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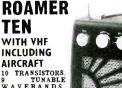
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Our November issue will be published on Friday, October 12, 1973

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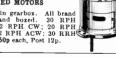


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| 500mA #2.60 | |



"SEW " **EDGEWISE METERS**

| Type PE.70. | 3 17/32in. × 1 15/32i 2§in. deep. | n. × |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 50μA 50-0-50μA | #3.75 - 500 c A 4 | 28-20 23-20 |
| 100μΑ 100-0-100μΑ . 200μΑ | 23-60 1mA | 13-25 13.85 |

*MOVING IRON-ALL OTHERS MOVING COIL

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50mA

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Type MR.52P. 241

50μA..... 50-0-50μA...

100μA...... 100-0-100μA...

| , 50mA | £8.90 |
|----------------|--------|
| 100mA | 23.90 |
| 500mA | \$3.90 |
| 1 amp | £3.90 |
| 5 amp | £3.90 |
| 15 amp | £3.90 |
| 30 amp | £3-95 |
| 20V d.c | £3.90 |
| 50V d.e | £3-90 |
| 150V d.c | £3.90 |
| 300V d.c | £3.90 |
| 15V a.c | £3-95 |
| 300V a.c | £3.95 |
| 8 Meter ImA. | £8.90 |
| VU Meter | 24-55 |
| 1 amp. a.c.* . | £3-90 |
| 5 amp. a.c. | £3.90 |
| 10 amp. a.c.* | 23.90 |
| | |

| £3.90 | Lamp, a.c.*. | £3.90 | 200.0.20 |
|--------|---------------|-------|----------|
| £3.90 | 5 amp. a.c | £3-90 | lmA . |
| £3-90 | 10 amp. a.c.* | 23.90 | 1-0-1mA |
| £3.90 | 20 amp. a.c.* | £3-90 | 2mA |
| £3.90 | 30 amp. a.c.* | £3-90 | 5mA . |
| BO-00 | oo ampi aici | 80.00 | 10mA |
| | | | 20mA |
| | | | 50mA |
| Olin . | quare Fronts. | | 100mA |
| | | | 150mA |
| £3.50 | | £2.50 | 10011111 |
| £3.05 | 20V d.c | £2.50 | |
| £3.00 | 50V d.e | £2.50 | |
| £2.95 | 300V d.c | £2.50 | Type MI |
| £2.65 | 15V a.c | £2.60 | 50µA. |
| £2-50 | 300V a.c | £2-60 | 50-0-504 |
| £2.50 | 8 Meter ImA. | £2-60 | 100µA. |
| £2-50 | VU Meter | £3.60 | 100-0-10 |
| £2-50 | l amp. a.c | £2.50 | 200µA. |
| £2.50 | 5 amp. a.c | £2-50 | 500µA. |
| | | | |

| 100-0-100µA . | £2.95 | 300V d.c | £2.50 |
|---------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| 500μA | £2.65 | 15V a.c | £2.60 |
| 1mA | £2-50 | 300V a.c | £2-60 |
| 5mA | £2.50 | 8 Meter ImA. | £2-60 |
| 10mA | £2-50 | VU Meter | £3.60 |
| 50mA | £2-50 | 1 amp. a.c | £2.50 |
| 100mA | £2.50 | 5 amp. a.c | £2-50 |
| 500mA | £2.50 | 10 amp. a.c. | £2-50 |
| 1 amp | £2-50 | 20 amp. a.c. | £2.50 |
| 5 amp | £2.50 | 30 amp. a.c.* | £2.50 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Type MR.65P. | Blin. × | 3gin. Fronts | |
| 50μA | £3.70 | 10V d.c | £2-60 |
| 50-0-50μA | | | £2-60 |
| 100μA | £3.15 | 50V d.c | £2.60 |
| 100-0-100mA | €8-10 | | €2-60 |

| | 50μA | #3.70 | 10V d.c | £2.60 |
|---|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | 50-0-50μA | £3-15 | 20V d.c | £2-60 |
| | -100μA | £3.15 | 50V d.c | £2-60 |
| | 100-0-100μA . | £8-10 | 150V d.c | £2-60 |
| | 200μA | £3.05 | 300V d.c | £2.60 |
| | 500μA | £2.75 | 15V a.c | €2-80 |
| | 500-0500μA . | £2-60 | 50V a.c | £2-80 |
| | 1mA | £2-60 | 150V a.c | £2.80 |
| ı | 5mA | £2.60 | 300V a.c | £2.80 |
| | 10mA | £2.60 | 500 V a.c | £2-80 |
| ŀ | 50mA | €2-60 | S Meter 1mA. | 22-85 |
| ١ | 100mA | €2-60 | VU Meter | £3.70 |
| ı | 500mA | £2.60 | 50mA a.c.* . | £2-60 |
| ı | 1 amp | £2-60 | 100mA a.c.* . | £2.60 |
| | 5 amp | £2-60 | 200mA a.c.* . | £2-60 |
| | 10 amp | £2.60 | 500mA a.c.* . | £2-60 |
| | 15 amp | £2.60 | 1 amp. a.c.* . | £2-60 |
| | 20 amp | £2.60 | 5 amp. a.c.* . | £2.60 |
| | 30 amp | £2-80 | 10 amp. a.c.* | £2.60 |
| | 50 amp | £2-90 | 20 amp. a.c.* | £2.60 |
| | 5V d.c | €2.60 | 30 amp. a.c.* | #2-60 |
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Type ED.107. Size overall 100mm × 90mm × 108mm. A new range of high A new range of high quality moving coil instruments ideal for school experiments and other bench applications.

3in. mirror scale. The is easily accessible to

| | 00V a.c. |
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| 5A d.c £5.95 5V/50V d.c £7.00 5 amp. d.c £3.00 V | 'U Meter |

Type MR.38P. 1 21/32in. square Fronts.



| 20 80 | 1 200 mA | £2-25 |
|--|---------------|-------|
| 4 10 10 10 | 300mA | £2-25 |
| | 500mA | £2.25 |
| Ā | 750mA | £2-25 |
| | 1 amp | #2-25 |
| - AND CALCULATION | 2 amp | #2-25 |
| CONTRACTOR . | 5 amp | £2-25 |
| - The Contract of the Contract | 10 amp | £2.25 |
| .200 | 3V d.c | £2.25 |
| 50μA £2-55 | | 42.25 |
| 50-0-50μA £2-50 | | 22-25 |
| 100µA £2-45 | | 42-25 |
| 100-0-100 µA . £2-40 | | £2.25 |
| 20011A £2-25 | 100 V d.c | £2-25 |
| 200μA | | 42-25 |
| 500-0-500μA . £2-25 | 300V d.c | £2-25 |
| lmA £2-25 | 500V d.c | £2-25 |
| 1-0-1mA . £2-25 | 750V d.e | £2-25 |
| 2mA £2-25 | 15V a.c | £2.85 |
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| 10mA £2-25 | 150V a.c. | £2-80 |
| 20mA £2-25 | 300V a.c | £2-80 |
| 50mA £2.25 | 500V a.c | £2.80 |
| 100mA £2.25 | S Meter linA. | £2.30 |
| 150mA £2.25 | VU Meter | £2.65 |
| | | |

900mA

49.95

| 1 | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------|-----------------|-------|
| ŀ | | | | |
| ١ | Type MR.45P. 2 | in. squ | are Fronts. | |
| ١ | | £2.70 | 5 amp | £2-40 |
| ı | 50-0-50μA | £2-65 | 10V d.c | £2-40 |
| ١ | 100µA | £2-60 | 20V d.c | £2-40 |
| н | 100-0-10044 | £2-50 | 50V d.c | £2·40 |
| ŀ | 200μA 500μA | £2-50 | 300V d.c | 22-40 |
| ١ | 500μA | £2-45 | 15V d.c | #2-40 |
| ١ | 500 0-500μA . | £2-40 | 300V d.c | £2.40 |
| ١ | 1mA | £2-40 | 8 Meter ImA. | £2-50 |
| ı | 5mA | £2-40 | VU Meter | £2.70 |
| | 10mA | £2.40 | 1 amp. a.c.* . | £2-40 |
| | 50mA | £2-40 | 5 amp. a.c. * . | #2-40 |
| | 100mA | #2-40 | 10 amp. a.c. | #2-40 |
| | 500mA | £2-40 | 20 amp. a.c.* | 22-40 |
|) | I amp | £2-40 | 30 amp. a.c.* | 22-40 |

"SEW" BAKELITE PANEL METERS

5 amp. 15 amp

30 amp. 50 amp. 5V d.c. 10V d.c. 20V d.c.

Type MR.65. 3 in. square Fronts. l amp.



| of the second | | 50V d.c | 22-60 |
|---------------|-------|---------------|--------|
| | | 150V d.c | £2.60 |
| | | 300V d.c | \$2.60 |
| 5μA | 24-60 | 50mV d.e | \$2.90 |
| 0µА | £3.55 | 100mV d.c | 22-90 |
| 0-0-50µA | £3.05 | 30V a.c.* | £2-65 |
| .00μA | £3.00 | 50V a.c.* | \$2.65 |
| 00-0-100μA | £3.00 | 150V a.c.* | \$2.65 |
| 00μΑ | £2.70 | 300V a.c.* | \$2.65 |
| 00-0-500µA | £2·60 | 500mA a.c | \$2.60 |
| mA | €2.60 | lamp.a.c | \$2.60 |
| -0-1mA | £2-60 | 5 amp. a.c | £2-60 |
| mA | £2.60 | 10 amp, a.c. | £2-60 |
| 0mA | £2.60 | 20 amp. a.c.* | £2.60 |
| 0mA | £2-60 | 30 amp. a.c. | £2.60 |
| .00mA | £2.60 | 50 amp. a.c.* | \$2.60 |
| 00mA | £2.60 | VU Meter | \$3.65 |
| | | | |

| pe S-80 80mm squ | |
|--|------|
| ∠A £8-50 | |
| 0-50µA £3-4 0)µA £3-40 | - |
| 0-0-100μA £3-30 | nA. |
| μA | JAA. |
| A £3.00 | 1 |

| Type 8-80 St | mm ndm |
|--------------|--------|
| 50μA | £8-50 |
| 50-0-50μA | £8.40 |
| 100μA | #3-40 |
| 100-0-100µA | |
| 500µA | 23.05 |
| 1mA | |
| 20V d.c | |
| 50V d.c | £3.00 |
| 300V d.c | £3.00 |
| 1 amp. d.c | £3.00 |
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Solid state, 5 bands covering 200 420kHz and 0.55 to : Illuminated slide rule Hlummated shde rule dial. Bandspread. Aerial tuning. BPO, AVC, ANL, "S" meter. AM/CW/ 88 B. Integrated speaker and phone socket, 220/240V. a.c. or 22V d.c. 302.266 x 150mm. Complete with instructions and observable. circuit

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All silicon transistor amplifier operates from magnetic, ceramic or

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For balance ing and gain selection of loud-spks. with spks. with additional facility for stereo head-

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him by 3dR 6dB at 1200Hz and 10dB 600Hz for all frequencies above 3000Hz. Size 16\(\frac{1}{2}\)in \times \(\text{Sin} \times \text{3\frac{1}{2}\}in. \times \text{3\frac{1}{2}\}in. \text{3\frac{1}{2}\}in.

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FROCESS : WOFF
For use with cassette and tape
recorders. Freq. res. 30Hz—
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Switchable multiplex filter. Two
Dolby calibration meters. 8/N
better than 70dB.
Supplied with test cassette or

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Portable twin track mono recorder with antomatic a uton atter recording level control. Built in speaker. Ear piece socket. Input for radio or record player. Fast forward and rewind. Output

500mW: 220/240V a.c. or 6V d.c. operation. Complete with remote control microphone, mains lead, earpiece and batteries.

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AR1000 Sportsman AM/FM Portable

wavebands covering A.M.: 535 - 1065kHz: F.M. F.M. 88-108MHz; A.I.R: 108 - 135MHz; P.B. 147-174MHz; W.B.: 162.5MHz Large horizontal slide

horizontal slide dial with logging scale. Slider volume and squelch controls. 7 section telescopic aerial for F.M. and built in ferrite bar for A.M. A.F.C. 3in speaker. Farpicee socket. Green leatherette covered cabinet with metal skile panels. 81ze 152 x 79 x 219mm. Battery/mains operation.

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5 wavebands covering MW 535 -1605KHz and F.M. 88-175MHz. transistor. All transistor. Battery or mains operation. Built-in aerial and 8 section telescopic aerial. Complete with batteries, shoulder strap and earpiece.



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10 wavebands c o v c r i n g A.M.: 535-1605kHz; L.W.: 150-380kHz; M.B. 1-6-4-0MHz; S.W.1: 4-0-8-0MHz; S.W.2: 8-0-1-6MHz; S.W.3: 16-24MHz; P.S.B.1: 30-50MHz; P.S.B.2: 148-



\$5.99 \$8.59 \$10.68

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Push button tuning of one and five MW stations of choice. 12V pos. or neg. e stations of your choice. 12V pos. or neg. earth. Complete with speaker, mounting brackets and instructions.

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CASSETTE, P. & P. 50p. GXC40D Deck

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4 speed autochanger unit fitted with stereo ceramic cartridge.

