

# Lecture 5 : Class AB Stages

0. Review

1. Class AB Stage

2. Class AB Design

- Today : PreLab 2 due

- HW 2 due Fri

- Lab 1 report due next Tue (10/1)

- Quiz next Tue (10/1)

- PreLab 3 due next lab session

↳ Two week design project

(1) Breadboard prototype  
+ testing

(2) Soldering

Burna will be  
out of town  
Oct 4 - 13

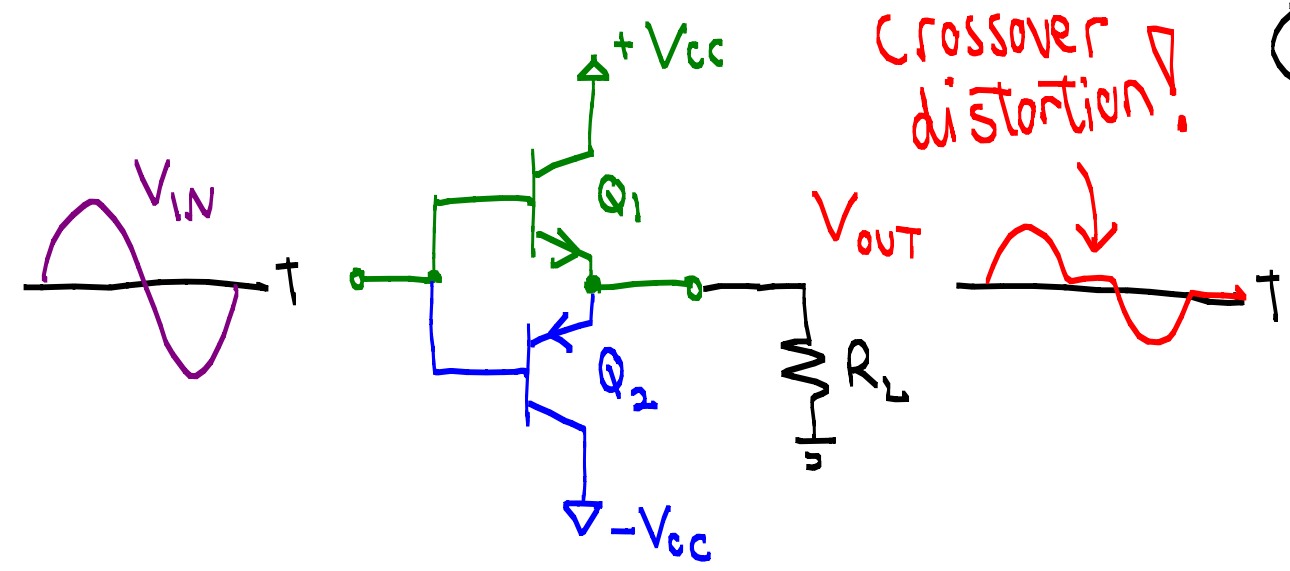
**0. Review**

← "totem pole"  
"class B"

