Tuned Amplifiers

3.1 Introduction

To amplify the selective range of frequencies, the resistive load, R_C is replaced by a tuned circuit. The tuned circuit is capable of amplifying a signal over a narrow band of frequencies centered at f_r. The amplifiers with such a tuned circuit as a load are known as **tuned amplifier.**

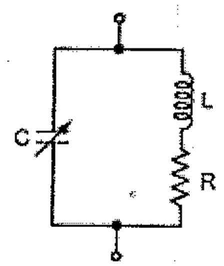


Fig. 3.1 Tuned circuit

The Fig. 3.1 shows the tuned parallel LC circuit which resonates at a particular frequency. The resonance frequency and impedance of tuned circuit is given as,

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} \quad \ldots (1)$$

and

$$Z_r = \frac{L}{CR} \quad \ldots (2)$$

The response of tuned amplifiers is maximum at resonant frequency and it falls sharply for frequencies below and above the resonant frequency, as shown in the Fig. 3.2.

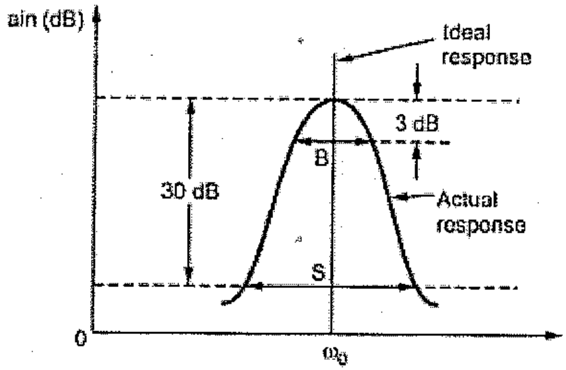


Fig. 3.2 Frequency response of a tuned amplifier

As shown in the Fig. 3.2, 3 dB bandwidth is denoted as B and 30 dB bandwidth is denoted as S. The ratio of the 30 dB bandwidth (S) to the 3 dB bandwidth (B) is known as **skirt selectivity.**

At resonance, inductive and capacitive effects of tuned circuit cancel each other. As a result, circuit is like resistive and $\cos \phi = 1$ i.e. voltage and current are in phase. For frequencies above resonance circuit is like capacitive and for frequencies below resonance it is like inductive. Since tuned circuit is purely resistive at resonance it can be used as a load for amplifier.

3.1.1 Coil Losses

As shown in Fig. 3.1, the tuned circuit consists of a coil. Practically, coil is not purely inductive. It consists of few losses and they are represented in the form of leakage resistance in series with the inductor. The total loss of the coil is comprised of copper loss, eddy current loss and hysteresis loss. The copper loss at low frequencies is equivalent to the d.c. resistance of the coil. Copper loss is inversely proportional to frequency. Therefore, as frequency increases, the copper loss decreases. Eddy current loss in iron and copper coil are due to currents flowing within the copper or core cased by induction. The result of eddy currents is a loss due to heating within the inductors copper or core. Eddy current losses are directly proportional to frequency. Hysteresis loss is proportional to the area enclosed by the hysteresis loop and to the rate at which this loop is transversed. It is a function of signal level and increases with frequency. Hysteresis loss is however independent of frequency.

Fig. 3.3 Inductor with leakage resistance

As mentioned earlier, the total losses in the coil or inductor is represented by inductance in series with leakage resistance of the coil. It is as shown in Fig. 3.3.

3.1.2 Q Factor

Quality factor (Q) is important characteristics of an inductor. The Q is the ratio of reactance to resistance and therefore it is unitless. It is the measure of how 'pure' or 'real' an inductor is (i.e. the inductor contains only reactance). The higher the Q of an inductor the fewer losses there are in the inductor. The Q factor also can be defined as the measure of efficiency with which inductor can store the energy. **The dissipation factor (D)** that can be referred to as the total loss within a component is defined as 1/Q. The Fig. 3.4 shows the quality factor equations for series and parallel circuits and its relation with dissipation factor.

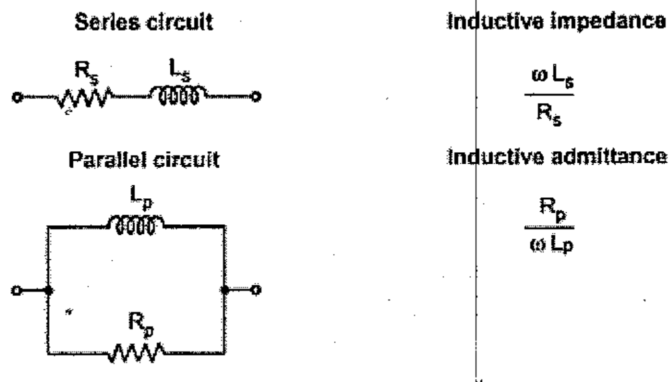


Fig. 3.4 Quality factor equations

$$\text{Quality factor equation } Q = \frac{1}{D} = \frac{\omega L_s}{R_s} = \frac{R_P}{\omega L_p}$$

3.1.3 Unloaded and Loaded Q

Unloaded Q is the ratio of stored energy to dissipated energy in a reactor or resonator. The unloaded Q or Q_U, of an inductor or capacitor is X/R_s, where X represents the reactance and R_s represents the series resistance. The loaded Q or Q_L, of a resonator is determined by how tightly the resonator is coupled to its terminations.

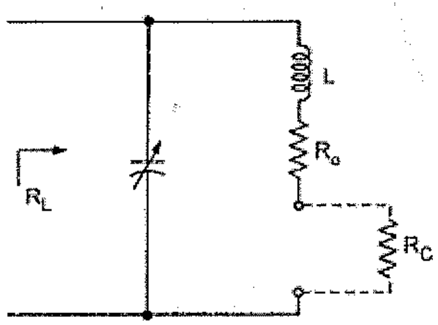


Fig. 3.5 Tuned load circuit

Let us consider the tuned load circuit as shown in the Fig. 3.5. Here, L and C represents tank circuit. The internal circuit losses of inductor are represented by R_o and R_C represents the coupled in load. For this circuit, we can write

$$R_o = \frac{\omega_o L}{Q_U} \text{ and } R_C = \frac{\omega_o L}{Q_L}$$

where Q_U is unloaded Q and Q_L is loaded Q.

The circuit efficiency for the above tank circuit is given as,

$$\eta = \frac{I^2 R_C}{I^2 (R_C + R_o)} = \frac{Q_U}{Q_U + Q_L} \times 100 \%$$

From above equation it can be easily realized that for high overall power efficiency, the coupled-in load R_C should be large in comparison to the internal circuit losses represented by R_o of the inductor.

The quality factor Q_L determines the 3 dB bandwidth for the resonant circuit. The 3 dB bandwidth for resonant circuit is given as,

$$BW = \frac{f_r}{Q_L}$$

where f_r represents the centre frequency of a resonator and BW represents the bandwidth.

If Q is large, bandwidth is small and circuit will be highly selective. For small Q values bandwidth is high and selectivity of the circuit is lost, as shown in the Fig. 3.6.

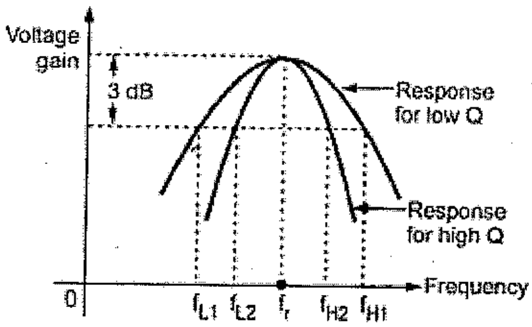


Fig. 3.6 Variation of 3dB bandwidth with variation in quality factor

Thus in tuned amplifier Q is kept as high as possible to get the better selectivity. Such tuned amplifiers are used in communication or broadcast receivers where it is necessary to amplify only selected band of frequencies.

3.1.4 Requirements of Tuned Amplifier

The basic requirements of tuned amplifiers are :

- The amplifier should provide selectivity of resonant frequency over a very narrow band.
- The signal should be amplified equally well at all frequencies in the selected narrow band.
- The tuned circuit should be so mounted that it can be easily tuned. If there are more than one circuit to be tuned, there should be an arrangement to tune all circuit simultaneously.
- The amplifier must provide the simplicity in tuning of the amplifier components to the desired frequency over a considerable range or band of frequencies.

3.1.5 Classification of Tuned Amplifier

We know that, multistage amplifiers are used to obtain large overall gain. The cascaded stages of multistage tuned amplifiers can be categorized as given below :

- Single tuned amplifiers
- Double tuned amplifiers
- Stagger tuned amplifiers.

These amplifiers are further classified according to coupling used to cascade the stages of multistage amplifier.

- Capacitive coupled
- Inductive coupled
- Transformer coupled.

3.2 Small Signal Tuned Amplifier

A common emitter amplifier can be converted into a single tuned amplifier by including a parallel tuned circuit as shown in Fig. 3.7. The biasing components are not shown for simplicity.

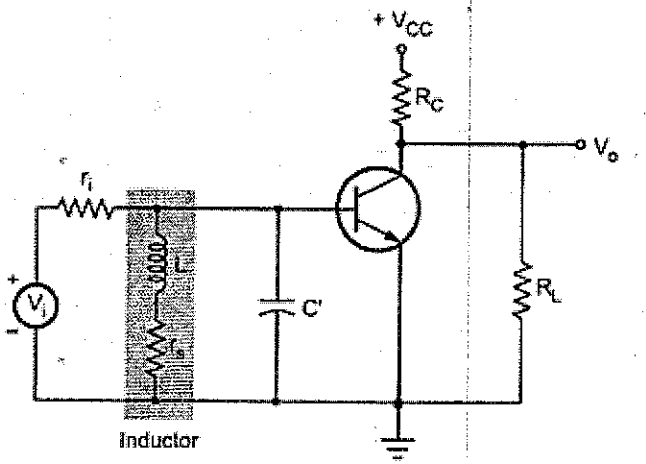


Fig. 3.7 Single tuned transistor amplifier

Before going to study the analysis of this amplifier we see the several practical assumptions to simplify the analysis.

Assumptions :

1. $R_L << R_C$
2. $r_{bb'} = 0$

With these assumptions, the simplified equivalent circuit for a single tuned amplifier is as shown in Fig. 3.8.