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SP25 III

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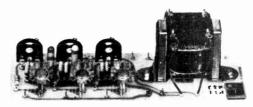
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6≩p 22p 6≩p 18p 2½in × 1in 2½in × 3½in 2½in × 5in 3½in × 3½in 3½in × 5in 26 p 26 p 26 p 30 p 74 p 99 p 23p 23p 30p 55p 77p 13 p 19p 41p 57†p 82†p × 2½in × 3½in × 5in 10p

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16p

350



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10DN400



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| 1000 | 1N4007 | 16-p | 1N5408 | 33p |
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| AD149 | 38p | BC168B | 11p | BD135 | 42p | BF262 | 25p | MPF105 | 45p | 2N1305 | 240 | 2N3707 |
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39; 0 2μ - 39μ.

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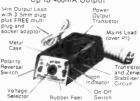
-0.01μF. 0.015μF. 0.022μF.
0.033μF. 0.047μF. 3½p; 0.068μF.
4p; 0.1μF. 0.15μF. 4½p; 0.22μF.
5ip; 0.33μF. 7p; 0.47μF. 9p; 0.68μF.
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0·2% at IkHz 4 to 16 ohms 15mA

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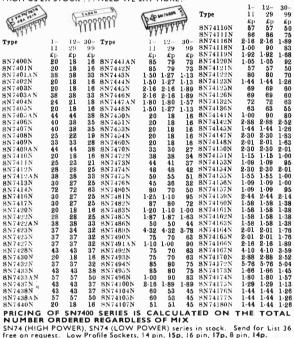
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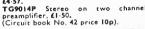
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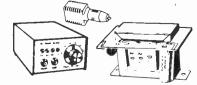
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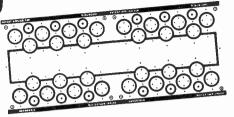


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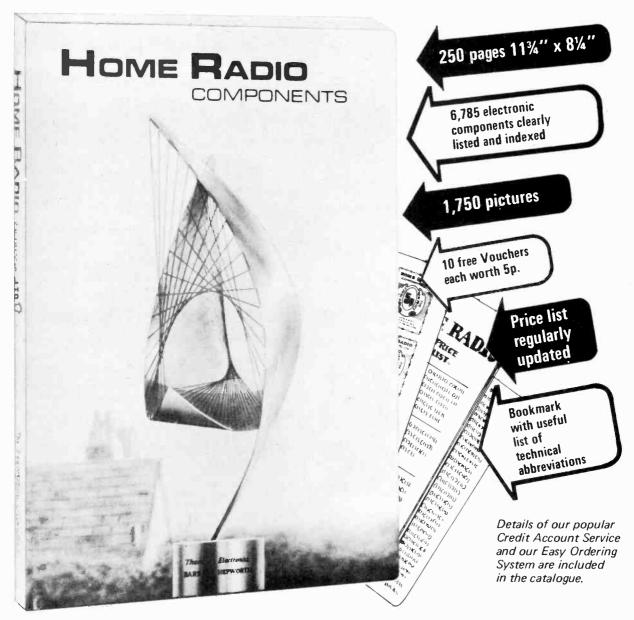
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RADIO provided the original sturdy stock from which a host of branches have since proliferated, giving a variegated countenance to the lusty and profusely spreading technology now known as electronics. Digging back to the roots, one finds the amateur enthusiast playing his part right from the earliest times of wireless communication. This then new field offered exciting possibilities and attracted the interest of thousands of individuals possessed of a scientific bent and an urge to experiment with home-made equipment.

No doubt the community spirit engendered through contacts established by wireless between individuals and groups was responsible for the rapid formation of wireless clubs throughout the country. On September 23, 1913 the London Wireless Club held its first general meeting in London. This was a momentous event, because this body was later to be reconstituted as the Radio Society of Great Britain.

At this time when the RSGB is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, it is well to record the event and acknowledge the vital part this body has played in furthering the interests of the radio amateur, not only within the U.K., but on an international level as well.

It has to be admitted that, in the popular eye, the radio amateur has become typified as a somewhat odd character living for much of his time in a peculiar world of his own, peopled only by other kindred spirits identified by call signs rather than names. That he can become so totally engrossed in his hobby as to be oblivious of all other affairs is a fact that many wives and acquaintances will affirm! It is also a fact that in recent times he has succumbed more and more to the sophisticated products offered by the communications equipment manufacturers, and his chief role now is likely to be that of an operator of a radio station equipped largely with commercial apparatus.

Nowadays the opportunities for making significant contributions to radio science are limited. Commercial interests have always quickly and eagerly followed up past pioneering achievements by amateurs (often to the latters ultimate cost). Exploitation of all kinds of radio communication with the very latest electronic techniques has for long been a prime concern of professionals working for industry and govern-

ment agencies.

But the radio amateur still has his own fascinating hobby. No one who has experienced the thrill of that first over-theair contact will dispute the attractive force of electromagnetic waves. When the bug bites, it usually bites deep. And, of course, not all amateurs are as single-minded as we might have suggested. Not for all the time, at any rate! Most are likely to be avid followers of electronics in its widest sense, and no doubt become involved from time to time in the building of equipment entirely foreign to a radio shack.

Today's amateur constructor and experimenter, whatever his field of specialisation within electronics, is continuing a fine tradition of individual enterprise where financial gain is not the goal; a tradition established by that pioneering band in the early days of wireless. We offer best wishes to the Radio Society of Great Britain and to their members, a fraternity which through usage over the last 60 odd years has acquired its own special kind of proprietary right to that honourable term "amateur."

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The semiconductor tester is an invaluable aid to the experimenter since it allows him to not only detect faulty components in both building and servicing but to select or match components for specific circuit requirements and, bearing in mind the availability of untested components, purchase and sort such devices.

However, to effect all these usually requires a number of different instruments because of the inherent differences between the devices to be tested.

The present tester removes this objection to a great extent by being able to cope with a wide range of discrete components and identify their main parameters.

It was designed so as to be of low cost and reasonable ease of construction, to be portable and easy to operate, and of course to be as versatile as possible.

SEMICONDUCTOR THEORY

Transistors

These have the ability to provide current gain, i.e. the application of a small change in base current of a transistor gives a larger change in collector current, giving current amplification. This may be converted to voltage amplification by use of external components.

The magnitude of this amplification is referred to as h_{te} where:—

 $h_{\text{fe}} = \frac{\text{The change in collector current}}{\text{The change in base current}}$

Ideally, when no base current flows no collector current should flow but in fact this is not so in practice. Even when the base is completely disconnected a small amount of current flows in the collector/emitter circuit. This current is known as $I_{\rm ceo}$ or leakage current.

Diodes

Basically a diode is a device which allows current to flow in one direction only. Again, as with the transistor, such devices are not perfect and, under some conditions of applied voltage, current can indeed flow in either direction through a diode.

Fig. 1 shows the curve of current to voltage for a diode, identifying the two conditions of forward and reverse bias.

When the diode is forward-biased very little current flows until voltage V_1 is reached. In practice the value of V_1 depends very largely on the nature of the semiconductor. If it is germanium V_1 will be 0.2 volts and if silicon it will be 0.6 volts.

Incidentally, this holds true of the base/emitter

junction of a transistor.

When V_1 is exceeded the current rises rapidly for small increases in voltage and the slope of the graph (a tangent to the line at any given point) is the forward a.c. resistance of the diode which is approximated by using the formula:—

 $R_{\rm fac} = \frac{26}{I_{\rm e}}$ where $I_{\rm e}$ is the diode current in mA.

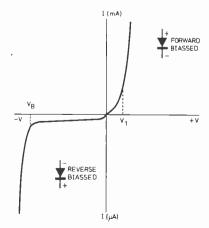


Fig. 1 Graph showing a typical voltage/current relationship for a diode

When the diode is reverse-biased little current flows and it is called the leakage current. This increases as the breakdown voltage $V_{\rm B}$ is reached and exceeded. Above $V_{\rm B}$ the current increases rapidly for small increases in voltage.

This region of the curve is known as the Zener region and the slope of the curve in the Zener region

is known as the a.c. resistance or R_{ac} .

Thyristors

Basically a thyristor is an electrically controlled switch in which a small gate current can trigger a very much larger anode/cathode current. One drawback of this device is that once anode current is flowing it can be turned off only by either removing the voltage or breaking the circuit externally to the thyristor.

The current through the thyristor in its untriggered state is known as the leakage current, I_{fo} when the thyristor is forward-biased and I_{ro} when it is reverse biased.

The magnitude of the current required to "trigger" the thyristor *via* the gate is known as the "gate trigger current" and the magnitude of the current required to switch the thyristor "on" is known as the "gate trigger voltage," measured with respect to the cathode.

CIRCUIT OPERATION

Transistor Testing

The block diagram of the system used to test transistors is as shown in Fig 3. To measure $I_{\rm ceo}$ only a meter and a meter switch S2 (see Fig. 4 which is the complete circuit diagram) are used, and the meter monitors the current through the transistor with the base disconnected. R12 is a meter shunt which is switched out by the f.s.d. \div 20 switch S4. (See Fig. 4.)

 $h_{\rm fe}$ is measured as follows. The output of a multivibrator consisting of components R1, R2, R3, R4, C1, C2, TR1, TR2, oscillating at approximately 400Hz is fed *via* R5 to a calibrated attenuator VR1 and also to the comparator circuit. VR1 is calibrated to read $h_{\rm fe}$ directly and R15 is included to expand the $h_{\rm fe}$ scale.

The attenuated oscillation from the slider of VR1 is fed via R19 which compensates for differing input impedances of the transistors to be checked. The signal is then fed via C5, a d.c. blocking capacitor through S1e and S2d to the base of the transistor under test.

The transistor connected in the common emitter mode amplifies and inverts the signal at its base. The amplified signal is fed via R7 and C4 to the base of TR3 where it combines with the non-inverted

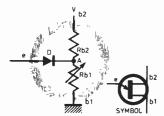


Fig. 2. Diagram of the equivalent circuit of a unijunction transistor with its usual symbol

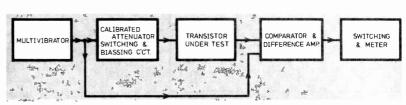


Fig. 3. Block diagram of the Semiconductor Tester as used to measure transistor characteristics

As the current through a thyristor is reduced it reaches a state where further reduction would switch the thyristor "off." This level of current is known as the "holding" current.

Unijunction Transistors

The diagram of Fig. 2 shows the pictorial representation of a unijunction transistor.

The voltage at point A with the emitter disconnected is given by the formula:—

where the ratio $\frac{V \times R_{\rm b1}}{R_{\rm b1} + R_{\rm b2}}$ is known as π , the intrinsic standoff ratio (considering $R_{\rm b1}$ and $R_{\rm b2}$ in

series). The emitter connection is isolated from b2 and bl unless the potential at the emitter (e) is greater than A + 0.6V, when the diode will be forward-biased and thus conduct. In this condition the resistance $R_{\rm bl}$ decreases and the voltage at A drops as the current increases, thus producing a negative resistance region.

A point is reached where the emitter current ceases, $R_{\rm bl}$ returns to its initial value and the diode is reverse-biased until it attains a sufficiently high potential for the process to repeat.

oscillation from the multivibrator which has been fed via R16 and C3; VR2a and R17 compensate for attenuation made by the network R19, VR2b and R10. If VR1 is correctly adjusted the two signals cancel at the base of TR3. Any uncancelled oscillation is amplified by TR3, TR4 and R6, R18 biasing TR3. The amplified signal is passed by C6 and R21, rectified by D7 and D3 and causes a deflection on the meter when the meter switch is set to h_{fe} . VR2 is set to the required no signal current in the transistor which is being checked. D4 and D5 provide a path for collector current when I_c is not being monitored.

Diode and Zener Testing

Diode testing is accomplished by connecting the diode to the power supply through an internal resistor R11. The current through the diode is monitored by the meter both when the diode is forward and reverse biased. Reverse biasing is accomplished by reversing the polarity of the supply voltage.