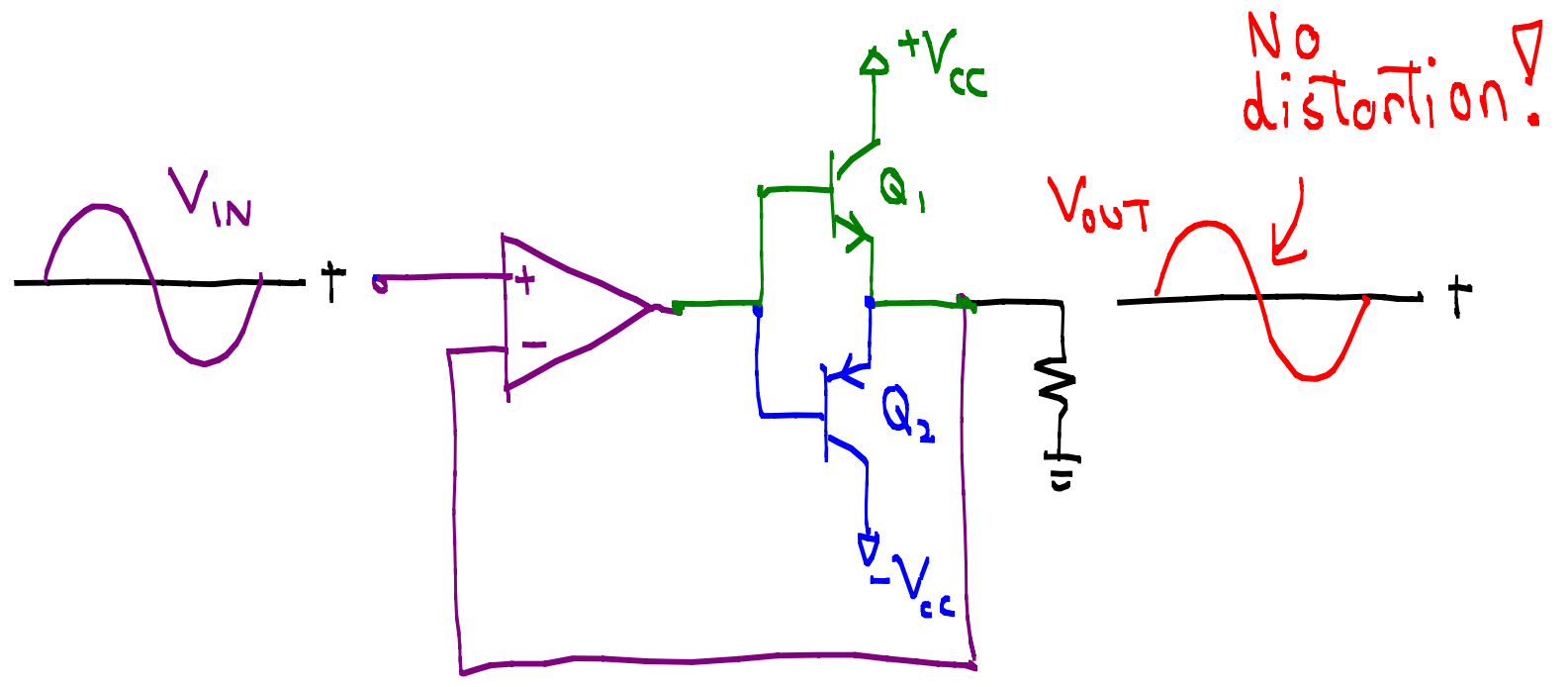
• Push-Pull Stage

$Q_1$ : ON during (+) output

$Q_2$ : ON during (-) output



5.0

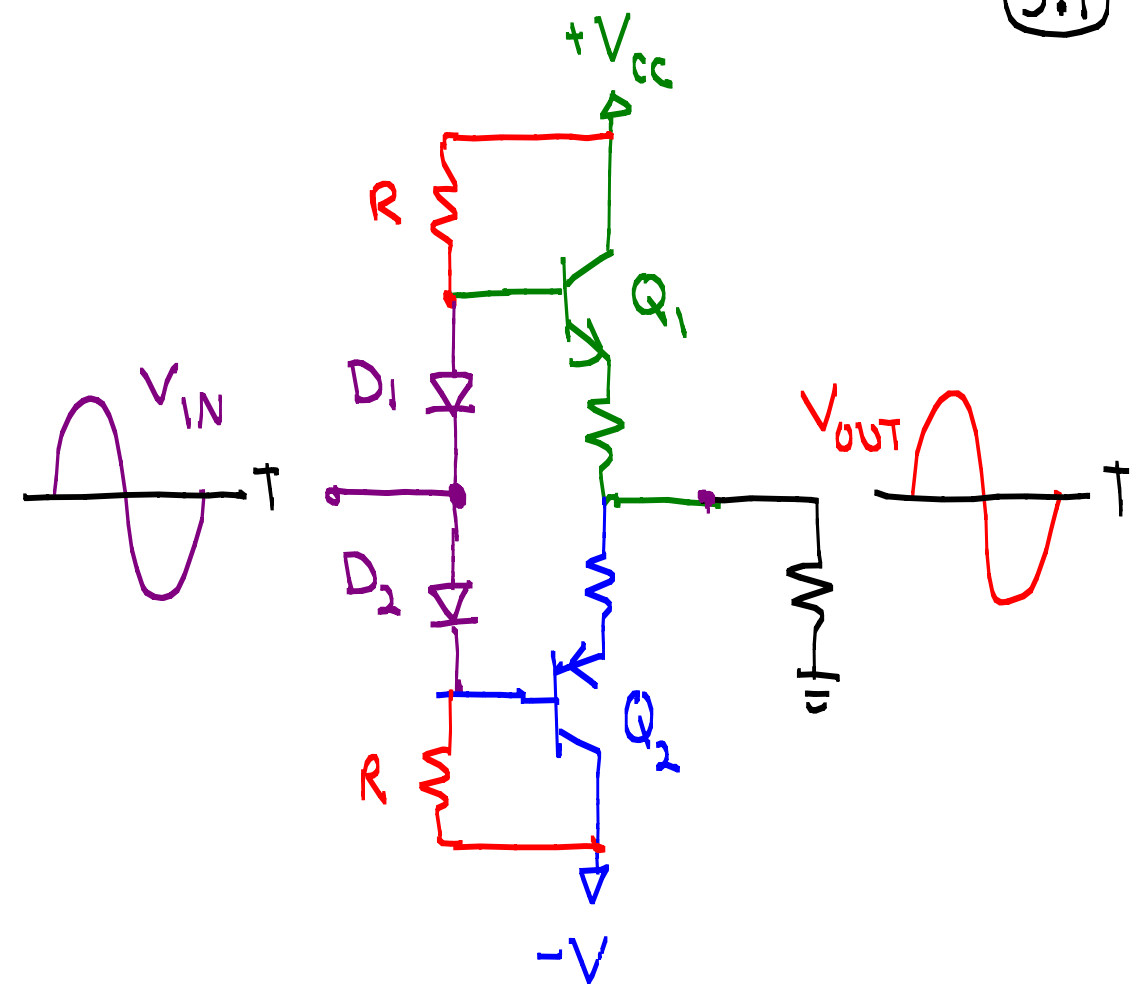


# 1. Class AB Stage

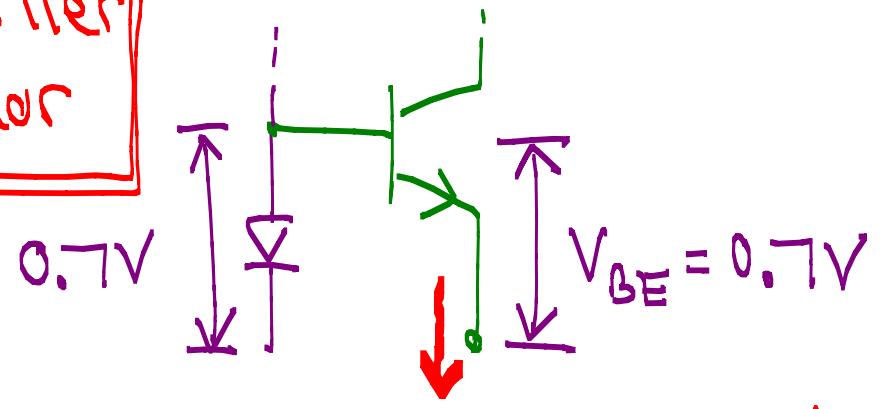
- Crossover distortion is due to both  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  being OFF when  $|V_{IN}| < V_{BE}$ .
- Class AB stage avoids this problem by keeping  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  slightly on when  $|V_{IN}| < V_{BE}$ .

