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ELECTRONICS

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Because of prevailing production problems, no firm publishing date can be announced for the October issue. Readers are advised to check regularly with their local supplier from mid-September onwards.

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unit	6.01
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	for 115	5-31
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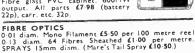
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2/350V	14p	250/25V	14p		50/300		50p
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8/450V	18p	1000/25V	35p		32/250		20p
16/450V	22p	1000/50V	47p		82/450		60p
32/500V	50p	8 + 8/450V	22p	850+	50/324	5V	55p
25/25V		8+16/450V				6/275V	
50/50V	10p	16+16/450V	40p	32+	32 + 3	2/850V	65p
100/25V	10p	32 + 32/350V	40p				
LOW VO	LTAGI	ELECTROL	YTICS	١.			
1. 2. 4. 5.	8, 16,	25, 30, 50, 10	0, 200	mF 15	V 10p.		
500mF 1	2V 15	25V 20p; 50	0V 30p	٠.			
1000mF	2V 20	; 25V 35p; 5	0V 47p	: 100V	70p.		
2000mF 6	V 25p	25V 42p: 50	V 57p.				
2500mF	OV 62	; 3000mF 25	V 47p;	; 50V 6	5p.		
5000mF 6	V 25p	12V 42p; 25	V 75p;	; 35V 8	5p; 50	V 95p.	
CERAMI	C lpF	o 0.01mF, 4r	. Bilve	r Mica	2 to_t	5000pF	, 4p.
PAPER 350V-0-1 4p; 0-5 13p; 1mF 15p; 2mF 150V 15p.							
500V-0.001 to 0.05 4p; 0.1 5p; 0.25 8p; 0.47 25p.							
TWIN GANG. "0-0" 208pF+176pF, 75p.							
Slow motion drive 365pF + 365pF with 25pF + 25pF, 50p;							
500pF sta	ndard	65p.				rò-m	
SHORT V	₩AVE	SINGLE, 10p	r, 30p); zápř	, pop;	oupr,	oop.

SHORT WAVE SINGLE GANG. Precision Silver Plated Gangable Tuning Condensers, 100pF. 50p each

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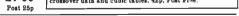
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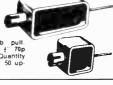
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Ideal for Disco Work. Output Power: 45 watts R.M.S. Frequency Response 3dB points 30Hz and 18KHz. Total Distortion: less than 2% at rated output. Signal to noise ratio: better than 60dB. Bass Control Range: 13dB at 60Hz. Treble Control Range: 12dB at 10KHz. Inputs: 4 inputs at 5mV into 470K. Each pair of inputs controlled by separate volume control. 2 inputs at 200mV into 470K. Size: $19\frac{1}{4} \times 10\frac{1}{2} \times 8$ ins. approx. Amplifier £27.50+£1.50 p. & p

Special Offer: Disco 50 plus two 15" E.M.I. speakers type 14A/780 (as illustrated on opposite page). Complete £57.00 \pm £4.00 p&p.

COMPLETE(*) **STEREO SYSTEM**



£51.00

Viscount III - R102 now 20 watts per channel. System I includes.

Viscount III amplifier - volume, bass, treble and balance controls, plus switches for mono/ stereo on/off function and bass and treble filters. Plus headphone socket.

Specification

20 watts per channel into 8 ohms. Total distortion@ 10W@ 1kHz 0-1%. P.U.1 (for ceramic cartridges) 150mV into 3 Meg. P.U.2 (for magnetic cartridges) 4mV@ 1kHz into 47K. equalised within = 1dB R.I.A.A. Radio 150mV into 220K. (Sensitivities given at full power). Tape out facilities : headphone socket, power out 250mW per channel. Tone controls and filter characteristics. Bass: +12dB to -17dB@ 60Hz. Bass filter: 6dB per octave cut. Treble control: treble + 12dB to -12dB @ 15kHz. Treble filter: 12dB per octave. Signal to noise ratio: (all controls at max.) -58dB Crosstalk better than 35dB on all inputs. Overload characteristics better than 26dB on all

inputs. Size approx. 13¾"×9"×3¾ Garrard SP25 deck, with magnetic cartridge, de luxe plinth and hinged cover.

Two Duo Type II matched speakers – Enclosure size approx, $17\frac{1}{2}\% \times 10\frac{3}{4}\% \times 6\%$ in simulated teak. Drive unit 13"×8" with parasitic tweeter 10 watts handling

Complete System £51.00

£69·00

Viscount III amplifier (As System I) Garrard SP. 25 (As System I)

Two Duo Type IIIA matched speakers— Enclosure size approx. $31'' \times 13'' \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ Finished in teak veneer. Drive units approx. $13\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $8\frac{1}{4}$ " with $3\frac{1}{4}$ " HF speaker, Max. power 20 watts, 8 ohms. Freq. range 20Hz to 20kHz.

Complete System £69.00

PRICES: SYSTEM 1

Viscount III R 102 amplifier f24-20 + f1 n & n f14.00 + f2.20 n & n2 Duo Type II speakers Garrard SP25 with

MAG, cartridge de luxe plinth

and hinged cover

£21.00 + £1.75 p & p

total £59.20

Available complete for only £51.00 +£3.50 p. & p.

PRICES: SYSTEM 2

£1-00 p. & p. Viscount R102 amplifier £24-20 2 Duo Type IIIA speakers £39.00 £4.00 p. & p. Garrard SP25 with £21-00 MAG cartridge de luxe plinth £1-75 p. & p.

and hinged cover total £84-20

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SPEAKER SYSTEM

System consists of a $13'' \times 8''$ (approx) eliptical woofer unit with a 8" × 5" (approx.) mid range unit incorporating parasitic tweeter and crossover components.

Technical Specification:

Bass Unit Flux density-100 K, speech coil-12", Cone, Triple laminated paper with P.V.C. surround.

Mid Range Unit Flux density-33K, speech coil-1" with

parasitic tweeter. **Power Handling**

20 watts R.M.S., impedance - 8 ohms, frequency response - 20 Hz to 18,000 Hz.

OUR PRICE £6.60. Complete + 90p p & p.



15" 14A/780 BASS UNIT

Bass unit on a rigid diecast chassis Superior cone material handles up to 50 watts RMS, and is treated to give a smooth frequency response. Resonance 30 Hz. flux density 360,000 Maxwells, Impedance at 1 kHz is 8 ohms. 3" voice coil.

Recommended retail price £40-80.

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950 KIT

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CORTINA MINOR 33 RANGE POCKET MULTIMETER

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1	2%	10 Ω = 1 M Ω	E24	3 5p	3 p
4	10%	ΙΩ-3-9Ω	E12	1-3p	l-lp
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1	VERC	BOAR	p		LJAC	K PL	JGS A	NDS	оскі	TS		
ı			0-1				reened			ım insu		12p
١	2 ± × 3		26p	22p			sulated			ım insu		12p
1	24 × 5		28p	28p		eo scre		40p		im scre		18p
١	3∄ × 3		28p	28p		dard so	ocket	20p		ım soci		10p
1	31 × 5		34p			eo socl	cet	30p	3·5m	nm sock	cet	Пp
ı	17 × 2		95p	77 p	D.I.	N. PL	UGS A	IND S	OCK	ETS		
	17 × 3		130p	108p	2 pir	1. 3 pin	. 5 pin	180°, 5	pin 2	40°. 6 m	in, 7 pi	n
		🕯 (plain)		72p	Plus		Socke		,	,		
	17 × 2	🛊 (plain)	_	57p			ened ca		o/meti	re.		
	2 ± × 5	(plain)	_	18p			ened ca					
i	2± ×3	# (plain)		15p	1_							
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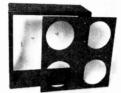
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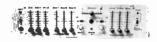
- 2) P.V.C. cut to size for frame and back, plus false front and back timbers, white front piping and speaker cloth
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4 x 12" P.A. Column	48″ x 27″ x 13″ x ¾	£30.00	£21.50			
1 x 18"	31″ x 31″ x 13″ x ᢋ	£24.50	£17.50			
1 x 15" with two top horn cutouts	36" x 20" x 13" x ¾	£21.00	£13.50			
Mini Disco (state deck cutout BSR, GARRARD etc.)	33" x 20" x 8" x ½	£20.00	£13.00			
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6lin, 8 ohm, 10W		10W	0.4
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8ln × 5in, C/Mag. 5W 8in × 5in, Dual cone 8 ohm,	1.25		0.8
10W	2-45	5in, 8 ohm, C/Mag. 21in, 8 ohm or 64 ohm	0.5
ELAC 8in 8 ohm Dual cone	2.25	24111, 8 011111 01 04 011111 P. & P.	0.1
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EMI 3 in, 3 or 8 ohm C/Mag.	1.00	Crossovers CN23 (3 ohm), CN28	
Cone Tweeter 8 or 15 ohm, 10W	2.40	(8 ohm), CN216 (16 ohm)	1.1
Cone Tweeter 8 or 15 ohm, 10 W Cone Tweeter 8 ohm, 3W Horn Tweeter 8 ohm, 20W	1.45	P. & P.	$0 \cdot 1$
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VENEER. 12in×12in×6in wit 8in × 5in or 6}in and 3}in	n ein,	18in × 11in × 9in with 13in × 8in cutout for EMI 350	4.2
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cutout 17in × 10in × 9in with 8in or	2.40	r. ar. each	0.3
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MICROPHONES		TW209	5.7
CM70 Planet stick metal,		CONDENSER MIKE 600 ohm,	
switch crystal	1.55	uni-dir	9.3
DM160 Dynamic omni-dir, ball		Cassette Stick Mike with R.	
metal	3-85	Control on/off switch (2.5	
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GP95/1	1.35	G850	2.9
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GP104	1.65	Sapphire 35p D. Diamond	1.2
SONOTONE 9THAC Stereo		STYLI FOR GOLDRING	
ceramic, diam.	1.70	G800/G850	1.90
19-TI Stereo crystal	0.80	G800E	8.9
BSR SC5M Stereo ceramic	2.70	P. & P.	0.0
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240V input 6, 7.5 or 9 300mA	2.75	at 300mA	2-18
12V d.c. input (please specify		P. & P.	0.1
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5in 50p 65p	85p	P. & P. 1-3 each	0.0
58in 65p 80p	1-15p	4 or more lot	0.3
LOW NOVEMBER		G M I Gl	0.0
LOW NOISE CASSETTES 1-5 6-10	11-20	Cassette Head Cleaner	0.8
C60 35p 38p	30p	P. & P. 1-5 each 6-10 lot	0.1
C90 45p 48p	40p	11-20 post free	0.1
C120 55p 52p	50p	so post irec	
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PLASTIC LIBRARY CASES for		7in Reels	0.2
5in Reels	0.18	CASSETTE CASES	0.10
5∄in Reels	0.22	P. & P. 1-3 each 5p; 4 or more	0.20
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Hi-Fi Stereo Test Cassette	1.90	* 8 DIGIT DISPLAY	
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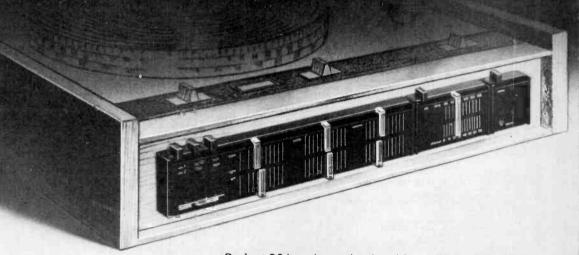
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Project 80

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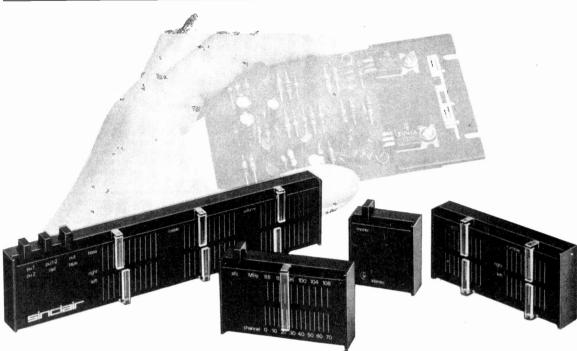


Project 80 is going to be the ultimate in modular hi-fi construction for a very long time to come. It combines the qualities most demanded of any modern domestic system – good circuitry, reliability and fine performance – with other features to be found nowhere else in the world. For example, compactness – Project 80 control units are \(\frac{3}{4} \) " deep \(\times \) 2" high, and each one is completely self-contained.

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Sinclair Project 80



technically the world's most advanced

Project 80 gives you choice from a range of 9 different modules for combining in a variety of ways to suit your requirements. The Stereo 80 is a versatile pre-amp control unit designed to meet all domestic hi-fi requirements including tape monitoring, high sensitivity magnetic cartridge input, and of course, individual slide controls on each channel for precise output matching. By separating the F.M. tuner and stereo decoder, useful economies can be effected where stereo radio reception is not needed. Two power amplifiers - Z.40 (18 watts RMS continuous into 4 ohms using 35V) and Z.60 (25 watts RMS continuous into 8 ohms using 50V) are available with choice of 3 different power supply units. The PZ.8 with its virtually indestructible circuitry is particularly recommended. For the final word in system building, the Active Filter Unit puts the finishing touch of quality to what are easily the world's most technically advanced hi-fi modules. Any further units likely to be added to Project 80 range will be compatible with those already available.

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Sinclair Radionics Ltd London Rd St Ives Huntingdon PE17 4HJ Telephone St Ives (0480) 64646 Stereo 80 Control Unit Size – 260 · 50 · 20mm {104 · 2 × 3 ins} Finish – Black with white indicators and transparent sliders lipputs – Magnetic pick up 3mV RIAA corrected. Ceramic pick-up 350mV Radio 100mV. Tape 30mV Signal/noise ratio – 60db Frequency range – 20Hz to 15KHz · 1dB, 10Hz to 25KHz + 3dB Power requirements – 20 to 35 volts Outputs – 100mV · AB monitoring for tape Controls – Press button tape radio and P U Sliders on each channel for volume bass treble R R P £11.95

Project 80 FM Tuner Size = 85 - 50 · 20mm (3½ - 2 · ½ins)
Tuning range Dual varicap = 87 5 to 108MHz Detector = 1C balanced coincidence One I.C equal to 26 transistors Distortion = 0.2% at 1KHz for 30% modulation 4 pole ceramic filter in I.F. section Aeial impedance = 75 Ω or 240 · 300 Ω Sensitivity = 5 microvolts for 30dB S/N ratio Output = 300mV for 30% modulation Power requirements = 25 to 35 volts = 11.95

Project 80 Stereo Decoder size = 47 · 50 · 20mm ($1\frac{2}{8}$ · 2 · $\frac{2}{8}$ ins) One 19 transistor I.C. Channel separation greater than 30dB Power requirements = 25V Output 150mV per channel R.P. **67.45**

Z.40 Power Amplifier size = $55 \cdot 80 \cdot 20 \text{mm}$ ($2\frac{1}{8} \cdot 3\frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{8} \text{ins}$) 9 transistors Input sensitivity = 100 mV Output 18 watts RMS continuous into 4Q (35V) Frequency response 30Hz $100 \text{KHz} \cdot 3dB \text{ S/N}$ ratio = 64 dB Distortion = at 10 watts into 8Q less than 0.1% Power requirements = 12 to 35 volts, built in protection against overload RP = $64 \text{ color} \cdot 36 \text{ N} \cdot$

Z.60 Power Amplifier size – 55 98 - 15mm (21 - 31 - 1ms) 12 transistors input sensitivity – 100 250mV Output – 25 watts RMS continuous into 8 Ω (50V). Distortion – typically 0.03% Frequency response – 15Hz to more than 200KHz 13d8 S/N ratio – better than 70d8 Built in protection against transient oyerload and short circuiting Load impedance $-4\,\Omega$ min safe on open circuit. RRP (add 69pVAT)

Power Supply Units PZ8 Stabilised. Re entrant current limiting makes damage from overload or even direct shorting impossible. Normal working voltage (adjustable) 50V RRP £7.98 · 79p VAT. Without mains transformer PZ6 35V stabilised RRP £7.98 · 79p VAT. PZ.5 30V un stabilised RRP £4.98. 49p VAT.

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07	20	-	8	7·0 ×	6.0 ×	6.0	2.55	30	
149	60	3	12	9.9 ×	7.7 x	8.6	3.79	36	
150	100	5	8	9.9 x	8.9 x	8.6	4-17	52	
151	200	8	0	12:1 x	9-3 x	10.2	7:39	52	
152	250	13	12	12·1 ×	11-8 x	10.2	9.25	67	
153	350	15	0	14:0 x	10.8 ×	11.8	11-35	82	
154	500	19	В	14 0 ×	13-4 x	11.8	13.20		
155	750	29	0	17·2 ×	14·0 ×	14.0	21.20		
156	1000	38	0	17·2 ×	16·6 ×	14-0	27.40		
158	2000	60	Ó	21.6 V	15:3 V	IR-I	49.75		

				AU.	TO TE	1 A	NSFORM	ERS		
Ref.	VA		eight	. S	ize cm.		Auto 1	ODS	P	& P
No.	(Wott	s) Ib	οz					•	£	b
113	20		0	58×	5-1 ×	4-5	0-115-210-	240	1-34	22
64	75	2	4	7·0 ×	6·7 ×	6-1	0-115-210-	240	2.64	30
4	150	3	4	8 9 x	7.7 ×	7 - 7	0-115-200-	220-240	3-18	36
66	300	6	4	9.9 x	9.6 x	8.6	11		6:19	52
67	500	12	8	12-1 x	11:2 × 1	0.2		D	8-33	67
84	1000	19	В	14.0 ×	13.4×1	4-3	**		13.50	82
93	1500	30	4	14.0 x	15.9 x l	4.3	***		17-50	
95	2000	32	0		16-6 x 1		**		25-35	
73	3000	40	ň		13 4		11	2.5	22 22	

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				30 VOLT RANGE	
Ref.	Amps	Weight	t Size cm.	Secondary Taps	P & P
No.		lb oz			£ b
112	0.5	1 4	6-1 x 5-8 x 4-8	0-12-15-20-24-30V	1-56 22
79	1.0	2 4	7.0 × 6.7 × 6.1		2:11 36
3	2.0	3 4	8.9 × 7.7 × 7.7	,, ,,	3-18 36
20	3.0	4 B	9-9 × 8-3 × 8-6		3.96 42
21	4.0	6 4	9.9 × 9.6 × 8.6	11 11	4-67 52
51	5 0	6 12	12 1 × 8 6 × 10 2		5-83 52
117	6.0	8 0	12:1 × 9:3 × 10:2	11 11	6.94 52
88	8.0	12 0	12 1 × 11 8 × 10 2	11 11	9.00 67
89	10.0	13 12	14-0 × 10-2 × 11-8		11-36 67
				50 VÖLT RANGE	
	A .	447 1			

									50 ∖	OLT/	RANG	E	
Ref.	Amps.	V	Veigl	ht		Size	cn	٦.	9	econd	ary Taps	P	LΡ
No.		16	οz									£	Ð
102	0.5	- 1	12	7	0 x	6.4	۱×	6-1	0-19	-25-33	-40-50V	2.09	30
103	1.0	2	12	8	·3 ×	7	4 ×	7.0				3.08	36
104	2 0	5	8	7	9 x	8 9	× €	8.6		10	,,	4.26	42
105	3.0	6	12	9	9 x	10-	2 ×	8.6				5.79	52
106	4.0	10	0	12	-1×	10	5 ×	10.2				7.69	52
107	6.0	12	0	14	0 ×	10:	2 ×	11.8		11		11.38	67
118	8.0	18	0	14	0 ×	12:	7 ×	III B		11	,,	12:40	97
119	10.0	25	0	17	2 ×	12.	7 ×	14.0				18-62	
									50 V	ÖLT	RANG		
Ref.	Amps.	V	Veigh	3.5		Siz	e c	m.			fory Tops		& P
No		16 .									,		

Ref.	Amps.	Wei	ght	Size cm.	Secondary Tops	P	& P
No.		1b oz				£	Þ
124	0.5	2 4	7·0 ×	6.7 × 6	0-24-30-40-4B-60V	2-12	36
126	1.0	3 4	8.9 ×	7.7 × 7.	7 ,, ,,	2.97	36
127	2.0	6 4	99×	9.6 x 8	6	4.67	42
125	3.0	8 12	12-1 ×	99×10	2	7-11	52
123	4:0	13 12	12·1 ×	11 B × 10-	2 ;; ;;	9-20	67
40	5.0	12 00	14:0 ×	10-2 × 11-	В ;, ;,	10.83	67
120	6.0	15 8	14-0 ×	12:1 × 11:	8 ,, ,,	13-35	82
121	8.0	25 00	14.0 x	14-7 × 11-	8	15.01	
122	10.0	25 0	17·2 ×	12:7 × 14	Ď .;;	19.60	
189	12.0	29 00		14-0 × 14-		21-60	

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Ref.	mA	We	ight	Size cm.	Volts	P	& P
No.		1b	οz			£	Þ
238	200		2	2·8 × 2·6 × 2·0	3-0-3	1.44	10
212	IA, IA	1	4	6-1 × 5-8 × 4-8	0-6, 0-6	1.67	22
13	100		4	3-9 × 2-6 × 2-9	9-0-9	1.23	10
235	330, 330		4	4-8 × 2-9 × 3-5	0-9, 0-9	1.67	10
207	500, 500	- 1	00	6·1 x 5·4 x 4·8	0-8-9, 0-8-9	2.23	22
208	IA. IA	- 1	12	7.0 × 6.4 × 6 1	0-8-9, 0-8-9	3.00	30
236	200.200		4	4-8 × 2-9 × 3-5	0-15, 0-15	1.67	10
214	300, 300	- 1	4	6·1 × 5·8 × 4·8	0-20, 0-20	1.76	22
221	700 (d.c.)	1	В	7.0 × 6.1 × 6.1	20-12-0-12-20	1.55	30
206	IA, IA		†Ž	8-3 × 7-7 × 7-0	0-15-20, 0-15-20	4.05	38
203	500.500		4	8 3 × 7 0 × 7 0	0-15-27, 0-15-27	3.10	38
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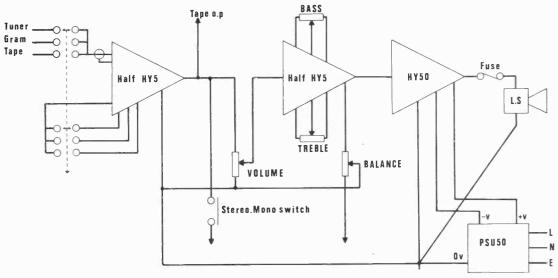
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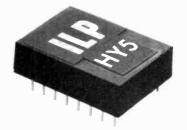
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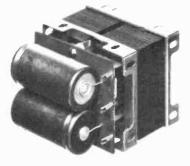


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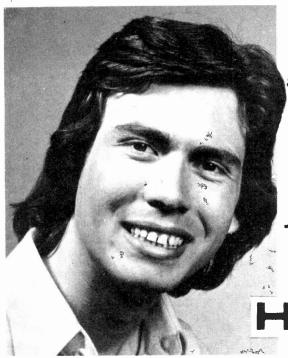
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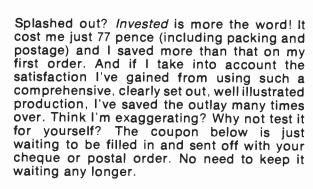
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SORRY FOR THE DELAY

FIRST a word or two of explanation and apology. Like our weather this summer, the economic and industrial climate has been unsettled and changeable over the whole country. And the Publishers of this magazine have had their share of problems, as many readers will have guessed. We can only apologise to all our readers and advertisers who regularly support us for any disappointment, perplexity and inconvenience they may have experienced by the delayed appearance of some recent issues of PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS.

