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 BASIC ELECT
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① A Zener diode is always operated in its reverse biased condition. As such a simple voltage regulator circuit can be designed using a Zener diode to maintain a constant DC output voltage across the load in spite of variations in the input voltage or changes in the load current. A Zener diode of breakdown voltage V_Z is reverse connected to an input voltage source V_i across a load resistance R_L and a series resistor R_S . The voltage across the Zener will remain steady at its breakdown voltage V_Z for all the values of Zener current I_Z as long as the current remains in the breakdown region. Hence a regulated DC output voltage $V_o = V_Z$ is obtained across R_L , whenever the input voltage remains within a minimum and maximum voltage.

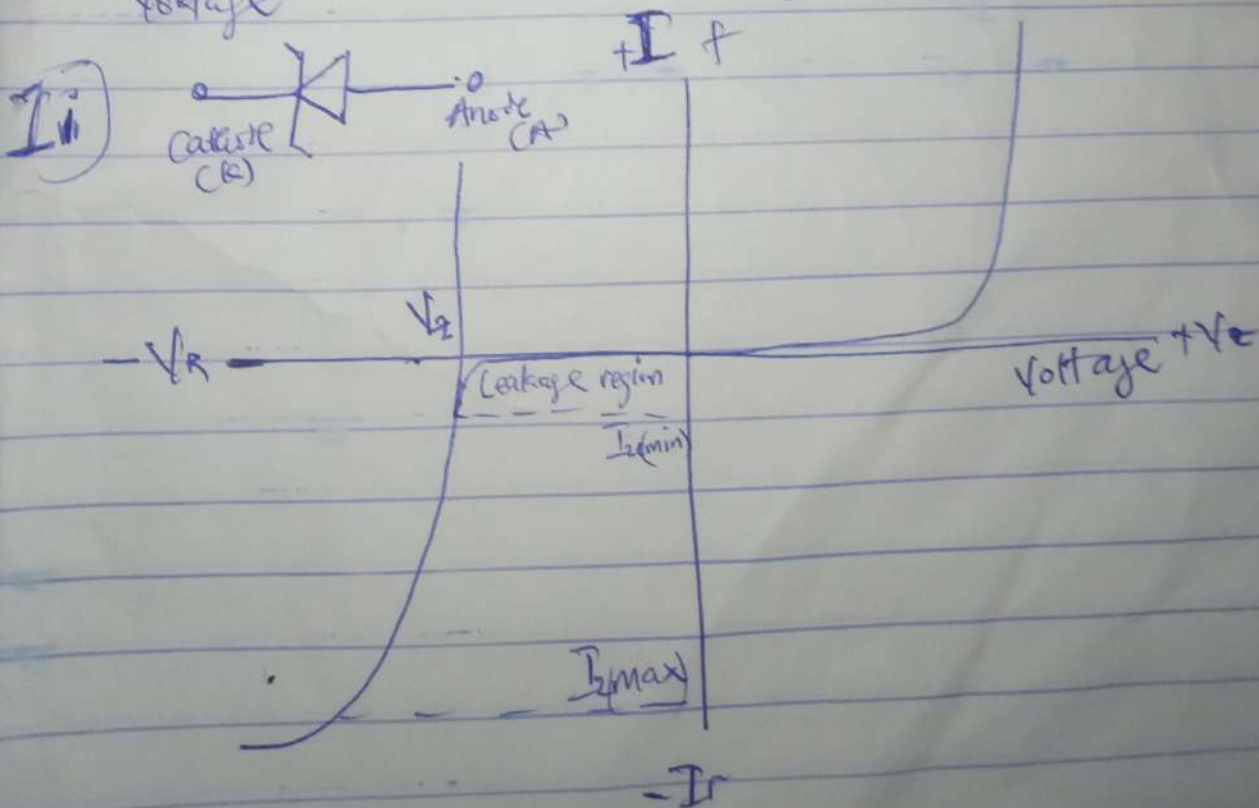
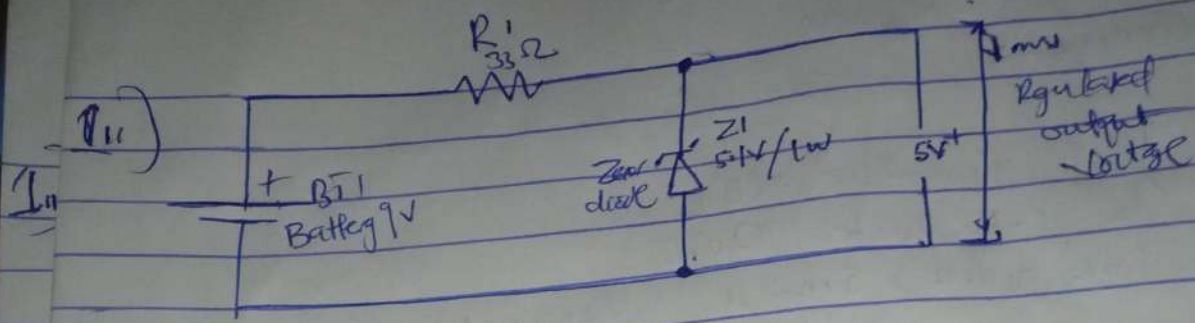


Fig. 1. Zener diode characteristic curve



Q2)

Min value Z ?

$$R_s \geq \frac{V_s - V_z}{I_z}$$

Max current Z wattage

$$500 \frac{W}{A} \times 200$$

$$V_s = 200mA = 12 + 4 \times 20$$

$$R_s = \frac{12 + 79 - 10}{500} = 4 \Omega$$

$$I = \frac{V_z}{R_L} = \frac{10}{500} = 20mA$$

$$I_z = I_s - I_L = 500mA - 20mA = 480mA$$