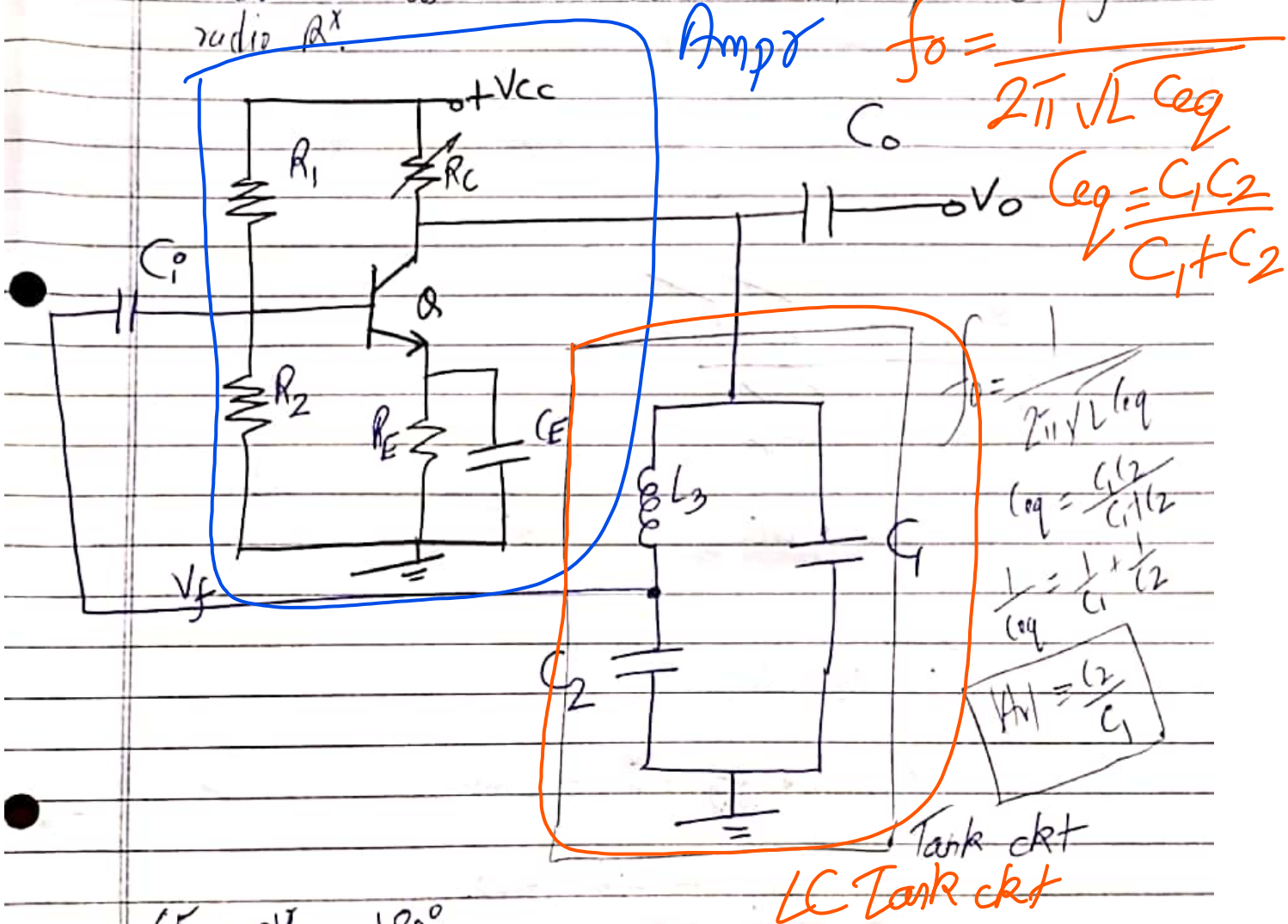


# Colpitt's Oscillator

## # Colpitt's oscillator:-

- widely used in commercial sig generators for frequencies bet<sup>n</sup> 1MHz & 500MHz.
- also used as a local oscillator in super heterodyne radio RX.



(E ampl<sup>r</sup> -  $180^\circ$   
LC tank ckt -  $180^\circ$

Total Phase shift -  $0^\circ$  or  $360^\circ$

Gain ( $A_v$ ) of ampl<sup>r</sup> is adjusted such that  $|A_v| \geq 1$

$R_1, R_2, R_E$  - provide dc bias to bjt.

LC tank ckt - acts as a resonant filter that passes only desired freq<sup>s</sup> of oscillations

It is similar to Hartley's oscillator except that Tank circuit consists of two series capacitor's  $C_1$  &  $C_2$  and a parallel inductor  $L$ .

Colpitt's oscillator consists of a single-stage CE BJT Amplifier which provides the voltage gain  $A_v$  and a phase-shift of  $180^\circ$  between its I/P and o/p terminals.

It consists of a LC tank ckt in the feedback network which provides a  $180^\circ$  phase shift. Thus the total phase-shift around the ckt is  $0^\circ$  or  $360^\circ$ .

The function of biasing resistors  $R_1, R_2, R_E$  is to establish dc bias for the BJT.

Coupling capacitor  $C_{c2}$  allow's only ac signals to pass to the LC tank ckt and  $C_{c1}$  blocks the dc current's reaching the base of  $Q_1$ .

