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CN.240/2 Miniature soldering iron 15 watt 240 volts, fitted with nickel plated $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ bit and packed in transparent display box. Also available for 220 volts. Price $£ 1.70$
CN. 240 Miniature soldering iron 15 watt 240 volts, fitted with iron coated $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ bit. Up to 18 interchangeable spare bits obtainable. This iron can also be supplied for 220 , 110,50 or 24 volts. Price $£ 1.70$
G. 240 Miniature soldering iron 18 watt 240 volts extensively used by H.M. Forces. Suitable for high speed soldering and fitted with iron coated $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ bit. Also available for 220 vol ts. Spare bits $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}, 3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ and $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ are obtainable. Price $£ 1.83$.



CCN. 240 New model 15 watt 240 volts miniature soldering iron with ceramic shaft to ensure perfect insulation (4,000 v A.C.). Will solder live transistors in perfect safety: fitted with $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ iron coated bit. Spare bits $1 / 8^{\prime}$ $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ and $1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ available. Can also be supplied for 220 volts. Price $£ 1.80$

CCN.240/7 The same soldering iron fitted with our new 7 -star high efficiency bit for very high speed soldering The triple-coated bits are iron, nickel and chromium plated. Price $£ 1.95$

Fer a souder 25 watts
E. 24020 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with $1 /{ }^{\prime \prime}$ " iron coated bit. Spare bits $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}, 1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ available. Can also be supplied for 220 and 110 volts. Price $£ 1.80$.
ES. 24025 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with $1 / 8^{\prime \prime}$ iron coated bit Spare bits $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}, 3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ and $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ available. Can also be supplied for 220 and 110 volts. Price $£ 1.83$

SK. 1
SOLDERING KIT
The kit contains a 15 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with a $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ bit, nickel plated spare bits of $5 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$, a reel of solder, heat sink, cleaning pad, stand and booklet "How
Price $£ 2.75$ to Solder Also available for 220 volts.

SK. 2
SOLDERING KIT
This kit contains a 15 watt 240 volts soldering iron fitted with a $3 / 16^{\prime \prime}$ bit, nickel plated spare bits of $5 / 32^{\prime \prime}$ and $3 / 32^{\prime \prime}$, a reel of solder. Heat Sink
Price £2.40.

## MES. 12

A battery operated 12 volts 25 watt soldering iron complete with 15' lead, two crocodile clips for connection to car battery and a booklet "How to Solder" packed in a strong plastic wallet. Price $£ 1.95$.

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## HY40 Is POWER AMP

Lets face it - an immediate success, the HY40 is here to stay. HY40 means Hybrid Power, power neatly locked away inside an Intregrated Circuit. Power the modern way, simply mount only five additional components on a printed circuit board (all of which are supplied with the HY40). Power not only for $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{Fi}$, power for Groups, for public address, for industry, power for all.
HY40 is HI-FI POWER ILP are POWER PROUD
In addition to the P.C. board and manual supplied with the HY40 we now include the five remaining components, at minimal cost, needed to complete the assembly of a High Performance Power Amplifier.
By merely combining two HY40s with a Stereo Preamplifier (2 x HY5) and simple Power Supply (PSU45), premium quality stereo may be obtained for a very modest outlay.
The free manual supplied with the HY40 gives clear, easy build instructions for Power Supply: volume, bass, treble and balance controls, together with inputs for Ceramic and Magnetic Pick-ups, Tape, Tuner and Auxiliary functions.
Internally the HY40 is based on conventional and proven circuit techniques developed over recent years.


OUTPUT POWER British Rating 40 WATTS PEAK, 20 watts RMS continuous.
LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16 ohms INPUT IMPEDANCE 22 Kohms at 1 Khz .
INPUT SENSITIVITY 300 mV for maximum output.
vOLTAGE GAIN 30 db at 1 KHz . FREQUENCY RESPONSE 5 Hz $60 \mathrm{KHz}+1 \mathrm{db}$.
TOTAL DISTORTION less than $1 \%$ (typical $0.1 \%$ ) at all output powers.
SUPPLY VOLTAGE +22.5 volts D.C.
SUPPLY CURRENT 0.8 amps maximum.
PRICE: including comprehensive manual, P.C. Board and FIVE EXTRA COMPONENTS:
MONO £4-40 STEREO £8-80 all post free.

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The HY5 is a unique and revolutionary concept in HighFidelity pre-amplifiers. Thanks to the latest techniques, all feedback and equalization networks are, for the first time, combined into an integrated pre-amplifier circuit.

Simply by adding volume, treble, bass potentiometers and only three stabilizing capacitors, which are supplied, your HY5 is complete and ready for use.

The HY5 provides equalization for almost every conceivable input. This years developments in equalization technique enables precise correction for both output voltage and frequency response for any crystal or ceramic cartridge. Yet another feature of the HY5 is its inbuilt stabilization circuit, allowing it to be run off any unregulated power amplifier supply.

The HY5 contains a balance circuit which, when linked by a balance control to a second HY5, forms a complete stereo preamplifier.

Specifically and critically designed to meet exacting Hi Fi standards, the HY5 combines extremely low noise with a high overload capability. When used in conjunction with the HY40 and PSU45 forms a completely integrated system.

## NPUTS

Magnetic Pick-up I Within $\pm 1 \mathrm{db}$ R|AA curve) 2 mV
Tape Replay (external components to suit head). 4 mV
Microphone (flat) 10 mV .
Ceramic Pick-up (equalized and compensatable) $20-2000 \mathrm{mV}$ variable.
Tuner (flat) 250 mV .
Auxiliary 1250 mV .
Auxiliary $22-20 \mathrm{mV}$.
OUTPUTS
Main Pre-amp output 500 mV . Direct tape output 120 mV . ACTIVE TONE CONTROLS
Treble +12 db .
Bass $\mp 12 \mathrm{db}$.
INTERNAL STABILIZATION Enables the HY5 to share an unregulated supply with the Power Amplifier.
SUPPLY VOLTAGE
15-25 voit.
SUPPLY CURRENT
5 mA approx.
OVERLOAD CAPABILITY
better than 28 db on most sensitive input infinite on tuner and auxl.
OUTPUT NOISE VOLTAGE
0.5 mV .

PRICE
Mano $£ 3.60$ Stereo $£ 7.20$

POWER SUPPLY PSU45


The PSU45 is specifically designed to supply, simultaneously, your HY40 (in mono or stereo format) and one or two HY5s.

## Spec.

PSU45 $\pm 22.5$ volts, 2 amps simultaneously.

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|  | 60 | PM7A1 |
|  | 125 | PM7A2 |
|  | 250 | PM7A4 |
| When | 375 | PM7A6 |
| when | 125 | PM7A1Q |
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$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Current } & 0-60 \mu \mathrm{~A} / 0-12 / 0- \\ 300 \mathrm{nan} & 0-60 \mathrm{k} \Omega / 0-6 \mathrm{M} \Omega\end{array}$ $300 \mathrm{~mA} . \quad 0-60 \mathrm{k} \Omega / 0-6 \mathrm{M} \Omega$
-20 to $+631 \mathrm{~B} .24-681$.


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D.
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 , $50,500,1,0005$ A.c. Volin: $1-j, 3, j, 10$,这, $50,1: 2,250,500,1,000 \mathrm{~V}$. D.c. current: $25,50 \mu \mathrm{~A}, 25,5,65,50,250,500 \mathrm{~mA}, 5$, 10 meg. Decibels: - 20 to +800 JlR . es meg, 10 meg. Decib
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| 0 F 25 | . 58 | $\mathrm{AC} / \mathrm{P}$ | . 77 | ECL80 | . 35 | PABC | . 34 | PY81 | . 25 | Z77 | . 28 |
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$12-24$
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$16-24$
$6-12$
$20-30$
$24-36$
$36-45$
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$40-70$
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$2 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$4 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$4 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
4 M 2 B
$4 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$2 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
2 ch
6 HD
$1 \mathrm{c} / 0 \mathrm{HD}$
$6 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$4 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
6 M
$4 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$2 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{o}$
$6 M$ 63 $p^{*}$
73 $p^{*}$
78
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| ge. Large speakers in extremely sub |  |
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## BACK TO SCHOOL

|r will seem remarkable to many that an industry closely identified with advanced communications and precision control of changing conditions should be unable to organise its own input of technical manpower efficiently. And yet there really does exist a serious mis-match between the educational policies pursued in the schools and technical colleges, and the electronics industry's present and future manpower needs. This unhappy fact is acknowledged in a report entitled The Electronics Industry and the Schools issued by the National Economic Development Office last March.

The Report states that greater opportunities than ever before will arise in the future for graduates, technician engineers, and technicians, especially in industries that have not previously employed electronics personnel on any large scale. However, the Report warns against too much emphasis upon graduate entry into industry while there is a real danger of deficiency in the supply of technician engineers and technicians. It is recruitment of the latter categories that should receive special attention. This point was endorsed at the IEETE Conference held at Sheffield last March, where the view was expressed that an ordinary degree for technician engineer status should be introduced.

Coming back to the NEDO Report, we read: " The proper progression of a potential technician's education and training requires a greater degree of vocational awareness and flexibility on the part of both pupils and teachers than is commonly present in schools now." The Report stresses the need for more people with a scientific and engineering background to remedy the shortage in the teaching profession. Perhaps the remedy is to be found in courses such as that planned by Edge Hill College of Education, Ormskirk, Lancs, and recently brought to our attention. Entitled Science and People this new course aims to provide "an alternative route into teaching, not only for sixth formers, but also for suitably qualified men and women who may find their present industrial occupations unsuitable or insecure."

We think this kind of feedback is much to be desired. An infusion into the schools of persons with practical industrial experience of electronics will help remove those barriers that apparently still separate some academics from practising technicians and engineers.
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Friday, June 9

[^3]

IGHTING effects units previously described - in Practical Electronics have been primarily designed to be driven from a sound source. The audio signal has been divided, by filtering into a number of frequency bands, each of which is converted to provide an amplitude sensitive switching current to fire a thyristor or triac.

In this article the author has devised a means for frequency modulating the single channel sound source with a square wave, so that the louder the signal, the faster the flashing rate, or strobing effect.

## THREE MODES

The unit described here is capable of driving filament lamps, of total power not exceeding 750 watts in three modes; these are strobe, sound-strobe and sound only. The last two modes are synchronised with sound by a feed
from a record player or similar sound source. The unit is suitable for use at parties and as a light show with discotheques or groups.
The author has built several thyristor light units and with them ha's often had difficulties with the thyristor driver stage "locking on" and it is understood that this is a moderately common fault. Several methods for curing this condition have been tried but were not considered by the author to be good long term solutions.
It was considered necessary at the outset, therefore, to design a reliable and effective driver and pivot the rest of the design around this. The resultant design (showed in the block diagram Fig. 1) has worked well in practice and on occasion has operated continuously for as long as ten hours without mishap. Indeed it has not yet been possible for the author to coax the prototype driver transistors into being more than luke-warm.

## SOUND MODE

In the sound mode, the brightness of the lights connected to the output is controlled by the volume of the sound fed to the unit from a record player or similar system, at loudspeaker level via the input jack on the front panel.

## STROBE MODE

When operating in the strobe mode the connected lights flash on and off at a rate which may be set by the panel sPEED control. The range of adjustment is not great but sufficient for some interesting effects to be produced.

## SOUND-STROBE

When set to operate on sound-strobe, the unit combines the two above functions to provide a stroboscopic effect whose flashing speed is controlled by the volume of the sound arriving at the input socket, i.e. the louder the sound the faster the flash rate. The switching is carried out by a key switch; only the basic functions being shown in Fig. 1.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

In all modes the thyristor is connected to mains neutral input as is shown in Fig. 2. It is at all times driven by the driver TR13 and TR14 on board 2. This driver fulfils the basic switch-on requirements of a thyristor, which is that the gate should be fed with a small positive potential, relative to the cathode, from a current limited source. The brightness control adjusts the limiting and so adjusts the brightness.

To effect sound control of the lights, the sound connected to the input jack is amplified and isolated on board one, then fed via the function switch (contacts B, C, F, E) and the light level control VR5 to TR12.
To produce a stroboscopic effect from the lights it is necessary to feed the thyristor driver with an audio signal pulsed at the flash rate required. This audio signal (of the order of 1.5 kHz ) is provided from the multivibrator TR8 and TR9. This signal is then gated by TR10 and its impedance at the output of the gate (C12) is lowered by the emitter follower TR11.
The signal at C13 is then routed via the function switch (contacts G, H) to VR4 on board 2. In the sound function the output at pin $2-5$ is switched to signal earth, via switch contact I to stop leakage. The required amount of drive, set by VR4, is fed to the driver selector contacts ( $\mathrm{D}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{F}$ ) on the function switch. The gate TR10 is driven from TR7, the strobe multivibrator, via switch contacts J and K.


Fig. 1. Block diagram of the main functions of the sound-strobe lighting effects unit. Numbers correspond to terminations shown in Fig. 2


Fig. 2. Complete circuit of the effects control unit as built on two assembly boards, with the switch contacts in the centre. Movement of the keyswitch dolly in one direction (2) operates only contacts A to L. Movement in the opposite direction (3) operates only contacts $M$ to $X$. The contacts are drawn as with the dolly in the centre position

The function switch selects with contacts $\mathrm{M}, \mathrm{N}$, $O ; P, Q, R ; S, T, U$, the relevant time-constant networks. The timing capacitor C6 is common to both strobe and sound-strobe function. The network for the strobe function is completed by R11, R12, C8 and the front panel "speed" control, VR3.

## PHOTOTRANSISTOR

When in the sound-strobe position the function switch selects R7, R8 and C7. This network is completed as a d.c. path to the positive supply line by the phototransistor TR5 assisted by VR2 and R6. Because of this configuration, the speed of the multivibrator in the sound-strobe function may be controlled by the light emitted by the bulb LPI, which in turn is controlled through TR2, TR3, TR4, and the input amplifier by the sound supplied through the input jack.

The preset potentiometer VR2 enables adjustment to be made of the amount of speed change the lamp/phototransistor gives. This configuration looks perhaps a little complicated but was considered after a trial of other methods to give the best compromise between ease of operation and aconomy.

The wiring for the mains input, fuse, neon, thyristor, and transformer is shown bottom right of Fig. 2, and particular attention should be paid to the neon connections which give the neon two functions. When the on/off switch is closed, the neon functions as an output monitor and follows the output to facilitate easy setting up of the controls when the controlled lights are at a distance.

With the mains switch "off" the neon will only light when a continuous path exists from the neon resistor through the fuse and connected lights to the live mains connection. This is because the neon takes very little current and so there is little voltage drop across either the transformer or the resistor R24.


Fig. 3. Position of contacts and connection tags on the back of the keyswitch

Fig. 4. Connections to controls, jack and thyristor

## COMPONENTS . . .

| Resistors |  | BOARD ONE |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| R1 | $39 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R5 | $5.6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R9 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R2 | $3.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R6 | $470 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R10 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $220 \Omega$ | R7 | 12 kS , | R11 | $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | 180k $\Omega$ | R8 | $12 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R12 | $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
|  | $\pm 10 \%$, | ca | bon |  |  |

## Potentiometer

VR2 $25 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ linear preset (skeleton type)

## Capacitors

C1 $100 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V
C2 $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester
C3 $2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V
C4 $30 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V

C5 $20 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 10 V
C6 $2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 6 V
C7 $4 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V
C8 $4 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V

## Transformer

T1 Miniature push pull output transformer (e.g. type $T / T 7$ or similar)

Transistors

| TR1 | OC28 | TR3 | 2N706 | TR6 | 2N706 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| TR2 | 2N706 | TR4 | AD161 | TR7 | 2N706 |

TR5 OCP71 (phototransistor)

## Diodes

OA91 (2 off)
Lamp
D1, D2 OA91 (2 off) LP1 6V 40mA

## Miscellaneous

S.r.b.p. wiring board 0.1 in matrix or printed wiring board

## Resistors

| R13 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 17 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 21 | $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| R14 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 18 | $56 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R 22 | $3.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R15 | $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R19 | $27 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R23 | $330 \Omega$ |
| R16 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | R20 | $2.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |  |
| All $\pm 10 \%$ | $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{~W}$ | carbon |  |  |  |

Potentiometer
VR4 $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ linear preset (skeleton type)

## Capacitors

| C9 | $0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C 14 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C 10 | $0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C 15 | $2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V |
| C 11 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C 16 | $1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V |
| C 12 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | C 17 | $1,000 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V |
| C 13 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 12 V |  |  |

Transistors

| TR8 | 2N706 | TR11 | 2N706 | TR13 | 2N914 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| TR9 | 2N706 | TR12 | BC109 | TR14 | 2N914 |

Diodes
D3, D4, D5 OA91 (3 off)
D6 to D9 1 N4001 (4 off)
D10 to D13 1N4001 (4 off)

## Miscellaneous

S.r.b.p. wiring board 0.1 in matrix or printed wiring board

## OTHER COMPONENTS

Potentiometers
$\vee R 125 \Omega$ (input volume) VR5 $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (light level) VR3 $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (strobe speed) VR6 $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ (brightness)

## Transformer

T2 Mains transformer. Two secondary windings, each 6.3 V 0.1 A or more

## Thyristor

CSR1 400 V 3 A or higher. Type CRS3/40


Fig. 5. Suggested positions only of components on two separate boards as on the author's unit

## Switch

S1 Keyswitch, P.O. type, three-position locking, $2 \times 4$ poles
S2 Single-pole on-off toggle switch

## Sockets

JK1 Input jack
SK1 Two pin, 5A socket for lights, or two 2A sockets

## Miscellaneous

Case and chassis to choice to suit board assembly
LP2 Lamp assembly, mains neon with $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ballast resistor (R24)
FS1 Fuse 3A
Mains cable and light fittings to choice


This property of the circuit gives an easy check on the lights and the wiring to them and also on the fuse, for if any of them are defective the neon will remain unlit.

## CONSTRUCTION

Mechanical construction, it is felt, is rather at the discretion of the constructor. The author used a spare instrument case as shown in the photographs and the chassis and the front panel were made from sheet aluminium. The case was approximately 7 in by $5 \frac{3}{3}$ in by $9 \frac{1}{2}$ in and the unit fitted into it well. The circuitry was built up on two perforated s.r.b.p. matrix boards which were approximately $4 \frac{1}{2}$ in by $5 \frac{3}{3} \mathrm{in}$, but any suitable printed wiring board can be adopted. It is possible to build the circuitry for both board one and board two on one s.r.b.p. or fibreglass board as small as $3 \frac{1}{2}$ in by 9 in using a printed circuit or ready made printed wiring board.

The main concern in the layout and positioning of components is that none of the more sensitive circuits on the boards should be mounted or wired in close proximity to any large signal components or wiring. Care should be taken, for example, when mounting the power transformer and thyristor circuit and wiring them to the rest of the circuit. It is advisable to tie all wires into cable forms and then route these out of the way of the boards.

The function switch specified is a G.P.O. type keyswitch and has 24 contacts, 22 of which are used. Care should be taken with this component because any mistakes made are difficult to rectify because of the close proximity of the contacts.

In the author's unit the thyristor was mounted on a piece of glass fibre board. This was then rigidly mounted on the chassis. It should be remembered
when siting this component that the anode is at the mains line potential and is therefore somewhat dangerous. Do not allow contact between the thyristor and any other metallic conductor other than the intended connecting wires.

## CONCLUSION

Since its completion this unit has worked quite satisfactorily. It was found, however, that one or two minutes are needed after switch on, for the auto speed circuit to settle down. When switched on the idle speed tends to race slightly but this effect disappears after about one minute. This was not found to be too objectionable.

One thing the described design does lack is a large dynamic range. The unit has to be readjusted after a quiet record for use with a loud one. This was not felt to be too objectionable but a compressor or a.v.c. would help to overcome this.

This month's cover picture was photographed in the "Bird's Nest" pub in the Kings Road, Chelsea, London.

## INDEX

An Index for Volume Seven (January 1971 to December 1971) is now available price 10p inclusive of postage.

## BINDERS

[^4]

BY FRANK W. HYDE

## FOURTH UK SATELLITE

The fourth U.K. satellite Ariel 4 weighing 2221 bs carried five experiments relating to an integrated experiment. There is on board an experiment contributed from America and was the first to go into orbit aboard a U.K. satellite. The satellite orbit is inclined at 83 degrees at a height of approximately 340 miles.

The main purpose of the mission is the exploration of the Earth's upper ionosphere and the relationship and interaction of this area with charged particles, plasma and electromagnetic waves. There is also equipment for studying the special noise which appears in the radio spectrum in these regions.

The American experiment relates to study of the spectrum of electrons and protons from 5.0 eV and $50,000 \mathrm{eV}$. This experiment is under the direction of Prof. L. A. Frank of the University of lowa.

The other experiments are cooperative between Jodrell Bank under Prof. F. G. Smith and the space research station at Slough under R. Dalziel. These experiments use two 20 ft extending aerials whose length can be controlled from Earth. The object is to study radio waves set up by the Cerenkov radiations from particle streams impinging on plasma in the magnetosphere and the ionosphere. These radiations are detected by a swept frequency receiver which operates from 0.75 to 4.0 MHz and a receiver with a fixed frequency of 2.0 MHz .
The VLF (very low frequency) and ELF (extra low frequency) radiations in the ionosphere caused by the instability of energetic particles, are detected by very sensitive receivers, each covering a very
wide band, and fed from an aerial system slung between the satellite paddles which carry the solar power cells. Correlation of the satellite data is between Sheffield University under Prof. T. R. Kaiser with an earth based station and another installation at Halley Bay.

Finally, their is an experiment for the study of electron density and temperature which is vital to an understanding of the structure of the magnetosphere and the electrical conductivity. This is gauged by grids at the end of booms which are fixed to opposing power cell paddles.

Due to mutual interference of experiments, arrangements are available for switching off individual units to remove this hazard.

In addition to the main experiments there is a small package receiver which will count thunderstorms and their distribution.

## UHURU SATELLITE

The Uhuru satellite is providing a great deal of important data. This is particularly the case with the X -ray experiments. There is an extended region of such activity in the Coma cluster of galaxies. It contains some 800 galaxies, with a powerful radio source over a wide area and central X-ray source.

There is a weak magnetic field extending through the cluster with a strength of about 100 nanogauss. The high energy electrons that traverse the field generate electromagnetic waves in the radio range. At the same time collisions between photon and electrons give rise to X-rays.

To the question: How did this weak magnetic field appear, the researchers who have measured it, G. Perola and M. Reinhardt, suggest that it may be a relic of the primeval field that once filled the Universe. A requirement of such a suggestion is that a hot gas permeates the cluster and holds these field lines. Cosmopologists have always required a certain minimum amount of matter to hold a field and in this case the amount stated is enough to satisfy them.

There is, however, an alternative possibility. If very old radio sources have decayed and left a skeleton field, an appreciable amount of gas will be needed to support it. There are other clusters, Hercules and Proteus for example, which possess X -ray and radio sources and, if it is a fact that clusters all have this type of field, its origin is of the utmost importance to cosmologists.

## THE VELA PULSAR

For some time the $X$-ray counterpart of the Vela pulsar has been sought by theoretical astronomers.

