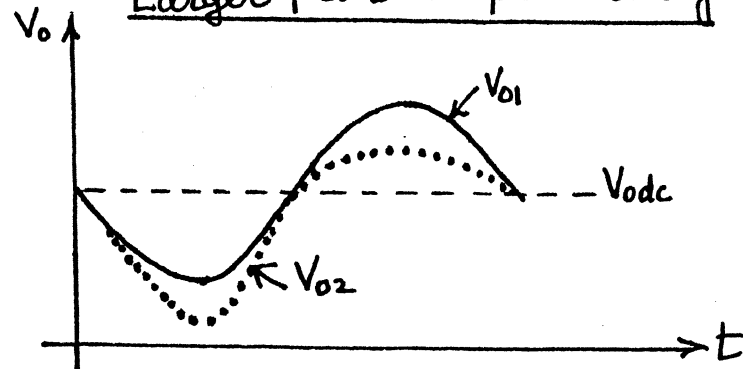


With this drawing in mind, we can now draw the  $V_{o1}$  (current-source drive) and  $V_{o2}$  (voltage-source drive) outputs for small and not so small peak-to-peak swings

Small peak-to-peak swing



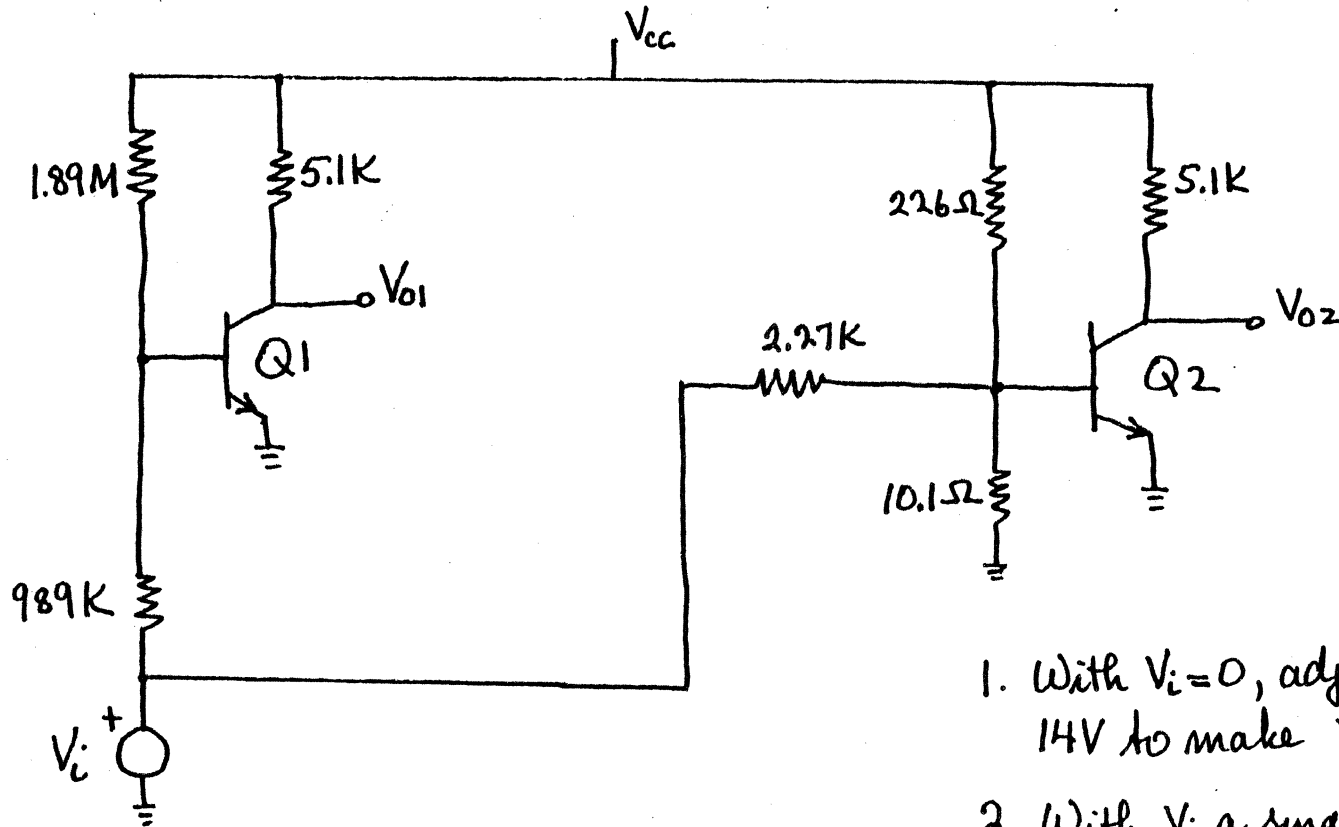
Larger peak-to-peak swing



For the same peak-to-peak output swing, the current source drive produces less distortion.



## Demonstration: Distortion comparison



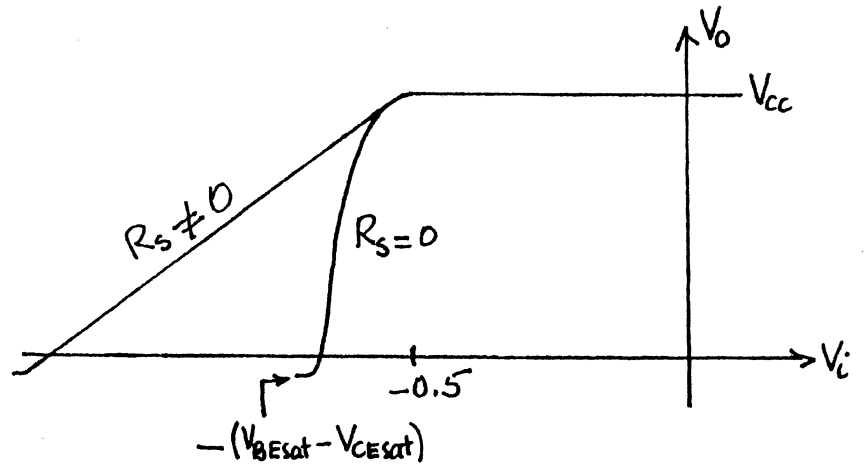
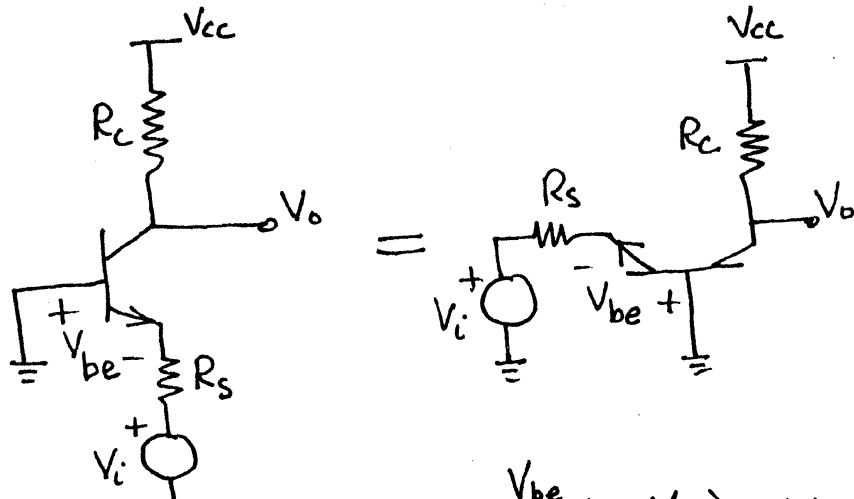
26

Q1 base is fed from a high resistance source ( $989\text{K} \parallel 1.89\text{M}$ ); therefore drive approximates a current source.

Q2 base is fed from a low resistance source ( $10.1\Omega \parallel 2.26\Omega \parallel 2.27\text{K}$ ); therefore drive approximates a voltage source.

1. With  $V_i = 0$ , adjust  $V_{cc}$  around  $14\text{V}$  to make  $V_{o1} = V_{o2} \cong 7.5\text{V}$ .
2. With  $V_i$  a small sine wave,  $V_{o1}$  and  $V_{o2}$  outputs show no noticeable distortion.
3. As  $V_i$  is increased in amplitude, the  $V_{o2}$  output starts showing noticeable distortion.

# The Common-Base Amplifier

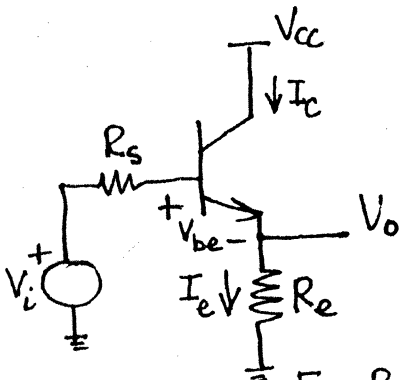


For  $R_s=0$ , 
$$V_o = V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{ce}}{V_A}\right) = V_{cc} - R_c I_s e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o - V_i}{V_A}\right)$$

$$V_o = \left[ \frac{1 - \frac{R_c I_s e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}} (V_A - V_i)}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{R_c I_s e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{V_A}} \right] V_{cc}$$

for  $V_{ce\text{sat}} - V_B \leq V_o \leq V_{cc}$

# The Common-Collector Amplifier

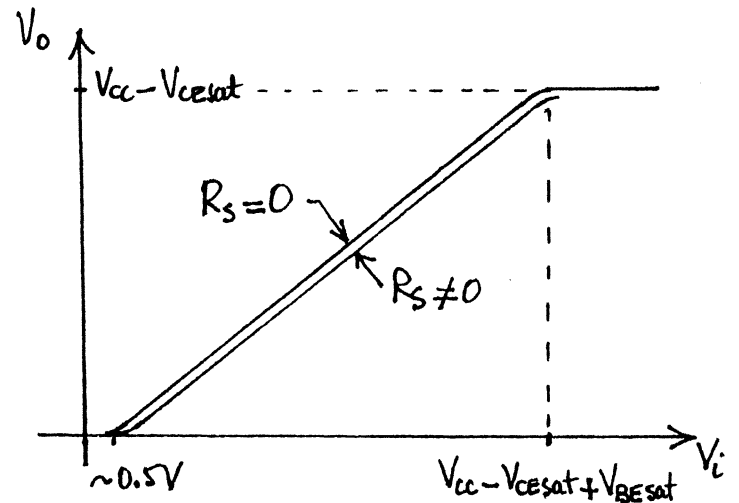


$$V_o = R_e I_e = R_e \frac{\beta_F + 1}{\beta_F} I_c$$

$$= \frac{\beta_F + 1}{\beta_F} R_e I_s e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{ce}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$\text{For } R_s=0, \quad V_o = \frac{\beta_F + 1}{\beta_F} R_e I_s e^{\frac{V_i - V_o}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{cc} - V_o}{V_A}\right)$$

for  $0 \leq V_o \leq V_{cc} - V_{ce\text{sat}}$

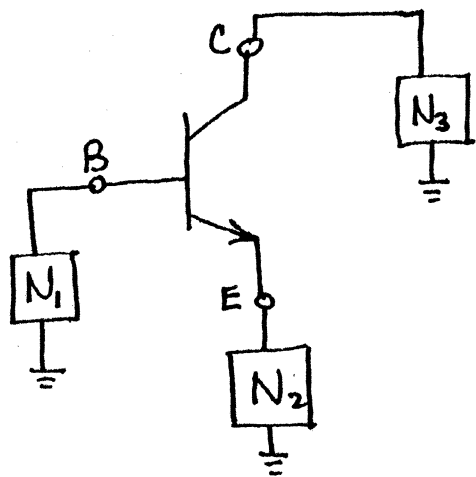


## General Analysis of Resistive Transistor Circuits

Transistor circuits are analyzed with two specific objectives in mind:

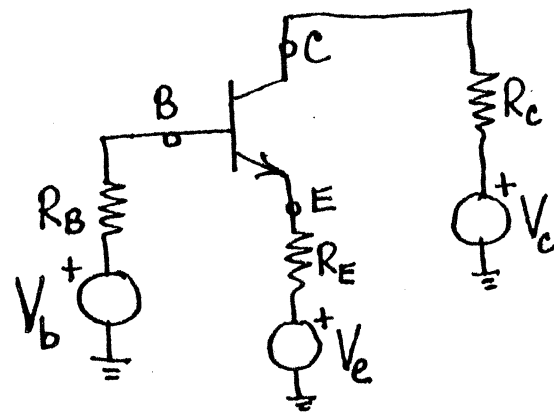
1. To determine bias values that establish the Q point
2. To calculate the small-signal gain about the Q point

A typical transistor circuit can be represented by

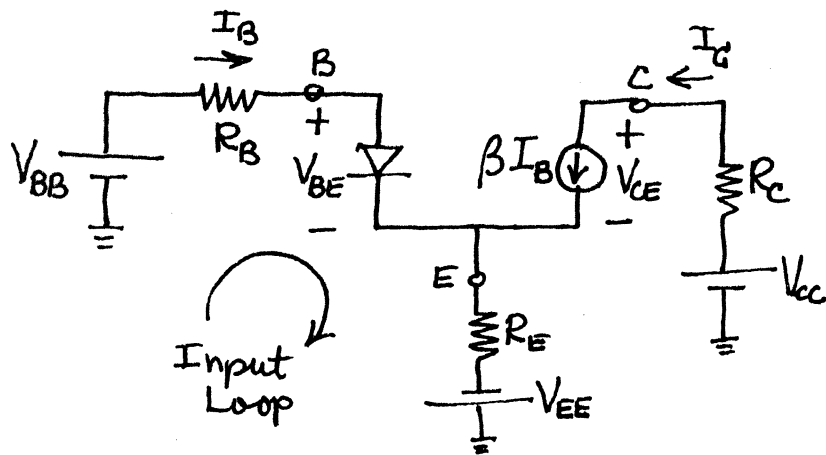


$N_1$ ,  $N_2$ , and  $N_3$  contain resistors and independent voltage and current sources. Note that feedback between the base, collector, and emitter leads are not considered here.

The first step in the analysis is to simplify the given circuit by obtaining the Thévenin (or Norton) equivalent circuits facing the transistor between 1. base and ground 2. emitter and ground and 3. collector and ground. The result is:



Operating Point Calculation: Represent the transistor by the large signal model and use only the dc components of the three voltage sources.



From the sum of voltages around the input loop obtain

$$V_{BB} - I_B R_B - V_{BE} - I_B(1+\beta)R_E + V_{EE} = 0$$

$$I_B = \frac{V_{BB} + V_{EE} - V_{BE}}{R_B + (1+\beta)R_E}, \quad I_C = \beta I_B$$

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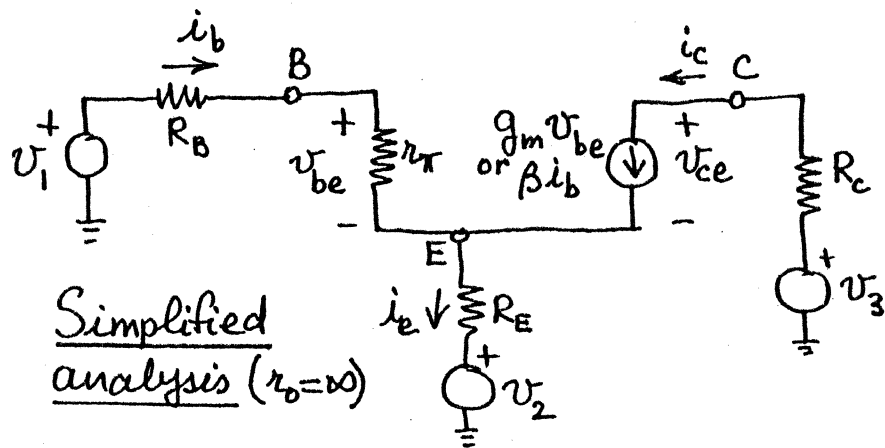
Note that in the expression for  $I_B$  and hence  $I_C$  everything is known except  $V_{BE}$ . However, we know that for Si transistors operating in the forward active region  $V_{BE} = 0.6 - 0.7V$ . This small uncertainty does not have any significant effect in the determination of  $I_B$  particularly when  $V_{BB} + V_{EE} \gg V_{BE}$ , which is the usual situation.

The aim of biasing is to fix  $I_C$  such that it is practically independent of  $\beta$  of the transistor which may vary a lot from one transistor to another. This aim can be achieved if  $\beta + 1 \cong \beta$  and  $(1+\beta)R_E \gg R_B$  in which case  $I_C$  becomes

$$I_C \cong \frac{V_{BB} + V_{EE} - V_{BE}}{R_E}$$

stated differently, if the voltage across  $R_B$  can be made negligible relative to the voltage across  $R_E$ , then  $I_C$  is fixed by  $V_{BB}$ ,  $V_{EE}$ , and  $R_E$ .

Small-signal Response: Represent the transistor by the small-signal model and use only the variational components of the three input voltage sources.



Simplified analysis ( $r_o = \infty$ )

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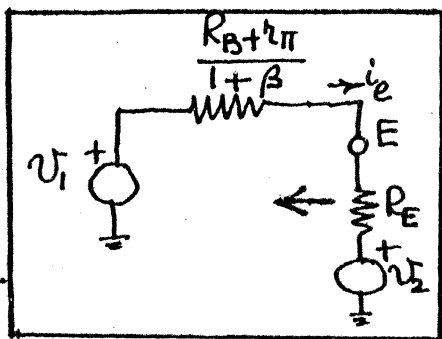
Equivalent circuit facing source  $v_2$

Since  $i_e = i_b(1+\beta)$ , we obtain

$$i_e = \frac{(1+\beta)(v_1 - v_2)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)R_E}$$

$$i_e = \frac{v_1 - v_2}{R_E + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1+\beta}}$$

Note that  $v_3$  has no influence on the emitter circuit



Even with  $R_E$  present, source  $v_3$  in the collector has no influence on any of the currents.

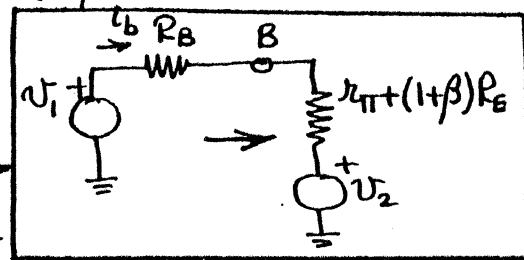
Equivalent circuit facing source  $v_1$

From the input loop we obtain

$$v_1 = i_b(R_B + r_{\pi}) + i_b(1+\beta)R_E + v_2$$

$$i_b = \frac{v_1 - v_2}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)R_E}$$

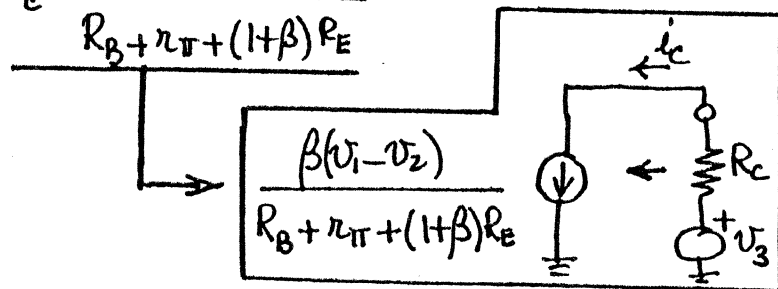
Note that  $v_3$  has no influence on the base circuit



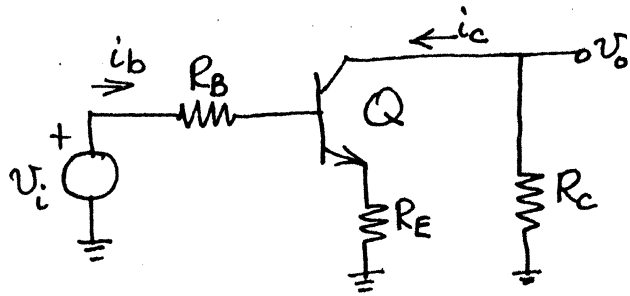
Equivalent circuit facing source  $v_3$

Since  $i_c = \beta i_b$ , we obtain

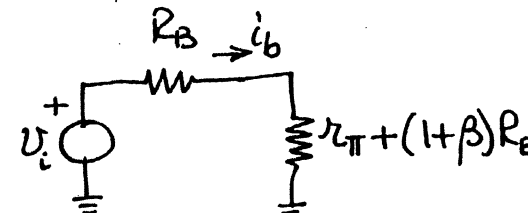
$$i_c = \frac{\beta(v_1 - v_2)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)R_E}$$



L5: Analysis of CE Amplifier with  $R_B$  and  $R_E$  included (small signal)



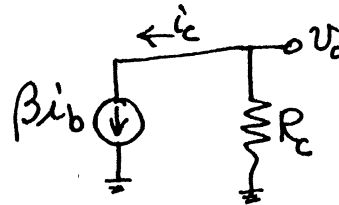
$r_o$  assumed to be infinite

The input equivalent circuit is: 

Source  $v_i$  sees a high input resistance:  

$$R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)R_E$$

The output equivalent circuit is:



Load  $R_C$  sees an infinite output resistance

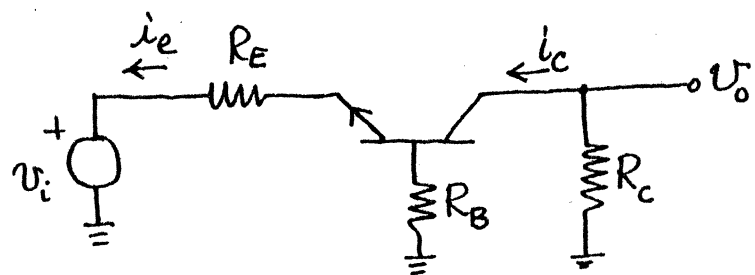
The <sup>voltage</sup> gain is: 
$$A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{-\beta i_b R_C}{v_i} = \boxed{-\frac{\beta R_C}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)R_E}}$$

The presence of  $R_E$  reduces the gain (this is called emitter degeneration).

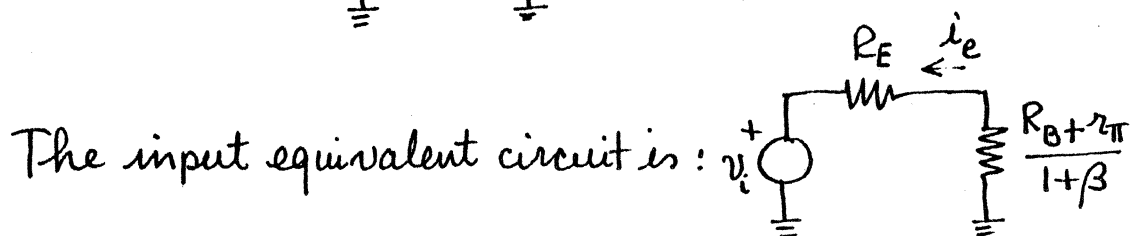
$|A_v|_{\max} = |A_v|_{R_B=R_E=0} = +\frac{\beta R_C}{r_{\pi}} = +g_{m \max} R_C = \frac{I_{C \max}}{V_T} R_C \cong \frac{V_{CC}}{V_T}$  which occurs when Q is at sat.

The current gain is  $= \frac{i_c}{i_b} = \boxed{\beta}$

# Analysis of CB Amplifier with $R_B$ and $R_E$ included (small signal)

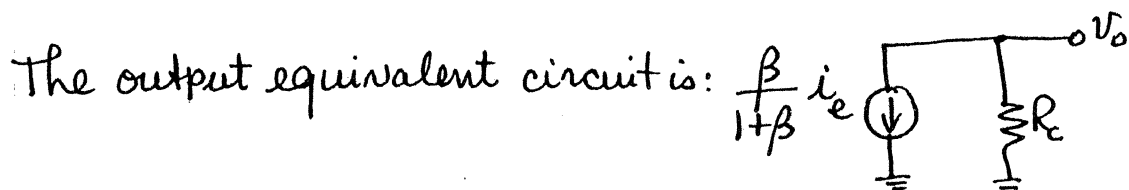


$r_o$  assumed to be infinite



Source  $v_i$  sees a low input resistance:

$$R_E + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}$$



Load  $R_C$  sees an infinite output resistance

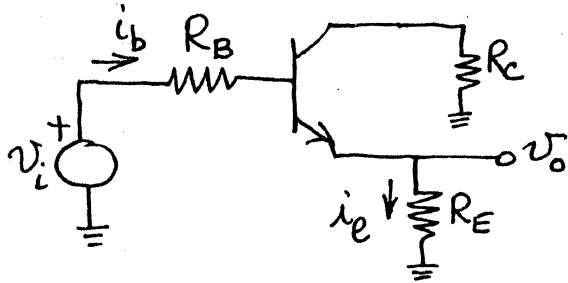
The voltage gain is:  $A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{-\frac{\beta}{1+\beta} i_e R_C}{-i_e \left( R_E + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1+\beta} \right)} = \boxed{\frac{\beta R_C}{r_{\pi} + R_B + (1+\beta) R_E}}$

The source and base resistances reduce the gain.

$|A_v|_{\max} = |A_v|_{R_B=R_E=0} = \frac{\beta R_C}{r_{\pi}} = g_{m_{\max}} R_C = \frac{I_{C_{\max}}}{V_T} R_C \approx \frac{V_{CC}}{V_T}$  which occurs when  $Q$  is at sat.

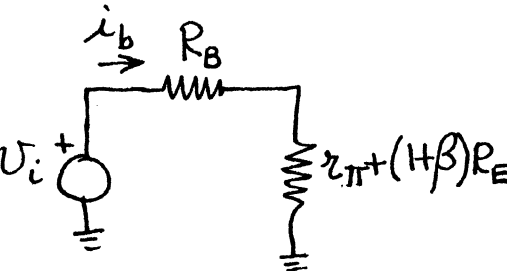
The current gain is =  $\frac{i_c}{i_e} = \boxed{\frac{\beta}{1+\beta}}$

# Analysis of CC Amplifier with $R_B$ and $R_E$ included (small signal)



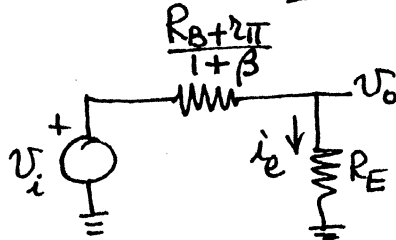
$r_o$  assumed to be infinite

The input equivalent circuit is:



Source  $v_i$  sees a high  
input resistance:  
 $r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta)R_E$

The output equivalent circuit is:



Load  $R_E$  sees a low  
output resistance:  
 $\frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}$

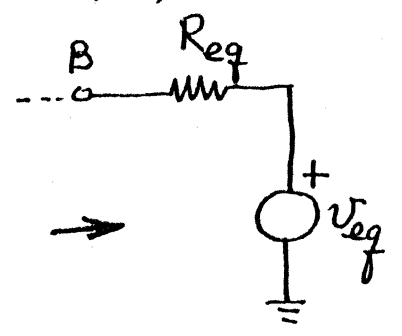
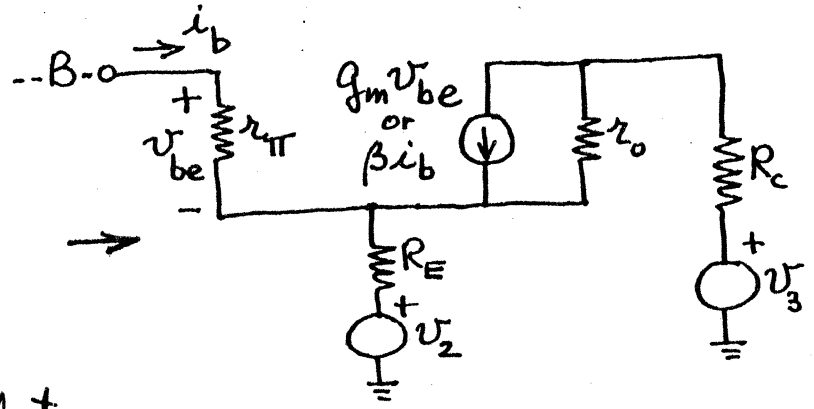
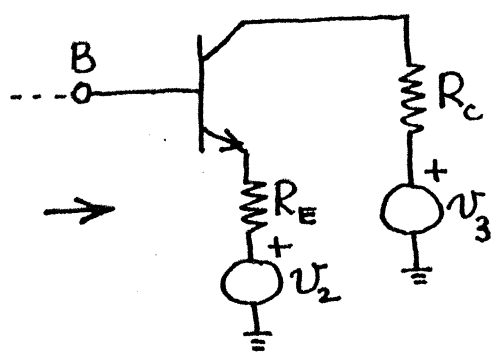
The voltage gain is  $A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \boxed{\frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}}}$

The voltage gain is less than 1. If  $R_E \gg \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}$  (the usual situation), then  $A_v \cong 1$ .

The current gain is  $\frac{i_e}{i_b} = \boxed{1 + \beta}$



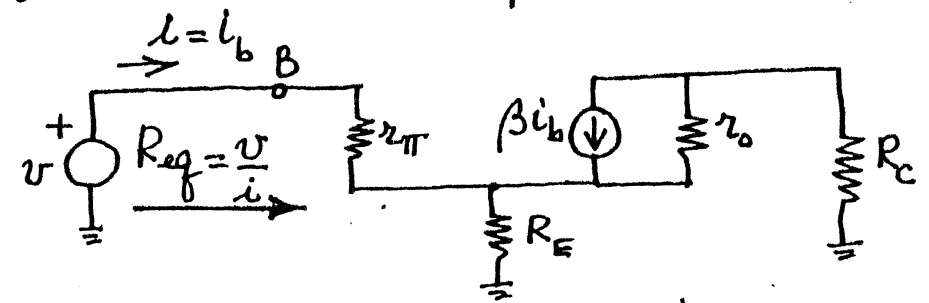
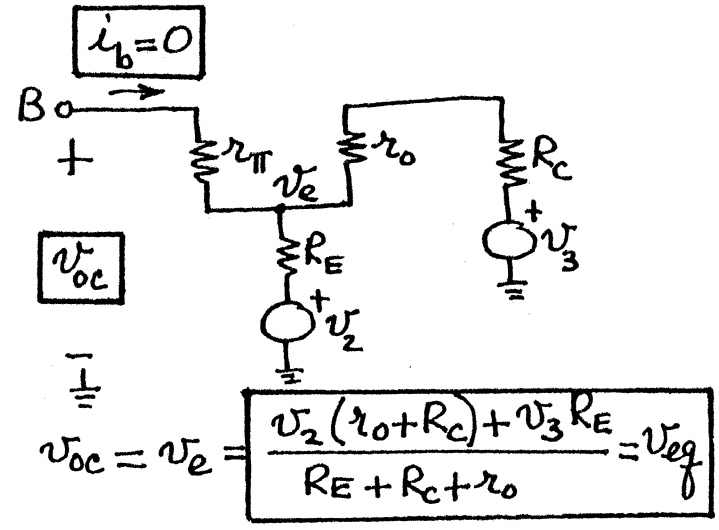
# Input equivalent circuit including the effect of $r_o$ (small signal)



To determine  $v_{eq}$ , calculate the open-circuit voltage  $v_{oc}$  at the input.

To determine  $R_{eq}$ , let  $v_2 = v_3 = 0$  and calculate resistance seen at input.

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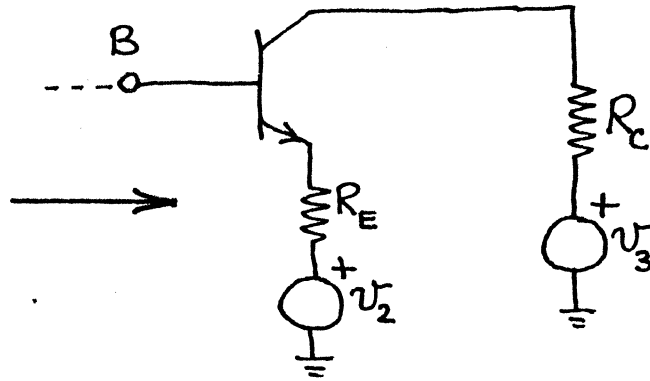


Use superposition to obtain

$$i_b = \frac{v}{r_{\pi} + \frac{R_E(r_o + R_C)}{R_E + r_o + R_C}} - \beta i_b \frac{r_o \frac{R_E}{R_E + r_{\pi}}}{r_o + R_C + \frac{r_{\pi} R_E}{r_{\pi} + R_E}}$$

$$R_{eq} = \frac{v}{i} = \frac{v}{i_b} = \frac{r_o [r_{\pi} + R_E(1 + \beta)] + r_{\pi} R_E + r_{\pi} R_C + R_C R_E}{R_E + R_C + r_o}$$

# Thévenin Input Equivalent Circuit (small signal)

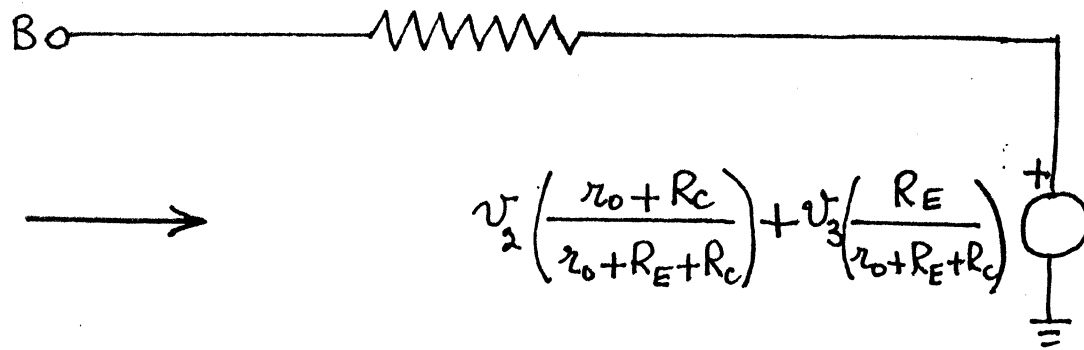


## Discussion:

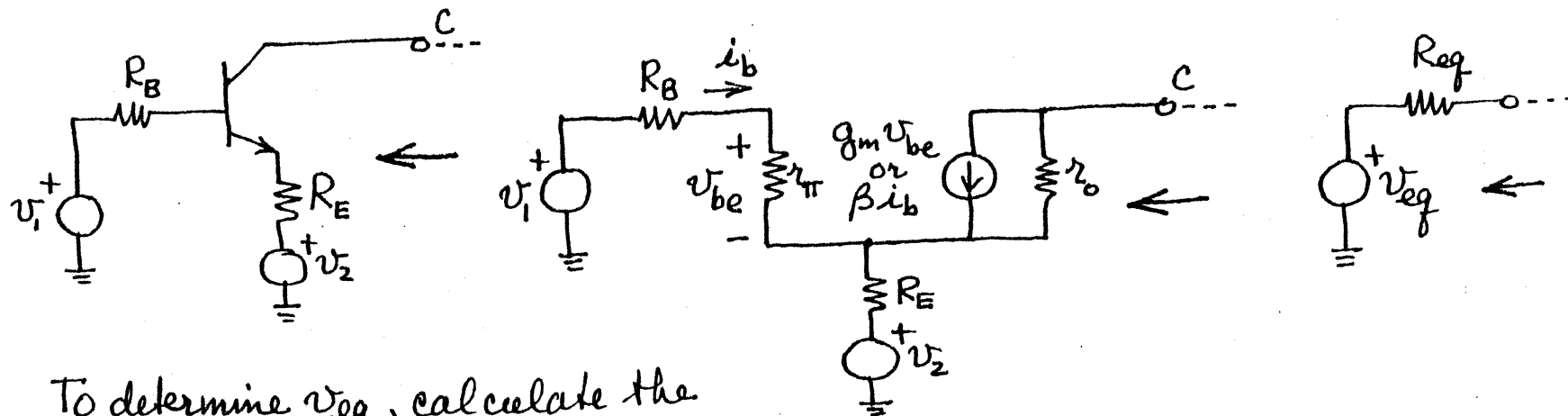
The most significant effect of  $r_o$  is that it provides coupling between output and input circuits. As a result changes in the collector circuit influence the base circuit. A voltage proportional to  $v_3$  is fed back as long as  $R_E \neq 0$ .

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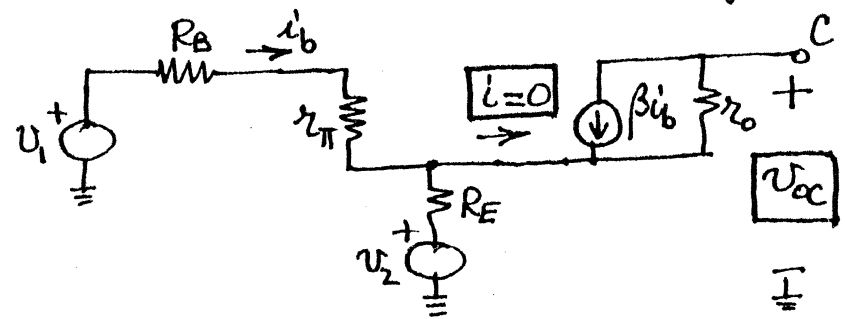
$$\left[ r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E \right] \left( \frac{r_o}{r_o + R_E + R_C} \right) + \frac{r_{\pi} R_E + r_{\pi} R_C + R_E R_C}{r_o + R_E + R_C}$$



# Output equivalent circuit including the effect of $r_o$ (small signal)



To determine  $v_{eq}$ , calculate the open-circuit output voltage  $v_{oc}$ .

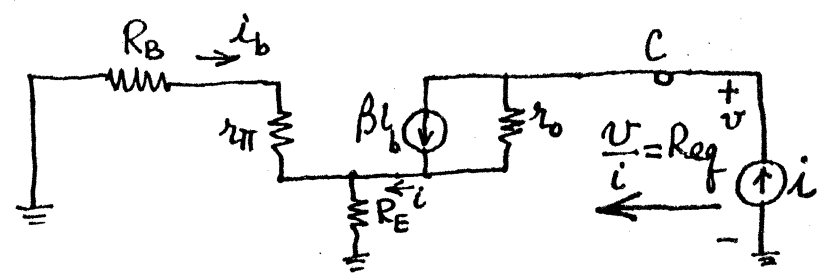


$$i_b = \frac{v_1 - v_2}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E}$$

$$v_{oc} = v_2 + i_b R_E - \beta i_b r_o = v_2 + \frac{(v_1 - v_2)(R_E - \beta r_o)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E}$$

$$v_{oc} = \frac{v_2 (R_B + r_{\pi} + \beta r_o) - v_1 (\beta r_o - R_E)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E} = v_{eq}$$

To determine  $R_{eq}$ , let  $v_1 = v_2 = 0$ , and calculate resistance seen at output.

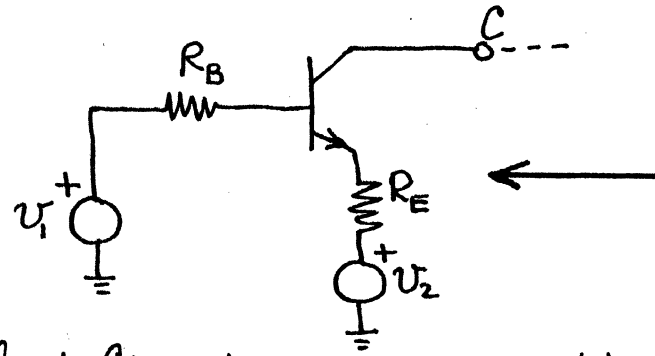


$$i_b = -i \frac{R_E}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E}$$

$$v = (i - \beta i_b) r_o + i \frac{R_E (R_B + r_{\pi})}{R_E + R_B + r_{\pi}} = i \left[ r_o \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_E}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E} \right) + \frac{R_E (R_B + r_{\pi})}{R_E + R_B + r_{\pi}} \right]$$

$$R_{eq} = r_o \left[ 1 + \frac{R_E \left( \beta + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{r_o} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E} \right]$$

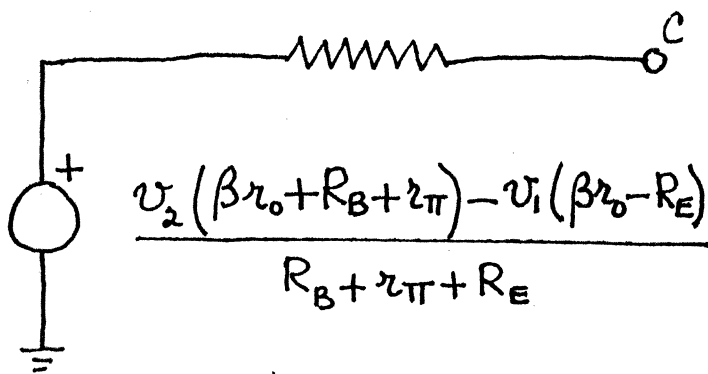
# Thévenin and Norton Output Equivalent Circuits (small signal)



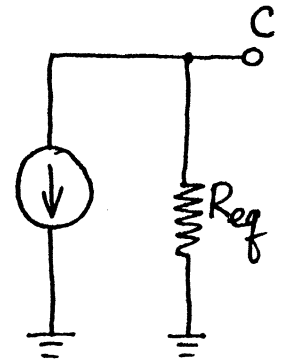
Thévenin Equivalent Circuit

Norton Equivalent Circuit

$$r_o \left[ 1 + \frac{R_E \left( \beta + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{r_o} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E} \right] = R_{eq}$$

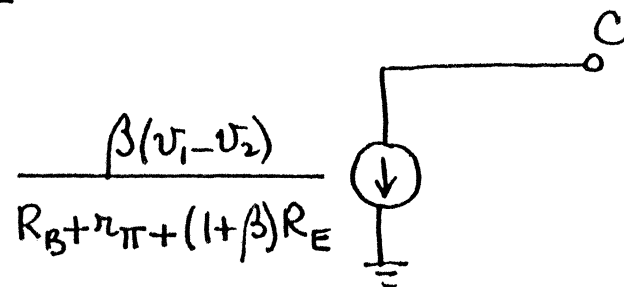


$$\frac{v_1 \beta \left( 1 - \frac{R_E}{\beta r_o} \right) - v_2 \beta \left( 1 + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{\beta r_o} \right)}{\left[ R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E \right] \left\{ 1 + \frac{R_E (R_B + r_{\pi})}{r_o [R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E]} \right\}}$$

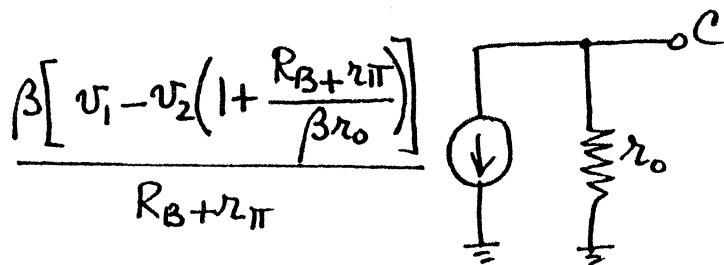


# Discussion of output equivalent circuit (small signal)

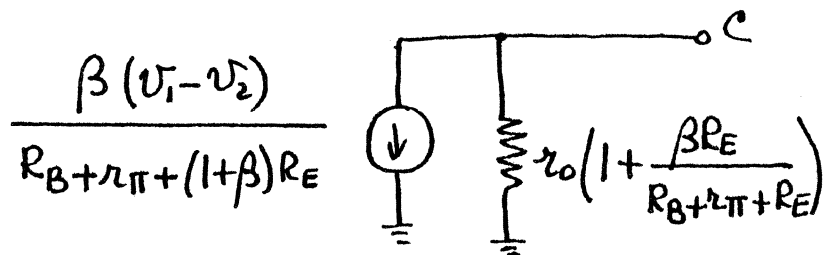
1. The output behaves like an ideal current source only when  $r_o = \infty$ . Can be used as a difference amplifier.



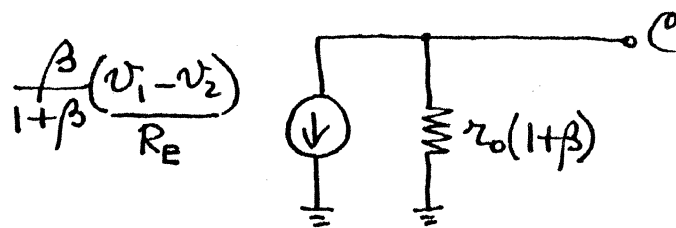
2. The output behaves least like a current source when  $R_E = 0$ . Cannot be used as a difference amplifier.



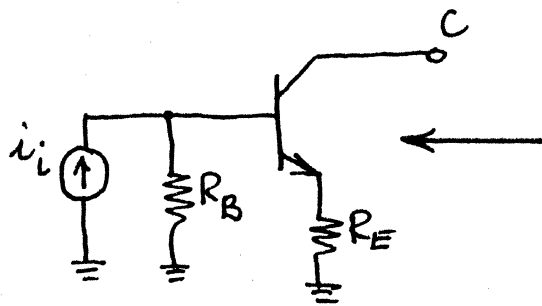
3. If  $R_E \ll \beta r_o$  and  $R_B + r_{\pi} \ll \beta r_o$ , the output equivalent circuit to an excellent approximation is:



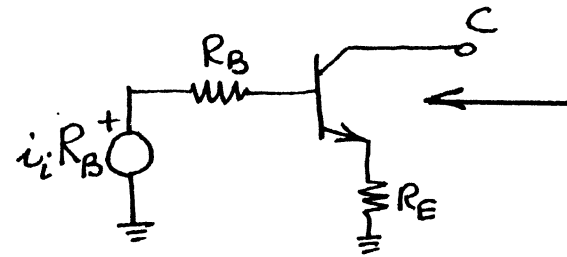
Further increase in output resistance results if  $R_B$  is kept low. In particular, for  $R_B + r_{\pi} \ll R_E$ , the circuit simplifies to:



L6: Output equivalent circuit for current-source excitation (small signal)

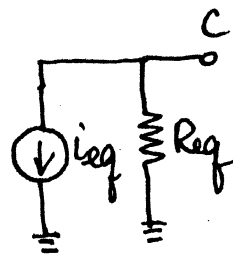


Convert the nonideal current source to a nonideal voltage source and obtain



ω

Use the Norton equivalent circuit given on p37 with  $v_1 = i_i R_B$  and  $v_2 = 0$  and obtain



where

$$i_{eq} = \frac{i_i R_B \beta \left(1 - \frac{R_E}{\beta r_o}\right)}{\left[ R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E \right] \left\{ 1 + \frac{R_E (R_B + r_{\pi})}{r_o [R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E]} \right\}}$$

$$R_{eq} = r_o \left[ 1 + \frac{R_E \left( \beta + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi}}{r_o} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + R_E} \right]$$

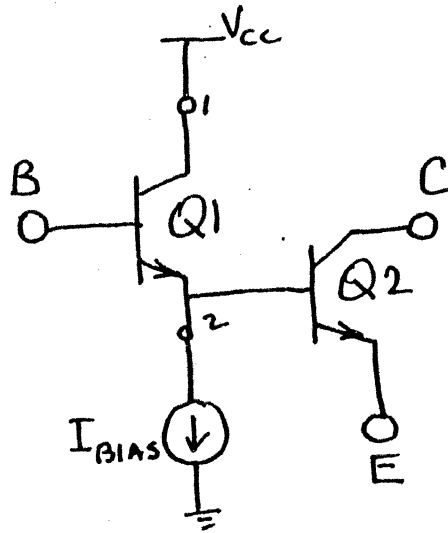
If the current-source excitation is ideal, i.e.  $R_B = \infty$ ,  $i_{eq}$  and  $R_{eq}$  can be simplified to

$$i_{eq} = \frac{i_i \beta \left(1 - \frac{R_E}{\beta r_o}\right)}{1 + \frac{R_E}{r_o}}$$

$$R_{eq} = r_o \left(1 + \frac{R_E}{r_o}\right)$$

# Composite Transistors: CC-CC and CC-CE pairs

Consider the five terminal composite transistor circuit shown. Two of the terminals, 1 and 2, are committed; 1 is connected to  $V_{CC}$  and 2 to  $I_{BIAS}$ . The remaining three terminals, B, C, and E are free.



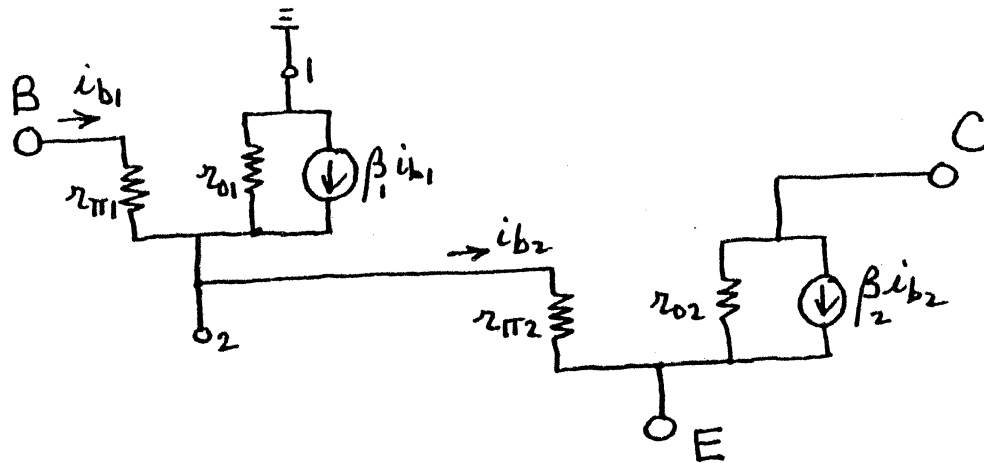
Assume the input is between the base B and ground. If the output is taken between collector C and ground, a CC-CE composite pair results. If the output is taken between emitter E and ground, a CC-CC composite pair results.

40

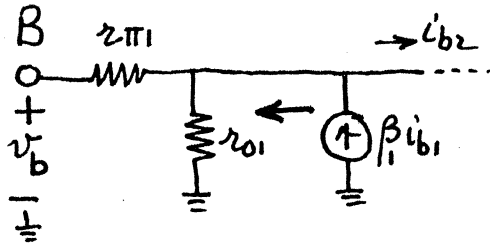
Problem: Determine the small-signal equivalent circuit of the composite pair.

Solution:

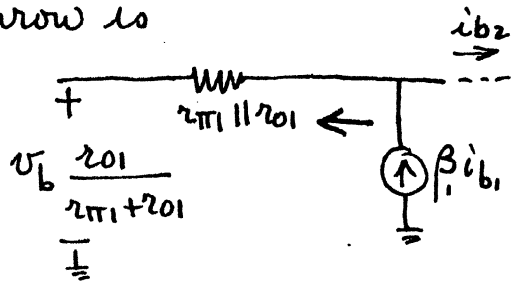
Represent the transistors with their small-signal equivalent circuits and obtain  $\longrightarrow$



Part of the circuit is redrawn here for simplification.



The Thévenin equivalent circuit to the left of the arrow is



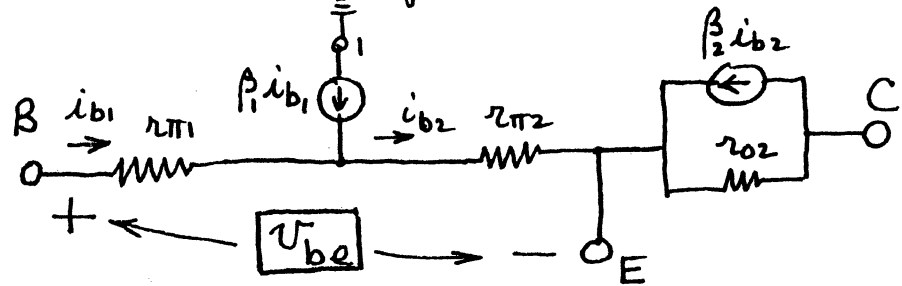
$r_{\pi 1}$  and  $r_{o1}$  are fixed by operating point (quiescent) values:

$$r_{\pi 1} = \frac{V_T}{I_{B1}} = \frac{V_T}{I_{C1} / \beta_1} = \beta_1 \frac{V_T}{I_{C1}}$$

$$r_{o1} = \frac{V_A + V_{CE1}}{I_{C1}}$$

Comparing  $r_{\pi 1}$  with  $r_{o1}$ , we see that  $r_{\pi 1} \ll r_{o1}$

Consequently, the Thévenin equivalent-circuit representation simplifies to the original input circuit with  $r_{o1}$  left out.

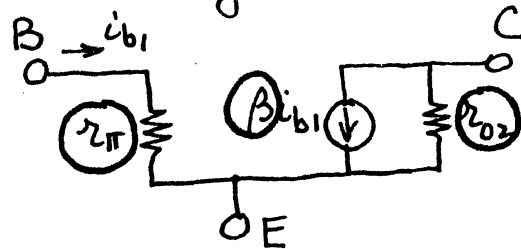


$$V_{be} = i_{b1} r_{\pi 1} + i_{b2} r_{\pi 2}$$

$$\text{But } (1 + \beta_1) i_{b1} = i_{b2}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \boxed{V_{be} = i_{b1} [r_{\pi 1} + (1 + \beta_1) r_{\pi 2}]}$$

This result suggests that as far as the B, E, C terminals are concerned, the composite transistor circuit can be replaced with a single transistor represented by

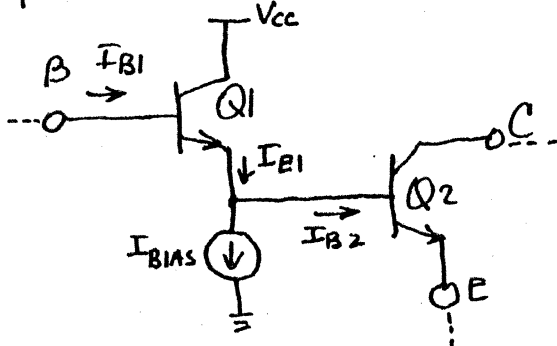


where

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} r_{\pi} &= r_{\pi 1} + (1 + \beta_1) r_{\pi 2} \\ \beta &= (1 + \beta_1) \beta_2 \end{aligned}}$$



Because  $r_{\pi 2}$  is related to  $r_{\pi 1}$ ,  $r_{\pi}$  can be simplified further. For this, we must first establish the relationship between the quiescent base currents.



$$I_{B2} = I_{E1} - I_{BIAS} = (1 + \beta_1) I_{B1} - I_{BIAS}$$

$$\frac{I_{B2}}{I_{B1}} = (1 + \beta_1) - \frac{I_{BIAS}}{I_{B1}}$$

$$r_{\pi 1} = \frac{V_T}{I_{B1}} \quad r_{\pi 2} = \frac{V_T}{I_{B2}} \quad \frac{r_{\pi 2}}{r_{\pi 1}} = \frac{I_{B1}}{I_{B2}}$$

$$r_{\pi} = r_{\pi 1} + (1 + \beta) r_{\pi 2} = r_{\pi 1} \left[ 1 + (1 + \beta_1) \frac{r_{\pi 2}}{r_{\pi 1}} \right]$$

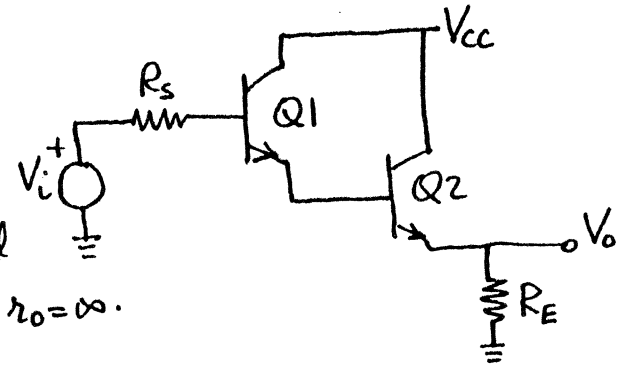
$$= r_{\pi 1} \left[ 1 + (1 + \beta_1) \frac{I_{B1}}{I_{B2}} \right]$$

$$= r_{\pi 1} \left[ 1 + (1 + \beta_1) \frac{1}{(1 + \beta_1) - \frac{I_{BIAS}}{I_{B1}}} \right]$$

$$r_{\pi} = r_{\pi 1} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 + \beta_1} \frac{I_{BIAS}}{I_{B1}}} \right]$$

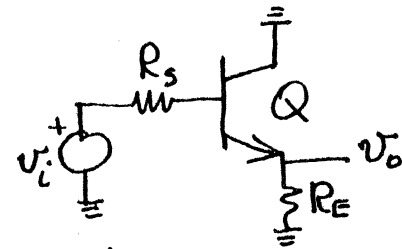
### Example:

Find the impedance seen by the voltage source and the overall voltage gain. Assume  $r_o = \infty$ .



### Solution:

Replace the composite transistor with its equivalent and obtain



The  $r_{\pi}$  and  $\beta$  of Q are given by

$$r_{\pi} = r_{\pi 1} + (1 + \beta_1) r_{\pi 2} \quad \beta = (1 + \beta_1) \beta_2$$

Since  $I_{BIAS} = 0$ ,  $I_{B2} = (1 + \beta_1) I_{B1}$  and hence  $r_{\pi 2} = \frac{r_{\pi 1}}{1 + \beta_1}$ .

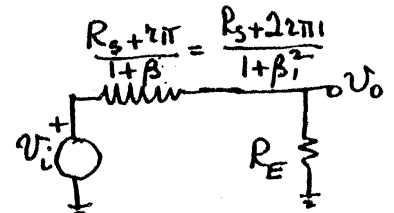
The resulting  $r_{\pi} = 2r_{\pi 1}$ .

Since  $V_{CE2} = V_{CE1} + V_{BE2} \approx V_{CE1}$ , the two  $\beta$ 's are the same resulting in  $\beta = (1 + \beta_1) \beta_1 \approx \beta_1^2$ .

Source  $v_i$  sees  $R_s + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E$

$$= R_s + 2r_{\pi 1} + (1 + \beta_1^2) R_E$$

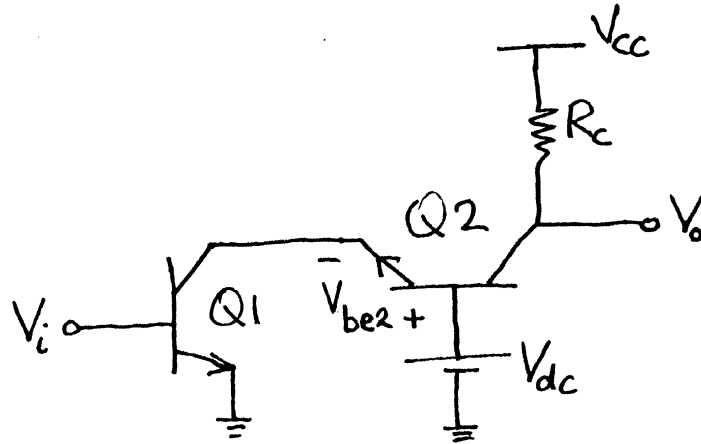
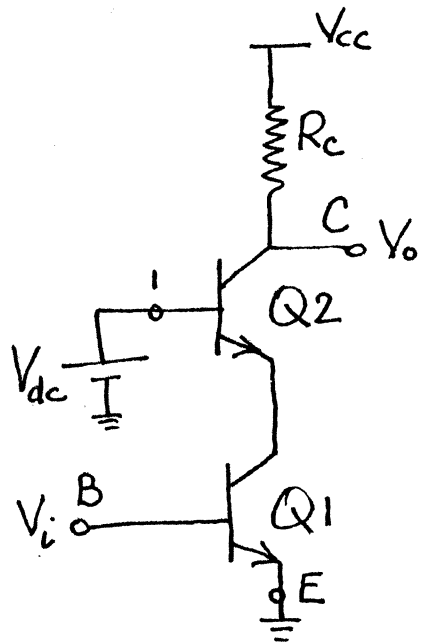
The equivalent circuit facing  $R_E$  is



The gain is

$$A_v = \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{R_s + 2r_{\pi 1}}{1 + \beta_1^2}}$$

# The Cascode (CE-CB) Amplifier



$$V_{dc} - V_{be2} + V_{CE2sat} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc}$$

To prevent Q1 from sat.

$$V_{dc} > V_{be2} + V_{CE1sat}$$

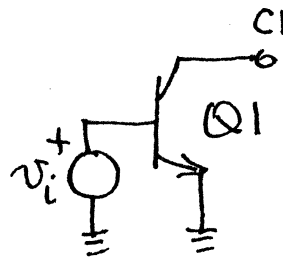
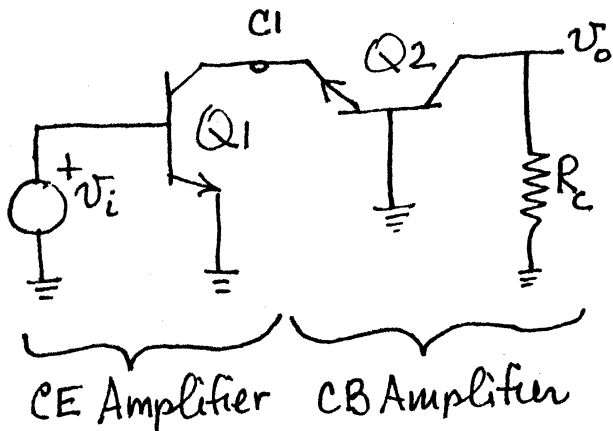
To prevent Q2 from sat.

$$V_o > \underbrace{V_{dc} - V_{be2} + V_{CE2sat}}_{V_{ce1}}$$

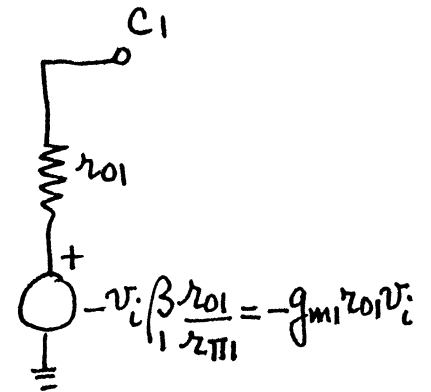
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## Small-signal analysis

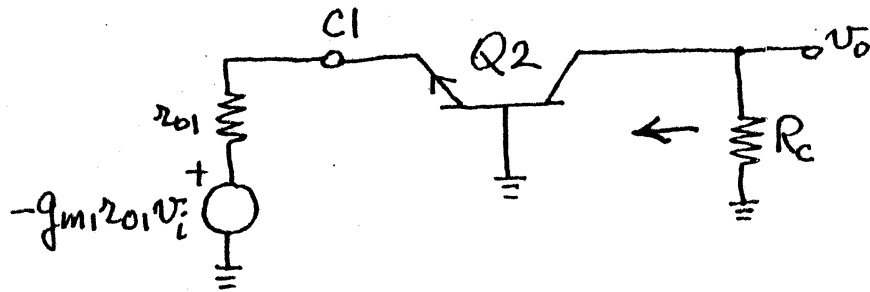
## The CE Amplifier portion of the circuit



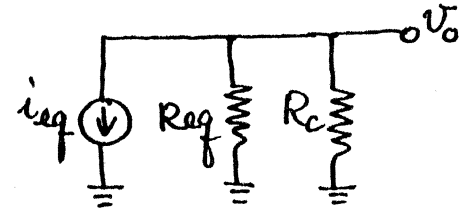
using the results given on p37



# The CB Amplifier portion of the circuit



Using the results given on p37



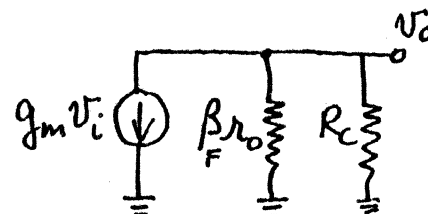
$$i_{eq} = g_{m1} r_{o1} \left[ \frac{v_i \beta_2}{r_{\pi 2} + (1 + \beta_2) r_{o1}} \right] \left\{ \frac{1 + \frac{r_{\pi 2}}{\beta_2 r_{o2}}}{1 + \frac{r_{o1} r_{\pi 2}}{r_{o2} [r_{\pi 2} + (1 + \beta_2) r_{o1}]}} \right\}, \quad R_{eq} = r_{o2} \left[ 1 + \frac{r_{o1} (\beta_2 + \frac{r_{\pi 2}}{r_{o2}})}{r_{\pi 2} + r_{o1}} \right]$$

Now assume  $V_A \gg V_{CE1}$  and  $V_{CE2}$ . This means that  $\beta = \beta_F (1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}) \approx \beta_F$ . Also we see that  $I_{c1} \approx I_{c2}$ . It follows that  $r_{\pi 1} = r_{\pi 2} = r_{\pi}$ ,  $g_{m1} = g_{m2} = g_m$ ,  $r_{o1} = r_{o2} = r_o$ ,  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_F$ .

$$i_{eq} = v_i \left[ \frac{g_m r_o \beta_F}{r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta_F) r_o} \right] \left[ \frac{1 + \frac{r_{\pi}}{\beta_F r_o}}{1 + \frac{r_{\pi}}{r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta_F) r_o}} \right]$$

$$R_{eq} = r_o \left[ 1 + \frac{r_o (\beta_F + \frac{r_{\pi}}{r_o})}{r_{\pi} + r_o} \right]$$

We can simplify these results further by assuming  $\beta_F + 1 \approx \beta_F$  and  $r_{\pi} \ll r_o$ . (The latter approx. implies  $\frac{\beta_F V_T}{I_C} \ll \frac{V_A}{I_C}$ .)

