

# HBT small-signal analysis

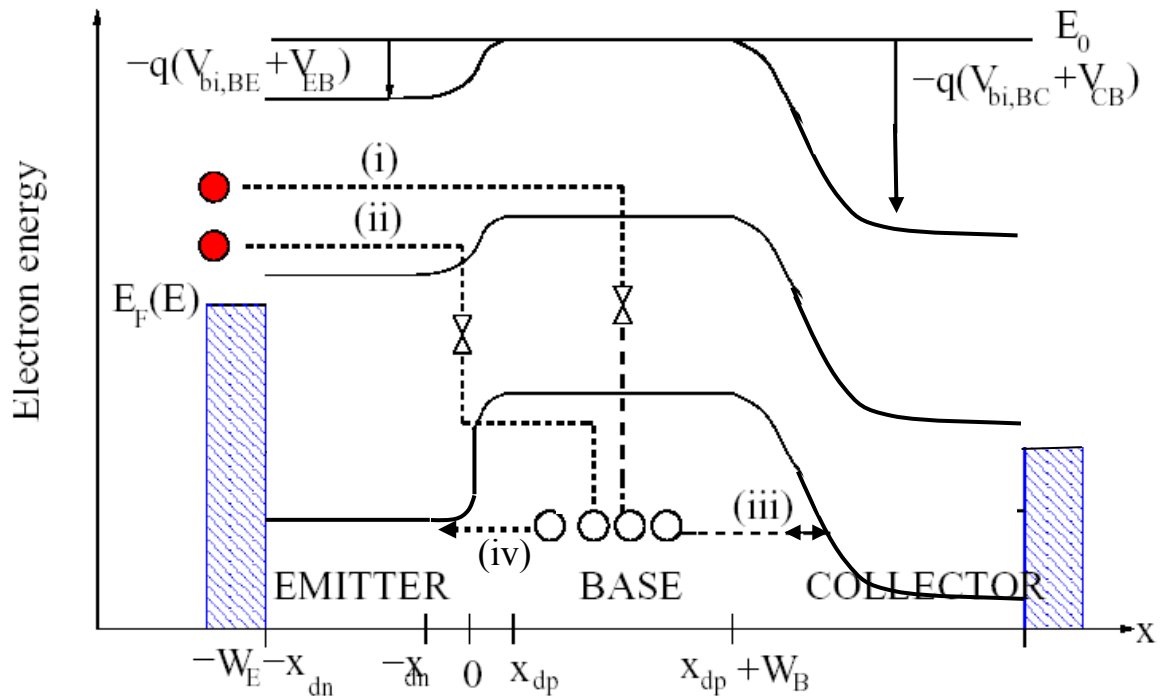
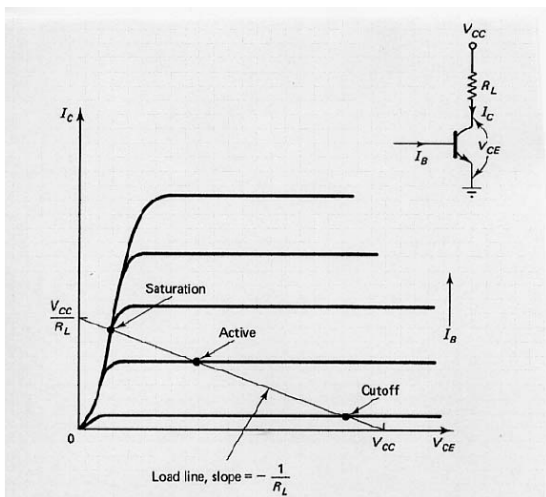
## LECTURE 16

- Base current
- DC equivalent circuit
- AC small-signal analysis
- Hybrid- $\pi$  equivalent circuit
- Parasitic R and C in an HBT
- Capacitance in a BT