They have made a number of abortive attempts to detect X -rays and astronomers will be relieved that this pulsar does, as it should with the short period of 89 milliseconds, emit X-rays. There are some puzzling difficulties still and it may be that there are more than one family of pulsars.

## JUPITER HAS DEUTERIUM

Infra-red spectrometer measurements have revealed that deuterium in the form of deuterated methane $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{D}\right)$ is present on the planet Jupiter. It is probably the first time that this isotope has been found outside the earth and there is evidence that this spectroscopic line appears in the spectrum of Jupiter as a whole.

The low density of the planet suggests it must consist for the most part of a mixture of hydrogen and methane. What the proportion of the deuterium is to the hydrogen is difficult to determine at this stage.

## EARTH RESOURCES SATELLITE

The satellite to be launched to study the earth's resources will add enormously to the survey abilities available to investigators of the environment and ecology. The ability of the return beam vidicon camera and the multispectral scanner owes much to the successful Nimbus operations.

Multispectral techniques, with a coverage beyond that of the unaided human eye. can show detail which cannot be achieved in any other way. It is possible to distinguish between fields of oats, sorgham, wheat and maize. It can be shown that diseased crops and healthy crops have a different appearance not easily detectable at close hand.

Using the scanner each type of crop has a different spectral "signature". It will also be possible to chart the movement of fish and monitor pollution worldwide. To list the benefits would occupy a good deal of space if dealt with in detail.

However, the importance of this activity is so great that it is justifiable to recount some specific items. Direct benefits are the detection of forest fires and the advent of locust storms: observations of ice movements, winter and monsoon conditions in India and Japan. The study of the hydrologic cycle in the Santa River basin in Peru, snow surveys in Norway to assess spring flooding; soil erosion in Guatemala.

More than 50 scientists from all over the world will be cooperating in this venture.
The data from this satellite will be freely available to all nations.

# Decoding \& Driving circuits for filament displays 

| N LASI month's article some of the various incandescent filament displays were described. The discrete character and bar matrix type displays require different circuits for decoding the binary coded decimal (B.C.D.) into a form suitable to drive the display devices. This month some of these circuits are discussed, in particular those using the now widely available TTL integrated circuits.

## DISCRETE CHARACTER DISPLAYS

The first type of display described in Part 3 last month was the discrete character type, where a separate circuit, i.e. an individual bulb, is used for each character.

A suitable decoding and driving circuit for this type of display is shown in Fig. 4.1. The input to the decoder is in the form of binary coded decimal and in order to drive the display this must be decoded into a one out of ten output.


Fig. 4.1. A decoding and driving circuit suitable for use with a discrete character type display

This can be achieved using the SN74145N integrated circuit. This has ten outputs, only one of which will be conducting at a time. Thus only the bulb corresponding to the decimal equivalent of the B.C.D. input will be illuminated.

If the display device has a decimal point then a separate circuit of discrete components will be necessary. Any transistor which will withstand the current and voltage rating of the lamp is suitable.

## DECODING/DRIVING CIRCUITS FOR MATRIX DISPLAYS

There is one fundamental difference between matrix and discrete character displays: the former requires a switching system which encodes the basic number or letter information into a series of on/ofi responses for each part of the matrix, whereas the latter uses the number or letter information directly to energise the correct character.

If the original information is in some other coded form (specifically Binary Coded Decimal, B.C.D.) then this information must first be decoded to decimal before being re-encoded in the form to drive the matrix. Only the decoder is required for the discrete type.

This decoding/encoding makes the logic of a seven segment "decoder/driver" i.c. quite complex, as can be seen from the gate diagram of the SN7447 device, which is part of the TTL Medium Scale Integration (M.S.I.) family, and which is shown in Fig. 4.2

This complexity need be of no concern however. since the widespread use of seven segment indicators has brought the price of the 7447 down to a very low value in recent months, making it very competitive on a "decoder plus indicator" cost comparison with cold cathode tubes.

## THE SN7447 INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

This decoder is typical of a variety of types available, and is suitable for directly driving the "Atron" and similar indicators, its ouputs sinking 20 mA at up to 15 volts (the 7446 is selected for use up to 30 volts).

The inputs to this decoder must be in B.C.D. form, and thus only the numerals 0 to 9 are catered for; the "invalid" binary codes of 10 to 14 do produce a display, but it is meaningless: In addition to the four
B.C.D. inputs and the seven segment drive outputs, a number of other useful facilities have been provided.

The "lamp test" input can be grounded through a gate or switch to force all the segments to "on", thus showing up any open circuit filaments, a handy, and simply arranged facility.

The other input and output are the "Ripple Blanking Input" (R.B.I.) and the "Ripple Blanking Output, or Blanking Input" (R.B.O.). These two lines


Fig. 4.2. The internal logic of the SN7447 integrated circuit. The SN7446 has the same internal logic but the output drivers can handle higher voltage
are used to achieve the leading or trailing edge ripple suppression of insignificant zeros in multi-digit displays, giving a much easier to read number.

In addition the R.B.O. can be used as an input to blank the display, a feature which is often employed to vary the brightness by switching the indicator on and off at high speed, the mark-space ratio of this on/off waveform altering the effective intensity.

## ZERO SUPPRESSION

Ripple blanking itself was introduced when dealing with the 74141 decoder/Nixie tube combination in Part 2, and it is a neat little trick to prevent the display of meaningless zeros in long numbers, e.g. a six digit display system with a central decimal point would display 2.8 like this without ripple blanking:

$$
002 \cdot 800
$$

but with ripple blanking the display would appear like this:

## 2.8

an obvious improvement!
The 74141 system required some quite complex gating external to the decoder to achieve ripple blanking, but with the 7447 seven segment decoder this gating is inside the device, only wire being required to make it work in a large display.

Just how easily a sophisticated six digit display can be made is demonstrated in Fig. 4.3. Here six Atrons are driven by six 7447 s , and the display incorporates lamp-test, intensity control, and leading and trailing edge ripple blanking. Only one 5 V supply is required, and the whole thing can be made very small, an excellent choice for a counter or voltmeter.

The ripple blanking is not connected for the two digits on either side of the decimal point; this improves readability and ensures that all numbers are displayed as we would write them, e.g. 0.005 will be displayed as:
0.005
rather than as:

$$
.005
$$

as it would be with all decades connected for blanking.


Eight seven-segment filament indicators are used in the P.E. Digital electronic calculator to be seen next month


The intensity control scheme uses an open collector inverter package (SN7405) as the driver to each decoder. This is necessary (rather than a common wire to all decoders) because the R.B.O. is "wiredOR" connected with the intensity modulation. "Wired-or" logic was described in Making the Most of Logic IC's, but those who have not come across this article, just remember that an open collector buffer is necessary to use this facility.


Fig. 4.4. A custom programmable seven segment decoder/driver. By suitably placed diodes, the seven segment display can be made to give characters not normally available from i.c. decoder/drivers

## OTHER DECODERS

When discussing formats in Part 1 it was stated that a variety of letters and symbols, as well as the numerals, could be displayed on the seven segment design, but the 7447 does not help at all, being intended only to give 0 to 9 , so what can be done to include these other character options? The answer is a "do-it-yourself" custom decoder, which is not as complicated as may be expected, and gives a high degree of flexibility.

A scheme to achieve this is shown in Fig. 4.4, where two i.c.s and a number of diodes are arranged in the form of a "Read Only Memory" (R.O.M.) which is programmed by the constructor to give any desired character out for any particular input, simply by wiring in diodes.
The R.O.M. is really a decoder/encoder combination, but it is easier to visualise when described as a R.O.M.

In this circuit a 7442 is used to generate the ten separate outputs for any of the possible B.C.D. inputs, and the particular output which is "addressed" by the input code then "reaids" the particular set of diodes to produce the required on/off output arrangement. This is inverted and buffered by a hex power-driver i.c. (with one extra transistor to make the number up to the required seven) which drives the indicator directly.

Only three examples of possible coding are shown, diodes being inserted in the matrix wherever an "off" segment is required. If a 74154 (four to 16 line) decoder is used instead of the 7442, then the complete number set can be programmed along with up to six letters or symbols, handy for those special applications encountered occasionally.

[^5]
## OUTLOOK FAIR

The first of the great trade barometers, the annual Paris Electronic Components Exhibition, while not exactly forecasting sunshine ahead was nonetheless far less gloomy than last year's event. The tone was set by the French themselves who reported a fortnight before the opening that the professional equipment sector of the French industry showed a 25 per cent growth in 1971 and an order book indicating that exports would be up by no less than 50 per cent.

Prior to the show I had been to Toulouse to visit the Motorola semiconductor plant and my personal impression was that the worst was over and while nobody was foolish enough to start counting their chickens there was a feeling of renewed buoyancy.


The impression was reinforced when I arrived at the Porte de Versailles exhibition centre in Paris where 1,000 exhibitors from 25 countries had set up shop. At the turn of the year it was feared that only a handful of British companies would be exhibiting following last year's depressing show. In the event the turnout was creditable, a number of companies having come in at the last moment.

Factors influencing the latecomers included Britain's imminent entry to the Common Market, hopes (which were later justified) of a businessman's Budget in March, and the realisation that there was a perceptible but quite genuine upturn of trade in the UK and therefore they could afford, perhaps, to appear in Paris after all.

Any exhibitor will tell you that the Paris Salon is about the costliest exercise in the year's publicity
and promotional budget-even with the financial support of the Department of Trade and Industry. But many companies still say, whatever the expense, that Paris is a "must". Plessey, in fact, used Paris as the key show of the year and balanced the books by ignoring the IEA at Olympia. I am told, however, that Plessey will be back at Olympia for the 1973 London Components show.

British instrument manufacturers made a brave show either on their own stands or those of their agents. New instruments using LED's for leadout were shown by Marconi Instruments and Solartron. New counters were shown by Advance Electronics, and SE Laboratories exhibited a 150 MHz counter-timer with eight-decade readout. Other British companies in the instrument field were G. and E. Bradley (low cost counters), Farnell Instruments (RF signal generators), and Wayne Kerr (automatic test equipment).

Although Paris attracted about 100 fewer exhibitors this vear it remains a brilliant, if tiring, exhibition. Now, having counted the cost, the salesmen are sweating it out hoping that the optimism engendered by a brisk enquiry rate will be justified in terms of orders.

## yOU KNOW It MAKES SENSE

I have long held the view that the advance of technology during the past decade has outpaced applications. That before a new development had been fully exploited there was always somethina to take its place and that development engineers almost automatically specified the newer-and generally more expensive as well as less proven-device to its predecessor.

In Britain we discovered the virtue of using the devil-you-know some little while back, a good example being the electronics in the Nimrod maritime reconnaissance aircraft which, while recognised as being among the most (if not the most) advanced in the world from the operational viewpoint, was put together largely from off-the-shelf equipment. Clever systems engineering qave us a quick and cost-effective solution to anti-submarine warfare. Even the Nimrod airframe is a modified Comet.

Now, I note that our cousins in the U.S. are feeling the financial pinch and following our lead. New contracts are specifying that current state-of-the-art components will be used as far as possible rather than exotic third or fourth generation devices still on the drawing board. This, of course, is a sad letdown for the back-room boys who have made a rich living out of
inventing better and better devices which not only cost a lot more but don't always live up to expectations.

So worried are the Americans about escalating $R$ and $D$ costs in the defence field that an even worse fate is in store and one that would have been unthinkable in the U.S. five years ago. It is actually suggested that Uncle Sam should purchase ready-made defence systems from Europe. In fact the proposal is more than a suggestion and the British Rapier surface-to-air missile system is just one of the items now being evaluated and, one hopes, that is high on the U.S. Department of Defence shopping list.

This raises new hopes for the future of the British Clansman military communication system for which Racal Electronics recently announced the first production orders worth $£ 11$ million, divided K6 million for the British Army and $£ 5$ million for the Iranian Army. When I asked Racal Chairman and Managing Director, Ernie Harrison, if he thought there was much chance of it being specified for the U.S. Army he was not too odtimistic. Nonetheless, Clansman is a production reality and is recognised as the best in the world after many years of development, while the Americans are only now putting out tenders for a Clansman-like equipment.

The Americans are clearly coming round to the idea that there is no profit in re-inventing the wheel or, for that matter, Clansman. They should think again before spending millions on duplication of other people's efforts.

## HUMBLE PIE

Those who thought GEC were out of the semiconductor business for good, following last year's losses in the low-cost volume market and the subsequent closing of the Witham and Glenrothes plants, may yet have to eat humble pie. The custom-built business, based at Wembley, is gearing up towards a throughput of 2 million devices a year and products will include bipolars, MOS and thick-film hybrids. Full use will be made of the expertise of the famous Hirst Research Centre plus computeraided design (CAD) and advanced production processes including ion implantation.

Technical Director and General Manager of GEC Semiconductors, Clive Foxell, has a closely-knit team, a fully integrated facility with everything he needs on hand, some captive clients within the giant GEC organisation as well as plenty outside and, above all, freedom from the commercial pressures and atrocious price structure of the TTL rat race. We wish him well.

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THE IIRSI BBC experimental stercophonic transmissions were broadcast from the Old Vic, in l.ondon, in 1926 using two medium-wave transmitters. In those days the medium wave band was not so congested, the power of transmitters was less and radio reception was possible using comparatively simple equipment.

By the late 1930s the position had radically altered and consideration was being given to ways of providing interference-free domestic radio services. In the event. however, it was not until after the war that any real progress became possible.

## MEDIUM WAVE LIMITATIONS

By this time the number of medium wave channels available to the BBC had become insufficient, and their quality inadequate, for the satisfactory national distribution of three programmes.

Fading, increasing interference from powerful foreign stations and the necessity for synchronized working were severely limiting the range of existing stations, mainly ats a consequence of the unsatisfactory working of the Copenhagen Wavelength Plan in Europe.

To overcome these difficulties the BBC put forward a plan to establish a v.h.f. broadcasting service within the band allocated for sound broadcasting in the European Region. The BBC plan was subjected to a long series of practical tests both as regards its feasibility and in respect of the system of modulation to be used.

As nothing in this world is perfect it was only to be expected that snags cxisted, and among these the most noticeable from the listener's viewpoint were likely to be receiver hiss and impulsive interference such as that produced by motor car ignition systems.

## ADVANTAGES OF F.M.

One result of the tests was that frequency modulation was adopted for the v.h.f. service because its use resulted in a considerable reduction in both these forms of noise and interference. It wats also decided to use horizontal polarization throughout.

Propagation conditions in the v.h.f. band differ considerably from those in the medium and low frequency bands. Signal strength decreases rapidly with distance from the transmitter and terrain contours exert a greater influence on signals between transmitter and receiver; hills cast partial "shadows", similar to optical shadows.

Fading may occur at times owing to changes in weather conditions, reflections from aircraft, and similar causes depending on the distance from the transmitter.

It is not possible to give as precise an estimate of the service area of a v.h.f. station as it is for one operating on medium waves. Listeners living in particularly unfavourable positions within a nominally "first class" service area may obtain only second class results, whereas those in geographically favourable locations outside such an area may still get a first class service.

Two other matters which could cause deterioration in reception are interference from stations operating on the same frequency, and interference from those on closely adjacent frequencies.

The first can be reduced to negligible proportions by carefully siting transmitters using the same frequencies so as to provide the greatest possible geographical separation between them. The second can be mitigated by similar action but is also to some extent dependent on receiver design.

## F.M. RECEIVERS

Two essential requirements for a good v.h.f. f.m. broadcast receiver are (a) that it should be provided with a limiter able to operate efficiently at the minimum field strength for which the receiver is designed, and (b) that oscillator drift should be reduced to reasonable limits. This latter point is inherent in the design of any v.h.f. receiver, but, with modern circuitry and sometimes the application of atomatic frequency control it cat be achieved without undue difficulty.

The first requirement is of the greatest importance because, unless the limiter does become fully operative the principal advantage of f.m.. that of noise suppression, is partially or wholly lost.

## EXPERIMENTAL STEREO BROADCASTS

The v.h.f. broadcasts by the BBC passed out of the experimental stage and became a service, from the Wrotham station in Kent, in 1955. Within a year or two, however. stereophony was reaching, and interesting, a much wider audience through the medium of stereo recordings and reproducing equipment and a demand for stereophonic radio programmes began to assert itself.

A series of experimental transmissions using the pilot tone system was inaugurated by the BBC from Wrotham in 1962. These continued at intervals until,
on 30 July 1966, the then Postmaster General authorised the BBC to introduce a limited stereo service using this system, which had been agreed as the stereo broadcasting system for the U.S.A. and certain other European countries.

This system permits the stereo signal to be broadcast on a single v.h.f. channel without any significant increase in bandwidth and provides a satisfactory mono signal for listeners using existing v.h.f. receivers. It also offers a stereo service comparable with if not better than that obtainable from good stereo gramophone records.

## ENCODING OF STEREO SIGNALS

Fig. I shows diagrammatically the distribution of the signals in the transmitted spectrum, including the 19 kHz pilot tone.

The left plus right ( $L+R$ ) section provides for mono reception by any $f . m$. receiver and, suitably combined with the left minus right ( $L$. $-R$ ) sidebands and the pilot tone in a multiplex decoder, the three signals provide a stereo output.

To achieve this modulation the left and right signals from the microphones- or the appropriate outputs from a stereo microphone-are connected to a matrixing network from which two new outputs, the $I+K$ and the $I-R$, are derived. The whole chain is shown in diagrammatic form in Fig. 2. The $L_{-}+R$ is the equivalent of the mono signal but, as only a single transmitter is to be used, the L - R signal has also to be conveyed without its causing any interference to the reception of the mono signal.

The $I-+R$ signal normally has a frequency range of about 30 Hz to 15 kHz and, although the audio frequency spectrum maly be considered to extend outside this range, receiver design precludes the reproduction of other frequencies. The $L+R$ signal is therefore used to modulate the transmitter in a conventional manner.

To handle the remaining information which must be sent simultaneously, a very stable 19 kHz oscillator is used to generate the pilot tone which is used as additional modulation for the transmitter for ultimate recovery and processing in the receiver.

A second output from the oscillator is frequencydoubled to produce a 38 kHz r.f. carrier. This. together with the $\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{R}$ signal. is fed to a sup-pressed-carrier modulator in which sidebands are generated whilst the actual carrier is suppressed. The two sidebands obtained by this method provide the third source of modulation for the transmitter.

## THE STEREO RECEIVER

At the receiver these well spaced signals will permit a mono set to reproduce only the $L+R$, or audio signal, shown on the left in Fig. 1, thus providing the mono programme. In a stereo receiver, however, one of two alternative types of decoder is present.

In the sum and difference type, shown in the diagram Fig. 3, the received f.m. signal is fed to three filters. The first. being tuned to pass only audio frequencies, rejects all but the $L+\mathrm{R}$ signal. The second accepts only frequencies above 23 kHz and thus rejects the $L+R$ signal and the 19 kHz pilot tone, but passes the $\mathrm{L}-\mathrm{R}$ sidebands.

The final filter, being sharply tuned to 19 kHz ,
rejects all but the pilot tone. The pilot tone is passed through a frequency doubler whose output is fed, together with the $L-R$ sideband signals into a demodulator at the output of which the $L-R$ signal is recovered.

The $L-R$ and $L+R$ signals then pass into a matrix network from which the original $L$ and $R$ signals are reproduced. This decoding system is, in essence, a reversal of the transmitting arrangements but it suffers from the disadvantage that each of the filters delays the signal by a different amount thus necessitating the inclusion of phase-correcting networks to re-establish the correct phase relationship between them prior to reproduction. This entails added complication and cost.


Fig. 1. Diagram showing the various components of the modulation of an f.m. stereo transmission. The signal bands are spaced for clarity: their positions on the frequency scale are only approximate


Fig. 2. Block diagram showing the method of modulating an f.m. transmitter with a multiplex stereo signal


Fig. 3. Block diagram of a sum and difference type stereo decoder

## SWITCHING DECODER

The second type of decoder, the switching decoder. was developed to overcome the disadvantage inherent in the sum and difference type. It is shown in schematic form in Fig. 4.

The 19 kHz pilot tone is again extracted using a suitable filter and is frequency doubled as before to produce the $38 \mathrm{kH}_{L}$ sub-carrier. This is fed to two demodulator units in which it is used as a switching signall to direct the entire output alternately to the left- or right-hand channel.

The v.h.f. transmissions certainly provide the best quallity reception of sound radio available in the U.K. Interference from foreign stations is virtually eliminated and the f.m. system provides a much wider frequency range than is possible on the a.m. services on medium wave. Radio 3 also offers the stereo service over a wide area of the country as shown in Fig. 5.


Fig. 4. Block diagram of a switching type stereo decoder


Fig. 5. The present area served by Radio 3 stereophonic transmissions. Good stereo reception should be obtainable over most of the area indicated by the unshaded part of the map, but the receiving aerial requirements are far more critical than those for monophonic reception

## V.H.F. AERIALS

If, however, full advantage is to be taken of the improved reception which the service offers it is essential that a suitable aerial be used.
V.h.f. aerials are directionall and thus the signal strength received depends upon the position of the acrial in relation to the direction of the transmitter. Freedom from interference and noise in a v.h.f. receiver depends partly on the strength of signal delivered to the receiver which. in turn, is dependent on the aerial.

The better the aerial the better the reception and the greater the freedom from noise.

This is particularly important when stereo programmes are being broadcast, ats the slight reduction in the mono service area due to the fact that a small proportion- 9 per cent to be exact-of the permissible deviation available for the f.m. transmitter is used to carry the 19 kHz pilot tone: also some of the programme is carried in the supersonic part of the spectrum around 38 kHz .

The only effect this is likely to have on a mono receiver is to make it slightly more susceptible to background noise, particularly motor car ignition noise if the receiver is located near a busy road. Tests have shown, however, that in nearly every case where such degradation was perceptible, it could be cured by the use of a more efficient aerial.

## STEREO SIGNAL TO NOISE RATIO

A situation similat to that described above also exists when a stereo receiver is used, but there is an additional, inherent, reason for some worsening of the signal to noise ratio. The mono receiver is concerned purely with noise occurring within the frequency range 30 Hz to 15 kHz , whereas the stereo receiver must receive frequencics up to 53 kHz , and thus any additional noise in this part of the spectrum. together with any intermodulation products falling within the audible range. will caluse some degradation of the reproduced sound.

Some amelioration of these undesirable features caln be achieved by suitable decoder design but, once again. practical experience hats shown that very considerable improtement in the stereo reception at a given location is almost always possible by using a more efficient acrial to provide a higher input to the receiver.

From the foregoing it will be seen that, given a satisfactory receiver and a reasonable signal strength probably the most important single factor alfecting t.h.f. reception in either mono or stereo is the use of a really efficient aerial to deliver the signal to the set. So important does the BBC consider the question of aterials that it has produced a leaflet entitled V.H.F. Receiving Aerials which can be obtained on request.

## ADJACENT CHANNEL INTERFERENCE

In certain areas there is also the question of adjacent channel interference to be considered when receiving a stereo broadcast. Such interference can be calused by stations separated in some cases by only 200 kHz . Under these circumstances the fifth harmonic of the 38 kHz sub-cirrier- 190 kHz produces a difference frequency of 10 kHz which is carrying both amplitude and frequency modulation.

