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ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS
DARLINGTON AMPLIFIER

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Numerical

- For the circuit shown in Figure 1, calculate the amplifier voltage gain, DC bias values, current gain, input and output impedance and output voltage
 Given, $\beta_D = 600$ and $V_{BE} = 1.6 \text{ V}$

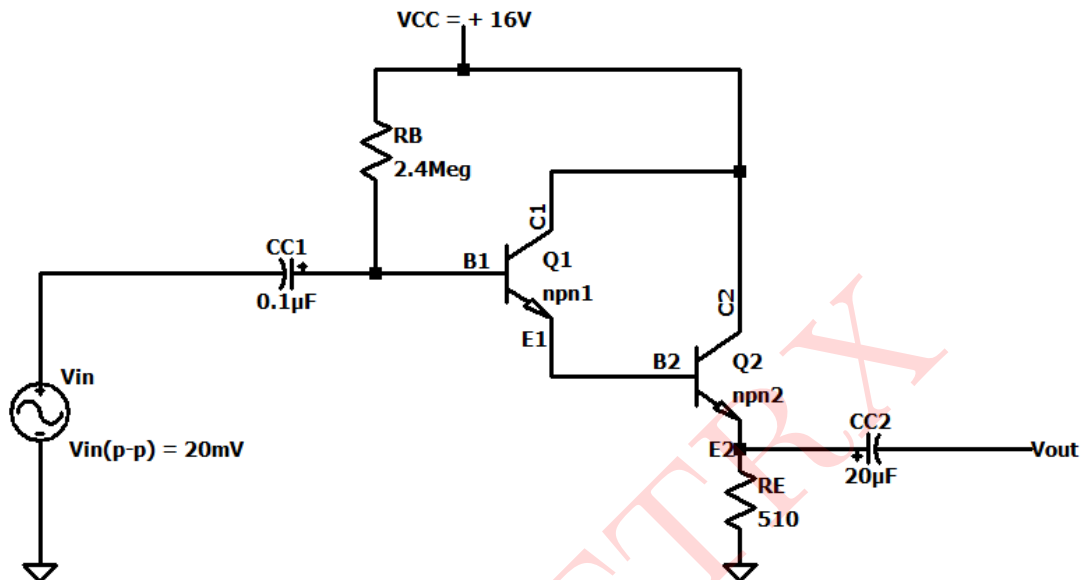


Figure 1: Circuit 1

Solution:

The above circuit is a common-collector Darlington amplifier

$$\beta_D = 6000$$

$$\beta_D = \beta_1 \times \beta_2$$

Considering $\beta_1 = \beta_2$, $\beta_D = \beta^2$ (where $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta$)

$$\therefore \beta = \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 77.459$$

DC Analysis:

The capacitors act as open circuit.

$$f = 0, \therefore X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} = \infty$$

