

## **Lecture 9: BJT Circuits2**

ECE3110J, Electronic Circuits

Xuyang Lu 2024 Summer



 $I_C = I_S \left( e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}} - 1 \right) \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_A} \right) \quad (1)$ 

(2)

## **Recap of Last Lecture**

- ,
- $oldsymbol{r}_{\pi}=rac{eta}{g_m}$
- BJT circuits  $g_m \cong \frac{I_C}{kT/a} \tag{3}$

$$r_o \cong \frac{V_A}{I_C}$$
 (4)

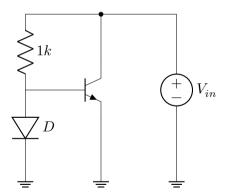


## **Topics to Be Covered**

- BJT circuits
- MOSFET



• Find the output if input =  $2 + 0.001 \sin(2\pi 100t)$ 



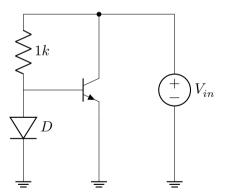






## **Example 4:** $I_S = 1e-15, \beta = \infty, V_{AF} = 100$

• Find the output if input  $= 2 + 0.001\sin(2\pi 100t)$ 

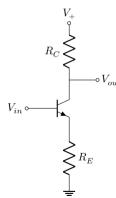


## Example 4



## **Characteristics of CE Amplifiers**



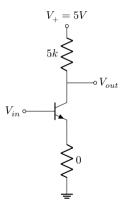


	Definition	Expression	
		With emitter	Without emitter
		degeneration	degeneration
Current gain	$A_i \triangleq \frac{i_{\mathrm{out}}}{i_{\mathrm{in}}}$	β	β
Voltage gain	$A_v \triangleq \frac{v_{out}}{v_{in}}$	$-\frac{\beta R_C}{r_\pi + (\beta + 1)R_E}$	$-g_m R_C$
Input impedance	$r_{\rm in} \triangleq \frac{v_{\rm in}}{i_{\rm in}}$	$r_\pi + (\beta+1)R_E$	$r_{\pi}$
Output impedance	$r_{out} \triangleq \frac{v_{out}}{i_{out}}$	$R_C$	$R_C$

## **Example 5:** $I_s = 5 \times 10^{-16}, \beta = 200, V_{AF} = 100$



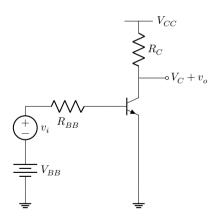
• Find the output if input =  $0.75 + 0.001\sin(2\pi 100t)$ 



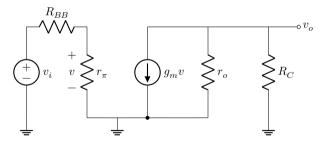


## **CE** Amplifier with Base Resistance



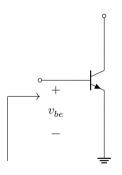


Resistance  $R_{BB}$  is added to make the biasing less sensitive to changes in transistor.



## **CE** Amplifier with Base Resistance

## Impedance Looking into Base

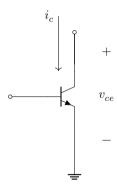


$$r_{\pi} = \Delta v_{BE} / \Delta i_B = \frac{v_{be}}{i_b} \tag{5}$$

$$=\frac{V_T}{I_B} \approx \frac{\beta}{q_m} \tag{6}$$

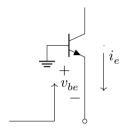
### **Impedance Looking into Collector**





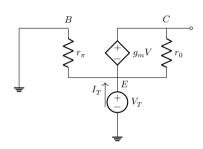
$$r_0 = \frac{\Delta v_{CE}}{\Delta i_C} = \frac{v_{Ce}}{i_C} = \frac{V_A}{I_C} \tag{7}$$

### **Impedance Looking into Emitter**



$$r_e = \frac{r_\pi}{(\beta + 1)} \tag{8}$$

$$=\frac{1}{(\beta+1)}\frac{\beta}{g_m}=\frac{\alpha}{g_m}\cong\frac{1}{g_m}\quad (9)$$

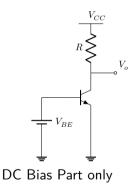


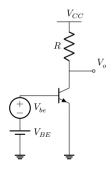
$$r_0 = \frac{\Delta v_{CE}}{\Delta i_C} = \frac{v_{Ce}}{i_C} = \frac{V_A}{I_C}$$
 (10)



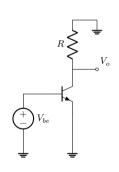
## **DC** Biasing







Complete Circuit



Small-signal only

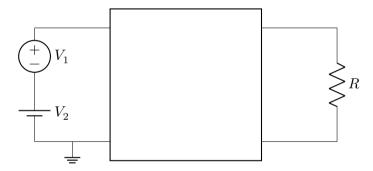
### DC Biasing: How do we ensure transistor is in FAR?