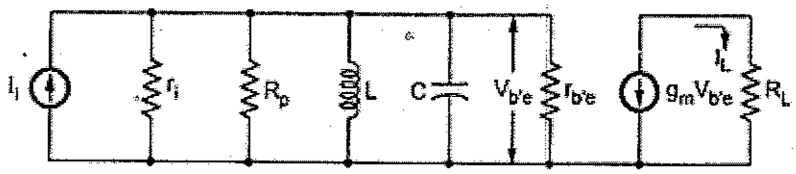


Fig. 3.8 Equivalent circuit of single tuned amplifier

where $C_{eq} = C' + C_{b'e} + (1 + g_m R_L) C_{b'c}$

C' : External capacitance used to tune the circuit

$(1 + g_m R_L) C_{b'c}$: The Miller capacitance

r_s : Represents the losses in coil

The series RL circuit in Fig. 3.7 is replaced by the equivalent RL circuit in Fig. 3.8 assuming coil losses are low over the frequency band of interest, i.e., the coil Q high.

$$\therefore \quad \boxed{Q_e = \frac{\omega L}{r_e} >> 1} \quad \text{... (1)}$$

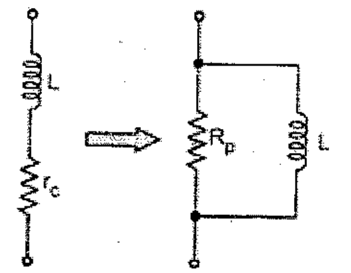


Fig. 3.9 Equivalent circuits

The conditions for equivalence are most easily established by equating the admittances of the two circuits shown in Fig. 3.9.

$$Y_1 = \frac{1}{r_c + j\omega L} = \frac{r_c - j\omega L}{r_c^2 + \omega^2 L^2}$$

$$= \frac{r_c}{r_c^2 + \omega^2 L^2} - \frac{j\omega L}{r_c^2 + \omega^2 L^2}$$

$\because \omega L >> r_c$ from equation (1)

$$Y_1 = \frac{r_c}{\omega^2 L^2} + \frac{1}{j\omega L}$$

$$Y_2 = \frac{1}{R_p} + \frac{1}{j\omega L}$$

$\therefore$ Therefore, equating Y_1 and Y_2 we get,

$$\frac{r_c}{\omega^2 L^2} + \frac{1}{j\omega L} = \frac{1}{R_p} + \frac{1}{j\omega L}$$

$$\therefore \quad \frac{1}{R_p} = \frac{r_c}{\omega^2 L^2}$$

$$= \frac{r_c^2}{r_c\,\omega^2 L^2} = \frac{1}{r_c\,Q_c^2}$$

$$\therefore \quad \boxed{R_p = r_c\,Q_c^2 = \omega L Q_c} \quad \because \omega L = Q_c\,r_c \text{ from equation (1)} \quad \ldots (2)$$

Looking at Fig. 3.8 we have,

$$\therefore \quad \boxed{R = r_i \parallel R_p \parallel r_{b'e}} \quad \ldots (3)$$

The current gain of the amplifier is then

$$A_i = \frac{-g_m R}{1 + j(\omega RC - R/\omega L)} = \frac{-g_m R}{1 + j\,\omega_o RC(\omega/\omega_o - \omega_o/\omega)} \quad \ldots (4)$$

where $\omega_o^2 = \frac{1}{LC}$

We define the Q of the tuned circuit at the resonant frequency ω_o to be

$$Q_i = \frac{R}{\omega_o L} = \omega_o\,RC \quad \ldots (5)$$

$$\therefore \quad \boxed{A_i = \frac{-g_m R}{1 + jQ_i(\omega/\omega_o - \omega_o/\omega)}}$$

At $\omega = \omega_o$, gain is maximum and it is given as,

$$\therefore \quad \boxed{A_{i\,(max)} = -g_m R} \quad \ldots (6)$$

The Fig. 3.10 shows the gain versus frequency plot for single tuned amplifier. It shows the variation of the magnitude of the gain as a function of frequency.

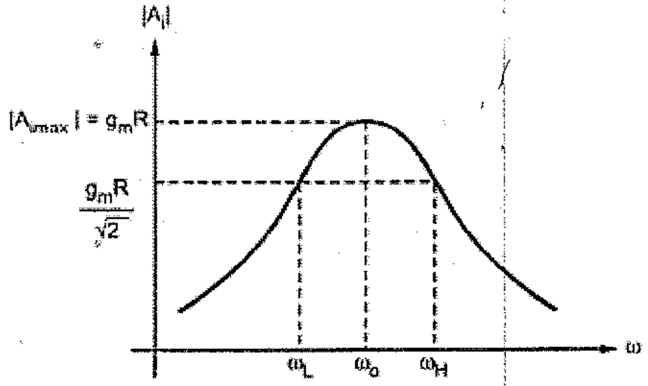


Fig. 3.10 Gain versus frequency for single tuned amplifier

At 3 dB frequency,

$$|A_i| = \frac{g_m R}{\sqrt{2}} \qquad \text{... (7)}$$

∴ At 3 dB frequency

$$1 + jQ_i\,[(\omega/\omega_o)-(\omega_o/\omega)] = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\therefore \qquad 1 + Q_i^2\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_o}-\frac{\omega_o}{\omega}\right)^2 = 2 \qquad \text{... (8)}$$

This equation is quadratic in ω^2 and has two positive solutions, ω_H and ω_L. After solving equation (8) we get 3 dB bandwidth as given below.

$$BW = f_H - f_L = \frac{\omega_o}{2\pi Q_i} = \frac{1}{2\pi RC} \qquad \text{... (9)}$$

$$\therefore \qquad \boxed{BW = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}}$$

Example 3.1 : *Design a single tuned amplifier for following specifications :*

1. Centre frequency = 500 kHz

2. Bandwidth = 10 kHz

Assume transistor parameters : g_m = 0.04 S, h_{fe} = 100, $C_{b'e}$ = 1000 pF and $C_{b'c}$ = 100 pF. The bias network and the input resistance are adjusted so that r_i = 4 kΩ and R_L = 510 Ω.

Solution : From equation (9) we have,

$$BW = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

$$\therefore \qquad RC = \frac{1}{2\pi BW} = \frac{1}{2\pi\times 10\times 10^3}$$

$$= 15.912 \times 10^{-6}$$

From equation (3) we have,

$$R = r_i \parallel R_p \parallel r_{b'e}$$

where $r_i = 4\ k\Omega$

$$r_{b'e} = \frac{h_{fe}}{g_m} = \frac{100}{0.04} = 2500\ \Omega$$

$$R_p = Q_e\,\omega_o L = \frac{Q_e}{\omega_o C}$$

$\therefore \quad R = 4 \times 10^3 \parallel 2500 \parallel \frac{Q_c}{\omega_o C}$

$$C = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 10 \times 10^3 \times R}$$

$$\therefore \quad C = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 10 \times 10^3 \times \left[4 \times 10^3 \parallel 2500 \parallel \frac{Q_c}{2\pi \times 500 \times 10^3 \times C}\right]}$$

The typical range for Q_c is 10 to 150. However, we have to assume Q such that value of C_p should be positive. Let us assume Q = 100.

$$\therefore \quad C = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 10 \times 10^3 \left[1538.5 \parallel \frac{1}{2\pi \times 5000 \times C}\right]}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi \times 10 \times 10^3 \left[\frac{1}{\frac{1}{1538.5} + 2\pi \times 5000 \times C}\right]}$$

Solving for C we get,

$$C = 0.02 \ \mu F$$

We have,

$$C = C' + C_{b'e} + (1 + g_m R_L) C_{b'c}$$

$$\therefore \quad C' = C - [C_{b'e} + (1 + g_m R_L) C_{b'c}]$$

$$= 0.02 \times 10^{-6} - [1000 \times 10^{-12} + (1 + 0.04 \times 510) \times 100 \times 10^{-12}]$$

$$\therefore \quad C' = 0.01686 \ \mu F$$

We have,

$$\omega_o^2 = \frac{1}{LC}$$

$$\therefore \quad L = \frac{1}{\omega_o^2 C} = \frac{1}{(2\pi \times 500 \times 10^3)^2 \times 0.02 \times 10^{-6}}$$

$$= 5 \ \mu H$$

From equation (2) we have,

$$R_p = \omega L Q_c = 2\pi \times 500 \times 10^3 \times 5 \times 10^{-6} \times 100$$

$$= 1570 \ \Omega$$

$$\therefore \quad R = r_i \parallel R_p \parallel r_{b'e}$$

$$= 4 \times 10^3 \parallel 1570 \parallel 2500$$

$$= 777 \ \Omega$$

We have mid frequency gain as,

$$A_{i\,max} = -g_m R = (-0.04)(777) = -31$$

3.3 Single Tuned FET Amplifier

The Fig. 3.11 shows the single tuned FET amplifier.

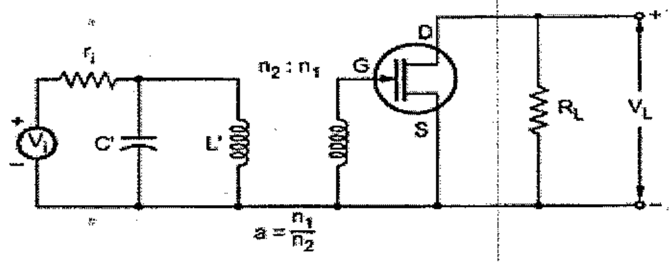


Fig. 3.11 Single tuned FET amplifier

The equivalent circuit for the given amplifier is as shown in the Fig. 3.12.

