# Bipolar Junction Transistor (BJT)

#### Introduction

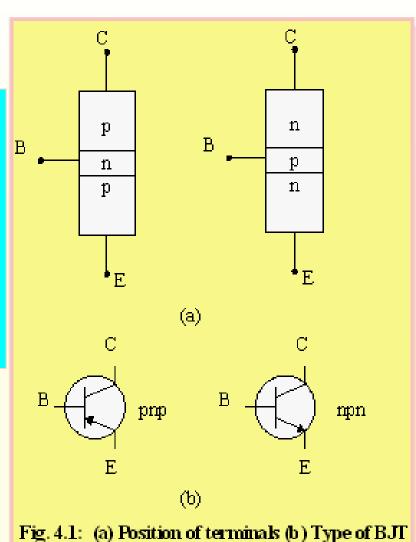
- The basic of electronic system nowadays is semiconductor device.
- The famous and commonly use of this device is BJTs
  - (Bipolar Junction Transistors).
- It can be use as amplifier and logic switches.
- BJT consists of three terminal:
  - → collector : C
  - → base : B
  - →emitter : E
  - Two types of BJT: pnp and npn

#### **Transistor Construction**

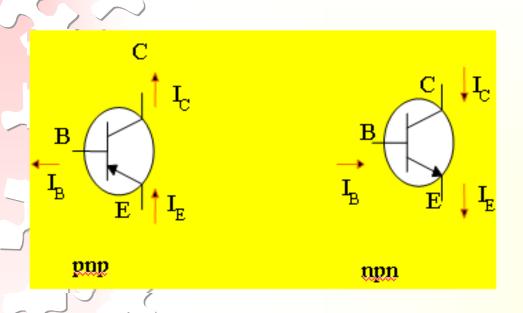
- 3 layer semiconductor device consisting:
  - 2 n- and 1 p-type layers of material → npn transistor
  - 2 p- and 1 n-type layers of material →pnp transistor
- The term bipolar reflects the fact that holes and electrons participate in the injection process into the oppositely polarized material
- A single pn junction has two different types of bias:
  - forward bias
  - reverse bias
  - Thus, a two-pn-junction device has four types of bias.

# Position of the terminals and symbol of BJT.

- Base is located at the middle and more thin from the level of collector and emitter
- The emitter and collector terminals are made of the same type of semiconductor material, while the base of the other type of material



#### Transistor currents



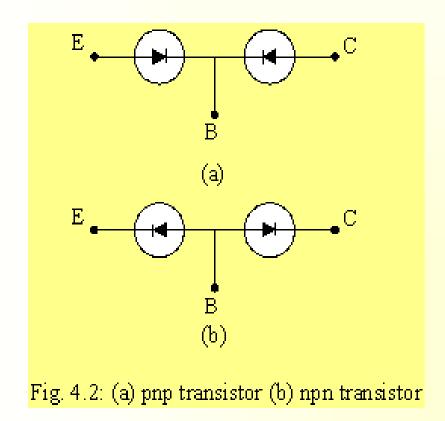
 $I_C$ =the collector current  $I_B$ = the base current  $I_E$ = the emitter current

- -The arrow is always drawn on the emitter
- -The arrow always point toward the n-type
- -The arrow indicates the direction of the emitter current:

pnp:E→ B

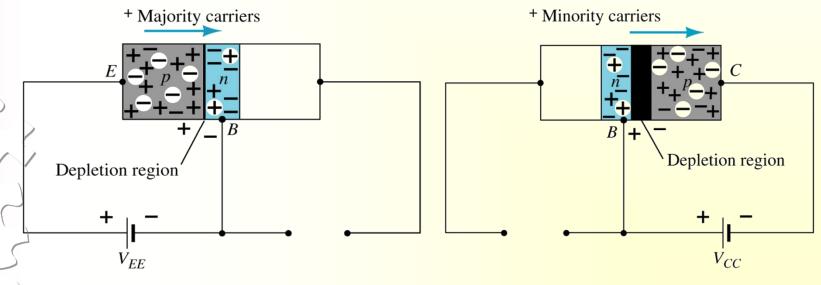
npn:  $B \rightarrow E$ 

- By imaging the analogy of diode, transistor can be construct like two diodes that connetecd together.
- It can be conclude that the work of transistor is base on work of diode.