→ Diode  $D_1$  applies  $\sim 0.7V$  to  $V_{BE}$  of  $Q_1$   
 $D_2$  applies  $\sim 0.7V$  to  $V_{BE}$  of  $Q_2$

- The small emitter resistors are important to avoid thermal runaway!



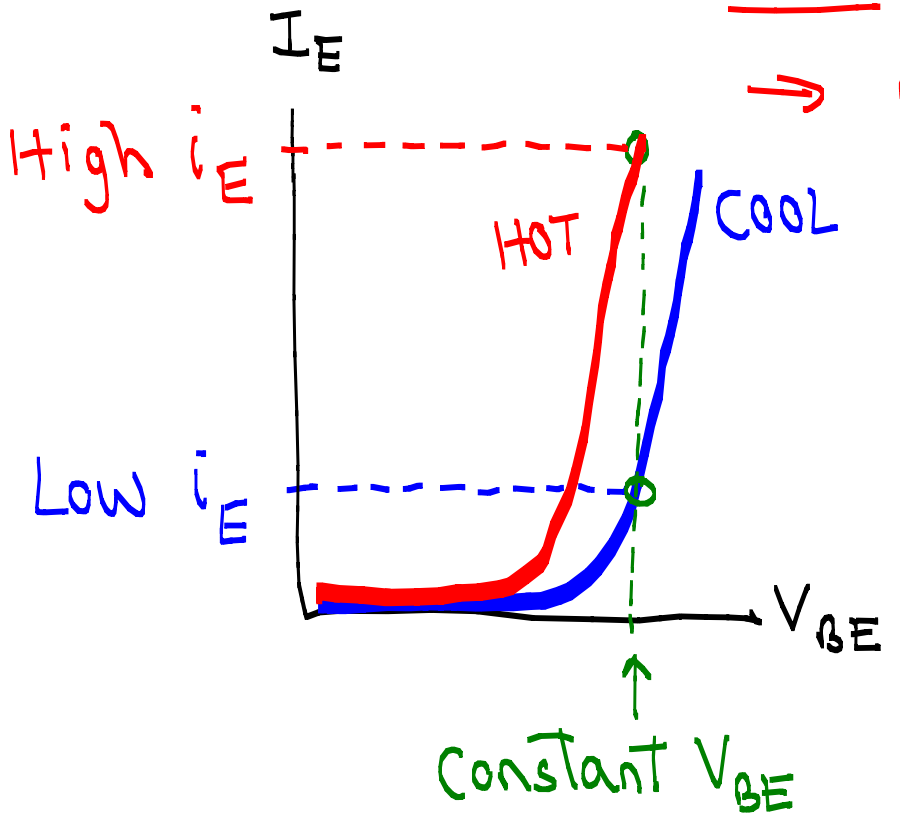
No emitter Resistor



When BJT gets warm, same  $V_{BE}$  produces more current

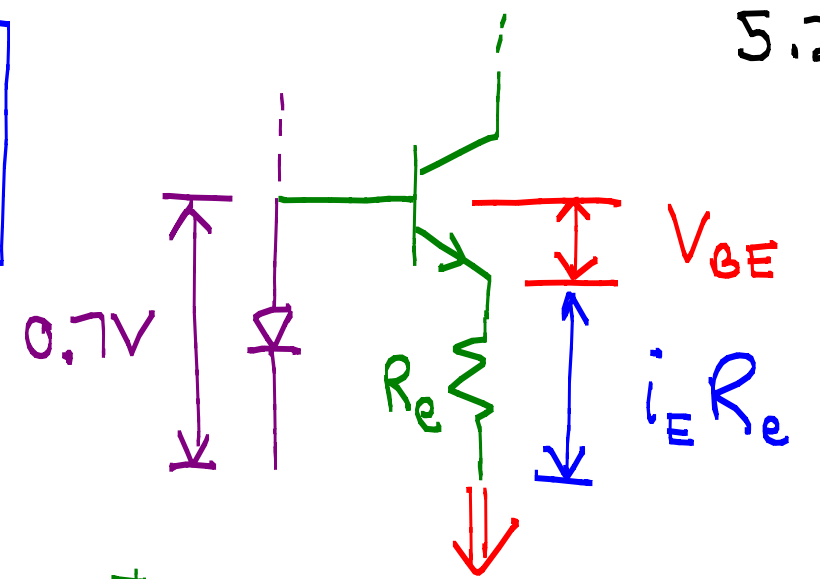
→ more heating

→ even more current



∴ Thermal runaway!

with emitter resistor



★ If  $i_E$  tries to increase,  $R_e$  will make  $V_{BE}$  shrink.