The voltage across the diode can be measured by utilising a meter as a voltmeter, this is accomplished using the meter switch and a multiplier resistor R23, which converts the meter to read 25V f.s.d. The breakdown voltage (Zener voltage) of a Zener diode can be measured using the meter as a voltmeter. A

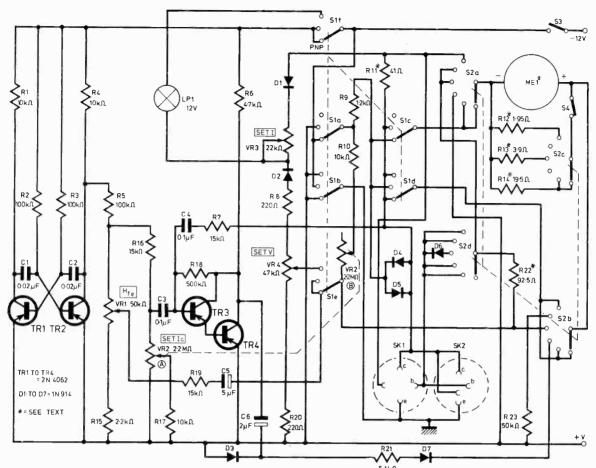


Fig. 4. Complete circuit diagram of the Semi-conductor Tester. The resistors marked with an asterisk are made from two or more in parallel. Switch S1 is shown in the PNP position and S2 in the $I_{\rm FO},\,I_{\rm RO}$ position, other switch positions being shown right

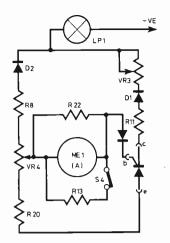
THY/ZEN. U.J.T V IC THY. GATE V V (25V) I_{CEO} I_{FO} I_{RO} (10/·5mA) **COMPONENTS** S1 52

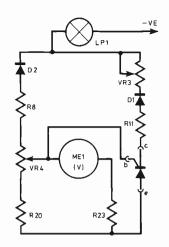
| Resistors | Transistors |
|---|--|
| R1 $10 \mathrm{k}\Omega$ R6 $4.7 \mathrm{k}\Omega$ | TR1 to TR4 2N4062 or similar high gain pnp silicon |
| R2 $100 \mathrm{k}\Omega$ R7 $15 \mathrm{k}\Omega$ 2% | (4 off) |
| R3 100k Ω R8 220 Ω | Switches |
| R4 $10k\Omega$ R9 $1.2k\Omega$ | S1 6-pole 3-way (R.S. Components Miniature |
| R5 100k Ω R10 10k Ω | Maka-switch. Shaft assembly plus 2 $	imes$ 4-pole |
| R11 41 Ω (43 Ω 2% in parallel with 910 Ω 2%) | 3-way wafers) |
| R12 1.95Ω (5.4 Ω in parallel with 5.1Ω and 8.2Ω | S2 4-pole 6-way (Maka-switch shaft assembly |
| all 2%) | plus 2 $	imes$ 2-pole 6-way wafers) |
| R13 3.9Ω 2% | S3 Single pole on/off |
| R14 19.5 Ω (22 Ω 2% in parallel with 180 Ω 2%) | S4 Single pole on/off biased on |
| R15 $2.2k\Omega$ R18 $500k\Omega$ R21 $5.1k\Omega$ | Plugs and sockets |
| R16 15kΩ 2% R19 15kΩ 2% | SK1 4 pin transistor socket |
| R17 15k Ω 2% R20 220 Ω | SK2 3 pin DIN socket |
| R22 92·5Ω (100Ω 2% in parallel with 1·2kΩ 2%) | PL1-3 3 pin DIN plugs (3 off) |
| R23 50kΩ 2% | Miscellaneous |
| All ½W 5% carbon unless otherwise stated | ME1 500μA f.s.d. (SEW type MR45P) |
| Potentiometers | LP1 12V 0·1A (with holder) |
| VR1 50k Ω log moulded track | B1, B2 6V PP1 or equivalent with battery |
| VR2 $2.2 M\Omega + 2.2 M\Omega$ linear double ganged | connectors |
| VR3 22k Ω linear VR4 47k Ω linear | West Hyde MOD303 case with rubber feet |
| Capacitors | Veroboard 3≨in × 1¼in 0-15in matrix |
| C1, C2 0.02μ F (2 off) C5 5μ F 25V elect | 4BA ½in bolts, nuts and washers (4 off) |
| C3, C4 0.1μ F (2 off) C6 2μ F 35V elect | 6BA ‡in bolts, nuts and washers (4 off) |
| Diodes | Crocodile clips (7 off) |
| D1 to D7 1N914 <i>or</i> similar (7 o ff) | Screened double cored cable (6ft) |

THY. GATE I (50/2-5mA)

THY. HOLD I I (100/5mA)

hee





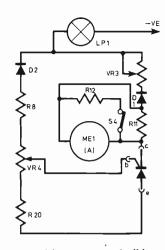


Fig. 5 (a) (left). The equivalent circuit when the switch is set to measure gate trigger current, (b) (centre) shows the switch in the gate trigger voltage position and (c) (right) in the holding current position

measure of $R_{\rm ac}$ and $R_{\rm fac}$ can be found by varying the current through the diode by adjusting VR3 and monitoring the change in voltage across the diode.

Thyristor testing

The circuits used in thyristor testing are as shown in Fig. 5a, b and c. The "gate trigger current" is found by increasing the voltage applied to the gate with respect to the cathode by adjusting VR4 until the thyristor switches on. The thyristor "on" condition is indicated by the meter reading falling to zero and the lamp LP1, lighting (if VR3 is set to minimum resistance). R13 and R22 act as meter shunts and S4 is the f.s.d. ÷ 20 switch. Diode D6 protects the meter from reverse currents which would flow through the meter when the thyristor is in the "on" condition. The gate trigger voltage is found by setting the meter switch S2 so that the meter plus the multiplier resistor are connected across the gate and the positive supply line.

The leakage currents I_{to} and I_{ro} through the thyristor can be found in the same way as the leakage currents for npn and pnp transistors.

Thyristor holding current is found by setting the meter switch to THY HOLD I which places the meter in the cathode circuit of the thyristor. Increasing VR4 (SET I) towards maximum decreases the current through the thyristor until a point is reached

D2 VR3

R8

R1

VR 4

VR 4

VR 2

R20

R23

Fig. 6. The circuit used when the switches are set to measure unijunction intrinsic standoff ratio

where the thyristor switches off. The diodes D1 and D2 isolate the resistor line VR3, R8, VR4, R20 to 0V when the semiconductor tester is operating in the pnp on npn mode. Resistors R11 and R12 act as meter shunts giving two holding current ranges of 5mA and 100mA.

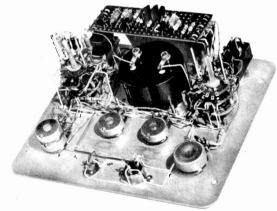
Unijunction Testing

The basic circuit used to test unijunction transistors is shown in Fig. 6. The voltage with respect to base of the emitter can be increased by VR4 (SET V) by adjusting it from maximum to minimum until at a certain point the unijunction and the semi-conductor components behave as an oscillator; this point is indicated by a rise in the meter voltage.

Voltmeter and Ammeter

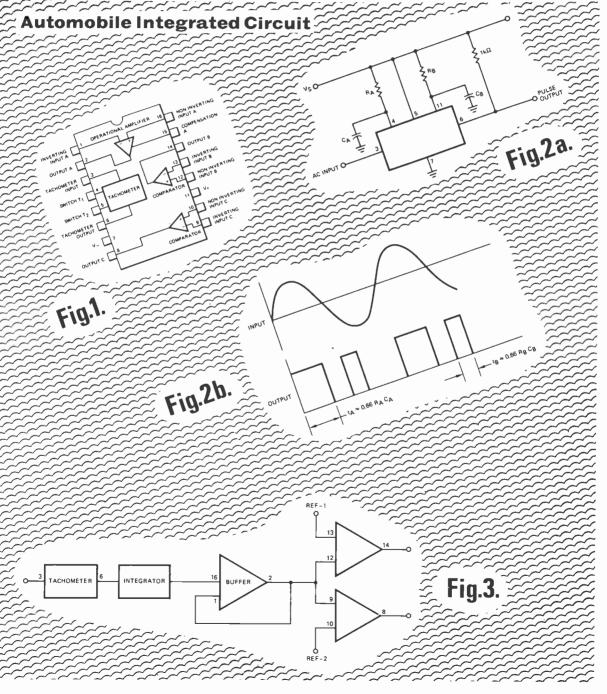
The above semiconductor tester components are used in this mode of operation. Resistor R23 acts as a meter multiplier.

When the meter switch is set to THY HOLD I the meter can be used as a two range ammeter when the ammeter plug is used, R11 and R12 acting as meter shunts.



Next month: Constructional details and operating instructions.

DEVICES ...APPLICATIONS



In this section we present a selection of both new devices and applications, with news of applications developed for existing devices.

Generally only basic circuit details will be given sufficient for the experimenter to create his own equipment.

J UST coming on to the market are two integrated circuits from Fairchild, both designed with the Automobile market in mind. The first is the μ A7350 a complete tachometer subsystem, and the second is a triple operational amplifier, the μ A7351.

The μ A7350 is a monolithic i.e. which includes a tachometer, an operational amplifier and two comparators. The tachometer produces fixed width pulses at the zero crossings of a ground reference a.c. input

signal.

Each pulse width is individually determined by the choice of an external resistor and capacitor. The output stage of the tachometer section is a common emitter npn transistor with an uncommitted collector.

The operational amplifier and comparators are of identical design except that the comparators have no provision for external compensation. Their output stages consist of class A pnp amplifiers with uncommitted collectors which allow a variety of loads for general purpose applications.

In addition, the outputs of the comparators may be

wired-OR for use as a dual level sense device.

Typical applications of this chip include over- and under-speed and frequency sensing, servo control, tone detection and a variety of timing functions.

Power requirements can be met by a single or a dual supply with an absolute supply voltage maximum of

24V. The chip is short-circuit protected.

Figure 1 shows the block schematic of the 7350 whilst Fig. 2 is a circuit of the tachometer section in application. R_A and R_B are $27k\Omega$ and C_A and C_B are 5.670pF (all at 1%) for an output pulse width of between $900\mu s$ and $110\mu s$. Fig. 2b shows the output in graphic form.

Figure 3 shows the block diagram of a complete

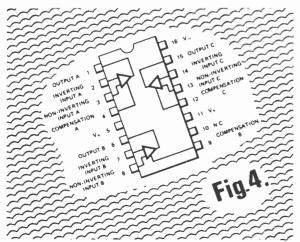
system.

TRIPLE OPERATIONAL AMPLIFIER

The second i.c. the μ A7351 shown in block form in Fig. 4, is again a monolithic device carrying three identical operational amplifiers. Each two-stage amplifier uses a class A *pnp* common emitter output stage with an uncommitted collector, providing a variety of loads for general-purpose applications.

The chip is designed specifically to operate from a single supply and is thus ideal for automotive applications or any portable battery-type environment. In fact, the power requirements run from +4V to +16V single

supply or $\pm 2V$ to $\pm 8V$ double.



Practical Electronics October 1973



A selection of readers' suggested circuits. It should be emphasised that these designs have not been proven by us. They will at any rate stimulate further thought.

This is YOUR page and any idea published will be awarded payment according to its merits.

SERIES REGULATOR

N Fig. 1, the operational amplifier acts as a differential amplifier controlling the base current of the Darlington pair arrangement in series with $V_{\rm in}$. The Darlington pair used came in one package (TIP140). This has a high gain and a current capability of 10A.

TR2 across R2 acts as a current limit. When the voltage across R2 is greater than $V_{\rm BE}$ of TR2, it will conduct and cause TR1 to turn off until the

voltage across R2 is equal to $V_{\rm BE}$.

The present circuit is capable of withstanding a continuous short circuit across its output. The line voltage used was 12V and was adjusted for 5V output. The circuit will regulate the output to 5V from anything from the maximum operating voltage of the op-amp down to 7V.

A very simple input can be used consisting of just a transformer, bridge rectifier and smoothing

capacitor.

A. Belka, Bletchley.

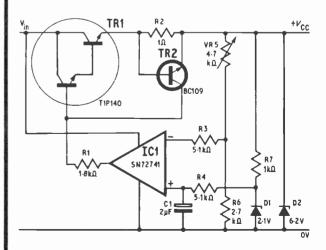


Fig. 1. Circuit diagram of Series Regulator using a Darlington pair transistor

EVENTS TIMER WITH READOUT



THE TIMER in Fig. 1 uses an electromechanical readout device which is not capable of actuating faster than 10 times per second. Thus the speed of operation is similarly limited.

In basis, an oscillator section, TR1 and TR2 form a multivibrator which can run at 1 or 10Hz dependent on the selection of C1 and C3 or C2 and C4.

Thus C1 and C3 are made $10\mu F$ for 10Hz and R2, R3 about $7k\Omega$ each. The exact value is adjusted by VR1. A lower value of C1, C3 may be necessary as the voltage change produced at the base of TR3 may be insufficient to turn the counter off.

For the second range S1 is switched to bring in C2, C4, 100µF to give a frequency of 1Hz and again

VR1 may need to be adjusted.

In practice capacitance adjustment was found to be much better than varying R2, R3 as too high a value for these resistors when lowering the frequency can reduce the voltage at the base of TR3 too far.

The output via TR3 is straightforward; a positive pulse at the base causes a large change in voltage at

the emitter to activate the counter.

The diode D1 deals with back e.m.f. induced in the counter coil.

Basically the current drawn depends on the counter coil resistance as very little is drawn by TR1 and TR2. Indeed this can be further reduced by increasing R1, 4.

Several counters are available but if the resistance falls below 500Ω , R5 should be reduced, increasing

current drain.

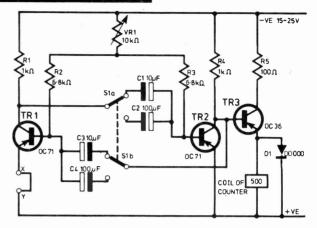


Fig. 1. Events Timer with Readout

For accuracy of timing the supply should be stabilised. Calibration could be by comparison with the Greenwich "pips" and resetting is not needed if a note is made of the reading each time it is used.

If it is required to synchronise the timer to some event such as a photocell switch then the trigger should be connected between X and Y in the emitter lead of TR1. This holds one capacitor discharged when the circuit is not oscillating so as to ensure fast and short-lived events can be handled.

Accuracy is not up to crystal-controlled standards and probably most applications will require only, say, about 5 per cent accuracy. However, the original exhibited a loss of only 3 seconds during one hour, an accuracy of better than 1 per cent.

G. Bachelor, Coventry.

TWO-TONE AUDIO ALARM OSCILLATOR

FIGURE 1 shows the circuit diagram for a twotone audio alarm oscillator, using two TTL i.c.

ICI is an SN7404N, its inverters wired in pairs to form three astable multivibrators, two oscillating at different audio frequencies, the other switching at a class rate.

The output of one audio oscillator is gated with an output of the switching oscillator, the complementary output of the latter being separately gated with the second audio frequency. The two resultant outputs pass through a third gate, which drives a single transistor amplifier. The three NAND gates are contained in the SN7410 package.

