

# **Chapter 2**

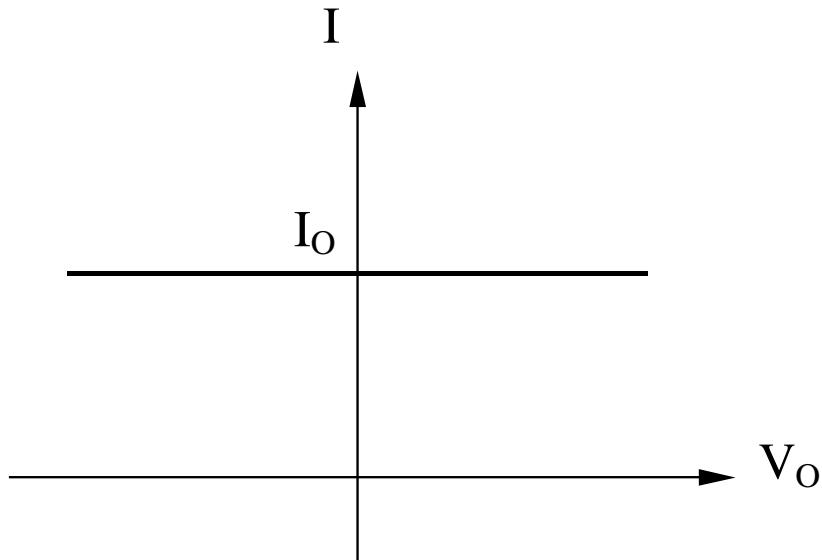
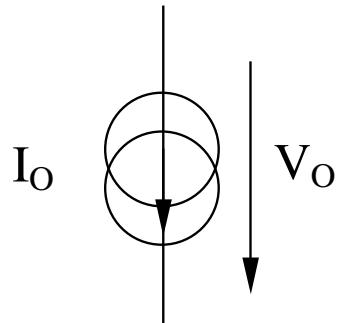
# **Current and voltage sources**

## **2.1. Current sources**

### **2.1.1. Introduction**

## 2.1. Current sources

### 2.1.1. Introduction



#### **Parameters:**

- The output current  $I_O$  is the current generated by the circuit [A]
- The output resistance [ $\Omega$ ]

$$R_O = \left. \frac{dV_O}{dI_O} \right|_{V_{CC}, T=ct.}$$

- Output minimum voltage [V]

- Temperature coefficient [A/K]

$$TC_{I_O} = \left. \frac{dI_O}{dT} \right|_{R_L, V_{CC} = ct.}$$

- Relative temperature coefficient [1/K]

$$RTC_{I_O} = \left. \frac{1}{I_O} \frac{dI_O}{dT} \right|_{R_L, V_{CC} = ct.}$$

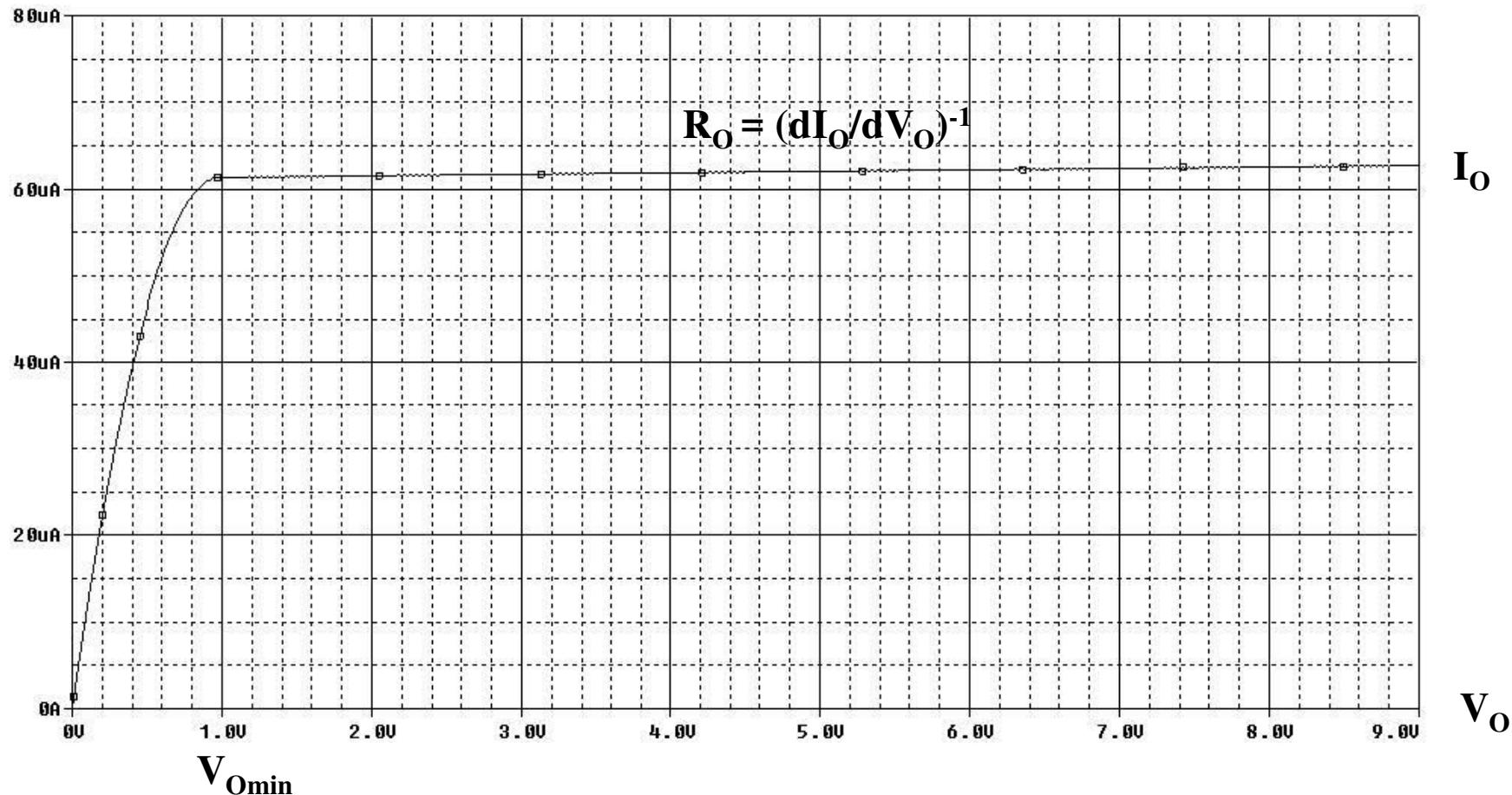
- Power supply rejection ratio [A/V]

$$PSRR = \left. \frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} \right|_{R_L, T = ct.}$$

- Sensibility of the output current on supply voltage variations [-]

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} = \left. \frac{dI_O / I_O}{dV_{CC} / V_{CC}} \right|_{R_L, T = ct.} = \left. \frac{V_{CC}}{I_O} \frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} \right|_{R_L, T = ct.}$$

$I_O$



$I_O$

$V_O$

Output characteristic of a current source

# Classification

## I. Elementary current sources

- reduced complexity
- poor performances

## II. Cascode current source

- increased output resistance
- increased minimum output voltage
- increased minimum supply voltage

## III. Self-biased current sources

- reduced dependence  $I_O (V_{CC})$
- requires a starting circuit

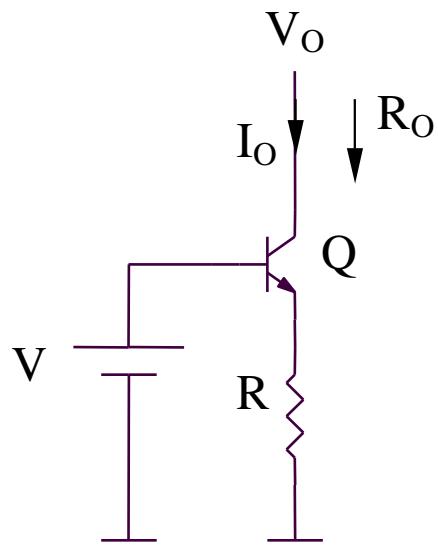
## IV. Temperature-compensated current sources

- increased complexity

## **2.1.2. Elementary current sources**

## 2.1.2. Elementary current sources

### Bipolar current source with a transistor

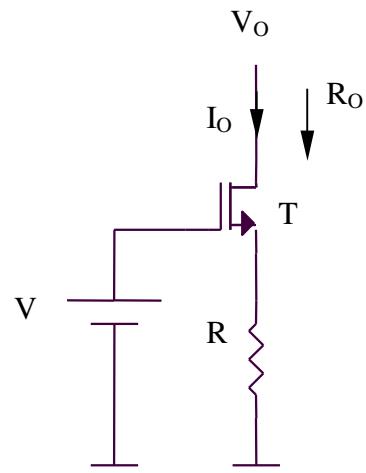


$$I_O = \frac{V - V_{BE}}{R}$$

$$R_O = r_o \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R}{r_\pi + R} \right)$$

$$V_{O\min} = V - V_{BE} + V_{CEsat}$$

## MOS current source with a transistor

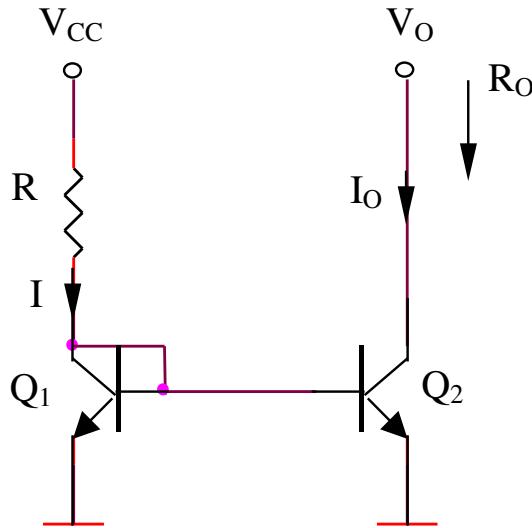


$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V = V_{GS} + I_O R \\ I_O = \frac{K}{2} (V_{GS} - V_T)^2 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow V = V_{GS} + \frac{KR}{2} (V_{GS} - V_T)^2$$
$$\Rightarrow V_{GS} (> V_T) \Rightarrow I_O$$

$$R_O = r_{ds} (1 + g_m R)$$

$$V_{O\min} = V - V_{GS} + (V_{GS} - V_T) = V - V_T$$

# Bipolar current mirror



**Output current**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I &= \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} \cong I_{S1} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE1}}{V_{th}}\right) \\ I_O &\cong I_{S2} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_{th}}\right) \\ V_{BE1} &= V_{BE2} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{I_O}{I} \cong \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}} \Rightarrow I_O \cong \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}$$

## Output resistance

$$R_O = r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_{C2}} = \frac{V_A}{I_O}$$

## Minimum output voltage

$$V_{O\min} = V_{CE2sat.}$$

## Early effect

$$I = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R} = I_{S1} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE1}}{V_{th}}\right) \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE1}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$I_O = I_{S2} \exp\left(\frac{V_{BE2}}{V_{th}}\right) \left(1 + \frac{V_{CE2}}{V_A}\right)$$

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}} \frac{1 + \frac{V_{CE1}}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{V_{CE2}}{V_A}} = \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}} \frac{1 + \frac{V_{BE1}}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{V_O}{V_A}}$$

## The influence of $\beta$

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{\beta I_B}{\beta I_B + 2I_B} = \frac{\beta}{\beta + 2}$$

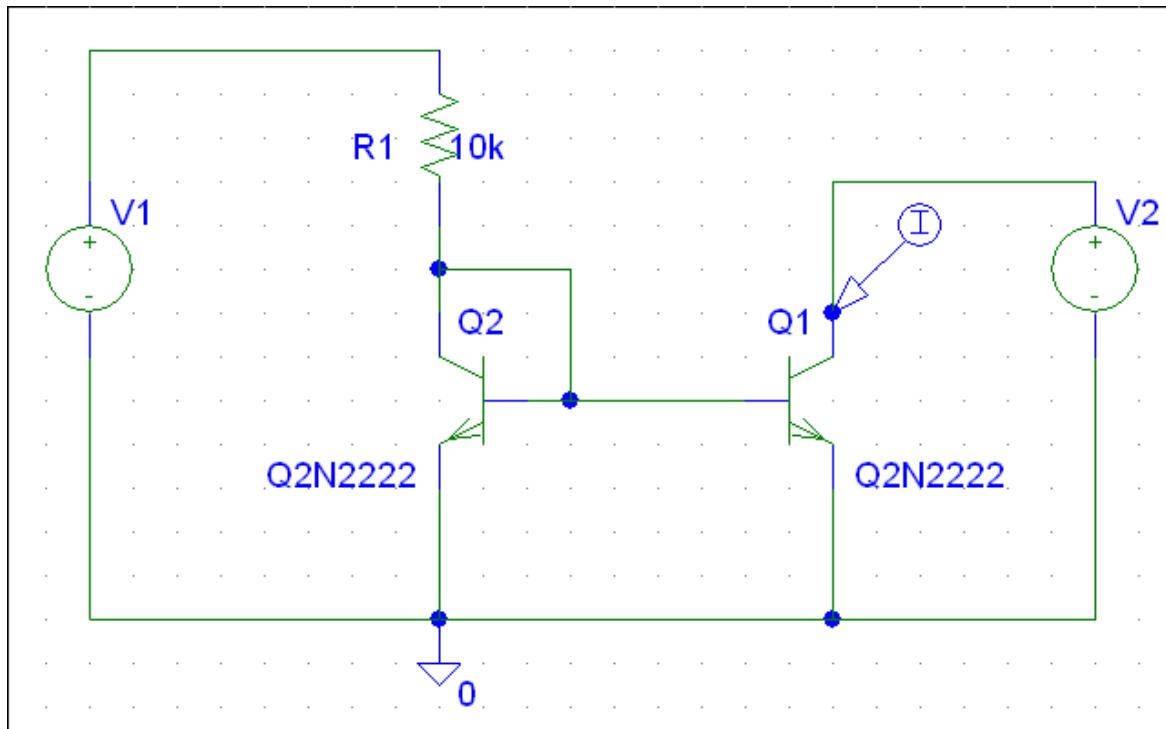
## **SIMULATIONS for bipolar current mirror**

### **Output characteristic**

# SIMULATIONS for bipolar current mirror

## Output characteristic

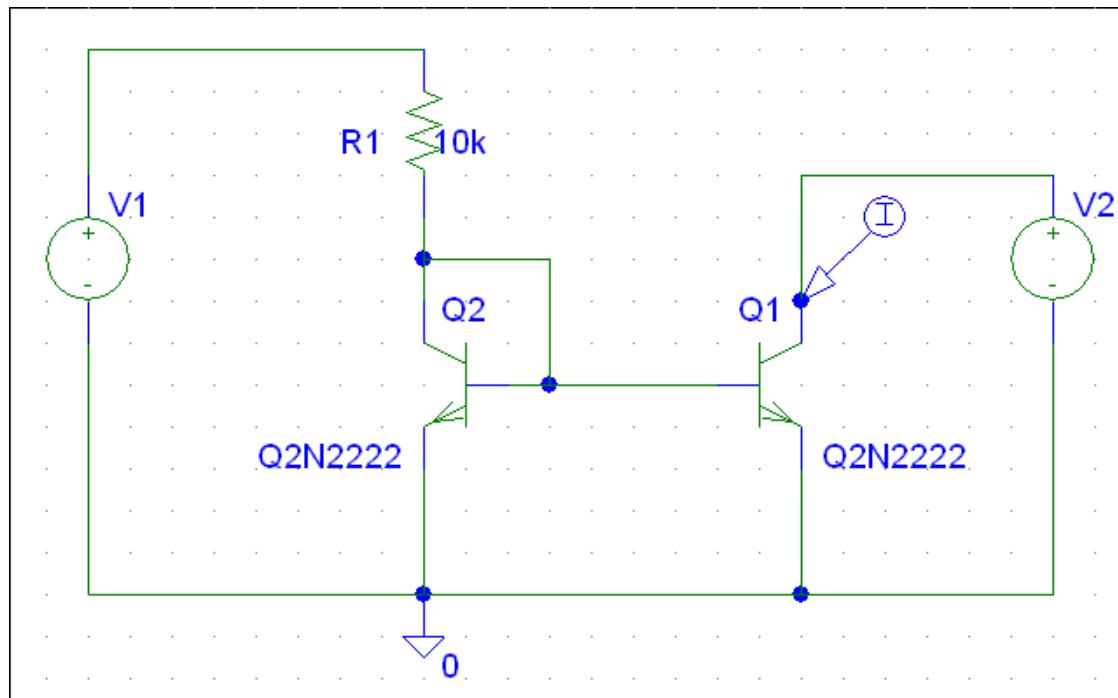
SIM 2.1:  $I_{C2}$  ( $V2$ )



# SIMULATIONS for bipolar current mirror

## Output characteristic

SIM 2.2:  $I_{C2}$  ( $V_2$ ),  $V_{A1}$  - parameter

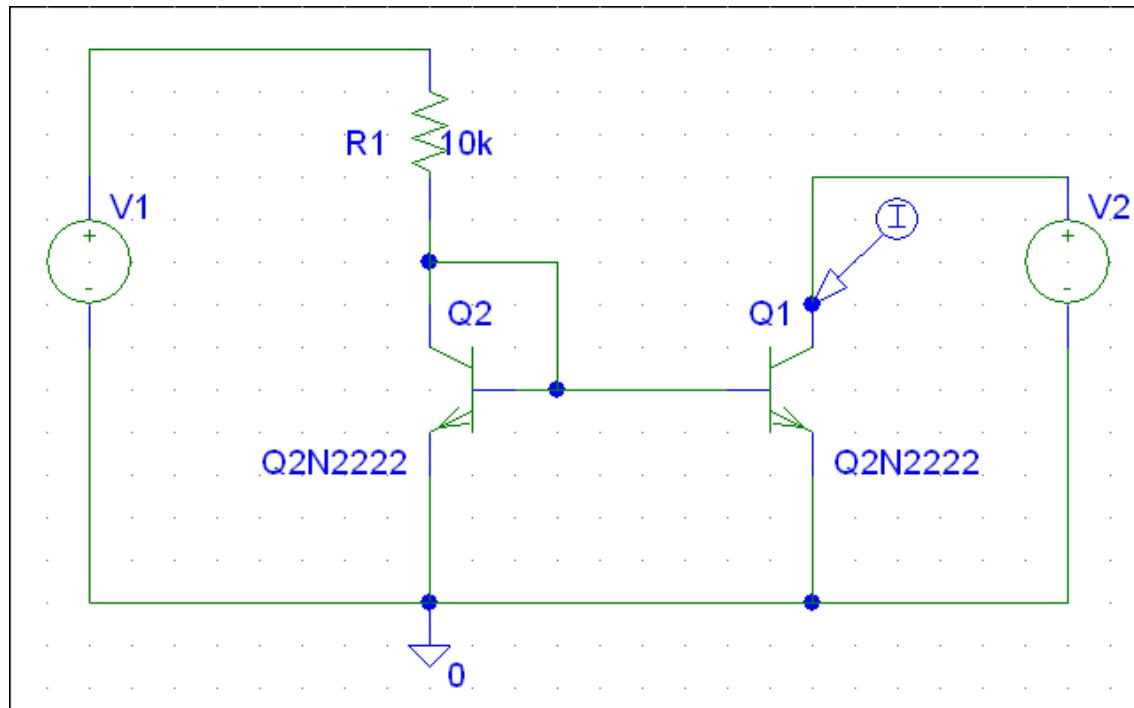


**SIMULATIONS for bipolar current mirror**  
**Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage**

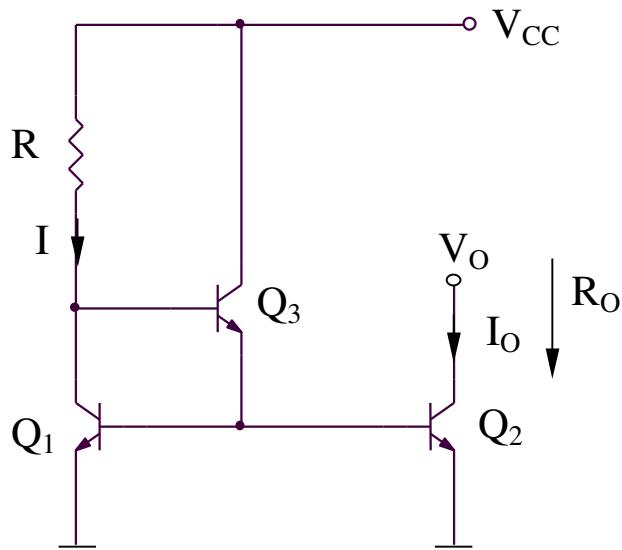
# SIMULATIONS for bipolar current mirror

## Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage

SIM 2.3:  $I_{C2}$  ( $V1$ )



# Current mirror with reduction of influence of $\beta$ (1)



**Output current**

$$I_O \cong I = \frac{V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R}$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_o = \frac{V_A}{I_{C2}} = \frac{V_A}{I_O}$$

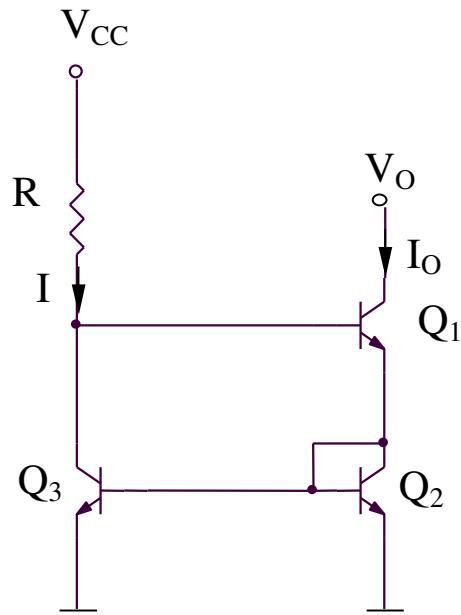
**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O\min} = V_{CE2sat.}$$

**The influence of  $\beta$**

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{\beta I_B}{\beta I_B + \frac{2I_B}{\beta + 1}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{\beta^2 + \beta}} \cong 1$$

# Current mirror with reduction of influence of $\beta$ (2)



**Output resistance**

$$I_O \cong I = \frac{V_{CC} - 2V_{BE}}{R}$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$R_O \cong \frac{\beta r_{o1}}{2}$$

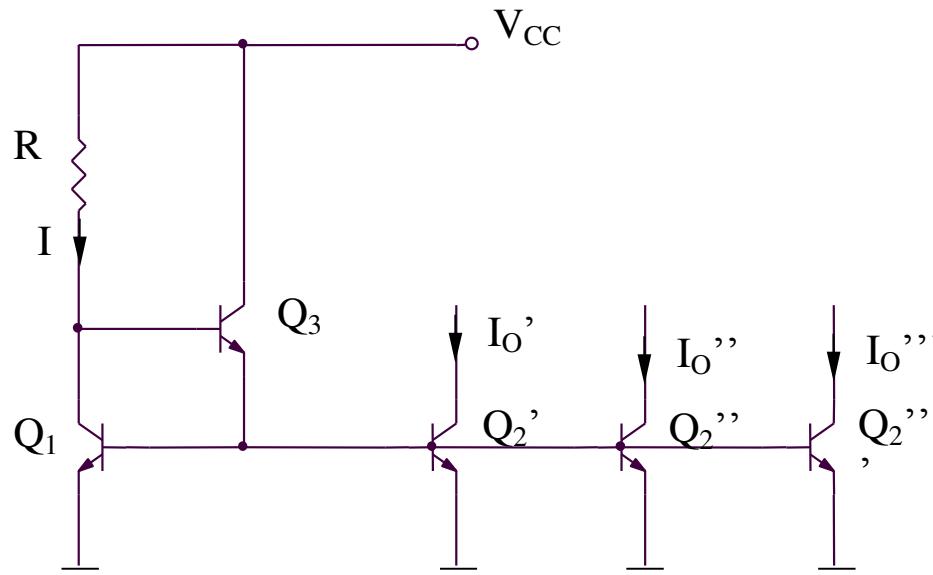
**Early effect**

$$V_{O\min} = V_{BE2} + V_{CE1sat.}$$

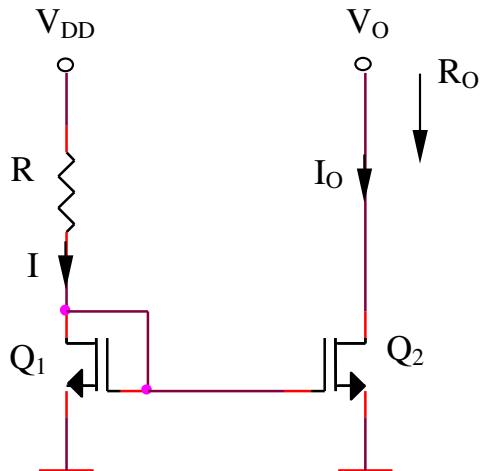
**The influence of  $\beta$**

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{\frac{\beta(\beta+2)}{\beta+1} I_B}{\beta I_B + \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1} I_B} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2}{\beta^2 + 2\beta}} \cong 1$$

# Multiple current mirror with reduction of influence of $\beta$



# MOS current mirror



**Output current**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_{DD} = I_O R + V_{GS1} \\ I_O = \frac{K}{2} (V_{GS1} - V_T)^2 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow V_{DD} = \frac{KR}{2} (V_{GS1} - V_T)^2 + V_{GS1} \Rightarrow \\ \Rightarrow (V_{GS1})_{1,2} = V_T - \frac{I}{KR} \pm \frac{I}{KR} \sqrt{1 + 2KR(V_{DD} - V_T)}$$

As  $V_{GS}$  must be greater than  $V_T$ , it results:

$$V_{GS1} = V_T - \frac{I}{KR} + \frac{I}{KR} \sqrt{1 + 2KR(V_{DD} - V_T)}$$

$$\Rightarrow I_O = \frac{1}{KR^2} [1 + KR(V_{DD} - V_T) - \sqrt{1 + 2KR(V_{DD} - V_T)}]$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{ds2} = \frac{I}{\lambda I_O}$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O\min} = V_{DS2sat} = V_{GS2} - V_T = \sqrt{\frac{2I_O}{K}}$$

**The effect of channel-length modulation**

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{\frac{K}{2}(V_{GS2} - V_T)^2(1 + \lambda V_{DS2})}{\frac{K}{2}(V_{GS1} - V_T)^2(1 + \lambda V_{DS1})} = \frac{1 + \lambda V_{DS2}}{1 + \lambda V_{DS1}} = \frac{1 + \lambda V_O}{1 + \lambda V_{GS1}}$$

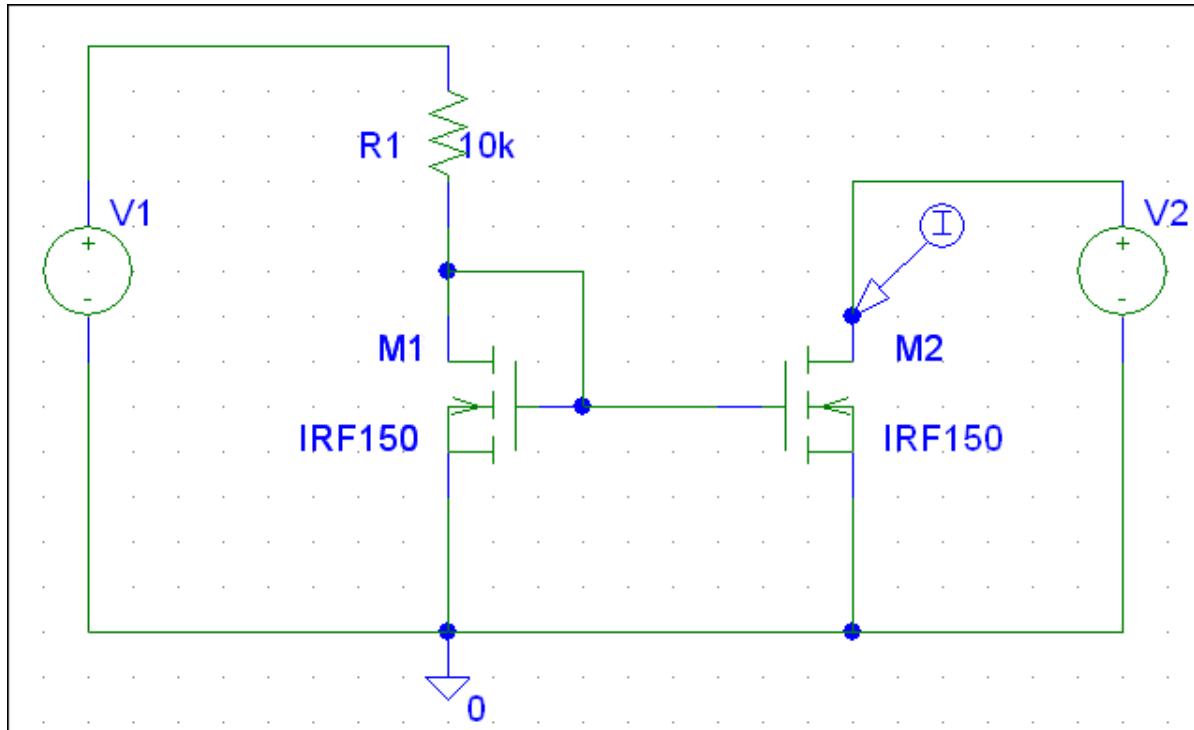
## **SIMULATIONS for CMOS current mirror**

### **Output characteristic**

# SIMULATIONS for CMOS current mirror

## Output characteristic

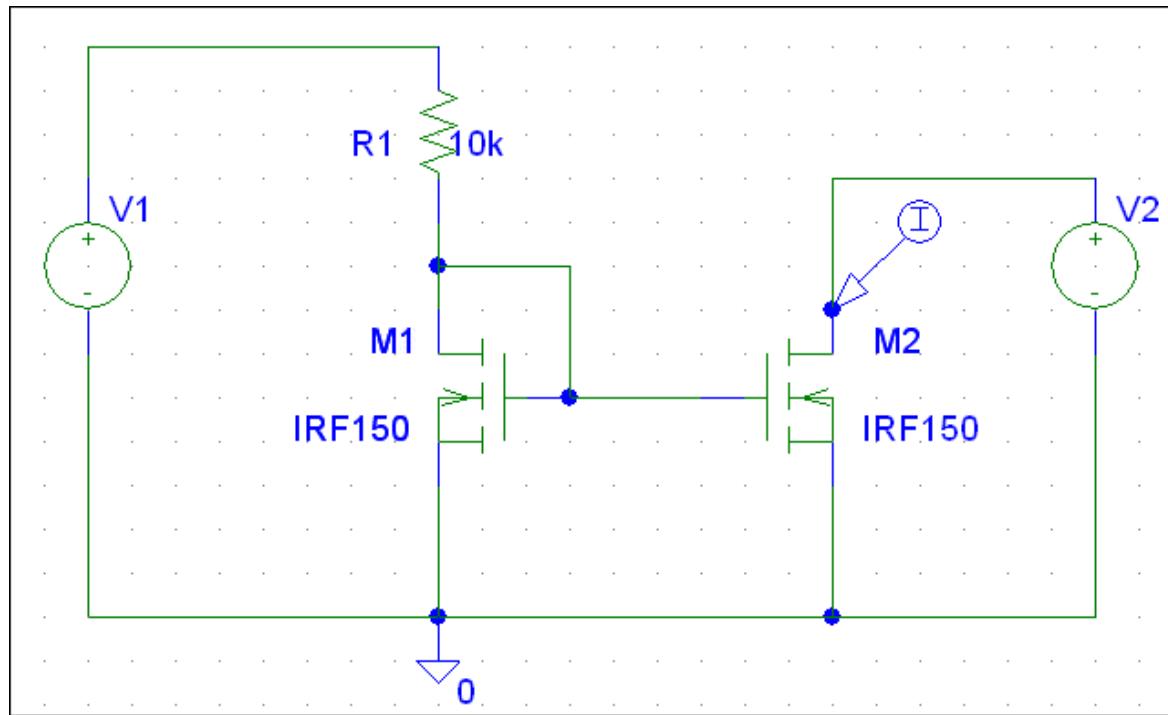
SIM 2.4:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V2$ )



# SIMULATIONS for CMOS current mirror

## Output characteristic

SIM 2.5:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V_2$ ),  $r_{ds2}$  - parameter

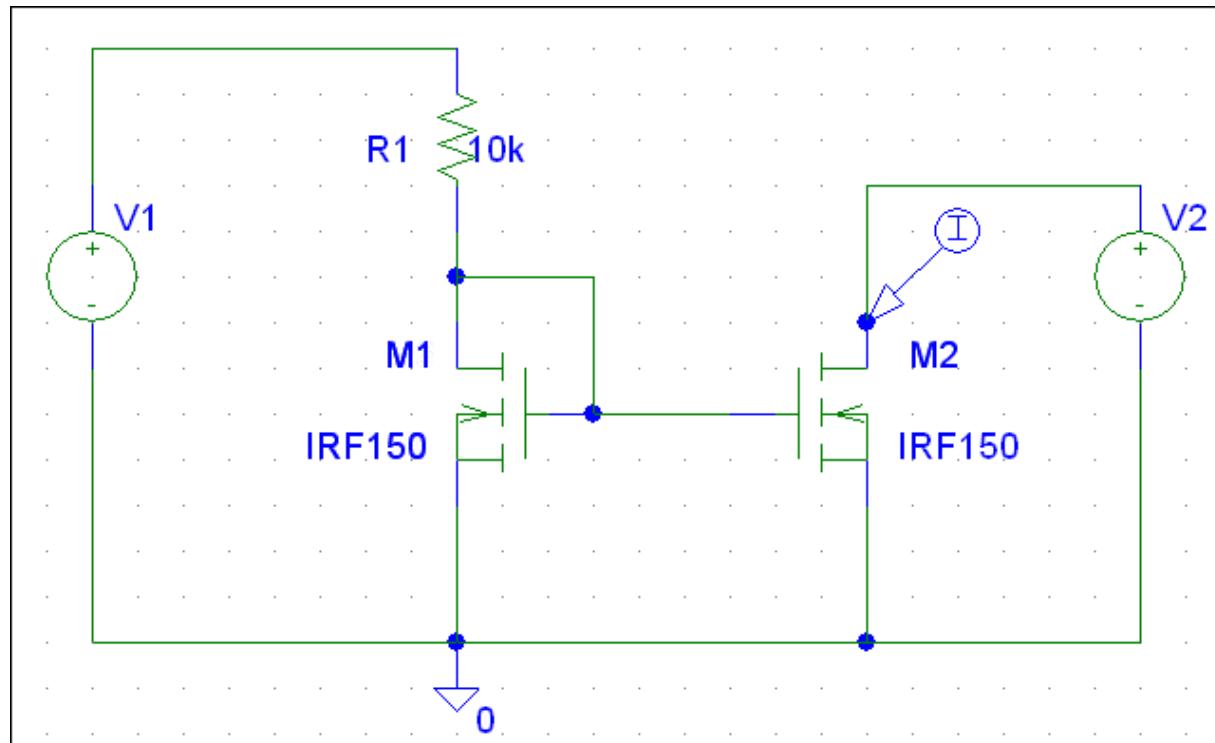


**SIMULATIONS for CMOS current mirror**  
**Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage**

# SIMULATIONS for CMOS current mirror

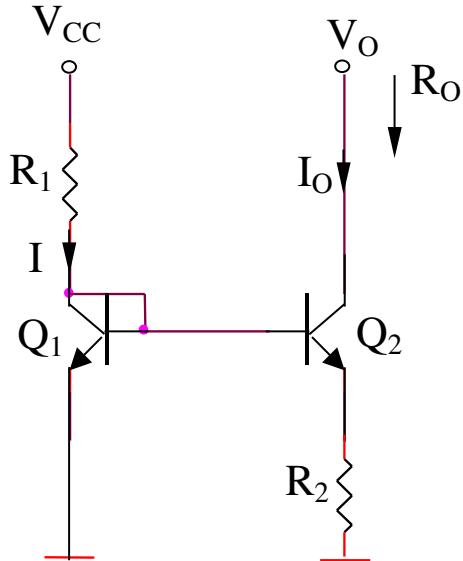
## Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage

SIM 2.6:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V1$ )



# Bipolar Widlar current source

**Output current**



$$I = \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_1}$$

$$I_O = \frac{V_{BE1} - V_{BE2}}{R_2} = \frac{V_{th} \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_S}\right) - V_{th} \ln\left(\frac{I_O}{I_S}\right)}{R_2}$$

$$I_O = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_O}\right) = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_1 I_O}\right)$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O\min} = V_{CE2sat.} + I_O R_2$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_o \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_2}{r_{\pi 2} + R_2 + (1/g_m 1) // R_1} \right) = \frac{V_A}{I_O} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_2}{r_{\pi 2} + R_2 + (1/g_m 1) // R_1} \right)$$

## Power supply rejection ratio

$$\frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} = \frac{d}{dV_{CC}} \left[ \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \left( \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_1 I_O} \right) \right]$$

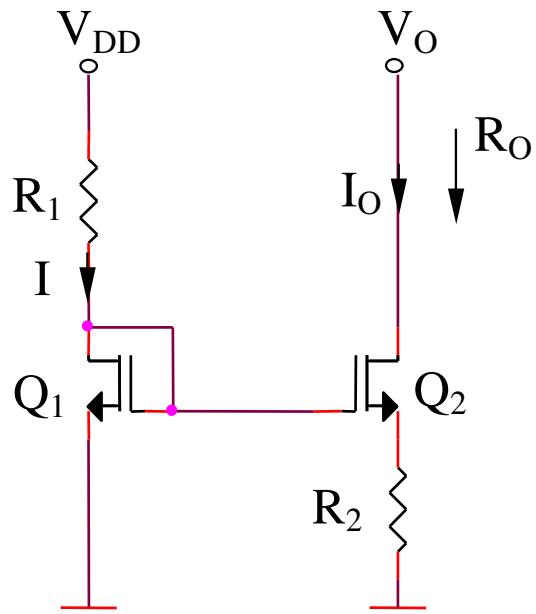
$$\frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \frac{R_1 I_O - (V_{CC} - V_{BE}) R_1}{V_{CC} - V_{BE}} \frac{\frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}}}{(R_1 I_O)^2}$$

$$\frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} = \frac{\frac{1}{R_2} \frac{V_{th}}{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}}{1 + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2 I_O}}$$

**Sensibility of the output current on supply voltage variations**

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} = \frac{V_{CC}}{I_O} \frac{dI_O}{dV_{CC}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_2 I_O}{V_{th}}} = \frac{1}{1 + \ln \left( \frac{V_{CC} - V_{BE}}{R_1 I_O} \right)}$$

# MOS Widlar current source



**Output current**

$$V_{GS1} = V_T - \frac{I}{KR_1} + \frac{I}{KR_1} \sqrt{1 + 2KR_1(V_{DD} - V_T)}$$

$$V_{GS1} = V_{GS2} + I_O R_2 = V_{GS2} + \frac{KR_2}{2} (V_{GS2} - V_T)^2$$

$$(V_{GS2} > V_T)$$

$$I_O = \frac{K}{2} (V_{GS2} - V_T)^2 (1 + \lambda V_{DS2})$$

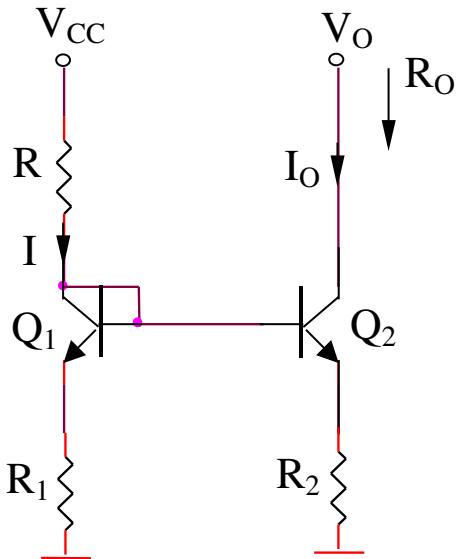
**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O\min} = V_{DS2sat} + I_O R_2 = \sqrt{\frac{2I_O}{K}} + I_O R_2$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{ds2} (1 + g_m R_2)$$

# Standard current source



Output current

$$v_{BE1} + R_1 I = v_{BE2} + R_2 I_O$$

$$I_O = \frac{1}{R_2} (R_1 I + v_{BE1} - v_{BE2})$$

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{R_1}{R_2} + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2 I} \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_O} \frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}\right)$$

