

VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE

THAKURPUKUR KOLKATA-700063

NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE

Topic : Frequency Response of an Amplifier
Course Title : Analog Systems and Applications
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Name of the Department : Physics

Frequency response

- ❖ We know that gain factor are function of frequency.
- ❖ Amplifier gain versus frequency plot called frequency response curve.
- ❖ It is usefull to determine band width of the circuit.

Logarithmic Scale

- ❖ Analysis of amplifiers normally extends over a wide frequency range
- ❖ Logarithmic scale makes it comfortable to plot the response between wide limits

$$\text{Common logarithm: } x = \log_{10} a$$

$$\text{Natural logarithm: } y = \log_e a$$

$$\log_e a = 2.3 \log_{10} a$$

Decibels

- ❖ The term *decibel* has its origin in the fact that power and audio levels are related on a logarithmic basis.
- ❖ The bel (B) is defined by the following equation relating two power levels, P1 and P2 :

$$G = \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} \quad \text{bel}$$

The decibel (dB) is defined such that 10decibels = 1 bel

$$G_{\text{dB}} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} \quad \text{dB}$$

Cascaded Stages

One of the advantages of the logarithmic relationship is the manner in which it can be applied to cascaded stages.

The magnitude of the overall voltage gain of a cascaded system is given by

$$|A_{v_T}| = |A_{v_1}| \cdot |A_{v_2}| \cdot |A_{v_3}| \cdots |A_{v_n}|$$

The equation below states that the decibel gain of a cascaded system is simply the sum of the decibel gains of each stage

$$G_{dB_T} = G_{dB_1} + G_{dB_2} + G_{dB_3} + \cdots + G_{dB_n} \quad \text{dB}$$

Frequency response of Amplifier

Any frequency response curve can be split into three region

- ❖ Low frequency region
- ❖ Mid Frequency region
- ❖ High frequency region

Low Frequency region

To demonstrate how the larger coupling and bypass capacitors of a network will affect the frequency response of a system, the reactance of a 1- μ F (typical value for such applications) capacitor is tabulated in Table below for a wide range of frequencies.

Variation in $X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f C}$ with frequency for a 1- μ F capacitor

f	X_C	
10 Hz	15.91 k Ω	} Range of possible effect
100 Hz	1.59 k Ω	
1 kHz	159 Ω	
10 kHz	15.9 Ω	
100 kHz	1.59 Ω	} Range of lesser concern
1 MHz	0.159 Ω	
10 MHz	15.9 m Ω	} (\equiv short-circuit equivalence)
100 MHz	1.59 m Ω	

The larger capacitors of a system will have an important impact on the response of a system in the low-frequency range and can be ignored for the high-frequency region.

Mid Frequency region

- ❖ In the mid-frequency range the effect of the capacitive elements is largely ignored
- ❖ The amplifier considered ideal and composed simply of resistive elements and controlled sources

The effect of the capacitive elements in an amplifier are ignored for the mid-frequency range when important quantities such as the gain and impedance levels are determined.

High Frequency region

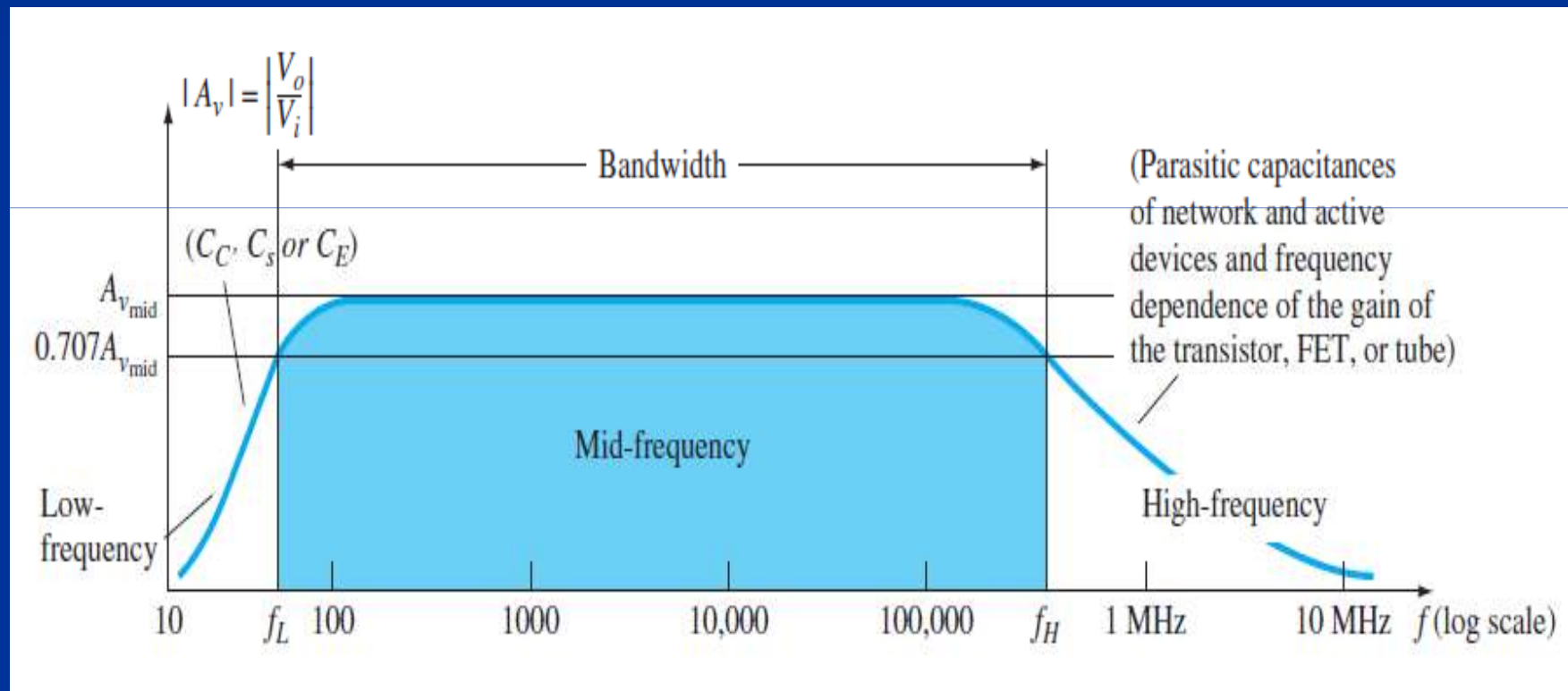
- ❖ The smaller capacitors that come into play in the higher frequencies region
- ❖ The frequency-dependent parameters of the small-signal equivalent circuits will limit the high-frequency response of the system

Variation in $X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC}$ with frequency for a
5 pF capacitor

f	X_C	
10 Hz	3,183 M Ω	} Range of lesser concern (\cong open-circuit equivalent)
100 Hz	318.3 M Ω	
1 kHz	31.83 M Ω	
10 kHz	3.183 M Ω	
100 kHz	318.3 k Ω	} Range of possible effect
1 MHz	31.83 k Ω	
10 MHz	3.183 k Ω	
100 MHz	318.3 Ω	

The smaller capacitors of a system will have an important impact on the response of a system in the high-frequency range and can be ignored for the low-frequency region.

Typical Frequency response curve



Phase plot for an RC-coupled amplifier