If the two unused inputs to the first two gates are linked, a logical 1 at point X will cause the alarm to sound; a logical 0 turning it off. If these inputs are left open, the alarm sounds on connection of the power supply. The latter should be between 4.5 and

6V.

To alter the frequencies of the audio oscillators, change the values of C1 and C2; C5 and C6. Their associated resistors must NOT be altered.

This circuit was intended for use as an alarm in a digital clock, but for other purposes where a greater output is required a more powerful amplifier is needed.

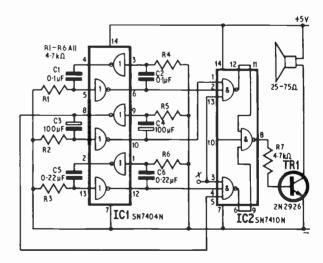


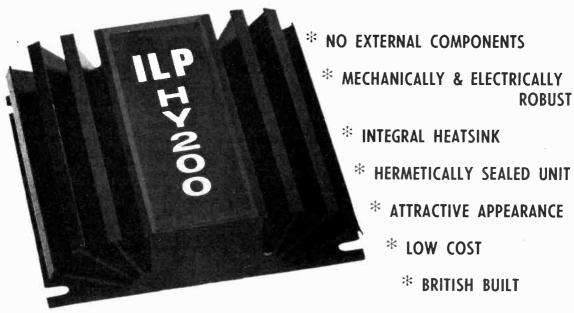
Fig. 1. Circuit diagram of the Two-tone

If a transformer is to be used to power the alarm, then its output must be Zener stabilised.

B. Woodland, London, S.W.6.



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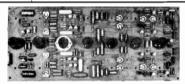
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BIOLOGICAL AMPLIFIER

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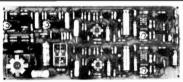
MODEL SERVO CONTROL (PE Feb./Mar, 72)—Details in lists

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(PW Nov./Dec. 72). Pre-amp—5/c's,
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Stereo, £5-20, PCB (3½nn - 7½nn)
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|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| AC128 AC176 AD161 BC107 BC108 BC109 BC147 | 20p ZTX531 20p 2N706 40p 2N914 9p 2N1304 9p 2N2905 9p 2N2907 11p 2N3702 | 22p 13p 22p 20p 23p 22p 10p | I 0/63 2 2/63 4 7/63 10/25 10/63 | 6p 220 6p 220 6p 220 6p 220 6p 226 6p 330 | 10 6p 16 6p 25 10p 40 12p 63 18p | 0·1/35 0·22/25 0·47/35 1 0/25 | (μF/V) | POLYESTER C280AE 250V(μF 0·01 3p 0·022 3p 0·033 3p 0·047 3p | Shaft bly Wafers Screens pk of 5) Spacers pk of 10 | 48p 33p (per 12p (per | Min 0-6V 0-6 Min 0-12V 0 Min 0-12V 0 Min 0-20V 0 17½W 1-6A 0-25-30 0-25 | 6V 6VA -12V 6V -20V 6V | VA VA | £1.30 £1.30 £1.30 £1.88 £3.60 |
| BC148 BC149 BC157 BC158 BC159 BC204 BCY71 BFY51 BSY95A OC28 OC71 OC84 ORP12 T1S43 ZTX107 ZTX503 | 11p 2N3704 11p 2N3833E 12p 2N5777 12p 1N401 12p 1N4001 12p 1N4004 16p 1N4004 16p 1N4004 12p BA145 45p OA210 24p ZIJ 48p 741s 24p (8-pin DIL 9p µA751 14p (TO3 can) | 10p 31p 40p 4p 6p 7p 8p 10p 17p 7p 6p 50p 36p | 15/40 22/10 22/25 33/6 3 33/16 33/40 47/63 47/40 47/63 100/10 100/40 100/40 | 6p 470 6p 470 6p 470 6p 500 6p 680 6p 1000 6p 1000 6p 1000 6p 2200 6p 2200 6p 2300 6p 3300 | 6 3 6p 25 12p 40 16p 64 40p 65 10p 25 18p 25 18p 27 20p 27 40 40p 27 45p 28 45p 29 40 50p 29 40 60 60 110p 60 60 110p 60 60p 60 75p 60 75p 6 | 1·5/35 2·2/16 2·2/25 2·2/35 4·7/35 10/16 10/25 15/6·3 22/16 47/6·3 47/16 | 16p 12p 14p 12p 12p 16p 16p 16p 25p | 0.068 3p | 3P4W Multipo Lever: 4CL/4C 4CL/4C Knobs Slide: DPDT RELAY 2PCO I 4PCO I Relay slip | 30p L £1-30 N £1-30 6p 24p | POTI Rotary: Mono Oual Preset: Knobtrim Mouldtrim— 1000 to 470 IK to IM Min Horiz. Cermet Hor | 12p 40p or - - - - 31p 27p 6p | OMETER: Sliders— as and when most popul values with PCB mount pins: Mono Dual Knobs | n lar |

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RED PLANET PROBES

Mars is again coming to the fore-front of space exploration. With the two new probes from Russia now well on their way, the plans for the fly-by by the USA in 1976, and the final Viking missions of landing craft as a prelude to the manned missions in the next decade, there is much to be done in preparation. A number of problems will need to be resolved for distant direct control of landed vehicles. If it is the case that the Russians intend to land a similar vehicle on Mars as they did on the moon, then the control from a distance will be somewhat difficult. Even at a close approach between the earth and Mars the controllers will be seeing their vehicle on the surface as it was four minutes earlier. Any guidance or correction will take a similar time to reach operation points.

There will be some areas which, though of great scientific interest, are too hazardous for landings. It therefore follows that the majority of the experiments will be automatic. Already a number of ingenious instruments have been designed for the Viking landing craft. These will sample the soil

for biological activity.

The very ambitious search for life on Mars can only begin with instrumental techniques. Even so the instruments devised will only work if the basic chemistry of any Martian life that there may be, is similar to the basic chemistry of earth life. Should it be of a different chemistry then it may well be that any realistic search for life will have to wait until the 1980's for manned exploration. No one has succeeded in establishing a model of life chemistry that is entirely different from the carbon based system of earth life.

The final goal must of course be by manned exploration. The Apollo missions to the moon have more than made this point. It is only by this means that it will be possible to determine the other puzzles that need to be resolved. For example whether life on Mars may have developed from non living chemicals and whether the apparently lifeless planet may once have enjoyed a rich variety of life that has disappeared. Any relics of this could only be determined by live exploration.

SPECULATIONS

There are a number of people who believe that there was once an abundance of water on the planet, though it is dry today. It is therefore possible that any form of life that developed, when the conditions were warm and the climate re-sembled that of the earth, would have had millions of years in which to grow hardy. Sufficiently so, in fact, that as the vital gases in the



FRANK W. HYDE

atmosphere escaped from the surface including water vapour, the life adapted to the severe conditions. As on earth the successive generations would exhibit the survival of the fittest and it could well be that there does exist a hardy plant life

or something similar.

Some who have been thinking on these lines feel that with the possible colonisation of Mars the first platform will have been reached in space travel. Meanwhile Professor Carl Sagan has speculated that Mars is not dead but sleeping, and suggests that the climatic variations might well be extreme enough for there to be running water at times and the means for life, as we know it on earth, a possibility. These ideas are based on the presence of huge amounts of carbon dioxide frozen into the polar caps. Released as gas the density of the would increase. The atmosphere result could be a greenhouse effect which, with the prevailing meteorological conditions, could well support life.

THE LUSTROUS PLANET

Venus will be having a visit from USA probe in early 1978. This will be some 840 pounds in weight. When it arrives at Venus the four smaller vehicles will be ejected to penetrate the Venusian atmosphere. These four probes will consist of one large one with a 60 pound payload and three smaller ones of about 3 pounds. The big one will take about an hour and a half to reach the surface of the planet and the smaller ones about 75 minutes. The carrying vehicle will enter the atmosphere of the planet sending back data until it burns up. While all this is going on a sister probe will have been launched to arrive and orbit the planet at about the same time as the multiple probe. Thus the benefits of two observation vehicles will be available.

The discovery that there are vast vertical movements of the atmosphere of Venus presents another problem for astronomers. This pulsing of the clouds was detected by infra red telescopes. The indications are that the distance over which this pulsing takes place is about one kilometre.

At the present time there is no clue to the mechanism of this activity. Certainly enormous energy is indicated but where it originates is not known. Some further information may well be gathered by the spacecraft which will fly-by on its way to Mercury sometime next

year.

SOVIET AND FRENCH **CO-OPERATION**

The co-operation between France and Russia in some of the lunar activities is having a special orientation to geodosy. The laser reflectors, placed on the moon and on the earth in an attempt to measure accurate distances and changes, have provided important data. In consequence the techniques of this system has been developed to a stage where the satellites are to be

brought into the picture.

Next year a launch is planned for a special satellite which will carry 60 corner reflectors for use with laser beams. It will have a purely passive role to play being in fact an orbiting reflector with a known position. The satellite will be known as Starlette with reflectors that will be grouped in threes on the outer surface on twenty plates making a total of sixty. It will have a very high density of 18.7 to ensure good dynamic stability. It will be some 26cm in diameter and be made largely of uranium. The orbit will be 50 degrees at a height of between 800 and 1,000km. It is hoped that the accuracy of the measurements will be of the order of 20cm over a period of 12 hours.

SKYLAB RESULTS

One of the principal activities designed for Skylah was the detailed photography of the Sun. The results obtained in the first mission have been rewarding. In fact it would seem that the same situation exists on this venture as on so many others in space exploration, namely that a whole new vista opens up. In the case of these preliminary solar results the films show detailed structure of the Sun's atmosphere and the special changes that have been brought about by the magnetic field and the plasma which streams out from the Sun. In the X-ray part of the spectrum many small flares that were observed, developed in a few seconds. None of this type of phenomenon is observed from the ground.

LOGIC TUTOR EXPERIMENTS...



WIRED OR

THE problem of last month was of rather a theoretical nature—to prove that the output of the four NAND gates (Fig. 5.4) was EXCLUSIVE OR. From the circuit layout and writing down the functions at each node we arrived at an output which was:

$$Q = \overline{\overline{A(\overline{A}.\overline{B})}} + \overline{\overline{B(\overline{A}.\overline{B})}}$$

The two double negates cancel and we are left with:

$$Q = A(\overline{A.B}) + B(\overline{A.B})$$

By applying De Morgan's Theorem to the A.B terms we get

$$Q = A(\overline{A} + \overline{B}) + B(\overline{A} + \overline{B})$$

There is a rule in Boolean Algebra known as the Distributive Rule which allows us to expand bracketted functions—rather like multiplying out brackets in conventional algebra:

$$O = A.\overline{A} + A.\overline{B} + B.\overline{A} + B.\overline{B}$$

But A.Ā is always 0—if A is 1, NOT A must be 0; I AND 0 gives 0. We would get nought if A was nought and NOT A was one. Likewise B.B is always 0; so our expression becomes:

$$Q = (0 + 0) + (A.\overline{B} + B.\overline{A})$$

Note we have changed the sequence of the terms—this is permitted by the Boolean Commutative Rule—and grouped the functions (Associative Rule). Nought OR nought is always nought so the expression now becomes:

 $Q=(0+A.\overline{B})+B.\overline{A} \ (again \ we have \ done \ a$ bit of re-grouping) 0 OR A.B is always A. \overline{B} —you can prove this with a little truth table so we are left with the final expression that:

 $Q = A.\overline{B} + B.\overline{A} - \text{the EXCLUSIVE OR expression we arrived at last month.}$

WIRED OR

The WIRED OR function is extremely valuable for economising on the number of gates used in a piece of equipment. To use the function you are limited to a logic type that uses passive pull up resistors in the output stages (such as DTL); it is not possible to apply the principle to conventional TTL gates which use the two output transistors in totem pole configuration but there are a number of TTL modules now available with open collectors and passive pull up which can be used. If you have made the Logic Tutor exactly as specified you will have used DTL and so can carry out this month's experiment; if you have used standard TTL please do not attempt the experiments as you will damage your gates.

Fig. 6.1. shows that WIRED OR is obtained by shorting together the outputs of two gates. If points X and Y were both at level I the output at node Q will obviously be I.

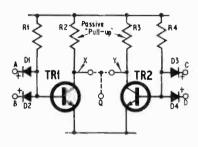


Fig. 6.1. The WIRED OR function is obtained by shorting the outputs of two NAND gates together

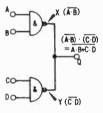


Fig. 6.2. The NAND gates showing the Boolean expressions at each node

If, however, the inputs A with B were such that TRI was non conducting (i.e. the output from the left hand gate wanted to go to I) but the inputs C with D forced an output of 0 from the right hand gate the combined output Q will have to be 0 because TR2 will act as a sink for current flowing through R2.

If you think about it you should see that the output Q has a level that can be specified by ANDing the levels the individual gates would have given had they not been connected together. If X wanted to be I but Y was 0 Q is nought and vice versa. Q will be I only when both X and Y want to be I. Thus shorting the outputs of two DTL gates together effectively gives an AND function between the two outputs—a logic function obtained with no extra gates.

It might seem strange to call this WIRED OR but the name is derived from the overall function from inputs A with B and C with D to the output Q. Fig. 6.2 shows the functions that X and Y would like to go to and then shows these functions ANDed for the combined output. The final expression is an INVERTED OR of the ANDed forms of the two pairs of inputs.

