

### Construction Rules for SFG's

The *variables* of an equation system correspond to *nodes*, the *coefficients* to *branches* of the SFG.

Signals are transmitted only in the direction of the *arrows*.

Each signal transmitted along a branch is *multiplied* with the *transmittance* of the branch.

Each (node) *variable* is equal to the algebraic *sum* of all incoming signals.

Each (node) variable is transmitted along each branch *leaving* the node.

- 
- ① Draw circuit schematic
  - ② Draw equivalent circuit
  - ③ Write down all equations (if needed)
  - ④ Draw SFG for desired variables .
  - ⑤ Use Mason's gain formula or simplification rules



## I. Signal-Flow-Graphs (SFG)

S. J. Mason: "Feedback Theory - Some Properties of Signal Flow Graphs,"  
Proc. of the Inst. of Radio Eng., 41,  
pp. 1144-1156; September 1953

S. J. Mason: "Feedback Theory - Further Properties of Signal Flow Graphs,"  
Proc. of the Inst. of Radio Eng., 44,  
pp. 920-926; July 1956

The classical Method to analyze a network is to describe the network by means of a system of equations and to solve this system afterwards.

Excellent method for computers but we humans readily get confused if too many variables (e.g.  $> 4$ ) are involved. Alternative methods which provide more systematic:

- Matrix - Analysis (e.g. Admittance Matrix)
- Signal Flow Graph Analysis

Signal Flow Graphs are nothing but graphical representations of equation systems.

In contrast to the equations, SFG's provide also insight into the flow of signals inside a given network.



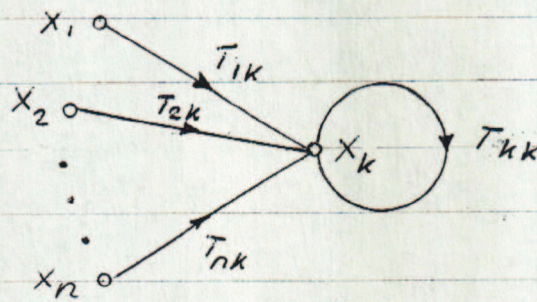
Def A SFG is a diagram consisting of nodes which are connected by directed branches.

Each node is associated with a system variable (e.g.  $V_i$ ,  $I_z$ )

Each directed branch  $ik$  from node  $i$  to node  $k$  has an associated branch transmittance  $\bar{T}_{ik}$ .

The nodes sum up all signals that enter them, and transmit the sum signals to all outgoing branches.

Ex ①



$$\underline{x_k = \sum_i \bar{T}_{ik} x_i}$$

In the above example  $\bar{T}_{kk}$  is called a self-loop.



Ex ②

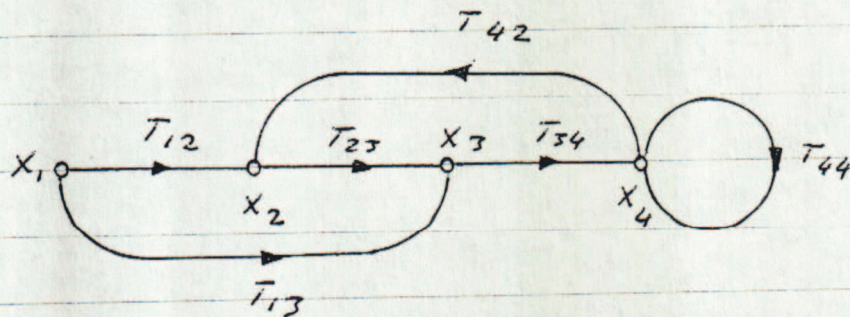
given

$X_1$  (Source)

