

- FEEDBACK

Consider an amplifier



$$y = kx$$

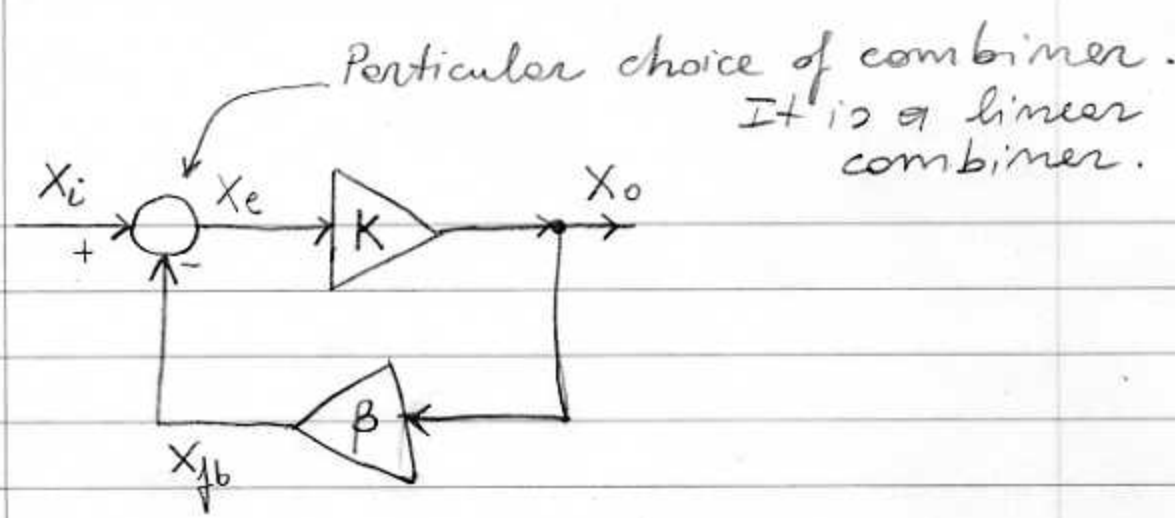
$$k = \frac{y}{x}$$

k is the gain by definition. Note that we are not specifying the nature of x and y , they can be generic quantities. So the gain is the ratio of the output to the input.

If we can observe the output then we can check if the amplifier is doing something that it is not supposed to do.

We ask ourselves if there is a way of obtaining the desired output but adjusting the amplifier input depending on the output.

This means feeding back the output to the input.



We use part of the output (usually $\beta < 1$) to control the amplifier input.

What is the gain $\frac{X_o}{X_i}$?

$$X_{fb} = X_o \beta$$

$$X_e = X_i - X_{fb}$$

$$X_o = K X_e = K(X_i - X_{fb}) = K(X_i - X_o \beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow X_o(1 + K\beta) = K X_i \Rightarrow \frac{X_o}{X_i} = \frac{K}{1 + K\beta} = K'$$

!!! Negative feedback because $K' < K$

K' is called closed-loop gain

$K\beta$ is called loop gain

K is the open-loop gain

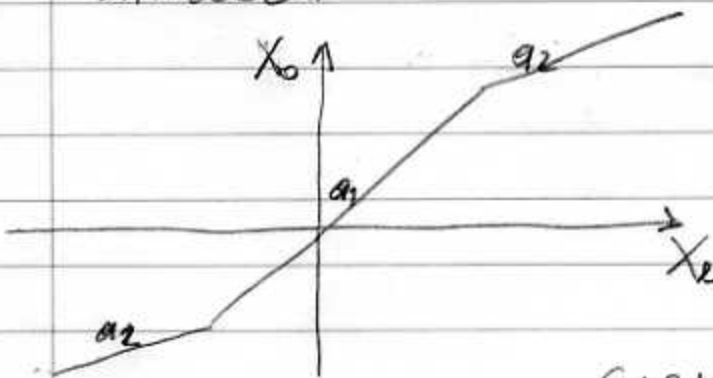
What happens if $k\beta \gg 1$?

$$k' = \frac{k}{1+k\beta} \approx \frac{k}{k\beta} = \frac{1}{\beta}$$

the gain becomes independent on the open-loop gain but depends only on the "feedback network"!!