This in turn gives rise to whistles or warbles, often referred to as "birdies". The insertion of a low pass
filter between the discriminator and decoder to remove the 190 kHz component prevents this undesirable effect. The filter should be designed to pass only those frequencies below about 70 kHz .

## 23KHZ PILOT TONE

On page 311 of the April 1972 issue it is stated that the BBC "have the unfortunate habit of putting a 23 kHz pilot tone on top of mono programmes" and it may be of some interest to outline the reason for this tone.

Continuity monitoring of frequency-modulated transmissions over radio paths is the purpose of this low-level pilot tone. Originally the frequency used was 20 kHz but, with the introduction of the stereo service, it was changed to 23 kHz to prevent any mis-switching of stereo receivers.

The tone is injected into the audio system at a transmitting station at a level of -30 dB with reference to zero level and produces approximately 4.5 kHZ deviation at the transmitter output.

At the receiving station it is detected by a receiver, filtered out and used to start up or close down transmitters, or to change from one programme source to another.

If the tone is to be used on the next radio path it is removed from the programme by a low-pass filter and tone from a local oscillator substituted prior to re-transmission. Some systems rely on detecting the main station carrier to start or close down relay transmitters. These, however, suffer from the disadvantage that it is possible for noise to produce sufficient output from the receiver after the main station has shut down for the relay to remain switched on.

## LISTENING TO STEREO

For best stereophonic listening the two loudspeakers should ideally be spaced 6 to 12 feet apart and the listener should sit at a point which is equidistant from them and preferably not closer to them than their distance apart.
The programme announcements will usually be made from a central position and the receiver should be adjusted using the balance control, if fitted, so that the speaker's voice appears to come from a point midway between the loudspeakers.
The acoustics of the listening room will affect the results and different listening and loudspeaker positions should be tried to obtain the best result.

## SERVICE AREA

At present the stereophonic transmissions are available to listeners within the service areas of the BBC's v.h.f. transmitting stations at Wrotham, Rowridge, Sutton Coldfield, Holme Moss and Swingate and of the following relay stations: Brighton, Oxford, Northampton, Sheffield, Scarborough, Morecambe Bay and Kendal, and the approximate area of the U.K. in which they can be received is shown in Fig. 5.
Stereophonic programmes are available in these areas on v.h.f. Radio 3 and are marked in Radio Times by a special " $S$ " symbol. The emphasis is mainly on music, because this type of programme derives the greatest benefit from stereophonic reproduction.

Equipment is being installed to enable the number of stereophonic programmes in Radio 3 to be
increased. The BBC would like to extend stereophony throughout the country and to more than one of the radio services and it is hoped that the necessary finance can soon be found to bring this worthwhile improvement to the listener. In the meantime it is planning to expand its stereo service considerably during the next few years. The extension beyond the present Radio 3 service will take place in three phases.

## EXTENSION OF STEREO SERVICE

First the installation of stereo origination facilities for Radio 2 (with Radio 1) and Radio 4. This has called for a major re-equipment programme involving modifications to the continuity suites and central control equipment in London as well as a considerable increase throughout the United Kingdom in the number of tape machines, gramophone desks, studios and outside broadcast units equipped for stereo.

This phase is already in progress, and it is expected that it will be possible to originate a major proportion of stereo programmes on Radio 2 by the end of 1972, and also to make possible the transmission of some stereo programmes on Radio 4. Further increases in stereo capability will continue during the succeeding years.

## PULSE CODE MODULATION

The second phase concerns the extension of Radio 2 and Radio 4 stereo to those transmitters already radiating Radio 3 in stereo. For this a new system of super high frequency (s.h.f.) radio links is planned, using pulse code modulation (PCM).

The PCM system to be used on the s.h.f. radio links has been developed by the BBC. It will carry ten audio circuits. Each stereo programme will use two circuits, for the $L$ and $R$ channels, and the stereo coding will be carried out at each main transmitting station.

The PCM system will provide improved quality in respect of both audio bandwidth and signal-tonoise ratio, from which mono as well as stereo listeners will benefit. It thus forms part of the BBC's plan to improve still further the quality of its v.h.f. transmissions throughout the country.

It is expected that the three-network service, which involves the construction of several new radio link sites on the main route, will be available in the London area and the Midlands by the end of 1972 and in the North of England during 1973. Rowridge, serving central southern England, will be included in this phase and a full stereo service from Belmont, serving Lincolnshire, will follow the extension to the North of England.

## THIRD PHASE

The third phase of the plan is the extension of the three network stereo service northwards to Central Scotland and westwards to the Bristol Channel area. The Post Office Corporation and the BBC are working towards this phase which it is expected will start in 1974.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Transmitter. (30) Pocket Triple Refex Radio (3) Transmiter. (30) Pocket Triple Reflex Radio. (31) Wristwatch Tranemitter/Wire-less
Microphone. (32) Rain Alarm. (33) Uitrasonic Switch/Alarm. (34) Stereo Pre. amplifier. (35) Quality Alerm. Push.Pull Amplifler. (36) Light-Beam. Telephone
"Photophone". (37) Light-Beam Trangit 'Photophone'. (37) Lleght. Beam Transmitter. (38) Silent TV Sound Adaptor. (39)
Ultramonic Trangmitter. (40) Thyristor Drill Speed Controller. Plus 10 Photoeletrit Uiramonic Trangmitter. (40) Thyristor Drill Speed Controller. Plus 10 Photoelectric
Circuits, Simple Alarms, Long Range Alarms, Projector Modulators, etc.

## YORK ELECTRICS, Mail Order Dept.

 335 BATTERSEA PARK ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 11
## Pre GEMINI

## STERED

## TUNER



THIS is the final article describing the printed circuit board assembly, cord drive, and setting up procedure.

## COILS

Coil $L .2$ is available as a ready made unit, but 1.1 has to be specially wound by the constructor on a Neosid NS/E3 former. Wind 17 turns of 30 s.w.g. enamelled wire neatly on to this former and solder the ends to the pins shown in Fig. 21. The winding should be secured with a smear of polystyrene model cement or a single layer of coloured adhesive tape. to ensure that the tuning of the coil remains stable.

Now apply a little polystyrene cement to the bottom of the coil former and slip the ferrite sleeve over the coil. Then apply a dab of polystyrene cement to the top of the coil former and push on the polythene clamp ring. Leave for 30 minutes to dry and then screw in the ferrite core until the top of the core just protrudes from the top of the coil former. Finally, carefully solder the 47 pF tuning capacitor (C16) in place.

It is very important to handle the ferrite coil former for Ll with great care, as it is very fragile, and any damage could alter the properties of the complete assembly.

## PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD

Most of the components are mounted on a single glass fibre printed circuit board. The conductor pattern of this is shown in Fig. 22 and the component layout in Fig. 23. If you do not purchase a ready drilled p.c.b. you will need a No. 60 drill for component and i.c. leads; a No. 46 drill for the turret tags. Solder the tags to the copper before any of the components are inserted.

The wiring of the board is self-explanatory but the following sequence is preferable, and will minimise the risk of damage to the integrated circuits and the tuner head.

Insert and solder all the resistors except R14, and then all the capacitors. Mount the two coils. The semiconductor devices can now be inserted, but before doing so make sure that the soldering iron is earthed and that the circuit board is completely "floating" above earth (for example, placed on an insulated table top).

1


1. Carefully wind on 17 turns of 30 s.w.g. enamelled wire and solder to the pins shown. Secure the winding with a smear of polystyrene cement or a single layer of adhesive tape. Handie the former very carefully or it will break
2. Apply a little polystyrene cement to the bottom of the coil former and slip the ferrite sleeve over the coil
3. Apply a dab of polystyrene cement to the top of the coil former and push on the polythene clamp ring. Leave for 30 minutes to dry
4. Screw in the ferrite core until it just protrudes from the top of the coil former. Use a trimming tool, a screwdriver may break the core. Carefully solder the tuning capacitor in place as shown
5. Insert in the printed circuit board, together with the screening can


Fig. 21. Construction of L1
Fig. 22. The printed circuit board, copper side (full size)

Fig. 23 (top right). The components assembled on the printed circuit board

## FURTHER NOTES

Some readers have informed us that they have had cases of the ZTX550 (TR12) blowing up.

The authors have investigated this and have been unable to duplicate the fault, even when operating the power supply at a considerable overload. As the $2 T X 550$ is worked within its ratings they can only assume that these cases were due to "rogue" devices, but TR12 does run hot and constructors who would like an additional safeguard can fit a heat dissipating clip if they wish. Suitable types are the I.E.R.C. type RUR67B1U or the Redpoint type 92DC

In Fig. 14, the dimension from the left-hand end of the panel to hole A for the pilot lamp should be $2 \frac{7}{7}$ in




Semiconductor devices can easily be damaged by high voltage transients from unearthed soldering irons, and a damaged CA3090 will cost you over three pounds to replace. Heat shunts are not necessary with silicon semiconductors provided the joint is made quickly with a clean hot iron.

An iron of 15 or 25 watts with a small bit (less than $\frac{1}{4}$ in diameter) is preferable, and 22 s.w.g. cored solder should be used. Take great care not to allow solder "bridges" between adjacent tracks on the printed circuit board.

Finally, mount the tuner head and solder the pins that protrude from the underside and pass through holes in the board.

## WIRING UP

The mains transformer and C40 are mounted on the small chassis plate shown in Fig. 20 last month. The mains switch is mounted on the front panel and the transient suppressor capacitor C41 should be wired directly on the switch terminals that are connected to the transformer. Sleeve the leads of this capacitor to prevent the possibility of a short circuit to the case. Mount the fuse holder, mains socket, aerial socket, and audio output socket on the back panel.

The printed circuit board is supported on five $\frac{1}{2}$ in spacers, and it is advisable to place a thin insulated washer over the top of the centre spacer because of the closeness of one of the copper tracks. In some cases it may be necessary to increase or decrease the height of the p.c.b. slightly to ensure that the tuning
drum fits inside the front panel without touching the top or the bottom. The top of the tuning drum should be approximately level with the top of the inner front panel.

There is very little wiring to do; this is shown in. Fig. 24. If you are using a 75 ohm aerial the braid of the coax feeder should be connected to tag 16 and the inner to either tag 14 or tag 15 (it doesn't matter which). For a 300 ohm balanced feeder connect to tags 14 and 15 ; tag 16 is not used. The wiring shown in Fig. 24 is for the usual 75 ohm arrangement.

## CORD DRIVE

Make a loop of nylon or similar drive cord approximately 25 inches total length and thread it around the drum, pulleys, and tuning drive as shown in Fig. 16 last month. Wrap two turns around the small drive shaft. It will probably be necessary to experiment with the length of the drive cord to obtain a satisfactory tension. If the cord is too slack remove it and shorten it slightly, or if it is too tight try a slightly longer loop.

Now turn the tuning knob so that the vanes of the tuning capacitor are fully interleaved. Slip the pointer over the front panel, slide it up to the 88 MHz mark on the scale, and fasten to the cord. Make sure that the drive works smoothly over the whole length of the scale. If it slips the cord may be too slack, or there may be oil on the drive shaft. If everything is satisfactory the pointer can be secured with a blob of adhesive.

## SETTING UP THE R.F. CIRCUITS

Before switching on check the board and the wiring carefully for errors, particularly the power supply. It is a good idea to complete the power supplies and test these before the integrated circuits or the tuner head are wired into circuit. Both power supplies should give between 11.2 and 12.5 volts.
Initially, resistor RI4 should be left out or one end disconnected, so that the tuner head and the i.f. amplifier do not operate. Set VRI to it's midposition, and if necessary adjust the mechanical zero of the tuning meter. Now switch on and adjust VRI to bring the tuning meter back to zero. Switch off, disconnect the tuner from the mains, and solder R14 in place:
Temporarily short out the a.f.c. by connecting a link between tags 7 and 8, or if you have fitted an a.f.c. switch put it in the "out" position. Connect the tuner to an audio amplifier and the aerial socket to a suitable dipole aerial. Now switch on and tune the receiver through the f.m. band. It should be possible to find a station, although it will probably be badly distorted at this stage. As you tune through the station the background noise will fall and then will start rising again. Tune for minimum noise (pay no attention to the signal at this point as minimum noise may well coincide with minimum signal), or alternatively try to set the tuning midway between the two points where the noise becomes perceptible, as shown in Fig. 25. Now insert a trimming tool into the core of 11 and adjust it to bring the tuning meter back to zero. The reproduction should now be virtually noiseless and undistorted. Check that the tuning meter swings approximately equal amounts either side of zero as you tune through the station, and if not make a slight


Fig. 24. Connections from the printed circuit board turret tags to components mounted on the case


1. When you first switch on, the response of the discriminator as you tune through a station will probably be like this. Try to tune to the centre of the quiet band. This may well coincide with minimum signal

2. Adjust the core of L 1 to bring the tuning meter back to zero. Use a trimming tool, a screwdriver will break the core.
If your tuning was not quite accurate to start with the response may look like this

3. Tune through the station and check that the tuning meter swings approximately equal amounts either side of zero. If not, make a slight readjustment to L1

Fig. 25. Adjustment of L1
readjustment to I.1. Finally, adjust the output coil of the tuner head for minimum batekground noisc. This is best done on a stereo transmission. This adjustment is only required to take up the tolerance of the external tuning capacitors ( $C 2$ and C3) and it should not be necessary to tune the core more than about one turn either way. Use a hexagonal nylon trimming tool of the correct size as a screwdriver will break the core and may damage the coil as well. ON NO ACCOUNT MUST ANY OTHER ADJUSTMENTS BE MADE TO THE TUNER HEAD.

Disconnect from the mains and remove the short on the a.f.c.

## ALTERNATIVE METHOD

If you live in a strong signal area and have a lest meter of $10,000 \mathrm{ohm} /$ volt or more there is a more simple and accurate method of adjustment as follows:

After adjusting VRI as described earlier, short out the a.f.c. and solder R1t back in place. Connect an audio amplifier and an aerial. Connect the test meter, on the 10 V range, to the collector of TR 5 and tune in to a station.

Normally the collector voltage of TRS will be about 0.2 V . but when a strong signal is being received it rises. Adjust the tuning for maximum reading on the voltmeter, and adjust the output coil of the tuner head for maximum. Then, without altering the tuning, adjust the core of $\mathrm{I} . \mathrm{I}$ to bring the tuning meter back to zero.

## bBC STEREO TEST TRANSMISSION

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Time } \\ & \text { (appr } \end{aligned}$ |  | Right Channel (B) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 23.42 | 250 Hz at zero level | 440 H |
| 2 | 23.44 | 900 Hz at +7 dB | 900 Hz at +7 dB antiphase to lef channel |
| 3 | 23.48 | 900 Hz at +7 dB | 900 Hz at +7 dB in phase with le channel |
| 4 | 23. |  |  |
| 5 | 23.50 | No modulation | 900 Hz at +7 dB |
| 6 | 23.51 .20 | Tone sequence at $-4 \mathrm{~dB} .60 \mathrm{~Hz}, 900 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $5 \mathrm{kHz}, 10 \mathrm{kHz}$. <br> Repeated | No modulation |
| 7 | 23.52.20 | No modulation | Tone sequence at 23.51 .20 |
| 8 | $\begin{aligned} & 23.53 \\ & 23.55 \end{aligned}$ | No modulation Monophonic transm | No modulation mission |
| Note: If programme material extends beyond 23.42, test transmission begins two minutes after close. To facilitate channel identification and adjustment of channel crosstalk, 250 Hz is transmitted in the left channel only from about four minutes after the end of Radio 3 until 23.55. <br> Zero reference level corresponds to 40 per cent of maximum modulation applied to either stereo channel before pre-emphasis. <br> The prime purpose of the above test transmissions is described on the BBC leaflet mentioned in the text of this article. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## STEREO DECODER

Screw the core of L2 fully down and tune in to a stereo transmission. The pilot indicator lannp should light; if it does not screw the core of L2 up slightly until the lamp comes on. Make sure that the lamp does not light on a mono programme, due to the stereo decoder locking on to the 23 kHz signal which the BBC sometimes transmit.

The exact tuning of L 2 is not critical since once the phase lock loop locks, the coil is pulled into tune by the reactance circuit. However, best results can be obtained by adjusting the coil on the test tones which are transmitted by the BBC every Wednesday and Saturday night after 11.30 p.m. Details of these tones are given on information sheet 1605 issued by the BBC Engineering Information Department, Broadcasting House, London WIA 1AA
The core in L2 should be adjusted to give maximum separation, i.e minimum signal in the righthand channel when only the left-hand channel is being transmitted, and vice versa. You might have to make more than one attempt at doing this as no announcements are made between the various test tones transmitted and it is very easy to get lost. This completes the setting up of the tuner.



The central apparatus room at the Churches Television Centre


The latest Ampex Video Tape Recorder, type AVR-1


## Churches TV Centre goes Colour

IN AN AGE when congregations are slowly dwindling away. even the Church has to look to the mass media as a fast and efficient method of spreading the message.
The Churches Television Centre has been established since 1959 and has three main aims: to train people on both sides of the camera; to produce material for religious education: and to carry out research into the problems of communication. The centre is financed by a Trust Fund created by the late Lord Rank.

The Centre has a fully equipped closed circuit studio at Bushey. near Watford and with its latest planned changeover to colour. at an estimated cost of nearty a quarter of a million pounds, it is expected to become the most up to date closed circuit system in the world.

The new colour equipment includes the advanced Marconi Mark Vlll Automatic colour cameras (seen undergoing tesis. bottom left). With automatic lineup and colour balance achieved within three minutes of switch on. as compared with the normal half hour. they are claimed to attain new standards in both performance and operational simplicity.
This system together with the latest Ampex Video Tape Recorder (upper left) will enable the Churches TV Centre to produce programmes of a quality suitable for any of the major broadcasting authorities.

Marconi Mark VIH colour cameras under test


How valuable are technical specifications to the buyer of hi fi equipment. "Vital!" you might say, and we would be inclined to agree with you. But does this mean that all other considerations go by the board in the potential buyers assessment.

If one stops to think about this, one will then realise that perhaps these other considerations (for example, aesthetic appearance, personal auditory opinion. suitability for the intended auditorium) have a very important place in equipment choice.

Listening to recorded music over a period of time often spurs the listener to make auditory comparisons due, no less, to a wide variety of recording qualities. Is there something wrong with the recording, or is it the equipment? Such a perplexing problem is very real to the chap who has, by this time, joined the bands of hyper-sensitive critics looking for ways to cure that undesirable feature of his musical pleasures.

## TRIP TO SONEX

Picture this chap for a moment embarking on his first trip to Sonex (such as held recently at the Skyway Hotel. London Airport); rows of small rooms, on four floors-most of which are emitting recorded sound in two or perhaps four channel stereo. Where does our perplexed friend start-with a catalogue? Fraid not! This is one exhibition that does not seem to believe in such necessities.

We could not even find the programme of seminar titles and times, until someone in the Press office made enquiries for us. We could not find many photos; we really had to hunt the whole four floors for the latest in audio equipment techniques.

But where was all that four-channel stuff we were promised would sweep the market (that was a couple of years ago). Still in the hands of the Japanese? like Sansui and JVC. Where is that British sense of innovation; still riding the stiff upper lip perhaps! Oh well! perhaps next year, or the year after?

Helme Atlantis 10055 watt amplifier


## CYBERNETIC HI FI

Going back to our friend with a desire to find out what he is missing, the best start is, believe it or not, the end of the chain, the loudspeaker, or sometimes referred to as "the weakest link".

However, some of the modern loudspeaker systems offer improvements over several five-year-old predecessors and if you are anxious to cut on size without loss of quality, we suggest you try to arrange a listen-in to "Servo-Sound Cybernetic Hi Fi". Don't be fooled by the fancy title; you should be truly surprised by the results.

These are small speakers (approximately 11 in $\times$ $10 \frac{1}{4}$ in $\times 7 \mathrm{in}$ ) that reproduce church organ music, bass guitars, full orchestras, as good as several others six or more times the size. The secret is in the feedback technique that the makers use in conjunction with the built-in power amplifiers.

The "cybernetic circuit" senses the motion of the speaker diaphragm, compares this with the original signal, and corrects the drive signal to balance the speaker output. The significant feature is the suppression of undesirable cabinet resonances, typical of such a size.

The price quoted for the unit, which includes the 15 watt (r.m.s.) amplifier is $£ 55$. A more robust version with ceiling or wall mounting cradle, for public address or discotheque work is offered for £64. Further details of these and stereo mixers, attenuators, and pre-amplifier control units are available from Sono-Sound, 5 Queen Street, London, EC4N ISU.

## SPEAKERS

BBC monitors are the currently accepted standard by which to assess speaker performance, following the extensive trials carried out over the past few years. Incorporated in these are, among others, the rolled p.v.c. cone suspension pioneered by that fast growing firm KEF.

Now that KEF have successfully established themselves as quality manufacturers, they have breathed new life into the smaller bookshelf styles with the Coda ( $£ 18.75$ each plus purchase tax) and the Cantor ( $£ 22.25$ each plus purchase tax), both of which are available as matched pairs.

The Coda is intended to handle up to 15 watts r.m.s. (plenty for a domestic room) with a B110 15 cm bass/mid-range unit and a T27 tweeter. System resonance is quoted as 60 Hz . The Cantor, rated at 20W r.m.s. uses a B200 20 cm bass unit and T 27 tweeter; system resonance 70 Hz . Both units will sit on a shelf 6 in deep.

Servo-Sound Cybernetic Hi Fi speaker system and preamplifier


The company responsible for the original BBC monitor, IMF Products, of High Wycombe, exhibited at Sonex and created considerable interest with an add-on system of speaker units. For those whose speakers lack the clean resonance-tamed low frequency response, IMF are offering a $£ 50$ bass only speaker which comprises a transmission line system folded to take on the appearance of a 33in $\times 22$ in $\times 20$ in coffee table. Omni-directional radiation is achieved by the downward facing drive unit. and it is claimed that 17 Hz can be reproduced. (Wonder what size organ pipe this would be.)

Also recommended are the "Studio" range of speakers from $£ 61.95$ to $£ 73$ plus purchase tax. Although somewhat expensive they are an excellent range and come from Spendor Audio Systems Ltd, of Redhill. Surrey. Main constituents are an 8in woofer of their own make, coupled with tweeters from Rola Celestion and ITT.

If you see the name Yamaha in connection with speakers, don't associate them with the noise of motor cycles. The Japanese certainly do come up with some unusual ideas, not the least being the Yamaha NS (for Natural Sound-what else?) range coded JA-6001, JA-5002, and many more.

The slim-line cone is of unusual shape, perhaps best described as a combination of semi-elliptical and small round (or those for guitars, more trapezoidal). Presumably this is a combination of woofer and tweeter on one chassis and one cone. For the added manufacturing complication and perhaps non-linear cone excursions, I personally fail to see any advantage over separate units. These types vary considerably in price and are imported by Jonathon Fallowlield Ltd, 60 St John Street, London, E.C.I.

## TV SOUND THROUGH HI FI

It is worth noting that for addicts who crave to feed television sound signals through their hi fi systems, Rola Celestion are offering the Telefi ED10. This is one of those precious boxes claimed to get round the problems of live television chassis. This unit picks up the radiated 6 MHz f.m. sound field from u.h.f. 625 -line receivers only and converts in the normal way to an audio signal ready to feed into the "tuner", "aux", or "phono" input of the amplifier.