It is possible to determine  $I/I_O$  because:

$$I = \frac{V_{CC} - v_{BE}}{R + R_1}$$

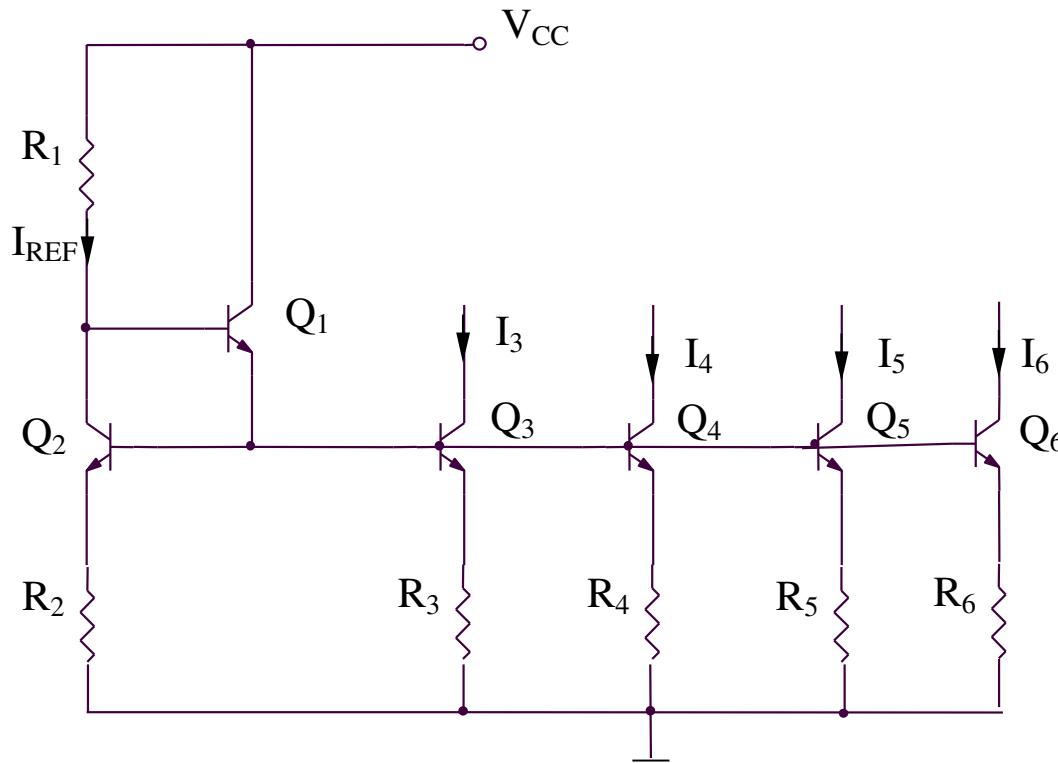
If  $R_1 I \gg v_{BE1} - v_{BE2}$ :

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

Output resistance

$$R_O = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_2}{R_2 + r_{\pi2} + R // (1/g_m1 + R_1)} \right)$$

# Standard current sources with multiple outputs



If the emitters areas are choose in order to have equal courant densities  $j$ , the base-emitter voltages are also equal.

$$v_{BE2} - v_{BE3} = V_{th} \ln \left( \frac{I_{REF}}{I_3} \frac{I_{S3}}{I_{S2}} \right) = V_{th} \ln \left( \frac{jA_2}{jA_3} \frac{A_3}{A_2} \right) = 0$$

So:

$$v_{BE2} = \dots = v_{BE6}$$

and:

$$I_3 R_3 = I_4 R_4 = I_5 R_5 = I_6 R_6 = I_{REF} R_2$$

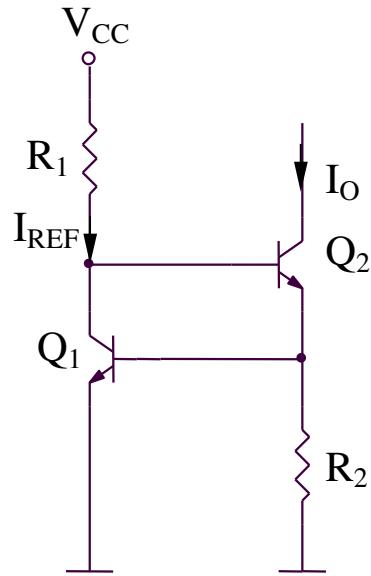
The four output currents are:

$$I_3 = I_{REF} \frac{R_2}{R_3}; \dots; I_6 = I_{REF} \frac{R_2}{R_6}$$

where:

$$I_{REF} = \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{R_1 + R_2}$$

# Current source using as reference the base-emitter voltage

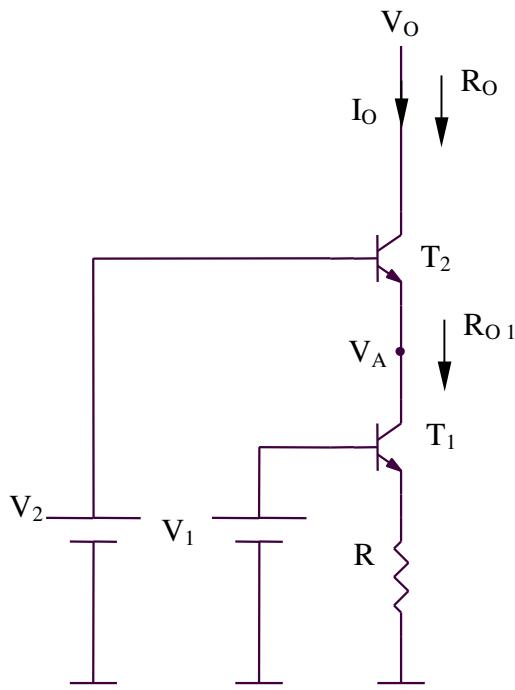


$$I_O = \frac{v_{BE1}}{R_2} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{R_I I_S}$$

### **2.1.3. Cascode current sources**

### **2.1.3. Cascode current sources**

## Bipolar cascode current source (1)



## Output current

$$I_O = \frac{V_I - V_{BE1}}{R}$$

# Output resistance

$$R_O = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_{O1}}{r_{\pi 2} + R_{O1}} \right) \cong \beta r_{O2}$$

$$R_{O1} = r_{o1} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R}{r_{\pi 1} + R} \right) >> r_{\pi 2}$$

## Minimum output voltage

$$V_{O\min} = V_A + V_{CE2sat} = V_2 - V_{BE2} + V_{CE2sat}$$

## **It is necessary that:**

$$V_{CE1} > V_{CE1sat} \Leftrightarrow$$

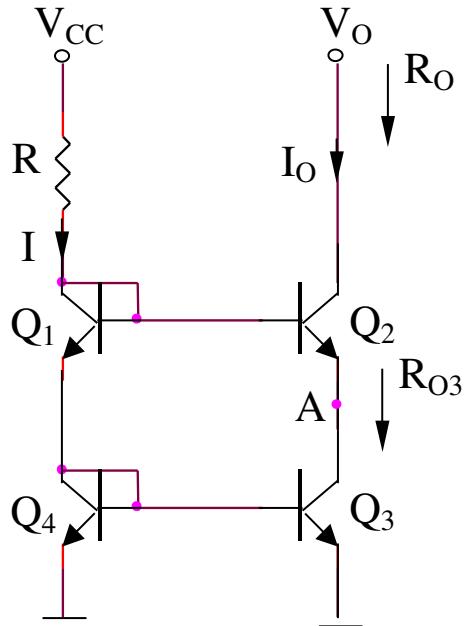
$$\Leftrightarrow (V_2 - V_{BE2}) - (V_1 - V_{BE1}) > V_{CE1sat} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow V_2 - V_I > V_{CE1sat}$$

# Bipolar cascode current source (2)

**Output current**

$$I_O = I = \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{R}$$



**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{o2} \left( 1 + \beta \frac{R_{O3}}{r_{\pi 2} + R_{O3} + R/(2/g_m 1)} \right)$$

$$R_{O3} = r_{o3} \gg r_{\pi 2}, R/(2/g_m 1)$$

So:

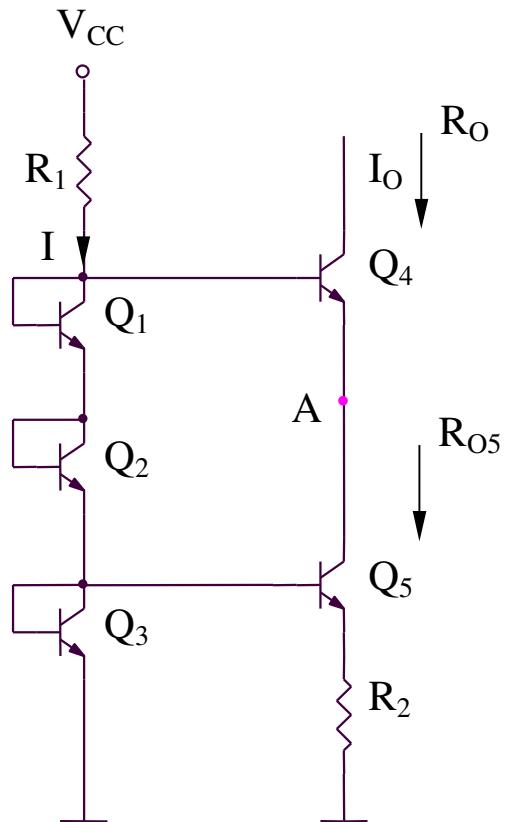
$$R_O \approx \beta r_{o2}$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O \min} = V_A + V_{CE2sat}$$

$$V_A = v_{BE1} + v_{BE4} - v_{BE2} = v_{BE}$$

## Bipolar cascode current source (3)



**Output current**

$$I_O = \frac{v_{BE3} - v_{BE5}}{R_2} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_O}\right)$$

$$I = \frac{V_{CC} - 3v_{BE}}{R_1}$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{o4} \left( 1 + \beta \frac{R_{O5}}{r_{\pi4} + R_{O5} + R_1/(3/g_{m1})} \right)$$

$$R_{O5} \cong r_{o5} \left( 1 + \frac{\beta R_2}{r_{\pi5} + R_2 + 1/g_{m3}} \right)$$

$$R_{O5} \gg r_{\pi4}, R_1/(3/g_{m1})$$

So:

$$R_O \cong \beta r_{o4}$$

**Minimum output voltage**

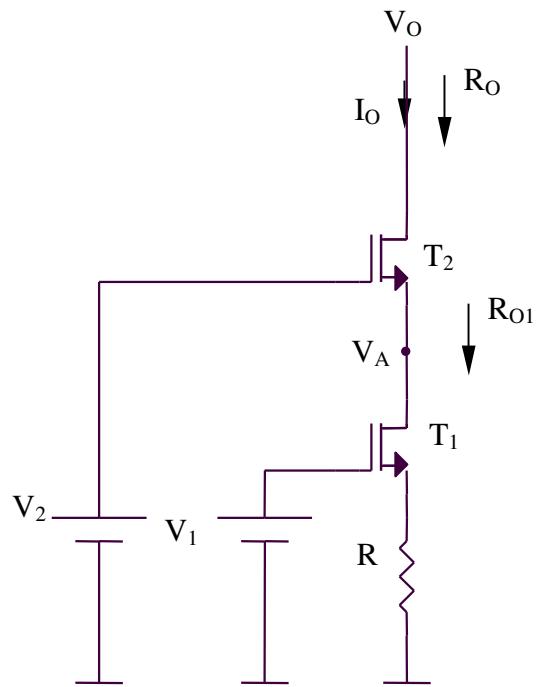
$$V_{O\min} = V_A + V_{CE4sat}$$

$$V_A = 2v_{BE}$$

# MOS cascode current source (1)

## Output current

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_I = V_{GS1} + I_O R \\ I_O = \frac{K}{2} (V_{GS1} - V_T)^2 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow V_I = V_{GS1} + \frac{KR}{2} (V_{GS1} - V_T)^2 \Rightarrow V_{GS1} (> V_T) \Rightarrow I_O$$



## Output resistance

$$R_O = r_{ds2} (1 + g_m R_{O1}) \approx g_m r_{ds}^2$$

$$R_{O1} = r_{ds1} (1 + g_m R)$$

## Minimum output voltage

$$V_{Omin} = V_2 - V_{GS2} + (V_{GS2} - V_T) = V_2 - V_T$$

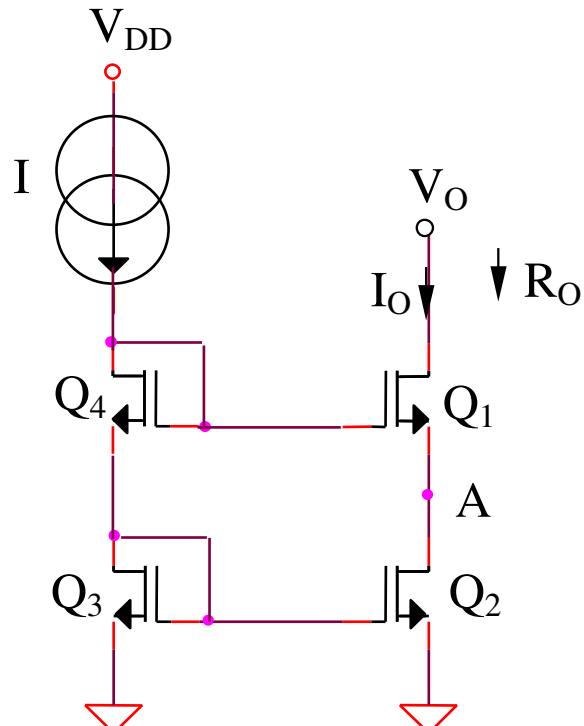
**It is necessary that:**

$$V_{DS1} > V_{DS1sat} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (V_2 - V_{GS2}) - (V_I - V_{GS1}) > V_{DS1sat} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow V_2 - V_I > V_{DS1sat} = V_{GS} - V_T = \sqrt{\frac{2I_O}{K}}$$

# MOS cascode current source (2)



**Output current**

$$\frac{I_O}{I} = \frac{1 + \lambda V_{DS2}}{1 + \lambda V_{DS3}}$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{ds1} (1 + g_m r_{ds2}) \approx g_m r_{ds}^2$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$V_{O\min} = V_A + V_{DS1sat} = V_{GS} + (V_{GS} - V_T)$$

$$V_{O\min} = 2V_{GS} - V_T \approx V_T + 2\sqrt{\frac{2I}{K}}$$

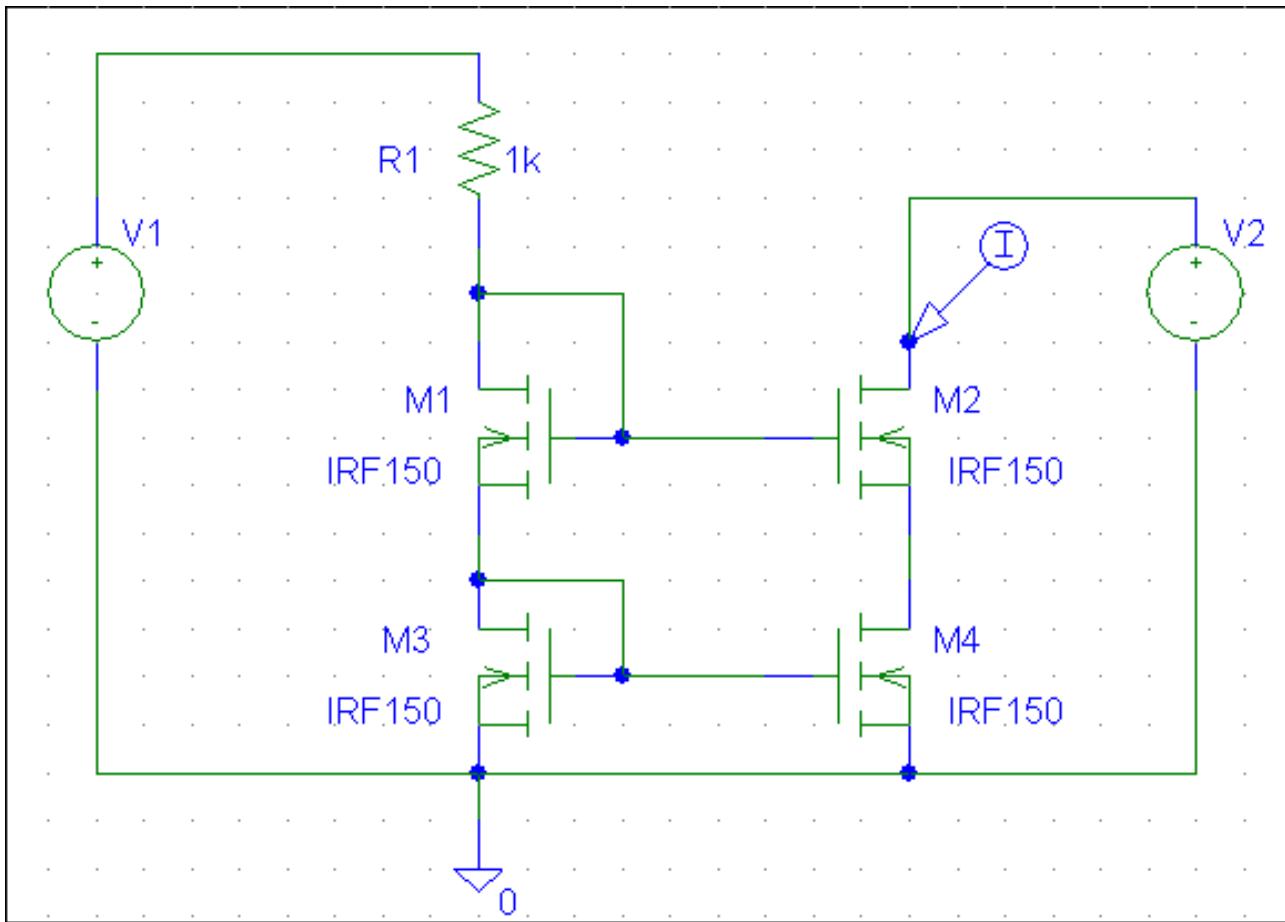
**SIMULATIONS for CMOS cascode current mirror**

**Output characteristic**

# SIMULATIONS for CMOS cascode current mirror

## Output characteristic

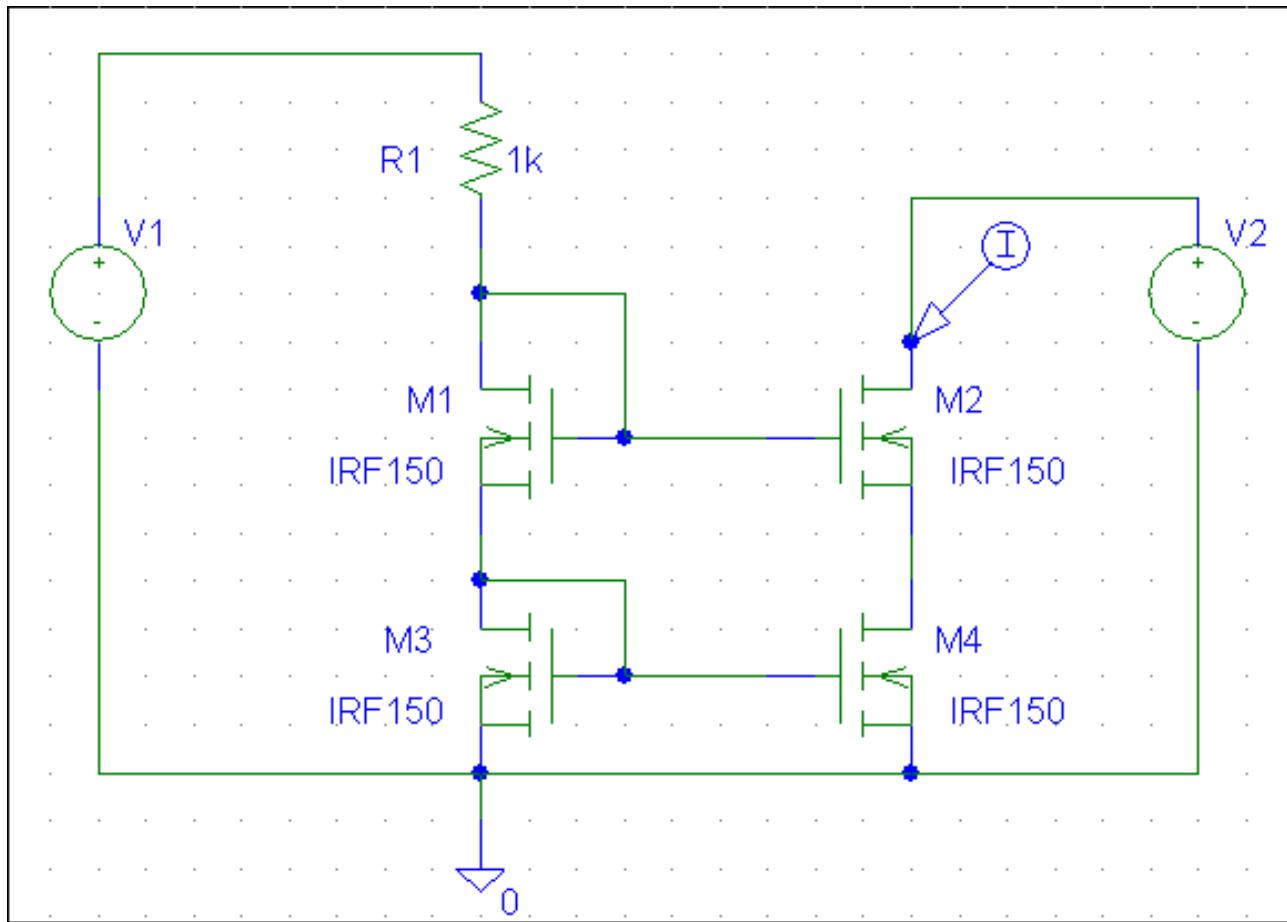
**SIM 2.7:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V_2$ )**