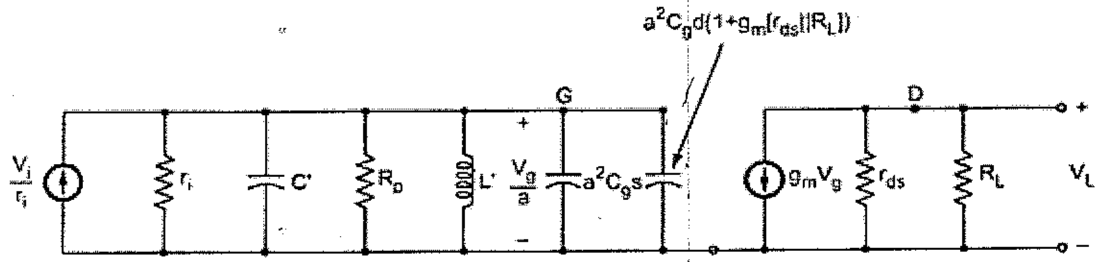


Fig. 3.12 Equivalent circuit of single tuned FET amplifier

The voltage gain is given by,

$$A_v = -a\, g_m (r_{ds} \| R_L) [(r_i \| R_p)/ r_i] \quad \text{... (1)}$$

where

$$C_i = a^2 [C_{gs} + C_{gd} [1 + g_m (r_{ds} \| R_L)]] \quad \text{... (2)}$$

$$Q_i = \omega_o (r_i \| R_p) (C' + C_i) \quad \text{... (3)}$$

$$\omega_o^2 = \frac{1}{L(C'+C_i)} \quad \text{... (4)}$$

At centre frequency, i.e., at $\omega = \omega_o$ gain is

$$A_{v\,max} = -a\, g_m (r_{ds} \| R_L) \frac{R_p}{r_i + R_p} \quad \text{... (5)}$$

The 3 dB bandwidth is given by,

$$BW = \frac{1}{2\pi(r_i \| R_p)(C' + C_i)} \quad \text{... (6)}$$

3.4 Single Tuned Capacitive Coupled Amplifier

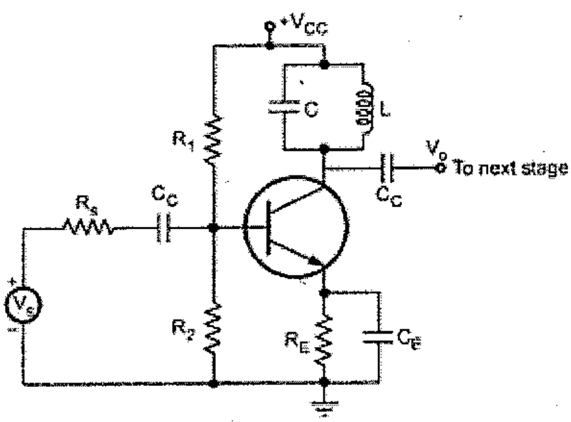


Fig. 3.13 Single tuned capacitive coupled transistor amplifier

Single tuned multistage amplifier circuit uses one parallel tuned circuit as a load in each stage with tuned circuits in all stages tuned to the same frequency. Fig. 3.13 shows a typical single tuned amplifier in CE configuration.

As shown in Fig. 3.13 tuned circuit formed by L and C acts as collector load and resonates at frequency of operation. Resistors R_1, R_2 and R_E along with capacitor C_E provides self bias for the circuit.

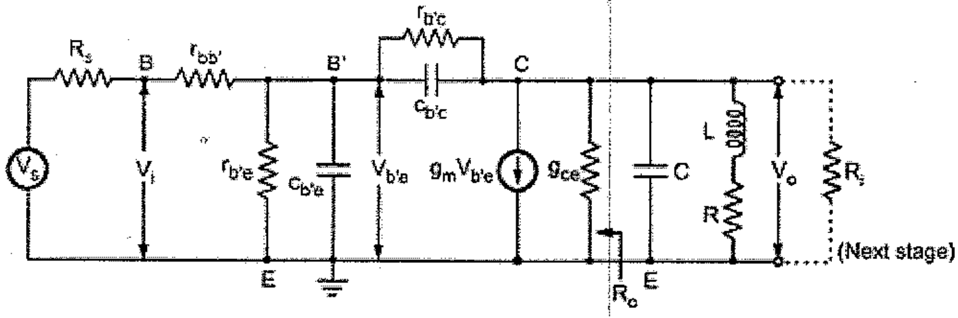


Fig. 3.14 Equivalent circuit of single tuned amplifier

The Fig. 3.14 shows the equivalent circuit for single tuned amplifier using hybrid π parameters.

As shown in the Fig. 3.14, R_i is the input resistance of the next stage and R_o is the output resistance of the current generator $g_m V_{b'e}$. The reactances of the bypass capacitor C_E and the coupling capacitors C_C are negligibly small at the operating frequency and hence these elements are neglected in the equivalent circuit shown in the Fig. 3.14.

The equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 3.14 can be simplified by applying Miller's theorem. Fig. 3.15 shows the simplified equivalent circuit for single tuned amplifier.

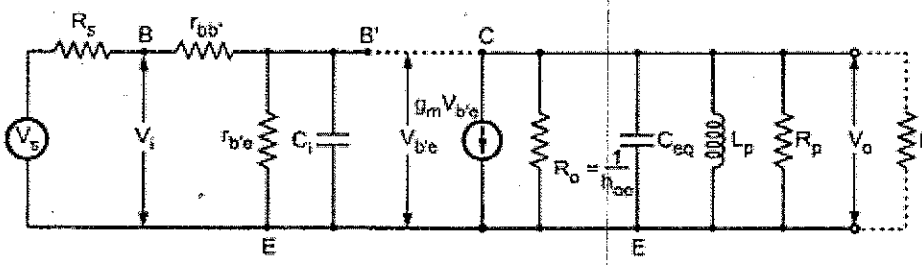


Fig. 3.15 Simplified equivalent circuit for single tuned amplifier

Here C_i and C_{eq} represent input and output circuit capacitances, respectively. They can be given as,

$$C_i = C_{b'e} + C_{b'c}(1-A) \quad \text{where A is the voltage gain of the amplifier.} \quad \ldots(1)$$

$$C_{eq} = C_{b'c}\left(\frac{A-1}{A}\right) + C \quad \text{where C is the tuned circuit capacitance.} \quad \ldots(2)$$

The g_{ce} is represented as the output resistance of current generator $g_m V_{b'e}$.

$$g_{ce} = \frac{1}{r_{ce}} = h_{oe}' - g_m h_{re} = h_{oe} = \frac{1}{R_o} \quad \ldots(3)$$

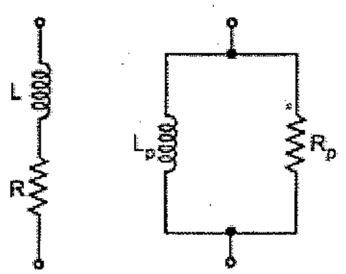


Fig. 3.16

The series RL circuit is represented by its equivalent parallel circuit. The conditions for equivalence are most easily established by equating the admittances of the two circuits shown in Fig. 3.16.

Admittance of the series combination of RL is given as,

$$Y = \frac{1}{R + j\omega L}$$

Multiplying numerator and denominator by $R - j\omega L$ we get,

$$Y = \frac{R - j\omega L}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2} = \frac{R}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2} - \frac{j\omega L}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}$$

$$= \frac{R}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2} - \frac{j\omega^2 L}{\omega(R^2 + \omega^2 L^2)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{R_p} + \frac{1}{j\omega L_p}$$

where $$R_p = \frac{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}{R} \quad \text{... (4)}$$

and $$L_p = \frac{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}{\omega^2 L} \quad \text{... (5)}$$

Centre frequency

The centre frequency or resonant frequency is given as,

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_p C_{eq}}} \quad \text{...(6)}$$

where $$L_p = \frac{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}{\omega^2 L}$$

and $$C_{eq} = C_{b'c}\left(\frac{A-1}{A}\right) + C \quad \text{...(7)}$$

$$= C_o + C$$

Therefore, C_{eq} is the summation of transistor output capacitance and the tuned circuit capacitance.

Quality factor Q

The quality factor Q of the coil at resonance is given by,

$$Q_r = \frac{\omega_r L}{R} \quad \text{...(8)}$$

where ω_r is the centre frequency or resonant frequency.

This quality factor is also called unloaded Q. But in practice, transistor output resistance and input resistance of next stage act as a load for the tuned circuit. The quality factor including load is called as loaded Q and it can be given as follows :

The Q of the coil is usually large so that $\omega L >> R$ in the frequency range of operation.

From equation (4) we have,

$$R_p = \frac{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}{R} = R + \frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R}$$

As $\frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R} >> 1$, $$R_p \approx \frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R} \quad \text{...(9)}$$

From equation (5) we have,

$$L_p = \frac{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}{\omega^2 L} = \frac{R^2}{\omega^2 L} + L$$

$$= L \qquad \because \omega L >> R \quad \text{... (10)}$$

From equation (9), we can express R_p at resonance as,

$$R_p = \frac{\omega_r^2 L^2}{R}$$

$$= \omega_r Q_r L \qquad \because Q_r = \frac{\omega_r L}{R} \quad \text{... (11)}$$

Therefore, Q_r can be expressed interms of R_p as,

$$Q_r = \frac{R_p}{\omega_r L} \quad ...(12)$$

The effective quality factor including load can be calculated looking at the simplified equivalent output circuit for single tuned amplifier.

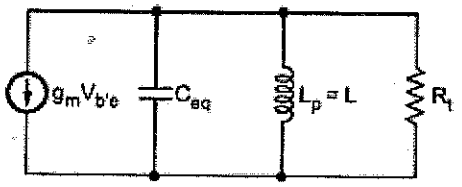


Fig. 3.17 Simplified output circuit for single tuned amplifier

$$\text{Effective quality factor } Q_{eff} = \frac{\text{Susceptance of inductance L or capacitance C}}{\text{Conductance of shunt resistance } R_t}$$

$$= \frac{R_t}{\omega_r L} \text{ or } \omega_r C_{eq} R_t \quad ... (13)$$

Voltage gain (A_v)

The voltage gain for single tuned amplifier is given by,

$$A_v = -g_m \frac{r_{b'e}}{r_{bb'} + r_{b'e}} \times \frac{R_t}{1 + 2jQ_{eff}\delta}$$

where $R_t = R_o \| R_p \| R_i$

δ = Fraction variation in the resonant frequency

$$A_v \text{ (at resonance)} = -g_m \frac{r_{b'e}}{r_{bb'} + r_{b'e}} \times R_t$$

$$\therefore \left| \frac{A_v}{A_v(\text{at resonance})} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (2\delta Q_{eff})^2}} \quad ... (14)$$

3 dB bandwidth

The 3 dB bandwidth of a single tuned amplifier is given by,

$$\Delta f = \frac{1}{2\pi R_t C_{eq}}$$

$$= \frac{\omega_r}{2\pi Q_{eff}} \quad \because Q_{eff} = \omega_r R_t C_{eq} \quad ... (15)$$

$$= \frac{f_r}{Q_{eff}} \quad \because \omega_r = 2\pi f_r \quad ... (16)$$

Example 3.2 : *A single tuned RF amplifier uses a transistor with an output resistance of 50 K, output capacitance of 15 pF and input resistance of next stage is 20 kΩ. The tuned circuit consists of 47 pF capacitance in parallel with series combination of 1 μH inductance and 2 Ω resistance. Calculate*

i) Resonant frequency

ii) Effective quality factor

iii) Bandwidth of the circuit

Solution : i) Resonant frequency f_r is given as,

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L C_{eq}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{1\,\mu H \times (15\,pF + 47\,pF)}}$$

$$= \mathbf{20.2\ MHz}$$

ii) Effective quality factor is given as,

$$Q_{eff} = \omega_r C_{eq} R_t$$

$$= 2\pi f_r C_{eq} \times (R_o \,||\, R_p \,||\, R_i)$$

where

$$R_p = \frac{\omega_r^2 L^2}{R} = \frac{(2\pi \times 20.2 \times 10^6)^2 (1 \times 10^{-6})^2}{2}$$

$$= 8054\ \Omega$$

$$\therefore \quad Q_{eff} = 2\pi \times 20.2 \times 10^6 \times (15\,pF + 47\,pF) \times (50\,K \,||\, 8.054\,K \,||\, 20\,K)$$

$$= \mathbf{40.52}$$

iii) Bandwidth of the circuit is given as,

$$BW = \frac{f_r}{Q_{eff}} = \frac{20.2 \times 10^6}{40.52}$$

$$= \mathbf{498.5\ kHz}$$

Example 3.3 : *A single tuned transistor amplifier is used to amplify modulated RF carrier of 600 kHz and bandwidth of 15 kHz. The circuit has a total output resistance, $R_t = 20$ kΩ and output capacitance C_o = 50 pF. Calculate values of inductance and capacitance of the tuned circuit.*