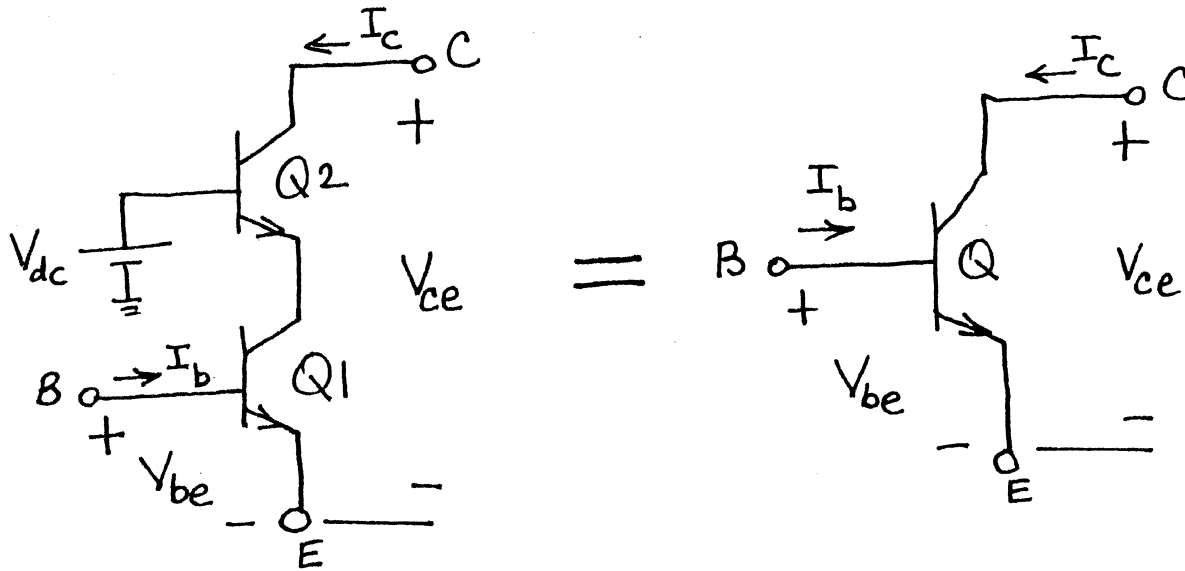


$$v_o = -g_m v_i \frac{\beta_F r_o R_c}{\beta_F r_o + R_c}$$

$$A_v = -g_m \frac{\beta_F r_o R_c}{\beta_F r_o + R_c}$$

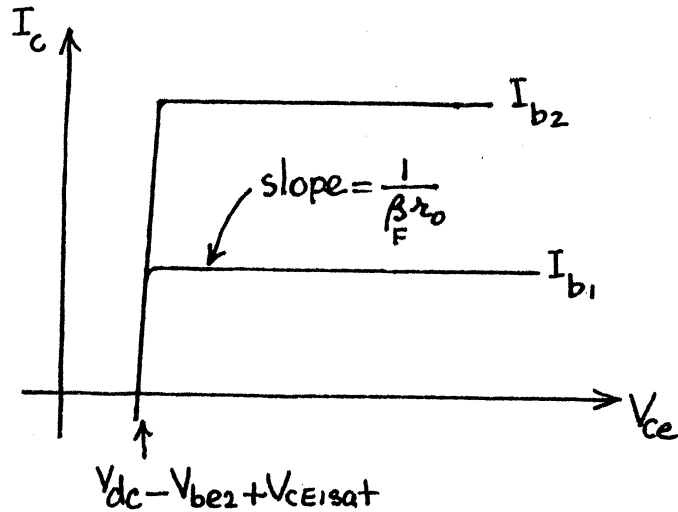
$$A_v |_{\beta_F r_o \gg R_c} \approx -g_m R_c$$

# Summary of the results of the Cascode Amplifier



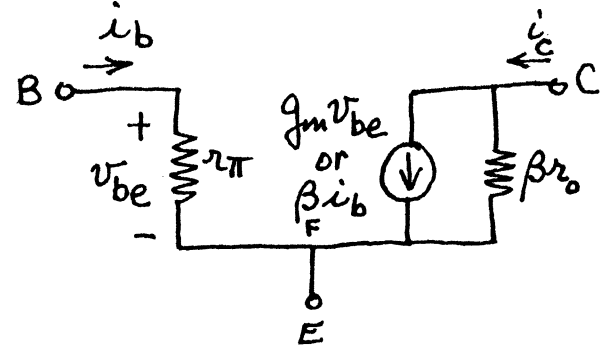
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## Large-signal characteristics



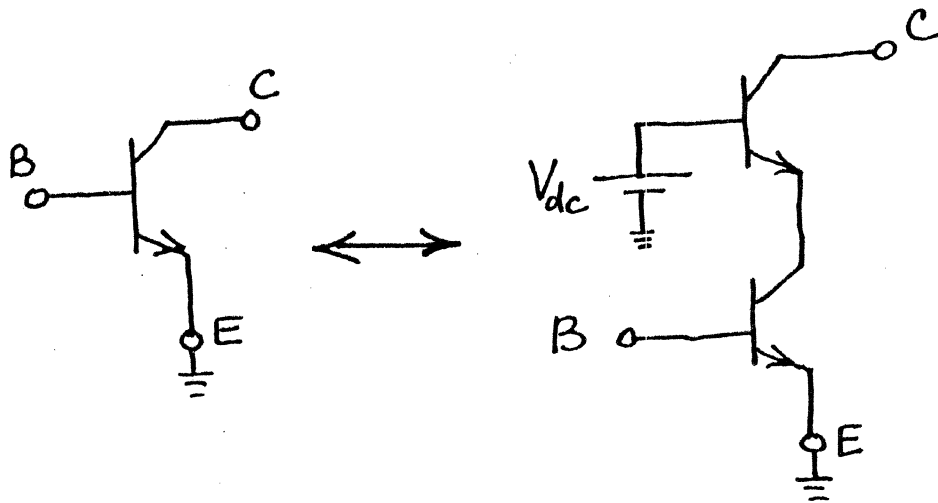
$I_c$  becomes negative when the base-to-collector junction of  $Q_2$  becomes forward biased

## Small-signal characteristics



## Demonstration

Comparison of single transistor output characteristics with the cascode circuit using the curve tracer.

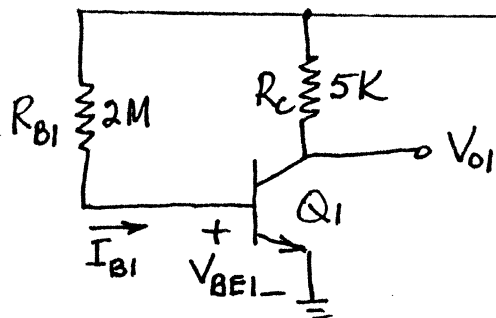


Use  $I_b$  as a parameter and display the  $I_c$  vs  $V_{ce}$  curves.  
Vary  $V_{dc}$  to show its effect.

# L7: Power supply sensitivity of bias circuits

Given  $I_s = 3.305 \times 10^{-14} \text{ A}$  and  $\beta = 210$ . Calculate  $V_{o1}$  and  $V_{o2}$ . Assume  $V_A = \infty$ .

$V_{cc} = 15 \text{ V}$



Determine also the base-to-emitter voltages

Base-current controlled bias

$$I_{B1} = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE1}}{V_T}}}{\beta} = \frac{V_{cc} - V_{BE1}}{R_{B1}}$$

$$\frac{15 - V_{BE1}}{2 \times 10^6} = \frac{3.305 \times 10^{-14} e^{\frac{V_{BE1}}{26 \times 10^{-3}}}}{210}$$

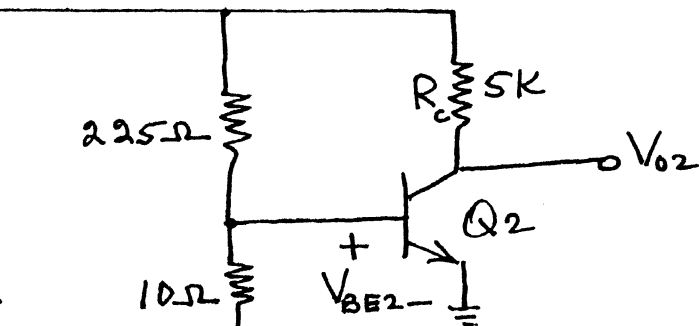
Solve by trial and error for  $V_{BE1}$ .

$$\boxed{V_{BE1} = 0.638 \text{ V}}$$

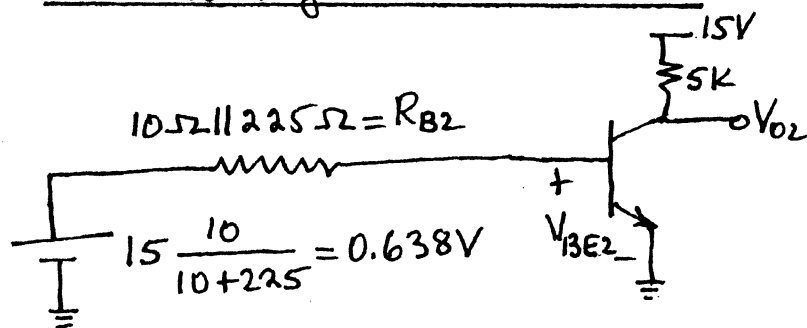
$$I_{C1} = \beta I_{B1} = \beta \frac{V_{cc} - V_{BE1}}{R_{B1}} = 210 \left( \frac{15 - 0.638}{2 \times 10^6} \right)$$

$$\boxed{I_{C1} = 1.5 \text{ mA}}$$

$$V_{o1} = V_{cc} - R_c I_{C1} = 15 - 5 \times 1.5 = \boxed{7.5 \text{ V}}$$



Base-voltage controlled bias



Since  $R_{B2} < 10 \Omega$ , the voltage across it is negligible. Consequently

$$\boxed{V_{BE2} = 0.638 \text{ V}}$$

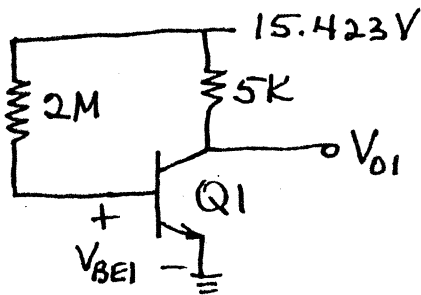
$$\boxed{I_{C2} = 1.5 \text{ mA}}$$

$$\boxed{V_{o2} = 7.5 \text{ V}}$$

Both circuits have the same operating point.

Now suppose  $V_{CC}$  changes from 15V to 15.423V

Calculate the new operating points:



$$\frac{15.423 - V_{BE1}}{2 \times 10^6} = \frac{3.305 \times 10^{-14}}{210} e^{\frac{V_{BE1}}{26 \times 10^{-3}}}$$

Solve for  $V_{BE1}$  by trial and error.

$$\boxed{V_{BE1} = 0.639 \text{ V}}$$

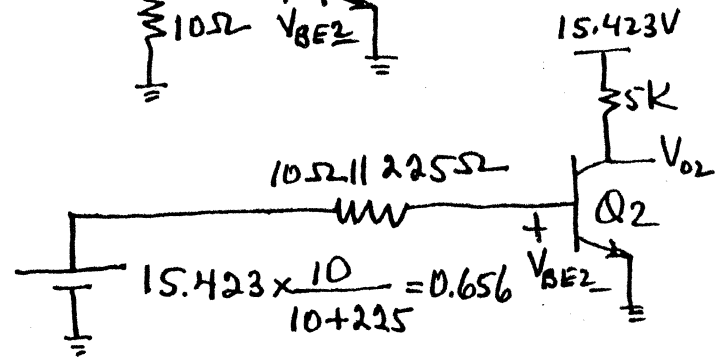
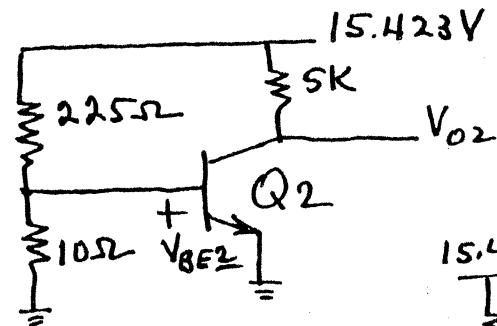
There is only 1mV change in  $V_{BE1}$ .

$$I_{C1} = \beta I_{B1} = 210 \frac{15.423 - 0.639}{2 \times 10^6} = \boxed{1.55 \text{ mA}}$$

$$V_{O1} = 15.423 - 5 \times 1.55 = \boxed{7.67 \text{ V}}$$

There is very little change in operating point voltage and current.

Make  $V_{BE}$  as independent of supply voltage as possible.



$$\boxed{V_{BE2} = 0.656 \text{ V}}$$

There is  $0.656 - 0.638 = \underline{18 \text{ mV}}$  change in base-to-emitter voltage.

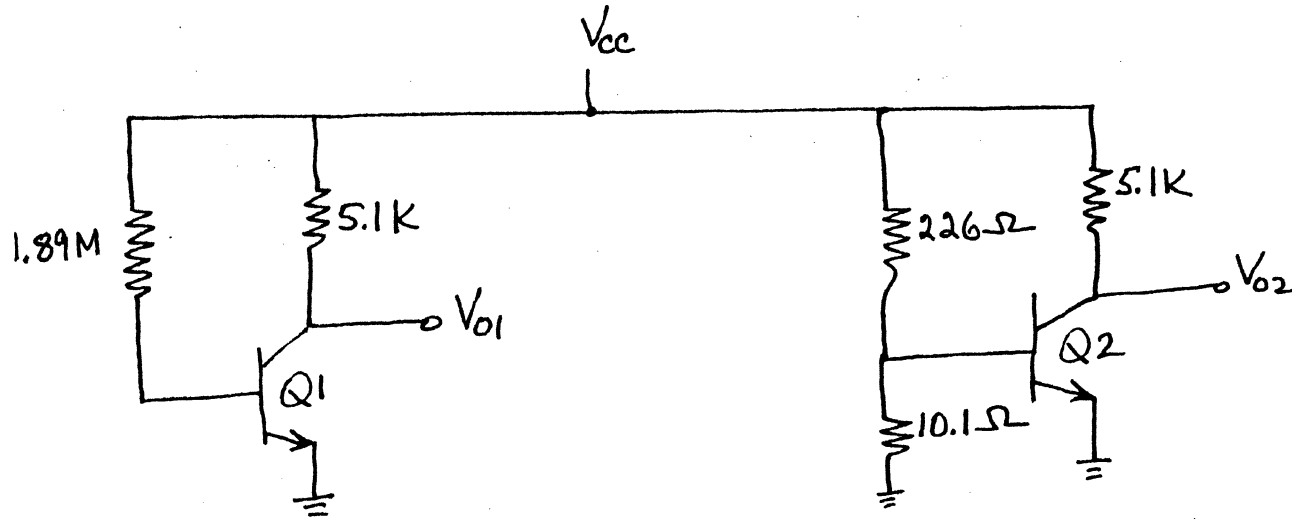
Therefore, the new  $I_{C2}$  will be

$$I_{C2} = 2 \times 1.5 = \boxed{3 \text{ mA}}$$

$$V_{O2} = 15.423 - 3 \times 5 = \boxed{0.423 \text{ V}}$$

The transistor  $Q_2$  is near sat.

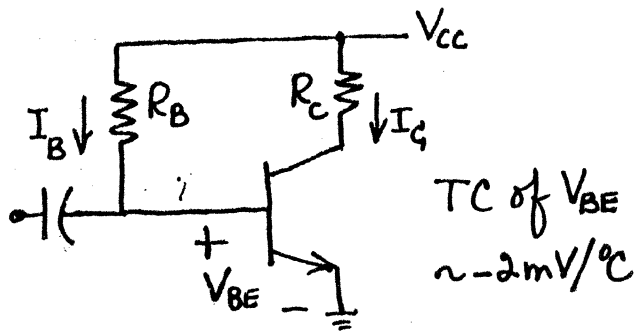
## Demonstration: Power Supply Sensitivity



1. Adjust  $V_{cc}$  around 15V until  $V_{01} = V_{02} \cong 7.5V$ .
2. Change  $V_{cc}$  slightly (about 0.5V) to drive  $V_{02}$  to saturation while  $V_{01}$  changes only slightly.



## Fixed-base-current bias



$$I_B = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B} \Big|_{V_{CC} \gg V_{BE}} \approx \frac{V_{CC}}{R_B}$$

50

The base current is fixed.

However,  $I_C = \beta I_B \approx \boxed{\beta \frac{V_{CC}}{R_B}}$

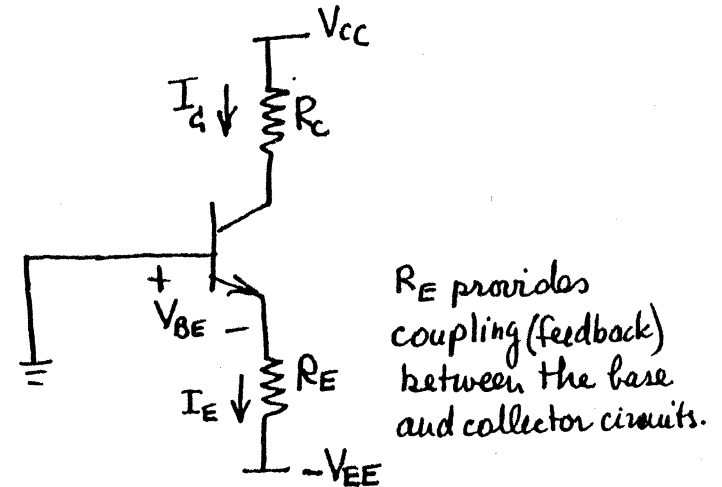
The collector current depends on the  $\beta$  of the transistor.

$\beta$  varies  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{from wafer to wafer (50-500)} \\ \text{with temp. (25\% for } \Delta T = 25^\circ\text{C)} \\ \text{with } V_{CE} \text{ (Early effect)} \end{array} \right.$

Collector operating point cannot be fixed.

## Fixed-collector-current bias

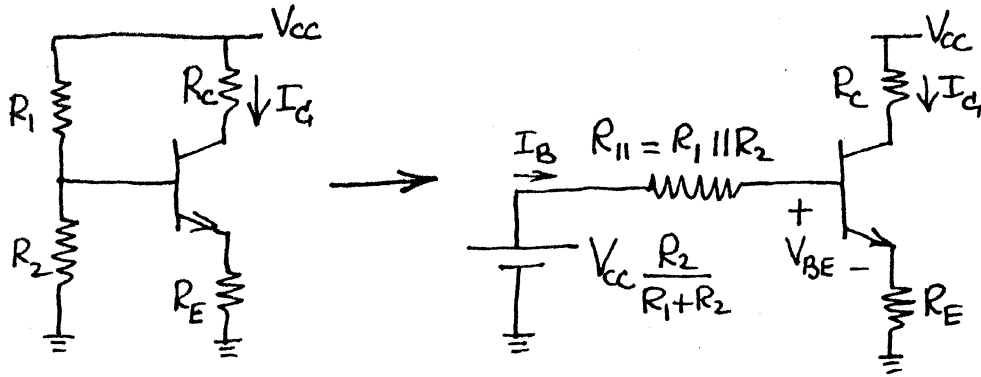
using two power supplies



$$I_C \approx I_E = \frac{V_{EE} - V_{BE}}{R_E} \Big|_{V_{EE} \gg V_{BE}} \approx \boxed{\frac{V_{EE}}{R_E}}$$

The collector current and hence the output operating point is fixed. If the input signal (not shown) has no dc component, it can be inserted in series with the base. (Otherwise, use RC input coupling.)

# Fixed-collector-current bias using one power supply



$$V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = I_B R_{11} + V_{BE} + R_E (I_B + I_C)$$

Since  $I_C = \beta I_B$ , this equation can be written as

$$V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = I_B [R_{11} + R_E (1 + \beta)] + V_{BE}$$

$$I_B = \frac{V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE}}{R_{11} + (1 + \beta) R_E} \quad \text{which for } \boxed{R_{11} \ll (1 + \beta) R_E}$$

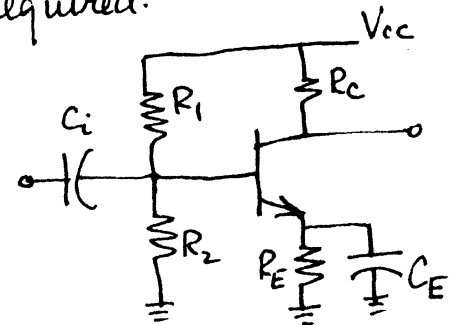
(make  $R_{11} \leq 10 R_E$ )

becomes 
$$I_B \approx \frac{V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE}}{(1 + \beta) R_E}$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B \approx \frac{\beta}{1 + \beta} \frac{V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE}}{R_E} \approx \frac{V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE}}{R_E} \quad \text{which}$$

for  $V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \gg V_{BE}$  becomes 
$$\boxed{I_C \approx \frac{V_{CC} R_2}{R_E (R_1 + R_2)}}$$

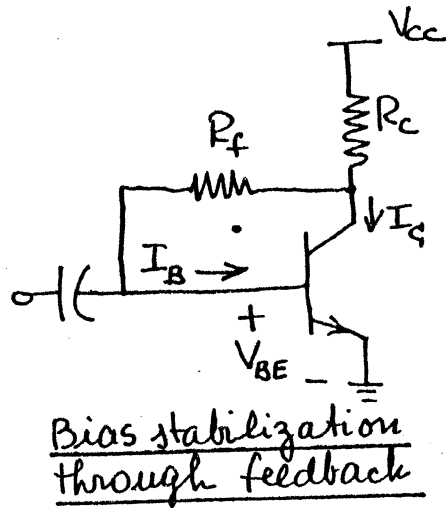
Thus the collector current is fixed, i.e., made independent of the transistor. The presence of  $R_E$ , however, reduces the signal gain unless it is bypassed with a capacitor. Also an input coupling capacitor is required.



For biasing IC's, this biasing scheme is undesirable because

1. It uses 3 resistors, two of which ( $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ) are large
2. Requires capacitors, one of which ( $C_E$ ) is large.

## Fixing the collector current by other methods



$$V_{CC} = (I_C + I_B)R_C + I_B R_f + V_{BE}$$

$$= \left(I_C + \frac{I_C}{\beta}\right)R_C + \frac{I_C}{\beta}R_f + V_{BE}$$

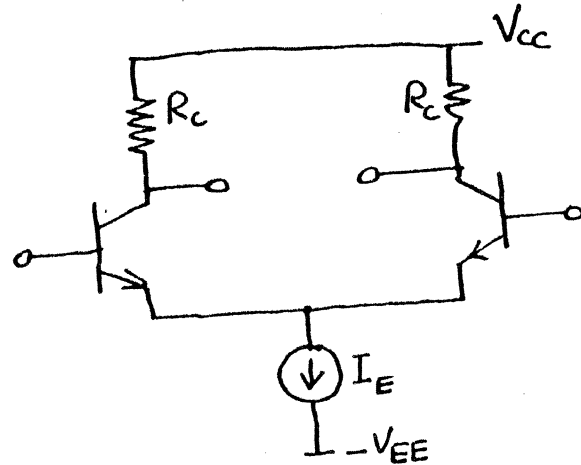
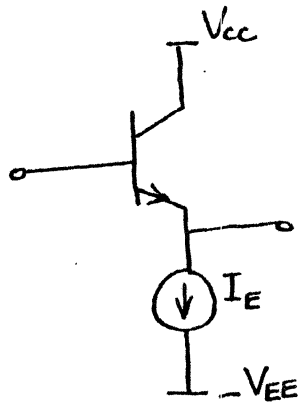
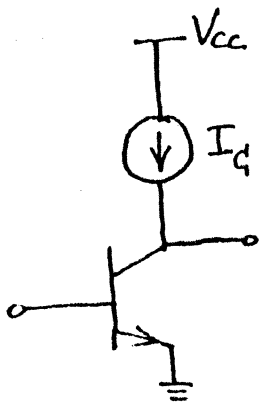
$$I_C = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta}\right)R_C + \frac{R_f}{\beta}}$$

The  $\beta$  dependence of  $I_C$  can be minimized by making  $\frac{R_f}{\beta} \ll R_C$ . Too small of an  $R_f$ , however, reduces the signal gain.

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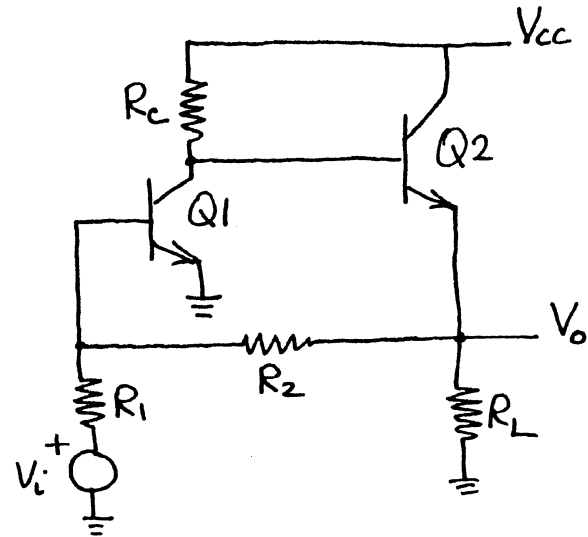
## Biassing schemes using current sources

Circuits that fix the collector or emitter current.

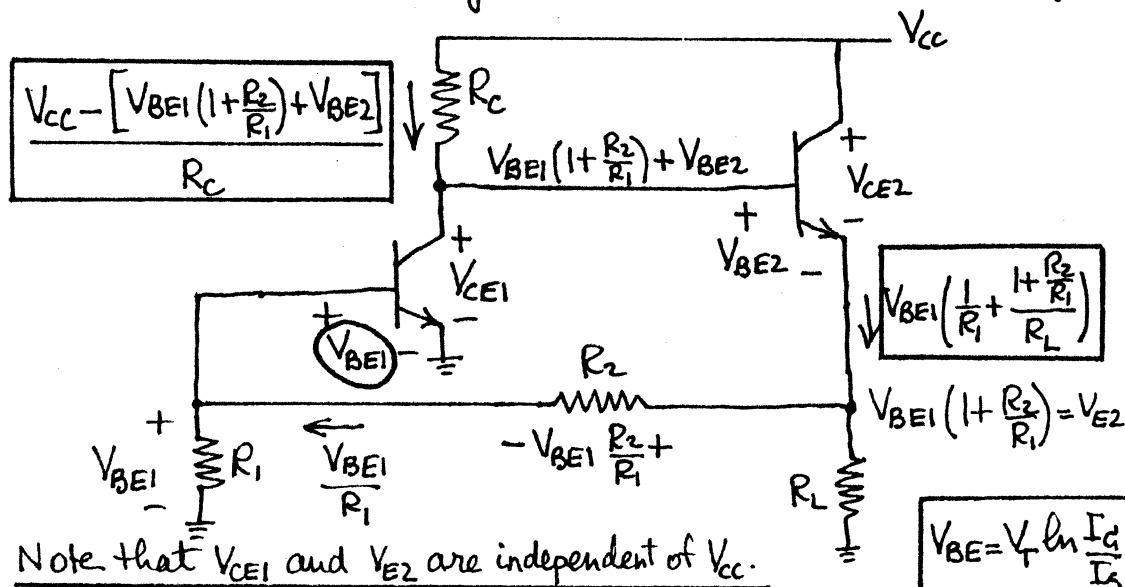


## Fixing the collector-to-emitter voltages

Calculate the collector-to-emitter voltages and the collector currents for the circuit shown. Assume the transistor  $\beta$ 's are sufficiently high, and therefore the base currents can be neglected relative to the other currents. The input  $V_i$  does not affect the operating points.



Solution: Redraw the circuit with  $V_i = 0$ . Starting out with  $V_{BE1}$ , calculate all the significant currents and voltages with respect to ground.



$$\begin{aligned} V_{CE1} &= V_{BE1} \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) + V_{BE2} \\ V_{CE2} &= V_{cc} - V_{BE1} \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) \end{aligned}$$

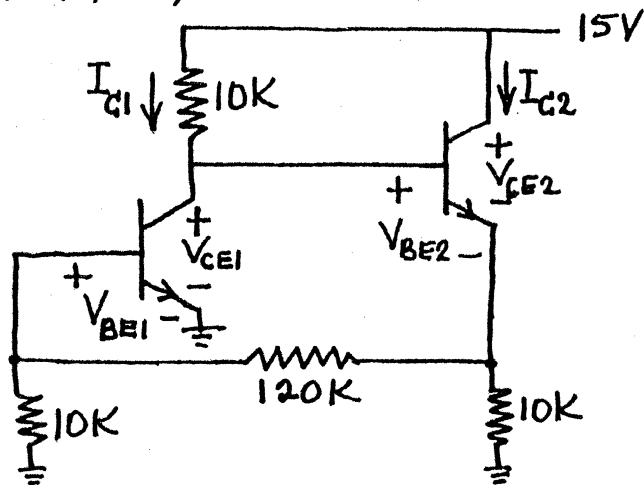
No current or voltage shown is  $\beta$  dependent.

Knowing that  $V_{BE}$ 's will be around 0.6-0.7V, we can make a rough estimate of all the currents and voltages. Then, using the  $I_C$ 's thus found, we can make a more accurate determination of  $V_{BE}$ 's.

$$V_{BE} = V_T \ln \frac{I_C}{I_S}$$

### Example:

For the circuit shown determine  $I_{C1}$ ,  $I_{C2}$ ,  $V_{CE1}$ , and  $V_{CE2}$ .  $I_S = 10^{-15} \text{ A}$ .



From the results of the previous page,

$$I_{C1} \approx \frac{V_{CC} - [V_{BE1}(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}) + V_{BE2}]}{R_C} = \frac{15 - 13V_{BE1} - V_{BE2}}{10}$$

$$I_{C2} \approx V_{BE1} \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}}{R_L} \right) = 1.4 V_{BE1}$$

To start the trial and error solution of the problem, assume  $V_{BE1} = V_{BE2} = 0.6 \text{ V}$ . Then,

$$I_{C1} = 0.660 \text{ mA}, \quad I_{C2} = 0.840 \text{ mA}$$

Using these first trial values of  $I_C$ 's, calculate more accurate estimates of  $V_{BE}$ 's using

$$V_{BE1} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{C1}}{I_S} = 26 \ln 10^{15} I_{C1}, \quad V_{BE2} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{C2}}{I_S} = 26 \ln 10^{15} I_{C2}$$

The results are  $V_{BE1} = 707.6 \text{ mV}$ ,  $V_{BE2} = 713.9 \text{ mV}$ . With these better estimates of  $V_{BE}$ 's, calculate the new  $I_C$ 's.

$$I_{C1} = 0.509 \text{ mA}, \quad I_{C2} = 0.991 \text{ mA}$$

Using these more accurate values of  $I_C$ 's, calculate the new  $V_{BE}$ 's.

$$V_{BE1} = 700.9 \text{ mV}, \quad V_{BE2} = 718.2 \text{ mV}$$

One more iteration gives

$$I_{C1} = 0.517 \text{ mA}, \quad I_{C2} = 0.981 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{BE1} = 701.3 \text{ mV}, \quad V_{BE2} = 718.0 \text{ mV}$$

Note that the last set of  $V_{BE}$  values are hardly different from the previous set; hence no further iteration is necessary. The resulting  $V_{CE}$ 's are

$$V_{CE1} = V_{CC} - I_{C1} R_C = 9.83 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{CE2} = V_{CC} - V_{BE1} \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) = 5.88 \text{ V}$$

Now suppose  $V_{CC}$  is changed from 15 to 20V. What are the new  $I_C$ 's,  $V_{CE}$ 's, and  $V_{BE}$ 's?

Starting with  $V_{BE1} = V_{BE2} = 0.7 \text{ V}$ , after three iterations, we obtain

$$V_{BE1} = 718.3 \text{ mV}, \quad V_{BE2} = 718.6 \text{ mV}$$

$$I_{C1} = 0.994 \text{ mA}, \quad I_{C2} = 1.007 \text{ mA}$$

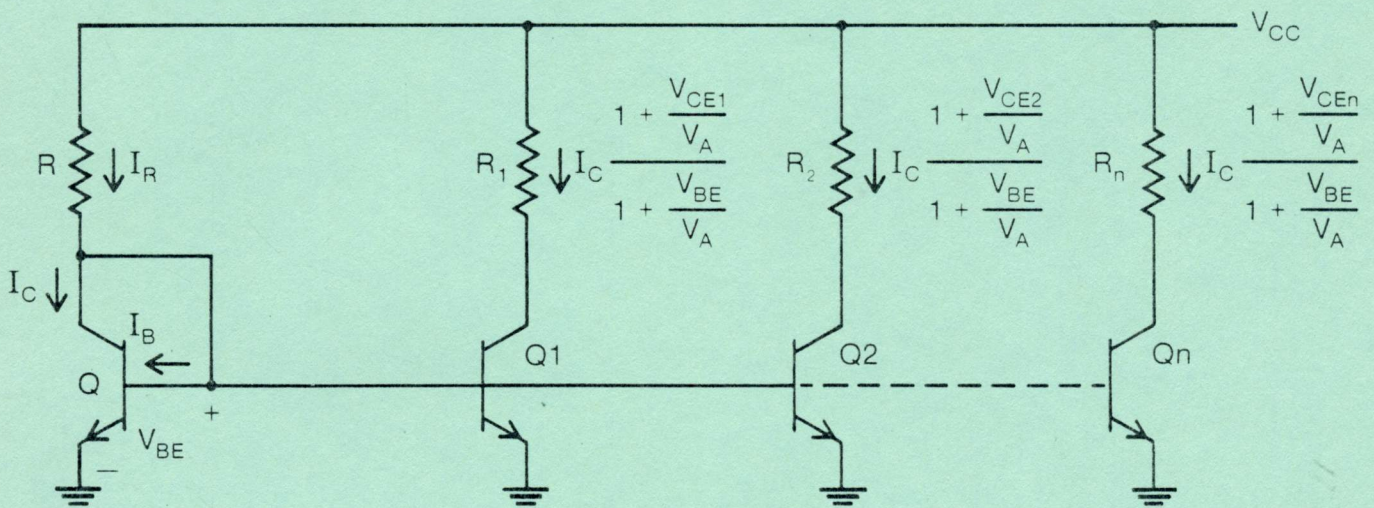
$$V_{CE1} = 10.06 \text{ V}, \quad V_{CE2} = 10.66 \text{ V}$$

As  $V_{CC}$  changes from 15 to 20V,  $V_{CE1}$  changes from 9.83 to 10.06V.

A Self Study Subject

# FUNDAMENTALS & APPLICATIONS OF ANALOG INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

## PART I LOW FREQUENCY ANALYSIS & DESIGN



Study Guide  
for

## MODULE B Current Sources & Applications

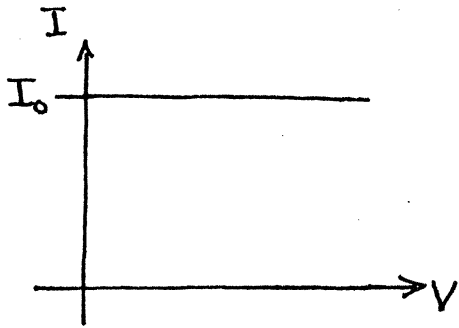
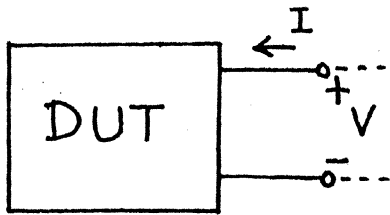


Colorado State University  
Engineering Renewal  
& Renewal & Growth Program

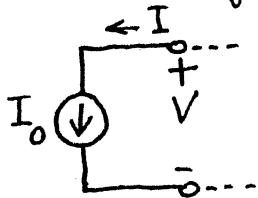
Aram Budak

# L8: DC CURRENT SOURCES

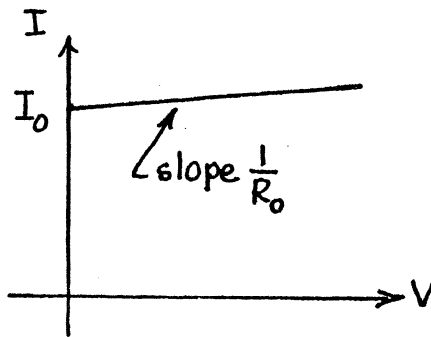
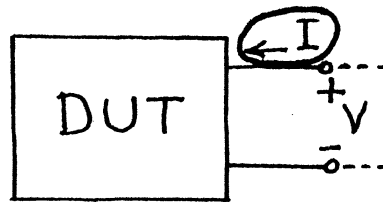
## The ideal current source



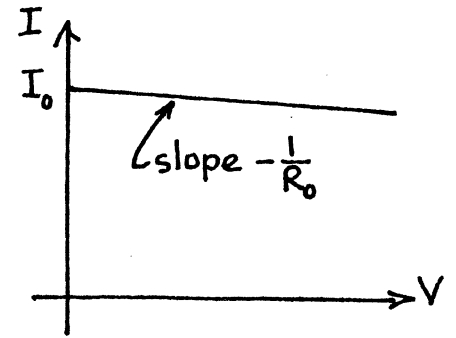
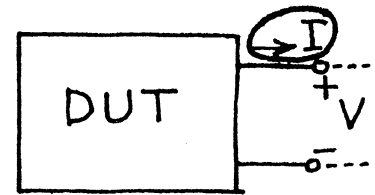
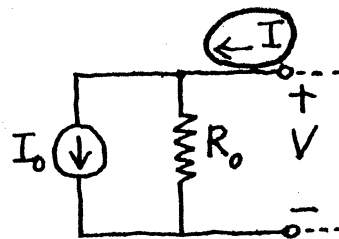
In an ideal current source, the current is independent of the voltage across the source.



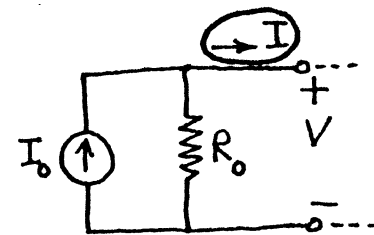
## The actual current source



$$I = I_0 + \frac{1}{R_0} V$$

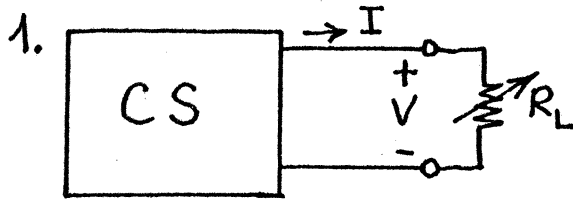


$$I = I_0 - \frac{1}{R_0} V$$

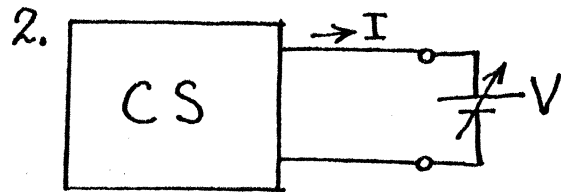


The larger  $R_0$ , the better the current source.

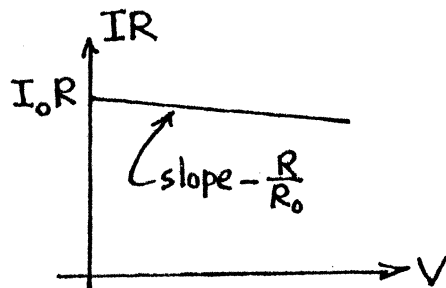
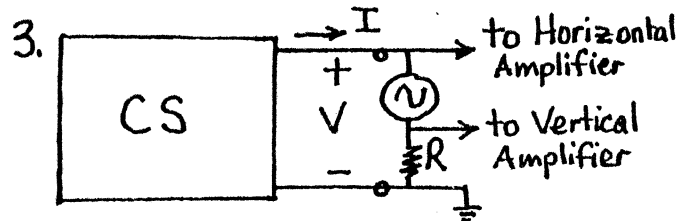
## Measurement of output characteristics



For each setting of  $R_L$  measure  $(I, V)$  and plot.

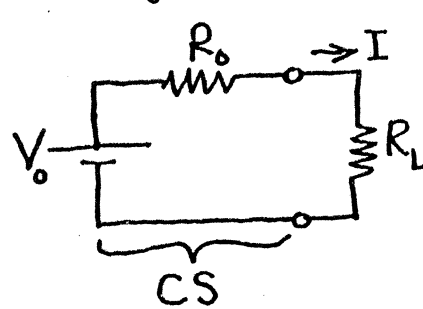


For each setting of  $V$  measure  $(I, V)$  and plot.



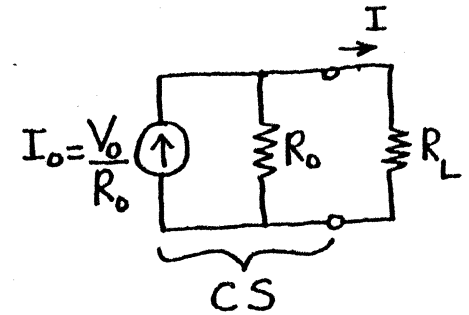
Note:  
Signal source must be floating

## An elementary current source using a voltage source and a resistor



$$I = \frac{V_0}{R_0 + R_L} = \frac{V_0}{R_0} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_L}{R_0}} \right)$$

$$I \Big|_{R_L \ll R_0} \approx \boxed{\frac{V_0}{R_0}}$$

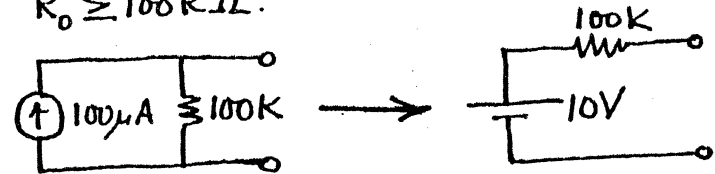


$$I = \frac{V_0}{R_0} \frac{R_0}{R_0 + R_L} = \frac{V_0}{R_0} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_L}{R_0}} \right)$$

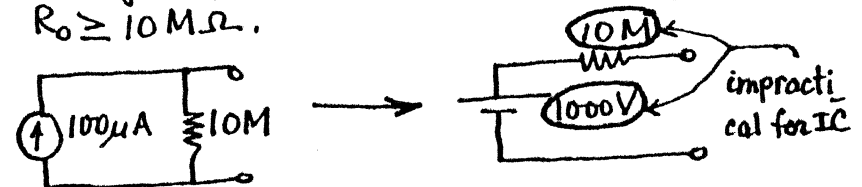
$$I \Big|_{R_L \ll R_0} \approx \boxed{\frac{V_0}{R_0}}$$

Current through load,  $I$ , "does not depend" on  $R_L$ .

Example 1: Design a current source with  $I_0 = 100 \mu A$  and  $R_0 \geq 100 k\Omega$ .

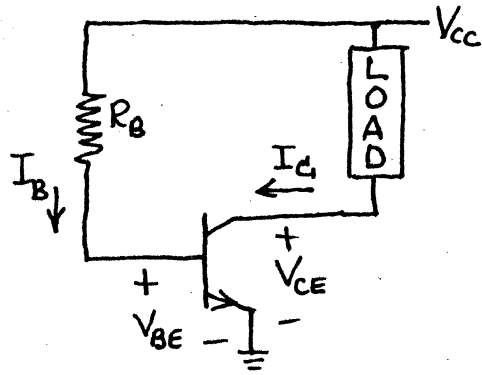


Example 2: Design a current source with  $I_0 = 100 \mu A$  and  $R_0 \geq 10 M\Omega$ .



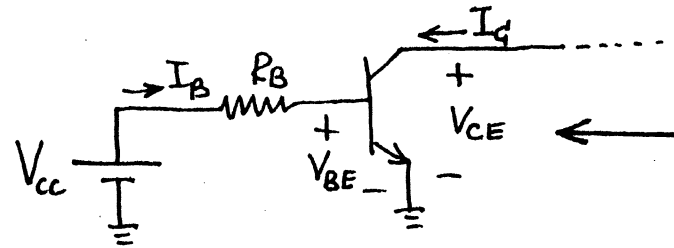


# A current source using a transistor

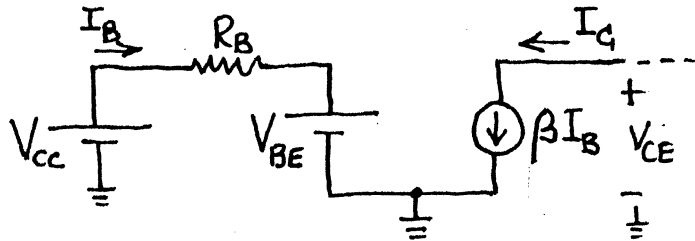


Load must have a dc path

$$V_{CE} > V_{CEsat}$$



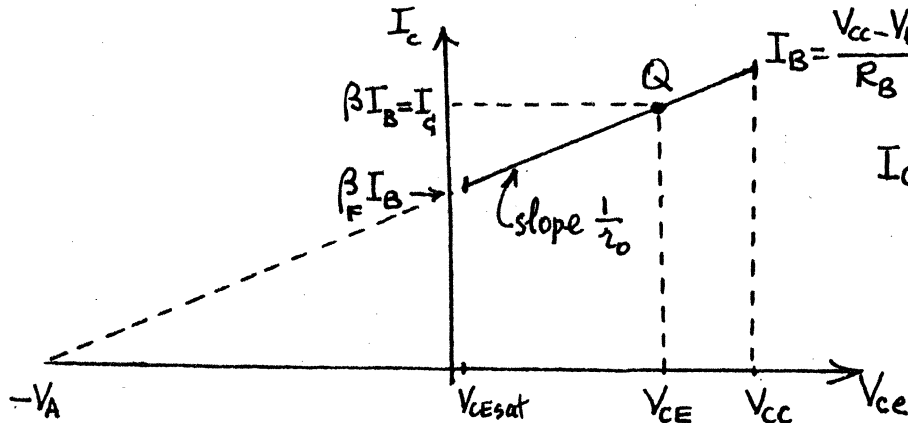
The output characteristic is that of a current source.



Note that the base-to-emitter voltage is assumed to be constant at  $V_{BE}$ . (Even under widely varying load conditions  $V_{BE}$  does not change.)  $V_{BE}$  can be assumed to be  $\sim 0.6V$ .

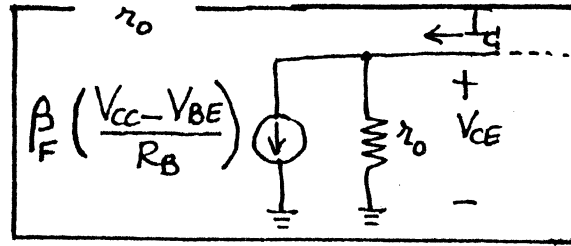
$$I_B = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B}$$

[Of course  $V_{BE}$  can be solved by trial and using  $\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B} = \frac{I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F}$ ]



$$I_C = \beta I_B = \beta \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right) I_B$$

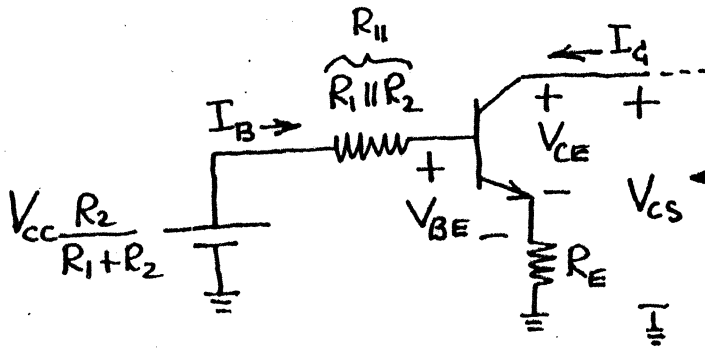
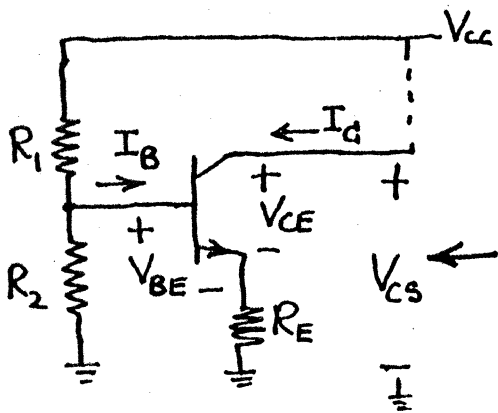
$$I_C = \beta I_B + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A / \beta I_B} = \frac{\beta (V_{CC} - V_{BE})}{R_B} + \frac{V_{CE}}{r_0}$$



$$V_{CEsat} \leq V_{CE} \leq V_{CC}$$

The Q point varies along the constant  $I_B$  line with changes in the load.

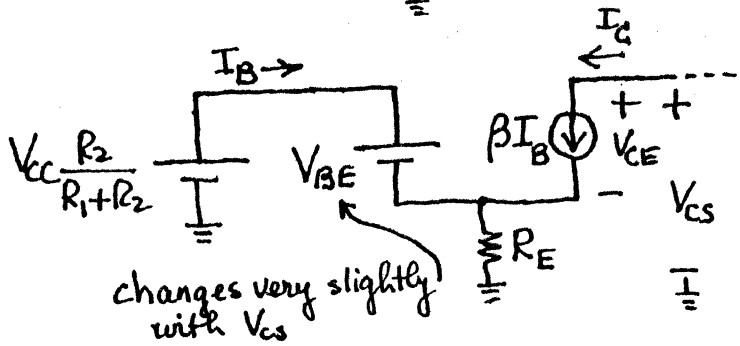
A better current source (uses three resistors two of which are not small)



Load must be returned to  $V_{CC}$  or some other positive voltage supply.  
Load must have dc path.

Assume  $I_B R_{11} \ll V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$

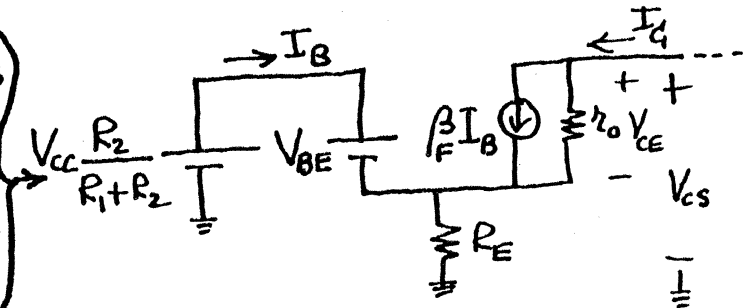
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$$\beta I_B = \beta \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right) I_B$$

$$= \beta I_B + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A / \beta I_B}$$

$$= \beta I_B + \frac{V_{CE}}{r_o}$$



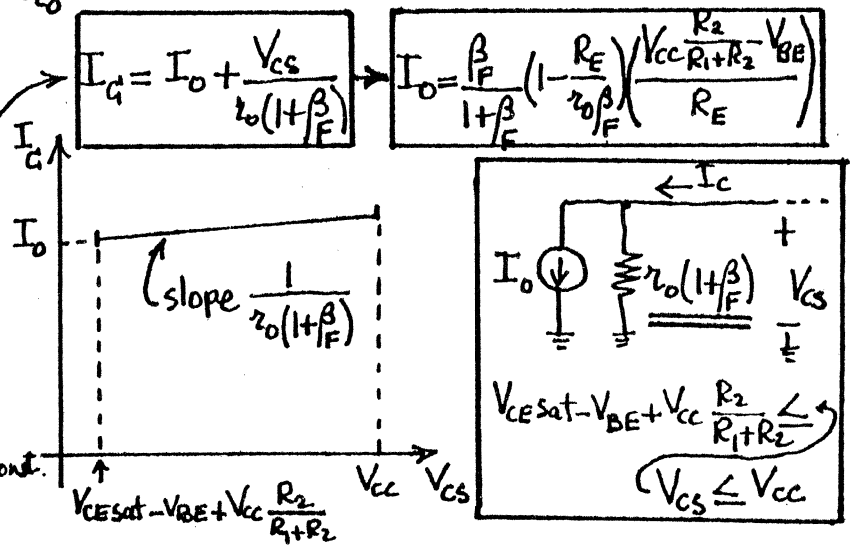
$$V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE} = (I_B + I_C) R_E \quad I_B = \frac{V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE}}{R_E} - I_C$$

$$V_{CS} = (I_C - \beta I_B) r_o - V_{BE} + V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} ; \text{ substitute } I_B$$

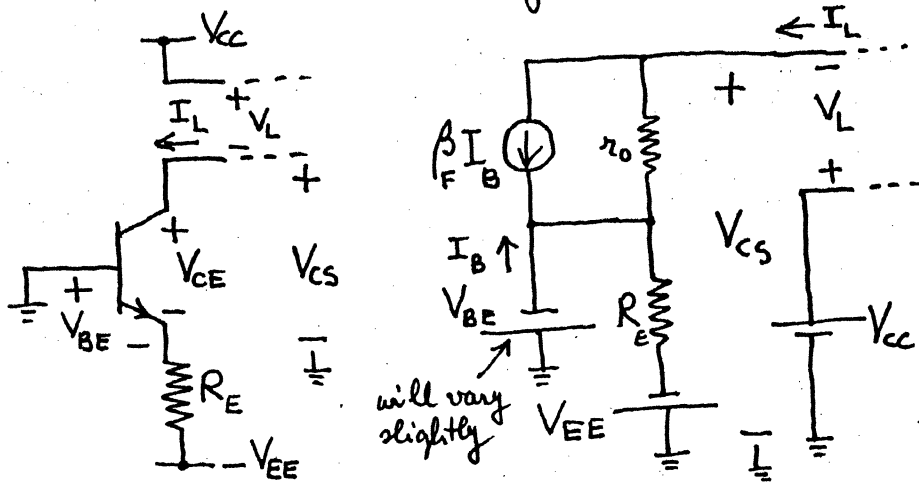
and solve for  $I_C$ .

$$I_C = \frac{\beta}{1 + \beta} \frac{\left( V_{CC} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} - V_{BE} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{R_E}{r_o \beta} \right) + \frac{V_{CS}}{r_o (1 + \beta)}}$$

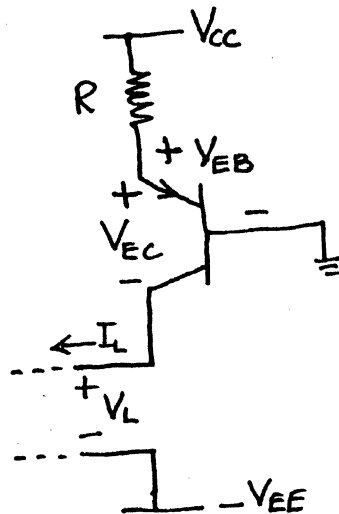
Note: Output resistance will actually be lower because  $R_{11} \neq 0$



# Current Sources using two power supplies



Similarly

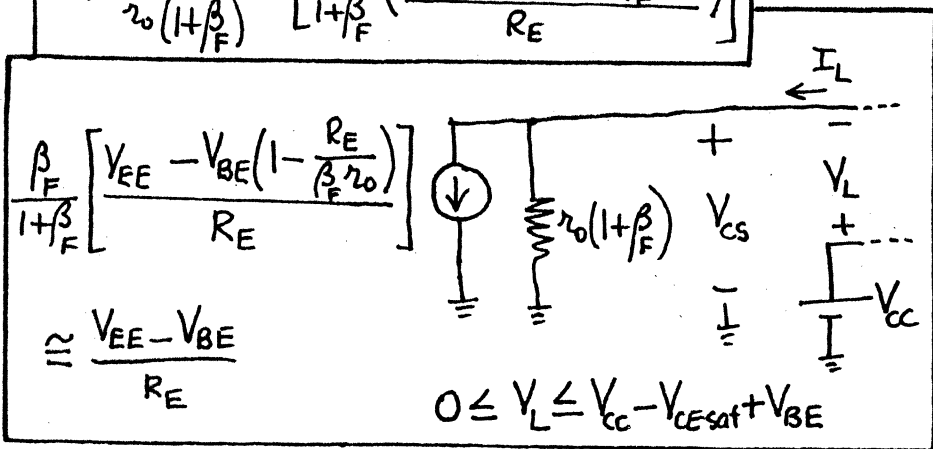


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$$-V_{BE} = (I_B + I_L)R_E - V_{EE} \quad I_B = \frac{V_{EE} - V_{BE} - I_L R_E}{R_E}$$

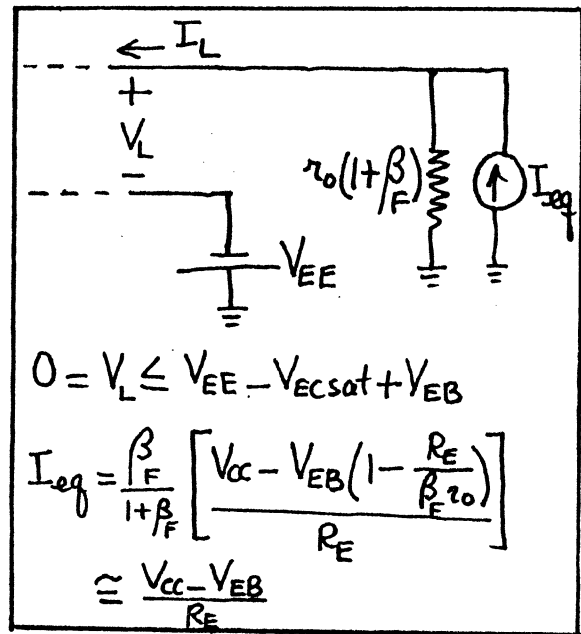
$$V_{CS} = (I_L - \beta I_B)r_o - V_{BE} = I_L r_o - \beta r_o \left( \frac{V_{EE} - V_{BE} - I_L R_E}{R_E} \right) - V_{BE}$$

$$I_L = \frac{V_{CS}}{r_o(1+\beta)} + \left[ \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \left( \frac{V_{EE} - V_{BE} (1 - \frac{R_E}{\beta r_o})}{R_E} \right) \right]$$



$$0 \leq V_L \leq V_{CC} - V_{CESat} + V_{BE}$$

Note: Actual output resistance will be lower because  $V_{BE}$  is not constant.

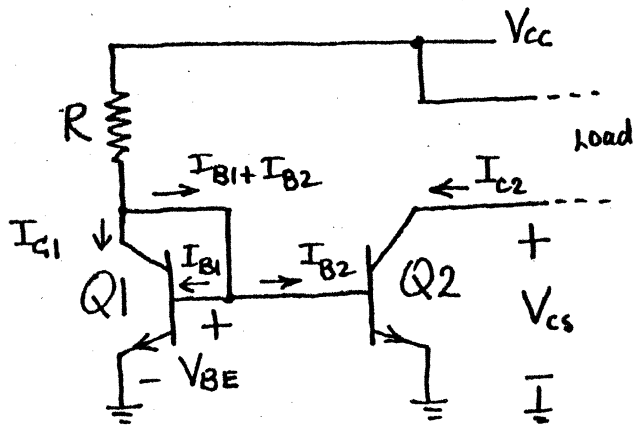


$$0 = V_L \leq V_{EE} - V_{CESat} + V_{EB}$$

$$I_{eq} = \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \left[ \frac{V_{CC} - V_{EB} (1 - \frac{R_E}{\beta r_o})}{R_E} \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{V_{CC} - V_{EB}}{R_E}$$

## A simple current source for IC's using one Power supply



### Quick but approx. analysis

If we neglect  $I_{B1} + I_{B2}$  relative to  $I_{C1}$ , we see that

$$I_{C1} = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R}$$

So,  $I_{C1}$  is fixed. Because of the strong negative feedback on Q1 (collector tied to base),  $I_{C1}$  is highly stabilized.

The collector current in a transistor is given by

$$I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A}\right)$$

In an IC, Q1 and Q2 are closely matched, i.e., their saturation currents are practically the same:  $I_{S1} \approx I_{S2} = I_S$ . Furthermore Q1 and Q2 are practically at the same temperature.

[In discrete transistors I's differ quite a lot, and it is difficult to put Q1 and Q2 in exactly the same temperature environment.]

If now we assume 1) identical transistors ( $I_{S1} = I_{S2} = I_S$ ), ( $V_{A1} = V_{A2} = V_A$ ) 2)  $V_A = \infty$  and note that  $V_{BE1} = V_{BE2} = V_{BE}$ , we can at once write

$$\boxed{I_{C2} = I_{C1} = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R}} \quad V_{CE2sat} \leq V_{CS} \leq V_{CC}$$

So the output current of the CS (current source) is solely determined by  $V_{CC}$ ,  $V_{BE}$ , and  $R$ .

But what is  $V_{BE}$ ? Roughly speaking  $V_{BE}$  is some number between 0.6 and 0.7V. If desired, an accurate determination of  $V_{BE}$  can be

made by solving the equation

$$\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_3 e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}$$

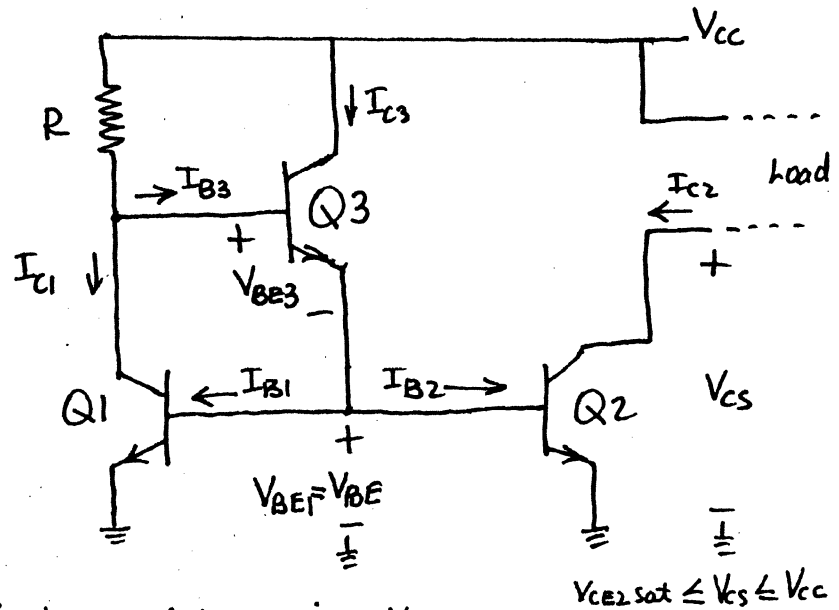
What if the two base currents are not negligible? (This situation arises particularly when PNP transistors with low  $\beta$  are used and the temperature may vary a lot.) In that case the current through

191  $R$  would be  $I_{C1} + (I_{B1} + I_{B2}) =$   
 $I_{C1} + 2I_{B1} = I_{C1} \left(1 + 2 \frac{I_{B1}}{I_{C1}}\right) = I_{C1} \left(1 + \frac{2}{\beta_F}\right).$

Hence,  $\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_{C1} \left(1 + \frac{2}{\beta_F}\right).$

$$I_{C2} = I_{C1} = \left(\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{\beta_F}}\right)$$

If this  $\beta_F$  dependence of the output current is objectionable, another transistor,  $Q_3$ , can be used to supply the two base currents as shown in the following circuit.



