

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

## Department of Electrical Engineering

Experiment No. \_\_\_\_\_ Transistor Amplifier Configurations

INTRODUCTION

There are three basic transistor amplifier configurations generally identified as common-emitter, common-base, and common collector (sometimes called emitter-follower). Each of these configurations exhibit certain characteristics that make them more desirable in certain circuit applications than others. A qualitative comparison of the three configurations is shown below.

	Common-emitter	Common-base	Common-collector
Input Impedance	Medium	Low	High
Output Impedance	Medium	High	Low
Current Gain	High ( $\beta$ )	Low ( $\alpha$ )	High
Voltage Gain	High	High	Low
Power Gain	High	Medium	Low

Generally, the common-emitter and common-collector have a lower Frequency bandwidth than does the common-base. The purpose of this experiment is to determine some of the characteristics listed above for the three different transistor amplifier configurations and compare them.

PRELIMINARY

P-1. Obtain from the manufacturer's specifications the absolute maximum values of the parameters listed below for the 2N3904 or its equivalent).

Collector-Base Voltage, VCBO: \_\_\_\_\_ 60 v \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Collector-Emitter Voltage, VCEO: \_\_\_\_\_ 40 v \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Emitter-Base Voltage, VEBO: \_\_\_\_\_ 6V \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Continuous Collector Current: \_\_\_\_\_ 200mA \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Continuous Power Dissipation @ 25 C: \_\_\_\_\_ 310mV \_\_\_\_\_ .

For solutions to preliminary questions and additional reference,

refer Refer pg.376 (chapter 11, Low frequency Amplifiers)

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P-1. Cont.)

Also sketch the pin-out configuration of the transistor:

Refer MANUAL for pin configuration

P-2. Obtain a set of common-emitter output characteristic curves for the transistor of Procedure P-1 above (either from a curve tracer or from a previous experiment). Specify a set of quiescent conditions for the transistor within its operating range and determine all the necessary element values (see Figure 1).

P-3. Realizing that the capacitors, C1 and C2, should provide a low-impedance path to AC, specify reasonable values for them.

P-4. Briefly discuss the reasons for having the capacitors, C1 and C2, in the circuit.

**Suggested reference**

For solutions to preliminary questions and additional reference,

Refer pg.376 (chapter 11, Low frequency Amplifiers)

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INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**PROCEDURE**

F-1. Connect the circuit of Figure 1 using element values calculated in the Preliminary exercise above. Make sure that the quiescent parameters are within limits.

F-2. Using a dual-trace oscilloscope, adjust and record the magnitude of the sinusoidal signal source,  $e_s$ , so that the output signal,  $e_o$ , is just beginning to distorted at a

frequency of 5 K-Hertz. At this frequency, take the data necessary to determine the input impedance of the transistor amplifier. Also, record the phase relationship between the input signal,  $e_i$ , and the output signal,  $e_o$ .

- F-3. Again using a dual-trace oscilloscope, take the data necessary to plot a frequency response curve ( $e_o/e_i$  versus frequency) for the amplifier, between "break-points" if possible, holding the magnitude of the sinusoidal signal source constant at the value set in Procedure F-2 above.
- F-4. Repeat Procedures F-1 through F-3 above for the circuit of Figure 2.
- F-5. Repeat Procedures F-1 through F-3 above for the circuit of Figure 3.

REPORT (should include at least the following)

- R-1. Plot normalized-voltage-gain versus frequency for the three amplifier configurations on the same graph. Use log-log paper.

Normalized-voltage-gain =  $A_v / (A_v @ 5 \text{ K-Hertz})$

- R-2. Determine the transistor input impedance ( $Z_i$  and  $Z_t$ ), current gain ( $A_i$ ), voltage gain ( $A_v$ ), and power gain ( $A_p$ ) for each of the three amplifier configurations at 5 K-Hertz and compare them in a Table.

$$A_p = A_v \times A_i$$

- R-3. Discuss the results of the experiment.

NOTE: REVERSE THE POLARITY OF THE POWER SUPPLY AND THE POLARIZED CAPACITOR IN THE CIRCUITS OF FIGURES 1, 2, AND 3 IF THE TRANSISTOR IS A PNP!