$I_E$  stays the same 😊

$$0.7V = \underbrace{i_E R_e}_{\text{If this } \uparrow} + \underbrace{V_{BE}}_{\text{then this } \downarrow}$$

★  $R_e$  acts like a voltage "cushion"

# 2. Class AB Design Example

$V_{CC} = 5, 7, 9, \text{ or } 11V$

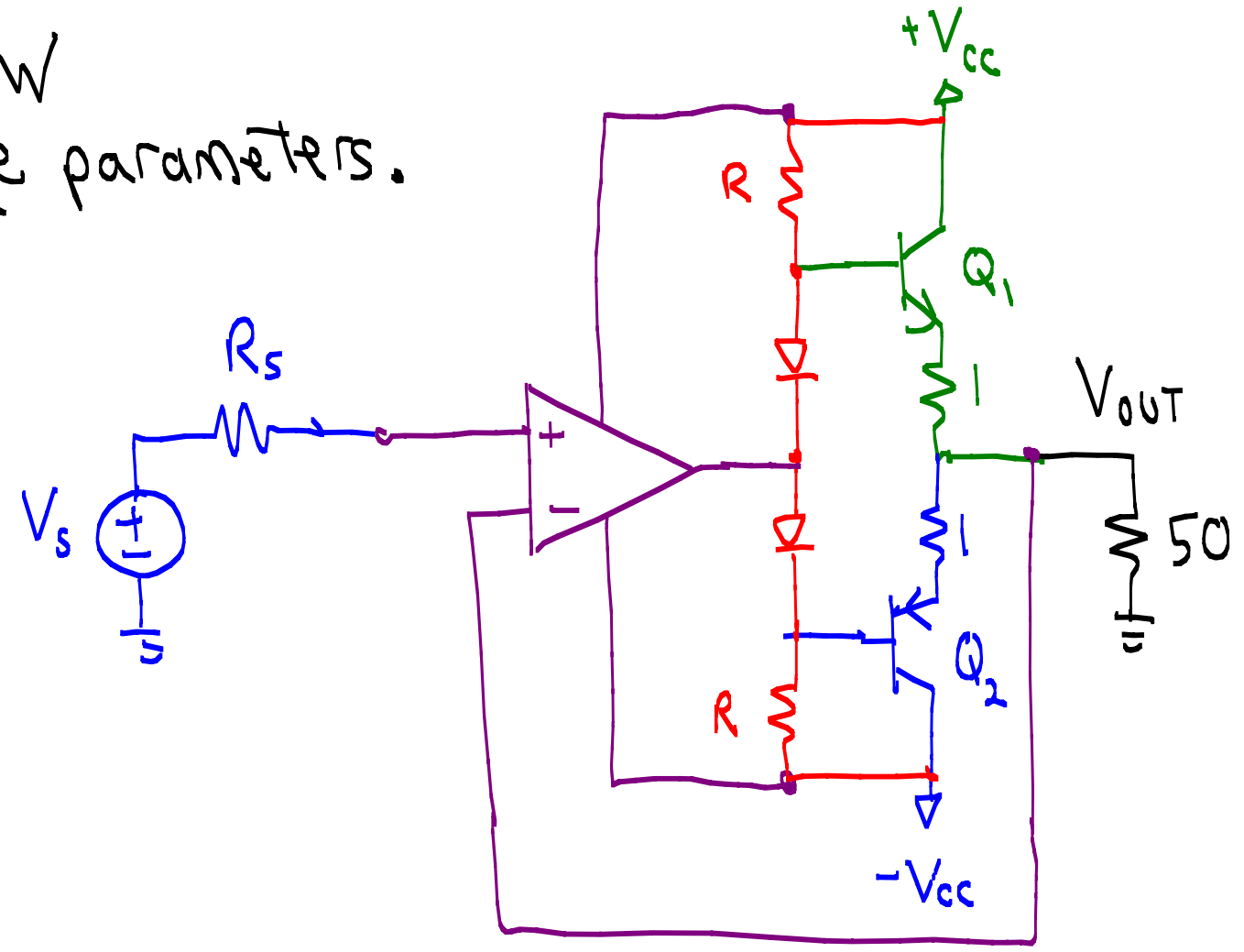
- Drive a  $50\Omega$  load with up to  $250\text{ mW}$  of sinusoidal signal. Use worst-case parameters.

- Start with desired max output

$$P_{max} = 0.25 = \frac{V_{MAX}^2}{2 \times 50\Omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{MAX} = \pm\sqrt{25} = \pm 5V$$

$$i_{MAX} = \frac{5V}{50\Omega} = \underline{\underline{0.1A}}$$



• Choose  $V_{CC}$ :

★ Make sure max load voltage does not saturate  $Q_1$ !

$$V_{CC} > \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Max} \\ V_{\text{LOAD}} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Voltage} \\ \text{across} \\ R_e \end{array} \right] + \left[ V_{CE, \text{sat}} \right] + 2V$$

$$> 5V + .1A \times 1\Omega + 0V + 2V$$

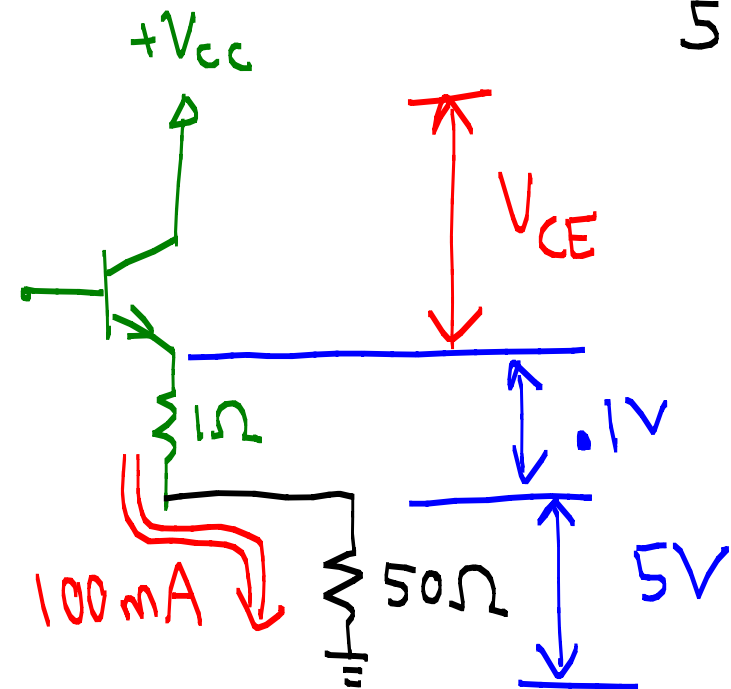
$$> 7.1V$$

↳ Try  $V_{CC} = 9V$

May need to change later

(depends on op amp analysis)