## Sec. 9.3

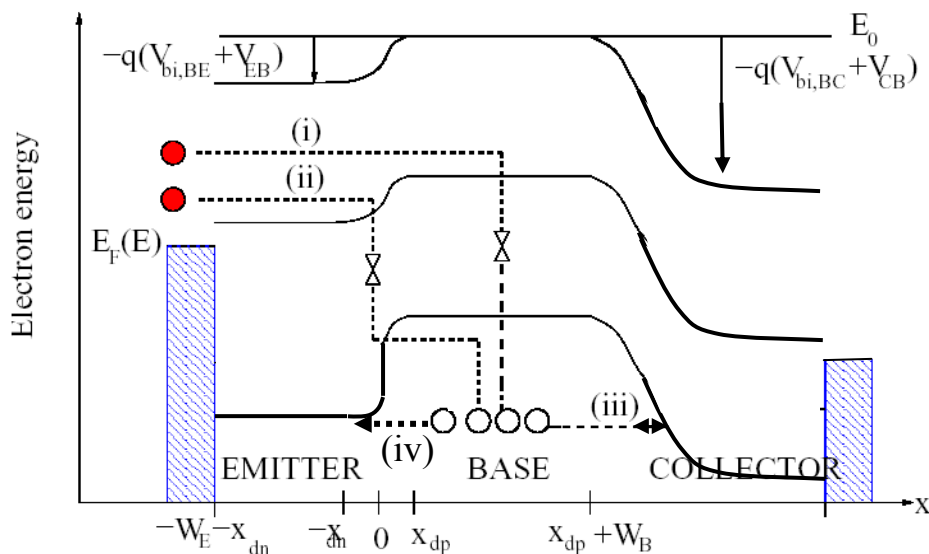
## Base current: components

Base current components in active mode



- Which  $I_B$  components do we need to consider?

# Base current: recombination in base QNR



$$\begin{aligned}
 -\nabla^2 \psi &= \frac{q}{\epsilon} [p - n + N_D - N_A] \\
 J_e &= -qn\mu_e \nabla \psi + qD_e \nabla n \\
 J_h &= -qp\mu_h \nabla \psi - qD_h \nabla p \\
 \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} &= \frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot J_e - \frac{n - n_0}{\tau_e} + G_{op} \\
 \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} &= -\frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot J_h - \frac{p - p_0}{\tau_h} + G_{op}
 \end{aligned}$$

From the  
toolbox

$$J_{e, \text{rec}} = \int_{J_e(x_{dp})}^{J_e(x_{dp} + W_B)} dJ_e = q \int_{x_{dp}}^{x_{dp} + W_B} \frac{n_B(x) - n_{0B}}{\tau_e} dx$$

Linear profile

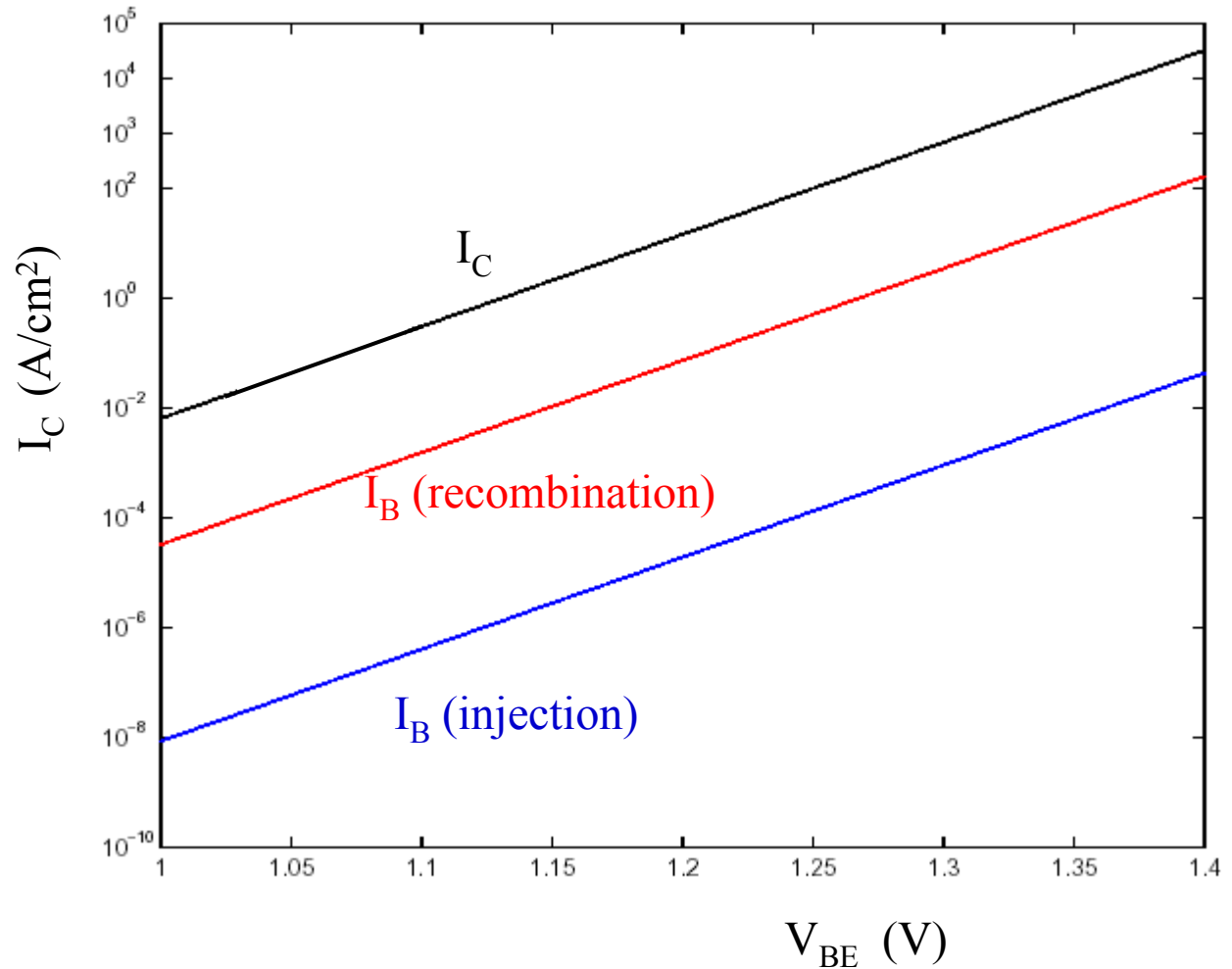
$$\begin{cases}
 n_B(x) = n(x_{dp}) - [n(x_{dp}) - n(x_{dp} + W_B)] (x / W_B) \\
 = \left( n_E^* + \frac{J_e(x_{dp})}{q2v_R} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{x}{W_B} \right) + \left( n_C^* - \frac{J_e(x_{dp} + W_B)}{q2v_R} \right) \frac{x}{W_B}
 \end{cases}$$