# SIMULATIONS for CMOS cascode current mirror

## Output characteristic

**SIM 2.8:**  $I_{D2}$  ( $V_2$ ),  $r_{ds2}$ ,  $r_{ds4}$  - parameters

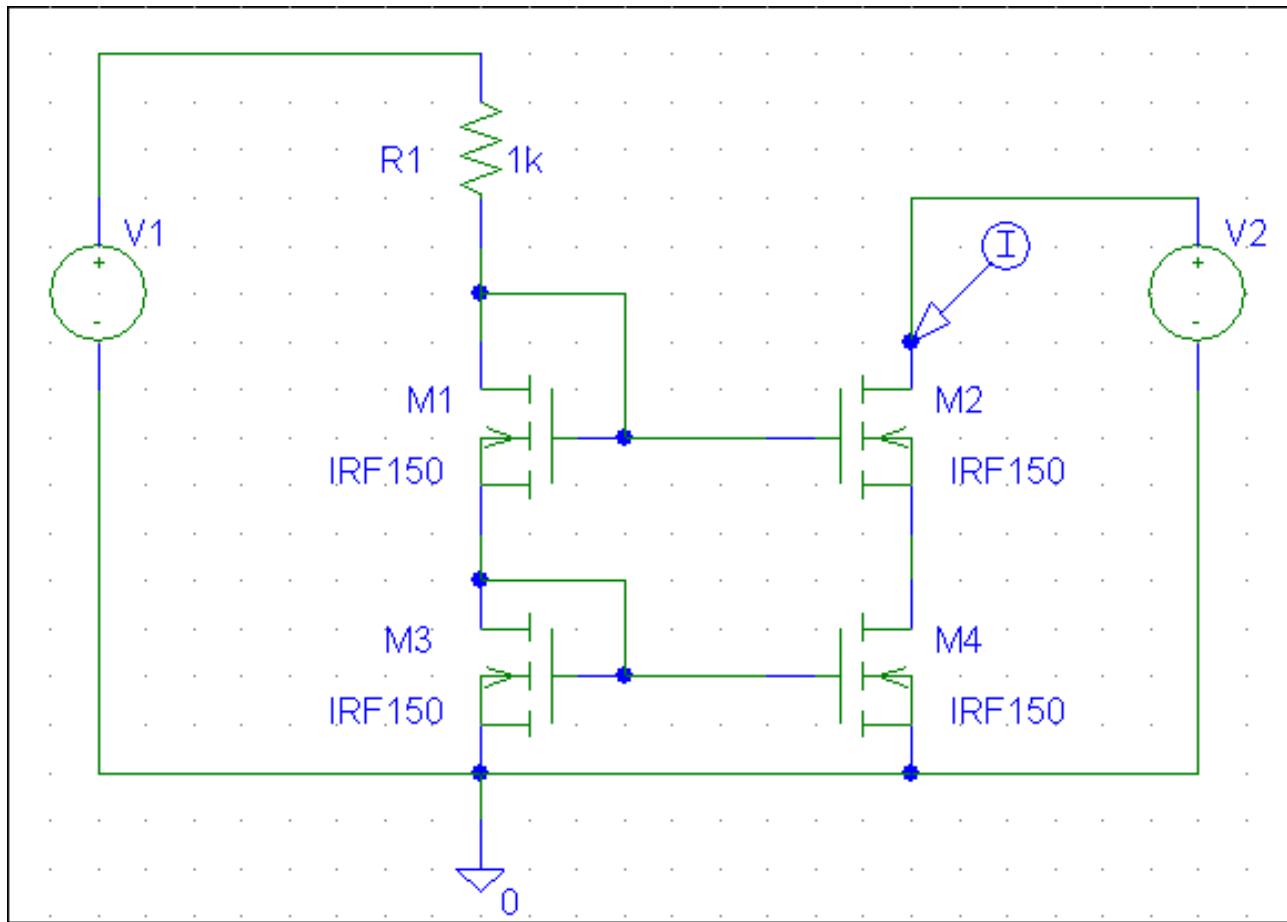


**SIMULATIONS for CMOS cascode current mirror**  
**Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage**

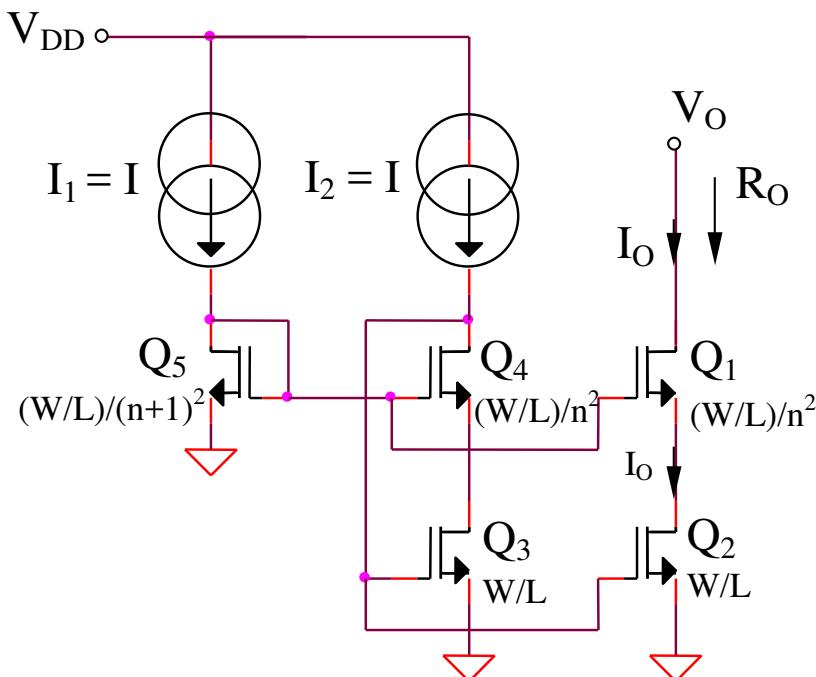
# SIMULATIONS for CMOS cascode current mirror

## Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage

**SIM 2.9:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V_1$ )**



# MOS cascode current source (3)



**Output current**

$$I_O = I$$

**Output resistance**

$$R_O = r_{ds1} \left( 1 + g_m r_{ds2} \right) \cong g_m r_{ds}^2$$

**Minimum output voltage**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I &= \frac{K'}{2} \frac{W / L}{(n+1)^2} (V_{GS5} - V_T)^2 \\ I &= \frac{K'}{2} \frac{W / L}{n^2} (V_{GS1(4)} - V_T)^2 \\ I &= \frac{K'}{2} (W / L) (V_{GS2(3)} - V_T)^2 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} V_{GS5} - V_T = (n+1)(V_{GS2(3)} - V_T) \\ V_{GS1(4)} - V_T = n(V_{GS2(3)} - V_T) \end{cases}$$

The drain-source voltage for Q<sub>2</sub> is:

$$V_{DS2} = V_{GS5} - V_{GS1} = (V_{GS5} - V_T) - (V_{GS1} - V_T) = V_{GS2} - V_T = V_{DS2sat}$$

So, T<sub>2</sub> is biased at the saturation limit and it results:

$$V_{Omin} = V_{DS1sat} + V_{DS2} = (n+1)(V_{GS2} - V_T) = (n+1)\sqrt{\frac{2I}{K}}$$

## **2.1.4. Self-biased current sources**

## 2.1.4. Self-biased current sources

### Current mirror

$$I_O = \frac{V_{CC} - v_{BE}}{R}$$

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} = \frac{V_{CC}}{I_O} \frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} \cong 1$$

### Widlar current source

$$I_O = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \frac{I}{I_O}$$

$$\frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \frac{I_O}{I} \left( \frac{1}{I_O} \frac{\partial I}{\partial V_{CC}} - \frac{I}{I_O^2} \frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{\frac{V_{th}}{IR_2}}{1 + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2 I_O}} \frac{\partial I}{\partial V_{CC}}$$

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} = \frac{V_{CC}}{I_O} \frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{V_{CC}}{I} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_2 I_O}{V_{th}}} \frac{\partial I}{\partial V_{CC}} \cong \frac{1}{1 + \frac{R_2 I_O}{V_{th}}}$$

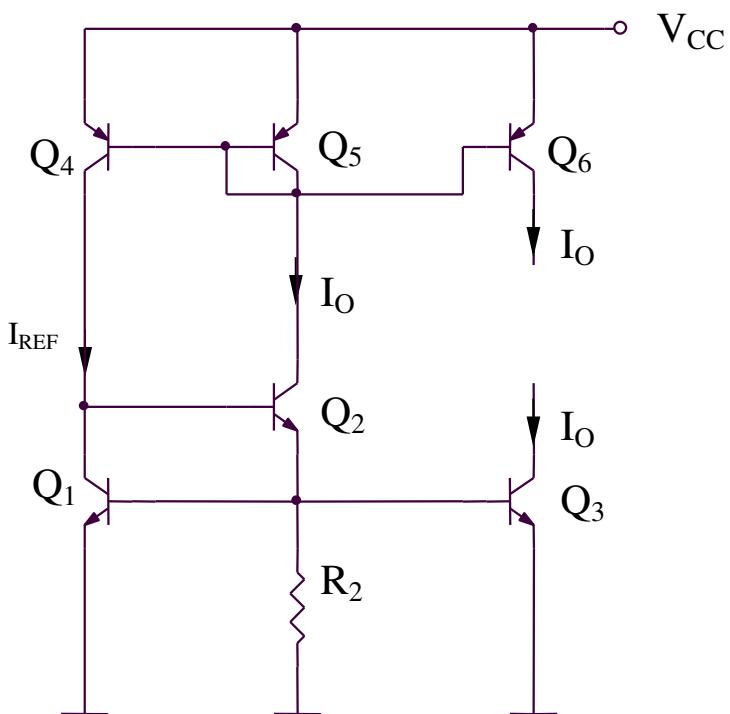
## Current source using as reference the base-emitter voltage

$$I_O = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{R_1 I_S}$$

$$\frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} \cong \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \frac{R_1 I_S}{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}} \frac{1}{R_1 I_S}$$

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} \cong \frac{V_{th}}{v_{BE}} \cong 4\%$$

# Self-biased current source using as reference the base-emitter voltage



$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 I_O &= \frac{v_{BE1}}{R_2} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \frac{I_{REF}}{I_S} \\
 \frac{I_{REF}}{I_O} &= \frac{1 + \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{V_A}}{1 + \frac{v_{BE}}{V_A}} \cong 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{V_A}
 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow I_O = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \frac{I_O}{I_S} + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{V_{CC} - 2v_{BE}}{V_A} \right)$$

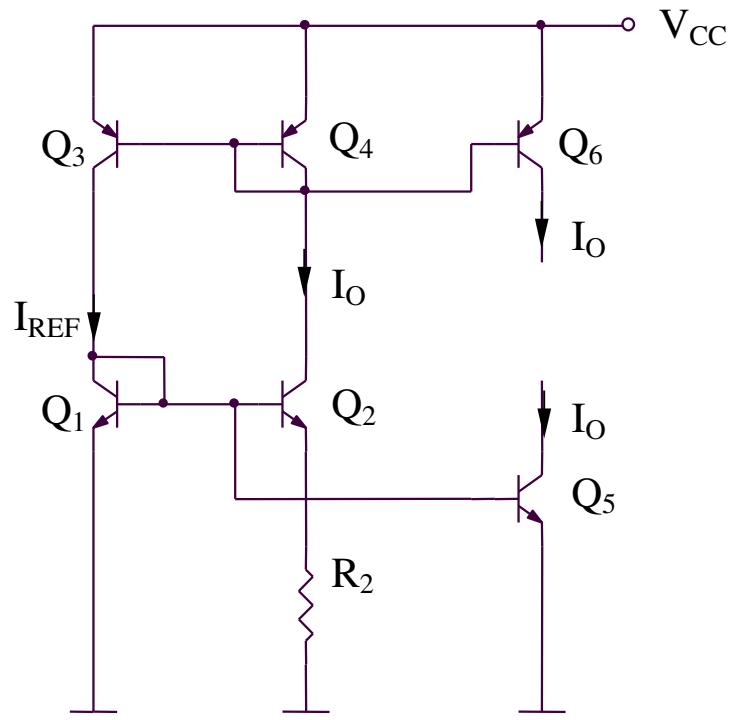
Deriving:

$$\frac{\partial I_O}{\partial V_{CC}} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2(V_A + V_{CC})}$$

it results:

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} \cong \frac{V_{th}}{v_{BE}} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{V_A}{V_{CC}}}$$

# Widlar self-biased current source



$$I_O = \frac{v_{BE1} - v_{BE2}}{R_2}$$

$$I_O = \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{I_{REF}}{I_O}\right) + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}\right)$$

$$I_O \cong \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(1 + \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A}\right) + \frac{V_{th}}{R_2} \ln\left(\frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}\right)$$

$$S_{V_{CC}}^{I_O} \cong \frac{V_{CC}}{V_A} \frac{1}{\ln\left(\frac{I_{S2}}{I_{S1}}\right)}$$

# Self-biased MOS current source (1)

Output current

$$I_O = \frac{V_{GS}}{R} = \frac{K}{2} (V_{GS} - V_T)^2$$

$$\frac{KR}{2} V_{GS}^2 - (1 + KRV_T) V_{GS} + \frac{KR}{2} V_T^2 = 0$$

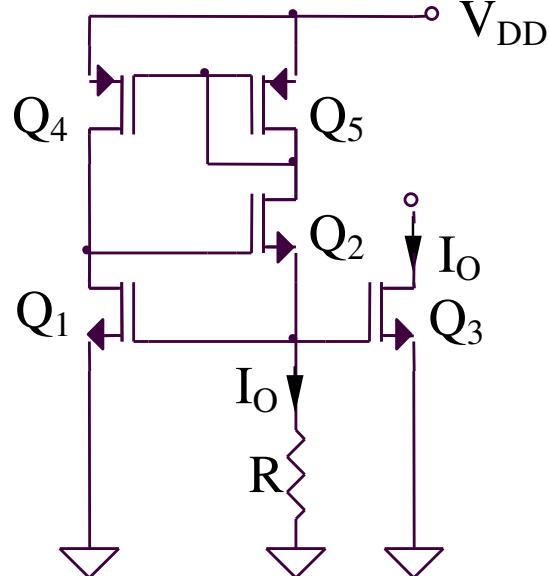
Solving the equation in  $V_{GS}$  it results:

$$V_{GS1,2} = V_T + \frac{1}{KR} \pm \frac{\sqrt{2KRV_T + 1}}{KR}$$

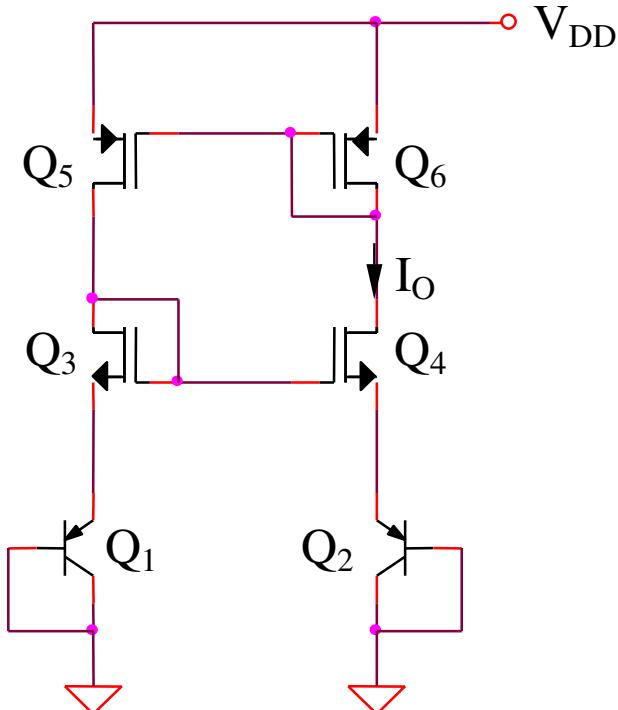
$$V_{GS} = V_T + \frac{1}{KR} + \frac{\sqrt{2KRV_T + 1}}{KR}$$

So:

$$I_O = \frac{1}{KR^2} (1 + KRV_T + \sqrt{1 + 2KRV_T})$$



## Self-biased MOS current source (2)



**Output current**

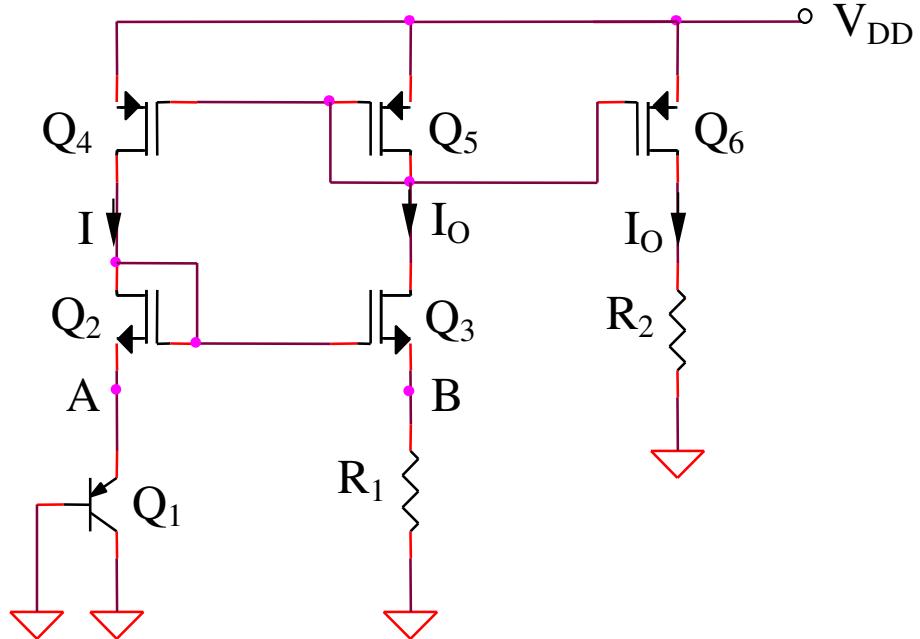
$$V_T + \sqrt{\frac{2I_O}{4K}} + V_{th} \ln\left(\frac{I_O}{I_S}\right) = \\ = V_T + \sqrt{\frac{2I_O}{K}} + V_{th} \ln\left(\frac{I_O}{10I_S}\right)$$