First, we determine  $V_{BE3}$ .

$$I_{C3} \approx I_{C3} = I_{B1} + I_{B2} = 2I_{B1} = \frac{2I_{C1}}{\beta_F} \Big|_{\beta_F=100} = \frac{2I_{C1}}{100}$$

Since it takes 18 mV in  $V_{BE}$  to double the collector current and -120 mV to reduce it by two orders of magnitude, we can write

$$V_{BE3} = V_{BE1} + 18 \text{ mV} - 120 \text{ mV} = V_{BE1} - 102 \text{ mV} \approx V_{BE1}$$

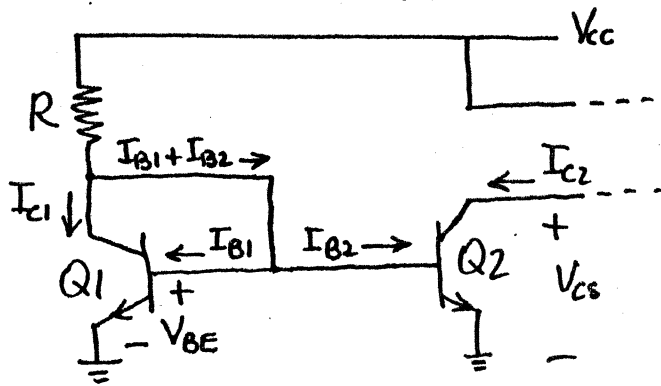
Hence  $\frac{V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R} = I_{C1} + I_{B3} = I_{C1} + \frac{2I_{B1}}{1 + \beta_F} = I_{C1} \left(1 + \frac{2/\beta_F}{1 + \beta_F}\right)$

$$I_{C2} = I_{C1} = \left(\frac{V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{\beta_F + \beta_F^2}}\right)$$

← Note the much-reduced  $\beta_F$  dependence of  $I_{C2}$ .

## Output equivalent circuit

More accurate analysis that includes  $V_A$ .



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$$\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_{C1} + I_{B1} + I_{B2} = I_{C1} + \frac{2I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F}$$

$$\text{But } I_{C1} = I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A}\right) + \frac{2I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta_F}$$

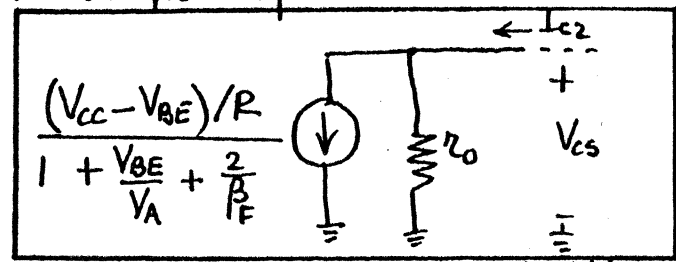
$$\text{which gives } I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} = \frac{(V_{CC} - V_{BE})/R}{1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A} + \frac{2}{\beta_F}}$$

$$\text{But } I_{C2} = I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE2}}{V_A}\right) = I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} + \frac{V_{CE2}}{r_o}$$

$$\text{where } r_o = V_A / I_{S2}e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}$$

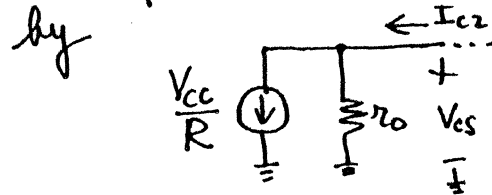
$$\text{Hence, } \boxed{I_{C2} = \frac{(V_{CC} - V_{BE})/R}{1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A} + \frac{2}{\beta_F}} + \frac{V_{CE2}}{r_o}}$$

The output equivalent circuit is:



$$V_{CE2sat} \leq V_{CS} \leq V_{CC}$$

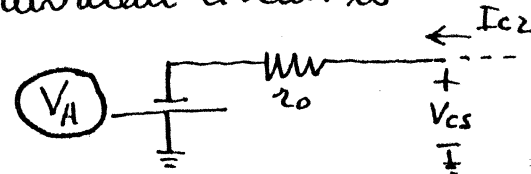
For  $V_{CC} \gg V_{BE}$ ,  $V_A \gg V_{BE}$ , and  $\beta_F \gg 2$ , this equivalent circuit can be approx.



The resulting open-circuit voltage is

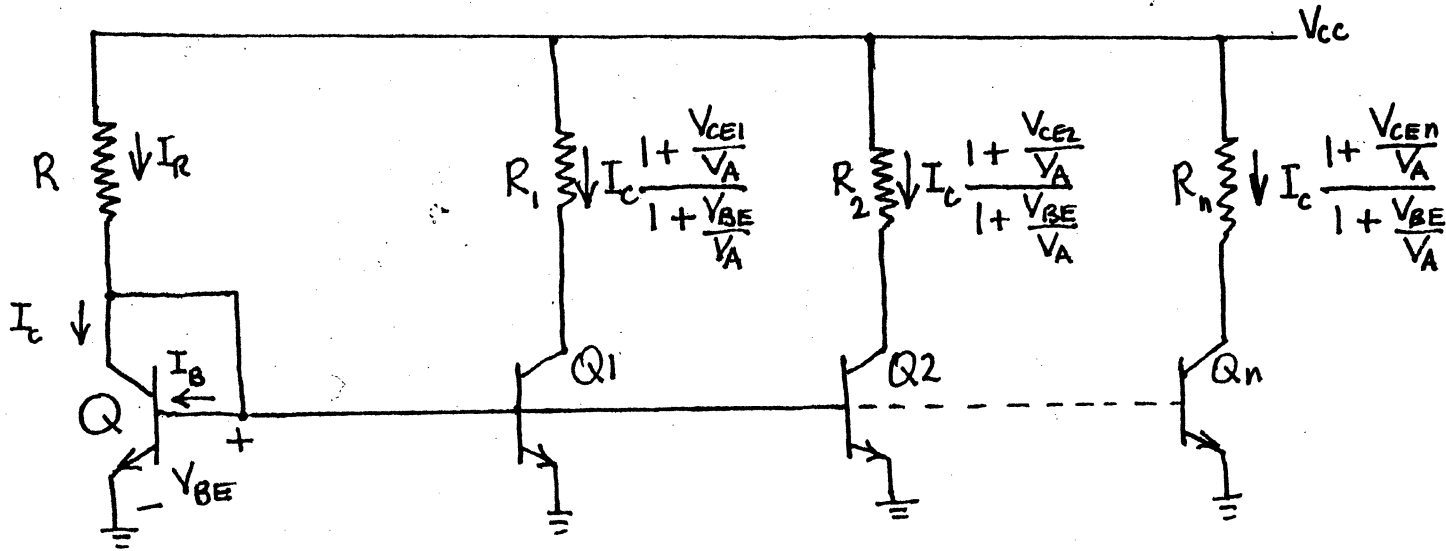
$$V_{OC} = -\frac{V_{CC}}{R} r_o \approx -I_{C1} r_o \approx -I_{C1} \frac{V_A}{I_{C1}} = -V_A$$

Hence, the approx. Thévenin output equivalent circuit is



Thus, this CS can be realized equivalently if a voltage source of value  $V_A$  were available. The CS uses only  $V_{CC}$ .

# L9: Obtaining two or more equal current sources



$$I_R = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_c + (n+1) I_B = I_c + (n+1) \frac{I_c}{\beta_F}$$

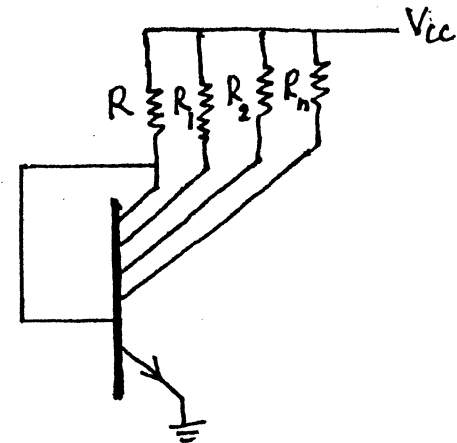
$$I_c = \frac{(V_{CC} - V_{BE}) / R}{1 + \frac{n+1}{\beta_F}}$$

$$I_c = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$I_{ci} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CEi}}{V_A}\right)$$

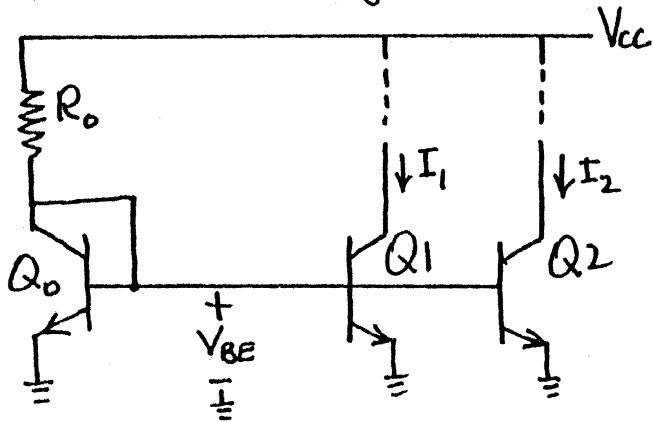
$$\frac{I_{ci}}{I_c} = \frac{1 + \frac{V_{CEi}}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_A}}$$

Since all bases are connected together and all emitters are grounded, the circuit can be redrawn as



## Mismatches in current sources

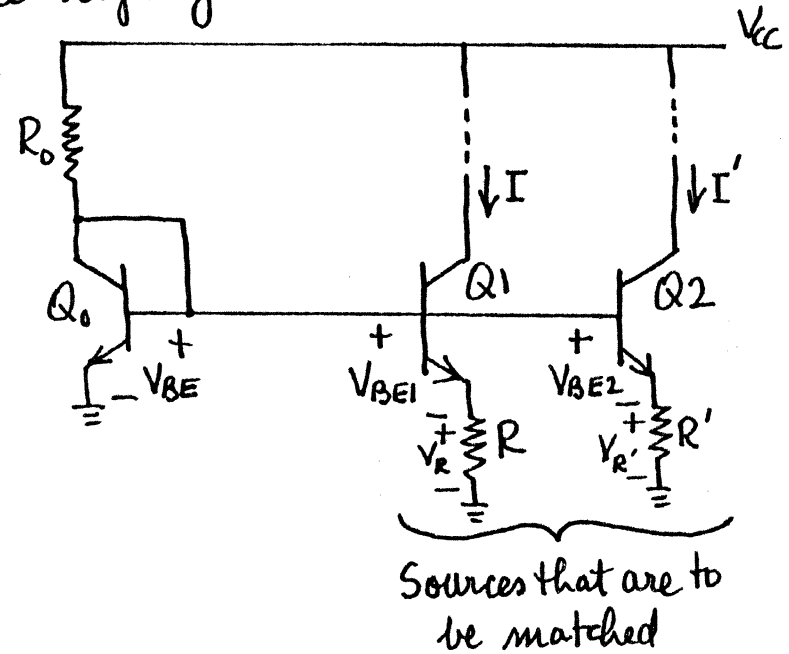
A circuit for obtaining two identical current sources is given below.



If  $Q_1$  is perfectly matched to  $Q_2$  and  $V_{CE1} = V_{CE2}$ , then  $I_1 = I_2$ . However, even under the best of circumstances,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are not identical. Their saturation currents ( $I_s$ ) will be slightly different. [Their  $\alpha_F$ 's will differ slightly too. (Recall that  $I_c = \alpha_F I_E = \frac{\beta_F}{1 + \beta_F} I_E$ .)] Consequently  $I_2$  will not exactly equal to  $I_1$ .

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A better current match is obtained if resistors are inserted in the emitter leads. The slightly modified circuit is



$I'$  will differ from  $I$ , i.e.,  $I' = I + \Delta I$ , because

$$\begin{cases} I_s' = I_s + \Delta I_s \\ \alpha_F' = \alpha_F + \Delta \alpha_F \\ R' = R + \Delta R \end{cases}$$

To calculate  $\Delta I$ , we proceed as follows:

$$V_{BE} = V_{BE1} + V_R = V_{BE2} + V_{R'}$$



But  $V_{BE1} = V_T \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_S}\right)$ ,  $V_{BE2} = V_T \ln\left(\frac{I'}{I'_S}\right)$

and  $V_R = \frac{I}{\alpha_F} R$ ,  $V_{R'} = \frac{I'}{\alpha'_F} R'$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} V_T \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_S}\right) + \frac{I}{\alpha_F} R &= V_T \ln\left(\frac{I'}{I'_S}\right) + \frac{I'}{\alpha'_F} R' \\ &= V_T \ln\left(\frac{I+\Delta I}{I_S+\Delta I_S}\right) + \left(\frac{I+\Delta I}{\alpha_F+\Delta\alpha_F}\right) (R+\Delta R) \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging, we obtain

$$V_T \ln\left[\left(\frac{I}{I_S}\right) \left(\frac{I_S+\Delta I_S}{I+\Delta I}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{I+\Delta I}{\alpha_F+\Delta\alpha_F}\right) (R+\Delta R) - \frac{I}{\alpha_F} R$$

$$V_T \ln\left[\frac{1 + \frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S}}{1 + \frac{\Delta I}{I}}\right] = \frac{I}{\alpha_F} \left[\frac{1 + \frac{\Delta I}{I}}{1 + \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}}\right] \left(1 + \frac{\Delta R}{R}\right) - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_T \ln\left(1 + \frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S}\right) - V_T \ln\left(1 + \frac{\Delta I}{I}\right) \\ = \frac{I}{\alpha_F} \left[ \frac{\left(\frac{\Delta R}{R} + \frac{\Delta I}{I} - \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F} + \frac{\Delta I}{I} \frac{\Delta R}{R}\right)}{1 + \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Using the approximations  $\ln(1+x) \cong x$  and  $\frac{1}{1+x} \cong 1-x$  for  $|x|$  small and neglecting second-order effects, we obtain

$$V_T \left(\frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S} - \frac{\Delta I}{I}\right) \cong \frac{I}{\alpha_F} \left(\frac{\Delta R}{R} + \frac{\Delta I}{I} - \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}\right)$$

Since  $\frac{I}{V_T} = g_m$ , this result can be written as

$$\frac{\Delta I}{I} = \left(\frac{1}{1 + \frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F}}\right) \frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S} + \left(\frac{\frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F}}{1 + \frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F}}\right) \frac{\Delta R}{R} - \left(\frac{\frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F}}{1 + \frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F}}\right) \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}$$

Typical mismatches are

- $\pm 10\%$  to  $\pm 1\%$  for  $\frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S}$
- $\pm 2\%$  to  $\pm 0.1\%$  for  $\frac{\Delta R}{R}$
- $\pm 0.1\%$  NPN,  $\pm 1\%$  PNP for  $\frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}$

Case 1:  $\frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F} \ll 1$  (special case:  $R=0$ )

$$\frac{\Delta I}{I} \cong \frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S}$$

mismatches in sat. currents determine primarily mismatches in the CS's.

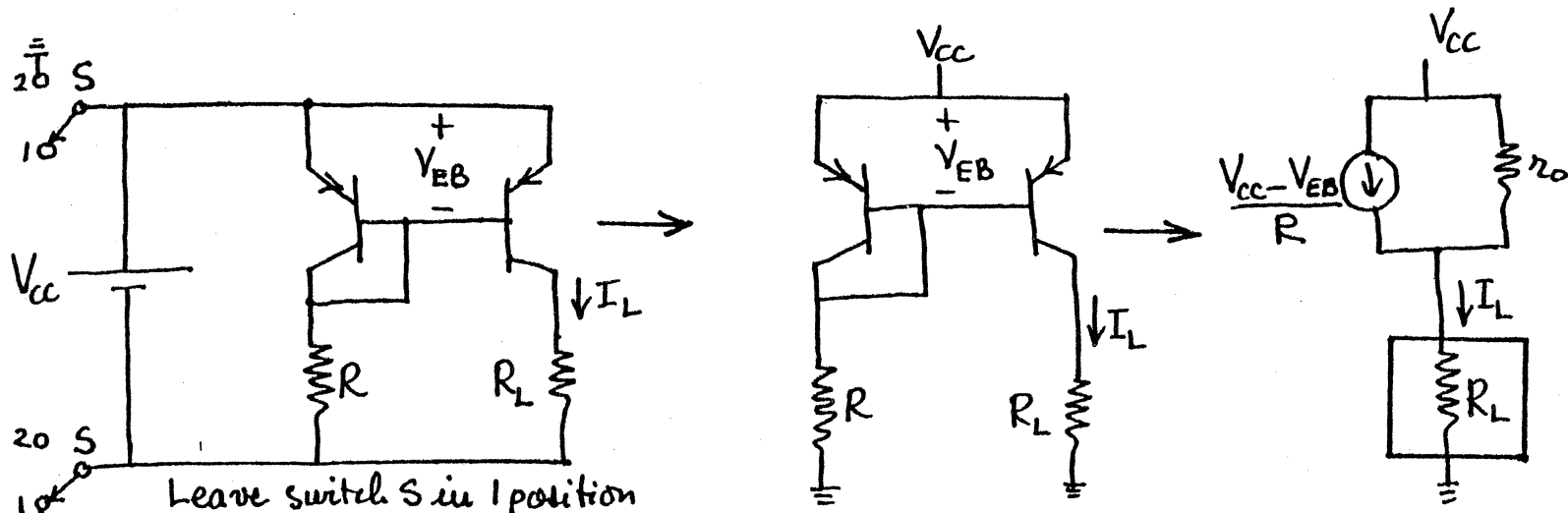
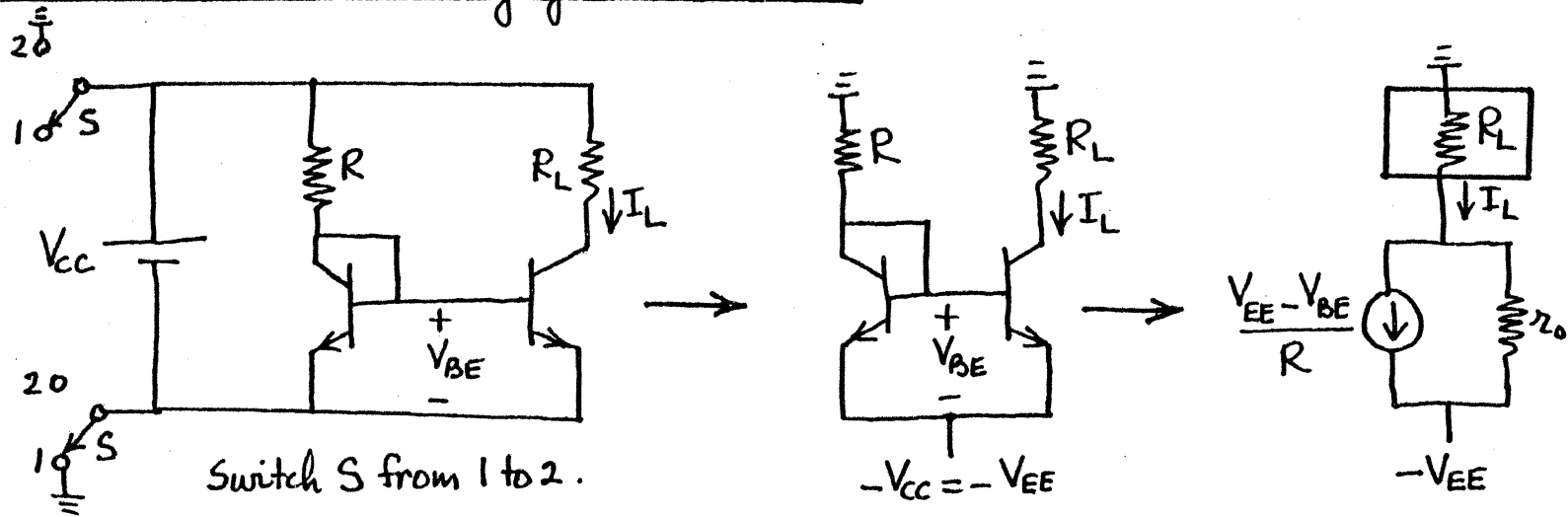
Case 2:  $\frac{g_m R}{\alpha_F} \gg 1$

$$\frac{\Delta I}{I} \cong \frac{\Delta R}{R} - \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}$$

mismatches in  $R$  and  $\alpha_F$  determine primarily mismatches in the CS's.

Since  $\frac{\Delta R}{R} - \frac{\Delta\alpha_F}{\alpha_F}$  is generally less than  $\frac{\Delta I_S}{I_S}$ , adding emitter resistors and making  $g_m R \gg \alpha_F$  result in better current equalization.

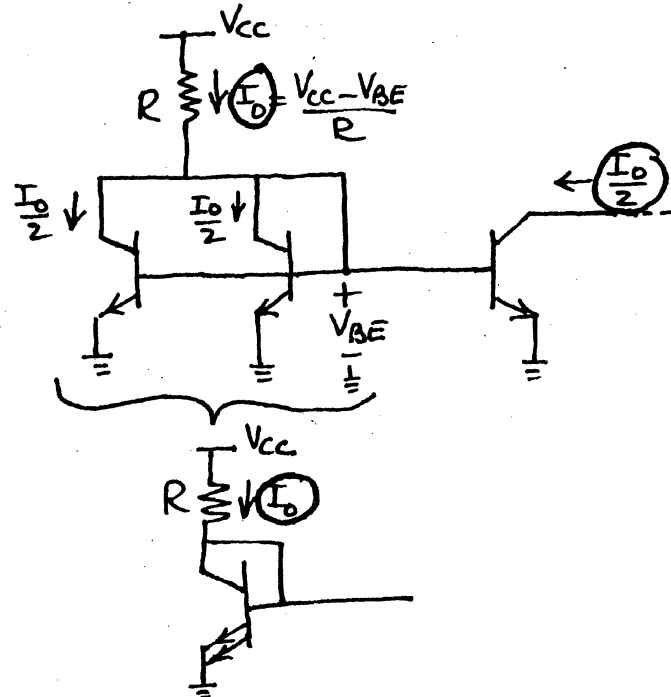
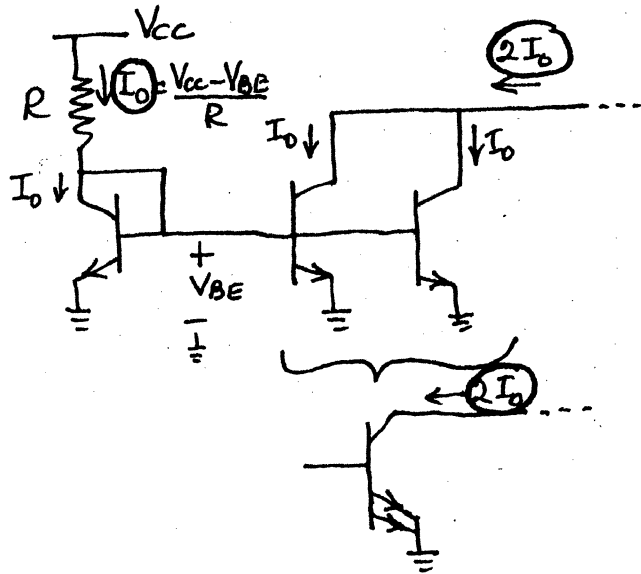
# Current sources driving grounded loads



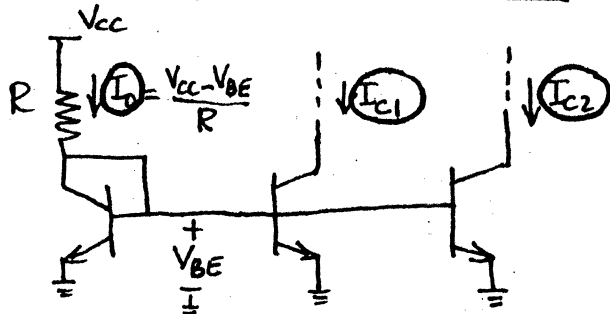
PNP transistors (particularly lateral PNP's) do not have high  $\beta_F$ 's. As a result, the base currents may not be negligible. If so, use the more accurate values given on p62.

# Obtaining unequal currents

## 1. Use parallel connections

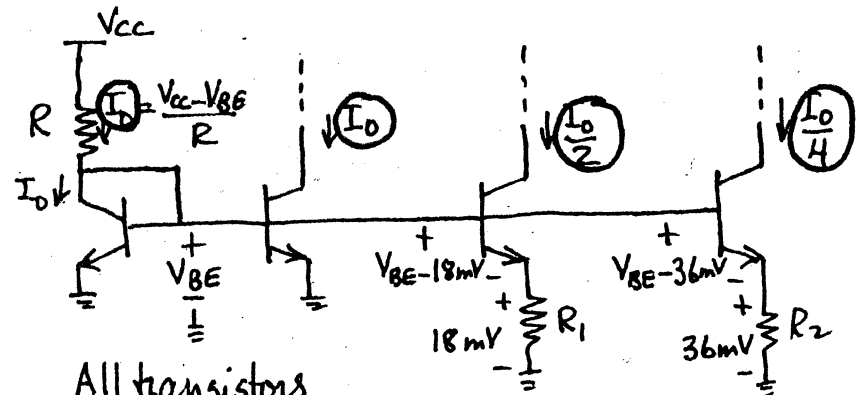


## 2. Use unequal emitter areas



$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_{C1} &= I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \\ I_{C2} &= I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \end{aligned} \right\} \boxed{I_{C2} = I_{C1} \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}}$$

## 3. Use emitter resistors



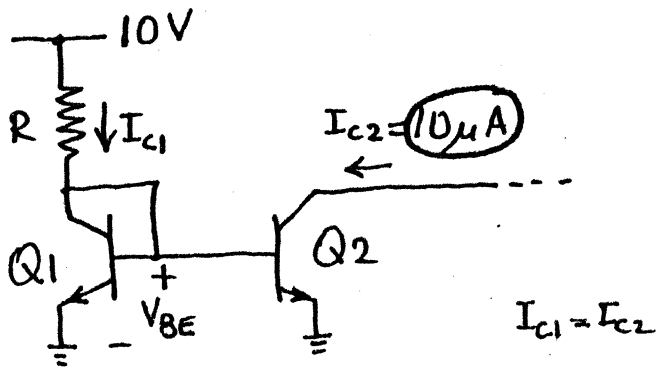
All transistors have the same  $I_S$ .

$$\boxed{\frac{I_0}{2} R_1 \approx 18 \text{ mV}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{I_0}{4} R_2 \approx 36 \text{ mV}}$$

## Designing a $10\mu\text{A}$ current source

### 1. Use basic circuit



Assume  $I_{S1} = I_{S2} = I_S$  and  $V_A = \infty$ . Further assume that the base currents are negligible.

$$V_{BE} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{C1}}{I_S} = 26 \ln \frac{10 \times 10^{-6}}{I_S}$$

Assume  $I_S$  is such that  $V_{BE} = 600 \text{ mV}$ . Then

$$R = \frac{10 - 0.6}{10\mu\text{A}} = \boxed{940\text{K}}$$

This is too costly a solution because of the large die area required for  $940\text{K}$ .

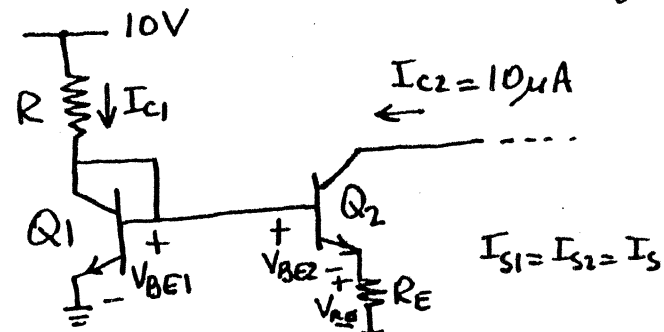
2. Make emitter areas of  $Q1$  and  $Q2$  in the ratio of  $10:1$ . This will require  $I_{S1} = 10 I_{S2} = 10 I_S$ . Since  $I_{C1} = I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}$  and  $I_{C2} = I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}$ , we have

$$I_{C1} = I_{C2} \left( \frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}} \right) = 10\mu\text{A} (10) = 100\mu\text{A}$$

Since both  $I_{C1}$  and  $I_{S1}$  have gone up by a factor of  $10$ ,  $V_{BE}$  stays the same, i.e.,  $0.6\text{V}$ .

$$R = \frac{10 - 0.6}{100\mu\text{A}} = \boxed{94\text{K}}$$

### 3. Add a resistor in the emitter of $Q2$



To keep to size of  $R$  down, make  $I_{C1}$  large, say  $1\text{mA}$ . Since  $I_{C1}$  is  $100\times$  larger than previously,  $V_{BE1}$  will be  $120\text{mV}$  higher, i.e.,  $V_{BE1} = 720\text{mV}$ .

$$R = \frac{10 - 0.72}{1\text{mA}} = \boxed{9.28\text{K}}$$

Since  $I_{C2}$  is still the same,  $V_{BE2} = 600\text{mV}$ .

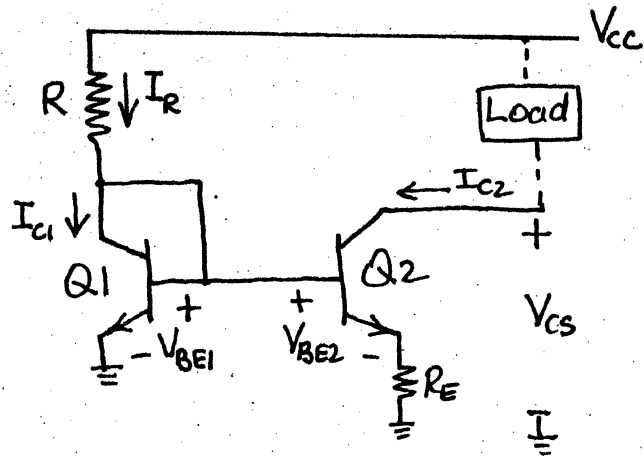
Hence  $V_{R_E} = V_{BE1} - V_{BE2} = 720 - 600 = 120\text{mV}$ .

But  $V_{R_E} \approx 10\mu\text{A} R_E$ . Hence  $R_E = 120\text{mV} / 10\mu\text{A} = \boxed{12\text{K}}$

Total resistance of circuit =  $9.28\text{K} + 12\text{K} = 21.28\text{K}$ .

Total die area required is quite reasonable.

## The Widlar current source



$$V_{CE2sat} - V_{BE2} + V_{BE1} \leq V_{CS} \leq V_{CC}$$

Assume  $V_A \gg V_{BE}$  and neglect the base currents. By inspection we see that

$$I_{C1} = I_R = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE1}}{R}$$

We can assume a  $V_{BE1}$ , say 0.6V, and use the above equation to determine  $I_{C1}$ . Using this  $I_{C1}$ , a more accurate determination of  $V_{BE1}$  can be made as follows:

$$V_{BE1} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{C1}}{I_{S1}}$$

Note that Q2 has no effect on the  $V_{BE1}$  determination because  $I_{B2}$  has been neglected.

Assuming  $I_{E2} \approx I_{C2}$ , we see that

$$V_{BE1} \approx V_{BE2} + I_{C2} R_E$$

Since  $V_{BE1}$  is fixed by  $I_{C1}$ , which is fixed by  $I_R$ , an increase of  $R_E$  from zero will result in a decrease of  $V_{BE2}$  which will cause a reduction of  $I_{C2}$  relative to  $I_{C1}$ . Thus current sources of small current can be generated.

Solving for  $R_E$ , we obtain  $R_E = \frac{V_{BE1} - V_{BE2}}{I_{C2}}$ .

$$R_E = \frac{V_T \left( \ln \frac{I_{C1}}{I_{S1}} - \ln \frac{I_{C2}}{I_{S2}} \right)}{I_{C2}} = \frac{V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_{C1} I_{S2}}{I_{C2} I_{S1}} \right)}{I_{C2}}$$

This equation gives the value of  $R_E$  for obtaining the desired  $I_{C2}$  for a given  $\frac{I_{C1}}{I_{C2}}$  ratio.

### Advantages of the Widlar CS

1. CS's of small value can be generated without the use of large resistances.
2. Because of  $R_E$ , the output current is less dependent on  $V_{CC}$ .
3. Because of  $R_E$ , the output resistance of the CS is higher.

## Power supply dependence of the Widlar CS

For  $I_{S1} = I_{S2}$ , the output current  $I_{C2}$  is given by

$$I_{C2} = \frac{V_T}{R_E} \ln\left(\frac{I_{C1}}{I_{C2}}\right) = \frac{V_T}{R_E} \ln\left[\frac{(V_{CC} - V_{BE1})/R}{I_{C2}}\right]$$
$$= \frac{V_T}{R_E} \left[ \ln(V_{CC} - V_{BE1}) - \ln(I_{C2} R) \right]$$

Note that  $I_{C2}$  appears on both sides of the above equation. To see how it varies with  $V_{CC}$ , we differentiate  $I_{C2}$  with respect to  $V_{CC}$ . In so doing, we will ignore the slight dependence of  $V_{BE1}$  on  $V_{CC}$  and assume  $V_{BE1}$  to be constant.

$$\frac{\partial I_{C2}}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{V_T}{R_E} \left[ \frac{1}{V_{CC} - V_{BE1}} - \frac{R \frac{\partial I_{C2}}{\partial V_{CC}}}{I_{C2} R} \right]$$

Solving for the derivative we obtain

$$\frac{\partial I_{C2}}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{V_T}{R_E} \left( \frac{1}{V_{CC} - V_{BE1}} \right) = \frac{I_{C2} \left( \frac{1}{V_{CC} - V_{BE1}} \right)}{1 + \frac{V_T}{I_{C2} R_E}}$$

It is more meaningful to look at changes on a per unit basis rather than absolute. Therefore, we multiply both sides by  $\frac{V_{CC}}{I_{C2}}$  and obtain

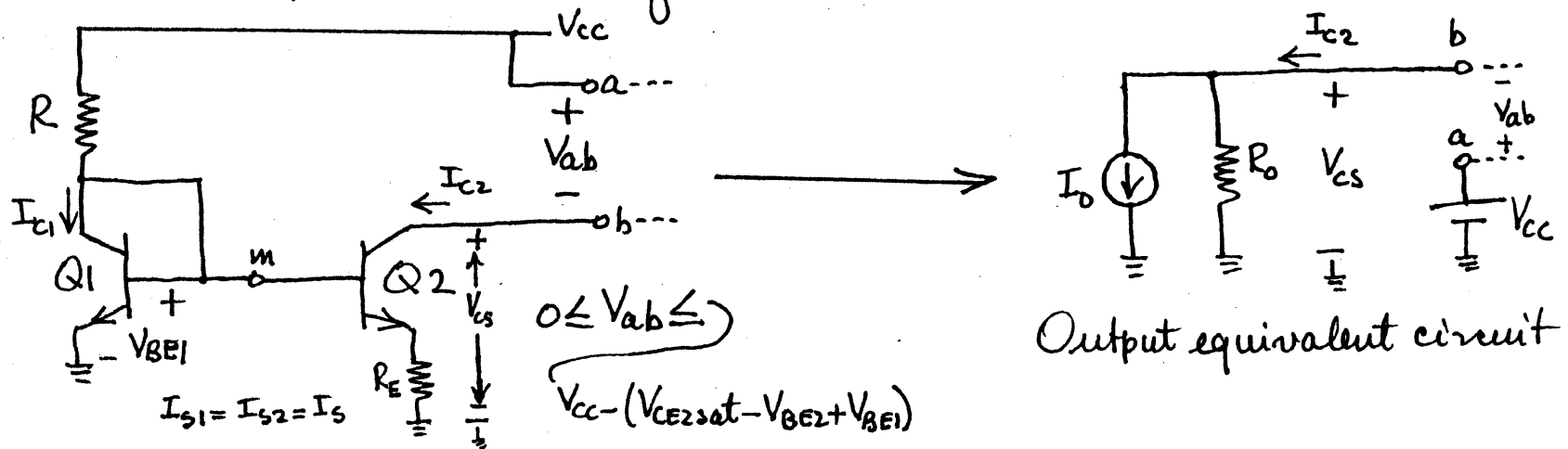
$$\frac{\frac{\partial I_{C2}}{I_{C2}}}{\frac{\partial V_{CC}}{V_{CC}}} = \left( \frac{V_{CC}}{V_{CC} - V_{BE1}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{I_{C2} R_E}{V_T}} \right) \Bigg|_{V_{CC} \gg V_{BE1}}$$
$$\approx \frac{1}{1 + \frac{I_{C2} R_E}{V_T}} = \frac{1}{1 + g_m R_E}$$

This result in incremental form is

$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta I_{C2}}{I_{C2}} \approx \frac{1}{1 + g_m R_E} \frac{\Delta V_{CC}}{V_{CC}}}$$

If  $R_E = 0$ , a 10% change in  $V_{CC}$  will cause a 10% change in  $I_{C2}$ . On the other hand, if  $g_m R_E = 3$ , a 10% change in  $V_{CC}$  will cause only a 2.5% change in  $I_{C2}$ . The larger  $g_m R_E$ , the less is the power supply dependence.

# L10: Output equivalent circuit of Widlar current source



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In design,  $I_o$  is the desired output current and is therefore known.  $I_o = I_{C2} \Big|_{V_{cs}=0} \cong I_{C2}$ . This desired  $I_o$  is obtained

by determining the  $R$  and  $R_E$  values for a preselected  $I_{C1}$  using the equations

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} R &= \frac{V_{cc} - \overbrace{V_T \ln(I_{C1}/I_S)}^{V_{BE1}}}{I_{C1}} \\ R_E &= \frac{V_T \ln(I_{C1}/I_o)}{I_o} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

These equations are based on the assumptions that 1) base currents are

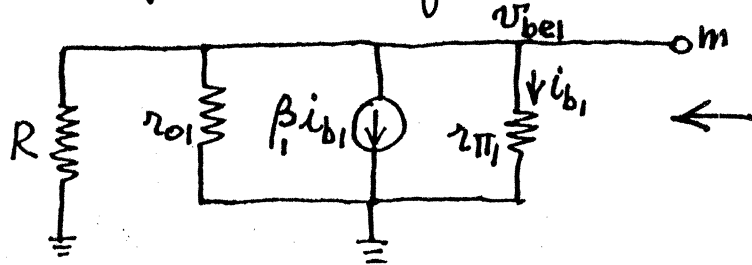
negligible 2)  $V_{CE} \ll V_A$ . This latter assumption is quite valid since  $V_{CE1} = V_{BE1}$  and  $V_{CE2} \cong 0$ . (Note from the output equivalent circuit that  $I_o = I_{C2}$  when  $V_{cs} = 0$ .)

## Determination of $R_o$

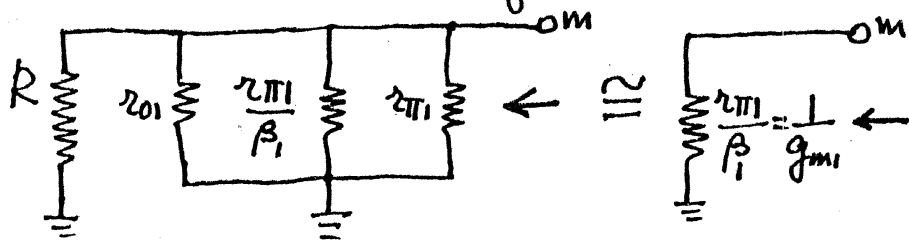
As the load on the CS varies,  $I_{C2}$  would vary. However, we know that this variation is going to be very small. Consequently, the four transistor parameters  $r_{\pi}$ ,  $g_m$ ,  $r_o$  and  $\beta$  would change very little as the entire dynamic range of the CS ( $V_{CE2sat} - V_{BE2} + V_{BE1} \leq V_{cs} \leq V_{cc}$ ) is covered. Hence,

the  $R_o$  determination based on the small-signal model of the transistors can be expected to hold over a wide operating range as the load on the current source varies.

The resistance seen to the left of the midpoint  $m$  is calculated using the small-signal model of  $Q_1$ .

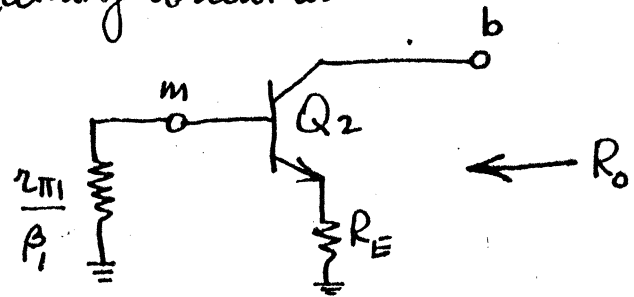


Since  $\beta_1 i_{b_1} = \beta_1 \frac{v_{be1}}{r_{\pi 1}} = \frac{v_{be1}}{r_{\pi 1}/\beta_1}$ , the dependent current source  $\beta_1 i_{b_1}$  can be replaced by an equivalent resistance of  $r_{\pi 1}/\beta_1$ .

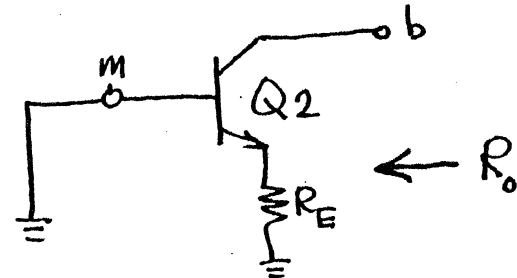


Using this small resistance as the base-to-

ground resistance of  $Q_2$ , we can draw the remaining circuit as



$\frac{r_{\pi 1}}{\beta_1}$  is in series with  $r_{\pi 2}$ . Because  $I_{c2} < I_{c1}$ ,  $r_{\pi 2}$  is greater than  $r_{\pi 1}$ . Hence,  $\frac{r_{\pi 1}}{\beta_1}$  can be altogether neglected and the circuit associated with  $Q_2$  redrawn as



This says that the base-to-ground voltage is established as  $V_{BE1}$  by  $Q_1$  and is not affected to any significant extent by the output current.



$R_o$  can be calculated using the general equation given on p37.

$$R_o = r_{o2} \left[ 1 + \frac{\beta_2 R_E \left( 1 + \frac{r_{\pi 2}}{\beta_2 r_{o2}} \right)}{r_{\pi 2} + R_E} \right]$$

Since  $\frac{r_{\pi 2}}{\beta_2 r_{o2}} = \frac{V_T / I_{B2}}{\beta_2 (V_A + V_{CE2}) / I_{C2}} = \frac{V_T}{V_A + V_{CE2}} \ll 1$ ,

the expression for  $R_o$  can be simplified to

$$R_o = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta_2 R_E}{r_{\pi 2} + R_E} \right) = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \frac{g_{m2} R_E}{1 + \frac{R_E}{r_{\pi 2}}} \right)$$

But  $\frac{R_E}{r_{\pi 2}} \approx \frac{I_{C2} R_E}{I_{C2} r_{\pi 2}} = \frac{I_{C2} R_E}{\beta_2 I_{B2} r_{\pi 2}} = \frac{V_{R_E}}{\beta_2 V_T} \ll 1$ ,

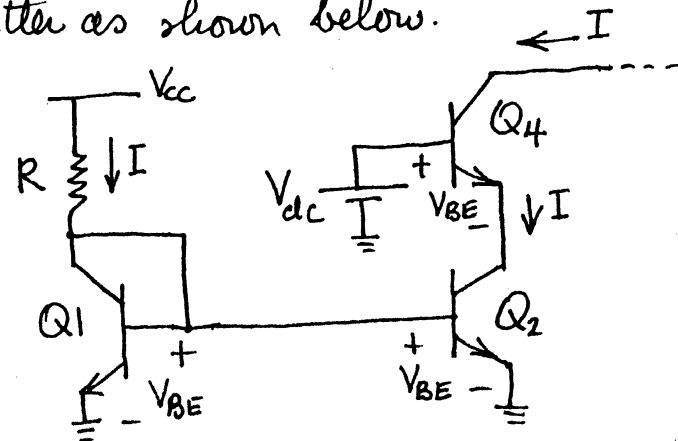
because  $V_{R_E}$  is of the order of 120 mV (for  $I_{C2} = \frac{1}{100} I_{C1}$ ) or less and  $\beta_2 V_T$  is of the order of 2600 mV (for  $\beta_2 = 100$ ). Hence,  $R_o$  can be further simplified to

$$R_o = r_{o2} (1 + g_{m2} R_E) = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \frac{I_{C2} R_E}{V_T} \right)$$

For  $g_{m2} R_E = 3$ ,  $R_o$  of the CS is 4x higher than the  $R_o$  of a CS of the same value with  $R_E = 0$ .

## The cascode current source

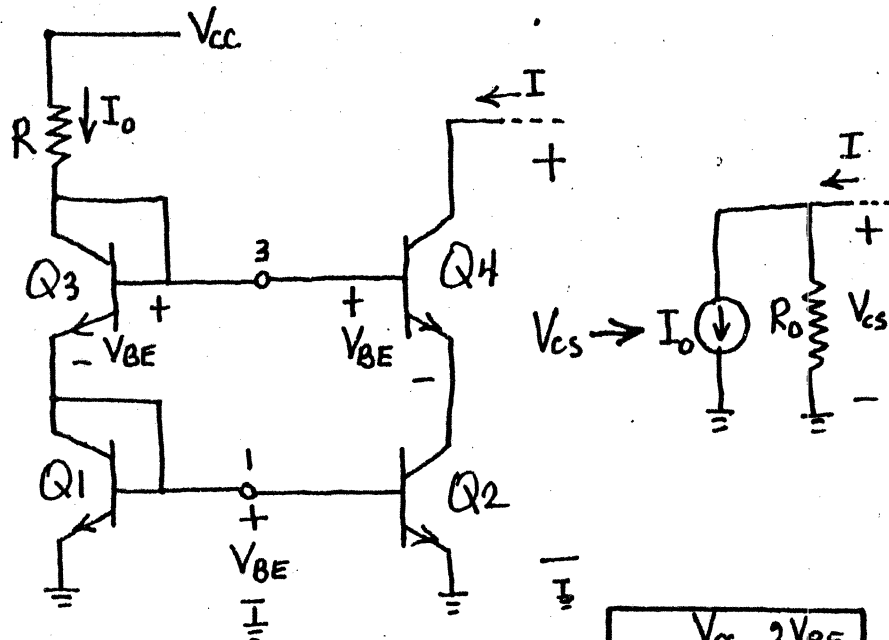
The larger the resistance that is inserted in the emitter of the output transistor, the larger becomes the output resistance of the current source. Instead of using an actual resistance, a large effective (equivalent) resistance can be created using a current source in the emitter as shown below.



$I_B$ 's are assumed negligible;  $V_A = \infty$ .

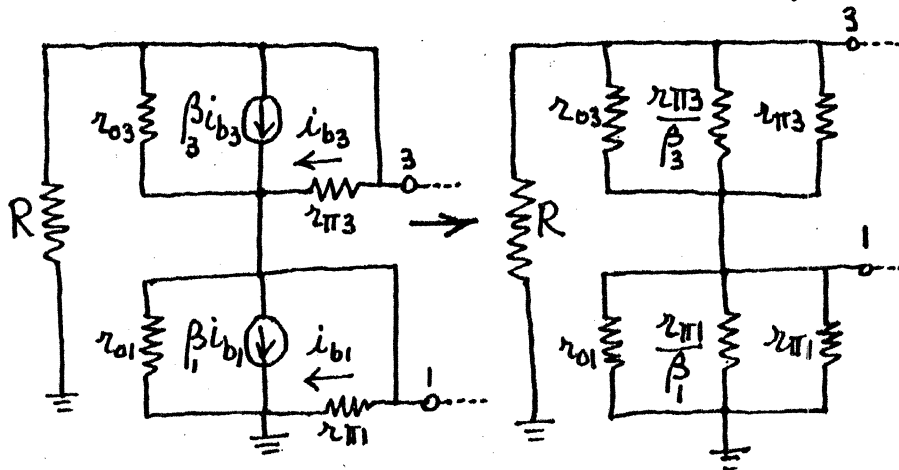
$Q_1$  sets the current  $I$ .  $Q_2$  acts as effective resistance in the emitter of  $Q_4$  which acts as the current source.  $V_{dc} > V_{BE} + V_{CEsat}$ .

To generate  $V_{dc}$ , add another transistor  $Q_3$ .

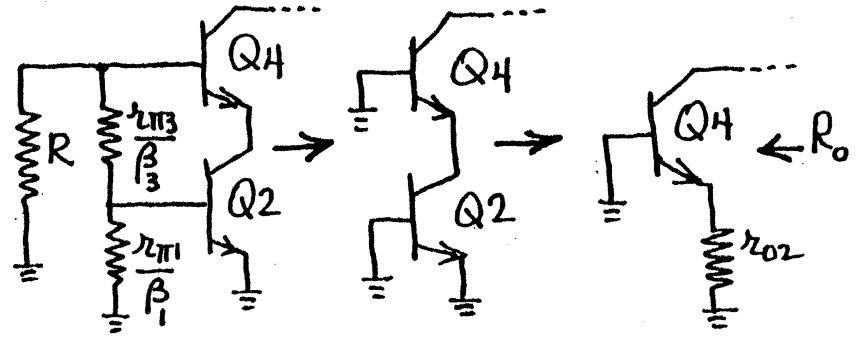


$$I_0 \approx \frac{V_{cc} - 2V_{BE}}{R}$$

Again, the small-signal models can be used since the currents remain practically constant as the load on the CS changes.



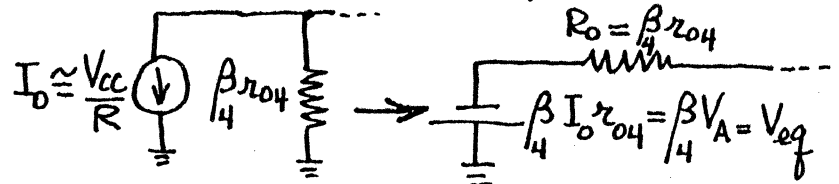
$$r_o \gg r_{\pi} \gg \frac{r_{\pi}}{\beta} \quad \left( \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_C} \gg \frac{\beta V_T}{I_C} \gg \frac{V_T}{I_C} \right)$$



Using the results on p37, we obtain

$$R_o = r_{o4} \left[ 1 + \frac{r_{o2} \left( \beta + \frac{r_{\pi 4}}{r_{o4}} \right)}{r_{\pi 4} + r_{o2}} \right] \approx r_{o4} (1 + \beta)$$

If we assume  $V_{cc} \gg 2V_{BE}$ ,  $\beta \gg 1$ , then



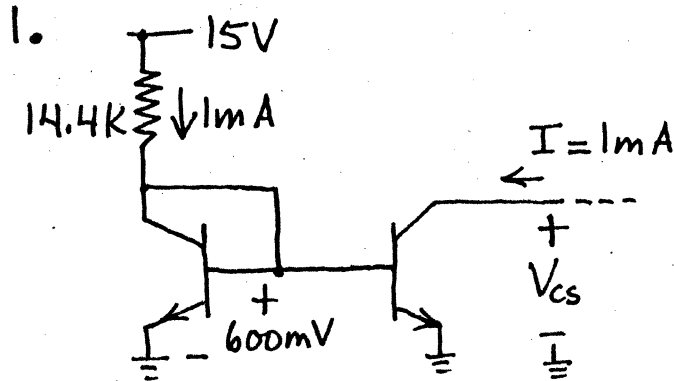
For  $I_0 = 100 \mu A$ ,  $V_A = 100V$ , and  $\beta = 100$

$$V_{eq} = \beta V_A = 100 \times 100 = 10KV$$

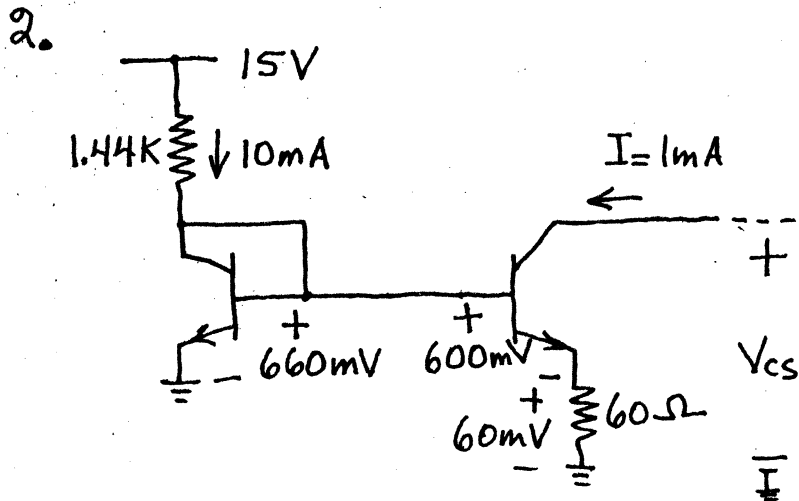
$$R_o = \beta r_{o4} = \beta \frac{V_A}{I_0} = 100 \times \frac{100}{100 \mu A} = 100 M\Omega$$

When the resulting  $R_o$  is so high, parasitic effects, not considered here, must be included.

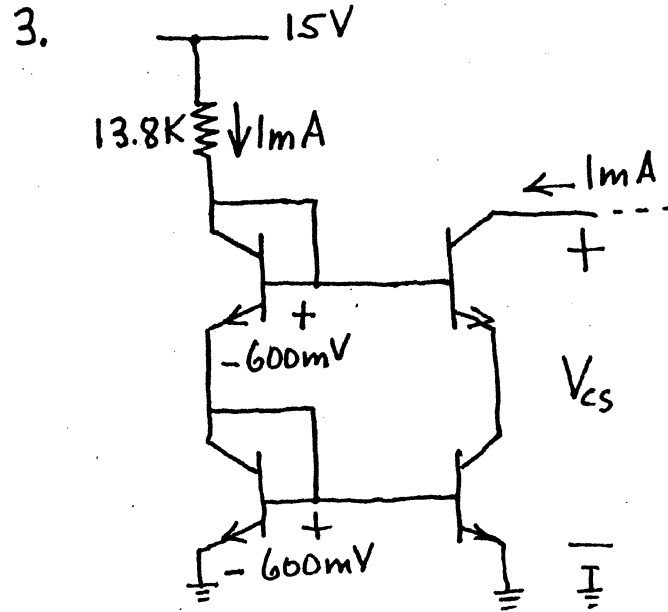
# Three 1mA current sources - Demonstration



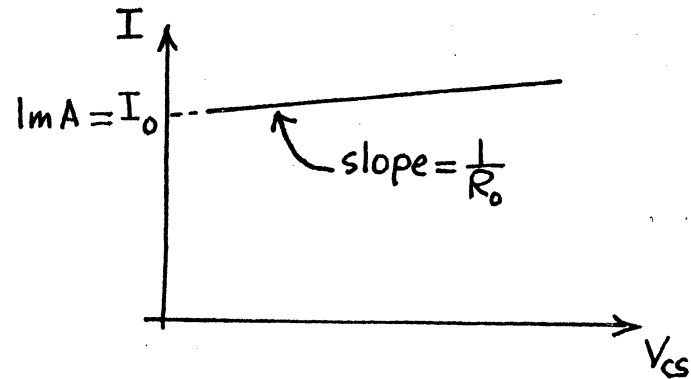
$$R_o = r_o = \frac{V_A}{I} = \frac{100V}{1mA} = 100K$$



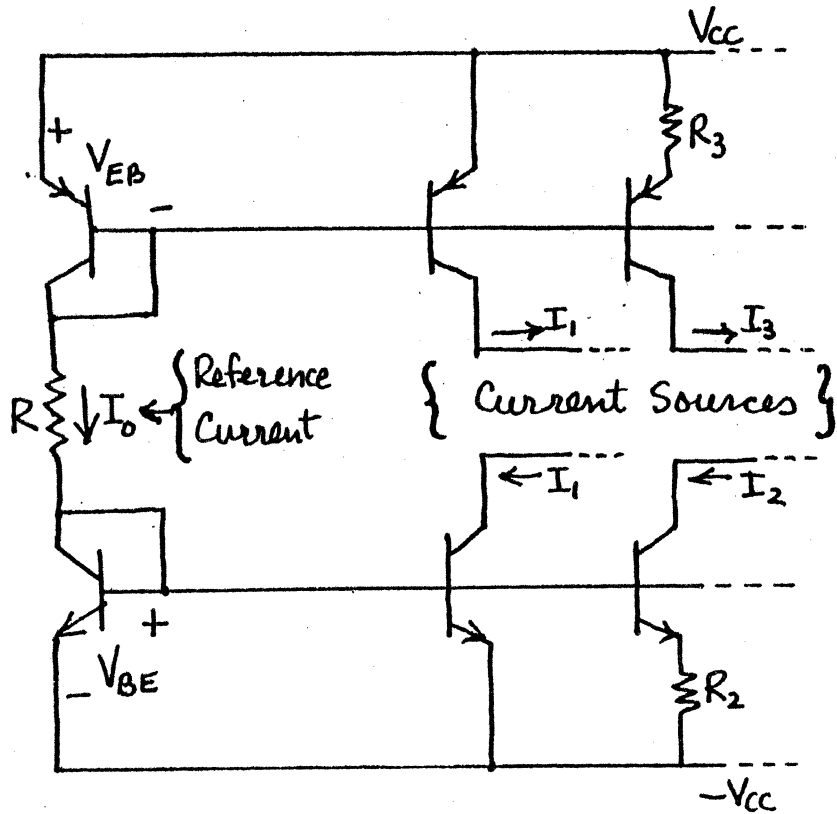
$$R_o = r_o (1 + g_m R_E) = 100 \left( 1 + \frac{1mA}{26mV} \times 60 \right) = 330K$$



$$R_o = \beta r_o \approx 100 \times 100K = 10M$$



# Current sources using a common reference



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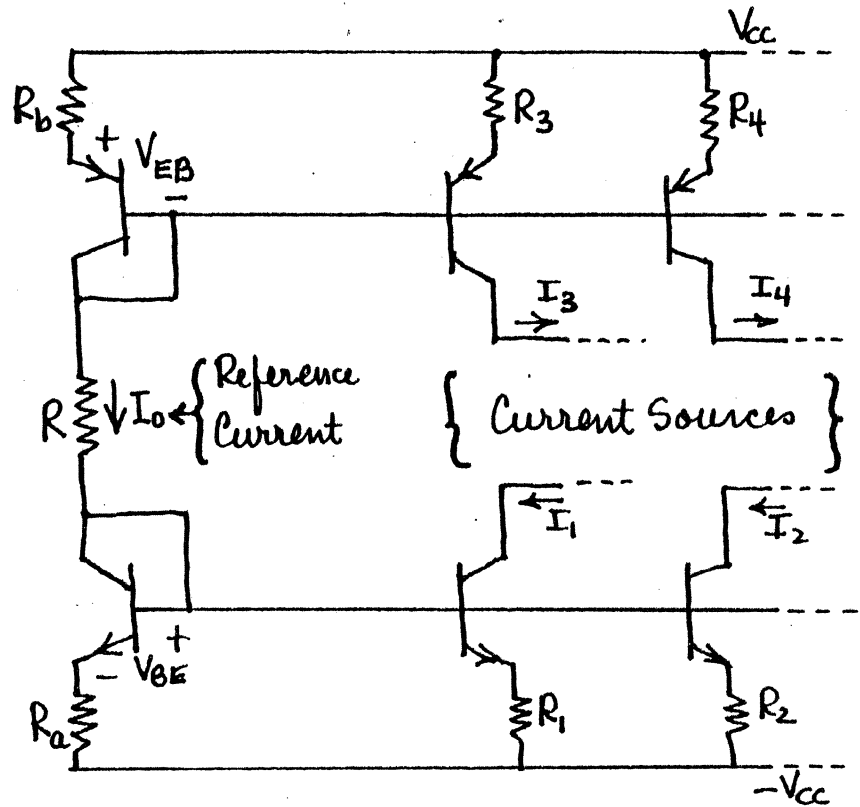
Assume identical  $I_S$ 's and neglect  $I_B$ 's.

$$I_0 = \frac{2V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R}$$

$$I_1 = I_0$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_T}{R_2} \ln \frac{I_0}{I_2} \leftarrow I_2 < I_0$$

$$I_3 = \frac{V_T}{R_3} \ln \frac{I_0}{I_3} \leftarrow I_3 < I_0$$



Assume identical  $I_S$ 's and neglect  $I_B$ 's.

$$I_0 = \frac{2V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R_a + R + R_b}$$

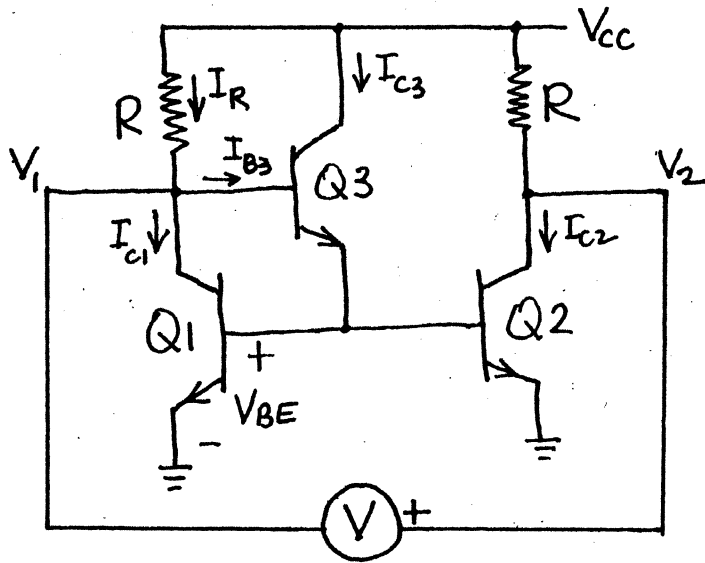
$$I_1 > I_0 \text{ if } R_1 < R_a$$

$$I_2 < I_0 \text{ if } R_2 > R_a$$

$$I_3 > I_0 \text{ if } R_3 < R_b$$

$$I_4 < I_0 \text{ if } R_4 > R_b$$

## A check for matched transistors



This circuit can be used to see whether Q1 and Q2 are matched.

The purpose of Q3 is to supply the base currents of Q1 and Q2 via  $I_{C3}$  by taking a negligibly small base current ( $I_{B3} = \frac{I_{C1} + I_{C2}}{\beta(1+\beta)} \ll I_{C1}$ ).

The resistors are matched.

With  $I_{B3}$  neglected,  $I_{C1} = I_R$ .

[To obtain  $\frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}$ , measure  $I_{C2}$  and  $I_{C1}$  and form  $\frac{I_{C2}}{I_{C1}} = \frac{I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T} (1 + V_1/V_A)}}{I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T} (1 + V_2/V_A)}} \approx \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}$ ]

Assume the current drawn by the voltmeter is negligible. The voltmeter reading is

$$V_2 - V_1 = (V_{CC} - I_{C2} R) - (V_{CC} - I_{C1} R)$$

$$= R(I_{C1} - I_{C2})$$

$$= \left[ I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T} (1 + \frac{V_1}{V_A})} - I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T} (1 + \frac{V_2}{V_A})} \right] R$$

When  $V_1 = V_2 = V$

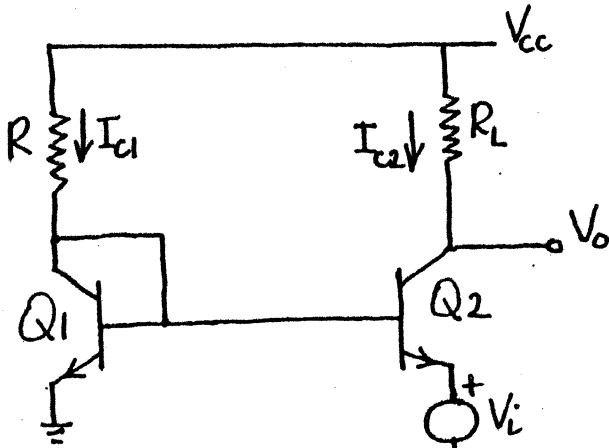
$$0 = R \left(1 + \frac{V}{V_A}\right) e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} (I_{S1} - I_{S2})$$

which implies  $I_{S1} = I_{S2}$ .

Q1 and Q2 are matched if the voltmeter reads zero.

Note: Since  $I_S$  is temperature dependent, Q1 and Q2 must be at the same temperature.

