

# **APPLICATIONS OF OP- AMPS**

# LINEAR APPLICATIONS

- Adder
- Subtractor
- Voltage follower
- Current to voltage converter
- Voltage to current converter
- Integrator
- Differentiator
- Active filters

# **Non-linear applications**

- Comparators
- Logarithmic amplifiers
- Exponential amplifiers
- Peak detectors
- Precision rectifiers
- Waveform generators
- Clippers & clampers

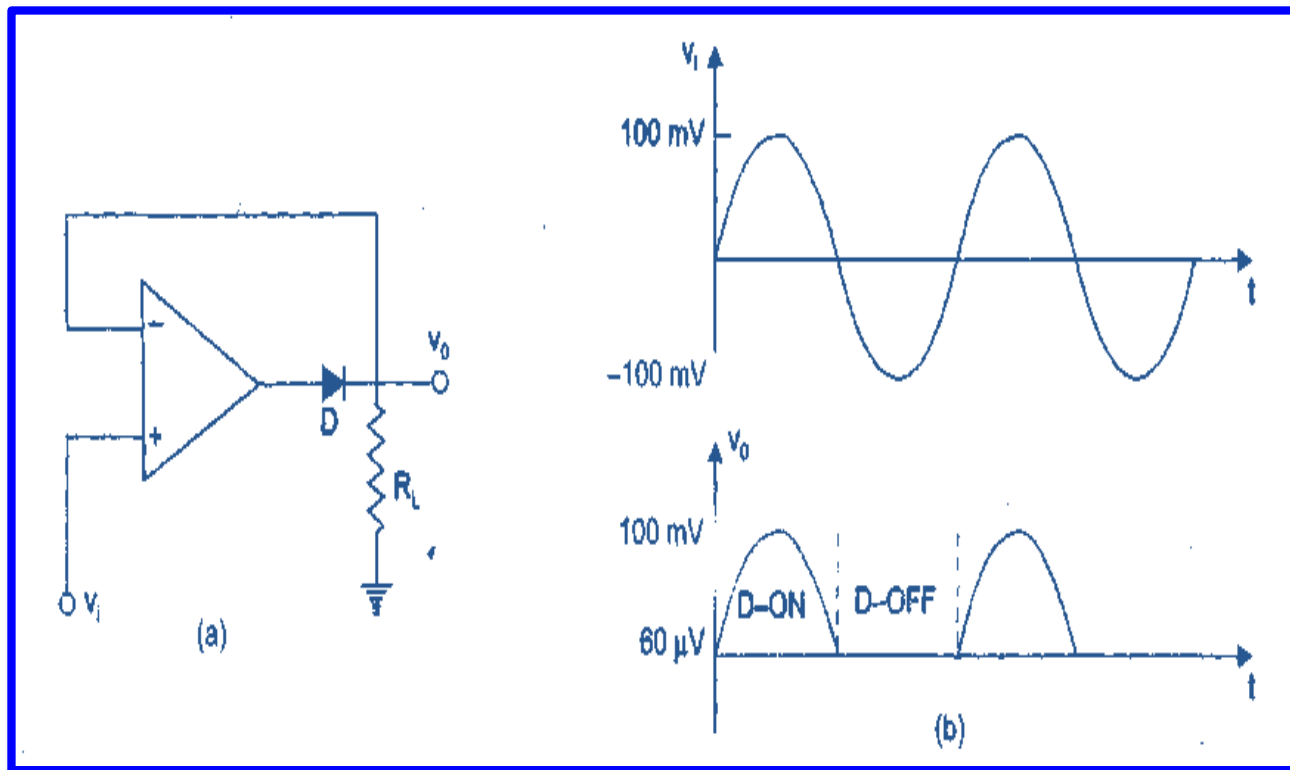
# Non Linear Applications:

## Precision rectifiers.

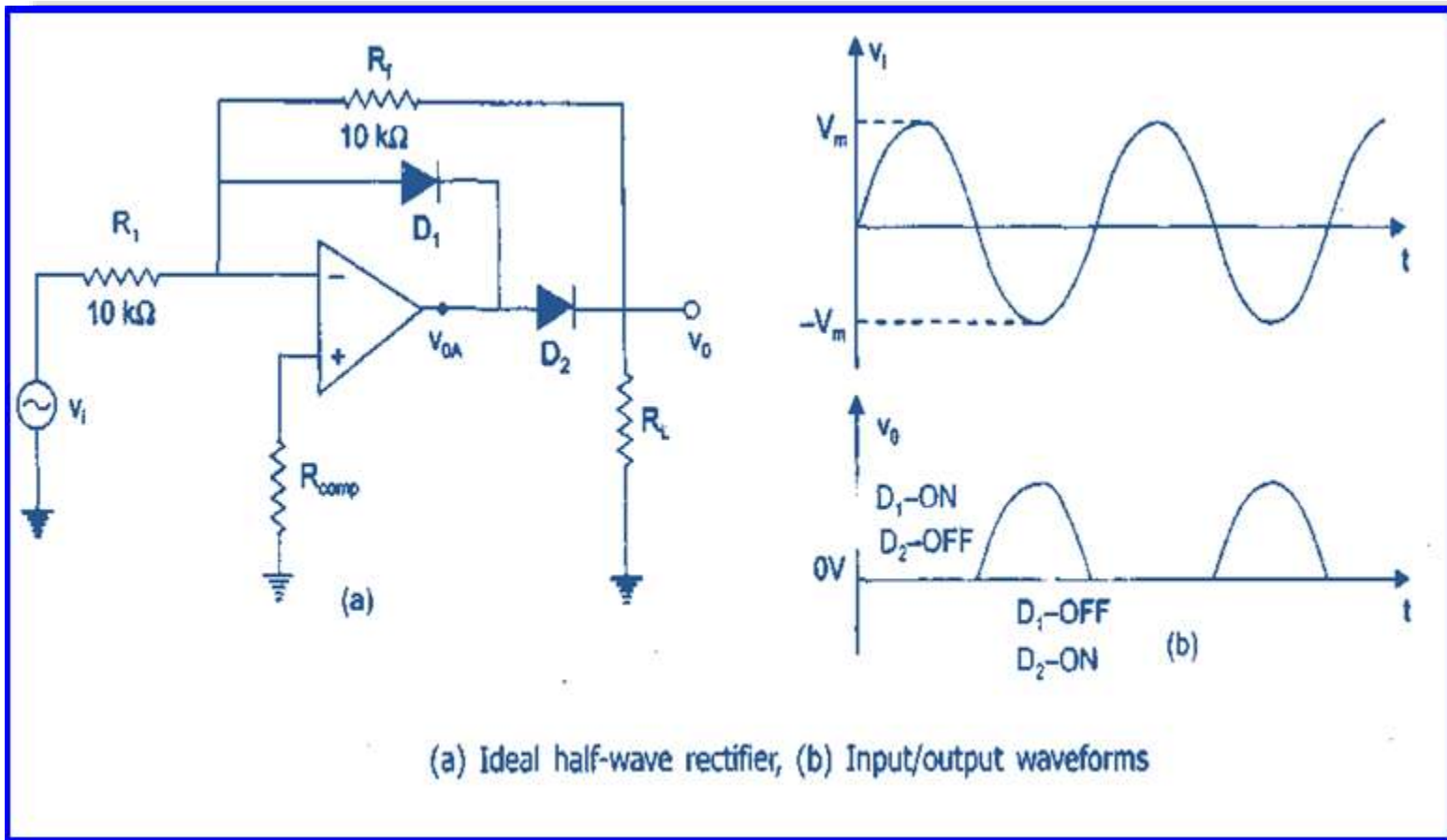
- The major limitation of ordinary diode is that it cannot rectify voltages below  $V_\gamma$  ( $\sim 0.6$  V), the cut-in voltage of the diode.
- A circuit that acts like an ideal diode can be designed by placing a diode in the feedback loop of an op-amp as in Fig. 4.10 (a). Here the cut-in voltage is divided by the open loop gain  $A_{OL}$  ( $\sim 10^4$ ) of the op- amp so that  $V_\gamma$  is virtually eliminated. When the input  $V_i > V_\gamma / A_{OL}$  then  $v_{oA}$ , the output of the op-amp exceeds  $V_\gamma$  and the diode  $D$  conducts. Thus the circuit acts like a voltage follower for input  $v_i > V_\gamma / A_{OL}$  (i.e.,  $0.6/10^4 = 60\mu\text{v}$ ) and the output  $v_o$  follows the input voltage  $v_i$  during the positive half cycle as shown in Fig. 4.10 (b).

•When  $v_i$  is negative or less than  $V_{\gamma}/A_{OL}$ , the diode  $D$  is *off* and no current is delivered to the load  $R_L$  except for small bias current of the op-amp and the reverse saturation current of the diode. This circuit is called the precision diode and is capable of rectifying input signals of the order of mill volt. Some typical applications of a precision diode discussed are:

- Half-wave Rectifier
- Full-Wave Rectifier
- Peak-Value Detector.
- Clipper.
- Clamper.



**Fig.** (a) Precision diode, (b) Input and output waveforms



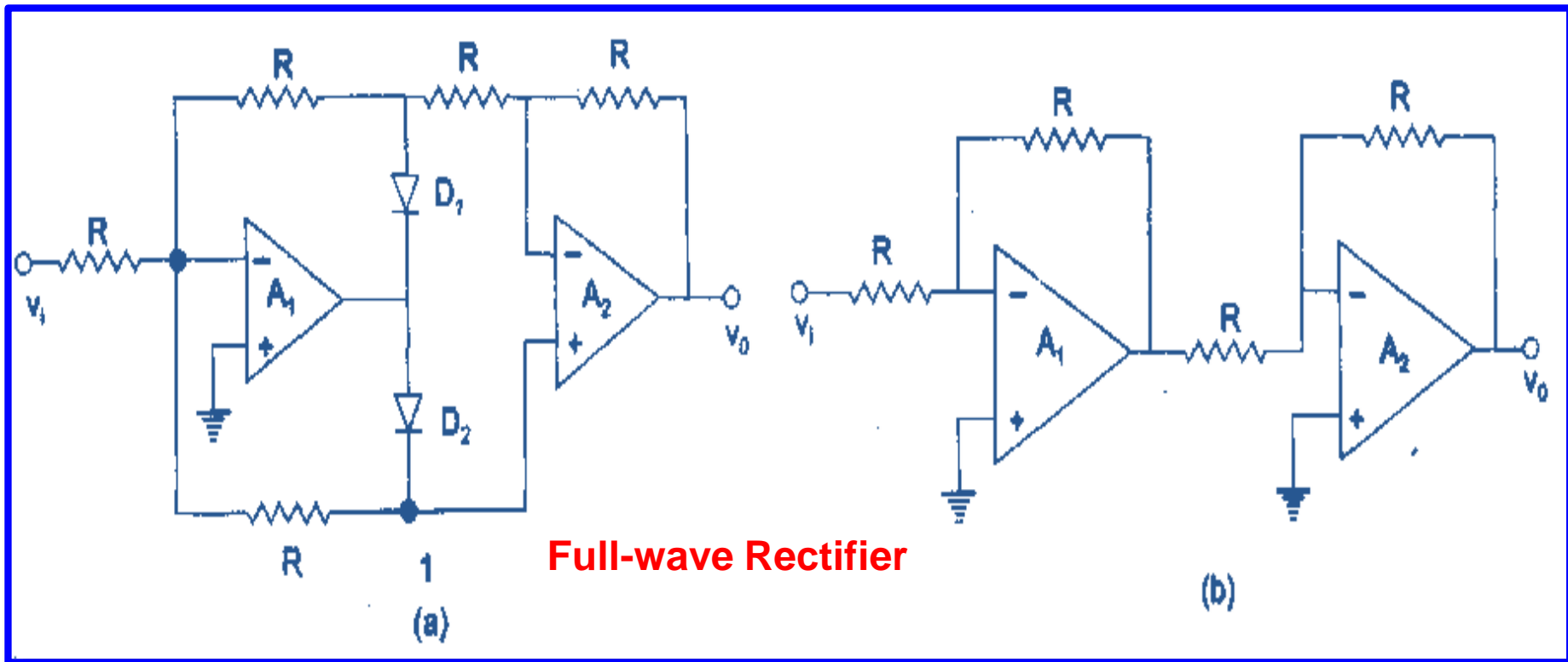
When  $V_i$  is +ve,  $V_{oa}$  is -ve.  $D_2$  is reverse biased and output is zero. When  $V_i$  is -ve,  $R_f=R_1$ ,  $V_{oa}$  is +ve, and  $D_2$  conducts even when the input is  $< 0.7\text{V}$ . The op-amp should be a high speed version as it alternates between open loop & closed loop operations. High Slew rate is required as the input passes through zero,  $V_{oa}$  must change from  $0.6\text{V}$  to  $-0.6\text{V}$ . If the diodes are reversed, -ve output occurs.