Current

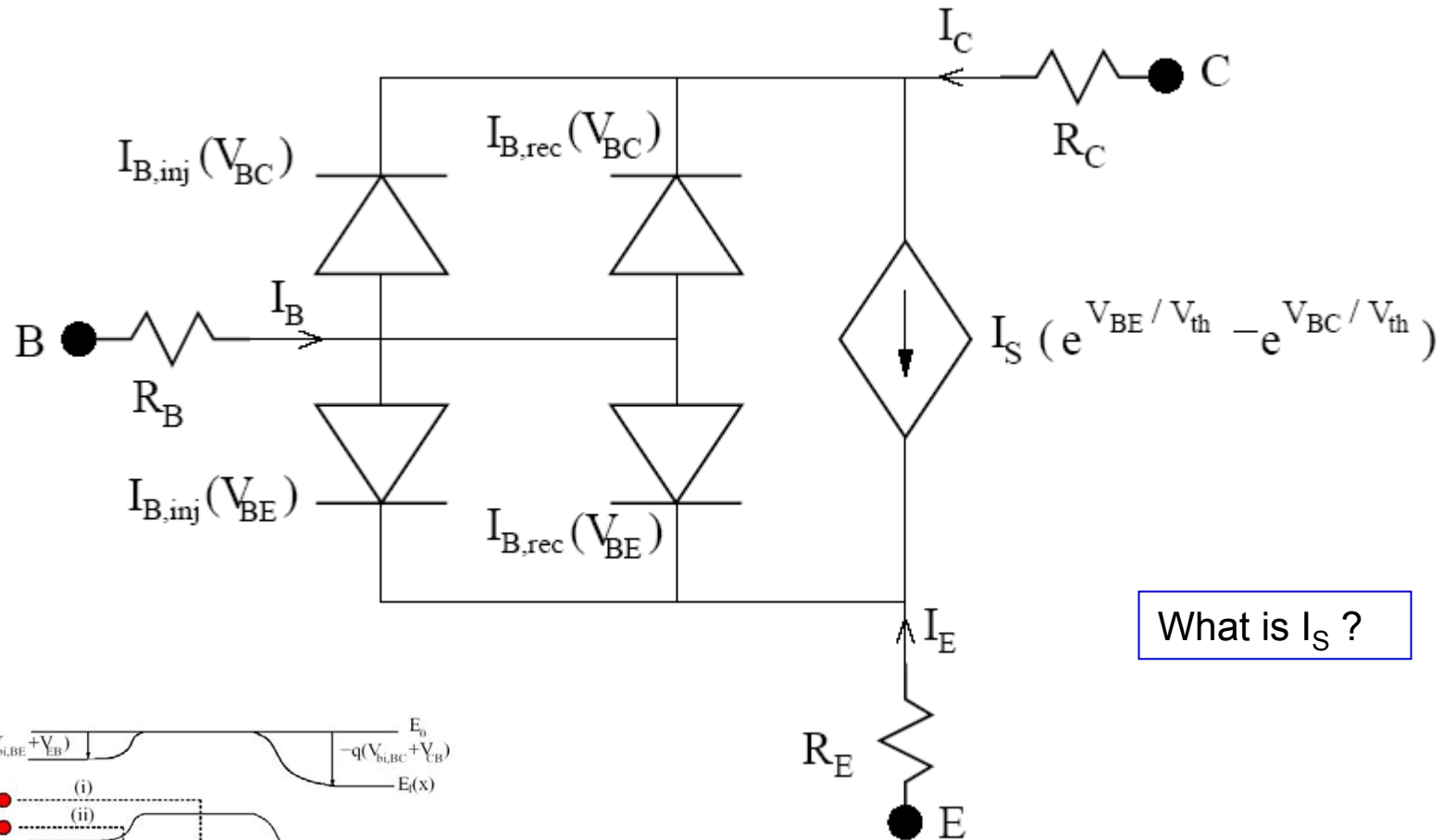
$$I_{B, \text{rec}} = Aqn_0B [(e^{V_{BE}/V_{th}} - 1) + (e^{V_{BC}/V_{th}} - 1)] \left\{ \frac{1}{\frac{2\tau_e}{W_B} + \frac{1}{2v_R}} \right\}$$

