# Power Amplifiers

# **Class A Amplifier**

A class-A emitter follower biased with a constant-current source is shown in the following Figure. Study the Figure carefully. Transistor parameters are:  $\beta = 180$ ,  $V_{BE} = 0.7$  V, and  $V_{CE}(\text{sat}) = 0.2$ V. Neglecting base currents, find:

- (i) The value of  $I_Q$ .
- (ii) The maximum and minimum values of  $i_{EI}$  and  $i_{L}$ .
- (iii) The value of *R* that will produce the maximum possible output signal swing.
- (iv) The conversion efficiency.

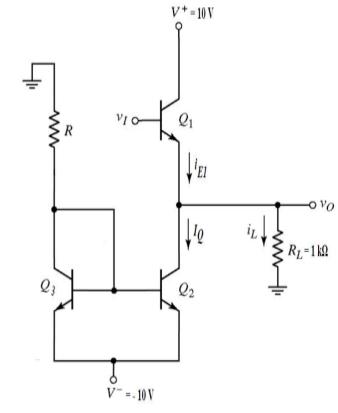


Fig: Output Stage of Class A Amplifier.

(i) 
$$v_O(\text{max}) = V^+ - V_{CE}(\text{sat}) = 10 - 0.2 = 9.8 \text{ V}$$
  
 $I_Q = i_L(\text{max}) = v_O(\text{max}) / R_L = 9.8 / 1 \text{k} = 9.8 \text{ mA}$ 

(ii) 
$$i_{EI}(max) = 2 I_Q = 19.6 \text{ mA}$$
  
 $i_{EI}(min) = 0$ 

$$i_L(\text{max}) = I_Q = 9.8 \text{ mA}$$
  
 $i_L(\text{min}) = -I_Q = -9.8 \text{ mA}$ 

(iii) 
$$R = (0 - V_{BE} - (-10)) / I_0 = 9.3 / 9.8 \text{m} = 949 \Omega$$

(iv) 
$$\overline{P}_L = \frac{1}{2} (i_L (\text{max}))^2 R_L = \frac{1}{2} (9.8 \text{m})^2 (1 \text{k})$$
  
 $\Rightarrow \overline{P}_L = 48.02 \text{mW}$   
 $\overline{P}_S = I_Q (V^+ - V^-) + I_Q (0 - V^-)$   
 $\Rightarrow \overline{P}_S = 9.8 \text{m} (20) + 9.8 \text{m} (10) = 294 \text{mW}$   
 $\eta = \frac{\overline{P}_L}{\overline{P}_S} = \frac{48.02 \text{m}}{294 \text{m}} = 16.3\%$ 

### **Class B Amplifier**

An idealized class B output stage is to deliver 35 W of average power to a  $25\Omega$  load for a symmetrical input sine wave. The maximum output voltage is required to be 80% of the power supply voltage.

- Find the power supply voltage.
- With that power supply voltage, calculate the value of the power conversion efficiency  $\eta$ .

$$P_L^* = 35 \text{ W}, R_L = 25\Omega$$
  
 $P_L^* = (1/2)(V_P^2/R_L) \rightarrow 35 = (1/2)(V_P^2/25)$   
 $V_P = 41.83 \text{ V} = 0.8 V_{CC}$   
 $V_{CC} = V_P / 0.8 = 52.3 \text{ V}$   
 $P_S^* = (2 V_{CC})(V_P/\pi R_L) = (2x52.3)(41.83/\pi(25))$   
 $P_S^* = 55.7 \text{ W}$   
 $\eta = P_L^*/P_S^* = 35/55.7 = 0.628 \text{ or } 62.8\%$ 

# **Class AB Amplifier**

#### **Voltage Transfer Characteristics for The Class-AB Output Stage**:

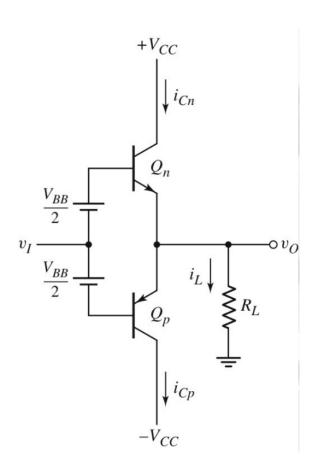
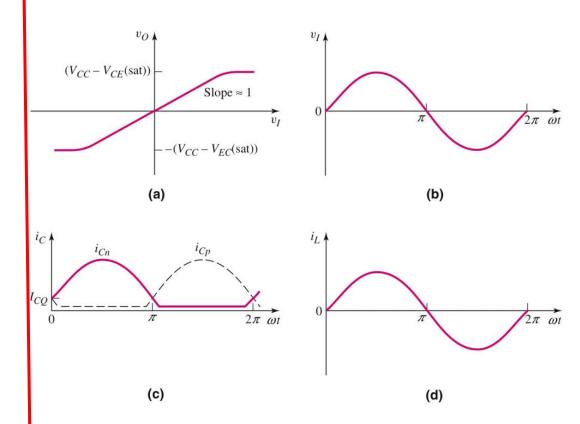


Fig: Class AB Bipolar Output Stage.



- (a) Voltage transfer curve
- (b) Sinusoidal input signal
- (c) Collector currents
- (d) Output current

