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BJT Small-Signal Analysis Common –Emitter Fixed-Bias Configuration



Fig.1: Common-emitter fixed-bias configuration.



Fig.2: Network of Fig.1 following the removal of the effects of Vcc, C1, and C2.



Fig.3: Substituting the *re* model into the network of Fig.2

 $Z_i = R_B \|\beta r_e\|$

ohms

 $R_B \ge 10 \beta r_e$

$$Z_i \cong \beta r_e$$

ohms

Zo: Recall that the output impedance of any system is defined as the impedance Zo determined when Vi = 0. For Fig.3, when Vi = 0, Ii = Ib = 0, resulting in an open-circuit equivalence for the current source. The result is the configuration of Fig.4.

$$Z_o = R_C || r_o$$
 ohms

If $ro \ge 10 Rc$, the approximation RC // ro = RC is frequently applied and



Fig.4 Determining Zo

The resistors r_o and R_C are in parallel, A_{ν} :

 $V_o = -\beta I_b(R_C \| r_o)$ and $I_b = \frac{V_i}{\beta r_c}$

but

so that
$$V_o = -\beta \left(\frac{V_i}{\beta_{r_e}}\right) (R_C || r_o)$$

and
$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V} = -\frac{(R_C || r_o)}{r_e}$$

$$A_{v} = \frac{V_{o}}{V_{i}} = -\frac{(R_{C})}{r_{e}}$$

If $r_o \geq 10R_C$,

The current gain is determined in the following manner: Applying the cur- A_i : rent-divider rule to the input and output circuits,

$$I_o = \frac{(r_o)(\beta I_b)}{r_o + R_C} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{I_o}{I_b} = \frac{r_o \beta}{r_o + R_C}$$
$$I_b = \frac{(R_B)(I_i)}{R_B + \beta r_e} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{I_b}{I_i} = \frac{R_B}{R_B + \beta r_e}$$

with

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The result is

$$A_{i} = \frac{I_{o}}{I_{i}} = \left(\frac{I_{o}}{I_{b}}\right) \left(\frac{I_{b}}{I_{i}}\right) = \left(\frac{r_{o}\beta}{r_{o} + R_{C}}\right) \left(\frac{R_{B}}{R_{B} + \beta r_{e}}\right)$$
$$A_{i} = \frac{I_{o}}{I_{i}} = \frac{\beta R_{B} r_{o}}{(r_{o} + R_{C})(R_{B} + \beta r_{e})}$$

and

which is certainly an unwieldy, complex expression.

However, if $r_o \ge 10R_C$ and $R_B \ge 10\beta r_e$, which is often the case,

$$A_{i} = \frac{I_{o}}{I_{i}} \cong \frac{\beta R_{B} r_{o}}{(r_{o})(R_{B})}$$
$$A_{i} \cong \beta$$
$$r_{o} \ge 10 R_{c}, R_{B} \ge 10 \beta r_{e}$$

and

Recall from chapter 7 we can use equation below to avoid complexity

$$A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_C}$$

Phase Relationship: The negative sign in the resulting equation for Av reveals that a 180° phase shift occurs between the input and output signals

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For the network of Fig. 5:

- (a) Determine r_e .
- (b) Find Z_i (with $r_o = \infty \Omega$).
- (c) Calculate Z_o (with $r_o = \infty \Omega$).
- (d) Determine A_{ν} (with $r_o = \infty \Omega$).
- (e) Find A_i (with $r_o = \infty \Omega$).
- (f) Repeat parts (c) through (e) including $r_o = 50 \text{ k}\Omega$ in all calculations and compare results.