No electrical connection is made to the television receiver; only a pick-up transducer is mounted on the cabinet close to the i.f. strip. Rola Celestion are acting as distributors for the manufacturers Dinosaur Electronics Ltd of Windsor.

## SUPER AMPLIFICATION

Since some of the foregoing indicate continuing improvements in loudspeaker design, the same cannot always be said for amplifiers. The standard of reproduction from a few is now approaching the ultimate possible with currently available components. It is all the more surprising therefore that several manufacturers do not seem to have the resources to improve their amplifiers measurably.
One well-known quality brand was in evidence in most of the non-amplifier demonstrations and in one room alone three were being used side by side. Have the rest accepted defeat?

There is very little to report on this subject but if you have the chance, listen-in to the Helme Atlantis 100 from P. F. \& A. R. Helme Ltd of Harrogate. If you can detect -70 dB noise at something like 55 watts r.m.s. into 8 ohms or 0.1 per cent distortion at 50 watts r.m.s., then you may not like this amplifier, but you would probably go a long way to find better figures than these quoted from the specification for such power output
This brings us back to earlier comments; this amplifier has what is termed "Dynamic Matching Control". There are I.f. and h.f. controls which are set up during listening tests to an optimum to suit the listener's interpretation of how the loudspeakers are performing.
We gather that this is a kind of manual version of the Servo-Sound idea already described, in that speaker cabinet resonances can be damped by judicious settings of the controls. The idea is primarily to make up for deficiencies inherent in small bookshelf systems. The suggested retail price is quoted as $£ 119$.


## FRONT END

Now for the front end, and it is a pity that f.m. tuners were not as evident as they should be. Would this be due to difficult f.m. reception conditions so close to the moving aircraft at Heathrow, or lack of interest in a market that should grow after expansion of stereo broadcasting later this year.
So we are left with tape and disc, the former showing the boom in cassette cartridge systems with Dolby B incorporated. The success of chromium dioxide tapes added to Dolby makes tape recording and reproductions at $1 \frac{7}{8}$ in per second an excellent proposition for acceptable quality music reproduction.

BASF introduced a combined radio/cassette recorder, the CC9300 priced at $\mathfrak{f 6 7 . 9 7 \text { . With such a }}$ small size the cassette will undoubtedly be widely considered for incorporating with other equipment in one package, providing a very versatile system for domestic sales.

## TAPE RECORDERS

Mention the words tape recorder and Philips are bound to be somewhere nearby. The interesting point about this organisation is diversity. Their products range from good value low price cassette machine that will go in a coat pocket. to professionally engineered studio transcriptors for broadcasting. Their latest is a three-motor, three-speed stereo machine and built-in 10 watt stereo amplifier, with illuminated tip-touch buttons allowing remote control boxes to be used.

The electronics has mixing, monitoring, multiplay and echo facilities, all demanded these days by the progressive musician who records at home or in a studio. This recorder, coded N 4418 , is offered at £189.75 including purchase tax, but if you want quality it is worth paying the price.

Brenell Engineering Co. seem to be on their own in supplying tape transport systems (to the general public) that can be applied to tailor-made self-constructed tape amplifiers. Brenell make a wide variety of decks and complete recorders.

They now produce a rugged tape deck Type 19 for industry that uses a Papst hystresis synchronous motor and two spool motor. Two speeds are available, $3 \frac{3}{4}$ and $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$ per second, and the solenoid


Goldring G101 record deck with G850 pick-up
operated mechanics confirms the principles of older transcription machines, that use these for reliability.

However, for domestic applications, Brenell cater for less expensive tastes without neglecting quality, for example, the Mk 6 Deck at $£ 62.04$ and the Mk 610 at $£ 79.60$ including purchase tax. Bogen heads are available as optional extras for the Type 19, while the Mk 6 and 610 will accept a wide variety of heads at extra cost.

## FOUR CHANNEL DISC

Turning for a moment to four-channel matters, it was a welcome sight to see the new RCA compatible discrete CD-4 disc record which will become available in May. RCA have been working with JVC and National Panasonic to produce this dise specially for four-channel equipment, and at the same sort of price as a top grade two-channel stereo disc. They are also willing to offer their expertise to other disc manufacturers to produce these recordings. Is this the kind of boost that the British want after Japan has already a choice of 65 CD-4 recordings?

## LOW PRICE RECORD DECK

On the two-channel front, Goldring now produce the GL85, which was described in our Audio Fair report, and a newcomer, the GIOI, which is also belt driven and uses a magnetic cartridge-the G850. The aim of this new model is to offer Goldring quality at an economic price. At $£ 24$ plus purchase tax, including plinth and cover, this model is certainly good value.

## PURCHASE TAX

Finally a note concerning prices; those quoted here were correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to press. Where purchase tax is not quoted, a reasonable estimate only would be to add about 17 per cent of the recommended retail prices.

As purchase tax is based on manufacturers" trade prices, it is always wise to confirm the correct figures from them. Recent budget changes in purchase tax rates could in some cases mean "no change" where it is not applicable, or about 25 per cent of trade prices where reductions become effective.

The next date for your diary is October 23 to 28, the Audio Fair in the large Grand Hall, Olympia, London.

 ADDS.... PLUS

## AUTOMATIC SQUARING

Get the answers at your fingertips with the P.E. Digi-Cal, the first digital calculator designed specifically for the amateur constructor.
P.E. Digi-Cal is a high-speed electronic calculator which can add and subtract, multiply and divide-all at the touch of a switch. It can store any constant for repeated use and perform squaring simply by pressing a single key.

Entries of up to six digits may be made, and the answers are given in up to eight digits. Calculations are carried out just as they are written.

Construction employs readily available TTL logic i.c.s in easily accessible plug-in boards. The display consists of eight miniature seven-segment indicators to display keyboard entries and answers.

## alss THE CIIIREOMD

There are times when it is impossible to answer a call at the door. The "Caller: cord" will answer callers and record messages on magnetic tape.

## DIGITAL ELEGTRONIC Dirgan systems

A look at the more up-to-date methods of orgán design

## in the TUIV issue of

## PRACTICAL

ELECTRONICS
ON SALE JUNE 9

## 2-20 minute <br> By R. Verrill ${ }_{\text {B. }}$.

THis simple electronic timer can be used for any operation where it is required to switch on an apparatus for a length of time and then automatically switch off. Alternatively, it can be used to switch on the apparatus automatically after the preset time, and remain on until switched off manually.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The circuit diagram of the timer is shown in Fig. 1. Here, when the mains switch S 2 is turned on, the bridge rectifier (D1-D4) supplies the circuit with about 35 V d.c. smoothed by the capacitor C1. The $250 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor C2 is charged up to this voltage via the resistors R1 and R2. Some of the charging current flows through the base of the pnp transistor TRI so that this remains on for a few seconds after closing S2 until C2 has become charged.

During the time that TRI is on, capacitor C3 is charged up to the line voltage via TR1, R4 and the diode D5. As soon as TRI goes off, the voltage on C3 starts to fall slowly because of the small current being leaked away by TR2. This transistor acts as a constant current source because its base is at a fixed potential and there is resistance in the emitter lead whose value is determined by the position of S1. The value of the emitter current is approximately equal to the emitter voltage divided by the emitter resistance. A fine control over the discharge current is obtained by adjustment of VRI which alters the base voltage of TR2

The Schmitt trigger circuit, comprising TR3, TR4, operates when the voltage on C3 has fallen to about 2 volts. TR3 then starts to turn off and TR4 starts to turn on. Current through the resistor R20 biases the emitter of TR3 positive thus turning TR3 further

## COMPONENTS . . .

```
Resistors
    R1
    R2 10k\Omega2 R19 100k\Omega
    R3 4.7k\Omega R20 6.8k\Omega
    R4 1k \Omega
    R5 390k\Omega
    R6 15k \Omega R23 10k \Omega
    R22 56k \Omega
    R7-R17 5.6k \Omega2(11 off) R24 390\Omega
    All 10%,\frac{1}{2}W}\mathrm{ carbon
Potentiometer
        VR1 22k }\Omega\mathrm{ carbon linear
Transistors
    TR1 ZTX503 (Ferranti)
    TR2-TR5 ZTX107 (Ferranti) (4 off)
Diodes
    D1-D4 ZS170 (Ferranti) (4 off)
    D5-D7 ZS120 (Ferranti) (3 off)
```


## Switches

```
S1 Double-pole, mains toggle switch
S2 Single-pole 11-way wafer switch
Relay
RLA 2-pole 2-way \(26 \mathrm{~V} 700 \Omega\), STC4189 GD (Henry's Radio)
```


## Transformer

```
T1 Mains transformer, secondary 25V 0.5A Douglas MT102AT (Henry's Radio)
```


## Miscellaneous

```
Diecast box \(8 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} \times 5 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in} \times 3 \frac{5}{32} \mathrm{in}\), Veroboard \(3.4 \mathrm{in} \times 5 \frac{1}{2}\) in 0.1 in matrix, \(\mathrm{FS} 1-100 \mathrm{~mA}\) fuse and holder, SK1-six pin plug and socket (Bulgin).
```



Fig. 1. Circuit diagram of process timer


Fig. 2. Component mounting and wiring details of Veroboard sub-assembly

off. Regenerative feedback occurs so that TR3 is turned completely off and TR4 is turned on supplying current through R22 to the base of TR5 which operates the relay. The appropriate relay contacts are used to turn on or off the external apparatus as required.

## CALCULATING THE PERIOD

The actual length of the timed period can be calculated as follows. The time taken for the voltage on a capacitor of $C$ farads to fall by a voltage $V$ volts when a constant current of I amperes is drawn from the capacitor is CV/I seconds.
The voltage at the base of TR2 is

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 35(\mathrm{VR} 1+\mathrm{R} 6) \\
& \mathrm{VR} 1+\mathrm{R} 5+\mathrm{R} 6
\end{aligned}
$$

which works out at about 2.2 V with VRI wiper in the mid-position. Since the case/emitter drop is 0.7 V the voltage at TR2 emitter is $(2 \cdot 2-0.7)$ which is 1.5 V . If S 2 is set for maximum resistance $(61.6 \mathrm{k}$ !? ) the emitter current

$$
I_{e}=\frac{1.5}{61.6 \times 10^{3}}=24 \mu \mathrm{~A}
$$

In the expression CV/I we can now substitute:-
$\mathrm{C}=500{ }_{4}^{4} \mathrm{~F}$
$\mathrm{V}=33$ volts the voltage dropped from 35 V to 2V)
$\mathrm{I}=27, \mathrm{M}$
Therefore

$$
\text { period }(\mathrm{CV} / \mathrm{I})=\frac{33 \times 500 \times 10^{-6}}{24 \times 10^{-6}}=690 \mathrm{~s}
$$

If VR1 had been set to zero resistance, the period would work out as 25 minutes, 40 seconds.

## CHOICE OF CAPACITOR

Some readers may be of the opinion that the use of electrolytic capacitors in timing circuits should be avoided. This is true in some circuits especially where very accurately timed periods are required. The objection to using electrolytics arises mainly from their high internal leakage currents. For example, the type of capacitor used in this timer has a leakage of up to 1 mA when used at its maximum working voltage of 64 V . Since the discharge current in the circuit can be as low as $10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ we would require the leakage current to be less than $1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ and to change by less than $0 \cdot 1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ to give any degree of stability to the timed period. In practice the degree of stability obtained is at least as good as this when a capacitor of the type specified is used.

## LOW LEAKAGE

When a voltage is supplied to an electrolytic capacitor, besides the current required to give the capacitive charge, a forming current flows through the electrolyte until an insulating layer is formed of sufficient strength to withstand the voltage. If the voltage is then reduced, the insulating layer is more than sufficient to withstand the voltage now present so the forming current is no longer required and the leakage current is extremely small.
In the timer circuit, after the initial charge, the voltage on the capacitor is reduced at a constant rate, so the above conditions for low leakage are ideally satisfied.

## CONSTRUCTION

All of the small circuit components are mounted on a $5 \frac{1}{2}$ in $\times 3 \frac{1}{2}$ in $0 \cdot 1$ in matrix Veroboard as in Fig. 2. Since, with this type of circuit, layout is not particularly critical, other forms of assembly can be made.

In Fig. 3 the timer is shown completely assembled. When wiring up SKI to the relay use different coloured sleeving, so that the switches of the relay can be identified.

## SETTING UP

Before any setting up is done the circuit wiring should be thoroughly checked. If this checks out with Fig. 3 set the "Coarse" switch to position "1" and the "Fine" control (VR1) to a minimum. Switch on and you should find the relay changes over after a period of about two minutes.

Exact time multiples can be set up on S1 if VR1 is set for a 130 second delay. This has the effect of multiplying each of the "Coarse" range switch positions by a factor of 2 . This means that position " 1 " will produce a delay of two minutes. position "2" four minutes and so on, up to 20 minutes at position " 10 ". The error on each range will be about 10 seconds which is the time taken for C2 to be charged initially.

Repeated checks of timing periods produced an error of 10 seconds on the 20 minute range and proportionately less for shorter times.

## RELAY CONTACT RATING

The relay specified has a contact rating of 2A but the actual load can be doubled if the switch contact pairs are used in parallel.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

continued from page 463
Finally, a domestic note which is not entirely out of place here. A magazine such as Praciical ElecTronics finds itself in a unique position in that while catering for the interests of private individuals it becomes to some extent a bridge between the educational establishments and the industry. This is because we are in regular contact with both sides and receive contributions from members of both the teaching and the engineering professions. We do not claim to be an educational journal in the formal sense, and are flattered and delighted that so many of the teaching profession do turn to Practical Electronics for instruction in applied modern electronics. We feel confident that they will be able to rely on this service equally in the future.

As to some recent critical comment aired in these pages, we wonder what teacher would like to be judged and outrightly condemned simply on one single lecture, delivered when Sir was perhaps somewhat under par?
F.E.B.

# PNTENTE <br> REDCIM <br> $\square \square \square$ 

## THUNDERSTORM WARNNG

BY a quaint coincidence the waterproofing patent mentioned last month was published only one week later than British Patent 1248300 from Nitro Nobel $A B$ of Sweden. The Nobel specification is concerned with a thunderstorm warning system.
Not surprisingly Nitro Nobel are concerned mostly with predicting thunderstorms for the benefit of those working with explosives, but the invention will probably find much wider interest.

It is customary in thunderstorm warning systems to detect both the quasistatic electric field, which occurs between the electric charge of a thundercloud and earth, and the pulses of longwave electromagnetic radiations that are transmitted from lightning discharges. The signals are usually detected in two threshold steps; alert and alarm, which can be audible and/ or visual warning.

The radiation pulses are detected by an aerial wire, often of considerable length and the obvious problem is that this aerial is likely to be struck by lightning. Another problem is that the device may mistake local machine spark discharges for lightning flashes.
The Nobel invention relies on an electronic logic system which ensures that the alarm is triggered by radio frequency radiation pulses only if these pulses are repeated within a predetermined time interval, or combined with simultaneous pulses in another (for example, spectral) range. The alarm can be triggered by a quasistatic electric field of above a threshold intensity. The alarm will also be triggered if the electric field alone rises to a predetermined high level.

Nobel suggest a field detector formed from a capacitor and a rotatable diaphragm positioned in front of the capacitor and operating in accordance with the so-called field mill principle. The detector can be of relatively small size and the diaphragm actually housed inside an antenna for longwave radio pulses. It is claimed that this arrangement is unlikely to attract a lightning strike.

In Fig. 1 Nobel show how a detector system is connected to a logic unit by shielded cable. The detector system is earthed and
includes the two component detectors for electric field and electromagnetic radiation emission. The former provides a signal proportional to the intensity of the quasistatic electric field, for example, a sinusoidal voltage of 200 Hz . This signal is fed to two amplitude discriminators 1 and 2 having different threshold values. Discriminator 1 output is connected to the electric field warning circuit so as to activate it all the time that the quasielectric field is higher than a selected base threshold. This discriminator also feeds one input of an OR circuit.
is set by the trailing edge of the output of the first monostable.

An output signal from the second monostable is connected to the electric field warning circuit and to the second input of the OR circuit. The output of the OR circuit is connected to the second input of the AND circuit. The output from the latter AND circuit triggers the r.f. alarm, so that it is sounded if a signal pulse is transmitted from discriminator 3 during the time period in which D1 discriminator is producing a signal, and aiso if two consecutive signal pulses from discriminator 3 occur

BP 1248300
Fig. 1


An output signal from discriminator 2 triggers the alarm circuit which holds "on" when activated.

When a lightning strike occurs, the r.f. radiation detector sends pulses to discriminator 3 which has a discriminating level corresponding to a normal flash of lightning at a distance of 10 to 15 kilometres. A radiation pulse exceeding this provides a signal pulse from discriminator 3 which is connected to the first input of an AND circuit, and to a timing circuit composed of two monostable multivibrators in series. One monostable is set by the pulse from discriminator 3 and the other
within a predetermined time interval. This distinguishes between one single pulse and a pulse train.

Pulses having a large spacing in time, in all probability, do not emanate from a thunderstorm. The actual time period gating must be suited to the geographical location in which the device is to be used.

The system described in this patent may be supplemented by other detectors. Supplementary optical detectors, discriminators, and AND gates can be linked into the system at A, B, C and D. More details are given in the patent specification.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| c | 1/20W | 5\% | 8.230 K | EH2 | 9 | 8 |  |
| C | 1/8W | 5\% | 4.7-470k | E24 | 1 | 0.8 |  |
| c | 1/4W | $10 \%$ | 4.-109 | E12 | 1 | 0.8 | 0 |
| c | 1/2w | $5 \%$ | 4.7-10M | E 14 | $1 \cdots$ | 1 | 0 |
|  | 1W | 5\% | 4.7-109 | Fill ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | 1 |
| MO | 1/2w | 2\% | 10-1M | F24 | 4 | 35 | 3 |
| WW | 1W | $\begin{aligned} & 10^{\circ} \\ & \pm 1 / 20 \Omega \end{aligned}$ | 0-29-3.9 | E! | T | 7 | 6 |
| WW | 3W | 3\% | 12-10k | E12 | i |  |  |
| WW | TW | 50 | 12-10K | E1: | 9 | 9 | * |
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A selection of readers' suggested circuits. It should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought.
This is YOUR page and any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

## RADIO ALARM

HAVINg constructed the Digital Clock described in the December 1970 issue, 1 required an additional circuit to enable a transistor radio to be switched on at the same time as the alarm.

A thyristor was tried initially, but the holding current was greater than that drawn by the radio. so that after the ten-minute period that the akarm circuit inpu! is active (i.e. pin 3, 1C18 is high), the circuit would turn off (assuming the alarm had been turned off).

The circuit eventually devised is based on an emitter-coupled bistable and is given in Fig. 1.

With the alarm inactive. TR4 is on and TR5 is off. The voltage at the collector of TR4 is just above zero, and hence insufficient to cause the Darlington pair TR1, TR2 to switch on. When the alarm circuit is active, pin 3 of IC 18 goes high (point B on the diagram) and TR3 is switched on, grounding the base of TR4. The bistable switches states (TR4 off and TR5 on) and the voltage at TR4 collector rises and the Darlington pair switch on (TRl hard on).

So far as the radio is concerned, the circuit (Fig. 1) may be considered as a switch and should be connected into one of the battery leads. However, since transistors are used, the "switch" is voltage sensitive, and point "A" must be positive with respect to the circuit earth rail (the other pole of the switch), see Fig. 2a. Alternatively, the circuit may be inserted into the negative lead, if more convenient, but again, care must be taken to ensure that point " $A$ " remains positive, Fig. 2 b .

With a 5 V battery in the radio, the leakage current through the circuit when "off" is less than $10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. It should be noted, however, that there is 0.6 V dropped across the power transistor so a slight drop in radio volume will be noted.

This circuit may only be used with a battery powered radio and under no circumstances should a mains operated radio be used.

To retain the portability of a battery operated radio a jack plug socket mounted in the case of the radio and wire as shown in Fig. 3 can be used. The socket should be the type used for an earphone accessory.
> R. C. Stone, Hampton,

> Middx.


Fig. 1. Circuit of the radio time switch Earth rail


Figs. 2. Method of connecting different polarity radios to the clock, for point $A$ positive (left); point $A$ negative (right)


Jack socket


Fig. 3. Wiring of the break jack and plug

## PHOTOMETER FOR ECOLOGICAL STUDIES

THE details in Fig. 1, show a simple photometer which was built in order to investigate variations in light intensity beneath various types of vegetation. It is simple to construct and use, and robust enough for field study work.

The basic element of the instrument is two photovoltaic Selenium cells. They consist of circular plates about 6 cm in diameter and 2 mm in thickness. They are capable of giving a considerable deflection on a milliameter when under full daylight illumination.

The cells are set in a piece of plywood, which has one surface chiselled out to hold them firmly. Below the cells a similarly shaped piece of aluminium foil is inserted so as to give a good electrical contact in the circuit.

A thicker though smaller sheet of foil is applied to the upper surface of the photosensitive plates, big enough to make electrical contact but not covering any appreciable part of the photo-electric surface. It is important that the two sheets of foil do not make contact with each other. To prevent this happening, a small piece of plastics is inserted between them. The entire assembly is then sandwiched by a plate of Perspex, with terminals to the upper and lower aluminium sheets.

Using a standard light source the instrument could be calibrated absolutely. Without such a source, however, a relative calibration is still possible, i.e. the non-linear response of the cell can be determined.


Fig. 1. Constructional details of a simple photometer


Fig. 2. Calibration graph for the photometer

Two methods were tried. The first utilised the inverse square law (placing the cell at different distances from a light source). In practice, this did not prove very successful, and instead the following method was devised.

A set of apertures and gratings were constructed out of black paper, transmitting $75 \%, 66.6 \%, 50 \%$, of the total light. These apertures were fixed, in turn, with adhesive to the Perspex cover. Starting with the full cell area, a light source is moved to a position which gave a realistic reading on the milliameter. Then, without changing this distance, one of the apertures or gratings is placed over the Perspex cover and the current recorded.

Recalibration, with the apertures moved slightly so as to cover different parts of the cell surface, will give more accurate results. These are in Fig. 2.

Using the latter, relative transmissions of the different types of foliage can be determined. For example, the following results were obtained on an overcast October day (instrument held horizontally for all readings).

Open sky reading
0.96

Under foliage
0.98
0.44
0.42

Taking the 1.06 calibration curve, a 0.96 meter reading is equivalent to 88 per cent transmission, and 0.44 reading to 27 per cent transmission.

We therefore, obtain a relative transmission of :
$27 / 88 \times 100=30.7$ per cent.
Similarly, the second pair of results give about 27.5 per cent relative transmission.
E. D. Dale,

Worsley, Lancs.

## POINITS Qintinn

## SEMICONDUCTOR LEADOUT IDENTICHART May

The outline diagram for the 2N3702 to 2N3711 types should be diagram number 59a not 35 a . On diagram 22a, reverse the $b$ and $e$ connections.