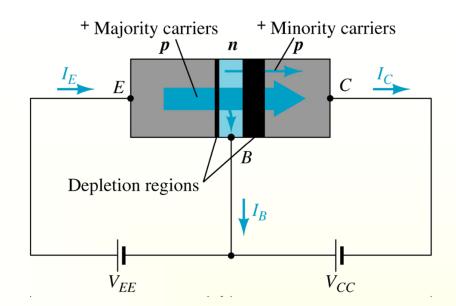
# **Transistor Operation**

- The basic operation will be described using the pnp transistor. The operation of the pnp transistor is exactly the same if the roles played by the electron and hole are interchanged.
- One p-n junction of a transistor is reverse-biased, whereas the other is forward-biased.



Forward-biased junction of a pnp transistor

Reverse-biased junction of a pnp transistor



- Both biasing potentials have been applied to a pnp transistor and resulting majority and minority carrier flows indicated.
- Majority carriers (+) will diffuse across the forward biased p-n junction into the n-type material.
  - A very small number of carriers (+) will through n-type material to the base terminal. Resulting IB is typically in order of microamperes.
  - The large number of majority carriers will diffuse across the reverse-biased junction into the p-type material connected to the collector terminal.

- Majority carriers can cross the reverse-biased junction because the injected majority carriers will appear as minority carriers in the n-type material.
- Applying KCL to the transistor :

$$I_E = I_C + I_B$$

 The comprises of two components – the majority and minority carriers

$$I_C = I_{Cmajority} + I_{COminority}$$

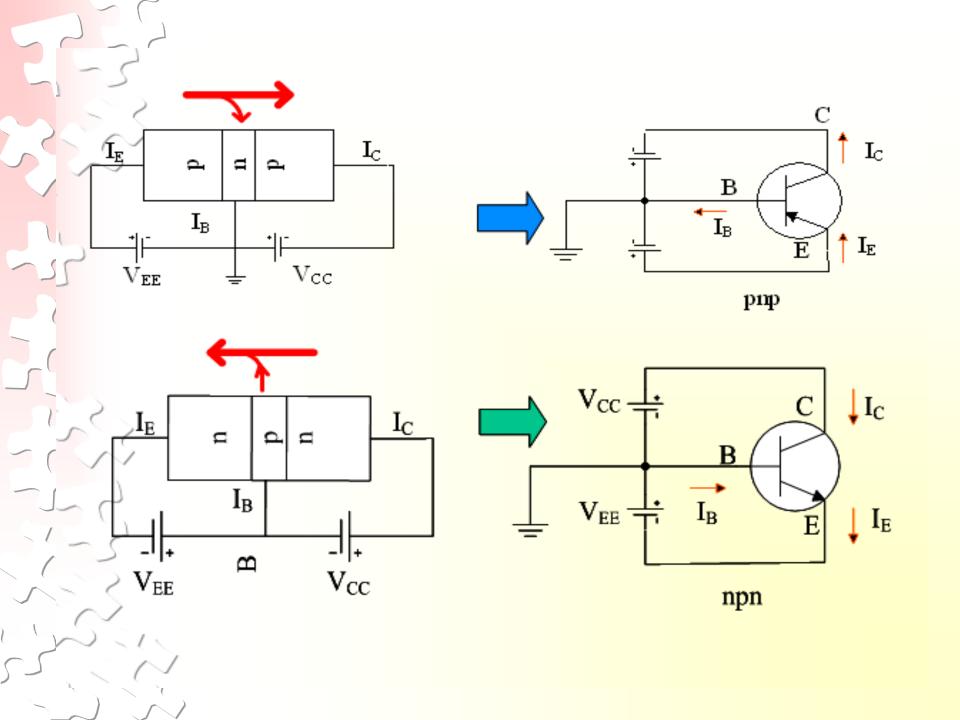
•  $I_{CO}$  –  $I_{C}$  current with emitter terminal open and is called leakage current.

