EE 330 Lecture 33

- High Gain Amplifiers
- Current Source Biasing
- Current Sources and Mirrors

Basic Amplifier Gain Table



Can use these equations only when small signal circuit is EXACTLY like that shown !!

Cascaded Amplifier Analysis and Operation

Case 2: One or more stages are not unilateral

Standard two-port cascade



Analysis by creating new two-port of entire amplifier quite tedious because of the reverse-gain elements

Right-to-left nested R_{inx}, A_{vX} approach



<u>Can not change any loading without recalculating everthing!</u>



High-gain amplifier



And no dooign peremeters offect the ge

And no design parameters affect the gain

But how can we make a current source?

High-gain amplifier



Same gain with both npn and pnp transistors

How can we build the ideal current source?

What is the small-signal model of an actual current source?



Since I_X is independent of V_{DCS}, acts as an ideal current source (with this model)

Termed a "sinking" current source since current is pulled out of the load

If V_{XX} is available, each dc current source requires only one additional transistor !

Have several methods for generating V_{XX} from V_{DD} (see HW problems)

But for the npn high-gain amplifier considered need a sourcing current

But how good is this current "sink"?



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Before addressing the issue of how a current source is designed, will consider another circuit that uses current source biasing

The Basic Differential Amplifier



If A_V is large



Operational Amplifier (Op Amp)

Example: Determine the voltage gain of the following circuit



 v_{out} v_{out} v_{out} v_{out} v_{at} v_{b} v_{b}



$$I_{C1} = I_{C2} = \frac{I_{EE}}{2}$$

$$g_{m1} = g_{m2} = \frac{\mathbf{I}_{\mathsf{EE}}}{2\mathsf{V}_{\mathsf{t}}}$$



Example: Determine the voltage gain of the following circuit



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{V}_{E}(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 1}) &= g_{\pi 1} \mathcal{V}_{IN} + g_{m1}(\mathcal{V}_{IN} - \mathcal{V}_{E}) + g_{m2}(-\mathcal{V}_{E}) \\
 \mathcal{V}_{E}(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2}) &= \mathcal{V}_{IN}(g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1}) \\
 \mathcal{V}_{E}(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2}) = \mathcal{V}_{IN}(g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1}) \\
 \mathcal{V}_{E} &= \frac{(g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1})}{(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2})} \mathcal{V}_{IN} \\
 \mathcal{V}_{OUT} &= -R_{C1}g_{m1}\mathcal{V}_{IN} \left[1 - \frac{(g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1})}{(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2})} \right] \\
 \mathcal{V}_{OUT} &= -R_{C1}g_{m1}\mathcal{V}_{IN} \left[\frac{g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2} - (g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1})}{(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2})} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Example: Determine the voltage gain of the following circuit



$$\boldsymbol{v}_{OUT} = -R_{C1}g_{m1}\boldsymbol{v}_{IN} \left[\frac{g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2} - (g_{m1} + g_{\pi 1})}{(g_{\pi 1} + g_{\pi 2} + g_{m1} + g_{m2})} \right]$$
$$\boldsymbol{v}_{OUT} \cong -R_{C1}g_{m1}\boldsymbol{v}_{IN} \left[\frac{g_{m2}}{(g_{m1} + g_{m2})} \right]$$
$$\boldsymbol{v}_{OUT} \cong \left[\frac{-R_{C1}g_{m1}}{2} \right] \boldsymbol{v}_{IN}$$
$$\boldsymbol{v}_{OUT2} \cong \left[\frac{-R_{C1}g_{m1}}{2} \right] \boldsymbol{v}_{IN}$$



- Very useful circuit
- This is a basic Op Amp
- Uses a current source and V_{DD} for biasing (no biasing resistors or caps!)
- But needs a dc current source !!!!

Simple Current Sources



But how good are these current sources?

Model of dc Current Source

"Reasonable dc Current Source"



Small-signal model of dc current source (since one-port)



 I_{XX} independent of V_1 and t , $\ R_S$ large

want R_{IN} large



 I_{XX} independent of V_1 and t

R_{IN}=∞

Will show circuit in red behaves as a current source



R and Q_0 simply generate voltage V_{XX} in previous circuit



$$I_0 \cong \frac{(V_{CC}-0.6V)}{R}$$

If the base currents are neglected





If the base currents are neglected



since $V_{BE1} = V_{BE2}$

$$\mathbf{I}_{1} \cong \left(\frac{\mathbf{A}_{\mathsf{E1}}}{\mathbf{A}_{\mathsf{E0}}}\right) \mathbf{I}_{\mathsf{0}} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{A}_{\mathsf{E1}}}{\mathbf{A}_{\mathsf{E0}}}\right) \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\mathsf{CC}} - 0.6\mathsf{V}}{\mathsf{R}}$$

Note I_1 is not a function of V_1

Behaves as a current sink ! So is ideal with this model !!