Solution : Given :

$$f_r = 600\ kHz$$

$$BW = 15\ kHz$$

$$R_t = 20\ k\Omega$$

$$C_o = 50\ pF$$

$$\therefore \quad C_{eq} = (50\ pF + C)$$

$$Q_{eff} = \frac{f_r}{BW} = \frac{600\ kHz}{15\ kHz}$$

$$= 40$$

i) We know that,

$$Q_{eff} = \omega_r C_{eq} R_t$$

$$\therefore \quad C_{eq} = \frac{Q_{eff}}{\omega_r R_t} = \frac{40}{2\pi \times 600 \times 10^3 \times 20 \times 10^3}$$

$$= 530.5\ pF$$

$$C_{eq} = (50\ pF + C)$$

$$\therefore \quad C = 530.5\ pF - 50\ pF$$

$$= \mathbf{480.5\ pF}$$

ii) We know that,

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L C_{eq}}}$$

$$\therefore \quad L = \frac{1}{(2\pi f_r)^2 C_{eq}} = \frac{1}{(2\pi \times 600 \times 10^3)^2 \times 530.5 \times 10^{-12}}$$

$$= 132.6 \ \mu H$$

3.5 Double Tuned Amplifier

Fig. 3.18 shows double tuned RF amplifier in CE configuration. Here, voltage developed across tuned circuit is coupled inductively to another tuned circuit. Both tuned circuits are tuned to the same frequency.

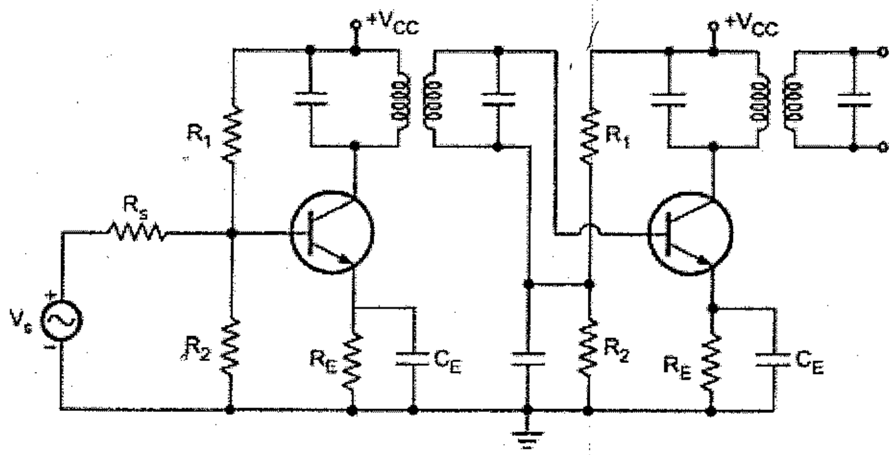


Fig. 3.18 Double tuned amplifier

The double tuned circuit can provide a bandwidth of several percent of the resonant frequency and gives steep sides to the response curve. Let us analyze the double tuned circuit.

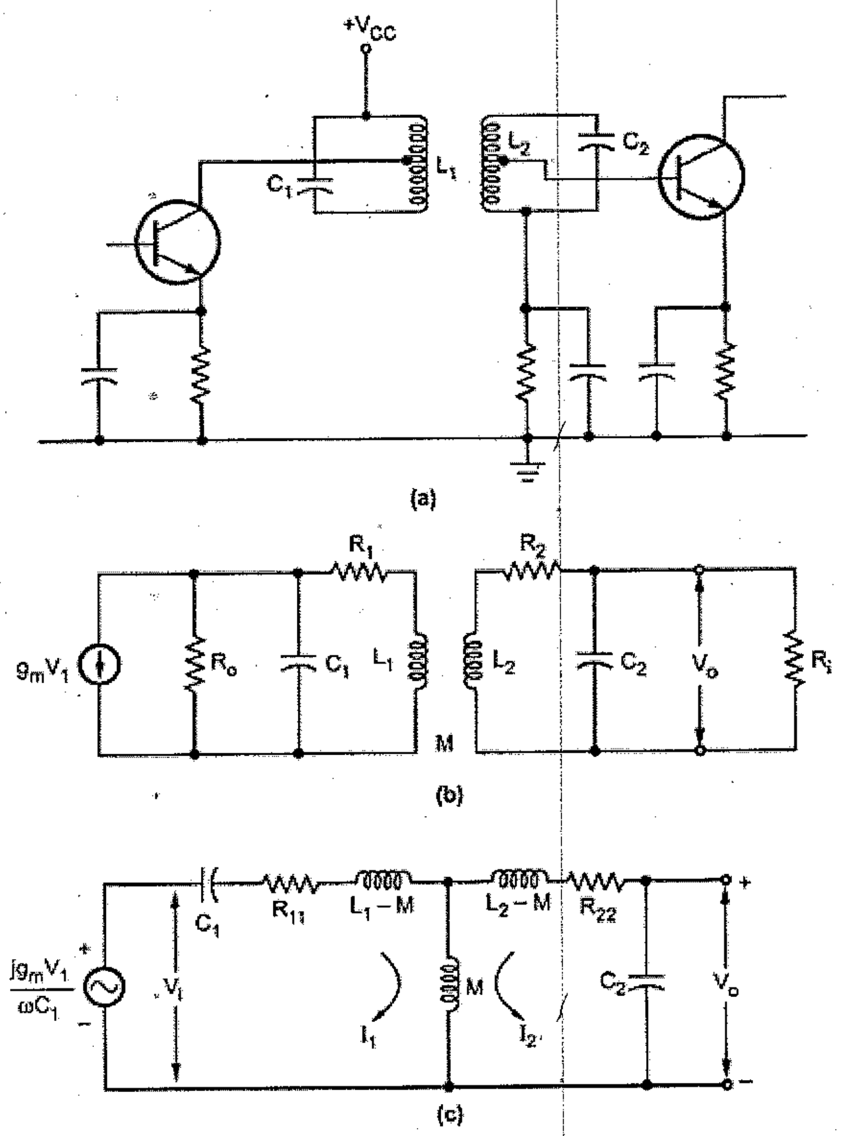
Analysis

The Fig. 3.19 (a) shows the coupling section of a transformer coupled double tuned amplifier. The Fig. 3.19 (b) shows the equivalent circuit for it. In which transistor is replaced by the current source with its output resistance (R_o). The C_1 and L_1 are the tank circuit components of the primary side. The resistance R_1 is the series resistance of the inductance L_1. Similarly on the secondary side L_2 and C_2 represents tank circuit components of the secondary side and R_2 represents resistance of the inductance L_2. The resistance R_i represents the input resistance of the next stage.

The Fig. 3.19 (c) shows the simplified equivalent circuit for the Fig. 3.19 (b). In simplified equivalent circuit the series and parallel resistances are combined into series elements. Referring equation (9) we have,

$$R_p = \frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R} \text{ i.e. } R = \frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R_p}$$

where R represents series resistance and R_p represents parallel resistance.



(c)

Fig. 3.19 Equivalent circuits for double tuned amplifier

Therefore we can write,

$$R_{11} = \frac{\omega_o^2 L_1^2}{R_o} + R_1$$

$$R_{12} = \frac{\omega_o^2 L_2^2}{R_i} + R_2$$

In the simplified circuit the current source is replaced by voltage source, which is now in series with C_1. It also shows the effect of mutual inductance on primary and secondary sides.

We know that, $Q = \dfrac{\omega_r L}{R}$

Therefore, the Q factors of the individual tank circuits are

$$Q_1 = \frac{\omega_r L_1}{R_{11}} \text{ and } Q_2 = \frac{\omega_r L_2}{R_{22}} \qquad \ldots(1)$$

Usually, the Q factors for both circuits are kept same. Therefore, $Q_1 = Q_2 = Q$ and the resonant frequency $\omega_r^2 = 1/L_1 C_1 = 1/L_2C_2$.

Looking at Fig. 3.19 (c), the output voltage can be given as,

$$V_o = -\frac{j}{\omega_r C_2} I_2 \qquad \dots (2)$$

To calculate V_o/V_1 it is necessary to represent I_2 interms of V_1. For this we have to find the transfer admittance Y_T. Let us consider the circuit shown in Fig. 3.20. For this circuit, the transfer admittance can be given as,

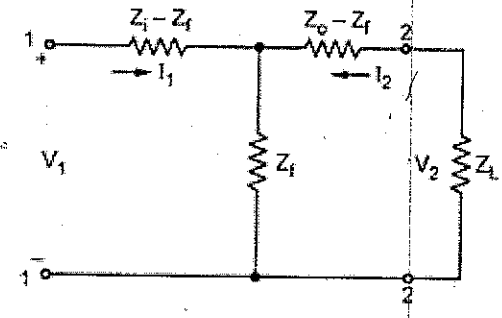


Fig. 3.20

$$Y_T = \frac{I_2}{V_1} = \frac{I_2}{I_1 Z_{11}} = \frac{A_i}{Z_{11}}$$

$$= \frac{Z_f}{Z_f^2 - Z_i\,(Z_o + Z_L)}$$

where $$Z_{11} = \frac{V_1}{I_1} = Z_i - \frac{Z_f^2}{Z_o + Z_L} \text{ and}$$

$$A_i = \frac{I_2}{I_1} = \frac{-Z_f}{Z_o + Z_L}$$

The simplified equivalent circuit for double tuned amplifier is similar to the circuit shown in Fig. 3.20 with

$$Z_f = j\,\omega_r M$$

$$Z_i = R_{11} + j\left(\omega L_1 - \frac{1}{\omega C_1}\right)$$

$$Z_o + Z_L = R_{22} + j\left(\omega L_2 - \frac{1}{\omega C_2}\right)$$

The equations for Z_f, Z_i and $Z_o + Z_L$ can be further simplified as shown below.

$$Z_f = j\omega_r M = j\omega_r k\sqrt{L_1 L_2}$$

where, k is the coefficient of coupling.