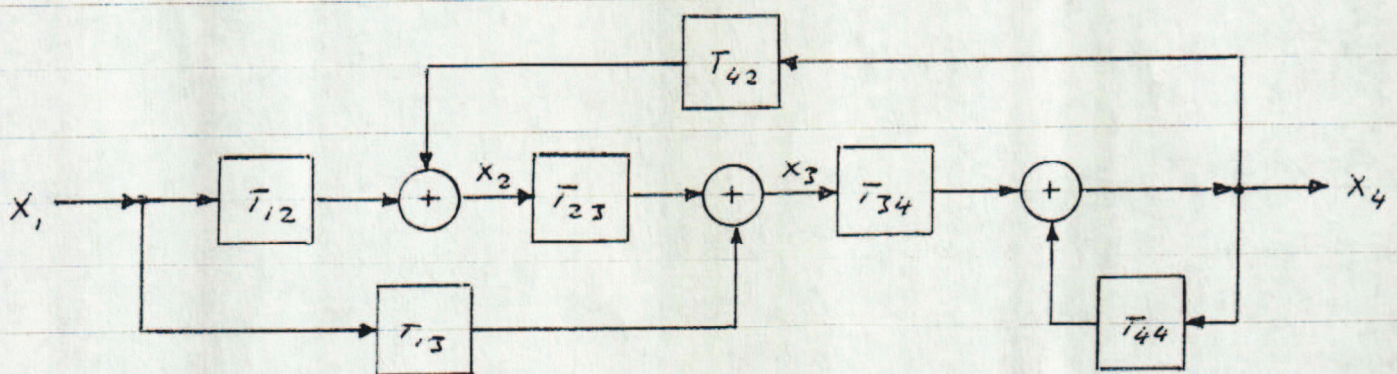
$$X_2 = T_{12} X_1 + T_{42} X_4$$

$$X_3 = T_{13} X_1 + T_{23} X_2$$

$$X_4 = T_{34} X_3 + T_{44} X_4$$



Block Diagram of the above system:



SFG is considerably simpler since

- it omits the "blocks"
- does not distinguish between summing and pickoff points



## Construction Rules for SFG's

- 1) The variables of an equation system correspond to nodes; the coefficients are associated with the branches.
- 2) Signals are transmitted only in the direction of the arrows.
- 3) Each signal transmitted along a branch is multiplied with the Transmittance of the branch.
- 4) Each (node) variable is equal to the algebraic sum of all incoming signals.
- 5) Each (node) variable is transmitted along each branch leaving the node.

Ex (3) (Homework)

Find the SFG of the following eq. system

$$x_0 = x_0$$

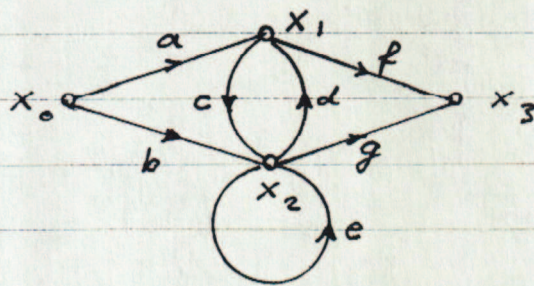
$$x_1 = a \cdot x_0 + d \cdot x_2$$

$$x_2 = b \cdot x_0 + c \cdot x_1 + e \cdot x_2$$

$$x_3 = p \cdot x_1 + q \cdot x_2$$

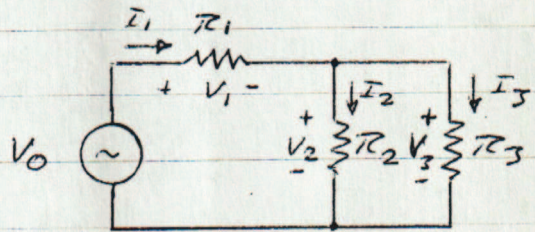


solution:



Ex ④ (Homework)

sketch the SFG of the following NW



$\Rightarrow$  eq.