An inverting amplifier can be converted into an ideal half-wave rectifier by adding two diodes as shown in Fig. 4.11 (a). When  $v_i$  is positive, diode  $D_1$  conducts causing  $v_{OA}$  to go to negative by one diode drop ( $\sim 0.6$  V). Hence diode  $D_2$  is reverse biased. The output voltage  $v_o$  is zero, because, for all practical purposes, no current flows through  $R_f$  and the input current flows through  $D_1$ .

For negative input, i.e.,  $v_i < 0$ , diode  $D_2$  conducts and  $D_1$  is off. The negative input  $v_i$  forces the op-amp output  $v_{OA}$  positive and causes  $D_2$  to conduct. The circuit then acts like an inverter for  $R_f = R_1$  and output  $v_o$  becomes positive.

The input, output waveforms are shown in Fig. 4.11 (b). The op-amp in the circuit of Fig. 4.11 (a) must be a high speed op-amp since it alternates between open loop and closed loop operations. The principal limitation of this circuit is the slew rate of the op-amp. As the input passes through zero, the op-amp output  $v_{OA}$  must change from 0.6 V to - 0.6 V or vice-versa as quickly as possible in order to switch over the conduction from one diode to the other. The circuit of Fig. 4.11(a) provides a positive output. However, if both the diodes are reversed, then only positive input signal is transmitted and gets inverted. The circuit, then provides a negative output.





(a) Precision full wave rectifier, (b) Equivalent circuit for  $v_i > 0$ ;  $D_1$  is on and  $D_2$  is OFF; op-amp  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  operate as inverting amplifier

A full wave rectifier or absolute value circuit is shown in Fig. 4.12 (a). For positive input, i.e.  $v_i > 0$ , diode  $D_1$  is on and  $D_2$  is off. Both the op-amps  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  act as inverter as shown in equivalent circuit in Fig. 4.12 (b). It can be seen that  $v_o = v_i$

For negative input, i.e.  $v_i < 0$ , diode  $D_1$  is *off* and  $D_2$  is *on*. The equivalent circuit is shown in Fig. 4.12 (c). Let the output voltage of op-amp  $A_1$  be  $v$ . Since the differential input to  $A_2$  is zero, the inverting input terminal is also at voltage  $v$ . KCL at node 'a' gives

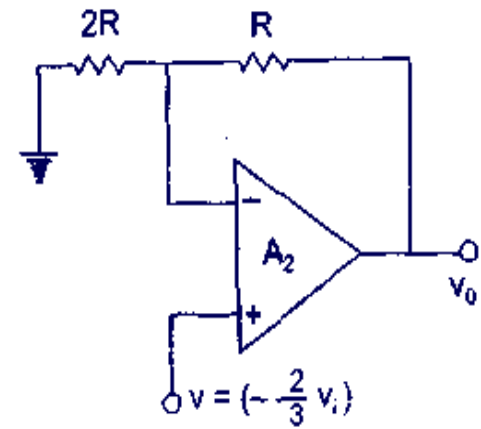
$$\frac{v_i}{R} + \frac{v}{2R} + \frac{v}{R} = 0$$

$$v = -\frac{2}{3}v_i \longrightarrow$$

The equivalent circuit of Fig. 4.12 (c) is a non-inverting amplifier as shown in Fig. 4.12 (d). The output  $v_o$  is,

$$v_o = \left(1 + \frac{R}{2R}\right) \left(-\frac{2}{3}v_i\right) = v_i \longrightarrow$$

Hence for  $v_i < 0$ , the output is positive. The input and output waveforms are shown in Fig. 4.12 (e). The circuit is also called an absolute value circuit as output is positive even when input is negative. For example, the absolute value of  $|+2|$  and  $|-2|$  is  $+2$  only. It is possible to obtain negative outputs for either polarity of input simply by reversing the diodes.



### (e) Input and output waveforms

# LOG -AMPLIFIER

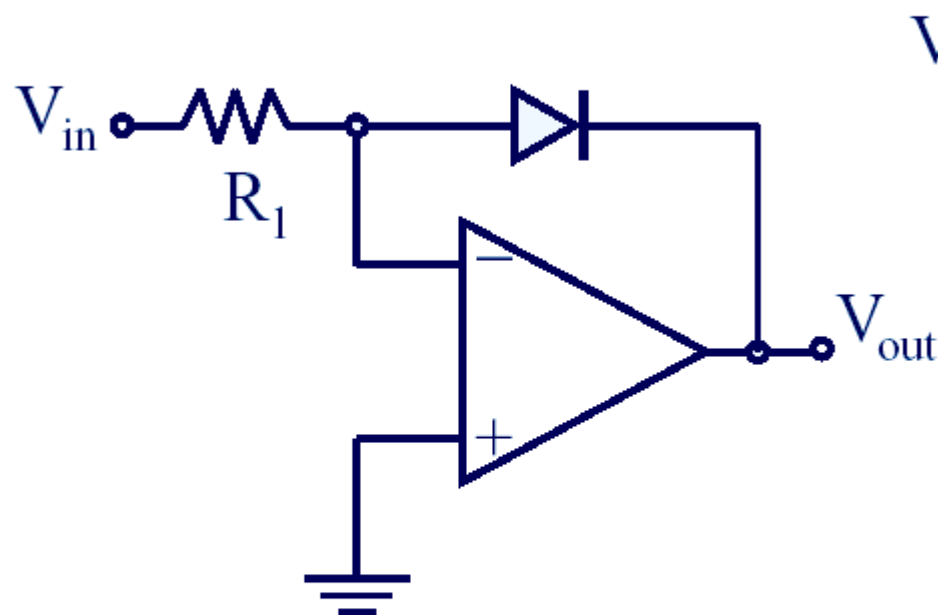
# Log Amplifiers

The basic log amplifier produces an output voltage as a function of the logarithm of the input voltage; i.e.,

$V_{\text{out}} = -K \ln(V_{\text{in}})$ , where  $K$  is a constant.

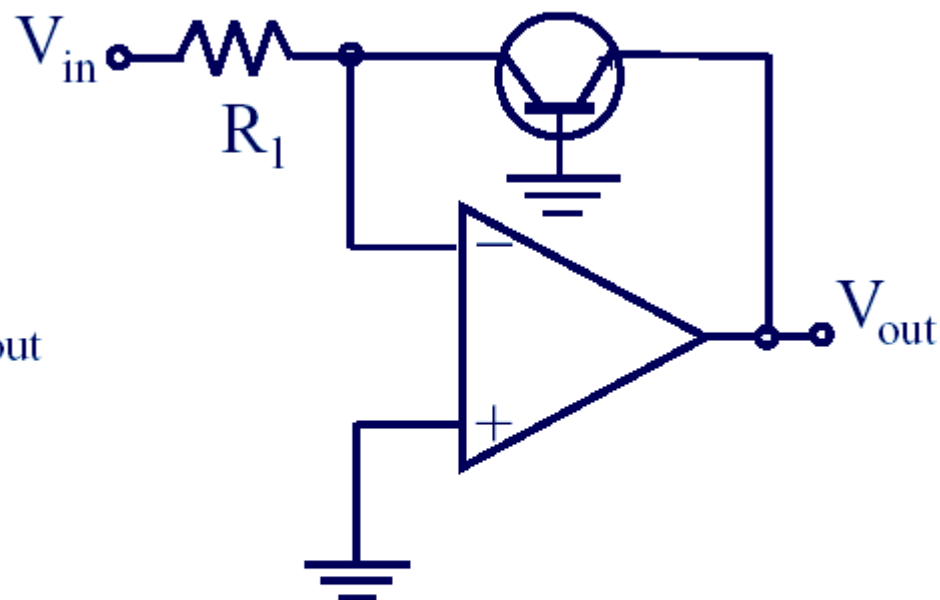
Recall that the a diode has an exponential characteristic up to a forward voltage of approximately 0.7 V. Hence, the semiconductor pn junction in the form of a diode or the base emitter junction of a BJT can be used to provide a logarithm characteristic.

# Diode & BJT Log Amplifiers



$$V_{out} \cong -0.025 \ln \left( \frac{V_{in}}{I_R R_1} \right) \text{ V}$$

$I_R$  = reverse leakage current



$$V_{out} \cong -0.025 \ln \left( \frac{V_{in}}{I_{EBO} R_1} \right) \text{ V}$$

$I_{EBO}$  = emitter-to-base  
leakage current

There are several applications of log and antilog amplifiers.