The LC tank ckt in the feedback network contains ( $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  and  $L$ ) 25 which not only provide a phase shift of  $180^\circ$ , but also it acts as a resonant filter that passes only the desired frequency of oscillations.

Working:

1. When the circuit is energized by switching on the dc supply, small oscillations in form of noise voltage appears at the base of  $Q_1$ . This small noise voltage is further amplified by the amplifier and is feedback to the LC tank circuit.

2. Small oscillations are produced in the LC tank circuit, which are again fed back to the base of transistor  $Q_1$  and are amplified again.
3. This process continues, till the gain of the amplifier is sufficient to produce sustained oscillations at the resonant frequency of the LC tank circuit.
4. In this way, sustained oscillations are produced due to the feedback from the tank circuit.
5. A stable sinusoidal o/p waveform is obtained at the o/p of oscillator by varying the potentiometer  $R_c$  [till a sustained oscillations (constant frequency and amplitude) are obtained].



$$f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{L_3 C_{eq}}}$$

$$C_{eq} = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2} = C_1 || C_2$$

$$|A| = \frac{C_2}{C_1}$$

Expression for  $f_0$  &  $|A|$

$$\text{Here, } \chi_1 = -\frac{1}{\omega C_1}, \chi_2 = -\frac{1}{\omega C_2}, \chi_3 = \omega L_3$$

From eq<sup>n</sup> (6a),

$$\chi_1 + \chi_2 + \chi_3 = 0$$

$$-\frac{1}{\omega C_1} - \frac{1}{\omega C_2} + \omega L_3 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\omega} \left( \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \right) = \omega L_3$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{1}{L_3} \left( \frac{C_2 + C_1}{C_1 C_2} \right)$$

$$\text{let } C_{eq} = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{1}{L_3 C_{eq}}}$$

$$f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{L_3 C_{eq}}} \quad \text{freq<sup>n</sup> of oscillations}$$

$f$  can be varied by  $C$

$$-A_v \frac{X_2}{X_1} = 1 = AK \quad \text{from eq (7)}$$

$$A_v = - \frac{X_1}{X_2}$$

$$= - \frac{-\frac{1}{\omega C_1}}{-\frac{1}{\omega C_2}}$$

$$A_v = \left| \frac{C_2}{C_1} \right|$$

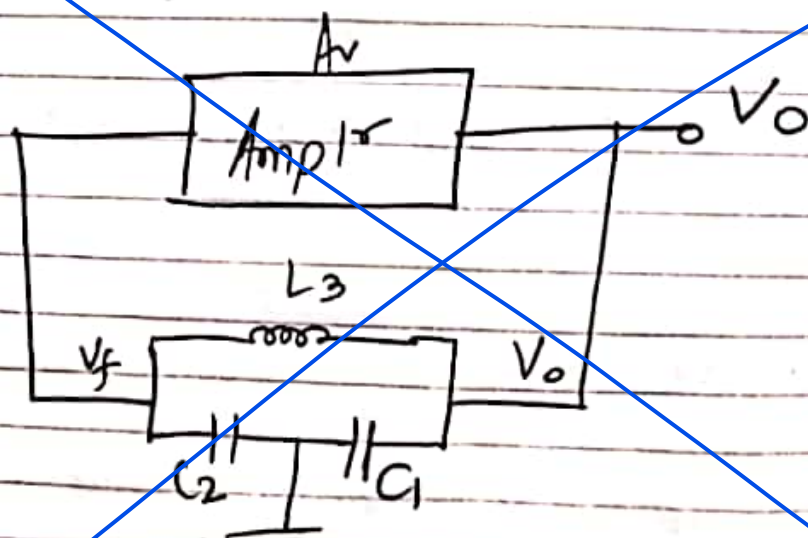
$$|A_v| \geq \frac{C_2}{C_1}$$

for oscillations to self-start,

$$|A_v K| \geq 1$$

$$\therefore |K| = \frac{C_1}{C_2}$$

→ Conditions for oscillations & start-up



$$K = \frac{V_f}{V_o}$$

feedback fraction  $K$  of tank circuit is

- Due to CRT being energized by dc source, the circulating tank current is flowing thr<sup>both</sup>  $C_1$  &  $C_2$ .

Vtg developed across  $C_1$  is oscillator's o/p ( $V_o$ ) & Vtg developed across  $C_2$  is flb vty ( $V_f$ )

$$K = \frac{V_f}{V_o} = \frac{I X_{C2}}{I X_{C1}} = \frac{X_{C2}}{X_{C1}} = \frac{\frac{1}{2\pi f C_2}}{\frac{1}{2\pi f C_1}}$$

$$K = \frac{C_1}{C_2}$$

$$|A|K \geq 1$$

$$|A| \geq \frac{1}{K} \geq \frac{C_2}{C_1}$$

A must be slightly greater than  $(C_2/C_1)$  for oscillator to be self-starting & sustained.



Advantages: 1) It is possible to obtain oscillations at very high frequencies.

Disadvantages: 1) It offers poor frequency stability.  
2) This oscillator circuit will have loading effect due to its ILP impedance of BJT, thus lowering its resonant frequency value.  
3) It works for quality factors ( $Q > 10$ )

Applications: 1) It is used as a high frequency oscillator in radio receiver and local oscillator's in TV receivers.  
2) The Colpitt's oscillator's are widely used as a signal generator's for frequencies between 1MHz and 500MHz.