# An amplifier with stabilized bias



Quiescent value of  $V_o$  ( $V_i=0$ )

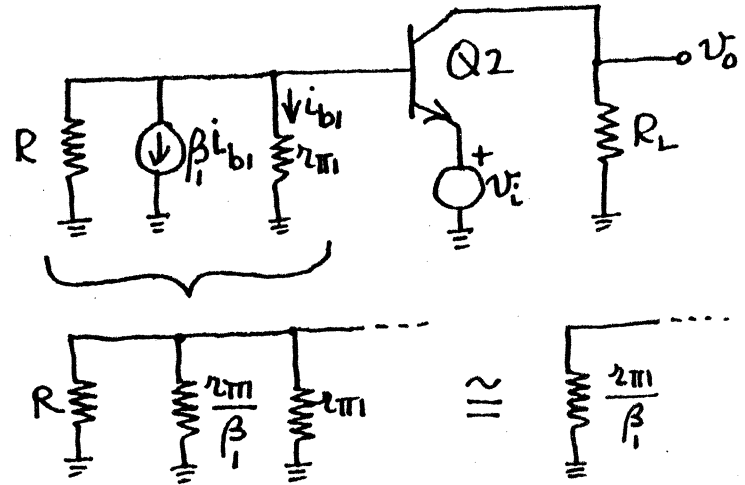
$$V_o = V_{cc} - I_{c2} R_L \approx V_{cc} - I_{c1} R_L$$

$$V_o = V_{cc} - \left( \frac{V_{cc} - V_{BE}}{R} \right) R_L$$

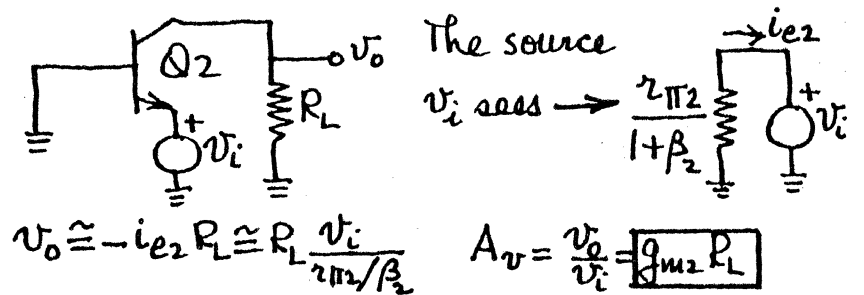
Except for  $V_{BE}$ , the operating point at the output is independent of the transistor.

Note that any resistance associated with source  $V_i$  will change  $I_{c2}$  (reduce it) relative to  $I_{c1}$  unless an equal resistance is placed in the emitter of  $Q_1$ .

# Calculation of gain (assume $r_o = \infty$ )



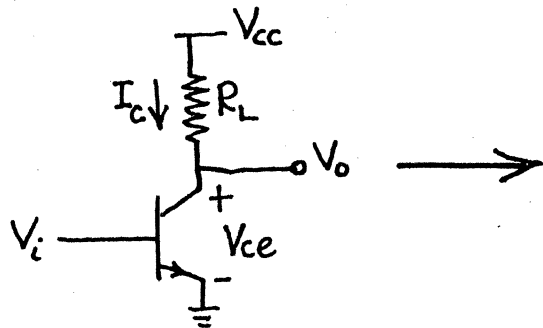
Because  $I_{c1} = I_{c2}$ ,  $r_{\pi 1} = r_{\pi 2}$ . The base of  $Q_2$  is effectively at ground because  $\frac{r_{\pi 1}}{\beta}$ , which is in series with  $r_{\pi 2}$ , is much less than  $r_{\pi 2}$ .



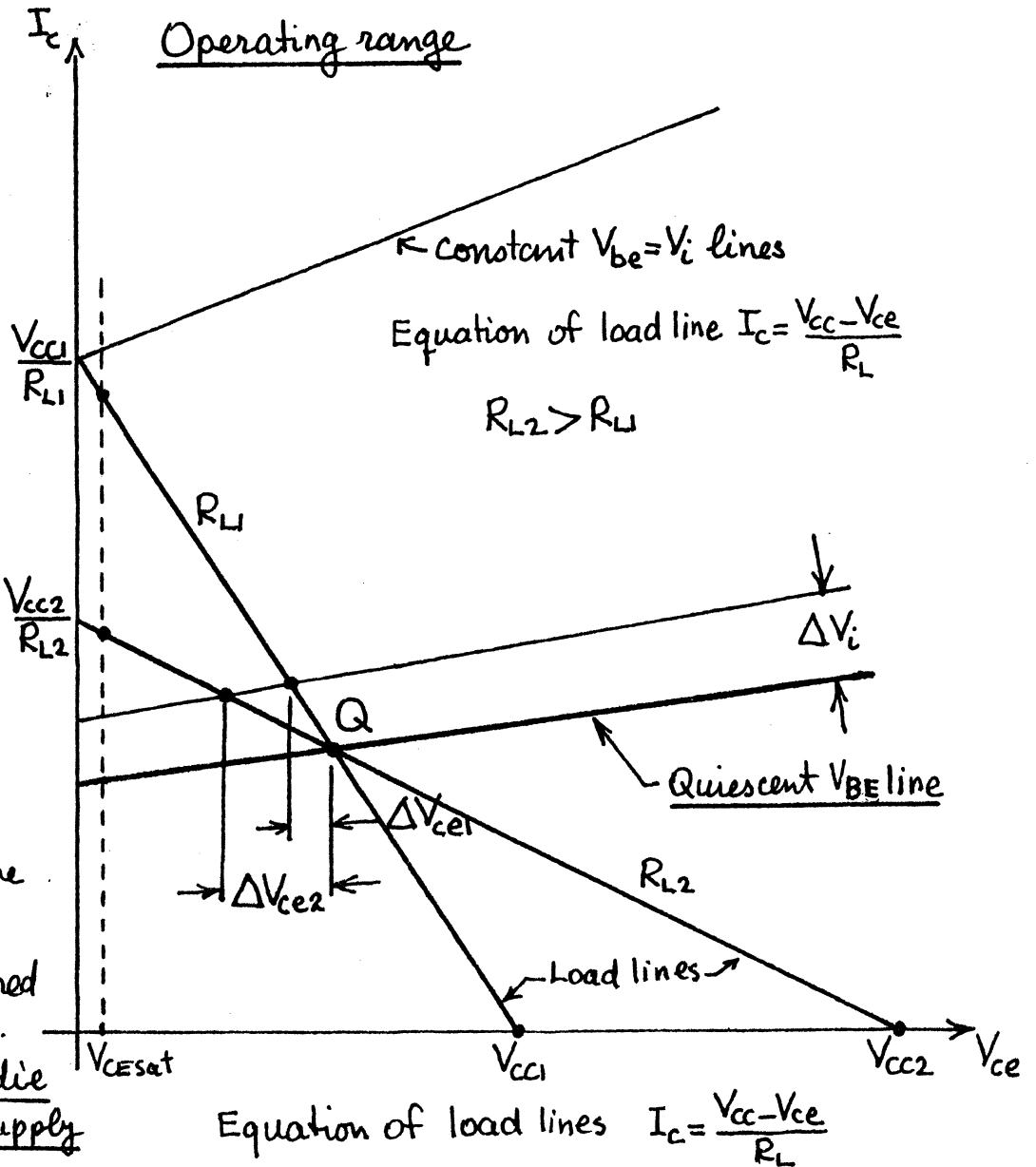
$$V_o \approx -i_{e2} R_L \approx R_L \frac{v_i}{r_{\pi 2} / \beta_2} \quad A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \boxed{g_{m2} R_L}$$

# LII: Common-Emitter Amplifier with resistive and active loads

## I Resistive Load



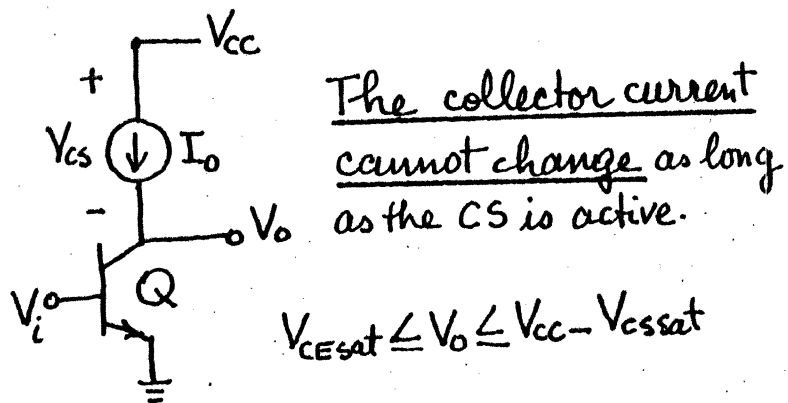
$$V_{CESat} \leq V_o \leq V_{CC}$$



## Important observations

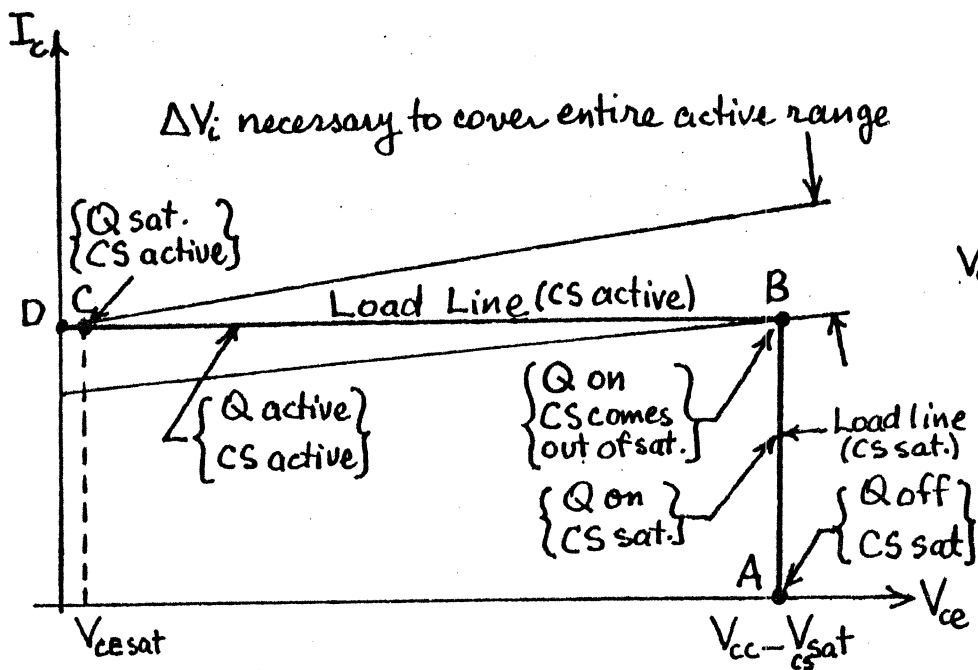
1. Regardless of  $V_{CC}$  and  $R_L$ , it takes  $\Delta V_i = 120\text{mV}$  to go from  $0.99V_{CC}$  to  $0.01V_{CC}$  (practically from cutoff to saturation). See p17.
2. At a given Q-point, the larger  $R_L$ , the more  $\Delta V_{ce}$  for a given  $\Delta V_i$  (the larger the small-signal gain).
3. The larger  $R_L$ , the larger the required  $V_{CC}$  to establish the same Q-point. Consequently it takes too large a die area (large  $R_L$ ) and too large a supply voltage to achieve large gains.

## II Ideal current-source load



### Operating range

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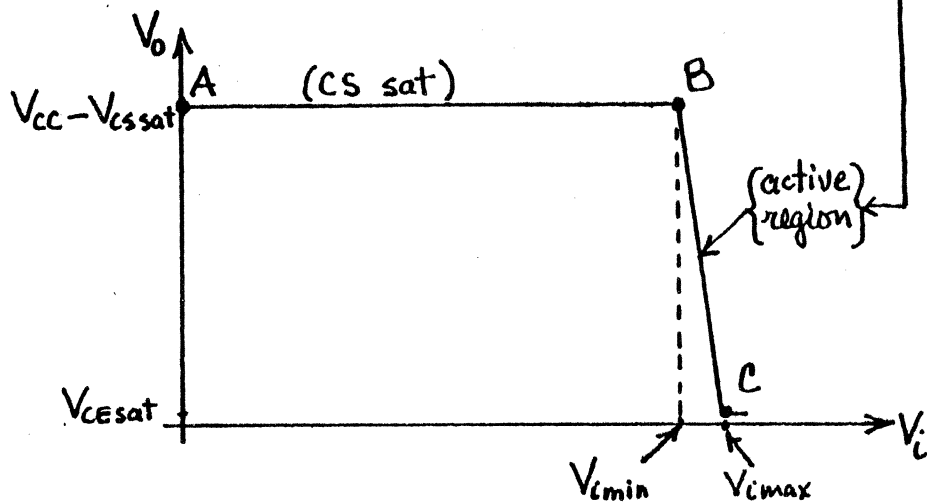
As  $V_i$  increases from 0, the op. pt goes from A to B to C to D.

## The transfer characteristics

When the transistor and the current-source are both active,

$$I_c = I_s e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_A}\right) = I_o$$

$$V_o = V_A \left( \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}} - 1 \right) \quad V_{cesat} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc} - V_{cssat}$$



To find  $V_{i_{min}}$ , let  $V_o = V_{cc} - V_{cssat}$  and solve for  $V_i$ .

$$V_{cc} - V_{cssat} = V_A \left( \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i_{min}}}{V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$V_{i_{min}} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_o / I_s}{1 + \frac{V_{cc} - V_{cssat}}{V_A}} \right)$$



To find  $V_{i\max}$ , let  $V_o = V_{CEsat}$  and solve for  $V_i$ .

$$V_{CEsat} = V_A \left( \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i\max}}{V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$V_{i\max} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_o / I_s}{1 + \frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_A}} \right)$$

$\Delta V_i$  necessary to cover entire active range can be found from

$$\Delta V_i = V_{i\max} - V_{i\min} = V_T \ln \left[ \frac{1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_A}} \right]$$

Since  $\frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \ll 1$  and  $\frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \ll 1$ , we can use the approx.  $\ln(1+x) \cong x$  and obtain

$$\Delta V_i = V_T \left[ \left( \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \right) - \left( \frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \right) \right] \cong \boxed{V_T \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A}}$$

For  $V_T = 26 \text{ mV}$ ,  $V_{CC} = 15 \text{ V}$ , and  $V_A = 130 \text{ V}$ , we obtain

$$\Delta V_i = 26 \times \frac{15}{130} = \boxed{3 \text{ mV}}$$

## Calculation of voltage gain

The small-signal voltage-gain  $A_v$  can be found by differentiating the expression for  $V_o$  with respect to  $V_i$ .

$$V_o = V_A \left( \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$A_v = \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = \boxed{-\frac{V_A}{V_T} \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}$$

The gain is max, when  $V_i = V_{i\min}$ .

$$A_{v\max} = -\frac{V_A}{V_T} \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i\min}}{V_T}}$$

But from the previous page,

$$\frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i\min}}{V_T}} = 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \cong 1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A}$$

$$\text{So, } \boxed{A_{v\max} = -\frac{V_A}{V_T} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A} \right)}$$

The gain is min, when  $V_i = V_{i\max}$ .

$$A_{v\min} = -\frac{V_A}{V_T} \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i\max}}{V_T}}$$

$$\text{But } \frac{I_o}{I_s} e^{-\frac{V_{i\max}}{V_T}} = 1 + \frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_A} \cong 1$$

So,  $A_{vmin} = -\frac{V_A}{V_T}$

Note that  $A_{vmax} = A_{vmin} (1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A})$ .

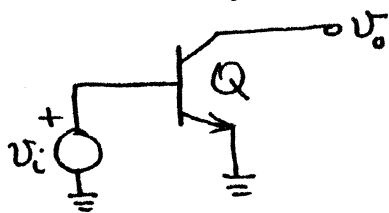
Hence, as long as  $V_{CC}/V_A \ll 1$ , the gain (the slope) is constant for all practical purposes and is given by

$A_v \approx -\frac{V_A}{V_T} \quad V_{CEsat} \leq V_o \leq V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}$

Stated differently, the transfer characteristic in the active region is practically a straight line.

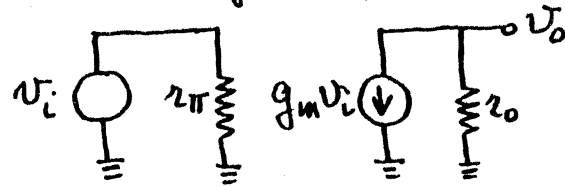
Alternative derivation of  $A_v$

The small signal circuit is



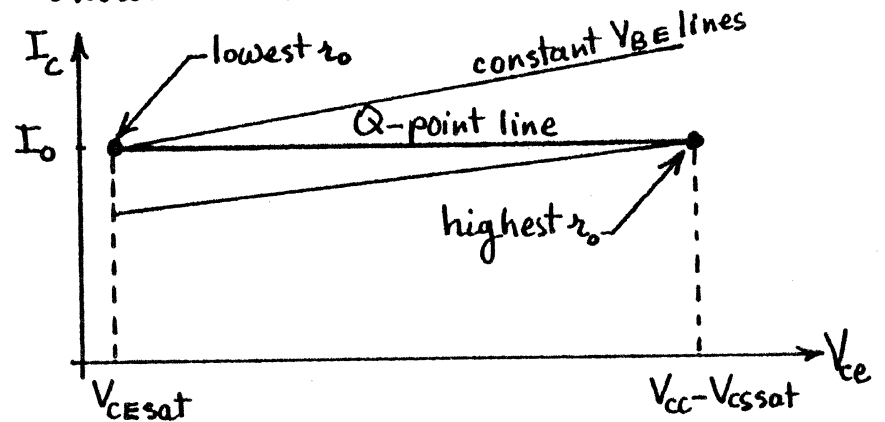
Note that signalwise, the collector is open-circuited since the load is an ideal CS.

The small-signal equivalent circuit is



$A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = -g_m r_o \quad g_m = \frac{I_c}{V_T} = \frac{I_o}{V_T}$

As the operating point is varied in the active region,  $g_m$  stays constant because  $I_c = I_o$ . However,  $r_o$  changes as shown below.

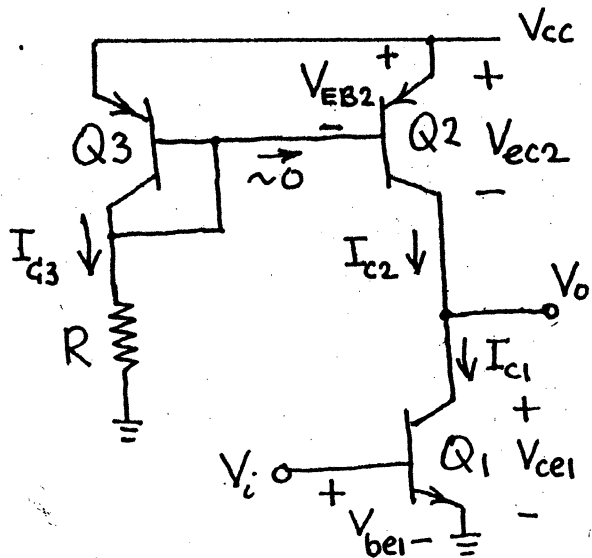


$A_v = -g_m r_o = -\frac{I_o}{V_T} \left( \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_o} \right) = -\frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{V_T}$

$A_{vmin} = A_v \Big|_{V_{CE} = V_{CESat} \cong 0} \cong -\frac{V_A}{V_T}$

$A_{vmax} = A_v \Big|_{V_{CE} = V_{CC} - V_{CESat} \cong V_{CC}} \cong -\frac{V_A + V_{CC}}{V_T}$

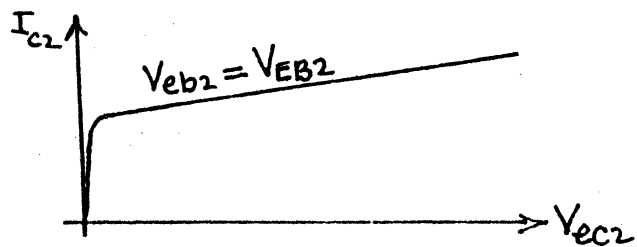
### III Actual current source load



$$I_{c3} \cong \frac{V_{cc} - V_{EB3}}{R} \text{ . Hence } V_{EB2} = V_{EB3}$$

is fixed and is given by  $V_{EB2} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{c3}}{I_S}$ .

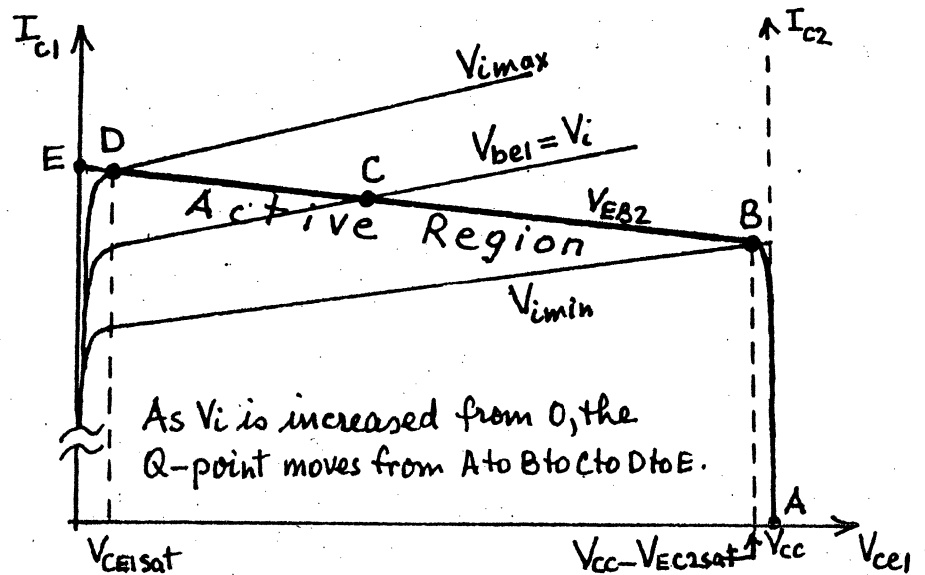
As long as  $I_{b2}$  can be neglected,  $V_{eb2}$  cannot change and the op. pt. of  $Q_2$  is somewhere on the curve shown below.



Since  $Q_2$  serves as load on  $Q_1$ , the output variables of  $Q_2$  must be expressed in terms of the output variables of  $Q_1$ :

$$I_{c2} = I_{c1} \quad V_{ec2} = V_{cc} - V_{ce1} \rightarrow V_{ce1} = V_{cc} - V_{ec2}$$

Hence, by reflecting the  $I_{c2}$  vs  $V_{ec2}$  curve shown below <sup>left</sup> about the  $I_{c2}$  axis and then shifting it to the right by  $V_{cc}$ , we obtain the "load curve" on  $Q_1$  as shown below.



As  $V_i$  is increased from 0, the Q-point moves from A to B to C to D to E.

- A-B  $Q_1$  on,  $Q_2$  sat
- B-C-D  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  on
- D-E  $Q_1$  sat,  $Q_2$  on

Since curves are nearly horizontal, it takes very little  $\Delta V_i$  to go from B to D.

## The transfer characteristic

$V_o$  vs.  $V_i$  curve when both  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are active. Since an NPN and a PNP transistor are involved, the transistor parameters will be designated by either N (for NPN) or P (for PNP) subscripts.

$$I_{C2} = I_{SP} e^{\frac{V_{EB2}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CC2}}{V_{AP}}\right)$$

$$= I_{SP} e^{\frac{V_{EB2}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_o}{V_{AP}}\right)$$

$$I_{C1} = I_{SN} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE1}}{V_{AN}}\right)$$

$$= I_{SN} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_{AN}}\right)$$

Using  $I_{C1} = I_{C2}$ , and solving for  $V_o$ , we obtain

$$V_o = \frac{I_{SP} e^{\frac{V_{EB2}}{V_T}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_{AP}}\right) - I_{SN} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}}}{I_{SP} e^{\frac{V_{EB2}}{V_T}} \frac{1}{V_{AP}} + I_{SN} e^{\frac{V_i}{V_T}} \frac{1}{V_{AN}}}$$

$V_{CE1sat} \leq V_o \leq V_{CC} - V_{CE2sat}$

For  $I_{SP} = I_{SN}$ ,  $V_{AP} = V_{AN} = V_A$ , and  $V_i = V_{EB2}$ , this

equation gives  $V_o = \frac{V_{CC}}{2}$  (as it must since the bottom and top half of the circuit become then mirror images of each other). With  $V_i = V_{EB2} + v_i$ , the expression for  $V_o$  simplifies to

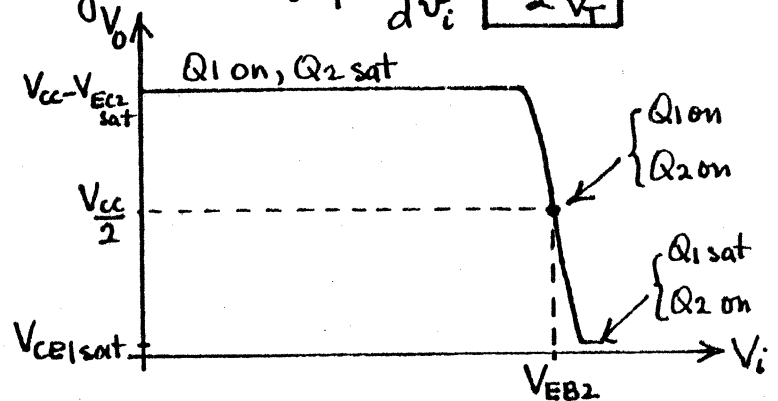
$$V_o = V_A \left( \frac{1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A} - e^{v_i/V_T}}{1 + e^{v_i/V_T}} \right)$$

For  $v_i/V_T \ll 1$ , we can approximate  $e^{v_i/V_T}$  by  $(1 + v_i/V_T)$  and obtain

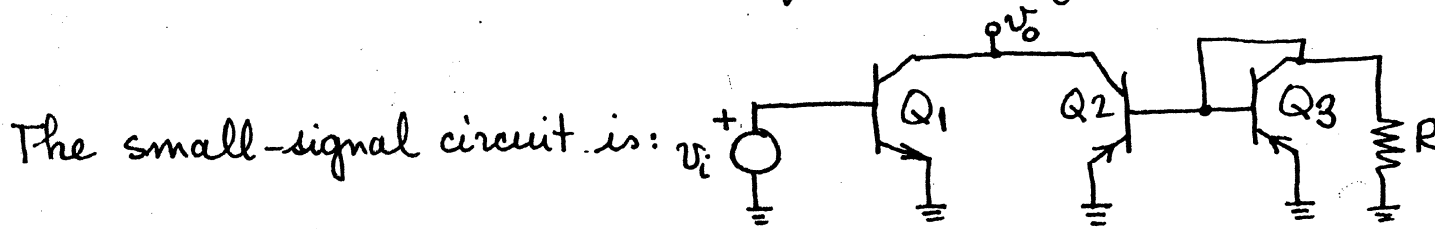
$$V_o = \frac{V_{CC}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_A}{V_T} v_i$$

which represents

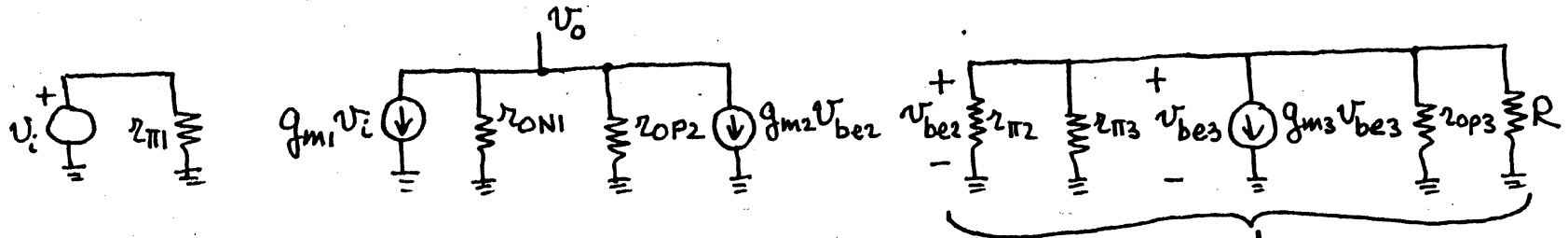
the output only about the midpoint of the operating range. The midpoint gain is  $A_{vmp} = \frac{dV_o}{dv_i} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_A}{V_T}$



# Small-signal gain as a function of the operating point



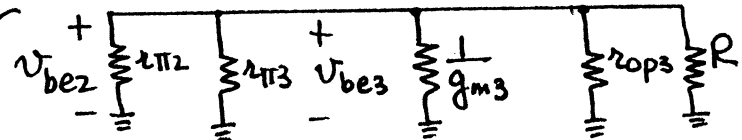
The small-signal equivalent circuit is:



With  $v_{be2} = 0$ ,  $v_o$  becomes

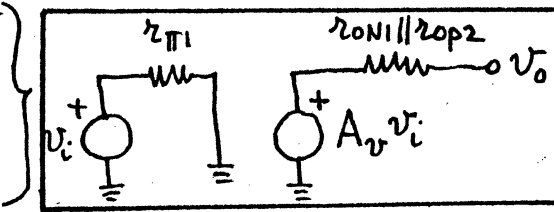
$$v_o = -g_{m1}(z_{ON1} \parallel z_{OP2})v_i$$

$$A_v = -g_{m1} \frac{z_{ON1} z_{OP2}}{z_{ON1} + z_{OP2}}$$



This portion of the circuit is dead.  
Hence  $v_{be2} = v_{be3} = 0$

The input and output equivalent circuits are given by



where

$$g_{m1} = \frac{I_{C1}}{V_T}$$

$$z_{ON1} = \frac{V_{AN1} + V_{CE1}}{I_{C1}} = \frac{V_{AN} + V_o}{I_{C1}}$$

$$z_{OP2} = \frac{V_{AP2} + V_{CE2}}{I_{C2}} = \frac{V_{AP} + V_{CC} - V_o}{I_{C2}}$$

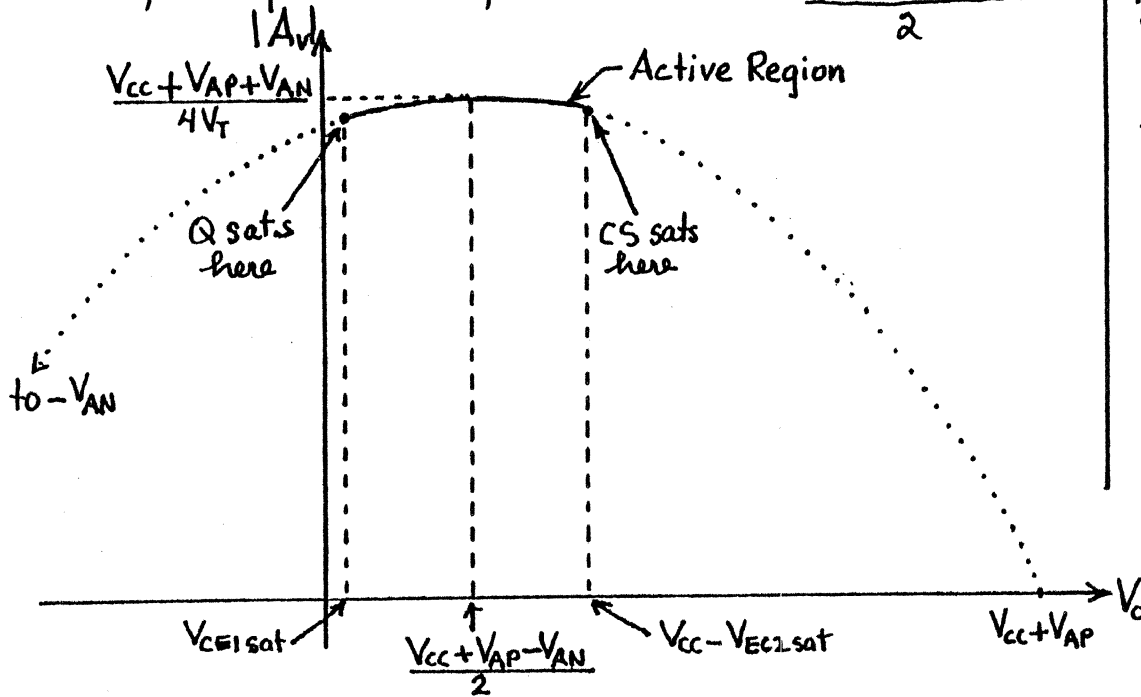
How does the gain vary with the operating point?

$$A_v = -g_{m1} \frac{r_{oN1} r_{oP2}}{r_{oN1} + r_{oP2}} = -\frac{I_{c1}}{V_T} \left( \frac{V_{AN} + V_o}{I_{c1}} \right) \left( \frac{V_{AP} + V_{CC} - V_o}{I_{c1}} \right)$$

$$A_v = -\frac{1}{V_T} \frac{(V_{AN} + V_o)(V_{AP} + V_{CC} - V_o)}{V_{AN} + V_{AP} + V_{CC}}$$

The  $A_v$  vs.  $V_o$  curve is a parabola with  $V_o$ -axis intercepts at  $-V_{AN}$  and  $(V_{AP} + V_{CC})$ .

Hence, the apex of the parabola is at  $\frac{(V_{CC} + V_{AP} - V_{AN})}{2}$ .



The maximum gain occurs when  $V_o = \frac{V_{CC} + V_{AP} - V_{AN}}{2}$  and is equal to

$$|A_v|_{\max} = \frac{V_{CC} + V_{AP} + V_{AN}}{4V_T}$$

which for  $V_{AP} = V_{AN} = V_A$  and  $V_{CC} \ll V_A$  reduces to  $\frac{V_A}{2V_T}$ . Furthermore, as the plot shows, the apex of the parabola would then be at  $V_o = \frac{V_{CC}}{2}$ , and the gain would vary very little over the entire active region from  $V_o \cong 0$  to  $V_o \cong V_{CC}$ .

With  $V_{CC} = 15V$ ,  $V_A = 130V$ , and  $V_T = 26mV$ , the max. and min. gains are

$$|A_v|_{\max} = \frac{V_{CC} + 2V_A}{4V_T} = 2644$$

$$|A_v|_{\min} = \frac{V_A}{V_T} \left( \frac{V_{CC} + V_A}{V_{CC} + 2V_A} \right) = 2636$$

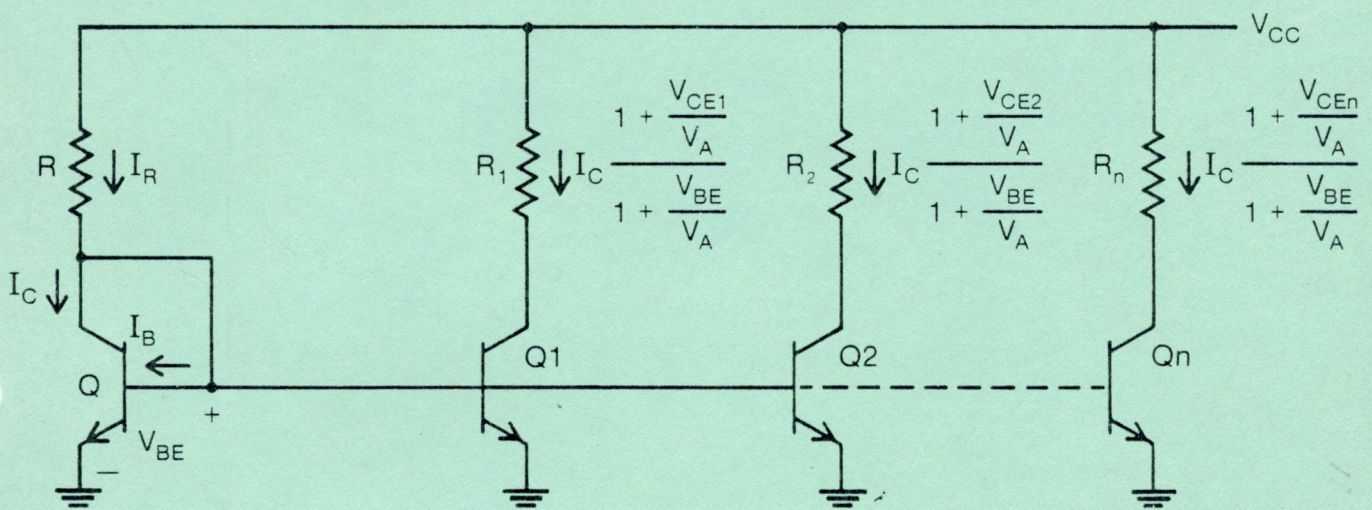
Hence, the gain varies  $\frac{1}{3}\%$  as the op. pt. is moved from  $V_o \cong 0$  to  $V_o \cong 15V$ . Correspondingly  $\Delta V_i \cong \frac{15 \times 10^3}{2640} = 5.7mV$  for  $\Delta V_o = 15V$ .

A Self Study Subject

# FUNDAMENTALS & APPLICATIONS OF ANALOG INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

## PART I

### LOW FREQUENCY ANALYSIS & DESIGN



Study Guide  
for

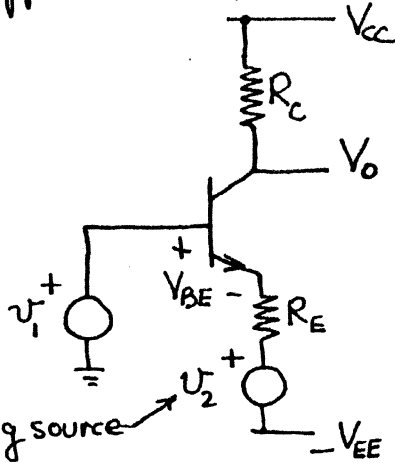
## MODULE C The Differential Amplifier



Colorado State University  
Engineering Renewal  
& Renewal & Growth Program

Aram Budak

L12: A simple but not so accurate difference amplifier



Operating point  $v_1 = v_2 = 0$

$$V_o = V_{cc} - I_c R_c \cong V_{cc} - R_c \frac{(V_{EE} - V_{BE})}{R_E}$$

$$V_{CEsat} - V_{BE} \leq V_o \leq V_{cc}$$

Gain

If  $r_o = \infty$ ,  $v_o = \frac{(v_2 - v_1) \beta R_c}{r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E}$

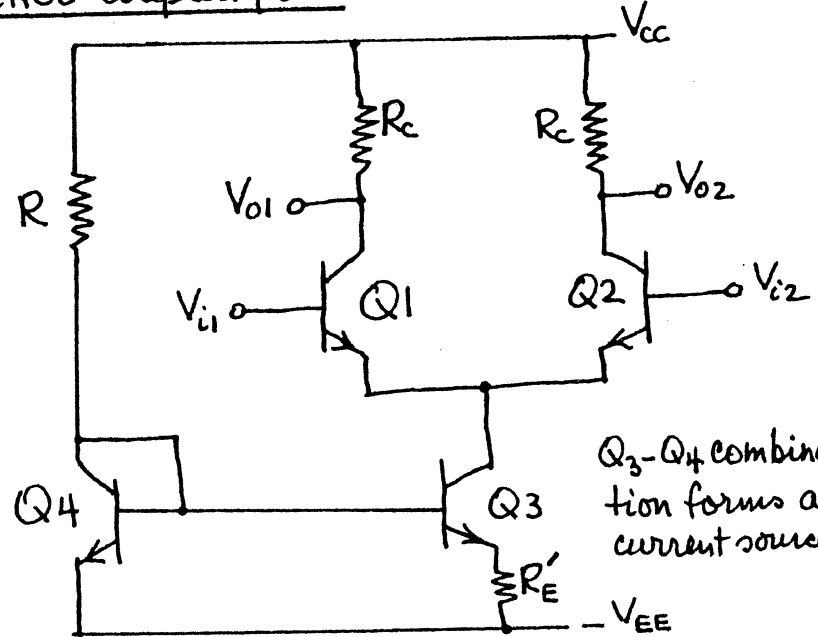
$$v_o = (v_2 - v_1) A_v \quad A_v = \frac{\beta R_c}{r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) R_E}$$

However, for  $r_o \neq \infty$ ,  $v_o = A_2 v_2 - A_1 v_1$  (see p37) where  $A_1 \neq A_2$ . Hence not a diff. amplifier.

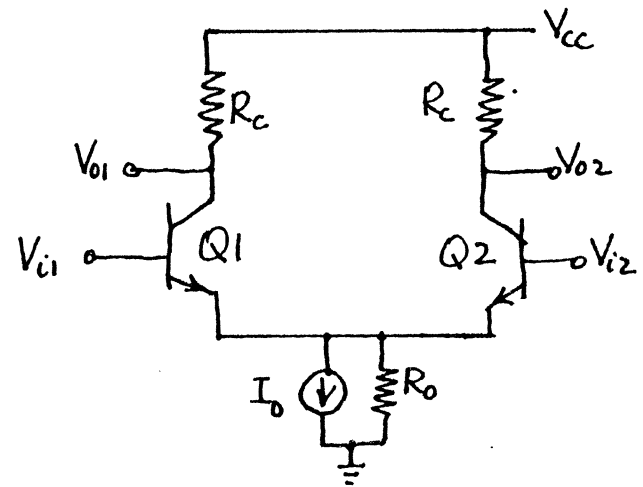
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The differential amplifier

Also known as difference amplifier or emitter-coupled pair.



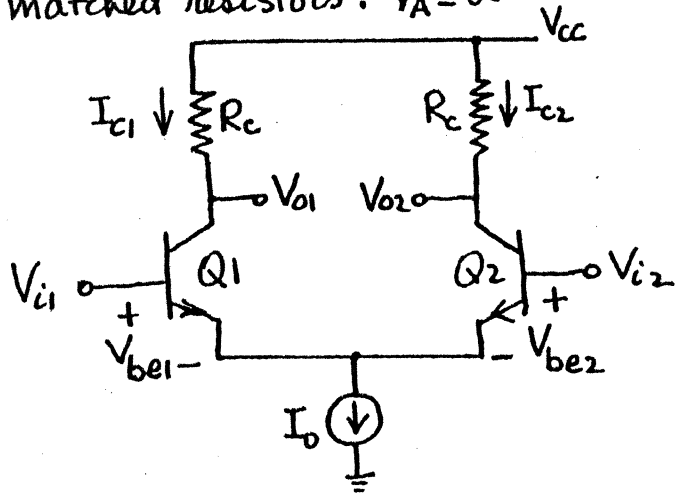
Q3-Q4 combination forms a current source





# Large-signal characteristics

Assume matched transistors and matched resistors.  $V_A = \infty$ .



$$V_{i1} - V_{be1} = V_{i2} - V_{be2} \quad V_{i1} - V_{i2} = V_{id} = V_{be1} - V_{be2}$$

When  $V_{i1} = V_{i2} = 0$

$$V_{be1} = V_{be2} = V_{BE} \quad I_{c1} = I_{c2} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} = \alpha \frac{I_o}{2}$$

$$V_{BE} = V_T \ln\left(\frac{\alpha I_o}{2 I_s}\right)$$

How do  $I_c$ 's,  $V_{be}$ 's, and  $V_o$  vary with  $V_{id}$ ?

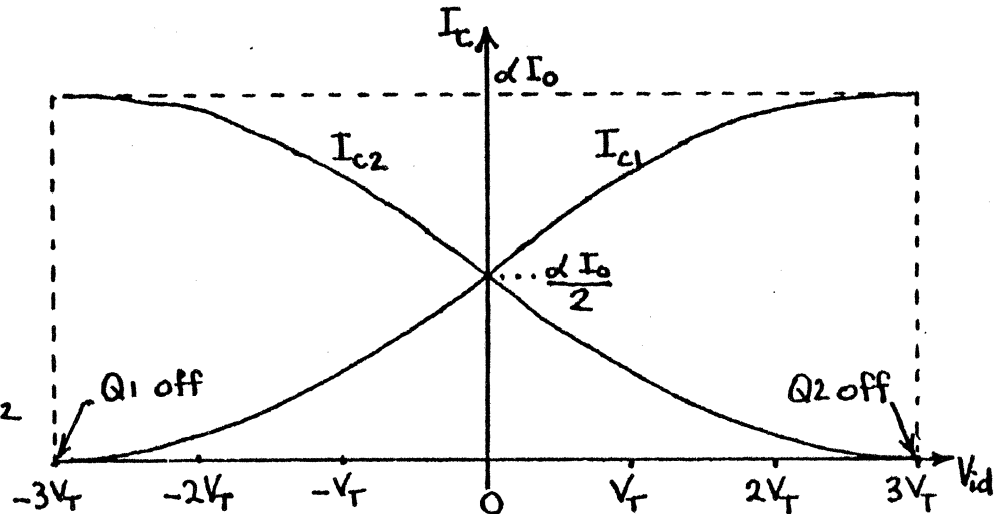
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_{id} = V_{i1} - V_{i2} = V_{be1} - V_{be2} \\ I_{c1}/\alpha + I_{c2}/\alpha = I_o \\ I_{c1} = I_s e^{V_{be1}/V_T}, \quad I_{c2} = I_s e^{V_{be2}/V_T} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{I_{c1}}{I_{c2}} = e^{(V_{be1} - V_{be2})/V_T} = e^{V_{id}/V_T}$$

$$I_{c2} e^{V_{id}/V_T} + I_{c2} = \alpha I_o$$

$$I_{c2} = \frac{\alpha I_o}{1 + e^{V_{id}/V_T}}$$

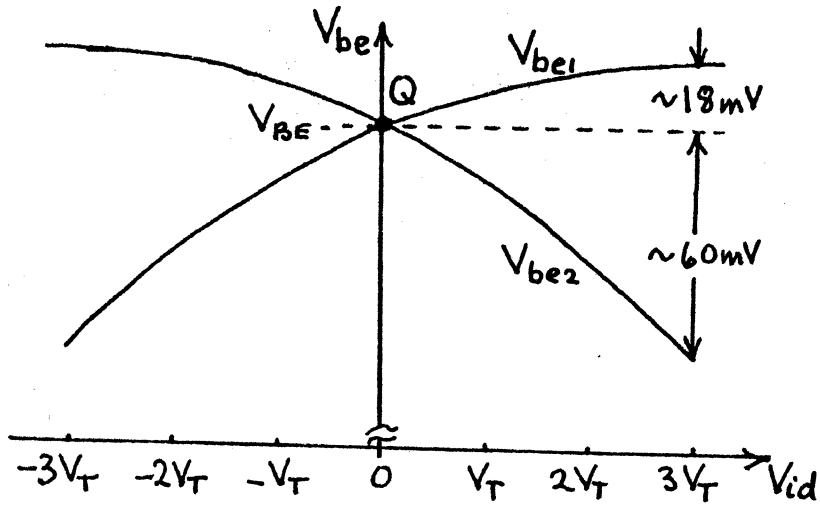
$$I_{c1} = \frac{\alpha I_o}{1 + e^{-V_{id}/V_T}}$$



$\frac{V_i}{V_T}$	1	2	3	4	5
$\frac{I_{c1}}{I_{c2}}$	2.72	7.39	20.09	54.60	148.41

$$V_{be1} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{c1}}{I_s} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{\alpha I_o / I_s}{1 + e^{-V_{id}/V_T}} \right)$$

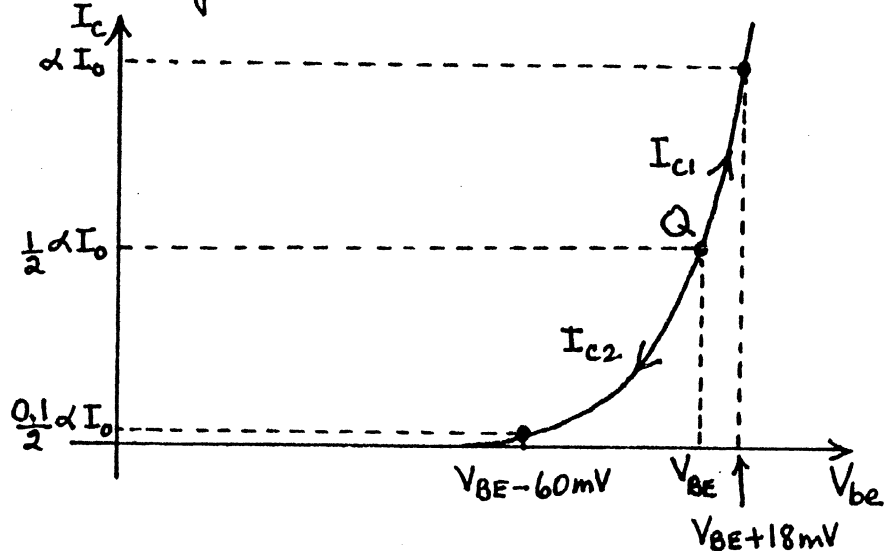
$$V_{be2} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{c2}}{I_s} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{\alpha I_o / I_s}{1 + e^{V_{id}/V_T}} \right)$$



As  $V_{id}$  increases from 0,  $V_{be1}$  increases and  $V_{be2}$  decreases from  $V_{BE}$ . The increase in  $V_{be1}$  is less than the decrease in  $V_{be2}$ .

Particularly when  $V_{id}$  gets large, say  $3V_T$ , most of the  $V_{id}$  appears across the base-to-emitter of  $Q_2$  for turning it off. This is because it takes an increase of only  $18\text{mV}$  in  $V_{be1}$  in order for  $I_{C1}$  to go from its quiescent value of  $\frac{\alpha I_0}{2}$  to its maximum possible value of  $\alpha I_0$  whereas it takes a decrease of  $60\text{mV}$  in  $V_{be2}$  in order for  $I_{C2}$  to go from its quiescent value of  $\frac{\alpha I_0}{2}$

to  $0.1 \frac{\alpha I_0}{2}$ . This can be clearly seen by looking at the  $I_C$  vs.  $V_{be}$  curves.  $I_C = I_S e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}}$ .



It takes about  $78\text{mV}$  in  $V_{id}$  ( $18\text{mV}$  increase in  $V_{be1}$  and  $60\text{mV}$  decrease in  $V_{be2}$ ) to cause practically all the current supplied by the common emitter current source to go through  $Q_1$  and thereby cut  $Q_2$  almost off, i.e., reduce its current to 10% of its quiescent value. This is shown below.

$$V_{be1} = V_{BE} - V_T \ln \frac{1}{2} (1 + e^{-V_{id}/V_T}) \Big|_{V_{id}/V_T=3} = \boxed{V_{BE} + 16.8\text{mV}}$$

$$V_{be2} = V_{BE} - V_T \ln \frac{1}{2} (1 + e^{V_{id}/V_T}) \Big|_{V_{id}/V_T=3} = \boxed{V_{BE} - 61.0\text{mV}}$$

### Calculation of differential output

voltage  $V_{od} = V_{o1} - V_{o2}$ .

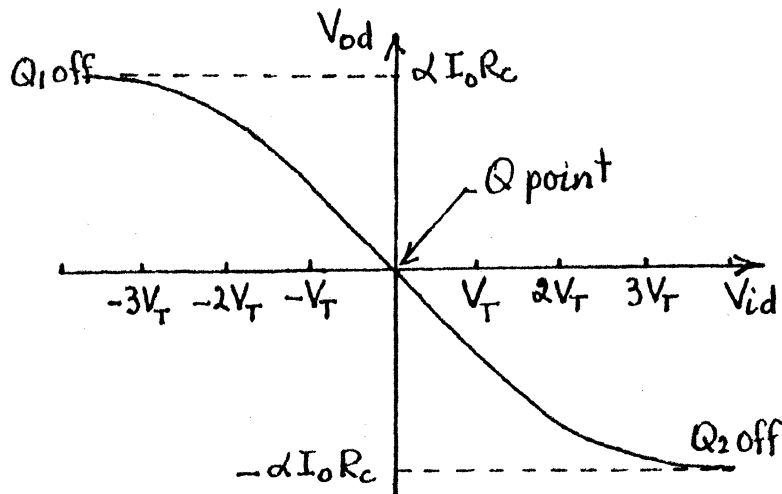
$$V_{od} = (V_{cc} - I_{c1}R_c) - (V_{cc} - I_{c2}R_c) = (I_{c2} - I_{c1})R_c$$

$$= \alpha I_0 R_c \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{V_{id}/V_T}} - \frac{1}{1 + e^{-V_{id}/V_T}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\alpha I_0 R_c (e^{V_{id}/V_T} - e^{-V_{id}/V_T})}{e^{V_{id}/V_T} + 2 + e^{-V_{id}/V_T}}$$

$$= -\alpha I_0 R_c \frac{(e^{V_{id}/2V_T} + e^{-V_{id}/2V_T})(e^{V_{id}/2V_T} - e^{-V_{id}/2V_T})}{(e^{V_{id}/2V_T} + e^{-V_{id}/2V_T})^2}$$

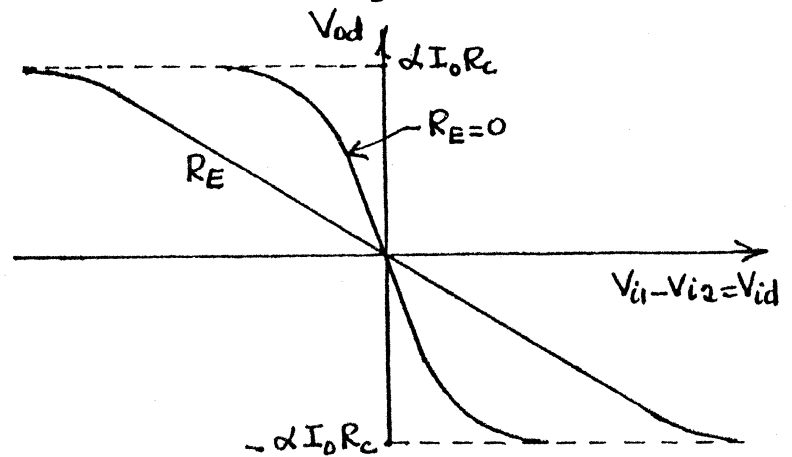
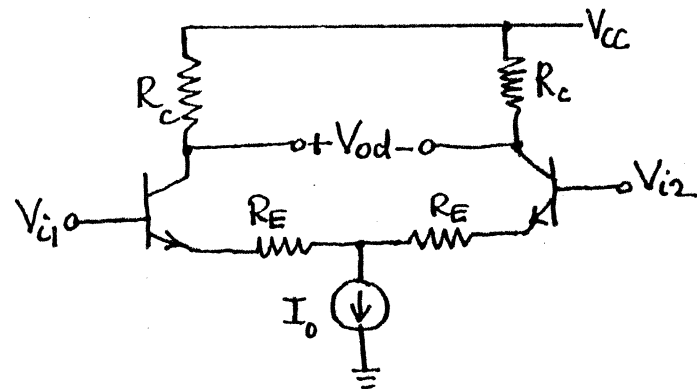
$$= -2\alpha I_0 R_c \frac{(e^{V_{id}/2V_T} - e^{-V_{id}/2V_T})}{(e^{V_{id}/2V_T} + e^{-V_{id}/2V_T})} = \boxed{-\alpha I_0 R_c \tanh \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{id}}{V_T}}$$



$\frac{V_{id}}{V_T}$	$\frac{ V_{od} }{\alpha I_0 R_c}$
1	.462
2	.762
3	.905
4	.964

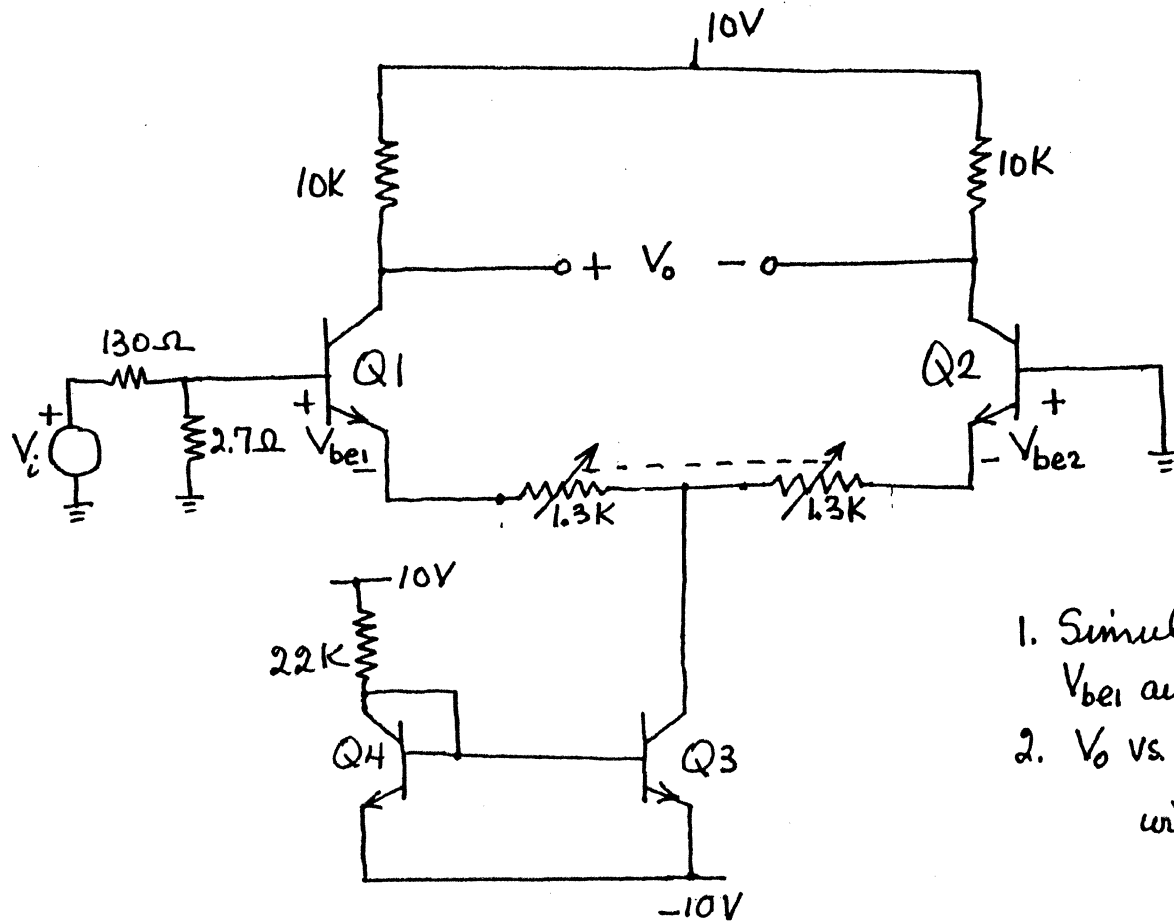
Provided  $V_{cc} - \alpha I_0 R_c > V_{CESat} - V_{be} + V_i$ , neither  $Q_1$  nor  $Q_2$  can saturate. Unless  $V_{EE}$  is made very small,  $Q_3$  cannot saturate either. It should be noted that if  $|V_{i1}|$  or  $|V_{i2}|$  is made too large, the collector-to-base junctions become forward biased.

### Effect of emitter degeneration



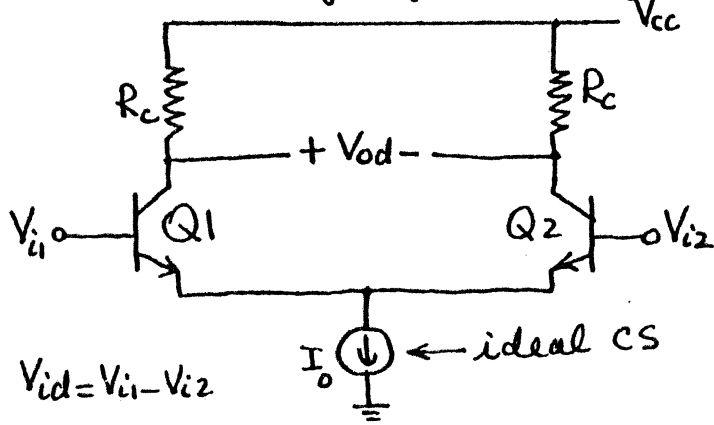
# Differential Amplifier Demonstration

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1. Simultaneous display of  $V_{be1}$  and  $V_{be2}$  curves vs.  $V_i$  ( $R_E=0$ )
2.  $V_o$  vs.  $V_i$  curve with  $\begin{cases} R_E=0 \\ R_E=1.3K \end{cases}$

## Calculation of differential gain



From large-signal analysis we have

$$V_{od} = -\alpha I_0 R_c \tanh \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{id}}{V_T}$$

For  $|x| \ll 1$ ,  $\tanh x \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3}$

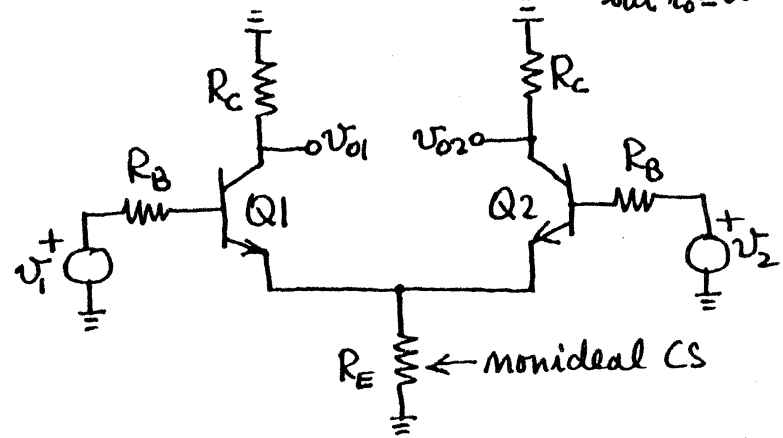
$$V_{od} \approx -\alpha I_0 R_c \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{id}}{V_T} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{V_{id}}{V_T} \right)^2 \right]$$

For  $\left| \frac{V_{id}}{V_T} \right| \leq 1$   $V_{od} \approx -\frac{\alpha I_0 R_c}{2} \frac{V_{id}}{V_T}$

As long as  $|V_{id}| \leq V_T$ ,  $V_{od}$  is linearly dependent on  $V_{id}$ . Hence, over this range, the gain is independent of the signal amplitude and is given by

$$A_v = \frac{d(V_{od})}{d(V_{id})} = \frac{V_{od}}{V_{id}} = -\frac{\alpha I_0 R_c}{2 V_T} = -\frac{I_c R_c}{V_T} = -g_m R_c$$

## Small-signal analysis (with $R_B$ and $R_E$ present) but $r_o = \infty$



Quiescent collector currents are  $I_{c1} = I_{c2} = \frac{\alpha I_0}{2}$

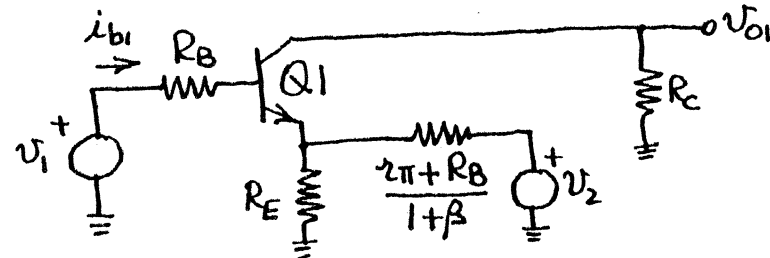
Hence, for small-signal analysis

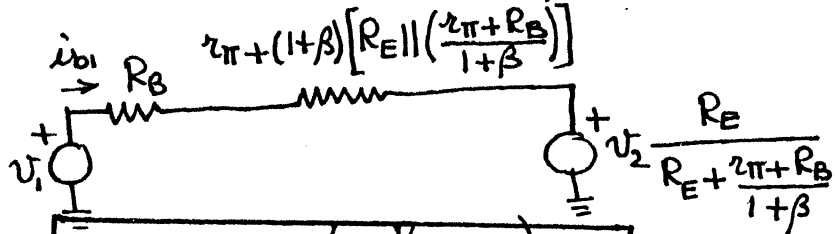
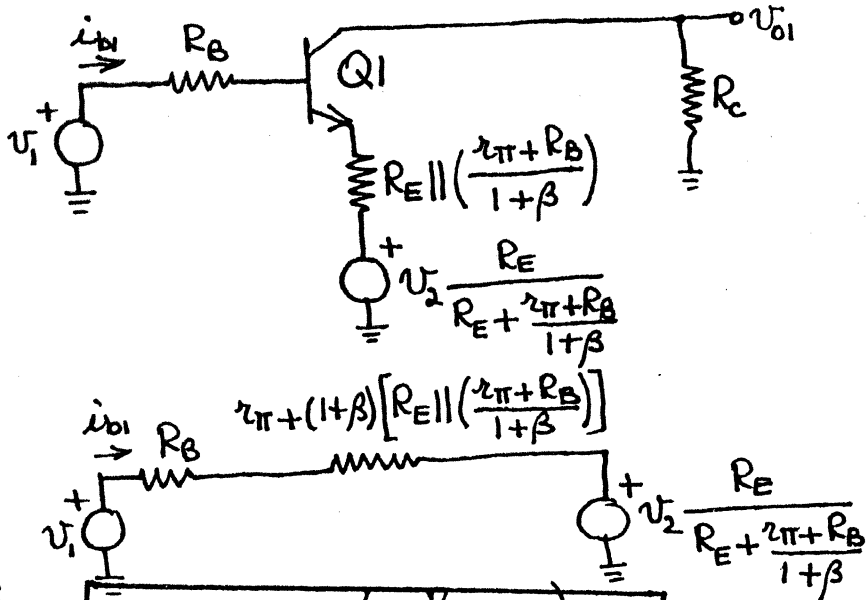
$$r_{\pi 1} = r_{\pi 2} = r_{\pi} = \frac{V_T}{I_B} = \frac{V_T}{\frac{\alpha I_0 / \beta}{2}} = \frac{2 V_T (1 + \beta)}{I_0}$$

$$g_{m1} = g_{m2} = g_m = \frac{I_c}{V_T} = \frac{\frac{\alpha I_0}{2}}{V_T}$$

Assume  $r_o = \infty$

Method 1 Start with eq. circuit facing  $v_i$ .





$$i_{b1} = \frac{v_i - v_2 \left( \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + \frac{(1 + \beta) R_E (r_{\pi} + R_B)}{(1 + \beta) R_E + r_{\pi} + R_B}}$$

resistance

What does source  $v_i$  see?