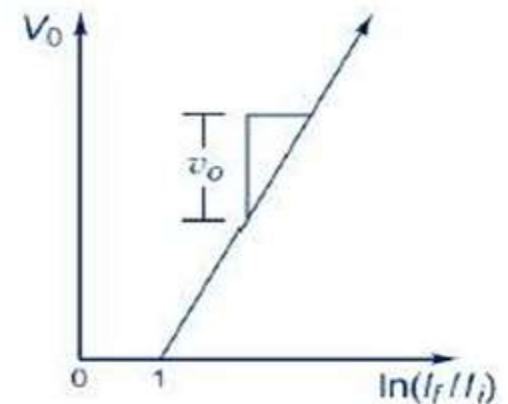
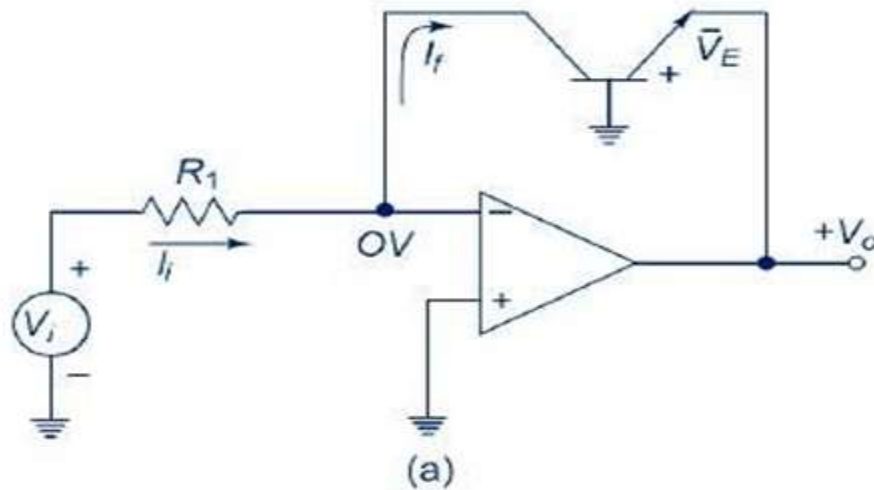
- Antilog computation may require functions such as  $\ln x$ ,  $\log x$  or  $\sinh x$ . These can be performed continuously with log-amps.
- One would like to have direct dB display on digital voltmeter and spectrum analyzer. Log-amp can easily perform this function.
- Log-amp can also be used to compress the dynamic range of a signal.

### **Log Amplifier**

The fundamental log-amp circuit is shown in Fig. 4.34 (a) where a grounded base transistor is placed in the feedback path. Since the collector is held at virtual ground and the base is also grounded, the transistor's voltage-current relationship becomes that of a diode and is given by,

$$V_{o \text{ comp}} = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_{TC}}\right) \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{V_{\text{ref}}} \right)$$

$$V_{o \text{ comp}} = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_{TC}}\right) \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{V_{\text{ref}}} \right)$$



*Logarithmic Amplifier (a) Fundamental circuit and (b) Its logarithmic characteristics*



$$I_E = I_s (e^{qV_E/kT} - 1)$$

Since,  $I_C = I_E$  for a grounded base transistor

Since  $I_E = I_C$

$$I_C = I_s (e^{qV_E/kT} - 1)$$

$I_s$  = emitter saturation current =  $10^{-13}$  A

$k$  = Boltzmann's Constant

$T$  = absolute temperature (in °K)

Therefore,  $\frac{I_C}{I_s} = (e^{qV_E/kT} - 1)$

or,  $e^{qV_E/kT} = \frac{I_C}{I_s} + 1 \approx \frac{I_C}{I_s}$

Taking natural Log on both sides,  
we get

$$V_E = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{I_C}{I_s} \right)$$

From Fig.

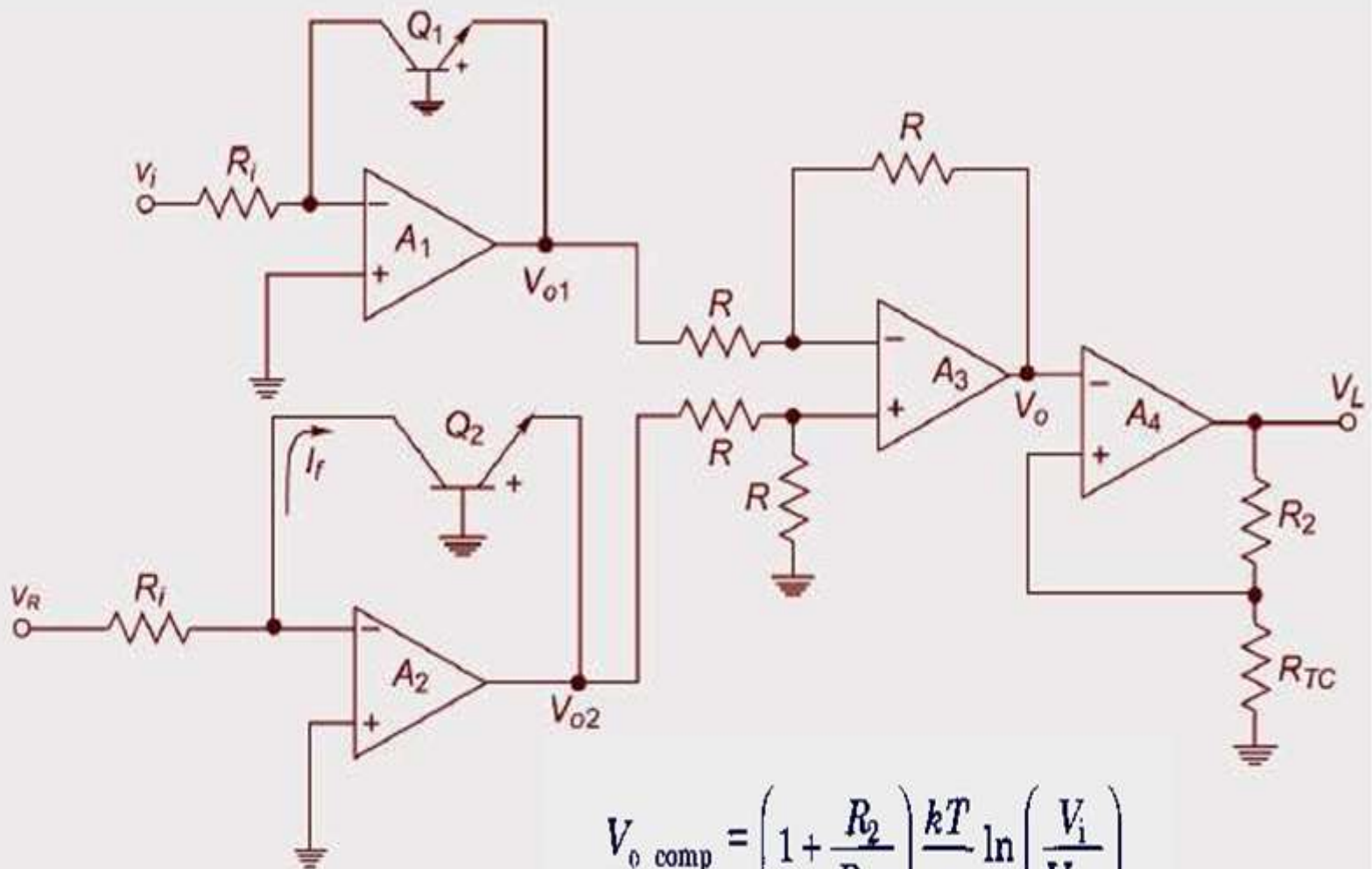
$$I_C = \frac{V_i}{R_1}$$

$$V_E = -V_o$$

$$V_o = -\frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{R_1 I_s} \right) = -\frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{V_{ref}} \right)$$

The circuit, however, has one problem.

- The emitter saturation current  $I_S$  varies from transistor to transistor and with temperature. Thus a stable reference voltage  $V_{ref}$  cannot be obtained.
- This is eliminated by the circuit given in Fig. 4.18 (b). The input is applied to one log-amp, while a reference voltage is applied to another log-amp. The two transistors are integrated close together in the same silicon wafer. This provides a close match of saturation currents and ensures good thermal tracking.



*Logarithmic amplifier with compensation of emitter saturation current*

Assume,  $I_{s1} = I_{s2} = I_s \longrightarrow$   
 and then,  $V_1$   
 =

$$V_1 = -\frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{R_1 I_s} \right) \quad \mathbf{4.40}$$

$$V_2 = -\frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_{ref}}{R_1 I_s} \right) \longrightarrow$$

$$V_o = V_2 - V_1 = -\frac{kT}{q} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{R_1 I_s} \right) - \ln \left( \frac{V_{ref}}{R_1 I_s} \right) \right] \longrightarrow$$

$$V_o = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{V_{ref}} \right) \longrightarrow$$

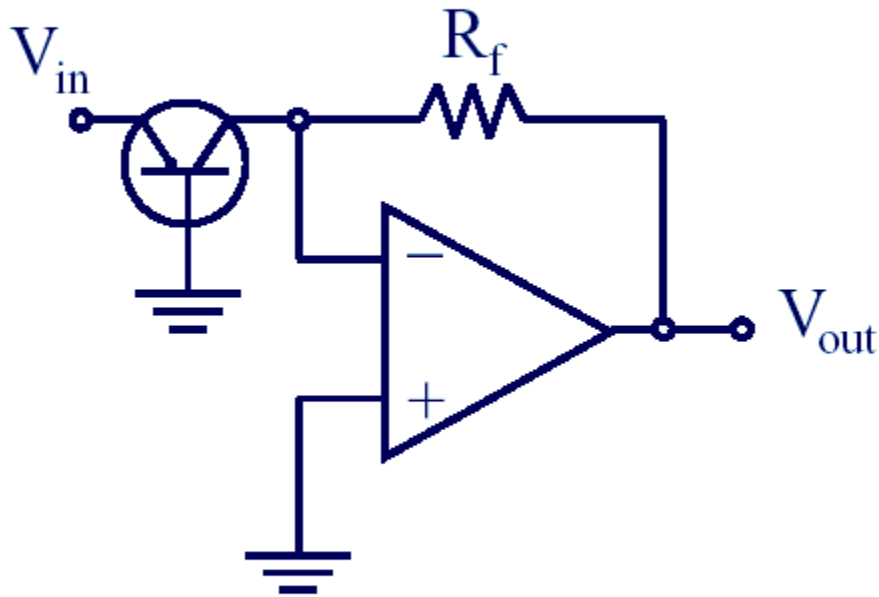
Thus reference level is now set with a single external voltage source. Its dependence on device and temperature has been removed. The voltage  $V_o$  is still dependent upon temperature and is directly proportional to  $T$ . This is compensated by the last op-amp stage  $A_4$  which provides a non-inverting gain of  $(1 + R_2/R_{TC})$ . Now, the output voltage is,

$$V_{o \text{ comp}} = \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_{TC}} \right) \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_i}{V_{ref}} \right) \longrightarrow$$