The DC equivalent circuit is shown in Figure 2

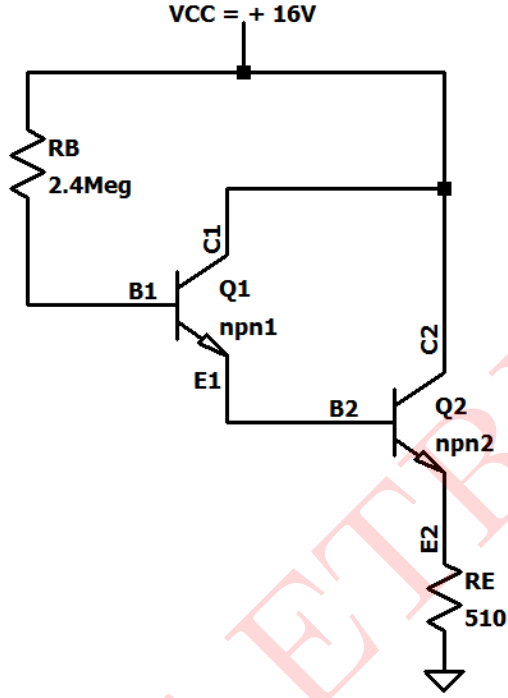


Figure 2: DC equivalent circuit

Applying KVL to the base-emitter loop

$$V_{CC} - I_{B1}R_B - V_{BE} - I_{E2}R_E = 0$$

For Darlington, $I_{E2} = \beta_D \times I_{B1}$

$$V_{CC} - I_{B1}R_B - V_{BE} - \beta_D I_{B1}R_E = 0$$

$$\therefore I_{B1} = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B + \beta_D R_E} = \frac{16 - 1.6}{2.4M + (6000 \times 510)}$$

$$\therefore I_{B1} = \mathbf{2.63736 \mu A}$$

$$I_{C1} = \beta_1 I_{B1} = 77.459 \times 2.63736 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\therefore I_{C1} = \mathbf{0.204287 \text{ mA}}$$

$$I_{E1} = I_{C1} + I_{B1} = 0.204287 \text{ mA} + 2.63736 \mu A$$

$$\therefore I_{E1} = \mathbf{0.206924 \text{ mA}}$$

$$I_{E1} = I_{B2} = \mathbf{0.206924 \text{ mA}}$$

$$I_{C2} = \beta_2 I_{B2} = 77.459 \times 0.206924 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\therefore I_{C2} = \mathbf{16.028 \text{ mA}}$$

$$I_{E_2} = I_{C_2} + I_{B_2} = 16.028 \text{ mA} + 0.206924 \text{ mA}$$

$$\therefore I_{E_2} = \mathbf{16.235 \text{ mA}}$$

$$V_{E_2} = I_{E_2} R_E = 16.235 \times 10^{-3} \times 510$$

$$\therefore V_{E_2} = \mathbf{8.27987 \text{ V}}$$

$$V_{C_2} = V_{C_1} = \mathbf{16 \text{ V}}$$

Small-signal parameters:

$$r_{\pi_1} = \frac{\beta_1 V_T}{I_{C_1}} = 9.858 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$r_{\pi_2} = \frac{\beta_2 V_T}{I_{C_2}} = 125.6509 \Omega$$

The mid-band AC equivalent circuit is shown in Figure 3

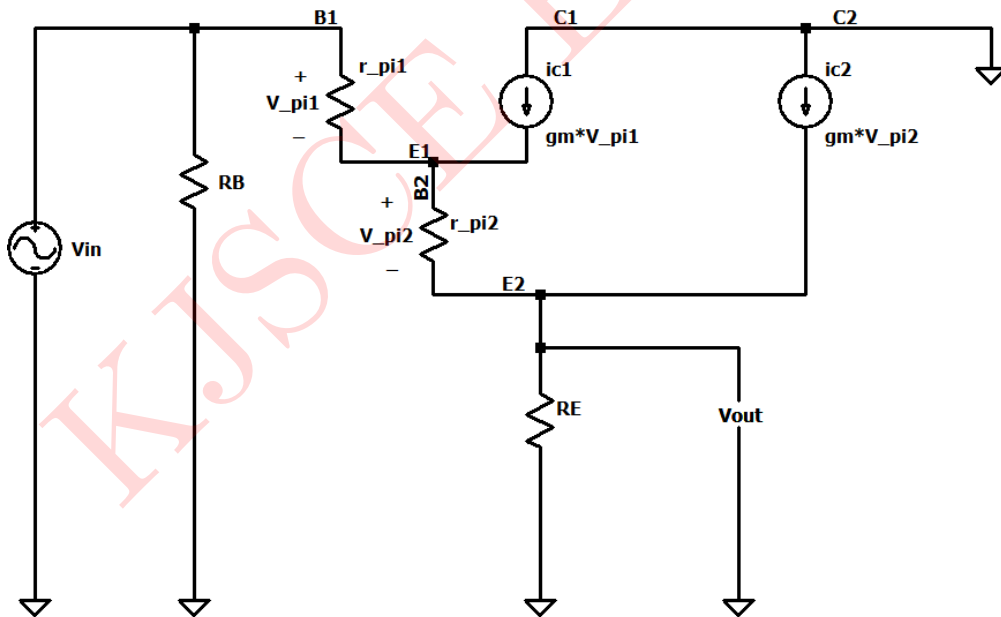


Figure 3: Mid frequency equivalent circuit

Input impedance:

$$Z_{i_2} = r_{\pi_2} + (1 + \beta_2)R_E = 125.65098 + (78.459 \times 510)$$

$$\therefore Z_{i_2} = 40.1397 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$Z_{i_1} = Z_{i_2}(1 + \beta_1) + r_{\pi_1}$$

$$Z_{i_1} = (40.1397k \times 78.459) + 9.858k$$

$$\therefore Z_{i_1} = 3.159 \text{ M}\Omega$$

$$Z_i = R_B || Z_{i_1} = 2.4M || 3.159M$$

$$\therefore Z_i = \mathbf{1.66299 \text{ M}\Omega}$$

Output impedance:

$$Z_{o_1} = \frac{R_B + r_{\pi_1}}{1 + \beta_1} = \frac{2.4M + 9.858k}{1 + 77.459}$$

$$\therefore Z_{o_1} = 30.714 \text{ k}\Omega$$

$$Z_{o_2} = \frac{30.714k + 125.65098}{1 + 77.459} = 393.067\Omega$$

$$Z_o = Z_{o_2} || R_E = 393.067 || 510$$

$$\therefore Z_o = \mathbf{221.9815\Omega}$$

Current gain:

$$A_{i_1} = \frac{I_{E_1}}{I_{B_1}} = \frac{(1 + \beta_1) \times I_{B_1}}{I_{B_1}} \therefore A_{i_1} = 78.459$$

$$A_{i_2} = \frac{I_{E_2}}{I_{B_2}} = 1 + \beta_2 = 78.459$$

$$A_{i_T} = A_{i_2} \times A_{i_1} = 78.459 \times 78.459$$

$$\therefore A_{i_T} = 6155.814$$

$$|A_{i_T}| \text{ in dB} = 20\log_{10}(6155.8) = \mathbf{75.7856 \text{ dB}}$$

Voltage gain:

$$A_{V_2} = \frac{V_{out}}{V_1} = \frac{I_o}{I_{B_2}} \times \frac{R_E}{Z_{i_2}} = A_{i_2} \times \frac{R_E}{Z_{i_2}}$$

$$\therefore A_{V_2} = 78.459 \times \frac{510}{40.1397k} = 0.99687$$

$$A_{V_1} = \frac{V_1}{V_{in}} = \frac{I_{E_1}}{I_{B_1}} \times \frac{Z_{i_2}}{Z_{i_1}}$$

$$\therefore A_{V_1} = 78.459 \times \frac{40.1397k}{3.159M} = 0.9969$$

$$A_{V_T} = A_{V_1} \times A_{V_2} = 0.9969 \times 0.99687$$

$$\therefore A_{V_T} = 0.993799$$

$$|A_{V_T}| \text{ (in dB)} = \mathbf{75.7856 \text{ dB}}$$

$$\text{Output voltage } V_o = A_{V_T} \times V_i = 0.993779 \times 20 \times 10^{-3} = \mathbf{19.87558 \text{ mV}}$$

SIMULATED RESULTS:

Above circuit is simulated using LTspice and the results are presented below:

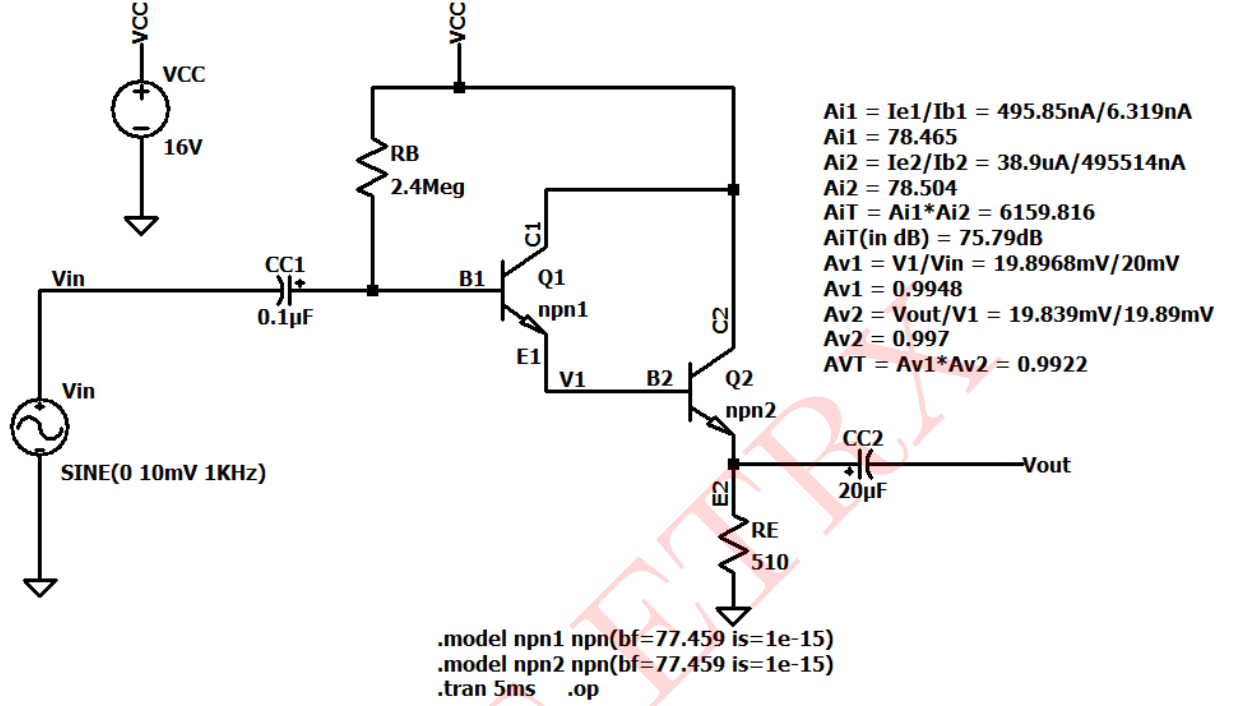


Figure 4: Circuit schematic

The input and output waveforms for current gain A_{i1} are shown in Figure 5

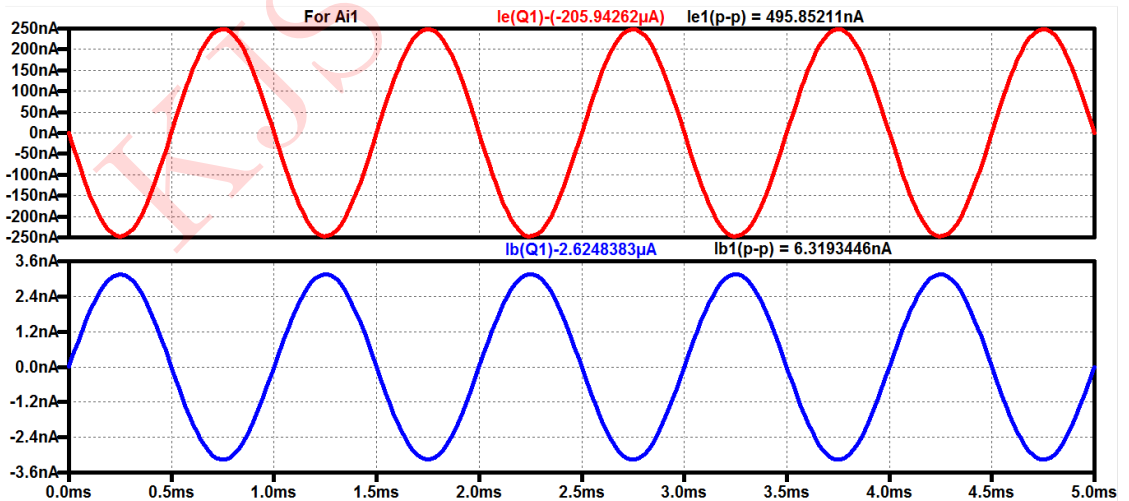


Figure 5: Input and output waveforms for current gain A_{i1}

The input and output waveforms for current gain A_{i_2} are shown in Figure 6

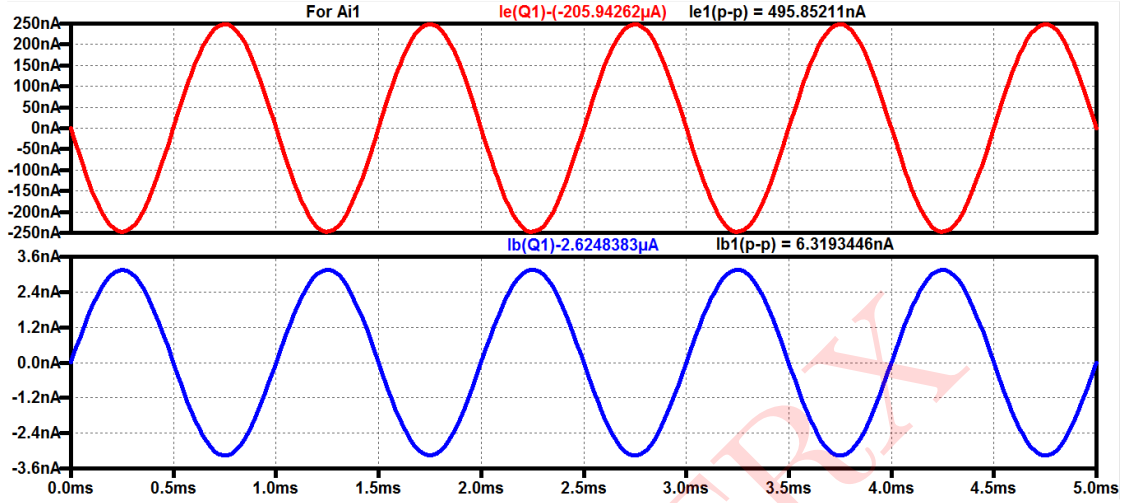


Figure 6: Input and output waveforms for voltage gain A_{i_2}

The input and output waveforms for voltage gain A_{V_1} are shown in Figure 7