Multiplying numerator and denominator by $\omega_r L_1$ for Z_i we get,

$$Z_i = \frac{R_{11}\,\omega_r\,L_1}{\omega_r\,L_1} + j\omega_r\,L_1\left(\frac{\omega L_1}{\omega_r\,L_1} - \frac{1}{\omega C_1\,\omega_r L_1}\right)$$

$$= \frac{\omega_r\,L_1}{Q} + j\omega_r\,L_1\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_r} - \frac{\omega_r}{\omega}\right) \qquad \because Q = \frac{\omega_r\,L}{R_{11}} \text{ and } \frac{1}{\omega_r\,L} = \omega_r\,C$$

$$= \frac{\omega_r\,L_1}{Q} + j\omega_r\,L_1\,(2\delta) \qquad \because \frac{\omega}{\omega_r} - \frac{\omega_r}{\omega} = 1 + \delta - (1 - \delta) = 2\,\delta$$

$$= \frac{\omega_r\,L_1}{Q} + (1 + j2Q\delta)$$

$$Z_o + Z_L = R_{22} + j\left(\omega L_2 - \frac{1}{\omega C_2}\right)$$

By doing similar analysis as for Z_i we can write,

$$Z_o + Z_L = \frac{\omega_r\,L_2}{Q} + (1 + j2Q\delta)$$

Then

$$Y_T = \frac{Z_f}{Z_f^2 - Z_i\,(Z_o + Z_L)} = \frac{1}{Z_f - Z_i\,(Z_o + Z_L)\,/\,Z_f}$$

$$Y_T = \frac{1}{j\omega_r\,k\sqrt{L_1\,L_2} - \dfrac{\left[\dfrac{\omega_r\,L_1}{Q}\,(1 + j\,2\,Q\delta)\left\{\dfrac{\omega_r\,L_2}{Q}\,(1 + j\,2\,Q\delta)\right\}\right]}{j\omega_r\,k\sqrt{L_1\,L_2}}}$$

$$Y_T = \frac{kQ^2}{\omega_r\,\sqrt{L_1\,L_2}\left[4\,Q\delta - j\,(1 + k^2Q^2 - 4\,Q^2\,\delta^2)\right]} \qquad \text{... (3)}$$

Substituting value of I_2, i.e. $V_i \times Y_T$ we get,

$$V_o = \frac{-j}{\omega_r\,C_2}\,\frac{j\,g_m\,V_i}{\omega_r\,C_1}\left[\frac{kQ^2}{\omega_r\,\sqrt{L_1\,L_2}\left[4\,Q\delta - j\,(1 + k^2Q^2 - 4\,Q^2\,\delta^2)\right]}\right]$$

$$\because V_i = \frac{j\,g_m\,V_1}{\omega C_1}$$

$$\therefore \qquad A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = g_m\,\omega_r^2\,L_1\,L_2\left[\frac{kQ^2}{\omega_r\,\sqrt{L_1\,L_2}\left[4\,Q\delta - j\,(1 + k^2Q^2 - 4\,Q^2\,\delta^2)\right]}\right]$$

$$\because \frac{1}{\omega_r\,C} = \omega_r\,L$$

$$= \left[\frac{g_m\,\omega_r\,\sqrt{L_1\,L_2}\;kQ^2}{4\,Q\delta - j\,(1 + k^2Q^2 - 4\,Q^2\,\delta^2)}\right] \qquad \text{... (4)}$$

Taking the magnitude of equation (4) we have,

$$|A_v| = g_m \omega_r \sqrt{L_1 L_2}\, Q \frac{kQ}{\sqrt{1+k^2Q^2 - 4Q^2\delta^2 + 16Q^2\delta^2}} \quad \text{... (5)}$$

The Fig. 3.21 shows the universal response curve for double tuned amplifier plotted with kQ as a parameter.

The frequency deviation δ at which the gain peaks occur can be found by maximizing equation (4), i.e.

$$4Q\delta - j(1+k^2Q^2 - 4Q^2\delta^2) = 0 \quad \text{... (6)}$$

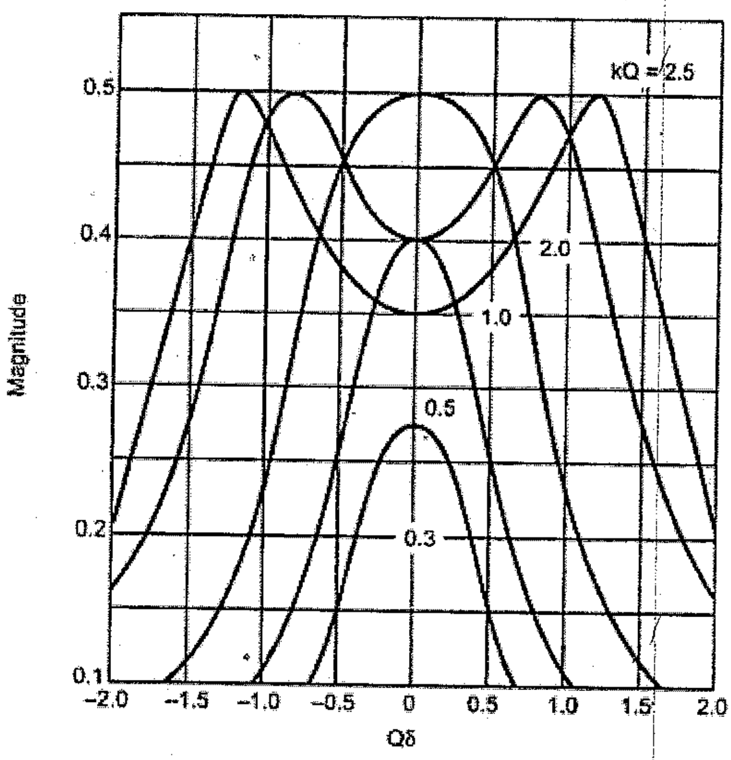


Fig. 3.21

As shown in the Fig. 3.22, two gain peaks in the frequency response of the double tuned amplifier can be given at frequencies :

$$f_1 = f_r\left(1 - \frac{1}{2Q}\sqrt{k^2Q^2 - 1}\right) \text{ and}$$

$$f_2 = f_r\left(1 + \frac{1}{2Q}\sqrt{k^2Q^2 - 1}\right) \quad \text{... (7)}$$

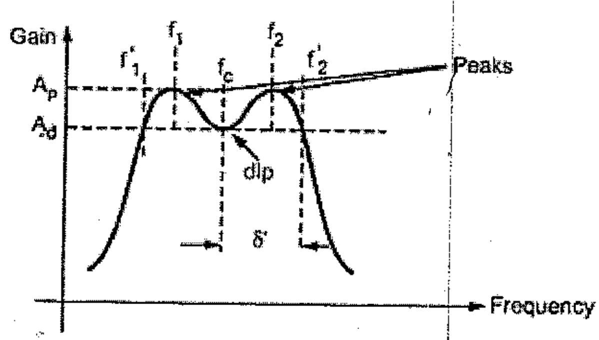


Fig. 3.22

At $k^2Q^2 = 1$, i.e. $k = \frac{1}{Q}$, $f_1 = f_2 = f_r$. This condition is known as **critical coupling**. For values of $k < 1/Q$, the peak gain is less than maximum gain and the coupling is poor.

At $k > 1/Q$, the circuit is overcoupled and the response shows the double peak. Such double peak response is useful when more bandwidth is required.

The gain magnitude at peak is given as,

$$|A_p| = \frac{g_m \omega_o \sqrt{L_1 L_2}\, kQ}{2} \qquad \text{... (8)}$$

And gain at the dip at $\delta = 0$ is given as,

$$|A_d| = |A_p| \frac{2\,kQ}{1+k^2Q^2} \qquad \text{... (9)}$$

The ratio of peak gain and dip gain is denoted as γ and it represents the magnitude of the ripple in the gain curve.

$$\gamma = \left|\frac{A_p}{A_d}\right| = \frac{1+k^2Q^2}{2\,kQ} \qquad \text{... (10)}$$

Using quadratic simplification and choosing positive sign we get,

$$kQ = \gamma + \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 1} \qquad \text{... (11)}$$

The bandwidth between the frequencies at which the gain is $|A_d|$ is the useful bandwidth of the double tuned amplifier. It is given as,

$$BW = 2\,\delta' = \sqrt{2}\,(f_2 - f_1) \qquad \text{... (12)}$$

At 3 dB bandwidth,

$$\gamma = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\therefore \quad kQ = \gamma + \sqrt{\gamma^2+1} = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{\sqrt{2}^2+1} = 2.414$$

$$\therefore \quad 3\text{ dB BW} = 2\,\delta' = \sqrt{2}\,(f_2 - f_1)$$

$$= \sqrt{2}\left[f_r\left(1+\frac{1}{2Q}\sqrt{k^2Q^2-1}\right) - f_r\left(1-\frac{1}{2Q}\sqrt{k^2Q^2-1}\right)\right]$$

$$= \sqrt{2}\left[\left(\frac{f_r}{Q}\sqrt{k^2Q^2-1}\right)\right]$$

$$\sqrt{2}\left[\frac{f_r}{Q}\sqrt{(2.414)^2-1}\right] = \frac{3.1\,f_r}{Q}$$

We know that, the 3 dB bandwidth for single tuned amplifier is $2\,f_r/Q$. Therefore, the 3 dB bandwidth provided by double tuned amplifier ($3.1f_r/Q$) is substantially greater than the 3 dB bandwidth of single tuned amplifier.

Compared with a single tuned amplifier, the double tuned amplifier

1. Possesses a flatter response having steeper sides.
2. Provides larger 3 dB bandwidth.
3. Provides large gain-bandwidth product.

3.6 Effect of Cascading Single Tuned Amplifier on Bandwidth

In order to obtain a high overall gain, several identical stages of tuned amplifiers can be used in cascade. The overall gain is the product of the voltage gains of the individual stages. Let us see the effect of cascading of stages on bandwidth.

