

Solution: Part 7

1. The bandwidth for voltage gain of a single common-emitter amplifier stage is required to be 2 MHz with a quiescent current of 5 mA and a total ac load, $R_t = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$. The transistor parameters are $\beta_o = 100$, $r_{bb'} = 20 \text{ }\Omega$, $C_{b'c} = 2 \text{ pF}$ and $f_T = 200 \text{ MHz}$. From this information deduce the values of g_m , $r_{b'e}$, $C_{b'e}$ and f_β . Find the value of the source resistance to give the required bandwidth and the mid-frequency voltage gain v_o/v_s . Derive any formulae you may use.

(Ans: $g_m = 200 \text{ mA/V}$, $r_{b'e} = 500 \text{ }\Omega$, $C_{b'e} = 157 \text{ pF}$, $f_\beta = 2 \text{ MHz}$, $R_s = 280 \text{ }\Omega$, $K = 125$)

If there is a stray capacitance of $0.01 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ in parallel with R_L calculate the new bandwidth, neglecting the input time constant. (Ans: 16 kHz)

Solution

$$g_m = 40 \times I_{CQ} = 20 \times 5 \text{ m} = 200 \text{ mA/V (note units!)}$$

$$r_{b'e} = \frac{\beta_o}{g_m} = \frac{100}{200 \text{ m}} = 500 \text{ }\Omega$$

$$f_T = \frac{1}{2\pi(C_{b'e} + C_{b'c})} \quad C_{b'e} = \frac{g_m}{2\pi \times f_T} - C_{b'c} = \frac{200 \text{ m}}{2\pi \times 200 \text{ M}} - 2 \text{ pF} \quad C_{b'e} = 157 \text{ pF}$$

$$f_\beta = \frac{1}{2\pi \times r_{b'e} \times (C_{b'e} + C_{b'c})} \quad f_\beta = 2 \text{ MHz or use } f_\beta = f_T/\beta_o = 200 \text{ M}/100 = 2 \text{ MHz}$$

[recall this is the corner frequency – or bandwidth – of the amplifier with zero load: $f_T = \beta_o f_\beta$]

Now voltage-gain bandwidth is given by $f_H = \frac{1}{2\pi \times r_{b'e} // (r_{bb'} + R_s) \times (C_{b'e} + C_{b'c} [1 + |K|])}$

where mid-frequency gain is $K = -g_m R_t \frac{r_{b'e}}{r_{b'e} + r_{bb'} + R_s}$

(see notes for derivations of equations)

$$|K| = 40 \times 5 \times 10^{-3} \times 10^3 \frac{500}{500 + 20 + R_s} \rightarrow |K| = \frac{10^5}{520 + R_s}$$

$$\frac{r_{b'e} \times (r_{bb'} + R_s)}{r_{b'e} + r_{bb'} + R_s} = \frac{500 \times (20 + R_s)}{520 + R_s} = \frac{10^4 + 500 \times R_s}{520 + R_s}$$

$$2 \text{ M} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times \frac{10^4 + 500 \times R_s}{520 + R_s} \times (157 \text{ p} + 2 \text{ p} \times |K|)} \quad (\text{assume } K \gg 1)$$

$$1.5 \text{ M} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times \frac{10^4 + 500 \times R_s}{520 + R_s} \times \left(157 \text{ p} + 2 \text{ p} \times \frac{10^5}{520 + R_s} \right)} \Rightarrow$$

$$1.5 \text{ M} = \frac{(520 + R_s)^2}{2\pi \times (10^4 + 500 R_s) \times (157 \text{ p} (520 + R_s) + 2 \times 10^{-7})}$$

Solve to get $R_s = 280 \text{ }\Omega$ hence $K = 125$

Check time constants:

$$\tau_i = RC = r_{be} // (R_s + r_{bb}) \times C \quad \tau_o = R_t C'$$

$$R = 188R, C \sim C_{be} + KC_{b'c} = 157p + 124 \times 2pF = 407 \text{ pF}$$

so input time constant is $\tau_i = 188 \times 407p = \mathbf{77 \text{ ns}}$

output time constant is $\tau_o = 1k \times 2p = \mathbf{2 \text{ ns}}$

so model is valid

With stray capacitance, now find output time constant

$$\tau_o = 1k \times 10n = \mathbf{10 \text{ }\mu s}$$

is much larger than the input and consider the output circuit.

$$f_H' \approx \frac{1}{2\pi \times R_t \times C_{stray}}$$

$$f_H' \approx \frac{1}{2\pi \times 1k \times 0.01\mu}$$

$$= \mathbf{16 \text{ kHz}}$$

Bandwidth now limited by stray capacitance on the output rather than intrinsic device capacitances.