

EE 330

Lecture 20

Bipolar Device Modeling

Spring 2024 Exam Schedule

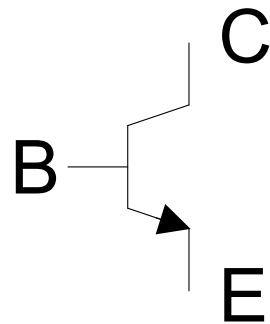
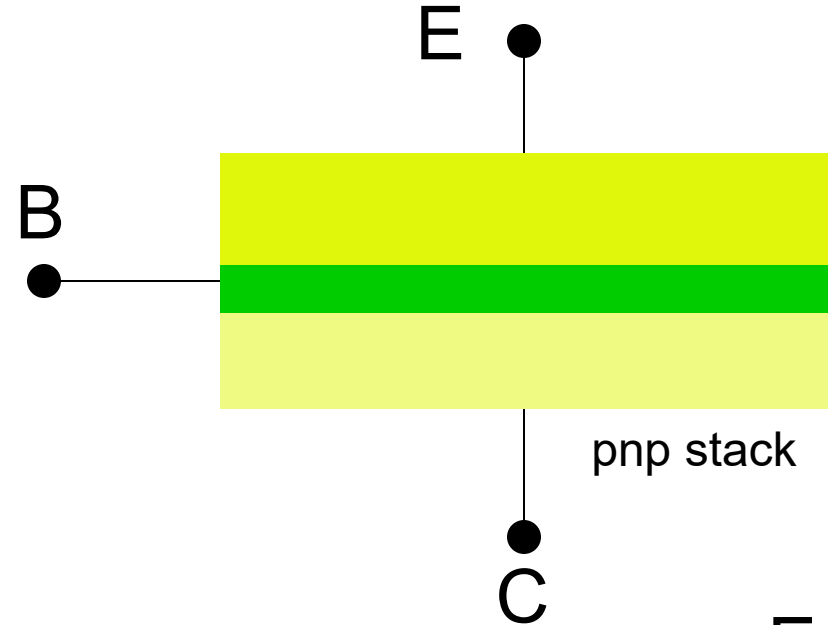
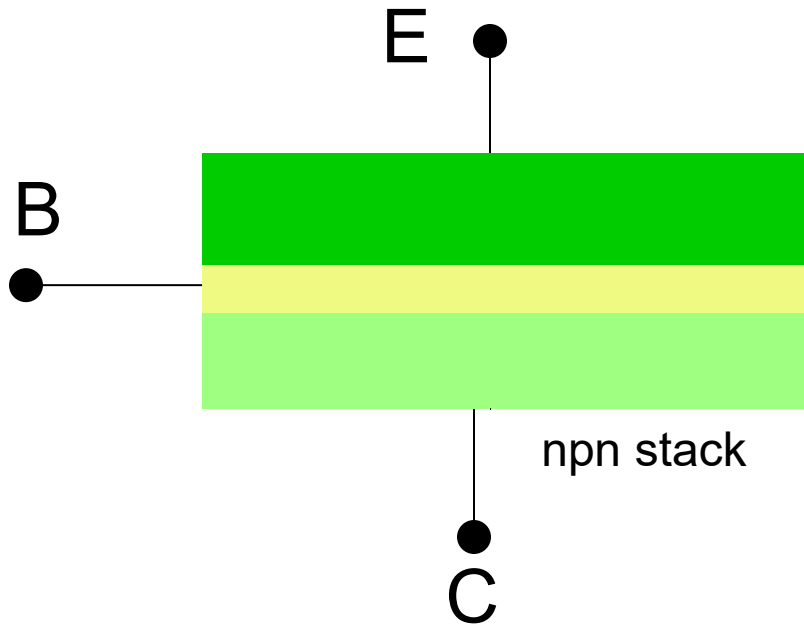
Exam 1 Friday Feb 16

Exam 2 Friday March 8

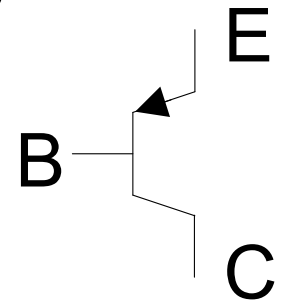
Exam 3 Friday April 19

Final Exam Tuesday May 7 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Bipolar Transistors



npn transistor



pnp transistor

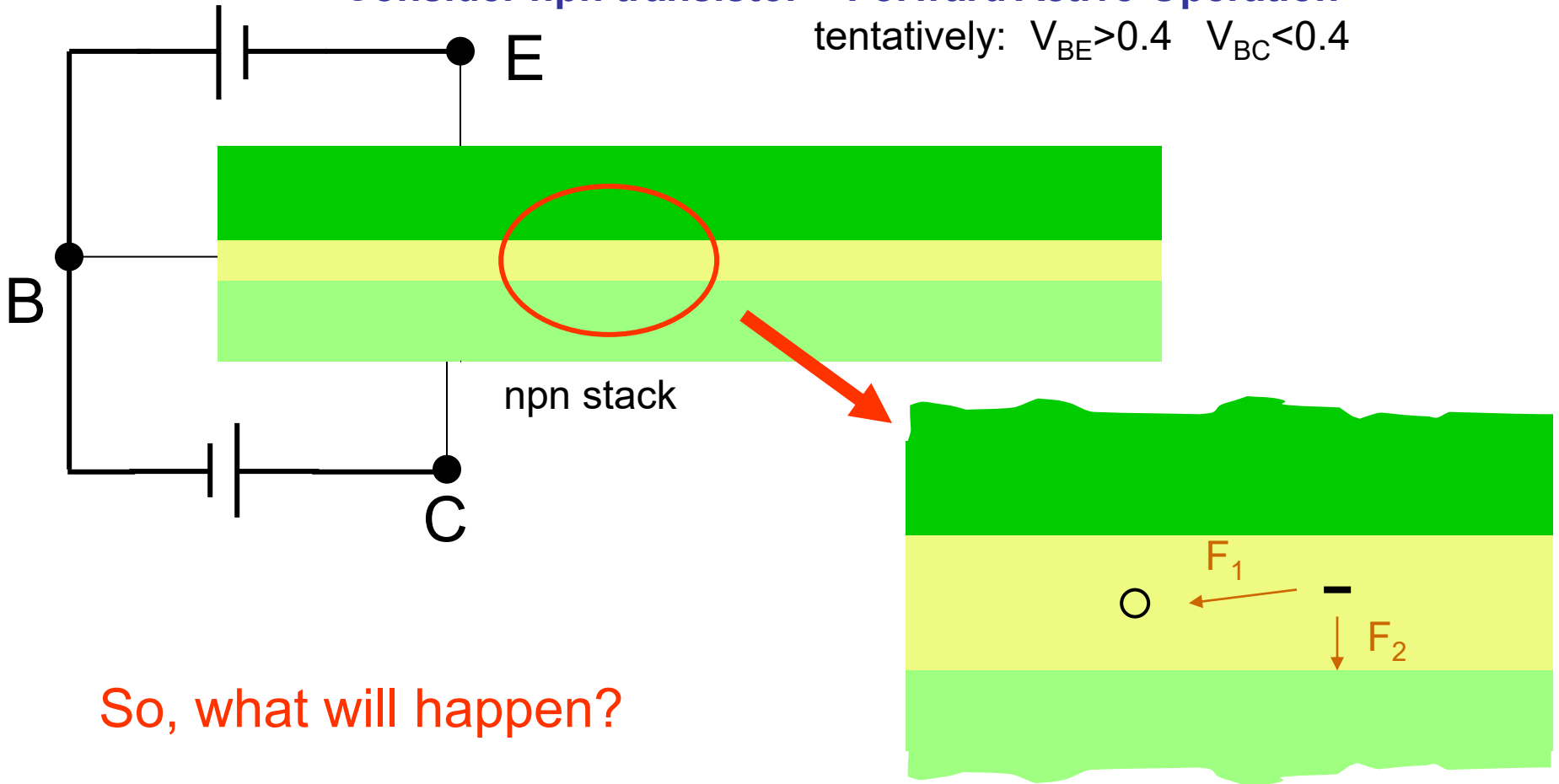
- Bipolar Devices Show Basic Symmetry
- Electrical Properties not Symmetric
- Designation of C and E critical

With proper doping and device sizing these form Bipolar Transistors

Bipolar Operation

Consider npn transistor – Forward Active Operation

tentatively: $V_{BE} > 0.4$ $V_{BC} < 0.4$



So, what will happen?

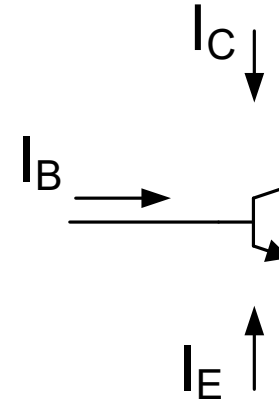
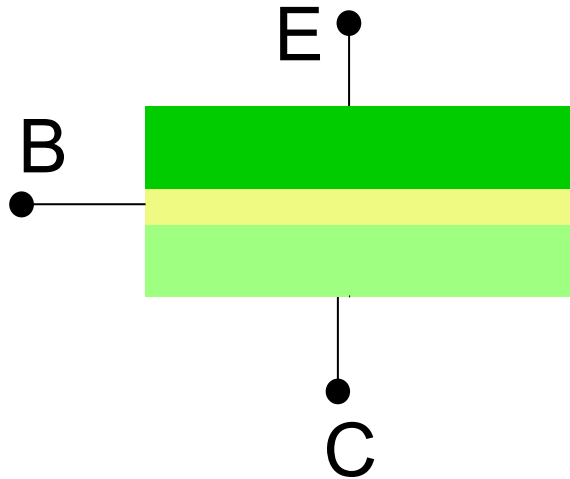
Some will recombine with holes and contribute to base current and some will be attracted across BC junction and contribute to collector

Size and thickness of base region and relative doping levels will play key role in percent of minority carriers injected into base contributing to collector current

Bipolar Operation

Consider npn transistor – Forward Active Operation

tentatively: $V_{BE} > 0.4$ $V_{BC} < 0.4$



$$I_C + I_B = -I_E$$

$$I_C = -\alpha I_E$$

$$I_C = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} I_B$$

$$\beta \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

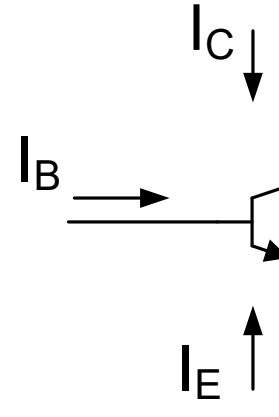
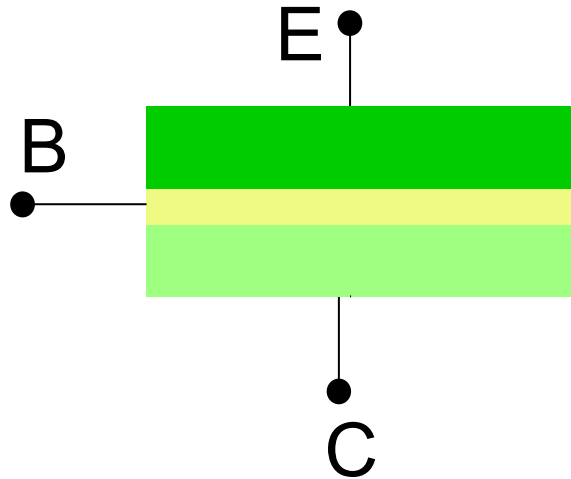
β is typically very large

often $50 < \beta < 999$

Bipolar Operation

Consider npn transistor – Forward Active Operation

tentatively: $V_{BE} > 0.4$ $V_{BC} < 0.4$



$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

β is typically very large

Bipolar transistor can be thought of as current amplifier with a large current gain

In contrast, MOS transistor is inherently a transconductance amplifier

Current flow in base is governed by the diode equation

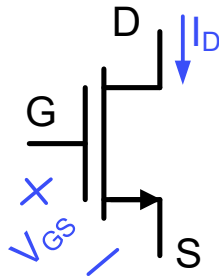
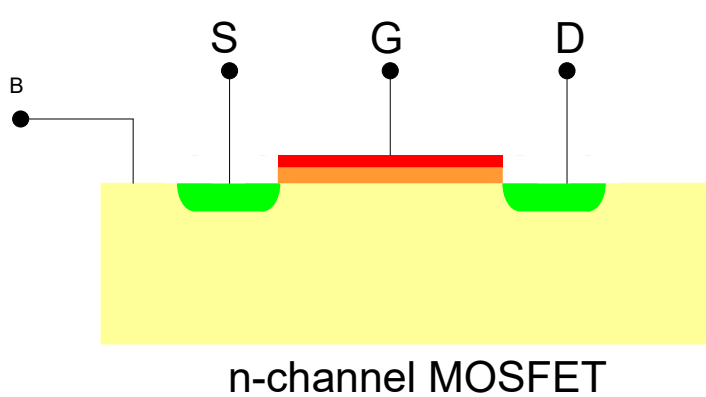
$$I_B = \tilde{I}_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

Collector current thus varies exponentially with V_{BE}

$$I_C = \beta \tilde{I}_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

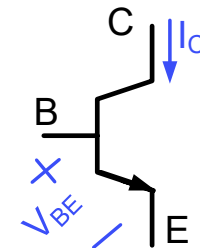
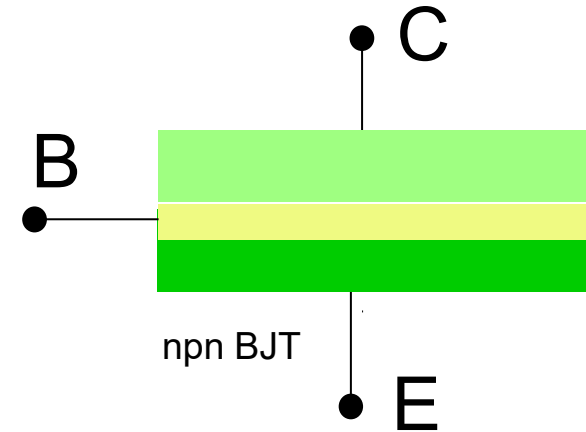
Preliminary Comparison of MOSFET and BJT

(Saturation vs Forward Active)



$$I_D = \frac{\mu C_{OX} W}{2L} (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