Because of continuing production problems erratic publication dates must be expected for the next few issues, also. But we hope soon everything will be restored to normal. In the meantime, while writing, we have to admit not knowing just when this particular issue will appear on the bookstalls. It may be during the second half of August, but more probably during the first half of September (yes, we did try ESP, but alas to no avail).

A NEW SEASON-AND A NEW VIEW

In any event, September is a significant turning point in the year so far as hobbies are concerned. It is a month when those typically summer activities start to fade and become overshadowed by the different prospects that lie just ahead for the autumn and winter—the period when indoor activities really come into their own. Now the electronics constructor faces his most productive period of the year and starts to think again of projects long intended, but not so far realised. A foraging amongst back numbers of periodicals probably brings to light some design ear-marked long ago for the earliest possible attention. And there is the constant flow of new ideas that come from sources such as this magazine regularly each month (normal conditions prevailing).

Some constructors like a reasonably large and involved project to get their teeth into, and something which will keep them usefully occupied over several months. This kind of need will be satisfied in many instances by the P.E. Closed Circuit Television Camera. Although CCTV systems are common enough in commercial and industrial fields, this particular type of instrument has not yet come into general use. Since most homes possess the necessary monitor in the form of the normal TV set, it is a pity that a private, personal CCTV facility is not more readily available. With our specially commissioned design for a camera, this does now become a reasonable and economic proposition for the average constructor, and permits him to extend his technical knowledge and experience by acquiring new skills in video work which can be applied to instruct or entertain his own family or circle of friends, in a multitude of ways.

Of course, some constructors prefer smaller and less complicated designs. We don't neglect or ignore them. There is always a wide choice of subjects in P.E. each month.

Whatever the individual choice may be, of this there is no doubt: by becoming immersed in his hobby the electronics constructor can forget for a while some of the more gloomy news which seems to provide a constant background to present day affairs.

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SURVEILLANCE

M ost commercially available closed circuit television equipment is of semi or fully professional quality and is therefore financially prohibitive to a large group of potential users. This project describes an economical and relatively simple, black and white, amateur grade CCTV Camera.

The constructor should, without the use of specialised test equipment, be able to build this interesting and extremely useful item for less than £60—the cost being controlled to a large extent by the lens used with the camera.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The greatest economy is made by basing the design of the camera unit on an amateur grade one inch diameter Vidicon (namely the EMI 9677). This device may be obtained, together with its scan coil assembly and pin connector, from EMI Electron Tube Division, 243 Blyth Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1HJ.

7400 family logic is utilised to generate the complex synchronisation signals required within the camera system. This feature renders the widely used, discrete component equivalent obsolete and enables a cheaper, more compact and less power consuming replacement. The hybrid nature of the circuitry, due to the combination of digital integrated circuits and transistors, will, it is hoped, give the constructor some interesting examples of how these contrasting components may live together in harmony.

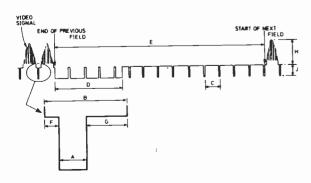


Fig. 1.1. CCIR 625/405 line TV Standards

The camera, whose circuitry is mounted on two printed circuit boards and is compatible to either 625 or 405 line TV standards (by a simple adjustment), may be coupled to a remote TV monitor via a single coaxial link. Alternatively, the unit may be used in conjunction with a standard domestic 625 line TV receiver with the aid of a u.h.f. modulator. This will enable the video information from the camera to be injected into the receiver aerial socket.

A strong aluminium case houses the mainspowered camera in a compact yet accessible manner and caters for the attachment of a standard photographic tripod.

BRITISH TV STANDARDS

A television picture is made up of a series of merging horizontal lines. One complete picture or frame is scanned out every 1/25 second, and is "enhanced" by the tube phosphor for a very short time—thus enabling following frames to be scanned-out to give a flicker free and lifelike appearance to the moving picture.

If one visualises a picture being sliced into thin horizontal strips, which are linked end-to-end to form a long chain, then it is not a difficult conception to understand how the information is conveyed from a TV camera to its monitor. Reconstruction of the "mutilated" picture in the above example requires knowledge of the exact location of each strip, and introduces the need for two groups of

	Table 1·1	625-Line 405-Lin			
Α	Line sync pulse	4μs	8μs		
В	Line blanking period	12μs	18μs		
С	Line period	64μs	98μs		
D	Field sync pulse	250μs	350μs		
E	Field blanking period	1-28ms	1·4ms		
F	Front porch	2μs	2μs		
G	Back porch	6μs	8μs		
H:J	Video: Sync ratio	7:3	7:3		
H + J	Composite video level	IV pk/pk	IV pk/pk		

^{*}North Staffordshire Polytechnic

information—video and synchronisation. For convenience, both groups of information are then compressed into a composite signal to enable

single channel conveyance.

Approximate CCIR 405/625 line TV standards are shown in Fig. 1.1. Video and sync information are easily distinguished by their respective positive and negative-going directions. Most aspects of the composite video waveform shown may be summarised as follows.

Line Sync Pulse The leading edge of the line sync pulse marks the end of a line scan and initiates a beam flyback in the scanning process. Inaccuracy in the generation of these sync pulses will give rise to line slip or the breaking up of the monitored picture—they must therefore be inserted precisely in time with fast vertical edges.

Line Blanking Period The electron beam in any TV system requires a finite time to traverse the face of the tube. To allow for this flyback time, and to prevent the action of beam flyback from interfering with the intended scanning process (by retracing itself), a line blanking period is employed. This period blanks-off the video signal and starts slightly before the line sync pulse, ending some microseconds after its completion and accounts for up to 15 per cent of the total available line time.

Front Porch This period allows time for the video signal voltage to fall to the blanking level before the action of the line sync pulse.

Back Porch Composite video signals are often processed by amplifiers having no d.c. coupling facilities. This unfortunately allows the video levels to drift and give a mean voltage level coincident with zero volts d.c. D.c. restoration is simply achieved in the TV monitor/receiver by clamping the reference level to the back porch for the duration of the following line. All picture half tones are thus faithfully reproduced.

Field Sync Pulse The leading edge of the field sync pulse marks the end of a complete field and initiates a beam flyback. As field deflection coils are generally more inductive than line deflection coils, the time taken for a flyback operation is understandably longer (as t=L/R seconds). The energy in the field sync pulse must then be correspondingly larger than that in the line sync pulse. Pulse energy is calculated as the product of its height (volts) and its width (seconds) and is, in this case, more conveniently controlled by its width. A field sync pulse of $160\mu s-300\mu s$ width performs the required task admirably, at the same time making it easily differentiated from the line sync pulse.

A frame sync pulse of at least 150µs duration would obliterate several line sync pulses and momentarily inhibit the operation of the line generator in the monitor/receiver. It is preferable to maintain the free-running of the line generator due to its difficult fast-starting properties. For this reason, the long field sync pulse is broken up into a series of broad pulses, enabling the delivery of a pulse whenever the line generator expects one.

In more sophisticated TV systems, the field sync pulse is the most complex signal of them all. This is to cater for the fully synchronised interlacing;

whereby in 625 line standards, for example, field 1 would commence scanning at the top left hand corner and comprise 312.5 lines, whilst field 2 would start scanning the inter-leaved remainder of the 625 lines halfway along the top line. Interlaced scanning is accurately achieved in this way but is unfortunately costly in circuitry. The alternative to fully synchronised scanning will be explained shortly.

Field Blanking Period Blanks the video signal whilst field flyback is performed, taking about 20 line periods.

Composite Video Bandwidth The theoretical maximum frequency of the signal from a TV Camera is given by:

 $f_{\rm max}=rac{a\ N^2P}{2}$ where N is the number of lines in a picture frame, P is the number of frames/second and $a=rac{4}{3}$ the picture aspect ratio.

For 625 lines $f_{\text{max}} = 6.5 \text{MHz}$; for 405 lines $f_{\text{max}} = 2.74 \text{MHz}$.

The theoretical maximum bandwidth assumes equal horizontal and vertical resolution. In practice this is not so and lower working bandwidths are possible—5MHz for 625 line standards.



RANDOM INTERLACING

The CCIR system of field sync pulses required to generate fully synchronised interlacing requires costly additional circuitry, which would therefore defeat the object of producing a compact, low-cost TV camera. For this reason alone, the above system is not incorporated and will not be summarised in this preamble.

If the field and line sync pulses were generated separately and not synchronised to one another in any way, a system of random interlacing would be obtained. To use random interlacing to its fullest potential, the line generator must generate exactly half the number of lines in a picture frame per field, thus positioning the interlaced field accurately within the first field.

In practice, the frequency of a simple line generator will have a limited stability—and will thus impair the accurate positioning of interlaced fields. Alternate fields will randomly vary in position to give a maximum possible resolution of 625 lines/frame—and a mean resolution of slightly less than 625 lines/frame.

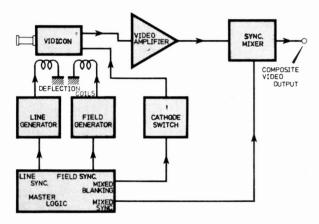


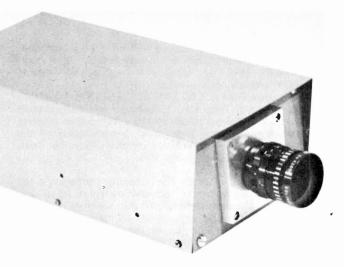
Fig. 1.2. CCTV camera system block diagram

TV CAMERA SYSTEM

The schematic diagram of the TV Camera is shown in Fig. 1.2. All the sync signal timing and generation is performed by the Master Logic, which may be thought of as the system heart. Each of the control pulses is then directed to its appropriate location.

Scanning within the Vidicon camera tube is made possible by driving the deflection coils with current waveforms, which are synchronised to the line and field sync pulses and generated by the Line and Field Generators. Actual width and height of the scanned area are set within the Line and Field Generator circuitry.

The scanning beam of the Vidicon is switched off by the Cathode Switch to inhibit the video signal during blanking periods. The video signal is amplified up to the required level and mixed with the line and field sync pulses—driving composite video into a 75 ohm load.



MASTER LOGIC

Examination of the Table 1.1 of the CCIR TV standards shows that the shortest period involved A convenient 2μ s (625 line front porch). and accurate technique of obtaining a great proportion of the pulses required within the Master Logic would be to generate a 2µs pulse chain from a 250kHz clock and successively divide it down in time using a binary counter. A 4-stage binary counter, using SN7473's, would count to 16 negative going pulse edges before repeating itself, giving a repeat time of $16 \times 4 = 64 \mu s$, or the line time of a 625 line picture. Within this 64 µs repeat time, logic gates could easily construct pulses of various durations from any combination of the available 2µs "time slots".

Fig. 1.3 shows the Master Logic circuit diagram

and Fig. 1.4 its relevant waveforms.

A 4-stage divider, comprising BS1, 2, 3 and 4, is driven from a variable frequency clock to give pulse chains A, B, C, D and E, and their inverted complements. The clock is basically two cross-coupled NAND gates, G3 and G4, which means that either output A or A is high (+ 5V) at any one time. If A is high, then D2 becomes reverse biased and C2 is allowed to charge via the input resistance of G2. The output of G2 will subsequently become low (0V) and A high, causing D2 to conduct and rapidly discharge C2. The repeat of this procedure will occur now in the other half of the clock (concerning G1, D1 and C1), thus completing the loop and maintaining repetitive generation of 2µs pulses. R1 and VR1 control the capacitor charge rate (clock frequency), and G5 is simply a self starting gate, ensuring the output of G2 to be low immediately after switch-on.

Remembering that all inputs of a NAND gate must be high for its output to be low, the selection of line sync and blanking pulses may now be understood. The first six 2\mus time slots are selected by G6 and G7 to represent a line blanking period of 12\mus. The first 2\mus time slot represents the front porch, whilst the second and third are selected by G8, G9, G10 and G11 to represent a line sync period of 4\mus. This latter pulse is inverted by G12 to give it the correct positive going direction.

FIELD CONTROL SIGNALS

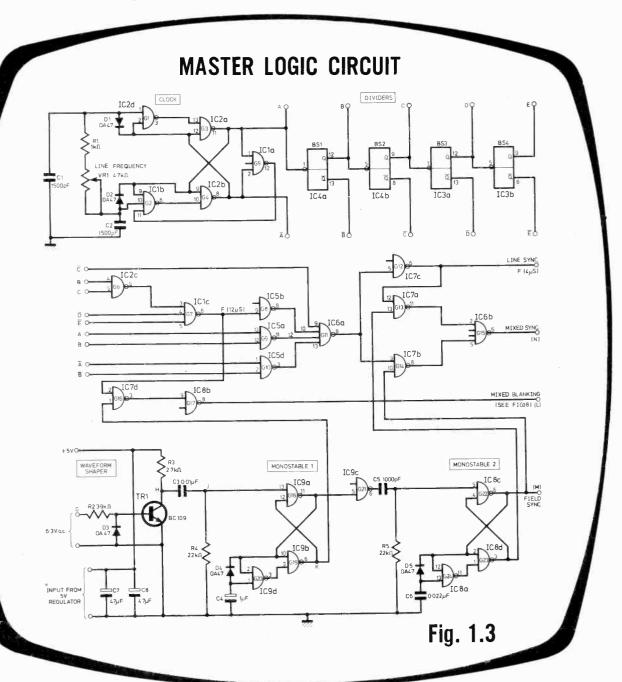
Concentrating now on the field control signal generation, we move to the waveform shaper. When the high gain stage comprising TR1, R2 and R3

amplifies the Vidicon heater voltage, which is already 6.3V a.c. or 18V pk/pk, the resultant will be the square shaped waveform with 20ms cycle time, as shown by H. D3 simply protects TR1 against the high reverse $V_{\rm be}$. C3 and R4 will further act to differentiate this square-shaped signal to present negative edges to Monostable 1 input every 20ms. Monostable 1 will then generate the field blanking pulse of 1.2ms and Monostable 2 the field sync pulse of 250 μ s—both Monostables being effectively triggered by the negative-going edges J.

The operation of both monostables is understood from the description of the clock, which is basically two monostables itself. Again, the values of C4 and C6 determine the widths of the generated pulses, which are available together with their complements at the outputs of the monostable.

Line and field blanking pulses, F (12μ s) and K respectively, are mixed in G16 and inverted by G17 to give the correct negative going direction.

The mixing of line and field sync pulses is not so straightforward. In the absence of a field sync pulse, line sync pulses are routed through G13 and G15 to be outputted as positive going signals. However, in the presence of a field sync pulse, the mixed sync output is made high, whilst line sync pulses are routed through G14 and G15 to be effectively inverted at the output. In this way, the long field



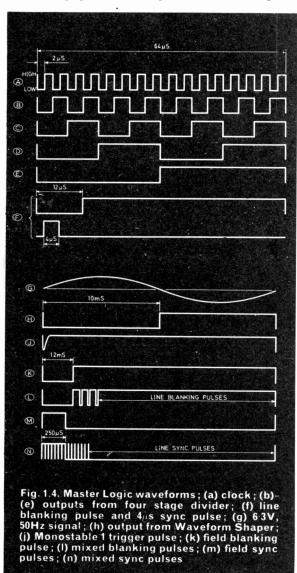
sync pulses are divided into a series of broad pulses and line sync pulses are still conveyed.

VR1 is adjusted for 625-line operation by setting the clock frequency to 250kHz (2µs time slots), or for 405-line operation by setting the clock frequency to 162kHz (3·1µs time slots).

As previously stated, the master logic is the heart of the TV camera system and controls the timing of all control signals. Tremendous flexibility is obtained by the use of a master clock, which by the adjustment of a single control, enables the alteration of all the required control signals to suit almost any TV standards.

THE VIDICON

A cross sectional view of the Vidicon, given in Fig. 1.5, shows how a scene is imaged onto the photoconductive target by an optical lens. The focused image, which the human eye knows to be a complex light pattern, is then converted into an electrical charge pattern by the photoconductive target.



An electron beam is generated by the Vidicon electron gun (comprising cathode, control grid Gi and limiter anode G2) and focused into a fine spot on the rear surface of the target. Suitable beam deflection, made possible by the scan coils, will then scan the beam in a raster fashion to cover the required area of the focused image. The beam current is adjusted to neutralise the electrical charge pattern during the scanning process and enables yet another conversion; this being the conversion of electrical charge into current. We now have a complex current pattern which resembles the initial light pattern of the focused image, and, although the

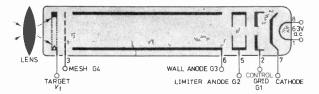


Fig. 1.5. The EMI 9677 1in Vidicon

range of target current is small, it is now in a form found most convenient for electronic processing (i.e. amplification).

A potential V_t is applied to the target in order to enable the electron beam to reach its rear surface (just as in valve theory we have to apply positive anode potentials to enable current flow from the cathode). This potential roughly determines the operational sensitivity, higher values of V_t giving a more efficient conversion (more target current per level of light intensity). Typical values of V_t are + 50V for low-light conditions, and + 20V for bright-light conditions. One point to remember is that operation at high values of V_t gives correspondingly higher "black" currents (target current representing black or unlight areas of the image), resulting in a "grey" reproduction of the shade black

Sensitivity may also be controlled to some extent by the electron beam current. Beam current is simply controlled by the control grid potential $V_{\rm G_1}$, higher currents being obtained from less-negative value of $V_{\rm G_1}$. The beam current is adjusted to neutralise or discharge the electrical charge pattern established on the target; a typical value of $V_{\rm G_1}$ being + 20V with respect to the cathode. It must be appreciated that operation at high beam currents will correspond to a larger focused spot—and a lower picture resolution.

VIDEO SIGNAL CURRENT

Assuming the Vidicon camera tube to be suitably adjusted (i.e. correct electrode potentials are applied) for the capture of a well illuminated scene, the video signal current from the target will range from approximately 10nA, representing the black level, and 300nA, representing the full white level. This range of currents must be suitably amplified to give a working level of 700mV pk/pk.