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{\pi_1} \cdot V_1$$

$$V_1 = V_0 - V_2$$

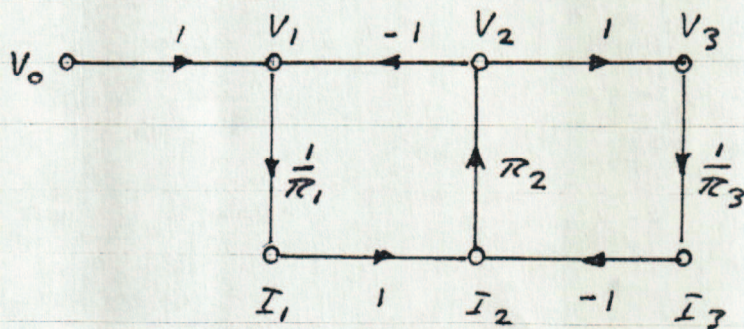
$$V_2 = I_2 \cdot \pi_2$$

$$I_2 = I_1 - I_3$$

$$I_3 = \frac{1}{\pi_3} V_3$$

$$V_3 = V_2$$

solution:

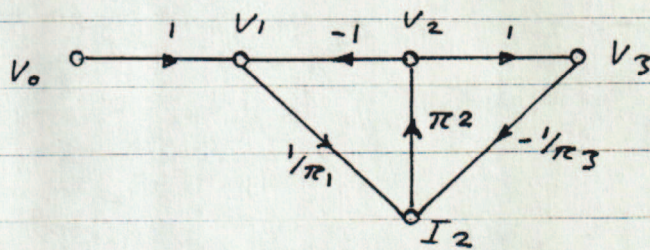


question: How can we calculate transfer function  $V_3/V_0$ ?

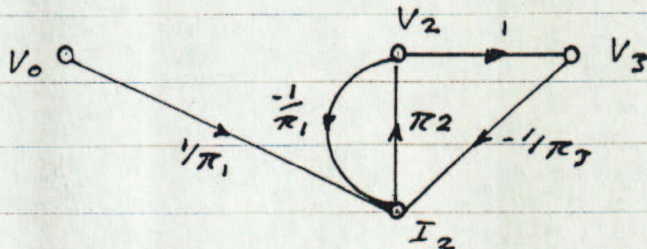
Approach: we reduce the SFG to its simplest form comprising only two nodes ( $V_0$  and  $V_3$ ).



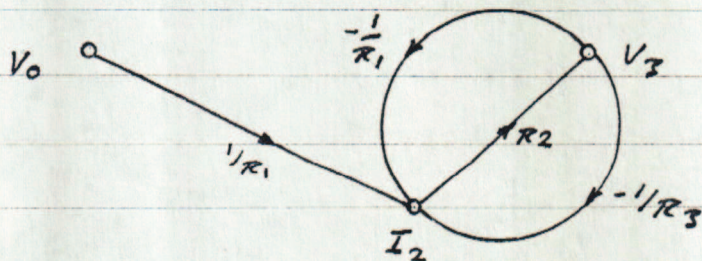
Step 1 Absorb nodes  $I_1$  and  $I_3$



Step 2 Absorb node  $V_1$

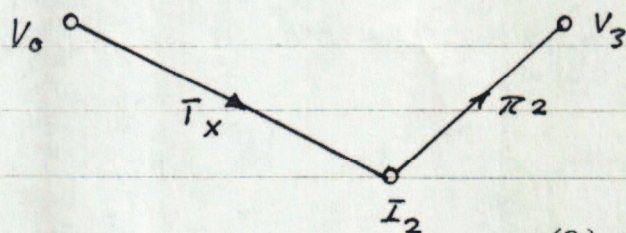


Step 3 Absorb node  $V_2$



$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & I_2 = V_0 \frac{1}{R_1} - V_3 \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_3} \right) \\ (2) \quad & V_3 = I_2 R_2 \end{aligned}$$

Step 4 Eliminate the Feedback Loops



$$\begin{aligned} (1') \quad & I_2 = V_0 \cdot \bar{I}_x \\ (2') \quad & V_3 = I_2 \cdot R_2 \end{aligned}$$

