

- *Simple npn CM:*

- Q_1 has its *B and C shorted*

- *Can never saturate* ($V_{BC} = 0$)
- Known as *diode-connected BJT*

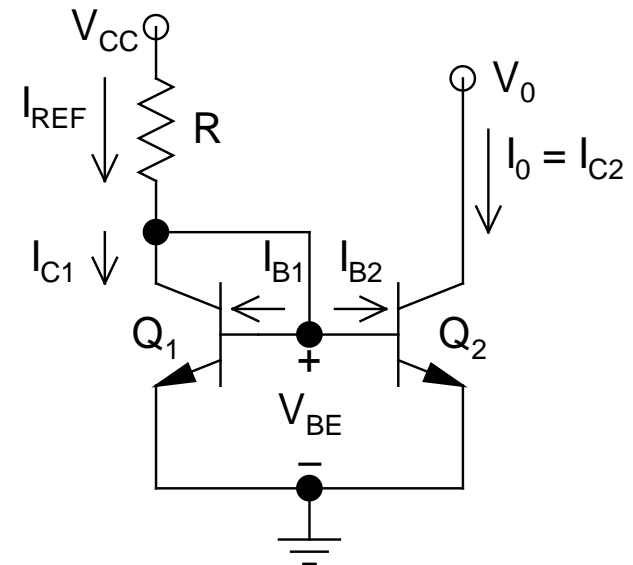
- Q_1 and Q_2 have *same V_{BE}*

- $I_{REF} = \text{Reference Current}$
 $= (V_{CC} - V_{BE})/R$

- $I_0 = \text{Output Current} = I_{C2}$

- $V_0 = \text{Output Voltage}$

- *Variable, depends on the load connected to it*



➤ *General Analysis:*

$$I_{\text{REF}} = I_{\text{C1}} + I_{\text{B1}} + I_{\text{B2}} = I_{\text{C1}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta_1} \right) + \frac{I_{\text{C2}}}{\beta_2}$$

➤ Now:

$$V_{\text{BE}} = V_{\text{T}} \ln \left(\frac{I_{\text{C2}}}{I_{\text{S2}}} \right) = V_{\text{T}} \ln \left(\frac{I_{\text{C1}}}{I_{\text{S1}}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow I_{\text{C2}} = K I_{\text{C1}} \quad (K = I_{\text{S2}}/I_{\text{S1}})$$

➤ Thus:

$$I_{\text{REF}} = I_{\text{C2}} \left[\frac{1}{\beta_2} + \frac{1}{K} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta_1} \right) \right]$$

➤ ***Finally:***

$$I_0 = I_{C2} = \frac{I_{REF}}{\frac{1}{\beta_2} + \frac{1}{K} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta_1} \right)}$$

- This is the ***exact expression*** of I_0 , ***without making any assumptions/approximations whatsoever***
- The ***only assumption*** so far is that we have ***neglected Early effect***, which we would include soon

➤ Now, we *make approximations/assumptions*:

1. $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta$:

$$\Rightarrow I_0 = \frac{KI_{\text{REF}}}{1 + \frac{1+K}{\beta}}$$

2. $I_{S1} = I_{S2} = I_S$ ($K = 1$):

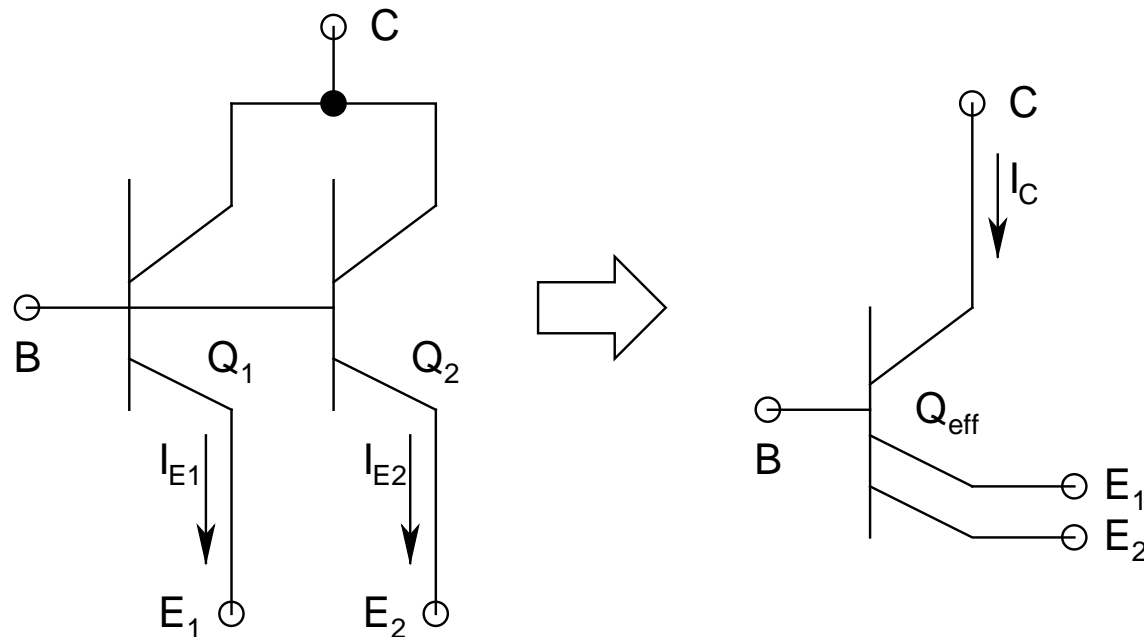
$$\Rightarrow I_0 = \frac{I_{\text{REF}}}{1 + 2/\beta}$$