Consider n stages of single tuned direct coupled amplifiers connected in cascade. We know that the relative gain of a single tuned amplifier with respect to the gain at resonant frequency f_r is given from equation (14) of section 3.4.

$$\left|\frac{A_v}{A_v\,(\text{at resonance})}\right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2}}$$

Therefore, the relative gain of n stage cascaded amplifier becomes

$$\left|\frac{A_v}{A_v\,(\text{at resonance})}\right|^n = \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2}}\right]^n = \frac{1}{[1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2]^{\frac{n}{2}}}$$

The 3 dB frequencies for the n stage cascaded amplifier can be found by equating

$$\left|\frac{A_v}{A_v\,(\text{at resonance})}\right|^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\therefore \quad \left|\frac{A_v}{A_v\,(\text{at resonance})}\right|^n = \frac{1}{[1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2]^{\frac{n}{2}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\therefore \quad [1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2]^{\frac{n}{2}} = 2^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\therefore \quad [1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2]^n = 2$$

$$\therefore \quad 1+(2\delta Q_{eff})^2 = 2^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

$$\therefore \quad 2\delta Q_{eff} = \pm\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1}$$

Substituting for δ, the fractional frequency variation, i.e.

$$\delta = \frac{\omega-\omega_r}{\omega_r} = \frac{f-f_r}{f_r}$$

$$\therefore \quad 2\left(\frac{f-f_r}{f_r}\right) Q_{eff} = \pm\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1}$$

$$\therefore \quad 2\,(f-f_r)\,Q_{eff} = \pm\, f_r\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1}$$

$$\therefore \quad f-f_r = \pm\frac{f_r}{2Q_{eff}}\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1}$$

Let us assume f_1 and f_2 are the lower 3 dB and upper 3 dB frequencies, respectively. Then we have

$$f_2-f_r = +\frac{f_r}{2Q_{eff}}\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1} \text{ and similarly,}$$

$$f_r-f_1 = +\frac{f_r}{2Q_{eff}}\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1}$$

The bandwidth of n stage identical amplifier is given as,

$$BW_n = f_2-f_1 = (f_2-f_r)+(f_r-f_1)$$

$$= \frac{f_r}{2Q_{eff}}\sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}}-1} + \frac{f_r}{2Q_{eff}}\sqrt{2^{1/n}-1}$$

$$= \frac{f_r}{Q_{eff}} \sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1}$$

$$= BW_1 \sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1} \quad \text{... (1)}$$

where BW_1 is the bandwidth of single stage and BW_n is the bandwidth of n stages.

Example 3.4 : *The bandwidth for single tuned amplifier is 20 kHz. Calculate the bandwidth if such three stages are cascaded. Also calculate the bandwidth for four stages.*

Solution : i) We know that,

$$BW_n = BW_1 \sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1} = 20 \times 10^3 \times \sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{3}} - 1}$$

$$= \mathbf{10.196\ kHz}$$

ii) $$BW_n = 20 \times 10^3 \times \sqrt{2^{\frac{1}{4}} - 1} = \mathbf{8.7\ kHz}$$

The above example shows that bandwidth decreases as number of stages increase.

3.7 Effect of Cascading Double Tuned Amplifiers on Bandwidth

When a number of identical double tuned amplifier stages are connected in cascade, the overall bandwidth of the system is thereby narrowed and the steepness of the sides of the response is increased, just as when single tuned stages are cascaded. The quantitative relation between the 3 dB bandwidth of n identical double tuned critically coupled stages compared with the bandwidth Δ_2 of such a system can be shown to be 3 dB bandwidth for

$$\text{n identical stages double tuned amplifiers} = \Delta_2 \times \left(2^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \quad \text{... (1)}$$

where Δ_2 = 3 dB bandwidth of single stage double tuned amplifier

Key Point: *The equation (1) assumes that the bandwidth Δ_2 is small compared with the resonant frequency.*

Example 3.5 : *The bandwidth for double tuned amplifier is 20 kHz. Calculate the bandwidth if such three stages are cascaded.*

Solution : We know that for double tuned cascaded stages,

$$BW_n = BW_1 \times \left(2^{1/n} - 1\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = 20\ K \times \left(2^{1/3} - 1\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = \mathbf{14.28\ kHz}$$

Example 3.6 : *A three stage double tuned amplifier system is to have a half power BW of 20 kHz centred on a centre frequency of 450 kHz. Assuming that all stages are identical, determine the half power bandwidth of single stage. Assume that each stage couple to get maximum flatness.*

Solution : We get maximum flat response when each stage is critically coupled. When stages are critically coupled we have

$$BW_n = BW_1 \times (2^{1/n} - 1)^{1/4}$$

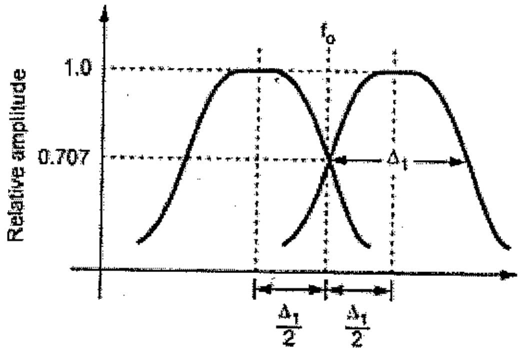
$$BW_n = \frac{BW_n}{(2^{1/n} - 1)^{1/4}}$$

For $n = 3$

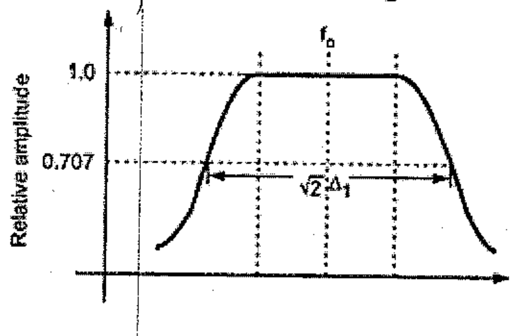
$$BW_n = \frac{BW_n}{(2^{1/3} - 1)^{1/4}} = \frac{20 \times 10^3}{(2^{1/3} - 1)^{1/4}} = \mathbf{28.01\ kHz}$$

3.8 Staggered Tuned Amplifier

We have seen that double tuned amplifier gives greater 3 dB bandwidth having steeper sides and flat top. But alignment of double tuned amplifier is difficult. To overcome this problem two single tuned cascaded amplifiers having certain bandwidth are taken and their resonant frequencies are so adjusted that they are separated by an amount equal to the bandwidth of each stage. Since the resonant frequencies are displaced or staggered, they are known as staggered tuned amplifiers. The advantage of staggered tuned amplifier is to have a better flat, wideband characteristics in contrast with a very sharp, rejective, narrow band characteristic of synchronously tuned circuits (tuned to same resonant frequencies). Fig. 3.23 shows the relation of amplification characteristics of individual stages in a staggered pair to the overall amplification of the two stages.



(a) Response of individual stages



(b) Overall response of staggered pair

Fig. 3.23

The overall response of the two stage stagger tuned pair is compared in Fig. 3.24 with the corresponding individual single tuned stages having same resonant circuits. Looking at Fig. 3.24, it can be seen that staggering reduces the total amplification of the centre frequency to 0.5 of the peak amplification of the individual stage and at the centre frequency each stage has an amplification that is 0.707 of the peak amplification of the individual stage. Thus the equivalent voltage amplification per stage of the staggered pair is 0.707 times as great as when the same two stages are used without staggering. However,

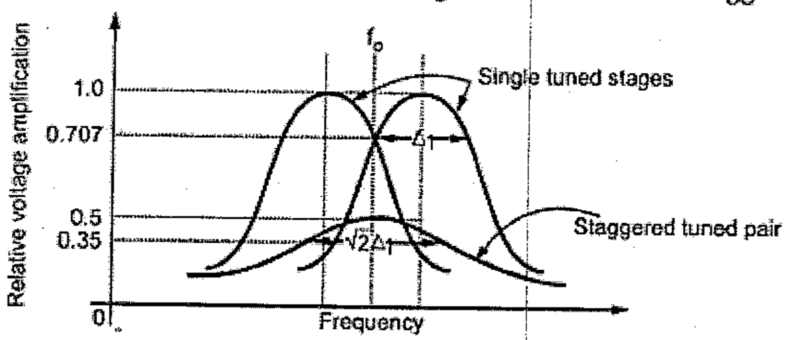


Fig. 3.24 Response of individually tuned and staggered tuned pair

the half power (3 dB) bandwidth of the staggered pair is $\sqrt{2}$ times as great as the half power (3 dB) bandwidth of an individual single tuned stage. Hence the equivalent gain bandwidth product per stage of a stagger tuned pair is $0.707 \times \sqrt{2} = 1.00$ times that of the individual single tuned stages.

The stagger tuned idea can easily be extended to more stages. In case of three stage staggering, the first tuning circuit is tuned to a frequency lower than centre frequency while the third circuit is tuned to higher frequency than centre frequency. The middle tuned circuit is tuned at exact centre frequency.

Analysis

From equation (14) of section 3.4 we can write the gain of the single tuned amplifier as,

$$\frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}} = \frac{1}{1+2jQ_{eff}\,\delta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+jX} \text{ where } X = 2\,Q_{eff}\,\delta$$

Since in stagger tuned amplifiers the two single tuned cascaded amplifiers with separate resonant frequencies are used, we can assume that the one stage is tuned to the frequency $f_r + \delta$ and other stage is tuned to the frequency $f_r - \delta$. Therefore we have,

$$f_{r1} = f_r + \delta$$

and $$f_{r2} = f_r - \delta$$

According to these tuned frequencies the selectivity functions can be given as,

$$\frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}_1} = \frac{1}{1+j(X+1)} \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}_2} = \frac{1}{1+j(X-1)}$$

The overall gain of these two stages is the product of individual gains of the two stages.

$$\therefore \frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}_{cascaded}} = \frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}_1} \times \frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}_2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+j(X+1)} \times \frac{1}{1+j(X-1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2+2jX-X^2} = \frac{1}{(2-X^2)+(2jX)}$$

$$\therefore \left|\frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}}\right|_{cascaded} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2-X^2)^2+(2X)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4-4X^2+X^4+4X^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+X^4}}$$

Substituting the value of X we get,

$$\left|\frac{A_v}{A_v \text{ (at resonance)}}\right|_{cascaded} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+(2Q_{eff}\,\delta)^4}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+16Q_{eff}^4\,\delta^4}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1+4Q_{eff}^4\,\delta^4}}$$