This function could be obtained by using the basic logic gates shown in Fig. 6.3—AND followed by OR followed by INVERT. The effect produced by wiring together two outputs of two NANDS to give WIRED OR is sometimes called

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|------------------|-------|-----|
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DIODES

OA90, OA91, OA95, 6p each; OA200, 9p; OA202, 10n

Other semiconductors: ACI28, I7p; AFII7, 32p; BFY51, 19p. Full lists and technical data will be found in Catalogue No. 6. See also amendments list.

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DPDT toggie, 29p
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| | Capacity μF | | | | | | | | | |
| | 0.47 | _ | _ | _ | | _ | _ | 10p | 7p | |
| | 1.0 | | _ | _ | _ | _ | 10p | _ | 7p | |
| | 2.2 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 10p | _ | 7p | 8p | |
| | 4.7 | _ | _ | _ | 10p | _ | 7p | 8p | 7p | |
| | 10 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 7p | 8p | 7p | 8p | |
| | 22 | _ | _ | 7p | 7p | | 7p | 7p | 9p | |
| | 47 | 7p | _ | 8р | 8p | 8р | 7p | 9p | 12p | |
| | 100 | 8p | 7p | 7p | 7p | 7p | 9p | Hp | 19p | |
| | 220 | 7p | 8p | 8p | 8p | 9p | 10p | 17p | 27 _D | |
| | 470 | 8p | 9p | 9p | 10p | 12p | 17p | 24p | 43p | |
| | 1.000 | 10p | 12p | 12p | 17p | 20p | 24p | 40p | | |
| | 2,200 | I4p | 17p | 22p | 25p | 36p | 40p | | | |
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(see note below) 8 0-9 0-9

100 up

7-5 0.75 nett 0-75 nett 0-95 nett 1-6 nett 2 nett 6

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| Code | Power | Tolerance | Range | Values |
|-------|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Code | | 1010121100 | | available |
| C | 1/20W | 5% | 82 Ω-220K Ω | E12 |
| Ċ | 1/8 | 5% | 4-7 Ω-470K Ω | E24 |
| C | 1/400 | 5% | 4-7 Ω ~10M Ω | E12 |
| C | 1/2W | 5% | $4.7 \Omega - 10M \Omega$ | E24 |
| C | IW | 5% | 4-7 Ω ~ I 0M Ω | E12 |
| MO | 1/2W | 2% | 10 Ω - I M Ω | E24 |
| ww | IW | $10\% \pm 1/20 \Omega$ | 0.22 Ω-3.9 Ω | E12 |
| WW | 3W | 5% | Ω-10K Ω | E12 |
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and their decades. E24 denotes series: as E12 plus 11, 13, 16, 20, 24, 30, 36, 43, 51 62, 75, 91 and their decades.

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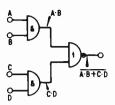


Fig. 6.3. Basic AND-OR-NOT configuration of circuit in Fig. 6.2 showing the economy effected by WIRED OR

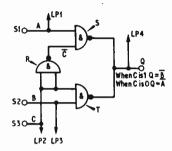


Fig. 6.4. Practical application of the AND-OR-NOT function for steering signals

an AND-OR-NOT gate—a frequently used function to enable two sources of digital waveforms to be selected alternately and fed (in an inverted form) into a common line.

Fig. 6.4 shows how you can demonstrate this on the Logic Tutor. The signal lines are A and B and digital waveforms can be simulated with switches SI and S2; input C is the control line that selects the line we want to appear at the output Q. When C is I the output of gate S always wants to stay at I but the output of gate T wants to give an inverted form of input B. AND the output of S with that of T and you get B. Waggle S2 and you will see the inverted signal appear at the output but signals from SI (line A) will be inhibited. Make C go to 0 and the signal from A will pass while that from B will be inhibited.

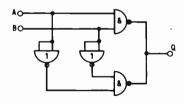


Fig. 6.5. The four gates plus the WIRED OR function in this circuit provide a well-known logic function. What is it?

Could you do this as economically without using the WIRED OR function? As an exercise try and sort out the logic of Fig. 6.5. The output of the gate configuration is quite well known; what is it?

by M. J. Hughes

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BY R.A.COLE

PRE-AMPLIFIERS

POWER AMPLIFIERS

TONE AND BALANCE CONTROLS

IN the first part of the RONDO series we described the subject of quadraphonics in general, its abilities, and the various systems available. In addition the construction of a CBS SQ quadraphonic decoder was explained in detail. Now we come to the power and pre-amplifiers and tone controls.

The Rondo system shown in block diagram Fig. 1.15 in Part 1 of the series uses integrated circuits extensively throughout. There are a total of 13 in the basic system, of which eight are in the power amplifier, tone control and pre-amplifier stages. The balance are two in the f.m. tuner, one in the a.m. tuner, one in the stereo multiplex decoder and one in the CBS SQ matrix decoder. An additional four are required for the full logic enhancement board.

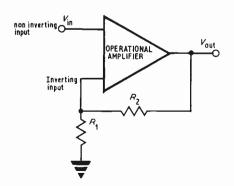


Fig. 2.1. Simplified schematic of an operational amplifier used in an audio application

Some of these integrated circuits perform specific complex functions, whilst others are used as "gain blocks". The eight used in the amplification stages fall in this latter category and are, in fact, operational amplifiers.

The Rondo power and pre-amplifiers use operational amplifiers of the 748 series which are available from many device manufacturers in a number of DIL and TO packages. The Rondo PC boards are drawn so as to accept either the 14 pin dual-in-line package or the 8 pin dual-in-line package.

Operational amplifiers have a number of points in their favour in amplifier design. For example, they replace quite complex discrete voltage gain circuits and require only a few external components and they can operate from a balanced supply which permits d.c. connection of some stages, thus reducing the use of electrolytic capacitors.

As they have a very high mid-band gain they can be very accurately equalised and yet have a good loop gain margin for reducing distortion. An inherently high ripple rejection allows them to work well on unregulated power supplies and reduces the chances of l.f. instability so often found in stereo systems due to large circulating earth currents.

High input and low output impedances simplify the design of feedback networks and a good common mode rejection, the ability to ignore spurious voltages which appear at both inputs rather than the differential signal inputs, is advantageous.

Fig. 2.1 is a simplified schematic of a typical operational amplifier, showing the two inputs and its application to audio amplification. The closed loop gain is determined as follows

$$\frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}}} = \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_1}$$



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THE PRE-AMPLIFIERS

Two 748 operational amplifiers are used, one for each channel of the basic stereo system, one channel of which is shown in Fig. 2.3. The 748 (IC1) amplifies the incoming signal to around 100mV, whilst providing equalisations for the appropriate input signal.

There are four inputs selected by the selector

switch bank.

The "Gram" input is compensated for RIAA disc characteristic, see Fig. 2.2, and requires an input of 3mV for full output. The compensation is carried out by the network R7, R9, C6, C7.

The other three inputs have a linear response, the

gain of which is set by R8.

It will be noted that R7, which is in fact part of the RIAA network, is permanently in circuit. This is to reduce the switching transient caused by open-circuiting the feedback loop when using pushbutton switches. These switches are break-before-make types and if this precaution is not observed a momentary, but startling, screech will ensue. R7 and R8 are in parallel for all linear response inputs but as R7 is very large in comparison with R8 the resultant value is virtually the same as R8.

An output from the i.c. is taken via a 0.22μ F capacitor from each channel to provide an isolated signal (prior to volume and tone controls) for tape

recording.

TONE CONTROL, VOLUME AND BALANCING

The tone controls, also shown in Fig. 2.3, are of the standard Baxandall type. The 748 integrated circuit IC2 provides the necessary loop gain requirements. There is only small interaction between the bass and treble controls and R12, R15 and R11, R14 provide the end stops for bass and treble controls respectively and limit their range (see Fig. 2.4).

A 10μ F tantalum capacitor C11 is used at the output of the tone control stage before the master volume control. As the output voltage of the i.c. depends upon the input offset voltage, it can be of

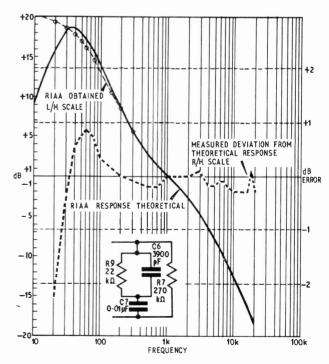
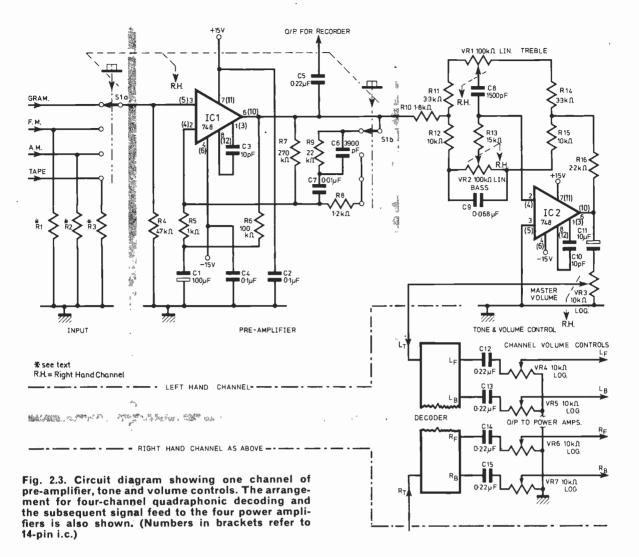


Fig. 2.2. Graphic representation of the playback response obtained for RIAA correction in disc playback and the filter network used



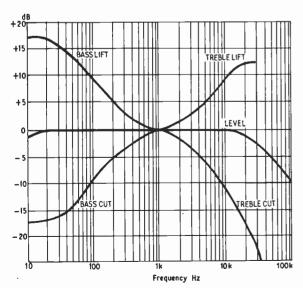


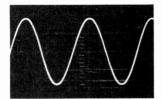
Fig. 2.4. Overall response of each tone control circuit

either polarity. The tantalum capacitor can withstand the maximum reverse polarity likely to be reached at any setting of the controls.

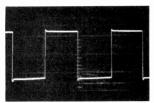
Fig. 2.5d shows a 1kHz square wave response of the pre-amplifier combined with the tone control stage with controls set level.

Signals have been processed as stereo signals up to the output from the master volume control. The signals are now passed through the quadraphonic decoder and are henceforth four channel signals; these pass, via $0.22\mu F$ capacitors C12 to C15, through the four balance controls VR4-VR7 to the power amplifiers.

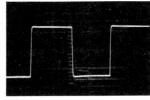
The balance controls provide total control over the level of each of the four channels and each can be faded to zero independently. This is considered to be superior to the normal left-right and front-back balance controls as fully independent control of each channel is far more flexible and fine control of low level listening can be obtained using the full swing of the master volume control VR3.



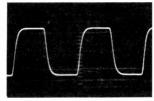
(a) 1kHz sine wave output at 21W, illustrating the onset of clipping



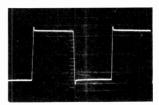
(d) 1kHz square wave at output of pre-amplifier and tone controls at 100mV with tone controls in mechanically "level" position



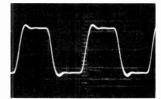
(b) A 1kHz square wave at 12W into an 8 ohm load



(e) A 10kHz square wave at 12W into an 8 ohm load



(c) As (b) but with 2\(mu F \) in parallel with load



(f) As (d) but with $2\mu F$ in parallel with load

Fig. 2.5. Oscilloscope photographs showing a variety of output responses for different operating conditions

POWER AMPLIFIER

The overall voltage gain of the power amplifier, the circuit of which is shown in Fig. 2.6, is defined R17 + R20

by the ratio of $\frac{R17 + R20}{}$ and is about 40dB. The

reactance of C16 reduces the gain to unity at d.c. giving a final d.c. offset at the output of a few millivolts.

Normal loudspeakers, and those with inductive loads, e.g. crossover networks, can be coupled direct to the output stages without the use of output capacitors. Electrostatic loudspeakers can also be coupled direct.

Fig. 2.5b, c. e, and f show square wave responses at 1kHz and 10kHz with and without capacitive loads.

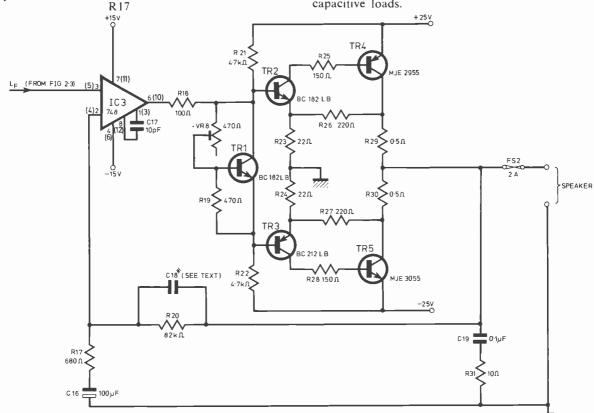


Fig. 2.6. Circuit diagram of the power amplifier (numbers in brackets refer to 14-pin device). Note that only one channel of a stereo pair is shown. There are four of these circuits mounted two to a board

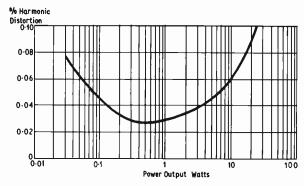


Fig. 2.7. Total harmonic distortion of power, tone, and pre-amplifier combination against power (log scale)

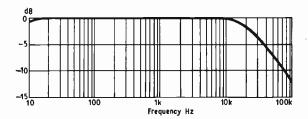


Fig. 2.8. Frequency response of the system at 1W into 8 ohms

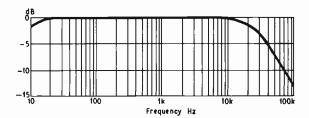


Fig. 2.9. The rated power bandwidth at 20W into 8 ohms

Although the open loop gain of the 748 i.c. op-amp is typically around 95dB, a stable closed-loop gain of some 20dB is utilised to give low harmonic distortion, see Fig. 2.7, and intermodulation products. It is therefore necessary to provide additional gain elsewhere.