Solution

(a) DC analysis:

$$I_B = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B} = \frac{12 \text{ V} - 0.7 \text{ V}}{470 \text{ k}\Omega} = 24.04 \ \mu\text{A}$$
$$I_E = (\beta + 1)I_B = (101)(24.04 \ \mu\text{A}) = 2.428 \text{ mA}$$
$$r_e = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{I_E} = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{2.428 \text{ mA}} = 10.71 \ \Omega$$

(b)
$$\beta r_e = (100)(10.71 \ \Omega) = 1.071 \ k\Omega$$

 $Z_i = R_B \|\beta r_e = 470 \ k\Omega\|1.071 \ k\Omega = 1.069 \ k\Omega$

(c)
$$Z_o = R_C = 3 \text{ k}\Omega$$

(d)
$$A_v = -\frac{R_C}{r_e} = -\frac{3 \text{ k}\Omega}{10.71 \Omega} = -280.11$$

(e) Since $R_B \ge 10\beta r_e (470 \text{ k}\Omega > 10.71 \text{ k}\Omega)$ $A_i \cong \beta = 100$

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(f)
$$Z_o = r_o ||R_C = 50 \text{ k}\Omega ||3 \text{ k}\Omega = 2.83 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ vs. } 3 \text{ k}\Omega$$

 $A_v = -\frac{r_o ||R_C}{r_e} = \frac{2.83 \text{ k}\Omega}{10.71 \Omega} = -264.24 \text{ vs. } -280.11$
 $A_i = \frac{\beta R_B r_o}{(r_o + R_C)(R_B + \beta r_e)} = \frac{(100)(470 \text{ k}\Omega)(50 \text{ k}\Omega)}{(50 \text{ k}\Omega + 3 \text{ k}\Omega)(470 \text{ k}\Omega + 1.071 \text{ k}\Omega)}$
 $= 94.13 \text{ vs. } 100$

As a check:

$$A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_c} = \frac{-(-264.24)(1.069 \text{ k}\Omega)}{3 \text{ k}\Omega} = 94.16$$

which differs slightly only due to the accuracy carried through the calculations.

VOLTAGE-DIVIDER BIAS



Fig.6: Voltage-divider bias configuration.

Substituting the *re* equivalent circuit will result in the network of Fig.7. Note the absence of *RE* due to the low-impedance shorting effect of the bypass capacitor, *CE*. That is, at the frequency (or frequencies) of operation, the reactance of the capacitor is so small compared to *RE* that it is treated as a short circuit across *RE*.

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Fig.7: Substituting the re equivalent circuit into the ac equivalent network of Fig.6

When *Vcc* is set to zero, it places one end of R_1 and R_c at ground potential as shown in Fig.7. In addition, note that R_1 and R_2 remain part of the input circuit while RC is part of the output circuit. The parallel combination of R_1 and R_2 is defined by:

$$R' = R_1 \| R_2 = \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

From Fig.7 Zi is

$$Z_i = R' \|\beta r_e$$

Zo: From Fig.7 with Vi set to 0 V resulting in $I_b = 0 \mu A$ and $\beta I_b = 0 m A$,

$$Z_o = R_C \| r_o$$

If $r_o \ge 10R_C$,

$$Z_o \cong R_C$$

$$r_o \ge 10R_C$$

A_v : Since R_c and r_o are in parallel,

$$V_o = -(\beta I_b)(R_C \| r_o)$$

 $I_b = \frac{V_i}{\beta r_e}$

and

so that
$$V_o = -\beta \left(\frac{V_i}{\beta r_e}\right) (R_C || r_o)$$

and
$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{-R_C \|r_o\|}{r_e}$$

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Ai: Since the network of Fig.7 is so similar to that of Fig.3 except for the fact that $R = R1 \setminus R2 = RB$. That is,

$$A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} = \frac{\beta R' r_o}{(r_o + R_C)(R' + \beta r_e)}$$

For $r_o \ge 10R_C$,

$$A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} \cong \frac{\beta R' r_o}{r_o(R' + \beta r_e)}$$
$$A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} \cong \frac{\beta R'}{R' + \beta r_e}$$
$$r_o \ge 10 R_C$$

And if $R' \geq 10\beta r_e$,

$$A_{i} = \frac{I_{o}}{I_{i}} = \frac{\beta R'}{R'}$$
$$A_{i} = \frac{I_{o}}{I_{i}} \cong \beta$$
$$r_{o} \ge 10R_{C}, R' \ge 10\beta r_{e}$$

and

and

As an option,

$$A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_C}$$

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EXAMPLE 8.2

For the network of Fig. 8 , determine:

- (a) *r_e*.
- (b) Z_{i} .
- (c) $Z_o (r_o = \infty \Omega)$.
- (d) $A_v (r_o = \infty \Omega)$.
- (e) $A_i (r_o = \infty \Omega)$.
- (f) The parameters of parts (b) through (e) if $r_o = l/h_{oe} = 50 \text{ k}\Omega$ and compare results.



