

< Linear power Amplifier >

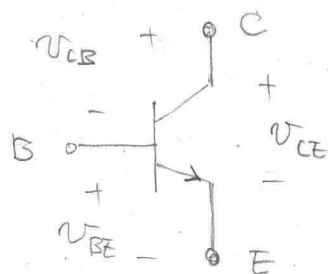
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Objective

- BJT Emitter Follower
- Push-pull stage
- power dissipation

Bipolar Junction Transistor (NPN)



As usual, we treat it as an encapsulated objects which interacts with the environment through terminals.

Terminal variables

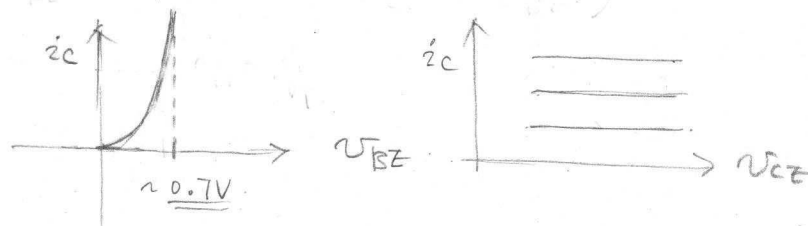
- Currents : i_B , i_C , i_E
- Voltages : V_{BE} , V_{CE} , V_{CB}

Terminal Relations

(When "Active" : $V_{BE} > 0$ & $V_{CE} > V_{BE}$)

- $i_C = \beta i_B$
- $i_E = i_C + i_B = i_C (1 + \frac{1}{\beta}) \approx i_C$

$$i_C \approx I_S \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}\right)$$

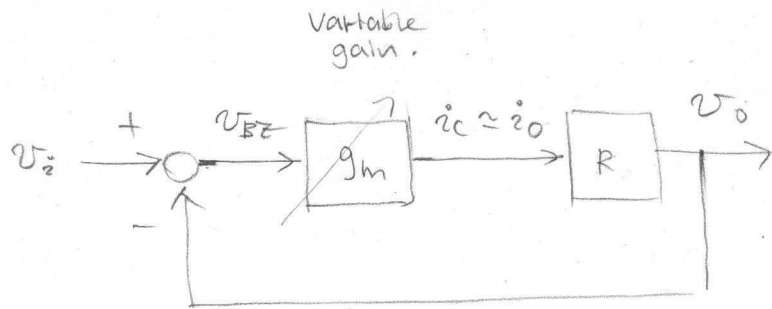
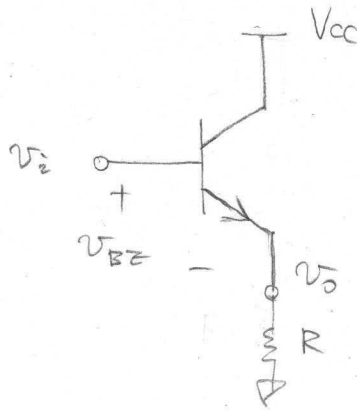


Trans conductance

$$g_m \triangleq \frac{di_C}{dV_{BE}} = \frac{I_S}{V_T} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE}}{V_T}\right) = \frac{i_C}{V_T}$$

- BJT can be used as a voltage-controlled current source.
- Note that i_C is insensitive to V_{CE} when BJT is "Active"

• Emitter Follower.



$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{g_m R}{1 + g_m R} \approx 1 \quad \text{when } g_m R \gg 1.$$

• This circuit provides "power amplification"

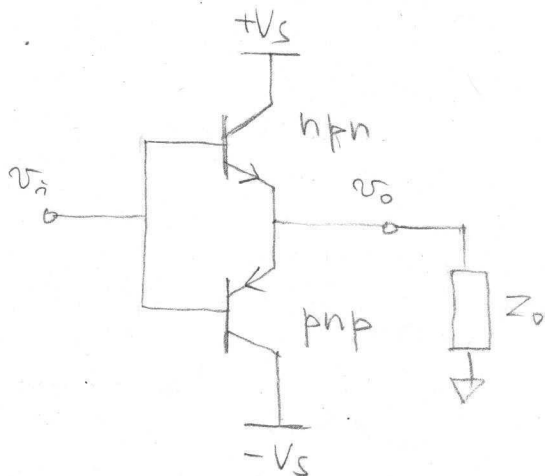
$$P_{in} = v_i \cdot i_B$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \approx \beta$$

$$P_{out} = v_o \cdot i_o \approx v_i \cdot i_B \cdot \beta$$

• However, cannot "sink" current.

