

Ques: What is an Amplifier?

Ans: Amplifier is a device that is used to increase the power, current or voltage of a signal. Amplifiers are used in wireless communications and broadcasting and in audio equipment of all kind.

Ques: Define the classification of amplifiers?

Ans: The transistor amplifiers may be classified as to their usage, frequency, capabilities, coupling methods and mode of operation.

(i) According to use: The classification of amplifiers as to usage are basically voltage amplifiers and power amplifiers.

(ii) According to frequency capabilities : According to frequency capabilities, amplifiers are classified as audio amplifiers, radio frequency amplifiers.

(iii) According to coupling methods : According to coupling methods amplifiers are classified as R-C coupled amplifiers, transformer coupled amplifiers.

(iv) According to mode of operation : According to mode of operation amplifiers are classified as class A, class B and class C amplifiers.

Ques:- How does transistor works as an amplifier :-

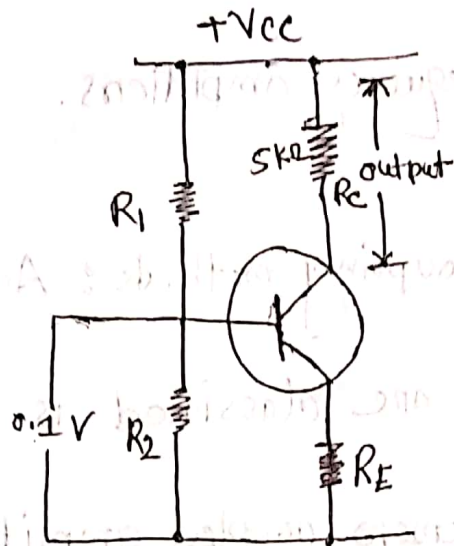


fig: 1

Fig 01 shows a single stage transistor amplifier. When a weak a.c signal is given to the base of transistor a small base current, (which is a.c) starts flowing. Due to transistor action, a much larger a.c current flows through the collector load R_C . As the value of R_C is quite high (usually $4-10\text{ K}\Omega$), therefore, a large voltage appears across R_C . Thus a weak

Signal applied in the base circuit appears in amplified form in the collector circuit. It is in this way that a transistor acts as an amplifier.

The action of transistor amplifier can be beautifully explained by referring to Fig-01. Suppose a change of 0.1 V in signal voltage produces a change of 2 mA in the collector current. Obviously, a signal of 0.1 V applied to the base will give an output voltage $= 2\text{ mA} \times 5\text{ k}\Omega = 10\text{ V}$. Thus the transistor has been able to raise the voltage level from 0.1 to 10 V .

* Ques: Graphical representation/Demonstration of Transistor Amplifier.

The function of transistor as an amplifier can also be explained graphically. Fig-02 shows the output characteristics of a transistor in CE configuration.