One immediate consequence is that distortions are reduced.

By distortion I mean the fact that the amplifier gain is not perfectly linear:



The gain depends on the input signal. Consider the case where this curve can be approximated

by three lines using two coefficients a_1 and a_2 :

$$k'_1 = \frac{a_1}{1+a_1\beta} \approx \frac{1}{\beta} \quad k'_2 = \frac{a_2}{1+a_2\beta} \approx \frac{1}{\beta}$$

The closed-loop gain is a constant!!

(well almost, but definitely better than the open-loop)

In general, gain sensitivity is reduced. It means that if K changes due to temperature, aging etc. the overall amplifier performances will stay the same:

$$\frac{dK'}{dK} = \frac{(1+K\beta) - K\beta}{(1+\beta K)^2} = \frac{1}{(1+K\beta)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta K' = \frac{\Delta K}{(1+K\beta)^2}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta K'}{K'} = \frac{1+K\beta}{K} \frac{\Delta K}{(1+\beta K)^2} = \frac{\Delta K/K}{1+K\beta}$$

The fractional change of K' is reduced by a factor $1+K\beta$ compared to the fractional change in K .

If $1+K\beta = 10^3$ then if our original gain K reduces by 50%, the closed-loop gain reduces only by 0.05%.

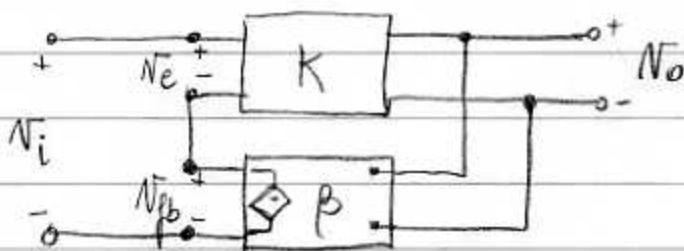
We will see other advantages but all this good things are not for free. The price that we pay is that the original amplification is reduced by a factor $1+K\beta$.

- FEEDBACK CONFIGURATIONS (look at page 5-bis first)

After the general introduction, we now consider the application to electronic circuit. We consider voltages or currents.

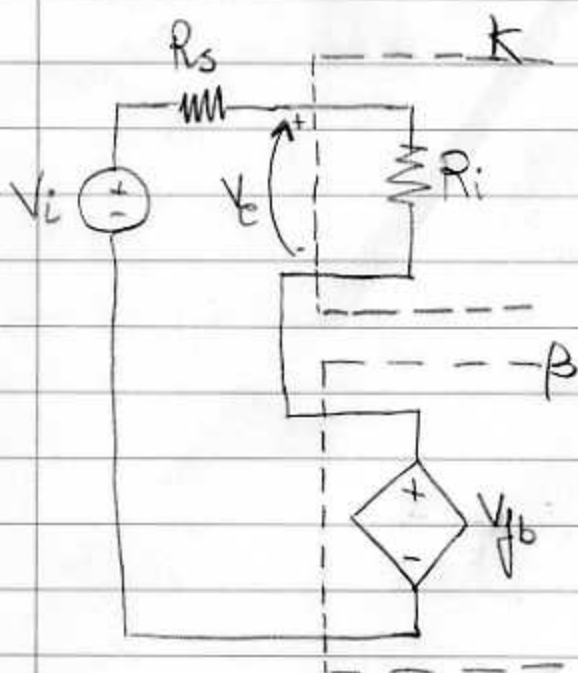
Depending on the output quantity and the input quantity we can have 4 configurations.