3. And finally $\beta \gg 2$:

$$\Rightarrow I_0 = I_{\text{REF}} \Rightarrow \text{Current Mirror!}$$

- For this to happen, Q_1 and Q_2 must have *same β ($\gg 2$)*, and *same I_S*
- If two BJTs have *same β , I_S , and V_A* , they are known as a *matched pair*
- If $I_{S1} \neq I_{S2}$ and/or $\beta_1 \neq \beta_2$, then $I_0 \neq I_{REF}$
 - Leads to *random error (process induced)*
- If $\beta_1 = \beta_2$, but $I_{S1} \neq I_{S2}$, then $I_0 = KI_{REF}$
 - *K or $1/K$ can only be integers*
 - *I_0 and I_{REF} become integer multiples of each other*

- **Multi-Emitter BJT:**



➤ $I_{S1} = I_{S2} \Rightarrow I_{E1} = I_{E2} = I_E \Rightarrow I_C \approx 2I_E$

- *This does not imply that $\alpha = 2$, since there are two emitters*

- **Systematic Error:**

- *Even if Q_1 and Q_2 are perfectly matched and $\beta \gg 2$, still I_0 may not equal I_{REF} !*

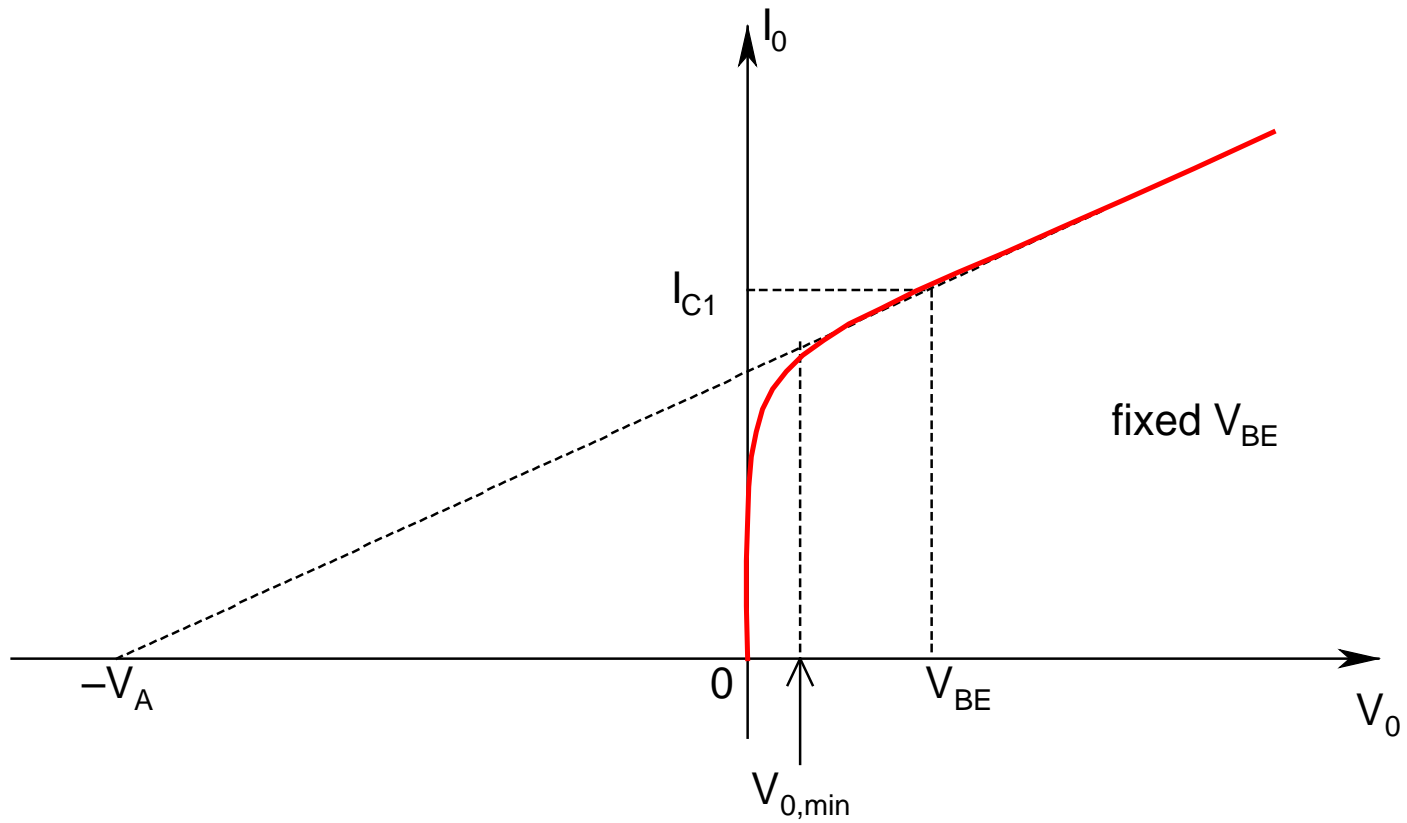
- **Recall:**

$$I_C = I_S[\exp(V_{BE}/V_T)](1 + V_{CE}/V_A)$$

- **Thus:**

$$\frac{I_{C2}}{I_{C1}} = \frac{I_0}{I_{C1}} = \frac{1 + V_{CE2}/V_A}{1 + V_{CE1}/V_A} = \frac{1 + V_0/V_A}{1 + V_{BE}/V_A}$$

- Therefore, $I_0 = I_{C1}$ only when $V_0 = V_{BE}$



$$V_{0,min} = V_{CE2(SS)} = 0.2 \text{ V}$$