**Where  $R_{TC}$  IS A PTC THERMISTOR.**

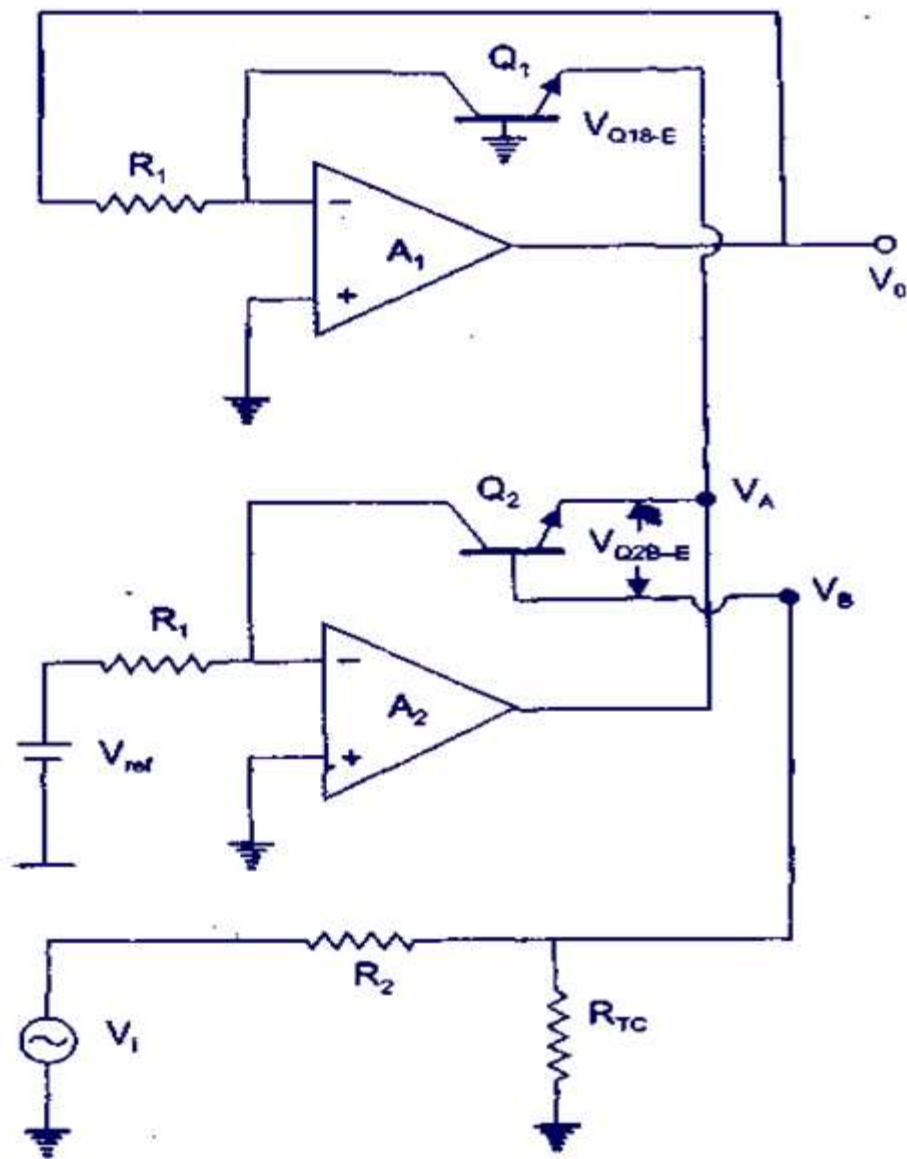
# Basic Antilog Amplifier

$V_{in}$  is converted in to current  $I_C = I_{EBO} e^{V_{in}/K}$



$$V_{out} \cong -R_f I_{EBO} \text{anti} \ln \left( \frac{V_{in}}{0.025} \right)$$

- A transistor or a diode can be used as the input element.
- The operation of the circuit is based on the fact that  $V_{out} = -R_f I_C$ , and  $I_C = I_{EBO} e^{V_{in}/K}$  where  $K \cong 0.025 \text{ V}$



Antilog amplifier

## Antilog Amplifier

The circuit is shown in Fig. .The input  $V_i$  for the antilog-amp is fed into the temperature compensating voltage divider  $R_2$  and  $R_{TC}$  and then to the base of  $Q_2$ . The output  $V_o$  of the antilog-amp is fed back to the inverting input of  $A_1$  through the resistor  $R_1$ . The base to emitter voltage of transistors  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  can be written as

$$V_{Q1 \text{ B-E}} \approx \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_o}{R_1 I_s} \right)$$

and

$$V_{Q2 \text{ B-E}} \approx \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_{\text{ref}}}{R_1 I_s} \right)$$

Since the base of  $Q_1$  is tied to ground, we get

$$V_A \approx -V_{Q1 \text{ B-E}} = -\frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_o}{R_1 I_s} \right)$$

$$V_B = \left( \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} \right) V_i$$

The voltage at the emitter of  $Q_2$  is

$$V_{Q2B-E} = V_B + V_{Q2\ E-B}$$

or,

$$V_{Q2B-E} = \left( \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} \right) V_i - \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{V_{ref}}{R_1 I_s} \right)$$

But the emitter voltage of  $Q_2$  is  $V_A$ , that is,

$$V_A = V_{Q2B-E}$$

or,

$$-\frac{kT}{q} \ln \frac{V_o}{R_1 I_s} = \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} V_i - \frac{kT}{q} \ln \frac{V_{ref}}{R_1 I_s}$$

or,

$$\frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} V_i = -\frac{kT}{q} \left( \ln \frac{V_o}{R_1 I_s} - \ln \frac{V_{ref}}{R_1 I_s} \right)$$


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$$\text{or,} \quad -\frac{q}{kT} \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} V_i = \ln \left( \frac{V_o}{V_{ref}} \right) \quad (4.51)$$

Changing natural log, i.e.,  $\ln$  to  $\log_{10}$  using Eq. (4.38) we get

$$-0.4343 \left( \frac{q}{kT} \right) \left( \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} \right) V_i = 0.4343 \times \ln \left( \frac{V_o}{V_{ref}} \right) \quad (4.52)$$

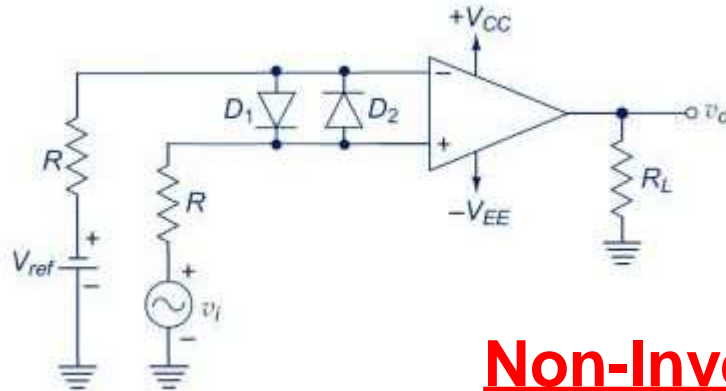
$$\text{or,} \quad -K' V_i = \log_{10} \left( \frac{V_o}{V_{ref}} \right)$$

$$\text{or,} \quad \frac{V_o}{V_{ref}} = 10^{-K' V_i}$$

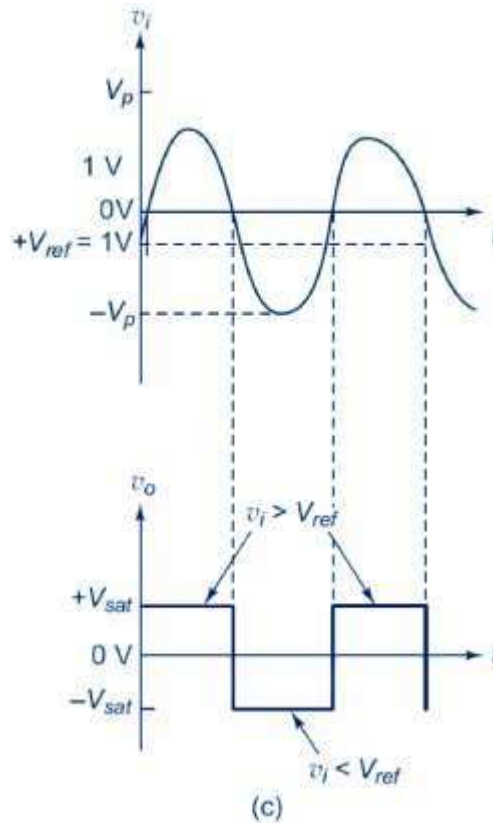
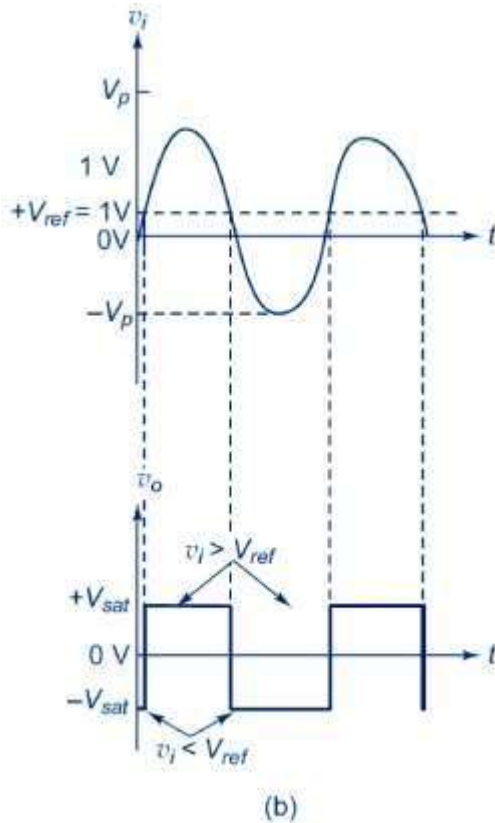
$$\text{or,} \quad V_o = V_{ref} (10^{-K' V_i}) \quad (4.53)$$

$$\text{where} \quad K' = 0.4343 \left( \frac{q}{kT} \right) \left( \frac{R_{TC}}{R_2 + R_{TC}} \right) \quad (4.54)$$

# **OP-AMP COMPARATORS**

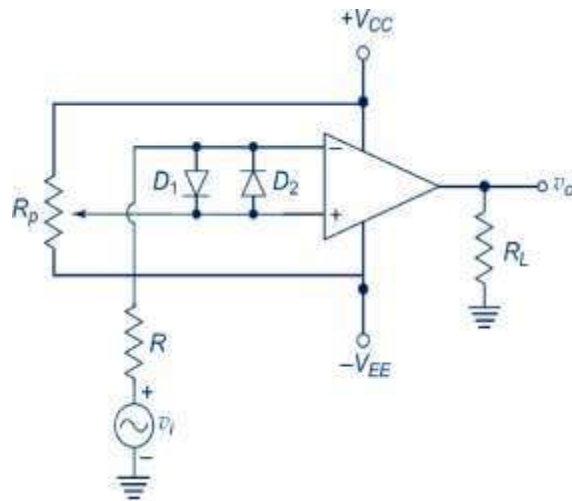


## Non-Inverting Comparator.



(b) Input and Output wave- forms when  $V_{ref}$  is +ve

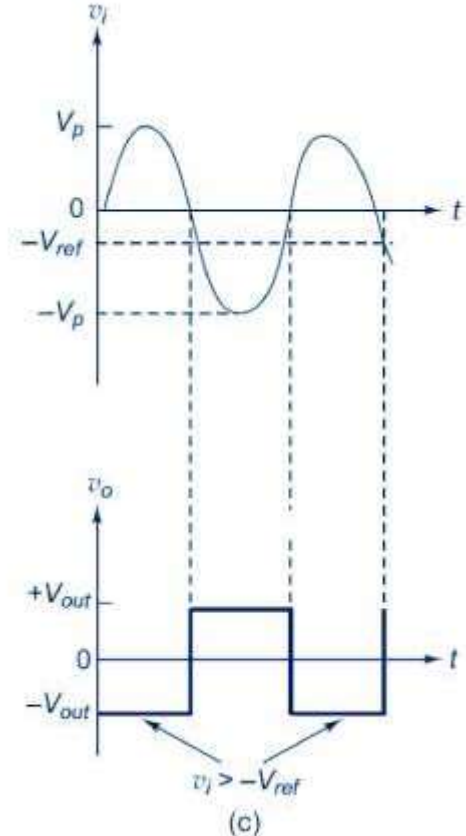
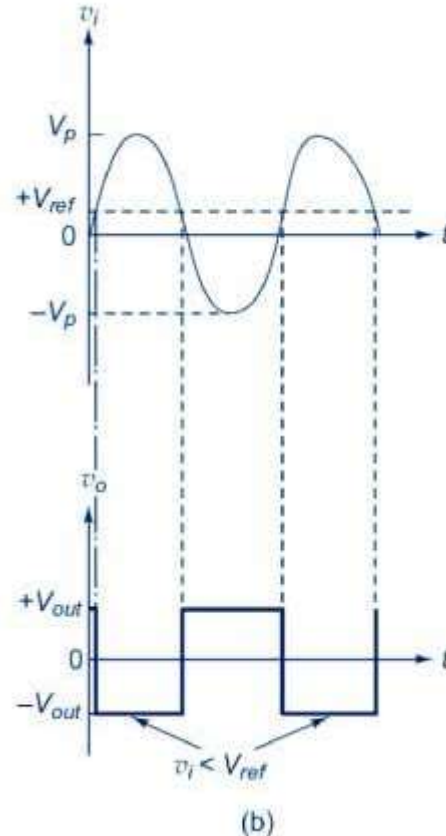
(c) Input and Output wave- forms when  $V_{ref}$  is -ve