# Base current components and Gummel plot

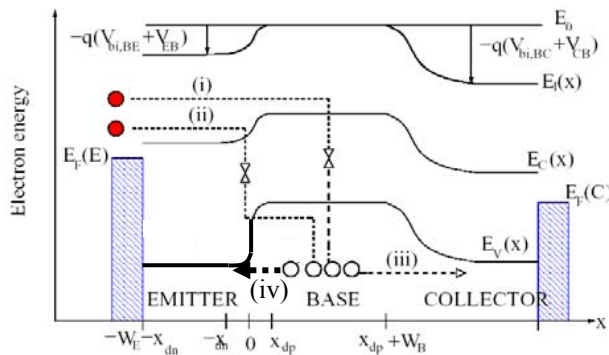
- Why is the back-injection current so low?
- How can there be a base recombination current if we have ignored recombination for  $I_C$ ?
- What is the DC gain?



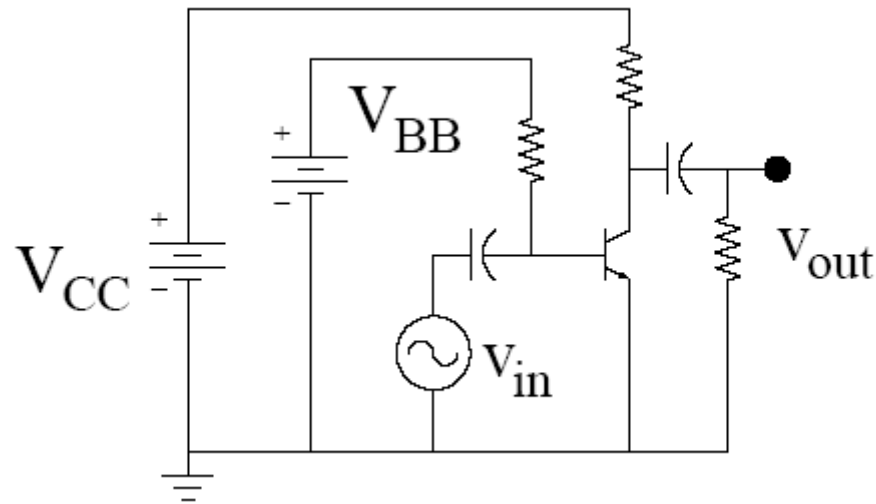
# DC Equivalent circuit



What is  $I_S$  ?



# AC small-signal operation



Notation

$$i_J(t) = I_J + i_j(t) \quad J, j = 1, 2, 3,$$

Match the numbers to the terminals

Function of 2 variables

$$\begin{cases} i_2 &= I_2(V_{21} + v_{21}, V_{31} + v_{31}) \\ &= I_2(V_{21}, V_{31}) + \frac{\partial I_2}{\partial V_{21}} v_{21} + \frac{\partial I_2}{\partial V_{31}} v_{31} \\ &\equiv I_2 + g_{22} v_{21} + g_{23} v_{31}, \end{cases}$$

Linearize

Does the linearization set limits for the small signal?