Figure 8. Example 8.2.

Solution

(a) DC: Testing
$$\beta R_E > 10R_2$$

$$(90)(1.5 \text{ k}\Omega) > 10(8.2 \text{ k}\Omega)$$
$$135 \text{ k}\Omega > 82 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ (satisfied)}$$

Using the approximate approach,

$$V_B = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V_{CC} = \frac{(8.2 \text{ k}\Omega)(22 \text{ V})}{56 \text{ k}\Omega + 8.2 \text{ k}\Omega} = 2.81 \text{ V}$$
$$V_E = V_B - V_{BE} = 2.81 \text{ V} - 0.7 \text{ V} = 2.11 \text{ V}$$

$$I_E = \frac{V_E}{R_E} = \frac{2.11 \text{ V}}{1.5 \text{ k}\Omega} = 1.41 \text{ mA}$$
$$r_e = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{I_E} = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{1.41 \text{ mA}} = 18.44 \Omega$$

(b)
$$R' = R_1 ||R_2 = (56 \text{ k}\Omega)||(8.2 \text{ k}\Omega) = 7.15 \text{ k}\Omega$$

 $Z_i = R' ||\beta r_e = 7.15 \text{ k}\Omega||(90)(18.44 \Omega) = 7.15 \text{ k}\Omega||1.66 \text{ k}\Omega$
 $= 1.35 \text{ k}\Omega$
(c) $Zo = RC = 6.8 \text{ k}\Omega$

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(d)
$$A_v = -\frac{R_C}{r_e} = -\frac{6.8 \text{ k}\Omega}{18.44 \Omega} = -368.76$$

(e) The condition $R' \ge 10\beta r_e$ (7.15 k $\Omega \ge 10(1.66 \text{ k}\Omega) = 16.6 \text{ k}\Omega$ is not satisfied. Therefore,

$$A_i \cong \frac{\beta R'}{R' + \beta r_e} = \frac{(90)(7.15 \text{ k}\Omega)}{7.15 \text{ k}\Omega + 1.66 \text{ k}\Omega} = 73.04$$

(f) $Z_i = 1.35 \text{ k}\Omega$

$$Z_o = R_c ||r_o = 6.8 \text{ k}\Omega||50 \text{ k}\Omega = 5.98 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ vs. } 6.8 \text{ k}\Omega$$
$$A_v = -\frac{R_c ||r_o}{r_e} = -\frac{5.98 \text{ k}\Omega}{18.44 \Omega} = -324.3 \text{ vs. } -368.76$$

The condition

$$r_o \ge 10R_C (50 \text{ k}\Omega \ge 10(6.8 \text{ k}\Omega) = 68 \text{ k}\Omega)$$

is not satisfied. Therefore,

$$A_{i} = \frac{\beta R' r_{o}}{(r_{o} + R_{c})(R' + \beta r_{e})} = \frac{(90)(7.15 \text{ k}\Omega)(50 \text{ k}\Omega)}{(50 \text{ k}\Omega + 6.8 \text{ k}\Omega)(7.15 \text{ k}\Omega + 1.66 \text{ k}\Omega)}$$

= 64.3 vs. 73.04

There was a measurable difference in the results for Z_o , A_v , and A_i because the condition $r_o \ge 10R_C$ was *not* satisfied.

CE EMITTER-BIAS CONFIGURATION

Unbypassed

The *re* equivalent model is substituted in Fig. 10, but note the absence of the resistance *ro*. The effect of *ro* is to make the analysis a great deal more complicated.



Fig.9: CE emitter-bias configuration.



Fig.10: Substituting the *re* equivalent circuit into the ac equivalent network of Fig.9.