## Inverting Comparator.

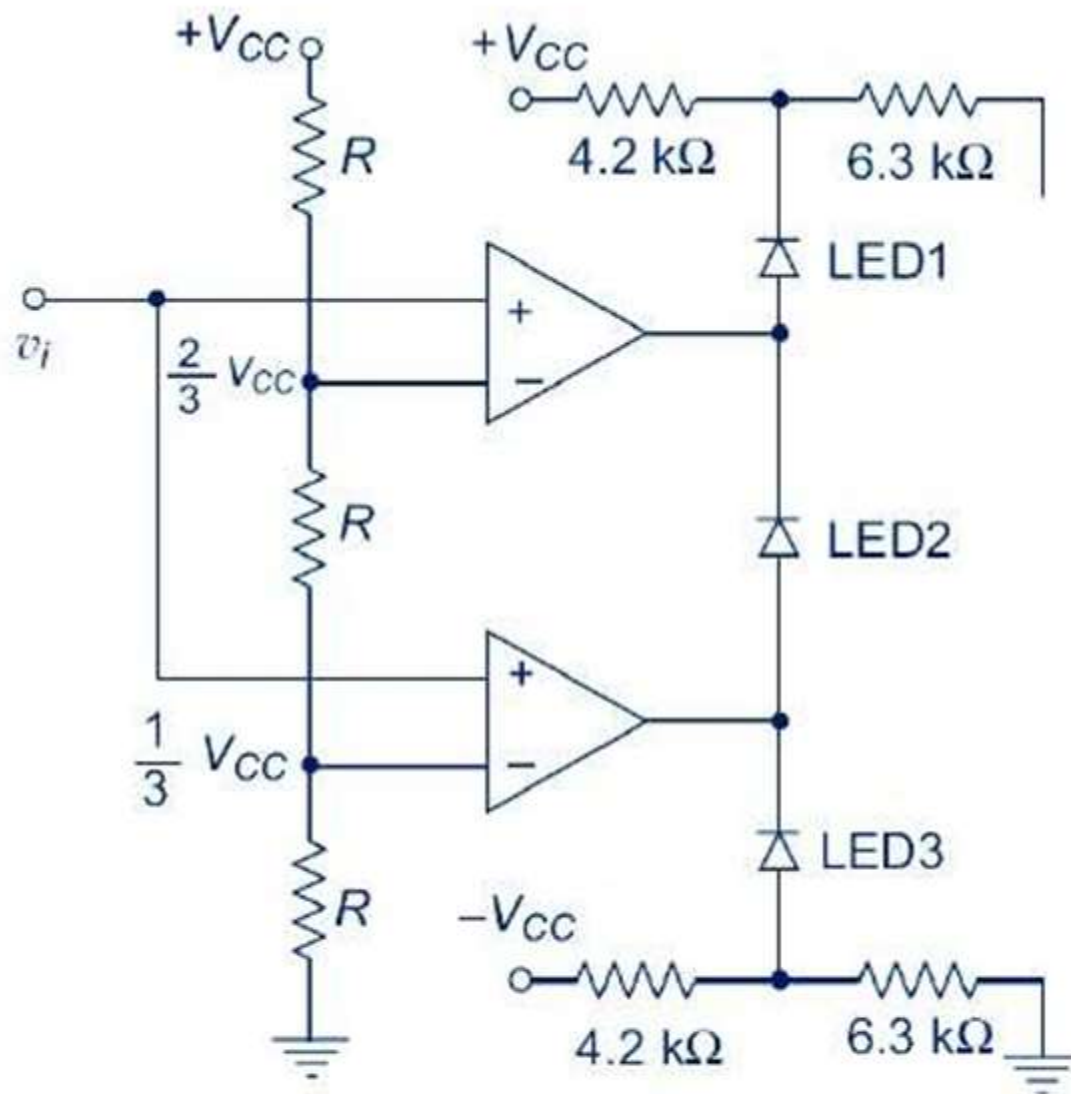
**b) Input and Output Wave Forms when  $V_{ref}$  is +ve and**

**c) Input and Output Wave Forms when  $V_{ref}$  is -ve**



# **WINDOW COMPERATOR**

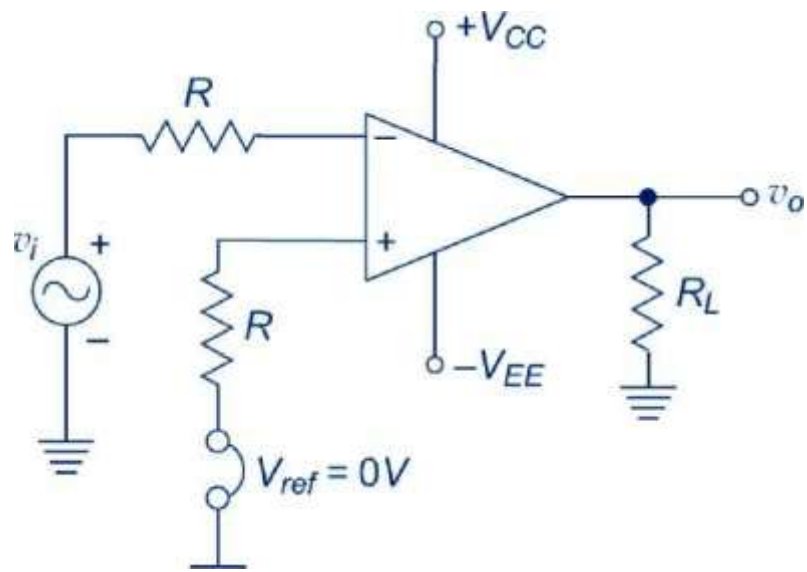
Used in A.C Voltage Stabilizers.



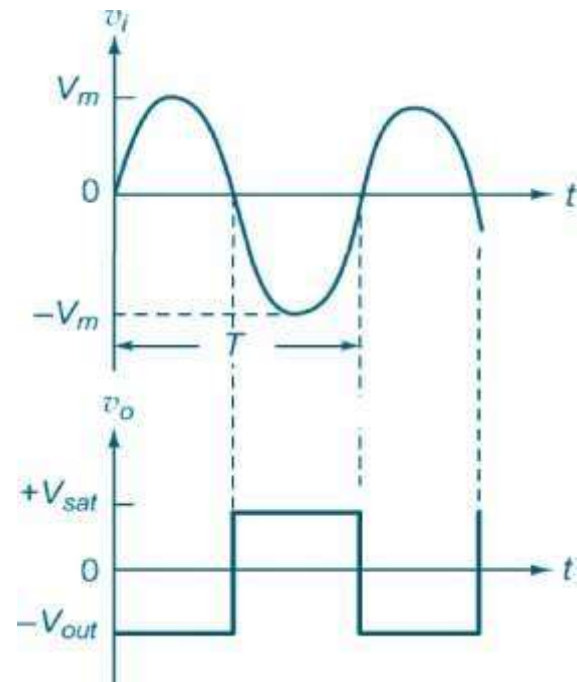
*Three level comparator*

If  $V_{cc} = 6V$

Input(Volts)	LED3	LED2	LED1
Less than 2V	ON	OFF	OFF
Less than 4V & More than 2V	OFF	ON	OFF
More than 4V	OFF	OFF	ON



**(a)**

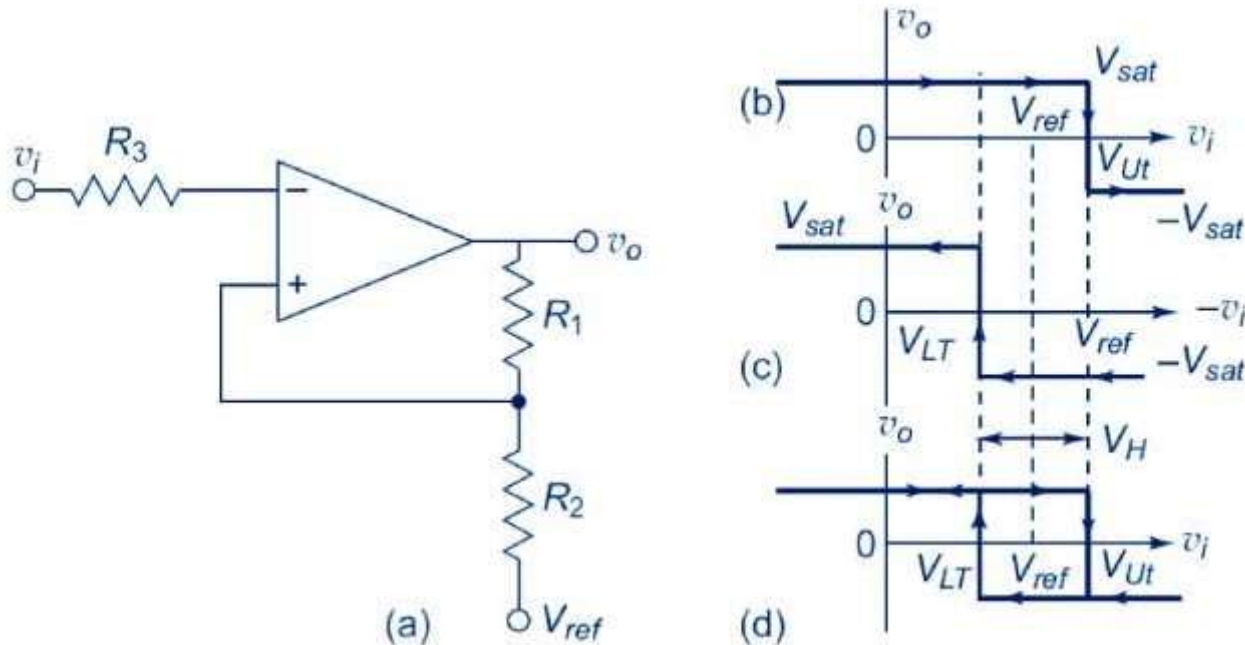


**(b)**

*(a) Zero crossing detector and (b) Input and output waveforms*



# INVERTING SCHMITT TRIGGER



(a) Inverting Schmitt Trigger circuit (b), (c) and (d) Transfer Characteristics of Schmitt Trigger

ZERO  
if  $V_{ref}$   
is  
Zero.