TAPE SPEED CONTROL (Ingenuity Unlimited April 1972)

Page 299. Fig. 3. Transistors TR7 and TR8 should be OC81 and OC35 types respectively.
P.E. SCORPIO IGNITION SYSTEM (November and December 1971)
Some constructors have had difficulty with using certain makes of 2N3055 in the "Scorpio" ignition system. What happens is that the circuit oscillates normally (at about 2 kHz ) until the output of the inverter is shorted, when the inverter goes into a high frequency mode at around 200 kHz and remains in this mode when the short is removed.

This arises because 2 N 3055 transistors are made by a very large number of manufacturers and there are large variations in characteristics such as $f_{t}$ between different makes. Only minimum or average values are normally quoted on the data sheet.

This trouble does not occur with the specified Ferranti 2 N 3055 , or with RCA devices. It has occurred with Fairchild 2N3055's and may also occur with Motorola devices due to their high $f_{\mathrm{t}}$.


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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { PAIMAnY } 200-250 \text { VOLTS } 12 \text { AND/OR } 24 \text { VOLT RANGI } \\
& \text { Ref. Amps. Weight Size } \mathrm{cm} \text {. Secondary Windings if } \\
& \text { No. } 12 \mathrm{~V} 24 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{ib} \text { oz }
\end{aligned}
$$

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\text { No. } 12 \mathrm{~V} & 24 \mathrm{~V} & \text { ib } & \text { oz } \\
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\end{array}
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\begin{array}{llllllll}
\text { No. } 12 \mathrm{~V} 24 \mathrm{~V} \text { ib } & \text { oz } & 7.6 & 5.7 & 44 & 0.12 \mathrm{~V} \text { at } 0.25 \mathrm{~A} \times 2 \\
111 & 0.5 & 0.25 & 12 & 7.6 & 5 . & 5.1 & 0.12 \mathrm{~V} \text { at } 05 \mathrm{~A} \times 2 \\
213 & 10 & 05 & 1 & 0 & 8.3 & 5.1 & 5 \\
71 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 70 & 64 & 57 & 0.12 \mathrm{~V} \text { at } 1 \mathrm{~A} \times 2
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8636
2.2442 $\begin{array}{rr}8.3 & 7 \\ 0.2 & 7\end{array}$ 0.85

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6 & 3 & 3 & 12 & \\
8 & 4 & 5 & 4 & \\
10 & 5 & 6 & 3 & 1 \\
20 & 10 & 7 & 8 & 13
\end{array}
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\text { Size } \mathrm{cm} . & & 30 \text { VOLT RANGE } \\
\text { Secondary Tops }
\end{array}
$$

size cm.
60 VOLT RANGE Secondary Tops

| Ref. | Amps. | Weight | Size cm. | Secondary Tops |  | P |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. |  | 16 oz |  |  |  |  |
| 124 | 0.5 | 24 | $8.3 \times 9.5 \times 6.7$ | 0-24-30 | -48-60V | 1.35 |
| 126 | 1.0 | 30 | $8.9 \times 7.6 \times 7.6$ |  |  | 1.88 |
| 127 | 2.0 | 56 | $10.2 \times 8.9 \times 8.6$ | , | ., | 2.94 |
| 125 | 3.0 | 8 8 | $11.9 \times 9.5 \times 100$ | . | " | 4.48 |
| 123 | 4.0 | 106 | $11.4 \times 9.5 \times 11.4$ |  | - | $5 \cdot 78$ |
| 120 | 6.0 | 1612 | $13.3 \times 12.1 \times 12.1$ |  |  | 8.37 |
| 122 | 10.0 | 232 | $16.5 \times 12.7 \times 16.5$ |  |  | 13.85 |