• Push-pull stage (Class B)

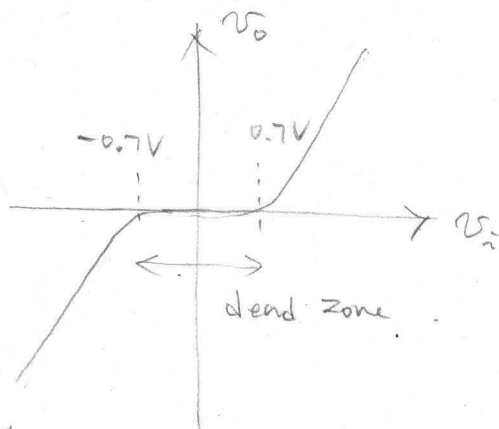


• Note the "Complementary" architecture.

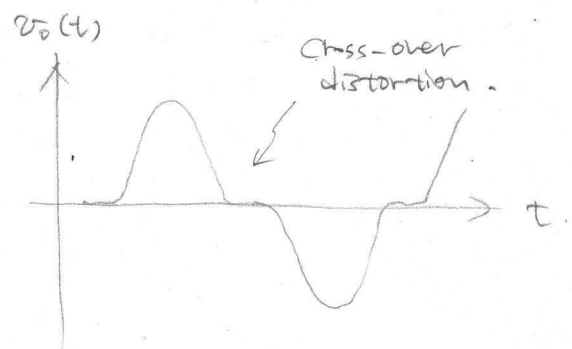
• Now, it can not only source but also sink the current.

$$\frac{v_o}{v_i} = \frac{g_m Z_o}{1 + g_m Z_o} \approx 1$$

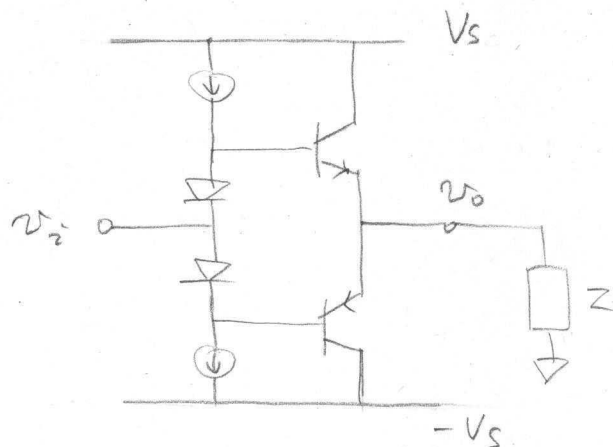
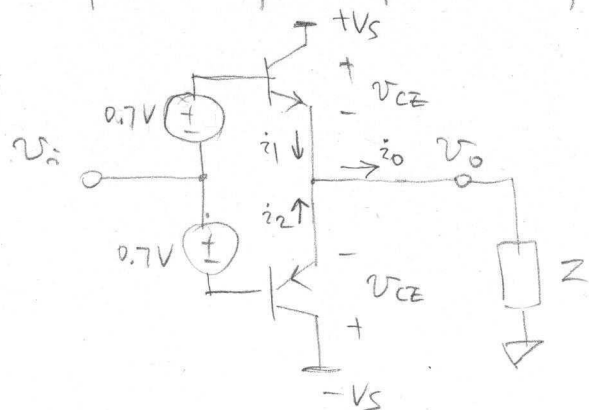
But, problem is



\Rightarrow



◦ Improved push-pull stage (Class AB)



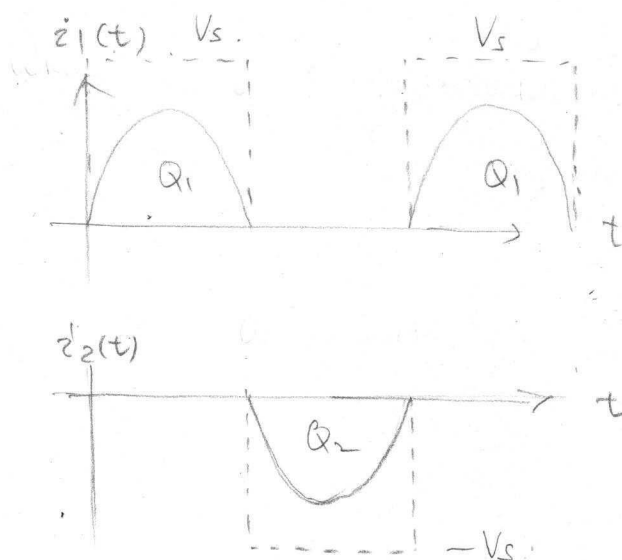
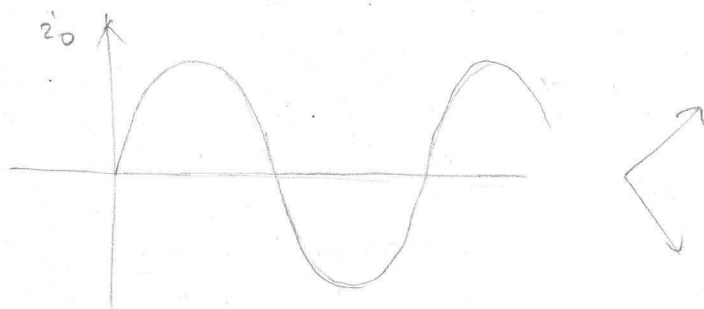
Inserting offset voltages can eliminate the crossover distortion and dead zone issues.