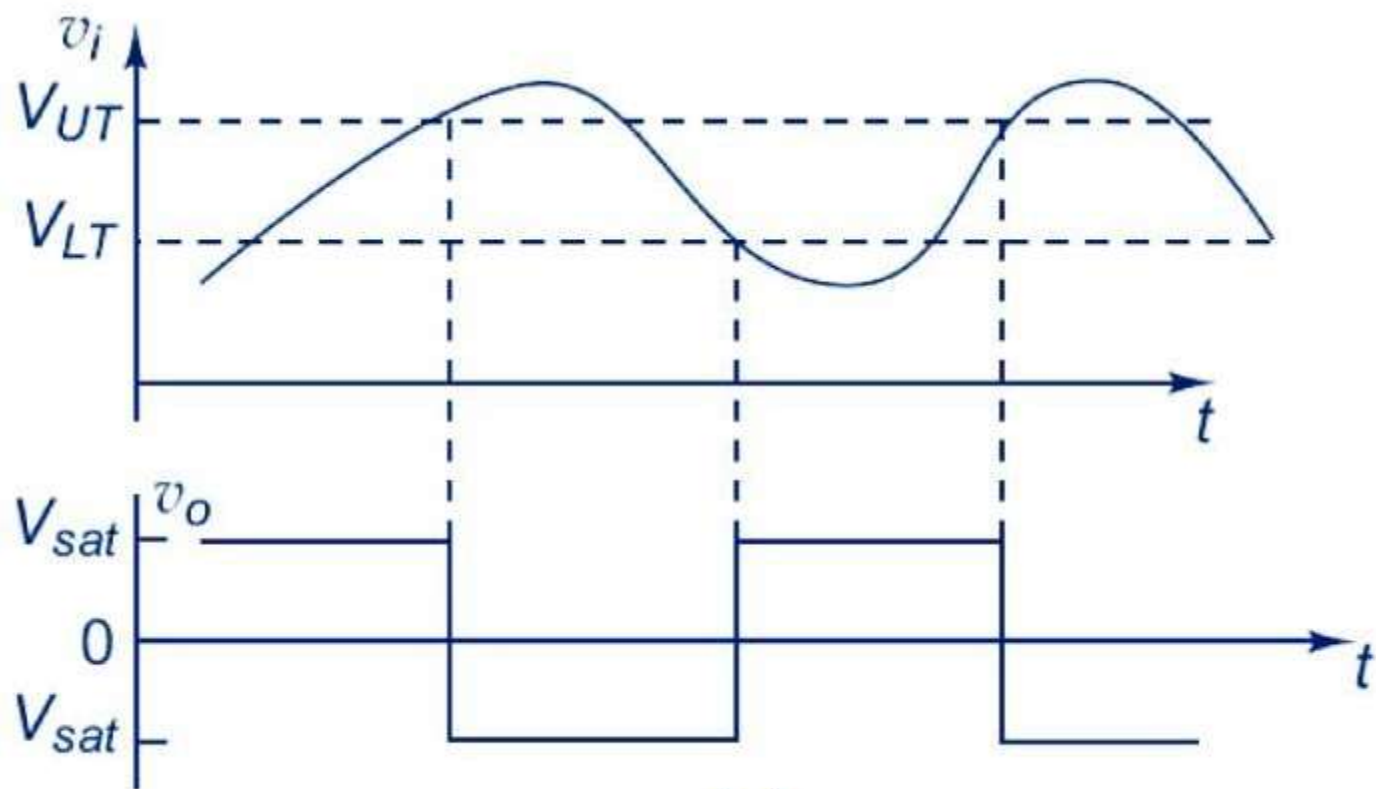
$$V_{UT} = \frac{V_{ref} R_1}{R_1 + R_2} + \frac{R_2 V_{sat}}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_{LT} = \frac{V_{ref} R_1}{R_1 + R_2} - \frac{R_2 V_{sat}}{R_1 + R_2}$$

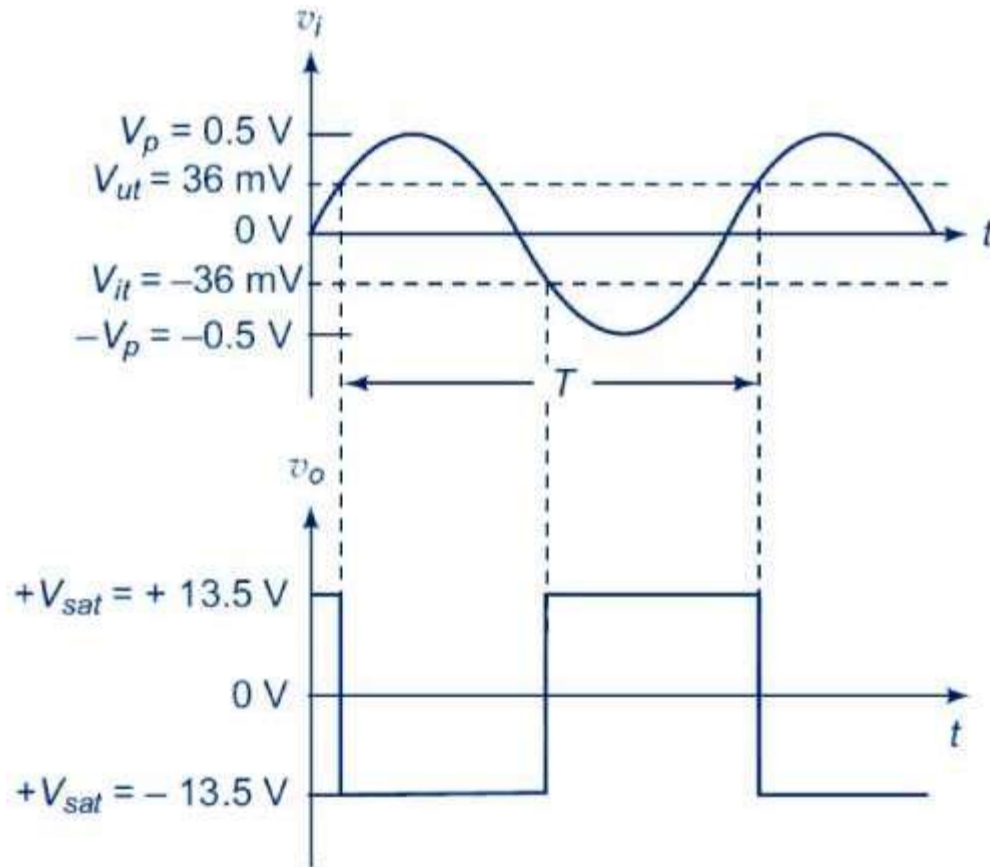
$$V_H = V_{UT} - V_{LT} = \frac{2R_2 V_{sat}}{R_1 + R_2}$$

The input voltage  $v_i$  triggers the output  $v_o$  every time it exceeds certain voltage levels,  $V_{LT}$  &  $V_{UT}$ . If  $V_{ref} = 0$ , then the voltage at the junction of  $R_1$  &  $R_2$  will determine  $V_{UT}$  &  $V_{LT}$ .

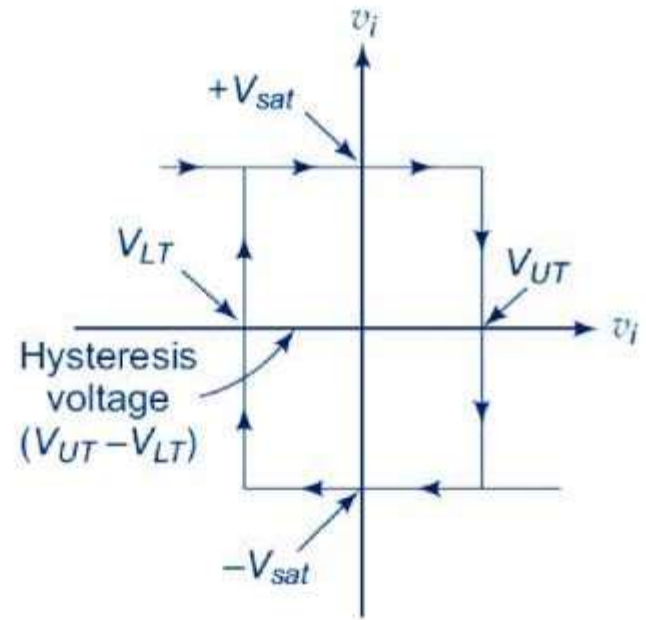
If  $V_i < V_{LT}$ ,  $V_o = +V_{sat}$   
 If  $V_i > V_{LT}$ ,  $V_o = -V_{sat}$



(e)



(a)

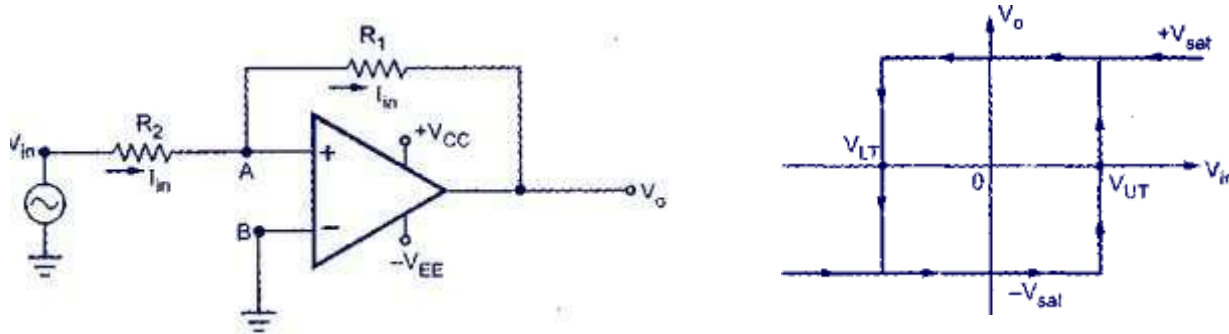


(b)

*(a) Input and Output waveforms of Schmitt Trigger and (b) Output  $v_o$  versus  $V_i$  plot of the hysteresis voltage.*

If a sine wave frequency  $f=1/T$  is applied, a symmetrical square wave is obtained at the output. The vertical edge is shifted in phase by  $\theta$  from zero crossover. Where  $\sin \theta = V_{UT}/V_m$  and  $V_m$  is the peak sinusoidal voltage.

## NON-INVERTING SCHMITT TRIGGER



The input is applied to the non-inverting input terminal of the op-amp. To understand the working of the circuit, let us assume that the output is positively saturated i.e. at  $+V_{sat}$ . This is fed back to the non-inverting input through  $R_1$ . This is a positive feedback. Now though  $V_{in}$  is decreased, the output continues its positive saturation level unless and until the input becomes more negative than  $V_{LT}$ . At lower threshold, the output changes its state from positive saturation  $+V_{sat}$  to negative saturation  $-V_{sat}$ . It remains in negative saturation till  $V_{in}$  increases beyond its upper threshold level  $V_{UT}$ .