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Applying Kirchhoff's voltage law to the input side of Fig.9 will result in:

$$V_i = I_b \beta r_e + I_e R_E$$
$$V_i = I_b \beta r_e + (\beta + 1) I_b R_E$$

And the input impedance looking into the network to the right of RB is

$$Z_b = \frac{V_i}{I_b} = \beta r_e + (\beta + 1)R_E$$

The result as displayed in Fig.11 reveals that the input impedance of a transistor with an unbypassed resistor RE is determined by

$$Z_b = \beta r_e + (\beta + 1) R_E$$



Fig.11: Defining the input impedance of a transistor with an unbypassed emitter resistor.

Since β is normally much greater than 1, the approximate equation is the following:

$$Z_b \cong \beta r_e + \beta R_E$$
$$Z_b \cong \beta (r_e + R_E)$$

and

Since RE is often much greater than re, can be further reduced to

 $Z_b \cong \beta R_E$

Zi: Returning to Fig.10, we have

$$Z_i = R_B \| Z_b$$

Zo: With *Vi* set to zero, Ib = 0 and βIb can be replaced by an open-circuit equivalent. The result is:

$$Z_o = R_C$$

 A_{v} :

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and

$$I_{b} = \frac{V_{i}}{Z_{b}}$$

$$V_{o} = -I_{o} R_{C} = -\beta I_{b} R_{C}$$

$$= -\beta \left(\frac{V_{i}}{Z_{b}}\right) R_{C}$$

$$A_{v} = \frac{V_{o}}{V_{i}} = -\frac{\beta R_{C}}{Z_{b}}$$

with

Substituting $Z_b = \beta(r_e + R_E)$ gives

$$A_{v} = \frac{V_{o}}{V_{i}} = -\frac{R_{C}}{r_{e} + R_{E}}$$

and for the approximation $Z_b \cong \beta R_E$,

$$A_{v} = \frac{V_{o}}{V_{i}} \cong -\frac{R_{C}}{R_{E}}$$

Note again the absence of β from the equation for *Av*.

Ai: The magnitude of *RB* is often too close to Z_b to permit the approximation Ib = Ii. Applying the current-divider rule to the input circuit will result in

| | $I_b = \frac{R_B I_i}{R_B + Z_b}$ |
|--------------|---|
| and | $\frac{I_b}{I_i} = \frac{R_B}{R_B + Z_b}$ |
| In addition, | $I_o = \beta I_b$ |
| and | $rac{I_o}{I_b} = eta$ |
| so that | $A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} = \frac{I_o}{I_b} \frac{I_b}{I_i}$ |
| | $=\beta \; \frac{R_B}{R_B + Z_b}$ |
| and | $A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} = \frac{\beta R_B}{R_B + Z_b}$ |

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or

$$A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_C}$$

Phase relationship: The negative sign in Eq.again reveals a 180° phase shift between Vo and Vi.

Bypassed

If *RE* of Fig.9 is bypassed by an emitter capacitor *CE*, the complete *re* equivalent model can be substituted resulting in the same equivalent network as Fig.3 so all Equations are therefore applicable.

EXAMPLE 8.3: For the network of Fig.12, without CE (unbypassed), determine:



Solution

(a) DC:
$$I_B = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_B + (\beta + 1)R_E} = \frac{20 \text{ V} - 0.7 \text{ V}}{470 \text{ k}\Omega + (121)0.56 \text{ k}\Omega} = 35.89 \ \mu\text{A}$$

 $I_E = (\beta + 1)I_B = (121)(46.5 \ \mu\text{A}) = 4.34 \text{ mA}$
and $r_e = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{I_E} = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{4.34 \text{ mA}} = 5.99 \ \Omega$

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(b) Testing the condition $r_o \ge 10(R_C + R_E)$,

40 k
$$\Omega \ge 10(2.2 \text{ k}\Omega + 0.56 \text{ k}\Omega)$$

40 k $\Omega \ge 10(2.76 \text{ k}\Omega) = 27.6 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ (satisfied)}$

