Physics 4700 HOMEWORK V
Due Mar 23

1) The following problem is designed to familiarize you with the concept of amplitude modulation (Simpson P118-126). This concept is obviously crucial to the understanding of the AM radio you are about to build. The general expression for an Amplitude Modulated voltage is:

$$V(t) = (1 + a\cos\omega_m t)(\cos\omega_c t)$$

In this expression ω_c is the carrier frequency, ω_m is the modulating frequency and a is the amount of modulation $(0 < a < 1)$. For the AM radio example the carrier frequency, ω_c, is high frequency (hundreds of kHz) while the modulating, ω_m, frequency is low frequency (audio frequency, 20-20 kHz).

a) Make a sketch of V vs. t assuming $\omega_m = 1$ kHz, $\omega_c = 10$ kHz, $a = 1$.

b) Show that V can be written in the following form which contains 3 different frequencies. Relate $\omega_1, \omega_2,$ and ω_3 to ω_m and ω_c:

$$V(t) = \cos\omega_1 t + \tfrac{1}{2}a\cos\omega_2 t + \tfrac{1}{2}a\cos\omega_3 t$$

c) Show that for small voltages (V) the Ebers-Moll (or Diode) equation for current (I) has the form:

$$I = \alpha V + \beta V^2$$

with α and β constants.

d) Assume that the current is given by the expression in part c) and the voltage is given by the expression in part b). Show that the resulting current has a term that depends linearly on $\cos\omega_c t$ and a term that depends linearly on $\cos\omega_m t$ (it also has lots of other terms!).

e) Remembering that the base-emitter junction of a transistor acts like a diode, use the results of part d) to describe how a high frequency AM signal gets demodulated (turned into high and audio frequencies) in the radio you will be building in lab.

f) Again, considering the AM radio you are to build, what happens to these high frequency and audio terms, i.e. which frequency(s) are amplified and which are filtered out? What component(s) do the filtering?

2) Simpson P253, problem 13 parts b) and c) only. Assume $R_1 = 4$ kΩ and $R_2 = 31.6$ kΩ.

3) Simpson P254, problem 18. For parts (a-b) only, assume that there is a resistor R_L across the output.

4) Calculate the DC and AC voltage gain of the amplifier of Simpson P255, problem 27. Use the h parameters given in the problem to calculate the AC gain. Assume $R_L = 1$ MΩ. Note: R_L is not shown in the figure.

Additional credit (10 points each)

1) Simpson P255, problem 23.

2) Simulate the common emitter amp that you built in lab using B^{2}SPICE. Do a transient and an AC analysis on the circuit. How does the simulation's voltage gain compare with the gain of the amp that you actually built? For the transient analysis assume that V_{in} is a sine wave with $f = 1$ kHz and amplitude 10 mV.