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Our October issue will be on sale Friday, 8 September 1978
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[^0]
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 amplifier - Full instructians supplied.

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(One only
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Mono (/W
panel etc.
£8.95
per system)
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Four mixing inputs - 100W into 4 ohms Wide range bass \& treble controls + master - Twin outputs
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K003 Polyester capacitors. 10 each of these
values: $0.01,0.015,0.022,0.033,0.047$ values: $0.01,0.015,0.022,0.033,0.047$
$0.068,0.1,0.15,0.22,0.33 .0 .47 \mu F .110$ altogether for $\mathrm{E4.75}$
K004 Mylar capacitors. min 100 V type. 10 each all values from
Total 130 for $\mathbf{E 3 . 7 5}$
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$0.68,1,2.2,3.3,4.7,6.8$. ali $35 \mathrm{~V}: 10 / 25$ $15 / 1622 / 1633$
tants for $£ 14.20$

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small physiclytic capacitors 25 V working small physical size. 10 each of these popula 70 for $£ 3.50$
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10 of each value from 2.7 V to 36 V . E24 series. Total 280 for $£ 15$. 30 .
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SPECIAL SUMMER OFFERS Audio IC's
$\begin{array}{llll}76003 N^{8} & £ 1.40 & 76013 N & £ 1.00\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{cccc}76023 \mathrm{~N} & £ 1.00 & 76033 \mathrm{~N} & £ 1.40 \\ \text { LM380 } & 80 \mathrm{p} & \text { TBA8105 } & 70 \mathrm{p}\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lll}\text { Linear IC's etc. } \\ 741 \text { (8DIL) } & 18 \mathrm{p} & \text { BD131 }\end{array}$ 24p $\begin{array}{llll} & 18 p & \text { BD131 } & 24 p \\ 555 & 25 p & \text { BD132 } & 28 p \\ 1 N 414 B & 2 p & 2 N 3 B 19 & 18 p\end{array}$

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52 logic IC's including $32 \times 7416144$ bit binary counter) +16 tant bead caps, A's, C's. etc. Ov
$£ 3.00$

DISC CERAMIC PACK
Amazing variety of values and voltages from
a few pt to 2.2 uF 3 V to $3 \mathrm{kV} \mid 200 \mathrm{f1.500}$ a few of to 2.2 uF

## EXPERIMENTERS CALCULATOR

Based on the C500 chip, this pack of parts enables the more experienced constructor to make an 8 digit 4 function calculator. The omprehensive data supplied includes full display and keyboard that can be used etc Components included in the pack are C500 calculator chip. driver IC, all components for verter/clock circuits, A 's C's etc. All for only £3.50.

## TRANSFORMERS

All mains primary: $12-0-12 \mathrm{~V} 50 \mathrm{~mA} 85 \mathrm{p}$; $00 \mathrm{~mA} 95 \mathrm{p}: 1 \mathrm{~A} \quad £ 2.50$. $6-0-6 \mathrm{~V} \quad 100 \mathrm{~mA}$ 2.10. Multitapped type 0-12-15-20-24
 (1) 300 mA twice $£ 2.50$; 12 V (a) 250 mA (a) 300mA

## RELAYS

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W817 11 Shill W817 11 pin plug in relay, rated 24 V ac, but
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## AMPLIFIER KIT $\mathbf{f 1 . 7 5}$

Mono gen. purpose amp with tone and Vol/on-off controls. Utilizes sim. circuitry to
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## ANALOGUE?

|N THIS fast moving world of digital technology where even the Government discusses 64 K RAM (though one wonders just how many in such circles really understand what it is they are considering pouring our money into), it is all too easy to overlook and even dispense with other modes of operation. It is not infrequent that we see highly complex logic designs for equipment that could more easily be realised with simple analogue techniques.
Wonderful as digital technology is, it must never become such an overwhelming part of our lives that we overlook other more suitable circuitry. It is all too easy for any designeramateur or professional-to become so deeply immersed in one small discipline that others are not even considered.

Most of us have seen and tried such digital games as "moon landing". All that technology, hardware and software to provide a game with a few simple variables. It really is an unnecessary use of a digital system and can be easily achieved with analogue techniques. Surely a case of technology for its own sake.

## HISTORY!

It may be something of an eye opener to many readers to see an analogue computer on the front cover of P.E. "Surely these ancient devices have all but disappeared in the face of microprocessors? So what is a leading highly technical magazine doing with this-showing us some history?"

Well, if your feelings are such, then perhaps you are one of those designers who is getting out of touch with the real world and too deeply involved in digital technology! Our analogue computer is a serious instrument for the student and engineer.

It is now more than ten years since PEAC (P.E. Analogue Computer) appeared in our pages. Part of the introduction to that series stated: " A useful tool which is capable of solving complicated problems at high speed. Can be used as a model to simulate mechanical systems." Those statements are equally true of our latest design and such a system has many advantages over digital circuitry when used for certain problems. So don't overlook or dismiss the design, it could be very useful to you.

## DIGITAL

What goes before does not mean we will be turning away from the microprocessor-far from it-we have some very exciting projects planned that will interest those at all levels of knowledge and interest in micros. You will find mention of what some might term a "one chip VDU" on our carryover page (p. 975). This, for those that want it, is digital technology that's bang up to date.

Over the coming months we will also be catering for those that want to build a basic microprocessor system and learn how to start programming it.

## GENERAL

We know many readers will not be interested in these "computer" areas but a look at the contents page of this issue will assure them that they are not being overlooked. The variety of areas covered within our pages is vast and we hope you will find something of interest in each issue.

We give a glimpse into the future with our wave power feature and wonder just how long it will be before some of our projects are supplied from such systems!

Mike Kenward

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## Mike Kenward

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## Letters

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THE analogue computer is a piece of equipment designed to satisfy mathematical equations, usually differential. Mathematics in general and differential equations in particular are the subjects of an exact science which describes the behaviour of physical systems.

Because computers cannot tell us how to solve a physical problem a mathematical model of the problem has first to be formed by the programmer. This is where computers are useful because the formation of the mathematical model is usually easier than the solution of the equations especially as differential equations can be particularly difficult to solve manually and some virtually impossible.

The analogue computer works by handling continuously changing variables using electrical potential or voltage as the analogue, in contrast to the digital computer which manipulates discrete pulses to obtain the solution to a problem.

Fig. 1.1 was produced by the analogue computer to be described here and it will be explained in this article how to program the computer to produce these interesting and artistic designs.

The analogue computer can be used in engineering to simulate the behaviour of complex systems before they are constructed, the behaviour of these complex systems can be thoroughly studied and various parameters changed simply by turning a potentiometer until the system functions in a satisfactory manner. This procedure allows considerable savings both in the cost and time of development.

Analogue circuits similar to those used in analogue computers are employed in a variety of applications, i.e. automatic control in industry, aircraft and spacecraft.

One of the examples to be given in this article will be a simple program to simulate the vertical take-off of an aircraft like the Harrier jump jet, and also a spacecraft moonlanding.

MATHEMATICAL OPERATIONS AND CIRCUITS
The advances in miniaturisation have enabled more computing power to be packed into a smaller space and it is these advances that have helped the digital computer on its way towards becoming a household object. In the analogue


Fig. 1.1. A typical lissajous figure produced using the Analogue Computer and an $\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{Y}$ plotter
field the high gain d.c. amplifier or operational amplifier which is the main element of the analogue computer, has also come a long way since its inception. It was originally designed for use in computers but has since found many applications in other fields. This large market for other applications has reduced the cost of such devices to very low levels. Of the numerous op-amp i.c.s available on the market the 741 was chosen for the prototype because it is both cheap and easy to handle. More advanced op-amps are available albeit at a higher price and constructors can experiment with these if they wish.

By connecting an op-amp to input and feedback components certain mathematical operations can be performed; addition (and subtraction) integration, and multiplication by a constant. Differentiation can also be performed but is generally avoided due to problems associated with noise generated by components. Multiplication by constant coefficients between zero and one is also performed using potentiometers with some special circuits being employed to enable the multiplication of two variable voltages.

## THE ADDITION CIRCUIT

It is possible to add various voltages by means of a resistance network with the output voltage being proportional to the sum of the input voltages. The serious drawback of this method is that this is only true if the load resistance remains constant.

This would be an unacceptable constraint since the output voltage may be applied to other points in the circuit which have different values of load resistance.

To overcome this difficulty a high gain d.c. amplifier is employed in the feedback circuit as shown in Fig. 1.2.


Fig. 1.2. '"Addition'' circuit
If a voltage $V_{1}$ is applied via $R_{1}$ to the summing junction the output voltage $V_{0}$ is equal to

$$
-V_{1} \frac{R f}{R_{1}}
$$

The polarity of the input voltage is also changed by the operational amplifier.

With the output voltage now independent of the load resistance each input voltage is factored by the same ratio of feedback resistance to input resistance.

$$
V_{0}=-\left(V_{1} \frac{R f}{R_{1}}+V_{2} \frac{R f}{R_{2}}+V_{3} \frac{R f}{R_{3}}+V_{4} \frac{R f}{R_{4}}\right)
$$

## THE INTEGRATOR CIRCUIT

As with the addition circuit integration can be achieved by using an R.C. network but this method also suffers from a number of serious drawbacks.

The circuit in Fig. 1.3 shows how an operational amplifier can be used to perform integration.


Fig. 1.3. "Integrator" circuit
With a capacitor connected in the feedback loop, and if the open loop gain of the amplifier is very large, the output voltage is given by
$V_{0}=-\left(\frac{1}{R_{1} C f} \int V_{1} d t+\frac{1}{R_{2} C f} \int V_{2} d t+\frac{1}{R_{3} C f} \int V_{3} d t+\frac{1}{R_{4} C f} \int V_{4} d t\right)$

The output voltage is the sum of the integrals, with respect to the time the voltage is applied to the inputs, factored by $-\frac{1}{\text { Rin }} \mathrm{Cf}$.

By choosing suitable values of Rin and Cf the factors can be given the required values.

## THE COEFFICIENT MULTIPLIER

The coefficient multiplier is used to multiply a voltage by a constant between zero and one. This is the only mathematical operation that is usually performed without the use of an op-amp. A potentiometer is connected as shown in Fig. 1.4.

At one extreme of the slider's travel Vo=Vin, i.e. Vin is multipled by 1 , whereas at the other extreme $\mathrm{Vo}=0$ i.e. Vin is multiplied by zero.

Any intermediate value can be set up by moving the slider. The dial of the potentiometer can be calibrated to facilitate this. However, it is not normal practice to set up a value on


Fig. 1.4. Coefficient Multiplier
the dial of the potentiometer because this circuit also suffers from the effects of load resistance.

An op-amp employed as a voltage follower could be connected as a buffer to isolate the effects of the load resistance, but this is an unnecessary addition because the problem can be overcome by measuring the output of the potentiometer using a voltmeter, after the circuit has been connected, i.e. in the presence of the real load to be applied in the particular problem being examined. The value desired is then set by adjusting the potentiometer and ignoring the graduations on the dial.

The circuits described so far form the fundamental building blocks of the analogue computer. Various special circuits have been developed over the years for other operations. The most important of which is the formation of the product of two variables. One of the early methods developed was the cumbersome servo multiplier. This involved the control of potentiometers using servos. Nowadays this operation can be achieved electronically using four-quadrant multiplier integrated circuits.

## INTEGRATION

Addition, subtraction and multiplication are concepts that are easily understood; integration, however, is not so easily grasped by the non-mathematically minded and so a simple explanation may be useful at this point.

If for example a motor car is cruising on a motorway at 50 miles per hour this can be represented by a graph of speed against time (Fig. 1.5). Since the speed is constant the distance travelled will increase by equal amounts in equal


Fig. 1.6. Graph of distance against time
time intervals. These distances are shown plotted on a graph of distance against time for intervals of one hour (Fig. 1.6).

It can be seen from Fig. 1.5 that the distance travelled during a period of time is represented by the area shown shaded on the velocity-time graph. (Velocity $x$ time representing the height $\times$ base of the shaded rectangle.) Now if the results of all these intervals were added up, the result would be the total distance travelied in a period of time.

The mathematical way of saying this is that the distance travelled is the integral of velocity with respect to time between two time limits. In the above example since the speed was constant one could have arrived at the required result by multiplying the total period of 5 hours say, by the velocity of $50 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{h}$. to obtain 250 miles travelled, without going into the trivial process of integrating, by considering small time intervals.

In reality the velocity may vary as shown in Fig. 1.7, i.e. in a random manner. To obtain the required result then, the velocity would have to be integrated over the required period of time by considering small time intervals. This is how a digital computer would be programmed to solve the problem. The accuracy in that case would depend on how small the time intervals were made. This is left to the discretion of the programmer. If the intervals were made too big, then the result would be inaccurate. On the other hand too small a time interval would mean that the computer would take longer to solve the problem and involve the programmer in unnecessary expense. The analogue computer programmer need not worry about this since the computer integrates continuously, i.e. it deals with


Fig. 1.5. Graph of speed against time


Fig. 1.7. Graph showing variations in velocity
infinitesimally small time intervals and does this at high speed.

Each of the circuits that have been described so far constitutes a computing element. When the computer is programmed to solve a problem, systems of equations can be set up by connecting together combinations of computing elements, and the results can be obtained by measurements taken at various points in the system.

The computer will of course be required to solve many different problems and the computing elements will have to be rewired every time. To facilitate this a patch panel is used, with sockets connected to each computing element in the computer. By using wire leads the computing elements can be connected in any order.

## INTEGRATOR


"Compute"

"Hold"

"Reset"

At the beginning of a computation the variables of the problem will have certain values, not all of which need be zero. The requirement here is that is should be possible, if desired, to give the output of integrators a value, before the computation commences. This facility is called "Initial Conditions".

Fig. 1.7 shows how the "Initial Conditions" for the "Compute", "Hold" and "Reset" facilities are achieved for summers and integrators. In the case of the summers no change in the circuit is necessary. For the integrators, the "Hold" mode requires that the input resistors are disconnected from the op-amp and grounded. In this way the charging or discharging of the capacitor stops and the op-amp maintains the charge at a constant level.

SUMMER

"Compute"

"Hold"


Fig. 1.8. "Initial Condition'" circuits for Integrators and Summers

## MODE CONTROL AND INITIAL CONDITIONS

The main modes of operation are compute, hold and reset. When in the compute mode the computer proceeds to solve the problem. As it is sometimes desirable to stop the computation after a certain period of time this is achieved by putting the computer into the "'Hold" mode. The "Reset" mode is used to make the output of all computing elements take their initial value. Sometimes this mode is called "problem check".

The calculation is therefore frozen and the results can then be observed at leisure. This, however, should not be practised literally, since electronic components, like everything else, are not perfect and some drift will always affect the results. These should therefore be noted as soon as the "Hold" mode has been selected.

The "Reset" mode for the integrators has two resistors $\mathbf{R}_{\text {id }}$ in the circuit. These are the "Initial Conditions" resistors and when an initial condition voltage, $V_{i c}$ is applied as shown, the


Fig. 1.9. Block diagram of the Analogue Computer
feedback capacitor charges up to this value. When "Compute" is selected these resistors are disconnected and the output of the amplifier, i.e. the voltage across the feedback capacitor, may vary above or below the initial condition value. When "Reset" is reselected the feedback capacitor discharges or charges, through $R_{i c}$ to $V_{i c}$ and the computer is again ready for a repeat of the calculation.

## THE OVERLOAD WARNING FACILITY

This facility, usually employed in analogue computers, is necessary because the voltage range over which operational amplifiers operate linearly, is limited to approximately $\pm 13 \mathrm{~V}$ for readily available i.c.s. In the course of the solution of a problem, all computing elements must operate within this range, otherwise the wrong results will be obtained. The overload warning circuit warns the programmer of any amplifiers that have saturated. Measures can then be taken to scale down the values of the variables.

It is now possible to imagine the general arrangement of an analogue computer and this is depicted by Fig. 1.9 in a block diagram form.

To summarise, input signals are fed to the computing elements via the patch panel and are processed. The results are fed back through the patch panel to the output, which may be an ordinary voltmeter, a CRO or an X-Y recorder. The operation of the computing elements is controlled by the Mode Control and the overload warning circuit monitors the output of the computing amplifiers and warns the programmer of any saturating amplifiers.

## NEXT MONTH: CONSTRUCTION DETAILS



Readers requiring a reply to any letter must include a stamped addressed envelope.
Opinions expressed in Readout are not necessarily endorsed by the publishers of Practical Electronics.

## Champ Waves

Sir-I hope you can clear up the confusion that has arisen about your EPROM programmer in the CHAMP series.

When purchasing INTEL 1702A EPROMS I was sent a data sheet, which detailed the programming voltages as completely different from those produced by CHAMP-PROG. Since you said that INTEL had supplied the basic circuit for your project, and use it in their "Intellec" development systems, it has resulted in much head scratching on my part.

The waveforms given on the data sheet are as shown.

Any. clarification you can give will be greatly appreciated.

> T. G. Keslake Romford Essex

I can understand your confusion over the difference between the 1702A data sheet and the operation of the CHAMP-PROG board, but really it is quite simple. You will notice in the data sheet that all voltages are related to GND or 0 Volts, and this means that all chip voltages are related to the Vcc pins. In CHAMP-PROG the voltages appear to be positive going, but if you look at the Vcc reference pins you will find that they rise to +47V during programming, and this means

that the program pulse is a $3 \mathrm{~ms}-47 \mathrm{~V}$ pulse as required. As with many things in electronics, the secret lies in viewing the circuit. operation with one's feet firmly on the ground (or in this case, the ceiling!). If you check the other supplies with this new perspective, you will find that they are substantially as dictated in the data sheet.

Once again, I quite understand your initial confusion!
R. W. COLES

## Too Powerful

Sir,-Working as Product Marketing Engineer for the UK's largest distributor of National Semiconductor products I was highly amused by the letter which appeared in the July issue of P.E. from reader R. G. Silson.

I can only assume from reading his lette1 that he must be extremely well versed in the world of microprocessors-indeed he must know far more than the vast majority of industry's electronics engineers.

Dealing with engineers every day from all fields of the electronics world I quite naturally get a very good indication of their thoughts and feelings towards various projects.

The number of times I have spoken to customers about the Pace microprocessor, only to be told "Not interested-it's too powerful for what we need", is more than ample evidence for myself that Mr Silson is completely out of touch with the amount of knowledge possessed by the average amateur actively engaged in microprocessors. Further proof of this is the vast amount of 8 bit SC/MP chips sold related to the relatively slow moving Pace.
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outs for a range of i.c. Usen outs for a raing debugging prototypes. builaing and and designing p.c.b.
fault finding layouts.

Do your bit to make North Sea oil last longer, and save yourself some money. This two digit display shows a consumption factor, derived, via six low priced TTL chips, from an electric fuel pump and the car's speedometer. An alternative analogue display circuit is also given.

## HIGH

PERFORMANCE POWER SUPPLY UNIT

Sooner of later you will need to treat yourself to a high performance power supply unit. This design has voltage control down to zero, yes zero volts, and current limitation from a few milliamps to several amps. It uses readily available components and has a regulation system which does not employ foldback and thus can give true constant current operation.

## U.D.U. SYSTEM

A complete output peripheral for almost any computer, this memory mapped system is inexpensive, easy to construct, has one chip to control all basic functions.

# PRACTICAL 



O
UR modern world is a power assisted machine; an energyhungry life support system for concentrated populations. The threat of that energy expiring with nothing to replace it is depressing, yet much publicity is given to such gloom.

Many natural sources of energy are being explored, and too often, propositions are regarded by those who seal our fate, as "pipe dreams", but put two gloomy facts together; Britain's increasing need of energy, and the pounding of winter seas against our shores, and they begin to cancel out! Wave energy is turning that power into electricity. It is possible! It is even considered practical!

Oceanographic data indicates that a wave-power installation 500 km ( 310 miles) long, with 50 per cent efficiency, could in principle provide a very substantial proportion of the UK's electrical power requirement, with peak outputs meeting total demand. This calculation is doubtless intended only to allow a grasp of the kind of energy levels existing in the waves off our shores, and is not meant to be a serious suggestion; for a few generations at least!

The Government has recently increased its wave-power research budget from $£ 2.5$ million to $£ 5.4$ million, and to the critics who complain that it's not enough, it has been pointed out that at this early stage technical problems are not going to vanish simply by having large sums of government money thrown at them. Four inventions are being studied, and it is hoped that one of these will emerge to become the blueprint for full-blooded wave-power stations. Money spent on the three "runners-up" will presumably be deemed as having gone towards proving that the fourth was best, or perhaps different designs will prove appropriate for different working locations. In any case, the real money will be spent when a design stands ready for full scale construction.

COCKERELL CONTOURING RAFT
When the watts come rolling in, the CCR could well be at the source, and is currently under development by Wavepower Ltd., a company comprising Sir Christopher Cockerell (inventor of the hovercraft), and a partnership of consulting engineers. Early small scale tests conducted in simulating tanks gave such good results that one-tenth scale trials are now taking place in the Solent, where the waves are obligingly also about one-tenth full scale. The photographs show a scaled down raft, and it can be seen to consist of adjacent pontoons whereby the energy may be extracted at their hinges, either via gearing, or by hydraulic rams, to drive alternators.

The probable location of such a wave-power station, it seems, would be five to ten miles off the coast of Scotland, or the western approaches to the Engish Channel. A string of rafts about 24 km ( 15 miles) long would generate perhaps 500 megawatts. Fifteen miles sounds alarming, but remember that a conventional power station can occupy a mile of coastline and 200 acres of land. A wave-power station would not require the continual comings and goings of ugly tankers or coal trains, nor has it any nuclear risk.

The Solent trials are being monitored by a complex computer controlled digital tape recorder system, housed in a 25 m sea-going barge anchored nearby, and linked by a sea-bed cable. A considerable list of parameters has to be recorded in connection with the CCR's performance and survival characteristics before construction of a full scale station can be undertaken. Not only power outputs related to wave heights, directions and tidal forces have to be logged, but mooring and hinge loadings, wind, and barometric pressures have to be recorded too, and much more data still. On the equipment barge an EMI p.c.m. recorder is used, which is particularly sophisticated, enabling 21 data channels to be recorded on each track of a 14 track tape.

It may not be until the late 1980 s that we see a full scale prototype wave-power station, but an artist's impression illustrates the magnitude of such a system.

SALTER DUCKS
Another device for extracting power from the waves is the Salter Duck, the brainchild of Stephen Salter of the Department of Engineering, Edinburgh University.

Tank tests showed that the more obvious bobbing up and down action of a "ball-cock" connected to a dynamometer would only extract about 15 per cent of the available energy in a wave; but re-orientating it to obtain a to and fro movement increased energy extraction to about 60 per cent.

So, a vertical flap was tried; however, this was found to displace water behind it, the extra impedance causing about 20 per cent of the wave energy to bounce back at the source. What was called for was a "flap with no back". The end product of this quest is shown (opposite page), and makes the oncoming wave think it's driving another wave-the optimum and natural loading situation!

The strange cam shaped segments are the ducks, and these revolve with respect to the shaft, or backbone as it is called. The combination is referred to as a string. A 500 m (approx $\frac{1}{3}$ mile) backbone is clearly going to come in for some enormous

## COCKERELL CONTOURING RAFT



Above: One-tenth scale Wavepower Raft under test in the Solent

Below: Dimensions of a full-scale raft śuitable for Hebridean location

elevation


PLAN
SCHEMATIC RAFT LAYOUT Nown ourwr WAVEPOWER LIMITED
An artiat's Impression of a full-scele instaliation. All illustrations courtasy of Wavepower Ltd

## SALTER DUCK

Artist's impreasion of full-scale equipment



Duck anatomy


At Edinburgh University where the Salter Duck was originally developed, study is now concentrated on the theoretical and behavioural nature of the machine. On a more practical level at Lanchester Polytechnic (Coventry), Sea Energy Associates build scale models for testing. Shown above are one-fifteenth scale machines ( 50 m string with 30 tonnes displacement) undergoing trials on Loch Ness. Illustrations courtesy of Lanchester Polytechnic
bending moments, and of the "flexible" or "rigid" alternatives for construction, the "long and strong" approach is favoured, since the backbone will experience a variety of phases of wave along its length at any one time, causing a certain amount of averaging. A design has been put forward for a kind of. "bistable" backbone which will become flexible when hit by any freakishly powerful waves.

Power take-off is an inherent problem with any wave-power device, and here the ducks will have an angular amplitude of less than half a radian. In addition, duck velocities are far too low for conventional electricity generation, but such things as radial pistons (perhaps around 100 per duck) might produce a flow of hydraulic fluid at pressures of up to $3,000 \mathrm{lb} / \mathrm{in}^{2}$. Electricity can then be generated via hydraulic "swash plate" motors, whereby swash plate angle control will allow constant speed, irrespective of duck "nod" periodicity. Economic considerations leave their
fingerprint on everything in life, and so it is fortunate that a wealth of hydrostatic rotary transmission components exist already in the commercial world.

Interesting problems are legion; such as how do you permanently moor a floating structure of some 500 m in length, at over 100 tons displacement per metre, in 40 fathoms of fully exposed ocean? And how do you connect this vertically mobile object to high capacity seabed cables? Answers to these and other questions are crystallising, however, and optimism is high. Above photograph shows working model.

Electricity transmission itself poses a dilemma. Cheaper terminal equipment results with a.c. but heavier conductor is necessary to carry the capacitive currents, whereas d.c. requires rectification etc., but evades synchronisation difficulties. For long distances d.c. cables are cheaper, but the crossover distance is roughly that expected with Salter Duck positioning.


The Russell Rectifier is shown above in both states of flux. (left) The upper chamber fills as the wave rises. (right) The lower chamber empties during the trough of a wave. Courtesy of HRS

## RUSSELL RECTIFIER

Using a rather more straightforward approach to the extraction of, wave energy, the RR has a simple one-way system, (hence the name rectifier) which stores a head of water, to release it again when the wave level has dropped. Of course, on finding its way back to the sea, the water has to drive a turbine. This system, which is being developed at the Hydraulics Research Station, Wallingford, is shown on the opposite page in both states of flux.

The upper chamber allows water to enter only, via one-way flaps, and this fills up at the peak of a wave. The lower chamber allows water to leave only, using outlet ports with one-way flaps working in the other direction. These flaps are self-operating due to the pressure differentials generated by the wave motion.

Because the rise and fall of pressure from top to bottom outside the reservoir does not occur simultaneously at all points, the vertical flaps must be capable of twisting, so that they can be open at the top whilst being closed at the bottom. Large numbers of these chambers would be used in this wave-power system, and if used in shallow waters might sit on the sea-bed, but to utilise the more powerful Atlantic swell would probably form some kind of stable floating installation a few miles offshore.

An investigation into suitable low-head turbines is currently taking place, and no efficiency figures were supplied. A model at

## OSCILLATING WATER COLUMN

The National Engineering Laboratory found its inspiration in the Air Pressure Ring Buoy used in Japan (developed by Masuda), and which contains an air turbine-driven generator with storage batteries to provide self-energising navigational lights. The air pressure to drive the buoy's turbine comes from a cylinder in which a column of water moves up and down like a piston, the "push" being provided from underneath by oncoming waves.

This principle has been evolved to a greater level of sophistication by the NEL, who have been examining the cost/efficiency trade-off involved in intensifying the primary conversion force (that produced by the oscillating column of water), from low pressure high volume energy to a more optimum ratio.

Another aspect is that of rectification, since with the simplest form of oscillating water column, which is nothing more than an inverted "can" with an air-hole at the top, as air is forced out by rising water within, the air turbine would revolve in one direction. However, as the water level dropped, air would be sucked in, which would then revolve the turbine in the opposite direction. This rapid reversal of the rotor, overcoming its momentum and inertia at every cycle, is clearly not an efficient mode of operation.


Rectification is achieved by the system shown above, which illustrates the simple OWC principle in ite entirety. It employs a kind of pneumatic version of the familiar bridge rectifier circuit. A four-way valve is used to re-route the flow of air in each half cycle so that it always passes through the turbine blades in the same direction. (a) shows the airflow whilst the wave is rising, and (b) shows the situetion as a wave trough develops.

Ideally the OWC should remain motionless when in action, as it wouldn't be very effective if it bobbed up and down on the waves it was supposed to convert. But it is no simple matter to build a structure rising from the seabed, out where the swell is strong, that will not bend during its first storm, particularly at a reasonable cost! It became necessary to confine investigation to the stability of floating structures. There are two simple guides to efficiency, one is to consider the amount of surviving wave to appear leeward of the wave-power machine, and the other is the amount of wave bounced back on impact. The OWC's cylinder has a good damping action so that the latter inefficiency is minimal.

Computer models and actual scale models have been used to arrive at the shape of structure shown, which uses the phenomenon of wave cancellation to achieve a stability which gives high efficiency of primary conversion (up to 80 per cent). Of course, the machine could be made so large that it hardly moves at all, but the OWC shown experiences relatively low stress, requiring only a soft mooring arrangement, and in a survival situation will limit the maximum stress by being able to ride out the "punch".

## ENERGYENOUGH?

Power from the waves should not be confused with tidalpower, although they both fall into the category known as "renewable" or natural energy sources.

The world's waves, it is estimated, have a potential energy of several times the present global demand for all forms of energy, and it seems Britain has some of the best waves in the world! Couple this with the fact that being a small island, we have a fairly favourable coastline-to-land-area ratio, and it begins to look as though the U.K. should capitalise on its pounding waves for electricity in much the same way that mountainous countries, employ hydro-electric power.

Waves cannot approach solar radiation in total amounts of energy, but do exceed wind power. The waves do, however, have a unique advantage over solar energy in that they are most powerful during those winter months when electricity demands are highest, thus corresponding more usefully with our needs.

Measurements made by British Oceanographic Services lead Stephen Salter to conclude that the average power density in the North Atlantic is 80 or 90 kilowatts per metre of wave front. Other observations show that the open oceans are seldom less than $10 \mathrm{~kW} / \mathrm{m}$.


Another peep into the crystal ball. Huge volumes of air rushing beneath those cowls would aurely sound like a giant in deep slumber. Illustrations courtesy of NEL

In British waters, wave-power is worth having for 80 per cent of the time, and this figure moves to 90 per cent during the winter. It is possible for "no power" periods to occur (although rare), and for this reason ạ secondary source of electricity would be necessary. This could come from a regenerative storage system which had been accumulating energy when power exceeded demand.

## CONSEQUENCES

On looking into the wave-power programme, the "contestants" in this technological race, with their ingenious contraptions, are reminiscent of the film Those Magnificent Men And Their Flying Machines, and if any natural energy source ever does "take off" it could well be wave-power. But like the aeroplane, which grew from a few struts to the jumbo jet with vast airport complexes and deafening noise, could great stretches of coastline, becalmed by strings of wave-power machinery, be ecologically altered? It has been estimated that inshore water temperatures could drop, and even harbours silt up. There would inevitably be shipping accidents too.

The nation has to ask: Is the price worth paying? One view is: The more wave-power, the less nuclear power.


MOBILE DISCOTHEQUE HANDBOOK By Colin Carson
Published by Bernard Babani Ltd
127 pages, $180 \times 108 \mathrm{~mm}$. Price $£ 1.35$

SETTING up as a mobile D.J. can be done in a bits and pieces way but any serious disco entertainer should know a fair amount about all the elements involved.

This paperback starts with a run down of electricity basics and goes on to explain audio systems.

Quite a lot of money can be saved by studying the great range of record decks available and buying sensibly sturdy gear without being swayed by glossy exteriors. Similarly, cartridges and styli can cost a fortune but for a possibly roughly handled disco outfit the selection of a not too expensively replaced delicacy will be the best bet.

Mixers, decibels, tone controls, input impedance, attenuation, distortion, dynamic range, and wiring up a mixer are explained in some detail.

Designing and building a console is covered and advice is given on ancillary equipment-microphones, stands, headphones, cassette players, jingles.

The many types and sizes of plugs and sockets are rationalised in the section on cables and plugs.

Loudspeakers and their enclosures are very important. The retative advantages of cabinets, columns and bass bins are discussed, as is frequency splitting.

No disco is complete without lighting of some kind. Sound to light units and sequence controlled units are described, but no detailed circuitry is given.

This book may well prevent unnecessarily expensive gear being bought.
A.T.

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Vero Electronics make a range of housings and passive components for the construction of electronic equipment, much of it allied to computer assembly. The range includes: circuit and breadboards, microprocessor boards, card frames, module racks and cases, wirewrapping tools and wire, connectors-direct/indirect/coaxial, Scotchflex cable/connector system, busbars, pin bars, backplane boards, fan units.

Verospeed is a service which specialises in the rapid supply of regularly required components: boxes, cases, Veroboard (up to $454 \mathrm{~mm} \times 179 \mathrm{~mm}$ ), 2 mm plugs and sockets, terminal pins, d.i.l. sockets, standoffs, switches, precision resistors/trimmer pots, miniature capacitors, p.c.b. etching packs, standard and sub. min. toggle switches. Orders received up to 3 pm are despatched the same day.

Catalogues are available from both divisions.
Vero Electronics Ltd., Industrial Estate, Chandlers Ford, Hants SO5 3ZR. (042 15) 69911.
Verospeed, Barton Park Industrial Estate, Eastleigh, Hants. (0703) 618525.


Tilt leg assembly enabling type $A$ and type $C$ Veroboxes to be canted at a comfortable viewing angle for displays, at $62 p$ and $82 p$ per kit. From Verospeed.


Top access version of Vero $D$ series instrument case; two screws gain access; multiple front panel fixing and four optional colour finishes. By Vero Electronics.

## DIALABOX

If you want to house a project in an aluminium case but are not too neat with the Gilbows (tin shears) then this service may appeal to you.

Custom made, pin seal vinyl coated project. boxes are available with next to immediate delivery from Cannon Components.


Starting at the minimum size of a one inch cube, any size of box can be made up to a maxima of $13 \times 8 \times 3$ inches. Price guide from small boxes to large is 65 p to $£ 3 \cdot 50$, including postage.

The boxes may be painted with vinyl or cellulose paints which bond well to the vinyl pin seal coating.

Cannon Components, 322 Whitehorse Rd, Croydon, Surrey CR0 2LF (01-684 9872).

## A NEW PROM

What is believed to be the world's first 16 K PROM to go into production was recently announced by Signetics. This new addition to their range of industry standard PROMs is available only in sample quantities at present, to allow designers to evaluate the new PROM and demonstrate its cost effectiveness. Production, capable of meeting full-scale demand, is planned for 1979.

Designated the $82 \mathrm{~S} 190 / 191$ the chip itself measures only $4.7 \times 5.8 \mathrm{~mm}$, which is only 40 per cent larger than the 8 K PROM! Manufacturing process is the standard diffused isolation, nichrome fuse system utilising dual-layer aluminium interconnect. Its access time is guaranteed at 80 ns ( 60 ns being typical), which is almost as fast as its 8 K counterpart.

Using a bit of ingenious technology, Mullard have kept the power dissipation the same as the 4 K and 8 K PROMs, which is 925 mW maximum ( 650 mW being typical). The major problem overcome here was that array power would increase proportionately to the total number of rows and columns in the array. To allow size to be kept down without temperature going up, due to current consumption in the internal decoder circuitry, a technique called "power predecoding" has been used. The 128 rows of the array are predecoded into 16 blocks of 8 rows each, and only one block is powered up at any given time. A similar approach is used in the 128 columns, where a 1:16 decode is required for each of the eight outputs. The circuit is split into two $1: 4$ predecoding sections resulting in a further substantial reduction in power consumption.

With the addition of one TTL inverter, four 82 S 191 s can be wired together to make up an $8 \mathrm{~K} \times 8$ PROM, or provide two additional bits of addressing capability. Since the device outputs are tri-state, giving high $\mathbf{Z}$ when not selected, all four PROMs can be simply wire ORed together.

Details from Mullard Ltd., Mullard House, Torrington Place, London WCIE 7HD.

## BYTE FROM THE APPLE

There is no longer doubt that minicomputers will eventually become an accepted part of everyday life at work and at home.

For teaching, such subjects as mathematics, physics, and even history (why not?), perhaps these machines will become the interactive text book of the future.

For entertainment, games are unlimited and can be as much fun to invent as to play.

However, not every potential user likes to dab around with a soldering iron; hence the trend towards the complete package personal computer. Another one of these has marched onto the scene: Apple II. The size of a portable typewriter, this personal computer built around the 6502 micro has a machine monitor with dis-assembler and mini-assembler, with optional 6 K Basic available from plug-in PROMs.

The full ASC11 typewriter style keyboard is "beefy" enough for real fingers, and direct colour TV interface means you can plug it into yours, or anyone else's television set, via the aerial socket. It also interfaces to your cassette recorder for dumping programs into permanent storage.

Video games are no fun unless you get plenty of noise (engines roaring and bombs going off etc), and for this purpose a built-in loudspeaker is provided. You can also use Apple II as a music synthesiser. There are eight connectors for most peripherals such as a hard copy printer, or jacking into the Post Office Viewdata service (one computer talking to another!!!).

Where there are input and output ports, and some imagination, there is always need of a soldering iron. So, if you are an amateur of practical leaning, there is still plenty of scope for experiment.

The computer is powered by a switching type power supply (screened they hasten to add) for less weight to hump around-after

all it is supposed to be portable.
Incidentally, to aid ball type video games, paddles are included. With four analogue inputs, and a memory that can be displayed as either text, colour graphics ( 15 colours), or high resolution graphics, all modes being software selectable, the machine lends itself to interesting video game possibilities.

The high level language is a fast translated BASIC allowing multiple statements on one line, syntax and range errors being indicated immediately when entered. Integers from -32767 to +32767 . String arrays up to 255 characters. Memory boundary adjust (does not destroy current program). Break and continue program execution. Debug commands are line number trace and variable trace

DMA facilities are PEEK, POKE and CALL commands.

The technical details go on too long for Market Place, but for a case measuring $387 \times$ $457 \times 113 \mathrm{~mm}$, the contents are pretty powerful with BASIC plugged in (and a TV of course!). The display format gives 24 lines of 40 characters.

Some prices. Apple II with 4 K bytes of RAM will set you back £995, and is available with memory increments up to 48 K bytes of RAM at $£ 1,900$. The printer costs $£ 100$, and the Applesoft BASIC cassette tape will cost you $£ 20$.

Further details from Topmark Computers, 77 Wilkinson Close, Eaton Socon, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 3HJ.


## D.I.Y. D.I.L.

Make up your own dedicated devices on these skeletal d.i.l. packages. Ideal for plugging in a series of timing constants; personal code keys; program addressing.

The low profile snap-on covers are a tigh fit enabling the pack to be encapsulated. Two covers are available at 5.7 mm or 8.9 mm height.

On each row, all seven terminals are manufactured linked and individual disconnections are made using only wire cutters.

The Dilpack 14 is available in quantities of ten for $£ 3.50$ from Erg Industrial Corp. Ltd., Luton Road, Dunstable, Beds LU5 4LJ.

## BREADBLOC

A compact breadboard system ideal for design and testing is now available from Lascar Electronics.

The unit has both a $+5 \mathrm{~V} 1,000 \mathrm{~mA}$ power supply and dual tracking outputs adjustable between $\pm 5 \mathrm{~V}$ and $\pm 15 \mathrm{~V}$ at 100 mA per rail. Both supplies are isolated from earth and each other.

The system enables most digital, linear, bipolar and CMOS circuitry to be accommodated on its 0 -lin matrix board which contains 47 rows of 5 interconnected


contacts and two continuous contact rows for the power supply rails.

The system is available with one or two boards at $£ 39.96$ and $£ 47.95$ respectively or one breadboard alone can be obtained for £7.99. To enable designers to construct a unit to suit their own power supply requirements the case itself can also be purchased for $£ 4.48$.

For further information contact Lascar Electronics, P.O. Box 12, Second Avenue, Billericay, Essex.


## DIGITALS

Details of the watches above are, from left to right, as follows:

1) LLED/45, ladies l.e.d., date, stainless steel case and strap, £9.50.2) LLCD/3S, ladies 1.c.d., cocktail bracelet, stainless steel, fully adjustable, date, £26.50.3) LCCRO1, l.c.d., chronograph, American electronics, six digit, net/lap/place times, back light, stainless steel, water resistant, £20.56. 4) and 6) GLCDB4, l.c.d. quartz, date, back light, American electronics, stainless steel, water resistant, $£ 11-88.5$ ) Solar 1, operates without batteries even in subdued or artificial light, batteries fitted provide power at night for watch and back light, batteries charged by solar panel during the day; am.pm., date, polished stainless steel, £28.98. 7) LLCD8, ladies I.c.d., date, back light, stainless steel, water resistant, approx. size 18 mm face $\times 8 \mathrm{~mm}$ thick, $£ 15 \cdot 99.8$ ) LLED/43, as 1) but in gold or silver cocktail bracelet, $£ 13.99$.

All watches are available by post (add 50 p for $\mathrm{p} \& \mathrm{p}$ ) from Readers P.C.B, Services Ltd,, P.O. Box 11, Worksop, Notts.

## SINCLAIR MULTIMETER

The latest digital multimeter available from Sinclair Radionics is the DM 235. The design is a direct development of their DM 2 and is a five function 21 range $3 \frac{1}{2}$ digit unit which has an additional five test ranges for diodes.

The DM 235 is designed for both bench and field work and has a basic accuracy of 0.5 per cent on its d.c. voltage range of 1 mV to $1,000 \mathrm{~V}, 1.5$ per cent on its a.c. voltage range of 1 mV to $750 \mathrm{~V}, 1.0$ per cent on its d.c. current and 1.5 per cent on its a.c. current ranges of $1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ to 1 A and a basic accuracy of 1.0 per cent on its resistance range of $1 \Omega$ to $20 \mathrm{M} \Omega$.


The unit is very light-less than $1 \frac{1}{2}$ lbsand measures $255 \times 148 \times 40 \mathrm{~mm}$. It is powered by four dry cell batteries and optional extras include a rechargeable battery pack, carrying case and a 30 kV probe.

The price of the DM 235 is $£ 49.80$ plus VAT. For further details contact Instrument Division, Sinclair Radionics Ltd., London Road, St. Ives, Huntingdon.

## SOMBRE SCOPE

Black will be the season's fashion colour for oscilloscopes. This is the pronouncement of Scopex who carried out a European marketing survey earlier this year. They were surprised to find that, while turquoise casings with white front panels were the popular twin-set colours in 1976, continental engineers are all for black gear now.


The black 4D10A dual trace scope, at £180, still retains the characteristics of the 4D10; stabilised power supplies in both the low voltage areas and e.h.t. allowing mains variation of as much as ten per cent. Accuracy on both time and voltage measurements is three per cent.

Scopex Sales, Pixmore Avenue, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 1JJ.

## LIGHT TOUCH

The new touch dimmer control from Superswitch can be operated by a quick firm touch anywhere on its front panel whilst a long touch will vary the light output at a preset rate. To complete a full cycle from bright to dim and back to full brilliance again takes approximately six seconds.


A subsequent long touch will alter the light level in the reverse direction and removing the hand from the control during the cycle will establish the light level.

Further switching on and off will not alter the selected brilliance and thus the control acts as a pre-set dimmer.

Any number of slave units can be used with a master to enable two way and multi switching to be obtained.

The price of a Master unit is $£ 11.60$ and a Slave unit is $£ 4 \cdot 50$. For further details contact Superswitch, 7 Station Trading Estate, Blackwater, Camberley, Surrey.

## FOURTH BATCH

Scrumpy is a crude cider, but John MillerKirkpatrick's Scrumpi seems to become more refined with each brew. Scrumpi 4 offers the following features: 1 K RAM +7 K expansion sockets (2114), 8 K expansion PROM sockets (2708/16), an additional socket for $2 \mathrm{~K} / 4 \mathrm{~K}$ ROM, a socket for 8 K ROM, an 8 -bit bidirectional I/O port, a cassette interface option, a 2708 programmer option, and on-board voltage regulators. But new is the 4 K ROM containing BASIC!

Up to personal computer standard, this SC/MP-2 based MPU is supplied with the ROM ready to speak NIBL (National Industrial BASIC Language) which requires the 1 K of RAM capacity to operate. The price of the Scrumpi 4 basic system p.c.b. is $£ 150$.

As part of the deal you get the circuit for a PROM programmer, and components for this are available as an add-on pack. An interface is provided to any 20 mA loop TTY device (which could be Scrumpi 3!), whereby all main I/O commands are processed by the NIBL ROM.

A fully extended Scrumpi 4 could have 16 K RAM plus 16 K ROM/PROM, or 8 K RAM plus 24 K ROM/PROM. Bywood Electronics can support their MPU kits with education facilities and a good range of i.c.s for interfac ing with the outside world. A set of books for beginners, called Microsense (complete with cartoons), is available from Bywood, and are given away free with all Scrumpi kits.

More from Bywood Electronics, 68 Ebberns Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 9QR.


## by K. Lenton-Smith

Organ "nuts" are often mentioned on The Organist Entertains, a good example being the case of Stephen Capaldi. According to a recent newspaper report, he said he had been let down by women so often that his third marriage would be to his $£ 8,000$ organ. The vicar of St. Paul's, Gloucester, had agreed to perform a service blessing this organ and, at the climax of the service, Mr Capaldi had planned to play his favourite piece "Don't Cry For Me Argentina". However, the vicar, cancelled the service when he heard that it was to be regarded as a wedding ceremony. So another sorry chapter was added to his love life!

At least he tried to be different-but a far better approach would be to consider the latest electronic music i.c. to be announced by Signetics. A frequent complaint in this column is that basic circuit principles have remained unchanged for several decades, counting aside miniaturisation. The TDA 1008 is no exception, but its design is such that it is destined to become an extremely popular device. This extended article will be devoted to looking at some of the many features it offers.


INPUT PINS

| OUTPUT <br> PINS | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | $f *$ | $f / 2$ | $f / 4$ | $f / 8$ | $f / 16$ |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | $f / 2$ | $f / 4$ | $f / 8$ | $f / 16$ | $f / 32$ |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | $f / 4$ | $f / 8$ | $f / 16$ | $f / 32$ | $f / 64$ |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | $f / 8$ | $f / 16$ | $f / 32$ | $f / 64$ | $f / 128$ |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | $f / 16$ | $f / 32$ | $f / 64$ | $f / 128$ | $f / 256$ |
|  |  | $f=$ master frequency from TOS |  |  |  |

* $f=$ master frequency from TOS
keying is achieved by supplying +6 V through a keyswitch. Signal output voltage is proportional to keyed input voltage, whilst multiple inputs produce sum signals. Unused outputs should be connected to +6 V to avoid intermodulation, though all five will normally be in use.

SUSTAIN The simple keying of Fig. 1 is not pleasing musically, as attack is immediate and decay non-existent. Adding a Sustain capacitor Cs and Sustain resistor Rs will cause the output to die away gradually, as shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 2. Sustain mode

TDA 1008 Based on integrated injection logic, this monolithic bipolar device produces square wave output voltages that are symmetrical about a given d.c. voltage, thus overcoming key click problems. It can be driven directly by a Top Octave Synthesiser (TOS) and applies this signal to an internal chain of eight bistable dividers. The nine resulting frequencies are matrixed with nine gates so that each of five keying inputs can select a different combination of five successive octaves.

Bistable divider i.c.s have been in existence for a good many years, and gating i.c.s, but the TDA 1008 combines both functions in a 16 pin package, with the added advantages of TOS drive and ability to control the envelope widely. Assuming a single manual instrument was required, this could now consist of 13 i.c.s (TOS and 12 $\times$ TDA 1008), tone forming and amplification; a single keyswitch would control its five pitches.
Three positive supply voltages are required ( 6,9 and 12 V ), the supply current being some 13 mA with all keys activated. Keying input impedance is greater than $8 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ and the input frequency can be up to 100 kHz if required. Fig. 1 gives pin connections for the device, which will be seen to have five keying inputs (pins 8 to 12), five outputs (pins 2 to 6), and a Decay pin (pin 7). Fig. 1 shows the truth table.

Master frequencies from the TOS are applied to pin 15, the truth table indicating the effect of keying various inputs. Using a 5 octave keyboard, pin 8 of the twelve TDA 1008s would be used to key the top octave, pin 9 for the next, etc. In its simplest form,



Because Cs is charged when the playing key is depressed, a resistor could be inserted between the 6 V supply and keyswitch if there is any tendency for the key contacts to spark. This situation would probably be abnormal, but such a resistor could be chosen to imitate the slower attack of a pipe organ. The desired time constant RC could be calculated (where $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{Cs}$ ).
DECAY Overall control of Decay is by means of pin 7, where all twelve pins are commoned and provided with a small variable voltage. Fig. 3 suggests a method of obtaining the Decay voltage from the 6 V line (variable between 0.7 V and 2.5 V ) which will control Sustain period across the manual. See Fig. 3.


PERCUSSION If a changeover keyswitch is employed so that +6 V keeps a Percussion capacitor Cp charged in "key up" mode, depressing the playing key will allow Cp to discharge through the input gate. Rs provides sustain as before, the principle being shown in Fig. 4.


Fig. 4. Percussion


Fig. 5. Percussion and sustain

A combination of Percussion and Sustain is shown in Fig. 5. One capacitor now loads the other, so that staccato playing will produce a larger output than legato. Because the TDA 1008 gives an output voltage that is proportional to the input, we now have touch-sensitivity. The effect is similar to an acoustic piano with "loud" pedal in operation.
There are a number of possible variations on this theme. Joining the earthy ends of several Cs together, though not actually earthing them, will cause other gates to open momentarily. This effect may be switched out by earthing the common Cs point. If the seventeenth interval (or 29th note higher) is coupled in this fashion, chiff can be produced.

DAMPER ACTION Unless the "loud" pedal of an acoustic piano is pressed, the string is damped as the key is released. To imitate this effect, three more components may be added to the input circuitry, as shown in Fig. 6. Here we require percussion with decay that falls to zero. On releasing the key, the 6 V supply is pulsed through Ck, making the transistor conduct briefly and so discharge Cs. The time constant RkCk is sufficient to prevent the transistor conducting if the playing key is struck repeatedly.

QUINT The gate of one TDA 1008 may be controlled by a different chromatic playing key if mutations are required. Fig. 7 shows the method for obtaining a Quint. If $F$ is keyed, $C$ will sound when 6 V is supplied to the isolating transistor. The Quint, or other mutation, will still be subject to Sustain and Percussion as before.

Although the proportional nature of input to output voltages has been mentioned, 6 V should be regarded as the maximum for the


Percussion busbar. Failing this precaution, gates other than those actually keyed could open. Aside from this warning, the possibilities for envelope control are legion. These brief circuit details may serve to give some idea of the flexibility of the TDA 1008.

OUTPUTS The square wave signals could be rounded off individually by low pass filters, and applied to drawbars for an additive harmonic synthesis system. With this in view, it is essential to filter individual frequencies rather than trying to filter the mixture from the drawbar busbars.

With subtractive tone forming, the best starting point is a sawtooth waveform, containing both even and odd harmonics. A staircase waveform is a close approximation to sawtooth and is obtained by mixing octave related square waves in given proportions. The resistive network of Fig. 8 shows how to apply this principle for feeding subtractive filters. Compared with Fig. 1, alteration has been made in the value of load resistors, and the output pins are now resistively coupled together.


Fig. 6. Damper action


APPLICATIONS The many features of TDA 1008 would appear to make it ideal for the rhythmic player. Organ tones would be available on an electric piano and vice versa.

Before serious musicians dismiss this device as just another gadget for popular music, it should be noted that the only commercial organs made using the TDA 1008 to date are strictly classical. Details of this i.c. have been released to the press only within recent weeks but Electrophonic Organs of 56 Bedford Place, Southampton, have been building instruments to customers' specification using this device for some time. First in this field, their price list quotes a typical three manual organ, classically voiced and with mutations, at $£ 2,865$; eight sets of twelve TDA 1008s are used. This firm will be pleased to quote for a given specification, their telephone number is 070321265.


Fig. 8. A method for staircasing the output pitches as an alternative to square waves produced by the simple arrangement in Fig. 1

COST This article will have made it clear that a set of twelve TDA 1008s will have 60 gates in all, to cover one five octave manual (with top C breaking back). The second manual will require a further set and, for the small additional cost of another TOS for these, chorus effect is possible.

A single unit costs $£ 2 \cdot 90$, whereas 25 off is at $£ 2.32$ per device. Although this may seem rather expensive compared with other i.c. systems, its versatility makes it an excellent proposition for anyone embarking on construction of a fully comprehensive instrument. Commercial firms will certainly opt for it increasingly because of the reduction in both interwiring and keyswitching it allows.

Ideally, the Pedal section requires a set of TDA 1008s to itself, though a monophonic system might be used here for the sake of economy. But if cost was not important, three sets per manual would allow a full range of pitches, including mutation stops, and form the basis of an excellent instrument. All in all, the TDA 1008 is bound to become an important part of the current generation of commercial and home-constructed electronic instruments.

# Eectrone COMAB <br> E.A.PARR ${ }_{\text {e.sc. }}$ 

THIS article describes an electronic code lock suitable for door or cupboard. To gain entry a person has to dial up a four digit code on the key panel and press a push button. The four decade switches then have to be all returned to zero and the button pressed again. The lock will then open for a preset time.

This double entry on the switches ensures that the important first code is not left set on the switches after entry.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The circuit is shown in Fig. 1 and the key panel is identified by the shaded area at the top of the diagram. The principle of the circuit is to detect current flowing from S4 to S 1 on the first code, and from S1 to S4 on the second code. Diodes D1 to D6 on the coding board pass current when the correct code is set up.


As drawn, the first code is 4057, and D2, D4, D6 allow current to flow from the first code cable to S5. Similarly the second code is 0000; D1, D3, D5 allowing current to flow from S 5 to the second code cable.

The code is set up on the red and black flying leads from the coding circuit board. Black leads set up the first code and red leads the second code. There are no restrictions on either code (except the least significant digits cannot be the same), and the codes can be easily changed.

The supply for the currents through the switches is derived from a $\pm 15 \mathrm{~V}$ supply and S 5 applies the centre common. The current flows through opto-isolators IC1 and IC2 which pass the signals to the remainder of the electronic circuit. Opto isolation was considered advisable in view of the likely distance between the key panel and the electronics box. Thus IC1 is energised for a successful first code and IC2
for a successful second code. D9 and D10 are in the current paths for each code, and are useful for checking the operation of the key panel. IC3 is a dual timer, with circuit (a) connected as a monostable with a period of 30 secs and circuit (b) as a monostable with a period 10 secs.

The correct first code fires IC3(a) via the filter R1, C2 and R4. The output of IC3(a) is connected to the reset of IC3(b) (pins 5 and 10 linked). IC3(b) is thus normally inhibited but can now be triggered. The correct second code now fires IC3(b), operating the lock solenoid via RLA contacts. Note D7 in series with RL1 coil as well as the usual diode (D8) across it. This is necessary with 555 timers, because the -0.8 V at the coil as D 8 clips the back e.m.f. can cause retriggering problems.

After 30 seconds IC3(a) times out and the reset signal is applied again to IC3(b). It is therefore necessary to reset the code and open the door within 30 seconds of setting up the first code or you have to start again.

The power supply is straightforward. The 12 V supply for the 556 is obtained from an i.c. regulator (IC4), but note that for maximum noise immunity the $\pm 15 \mathrm{~V}$ supply for the switches is floating, and is not connected electrically to the rest of the circuit. The two secondaries of 15 V and $12-0-$ 12 V could, of course, be obtained from two independent transformers.
Any 10-way switches will suffice for setting up the unlock code. Although the author has used the type shown below, a cheaper alternative is to use wafer switches with the switch positions marked on the front panel. The push button switch $\mathbf{S 5}$ is shown adjacent to the code switches. S5 can be a miniature type



Fig. 1. Full circuit diagram including suggested power supply arrangement


Fig. 2. Stripboard layout of the Combination Lock. The diodes D1 to D6 are mounted separately on a tag board which can be placed next to the code switches. The diode tag board is shown above right

Diodes
D1-D8
D9
D10

D11-14,D15-18

IN914 (8 off)
0.1 in l.e.d. (red)
0.1 in l.e.d. (green)

Rectifier stack 1A(2 off)

## Integrated circuits

| IC1, IC2 | Opto-isolator (Maplin) |
| :--- | :--- |
| IC3 | 556 Dual timer |
| IC4 | 12 V 1A Regularor. $\mu \mathrm{A} 7812 \mathrm{UC}$ |

## Solenoid

240 V operation (R.S: $349-478$ is suitable)

## Miscellaneous

| S1-S4 | Any type of numbered decade switch (4 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| S5 | Push button switch |
| RLA 1 | 12 V relay with n.o. mains contacts. |
| T1 | Mains transformer with $0-15 \mathrm{~V}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ and |
|  | $12-0-12 \mathrm{~V}(100 \mathrm{~mA})$ outputs. |
|  | (This can be two transformers) |

## CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION

The circuit was constructed on Veroboard, the layouts being shown in Fig. 2. The code is set up using the red and black leads along the switch bank.


Fig. 3. Wiring diagram of solenoid circuit. Care should be taken when wiring up this mains portion of the system

The unit consists of two boxes, the control box and the key panel. The control box can be any normal electronic case, but the key panel should be constructed with care if tampering is likely. For example, this box should be made so that its innards are accessible only from inside the building, or the lid fitted with Allen keys, then the Allen key holes drilled out to the lid can only be removed with a drill. If necessary the key panel box should be weatherproofed.

The door lock can be any 240 V solenoid. Connection of the various units is shown in Fig. 3. Normal care should be taken with the solenoid connections to prevent danger of shock from the 240 V mains.

Because of the simplicity of the circuit, testing is straightforward. The two l.e.d.s in series with the optoisolators allow the correct operation of the key panel to be monitored. D9 should illuminate for a correct first code, and D10 for a correct second code.

One final word of warning: In case of component failure, always have a concealed standby means of opening the door. Even if this standby method is pretty inconvenient, you will have the peace of mind of knowing that should there be a power cut when you wish to gain access, you can get in one way or another.


A selection of readers' original circuit ideas. it should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought.
Why not submit your idea? Any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

Articles submitted for publication should conform to the usual practices of this journal, e.g. with regard to abbreviations and circuit symbols. Diagrams should be on separate sheets, not inserted in the text.

Each idea submitted must be accompanied by a declaration to the effect that it is the original work of the undersigned, and that it has not been accepted for publication olsewhere.

## SIMPLE CLOCK



$A^{8}$Bout 12 to 18 months ago I obtained a small quantity of gas-discharge and l.e.d. displays and purchased a clock chip type AY-5-1224A as it was the cheapest type. I designed a method of driving the gas type displays (normally chips suitable for this cost about $£ 7$ ).

I originally experimented with the midget low current l.e.d. displays as I have a digital watch and thought that if I had a midget desk clock with constant display I wouldn't keep using my watch battery power. The first thing I found was that clock chip circuits are usually for 0.3 in displays which require more power than 4 mA . However, as I found the little l.e.d.s glow quite brightly at under 4 mA , I experimented without the driver transistors. This worked excellently using the resistor
values quoted. I tried a different AY-51224A and different set of l.e.d.s to ensure it would always work.

The four "multiplex" inverter transistors are necessary as the chip output waveform to the "enables" and the segments are the same levels and directions.

The AY-5-1224A segment output pins can be used as inputs for pre-loading the chip. For example, when setting the minutes and hours the waveform at pin 6 is fed into the chip to advance the time. If clock was to be used for " 24 hours" mode or for a 60 Hz supply, then diodes would again be connected to pin 6 and the appropriate "input" pin. Setting the time gives no problems whatsoever.

This circuit is not suitable for the " 24 hour" mode as due to the lack of segment
driver transistors, which give some form of buffering, if the " 24 hour" mode diode is added one of the display segments will glow dimly when it shouldn't. If used with the normal " 12 hour" mode using circuit as submitted there is no problems. The original clock has been running without problems for several months now.
Note that in the circuit shown I assume that a ready multiplex display array is used. It would probably be better to either use an ex-calculator display array, or that if individual displays are used, join the segments of the four displays in parallel.
G. A. Bobker,

Unsworth,
Bury,
Lancs.

## BEETHOVEN'S DOORBELL



This circuit was developed from the doorbell published in Practical Electronics April 1975, using CMOS which were to hand, and plays the first eight notes of the Beethoven "Ode to Joy" theme. Clock pulses from IC5 are fed to the 4017 decimal counter IC1, which is reset by CI/RI at switch on. The " 0 " output is not used as the first clock pulse is
longer than those following, and the " 9 " output (pin 11) is used to switch off at the end of the tune through IC4ab and TR 1.
This leaves eight output pulses of equal length, which are used to gate the astables formed by the gates of IC2 and IC3 and associated components, producing the tones in the correct sequence.

VR1-VR4 are adjusted to give the four pitches required. Output from the tone generators is gated with the clock pulses to separate the notes and fed to the audio amplifier via volume control R18.
K. Penton,

Caversham Park, Reading.

ELECTRONIC COMBINATION LOCK


Fig. 1

Fig. 2


THe circuit diagram of a 4 character electronic combination lock is shown in Fig. 1.

The character selector may take the form of a calculator type keyboard (Fig. 2 ), in which case the combination is entered simply by depressing the buttons in their correct order or, alternatively, the arrangement shown in Fig. 3 may be used, in which case the combination is entered by dialling and registering (by depressing S2) each character in its turn.

Basically the circuit operates by switching on a thyristor each time a character is registered. The triggering pulse is provided by C2 which is normally charged (via R4) to +9 V . Initially the gate capacitors C4, C5, C6 are also charged to +9 V , so any attempt to trigger CSR3,

CSR4, CSR5 (at points B, C, D) will be unsuccessful. By registering (at A) the first character of the combination, TR2 is switched on and its anode potential falls to about 0.7 V . C4 rapidly discharges. A triggering pulse may now be applied to B , to turn on CSR 3 which discharges C5 etc.
The circuitry to the left of C2, R4 hinders attempts to break the combination. If a wrong character is chosen, TR1 is turned on and this, after a short delay provided by R3, C1, to permit the thyristor to trigger properly, turns on TR 1 which saturates; thus preventing further attempts to register characters until S3 is reset. D1 prevents a form of bistable action occurring between CSR1 and TR1.

The 2N5060 thyristor has a tabulated maximum holding current of 5 mA . In
practice, a realistic typical figure is about 0.1 mA ; thus the $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ anode resistors should be adequate.

These thyristors have particularly sensitive gates and gate-cathode resistors ( $100 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) are included to dampen the sensitivity. Diodes D2-D5 isolate the gates of those thyristors with a common character. All the diodes are included for convenience.
R17 is a trickle resistor to keep C4, C5, C6 topped up; thus preventing either CSR3, CSR4, CSR 5 from being triggered when S3 is closed. R16 ensures that CSR5 switches on even if its load is highly inductive.
P. Hutchinson, Brockenhurst, Hants.

## DISTORTION ASSESSMENT

Fig. 1


Fig. 2


Fig. 3


Fig. 4

THe circuit (Fig. 1) might be of interest to those readers who wish to test audio amplifiers for distortion without sophisticated test gear such as low distortion oscillators and tuned filters.
The principle is to match the amplitudes of signals derived from the input and output of the amplifier A under test and compare them in a long tailed pair. (An op amp is an obvious alternative.)

With about 1V r.m.s. fed to both inputs and VR1 and VR2 (Fig. 2) at near maximum settings, the residual output can be reduced below the noise level. VR3 is set to
balance the TR1 and TR2 collector currents approximately. D1 and D2 protect TR1 and TR2 against surges, reverse voltages, etc.

The circuit is easily set up. Limiting problems are hum in the amplifier under test and phase shift. Passive phase correction components (e.g. VR4) might be needed.

Unless the oscillator is fairly free from harmonics, differential phase shift versus frequency might give misleading results if attempts are made to assess harmonic distortion at high or very low frequencies.

Displaying the output in $\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{Y}$ form has the advantage of expanding the crossover region in X . The traces show some results from an experimental amplifier, feeding 9 V $\mathrm{p}-\mathrm{p}$ into $3 \Omega$. Scale in all traces is about $4 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{cm}$ in Y .

Fig. 3 shows crossover distortion, only just detectable on a conventional scope display of the output. That in Fig. 3 could not be seen at all. Fig. 4 shows remaining second harmonic, after increasing the amplifier bias current in the output stage. Frequency in all cases was about 700 Hz .
C. J. Collins,

Letchworth, Herts.

## PROTECTION FOR A MODEL TRAIN SPEED CONTROLLER



THE circuit shown in the diagram is based on the "Model Train Speed Controller" that appeared in PE December, 1976. The additional circuitry is shown within the dotted lines. This addition, which is suitable for one engine only, can be included to perform three functions:

1. To protect the controller against temporary overload by automatically reducing the available output current when such a condition occurs. This could happen due to a train becoming derailed, or due to incorrect track wiring, etc. This is an important consideration when the system may be operated by young children.
2. To provide a visual indication that an overload has occurred.
3. To eliminate the necessity of providing extra hardware to cope with a manual reset of the controller once the appropriate corrective action has been taken.
Under normal conditions both TR1 and

TR2 are switched on, TR1 providing sufficient collector current to drive the base of TR2. The l.e.d. is reverse biased and therefore has no effect.
Should the impedance of the load reduce to a point whereby the potential at the collector of TR2 falls approximately 1.9 V below that at the base of TR1, then the l.e.d. becomes forward biased and will illuminate indicating that an overload condition exists.

Once the l.e.d. attains this state it clamps the potential at the base of TR1 to that at the collector of TR2, thereby tending to switch off TR1. This situation results in a reduction in the base current available to TR2, which is reflected as a current limitation into the load. Once the load impedance is restored, the state of the l.e.d. and the two transistors reverts to normal.

In operation the limiter has been found to reduce the current through a short circuited load to approximately 20 per cent of that available to a normal condition with the engine running at full speed. This is
particularly useful in the situation whereby a heavy duty transformer can supply power to a number of controllers and trains, since the s.c.r. would burn out very quickly if the limiter were not present.

Should an electro-mechanical cut-out system be required, offering a complete shut-down on overload, then this circuit (with the illuminating l.e.d. positioned in close proximity to a photo-transistor or l.d.r., etc.) will interface directly with the Multichannel Overload Protector in PE October, 1977.

No component values are critical, the values of R1, R2 and VR1 being given for the 2 N 4443 , as opposed to the CRS1/05 specified in the original article.

TR 1 should be a silicon n-p-n transistor capable of maintaining approximately 40 mA of base current into TR2, which itself is pnp output transistor supplying approximately 1 A to the engine.
R. Chapman,

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

## SIMPLE ALARM



The enclosed circuit utilises the timing capability of the 555, together with its capacity to directly drive a small audio transducer. It provides an economical arrangement to provide an audible alarm.

C1, charging via R1, R2 and D1, provides the initial timing delay. When the discharge is initiated, D1 virtually isolates C1 from the circuit and C2 effectively governs the charge/discharge cycle, resulting in audio frequency oscillation.
In practice, C 1 isolation is not complete, resulting in a slightly rough tone initially, by no means a drawback as regards audibility. Resistive shunting of D1 increases the roughness, if required (it also alters the frequency).

With the values shown, the circuit gives a three minute delay and an audio frequency of about $1,500 \mathrm{~Hz}$, using a 12 V supply. Performance as an oscillator can be affected by supply impedance; with some dry battery supplies a shunt capacitor might be desirable across the battery.

Cl is discharged at switch-off via R3, included as a (perhaps unnecessary) precaution to reduce reverse base-emitter potentials in the threshold comparator Darlington long tailed pair. It should certainly not be necessary with supply potentials below 7.5 V .

> C. J. Collins, Letchworth, Herts.

# Semiconductor UPDATITE <br> FEATURING: PBL 3708 TS 04700/10000 SC 100 R.W. Coles 

## FIT TO BURST

As many readers will no doubt be aware, there are two quite different ways to drive a triac in a.c. power control circuits.

The most familiar of these is probably "phase control", where the triac, off at the start of a half cycle, is turned on part way through by a trigger pulse which can occur at any phase angle selected by external circuitry.

An example of this type of control is the well known lamp-dimmer circuit, quite common these days in the more "switchedon' households! The control for this application comes from a simple variable CR circuit and a diac trigger device, the diac generating a trigger pulse for the triac when the voltage across the CR circuit (which lags the mains input) reaches a sufficiently high value, usually about 40 volts. Adjusting the CR time controls the phase lag and hence the conduction angle of the triac.

Unfortunately, the fact that the triac can be switched on when a considerable voltage exists across it means that the voltage waveform delivered to the load will often contain square edges of large amplitude. Square edges contain harmonics of course, and here we have the makings of an excellent radio and TV jamming system! The only way out is to use an r.f. filter at the device inputs, and to
restrict this sort of system to low power applications, say, 200 W . If greater power must be controlled, use "plan B," called "burst-firing."

Burst-firing eliminates the RFI (Radio Frequency Interference) problem by delivering only integral numbers of mains half cycles or cycles to the load. The trick here is to always trigger the triac as the mains voltage crosses zero at the start or end of a half cycle, and this does away with all those nasty square edges. Using this technique, loads of several kW can be controlled, at the expense of control circuit complexity, and it is ideal for the proportional control of heating in electric cookers and other domestic appliances.

Despite the availability of this burst-fire technique, and the cheapness of triacs, white-goods manufacturers have been slow to abandon their mechanical gadgets and ingenious bi-metal strips, which are in the stone age by comparison with the smooth, accurate, control now available from the triac.

The problem, as always, is price. The burst fire control circuitry can be expensive, but not 4or long if the Swedish firm of RIFA have their way. They have introduced a complete trigger control circuit for temperature control applications which fits into a single 8 -pin mini-d.i.p. The device is coded PBL 3708, is available from Jermyn,


A typical deaign for control of room temperature with a heating elemant
of $1,000 \mathrm{~W}, 220 \mathrm{~V}$ a.c. and a proportional band of $1^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
and contains almost everything you need apart from a few discretes and a triac. The bits inside include a zero crossing detector, a ramp generator and a comparator, and the whole thing can be powered straight from the mains, thanks to an internal regulator.

## KNEES-UP

Ordinary Zeners are a bit of a disaster at low currents. Drop much below 5 mA operating current, and that breakdown "knee", which looked fine on the 50 mA scale, begins to look more like a matronly "bosom"! If your applications are happy passing 5 mA or more through the Zener, don't worry about it. But if, like me, you have ever needed a voltage reference in a micropower circuit, you will be interested in a new series of diodes from Teledyne. The TS 04700 to TS 10000 range, covering 4.7 to 10 V in 12 voltage increments, will operate at $1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ or less and yet have knees like set-squares!

To get the best from the range, choose a diode of 6 V or greater because the performance here is at its zenith. As an example, a 10 V diode (TS 10000) suffers a maximum voltage change of only 0.1 V for a current range of 1 milliamp to 10 nanoamps! Team one of these up with an emitter follower using a high gain transistor such as the ZTX109 and you can drop your op-amp supply down to 5 V for CMOS without the regulator taking more current than the logic

## HUNDRED AMP WHOPPER

A new candidate for the electronic "Guinness Book of Records" has just been introduced by the aptly names Germanium Power Devices Corporation. The new arrival is a power transistor with a 100A rating, coded SC 100, made with good old p.n.p. germanium technology. At 100A the SC 100 still has an $h_{\text {fe }}$ of 15 , so you only need to supply about $7 \AA^{\theta}$ of base current.

The SC 100 has a TO 68 package, which looks a bit like two dustbin-lids clamped together, and is of course designed to be securely bolted to a heatsink. I should think that if you used output transistors like these in a domestic system, you could use the waste heat to drive your central heating boiler I Try as I might I cannot dream up much in the way of applications for this monster, "though you could probably make a nifty controller for your electric-car or fork-lift truck. I can't help thinking that the "SC" in SC 100 stands for short-circuit!

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#### Abstract

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## The Great Debate

It is all to the good that in the last few months both the promise and the threat of Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) have received a great deal of public exposure through radio, TV and the printed word.

The promise is in electronic goodies which will make a lot of money for the electronics industry and save a lot of money and give greater convenience, sometimes both, for the VLSI user. The threat is that though the electronics industry may prosper and perhaps employ marginally more people, the end result will cause a great deal of unemployment elsewhere.

Even in the electronics industry itself the advent of comparatively simple (compared with what is yet to come) devices has had a dramatic effect on labour content in assembly of equipment. I recently saw one female assembler and two male technician testers handling the whole assembly and testing procedures of a product, the end value of which totalled some $£ 3$ million per year. These three people were not even working at full capacity. Nor were they highly skilled.

To produce an equivalent product with the discrete components and methods of, say, 20 years ago, would have demanded an assembly line of many more people, perhaps ten assemblers and five testers, all working flat out. And the product would have been larger, heavier, used more raw materials, consumed more power, been more expensive and less reliable.

The computing power of a $£ 5$ chip today is said to equal that of a first-class computer costing $£ 250,000$ in 1950 . That's the way it's gone and very nice, too.

Now spare a thought for all those people, skilled mechanics, who have spent years patiently assembling the complicated mechanisms of the common cash register. The mechanical model, even the electromechanical, is on its way out. Market researchers Frost \& Sullivan are predicting
a $£ 2.5$ billion market in the next ten years for the all-electronic model in 16 West European countries alone. There are many such examples where traditional skills will no longer be needed in the all-electronic age.

The media, ever-anxious to dramatise and popularise the issues of the day, and limited in time for any particular topic, naturally tend to over-simplify. It is a pity that historical perspective has been largely overlooked for if we face up to it the new "threat" is only another phase of a continuing process which has been with us since the beginning of the industrial revolution.

The old-time craftsmen and labourers were horrified by machines. Later, having become accustomed to machines they were horrified by automation which introduced a limited "intelligence" to machine operation. Today people are petrified at the prospect of microelectronics which promise a further level of "intelligence" to the machine and the transfer. if not the total abolition, of many formerly needed skills.

And yet all the evidence is that the natural inventive progression from manual labour and craftsmanship to automation and to microelectronics in all its aspects has enriched us all, at least in material goods.

The paradox remains that while, for example, a steel worker resists the introduction of a new and more efficient process in his mill, he would be the first to complain if his family car were to cost him $£ 40,000$ because it was made entirely by hand or his washing machine $£ 1,000$ or so, and the shirt on his back f 50 .

One sympathises naturally with legitimate fears but nobody can have it both ways. Self-interest is such that we all like to enjoy the fruits of modern invention as long as it is somewhere else, just as most people agree that more airports are needed provided they are located well away from their own area.

In Sweden, which has a small labour force, the trade unions discourage any worker to be employed on dirty or dangerous tasks which could more profitably and easily be undertaken by an industrial robot. Will the recently formed British Robot Association help to change attitudes and dispel fears in Britian?

It seems odd that while the world stock of nuclear weapons is sufficient to vaporise the whole of mankind we are all dead scared of a tiny chip of silicon.

The debate continues . . .

## Getting Together

GEC looks like teaming up with the Japanese in colour TV manufacture. There are moves, too, on the computer front with ICL concluding a know-how exchange with Hitachi, and technical co-operation and cross-marketing in an agreement between Siemens in Germany and Fujitsu in Japan. The computer deals are said to be preparatory moves in the forthcoming sales battle expected to start in 1980 when IBM will introduce a new range.

European companies are anxious to get access to new technology being developed in Japan through huge government funding in VLSI, including exotic devices like a megabit memory. For their part, the Japanese are anxious to widen their market beyond Japan. ICL, for example, sells in 80 countries, Hitachi mainly in Japan.

The GEC attitude on colour TV appears to be that if you can't beat 'em then join em. Better to have half the cake than no cake at all.

## Now it can be TOLD

The Post Office TOLD (Telecommunications On-Line Data) nationwide computer project is now in service. Costing $£ 12$ million, the Post Office expects to save $£ 22$ million through improved efficiency during the life of the equipment. Pilot trials started in 1975. Now the system is complete it uses 1.300 Cossor CD3005 VDU terminals all linked to ICL 4-72 computers with advantages in speed, control, accuracy and simplicity of use. Direct access to the computer now replaces form-filling and transferring the data from forms to punched cards or magnetic tape.

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Starting reading now for an honours degree if you want to join the Institution of Electrical Engineers. As from 1982 second class honours will be the minimum qualification for membership plus relevant industrial experience plus a written professional test demonstrating competence and future potential.

## IBC Sell-Out

The biennial International Broadcasting Convention is moving this year from the popular Park Lane venue of Grosvenor House to the new Wembley Conference Centre. Exhibitors are up to 85 as compared with 72 at IBC'76 and the exhibitors have 20 per cent more space. Some 180 technical papers have been submitted for the Conference, another record, but these will be trimmed down into 12 main topics for discussion. The dates this year are September 25-29.

The technical sessions will reflect all the latest techniques including MPU and minicomputers in broadcasting, teletext, quad sound, satellites, video processing, etc.

## Car Radar

Anti-collision radar for motor cars was being considered by US General Motors 20 years ago. They will become a reality for the American motorist in the 80 s . A simple system would have an audio warning for the driver. A more complex system has radar-activated braking. A combination of Gunn oscillators for the radar section and powerful MPUs for signal processing will help overcome the knotty problem of discriminating real targets (i.e. car "signatures") from roadside objects such as lamp posts, bollards or oil drums.


WHILE developing colour transparencies, particular attention must be paid to the control of the developing solution temperature. Most home developing kits require the temperature of the first and colour developers to be within $\pm 0.25 \mathrm{deg} \mathrm{C}$ of a stated temperature, usually in the range $20-40 \mathrm{deg} C$.

The device described in this article not only acts as a very accurate and stable thermostat, but also provides an analogue readout of the temperature in the bath.

To realise the full potential of the circuit it should be used in conjunction with a stirring device in the tank. This need only take the form of a small paddle driven fairly slowly by a geared down electric motor.

## CIRCUIT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The complete circuit is shown in Fig. 1. In order that the overall unit was simple and cheap, operational amplifiers were used throughout.

Although a thermistor has a non-linear resistance relationship with temperature (see Fig. 3a), by making it one of the elements in a potential divider network, the voltage output is almost linear against temperature in the range of $10-15$ deg $C$ (see Fig. 3b), assuming the potential divider is fed from a stable voltage.

Components R1, R2, D2, D3, form a sufficiently stable voltage source for this purpose and also serves to supply a switching reference voltage to comparator IC2.

Switch S1 selects either the thermistor TH1 or preset VR1 to be the lower element of the potential divider. VR1 is used to supply a calibration resistance so that the correct operation of the unit can be checked periodically.

The difference between the output voltage from the divider and reference chain R4, VR2 and R5 is amplified approximately 5 times by IC1, the output voltage being read on meter M1. Resistor R9 is a meter shunt and may be adjusted to suit a different meter movement.

As the temperature in the bath falls it is sensed by TH1 and causes an increase in its resistance, the voltage at the inverting input of IC1 increases and the output voltage decreases.

This voltage is fed via R10 to IC2 to be compared with the reference set by VR3 on the non-inverting input. As the temperature falls the output voltage of IC1 falls, and a point is reached when this crosses the reference voltage. The output of IC2 then rapidly swings high, to almost full supply volts. This action brings TR1 into conduction to energise RLA thus switching on a small immersion heater in the bath.

The components R12, R13, R14 form a positive feedback loop to put a hysteresis effect into the switching action.

Without this, at the switching temperature the output from IC2 would oscillate fairly rapidly due to the low level noise signals on the output of IC1. The operation of this network is as follows, as the output of IC2 goes high, the voltage at the junction of R13 and R14 increases slightly. This small voltage is effectively added to the reference voltage via R12, it is thus necessary for the voltage at the inverting input to rise slightly further before the output of IC2 drops to the low value, switching off TR1 and the relay.

When this occurs the feedback voltage becomes zero and the reference voltage returns to its pre-set value.

## CONSTRUCTION

The prototype device was built on 0.1 in . matrix veroboard which after being checked for track shorts etc, was bolted directly onto the input terminals of the meter. Integrated circuit holders are used for the operational amplifiers to avoid soldering damage. Veroboard pins were used where connections were necessary to components not on the board.



Fig. 1. Full circuit diagram, including suggested power supply circuit (shown outside shaded area)

COMPONENTS ..

| Resistors |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| R1 |  |
| R2 | $270 \Omega$ |
| R3 | $680 \Omega$ |
| R4-R6, R8, R10, R13, R15 | $5.6 \Omega$ |
| R7 | $10 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ |
| R9 | $47 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ |
| R11, R12 | $150 \Omega$ |
| R14 | $100 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ |
| All $\frac{1}{2} W 5 \%$ unless otherwise stated |  |

## Potentiometers

| VR1 | $10 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ multiturn preset |
| :--- | :--- |
| VR2 | $10 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ |
| linear carbon |  |
| VR3 | $50 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ linear carbon |

## Capacitors

| C1 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F} / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| C2 | $10,000 \mu \mathrm{~F} / 25 \mathrm{~V}$ |

Transistors and diodes
D1, D4-D7 1N4001
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { D2 } & 6.8 \mathrm{~V} 400 \mathrm{~mW} \text { Zener } \\ \text { D3 } & 18 \mathrm{~V} 400 \mathrm{~mW} \text { Zener }\end{array}$
TR1 2N3705

## Integrated circuits

IC1. IC2 741 op . amp.

Miscellaneous

| M1 | 10 mA f.s.d. meter |
| :--- | :--- |
| RLA | 15 V operating relay with |
|  | n.o. 240 V 5 A contacts |

S1 S.p.d.t. toggle s'witch
S2
T1
FS1 2 amp fuse and holder
Diecast box $203 \times 127 \times 89 \mathrm{~mm}$ (used for prototype)
Veroboard 0.1 in
8 pin d.i.l. holders (2 off)
Coaxial plug and socket for temperature probe


Fig. 2. Stripboerd layout shown at full size. Note that C1 is not shown on this diagram

A temperature probe can be fabricated from a small test tube

The meter M1, switch S1 and controls VR2 and VR3 are panel mounted together with a coaxial socket for the connection of TH1. If the completed thermostat is to be run from a separate 20 V supply then two extra sockets will be needed for this.

Sufficient room is available inside the specified diecast box to house a small mains transformer, rectifier and smoothing capacitor. Using the double Zener arrangement as shown in Fig. 1 the device is immune to $\pm 2 \mathrm{~V}$ changes in supply voltage, and thus the stability of the supply is not too critical. The Veroboard layout is shown in Fig. 2, and the front panel layout can be seen above.

## SETTING UP AND CALIBRATION

All that is needed for this procedure is an accurate thermometer and a vessel of water. After a 5 minute warm up period switch S1 to bring TH1 into circuit. Submerge the thermistor enclosure into water at exactly 20 deg $C$ and adjust VR2 until the meter shows half-scale deflection. Now switch S1 to bring VR1 into circuit and adjust the potentiometer VR1 to return the deflection to half-scale.

Now return S1 to its original position bringing TH1 into circuit. Suspend the thermistor enclosure in water at several different temperatures marking the meter scale is each case with the temperature indicated by the glass thermometer. Using the value of R9 quoted with the specified thermistor, the device will have a full-scale range of 10 deg $C$ (from 15 to 25 deg C ).


To set the switching temperature, bring VR1 back into circuit by operating S1, the meter should read half-scale. Rotate VR2 to bring the meter to read the desired temperature. Now rotate VR3 slowly until the relay is heard to operate. This completes the setting up procedure. Slight adjustments may have to be made when the thermostat is in use, as changes in water-bath geometry may affect the required setting of VR3.

## USE OF THE COMPLETED SYSTEM

Switch S1 to connect VR1 in circuit, check that the meter reads half-scale deflection. If not then adjust VR2 to obtain this condition. This checks (and compensates for) the input offset level of IC1, which may tend to drift with ambient temperature changes and age. Switch back to TH1 and the meter will then read the temperature of the water surrounding the thermistor enclosure.

Used in this way, the unit will prove reliable and the complete unit should give trouble free operation for a considerable number of operational hours.


FRANK W. HYDE

## SOYUS-29 and SALYUT-6

On 17th June, 1978 the Soyus-29 space vehicle docked with Salyut-6 space station. The two cosmonauts, Vladimir Kovalynok and Alexander Ivanchenkov, will continue the programme of experiments on the same lines as those of the record breaking team, Yuri Romanenko and Georgi Grechko.

The programme consists of a wide range of experiments, among them studies of-The Earth's surface and atmosphere to obtain data of both scientific and commercial interestAstrophysical experiments and investigations-Experiments directed toward new materials-Technical experiments and tests on structural parts of the space station itself and Medico-biological studies.

The biological experiments will be partly concerned with the problem of weightlessness. Both Romanenko and Grechko after their return to earth suffered some days of difficulty in returning to normal. The length of time they spent in the weightless condition was 96 days. During the time spent in this condition no deficiency showed up in their ability to carry out their tasks, indeed, there were signs that their efficiency did in fact improve.
After the flight the cosmonauts were very sensitive to the sensations of weight, not only of their bodies but also of other objects.
During the first few days back on Earth they had to make considerable effort to remain upright and their movements showed some indication of dis-orientation. For several days the cosmonauts wore specially designed suits to assist them to walk.

The studies of the adaptation of the biological machine to gravity was as interesting as that of adaptation to weightlessness, according to Academician Gazenko who controls the Medical and Biological Institute.
On the second day of the new mission of the space station and the supply vehicle, the
cosmonauts were engaged in re-activating the Salyut-6 and de-activating Soyus-29. The micro-climate in Salyut-6 is maintained at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with a pressure of 750 mm of mercury.

The space parameters of the combined unit Soyus/Salyut are at present apogee 368 km , perigee 338 km , orbital period 90.4 minutes, and the orbital inclination $51.6^{\circ}$.

The re-activating of the systems is done in stages. The water producing system had been dormant for three months. The system regenerates water from condensate. The cosmonauts enjoyed a cup of tea after the successful re-activation operation. The propulsion system has also been checked and found satisfactory.
Some details of the cosmonauts in the Soyus/Salyut latest mission may be of interest. Colonel Vladimir Kovalynok was the flight commander of Soyus-29, he made his first space flight in October 1977 as commander of Soyus-25 in the first unsuccessful attempt to dock with Salyut-6.

He was born in 1942 on March 3 in the village of Beloye in the Krupsky district of the Minsk region. In 1963 he graduated from the Basahov Higher Military Flying School. He served in military transport aviation, training with several aircraft and clockin? up 1,600 hours of flying time, then he became an airforce paratroop instructor.
In 1967 he joined the cosmonauts detachment and went through the complete course of space flight training. He took part in flight testing new spacecraft and in the flight control of piloted space vehicles and orbital stations. In 1976 he graduated from the Yuri Gagarin Military Air Force Academy.
His partner in the Soyus/Salyut mission is Alexander Ivanchenkov who is the flight engineer. Ivanchenkov was born on 29th September, 1940 in the town of Ivanteyevka in the Moscow region. He graduated in 1964 from the Moscow Aviation Institute, then worked in the design office, dealing with the design of new space vehicles in which he proved to be a gifted and ingenious engineer.

His space flight experience began with training for Soyus space ships and Salyut stations. On several missions he was standby flight engineer. He also trained as flight engineer for the joint Soyus/A pollo flight.

## USSR LAUNCHINGS

A number of Soviet launchings took place in May and June this year. Cosmos 1011 was launched on 23rd May, with an orbital period of 104.9 minutes at an angle of $82.9^{\circ}$. Apogee is $1,026 \mathrm{~km}$ and perigee 978 km . Cosmos 1012 was launched on 26th May with orbital period 89.2 minutes and an orbital inclination of $62.8^{\circ}$. The apogee is 280 km and the perigee 214 km .

On 8th June a booster rocket put eight Cosmos satellites in orbit at one launch. The initial orbits ranged from $1,456 \mathrm{~km}$ to $1,539 \mathrm{~km}$. The angle of inclination was $74^{\circ}$ and the initial orbital period of revolution was $115 \cdot 5$ minutes.
Cosmos 1021 was launched on 10th June with an apogee of 336 km and a perigee of 180 km . The period of revolution was 89.4 minutes and the angle of inclination was $65^{\circ}$.

Cosmos 1022 was launched on 12th June with an apogee of 374 km and a perigee of

182 km . The period of revolution was 89.7 minutes and the inclination $72.9^{\circ}$.

A Molyniya satellite was launched on 2nd June. The parameters were apogee $40,837 \mathrm{~km}$, perigee 457 km . Apogee is in the northern hemisphere and perigee is in the southern hemisphere. The orbital period is 12 hours 16 minutes and the angle of inclination is $62.5^{\circ}$.

The satellite carries apparatus for the transmission of television programmes and long distance multi-channel radio communication.

## INDIA AND THE USSR

Preparations have been completed by the Soviet Union for the launching of India's second artificial satellite. The press were given the details by Nikolai Novikov who is ViceChairman of Intercosmos. The interview took place in Delhi.

Novikov heads the delegation of Soviet experts who have been testing a model of the new space laboratory at the Indian Space Centre. Discussions have been taking place between the Indian space experts and their Soviet counterparts.

It was remarked by Novikov that despite the short history of the joint activities, SovietIndian space research had brought practical results. The joint preparation of the first satellite, Aryabhata, helped to train India's experts who now handle a very wide range of complex scientific apparatus for space research.

Launching of the new satellite is expected to assist the development of India's economy and enable extensive study of her mineral, water and timber resources.

## GOES-3

The geostationary Earth monitoring satellite has been launched. The launch was made from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida. NASA were responsible for the launching on behalf of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. GOES-3 is destined to play a key part in the Global Weather Experiment.

This is a worldwide project which will last a year. There will be an accumulation of data both oceanographic and meterological in this period. GOES, or to give it its full title Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite, will gather information from an area centred on the Indian Ocean.

## PLACE IN SPACE

Dr. George Ellis of the University of Cape Town has resurrected an old theory of the preCopernican days. He is suggesting that the Earth is in fact the centre of the Universe.

He is able to put what will certainly be considered to be an outrageous suggestion, because the present day thinking and observation allows for curved space with a Universe with no edge but two centres in relation to each other. According to Dr. Ellis our galaxy is near to one of these centres. He does not accept an expanding universe but rather believes that the red shift is the result of gravity.

Though there will be many opponents to this idea it must, in fairness to Dr. Ellis, be noted that he does not say that it is so, but that it could be.


WHEN two-track tapes carry a single recording extending to both tracks, the end-of-recording point on track 1 is usually some minutes away from the physical end of the tape, and for convenience both during recording and during playback the start-of-recording point on track 2 is at the same physical location. Thus, both during recording and during playback the tape has simply to be turned over to make it ready for the second track.

Now if copies of such tapes are to be made unattended, and the first side is allowed to run to the physical end of the tape, and since tape lengths are not normally exactly the same, it is not possible to simply turn over the tapes and start copying the second track. The second track of the copies would be out of synchronism with the first track by the difference in tape length. A rather tedious search for the physical location of the end-of-recording point would ensue, particularly if several copies are being made simultaneously.

The track monitor has been designed to avoid this by alerting the operator when the end of the recording (rather than the end of the reel) has been reached. It contains electronic circuitry which starts an oscillator 15 seconds after the last recorded sound has been received from the track. The 15 -second delay ensures that the alarm is not raised because of intended pauses in the recording.

The oscillator is heard via a built-in loudspeaker when the selector switch is in the "Alarm" position. In the "Monitor" position the loudspeaker is connected across the programme line. There is one programme input and three programme outputs. This permits three simultaneous dubbings to be made. The instrument provides a constant 10 -ohm load for the line, whether or not the speaker is used. The programme
circuit, though routed through the instrument, is not electronically processed in any way and the box can therefore serve as programme distributor, and the speaker as monitor, without being connected to mains power.

The circuit of course can be used in any situation where the cessation of speed or music on a line (whether radio, records, tape etc.) needs to be indicated by some kind of alarm signal.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The instrument is mains operated and contains a regulated +24 V supply. The full-wave a.c. rectifier and filter is followed by a Zener referenced series regulator. Diode D9 temperature compensates D5. The values of C1 and C2 were chosen on grounds of adequacy and availability.

The rest of the circuit divides into sensing section and alarm section, with the relay linking the two. The programme signal is amplified by TR2, operating at OV gate-to-source bias. Load resistor R4 is chosen to obtain a quiescent drain voltage of about 8 V , so that a signal swing of up to 6 V can be obtained without clipping the negative excursions. If the input of TR2 is overdriven, R2 will serve both to limit the f.e.t. gate current and to prevent any loading of the programme line. TR2 will in fact frequently be overdriven in normal operating practice.

The amplified signal is coupled through C3. R5 establishes a OV quiescent level, from which excursions can go to +0.6 and -5.1 V before being clipped by D6. The negative excursions are detected by D7 and serve to charge C4 to the negative peak level. This cuts off TR3, and the relay in its drain circuit opens.


## Fig. 1. Showing how copy tracke go out of sync

When no further programme signals arrive, the voltage on the gate of TR3 drifts back towards OV as C4 discharged through R6. When the current through the f.e.t. reaches the relay switching point RLA1 pulls in and activates the alarm circuit.

The purpose of D6 is to standardise the negative excursions caused by signals of varying amplitudes, so that the return from cutoff to conduction of TR3 will take about 15 seconds regardless of whether the last recorded passage on the tape was loud or soft. TR2 must therefore provide at least a 5 V signal swing to reach D6 limiting even on quiet passages, and will habitually be overdriven of loud passages. The minimum signal level on the programme line to reach limiting is 1 V peak-to-peak.

The 15 second delay depends not only on the circuit time constant C4-R6, but also on the gate bias level at which TR3 provides enough drain current. When changing TR3, this level is almost bound to be different, and the easiest way to re-establish the 15 -second delay is to change the circuit time constant.

## ALARM SECTION

Turning now to the alarm section, this consists of
oscillator TR4 and speaker driver TR5. The unijunction transistor fires with about 6 V at its emitter and then conducts heavily, pulling down the voltage on C5 rapidly to 1 V , when the circuit relaxes and C5 charges up again through R7. The frequency of oscillation is about 700 Hz .

The current produced when TR4 switches produces a 5 V spike at R9, which is used to drive the speaker via TR5. The quiescent interbase current flow in TR4 is so small that the voltage across R9 is less than 0.6 V , and TR5 is consequently non-conducting between spikes.

The advantage of using this spike (rather than the sawtooth at C5) can now be seen: because of its very short duration it requires exceptionally small dissipation in TR5, avoiding the use of large transistors (both TR1 and TR5 are 1W types). Another advantage is that this waveform provides a distinctive, harsh sound which should attract attention.

Because of the extremely short and heavy current demand by TR5, with which the regulated supply could not cope, decoupling has been introduced at TR5 collector, and D8 holds the decoupled voltage at 5 V to protect both C6 and TR5.


Fig. 2. Circuit of Sound Monitor


Fig. 3. P.c.b. layout for component side


Fig. 4. Reverse of board showing p.c.b. layout


Fig. 5. Component assembly in double sided p.c.b.

At normal programme levels the speaker volume was thought to be adequate with a $2 \Omega$ series resistor R 12 .

No volume control is provided so that the user can gradually build up a mental picture of what constitutes the sound of correct playback volume. R13 provides an equivalent load to the line when the switch is in the "Alarm" position.

## CONSTRUCTION

All components except those indicated on the front panel
are mounted on a double-sided printed circuit board. Connections to this board are made via square-pin push-on connectors. The board is held in place by six machine screws and can be withdrawn for servicing after removing these.

For the dubbing job the output was fed via a single cable looped to three DIN connectors. A similar cable with appropriate connectors was made for distributing the power from a single supply to the three recording machines, so that by turning on or off that power supply all three machines could be started or stopped simultaneously.

## COMPONENTS

| Resistors |  | Diodes |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1 | 3.6kת | D1-D4 | 1N4004 (4 off) |
| R2 | $12 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | D5 | BZY88-24 24V Zener |
| R3 | $220 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | D6 | BZY88-5.15.1V Zener |
| R4 | $5 \cdot 6 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | D7 | 1 N4004 |
| R5 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | D8 | BZY-5.15.1VZener |
| R6 | $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | D9 | 1 N914 |
| R7 | $47 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |  |
| R8 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | Transistors |  |
| R9 | $200 \Omega$ |  |  |
| R10 | $2.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~W}$ |  |  |
| R11 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | TR1 | BFY50 |
| R12 | $2 \Omega 3 \mathrm{~W}$ | TR2 | 2 N 4303 |
| R13 | $10 \Omega 2 \mathrm{~W}$ | TR3 | 2N4392 2N4851 |
| R14 | $390 \Omega$ | TR5 | BFY50 |
| All $\frac{1}{4}$ W carbon except where otherwise stated |  |  |  |
|  |  | Miscellaneous |  |
| Capacitors |  | T1-240V pci- $15 \mathrm{~V}, 0.2 \mathrm{~A}, 15 \mathrm{~V}, 0.2 \mathrm{~A}$ (Stock No. 207-598 R.S. Components) |  |
| C1 | $80 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 50 V |  |  |
| C2 | $68 \mu \mathrm{Felect} .40 \mathrm{~V}$ | LSI-1W $8 \Omega$ loudspeaker |  |
| C3 | $47 \mu$ F elect. 30 V | S1-Mains d.p.c.o |  |
| C4 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | S2-S.p.c.o |  |
| C5 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | RLA-Reed relay 18-30V $3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |  |
| C6 | $150 \mu \mathrm{~F} 50 \mathrm{~V}$ | (Stock No. 349-002 R.S. components) |  |




THE electronic metronome described in this article, in addition to providing the normal variable tempo beat, can also give emphasised beat at the beginning of each bar for the common musical time signatures. The tempo of the metronome can be adjusted from approximately 33 to 220 beats per minute.

## CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The circuit diagram of the metronome is shown in Fig. 1. The circuit uses CMOS logic i.c.s in order to minimise current consumption.

Referring to the circuit diagram, IC1a and $b$ with the associated circuitry, form the master oscillator which runs at twice the beat frequency. The frequency of this oscillator is varied by potentiometer VR1.

IC2 is a resettable 7 stage binary divider. The master oscillator output is fed to the input of IC2 and the signal corresponding to the beat speed is taken from the divide by two output. This is inverted by IC3d and differentiated by R5 and C5, the short positive pulses so formed, enabling the

beat oscilldtor (comprising IC3a and $b$ with C 4 and R7). The negative pulses are clipped by the internal protection circuitry of IC3

The output of this oscillator when enabled, is a short burst of pulses, the duration of this pulse train and its frequency being chosen to give a realistic sounding beat. This beat is fed via R4 to the output stage, which consists of a double emitter follower (TR1 and TR2), driving the loudspeaker.

When the beat oscillator is disabled, the output is high which biases TR4 and TR2 off, thus minimising current drain.

## EMPHASISED BEAT

For the unemphasised beat the output from IC3c is high. D2 therefore conducts, and so VR2 with D2 forms a potential divider with R4for the negative going portions of the beat waveforms fed to TR1. The strength of the unemphasised beat cart tyus be adjusted by VR2.

The divide by four, eight, sixteen and thirty-two outputs of IC2 are selected by switiches S1a and b, and then fed to the two inputs of the nand gate IC1c. The output of this is inverted by IC1d and fed to the reset input of the divider. This is reset when the number of beats selected by S1 have occurred. R2 and C2 delay the resetting long enough for C3 to be charged via D1, by the reset pulse. C3 and R3 form a hold circuit which keep the input of IC3a high for a short time after the divider has been reset. IC3c output is inverted and so is low for this time, therefore D2 does not conduct.

The amplitude of the burst of oscillation fed to TR1 corresponding to the resetbeat is greater than the other beats because VR2 has been switched out of circuit. This is the emphasised beat. The diyider is reset on this beat, and begins to count again to tho hext emphasised beat where it is again reset.

The prototype Metronome wes housed in a sloping metal case and powered by a 9 volt battery. The Time Signature control ranges freblone to twelve beats to the bar.


Fig. 1. Full circult diagram of the Metronome

## COMPONENTS . . .

## Resistors

| R1 | $150 \mathrm{k} \Omega 2 \% \mathrm{~m} .0$. |
| :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $3.9 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R3 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R4 | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R5 | $120 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| R6 | $560 \Omega$ |
| R7 | $39 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |

All resistors $\frac{1}{4}$ W 5\% unless otherwise stated

Potentiometers

| VR1 | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ lin carbon |
| :--- | :--- |
| VR2 | $22 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ vert preset |

## Capacitors

| C1 | $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F} 63 \mathrm{~V} 2 \%$ polycarbonate |
| :--- | :--- |
| C2 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C3 | $0.22 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C4 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic |
| C5 | $0.15 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ polyester |
| C6 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F} 25 \mathrm{~V}$ tant |
| C7 | $470 \mu \mathrm{~F} 16 \mathrm{~V}$ elect |

Semiconductors

| IC1, IC3 | CD4011 (2 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| IC2 | CD4024 |
| TR1 | 2N4058 |
| TR2 | 2N1132 |
| D1, D2 | 1N916 (2 off) |
| D3 | $5 \cdot 1 V$ Zener BZY88 400 mW |

Switches
S1 2-pole 8-way rotary wafer switch
S2 d.p.s.t. min toggle

## Miscellaneous

LS1
$8 \Omega 57 \mathrm{~mm}\left(2 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}\right)$ dia loudspeaker, PP6 battery and clip, 0.1 in matrix Veroboard $(95 \times 63.5 \mathrm{~mm})$, nuts, screws and wire. Case measuring $153 \times 100 \times 100 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## Constructor's Note

The $0.47 \mu \mathrm{~F} 2 \%$ polycarbonate capacitor specified for C1 may be obtained from Minicost Trading Ltd. Tel Whixall (094 872) 464/465


A method of mounting miniature loudspeakers which have no fastening lugs, is to fix four 6BA screw and nut assemblies around its perimeter so that they each clamp a 6BA solder tag. The soldering portion of these tage can then be pointed inwards and bent so as to captivate the loudspeaker

A simple battery clip can be made to hold the PP6, using a strip of aluminium about 25 mm wide, drilled to give a 4BA fixing hole, and then formed around the battery by hand

Virtually any type of case will suffice to house the Metronome, but a sloping front panel will be found to have more appeal

Fig. 2. Stripboard layout shown actual size

Fig. 3. Switch wiring diagram. The tag numbers refer to the beats per bar positions in order to relate to Figs. 1 and 2


VIEWED FROM FRONT OF SWITCH


## SUPPLY ARRANGEMENT

The supply to IC1 and IC2 are stabilised by D3 to keep the master oscillator stable. IC3 is supplied direct from the battery as its outputs have to swing over a larger range than the outputs of the other i.c.s. The circuit is powered from a 9 V PP6 battery. The current drawn from it depends on the tempo at which the metronome is running, but is normally below 5 mA .

Position 1 of the multiway switch gives a beat of one strength only, the inputs of IC1c being grounded to obtain this.

## CONSTRUCTION

The circuit was assembled on 0.1 inch matrix stripboard and the layout is shown in Fig. 2. The inputs of the i.c.s used are protected by diodes, but the normal precautions taken with MOS devices should be observed to be on the safe side.

The metronome was housed in a small sloping fronted instrument case and the front panel labelled with dry transfer labels. A number of small holes were drilled in the case in front of the speaker.

The wiring of the multi way switch wafers is shown in Fig. 3 , and if wired as shown, give minimum tempo in the fully anti-clockwise position. The metronome can be calibrated using a stopwatch or the second hand of a watch.

## 

## MASTERIN-CAR ENTERTAINMENT By Vivian Capel Published by Newnes Technical Books. 122 pages, $135 \times \mathbf{2 1 5 m m}$. Price $\mathbf{£ 2} \mathbf{2 0}$.

SHOULD anyone consider installing an in-car music system, who is not a hi-fi or electronics "whizz-kid" as such, they would find this book most useful. The explanations throughout are very understandable to the non-technical mind. Coverage of the various options for entertainment source is comprehensive, and would assist a quick decision on which type of radio or tape machine to use if you were in doubt.
With hints and tips on both installation and fault finding, and methods of identifying and curing interference, the d.i.y. car improver could be saved considerable "aggro" by consulting this book. It is all easy to follow, and the use of spot-colour has enhanced the simplicity of electronic and mechanical diagrams.

Chapters are: The Car Equipment Scene, Mono Stereo Or Quad?, Mobile Tape Players, The Cartridge Player, The Cassette Player, Cassette Or Cartridge?, Car Radios, Car Antennas, Interference Suppression, Installing The System, and Trouble Shooting.

In Chapter 9 the author suggests that interference due to static in the bodywork can be identified by coasting down a hill with the engine switched off. I would imagine that this practice, along with the driver's concentration on interference coming from his new hi-fi installation, could well result in some sound effects far more realistic and convincing than any stereo or quad system might produce!
M.A.

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how}}


$\mathrm{M}^{\circ}$OST microprocessors that are suitable for amateur use need data input in the form of an eight bit binary word and hexadecimal characters form a convenient way of handling such data.

The keyboard described here provides an eight bit binary word by pressing two keys in succession. Pressing the first key lights up one of the "byte" l.e.d.s (this is a reminder that another key has yet to be pressed for the full code). At the same time, the binary code corresponding to that character appears in the four left-hand I.e.d.s (H, G, F, E). Each lit I.e.d. represents a " 1 ". Pressing another key puts the binary code for that character into the four right-hand l.e.d.s (D, C, B, A). The second byte l.e.d. now lights, indicating that the full eight bit word is assembled, and a signal is sent to the microprocessor that the data is ready. At any time, the data word can be set to all noughts by pressing the "Clear" key, or by a signal from the microprocessor itself.

This type of keyboard is much simpler to build than a full ASCII keyboard, and it is just as effective if programs are written in machine code.

There are i.c.s available specially developed to do this job, but they are expensive, and they certainly don't crop up in the amateur's stock of i.c.s, or in scrap computer boards.

This project was designed to use common i.c.s and the matrix diodes can be any silicon type. The ones used in the prototype came from an untested lot of 100 for 60 p. advertised as "similar to 1 N914". About 90 per cent of these were found to be good.

Power supply for the keyboard is standard TTL 5V at about 150 mA (all l.e.d.s lit).

## SETTING THE CODE

The full circuit is shown in Fig. 1. To help in identification, each pin of an i.c. is labelled with two numbers separated by a hyphen. Thus IC7-10 means pin 10 of IC7.

We can follow the operation of the keyboard by taking an example. Suppose we have a SC/MP microprocessor, and we wish to enter the code for "Load the accumulator". This is 11000100 in binary, or C4 in hexadecimal. Before any key is pressed, both data bistables (IC8) are in the reset state, so IC8-8 is at logic " 1 ". This prepares the four gates of IC1 for a key being pressed. Suppose key "C"' is now pressed. Lines $c$, $d$, and $K$ go to logic " 1 ", so NAND gate outputs IC1-3 and IC1-6 becomes logic " 0 ".

The " 0 " on IC1-3 sets IC3-3 bistable output to logic " 1 ", and the " 0 " on IC1-6 sets IC3-6 to logic "1". L.e.d.s G and H light, so setting up the left hand byte (1100).

Line K (now at logic " 1 " remember) charges C1 through R1, so the Schmitt trigger input IC7-5 arrives at logic "1" level, and IC7-6 goes to logic " 0 ". This has no effect on the clock inputs of IC8 data bistables-they need a positive going edge.

However, when the key is released after setting up the first byte, there is a short delay while C1 discharges (about 10 milliseconds), then IC7-5 returns to logic " 0 ". IC7-6 therefore goes to logic " 1 ", and clocks IC8 bistables. IC8-9 changes to logic " 1 ", but IC8-5 stays at " 0 " because its data input IC8-2 is at logic " 0 " when the clock pulse occurs. The " 1 " on IC8-9 prepares the gates of IC2 for the next key being pressed. The first "byte" l.e.d. is now lit.

Now, key " 4 " is pressed. This raises lines c and K to logic " 1 ", IC2-3 becomes logic " 0 ", so changing bistable output IC5-3 to logic " 1 ", and I.e.d. C lights. The right hand byte is now set up ( 0100 ), and the full eight bit binary code is displayed in the l.e.d.s.

When the key is released, IC7-5 drops to logic " 0 " level, so IC7-6 rises to logic " 1 ". This clocks the upper data bistable of IC8, so that IC8-5 now rises to logic " 1 " (its data input is at " 1 " level). The second "byte" l.e.d. now lights, and the output of IC8-5 also provides a signal to the microprocessor that the keyboard data is "ready".


Fig. 1. Keyboard electronics

The eight data bits, and their complements if required, are available to the microprocessor from the outputs of IC3, IC4, IC5, and IC6.

## RESET

The "Reset" line shown in Fig. 1 is connected to the reset inputs of all bistables. If this line is pulled down to near OV, all bistables will be reset. This must be done before another word is set up. There are three ways in which this can happen:
(1) Keyboard reset.-This is simple-the "Clear" key is pressed, which earths the reset line.
(2) Microprocessor controlled-A logic "O" from the microprocessor to the "External reset" line does the same job as pressing "Clear". The diode D2 (a germanium diode for low volts drop) prevents the
"External reset" line being pulled down when "Clear" is pressed. Note that the external reset line is resetting 10 i.c.s, so the reset signal from the microprocessor must come from a device capable of doing this. A normal TTL gate has a fan-out of 10 , so this is no problem.
(3) Automatic reset-If nothing deliberate is done to clear the keyboard before another data word is entered, the previous data will be cleared automatically at the instant another key is pressed. Any key being pressed will raise line $K$ to logic " 1 ". IC7-8 falls to logic " 0 ", and takes the reset line down to logic " $O$ ". All bistables reset, and IC8-5 goes to logic "0". IC7-9 also goes to logic " 0 ", so closing that gate. Keeping the key down has no further effect on the reset circuit.
All this takes only a few milliseconds, so, while the key is still pressed, the left hand four bits of the new code are set into IC3 and IC4. Pressing another key sets up the remainder of the new data word. Using this facility, and some cunning program writing, data can be put into memory simply by pressing two consecutive keys.

## COMPONENTS

Resistors

| R1 | $100 \Omega$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| R2 | $470 \Omega$ |
| R3 | $270 \Omega$ |
| R4-R7 | $470 \Omega(4$ off $)$ |
| R8-R9 | $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega(2$ off $)$ |
| R10-R19 | $330 \Omega(10$ off $)$ |

## Capacitors

| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ elect. 10 V (2 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| C 3 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ |

Diodes
D1-D48 1 N9 14 (any general purpose silicon) (48 off) D49-D50 AA120 (2 off)

## Integrated Circuits

| IC1-IC6 | 7400 ( 6 off) |
| :--- | :--- |
| IC7 | 7413 |
| IC8 | 7478 |

## Keyboard

S1-S17 S.p.s.t. push-to-make keyboard switches (17 off) A double blank cap can be obtained for the "Clear" key (R.S. Components)


Lifting a copper strip with iron and pliers

## CONSTRUCTION

Veroboard is a convenient way of making the diode matrix, so the same board is used for the remainder of the circuit.

Cut a piece of 0.1 matrix Veroboard, 40 holes by 34 , with the copper strips running across the long dimension. Remove four of the strips, as illustrated. This is done by heating the strip with a soldering iron, lifting the strip gently with pliers, and running the iron ahead of the point where the strip is lifting (see photo). Cut the copper tracks, as shown in the illustration, with a $\frac{1}{8}$ in drill.


| Wiring Schedule-Circuit Board |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Component | From | To | Component | From | To |
| Wire | IC1-1 | Row c | Wire | 1C7-12 | 1C7-13 |
| Wire | IC1-2 | 1C1-5 | Wire | IC5-7 | Earth |
| Wire | IC1-3 | IC3-2 | Wire | IC5-10 | Reset row |
| Wire | IC1-4 | Row d | Wire | IC5-13 | IC5-10 |
| Wire | IC1-5 | IC8-8 | Wire | IC5-14 | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC1-6 | IC3-5 | Wire | IC6-1 | IC6-11 |
| Wire | IC1-7 | Earth | Wire | IC6-4 | IC6-8 |
| Wire | IC1-8 | IC4-2 | Wire | IC6-7 | Earth |
| Wire | IC1-9 | Row a | Wire | IC6-10 | Reset row |
| Wire | IC1-11 | IC4-5 | Wire | IC6-13 | IC6-10 |
| Wire | IC1-12 | Row b | Wire | IC6-14 | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC1-14 | 5 V row | Wire | 1 C 7 -1 | IC7-2 |
| Wire | IC2-1 | IC1-1 | Wire | IC7-2 | 1C7-4 |
| Wire | IC2-2 | 1C2-5 | Wire | 1C7-6 | 1C8-3 |
| Wire | IC2-3 | IC5-2 | Wire | 1C7-7 | Earth |
| Wire | IC2-4 | IC1-4 | Wire | 1C7-9 | J row |
| Wire | IC2-5 | 1C8-9 | Wire | 1C7-14 | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC2-6 | 1C5-5 | Wire | 1C8-1 | 1C8-13 |
| Wire | $1 \mathrm{C} 2-7$ | Earth | Wire | IC8-2 | IC8-9 |
| Wire | IC2-8 | IC6-2 | Wire | IC8-3 | 1C8-11 |
| Wire | 1C2-9 | IC1-9 | Wire | IC8-7 | Earth |
| Wire | \|C2-11 | IC6-5 | Wire | IC8-13 | Reset row |
| Wire | IC2-12 | IC 1-12 | Wire | 1C8-14 | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC2-14 | 5 V row | R1 (100 ${ }^{\text {) }}$ | K row | IC7-5 |
| Wire | 1C3-1 | IC3-11 | R2 (4708) | IC7-5 | Earth |
| Wire | IC3-4 | IC3-8 | R3 (2708) | IC8-5 | J row |
| Wire | IC3-7 | Earth | R4 (470) | d row | Earth |
| Wire | IC3-10 | IC3-13 | R5 (470) | crow | Earth |
| Wire | IC3-13 | Reset row | R6 (4708) | b row | Earth |
| Wire | IC3-14 | 5 V row | R7 (470) | a row | Earth |
| Wire | IC4-1 | IC4-11 | R8 ( $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ ) | IC8-12 | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC4-4 | IC4-8 | $R 9(1 \mathrm{k} \Omega)$ | $1 C 7-1$ | 5 V row |
| Wire | IC4-7 | Earth | C1 $(10 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ | 1C7-5 (pos) | Earth (neg) |
| Wire | IC4-10 | IC4-13 | $\mathrm{C} 2(10 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ | J rows (pos) | Earth (neg) |
| Wire | IC4-13 | Reset row | C3 ( $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) | 5 V row | Earth |
| Wire | IC4-14 | 5 V row | D1 (germanium) | IC7-8 | Reset row |
| Wire | IC5-1 | IC5-11 | D2 (germanium) | Reset row | Ext. reset row |
| Wire | IC5-4 | IC4-8 | Wire | Earth (upper) | Earth (lower) |
| Wire | 1C7-4 | $1 \mathrm{C} 7-12$ | Wire | Reset (upper) | Reset (lower) |

Fig. 2. Identification of rows on the circuit board for the wiring schedule. Copper cuts for the i.c.s are also shown

## Wiring Schedule-Keys and I.e.d.s

| Component | From | To | Component | From | To |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wire | Key 0 | "0." column | R10 [3300) | Pad H | I.e.d. H (pos) |
| Wire | Key 1 | "1" column | R11 (330) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | Pad G | l.e.d. G (pos) |
| Wire | Key 2 | " 2 " column | R12 (330) | Pad $F$ | l.e.d. F (pos) |
| Wire | Key ${ }^{\text {S }}$ | "3" column | R13 (3300) | PadE | l.e.d. E (pos) |
| Wire | Key 4 | "4" column | R14 (3.30) ${ }^{\text {) }}$ | Pad D | l.e.d. D (pos) |
| Wire | Key 5 | "5" column | R15 (330) | Pad C | l.e.d. C (pos) |
| Wire | Key 6 | "6" column | R16 (330) ${ }^{\text {) }}$ | Pad B | l.e.d. B (pos) |
| Wire | Key 7 | "7" column | R17 (330) | Pad A | I.e.d. A (pos) |
| Wire | Key 8 | "8" column | R18 (330S:) | Pad 81 | l.e.d. B1 (pos) |
| Wire | Key 9 | " 9 " column | R19 (330): | Pad 82 | l.e.d. B 2 (pos) |
| Wire | Key A | " $A$ " column | Wire | Case earth | Cct. board earth |
| Wire | Key ${ }^{\text {B }}$ | "B" column |  |  |  |
| Wire | Key C | "C' column | Connections of a 16 pin plug (mesting to microprocessor) |  |  |
| Wire | Key ${ }^{\text {C }}$ | "D" column |  |  |  |
| Wire | Key E | "E" column |  |  |  |
| Wire | Key F | "F" column | pin 1-bit 4 (least significant) |  |  |
| Wire | Key "Clsar" | Reset row | pin 2-bit B - |  |  |
| Wire | 5 V row | Keys " 0 " to " $F$ " (one side of each) | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { pin } & 3 — \text { bit } \\ \text { pin } & 4 — \text { bit } D \end{array}$ |  |  |
| Wire | Earth | "Clear" key (other side) | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { pin } & 4-\text { bit } D \\ \text { pin } & 5 — — b i t ~ E ~ \end{array}$ |  |  |
| Wire | Pad A | IC6-3 | pin 7-bit G |  |  |
| Wire | Pad $\mathbf{B}$ | 1C6-6 | pin 8-bit H (mosi significant) |  |  |
| Wire | Pad C | 1C5-3 | pin 9-conmon earth |  |  |
| Wire | Pad C | IC5-6 | pin 10--interrupt key |  |  |
| Wire | $\operatorname{Pad} \mathrm{E}$ | IC4-3 | pin 11 - go key |  |  |
| Wire | Pad F | IC4-6 | pin 12-reset key |  |  |
| Wire | Pad G | IC3-3 | pin 13-run'program key |  |  |
| Wire | Pad H | 1C3-6 | pin 14-reset line from microprocessor |  |  |
| Wire | Pad B1 | IC2-13 | pin 15_keyboard $f$ ag to microprocessor |  |  |
| Wire | Pad E 2 | IC8-5 | pin $16-5 \mathrm{~V}$ supply |  |  |

Fig. 3. Showing the connection of the matrix diodes and i.c.s


Main board prototype showing component layout and surface wiring. Note that the copper tracke of the two boards for the diode matrix are at right angles and the diodes are mounted diagonally $s 0$ that each diode wire passes through the copper strip of only ons board


Mount the ten l.e.d.s by gluing them with Araldite into the holes in the top panel, so that they just project above the surface. When the glue has set, connect each l.e.d. negative wire to the earth strip on the inside of the back panel. Connect the positive wires to the appropriate pad on the same panel.

Now follow the wiring schedule again, connecting the ten l.e.d. resistors, and the keyswitches, to the circuit board. Connect power and output wires. Mount the circuit board to the base panel, using 8 BA screws and insulating spacers. Take the power and output wires, plus eight wires from the unallocated keys, through the hole in the back panel.

## TESTING

When power is first applied to the keyboard, a random display will probably appear. Press "Clear", and then a single key. One "byte" lamp should light, and the l.e.d.s H to E should display the chosen code. Press a second key, and l.e.d.s D to A should respond to that code. Check that both "byte" l.e.d.s are now lit.

A quick check on all l.e.d.s can be made by keying in "FF", which lights them all. Now test each key methodically, including the "Clear" key, which should always extinguish all l.e.d.s. One can assume that if the correct code appears in the display, it will also be presented to the microprocessor.

The design has been checked for repeatability, by building a second unit, which worked first time power was applied. Compatibility with the requirements of a microprocessor was checked by using the keyboard to input data to a Motorola 6800 evaluation kit.

## KEYSWITCHES

The keyswitches used came from a desk calculator keyboard, sold for 50p, but supplies of these in the surplus shops is very spasmodic, so it is a case of scanning current advertising. The front panel dimensions given suit a keyswitch no larger than $\frac{3}{4}$ in square. Radiospares list a keyboard switch which measures less than $\frac{5}{8}$ in square, and this would be suitable in this design, though more expensive.

A useful. feature of the design of this project is that it needs only a simple "make" contact for each key. Sophisticated low contact bounce double throw switches are not needed, so there is scope for personal ingenuity, even if the resulting keyswitch is electrically rather crude.

Prepare another board, 34 holes by 10, with the copper strips running across the short dimension. Remove alternate
strips, giving the pattern shown. Glue this board face to face with the larger board, with the copper strips at right angles. Use pins passing thıough both boards in two places to keep the holes in alignment until the glue sets. The relative positions of the two boards can be seen in the photo.

Next, mount the matrix diodes on the copper side of the smaller board, in the pattern shown. Each diode has its anode connected to a hole in a copper strip of the smaller board, and its cathode is taken through holes in both boards, to row a, b, c, d, or K of the larger board. When wiring the diodes of row K, leave the anode wires projecting about $\frac{1}{4}$ in beyond the board. These will serve as pins to which the wires to the keybcard are attached.

Solder the i.c.s in position, with the locator of each towards the matrix. Now follow the Wiring Schedule to complete the assembly of the board.



## BP 1509212

The Federal Communications Commission in the USA is currently considering which of five rival systems should be adopted to provide the option for stereo transmissions on the AM (amplitude modulation) medium and long wave bands.
The five systems originate from Belar, Harris, Magnavox, Motorola and Leonard Kahn, a pioneering inventor in this field.

Kahn's system is favoured in some quarters because he claims that it enables anyone owning two existing AM mono sets to receive stereo without the need to purchase any additional equipment.

Doubtless with an eye to the likely adoption by the UK of whatever AM system is chosen by the FCC, Kahn has over recent years been busily patenting his ideas in the UK (BPs 970 051, 1119333 and most

Copies of Patents can be obtained from : the Patent Office Sales, St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent<br>Price 95p each

Optionally an infrasonic frequency leg. 15 Hz ) is also impressed on the carrier to provide a switching signal for receivers equipped to decode stereo. Kahn suggests that for mono compatibility with existing radio receivers the transmitted signals should have the carrier wave envelope modulated by the stereo sum signal ( $L+R$ ) and phase modulated by the difference signal ( $L-R$ ). Existing sets receive only $L+$ $R$ and reproduce a mono sum signal; sets equipped with a stereo decoder matrix $L+$ $R$ and $L-R$ to reproduce $L$ and $R$ as a stereo pair.

In Kahn's most recent patent he proposes a modified means of phase modulating the carrier with the difference signal. The claim is that, by phase modulating the carrier with a stereo difference signal formed from L-R fundamental, together with added second harmonic content varying in amplitude as a square law function of the fundamental,
stage. To develop the phase modulation components for the carrier the $L$ and $R$ signals are also fed to a difference circuit 28 and a $+45^{\circ}$ phase shift imparted to one fraction of the output. This signal now serves as the fundamental phase modulation component and is fed to sum circuit 36.

Further output fractions of the difference circuit 28 are fed to frequency doublers 46 and 48 and the harmonic outputs of these doublers routed to difference circuit 54. The frequency doubled difference output passes through a level squarer formed by a variable gain amplifier 58, controlled by a fraction of the fundamental component tapped off ahead of sum circuit 36 .

The VGA feeds sum circuit 36 of which the output is supplied via a time delay to the transmitter for phase modulation of the carrier.


When the $L$ and $R$ signals are equal and in phase (i.e. the audio signal input is mono) the $L-R$ signal is zero and the gain of VGA 58 is zero. However when maximum stereo information is present, eg. when $L$ is high and $R$ is zero, the VGA is at maximum.

When $L$ and $R$ are present and in phase but $L$ is at full amplitude and $R$ at half amplitude the gain of VGA is reduced to limit the second harmonic component.

It follows that when stereo information is present the phase modulating component is composed not only of the fundamental of the stereo difference signal but also a controlled amount of frequency doubled difference signal, the level of the latter being a square law function of the fundamental.
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| 2N706A | 0.30 | 2N2222 | 0.25 | 2N3638 | 0.17 | 2N4123 | 0.19 | 2N5298 | 0.44 | 40869 | 1.30 | 8C1488 | 0.13 | BC182LB | 0.15 | BC2378 | 0.15 | 8 BCY 70 | 0.21 | B0248C | 0.93 | BF195 | 0.16 | BR101 | 0.55 | MPF 103 | 0.44 |
| 2N708 | 0.30 | 2N2222A | 0.25 | 2N3638A | 0.17 | 2N4124 | 0.19 | 2N5447 | 0.16 | AC126 | 0.48 | BC148C | 0.13 | ${ }^{\text {BCI }} 183$ | 0.12 | BC238A | 0.13 | BCY71 | 0.26 | B0433 | 0.44 | BFF96 | 0.16 | 8RY39 | 0.55 | MPF 104 | 0.44 |
| 2N718 | 0.30 | 2N2369 | 0.27 | 2N3702 | 0.14 | 2N4125 | 0.19 | 2N5448 | 0.16 | AC127 | 0.48 | 8C149 | 0.15 | BC183A | 0.12 | BC238日 | 0.13 | BCY 12 | 0.18 | B0434 | 0.46 | 8F197 | 0.18 | BSx 19 | 0.35 | MPS105 | 0.44 |
| 2N718A | 0.54 | 2N2369A | 0.27 | 2N3703 | 0.14 | 2N4128 | 0.19 | 2N5449 | 0.20 | AC128 | 0.48 | BC149C | 0.15 | BC1838 | 0.13 | BC238C | 0.13 | B0115 | 0.88 | 80435 | 046 | BF198 | 0.19 | BS $\times 20$ | 0.35 | MPSA05 | 0.27 |
| 2N720A | 0.85 | 2N2646 | 0.80 | 2N3704 | 0.14 | 2N4284 | 0.38 | 2N5457 | 0.38 | AC151 | 0.43 | BC157A | 0.15 | BC183C | 0.13 | 8C2398 | 0.15 | BD131 | 0.55 | 80436 | 0.46 | 8 FF 99 | 0.19 | BSX21 | 0.35 | MPSA06 | 0.27 |
| 2N722 | 0.45 | 2N2647 | 1.55 | 2N3705 | 0.14 | 2N4288 | 0.22 | 2N5458 | 0.35 | AC152 | 0.54 | BC158A | 0.15 | BC183L | 0.15 | BC239C | 0.17 | B0132 | 0.75 | B0437 | 0.55 | 8 F 224 J | 0.22 | BU104 | 1.80 | MPSA12 | 0.4 |
| 2N727 | 0.50 | 2N2903 | 1.60 | 2N3706 | 0.14 | 2N4287 | 0.22 | 2N5459 | 0.32 | AC153 | 0.59 | BC1588 | 0.15 | BC1831A | 0.15 | BC257A | 0.18 | BD135 | 0.40 | B0438 | 0.55 | 8F225J | 0.27 | BU105 | 1.55 | MPSA14 | 0.33 |
| 2NS14 | 0.38 | 2N2904 | 0.31 | 2N3707 | 0.14 | 2N4288 | 0.22 | 2N5480 | 0.65 | AC153K | 0.59 | BC159A | 0.17 | BC183L8 | 0.15 | BC258B | 0.19 | BD138 | 0.40 | B0529 | 0.49 | 8F244A | 0.38 | 8U126 | 1.08 | MPSA55 | 0.27 |
| 2 N916 | 0.33 | 2N2904A | 0.31 | 2N3708 | 0.12 | 2N4289 | 0.22 | 2N5484 | 0.37 | AC178K | 0.70 | BC1598 | 0.17 | 8C183LC | 0.15 | BC2598 | 0.19 | BD137 | 0.41 | 80530 | 0.55 | BF2448 | 0.33 | BU204 | 2.20 | MPSA58 | 0.27 |
| $2 \mathrm{NS17}$ | 0.38 | 2N2905 | 0.31 | 2N3709 | 0.12 | 2 N 4347 | 2.20 | $2 N 5485$ | 0.40 | AC176 | 0.54 | 8C160 | 0.38 | $8 \mathrm{BC1} 184$ | 0.12 | BC300 | 0.43 | 80138 | 0.41 | B0535 | 0.70 | 8F245A | 0.44 | 8U205 | 2.40 | f2008B | 2.45 |
| 2 N 918 | 0.45 | 2N2905A | 0.31 | 2N3771 | 2.16 | 2 N 4348 | 2.65 | 2N5486 | 0.40 | AC187 | 0.59 | BC161 | 0.38 | BC184B | 0.13 | BC301 | 0.43 | 80139 | 0.43 | 80538 | 0.70 | BF245 | 0.44 | BU206 | 2.70 | R20108 | 2.15 |
| 2 N 929 | 0.37 | 2N2906 | 0.25 | 2N3772 | 2.20 | 2N4918 | 0.65 | 2N5490 | 0.64 | AC187K | 0.65 | BC167 | 0.13 | 8C184ᄃ | 0.13 | BC302 | 0.37 | BD140 | 043 | 80537 | 0.74 | 8 F 257 | 0.35 | BU208 | 2.70 | TiP29A | 0.49 |
| 2N929A | 0.37 | 2N2906A | 0.25 | 2N3773 | 3.15 | 2N4919 | 0.70 | $2 N 5492$ | 0.64 | AC188 | 0.54 | BC187B | 0.13 | BC184L | 0.15 | 8C303 | 0.54 | B0181 | 1.90 | ${ }^{80538}$ | 0.77 | 8F258 | 0.35 | ME0401 | 0.22 | TIP29C | 0.65 |
| 2 N 930 | 0.37 | 2N2907 | 0.25 | 2N3819 | 0.36 | 2 N 4920 | 0.83 | 2 25494 | 0.65 | AC188K | 0.65 | BC168A | 0.13 | BC184LB | 0.15 | BC307 | 0.16 | ${ }^{\text {B01 }} 82$ | 2.20 | BD539 | 0.60 | 8F259 | 0.35 | ME0402 | 0.22 | TIP30A | 0.54 |
| 2 N 930 A | 0.95 | 2N2907A | 0.25 | 2N3820 | 0.39 | 2 N 4921 | 0.54 | 2N5496 | 0.67 | AD161 | 1.00 | BC168B | 0.13 | BC184LC | 0.15 | 8С307A | 0.16 | 80183 | 2.35 | B0540 | 0.60 | 8F336 | 0.42 | ME0404 | 0.17 | TIP39C | 0.70 |
| 2 N 1711 | 0.30 | 2N2923 | 0.17 | 2N3821 | 0.98 | 2N4922 | 0.60 | 2N6027 | 0.64 | AD162 | 1.00 | BC168C | 0.13 | 8C212 | 0.15 | 8C30.78 | 0.16 | 80187 | 0.95 | BDx14 | 1.32 | BF337 | 0.49 | ME0412 | 0.22 | TIP31A | 0.54 |
| 2N1889 | 0.30 | 2N2924 | 0.17 | 2N3900 | 0.28 | 2 N 4923 | 0.75 | 2 N 6107 | 0.45 | AF106 | 0.60 | 8C1598 | 0.13 | BC212A | 0.15 | BC308 | 0.16 | 80235 | 0.46 | B0x18 | 1.90 | BF338 | 0.52 | ME0414 | 0.22 | TIP3iC | 0.72 |
| 2N1890 | 0.30 | 2N2925 | 0.19 | 2N3901 | 0.30 | 2N4924 | 1.15 | 2N6108 | 0.55 | AF109 | 0.52 | BC169C | 0.13 | BC2128 | 0.15 | 8С308B | 0.16 | 80236 | 0.44 | BDY20 | 1.10 | 8FR39 | 0.30 | ME4001 | 0.16 | TIP32A | 0.59 |
| 2N1893 | 0.30 | 2N2926 | 0.17 | 2N3903 | 0.20 | 2N5086 | 0.36 | 2N6109 | 0.55 | BC107 | 0.16 | 8 BC 177 | 0.22 | BC212L | 0.18 | 8C309a | 0.16 | 80237 | 0.44 | BDY55 | 1.90 | BFP40 | 0.29 | ME4002 | 0.16 | TIP32C | 0.82 |
| 2N2102 | 0.50 | 2N3053 | 0.25 | 2N3904 | 0.18 | 2N5087 | 0.30 | 2N8111 | 0.49 | 8C107A | 0.16 | 8C177A | 0.22 | BC212LA | 0.18 | BC3098 | 0.16 | 80238 | 0.44 | B0Y56 | 2.10 | BFP41 | 0.30 | ME4003 | 0.16 | TIP41A | 0.76 |
| 2 N 2192 | 0.58 | 2N3054 | 0.72 | 2N3905 | 0.18 | 2N5088 | 0.30 | 2 2N6121 | 0.41 | ${ }^{\text {BC1 }} 1078$ | 0.16 | BC1778 | 0.25 | BC212LB | 0.18 | 8C3090 | 0.16 | 80239A | 0.44 | 8F115 | 0.39 | BFA79 | 0.30 | ME4101 | 0.11 | TIP416 | 0.97 |
| 2N2193 | 0.50 | 2 2N3055 | 5 | 2N3906 | 0.18 | 2N5089 | 0.30 | 2N6122 | - 4 | BC108 | 0.16 | BC178 | 0.22 | BC213 | 0.15 | BC327 | 0.22 | 802396 | 0.59 | BFi60 | 0.33 | BFRBO | 0.30 | ME4102 | 0.11 | TIP42A | 0.86 |
| 2N2193A | 0.52 | 2N3390 | 0.50 | 2 N 4031 | 0.55 | 2N5190 | 0.65 | 2N6123 | 0.48 | BCidba | 0.16 | BC178A | '0.25 | BC213A | 0.15 | BC328 | 0.20 | B0240A | 0.49 | BF161 | 0.65 | BFP8 | 0.30 | ME4103 | 0.11 | TIP42C | 1.08 |
| 2N2194 | 0.42 | 2N3391 | 0.40 | 2 N 4032 | 0.65 | 2N5191 | 0.75 | 2N6124 | 0.45 | 8C1088 | 0.16 | BC178B | 0.35 | BC213B | 0.15 | BC337 | 0.20 | B0240C | 0.59 | BF167 | 0.37 | BFX29 | 0.34 | ME4104 | 0.11 | TPP2955 | 0.70 |
| 2 N2194A | 0.45 | 2N3391A | 0.45 | 2 N 4036 | 0.72 | 2N5192 | 0.80 | 2N6125 | 0.47 | 日C108C | 0.17 | BC179 | 0.25 | 8C213C | 0.15 | ${ }_{8 C 338}$ | 0.23 | 802414 | 0.49 | 8 F 173 | 0.37 | BF×30 | 0.34 | ME6101 | 0.22 | T1P305 | 0.59 |
| 2N2195 | 0.40 | 2N3392 | 0.17 | 2N4037 | 0.60 | 2N5193 | 0.75 | 40361 | 0.55 | BC109 | 0.16 | BC179A | 025 | BC213L | 0.17 | BC547 | 0.13 | B0241C | 0.65 | BF177 | 0.27 | BEXB4 | 0.30 | ME6102 | 0.22 | TIS34 | 1.05 |
| 2N2195A | 0.40 | 2N3393 | 0.17 | 2N4058 | 0.22 | 2N5194 | 0.80 | 40362 | 0.55 | в 81098 | 0.17 | BC1798 | 0.25 | BC213LA | 0.17 | BC547A | 0.13 | B0242A | 0.55 | BF178 | 0.27 | BFX85 | 0.38 | MJ2955 | 1.35 | TIS42 | 0.50 |
| 2N2217 | 0.55 | 2N3394 | 0.17 | 2N4059 | 0.17 | 2N5195 | 0.97 | 40363 | 1.45 | BC109C | 0.18 | BC178C | 0.26 | 8C213L8 | 0.17 | BC5478 | 0.13 | B0242C | 0.62 | BF179 | 0.33 | BFX86 | 0.30 | MJE340 | 0.62 | TIS43 | 0.47 |
| 2N2218 | 0.35 | 2N3395 | 0.19 | 2N4060 | 0.22 | 2N5245 | 0.37 | 40408 | 0.82 | BC140 | 0.30 | BC182 | 0.12 | BC213LC | 0.17 | BC548 | 0.13 | 80243A | 0.65 | BF180 | 0.37 | BFX87 | 0.35 | MJE370 | 0.62 | TIS90 | 0.22 |
| 2N2218A | 0.3 | 2N3 | 0.19 | 2N | 0.19 | 2N | 0.38 | 40 | 0.82 | BC | 0.32 | BC182A | 0.12 | BC214 | 0.17 | - | 0.14 | BD24 | 0.87 | 8F181 | 0.37 | BFXB8 | 0.30 | MJE371 | 0.8 | TISS | 0.27 |


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