We need to make sure the transistor is always in the FAR, which means the DC base-emitter voltage has to be  $>0.7\ V$  and the collector voltage has to be larger than  $0.3\ V$  to keep the C-E junction reverse biased.

### **DC** Coupling



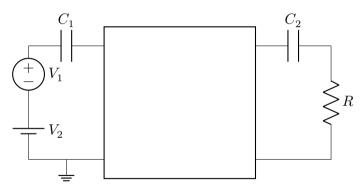


Either rely on the DC component of the input signal to bias the transistor, but this is unreliable and restrictive since we do not know how the input might change, or the input signal might not have any DC component.



## **AC Coupling**

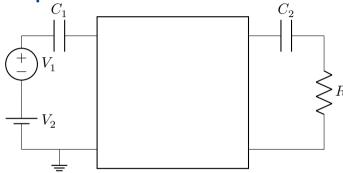




Or, decouple the input and output ports from the core part of the amplifier, and bias the core amplifier internally, so biasing is independent of the input/output blocks.

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## **Biasing: AC-Coupled**

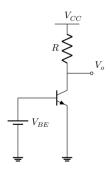


Capacitors  $C_1$  and C2 are called decoupling capacitors and are typically selected to have a large value, so for the frequency range of the input signal these capacitors effectively act as short circuits and let the AC signal pass through.



#### DC Bias of 0.7V BE Junction

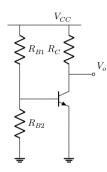




- We need a constant bias voltage source to provide the 0.7V we need across the BE junction.
- $\bullet$  We can use another power supply, in addition to  $V_{CC}$  , but this is costly.
- So we can just use the  $V_{CC}$  supply voltage and use a resistive voltage divider to generate the voltage  $V_{Bias}$  we need.

#### DC Bias of 0.7V BE Junction





Only if  $I_B$  is assumed to be small

$$V_{\mathsf{Bias}} = V_{CC} \cdot \frac{R_{B2}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}} \tag{11}$$

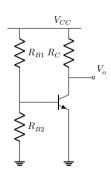


## The Thevenin Equivalent



$$R_{BB} = R_{B1} \parallel R_{B2} = \frac{R_{B1}R_{B2}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}}$$
 (12)

$$V_{BB} = V_{CC} \cdot \frac{R_{B2}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}} \tag{13}$$

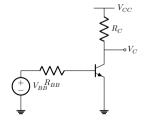


## The Thevenin Equivalent

$$V_{BB} = \frac{R_{B2}V_{CC}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}} \tag{14}$$

$$R_{BB} = \frac{R_{B1}R_{B2}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}} \tag{15}$$

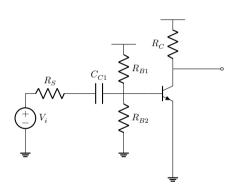
$$I_C = \beta I_B = \beta \frac{V_{BB} - V_{BE}}{R_{BB}} \tag{16}$$



- this current depends on both  $\beta$  and  $V_{RE}$ .
- if you replace one transistor with another which has a different set of parameters, the collector current change.
- We know that if the collector current changes, all transistor SS parameters change, which is not good.



## **Coupling Capacitor**

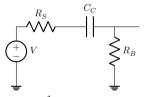


What is  $v_{be}/v_i$  ?

## How Much of $V_i$ Gets to Base?

BJT circuits





- Pole at  $-\frac{1}{C_C(R_S+R_B)}$
- Zero at zero

$$R_B = r_\pi \mid\mid R_{B1} \mid\mid R_{B2} \tag{17}$$

$$v_{be} = \frac{R_B}{R_S + R_B + 1/(sC_C)} v_i \quad (18)$$



## How Much of $V_i$ Gets to Base?

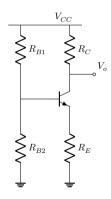


High frequency value

Note the output voltage can be derived from the rest of the SS model, which we have not shown here.