The answer depends on what  $v_2$  is.

① If  $v_2$  is independent, make it 0. Then source  $v_i$  sees

$$R_B + r_{\pi} + \frac{(r_{\pi} + R_B)(1 + \beta) R_E}{r_{\pi} + R_B + (1 + \beta) R_E} \xrightarrow{R_E \rightarrow \infty} 2(r_{\pi} + R_B)$$

② If  $v_2 = v_1$ , common-mode excitation, source  $v_i$  sees

$$\frac{R_B + r_{\pi} + \frac{(r_{\pi} + R_B)(1 + \beta) R_E}{r_{\pi} + R_B + (1 + \beta) R_E}}{1 - \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}}} = r_{\pi} + R_B + (1 + \beta) 2R_E \xrightarrow{R_E \rightarrow \infty} \infty$$

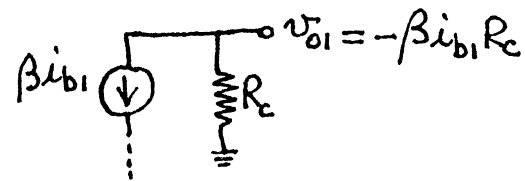
Source  $v_i$  sees a very high resistance.

③ If  $v_2 = -v_1$ , difference-mode excitation, source  $v_i$  sees

$$\frac{R_B + r_{\pi} + \frac{(r_{\pi} + R_B)(1 + \beta) R_E}{r_{\pi} + R_B + (1 + \beta) R_E}}{1 + \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}}} = r_{\pi} + R_B$$

What is the  $v_{o1}$  output?

This is the output with respect to ground.



$$v_{o1} = - \frac{\beta R_c \left( v_1 - v_2 \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi} + \frac{(r_{\pi} + R_B)(1 + \beta) R_E}{r_{\pi} + R_B + (1 + \beta) R_E}}$$

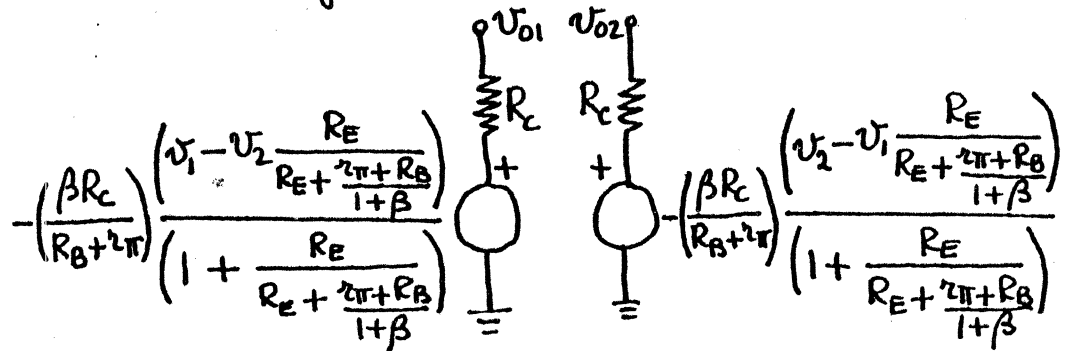
$$v_{o1} = - \frac{\beta R_c \left[ v_1 - v_2 \left( \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}} \right) \right]}{R_B + r_{\pi} \left[ 1 + \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{r_{\pi} + R_B}{1 + \beta}} \right]}$$

The  $v_{o1}$  output is not proportional to the difference of the two input signals. Stated differently, if the output is single ended, the circuit does not act like a difference amplifier even when the  $r_o$  of the transistors are assumed  $\infty$ . However, if  $R_E = \infty$  (ideal CS in the emitter), then

$$v_{o1} = - \frac{\beta R_c}{2(R_B + r_{\pi})} (v_1 - v_2)$$

which is proportional to the difference signal.

Putting the two halves of the circuit together

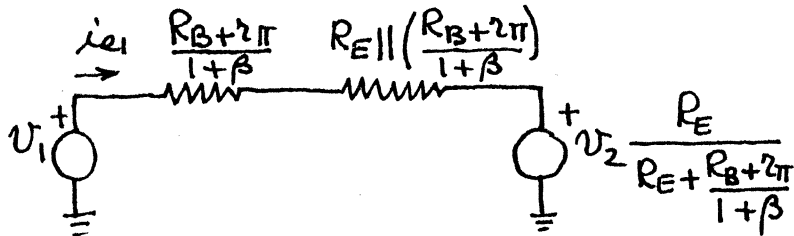
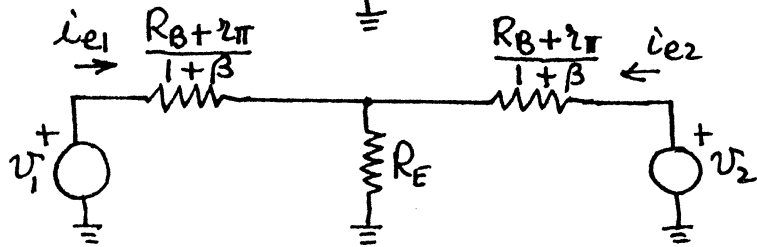
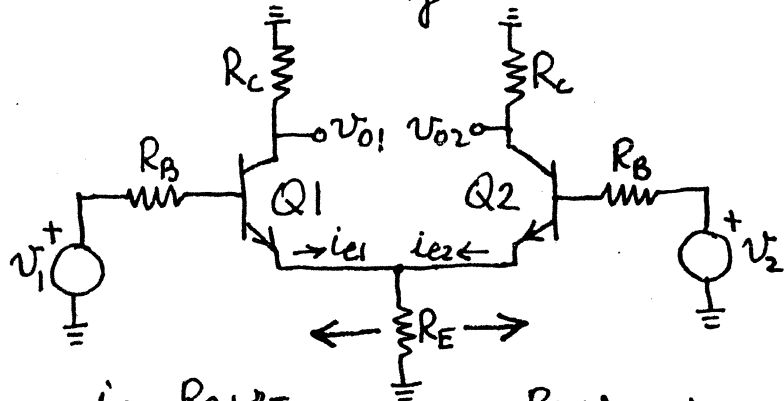


$$v_{od} = v_{o1} - v_{o2} = - \left( \frac{\beta R_c}{R_B + r_{\pi}} \right) (v_1 - v_2)$$

The collector-to-collector output,  $v_{od}$ , is proportional to the difference signal regardless of the value of  $R_E$ . The circuit then is a difference or differential amplifier. Although not considered here, this is true even when the  $r_o$ 's of the transistors are taken into account. Of course all these results are based on the assumption that the two halves of the circuit are perfectly matched.

For  $R_B = 0$ ,  $v_{od} = -g_m R_c (v_1 - v_2)$  which agrees with the result obtained from the large-signal analysis.

L13: Method 2 Start with equivalent circuits facing  $R_E$ .



$$v_{01} = -i_{e1} R_C = -\frac{\beta R_C}{1 + \beta} \frac{v_1 - v_2 \left( \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}} \right)}{\frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta} + \frac{R_E \left( \frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta} \right)}{R_E + \frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}}}$$

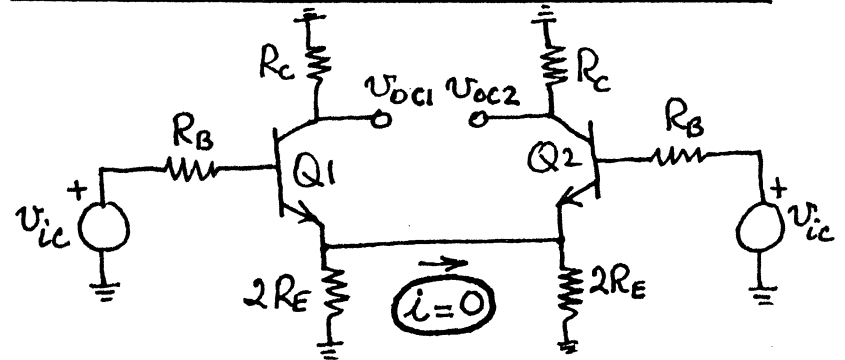
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$$v_{01} = -\left( \frac{\beta R_C}{R_B + 2r_{\pi}} \right) \frac{\left( v_1 - v_2 \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}} \right)}{\left( 1 + \frac{R_E}{R_E + \frac{R_B + 2r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}} \right)}$$

Method 3 Split the  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  inputs into their common-mode and difference-mode components.

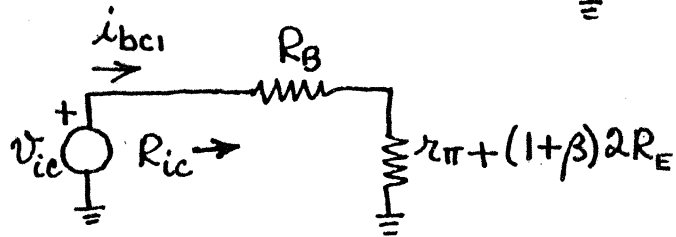
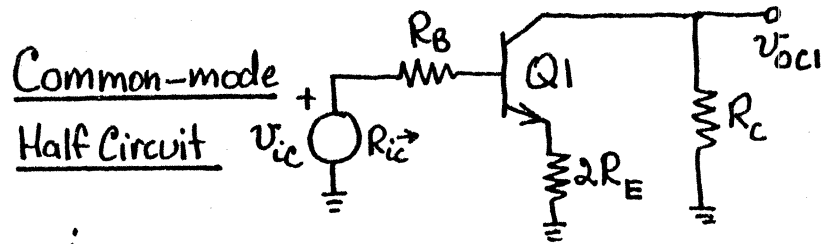
$$\left. \begin{aligned} v_1 &= \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} + \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} = v_{ic} + \frac{v_{id}}{2} \\ v_2 &= \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} - \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} = v_{ic} - \frac{v_{id}}{2} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} v_{ic} &= \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \\ v_{id} &= v_1 - v_2 \end{aligned}$$

Response due to the common-mode input



Because of the symmetry, the current in the wire connecting the emitters is zero.



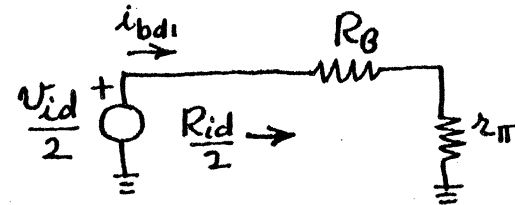
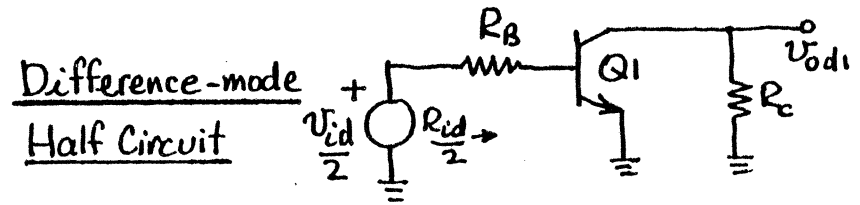
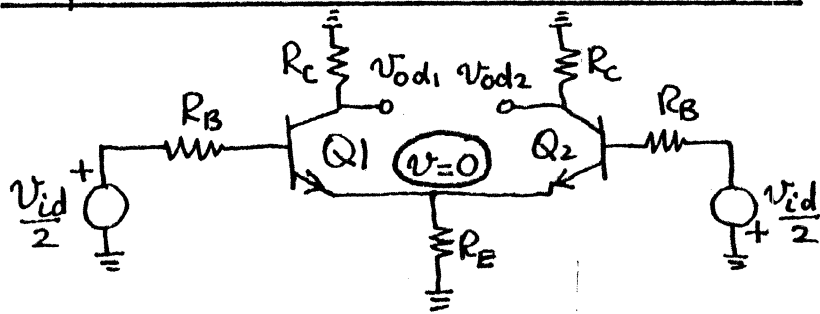


$$R_{ic} = R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) 2R_E \quad \text{common-mode input resistance}$$

$$v_{oci} = -\beta i_{bc1} R_C = -\frac{\beta R_C v_{ic}}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) 2R_E} = v_{oc2}$$

$$A_c = -\frac{\beta R_C}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) 2R_E} \quad \text{common-mode gain}$$

Response due to the difference-mode input



$$R_{id} = 2(R_B + r_{\pi}) \quad \text{differential-mode input resistance}$$

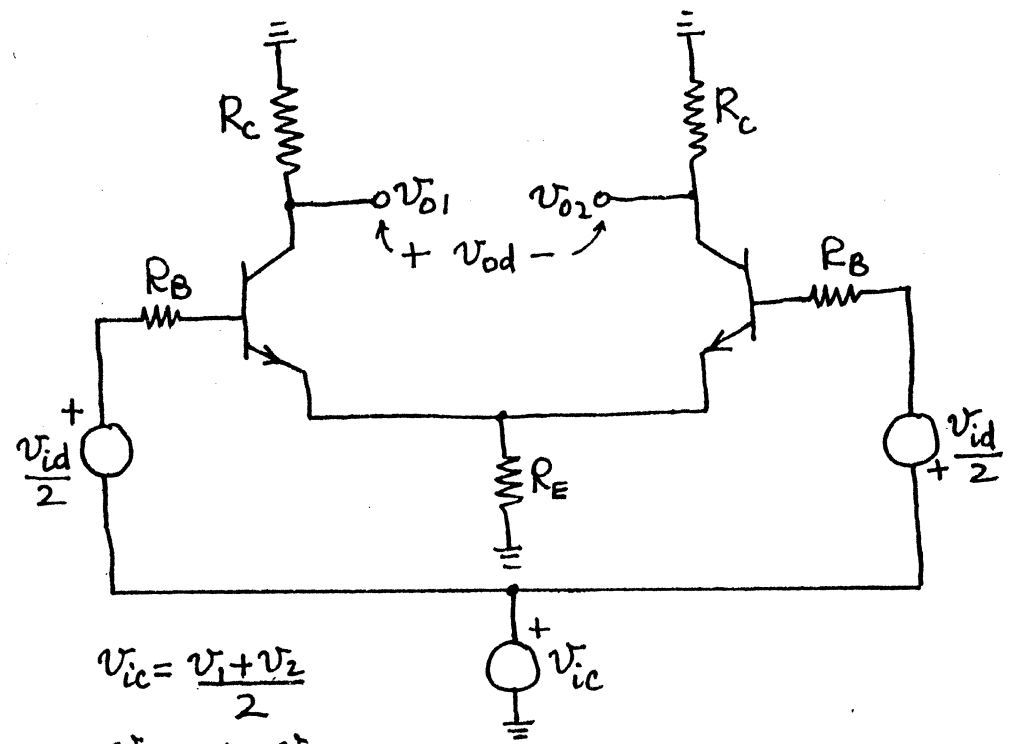
$$v_{odi} = -\beta i_{bd1} R_C = -\frac{\beta R_C v_{id/2}}{R_B + r_{\pi}} = -v_{od2}$$

$$A_d = -\frac{\beta R_C}{R_B + r_{\pi}} \quad \text{difference-mode gain}$$

Since  $R_E$  is very large (being the output resistance of a current source),  
 $R_{ic} \gg R_{id}$ ,  $|A_c| \ll |A_d|$ . Ideally ( $R_E = \infty$ ),  
 $R_{ic} = \infty$ ,  $A_c = 0$ .  $R_{id}$  and  $A_d$  are not dependent on  $R_E$ .

Putting common- and difference-mode responses together

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$$v_{ic} = \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2}$$

$$v_{id} = v_1 - v_2$$

$$v_{o1} = v_{oc1} + v_{od1} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{-\beta R_c}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)2R_E} \right]}_{A_c} v_{ic} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{-\beta R_c}{R_B + r_{\pi}} \right]}_{A_d} \frac{v_{id}}{2}$$

$$\begin{cases} v_{o1} = A_c v_{ic} + A_d v_{id}/2 \\ v_{o2} = A_c v_{ic} - A_d v_{id}/2 \end{cases}$$

The single-ended outputs  $v_{o1}$  and  $v_{o2}$  are not proportional to the difference signal.

$$v_{od} = v_{o1} - v_{o2} = A_d v_{id}$$

Common-mode rejection ratio = CMRR

$$CMRR = \left| \frac{A_d}{A_c} \right| = \frac{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1+\beta)2R_E}{R_B + r_{\pi}}$$

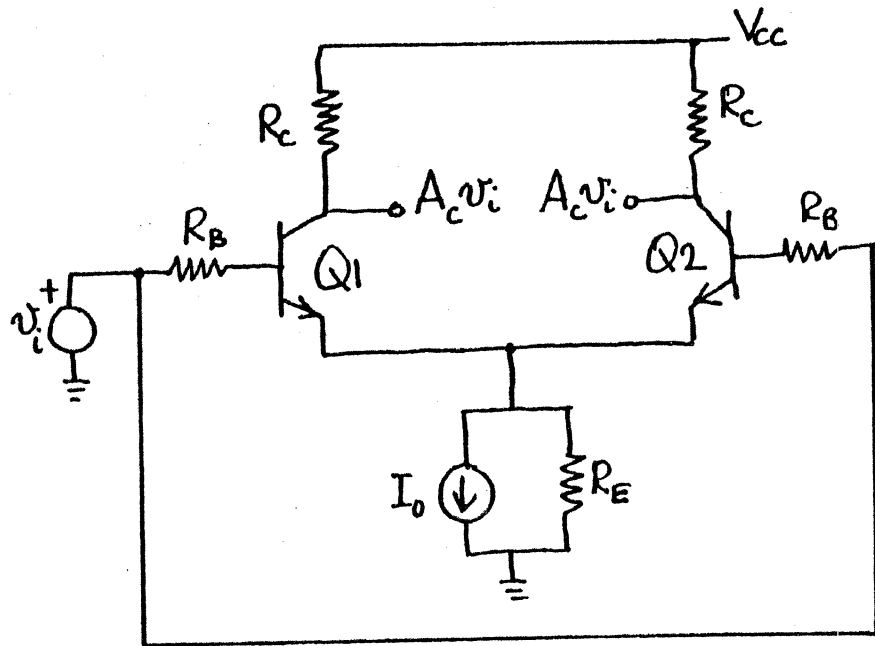
$$CMRR = 1 + \frac{(1+\beta)2R_E}{R_B + r_{\pi}}$$

$$CMRR \Big|_{R_B=0} \cong 2g_m R_E = 2 \frac{I_c R_E}{V_T} \cong \frac{I_o R_E}{V_T}$$

To increase CMRR, make  $R_E$  as large as possible. This is why a current source is used in the emitter. In cases where the attainment of a high CMRR is not such an important consideration, instead of the current source, a resistor  $R_E$  returned to a negative supply voltage,  $-V_{EE}$ , can be used. Then,  $I_o R_E \cong V_{EE}$  and hence

$$CMRR \Big|_{R_B=0} \cong \frac{V_{EE}}{V_T} \Big|_{V_{EE}=15V} = \frac{15 \times 10^3}{26} = 577$$

## Measurement of $A_c$



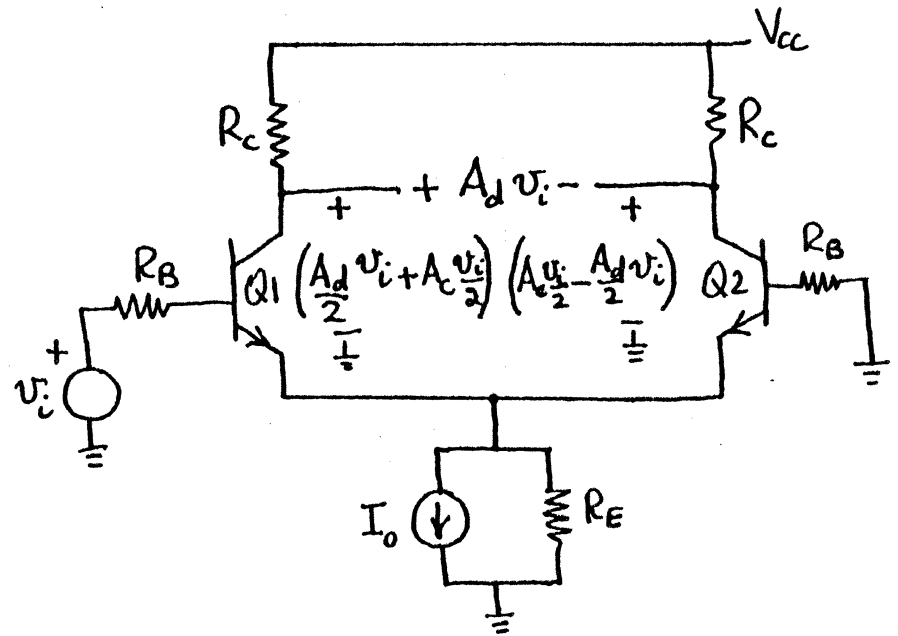
98

Source  $v_i$  sees  $\frac{R_{ic}}{2}$  where

$$R_{ic} = R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) 2R_E$$

$$A_c = \frac{-\beta R_C}{R_B + r_{\pi} + (1 + \beta) 2R_E}$$

## Measurement of $A_d$

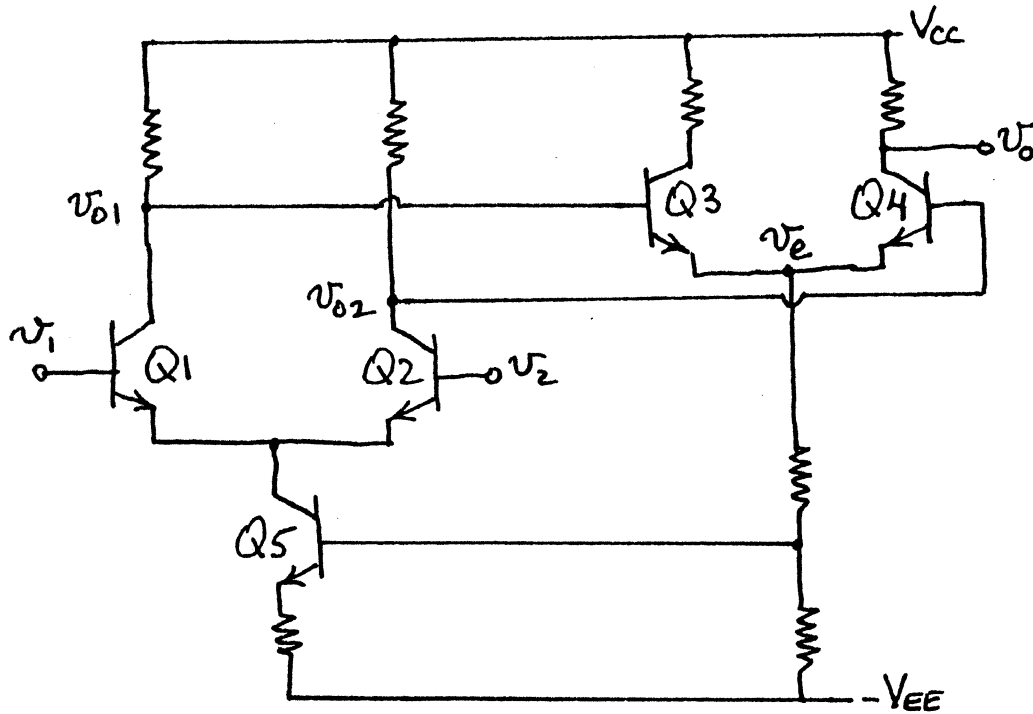


Source  $v_i$  sees  $R_{id}$  where

$$R_{id} = 2(R_B + r_{\pi})$$

$$A_d = \frac{-\beta R_C}{R_B + r_{\pi}}$$

## Common-mode feedback to improve CMRR



The feedback signal is derived from the common emitters of  $Q_3$  and  $Q_4$ . At this node, the voltage is proportional only to the common-mode component of the  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  input signals, and therefore feedback affects only the common-mode voltage. No difference-mode signal is fed back because  $v_e = 0$  for the difference-mode component of the input signals.

Let  $A_{c1}$ ,  $A_{d1}$  and  $A_{c2}$ ,  $A_{d2}$  represent the common- and difference-mode gains of the input ( $Q_1, Q_2$ ) and output ( $Q_3, Q_4$ ) differential amplifiers respectively. Let  $K_1$  represent the attenuation from the  $v_{01}$  output to mode  $e$  with  $v_{02} = 0$  (or from the  $v_{02}$  output to mode  $e$  with  $v_{01} = 0$ ). Let  $K_2$  represent the gain from mode  $e$  to  $v_{01}$  or  $v_{02}$  outputs. (We see, by inspection, that  $K_2 < 0$  and  $K_1 > 0$ .) The  $K_1 K_2$  product would then represent the loop gain.

The input stage is driven by three signals:  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ , and the feedback signal derived from  $v_e$ . Using the principle of superposition, the  $v_{01}$  and  $v_{02}$  outputs can be found.

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} v_{o1} &= A_{c1} \left( \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \right) + A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) + K_2 v_e \\ v_{o2} &= A_{c1} \left( \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \right) - A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) + K_2 v_e \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Since  $v_e = K_1(v_{o1} + v_{o2})$ , we obtain

$$v_e = K_1 \left[ A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2) + 2K_2 v_e \right]$$

$$v_e = \frac{K_1 A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2)}{1 - 2K_1 K_2}$$

Note that  $v_e$  is proportional to the common-mode signal only. Eliminating  $v_e$  in the expressions for  $v_{o1}$  and  $v_{o2}$ , we get

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} v_{o1} &= A_{c1} \left( \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \right) + A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) + \frac{K_1 K_2 A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2)}{1 - 2K_1 K_2} \\ v_{o2} &= A_{c1} \left( \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \right) - A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) + \frac{K_1 K_2 A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2)}{1 - 2K_1 K_2} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} v_{o1} &= \frac{A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2)}{2(1 - 2K_1 K_2)} + A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) \\ v_{o2} &= \frac{A_{c1} (v_1 + v_2)}{2(1 - 2K_1 K_2)} - A_{d1} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

The output  $v_o$  can now be expressed in terms of  $v_{o1}$ ,  $v_{o2}$ ,  $A_{c2}$ , and  $A_{d2}$ :

$$v_o = A_{c2} \left( \frac{v_{o1} + v_{o2}}{2} \right) - A_{d2} \left( \frac{v_{o1} - v_{o2}}{2} \right)$$

$$v_o = \underbrace{\frac{A_{c1} A_{c2}}{1 - 2K_1 K_2}}_{A_c} \left( \frac{v_1 + v_2}{2} \right) - \underbrace{A_{d1} A_{d2}}_{-A_d} \left( \frac{v_1 - v_2}{2} \right)$$

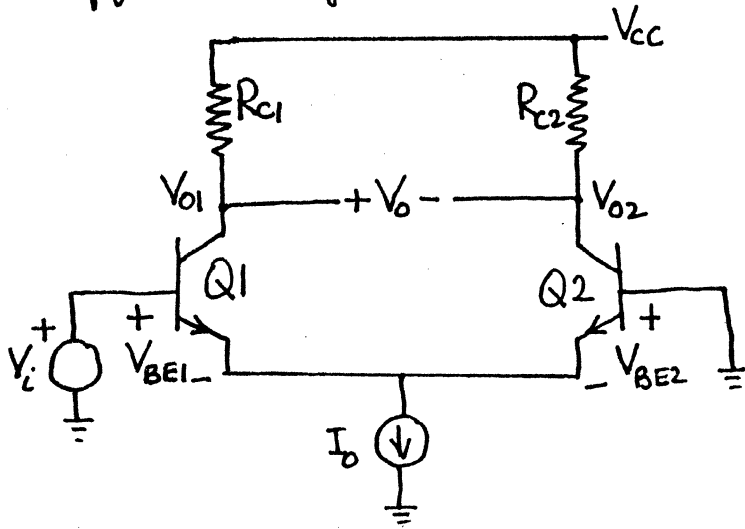
where  $A_c$  and  $A_d$  are the overall common- and difference-mode gains.

$$CMRR = \left| \frac{A_d}{A_c} \right| = \left( \frac{A_{d1} A_{d2}}{A_{c1} A_{c2}} \right) \underbrace{(1 - 2K_1 K_2)}_{\text{common-mode improvement factor}}$$

For  $K_1 K_2 = -4.5$ , CMRR is improved by 20dB (10:1).

# Mismatch effects in difference amplifiers

## 1. Offset voltage



Assume the CS to be ideal (as shown) and  $V_A = \infty$ . Let  $V_i = 0$ . Then, it follows that

$$V_{BE1} = V_{BE2} = V_{BE}$$

If  $Q1$  and  $Q2$  are matched perfectly, then the CS  $I_o$  will divide equally between  $Q1$  and  $Q2$  and  $V_{BE}$  <sup>and  $V_o$</sup>  will be given by  $V_{BE} \approx V_T \ln \frac{I_o/2}{I_s}$ ,  $V_o = 0$ .

However, it is impossible to have a perfect match. So, even though the two base-to-emitter voltages are the same,  $I_{C1} \neq I_{C2}$  because  $I_{S1} \neq I_{S2}$ . Mismatches in  $I_s$ 's are caused by mismatches in base widths, base and collector doping levels, and emitter areas. Furthermore  $R_{C1} \neq R_{C2}$  because it is impossible to construct two identical resistors. Mismatches in  $R_C$ 's are caused by differences in edge definitions when windows are cut. As a result of these imperfections, there will be an output voltage even though the two inputs are grounded ( $V_i = 0$ ).

$$V_o = V_{o1} - V_{o2} = (V_{CC} - I_{C1}R_{C1}) - (V_{CC} - I_{C2}R_{C2})$$

$$= I_{C2}R_{C2} - I_{C1}R_{C1}$$

$$= I_{S2} e^{V_{BE}/V_T} R_{C2} - I_{S1} e^{V_{BE}/V_T} R_{C1}$$

$$= e^{V_{BE}/V_T} (I_{S2}R_{C2} - I_{S1}R_{C1})$$

To make matters worse, this voltage is temperature dependent.  $V_0$  is also affected by the common-mode level of the two inputs which changes the base-to-collector voltages which in turn change the base widths and hence  $I_s$ 's.

Since this  $V_0$  caused by mismatches cannot be distinguished from the difference of the input signals that are being amplified, it sets a limit on the accuracy of the difference signal that can be detected.

The output caused by mismatches in  $I_s$ 's and  $R_c$ 's can be counteracted by introducing at the input a  $V_i$  that will drive the output to zero. This  $V_i$  is called the input offset voltage  $V_{os}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} V_i = V_{os} &= V_{BE1} - V_{BE2} = V_T \left( \ln \frac{I_{c1}}{I_{s1}} - \ln \frac{I_{c2}}{I_{s2}} \right) \\ &= V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_{c1}}{I_{c2}} \frac{I_{s2}}{I_{s1}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $V_0 = I_{c2}R_{c2} - I_{c1}R_{c1}$ , to make it zero requires that  $I_{c2}R_{c2} = I_{c1}R_{c1}$ . Hence,  $V_{os}$  can be expressed as

$$V_{os} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_{s2}}{I_{s1}} \frac{R_{c2}}{R_{c1}} \right)$$

Stated differently, the input must be offset by  $V_{os}$ , which causes the necessary difference in the two base-to-emitter voltages, to drive the output to zero.

Let  $I_{s1} = I_s$  and  $I_{s2} = I_s + \Delta I_s$ ,  $R_{c1} = R_c$  and  $R_{c2} = R_c + \Delta R_c$ . Then,  $V_{os}$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} V_{os} &= V_T \ln \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta I_s}{I_s} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \right) \\ &= V_T \left[ \ln \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta I_s}{I_s} \right) + \ln \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{\Delta I_s}{I_s} \ll 1$  and  $\frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \ll 1$ , the approx.

$\ln(1+x) \cong x$  can be used to obtain

$$V_{os} \cong V_T \left( \frac{\Delta I_s}{I_s} + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \right)$$

The offset voltage is proportional to the individual mismatches.  $\frac{\Delta I_s}{I_s}$  and  $\frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c}$  are random parameters that take on different values for each circuit that is fabricated. The worst situation arises when all changes are in the same sense:

$$V_{os} = V_T \left( \frac{|\Delta I_s|}{I_s} + \frac{|\Delta R_c|}{R_c} \right)$$

If we assume  $\frac{|\Delta I_s|}{I_s} = 0.05$  and  $\frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} = 0.01$ , then, at room temperature

$$V_{os} = 26(0.05 + 0.01) \approx \underline{1.5 \text{ mV}}$$

### Drift

To see how the offset voltage varies with temperature, we substitute

$V_T = \frac{kT}{q}$  in the expression for  $V_{os}$ .

$$V_{os} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_{s2}}{I_{s1}} \frac{R_{c2}}{R_{c1}} \right)$$

$$V_{os} = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{I_{s2}}{I_{s1}} \frac{R_{c2}}{R_{c1}} \right)$$

$I_s$ , as well as  $R_c$ , are temperature dependent too. However, ratios of  $I_s$ 's and  $R_c$ 's should be quite independent of temperature. Consequently,

$$\frac{dV_{os}}{dT} = \frac{k}{q} \ln \left( \frac{I_{s2}}{I_{s1}} \frac{R_{c2}}{R_{c1}} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{dV_{os}}{dT} = \frac{V_{os}}{T}}$$

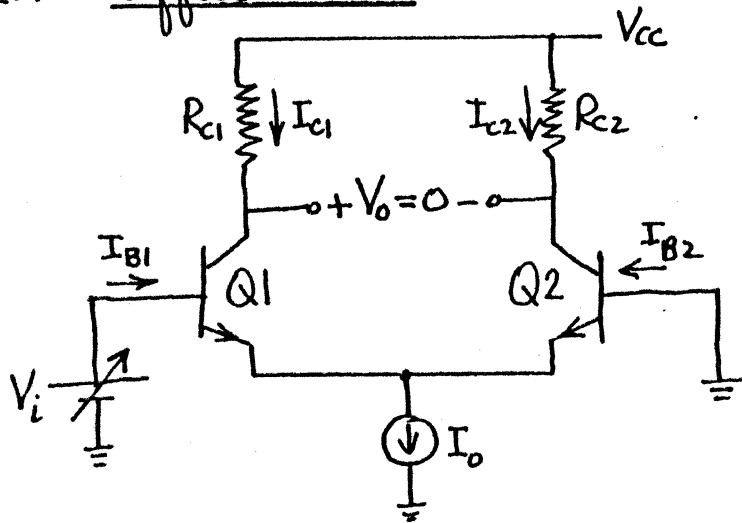
Note that the smaller  $V_{os}$ , the smaller the drift. For  $V_{os} = 1.5 \text{ mV}$  and  $T = 300^\circ \text{K}$ ,

$$\frac{dV_{os}}{dT} = \frac{1.5 \times 10^{-3}}{300} = 5 \mu\text{V}/^\circ\text{K} = 5 \mu\text{V}/^\circ\text{C}.$$

With careful designs, it is possible to achieve  $1 \mu\text{V}/^\circ\text{C}$ . This drift is to be compared against  $\frac{dV_{BE}}{dT} \approx -2 \text{ mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ . However, the <sup>two</sup>  $V_{BE}$  drifts in the differential amplifier cancel each other out in well-matched pairs.



## L14: 2. Offset current



Adjust  $V_i$  to make  $V_o = 0$ . By definition, the magnitude of this voltage is the offset voltage, i.e.,  $|V_i| = V_{os}$ .

The magnitude of the difference of the two base currents,  $|I_{B1} - I_{B2}|$ , when  $V_o = 0$  is by definition called the offset current  $I_{os}$ . The reason there is an offset current is because 1)  $I_{c1} \neq I_{c2}$  2)  $\beta_1 \neq \beta_2$ .

The reason  $I_{c1} \neq I_{c2}$  <sup>when  $V_o = 0$</sup>  is because  $R_{c1} \neq R_{c2}$ .  $I_{os}$  can be calculated as follows.

$$I_{os} = |I_{B1} - I_{B2}| = |I_{c1}/\beta_1 - I_{c2}/\beta_2|$$

Let  $I_{c1} = I_c$  and  $I_{c2} = I_c + \Delta I_c$ ,  $\beta_1 = \beta$  and  $\beta_2 = \beta + \Delta\beta$ . Then

$$I_{os} = \left| \frac{I_c}{\beta} - \frac{I_c + \Delta I_c}{\beta + \Delta\beta} \right| = \frac{I_c}{\beta} \left| 1 - \frac{1 + \Delta I_c/I_c}{1 + \Delta\beta/\beta} \right|$$

$$= \frac{I_c}{\beta} \left| \frac{\Delta\beta/\beta - \Delta I_c/I_c}{1 + \Delta\beta/\beta} \right| \approx \frac{I_c}{\beta} \left| \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} - \frac{\Delta I_c}{I_c} \right|$$

$|\frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta}| \ll 1$

Since  $V_o = 0$ ,  $I_{c1}R_{c1} = I_{c2}R_{c2}$ . Let  $R_{c1} = R_c$  and  $R_{c2} = R_c + \Delta R_c$ .

$$I_c R_c = (I_c + \Delta I_c)(R_c + \Delta R_c)$$

$$1 = \left(1 + \frac{\Delta I_c}{I_c}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c}\right)$$

$$0 = \frac{\Delta I_c}{I_c} + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} + \underbrace{\frac{\Delta I_c}{I_c} \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c}}_{\text{second-order effect, neglect}}$$

$$0 \approx \frac{\Delta I_c}{I_c} + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c}$$

$$I_{os} = \frac{I_c}{\beta} \left| \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \right| = \boxed{I_B \left| \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta} + \frac{\Delta R_c}{R_c} \right|}$$

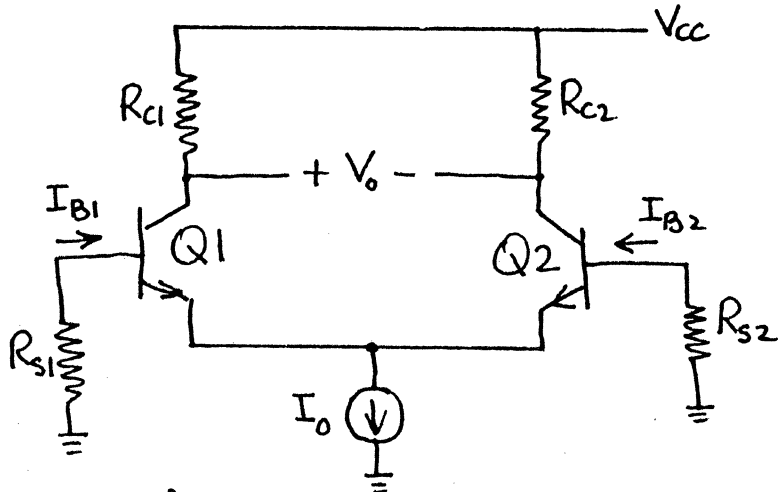
$$I_{os \text{ worst case}} = I_B \left( \frac{|\Delta\beta|}{\beta} + \frac{|\Delta R_c|}{R_c} \right)$$

The smaller  $I_B$ , the smaller  $I_{os}$ .

Typically  $\frac{|\Delta\beta|}{\beta} = 0.1$  and  $\frac{|\Delta R_c|}{R_c} = 0.01$ .

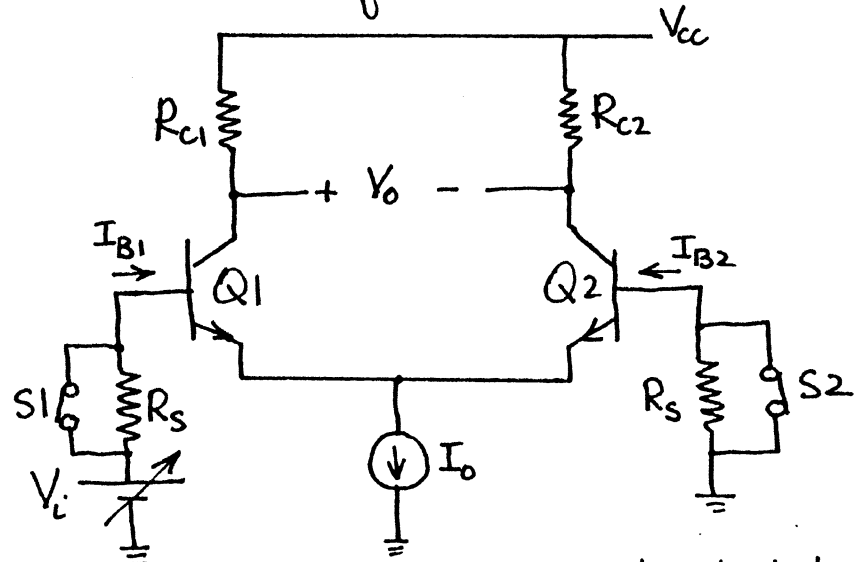
$$I_{os \text{ worst case}} = I_B(0.1 + 0.01) = 0.11 I_B$$

If the two sources are driven from sources of zero resistance,  $I_{os}$  has no effect on the output. However, the situation changes if there is a resistance in either base lead.



The unequal base currents flowing through unequal source resistances produce a differential voltage at the input which results in an error voltage. This is true even when the two source resistances are equal.

### Measurement of $V_{os}$ and $I_{os}$



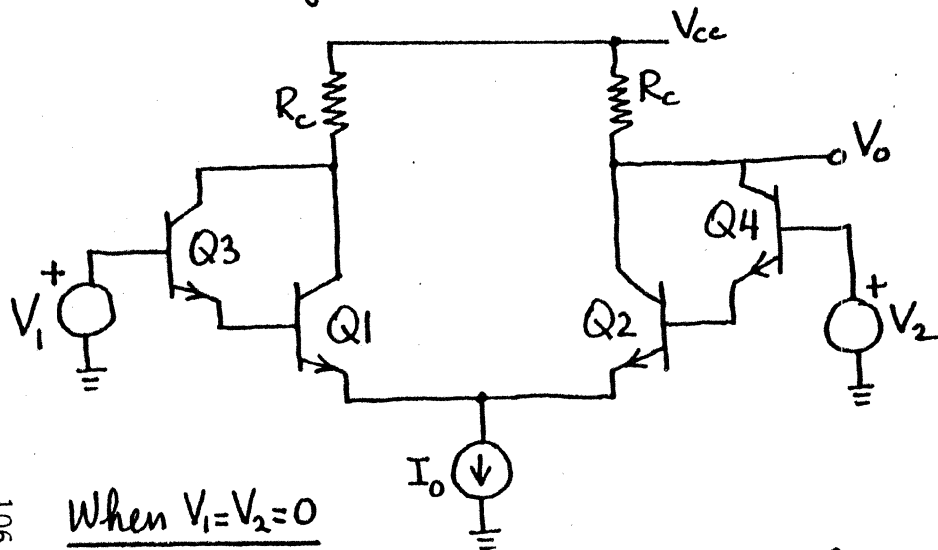
With  $S1$  and  $S2$  closed, adjust  $V_i$  to make  $V_o = 0$ . The resulting  $|V_i| = V_{os}$ .

If now  $S1$  and  $S2$  are opened  $V_o$  will change from 0 because of differential input voltage produced by the base currents. Readjust  $V_i$  to  $V_i'$  to make  $V_o$  zero again. The <sup>magnitude of the</sup> change in  $V_i$  is equal to the magnitude of  $(I_{B2} - I_{B1})R_s$ , i.e.,

$$|V_i' - V_i| = |V_i' - V_{os}| = |I_{B1} - I_{B2}| R_s = I_{os} R_s$$

$$I_{os} = \frac{|V_i' - V_{os}|}{R_s}$$

## Increasing the input resistance



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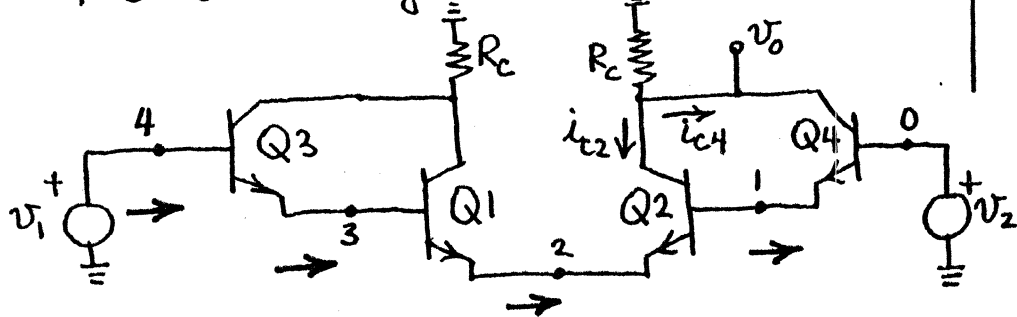
When  $V_1 = V_2 = 0$

$$I_{c1} = I_{c2} = \frac{I_0}{2} \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \quad I_{c3} = I_{c4} = \frac{I_0}{2} \frac{\beta}{(1+\beta)^2}$$

$$r_{\pi 1} = r_{\pi 2} = \frac{V_T}{I_{B1}} = \frac{\beta V_T}{I_{c1}} = \frac{2(1+\beta)V_T}{I_0}$$

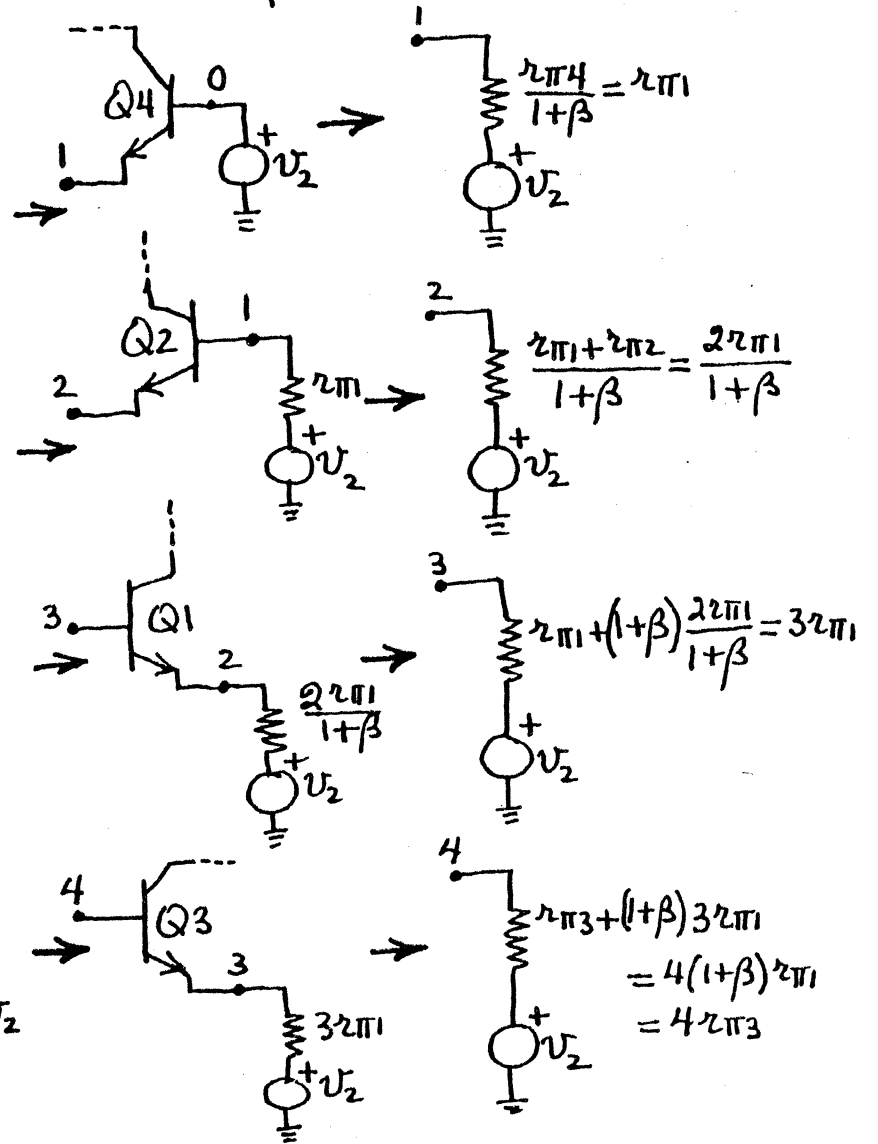
$$r_{\pi 3} = r_{\pi 4} = \frac{V_T}{I_{B3}} = \frac{\beta V_T}{I_{c3}} = \frac{2(1+\beta)^2 V_T}{I_0} = (1+\beta)r_{\pi 1}$$

The small-signal circuit is:

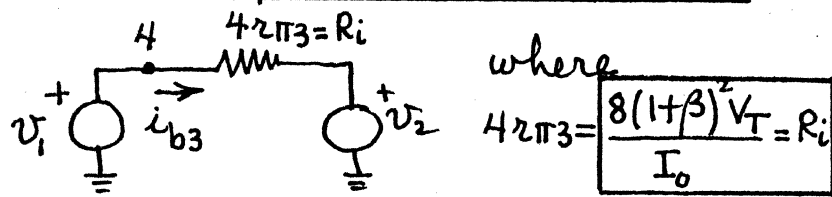


## What does source $v_1$ see?

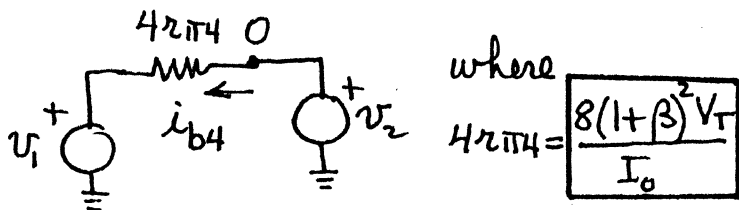
Moving from right to left, we obtain the successive equivalent circuits. Assume  $r_o = \infty$ .



The input equivalent circuit for  $v_1$  is:



The input equivalent circuit for  $v_2$  is

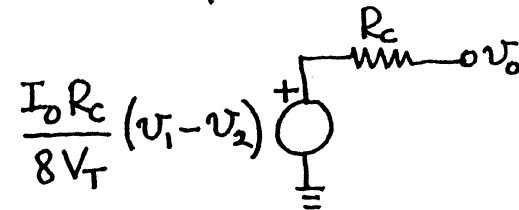


What is the output equivalent circuit?

By inspection of the small-signal circuit we see that

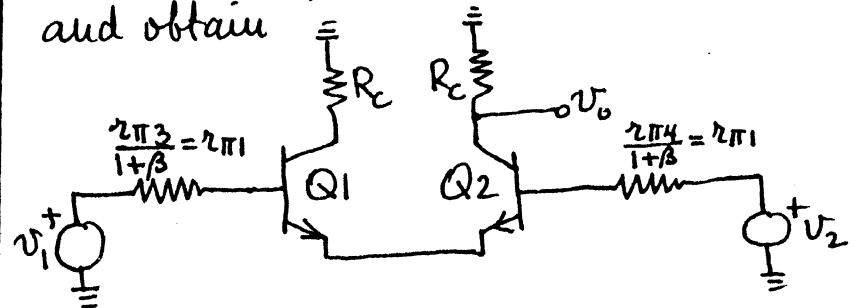
$$\begin{aligned} v_o &= -(i_{c4} + i_{c2}) R_c = -\beta R_c (i_{b4} + i_{b2}) \\ &= -\beta R_c [i_{b4} + (1+\beta)i_{b4}] = -\beta R_c (2+\beta)i_{b4} \\ &= -\beta(2+\beta) R_c \frac{(v_2 - v_1)}{4r_{\pi4}} \\ &= \frac{\beta(2+\beta)}{(1+\beta)^2} \frac{I_0 R_c}{8V_T} (v_1 - v_2) \approx \boxed{\frac{I_0 R_c}{8V_T} (v_1 - v_2)} \end{aligned}$$

The output equivalent circuit is:



Alternative derivation

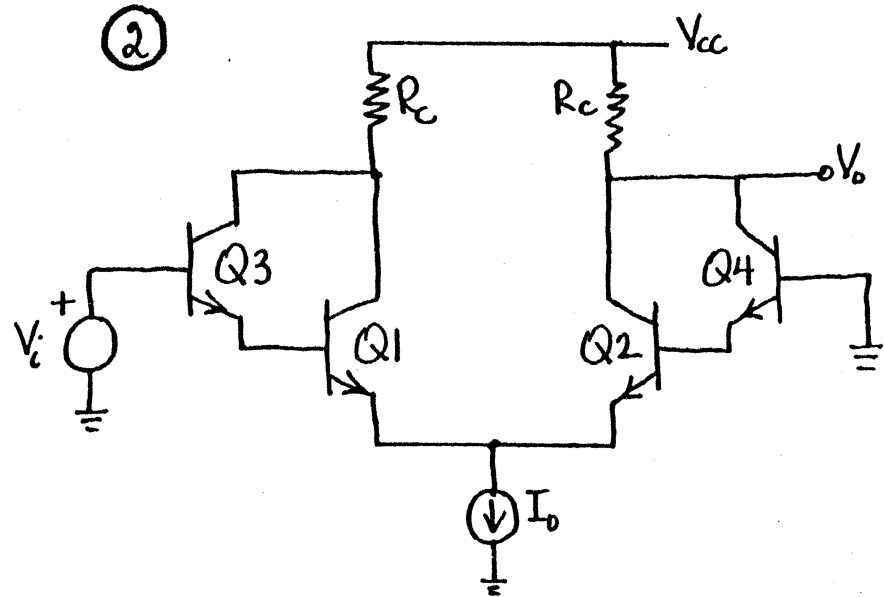
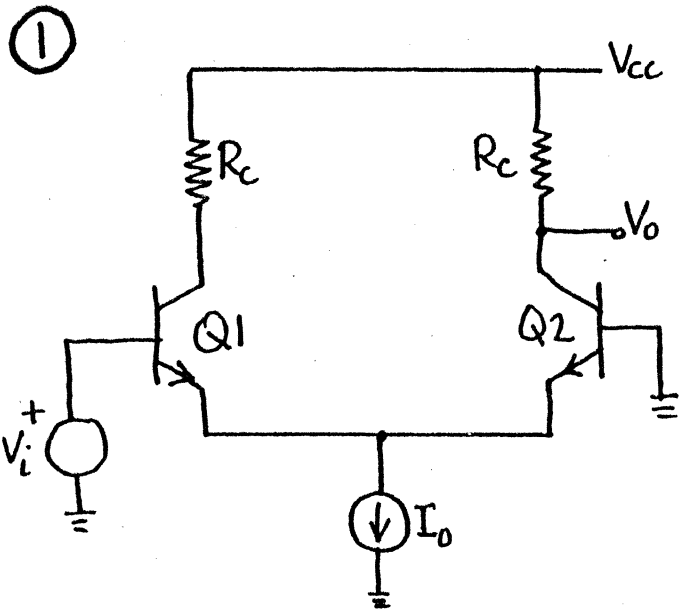
Since  $i_{c1} = (1+\beta)i_{c3}$  and  $i_{c2} = (1+\beta)i_{c4}$ , neglect  $i_{c3}$  relative to  $i_{c1}$  and  $i_{c4}$  relative to  $i_{c2}$ . Use the emitter equivalent circuits of  $Q_3$  and  $Q_4$  and obtain



Use the results presented on p94 with  $R_E = \infty$ ,  $R_B = r_{\pi1}$ ,  $r_{\pi} = r_{\pi1}$  and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} v_o &= \frac{\beta R_c}{R_B + r_{\pi}} \frac{(v_1 - v_2)}{2} = \frac{\beta R_c}{4r_{\pi1}} (v_1 - v_2) \Big|_{r_{\pi1} = \frac{2(1+\beta)V_T}{I_0}} \\ &= \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \frac{I_0 R_c}{8V_T} (v_1 - v_2) \approx \boxed{\frac{I_0 R_c}{8V_T} (v_1 - v_2)} \end{aligned}$$

# Comparing input resistance and gain



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$v_i$  sees a resistance of

$$R_{i1} = 2r_{\pi 1} = \boxed{\frac{4(1+\beta)V_T}{I_o}}$$

The gain is

$$A_{v1} = \frac{1}{2} g_m R_c = \boxed{\frac{I_o R_c}{4V_T}}$$

$v_i$  sees a resistance of

$$R_{i2} = 4r_{\pi 4} = \boxed{\frac{8(1+\beta)^2 V_T}{I_o}} = \underline{\underline{2(1+\beta) R_{i1}}}$$

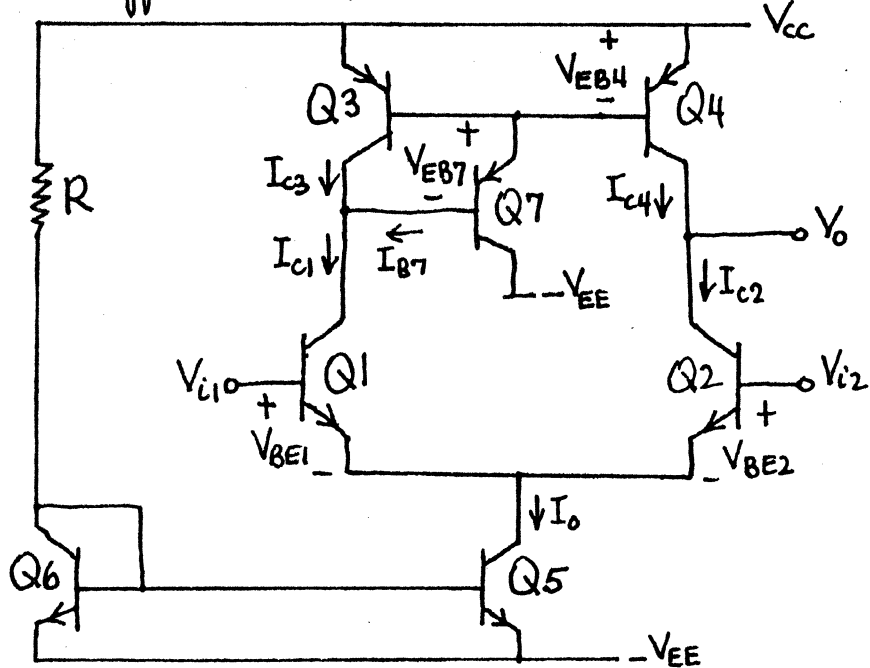
The gain is

$$A_{v2} = \boxed{\frac{I_o R_c}{8V_T}} = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2} A_{v1}}}$$

To prevent the transistors from saturating,  $\frac{I_o R_c}{2} < V_{cc} - V_{CEsat} + V_{BE}$  where  $V_{BE} \cong V_T \ln \frac{I_o/2}{I_s}$ .  
 Note that  $(I_o R_c)_{max} \cong 2V_{cc}$  (For  $V_{cc} = 15V$ ,  $A_{v1} \cong 300$ )

# A difference amplifier with active load

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Q1 and Q2 form the input of the differential amplifier. The emitter currents are supplied by the current source Q5 which is controlled by Q6. The load on the output transistor Q2 is the current source Q4 which is controlled by Q3. Q7 supplies the base currents for Q3 and Q4 through  $-V_{EE}$  while taking a negligibly small current  $I_{B7}$  away from the collector junction of Q1 and Q3.

If  $V_{i1} = V_{i2} = 0$ , Q1 matched to Q2, Q3 matched to Q4, and  $I_{B7} = 0$ , then we see by inspection that

$$V_O = V_{CC} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7}$$

Because  $I_{C7} \cong 2I_{B4} = \frac{2I_{C4}}{\beta} \Big|_{\beta=100} = \frac{I_{C4}}{50}$ , we would

expect  $V_{EB7} = V_{EB4} - 0.102$ .

Because mismatches in the saturation currents have such an important effect on the output level, we calculate  $V_O$  with  $V_{i1} = V_{i2} = 0$ . Then  $V_{BE1} = V_{BE2}$ .

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_{C1} &= I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right) \\ I_{C2} &= I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_O + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right) \\ I_{C3} &= I_{S3} e^{\frac{V_{EB4}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}}{V_{AP}} \right) \\ I_{C4} &= I_{S4} e^{\frac{V_{EB4}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_O}{V_{AP}} \right) \end{aligned} \right.$$

Note that it was assumed  $V_{A1} = V_{A2} = V_{AN}$  and  $V_{A3} = V_{A4} = V_{AP}$ . Also  $I_{B7}$  was assumed 0. Since  $I_{C1} = I_{C3}$  and  $I_{C2} = I_{C4}$ , we obtain

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right) &= I_{S3} e^{\frac{V_{EB4}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}}{V_{AP}} \right) \\ I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_O + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right) &= I_{S4} e^{\frac{V_{EB4}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_O}{V_{AP}} \right) \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\frac{I_{S1} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right)}{I_{S2} \left( 1 + \frac{V_O + V_{BE2}}{V_{AN}} \right)} = \frac{I_{S3} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}}{V_{AP}} \right)}{I_{S4} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_O}{V_{AP}} \right)}$$

Solving for  $V_o$ , we obtain

$$V_o \approx \frac{\left(\frac{I_{S1} I_{S4}}{I_{S2} I_{S3}} - 1\right) V_{AN} + \frac{I_{S1} I_{S4}}{I_{S2} I_{S3}} \left[ V_{CC} \left(1 + \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}\right) + V_{BE2} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} \right] - \left[ V_{BE2} + (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}) \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}} \right]}{1 + \frac{I_{S1} I_{S4}}{I_{S2} I_{S3}} \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}}$$

where terms divided by  $V_{AN} V_{AP}$  have been neglected. If mismatches in  $I_s$  are small,  $V_o$  can be approx. as

$$V_o \approx \frac{\left(\frac{I_{S1} I_{S4}}{I_{S2} I_{S3}} - 1\right) V_{AN} + \left[ V_{CC} \left(1 + \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}\right) + V_{BE2} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} \right] - \left[ V_{BE2} + (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}) \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}} \right]}{1 + \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}}$$

After dividing through, this expression simplifies to

$$V_o = \left(\frac{I_{S1} I_{S4}}{I_{S2} I_{S3}} - 1\right) \frac{V_{AN}}{1 + \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}} + \left[ V_{CC} - (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}) \right]$$

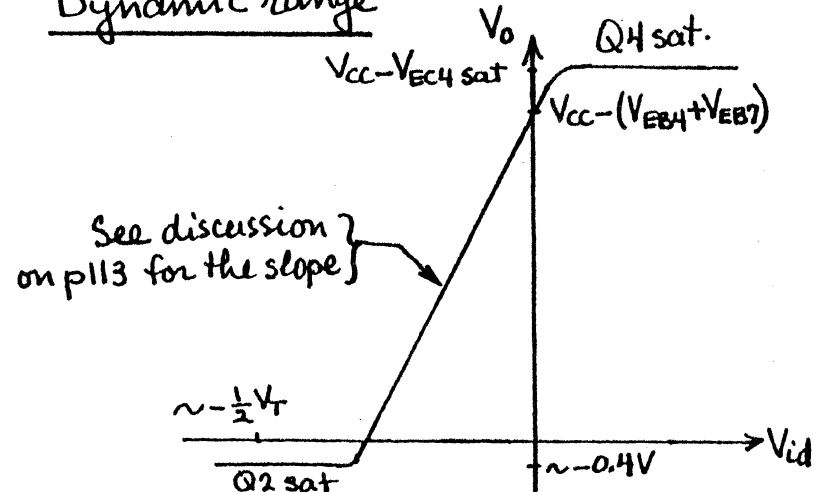
If there were no mismatch, i.e.,  $I_{S1} = I_{S2}$  and  $I_{S3} = I_{S4}$ , the first term in the above expression would be 0. However, even a small mismatch in  $I_s$ 's would cause a considerable change in the quiescent value of  $V_o$  because the mismatch term is multiplied by a large number, namely  $\frac{V_{AN}}{1 + V_{AN}/V_{AP}}$ . For example, for  $V_{AN} = 120V$ ,  $V_{AP} = 60V$  and  $\frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}} = (1.01)$  and  $\frac{I_{S4}}{I_{S3}} = (1.01)$ ,  $V_o$  becomes  $V_o = 0.8 + V_{CC} - (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7})$ .