It results:

$$I_O = 2K[V_{th} \ln(10)]^2$$

$$V_{th} = \frac{kT}{q} \text{ - thermal voltage}$$

# Self-biased MOS current source (3)



## Output current

For identical MOS transistors,  
 $V_A = V_B$ , so:

$$I_O = \frac{V_{EB1}}{R_1}$$

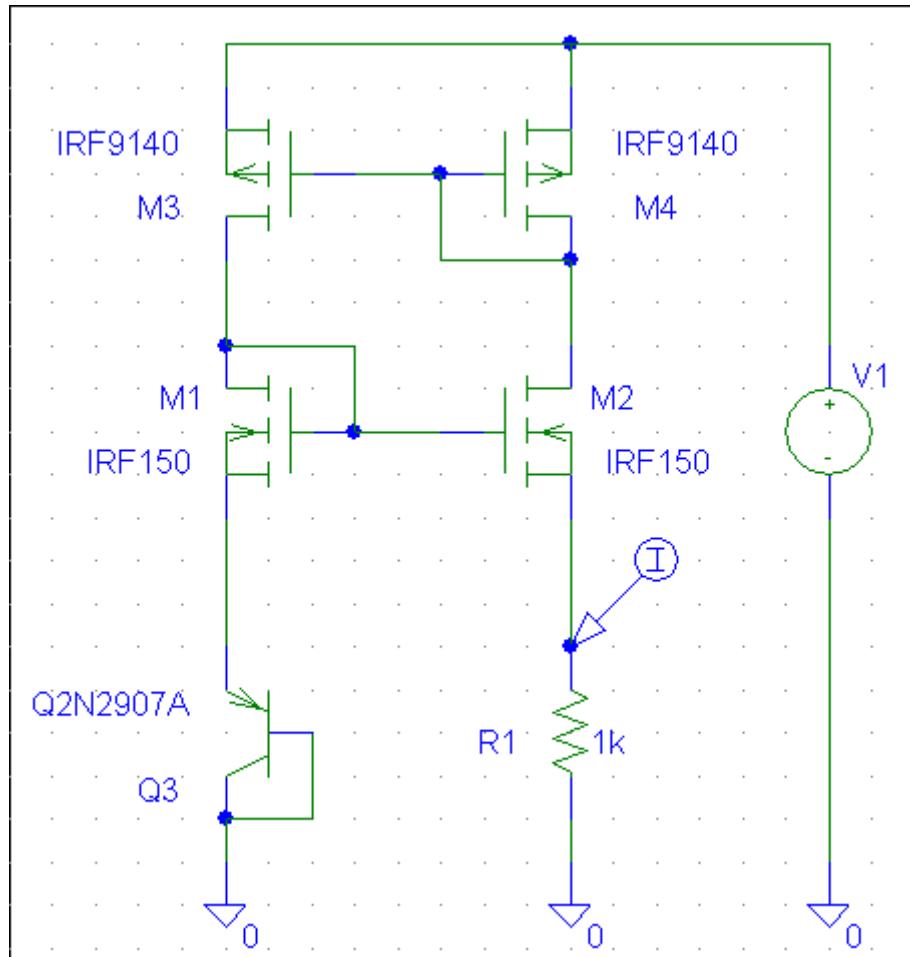
## **SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (3)**

### **Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage**

# SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (3)

## Dependence of the output current on the supply voltage

**SIM 2.10:  $I_{D2}$  ( $V_1$ )**



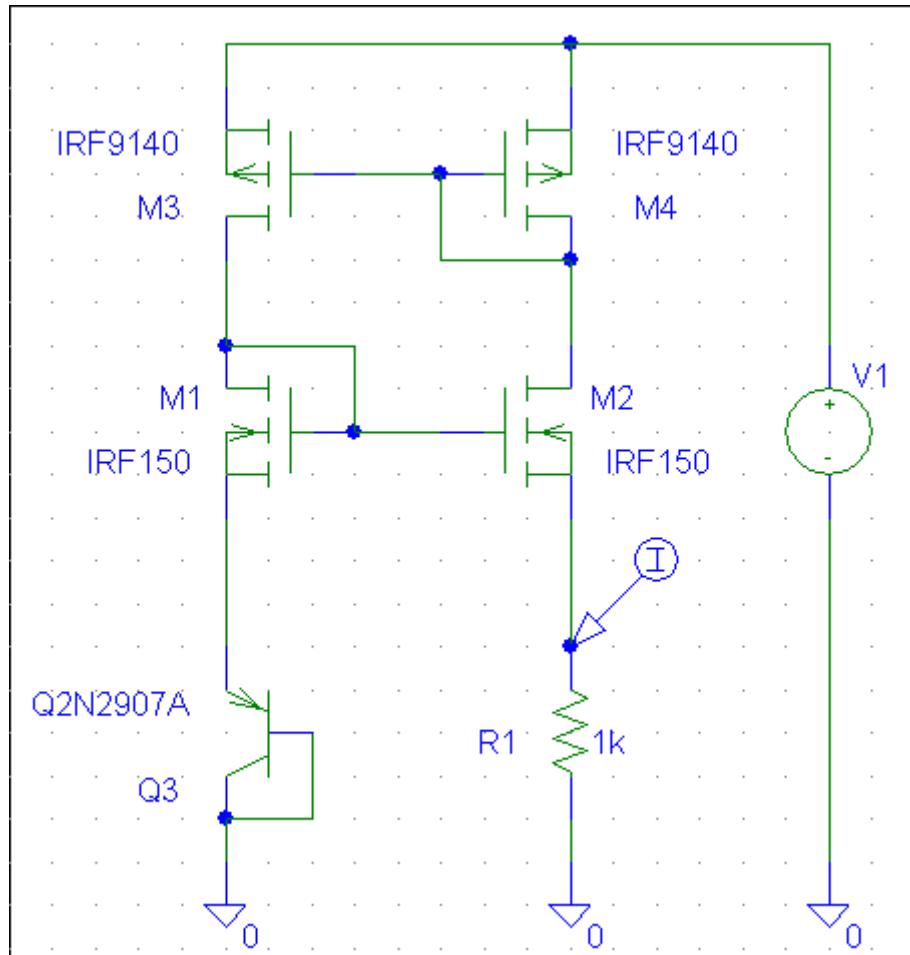
## **SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (3)**

### **Dependence of the output current on temperature**

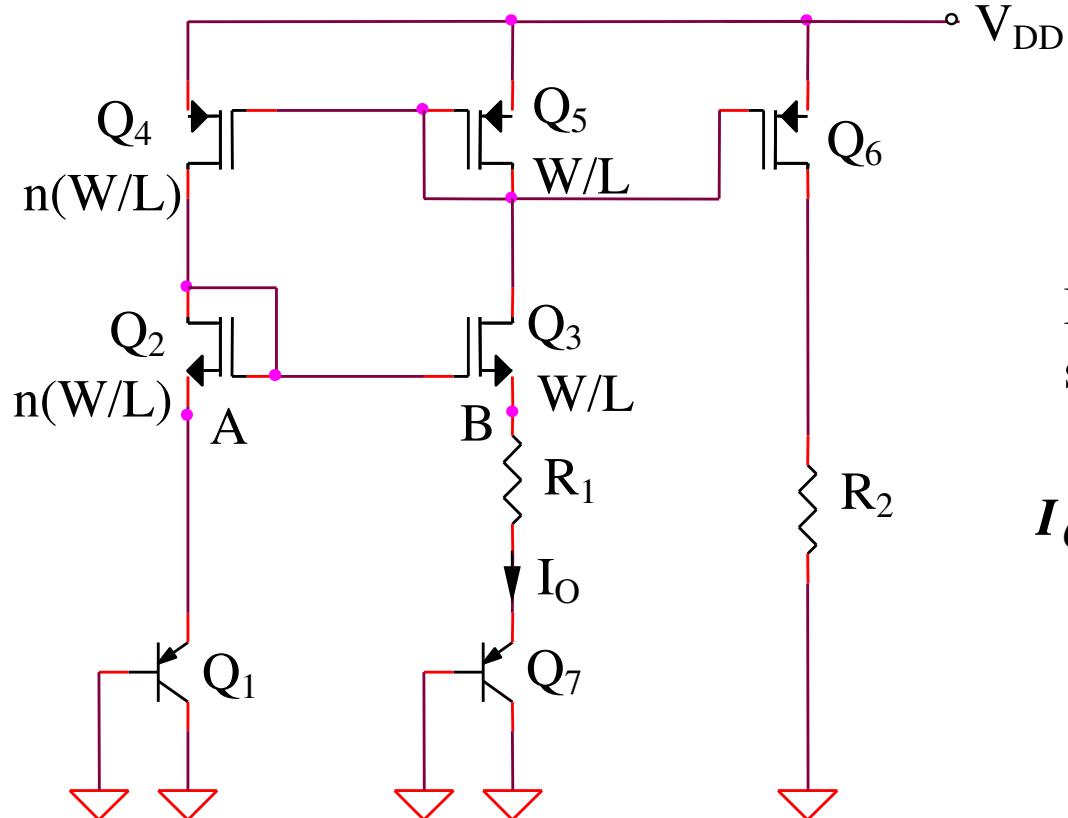
# SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (3)

## Dependence of the output current on temperature

SIM 2.11:  $I_{D2}(t)$



## Self-biased MOS current source (4)



### Output current

It can be demonstrated that  $V_A = V_B$ , so:

$$I_O = \frac{|V_{BE1}| - |V_{BE7}|}{R_1} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_1} \ln(n)$$

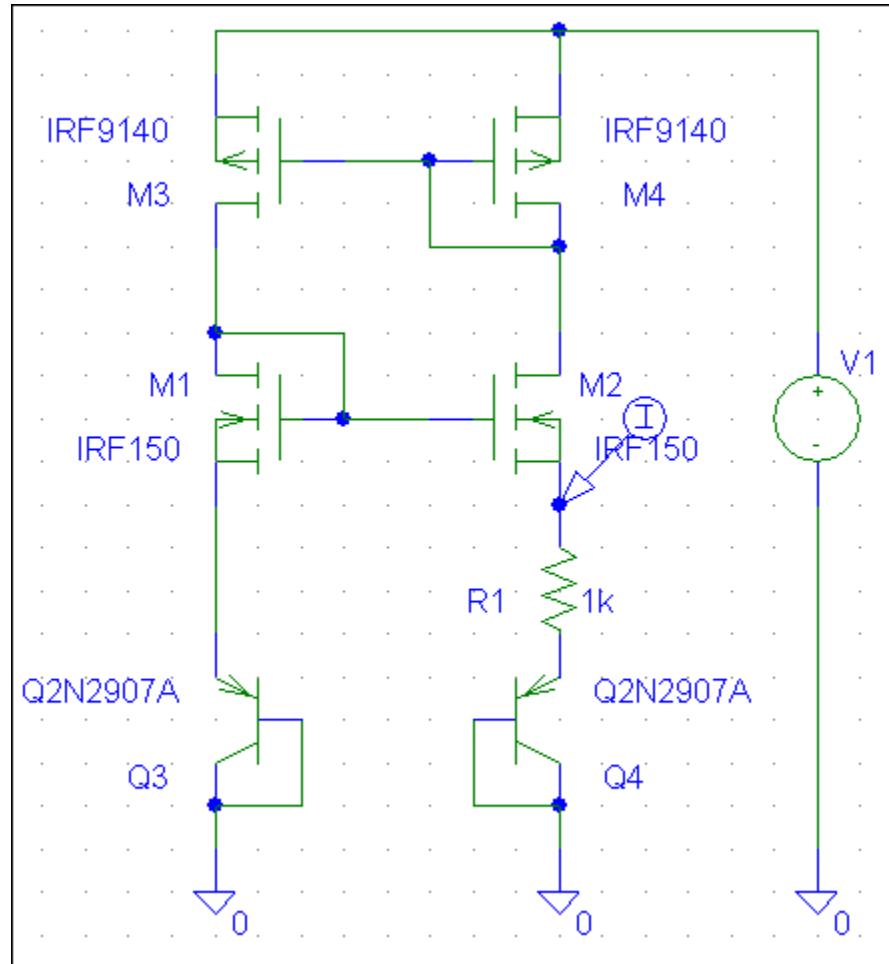
## **SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (4)**

### **Dependence of the output current on temperature**

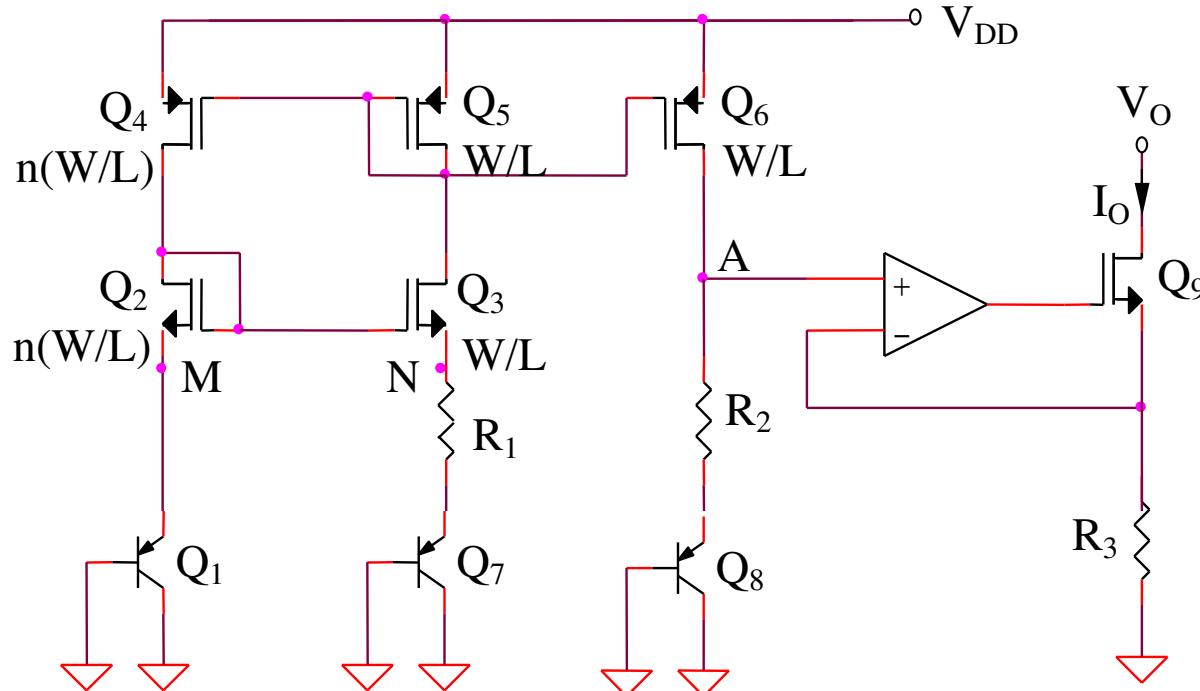
# SIMULATIONS for CMOS self-biased current source (4)

## Dependence of the output current on temperature

SIM 2.12:  $I_{D2}(t)$



## Self-biased MOS current source (5)

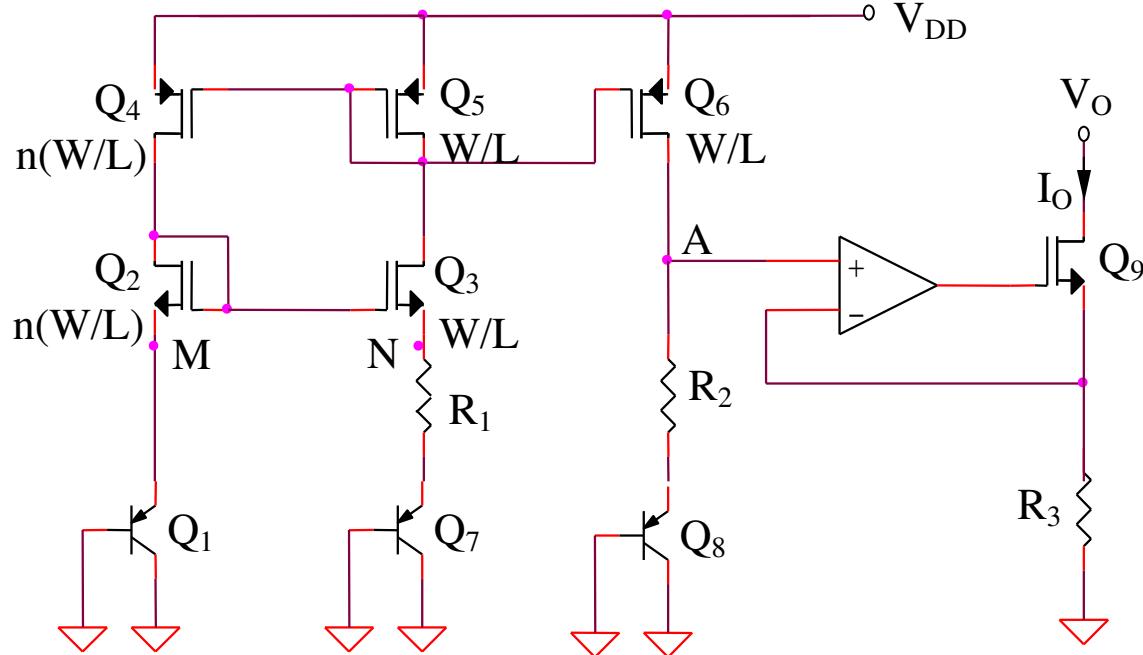


$$V_{GS2} = V_{GS3}$$

$$V_{R_2} = R_2 \frac{V_{EB1} - V_{EB7}}{R_1} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} V_{th} \ln(n) \quad \left. \right\} \Rightarrow I_O(T) = \frac{I}{R_3} \left[ \frac{R_2}{R_1} V_{th} \ln(n) + V_{EB8}(T) \right]$$

$$V_{EB}(T) = A + BT + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right)$$

## Self-biased MOS current source (5) – cont.



$$\Rightarrow I_O(T) = \frac{I}{R_3} \left[ \frac{R_2 kT}{R_1 q} \ln(n) + A + BT + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right) \right]$$

The condition of linear curvature correction can be written as follows:

$$B + \frac{R_2 k}{R_1 q} \ln(n) = 0$$

It results:

$$I_O(T) = \frac{I}{R_3} \left[ A + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right) \right]$$

## **2.2. Reference voltage sources**

### **2.2.1. Classification**

## **2.2. Reference voltage sources**

### **2.2.1. Classification**

#### I. Elementary voltage sources

- reduced complexity
- poor performances

#### II. Voltage sources with reaction

- reduced output resistance
- increased complexity

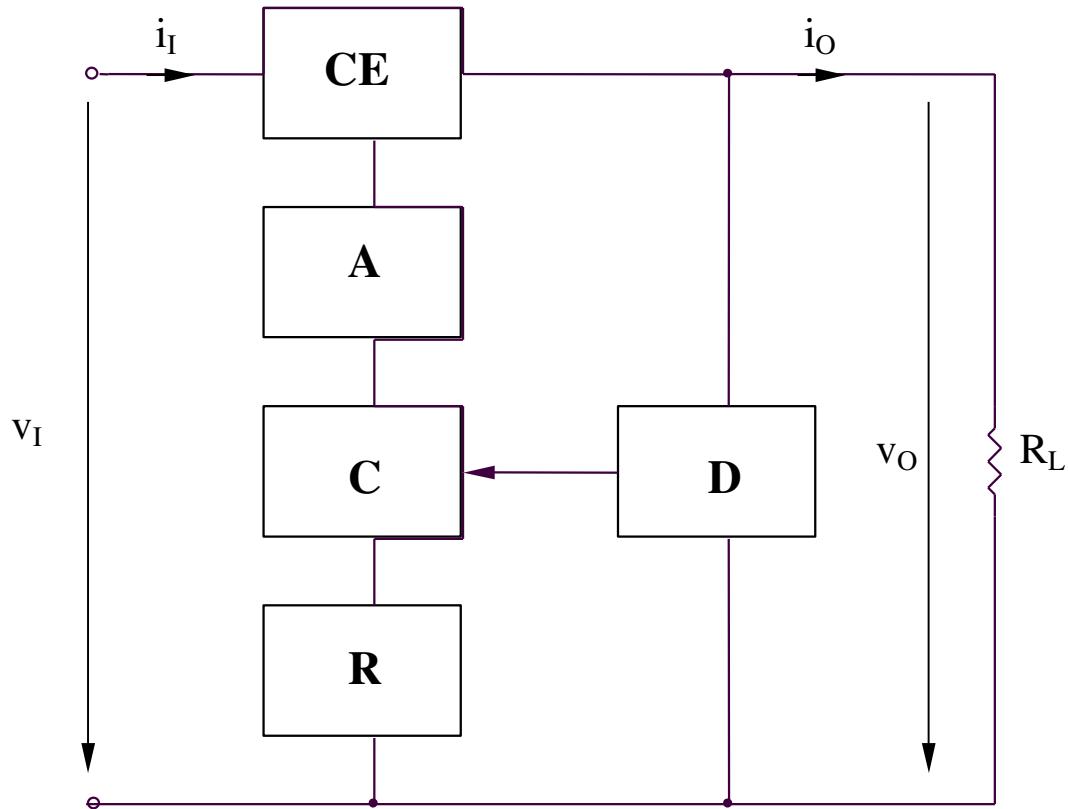
#### III. Temperature-compensated voltage sources

