

Chapter 11-1 Detailed Quantitative Analysis

The goal is to relate transistor performance parameters (γ , α_T , β_{dc} etc.) to doping, lifetimes, base-widths etc.

Assumptions:

npn transistor, steady state, low-level injection.

Only drift and diffusion, no external generations

One dimensional etc.

General approach is to solve minority carrier diffusion equations for each of the three regions:

$$\frac{\partial \Delta p}{\partial t} = D_p \frac{\partial^2 \Delta p}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\Delta p}{\tau_p} + G_L \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \Delta n}{\partial t} = D_n \frac{\partial^2 \Delta n}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\Delta n}{\tau_n} + G_L$$

General Quantitative Analysis

Under steady state and when $G_L = 0$,

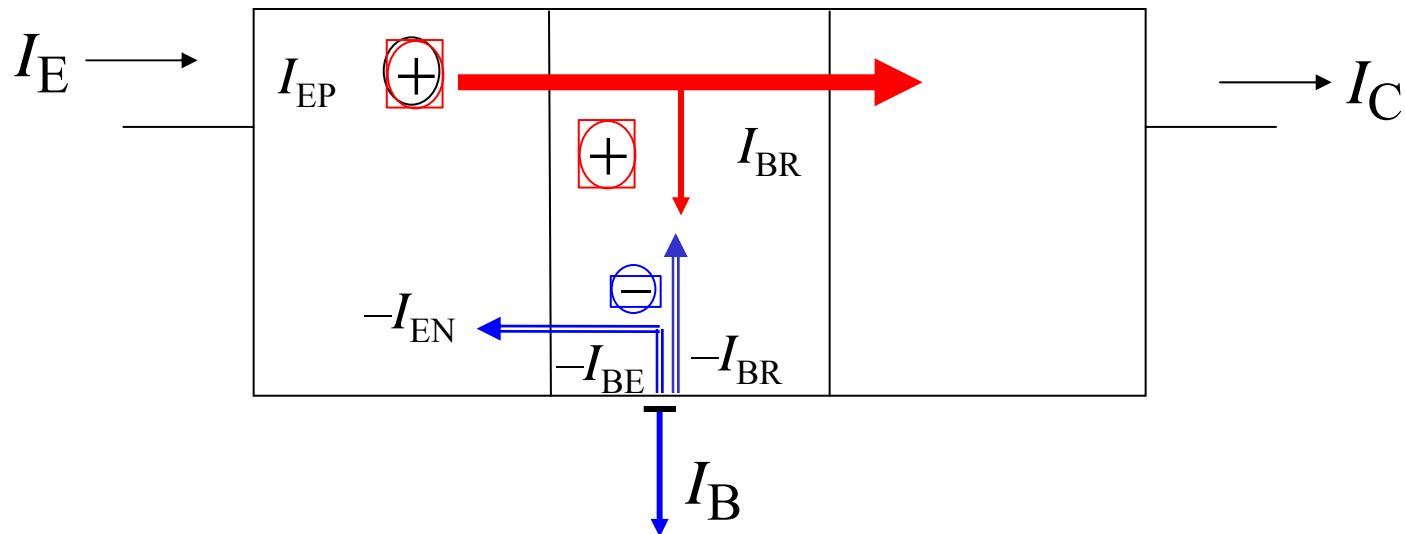
$$D_p \frac{\partial^2 \Delta p}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\Delta p}{\tau_p} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad D_n \frac{\partial^2 \Delta n}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\Delta n}{\tau_n} = 0$$

For the **base** in pnp, we are interested only in holes.

$$D_p \frac{\partial^2 \Delta p}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\Delta p}{\tau_p} = 0$$

The rigorous analysis is carried out in chapter 11, but we are going to take a more simplified approach.

Review: Operational Parameters



Injection Efficiency : $\gamma = I_{EP} / (I_{EP} + I_{EN})$

Base transport factor : $\alpha_T = I_C / I_{EP}$

Collector to emitter current gain: $\alpha_{DC} = \alpha_T \gamma$

Collector to base current gain: $\beta_{DC} = \alpha_{DC} / (1 - \alpha_{DC})$

These parameters can be related to device parameters such as doping, lifetimes, diffusion lengths, etc.