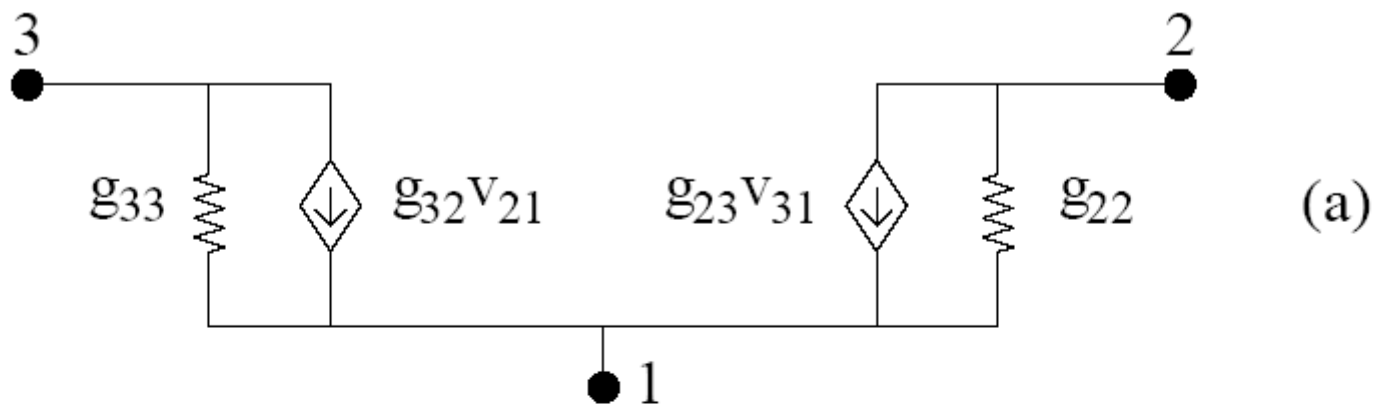
# AC small-signal equivalent circuit

small-signal base current

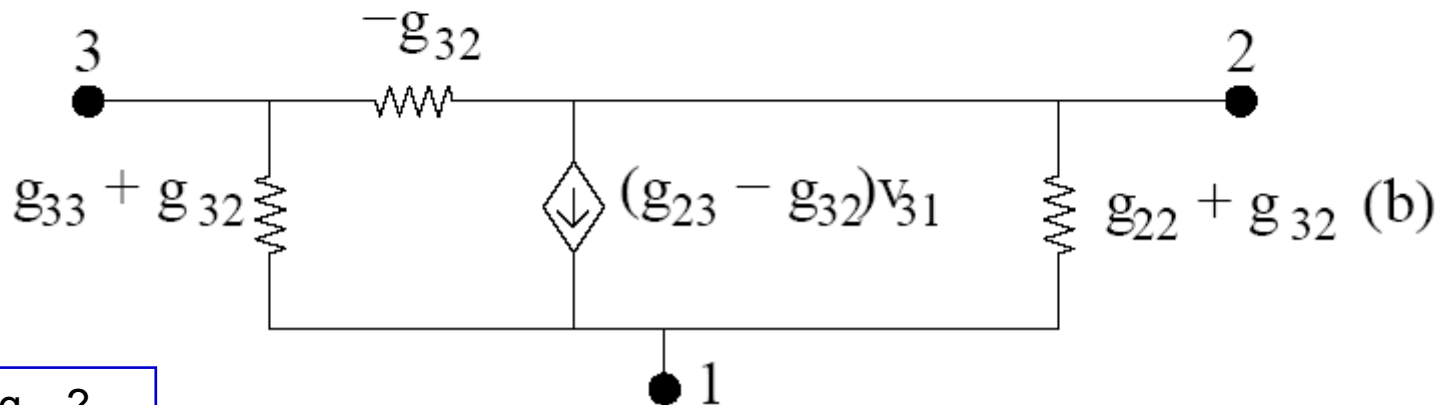
$$i_3 = \frac{\partial I_3}{\partial V_{31}} v_{31} + \frac{\partial I_3}{\partial V_{21}} v_{21}$$

$$= g_{33} v_{31} + g_{32} v_{21},$$

2-generator circuit



1-generator circuit

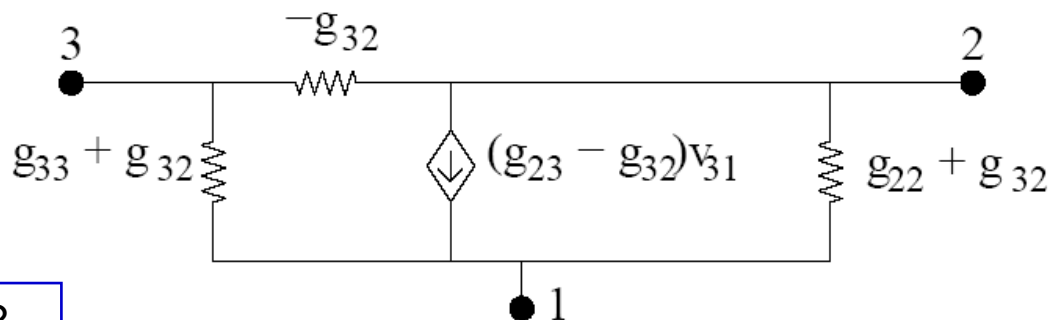


What is  $-g_{32}$  ?