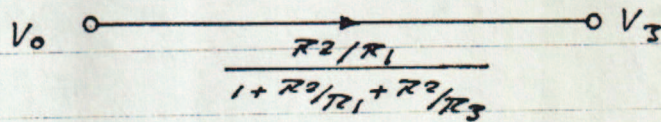
$$(2) \text{ in } (1) \Rightarrow I_2 = V_0 \frac{1}{R_1} \frac{1}{(1 + R_2/R_1 + R_2/R_3)}$$

$$(1) = (1') \Rightarrow \bar{I}_x = \frac{1/R_1}{(1 + R_2/R_1 + R_2/R_3)}$$



Step 5

Absorb node  $I_2$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{V_3}{V_0} = \frac{R_2/R_1}{1 + R_2/R_1 + R_2/R_3} = \frac{R_2 R_3}{R_1 R_3 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_2}$$

### SFG transformation Rules

original graph	eq. syst	mod. eq.	mod. graph
<p>①</p>	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_2 = T_{12} x_1$ $x_3 = T_{23} x_2$	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_3 = T_{12} \cdot T_{23} \cdot x_1$	
<p>②</p>	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_2 = T_{12}' x_1 + T_{12}'' x_1$	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_2 = (T_{12}' + T_{12}'') x_1$	
<p>③</p>	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_2: \text{Source}$ $x_3 = T_{53} x_5$ $x_4 = T_{54} x_5$ $x_5 = T_{15} x_1 + T_{25} x_2$	$x_1: \text{Source}$ $x_2: \text{Source}$ $x_3 = T_{15} \cdot T_{53} \cdot x_1 + T_{25} \cdot T_{53} \cdot x_2$ $x_4 = T_{15} \cdot T_{54} \cdot x_1 + T_{25} \cdot T_{54} \cdot x_2$	



table continued

<p>④</p> <p><math>X_1</math> <math>T_{12}</math> <math>X_2</math> <math>T_{23}</math> <math>X_3</math></p> <p><math>T_{32}</math></p>	<p><math>X_1</math> : Source</p> <p><math>X_2 = T_{12} X_1 + T_{23} X_3</math></p> <p><math>X_3 = T_{32} X_2</math></p>	<p><math>X_1</math> : Source</p> <p><math>X_3 = T_{12} \cdot T_{23} X_1 + T_{23} \cdot T_{32} X_3</math></p>	<p><math>T_{23} \cdot T_{32}</math></p> <p><math>T_{12} \cdot T_{23}</math></p> <p><math>X_1</math> <math>X_3</math></p>
<p>⑤</p> <p><math>X_1</math> <math>T_{12}</math> <math>X_2</math></p> <p><math>T_{22}</math></p>	<p><math>X_1</math> : Source</p> <p><math>X_2 = T_{12} X_1 + T_{22} X_2</math></p>	<p><math>X_1</math> : Source</p> <p><math>X_2 = \frac{T_{12}}{1 - T_{22}} X_1</math></p>	<p><math>\frac{T_{12}}{1 - T_{22}}</math></p> <p><math>X_1</math> <math>X_2</math></p>

back to Ex ④

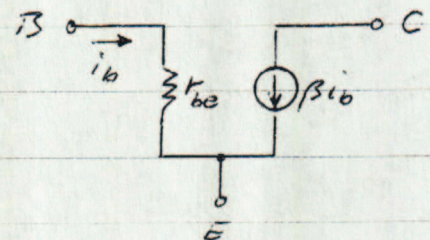
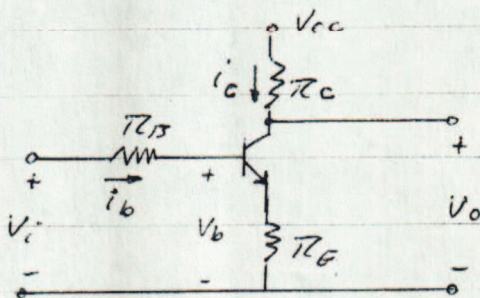
The rules we applied in our 5 steps to simplify the SFG were:

- Step 1 Rule ①
- Step 2 Rule ③
- Step 3 Rule ③
- Step 4 Rule ② + ④ + ⑤
- Step 5 Rule ①

Ex ⑤ Homework

Common Emitter Amplifier:

Replace  $\pi_r$  by

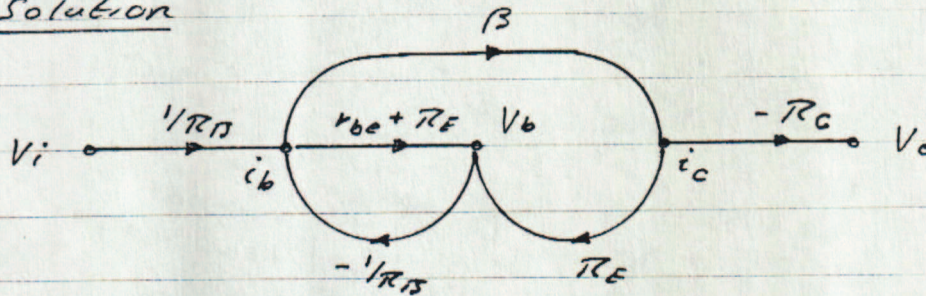




a) sketch the SFG of the given circuit comprising the following (node) variables:  $V_i$ ,  $i_b$ ,  $V_b$ ,  $i_c$ ,  $V_o$

b) Calculate the transfer function  $V_o/V_i$

Solution



equations:

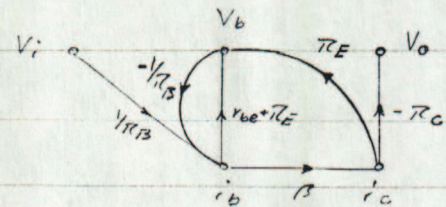
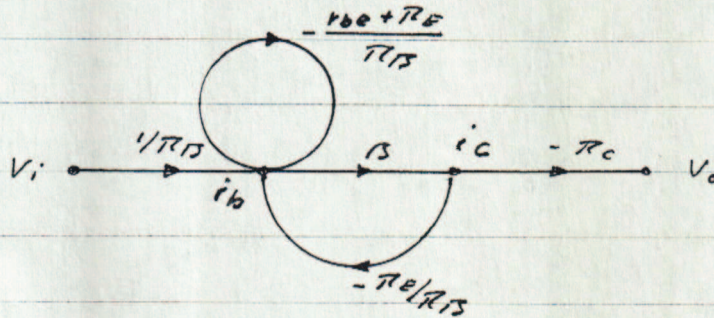
$$i_b = (V_i - V_b) \frac{1}{R_B}$$

$$V_b = i_b r_{be} + (i_b + i_c) R_E$$

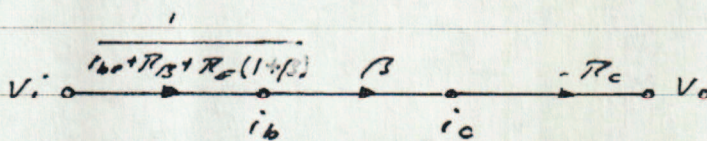
$$i_c = \beta i_b$$

$$V_o = -R_C i_c$$

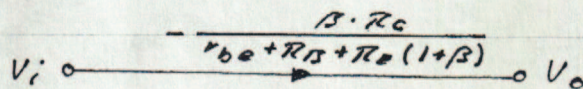
Step 1 absorb  $V_b$  (Rule ③)



Step 2 eliminate loops (Rule ④ + ⑤)

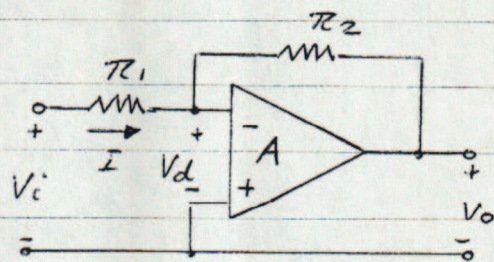


Step 3 absorb nodes  $i_b$  and  $i_c$  (Rule ①)