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LEAD ACID BATTERY CHARGER TYPES
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\hline 45 & 1.5 & 19 & \(7.0 \times 6.0 \times 6.0\) & & 1.3430 \\
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\hline 86 & 6.0 & 512 & 10.2>8.9>8.3 & units do not in- & \(3.07 \quad 52\) \\
\hline 146 & 8.0 & 64 & \(8.9 \times 102 \times 10.2\) & clude rectifiers & 3.4952 \\
\hline 50 & 12.5 & 1114 & \(13.3 \times 10.8 \times 12.1\) & & 5.2067 \\
\hline
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13.3 \times 10.8 \times 12
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BCI07/108/10990p each 2 N 305568 p each AD 161/162 60p pair \begin{tabular}{ll|l}
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\end{tabular}\(\left|\begin{array}{c}\text { 7mica and bushes } \\
25+55 p\end{array}\right| \begin{gathered}\text { mica and bushes } \\
25+5\end{gathered}\) \(100+6.5 \mathrm{p}\)
\(500+6 p\)
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\(25+55 p\) & \(25+55 p\) \\
\(100+45 p\) & \(100+50 p\)
\end{tabular}
\(100+50 p\)
```

\&22
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71 & 2 \\
18 & 4 \\
70 & 6 \\
108 & 8 \\
72 & 10 \\
17 & 16 \\
115 & 20 \\
187 & 30 \\
226 & 60
\end{array}
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\end{tabular}2.9452\(\begin{array}{ll}3.66 & 52 \\ 4.36 & 52\end{array}\)\(\begin{array}{ll}5.64 & 67 \\ 7.14 & 67\end{array}\)
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\(\begin{array}{ll}8.37 & 82 \\ 3.85\end{array}\)

\section*{\(p\)
36
36 \\ \(p\)
36
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\section*{PLUGS AND SOCKETS}

To help rationalize the profusion of plug and socket connecting configurations in the continental Din range, Parry Electronic Developments have introduced a PD Din connector that can be easily assembled in either 2-pin, 3-pin or 5 -pin stereo configurations.

These connectors do not require soldering but use small terminal tags which are crimped, at one end, to the required wire and then have a pin inserted in a sprung triangular section at the other end. The pins are placed in any required arrangement on a centre bush, placed in one half of the outer casing and then the two halves are snapped together to form the complete connector.

Details of other connectors in the series and addresses of nearest stockists can be obtained from Parry Electronic Developments Lid., 28 Greville Street, London ECI.|
A miniature 2-pin plug and socket, useful for extension leads. is now being marketed by Senate Engineering.

A feature of the plug and socket


Conqueror Iron and Stand from Light Soldering Developments
is that it is rated at 25 A and has a claimed contact resistance of less than 1.4 milliohms. Again, leads are connected without the use of solder or screws.

Typical applications could be for automobile, caravan and boat electrics and emergency supplies. There are also many low current low voltage applications, such as control circuits and loudspeaker extensions where advantage can be taken of the low contact resistance.

The recommended retail price is \(25 p\) and further information is available from Senate Engineering Ltd.. 77 Cotes Road. Barrow-inSoar, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

\section*{SOLDERING IRON AND STAND}

Available as a set or individual items Light Soldering Developments recently announced a new soldering iron and stand.

Called the Conqueror, the iron is available with five different slipon tip sizes from \(\frac{1}{1}\) in to \(\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}\). Ideal for transistor and i.c. work the iron is available for operating voltages of \(12,24,115,220\) and 240 V .

A feature of the stand is the arrangement for mounting four spare bits on the base. The iron stand base is made from heatproof Bakelite and contains a wiping sponge for keeping iron tips clean.

The spring guard is claimed to give complete protection from burns and prevent damage to the iron if knocked. A flared steel ferrule at the narrow end of the spring gives easy location of the iron.

The price of the Conqueror is E1.80 with standard copper bits, or \(£ 2.03\) with a long-life bit. The cost of the stand is \(£ 1.48\). Further details and stockists can be obtained from Light Soldering Developments. 28 Sydenham Road, Croydon CR9 2LL.

\section*{SOUND SYSTEMS}

For people who prefer to purchase and choose their own turntable. cartridges, speakers, and design enclosures we can recommend the System 12 from Bi-Kits.

The kit consists of a pre-wired pre-amplifier, two integrated circuit power amplifiers, power supply

\section*{MARHET PLALE}
lems mencioned in this feature are usually available from electronic equipment and component retailers advertising in this magazine. However, where a full address is given, enquiries and orders should then be made direct to the firm concerned.


Miniature 25A Plug and Socket made by Senate Engineering
module and two 8 in diameter twin cone speakers. The kit also contains all the necessary connecting wire, silver anodised front panel and control knobs.

The power amplifier modules use an SGS integrated circuit which they claim gives an output of 6 watts r.m.s. per channel. The frequency response of the system is claimed to be 20 Hz to 50 kHz .
Kits are available, price \(£ 13.95\) plus 35 p postage and packing. from Bi-Kits, 63a High Street, Ware, Herts.

The System 12 can be heard at the new Bi-Pak's Components Supermarket at 18 Baldock Street. Ware, Herts.
A new stereo system is now available from Servicon Dynamics Ltd. The amplifier moves away from conventional amplifier techniques and incorporates integrated operational amplifiers as the pre-amplifier tone control and driver stages. The output stages, which are transformerless and d.c. coupled, use complementary silicon transistors connected in a common emitter mode.

Total distortion is claimed to be 0.09 per cent at 15 W per channel at


1 kHz and the cross talk -60 dB at 1 kHz with tone control flat and 15 watts/zero watts per channel loading.
The amplifier is mounted in a teak finish cabinet with a Perspex/ teak lid which can be kept in place with records playing. The deck is the latest Garrard SP25 Mk. III with a ceramic cartridge KS41C-CDS as standard; a magnetic cartridge can be supplied as an extra.
The output is 30 watts r.m.s. per channel into 7.5 ohms with a frequency response of 30 Hz to 29 kHz ( \(\pm \mathrm{dB}\) ).
The system is sold as a package with two teak finish speaker cabinets each containing an sin l.f. speaker and 4 in tweeter with crossover capacitor. Power output 15 watts r.m.s. at 15 ohms per channel. Frequency 30 Hz to 20 kHz . A 50 watt system can be supplied as an alternative.
The system is offered at \(£ 89.00\) for the 30 watt system; the amplifier and deck complete. without spakers, is \(£ 70.35\). Further details available from Servicon Dynamics Ltd., 186/190 Cirencester Road. Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Glos.

\title{
report from AUSTRALIA
}

\author{
BY J.M.WALDIE
}

In this new series of "Reports from down-under", the aim will be to cover three broad aspects of Australian electronics: home construction, industrial development, and the local hi-fi scene. It is felt that readers of P.E. intending to migrate to this side of the world would naturally be interested to know if their hobby is perpetuated here, and what form it takes; at the same time it is possible to make useful comparisons between here and the U.K. On the industrial front, items will be selected of interest to both hemispheres, since P.E. enjoys a relatively large readership in Australia.

\section*{MAGAZINES}

Considering the population here, which may be considered to consist of approximately one and a half times that of Greater London spread over an area the size of America, and also in view of the fact that it is essentially an "outdoor" society, the interest in electronics as a hobby is remarkably widespread. Naturally this is concentrated in the five major cities of Australia, and particularly in Sydney and Melbourne.
This industry is served by two local magazines; all the English magazines, of which P.E. is the most popular, are also available at most newsagents.
Both local magazines, however, do not restrict themselves to home constructional projects. They both examine, in some detail, new commercial products in the hi-fi field and both conduct record reviews.

\section*{HOME CONSTRUCTION}

A major difference is the fact that published projects are designed in the magazines' own laboratories. As a consequence, commercial units built here are frequently based on designs available to the public which contrasts sharply with the situation in the U.K. and in America where d.i.y. hi-fi projects appear to follow industrial trends. This rather unusual situation offers two important advantages to the home constructor. Firstly, he can build units equal in performance to some local commercial systems and, secondly, the designs presented follow in logical
sequence in terms of facilities and improved performance.

What service is offered to the constructor in terms of components, tools and so on? Visitors and migrants should not expect Australian equivalents to the Edgware and Tottenham Court Roads, although small pockets of suppliers do exist. A glance through the local magazines indicate that Sydney possesses twelve kit/component shops; Melbourne has half that number. Only two or three of these advertise themselves as being strictly mail-order. Constructors should note, however, that, unlike the U.K., the great majority of importers and manufacturers will sell direct to individuals. The writer has not bought components in four years from a kit-shop, but rather from "trade-sales" counters in wholesale outlets.

\section*{PROJECTS}

Readers and intending visitors should not delude themselves into thinking that Australia is simply a place where kangaroos leap down the main streets, and where the bathwater goes down in the opposite direction. Industrially and technically it is well advanced; although f.m. radio and colour television are not yet with us, plans are well advanced for their introduction. The sophistication is amply reflected in the standard and selection of home construction projects. There exists a greater penetration of components of American origin than in the U.K., which has lead to a relatively early introduction of such devices as fieldeffect transistors, triacs and i.c.s into d.i.y. projects; circuits based on triacs, for example, appeared in 1968.

The projects themselves are basically similar to those in P.E. with possibly a greater emphasis on "outdoor" systems such as water-level alarms for home pools and protective and ancilliary circuits for cars. Mercifully, an all-electronic barbeque has yet to emerge. It seems, too, that there does not appear to be much interest in sophisticated toys and war-games.
This summarises the situation here regarding d.i.y. electronics in

Australia and those contemplating a temporary or permanent move need not have any fears regarding the ability to continue their hobby.

\section*{COMPUTERISED BETTING SHOPS}

One interesting excursion of electronics into traditional areas has been the introduction in Sydney of computerised betting shops. These, in all states, are Government run; they are known as the TAB (Totaliser Agency Board), and provided \(£ 1\) million profit last year in N.S.W. Bets can be placed not only on horse and greyhound racing, but also on trotting, a form of equine harassment not known in the U.K. The volume of punting is such that an expected 10,000 bets per minute will be placed by 1978 .

It was decided to use an IBM 360/44 computer to handle this volume and was installed some 12 months ago. It is supported by AWA (Amalgamated Nireless Australia) branch selling terminals, STC branch printers and PMG telex in country areas. Cut-over of telephone betting from manual to computer has now been completed; the system of transmitting full collation figures to headquarters from the branches is more than half-way complete and 15 of the 380 existing branches converted to machine vending. These are now being converted at the rate of four per week.

\section*{UP TO THE "OFF"}

The computer checks the validity of each bet, runners and "scratchings" until the "off', the credit standing of the telephone punter and the validity of a winning claim and the amount. The timing is such that a bet placed two seconds after the race is due to close will be rejected.
Tradition dies hard. The cold impersonality of the new system, according to veteran punters, is no substitute for the excitement which occurred in 1964, for example, when crowds queueing outside two TAB branches had to be controlled by police because the windows had closed before all the punters had laid their wagers.

HENRY'S LOW FOR COST FIRST GRADE BRANO BRANDED GERMANIUM ANA SILICON TRANSISTORS, DIODES, RECTIFIERS. BY ATES EMIHUS FAIRCHILD FERRANTI • I.T.T. MULLARD • NEWMARKET PHILIPS - R.C.A. TEXAS

\section*{TRANSISTORS}

A SELECTION FAOM OUR LIST


\section*{HENRY'S sow minegated qrauts}

BRAND NEW FULL SPECIFICATION TTLT4 SERIES BRANDED FAIRCHILD, I.T.T. AND TEXAS
DEVICES MAY.BE MIXED TO QUALIFY FOR QUANTITY PRICIN
100
7400
000 Qumiruple 2-Input NAND gate
7401 Quad 2.input open coliector NAND gaten
7408 Quad 2 2.nput NOR qates
7408 Quan 2 -input open collector NAND gaten
Qund 2-input open
105 Hex Invertera with oppen co
10
Dual 4 -input Bchmitt triggera
Dual i- Inpup NAND gater
\(\begin{array}{ll}7490 & \text { 8ingle } 8 \cdot \text { input NAND gater } \\ 7440 \\ \text { Dual } 4 \text {-input NAND buffer gat }\end{array}\)
\({ }_{741}\) Bu D Decimal decoler/Nixle driv
7442 BCD-Decirnal decixler ( \(4-10\)-line) TTL O/P
7443 Exceen 3-Decimal decoder TTL outputs
HCD-Declinal 7 seg. decoder/indicator driver
RCD-Decinual 7 eng, deeocler/driver TTL O/P

4-wide 2-Input AND-OR-INVERT gatea
Dual 4 - in put expanders
Single J.K aip fiop (gatel) inputa)
Eingle J-K fip-riop (gatel)
Dual J.K Rip hop
Dual D Aip hop
7774 Dual D fip nop
7476 Quairuple blistable lat
776 Qumiduple bistable latch
7476 Duat J-K hip flops
7480 (isted Full Ardider
\(\begin{array}{ll}7481 & 16 \text {-bit Fral /write memo } \\ 7482 & \text { 2-blt Dinary Full Adder }\end{array}\)
\(\begin{array}{cc}7882 & \text { 2.bIt Dinary Full Adder } \\ \text { 7488 } \\ \text { 4-blt binary Full Adtier }\end{array}\)
7884 i6.bit RAN with gaterl write inpute
7458 Quastruple 2 -Input Exclunise OR gaten
7490 BCD decale counter
7491 R.ble ohift realiter
7492 Divide twelve count
7403 i.bit binary counter
7404 Dual entry 4 -bit ahift reain
7495 4-blt up-diown shift resixter
7496 5-bit parallel/inerial in/out ahift reginter
74100
7418 -bit bimiable lateh
4181 Mextuple Bet. Renet lathen
74141 BCD -Decimal decoder/Nixie dris
74145 BCD-Decimal decoder (1-4-ltne) TTLO/P
74150 16.bit dats melector/multiplexer
761518 8.bit dsta nelector/multiplexer

74154
74165 -hit decoder/denult 1 plexer
Dual 2 -line to 4 -Ine Ieconter/demultiplexer
74158 Dual 2 -line to 4 -line decoler/diemultiple xer
7100
7101 gynac decale up-down counter. 4 -bit up-down counter. 1 -lne mode
74191 sync d.bit up-down counter. 1-1ine mode
74192 gyac decale up-down counter, 2 -line mole
74198 Bync 4-bit up-10wn counter, 2 -line mode
74106 Asyncbronous premettabie decenle counter
74197 Asynchronous premettable 4-bit binary couiter \(\$ 1.50\)
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 1-11 & 12-24 & W-90 & \(100+\) & \(450+\) \\
\hline 80 & 18 & 149 & 14) & 15 \\
\hline 300 & \({ }^{18}\) & 189 & 14 & 12\% \\
\hline \({ }^{200}\) & 18 & 18 & 149 & 187 \\
\hline 00 & 18p & 16 & 14p & 189 \\
\hline 20 & 189 & 189 & 149 & 185 \\
\hline *) & 18; & \({ }^{16}\) & 14 & 183 \\
\hline 20 p & \(18 p\) & 185 & 14. & 120 \\
\hline \({ }^{205}\) & 27p & 25\% & 23) & 80 \\
\hline \({ }^{200}\) & 18\% & 16p & 14. & 120 \\
\hline 00 & 18\% & 168 & 149 & 137 \\
\hline 80 & \(18 p\) & 16p & 14. & 12p \\
\hline 76) & 7t & 70 & 60, & \({ }_{50}\) \\
\hline \({ }^{763}\) & \(7{ }^{78}\) & 70 & cop & \(4{ }^{4}\) \\
\hline 11.00 & \(0_{0}\) & 00 & 80 & 209 \\
\hline \({ }^{11.75}\) & \({ }^{12}\)-60 & ¢1.45 & 11.30 & ¢1.15 \\
\hline £1.75 & 81.60 & ¢1.45 & 21.30 & ¢1.15 \\
\hline 203 & 18p & \({ }^{180}\) & 14 p & 18P \\
\hline 200 & 18p & 160 & 14) & 18 \\
\hline 8007 & 18p & 18p & 14p & 123 \\
\hline \({ }^{207}\) & 18 D & 160 & 14 & 120 \\
\hline \({ }^{800}\) & 189 & \({ }^{168}\) & 14) & 180 \\
\hline \({ }^{200}\) & 73 & 25p & 220 & 809 \\
\hline \({ }^{20 p}\) & 27p & 250 & 22p & 200 \\
\hline 405 & 87 & \({ }^{85}\) p & 38 & 20p \\
\hline 403 & 878 & 850 & 338 & 80 \\
\hline 45 p & 42 p & 40 p & \({ }^{38}\) & \({ }^{350}\) \\
\hline 40 D & 37p & 34 p & \({ }^{31 p}\) & \({ }^{28} \mathrm{p}\) \\
\hline 80 p & 75p & 87 p & \({ }^{59} \mathrm{p}\) & 55, \\
\hline 21.25 & £1.15 & 21.10 & 11.00 & \({ }^{90}\) \\
\hline 87 p & 80 p & 70p & \({ }^{65 p}\) & 60p \\
\hline ¢1.00 & 90p & 85D & 80p & 73p \\
\hline 90 p & 85p & 80p & 75p & 71p \\
\hline 45D & 41 p & 38D & 35 & \({ }^{33 \mathrm{p}}\) \\
\hline 769 & 70p & 85 & sop & \({ }^{869}\) \\
\hline 1.00 & 0\% & 900 & 80 p & 70p \\
\hline 75 & 70 & 6sp & sop & 86 p \\
\hline 75p & 70p & \({ }^{65}\) & 00 & 56 \\
\hline \({ }^{80}\) & \({ }^{75}\) & 700 & \({ }^{650}\) & \({ }^{60 p}\) \\
\hline 0 & 75 & 700 & \({ }^{65}\) & 03 \\
\hline £1.00 & 87 D & 95p & 90 p & 83 p \\
\hline £2.50 & 22.30 & £2.00 & £1.75 & £1.50 \\
\hline 11.00 & 95p & \({ }^{80} \mathrm{p}\) & 80 p & 70 p \\
\hline 80 p & 55 & 50p & 46 p & 41 D \\
\hline 1.00 & \({ }^{6}\) & \(00^{0}\) & 800 & \({ }^{70 \%}\) \\
\hline 1.60 & 11.40 & 11.20 & 11.10 & 81.00 \\
\hline £3.35 & £3.20 & ¢2.95 & ¢2. 15 & £2.05 \\
\hline £1.10 & 85 p & 90 p & 80 p & 70 p \\
\hline 21.35 & 81.27 & 12.20 & £1.15 & ¢1.10 \\
\hline ¢2.00 & ¢1.75 & £1.55 & £1.30 & £1.05 \\
\hline £1.55 & ¢1.47 & £1.35 & £1.10 & ¢1.05 \\
\hline c1. 55 & ¢1.47 & ¢1.35 & £1.10 & £1.05 \\
\hline ع1.95 & £1.85 & ¢1.75 & ع1.60 & £1.50 \\
\hline ¢1.85 & ¢1.85 & ¢1.75 & £1.60 & \(\underline{81.50}\) \\
\hline £2.00 & ¢1.90 & 11.80 & £1.65 & \(\underline{1.55}\) \\
\hline 22.00 & \&1. 90 & 21.80 & \$1.60 & \(\underline{51.40}\) \\
\hline 11.50 & \begin{tabular}{l}
11.40 \\
\hline 10
\end{tabular} & 11.20 & \({ }_{\$ 1} 10\) & 81.00 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\(850+\)

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FROM STOCK
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\(25+17 p\)
\(100+15 p\)
\(500+12 p\)


\section*{INTEGRATE
CIRCUITS}
\begin{tabular}{l} 
CIRC \\
MFC4000 \\
\(M\) FCs \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
MPC 4
\(\mathrm{ICl2}\)
\(\mathrm{PA} \mathrm{P}^{2}\)
PA:4A
TAD 100
TAD1010
MC724P
\(\mathrm{MC724P}\)
702 C (TOS
702 C
\(70 \mathrm{CO}(T O S)\)
709 C (TOS)
70 M (I).I.L
\(723 \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{TOS})\)
\(741 \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{TO})\)
MC1303P
\(\mathrm{MCl304P}\)
8L403D
\(741 \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{DLL})\)
\(914(\mathrm{TOF})\)
\(\mathrm{g}: 3 \mathrm{TOS})\)
943TOD
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\begin{tabular}{ll} 
Preamp & \(\$ 1.50\) \\
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\end{tabular}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{9}{*}{\begin{tabular}{l}
PLEARET ITTEGRATED CIRCUIT \& Watt Anplitior 8L408D \\
61.50
\end{tabular}}} \\
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\section*{TRIACS
stod with woovertiot
P.I. Current 1.1}

\(\begin{array}{llll}\text { gC35 B } & 200 & 3 \mathrm{ampe} & 36 \\ \text { SC35D } & 400 & 3 \mathrm{ampa} & 20\end{array}\)
ECi40A 100 amps
BC40B 200 A ampe 81.06 \(\begin{array}{llll}\text { BC40B } & 200 & \text { R ampa } & 1.06 \\ \text { BC40D } & 400 & 6 \text { aropa } & 51.00\end{array}\) \(\begin{array}{llll}\text { BCes A } & 100 \quad 10 \mathrm{smpe} & \$ 1.06 \\ \text { BCes B } & 200 & 10 \text { amp } & 1.15\end{array}\) BC46D \(400 \quad 10 \mathrm{smps} 81.85\) SC5O A \(100 \quad 15 \mathrm{ampa}\) : \(11-8\) SC50B \(200 \quad 15\) amps 1.46

 GUOE 500 is ampe DIAC 8D2

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Comprising a fine example of a Wooter 10: 61 in. with a massive Ceramic Aluminium Cone centre to improve middle and top response. Also the EMP Twetter 3 in in. square has a special ightweight paper cone and magnet fux 10,000 lines.
mpedance Standard 8 ohms
Useful Response \(\quad 35\) to \(18,000 \mathrm{cps}\)
Ban Resonance \(\quad 45 \mathrm{cps}\)
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OST25p.

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3rd I.F. P50/8CC . 3rd L.F. P50/8CC
P51/1 or P51/2

83p Dpare Cores.
38p Printed Cins, LPDT4

Mallard Ferrite Rod \(8 \times 36 \mathrm{p}\) OPT


VOLUMECONTROLS' 80 omm Coax 4 y y. Long apindles. Midget Size BRITISE AERIALITE 6 E . ohms to 2 Meg. LOG or AERAXIAL-AIR 8PACED LIN. L/S 15p. D.P. 25 p .40 7d. \(21-40 ; 60\) yd. 22.


\section*{8in. ELAC \\ HI-FI SPEAKER}

Dual cone plasticised roll sur round. Large ceramic magnet 50-16.000 cps. Bass resonanc 55 cpa. 8 ohm mpedance. 10 watta \(\quad \leq 4.80\)
muric power.


BLANK ALUMHIUM CHA88IS. 18 E.w.E. 2 lin. adden \(6 \times 4 \mathrm{in} .45 \mathrm{p} ; 8 \times 6 \mathrm{in} .53 \mathrm{p} ; 10 \times 7 \mathrm{in} .85 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 8 \mathrm{~m}, 85 \mathrm{p}\)
\(14 \times 8 \mathrm{in}, 80 \mathrm{p}: 16 \times 6 \mathrm{in} .80 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 3 \mathrm{in} .50 \mathrm{p} ; 16 \times 10 \mathrm{in} .21\) ALUMWIUM PANELS 18 i.w.g. \(6 \times 4 \mathrm{in}\). \(9 \mathrm{p} ; 8 \times 6 \mathrm{in}, 15 \mathrm{p}\)
\(14 \times 3 \mathrm{in} .16 \mathrm{p} ; 10 \times 7 \mathrm{in} .10 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 5 \mathrm{in} .20 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 8 \mathrm{in} .28 \mathrm{p}\) \(14 \times 3 \mathrm{in} .16 \mathrm{p} ; 10 \times 7 \mathrm{in} .19 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 5 \mathrm{in} .20 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 8 \mathrm{in} .28 \mathrm{p}\)
\(16 \times 6 \mathrm{in} .28 \mathrm{p} ; 14 \times 8 \mathrm{in} .84 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \times 12 \mathrm{in} .40 \mathrm{p} ; 16 \times 10 \mathrm{n} .60 \mathrm{p}\) tinch DUAMETER WAVECHANGE 8WITCHEs. 25p.
2 p. 2-way, of 2 p. 6-way, or 8 p. 4-way 25p each

"THE INSTANT" BULK TAPE
ERASER \& HEAD DEMAGNETI8ER
\(\begin{aligned} & 2001850 \text { v. A.C. } \\ & \text { Leaflet s.A.E. }\end{aligned} \quad \leq 2 \cdot 35 \begin{aligned} & \text { Pout } \\ & 15 p\end{aligned}\)
HI-FI STOCKISTS. RETURN OF POST DESPATCH

\section*{RADIO COMPONENT}

RADIO COMPONENT SPECIALISTS

\section*{R.C.S. STABILISED POWER PACK KITS}

All parts and inatructions with Zener Diode, Printed Circalt, Bridre Rectifers and Double Wound Maini Transiormer iapat '200/240V a.c. Ontpat volteres a vailable 6 or 9 or 18 Of 15 or 18 or 20 V d.c. at 100 mA or lese Detuil! 8.A.E. Bize \(8!\times 1!\times 1\) !in
R.C.S. GENERAL PURPOSE TRANSISTOR PRE-AMPLIFIER BRITISH MADE Ideal for Mike, Tape, P. T., Gaitar, etc. Can be nsed with
Battery \(0-18 \mathrm{y}\). or B.T, line \(200-300 \mathrm{D}\), D. operation. Sise \(1!^{\prime \prime} \times 11^{\prime} \times 1^{\prime \prime}\). Responee 25 c.p.t. to \(25 \mathrm{Kc} / \mathrm{s}, 26 \mathrm{db}\) gain.
 NEW TUBOLAR ELECTROLYTICS CAN TXPES \begin{tabular}{lll|l|l|l|} 
NEW TUBULAR ELECTROLYTIC8 & CAA TXPES \\
\(2 / 850 \mathrm{~V}\) & 14 p & \(250 / 85 \mathrm{~V}\) & \(\cdots\) & 14 p & \(50+50 / 850 \mathrm{~V}\)
\end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{lll|lll|ll}
\(2 / 850 V\) & 14 p & \(250 / 28 \mathrm{~V}\) & \(\cdots\) & 14 p & \(60+50 / 850 \mathrm{~V}\) & 35 p \\
\(4 / 350 \mathrm{~V}\) & \(\cdots\) & 14 p & \(500 / 25 \mathrm{~V}\) & \(\cdots\) & 20 p & \(60+100 / 860 \mathrm{~V}\) & 88 p
\end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll|ll|lll}
\(8 / 450 \mathrm{~V}\) \\
\(18 / 450 \mathrm{~V}\) & 14 p & \(1000 / 25 \mathrm{~V}\) & 35 p & \(32+32 / 250 \mathrm{~V}\). & 18 p \\
15 p & \(1000 / 50 \mathrm{~V}\) & 47 p & \(38+32 / 450 \mathrm{~V}\) & 88 p
\end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{ll|ll|ll}
\(8 / 4500 \mathrm{~V}\) & 1 pp & \(1000 / 50 \mathrm{~V}\) & 37 p & \(32+32 / R 50 \mathrm{~V} .\). & 18 p \\
\(10 / 450 \mathrm{~V}\) & \(32+32 / 450 \mathrm{~V} .\). & 88 p
\end{tabular} \(25 / 45 \mathrm{~V} \quad 20 \mathrm{p} \quad 8+8 / 450 \mathrm{~V} \quad 18 \mathrm{p} \quad 350+50 / 325 \mathrm{~V} \quad 50 \mathrm{p}\) \begin{tabular}{ll|l|l|l|}
\(25 / 25 V\) & 10 p & \(8+16 / 450 \mathrm{~V}\) & 20 p & \(350+50 / 325 \mathrm{~V}\) \\
\(50 / 50 \mathrm{~V}\) & 10 p & \(16+1 / 450 \mathrm{p}\) & 25 p & \(32+32+82 / 360 \mathrm{~V}\)
\end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{lll|l|l}
\(50 / 50 \mathrm{~V}\) &.. & 10 p & \(10+16 / 450 \mathrm{~V} 25 \mathrm{p}\) & \(32+32+32 / 360 \mathrm{~V} 48 \mathrm{p}\) \\
\(100 / 25 \mathrm{~V} .\). & 10 p & \(32+32 / 850 \mathrm{~V} 25 \mathrm{p}\) & \(100+50+50 / 850 \mathrm{~V} 48 \mathrm{p}\)
\end{tabular} \(100 / 25 \mathrm{~V} . \quad 10 \mathrm{D}\)
LOW VOLTAGE ELECTROLYTIC8.
\(1,2,4,5,8,16,25,80,50,100,200 \mathrm{mP} 16 \mathrm{~V} 10 \mathrm{p}\)
\(500 \mathrm{mF} 12 \mathrm{~V} 15 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V} 20 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 80 \mathrm{p}\).
\(1000 \mathrm{mF} 12 \mathrm{~V} 17 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V} 36 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 47 \mathrm{p} ; 100 \mathrm{~V} 70 \mathrm{p}\).
 \(2500 \mathrm{mP} 50 \mathrm{~V} 62 \mathrm{p} ; 8000 \mathrm{~m}\); \(25 \mathrm{~V} 47 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 65 \mathrm{p}\). \(5000 \mathrm{mF} 6 \mathrm{~V} 25 \mathrm{p} ; 12 \mathrm{~V} 42 \mathrm{p} ; 25 \mathrm{~V} 75 \mathrm{p} ; 35 \mathrm{~V} 85 \mathrm{p} ; 50 \mathrm{~V} 95 \mathrm{p}\)

CERAMIC, 1 pF to 0.01 mF , 4 p . gilver Mica 2 to 5000 p , 4 p . PAPER 850V-0.1 4p, 0.5 13p; 1 mP 15 p ; 2 mP 150 V 15 p . 500V-0.001 to 0.05 4p; \(0.15 \mathrm{p} ; 0.258 \mathrm{p} ; 0.47 \mathrm{25p}\). gILVER MICA. Clote tolerance \(1 \%\). 2 -8-500p F 8p; 500 2,200pp 10p; 2,700-5,600pr 20p; 6,800pr-0.01, mid 80p each. TWID GANG. "000" \(208 \mathrm{pF}+176 \mathrm{pF}\); 65 p ; 8low motion drive \(385 \mathrm{pF}+365 \mathrm{pF}\) with \(25 \mathrm{pF}+25 \mathrm{pr}, 60 \mathrm{p} ; 600 \mathrm{pF}\) slow motion, standard 45 p; mall 8 -gang \(500 \mathrm{pP} 41-60\). SHORT WAVE SIMGLE. \(10 \mathrm{pF}, 30 \mathrm{p}, 25 \mathrm{pF}\), \(58 \mathrm{p}, 50 \mathrm{pF}, 55 \mathrm{p}\). NEON PANEL INDICATORS 250V AC/DC Red or Amber 20p.
 Ditto 5\%. Preferred values 10 ohms to 10 mes., 4 p .
WIRE-WOUND RESISTORS 5 watt 10 wat is 10 ohma to 100 S 10p each; \(2 \frac{1}{2}\) watt. I ohm to \(8 \cdot 2 \mathrm{ohms} 10 \mathrm{p}\)

\section*{DECCA DECCADEC GARRARD} MOTOR UNIT Mk. II
Single piay Stereo Mono Deram transcription head and arm 10itin. turntable Anti-rumble filter Bias compensation. Laboratory motor.

spician \(£ 18.50\)
METAL PLINTH AND PLASTIC COVER Cut out ready for Garrard or B.S.R Latert Design. Covered in black leatherette. Antimagnetic

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MAINS TRANSFORMERS