## Sec. 14.3

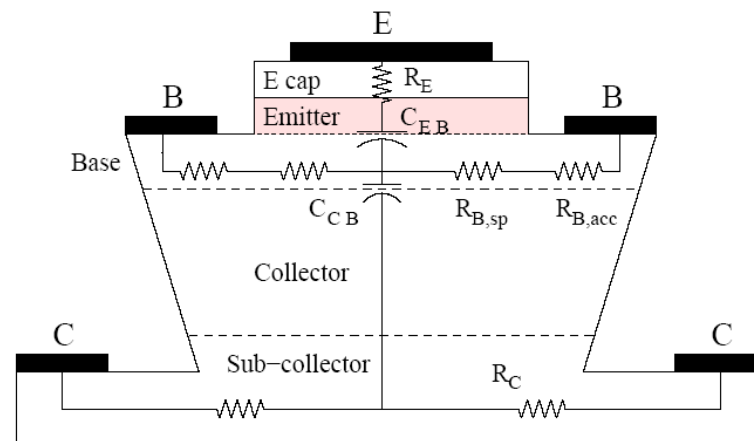
Hybrid- $\pi$  equivalent circuit

1-generator  
conductance circuit

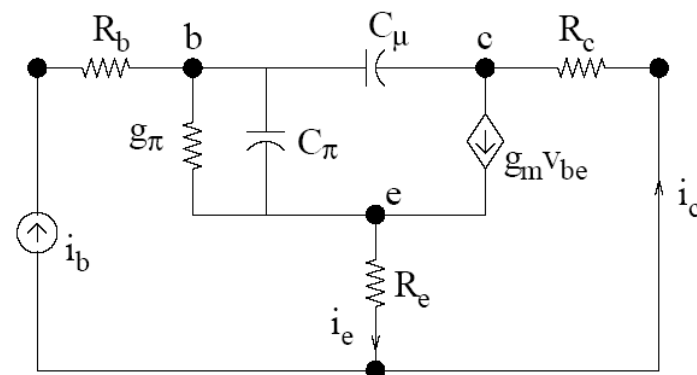


What are the conductances called?

HBT with parasitic R's  
and C's identified



Hybrid- $\pi$  equivalent circuit under AC  
short-circuit at the output.



What components have been left out?



# Capacitance

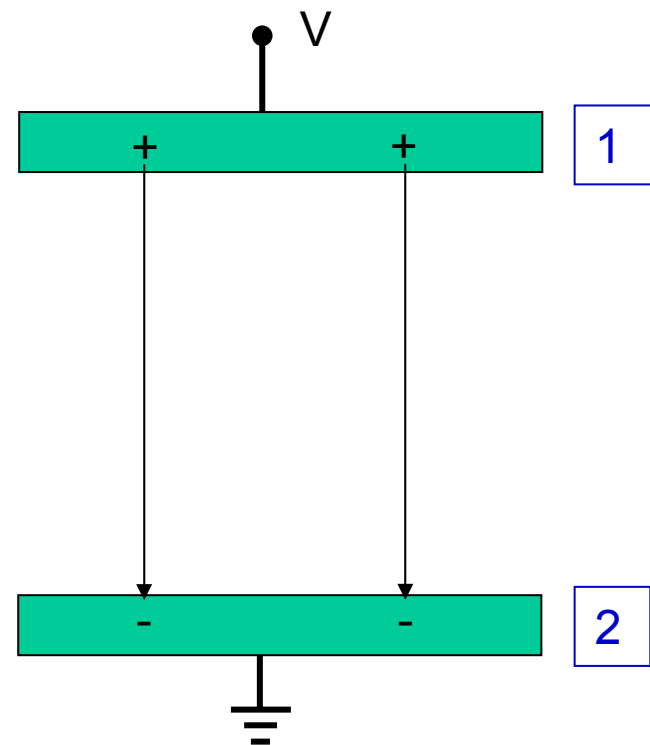
Generally:

$$C \equiv \frac{\partial Q}{\partial V}$$

Specifically:

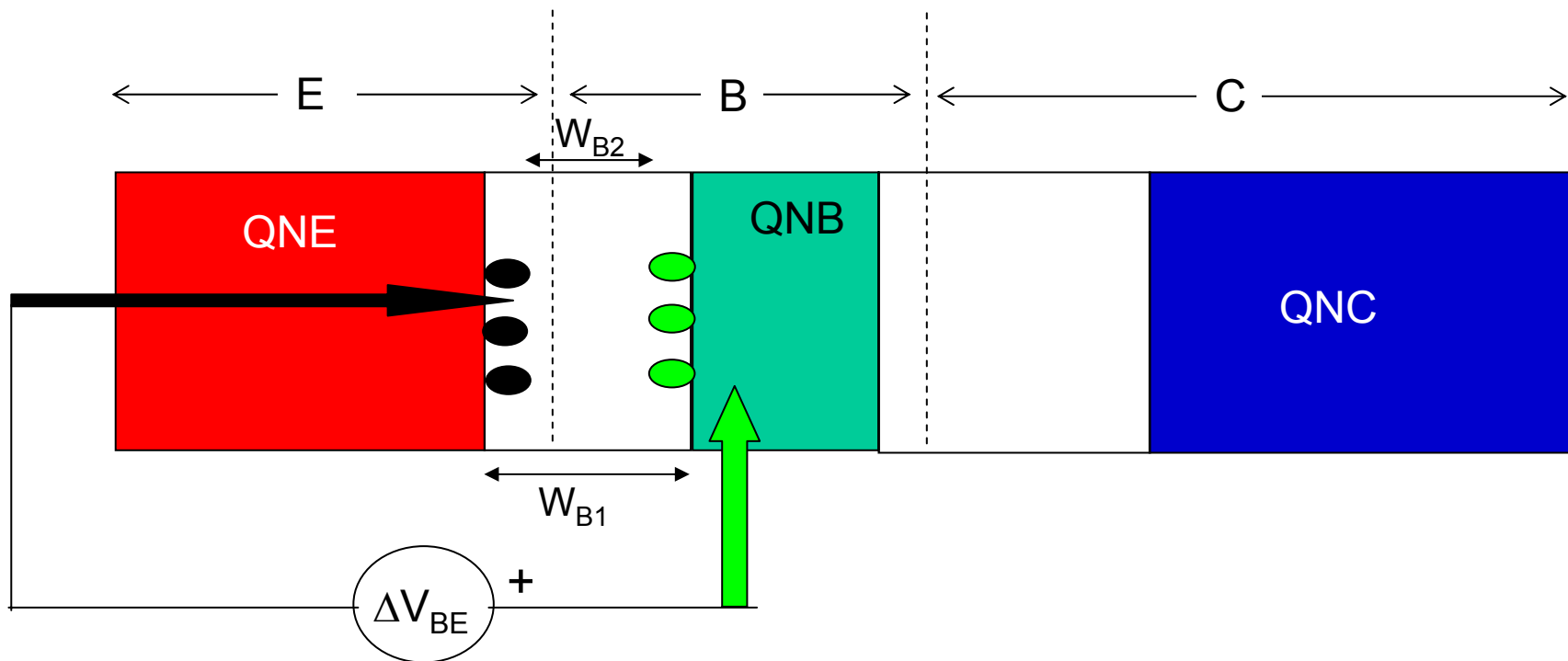
$$C_{j k} = -\frac{\partial Q_j}{\partial V_k} \quad \text{if } j \neq k$$

$$C_{j k} = +\frac{\partial Q_j}{\partial V_k} \quad \text{if } j = k$$

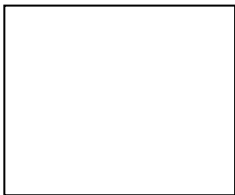


Sec.  
12.3.1

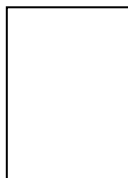
# Emitter-base junction-storage capacitance