Headroom

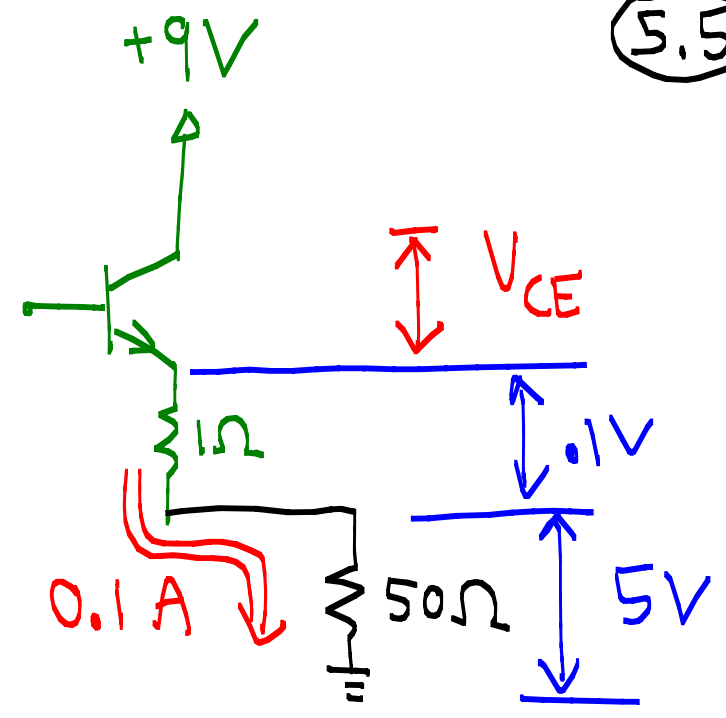


• Choose Transistor First, do quick analysis:

Max  $i_E = 0.1 A \xrightarrow{\times 2} 0.2 A$  rating or higher

$V_{CE} = 9 - 5.1 = 3.9V \xrightarrow{\times 2} > 7.8 V$  rating

$P = \frac{1}{101} (0.7) + .99 (.1) (3.9) = .387 W \xrightarrow{\times 2} > 0.78 W$  rating



Heat Sink

$T_A + P(\theta_{JC} + \theta_{CS} + \theta_{SA}) < 85^\circ C$   
 $\rightarrow \theta_{SA} < 71^\circ C/W$   
 ( $T_A = 25^\circ C$ )

	<u>Max <math>I_C</math></u>	<u>Max <math>V_{CE}</math></u>	<u><math>P_{rating}</math></u> (no HS)	<u><math>P_{rating}</math></u> (w/HS)
2N4401	600 mA ✓	40V ✓	.625W	1.5W ✓
TIP29	1A ✓	40V ✓	2W ✓	$T_c = 25^\circ C$

$T_A = 25^\circ C$

Either would work, but 2N4401 has higher  $\beta$ .

★ R must be small enough to deliver ...

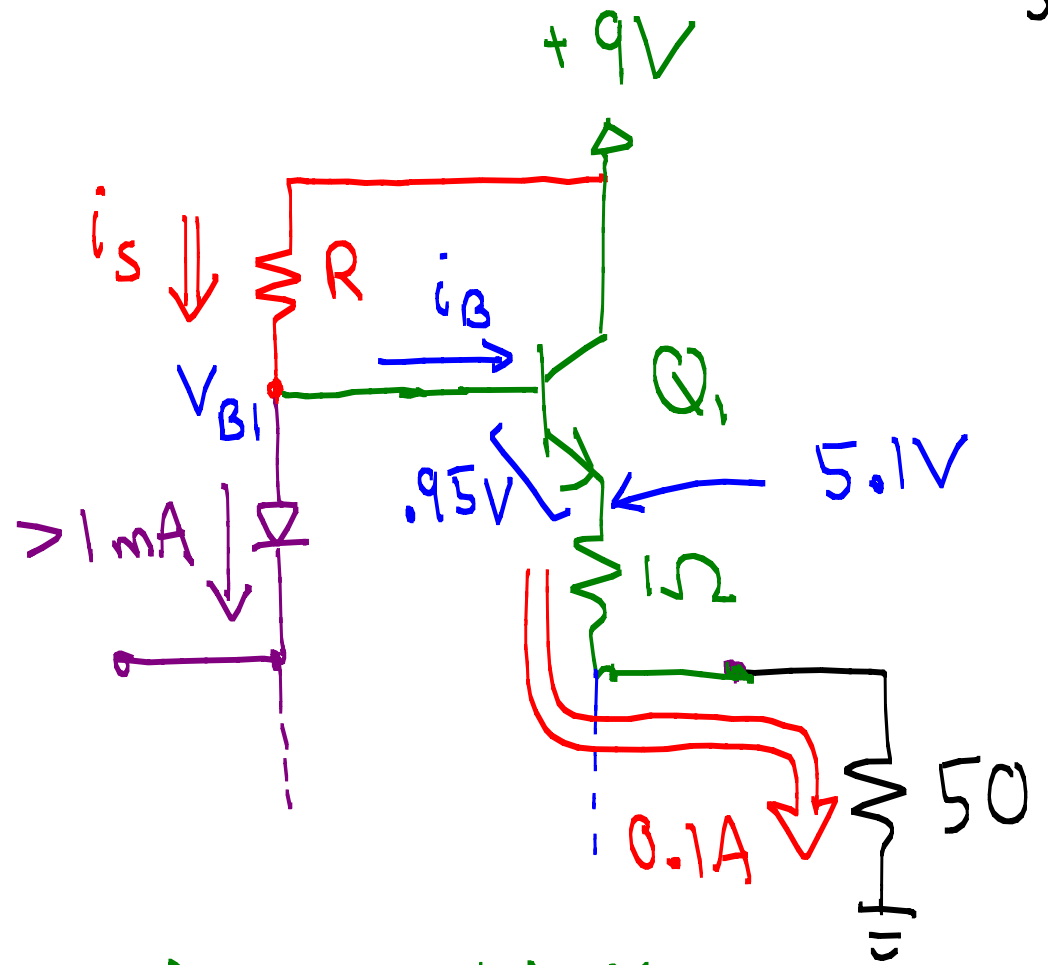
①  $\geq 1\text{mA}$  to diode (maintain  $\sim 0.7\text{V}$ )