- reduced dependence on temperature of the output voltage
- increased complexity

## **2.2.2. Voltage sources with reaction**

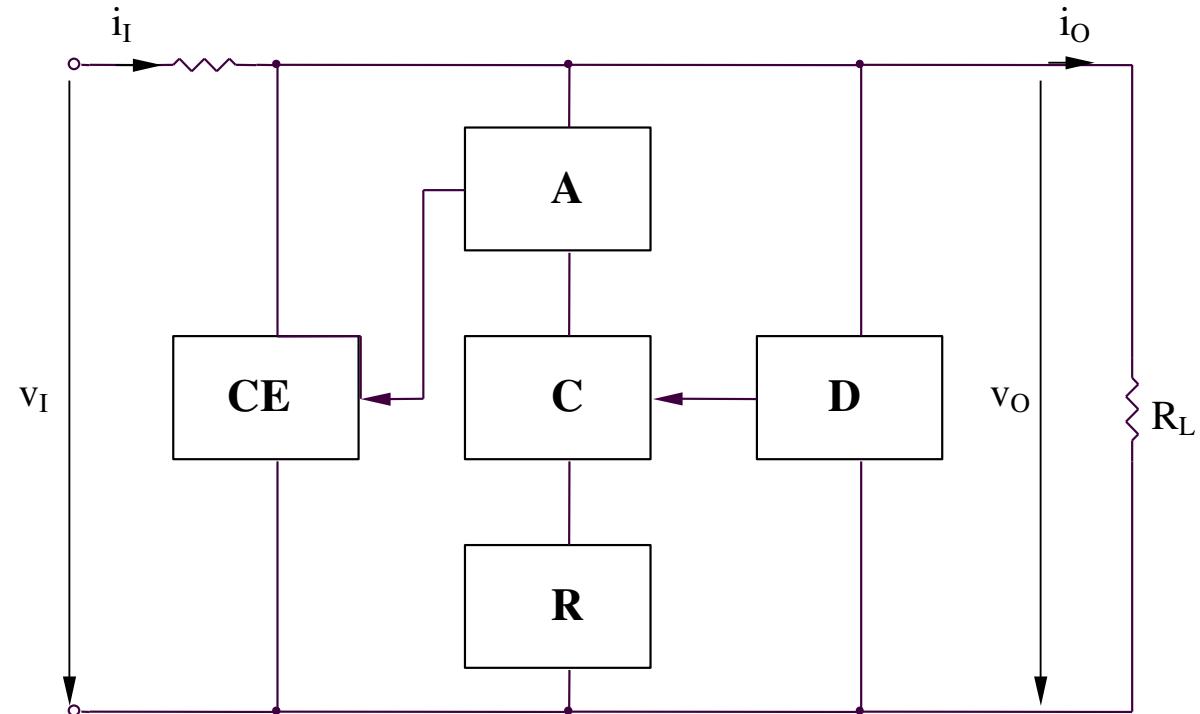
## 2.2.2. Voltage sources with reaction

### Voltage sources with series regulation (block diagram)



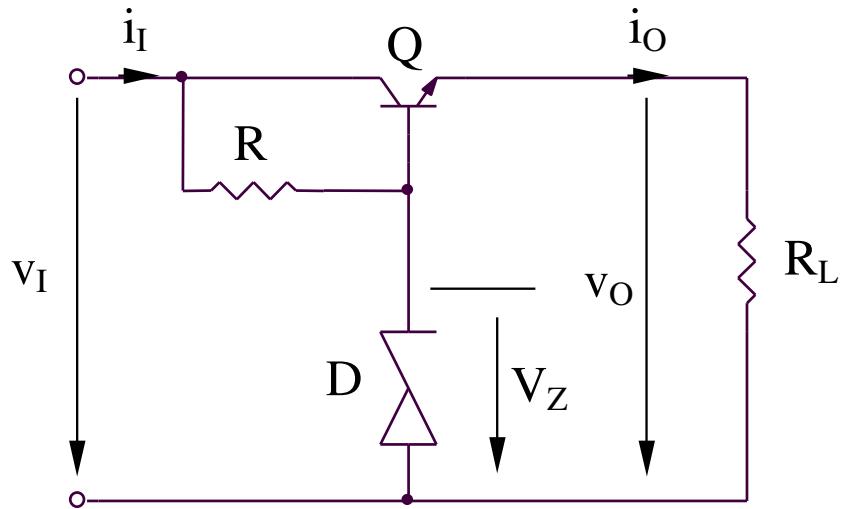
D = dividing circuit  
C = comparison circuit  
R = reference circuit  
A = amplifier  
CE = control element

# Voltage sources with parallel regulation (block diagram)

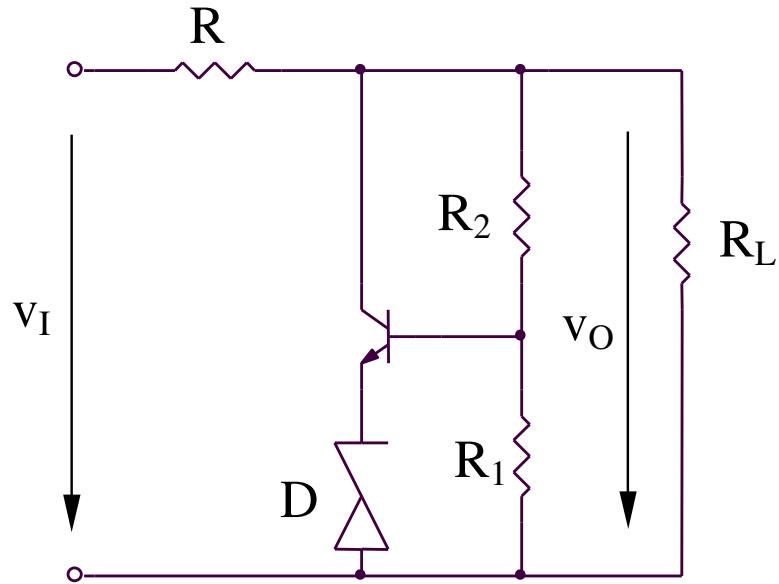


D = dividing circuit  
C = comparison circuit  
R = reference circuit  
A = amplifier  
CE = control element

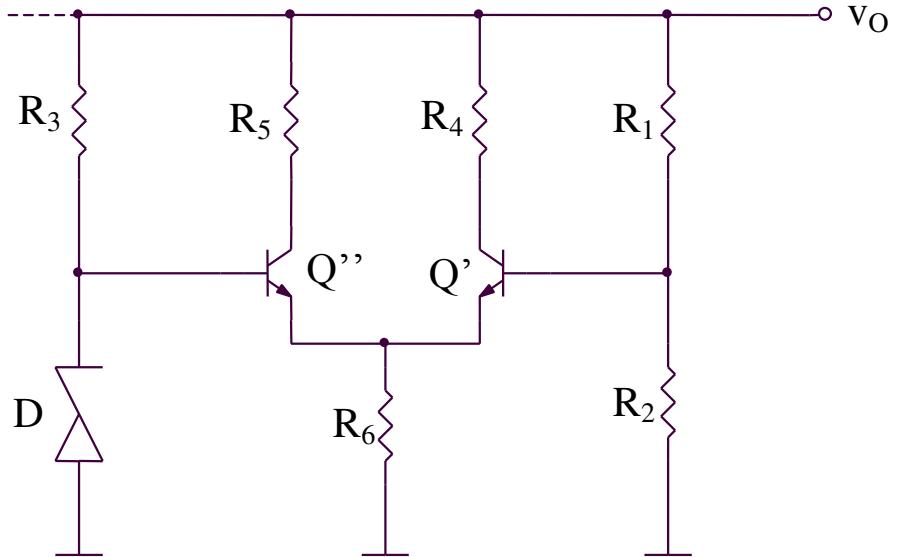
## Examples of voltage sources



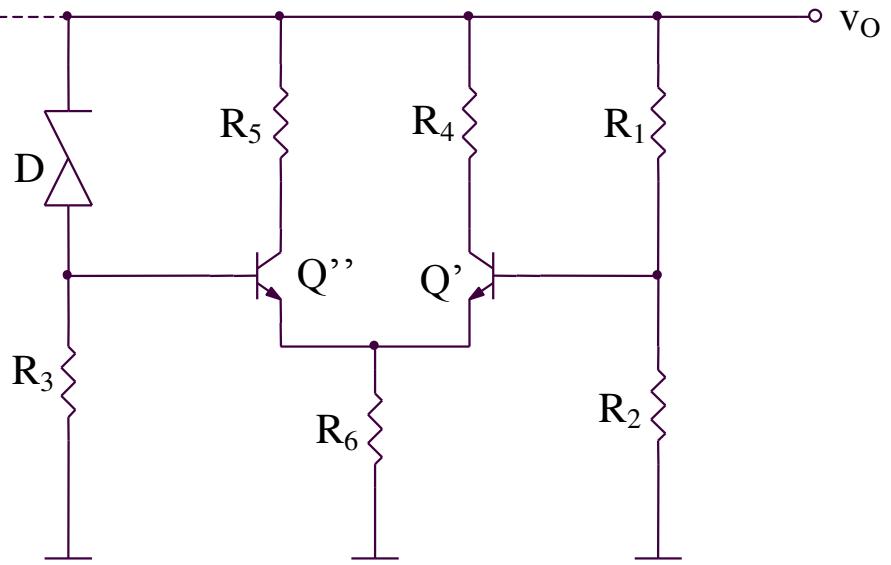
$$v_O = V_Z - V_{BE}$$



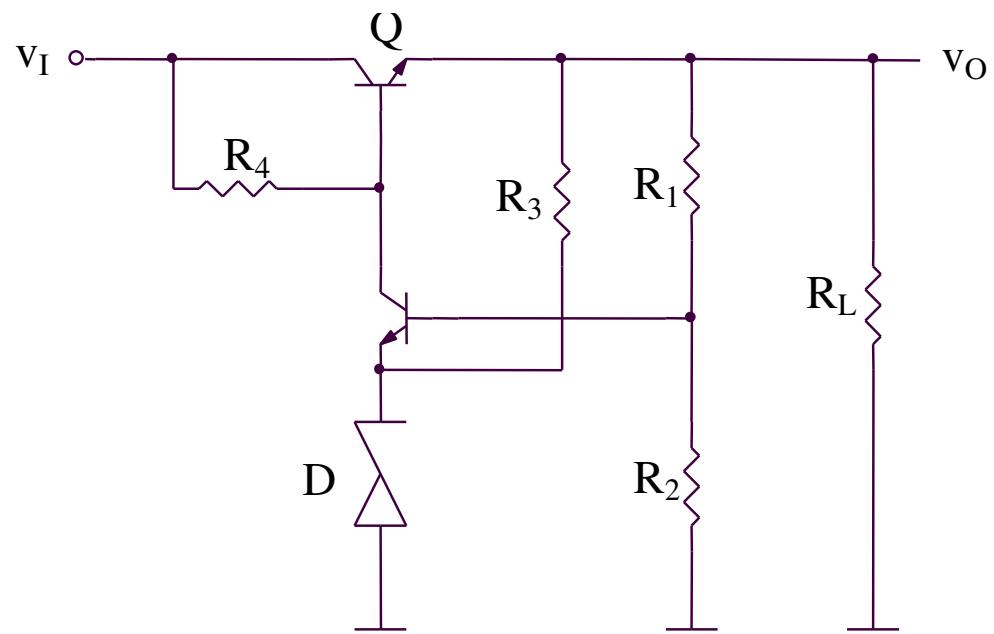
$$v_O = (V_{BE} + V_Z) \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) > V_Z$$



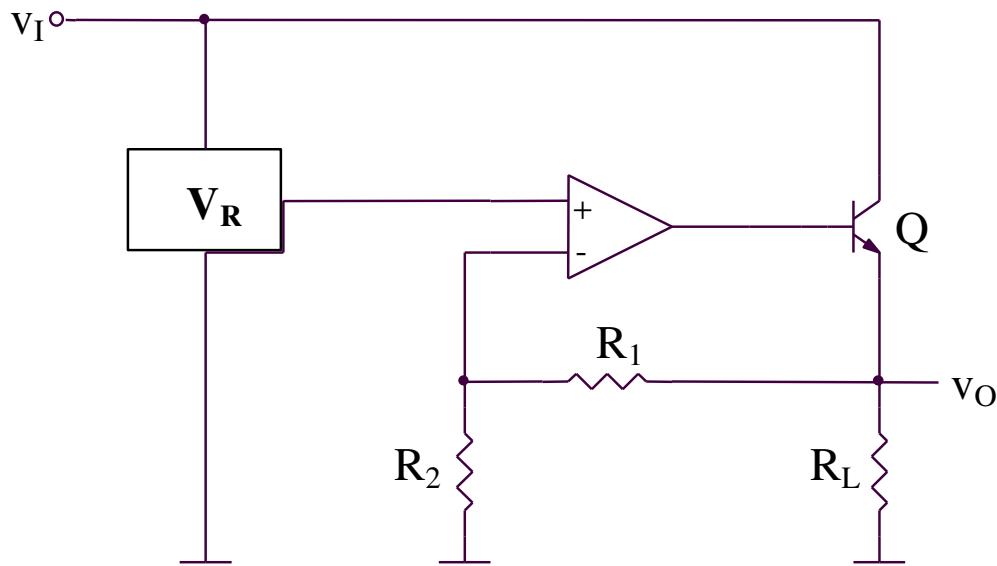
$$v_O = V_Z \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$



$$v_O = V_Z \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right)$$

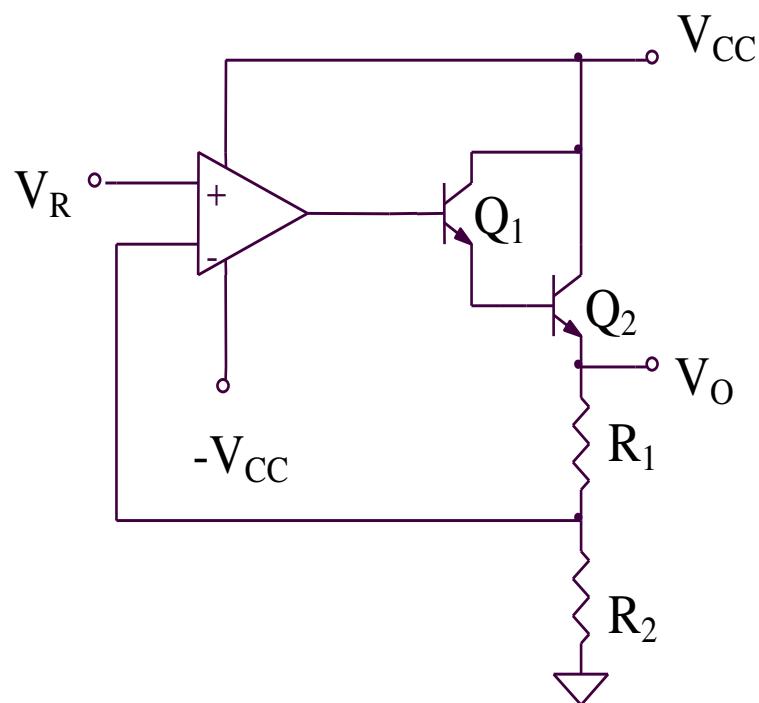


$$v_O = (V_Z + V_{BE}) \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$



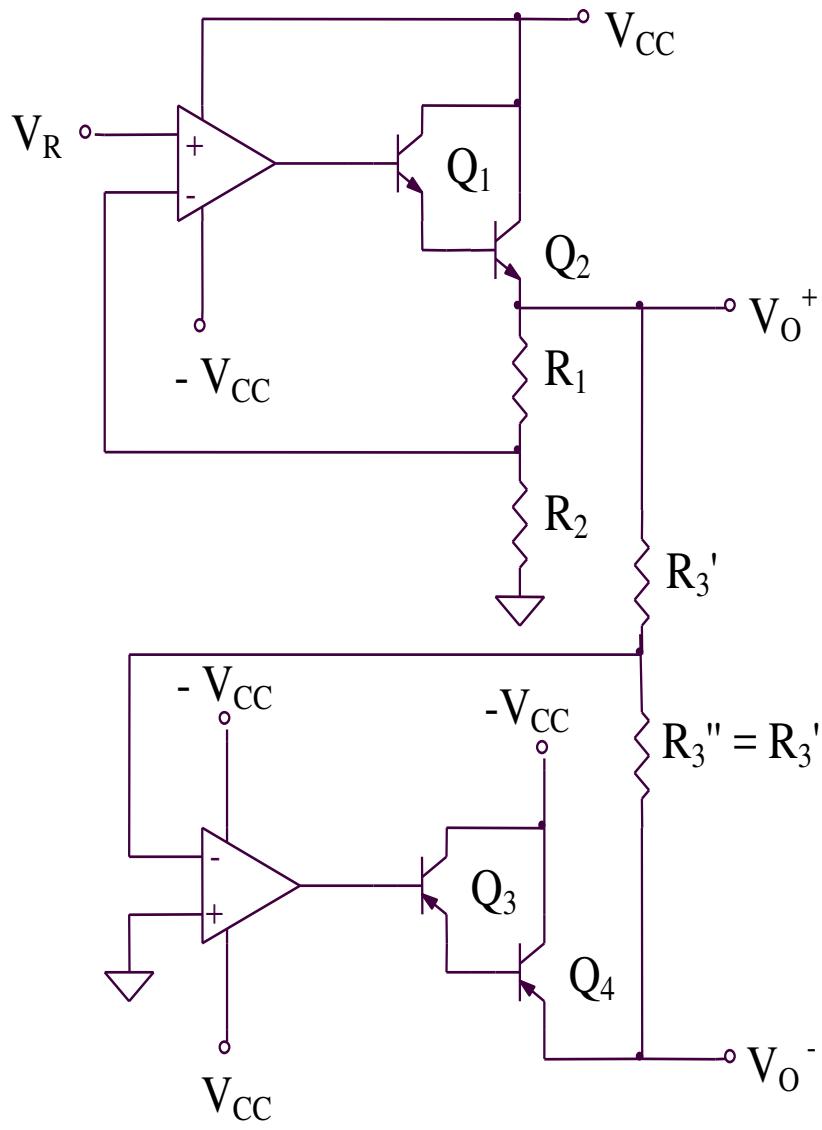
$$V_R = V_O \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_O = V_R \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$



$$V_R = V_O \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

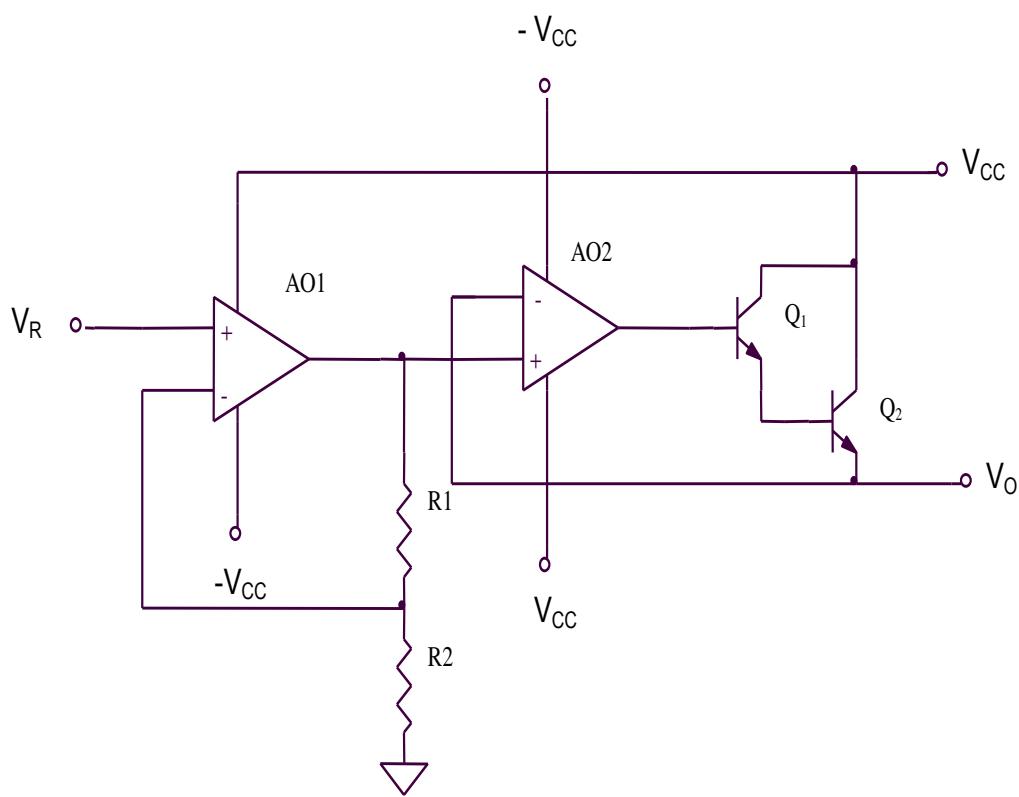
$$V_O = V_R \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$



