

**EE 2274**  
**BJT Biasing**

PreLab:

**1. Common Emitter (CE) Transistor Characteristics curve**

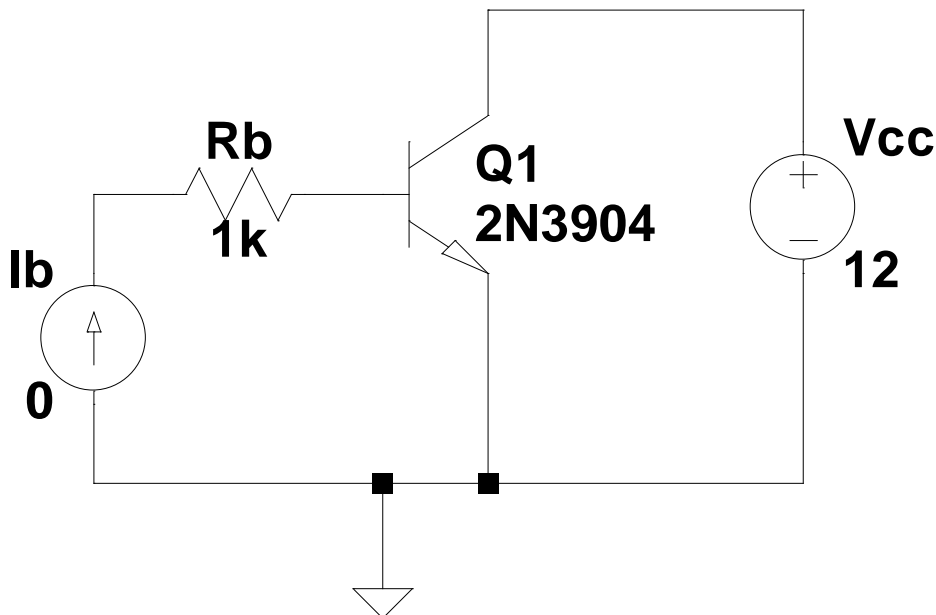
Generate the characteristics curves for a 2N3904 in LTspice by plotting  $I_C$  by sweeping  $V_{CE}$  over a set of  $I_B$  steps. Label your graph and determine the DC beta of the transistor from your graph. The dc beta of the transistor can be found by dividing the collector current by the base current when the collector current just begins to flatten out. Print the schematic and plot of the transistor characteristics curve generated in LTspice turn in with prelab. Use the circuit below for your model  $R_B = 1k\Omega$ . Show all work. LTspice plots and schematic (25 points).

**Hints:** A couple of LTspice hints use the **DC Sweeps** to generate your graph of collector current  $I_C$  for a set of base currents  $I_B$  over a range of  $V_{CE}$  ( $V_{CC}$ ). Set the DC Sweep source 1 voltage source ( $V_{CC}$ ) to sweep from 0 to 12Vdc in 0.1v increments. Set the DC Sweep source 2 current source ( $I_B$ ) to sweep from 0 to 50uA in 5uA increments. From the curves at  $V_{CE} = 4V$ ,  $I_B = 15\mu A$  find  $I_C$ , and  $\beta$ . Include schematic and plot.

$$R_B = 1k\Omega \quad \beta = \frac{I_{C \text{ flat}}}{I_B}$$

$\beta =$  \_\_\_\_\_ at  $I_C =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $I_B =$  \_\_\_\_\_ Show your work:

**.dc Vcc 0 12 .1 Ib 0 50uA 5uA**



Common Emitter (CE)

## 2. Diode Current Source ( NPN )

Shown below is a current source made from an NPN transistor design for  $I_C = 1.6\text{mA}$  assume  $\beta = 100$ . The purpose of the diodes is to create a constant voltage drop  $V_{\text{diode}}$ .  $V_{\text{diode}} = 0.448\text{Vdc}$  such that  $V_B = 4 * V_{\text{diode}}$ . Design  $R_E$  for  $1.6\text{mA}$  current through  $R_L$  which is equal to  $I_C$ .  $V_{BE} = 0.7\text{V}$ ,  $V_E = V_B - 0.7\text{V}$ , and thus  $I_E = I_B + I_C = V_E / R_E = (V_B - 0.7\text{V}) / R_E$ . Since,  $I_C = (I_E) \beta / (\beta + 1)$   $I_C$  is almost independent of  $V_{CE}$  as long as the transistor is not saturated ( $V_{CE} > 0.2\text{V}$ ) and  $V_{BE} = 0.6\text{V}$  to  $0.7\text{V}$ . Use  $R_E$  to set  $I_C$  then  $I_B = I_C / \beta$ . Set the current through  $R_1$  is 10 times  $I_B$ .

Find maximum value for  $R_{L\text{max}}$  with supply  $V_{CC} = 8\text{Vdc}$ .  $V_{CE} = 0.2\text{V}$  and  $V_E = V_B - V_{BE}$  for this calculation of  $R_{L\text{max}}$  maximum. Choose a value for  $R_L$  that is less than  $0.7 * R_{L\text{max}}$  and larger than  $0.3 * R_{L\text{max}}$ .