• Series-Shunt (or Voltage-Voltage)

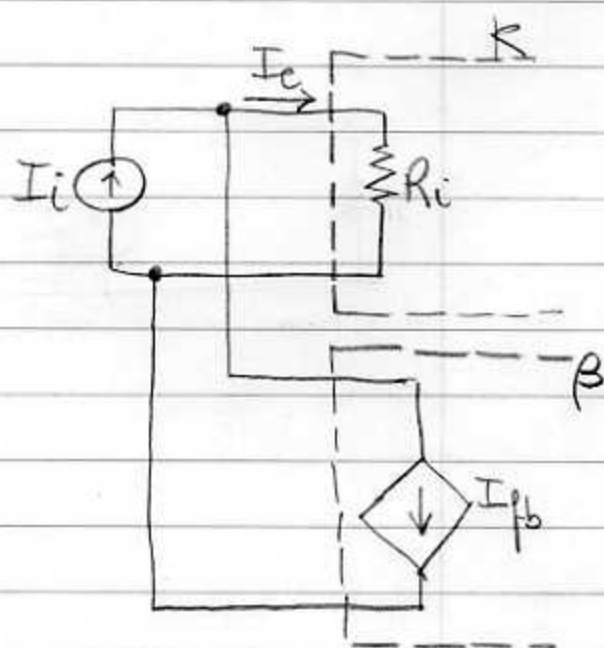


Depending on the quantity we take from the output and the quantity we feedback to the input we can have different connections:

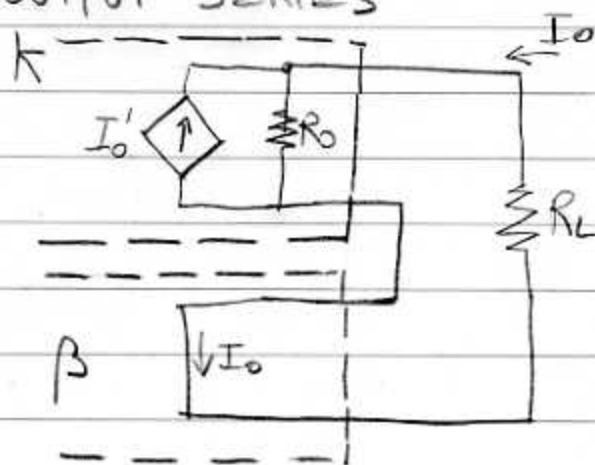
INPUT SERIES



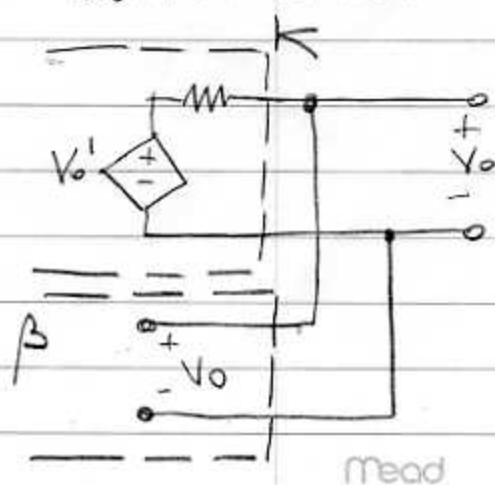
INPUT SHUNT



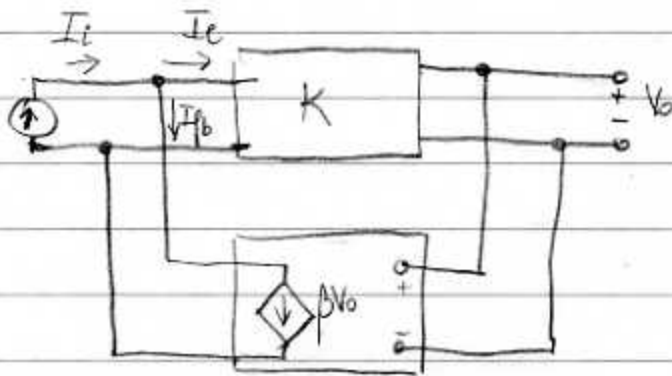
OUTPUT SERIES



OUTPUT SHUNT

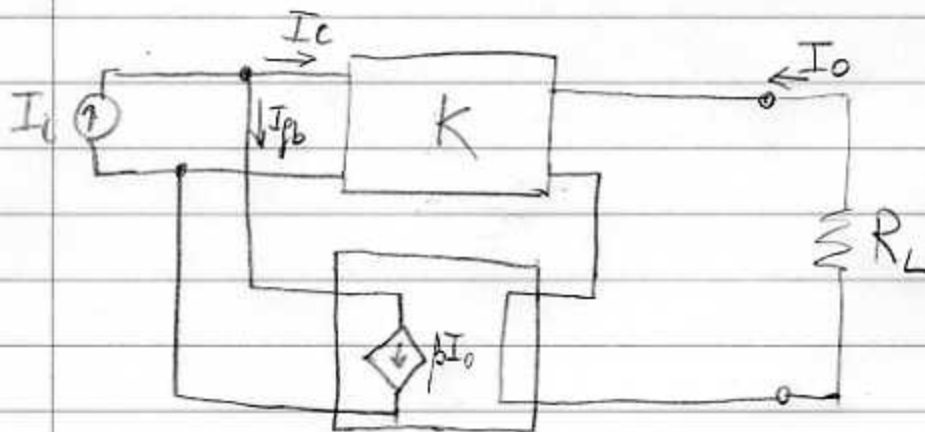


- Shunt-Shunt (or Current-Voltage)



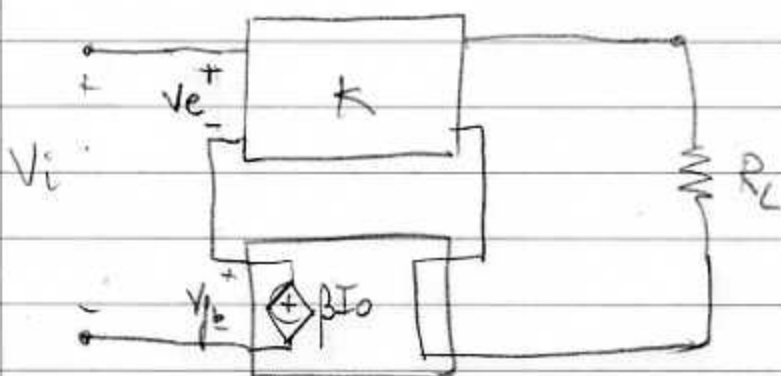
In this case K is a current controlled voltage source, its output is $V_o = K I_e$.

- Shunt-Series (or Current-Current)



K is a current amplifier $I_o = K I_e$

- Series-Series (or Voltage-Current)



In the connections I have shown here I have not explicitly defined K but you can understand how it looks like case by case.