\(250-0-25080 \mathrm{~mA} .6 .8\) v. 4 amp.................


 MIDGET 280 v. \(45 \mathrm{~mA} .6 .3 \mathrm{8} .2 \mathrm{a} .24 \times 2 \mathrm{j} \times 2 \mathrm{n}\). MINI-MAIN8 \(20 \mathrm{p} .100 \mathrm{~mA} .11 \times 11 \times 11 \mathrm{im}\). HEATER TRAN8. 8.8 v .8 g.
 2t 2 enil PURPOSE LOW VOLTAGE. Tapped outpat at 2 imp., \(8,4,5,6,8,9,10,12,15,18,24\) and 80 . 82.25 1 zmp., \(6,8,10,12,16,18,20,24,30,86,40,48,60\). 22 -25 2 amp.. \(6,8,10,12,16,18,20,24,30,86,40,48,60\). \(23 \cdot 25\)
5 amp., \(6,8,10,12,16,18,20,24,30,88,40,48,60\)
28.75 AUTOTRANSFORMERS. INv to 280 F or 280 v to 115 V \(150 \mathrm{w} .22 \cdot 25 ; 500 \mathrm{w} .28 .25\); \(750 \mathrm{w} .210 ; 1000 \mathrm{w}\). 214. CHARGER TRANSFORYERS. Input \(200 / 850 \%\).
 FOLL WAVE BRIDGE CHARGER RECTIFIERS:


E.M.I. \(13 \frac{1}{2} \times 8 \mathrm{in}\). LOUDSPEAKERS \(\begin{aligned} & \text { With twin tweetors. } \\ & \text { And crosever, } 10\end{aligned}, 4,75\) 15 ohm . As illustrated. Post 16p With fis red tweeter cone and ceramic
 Flux 10,000 gaust.
State 8 or 8 or 15 ohm. Poat 15y

Teal Cabinet. Sise \(18 \times 10 \times 2 \mathrm{in}\). Post 25 p . MINIMUM POST AND PACKING \(15 p\).

\title{
NEWS BRIEFS
}

\section*{SOLID-STATE EYE}

Asmall research model of a black-and-white camera employing a solid-state "eye" that could make possible future TV cameras as small as a wristwatch was demonstrated recently by RCA.

The camera's imaging sensor is a silicon integrated circuit in contrast to the vacuum tubes of conventional TV systems.

The camera's integrated circuit "eye" consists of 32 rows of photo-sensitive elements, with 44 elements in each row. When an image strikes the array. an electrical charge proportional to the light intensity is produced in each element. The rows are read out very rapidly in sequence to produce a black-and-white television-type picture.

A model of the camera, developed at RCA laboratories in Princeton, America, has been delivered for evaluation to the Air Force Avionics Laboratory in Ohio, which sponsored research on the system.

\section*{LASAR DRILLS FOR DIAMONDS}

MINUTE flaws and other imperfections in diamond gemstones can now be removed by use of a laser developed by the Raytheon Company of America.

In a series of experiments on natural diamonds, light energy from the laser was focused to extremely small areas and tiny holes "drilled" to the imperfections. The imperfections are then removed by a variety of methods and the small-diameter holes cleaned.

The holes pierced by the laser are about twothousandths of an inch in diameter-about the diameter of a human hair. These holes are not generally visible without magnification, and because of their small diameters, they do not change the stone's natural reflections.

\section*{SPACEWATCH}

The International Telecommunication Union has made a proposal that a satellite communications system should be set up to provide aid following natural disasters such as earthquakes and floods.

The ITU proposes the setting up of an organization in Geneva from where the coverage using two geostationary satellites over the Equator would be worldwide. Communications links required with this scheme include walkie-talkie radios, medium distance multichannel voice links and a mobile earth station. All this equipment would be air transportable with self-contained power sources.

\section*{DOLBY SOUND IN THE CINEMA}
\(R_{\text {ank }}\) Audio Visual Ltd., in agreement with Dolby Laboratories, are now making Dolby noise reduction units available to cinemas on a rental basis. The new unit (Model 364) is a modification of the now well known Dolby " \(A\) " system. This reduces noise levels by boosting low level signals at all stages of recording until playback when they are reduced to their original level.

Cinema film sound is usually read from an optical track which is characteristically noisy, grain and dirt being the main offenders. The h.i. range of cinema sound is thus severely limited. By reducing noise the h.f. response can be greatly improved, for instance by using a better quality speaker system.

The full potential of the playback unit will not be realised unt:! Dolbied films are available, but Rank demonstrations have shown that in use with existing films the 364 unit gives a healthy though not dramatic improvement. At only \(£ 2.74\) per week, many cinema owners should soon be taking advantage of this chance to improve the weak link in the film projection system.

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BY C.MARSHALL

\section*{An inexpensive 9V supply and Deac battery charger combined}

IF you use your transistor portable at home, this power supply unit will be a worthwhile investment. It will replace a 9 V battery, the most common of supply voltages, by simply connecting the radio battery terminals to the output of the unit. Although this is a constant current device the power available is more that adequate for the majority of good quality transistor radios.

A built in bonus is the facility for charging nickel cadmium or Deac batteries. As any user of secondary cells knows, regular charging is the only way to get the best out of these.

\section*{DROPPING THE VOLTAGE}

The circuit of Fig. 1 is unusual in that the normal mains voltage dropping transformer is missing, in this a capacitor ( Cl or C 2 ) is used to fulfil this function. One of the great advantages of using a reactance whether it be capacitive or inductive, is the fact that very little power is consumed although a voltage is dropped and a current passed.

For the capacitors used the reactance presented to the mains input is \(1 /(2 \pi / C)\) ohms. This is, of course, an idealised figure since the capacitor diode bridge and load have resistance so the formula should be modified to \(Z=\sqrt{ }\left(X_{r}{ }^{2}+R^{2}\right)\) where \(X_{c}\) is the reactance and \(R\) the total circuit resistance. If comparative measurements were made it would be found that the reactance figure would be far in excess of the resistance figure so that we can say that the circuit is constant current device, the value being dependent on the series capacitance as the load presented plays little part in modifying the total impedance.

\section*{CROSSING THE BRIDGE}

With the mains voltage applied and dropped it only remains for it to be rectified and smoothed. In this circuit the diodes D1-Dt afford rectification and the capacitor C3, smoothing. By rectification is meant the conversion of a.c. to d.c. However, when there is conversion there is normally some ripple present, so the capacitor C3 attempts to smooth this before it is passed on to the load.

\section*{ZENER PROTECTION}

The diode D5 has the unique function of deciding the output voltage. In the condition of no load, the

COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors
R1 \(680 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2}\) watt carbon
Capacitors
C1 \(0.68 \mu \mathrm{~F} 400 \mathrm{~V}\)
C2 \(0.33 \mu \mathrm{~F} 400 \mathrm{~V}\)
C3 \(5,000 \mu\) F elect. 25 V

\section*{Diodes}

D1-D4 1 S100 or any silicon diodes of 50 p.i.v. and current capacity greater than 100 mA
D5 ZS9.1 Zener (see text)
Switches
S1 Double-pole mains on/off toggle
S2 Single-pole, double throw

\section*{Miscellaneous}

LP1 Mains neon, FS1-500mA fuse, 2 in \(\times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}\) Veroboard 0.15 in matrix
voltage at the output would approach that of mains potential which could be dangerous. With the Zener diode D5 in circuit the voltage will drop to 9.1 V . Obviously any low voltage diodes would be destroyed without this protective influence, so the diode serves as protection to the bridge and to supplying an output voltage on load of about 9 V .

\section*{BATTERY CHARGING}

Up to now we have only dealt with the unit in its power supply role at 9 V . As a flexible secondary cell


Fig. 1. Circuit diagram of power unit


Fig. 2. Veroboard layout and interwiring details of power unit
charger there are a number of other points to be considered.

When charging a nickel cadmium cell it should be remembered that the charging current should not exceed the 10 hour rate. By this is meant that for a 200 mAH cell, the charge current should be \(200 / 10=20 \mathrm{~mA}\) and at 225 mAH , the current is \(225 / 10=22.5 \mathrm{~mA}\).

To recharge a totally discharged battery the total charge time should be the charging rate times 1.4 . For example, if current is being replaced at the 10 hour rate the total time for recharge would be \(10 \times 1.4=14\) hours.

With the circuit shown, in position 1 of the function switch S 2 , the unit will provide 25 mA with Zener protection, for up to five Deac cells. This follows since the maximum charging voltage per cell is 1.5 V , so that in the circuit given the output voltage will be around 9 V with the cells disconnected. With a battery connected this will start to charge and the Zener diode will be cut off.

While the Zener diode will prove adequate for charging up to five cells, two \(\mathrm{ZS} 9 \cdot 1\) diodes connected in series should be used for six to ten cells, that is, for charging a 9 to 15 V battery.

\section*{UNIT ASSEMBLY}

The small components are assembled on a 2 in \(\times\) \(1 \frac{1}{2}\) in piece of \(0 \cdot 15 \mathrm{in}\) matrix Veroboard, as in Fig. 2. Also given here are the complete interwiring details for the unit. The actual box dimensions for the prototype was 6 in \(\times 4\) in \(\times 1 \frac{1}{2}\) in but since any rearrangement of the components will not adversely affect performance, other housings can be tried.


THe poor level of participation at this year's, the fiftysixth, Physics Exhibition, was particularly evident by the large area of unused floor space in the Great Hall of Alexandra Palace. Earlier this year (March 13-16) this showcase of scientific instruments and apparatus seems to have been a sufferer of the same economic exigencies that have been denuding commercial exhibitions. particularly on the electronic scene.

With a reduction of nearly fifty per cent of last year's exhibitor count, the translation of the venue and amalgamation with another exhibition would seem inevitable. Tnis, in fact. is what will happen next year when this will combine under the joint title of Labex and Physics Exhibition and be held at Earls Court. This Mecca will no doubt assure the future viability of this high quality scientific exhibition, but for me its "Ally-Pally" situation seemed in tune with its not too commercial. academic tenor.

This year the special features included exhibits arranged by the Electronics, Optical and Spectroscopy Group, to mark the occasion of the 1971 Nobel Prizes for both physics and chemistry to Professor Gabor for his developments of holography and Dr Herzberg for his work on the electronic structure and geometrics of molecules.

With man's desire for faster travel comes an awareness of the limitations of the existing systems. Conventional steel wheel-on-rail suspensions are limited to about \(200 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}\). In overcoming this barrier two avenues have been explored; air suspension (hovercraft) and magnetic levitation (linear motors). While the former is commercially viable and a \(250 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}\). tracked hovercraft will soon be starting test trials in this country, the linear motor has not yet enjoyed the same emergence.

The Department of Engineering at the University of Warwick demonstrated a linear motor model using superconducting magnets for the suspension and guidance of high speed vehicles with a conducting track.

In the same vein. a fascinating exhibit on the Decca Radar stand was a piezo-electric transducer in disc form made to act as a linear motor when subjected to ultrasonic vibrations at its resonant frequency. When excited this disc propelled itself silently along an inclined surface at speeds which were infinitely controllable up to \(1 \mathrm{Cm} / \mathrm{s}\) : Possible research applications for this are tape and chart recorder drives and conveyor belts.

Ultrasonics also have applications in medicine as was shown by the Medical Research Council. The exhibit demonstrated that instantaneous blood velocity in the human aorta could be measured by Doppler analysis without involving the patient in chest surgery so enabling a quick assessment of heart pumping action.

A recent development from Mullard is a channef image intensifier which is fitted to the front of a television camera and can provide a gain of up to a hundred thousand so enabling the camera to produce bright clear pictures even in starlight.

Other Mullard exhibits included a fruit machine and a digital clock both specially devised for their educational service.
It is this sort of diversity that makes the Physics Exhibition so appealing and we can only hope that in its move to Central London that it manages to retain its particular identity.

\title{
rieddout \\ A SEEECTON ROM OUR PDSTRAG
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Corraspondents wishing to have a reply must enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We regret we are unable to guarantee a reply on matters not relating to articles published in the magaxine. Technical queries cannot be dealt with on the telephone.

\section*{Wrong formula}

Sir-1 have been teaching Physics, not pure Nuffield but with a slant that way, for only 10 years, but I share Mr. Cozens' concern, see "Paradoxical Stage" April Readout.

Perhaps he will be glad to know that the Association for Science Education, the Institute of Physics, and the numerous "new Maths" authorities are also aware and worried. The incompetence of pupils trained by some of the experimental methods is very obvious, and Mr. Cozens is quite right in saying that Physics teachers have to do their own traditional Maths teaching.

At an earlier stage, a colleague of mine who teaches both trad and modern Maths finds he has to teach 14 year olds that, say, \(4 \cdot 18\) on a scale lies between \(4 \cdot 10\) and \(4 \cdot 20\). And at a higher level, some University entrance authorities are less than happy about the mathematical incompetence of many applicants who hold Maths and Physics Highers and \(A\) levels.

Incidentally, it's probably a traditional printer's error, but Mr. Cozens has the Wheatstone Bridge formula wrong. And very few pupils with a modern Physics Higher would know what a Wheatstone Bridge is, although they would know what to do with a collection of gates and a 5 V supply.

It's sad that the same blind concern with change and trendiness affects the attitudes of some modern teachers to things like not hurting other people's feelings unless you really want to (manners), and sometimes getting on with something when you want to do something else (discipline). Luckily, most of these educational experiments are rethought before too much harm has been done.

> W. H. Jarvis, M.A., A.Inst.P.. Perthshire, Scotland.

I hope Mr. Jarvis is right in saying that educational experiments are usually put right before too much harm is done, but I am afraid I do not share his optimism, I think that this particular experiment with the "New Maths" should be left until the student has safely passed C.S.E. or G.C.E. in traditional maths.

About my error in the Wheatstone Bridge formula Mr. Jarvis is right. I will try to make it clear.

When the bridge is balanced
RI R3
\(\overline{R 2}=R \overline{4}\)
If RI is unknown resistance and R2 is the standard known resistance then
\[
R 1=\frac{R 3}{R 4} x
\]
G. A. Cozens.

\section*{Better periormance}

Sir-As your Ferranti boys. Scorpio ignition looked the most sophisticated circuit yet published 1 purchased a set of components and assembled it for my Rover 2000 SC . The result is a distinctly brighter performance.

From the photograph enclosed you will notice that I have transposed the transformer and circuit connector block to suit the Rover. I have also clamped down the two large discharge capacitors by means of a hard Dural bridge-piece and a stainless steel rod screwed 6B.A. This rod passes through a clearance hole in the circuit board and is secured to the case by a couple of nuts. This is a more secure fixing than anchoring to the board which could distort in time and allow the clamp to loosen.

Recently 1 went with a stop-watch to my favourite testing stretch of level road (there are six miles of it) and got the following results.

Top gear: 30-50m.p.h. 11.4 secs. Scorpio \(10 \cdot 0\) secs.
Top gear: \(50-70 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h} . \quad 14.8\) secs. Scorpio 11.2 secs.
3rd gear: \(30-50 \mathrm{~m}\).p.h. 7.5 secs. Scorpio 7.0 secs.
3rd gear: 50-70m.p.h. 9.7 secs. Scorpio 8.6 secs.
The above results with brand new contact points, once they were burnt down a bit the discrepancy would be greater as \(I\) had previously found that after about 4,000 miles the engine got rough over 5,000 revs due to erratic ignition timing with the points pitted.

Please convey my congratulations to Messrs. Gibbs and Shaw.
G. A. Turner, Airdrie, Lanarkshire.

\section*{Mumbo-jumbo}

Sir-I resumed buying P.E. last December especially for the articles on "Logical Radio Control" and like Mr. W. G. Jones, (Letters, March issue), I found the whole thing almost unintelligible. I should like to make it clear that 1 have worked as a technician for a number of years in various types of laboratories and am used to unravelling the intricacies of strange systems.

This is England, I am English and your magazine prints articles in English for me to understand. Of course Electronics has its own slice of language to be understood, but surely all the bits of electronic language have to be joined by clear, simple English. If you like, try printing your magazine using only an Electronic Dictionary and see how far you get!

Needless to say, 1 have not built any of the radio control circuits described (?) in the articles and feel disappointed about them. No doubt if 1 built them up just as shown and connected them all together it would all work, but 1 wouldn't know why and would have learnt nothing-and what if something went wrong? I was going to complain before now but let it slide until 1 read your Editorial in the April issue in which you seem to be defending the type of bad technical writing under discussion; your attitude being that it is our fault if we don't understand the mumbo-jumbo.

If your motives are good 1 can only assume that you don't realise how difficult it is to be a teacher and pass on information in a clear manner. If on the other hand, your intentions are less honourable I suppose it is in order to maintain some sort of superior position by withholding information.

\author{
C. F. Hughes, \\ Bedford.
}


\section*{FOR RAPID SERVICE \\ GARLAND BROS. LTD deptrond sroadway, lowdon, ses san}

TRANSISTORS
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline ACl 27 & 17p & BF×29 & p \\
\hline ACl28 & 18 p & BFX84 & 25 \\
\hline AC176 & 22p & BFX88 & \(30 p\) \\
\hline AC187 & 28p & BFY50 & \(21 p\) \\
\hline \({ }^{\text {ACl }} 188\) & 27p & BFY51 & \(21 p\) \\
\hline ACY19 & \({ }^{23}{ }^{\circ}\) & BFY52 & 22 p \\
\hline AD149 & \(47 p\) & Matioo & \({ }_{25}\) \\
\hline AD161/162 & 72p & Matiol & 290 \\
\hline ADT140 & 62p & MATI2O & 25. \\
\hline AFII8 & 43 P & MATI21 & 29p \\
\hline AFI24 & 22p & OC28 & 58 p \\
\hline AFI25 & 19p & OC35 & 48 p \\
\hline AFl26 & 20p & OC44 & 12p \\
\hline AF127 & 19 p & 0 O 45 & 12 p \\
\hline AFF78 & \(67 p\) & OC71 & 11 p \\
\hline AF179 & \(66 p\) & 0 C 72 & 12 p \\
\hline AF180 & 45p & -C75 & 20p \\
\hline AF239 & 32 p & OC200 & 27 p \\
\hline BC107 & \(11 p\) & OC201 & 38 p \\
\hline BC108 & \(11 p\) & OCP71 & 60 p \\
\hline BC109 & \(11 p\) & ST140 & \(15 p\) \\
\hline BC147 & 12 p & ST141 & \({ }_{23}{ }^{\text {c }}\) \\
\hline BC148 & 12 P & UT46 & 35 p \\
\hline BC149 & 12p & 2N696 & 15p \\
\hline BC157 & 15 p & 2N706A & 12 p \\
\hline BC158 & 14 p & 2N2926G & 14p \\
\hline 8C159 & \(14 p\) & 2 N 2926 Y & 13 p \\
\hline BD131 & 75 p & 2 N 29260 & 12 p \\
\hline BO132 & 75p & 2N3053 & 25p \\
\hline BF115 & 25p & 2 N 3054 & 60 p \\
\hline BF178 & 32p & 2N3055 & 72p \\
\hline BF179 & 56p & 2N3702 & 15 p \\
\hline BF180 & 30p & 2 N 3703 & 14p \\
\hline BFIPI & 32p & 2 N 3704 & \(15 \rho\) \\
\hline BF184 & 30p & 2N3705 & 14 p \\
\hline BFI85 & 32 p & 2N3706 & \(14 p\) \\
\hline BF194 & 14 p & 2N3711 & \(14 p\) \\
\hline BF195 & 14 p & & \\
\hline BF198
BF197 & \({ }_{15}^{28 p}\) & 2N3819
2N 4050 & 35p \\
\hline BFW10 & 70 p & 2N5459 & 60p \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

DIODES
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline AAll9 & \(11 p\) & OA202 & p \\
\hline OA47 & 71p & Byl00 & 15p \\
\hline OA90 & 7 p & BY127 & \(22 \pm\) P \\
\hline OA91 & 6p & BYZ12 & 22! \({ }^{\text {P }}\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{ZENER DIODES}

400 mW , 15 p ; \(1.5 \mathrm{~W}, 22 \mathrm{tp}\)

\section*{SILICON BRIDGE}

RECTIFIERS
200 P.I.V.V. 1.5 Y

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS
Mercury switsh, 2 amp., 25p
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For tin fuses
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Single, less switch. 15p
inge, D.P. swizch, 24 p
\(5 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 10 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 25 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 50 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 100 \mathrm{k} \Omega\) \(250 \mathrm{kn}, 500 \mathrm{kR}\), \(1 \mathrm{MB}, 2 \mathrm{Mg}\)

\section*{RESISTORS}

Carbon hizh-scability. E12 values. iW. Ip: tw, 11p; IW, 4p;2W, 6p Wire-wound
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{ELECTROLYTICS} \\
\hline \(1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 19p & 1,000 \(\mu\) & 25 V & 27p \\
\hline \(2 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & 20p & 1,000 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 50 V & 39p \\
\hline \(4 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 350 V & 14p & 2,000 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & \(25 V\) & 36p \\
\hline \(8 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 160 & 2,000 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 50 V & 53p \\
\hline \(16 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 17p & \(2.500 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 25 V & 45p \\
\hline \(25 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 50 V & 8 p & 2,500 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 50 V & 60 p \\
\hline \(32 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 24p & 3,000 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 25 V & 48p \\
\hline \(50 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 50 V & \(10 \%\) & 5,000 F & 25 V & 55p \\
\hline \(100 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 25 V & 10 p & 5,000 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 50 V & \({ }_{98}{ }^{\text {p }}\) \\
\hline \(100 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & sov & 10p & 8-8 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 450 V & 18 p \\
\hline \(250 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 25 V & 12p & \(8-16 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 20p \\
\hline \(250 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 50 V & 17p & \(16-16 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 27p \\
\hline \(500 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 25 V & 18p & \(16-32 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 450 V & 63p \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\(500 \mu \mathrm{~F}\)} & 50 V & 25p & 32-32 \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) & 450 V & 49p \\
\hline & & & \(50-50 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 350 V & 38p \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{MINIATURE ELECTROLYTICS} \\
\hline \({ }_{1} / \mathrm{F}\) & 25V & & \% \({ }^{\text {F }}\) 64V & & \\
\hline \(2.5 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 64 V & & \(\mu \mathrm{F} 40 \mathrm{~V}\) & & \\
\hline \(4 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 40 V & & \(\mu \mathrm{F} 25 \mathrm{~V}\) & & \\
\hline \(5 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 64 V & & \(\mu \mathrm{F}\) 15V & & \\
\hline \({ }^{\text {a }}\) / F & 15 V & & \(\mu \mathrm{F} \quad 15 \mathrm{~V}\) & & \\
\hline \(8 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 40 V & & \(\mu \mathrm{F} \quad 15 \mathrm{~V}\) & & \\
\hline \(10 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 15 V & & & & \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{VARIABLE POWER SUPPLY} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{\begin{tabular}{l}
Input: 240V, a.c. \\
Output: Switehed \(3,4.5,6,7.5, \leq 4 \cdot 20\) \\
9. 12 voles d.e. at 500 mA
\end{tabular}} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{NEW} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|c|}{LLUSTRATED} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|c|}{1972-73} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|c|}{CATALOGUE} \\
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{ost Free} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{VEROBOARD}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline Size & matri & 15 matrix \\
\hline 2tin \(\times 37\) in
\(2 \operatorname{tin} \times 5 \mathrm{Sin}\)
3 & 22p & 16 p \\
\hline 3 3in \(\times 3\) tin & & 25p \\
\hline \(3 \operatorname{tin}\) Sin & \(2{ }^{24}\) & 25 p \\
\hline 17 in 2 2tin & 75 p & 57 p \\
\hline \(17 \mathrm{n} \times 3 \mathrm{lin}\) & 11 & 75 p \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

ALUMINIUM BOXES with lids and screws
Type Length Width Depth Price

 GB10*
GB11 GBi? GB13
GB14
GB15 B15



CASSETTE OWNERS!
PUI2 Power unit for connection recorders. - E ear electrical systems,
giving \(7 \frac{1}{2} V\), stabilised output. \(\mathbf{3} \mathbf{2 5}\) PP75 Mains power supply. output \(\leq 1.95\) \(\frac{1}{2} V\) d.c. Both units are com

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B.A.F wadding, IBin wide, 1 in thick. The ideal lining for speaker enclosures. 25p per

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\(2 \frac{1}{2}\) watt wire-wound. 10,1
\(1.8 \Omega, 2,7 \Omega, 3 \cdot 3 \Omega, 3.9 \Omega, 4.7 \Omega\),
\(5.6 \Omega, 6 \cdot 8 \Omega, 8.2 \Omega\)
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{CAPACITORS} & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 0.0027 \mu \mathrm{~F} \\
& 0.003 \mu \mathrm{~F}
\end{aligned}
\] & S00V & S/M & 15p \\
\hline \(2 \cdot 2 \mathrm{pF}\) & 500 V & S/M & 7 p & \(0.0033 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P.s. & \({ }_{6 p}\) \\
\hline 3.3 pF & \(500 \vee\) & S/M & \(7{ }^{19}\) & \(0.0033 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Poly. & 6 p \\
\hline 5 pF & 500 V & S/M & 71 p & \(0.0033 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1,000V & MDC & \%p \\
\hline 10 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & \(0.0036 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 15p \\
\hline 10 pF & \(500 \vee\) & S/M & 7ip & \(0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P.S. & 9 p \\
\hline 15 pF & \(125 V\) & P.S. & 5p & \(0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Poly. & \({ }_{6}\) \\