Now  $V_A = \text{voltage at point A} = I_{in}R_2 = V_{UT}$

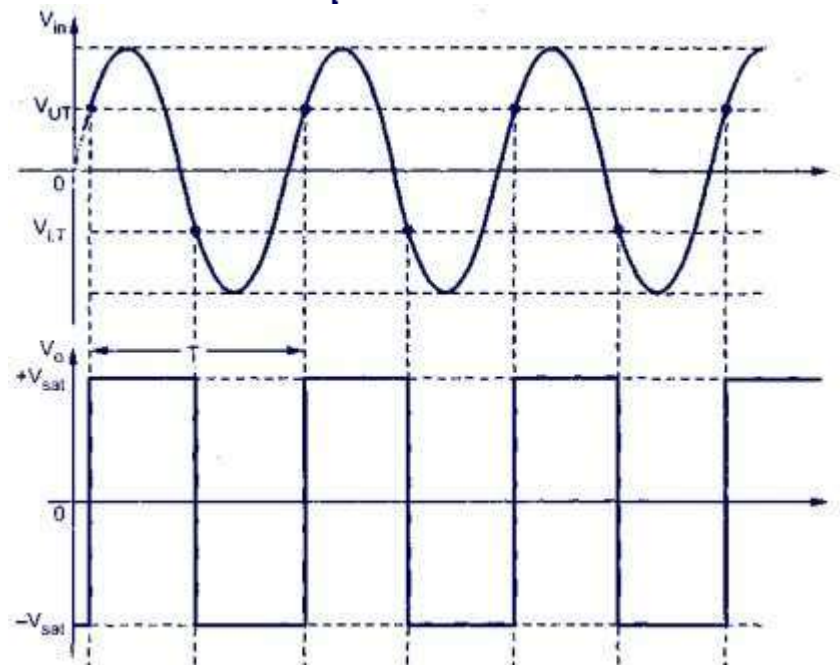
As op-amp input current is zero,  $I_{in}$  entirely passes through  $R_1$ .

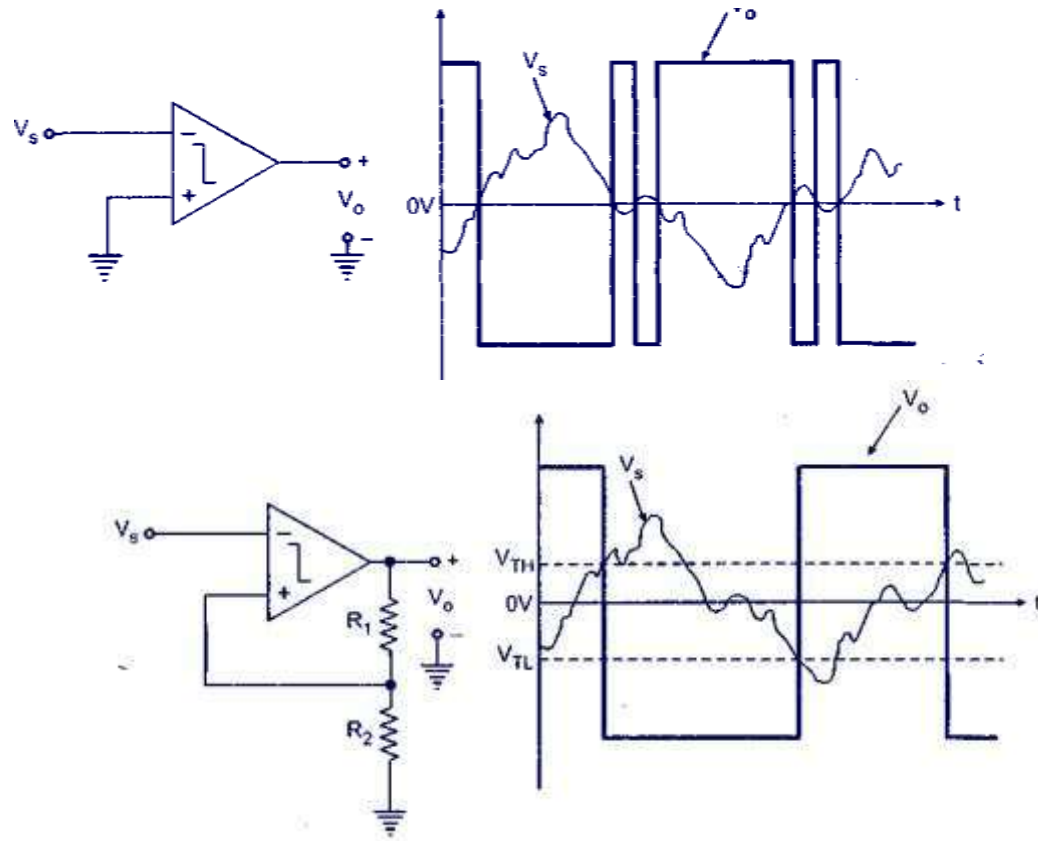
$$I_{in} = \frac{V_o}{R_1} = \frac{+V_{sat}}{R_1}$$

$$V_{UT} = I_{in} R_2 = \frac{R_2}{R_1} (+V_{sat}) = V_{sat} \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

$$V_{LT} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} (-V_{sat}) = -V_{sat} \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

$$H = V_{UT} - V_{LT} = 2 V_{sat} \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$





### Eliminates Comparator Chatter.

Chattering can be defined as production of multiple output transitions the input signal swings through the threshold region of a comparator. This is because of the noise.

## Comparison.

S.No.	Schmitt Trigger.	Comparator.
1.	The feedback is used.	No feedback is used.
2.	Op-amp is used in closed loop mode.	Used in open loop mode.
3.	No false triggering.	False Triggering.
4.	Two different threshold voltages exists as $V_{UT}$ & $V_{LT}$	Single reference voltage $V_{ref}$ or $-V_{ref}$ .
5.	Hysteresis exists.	No Hysteresis exists.

# **Square & Triangular waveform generation**

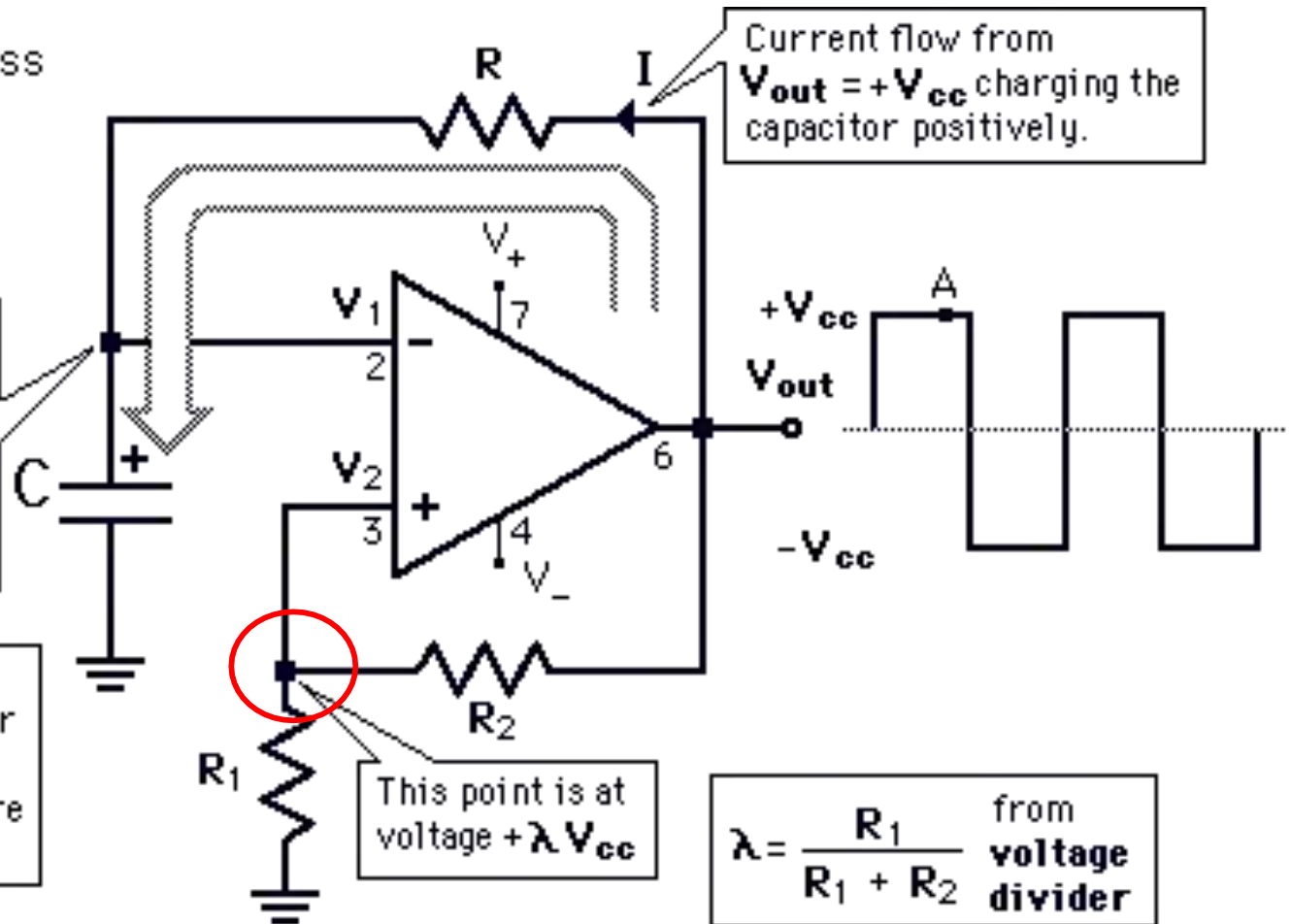


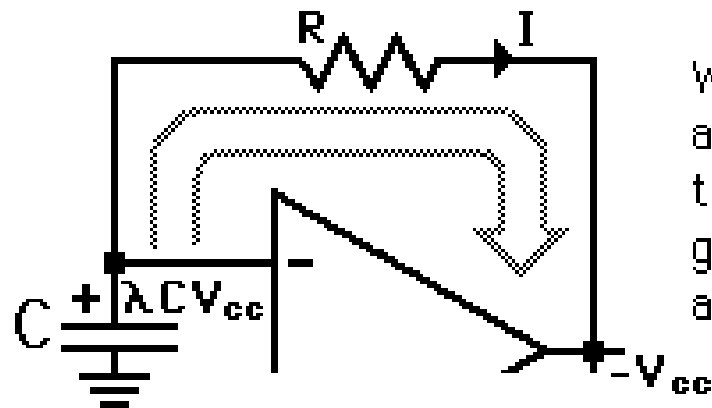
# Square Wave Generator

Follow the progress from a time when the output is at point A.

This point charging toward the voltage  $+\lambda V_{cc}$  at which the **comparator** action will flip the output to  $-V_{cc}$

The values of the resistors and capacitor determine the rate of discharge and therefore the **period**.