I_D independent of V_{DS}



$$I_C = \beta \tilde{I}_S e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

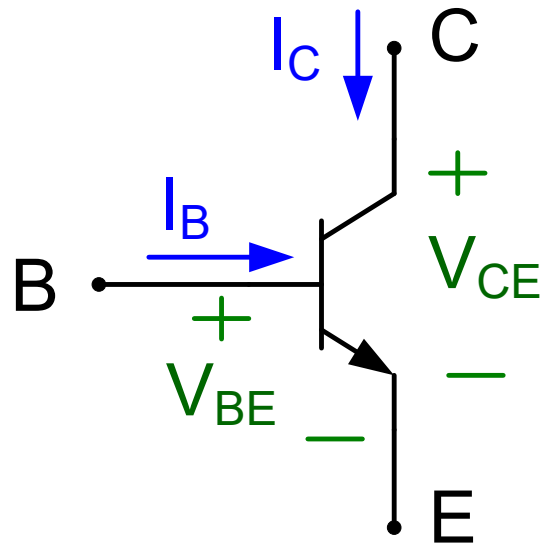
I_C independent of V_{CE}



- The BJT I/O relationship is exponential in contrast to square-law for MOSFET
- Provides a very large “gain” for the BJT (assuming input is voltage and output is current)
- This property is very useful for many applications

Bipolar Models

Simple dc Model



Following convention, pick I_C and I_B as dependent variables and V_{BE} and V_{CE} as independent variables

Simple dc model

npn transistor – Forward Active Operation

$$I_B = \frac{J_S A_E}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

$$I_C = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

As with the diode, the parameter J_S is highly temperature dependent

$$J_S = J_{SX} \left[T^m e^{\frac{-V_{G0}}{V_t}} \right]$$

Typical values for parameters: $J_{SX}=20\text{mA}/\mu^2$, $V_{G0}=1.17\text{V}$, $m=2.3$

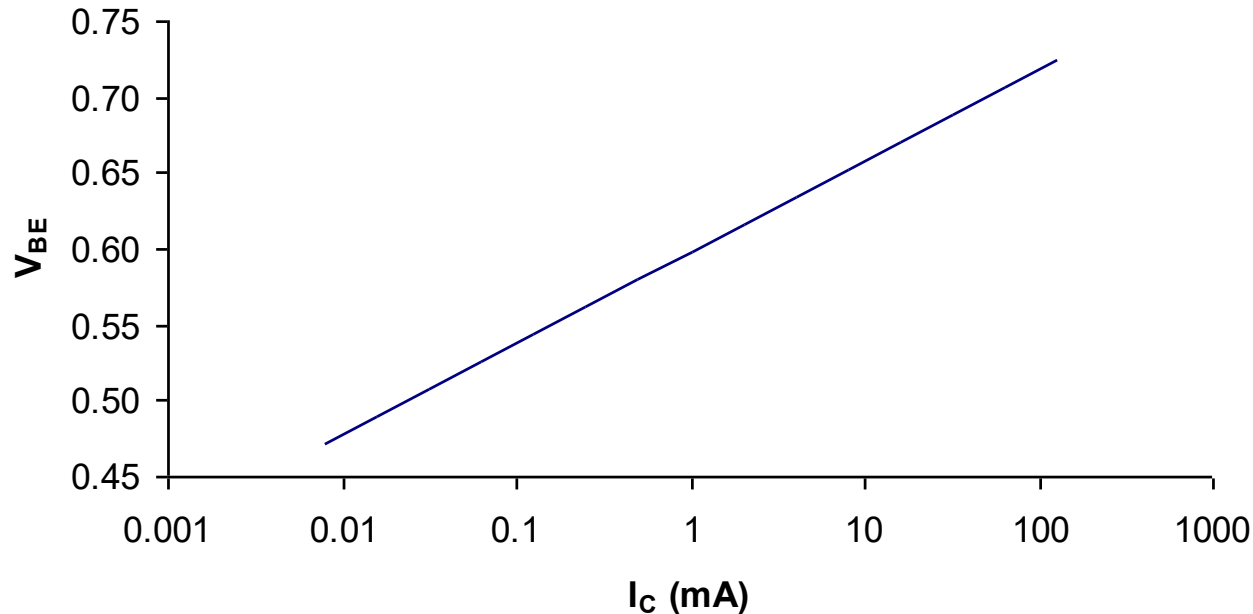
The parameter β is also somewhat temperature dependent but much weaker temperature dependence than J_{SX} .

Transfer Characteristics

npn transistor – Forward Active Operation

$$J_S = .25 \text{ fA}/\mu^2$$

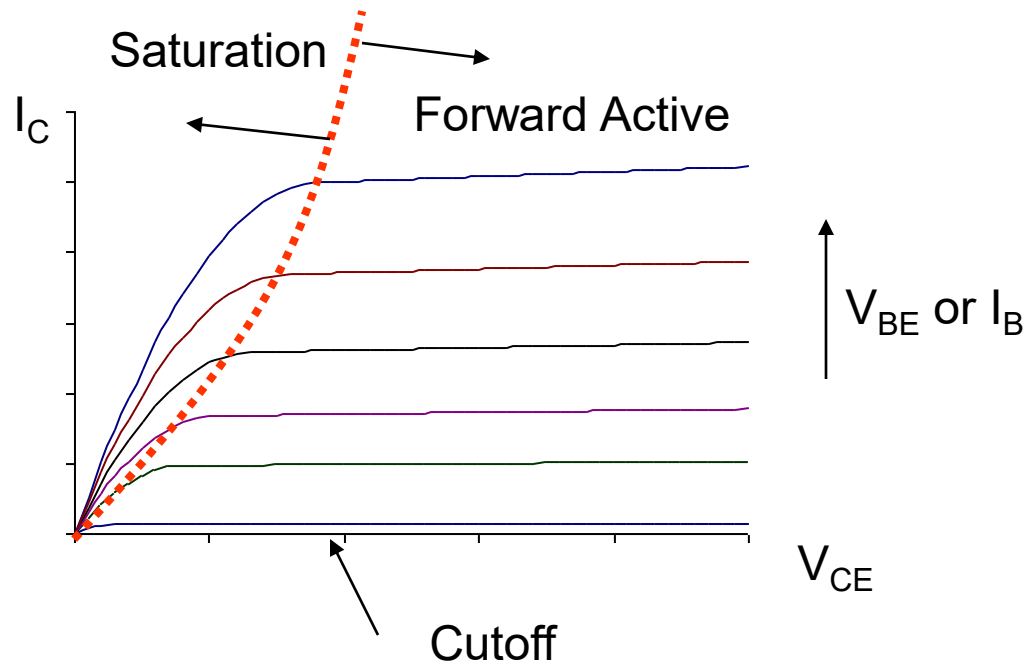
$$A_E = 400 \mu^2$$



V_{BE} close to 0.6V for a four decade change in I_C around 1mA

Simple dc model

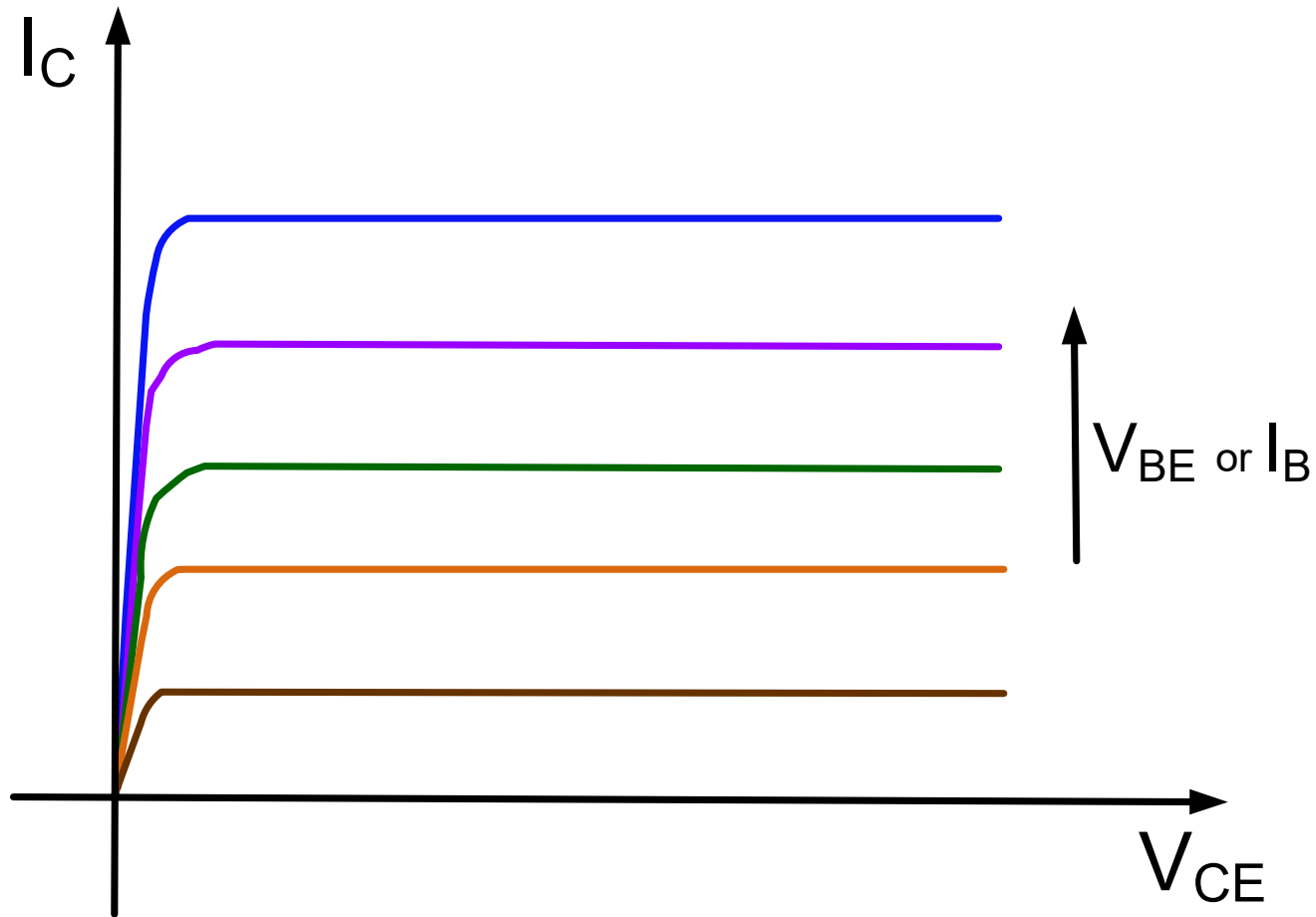
Typical Output Characteristics



Forward Active region of BJT is analogous to Saturation region of MOSFET

Saturation region of BJT is analogous to Triode region of MOSFET

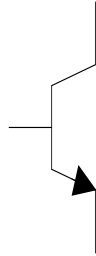
Better Model of Output Characteristics



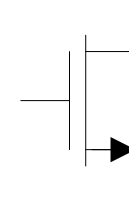
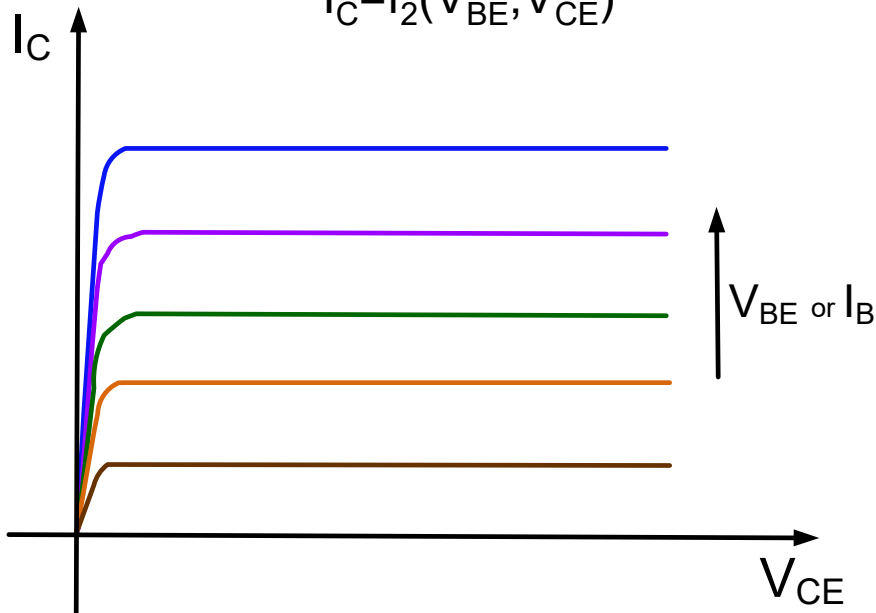
With scaled V_{CE} axis, transition in saturation very steep

BJT and MOSFET Comparison

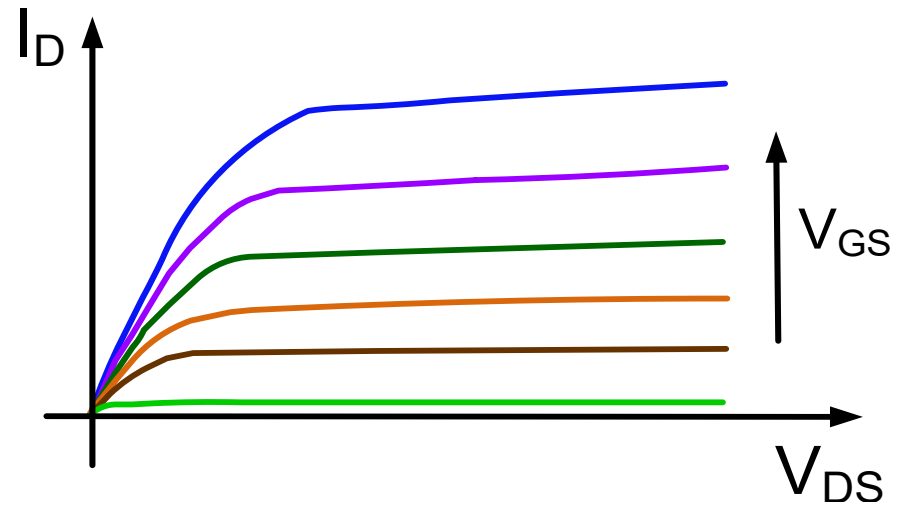
Output Characteristics



$$I_C = f_2(V_{BE}, V_{CE})$$

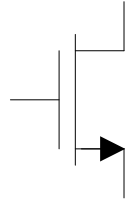


$$I_D = f_{2M}(V_{GS}, V_{DS})$$

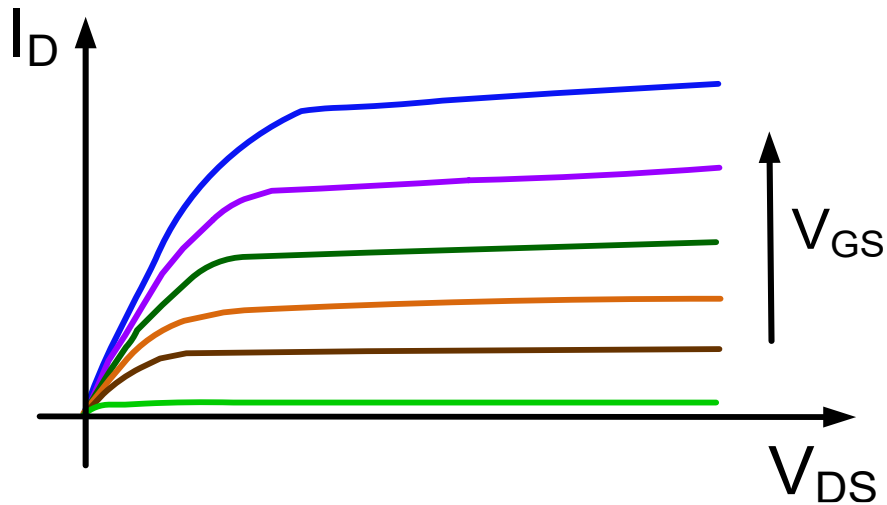


- Same general characteristics
- Spacings a bit different (Exponential vs square law)
- Slope steeper for small V_{CE} compared to small V_{DS}