#### Common-Base Configuration

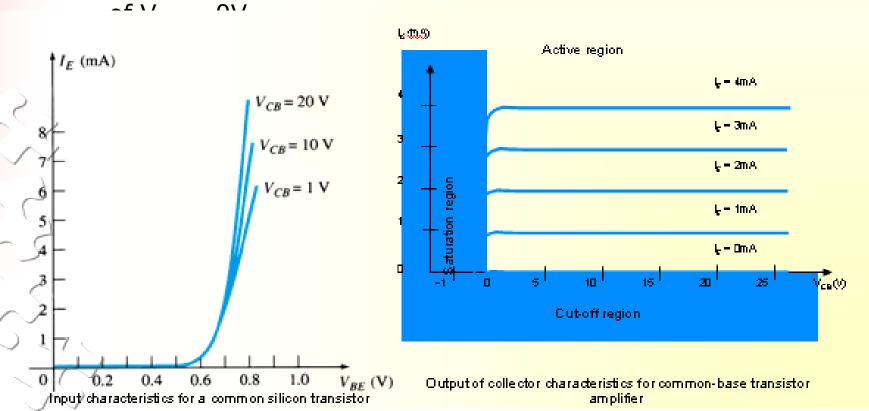
- Common-base terminology is derived from the fact that the:
  - base is common to both input and output of the configuration.
  - base is usually the terminal closest to or at ground potential.
- All current directions will refer to conventional (hole)

  flow and the arrows in all electronic symbols have a

  direction defined by this convention.
- Note that the applied biasing (voltage sources) are such as to establish current in the direction indicated for each branch.



- To describe the behavior of common-base amplifiers requires two set of characteristics:
  - Input or driving point characteristics.
  - Output or collector characteristics
- The output characteristics has 3 basic regions:
  - Active region -defined by the biasing arrangements
  - Cutoff region region where the collector current is 0A
  - Saturation region region of the characteristics to the left



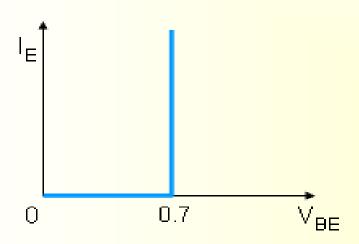
Active region	Saturation region	Cut-off region
•IE increased, Ic increased •BE junction forward bias and CB junction reverse bias •Refer to the graf, Ic » IE •Ic not depends on VcB •Suitable region for the transistor working as amplifier	BE and CB junction is forward bias  Small changes in VcB will cause big different to Ic  The allocation for this region is to the left of VcB = 0 V.	Region below the line of IE=0 A  BE and CB is reverse bias  no current flow at collector, only leakage current

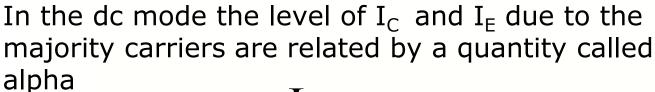
The curves (output characteristics) clearly indicate that a first approximation to the relationship between IE and IC in the active region is given by

$$I_C \approx IE$$

 Once a transistor is in the 'on' state, the base-emitter voltage will be assumed to be

$$V_{BF} = 0.7V$$





$$\alpha = \frac{\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{C}}}{\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{E}}}$$

$$I_C = \alpha I_E + I_{CBO}$$

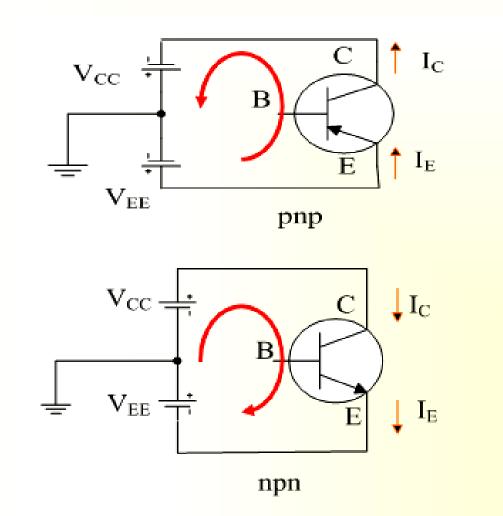
- It can then be summarize to  $I_C = \alpha I_E$  (ignore  $I_{CBO}$  due to small value)
- For ac situations where the point of operation moves on the characteristics curve, an ac alpha defined by

$$\alpha = \frac{\Delta I_{\rm C}}{\Delta I_{\rm E}}$$

• Alpha a common base current gain factor that shows the efficiency by calculating the current percent from current flow from emitter to collector. The value of  $\alpha$  is typical from 0.9  $\sim$  0.998.