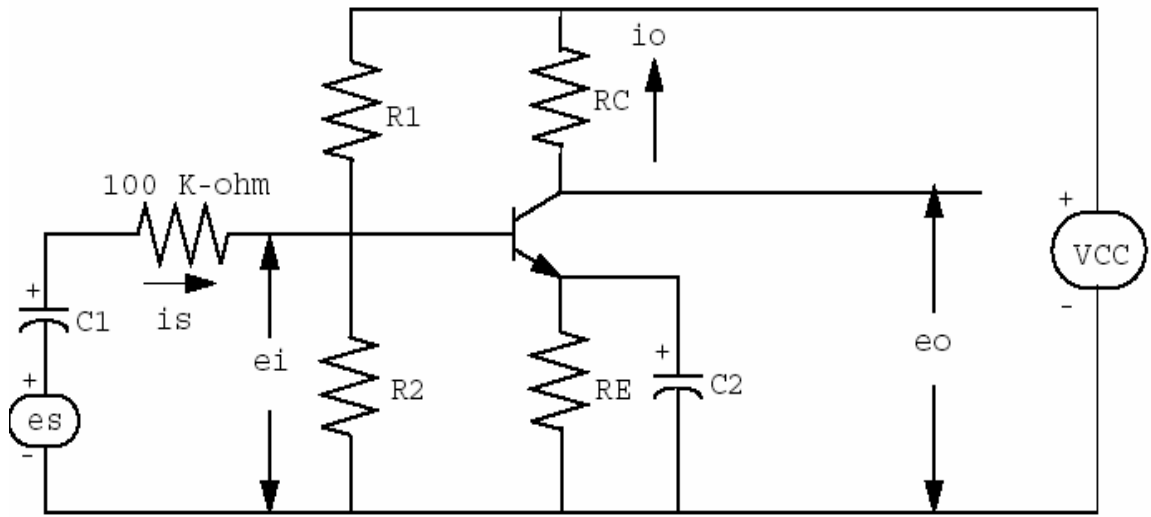


Figure 1. Common-emitter

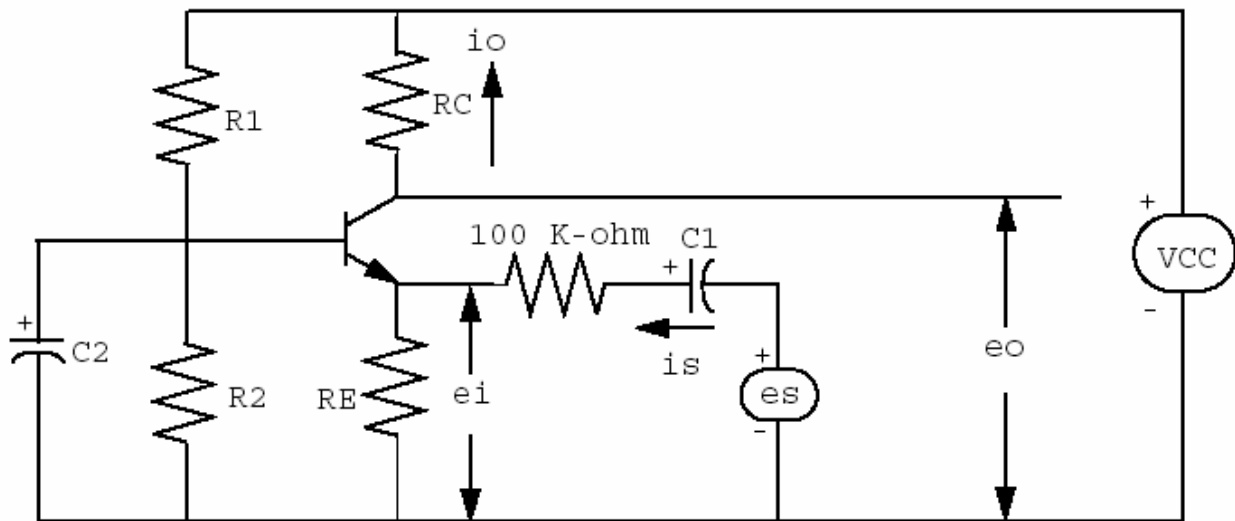


Figure 2. Common-base

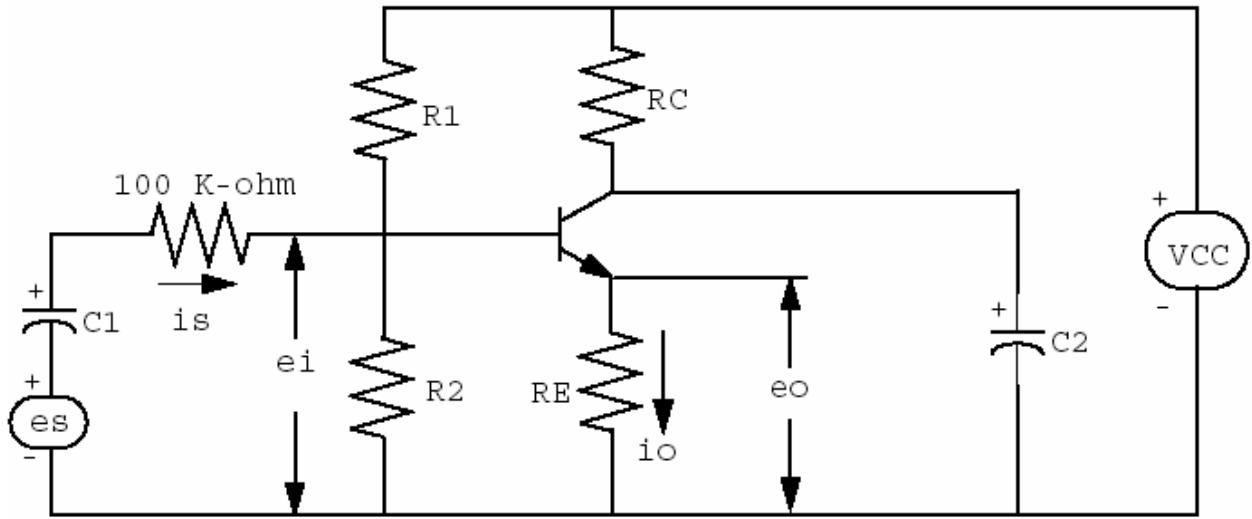


Figure 3. Common-collector