3.10 Stability of Tuned Amplifiers

In tuned RF amplifiers, transistors are used at the frequencies nearer to their unity gain bandwidths (i.e. f_T), to amplify a narrow band of high frequencies centred around a radio frequency. At this frequency, the inter junction capacitance between base and collector, C_{bc} of the transistor becomes dominant, i.e. its reactance becomes low enough to be considered, which is otherwise infinite to be neglected as open circuit. Being CE configuration capacitance C_{bc}, shown in the Fig. 3.35 come across input and output circuits of an amplifier. As reactance of C_{bc} at RF is low enough it provides the feedback path from collector to base. With this circuit condition, if some feedback signal manages to reach the input from output in a positive manner with proper phase shift, then there is possibility of circuit converted to an unstable one, generating its own oscillations and can stop working as an amplifier. This circuit will always oscillate if enough energy is fed back from the collector to the base in the correct phase to overcome circuit losses. Unfortunately, the conditions for best gain and selectivity are also those which promote oscillation. In order to prevent oscillations in tuned RF amplifiers it was necessary to reduce the stage gain to a level that ensured circuit stability. This could be accomplished in several ways such as lowering the Q of tune circuits; stagger tuning, loose coupling

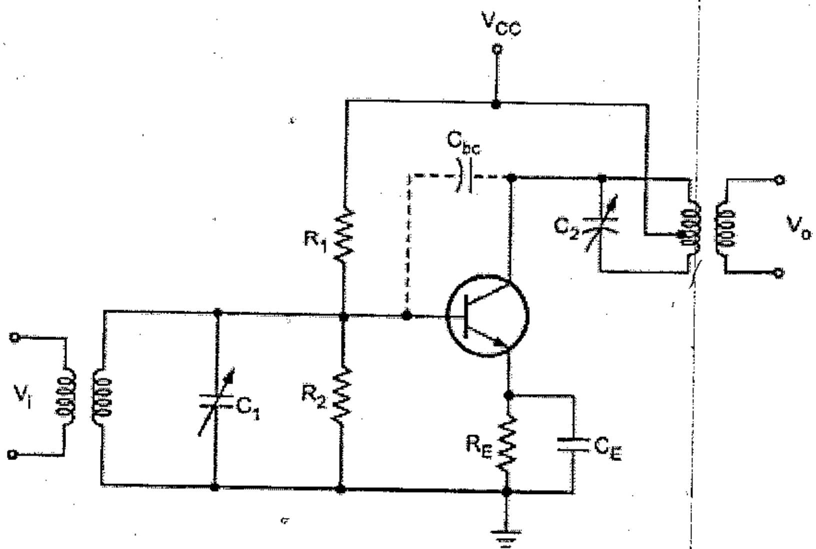


Fig. 3.35 Tuned RF stage

between the stages or inserting a 'loser' element into the circuit. While all these methods reduced gain, detuning and Q reduction had detrimental effects on selectivity. Instead of loosing the circuit performance to achieve stability, the professor L.A. Hazeltine introduced a circuit in which the troublesome effect of the collector to base capacitance of the transistor was neutralized by introducing a signal which cancels the signal coupled through the collector to base capacitance. He proved that the neutralization can be achieved by deliberately feding back a portion of the output signal to the input in such a way that it has the same amplitude as the unwanted feedback but the opposite phase. Later on many neutralizing circuits were introduced. Let us study some of these circuits.

3.10.1 Hazeltine Neutralization

The Fig. 3.36 shows one variation of the Hazeltine circuit. In this circuit a small value of variable capacitance C_N is connected from the bottom of coil, point B, to the base. Therefore, the internal capacitance C_{bc}, shown dotted, feeds a signal from the top end of the coil, point A, to the transistor base and the C_N feeds a signal of equal magnitude but opposite polarity from the bottom of coil, point B, to the base. The neutralizing capacitor, C_N, can be adjusted correctly to completely nullify the signal fed through the C_{bc}.

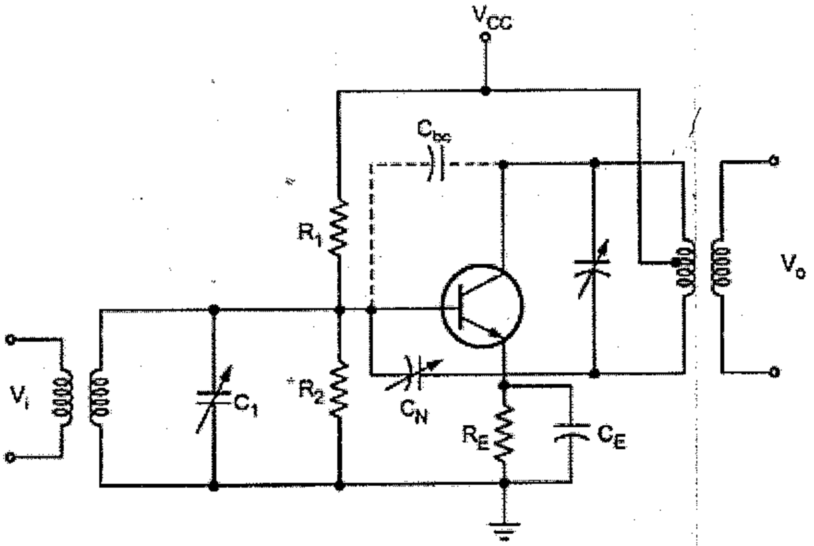


Fig. 3.36 Tuned RF amplifier with Hazeltine neutralization

3.10.2 Neutrodyne Neutralization

The Fig. 3.37 shows typical neutrodyne circuit. In this circuit the neutralization capacitor is connected from the lower end of the base coil of the next stage to the base of the transistor.

In principle, this circuit functions in the same manner as the Hazeltine neutralization circuit with the advantage that the neutralizing capacitor does not have the supply voltage across it.

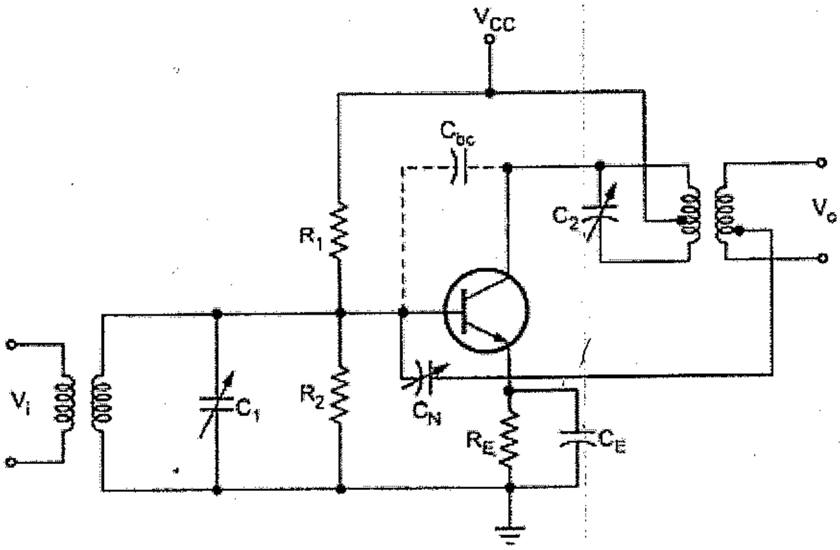


Fig. 3.37 Tuned RF amplifier with Neutrodyne neutralization

3.10.3 Neutralization using Coil

The Fig. 3.38 shows the neutralization of RF amplifier using coil. In this circuit, L part of the tuned circuit at the base of next stage is oriented for minimum coupling to the other windings. It is wound on a separate form and is mounted at right angles to the coupled windings. If the windings are properly polarized, the voltage across L due to the circulating current in the base circuit will have the proper phase to cancel the signal coupled through the base to collector, C_{bc} capacitance.

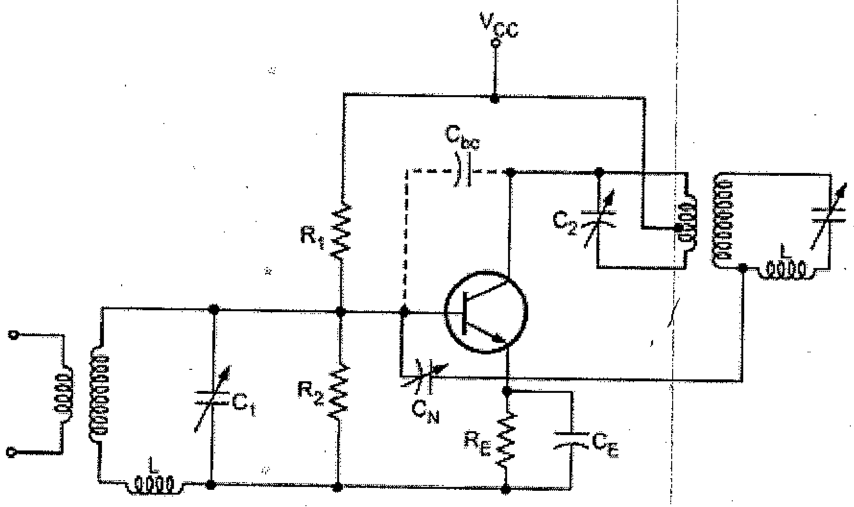


Fig. 3.38 Tuned RF amplifier using coil

3.10.4 Rice Neutralization

The Fig. 3.39 shows the Rice circuit of neutralization. It uses a centre tapped coil in the base circuit. With this arrangement the signal voltages at the ends of the tuned base coil are equal and out of phase.

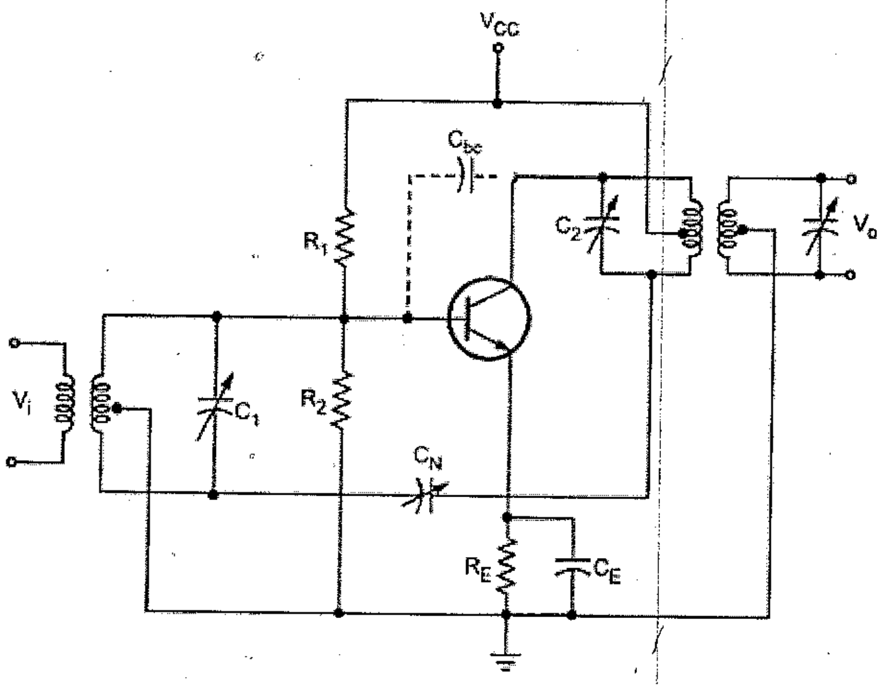


Fig. 3.39 Tuned RF amplifier using Rice neutralization

3.11 Advantages and Disadvantages of Tuned Amplifiers

Advantages :

1) They amplify defined frequencies.
2) Signal to noise ratio at output is good.
3) They are well suited for radio transmitters and receivers.
4) The band of frequencies over which amplification is required can be varied.