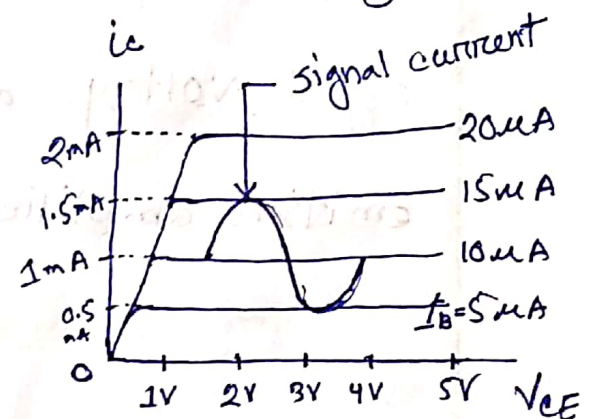


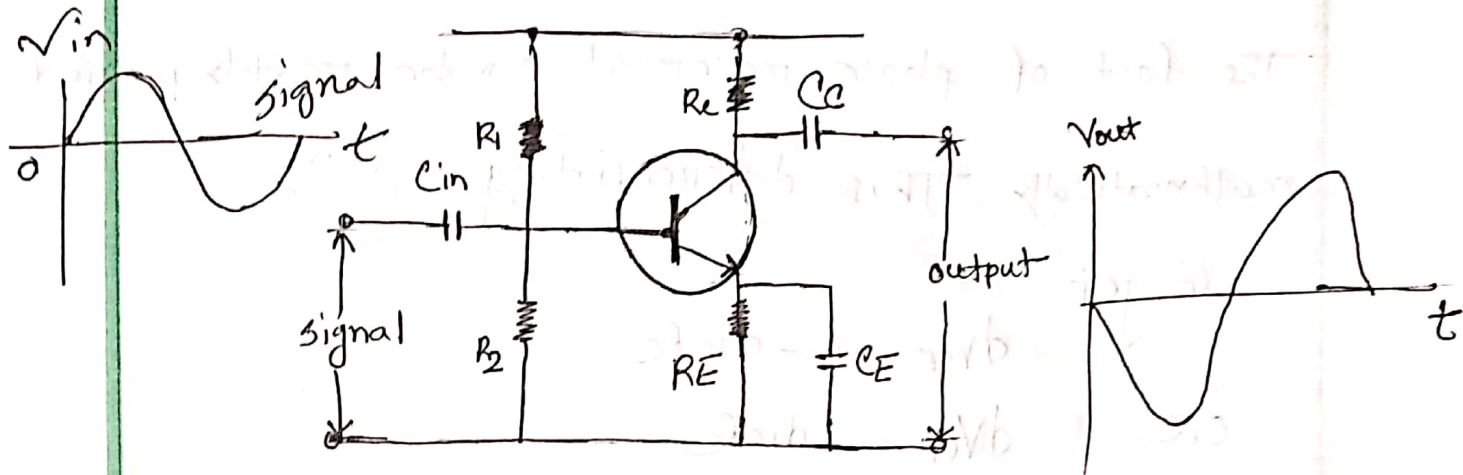
Fig-02

Suppose the zero signal base current is $10 \mu A$. This is the base current for which the transistor is biased by biasing network. When an a.c signal is applied to the base, it makes the ~~base~~ base, say positive in the first half cycle and negative in the second half cycle. Therefore, the base and collector current will increase in the first half-cycle when base-emitter junction is more forward biased. However, they will decrease in the second when the base emitter junction is less forward biased.

Q Explain phase reversal of a transistor amplifier

Ans:- The phase difference of 180° between the signal voltage and output voltage in a common emitter amplifier is known as phase reversal.





when the signal voltage increases in the positive half cycle, the base current also increases. The result is that collector current and hence voltage drop $i_c R_c$ increase. As V_{cc} is constant, therefore, output voltage V_{ce} decreases. In other words, As the signal voltage is increasing in the positive half-cycle, the output voltage is increasing in the negative sense, i.e. output is 180° out of phase with the input. It follows, therefore, that in a common emitter amplifier, the positive half-cycle of the signal appears as amplified negative half cycle in the output and vice versa.

It may be noted that amplification is not affected by these phase reversal.

The fact of phase reversal can be readily proved mathematically. Thus differentiating exp (i),