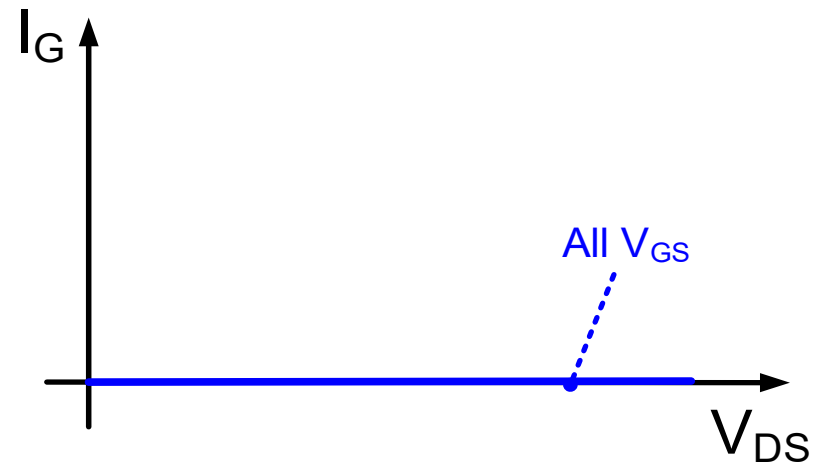
Recall MOSFET Operation



Output characteristics



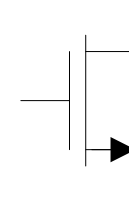
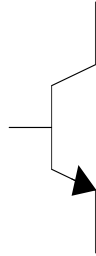
Input characteristics



or equivalently: $I_G = 0$

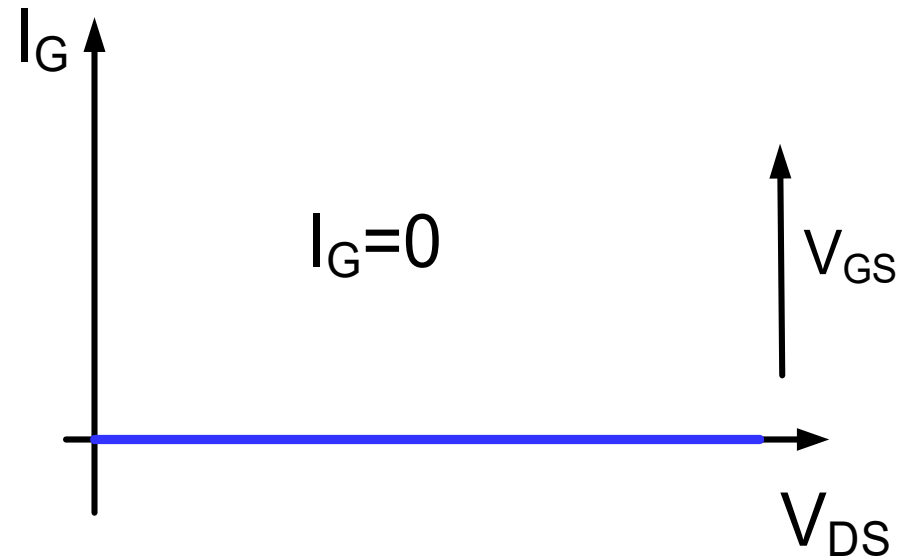
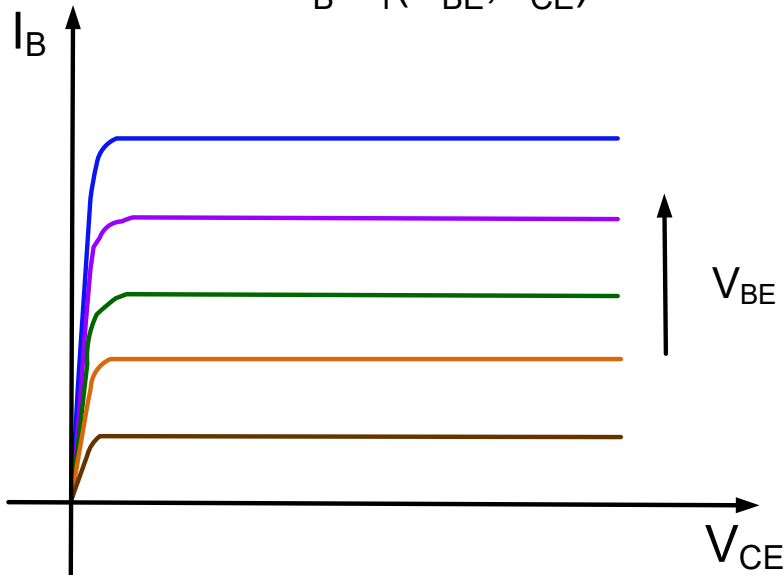
BJT and MOSFET Comparison

Input Characteristics



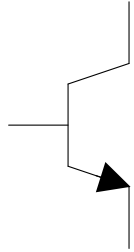
$$I_B = f_1(V_{BE}, V_{CE})$$

$$I_G = f_{1M}(V_{GS}, V_{DS})$$

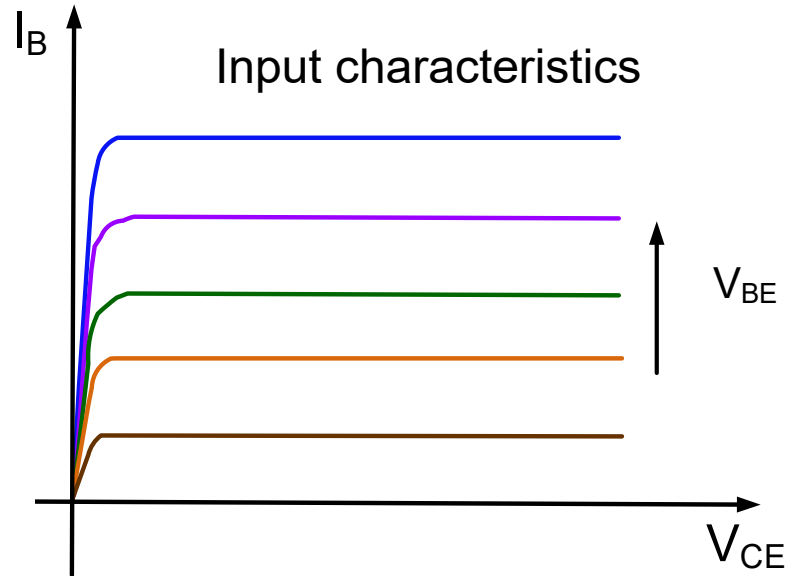
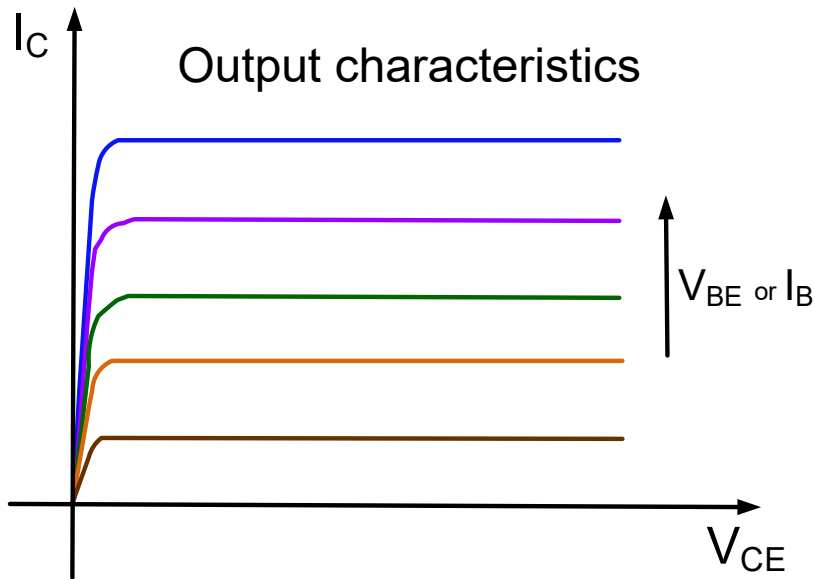


Did not need to graphically show input characteristics for MOS transistors since $I_G=0$

BJT Model



$$I_B = f_1(V_{BE}, V_{CE})$$
$$I_C = f_2(V_{BE}, V_{CE})$$

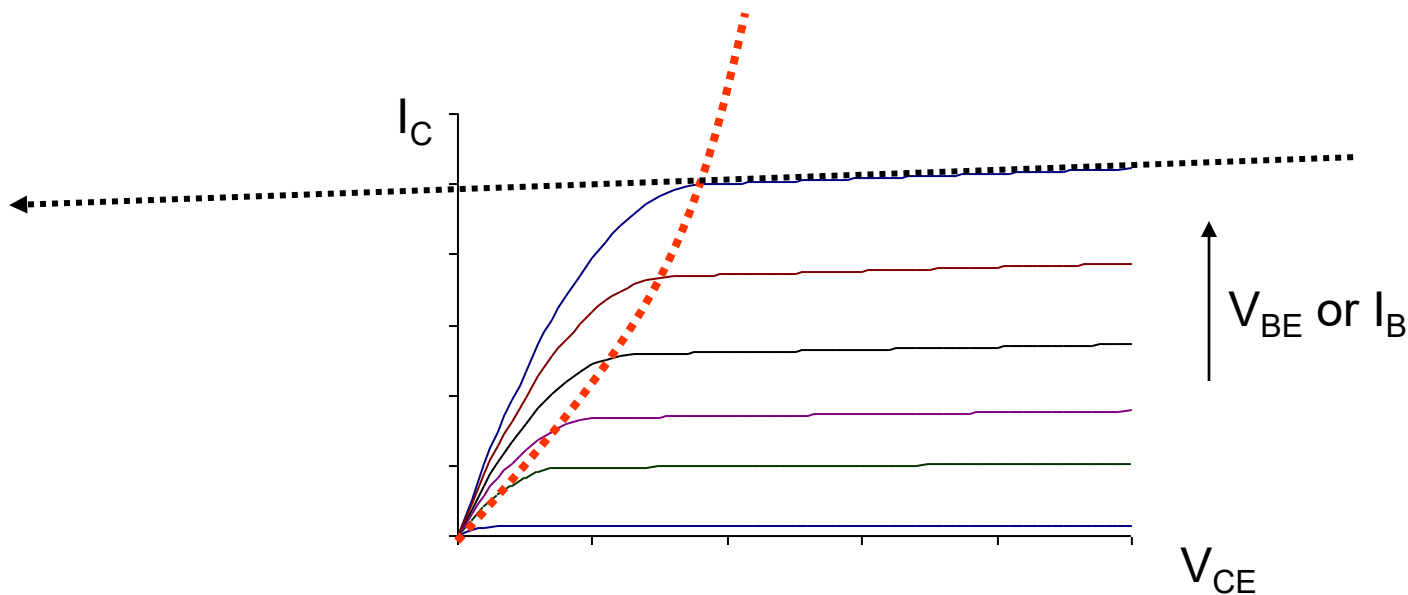


Require two graphical representations (or analytical expressions) though vertical axis scales different by factor of β

Since $I_B = f(V_{BE})$, can use independent (V_{BE}) or dependent (I_B) variable for 2-D visualization of 3-dimensional I_C function

Improved simple dc model

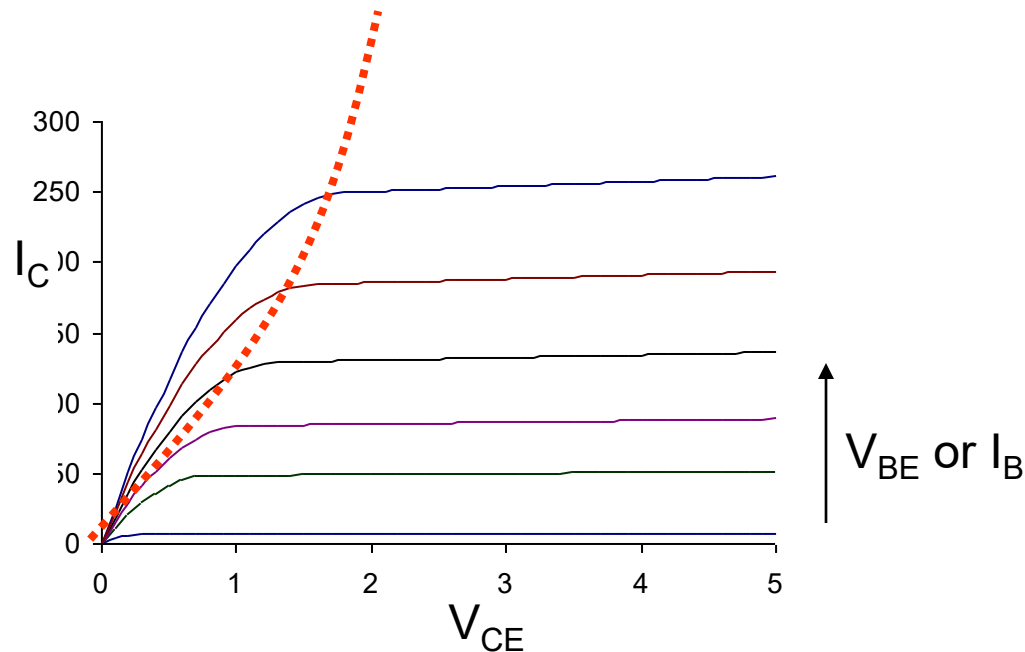
Typical Output Characteristics



- Projections of these tangential lines all intercept the $-V_{CE}$ axis at the same place and this is termed the Early voltage, V_{AF} (actually $-V_{AF}$ is intercept)
- Typical values of V_{AF} are in the 100V to 200V range
- Can multiply expression for I_C in Forward Active Region by term $\left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_{AF}}\right)$ to account for slope