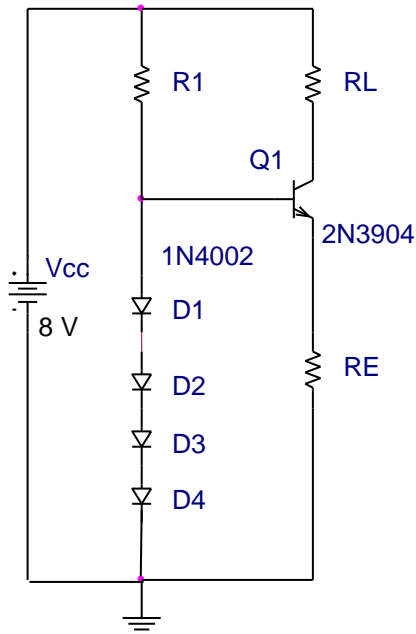
$$0.3 * R_{L\text{max}} < R_L < 0.7 * R_{L\text{max}}$$

Note that the load ( $R_L$ ) is above the collector of the transistor and is said to sink the current in the load by the NPN transistor. Calculate the voltage  $V_{CE}$  with the load resistor at  $V_{CC} = 8\text{Vdc}$ .

Verify your design in LTspice showing voltages and currents. To verify that your circuit is a current source independent of  $V_{CC}$ . Run a DC Sweep in LTspice of  $V_{CC}$  from 1 to 12 volts. Determine the range of the supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) for a 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the design current change in  $R_L$  ( $I_C$ ). Print and turn in your **schematic** showing voltages and currents of the nodes (DC .OP pnt) in addition to the I-V curve with your pre-lab.

Define your supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) range based on current range 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the design current.

Supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) range: \_\_\_\_\_ V to \_\_\_\_\_ V from  
\_\_\_\_\_ mA to \_\_\_\_\_ mA of your load current ( $I_C$ ) of design current.



### NPN Diode Current Source

NPN Diode Current Source Table

Component	Calculate value	Standard 10% value used
R1		
RE		
RL		

### 3. Diode Current Source ( PNP )

Design a PNP current source for  $I_C = 1.6\text{mA}$ , similar to the NPN current source shown, using a PNP (2N3906) transistor, assume  $\beta = 100$ . Use the same procedure as 2 above. Remember that while the NPN will sink the current through the load, the PNP should source the current into the load ( $R_L$ ). Determine the  $R_{L\text{max}}$  and choose an  $R_L$  as you did in 2. Print and turn in your schematic showing voltages and currents of the nodes (.OP) in addition to I-V curve with your pre-lab.  $V_{CC}$  (range from v to v).

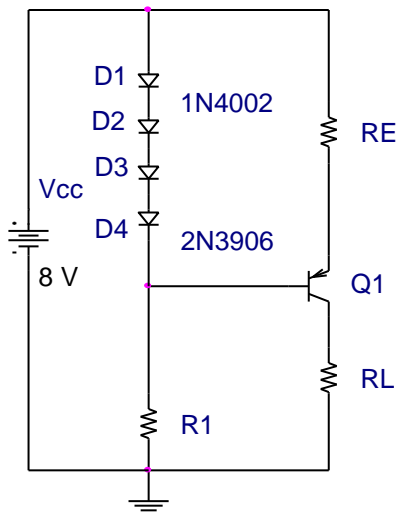
Find maximum value for  $R_{L\text{max}}$  with supply  $V_{CC}=8\text{Vdc}$ .  $V_{EC} = 0.2\text{V}$  and  $V_E = V_B + V_{EB}$  for this calculation of  $R_{L\text{max}}$  maximum. Choose a value for  $R_L$  that is less than  $0.7R_{L\text{max}}$  and larger than  $0.3R_{L\text{max}}$ .

Calculate the voltage  $V_{EC}$  with the load resistor at  $V_{CC}= 8\text{Vdc}$

Verify your design in LTspice showing voltages and currents. To verify that your circuit is a current source independent of  $V_{CC}$ . Run a DC Sweep in LTspice of  $V_{CC}$  from 1 to 12 volts. Determine the range of the supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) for a 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the design current change in  $R_L$  ( $I_C$ ). Print and turn in your **schematic** showing voltages and currents of the nodes (DC .OP pnt) in addition to the I-V curve with your pre-lab

Define your supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) range based on current range 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the design current.

Supply voltage ( $V_{CC}$ ) range: \_\_\_\_\_ V to \_\_\_\_\_ V from  
 \_\_\_\_\_ mA to \_\_\_\_\_ mA of your load current  $I_C$ .