## Problem: Very Sensitive to $V_B$



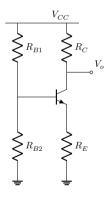


Note that the collector current is an exponential function of the base-emitter voltage and the slightest change (like 26~mV) of this voltage will cause the collector current to change by 10~times!

$$V_{BE} = V_{CC} \frac{R_{B2}}{R_{B1} + R_{B2}} \tag{19}$$

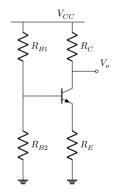
$$I_C \approx I_S e^{V_{BE}/V_T} \tag{20}$$

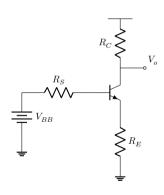
# A Better Biasing Scheme: Emitter-Degeneration Resistance



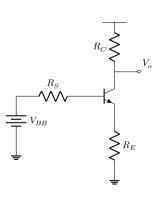
 This will raise the emitter voltage, and thus the base voltage, and will make the collector current less dependent on transistor parameters.

## A Better Biasing Scheme





### Find the Emitter Current:



$$I_E = (\beta + 1)I_B \tag{21}$$

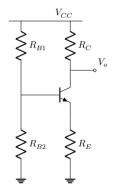
$$V_{BB} - R_{BB}I_B - V_{BE} - R_EI_E = 0 \qquad \mbox{(22)}$$

$$V_{BB} - R_{BB} \frac{I_E}{\beta + 1} - V_{BE} - R_E I_E = 0$$
 (23)

$$I_E = \frac{V_{BB} - V_{BE}}{R_E + \frac{R_{BB}}{\beta + 1}} \tag{24}$$

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## A Better Biasing Scheme



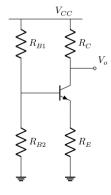
$$I_E = \frac{V_{BB} - V_{BE}}{R_E + R_{BB}/(\beta + 1)} \tag{25}$$

$$V_{BB} \gg V_{BE} \tag{26}$$

$$R_E >> (R_{BB}/(\beta+1))$$
 (27)

 $\bullet$  Then  $I_E$  would be determined by  $V_{BB}$  and  $R_E.$ 

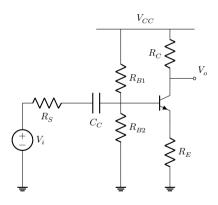
## A Better Biasing Scheme



This works because of a feedback loop which stabilizes  $I_E$ .

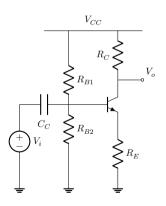
- If  $I_E$  becomes too large
- ullet  $V_E$  increases
- Which reduces  $V_{RE}$
- ullet Which reduces  $I_E$

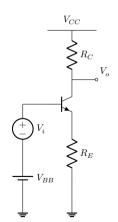
## Use the Biasing in CE Amplifier



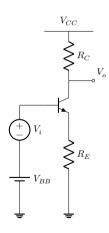
- Stable biasing independent of signal source or transistor parameters.
- But the resistor in the emitter reduces small-signal gain.
- This is called "emitter degeneration" .

## Assume $R_S = \mathbf{0}$









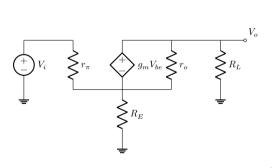
$$g_m v_\pi + \frac{v_o}{R_C} = 0$$
 (28)

$$\frac{v_o}{v_\pi} = -g_m R_C \tag{29}$$

$$v_{\pi} = v_i - v_e \tag{30}$$

### **Small Signal Gain**





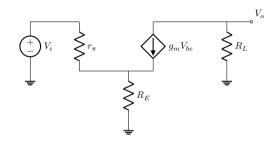
$$v_e = \left(g_m v_\pi + \frac{v_\pi}{r_\pi}\right) R_E \tag{31}$$

$$v_{\pi} = v_i - \left(g_m v_{\pi} + \frac{v_{\pi}}{r_{\pi}}\right) R_E \tag{32}$$

$$v_{\pi} = v_i \left( \frac{r_{\pi}}{r_{\pi} + R_E + g_m r_{\pi} R_E} \right) \quad (33)$$

ignore  $r_0$ , since it is usually very large.