Improved simple dc model

(graphically showing only output characteristics)

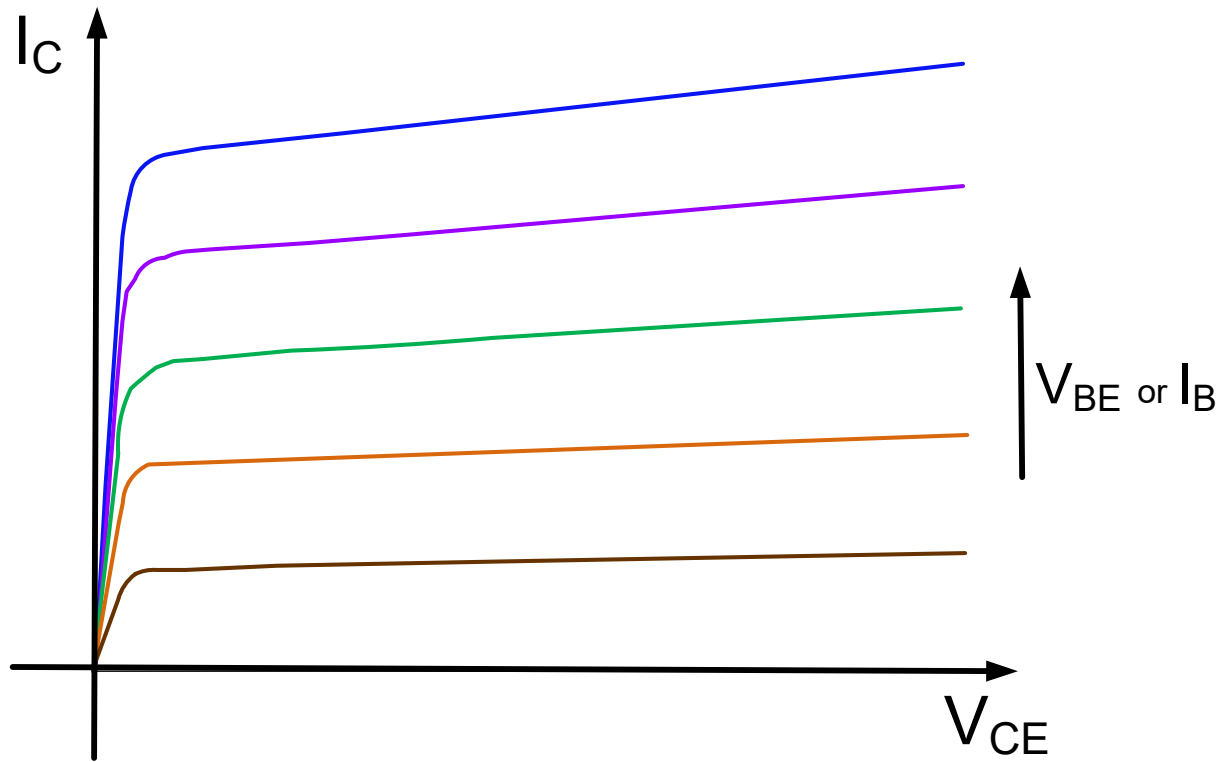


$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_B &= \frac{J_S A_E}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \\ I_C &= J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_{AF}} \right) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Valid only in Forward Active Region}$$

Need models in saturation and cutoff regions

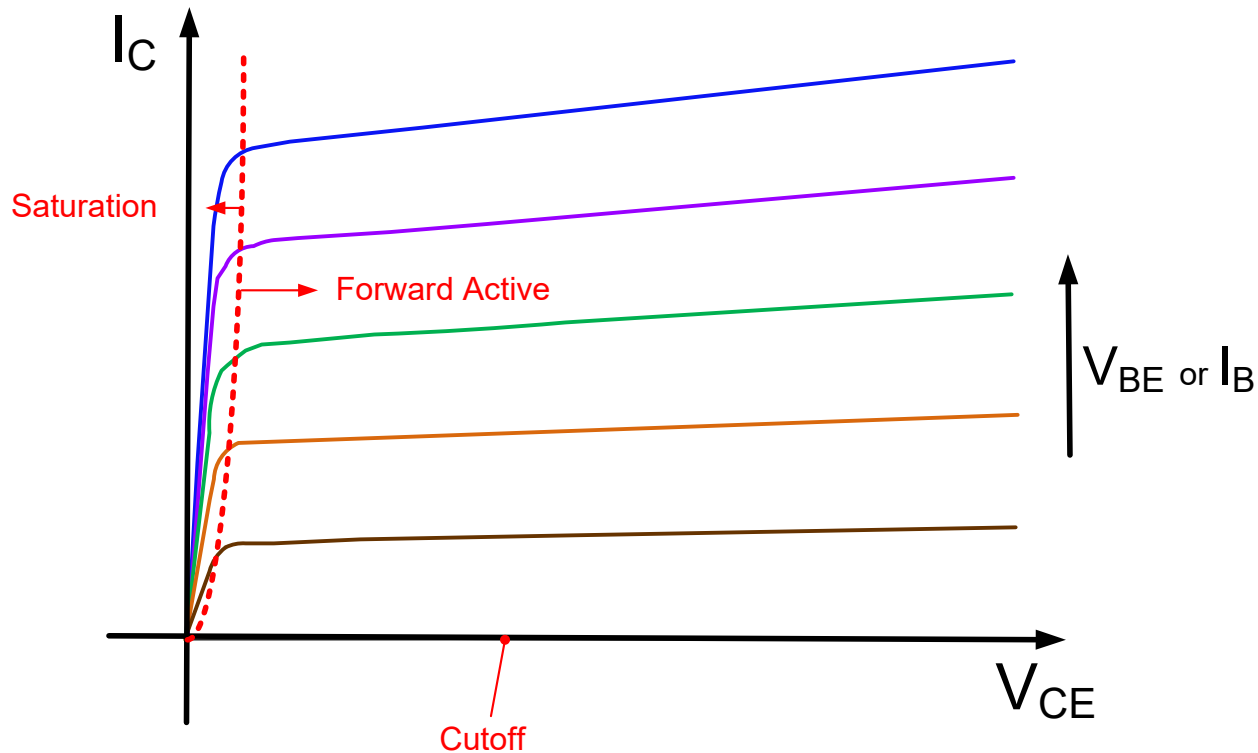
Improved simple BJT dc model

Typical Output Characteristics



Improved simple BJT dc model

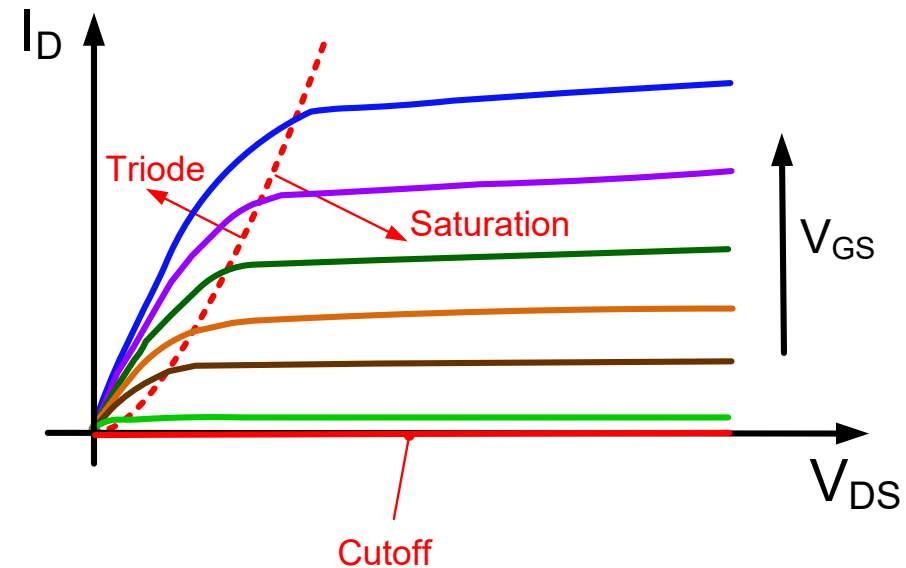
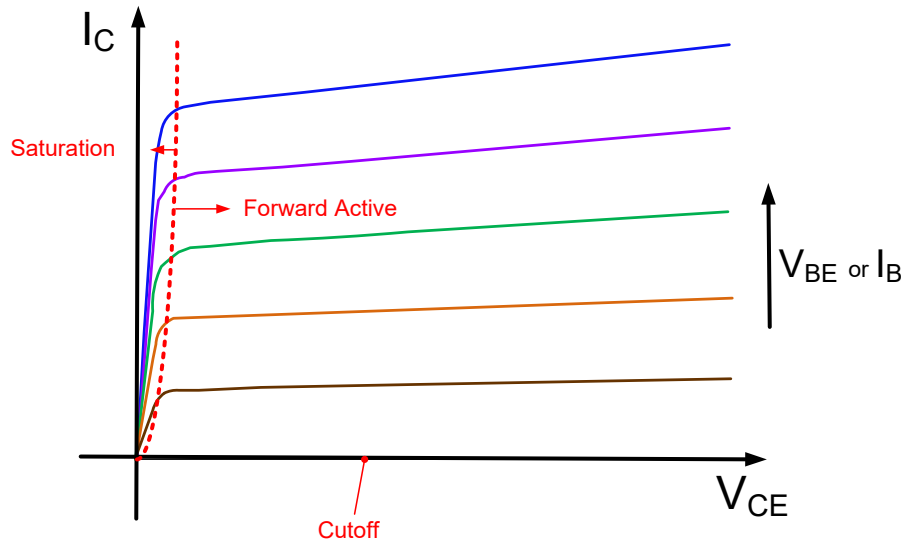
Typical Output Characteristics



Need analytical models in saturation and cutoff regions

Improved simple BJT dc model

Typical Output Characteristics



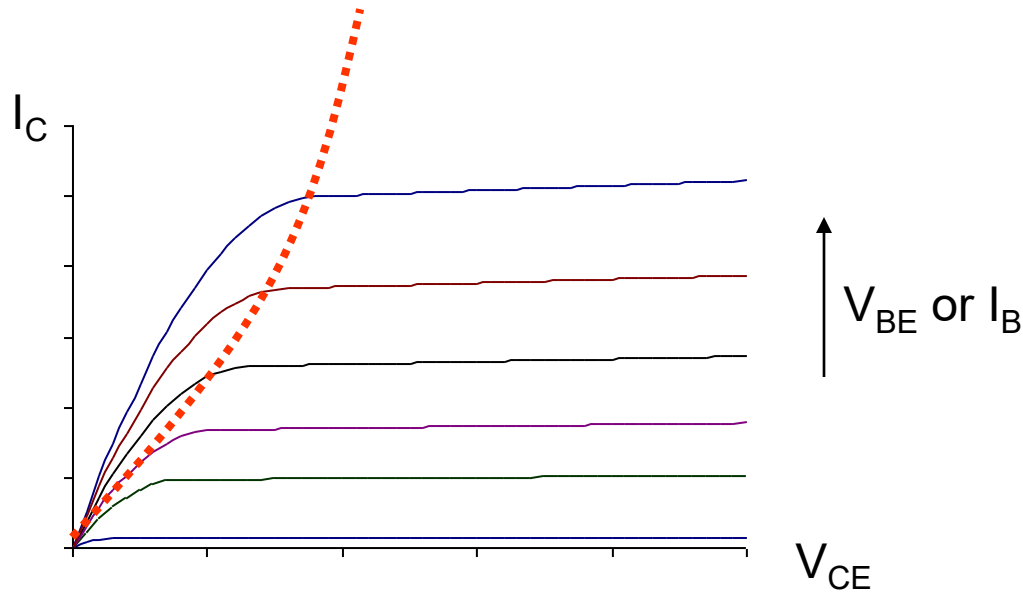
Recall:

Forward Active region of BJT is analogous to Saturation region of MOSFET

Saturation region of BJT is analogous to Triode region of MOSFET

Improved dc model



(graphically showing only output characteristics)



$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

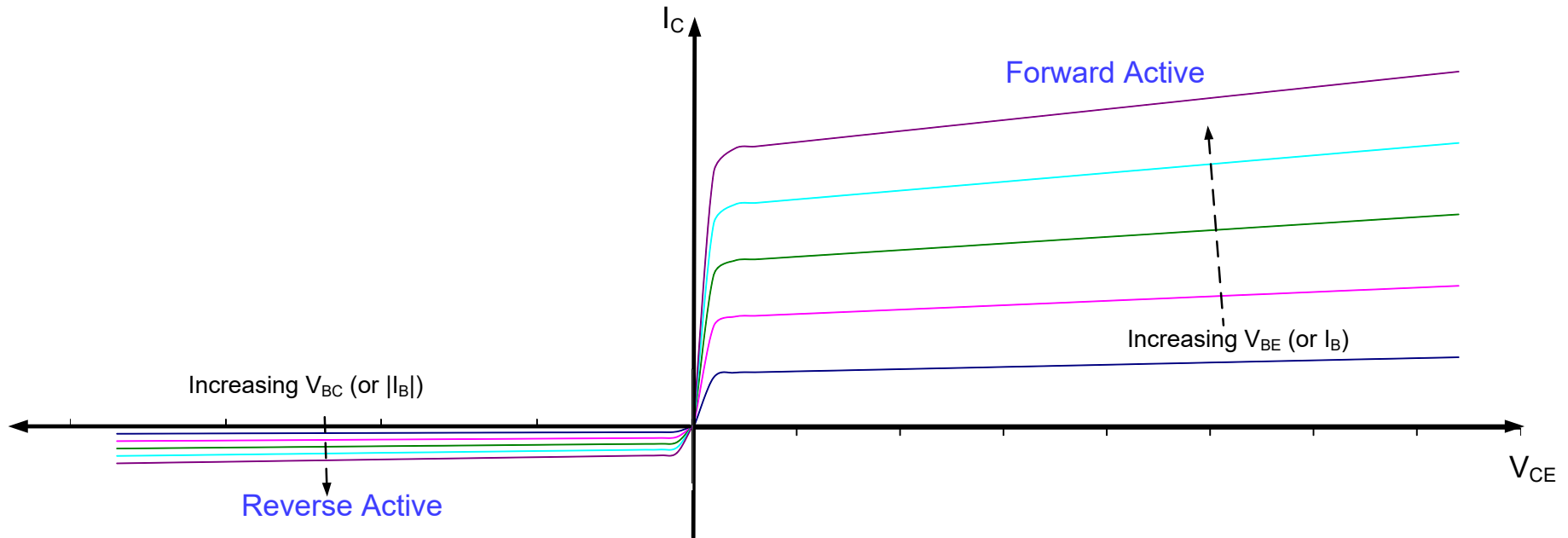
$$I_E = -\frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_F} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) + J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right)$$

$$I_C = J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) - \frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_R} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right)$$