② sufficient base current to  $Q_1$ !

$$i_{\text{Diode, min}} = i_{s, \text{min}} - i_{B, \text{max}} > 1\text{mA}$$

$$= \frac{V_{CC} - V_{B1, \text{max}}}{R} - \frac{i_{E, \text{max}}}{\beta_{\text{min}} + 1} > 1\text{mA}$$

$$= \frac{9 - (5.1 + \overset{V_{BE, \text{max}}}{0.95})}{R} - \frac{100\text{mA}}{100 + 1} > 1\text{mA}$$



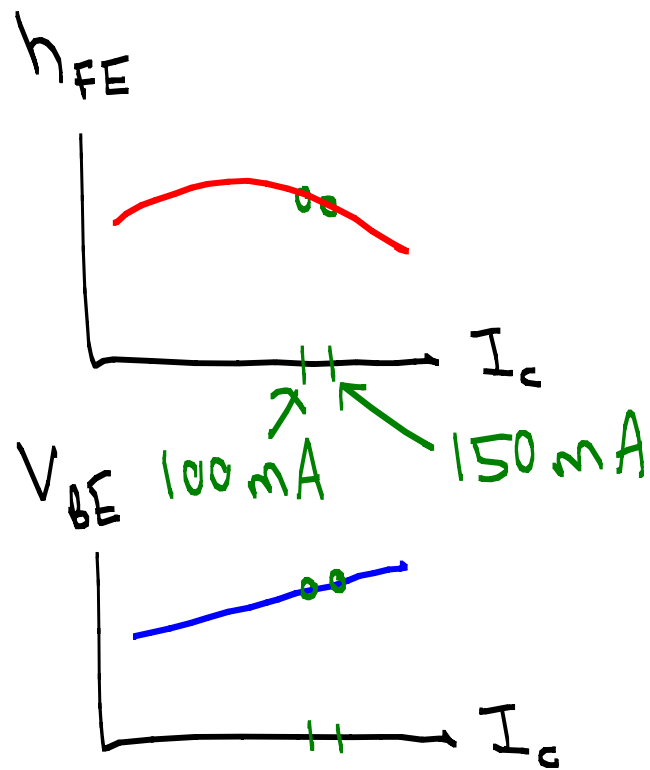
$$\Rightarrow R < 1.48\text{K}$$

Choose 1.3K

(1.5K would probably be fine)



# 2N4401 worst-case parameters



$\beta$  and  $V_{BE}$  are pretty similar for 100 mA vs. 150 mA

$h_{FE}$

MIN

5.7

( $I_C = 0.1 \text{ mA dc}, V_{CE} = 1.0 \text{ V dc}$ )

20

( $I_C = 1.0 \text{ mA dc}, V_{CE} = 1.0 \text{ V dc}$ )

40

( $I_C = 10 \text{ mA dc}, V_{CE} = 1.0 \text{ V dc}$ )

80

( $I_C = 150 \text{ mA dc}, V_{CE} = 1.0 \text{ V dc}$ )

100 ★

( $I_C = 500 \text{ mA dc}, V_{CE} = 2.0 \text{ V dc}$ )

40

Collector-Emitter Saturation Voltage

$I_C = 150 \text{ mA}, I_B = 15 \text{ mA}$

Max  $V_{CE,sat}$

MAX

0.4

V

$I_C = 500 \text{ mA}, I_B = 50 \text{ mA}$

0.75

V

Base-Emitter Saturation Voltage

$I_C = 150 \text{ mA}, I_B = 15 \text{ mA}$

Max  $V_{BE}$

MAX

0.75

0.95

V

$I_C = 500 \text{ mA}, I_B = 50 \text{ mA}$

1.2

V

• op amp must be able to provide enough voltage and current to the Class AB stage.