# Ex ⑥ Inverting Amplifier with Opamp



Opamp:

$$V_o = -A \cdot V_d$$

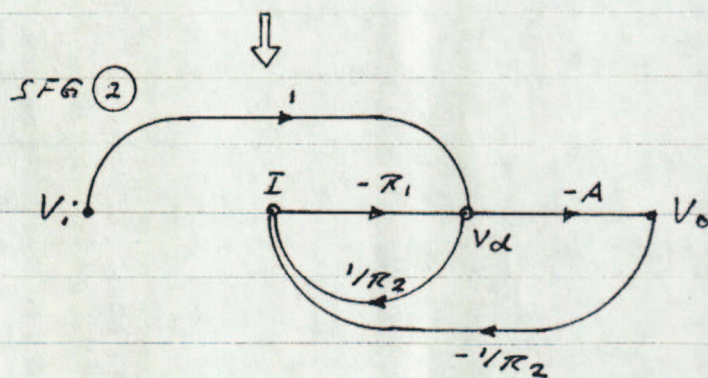
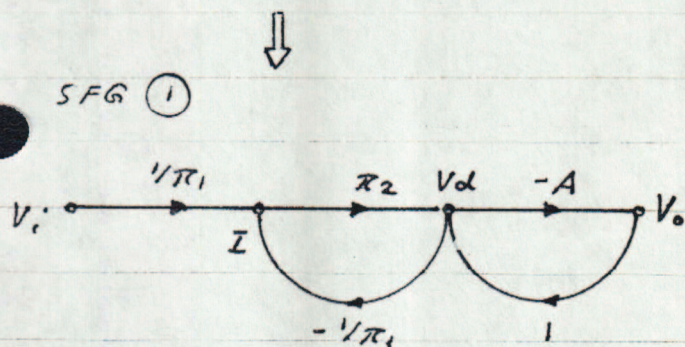
$$R_i = \infty \text{ (Input Res.)}$$

eq. syst. ①

$$\begin{cases} I = (V_i - V_d) \frac{1}{R_1} \\ V_d = V_o + I \cdot R_2 \\ V_o = -A \cdot V_d \end{cases}$$

eq. syst. ②

$$\begin{cases} I = (V_d - V_o) \frac{1}{R_2} \\ V_d = V_i - I \cdot R_1 \\ V_o = -A \cdot V_d \end{cases}$$



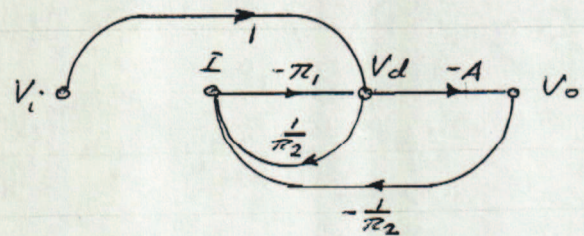
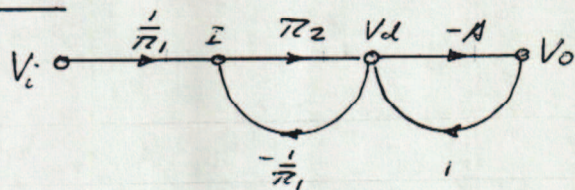
## Conclusion:

The SFG representation of a physical system is not unique, since there are different ways of writing the equations that describe a system.

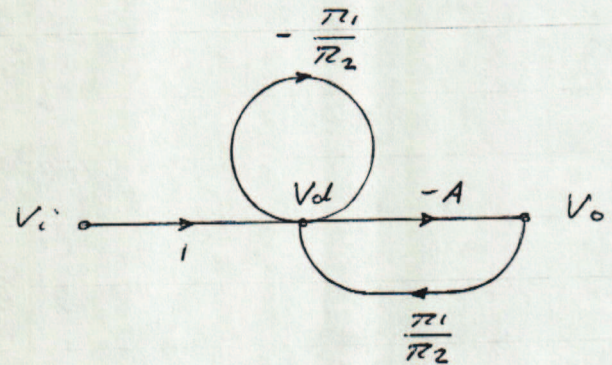
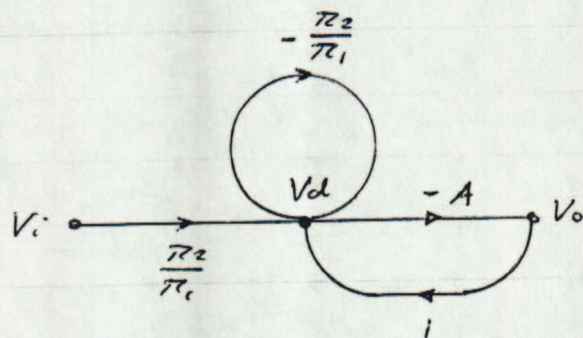
Homework: Proof identity of SFG ① with SFG ②