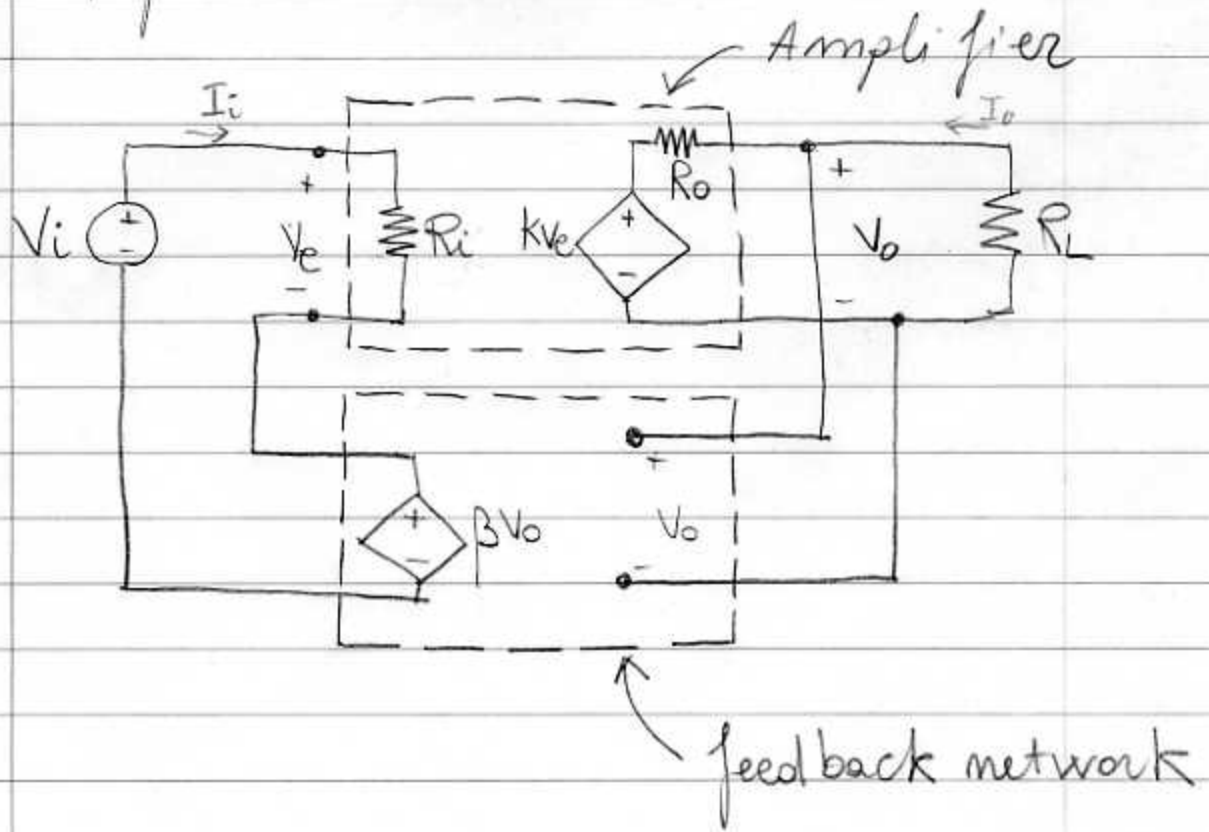
For instance in the Series-Series connection, we measure a current I_o and we feed back a voltage V_f so K takes as input a voltage and outputs a current (because those are the quantity we are considering).

- Effect on the input resistance

We have a clear idea of what an ideal voltage amplifier should look like.

We know that the input resistance should be very high.

Consider now a voltage amplifier (modelled as a controlled source) and let's compute the effect of a series-shunt feedback on the input resistance:



Input resistance computation

$$R_{in} = \frac{V_i}{I_i} = \frac{V_i}{V_e/R_i} = R_i \frac{V_i}{V_e}$$

$$V_e = V_i - \beta V_o = V_i - \beta K V_e \frac{R_L}{R_o + R_L}$$

Consider $R_L \gg R_o$ (remember that R_o must be small for a voltage amplifier)