Therefore,

$$Z_b \cong \beta(r_e + R_E) = 120(5.99 \ \Omega + 560 \ \Omega)$$
$$= 67.92 \ k\Omega$$
$$Z_i = R_B ||Z_b = 470 \ k\Omega ||67.92 \ k\Omega$$

and

$$Z_i = R_B \| Z_b = 470 \text{ k}\Omega \| 67.92 \text{ k}\Omega$$
$$= 59.34 \text{ k}\Omega$$

- (c) $Z_o = R_C = 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega$
- (d) $r_o \ge 10R_C$ is satisfied. Therefore,

$$A_{\nu} = \frac{V_o}{V_i} \cong -\frac{\beta R_C}{Z_b} = -\frac{(120)(2.2 \text{ k}\Omega)}{67.92 \text{ k}\Omega}$$
$$= -3.89$$
compared to -3.93 using Eq.
$$A_{\nu} = \frac{V_o}{V_i} \cong -\frac{R_C}{R_E}$$

compared to -3.93 using Eq. V_i

(e)
$$A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_C} = -(-3.89) \left(\frac{59.34 \text{ k}\Omega}{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega} \right)$$

= 104.92

compared to 104.85 using Eq.
$$A_i = \frac{I_o}{I_i} = \frac{\beta R_B}{R_B + Z_b}$$

EXAMPLE 8.4 Repeat the analysis of Example 8.3 with C_E in place.

Solution

- (a) The dc analysis is the same, and $r_e = 5.99 \ \Omega$.
- (b) R_E is "shorted out" by C_E for the ac analysis. Therefore,

$$Z_{i} = R_{B} \| Z_{b} = R_{B} \| \beta r_{e} = 470 \text{ k}\Omega \| (120)(5.99 \Omega)$$

= 470 k\Omega \| 718.8 \Omega \approx 717.70 \Omega
(c) $Z_{o} = R_{C} = 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega$
(d) $A_{v} = -\frac{R_{C}}{r_{e}}$
= $-\frac{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega}{5.99 \Omega} = -367.28$ (a significant increase)
(e) $A_{i} = \frac{\beta R_{B}}{R_{B} + Z_{b}} = \frac{(120)(470 \text{ k}\Omega)}{470 \text{ k}\Omega + 718.8 \Omega}$
= 119.82

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Solution

(a) Testing $\beta R_E > 10R_2$

(210)(0.68 k Ω) > 10(10 k Ω) 142.8 k Ω > 100 k Ω (satisfied)

$$V_B = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V_{CC} = \frac{10 \text{ k}\Omega}{90 \text{ k}\Omega + 10 \text{ k}\Omega} (16 \text{ V}) = 1.6 \text{ V}$$
$$V_E = V_B - V_{BE} = 1.6 \text{ V} - 0.7 \text{ V} = 0.9 \text{ V}$$
$$I_E = \frac{V_E}{R_E} = \frac{0.9 \text{ V}}{0.68 \text{ k}\Omega} = 1.324 \text{ mA}$$
$$r_e = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{I_E} = \frac{26 \text{ mV}}{1.324 \text{ mA}} = 19.64 \Omega$$

(b) The ac equivalent circuit is provided in Fig.14. The resulting configuration is now different from Fig.10 only by the fact that now

$$R_B = R' = R_1 ||R_2 = 9 \text{ k}\Omega$$

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Fig.14: The ac equivalent circuit of Fig.13.

The testing conditions of $r_o \ge 10(R_C + R_E)$ and $r_o \ge 10R_C$ are both satisfied. Using the appropriate approximations yields

$$Z_b \cong \beta R_E = 142.8 \text{ k}\Omega$$
$$Z_i = R_B \| Z_b = 9 \text{ k}\Omega \| 142.8 \text{ k}\Omega$$
$$= 8.47 \text{ k}\Omega$$

(c)
$$Z_o = R_C = 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega$$

(d) $A_v = -\frac{R_C}{R_E} = -\frac{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega}{0.68 \text{ k}\Omega} = -3.24$
(e) $A_i = -A_v \frac{Z_i}{R_C} = -(-3.24) \left(\frac{8.47 \text{ k}\Omega}{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega}\right)$
 $= 12.47$