It is interesting to note that the emitter current source  $I_o$  has negligible effect on the quiescent value of the output voltage. It influences only  $V_{EB4}$  and  $V_{EB7}$ . If the two halves of the

differential amplifier were perfectly matched, then the current produced by  $Q_5$  will divide evenly resulting in  $I_{C4} = \frac{I_o}{2}$ . Correspondingly

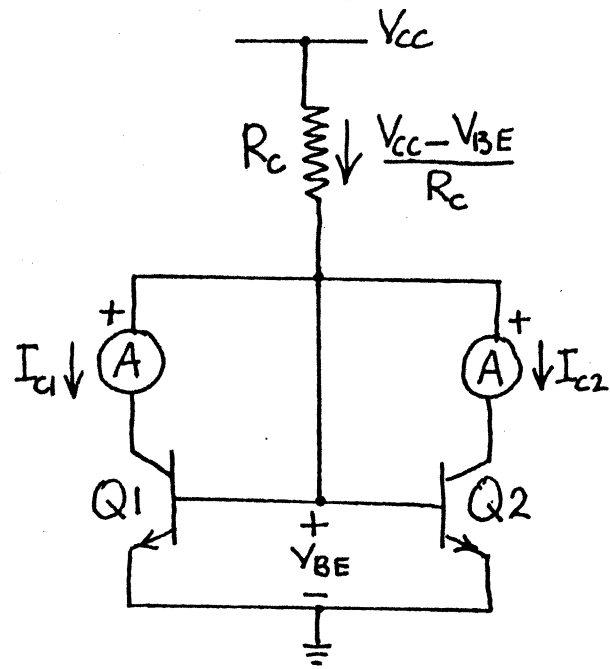
$$V_{EB4} \approx V_T \ln \frac{I_o/2}{I_{SP}}, \quad V_{EB7} \approx V_T \ln \frac{I_o/\beta}{I_{SP}} \\ = V_{EB4} - 0.102$$

Dynamic range



Since the collector currents remain essentially constant, the transistor parameters do not change appreciably. The result is a transfer curve that is quite straight

## Measurement of mismatch



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} I_{C1} = I_{S1} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_{A1}} \right) \\ I_{C2} = I_{S2} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}} \left( 1 + \frac{V_{BE}}{V_{A2}} \right) \end{array} \right\}$$

Even a 10% mismatch in  $V_A$ 's will hardly have an effect on  $I_C$ 's.

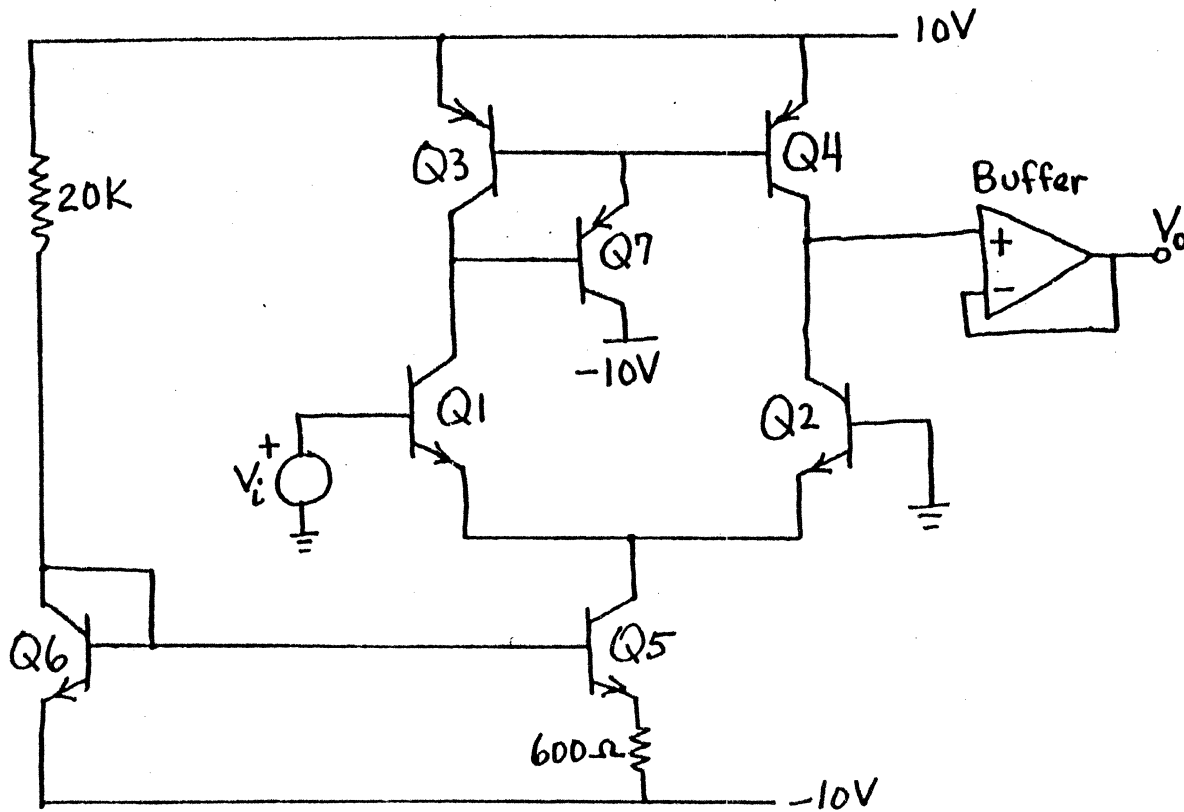
$$\boxed{\frac{I_{C1}}{I_{C2}} = \frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}}}$$

## Demonstration

1. Use ammeter readings to obtain the  $\frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}}$  ratio for an IC.
2. Show that the  $\frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}}$  ratio is independent of temperature and value of the collector current.
3. Repeat 1 and 2 for a discrete pair of transistors.



L15: Demonstration of differential amplifier with active load



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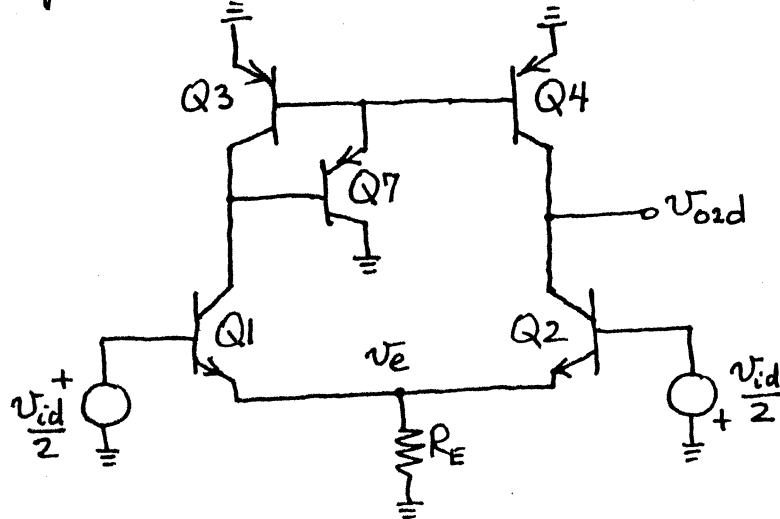
1. Display  $V_o$  vs  $V_i$  curve

2. With matched  $(Q_1, Q_2)$  and  $(Q_3, Q_4)$ ,  $V_o = V_{CC} - V_{EB4} - V_{EB7} \approx 10 - 0.6 - 0.5 = 8.9V$

3. A  $\pm 2\%$  mismatch in the  $I_{S1}/I_{S2}$  ratio will result in  $V_o \approx 8.9 \pm 0.8 = \begin{cases} 9.7V \\ 8.1V \end{cases}$

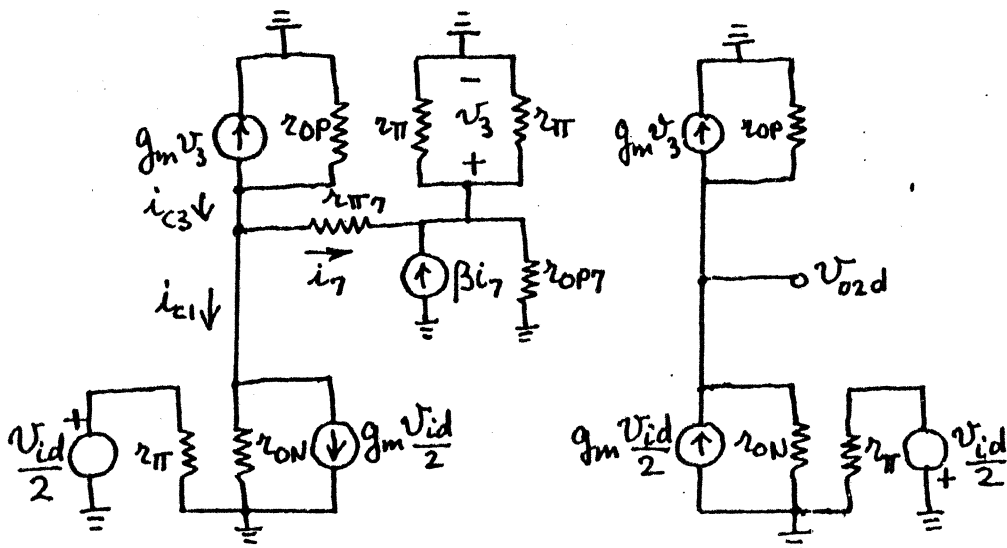
## Determination of the differential gain

In amplifiers having CS's as collector loads  $g_m$ ,  $r_{\pi}$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $r_o$  do not vary much with the operating point resulting in practically constant gain over the entire dynamic range. This gain can be calculated using the small signal model. (See also discussion on pp 83-86.)



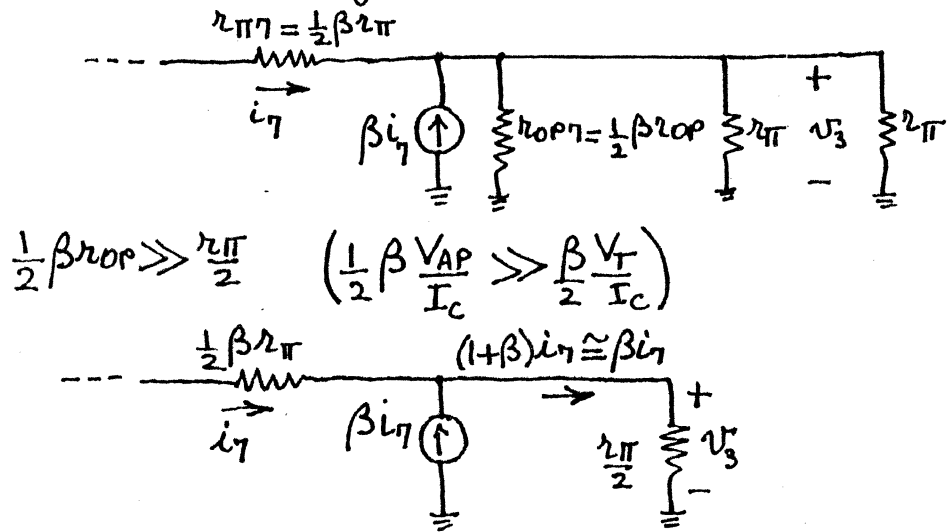
$R_E$  represents the output resistance of  $Q_5$  current source. Because  $I_{C1} \cong I_{C2} \cong I_{C3} \cong I_{C4}$ , no distinction will be made on the  $r_{\pi}$ 's and  $g_m$ 's of these transistors. They will be designated by  $r_{\pi}$  and  $g_m$ . The  $r_o$ 's of the NPN transistors will be designated by  $r_{on}$ ;

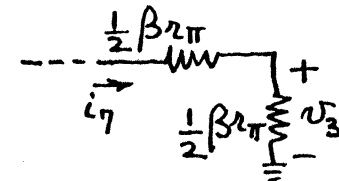
similarly  $r_o$ 's of PNP transistors will be designated by  $r_{op}$ . Although the  $r_o$ 's of the transistors rise slightly in value as the collector-to-emitter voltage varies from  $\sim 0$  to  $\sim V_{CC}$ , this second-order effect will be neglected. Since  $I_{C7} \cong \frac{2I_{C3}}{\beta}$ ,  $r_{\pi7} \cong \frac{\beta r_{\pi}}{2}$ . If the circuit were symmetric about a vertical line through its middle, the emitter voltage  $v_e$  would have been zero because of the difference-mode excitation. While the bottom half is symmetric, the top half is not. Nonetheless, if the  $r_o$ 's of the NPN transistors were infinite, the lack of symmetry in the collector circuits of  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  wouldn't have mattered because changes in the collector circuits would not then have any effect on the base and emitter circuits, and  $v_e$  would still have been 0. For  $r_{on} \neq \infty$ ,  $v_e$  will be slightly different from 0. Still, as long as  $r_{on}$  is large, to a first-order approx.  $v_e$  can be taken as 0, thus decoupling  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  at their emitters and in so doing removing altogether any effect of  $R_E$  on the differential gain.

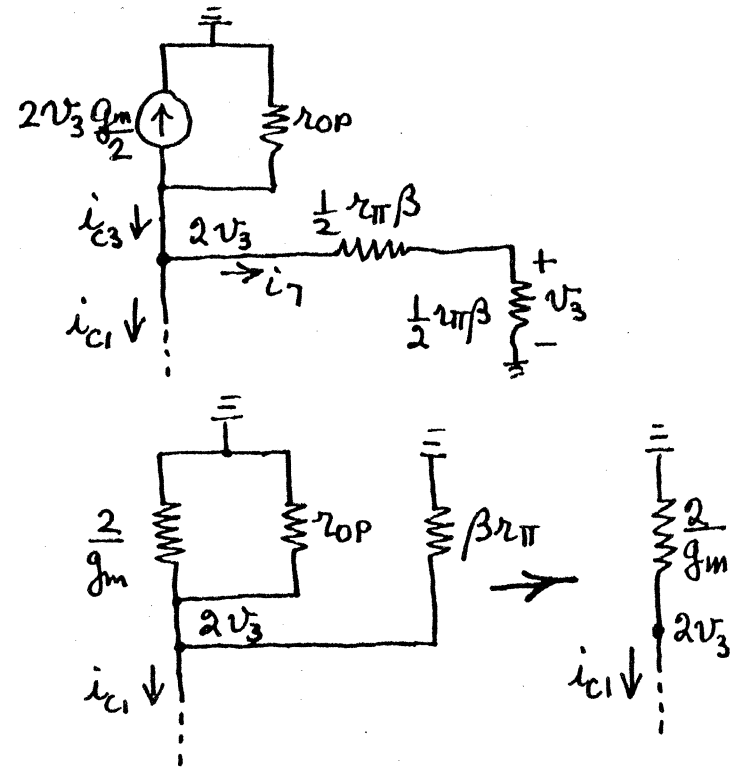


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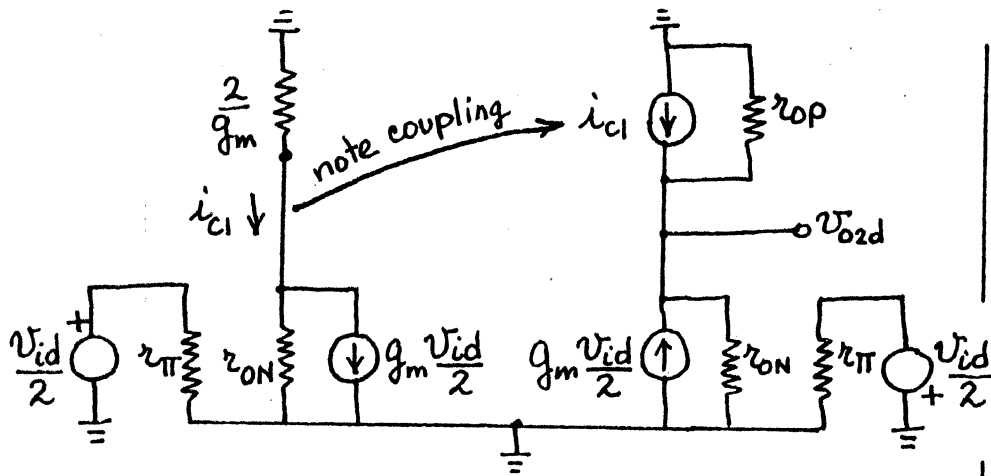
The portion of the circuit consisting of Q7 and the bases of Q3 and Q4 can be simplified.



  
 We now combine this result with the collector equivalent circuit of Q3.



$\frac{2}{g_m} \ll r_{OP} \quad \left( 2 \frac{V_T}{I_C} \ll \frac{V_{AP}}{I_C} \rightarrow 2 V_T \ll V_{AP} \right)$   
 $\frac{2}{g_m} \ll \beta r_{PI} \quad \left( 2 \frac{V_T}{I_C} \ll \beta^2 \frac{V_T}{I_C} \rightarrow 2 \ll \beta^2 \right)$   
 So  $2v_3 \approx -i_{c1} \frac{2}{g_m}$  and  $g_m v_3 \approx -i_{c1}$



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Since  $\frac{2}{g_m} \ll r_{ON}$ ,  $i_{c1} = g_m \frac{v_{id}}{2}$

$$v_{o2d} = \left( g_m \frac{v_{id}}{2} + i_{c1} \right) \frac{r_{ON} r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}} = g_m v_{id} \frac{r_{ON} r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}}$$

$$A_d = \frac{v_{o2d}}{v_{id}} = g_m \frac{r_{ON} r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}}$$

Using the approx.  $r_o = \frac{V_A + V_{CE}}{I_c} \approx \frac{V_A}{I_c}$ , we obtain

$$A_d \approx \frac{I_c}{V_T} \frac{\frac{V_{AN}}{I_c} \frac{V_{AP}}{I_c}}{\frac{V_{AN}}{I_c} + \frac{V_{AP}}{I_c}} = \frac{1}{V_T} \left( \frac{V_{AN} V_{AP}}{V_{AN} + V_{AP}} \right) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{See also} \\ \text{pp 85-86} \end{array} \right.$$

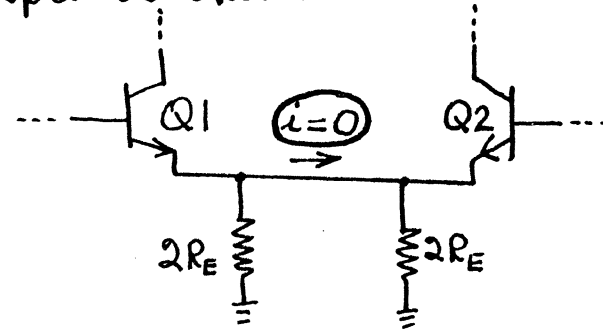
For  $V_{AN} = 120V$ ,  $V_{AP} = 60V$ , and  $V_T = 26mV$ , we get

$$A_d = \frac{1}{26 \times 10^{-3}} \frac{120 \times 60}{180} = \boxed{1538}$$

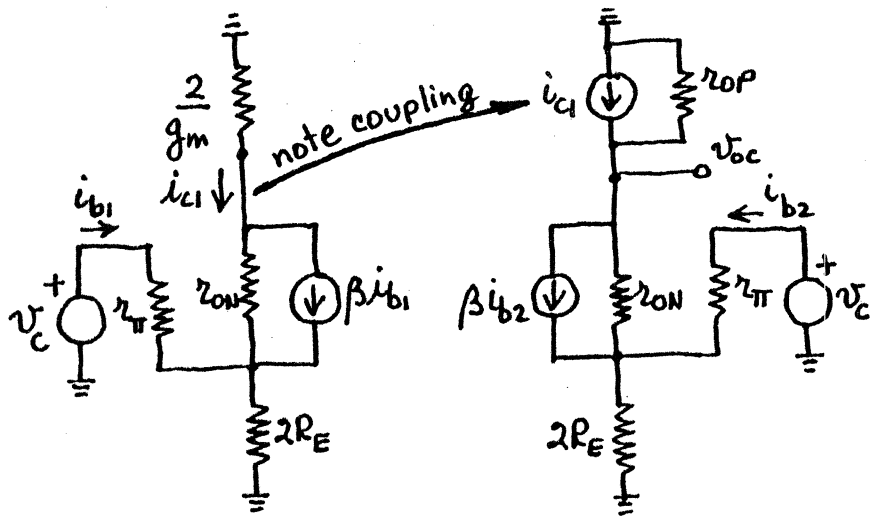
If we assume the  $v_{o2}$  vs.  $v_{id}$  curve to be a straight line (see p110) having a slope of 1538, then for  $V_{CC} = 15V$  it takes a  $v_{id}$  of  $\frac{15}{1538} V \approx 10mV$  to drive the output from 0 to 15V.

### Determination of the common-mode gain

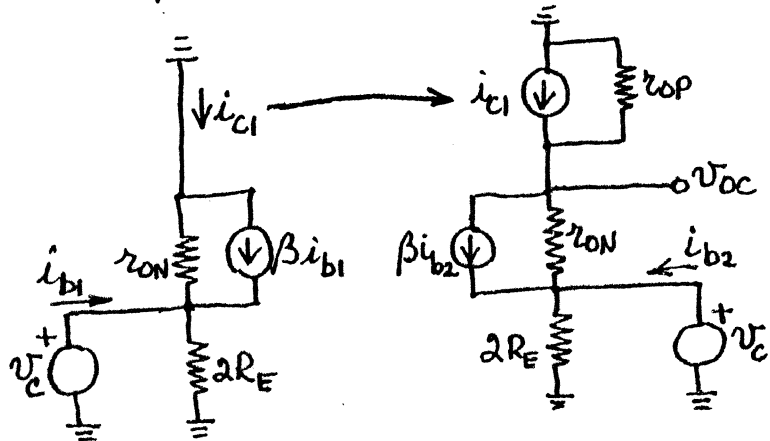
Again, even though the circuit is not symmetric, we can argue that the current between the emitters is 0 if the output resistance  $R_E$  of the Q5 current source is split as shown below.



The upper portion of the circuit consisting of  $Q_3$ ,  $Q_4$ , and  $Q_7$  can again be simplified to the equivalent circuits shown for the differential mode excitation in upper left column on this page. The resulting circuit is shown on next page.



Because  $r_{\pi}$  is so much smaller than the resistance following it, practically all of  $v_c$  appears at the emitters. Stated differently, letting  $r_{\pi}$  to equal zero does not adversely affect the responses of the circuit. Similarly the  $2/g_m$  resistor can be replaced with a short circuit. The result is



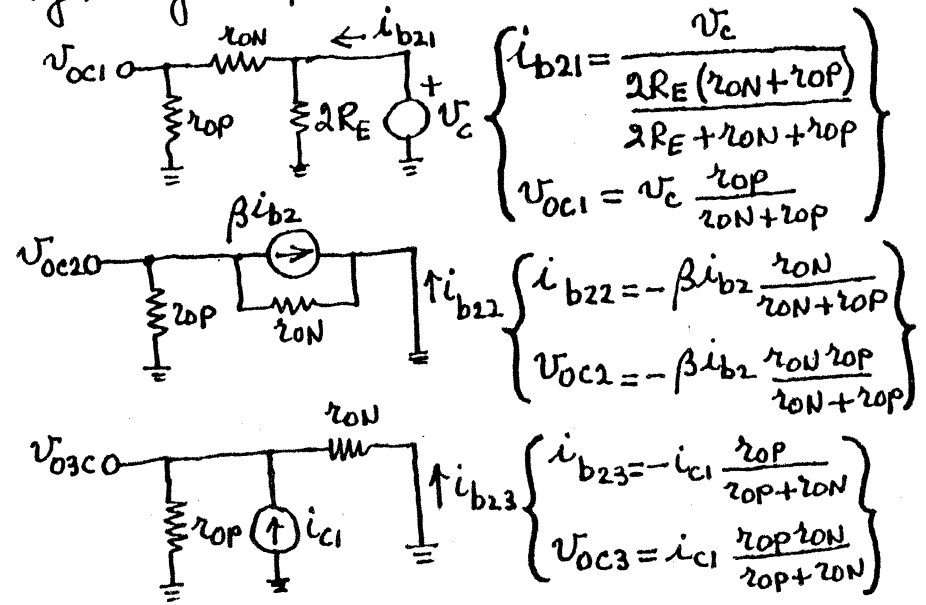
By inspection of the left half of the circuit we see that

$$\begin{cases} v_c = (1+\beta)i_{b1} \frac{r_{ON} 2R_E}{r_{ON} + 2R_E} \\ i_{c1} = \beta i_{b1} - \frac{v_c}{r_{ON}} \end{cases}$$

Solving for  $i_{c1}$  we obtain

$$i_{c1} = -v_c \left( \frac{1}{r_{ON}} - \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} \frac{r_{ON} + 2R_E}{r_{ON} 2R_E} \right)$$

The right half of the circuit will be solved by using the principle of superposition.



$$i_{b2} = i_{b21} + i_{b22} + i_{b23}$$

$$= \frac{v_c (2R_E + r_{ON} + r_{OP})}{2R_E (r_{ON} + r_{OP})} - \frac{\beta i_{b2} r_{ON}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}} - \frac{i_{c1} r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}} \quad (1)$$

$$v_{oc} = v_{oc1} + v_{oc2} + v_{oc3}$$

$$= \frac{v_c r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}} - \frac{\beta i_{b2} r_{ON} r_{OP}}{r_{ON} + r_{OP}} + \frac{i_{c1} r_{OP} r_{ON}}{r_{OP} + r_{ON}} \quad (2)$$

Substitute for  $i_{c1}$  in the first equation and solve for  $i_{b2}$ . Using this  $i_{b2}$  and  $i_{c1}$ , solve the second equation for  $v_{oc}$ . The result is

$$\boxed{v_{oc} = 0}$$

It should be emphasized that no algebraic approximations were made in arriving at this remarkable result. Note that the zero output is independent of the output resistance of the current source transistor Q5. Consequently the common-mode-rejection-ratio of this amplifier would be infinite.

## Offset voltage calculation

The expression for the quiescent value of the output with both input bases grounded was derived on p110. It is reproduced here for convenience.

$$V_o = \underbrace{\left( \frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}} \frac{I_{S4}}{I_{S3}} - 1 \right)}_{\text{Offset output voltage caused by saturation current mismatches}} \frac{V_{AN}}{1 + \frac{V_{AN}}{V_{AP}}} + \left[ V_{CC} - (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7}) \right]$$

Offset output voltage caused by saturation current mismatches

The expression for the differential-mode gain  $A_{vds}$  was derived on p115 and is reproduced here for convenience.

$$A_d = \frac{1}{V_T} \frac{V_{AN} V_{AP}}{V_{AN} + V_{AP}}$$

To drive the output to its quiescent value (under perfectly matched conditions) of  $V_{CC} - (V_{EB4} + V_{EB7})$  requires that an offset voltage be introduced at the input of

the differential amplifier. This voltage can be obtained by dividing the output offset voltage with the differential gain.

$$V_{os} = \frac{\left(\frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}} \frac{I_{S4}}{I_{S3}} - 1\right) \left(\frac{V_{AN} V_{AP}}{V_{AN} + V_{AP}}\right)}{\frac{1}{V_T} \left(\frac{V_{AN} V_{AP}}{V_{AN} + V_{AP}}\right)}$$

$$V_{os} = V_T \left[ \left(\frac{I_{S1}}{I_{S2}}\right) \left(\frac{I_{S4}}{I_{S3}}\right) - 1 \right]$$

To simplify, let  $I_{S2} = I_{SN}$ ,  $I_{S1} = I_{SN} + \Delta I_{SN}$ ,  $I_{S3} = I_{SP}$ ,  $I_{S4} = I_{SP} + \Delta I_{SP}$ . Then

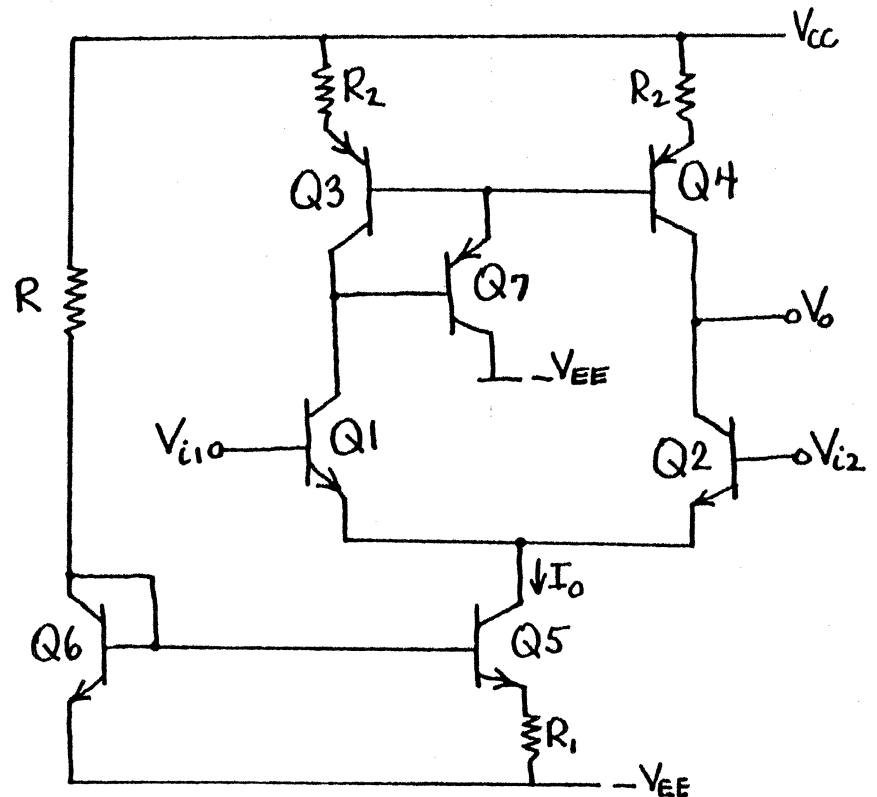
$$V_{os} = V_T \left[ \left(1 + \frac{\Delta I_{SN}}{I_{SN}}\right) \left(1 + \frac{\Delta I_{SP}}{I_{SP}}\right) - 1 \right]$$

$$V_{os} \cong V_T \left( \frac{\Delta I_{SN}}{I_{SN}} + \frac{\Delta I_{SP}}{I_{SP}} \right)$$

$$V_{os \text{ worst case}} = V_T \left( \frac{|\Delta I_{SN}|}{I_{SN}} + \frac{|\Delta I_{SP}|}{I_{SP}} \right)$$

If saturation current mismatches can be held within 1%, then  $V_{os \text{ worst case}} \leq 0.52 \text{ mV}$ . It would take an input voltage of  $\pm 0.52 \text{ mV}$  to drive the output to 0.

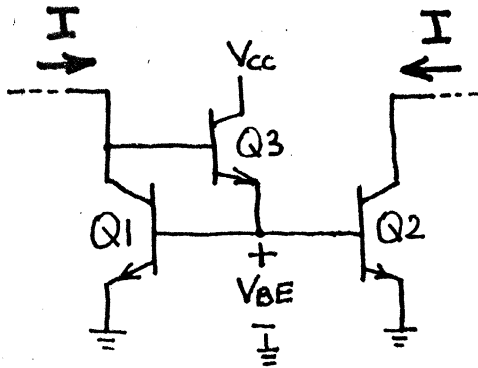
## Improving the circuit further



$R_1$  allows us to use a smaller  $R$  to establish  $I_0$ . Also it makes the output resistance of Q5 higher (see also discussion presented on pp 71-72).

$R_2$  forces a better match of the collector currents of Q3 and Q4. <sup>(see also pp 64-65)</sup> It also makes the output resistance of Q4 (active load) higher thereby increasing the differential gain.

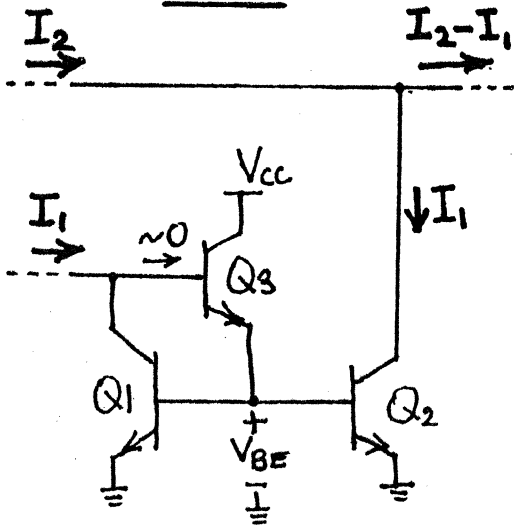
A current mirror



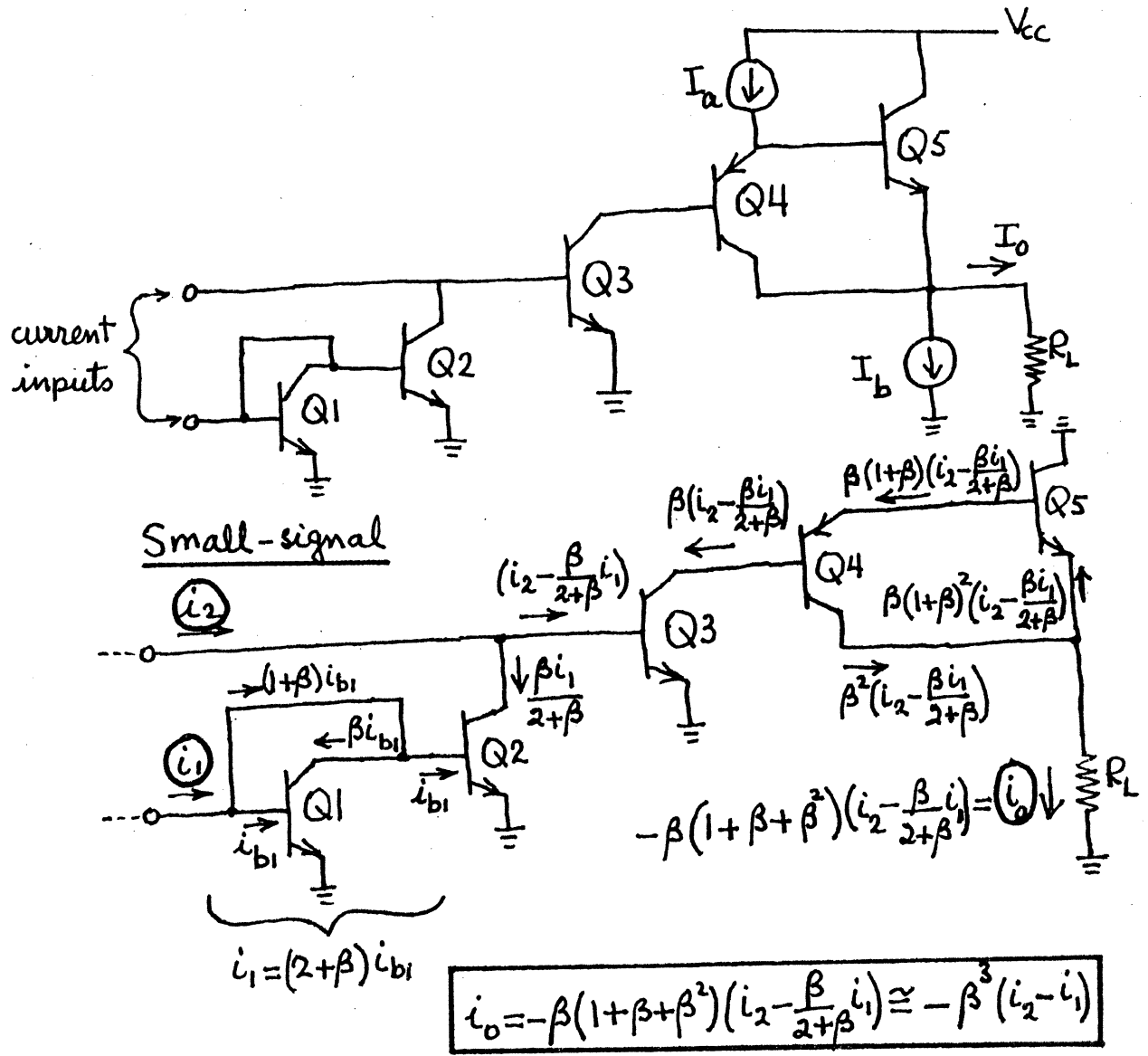
If  $I_{B3}$  is neglected,  $I_{C1} = I_{C2}$  as shown

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A current differencing circuit



A current difference amplifier using a single supply

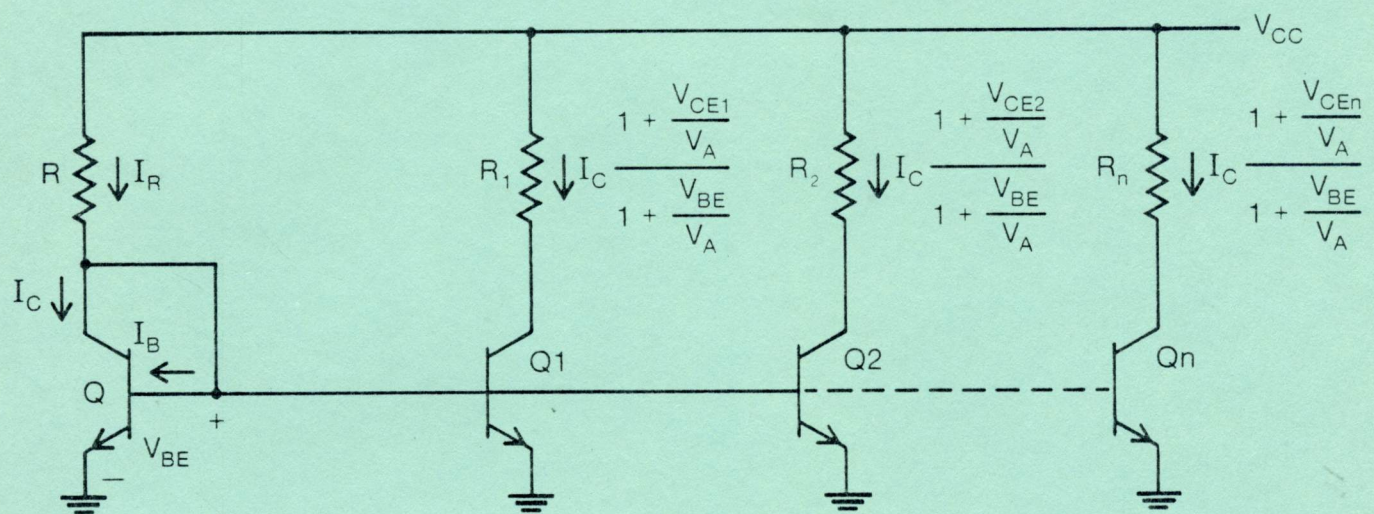




A Self Study Subject

# FUNDAMENTALS & APPLICATIONS OF ANALOG INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

## PART I LOW FREQUENCY ANALYSIS & DESIGN



Study Guide  
for

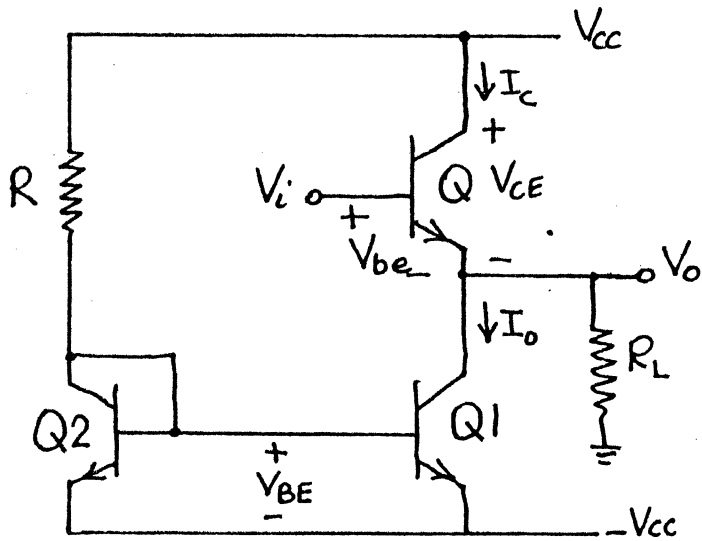
## MODULE D Class A, B, & AB Output Stages & the $\mu$ A741 Operational Amplifier



Colorado State University  
Engineering Renewal  
& Renewal & Growth Program

Aram Budak

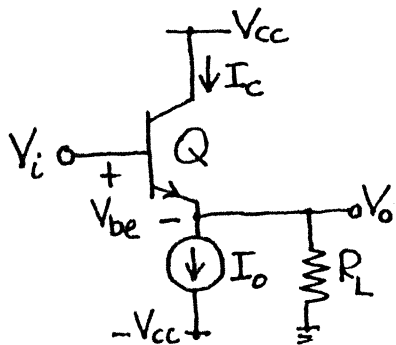
16: Class-A emitter-follower output stage



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$$I_0 = \frac{2V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R}$$

$V_A$  assumed  $\infty$ .  
Q1 and Q2 matched.



$$V_0 = V_i - V_{be}$$

$$= V_i - V_T \ln \frac{I_c}{I_s}$$

$$I_c \cong I_e = I_0 + \frac{V_0}{R_L}$$

$$V_0 = V_i - V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_0 + \frac{V_0}{R_L}}{I_s} \right)$$

$$V_0 = V_i - V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s} \left( 1 + \frac{V_0}{I_0 R_L} \right) = V_i - \underbrace{V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s}}_{V_{BE}} - V_T \ln \left( 1 + \frac{V_0}{I_0 R_L} \right)$$

where  $V_{BE} = V_{be}$  when  $V_0 = 0$

$$V_0 = V_i - V_{BE} - V_T \ln \left( 1 + \frac{V_0}{I_0 R_L} \right)$$

$$I_c = I_0 + \frac{V_0}{R_L}$$

As  $V_i$  increases  $V_0$  and  $I_c$  increase until either Q gets sat. (at which time  $V_0 = V_{CC} - V_{CESat}$ ) or maximum allowable current  $I_{cmax}$  for Q is reached (at which time  $V_0 = (I_{cmax} - I_0)R_L$ ).

As  $V_i$  decreases  $V_0$  and  $I_c$  decrease until either Q gets cut off (at which time  $V_0 = -I_0 R_L$ ) or the current source transistor Q1 gets sat (at which time  $V_0 = -V_{CC} + V_{CESat}$ ).

$V_0$  vs.  $V_i$ ,  $I_c$  vs.  $V_i$ , and  $I_c$  vs.  $V_{CE}$  curves

There are 3 cases (excluding the  $I_{cmax}$  limitation).

- Q gets cut off and Q1 gets sat. for the same negative value of  $V_i$ . This requires that  $V_0 = -I_0 R_L = -V_{CC} + V_{CESat}$

$$I_0 R_L = V_{CC} - V_{CESat}$$

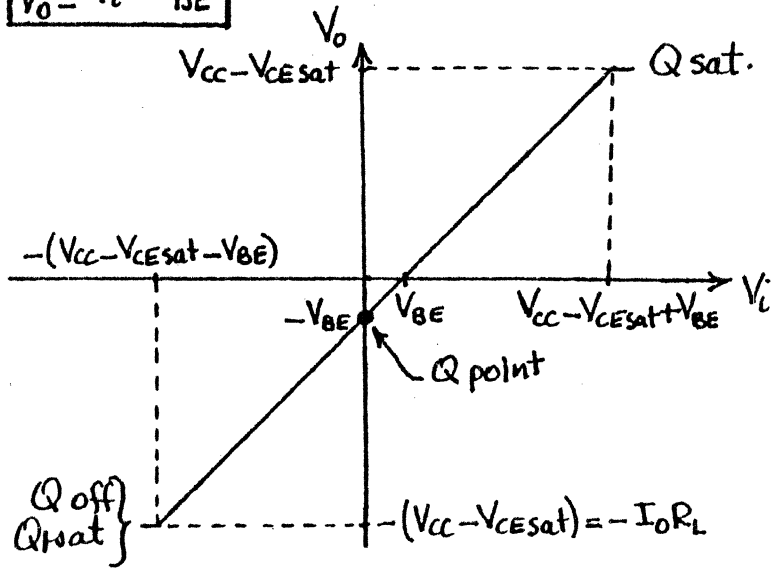
a) The  $V_o$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

$$V_o = V_i - V_{BE} - V_T \ln\left(1 + \frac{V_o}{I_0 R_L}\right)$$

$$= V_i - V_{BE} - V_T \ln\left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}\right)$$

The logarithmic term is negligible.

$$V_o \approx V_i - V_{BE}$$



Error caused by neglected log. term.

$$-V_T \ln\left(1 + \frac{V_o}{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}\right) = \begin{cases} V_o = V_{CC} - V_{CEsat} = -V_T \ln 2 = -18\text{mV} \\ V_o = -.99(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}) = -V_T \ln 0.01 = 120\text{mV} \end{cases}$$

Since  $I_c = I_s e^{V_{BE}/V_T}$  [instead of the more accurate expres-

sion of  $I_c = I_s (e^{V_{BE}/V_T} - 1)$ ] cutoff is achieved only when  $V_{BE} = -\infty$  which requires  $V_i = -\infty$ . This is why we consider it adequate for  $V_o$  to be at 99% of its cutoff value.

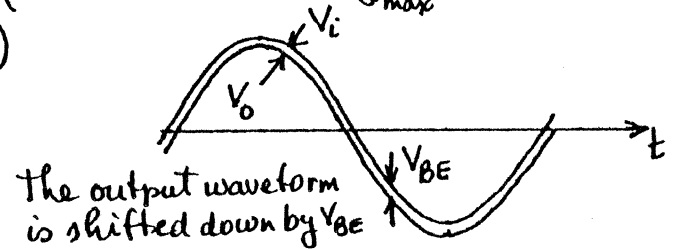
Note that the error is negligible even when it assumes its greatest magnitude at the extreme ends of the linear curve.

Remarks 1) If  $V_i = V_m \sin \omega t$ , it takes a <sup>slightly</sup> smaller  $V_m$  to sat Q1 than to sat Q or stated differently the upper limit on  $V_m$  is set by the saturation of the current source Q1.

(to sat Q.)  
2) To get  $V_{o\max} = V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}$ ,  $V_i$  needs to swing to  $V_{CC} - V_{CEsat} + V_{BE}$  which is larger than  $V_{CC}$ . This will be impossible to achieve if the driver stage producing  $V_i$  is itself supplied by the same  $V_{CC}$ .

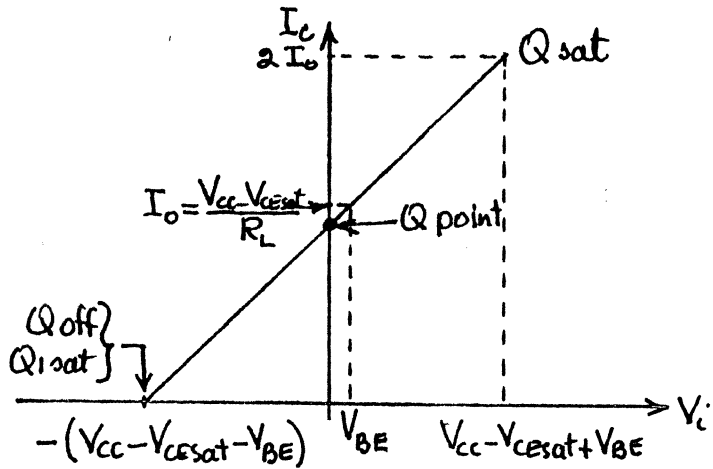
3) (Peak-to-peak swing) =  $2(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}) \approx \boxed{2V_{CC}}$

4)



b) The  $I_c$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

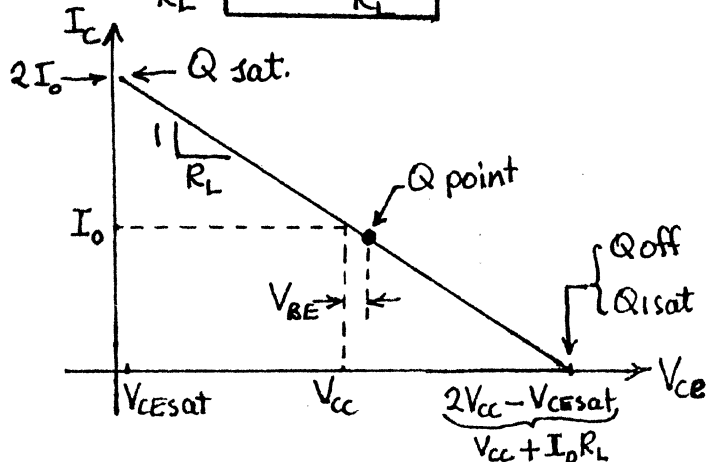
$$I_c = I_0 + \frac{V_0}{R_L} \approx \boxed{I_0 + \frac{V_i - V_{BE}}{R_L}}$$



(Peak-to-peak swing of  $I_c$ ) =  $\boxed{2I_0}$ <sub>max</sub>

c) The  $I_c$  vs  $V_{CE}$  curve - the load line

$$I_c = I_0 + \frac{V_0}{R_L} = \boxed{I_0 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CE}}{R_L}}$$



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If we assume  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} V_{BE} \approx 0 \\ V_{CESat} \approx 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$ , a maximum peak-to-peak sinusoidal  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{current swing of } 2I_0 \\ \text{voltage swing of } 2V_{CC} \end{matrix} \right\}$  can be obtained about the Q-point.

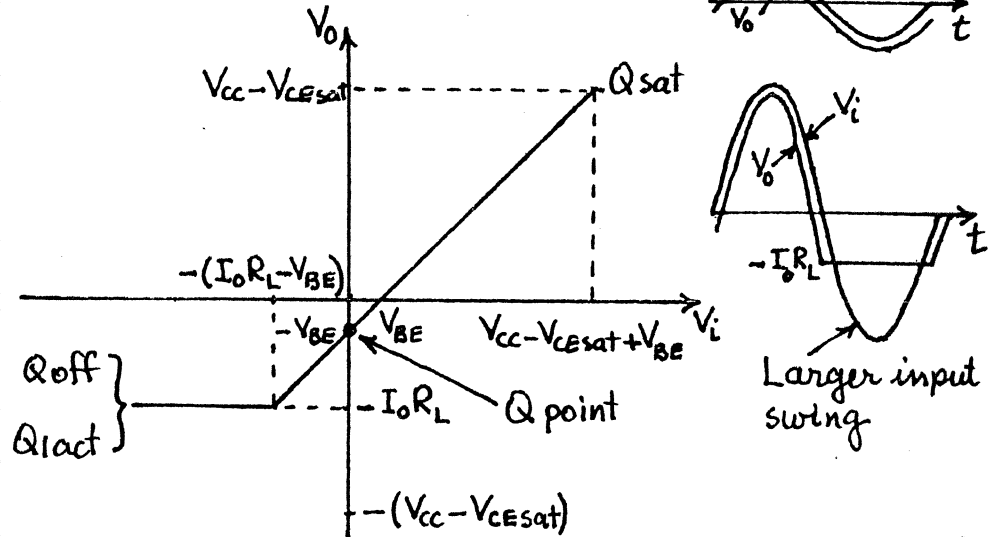
② Q gets cutoff for some negative value of  $V_i$  while Q1 remains active. This requires that

$$\boxed{I_0 R_L < V_{CC} - V_{CESat}}$$

occurs when  $I_0$  or  $R_L$  or both are small

a) The  $V_0$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

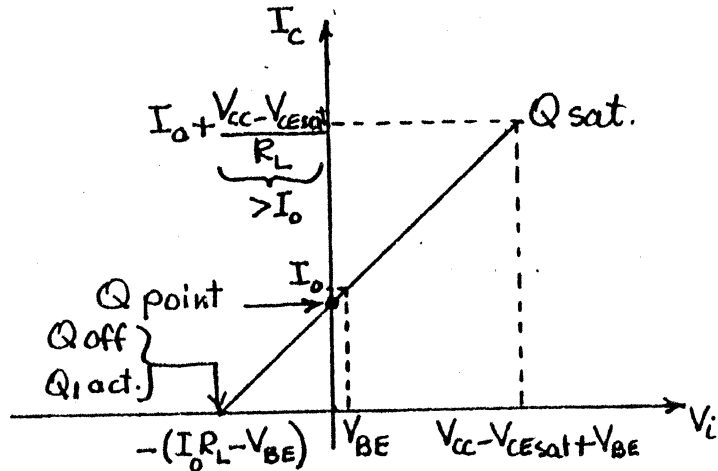
$$\boxed{V_0 \approx V_i - V_{BE}}$$



When  $V_i$  is positive, the load current is supplied by Q.

b) The  $I_c$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

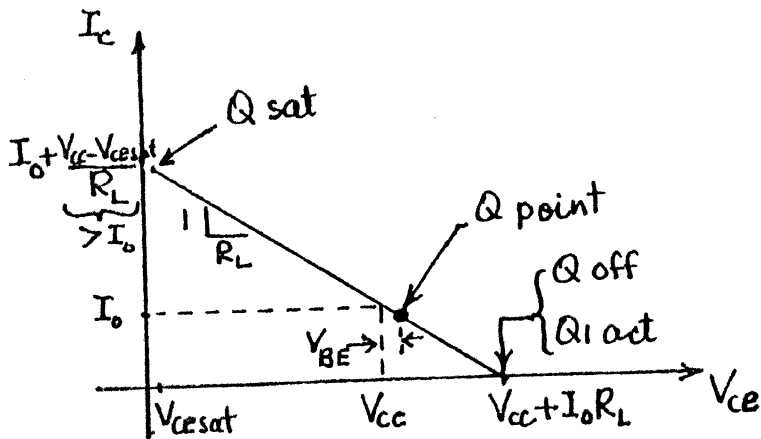
$$I_c = I_o + \frac{V_i - V_{BE}}{R_L}$$



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c) The  $I_c$  vs.  $V_{CE}$  curve - the load line

$$I_c = I_o + \frac{V_{cc} - V_{ce}}{R_L}$$



If we assume  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} V_{BE} \cong 0 \\ V_{cesat} \cong 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$ , maximum peak-to-peak sinusoidal  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{current swing of } 2I_o \\ \text{voltage swing of } 2I_o R_L \end{matrix} \right\}$  can

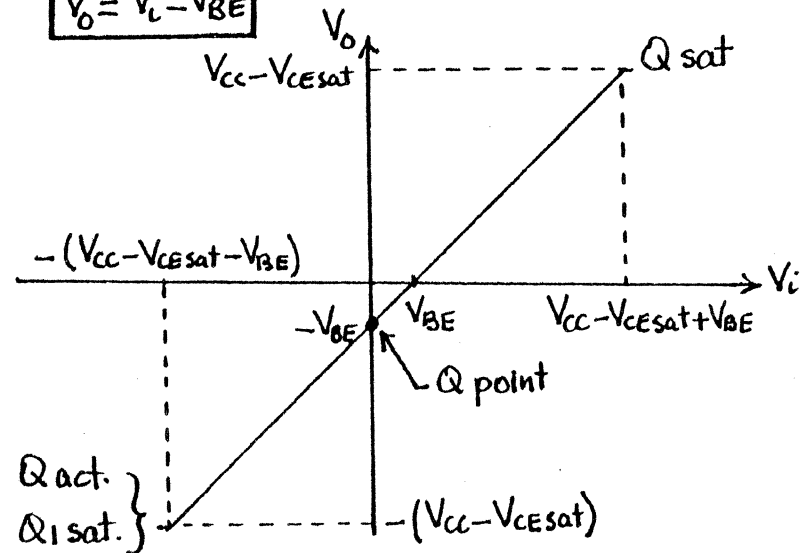
be obtained about the Q point. Note that the voltage swing is less than  $2V_{cc}$  because  $I_o R_L < V_{cc}$ .

③ Q1 gets saturated for some negative value of  $V_i$  while Q remains active. This requires that

$$I_o R_L > V_{cc} - V_{cesat}$$

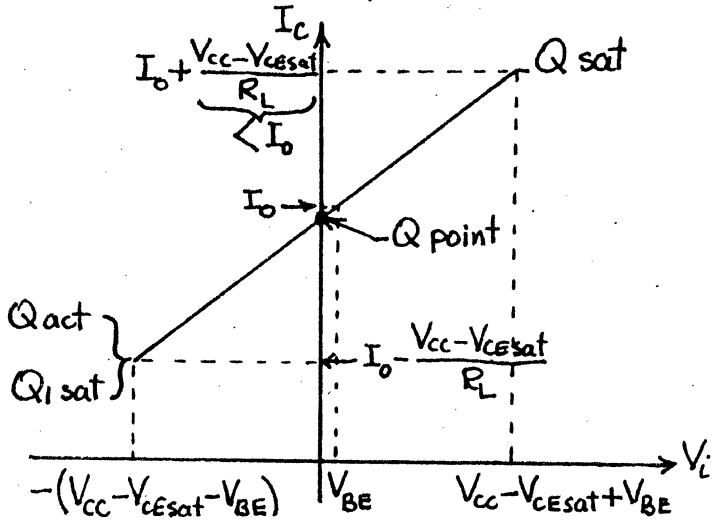
a) The  $V_o$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

$$V_o \cong V_i - V_{BE}$$



b) The  $I_c$  vs.  $V_i$  curve

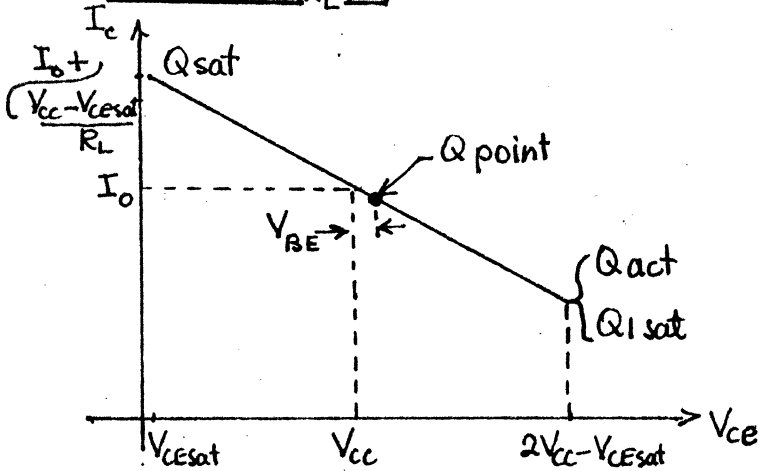
$$I_c = I_o + \frac{V_i - V_{BE}}{R_L}$$



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c) The  $I_c$  vs.  $V_{CE}$  curve - the load line

$$I_c = I_o + \frac{V_{cc} - V_{CE}}{R_L}$$

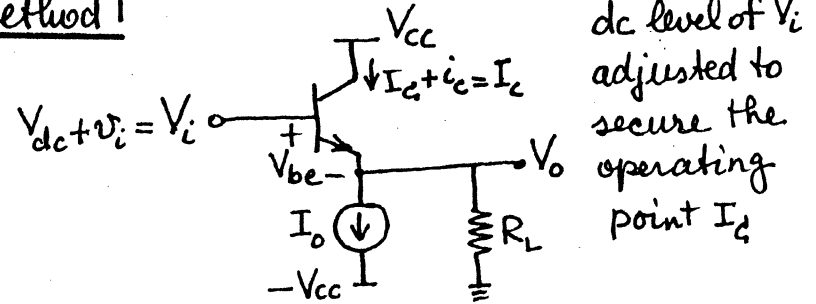


If we assume  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} V_{BE} \approx 0 \\ V_{cesat} \approx 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$ , a maximum peak-to-peak sinusoidal  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{current swing of } \frac{2V_{cc}}{R_L} \\ \text{voltage swing of } 2V_{cc} \end{matrix} \right\}$  can be

obtained about the Q-point. Note that the current swing is less than  $2I_o$  because  $I_o > \frac{V_{cc}}{R_L}$ .