# Biasing

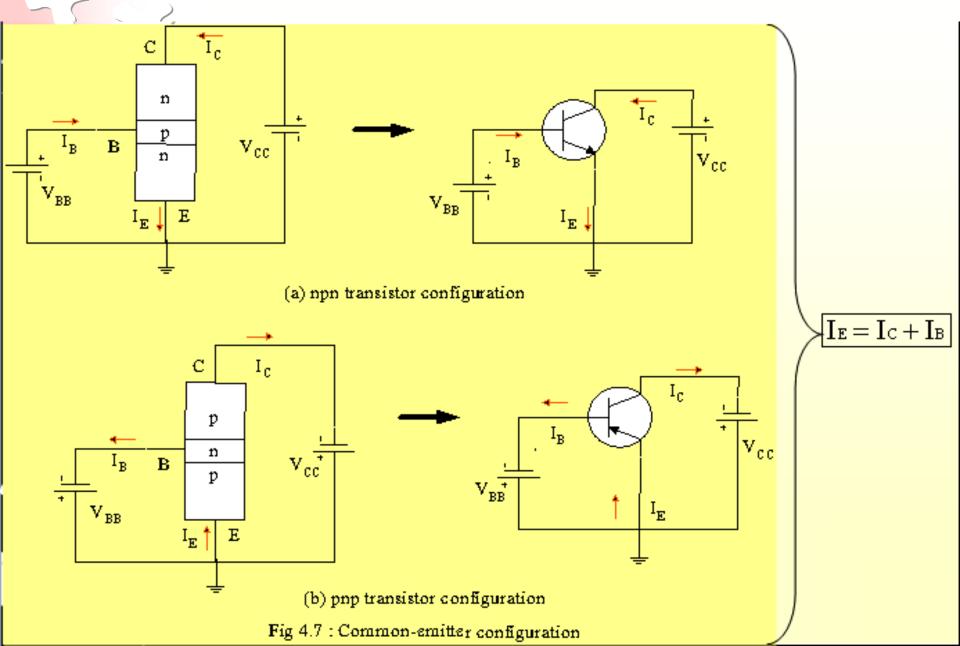
Proper biasing CB configuration in active region by approximation  $I_C \approx I_E (I_B \approx 0 \text{ uA})$ 

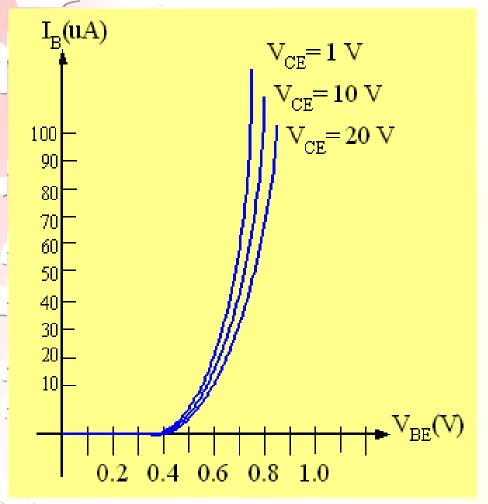


# Common-Emitter Configuration

- It is called common-emitter configuration since :
  - emitter is common or reference to both input and output terminals.
  - emitter is usually the terminal closest to or at ground
     potential.
  - Almost amplifier design is using connection of CE due
     to the high gain for current and voltage.
  - Two set of characteristics are necessary to describe the behavior for CE; input (base terminal) and output (collector terminal) parameters.

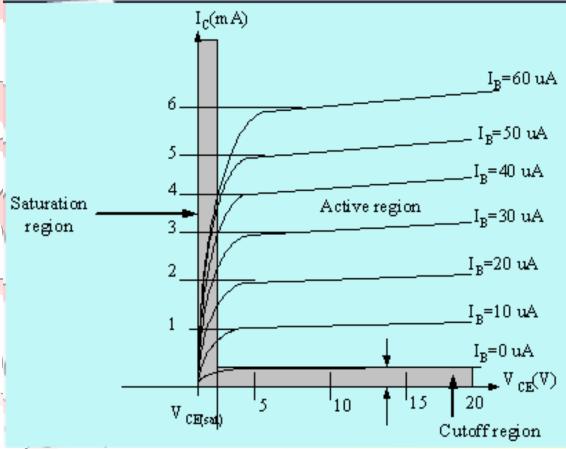
#### Proper Biasing common-emitter configuration in active region





Input characteristics for a common-emitter NPN transistor

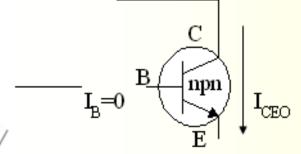
- I<sub>B</sub> is microamperes compared to miliamperes of I<sub>C</sub>.
- I<sub>B</sub> will flow when V<sub>BE</sub> > 0.7V for silicon and 0.3V for germanium
- Before this value  $I_B$  is very small and no  $I_B$ .
- Base-emitter junction is forward bias
- Increasing V<sub>CE</sub> will reduce I<sub>B</sub> for different values.