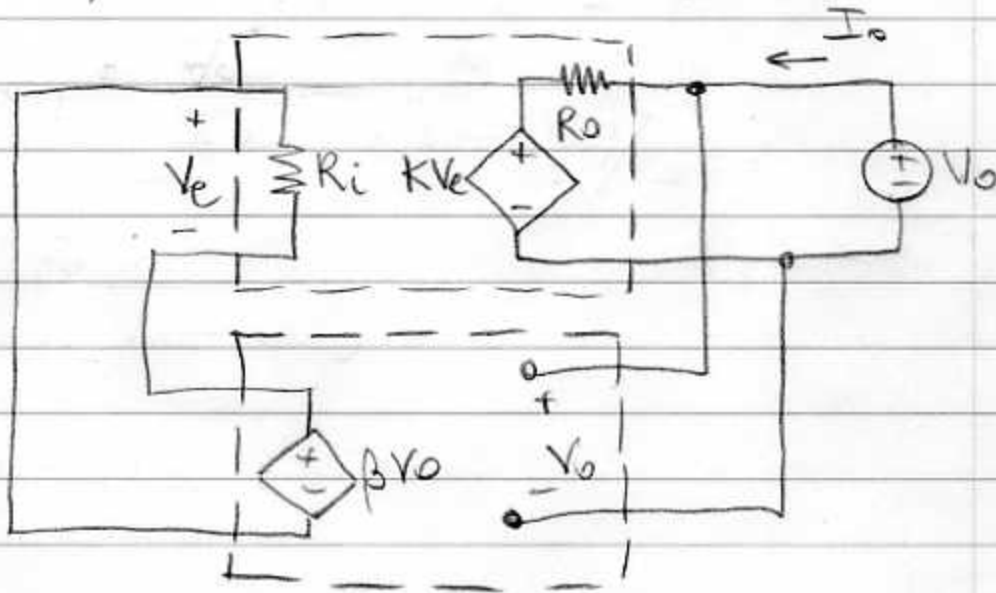
$$V_e \approx V_i - \beta K V_e \Rightarrow V_e(1 + \beta K) = V_i$$

$$R_{in} = \frac{V_i}{I_i} = R_i \frac{V_e(1 + \beta K)}{V_e} = R_i(1 + \beta K)$$

The input resistance increases by $1 + \beta K$! this is good for a voltage amplifier!

Now we compute the output resistance. It is the thevenin resistance so let's set $V_i = 0$ and use a test

voltage source at the output instead of R_L



$$R_o = \frac{V_o}{I_o} = \frac{V_o}{(V_o - K V_e) / R_o} = R_o \frac{V_o}{V_o - K V_e}$$

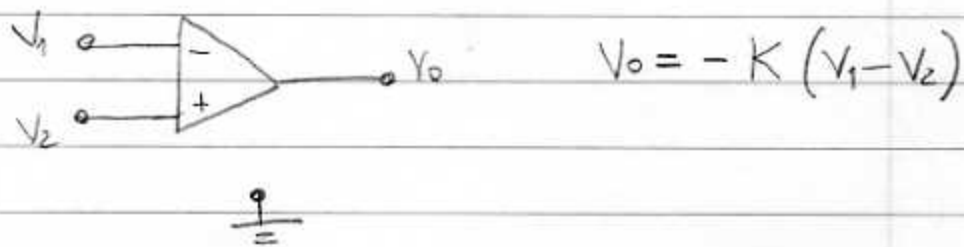
$$V_e = -\beta V_o$$

$$\Rightarrow R_o = R_o \frac{V_o}{V_o + K \beta V_o} = \frac{R_o}{1 + K \beta}$$

The out resistance decreases by a factor $1 + \beta K$ which is a gain good for a voltage amplifier!!

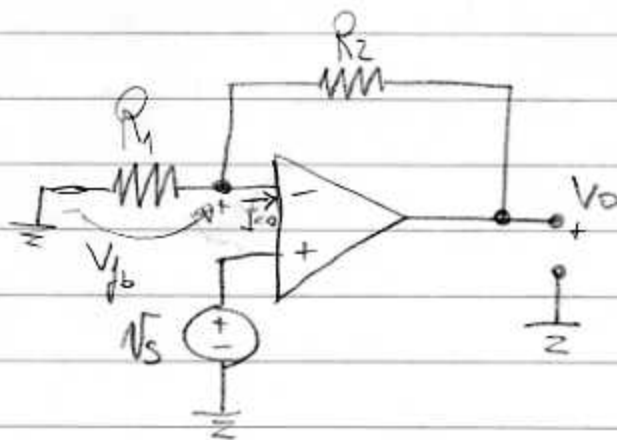
Going back to op-Amp.

We are given this device:



This is great, there is already a voltage combiner.