The most convenient way of amplifying this signal would be to convert it to a voltage signal prior to amplification. To do this, various points must be

COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors	
R1 $1k\Omega$	R26 $1k\Omega$
R2 3.9kΩ	R27 $1k\Omega$
R3 2·7kΩ	R28 1·5kΩ
R4 22kΩ	R29 $1k\Omega$
R5 22kΩ	R30 470Ω
R6 220kΩ	R31 220 Ω
R7 6·8kΩ	R32 $1k\Omega$
R8 47kΩ	R33 5⋅6kΩ
R9 $1k\Omega$	R34 $1.2k\Omega$
R10 470Ω	R35 $10k\Omega$
R11 470Ω	R36 100Ω
R12 2·7kΩ	R37 150kΩ
R13 470Ω	R38 $100k\Omega$
R14 3·9kΩ	R39 2·8kΩ
R15 6·8kΩ	R40 100 k Ω
R16 $1k\Omega$	R41 15Ω
R17 180kΩ	R42 390kΩ
R18 18Ω	R43 $1k\Omega$
R19 2·2kΩ	R44 680Ω
R20 470Ω	R45 470Ω
R21 $2.2k\Omega$	R46 100Ω 5% 2 watt
R22 $10k\Omega$	R 47 2·7kΩ
R23 82Ω	R48 270 Ω
R24 82Ω	R49 390Ω
R25 470Ω	R50 100Ω 5% 1 watt

All $5\% \frac{1}{2}$ watt carbon except where otherwise stated

Capacitors Č1 1,500pf Ceramic 1,500pf Ceramic 0.01μF Polyester (Mullard C280) 1μF Elect. 10V C4 1,000pF Ceramic 0.022µF Polyester (Mullard C280) C5 C₆ 47μF Elect. 10V C7 4·7 μF Elect. 10V C8 C9 1 μF Elect. 63 V 1μF Elect. 63V C10 47μF Elect. 25 V C11 C12 10µF Elect. 25V 10μF Elect. 25V C13 C14 4.7μF Elect. 25 V C15 4.7µF Elect. 25V C16 10µF Elect. 25V C17 4.7μ F Elect. 25V

C19 100µF Elect. 25V C20 470pF Ceramic 4.7μF Elect. 25V C21 C22 470µF Elect. 10V C23 1,000µF Elect. 25V C24 16µF Elect. 350V C25 16µF Elect. 200V C26 32µF Elect. 200V

C18 47µF Elect. 25 V

0.22μF Polyester (Mullard C280) C27

1,000µF Elect. 25 V C28 470μF Elect. 10V 470μF Elect. 10V C29 C30 220µF Elect. 10V C31

Transistors BC109 (10 off) TR1-TR10 BF178 TR11 BC109 TR12 2N4060 **TR13** 2N5245 **TR14** TR15-TR16* BFY51 (2 off) BC109 TR17 BFY51 TR18* BC109 **TR19** * transistors must include clip-on heatsinks

Integrated Circuits

SN7410 IC1 SN7400 IC2 SN7473 (2 off) IC3-IC4 SN7400 IC5 SN7420 IC6 SN7400 (3 off) IC7-IC9

Diodes

OA47 (5 off) D1-D5 OA202 D6 BZY88 400mW 5·6V Zener D7D8-D11 IN4001 (4 off) IN4007 D12 IN4005 D13 BZY88 400mW 5.6V Zener D14 BZY88 400mW 3.9V Zener D15

Potentiometers

4.7kΩ miniature skeleton VR1 100Ω miniature skeleton VR2 470Ω miniature skeleton VR3 $1k\Omega$ miniature skeleton VR4 4.7kΩ miniature skeleton VR5 VR6-VR7 $50k\Omega$ linear (2 off) 470Ω miniature skeleton VR8 100 Ω miniature skeleton VR9 100Ω 1W wire wound **VR10** All skeleton pots are horizontal mounting type

Transformers

T1 Type 634 Pri-250V, Sec. 17.5V @ 1.6A (R.S. Components) T2 Midget mains Pri-245V, Sec. 125-0-125V @ 50mA; 6·3V @ 1·2A (R.S. Components)

Inductors

L1, L2 150 and 85 turns respectively of 36 s.w.g. enamelled copper wire on Mullard FX2239 ferrite cores Focus coil EMI, L3 L4-L5 Line scan coils 243, Blyth Road, L6-L7 Field scan coils Hayes, Middlesex

Vidicon Tube

V1 9677 Vidicon (EMI) (see text) /

Camera Lens

Soligor television lens, f1.9, 25mm focal length (Dixons Photographic)

Miscellaneous

Flush-mounting Coax Socket D.p.s.t. Mains toggle 3 knobs Assorted 6BA, 4BA and 2BA nuts and bolts ∄in × åin steel rod Eight 2BA chrome-head screws Length of 3-core Mains lead Sheet 18 s.w.g. aluminium 18in \times $6\frac{1}{4}$ in Sheet 20 s.w.g. aluminium 113 in × 125 in 1in $\times \frac{1}{4}$ in aluminium $3\frac{1}{2}$ in long $2\frac{3}{4}$ in \times $2\frac{3}{4}$ in \times $\frac{1}{2}$ in aluminium block Rubber grommet $\frac{1}{4}$ in $\times \frac{1}{2}$ in 6.3V Pilot lamp (panel mounting)

considered. Let us firstly examine the equivalent input network required to convert the video current to a voltage signal, which will subsequently be presented to the Video Amplifier input. Such a network is shown in Fig 1.6.

The output of the Vidicon may be considered as being a current source (i.e. having infinite shunt resistance). Conversion of signal current to voltage is then simply achieved by passing I_t through R_{in} , the input resistance of the Video Amplifier. Now, by Ohm's law, $V = I_1 \times R_{1n}$, and the magnitude of the voltage available at the Video Amplifier input will be proportional to the value of R_{in} . Unfortunately, however, there exists an equivalent shunt capacitance, C_{in} , which is made up from the output capacitance of the Vidicon and the input capacitance, of the Video Amplifier. $C_{\rm in}$ will, in conjunction with $R_{\rm in}$, determine the frequency response of the input network by:

$$f_{\text{max}} = \frac{1}{2\pi C_{\text{in}} R_{\text{in}}} \text{Hz}$$

 $f_{\rm max} = \frac{1}{2\pi~C_{\rm in}~R_{\rm in}}~{\rm Hz}$ Therefore, as $C_{\rm in}$ is essentially fixed, $R_{\rm in}$ must be limited to a value giving the 5MHz maximum working frequency required for 625-line operation.

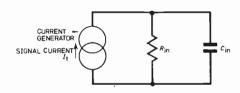


Fig. 1.6. Equivalent input network of the Video Amplifier

VIDEO AMPLIFIER

The Video Amplifier circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 1.7. Due to the application target, the first stage potential, V_1 , to the Vidicon target, the first stage of the Video Amplifier is a.c. coupled via C10. V_{ij} is then simply conveyed to its destination by R6 after being decoupled by C9 to prevent any unwanted signals breaking through to the extremely sensitive amplifier input.

As a common emitter stage presents a relatively low impedance at its input, we are presented with two alternatives in design. Either overall negative feedback is applied to the amplifier to increase its input impedance, or an emitter follower front end is used. Overall negative feedback tends to create instability in wideband amplifiers, whilst an emitter follower stage inherently presents a relatively high input impedance. The first stage is therefore chosen to be an emitter follower or impedance converter of unity voltage gain.

The equivalent shunt input capacitance, $C_{\rm in}$ is 6pF. Now, for 5MHz bandwidth, commanded by 625 line TV standards, the total shunt input resistance, R_{in}, may be calculated as:

$$R_{\rm in} = \frac{1}{2\pi \ C_{\rm in \ fmax}} = 5.3 \text{k}\Omega$$

In practice, R_{in} is made up from resistors R6, R7 and R8, which are designed to give an equivalent shunt resistance of $5.3k\Omega$. The input resistance of TR2 is very high and may be neglected in the above calculation.

From knowledge of the maximum signal current, $I_{t(max)}$, the input voltage developed across R_{in} may

$$V_{\text{in(max)}} = I_{\text{t(max)}} \times R_{\text{in}} = 300 \text{nA} \times 5.3 \text{k}\Omega$$

= 1,590 μ V pk/pk

A Video Amplifier gain of 440 is therefore required to produce the required 700mV of video signal at the output. Additional gain will also be made available for increased sensitivity if required.

Most of the signal gain is achieved by the second stage, which is a cascode amplifier, comprising TR3, TR4 and associated components.

Low-noise BC109's are used in this novel mode to enable high gain, wideband amplification. Stage 2 is directly coupled from stage I and achieves a voltage gain of 70.

The output signal from the cascode stage is taken to the next voltage gain stage via an emitter follower. This emitter follower, TR5 and R16, is directly coupled to the cascode stage and establishes a low

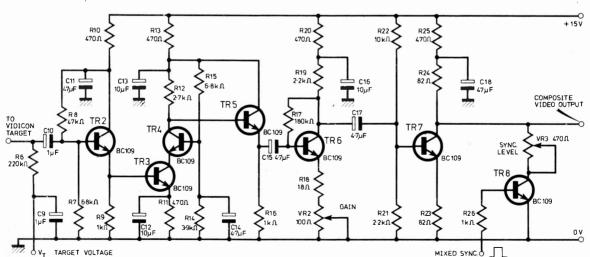


Fig. 1.7. Video Amplifier and Sync Mixer

impedance drive into the capacitive input of the common emitter stage built around TR6. Wideband amplification is ensured by the use of this accepted technique.

Local negative feedback is applied to TR6 to control its stage gain, VR2 giving the required range of amplification of between 6 and 40. Sufficient gain has now been contributed to the Video Ampli-

fier to give 700mV of video signal.

Two further functions are to be facilitated in the video amplification—180 degree phase shift to give a positive going video waveform, and impedance conversion to give 75 ohm output impedance. The final stage of TR7 and associated components is a common emitter amplifier with approximately 75 ohms load in both collector and emitter circuits and therefore performs the impedance conversion and acts as a unity-gain signal inverter.

A.C. coupling has been utilised in the Video Amplifier via C10, C15 and C17. Each value of capacitance is designed to pass the lowest frequency component of the video signal—that being the field repetition frequency of 50Hz.

The supply to each stage is individually decoupled to prevent unwanted breakthrough (feedback) of the various signals within the TV Camera system.

SYNC MIXER

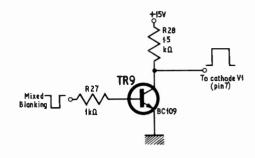
Mixed sync pulses are used to switch TR8, which in turn will switch the d.c. level of the collector of TR7 negatively by a controlled amount. VR3 is adjusted to enable 0.3V negative sync pulses to be superimposed on the video signal.

CATHODE SWITCH

Blanking is facilitated by the Cathode Switch, whose circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 1.8.

The Vidicon electron beam current may be cut off by either applying a large negative potential to the control grid G1, or conversely, a large positive potential to the cathode. Arguing for and against these two methods, beam cut off control via the cathode seems to be most convenient.

As all Vidicon electrode potentials are measured with respect to the cathode, alteration of the cathode potential therefore controls several mechanisms

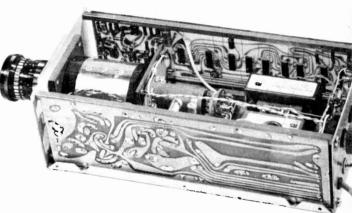


within the tube. The beam current is reduced and a limited number of electrons reach a less positively biased target with the application of +15V to the cathode.

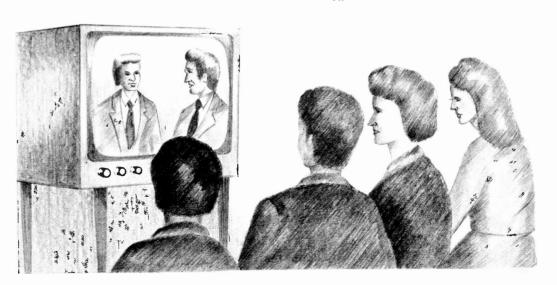
Mixed blanking pulses are used to switch TR9 and apply the Vidicon cathode with one of two potentials —0V to make the required beam current available for scanning, and +15V to blank or switch off the beam during flyback periods.

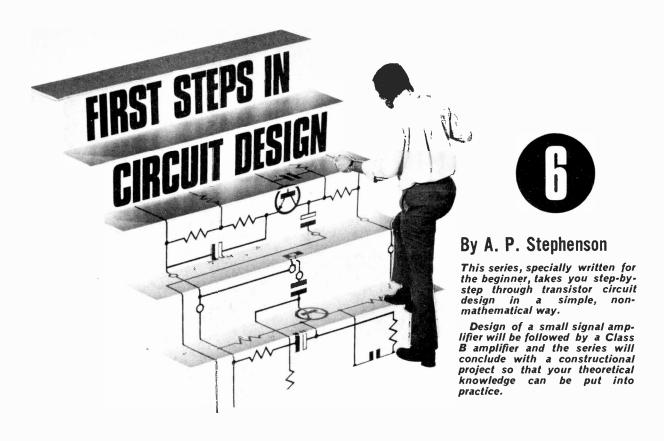
The video signal is now blanked and sync pulses added accordingly to produce the composite video

waveform.



Next month: P.C.B. construction and more camera electronics





STABLE and predictable power amplifiers are not easy to design and it is only fair to warn would-be designers of the danger of increasing the bank overdraft!

A miscalculation in a resistor value, a too hasty twiddle of a preset, or a loose nut on a heatsink, can often be enough to trigger off an avalanche of disaster.

A typical sequence of events would commence with a slight rise in the temperature in the output

transistors; this increases the drive current which in turn increases the temperature and so on. Eventually (usually after a few milliseconds) bang go the outputs, the drivers and, if you are particularly unlucky, the loudspeaker cones.

In fact the writer's experience suggests that the fuse is the hardiest component in the chain.

Strictly speaking, the power amplifier should be left in the hands of the professional.

6.1. POWER AND VOLTAGE AMPLIFIERS COMPARED

If one's aims are moderate, in the sense of only a few hundred milliwatts rather than tens of watts, there is no reason for not trying one or two circuits if only to get the feel of the beasts. The best way to start is to list the problems of power amplifiers in comparison with voltage amplifiers.

Voltage amplifiers normally operate with relatively small signal swings well within the available limits of

ground and supply rail.

Thus distortion due to non-linearity is not too serious because the small part of the transistor

characteristic used is almost a straight line.

Power amplifiers, in order to operate efficiently, must use all the available voltage swing, giving rise to distortion levels which would be unacceptable without circuit sophistication.

The power output transistors require large currents, sometimes many amps. This means considerable heat production which tends to be cumulative because

(a) Leakage current is no longer negligible.

(b) Base to emitter voltage ($V_{\rm BE}$) can no longer be taken as 0.6V because of the relation to temperature ($V_{\rm BE}$ falls by 2mV for every degree C rise).

(c) $h_{\rm FE}$ is dependent on temperature, rising as temperature increases. Thus the drive increases with temperature.

High power transistors have a much lower $h_{\rm FE}$ -20 or 30 instead of 200 or 300.

6.2. BASIC CIRCUIT OUTLINES

Class B push-pull is used almost exclusively for power output stages but, unlike the old valve circuits, modern circuits dispense with transformers.

There are many possible permutations as will be seen in the following selection. No intricate details will be shown, merely the outlines.

PURE COMPLEMENTARY PUSH-PULL

Figs. 6.1 and 6.2 show two complementary pushpull circuits which have the merit of neatness, balance, low impedance output, and high, equal drive impedances.

There is one practical disadvantage—it is difficult to match high power pnp and npn transistors. So-called "matched pairs" are available on the market but are quite expensive if close matching is required.

QUASI-COMPLEMENTARY PUSH-PULL

Because it is easier to match transistors of the same type, particularly *npn* pairs, the arrangements shown in Figs. 6.3 and 6.4 are very popular.

There are two snags however: one transistor is an emitter follower and the other is grounded emitter. The other snag is the input phasing which means that a pair of anti-phase signals are necessary.

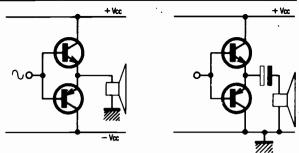


Fig. 6.1. Complementary push-pull circuit using a centre-tapped supply rail and Fig. 6.2. using a single supply rail

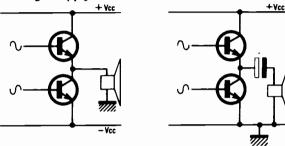


Fig. 6.3. Quasi-complementary push-pull circuit with a centre-tapped supply and Fig. 6.4. using a single supply rail

6.3. QUIESCENT CURRENT IN CLASS B

. The virtue of pure Class B can be stated in one word—efficiency.

With the volume control turned down (i.e. no drive signal) the power-hungry output stages are also off and draw no current. Thus the power consumed by the output stages is proportional to the input signal.

In Class A the output stages are permanently consuming power without an input signal.

CROSSOVER DISTORTION

Unfortunately we are unable to use pure Class B with transistor pairs because of the rather disagreeable "crossover distortion".

Consider what happens if we apply a signal to a pair of complementary outputs whose bases are tied together (see Fig. 6.5).

The top waveform is the input signal voltage which drives TR1 to conduction on the positive

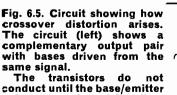
input cycles and TR2 on the negative. Thus the load receives its current only from one transistor at a time, because the other is cut off.

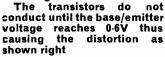
The bottom waveform shows the current through the respective transistors and the distortion due to "crossover".

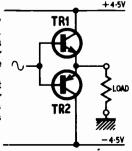
From zero volts to +0.6V there is no current in TR1 and from zero volts to -0.6V there is no current in TR2. Thus we have discontinuities in the current waveform in the vicinity of the crossover point at zero volts.

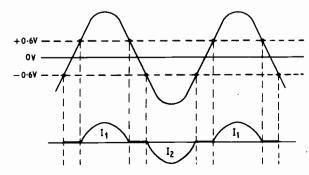
To overcome this, the transistors are usually operated with a small forward bias so that, in the absence of an input signal, they are both slightly conducting.

The value of this current is called the "quiescent current" and is, in practice, a rather trial and error affair being a compromise between acceptable cross-over distortion and acceptable quiescent dissipation.









6.4. THE DRIVER STAGE

A simple driver stage can be used to serve two purposes: to provide some voltage gain; and to develop the 1.2 volts needed to ensure that both bases are slightly forward biased at zero s'gnal.

Fig. 6.6 shows a simple but quite workable little circuit which is worth studying.

Note carefully the following points:

(a) The d.c. voltage drops are the quiescent

values (zero signal).

(b) To avoid a centre tapped supply, the loudspeaker is connected via a d.c. blocking electrolytic capacitor to ground—a well-established practice although alternatively it could be returned to the positive rail, with the capacitor polarity reversed.

(c) The diode is not absolutely necessary, but does help to compensate for $V_{\rm BE}$ changes in the

output transistors.

In theory, we could have two diodes and scrap VR1 altogether, because the two together would give us the 1.2V needed to turn on the bases of TR1 and TR2. However, this assumes that the temperature coefficients of both diodes and transistors are identical.

By using one diode and a "twiddler" we can make a fine adjustment in quiescent current.

(d) The bias current for TR3 is bled from the output line via R2 which introduces heavy d.c. negative feedback and keeps the output locked at midpoint (4.5V).

There is no signal negative feedback so the gain

is not affected.

(e) The "voltage gain" of the circuit is a figure whose calculation can easily be tackled from the wrong lines.

Superficially we may be tricked into thinking that TR3 is an ordinary voltage amplifier stage with a gain equal to $R_{\rm C}/r_{\rm e}$ where $R_{\rm C}$ is R1.

There is nothing wrong with the equation but it is erroneous to think that R1 in the diagram is the collector resistor since it is swamped by the R_{1N} of the output transistors.

The effective signal load of TR3 is the input resistance of an emitter follower stage which is

$$R_{\rm IN} = h_{\rm FE} R_{\rm L}$$

where $R_{\rm L}$ is the loudspeaker impedance.

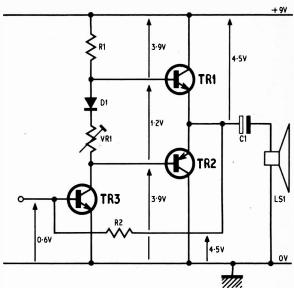


Fig. 6.6. Complementary output stage with a simple driver circuit using single diode for base/emitter voltage stabilisation

EXAMPLE

Assume the h_{FE} of the output transistors is 50, the collector current of TR3 1mA, and the speaker impedance 8 ohms.

The voltage gain from the base of TR3 to speaker

$$A = R_{\rm C}/r_{\rm e}$$
 where $r_{\rm e} = 25/I_{\rm C}$ (mA) = 25 ohms and $R_{\rm C} = h_{\rm FE}.R_{\rm L} = 50 \times 8 = 400$ Hence gain = $400/25 = 16$.

(f) The input resistance (R_{1N}) of TR3 is $h_{te} \times r_{e}$ in parallel with R2/A

If this seems strange, remember that the method of obtaining the bias is fundamentally "collector-to-base feedback" which was discussed in section 4.1.

The gain of the emitter followers being unity means that, although R2 is taken from the output stages, it is effectively taken from the collector of TR3.

6.5. LIMITATIONS OF THE SIMPLE CIRCUIT

The high frequency response of the circuit-described is poor mainly due to the capacity of the collector-base diode of TR1. When TR1 is off the capacity is across R1.

To reduce this effect we can bootstrap R1 by splitting it in two and connecting the output to the

junction via a large blocking capacitor.

This has the effect of making R1 higher by a factor equal to the reciprocal of one minus the voltage gain of the output transistor (α) .

$$R1' = \frac{R1}{1-\alpha}$$

This does however introduce some positive feedback.

Another advantage of this bootstrapping technique is that the current through TR3 is virtually constant since the voltage across R1 is kept constant."

Thus the drive to the output transistors is via a constant current source which decreases the non-linearity of the $V_{\rm BE}$ characteristic of the output stages.

Next month: Concluding article and special constructional project linked to this series

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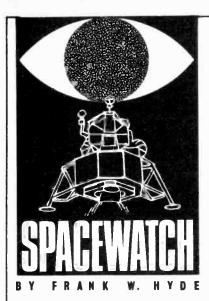
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RESULTS FROM JUPITER

The data returned from *Pioneer 10* about Jupiter will take a great deal of time to analyse and correlate. However, there is now emerging some early interpretation of the data.

When the study of the radio radiations began, with the discovery in 1955 of the intense outbursts of energy from the planet, it was clear that for this effect to occur it required an intense magnetic field to be present. This is because high electron energy, more than 3MeV, is needed to produce synchroton radiation.

The Earth-based results had indicated that the magnetic field was more intense than that of the Earth, as high as 8/10 gauss, and it was suggested that the magnetic field was in fact 11° off centre and at a meridian of about 220°. These theories were based on the radio rotation period of Jupiter.

It was also suggested that because the pole of the magnetic field was so far inclined from the rotation axis, it produced a variability which gave rise to the radiation.

ANALYSIS RESULTS

An analysis of the whole matter by using both the geographical axis and the magnetic axis gave results which indicated that Jupiter's satellite Io had a profound effect on the times of the radio radiations. In tests carried out by the writer and others as part of a NASA project under the leadership of C. H. Barrow this effect was found to be correct for about 60 per cent of the events. The events not lining up with this can now be explained as a result of the *Pioneer* findings.

The in situ measurements that were made by the spacecraft have shown that there are two areas of magnetic effect. One is the field of 4 gauss, which extends to a distance of 20 Jupiter radii. and the other a non dipole field which extends to 108 Jupiter radii. In the latter field the lines seem to be centred near the equator. This displaced relative to the magnetic equator is about 0-1 Jupiter radius north. The longitudinal position is about 174°.

At the central region of the magnetic field the magnetosphere seems to behave in the same way as that of the Earth. In the region beyond this protons and electrons are concentrated near to the equator. This seems to be emphasised on the dawn side.

It is clear that the satellites Amlthea, Io, Europa and Ganymede are "absorbers" of electrons. Thus, there is an explanation for the variations in the Jupiter radiations.

It also raises the question of Saturn which though of a similar composition chemically and physically shows no observable magnetic field. It could be that the presence of the rings of the planet inhibit the formation of a magnetic field. This should be cleared up by Pioneer 11 which is to pass inside the rings.