And does not require an <u>additional</u> dc voltage source !!!



- Multiple Outputs Possible
- Can be built for sourcing or sinking currents
- Also useful as a current amplifier
- MOS counterparts work very well and are not plagued by base current



Two ways to look at this circuit:

- Q₀ and R bias Q₁
- R biases the $Q_0 : Q_1$ block



Multiple-Output Bipolar Current Sink

$$\mathbf{I}_{k} = \left[\frac{A_{Ek}}{A_{E0}}\right] \mathbf{I}_{0}$$



Multiple-Output Bipolar Current Source

$$\mathbf{I}_{k} = \left[\frac{A_{Ek}}{A_{E0}}\right] \mathbf{I}_{0}$$



Multiple-Output Bipolar Current Source and Sink

$$I_{nk} = ? \quad I_{pk} = ?$$



Multiple-Output Bipolar Current Source and Sink

$$\mathbf{I}_{nk} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{A}_{Enk} \\ A_{E0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{0} \qquad \mathbf{I}_{pk} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{A}_{En1} \\ A_{E0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{A}_{Epk} \\ A_{E0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_{0}$$



- Termed a "current mirror"
- Output current linearly dependent on I_{in}
- Serves as a current amplifier
- Widely used circuit
 But I_{in} and I_{out} must be positive !



- Termed a "current mirror"
- Output current linearly dependent on I_{in}
- Small-signal and large-signal relationships the same since linear
- Serves as a current amplifier
- Widely used circuit

But I_{in} must be positive !





$$\boldsymbol{i}_{out} = \left[\frac{A_{E1}}{A_{E0}} \right] \boldsymbol{i}_{in}$$

Amplifiers both positive and negative currents (provided i_{IN}>-I_{BS})

Current amplifiers are easy to build !!

Current gain can be accurately controlled with appropriate layout !!





n-channel Current Mirror



- Current mirror gain <u>can</u> be accurately controlled !
- Layout is important to get accurate gain (for both MOS and BJT)

Current Sources/Mirrors Summary



npn Current Mirror

n-channel Current Mirror



$$\mathbf{I}_{out} = \left[\frac{W_1}{W_0} \frac{L_0}{L_1}\right] \mathbf{I}_{in}$$



Gate area after fabrication depicted

Layout of Current Mirrors

Example with M = 2



Better Layout

Layout of Current Mirrors



Even Better Layout

 $\mathsf{M} = \left[\frac{\mathsf{W}_2}{\mathsf{W}_1}\frac{\mathsf{L}_1}{\mathsf{L}_2}\right]$

$$\mathsf{M} = \left[\frac{2\mathsf{W}_1 + 4\Delta\mathsf{W}}{\mathsf{W}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{W}} \bullet \frac{\mathsf{L}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{L}}{\mathsf{L}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{L}}\right] = 2$$

$$\mathsf{M} = \left[\frac{2\mathsf{W}_1 + 4\Delta\mathsf{W}}{\mathsf{W}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{W}} \bullet \frac{\mathsf{L}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{L}}{\mathsf{L}_1 + 2\Delta\mathsf{L}}\right] = 2$$

This is termed a common-centroid layout

n-channel current mirror current amplifier



Amplifies both positive and negative currents



multiple sourcing and sinking current outputs



m and k may be different Often M=1

High-gain amplifier



How can we build the current source?
What is the small-signal model of an actual current source?

Basic Current Sources and Sinks



Biasing circuit uses same V_{CC} as amplifier and no other independent sources

High-gain amplifier



- Bias circuitry requires only a single independent dc voltage source !
- Incremental overhead is only one transistor, Q_B

Basic Current Sources and Sinks



- Very practical methods for biasing the BJTs (or MOSFETs) can be used
- Current Mirrors often used for generating sourcing and sinking currents
- Can think of biasing transistors with V_{XX} and V_{YY} in these current sources

High-gain amplifier



How can we build the current source?

What is the small-signal model of an actual current source?

Basic Current Sources and Sinks

Small-signal Model of BJT Current Sinks and Sources



Small-signal model of all other BJT Sinks and Sources introduced so far are the same

Basic Current Sources and Sinks

Small-signal Model of MOS Current Sinks and Sources



Small-signal model of all other MOS Sinks and Sources introduced thus far are the same

High-gain amplifier













High-gain amplifier



- Nonideal current source decreased the gain by a factor of 2
- But the voltage gain is still quite large (-4000)
 Can the gain be made even larger?

End of Lecture 33