- Valid in All regions of operation 
- V_{AF} effects can be added
- Not mathematically easy to work with 
- Note dependent variables changes $\{I_E, I_C\}$
- Termed Ebers-Moll model
- Reduces to previous model in FA region
- Little use in Reverse Active Region

Improved dc model

(graphically showing only output characteristics)



$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

$$I_E = -\frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_F} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) + J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right)$$

$$I_C = J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) - \frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_R} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right)$$

- Model using I_E and I_C as dependent variables
- Valid in All regions of operation
- V_{AF} effects can be added
- Not mathematically easy to work with
- Note dependent variables changes
- Termed Ebers-Moll model
- Reduces to previous model in FA region
- Little use in Reverse Active Region

Ebers-Moll model

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_E &= -\frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_F} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) + J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) \\ I_C &= J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) - \frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_R} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Process Parameters: $\{J_S, \alpha_F, \alpha_R\}$ $V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$

Design Parameters: $\{A_E\}$

α_F is the parameter α discussed earlier
 α_R is termed the “reverse α ”

$$\beta_F = \frac{\alpha_F}{1 - \alpha_F} \quad \beta_R = \frac{\alpha_R}{1 - \alpha_R} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \alpha_F = \frac{\beta_F}{1 + \beta_F} \quad \alpha_R = \frac{\beta_R}{1 + \beta_R}$$

Typical values for process parameters:

$$J_S \sim 10^{-16} \text{A}/\mu^2 \quad \beta_F \sim 100, \quad \beta_R \sim 0.4$$

Can substitute for α_F and α_R in Ebers-Moll model

Ebers-Moll model

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_E &= -\frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_F} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) + J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) \\ I_C &= J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) - \frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_R} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

With typical values for process parameters in forward active region ($V_{BE} \sim 0.6V$ $V_{BC} \sim -3$ $V_t \sim 26mV$) and if $A_E = 100\mu^2$

$$I_C = 10^{-14} \left(1.05 \times 10^{10} - 1 \right) - 3.6 \times 10^{-14} \left(7.7 \times 10^{-14} - 1 \right)$$

Completely dominant

Makes no sense to keep anything other than $I_C = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$ in forward active region

Ebers-Moll model

Ebers-Moll model

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 I_E &= -\frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_F} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) + J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) \\
 I_C &= J_S A_E \left(e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} - 1 \right) - \frac{J_S A_E}{\alpha_R} \left(e^{\frac{V_{BC}}{V_t}} - 1 \right)
 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

Alternate equivalent expressions for dependent variables $\{I_C, I_B\}$ defined earlier for Ebers-Moll equations in terms of independent variables $\{V_{BE}, V_{CE}\}$ after dropping the “-1” terms

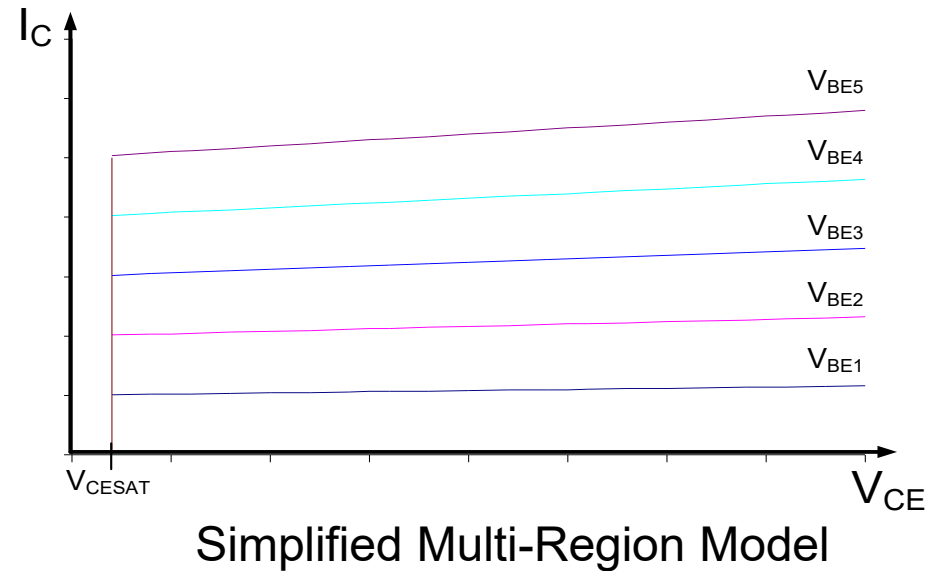
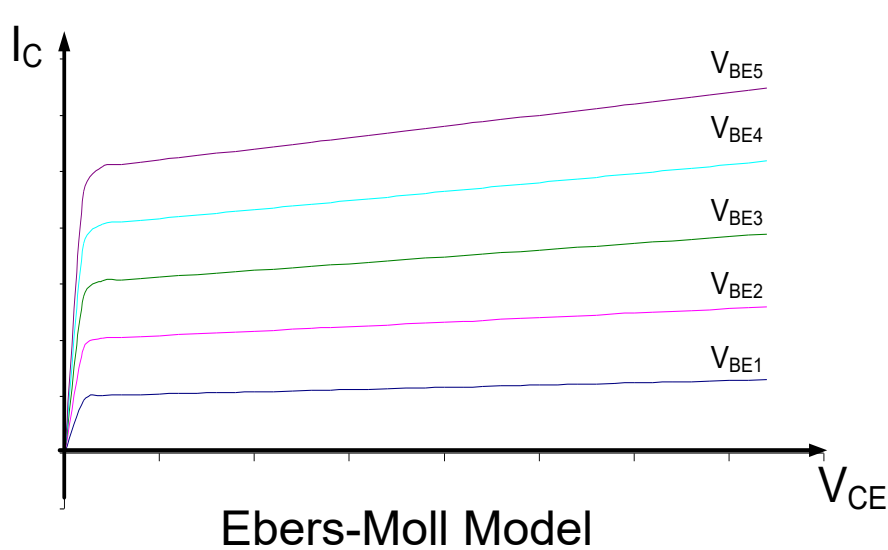
$$I_C = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \left(1 - \left[\frac{1 + \beta_R}{\beta_R} \right] e^{\frac{-V_{CE}}{V_t}} \right)$$

$$I_B = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \left(\frac{1}{\beta_F} - \frac{1}{\beta_R} e^{\frac{-V_{CE}}{V_t}} \right)$$

No more useful than previous equation but in form consistent with notation introduced earlier

Simplified Multi-Region Model

(graphically showing only output characteristics)

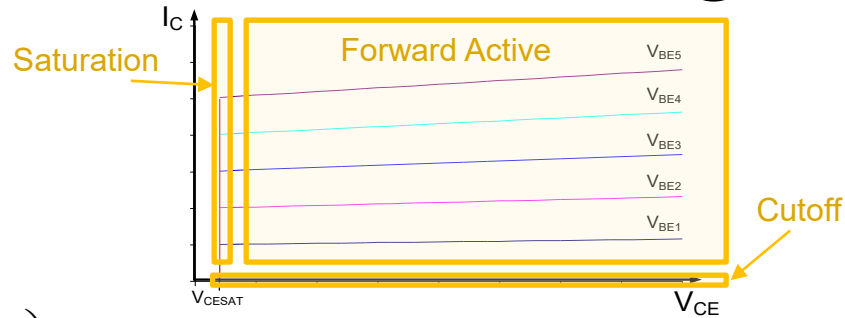


- Observe V_{CE} around 0.2V when saturated
- V_{BE} around 0.6V when saturated
- In most applications, exact V_{CE} and V_{BE} voltage in saturation not critical

Simplified model in saturation:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_{BE} = 0.7V \\ V_{CE} = 0.2V \end{array} \right\} \text{ Saturation}$$

Simplified Multi-Region Model



$$I_C = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_{AF}} \right)$$

$$I_B = \frac{J_S A_E}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

Forward Active

$$V_{BE} = 0.7V$$

$$V_{CE} = 0.2V$$

Saturation

$$I_C = I_B = 0$$

Cutoff

- This is a piecewise model suitable for analytical calculations
- Can easily extend to reverse active mode but of little use
- Still need conditions for operating in the 3 regions !!

Simplified Multi-Region Model

“Forward” Regions : $\beta = \beta_F$

$$I_C = J_S A_E e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}} \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_{AF}} \right)$$

$$I_B = \frac{J_S A_E}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

$$V_{BE} = 0.7V$$

$$V_{CE} = 0.2V$$

$$I_C = I_B = 0$$

Conditions

$$V_{BE} > 0.4V \quad V_{BC} < 0$$

$$I_C < \beta I_B$$

$$V_{BE} < 0 \quad V_{BC} < 0$$

Forward Active

Saturation

Cutoff

Process Parameters: $\{J_S, \beta, V_{AF}\}$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

Design Parameters: $\{A_E\}$

- Process parameters highly process dependent
- J_S highly temperature dependent as well, β modestly temperature dependent
- This model is dependent only upon emitter area, independent of base and collector area !
- Currents scale linearly with A_E and not dependent upon shape of emitter
- A small portion of the operating region is missed with this model but seldom operate in the missing region

Simplified Multi-Region Model

Alternate equivalent model

$$I_C = \beta I_B \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE}}{V_{AF}} \right)$$

$$I_B = \frac{J_S A_E}{\beta} e^{\frac{V_{BE}}{V_t}}$$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

$$V_{BE} = 0.7V$$

$$V_{CE} = 0.2V$$

$$I_C = I_B = 0$$

Conditions

$$V_{BE} > 0.4V$$

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

$$I_C < \beta I_B$$

$$V_{BE} < 0$$

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

Forward Active

Saturation

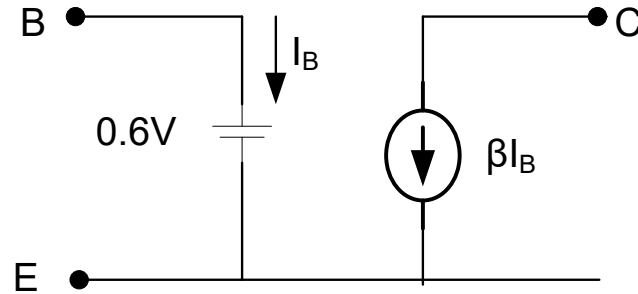
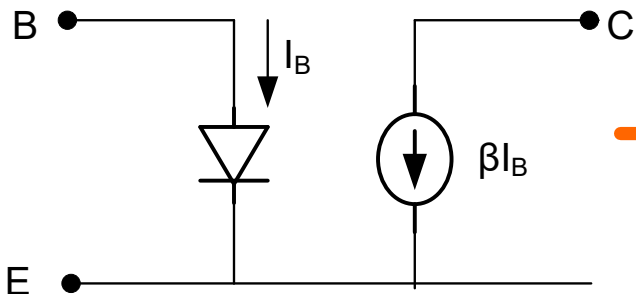
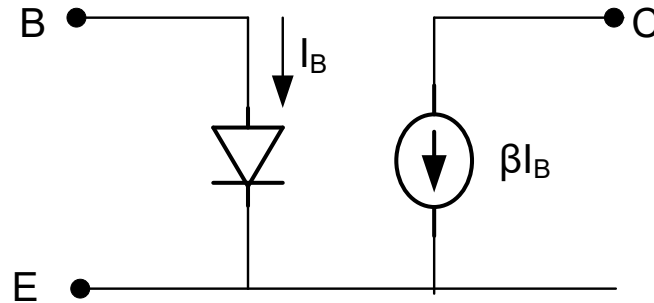
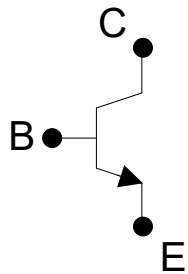
Cutoff

A small portion of the operating region is missed with this model but seldom operate in the missing region

Further Simplified Multi-Region dc Model

(by neglecting V_{AF})

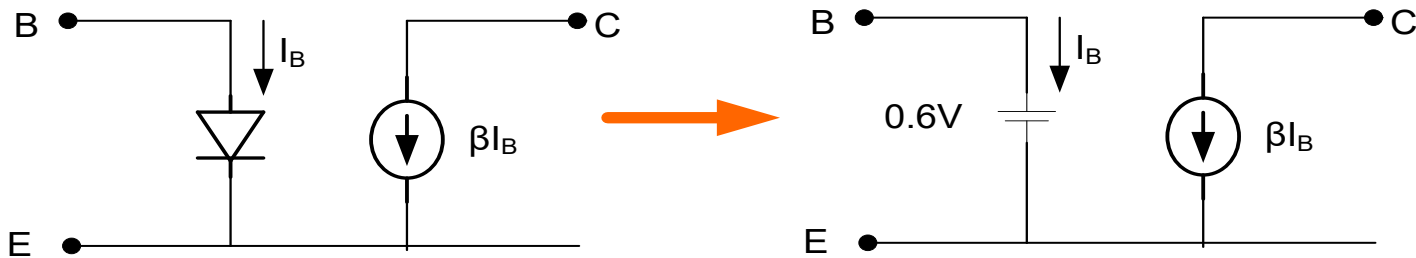
Forward Active



Adequate when it makes little difference whether $V_{BE}=0.6V$ or $V_{BE}=0.7V$

Simplified Multi-Region dc Model

Forward Active



Mathematically

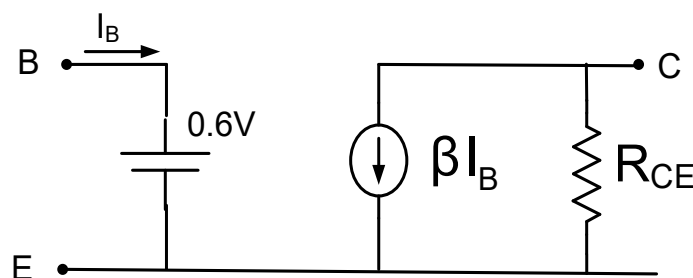
$$V_{BE} = 0.6V$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