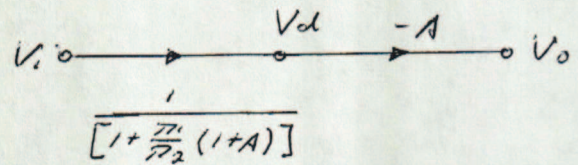
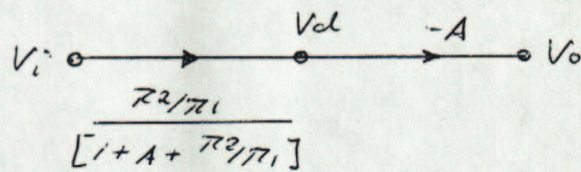
# Solution



absorb node  $I$

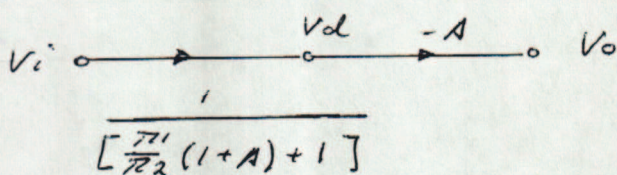


eliminate loops



III

III



$$V_o = -V_i \frac{\pi_2}{\pi_1(1+A) + \pi_2/A} = -V_i \frac{\pi_2}{\pi_1} \frac{1}{(1+A[\frac{\pi_2}{\pi_1}])}$$



$$\textcircled{1} X_0 = X_0$$

$$\textcircled{2} X_1 = aX_0 + dX_2$$

$$\textcircled{3} X_2 = bX_0 + cX_1 + eX_2$$

$$\textcircled{4} X_3 = fX_1 + gX_2$$

Example

Find  $\frac{X_3}{X_0}$

algebraic solution:

$$\frac{1}{d}X_1 - \frac{a}{d}X_0 = \frac{c}{1-e}X_1 + \frac{b}{1-e}X_0$$

(From 2 and 3)

$$\leftarrow X_1 = \frac{\left(\frac{b}{1-e} + \frac{a}{d}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{d} - \frac{c}{1-e}\right)} X_0$$

$$X_3 = fX_1 + g\left(\frac{c}{1-e}X_1 + \frac{b}{1-e}X_0\right) \quad \left(\text{From 3 and 4}\right)$$

$$\leftarrow X_3 = f\left(\frac{\frac{b}{1-e} + \frac{a}{d}}{\frac{1}{d} - \frac{c}{1-e}}\right)X_0 + \frac{gc}{1-e}\left(\frac{\frac{b}{1-e} + \frac{a}{d}}{\frac{1}{d} - \frac{c}{1-e}}\right)X_0 + \frac{b}{1-e}X_0$$

Typical Solution

Simplify

$$\left[ \frac{X_3}{X_0} = \frac{fdb + fa - fca + \frac{dgc}{1-e} + agc}{1-e-dc} + \frac{gb}{1-e} \right]$$

Most people would stop here,

but  $\left[ \frac{gb}{1-e} = \frac{gb}{1-e} - \frac{egb}{1-e} - \frac{dcgb}{1-e} \right]$

and  $\frac{gb-egb}{1-e} = gb$

Thus,

$$X_3 \quad fdb + fa + fca + agc + gb \quad \text{best answer}$$