Let's build a feedback amplifier. We have to take parts of the output voltage and subtract it from the input. Part of the output voltage means a voltage divider!



NON-INVERTING
CONFIGURATION

The current entering the operational amplifier is zero
so:

$$V_{fb} = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} V_o$$

Since $K \gg 1$, then $K' \approx \frac{1}{\beta}$ and
we have computed $\beta = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$

hence $K' = \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1}$

By direct computation

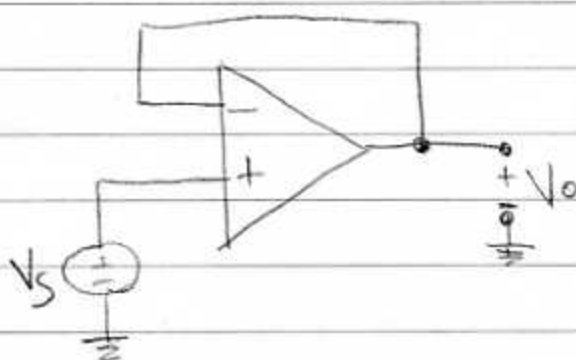
$$V_o = (V_s - V_{fb}) K = \left(V_s - \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} V_o \right) K$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{V_o}{K} + \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} V_o = V_s$$

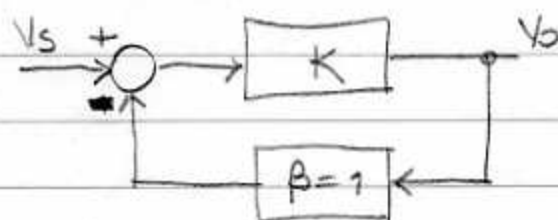
$$\left(\frac{1}{K} + \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \right) V_o = V_s \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{V_o}{V_s} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{K} + \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}} \approx \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1}$$

VOLTAGE FOLLOWER



This is like



$$V_o = (V_s - V_o)K \Rightarrow V_o(1+K) = V_s$$

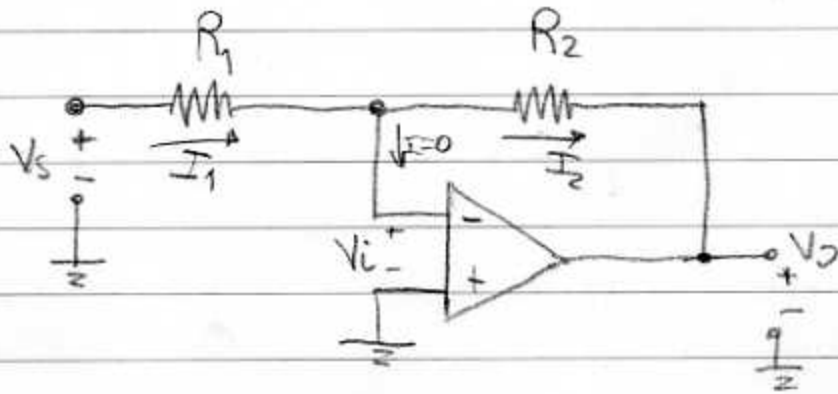
$$\frac{V_o}{V_s} = \frac{1}{1+K} \quad \lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} \frac{V_o}{V_s} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow V_o = V_s$$

$R_{in} \rightarrow \infty$ because is the input resistance of the ideal amplifier

$R_o \rightarrow 0$ because is the output resistance of the ideal amplifier

INVERTING CONFIGURATION



by KCL $I_1 = I_2$

$$\frac{V_s - V_i}{R_1} = \frac{V_i - V_o}{R_2}$$

$$V_o = -K V_i$$

$$V_i = -\frac{V_o}{K}$$

$$\frac{V_s - \frac{V_o}{K}}{R_1} = \frac{\frac{V_o}{K} - V_o}{R_2} \Rightarrow V_s + \frac{V_o}{K} = -\frac{R}{R_2} V_o \left(1 + \frac{1}{K}\right)$$