Or, if want to show slope in I_C - V_{CE} characteristics

$$V_{BE} = 0.6V$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B (1 + V_{CE}/V_{AF})$$



$$R_{CE} = \frac{V_{AF}}{\beta I_{BQ}}$$

R_{CE} highly nonlinear

Further Simplified Multi-Region dc Model

Equivalent Further Simplified Multi-Region Model

$$I_C = \beta I_B$$

$$V_{BE} = 0.6V$$

$$V_t = \frac{kT}{q}$$

$$V_{BE} = 0.7V$$

$$V_{CE} = 0.2V$$

$$I_C = I_B = 0$$

$$V_{BE} > 0.4V$$

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

Forward Active

$$I_C < \beta I_B$$

Saturation

$$V_{BE} < 0$$

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

Cutoff

A small portion of the operating region is missed with this model but seldom operate in the missing region

Conditions for Regions of Operation in Multi-Region Model

$$V_{BE} > 0.4V$$

Forward Active

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

$$I_C < \beta I_B$$

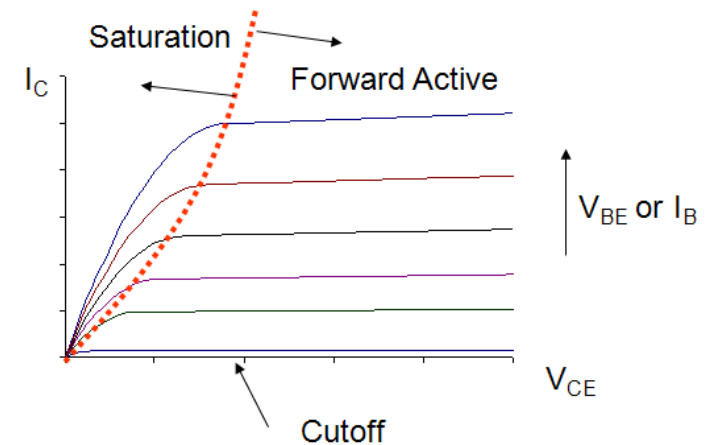
Saturation

$$V_{BE} < 0$$

$$V_{BC} < 0$$

Cutoff

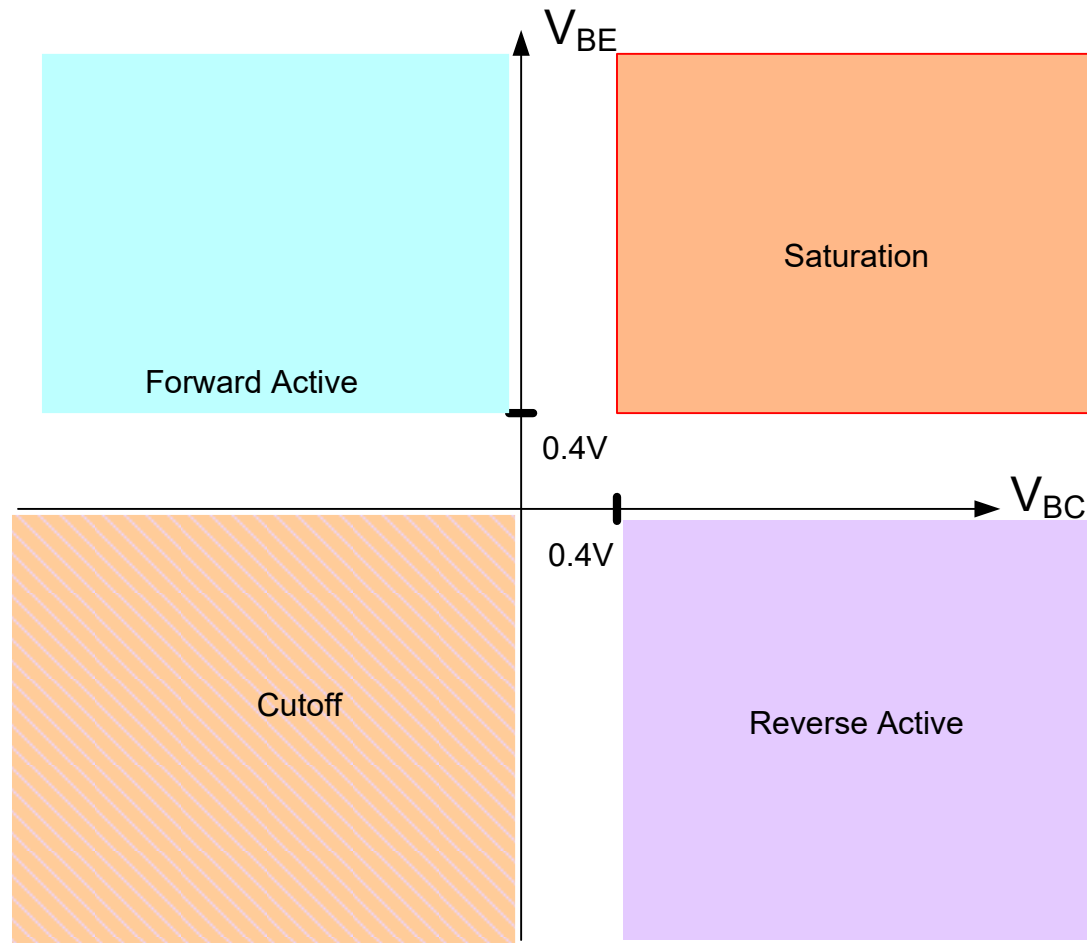
Note: One condition is on dependent variables !



Observe that in saturation, $I_C < \beta I_B$

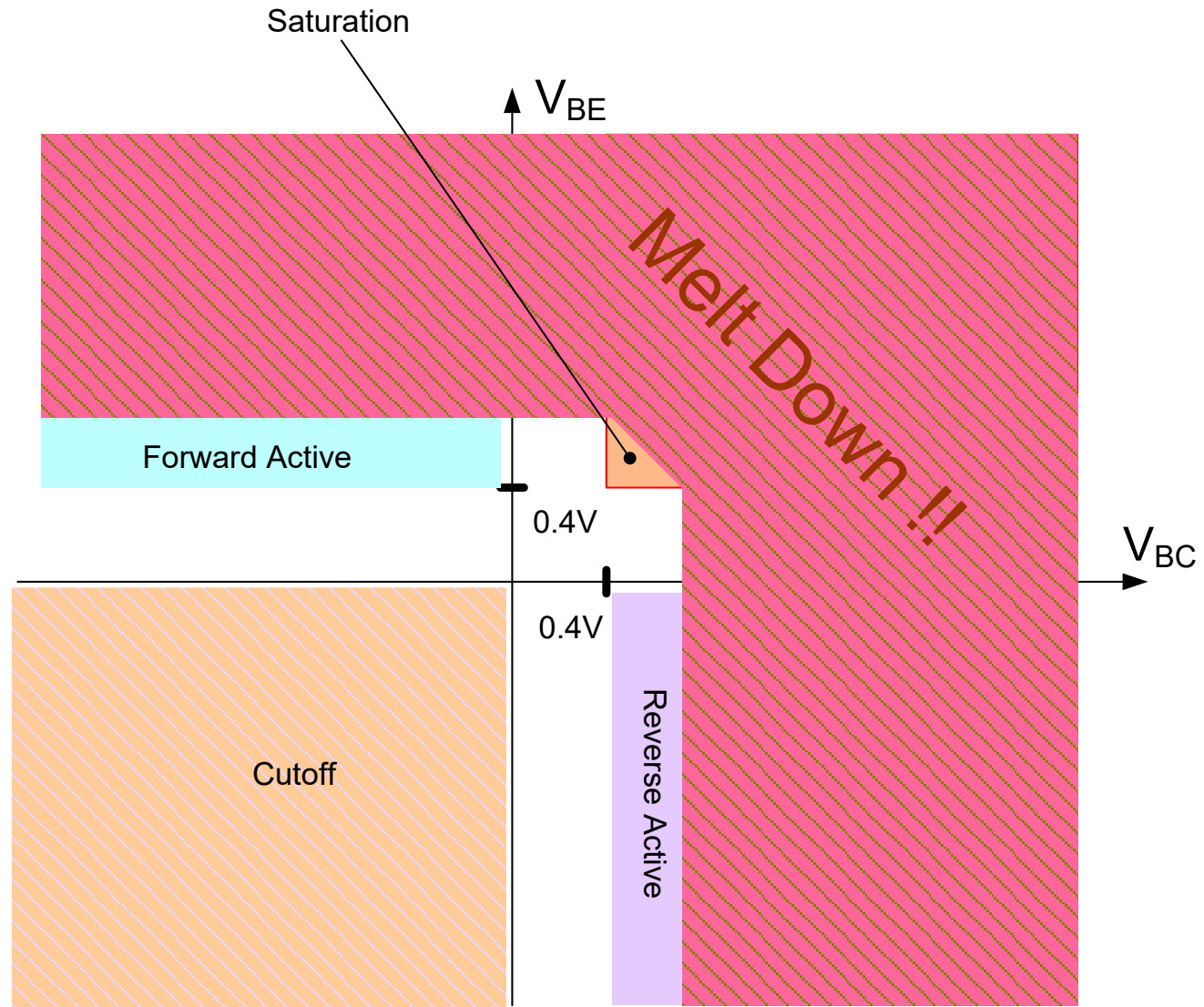
Can't condition on independent variables in saturation because they are fixed in the model