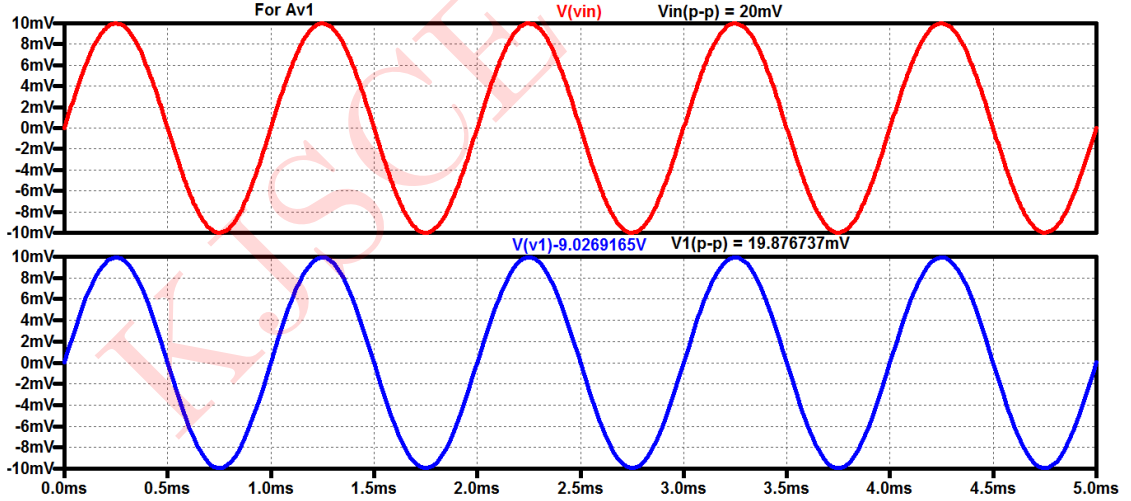


Figure 7: Input and output waveforms for voltage gain A_{V_1}

The input and output waveforms for voltage gain A_{V_2} are shown in Figure 8

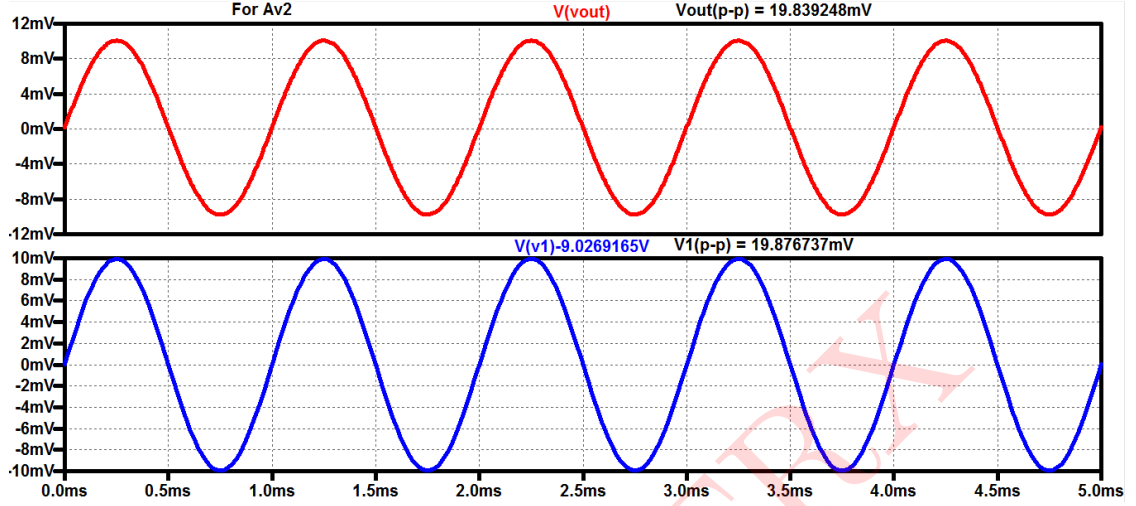


Figure 8: Input and output waveforms for voltage gain A_{V_2}

Comparison of theoretical and simulated values:

Parameters	Theoretical	Simulated
I_{B_1}	2.63736 μ A	2.62484 μ A
I_{C_1}	0.204287 mA	0.203318 mA
I_{E_1}	0.206924 mA	0.205943 mA
I_{B_2}	0.206924 mA	0.205943 mA
I_{C_2}	16.028 mA	15.9521 mA
I_{E_2}	16.235 mA	16.1581 mA
V_{E_2}	8.27987 V	8.24061 V
V_{C_2}	16 V	16 V
Voltage gain of 1 st stage (A_{V_1})	0.9969	0.9948 μ A
Voltage gain of 2 nd stage (A_{V_2})	0.99687	0.997 μ A
Overall voltage gain A_{V_T}	0.99377	0.9922
Current gain of 1 st stage (A_{i_1}) I_{B_1}	78.459	78.465 μ A
Current gain of 2 nd stage (A_{i_2})	78.459	78.504 μ A
Overall current gain A_{i_T}	75.7856 dB	75.79 dB
Input impedance of 1 st stage	1.66299 M Ω	—
Output impedance of 2 nd stage	221.9815 Ω	—
Output voltage	19.87558 mV	19.839 mV

Table 1: Numerical 1