Meanwhile *Pioneer 10* is leaving the Solar system at the rate of 280 million miles a year. At present it continues to send back data of its environment

SATELLITES ON CALL

The call for satellite assistance is now beginning to be a part of the peaceful economic use of space technology.

The Australian Government sought the assistance of NASA to photograph Lake Eyre during the recent serious flooding. The photographs are required in order to see what were the reasons for the immense amount of water flowing in formally dry watercourses in Australia's most arid regions. Lake Eyre is at the present time covering an area of 300 square miles and the satellite pictures will enable a plan to be formulated in case of future floodings.

Water is pouring in from as far away as Western Queensland and it is thought that if the level of the lake can be kept high, then the rainfall can be increased in areas as far apart as South Australia. New South Wales and Western Australia.

It is also being suggested that pumping sea water into the area could have a profound effect on the environment. It is a new economical possibility that Australia must consider.

SUNSPOTS AND THUNDER-STORMS

It has long been a joke that almost anything can be predicted by sunspot cycles, from birth incidence to car sales. However, some of the correlations are now receiving special attention and one of these is the event of the thunder-storm.

Using the 11 years sunspot cycle there does appear to be a positive link between the sunspots and thunderstorms. Data produced by M. F. Stringfellow working at the Electricity Council's research centre, who examined records from 1930 to 1973, based on the number of faults induced in overhead lines, taken together with the number of thunderstorm days has revealed a formula

It is claimed that the events are related in that the number of lightning flashes is proportional to the square of the mean number of events. This can be applied in a predictive form to provide warning in advance. It is certain this cyclic variation is consistent and had an amplitude of \pm 30 per cent of the mean.

The next solar maximum is predicted to have a two-fold increase on 1973.

BEADS FROM THE MOON

The minute and almost spherical glass beads, returned from Apollo 12, found in the Lunar regolith to the extent of 1 per cent have been studied by B. Scarlett and R. E. Buxton of Loughborough University of Technology. Results have shown that they are the product of the break up of liquid jets of rock. These delicate jets are produced when a meteorite impacts the Lunar surface.

The beads vary in size and composition from 0.1 micrometres to 1.0mm. They are coloured red, yellow, silver, grey or just opaque. It is this variance which suggest meteoritic bombardment as the source rather than the well mixed volcanic mixture. The sizes indicate that the temperature formation is not less than 1.450°K and probably in excess of 2,000°K.

The two researchers offer certain conclusions about the beads and "balloons". One of these larger spheres was some 260 micrometres in diameter with a wall thickness of 5 micrometres. These are probably blown up because of the volatilisation of some of the lighter constituents like sodium and magnesium.

Calculations show that if these particles are formed as Scarlett and Buxton suggest, the maximum size cannot exceed 1mm. Surface tension would fix a lower limit of size at about 10⁻² micrometre.



WE are going through a patch at the moment not too dissimilar to that experienced by the early classical composers in Mannheim during the eighteenth century. These men discovered the expressive power of the orchestra and spent their time composing symphony after symphony which used dramatic contrast between wind and string timbres, carefully controlled gradations of dynamics, incredible (for the time) finesse in melodic phrasing and demanded an extremely professional approach to ensemble playing. Previous ages had not regarded shades of attack, decay, dynamics or phrasing as necessary to the overall musical effect, so it was quite natural that these new experiences were shunned by some and extolled by others.

About a hundred and fifty years later the orchestra, much augmented, had reached the peak of its achievement in symphonic works like Mahler's Ninth Symphony, Strauss' "Also sprach Zarathustra" (from which BBC TV took its theme music for the Apollo space shots), Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" and Debussy's "La Mer".

Here, in 1974, we are at the beginning of a new phase, but it is so new that we cannot see where it is all leading. We have at our disposal electronic equipment whose potential is beyond imagination, acoustic instruments which are widening their scope, and yet we are still grovelling in the primeval mud waiting for the particles to settle.

The Mannheim composers churned out symphony after symphony, yet out of this vast acreage of manuscript paper and manhours there is little of musical value left. Until Mozart and Haydn

arrived and saw a way through there was little in the way of substance but a heck of a lot of mannerisms and repetitive sound effects. What they did not appreciate was that sound effects do not necessarily constitute a satisfactory piece of music.

We are in that same position. The Synthesiser can produce an incredible range of effects, but let us never forget that effects, noises, sounds—call them what you will—are meaningless abstractions in themselves; until they are laid before our ears with some kind of structure—albeit apparently random—they might as well not exist at all.

Pitch systems

Until comparatively recently artmusic (as opposed to popular or folk music) was indulged in only by those who had some standing in society or who were educated sufficiently to be able to read and write. In early Christian Europe the priests acquired literacy in order to propagate the faith and their written music set the trend for future generations. In order to remember melodies set to specific liturgical texts a new script had to be devised, and it is from this early notation that we know what sort of pitch system they employed. All the chants were based on a series of scales (of Greek origin) containing seven notes to the octave.

These 'modes' took as their keynote (i.e. the note which was a point of focus or of rest) the first pitch in the ascending scale. If one plays the white notes on a modern keyboard starting from D and ending on the D an octave above the Dorian mode will be heard, D being its key-note. It so happens that seven modes were employed, equivalent to playing an ascending sequence of seven notes from any of the seven white notes of a keyboard.

By the sixteenth century some of these modes had proved more popular than others and certain coincidental chords had gained wide acceptance. A hundred or so years later the number of modes had dropped to two and become the major and minor scales, with certain chords from within them predominating. From this point on the whole focus of music has been on the two modes; any elaboration, including excursions into so-called 'chromatic' notes (i.e. discrete pitches not contained in the modes themselves), was largely decorative.

Rhythm changes

Rhythm has undergone similar changes. In the Middle Ages polyrhythm was not unknown; there

are numerous examples of pieces in three melodic lines performed simultaneously which differ from each other in rhythmic phrasing, metre and accentuation as well as language! But the introduction of the bar-line killed that. Originally brought in to aid the performer's eye across the page by grouping rhythmic pitches together, the bar-line became a rigid constraint; underlying pulses were largely grouped into continuous repetitions of 2, 3, 4 or 6 beats at a time with strong accentuation at the beginning of each bar.

In the less clearly-defined area of timbre ideas have changed too. In most early music vocal or instrumental timbre was unimportant. Even as late as the Baroque period (roughly 1650 to 1750) the choice of musical instruments for a given piece was fairly arbitrary, given that the violin family held sway anyway, and instrumental effect, beyond a few acceptable techniques, was negligible. The nineteenth century saw the growth of the orchestra into a mammoth acoustic synthesiser, yet, because of the rhythmic and tonal restrictions imposed on the notes themselves, orchestration tended to represent the icing on the cake.

Schoenberg reached breaking point with the old hierarchical structure of pitch relationships around 1910 when he realised that decorative chromaticism was clogaing up the works; he eventually structured chromaticism. Stravinsky and Bartok rebelled against the rigidity of the bar-line at about the same time. In the 1920s Varèse upset the whole works by putting pitch, timbre, rhythm and structure on an equal and totally new footing.

Towards emancipation

And now, in the (emancipated?) second half of the twentieth century, electronic technology, though not geared specifically to music, has allowed us to widen our horizons beyond the 'natural'. aural universe is now apparently boundless and open to everyone, and with the lead given us by Schoenberg and others our ears should be cleansed and Our endeavours positively bursting with euphoric enthusiasm. We can now accept or reject the old order of pitch relationships, even 'play between the cracks' of the twelveeven 'play note keyboard; we can move into rhythmic patterns unperformable by a human being (though conceived by one); we can choose our dynamics from the inaudible to the painful; we can order timbre to taste; we can utilise the space around the listener; we can be as strict or as free as our imagination permits; the rules are the ones we make ourselves.

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Learning by Experience

By now many readers are probably thinking that my presentation of the subject shows rather much bias, considering that I have said more than once that I am not easily convinced. If this is so, I can only repeat that I constantly seek proof that a phenomenon is not explainable by normal means, but here it must be clearly understood what we

mean by normal.

My own belief is that ESP covers a number of presently little-known phenomena, as well as completely unknown ones. But let me give a simple example. Most of us can drive a car or motor-cycle, or at least a bike. Whatever you can drive or ride, cast your mind back to the early day of mastering your vehicle. Remember how you used to panic and force the gear into reverse at about 30 m.p.h., or steer the handlebars to the left when you were falling to the right.

But whatever the mistake, you knew better at the time, but your conscious mind was panicked into doing either the wrong thing, or the right thing too late. But how many times do you find yourself doing silly things like that now? Not very often, if at all. This is mainly because you have conditioned vourself to take the proper course

automatically. But how? Well, we cannot be certain exactly, but we do know that practice makes perfect, and that we do not have to think out reasons for doing some things once experience has taught us they are the right things to do at particular times.

The examples above are con-cerned with facts that conscious learning has precipitated into our sub-conscious mind, and are treated as facts which are known to be true. so our conscious mind can conveniently forget about the experience that taught them to us.

Subconscious Learning

But it is not only conscious learning that can take place. Experiments using lower forms of animal life, where conscious thinking is absent or near-absent, show that experience is learned at a different level, but certainly learning takes place. When assessing results of experiments concerning ESP we must always look for this kind of learning. Not that it will preclude the existence of ESP altogether but simply that it enables us to categorise what is responsible. At present, I would consider the subconscious learning process as a legitimate ESP phenomenon, be-cause it cannot be placed in the group of experiences using the five senses.

Subconscious learning is a very useful asset, and it is a good idea

to try to cultivate it. I first discovered it after trying to find out what it was that certain successful people had in common. To me it appeared that people I knew who seemed to "get on" did so without flustering and without going about everything deliberately. They seemed to have a curious quality of being able to stay in top gear in everything and very rarely had to change down. Was it, I wondered, that their success made them carefree, or could it be that they owed their success to the state of mind of keeping their cool?



Many years taught me a lot about this. I tried to take things more lightly whenever I could, and if I met obstacles which seemed unsurmountable, I just passed them over and left them for another time, rather like you are told to do in an examination when you don't understand a question. Come back to it later. By this means, you would expect to get along all right on all the easy stuff, but later on you would expect to be faced with a mountain of insoluble problems.

Limitations of Logic

Logically, this would be true. But statistically, the experience is quite different. In the intervening time, each problem seems to have turned itself around, to show a quite different side, which then looks so simple that you wonder why you did not turn it round in the first place. But you couldn't, because your conscious mind is logical, and logic is certainly not the solution to all problems.

Of course, the problem itself had not altered, but ever since the time that you looked at it initially your subconscious has been working, unbeknown to your conscious mind, on the problem, and has presented the facts, probably quite randomly, and arranged them in a way that logic would not have led you to on, its own. Hence, you suddenly see a chink of light and this could be the very thing which leads to the solution you require.

I must stress that some of the above is based on suppositions, as I doubt if any true analysis has been carried out (or even could be) on the actual workings involved.

If you are doubtful about the validity of what I have written, why not try out a few exercises for yourself. Select a few jobs which are not vitally important for starters, of course, or even invent an experiment or two. For instance, try your friends at judging quanti-ties of small identical items, such as beads, beans or dried peas. You will be amazed how accurate some become at selecting say, 30, 50 or 100. Now, if in your first attempts someone arrives at EXACTLY the right number, then you may (or may not) have reason to question whether another form of ESP has crept in, as experience, conscious or subconscious, cannot be seen to be involved.

Decision Makers

You may well wonder why I have dwelled upon the subject this month, in the form I have chosen. But I assure you, it is very relevant to what I wish to present now and later. Firstly, it has now been established that many people in top managerial positions make decisions which they cannot at the time justify by any particular logical or statistical data. Naturally, it is hard to get an admission out of such people, as admissions to this sort of thing would appear most unscientific. But such decisions later prove to be right, against all evidence of facts available at the time.

A detailed analysis was made of results of some special experiments and is covered in detail in Vol. 1 No. 7 of the Journal of Paraphysics, in an article by Prof. John Newark College Mihalosky, Engineering.

This article is of great interest, and I am going to quote here a few extracts from its text. A number of top decision-makers were asked how they came up with the particular decisions they had to make, many upon which millions of pounds profit or loss might hinge, and the answers were: "I don't and the answers were: "I don't think businessmen know how they make decisions. I know I don't" and "You don't know how you do it; you just do it" and "There are no rules", and "It is like asking a baseball player to define the swing that has always come natural to him" or, as one put it, "Whenever I think, I make a mistake". One even said, "I have found that some of the most horrible mistakes we have made came after I ignored my intuition under the pressure of what looked at the time like unshakeable evidence".

Well, what do you think?

DEVICES ... APPLICATIONS

PROTECTED POWER TRANSISTOR WITH A GAIN OF A MILLION

THE NEW LM395 series of devices available from National Semiconductor look like a normal TO3 power transistor, but are actually integrated circuits which behave like fast *npn* power transistors with a current gain of the order of a million. They contain some fifty internal components, including 21 transistors.

The protective circuits incorporated in these devices are one of their most important features. If the temperature of the chip exceeds 165°C, the power output stage is shut down. This enables a much smaller heatsink to be used with safety than would otherwise be possible. In addition, a current limiting circuit prevents damage to the device by excessive current.

Any number of the devices can be connected in parallel to increase the current capacity, since no device will pass more than the limiting value of the current

THE LM395

The LM395 is the most economical device in the series, the price being about four times that of the well-known 2N3055 power transistor. The LM195 and LM295 are similar to the LM395, but can operate over a wider temperature range and have the higher maximum operating voltage of 42V.

The LM395 may be destroyed if the maximum permissible voltage rating (36V) is exceeded, but it is almost impossible to destroy it in any other way.

Even if this device is destroyed by the application of an excessive voltage, it will become open circuited

and will protect other devices in the circuit. (A normal power transistor becomes short circuited if an excessive voltage is applied to it.)

CONNECTIONS

The connections to the LM395 series of devices are shown in Fig. 1. It should be noted that the case of the device is connected to the emitter electrode. It is expected that the same type of device will be available in the smaller TO5 package in due course.

The typical base current is quoted as $3\mu A$. If a current appreciably greater than this is fed into the base, the collector voltage will fall to its saturation value of about 1.8V for collector currents of up to 1A.

It was found that the device conducted when the base was open circuited, but became non-conducting when the base was connected to the emitter.

The switching time is typically 500ns.

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

1. Simple current limiter

The circuit of Fig. 2 forms a very simple current limiter. The internal circuit of the device limits the collector to emitter current to about 2A (minimum 1A at 15V). When no heatsink was used with an LM395 in this circuit with a 6V supply, the current fell to about 0.5A after a short time as the device became hot.

If the base connection is switched from the collector to the emitter of the device, the collector current will fall to the quiescent value of a few milliamps,

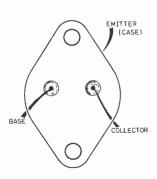


Fig. 1. Connections of the LM395 series of devices (looking at underside)

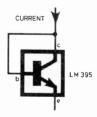


Fig. 2. A simple current limiter circuit using the LM395

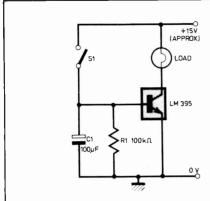


Fig. 3. A simple time delay circuit

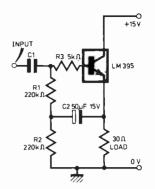


Fig. 4. A very high impedance emitter follower circuit

The base current which must be switched is very small and one could, for example, use the output from a TTL circuit to control a current of at least 1A in the emitter-collector circuit.

2. Time Delay

A very simple time delay circuit is shown in Fig. 3. When S1 is opened, C1 discharges through R1. The LM395 remains fully conducting until the voltage between the base and emitter falls below 1V. When the values of R1 and C1 shown are used, the current in the load begins to fall about ten seconds after S1 is opened.

The load shown in Fig. 3 is a lamp, but other types of load may be used. The maximum current is about 2A and this will not be exceeded even if the load is accidentally shorted.

3. Emitter Follower

An LM395 emitter follower circuit with a very high input impedance is shown in Fig. 4. The output voltage is fed back to the junction of R1 and R2 so that the voltage across R1 remains almost constant.

This feedback arrangement ensures that the input impedance is very high. The resistor R3 is required to prevent possible oscillation and should be used in all LM395 emitter follower circuits.

The circuit of Fig. 4 can be used to control a current of over 1A in the load using a control signal of high impedance.

4. 1A Regulator

The circuit of a voltage regulated supply which can deliver up to 1A is shown in Fig. 5. The output can be set anywhere in the range of 4.5V to 30V by adjusting VR1. The output current is automatically limited by the circuits inside the LM395.

The LM305 device is a voltage regulator which accepts an unregulated input at pins 2 and 3 and provides a regulated output from pin 8. The latter controls the LM395 which is connected as an emitter follower.

The voltage controlling signal is taken from the tapping on the load in the emitter circuit.

5. Power pnp transistor

If one requires a pnp circuit which is equivalent to the LM395, one may use the arrangement shown in Fig. 6. When a current is taken from the base lead through R1, the transistor TR1 conducts and supplies base current to the LM395.

This circuit has the same thermal overload protection and current protection as the LM395 itself. It may be used in the same way as an LM395 with all polarities reversed.

The LM395 can also be used in operational amplifier circuits which must provide a high output power, in high power oscillators at frequencies up to 1MHz, in switches with optical isolation, etc.

Further details on the LM395 series of devices are available from National Semiconductor, The Precinct, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire.

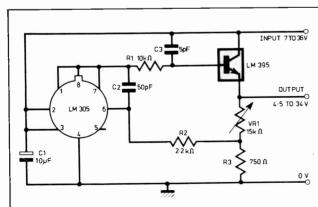


Fig. 5. A one amp voltage regulator with current limiting

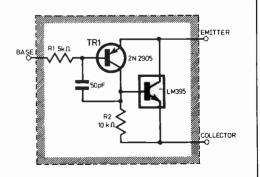
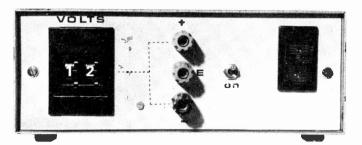


Fig. 6. A pnp circuit for a power transistor with thermal overload and current limiting



BENCH POWER SUPPLY

By D.W. LLOYD

This article describes a bench power supply using the minimum of components without sacrificing performance. Normally power units with similar specifications cost anything up to £30; this unit should cost much less than that.

One of the items that makes power supplies costly is the meter which so many people rely on for accuracy when setting up the output voltage. This device however is inaccurate or, to be more correct, will only typically be 2 per cent accurate or worse, which is the tolerance on most meters.

The power unit described here uses no meter and is as accurate as the tolerance on a chain of switched fixed resistors with which the voltage can still be read directly. As can be seen from the illustrations the output voltage is set up by the use of thumb wheel switches and on the particular unit shown the output voltage is in fact controllable from zero volts up to 19V in 1V steps.

BASIC CIRCUIT

The basic circuit is shown in Fig. 1 from which it can be seen that the mains supply transformer is provided with two secondary windings. One, identified A, is the power supply source proper, whilst the second is a low current winding which powers the regulator chip IC1. This floating mode of powering for the chip allows the sweep of voltage fed to the error amplifier in the regulator to be increased beyond the limits of the voltage of the main power supply.

In this way it is possible to control output voltage from 0 volts to full voltage from winding A.

In addition to allowing full sweep of the output voltage, the use of this floating independent supply for the chip also assists in regulation. Clearly the regulator supply will not vary in the same way that the main supply will as the load is varied.

The circuit is simple and effective in regulation and has the added advantage of being flexible on the current front. By selection of the series regulating transistor the unit can be preset to supply up to 250mA, IA or 2A whilst using the same control board. The only other basic alteration to increase current output is of course the provision of a suitably rated transformer.

SPECIFICATION . .

Supply Output Voltage 230V \pm 20V, 50/60Hz Up to 0 to 19V in 1V

steps or as required (see text)

Output Current
Output Regulation
Line Regulation

250mA, 1A or 2A 0-08 per cent

For 10 per cent line variation is 0.05 per

variation is 0cent 3mV

Ripple
Output Resistance
Temperature Coeff.

10m Ω 0.02 per cent

The voltage regulator used in the circuit is the 723, generally available from several manufacturers. This chip contains an accurate reference source, an error amplifier and a controlled output with current limit facilities.

Operation of the output is effected as a result of variations in the measured voltage, in this case the output of the main power supply, being fed to the error amplifier which then controls the output to maintain the main voltage at a constant level.

Current limit is achieved by placing a known low value resistor, in the present case R1, in the regulated supply line and making use of the voltage developed across it (which is proportional to current through it) to operate a limit on the current allowed through the main supply. Frequency compensation is provided on the chip through a feedback link to pin 13 via capacitor C4.

OPERATION

The regulator supply, winding B, is rectified by bridge rectifier D2 and smoothed by C2 before passing to pins 7 and 12 of the i.c.

Similarly, the output of winding A is rectified by diode bridge D1, smoothed by capacitor C1 and then subjected to regulation as a result of the output current and voltage requirements. Control is effected mainly by the series transistor TR1 in the case of 250mA output or TR2/TR3 in the case of 1 or 2A outputs. Connections for the three forms of circuit are shown in Fig. 1.

Resistors R2 and R3 are used either in parallel or associated with TR2 and TR3 which are run in parallel. Thus they present a $1\cdot1\Omega$ series resistance.

The main sensing and control signal is obtained from the series chain R4, VR2 and R6, being tapped from this chain and fed via R5 to pin 4 of the regulator i.c. Resistor R4 determines the output voltage and can be made up in a number of ways.

In the prototype R4 is formed of a series of discrete resistors selected to give unit and decade switching of the output voltage from 0V to a maximum dependent on the output of winding A. In the prototype this is 19V. Selection of the resistors is by means of two thumbwheel switches S3 and S4 connected between points P3 and P4 of the circuit although of course rotary switches or, for that matter a 10-turn potentiometer, could be used if desired.

In order to allow the controlled voltage to be swung down to zero volts the non-inverting input of the error amplifier in the regulator chip is connected to the negative output rail whilst the inverting input is connected to the sensed voltage. In this way the negative supply to the i.c. from winding B is negative with respect to the negative of the main output by the same value as the reference voltage.

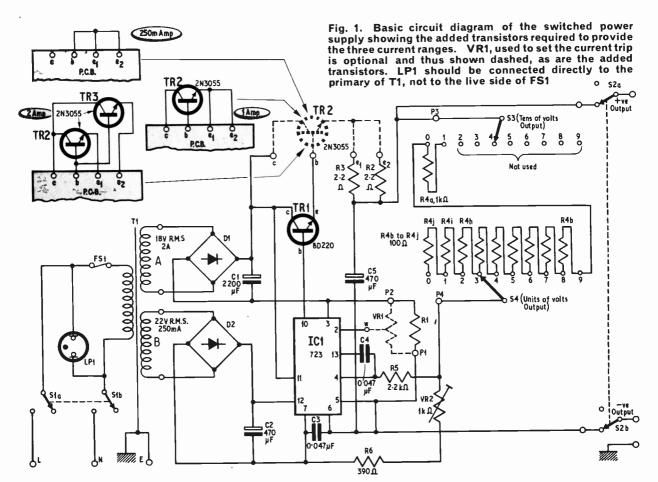
Any variations in the main output are fed back into the regulator and serve to control the output in the opposite sense, thus giving stabilisation. The chain including VR2, R6 and R4 serves to set the point about which stabilisation occurs.

Preset potentiometer VR2 serves to ensure that the current through the chain is 10mA, a value at which the values of the step resistors selected by S3 and S4 can thus become $1\text{k}\Omega$ and 100Ω respectively for steps of 10V and 1V respectively. In this way the output voltage control is as accurate as the resistors selected so that 1 per cent resistors give a control function to 1 per cent and 0·1 per cent to the same 0·1 per cent level.

EARTHING

It will be seen that neither side of the output is earthed to the chassis or to an output earth point. This allows the unit to be used in any configuration of other units; to supply, for example, the positive or the negative half of a double supply or perhaps even be used in series with another supply to uprate the output voltage.

An earth terminal connected to the unit case is mounted on the front panel and can be connected externally as required to either rail.



Components . . .

Resistors

 1Ω 1W, wire-wound (n.i.) for 1A version $2{\cdot}2\Omega$ 2W R1 R2

R3 2-2Ω 2W

R4a $1k\Omega$ or as required, see text, 1% or better R4b to j $9 \times 100\Omega$ or as required, see text, 1% or

better 2·2kΩ 2% R₅ R6 390Ω 2%

Potentiometers

VR1 100Ω pre-set VR2 $1k\Omega$ pre-set

Semiconductors

10DB1A bridge rect. D1 D2 10DB1A bridge rect.

TR1 BD220 TR2 2N3055 TR3 2N3055

IC1 723 d.i.l. stabiliser i.c.

Capacitors

2,200µF, 25V

C2 470μF, 50V

C3 0.047μF

C4 0.047µF C5 470µF, 25V

Switches

D.P.D.T. mains switch

S2 D.P.D.T. miniature 2A d.c. toggle

S3 Digital Thumbwheel (Birch Stolec Ltd.)

S4 Digital Thumbwheel (Birch Stolec Ltd.)

Tanstormer
T1 240V, 50Hz I/P, 18V r.m.s. @ up to 2A and
22V at 250mA O/Ps. Type 1069, £3.85, Zeta
Windings, 26 All Saints Rd., London, W.11;
Toroidal form is Type T1182 from Siga
Electronics Ltd., Sandy, Beds.

Miscellaneous

Case, terminals, p.c.b., 1A fuse (FS1) and holder



Fig. 2. Printed circuit master for the power supply

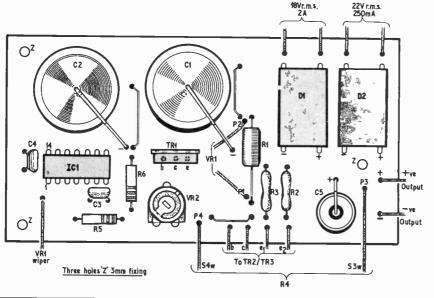


Fig. 3. Layout of components on the circuit board of Fig. 2 identifying the flying leads to other cicuit devices

CONSTRUCTION

As can be seen from the illustrations, construction is simple and in fact is quite flexible since some of the options used in the prototype can be altered to suit individual requirements.

For example, whilst the printed circuit board and layout shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 includes only the main components of the circuit, with the transformer and switched resistors mounted elsewhere, some constructors may wish to have a much larger board and mount all or most of the components thereon.

As has been noted, switch S3/S4 could be replaced by a rotary unit or even by a potentiometer if required or even by a fixed value resistor if only one output voltage is required. It should be remembered that any deviation from the electrical arrangement suggested might degrade the performance by introducing errors so alterations in this part of the circuit should be viewed with some care.

A single-throw mains switch with self-contained neon indicator was used in the prototype but of course any suitable arrangement can be used here as in the switching of the d.c. rail by switch S2. This latter is included in the circuit so as to avoid build-up and decay time problems which occur when switching the mains supply. The latter being switched ON most of the time and supply switching being effected in the d.c. rail.

There is no particular problem with the remainder of the assembly except perhaps with the power transistors used at TR2 and TR3 where these are needed. In the prototype the output was set to 1A so that only TR2 was required. The (or each) device is mounted on the back panel of the unit using the mica insulating washer supplied with the transistor so as to avoid shorting the transistor to earth.

MAINS TRANSFORMER

A toroidal transformer was used in the prototype as one was to hand and in any case is smaller than its more normal counterpart, thus allowing a smaller case to be used. Using a toroidal transformer the radiated magnetic field is also smaller than with a conventional device, but either may be used if required.

The square holes in the front panel for the thumbwheel switches were cut by first drilling and then filing. If some other form of switching is used then obviously this step is avoided.

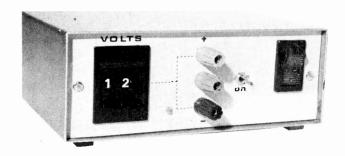
Finishing touches have been added using Letraset over the top of a coat of paint followed by fixing varnish to give a professional appearance.

TESTING

After assembly the first thing to check is the isolation of the power transistor/s case/s. A simple resistance check here and at the mains input lines to ensure that nothing is shorted to chassis or elsewhere is always valuable at this stage.

Switching on the supply should now illuminate the mains neon indicator and of course produce voltages in the circuit. Check that the voltage across C1 is not less than 22V. That across C2 should be not less than 28V and not more than 40V.

The output level is set quite simply by placing a voltmeter across the output, setting the switches to give a 1V output and then adjusting VR2 until the output is indeed 1V.



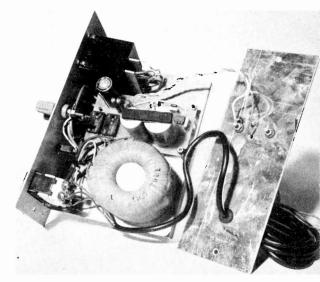
CURRENT LIMITING

It is quite simple to set the current limit to the required value. Take the case of a 1A unit. Set the output switches to the 10V position and connect a 10\Omega load so that a 1A current flows. Monitoring the output voltage, adjust an added current limiting potentiometer VR1 between points P1 and P2 (shown dotted in Fig. 1) till the output voltage just starts to fall. Turn the potentiometer back a little so that the supply is operating in the regulated portion of its curve and the output is now set to limit at just over 1A. The potentiometer may now be replaced by fixed resistors if required. If VR1 is not used at all and the load current determined by R1 alone then points W and P1 on the circuit should be shorted together.

A simple way of testing this is to leave the meter connected, remove the load and then to switch on with the meter switched to a range greater than 2A. In this case the meter forms its own load and the reading should be just over 1A.

A check of the voltage over the load(meter) will show that this has dropped to a very low level. This illustrates the way in which this design acts to protect load circuitry connected to the output when shorts exist in that load.

Exploded view of the prototype power supply showing the use of a toroidal mains transformer, digital thumbwheel switches and the power transistor mounted on the rear panel





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.

A SIMPLE CONTINUITY TESTER

connected via R1 and C1 to form a relaxation oscillator continuity tester. The output is fed through the remaining gate, which acts as a buffer amplifier, to LS1, a miniature earphone. With the values shown for R1, C1 and LS1 the frequency is about 800Hz. Virtually any earphone or loudspeaker can be used. If one of a lower resistance is chosen the signal may be unacceptably loud, but can be reduced to any level by inserting a suitable series resistor.

The test leads can be in either positive or negative supply. When they are joined the note will sound and the current flowing will be about 8mA. The oscillator will continue to sound until the battery has run down to three volts or less.

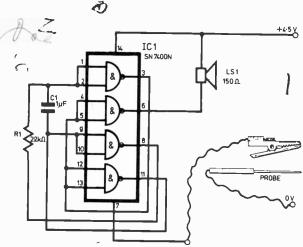


Fig. 1. Integrated circuit continuity tester

When the test leads are connected across a resistance a higher note is produced. The device is useful up to some 400 ohms or so and is just audible across 1 kilohm. The smallest resistor which can be distinguished from no resistance at all is about 4 ohms.

Diodes, if tested so that they are reverse biased, do not of course make the oscillator sound. If forward biased the note is about a third, musically speaking, higher than when the leads are shorted. The polarity of the test leads should therefore be marked. Capacitors of $40\mu F$ and up give a chirp as they charge.

R. Parfitt, Croydon.

TOUCH START OF AUTOMATIC RHYTHM DEVICE

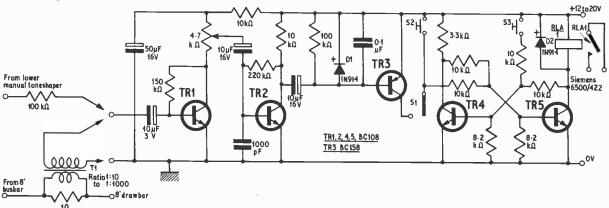
VERY few electronic organs manufactured before 1970 are equipped with facilities for remote control of an automatic rhythm device. This circuit is activated by an audio signal from the lower manual (or pedal), making it possible for the performer to play the prelude on the upper manual and the pedal, and when the first note is played on the lower manual, the rhythm accompaniment is started.

At the front end of the circuit two alternatives are shown; a high impedance input for connection to the lower manual toneshaper output of an electronic organ, and an electromechanical Hammond

organ connection using a transformer and a series resistor.

The transformer could be any output transformer for use in portable radios with a ratio of 1:10 to 1:1,000. An incoming signal will be amplified through TR1 and TR2, and turn on TR3. If S1 is closed, a current will pass through to TR5, triggering the bistable, causing the relay to pull in. S2 and S3 are used for manual start and stop.

K. B. Sorensen, Copenhagen, Denmark.



DISTANCE MEASURER FOR GOLFERS

This is a simple project for all those golfers who feel they have the need to measure the length of their drives.

The distance is measured by counting the number of revolutions of the wheel of the golf trolley. Having 12in diameter wheels, one revolution of the wheel of the trolley under load is very nearly one yard (πd) .

A small magnet was fitted to the hub of a wheel and a dry reed switch fitted to the axle. Each revolution closes the contacts briefly, but not for long

enough to operate the counter.

A simple monostable is included to extend the time of the pulse long enough to operate the awkward counter (see Fig. 1). The time interval is adjusted by changing the value of capacitor C1 but $6.8\mu F$ was found to be adequate.

The counter draws about 18mA at 36V, so a switching transistor is included. This can be any

npn type capable of handling the current.

D. F. Woods, London N11

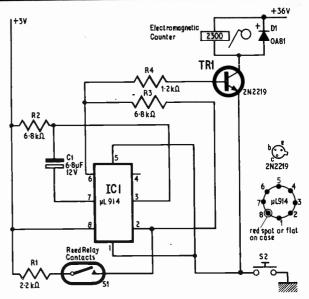


Fig. 1. Circuit of the distance measurer for golfers

TOY TRAIN SPEED CONTROLLER

L IKE A few thousand other parents, I quickly learnt this Christmas that a train set has only one speed, this being set by the age of the battery.

Worse still, a well-used model eats batteries at the rate of one a day. Obviously something better was called for and the circuit of Fig. 1 was developed.

Components D1, D2 and C1 form a conventional supply. Positive going pulses are passed via D4 and D5 to the divider R1 and VR2 where they are tapped off. As soon as the pulses exceed 0.7V, TR1 is switched on. How early or late in the cycle TR1 is switched depends on the setting of VR2. D7 and D8 clip the driving pulses.

Transistor TR1 in its turn switches on the constant current generator R5, R6, D6, TR2, and TR3 which should turn very hard on. Thus at the rails we have constant amplitude, current limited pulses

of variable width with a repetition frequency of 100Hz.

Diode D3 shields the circuit from the back e.m.f. of the motor. C2 is an r.f. suppressor.

The design is robust enough to work into an open or a short circuit. TR3 is mounted on a small heatsink.

Obviously train sets vary, but for a loaded train to be derailed while going flat out on a radius of 15in, an h.t. exceeding 20V is required across C1. At the other extreme a well oiled motor on a clean track can be made to creep around at one inch per second.

One final word of caution: if the circuit is to be used only by a child, please enclose it in a sealed metal container with a good earth connection.

J. Vella Carlisle

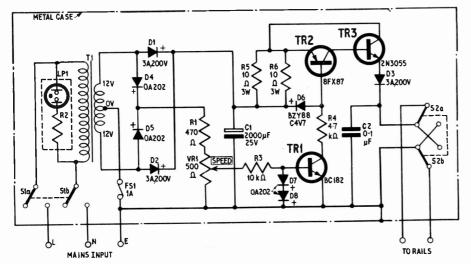
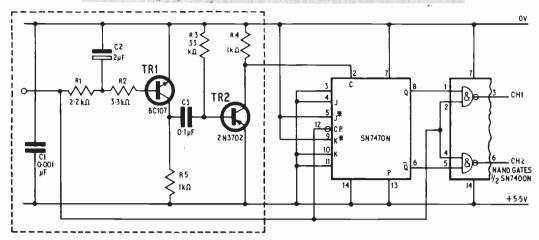


Fig. 1. Circuit of the toy train speed controller



HE circuit of Fig. 1 shows a decoder capable of dealing with a two-channel system. It was developed as a result of work carried out with the Radio Control System described in P.E. in December 1971 and the following two issues.

The section of the circuit enclosed in a dashed line replaces the re-triggerable monostable and associated components of the earlier system and can be used in its place to supply the clear pulse to the shift register for more than two channels if required.

Positive pulses are fed from the receiver (if negative then they can be inverted by a spare gate).

TR1 is held on by the input voltage whilst the pulses are being received and remains on for a short time after the second pulse.

When TRI turns off a positive pulse through C3 turns TR2 off for a short time. It is normally held on by R3 connected to the 0V rail. This produces the required negative-going clear pulse.

The outputs from the edge-triggered flip-flop are fed to two gates along with the input signal and the separate outputs are obtained. The unused J and K inputs are connected to positive to give better noise immunity.

A. Sansome, Sutton Coldfield.



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By Barry T. Turner Published by Business Books Ltd. 206 pages, 9‡in × 6½in. Price £4·75

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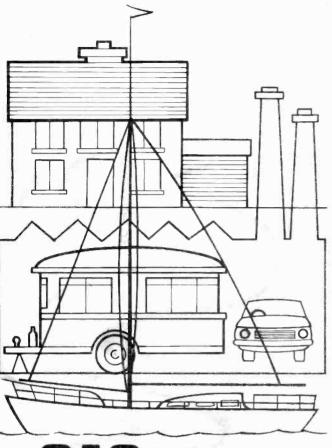
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PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS

Because of prevailing production problems, no firm publishing date can be announced for the October issue. Readers are advised to check regularly with their local supplier from mid-September onwards.



GAS DETECTORS

... FOR HOME · FACTORY CARAVAN · BOAT

By J. C. PERRETT

Several circuit variations using stateof-the-art catalytic gas|smoke detectors to indicate the presence of such dangerous materials as methane, propane or butane The increasing use of portable gas stoves in caravans and boats each year brings its own crop of accidents, so that any instrument which might give adequate warning of a dangerous situation must be considered useful, particularly if it is easy to build and use.

The various circuits described in this article meet this sort of demand, and may be used either as alarms or monitors for changing levels of gas or smoke in the home, boat, caravan and even industrial environment. A total of six circuits are shown. The first is a general test circuit which allows the user to ascertain the performance of the sensor used with any type of gas or smoke.

Other circuits include mains driven units which may trigger audible alarms or lamps, and a portable battery/mains unit which allows operation from dry batteries, suiting the circuit to leak detection of gas from pipes or tanks. The sensor is remote from the instrument.

The penultimate circuit discussed is that of a twin station unit designed specifically for use in boats from either 12 or 24V. A multi-station unit is discussed as an experimental project.

THE SENSOR

The systems proposed use one or other of the Figaro Engineering sensors described in the July and September 1973 issues of Practical Electronics. When the sensor is exposed to fresh air it assumes a high resistance state but as it absorbs de-oxidising or combustible gases such as hydrogen, carbon monoxide, methane, propane, butane, alcohol, or the carbon dust contained in smoke, the resistance decreases.



The devices vary in characteristic. Type 308 sensor has a very long warm up time of between 5 and 10 minutes and is, therefore, better suited for use where only occasional turning off or on is required. However, the device is very sensitive to carbon monoxide and smoke.

Three other types of sensor are available and are suited for high voltage use up to 100V. These are the type 109 general purpose detector requiring a 1V heater and a $4k\Omega$ load which takes 2 to 3 minutes to warm up and the 105 which has a warm up time of approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes.

Finally, the type 102, suitable for carbon monoxide and smoke detection, has a IV heater and requires 5 to 10 minutes warm up time.

The life of all devices is approximately two years with normal use.

CIRCUITS

Fig. 1 shows a basic experimental circuit which will allow a reader to determine for himself the reactions of the transducer to various stimuli if VRL7 is plotted against concentration of the stimulus in air.

An alarm may constitute almost anything, though a 6V bell is used in the most simple prototype. Because the current for the bell (Fig. 2) is fed through a thyristor, the bell becomes polarity conscious. This unit may be simply built on a piece of tag strip and is useful for permanent site monitoring of environments where gas appliances are used.

The components to the left of the line Z-Z in Fig. 1 constitute a mains power supply and is repeated in some following circuits and denoted by the reference to Z-Z in those figures.

The circuit of Fig. 3, the first prototype, is also mains operated, but includes meter monitoring and a light which gives visual warning of a pre-determined level of gas.

The alarm is driven by monitoring the voltage across transducer using the meter bridge circuit, D1 to 4. This voltage is also applied to the base of TR1. The 1k VR2 is the alarm sensitivity control which attenuates the voltage available to drive the base

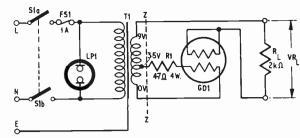
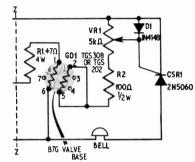


Fig. 1. Test circuit for examining the characteristics of the Figaro gas detectors

Fig. 2. A basic detector in its simplest form



COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors

R1 4·7Ω 4W

R2 1.8kΩ ⅓W R3 1.8kΩ ¥W

R4 470Ω

Potentiometers

VR1 $5k\Omega$ Lin. VR2 $1k\Omega$ Lin.

Semiconductors

D1 to 4 OA91 (4) 1N4001 **D**5

BC107 TR₁ BFY50 TR₂

Miscellaneous

2A fuse and holder F2

TGS 308 or TGS 202 and GD1 B7G valve holder

LP2

6V bulb and SL90 holder 6V bulb and SL90 holder LP3

ME1 1mA moving coil meter

Case AB17 aluminium box, $10 \times 4.5 \times 3$ in

MAINS GAS/SMOKE DETECTOR

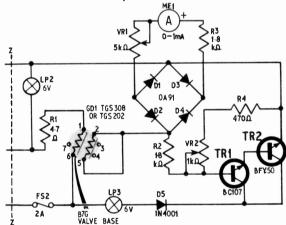
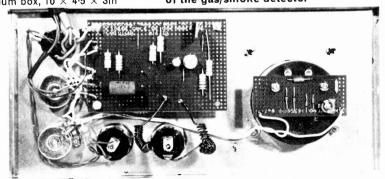


Fig. 3. The prototype mains operated version of the gas/smoke detector

Rear view of the front panel of the mains unit showing location of the various com-Veroponents, board and meter. detector The socket is mounted panel the in behind the Veroboard



of TR1. The inclusion of diode D5 prevents the base/collector junction of TR1 becoming forward biased during the time when the emitters of TR1

and TR2 become positive.

The detector itself may be neatly mounted using a B7G valve base, as shown in the illustrations; the heater becoming pins 1 and 6. The sensors may be fitted either way round, in pins 1, 6, 2, 5 of the valve base. Such a circuit is simple and may easily be assembled onto Veroboard.

It is possible for the detector to be used remote from the main circuit board by using a 3-core mains lead of at least 5A capacity. If a very long length of lead is used the resistance of the cable connected to pins 1 and 6 of the B7G base should be subtracted from the 4.7Ω ballast resistor R1 so that the heater voltage remains correct for the type of sensor fitted.

The circuit of Fig. 3 is one of the non-latching type and will automatically stop showing an alarm condition when the gas concentration falls below the level set by the alarm sensitivity control VR2.

PORTABILITY

The low voltage heater used in the transducer makes battery operation difficult, the problem being aggravated by the dependence of the sensitivity of GD1 on the heater voltage. If batteries are used directly, stabilisation of the heater supply will be required, but most methods of doing this are very inefficient due to the high power loss in the regulator section of the instrument.

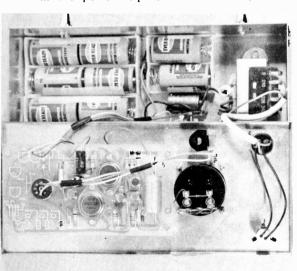
To overcome this a chopper supply has been proposed in Fig. 4, and this circuit will allow the

unit to be used from HP11 torch batteries.

To understand the circuit we first must study the power requirements for the gas detector. The heater requires 1.5V and the heater resistance (cold) is approximately 20. In normal use a current of 0.5A is required.

Thus the power requirement is 0.75W.

From this point forward we are only interested in the power requirement of the device. Assume



The portable mains/battery version opened up to show location of the main component parts. Note the use of battery holders and only part of the p.c.b. circuitry

that the use of a 10V supply is convenient; if the 10V supply is connected across the heater the power dissipated would become

$$\frac{V^2}{R}=\frac{100}{2}=50W$$

It is quite obvious that if current continued to

flow the device would be destroyed.

This problem is overcome by pulsing the supply voltage to reduce the average power dissipation to 0.75W. To calculate the mark/space ratio required to reduce the heater power from 50W to 0.75W use the formula:

 $Mark/space ratio = \frac{Max peak power (instantaneous)}{Average power dissipation required}$

$$=\frac{50}{0.75}=66:1$$

In the circuit of Fig. 4, a mains or battery version designed for portability, the multivibrator comprising TR1, TR2, TR3 is capable of providing a 100 to 1 mark/space ratio. The output of the oscillator appears at the emitter of TR3 which is connected to base of TR4, this transistor acts as a switch which connects the detector to the supply voltage. The oscillator frequency is not critical and runs at a few hundred hertz.

In practice a 0.50 resistor is connected in series with the sensor to reduce the peak current and increase circuit flexibility. This somewhat lowers the overall efficiency but is worthwhile. The inclusion of this resistor modifies the drive requirement for the sensor. The equivalent circuit is now a 0.5Ω resistor, the detector and TR4 in series across the supply.

Ignoring TR4 $V_{\rm sat}$ the voltage across the detector now becomes 8V providing a peak power of 32W. This gives a mark/space ratio of 42:1. Thus total battery drain, maximum current divided by the

mark/space ratio is 0.095A.

For this current approximately 0.025A should be added to allow for circuit operation. Thus the total

requirement is 120mA.

The capacitor C1 supplies the high current pulses required during the time when TR4 is conducting. When TR4 is off C1 charges from the supply transistor TR5.

BATTERIES

If the completed unit is to be used as a portable instrument it may be powered by heavy duty HP11 batteries. The gas concentration meter can also double as a voltmeter which may be switched to monitor the supply. To allow the sensor to be used as an alarm its performance must be predictable, even if the supply voltage changes. For this reason a power regulator circuit is recommended.

Due to the long mark/space ratio required, a high current consumption is normally drawn by the multivibrator which reduces circuit efficiency. To overcome this problem TR1 is included to give extremely rapid charging of C2. During the time when TR2 is conductive, C2 turns off TR3, the collector of TR3 is therefore at full supply potential. Supply is placed on the base of TR1 via R4, making it non-conductive

and R1 is now the feed resistor for TR2.



PORTABLE GAS/SMOKE DETECTOR

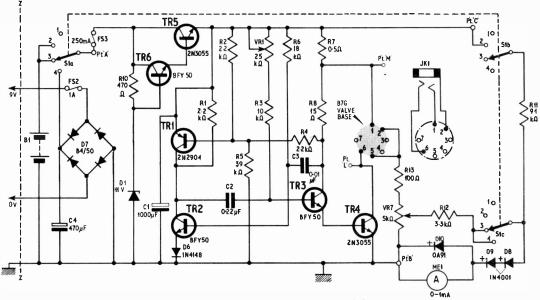


Fig. 4. The portable battery/mains detector using a plug-in head which connects with the instrument via a stereo jack plug and socket

COMPONENTS

 $2 \cdot 2k\Omega$ 0.5Ω 4W R2 2.2kΩ R8 15 Ω $10k\Omega$ R10 470Ω R3

R4 2.2kΩ R11 9·1kΩ R5 $39k\Omega$ R12 3·3kΩ R6 $18k\Omega$ R13 100Ω

All 1W unless otherwise specified

Potentiometers

VR1 25k Ω pre-set VR7 5k Ω Lin.

Capacitors

C1 100μF, 25V C2 0·22μF

C3 0.01 µF

C4 470µF, 25V

Diodes

11V, 400mW Zener D1

1N4148 D₆

B 4/50 Bridge rectifier D7

D8 1N4001

1 N4001 D9 D10 OA91

Transistors

TR4 2N3055 TR1 2N2904 TR5 2N3055 TR2 BFY50 BFY50 BFY50 TR6 TR3

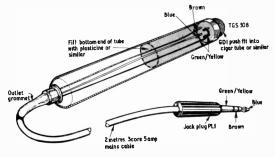


Fig. 5. Detector head made up from an old cigar tube, mains lead and stereo jack plug

Miscellaneous

GD1 TGS308

M1 1mA moving coil meter

S1 3-pole 4-way selector switch

F2 1A mains fuse

F3 250mA fuse

Printed circuit board, batteries and holder, case AB17, 10 imes 4·5 imes 3in, Bulgin 1·5A chassis plug, socket, knobs, fuseholders, stereo jack PL1 and socket JK1, and power supply section from Fig. 1.

MASTER PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARD

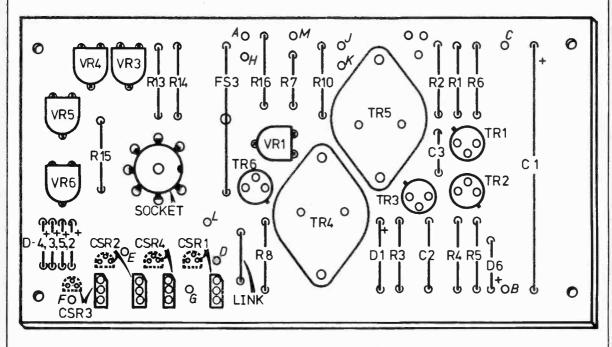




Fig. 7. Printed circuit board component layout suitable for all versions

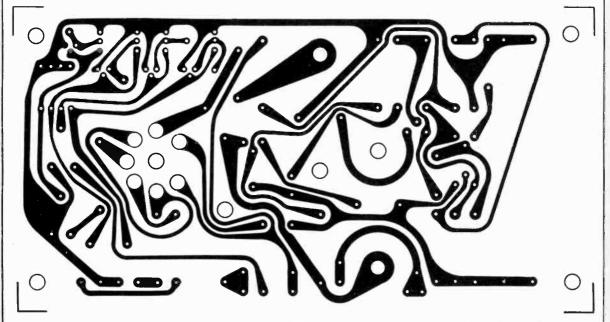


Fig. 8. Printed circuit master (full size) suitable for all versions of the gas/smoke sensors

As C2 discharges through R3-VR1, TR3 comes into conduction and the collector voltage falls. This falling voltage via C3 turns off TR2, at the same time the voltage on the base of TR1 is reduced, which causes TR1 to saturate; this connects the left hand side of C2 to the supply line, causing it to rapidly charge. The circuit will remain in this condition until C3 discharges through R6.

The output of the oscillator is taken from the emitter of TR3 to ensure sufficient drive to make TR4 saturate. Waveforms for the circuit are given in Fig. 6 and details of the head mounting are in

Fig. 5.

INDICATION

The meter ME1 is driven from the slider of VR7, the sensitivity attenuator control. Overall sensitivity is set by the value of R13. Two diodes D8, D9, in series with the meter allow a suppressed zero effect to be obtained without attenuation of the signal and D10 provides some degree of overload protection for the meter.

Switch S1 provides four switch functions. Position 1 is off. 2 allows the regulated supply voltage to be measured, normally 9.5V on load. Position 3 allows the instrument to run from the batteries, and position 4 is for use from the mains. Note that it is not possible to turn off mains power without removing the plug from the front panel. Connection to the mains is indicated by the neon lamp LPI.

CONSTRUCTION

Any well ventilated case may be used to house the circuit of Fig. 2, and the components may be mounted on tag strip. The thyristor CSR1 is suitable for alarm currents up to 0.8A.

The prototype of Fig. 3 is shown built inside an AB17 case, the circuit built on Veroboard, part of

which is fixed to the rear of the meter.

A printed circuit layout is shown (Figs. 7 & 8) of the portable version of Fig. 4, for those people who like to make their own p.c.b. The board holds most of the components. The attenuator control (pre-set) should be left off the board, taking two wires from the board to connect to the remote $5k\Omega$ pot on the

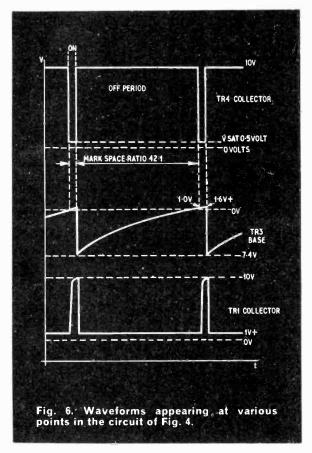
front panel.

The p.c.b. has room for extra components not listed for this circuit. These are made use of in further versions. In addition, the p.c.b. can accept two sizes of thyristor, the TIC 106 and the 2N5060 to 2N5064 series. The former will switch up to 4A with a sink whilst the latter will only cope with lamp circuits up to about 0.8A. Clearly the constructor may decide which he prefers to use dependent on external loads he might wish to apply.

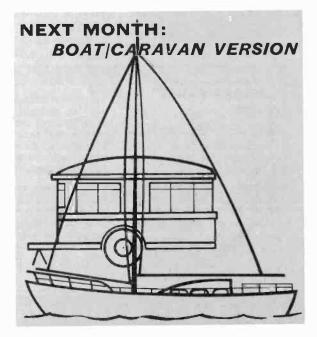
Wiring details of some of the off-board com-ponents is shown in Fig. 5. The jack socket must be of the insulated type to avoid supply to chassis

shorts as this may well destroy the detector.

The latter is fitted into a discarded cigar tube and should be a good push fit. A hole drilled in the other end allows the 5A, 3-core cable to enter. A rubber sleeve must be fitted to stop cutting of the wire. As the cigar tube is very light, Plasticine may be added to the inside to give the unit a better balance.



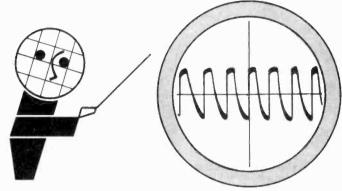
Ensure that both the lid and the case are correctly earthed to the earth pin of the mains socket. If required an l.e.d. circuit may be added to the unit, to give warning of inadvertently leaving the device switched on. This will, however, increase battery drain current by approximately 10mA.



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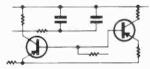
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RAPY

MOBILE THOUGHTS

The Chairman of the Mobile Radio Committee of the Electronic Engineering Association, J. R. Brinkley, as well as being Managing Director of Redifon Telecommunications Ltd., is no mean hand at deploying an argument. At the recent Communications 74 Exhibition and Conference at Brighton he gave some startling statistics on what it costs to run Europe's road transport and how much could be saved if the 90 million vehicles all had two-way radio.

The UK share of this mammoth fleet is 16.5 million vehicles which have an annual running cost. excluding manpower, of £8,000 million. This, says Brinkley, is equal to the total revenue from income tax or twice the national defence budget or three times the cost of the national health service. So even a one per cent saving would vield £80 million and a ten per cent saving £800 million.

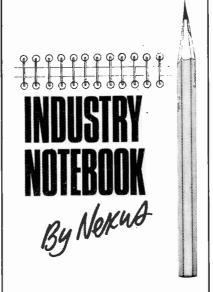
He argues that the 200,000 vehicles already fitted with radiotelephones in the UK give them a 20 per cent edge on efficiency compared with unfitted vehicles. In other words four vehicles fitted with radio will do the work of five without. But to date, only one per cent of all vehicles are so fitted and these generally work privately with their own base stations in a small radius of 10-20 miles. What is really needed is a sort of national grid with all vehicles being tied in by radio to the public telephone network.

Such schemes are already being planned in the USA with adequate frequency allocation in the 900MHz region. We use this band partly for TV in Europe but Brinkley sees the present Band III 405-line TV allocation, due to close down in the UK in five years' time, as a

promising alternative.

Of course, we already have a public system but costs are relatively high. A mammoth increase in utilisation would bring prices tumbling down. To equip, say, ten per cent of all cars would mean big production lines with consequent economy of scale which would be expected to result in a rental charge per vehicle of £2 a week, plus calls charged on a time basis. With petrol at over 50p a gallon and time in excess of £1 per hour the system could be a bargain for the user.

Meantime, the mobile radio market is still running at 15 per cent growth rate. Pye, the brand leader in the UK, has been pushing exports with a floating exhibition and seminar on the River Rhine taking in France, Switzerland, Germany and the Netherlands. There is no nicer way of doing business and the trip netted over £500,000 of orders confirmed with the prospect of more to come.



CONSUMER ICs . . .

The Philips Group is determined to consolidate its leading position in consumer i.c.s. No less than 26 new devices, most of them of considerable complexity and all real state-of-the-art are due for production next year and will be in TV, radio, hi-fi and tape equipment from then on.

To get set manufacturers acquainted with the new circuits Philips invited 300 engineers from 13 countries for a full-scale seminar in Eindhoven. Sixteen of the new circuits are for TV and ten for radio/audio equipment.

The designs are truly international and originate from Mullard experts in the UK and from Philips' men in Holland and Germany. Production technology is to be that already proven on the existing range so there should be big yields (therefore, low prices) from the start, but the chips are larger to accommodate many more functions.

The philosophy behind the new circuits is mainly to reduce the number of external peripheral components and the number of factory adjustments. For example, on a typical colour TV, Philips say the number of peripheral components can now be halved from 320 to 160 and the adjustments reduced from 20 to 10.

It's hard to pick out specific examples but typical of the new thinking is a complete recorder using only three i.c.s. One has the pre-amplifier, level control and recording and playback amplifier, another incorporates motor speed control, automatic stop, and erase oscillator, and the third the complete power amplifier.

More circuits are in development including one for search tuning in which a band of frequencies is electronically scanned and each receivable station is given 1.5 seconds playing time so that the listener can have a quick listen to see what programmes are on offer.

... AND AVIONICS

With Philips so strong in consumer electronics it is only too easy to forget the Group's potency in professional equipment and not least in avionics. The Group is planning a major sales drive at the Farnborough Air Show next September with no less than seven companies based in the UK, Holland, France, Sweden and Canada

taking part.

The British effort from MEL at Crawley includes airborne weather and ground-mapping radars for civil use and the very advanced tactical radar fitted in Sea King helicopters of the Royal Navy and a number of other navies. On the ground MEL scored a big hit with MADGE, a NATO award-winning portable microwave tactical approach aid and then, of course, there is direct involvement with the Clansman project where MEL is responsible for transmitter/ receivers in the range 15-30MHz with powers up to 400 Watts.

Quite apart from selling individual pieces of equipment Philips has both the economic and technical strength to undertake large turnkey projects. One of these is for Zaire where 40 airfields are involved for a contract price of

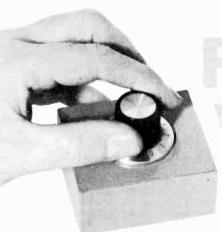
£35 million.

ENERGY

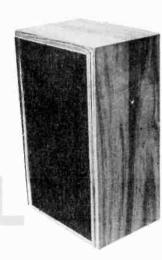
At the turn of the year we were all sick with fear over the energy crisis. Now it seems we have slipped back into easy acceptance that provided we pay over 50p a gallon for petrol and, perhaps, £40 a ton for coal we shall remain mobile and warm and in business. I think this is a poor attitude, probably encouraged by the prospect of North Sea Oil. We should still be looking for economies.

An exciting development is the electric bicycle for which Cambridge Consultants contributed the idea of an electronic throttle working on pulse width modulation to give smooth speed control without recourse to gear changing.

Radius of action is 20 miles (i.e. a 40 mile round trip) before recharging which costs about 2p. With pump petrol selling at 50p this gives personal mobility at an equivalent of 1,000 m.p.g. with the added bonus that there is no exhaust fume pollution of the atmosphere.



REMOTE VOLUME CONTRO



BY R. WHITAKER

A WIRED-IN SYSTEM WITH MANY APPLICATIONS

This design was developed to give a method of balancing a stereo amplifier from a distance but in fact it has many other uses. In particular it can be used when testing other circuits with a general purpose amplifier as the amplifier volume control may be placed close to hand. The circuit is remarkably simple and is fairly cheap to construct.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The circuit uses a field effect transistor (f.e.t.) in a conventional amplifier stage. The characteristics of an f.e.t. are shown in Fig. I and it can be seen that the slope or gradient of the graph of $I_{\rm d}$ or drain current against $V_{\rm gs}$ or gate voltage varies according to the value of the gate-source voltage $V_{\rm gs}$. This is the basis of the remote operated volume control.

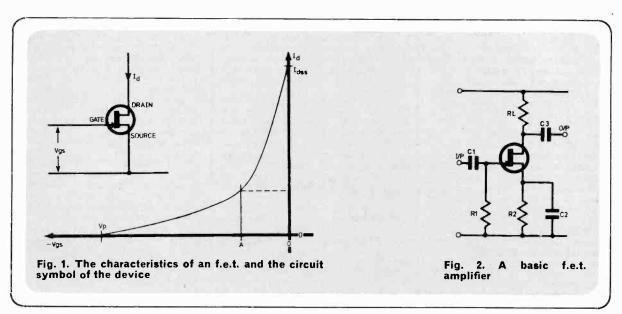
In fact the slope of the graph is called the $g_{\rm m}$ or the mutual conductance of the f.e.t., a term borrowed from valve technology.

If we look at the basic f.e.t. amplifier circuit shown in Fig. 2 then the voltage gain can be shown to be $g_m \times RL$. Thus by varying V_{gs} , g_m is changed and so the gain can be varied.

One way of varying $V_{\rm gs}$ is to make R2 variable since the voltage drop across R2 is in fact the way in which $V_{\rm gs}$ is produced. The current through R2 depends on $V_{\rm gs}$ and this means that $V_{\rm gs}$ can never be made to be $V_{\rm p}$ the pinch-off voltage of Fig. 1. This means that the volume cannot be faded to zero but only to a very low lovel. To overcome this, a potential divider is used for R2 and in this way $V_{\rm gs}$ can be varied from 0V to $V_{\rm p}$ or even higher to ensure cutoff.

THE CIRCUIT

The circuit has only two main design criteria. The first is to decide the working point A of Fig. 1.



COMPONENTS

Resistors

R1 $2\cdot 2M\Omega$ Metal Oxide R3 $2\cdot 2k\Omega$ ($5\cdot 6k\Omega$ for 2N3819) R2 $100k\Omega$ Metal Oxide R4 270Ω

All $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$ W, 5% carbon R5 56k Ω (6.8k Ω for 2N3819)

Capacitors

C1 $0.01\mu F$ C3 $100\mu F$ C2 $0.01\mu F$ C4 $0.01\mu F$

Transistors

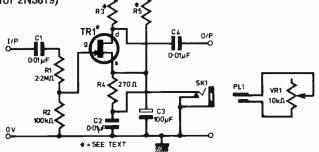
TR1 BW42 or 2N3819 (Most n-channel f.e.t.s suit on selection)

Potentiometer

VR1 $10k\Omega$ linear carbon

Miscellaneous

Veroboard, wire, screened cable for feed, cable to VR1, suitable mono or stereo jack plug and socket



+ 15 V

Fig. 3. Practical circuit of a remote volume control

The second is to make sure that the potential divider can produce a high enough voltage to turn the f.e.t. off.

Looking at Fig. 3, a practical version of the control circuit, the resistors R1 and R2 form the input impedance of the amplifier and also reduce the amplitude of the input so that there is slow distortion in the circuit. R3 is chosen so that the gain of TR1 makes up for the loss due to R1 and R2 giving a circuit with a voltage gain of one when it is not acting as an attenuator.

Thus the circuit can be inserted directly into a

reproduction chain without any loss.

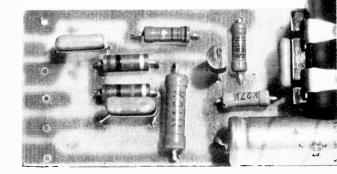
R4 is used to set the maximum drain current (i.e. point A on Fig. 1) and VR1 is used to alter the gain. At VR1 = 0Ω the gain is maximum and at VR1 = $10k\Omega$ the f.e.t is cut off. C2 is used to short circuit high frequencies which may be picked up on the leads to VR1. C3 is a bypass capacitor and its value determines the low frequency gain of the amplifier. R5 together with VR1 and R4 set the maximum voltage at the source of the f.e.t. to ensure it is cut off.

This circuit, using a BW42 n-channel f.e.t., has a flat frequency response from below 20Hz to about 10kHz and is 3dB down at 20kHz. It has a high input impedance and a relatively low output impedance. Indeed the author's prototype used two such circuits as a remote stereo volume control. The resistor VR1 was chosen at $10k\Omega$ to give a voltage swing at the source of the f.e.t. of 0-6V to 1-6V since the devices selected had a pinch-off voltage V_p of 1-6V.

In fact f.e.t.s do have a rather large spread of V_{ν} from one device to the next, even of the same type number. 2N3819s could be used, but the ideal thing would be to plot the $V_{\rm gs}$, $I_{\rm d}$ characteristic for a device which you have and then alter the circuit to suit.

DESIGN PROCEDURE

The design procedure is simple. First of all the characteristic of the devices to be used is plotted using the circuit shown in Fig. 4. Only one meter is needed really although two are shown.



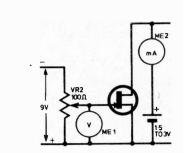


Fig. 4. Circuit used to determine the $V_{\rm p}$ of an f.e.t. for use in the remote control, and associated component values

First set the voltage, then measure the current for several values of voltage. It might be as well to first vary VR2 until no current is read on the meter ME2 then bring VR2 back to just where the current begins to flow. Measure this voltage, it is V_p .

Choose a suitable working point A considering that the gain does not vary over straight parts of the graph. Calculate R4 to drop the value of $V_{\rm gs}$ chosen. Select R3 to give the required gain, bearing



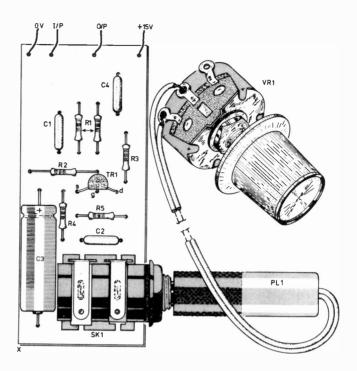


Fig. 5. Printed circuit pattern (full size) and component layout for the remote volume control

in mind the earlier comments on unity gain. g_m can be found from the tangent to the graph at the working point, then gain $= g_m \times RL$.

Make certain that RL does not drop so much voltage that there is less than 3V across the drain and source of the f.e.t., remembering that R4 will be dropping some voltage (i.e. $V_{\rm gs}$ chosen).

Since at cut-off the drain current $I_{\rm d}$ is zero, choose the value of VR1 and R5 to give a voltage greater than $V_{\rm p}$ at their junction. The only current flowing in them at this time will be that through them. None flows through the f.e.t.

It is suggested that the same values of R1 and R2 as in Fig. 3 be used as they are suitable for inputs of up to IV r.m.s. Also, use the same capacitor values.

VOLTAGE CONTROL

The circuit can in fact be voltage controlled by applying a variable voltage from 0.6V to 1.6V in place of VR1. This could form the basis of a talkover circuit for a discotheque or an automatic fader.

The leads to VR1 can be as long as required and do not have to be screened.

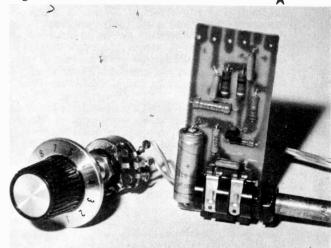
The prototype used a stereo switching jack to connect the control into the amplifier with the two control circuits mounted in the amplifier and powered from its supply. The amplifier controls can be used to preset maximum volume. The jack contacts were arranged so that the gain was I when the jack was unplugged.

The circuit works well, but if two are to be used for stereo then it is best to get two matched f.e.t.s.

CONSTRUCTION

Each circuit was constructed on a printed circuit board, see Fig. 5. Layout is not critical, but the leads to R1 should be screened since the input impedance is high. The f.e.t. should be soldered in last so that it has least chance of being affected by the heat of soldering.

Two values of some components are given in the components list. The first is for use with a BW42 device and the second for a 2N3819. The single values are common to both circuits. The 2N3819 version exhibits a slightly lowered performance, being 3dB down at 25Hz.



IMPROVING TREBLE CONTROL

In BP 1 337 284 from General Electric Co of New York is a typical British patent specification of USA origin. For legal reasons in the States it is essential for every last nut, bolt and blob of solder to be described in minute detail and for convenience the same text is often used for both countries. This makes for tedious reading and difficulty in sorting out where the novelty of the real invention lies, but it also provides masses of detailed background information.

The GEC patent concerns modifications in treble tone control circuits for audio amplifiers and to highlight the modifications, the inventors first of all describe and draw a conventional audio amplifier (complete with component values) for which no patent pro-

tection is claimed.

Although bass tone control, contour or loudness circuit, bass boost circuit and a volume control all operate exactly as in conventional amplifiers, the main difference and invention lies in the treble tone control circuit, see Fig. 1.

The mid-band attenuation has been reduced and the emitter bypass circuit, shown dotted in Fig. 1, is removed. The modified treble control circuit includes capacitors

C1, C2 and C3.

When the wiper of the treble control potentiometer is at mini-mum, capacitor C1 effectively shunts to provide treble cut. When the wiper is at maximum, the shunting effect of C1 is minimised and treble frequencies are boosted. Also, when the wiper is at maximum, C2 passes h.f. audio signals and an additional path for these components is provided, via C3, to boost treble when the volume control is below maximum.

When the treble tone control is turned towards its minimum position, not only is the shunting effect of C1 increased to provide high frequency roll-off but also the treble boosting effect of the capacitors C2 and C3 is reduced.

Graphs are given to show how control of this type can have considerable effect on the upper frequencies, including a 4dB increase between the maximum and minimum treble settings over conventional circuits at 10kHz and a 5dB increase at 20kHz.

TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE OSCILLATOR

A clever use for a threshold glass switch is described by Standard Telephones and Cables in BP 1 341 172. The switch is constructed by embedding a pair of conductive wires in a bead of vitreous material, the device switching to conduction when a critical voltage is exceeded and returning to a high resistance state when the current is reduced below a critical holding current.

In the simple circuit of Fig. 1 C1 is charged from a constant voltage supply via VR1. When the capacitor across the voltage reaches the switching voltage of BP 1 341 172

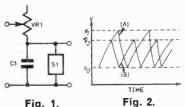


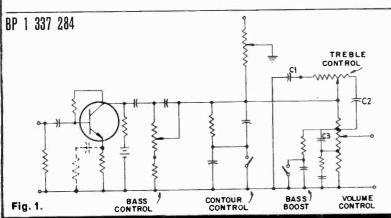
Fig. 1.

the glass switch S1, the capacitor discharges through it. The discharge continues until the current through the switch falls below the The holding current. critical switch then returns to its high resistance state and the next charge/discharge cycle commences.

In the graph of Fig. 2 the voltage waveform across the switch at a given temperature is represented by (A), the switching voltage being V₁. The voltage at which the current through the switch falls below the critical holding current varies only slightly with tempera-ture, but the critical voltage varies significantly. Thus if the temperature of the switch is raised the critical voltage falls to V_o (Fig. 2) and the voltage across the switch produces the higher frequency waveform (B).

In practice the error due to changes in value of the R/C components with temperature are small compared to the significant change per degree centigrade.

The circuit may be arranged so that at 37 degrees centigrade (body temperature) the frequency of the waveform is 10kHz. If the output of the circuit is compared with a 10kHz locked frequency signal (e.g. from an oscillator) then an audio frequency signal can be generated as a beat frequency as the temperature of the switch is varied up or down from 37 degrees centigrade. In this and other ways the circuitry may be used to signal changes of temperature around a notional norm, such as the 37 degree centigrade level. The adjustment necessary at resistor VR1 to zero the beat can be used to indicate the temperature change that has occurred.



Copies of Patents can be obtained from the Patent Office Sales, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent. Price 25p each

Sinclair Cambridge kit. Was £27-45. Now only £14-95! You save £12-50!

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An advanced 4-function calculator in kit form

The Cambridge kit is the world's largestselling calculator kit.

It's not surprising – no other calculator matches the Sinclair Cambridge in functional value for money; and buying in kit form, you make a substantial saving.

Now, simplified manufacture and continuing demand mean we can reduce even the kit price by a handsome £12.50. For under £15 you get the power to handle complex calculations in a compact, reliable package — plus the interest and entertainment of building it yourself!

Truly pocket-sized

With all its calculating capability, the Cambridge still measures just $4\frac{1}{3}$ " x 2" x $\frac{11}{16}$ ". That means you can carry the Cambridge wherever you go without inconvenience — it fits in your pocket with barely a bulge. It runs on ordinary U16-type batteries which give weeks of normal use before replacement.

Easy to assemble

All parts are supplied – all you need provide is a soldering iron and a pair of cutters. Complete step-by-step instructions are provided, and our service department will back you throughout if you've any queries or problems.

Total cost? Just £14-95!

The Sinclair Cambridge kit is supplied to you direct from the manufacturer. Ready assembled, it costs £21.95 – so you're saving £7! Of course we'll be happy to supply you with one ready-assembled if you prefer – it's still far and away the best calculator value on the market.

Features of the Sinclair Cambridge

 \times Uniquely handy package. $4\frac{1}{3}$ " x 2" x $\frac{11}{16}$ ", weight $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

*Standard keyboard. All you need for complex calculations. *Clear-last-entry feature.

Four operators $(+, -, x, \div)$, with constant on all four.

*Constant acts as last entry in a calculation.

*Constant and algebraic logic combine to act as a limited memory, allowing complex calculations on a calculator costing less than £15.

*Calculates to 8 significant digits.

*Clear, bright 8-digit display.

*Operates for weeks on four U16-type batteries

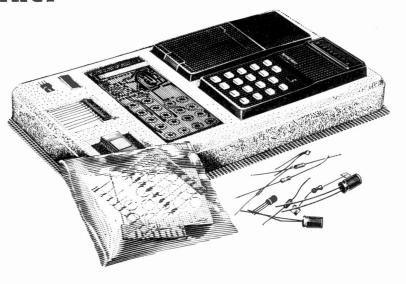
A complete kit!

The kit comes to you packaged in a heavy-duty polystyrene container, It contains all you need to assemble your Sinclair Cambridge.

Assembly time is about 3 hours.

Contents:

- 1. Coil.
- 2. Large-scale integrated circuit.
- 3. Interface chip.
- 4. Thick-film resistor pack.
- Case mouldings, with buttons, window and light-up display in position.
- 6. Printed circuit board.
- 7. Keyboard panel.
- Electronic components pack (diodes, resistors, capacitors, transistor).
- Battery clips and on/off switch.
- 10. Soft wallet.



This valuable book - free!

If you just use your Sinclair Cambridge for routine arithmetic — for shopping, conversions, percentages, accounting, tallying, and so on — then you'll get more than your money's worth.

But if you want to get even more out of it, you can go one step further and learn how to unlock the full potential of this piece of electronic technology.



How? It's all explained in this unique booklet, written by a leading calculator design consultant. In its fact-packed 32 pages it explains, step by step, how you can use the Sinclair Cambridge to carry out complex calculations.



Sinclair Radionics Ltd, London Road, St Ives, Huntingdonshire Reg. no: 699483 England VAT Reg. no: 213 8170 88 Why only Sinclair can make you this offer

The reason's simple: only Sinclair – Europe's largest electronic calculator manufacturer – have the necessary combination of skills and scale.

Sinclair Radionics are the makers of the Executive – the smallest electronic calculator in the world. In spite of being one of the more expensive of the small calculators, it was a runaway best-seller. The experience gained on the Executive has enabled us to design and produce the Cambridge at this remarkably low price.

But that in itself wouldn't be enough. Sinclair also have a very long experience of producing and marketing electronic kits. You may have used one, and you've almost certainly heard of them – the Sinclair Project 80 stereo modules.

It seemed only logical to combine the knowledge of do-it-yourself kits with the knowledge of small calculator technology.

And you benefit!

Take advantage of this money-back, no-risks offer today

The Sinclair Cambridge is fully guaranteed. Return your kit within 10 days, and we'll refund your money without question. All parts are tested and checked before despatch – and we guarantee a correctly-assembled calculator for one year. Simply fill in the preferential order form below and slip it in the post today.

Price in kit form: £13·59 + £1·36 VAT. (Total: £14·95) Price fully built: £19·95 + £2·00 VAT. (Total: £21·95)

To: Sinclair Radionics Ltd, London Road, St Ives, Huntingdonshire, PE17 4HJ	Name
Please send me	
☐ a Sinclair Cambridge Calculator kit at £13·59 + £1·36 VAT (Total: £14·95)	
☐ a Sinclair Cambridge calculator ready built at £19·95 + £2·00 VAT (Total : £21·95)	Address
*I enclose cheque for £, made out to Sinclair Radionics Ltd, and crossed.	
*Please debit my *Barclaycard/Access account. Account number	
*Delete as required.	PE/9/74 PLEASE PRINT

MARKET PLACE

Items mentioned 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. All quoted prices are those at the time of going to press.



CAR RADIO KIT

It is unfortunate that this magazine cannot make awards to manufacturers for designs and service to readers interests. If we did then Radio & TV Components Ltd. would certainly be top of our list for service to readers and probably very close to Sinclair's for top honours for design.

Although R&TV have had tremendous success with their unit audio systems and car radio kits, they have decided that because some of their clients are not too hot on soldering a new range of "solderless" units is required.

The first of these items is the Tourist Two car radio which dispenses entirely with soldering in its construction. Instead, all electrical connections are made through press-on tags and it is claimed that the kit can be assembled in less than two hours by any "do-it-yourselfer". By utilising an integrated circuit

By utilising an integrated circuit and a printed circuit board allied to tested sub-assemblies, construction is simply a matter of fixing the various component assemblies to the chassis using the screws provided, and completing the electrical circuit by means of colour coded press-on tags.

The Tourist Two radio has five pushbuttons which can be tuned to any preselected station. Four of the buttons operate on the medium band and the other on the longwave band. The finished radio will slot into the standard car radio aperture.

The technical features of the kit include permeability tuning and longwave coils to ensure good sensitivity and selectivity on both wave bands. The r.f. sensitivity at 1 MHz is claimed to be better than $15\mu V$ and the power output into 3 ohms is claimed to be 4W. The output stage is short circuit proof for added safety.

Both the i.f. module and tuner are pre-aligned and the kit is suitable for 12V positive or negative earth operation.

Complete with step by step instructions, including details for installing in the car, the Tourist car radio is available by post or direct from Radio & TV Components Ltd., 21 High Street, Acton, London, W.3, price £7 plus VAT. Postage and packing is 55p.

Additional extras include a speaker with baffle and fitting strips, £1.65 plus 23p postage and packing, and a matched fully retractable locking aerial. £1.37 plus 20p post-

age and packing.

DIGITAL ALARM CLOCK

Readers who like to experiment with clock circuits may find a new integrated circuit chip available from Sintel of particular interest.

Known as the Mostek MK5025ON, the 28-pin device may be used to construct a 24-hour digital alarm clock, with the addition of only a single power supply, display and standard interfacing components.

Special features of the device are that when the "snooze" button is operated it will temporarily turn off the alarm signal to allow an additional 10 minutes' sleep. The "bleep" alarm is generated within the chip and there is no need for an external oscillator circuit.

CHANGE IN VAT

Owing to the change from 10 per cent to 8 per cent in the rate of VAT, occurring as this issue closed for press, it has not been possible to alter all prices shown in advertisements.

If a low house voltage condition occurs, the a.m./p.m. indicator will flash at a 1Hz rate to signify an incorrect time display.

The 6-digit multiplexed outputs make the chip compatible with gas discharge or l.e.d. displays. An additional facility allows the use of an economical 4-digit display, hours and minutes, to be used if required.

The cost of the MK5025ON is £8:36 including VAT and full technical details can be obtained from Sintel, 53 Aston Street, Oxford, OX4 1EW.

DISCO CONSOLES

It is well known that noise is debilitating. With many discotheques distortion components generated through poor equipment can contribute to this unmusical sound providing cumulative discomfort.

With this in mind it is nice to record a new range of disco consoles from Citronic Ltd., with a hi fi specification. The Stateline range includes one mono and three stereo units covering a basic range of 75 to 150W r.m.s.

A feature of the consoles is the modular assembly typified in the

four and six channel mixer/preamplifiers which can, in fact, be purchased as separates.

The power amplifier module provides a basic 75W r.m.s. which is compounded to provide the high

outputs

Top of the Stateline range is the Texas console which, in its quadruple amplifier configuration, is believed to be the most powerful self-contained disco unit on the U.K. market, giving 300W r.m.s. or approximately 500W music power. The Texas is equipped with two standard or transcription quality record decks and a cassette tape unit. If required an eight-track cartridge player may be incorporated as well. The Iowa, five inches shorter and without the option of quadruple amplifiers, may also include a cartridge unit.

At the lower cost end of the range the Delaware and Kansas units. mono and stereo respectively, have two record decks and give 75W mono or 150W as the stereo equivalent. The Delaware also has a dual-amplifier option.

Other optional extras include the stand, transcription quality record decks and electronic lighting effect

control units.

Information and price list of the complete range of Stateline consoles may be obtained from Citronic Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.

PRINTED CIRCUIT KIT

A new professional printed circuit kit, providing all the necessary tools and equipment for producing good prototype printed circuits quickly, efficiently and at an economic price, has been introduced by GSPK (Electronics) Ltd.

Ideal not only for the electronics enthusiast but for engineers and students, it is claimed that a complex circuit board layout can be produced in a few minutes.

The Professional Kit contains six pieces of single sided laminate, a box of etchant, measuring scoop, steel rule, cutting knife, hand drill, etchant dish and printed circuit board marking pen.

Available from GSPK (Electronics) Ltd., Hookstone Park, Harrogate, Yorks, each kit contains full instructions and the recommended retail price is £8.40 including VAT, postage and packing being extra.



SELECTION FROM OUR POSTBAG

Readers requiring a reply to any letter must include a stamped addressed envelope. We regret that we cannot answer any technical gueries on the telephone.

Professional manner

Sir,—Mr. Kitchen's recent letter under the heading "Good Olde Days" (Readout, July), expresses sentiments which have been expected. pressed by every generation on all

matters.

Mr. Kitchen obviously enjoyed messing around with, and being bitten by those frightful, hot, glass bottles which imposed appalling restrictions on any constructor, but he must be very naive to think that all the fun has gone. The proof that there are a very large number of constructors, who I assume enjoy their hobby, is the very existence of Practical Electronics and many other magazines.

The advantages that transistors and integrated circuits have brought us are numerous: ease of handling, lower dissipation, smaller size, improved performance, etc. These advantages have opened up new areas of design, which were not possible with valves, and present designs cover all facets of everyday life. I would agree that 10 or 20 years ago chassis had to be "bashed out", but I can assure Mr. Kitchen that there are many who still "bash

their own chassis".

Construction has been simplified. in some respects, by printed wiring and other methods, and basic circuit design is probably dying, although i.c. manufacturers haven't got all the answers. In its place we build our own "tag-boards" using copper clad insulating board and ferric chloride (far more skilful than buying tag-boards and insulating pillars); and we have application design which requires as much skill as circuit design, as we firstly have to interpret the design data sheets, which use terms like "on-chip address decoding, tri-state outputs, slew rate, propagation delay" secondly wonder why the 40 legged monster does its nut when we can see nothing in its input (35 nanosecond nasties can be a bit trying!)

I suggest Mr. Kitchen tries constructing a digital clock similar to the one described recently in P.E., but using techniques and com-ponents of 20 years ago. If he can get no enjoyment from constructing such a device using i.c.'s and on switch-on finding a mass of numbers rolling round then I pity him,

I think we should be thankful for present day technology in taking the shackles off us and allowing us to construct items which are not only rewarding to design and construct, but which can be useful and built in a professional manner.

Peter Seddon, Rugby.

Psycho . . .

Sir,-Regarding Mr. Watson's letter on "Psycho-sensitive semiconductors" and their possible existence (Readout, July) I would like to say how interested I was to read these comments, particularly as it takes us out of the superstition that P.K. (psycho kinetics) can only be effected from living being to living being. Though the latter is considered the most common, I am sure it is not the only method of proving the power of P.K., and I add to this the results obtained by Uri Geller, who is able to bend objects without even touching them! O.K., I know this is a matter of controversy among (so-called) scientists at present, but I venture to add that I am |willing | to | accept | the evidence.

I would venture to state that mind over matter is a fact, and that it operates at a sub-microscopic level, possibly at atomic level, which results in a cumulative effect to create perceptible consequences. At this time I have certain facts at my disposal which suggest that nonbiological material is affected equally well as plant or animal cells, but I have to await certain results for my own satisfaction.

The point Mr. Watson mentions about molecules of magnetic material being affected by mind power may well be true, but I would prefer not to be as specific on this point for one good reason at least. Experimenters in the field of P.K. have so far indicated that they find the effect is not diminished by dis-tance between "transmitter" and 'receiver'

As we know from basics, magnetic effects, light and radio waves included, are subject to attenuation on an inverse square law with distance. Hence, one would expect one of two things to happen with distance. Firstly, as in the case of amplitude modulation, definition would be lost with increasing distance, or in the case of f.m. the effect may be sudden loss at a specific distance when carrier was lost into background noise. Secondly, if pulse-width modulation, or mark/ space ratio modulation of some kind were used, the effect of distance would be greatly reduced, but again, a point should be reached where intelligibility would cease.

Nature uses a system similar to the latter in conveying information of an analogue type to muscles in the body, and it may be fair to assume a similar principle is involved in P.K. If so, it seems that distance has not defeated any known experiment as yet, unless the results of the Americans' space experiments in P.K. found that there was an attenuation. And it is unlikely that we shall hear much of those experiments . . . particularly if successful!

Meanwhile, it is surely up to all of us keen experimenters to delve deeper into the subject,

Brian H. Baily. Dorset.

. . . theory

Sir,-I have just read the letter by Mr. P. Watson in the July issue of P.E. I should like to point out to Mr. Watson that the head of the chlorophyll molecule will probably not be magnetic as it contains an atom of magnesium (Mg) not iron (Fe).

However, there are compounds present in the plant cell which contain an atom of iron, e.g. cytochromes. I do not, however, see the advantage the plant would gain in aligning itself up with the lines of force of the magnetic field. This does not disprove Mr. Watson's theory of a magnetic field interacting with iron containing molecules.

I would now like to put forward my own theory. There is a class of compounds present in plant cells which initiate movements in plants when they are acted on by certain external stimuli, e.g. light and water. These compounds are called auxins and the movements they produce are called tropisms. plant has no control over these movements, once the auxins have been produced they begin to act. One such tropism known as geotropism occurs in plant roots, in this an auxin is produced in one side of the roots causing them to bend downwards towards the centre of the earth.

It is known that strong magnetic forces radiate from the centre of the earth, could not these magnetic forces cause a concentration in the lower side of plant roots causing them to bend downwards?

P. Crilly, Reid Kerr College. Paisley, Scotland

1		_				
	TRANSISTORS-	OC81 11p OC82 11p	2N2926 2N3053 2N3054	18p 8pidge RECTIFIERS 8p 50V 400V 600V 42p 1A 20p 25p 25p	RECTIFIER DIODES BY100 17p BY126 12p BY127 12p	SIGNAL DIODES BA100 1 OA47 OA70
	AC126 12p BC107 9p BD131 4 AC127 12p BC108 9p BD132 4 AC128 12p BC109 16p BDY60 7 AC141 18p BC147 7p BDY61 6 AC142 16p BC148 7p BF115 2	5p MJ490 95p TIS43 25p 5p MJ491 130p 2N404 26p 5p MJE340 50p 2N697 13p	2N3442 1 2N3702 2N3703 2N3704	1100p 2A 30p 45p 45p 11p 6A 50p 78p 100p 11p	BY133 20p BYZ10 35p BYZ11 32p BYZ12 30p BYZ12 30p BYZ13 35p	OA79 OA81 OA85 OA90 OA91
	AC176 14p BC149 9p BF167 2: AC187 12p BC157 14p BF173 2: AC188 12p BC158 12p BF177 2: AD149 43p BC159 14p BF180 3:	2P MJE370 72p 2N698 15p 3p MJE371 85p 2N706 12p 5p MJE520 68p 2N708 16p 6p MJE521 60p 2N914 18p 3p MJE3055 65p 2N131 18p 3p MJE3055 65p 2N1131 18p	2N3706 2N3707 2N3708 2N3709	10p 10p 11p 9p 9p 0-5A 25p 31p — — 1A — 35p 48p 60p	1N4001 5p 1N4004 7p 1N4007 8p PL4004 10p PL7004 20p	OA95 OA200 OA202 1N914 1N916
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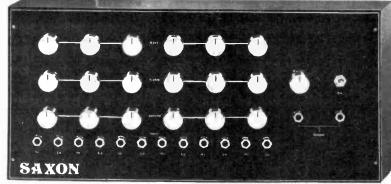
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0.1, 0.15, 4p. each; 0.22, 5p; 0.33, 7p; 0.47, 8p;
0.68, 11p; 1.0, 14p; 1.5, 21p; 2.2, 24p.

SILVERED MICA
Working voltage 500V d.c.
Values in pF-2-2 to 820 in 32 stages, 6p each;
1,000, 1,500, 7p each; 1,800, 8p; 2,200, 10p;
2,700, 3,600, 12p each; 4,700, 5,000, 15p each;
6,800, 20p; 8,200, 10,000, 25p each.

TANTALUM BEAD

1AN 1ALUM BEAD 0-1, 0-22, 0-47, 1-0mF/35V, 14p each. 2-2/16V, 2-2/35V, 4-7/16V, 10/6-3V, 14p each. 4-7/35V, 10/16V, 22/6-3V, 18p each. 10/25V, 22/16V, 47/6-3V, 100/3V, 6-8/25V, 15/25V, 20p each.

POLYCARBONATE TYPE B32540

Working Voltage 250V. Values in mF: 0:0047, 0:0068, 0:0082, 0:01, 0:012, 0:015, 3p each. 0:018, 0:022, 0:027, 0:033, 0:039, 0:047, 0:056, 0:068, 0:082, 0:1, 4p each.

CERAMIC PLATE

Working voltage 50V d.c. In 26 values from 22pF to 6,800pF, 2p each.

ELECTROLYTIC Axial Loads

uF	3∨	6-3V	107	16V	25V	40 V	63V	1007
0.47	_		_	_	_	_	Hp	8р
1.0	_	_	_	_		Hp	_	8р
2.2	_	-	_		Пр	_	8p	9p
4.7		-	_	Пр		8p	9 p	9p
10	_	_	_		8p	9p	8p	8p
22	_	_	8р	_	9p	8p	8p	100
47	8р	_	9p	8p	8p	8p	10p	13p
100	9p	8p	8p	8p	9p	10p	12p	19p
220	8p	8p	9p	10p	10p	Hp	17p	28p
470	9p	10p	10p	HP	13p	17p	24p	45p
1.000	lip	13p	13p	17p	20p	25p	41p	_
2,200		186	23p	26p	37p	41p		_
	15p						_	_
4,700	26p	30p	39p	44p	58p	_	_	_
10,000	42p	46p		_		_		_

POTENTIOMETERS

ROTARY, CARBON TRACK.
Double wipers for good contact and long working life.
P20 SINGLE linear 100 ohms to 4-7M Ω, 14p each.
P20 SINGLE log, 4-7k Ω to 2-2M Ω, 14p each.
P20 SINGLE log, 14-7k Ω to 2-2M Ω, 48p

JP20 DUAL GANG log, 4-7kΩ to 2-2MΩ, 48p

each.

JP20 DUAL GANG log/antilog l0K, 22K, 47K, IM 0 only, 48p each.

JP20 DUAL GANG antilog l0k only 48p.

JP20 DUAL GANG antilog l0k only 48p.

JA DP mains switch with any of above 14p extra.

Decades of 10, 22 and 47 only available in ranges above. SKELETON CARBON PRESETS 6p each.

SLIDER

inear or log. $4.7k\Omega$ to IM Ω in all popular values, 30p each.
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JACKS AND PLUGS

Plugs Plugs
2 circ, screened, top entry, P. I
2 circ, screened, side entry, SEPI
Line socket, mono, 231
Line socket, stereo, 244
3-circuit, unscreened, bl/grey/wh, P. 4
2-circuit, unscreened, bl/whi/red/bl/grn/grey, P2
12 circuit, unscreened, bl/whi/red/bl/grn/grey, P2
12 circuit, unscreened, bl/whi/red/bl/grn/grey, P2
13 circuit, unscreened, bl/whi/red/bl/grn/grey, P2
14 circuit of the page o

18p 7-4 189
3-circuit, screened, top entry, P3 53p
3-circuit, screened, side entry, SEP3 55p
Miniature, 3-5mm, 2-circ, screened, P5 Miniature, 3-5mm, 2-circ, unscreened, various colours, P6 10p

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In moulded polypropylene, with nickel plate on brass. With insulating set, washers, tag and nuts. 15A/250V. In blk/brwn/red/yel/grn/bl/grey/wh, Type TPI. He set Type TP, I, 14p each.

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VERGBOARD
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Vero spot face cutter (any matrix), 53p, 0.040 pins (for 0.1 matrix) per 100, 35p, 0.052 pins (for 0.15 matrix) per 100, 35p.

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CONNECTORS DIN from 2-way to 7-way plugs and sockets; phono types, mains connectors, etc. (Catalogue 7, page 88).

SIEMENS THYRISTORS 0.8A 400V, 65p; 600V, 94p; 3A 400V, £1.06; 600V, £1.50.

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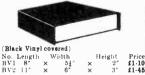
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BA4	51"	×	4"	×	11	50
BA5	4"	×	24"	×	2"	42
BA6	3"	×	42.0	×	1"	34
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Ref. B. Stylus and Turntable Cleaning Kit Ref. P. Hi-Fi Cleaner 31p 34p Ref. 32A. Stylus Balance £1-37 Ref. J. Tape Head Cleaning Kit 62p Ref. 56. Hi-Fi Stereo Hints and Tips 42p Ref. 45. Auto Changer Groove Cleaner £1-08

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ECN 940 #1-30

EG 240 £1-07 EX 25 £1-16

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No. Qty.	Description Price
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PS 10	Jack 3.5mm Screened	0.18
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PS 12	Jack 1" Screened	0.22
PS 13	Jack Stereo Screened	0.36
PS 14		0.10
PS 15	Car Aerial	0-22
PS 16	Co-Axial	0.15
PS 16	Co-Axial	0.15

,	PS 16	Co-Axial	0.15
	INLIN	E SOCKETS	
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)	PS 22	D.I.N. 3 Pin	0.20
>	PS 23	D.I.N. 5 Pin 180°	0.20
1	PS 24	D.I.N. 5 Pin 240°	0.20
,	PS 25	Jack 2.5mm Plastic	0.16
	PS 26	Jack 3.5mm Plastic	0.16
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)	PS 28	Jack 1" Screened	0.35
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LS 1 Speaker Lead 2 pin D.I.N. plug to open ends approx 3 metres long (coded) 0.20 (coded)

CARLES

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CP	1	Single Lapped Screen	0.07
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POTENTIOMETERS Log and Lin 4.7K, 10K, 22K, 47K, 100K, 220K, 470K, 1M, 2M VC 1 Single Less Switch VC 2 Single D.P. Switch Tandem Less Switch 0.48 l K Lin Less Switch VC 4 0.15 100 K anti-Log VC 5 0.46

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0·1 watt 0.06 each

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Holds 12. $10 \text{in} \times 3 \text{Hn} \times 5 \text{in}$. Lock and handle, £1-30.

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Type MT50/1 MT50/2 MT50/2 Price £1.93 £2.42 £3.30 P. & P. 30p 35p 40p Amps

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ACOS ACOS

GP91-18C 200mV at 1-2cm/sec

GP93-1 280mV at 1cm/sec

GP93-1 280mV at 1cm/sec

11.85

GP93-1 280mV at 1cm/sec

12.80

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12.01c

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12.03

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12.03

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-the lowest price

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AL10/AL20/AL30 AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODULES



The AL10, AL20 and AL30 units are similar in their appearance and in their general specification. However, careful selection of the plastic power devices has resulted in a range of output powers from 3 to 10 wats R.M.S.

The versatility of their design makes them ideal for use in record players, tape recorders, stereo amplifiers and cassette and cartridge than players in the coar and at home.

tape players in the car and at home.

Parameter	Conditions	Performance 0·25% 8-16Ω 100 kΩ	
IARMONIC DISTORTION	Po = 3 WATTS f = 1KHz		
OAD IMPEDANCE			
NPUT IMPEDANCE	f = 1KHz		
REQUENCY RESPONSE -3dB	Po = 2 WATTS	50 Hz-25KHz	
ENSITIVITY for RATED O/P	$V_8 = 25V$. $R1 = 8\Omega$ $f = 1KHz$	75mV. RMS 3" × 2\frac{1}" = 1"	
IMENSIONS	_		

The above table relates to the AL10, AL20 and AL30 modules. The following table outlines the differ in their working conditions

Parameter	AL10	AL20	AL30	
faximum Supply Voltage	25	30	30	
'ower out for 2% T.H.D. (RL = 8Ω f = 1KHz)	3 watts RMS Min.	5 watte RMS Min.	10 watts RMS Min.	

AUDIO AMPLIFIER WODULES

ιL 10.	3 watts	£2-11
ιL 20.	5 watts	£2-59
LL 30.	10 watts	23-0

POWER SUPPLIES

'S 12. (Use with AL10, AL20, AL30) 88p PM 80. (Use with AL60) £3.25 'RONT PANELS PA 12 with Knobs £1-00

PRE-AMPLIFIERS

PA 12. (Use with AL10 & AL20) 24-35 PA 100. (Use with AL30 & AL60) £18-15

TRANSFORMERS

T461 (Use with AL10) £1-38 P & P 15p T538 (Use with AL20, AL30) £1.93 P & F

BMT80 (Use with AL60) £2-15 P & P 25p

PA12 PRE-AMPLIFIER SPECIFICATION

The PA12 pre-amplifier has been designed to match into aost budget stereo systems. It is compatible with the L 10. Al 20 and AL 30 audio power amplifiers and it leads to the compatible with the Base control— L 10, AL 20 and AL 30 audio power amplifiers and it an be supplied from their associated power supplies. There are two stereo inputs, one has been designed for use rith *Ceramic cartridges while the auxiliary input will uit most †Magnetic cartridges. Full details are given in he specification table. The four controls are, from left to ight: Volume and on/off switch, balance, bass and treble. ize 152mm × 84mm × 35mm

Bass control—

± 12dB at 60Hz

Treble control—

± 14dB at 14K11z

*Input 1. Impedance

1. Meg. ohn
Sensitivity 300mV

†Input 2. Impedance
30 K ohms
Sensitivity 4mV

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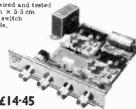
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The STEREO 20

'he "Stereo 20" amplifier is mounted, ready wired and tested n a one-piece chassis measuring 20 cm × 14 cm × 5.5 cm. 'his compact unit comes complete with on/off switch olume control, balance, bass and treble contransformer, Power supply and Power amps. ttractively printed front panel and matchagonito knobs. The "Stereo 20" has been esigned to fit into most turntable plintar ithout interfering with the mechanism or, Iternatively, into a separate cabinet butput power 20w peak. Input 1 (Cer.) 00mV into 1M. Freq. res. 25IIz-25kHz. nput 2 (Aux.) 4mV into 30K. Harmonic istortion. Bass control ± 124B at 60Hz ypically 0-25% at 1 watt. Treble con. ± 14dB at 14kHz. olume control, balance, bass and treble controls



FC20 TEAK VENEERED CABINET

'or Stereo 20 (front board undrilled) Size $10\frac{1}{4}$ " \times $8\frac{1}{4}$ " \times 3", £3-95 plus 30p postage

3HP80 STEREO HEADPHONES

-16 ohms impedance. Frequency response 20 to 20,000 Hz. Stereo/mono switch and volume ontrols, 24.95

NOW WE GIVE YOU 50w PEAK (25w R.M.S.) **PLUS THERMAL PROTECTION!** The NEW AL60 Hi-Fi Audio Amplifier FOR ONLY £3.95

- Max Heat Sink temp 90°C.
- Frequency Response 20Hz to 100KHz
- 0.1% Distortion Distortion better than
- 1% at 1KHz
- Supply voltage 10−35 volts
- Thermal Feedback
- Latest Design Improvements
- Load 3, 4, 8 or 16 ohms
- Signal to noise ratio 80dB
- Overall size 63mm × 105mm

 \times 13mm

Especially designed to a strict specification. Only the finest components have been used and the latest solid state circuitry incorporated in this powerful little amplifier which should satisfy the most critical A.F.

STABILISED POWER **MODULE SPM80**

BPM80 is especially designed to power 2 of the AL60 Amplifiers, up to 15 watt (r.m.s.) per channel simultaneously. This module embodies the latest components and circuit techniques incorporating complete short circuit protection. With the addition of the Mains Transformer BMT80, the unit will provide outputs of up to 1-5 amps at 35 volts. Size: 63mm × 105mm × 39mm.
These units enable you to build Audio Systems of the highest quality at a hitherto unobtainable price. Also ideal for many other applications including:—Disco Systems, Public Address, Intercom Units, etc. Handbook available 10p PRICE £3-25

TRANSFORMER BMT80 £2:15 D. & D. 28D

STEREO PRE-AMPLIFIER TYPE PA100

Built to a specification and NOT a price, and yet still the greatest value on the market, the PA100 stereo pre-amplifer has been conceived from the latest circuit techniques. Designed for use with the AL60 power amplifier system, this quality made until incorporates no less than eight silicon planar transistors, two of these are specially selected low noise NFN devices for use in the input stages. Three switched stereo inputs, and rumble and scratch filters are features of the PA100, which also has a STEREO/MONO switch, volume, balance and continuously variable

bass and treble controls

Trebie Control
Trebie Control
Filters: Rumble (High Pass)
Scratch (Low Pass)
Signal/Noise Ratio Input overload

Supply Dimensions

| Figure |

± 15dB at 20Hz ± 15dB at 20KHz 100Hz

100Hz 8KHz better than -65dB + 28dH + 35 volts at 20mA 292mm × 82mm × 35mm

ONLY £13-15

MK 60 AUDIO KIT

Comprising: 2 × AL60, 1 × 8PM80, 1 × BTM80, 1 × PA 100, 1 front panel, 1 kit of parts to include on-off switch, neon indicator, stereo headphone sockets plus instruction booklets. Complete Price: £28-75 plus 30p postage.

TEAK 60 AUDIO KIT

Comprising: Teak veneered cabinet size 163° x 111° x 33°, other parts include aluminium chassis, heateink and front panel bracket, plus back panel and appropriate sockets, etc. Kit price: £9.95 plus 30p postage.

> Gira No. 388-7006 Please send all orders direct to warehouse and despatch department

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Following the phenomenally successful Scorpio Capacitor-Discharge Electronic Ignition system introduced in 1972 and proved by many thousands of satisfied motorists, we are happy to announce availability of all parts for the PE SCORPIO Mk. 2—

- * Now with added R.F.I. suppression.
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- * Custom wound transformer.
 * NOW AVAILABLE IN 6V, and 12V,
- * Suitable for all types of Cars, Boats, Go-Karts, etc.
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 Improves acceleration, gives better high speed performance and
- quicker engine warm up.
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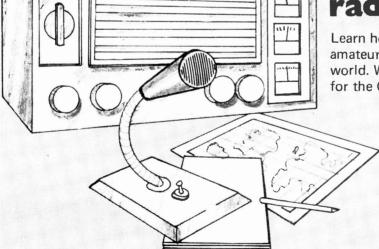
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12V	24 V	No.	£	£
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0.5	0.25	111	1.34	0.22
1	0.5	213	1.59	0.22
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Pr	im. 2	00-240V.			Prim. 2	00-240V.		
Se	c. 19.	25, 33, 4	0.50∀.		Sec. 24	30, 40, 4		
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0.	5	102	£2-11	£0.30	0.5	124 126	£2·10 2·97	£0.38 0.38
1		103	3.08	0.38	1 2	127	5.77	0.42
1 2		104	4.29	0.42	3	125	7.15	0.52
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10		119	17-60	0.97	1 12	189	21-62	1.10

MINIATURE	AND	EQUIPME	NT			
Prim. 240V with	screen.	-				
Volte		Mil	llamps	Type	Price	Post
Sec. 1	Sec. 2	Sec. 1	Sec.2	No.	£	£
3-0-3		200	_	238	1.23	0.10
0-6	0-6	500	500	234	1.30	0.10
0-6	0-6	1000	1000	212	1.68	0.22
9-0-9	T You've	100		13	1.28	0.10
0~9	0-9	330	330	235	1-43	0.10
0-8-9	0 - 8 - 9	500	500	207	2.28	0.22
0-8-9	0-8-9	1000	1000	208	3.03	0.30
15-0-15	_	40	_	240	1.23	0.10
0-1-5	0-15	200	200	236	1.30	0.10
20-0-20		30		241	1-23	0.10
0~20	0-20	150	150	237	1.30	0.10
0-15-20	0-15-20	500	500	205	2-97	0.38
0~20	0 - 20	300	300	214	1.76	0.22
0-20	_	3500	(No screen)	1116	3.00	0.40
20-12-0-12-20	_	700 (1	D/C) —	221	1.55	0.30
0-15-20	0-15-20	1000	1000	206	3.80	0.38
0-15-27	0-15-27	500	500	203	3.08	0.38
0-15-27	0-15-27	1000	1000	204	3-24	0.38
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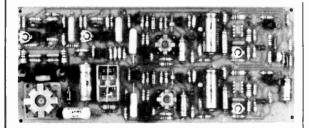


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Details of all these in List

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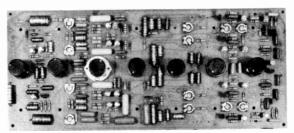
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RONDO (PE Sept 73/Feb 74) Details in List PROJECT Q4

(PW Oct 73/Jan 74) Multisystem Quadraphonic Decoder, S/c's, I/c's Rs Cs. Pots, Makeswitches, £13-74, PSU, £3-17. Set of PCBs, £2-60.

PHASING UNIT

(PE Sept 73) S/c's, Rs, Cs, Pots, PCB (1½in × 2½in), £2-20.



AURORA
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PSU, £4-32. PCB (4)in. 10)in) for Pre-amp and 4 Chans (also holds pots), £2-50. PCB
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MJE3055 NKT0033	75p 112p 65p	INTE	GRATE	CIRCUITS		1000 16 1000 25 1000 40	25p 25p 48p	0 47 35 1 0 35 1 5 35	12p 12p 16p
OC28 OC71 OC84 ORP12 TIS43 2N706 2N914 2N1304 2N2219	14p 25p 55p 36p 13p 22p 22p	709 TO5 723 TO5 741 8P DII 747 14P DII 748 TO5 7400 7402 7420		7447 7473 7489 7815 TO220 CA3046 PA263 SGJ402N	175p 44p 432p 220p 69p 168p 169p	2200 25 2200 40 2800 100 3300 63 3300 100 4700 16 4700 25 4700 40	45p 50p 350p 133p 350p 80p 75p 93p	2 2 35 4 7 35 10 76 10 25 15 6 3 22 16 47 6 3 100 3	12p 12p 12p 16p 16p 16p 16p

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	1N914 1N4007	9-06 0-12	A8 Y 51	0-40	BZY88	0.10	OAZ223	0.45	ZTX500	0-15
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	2N709	0-40	BC116	0-20	GD8	0-25	0C24 0C25	0.40	7407 7408	0-40 0-25
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	2N1306 2N1307	0-28 0-28	BC147 BC148	0-10	GET872	0-50 0-80	OC42 OC43	0-40 0-70	7420	0.20
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	2N3711 2N3819	0·11 0·85	BF184	0-22	NKT128	0.45	OC83	0.25	7483 7484	1-80 1-00
	2N 4289	0.20	BF185 BF194	0-22 0-18	NKT129 NKT211	0-80 0-25	OC84	0.80	7486	0.50
	2N5027 2N5088	0-58	BF195	0.18	NKT213	0-25	OC114 OC122	0-88 1-00	7490	0.75
	20301	0.59	BF196 BF197	0.15	NKT214 NKT216	0-24	OC123	1.10	7491A 7492	1·10 0·75
	28304 28501	1·15 0·75	BF861	0·15 0·25	NKT917	0-45	OC189 OC140	0-40 0-65	7493	0-75
	28703	1.00	BF898	0.25	NKT218 NKT219	1.13	OC141	0.80	7494 7495	0-85 0-85
	AA120 AAZ12	0-20 0-75	BFX12 BFX13	0-20 0-25	NKT222	0-88	OC169	0-20 0-25	7496	1.00
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	AO107	0-85	BFX30 BFX35	0.28 0.98	NKT251 NKT271	0-24	OC200 OC201	0.55	74107	0-51
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	AC128	0.20	BFX84 BFX85	0-25 0-28	NKT273 NKT274	0-20 0-20	OC203	0.55	74118	0-86 1-00
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40.110	. – İ			100µE	11p
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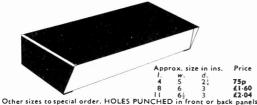
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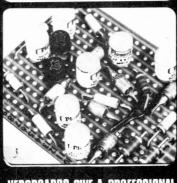
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