Regions of Operation in Independent Parameter Domain used In multi-region models

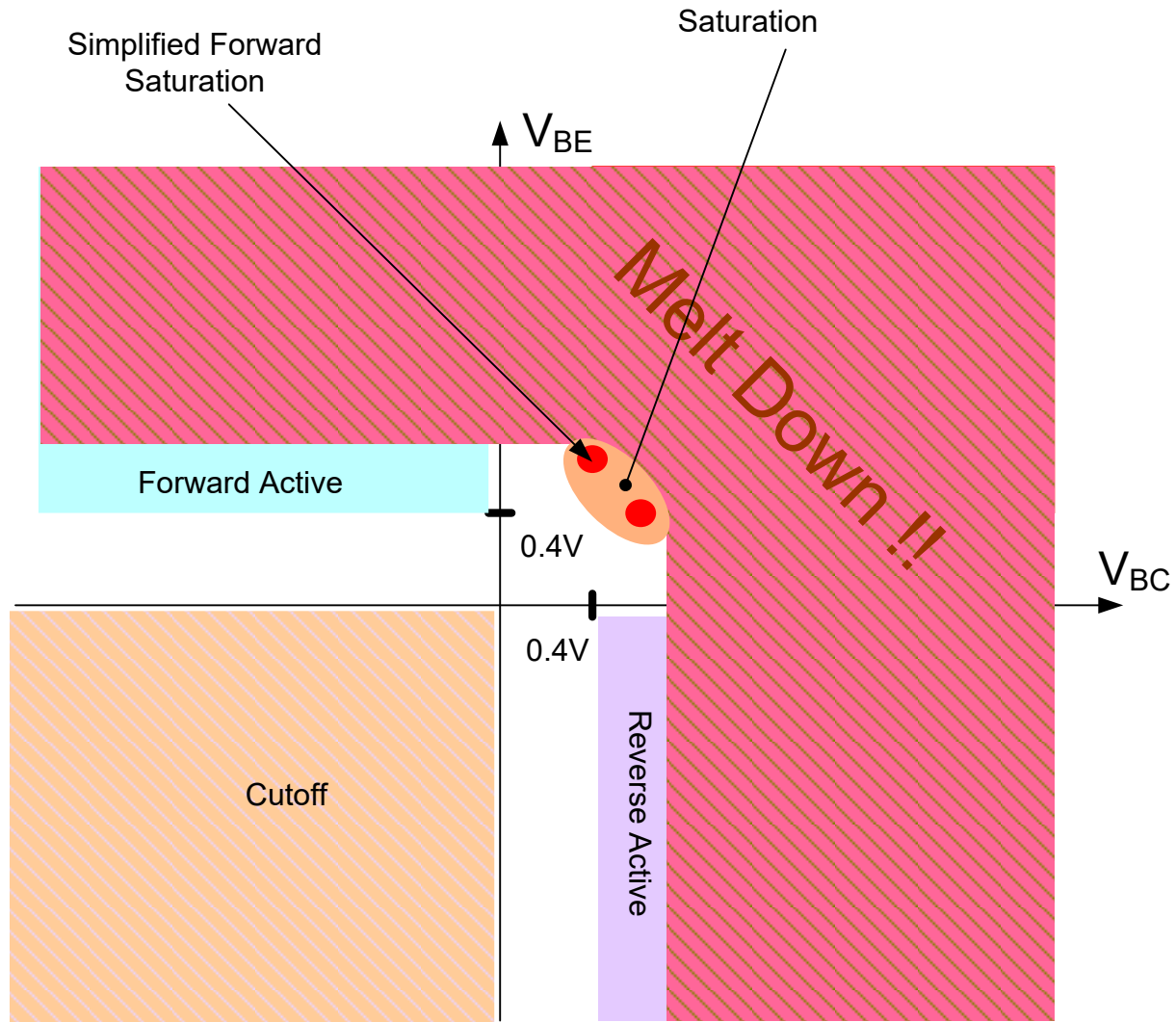


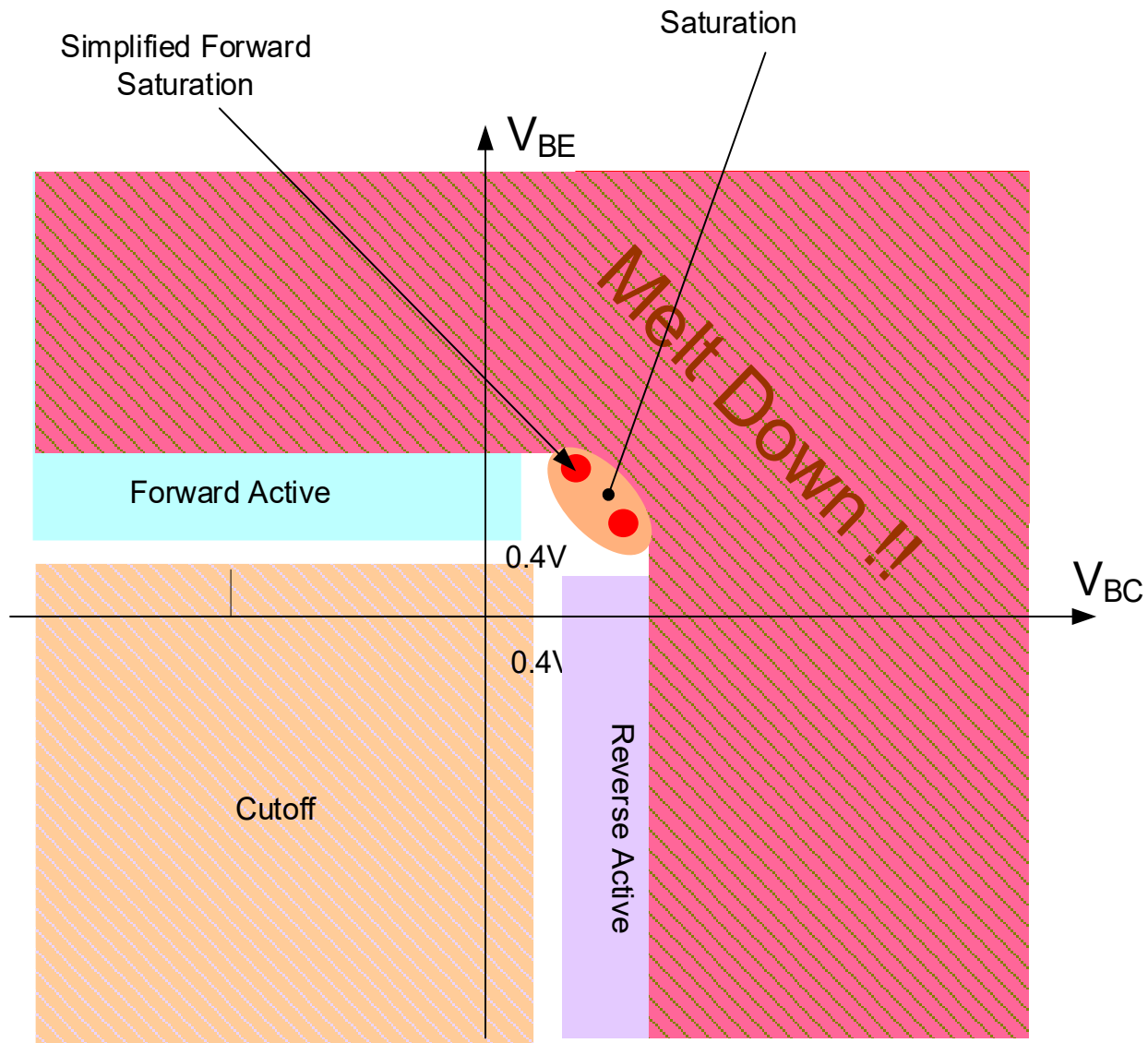
- Seldom operate in regions excluded in this picture
- Limited use in Reverse Active Mode

Excessive Power Dissipation if either junction has large forward bias



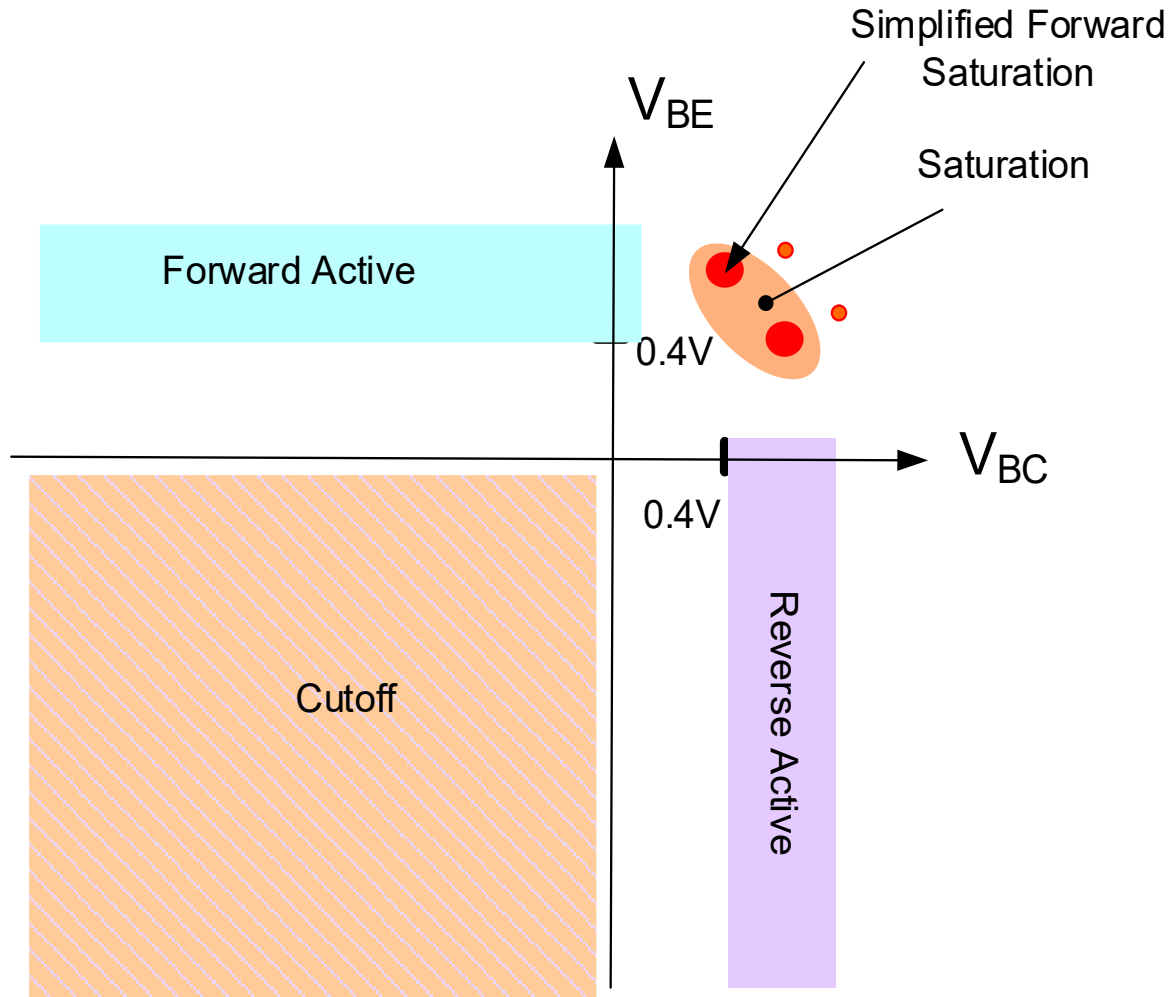
Safe regions of operation



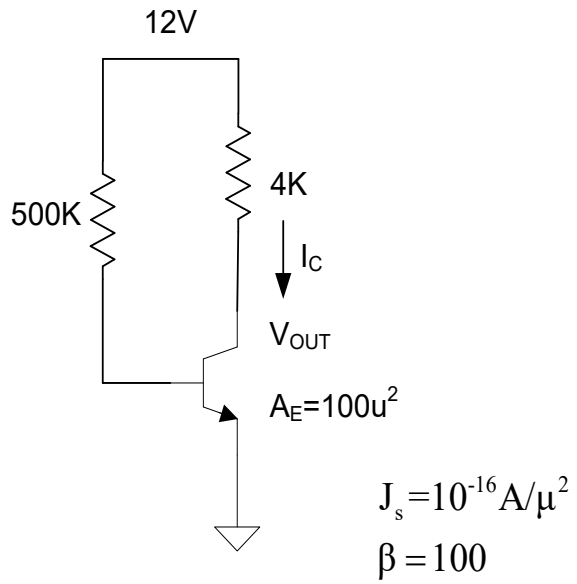


Actually cutoff, forward active, and reverse active regions can be extended modestly as shown and multi-region models still are quite good

Sufficient regions of operation for most applications

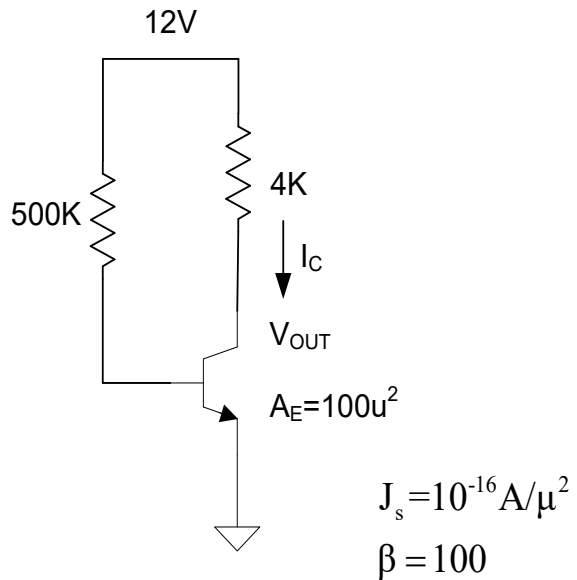


Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT}

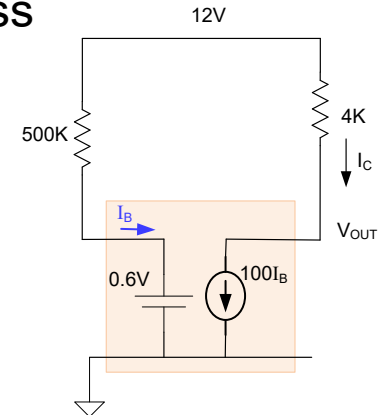


Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT}

Solution:



1. Guess Forward Active Region (and model)
2. Solve Circuit with Guess
3. Verify model (if necessary)



$$I_B = \frac{(12 - 0.6)}{500K}$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B = 100 \frac{(12 - 0.6)}{500K} = 2.28 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{OUT} = 12 - I_C \cdot 4K = 2.88 \text{ V}$$

4. Verify FA Region

$$V_{BE} = 0.6 \text{ V} > 0.4 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{BE} > 0.4 \text{ V} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{BC} < 0$$

$$V_{BC} = 0.6 \text{ V} - 2.88 \text{ V} = -2.28 \text{ V} < 0$$

Verify Passes so solution is valid

$$I_C = 2.28 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{OUT} = 2.88 \text{ V}$$

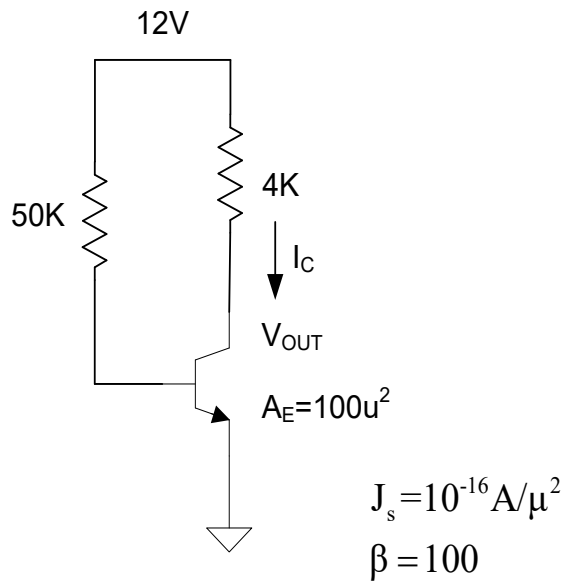
5. Verify model (if necessary)

Solve again with $V_{BE} = 0.7 \text{ V}$

Will show $V_{OUT} = 2.96 \text{ V}$ so difference is small

Note solution independent of J_S and A_E

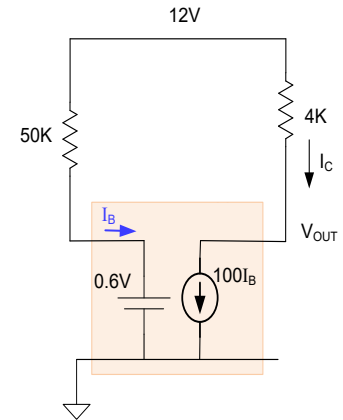
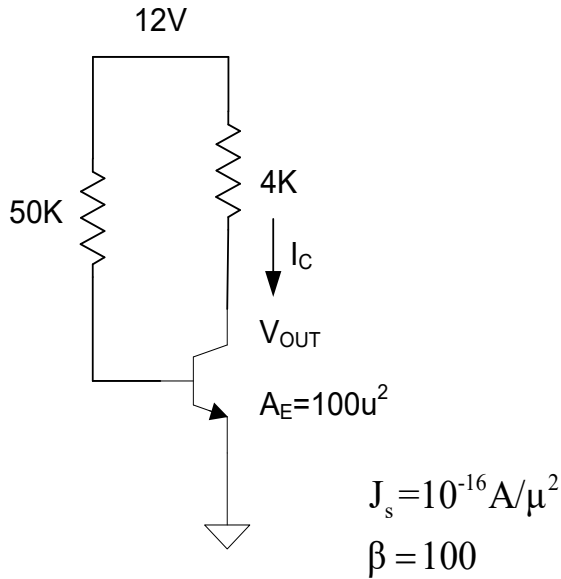
Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT} ,



Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT} .