Too much offsets will turn on both Q_1 and Q_2
 \Rightarrow shoot through current.

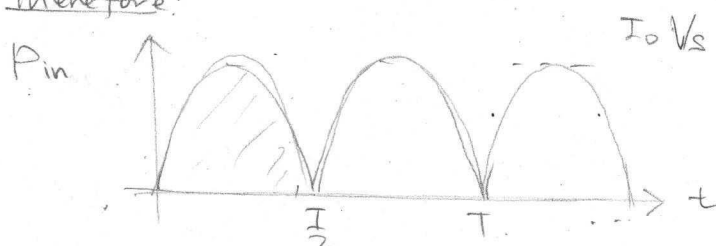
The output stage of power op-amp (e.g. $\mu A 73$) is based on BJT push-pull stage.

◦ power dissipation.

Suppose the load is inductive.
 $i_o = I_o \cdot \sin \omega t$



Therefore:



$$\begin{aligned} P_{in} &= \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/2} \frac{1}{2} I_o V_o \sin \omega t \, dt \\ &= \frac{2}{T} \cdot I_o V_o \cdot \frac{2}{\omega} = \frac{2}{\pi} I_o V_S \end{aligned}$$

$$\overline{P}_{in} = \frac{2}{T} \int_0^{T/2} I_0 V_s \sin \omega t \, dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{T} I_0 V_s \frac{1}{\omega} 2 = \frac{4 I_0 V_s}{T \omega} = \underline{\underline{\frac{2}{T L} I_0 V_s}}$$

$$\overline{P}_{out} = 0 \quad \text{for pure inductor} \quad \therefore \underline{\underline{\overline{P}_{diss} = \frac{2}{T L} I_0 V_s}}$$

Note that \overline{P}_{diss} increases with supply voltage V_s .

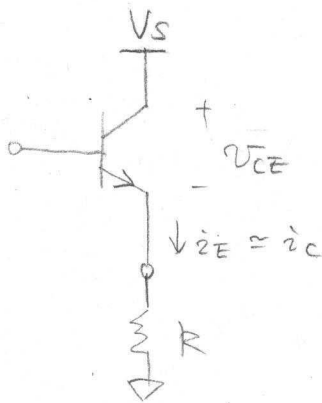
- For efficiency, we want low V_s .
- For control, we want high V_s because it increases the current slope: $\max\left(\frac{di}{dt}\right) = \frac{V_s}{L}$.

Large \overline{P}_{diss} limits device downsizing.

- Power semiconductor size \uparrow .
- Additional components for cooling (Heat sinks, fans).

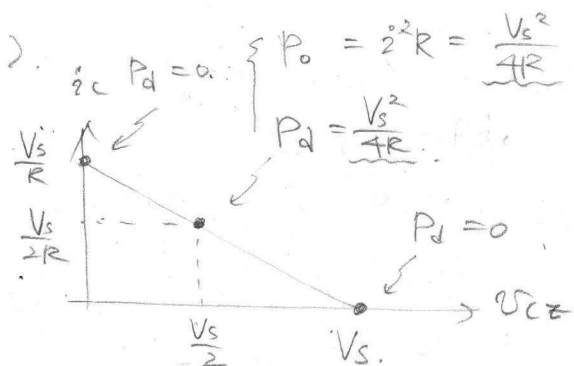
Popular option for precision applications, audio amplifiers, etc.

Switched-mode Amplifiers. (Class D).

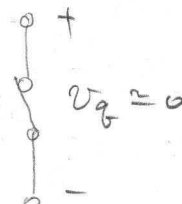
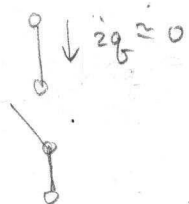


$$P_{diss} = V_{ce} \cdot i_c$$

$$V_{ce} = V_s - R i_c$$



This motivates to use a transistor as a switch.



$$P_{diss} = i_c V_{ce} \approx 0$$