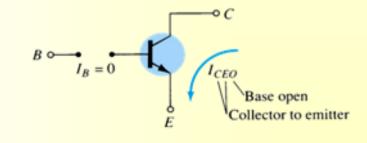


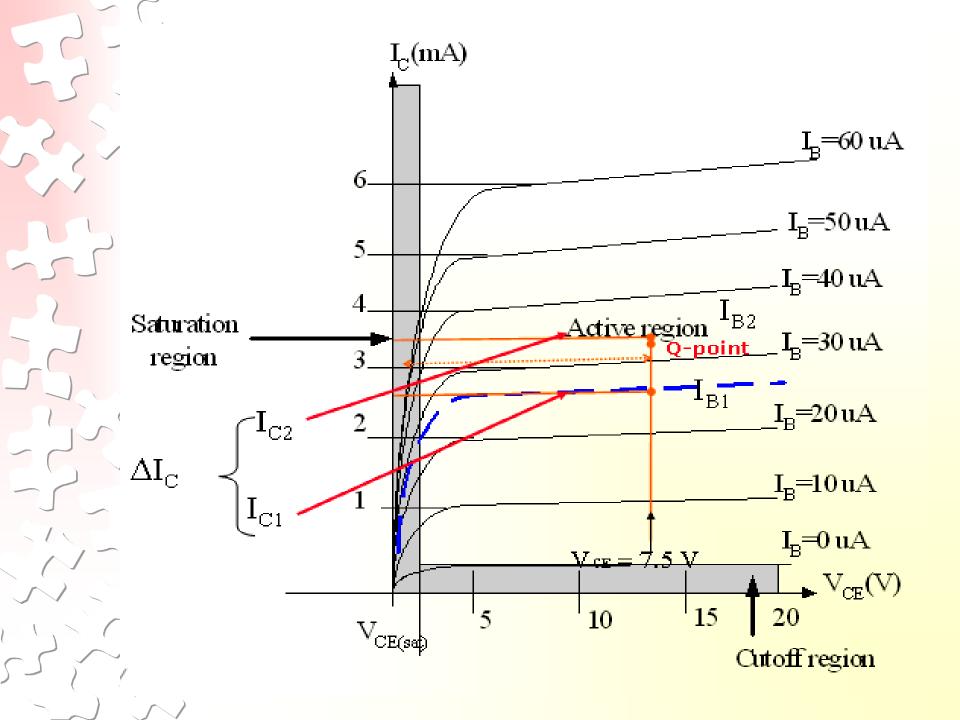
Output characteristics for a common-emitter npn transistor

- For small  $V_{CE}$  ( $V_{CE}$  <  $V_{CESAT}$ ,  $I_{C}$  increase linearly with increasing of  $V_{CE}$
- $V_{CE} > V_{CESAT} I_C$  not totally depends on  $V_{CE} \rightarrow$  constant  $I_C$
- $I_B(uA)$  is very small compare to  $I_C(mA)$ . Small increase in  $I_B$  cause big increase in  $I_C$
- $I_B=0 A \rightarrow I_{CEO}$  occur.
- Noticing the value when  $I_c=0A$ . There is still some value of current flows.

Active region	Saturation region	Cut-off region
<ul> <li>B-E junction is forward bias</li> <li>C-B junction is reverse bias</li> </ul>	$\bullet$ B-E and C-B junction is forward bias, thus the values of ${\rm I_B}$ and ${\rm I_C}$ is too big.	<ul> <li>region below I<sub>B</sub>=0µA</li> <li>is to be avoided if an undistorted o/p signal is required</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>can be employed for voltage, current</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The value of V<sub>CE</sub> is so small.</li> </ul>	• B-E junction and C-B junction is reverse bias
and power amplification	<ul> <li>Suitable region</li> <li>when the transistor as</li> <li>a logic switch.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>I<sub>B</sub>=0, I<sub>C</sub> not zero, during this condition I<sub>C</sub>=I<sub>CEO</sub> where is this</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>NOT and avoid this region when the transistor as an amplifier.</li> </ul>	current flow when B-E is reverse bias.