Solution:

1. Guess Forward Active Region
2. Solve Circuit with Guess
3. Verify model (if necessary)



$$I_B = \frac{(12 - 0.6)}{50K}$$

$$I_C = \beta I_B = 100 \frac{(12 - 0.6)}{50K} = 22.8 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{OUT} = 12 - I_C \cdot 4K = -79.2 \text{ V}$$

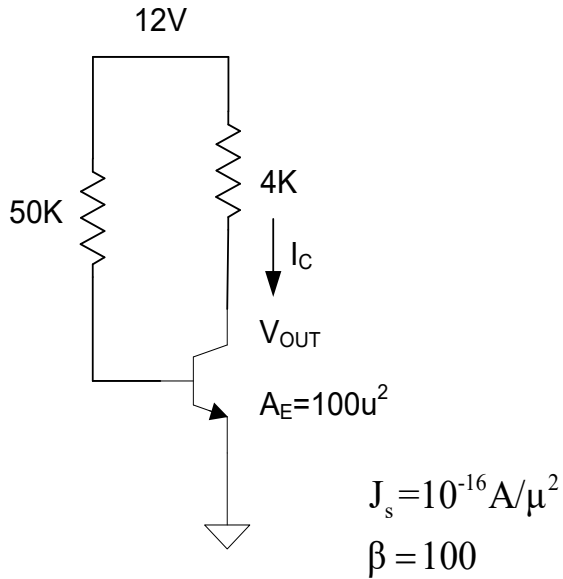
4. Verify FA Region $V_{BE} > 0.4 \text{ V}$ and $V_{BC} < 0$

$$V_{BE} = 0.6 \text{ V} > 0.4 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{BC} = 0.6 \text{ V} - (-79.2 \text{ V}) = +79.8 \text{ V} > 0$$

Verify Fails so solution is not valid

Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT}



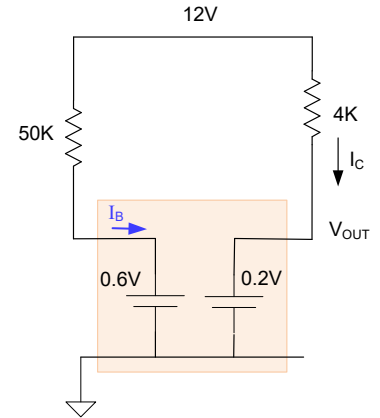
Solution:

5. Guess Saturation
6. Solve Circuit with Guess
7. Verify model (if necessary)

$$I_B = \frac{(12 - 0.6)}{50K} = 228 \mu A$$

$$I_C = \frac{(12 - 0.2)}{4K} = 2.95 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{OUT} = 0.2V$$



8. Verify SAT Region

$$I_C < \beta I_B$$

$$\beta I_B = 100 \cdot 228 \mu A = 22.8 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_C = 2.95 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_C = 2.95 \text{ mA} < \beta I_B = 22.8 \text{ mA}$$

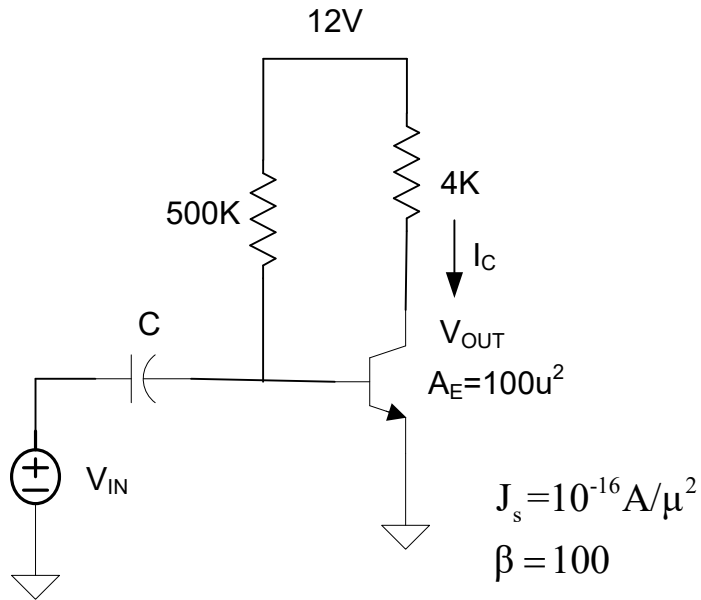
Verify SAT Passes so solution is valid

$$I_C = 2.95 \text{ mA} \quad V_{OUT} = 0.2V$$

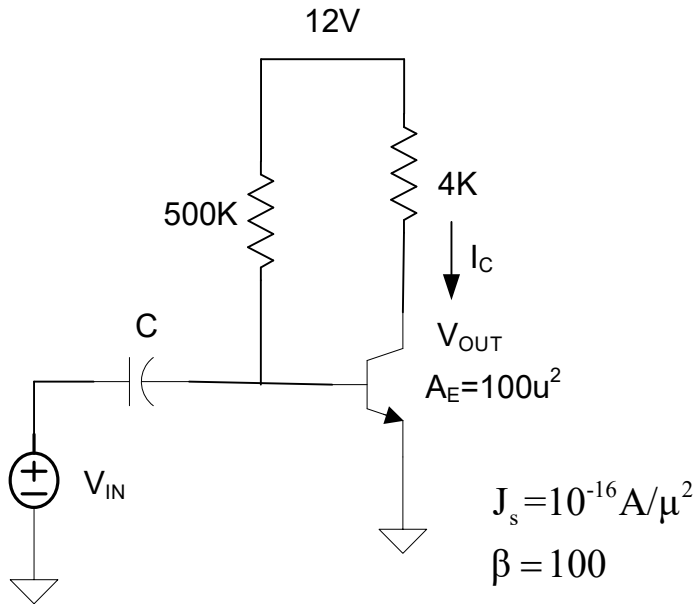
9. Verify model (if necessary)

(use $V_{BE} = 0.7V$, no change in output)

Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT} . Assume C is large and V_{IN} is very small.



Example: Determine I_C and V_{OUT} . Assume C is large and V_{IN} is very small.



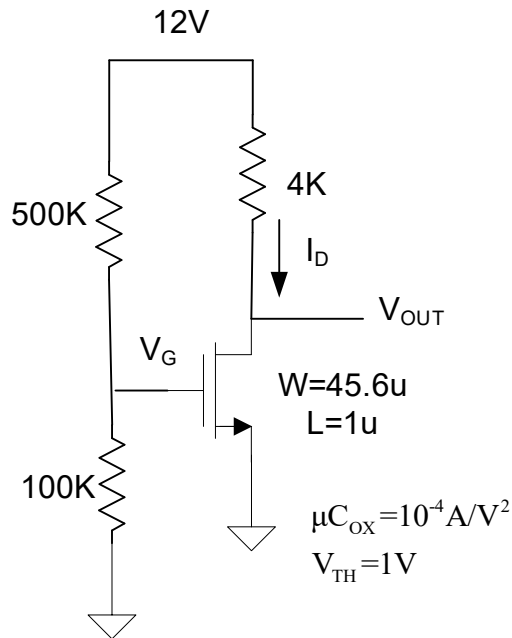
Solution:

Assume $V_{IN}=0$, then no current flows through C so circuit is identical to circuit of previous-previous example so

$$I_C = 2.28 \text{ mA} \quad V_{OUT} = 2.88 \text{ V}$$

Note: If C is large and V_{IN} is small sinusoidal signal of sufficiently high frequency, the voltage across C will not change the input so V_{IN} is from an ac viewpoint coupled directly to base. In this case, the circuit will amplify V_{IN} and the gain will be very large due to the exponential relationship between I_C and V_{BE} .

Example: Determine I_D and V_{OUT}



Solution:

Since $I_G=0$,

$$V_G = \frac{100K}{600K} 12V = 2V$$

Guess Saturation Region for MOSFET

$$V_{GS} > V_{TH} \quad V_{DS} > V_{GS} - V_{TH}$$

$$I_D = \mu C_{ox} \frac{W}{2L} (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

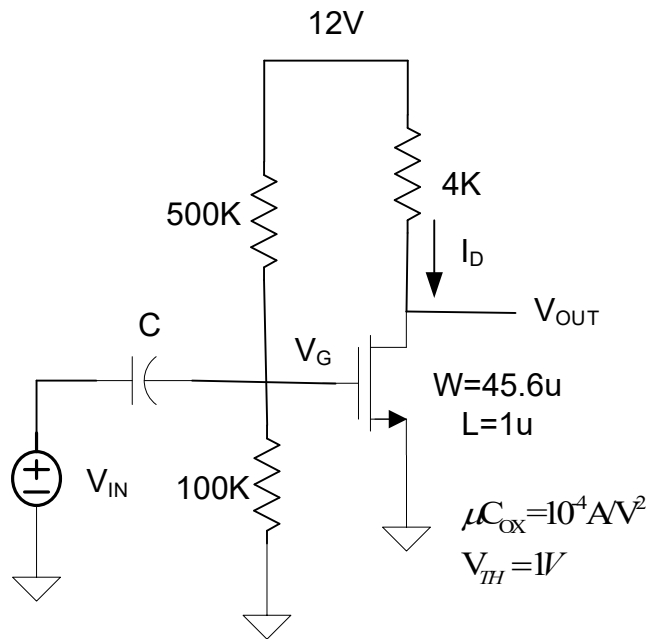
$$I_D = 10^{-4} \frac{45.6}{2} (2-1)^2 = 2.28mA$$

$$V_{OUT} = 2.88V$$

Verify saturation $2V > 1V$ $2.88V > 2V - 1V$

Note: solution dependent upon W, L, V_{TH} , and μC_{ox}

Example: Determine I_D and V_{OUT} . Assume C is large and V_{IN} is very small.



Solution:

Assume $V_{IN}=0$, then no current flows through C

$$V_G = \frac{100K}{600K} 12V = 2V$$

Guess Saturation Region for MOSFET

$$V_{GS} > V_{TH} \quad V_{DS} > V_{GS} - V_{TH}$$

$$I_D = \mu C_{OX} \frac{W}{2L} (V_{GS} - V_{TH})^2$$

$$I_D = 10^{-4} \frac{45.6}{2} (2 - 1)^2 = 2.28mA$$

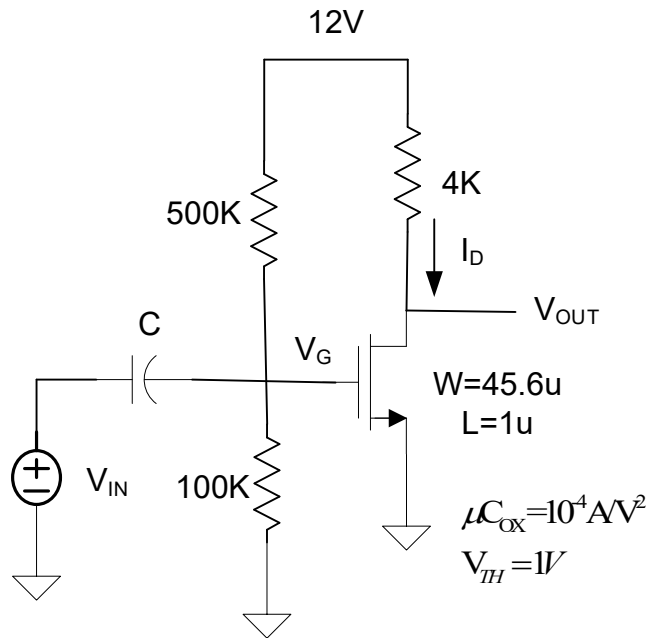
$$V_{OUT} = 2.88V$$

Verify saturation $2V > 1V$ $2.88V > 2V - 1V$

Note: This circuit has the same current and same V_{OUT} as the previous circuit

Note: solution dependent upon W, L, V_{TH} , and μC_{OX}

Example: Determine I_D and V_{OUT} . Assume C is large and V_{IN} is very small.



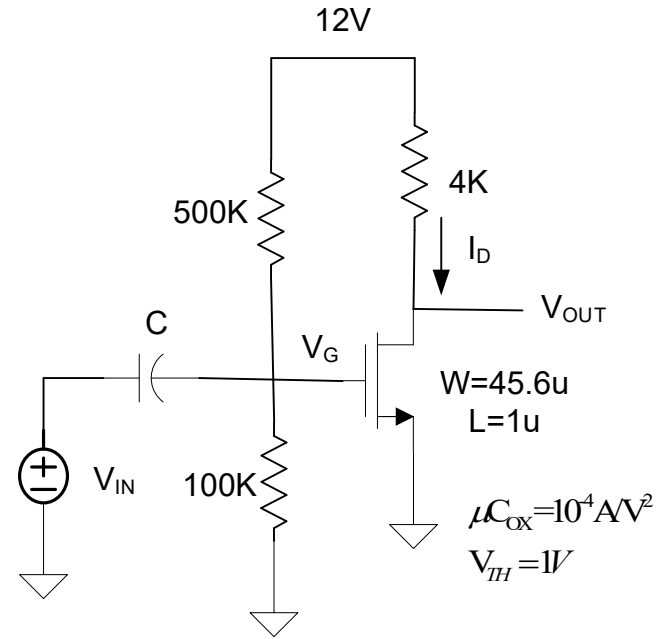
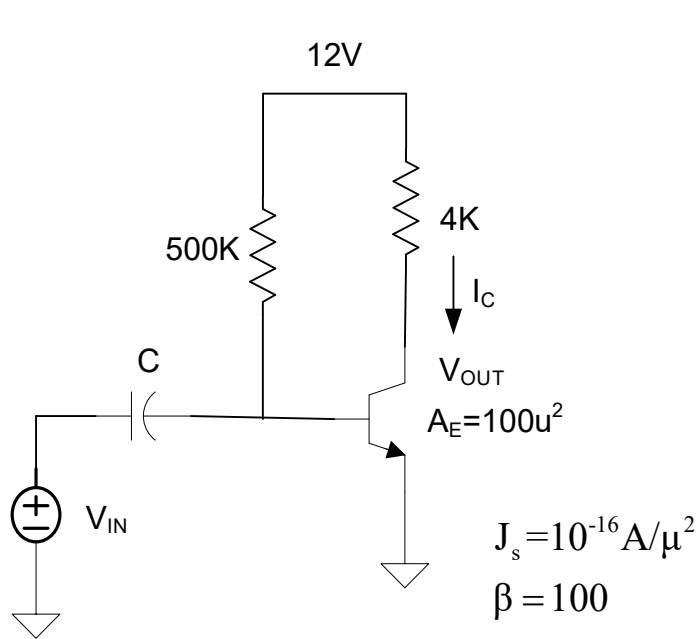
Solution:

Assume $V_{IN}=0$, then no current flows through C so circuit is identical to circuit of previous-previous example so

$$I_C = 2.28mA \quad V_{OUT} = 2.88V$$

Note: If C is large and V_{IN} is small sinusoidal signal of sufficiently high frequency, the voltage across C will not change so V_{IN} is from an ac viewpoint coupled directly to gate. In this case, the circuit will amplify V_{IN} and the gain will be large due to the square-law relationship between I_D and V_{GS} .

Comparison



$$I_C = I_D = 2.28 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_{OUT} = 2.88 \text{ V}$$

- Both circuits can serve as amplifiers
- Architectures very similar
- Will be shown later that the bipolar circuit has larger gain because exponential vs square law relationship



Stay Safe and Stay Healthy !

End of Lecture 20