Review of P-N Junction Under Forward Bias (cont.)

$$I_n = q A D_E \frac{d\Delta n}{dx_E} = - (q A D_E / L_E) \Delta n_E(0)$$

$$I_p = - q A D_B \frac{d\Delta p}{dx_B} = (q A D_B / L_B) \Delta p_B(0)$$

Total current

$$I = I_p + (-I_n) \quad (\text{“-” because } x_E \text{ and } x_B \text{ point in opposite directions})$$

$$= (q A D_B / L_B) \Delta p_B(0) + (q A D_E / L_E) \Delta n_E(0)$$

$$= (q A D_B / L_B) p_{B0} [\exp(q V_{EB} / kT) - 1] + \\ + (q A D_E / L_E) n_{E0} [\exp(q V_{EB} / kT) - 1]$$

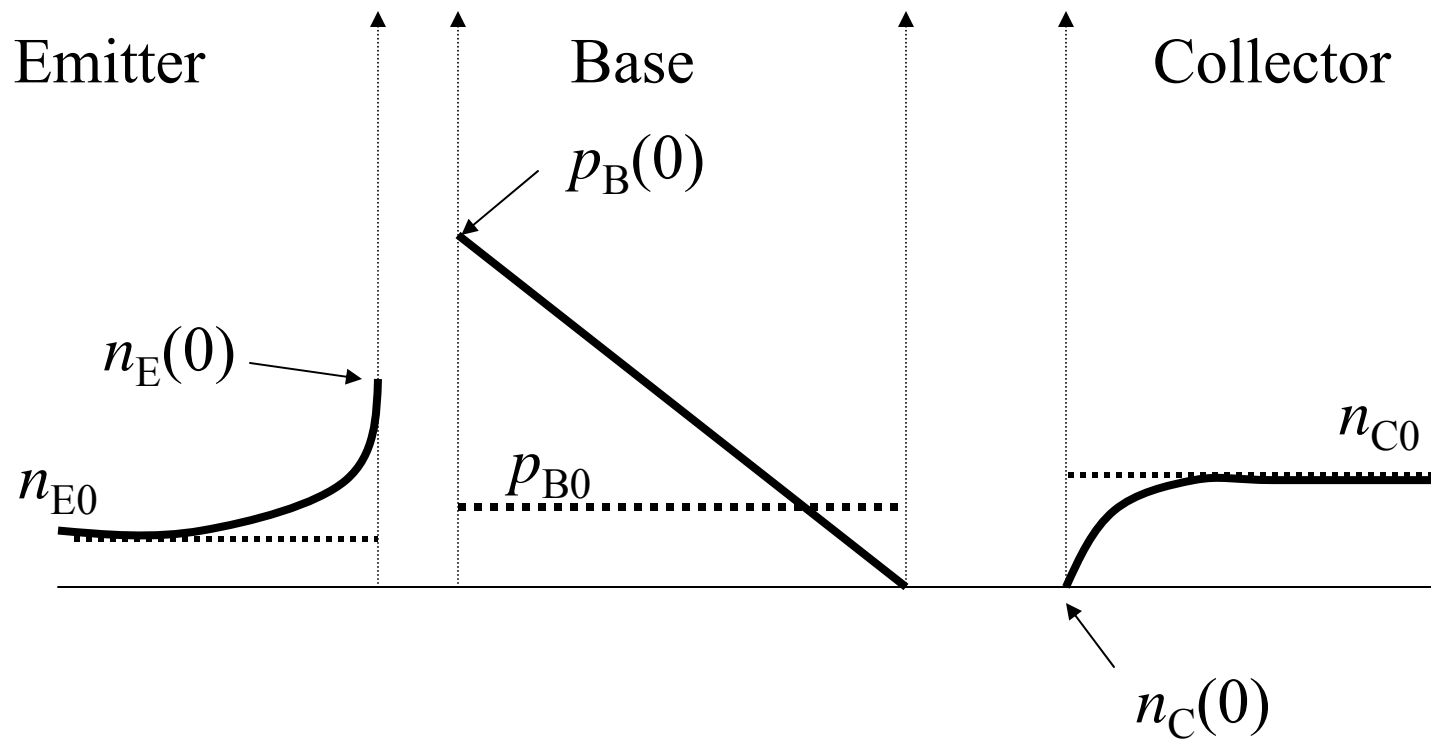
$$\approx (q A D_B / L_B) p_{B0} \exp(q V_{EB} / kT) + (q A D_E / L_E) n_{E0} \exp(q V_{EB} / kT)$$

Note ! I_p and I_n can also be calculated based on the fact that Q_p has to be replaced every τ_B seconds

$$\rightarrow I_p = Q_p / \tau_B \text{ and } I_n = Q_n / \tau_E \text{ and } I_E = I_p + I_n$$

Simplified Analysis

Consider the carrier distribution in a forward active pnp transistor



Simplified Analysis (cont.)

n_{E0} , p_{B0} and n_{C0} = equilibrium concentration of minority carriers in emitter, base and collector

$n_E(0)$, $p_B(0)$ and $n_C(0)$ = minority carrier concentration under forward active conditions at the edge of the respective depletion layers

$\Delta n_E(0)$, $\Delta p_B(0)$ and $\Delta n_C(0)$ = Excess carrier concentration at the edge of the depletion layers

Simplified Analysis (cont.)

$$\Delta n_E(0) = n_E(0) - n_{E0} = n_{E0} [\exp(q V_{EB} / kT) - 1]$$

$$\Delta p_B(0) = p_B(0) - p_{B0} = p_{B0} [\exp(q V_{EB} / kT) - 1]$$

By taking the slopes of these minority carrier distribution at the depletion layer edges and multiplying it by “ qAD ”, we can get hole and electron currents.