This is achieved by use of a modified Darlington output stage in which resistors R26, R23 and R27, R24 apply attenuation of the feedback path in the Darlington pairs TR2, TR4 and TR3, TR5, giving a voltage gain of 20dB. The drivers TR2 and TR3 are fed by a phase splitter TR1 which also controls the bias conditions.

QUIESCENT CURRENT

The quiescent current in the output stage, around 20mA, is controlled by the network R19 and VR8. VR8 is in the base-collector half and is preset for the correct quiescent current. Placing the preset in

this half of the network ensures that if the preset goes open circuit (the most common fault) the quiescent current in the output stages drops to a minimum and not, as so often happens, to a damaging maximum.

TR1 and TR2 are placed in contact with each other to provide a thermal path which enables the biasing to "track" easily so that, after prolonged full output, the quiescent current falls back to near normal in a much shorter time.

Two power amplifier channels are provided on each circuit board with a common heat sink. As much lower power is transmitted to the back channels from many quadraphonic recordings, one front and one back channel are routed to each board to balance the heat dissipation.

Fig. 2.8 shows the overall frequency response of the power amplifiers at 1W output into 8 ohms.

Fig. 2.9. The rated power bandwidth graph shows that, at full output, the frequency response is virtually the same as at lower outputs.

DISTORTION

Reference back to Fig. 2.7 shows the small increase in harmonic distortion at low outputs. When drawn on a linear power scale (a very common way) this rise is masked and power outputs of 50mW or so are conveniently ignored.

Fig. 2.5a shows the sine waveform at 1kHz just at the onset of clipping (21W into 8 ohms), the condition being indicated by the bright-up at the crest of the waveform.

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Pre-amplifiers

Figs. 2.10a and b show the layout of the preamplifier board copper and components. Assembly follows normal practice. A space of the in is left between the plastic switch bodies and the board to prevent capillary action drawing the solder up into the switch mechanism.

Tone, Volume and Balance Controls

Figs. 2.11a and b show the layout of this board. The slider controls should be soldered into the board after all other components have been assembled and soldered.

When the slider controls are mounted care should be taken to ensure that they are well seated onto the board surface so that the wiper levers are all parallel.

Power Amplifiers

Figs. 2.12a and b show the layout of one of the stereo power amplifier boards. As mentioned earlier there is a common heat sink for the two amplifiers on each board.

The Motorola devices are supplied with a compression washer which should be tightened by the screw until the washer just deforms.

The Texas devices are supplied with a stepped insulating bush which should be inserted between the head of the screw and the fixing hole in the metal tab. The smaller mica insulating washer should have a thin smear of silicone grease applied to both sides to improve thermal conductivity between transistor and heat sink,

| PR | E-AMPLIFIER | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|--|--|--|
| Resistors | | | | | |
| R1, R101 | Input matching | (2 off) | | | |
| R2, R102 | resistors, to be | (2 off) | | | |
| R3, R103 | discussed in | (2 off) | | | |
| , i | future article | | | | |
| R4, R104 | 47kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| R5, R105 | 1kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| R6, R106 | 100kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| R7, R107 | 270kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| R8, R108 | 1-2kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| R9, R109 | 22kΩ | (2 off) | | | |
| All ± 5% ¼W Hi-Stab carbon film | | | | | |

Capacitors

| C1, C101 | 100μF 3V tantalum |
|----------|------------------------------|
| | (2 off) |
| C2 | 0·1μF polyester (1 off) |
| C3, C103 | 10pF 30V polystyrene |
| | (2 off) |
| C4 | 0.1μ F polyester (1 off) |
| C5, C105 | 0.22μF polyester (2 off) |
| C6, C106 | 3900pF 30V poly- |
| | styrene (2 off) |
| C7, C107 | 0.01 µF polyester (2 off) |
| · | |

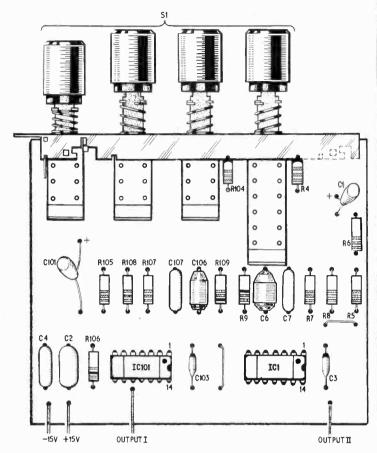
Integrated Circuits IC1, IC101 ML748, μ748 or SN72748P

Switch

S1 4-pole 4-way Special (Lipar Isostat) selector switch— Sonax Electronics

Miscellaneous

Printed circuit board, link wire and connecting wires



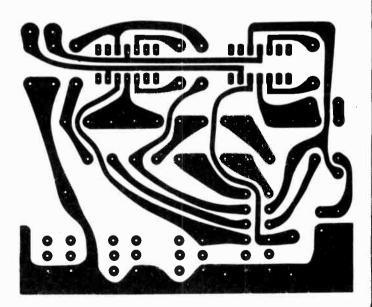
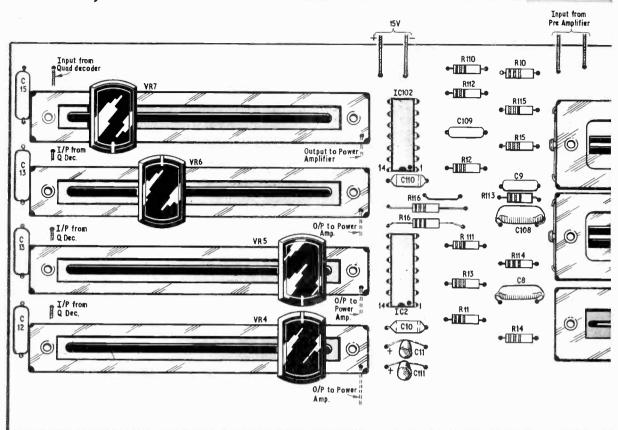
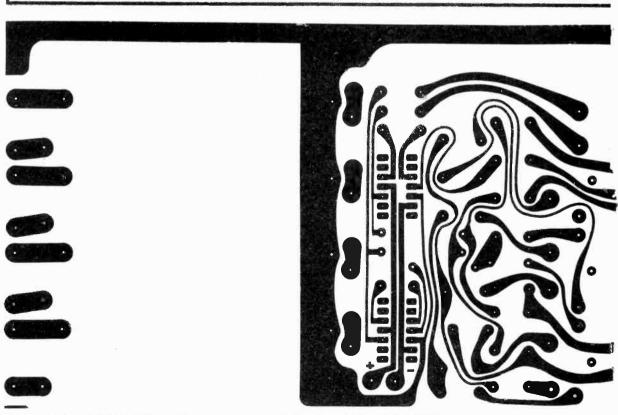
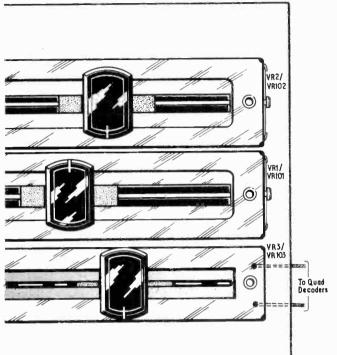


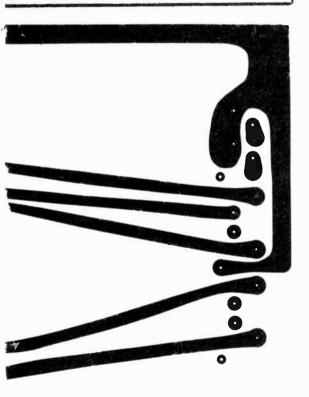
Fig. 2.10. Component layout and printed circuit master (full size) for the pre-amplifier board

TONE, BALANCE AND VOLUME CONTROL MODULE









COMPONENTS . . .

TONE AND VOLUME CONTROLS

| Resistors | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------------------------|----------|
| R10, R110 | 1-8kΩ | R14, R114 | 3⋅3kΩ |
| R11, R111 | | R15, R115 | |
| R12, R112 | | R16, R116 | 2·2kΩ |
| R13, R113 | 15k Ω | | |
| All 5% ±W | Hi-Stab | carbon film (2 off each re | equired) |
| | | | |

| Capacitors | _ |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| C8, C108 1500pF 30V polystyrene | (2 off) |
| C9, C109 0.068μF polyester | (2 off) |
| C10, C110 10pF 30V polystyrene | (2 off) |
| C11, C111 10µF 16V bead tantalum | (2 off) |
| C12-C15 0-22µF polyester | (4 off) |

| | 100kΩ lin. | 2-gang (Alps) Sonax Electronics | | off) off) |
|---------|--------------|------------------------------------|----|--------------|
| VR3/103 | | Sonax Electronics | (1 | off) |
| VR4-VR7 | I0kΩ log. (A | lps) | (4 | off) |

| Integrated C | ircuits | ~ |
|--------------|------------------------|---------|
| ICŽ, IC102 | ML748, µ748 or SN2748P | (2 off) |

Miscellaneous
Printed circuit board, connecting wires

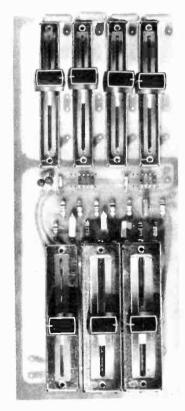


Fig. 2.11. Component layout and printed circuit master (full size) for the tone control and balance board. A photograph of a prototype board is also shown



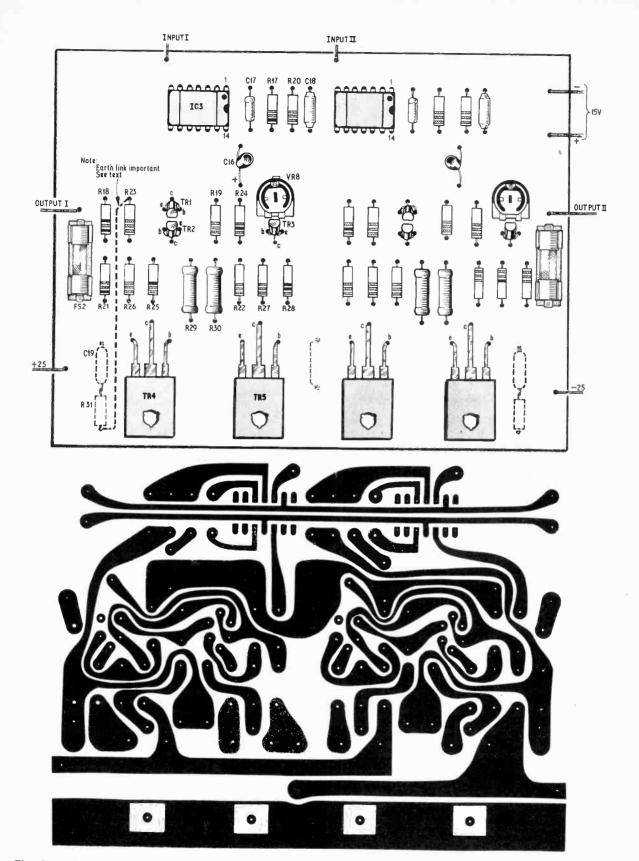


Fig. 2.12. Component layout and printed circuit master (full size) of one of the two power amplifier boards. Components on the right are similar to the left channel

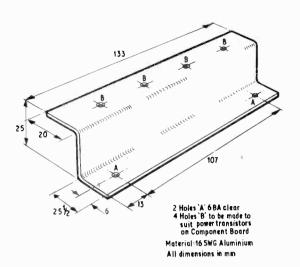


Fig. 2.13. Details of one of the heat sinks for the power amplifiers. A photograph of the amplifier board is shown opposite with a heat sink in position ready for marking for drilling

Fig. 2.13 shows the dimensions and form of the heat sink. Reference to the layout drawing Fig. 2.12 shows two links (dotted lines) on the copper side. R31 (10 ohm) and C19 $(0.01\mu\text{F})$ are also fitted on the copper side. These last components are high frequency compensation networks provided to ensure stable performance into difficult loads.

COMPONENTS . . .