Disadvantages :

1) Since they use inductors and capacitors as tuning elements, the circuit is bulky and costly.
2) If the band of frequency is increased, design becomes complex.
3) They are not suitable to amplify audio frequencies.

3.12 Applications of Tuned Amplifiers

The important applications of tuned amplifiers are as follows :

1. Tuned amplifiers are used in radio receivers to amplify a particular band of frequencies for which the radio receiver is tuned.
2. Tuned class B and class C amplifiers are used as an output RF amplifiers in radio transmitters to increase the output efficiency and to reduce the harmonics.
3. Tuned amplifiers are used in active filters such as low pass, high pass and band pass to allow amplification of signal only in the desired narrow band.

Example 3.12 : *Draw the single tuned amplifier using FET.*

Solution :

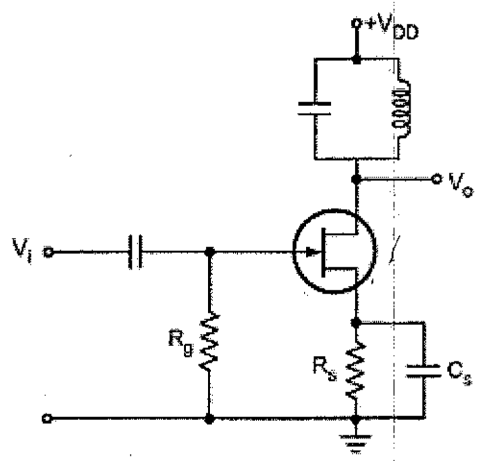


Fig. 3.40

Example 3.13 : *An RF tuned voltage amplifier, using FET with r_d = 100 kΩ and g_m = 500 μs has tuned circuit, consisting of L = 2.5 mH, C = 200 pF, as its load. At its resonant, frequency, the circuit offers an equivalent shunt resistance of 100 kΩ. For the amplifier determine,*

a) The resonant gain, *b) The effective Q,* *c) The bandwidth.*

Solution : Given : r_d = 100 K, g_m = 500 μs and tuned load of L = 2.5 mH and C = 200 pF

a) Resonant gain for FET amplifier can be given as,

$$A_v = -g_m R_L$$

where $R_L = r_d \parallel \text{Shunt resistance}$

$$\therefore \quad A_v = -g_m (100\text{ K} \parallel 100\text{ K})$$

$$= -500\,500 \times 10^{-6} \times 50 \times 10^{3} = -25$$

b) The effective Q can be given as,

$$Q_{eff} = \frac{R_t}{\omega_r L}$$

where

$$R_t = 100\text{ K} \parallel 100\text{ K} = 50\text{ K and}$$

$$\omega_r = 2\pi f_r$$

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{2.5\times10^{-3}\times 200\times10^{-12}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4.44\times10^{-6}} = 225\text{ kHz}$$

$$\therefore \quad Q_{eff} = \frac{R_t}{\omega_r L} = \frac{50\text{ K}}{2\pi\times225\times10^{3}\times2.5\times10^{-3}} = \mathbf{14.147}$$

c) The bandwidth is given as,

$$BW = \frac{f_r}{Q_{eff}} = \frac{225\times10^{3}}{14.147} = \mathbf{15.904\text{ kHz}}$$

Example 3.14 : *The transistor shown in Fig. 3.41 has h_{fe} = 50 and input resistance of 200 Ω.*

The coil used has Q factor = 30

Calculate : i) Resonant frequency of the tuned circuit.

ii) Impedance of the tuned circuit.

iii) Voltage gain of the stage.

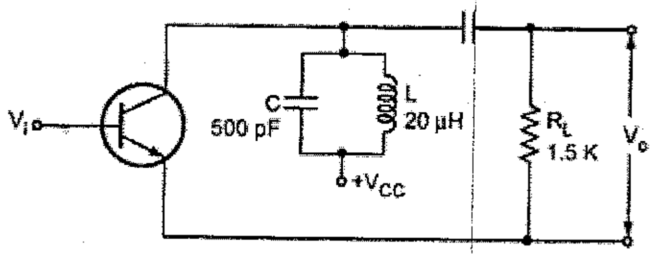


Fig. 3.41

Solution : i) Resonant frequency :

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{20\times10^{-6}\times500\times10^{-12}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\times10^{-7}} = 0.159\times10^{7}\text{ Hz} = \mathbf{1.59\text{ MHz}}$$

ii) We know that

$$Q_r = \frac{R_p}{\omega_r L}$$

∴ Impedance of tuned circuit R_p

$$= Q_r\,\omega_r\,L = 30\times2\pi\times1.59\times10^{6}\times20\times10^{-6} = \mathbf{5994\ \Omega}$$

iii) Voltage gain of stage A_v

$$A_v = \frac{A_I R'_L}{R'_i}$$

$$= \frac{-h_{fe}(R_p \parallel R_L)}{R_i} = \frac{-50(5994 \parallel 1.5\text{ K})}{200} = -300$$

Example 3.15 : *A tuned amplifier should have a gain of 50 for a centre frequency of 10.7 MHz and bandwidth of 200 kHz. A FET with g_m = 5 mA/V and r_d = 100 K is to be used. Calculate the tank circuit parameters.*

Solution :

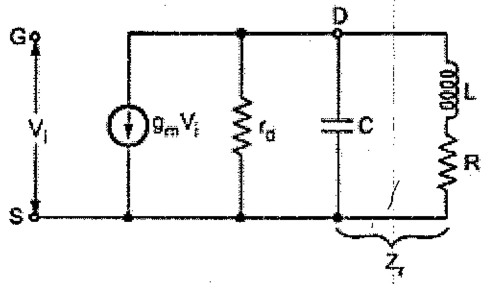


Fig. 3.42

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} = 10.7 \text{ MHz} \qquad \dots (1)$$

$$\therefore \quad Q = \frac{f_r}{3\text{dB (BW)}} = \frac{10.7\text{ MHz}}{200\text{ kHz}} = 53.5$$

$$\therefore \quad 53.5 = \frac{\omega_r L}{R} \qquad \dots (2)$$

$$A_v = -50 = -g_m R_L$$

$$\therefore \quad R_L = \frac{50}{5\times10^{-3}} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega$$

where $\quad R_L = r_d \parallel R_p$

$$\therefore \quad \frac{1}{R_L} = \frac{1}{r_d} + \frac{1}{R_p}$$

$$\therefore \quad \frac{1}{R_p} = \frac{1}{R_L} - \frac{1}{r_d} = \frac{1}{10\text{ K}} - \frac{1}{100\text{ K}}$$

$$\therefore \quad R_p = 11.11 \text{ K}$$

We know that,

$$Q_r = \frac{R_p}{\omega_r L}$$

$$\therefore \quad L = \frac{R_p}{Q_r \omega_r} = \frac{11.11\times10^3}{53.5\times2\times\pi\times10.7\times10^6} = 3.088\ \mu\text{H}$$

We know that,

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

$$\therefore \quad C = \frac{1}{(2\pi f_r)^2 L}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\times10.7\times10^6)^2\times3.088\times10^{-6}} = 71.6 \text{ pF}$$

We know that, $Q_r = \frac{\omega_r L}{R}$

$$\therefore \quad R = \frac{\omega_r L}{Q_r} = \frac{2\pi \times 10.7 \times 10^6 \times 3.088 \times 10^{-6}}{53.5} = \mathbf{3.88\ \Omega}$$

Example 3.16 : *A FET having g_m = 6 mA/V has a tuned anode load consisting of a 400 μH inductance of 5 Ω in parallel with a capacitor of 2500 pF. Find*

i) The resonant frequency.

ii) Tuned circuit dynamic resistance.

iii) Gain at resonance and

iv) The signal bandwidth.

Solution : i) f_r = Resonant frequency

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{400\,\mu H \times 2500\,pF}}$$

$$= \mathbf{0.159\ MHz}$$

ii) Tuned circuit dynamic resistance $= R_p = \frac{L}{CR}$

$$= \frac{400\,\mu H}{2500\,pF \times 5\,\Omega} = \frac{10^6 \times 80}{2500}$$

$$= 0.032 \times 10^6 = \mathbf{32\ k\Omega}$$

iii) Gain at resonance $= A_v = -g_m R_L = -g_m R_p$

$$= 6\ mA/V \times 32\ k\Omega = \mathbf{-192}$$

iv) The signal bandwidth $= BW = \frac{f_r}{Q}$

$$Q = \frac{\omega_r L}{R} = \frac{2\pi \times 0.159 \times 10^6 \times 400 \times 10^{-6}}{5\,\Omega}$$

$$= 79.92$$

$$BW = \frac{f_r}{Q} = \frac{0.159\ MHz}{79.92}$$

$$= \mathbf{1.98\ kHz}$$

$$|A_v| = g_m R_L = 30$$

$$\therefore \quad R_L = (r_d || R_p) = \frac{30}{5 \text{ mA/V}} = 6 \text{ K}$$

$$\therefore \quad 100 \text{ K} || R_p = 6 \text{ K}$$

$$\therefore \quad R_p = 6383 \ \Omega$$

We know that,

$$R_p = \frac{L}{CR} = \frac{1}{C} \times 795 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\therefore \quad C = \frac{795 \times 10^{-9}}{R_p} = \frac{795 \times 10^{-9}}{6383}$$

$$= 124.5 \text{ pF}$$

We know that

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

$$\therefore \quad 10.7 \times 10^6 = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L \times 124.5 \text{ pF}}}$$

$$\therefore \quad L = 1.777 \ \mu\text{H}$$

We have

$$R_p = \frac{L}{CR}$$

$$\therefore \quad R = \frac{L}{CR_p} = \frac{1.777 \ \mu\text{H}}{124.5 \text{ pF} \times 6383}$$

$$= 2.236 \ \Omega$$

Therefore, elements of tank circuits are :

$L = 1.777 \ \mu H$, $C = 124.5$ pF and $R = 2.236 \ \Omega$.