Small-signal gain calculation

Method 1



$$V_o = V_i - V_{be} = V_i - V_T \ln \frac{I_c}{I_s} \approx V_i - V_T \ln \frac{I_e}{I_s}$$

$$= V_i - V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_o + V_o/R_L}{I_s} \right) \leftarrow \text{equation for transfer characteristic}$$

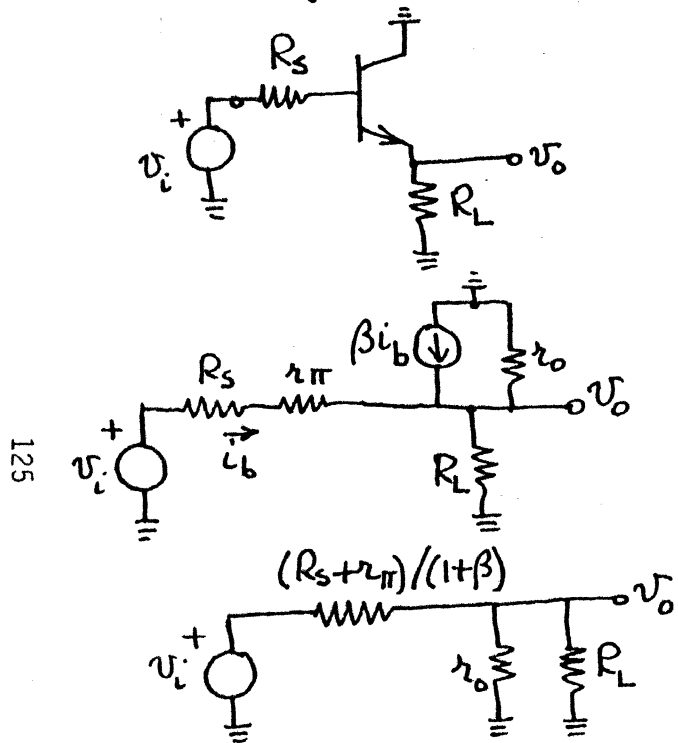
$$A_v = \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = 1 - V_T \frac{\frac{dV_o}{dV_i} / I_s R_L}{(I_o + V_o/R_L) / I_s} \Big|_{I_c = I_o} = 1 - \frac{V_T}{I_c R_L} \frac{dV_o}{dV_i}$$

Solving for  $\frac{dV_o}{dV_i}$  we obtain

$$\frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = \frac{1}{1 + V_T / I_c R_L} = \frac{1}{1 + 1/g_m R_L} = \boxed{\frac{g_m R_L}{1 + g_m R_L}}$$

## Method 2

Small-signal analysis circuit is



$$A_v = \frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{r_o \parallel R_L}{r_o \parallel R_L + (R_s + r_{\pi}) / (1 + \beta)} \Big|_{r_o \gg R_L} \approx \frac{R_L}{R_L + \frac{R_s + r_{\pi}}{1 + \beta}}$$

which for  $R_s = 0$  and  $1 + \beta \approx \beta$  reduces to

$$A_v = \frac{R_L}{R_L + \frac{r_{\pi}}{\beta}} = \frac{R_L}{R_L + \frac{1}{g_m}} = \frac{g_m R_L}{1 + g_m R_L}$$

Resistance facing  $R_L \approx \frac{1}{g_m} = \frac{V_T}{I_C}$  ← varies with op. point but is small throughout

The gain depends on  $g_m$  which depends on the operating point  $I_C$ . Let us now calculate the gain at three different operating points for the case when  $I_C R_L = V_{CC} - V_{CEsat} \approx V_{CC} = 15V$ .

$$A_v = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{V_T}{I_C R_L}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{I_0}{I_C} \frac{V_T}{V_{CC}}} \quad I_C = I_0 + \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{R_L} \approx 2I_0 - \frac{V_{CE}}{R_L}$$

$$V_i \approx V_{CC} \quad (I_C = 2I_0) \rightarrow \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_T}{V_{CC}}} = 0.999$$

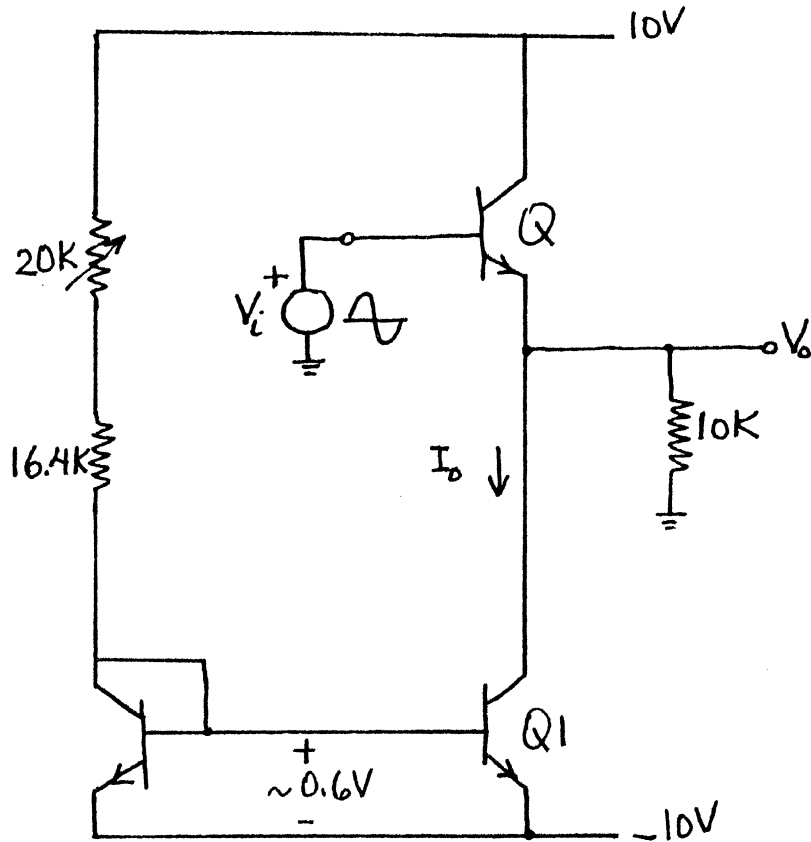
$$V_i \approx 0 \quad (I_C = I_0) \rightarrow \frac{1}{1 + \frac{V_T}{V_{CC}}} = 0.998$$

$$V_i \approx -V_{CC} \quad (I_C = 0.1I_0) \rightarrow \frac{1}{1 + 10 \frac{V_T}{V_{CC}}} = 0.983$$

$$V_i \approx -V_{CC} \quad (I_C = 0.01I_0) \rightarrow \frac{1}{1 + 100 \frac{V_T}{V_{CC}}} = 0.853$$

As long as operation near cutoff is excluded, the small-signal gain varies about 1% throughout the entire dynamic range of the amplifier. Hence, even for large signals covering the entire dynamic range, distortion will be small.

## Class-A output stage demonstration



$$I_{o\max} \approx \frac{20 - 0.6}{16.4} = 1.18 \text{ mA}$$

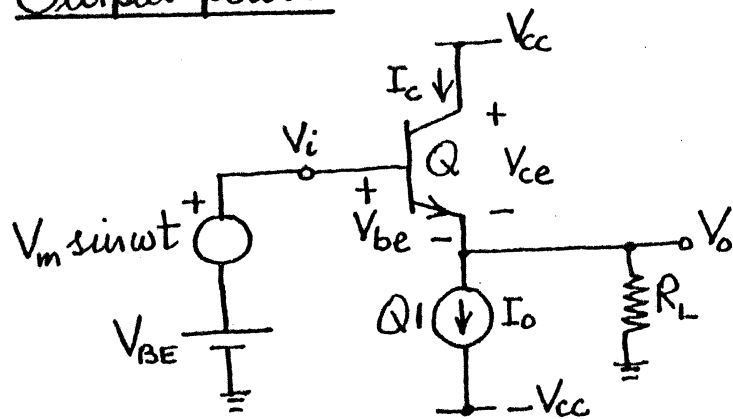
$$I_{o\min} \approx \frac{20 - 0.6}{36.4} = 0.53 \text{ mA}$$

### Show

1. Linearity
2. Dynamic range
3. Unity gain
4. Output offset
5. Effect of  $I_o$
6. Neg. output limit being reached before positive limit
7. Input and output waveforms



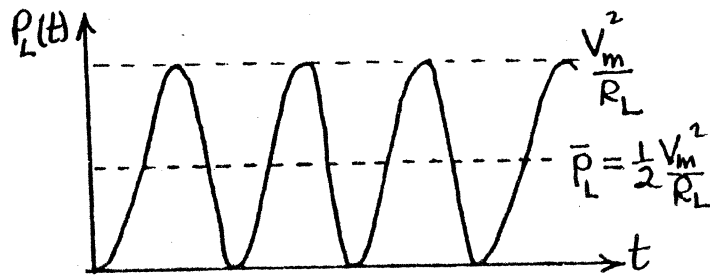
## Output power



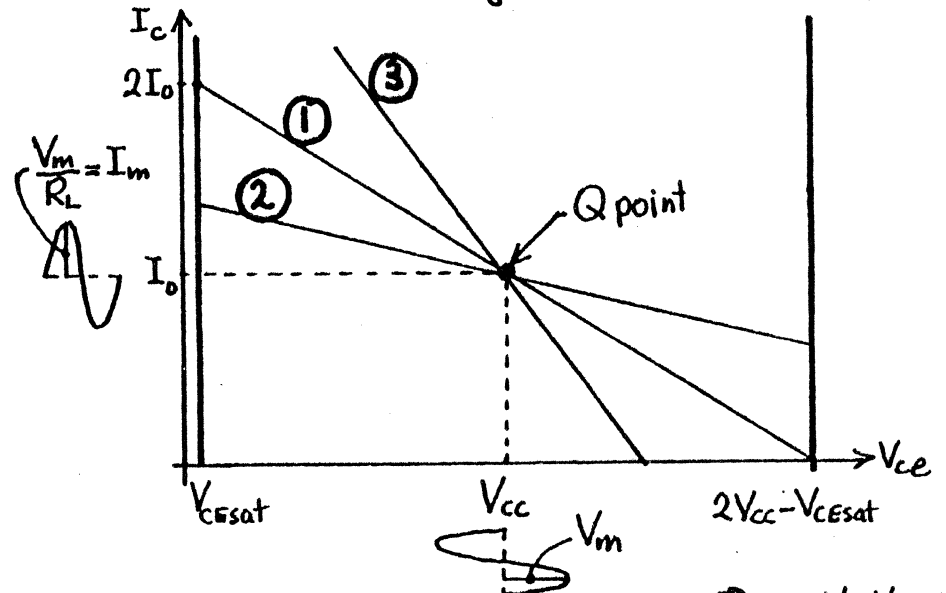
As  $V_i$  varies,  $V_{be}$  will change slightly. Neglect this variation and assume  $V_{be} = V_{BE}$ .

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_o = V_m \sin \omega t \\ I_c \cong I_0 + \frac{V_o}{R_L} = I_0 + \frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{R_L} \\ V_{ce} = V_{CC} - V_o = V_{CC} - V_m \sin \omega t \end{array} \right.$$

$$P_L(t) = \frac{V_o^2}{R_L} = \frac{V_m^2}{R_L} \sin^2 \omega t \quad \bar{P}_L = \text{average power}$$



## How much can voltage and current swing?



$$\textcircled{1} R_L = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0} \quad \textcircled{2} R_L > \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0} \quad \textcircled{3} R_L < \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0}$$

$$\bar{P}_L = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L} = \frac{1}{2} V_m \left( \frac{V_m}{R_L} \right) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} V_m I_m}$$

The larger  $V_m$ , the larger the average power delivered to the load. For load lines  $\textcircled{1}$  and  $\textcircled{2}$   $(V_m)_{\max} = V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}$ . Further increase in  $\bar{P}_L$  can be obtained by making  $I_m$  as large as possible.

$(I_m)_{\max} = I_0$  for load line  $\textcircled{1}$ . So for maximum possible power delivery to the load, operation must be along load line  $\textcircled{1}$  with  $V_m = V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}$  and  $I_m = I_0$ .

The resulting power is  $\boxed{(P_L)_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} (V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}) I_0}$

For  $R_L > \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0}$  (load line ②)

$(I_m)_{max} < I_0$

For  $R_L < \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0}$  (load line ③)

$(V_m)_{max} < V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}$

Thus, the maximum swing is limited either for current or for voltage resulting in  $(\bar{P}_L)_{max} < \frac{1}{2}(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat})I_0$  for these two cases.

Power conversion efficiency

$$\eta = 100 \frac{\text{Average power delivered to load}}{\text{Average power supplied to circuit}} \%$$

$$= 100 \frac{\bar{P}_L}{\bar{P}_S}$$

$P_L(t) = \frac{V_m^2}{R_L} \sin^2 \omega t$        $\bar{P}_L = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L}$

$P_S(t) = P_{V_{CC}}(t) + P_{-V_{CC}}(t) + \underbrace{\text{power supplied by } V_i}_{\text{negligible}}$

where  $\begin{cases} P_{V_{CC}}(t) = \text{power delivered by the } V_{CC} \text{ source.} \\ P_{-V_{CC}}(t) = \text{power delivered by the } -V_{CC} \text{ source.} \end{cases}$

$P_{V_{CC}}(t) = V_{CC} I_c \cong V_{CC} (I_0 + \frac{V_o}{R_L}) = V_{CC} (I_0 + \frac{V_m \sin \omega t}{R_L})$

$\bar{P}_{V_{CC}} = V_{CC} I_0$

$P_{-V_{CC}}(t) = (-V_{CC})(-I_o) = V_{CC} I_0$

$\bar{P}_{-V_{CC}} = V_{CC} I_0$

$\eta = 100 \frac{\bar{P}_L}{\bar{P}_{V_{CC}} + \bar{P}_{-V_{CC}}} = 100 \frac{\frac{1}{2} V_m^2 / R_L}{V_{CC} I_0 + V_{CC} I_0} = \boxed{25 \frac{V_m^2}{V_{CC} I_0 R_L} \%}$

The maximum possible value of  $V_m$  is  $(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat})$  provided that  $R_L \geq \frac{V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}}{I_0}$ .

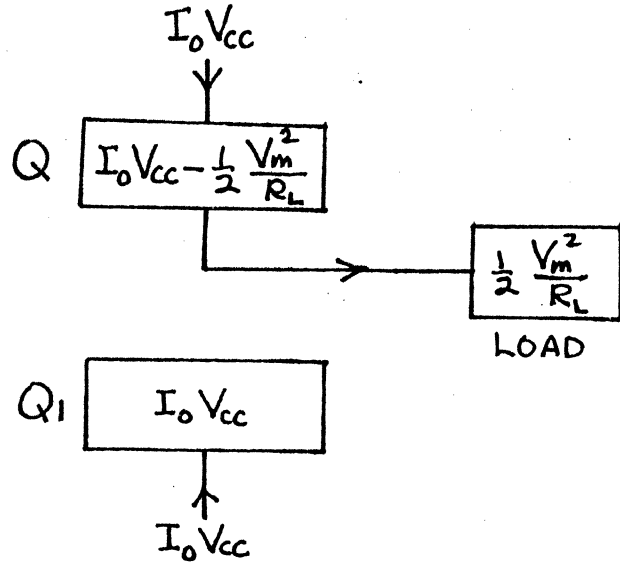
The maximum power conversion efficiency occurs when  $V_m$  is at its maximum possible value while  $R_L$  assumes its lowest value which is  $(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}) / I_0$ . Hence,

$\eta_{max} = 25 \frac{(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat})^2}{V_{CC} I_0 (V_{CC} - V_{CEsat}) / I_0} = 25 (1 - \frac{V_{CEsat}}{V_{CC}}) \approx \boxed{25\%}$

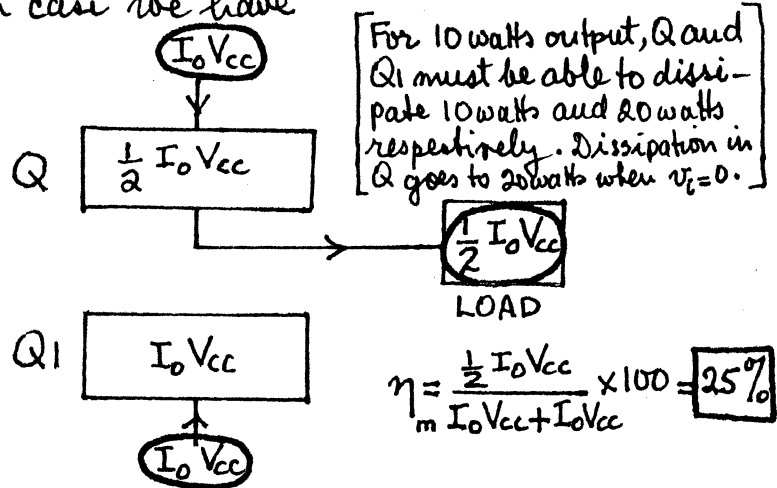
Stated differently, at least 75% of the power supplied to the circuit is wasted as heat in  $Q$  and  $Q_1$ .



## Average power-flow diagram



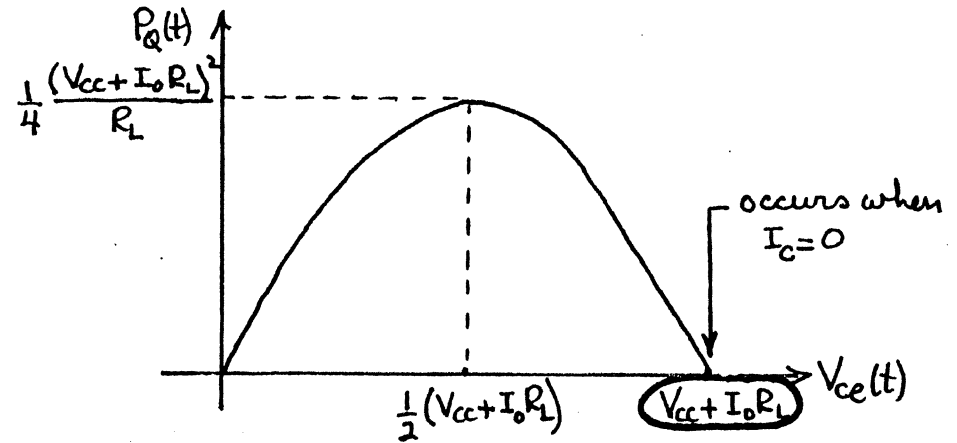
Q dissipates the least power when  $V_m$  is largest while  $R_L$  is the smallest. This occurs when  $I_0 R_L = V_{cc}$  and  $V_m = V_{cc}$  in which case we have



At what point does Q dissipate the most power? The instantaneous power dissipated in Q for any signal waveform is

$$P_Q(t) = I_c V_{ce} = \left( I_0 + \frac{V_{cc} - V_{ce}}{R_L} \right) V_{ce}$$

The  $P_Q(t)$  vs.  $V_{ce}$  curve is a parabola with  $V_{ce}$  axis intercepts at  $V_{ce} = 0$  and  $V_{ce} = V_{cc} + I_0 R_L$  as shown below.

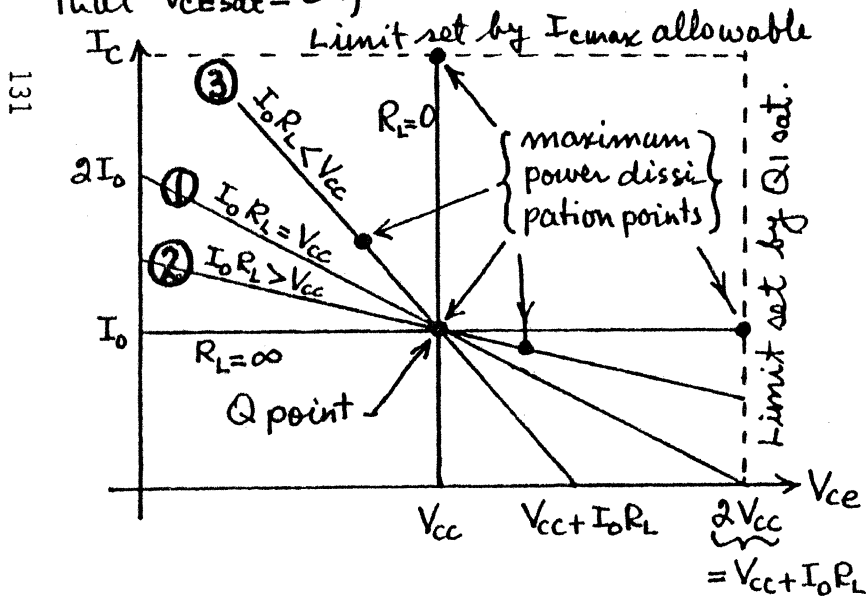


Maximum instantaneous power is dissipated in Q every time  $V_{ce}(t)$  assumes the value of  $\frac{1}{2}(V_{cc} + I_0 R_L)$  which results in

$$P_Q(t) \Big|_{\max} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{(V_{cc} + I_0 R_L)^2}{R_L}$$

Designating the maximum power dissipation points on the load line:

When  $v_i(t) = 0$ ,  $v_o(t) = 0$ . At these times  $I_c(t) = I_o$  and  $V_{ce}(t) = V_{cc}$ . These values do not depend on  $R_L$ . As before, we consider 3 cases: 1.  $I_o R_L = V_{cc}$ , 2.  $I_o R_L > V_{cc}$ , and 3.  $I_o R_L < V_{cc}$ . (These results are based on the assumption that  $V_{ce\text{sat}} \approx 0$ .)



The point of maximum power dissipation occurs when  $v_i(t)$  drives the transistor to the midpoint on its load line provided the midpoint is within the boundaries set by  $V_{ce\text{max}} = 2V_{cc}$ .

and  $I_c = I_{c\text{max}}$  which represents the maximum permissible collector current. For  $\infty \geq R_L \geq \frac{V_{cc}}{I_o}$ ,  $p(t)_{\text{max}}$  occurs for  $2V_{cc} \geq V_{ce} \geq V_{cc}$  and  $I_o \geq I_c \geq 0$ . For  $\frac{V_{cc}}{I_o} \geq R_L \geq 0$ ,  $p(t)_{\text{max}}$  occurs for  $V_{cc} \geq V_{ce} \geq 0$  and  $I_o \leq I_c \leq I_{c\text{max}}$ .

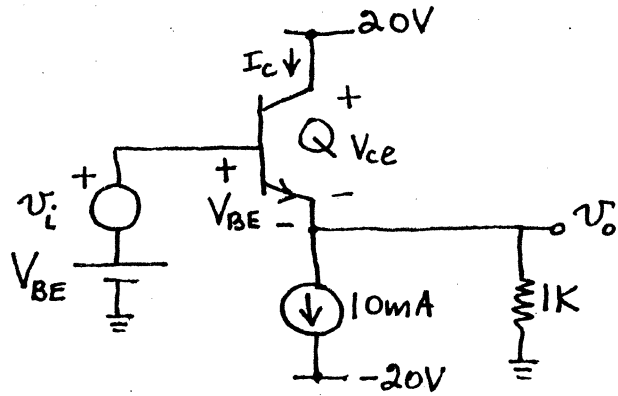
It should also be clear that for

1.  $R_L = \frac{V_{cc}}{I_o}$ , the maximum inst. power dissipation occurs at the quiescent point, i.e., when  $v_i(t) = 0$ .
2.  $R_L > \frac{V_{cc}}{I_o}$ , the max. inst. power dissipation occurs for  $v_i(t) < 0$ .
3.  $R_L < \frac{V_{cc}}{I_o}$ , the max. inst. power dissipation occurs for  $v_i(t) > 0$ .
4. Regardless of the value of  $R_L$ , power dissipation in Q falls off on either side of the max. inst. power dissipation point.

Moreover, the reduction is symmetric about the midpoint of the load line as the parabola shown on the previous page clearly demonstrates.

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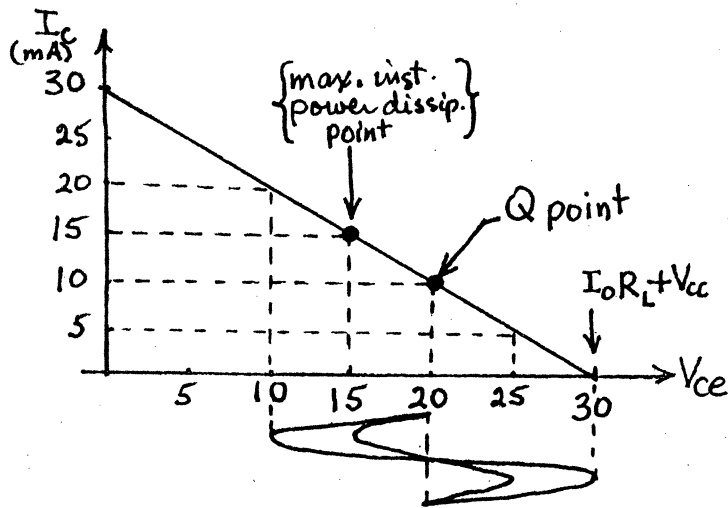
Example:



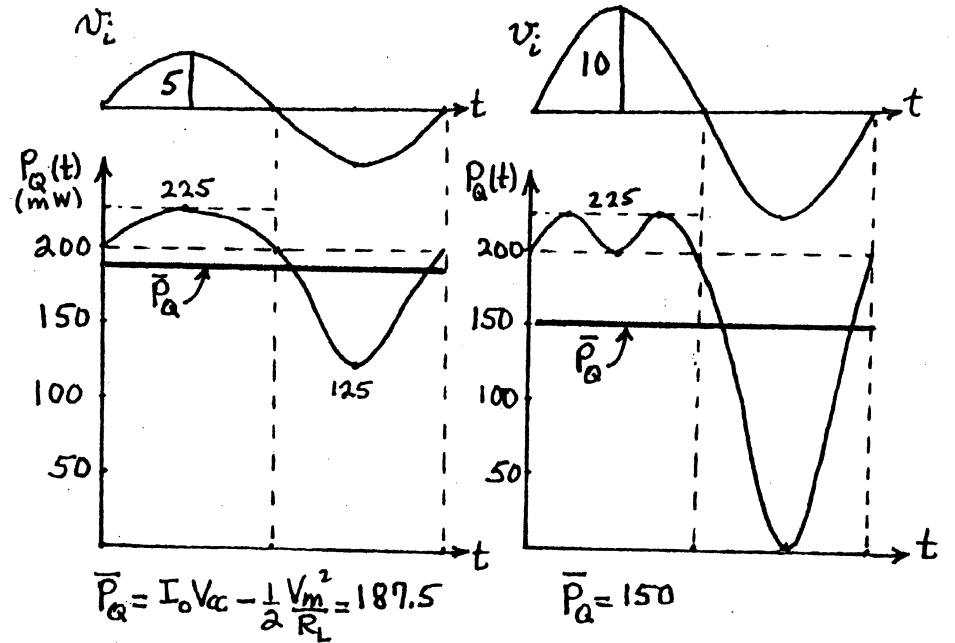
$$v_i = V_m \sin \omega t$$

Sketch the instantaneous power dissipation in Q as a function of time for  $V_m = 5V$  and  $V_m = 10V$ .

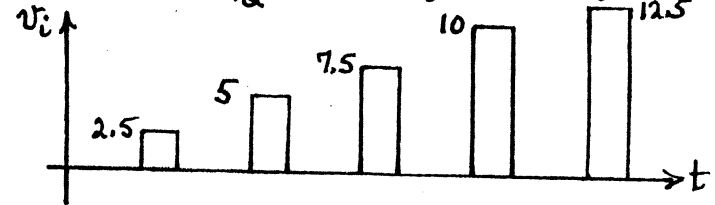
Solution: Draw the load line.



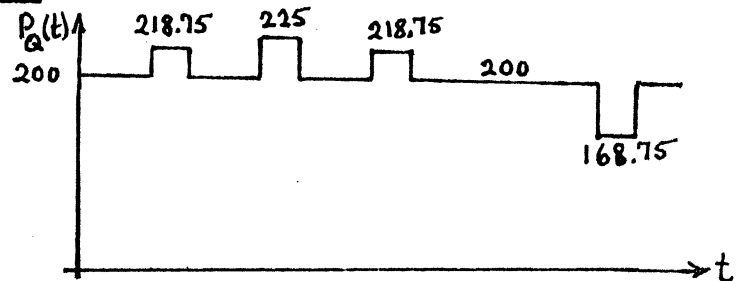
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Example: Obtain  $p_Q(t)$  for  $v_i$  shown below



Solution:



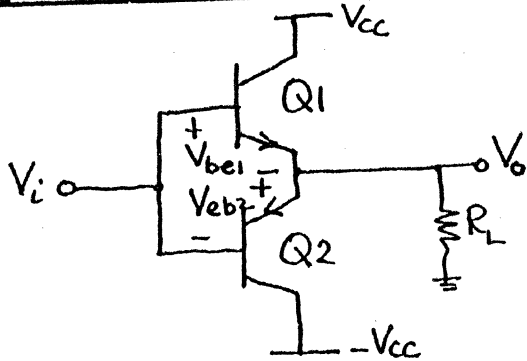
In a class-A amplifier, the transistors conduct all the time. As a result

1. 25% efficiency is achieved at best
2. Power is wasted at standby
3. The transistors must operate at higher temperatures than necessary to deliver a prescribed power to the load.

In a class-B amplifier, the transistors conduct half the time. As a result

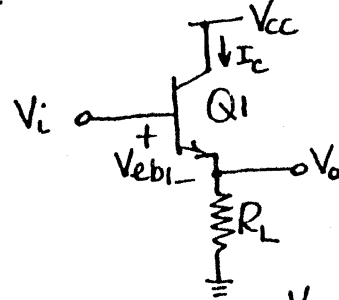
1. Efficiency as high as 78.6% can be achieved
2. No power is wasted at standby
3. The transistors operate at a lower temperature thereby lowering failure rate.

### Class-B emitter follower output stage



also known as push-pull amplifier; complementary NPN-PNP output stage

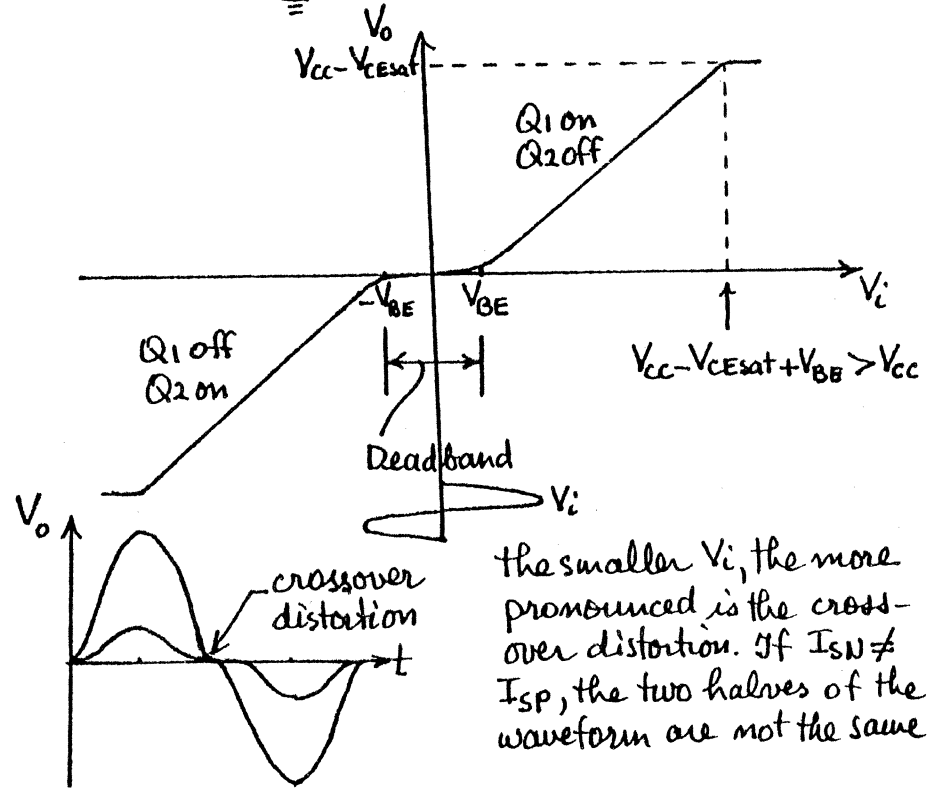
Since  $V_{be1} + V_{be2} = 0$ , when one voltage is positive, the other must be negative. Hence, only one of the transistors is on at a given time; the other one is off. Assume  $V_i > 0$ , which assumes that Q1 is on and Q2 off.



$$V_o = V_i - V_{be1}$$

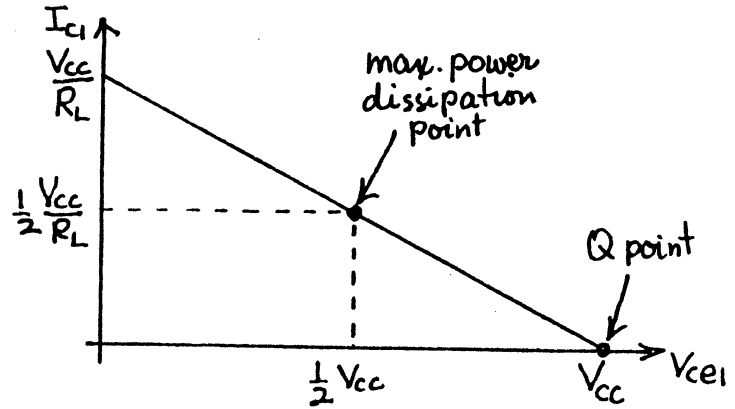
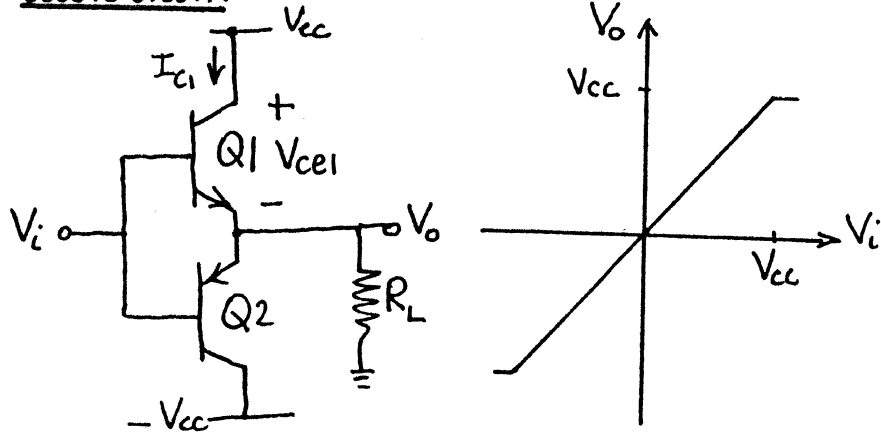
$$= V_i - V_T \ln \frac{I_c}{I_s}$$

$$\approx V_i - V_T \ln \frac{V_o}{I_s R_L} \quad V_o > 0$$



the smaller  $V_i$ , the more pronounced is the crossover distortion. If  $I_{sN} \neq I_{sP}$ , the two halves of the waveform are not the same.

Power calculations neglecting crossover distortion.

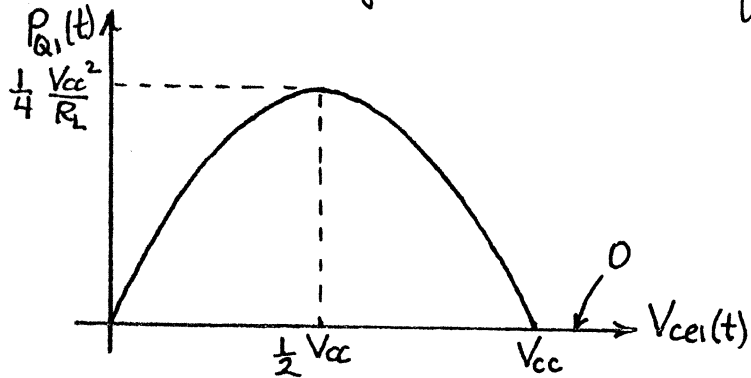


When  $V_i=0$ ,  $V_{ce1}=V_{cc}$ ,  $I_{c1}=0$ . for Q1  
Maximum power dissipation point is at the mid point of the load line regardless of the waveform of  $V_i$ .

Regardless of  $V_i$  waveform

$$P_{Q1}(t) = I_{c1} V_{ce1} \approx \frac{V_o}{R_L} V_{ce1} = \left( \frac{V_{cc} - V_{ce1}}{R_L} \right) V_{ce1} \quad V_o > 0$$

where  $V_{ce1}$  is in general a function of  $t$ .



Maximum dissipation in Q1 (as well in Q2) occurs when  $V_{ce}$ 's are  $\frac{1}{2} V_{cc}$ .

For  $V_i = V_m \sin \omega t$ ,  $V_o = V_m \sin \omega t$ ,  $V_{ce1} = V_{cc} - V_m \sin \omega t$

$$I_{c1} = \begin{cases} \frac{V_m}{R_L} \sin \omega t & V_i > 0 \\ 0 & V_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$P_{R_L}(t) = \frac{V_o^2}{R_L} = \frac{V_m^2}{R_L} \sin^2 \omega t \quad \overline{P_{R_L}(t)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L}$$

$$P_{V_{cc}}(t) = V_{cc} I_{c1} = \begin{cases} V_{cc} \frac{V_m}{R_L} \sin \omega t & V_i > 0 \\ 0 & V_i < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\overline{P_{V_{cc}}(t)} = \frac{1}{\pi} V_{cc} \frac{V_m}{R_L} = \overline{P_{-V_{cc}}(t)}$$

$$\eta = 100 \frac{\overline{P_{R_L}}}{\overline{P_{V_{cc}}} + \overline{P_{-V_{cc}}}} = 100 \frac{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L}}{\frac{2}{\pi} V_{cc} \frac{V_m}{R_L}} = \boxed{25 \pi \frac{V_m}{V_{cc}} \%}$$

$$\eta_{\max} = \eta \Big|_{V_m = V_{cc}} = 25 \pi = \boxed{78.6 \%}$$



## Average power-flow diagram

$$\bar{P}_{V_{cc}} = \bar{P}_{-V_{cc}} = \frac{1}{\pi} V_{cc} \frac{V_m}{R_L}$$

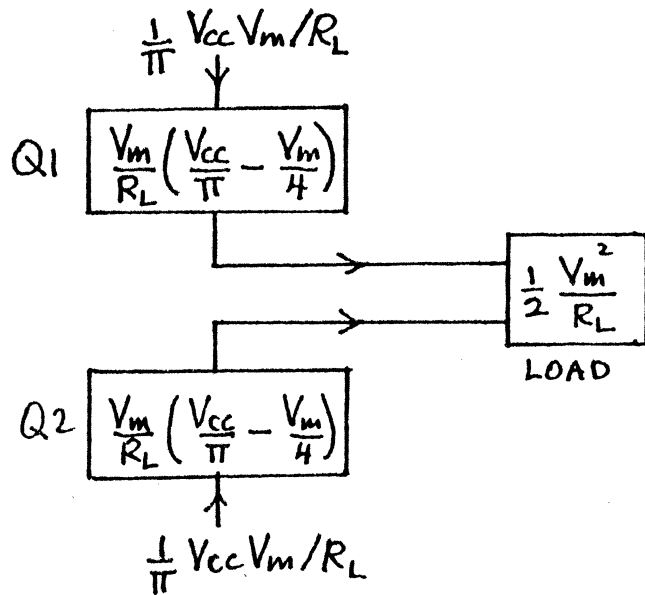
$$\bar{P}_{R_L} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L}$$

$$P_{Q_1}(t) = I_{c_1}(t) V_{ce_1}(t) = \frac{V_o(t)}{R_L} [V_{cc} - V_o(t)] \quad V_o(t) > 0$$

$$= \frac{V_m}{R_L} \sin \omega t [V_{cc} - V_m \sin \omega t] \quad \text{for } \sin \omega t > 0$$

$$P_{Q_1}(t) = 0 \quad \text{for } \sin \omega t < 0$$

$$\bar{P}_{Q_1} = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{V_m}{R_L} V_{cc} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{V_m^2}{R_L} = \frac{V_m}{R_L} \left( \frac{V_{cc}}{\pi} - \frac{V_m}{4} \right)$$



Power dissipated in Q1 and Q2 is zero when  $V_m = 0$ . As  $V_m$  is increased from zero, power dissipation increases and reaches a maximum value. Further increase in  $V_m$  decreases the average power dissipation. The maximum occurs when  $V_m = \frac{2}{\pi} V_{cc}$  resulting in

$$\bar{P}_{Q_1 \max} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{V_{cc}}{R_L} \left( \frac{V_{cc}}{\pi} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{2}{\pi} V_{cc} \right) = \boxed{\frac{V_{cc}^2}{\pi^2 R_L}}$$

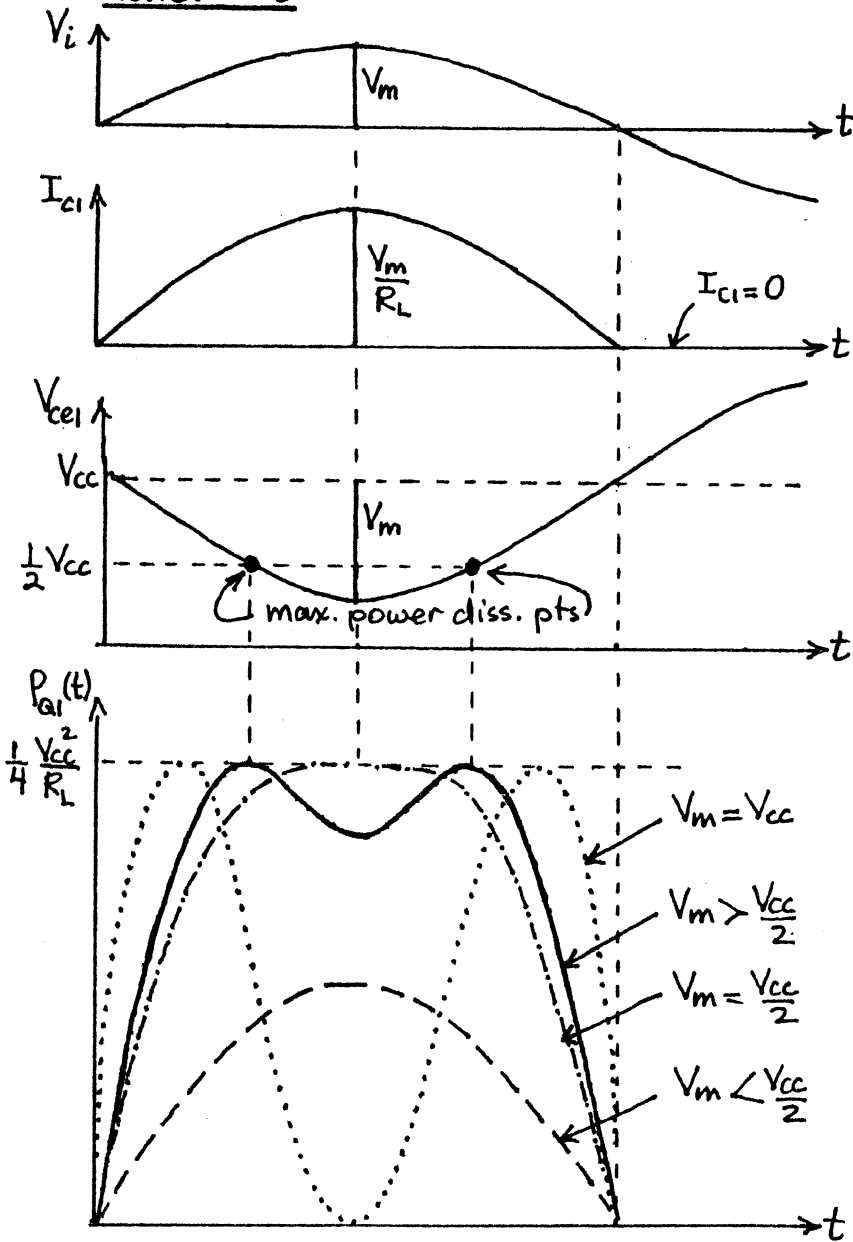
On the other hand, maximum power delivered to the load occurs for  $V_m = V_{cc}$  resulting in

$$\bar{P}_{L \max} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{cc}^2}{R_L}$$

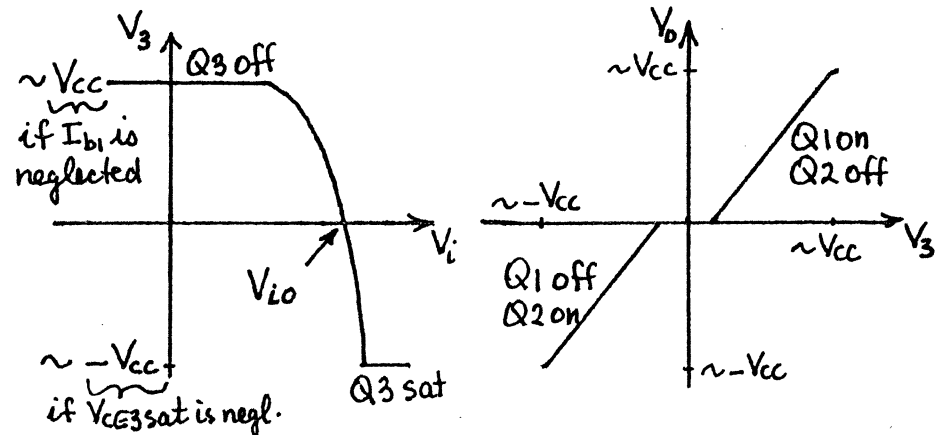
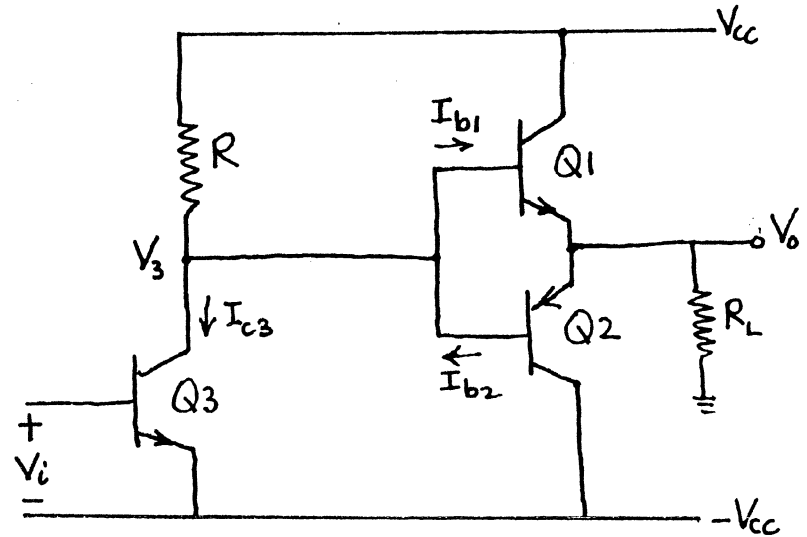
Hence  $\bar{P}_{Q_1 \max} = \frac{2}{\pi^2} \bar{P}_{L \max}$

Thus, for a maximum average power output of 10W, Q1 and Q2 must be able to dissipate  $\frac{2}{\pi^2} \times 10 \approx 2$ W of average power.

Waveforms



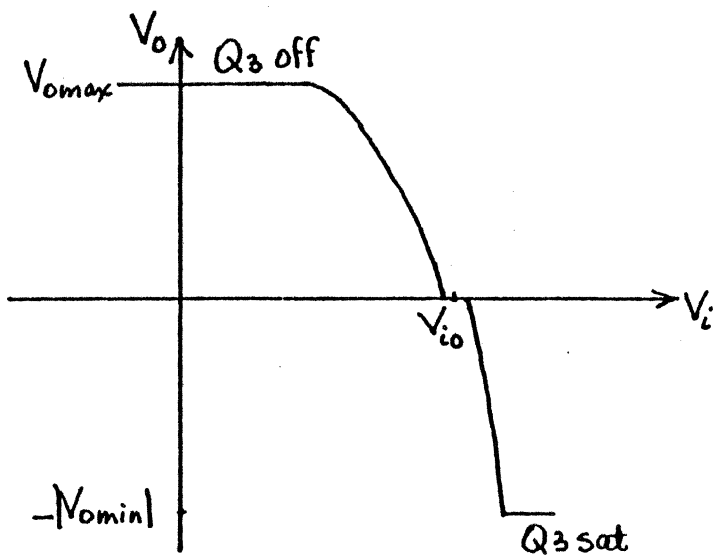
Class-B output stage and driver



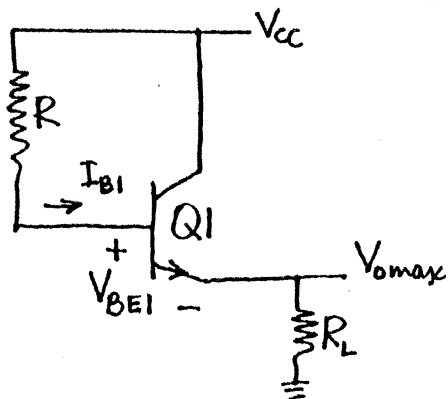
The output  $V_o$  is zero when  $V_3 = 0$  which implies  $I_{b1} = I_{b2} = 0$ . Hence

$$V_3 = V_{cc} - I_{c3}R = 0 \quad I_{c3} = \frac{V_{cc}}{R} = I_{s3} e^{\frac{V_{io}}{V_T}}$$

$$V_{io} = V_T \ln I_{c3} / I_{s3} \approx 600 \text{ mV}$$



To determine  $V_{o\max}$  ( $Q_3$  off)

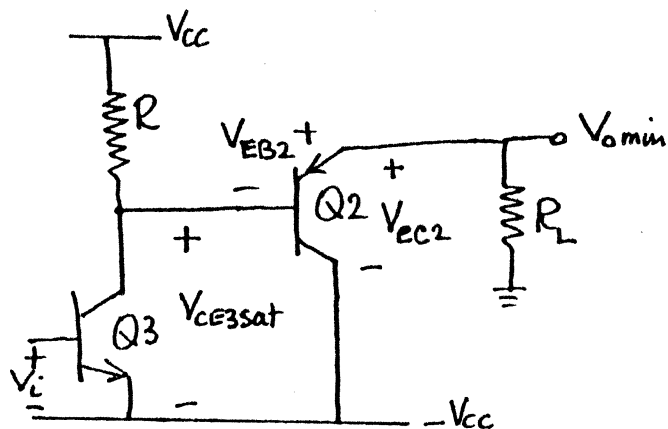


$$V_{o\max} = (1 + \beta) I_{B1} R_L = (1 + \beta) \left[ \frac{V_{cc} - V_{BE1}}{R + (1 + \beta) R_L} \right] R_L$$

$$= \frac{V_{cc} - V_{BE1}}{R_L + \frac{R}{1 + \beta}} \times R_L \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} R = 20K \\ \beta = 100 \end{array} \right. = \begin{array}{l} \frac{R_L = 10K}{R_L = 1K} = 0.98 (V_{cc} - V_{BE1}) \\ = 0.83 (V_{cc} - V_{BE1}) \end{array}$$

Note that it is impossible to sat.  $Q_1$ . Even for  $R_L$  very large  $V_{CE1} = V_{cc} - V_{o\max} \approx V_{BE1}$ .

To determine  $V_{o\min}$  ( $Q_3$  sat)



$$V_{o\min} = -V_{cc} + V_{CE3sat} + V_{EB2}$$

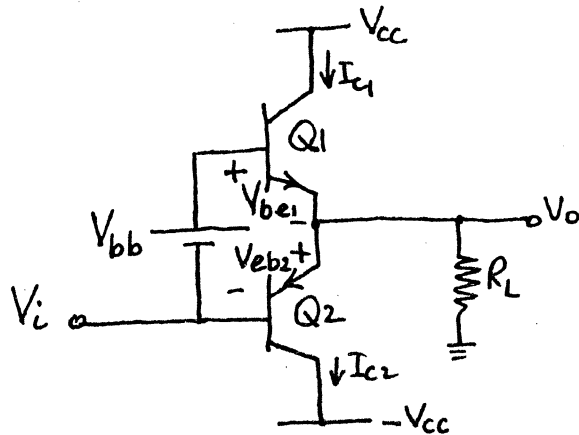
It is impossible to sat  $Q_2$  either because

$$V_{ec2} = V_{o\min} + V_{cc} = V_{CE3sat} + V_{EB2} > V_{CE2sat}$$

When  $V_o > 0$  ( $V_o < 0$ ), the base of  $Q_1$  ( $Q_2$ ) loads the collector of  $Q_3$ . Since  $\beta_{PNP} > \beta_{NPN}$ , the loading is unequal. This plus the exponential dependence of the transfer characteristics of the driver stage result in an overall transfer characteristic that is quite nonlinear (in addition to the crossover distortion). This is particularly noticeable for low values of  $R_L$ . Feedback from the output stage to the driver stage linearizes the overall characteristic.

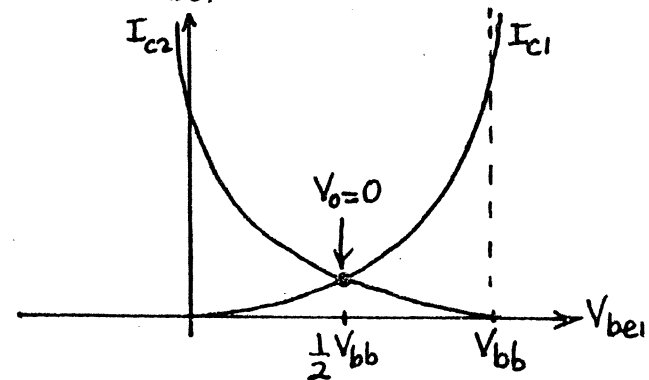
## L18: Class-AB output stage

In the class-A amplifier, the transistors conduct all the time. In the class-B amplifier, the transistors conduct half the time. In the class-AB amplifier the transistors are biased such that they conduct more than half the time but ~~not~~ <sup>necessarily</sup> all the time. The circuit given below shows how this is achieved.



The input is applied between base of  $Q_2$  and ground. The voltage  $V_{bb}$ , which is produced across diode-connected transistors driven by a current source (to be shown shortly), assures that both transistors are on when  $|V_i|$  is small. In particular when  $V_o = 0$ ,  $I_{c1} = I_{c2}$ , and hence  $V_{be1} = V_{be2}$  (assuming complementary

transistors so that  $I_{SNPN} = I_{SPNP} = I_s$ ). Since the relationship  $V_{bb} = V_{be1} + V_{be2}$  is always valid,  $V_{be1} = V_{be2} = \frac{1}{2}V_{bb}$  and therefore  $V_i = -\frac{V_{bb}}{2}$ . Thus, a small negative voltage must be put in to drive the output to zero. For  $V_i = 0$ , the output is slightly positive:  $V_o = V_{be2}$ . As  $V_i$  is increased from 0,  $V_{be1}$  goes up while  $V_{be2}$  goes down but their sum remains constant at  $V_{bb}$ . Since,  $I_{c1} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{be1}}{V_T}}$  and  $I_{c2} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{be2}}{V_T}} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{bb} - V_{be1}}{V_T}}$ , we can plot both  $I_{c1}$  and  $I_{c2}$  as a function of  $V_{be1}$  as shown below.



By controlling  $V_{bb}$ , the quiescent values of  $I_{c1}$  and  $I_{c2}$  (corresponding to  $V_o = 0$ ) can be controlled. The larger  $V_{bb}$ , the more the  $I_{c2}$  curve is shifted to the right and therefore the more the

the quiescent values of the collector currents, thus approaching class-A type of operation. On the other hand, if  $V_{bb}=0$ , class-B operation results.

### Effect of $V_{bb}$ on transfer characteristic

$$V_o \cong R_L(I_{c1} - I_{c2}) = R_L I_s \left( e^{\frac{V_{be1}}{V_T}} - e^{\frac{V_{be2}}{V_T}} \right) \\ = R_L I_s \left( e^{\frac{V_{bb} - V_o + V_i}{V_T}} - e^{\frac{V_{be2}}{V_T}} \right)$$

Since  $V_o = V_{be2} + V_i$ , we can write

$$V_o = R_L I_s \left( e^{\frac{V_{bb} - V_o + V_i}{V_T}} - e^{\frac{V_o - V_i}{V_T}} \right) \\ = R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} \left( e^{\frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T}} - e^{-\frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T}} \right)$$

$$V_o = 2 R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} \sinh \left( \frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T} \right)$$

This equation cannot be solved explicitly for  $V_o$ . However, it can be solved explicitly for  $V_i$ .

$$V_i = -\frac{1}{2} V_{bb} + V_o + V_T \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{V_o e^{-\frac{V_{bb}}{2V_T}}}{2 I_s R_L} \right)$$

This equation results in a transfer characteristic ( $V_o$  vs  $V_i$  curve) that behaves like an odd function about  $V_i = -\frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$ .

The  $V_T \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{V_o e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}}}{2 I_s R_L} \right)$  term is responsible for the crossover distortion. It has the most pronounced effect when  $V_{bb}=0$ , which of course results in class-B operation. As  $V_{bb}$  is increased from 0, this term becomes less and less significant because  $e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}}$  becomes smaller. As a result, crossover distortion is reduced. For  $V_{bb}$  large enough, the distortion is practically eliminated. The transfer characteristic then becomes

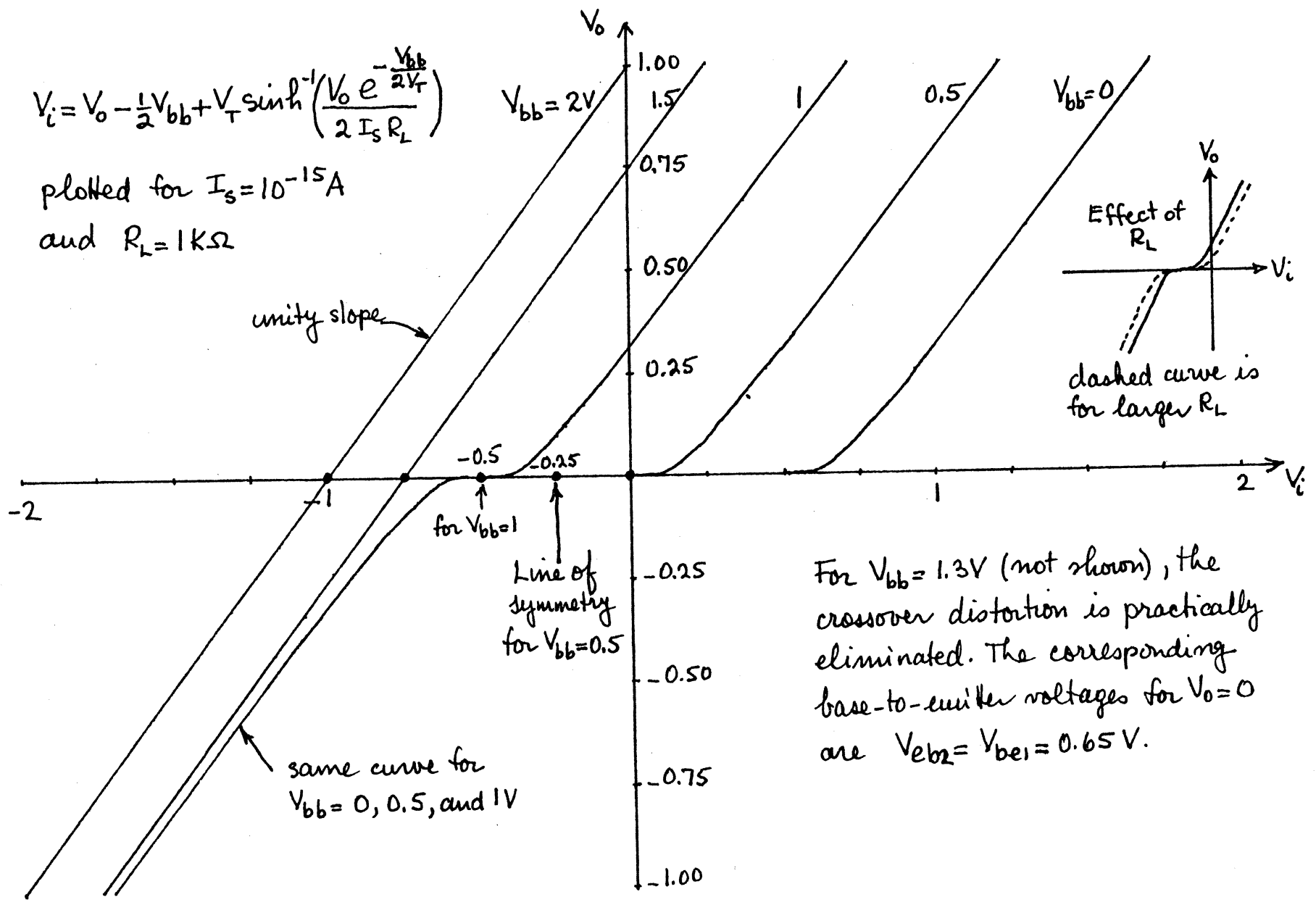
$$V_o \cong V_i + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$$

which represents a straight line of unity slope shifted up by  $\frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$ .

The exact equation that includes the  $\sinh$  term is plotted accurately on the next page. Note the straight line behavior for  $V_{bb}$  large.

$$V_i = V_o - \frac{1}{2}V_{bb} + V_T \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{V_o e^{-\frac{V_{bb}}{2V_T}}}{2 I_S R_L} \right)$$

plotted for  $I_S = 10^{-15} \text{ A}$   
and  $R_L = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$



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For  $V_{bb} = 1.3\text{V}$  (not shown), the crossover distortion is practically eliminated. The corresponding base-to-emitter voltages for  $V_o = 0$  are  $V_{eb2} = V_{eb1} = 0.65\text{V}$ .

## Requirement for reduction of crossover distortion

A measure of the amount of crossover distortion can be obtained by evaluating the slope of the transfer characteristic at  $V_o=0$  and  $V_i = \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$  which represents the line of symmetry.

$$V_o = 2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} \sinh\left(\frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T}\right)$$

$$\frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = 2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} \left(1 - \frac{dV_o}{dV_i}\right) \cosh\left(\frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T}\right)$$

$$\frac{dV_o}{dV_i} = \frac{(2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} / V_T) \cosh\left[(V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}) / V_T\right]}{1 + \frac{2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}}}{V_T} \cosh\left(\frac{V_i - V_o + \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}}{V_T}\right)}$$

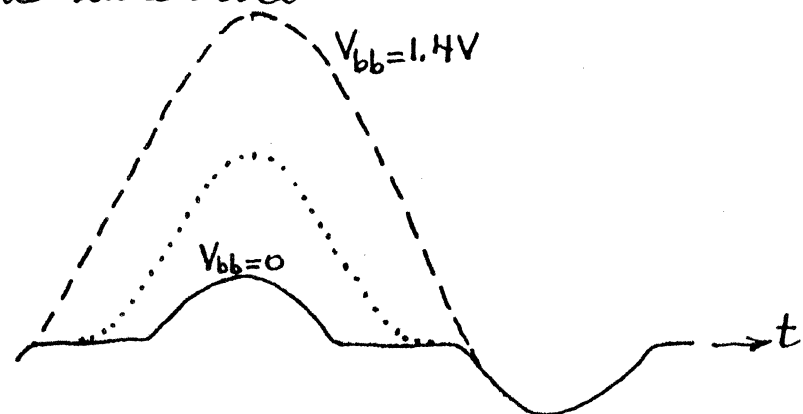
$$\left. \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} \right|_{\substack{V_o=0 \\ V_i = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}}} = \frac{2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} / V_T}{1 + 2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} / V_T} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2R_L I_s e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}}}{V_T}}$$

The closer the value of the slope to unity at the midpoint of crossover, the less the distortion.

For various values of  $V_{bb}$ , the slope at crossover is given below for  $I_s = 10^{-15} \text{ A}$  and  $R_L = 1 \text{ k}$ .

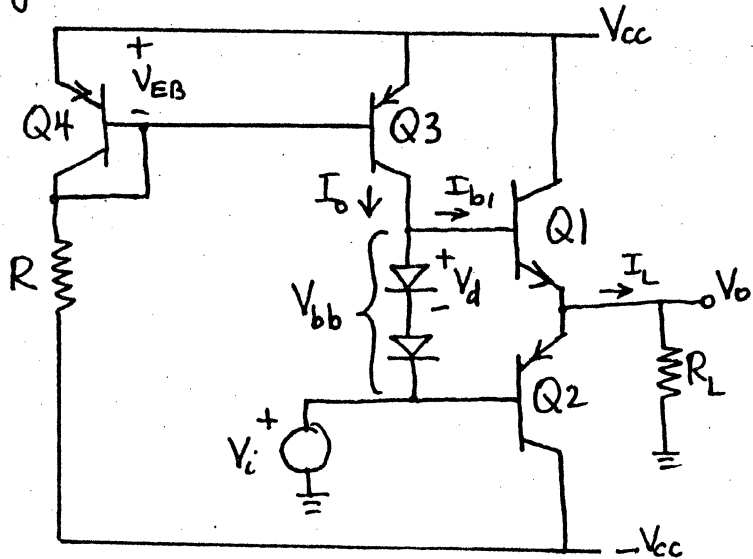
$\frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$	0.60	0.65	0.70
$\left. \frac{dV_o}{dV_i} \right _{\text{at crossover}}$	0.447	0.847	0.974

Except for  $V_{bb}=0$ , the transfer curve is not symmetric about  $V_i=0$ . As a result, as  $V_{bb}$  is increased from 0, an input sine wave of fixed amplitude will produce an output sine wave the positive portion of which progressively moves up while the lower portion remains at the same level.



As a result, for  $V_{bb} > 0$ , the average value of the output is not 0. When the crossover distortion is negligible, the dc shift is  $\frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$ .

## Generation of $V_{bb}$



Q3 is a current source the value of which is fixed by Q4.  $I_o = (2V_{cc} - V_{EB})/R$ . If we neglect the base current taken by Q1, then

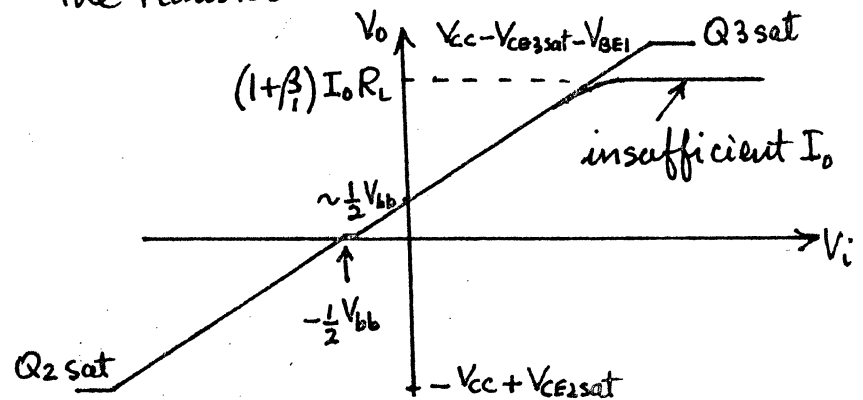
$$V_{bb} = 2V_d = 2V_T \ln \frac{I_o}{I_s}$$

Thus by changing the value of  $I_o$ ,  $V_{bb}$  can be controlled. However, if  $I_o$  is made too low, the current taken by the base of Q1 when  $V_i$  goes to a large positive value cannot be neglected (relative to  $I_o$ ) particularly for heavy loads (low values of  $R_L$ ). Thus as  $V_i$

goes more and more positive, a progressively larger portion of  $I_o$  is shunted to the base of Q1 thereby reducing the current through the diodes. This results in lower  $V_{bb}$  for  $V_i > 0$ . (For  $V_i < 0$ , the base current of Q2 is supplied by the signal source  $V_i$ .) Indeed,  $I_L$  can become current limited if all of  $I_o$  is used to supply  $I_{b1}$  in which case

$$V_o = (1 + \beta_1) I_o R_L$$

Any further increase in  $V_i$  produces no change in  $V_o$ . The result is a flattening of the transfer curve as shown below.