## **Small Signal Gain**



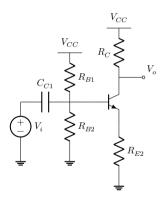
$$v_o = -g_m R_C v_\pi \tag{34}$$

$$v_{o} = -g_{m}R_{C}v_{\pi}$$
 (34) 
$$v_{\pi} = v_{i}\frac{r_{\pi}}{r_{\pi} + R_{E} + g_{m}r_{\pi}R_{E}}$$
 (35)

$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{-g_m r_\pi R_C}{r_\pi + R_E + g_m r_\pi R_E}$$
 (36)

$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} \approx \frac{-g_m R_C}{1 + g_m R_E} \qquad (37)_3$$

### **CE With Degeneration**





$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} \approx \frac{-g_m R_C}{1 + g_m R_E} \tag{38}$$

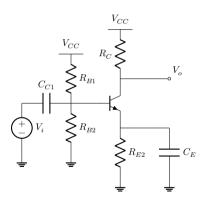
the gain has reduced by  $1 + g_m R_E$ 

• If  $g_m R_E \gg 1$  then the gain is:

$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} \approx \frac{-R_C}{R_E} \tag{39}$$

• This means the gain is independent of the BJT transistor

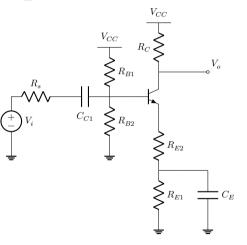
### **High Gain with Stable Bias**



- Since the only function of RE is to make the bias more stable, we only need it in the DC circuit.
- We can "bypass" the effect of this resistor for the AC small- signal circuit but bypassing it with a large capacitor  ${\cal C}_E.$

Recap

# Split $R_{\it E}$ for Even More Flexibility



Now can set gain and bias separately:

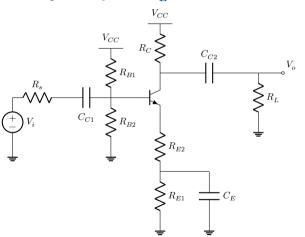
$$\omega \gg 1/R_{E1}C_E \tag{40}$$

$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} \approx \frac{-g_m R_C}{1 + g_m R_{E2}} \tag{41}$$

Robust biasing

$$I_E = \frac{V_{BB} - V_{BE}}{R_{E1} + R_{E2} + R_B/(\beta + 1)}$$
 (42)

# Capacitively Coupled $R_L$



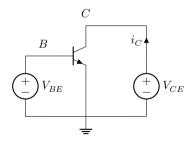
Biasing

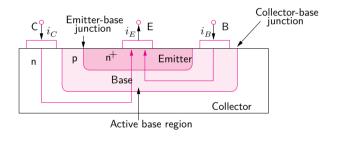
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- Now add a coupling capacitor between the amplifier output and the load.
- This will mean the load resistor will not affect the DC bias of the BJT.

#### **NPN BJT Cross Section**







Biasing

# **NPN Pspice Model (** $I_S = 1^{-18}$ **,** $B_E = 100$ **,** $V_{AE} = 100$ **)**



$$I_C = IS \left( e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}} - 1 \right) \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{VAF} \right) \tag{43}$$

$$BF = \frac{I_C}{I_-} \tag{44}$$

$$I_E = I_C + I_B \tag{45}$$

$$gm \cong \frac{I_C}{kT/q}$$
 (46)

$$r_{\pi} = \frac{BF}{gm} \tag{47}$$

$$r_o \cong \frac{V_{AF}}{I_C} \tag{48}$$

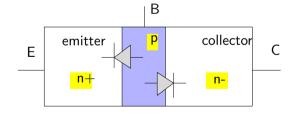
### **Regions of Operation**



- Forward Active Region, where the BE junction is forward biased and the BC junction is reverse biased.
- Notice that since the emitter is more highly doped (it is n+) compared to the collector (which is more lightly doped, n-), we would expect the turn- on voltage for the BE junction to be higher than that of the BC junction.