When  $V_1$  reaches  $+\lambda V_{cc}$  then the switch to  $-V_{cc}$  at the output occurs. The capacitor has charged to  $+\lambda CV_{cc}$  and now begins to discharge. The general charging equation for a capacitor which already has an original charge is:

$$q = CV [1 - e^{-t/RC}] + q_0 e^{-t/RC}$$

For this case  $V = -V_{cc}$  and  $q_0 = \lambda CV_{cc}$  so the charging equation is

$$q = -CV_{cc} [1 - e^{-t/RC}] + \lambda CV_{cc} e^{-t/RC}$$

Now when  $q$  gets to  $-\lambda CV_{cc}$  another switch will occur. This time is half the period of the square wave so it will be represented by  $T/2$ . At this time

$$-\lambda CV_{cc} = -CV_{cc} [1 - e^{-T/2RC}] + \lambda CV_{cc} e^{-T/2RC}$$

which when solved for  $T$  gives

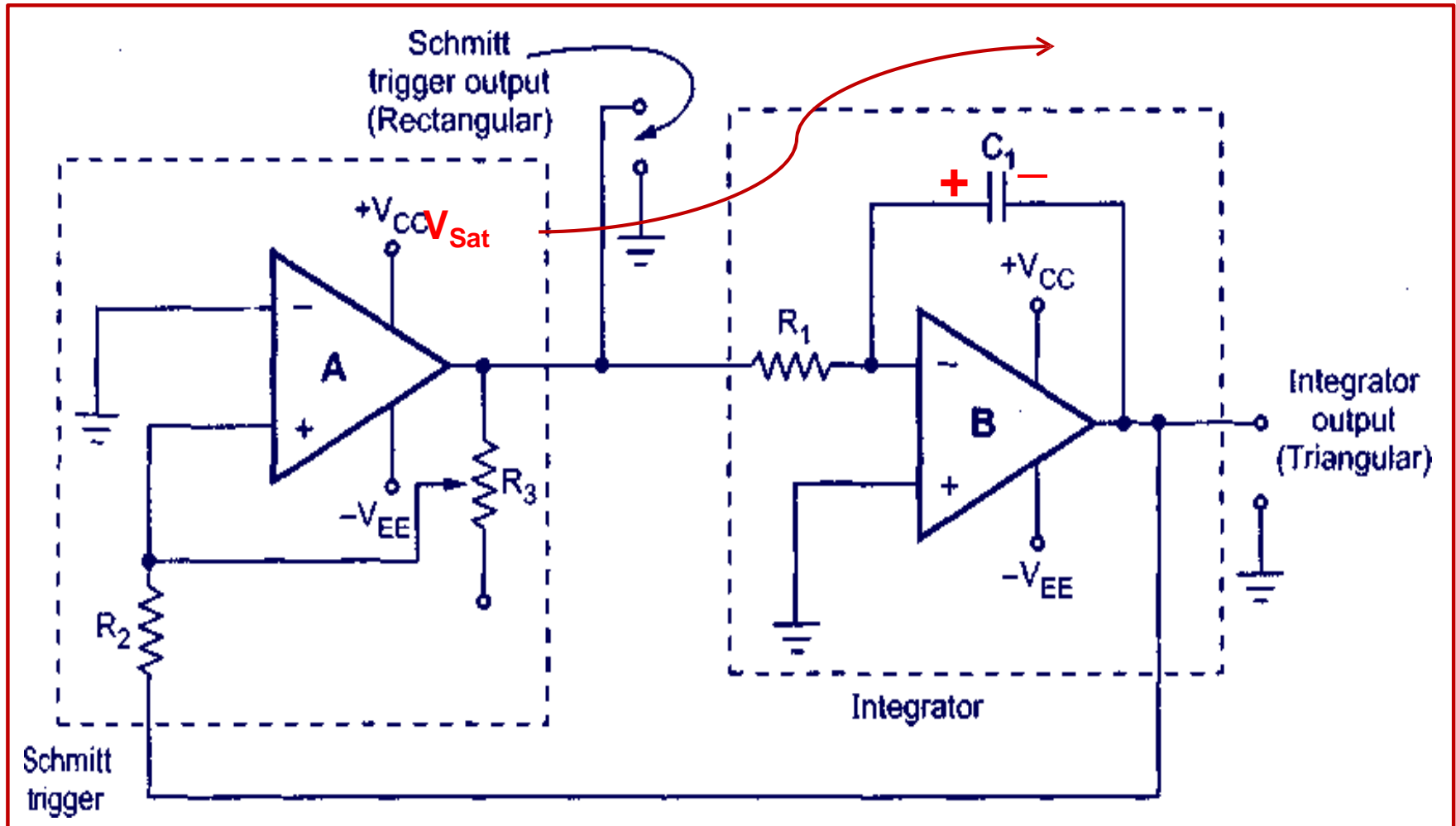
$$T = 2RC \ln \left[ \frac{1 + \lambda}{1 - \lambda} \right]$$

$$V_{\text{ref}} = \beta V_{\text{sat}}$$

$$\underline{\text{Where } \beta = R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)}$$

Let  $V_0$  initially be  $+ V_{\text{sat}}$ . The capacitor charges through  $R$  to  $+ \beta V_{\text{sat}}$ . Then  $V_0$  goes to  $- V_{\text{sat}}$ . The cycle repeats and output will be a **Square Wave**.

## Triangular/rectangular wave generator.



## Operation of the Circuit

Let the output of the Schmitt trigger is  $+V_{sat}$ . This forces current  $+V_{sat}/R_1$  through  $C_1$ , charging  $C_1$  with polarity positive to left and negative to right. This produces negative going ramp at its output, for the time interval  $t_1$  to  $t_2$ . At  $t_2$  when ramp voltage attains a value equal to **LTP of Schmitt trigger**, the output of Schmitt trigger changes its stage from

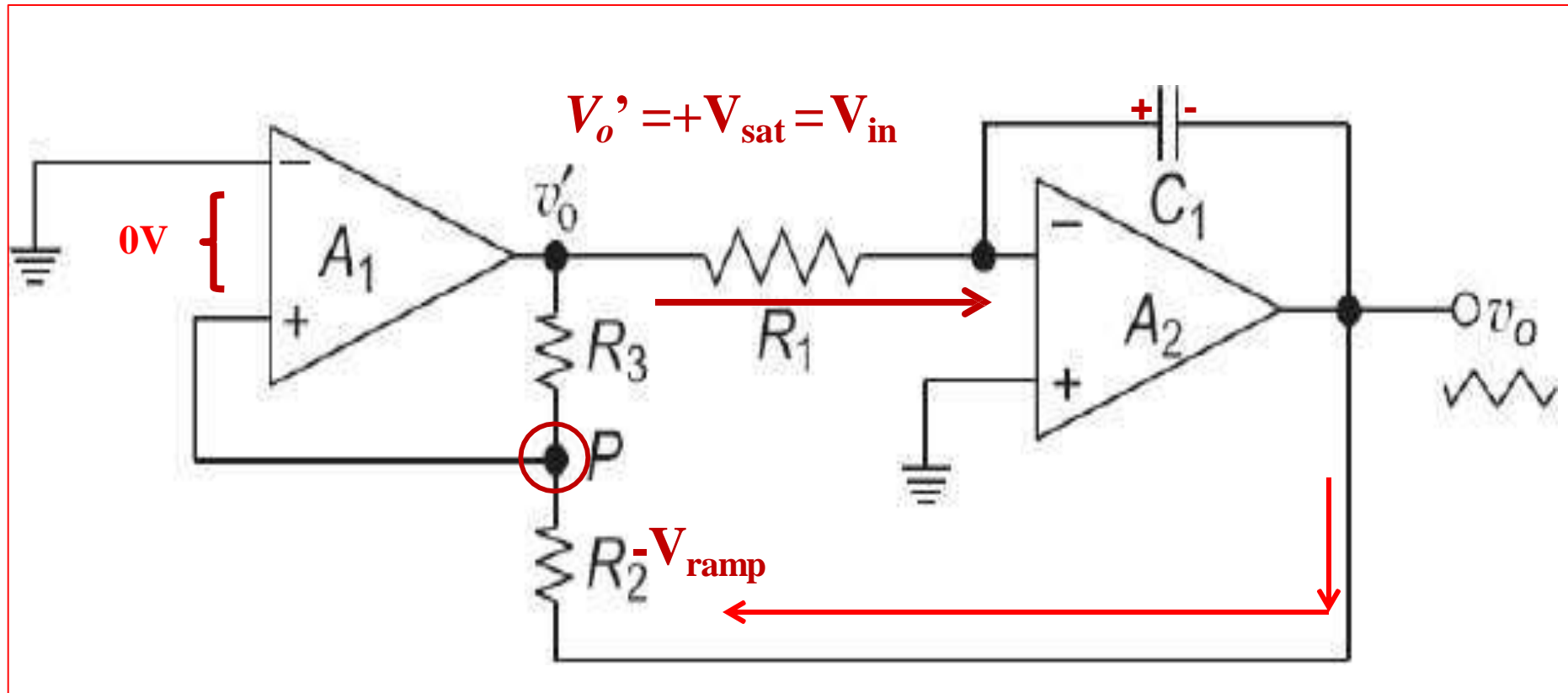
**$+V_{sat}$  to  $-V_{sat}$** ,

Now direction of current through C reverses. It discharges and recharges in opposite direction with polarity positive to right and negative to left. This produces positive going ramp at its output, for the time interval  $t_2$  to  $t_3$ . At  $t_3$  when ramp voltage attains a value equal to **UTP of Schmitt trigger**, the output of Schmitt trigger changes its state from  $-V_{sat}$  to  $+V_{sat}$  and cycle continues.

**The circuit acts as free running waveform generator producing triangular and rectangular output waveforms.**

$$f_o = \frac{1}{T}$$

$$f_o = \frac{R_3}{4R_1R_2C_1}$$



$$\frac{v'_o}{R_3} = \frac{v_o}{R_2} \rightarrow (1)$$

$$+V_{Sat} = -V_{Sat}$$

$$+V_{ramp} = -V_{ramp}$$

$$v'_o = +V_{Sat}$$

$$V_o = -V_{Sat}$$

$$\frac{V_{Sat}}{R_3} = \frac{V_{ramp}}{R_2} \rightarrow (2)$$

$$V_{ramp} = \frac{R_2}{R_3} (-V_{sat}) \rightarrow (3)$$

$$V_{ramp} = \frac{R_2}{R_3} (-V_{sat}) \rightarrow (3)$$

$$V_o(\text{PP}) = 2V_{ramp}$$

$$\text{Peak to Peak of } V_{ramp} = V_{(PP)} = 2 \left( \frac{R_2}{R_3} \right) V_{sat} \rightarrow (4)$$

$$V_{in} = V_{Sat}$$

$$V_{o(pp)} = - \frac{1}{R_1 C_1} \int_0^{T/2} -V_{sat} dt = \frac{V_{sat}}{R_1 C_1} \frac{T}{2}$$

Substitute  $V_{(pp)}$  from Eqn. (4)

$$T = \frac{2V_{o(pp)} R_1 C_1}{V_{sat}} \quad f_o = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{R_3}{4R_1 R_2 C_1}$$

Voltage