**PNP Diode Current Source**

**PNP Diode Current Source Table**

Component	Calculate value	Standard 10% value used
R1		
$R_E$		
$R_L$		

Required Attachments: PreLab

1. I-V characteristics of BJT and **schematic**
2. LTspice (DC .OP pnt) schematic of NPN with associated node voltages and component currents
3. DC Sweep of NPN current source showing load current
4. LTspice (DC .OP pnt) schematic of PNP with associated node voltages and device currents
5. DC Sweep of PNP current source showing load current

### Lab Procedure:

1. On LTspice build an NPN Diode Current Source with the 2N3904 transistor and 1N4001 diodes from part 2 of the prelab with **Vcc= 10Vdc, Ic = 5mA and choose RL between  $0.3 \cdot R_{Lmax} < R_L < 0.5 \cdot R_{Lmax}$** . The procedure for calculating the resistor values is the same as the prelab.

Vdiode = 0.448Vdc such that  $V_B = 4 \cdot V_{diode}$ . Design  $R_E$  for 5ma current through  $R_L$  which is equal to  $I_C$ .  $V_{BE} = 0.7V$ ,  $V_E = V_B - 0.7V$ , and thus  $I_E = I_B + I_C = V_E / R_E = (V_B - 0.7V) / R_E$ . Since,  $I_C = (I_E) \beta / (\beta + 1)$   $I_C$  is almost independent of  $V_{CE}$  as long as the transistor is not saturated ( $V_{CE} > 0.2V$ ) and  $V_{BE} = 0.6V$  to  $0.7V$ . Use  $R_E$  to set  $I_C$  then  $I_B = I_C / \beta$ . Set the current through  $R_1$  is 10 times  $I_B$ .

Find maximum value for  $R_{Lmax}$  with supply  $V_{cc}=10Vdc$ .  $V_{CE} = 0.2V$  and  $V_E = V_B - V_{BE}$  for this calculation of  $R_{Lmax}$  maximum. Choose a value for  $R_L$  that is less than  $0.5 \cdot R_{Lmax}$  and larger than  $0.3 \cdot R_{Lmax}$ .

$$0.3 \cdot R_{Lmax} < R_L < 0.5 \cdot R_{Lmax}$$

Show all work and run a .op simulation to fill out the table.

2. Run a DC Sweep on the NPN Diode Current designed above from 1V to 15V and answer the question 2 and 3 on the data sheet. (Define your supply voltage ( $V_{cc}$ ) range for 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) current range ( $\pm 5\%$  of the  $I_{RL}$  you found from .op simulation). In the active regulation range, how much did the current change through the DC sweep? Is this amount of change in current reasonably small, such that the design can be used as a nearly ideal current source? Why?)

3. On LTspice build an PNP Diode Current Source with the 2N3906 transistor and 1N4002 diodes from part 3 of the prelab with **Vcc= 10Vdc, Ic = 5mA and choose RL between  $0.3 \cdot R_{Lmax} < R_L < 0.5 \cdot R_{Lmax}$** . The procedure is the same as 1. Show all work and run a .op simulation to fill out the table.

4. Run a DC Sweep on the PNP Diode Current designed above from 1V to 15V and answer question 5. (At what voltage ( $V_{cc}$ ) and current ( $I_{RL}$ ) did the current begin to stabilize (flatten)? Define your supply voltage ( $V_{cc}$ ) range for the target current range of 10% ( $\pm 5\%$ ) variation of the target current  $I_{RL}$ . How much did the load current ( $I_{RL}$ ) change as the  $V_{cc}$  changed after it began to stabilize (flatten)? Is this an ideal current source?)

Required Attachments: Lab experiment

1. Schematic of NPN current source with node voltages and currents shown
2. DC Sweep of NPN current source showing current  $I_C$
3. Schematic of PNP current source with node voltages and currents shown
4. DC Sweep of PNP current source showing current  $I_C$

## DATA SHEET EXPERIMENT BJT Biasing

### 1. NPN 2N3904 Diode Current Source $V_{CC} = 10V_{dc}$

	Value		Measured
RE		IRL	
RL		IRE	
R1		VC	
Vcc		VE	
		VB	

2. What  $I_C$  and  $V_{CC}$  did  $I_C$  it begin to stabilize  $V_{CC} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   $I_C = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   
Include plot.

3. Around the target current: Supply voltage range  $V_{CC}$   $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  to  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  and  $I_{RL}$   $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  to  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   
How much did  $I_{RL}$  change after it stabilized?  $I_{RL}$  change  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Is this current source ideal?  
Why or why not?

### 4. PNP 2N3906 Diode Current Source $V_{CC} = 10V_{dc}$

	Value		Measured
RE		IRL	
RL		IRE	
R1		VC	
Vcc		VE	
		VB	

5. What  $I_C$  and  $V_{CC}$  did it begin to stabilize  $V_{CC} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   $I_C = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   
Around the target current: Supply voltage range  $V_{CC}$   $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  to  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  and  $I_{RL}$   $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  to  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$   
How much did  $I_{RL}$  change after it stabilized?  $I_{RL}$  change  $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Is this current source ideal?  
Why or why not?

Required Attachments: Lab experiment

1. Schematic of NPN current source with node voltages and currents shown
2. DC Sweep of NPN current source showing current  $I_C$
3. Schematic of PNP current source with node voltages and currents shown
4. DC Sweep of PNP current source showing current  $I_C$