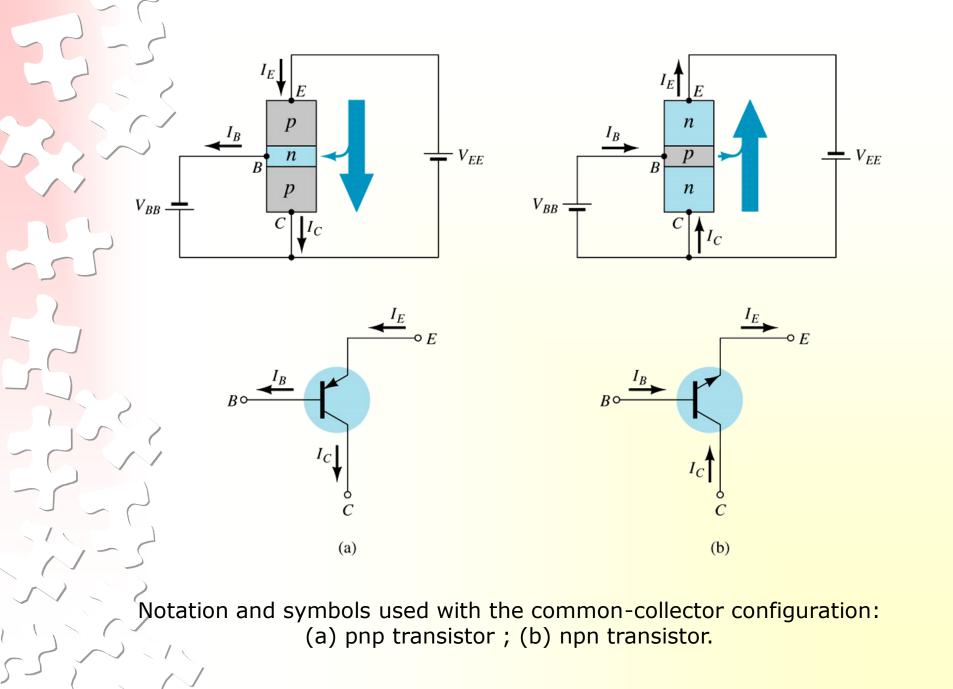






# Common - Collector Configuration

- Also called emitter-follower (EF).
- It is called common-emitter configuration since both the signal source and the load share the collector terminal as a common connection point.
- The output voltage is obtained at emitter terminal.
- The input characteristic of common-collector configuration is similar with common-emitter. configuration.
  - Common-collector circuit configuration is provided with the load resistor connected from emitter to ground.
- It is used primarily for impedance-matching purpose since it has high input impedance and low output impedance.



For the common-collector configuration, the output characteristics are a plot of  $I_{\text{E}}$  vs  $V_{\text{CE}}$  for a range of values of  $I_{\text{B}}$ .

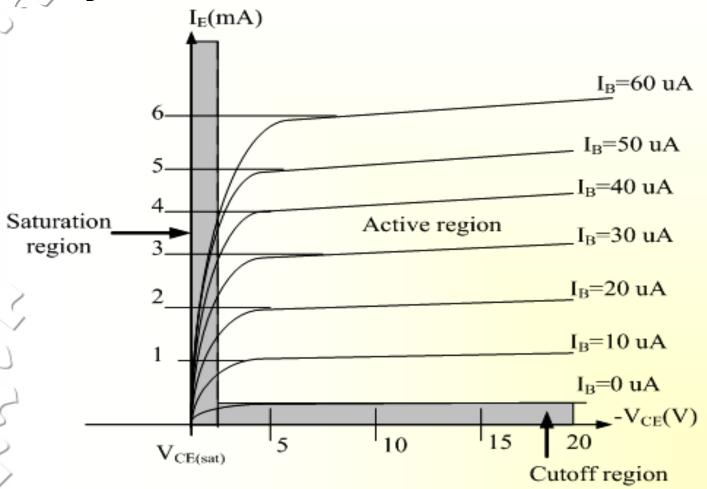
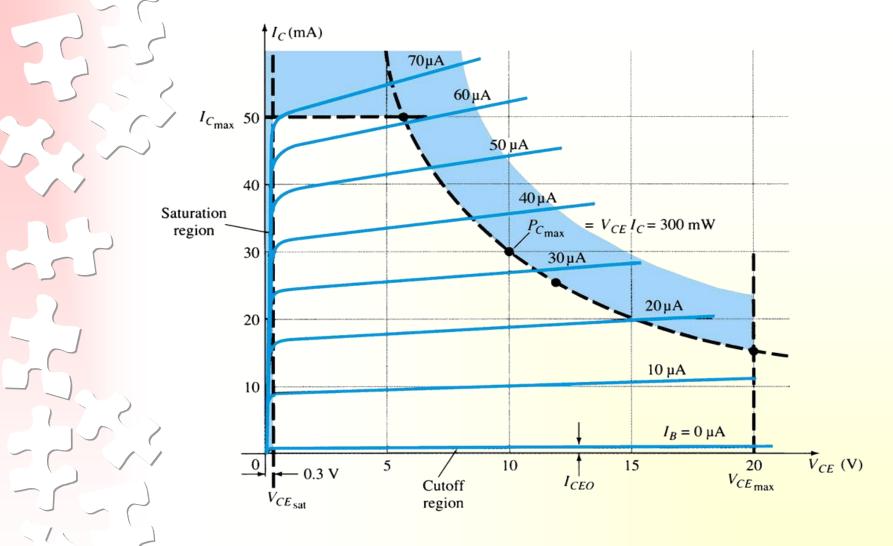


