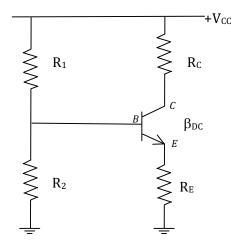
A Method to Design the Q Point (DC Operation) of a Transistor Amplifier



**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<sub>B</sub>, V<sub>E</sub>, I<sub>E</sub>, I<sub>CQ</sub>, V<sub>C</sub>, V<sub>CEQ</sub>, I<sub>C(Sat)</sub> 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) amplifier using the steps below ("The Design Method") on a sheet of paper. Then exchange *only* resistor and  $\beta$  values, and V<sub>CC</sub>, 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<sub>CC</sub>. 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 Icq, 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<sub>E</sub> using I<sub>E</sub> =  $I_{CQ} (\beta_{DC} + 1)/\beta_{DC}$
- 10. Use Ohm's Law to find  $R_{\text{E}}$
- 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  $V_{CC}$ ,  $V_B$ (= $V_2$ ) 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 mA,  $I_C$  = 10.0 mA,  $V_C$  = 7V,  $V_{CEQ}$  = 6V,  $I_{C(Sat)}$  = 20mA