POWER AMPLIFIERS (two boards required, two amps per board) Resistors 680Ω R17 R25 150Ω R26 220Ω R18 100Ω 220Ω R27 470Ω R19 R20 $82k\Omega$ R28 150Ω $0.5\Omega \, {\Large \big\backslash} \, 2$ W wirewound or 4.7kΩ R29 R21 metal film R22 4.7kΩ R30 0.5Ω∫ R23 22Ω R31 10Ω R24 22 Ω All 5% ‡W Hi-Stab carbon film (4 off each required) VR8 470Ω Skeleton preset (Piher) Sonax (4 off)

Capacitors

C16 100µF 3V bead tantalum

C17 10pF 30V polystyrene

C18 see text

C19 0·1μF polyester

Four of each capacitor required

Integrated Circuits

IC3 ML748, μ748 or SN72748P (4 off)

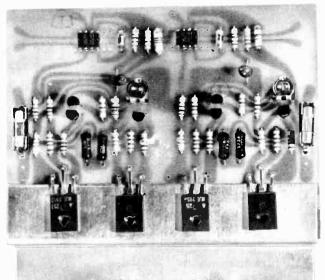
Transistors

TR1, TR2, BC182LB (8 off) TR3 BC212LB (4 off) TR4 MJE 2955 (4 off) TR5 MJE 3055 (4 off)

Miscellaneous

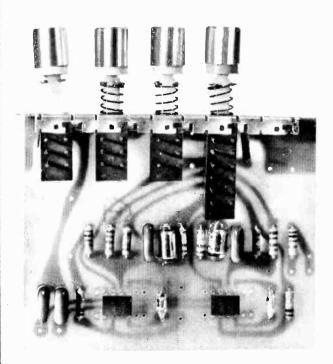
FS2 2A Fuseholder and fuse (4 off)

Printed circuit boards (2 off), connecting and link wires, set of mica washers for power transistors



C18 can be either 37pF or 68pF. A greater rate of roll off in frequency response is obtained by use of the 69pF, which in some circumstances can help reduce r.f. breakthrough. This is rather rare, but some constructors close to transmitters, or sources of r.f. interference, may experience this trouble.

Next month: Fower supply and mechanical details and wiring



An almost completed pre-amplifier board

PART 1: PHASE LOCKED LOOP PRINCIPLES AND DEFINITIONS

PHASE LŒKED LŒPS

BY J.B. DANCE M.Sc.

During the past two or three years a type of circuit known as the phase locked loop has aroused enormous interest in a number of fields, especially in that of radio receiver design. These articles will provide readers with a simple explanation of the operation of phase locked loops, their advantages and limitations, together with some of their practical applications.

The phase locked loop offers certain advantages over the other types of detector used in radio receivers. It can also be employed in a wide variety of other applications such as in frequency synthesisers, in frequency shift keying demodulators, in f.m. generators, in tape recorder flutter meters, for

electric motor speed control, etc.

SINGLE INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

The principles of the phase locked loop have been known for many years (an account of the synchronous reception of radio signals was published as long ago as 1932). However, the circuits are so complex that it has not been very economical to construct them with discrete components. In the past three years, however, complete phase locked loops have become available as single integrated circuits. Their potential possibilities have stimulated great interest especially in radio receiver circuitry.

Currently available phase locked loops can replace nearly all of a receiver intermediate frequency strip (including the detector) with a single integrated circuit. The frequency of operation is set by a single component connected to the integrated circuit, whilst another component can be used to control the

selectivity.

THE PHASE LOCKED LOOP

The phase locked loop contains an electronically controlled oscillator which can be synchronised with an incoming signal.

The basic operation of the phase locked loop may be illustrated by the block diagram of Fig. 1.1.

In subsequent parts we shall see that this basic system can be employed as a demodulator for f.m. signals, and with some additional stages, it can be employed to demodulate a.m. signals.

FREE-RUNNING FREQUENCY

If no input signal is fed to the phase locked loop of Fig. 1.1, the voltage controlled oscillator operates at a frequency known as the "free-running" or "centre" frequency. This frequency can be controlled by changing the value of certain components external to the integrated circuit phase locked loop.

In the free-running condition, the phase detector provides no output signal (or error signal). There is therefore no control voltage fed to the voltage

controlled oscillator.

If an input signal is now applied to the system of Fig. 1.1, the phase detector will compare the phase of the input signal with that of the signal generated by the voltage controlled oscillator. The error voltage at the output of the phase detector is dependent on the phase difference between the two signals. It may be either positive or negative, according to which of the signals is leading or lagging the other in phase.

The error signal is passed through a low-pass filter, after which it is amplified to produce the signal which is used to control the frequency of the oscillator. The control voltage alters the frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator and can make it approach the frequency of the input signal. If the input frequency is close enough to the free-running frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator, the latter will become locked to the input frequency.

PHASE DIFFERENCE

When the phase locked loop is "in lock", the voltage controlled oscillator frequency is identical with that of the input signal, but in general there is a

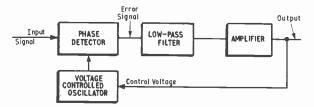


Fig. 1.1. Basic block diagram of a phase locked loop

certain finite phase difference between the signals. This phase difference must be present in order to generate the error voltage which is required to change the voltage controlled oscillator frequency from its free-running value to the input signal frequency.

FEEDBACK SYSTEM

The feedback system employed in a phase locked loop enables the frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator to change automatically as the input frequency changes. A slight change in the input frequency will result in a phase change between the input signal and the signal from the voltage controlled oscillator. The error signal produced by the phase detector will automatically adjust itself so that the voltage controlled oscillator frequency is kept the same as the input frequency.

PHASE COMPARATOR

It is instructive to note that the phase comparator is essentially a multiplier circuit which acts like a frequency changer. It operates on the input and voltage controlled oscillator signals so as to generate the sum and difference of these frequencies.

The sum frequency is unable to pass through the low-pass filter of Fig. 1.1. However, when the loop is locked the difference frequency is zero (since the two frequencies being fed to the phase comparator are the same) and a d.c. voltage is produced which can pass through the low-pass filter and keeps the loop locked.

If the input frequency is changing with time (as in an f.m. signal), the error signal will contain some frequencies which are much lower than the input frequency. The low-pass filter may transmit these frequencies almost unattenuated, in which case the voltage controlled oscillator will track the input frequency and the loop will remain locked.

Most phase detectors are also sensitive to the amplitude of the signals.

LOCK RANGE

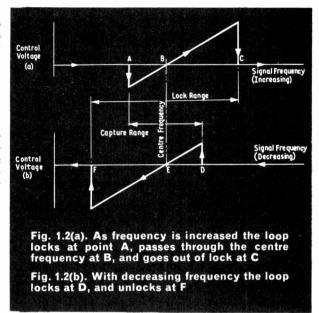
The lock range of a phase locked loop is the range of input frequencies over which the loop remains locked to the input signal. The lock range is also known as the tracking range.

The term "hold-in" range is sometimes used to denote the maximum allowable difference between the centre frequency and the signal frequency at which the loop just remains locked. It is one half of the lock range, since the latter extends on each side of the centre frequency.

In a loop which is locked to the input frequency, the error voltage is of zero frequency and will therefore always be transmitted by the low-pass filter. The lock range is therefore not affected by the characteristics of this filter.

The lock range is limited by the maximum value of the control voltage which can be generated in the loop and thus the corresponding frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator.

The lock range can be many times the bandwidth of the signals accepted by the loop. This means that if the frequency of the input signal varies somewhat, the voltage controlled oscillator frequency will follow it, but at all times the bandwidth will be narrow so that the amount of noise is small. Effectively this means that the tuning of the receiver is automatically corrected as the input frequency changes.



CAPTURE RANGE

The capture range is the range of input signal frequencies which can cause the loop to become locked. The capture range is generally smaller than the lock range. In other words, if a signal near to one of the ends of the lock range is applied to an unlocked loop, it will not bring the loop into lock. However, a loop to which this signal is being fed will remain in lock.

The capture range never exceeds the lock range. It is a measure of how close the input signal frequency must be to the centre frequency of the loop for locking to take place.

If the signal frequency in Fig. 1.2(a) is slowly increased, the loop will suddenly become locked at point A which is the edge of the capture range. As the frequency is increased further, the control voltage applied to the voltage controlled oscillator decreases linearly with frequency and passes through a value of zero at the free-running frequency, B. The loop remains in lock until the frequency reaches point C, the edge of the lock range. The control voltage returns to zero when the system comes out of lock.

If the frequency is now reduced, one obtains the characteristic illustrated by Fig. 2(b). The loop does not come into lock until point D is reached, the edge of the capture range. The centre frequency, point E, is reached when the control voltage is zero and the loop finally comes out of lock at point F.

THE CAPTURE PROCESS

The mechanism of the capture process may be examined by first considering a loop which is not yet locked to the input frequency. The phase detector produces sum and difference frequencies of the two signals being fed to it, but both of these frequencies are so high that they cannot pass through the low-pass filter. The voltage controlled oscillator therefore continues to operate at its free-running frequency.

If the signal frequency now approaches the free-running frequency, the difference frequency decreases until it falls within the pass band of the

low-pass filter. The part of the difference frequency voltage which passes through the low-pass filter causes the voltage controlled oscillator frequency to move towards the input signal frequency. This reduces the difference frequency further so that it is transmitted more easily through the low-pass filter and exercises a greater effect on the oscillator.

The mechanism is essentially one of positive feedback. It has the effect of causing the voltage controlled oscillator frequency to suddenly become the same as that of the input signal.

Capture occurs when the difference frequency between the input and the voltage controlled oscillator signals can pass through the low-pass filter without being attenuated so much that it cannot produce an adequate control voltage. The capture range is therefore determined mainly by the maximum frequency which can pass through the low-pass filter.

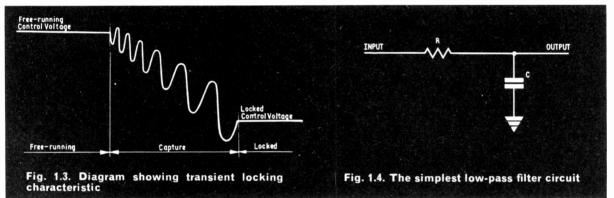
The capture effect determines the selectivity of the phase locked loop circuit. Thus selectivity is determined by the characteristic of the low-pass filter.

PULL-IN TIME

The pull-in time of a phase locked loop is the time taken for the loop to become locked to the input frequency. In some systems the pull-in time can be very short—even less than the time for one oscillation of the difference frequency; in this case lock can be established without any oscillations in the frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator occurring.

The pull-in time depends on the difference between the initial free-running frequency and the signal frequency, the bandwidth of the low-pass filter and the overall gain around the loop. In general locking will take place more rapidly when the frequency of operation is relatively high, since a given number of cycles of the waveforms occur in a shorter time.

One might expect that locking would be instantaneous when the input frequency is exactly equal to the free-running frequency. This is not necessarily true, however, since although the frequencies are the same, the phases of the waveforms may be different and it is the phase differences which are detected.



THE LOCKING TRANSIENT

When the voltage controlled oscillator is free-running and as the loop approaches lock, the output from the phase detector contains a sinusoidal frequency equal to the difference frequency between the two signals. When the input frequency moves to a point within the capture range of the loop, the difference frequency is fed through the low-pass filter to the voltage controlled oscillator.

This oscillator frequency is modulated for a moment by the difference frequency and the latter will therefore vary with time. Once locking has occurred, the output from the phase comparator is of zero frequency.

The control voltage thus changes from the constant zero voltage in the unlocked state through an oscillating signal containing the difference frequency to a non-zero constant voltage when the loop is locked to the input frequency.

In the intermediate state during the capture process, the control voltages consists of a non-sinusoidal asymmetrical waveform containing a steady (or d.c.) component, as shown in Fig. 1.3.

The steady component causes the voltage controlled oscillator frequency to move towards the signal frequency. The difference frequency component in the control voltage gradually increases during the capture transient, as shown by the increasing width of the peaks in Fig. 1.3.

THE LOW-PASS FILTER

The low-pass filter is often extremely simple — merely a resistor and capacitor, as shown in Fig. 1.4, however, it has a very profound effect on the performance of the phase locked loop.

We have already seen how the characteristics of the low-pass filter can control the capture range. This filter also increases the pull-in time, since a rapid change of the output voltage from the phase comparator will produce a slower change in the output from the filter.

The use of the low-pass filter improves the noise rejection characteristics of the phase locked loop. If an interfering noise signal reaches the input of the phase comparator, the output will change almost instantaneously. However, the low-pass filter will delay any change in the oscillator frequency. The filter therefore acts as a short term memory which keeps the voltage controlled oscillator locked to the input frequency during a short noise pulse. Similarly, the loop remains locked during a short period when fading of the signal occurs.

SELECTIVITY

The selectivity of the whole phase locked loop is controlled by the characteristics of the low-pass filter. Although the low-pass filter operates at a

relatively low frequency, its characteristics are effectively imposed on the high frequency response of the phase locked loop. A simple low-pass filter can provide selectivity which is equivalent to that of a conventional superheterodyne receiver containing six tuned circuits at the intermediate frequency.

Phase locked loops are especially useful for receiving radio signals which are "buried" in noise. Their pass band can be made almost ideal for this purpose.

If the bandwidth of the low-pass filter is sufficiently narrow, the signal-to-noise ratio at the output of the voltage controlled oscillator can be considerably better than that at the input. The use of a low-pass filter with a large time constant will provide greater noise rejection and immunity to a momentary loss of the input signal, but it does result in a lower tracking rate, a reduced capture range and a longer pull-in time.

The low-pass filter limits the rate at which the voltage controlled oscillator can track the input signal. If the frequency of the latter changes at a greater rate than the maximum rate for the loop used, the loop will not remain locked. Capture will not occur at the new input frequency if this is outside the capture range. A low-pass filter with a relatively high cut off frequency will produce a higher tracking rate, but the ability of the loop to reject short term noise will be reduced.

THE INPUT LEVEL

If the input signal is relatively large, its amplitude will be limited either in the phase locked loop or in the preceding circuits. The capture range and the lock range are then independent of the signal

amplitude.