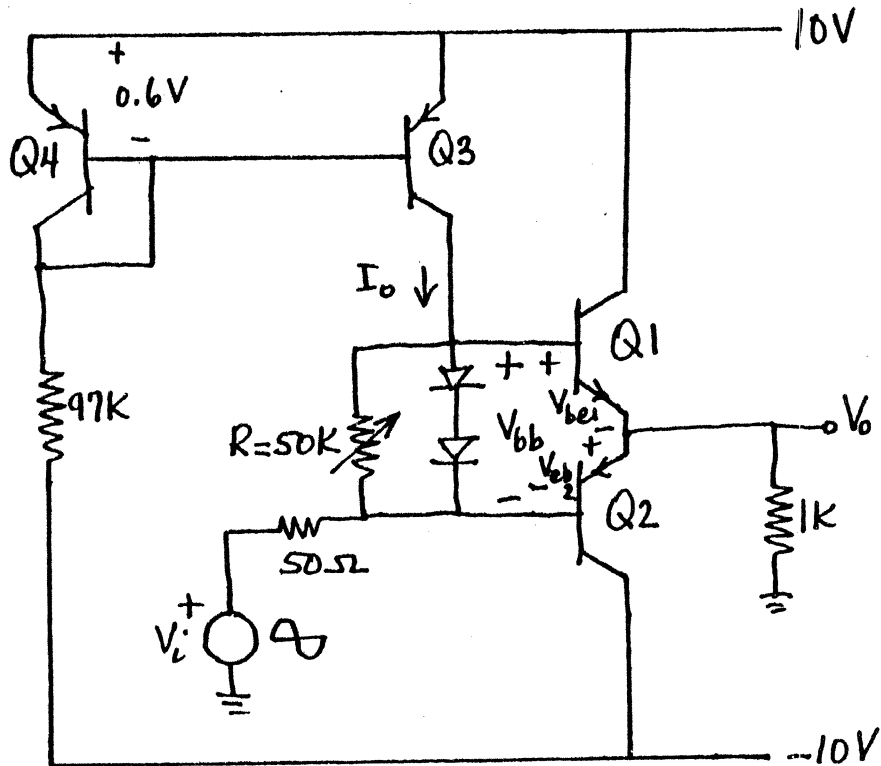


An increase of  $I_o$  or decrease in the load (larger  $R_L$ ) reduces this unwanted distortion for  $V_i$  large.



# Class-AB amplifier demonstration

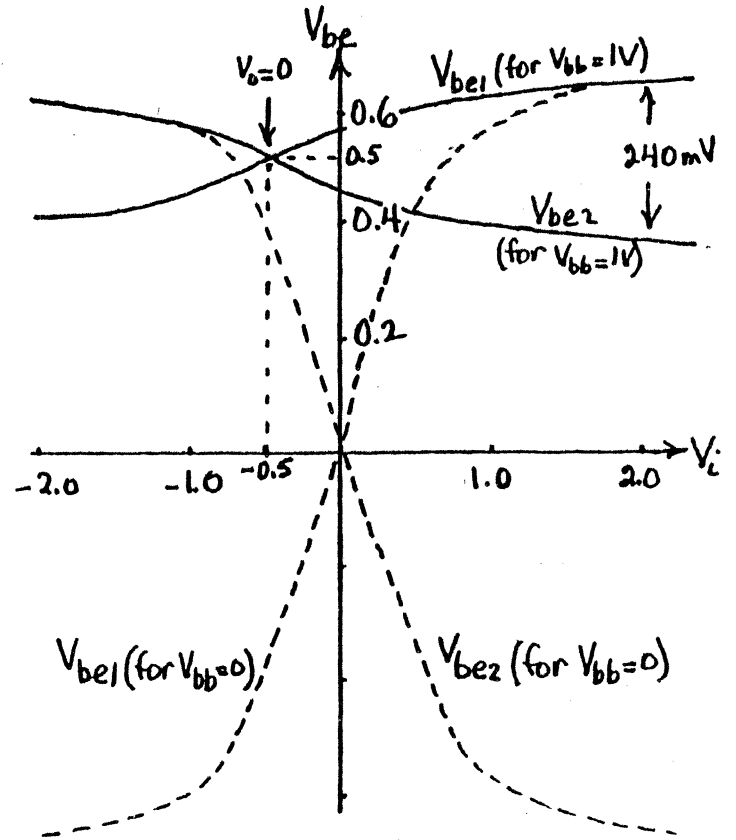
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$$I_o = \frac{20 - 0.6}{97} = 0.2 \text{ mA}$$

As a function of R show

- $V_o$  vs  $V_i$
- $V_o$  and  $V_i$  waveforms
- $V_{be1}$  and  $V_{be2}$  vs  $V_i$

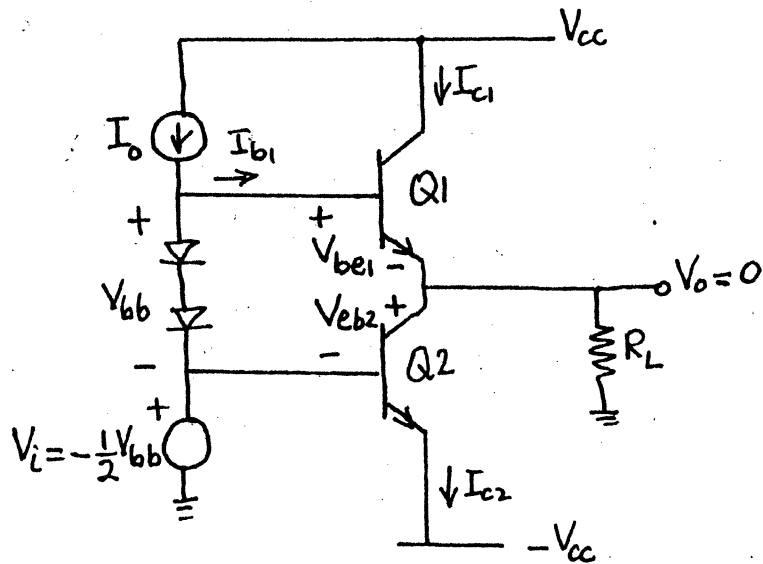


at  $V_i = 2V$ ,  $V_{be1} - V_{be2} = 240 \text{ mV}$ .

This means  $I_{c1} = 10^4 I_{c2}$  if

$$I_{SNPN} = I_{SPNP}$$

## More flexible control of $V_{bb}$



When  $V_o = 0$ ,  $I_{c1} = I_{c2}$  and therefore  $V_{be1} = V_{be2} = \frac{1}{2}V_{bb}$  which occurs for  $V_i = -\frac{1}{2}V_{bb}$ . Assuming  $I_{b1}$  negligible relative to  $I_0$ , we can evaluate  $V_{bb}$ .

$$V_{bb} = 2V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_{SD}} = \text{Two diode voltages}$$

The resulting collector currents are

$$I_{c1} = I_{c2} = I_S e^{\frac{1}{2} \frac{V_{bb}}{V_T}} = I_S e^{\ln \frac{I_0}{I_{SD}}} = I_0 \left( \frac{I_S}{I_{SD}} \right)$$

As is generally the case, the saturation currents  $I_S$  of the output transistors are large

than the saturation currents  $I_{SD}$  of the diodes or diode connected transistors. For  $I_S = 5I_{SD}$ ,

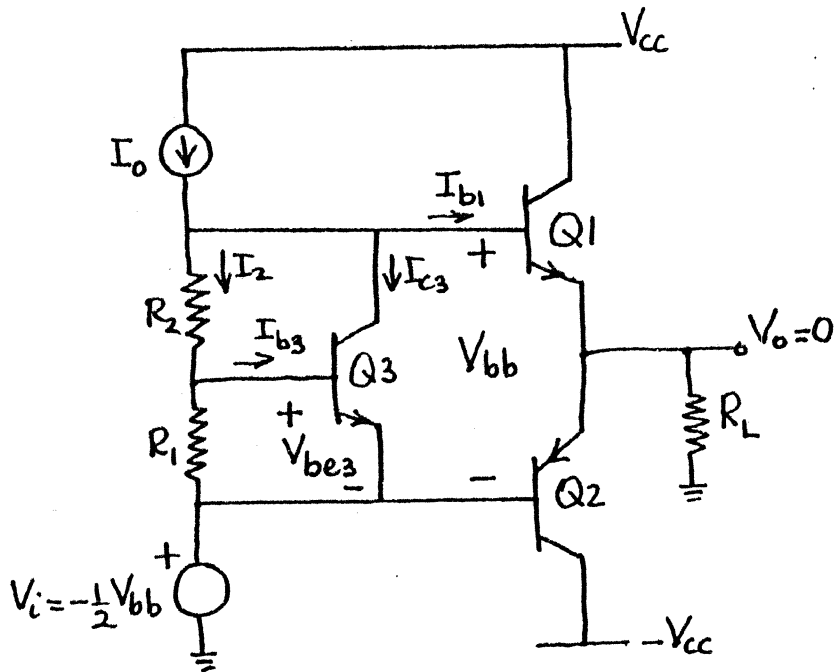
$$I_{c1} = I_{c2} = 5I_0$$

To make these standby collector currents small,  $I_0$  must be small. However, making  $I_0$  small causes premature clipping of the output waveform as  $V_i$  swings to large positive values (see discussion on p142).

To make the standby collector currents small, we could use one diode instead of two to generate  $V_{bb}$ . This, however, will result in too small standby currents and therefore will produce too much crossover distortion.

What is needed is the generation of a  $V_{bb}$  that can be adjusted to fall between one and two diode voltages. Two circuits for obtaining a wide range of control over  $V_{bb}$  are presented and discussed on the following pages.

### Circuit 1



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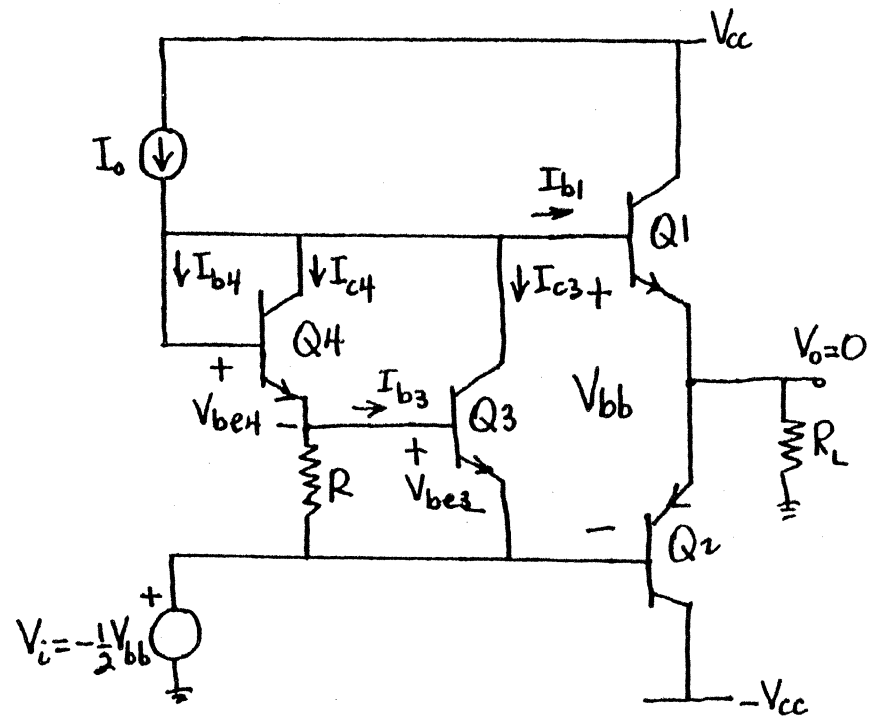
Assume that  $I_2$  and  $I_{b1}$  are negligible in comparison to  $I_0$ . This implies that  $I_{c3} = I_0$ . Further assume that  $I_{b3}$  is negligible relative to  $I_2$ . Then

$$V_{bb} \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} = V_{be3} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{c3}}{I_s} \cong V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s}$$

$$V_{bb} = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s}$$

multiplier one diode voltage

### Circuit 2



If  $R=0$ ,  $V_{be3} = 0$ ,  $I_{c3} = 0$ . Neglecting  $I_{b1}$  and  $I_{b4}$  relative to  $I_0$ , we obtain

$$I_{c4} \cong I_0$$

$$V_{bb} = V_{be4} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{c4}}{I_s} = \boxed{V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s}}$$

one diode voltage

Now suppose that  $R$  is adjusted to split  $I_0$  evenly between  $I_{c3}$  and  $I_{c4}$ .

$$I_{c3} = I_{c4} = \frac{I_0}{2} \quad (I_{b4} \text{ neglected})$$

$$V_{bb} = V_{be3} + V_{be4} = 2V_{be3} \quad \text{since } I_c \text{'s are same.}$$

$$V_{bb} = 2V_T \ln \frac{I_{c3}}{I_s} = 2V_T \ln \frac{I_0/2}{I_s} = 2V_T (\ln \frac{I_0}{I_s} - \ln 2)$$

$$\boxed{V_{bb} = 2V_T \ln \frac{I_0}{I_s} - 36 \text{ mV}}$$

two diode voltages

The resistance  $R$  required to obtain this  $V_{bb}$  can be determined from

$$I_{c4} R \cong V_{be3} \quad (I_{b3} \text{ and } I_{b4} \text{ neglected})$$

$$\frac{I_0}{2} R = \frac{1}{2} V_{bb}$$

$$\boxed{R = \frac{V_{bb}}{I_0}}$$

It can be shown that this value of  $R$  results in the largest possible  $V_{bb}$ . Any increase of  $R$  beyond this value results in a slight decrease of  $V_{bb}$ .

Thus, by adjusting  $R$  any  $V_{bb}$  from one diode voltage to, <sup>practically</sup> two diode voltages

can be generated.

To obtain  $V_{bb}$  for any  $R$ , proceed as follows.

$$I_0 = I_{c3} + I_{c4} \quad (I_{b4} \text{ and } I_{b1} \text{ neglected})$$

$$= I_{c3} + \left( \frac{I_{c3}}{\beta_3} + \frac{V_{be3}}{R} \right) \quad (I_{b4} \text{ neglected})$$

$$\boxed{I_0 = I_{c3} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\beta_3} \right) + \frac{V_T}{R} \ln \frac{I_{c3}}{I_s}}$$

Solve this equation by trial and error for  $I_{c3}$ . Then obtain  $I_{c4}$  from

$$I_{c4} = I_0 - I_{c3}$$

Using these values of  $I_{c3}$  and  $I_{c4}$ , obtain  $V_{bb}$  from

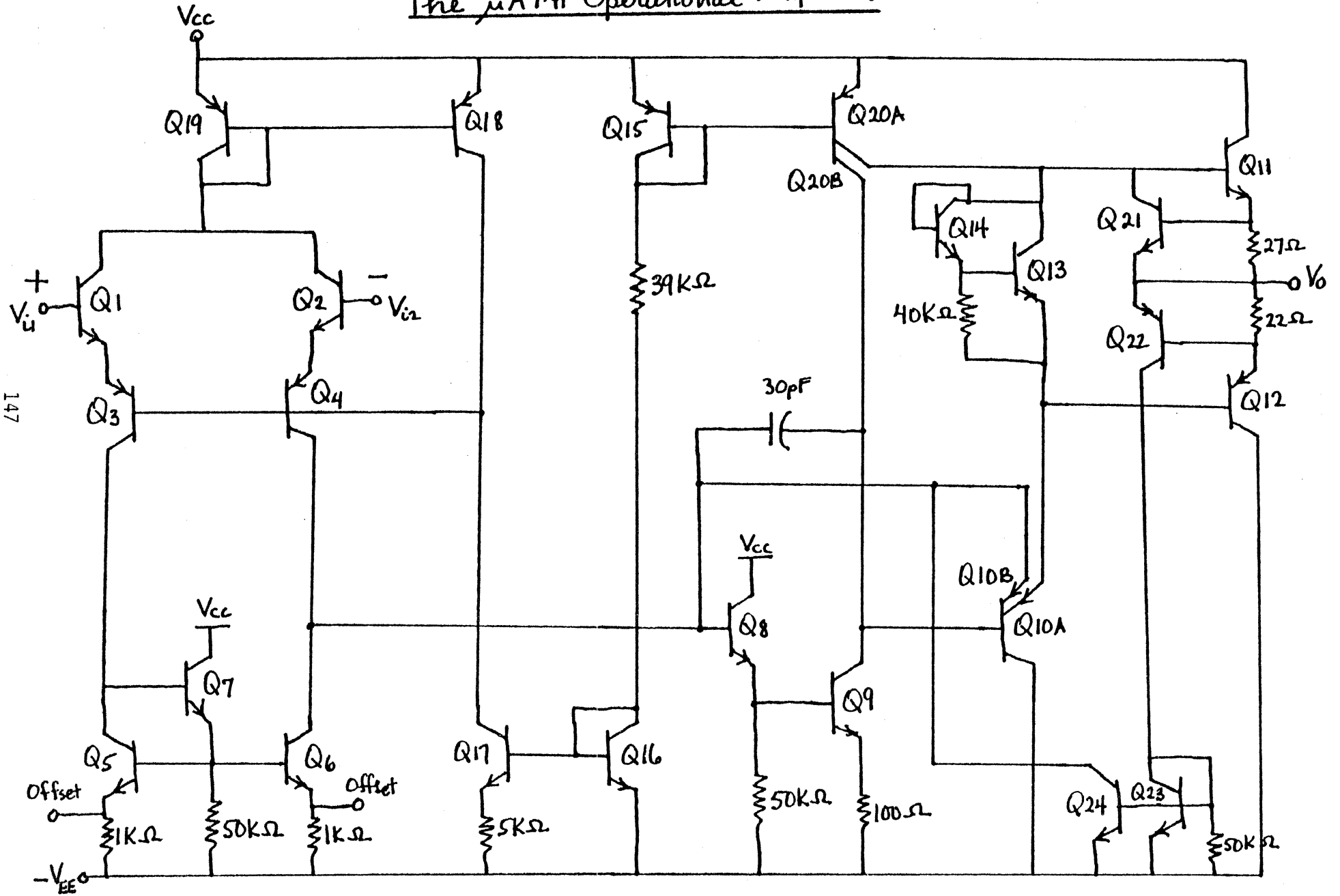
$$V_{bb} = V_{be3} + V_{be4}$$

$$= V_T \ln \frac{I_{c3}}{I_s} + V_T \ln \frac{I_{c4}}{I_s}$$

$$\boxed{V_{bb} = V_T \ln \left( \frac{I_{c3} I_{c4}}{I_s^2} \right)}$$

L19:

# The $\mu$ A741 Operational Amplifier



# Current sources used for biasing

Assume  $I_{S17} = I_{S16} = I_S$

$$I_{17} \cdot 50k + V_{BE17} = V_{BE16}$$

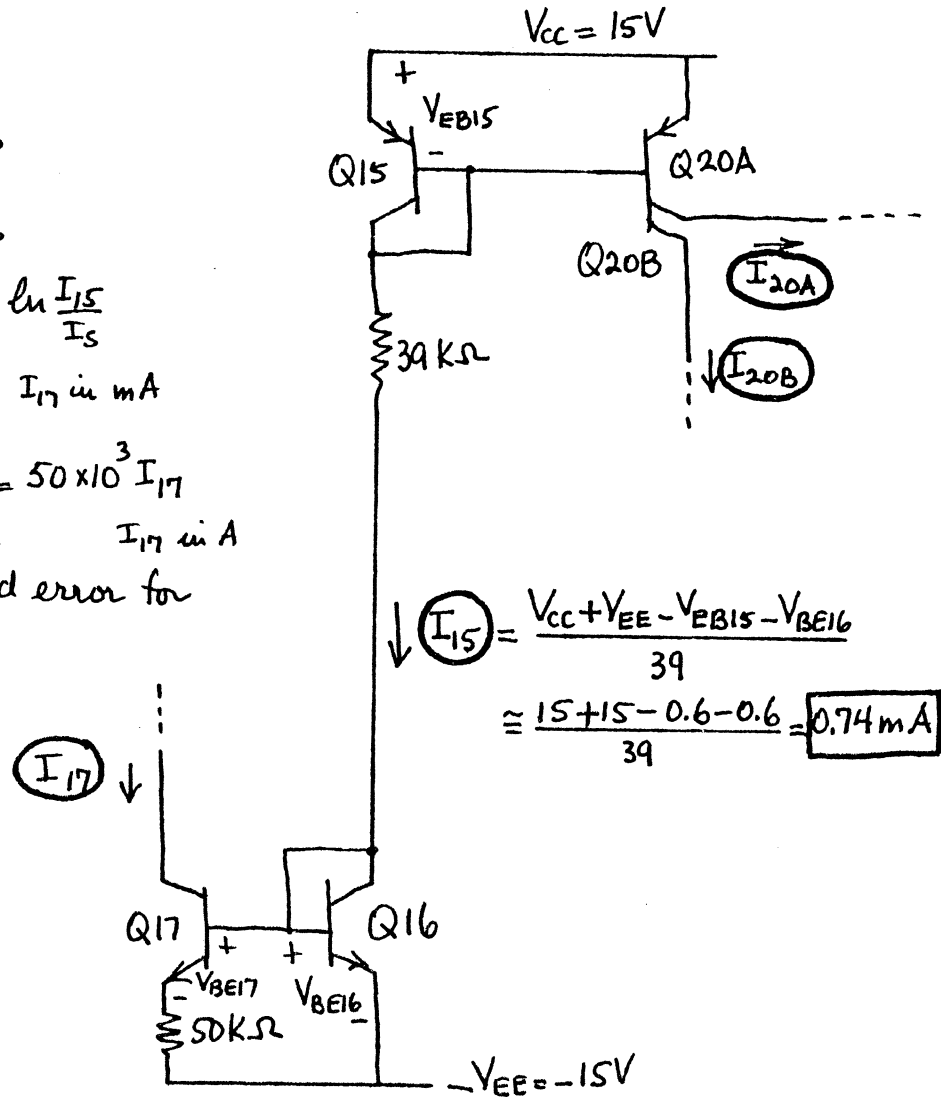
$$I_{17} \cdot 50 + V_T \ln \frac{I_{17}}{I_S} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{15}}{I_S}$$

$$V_T \ln \frac{I_{15}}{I_{17}} = 50 I_{17} \quad I_{17} \text{ in mA}$$

$$26 \times 10^{-3} \ln \frac{0.74 \times 10^{-3}}{I_{17}} = 50 \times 10^3 I_{17} \quad I_{17} \text{ in A}$$

Solve by trial and error for

$$I_{17} = 19 \mu A$$



$$I_{S15} = I_S$$

$$I_{S20A} = \frac{1}{4} I_S \quad I_{S20B} = \frac{3}{4} I_S$$

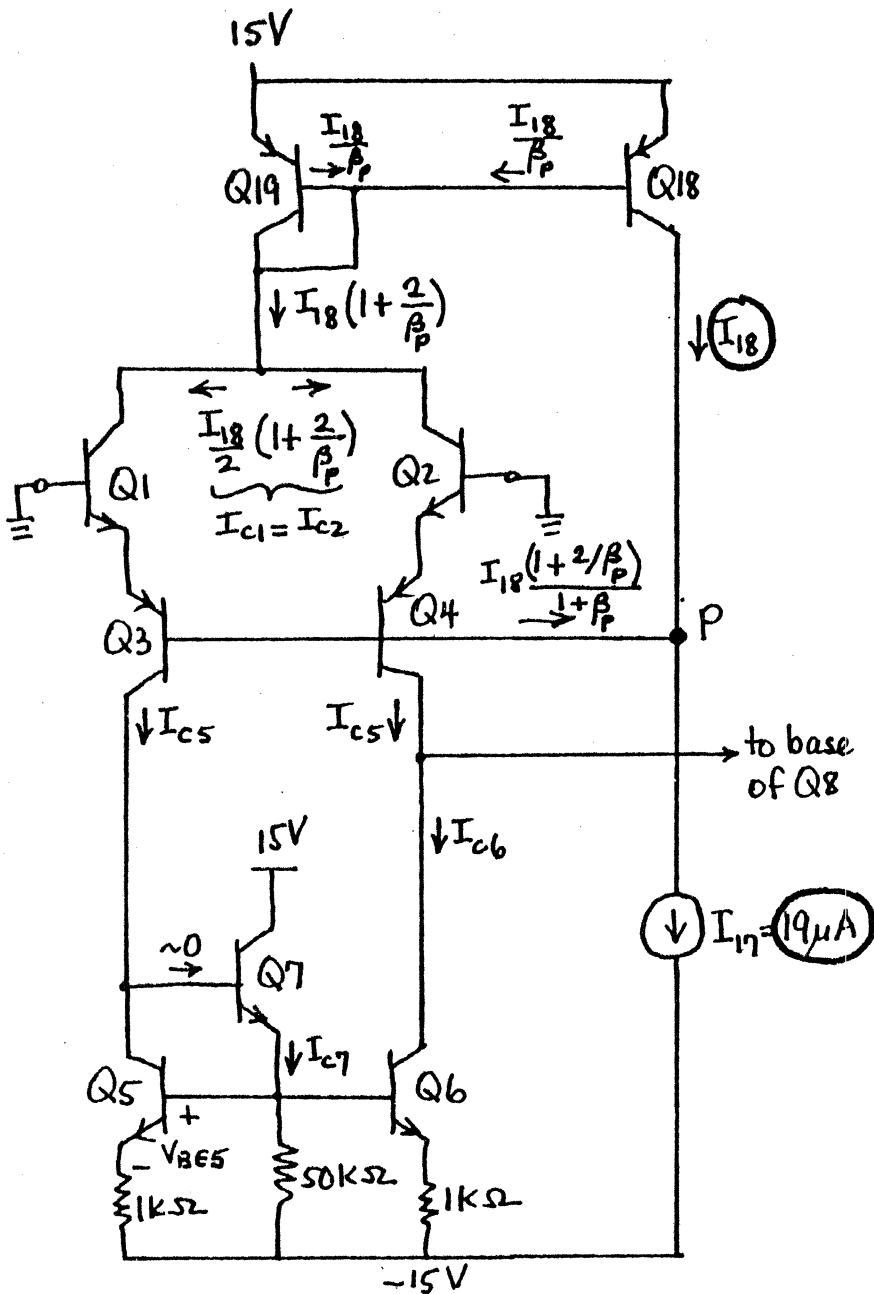
$$I_{20A} = \frac{1}{4} I_{15} = \frac{0.74}{4} = 0.19 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_{20B} = \frac{3}{4} I_{15} = \frac{3}{4} \times 0.74 = 0.56 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_{15} = \frac{V_{CC} + V_{EE} - V_{EB15} - V_{BE16}}{39} \approx \frac{15 + 15 - 0.6 - 0.6}{39} = 0.74 \text{ mA}$$

# Bias Currents of the input stage

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With  $I_{17} = 19 \mu A$  obtained from the previous page, we now calculate  $I_{18}$  by assuming matched pairs  $Q_{18}$  and  $Q_{19}$ ,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ ,  $Q_3$  and  $Q_4$ ,  $Q_5$  and  $Q_6$ . Since the  $\beta$  of the NPN transistors is high, the NPN base currents will be neglected. On the other hand, the PNP base currents will be included in the calculations because their  $\beta$ 's are not so high.

Summing currents at node P, we obtain

$$I_{18} \left[ 1 + \left( 1 + \frac{2}{\beta_P} \right) / \left( 1 + \beta_P \right) \right] = I_{17}$$

$$I_{18} = I_{17} \frac{\beta_P^2 + \beta_P}{\beta_P^2 + 2\beta_P + \beta_P} \approx I_{17} = \boxed{19 \mu A}$$

$$I_{c1} = I_{c2} = \frac{I_{17}}{2} \left( \frac{\beta_P^2 + 3\beta_P + 2}{\beta_P^2 + 2\beta_P + 2} \right) = \begin{cases} \beta_P = 5 & = 10.8 \mu A \\ \beta_P = \infty & = \boxed{9.5 \mu A} \end{cases}$$

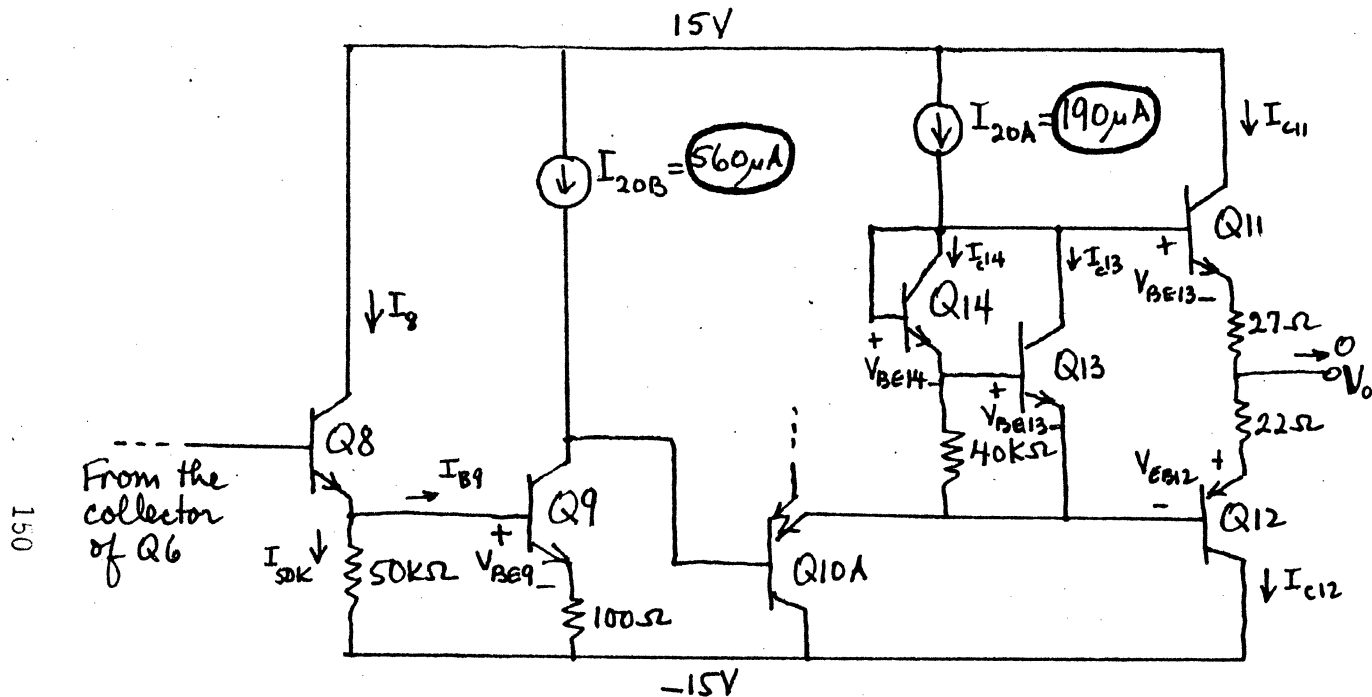
Thus the operating currents of  $Q_1, Q_2, Q_3$  and  $Q_4$  are well stabilized against variations in  $\beta_P$ .

$$I_{c5} \approx I_{c1} = I_{c6} \approx \boxed{9.5 \mu A}$$

$$I_{c7} \cdot 50K = V_{BE5} + I_{c5} \cdot 1K \quad I_{c7} = \frac{V_T \ln \frac{I_{c5}}{I_s} + I_{c5}}{50} = \boxed{11 \mu A}$$

$I_s = 10^{-14}$

## Bias currents in the intermediate and output stages



Note that the base of Q8 is about two  $V_{BE}$  above  $-15V$ .  
The  $560\mu A$  current source fixes  $V_{BE9}$  (neglect  $I_{B10A}$ ).

$$V_{BE9} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{20B}}{I_s} \Big|_{I_s = 10^{-14}} = 644 \text{ mV}$$

$$I_8 = I_{50K} + I_{B9} = \frac{V_{BE9} + I_{20B} 100\Omega}{50K} + \frac{I_{20B}}{\beta_9} \Big|_{\beta_9 = 250} = \boxed{16\mu A}$$

To determine  $I_{13}$  and  $I_{14}$ , assume  $V_{BE13} = 612 \text{ mV}$  and check to see whether the resulting  $I_{13} + I_{14} = I_{20A} = 190\mu A$ .  $I_{13} = I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE13}}{V_T}} = 10^{-14} e^{\frac{612}{26}} = \boxed{167\mu A}$

$$I_{14} = \frac{I_{13}}{\beta_{13}} + \frac{V_{BE13}}{40K} \Big|_{\beta_{13} = 100} = \boxed{17\mu A} \quad I_{13} + I_{14} = 167 + 17 = 184\mu A \text{ (which is close enough to } 190\mu A)$$

To determine  $I_{C11} = I_{C12}$ , use the relationship between the base-to-emitter voltages.

$$V_{BE11} + V_{BE12} = V_{BE13} + V_{BE14}$$

$$V_T \ln \frac{I_{C11}}{I_{S11}} + V_T \ln \frac{I_{C12}}{I_{S12}} = V_T \ln \frac{I_{C13}}{I_{S13}} + V_T \ln \frac{I_{C14}}{I_{S14}}$$

$$\frac{I_{C11} I_{C12}}{I_{S11} I_{S12}} = \frac{I_{C13} I_{C14}}{I_{S13} I_{S14}}$$

$$I_{C11} = I_{C12} = \sqrt{I_{C13} I_{C14}} \sqrt{\frac{I_{S11} I_{S12}}{I_{S13} I_{S14}}}$$

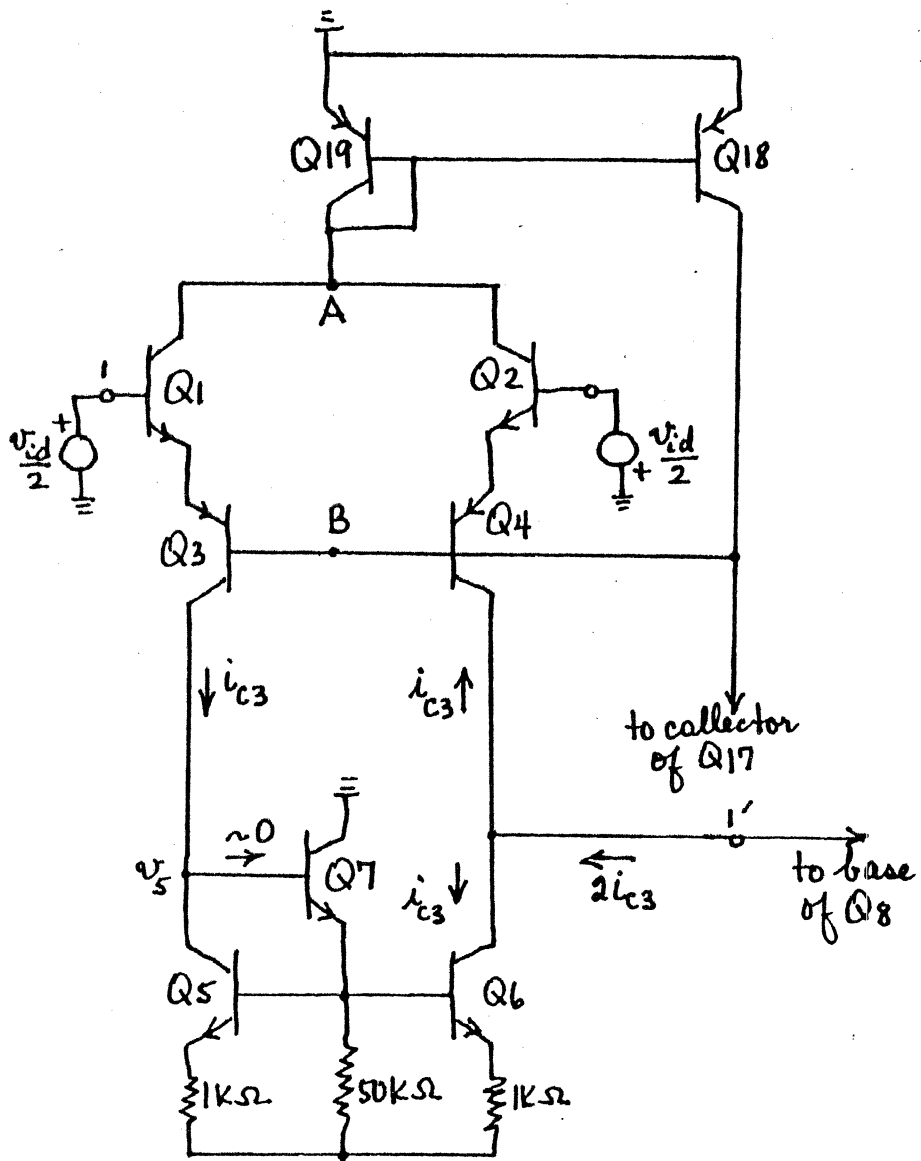
With  $I_{C13} = 167\mu A$ ,  $I_{C14} = 17\mu A$   
and  $I_{S13} = I_{S14} = \frac{1}{3} I_{S11} = \frac{1}{3} I_{S12}$   
we obtain

$$I_{C11} = I_{C12} = 3 \sqrt{I_{C13} I_{C14}} = 3 \sqrt{167 \times 17} = \boxed{160\mu A}$$

Note: With both inputs grounded  $V_0$  will fluctuate over wide limits. Feedback to the  $-$  input terminal stabilizes  $V_0$ .

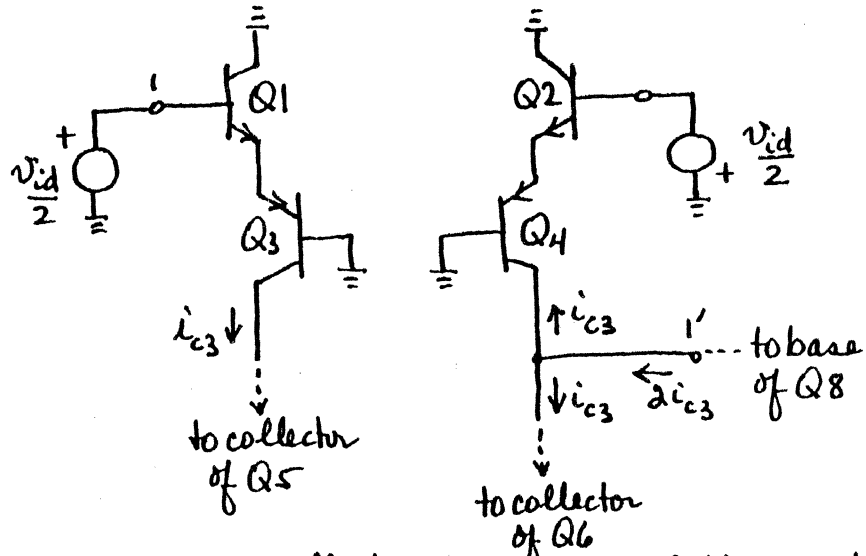


# Small-signal analysis: input stage



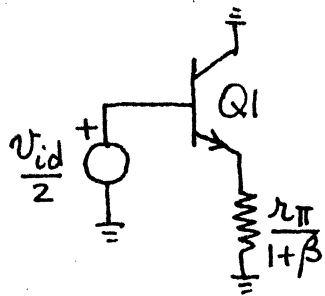
See also discussion given on pp 109-117.

Except for the base connection of Q7, the circuit is symmetrical about the mid line. Since signals in the collectors of Q3 and Q4 have negligible effect on their bases and emitters, nodes A and B can be grounded in spite of the lack of symmetry of the lower half of the circuit. Furthermore, because Q6 mirrors the current of Q5 ( $i_{b7}$  can be neglected),  $i_{c6} = i_{c5} = i_{c3}$  as shown. Consequently the circuit can be drawn as shown below.



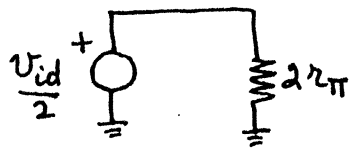
Since all collector currents (with the exception of Q7) have the same dc value, all  $r_{\pi}$ 's and  $g_m$ 's are the same.

Input equivalent faced by source  $\frac{v_{id}}{2}$



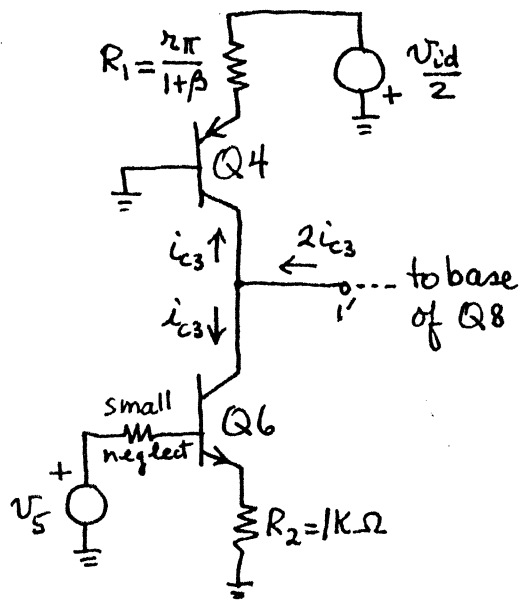
$$r_{\pi} = \frac{26}{I_{B1}} = \frac{26}{I_{C1}/\beta} \text{ K}$$

$$= \frac{26}{9.5/250} = \boxed{684 \text{ K}}$$

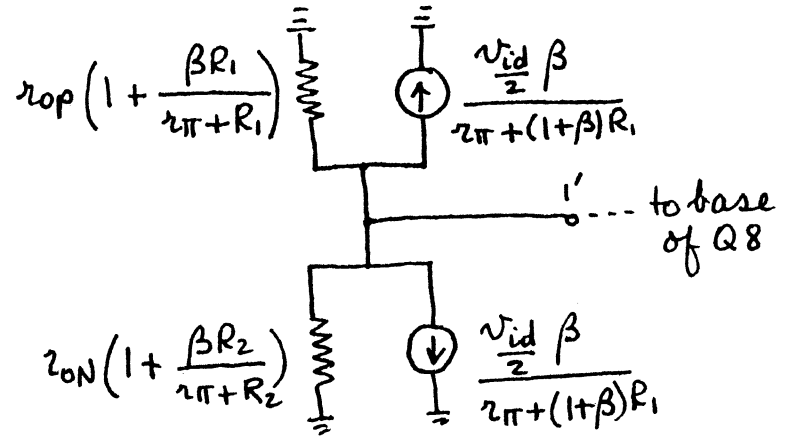


Source  $v_i$  faces  $\boxed{4r_{\pi}}$

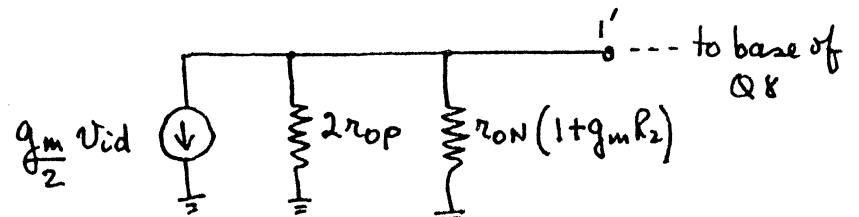
Output equivalent of the input stage



Making use of the results presented on p37, we obtain



Since  $r_{\pi} \gg R_2$  and  $R_1 = \frac{r_{\pi}}{1+\beta}$ , we obtain



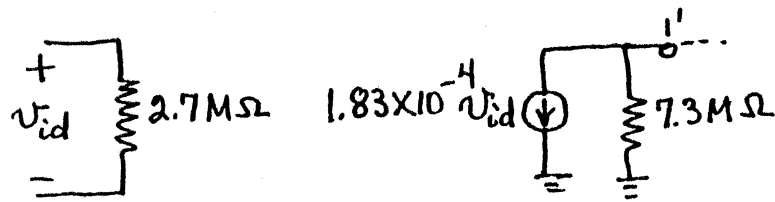
$$g_m = \frac{I_{C1}}{V_T} = \frac{9.5 \times 10^{-6}}{26 \times 10^{-3}} = 3.65 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$r_{op} = \frac{V_{AP}}{I_{C1}} = \frac{60}{9.5 \times 10^{-6}} = 6.3 \text{ M}\Omega$$

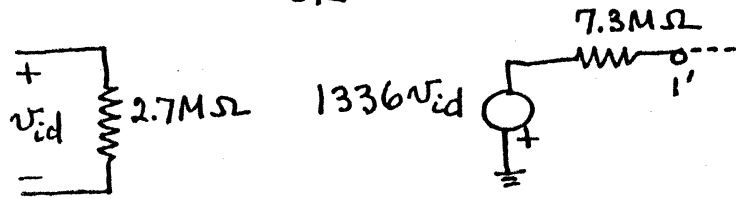
$$r_{on} = \frac{V_{AN}}{I_{C1}} = \frac{120}{9.5 \times 10^{-6}} = 12.6 \text{ M}\Omega$$

$$r_{on}(1 + g_m R_2) = 12.6 \left(1 + \frac{9.5}{26}\right) = 17.2 \text{ M}\Omega$$

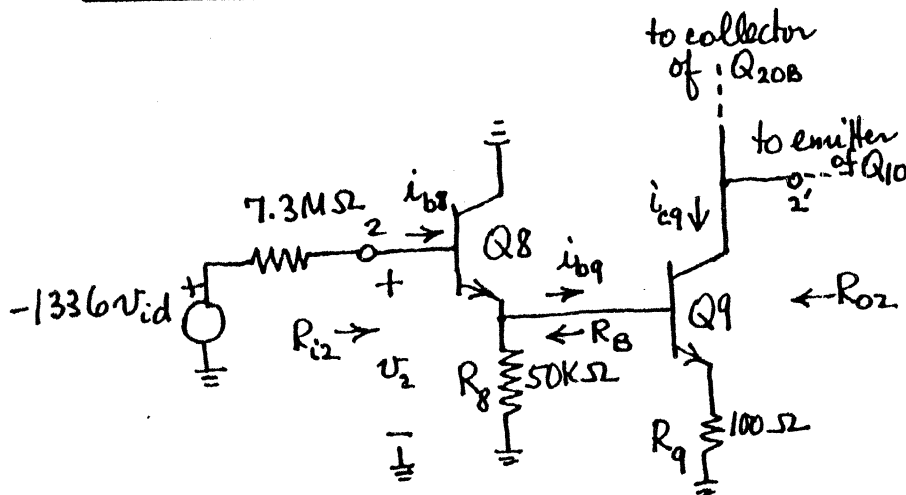
## Equivalent circuit of input stage



OR



## The intermediate stage



In calculating voltages and currents, assume  $r_o$ 's are infinite and  $\beta_8 = \beta_9 = 250$ .

$$R_{i2} = r_{\pi 8} + (1 + \beta_8) \left\{ R_8 \parallel [r_{\pi 9} + (1 + \beta_9) R_9] \right\}$$

$$r_{\pi 8} = \frac{26}{I_{B8}} = \frac{26}{I_{C8}/\beta_8} = \frac{26 \times 250}{16} = 406.3 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$r_{\pi 9} = \frac{26}{I_{B9}} = \frac{26}{I_{C9}/\beta_9} = \frac{26 \times 250}{560} = 11.6 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$R_{i2} = 406.3 + 251 \left\{ 50 \parallel [11.6 + 251 \times 0.1] \right\} = \boxed{5.7 \text{ M}\Omega}$$

$$i_{b8} = \frac{v_2}{R_{i2}} = \frac{v_2}{5.7} \mu\text{A}$$

$$i_{b9} = i_{b8} (1 + \beta_8) \frac{R_8}{R_8 + r_{\pi 9} + (1 + \beta_9) R_9}$$

$$= \frac{v_2}{5.7} \times 251 \times \frac{50}{50 + 11.6 + 251 \times 0.1}$$

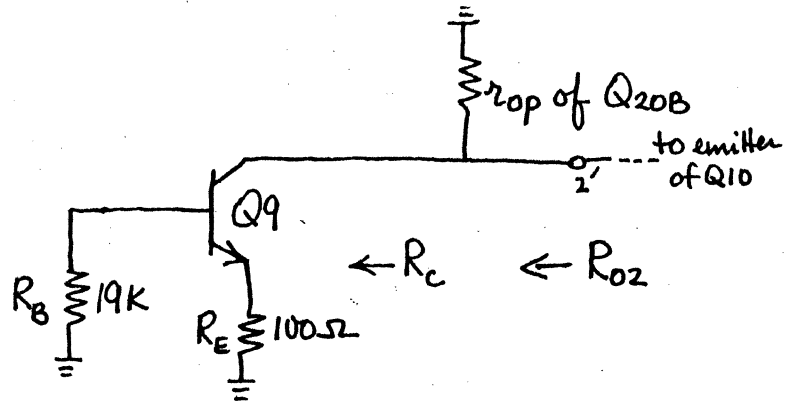
$$= 25.4 v_2 \mu\text{A} = 0.0254 v_2 \text{ mA}$$

$$i_{c9} = \beta_9 i_{b9} = 250 \times 0.0254 v_2 = 6.35 v_2$$

In the calculation of the output resistance  $R_{o2}$ , we must include the output resistance  $7.3 \text{ M}\Omega$  of the previous stage. First, we calculate  $R_B$ .

$$R_B = \frac{(7.3 \text{ M} + r_{\pi 8})}{1 + \beta_8} \parallel R_8 = \frac{(7300 + 406.3)}{251} \parallel 50 = 19 \text{ k}\Omega$$

So far  $r_o$ 's have been assumed infinite. For the calculation of  $R_{o2}$ , however, we have to use  $r_{o9} = r_{on}$  and  $r_{o20B} = r_{op}$ .



Using the results of p37, we obtain

$$R_c = r_{oN} \left[ 1 + \frac{R_E \left( \beta_q + \frac{R_B + r_{\pi q}}{r_{oN}} \right)}{R_B + r_{\pi q} + R_E} \right]$$

where  $r_{oN} = \frac{V_{AN}}{I_{Cq}} = \frac{120}{0.56} = 214.3 \text{ K}\Omega$

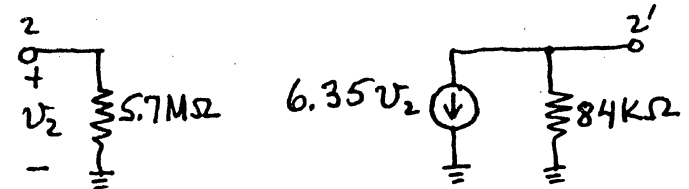
$r_{oP} = \frac{V_{AP}}{I_{C20B}} = \frac{60}{0.56} = 107.1 \text{ K}\Omega$

$$R_c = 214.3 \left[ 1 + \frac{0.1 \left( 250 + \frac{19 + 11.6}{214.3} \right)}{19 + 11.6 + 0.1} \right] = 388.9 \text{ K}\Omega$$

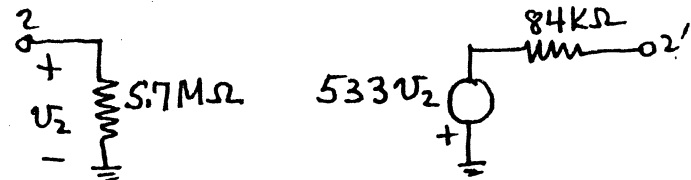
$$R_{o2} = R_c \parallel r_{oP} = 388.9 \parallel 107.1 = \boxed{84 \text{ K}\Omega}$$

If we had taken  $r_o$ 's as infinite, the output resistance  $R_{o2}$  would have come out infinite which is not a realistic result in comparison to the actual  $84 \text{ K}\Omega$ .

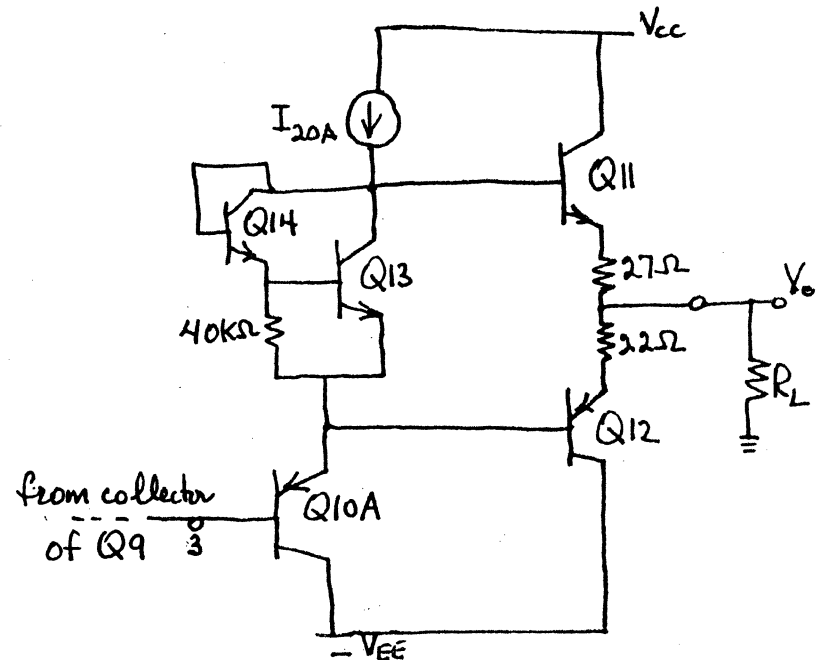
### Equivalent circuit of intermediate stage



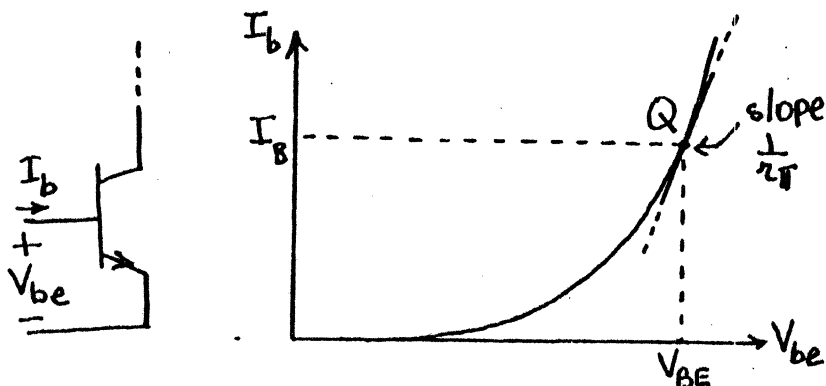
OR



### The output stage with driver



## Meaninglessness of $r_{\pi 11}$ and $r_{\pi 12}$



When the transistor is biased such that operation is about the quiescent point  $Q$  and does not depart too far from it, then any change along the exponential can be approximated by following the straight line tangent to the exponential at the point  $Q$ .

$$I_b = \frac{I_s}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}}$$

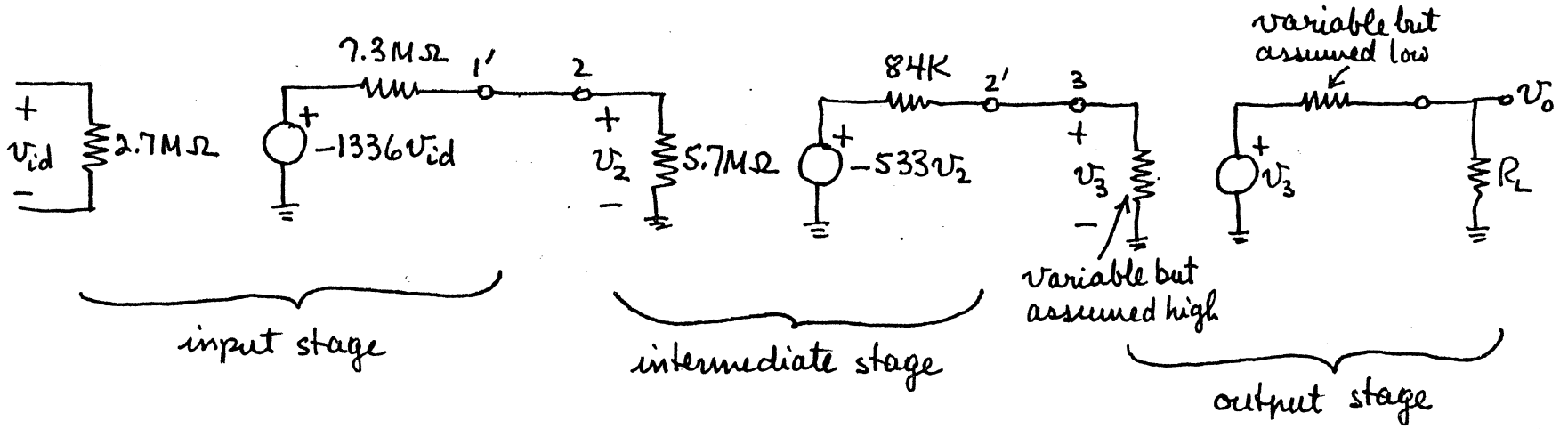
$$\frac{dI_b}{dV_{be}} = \frac{I_s}{\beta V_T} e^{\frac{V_{be}}{V_T}} \Big|_{V_{be}=V_{BE}} = \frac{I_s e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}}}{\beta V_T} = \frac{I_B}{V_T} = \frac{1}{r_{\pi}}$$

Thus  $\Delta I_b = \frac{1}{r_{\pi}} \Delta V_{be}$  or  $i_b = \frac{v_{be}}{r_{\pi}}$   
 (Also see discussion presented on p 11.)

As long as operation is confined to the vicinity of the quiescent point,  $r_{\pi}$  has meaning and can be used in the calculation of small signal voltages and currents. In the class-AB output stage however, transistors  $Q_{11}$  and  $Q_{12}$  are operated not at or about a point but rather along a wide span of the exponential and therefore the slope changes from very high values to very low values as the sinusoidal signal goes through a cycle of operation. Therefore, to speak of a single value for  $r_{\pi}$  is totally meaningless and results in highly erroneous values for voltages and currents.

However, in our discussion of the class-AB output stage (see pp 138-143), we saw that the transfer curve, the  $V_o$  vs  $V_i$  characteristic, is quite linear if the crossover distortion is eliminated. Furthermore, the slope is practically unity. Hence, without introducing any significant error, the output stage including

the emitter-follower-driver Q10A can be assumed to have unity gain. Also the variable loading presented by the base of Q10A on the output of the intermediate stage can be considered negligible. Similarly, the loading of  $R_L$  on the output stage can be assumed to have negligible effect on the gain. Hence, the complete equivalent circuit can be put together as shown below.



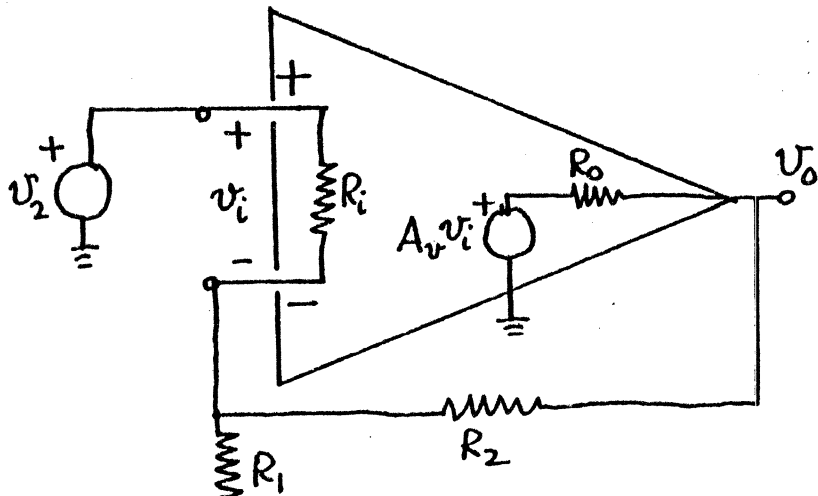
$$v_o \approx v_3 \approx -533v_2 = (-533) \left[ (-1336v_{id}) \left( \frac{5.7}{7.3+5.7} \right) \right] \approx \boxed{312000 v_{id}} = A_v v_{id}$$

reduction of gain caused by loading of int. stage

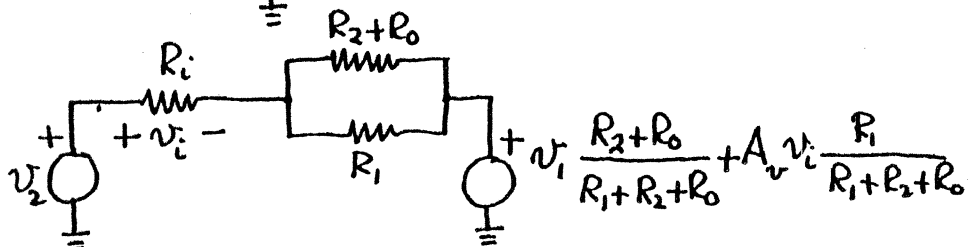
$A_v = 312000$

It should be realized that this gain of 312000 will not stay constant since it depends on temperature, power supply voltages, common-mode level at the input and other factors. However, vary as it may, it will always be a large number, and this is what is wanted in an operational amplifier.

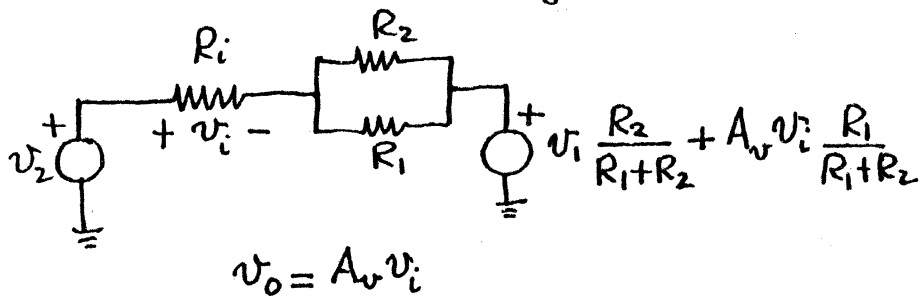
To stabilize the gain, use feedback



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Even though not clearly defined, assume  $R_o \ll R_2$ .



$$v_o = A_v v_i$$

$$v_i = \frac{[v_2 - (v_1 \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} + A_v v_i \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2})] R_i}{R_i + R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)}$$

$$v_i = \frac{(v_2 - v_1 \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}) \frac{R_i}{R_i + R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)}}{1 + A_v \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \left( \frac{R_i}{R_i + R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)} \right)}$$

$$v_o = A_v v_i$$

$$v_o = \frac{v_2 (1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}) - v_1 \frac{R_2}{R_1}}{1 + \frac{(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}) (1 + \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2} / R_i)}{A_v}}$$

As is almost invariably the case,

$$1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2} / R_i \ll 1, \quad \text{in}$$

which case the expression of  $v_o$  simplifies to

$$v_o = v_2 (1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}) - v_1 \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

which is independent of  $A_v$  (and  $R_i$ ). For  $R_1 = 1k\Omega$ ,  $R_2 = 100k\Omega$ ,  $A_v = 312000$ , and  $R_i = 2.7M\Omega$ , we have

$$v_o = \frac{101 v_2 - 100 v_1}{1 + \frac{101}{312000} (1 + \frac{100}{101} / 2700)} = \frac{101 v_2 - 100 v_1}{1.00032}$$

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## Useful formulas

$$r_{\pi} = \frac{V_T}{I_B} = \frac{26}{I_{B\mu A}} \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$g_m = \frac{I_c}{V_T}$$

$$\beta = g_m r_{\pi}$$

$$r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_c}$$