• Typically:

$$V_{BE}$$
 (ON) 0.7 V  $V_{BC}$  (ON) 0.5V





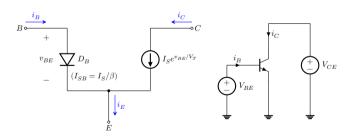
### Forward Active Region (FAR)

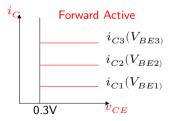


- In FAR, the BE junction is forward biased (meaning  $V_{BE}$  (ON)  $\sim$  0.7 V) and the BC junction is reverse biased, meaning  $V_{BC}$  (ON) < 0.4V.
- Remember that we indicated that:  $i_C \approx I_S e^{v_{BE}/V_T}$
- This shows that the collector current depends on the voltage applied across the base-emitter junction.
- It also shows that the collector current is independent of the collector-base voltage, which as we will shortly see is in fact not quite the case.
- But for now let's assume this relationship is correct.



 Forward active model: the collector current does not change as a function of CE voltage  $(V_{CE})$ .







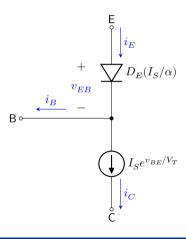
### **Models for pnp Transistors**

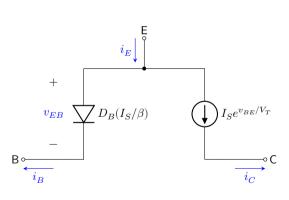
 For pnp transistor, the relationship is the same except all polarities are reversed. The BE junction is forward biased when the emitter voltage is larger than the base voltage by about 0.7V and the collector current flows out of the collector and emitter current flows into the emitter.

$$i_C \approx I_S e^{v_{EB}/V_T}$$
 (49)

### **Models for pnp Transistors**

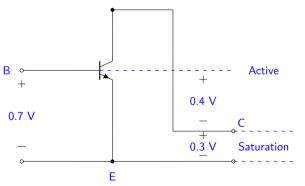






### **Graphical Depiction of FAR**





- Forward Active
- $V_{CB} \ge -0.4V$
- $V_{CE} \ge 0.3V$
- Otherwise get "Saturation"

$$V_{BE}$$
 (ON) 0.7 V  $V_{BC}$  (ON) 0.5 V

### **Saturation Region**



- What happens if the collector base junction begins to be forward biased?
- This means the collector voltage gets smaller until the base voltage become larger than it by about 0.4V.
- With BC junction forward-biased, most of the base current will simply be injected into the collector, as shown by the model below.
- As the BC voltage goes beyond 0.4V, the collector current will become smaller since the current coming from the diode DC will simply go down the voltage controlled current source.

### **Saturation Region**



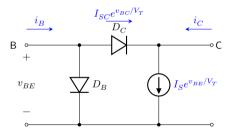
- This means the current gain Beta of the transistor will begin to go down as collector current decreases.
- When the base collector voltage becomes equal to the BE voltage, collector current becomes zero as the model shows.
- With BC junction forward-biased, most of the base current will simply be injected into the collector, as shown by the model below.
- The IV relationships for the transistor in Saturation can then be shown graphically.



### **Saturation Region**

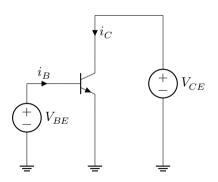


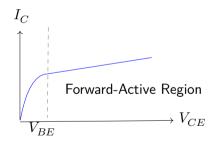
Mode	EBJ	CBJ
Cutoff	Reverse	Reverse
Active	Forward	Reverse
Saturation	Forward	Forward



#### **Saturation Current**

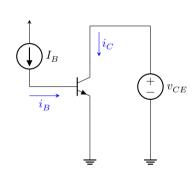


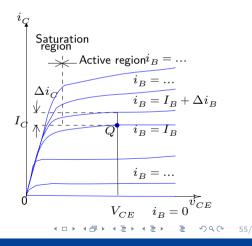




### **Saturation Region: Closer Look**

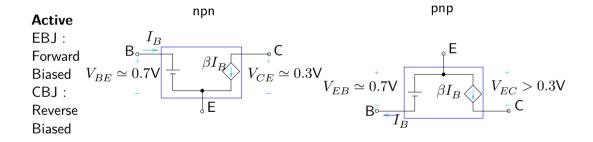






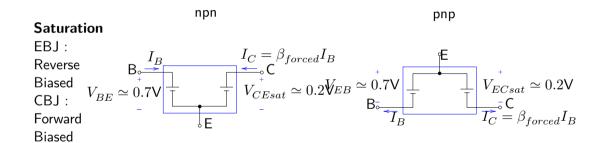
### Simplified Models for Two Regions





### Simplified Models for Two Regions





Recap

### Summary



$$v_{BE} = v_B - v_E \approx 0.7 \text{ V}$$

$$i_B = \frac{i_C}{\beta} = \left(\frac{I_S}{\beta}\right) e^{v_{BE}/V_T}$$

$$v_{BC} = v_B - v_C < 0$$
(51)