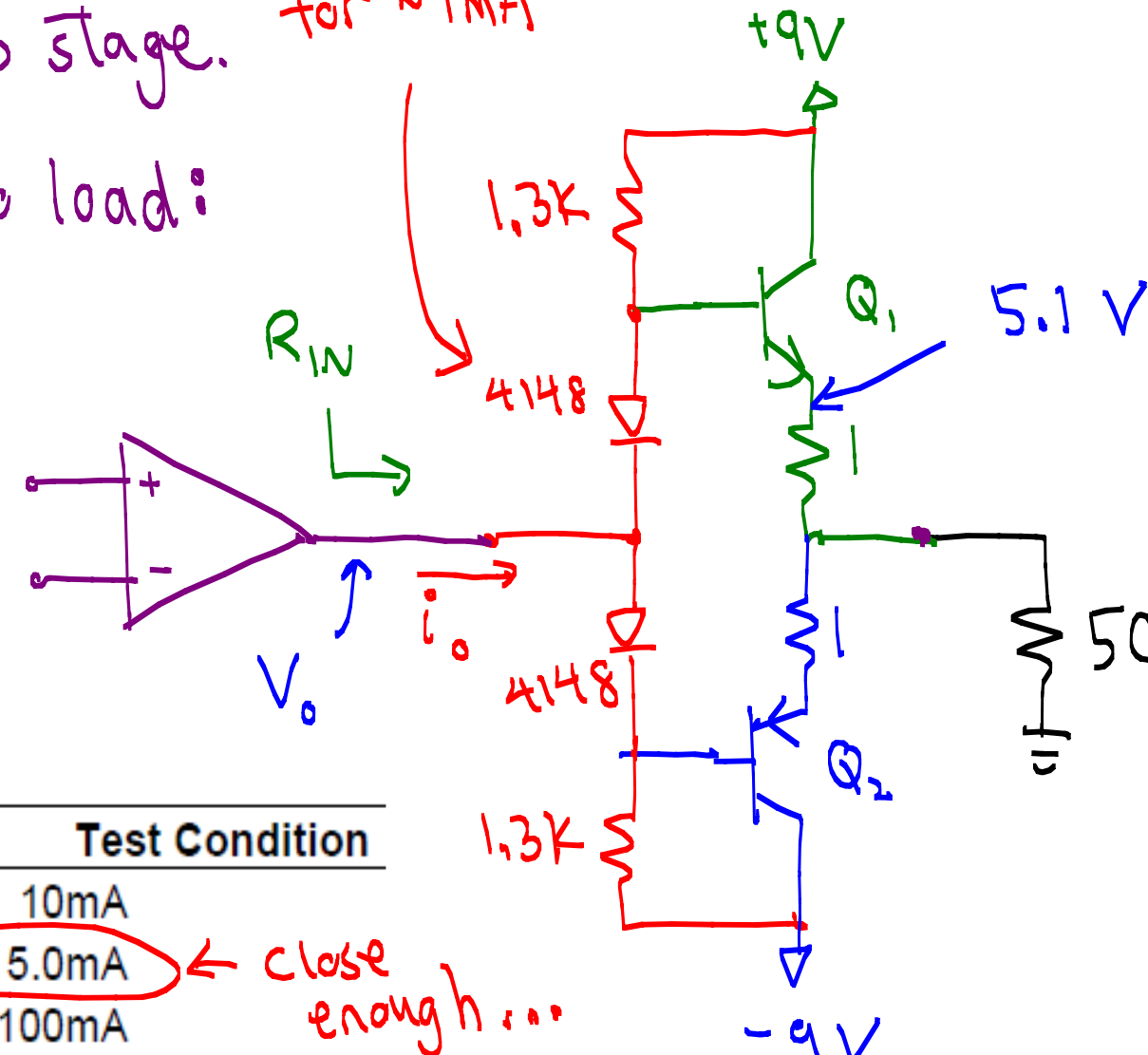
Need to estimate for max output to load:

①  $V_o \approx 5.1 + V_{BE} - V_F$

Worst Case:

Max  $\rightarrow V_o = 5.1 + 0.95 - 0.62$   
 $= \underline{\underline{5.43V}}$

min  
Max



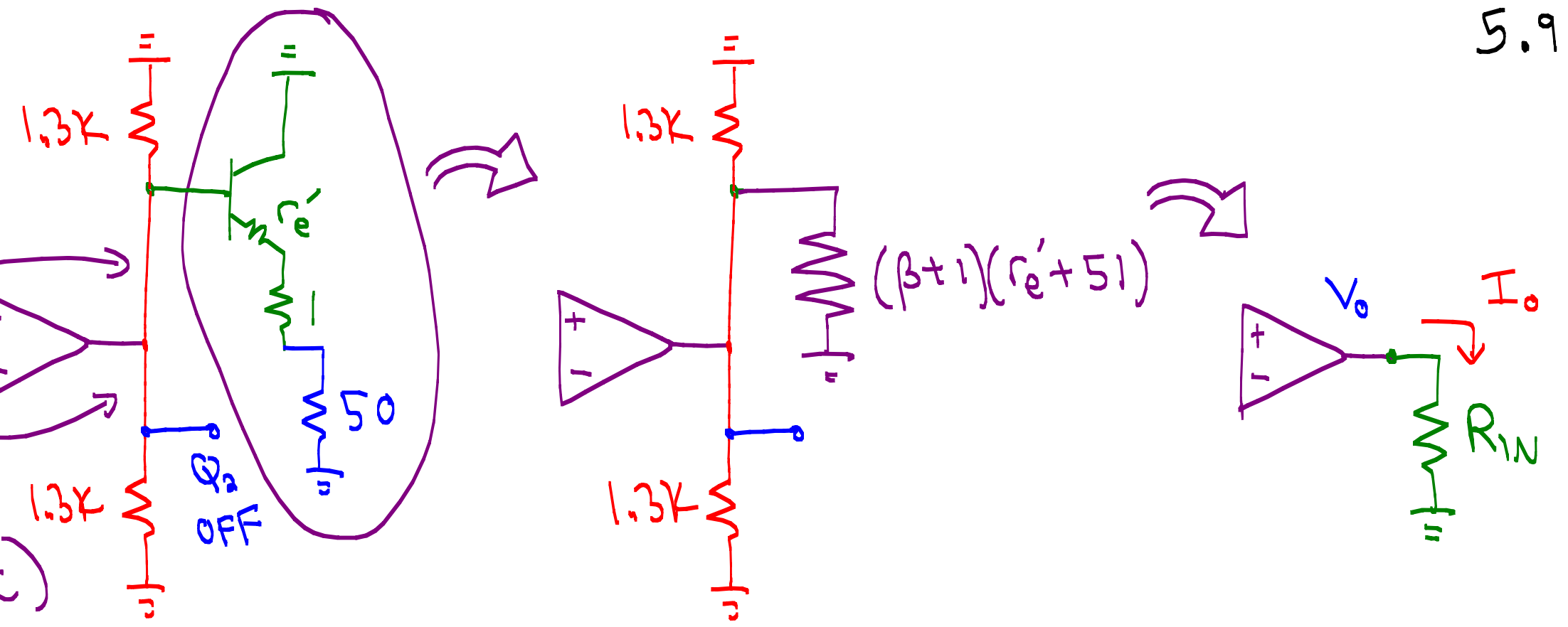
IN4148 data sheet

Min	Max	Unit	Test Condition
—	1.0	V	$I_F = 10mA$
<u>0.62</u>	0.72		<u><math>I_F = 5.0mA</math></u> ← close enough...
—	1.0		$I_F = 100mA$