Fig 4.9: Output characteristic in CC configuration for npn transistor

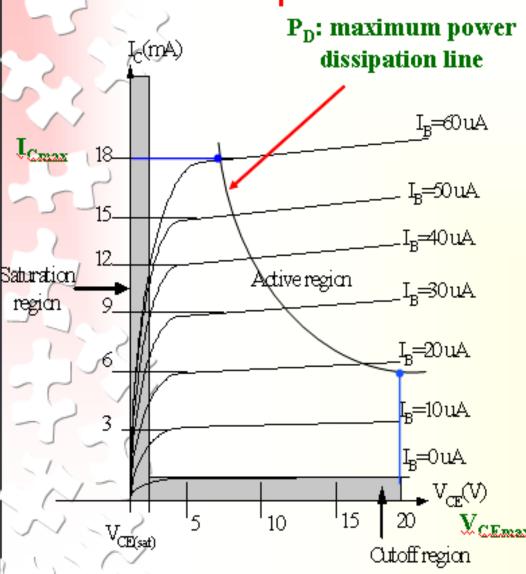
# Limits of Operation

- Many BJT transistor used as an amplifier. Thus it is important to notice the limits of operations.
- At least 3 maximum values is mentioned in data sheet.
- There are:
  - a) Maximum power dissipation at collector:  $P_{Cmax}$  or  $P_{D}$
  - b) Maximum collector-emitter voltage:  $V_{CEmax}$  sometimes named as  $V_{BR(CEO)}$  or  $V_{CEO}$ .
  - c) Maximum collector current: ICmax
  - There are few rules that need to be followed for BJT transistor used as an amplifier. The rules are:
    - i) transistor need to be operate in active region!
    - ii)  $I_C < I_{Cmax}$
    - ii)  $P_C < P_{Cmax}$



Note:  $V_{CE}$  is at maximum and  $I_{C}$  is at minimum ( $I_{Cmax} = I_{CEO}$ ) in the cutoff region.  $I_{C}$  is at maximum and  $V_{CE}$  is at minimum ( $V_{CE}$  max =  $V_{CESat}$  =  $V_{CEO}$ ) in the saturation region. The transistor operates in the active region between saturation and cutoff.

# Example 1:



Refer to the fig.

#### Step1:

The maximum collector power dissipation,

$$P_{D} = I_{Cmax} \times V_{CEmax}$$
 (1)  
= 18m x 20 = 360 mW

#### Step 2:

At any point on the characteristics the product of and must be equal to 360 mW. Ex. 1. If choose  $I_{Cmax} = 5$  mA, subtitute into the (1), we get  $V_{CEmax}I_{Cmax} = 360$  mW  $V_{CEmax}(5 \text{ m}) = 360/5 = 7.2 \text{ V}$ 

Ex.2. If choose  $V_{CEmax}=18 \text{ V}$ , subtitute into (1), we get  $V_{CEmax}I_{Cmax}=360 \text{ mW}$  (10)  $I_{Cmax}=360 \text{ m/}18=20 \text{ mA}$