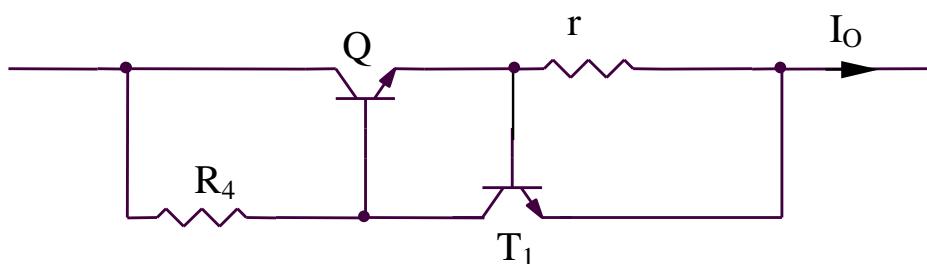
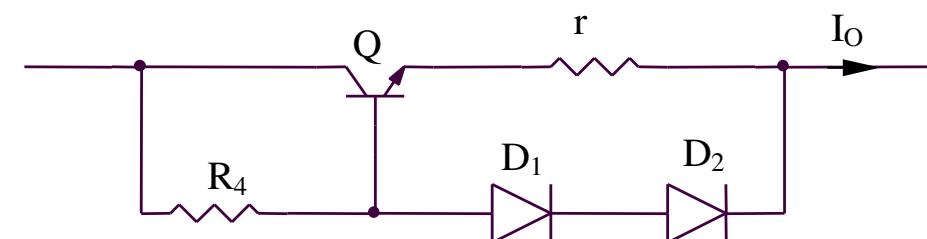
$$V_R = V_O^+ \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_O^+ = V_R \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$

$$\frac{V_O^+}{R_3'} = -\frac{V_O^-}{R_3''} \Rightarrow V_O^- = -V_O^+$$



## Overload protection (1)



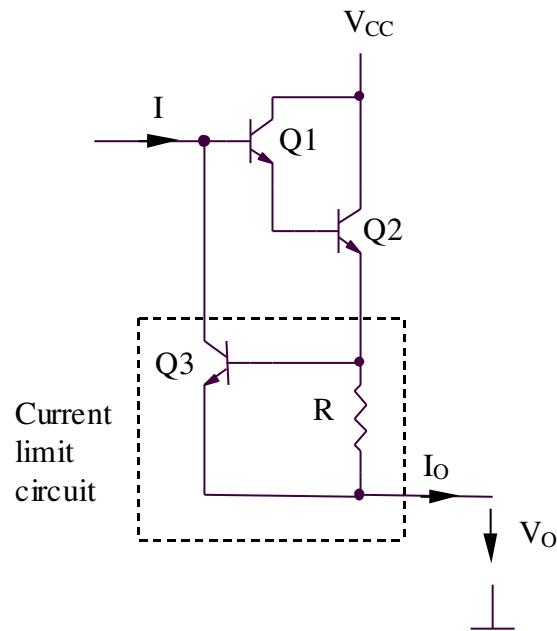
$$V_R = V_O \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$V_O = V_R \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right)$$

$$I_{OL} = \frac{V_{D1} + V_{D2} - V_{BE}}{r} \approx \frac{V_D}{r}$$

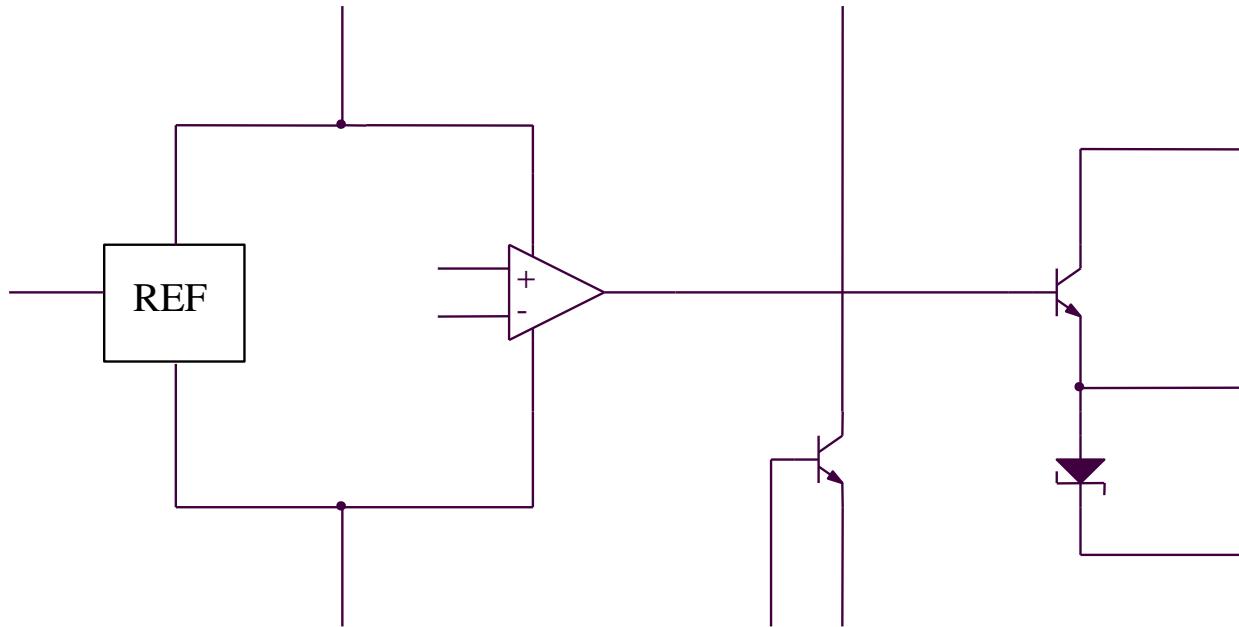
$$I_{OL} = \frac{V_{BE}}{r}$$

# Overload protection (2)

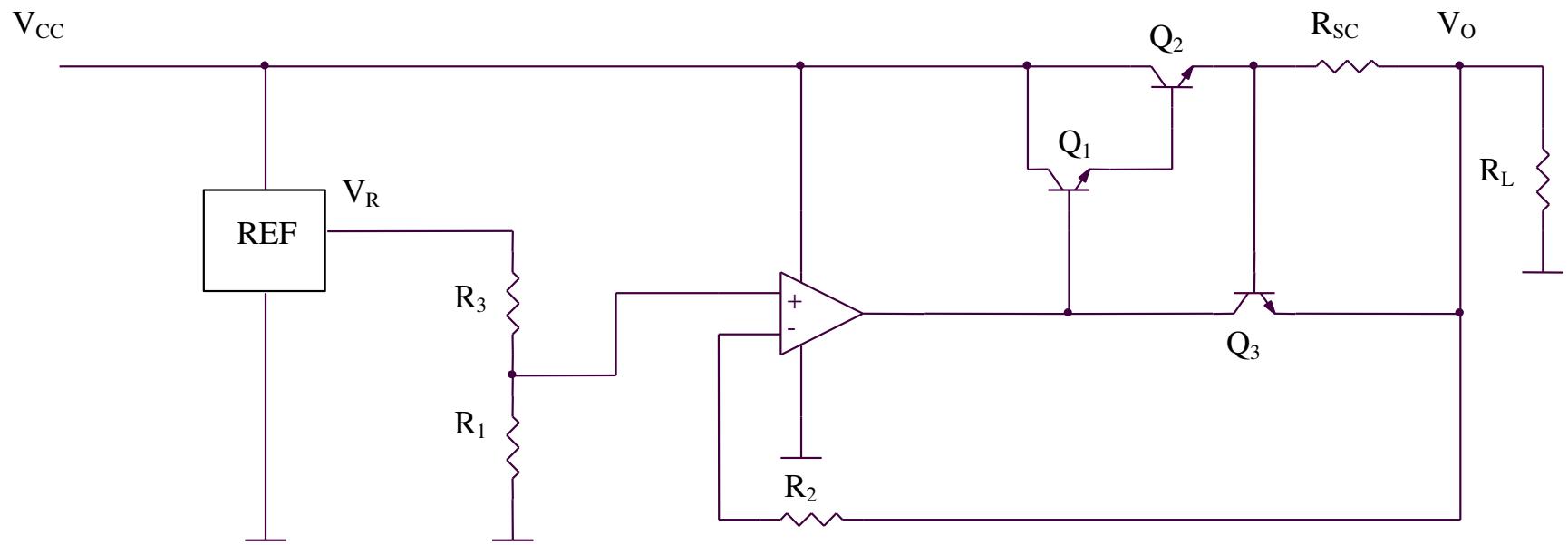


$$I_{OL} = \frac{V_{BE3}}{R}$$

# BA 723 circuit



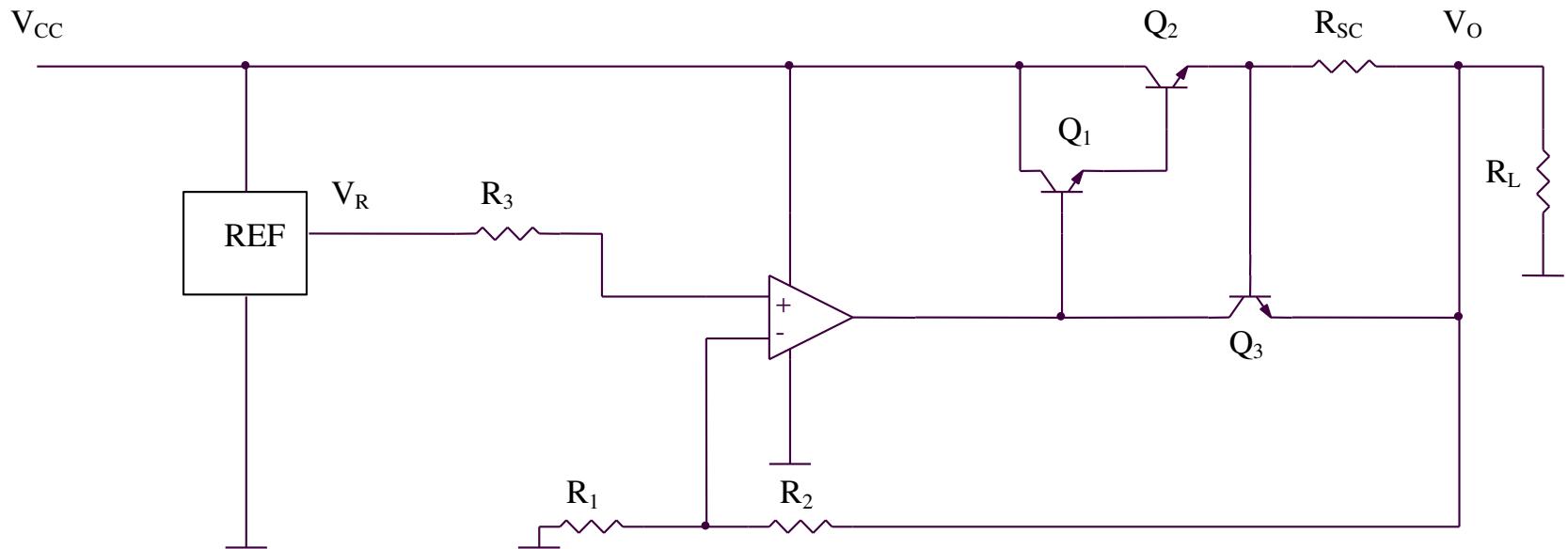
## Application for $V_O < V_R$



$$V_O = V_R \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_3} < V_R$$

$$I_{Osc} = \frac{V_{BE}}{R_{sc}}$$

## Application for $V_O > V_R$



$$V_O \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} = V_R \Rightarrow V_O = V_R \left( 1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) > V_R$$

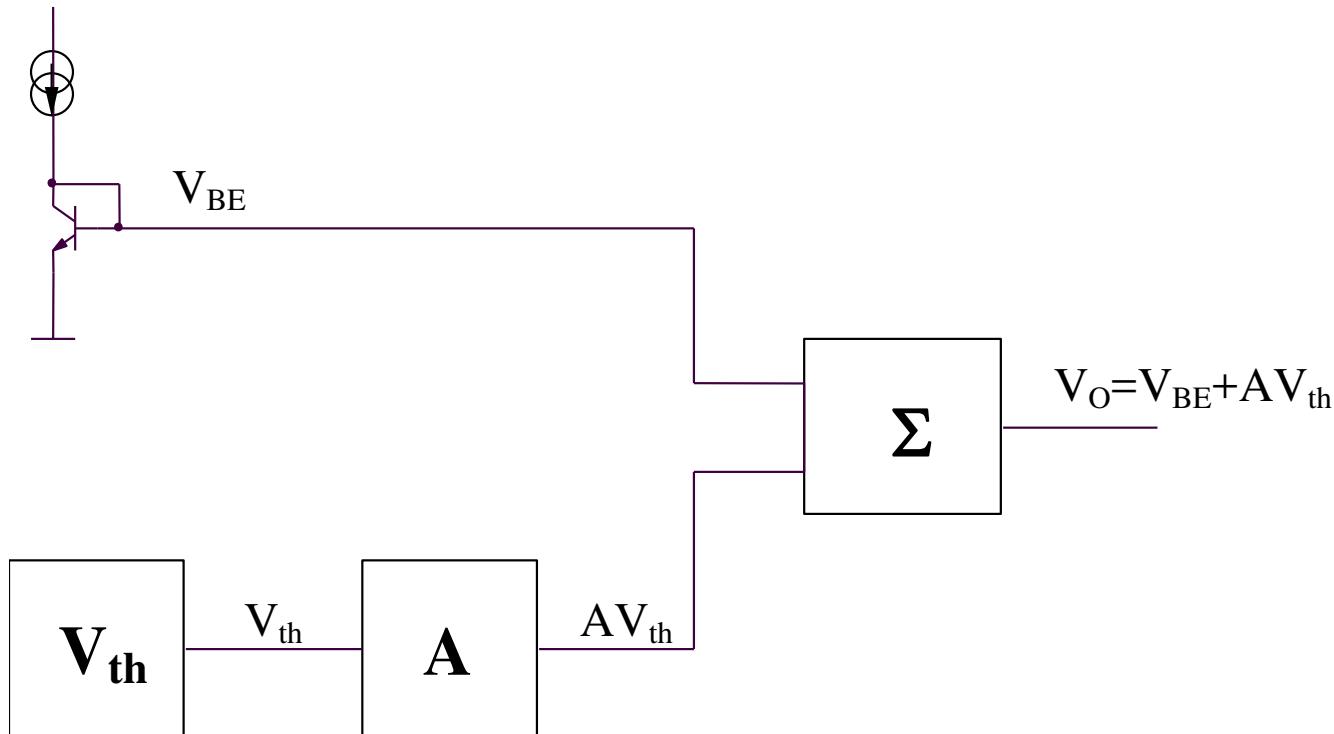
$$I_{Osc} = \frac{V_{BE}}{R_{sc}}$$

### **2.2.3. Temperature-compensated voltage sources**

## 2.2.3. Temperature-compensated voltage sources

### Bandgap voltage references

Are based on the compensation of opposite temperature dependencies of base-emitter voltage and thermal voltage  $V_{th} = kT/q$ . It is possible to obtain a null temperature coefficient by considering a weight sum of these terms.



# The temperature dependence of $V_{BE}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_{BE}(T) = V_{th} \ln \left[ \frac{I_C(T)}{I_S(T)} \right] \\ I_S(T) = CT^\eta \exp \left( -\frac{E_{GO}}{V_{th}} \right) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow V_{BE}(T) = E_{GO} + \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left[ \frac{I_C(T)}{CT^\eta} \right]$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_{BE}(T_O) = E_{GO} + \frac{kT_O}{q} \ln \left[ \frac{I_C(T_O)}{CT_O^\eta} \right] \\ I_C(T) = BT^\alpha \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{REF}(T) = E_{GO} + \frac{V_{BE}(T_O) - E_{GO}}{T_O} T + (\alpha - \eta) \frac{KT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{T}{T_O} \right)$$

$$\frac{V_{BE}(T_O) - E_{GO}}{T_O} \cong -2.1mV/K < 0$$

## The operation of voltage reference

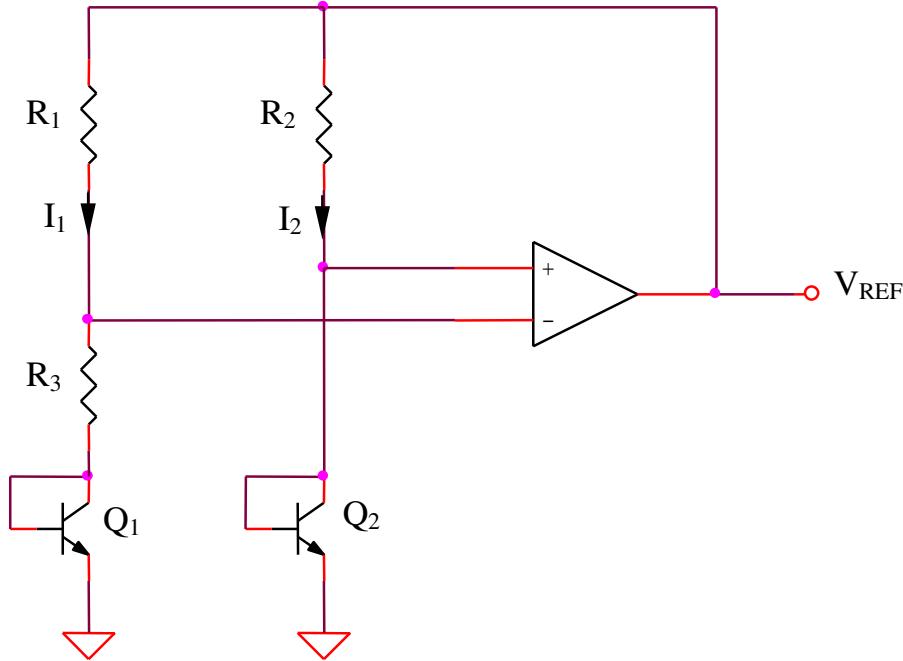
$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_{REF}(T) &= DV_{th} + V_{BE2}(T) \\ V_{BE}(T) &= A + BT + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_o}\right) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{REF}(T) = A + \left( B + D \frac{k}{q} \right) T + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_o}\right)$$

$$B + D \frac{k}{q} = 0 \Rightarrow V_{REF}(T) = A + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_o}\right)$$

# Example (1)

$$I_1 = \frac{V_{BE2} - V_{BE1}}{R_3} = \frac{kT}{qR_3} \ln\left(\frac{I_2}{I_1}\right) \quad \Rightarrow$$