$$C_{EB,j} =$$



$$C_{EB,j} \equiv$$

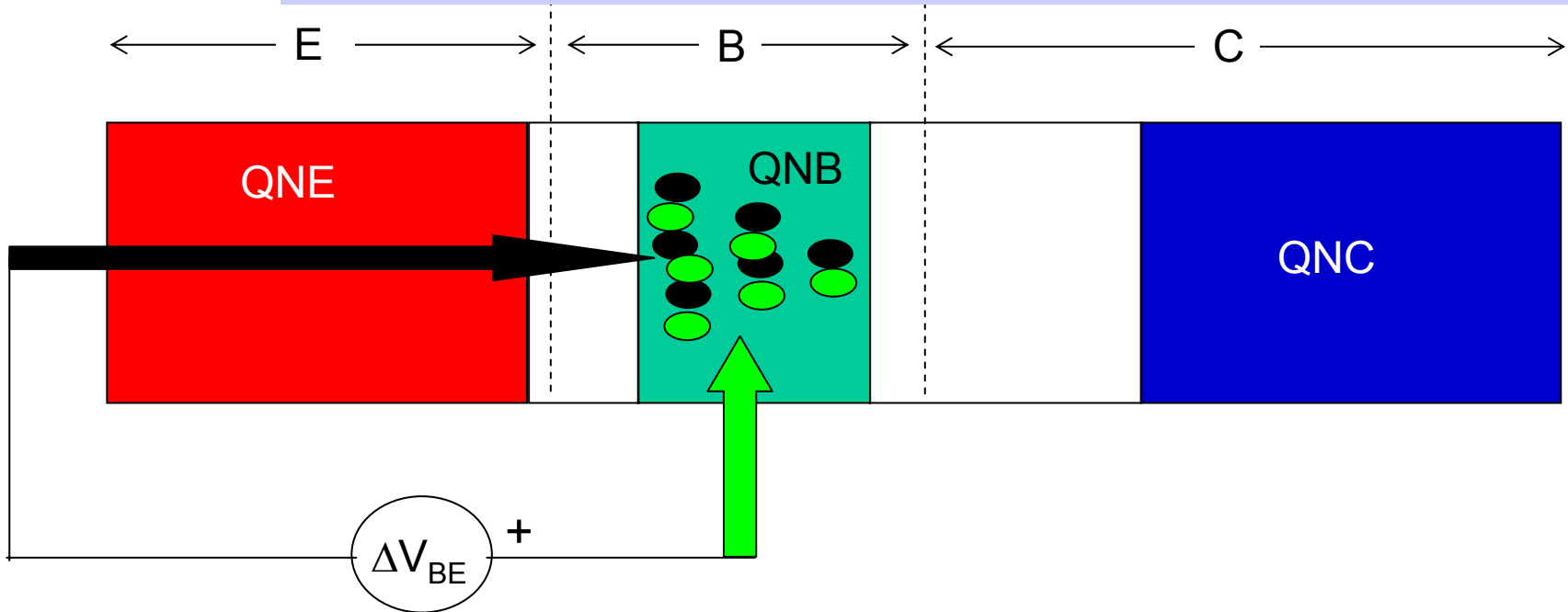


- $\Delta Q_{E,j}$  is the change in charge entering the device through the emitter and creating the new width of the depletion layer (narrowing it in this example),
- in response to a change in  $V_{BE}$  (with E & C at AC ground).
- It can be regarded as a parallel-plate cap.

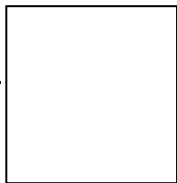
What is the voltage dependence of this cap?

Sec.  
12.3.2

## Emitter-base base-storage capacitance: concept



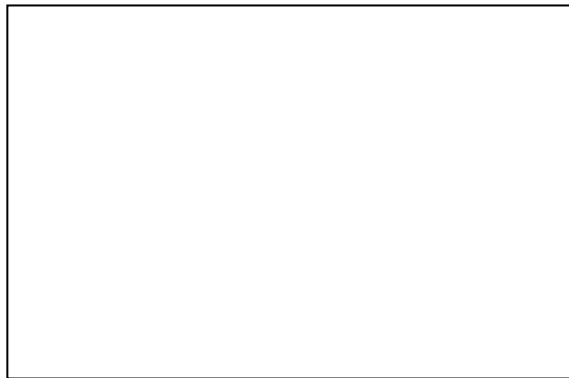
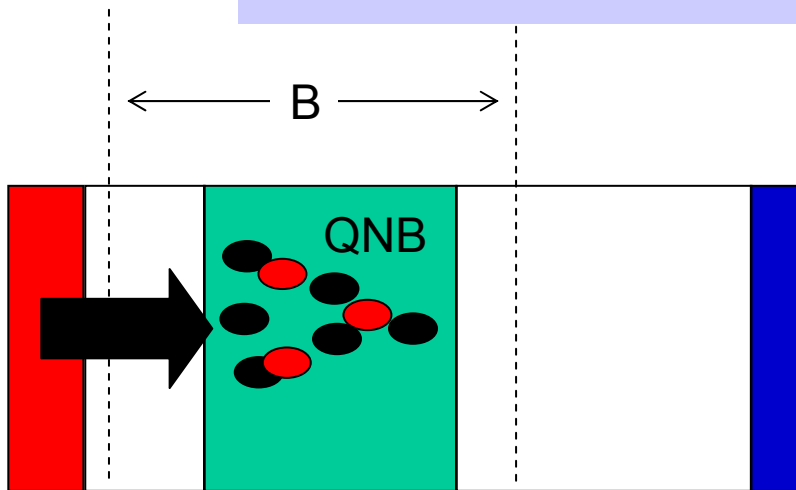
$$C_{EB,b} = -$$



- $\Delta Q_{E,b}$  is the change in charge entering the device through the emitter and resting in the base (the black electrons),
- in response to a change in  $V_{BE}$  (with E & C at AC ground).
- It's not a parallel-plate cap, and we only count one carrier.

Sec.  
12.3.2

# Emitter-base base-storage capacitance: evaluation



$$Q_{E,b}(V_{BE}) = -q \frac{1}{2} W_B A \left[ n_{0p} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE}}{V_{th}}\right) - n(W_B) \right] - q W_B A n(W_B)$$

$$\text{Take } \frac{\Delta Q_{E,b}}{\Delta V_{BE}} \rightarrow \frac{dQ_{E,b}}{dV_{BE}}$$

$$\text{Hence } C_{EB,b}$$

$$\underline{n(0, V_{BE1}) = n_{0p} \exp(V_{BE1} / V_{th})}$$

$$\underline{n(0, V_{BE2}) = n_{0p} \exp(V_{BE2} / V_{th})}$$

What is the voltage dependence of  $C_{EB,b}$  ?