\hline 15 pF & 500 V & Cer & 4 p & \(0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 20p \\
\hline 18 pF & 500 V & S/M & 7 fo & \(0.0047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MOC & 6 p \\
\hline 22pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & \(0.005 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 100 V & Mylar & 3 p \\
\hline 22 pF & 500 V & S/M & \(7{ }_{7} \mathrm{P}\) & \(0 \cdot 005 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Cer. & 5 p \\
\hline 25 pF & 500 V & S/M & 7 p & \(0.0068 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & PS. & 10 \\
\hline 27pF & 500 V & Cer. & \({ }_{4} \mathrm{p}\) & \(0.0068 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & \(3{ }^{1}\) \\
\hline 33 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & \(0.0068 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Poly. & \({ }_{6 p}\) \\
\hline 33 pF & 500 V & S/M & 7tp & \(0.0082 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P. 5 . & 101 p \\
\hline 39 pF & 500 V & S/M & \(71 p\) & \(0.0082 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & sim & 30p \\
\hline 47 pF & \(125 \vee\) & P.S. & 5p & \(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 18 V & Dise & 4 p \\
\hline 47pF & 500 V & Cer. & 4 p & \(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P. 5. & \(10+\mathrm{p}\) \\
\hline 50 pF & 500 V & S/M & \({ }_{7}{ }_{\text {f }}\) & \(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 160 V & Poly. & 伿 \\
\hline 56pF & 500 V & S/M & \(71 p\) & \(0.01 \mu^{\mathrm{F}}\) & 250 V & M.F. & 3 p \\
\hline 68 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & 0.014 F & 400 V & Poly. & 3 p \\
\hline 68pF & 500 V & S/M & \(7{ }_{7}{ }^{\text {p }}\) & \(001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Cer. & \({ }_{50}\) \\
\hline 75 pF & 500 V & S/M & \(7{ }^{\text {P }}\) P & \(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 30 p \\
\hline 82 pF & 500 V & S/M & 71 p & \(0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 600 V & MDC & \(7{ }_{p}\) \\
\hline 100 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & \(0.01 / 1 / \mathrm{F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & \({ }_{9}\) \\
\hline 100pF & 500 V & S/M & 71p & \(0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 160 V & Poly. & 3 p \\
\hline 100 pF & 500 V & Cer. & \({ }_{5 p}\) & \(0.015 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 3 p \\
\hline 120pF & 500 V & S/M & \(7{ }^{\text {P }}\) P & \(0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 100 V & Mylar & 3 p \\
\hline 150 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5 p & \(0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 18 V & Dise & 5 p \\
\hline 150pF & 500 V & S/M & 7tp & \(0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.F. & 3 p \\
\hline 150pF & 500 V & Cer. & 5p & \(0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 3 p \\
\hline 180 pF & 500 V & S/M & 710 & \(0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 600 V & MDC & 719 \\
\hline 200 pF & 500 V & Sim & 7 f & \(0.022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & 9 p \\
\hline 220 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5 & \(0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.f. & 4 p \\
\hline 220pF & 500 V & Cer. & 5 p & \(0.033 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 4 p \\
\hline 250pF & 500 V & S/M & 8 p & 0.047 \({ }^{\text {LIF }}\) & 12 V & Dise & 6 p \\
\hline 270pF & 500 V & Cer & 5p & \(0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 160 V & Poly. & 3 p \\
\hline 300 pF & 500 V & S/M & \({ }^{\text {Pp }}\) & \(0.047 / 1 \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.F. & 3 p \\
\hline 330pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5 p & \(0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 40 \\
\hline 330 pF & 500 V & S/M & 8 p & \(0.047 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 600 V & MDC & 8 p \\
\hline 390pF & 500 V & S/M & \({ }^{8 p}\) & \(0.047 / 15\) & 1.000 V & MDC & \(10 p\) \\
\hline 470 pF & 125 V & P.S. & 5p & \(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 30 V & Disc & \({ }^{6 p}\) \\
\hline 470 pF & 750 V & Dise & 5 p & \(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.F. & 4 p \\
\hline 500pF & 500 V & S/M & \({ }_{8 p}\) & \(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 5 p \\
\hline 560 pF & 500 V & S/M & 8 p & \(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 600 V & MDC & 10 p \\
\hline 680pF & 125 V & P. S. & 6 p & \(0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & 13 p \\
\hline 680 pF & 500 V & S/M & 8 p & \(0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.F. & 5 p \\
\hline 820pF & 500 V & S/M & \({ }^{8 p}\) & \(0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 160 V & Poly. & 6 p \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 100 V & Mylar & \({ }^{\text {p }}\) p & \(0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & M.F. & \({ }_{5 p}\) \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P. S. & \({ }_{6 p}\) & \(0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Foil & 10 p \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 3 p & \(0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1,000V & MDC & \(15 p\) \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 10 p & 0.33, 1 F & 250V & M.F. & 8 p \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Cer. & 5p & \(0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 250 V & Foil & 8 p \\
\hline \(0.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & \({ }^{6 p}\) & \(0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Foil & 15p \\
\hline \(0.0015 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 400 V & Poly. & 3 p & \(0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & 20p \\
\hline \(0.0015 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 10 p & 1.0, 1 F & 250 V & M.f. & 15 p \\
\hline \(0.0015 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Cer & \({ }_{5 p}\) & & & & 15 \\
\hline \(0.0018 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 10 p & Note & & & \\
\hline \(0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 100 V & Mylar & 3 p & S/M = sil & ver mica & & \\
\hline \(0.002 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & Cer. & 5p & P.S. = po & lystyren & 2t\% & \\
\hline \(0.0022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 125 V & P.S. & 6 p & MDC- & .e. ratin & \(\mathrm{g}=300 \mathrm{v}\) & \\
\hline \(0.0022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 500 V & S/M & 10p & M.F. \(=\) M & Mullard & n. fol & \\
\hline \(0.0022 \mu \mathrm{~F}\) & 1.000 V & MDC & 6 p & Cer. \(=\) c & eramic. & & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{PLUGS}

Car aerial
D.I.N. 2 pin (speaker) D.IN. 3 pin
D.I.N. 5 pin. 180
D.iN. 5 pin. 240
D.I.N. 6 pin

Jack, \(2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}\) unscreened Jack, \(2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}\) screened Jack, \(3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}\) screened Jack, \(\frac{1}{2}\) in m screened Jack, tin screened Jack, win screened Jack, stereo, sereened Phono, plastic top
Phono, plated metal Phono, fitted 4 ft lead Wander, red or black

LINE SOCKETS
Car aerial
D.I.N. 2 pin (speaker)
C.I.N. 3 pin
D.IN.N. 5 pin, 180

Jack, \(3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}\)
Jack, stereo sered
Phono, plated metal


\section*{SOCKETS}

Car aerial
Co-axial, flush
D.IN 2 pin (speaker)
D.IN. 3 pin
D.IN. 5 pin. 180
D.IN. 5 pin. 240

Jack, \(2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~mm}\)
Jack, \(3 \frac{1}{3} \mathrm{~mm}\)
Jack,
Jack, \(\frac{1}{4}\) in switched
Jack, stereo, sw
Phono, single
Phono, 3 on a strip
Whono, 4 on a strip
Wander, sinple, red
Banana 4 mm red, or black \({ }^{6 p}\)

MAIL ORDERS: C.W.O. only. Please include 10p P. \& P. (Air mail extra). S.A.E. with all
enquiries please
Telephone OI-692 4412

\section*{Sinclair Project 60}


\section*{Project 605}

The easy way to buy and build
Project 60


Project 605 is one pack containing: one PZ5, two 230's. one Stereo 60 and one Masterlink. This new module contains alf the input sockets and output components needed together with all and output components needed fogeter with neat necessary leads cui to length and fitted with neat
little clips to plug straight on to the modules. Thus all soldering and hunting for the odd part is eliminated. You will be able to add further Project 60 modules as they become available adapted to the Project 605 method of connecting.

Complete Project 605 pack with
comprehensive manual, post free \(£ 29.95\)

All you need for a superb 30 watt high fidelity stereo amplifier.

Sinclair Radionics Ltd, London Road, St. Ives, Huntingdonshire PE17 4HJ. Tel: St. Ives 64311


Project 60 offers more advantage to the constructor and user of high fidelity equipment than any other system in the world.
Performance characteristics are so good they hold their own with any other avallable system irrespective of price or size.
Project 60 modules are more versatlle - using them you can have anything from a simple record player or car radio amplifier to a sophisticated and powerful stereo tuner-amplifier. Either power amplifier can be used in a wide variety of applications as well as high fidelity. The Stereo 60 pre-amplifier control unit may also be used with any other power amplifier system as can the AFU filter unit. The stereo FM tuner operates on the unique phase lock loop principle to provide the best ever standards of audio quality. Project 60 modules are very easily connected together by following the 48 page manual supplied free with Project 60 equipment. The modules are great space savers too and are sold individually boxed in distinctive white and black cartons. With all these wonderful advantages, there remains the most attractive of all - price. When you choose Project 60 you know vou are going to get the best high fidelity in the world, yet thanks to Sinclair's vast manufacturing resources (the largest in Europe) prices are fantastically low and everything you buy is covered by the famous Sinclair guarantee of reliability and satısfactıon.

Typical Project 60 applications
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline System & The Units to use & together with & Units cost \\
\hline Simple battery record player & 2.30 & Crystal P.U, 12 V battery volume control. etc & ¢4.48 \\
\hline Mains powered record player & Z.30, PZ.5 & Crystal or ceramic P \(U\) volume control etc. & ¢9.45 \\
\hline 12 W. RMS contunuous sine wave stereo amp for average needs & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \times 2.30 \mathrm{~s}, \text { Stereo } 60 . \\
& \text { PZ.5 }
\end{aligned}
\] & Crystal, ceramic or mag P U.F.M Tuner.etc & £23.90 \\
\hline 25 W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp using low efficiency (high performance) speakers & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \times 2.30 \text { s, Stereo } 60, \\
& \text { PZ. } 6
\end{aligned}
\] & High quality ceramic or magnetic P.U., FM. Tuner. Tape Deck. etc. & £26.90 \\
\hline 80 W (3 ohms) RMS continuous sine wave de luxe stereo amplifter. ( 60 W . RMS into 8 ohms) & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 2 \times 2.50 \text { s, Stereo } 60 \\
& \text { PZ.8, mains } \\
& \text { transformer }
\end{aligned}
\] & As above & £34.88 \\
\hline Indoor P.A. & Z.50, PZ.8, mains transformer & Mic. guitar, speakers. etc..controls & £19.43 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}


The phase lock loop principle was used for receiving signals from space craft because of its vastly improved signal to noise ratio. Now. Sinclair have applied the principle to an F.M. tuner with fantastically good results. Other original features include varicap diode tuning, printed circuit colls, an I.C. In the specially designed stereo decoder and squelch circuit for silent tuning between stations. In terms of a high fidelity this tuner has a lower level of distortion than any other tuner we know. Stereo broadcasts are received automatically as the tuning control is rotated, a panel indicator lighting up as the stereo signal is tuned in. This tuner can also be used to advantage with most other high fidelity systems.
SPECIFICATIONS-Number of transistors: 16 plus 20 in I.C. Tuning range: 87.5 to 108 MHz . Capture ratio: 1.5 dB . Sensitivity: \(7 \mu \mathrm{~V}\) for lock-in over full deviation. Squelch level: \(20 \mu \mathrm{~V}\). Signal to noise ratio: \(>65 \mathrm{~dB}\). Audio frequency response: \(10 \mathrm{~Hz}-15 \mathrm{KHz}\) ( \(\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}\) ). Total harmonic distortion: \(0.15 \%\) for \(30 \%\) modulation, Stereo decoder operating level: \(2 \mu \mathrm{~V}\). Cross talk: 40 dB . Output voltage: \(2 \times 150 \mathrm{mV}\) R.M.S.
Operating voltage: \(25-30 \mathrm{VDC}\).
Indicators: Stereo on : tuning. Size: \(93 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}\).

\section*{Stereo 60 Pre-amp/control unit}


Designed for Project 60 range but suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Again silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout, achieving a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excetlent tracking between channels. Input selection is by means of push buttons and accurate equalisation is provided for all the usual inputs.
SPECIFICATIONS-Input sensitivities: Radio - up to 3 mV . Mag. p.u. 3 mV : corsect to R.I.A.A curve \(\pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}: 20\) to 25.000 Hz . Ceramic p.u. - up to 3 mV : Aux -up to 3 mV . Output: 250 mV . Signal to noise ratio: better than 70dB. Channel matching: within 1 dB . Tone controls: TREBLE +12 to -12 dB at to \(\mathrm{KHz}: \mathrm{BASS}+12\) to -12 dB at 100 Hz . Front panel: brushed aluminium with black knobs and controls. Size : \(66 \times 40 \times 207 \mathrm{~mm}\).

\section*{A.F.U. High \& Low Pass Filter Unit}

Built tested and guarameed.
£5.98


For use between Stereo 60 unit and two \(Z .30\) s or \(Z .50\) s. and is easily mounted. It is unique in that the cut-off frequencies are continuously variable, and as attenuation in the rejected band is rapid ( \(12 \mathrm{~dB} / o c t a v e\) ), there is less loss of the wanted signal than has previously been possible. Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. The A.F.U. is surtable for use with any other amplifier system. Two filter stages - rumble (high pass) and scratch (low pass). Supply voltage -15 to 35 V . Current 3 mA . H.F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 28 KHz to 5 KHz . L. F. cut-off ( -3 dB ) variable from 25 Hz to 100 Hz . Distortion at 1 KHz ( 35 V . supply) \(0.02 \%\) at rated output. Size: \(66 \times 40 \times 90 \mathrm{~mm}\).

\section*{Z.30 \& Z.50 power amplifiers}

Built, tested and guaranteed with circuits andinstructions manual. z.30 £4.48 z.50 £5.48

The \(Z .30\) and \(Z .50\) are of advanced design using silicon epitaxial planar transistors to achieve unsurpassed standards of performance. Total harmonic distortion is an incredibly low \(0.02 \%\) at \(15 \mathrm{w}\left(8 \Omega_{2}\right)\) and all lower outputs. Whether you SPECIFICATIONS \(\mathbf{Z} .50\) units are interchangeable Power Outputs
\(\mathbf{Z . 3 0} 15\) watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 35 volts 20 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 30 volts. 2.5040 watts R.M.S. into 3 ohms using 40 volts 30 watts R.M.S. into 8 ohms using 50 volts. Frequency response: 30 to \(300,000 \mathrm{~Hz} \pm 1 \mathrm{~dB}\).
use \(Z .30\) or \(Z .50\) amplifiers in your Project 60 system will depend on personal preference. but they are the same size and may be used with other units in the Project 60 range equally well.
with Z.30s in all applications).
Oistortion: \(0.02 \%\) into 8 ohms.
Signal to noise ratio: better than 70 dB unweighted. Input sensitivity: 250 mV into 100 Kohms (for 15 w into \(8 \Omega\) )
For speakers from 3 to 15 ohms impedance. Size: \(14 \times 80 \times 57 \mathrm{~mm}\).

\section*{Power Supply Units}


Designed special for use with the Project 60 system of your choice. Use PZ. 5 for normal \(Z .30\) assemblies and PZ 6 where a stabilised supply is essential.

PZ. 530 Voh ts unstablised \(\mathbf{C 4 . 9 8}\) PZ. 635 volts stabilised \(£ 7.98\) PZ. 845 volts stabilised (less mains transformer) \(\mathbf{£ 7 . 9 8}\) PZ.8 mains transformer £5.98

\section*{Guarantee}

If within 3 months of purchasing Propect 60 modules directly from us. you are dissatisfied with them, we will refund your money al once. Each module is guaramteed to work perfectly money at once. Each module is guaranteed to work perfectly
and should any defect arise in normal use we will service it at and should any defect arise in normal use we will service it at
once and without any cost to you whatsoever provided that once and without any cost to you whatsoever provided that
it is returned to us within 2 years of the purchase date. There will be a small charge for service thereafter. No charge for postage by surface mait. Air-mail chargedat cost.

\begin{tabular}{l|ll} 
To: SINCLAIR RADIONICS LTD LONDON ROAD ST. IVES HUNTINGDONSHIRE PE17 4HJ \\
Please send & Name \\
\hline & Address \\
\hline lenclose cash/cheque/money order. & - & PEg
\end{tabular}

16a WELLFIELD ROAD, LONDON SWI6 2BS SPECIAL EXPRESS MAIL ORDER SERVICE

Express postage Ip per transistor, over ten post free
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline 1N21 & \[
0.17
\] & \(\mathrm{ACl}^{2} 6\) & \[
\begin{aligned}
& l_{1} \\
& 0.20
\end{aligned}
\] & BF173 \({ }^{\text {A }}\) 0.25 & GJ4M & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 4.9 \\
& 0.88
\end{aligned}
\] & \(0 \mathrm{C43}\) & \[
\begin{gathered}
\boldsymbol{B}_{1} \\
0.10
\end{gathered}
\] \\
\hline 1 N 23 & 0.20 & ACl27 & 0.25 & BF181 0.85 & GJ5M & 0.25 & \(0 \mathrm{OC4} 4\) & 0.17 \\
\hline 1N85 & 0.88 & AC128 & 0.20 & BF184 0.20 & GJ7M & 0.87 & OC44M & \(0 \cdot 17\) \\
\hline 1 N 253 & 0.50 & AC187 & 0.25 & BF185 0.20 & HG100J & 0.50 & 0 C 45 & 0.12 \\
\hline 1N256 & 0.60 & AC188 & 0.25 & BF194 0.17 & H8100A & 0.20 & OC45M & 0.18 \\
\hline 1N645 & 0.25 & ACY17 & 0.80 & BF195 0.15 & Mat100 & 0.25 & OC46 & 0.87 \\
\hline 1N725A & 0.20 & ACY18 & 0.25 & BF190 0.15 & MAT101 & 0.80 & 0 Cb 7 & 0.60 \\
\hline 1N914 & 0.07 & ACY19 & 0.25 & BF197 0.15 & MAT120 & 0.25 & OCD8 & \(0 \cdot 60\) \\
\hline 1N4007 & \(0 \cdot 20\) & ACY20 & 0.20 & BF561 0.28 & MAT121 & 0.80 & 0 Cus & 0.65 \\
\hline -18021 & 0.80 & ACY21 & 0.20 & BFS98 0.28 & MJE520 & 0.87 & 0 C 66 & 0.60 \\
\hline 18118 & 0.15 & ACY22 & 0.10 & BFX \(12 \quad 0.20\) & MJE295j & 1.87 & 0C70 & 0.12 \\
\hline 18180 & 0.18 & ACY27 & 0.25 & BFX13 0.25 & MJE3055 & 0.87 & 0 C 71 & 0.12 \\
\hline 18181 & 0.18 & ACY28 & 0.17 & BFX29 0.25 & NKT128 & 0.85 & 0 C 72 & 0.20 \\
\hline 18202 & 0.28 & ACY39 & 0.50 & BFX30 0.25 & NKT129 & 0.80 & \(0 \mathrm{C73}\) & 0.80 \\
\hline 29240 & 1.97 & ACY40 & 0.15 & BFX30 0.88 & NKT211 & 0.25 & \(0 \mathrm{OC7} 4\) & 0.80 \\
\hline \(2 \mathrm{G301}\) & 0.20 & ACY41 & 0.15 & BFX63 0.60 & NKT213 & 0.25 & 0078 & 0.85 \\
\hline 2 G 302 & 0.20 & ACY 44 & 0.25 & BFX84 0.25 & NKT214 & 0.15 & 0 C 76 & 0.25 \\
\hline 2 G 306 & 0.30 & AD140 & 0.60 & BFX85 0.30 & NKT216 & 0.87 & 0 C 77 & 0.40 \\
\hline 2G871 & 0.82 & AD149 & 0.60 & BFX86 0.25 & NKT217 & 0.85 & OC78 & 0.20 \\
\hline 2 2381 & 0.25 & AD161 & 0.87 & BFX87 0.25 & NKT218 & 1.18 & \(0 \mathrm{C79}\) & 0.22 \\
\hline \(2 \mathrm{G414}\) & 0.80 & AD162 & 0.87 & BFX88 0.20 & NKT219 & 0.88 & \(0 \mathrm{C81}\) & \(0 \cdot 20\) \\
\hline \({ }^{2} \mathrm{G417}\) & 0.28 & AF106 & 0.30 & BFY10 1.00 & NKT222 & 0.20 & OC811 & 0.80 \\
\hline 2N214 & 0.48 & AF114 & 0.25 & BFY11 1.20 & NKT224 & 0.28 & OC81M & 0.20 \\
\hline 2N247 & 0.25 & AF115 & 0.25 & BFY17 0.25 & NKT251 & 0.24 & OC81DM & 0.18 \\
\hline 2N250 & 0.60 & AF116 & 0.25 & BYF18 0.25 & NKT271 & 0.25 & 0C81Z & 0.40 \\
\hline 2N404 & 0-20 & AF117 & 0.25 & BFY19 0.20 & NKT272 & 0.25 & 0 C 82 & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N697 & 0.15 & AF118 & 0.62 & BFY24 0.45 & NKT273 & 0.15 & 0C82D & 0.20 \\
\hline 2N698 & \(0-40\) & AF119 & 0.20 & BFY44 1.00 & NKT274 & 0.20 & 0 C 83 & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N706 & 0.10 & AF124 & 0.25 & BFȲ0 0.82 & NKT27\% & 0.85 & \(0 \mathrm{C84}\) & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N706A & 0.12 & AF125 & 0-20 & BFY51 0.20 & NKT277 & 0.20 & \(0 \mathrm{Cl14}\) & 0.88 \\
\hline 2N708 & 0.15 & AF126 & 0.17 & BFY 520 & NKT278 & 0.25 & 0 Cl 22 & 0.60 \\
\hline 2N709 & \(0 \cdot 68\) & AF127 & 0.17 & \(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BFY53 } & 0.17\end{array}\) & NKT301 & 0.40 & 0 Cl 123 & 0.86 \\
\hline 2N711 & 0.37 & AF139 & 0.80 & BFY \(64 \quad 0.42\) & NKT304 & 0.76 & OC139 & 0.26 \\
\hline 2N987 & 0.68 & AF178 & 0.55 & BFX90 0.85 & NKT403 & 0.75 & OC140 & 0.85 \\
\hline 2N1090 & 0.80 & AF179 & 0.65 & BEX 270 & NKT404 & 0.55 & 0 Cl 41 & 0.60 \\
\hline 2N1091 & 0.88 & AF180 & 0.52 & BgX 600.98 & NKT678 & 0.30 & OC169 & 0.20 \\
\hline 2N1181 & 0.25 & AF181 & 0.42 & BSX76 0.15 & NKT713 & 0.25 & \(0 \mathrm{Cll}^{0} 0\) & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N1132 & 0.25 & AF186 & 0.40 & BSY26 0.18 & NKT7T3 & 0.25 & 0 OCl 71 & 0.80 \\
\hline 2N1302 & 0.18 & AFY19 & 1.18 & BSY27 0.17 & NKT7: & 0.88 & \(0 \mathrm{C}_{2} 20\) & 0.40 \\
\hline 2N1303 & 0.18 & AFZ11 & 0.80 & BSY51 0.50 & 078B & 0.38 & OC201 & 0.70 \\
\hline 2N1304 & 0.22 & AFZ12 & 1.00 & BEY95A 0.12 & 0 A 5 & 0.20 & OC20:2 & 0.80 \\
\hline 2N1305 & 0.22 & A9Y26 & 0.25 & BSY95 0.18 & 0 OA 6 & 0.12 & OC203 & 0.40 \\
\hline 2N1306 & 0.25 & A8Y27 & 0.82 & BT102/500R & OA4 & 0.10 & OC204 & 0.40 \\
\hline 2N1307 & 0.25 & ASY28 & 0.25 & 0.78 & OA70 & \(0 \cdot 10\) & \(0 \mathrm{C}_{2} 05\) & 0.75 \\
\hline 2N1308 & 0.25 & A8Y29 & 0.80 & BTY42 0.92 & 0 OA71 & 0.10 & OC206 & 0.90 \\
\hline 2N1300 & 0.25 & ASY36 & 0.25 & ВTY79/100R & OA73 & 0.10 & OC207 & 0.90 \\
\hline 2N1420 & 0.93 & A8Y50 & 0.17 & 0.75 & 0 O74 & 0.10 & \({ }_{0} \mathrm{C} 460\) & 0.20 \\
\hline 2N1807 & 0.28 & A8Y51 & 0.40 & HTV79/400R & OA79 & 0.10 & \(0 \mathrm{C470}\) & 0.30 \\
\hline 2N1526 & 0.88 & ASYj3 & 0.80 & 1.25 & OA81 & 0.08 & OCP71 & 0.97 \\
\hline 2N1909 & 2.25 & A8Y5s & 0.20 & BY100 0.15 & OA85 & 0.12 & ORP12 & 0.60 \\
\hline 2N2147 & 0.75 & ASY62 & 0.25 & BY126 0.15 & OA86 & 0.15 & ORP60 & 0.40 \\
\hline 2 N 2148 & 0.60 & ASY86 & 0.88 & BY127 0.17 & OA90 & 0.08 & ORP61 & 0.42 \\
\hline 2N2160 & 0.60 & A8Z21 & 0.42 & \(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BY127 } & 0.17 \\ \text { BY18. } & 0.85\end{array}\) & O.A91 & 0.07 & 819 T & 0.80 \\
\hline 2N2218 & 0.20 & AEZ23 & 0.75 & BY18* 0.85 & OA95 & 0.07 & SAC40 & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N2219 & 0.20 & AUY10 & 0.88 & BY213 0.25 & OA200 & 0.07 & SFT308 & 0.38 \\
\hline 2N2287 & 1.08 & AU101 & 1.60 & \(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BYZ10 } & 0.85\end{array}\) & OA202 & 0.10 & ET 722 & 0.88 \\
\hline 2N 2297 & 0.20 & BC107 & 0.10 & BYZ11 0.32 & O A210 & 0-25 & 8T7231 & 0.68 \\
\hline 2N2369A & 0.15 & BC108 & 0.10 & \(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BYZ14 } & 0.80\end{array}\) & 0 A211 & 0.30 & ax 68 & 0.20 \\
\hline 2N2444 & 1.89 & BC109 & 0.10 & \(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BYZ12 } & 0.80 \\ \text { BYZ13 } & 0.25\end{array}\) & OAZ200 & 0.65 & \(8 \times 631\) & 0.80 \\
\hline 2N2613 & 0.98 & BC113 & 0.15 & BYZ13 00.25 & OAZ201 & 0.50 & \(8 \times 635\) & 0.40 \\
\hline 2N2846 & 0.45 & BC115 & 0.20 & BYZ15 1.00 & OAZ202 & 0.42 & SX640 & 0.60 \\
\hline 2N2712 & 0.25 & BC116 & 0.25 & BYZ16 0 & OAZ203 & 0.42 & 8X641 & 0.65 \\
\hline 2N2784 & 0.60 & BC116A & 0.80 & BYZ88C3V3 & OAZ204 & 0.80 & SX642 & 0.60 \\
\hline 2N2846 & 0.76 & BC118 & 0.25 & 0.15 & OAZ200 & 0.42 & SX644 & 0.75 \\
\hline 2N2848 & 0.42 & BC121 & 0.80 & \(0114 \quad 0.86\) & OAZ206 & 0.42 & SX645 & 0.75 \\
\hline 2N2904 & 0.20 & BC122 & 0.20 & CRE1/05 0.26 & OAZ207 & 0.47 & V15/30P & 0.50 \\
\hline 2N2904A & 0.25 & BC125 & 0.68 & CRA1/40 0.47 & OAZ208 & 0.82 & V30/201P & 0.75 \\
\hline 2N2906 & 0.80 & \({ }^{\text {BC126 }}\) & 0.65 & \begin{tabular}{ll} 
CS4 \\
\\
\\
\hline 8
\end{tabular} & OAZ209 & 0.82 & V60/201 & 0.50 \\
\hline 2N2907 & 0.88 & BC140 & 0.65 & CS103 \(\quad 3.18\) & OAZ210 & 0.32 & V60/20]P & \\
\hline 2N2924 & 0.88 & BC147 & 0.16 & DD000 0.15 & 0 - \({ }^{\text {a }} 211\) & 0-82 & XA101 & 0.10 \\
\hline 2N2925 & 0.16 & BC148 & 0.18 & DD003 0.16 & -AZ222 & 0.45 & XA102 & 0.18 \\
\hline 2N2926 & 0.10 & BC149 & 0.15 & DD006 \(\quad 0.18\) & onzers & 0.45 & XA151 & 0.15 \\
\hline 2N3054 & 0.60 & BC157 & 0.15 & DD007 \(\quad 0.40\) & 0 AZ224 & 0.45 & XA15 \({ }^{\text {a }}\) & 0.15 \\
\hline 2 N 3055 & 0.75 & BC108 & 0.12 & DD008 0-98 & OAZ241 & 0.28 & XAl61 & 0.25 \\
\hline 2N3702 & 0.10 & BC160 & 0.63 & GD3 0.88 & OAZ242 & 0.23 & XA161 & 0.26 \\
\hline 2N3705 & 0.10 & BC169 & 0.13 & GD4 \(\quad 0.05\) & oaz244 & 0.22 & XA162 & 0.26 \\
\hline 2N3706 & 0.88 & BCY31 & 0.85 & GD5 \(\quad 0.83\) & OAZ246 & 0.23 & XB101 & 0.48 \\
\hline 2N3707 & 0.12 & BCY \({ }^{\text {B }}\) & 0.50 & GD8 \(\quad 0.25\) & OAZ290 & 0.38 & XB102 & 0.10 \\
\hline 2N3709 & 0.10
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0.18 & BF115 & 0.95
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0.17 \\
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0.26 \\
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\hline 800 & 0.63 & 0.70 & 0.90 & 1.20 & 1.50 & \\
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\hline & 4 t & £p & ep & Ep & fp & ep & \& \\
\hline 50 & 0.04 & 0.06 & 0.06 & 0.07 & 0.14 & 0.21 & 0.47 \\
\hline 100 & 0.04 & 0.08 & 0.05 & 0.13 & 0.16 & 0.23 & 0.75 \\
\hline 200 & 0.05 & 0.09 & 0.08 & 0.14 & 0.20 & 0.24 & \(1 \cdot 00\) \\
\hline 400 & 0.06 & 0.13 & 0.07 & 0.20 & 0.27 & 0.37 & 1.25 \\
\hline 600 & 0.07 & 0.16 & 0.10 & 0.23 & 0.34 & 0.45 & 1.85 \\
\hline 800 & 0.10 & \(0 \cdot 17\) & 0.13 & 0.25 & 0.37 & 0.55 & 2.00 \\
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\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{TRIACs} & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{\begin{tabular}{l}
FULL RANGE \\
ZENER DIODES
\end{tabular}}} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{VBOM 2A} & 6A & 10A & & & & \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{TO-1} & T0.66 '1 & '0-88 & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{\[
2-33 \mathrm{~V} . \quad 400 \mathrm{ml} \text { ( } \mathrm{DO}-7
\]}} \\
\hline & 2p & 40 & 8 & & & & \\
\hline & & & & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\begin{tabular}{l}
Case) 13 p ea. If H (Tnp- \\
IIat) 18 p ca .10 W (so.10
\end{tabular}} \\
\hline 100 & 30 & 50 & 78 & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{Stud) 25p ea. All fully testels \(5 \%\) tol. and marked. state voltage required.}} \\
\hline 200 & 50 & 60 & 90 & & & & \\
\hline 400 & 70 & 75 & 1.10 & & & & \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{DIACS} & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[b]{2}{*}{10amp POTTED BRIDGE}} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[b]{2}{*}{thiacs}} & \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{\begin{tabular}{l}
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