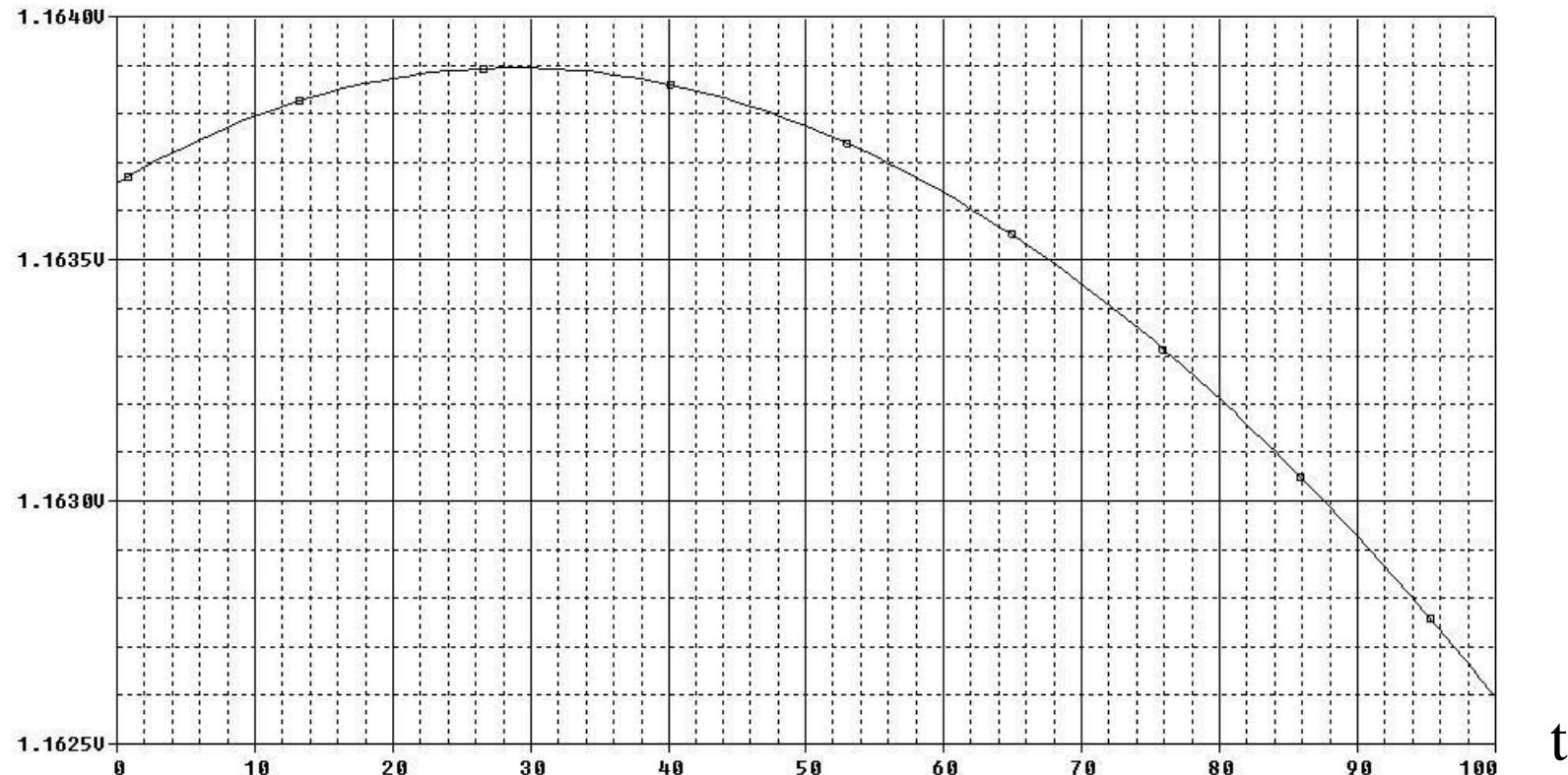
$$\Rightarrow I_1 = \frac{kT}{qR_3} \ln\left(\frac{R_1}{R_2}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{REF}(T) &= I_1(T)R_1 + V_{BE2}(T) \\ V_{BE}(T) &= A + BT + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right) \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow$$

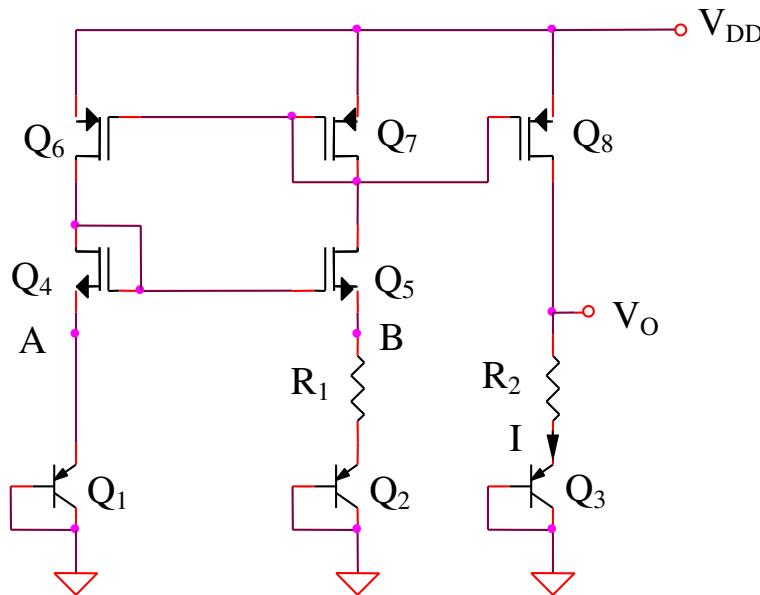
$$\Rightarrow V_{REF}(T) = A + \left[ B + \frac{k}{q} \frac{R_1}{R_3} \ln\left(\frac{R_1}{R_2}\right) \right] T + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right)$$

$$B + \frac{k}{q} \frac{R_1}{R_3} \ln\left(\frac{R_1}{R_2}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow V_{REF}(T) = A + CT \ln\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right) \approx A \approx 1.2V$$

$V_{REF}$



## Example (2)



$$V_A - V_B = V_{GS5} - V_{GS4} = (V_{GS5} - V_T) - (V_{GS4} - V_T) = \sqrt{\frac{2I_{D5}}{K_5}} - \sqrt{\frac{2I_{D4}}{K_4}}$$

$$V_A - V_B = \sqrt{\frac{2I_{D5}}{K_5}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{I_{D4}}{I_{D5}} \frac{K_5}{K_4}} \right) = \sqrt{\frac{2I_{D5}}{K_5}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{I_{D6}}{I_{D7}} \frac{(W/L)_5}{(W/L)_4}} \right)$$

$$V_A - V_B = \sqrt{\frac{2I_{D5}}{K}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{(W/L)_5}{(W/L)_4} \frac{(W/L)_6}{(W/L)_7}} \right)$$

For:

$$\frac{(W/L)_4}{(W/L)_5} = \frac{(W/L)_6}{(W/L)_7} \Rightarrow V_A = V_B$$

$$\Rightarrow V_O(T) = /V_{BE_3}(T)/ + I(T)R_2 = /V_{BE_3}(T)/ + \frac{/V_{BE_1}(T)/ - /V_{BE_2}(T)/}{R_1} R_2$$

$$V_O(T) = /V_{BE_3}(T)/ + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{kT}{q} \ln \frac{I_{D6}}{I_{D7}}$$

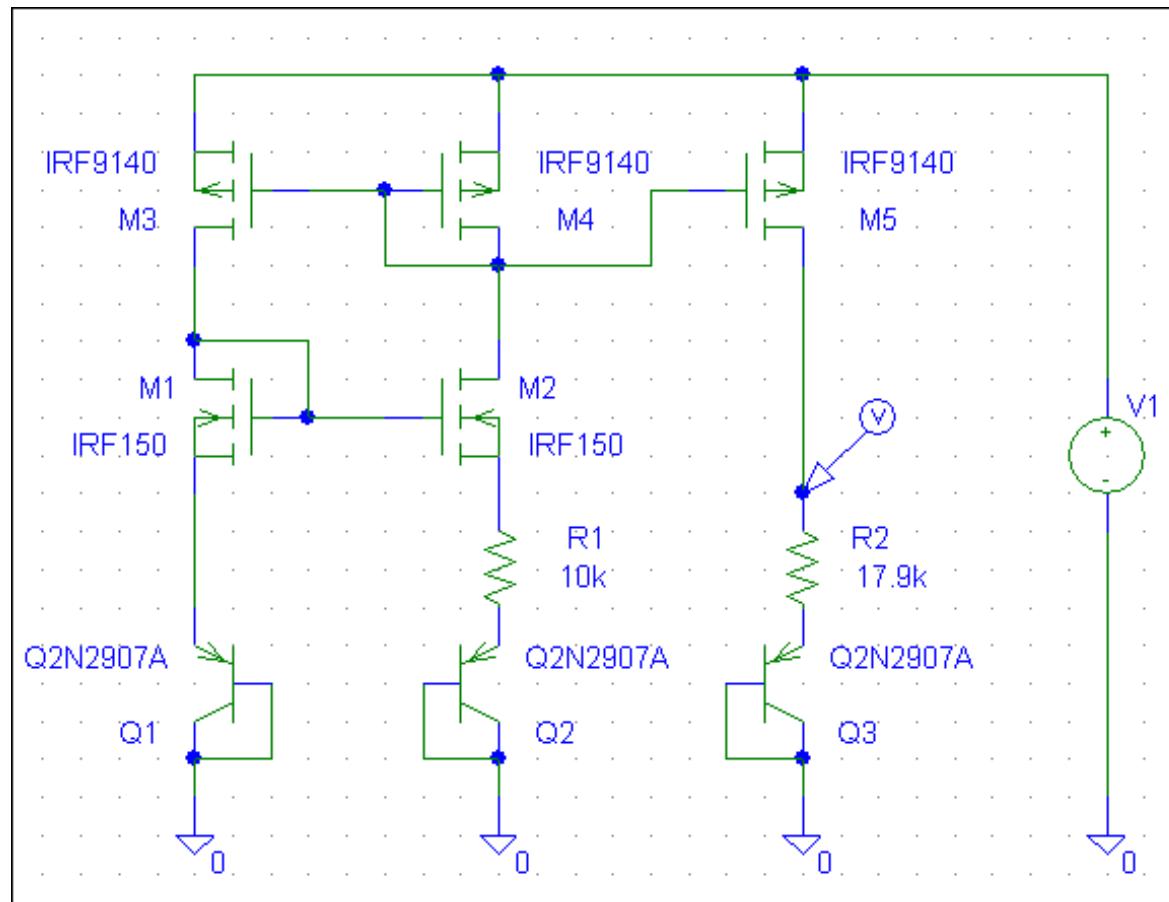
$$V_O(T) = /V_{BE_3}(T)/ + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left[ \frac{(W/L)_6}{(W/L)_7} \right] \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} /V_{BE}(T)/ = A + BT + CT \ln \left( \frac{T}{T_0} \right) \\ B + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{k}{q} \ln \left[ \frac{(W/L)_6}{(W/L)_7} \right] = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow V_O(T) = A + CT \ln \left( \frac{T}{T_0} \right)$$

**SIMULATION for CMOS voltage reference**  
**Temperature dependence of the reference voltage**

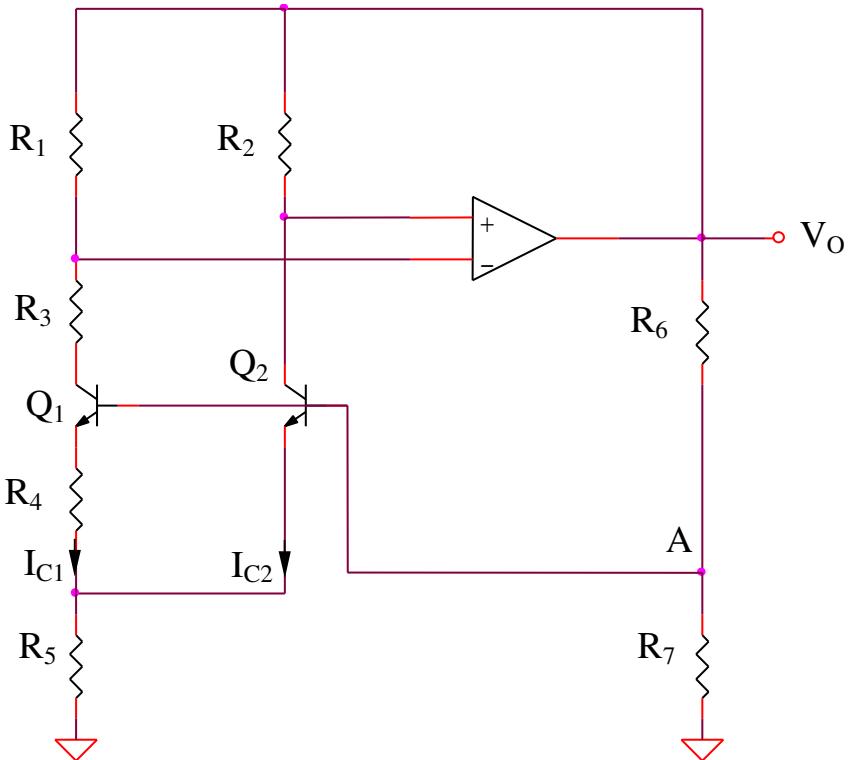
# SIMULATION for CMOS voltage reference

## Temperature dependence of the reference voltage

SIM 2.13:  $V_{D5}(t)$



## Exemple (3)



$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_{C1} &= \frac{V_{BE2} - V_{BE1}}{R_4} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_4} \ln \frac{I_{C2}}{I_{C1}} \\ I_{C1} R_1 &= I_{C2} R_2 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

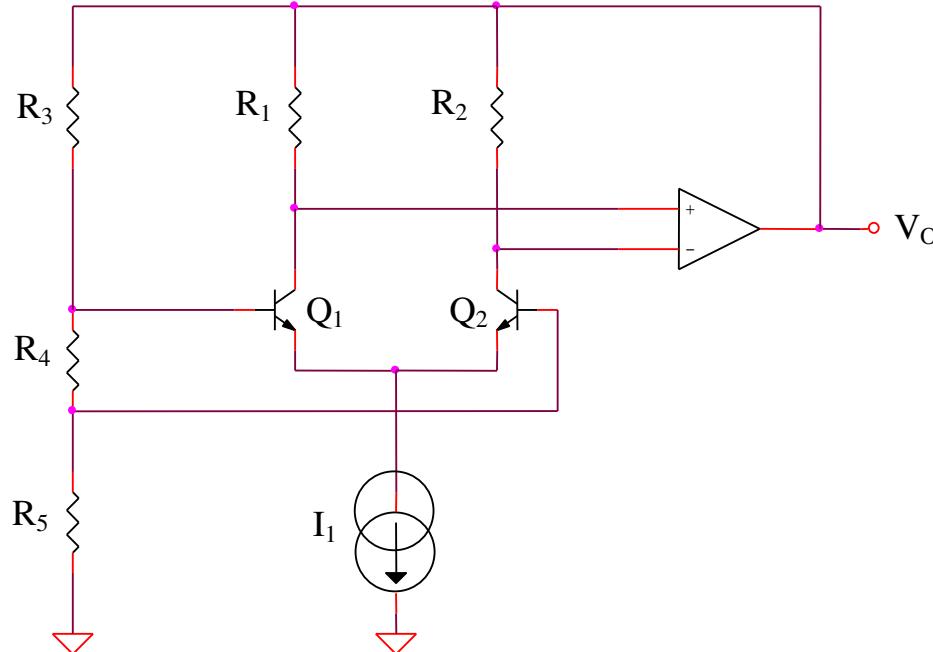
$$\Rightarrow I_{C1} = \frac{V_{th}}{R_4} \ln \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_A(T) &= (I_{C1} + I_{C2}) R_5 + V_{BE2}(T) \\ V_A(T) &= V_O(T) \frac{R_7}{R_6 + R_7} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Rightarrow V_O(T) &= \left( 1 + \frac{R_6}{R_7} \right) \left[ V_{BE2}(T) + \frac{R_5}{R_4} \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right) V_{th} \ln \left( \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right) \right] \\ &\quad \frac{R_5}{R_4} \left( 1 + \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right) \frac{k}{q} \ln \left( \frac{R_1}{R_2} \right) + B = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow V_O(T) = \left( 1 + \frac{R_6}{R_7} \right) \left[ A + CT \ln \left( \frac{T}{T_0} \right) \right]$$

## Derived circuits: temperature sensors

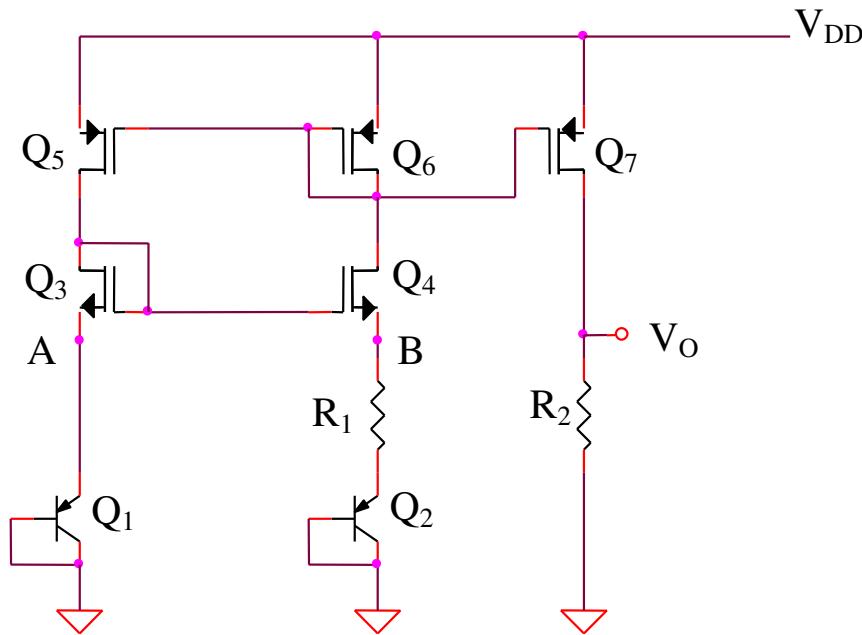
### Example (1)



$$V_O(T) \frac{R_4}{R_3 + R_4 + R_5} = V_{BE1} - V_{BE2} = V_{th} \ln \frac{I_{C1}}{I_{C2}} = V_{th} \ln \frac{R_2}{R_1} \Rightarrow$$

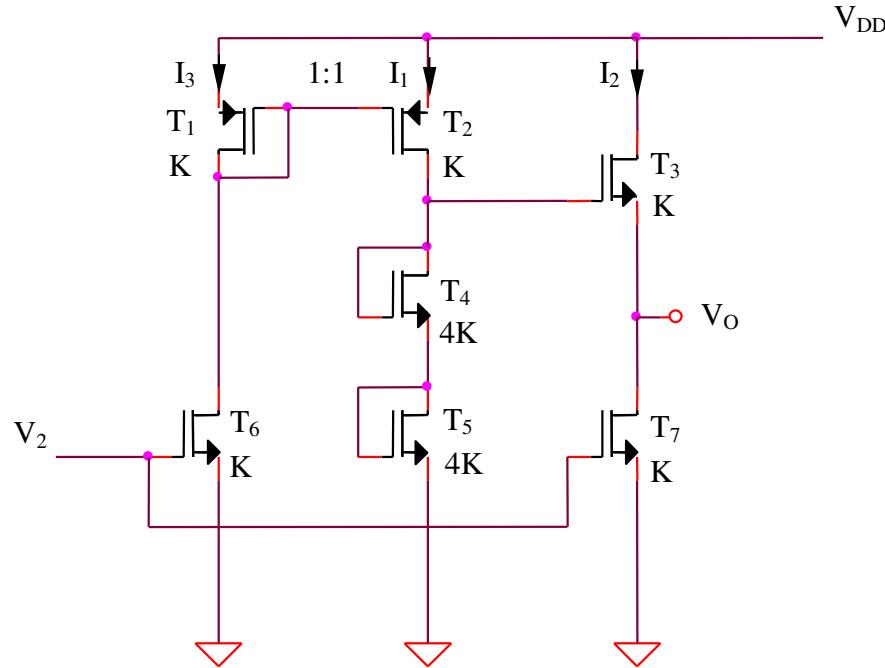
$$\Rightarrow V_O(T) = \left( 1 + \frac{R_3 + R_5}{R_4} \right) V_{th} \ln \left( \frac{R_2}{R_1} \right) = ct \cdot T$$

## Example (2)



$$V_O = R_2 I_{D7}(T) = R_2 I_{D4}(T) = R_2 \frac{|V_{BE1}| - |V_{BE2}|}{R_1} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} V_{th} \ln \left[ \frac{(W/L)_5}{(W/L)_6} \right] = ct \cdot T$$

### **Example (3) – the threshold voltage extractor circuit**



$$V_O = 2V_{GS_4} - V_{GS_3} = 2\left(V_T + \sqrt{\frac{2I}{4K}}\right) - \left(V_T + \sqrt{\frac{2I}{K}}\right) = V_T = V_{To} + a(T - T_0)$$