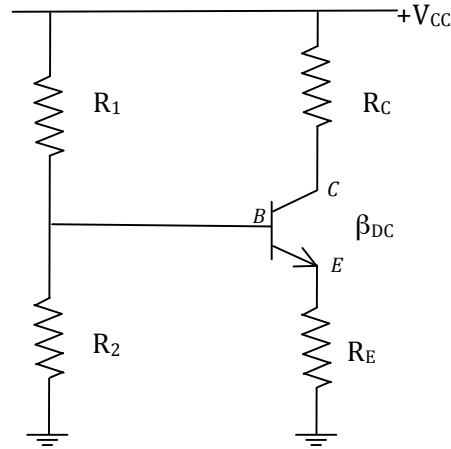


### A Method to Design the Q Point (DC Operation) of a Transistor Amplifier



**First Exercise:** Here are values for the DC part of one amp Dr. Hawley designed using the method described below:  $V_{CC} = 12V$ ,  $\beta_{DC} = 150$ ,  $R_1 = 10k\Omega$ ,  $R_2 = 1650\Omega$ ,  $R_C = 500\Omega$ ,  $R_E = 99\Omega$ . Work "forwards": Find  $V_B$ ,  $V_E$ ,  $I_E$ ,  $I_{CQ}$ ,  $V_C$ ,  $V_{CEQ}$ ,  $I_{C(Sat)}$  and draw the DC load line. Compare your answers with those on the back side of this sheet.

**Second Exercise:** You and a partner design your own (DC part of an) amp using the steps below ("The Design Method") on a sheet of paper. Then exchange *only* resistor and  $\beta$  values, and  $V_{CC}$ , with your neighbors and each group try to solve the others' problem – i.e. solve for voltages and currents given resistor values,  $\beta_{DC}$  and  $V_{CC}$ . Check your answers with the other group.

**The Design Method:** We're going to work "backwards" from the desired end-state to the choice of resistors.

1. Choose  $V_{CC}$ , typically 5 to 20V.
2. Choose  $V_C$ , a volt or more higher than half  $V_{CC}$
3. Choose  $V_{CEQ}$ , equal to or a bit less than half  $V_{CC}$
4. Choose  $I_{CQ}$ , typically 10 to 80mA
5. Choose  $\beta_{DC}$ , typically 50 to 200.
6. Choose  $R_2$ , typically in the  $k\Omega$  or tens of  $k\Omega$  range
7. Calculate  $R_C$  using  $V_C = V_{CC} - I_{CQ}R_C$  and solving for  $R_C$
8. Calculate  $V_E = V_C - V_{CEQ}$
9. Calculate  $I_E$  using  $I_E = I_{CQ} (\beta_{DC} + 1)/\beta_{DC}$
10. Use Ohm's Law to find  $R_E$
11. Calculate  $I_{C(Sat)}$  by assuming  $V_{CE} = 0$ , using  $V_{CC}$ ,  $R_C$  and  $R_E$  in series.
12. Draw the DC load line for the circuit, and show the Q point.
13. Use  $V_B = V_E + 0.7V$
14. Write the voltage divider formula for  $V_B$ , and solve for  $R_1$  given  $V_{CC}$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .
15. Draw the schematic, label it, and work "forwards" to verify your values.

*Answers to First Exercise:*

$V_B = 1.7V$ ,  $V_E = 1V$ ,  $I_E = 10.1 \text{ mA}$ ,  $I_C = 10.0 \text{ mA}$ ,  $V_C = 7V$ ,  $V_{CEQ} = 6V$ ,  $I_{C(sat)} = 20\text{mA}$