we get,

$$dV_{CE} = 0 - di_c R_c$$

or,

$$dV_{CE} = - di_c R_c$$

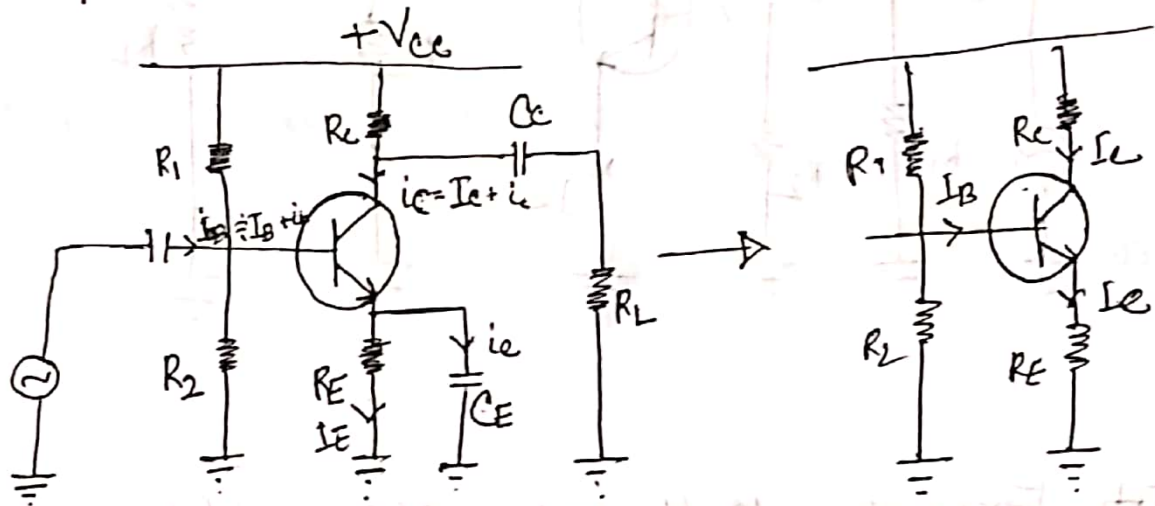
The negative sign shows that output voltage is 180° out of phase with the input signal voltage.

 D.C. equivalent circuit :-

In this d.c. equivalent circuit of a transistor amplifier, only d.c. conditions are to be considered i.e. it is ^{assumed} presumed that no signal is applied. As direct current cannot flow through a capacitor, therefore, all the capacitors look like an open circuit in this d.c. equivalent circuit.

Draw the equivalent circuit by following two steps:

- (i) Reduced all a.c source to zero.
- (ii) Open all the capacitors.

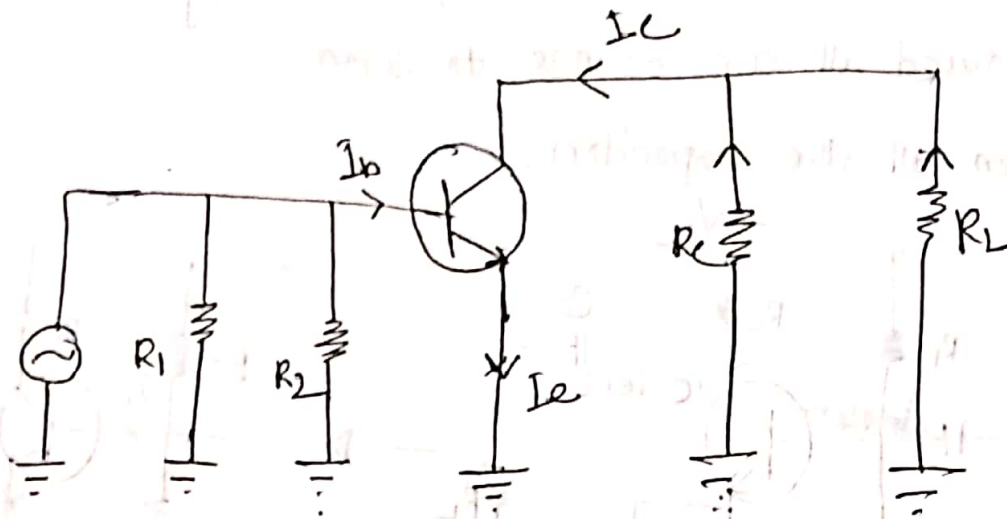


⊞ A.C. equivalent circuit :-

In the a.c. equivalent circuit of a transistor amplifier, only a.c. conditions are to be considered. Obviously, d.c. voltage is not important for a circuit and may be considered zero.

Draw the a.c. equivalent circuit by the following two steps:

- (i) ⊞ reduce all the d.c source to zero.
- (ii) short all the capacitors.



Example: 10.4 page-259 in p.d.f book is very important.

Define power amplifier:

A power amplifier is an electronic amplifier designed to increase the magnitude of power of a given input signal. The power of the input signal is increased to a level high enough to drive loads of output devices like speakers.

headphone, RF transmitters etc. Unlike voltage/current amplifiers, a power amplifier is designed to drive load directly and used as a final block in an amplifier chain.

▣ Difference between voltage and power amplifiers: