

Gramophone pickup review Thermistor hygrometer design

Wireless World, December 1969



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	BS870	-	1240-1365	2500
TR cells	BS390	S	2925-3075	1250
	BS800	S	2840-3100	1250
	BS824*	S	2700-3100	250
	BS156	Х	9000-9600	200
	BS452	х	9310-9510	100
	BS810	х	9250-9550	75
	BS850	х	9300-9500	50
TB cells	BS310	Х	9375	5-200
TR limiter cells	BS814	Х	9000-9700	200
	BS828	Х	9 325-9425	50
Solid state microwave switches	BS392	S	2925-3075	0.5
	BS460	×	8500-12000	0.5

*For protection of travelling waveguide amplifiers



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1 2 4 8

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Wireless World, December 1969

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Number 5 Self-Balancing Bridges

In this series of notes we have examined some of the advantages of the Transformer Ratio-Arm Bridge and the facilities which are available when this type of bridge is used. However, only manually balanced networks have been considered, but there are many times when it is desirable to have an analogue output voltage in proportion to the value of the component being measured. Such a voltage may be used to operate remote indicators, chart recorders or alarm circuits, apart from providing a convenient form of local display which may consist of either a moving coil meter or a digital voltmeter.

Figure 1 shows a basic transformer ratio-arm bridge circuit.



Fig. 1

Normally, the network is manually balanced so that the currents flowing in the right hand transformer give zero flux, and it is clear that any variation in either the a.c. voltage produced by the oscillator or the gain of an amplifier forming part of the detector will not affect the balance point. However, if an attempt is made to connect a voltmeter to the output of the detector and calibrate the output voltage against the value of the unknown impedance, the following difficulties arise: (a) Variations in oscillator output level and amplifier gain directly affect the indicated voltage.

(b) The voltmeter will indicate the modulus of the impedance, and variations in both the resistive and the reactive terms will affect the indicated value.

(c) When the network is substantially off balance, the ability of the neutral connection to control an electric field is impaired. The last issue of these notes showed that this control facility was due to balanced currents flowing in the transformer.

Figure 2 shows a block-schematic circuit which removes these difficulties by forming a self-balancing network.

A stable oscillator provides the signal for the bridge and also a phase reference voltage which is fed to two phase-sensitive detectors.

The output of the amplifier provides a bridge balancing voltage which is applied through a resistor to a winding on the right hand transformer. The initial current flowing in the transformer is therefore opposed by this 'feedback' current which can be made very nearly equal to the initial current. The approach to the ideal condition of equality is limited only by the gain of the amplifier, which can be made as large as necessary.

The amplifier output, is also connected to the phase-sensitive detectors, one of which incorporates a unity gain, 90° phase shift network. Analogue voltage outputs are therefore formed which independently show the amount of variation of the resistive and reactive terms from the value set by the standard impedance.

The use of this circuit now extends the usefulness of the transformer ratio-arm bridge to include many process control and monitoring applications. The precision of measurement and the facility for measuring high impedances accurately at the end of long lengths of cable, together with the self-balancing network, offer unique advantages for the measurement of transducer parameters.

The basic circuit shown in Figure 2 can be adapted to give many different varieties of transformer ratio-arm bridge. These bridges can be designed for use in industrial measurement with suitable transducers as well as forming valuable tools for research.



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Wireless World

Electronics, Television, Radio, Audio

Fifty-ninth year of publication

December 1969

Volume 76 Number 1410



The review of gramophone pickups in this issue is typified by the cover illustration of a close-up of an Acos cartridge.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

Capacitor-discharge Ignition System which provides improved car engine performance.

Linear Integrated Circuits: a plea for some degree of standardization. Industrial Telemetry: a review of recent developments.



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Sales Setmakers appreciate the overall quality and economy of Mullard valves for hybrid TV, because most new television sets, both colour and monochrome, in the UK, now have them fitted as standard. Overseas customers are also specifying Mullard valves in large quantities.

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Wireless World

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The Engineer in State and Private Enterprise

This was the title of Harvey Schwarz's presidential address on October 22nd to members of the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers. While not denigrating the need for Government co-operation and assistance in certain circumstances he came down heavily on the side of private enterprise—as managing director of Decca Navigator Company this is not surprising. As he rightly pointed out, there are, of course, many projects which no company, unaided, could possibly implement without Government help. But Government and industry must together hammer out some means whereby the delays, which seem inherent in obtaining such effort, can be cut drastically.

Because of the different approaches of Government and commercial enterprises there is an incompatibility which can be, and often is, detrimental to the advancement of a project. However sympathetic towards or enthusiastic for a project a Government Department may be, it is less concerned with the time factor than private enterprise. Mr. Schwarz pointed out that this is because the very structure of the civil service business quite rightly starts by ensuring that public funds are properly spent and used to the best advantage. "All too frequently, this prerequisite breeds a caution which often becomes so exaggerated that by the time the project has been surveyed from every possible aspect by a Series of committees, the chance may well have been lost.... The cushioning effect of reliance on governmental support can—human nature being what it is—stultify initiative and enterprise."

There is, however, an aspect of commercial enterprise which can be just as stultifying, and is likely to hamstring the enthusiastic engineer. Mr. Schwarz described this as "Gadarene swine-manship" which manifests itself in "a seemingly almost frenetic compulsion—not to dash over a cliff as did those unfortunate animals—but to huddle together in larger and larger conglomerates in a positive fury of gregariousness, and by a curious paradox the more entities such conglomerates absorb, the more amorphous they become". Few will not share Mr. Schwarz's regret at the growing wave of mergers with the resultant loss of famous household names and inherent danger of stifling initiative and enthusiasm.

The position of the engineer in industrial mergers and take-overs was also voiced at the meeting announcing the formation of the U.K. Association of Professional Engineers (see p. 562), membership of which is open to members of all the 14 institutions constituting the Council of Engineering Institutions. The president of UKAPE (G. B. M. Oliver) said that industrial mergers "too often produced the result that professional men . . . were lost in a vast impersonal machine where they were unable to make their voices heard".

Whereas Mr. Schwarz was concerned with the position of the individual engineer, the trade union (UKAPE) is concerned with collective bargaining on behalf of professional engineers as a body. While we are in full sympathy with any legitimate movement to improve the status, image and emoluments of the engineer—whether professional or technician—we cannot help but question what there is in common between, say, a gas or marine engineer and one in electronics. One could go still further and try to find a common denominator for the electronics engineer in, say, the guided weapons division of one of the major groups and his counterpart in the television development laboratory of a receiver manufacturer.

Wireless World is written for the individual engineer, both in his professional capacity and as a hobbyist, and we would therefore reiterate Mr. Schwarz's dictum that the engineer must be given freedom in which to exploit his natural talents: "Discovery cannot be made by order or regulation, nor can the engineer's ingenuity be trammelled by limitation of opportunity."

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Stereo Gramophone Pickups

A review of the various types of transducer available

by Stanley Kelly

By definition a gramophone pickup should translate the information stored mechanically in the groove of a gramophone record into an exactly corresponding electrical signal. As is well known, it accomplishes this feat by the application of motion from a modulated Vee-shaped groove in the gramophone record via a hemispherical stylus coupled to the actual transducer element. In the case of twochannel "stereo" records the two groove walls are independently modulated. Therefore, the parameters of the record groove and the record material are major factors affecting the performance of the pickup.

Present-day styli are either sapphire or diamond, and are several orders of magnitude harder than the record material. Therefore upon the application of pressure between the stylus and the record it is the record rather than the stylus that deforms. The contact area of the stylus tip and the record groove will be a function of the effective force between the two surfaces and the mechanical constants of the record, and the attrition of the stylus will be strictly a function of this contact area and the length of travel of the stylus. This latter factor is usually equated in terms of playing time. It has been determined experimentally that at playing weights greater than about 0.5 gramme the record material is stressed beyond its elastic limit^{3,4} and it is the aim of cartridge designers to produce pickups which will satisfactorily track heavily modulated records at playing weights below this figure. Therefore in the interests of reduced record wear and concomitantly stylus wear, the ideal limit would obviously be playing weights less than 0.5 gramme, and certainly 1.5 grammes can be taken as the upper limit to maintain maximum record life. Despite many extravagant advertising claims, there are probably fewer than a dozen pickup cartridges produced today which actually track all music records at playing weights less than 1.5 grammes. Stylus wear is generally expressed as the size of "flat" developed at the point of contact with the record, and is a complex function of playing weight, stylus dimensions, record material, and the dynamic mechanical constants of the pickup referred to the stylus tip.

Fig. 1 shows the life of a diamond stylus at two playing weights, 2 grammes and 5 grammes, and for different radii. It will be seen that even at only 2 grammes playing weight with an 0.5 thou* stylus point, the life is only 500 hours for a "flat" diameter of 0.25 thou,



Fig. 1. Playing time for flat diameter diamond styli.

which with wide-range low-distortion equipment is currently accepted as being the maximum "flat" diameter to be tolerated. Increasing the stylus diameter to 0.7 or 1 thou considerably reduces stylus wear but at the expense of increased tracing distortion. The elimination of tracing distortion requires a stylus of minimum tip radius—ideally zero!—but apart from stylus life other factors control the minimum tip radius. The bottom of the record groove is not infinitely sharp; with commercial pressings it is of an indeterminate radius. This is maintained at minimal value by the record manufacturers but can sometimes approach 0.5 thou! Indeed, until the advent of stereo recording the groove bottom radius was not under strict manufacturing contro, and some of the earlier L.P. pressings are unplayable if the tip radius of the stylus is less than 1 thou.

The elliptical or biradial tip has been evolved to overcome the difficulty. The major radius—across the groove—is of the order of 0.7 thou, whilst the minor or "working" radius can be as small as 0.2 thou with consequent reduction in tracing distortion, although stylus life is reduced accordingly. The upper limit for the major axis i 0.7 thou because under conditions of maximum vertical modulatior the groove width can be (and often is) instantaneously reduced to 1 thou; thus if the tip radius (either spherical or the major axis o an elliptical) is greater than 0.7 thou the stylus will ride on the interface of the groove and the record land with the possibility o groove jumping in addition to the increased distortion.

One specifies a given dimension and euphemistically hopes that thi dimension will be achieved. Modern production methods work to incredibly fine tolerances and ± 0.1 thou is the norm for tip radiu limits. Thus a maximum specified radius of 0.7 thou in reality mean a dimension of between 0.5 and 0.7 thou although by selection close tolerances can be achieved. Even so, using optical methods of measure ment the confidence limits of the measuring equipment are usually c the order of ± 1 micron (one twenty-fifth of a thou) which sets practical limit.

[The projected use of the metric system throughout our commercia and industrial life and the introduction of SI units for all scientifi work poses a number of problems at all levels of industry. This especially exemplified in design and production of gramophone pickupwhere dimensions are microscopic—masses of the order of milligram length in microns or tenths of a thou—and to this author at least seems ridiculous to think of a milligram as 10⁻⁶ kilogramme and tlmicron as 10⁻⁶ metre. The magnet industry both in this country ar the United States and the pickup cartridge manufacturers throughon the world all insist on specifying their products in c.g.s. unit-Conversations with many commercial and technical personnel indicaan obdurate insistence on the familiar, thus c.g.s units are used this article.]

Before specifying the parameters of a pickup it is necessary to kno the maximum modulated levels available from the record. The levels are controlled at low frequencies by the maximum groodisplacement (normally 0.005 cm) and at higher frequencies by styltip dimensions and groove velocity. Fig. 2 shows these limits. Curve relates r.m.s. velocity to maximum displacement, and B, C, D, and to stylus tip radius: G is the generally accepted maximum velocity fmusic records although these values are sometimes exceeded, especia on "gimmick" and "pop" records. From this graph it would appe that mis-tracking must occur with all styli in which the radius

* "Thou" = 1,000th of an inch.

Wireless World, December 1969

greater than 0.0003 inch; this assumption is modified by the fact of record deformation, but is nevertheless substantially correct for the inner grooves at high modulation levels. These limitations are reduced as the groove diameter increases and at diameters exceeding about 7 inches are negligible even for 0.0007 inch tip radius.

The basic design requirements for a pickup are fundamentally mechanical and relate to the dynamics of the moving system and one must design to track the maximum velocities shown in Fig. 2. It is convenient to divide the frequency spectrum into three sections: (a) below about 500 Hz; (b) 500 to 5000 Hz; and (c) above 5kHz. One can relate Fig. 2 to maximum "needle tip impedance" that is, the mechanical impedance at the stylus point when in contact with the record, for a given playing weight. Fig. 3 relates this premise for a playing weight of 1.5 grammes, using curves A and B as limits. The dotted lines refer to a compliance of 5×10^{-6} cm/dyne and mass of 2.25 milligrammes. These values may be modified by other considerations: (1) the record compliance-stylus mass resonance and the head mass/restoring force compliance resonance should be outside the recorded frequency range; (2) appreciable amounts of damping may be introduced. The high-frequency resonance can be evaluated seruming a record compliance of 3×10^{-8} cm/dyne. The lowfrequency resonance is controlled by the mass moment of inertia of the arm plus cartridge related to the stylus tip and the cartridge compliance; it should be less than 22.5 Hz (the "slip" frequency of most induction motors used in turntables and a frequent source of "rumble") and above 10 Hz-at lower frequencies than this value the pickup system becomes very sensitive to external vibrations; and the motor board must be adequately decoupled to prevent shock excitation of the pickup and attendant acrobatic antics across the record surface.

It is generally assumed that compliance and stylus tip mass are the usual parameters hopefully specified by the manufacturer in relation to the mechanical constants of the pickup cartridge, but especially with highly damped systems the "loss" component achieves major importance in the mid-band frequencies, thus the evaluation of input mechanical impedance is necessary to the design engineer. Of more immediate importance to the user is the minimum playing weight for tracking music records. One method is to produce a disc with a (slow) sweep frequency covering the major frequency range (say, 80 Hz to 8 kHz) at maximum music modulation levels. In use the output from the pickup is observed on a cathode-ray oscilloscope and the playing weight is reduced until a "break" occurs on the waveform-usually at the point of maximum acceleration. A disc (7 inch 331 r.p.m., 80 Hz to 8 kHz) has been produced as a tentative industry standard and the modulation levels are shown in curve G on Fig. 2. The disc has "left" channel information on one side and "right" channel on the other; because of tracing distortion, and also harmonic distortion generated by some pickups at these high levels, the interpretation is sometimes difficult but it does attempt to set an industry standard. Another practical method is to use discs with fixed modulation (say, 5 cm/sec. at frequencies above 500 Hz and 1.57 cm/sec. at lower frequencies), adjust the playing weight for the "break" and equate the results to the maximum music level at that frequency. Fig. 5 shows such a plot for a well damped moving magnet cartridge.

The mechanical impedance at mid-frequencies is determined almost wholly by damping of the moving system. Indeed, with most modern magnetic pickup cartridges the mechanical impedance over the major part of the audio frequency spectrum is controlled by this factor. In order to realize the design requirements mentioned above, only the simplest mechanical system can be used, and this would in essence consist of a stylus directly coupled to the armature suspended by some elastic medium, the mass being concentrated at the stylus tip and the restoring force being the only other constant, as shown in Fig. 5. These ideals cannot be achieved in practice but in the best examples of variable reluciance or moving-magnet type structures they are closely approximated.

Crystal pickups

By far the most popular pickup cartridge is the crystal type. This is sub-divided into two groups-(a) those using Rochelle salt elements, and (b) ceramic elements⁵. Rochelle salt has the material advantages of high sensitivity, high dielectric constant (and hence high capacitance and relatively low electrical impedance, it can be produced as torsional bimorphs with a low mass moment of inertia and high compliance, but suffers from the disadvantage of being highly temperature-sensitive for electrical capacitance and being deliquescent requires elaborate moisture proofing for an adequate service life. Ceramic elements are produced as bender units only, and in order to obtain reasonable mechanical values are made in the form of narrow relatively thick elements with resulting low capacitance and require a load impedance in excess of 2 megohms for adequate low frequency response. They possess the very material advantages of being impervious to moisture and have an indefinite service and shelf life.

Rochelle salt pickups have their major use in the record players produced for the mass market where cost is of primary consideration. Because of their high sensitivity and the fact that the electrical output is "corrected" only the simplest of amplifiers are needed. Many millions of reproducers have been produced using only a single valve with a few resistors as electronic complement to the ubiquitous Rochelle salt pickup.

The demand for better reliability and consistency and freedom from the worst temperature effects led to the introduction of the piezo-electric ceramic elements. The original form of this material was barium titanate, but the crystal structure has been modified by various additions, and sensitivities of present day materials are between two and three times that of the original material.

Although there are individual differences between manufacturers the design of crystal cartridges is now fairly stable; a typical example uses a moulded case with a "turnover" stylus assembly—one point for L.P. and stereo and the other for 78 mono. In the absence of any modern 78 records being pressed this seems a needless extravagance, but then many millions of record changers have been produced with a $16\frac{2}{3}$ r.p.m. position on the speed control, and to the author's best knowledge only a handful of $16\frac{2}{3}$ records were ever produced and that was ten years ago doubtless the marketing pundits have sound reasons for these anomalies. But to the pickup proper: an aluminium alloy cantilever and sapphire or diamond stylus is used, the rear suspension is approximately equally compliant in all directions, and it then drives two crystal elements through individual arms mutually perpendicular and at 45° to the record surface. The mechanical crosstalk between the two units should be a function only of the ratio of the compressional compliance to the flex-



Fig. 2. Maximum velocities on music records.



Fig. 3. Maximum mechanical impedance required to track music records with maximum modulation, at a playing weight of 1.5g.



Fig. 4. Minimum playing weight for music levels with maximum modulation.

550



Fig. 5. Analogue of a simple armature system.



Fig. 6. Analogue of a crystal stereo pickup.

ing compliance. Now, assuming that the material is isotropic, the flexing compliance is proportional to the cube of the length and inversely proportional to the cube of the thickness times the width, whilst the compressional compliance is proportional to length and inversely proportional to the cross-sectional area. Thus for a given cross section any degree of isolation can be obtained by increasing the ratio of length to width, and for a design centre of, say, 26dB, the ratio of length to width need only be 4:1.

The lead zirconate crystals operating in flexure are supported at the rear end by a stiff block of plastic and an additional damping member is placed amidships, this also acts as the stylus cantilever support. The sections of the crystals are mutually perpendicular and 45° to the horizontal.

The analogue is shown in Fig. 6. The cantilever stylus is driven from the record, and the mass M1 and compliance Cm1 are respectively the dynamic mass and the restoring force of the stylus itself. Normally the compliance between the stylus point and the compliant members driving the crystals is zero, therefore any shunt effect of motion to ground can be neglected. At the driving point the motion splits into two, and drives two identical crystal elements. Because the back support of the crystal is soft compared with the stiffness of the crystal as a whole there is appreciable motion over the whole of the crystal, and it is therefore more amenable to analysis if we split the crystal mass and put clamping impedances at the centre and rear end of the crystal. The compliance and loss resistance at the crystal driving point is the compressional compliance of the coupling member between the stylus and the crystal, whilst the compliance and resistance at the remote end of the crystal is the clamping member. It will be seen that the series masses of coupling members will form resonant circuits which modify considerably the high-frequency crosstalk-indeed because of the multiplicity of resonances analysis is approximate only.

Resistances represent the losses deliberately introduced into the system in order to make the steady state response of the cartridge as smooth as possible.

The force developed across the compliances of the crystal itself is converted into electrical energy by means of the transducer action, the e.m.f. being generated in series with the electrical capacitance of the crystal. It is the finite value of this capacitance which limits the output voltage at low frequencies when the pickup is terminated in a practical value of resistance. The series mass between the cantilever and the crystal is the total mass of the coupling member. The other half of the circuit represents the load imposed at the driving point from the other crystal. Here, the reflected dynamic mass of the other channel coupling member is reduced because it is operated in flexure rather than in compression, whilst the compliance is very materially increased.

The low-frequency crosstalk separation is, to all intents and purposes, the ratio of these two compliances. Connected in parallel with this latter compliance is the complex impedance presented by the other crystal and its supports; it forms various resonant circuits at different frequencies, and if the impedance at this point rises unduly it will be reflected in increased crosstalk.

During this analysis it is assumed that one channel only is being driven, but as both channels are symmetrical and identical, the analysis can be considered to be fairly rigorous. Because the pickups are high impedance devices, a common ground connection can be used without introducing any substantial increase of crosstalk due to common ground impedance.

It will be appreciated from the foregoing that a rigorous analysis of this type of cartridge is very difficult, and it is usual to rely on "knowhow" and empirical trial and error rather than to design the cartridge from basic piezo-electric and mechanical constants.

Compared with a single channel cartridge, it will be appreciated that the effective dynamic mass referred to the stylus must be greater than that of a single channel unit of the same crystal and stylus dimensions by virtue of the reflected impedances of the unwanted channel. Because the impedance is complex, the impedance changes rapidly with frequency, and is responsible for the wide variations in crosstalk, especially in the upper frequencies. Whilst, theoretically, the mechanical impedance of the twin channel cartridge should not be appreciably greater than that of the single channel (because of the de-coupling effect of the transmission members) in point of fact for a given sensitivity it is usually found that the mechanical impedance is about 50% greater than that of an equivalent single channel cartridge.

The external mechanical constants of this cartridge are compliance at 30 Hz, 5×10^{-6} cm/dyne. Effective tip mass at 10 kHz, 7.5 milligrammes, playing weight 3 to 4 grammes. Fig. 7 shows the response of this pickup. It is not claimed to be high fidelity but gives an acceptable performance with domestic equipment.

As can be expected, the mechanical input impedance varies with frequency, as shown in Fig. 8. The rise at low frequencies is due almost entirely to the stiffness of the mounting and damping parts. The various drive members and supports are usually moulded from plasticized copolymers of vinyl chloride and acetate or other thermo-plastic material. The elastic constants of these plastics vary rather widely with temperature and both the output and compliance decrease with increasing temperature, as shown in Fig. 9. Be this as it may, about 90% of all twin channel cartridges presented to the public today are crystal or ceramic.

To summarize: A crystal cartridge has the prime advantages of low cost, ease of manufacture, and a high output voltage, which are precisely the requirements for transducers in the domestic reproducing field. To date, all crystal pickups are of the 45-45 sensing variety, that is, the two elements are sensitive only to forces in the direction of their required plane, and no "sum and difference" crystal cartridges have yet appeared on the market.

Magnetic cartridges

Magnetic pickup cartridges are fundamentally different from crystal in that the output voltage is proportional to the velocity of the armature and by inference to the velocity of the record groove modulation whereas crystal devices produce a voltage which is proportional to the force applied to the crystal and, to a first approximation, to the amplitude of the modulated groove.

In order to achieve wide frequency response and low playing weight the dynamic mass and the restoring force of the moving system must b minimal. At high frequencies of the order of 10kHz, accelerations is excess of 1000 g are experienced at high modulation levels, thus fo playing weights of the order of 1.5 grammes the maximum dynami mass referred to the stylus point should be of the order of 1 milligramme

The majority of magnetic cartridges are of the moving magnet variety although because of patent restrictions variable reluctance systems usin the same mechanical configuration as that of the moving magnet (bu using an external polarizing magnet) are now appearing on the markein increasing numbers. The overall design considerations and perform ance are approximately similar to those in the moving magnet desig although it is possible in theory at least to reduce the mass moment c inertia (and hence the mechanical impedance at high frequencies) b substituting a thin walled tube in place of the solid rod used in movin-

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magnet systems. The point of no return is quickly reached because of magnetic saturation of the subsequent very small cross-sectional area of the armature.

The magnetic circuit consists essentially of two pairs of pole pieces arranged symmetrically around the centre line of the armature with pickup coils wound over the yokes connecting opposite pairs of poles. The armature is usually a small cylindrical magnet about 0.030 inch diameter by 0.1 inch long cemented to a thin walled aluminium or duraluminium tube approximately 0.3 inch long and carrying a miniature diamond tip at the front end. The assembly is supported by a compliant hinge at its centre of gravity and in some models a tie bar, usually 0.002 inch diameter stainless steel, is connected to prevent longitudinal motion. By suitable proportioning the dimensions of the tie bar it can also be used as the major restoring force, the plastic collar then providing central support and damping. The hinge can be one of a variety of elastomers, either copolymers of polyvinyl chloride or polyvinyl acetate; butyl plus neoprene rubber is sometimes used, as have been some of the polyurethanes. Silicone elastomers have not been very successful because of their low internal damping. The success (or failure) of the pickup is intimately bound up with this bearing design. The Caring is highly stressed in one direction due to the force developed by the playing weight-it is well known that most types of elastomers have a non-linear relation between stress and strain under these conditions. Additionally, hysteresis shows itself as distortion in the middle to high frequencies. At low frequencies the armature system vibrates about the centre of the plastic bearing but it is very rare for the inertial centre of gravity to coincide; the result of this is that with increasing frequency the effective mass increases, thus reducing tracking capabilities at high frequencies.

The static mass of this system is between 8 and 20 milligrammes depending on the particular design and the dynamic mass at 10 kHz in the best designs can approach 1.2 to 2 milligrammes. The static compliance varies between 5×10^{-6} cm/dyne and, in extreme cases, 40×10^{-6} cm/dyne, but because of the deliberately introduced mechanical damping (due to losses in the plastic hinge and sometimes by the addition of silicone or other grease) the mechanical impedance can be made almost wholly resistive between limits of 100Hz and 10kHz.

Clearance between the magnet and the poles is about 0.15 thou and because of the efficient magnetic circuit, generally using Mumetal or other high permeability materials, leakage flux is extremely low and from a magnetic point of view the system is extremely efficient. The sensitivity is generally of the order of 1 to 2 millivolts/cm/sec., although some recent Japanese cartridges have been produced with five times this output. The development of this elegant type of cartridge is due to Schmidt of Elac, Kiel, Germany, and has been extensively copied throughout the world.

Because of the magnetic symmetry, mutual induction between the coils is small and crosstalk arising from this factor is usually less than -40dB whilst overall crosstalk varies between about -10dB or -15dB at the extremes of the frequency band (20 Hz and 20 kHz) improving to a maximum of about -30dB in the mid frequencies, say, 500 Hz to kHz. This crosstalk is due almost entirely to unwanted modes of ribration of the armature system. As an example, increasing the stylus ength by only 0.01 inch can increase crosstalk caused by torsional ribrational modes by 15dB in the mid-upper frequency range. Notwithtanding the technical criticisms, the performance of the best examples of moving magnet type cartridges are impressive.

The field strength (and hence sensitivity) of the variable magnetic ield transducer, whether variable reluctance or moving magnet, is imited by saturation of the armature or the pole pieces and by the 'negative compliance" due to the pull of the steady magnetic field on he armature. If the field exceeds a critical value determined by the static ompliance of the armature restoring force it will result in the armature eing attracted to one of the pole faces and hence no music! It is this regative compliance which generally limits the sensitivity of the pickup, equiring coils of several thousand turns of fine gauge wire to produce usable output.

Aoving-coil pickup

the moving-coil pickup suffers none of the disadvantages listed above. If the magnetic field is linear and this condition is not difficult to chieve, the output will be strictly a function of coil velocity with no therent generated distortion. Because of the absence of negative ompliance the magnetic field can be increased to the limit and field trengths of the order of 15 kilogauss instead of a few tens or hundreds



Fig 7. Curves A and B show, respectively, the wanted signal and the crosstalk into the second channel, from a ceramic cartridge loaded by $2M \Omega$ and of 5g playing weight. The temperature is $21^{\circ}C$ and the test record TC5702.



Fig. 8. A graph showing the stylus-tip impedance changes (lateral and vertical) with changing signal frequency.



Fig. 9. Variations with temperature in a crystal pick-up cartridge.

of gauss are possible. In addition to increasing the output the signal to noise ratio is improved proportionately. The secret of success is in the design of the coil and the support system.

The most popular moving-coil cartridge uses a coil former in the form of a rectangular plate 2 mm square $\times 0.5$ mm thick wound with four coils each with ten turns symmetrically placed about the centre line. Thus each generator consists of two coils in series; rising perpendicularly from the centre plate is an aluminium tube cantilever about 7 mm long 552



Fig. 10. Diagrammatic representation of Toshiba C100P pickup cartridge.



Fig. 11. Frequency response curves for photo-electric cartridge.

carrying the stylus at its free end. The rear end of the coil is flexibly mounted on to a steel tube which forms one pole of the magnet. The other pole in front of the coil is bored to take the cantilever and its protecting tube. The flexible mounting carries a damping block and is arranged to prevent fore and aft movement. There is, however, some torsional movement which shows as a minor resonance in the 7 kHz to 9 kHz region. The ratio of cantilever length to coil dimension is 7:1, giving a mechanical ratio of 50:1, and this results in an extremely low mechanical impedance at the stylus tip. Static compliance is of the order or 20×10^{-6} cm/dyne, but because of mechanical damping the resistive component becomes predominent between 100 Hz and 3 kHz, and approximates 40 mechanical ohms. Stylus resonance is at 26 kHz giving a calculated mass of 1.24 milligrammes. The coils are low impedance, about 2 ohms, and a matching transformer is used to raise the voltage sensitivity to about 2 millivolts/cm/sec.

The best examples of the magnetic cartridges (both variable field and moving coil) described above can generally be produced to give a flat frequency response with velocity from 20 Hz to 10 kHz \pm 1dB and 10 kHz to 20 kHz within \pm 2dB. Crosstalk will generally approximate 25dB between 400 Hz and 5000 Hz, gradually deteriorating to 10dB or 15dB at the extremes of the frequency range. With lower priced units the frequency response is somewhat more variable, generally being characterized by a "suck out" of a few dB between 5 kHz and 15 kHz, the extreme high frequencies being restored by the stylus/record resonance.

"Strain Gauge" pickup

Recently a number of novel types of transducers have made their appearance, the first using a "strain gauge" transducer which unlike magnetic and piezo-electric pickups is not a generator but operates by modulating a d.c. current supplied from an external source in sympathy with the mechanical information. The transducer proper is a tiny doped silicon element, $0.020 \times 0.008 \times 0.004$ inch, similar to the base material of modern transistors. It is cemented to a plastic beam which in turn is driven through a flexible member by the stylus. For stereo use two such members are used, and the general assembly is very similar to that of the modern ceramic cartridge. The modus operandi of the transducer is that the resistance changes when subjected to a force across the driving points. The magnitude of the resistance change has a linear function of the applied force thus providing that the current through the element is constant the transducer is inherently distortionless. The element is fed with a constant current and the resultant voltage which is proportional to displacement is applied to the amplifier through a coupling capacitor. Thus to a first approximation the response is similar to that of a crystal or ceramic cartridge.

The art in designing this type of pickup is to so proportion the dimensions and the material of the drive back clamp and damping members as to give a mechanical transfer that is the inverse of the record amplitude characteristic, at the same time taking into account the fact that the mechanical impedance of the transducing element is several hundred times greater than the permissible stylus tip impedance. The semiconductor transducer by virtue of its small size has a major advanatage over the ceramic element in that resonances associated with it are outside the audio frequency spectrum (the average ceramic transducer has at least one major resonance in the mid-upper frequency range) although resonances can and are introduced by other parts of the mechanical system.

The virtue of this type of pickup is that because the transducer is a modulating element the electrical output power can be considerably greater than with "generating" types of transducer. Comparison between the high quality moving coil and this type of pickup may be instructive. The moving coil cartridge requires a playing weight of 1.9 grammes at a velocity of 20 cm/sec at 1 kHz and produces an output of 800 millivolts from a source impedance of 2 ohms. Thus the input power is 2.7 milliwatts and the output power 0.32 milliwatts giving a conversion efficiency of 0.012 per cent. A representative strain gauge pickup requires a playing weight of 3 grammes at a velocity of 20 cm/sec. at 1 kHz and gives an output of 120 millivolts from a source impedance of 400 ohms. Thus the input power is 4.2 milliwatts and the output power is 36 milliwatts and the overall efficiency is 1.16 per cent. Neglecting the electrical input power, the overall efficiency of this type of cartridge is approximately one hundred times as great as its ceramic counterpart! Distortion is commendably low, and signal to noise ratio more than adequate, but frequency response and crosstalk are inferior to the better magnetic units and because the response of the system is flat to d.c., motor rumble and low frequency feedback can be trouble some unless a rumble filter is fitted to the amplifier.

Photo-electric pickup

During 1968 a new type of pickup (or more correctly a new version o a pre-war type of pickup) made its appearance, namely the photoelectronic pickup. Fig. 10 shows a sketch of the system. The diamondstylus is placed at one end of an aluminium alloy tube 0.02 inch diameter \times 0.25 inch long. The remote end of the tube supports a small flag approximately 0.1 inch square \times 0.002 inch thick. Pierced in this flag are two slots, 0.062×0.008 inch. The slots are mutually perpendicular and 45° to the horizontal. Behind the flag is a fixed screen with two similar slots and behind the screen are two photo transistors complete with miniature focusing lens each approximately 0.62 inch diameter. The moving assembly is supported by a compliant hinge approximately 0.040 inch in front of the flag. Under operating conditions the two pairs of slots overlap by 50%, displacing the stylus tip around this mean position will vary the amount of overlap and hence the total quantity of light received by the photo transistor and finally the output voltage developed by it. The lamp is fed from a stabilized d.c. power supply and the outputs from the photo transistors are taker through a correcting amplifier to the normal hi-fi amplifier.

Like the strain gauge and ceramic cartridges, this is a displacement type of pickup in which the output is proportional to amplitude rather than to velocity. The frequency response is shown in Fig. 11, and is will be seen that the main resonance occurs at approximately 15 kHz, whilst at frequencies above 20 kHz the pickup exhibits two resonant modes, one at 28 kHz in which the output drops to practically zero, and the other with a sharp peak at 35 kHz. These two resonances are probably connected with the dynamics of the light valve system Distortion at middle and low frequencies is quite low, being less thar 1% at 2 kHz but increasing to 6% at 5 cm/sec. at 10 kHz.

This brief survey of currently available pickups of necessity only skims the surface of technical development; considerable engineerin, skill is being constantly applied to the problems outlined above, and although the possibility of novel forms of transducer are remote, detaile improvements of established designs are continually appearing, thu automatically outdating any survey.

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The author of the preceding review of gramophone pickups sent a questionnaire to manufacturers and agents asking for characteristics of their products. From the replies received the following tables have been prepared. It is hoped that the information given, together with Mr. Kelly's comments, will assist readers in selecting the transducer best suited to their needs.

			A.D.C.							AC	os			The second s	
Medal	022	660	660/F	550/6	10/F	91/1SC	91/2SC	91/3SC	92/1SC	93/1	94/1	95/1	96/1	94/5	104
Tunel	SI	SI	- 15	S	S	MB	MR	A.R	WC	SR	SC	SR	SC	SC	SC
Fragmancy resource (Mz)	10-18k	10-20k	10-20k	10-20k	10-20k	10-17k	30-17k	30-15k	30-16k	30-20k	30-16k	30-20k	30-16k	30-16k	30-18k
Channel separation (dB)	20	30	30	20	30	1	ŀ	1	I	15	15	15	15	15	20
Output voltage 2 (mV)		2	7	5	4	850	1500	2500	530	1400	500	1400	500	315	500
Load impedance (O)	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	IM	1 W	1 W	1 M	1 W	1 W	1 M	1 M	200k	ME
Stylue 3	0	G	0	0	0	D or S	٥								
Stylus dimensions (10-3in)	0.7	0.5	0.3 × 0.7	0.3 × 0.7	0.3 × 0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7	0.5-0.7
Compliance (10 ⁻⁶ cm/dvne)	15	20	20	28	35	ŝ	m	4	5	5	12	5	12	12	20
Dynamic mass (mo)	V	1	V		<1>	2.5	3.5	3.5	2.5	2.5	3.5	2.5	3.0	3.5	2.5
Disving weight (g)	2.5	11-4	14.3	4-74		3-6	5-10	5-10	5-10	4-8	3-6	4-0	3-6	3-6	e
Inductance/capacitance	200mH	600mH	600mH	200mH	600mH	BOOpF	800pF	BOOPF	500pF	800pF	900pF	800pF	900pF	4200pF	800pF
D.C. resistance (Ω)	400	1k	1 tk	400	14	1	1	1	1	1	ł	ł	I	1	1
Weight (a)	-	2	7	2	2	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	4.75	m	4.75	e	e	2
Mounting	lin	tin	tin	tin	1	- uit	1in	lin	-lit		lin	ţin	L.	uis.	-in-
Retail price inc. P.T.	£9.4.10	£16.6.6	£22.9.10	£3.16.6	£8.14.2	D £2.4.8	D £2.4.8	D £2.4.8	D £2.9.6	D £3.1.11	D £3.8.1	D £3.1.11	D £3.8.1	D £3.17.4	£4.18.6
						S £1.14.0	S £1.14.0	S £1,14.0	S £1.17.2	S £2.9.6.	S £2.15.9	S £2.9.6.	S £2.15.9	S £3.5.1	

				BANG & OI	LUFSEN				CONNOIS-		DECCA ffss		DERAM
Model	SP1	SP2	SP6	SP7	S P8	SP9	SP10	SP12	scu	Mk II	C4E	4RC	Trans.
Tvpe ¹	SV	SV	NS	NS	NS	SV	NS	SV	sc .	s	S	s	s
Frequency response (Mz)	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	15-25k	15-25k	30-16k	40-16k	20-20k	30-16k	18-18k
Channel separation (dB)	16	16	20	20	20	20	25	25	25	20	20	20	20
Output voltage ² (mV)	7	7	7	1	1	2	2	5	40	9	6	9	150
Load impedance (Ω)	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	100k	SOK	SOK	SOk	2M
Stylus 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	٥	0	0	0	٥	0	0
Stylus dimensions (10-3in)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7×0.2	0.7×0.2	0.7×0.2	0.7×0.2	0.5 × 0.6	0.5/0.7	0.3 × 0.65	0.5/0.7	0.5/0.7
Compliance (10-6cm/dyne)	12	12	15	15	15	15	25	25	12	10	30	15	đ
Dynamic mass (mg)	I	1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1	~	1	V	~1 ^	V	0.6
Playing weight (g)	1 1-3	1 1-3	1 1-2	1 4-2	1 1-2	14-2	1-1	1-1	2-4	53 1 1 1	1 2	34	24
Inductance/capacitance	1	ļ	ł				1		I	285mH	285mH	285mH	I
D.C. resistance (Ω)	1		1	1		1	1	1	1	4.9k	4.9k	4.9k	1
Weight (g)	11	8.5	11	8.5	11	8.5	8,5	8.5	00	14	13	13	3.5
Mounting	1 in	+-	4 In	+	4 in	+	4 in	iii	t in	Decca	Univ.	Univ.	Univ.
Retall price inc. P.T.	£5.19.6	£5,19,6	£7.19.6	£7.19.6	£12.19.6	£12.19.6	£9.19.6	£14.19.6	£5.16.9	£16.0.0	£22.10.0	£17.0.0	£5.5.0
									-				
T B C O arm.													

(1) First letter: S = stereo, M = mono. Second letter: M = moving magnet, V = variable reluctance, D = moving coil, C = ceramic, R = rochelle salt, I = induced magnet, F = free field. (2) at 1 kHz at 5cm/sec. (3) D = diamond. S = sapphire.

						-		EAG	LE
t X2 Compat C	2SB	2SX	SMX	XMX	SMB	ERCI	Power Point	LCO5	LC07
MC	SC	SR	MR	MR	MC	MC	MC	SM	SM
2k 30-12k	30-12k	40-12k	40-12k	40-10k	30-12k	60-10k	40-12k	30-18k	20-21k
1	20	20	1	1	1			20	28
002 000	420	800	1450	- 2300	875	625	1670	6	7
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3.2	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.2	2	0.3	ł	1
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				ELAC						3)	EMPIRE			
lodel	244-17	244-C 514	244-65	344-17 SA4	344-E	444-12 SM	444-E SM	808 MS	808E S.M.	888 M	888E SM	BBBTE	888VE SM	999VE SM
(Hz) (Hz)	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	20-22k	20-22k	10-24k	10-24k	15-20k	10-25k	10-24k	10-30k	8-32k	6-32k	6-35k
nannel separation (dB)	<2	<2	<1.5	<1.5	<1.5	<1.5	<1.5	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
utput voltage ² (mV)	7.5	7.5	7.5	ß	5	5	5	80	80	80	80	80	80	5
ad Impedance (Ω)	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k
ylus 3	٥	٥	s	٥	٥	0	0		0	0	٥		0	0
ylus dimensions (10-3in)	0.7	0.7	65M	0.7	0.2/0.8	0.5	0.2/0.8	0.7	0.4 × 0.9	0.7	0.4 × 0.9	0.2×0.7	0,2 × 0.7	0.2 × 0.7
mpilance (10-6cm/dyne)	18	10	1	25	25	33	33	80	12	10	12	25	30	30
rnemic mass (mg)	1		1	ł	([ł	1	I	1	1	1	1	1
aving weight (g)	14-3	24-5	24-5	1-2	1-2	8-14	1-11	1-5	4	3-6	§-5	F-1	1-2	-1-
ductance/capacitance.	320mH	320mH	320mH	320mH	320mH	320mH	320mH	1	ł	1	I	1	L	1
C. resistance (Ω)	I	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I		I.	I
eight (g)	1	I	I	I	I	l	ł	2	7	2	2	7	2	2
ounting	4 in	ti t	t in	1 in	t in	i.	+ iu	tin #	4 in	l in	u .	ul F	the second	내문
etail price inc. P.T.	£7:17.6	£7.17.6	£7.17.6	£11.7.0	£16.5.6	£16.5.6	£22.0.0	£9.9.6	£13.14.6	£12.11.1	£17.4.8	£24.17.6	£29.5.7	£36.6.6

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		GARRARD				601	DRING					ORTOI	FON		
Model	GCM31	GCS35	KS40A	B00H	800	BOOE	BOOSE	C \$90	CS91E	SL15	SL15E	M15G	M15B	MF15G	MF158
Type1	MR	SR	SC	s	s	S	s	SC	SC	S	S	S	S	s	S
Frequency response (Mz)	100-8k	100-8k	50-10k	20-20k	20-20k	10-23k	10-23k	30-20k	30-20k	10-40k	10-40k	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k	20-20k
Channel separation (dB)	I	12	15	20	20	20	25	20	20	30	30	> 30	> 30	> 30	> 30
Output voltage ² (mV)	3.5	1.9	0.5	80	2	5	4	250	100	10	10	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Load impedance (Ω)	2 M	2M	2M	50-100k	50-100k	50-100k	50-100k	2M	ZM	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k	47k
Stylus ³	D/S	D/S	D/S	0	٥	٥	٥	0	٥	٥	٥	٥	0	0	0
Stylus dimensions (10-3in)	2.5/0.7	2.5/0.7	2.5/0.7	0.7	0.5	0.8/0.3	0.8/0.3	0.5 or 0.7	0.8/0.3	0.6	0.6×0.3	0.7 × 0.2	0.6	0.7×0.2	0.6
Compliance (10 ⁻⁶ cm/dyne)	1.5	0.6	2	18	20	30	35	00	12	25	25	I	1	I	1
Dynamic mass (mg)	2	7	3.5	1.2	-	1v	1		1	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Playing weight (g)	2	00	2	ę	2	1.5	-	4-5	2-3	1-2	1-2	- 1 - 1	-1 F	1-2	1-2
Inductance/capacitance	1000pF	1000pF	600pF	450pF	450pF	450pF	450pF	900pF	900pF	I	I	0.5H	0.5H	0.5H	0.5H
D.C. resistance (Ω)	I	1	1	500	500	500	500	1	1	2	2	1.14	1.1k	1.1k	1.1k
Weight (g)	2.5	2.6	-2.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	5.5	5.5	I	1	2	2	5	5
Mounting	Brkt.	Brkt	Brkt.	ii i	4 in	in in	1 in	Ci :	t în	i in	1 in	- 10	u I	Li t	in i
(2) File price inc. P.T.	ľ	1	I	£10.13.9	£13.0.0	£18.17.1	£26.0.0	£5.4.0	£7,16.0	£36.12.11	E29.10.11	£29.12.11	£23.9.5	£24.14.1	£18.10.7
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Cm/se (c. (3) D =	diamond, S.	sapphire.	A TOURSAL						anuer, T = 1186	Diali					
ORBIT PHILIF	odel NM22 GP412 GP411 GP410 SM odel MM22 SM SM <th></th> <th>Indel M44.7 M44C M44E M55E trannel separation (dB) SM SM</th> <th>= Trackability figures are available</th> <th>Odel 21 814A 91A type¹ MC SC SC SC Requercy response (Hz) MC SC SC SC Requercy response (Hz) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k SC Annel separation (BB) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 30-15k vaid impedance (IZ) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 30-15k vaid impedance (IZ) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 25 vaid impedance (IZ) 25k 30-12k 25 25 vaid guestions (12-3in) 301 201 2k 2k vaind weight (B) 0,7 0,7 0,7 0,7 0,7 avind weight (B) 6-10 6-10 4-6 2-6 4 3.6 avind weight (B) 650F 50M 50M 50M 50M 50M</th>		Indel M44.7 M44C M44E M55E trannel separation (dB) SM SM	= Trackability figures are available	Odel 21 814A 91A type ¹ MC SC SC SC Requercy response (Hz) MC SC SC SC Requercy response (Hz) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k SC Annel separation (BB) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 30-15k vaid impedance (IZ) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 30-15k vaid impedance (IZ) 30-10k 30-12k 30-15k 25 vaid impedance (IZ) 25k 30-12k 25 25 vaid guestions (12-3in) 301 201 2k 2k vaind weight (B) 0,7 0,7 0,7 0,7 0,7 avind weight (B) 6-10 6-10 4-6 2-6 4 3.6 avind weight (B) 650F 50M 50M 50M 50M 50M										
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(1) First letter: S = stereo. M = mono. Second letter: M = moving magnet. V = variable reluctance. D = moving coli, C = ceramic, R = rochelle salt, 1 = induced magnet. F = free field.(2) art 1 kH2 at 5cm/sec. (3) D = diamond. S = sapphire.

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t at 1 cm/sec at 1kHz. * or centre.

Circuit Ideas



Electronic governor, devised by D. Williams for a battery tape recorder.

ation is to filter out fast current fluctuations from the motor's commutator. In use the $2k \Omega$ potentiometer is set just short of 'hunting' of the system, and then the 50k Ω potentiometer is adjusted for fine speed setting. The circuit is practically independent of battery and temperature variations.

DAVID WILLIAMS, Sidcup, Kent.

Delay-line coupled multivibrator

This astable circuit is a simple square-wave generator that has an excellent frequency stability. Unlike the conventional RC coupled multivibrator, change in collector-to-emitter saturation voltage cannot cause a frequency drift. Drifts in the base-to-emitter voltage influence the frequency slightly because the rise and fall times are finite. The signal on the base of Tr, has comparatively slow edges that have been slowed down by the delay line. In this way turn on and off time varies with fluctuations of base-to-emitter voltage. Although this stage is more critical than Tr, and Tr_2 , it changes the length of period by only a few nanoseconds, since a voltage swing of roughly 200mV on the base of Tr_3 drives Tr_4 from cut-in to saturation. In a temperature range of 0 to 45°C the total frequency drift is much better than 0.1%. Selection of components was not necessary to achieve such stability.

J. HEINZL, St. Albans, Herts.



oscillator. The a.f. component is about 220Hz and is a pure sine wave. Modulation is fixed at about 90% but may be increased or decreased by varying the a.c. feedback resistor R_f in the a.f. oscillator. IFT₁ is an ordinary i.f. transformer from a transistor radio, and is tuned to give the required carrier frequency. The maximum peak-to-peak output is 60mV which is more than adequate, and the output impedance is 100 Ω . The modulator section has a perfectly linear relationship between modulation depth and a.f. input. K. E. POTTER,

Iverley,

Worcs.

Motor speed control

The circuit was devised for a battery tape recorder, in lieu of a centrifugal governor which was inclined to be erratic and produce interference in the audio. The motor required about 3V at 180mA. The circuit is virtually a fixed voltage source, with a negative output resistance that can be adjusted to be slightly less than the motor winding resistance (10Ω) . This has the effect of keeping the motor's back e.m.f. constant. The AD161 supplies to the motor a voltage which is determined by the BC109 and zener diode, plus a voltage which increases in proportion to the current taken by the motor, as monitored by the 5.6 Ω resistor. The OA90 is merely to offset the V_{be} of the OC44, and the 2.2k Ω , 0.1 μ F combin-



470kHz oscillator with 220Hz modulation, submitted by K. E. Potter. Modulation is at about 90%.



Astable multivibrator, submitted by J. Heinzl, which is said to have excellent frequency stability.

-6V

4.4

A Thermistor Hygrometer

Instrument uses an i.c. op. amp. as a computing element

by D. Bollen

Atmospheric humidity is an important factor in many industrial processes. To give just two examples; the size and register of printing paper will vary with moisture content, and some textiles can generate dangerous amounts of static electricity in dry air. Equally important outside industry is the damaging effect of incorrect storage humidity on valuable items, such as oil paintings and antique furniture.

Hygrometry instruments which give a direct indication of relative humidity are usually far from precise because of temperature dependence or a drift of calibration with time. The popular hygroscopic hair hygrometer will only behave consistently over a restricted temperature range, and needs to be re-calibrated at frequent intervals. Successful attempts have been made to adapt the potentially more accurate wet and dry bulb hygrometer (psychrometer) to control applications, but the major difficulty here lies in converting two temperature signals into a continuous electrical output which is proportional to humidity. Also, where delicate d.c. amplifiers are employed with low output temperature sensors, the problem of drift occurs.

The thermistor hygrometer described here uses a single i.c. operational amplifier as a computing element, to convert wet and dry temperatures into a voltage which varies with humidity. The circuit is relatively insensitive to changes in air temperature, and will retain its calibration over long periods of time. Typical accuracy for humidities between 40% and 100% over a temperature range of 15° C to 40° C is $\pm 5\%$ of full scale.

Relative humidity

Water vapour in air can be expressed as a percentage of the amount of water vapour that would be present if the air was completely saturated, and the result is a dimensionless ratio known as relative humidity. Unlike absolute humidity, relative humidity is approximately related to evaporation and the moisture content of absorbent materials, and is therefore the most widely used humidity parameter. It is important to remember that, for a given weight of water vapour in a volume of air, relative humidity decreases as temperature is raised.

Quantities of water vapour are often measured in terms of vapour pressure, that is, the contribution made by water vapour to the total air pressure. If e is the variable vapour pressure at air temperature T_a , and e_a is the saturated vapour pressure at T_a , then,

$$h^{0}_{0} = \frac{100e}{e_{a}} \tag{1}$$

Obviously, if the air being examined is saturated $e = e_a$ and h = 100%, but if the air is absolutely dry e = 0 and h = 0.

Wet and dry bulb psychrometer

The Assmann psychrometer will give accurate readings over a wide range of air temperatures, and is often employed as a



Fig. 1. Humidity curves based on $(T_w + 15)/(T_a + 15)$ versus T_a .

secondary standard for calibrating other types of hygrometer. Basically, the Assmann consists of two mercury thermometers which are aspirated at a constant rate by a small clockwork or electric fan. While one thermometer serves to display air temperature, the other is cooled by evaporation of water from a moist muslin sleeve surrounding the thermometer bulb. A humidity value can be obtained from the two temperatures with the aid of formulae or, more conveniently, a set of hygrometric tables¹. It will be evident that the Assmann psychrometer is cumbersome in use, and does not provide a direct output for control applications. An obvious line of thought is to replace the two mercury thermometers by thermistors, and use their negative temperature characteristic to provide outputs which are then processed to yield a voltage analogue of humidity.

The relationship between vapour pressure e and wet and dry bulb temperatures T_w and T_a , is given by,

$$e = e_w - Ap(T_a - T_w) \tag{2}$$

where e_w is the saturated vapour pressure at T_w , A is a constant determined by the ventilation rate and mechanical construction of the hygrometer, and p is atmospheric pressure. For an Assmann psychrometer aspirated by an airflow of more than 3.6 metres/sec (where pressure is in millibars and temperature °C) $A = 6.66 \times 10^{-4}$ when T_w is above 0°C. When the wet bulb is covered by ice

1. Hygrometric Tables, Part 3. (Aspirated Psychrometer readings degrees Celsius) Met.O.265C. H.M. Stationery Office 1964.











 $A = 5.94 \times 10^{-4}$. Below 3,000 ft, p can be taken as a constant 1,000 mb. A table of saturated vapour pressures will give e_a for equation (1) and e_w for equation (2).

Although the above equations could possibly be implemented with, say, a couple of diode function generators, a summing amplifier, and an analogue division circuit, the necessary equipment would be costly. However, a search for a more simple relationship between T_w , T_a , and h reveals that the gradient $\Delta T_w / \Delta T_a$ is almost constant for fixed levels of h over a wide range of T_a . If a plot is made of several values of h on a T_w versus T_a graph, it will take the form of a series of straight lines originating from a point near $-15^{\circ} T_w$ and $-15^{\circ} T_a$ on a Celsius scale. The situation is made clearer by Fig. 1, where $(T_w + 15)/(T_a + 15)$ versus T_a presents h as a set of almost horizontal curves, with the resulting humidity scale on the right-hand side. Fig. I curves were obtained by calculation from hygrometric tables, and show the transition between the two values for A at the point where the wet bulb freezes. Because an attempt has been made to simplify the original law, accuracy falls at low temperatures and at low humidity levels, and the resulting humidity scale is not linear. Nevertheless, if a simple circuit can be devised to yield the quotient $(T_w + 15)/(T_a + 15)$, the output function will represent high levels of humidity with reasonable accuracy over a wide range of air temperatures above about 5°C.

Thermistor characteristic

Thermistor characteristic curves are invariably plotted against a logarithmic resistance scale, and it is difficult to obtain selected values from them. Given three or four measured values of thermistor resistance at known temperatures, however, the characteristic can be plotted with fair accuracy from the formula

$$R_{th} = k e^{B/T} \tag{3}$$

where R_{th} is the thermistor resistance, k is a constant determined by substituting known values of R_{th} , B is the characteristic temperature obtained from manufacturer's data, and T is the temperature in degrees Kelvin. A table can be prepared from formula (3) which gives selected values of resistance over the required temperature range.

If a thermistor is used as one arm of a potential divider, an



Fig. 4. Complete circuit diagram of the hygrometer. R_1-R_4 , R_6 , R_7 should be 2% high-stability resistors and R_{11} 10% wire-wound IW; other resistors can be 10% carbon types. Except R_{11} , all resistors are 0.5W. C_1 and C_2 are 125-V polystyrene types. Diodes D_1 and D_5 are A.E.I. VR 525BF and D_6 and D_7 are A.E.I. SJ 403-F, while T_1 is Mullard ACY 20. The operational amplifier is PA 7709-39 (Philco Ford) available from Rastra Electronics Ltd., 275 King Street, Hammersmith, London W.6.

Wireless World, December 1969

output approximating to a linear relationship between temperature and resistance can be obtained. Looking at Fig. 2 a thermistor type A15 is allied with a 50 k Ω resistor, and the resulting potential divider output curve falls close to a straight line based on T + 15degrees Celsius. As we are interested here in the quotient of two such thermistor thermometer outputs, non-linearity errors are not quite so bad as they would appear to be from Fig. 2, provided that tracking between the two thermistors is good.

Division circuit

The division circuit of Fig. 3 is of the type employed in analogue computers, except that here temperature dependent potentiometers replace conventional potentiometers. The operational amplifier of Fig. 3 supplies an output E_o which is related to input E_{in} in the following way.

$$E_{o} = -E_{in} \frac{\frac{R_{1}}{(R_{thw} + R_{1})R_{3}}}{\frac{R_{4}}{(R_{tha} + R_{4})R_{2}}}$$
(4)

Assuming that

$$\frac{R_1}{(R_{thw} + R_1)} \approx T_w + 15, \text{ and } \frac{R_4}{(R_{tha} + R_4)} \approx T_a + 15, \text{ and}$$

$$R_2 = R_3, \text{ then,}$$

$$E_o \approx -E_{in} \frac{T_w + 15}{T_a + 15} \tag{5}$$

Thus, the output from the wet thermistor potentiometer has been divided by the output from the dry thermistor potentiometer.

In practice, resistors R_2 and R_3 will load the thermistor potentiometers because the amplifier input is at virtual earth, but this can be obviated by making the parallel combinations R_1 , R_2 , and R_3 , R_4 , equal to 50 k Ω . Another practical point is that an output corresponding to h = 0% will not be zero volts, therefore an offset voltage must be supplied to the voltmeter to give the required suppressed zero.

Thermistor hygrometer circuit

The complete hygrometer circuit appears in Fig. 4. VR_1 sets the negative input voltage across wet thermistor potentiometer Th_1 and R_3 . R_2 is the operational amplifier input resistor and R_6 the feedback resistor, while the dry thermistor potentiometer consists of Th_2 and R_7 . The i.c. operational amplifier chosen for use with the hygrometer has an open-loop gain >5,000, and is contained in an eight lead TO-5 can. C_1 and R_5 provide input frequency compensation, and C_2 output frequency compensation, to ensure stability with capacitive output loads of less than $0.05 \ \mu\text{F}$. It is anticipated that many currently available i.c. operational amplifiers will operate satisfactorily in the Fig. 4 circuit, although the lead connections may differ.

In Fig. 4, the power supply is composed of a 12-15V r.m.s. output mains transformer, with voltage-doubler C_3 , C_4 , D_6 , and D_7 to give a smoothed d.c. output in the region of 35V. A string of zener diodes D_1-D_4 is supplied from a constant-current source Tr_1 , D_5 , and R_{11} ; this arrangement conveniently allows a centre-tap as well as two intermediate voltages.

The positive offset voltage for the meter is obtained from potential divider R_8 , VR_3 , and R_9 . Meter sensitivity is controlled by VR_2 . It is thus possible to expand or contract the meter scale to obtain optimum accuracy over the desired range of operating temperature. In addition, the operational amplifier output is capable of driving a load of up to 600Ω to operate an external humidity control switch.

Because of their short life, small d.c. motors are not suitable for continuous ventilation of the wet thermistor. A shaded pole or similar 250V a.c. motor will give adequate ventilation without excessive heat if it is underrun on a supply of about 50-100 V r.m.s., achieved by placing an appropriate value of capacitor in series with the motor (C_5).

Constructional notes

If suitable precautions are taken to ensure freedom from temperature and air pressure gradients around the thermistors, the way in which the instrument is arranged can depend on individual circumstances and preferences.



This photograph shows the layout of the main components.



General view of the complete instrument.



Close-up of the dry (left) and wet (right) thermistors and their mount.

The layout of the prototype hygrometer is depicted in Fig. 5, and in the photographs. No attempt was made to achieve a compact layout as space was not at a premium. There is no particular reason why the hygrometer should not be miniaturised for desk-top use if so desired.

In Fig. 5, the hygrometer case is made up of four compartments, air-sealed from each other by strips of draught excluder on the two side panels. An air duct forms the top of the case, and is ventilated by a centrifugal impeller, with the two thermistors mounted on a strip of Veroboard inside the duct. The wet thermistor is enclosed by a thin brass sleeve, and this is covered by a single layer of muslin. Underneath the wet thermistor is a container holding about 100cc of distilled water; enough for continuous operation over several weeks at normal levels of humidity. The muslin is long enough to act also as a wick, which dips into the water container. Housed in the fan motor compartment is the mains transformer and C_5 , with the neon indicator and on-off switch mounted on the side panel. The remaining compartment, underneath the air intake, contains the circuit panel and humidity meter. The purpose of the air-filter bag shown in Fig. 5 is to prevent the ingress of large particles which could cause damage to the thermistors and fan blades.

Pressure gradients will inevitably occur within a system of



Fig. 5. General form of construction adopted.



Fig. 6. Thermistor hygrometer error distribution for calibration at 20°C.

Table	a 1	Table 2			
Meter Scale (Calibration	Voltmeter Offset Voltages			
μА	h%	Calibration at $T_a =$	Offset voltage		
0 14 25 36 47 58 66 75 84 93	0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90	10°C 15°C 20°C 25°C 30°C 40°C	+ 3·45 + 3·15 + 2·9 + 2·7 + 2·55 - 2·4		

forced-air flow. It may be that the air in the immediate vicinity of the wet thermistor is found to be slightly above or below atmospheric pressure. It is possible to compensate for this constant pressure deviation, without affecting accuracy, by suitable adjustment of VR_2 and VR_3 . More serious, however, is a reduction of air flow caused by a partly-blocked air intake. Quite apart from a general lowering of pressure within the air duct, the reduced flow will modify the calibration constant A in equation (2), and thus introduce serious errors.

The thermal inertia of the thermistors used in the hygrometer is such that the instrument will take about 39 seconds to respond to a 10% increment of humidity, which is considerably faster than the majority of direct-reading hygrometers. However, a rapid response also gives rise to overshoot when abrupt changes of air temperature are experienced. A slow reponse can be achieved, without increasing the thermal capacity of the thermistors, by placing a large-volume cotton-wool filter in front of the air intake. The cotton wool acts as a kind of integrator, by taking up and releasing moisture slowly, and also buffers sudden changes of temperature.

Meteorological advice suggests that the muslin on an Assmann hygrometer wet bulb should be changed before it becomes dirty. Tests with the thermistor hygrometer show that dirt certainly does increase the apparent temperature of the wet thermistor by reducing evaporation, but it is usually sufficient merely to wash the muslin wick after it has become noticeably blackened by dirt. The frequency of washing will depend on the air being sampled. In a grimy room heated by an open fire, the wick becomes dirty after barely 12 hours running time, but in normally clean air the hygrometer will run for several weeks without needing any maintenance.

Table I will facilitate calibration of the humidity meter scale, and is derived from calculations based on standard hygrometric tables and thermistor characteristics.

Setting up the hygrometer

Prior to wetting the muslin wick, measure with a voltmeter the voltage between the operational amplifier output and the earth rail, and adjust VR_1 for a reading of 5V. Next, establish the correct offset voltage for a desired mean air temperature by adjustment of VR_3 , after referring to the Table 2. Offset voltage is measured between the slider of VR_3 and earth. Next, set VR_2 for a full-scale deflection of the humidity meter.

It is as well to check for good tracking of the two thermistors, still with the muslin unmoistened, by placing the instrument first in a refrigerator and then in a warm oven. Ignoring temporary overshoot caused by abrupt temperature changes, look for a steady full-scale deflection of the humidity meter over 0 to 50° C, within about $\pm 2\%$ at the extreme limits of temperature.

The above procedure is sufficient to calibrate the low humidity coverage of the thermistor hygrometer, but takes no account of high humidity errors caused by those small air pressure gradients when the ventilating fan is in operation. The simplest way of calibrating the high humidity end of the hygrometer scale is to operate the hygrometer in a saturated atmosphere. Construct a simple sling psychrometer from two mercury-in-glass thermometers taped to a wooden dowel. Place a single layer of muslin around the bulb of one thermometer and moisten with distilled water. Take the improvised sling psychrometer out of doors early in the morning, after there has been an appreciable fall of rain and the sky is still clouded over, and wave it vigorously to and fro for several minutes. If both thermometers continue to display the same reading, the atmospheric humidity will be 100%. Set up the thermistor hygrometer close to the ground, with the muslin wick moistened, the fan operating, and the air duct cover in place, and then trim VR_2 for a humidity meter reading of 100%.

Performance and operation

The chart Fig. 6 gives calibration curves and a typical error distribution when the hygrometer is calibrated for a mean air temperature of 20°C. It can be seen that if the hygrometer error is not to exceed $\pm 5\%$, the permissible air temperature variation is only $18.5-22^{\circ}$ C at a humidity level of 1%, but increases to $15-42^{\circ}$ C at 50% humidity. When the instrument is calibrated for a mean air temperature of 10° C or less, the limits of air temperature variation become very close, even at high humidities. Also, if T_w is below 0° C, the muslin wick will freeze and cut off the supply of water to the wet thermistor.

From the above it is evident that the thermistor hygrometer is not suitable for use at temperatures near the freezing point of water, and is not very accurate at low humidity levels. Nevertheless, with its wide humidity coverage, and satisfactory performance at higher temperatures, the hygrometer will operate well in indoor environments in temperate and tropical climates.

As has already been mentioned, the operational amplifier output voltage is available for control purposes, and could also be employed for driving a chart recorder or telemetry link. In some cases it will be necessary to supply an offset voltage when zero output is required at zero humidity, which entails a floating output. Circuit details will depend on the particular application, but in the case of a simple on-off switch which operates equipment for wetting or drying air, the hygrometer operational amplifier could feed a simple Schmitt trigger and relay.

Flying Laboratories

Signals radiated by radio navigational aids for civil aviation are periodically carefully checked by ground maintenance engineers and are continually sampled automatically by monitoring equipment to ensure that proper signals are being radiated. However, the signals may be modified in a manner which is not detectable by ground measurement (for example, by reflection from terrain or man-made objects at comparatively large distances from the transmitting aerial systems) and the consequent deficiencies in the signal can only be determined by making measurements in the air, i.e. by flight inspection. All the radio navigation aids installed and operated in the U.K. by the National Air Traffic Control Services are therefore calibrated and regularly checked by the Civil Aviation Flying Unit of the



Board of Trade. This unit, which was formed in 1944 and costs about $\pounds 1M$ a year to operate, has recently taken into service two new Hawker Siddeley 748 aircraft fitted with the latest equipment for the flight inspection of navaids. The handing over of the two new HS 748 aircraft, bringing the fleet up to 17, afforded us an opportunity of seeing the Unit.

Between three and four hundred flight inspections covering all the civil v.h.f. omni-ranges (v.o.rs) and distance measuring systems and most of the civil instrument landing systems and radar approach aids in this country are carried out annually by C.A.F.U. All these tests require navigation and flying to a high order of accuracy and demanding a great deal of care in the preparation and operation of the measuring equipment used for the work and in the post flight data analysis processes. The data thus gathered are used to assist the N.A.T.C.S. to maintain the internationally agreed standards required of radio navigation and communication systems for civil aviation.

In order to maintain the accuracy of the equipment used in the aircraft for the inspection and recording of the navaids, a standards laboratory has been established at Stansted and the aircraft are in essence "transfer standards". Some idea of the standard maintained can be gathered from the fact that for i.l.s. the glide path error is not more than 0.25 inch (in height) and azimuth is within 2.75 inches.

In addition to these routine tests, aids are subjected to an exhaustive initial scrutiny at installation, to prompt inspection if at any time there is evidence of possible deficiency, and to immediate examination if an accident should occur when an aid has been involved. Another C.A.F.U. task is the flight testing of new types of radio and radar systems.

In addition to its main task of flight inspection the unit also examines civil pilots' flying ability.



One of the two flight checking positions in the new aircraft. The one shown here handles i.l.s. and the other up to four v.o.r. or two TACAN checks simultaneously.

(Left) The C.A.F.U. standards laboratory at Stansted. The annotated instruments are: 1, v.o.r. standard; 2 and 3, v.o.r. tones generator and r.f. signal generator; 4 and 5 i.l.s. tones generator and signal generator; 6, off-air (200 kHz) standard frequency receiver; 7, prototype

"Modscope"—i.l.s. modulation measuring oscilloscope; 8, i.l.s. precision calibrator to determine zero d.d.m. (difference in modulation depth); and 9, wave analyser.

News of the Month

European broadcasting satellite

A new European consortium (COMSET -Communications European Satellite Team) led by the French company Thomson-CSF, has submitted a bid to ESRO to provide a European communications satellite which will carry sound and television programmes within the Eurovision countries and Africa, and will be operated by the European Broadcasting Union responsible for operating the Eurovision network. The proposed satellite system will allow the simultaneous exchange of two colour television programmes and ten sound channels between ground terminals situated in Europe and in Africa. Each of these stations will be able to use the satellite both for the transmission and reception of programmes. Command and telemetry systems will be provided separately, as will a channel for the exchange of engineering service messages.

The British representative in the consortium is GEC-Marconi Electronics Ltd. Other countries participating in COMSET are Sweden, W. Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and France.

Since the announcement of the formation of COMSET we have been notified of another European consortium to provide the E.B.U. satellite. It includes companies in Germany, the U.K. (British Aircraft Corporation), Sweden, Belgium, France and Italy.

Four-in-one television receiver

Family arguments as to which television channel to watch will be a thing of the past for those who can afford a new television receiver which is manufactured by the German firm Nordmende and marketed in the U.K. by British Relay. The new receiver has a 63cm (25 inch) colour tube with three smaller, 14cm (5.5 inch), monochrome tubes ranged below it. The main programme of interest can be viewed on the colour tube while the three monitors can each show a different programme. Any of the programmes being shown on the monochrome monitors can be switched to the main screen if desired. Sound for the three monitor channels is available at sockets for connection to earphones if required.



Nordmende's four-tube television receiver being marketed in the U.K. by British Relay.

The first set is on show in London at 84 Victoria St., S.W.1, and other demonstration models will shortly be on show in Birmingham and Edinburgh.

Although primarily intended for the use of actors, critics and television correspondents British Relay will make the receivers available on the retail market for about £850 should there by any demand.

Trade Union for professional engineers

The United Kingdom Association for Professional Engineers (UKAPE) has launched a recruiting drive which started with a press conference in London recently. "The aims of the Association are to protect the individual from exploitation by unprincipled employers and unions, to promote his interests, to improve his conditions of employment and to regulate the relations between him and his employer."

In a statement the vice-president of UKAPE, R. L. Clarke, said: "We are most concerned by the fact that professional engineers are often separated through having to join unions which are at odds with one another". Mr. Clarke went on to say that he hoped that relations with other unions would be friendly and that the Association

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had no ambitions outside the engineering profession. UKAPE is non-political and seeks no affiliations.

All professional engineers who are members of one of the fourteen institutions within the Council of Engineering Institutions (C.E.I.) are elegible for membership in UKAPE.

The aims of UKAPE cannot be satisfied by the institutions federated under C.E.I. as these are not constituted to handle protection or negotiation, in fact the interests of the chartered engineer could conceivably conflict with the interests of pure learning and an institution could not be on both sides of the fence at the same time. Also the institutions, because of their very nature, cannot give UKAPE any form of financial support. Because of this the Association is to be financed by subscription (full member-£6 and associate member-£4 10s per annum). The Engineers Guild is urging all its members to join the new association. Application forms can be obtained from: UKAPE, 400-403 Abbey House, 2 Victoria Street, London S.W.1.

Film on i.c. production

The latest 24-minute colour film added to the Mullard Film Library is called "Something big in microcircuits". It gives a detailed account of the various processes in the production of integrated circuits at the Mullard plant at Southampton. The film, which includes some excellent macrophotography of devices in various stages of production, is both interesting and informative. Copies (16mm) are available on free loan in the U.K. from Mullard Film Library, 269 Kingston Road, London S.W.19.

Incidentally, although Mullard produce a large quantity of semiconductors they do not require "over 1000 tons of silicon a week" at the Southampton factory as was stated on p.517 last month. That quantity lasts them a year!

Radio and TV relay

Speaking at the annual luncheon of the Relay Services Association of Great Britain, Ralph Gabriel (chairman of the council) criticized the "pettifogging restrictions" under which relay companies are operating and also of the competition likely to come from the new Post Office.

He cited the American Federal Com-Commissions report on munications "communal antenna television" under which companies in the States will be permitted to relay any programmes (in this country they are limited to those normally receivable in the area) and may originate programme material (which is taboo in the U.K.) and in fact any C.A.T.V. system with more than 3,500 subscribers is required as a condition of its licence, to originate programmes to a significant extent.

Mr. Gabriel, who is chief engineer of Rediffusion, also spoke of the selection of programmes by the "dial-a-programme" system which, if it were permitted in this country, might well find a ready market in the U.S.A.

Earth stations for Hong Kong and Jamaica

In a $\pounds 2.7M$ contract the Marconi Company are to build satellite earth stations in Hong Kong and Jamaica for Cable & Wireless. Both stations will have paraboloids of 29.6 metres (97ft) diameter. The new aerial will be Hong Kong's second, the first was also built by Marconi, enabling simultaneous communications to both the east and the west. Hong Kong's first station together with the Marconi installation at Bahrain are said to be the first civil 90ft. aerials (and there are 23 of them) to meet all eighteen parts of the Comsat specification.

On completion of the new aerial, Hong Kong will be able to communicate with the United States, Australia, Japan and Thailand via the Pacific satellite and with the U.K., Bahrain, East Africa, India, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan and Singapore or Malaysia via the Indian Ocean satellite.

Jamaica's station will allow communication to the western countries using the Atlantic Ocean satellite.

The principal standard of performance used by Comsat is the G/T figure, defined as the measure of aerial gain to the noise temperature of the system, measured at the input to the first stage of the receiver. The Comsat specification, defined by the Interim Communications Satellite Committee, calls for a G/T of 39dB and preferably better than 40.7dB, measured at the centre frequency in the receiving band with an aerial elevation of 5° above the horizon. The figure achieved for the first Hong Kong station was 41.3dB and slightly less for the Bahrain station but still above 40.7dB.

A vernier servo loop operates in conjunction with the more conventional conical scan system used to "hold" the satellite. The vernier servo eliminates the small but rapidly changing pointing errors which occur in high winds. This will mean that the station will be able to operate in marginal weather conditions with winds gusting at up to 80 m.p.h.

Contributing to the low noise figure is a new design of azimuth beaming which assists in keeping the aerial accurately aligned with the satellite. This employs a system of plastic pads running on machined steel bearing surfaces which are lubricated by a continuous feed. However, the aerial will still operate if the oil feed fails. Another advantage of this system is that the plastic bearing can be changed while the aerial is still in operation. When it is considered that the rotating section of the aerial weighs 200 tons, this is no small achievement.

R.S.R.S. Open Days

Open days were held on 23rd and 24th October at the Science Research Council's Radio and Space Research Station at Ditton Park, Slough, Bucks., at which displays illustrating the work carried out there were arranged. The work is concerned with the propagation of radio waves and related physics. The ionosphere and the effects on it of electromagnetic and particle radiation from the sun, the tropo-



Cut-away view of the 157-pound, German-built GRS-A (German Research Satellite), the first spacecraft in a co-operative programme between the Federal Republic of Germany and the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The satellite will study the earth's radiation belts, the auroral zone and the effects of solar proton events.

sphere and the effects on it of meteorological factors are among the matters to which primary attention is paid.

The work, both experimental and theoretical, is being carried out with the very practical end of improving communications by a better understanding of propagation. The radio frequencies covered range from 10kHz to 1000GHz and the distances being studied range from a few metres to several earth radii. Rockets and satellites are employed in this work.

The major part of the work is carried out at Slough, but there are four outstations; at Chilbolton, Hants., where there is a large steerable aerial; at Winkfield, Berks., where satellite tracking and data acquisition is carried out in conjunction with N.A.S.A.; at Singapore and in the Falkland Islands.

An Englishman's home is his office?

To mark its rebirth as a public corporation the Post Office in collaboration with the Council of Industrial Design has organized an exhibition at the Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London S.W.I. Open until December 13th the exhibition describes existing services offered by Post Office telecommunications and outlines developments in design and technology from Edwardian times to the present day with a prediction for the future. By 1990 (more probably 2000) it will be possible for many office workers to be able to stay at home and talk to business colleagues by viewphone, transmit data and plans by television or facsimile equipment, and communicate with computers and information services by telex and visual display units.

The viewphone screen will probably have about 230 lines, and the method used in linking sound and vision channels will depend on the demand for such a system. It would be possible to transmit the sound as a p.c.m. code in the vision signal, but this method would exclude the system from the standard telephone network using microwaves.

It is forecast that by 1980 about 64% of all households will have a telephone—instead of the present 30%. There will be a very rapid increase in the use of data transmission and a continued large-scale expansion of the telex services.

1969-70 Faraday lecture

This year's Faraday lecture tour will start on November 18th at Rugby, Staffordshire, and will spotlight, as it has done in the past, aspects of modern electrical and electronic science and technology in straightforward language with particular emphasis on practical demonstrations.

The lecture, which is arranged by the I.E.E., is to be given by J. H. H. Merriman and is called "People, Communications and Engineering". Mr. Merriman is the senior director (development) with the British Post Office and also member for technology on the Board of the Post Office Corporation. The deputy lecturer is C. H. May who is a staff engineer in the Post Office Telecommunications Department. The lecture will be given in thirteen towns in the British Isles.

S.R.C. annual report

The Science Research Council's report for the year 1968-69 has just been published and is available from H.M.S.O. for 8s 6d. Apart from various organizational matters the report gives facts on all manner of research projects being carried out up and down the country and in Europe and makes very interesting reading.

One of the announcements made in the report is that the University Science and Technology Board is to be dissolved and its place taken by two boards one responsible for science and the other for engineering.

Selling Colour

Mullard have produced a quick-reference manual entitled "Selling Colour—A Promotion Pack for dealers". This contains largely information which has already reached dealers from many different sources, but is here collated. In addition to advice on demonstrating and selling, it contains maps and estimated dates for the start of new colour transmissions.

It is available only to dealers and in the first place to those in the initial BBC-1 and I.T.V. colour areas. Applications for a copy should be made to Distributor Sales Division, Mullard Ltd., Mullard House, Torrington Place, London W.C.1.

Diode Line Pulse Shaper

Circuit for use with t.t.l. gate

by B. L. Hart,* B.Sc., M.I.E.R.E.

Typical logic voltage levels for the t.t.l. gate¹ are $V_{OUT(1)} = 3.3$ V and $V_{OUT(0)}$ = 0.2 V (at a sink current of 16 mA). Thus when it is desired, as in the field of nuclear pulse instrumentation, to drive d.c.-terminated low-impedance coaxial cable, the outer conductor of which is earthed, a voltage-level compatibility problem arises.

The interface circuit arrangement shown inside the dashed square in Fig. 1 has proved useful for cable driving. Operation is as follows: when the input at A is at logic o it acts as a sink for the current in R, point B is at $\{V_{OUT(0)} + V_{D_1}\}$ and point C is at earth because,

$$\{ V_{OUT(0)} + V_{D_1} \} < \\ \{ V_{\gamma D_2} + V_{\gamma D_3} + V_{\gamma D_4} \}$$
(1)

where γ indicates "threshold-of-conduction" level and $V_{D_1} =$ forward voltage drop in D_1 .

When A is at logic 1, C assumes a potential V_0 where,

$$V_{0} = \{V - V_{D_{2}} - V_{D_{3}} - V_{D_{4}}\} \times R_{T}/(R + R_{T})$$
(2)

provided,

$$V_{OUT(1)} > \{V_0 + V_{D_2} + V_{D_3} + V_{D_4}\}$$
(3)

Variation of V permits control of output pulse amplitude.

In the circuit used D_1 , D_2 are hot-carrier

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diodes (Hewlett-Packard type HP5082-2301). D_1 cuts off without significant carrier storage when the logic level changes from o to 1 permitting a flat-topped output pulse, while rapid switch off in D₂ ensures no significant reverse current in R_T and hence no undershoot in the output for the reverse logic-level change. D_3 and D_4 are Si diodes type TMD7000 (Transitron): these are micro-versions of the closely specified SG5000 (IN4308). The noise margin, VNMO, for logic level o is given, from equation (I), by

$$V_{NMO} = \{V_{yD_2} + V_{yD_3} + V_{yD_4} - V_{OUT(0)} - V_{D_1}\}$$
(4)

Obviously V_{NMO} may be improved by adding a diode in series with D_2 : this is permissible providing equation (3) is still true when allowance is made for the extra diode drop. Circuit waveforms are shown in Figs. 2 to 5. If the connection from the t.t.l. unit is short the waveform at A is clean but when the interconnection comprises, as in the present case, a length of twisted-pair reflection effects, well discussed in the literature,² are observed, as in Fig. 2. The negative portion of the waveform following the $I \rightarrow 0$ transition may be reduced in amplitude by the connection of a diode, shown dotted as D_5 in Fig. 1.) No trouble due to reflection occurs providing VNMO is not exceeded. Figs. 3 and 4 show, on an expanded time and voltage scale, details of the leading and trailing edges of the waveform at C. Fig. 5 shows that delay-line differentiation is possible when a length of cable (RG213U) shorted at the far end is connected to C. The magnitude of the negative-going pulse for undistorted output depends on VNMO. In cases where it is desirable to use a fixed voltage supply V, the resistor R may be replaced by a variable current source, such as a suitably biased common-base transistor stage with a potentiometer in its emitter circuit.

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2. "Simple graphical method to determine line reflections between high-speed-logic elements". M. Abdel-Latif and M. J. O. Electronics Letters. Nov. 1968, Strutt, Vol. 4, No. 23, pp 496-498





Fig. 2. Input waveform at A in Fig. 1.



Fig. 3. Leading edge of output waveform at C.







20ns/cm

Fig. 5. Waveform at C with shorted line connected at C.



Fig. 1. Diode pulse shaper. D_1 , $D_2 = HP_{5082-2301}$ (Hewlett-Packard); D_3 , $D_4 = TMD_{7000}$ (Transitron); $T^{2}L$ gate = SN7400 (Texas); $R = I k\Omega$ (Metal Film); $R_{T} = 50 \Omega B.N.C.$ termination.

Packaging? 'Augat'have time-and-cost saving all wrapped up

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Letters to the Editor

The Editor does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by his correspondents

Transistor distortion characteristics

I have read with interest the article by Mr. Linsley Hood in the November issue. Mr. Hood has come to the conclusion that his amplifier stage gives more distortion for low collector currents and high h_{fc} s. He has shown 13 curves to prove his point, but he has not made any attempt to explain why the situation is so troublesome to audio pre-amplifier designers.

If we take the BC109 as an example and try to control the collector current from an ideal voltage source applied to the base, what will happen? Suppose that the transistor has the recommended quiescent point of $I_C = 2\text{mA}$ and $U_{CE} = 5\text{V}$ with h_{FE} and h_{fe} of approximately 300. The base current of the transistor will of course be $I_B = I_C / h_{FE} = 2/300\text{mA} \approx 7 \mu\text{A}$.

When a voltage source of, say, $E_s = 10 \text{mV}$ r.m.s. is applied to the base, this will appear across the h_{ie} of the transistor and give a change of base current. For BC109 $h_{ie} =$ $4.5 \text{k} \Omega$ for the mentioned quiescent point, and the change in base current will be approximately $\pm 10\sqrt{2}$ /4.5 μ A $\approx \pm 3\mu$ A, which is almost $\pm 50\%$ of the quiescent base current! The collector current is of course $h_{fe}I_b$ and will also make a 50% swing, from 1mA to 3mA.

A look at the $h_{ie}=f(I_C)$ curve published by Telefunken shows a very great dependence. For $I_C=1\text{mA}, h_{ie} \approx 9\text{k} \Omega$ and for $I_C=3\text{mA}, h_{ie} \approx 3\text{k}\Omega$, a change with a factor 3:1! Thus the base current will not follow a linear relationship to the source voltage, neither $I_b = F(E_s)$ nor $I_c = f(E_s)$ will be straight lines.

A high value of quiescent base current (low h_{FE} and/or high I_C) will obviously make things brighter, at least as far as distortion is concerned. If this is not possible, one solution is to make certain that the change in base current comes from a *current* source, for example a preceding stage with high output impedance. An f.e.t. common-source stage will do admirably as it can be regarded as a voltage controlled current source if drain resistance is high compared to the h_{ie} of the following transistor.

The other solution is to use negative feedback from an un-bypassed emitter resistor R_e . This will appear (for the source voltage) as a resistance of the value $h_{fe}R_e$ (approx.) in series with the h_{ie} and so the change of h_{ie} will be negligible if $h_{ie} \ll h_{fe}R_e$. This is exactly what Mr. Hood has done in circuit D of his article. He also mentions that the distortion factor increases with a decrease of un-bypassed resistance. The open loop gain is said to be about 8000 and the 47Ω resistance will probably appear as a $47 \times 8000 \approx 400 \text{k} \Omega$ resistance in series with the input impedance of the first transistor.

Conclusion: The important thing for a transistor voltage amplifier stage is that $I = f(E_s)$ is a straight line. The influence of the nonlinearities of transistor input impedance should be minimized by applying a high (equivalent) resistance in the signal path of the input.

PER ENGSTRÖM, Lund Institute of Technology, Sweden.

Noise in transistor amplifiers

While working with amplifiers using input and feedback stages similar to that outlined, a curious low-frequency noise was encountered. The amplitude and frequency were Gaussian in nature and extended from approx 5Hz to 100Hz. However, this noise was much greater than the normal wideband noise inherent in all amplifiers.



The Johnson noise contributed by R_s ($\approx 600 \Omega$) is fairly low. However, some noise is injected into base by transistor action; there is also a considerable amount of noise contributed by R_1 and R_2 . The sum of this Gaussian noise appears at the junction of R_1 and R_2 , so we can represent the source impedance of such a noise generator by the lowest impedance that contributes to it, i.e. parallel impedance of R_1 and R_2 . This is approximately 50k Ω .

This noise generator, with its $50k \Omega$ source resistance, appears across the

reactance of C_c added to R_F . Thus one would have expected this noise to be low. However, the reactance of C_c (0.25 μ F) rises considerably at 5–10Hz. Thereby, R_s and C_c form a shunt low-pass filter for the noise source, injecting into the amplifier all the low-frequency components arising within the Gaussian distribution of the noise.

When C_c was increased to $10 \sim 16 \,\mu\text{F}$, the effect disappeared, leaving only the normal Gaussian noise. The noise level, as monitored on a peak programme meter, dropped, by -6dB, as would be expected because of the nature of the unintended filter.

It is possible to select low-noise components for R_1 , R_2 and transistor but then it is always possible to secure an additional -6dB change in noise level by just increasing C_c . In fact there is then no advantage in using expensive components for R_1 and R_2 since trouble might later arise when they begin generating noise near end of life. Also, it is no longer possible to change R_1 and R_2 if one begins to use them in integrated form.

The corollary is that one would be well advised in having selected as large a value of C_c as is practicable, such that the reactance of $C_c + R$ at 5Hz or so does not increase substantially above Z_{in} for the particular amplifier. Most high-quality amplifiers, operational amplifiers and all integrated d.c. and operational amplifiers will readily respond to 5Hz or so and since most high-input impedance stages use similar potential dividers, this factor should be carefully weighed. When R_i is comparable to Z_{in} , the problem should not arise of course.

R. THANKY, London N.19.

Stereo decoder adaptor

Having seen the circuit for a stereo decoder adaptor in "Circuit Ideas" in the September issue I am prompted to send you a much simpler circuit which I have been using for several months.

Instead of having a variable gain amplifier on each channel a 0.5 attenuator is placed before the decoding matrix when a mono programme is being received. With a mono signal Tr_9 saturates and earths one end of the attenuator chain formed by the two 10k Ω resistors. Thus only half the mono sign is applied to the matrix. On stereo Tr_9 is off and the full signal is applied to the matrix. The 100k Ω resistor ensures that the 1μ F capacitor does not have to change its charge when going from mono to stereo. A. ROYSTON,

University of Warwick, Coventry.

Local radio

In the reference to local radio in your November Editorial you say "While the use of such (directional) aerials would certainly avoid the stations causing interference with other transmitters sharing the frequencies, it would not eliminate interference from Continental stations". This would indeed be the case if the operating frequencies of the proposed British Local Radio System were indiscriminately chosen, without regard to those stations which are capable of causing interference with United Kingdom transmitters.

My company has carried out exhaustive tests in many parts of the United Kingdom. These tests demonstrate that, of some twentyfive channels selected for initial evaluation, at least eleven are suitable for use in some, if not all, of the areas which would probably be served by British Local Radio. In addition, these channels would be available under the terms of Article 8* of the Copenhagen Convention.

Using no more than eight of the channels it would be both technically and legally possible to operate at least one hundred low-power medium frequency stations in the British Isles, each one of which would be sixty miles from its nearest neighbour on the same frequency.

Many critics of this proposal overlook the fact that very few of the proposed stations would need to cover a service area greater than five miles in diameter. In consequence, not more than fifteen of the stations would utilize a power in excess of 1.5kW, whilst the vast majority would use 500 watts or less. (Incidentally, although 100 stations are theoretically possible, my company is of the opinion that not more than fifty would be economically viable).

The credibility of this statement is clearly demonstrated by the performance of some existing B.B.C. stations. Current B.B.C. Engineering Information Department lists show 43 low-power medium frequency stations (of 2kW or less) as operational in the United Kingdom. Between them they carry all the B.B.C. domestic services, and they all operate from early morning until about midnight. The 1484-kHz transmitter at Bournemouth is on the air from 05.00 until 02.00 the following morning. This station was opened as recently as November 1968, and it is difficult to imagine that it would have been authorized if the Engineering Department of the B.B.C. and the Broadcasting Department of the Post Office (responsible for ensuring the observance of the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunications Union and issuing licences for the operation of transmitters) had not been satisfied that it would provide a satisfactory service within the area it was designed to serve.

The Bournemouth transmitter is of particular interest in that it uses an International Common Frequency, and, in consequence, shares this frequency with some 150 other stations throughout Europe. Nevertheless, to quote the words of the B.B.C.. Engineering Information Service, "It provides a perfectly acceptable signal in the town of Bournemouth".

If further evidence were needed what better authority could be quoted than Lord Hill, Chairman of the B.B.C. who is reported as having said recently "I hope there is going to be some medium-wave reinforcement for local radio—a question we are now discussing with the Post Office Minister who has the authority for frequency allocation". His Lordship went on to say that there was some availability of medium wavelengths, and that medium frequency local broadcasting was technically possible "or we should not be putting it to The Minister". The Director General of the B.B.C. said much the same thing two days earlier.

To sum up, providing that the main criteria of low power, suitably engineered aerial systems, and an intelligent selection of operating frequencies are observed, there is no reason to doubt that a chain of local radio stations could be established in the mediumfrequency band.

DEREK FARADAY,

Commercial Broadcasting Consultants Ltd. London, W.C.2.

• This permits modifications to the European Frequency Allocation Plan provided agreement is reached between Administations operating in the channel.—ED.

I could not agree more with your November Editorial particularly in connection with the subject raised in Mr. Uden's interesting letter appearing in the same issue.

The B.B.C. claims to offer a v.h.f. service and yet Radio 1 is always regarded as the poor relation by "Aunty".

There are several programmes transmitted only by Radio 1 which would benefit the listener if they were available on the interference-free, high-quality v.h.f. service; and yet listeners must tolerate, at best, low bandwidth audio and, at worst, high distortion and frequent fading.

Another important factor is the education, if I may use the word, of the general public; many individuals have never heard "live" music and have come to regard the m.w. "sludge" as the real thing.

We are supposed to be in an age of technical innovation and development, particularly in the field of electronics and communications, and yet an important part of our radio service is still living in the dawn era of wireless. E. W. FIRTH, Saltney,

Chester.

Combating television interference

I read with great interest the letter from S. E. Jones, regarding the suppression of television interference, in your February 1969 issue. I was immensely happy to note that the method tried by Mr. Jones is basically the same as the one tried by me here some two years back. Since our TV receiving aerial is very near the high power s.w. transmitting centre, the intensity of the harmonic interference used to be very severe. One of the harmonics-which happened to be 240kHz below the TV carrier-was very strong and when it came up, the picture and the sound as well used to be wiped off completely. To eliminate this interference the method tried was as follows: The interfering signal was picked up from another three-element yagi and fed into a single stage v.h.f. amplifier in which the phase and gain of the harmonic could be adjusted by means of the tuning and gain controls respectively. The output of the amplifier was then fed into the television receiver input where the TV aerial was already

connected. The length and polarity of the cable from the pick-up aerial was adjusted suitably so that the amplifier tuning point is optimum, i.e., with minimum gain. Even after tuning the amplifier for best results, there used to be some faint lines on the picture of varying intensity on account of the modulation on the interfering signal. This was also reduced considerably by introducing a filter (with 12dB cut off for 240 \pm 10kHz) in series with the video input to the picture tube. T. S. VASAN,

Delhi, India

Tolerance!

What a consolation it was to read Mrs. Dinsdale's "Living with Hi-Fi" in the November issue! For years I had wondered if my husband was unique in involving the whole household when designing and constructing electronic equipment; but now I know there are others, the upheavals will seem more tolerable.

I can go one stage further though. Our son of 15 has "adopted" electronics and his "bedroom" is full of equipment in various stages of development. So when the air is full of talk of "pots, resistors, capacitors, etc." and conversation too highly technical for our ears, my daughter and I retire to the kitchen and prepare to "feed the brutes".

At least Mrs. Dinsdale has good music to listen to sometimes! MAUREEN NELSON-JONES, Bournemouth, Hants.

Wireless World Diary

Clearer type, enlarged page size (75 x 128mm) and therefore larger diagrams, and a complete revision of the information in the 64-page reference section make the Wireless World Diary 1970 even more useful than its predecessors. It still has a week-at-an-opening diary section and costs 10s (leather) and 7s (rexine). It will be available on December 1st. Postage, if ordered from Dorset House, Stamford St., London S.E.1, is 4d.

Logic Symbols

A quick look at the new British Standard

The shapes and symbols used to portray logic functions are as varied as they are numerous. The time taken to discover what the symbols mean in any particular case can be appreciable and sometimes even then the function is uncertain.

To combat this the British Standards Institution has produced BS3939, section 21, "Pure logic and functional symbols" which drastically alters earlier British Standards on the subject to bring them in line with the International Electrotechnical Commission's proposals made at a meeting in Stockholm in September 1967.

The symbols are intended for use in any branch of logic engineering, be it electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic or mechanical.

The basic gate symbol is shown at (a) and is the half moon shape. The new symbols also show the logic convention in use at any particular point in the diagram as shown at (b) and (c). The gate shown at (a) therefore has a positive logic input and output. Mixed positive and negative logic inputs and outputs may be employed.

The symbol at (d) shows a gate with an inhibiting input (shown by the bar) and a negated output (the circle). A negated inhibiting input is shown at (e). The oblique line of (f) indicates an executive, strobe or clock input. The five basic functions AND, OR, NAND, NOR, NOT are shown at (g) to (k). The symbol of (l) is an identity element, or equivalence element, where the output represents "1" only when all the inputs are also "1".

Multistable elements have a square for each stable state, so the symbol at (m) is a bistable. It has one input. The application of a "1" at this input would cause a "1" output from the upper square. The input lines can be drawn with the same negating and inhibiting symbols as used for the gates. A stepping input is shown at (o). Outputs are drawn from the appropriate squares as illustrated at (p). A quasi stable state is portrayed as a shaded triangle and ι is the quasi stable duration. For distributed OR or AND connection the symbol is the diamond of (r) with a "1" or "&" adjacent to the diamond as appropriate.

The BS states that large blocks of logic may be denoted by a suitably labelled square with appropriate inputs and outputs. We have devised our own two; (s) is used at the very beginning of a system design and (t) is often appropriate a little later on!

The identification of signal lines follows what is now accepted as almost standard practice. The signal name should relate to the "l" state of that signal and a bar placed over the signal name refers to the logic negation of the signal.

e.g. \overline{SUM} = the logic negation of SUM.

This labelling is the subject of only one limitation, the NAME and NAME labels must not be used to indicate the two states of the same signal at different times.

This has been just a quick look at BS3939, Sect. 21. For more information the BS is available from the British Standards Institution, 2 Park St., London W.1, price 12s. BEGINNING

(d) (e) (f) Inhibiting input negated output Negated Inhibiting Input Strobe 8 1 8 (g) (h) (i)AND OR NAND (j) (k) (1) NOR NOT Identity (m)(n) (0)Normal input Stepping Cyclic t (p) (q) (r)Outputs Monostable Distributed ? HELP (s) (t)

(b)

Negative logic input

(a)

Basic gate



(c)

Negative logic output

Active Filters

5. An integrator and a lag in a loop

by F. E. J. Girling * and E. F. Good *

Practical circuits for realising the theoretical schemes discussed in Part 4 will use feedback in one form or another to stabilize amplifier gain. One of the simplest arrangements for a 2nd-order filter is a feedback loop containing an integrator and a lag, and in many cases this allows a circuit using only one amplifier.

Analysis shows, however, that high Q factor calls for a wide spread of capacitance values (or CR products) and high amplifier gain. In general, therefore, the arrangement is most suitable for low Q factors.

Shunt feedback—the virtual earth principle

When the amplifier is sign-reversing, negative feedback can be applied by the "see-saw" arrangement of impedances shown in Fig. 1. As A tends to infinity the driving voltage at the input of the amplifier, $-V_0/A$, tends to zero. This leads to the concept of the virtual earth and the idealized relationship

$$\frac{V_0}{Z_0} = -\frac{V_1}{Z_1}$$
 or $\frac{V_0}{V_1} = -\frac{Z_0}{Z_1}$ (1)

If $Z_0 = Z_1$ the magnitude of the overall gain is unity, and the circuit gives the superficial appearance of being an example of 100% feedback. The correct analysis, however, is that the feedback fraction $\beta = Z_1/(Z_0 + Z_1)$, and that because of "potting down" by the same two impedances the effective input voltage is $V_1Z_0/(Z_0 + Z_1)$.

When a second input channel is added V_1 and V_2 are summed, ideally, according to the equation

$$V_{0} = -\left(\frac{Z_{0}}{Z_{1}}V_{1} + \frac{Z_{0}}{Z_{2}}V_{2}\right)$$
(2)

Finite gain

When allowance must be made for the finite gain of a practical amplifier the equivalence shown in Fig. 2 can be used. This result is established by finding the shunt impedance to earth which makes the input current i the same for the two versions of the circuit.

It can be seen that to a first approximation



Fig. 1. Basic arrangement for applying feedback and adding signals by the shunt or virtual-earth method

the overall gain of a shunt-feedback circuit will be affected by finite amplifier input impedance only if this is comparable with the equivalent shunt impedance $Z_0/(A + I)$. The correct analysis of the circuit outlined in the preceding section, however, shows that the operation of the circuit is seriously affected (in zero drift, signal/noise ratio, linearity, for example) if the amplifier input impedance is equal to or less than the net parallel value of Z_0 , Z_1 , Z_2 , etc., (Fig. I), and in general this is a condition to be avoided.

Lag-and-integrator loop

In Part I under the heading *direct synthesis* it was shown that the response of the secondorder low-pass network, Fig. 3(a), can be reproduced by an active system containing a lag and an integrator in a feedback loop; i.e. (when $\beta = -1$)

$$G(p) = \frac{\mu}{1+\mu} = \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{q}pT+p^2T^2}$$
(3)

if

$$\mu = \frac{1}{1 + qpT} \cdot \frac{1}{pT/q} \tag{4}$$

Blumlein (or Miller) integrator

The most familiar electronic integrator is the feedback type shown in Fig. 4(a). From equn. (1), when $A \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\frac{V_0}{V_i} = -\frac{1}{pCR} = -\frac{1}{pT} [T = CR]$$
 (5)

There is, therefore, for the lag-andintegrator loop shown in Fig. 3(b) a minus sign in front of the expression for μ , and the loop is closed in the correct sense by adding *V*out to *V*_{in}. The boxes in the diagram are intended to indicate that the several parts of the loop are effectively isolated by buffers.

The internal gain of an integrating amplifier limits the performance of an active filter. The equivalent circuit, Fig. 4(b), shows that when allowance is made for finite amplifier gain the integrator degenerates to a simple lag, time constant (A + I)CR, multiplied by the gain factor A; i.e.

$$G(p) = \frac{A}{1 + (A+1)pCR},$$

$$G(\omega) = \frac{A}{1 + (A+1)j\omega CR},$$
(6)

(

A perfect integrator, G(p) = I/pCR, $G(j\omega) = I/j\omega CR$, gives a constant phase



Fig. 2. Mathematical equivalent of an amplifier with a shunt feedback impedance





Fig. 3. (a) a 2nd-order passive low-pass network; (b) an active equivalent, a lag-and-integrator loop



Fig. 4. The equivalence shown in Fig. 2 applied to a Blumlein feedback integrator

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shift of 90°, and an amplitude response that falls indefinitely at -6 dB/octave from zerofrequency to infinite frequency and passes through $|G(j\omega)| = 1$ at $\omega CR = 1$. The "curves" numbered (1) in Fig. 5 correspond. The gain of an imperfect (finite-gain) integrator levels off at low frequency to the value A, and equn. (6) shows that the phase shift falls short of 90° by θ , given by

$$\tan\theta = 1/\omega(A+1)CR$$
 (7)

Thus when $A \ge I$, at the approximate unity-gain frequency $\omega = I/CR$, $\theta = I/(A + I) = I/A$ approx., and below this frequency θ increases (i.e., the phase shift ϕ decreases) until at zero frequency $\phi = 0$. These characteristics are indicated in Fig. 5 by the curves numbered (2).

The Q factor of an integrator

Finite gain is to an integrator the equivalent of series resistance to an inductor or



Fig. 5. Amplitude and phase curves for an ideal integrator (1), and a finite-gain integrator (2)



Fig. 6. Showing loss of effective gain by passive attenuation



parallel resistance to a capacitor, and similarly limits the Q factor that can be obtained in a resonant loop. Also similarly the quality of an integrator can be defined as the ratio of the part of the output in quadrature with the input to the part in phase. Hence, from equns. (6) and (7)

$$Q = 1/\tan\theta = (A+1)\omega CR \simeq A\omega CR,$$
(8)

and it is useful to notice that at $\omega = I/CR$

$$Q = A + 1 \simeq A. \tag{9}$$

In a lag-and-integrator loop, however, the undamped resonant frequency $\omega_c = 1/qCR$; i.e., a frequency q times below the unity gain frequency of the integrator (equn. (4)). The effective Q factor of the integrator in such a loop is therefore A/q approx., which < A when q > 1.

The potential zero-frequency loop gain Ais often in practice eroded by the presence of attenuating networks. Fig. 6 shows that these may be of two types, exemplified by R' acting in conjunction with R, and by a network such as R_2' , R_2 outside the integrator feedback loop. Both reduce the zero-frequency gain—by factors $k_1 = R'/(R + R')$ and $k_2 = R_2'/(R_2 + R_2')$ respectively—and so reduce Q by these factors. R' may represent the input resistance of a transistor amplifier, and it is important to note that there is a serious reduction in Q if $R \gg R'$.

By applying Thévenin's theorem, or otherwise, it is easily found that in the ideal case, $A = \infty$ (and $k_1 > 0$), the presence of R' leaves the voltage transfer ratio unaltered, 1/pCR, and therefore has no effect on tuning. The presence of R_2' , R_2 , on the other hand, directly affects the open-loop transfer function, and in the ideal case is equivalent to having in the loop an integrator with

$$G(p) = -k_2/pCR.$$
 (10)

Comparison with G(p) = -1/pT gives $T = CR/k_2$; i.e., the "T" of the integrator is multiplied by $1/k_2$. The effect of k_1 and k_2 on tuning in the presence of finite A is dealt with in a later section.

Effect of finite gain in a 2nd-order loop

Substituting the equivalent form, Fig. 4(b), of a finite gain integrator for the ideal integrator in Fig. 3(b) gives Fig. 7, which shows the equivalence to a two-lag loop with negative gain, and the results obtained in Part 4 can be applied. In particular, the open-loop q_0 is increased by the factor $\sqrt{(A + 1)}$,

$$q = q_0 \left(A + 1 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{11}$$

Fig. 7. The two-lagsand-gain equivalent of a lag-andintegrator loop with finite gain integrator

and since for two buffered lags the maximum value of q_0 is $\frac{1}{2}$ (obtained when the two time constants are equal, i.e., $(A + I)T_1 = T_2$)

$$q_{max} = \frac{1}{2}(A+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 (12)

In general, q_0 is given by substitution in equa. (4), Part 3, as

$$\frac{1}{q_0} = \left(\frac{(\mathcal{A}+1)T_1}{T_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left(\frac{T_2}{(\mathcal{A}+1)T_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(13)

and therefore, from equn. (11),

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^4 + \frac{1}{A+1} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^4 \tag{14}$$

Thus the ideal value of q (the value when $A \rightarrow \infty$) is given by

$$\frac{1}{q_i} = \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^i, \tag{15}$$

and equn. (14) may be written

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{q_i} + \frac{q_i}{A+1}$$
 (16)

Now the undamped resonant frequency $\omega_c = 1/T = 1/q_i T_1$ (see equn. (4) and Fig. 3), and substitution in equn. (8) shows that $(A + 1)/q_i$ is the Q of the integrator at ω_c . Hence

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{q_i} + \frac{1}{Q \text{ of integrator.}}$$
(17)

And as at ω_e the frequency-response function of the lag = $1/(1 + jq_i)$, q_i may be identified as the Q of the lag at ω_e . Equa. (16) may therefore be further rewritten as

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{Q \text{ of lag}} + \frac{1}{Q \text{ of integrator}}$$
(18)

This is an example of the general principle that circuit losses add directly, and that hence Qs add by reciprocals. The principle is very useful for finding the Q factor of practical circuits, especially when the alternative involves handling a long and cumbersome transfer function.

In practical circuits A is usually ≥ 1 and is not known precisely. There is then no sensible distinction between A and (A + 1). It seems unnecessary, however, in the algebra constantly to refer to this approximation.

The solution to equal (16) gives the value of q_i that has to be set in to the design to achieve the desired value of q_i ,

$$\frac{1}{q_i} = \frac{1}{2q} \left\{ 1 \pm \left(1 - \frac{4q^2}{A+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}.$$
 (19)

Fig. 8, which is a plot of q against $(T_2/T_1)^{\ddagger}$, i.e. against q_i , with A as parameter, clarifies the relationship. For the moment only positive values of A (negative values of amplifier gain, -A) are of interest; i.e., that part of Fig. 8 below the diagonal representing $A = \infty$. For $4q^2 < (A + 1)$, i.e. $q < q_{max}$, equn. (19) gives two real values of q_i ; but the value given by taking the negative value of the square root should not be used as it corresponds to the region beyond the point where q_{max} has been reached, and in this region q is very sensitive



to changes in A. Indeed "designable" circuits, which can accommodate large uncertainties in the value of A, should use values of A which give q close to q_i .

Fig. 8 will be recognised as a duplicate of Fig. 9 of Part 4, the parameters A and K being related by

$$K = A/(A + 1),$$
 (20)

which gives

$$A = K/(1-K); \qquad (21)$$

and this foreshadows an important identity that will be proved later in the analysis of the Sallen-and-Key circuit.

Effect of finite gain on T

In the basic lag-and-integrator loop shown in Fig. 3(b), and in equivalent form in Fig. 7, $T(=1/\omega_c)$ is not affected by A. The open-loop transfer function is

$$\frac{A}{(1+pT_2)\{1+p(A+1)T_1\}},$$

and so $T_0 = \{(A + 1)T_1T_2\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$. But, as shown in Part 4, closing the loop divides T_0 by $(A + 1)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Hence closed-loop $T = (T_1T_2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and is independent of A. If, however, there is attenuation k_2 in the loop as given by R_2' , R_2 in Fig. 6,

$$T = \left\{ \frac{(A+1)T_1T_2}{k_2A+1} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and so

$$\omega_c^2 = \frac{k_2}{T_1 T_2} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1 - k_2}{k_2 (A + 1)} \right\} \quad (22)$$

Similarly for attenuation by R', R_1 (Fig. 9), although k, does not does not give a large change in ω_c

$$T_0^2 = k_1(A+1)T_1T_2 \tag{23}$$

and so, since

$$T^{2} = T_{0}^{2}/k_{1}(A + 1)$$

$$w_{e^{2}} = \frac{1}{T_{1}T_{2}} \left\{ 1 + \frac{1 - k_{1}}{k_{1}(A + 1)} \right\}$$
(24)



Fig. 9. Equivalent circuits for the integrator when the amplifier has finite gain and input resistance

(Left) Fig. 8. Illustrates equn. (16). Shows the effect of internal gain, A, and the ratio, T_2/T_1 , on the Q factor of a lag-and-integrator loop

Sensitivity to component values

For the passive LCR network, Fig. 3(a), the parameters T and q are defined by

$$T = (LC)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 and $q = \frac{1}{R} \left(\frac{L}{C}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ (25)

For the ideal active system $(A \rightarrow \infty)$, Fig. 3(b),

$$T = (C_1 R_1 C_2 R_2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 and $q = \left(\frac{C_2 R_2}{C_1 R_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ (26)

Thus, by inspection of equns. (25) and (26), any variations in C_1 and C_2 have the same effect as variations in L and C respectively. Considering the arbitrary situation where R_1 and R_2 are in error in opposite directions and become, say, xR_1 and R_2/x , there is no change to T and the effect on q is the same as if R changed to xR. On the other hand, if R_1 and R_2 are in error in the same direction and become xR_1 and xR_2 , there is no change to q but T becomes xT; i.e., the effect is the same as if L and C change to xL and xC. Other situations lie somewhere between, so it may be concluded that the active system behaves in an essentially similar manner to the passive prototype.

Effect of parasitic phase lags

The effect of additional lags in the loop can be deduced from the Bode plots (i.e., the amplitude and phase plots of $\mu\beta$), and in many practical cases a simple addition of phase angles at the frequency of unity loop gain gives sufficient information.

The curves numbered (1) in Fig. 10 represent the loop gain of an ideal integratorand-lag loop of arbitrary q (2 approx. in the Fig.), and the curves numbered (2) and (3) the individual characteristics of the lag and of the integrator respectively. For the moment the additional lag, curve (4), is ignored. As q increases the curves for the lag and the curves for the integrator move further apart, those for the lag towards lower frequencies and those for the integrator towards higher frequencies; and



Fig. 10. Amplitude and phase curves, open loop



Fig. 11. System when extra lag, time constant t, is introduced into the loop

the amplitude curve of the loop characteristic moves nearer to the level I at $\omega = I/T$.

Now since the integrating amplifier gives a sign reversal, the critical phase lag for the loop is 180°; and in the ideal case, since the phase lag of the integrator is a constant 90°, the angle θ by which the loop phase shift falls short of 180° is the angle by which the phase shift of the lag falls short of 90°, and is therefore given by $\tan \theta = 1/\omega T_2 = 1/\omega q T$. Hence at the approx. unity-loop-gain frequency $\omega_c = 1/T$

$$\tan\theta = 1/q, \qquad (27)$$

which gives, as examples, the following pairs of values of q and phase margin: $q = 1, \theta = 45^{\circ}$; $q = 2, \theta = 26 \cdot 5^{\circ}$; q = 10, $\theta = 5 \cdot 7^{\circ}$; etc. For high values of q, at ω_e

$$\theta$$
 (in radns) = $1/q$ approx. (28)-

Wireless World, December 1969

Consider now the introduction of a small additional lag, time constant t, into the loop as shown in Fig. 11. This adds the curves (4) to Fig. 10. It is a characteristic of a simple lag (Figs. 3 and 4, Part 2) that a significant phase shift appears at frequencies where there is still little fall in the amplitude response. Thus, for example, at (corner frequency)/10 the gain is 0.995, while the phase lag is already 5.7°; and even at (corner frequency)/2, where the phase lag is 26.5°, the gain has only just fallen below 0.9. Therefore, since in a practical filter the additional phase lag must be small if the filter is to be "designable", it is reasonable to assume that for any such lag the time constant $t \ll T$, and that in the critical region around $\omega_c(=\mathbf{I}/T)$ only the phase shift of the additional lag need be considered.

This will be

$$\phi_s \leq t/T \text{ radns approx.}, \qquad (29)$$

and the net phase margin will be

$$\theta_m = \theta_i - \phi_s = \frac{1}{q_i} - \frac{t}{T} \quad (30)$$

where θ_i and q_i are the ideal values; i.e., the values when there is no additional lag. The trend of the Nyquist plots for conditions where the above analysis is valid is shown in Fig. 12.

Stability in a mathematical, or Nyquist, sense requires that t < T/q. Stability in the engineering, or everyday, sense of ensuring a stable effective q will generally require that $t \ll T/q$, so that the unwanted phase lag is small compared with the intended phase margin; but if the circuit is such that t is known with some precision, then q_t may be reduced to compensate. Several additional lags of time constants $\ll T$ may be added and treated as one

$$\Sigma \phi_s = (t_1 + t_2 + \ldots)/T$$
 (31)

A lag internal to an amplifier is effectively divided by the zero-frequency gain around the local feedback loop. Thus in an integrator, if the amplifier is stabilized with a single dominant lag of time constant 7, there is added phase shift approximately equivalent to an additional lag of time constant τ/A . This explains why an operational amplifier, z.f. gain = 3,000 (say), which when stabilized shows a corner frequency at 100 Hz, can be suitable for use in a filter with corner, or resonant, frequency at some thousands of Hz, provided the stabilization does not seriously affect the output available at these frequencies. There is also an increase in the effective CR product equal to I/ω' , where ω' is the frequency where the amplifier characteristic crosses unity gain. But this is unlikely to be of importance except in a high-q circuit.

The summation of phase angles described above is virtually an extension of the summation of the reciprocals of Q-factors given in equn. (17), and when the approximations given apply, the net phase margin is given by

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{q_i} + \frac{1}{Q} - \sum_{t=1}^{t} (32)$$







Fig. 13. Integrator-and-lag circuit using two amplifiers

At low frequencies where stray capacitance is low compared with the working capacitances, unwanted lags are of little account; especially when simple amplifiers are used which need little or no Nyquist stabilization, and when q is moderate or low and there is a comfortable phase margin. The circuit is in any case not very suitable for high q. When high-gain amplifiers are used, however, it is likely that except at very low frequencies the maximum practical value of q will be set by unwanted lags, and that the value will fall with increase in ω_c .

Implementation

An obvious way of setting up an integratorand-lag loop is shown in Fig. 13. With present-day amplifiers, and with $R_1 = R_1'$, the nominal zero-frequency loop-gain may be 5,000; which gives q(max) = 35, a nominal 10% loss of q from finite amplifier gain for $q \simeq 20$, and a 1% loss for $q \simeq 7$. For 3rd-order response a lag can be introduced by tapping R_1' and connecting a capacitance to earth. With the tap at the centre this lag has time constant $= C_3 R_1'/4$.

If R_1' is removed, the virtual earth at the input of the integrator provides a natural low-impedance node for current input. Provided the source resistance $R_s > R_1$ the z.f. loop gain $\rightarrow A$, and the benefits of high internal gain with almost 100% feedback are obtained. If an extra lag is to be used to give a 3rd-order filter, it must now be placed after the resonant loop. It should be remembered that for frequencies below cutoff most of the input current flows through R_1 , and at frequencies above cutoff through C_1 . The latter point is important if out-of-band currents of considerable magnitude must be accepted-for example carrier frequency and harmonics from a rectifier-and it is essential that the output of the integrating amplifier should accept such currents without overload.

Whatever the economic and other advantages of silicon integrated circuits, it



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Fig. 14. Representative of simple circuits possible for low q applications







Fig. 15. (a) loop with lag and integrator not isolated by a buffer; (b) equivalent circuit when $A = \infty$; (c) equivalent circuit when $A < \infty$

may still be useful to point out that technically for low-q applications there is no need for very-high-gain amplifiers; and Fig. 14 shows a circuit used by the authors before the days of the transistor, which illustrates most of the principles involved. A typical application was following a phasesensitive detector of current-output type, when the input current was taken straight to point X.

The ideal design equations are:

$$T_2 = qT = k_2 C_2 R_2 \tag{33}$$

where

$$k_2 = R_2'/(R_2 + R_2');$$
 (34)

$$C_1 = T/q = C_1 R_1/k_2.$$
 (35)

The z.f. loop gain (if $R_s \ge R_1$) is k_2A_3 , so

$$q_{max} \simeq \frac{1}{2} (k_2 A)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \tag{36}$$





Fig. 16. (a) The Rauch circuit; (b) intermediate step leading to the equivalent circuit (c)



(b) $k = \frac{R_3}{R_2 + R_3}$, $(1-k) = \frac{R_2}{R_2 + R_3}$, $\frac{1-k}{k} = \frac{R_2}{R_3}$



$$T_{2} = \frac{C_{2}R_{1}\kappa R_{2}}{R_{1}+\kappa R_{2}} , \quad T_{1} = \frac{C_{1}(R_{1}+\kappa R_{2})}{k}$$
$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{R_{2}}{R_{3}} \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{q}pT+p^{2}T^{2}}$$

It is of no great consequence if the cathodefollower gain is somewhat < 1; it merely means that the effective k_2 in equns. (35) and (36) is somewhat smaller than the k_2 given by equn. (34). When input currents of considerable magnitude must be handled, the points already mentioned must be watched.

(c)

Lag-and-integrator loops using one amplifier

Fig. 15(a) shows a schematic of a lag-andintegrator loop in which the integrator follows the lag, and in which the lag and the integrator are not isolated from each other by a buffer. The placing of the integrator second gives the circuit the advantage that when q is high no large voltage is built up in the middle as in the previous arrangement. A usually more important change arises from the absence of buffering: when the circuit is drawn in equivalent form as in Fig. 15(c) a 2nd-order CR network appears; and since in practice this must give $q_0 < \frac{1}{2}$, the complete circuit must, for a given A, give a lower qmax than circuits which can have $q_0 = \frac{1}{2}$.

When $A \rightarrow \infty$ the equivalent circuit of Fig. 15(b) applies,

$$T_1 = T/q = C_1(R_1 + R_2) = C_1 R$$
 (37)

$$T_2 = qT = C_2 R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2) = b(1 - b) C_2 R.$$
(38)

With A finite the equivalent circuit is as shown in Fig. 15(c), and equn. (11), Part 3, gives

$$\frac{1}{q_0} = \left(\frac{(A+1)T_1}{T_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{b}\left(\frac{T_2}{(A+1)T_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(39)

and for the maximum value of q_0

$$q_m = \sqrt{b/2} \tag{40}$$

The relationship $q = q_0(A + I)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$$\frac{1}{q} = \left(\frac{T_1}{T_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{b(A+1)} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(41)

Hence if $R_1 = R_2$, since $b = \frac{1}{2}$,

$$q_m = 1/2\sqrt{2}$$
 [when $C_2 = 2(A + 1)C_1$]
(42)

and

$$q_{max} \simeq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{A}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{43}$$

The Rauch circuit

The above analysis may be applied to the well known Rauch circuit, Fig. 16, if allowance is made for the extra attenuation of the input signal and of the feedback. The ideal $(A \rightarrow \infty)$ design formulae are easily derived with the help of the equivalent circuit of Fig. 14(c), following the intermediate step shown in Fig. 14(b). Commonly the circuit is arranged for unity gain at zero frequency, $R_2 = R_3 = R$ (say).

Then, if also $R_1 = R$ (as in the circuit for q = I shown in Part I)

$$\begin{array}{c} C_1 = C/3q \\ C_2 = 3qC \end{array} \tag{44}$$

where

$$C = T/R.$$

With finite gain, and $R_1 = R_2 = R_3$, the z.f. loop gain is A/2 (if there are no other resistances in shunt from the virtual earth to ground) and $b = \frac{2}{3}$. This gives

$$q_m = \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{46}$$

and

$$q_{max} \simeq \left(\frac{A}{12}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{A}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(47)

Conferences and Exhibitions

Further details are obtainable from the addresses in parentheses

LONDON

Dec. 10–12 Savoy Place Reliability in Electronics (I.E.E. Savoy Place, London W.C.2.)

OVERSEAS

- Dec. 1-3 Gaithersburg Image Storage and Transmission for Libraries (Madeline M. Henderson, Center for Computer Sciences and Technology, National Bureau of Standards, Room B226-Inst., Washington, D.C. 20234).
- Dec. 8–9 Chicago Consumer Electronics Symposium (C. Hepner, Zenith Radio Corp., 6101 W. Dickens Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60639)
- Dec. 8–10 National Electronics Conference and Exhibition (N.E.C., Oakbrook Exec. Plaza 2, 1121 W. 22 St., Oak Brook, Ill. 60521)

- Dec. 8–10 San Francisco Circuit Theory (R. A. Rohrer, Fairchild Semiconductors, 4001 Junipero Serra Blvd., Palo Alto, Calif.)
- 1)ec. 9-11
 Rehovot

 Application of engineering
 Magnetism in Bio

 (Weizmann Inst. of Science, Rehovot, Israel)
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London's Audio Fair

A look at the arrangements and a selection of products

This year's London Audio Fair which was held at Olympia for the first time can, and will, be rated a great success. Although tiring and nerve-racking the experience for any audio enthusiast—a genus, not a species remember—must have been exhilarating. As usual engineering personalities associated with complex and expensive equipment designs or with revered articles in learned journals were there in the flesh—not aloof, detached, and unavailable, but marshalling the columns, patiently answering any number of naive questions, and generally sweating and swearing like the rest of us.

All in all there was a democratic fellowship, a commonalty of single purpose, and the circumstances which can so thoroughly humanize are beyond praise, but deserve careful analysis.

The category audio enthusiast, we have said, is a genus. Having said this we must acknowledge the countless species. The audio enthusiast may have lots of money or very little: he may build all his own equipment or buy some commercial gear: he may put performance well before appearance; etc. etc. We all know this, but two facts must be emphasized if we are to keep the audio world in perspective. First, virtually "perfect" performance regardless of attainable and a very close cost is approximation to this can be attained at nuch much less than the cost of typical systems of commercial equipment. Secondly, our notion of audio fidelity is not a simple nstinctive response but represents a stage in our aural education, and this fact goes owards explaining the value of the Audio Fair demonstrations. The owner of quipment providing a particular grade of ound will, during his rounds, hear standards new to him. If he can assimilate he experience his notion of fidelity will be idvanced and he will be at once both elated and depressed! It is worth mentioning a emark heard outside one of the emonstration rooms—"It goes down to wenty cycles so it should be a perfect oudspeaker shouldn't it?"

Each listening room measured 20 x 16 eet and was about 8 feet high. Seats were rranged to cover about half the floor area nd the equipment, depending of course on he manufacturer's products, stood at the ar end away from the door. Most rooms had noisy extractor fan in one corner—usually just above the right-hand channel loudspeaker(s). A few had no fan but a permanently open door (Mordaunt-Short and Goldring) and K.E.F. had a pair of air-conditioning units which operated between sessions.

In all these demonstrations the sound was supposed to tell the story and sell the goods. Yet the rooms defeated the object of the exercise on three counts. (1) Though the walls were quite adequately insulated against outside noise the extractor fan contributed enough noise to drown ambient sounds in the programme material and thus destroyed realism. (2) Being so small and often over-full of listeners the room's cut-off frequency was rather high and thus bass performance was often disappointing. (3) The flexible walls tended to resonate at various frequencies giving unusual colouration to speakers.

The only demonstrations which got round this problem had the speakers positioned against the rear wall or had the speaker mounted in a solid framework. Goldring went a step further and employed special "monitor" units built on the transmission line principle—an inverted horn which, unlike most speakers, gives even performance in very different circumstances.

To these criticisms-which are the reasons why visitors to the Audio Fair should not be expected to believe their ears on all occasions-must be added one more. Even if the listening rooms were acoustically excellent how could one judge.say, a new cartridge? Not, as it seems to be generally assumed, by playing it without comparison in a named system. Very few visitors to the Fair are likely to have exactly the arm/amplifier/speaker combination as that demonstrated. Perhaps the best answer is simply to have cartridges of different makes demonstrated in turn by different manufacturers in a listening room set aside for the purpose. (Any amplifier/speaker combination of good overall quality could be used.) Tape decks and even radio tuners could be compared in this way.

Apart from the live demonstrations the Audio Fair could be only an audio supermarket with the goods on view and data sheets to indicate performance.

Accepting that Olympia has proved itself able to contain multiple live demonstrations the following recommendations are made. (1) That extractor fans be housed at the end of a tube connected to the listening room. (2) That each room be enlarged if possible to say 25 feet in length. (3) That short of having plaster-board walls, rigid panels be fixed where possible especially for demonstrations employing direct radiator loudspeakers.

In discussing new equipment that seems of especial interest it seems sensible to proceed from signal sources through to the speakers.

The M15 range of moving magnet cartridges with replaceable styli now offered by **Ortofon** have a frequency response of 20Hz to 20kHz \pm 2dB (20Hz to 10kHz \pm 1dB), a channel separation of 30dB (at 1kHz), a recommended stylus pressure of 1.5g, and an output of 12mV (into 47k Ω) from a normally recorded level. No transformer is required. A variant range, the MF15, is available for heavier duty work such as on automatic record changers and for playing 78 r.p.m. records. Metrosound (Sales) Ltd., Cartersfield Road, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

From **Bang & Olufsen** the Beogram 1800, a semi-automatic record-player unit, features a pickup arm with built-in bias compensation, and uses the new SP10A cartridge. The arm operates automatically on pressing a button. At the end of the record the arm lifts and the motor is automatically switched off.



Provision has been made for a pre-amplifier which is simply pushed into a slot in the base. Specification includes a wow figure of $\pm 0.2\%$ peak and a rumble level better than 35dB below reference voltage from pickup at 10cm/s. Speeds are 45 and $33\frac{1}{3}$ r.p.m. with $\pm 5\%$ fine speed adjustment. Stylus pressure is adjustable up to 3.5g. The cartridge specification includes frequency response $15Hz - 25kHz \pm 3dB$, channel separation better than 20dB between 500Hz and 10kHz, output of 5mV (into $47k\Omega$ at 5cm/s, compliance of 25×10^{-6} cm/ 574

The Truspeed is a new turntable and pickup combination from Leak. Frequency response is said to be free from resonance in the range



20Hz -20kHz and stereo separation better than 25dB at 1kHz. Wow is less than 0.1% and flutter less than 0.02%. The unit as illustrated costs £65 13s 3d. H. J. Leak & Co. Ltd., Brunel Road, London W.3.

The Goldring Lenco turntable model GL69 has a continuously variable speed adjustment (30—86 r.p.m.) and the pickup arm has a removable plug-in shell which can accommodate all standard fixing cartridges for both mono and stereo reproduction. Both the height of the arm and the position of the stylus in the headshell can be adjusted to give opti-



mum tracing. The stylus pressure is adjustable (by sliding counterweight) and the pickup can be lowered on to the record by means of a viscously damped lowering device. A plinthmounted version (GL 69/P) is also available. The L 69 pickup arm which is fitted to the GL 69 is also available separately. The chassis version of the GL 69 costs £25 1s 6d. Goldring Manufacturing Co. (G.B.) Ltd., 486-488 High Road, Leytonstone, London E.11.

Two new tape decks were demonstrated by **Tandberg.** The 6000X (illustrated) costing (194), comes in two-track and four-track versions. It has provision for magnetic and ceramic cartridge inputs, independent record and playback systems, sound on sound facilities, a centre channel amplifier, four way mixing, and a 25dB limiter. Wow and flutter figures given are 0.07%, 0.14%, and 0.28% at $7\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{3}{4}$, and $1\frac{7}{8}$ i.p.s. respectively. The 1600X is a very simple deck, costing £89. It has a frequency response similar to that of the



6000X but has not quite as good a signal-tonoise ratio. Farnell Tandberg Ltd, Hereford House, Vicar Lane, Leeds 2.

The Variocord 263 from **Uher** is a stereo tape recorder with interchangeable head mounts allowing a quick change-over between $\frac{1}{4}$ -track and $\frac{1}{2}$ -track recording. A comparator controls tape tension during record, playback, rewind and breaking. This contributes to the wow and flutter figure of $\pm 0.05\%$ at $7\frac{1}{2}$ i.p.s.



This recorder has a frequency range of 30Hz -20kHz at $7\frac{1}{2}$ i.p.s. At $3\frac{3}{4}$, and $1\frac{7}{8}$ i.p.s. the upper limit is 15 and 8kHz respectively. Each channel amplifier can deliver 4W into 4. Bosch Ltd., Rhodes Way, Radlett Road, Watford, Herts.

The Stereofetic f.m. tuner from Leak has high sensitivity, low distortion, and four unusual controls. One button is pressed to search for stereo transmissions (mono signals being automatically muted). Two press buttons control the noise level during stereo reception giving, all in all, three intermediate steps between mono and full stereo. A 'mono lock' can be used to obtain a mono effect even with the 'stereo only' button pressed. Also, an a.f.c. control is included. Specifications for perfor-



mance include a.m. suppression of 50dB and a signal-to-noise ratio of 60dB. Five filters are included to eliminate whistles when using a tape-recorder. Price of chassis model £56 11s: wood case model £63 14s 5d. H. J. Leak & Co. Ltd., Brunel Road, London W.3.

A stereo f.m. tuner with a sensitivity of 1 µV for 30dB signal-to-noise ratio was displayed by Revox. The input section features dual gate f.e.ts and quadruple variable capacitor tuning while the i.f. strip consists of a passive Gauss filter followed by an i.c. amplifier of 5MHz bandwidth. Delay lines are employed for demodulation without reducing the bandwidth. A 76kHz oscillator runs phaselocked to the subcarrier and suppliesscaling-the switching after binary frequency to the stereo demodulator. The A76 tuner costs 155gn. C. E. Hammond & Co Ltd, 90 High Street, Eton, Berks.

The Sinclair Project 60, comprising a Stereo Sixty pre-amp, two Z30 power amps, and a power supply is a low-distortion integrated system. The instruction manual



is comprehensive and seems to leave nothing to chance. It should be noted that though the Z30 amplifiers are advertised as being capable of delivering 24W continuous sine-wave this power level can only be delivered into 3 Ω with a rail just above 30V. With a 12-volt rail and a 16 Ω load the maximum continuous output power is reduced to 0.75W. Sinclair Radionics Ltd, 22 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DU.

Howland-West were demonstrating I.M.F. transmission-line speakers. At low frequenciesthe line adds acoustic mass to the diaphragm,



doubles its effective area, and more that halves diaphragm motion. At higher frequencies the line absorbs the back way from the driver. A professional monito

Wireless World, December 1969

model (as used by Goldring in their listening room) and a smaller domestic monitor model are available. Howland-West Ltd, 2 Park End, South Hill Park, London N.W.3.

The latest loudspeaker developed by Celestion is the Ditton 25. The mid range, from 2 to 9kHz, is handled by two movingcoil pressure units, the upper frequencies, 9 to 40kHz, by a u.h.f. unit, and the bass by a 12in driver coupled to a 12in auxiliary bass radiator. Overall frequency response is from 20Hz to 40kHz and this is within $\pm 2dB$ from 60Hz to 20kHz. The power handling capacity is 25W (r.m.s. signal) and the impedance 4-8 Ω . Price £59 17s. -Rola Celestion Ltd, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

A new large loudspeaker from **Richard Allag**, the Super Sarabande, employs a 15in bass speaker and has a frequency range of 25Hz to 17kHz. The impedance is 8 or 15 Ω and the power handling capacity 20W. Cost £56. Richard Allan Radio Ltd, Bradford Road, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, Yorks.

A frequency range of 26Hz to 22kHz ind a power-handling capacity of 40W are wo characteristics of the new Magister oudspeaker from Goodmans. The bass is -iandled by 15in unit. It is claimed that dequate listening levels in the home will be obtained using a 10W amplifier output. Goodmans Loudspeakers Ltd, Axiom -Vorks, Lancelot Road, Wembley, Middx.

The model 70 speaker, which incorporates ne 701 electrostatic mid-range and h.f. nit and the DW13/2 bass radiator -llustrated) took pride of place at **Bowers** nd Wilkins demonstration. The eleven nodule doublet electrostatic unit handles all



equencies above 40Hz. The unit has a unique stribution pattern to obtain good stereo -ability and increase the ratio of reverberant

direct sound. The pattern is virtually cular in a vertical plane through mid band equencies, providing a wide and uniform arc rwards, with a strong rear radiating pattern er which the customer has control. Less an 0.5% distortion is obtained from model at 35W r.m.s. input. Also introduced was e DM1 speaker. This is a three unit system th a laminated glass cone bass radiator and e Celestion HF1300 Mk 2 tweeter. Power ndling capacity is 10W. Frequency response the bass end rolls off gradually below OHz. The model 70 speaker costs £150 d the DM1 £32. B & W Electronics, tlehampton Road, Worthing, Sussex.

Application Notes

Circuitry selected from device manufacturers' literature

Wideband Amplifier. The Amplifier shown below has a 3-dB bandwidth of 14MHz and a voltage gain of 20. The input impedance is $10k \Omega$. R_1 is a parasitic stopper, which may not be needed with careful construction. Circuit extracted from the publication "E-Line Transistor Applications" produced by Ferranti Ltd.



Wide-range Wien Bridge Oscillator. The oscillator has five ranges as follows: 15-200Hz, 150Hz-2kHz, 1.5-20kHz, 15-200kHz and 150kHz-2MHz. The output is IV r.m.s. with less than 0.2% harmonic distortion at 1kHz. Frequency of oscillation is given by $1/2\pi RC$. Extracted from the publication "E-Line Transistor Applications" produced by Ferranti Ltd.



Electronically Stepped Curve Tracer

Equipment for displaying transistor characteristic curves and load lines on a c.r.o.

by A. J. Sargent

The principle of a simple curve tracer in which base current is stepped by means of a manually operated switch has been described in a previous Wireless World article¹. The arrangement provides a useful aid for students, and inspired the development of an electronic stepping circuit with provision for displaying load lines.

The principle of operation is the same as in the original article and is illustrated by Fig. 1. The collector-emitter p.d. is swept in half-wave rectified pulses and provides the c.r.o. X-deflection signal. The test transistor current flowing in Ry develops the Ydeflection p.d. Base current is stepped in equal increments by the staircase generator on successive sweeps of the collector voltage and recycles back to zero after the required number of steps. The polarity of the collector supply p.d. and of base current increments is reversed by the switch S₃ for p-n-p or n-p-n operation and for diode forward and reverse characteristics. The magnitude of base current steps is selected by switch S₄. The switch S5 allows an external load resistor to be connected in series with the transistor if required.

The electronic stepping circuit is shown in Fig. 2. A normal power supply provides 12V d.c. to the remainder of the stepping circuit. R_1 and D_3 produce a 6V, 50Hz square wave which is applied to the pump² formed by C_3 , D_4 , Tr_1 and C_4 . The values of C_3 and C_{4} are chosen so that the p.d. across C_{4} is pumped up in 1V steps. One step occurs for each positive going edge of the square wave input. When C_4 p.d. reaches the peak-point potential 3 of the u.j.t., the emitter-base 1 circuit becomes highly conducting and rapidly discharges C_4 to the valley-point potential³ of the u.j.t. Tr_2 and Tr_3 form an emitter-follower with high enough input impedance to ensure negligible sag of the staircase waveform due to charge leaking from C_4 . The number of steps in the staircase can be controlled by RV_1 which varies the interbase p.d. of the u.j.t. and so alters the peak-point potential at which C_4 is recycled. The relative d.c. levels of the staircase output and the test transistor can be adjusted as required by means of RV_2 . The waveforms obtained for the whole system with an n-p-n transistor are shown in Fig. 3. It is important to phase the supply transformer secondary windings so as to obtain the collector sweep p.d. during the second half of the step horizontal region as

shown in Fig. 3. If this is not done then the traces obtained are spoilt by the slow rising edges of the steps which cause base current to change during the collector sweep. Direct coupling to the c.r.o. X and Y plates is preferable, although the writer has obtained quite reasonable results by using a Telequipment Serviscope with direct Y coupling and a.c. coupling to the X plates. The recycling frequency is 50/n Hz where *n* is the number of steps in the staircase. With 5 or more steps the recurrence frequency is rather slow and a long persistence tube would be an advantage.

Load-line display is obtained by connecting an external load resistor in series with the test transistor. Switch S_5 serves this purpose in Fig. 1. The resulting traces are illustrated in Fig. 4. The ends of the curves correspondwith points on the required load line. The test transistor may be heated with the loadin circuit and the resulting shift of the traces helps to give students a clear insightinto the need for d.c. stabilisation in common-emitter circuits.

Most of the components used are no critical. Those needing some selection are D_3 to obtain 1V steps, the base inpuresistors to obtain the required magnitude of current increments and Ry to obtain 1 deflection calibration. An alternative way o obtaining adjustment of step height is to tailor the value of C_3 or C_4 . The main transformer used must have two separat secondary windings. A Radiospares rectifie transformer with two 45V windings wa-



Fig. 1. Main circuit of curve tracer.



Fig. 2. Circuit of staircase generator.

Wireless World, December 1969



Fig. 3. Waveforms of potential with respect to staircase generator negative rail, when the test transistor is an n-p-n type with an external load.

used. A potential divider across one winding provides the collector sweep p.d., and this resistor chain should be ventilated and mounted well away from the rest of the circuit. A potentiometer could be used to give incremental control of collector voltage. Both windings need to be floating with respect to the c.r.o. earth terminal to allow them to take up varying potentials in both positions of the polarity switch. A complementary two-transistor bistable circuit² may be used to replace the u.j.t. if no unijunction transistor is available.

The Y scale is 10mA per deflection volt when R_Y has a value of 100 Ω . The current scale of the displayed curves is obtained by dividing this figure by the volt/cm setting of the Y amplifier. For example, a setting of 0.5V/cm gives a current scale of 20mA/cm. The X scale can be calibrated in one of several ways. The test transistor may be replaced by a known resistor connected between collector and emitter terminals. This produces an oblique line trace whose slope is 1/R mA/V where R is the resistance in kilohms. For example, a $1k \Omega$ resistor gives 1mA/V so that the X scale can be calibrated by interpolation between X and Y scales. Another method is to connect the staircase p.d. to the X input with Y input disconnected. This gives a horizontal row of bright spots at intervals of 1V on the c.r.t. The method shown in Fig. 1 uses zener diodes as a calibration reference. When switch S₆ is put in the calibration position the test transistor is disconnected and the zener diode reference potential is connected to the X input. The resulting trace is a horizontal line with a bright point at each end. The separation distance of the bright

points corresponds to the zener reference p.d. Two diodes are used so that the calibration system works irrespective of the position of the polarity switch. The calibration of base current increments depends on the values of the base input resistors. The potential applied to the resistors has 1V steps so that current increments are given by $1/R_b$. The values $250k \Omega$, $100k \Omega$, $25k \Omega$ and $10k \Omega$ give current steps of $4\mu A$, $10\mu A$, $40\mu A$ and $100\mu A$



Fig. 4. Characteristic curves for (above) 2N1304— $\Delta I_{b}=10\mu A$, $I_{c}=0.4mA/cm=1.5V/cm$, $load=5k \Omega$ (below) 2N3819— $\Delta V_{gs}=1V$, $I_{d}=3.2mA/cm$, $V_{ds}=1.5V/cm$, $load=560 \Omega$



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respectively. The adjustment of RV_2 allows the first step to be set to give zero base current. This adjustment compensates for the valley-point potential of the u.j.t. and for the emitter junction volt drops of Tr_2 and Tr_3 .

The curve tracer has been used to display characteristics of junction transistors, field effect transistors and zener diodes. Temperature effects can be examined and if collector sweep p.d. is increased sufficiently then the avalanche region of characteristics can be displayed without damaging the transistor. The system is capable of considerable refinement but even in its simple form it provides a valuable teaching aid that is capable of yielding useful measurements.

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Books Received

Hi-Fi Year Book 1970 follows the same pattern as the previous issues. It presents in concise form detailed specifications and up-to-date prices for almost every item of hi-fi equipment currently available on the British market. Details are given of over 2,000 items from more than 300 manufacturers or importers, and there are over 700 illustrations. The first 54 pages are taken up by seven articles describing theoretical and practical points about speakers, tape recorders and radio tuners. Pp.431. Price 20s, postage 3s. IPC Electrical-Electronic Year Books Ltd, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London S.E.1.

Classificatore Universale dei Transistori, by Vittorio Banfi, is in two volumes. In Vol. 1 about 4,000 types of transistors with allowable dissipation in excess of 5W are described, and in Vol. 2 about 10,000 lower power devices are described. Data are presented in a very useful manner; e.g. power dissipation and cut-off frequency are given for identical conditions, and the grouping and subgrouping method used facilitates tracking down devices for specific applications. Antonio Benvenga, Editrice Antonelliana, Via Legnano 27, 10128 Torino, Italy.

Radio Year Book 1969/70, lists recent television sets, radiograms, record players, table and portable radio receivers, mains operated and battery tape recorders, and tape recording accessories. There are over 1000 entries and more than half are illustrated. The tape recorder section has been limited to models costing up to £130. (The more expensive tape recorders are to be found in "Hi-Fi Year Book".) Technical details of models are given along with addresses and telephone numbers of suppliers and makers. Two articles, one on television the other on v.h.f. radio, take up the first 16 pages. Pp. 215. Price 15s, postage 2s 6d. IPC Electrical-Electronic Year Books Ltd, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London S.E.1.

Simple Linear A.C.

Voltmeter

by G.W. Short*

A simple single-stage transistor amplifier can be used to improve the linearity of a rectifier type a.c. voltmeter without altering its sensitivity. This is often useful when an ordinary d.c. meter with a linear scale has to be adapted for a.c. measurements. Simply adding a rectifier would spoil the linearity and render the original calibration unusable; at least over the lower part of the scale. If the voltages to be measured are less than about 1 V there is no easy way out of the problem, and if a rectifier is used, the meter scale must either be re-calibrated or, more probably, a fairly elaborate amplifier-rectifier circuit with at least two transistors must be employed.

The circuit described here is for use with inputs which are too large to justify building a sensitive millivoltmeter circuit but small enough to impair linearity, from say, 1 to 10 V r.m.s.

A relatively simple active circuit (Fig.1) is sufficient to produce a very worthwhile improvement in linearity at this sort of input level while leaving the meter sensitivity virtually unchanged. Meter multiplier resistances can be added and are calculated on the basis of the d.c. characteristics of the meter movement, or if desired, an existing multiplier can be used.

Operation of the circuit is quite straightforward. The meter is connected between output and input of the amplifier stage, thereby introducing a large amount of negative feedback. Study of the circuit will show that the signal source must supply slightly more r.m.s. current than is needed for normal meter fullscale deflection. The extra current being the base input current of the amplifier transistor. Looked at in a slightly different way, the feedback current which flows via the meter back to the base cancels all of the input signal current except that which is needed to drive the transistor.

If the transistor gives a high current gain the base current is so small that it can be neglected. If, for example, the working current gain is 200-readily obtainable with modern transistors



-then the input signal current for f.s.d. need only be about 0.5% greater than the nominal meter f.s.d. current. In practical applications a 0.5% error is negligible.

Linearizing action

To account for the improvement in linearity it is easiest to consider signal voltages rather than the signal currents. The nonlinearity of a rectifier-meter results from the fact that the diodes used pass very little current until their forward zener voltage is exceeded. An ideal rectifier would pass no current at all until forward biased by a voltage equal to the forward zener voltage and thereafter its forward resistance would fall to zero and unlimited current would flow. All practical rectifiers have finite forward resistances and curved voltage-current characteristics which blur the non-linearity somewhat, but it is still there. In this circuit, the diodes are in the negative feedback path. If the voltage across the diodes is too small to overcome the forward zener voltage then the negative feedback is small. Small feedback, however, implies high gain. It follows that for very small inputs, the input signal is subject to something approaching the nonfeedback gain. A small signal voltage at the base is sufficient to produce enough amplified voltage at the collector to bias the diodes to conduction, whereupon negative feedback is increased and the amplification made more or less independent of the transistor characteristics.

To put some numbers in, if germanium diodes are used in a bridge rectifier circuit, then the total forward bias needed to overcome the zener voltage is about 500mV. If the stage gain (base to collector) is 100, then an input of 5mV peak at the base will just make the rectifiers conduct strongly. The non-linearity is thus reduced by a factor approximately equal to the voltage gain. The figure of 100 for voltage gain is quite practical, as mentioned earlier. With this order of amplification, and an input of 1 V or more for f.s.d., the non-linearity is compressed into the first tenth of the scale, or less, and is negligible for most purposes.

Circuit design

The circuit is not unduly sensitive to variations in supply voltage or transistors (provided that h_{fe} is high). With the capacitance values shown in Fig. 1 and a multiplier resistance R_m of 1 k Ω (the lowest practicable value for the f.s.d. of 500 μ A chosen) the response is 10% down at 7 Hz. The upper frequency limit depends on the compactness of the wiring and the rectifiers. Using point contact diodes, with an amplifier built on a tag strip supported by the meter terminals, the upper limit was about 3 MHz. Ordinary copper oxide meter rectifiers will give improved linearity but a much lower cut-off frequency.

A step-by-step design procedure is given below. This makes provision for moderately peaky waveforms by allowing for peak voltages and currents five-times the r.m.s. values.

Design Procedure

I _m	= meter current for full scale deflection.
rm	= meter coil resistance.
V_{f}	= forward drop of diode at 5. I_m
(1) I_{C}	$= 5. I_m$
(2) V _{CE}	$= 5. I_m r_m + 2V_f$
(3) R_1	$= h_{fe} (V_{CE} - 0.7) / I_C$ for silicon transistors
R_1	$= h_{fe} (V_{CE} - 0.2) / I_C$ for germanium transistors
(4) R_2	$= (V_{cc} - V_{CE}) I_c$
$(5) R_M$	$= V_{IN}$ (f.s.d.) I_m
(6) C_1	$> 10/(2 \pi f_{MIN}.R_{M(MIN)})$
$(7) C_{2}$	$> 1/(2 \pi f_{MIN}.R_2)$

Stereo Image Width Control

A circuit designed to give linear control of the width of a stereo image

by A. Roberts

Although modern stereophonic recordings of music are steadily improving, one still comes across disc recordings in which the apparent image width or spread of stereo reproduction is unsatisfactory. In some cases excessive crosstalk between channels reduces the image width. On the other hand, the increasingly popular technique, used mainly in light music, of recording the left and right channels with little or no crosstalk, produces odd effects such as "hole in the middle". To get the best results, some degree of control over the image width at the reproducer appears to be desirable.

There are several well known ways of controlling stereophonic image width. The most popular method involves matrixing the left hand (a) and right hand (b) signals into a + b and a - b, introducing relative attenuation between these signals, and then matrixing the modified outputs into a' and b' by addition and subtraction as before. It is difficult to include gain in such circuits and the necessary laws of the controls are usually not easy to obtain with normal components.

The circuit described below provides gain and gives fairly linear control of the output image width from 0% (mono) to approximately 165% of the image width, using two ganged linear controls.

The action of the circuit (Fig. 1) is quite simple. Cross-coupling the emitters of the two transistors Tr_1 and Tr_2 by R_x introduces a negative component of crosstalk in the emitter currents. This in itself would produce image widening if R_y were not present. When R_y is a short-circuit the outputs are made common, and the image width is zero. When

$$R_y = \frac{R_x R_z}{R_w}$$

it cancels the effect of R_x and there is no widening of the image. If R_y is greater than

$$\frac{R_x R_z}{R_w}$$

the output image is widened since not all of the negative crosstalk currents at the emitters is removed by R_y at the collectors. The two outputs V_a' and V_b' (Fig. 1) can be written as, $V_a' = -p(V_a + nV_b)$ and $V_b' = -p(V_b + nV_a)$, where *n* is variable between + I and -0.25 for the practical circuit. The factor *p* is also controlled to



give constant subjective loudness, independent of the width setting. For a more detailed analysis, see Appendix 2.

Practical circuit

The prototype (Fig. 2 and photograph) was designed to operate at a signal level of -10 dBm (250 mV r.m.s.) with unity gain and an overload factor of 18 dB (clipping occurs at about 1.75 V r.m.s.). Such conditions should satisfy most users, more complicated techniques are needed to operate at higher levels without drastically increasing the rail voltage. The control, R_7 and R_{13} , is a two-gang I k Ω linear wirewound potentiometer, connected so that the wipers move apart on the circuit diagram to increase the image width.

The transistors Tr_3 and Tr_4 allow separation of the a.c. and d.c. collector loads of Tr_1 and Tr_2 , since they both operate as current sinks to the d.c. components of Tr_1 and Tr_2 collector currents. The circuit equations are functions of the emitter and collector resistor networks of Tr_1 and Tr_2 , and so the output load resistances must be large compared with the collector network in order to eliminate errors. However,



Fig. 1. Basic a.c. circuit of the design.

transistors Tr_3 and Tr_4 also operate as emitter followers of the collectors of Tr_1 and Tr_2 , providing good output isolation and low source impedances for the outputs. In fact the resistances presented to the collectors of Tr_1 and Tr_2 by Tr_3 and Tr_4 are respectively R_8 and R_{11} , each in parallel with the output load impedance multiplied by the h_{fe} of the transistors Tr_3 and Tr_4 . This is effectively 30 k Ω each, much larger than the network of R_6 , R_7 , R_{13} , R_{14} . The output source resistance has been measured at about 30 Ω . The circuit has only one drawback, it needs to be driven from low impedance signal sources to avoid major discrepancies between theoretical and practical responses. This is because the emitter resistances of Tr_1 and Tr_2 must be small compared with the emitter network.

Now,

$$R_e = \frac{R_s}{h_{fe}}$$

where R_s is the source resistances and h_{fe} is approximately 400 for 2N930 transistors. Thus for R_e to be less than 5 Ω , R_s must be less than 2 k Ω . These values introduce approximately 0.5% error in the responses. Overall d.c. feedback is applied to stabilize

the operating conditions, the two feedback paths have a common decoupling capacitor C_{5^3} so that relative drift in the two channels

is eliminated. This is desirable since it removes d.c. from R_{10} . Any d.c. present in R_{10} would reduce the clipping level of the circuit.

As expected, the gain/frequency characteristic is a straight line between 15 Hz and 50 kHz, $\pm 0.5\%$. The input resistances are basically those of the bias chains, and distortion is typically -45 dB of second harmonic, relative to the working level, 250 mV. The minimum impedance the circuit can drive to full output is 750 Ω .

In practice the amplitude and crosstalk responses are precisely those predicted mathematically in Fig. 4. Since the crosstalk coefficient n is basically logarithmic over a large section of the control range, the image of a stereo signal processed by the circuit has width nearly linearly dependent on the control setting. This relationship holds until the image fills the available



Fig. 2. Practical circuit for construction. R_7 and R_{13} are ganged.



Fig. 3. Equivalent circuit of Fig. 1.



Fig. 4. Calculated response of the control circuit.



Fig. 5. Crosstalk coefficient of processed signals, when input crosstalk is 10 dB.

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sound stage, i.e. at least part of the image appears to come from one loudspeaker directly. If it is attempted to further widen the image, the extremes will "fold back" towards the centre and become indistinct, because the two channels have some negative correlation. The effect is similar to that of phase reversal of one channel. Fig. 5 shows the output crosstalk of a stereo signal pair processed by the circuit, when 10 dB crosstalk is present in the inputs. Comparisons between this and published curves of image width versus crosstalk¹ show that the relationship between image width and control setting is very nearly linear.

Because of the large amounts of d.c. and a.c. negative feedback employed, the functioning of the circuit is independent of the transistor parameters, provided that h_{fe} is large. The measured h_{fe} of the 2N930 transistors used in the prototype was greater than 400 in each case. BC109s are suitable alternatives, particularly in view of their low cost and extremely low noise figure.

¹ Harwood, H. D., "Stereophonic Image Sharpness", Wireless World, July 1968.

Acknowledgement

The author wishes to express his thanks to the Director of Engineering of the British Broadcasting Corporation for permission to publish this article.

Appendix 1

The outputs V_a' and V_b' (Fig. 1) are to follow the equations $V_a' = -p(V_a + nV_b)$ and $V_b' = -p(V_b + nV_a)$ where V_a and V_b are the two inputs. When n = 0 the outputs are the unmodified inputs, multiplied by p, which in the practical circuit under these conditions is unity. There will be a statistical correlation between V_a and V_b in general, therefore the subjective loudness of the outputs will rise as n is increased towards +1, since when n = 1, $V_a' = -p(V_a + V_b)$ and $V_b' = -p(V_b + V_a)$. Accordingly, the factor p is reduced to 0.625 for the mono condition, i.e. a 4 dB reduction in gain.

When the circuit is used to compensate for unwanted crosstalk, the inputs can be expressed in the form, $V_a = a + mb$ and $V_b = b + ma$ where a and b are the "true" left and right channels respectively. The operation, $V_a + -p(V_a + nV_b)$ results in,

$$V_a' = -p(a + mb + mna + nb)$$

$$= -p[a(1 + mn) + b(m + n)]$$

Now if n = -m, then $V_a' = -pa(1 - m^2)$, i.e. crosstalk is eliminated and the output is reduced in amplitude by $(1 - m^2)$. To compensate for this gain reduction, p is increased to 1.12 for the condition when n = -0.25, i.e. a 1 dB rise.

Appendix 2

Fig. 3 shows the equivalent a.c. circuit of Fig. 2, using the small signal equivalent circuit of the transistors, modified for simplicity. If the emitter voltage source resistance R_e is small, the emitter voltages

are V_a and V_b respectively. Stating Kirchoff's current junction law at the emitters,

 $I_a - I_1 + I_3 = 0$

and

$$I_b - I_2 - I_3 = 0$$

 $I_a + rac{V_b - V_a}{R_x} - rac{V_a}{R_w} =$

and

$$b - \frac{V_b - V_a}{R_x} - \frac{V_b}{R_w} = 0$$

Thus:

$$V_a = V_a \frac{(R_x + R_w)}{R_x R_w} - \frac{V_b}{R_x}$$

and

$$I_b = V_b \, rac{(R_x + R_w)}{R_x R_w} - rac{V_a}{R_x}$$

So there is a negative crosstalk component in the emitter currents. If the source resistance R_e is taken into account the equations become rather complicated, but if R_e' is very large and the load resistance can be neglected, then application of Kirchoff's law at the collectors gives,

$$I_a - I_A - I_a = 0$$

and

$$I_b - I_5 + I_6 =$$

Adding,

$$I_a + I_b = I_4 + I_5$$

Therefore,

$$V_{b'} = -V_{a'} - \frac{R_z}{R_w}(V_a + V_b)$$

Substitution, manipulation and rewriting give,

$$V_a' = -mp(V_a + nV_b)$$

and

$$V_b' = -mp(V_b + nV_a)$$

where *m* is a constant, equal to the circuit gain when *n* is zero, i.e. when $R_xR_z = R_wR_y$. With the component values of the practical circuit (Fig. 2)

$$m = 1$$
 and, $R_w = 2.4$ k Ω
 $R_x = 1.2$ k Ω
 $R_y = 2x$ k Ω
 $R_z = (3 - x)$ k Ω ,

where x is the fractional rotation of the control (between 0 and 1).

Fig. 4 shows the predicted characteristics of p and n. It is a simple matter to arrange for the circuit to have gain. For a gain of m, the collector components R_6 , R_7 , R_{13} and R_{14} should all be multiplied in value by m. Alternatively the emitter components R_5 , R_{10} , R_{16} could all be divided in value by m. Obviously the biasing should be recalculated to ensure efficient usage of the rail voltage. The variable-capacitance diode, or varactor as it is often called, is now quite widely used for tuning purposes, but little information about it seems to have been published. The capacitance of any semiconductor junction diode which is reverse biased varies with the magnitude of the reverse bias, the capacitance decreasing with the applied voltage. In ordinary diodes the capacitance is associated with quite high resistive losses, but in the special varactor diodes these losses are sufficiently reduced for them to be very useful devices for tuning purposes.

One example of the varactor is the Motorola 1N5145A. At 4V reverse bias this has a capacitance of 27pF +1.3pF and a nominal capacitance ratio of 3.4 (minimum ratio 3.2) when the applied bias is changed to the maximum rated value of 60V. The nominal minimum capacitance is thus 7.85pF. In practice one cannot achieve quite such a small minimum capacitance because it is necessary to restrict the reverse bias to less than 60V in order that 60V is not exceeded under worst-case conditions. The Q is 200 at 50MHz which is a good deal higher than that of the average inductor with which it will be associated.

The law of variation with voltage is, approximately, an inverse square-root one. However, series fixed capacitance is usually needed to allow the application of the reverse bias and a tuned circuit always has shunt capacitance so that the law of variation of frequency with voltage is quite a complex expression. It turns out in practice, however, that frequency is almost exactly proportional to the logarithm of the voltage.

Fig. 1 shows the circuit of an oscillator in which the frequency is controlled by a varactor diode. The circuit is basically that of a Colpitt's oscillator in which the 6.8-pF capacitor forms one of the split capacitors and the base-emitter capacitance of the transistor forms the other.

Fig. 2 shows the measured frequency of oscillation plotted against the reverse

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Variable Capacitance Diode

using a varactor diode

Fig. 2 Variation of oscillator frequency with varactor bias

Frequency (MHz)

bias voltage V_d . The amplitude of oscillation was about 1.1V peak. It must, of course, be less than the minimum reverse bias to prevent the varactor from conducting during part of the r.f. cycle. It should be much less to minimize capacitance variations during the cycle. It can be seen from Fig. 2 that only three of the points lie slightly off the straight line drawn through the other 10 points and it is probable that this is because of experimental errors.

This law of frequency variation will hold for any mid-band frequency as determined by the inductance, as long as the circuit continues to oscillate with the capacitance values given.



Wireless World Logic Display Aid

8: Some demonstration circuits. Using a large screen oscilloscope

designed by B. S. Crank*

In this, the last article in the series, a few circuits will be described that may be used with the *Wireless World* Logic Display Aid to demonstrate various logic functions. Also a modification to the blanking arrangements allowing the instrument to be used with large, slow-scan demonstration oscilloscopes, will be discussed (See also "Letters to the Editor", p. 519, November issue).

AND-OR demonstration unit

This unit consists of a box containing 32 switches arranged as per Fig. 91. The switches are grouped in sets of eight and are labelled A, B, C, D, \overline{A} , \overline{B} , \overline{C} , \overline{D} . The variables represented by the switches in a particular group will be "ANDed" together when the appropriate switches are operated. For instance, if S_1 , S_6 , S_3 and S_8 are operated the display aid will show the function ABCD. The TRUE variables are allocated red switches and the complements have black switches.

Switches operated in different groups will be "ORed" together. The exclusive OR function would be set up as follows:

exclusive OR = A
$$\overline{B} + \overline{A} B$$

= $S_1 S_6 \quad S_{13} S_{10}$

•

Because there are four groups of switches Boolean expressions consisting of four sets of AND terms can be "ORed" together. Some examples are the binary SUM and CARRY equations:

 $SUM = A\overline{B}\overline{C} + \overline{A}\overline{B}C + \overline{A}\overline{B}\overline{C} + ABC$

 $CARRY = AB\overline{C} + A\overline{B}C + \overline{A}BC + ABC$



Basic facts like $A\overline{A} = 0$ and $A + \overline{A} = 1$ can be instantly demonstrated using the demonstration unit. It can also be used to demonstrate minimization (ABCD + ABCD = ABC.etc.)

The switches used are miniature two-pole changeover types obtainable from G. W. Smiths. A 10% reduction on the catalogue price can be obtained if 32 are purchased.

Fig. 92 shows part of the circuitry of the demonstration unit. One four-input gate, expanded to nine inputs with five diodes, is used for each group of switches. The common point of the diodes is connected directly to the input node of the gate (pins 3 or 11 of ZN33OE—see Fig. 29, June issue). Operation of a switch will connect the variable represented by that switch to one of the inputs of the gate for the particular group.

Fig. 93 shows the remainder of the circuitry which earths one of the inputs to the gate for a particular group of switches when all switches in that group are open. If this were not done, then, unless at least one switch in each group is operated, the output from the demonstration unit would permanently be at logical 1.

If the black switches are taken to represent the TRUE variable and the red the complement, and if the output of the unit is connected to the \overline{Z} input terminal of the display aid the unit will operate in negative logic and will therefore perform the NAND-NOR functions.

Basic logic function unit

This consists of a box, which is plugged into the output variable socket of the display aid, and has outputs corresponding to the main logic functions. The front panel is shown in Fig. 94 and in use the Z input to the display aid is connected to one of the gate outputs on the front panel.

The circuit is shown in Fig. 95 where it can be seen that the OR function is obtained by feeding \overline{A} and \overline{B} and \overline{C} to a NAND gate. Wire-up the circuit as illustrated in Fig. 96 using two ZN362Es.

Demonstrating sequential logic circuits

The output of the sequential logic circuits can be displayed on the instrument provided the frequency of operation is low enough to be followed with the eyes. All that needs to be done is to compare the output of the sequential circuit with the output variables of the display aid in such a way as to provide a Z output when both are in the same condition. In our example of Fig. 97 we have used a two-bit binary counter which can be made to cycle continuously or operate in a single shot mode. In the prototype of this circuit which was built on a single plugin card, a four-bit counter was employed with an extra

*Assistant editor Wireless World.



Fig. 92. Some of the switch wiring.

Fig. 93. The remainder of the switch wiring.



(Below) Fig. 97. Demonstrating sequential circuits. A two bit counter which may be extended to four or six bits, depending upon instrument type.









Wander plug sockets Cable Plug to output variable socket

R



(Righl) Fig. 95. Showing how the basic B logic functions are obtained with NAND gates.

AND

0

8

ABC



(Right) Fig. 96. Practical wiring diagram of Fig. 95.

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Fig. 98. Altering the blanking arrangements to give better performance and about 4V output for LAN Electronics' 19-in oscilloscope.

switch which altered the length to three bits when required. The switch S_2 allows the output of a lowfrequency multivibrator for continuous operation, or a trigger circuit for single shot operation, to be selected. S_1 causes the counter to increase one count at a time when S_2 is in the single shot position.

The output of any sort of counter, be it n.b.c.d., Johnson, etc., can be displayed in this way so that all the possible states are seen in turn on the screen. The same limitations as for combinational circuits apply of course, three outputs for Venn diagrams and Truth tables or four or six outputs (depending on instrument type) for Karnaugh maps.

Using the instrument with a large oscilloscope

For a demonstration it was necessary to use a large 19-inch screen slow-scan oscilloscope. The particular instrument chosen was manufactured by LAN Electronics Ltd. An examination of the specification showed that the Z axis required a normal logic input of only about 4V for full modulation of the beam.

The circuit was altered accordingly using much the same principle as before. The blanking arrangements used in the display aid did not prove very satisfactory in this case as several of the dots appeared as lines.

The circuit of Fig. 98 was finally employed. The 60V power supply and the video amplifier were no longer required and were dispensed with. The transistor of Fig. 98 is normally held on by the base resistor. On the receipt of a negative transient from the clock generator the transistor switches off for a time determined by the 0.05 μ F input capacitor. The pulse at the collector is used to trigger the monostable of Fig. 69 (Sept. issue) via C₉. The video output to the large oscilloscope was taken from the junction of the output of the monostable and the video output of the logic circuits. The monostable clamps the video output of the logic circuits and therefore the necessary delay between a clock pulse and the video output signal is provided.

To revert to modification -4 in the October issue it should have been mentioned that it is necessary to reduce the size of the clock generator capacitors to 0.01μ F to prevent flicker.

Announcements

"Micro-electronics applied to digital systems" is the title of a course of lectures organized by the Electrical & Electronic Engineering Department of Sunderland Polytechnic. The lectures are offered both as an evening course and a day course commencing in January.

Wireless World, December 1969

The Yorkshire Television careers film "I am an engineer—electrical", a 16mm black-and-white film lasting 20 minutes, is now available on loan from the Education Department, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London W.C.2.

"Introducing metrication into your company" is the title of a one-day seminar organized by Business & Industrial Training Ltd, (161-166 Fleet Street, London E.C.4) in association with *Engineering Materials & Design* to be held at the following venues: Airport Excelsior Hotel, Manchester (December 2nd); Royal Garden Hotel, London (December 9th); Airport Excelsior Hotel, Birmingham (December 11th). The fee is $\pounds 20$.

Techmation Ltd are to hold an international seminar on analytical laboratory techniques at the Royal Garden Hotel, London W.8, from December 2nd to 4th. Tickets are available from Tachmation Ltd, 58 Edgware Way, Edgware, Middx.

Pye of Cambridge Ltd is bringing together the aviation activities of Ekco Electronics Ltd in the radar field and those of Pye Telecommunications Ltd in the airport and ground-to-air communications field. The merged facility will become the **Ekco Electronics Aviation Division** of Pye Telecommunications on January 1st. In a parallel move, Ekco Electronics instrument activity will be re-named Ekco Instruments Ltd.

Interdata Inc., of Oceanport, New Jersey, has formed a wholly-owned British subsidiary to market its products. The new company, Interdata Ltd, Station House, Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx, will be responsible for the sale of the parent company's range of small, real-time, on-line control computers.

Following the introduction of an all-solid-state data transmission keyboard, the American company **Ikor Inc. have opened a U.K. office** at Chiltern House, Oxford Road, Aylesbury, Bucks, to handle local manufacture and marketing of the keyboard.

A new company, Hytron Ltd, Park Road, Crowborough, Sussex, has been formed to manufacture and sell data communications and storage equipment. The managing director is J. Hale and marketing director A. Thomas.

Alfred Herbert Ltd, of Coventry, have announced the amalgamation of two of their operating companies, Sigma Instrument Co. Ltd and Herbert-BSA Electrics Ltd, to form a new company called **Herbert Controls and Instru**ments Ltd.

Electrical Remote Control Co. Ltd, and Raymond Engineering Inc, of Connecticut, have formed a joint company, Raymond Controls Corporation, which will manufacture, import and market Elremco products in the U.S.A. and Latin America.

Racal Electronics Ltd, of Bracknell, Berks, and the Antenna Products Company of Texas have announced an agreement whereby Racal has exclusive representation of A.P.C. outside the American continent. A.P.C. are manufacturers of m.f., h.f., v.h.f., and u.h.f. aerials, and specialize in log periodic types.

Racal Electronics Ltd has announced that following discussions with the Ministry of Technology and the Industrial Reorganization Corporation it is selling the business and certain assets of **Airmec-AEI Ltd** (acquired when it took over the Controls & Communications group) to the Plessey Company Ltd.

Dixons, of 3 Soho Square, London, W.1, have been appointed exclusive U.K. distributors for the **Ikegami** range of closed-circuit television equipment.

Salford Electrical Instruments has signed an agreement to market in the U.K. the range of **Petercem micro switches** manufactured by Compagnie Electro-Mécanique, of France.

A marketing agreement has been announced between B & K Instruments Ltd and Intecole Systems Ltd, manufacturers of 'MODULOG' data logging equipment. B & K will distribute 'MODULOG' and provide full after-sales service in the U.K. and Eastern Europe.

The sale of **Eddystone Radio's** semi-domestic receivers is now concentrated through Alfred Imhof Ltd, 112-116 New Oxford Street, London W.C.1, who will act as main distributor.

Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd, have appointed Marconi Instruments as servicing agents in the U.K. for their telecommunications test gear.

London Weekend Television have purchased five RCA vision tape recorders, type TR-70B, as part of their colour expansion. The contract is valued at nearly $\int_{-\frac{1}{4}}^{\frac{1}{4}} M$.

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ww-105 FOR FURTHER DETAILS
Letter from America

Japanese competition is causing some concern in American Trade Union circles and the presidents of three of the largest unions in the electrical industry recently appealed to the Nixon administration to curb imports of electrical goods. One union leader said "This rapidly rising flood of imports from Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong and Mexico has almost eliminated U.S. domestic production in some segments of this industry". Another official stated that "More than 50% of the black-and-white TV sets sold in the U.S. during 1969 will be of foreign manufacture".

The situation is complicated by some U.S. manufacturers taking advantage of the fact that components can be sent "offshore" to be assembled and returned on a Low Value Added duty. The low wages being of course the added value. According to the Tariff Commission, about \$270 million a year of electronic products—plus some \$13 million in scientific instruments—are involved.

One area in which the Japanese are now making considerable inroads is the electronic desk calculator field. In fact, it is estimated they already have 50% of the total sales (currently assessed at 100,000 machines a year). A typical machine is the new Toshiba BC-1212 which is a 12 digit, one memory model costing less than \$ 500 (\pounds 210).

Super high-gain bipolar transistors will become serious rivals to f.e.ts in the near future. At the moment they are a little more expensive but they do offer some definite advantages such as lower leakage current and wider temperature ranges. National Semiconductor have used them in their new LM108 op. amp .- replacing the f.e.ts used in earlier types. It is claimed that the input error current equals the f.e.t. up to 50°C but is far superior at 125°. Robert Wedlar, the designer, said the current is so low at 125° that it could not be compared with an f.e.t.--or even a complicated chopper stabilized amplifier costing much more. The performance is limited by leakages in the printed boards, resistors and capacitors rather than the amplifier itself. These super-gain transistors operate at virtually zero voltage so it is necessary to use a bootstrap circuit in the LM108 but the offset voltage is typically less than 1mV. The low current error means that the 108 can be used with configurations not possible with more conventional amplifiers. It can operate from source resistances as high as $10M\Omega$,

introducing less error than other units with $10k\Omega$ sources. This high resistance allows time delays in analogue circuits of up to one hour with capacitors no larger than $1\mu F!$

RCA have just released a new time-sharing computer (model 61) which is designed for a lease price of about \$ 50,000 a month—or a cool $2\frac{1}{4}$ million cash. According to RCA's T. A. Smith, the computer revolution is only just beginning and it is destined to have a greater impact on everyone's life than originally envisaged. Some of the advances in communications expected during the next few years include students operating "teacher" computers, housewives using a special video console to order groceries and automatic car control for commuters. This last named idea is not really so far fetched and much work has already been carried out by various research organizations and highway authorities using embedded control circuits and ancillary equipment for long-distance expressways. A form of automatic control for cars was demonstrated recently by the Mellon Institute. It rejoices in the name Computerised Energy Distribution and Automatic Control, or CEDAC, and it is intended to replace automotive electrical circuitry, improve safety-and cut repair bills into the bargain! Two computers are used one to control 18 functions and the other to diagnose electrical troubles. Integrated circuits are used extensively and driver-operated master display panel a transmits signals to the central computer to perform such functions as operating door locks, windscreen washers, power windows and lighting. Capacity is provided for climate control, anti-skid devices, fuel injection and transmission and ignition sub-systems. A digital display panel can be incorporated which will provide instantaneous readout of speed, oil pressure, fuel level, engine temperature, etc. If any trouble develops, the diagnostic computer will analyse it.

A new plastic developed by Union Carbide would appear to have many advantages over existing materials. It is called Parylene and it is a better insulator than epoxys, silicones or urethanes, has a higher resistance to moisture and thermal expansion is very low. Applications include semiconductor barrier coatings, corrosion protection and encapsulation. One company—Rockwell—has been working with NASA developing techniques for vacuum depositing Parylene on complex circuit assemblies and it is claimed that tests have been very successful. Not only are electrical parameters unchanged after many hours of stringent tests but the deposited film can conform to very complex shapes.

In a new book entitled "A biography of the Watsons and I.B.M." author William Rodgers says "In all the world, one corporation dominates the future-I.B.M." The New York Times book reviewer thinks this is a little extravagant but concedes that I.B.M. does employ 250,000 people (more than half are college graduates) and that current stock value is more than the gold ever held in Fort Knox. According to Rodgers, I.B.M. activities "cover much of the worlds advanced technology in space, on the earth, under the seas and in thousands of industries". Although I.B.M. have a reputation of being a forward looking, enlightened company, I, for one, find the move towards larger and larger conglomerations very disquieting. Many business experts are predicting a greater and greater swing towards an international business oriented world during the next few years. For instance, Dr. Perlmutter, Professor of Industry at the University of Pennsylvania, believes that by 1985 there will be 200 or 300 super giant multi-national firms dominating the world. The National Industries Conference Board estimates that by 1975 some 25% of the gross national product of the free world outside the U.S. will come from branches and subsidiaries of U.S. companies operating abroad. Not enough people know that this is a two-way affair-last year foreign investors put over $2\frac{1}{2}$ billion dollars into U.S. industry via the stock exchanges. This international business accord has been welcomed by some who feel it will help the "one world" concept. Whether people will like living in a computerized world, dominated by super-national corporations is another matter

A great deal of interest was aroused by the new RCA Selectavision (SV) video cartridge tape recorder when it was demonstrated recently. This uses laser technology and it can be attached to any colour TV set (although the user cannot tape his own programmes). The tape is made of plastic and the recordings are made by an electron beam system. The tape or "colour encoded master" is then developed and converted by a laser to a series of holograms recorded on the tape with photoresist. After chemical treatment a nickel master is made and this is so durable that it can make many thousands of tapes without degradation. The playback equipment consists of a very low power laser tube plus a basic form of TV camera. The laser beam passes through the tape to the pick-up tube which sees the image colours as coded variations. How does the SV compare with the E.V.R. system of C.B.S.? Well, RCA see the most significant difference in the cost as they expect to market the system for less than \$400 (£167). Tape prices are believed to be around \$10 for a 30 minute programme and \$18 for 60 minutes. Some months ago C.B.S. said that the E.V.R. unit would sell for \$800 and tapes would be \$40.

Operational Amplifiers

10. A triangular, square-wave generator

by G. B. Clayton, B.Sc., A.Inst.P.

The circuit to be described uses an operational integrator supplied with a constant input to generate a precise triangular wave. A schematic diagram illustrating the principle of operation is given in Fig. 8. Two amplifiers are used, one acting as an integrator (A_1) and the other (A_2) acting as a regenerative comparator. Diodes D_1 , D_2 , D_3 and D_4 determine the direction of current flow into the integrator. When the comparator output is at its positive level (V_0^+) diodes D_1 and D_4 are reverse biased, diodes D_2 and D_3 are forward biased and a current $+E_s/R_3$ flows through D_2 to the summing point of amplifier A_1 . The output voltage of this



Fig. 8. Schematic for generator of triangular and square waves.





negative levels of comparator output voltage in the Fig. 8

Fig. 10. Waveforms in the triangular- and square-wave generator.

$$t_{1} = (V_{0}^{+} - V_{0}^{-}) \frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}} \cdot \frac{CR_{3}}{E_{s}}$$

$$t_{2} = (V_{0}^{+} - V_{0}^{-}) \frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}} \cdot \frac{CR_{4}}{E_{s}}$$

$$t_{1} \rightarrow t_{2} \rightarrow t_$$



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amplifier runs down at a rate $-E_s/R_3C$ volts/sec (Fig. 9(a)). With the comparator output at its negative value (V_0^-) a current $-E_s/R_4$ flows through diode D_4 away from A_1 and A_1 output voltage runs up at a rate $+E_s/R_AC$ volts/sec (Fig. 9(b)).

The output from the integrator (amplifier A_1) is applied to the non-phase-inverting terminal of amplifier A_2 (the comparator) through the resistor R_1 . The phase-inverting input terminal of amplifier A_2 is connected to earth. The comparator makes a transition between states when the voltage between the two input terminals of A_2 goes through zero. When the comparator output is in its positive state V_0^+ the transition occurs when the output from the integrator is

$$\mathbf{e}_{01} = -\left(V_o^{-}\frac{R_1}{R_2}\right)$$

and when the comparator output is in its negative state the transition occurs when

$$\mathbf{e_{01}} = -\left(\boldsymbol{V_o}^+ \frac{\boldsymbol{R_1}}{\boldsymbol{R_2}}\right).$$

Waveforms are illustrated in Fig. 10. The frequency and the periods t_1 and t_2 are conveniently set by choice of R_3 , R_4 and C.

A practical circuit giving component values is illustrated in Fig. 11. A single integrated circuit having two op. amps formed on the same silicon chip mounted in a single dual-in-line pack was selected for use. There are now several of these dual op. amps commercially available at modest cost; in fact the price of a dual amplifier is very little more than that of a single amplificr and this makes multi amplifier circuits economically attractive.

In the circuit a frequency compensating capacitor of value 4,700 pF is connected to the input lag compensating terminals of the amplifier used as an integrator. No frequency compensation is applied to the amplifier acting as the comparator. Diode clipping, using a 470 Ω resistor and four silicon diodes, is employed to accurately define the comparator output swing $(V_0^+$ and V_0^-).

The oscillograms (Fig. 12) show the triangular and square waveforms produced by the circuit using various values for R_{3} , R_4 and C. If the circuit were to be made the basis of a function generator frequency ranges could be conveniently selected by switching in different values of C and a fine control of frequency could be obtained by using potentiometers for R_3 and R_4 . Unity mark-space ratio is obtained for equal values of R_3 and R_4 , a variable mark-space ratio for independent variation of R_3 and R_4 .

The circuit functions over a wide frequency range from very low frequencies of order 0.2 Hz to 100 kHz. The 5 k Ω potentiometer is used as a balance control to cancel integrator drift due to initial amplifier offsets; the adjustment is made at the lowest frequencies. With $R_3 = R_4$ magnitude, say 2 M Ω , and $C = I \mu F$ the balance control is adjusted to give a waveform with unity mark-space ratio. The effects of integrator drift are only really appreciable for the longer timing periods and if very low frequency operation is not required the









Fig. 12. Waveforms from the triangularand square-wave generator for different values of C, R_3 and R_4 . In (a) $C = I \mu F$, $R_3 = 56 \ k\Omega, R_4 = 680 \ k\Omega;$ horizontal scale 50 ms/div. In (b) $C = 0.01 \ \mu F$, $R_3 = 56 k\Omega, R_4 = 18 k\Omega;$ horizontal scale 0.1 ms/div. In (c) C = 220 pF, $R_3 = 27 \ k\Omega, R_4 = 27 \ k\Omega;$ horizontal scale I µs/div. All waveforms, vertical scale 2 V/div.

integrator balance control could well be omitted from the circuit. At the higher frequencies the output triangular wave from the integrator shows marked switching transients (Fig. 12(c)).

Precise rectifiers

The following section was regrettably omitted from an earlier issue. With it we conclude Mr. Clayton's series of articles on op. amps.

The forward voltage drop across a solidstate diode can cause errors when the device is used for low-signal levels in a conventional rectification or detection circuit. Op. amps can be combined with diodes and resistors to perform almost ideal rectification.

For positive input signals D_1 is forward biased and D_2 is reverse biased; the output voltage is zero with output impedance R_2 .

Half Wave Rectifier



For negative input signals D_1 is reverse biased, D_2 is forward biased and the output voltage is $-e_i (R_2/R_1)$ with output impe-dance equal to the closed-loop output impedance of the amplifier. Dependent on the choice of R_2/R_1 the circuit may be used to produce gain as well as rectification. The circuit may be adapted to summation by the connection of appropriate input resistors to the amplifier summing point. In this case the amplifier will give half-wave rectification of the sum of the input signals.



The circuit shows an arrangement commonly used to obtain full-wave rectification. The first amplifier acts as a half-wave rectifier and the second amplifier as an adder. For negative input signals D_2 is reverse biased and $e_2 = 0$; the output from the second amplifier is thus $e_0 = -e_i$. For positive input signals D_2 is forward biased and $e_2 = -e_i$. The output from the second amplifier (the adder) is thus $e_0 = -(e_i + 2(-e_i)) = e_i.$



For positive inputs D_2 is reverse biased and the two inverting amplifiers are in cascade

$$\left|\frac{e_o}{e_i}\right| = \frac{R_2 R_5}{R_1 R_4}$$

For negative input signals D_1 is reverse biased and there are then two feedback paths to the summing junction of amplifier A_1 , one from the output of A_1 through D_2 and R_3 and the other from the output of A_2 through R_5 , R_4 and R_2 .

With the usual summing point restraints we have $I_1 = I_2 + I_3$. This gives

$$\frac{e_{i}}{R_{1}} = -\left(\frac{e_{o}}{R_{5} + R_{4} + R_{2}} + \frac{e_{3}}{R_{3}}\right)$$
$$e_{3} = e_{4} = e_{o} \frac{R_{2} + R_{4}}{R_{5} + R_{4} + R_{2}}$$

But

$$\left|\frac{e_o}{e_i}\right| = -\left(\frac{R_2 + R_4 + R_5}{R_3 + R_2 + R_4}\right)\frac{R_3}{R_1}$$

Using equal value resistors throughout makes

$$\left|\frac{e_o}{e_i}\right|_+ = 1$$
 and $\left|\frac{e_o}{e_i}\right|_- = -1$

Circuit (b) offers several advantages over (a). The current drain on the driving source is less, for in circuit (a) the input signal drives two amplifiers in parallel. All resistors may be made equal in circuit (b) and equal value resistors are easy to select for high accuracy. Circuit (b) may be adapted to summation by the connection of additional input resistors to the summing point of amplifier A_1 .

Amateur 70-cm band coveted

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British amateurs are reacting sharply to repeated demands by prominent manufacturers of mobile and personal two-way business communications equipment that the mobile u.h.f. band should be extended downwards to 420 MHz, thus threatening the entire amateur 70-cm band which currently extends in the U.K. from 425 to 429 and 432 to 450 MHz. While such proposals are usually accompanied by the rider that provision would have to be made for amateurs, no suggestions have been made as to how this could be done without seriously impairing the usefulness of this important amateur band. When the 70-cm band was released in October 1948, it was then 40 MHz wide, but over the years it has been whittled down to the present 22 MHz.

Amateurs point out that they were making effective use of these allocations for many years before the mobile services made practical use of u.h.f.; indeed, amateur development paved the way for the present increasing use of u.h.f. by the mobile services. Almost all amateur television experimental work is concentrated in this band, which is also highly suitable for investigation of tropospheric propagation and for moon-bouncing.

In Region 1 (including Europe), with a few exceptions, no provision is made in the international allocation table for mobile services in the section 430 to 440 MHz; in Region 2 (including U.S.A.) and Region 3 the entire allocation 420 to 450 MHz is shared by the radiolocation and amateur services.

A pertinent indication of the potential of these frequencies for extended distances is shown by the recent breaking of the world amateur 432-MHz record by a two-way contact over the 1,185-mile path between stations K2CBA, Petersburg, N.Y., and W0DRL, Topeka, Kansas. Similarly, an amateur in Virginia recently became the first to work 20 States on this band. European activity includes frequent contacts between the U.K. and western European countries. The present width of the band is of importance in allowing regional sub-divisions and the voluntary allocation of the top 16 MHz to video transmissions for amateur television.

Long delay echoes

The renewed interest in long delay ("cosmic") echoes reported in August in this section has already resulted in the total of useful reports of amateur experiences of this strange phenomenon rising to almost 50. Professor Mike Villard (W6QYT), of Stanford University, is convinced that this is a phenomenon "the origin of which is crying out to be understood". The reports now range in frequency from 810 kHz up to and including 50 and 144 MHz, two frequency bands not normally associated with ionospheric propagation. The period of the echoes ranges from -second to two reports of "super-long" delays of 5 minutes. The reports are now spaced in latitude from Canada to Peru; in longitude from Libya to the Marshall Islands; in time from 1932 to this summer. Preliminary analysis of the reports suggests that there are two main categories of echoes, one of which may be explainable in terms of retardation at the ionospheric critical frequency. The other category tends to occur at the time of opening or closing of transmission at a given frequency, when conditions are good for long distance propagation, often in times of low magnetic activity. Professor Villard (Stanford Radioscience Electronics Laboratories, Laboratory, Stanford, California) would welcome further reports from British Commonwealth amateurs.

The Young idea?

Recently a Cardiff youngster, Robert Ellis, passed his Radio Amateurs' Examination and morse test at the age of $13\frac{1}{2}$ years, and thus qualified to receive his own licence at the minimum age of 14 years. (For many years, minimum British age for a full licence was 16-as your contributor who acquired an artificial aerial licence, 2BUH, at 14 and G3VA at 16 well recalls.) An F.C.C. survey of new amateur licensees in the United States has shown that over the past 20 years there have been substantial shifts to both older and younger ages for obtaining a first licence. Although the median age of newcomers is now 24.0, compared to 25.9 in 1949, 36% of them are in the age group 16 and below, compared with only 8.5% in 1949. More than half of the newcomers were found to have been introduced to amateur radio through a relative or friend who already held a licence.

During a recent 14 MHz c.w. contest, which involved an exchange of "age" in place of the usual check serial number, the majority of operators were in the late twenties and early thirties, though an overall spread of from 17 to 60 was noted during a short period of participation.

The latest (1970) issue of the R.S.G.B. Amateur Radio Call Book includes at least a few amateurs who are known to have held the original "three letter" call signs issued before the First World War; pre-1939 call signs represent about 13% of the current licences.

Royal Signals Society

The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society with a current membership of over 600 present and former members of the Royal Signals and the R.S. Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve—is aiming to increase its membership to over 1000 by the end of 1970, which is the jubilee year of the Corps.

The Society, with members in many parts of the world, operates a headquarters station (G4RS and GB3RCS) at Blandford Camp, Dorset; produces a quarterly journal Mercury; operates a number of "nets" on several amateur bands and issues a number of awards. It also operates a QSL Bureau and acts as forum for and link between many wartime members of the Royal Signals, including the many amateurs who served in the various Special Communications Units, as well as those with much more recent experience in Army radio communications. General Secretary is: W.O.1 (F. of S.) J. Cooper (G3DPS), 15 Valley Road, Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset.

In Brief: Overall winners of the 1969 V.H.F. National Field Day were the Mid-Essex VHF-UHF Contest Group, with the Pennine V.H.F. Group as runners-up. ... Preparation of the Australis-Oscar V amateur satellite continues with the electronic package undergoing radio-frequency-interference, telemetry sensor calibration, vibration and thermal tests. Amsat (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) is seeking launch facilities for this further amateur communications satellite from the U.S. government. . . . Thailand recently withdrew its objections to amateur communication between licensed Thai stations and those in other countries. . . . French amateurs have been instrumental in securing a law which forbids proprietors of apartment buildings opposing the installation of amateur aerials. ... The Derby society has reported its highest ever membership-654 on the nominal role, with a fully paid-up membership of 221 of whom 107 hold transmitting licences. . . . The Clifton Amateur Radio Society with a clubroom open every Wednesday and Friday at 225 New Cross Road, London S.E.14, has been planning new activities to encourage wider membership (details from R. A. Hinton, 58 Camilla Road, S.E.16). ... A revised "band plan" for the 70, 144, 432 and 1296 MHz bands, as agreed at the 1969 I.A.R.U. Region 1 meeting at Brussels, comes into force (voluntarily) on 1st January, 1970. . . . 144 MHz contacts have been effected by means of meteor scatter between Bulgaria (LZ1BW) and Holland and Luxembourg; a French amateur, F9FT, in Rheims has contacted SV1AB of Athens on s.s.b. also by means of meteor scatter.

Test Your Knowledge

Series devised by L. Ibbotson*, B.Sc., A.Inst.P., M.I.E.E., M.I.E.R.E.

19. Electronics Fundamentals

1. When a particular bipolar-transistor amplifier is used to amplify a sinusoidal signal the collector current flows for approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the input signal cycle. The mode of operation of the amplifier is:

- (a) class A
- (b) class B
- (c) class AB
- (d) class C.

2. Select, from the types of amplifier circuits described below, one in which voltage phase inversion occurs: (a) triode—common grid

- (b) pentode—cathode follower
- (c) bipolar transistor—common collector (d) field-effect transistor-common source.

3. The upper "3dB point" of one stage of a multistage aperiodic amplifier occurs at the frequency at which:

(a) the reactance of the coupling capacitor is equal to the input resistance of the next stage

(b) the susceptance of the coupling capacitor is equal to the total shunt conductance (formed by the output conductance of the stage combined with the input conductance of the next)

(c) The total shunt capacitance (the combination of the output capacitance, the stray capacitance between the stages and the input capacitance of the next stage) has a reactance equal to the input resistance of the next stage

(d) the susceptance of the total shunt capacitance is equal to the total shunt conductance.

4. Considering pentodes, bipolar transistors, junction f.e.ts and m.o.s.ts, the "Miller effect" (by which the input capacitance of an amplifying device is many times larger when it is in operation than the "cold" value) is normally significant in voltage amplifiers using:

- (a) any of the four
- (b) bipolar transistors only
- (c) bipolar transistors or junction f.e.ts but not pentodes or m.o.s.ts
- (d) all except pentodes.

5. The advantage of coupled tuned circuits for linking r.f. amplifiers in cascade,

- compared to any other form of coupling is: (a) the amplifying-device gain is greatest (b) the gain frequency characteristic is nearest to the ideal
 - (c) unwanted feedback is reduced
 - (d) the transformer coupling the circuits gives extra amplification.

6. The power delivered to its load by a normal power amplifier is supplied

- (a) entirely by the d.c. supply
- (b) entirely by the input signal
- (c) partly by the d.c. supply and partly by
- the input signal

(d) by the active device (valve or transistor).

7. A low-frequency power amplifier (using a pentode or transistor, with a fixed supply potential and transformer-coupled load) will, in all cases, deliver its maximum undistorted output power to a load which has a transformed value presented to the device:

(a) equal to the device output resistance

(b) equal to twice the device output resistance

(c) equal to half the device output resistance

(d) unrelated to the device output resistance

8. The use of push-pull configuration in a power amplifier has a number of advantages when compared to the use of a single-ended configuration (using in each case devices of appropriate power dissipation; the supply voltage, class of operation and power output being the same). Select from below the quoted advantage which does not apply:

(a) non-linear distortion in the output may be reduced

(b) an unbalanced input to the stage can be used

(c) the output transformer is used more efficiently

(d) the effect of variations in the supply potential is reduced.

- 9. Complementary-symmetry circuits can be constructed using:
 - (a) any of the normal range of active devices
 - (b) valves only
 - (c) bipolar transistors only
 - (d) bipolar transistors or f.e.ts.

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10. A particular amplifying device has a dynamic transfer characteristic (mutual characteristic) of which the slope increases as the output current increases. If it is used in a large-signal amplifier, over a range in which this characteristic can be regarded as parabolic, the harmonic distortion produced will:

(a) be negligible

(b) consist predominantly of even harmonics (c) consists predominantly of odd harmonics (d) include equal amounts of even and odd harmonics.

11. The application of negative feedback to an amplifier always results in:

(a) an increase in input impedance

(b) an increase in output impedance

(c) an increase in signal-to-noise ratio at the output

(d) a decrease in the harmonic distortion produced by the amplifier.

12. An emitter-follower circuit is generally used to match a high impedance output to a low impedance load. In addition it imposes on the signal:

- (a) a voltage and a current gain
- (b) a voltage gain but a current loss
- (c) a current gain but a voltage loss
- (d) a loss of both current and voltage

13. When an LC sinusoidal oscillator is operating in its steady-state condition, the loop gain at the oscillating frequency must be:

- (a) unity
- (b) minus unity
- (c) greater than unity
- (d) positive, and less than unity.

14. An active device with an a.c. negative resistance characteristic is connected in shunt with a parallel tuned circuit. Oscillations of finite amplitude will occur provided the maximum value of the magnitude of the negative resistance of the device for the particular bias used is:

(a) zero

(b) greater than the dynamic impedance at resonance of the tuned circuit

(c) equal to the dynamic impedance at resonance of the tuned circuit

(d) less than the dynamic impedance at resonance of the tuned circuit.

15. The open-loop gain of an ideal operational amplifier should be:

- (a) zero
- (b) unity
- (c) 3 dB
- (d) infinity.

16. The most common fault in the operation of directly-coupled amplifiers is:

- (a) drift
- (b) variation in the gain
- (c) a tendency to oscillate
- (d) excessive noise generation

Answers and comments, page 597

^{*} West Ham College of Technology, London E.15.

Personalities

John M. Groocock, Ph.D., recently appointed director of quality control for the European area by the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, has been with Standard Telephones and Cables (an I.T.T. associate) since 1958 where for three years he was concerned with transistor design. In 1961 he was appointed quality assurance manager for Transistor Division and later assumed responsibility for quality and reliability at both the Harlow and Footscray semiconductor manufacturing plants. In his new appointment Dr. Groocock will assume overall responsibility for the quality and reliability of all products leaving I.T.T. factories in the European area, including the UK. Prior to joining S.T.C. he spent seven years with the Ministry of Supply after undertaking research at Imperial College for his Ph.D.

M. H. Easy, director of development at Decca Radar Ltd, has been awarded the annual trophy of the Radar and Electronics Association for his "outstanding contribution to the radar and electronics industry". Mr. Easy joined the Decca Navigator Company from the Royal Air Force in 1945, transferring to Decca Radar Ltd at the company's inception in 1949. As a Squadron Leader during the war Mr. Easy was responsible for the ground stations of the "OBOE" blindbombing system which was used so successfully by "Pathfinders".

Anthony S. Pudner, M.B.E., F.I.E.E., F.I.E.R.E., engineer-in-chief of the Cable & Wireless Group for the past four years has been appointed a director. Educated at the Imperial Service College, Windsor, Mr. Pudner, who is 52, joined C. & W. in 1934. His overseas service included two years (1950/2) in Korea in charge of the company's field telegraph unit. He recently became a vice-president of the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers. Cable & Wireless have also announced the appointment of Peter A. McCunn as a director. He is 46 and has been traffic manager for the past four years. J. C. Akerman, commercial product manager for all semiconductor devices within Mullard's Industrial Electronics Division since 1966 and a director of Associated Semiconductor Manufacturers Ltd, has been appointed head of Mullard's Consumer Electronics Division in succession to K. O. Rees who has left the company. N. Weisbloom has become commercial product manager for all semiconductor devices in the Industrial Electronics Division. Since 1966 Mr. Weisbloom has held a similar position in the Consumer Electronics Division. The company has also announced the following appointments in the Consumer Electronics Division. T. Jacobs, B.Sc., who has been with Mullard since 1953, has become technical commercial manager of the division. Latterly Mr. Jacobs has been manager of the technical services department of the division. L. B. Johnson, B.Sc., M.I.E.E., becomes commercial product manager for all semiconductor devices in the division. He joined the company in 1942 and was at one time manager of the quality and reliability laboratory at Mullard, Southampton, and latterly was commercial product manager for i.cs in the Industrial Electronics Division.

Wilfrid John Fry, M.I.E.R.E., has been appointed managing director of the Electronic Instrumentation Group of Bell & Howell Ltd. Mr. Fry, who is 42, joined the company in 1962, having previously spent thirteen years with the Solartron Electronic Group.

P. J. N. Collaro has joined E.M.I. as marketing director for the electronics and industrial operations and is responsible for the direction and development of marketing policy for all the companies and divisions within the organization: S.E. Laboratories (Holdings), Precision Electronic Terminations (E.M.I.), Nickols Automatics (E.M.I.), Ardente, Tape Manufacturing Co., E.M.I. Tape, Feriel Organization, and the six divisions of E.M.I. Electronics. Before joining E.M.I. Mr. Collaro was the marketing director for Leasco and was previously managing director of the European division of K.L.H. Research and Development Corp.

Welwyn Electric of Bedlington, Northumberland, has announced the appointment of G. R. Latham, B.Sc., F.I.E.E., as divisional manager of its newly formed Interconnections Division. Mr. Latham has latterly been working for the Plessey Co. where he was employed as engineering manager, microelectronics, at their Swindon factory. Prior to that he was with Ferranti Ltd., for fourteen years. In his new capacity Mr. Latham will be responsible for implementing the agreement recently signed between Welwyn and Sanders Associates Inc. of New Hampshire, U.S.A., under which Welwyn will produce the range of flexible, rigid and multi-layered circuit boards developed by the Flexprint Division of Sanders.

A. L. Dow, B.Sc. (Hons), has joined Coutant Electronics Ltd as a development engineer in the Power Supply Division. Prior to joining Coutant Mr. Dow worked for two years in the Micro-electronics Division of E.M.I. From 1962 to 1967 he undertook a 1-3-1 year sandwich course spending the middle three years at Southampton University studying for his degree in electronic engineering.

Michael G. Shortland, M.Sc.Tech., who is 35, and a graduate of Manchester University where he took first class honours in electrical engineering in 1956 and received his Master's Degree the following year, has been appointed manager of the Control and Automation Division of the Electrical Research Association. In 1963 he joined BISRA (now the Inter Group Laboratories of the British Steel Corporation) from the U.K.A.E.A., Winfrith. At BISRA he first headed the Control Dynamics Section but in 1964 took charge of the newly formed Automatic Control Section. In May 1967 he was additionally appointed chief engineer (automation).

Kenneth O. Rees, who recently resigned his directorship with the Mullard Company (which he joined in 1947), has been appointed director of marketing in the Plessey Components Group. Mr. Rees, who is 46, is currently chairman of the British Radio Valve Manufacturers' Association and is the Association's representative to the Conference of the Electronics Industry.

Jack Hale, B.Sc. (Eng.), M.I.E.E., appointed managing director of Hytron Ltd, of Crowborough, Sussex, served his apprenticeship with B.T.H. from 1948-53 and rejoined B.T.H. as project engineer following his service in the R.N.V.R. From 1959-64 Mr. Hale was with PE Consulting Group Ltd, as a management consultant, before joining Feedback Ltd as production manager. In 1965, he became production director and in 1968, was appointed a director of Feedback Inc., U.S.A. Hytron also announces the appointment of Arthur Thomas, M.Inst.M.C., as marketing director. He was for some time with Muirhead & Co. Ltd, as sales engineer and then spent six years as sales manager of Muirhead Inc., in Canada and the U.S.A. In 1967 he became the European manager of Telautograph Inc. of Los Angeles. G. P. Gates has also joined the board as director of development. Mr. Gates was a founder of Hytec Corporation, Los Angeles, consulting engineers and manufacturers of control equipment. He remains a director of Hytec Corporation, although he has moved to England to supervise the development of Hytron's new range of handwriting transmission systems and computer peripherals.

R. M. A. Jones has been appointed to the central management of Pye of Cambridge Ltd, as director of planning and administration. He joined Pye in 1933 and became managing director of Pye Group (Radio & Television) Ltd and chief executive of the Consumer Products Division in 1966. Throughout the war he served in the Royal Corps of Signals and was at the time of demobilization Lt.Col. on the staff of the Chief Signals Officer of the 1st Corps. Mr. Jones is also appointed chairman of Pye Group (Radio & Television) Ltd, thus retaining his link with this activity. In succession to Mr. Jones, J. T. Griffiths, joint managing director of TV Manufacturing Ltd, has been appointed managing director of Pye Group (Radio & Television) Ltd and chief executive of the Consumer Products Division.

K. P. Kenny is appointed marketing manager of the Marine Division of Dymar Electronics Ltd, of Watford. After service at sea and ashore for a major shipping line Mr. Kenny has spent five years with Cossor Electronics Ltd.

Obituary

Raymond Dorrington Bangay, who retired from the Marconi Company in 1957 after over 54 years' service with the company died on October 29th. Born in 1883, he joined Marconi in 1902 and later that year went to America to help with the installation of radio stations. On his return to England in 1907, he started his study on the military uses of wireless, which included the first experiments in air-toground communications. From 1921 to 1925 he was chief of designs. Subsequently, he changed his orientation from design to exporting and from 1935 until his retirement was foreign manager.



Sub-miniature Power Supplies

A Belclere sub-miniature encapsulated stabilized power supply is now available from Electronic Component Services (Worcester) Ltd. The new hermetically sealed unit is designed for printed-circuit mounting and has a low ripple voltage. There are four types available, with a maximum ripple voltage of 500µ V. r.m.s.-P.S. 2009 (output 9V at 40mA), P.S. 2012 (output 12V at 30mA), P.S. 2015 (output 15V at 20mA) and P.S. 2020 (output 20V at 15mA). Overload point is at 5mA above rated output. Voltage drop at rated load is less than 150mV. Output voltages are ± 5%. Dimensions of the supplies are 60mm long by 37mm wide by 25mm high. Typical prices are: 1-9 at £3 5s each or, quantities from 50-99 at £2 9s 6d each. Non-standard types of these power supplies can be made to order. Electronic Component Services (Worcester) Ltd, 63-66 Foregate Street, Worcester. WW309 for further details

Lightweight Soldering Iron

A low-voltage lightweight soldering iron, the Tip-Touch is available from Midland Electronics. This 6W iron requires 6V a.c. or d.c. and maximum bit temperature is 320°C. Three sizes



of interchangeable bits are available with liameters of $\frac{1}{16}$, $\frac{3}{32}$, and $\frac{5}{32}$ in. The shaft is tainless steel. Lead length is five feet. Midland Electronics Ltd, Cogenhoe, Northampton. **WW317** for further details

Portable A.F. Power Meter

s portable battery operated a.f. power meter, type 85, has been designed by Dymar Electronics to rovide a wide power measuring range, wide requency response and high accuracy both of the erminating impedance and measured power. welve power ranges in 1, 3, 10 sequence give ull-scale readings from 100µ to W 30W and an



auxiliary dB scale allows direct readings in dBm (0dBm-1mW) from -20dBm to +45dBm. A feature of the instrument is a temperature compensated "square law" detector which gives true power reading irrespective of waveform. There is a choice of 30 input impedances arranged in three decades from 1.250 to 1,0000 each one being accurate to 2% and capable of dissipating 50 watts. The frequency range is 30Hz-30kHz; accuracy is 3% between 100Hz and 10kHz. The integral power supply is monitored by a press-button switch on the front panel. The batteries are two PP1 power packs which give a typical operating time of 800 hours. The U.K. price, including batteries, is £125. Dymar Electronics Ltd, Colonial Way, Radlett Road, Watford, Herts. WW301 for further details

100-watt Broadband Linear Amplifier

A modular solid-state 100-watt broadband linear amplifier which operates in the 2-32MHz range and weighs only 1kg has been developed by E.M.I. Electronics Canada Ltd. Units can be used singly or combined in parallel for power outputs of from 100 watts up to many kilowatts. Power required is -24V d.c. 11A. Each unit is

compatible with the h.f. transmitter used with the "Manpack" system, as well as with transmitters used in mobile, airborne and fixed ground stations. The complete amplifier is contained in a single module measuring approx. $300 \times 60 \times 50$ mm. Receptacles for power and r.f. input and output are located on the face of the module. The rear panel is used to dissipate heat, and various methods of heat dissipation may be used. These include water or air cooling for large systems and pannel or plate mounting for Smaller systems. E.M.I. Electronics Canada Ltd, P.O. Box 1005, Dartmouth N.S., Canada. WW319 for further details

Monitor Diode Supply

For monitoring the r.f. output of radar transmitters' operating in the 1-12MHz band the English Electric Valve Co. has produced the type BS600 monitor diode supply and indicator unit. Provision is made for monitoring either by a built-in meter which gives a reading proportional to the mean r.f. power input to the diode, or by feeding the demodulated r.f. pulse envelope to an external oscilloscope, in order to read the peak power accurately. Supplies for the diode anode and heater are taken from sockets on the front



panel of the instrument. A heater-voltage control, also on the front panel, provides for adjustment of the diode heater-voltage for all conditions of r.f. input. The correct diode load-resistance is built into the unit. English Electric Valve Co. Ltd, Chelmsford, Essex. WW302 for further details

Circuit Board Faultfinder

A low-cost unit for production-line testing of circuit boards and many types of electrical and electronic sub-assemblies, and known as Testmatic TM60, is being produced by Wayne Kerr. It makes up to 59 measure-ments in 4 seconds and gives unskilled operators a clear indication of 'O.K.', 'High' or 'Low' together with the location of any defective test point. Programming is quick and easy, the board for this serving also as the test jig. All checks can be pre-set for acceptance within any limits from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 50\%$. The basis of the





tests is d.c. voltage checks and any subsidiary signals, circuits or supplies can be fed into the TM60 at the rear of the unit or embodied in the programme board.

Intermittent, faults can be detected by switching the instrument to a continuous repetition of the test programme, with an audible warning device operating when the defect arises. Outputs are provided for operating external alarms, sorting or counting mechanisms. Price is £695. Wayne Kerr Co. Ltd, New Malden, Surrey. WW318 for further details

Wet Tantalum Capacitors

A range of wet tantalum capacitors is available from General Instrument (UK). The capacitors have low leakage current, long life and small physical size. Capacitance values range from 1.7 to 560.0μ F and working voltages from 6 to 125V. The operating temperature range is -55° C to $+85^{\circ}$ C at the full-rated voltage or $+125^{\circ}$ C at 65% of nominal voltage. Surge voltage can be 115% of rated voltage. The capacitors will withstand at least 2,000 hours' operation at the rated temperature and d.c. voltage and meet MIL-C-3965/D and 4F, DEF 5134-A5, AEC and SEN specifications. Three different cylindrical case sizes are used throughout the range of electrical specifications. General Instrument (U.K.) Ltd, Industrial Components Division, Stonefield Way, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middx. WW307 for further details

V.L.F. Frequency Analyser

Aim Electronics have announced a third-octave frequency analyser (TOF 260A) with a frequency range extending from 0.5Hz up to 100kHz and covering any eight octaves in this frequency range. The octaves covered are pre-set to customer requirements. The unit consists of twenty-four filters, each covering one-third of an octave, designed in accordance with B.S.2475:1964 (which recommends centre frequencies and equivalent bandwidths of the filter elements). Each filter may be attenuated by 0-100% by adjustment of a ten-turn calibrated potentiometer. The outputs from all the filters may be selected by adjustment of the attenuators. Typical applications include extraction of third-octave information from unknown waveforms and simulating the characteristic noise



of any low-frequency excitation (e.g. vibrations) by selective filtering of white noise. Price: £600. Aim Electronics, Bar Hill, Cambridge. WW316 for further details

Variable Temperature Soldering Iron

The W-TCP-2 variable-temperature soldering pencil from Weller Electric, is a small lightweight 20-watt iron that can be run at any temperature range from 200°F (93°C) to 450°F (233°C). The required temperature is selected on a control unit



which gives a 24-volt feed into the iron from a 230-volt mains input. Price, including the continuously-variable temperature-controlled soldering pencil, the control unit and one tip is $\pounds 23$. Extra tips are 8s each. Weller Electric Ltd, Redkiln Way, Horsham, Sussex. WW306 for further details

Plastic Encapsulated A.F. Transistors

Two pairs of plastic encapsulated silicon transistors for use in 20W and 35W complementary audio amplifiers have been introduced by Motorola. The four transistors are encased in a compact Thermopad package (Motorola case 90) for easy mounting and efficient heat transfer. The n-p-n MJE205 and p-n-p MJE105 are 5A transistors for use in complementary audio amplifiers delivering up to 20W. They have a V_{ceo} of 50V, power dissipation of 65W and high current gain of 25 to 100 at a collector current of 2A. The n-p-n MJE2801 and p-n-p MJE2901 are 10A devices for use in complementary audio amplifiers with outputs of up to 35W. They have a V_{ceo} of 60V, P_d of 90W and high current gain of 25 to 100 at a collector current of 3A. Application notes AN433 and AN427 are available, describing respectively a 20W and a 35W amplifier using these transistors. Motorola Semiconductors York House, Empire Way, Wembley, Middx. Ltd. WW335 for further details

Plug-to-Jack "T" Adaptor

The r.f. components division of Sealectro have introduced a new 75 Ω sub-miniature "T" adaptor. Designated Conhex 50-185-0019 it is designed for screw-on mating engagement and will permit two cable-mounted plugs to be connected



in series—the third leg accommodating a cable mounted jack. This third leg employs a knurled coupling nut in place of the usual hexagonal arrangement and allows repeated disconnection. The adaptor has a gold plated body and contacts, and Teflon insulators. Sealectro Ltd, Farlington, Portsmouth, Hants.

WW303 for further details

Encapsulated Power Supplies

Philbrick/Nexus Research offers two encapsulated power supplies with 0.01% regulation for either 115V a.c. or 230V a.c. power lines. Model 2003 has a $\pm 15V \pm 100$ mA output, the 2204 a $\pm 15V \pm 50$ mA output. These power supplies have 0.005% load regulation and less than ± 40 p.p.m/°C temperature coefficient. The unit is short-circuit protected and has automatic overload tracking. The units are capable of output trimming the units will put out $\pm 15V$ $\pm 0.03V$. Model 2203 costs $\pounds 30$ (1–9) and model 2204 $\pounds 23$ (1–9). Philbrick/Nexus Research, 81a North Street, Chichester, Sussex. WW308 for further details

Card Programmed Switching Matrix

The Sealectro SCR1010 is a multiple switching device which can be programmed in seconds by the insertion of a pre-punched plastic card. The device contains 100 individually operated single-pole switches which, prior to insertion of a card are at an open setting. Any number of cards may be



programmed by pre-punching with up to 100 holes, corresponding to the switchpositions, and stored ready for use. When a particular programme is chosen, the appropriate card is inserted in a slot in the switching device which then automatically senses the card and closes the switche corresponding to the punched holes Interlocks prevent operation from atincorrectly punched or misorientated carc

Wireless World, December 1969

The switches are rated at 250mA 50V d.c., and the complete unit has a guaranteed life in excess of 1,000,000 operations. Programming Division, Sealectro Ltd, Walton Road, Farlington, Portsmouth, Hants. PO6 1TB. **WW327 for further details**

Wideband Oscilloscope

Features of the Marconi TF 2210 wideband oscilloscope include dual timebase, delayed sweep facility, dual trace with internal triggering from either of two identical Y channels and sensitivity of 50mV/cm from d.c. to 100MHz. In conjunction with the two identical timebase generators, the delayed



sweep facility can be used for detailed examination of virtually any part of any waveform. The same waveform can be displayed for examination on a fast delayed sweep or a slow delaying sweep or examined simultaneously in both fast and slow sweep forms on separate traces. By means of a dual trigger delay, a controlled double image can be displayed for comparison of one part of a waveform with another. With long delay times, jitter can be obviated completely by use of gated delay. Combination of the dual timebase facility with the dual trace Y input system allows two different waveforms to be viewed at two sweep speeds. The result is a highly informative display comprising four separate traces. Marconi Instruments Ltd, St. Albans, Hertfordshire. WW325 for further details

Signal Lamp

Designed for mounting directly onto a printed circuit assembly, a recently introduced Bulgin signal lamp has four mounting pins on 0.1×0.3 in (2.54 \times 7.6mm) centres and thus fits proprietary boards having a 0.1 in standard matrix. The



lamp body has a maximum working rating of 30V at 0.5A and accepts two different lens types—domed end or flat end (as shown in accompanying illustration). Both types of lens are a push fit on the body and are available in a choice of five transparent colours, red, amber, green, blue and water clear, and five translucent colours, red, orange, green, blue and white. The lamps have order numbers D965 (transparent) and D966 (translucent) for flat lens, D967 (transparent) and D968 (translucent) for domed lens. A. F. Bulgin & Co. Ltd, Bye-Pass Road, Barking, Essex. WW330 for further details

Miniature V.H.F. Paging Receiver

Weight, including rechargeable cells, of the crystal-controlled Type CO.442 Tele-Tracer v.h.f. pocket receiver is just over 100g $(3\frac{3}{4})$ ounces). Four different paging facilities can be supplied: tone only; tone and light; light only; tone and speech. A prefocused lamp of special design enables the light signal to be seen in daylight. Three types of power supply are available: a rechargeable cell which is automatically recharged when the receiver is placed in a charging rack; a throw-away mercury battery; a slide-in rechargeable battery cassette which can be recharged whilst detached from the receiver. The receiver conforms with the new G.P.O. regulations for v.h.f. pocket paging systems which come into force in January 1970, and is made by Cass Electronics Ltd, White Hart Yard, Guildford Street, Chertsey, Surrey. WW328 for further details

Miniature Condenser Microphone

A miniature microphone manufactured in Sweden by the Pearl Microphone Laboratory weighs 40g, is only 75mm long \times 18mm diameter and incorporates an f.e.t. amplifier. A supply of 0.5 to 0.8mA at 67.5V is required but because of the wiring



arrangements used only a 2-core flexible cable is required. Frequency response is from 30Hz to 20kHz, dynamic range is 126dB and sensitivity, at 1dyne/cm² 100mN/m² is -50dB. The case and cartridge are designed so that noise is not produced by the microphone rubbing against clothing. This microphone is available with an omni-directional response pattern (Type DC-20) or a cardioid pattern (Type DC-21). Both types are supplied with a 20ft cable and a stand adaptor. Jagor Interelectric Ltd, Mercury House, Hanger Green, Ealing, London W.5. WW326 for further details

www.520 for further details

Resistivity Bridge

The battery operated Radley MkIII resistivity bridge is designed to measure the resistivity of semiconductor materials in the range 10^{-2} to 10^4 ohm-cm. Integrated circuit operational amplifiers are used with a pulse counting phase discriminator for accurate null detection. The null indicator—a centre zero microammeter—is



driven by the phase discriminator operating in a digital mode so that directional proximity of the null is also indicated. Bridge accuracy of $\pm 1\%$ is claimed. A simple four-in-line configuration is used in the probe system for which low cost replaceable contacts are available. Soil resistivity may also be measured by changing the probe head for an array of earth spikes. The bridge costs £245. J. A. Radley (Laboratories) Ltd, 220 Elgar Road, Reading, Berks. WW331 for further details

100-W Audio Amplifier

A feature of the Centurion audio amplifier is that its power output of 100W r.m.s. across 4Ω may be open- or short-circuited without adverse effect. Four input channels are provided, each with an individual volume control and suit a wide range of signal source levels from 1mV to 20V. The input channels are electronically mixed by separate circuits, and the final output may be adjusted with treble, bass and master



volume controls. Overall frequency response is 20Hz to 20kHz \pm 1dB. Signal-noise ratio is less than 70dB and harmonic distortion at 1W and 100W is less than 0.1% and 1%, respectively. The Centurion is listed at £99 and is available from Adastra Electronics Ltd, 167 Finchley Road, Swiss Cottage, London N.W.3.

WW324 for further details

Digital Voltmeter

The SM212 digital voltmeter has a full scale indication of ± 9999 and measures up to 1kV in five steps: 100mV, 1V, 10,V 100V and 1kV. Resolution is 10 μ V at the 100mV step. The first three steps up to 10V are direct reading and the input impedance is more than 1000M μ . The input voltage at the other two steps is attenuated and input



impedance is $10M \rho \pm 0.1\%$. Accuracy on the direct steps is $\pm 0.01\% \pm 1$ digit, and on the attenuated steps it is $\pm 0.015\% \pm 1$ digit. Digitization time is 30ms and the display consists of four in-line side view numerical indicator tubes with integral decimal points, and one side view polarity indicator. The SM212 which has a common mode rejection of more than 140dB is available from SE Laboratories (Engineering) Ltd, North Feltham Trading Estate, Feltham, Middlesex.

WW323 for further details

Storage Cathode-ray Tube

The Type E714B direct view storage c.r.t. introduced by E.E.V. is intended for use in oscilloscopes, and incorporates the electrostatic method for flood-gun and writing-gun focus and for deflection. The tube has a robust storage layer and uses an aluminized P31 screen. In the storage mode, typical light output is 175 ft-lamberts. Variable persistence gives a choice of storage time from several minutes to less than one second. With the flood gun switched off and provided no further writing is applied, storage time extends to several days. The



tube has a writing speed in the storage mode of $0.5 \text{ cm}/\mu$ s, a deflection sensitivity of approximately 12V/cm in both axes, at a writing beam voltage of 1.5kV, a typical line width of 0.4mm in the c.r.t. mode. The English Electric Valve Co. Ltd, Chelmsford, Essex.

WW329 for further details

A.C. Microvoltmeter

The Comark a.c. microvoltmeter type 1251 has a maximum sensitivity of $30 \mu V$ f.s.d. with a resolution of 0.30 μ V per scale division on a scale length of 120mm with d.c. output. The instrument has 12 fixed calibration ranges covering $100 \ \mu$ V f.s.d. to 30V f.s.d. Sensitivity is continously variable up to a maximum of \times 3 on all ranges. The variable sensitivity control does not affect the calibration of the instrument on fixed ranges. The input impedance is greater than 5M Ω in parallel with 20pF on the most sensitive ranges, increasing to 10min in parallel with 20pF on the less sensitive ranges. Response is flat from 10Hz to 20kHz on 100/1V range, 10Hz to 50kHz on 300µV range, and 3Hz to 200kHz on the remaining ranges with -3dB points at 50, 200 and 500kHz respectively. Accuracy is given as $\pm 3\%$ of f.s.d. and the instrument, which measures average value, is calibrated to indicate the r.m.s. value of sine waves. A d.c. output, proportional to meter reading, of 1V for f.s.d. at 2mA is provided, permitting the instrument to be used as an a.c./d.c. converter for digital voltmeters, etc. Comark also produces a similar a.c. millivoltmeter type 1241 but this has no



variable sensitivity. It covers the range from 1mV f.s.d. to 300V f.s.d. in 12 ranges with a flat response from 3Hz to 200kHz (-3dB 1Hz to 500kHz). The normal response time is less than 0.1s extending to approximately 2s for low-frequency measurement. Both instruments are battery powered. Comark Electronics Ltd, Brookside Avenue, Rustington, Littlehampton, Sussex.

WW304 for further details

Op. Amp. Power Supply

Farnell's A15 power supply has two nominal outputs arranged to provide 15V-0-15V at 100mA. Each output can be varied over the range 12V to 17V. Alternatively, the outputs may be connected in series to obtain



24V to 34V. Two separate controls are provided and effect both ganged adjustment and independent variation of one output. Stability during zero to full load variation and $\pm 10\%$ mains change is better than 2mV. Ripple and noise content is less than 1mV p-p. Protection is afforded by means of cut-back and current limiting circuitry and mains fuse. The unit may be purchased as a printed circuit card at a price of £18 or as a modular sub unit with cover, mains lead and terminals for £20. Farnell Instruments Ltd, Sandbeck Way, Wetherby, Yorkshire. **WW322 for further details**

Plastic S.C.Rs

Transiiron Electronic Ltd has introduced a range of low-cost silicon planar s.c.rs in a particularly rugged TO-92 plastic package. These devices are ideally suited to lamp and solenoid driving, sensing and timing applications and for motor control and other industrial and consumer switching problems. Designated 2N5060-64, there are 30V, 60V, 100V, 150V and 200V types with peak pulse currents up to 40A and extended blocking voltage capability up to 300V. Other versions with tightened or relaxed specifications for gate-trigger current are also available. Moisture resistance is to Military Standard 202C (Method 106B) and the packages are tested for thermal and mechanical stress, including constant acceleration to 40,000g on each axis for 32 hours, vibration shock and simulated fall, and corrosion resistance. Transitron Electronic Ltd, Gardner Road, Maidenhead, Berks.

WW320 for further details

Signal Generator-Synthesizer

The French Adret Codasyn 201 combines the functions of a signal generator (modulation, attenuation and sweep) with the accuracy of a synthesizer (digital frequency selection and coherent spectrum derived from a crystal controlled oscillator) and is intended for use as an exceptionally accurate and stable coherent frequency source over the range 0.1Hz to 2MHz. The instrument incorporates a very stable crystal oscillator in a proportionally controlled oven followed by a phase locked harmonic generator and digital circuits using what is claimed to be a unique frequency synthesis design. Digital dividers provide a spectrally pure output whose frequency stability is $\pm 1 \times 10^{-7}$ /day. Higher stability of $\pm 2 \times 10^{-9}$ /day is optional. Output frequency is controlled by eight digital dials with resolution to 0.1Hz. In addition, a calibrated search or interpolation oscillator provides smooth

Wireless World, December 1969

frequency control between all digital steps up to 100kHz. Resolution and stability of this oscillator permit a meaningful setting of 0.001Hz. A separate calibrated variable oscillator covers the band 0.1Hz to 2MHz without range change. High level output voltage is +13dBm ±0.5dB (1V r.m.s.) into 50 Ω for c.w. and f.m. modes, or +7dBm ± 0.5 dB (0.5V r.m.s.) into 50 Ω for the a.m. mode. Attenuated output is - 1dBm ± 0.5 dB (0.2V r.m.s.) into 50 Ω for c.w. and f.m., or $-7dBm \pm 0.5dB$ (0.1V r.m.s.) into 50 Ω for a.m. Frequency response is within ± 0.5 dB over the entire frequency range. The Adret Codasyn 201 is marketed in the U.K. by Racal-Electronics Ltd, Western Road, Bracknell, Berkshire. WW321 for further details

Ferrite Packages

A range of packages for handling and mounting small and awkward shaped pieces of ferrite has been developed by the Industrial and Electronic Components Division of Plessey. The packages—'Maxi Packs'—can be used where circuit-board area and space are not at a premium. The ferrite circuitry, built by Plessey according to the particular requirement, is



encapsulated in a resin block which is finally enclosed in a plastic box. As the electrical contacts to the component are made via either terminal spills or printed-circuit termination pins, all of which are on one face of the box, mounting in either the upright or inverted positions is easy. They are available in ten sizes. Plessey Co. Ltd, Swindon, Wilts.

WW312 for further details

Transistor and Diode Tester

Model RK66 is another tester in the range supplied by K.S.M. Electronics Ltd, and



the instrument has the following specification. Transistor measurements: leakage current, 1 nA and above; collector current, 1 nA to 2A f.s.d.; collector voltage, 0-12V; base current, 0-150mA; and h_{fe} (1kHz); 0-1500. Diode measurements: forward voltage drop (at 2A) 0-12V d.c.; reverse voltage, 0-1kV d.c. f.s.d.; and reverse current, 10 nA and above. K.S.M. Electronics Ltd, Bradmore Works, Bradmore Green, Brookmans Park, Herts. **WW332 for further details**

Novel Reed Switch

A magnetic reed switch manufactured by the Gordos Corporation of the U.S.A., and marketed in the U.K. by B & R Relays, contains blades twisted from their normal planes which open and



close using a sliding or wiping action. This wiping action maintains low contact resistance, and contact bounce is reduced to some $70\mu_8$ (compared to a standard time of about 1ms) giving increased life. Contact resistance of $100m\Omega$ remains relatively stable throughout the life of the switch which is in the region of more than 10^8 operations. Maximum operating time is $50\mu_8$ and maximum contact rating is 0.5A at 150V d.c. Two models are available, designated MR 1148 and MR 1348. Both have a nominal coil-power requirement of 50mW and identical specifications. The difference is in diameter of the glass container. MR 1148 is 2.67mm and MR 1348 is 3.2mm. Length is the same at 53mm. B & R Relays Ltd, Temple Fields, Harlow, Essex.

WW310 for further details

V.H.F. Tetrodes

Two new, air-cooled, high-power, ceramic-metal tetrodes (types YL1470 and YL1480) are announced by Mullard. They have a high gain (greater than 300) that enables them to be used with solid-state drive circuits that are simpler than those needed with other high-power output valves. With a drive input of 22W the YL1470 gives an output of 6.6kW at frequencies up to 110MHz; up to the same frequency, the YL1480 requires a drive of 40W to produce an output of 12.5kW. Mullard Ltd, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London W.C.1. WW305 for further details

Sensitive Cadmium Sulphide Cell

A sub-miniature cadmium sulphide photocell is now available from Mullard. Type RPY58, it is made by a new 'monograin' construction technique that gives the cell high sensitivity and virtual freedom from initial zero drift. Other electrical parameters remain within 40% of their original values during life even when the cell is operated at maximum dissipation. The cell is encapsulated in a transparent plastic. The electrodes are very close together—about





 $40\,\mu$ m—and have a large area of contact. Hence, the resistance is much less than that of a conventional cadmium sulphide cell, a typical value being $600\,\Omega$ at 50 lux from a light source with a colour temperature of 2700°C. The RPY58 has a maximum permissible dissipation of 200mW and an ambient temperature operating range extending from -40 to +70°C. It measures approximately 6 × 6 × 2mm without its flexible leads, which are 37mm long and spaced for standard printed-circuit grids. Mullard Ltd, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London

WW311 for further details

Non-polarized Tantalum Capacitors

A range of non-polarized solid tantalum capacitors is announced by General Instrument (UK). Designated NPMCS, the capacitors range from 0.034 to 160 µF and standard tolerances are $\pm 20\%$ and $\pm 10\%$, but $\pm 5\%$ types are available. Typical capacitance variation with temperature is -4% at -55°C and +85°C referred to 25°C. Full rated operating voltage can be applied throughout the temperature range -55 to +85°C and surge voltage over this range of temperatures can be 130% of rated voltage. These capacitors are basically two (MCS) capacitors connected cathode-to-cathode in a bakelite case. They are particularly suitable for use in circuits where the reverse voltage is too high for polarized types. General Instrument (UK) Ltd, Stonefield Way, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex. WW314 for further details

Power Regulator Module

Emihus Microcomponents have introduced a d.c. power regulator module, measuring approx. 60 \times 30 \times 25 mm, which is adjustable over the range 3.5V to 30V and which will supply a load circuit of 0.6A over this voltage range without any derating. The load current may be extended up to 20A by means of external transistors. Both positive and negative types are available. The regulator is designed to withstand very large variations of input voltage and the stabilization factor is typically 1100:1 at $V_{out}=10V$. The operating temperature range is 0 to 100°C and the total power dissipation of the module in standard form is 6W at 40°C. Temperature coefficient is typically 0.02%°C and recovery time 50ms (for a 250mA change in load current recovering to 50mV). Emihus Microcomponents Ltd, Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland.

WW315 for further details

December Meetings

Tickets are required for some meetings : readers are advised, therefore, to communicate with the society concerned

LONDON

1st I.E.E .- Discussion on "Wideband techniques and the local telecommunications network of the future" at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 2nd I.E.R.E.—"The design of active filters" by Dr.

A. G. J. Holt at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1.

4th I.E.E .- "The commercial exploitation of research and development" by J. C. Duckworth at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

4th I.E.R.E .- "Computer-based telemetry systems for distribution management" by R. A. F. Smythers at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1.

5th I.E.E.—Discussion on "Measurements using c.r.t. displays" at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 8th I.E.E. /I.Meas. Control.—"The Concorde's flying

control system" by I. L. Rye at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

10th I.E.R.E .--- "Computer-aided instruction" by Inst. Captain G. Huggett, R.N., at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1.

10th B.K.S.T.S .- "The acoustics of the Royal Albert Hall" by K. Shearer at 19.30 at the Colour Film Services, Portman Close, Baker St., W.1. 11th I.E.R.E. /I.E.E. — Third lecture on Physiology

for engineers" at 18.00 at St. Bartholomew's Medical College, E.C.1.

- 11th I.E.R.E .- "Passive satellite communications" by
- R. L. Harris at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1. 11th R.T.S.—"New large-screen television projector" by I. Lake at 19.00 at I.T.A., 70 Brompion Rd., S.W.3.

15th I.E.E .- Discussion on "Gallium arsenide lasers" at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2. 16th I.E.R.E./I.E.E.—Discussion "Non-

16th I.E.R.E./I.E.E.—Discussion on "Non-magnetic digital recording techniques" at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1. 17th I.E.E.—Discussion on "Electron-optical design

techniques" at 14.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

17th I.E.R.E .- Discussion on "More engineers in management?" at 18.00 at 9 Bedford Sq., W.C.1.

18th I.E.E .- Discussion on "Radio interference measurements" at 17.30 at Savoy Pl., W.C.2.

BATH

10th I.E.R.E.—"Noise in transistor circuits" by P. J. Baxandall at 19.00 at the Technical College.

BIRMINGHAM

11th I.E.R.E.—"Quasars: the most powerful transmitters in the universe" by Dr. P. J. S. Williams at 19.15 at the University.

BOURNEMOUTH

2nd I.E.E .- "Electromagnetic levitation" by R. B. Owen at 18.30 at the College of Technology. 3rd I.E.E.T.E .-- R. Aero. Soc .- "Automatic flight

control" by A. J. Colwell at 20.00 at the Anglo' Swiss Hotel.

BRISTOL

16th I.E.E.T.E .-- "Electrics & electronics in heavy industries" by A. R. S. Gough at 19.30 at Queens Bldg., the University, University Walk.

CAMBRIDGE

9th I.E.E .- "Electromagnetic levitation" by H. Bolton 19.30 at Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology.

11th I.E.E. /I.E.R.E .- "Circuit optimization by digital computer" by J. S. Reynolds at 20.00 at Engng. Labs, Trumpington St.

CARDIFF

10th I.E.E./I.E.R.E .- "Electronics in the nation's economy" by I. Maddock at 18.30 at U.W.I.S.T. 12th S.E.R.T .- "High-fidelity and public address" by

J. Davies at 19.30 at Llandaff Technical College. 17th R.T.S.—"Loudspeakers—their history

and development" by R. L. West at 19.00 at B.B.C. Llandaff.

COVENTRY

4th I.E.E. /I.E.E.T.E .- "Satellite communication" by J. M. Brown at 18.30 at Herbert Art Gallery.

EDINBURGH

9th I.E.E./I.E.R.E.—"Project planning and control" by J. Brennan at 18.00 at the Carlton Hotel, North Bridge.

EVESHAM

9th I.E.R.E.—"The Post Office Tower" by S. G. Young at 19.00 at the B.B.C. Club.

GLASGOW

8th I.E.E./I.E.R.E.—"Project planning and control" by J. Brennan at 18.00 at the University of Strathclyde.

19th S.E.R.T .- "Transistors in logical circuits" by G. Roberts at 19.30 at 70 Bothwell St., C.2.

IPSWICH

16th I.E.E.-"Automatic landing of aircraft" by A. W. Jolliffe at 18.30 at Great White Horse Hotel.

LEEDS

2nd I.E.E.-"The management of major electronic projects" by J. W. Sutherland at 18.30 at the University. 9th I.E.E.—"Radar data processing techniques with application to air traffic control" by Dr. P. J. C. Child at 19.00 at the University.

LEICESTER 9th R.T.S.—"Decca Navigator" by R. S. Trevelyan at 19.30 at Vaughan College, St. Nicholas Circle.

LETCHWORTH

1st I.E.E .- "Colour television" by P. L. Mothersole at 15.00 at the College of Technology.

LIVERPOOL

10th I.E.R.E.-"Information theory and code design" by S. B. Wilson at 19.00 at the University.

MANCHESTER

3rd I.E.E .- "Computers and communications" by

Prof. R. L. Grimsdale at 18.15 at U.M.I.S.T. 4th S.E.R.T.—"Ferguson colour television receiver" by K. Harris at 19.30 at the Renold Bldg., U.M.I.S.T.

11th I.E.R.E .- "Pulse code modulation" by G. H. Bennett at 19.15 at the Renold Bldg., U.M.1.S.T.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE 10th I.E.E./I.E.R.E.—"Hybrid integrated circuits" by T. D. Towers at 18.00 at the Polytechnic.

NOTTINGHAM

16th I.E.E .- "Concorde electronics" by H. Hill at 18.30 at the University.

PORTSMOUTH

10th I.E.R.E.—"Stripline circuits in microwave equipments" by J. M. H. Chambers at 19.00 at Highbury Technical College, Cosham.

READING

11th I.E.R.E .- "Solid state displays" by L. H. Lea at 19.30 at the University, Whiteknights Park.

RUGBY

2nd I.E.R.E.—"Application of electronics to acro engine design" by D. R. Foulds at 18.30 at the College of Engineering Technology.

RUGELEY

4th I.E.R.E .- "Loudspeakers" by Dr. A. R. Bailey at 19.00 at Shrewsbury Arms.

SHRIVENHAM

2nd I.E.E. /I.E.R.E .- "Impact of micro-electronics for circuit design" by C. S. Den Brinker at 18.15 at R.M.C.S.

SOUTHAMPTON

2nd I.E.E.T.E.—"Engineering education & training for the 1970s" by R. Bray at 19.30 at the British Legion Centre, Cumberland Place.

ST. HELENS

18th S.E.R.T .- "Amateur radio opertion" by E. H. Lewis at 20.00 at the Technical College.

TREFOREST

2nd I.E.E.-"The electronic wattmeter" by P. C. Joslin at 19.00 at Glamorgan College of Technology.

WORCESTER

10th B.C.S. /I.Prod.E .- "Computer aided design" by K. Thompson at 19.30 at the Technical College, Deansway.

Late November Meetings

ABERDEEN

26th I.E.E.—"Large scale integration—why, where and when?" by D. D. Jones at 19.30 at Robert Gordon's Inst. of Technology.

BELFAST

25th I.E.R.E .- "Audio frequency hi-fi amplifiers" by I. Hardcastle at 18.30 at the Ashby Inst., Queens University, Stranmillis Rd.

DUNDEE

27th I.E.E.—"Large scale integration—why, where and when?" by D. D. Jones at 19.00 at the University.

DURHAM

26th I.E.E.T.E .- "Modern techniques of airtraffic control" by J. Henderson at 19.30 at the University's Science Labs., South Road.

FAREHAM

27th I.E.E. Grads .- "Brain cell to micro-circuit -pattern recognition" by Dr. I. Aleksander at 19.00 at H.M.S. Collingwood.

INVERNESS

25th I.E.E.—"Large scale integration—why, where and when?" by D. D. Jones at 19.30 at the Technical College.

LEEDS

25th I.E.E.—"Use of satellites in long-distance communication" by H. Stanesby at 18.30 at the University.

NOTTINGHAM

READING

knights Park.

the Guildhall.

SOUTHAMPTON

20th R.T.S.—"The design of colour video tape recorders" by W. Silvie at 19.30 at the B.B.C. Studios, Wilson House, Derby Road.

24th I.E.E.-"Hi-fi" by J. Moir at 19.30 at the

25th I.E.R.E.—"Automatic test equipment" by O. H. Davie at 19.30 at the J. J. Thomson Laboratory, the University, Whiteknights Park.

at 10.30 and 14.30 (students) and 18.30 (public) at

25th I.E.E.-Faraday Lectur "People,

J. Thomson Laboratory, the University, White-

com-

Answers to **''Test Your** Knowledge''—19

Questions on page 589

1.(c)

2. (d) Valves, bipolar transistors and f.e.ts are broadly analogous in their use in most basic amplifier circuits. Phase inversion occurs in the device only when the cathode, emitter or source respectively is the common electrode in the circuit.

3. (d) At mid-band frequencies in a properly designed amplifier this shunt capacitance has much too small a susceptance to draw significant current. As the frequency is increased the capacitive current increases, the output voltage falls, and additional phase shift is introduced.

4. (d) In a pentode the screen grid reduces the control-grid /anode capacitance to such an extent that in normal circuits the Miller effect is insignificant.

5. (b) By adjusting the degree of coupling so that "double-humping" just starts to occur the output is almost constant in amplitude over a band of frequencies and drops rapidly outside that band.

6. (a) The input may take power, as in the case of a bipolar transistor amplifier, but this power is dissipated in the transistor.

7. (d) The optimum load causes the output current and voltage to swing up to the "knee" of the most extreme characteristic which may be reached (this will be determined by limitations which depend on the particular device), and down almost to cut-off. It appears that the maximum power transfer theorem is violated here, but this is not so because the input signal amplitude, and hence the value of the Norton equivalent current generator at the output, is not a fixed parameter.

8. (b) The inputs to the two devices must be balanced about the supply common line.

9. (d) Complementary symmetry circuits use devices requiring supply potentials of opposite polarities; i.e., n-p-n and p-n-p bipolar transistors; n-channel and p-channel f.e.ts.

10.(b)

11. (d) The input impedance, the output impedance and the signal-to-noise ratio each may be increased or decreased depending on the details of the circuit.

12. (c)

13. (a) When the oscillations are building up the loop-gain must be greater than unity, but the output amplitude will stabilize at a value at which non-linearity reduces the gain to unity.

14. (d) The power absorbed by a resistor of value R, when the voltage across it is V, si V^2R . If R is negative power is given out by the resistor. So long as the negative shunt resistance is smaller than the positive shunt resistance more power is delivered to the circuit than is absorbed. As oscillations build up non-linearity in the device characteristic reduces the mean a.c. resistance until it is equal in magnitude to the dynamic impedance at resonance of the tuned circuit.

15. (d)

16. (a)



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Bulgin Plugs and Sockets are incorporated in equipment, ranging from the Aircraft Industry to the manufacturing of medical equipment. Over 150 varieties are available, covering from one to eight pole models, for low voltage or mains operation. P.485 + P.486 Screw locking single 5A.250V. ~ rating. pole connector, panel mounting socket P.28 + P.29 Flex-lead two pin model for extension uses, 5A.250V. ~ rating P.490 + P.491 2 pole Domina connectors for multiple stacking. 5A.250V. ~ rating. P 501 + P 502 Miniature version of the above, 3A.250V.~ rating. P.360 Miniature three pole connector, 1.5A.250V. ~ rating P.438 Three pole, miniature, facility outlet, panel mounting socket. 1.5A.250V. ~ rating. P.561 Three pole, miniature connector shrouded pins & sockets, 2A.250V.~ rating. In addition to this there is an identical four pole version, P.560 with four shrouded pins and sockets 2A. 250V.~ rating. P.360/SE P 73/SE P 73 P.461.462.466 0 431 P.161, 162, 166 P.360/SE As P.360 but with side cable entry to socket. P.437 Three pole facility outlet for mains to unit connections P.550 5A.250V. ~ rating. P.545 General purpose three pin connector with tags accepting push-on-connectors to plug 5A.250V ~ rating.
 P.73 Sturdy Mains inlet connector, 5A.250V. ~ rating. P.73/SE Version of P.73 with side cable entry to socket 5A.250V. ~ rating. P.550 8-pole connector (7 + earth) 6A.250V. rating with both members designed so that when un-mated live parts are shrouded and safe to handle thus enabling use for both mains inlet and outlet applications, mis-mate is impossible. P.550 accepts 187 series push-on-tabs. Send for separate leaflet 1533/C. P 161 162, 166 Range of three mains input connectors. P.161=2 pole. P.162=3 pole. P.166=6 pole. P.461, 462, 466 as P.161-166 above but with a metallic external cable clamp. P.461 = 2 pole P.462 = 3 pole. P.466 = 6 pole. FOR DETAILS OF THE COMPLETE RANGE SEND FOR BROCHURE 1506/C MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS OF RADIO AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS TO A. F. BULGIN & CO. LTD., ADMIRALTY MINISTRY OF WORKS Bye Pass Rd., Barking, Essex. MINISTRY OF AVIATION MINISTRY OF TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENTS U.K.A.E.A. WAR OFFICE

WW-106 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

HOME OFFICE CROWN AGENTS

Tel: 01-594 5588 (12 lines)

Literature Received

ACTIVE DEVICES

Farnell Instruments Ltd, Sandbeck Way, Wetherby LS22 4DH, Yorkshire, list their digital logic components with prices, in publication F21 WW402 "Gunn effect devices and their applications", an 8-page article originally published in *Mullard Technical Communication*, is now available as a reprint. I.E.D./Valve Sales, Mullard Ltd., Torrington Place, London W.C.1. WW422

HARDWARE

INSTRUMENTS

Dana Electronics Ltd, Bilton Way, Dallow Road, Luton, Beds, have produced the following publications:

Series 7000 Digiphas	e Synthesizer-very	accurate	frequencies to
11MHz in 1Hz incr	ements		WW403
Amplifier data sheets 78	9-791		WW404
Series 2600 data amplifi	ers		WW405
Digital voltmeters			

Two leaflets have been received from Telequipment Ltd, 313 Chase Road, Southgate, London N.14:

Oscilloscopes		W W 408
S54A Single-beam Solid-state Oscilloscope	*********************	WW409

Two short-form catalogues are available from Bell & Howell Ltd, Lennox Road, Basingstoke, Hants:

Tape & Graph Recording	
Transducer products	

A short-form catalogue describing their range of electronic measuring instruments is available from Avo Ltd, Avocet House, Dover, Kent WW417

GENERAL INFORMATION

The British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1Y 4AA, has produced PD64 36: "A guide to the BS9000 scheme", price 12s.

The handbook "Printed Wiring & Printed Circuit Techniques", revised by the Electronic Engineering Association, is available from *Design Electronics*, Dorset House, Stamford Street, London S.E.1. Price 40s, post free.

Those readers looking for an introduction to logic circuits will not go far wrong with "It's the Logic that Counts" which is a book published by Marconi Instruments Ltd, Marketing Services Department, St. Albans, Herts. Costing £2 the book uses the "programmed learning" approach.

H.F. Predictions-December



Sunspot numbers for recent months show the expected start of a steady decline in solar activity which will continue until 1975. F2 layer daytime MUFs fo routes predominantly in the northern hemisphere are at their peak in December, F1 and E layer MUFs, however, are at their lowest and have little or no effect on circuit operation. Night-time F-layer MUFs on the other hand are also lowest during winter months which, coupled with declining sola activity, seriously reduces the usable spectrum.

Fade-outs and disturbances should continue as at present, that is relatively frequent but of low intensity.

The northern auroral zone passes through Alaska, Hudson Bay, Iceland and northern Norway; radio paths crossing this zone are subject to periodof high attenuation lasting several days.

SINCLAIR IC-10

INTEGRATED GINGLET THE

MONOLITHIC INTEGRATED CIRCUIT AMPLIFIER AND PRE-AMP



A 13 transistor circuit measuring only one twentieth of an inch square by one hundredth of an inch thick!

the world's most advanced high fidelity amplifier

The Sinclair IC-10 is the world's first monolithic integrated circuit high fidelity power amplifier and pre-amplifier. The circuit itself, a chip of silicon only a twentieth of an inch square by one hundredth of an inch thick, has 5 watts R.M.S. output (10w. peak). It contains 13 transistors (including two power types), 2 diodes, 1 zenor diode and 18 resistors, formed simultaneously in the silicon by a series of diffusions. The chip is encapsulated in a solid plastic package which holds the metal heat sink and connecting pins. This exciting device is not only more rugged and reliable than any previous amplifier, it also has considerable performance advantages. The most important are complete freedom from thermal runaway due to the close thermal coupling between the output transistors and the bias diodes and very low level of distortion.

The IC-10 is primarily intended as a full performance high fidelity power and pre-amplifier, for which application it only requires the addition of the usual tone and volume controls and a battery or mains power supply. However, it is so designed that it may be used simply in many other applications including car radios, electronic organs, servo amplifiers (it is d.c. coupled throughout), etc. Once proven, the circuits can be produced with complete uniformity which enables us to give a 5-year guarantee on each IC-10, knowing that every unit will work as perfectly as the original and do so for a lifetime.

MORE SINCLAIR DESIGNS ON PAGES FOLLOWING



SPECIFICATIONS

Output:	0 Watts peak, 5 Watts R.M.S. continuous
Frequency response	5 Hz to 100 KHz + 1dB
Total harmonic dist	ortion: Less than 1% at full output.
Load impedance:	3 to 15 ohms.
Power gain:	110dB (100,000,000,000 times) total
Supply voltage:	8 to 18 volts.
Size:	1 x 0,4 x 0.2 inches.
Sensitivity:	5mV.
Input impedance:	Adjustable externally up to 2.5 M ohms.

CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The first three transistors are used in the pre-amp and the remaining 10 in the power amplifier. Class AB output is used with closely controlled quiescent current which is independent of temperature. Generous negative feedback is used round both sections and the amplifier is completely free from cross-over distortion at all supply voltages, making battery operation eminently satisfactory.

APPLICATIONS

Each IC-10 is sold with a very comprehensive manual giving circuit and wiring diagrams for a large number of applications in addition to high fidelity. These include stabilised power supplies, oscillators, etc. The pre-amp section can be used as an R.F. or I.F. amplifier without any additional transistors.



with IC-10 manual and 5-year guarantee **59/6** Post free.

SINCLAIR RADIONICS LTD. 22 NEWMARKET ROAD, CAMBRIDGE Telephone : 0223 52731

www.americanradiohistorv.com



Project 60 an exciting alternative

The buyer of an amplifier today has a remarkably wide variety to choose from. It is unlikely that a purchaser would have real difficulty in finding a unit that met all his requirements, although the price might not be as low as could be wished. The only snags are that one's needs can change and that the technically correct amplifier may be physically inconvenient. If you are confident that there is an amplifier available, of the right size and price, which will meet all your needs for the forseeable future, then that is your best buy. If not, however, we can offer you another possibility which we believe to be an exciting alternative approach. That alternative is **Project 60**.

Project 60 is a range of modules which connect together simply to form a complete stereo amplifier with really excellent performance. So good, in fact, that only 2 or 3 amplifiers in the world can compare with it in overall performance.

The modules are: 1. The Z-30 high gain power amplifier, which is an immensely flexible unit in its own right. 2. The Stereo 60 preamplifier and control unit. 3. The PZ.5 and PZ.6 power supplies. A complete system comprises two Z-30's, one Stereo-60 and a PZ-5 or PZ-6. The power supplies differ in that the PZ-6 is stabilised whilst the PZ-5 is not. This means that the former should be used where the highest possible continuous sine wave rating is required. In a normal domestic application there will not be a significant difference between using either power unit unless loudspeakers of very low efficiency are being used.

All you need to assemble your system is a screwdriver and a soldering iron. No technical skill or knowledge whatsoever is required and, in the unlikely event of you hitting a problem, our customer service and advice department will put the matter right promptly and willingly.

Perhaps the greatest beauty of the system is that it is not only flexible now but will remain so in the future. We shall shortly be introducing additional modules which will include a comprehensive filter unit, a stereo F.M. tuner and an even more powerful amplifier for very large systems. These and all other modules we introduce will be compatible with those shown here and may be added to your system at any time.

Project 60 modules have been carefully designed to fit into virtually every known type of plinth or cabinet and templates provided enable you to position them. Only holes have to be drilled into the wood of the plinth and any slight slips here will be covered completely by the aluminium front panel of the Stereo 60. The Project 60 manual gives all the instructions you can possibly want clearly and concisely.



SINCLAIR RADIONICS LTD · 22 NEWMARKET ROAD · CAMBRIDGE Telephone: 0223 52731

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Z-30 TWENTY WATT R.M.S. (40 WATT PEAK) **POWER AMPLIFIER**

The Z-30 is a complete power amplifier of very advanced design employing 9 silicon epitaxial planar transistors. Total harmonic distortion is incredibly low being only 0.02% at full output and all lower outputs. As far as we know, no other high fidelity amplifier made can match this specification, no matter what the price. Thus you can be utterly certain that your Project 60 system will do full justice to your other equipment however good it may be. The Z-30 is unique in that it will operate perfectly, without adjustment, from any power supply from 8 to 35 volts. It also has sufficient gain to operate directly from a crystal pickup. So in addition to its use in a high fidelity system you can use a Z-30 to advantage in your car or a battery operated gramophone for your children, for example. These, and many other applications of the Z-30, are covered in the Project 60 manual.

SPECIFICATIONS

Power output-15 watts R.M.S. (30 watts peak) into 8 ohms using a 35 volt supply; 20 watts R.M.S. (40 watts peak) into 3 ohms using a 30 volt supply.

Output-Class AB

Frequency response :	30 to 300,000 Hz ± 1dB.
Signal to noise ratio:	better than 70dB unweighted.
Distortion :	0.02% total harmonic distortion at full output into 8 ohms and at al
	lower output levels.
Size:	3 x 2 x x inches.
Input sensitivity:	250mV Into 100 Kohms.
Damping Factor:	> 500.
Loudspeaker impedance	tes 3 to 15 ohms.
Power requirements:	8 to 35 V.d.c.

STEREO SIXTY

The Stereo 60 is a stereo preamplifier and control unit designed for the Project 60 range but suitable for use with any high quality power amplifier. Again silicon epitaxial planar transistors are used throughout and great attention has been paid to achieving a really high signal-to-noise ratio and excellent tracking between the two channels. Input selection is by means of push buttons and accurate equalisation is provided for all the usual inputs. The tone controls are also very carefully designed and tested.

SPECIFICATIONS

Input sensitivities—Radio—up to 3mV; Magnetic Pickup-3mV Correct within ± 1dB on R.I.A.A. curve. Ceramic Pickup to 3mV: Auxillary-up to 3mV. -up

- Output—1 volt.
 Signal-to-noise ratio—better than 70dB.

- Channel matching—within 1dB.
 Tone Controls—TREBLE + 15 to 15dB.
 at 10 KHz: BASS +15 to -15dB at 100 Hz.
- Power consumption 5mA.
 Power requirement—PZ.5 or PZ.6.
 Finish—brushed aluminium front panel
- with black knobs. Mounting-on cabinet front by spindle
- bushes and adjustable brackets.

APPLICATIONS

High fidelity amplifier; car radio amplifier; record player fed direct from pick-up; intercom: electronic music and instruments; P.A., laboratory work, etc. Full details of these and many other applications are given in the manual supplied with your 2, 30,



Z.30 Ready built, tested and guaranteed, with Z.30 manual.



Treble and bass control curves

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STEREO SIXTY

thereafter.

SINCLAIR POWER SUPPLY UNITS



30 PZ-5 volts unstabilised-sufficient to drive two Z-30's and Stereo 60 for the majority а of domestic applications.

Price: £4. 19s. 6d.

PREAMPLIFIER AND CONTROL UNIT

35 volts stabilised-ideal for **PZ-6** driving two Z-30's and a Stereo 60 when very low efficiency speakers are employed.

If at any time within 3 months of purchasing Project 60 modules from us, you are dissatisfied with them, we will refund your money at once. Each module is guaranteed to work perfectly and should any defect arise in normal use we will service it at once and without any cost to you whatso-ever provided that it is returned to us within 2 years of the purchase date. There will be a small charge for service

GUARANTEE

Price: £7. 10s. 6d.



THE DOLBY SYSTEM



The inside story -

Here we show one of the precision built glass-fibre circuit boards which are the heart of the Dolby A301 Audio Noise Reduction System.

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Designed to operate transistor sets and amplifiers. Adjustable output $6_{V.}$, $9_{V.}$, 12 volts for up to 500mA (class B working). Takes the place of any of the following batteries: PP1, PP3, PP4, PP6, PP7, PP9, and others. Kit comprises: mains transformer rectifier, smoothing and load resistor, condensers and instructions. Real snip at only 16/8, plus 3/6 postage.

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25 Mc/

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Prequency response on probe 10 Kc/s/3-100Mc/s. Five separate Voltage Ranges. Overload Protection 100-250 A.C.I.P. Input $1M \oplus \text{ Acc.} \pm 2 \% \text{ or }00.27 \text{ Size:} 10 \times 164 \times 91\text{n}$...-151b. $\pounds 5/10/6$.

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CVN500A. Input 190-260v. 50 Hz.
Output 240v. R.M.S. 500 watt
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Output 230y, 50 watta 619/10/0
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MUIRHEAD D729 PHASE-METER AND POWER SUPPLY MELEKAND FOTHER SOFT Glvea direct haliation of phase angle 0°-360° and difference in level between two sinusoidal voltages (transfer function) over the frequency range 2 cycles per sec. to 100 Ke/s. £275 Carriage £2.

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Amplitude 0 · 10V. Frequency Range 5Hz-5 KHz ±2%±0.5 Hz. 18 Sweep Rates of 10 octaves/min. Frequency Response 0.5 dB. £89.10.0. Carriage extra.





wireless	world,	December	1303

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TRANSFORMERS.	FULLY	S	HRO	L.I.	n
(*excepted) TERM	INAL BLO	CK	CON	INEC-	1900
TIONS. ALL P		220)/Z40	V.	
IA 25-33-40-50	15	69	10 0	10/6	0 8 10 044
IB 25-33-40-50	6	£6	19 6	8/6	9 & 10 CHA
ID 25-33-40-50	3	£3	12 6	7/6	01-723-7851
2A 4-16-24-32	12	£6	10 0	7/6	-
2C 4-16-24-32	4	£3	5 0	6/-	AMERIC
2D 4-16-24-32	2	£2	2 6	5/-	AMERICA
3A* 25-30-35	40 1	E14	17 6	15/-	PO
30 25-30-35	10	29	10 0	9/6	
3D 25-30-35	5	£3	15 0	6/6	Alter -
3E 25-30-35	2	£2	15 0	6/6	0
4A* 12-20-24	30 1	E11	15 0	10/-	
4C 12-20-24	10	€4	15 0	7/6	
4D 12-20-24	5	£3	5 0	6/6	
5A 3-12-18	30	€8	15 0	7/6	
56 3-12-18	20	£6	10 0	7/6	Regulation between
5D 3-12-18	5	£2	12 6	6/6	0-30 D.C. ammeter,
6A 48-56-60	2	£3	5 0	5/6	tection switch. Buil
6B 48-56-60	1	£2	7 6	5/6	50 cycles cy equipr
78* 6-12	50	£9	7 6	9/6	Maker's price in exce
7C 6-12	10	43	10 0	6/6	240/110 volt, 400
7D 6-12	5	£2	10 0	5/6	required. £3 extra.
8A 12-24	1	£I	9 6	5/6	
9A 17-32	8	65	12 6	5/6	
11A. 6.3	15	22	5 0	5/6	Pri 110-120v -200-2
12A. 30-25-0-25-30	2	£3	5 0	5/6	Table top connecti
			-		Pri tapped 110v. 220
AUTO TR	ANSFORM	IER	S		All windings very o
240v110v. or 100v. C	ompletely	Shr	oude	d fitted	Terminal connection
blocks. Please state wit	nich type re	auir	ed.	erminal	£10.19.0. Carr. 15/-
Type Watts Approx.	Weight F	rice		Carr.	Pri tapped 200-250v
1 80 211	6 £1	17	6	4 6	17 amps. Size IIX
2 150 41	b £2	7	6	5 0	necored by rattrid
3 300 611	b £3	7	6	6 0	Pri 240v. Sec. 12v. 9
5 1000 151	b 44	12	6	7 6	TEROS Roins. Els.
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fitted with two 2-pin American sockets, neon indicator, on/off switch, and carrying handle.

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TAL HOUR METERS 6 figs inc. 1/10ths, 1/10ths 40v. A.C. but complete with transformer for 240v. A.C. operation. All in plastic case. Size $6\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ in. Condi-tion as new 45/-, P. & P. 5/-,



SMITHS SYNCHRONOUS MOTORS A.C. 200-240v. 4 r.p.m. 3in. dia. Length of spindle žin. 22/6. P. & P. 2/6. As above, I r.p.m. 22/6. P. & P. 2/6.

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These superb twin tape deck units were originally designed for installations requiring the continuous replay of music or speech when connected to suitable amplifiers. Consisting of two completely self-contained tape decks operating at either $3\frac{3}{4}$ " (3 button $\frac{1}{4}$ track model) or $7\frac{1}{4}$ " (6 button 2 track model). Each tape drive unit is fitted with a unique automatic solenoid operated tape drive reversal mechanism actuated by metallic stop foil at end of tape or inserted where reversals designed. Constructed to the highest specification with the finest components available to ensure the utmost reliability. Nothing has been spared in the construction and the superb heavy duty	SOLE IMPORTERS IN U.K; QUALITY ELECTRONICS LTD. 47-49 HIGH STREET, KINGSTON-UPON - THAMES, SURREY. Tol: 01-546 4585 WW-115 FOR FURTHER DETAILS
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Wireless World, December 1969

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 10 omplementary pair. Output transformer coupled to 3 ohms a peaker sockets. Standard phono liput sockets. Output transformer coupled to 3 ohms of the sockets.
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BRAND NEW1 PARMEKO MAINS TRANSFORMERS Primary 1107-2500 Secondary 330-0-2300. 100mA and 6.3v. at 2 amps. 63v. at 2 amps and 6.3v. at 1 amp. Conservatively rated. Fully impregnated. Electrostatic screen. Suitable for vertical or drop through monning. Overall size 4fin. × 3fin. × 3fin. Weight 8lbs. Limited number only at 37/6 P. & P. 8/-.

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3-VALVE AUDIO AMPLIFIER MODEL HA34 MK. II Figure 10 and 1

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an arton wi	6AC7 8/- 6AH6 11/6	1622' 17/-	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V
EM80 7/8 EM84 7/-	6AC7 8/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK8 6/-	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to
EM80 7/6 EM84 7/- EM87 11/- EY51 8/- EY86 7/6	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AL5W 7/- 6AM3 5/-	991 0/- 1622 17/- 2051 5/- 3505 13/- 5676 10/- 5678 10/- 5726 7/-	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory
EM80 7/6 EM84 7/- EM87 11/- EY51 8/- EY86 7/8 EY88 8/6 EZ40 8/6	6AC7 %/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AL5W 7/- 6AM5 5/- 6AM5 3/- 6AM5 20/-	b)1 6)2 17/- 1622 17/- 3505 13/- 3505 13/- 5676 10/- 5678 10/- 5726 7/- 5933 22/6 6057 10/- 5676 10/- 7/- 5933 22/6	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA:
E M80 7/6 E M84 7/- E M87 11/- E Y87 8/- E Y88 8/6 E Y88 8/6 E Z40 8/3 E Z40 8/3 E Z40 5/- E Z80 5/-	6AC7 8/- 6AH6 1/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK3 3/- 6AL5 3/- 6AL5 3/- 6AM5 3/- 6AM5 3/- 6AM5 20/- 6AN5 10/- 6AQ5 8/- 6AQ5 9/-	pp1 0 - 1622 17/- 2051 5/- 3005 13/- 5676 10/- 5726 7/- 5933 22/6 6060 7/8 6064 7/- 6065 8/-	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULAT ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER
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EM80 7/6 EM84 7/- EM87 11/- EY81 8/- EY86 7/6 EY88 8/6 EZ40 8/3 EZ41 8/6 EZ81 5/- GZ41 10/6 KT88 28/- KT88 28/- KT88 28/- OA2 6/- OB2 6/- OB2 6/- OB2 6/-	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AL5 3/- 6AM5 5/- 6AM5 5/- 6AM5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 4/6 6AS7 9/- 6AS6 4/6 6AJ6 5/- 6AX5 4/6 6AJ6 5/- 6AJ6 5/	gpg gpg 1 1622 1 1 2001 1 1 20021 1 1 66776 1 1 56785 1 1 57285 7 1 5933 22/6 6 6067 7/8 6 6068 7/8 6 6065 8/- 6 6065 8/- 6 6065 8/- 9001 9001 3/- 9 9002 4/8 9 9004 2/6 9	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V—£15 Galumont Kalfer (Rank STUD)
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EXB00 7/6 EXB30 7/6 EXB31 7/- EXB31 8/- EY51 8/- EY51 8/- EY58 8/6 EZ40 8/3 EZ41 8/6 EZ20 5/- GZ34 10/6 EZ20 5/- GZ34 10/6 EZ20 5/- PCB2 6/- PCB2 6/- PCB4 8/- PCB4 6/9 PCC89 9/6 4/9 PCC89 9/6 PCC89 1/6 PCC89 1/6	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AM5 7/- 6AM6 3/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6A	991 0/- 1622 15/- 2001 5/- 3505 13/- 5676 10/- 5726 7/- 5933 25/7 5933 25/7 6060 7/6 6060 7/6 6060 27/6 6046 28/- 9001 3/- 9002 8/6 9003 8/6 9004 2/6 9003 8/6 9004 2/6 VCR97 3/75/- VCR97 3/75/- VCR97 3/75/- VCR97 3/75/- VCR97 3/75/- VCR917E0/- 55/- VCR917C. 55/-	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35, Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85, Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seed Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD METER, £105, Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATO AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT
Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Ezist 8/- Exist 8/- Exis	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AM5 5/- 6AM6 3/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 4/- 6AM5 4/- 6AT5 4/- 6AT5 4/- 6AT6 4/- 6AT6 4/- 6AT6 4/- 6BE6 5/- 6BE6 5/- 6BJ6 8/6 6BJ7 7/- 6BL70TA	991 0 1622 17 2051 5 - 3505 13 - 5676 10 - 5726 10 - 5678 23 6 6675 10 - 5678 23 6 6667 16 - 6067 16 - 6065 8 - 6065 8 - 6040 27 6 6040 27 6 6041 28 - 9001 4/6 9002 4/6 9003 8 6 9004 2 6 9005 8 - 9004 2 6 9005 3 - 9004 2 6 9005 2 6 VCR97 32 6 VCR5178 VCR5178 VCR5170 VCR55/7 9PP-7 26,7 9PP-7 26,7	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as see Colls at 15/ 5R 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD METER, £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT
Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Exist 8/7 Evist 8/7 Evist 8/7 Evist 8/7 Evist 8/7 Evist 8/8 Ezist 8/8 Ezist 8/8 Ezist 8/7 Ezist 8/7 Ezist 8/7 Ezist 8/7 Ezist 8/7 PLC PABCS 7/6 PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC PLC	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK8 7/- 6AM6 3/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6ABC 3/- 6AD5 4/6 6BK7 8/- 6BK6 4/6 6BK6 4/6 6BK6 8/6 6BK6 8/6 6BK6 8/6 6BJ6 8/6 6BJ7 7/- 6BJ6 8/6	991 0/- 1622 15/- 3505 15/- 3505 16/- 5677 10/- 5728 7/- 5793 22/6 6077 10/- 6067 10/- 6067 10/- 6067 10/- 6068 8/- 6066 8/- 6060 7/8 9001 3/- 9002 4/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 3/- 9006 3/- 907 2/6/7 907 2/6/7 907 2/6/7 <td>two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTWI 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATIC Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATIC AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT</td>	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTWI 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATIC Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATIC AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT
Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Exist 8/7 Exist 8/7 Exist 8/7 Exist 8/7 Exist 8/6 Ezist 8/6 Ezi	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK8 7/- 6AM6 2/- 6AM5 20- 6AM5 20- 6AM5 3/- 6AM5 8/- 6AM5 8/- 6BM7 5/6 6BK7 12/6 6BK6 4/6 6BK6 8/- 6BK6 8/- 6BK6 12/- 6BJ7 7/- 6BU60 11/- 6BJ7 7/- 6BU7 13/- 6BF7 16/- 6BK7 16/- 1	929 0/- 1622 17/- 2001 53/- 2002 53/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 57265 7/- 57285 7/- 6067 10/- 6066 7/8 6067 10/- 6068 7/8 6069 7/8 6060 7/8 6060 7/8 6060 7/8 9001 3/- 9002 4/8 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 3/5/- VCR61750/- VCR61760/- VCR61720 55/- VCR617 55/- 9314 </td <td>two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V615 GAUMCHANKALEE(RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMEN</td>	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V615 GAUMCHANKALEE(RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMEN
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Ex180 7/6 Ex180 7/6 Ex181 7/- Ex181 8/- Ex181 8/- Ex181 8/- Ex181 8/6 Ez40 8/3 Ez41 8/6 Ez20 5/- GZ34 10/6 Ez20 5/- CA2 6/- PABC0 7/6 PABC0 7/6 PC082 6/- PABC0 7/6 PC082 6/- PC082 6/- PC082 6/- PC082 6/- PC082 6/- PC082 6/- PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 6/6 PC080 10/- PC080 6/9 PC080 10/- PC080 9/9 PC780 10/- PC780	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK6 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AM5 5/- 6AM6 3/- 6AM5 20/- 6AM5 20/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 8/- 6BK7 12/- 6BK7 12/-	991 0/- 1622 17/- 2051 5/- 3505 13/- 3505 13/- 5676 10/- 5726 7/- 5933 23/- 6060 7/- 6060 7/- 6060 27/- 6000 27/- 6000 27/- 9001 3/- 9002 3/- 9003 4/6 9003 4/6 9003 4/6 9003 4/6 9003 2/6 9004 2/6 9003 3/- 9003 3/6 9003 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 9005 2/6 9005 2/6 9005 2/6 9005 2/6 9007 3/1 9014 2/6 9031A 2/6	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULAT ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seer Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTWI IOMY to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATO CAYO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMENT TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A5 2/8 0A2223 10/- 0C89 5/- 0A70 3/- 0C89 5/- 0C89 5/- 0C89 5/-
EXB00 7/6 EXB07 7/6 EXB37 7/- EXB37 11/- EXB37 13/- EY381 8/- EY381 8/- EY381 8/- EZ41 8/6 EZ40 8/3 EZ41 8/6 EZ40 8/3 F/X83 22/- N78 22/- N78 22/- N78 22/- N78 22/- D82 6/- PCB4 9/- PCC34 10/- PCC34	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK6 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK5 5/- 6AK6 3/- 6AK5 20/- 6AK6 3/- 6AK5 20/- 6AK6 3/- 6AK5 20/- 6AK7 4/6 6AK7 4/6 6AK7 6/- 6AK7 6/- 6AK7 6/- 6AK7 6/- 6BE6 5/- 6BE6 11/- 6BE6 11/- 6BE7 4/6 6BE7 16/- 6BE7 16/- 6B	991 0/- 1622 17/- 2001 5/- 3505 13/- 5676 10/- 5785 21/6 5785 21/6 6067 16/- 6063 21/6 60645 21/- 60645 8/- 60645 8/- 60645 8/- 60401 2/6 9001 4/6 9002 4/6 9003 8/6 9004 2/6 9005 8/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 3/- 9004 2/6 9005 75/- 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 9016 10/7 9017 35/0 9016 10/8 9017 28/6 9018 28/6 9017 45/7 9016 <t< td=""><td>two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35, Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85, Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £38. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as see Colls at 15/-; 48 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUDD METER, £105, Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR CAYO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMENT TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A5 2/8 0A70 3/- 0A70 2/- 0A71 2/- 0A73 1/9 0A72 2/- 0A73 1/9</td></t<>	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35, Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85, Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £38. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as see Colls at 15/-; 48 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUDD METER, £105, Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR CAYO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMENT TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A5 2/8 0A70 3/- 0A70 2/- 0A71 2/- 0A73 1/9 0A72 2/- 0A73 1/9
Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Exist 8/- Ezist 8/- Ezist 5/- GZ:4 10/6 Ezist 5/- GZ:4 10/6 Ezist 5/- GZ:4 10/6 Ezist 5/- GZ:4 10/6 Ezist 5/- GZ:4 10/6 Exist 9/- PCF30 8/- PCF30 9/- PCF30 8/- PCF30 9/- PCF30 15/- PCF30 12/- PCF306 13/- PCF306 12/- PCF306 13/- PCF306 12/- PCF306 12/- PCF306 12/- PCF306 12/- PCF307 12/- PCF307 12/- PCF308 1	6A.C7 3/- 6A.H6 11/6 6A.K3 5/- 6A.K6 5/- 6A.K5 5/- 6A.K6 3/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K5 20/- 6A.K6 3/- 6A.K7 8/6 6A.K7 4/6 6A.K7 4/6 6A.K7 8/6 6A.K7 8/- 6A.K7 8/- 6B.K7 8/- 6B.K6 13/- 6B.K6 8/- 6B.K6 8/- 6B.K6 14/- 6B.K6 14/- 6B.K7 13/- 6B.K6 4/- 6C4 5/9 6B.K6 13/- 6B.K7 13/- 6B.K6 13/- 6C4.6 9/9 6D.K6 8/- 6C4.6 9/- <	991 0/- 1622 17/- 2001 5/- 3505 13/- 5676 16/- 5678 16/- 5678 16/- 5678 17/- 5893 22/6 6667 10/- 6067 10/- 6067 16/- 6065 8/- 6066 8/- 9001 3/- 9002 4/6 9003 8/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 VCR51750/- VCR5176 VCR5170/- 59/7 931A 62/6 60970 35/- 931A	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as see Colls at 15/-; 4R 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUDD METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMENT TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A5 8/6 0A22233 10 0C82 05/1 0A70 8/- 0A71 8/- 0C25 17/6 0C83 4/6 0A31 16 0C25 5/- 0C83 4/6 0A31 16 0C25 5/- 0C140 9/6
Exado 7/6 Exado 7/6	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK6 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK5 5/- 6AK5 5/- 6AK5 20/- 6AK5 20/- 6BK6 20/- 6BK7 20/- 6BK7 20/- 6BK6 20/- 6BK7 20/- 6BK6 20/- 6BK7 20/- 6BK6 20/- 6BK7 20/- 6B	991 0/- 1622 17/- 2001 5/- 3505 16/- 5677 10/- 5728 10/- 5728 10/- 5728 7/- 5728 7/- 5728 7/- 5728 7/- 5728 7/- 6067 10/- 6067 7/6 6067 10/- 6068 8/- 9001 3/- 9002 4/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 9011 3/- 9022 4/10 0001 2/10	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMEN TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A15 9/- 0A16 9/- 0C82 10/- 0C82 10/- 0C83 4/6 0A16 17/- 0C83 4/6 0A16 17/- 0C83 4/6 0A17 19/- 0C22 10/- 0C83 8/6 0A17 16/- 0C22 10/- 0C83 8/6 0A16 0/2 0A17 16/- 0C22 10/- 0C83 8/6 0A16 0/2 0A17 1/9 0C23 10/- 0C139 6/6 0A10 1/9 0C23 10/- 0C127 7/6 0A210 7/6 0C38 8/6 0C200 7/6 0C200 7/6 0C200 1/9 0C21 0/-
Exago 7/6 Exago 8/6 Ezago 6/6 Ezago 6/6 Ezago 6/6 Ezago 6/6 Ezago 6/6 PCB 0A2 OA2 6/6 PCB00 9/6 PC084 6/9 PC084 15/7 PCF801 16/6 PCF802 9/9 ICF0803 9/9 ICF0803 9/9 ICF0803 9/9 ICF0803 13/7 PCL843 13/6	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK8 7/- 6AM6 3/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6AS 4/- 6AT5 4/- 6AT5 4/- 6AT5 4/- 6BT 5/- 6BT 5/- 6BA6 4/- 6BK7 7/- 6BG6 11/- 6BJ6 8/- 6BJ7 7/- 6BC6 11/- 6BJ7 7/- 6BC7 16/- 6BY 7/- 6BC6 4/- 6BY 7/- 6BC6 4/- 6BY 7/- 6BC6 4/- 6BY 7/- 6BC6 4/- 6BY 7/- 6BC6 4/- 6BY 7/- 6BY 16/- 6BY 7/- 6BY 7/- 6BY 16/- 6BY	923 0/- 1622 15/- 2001 5/- 2002 5/- 2003 5/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 56775 10/- 6667 10/- 6066 7/8 6067 70/- 6068 7/- 6066 7/8 6066 7/8 6067 20/2 6068 8/- 9001 3/- 9002 4/8 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 CR617B 5/- VCR517C 45/- 5/- 5/- 9314 62/6 6007C 35/- Sta01	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seef Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATOR Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR AVO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMEN TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A10 3/- 0A70 2/- 0C16 15/- 0A73 1/9 0C22 10/- 0C828 5/- 0C140 1/9 0C22 10/- 0C88 5/- 0C140 1/9 0C22 10/- 0C88 5/- 0C140 1/9 0C120 1/- 0C140 1/9 0C120 1/- 0C140 1/9 0C120 1/- 0C141 1/8 1/2 0C141 1/8 0C20011/- 0C141 1/8 1/8 0/2001
Exaso 7/6 Exaso 7/6 Exaso 7/6 Exaso 8/7 Exaso 8/6 Ezaso 8/7 Gz:41 10/6 Ezzeso 5/7 GZ:41 10/6 CA2 6/7 PCB800 7/6 OA2 6/7 PCC84 6/9 PCC84 6/9 PCC84 6/9 PCC84 6/9 PCC80 15/7 PCF801 15/6 PCF803 15/6 PCF804 13/7 PCF805 14/6 PCL803 13/7 PCL803 13/7 PCL81 16/6 PCL82 17/6 PCL83 13/7	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK3 5/- 6AK8 6/- 6AK8 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK8 7/- 6AM6 2/- 6AM6 2/- 6AM5 20- 6AM5 20- 6AM5 20- 6AM5 8/- 6AM5 8/- 6BM7 3/- 6BM7 5/6 6BK7 12/6 6BK7 12/6 6BK6 8/6 6BK7 12/6 6BK7 12/6 6BW7 13/- 6CH6 7/- 6CH6	pp: pp: pp: 1622 17/ 2001 13/ 2001 13/ 2001 13/ 2001 13/ 2001 13/ 2001 13/ 5726 7/ 5728 7/ 6067 10/ 6068 7/ 6005 8/- 6006 7/8 6006 7/8 6006 7/8 9001 3/- 9002 4/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9004 2/6 9005 3/5/- VCR51750/- VCR5176 CMG25 5/5/- VCR0172 5/2 CV10317 2/0	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULA' ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seer Colis at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM 10mV to 100V£15 GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATOR CT Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMEN TRANSISTORS, ZEE 0A5 2/6 0A2223 10 0C32 5/- 0A70 2/- 0C16 15/- 0C38 4/6 0A73 179 0C32 7/6 0C38 4/6 0A73 179 0C32 8/6 0C170 6/- 0A220 116/- 0C38 16/- 0C171 2/6 0A210 7/6 0C38 16/- 0C171 2/6 0A210 7/6 0C38 16/- 0C171 2/6
Existo 7/6 Existo 7/6 Exist 8/7 Exist 1/7 Exist 1/7 Exist 1/7 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/6 PC080 9/7 PC080 9/7 PC080 9/7 PC080 9/7 PC080 9/7 PC080 9/7 PC180 1/7 PC280 9/9 PC800 9/9 PC800 9/9 PC180	6AC7 3/- 6AH6 11/6 6AK5 5/- 6AK6 11/6 6AK5 6/- 6AL5 3/- 6AK5 20/- 6AM6 3/- 6AN5 20/- 6AN5 20/- 6BN5 10/- 6BN5 10/- 1	pp: pp: 1622 07 2003 13 2003 13 2003 13 2003 13 5675 10/ 5675 10/ 5726 7/ 5933 22/6 6067 10/- 6068 7/- 6066 7/6 6065 8/- 6000 27/6 6146 28/- 9001 3/- 9002 4/6 9003 4/6 9004 2/6 9003 4/6 9004 2/6 9005 2/6 CB 10- VCR517E 5/- VCR5176 5/- VCR5170 48/- 6037 350/- Special Viva. 48/- ACTO 48/- 6031 4/2 K3031 £12 K337	two ranges. Variable and fixed 170V negative output, £35. Carriage 20/ CD 7115.2. Double beam, DC to 7MHz 'scope, £85. Carriage 30/ CD 643.2. Single beam Laboratory ENGLISH ELECTRONIC INSULAT ionisation amplifier, £35. AIRMEC INSULATION TESTER fier, £28. KELVIN & HUGHES PEN RECORD END OF RANGE ITEMS in 'as seer Colls at 15/-; AR 88, less case, £12.10.0 £20; Furzehill VTVM IOmV to 100V£15. GAUMONT KALEE (RANK STUD) METER. £105. Carriage 7/6. BOONTON SIGNAL GENERATO Carriage 30/ TS 418 B/U SIGNAL GENERATO CAYO SIGNAL GENERATOR CT TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES To view TEST EQUIPMENT TRANSISTORS, ZE 0A5 2/8 0.42223 10/- 0C83 3/8 0A70 2/- 0C13 9/- 0C13 9/- 0C13 9/- 0C13 1/8 0C170 8/- 0C13 1/8 0C171 8/- 0C13 1/8 0C171 8/- 0C13 1/8 0C171 8/- 0C13 1/8 0C172 8/6 0C172 4/6 0C13 1/8 0C172 8/6 0C172 4/6 0C13 1/8 0C172 8/6 0C172 8/6 0C172 8/6 0C173 1/1- 0C12 1/8 0A22005 0/7 0A22005 0/7 0A2200
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MECHANICAL ENGINEERS and TECHNICIANS to maintain medium to large scale digital computing systems in London and provincial towns.

Training courses will be arranged for successful applicants, 21 years of age and over, who have a good technical background to ONC/HNC level, City and Guilds or radio/radar experience in the Forces.

Starting salary will be in the range of £900/£1,250 per annum, plus bonus. Shift allowances are payable, after training, where applicable. Opportunities also exist for Trainees, not less than 19 years of age, with a good standard of education, an aptitude towards and an interest in, mechanics, electronics and computers.

Excellent holiday, pension and sick pay arrangements. Please write for Application Form to Assistant Personnel Officer NCR, 1,000 North Circular Road, London, NW2 quoting publication and month of issue.





Trainfortomorrow's world in Radio and Television at The Pembridge College of Electronics.

The next full time 16 month College Diploma Course which gives a thorough fundamental training for radio and television engineers, starts on 1st January 1970.

The Course includes theoretical and practical instruction on Colour Television receivers and is recognised by the Radio Trades Examination Board for the Radio and Television Servicing Certificate examinations. College Diplomas are awarded to successful students.

The way to get ahead in this fast growing industry —an industry that gives you many far-reaching opportunities—is to enrol now with the world famous Pembridge College. Minimum entrance requirements: 'O' Level, Senior Cambridge or equivalent in Mathematics and English.

To: The Pembridge College of Electronics (Dept.ww11), 34a Hereford Road, London, W.2 Please send, without obligation, details of the Full-time Course in Radio and Television.

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ADDRESS

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DISPLAYED SITUATIONS VACANT AND WANTED: £7 per single col, inch.

LINE advertisements (run-on): 8/- per line (approx. 7 words), minimum two lines.

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REDIFFUSION

COLOUR TELEVISION FAULTFINDERS & TESTERS

We have a number of vacancies in our Production Test Departments for experienced faultfinders and testers.

Knowledge of transistor circuitry and experience with Colour Receivers together with R.T.E.B. Final Certificate or equivalent qualifications required.

These will be staff appointments with all the expected benefits. Applications to:

Works Manager, Rediffusion Vision Service Ltd., Fullers Way South, Chessington, Surrey (near Ace of Spades). Phone: 01-397 5411

Telecommunications Engineer

The above vacancy exists in the Scottish division of a large engineering company operating a number of establishments in the West of Scotland, in addition to factories throughout the United Kingdom. The successful candidate, who will operate from the Glasgow office, will be responsible to the Chief Electrical Engineer for planning, implementing and maintaining the rapidly expanding communications network throughout the Scottish factories.

Applicants should have experience in the operation and maintenance of H/F carrier systems, automatic telephone exchange installations and switching networks. A knowledge of data, facsimile and teleprinter transmission and P.A. systems would be an advantage.

Qualifications required are a degree, H.N.C., or C. & G. Full Technological Certificate in Telecommunications.

All applications are confidential and will be acknowledged. If already employed by our client applicants name will not be divulged without permission. Applicants should indicate any company to whom they do not wish their applications forwarded. Please give details of age, experience and qualifications to Ref. 13186/53.

Name and address in block capitals please.

S & M SELECTION, 216 BOTHWELL STREET, GLASGOW, C.2.

2610

83

ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

Advertisements accepted up to DECEMBER 5 for the JANUARY issue, subject to space being available.

Vacancies exist in the Test Gear Department at West Leigh for Electronics Test Gear Engineers capable of tull design responsibility, manufacture and delivery to the production floor. Products include sophisticated alrborne communication equipment, automatic production test equipment and equipment employed in testing many of the Company's electronic components.

Qualifications should include H.N.C. but consideration will be given to applicants with equivalent experience.

Please apply in writing giving full particulars to the Personnel Officer, The Plessey Company Limited, Martin Road, West Leigh, Havant. Hampshire quoting ref. HAV/180/6

2634

An immediate vacancy occurs

An immediate vacancy occurs at **THE WIRELESS COLLEGE** COLWAN BAY, NORTH WALES for P.M.G./M.P.T. examinations. The primary responsi-bility will be the practical instruction on modern marine radio equipment, Applicants must hold a P.M.G. Certi-ficate and should have a sound technical knowledge. Recent marine operating and/or teaching experience is deslrable but not essential. Write in the first instance to the Principal. 2622

BBC

TRANSMITTER PLANNING AND INSTALLATION DEPARTMENT requires

ENGINEER

for work in connection with the planning, installation and commissioning of VHF and UHF transmitting stations. Duties will include assisting in the preparation of specifications, negotiations with manufacturers, liaison with other BBC Departments and acceptance tests on equipment.

The successful candidate may be a member of a team of several engineers each dealing with a particular aspect of a project or projects or he may be directly responsible for smaller projects. He may, alternatively, be responsible for supervising the work of installation technicians and/or transmitter mechanics.

Candidates must be qualified engineers and have had several years' experience of work on UHF and VHF transmitters. They should preferably be Chartered Engineers and a university degree or equivalent would be an advantage.

Commencing salary £2,030 p.a. to £2,238 p.a. in a scale having a maximum of £2,550 p.a. Request for application form to The Engineering Recruitment Officer, BBC, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA quoting reference 69.E.2287 W.W. 2620

a113

EAST AFRICAN POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

ASSISTANT ENGINEERS **GRADE 1**

to serve on contract for one tour of 24 months in the first instance. Basic salary E.A. Shgs. 24300 (£ Stg. 1417) a year rising to E.A. Shgs. 27780 (£1620) a year plus an Inducement Allowance, normally tax free, of £822 - 886 a year, paid direct into officer's bank in the U.K. Gratuity 25% of total emoluments drawn. Liberal paid leave. Furnished accommodation. Overseas Installation Grant. Free passages. Contributory pension scheme available in certain circumstances.

Candidates, 28-45 years, should possess the City and Guilds Intermediate Certificate (Telecomms.) plus a pass in Radio Grade 2 and must have a thorough knowledge of the installation and maintenance of HF and VHF radio equipment. A knowledge of microwave, carrier and telegraph equipment would be an advantage.

Selected officers' duties will be connected with the installation and maintenance of radio stations, and will involve travelling to outlying stations at a considerable distance from their headquarters, sometimes for periods of a week or more.

Apply to CROWN AGENTS, 'M' Division, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1., for application form and further particulars, stating name, age, brief details of qualifications and experience and quoting reference number M2K/690815/ WF. 2650

COMPUTER-CONTROLLED SWITCHING SYSTEMS

Applicants experienced in Hardware design **Circuit design** System analysis Switching systems

MSc BSc PhD

in physics or electronics

Dr.-Ing. Dipl.-Ing.

will be given special tasks and rising chances. Experts in the cited fields achieve excellent salaries. The laboratories are located in Düsseldorf (Rheinland), Frankfurt (Main) or Munich. Knowledge of the German language is not required.

Send short form application to: D 6 Frankfurt (Main), Mainzer Landstraße 134-146

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2655

CONTINUOUS EXPANSION

Standard Telephones & Cables, Microwave and Line Division based at Basildon are growing fast. In order to keep pace with this consistent growth rate we require the following

Installation Engineers Technicians & Testers

a114

Ref. 25720

To test and commission Multiplex, Co-axial Line and Microwave Radio Systems.

Ideal candidates will be less than 45 years of age with practical experience on some of the above equipment. These challenging posts call for drive, initiative and common sense. It is necessary for applicants to be prepared to work anywhere in the U.K.

> Applications should be addressed to The Personnel Officer, STC Chester Hall Lane, Basildon, Essex.



Test Technicians Ref. 27221

The diversity of products manufactured at the Basildon Plant demands experienced testing staff for work on complex transmission systems.

Candidates should hold an ONC in electrical engineering and be able to offer considerable practical experience in the field of testing and fault clearing all types of land-unit, pcm and microwave equipment.

STC

R/F TEST ENGINEERS

Engineers are required for final test of Solid State R/F prototype and preproduction equipment operating at U.H.F. and microwave frequencies.

These positions would be ideally suitable to ex service radio/radar personnel or test engineers with experience in the use of R/F/Microwave test equipment and a knowledge of transistorised circuitry.

The Company offers first class holiday, sick payments and welfare facilities including an excellent group pension and insurance scheme.

Please apply in writing to:



Personnel Officer,



Park Avenue, Bushey, Herts. Phone: Watford 28566.



AN INTERNATIONAL COMPANY ENGAGED ON WORK FOR NATO

ELECTRONICS SYSTEM Q.C. ENGINEER For field assignment in DENMARK

We are an international Company engaged on the design and installation of a complex computerised air defence system with sites throughout the European NATO countries. For the forthcoming installation phase of our project we require the services of a Quality Control Engineer for a period of about 18 months, to supervise the standard of installation (and time schedules) for the sites throughout Denmark.

We expect the ideal candidate to have good systems engineering experience backed by the appropriate qualifications. In addition he will be capable by way of some previous experience of implementing quality control and inspection procedures. It is obvious that previous radar and communications or site systems integration work would be a distinct advantage.

Although the job is by nature short term a career minded engineer will gain not only good experience in this field but would also be able to establish good working relations with senior colleagues within the international electronic industry.

Applicants and their families should be completely mobile and able to take up residence in Copenhagen within 2 months of joining the Company.

Salary and overseas allowances, which reflect the short term nature of the employment will be in the region of £4,000 p.a.

Applications giving concise details of experience and qualifications to:

R. A. Rich, Deputy Personnel Manager, Nadgeco Ltd., 98 The Centre, Feltham, Middlesex.

We are a division of one of the world's leading manufacturers of precision electronic test and measuring equipment, and we are looking for a



to join our technical publications staff. We are thinking of a maintenance or service technician with a sound practical background in electronics and the ability to think and write clearly and logically. Some knowledge of the German language would be an asset, but is by no means a prerequisite.

We offer an attractive salary, outstanding benefits, and the attraction of a very favourable geographic location. Please apply to the Personnel Manager of

Hewlett-Packard GmbH, 7030 Böblingen, Herrenberger Str. 110, Germany, Tel.: (07031) 667 205.

Wireless World, December 1969

and Summer Summer

GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

REQUIRES

GROUND ENGINEER [Radio/Electrical]

for the Government Flight Department, Ministry of Power, Transport and Works, on contract for one tour of 36 months in the first instance. Commencing salary according to experience in scale Kwacha 3408 rising to Kwacha 4056 a year (approx. £Stg. 1988 – 2366), plus an Inducement Allowance of Kw. 1002 – 774 (approx. £Stg. 585 – 452) a year. A Direct Payment of £291 is also payable direct to the officer's bank in the U.K. Gratuity 25% of total salary drawn. Both Gratuity and Direct Payment are normally TAX FREE. Free passages. Quarters at moderate rental. Children's education allowances. Liberal leave on full salary or terminal payment in lieu.

have the minimum qualification of Radio 'A' licence. Preference will be given to candidates holding electrical 'X' group 9. 1, with experience on American V.H.F. VOR. H/F, and possessing a Radio 'B' licence.

The officer will be required to work on Piper Aztec type aircraft and to carry out the maintenance of the radios of the Government Communication Flight Aircraft.

Apply to CROWN AGENTS, 'M' Division, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.I, for application form and further particulars stating name, age, brief details of qualifications and experience and quoting reference M2Z/680906/WF

Candidates, preferably under 50 years of age, must

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V.H.F. TELEVISION RELAY & COMMUNAL AERIAL SYSTE

We are planning a considerable expansion of our activities and have the following vacancies:

I. A SENIOR ENGINEER

to have control of all aspects of systems design, planning, estimating, installation and commissioning.

II. ENGINEERS

capable of undertaking either:

- (a) System planning and estimating.
- (b) control of installation work.
- or (c) test and commissioning duties.

Candidates for these appointments must have a good background of practical experience in this field of work, and an up-to-date knowledge of techniques and equipment.

Applications, which will be treated in strict confidence, should be sent to:

BRITISH RELAY

The General Manager, Special Services Division, British Relay House, 41, Streatham High Road, S.W.16

2654

HENRY'S RADIO LTD. 303 EDGWARE ROAD, LONDON, W.2 HAVE THE FOLLOWING VACANCIES IN THEIR ORGANISATION

SALES ASSISTANTS

Young man with good general knowledge of electronic components required for our retail sales dept. Please telephone 723-1008/9 ext. 1.

SALES ASSISTANTS

Young man with a good general knowledge of HIGH FIDELITY EQUIPMENT required for our retail HI-FI SALES DEPT. Please contact MR. STEVENS, Telephone 723-6963. 2585

The Middlesex Hospital Medical School **Cleveland Street, London W1**

Department of Physiology

ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

required for maintenance and further development of wide range of electronic equipment for medical teaching and research. Well equipped electronic workshop, opportunities for developing own ideas.

Salary scale: £1025-£1285.

Applications stating age, qualifications, experience and availability for interview, to the Secretary, Department of Physiology, The Middlesex Hospital Medical School, London W1P 6DB.

APPOINTMENTS

SUPERINTENDENT **AVIONICS**

This is a new appointment in the Component Overhaul Division with responsibility to the Divisional Manager for the administration and technical control of the avionics section. This section comprises electrical instrument and radio overhaul workshops and it is desirable, therefore, that candidates have a minimum of 10 years' experience in the avionic components industry, preferably in a supervisory capacity. H.N.C. or equivalent in an appropriate discipline. Age range 30-40.

The Company is a member of the important Air Holdings Group and has wide interests ranging from aircraft maintenance and conversions to freight and baggage handling equipment.

The salary is good with commencement open to negotiation. Benefits include Pension Scheme, Free Life Assurance and participation in a productivity bonus scheme.

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Applications with brief details of experience and qualifications to:

The Personnel Officer,

Aviation Traders (Engineering) Limited, Southend Airport. Southend-on-Sea, Essex,



TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Instrumentation Investigation

This position involving the maintenance and building of instruments and instrument investigation is in the physical chemistry unit of Glaxo Research Ltd.

Ideally candidates should be under 25 and have reached at least 'A' level standard in physics and chemistry. Experience in the construction of electronic devices is desirable but full training in the use of complex apparatus will be given.

There are opportunities for promotion, day release for further studies, generous pay scales, 3 weeks' holiday. sick pay and sports and social facilities.



Please write, quoting ref. ZH.39, to the Personnel Officer (MRG), Glaxo Laboratories Limited, Greenford, Middlesex. 2668



Go places as a Computer Service Engineer

Men under 35 with experience in light engineering and electronics can build excellent careers in ICL servicing computers

We want qualified men with HNC or C & G in electronics engineering, or a Forces training in electronics. Or, perhaps, you have a similar qualification which proves you have the serious interest in the subject necessary for further specialist training.

We pay realistic salaries while you trainabout six months-on ICL equipment, learning how to sort out operational problems and maintain computers in peak condition.

You will have to take responsibility for highly sophisticated and expensive equipment, so if you have a worthwhile career in mind, here is the chance to apply your expertise and initiative to the full. Career progression and promotion are limited only by your ability.

On top of your basic salary we pay generous overtime and shift rates, plus travelling expenses. Working conditions in ICL are well above the

average in industry. Write giving brief details of your career, quoting reference WW 103 C.

A. E. Turner, International Computers Limited, 85/91 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15.

International Computers



a118



Applications are invited for the position of

Assistant to the Works Director

of Oxley Developments Company Ltd., Ulverston.

Applicants must be about 30 years of age and have Higher National Certificate or a degree in Science. Preference will be given to someone with all or part of the following experience or qualifications:-

(1) Knowledge of modern manufacturing methods in electronics, small mechanical components and mechanisms.

(2) Assistant or deputy to a Works Manager in a thriving concern.

(3) Experience in dealing with people, production control, and shop floor conditions; experience in cost accounting.

Oxley Developments is a vigorous and expanding Company offering scope and opportunity for the right man. The Works are located in open countryside at the southern end of the Lake District.

Applications giving details of education, qualifications, experience and salary and including copies of two references or names and addresses of referees to be addressed to :

The Personnel Manager,

Oxley Developments Company Ltd.

PRIORY PARK · ULVERSTON · NORTH LANCASHIRE

ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

Service Engineers required for Offices, throughout the United Kingdom, of well-known Company manufacturing Electronic Desk Calculating Machines. Applicants should possess a sound knowledge of basic Electronics with experience in Electronics, Radar, Radio and T.V. or similar field. Position is permanent and pensionable. Comprehensive training on full pay will be given to successful applicants. Please send full details of experience to the Service Manager, Sumlock Comptometer Ltd., 102/108 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1.

2663

2664

ELECTRONIC TEST ENGINEERS

Experienced Engineers/Technicians urgently required for testing Variable Speed Thyristor Drives and Solid State Multi-track Tape Recorders. Candidates with H.N.C./O.N.C. preferred. Previous experience in Solid State Testing is necessary.

Salary up to £1,400 for suitable applicants. Some assistance with housing and removal expenses may be given.

Write or phone:

Chief Inspector, SIMON ELECTRONICS LTD., Bond Avenue, Bletchley, Bucks. Bletchley 5331 (STD. 0908 2)

2640

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

TECHNICIAN required for the Department of Anatomy to assist in the design and construction of electronic apparatus for neurological research, also to participate in routine experimental procedures Involving animals and man. Elementary knowledge of electronics desirable, but no previous experience in the medical sciences is necessary. Applicants should be studying for H.N.C. or an equivalent qualification in electronic engineering or physics. Salary range £773-£1,077 p.a.

Apply for application form to the Assistant Secretary (Personnel), Personnel Office, University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham 15, quoting reference 401/T/139.

2614

TEST ENGINEERS

Vacancies exist in our test department for junior test engineers to undertake prototype and production testing/servicing of advanced signal analysis computers.

Knowledge of modern digital and/or analogue techniques is essential.

Applications are invited from young men holding ONC or similar qualifications or having relevant practical experience.

Apply giving details of qualifications and experience to :

Mr. N. Elliott, Data Laboratories 28 Wates Way Mitcham, Surrey 01.648.4643.

2628

Loughborough University of Technology LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

VACANCIES exist for TECHNICIANS/SENIOR TECHNICIANS with experience in either aeronautical or electronic fields. Duties include assistance in the construction and servicing of test equipment relating to research, student projects and general departmental work including mechanical construction and/or electronic instrumentation.

Applicants should have basic technical qualifications together with substantial practical mechanical or electronic experience preferably associated with the alreast industry.

electronic experience preferably associated with the aircraft industry. The surroundings and working conditions in the University are good and there are excellent leave conditions for all grades. The posts are superannuable. Salary scales:

SENIOR TECHNICIANS: £1,056-£1,311 p.a. TECHNICIANS: £773-£1.077 p.a.

Please apply in writing, giving full details, to professor K. L. C. Legg, Head of Department of Transport Technology, Loughborough, Leicestershire. 2613

PROTOTYPE DEVELOPMENT

I seek a firm or individual of proven competence to design and produce prototype important invention (provisional PAT.) involving Octo-Electronics, R.F., Logic, control circuits and small high speed electro-magnetic mechanism (from specialists) Box No. 2635.

join the men who lead

Electronic Packaging Engineer

An experienced Electronic Hardware Designer is required to carry out thermal and structural designs on advanced electronic systems for guided weapons.

The engineer appointed to this Job will be capable of working on his own initiative in the provision of design and data service for low power electronic assemblies. He will also be required to formulate design rules for the guidance of less skilled personnel in the optimised design of such assemblies, with particular emphasis on thermal management and structural design.

Suitably qualified engineers who have been working in these areas for the past three years at least are Invited to write or 'phone for an application form, quoting Ref. 1512 to:



Eric Buckmaster, 1512 Personnel Department, British Aircraft Corporation, Guided Weapons Division, Stevenage, Herts. Tel: Stevenage 2422

BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION the most powerful aerospace company in Europe

RADIO ENGINEER FOR UGANDA

We have a vacancy for a well trained radio engineer with a good knowledge of electrical and electronic problems.

The person we are looking for should be a good organiser, must have real interest in his work and must be willing to train local staff. There are unlimited opportunities as the successful applicant will receive on the spot training in our medical and X-ray dept. This will necessitate regular journeys to all parts of Uganda. Our terms of service are good, the climate is wonderful and the work unusual. We offer good local and overseas leave facilities.

Those interested should write to:

Twentsche Overseas Trading Co. (Uganda) Ltd., P.O. Box 7160, KAMPALA, Uganda,

giving details of previous experience, age and marital status.

RESEARCH and DEVELOPMENT

a110

ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

... OUR WORK

Expanding exports and the increasing complexity of our products have intensified our development programmes for digital and analogue computers. linkage and special purpose computer peripherals. We wish to establish new teams of electronic engineers and if you are interested in joining us ...

... YOUR QUALIFICATIONS

should include a degree, H.N.C. or equivalent. You should have relevant experience, coupled with enthusiasm and ability and ...

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with Redifon will be a good salary, stability of employment, a wide range of interesting work and an opportunity to expand your experience into new fields in . . .

... OUR COMPANY

We design and manufacture flight simulators and electronic teaching machines for world-wide markets. The laboratories are situated in a pleasant part of Sussex at Crawley, mid-way between London and the South Coast.

Application forms may be obtained from: H. C. Hall, Personnel Manager, REDIFON LIMITED, Flight Simulator Division,

Gatwick Road, Crawley, Sussex. Telephone: Crawley 28811

A Member Company of the Redliffusion Organisation

a120





concerning Gas **Discharge Tubes**

We require a man to be responsible for the technical/commercial policy connected with a wide range of cathode discharge tubes and similar devices.

He will be largely concerned with business objectives and profitability and will work with Marketing, Production, Development and Research personnel at all levels. The appointment will be based at Mitcham, but some travel, both within the U.K. and overseas, will be involved.

The successful applicant's outstanding characteristic should be a flair for business and commercial activities, but a background of engineering training and experience, preferably in the design, development or production of electronic equipment or valves, would be useful, as would sales experience in the electronics industry.

For details of this interesting appointment, write in the first instance to the Personnel Manager, Mullard Limited, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London, W.C.1, quoting Reference: RBT/1030.







RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICING **RADAR THEORY & MAINTENANCE**

This private College provides efficient theoretical and practical training in the above subjects. One-year day courses are available for beginners and shortened courses for men who have had previous training. Write for details to: The Secretary, London Electronics College, 20 Penywern Road, Earls Court, London, S.W.5. Tel.: 01-373 8721.

www.americanradiohistory.com

2662

BRITISH UNITED AIRWAYS

Radio Mechani

required for installation, maintenance and repair of grand radio, teletalk and public address systems. The man appointed will, for the present, be the Company's only specialist in this work, and needs to be versa-tile, enthusiastic and able to work with a minimum of supervision. Thorough knowledge of VIHE radio equipment essential 622 for of VHF radio equipment essential. £22 for 40 hour week. Day work except for emergency call-outs. Staff travel scheme enables em-ployees to visit South America, Africa, etc., for one tenth of normal fare. Applications to Mr. H. King, British United

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