$$i_C = I_S e^{v_{BE}/v_T}$$
 (52)  $i_E = \frac{i_C}{\alpha} = \left(\frac{I_S}{\alpha}\right) e^{v_{BE}/V_T}$  (54)

Note: For the pnp transistor, replace  $v_{RE}$  with  $v_{ER}$ 

### Summary



$$i_C = \alpha i_E$$
 (55)  
 $i_C = \beta i_B$  (56)

$$i_B = (1 - \alpha)i_E = \frac{i_E}{\beta + 1}$$
 (57)

$$i_E = (\beta + 1)i_B \tag{58}$$

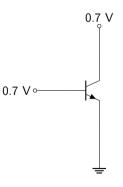
$$\beta = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} \tag{59}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\beta}{\beta + 1} \tag{60}$$

 $V_T = \text{thermal voltage} = \frac{kT}{q} \simeq 25 \text{ mV}$  at room temperature

#### **Condition for Forward Active**

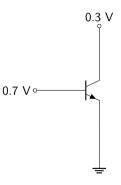




- Is this Forward Active?
- Yes

#### **Condition for Forward Active**

Not really on yet



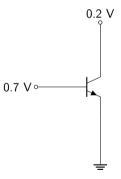
**Forward** 

- Is this Forward Active?
- Yes
- $V_{RC} = 0.4V$



#### How Far Can We Go?

$$v_{CB} = -0.5V$$

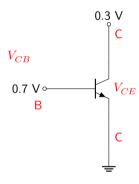


- Is this Forward Active?
- No

**Forward** 

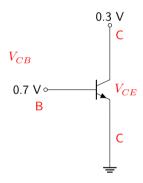






- $V_{BE} \approx 0.7V$
- $V_{BC} \leq 0.4V$   $V_{CB} \geq -0.4V$

#### Forward Active vs "Saturation"

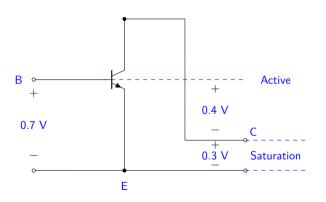


- Forward Active
- $V_{CB} \ge -0.4V$
- $V_{CE} \ge 0.3V$

If we are not in forward active, we are in saturation region.

### **Graphical Depiction**

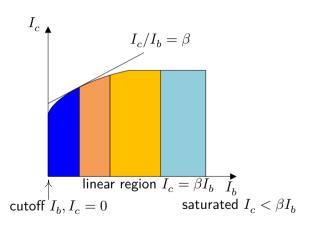




- Forward Active
- $V_{CB} \ge -0.4V$
- $V_{CE} \ge 0.3V$

Otherwise get "Saturation"

#### **Saturation**

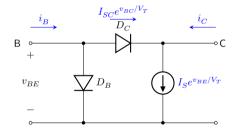


 $I_c$  and  $I_b$  for the Different Operating Modes of a BJT



#### **Saturation**





- BC diode starts conducting
- Less current for  $i_c$  ( $D_C$  is forward biased)
- Collect current falls

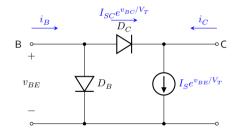
$$i_C = I_S e^{v_{BE}/V_T} - I_{SC} e^{V_{BC}/V_T}$$
 (61)

Base current rises

$$i_B = I_S/\beta e^{v_{BE}/V_T} + I_{SC}e^{v_{BC}/V_T}$$
 (62)

#### Saturation





$$\beta_{forced} = \frac{i_C}{i_B}|_{saturation} \le \beta$$
 (63)

$$= \beta_{\text{forced}} = \beta \frac{e^{V_{CE \text{ sat}}/V_T} - I_{SC}/I_S}{e^{V_{CE \text{ sat}}/V_T} + \beta I_{SC}/I_S}$$
 (64)