Note that $I_n = q A D_n (dn/dx)$ and $I_p = -q A D_p (dp / dx)$

Calculation of Currents

Collector current, I_C

$$\begin{aligned} I_C &= q A D_B (dp/dx_B) \text{ (slope must be taken at end of base)} \\ &= q A D_B [p_B(0) - 0] / W_B \\ &= q A D_B p_B(0) / W_B \end{aligned}$$

$$I_C = q A (D_B/W_B) p_{B0} \exp (qV_{EB} / kT) \text{ ---- (A)}$$

(only hole current if we neglect the small reverse saturation current of reverse biased C-B junction)

Calculation of Currents (cont.)

Emitter Current, I_E

I_E is made up of two components, namely I_{EP} and I_{EN}

$$\begin{aligned} I_{EP} &= I_c + \text{current lost in base due to recombination} \\ &= I_c + \text{excess charge stored in base} / \tau_B \\ &= I_c + q A W_B \Delta p_B(0) / (2 \tau_B) \\ &\approx q A (D_B / W_B) p_{B0} [\exp(qV_{EB} / kT)] \\ &\quad + q A [W_B / (2 \tau_B)] p_{B0} [\exp(qV_{EB} / kT)] \quad \text{--- (B)} \end{aligned}$$

[Assuming $\exp(qV_{EB} / kT) - 1 \approx \exp(qV_{EB} / kT)$
when V_{EB} is positive, i.e forward biased.]

Calculation of Currents (cont.)

Emitter Current (cont.)

I_{EN} corresponds to electron current injection from base to emitter since E-B junction is forward biased.

$$\begin{aligned} I_{\text{EN}} &= qA (D_{\text{E}} / L_{\text{E}}) n_{\text{E0}} [\exp (q V_{\text{EB}} / kT) - 1] \\ &\approx qA (D_{\text{E}} / L_{\text{E}}) n_{\text{E0}} [\exp (q V_{\text{EB}} / kT)] \text{ ----- (C)} \end{aligned}$$

Calculation of Currents (cont.)

Base Current, I_B

- supplies electrons for recombination in base
- supplies electrons for injection to emitter.

$$I_B = qA p_{B0} [W_B / (2\tau_B)] [\exp(qV_{EB} / kT)] \\ + \\ qA(D_E / L_E) n_{E0} \exp(qV_{EB} / kT)$$

(recombination) + (electron injection to emitter)

Now we can find transistor parameter easily.

Calculation of Currents (cont.)

Base transport factor, α_T

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_T &= I_C / I_{EP} \\ &= \frac{\frac{qAD_B}{W_B} p_{B0} \exp\left(\frac{qV_{EB}}{kT}\right)}{\frac{qAD_B}{W_B} p_{B0} \exp\left(\frac{qV_{EB}}{kT}\right) + \frac{qAW_B}{2\tau_B} p_{B0} \exp\frac{qV_{EB}}{kT}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{W_B^2}{2L_B^2}} \end{aligned}$$

(same as eq. 11.42 in text)

Emitter injection efficiency, γ

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= I_{EP} / [I_{EP} + I_{EN}] \\ &= 1 / [1 + I_{EN} / I_{EP}] \\ &= 1 / [1 + \mathbf{(C)} / \mathbf{(B)}] \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{(D_E n_{E0} / L_E)}{(D_B p_{B0} / W_B)}} \end{aligned}$$

Calculation of Currents (cont.)

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{D_E W_B n_{E0}}{D_B L_E p_{B0}}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{D_E W_B N_B}{D_B L_E N_E}} \quad (\text{Eq 11.41 in textbook})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow n_{E0} &= n_i^2 / N_E && \dots \text{ doping in emitter} \\ \rightarrow p_{B0} &= n_i^2 / N_B && \dots \text{ doping in base} \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{dc}} = \gamma \alpha_{\text{T}}$$

$$\beta_{\text{DC}} = \alpha_{\text{DC}} / (1 - \alpha_{\text{DC}})$$