②  $i_o \sim \frac{V_o}{R_{IN}}$  ? ← Only need to consider one transistor (e.g.  $Q_1$ ) of push-pull pair

AC Equivalent circuit

Diodes act like constant 0.7V source (short at AC)



$$R_{in} = 1.3k \parallel 1.3k \parallel [(\beta+1)(r_e'+51)]$$

$$\approx 1.3k \parallel 1.3k \parallel [(\beta+1)(51)]$$

OK to ignore  $r_e' = \frac{0.026V}{i_E} = \frac{0.026V}{0.12A} = 0.2\Omega \ll 51\Omega$

$$\rightarrow R_{in} \approx (1.3k \parallel 1.3k) \parallel (101 \times 51) = \underline{\underline{577\Omega}} \Rightarrow I_o \sim \frac{5.43V}{577\Omega} = \underline{\underline{9.4mA}}$$

Q: When  $V_{cc} = \pm 9V$ , can the op amp produce 5.4 V @ 9.4 mA?

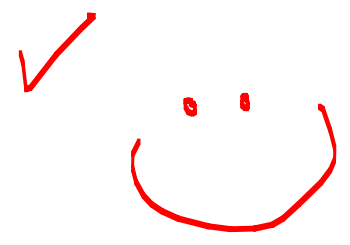
→ Headroom =  $9 - 5.4 = \underline{\underline{3.6V}}$

using the 741 op amp as an example

At  $V_{cc} = 15$ ,

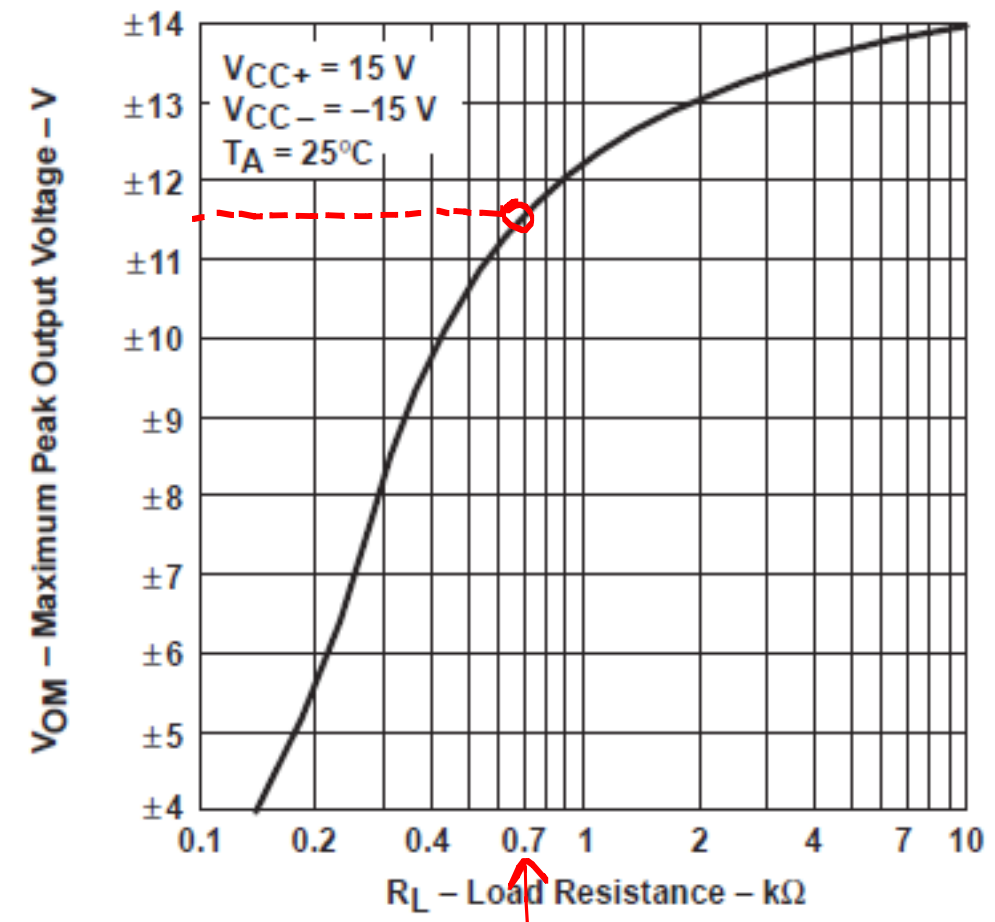
max  $V_o = V_{cc} - \text{headroom} = 15 - 3.6 = \underline{\underline{11.4V}}$

Current =  $\frac{11.4V}{0.7K} = 16.3 \text{ mA} > 9.4 \text{ mA}$



**MAXIMUM PEAK OUTPUT VOLTAGE**

VS  
LOAD RESISTANCE



• SO, our final design is:

- Good idea to simulate the circuit to confirm proper operation

→ May need to slightly adjust component values!

NOTE: Better to use a current source to bias a Class AB stage

5V<sub>p</sub>  
sine wave