Although a phase locked loop can act as its own limiter, greater freedom from noise and from spurious signals can be obtained when the input level is below the threshold at which limiting occurs. When the amplitude is high enough to drive the system outside the limit for linear operation, there are more cross modulation signals formed. However, higher input levels do result on a reduced pullin time.

Next month: f.m. and a.m. demodulation techniques will be described.

PRACTICAL ELECTRONICS

INDEX

An index for volume 8 (January 1972 to December 1972) is now available price IIp inclusive of postage.

BINDERS

Easi-binders with a special pocket for storing blueprints and data sheets, etc., are available price £1.10p inclusive of postage. State required volume, e.g., Vol. 1, 2, 6.

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POINTS ARISING

WIDE RANGE PULSE GENERATOR (June 1973)

Capacitor C1 should be positioned in the circuit adjacent the contact of S1 and not, as shown in Fig. 2, in the direct connection from pins 2 and 3 to C2. It is shown correctly in the wiring diagram of Fig. 3.

THE 555 TIMER IC (June 1973)

It has been pointed out by a reader that any constructor attempting to use this chip to construct a 1:1 mark-space ratio monostable as described on pages 486 and 515 may run the risk of damaging TR1 because of a reduction of RA below a suggested value of 1 kilohm. The manufacturers have, in fact, not considered taking the resistance value below 1 kilohm.

AUDIO COMPRESSOR (August 1973)

In the base diagram of the 2N3708 transistor in Fig. 2 the base and emitter leads are shown transposed. Copper strip should be broken at F12. Resistor R13 should go to K29 not J29.

LIGHTING CONTROL UNIT (July 1973)

Page 612, the end of the fourth paragraph under the side heading "THE THYRISTOR" should read ", so that the voltage applied to the load looks like Fig. 2 (c) not 3 (c)." Also, at the end of the section headed "TESTING" Fig. 4 should read Fig. 3.

PHASING UNIT (September 1973)

Changing the $10k\Omega$ linear dual-gang potentiometer VR2 for a logarithmic type will enhance the performance of the unit.

P.E. SOUND SYNTHESISER (March 1973)

POWER SUPPLY REGULATORS

It should be noted that the maximum input voltage for the voltage regulator $\mu A7815$ should not exceed 36V. Thus if the 30V Rec. Transformer by R. S. Components is being used in the power supply it is necessary to connect the 25V windings instead of the 30V windings given in March P.E.

Constructors using alternative 30,V transformers should protect the regulator by means of an 8-2V 10W Zener diode connected between the bridge and C1 positive (cathode to the diode bridge). should be mounted on a heatsink, (2in \times 2in 14 s.w.g. aluminium would suffice), which can be bolted to the power supply subframe lip above the transformer.

It will be necessary to insulate the heatsink from the subframe and separate heatsinks should be used for each Zener. The Z3B series of Zeners by Semitron would be suitable for use in the suggested circuit.

550 VOLT MEGOHMMETER (August 1973)

The function of VR2 was omitted. It should be adjusted so that the meter reads full scale with the leads shorted.

SOUND SYNTHESISER LECTURE

Our author Mr. G. D. Shaw will present a lecturedemonstration at the coming International Audio Festival and Fair, Olympia, London. The lecture will be given at 2 p.m. on Tuesday,

October 23, 1973.

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- 7. Keyboard panel.
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- Battery clips and on/off switch.
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Practical Electronics October 1973

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PE Sound Synthesiser 9 VOLTAGE CONTROLLED & DIFFERENTIAL AMPLIFIERS

By G.D.SHAW

This part describes the construction and operation of the Voltage Controlled Amplifiers, the Differential Amplifier and finalises the interconnection details outlined in Part 1 of the series.

OUTPUT AMPLIFIERS

The heart of each of the Voltage Controlled Amplifiers is the Motorola MFC6040 electronic attenuator which was described in Part 7 of the series and which, by means of an externally derived voltage, enables the input signal to be attenuated by 77dB or amplified by 13dB.

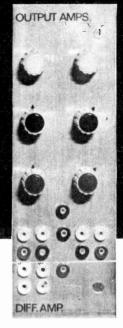
Two Output Amplifiers are employed, each having two stages, and arranged to be operated in parallel with cross-coupling between the final stages by means of panning controls. The general arrangement is shown in block form in Fig. 9.1. The first stage consists of a two input resistive mixer at the front end of the MFC6040 which has, for each channel, a separate control amplifier. Output from the first stage is led to a pan-pot which can route the signal to either of the output stages direct or to both channels at a range of intermediate levels.

Fig. 9.2 shows the theoretical circuit of the left channel Output Amplifier in which IC1 provides the variable gain input mixer, IC2/TR1 the control amplifier and IC3 the final output stage. The right channel is identical in design except that the 'a' side of the pan-pot is coupled to IC3 of the left channel instead of direct to the right channel output stage. This is so that clockwise rotation of the pan-pots will route signals to the right channel and anticlockwise rotation to the left.

PAN-POTS

The pan-pots themselves are designed to allow the smoothest possible transition when swinging the signal from one channel to the other and in such a way that equal increments of rotation of the pot give approximately equal incremental changes in the level of the signal.

The pots consist of two tracks ganged together and wired back-to-back so that as the output of one track increases the output of the other decreases by a similar amount. The ideal arrangement is when one of the tracks follows a logarithmic law with the other being anti-logarithmic. Unfortunately the manufacture of accurately matched tracks of this type is difficult and purpose built pots having the desired characteristics are not easily available and generally expensive.



The pan-pots in the Synthesiser represent a compromise in that they utilise linear tracks which, for most practical purposes, are made logarithmic in action by the addition of a relatively low value load resistor (R11 and R12 in Fig. 9.2).

PRACTICAL PROBLEMS

On completion of the module and having checked that each channel's performance characteristics are similar for a given input signal the following procedure should be adopted for determining the electrical centre of rotation of the pan-pots. Set both pots to approximately the mid-point of rotation and apply a signal of about 250mV to the input of one channel only. The remaining inputs should be grounded.

With the gain on the appropriate channel turned full up monitor the output stages of both amplifiers and adjust the appropriate pan-pot until the output signals are exactly equal. With a well matched pot the electrical centre should be quite close to the

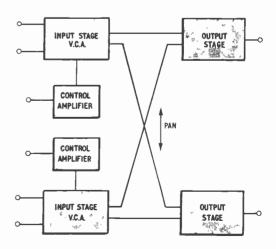


Fig. 9.1. General arrangement of voltage controlled Output Amplifiers

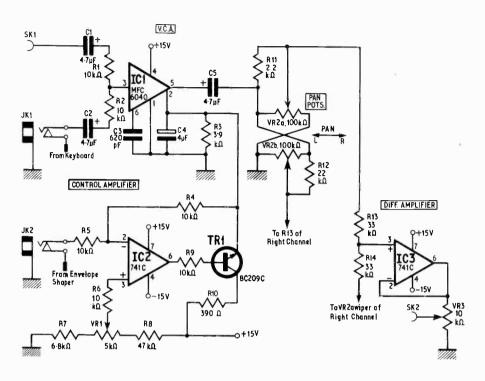
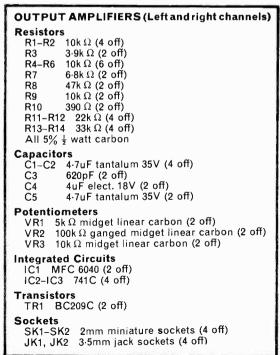


Fig. 9.2. Output Amplifier for left channel, right channel is identical. Note that if the Envelope Shaper is not connected by prewired link or if auto-programming of gain is not required JK2 must carry a grounded jack plug in order that full range of attenuation gain is achieved

COMPONENTS . . .



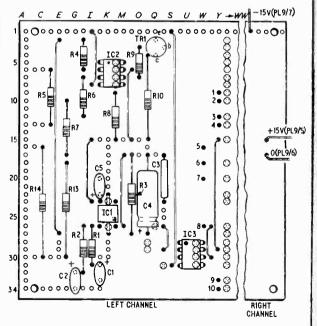


Fig. 9.3. Component layout for Output Amplifiers. As both channels are identical only the left hand is shown

mechanical centre. If there is more than say 10 to 15 per cent rotation between the two points it may be worth considering the empirical adjustment of one of the loading resistors in order to obtain a better balance or, alternatively, replacing the pot.

Both channels should be checked out in a similar manner and the electrical centres, when satisfactorily determined, marked on the front panel for reference.

CONTROL AMPLIFIER

In Part 7 of this series the action of the MFC6040 was described and it was shown that the full range of attenuation/gain could be obtained by varying the control voltage applied to pin 2 of the device. Maximum attenuation is associated with a control of +6V whilst maximum gain is obtained when the control falls to +3.5V.

As in the Reverberation Amplifier the control voltages are supplied by a separate amplifier, IC2 in this case, which is operating in the differential mode. Signals normally arrive at the control amplifier, via R5, from the envelope shaper to which it is permanently linked by means of a pre-wired interconnection. This means that R5 is effectively grounded since it is looking into a low impedance whatever the setting of the envelope shaper level control.

The non-inverting input of IC2 is provided with a reference voltage supplied via the divider R8, VR1, R7, which is variable between +1.75V and +3V and which, since the feedback around IC2 is halved due to the coupling on R5, results in the amplifier having an output swing ranging between +3.5V and +6V.

TR1 acts as a follower/current amplifier to ensure that the current sink at the MFC6040 control input has no effect on the output voltage of IC2.

Fig. 9.3 shows the recommended board layout of the output amplifiers.

If the output amplifiers are tested out before making the necessary pre-wired interconnections it is essential to insert a grounded jack plug into the control socket, or otherwise ground the input end of R5, in order to ensure the correct functioning of the circuit.

ENVELOPE COMPARISON

The rapidity with which the MFC6040 responds to changes in control voltage depends very largely on the value of C4 which has been chosen to present a time constant as close as possible to the fastest rate of attack/decay set by the envelope shaper. However it is prudent to compare the signal envelope at the output of the v.c.a. with the control envelope produced by the envelope shaper.

Fig. 9.4 gives a typical example of such a comparison. The slight rounding off at the corners of the signal envelope is due to the buffering action of C4

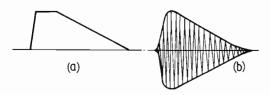


Fig. 9.4. (a) Control envelope—positive going (b) audio signal envelope with rounded edges

and is perfectly acceptable. If the rounding off is too pronounced there is a case for reducing the value of C4 to the next lowest preferred value but it is not recommended that the capacitor be removed entirely.

DIFFERENTIAL AMPLIFIER

In common with the voltage inverter appearing in Part 3 there is little which need be said concerning the Differential Amplifier which is of the simplest kind. Despite its simplicity however the Differential Amplifier can be made to perform many useful functions in the Synthesiser particularly in connection with the mixing of complex programming waveforms.

Fig. 9.5 gives the circuit diagram of the differential amplifier, while Fig. 9.6 shows the recommended board layout. The front panel component layout and wiring is shown in Fig. 9.7.

MODULE CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the module should generally follow the pattern already established in the series, that is, with the assembly and wiring of the components to the front panel before the panel itself is mounted to the circuit board support plate.

Wiring from the front panel components should be formed into two harnesses, one containing all leads to the output amplifiers passing out at the top of the front panel to the circuit board which is mounted in the position adjacent to the McMurdo plug. Leads to the differential amplifier should pass direct to the circuit board which is mounted in the lower postion adjacent to the front panel.

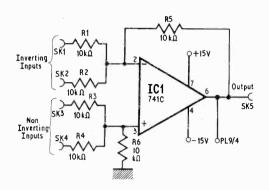
The board size for this latter circuit should not exceed 17 ways in depth otherwise there may be some difficulty in clearing the ganged pan-pots.

USING THE MODULE

As was explained last month the Voltage Controlled Amplifiers are principally intended for use with the Envelope Shaper in order that signals passing through them can be amplitude modulated in a variety of ways. However, only the left channel v.c.a. is permanently linked to the Envelope Shaper while the right channel control input is open circuit, that is, it requires a grounded jack plug inserted if control over signal amplitude is to be exercised.

With a jack plug in position the input level control may be operated in a similar fashion to a normal volume control, the characteristics of which were illustrated in graphical form in Part 7.

It is worth bearing in mind that the input level potentiometer is linear and thus the greatest degree of change in volume of the audio signal will occur within the last 30 degrees or so of rotation of the control. Alternatively, the control socket of the right channel may be linked by means of a patch-cord with the positive going envelope socket in order that both channels may be programmed by the envelope shaper. This latter procedure in no way compromises the audio signal and, in fact, with the pan-pots in the full left and right positions respectively the separation between channels is almost perfect.



+15V -15V (PL9/5) (PL9/7) 0V (PL9/6) PL9/4 SK5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 E Non-Inverting Input SK3/4 G I 003 Inverting SKI ICI R5 M 0 0 0 0 ô Q

Fig. 9.5. Differential Amplifier circuit

Fig. 9.6. Board layout for Differential Amplifier components

COMPONENTS . . .

DIFFERENTIAL AMPLIFIER

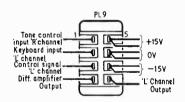
Resistors

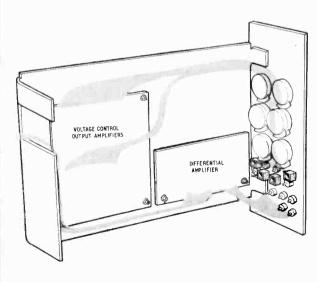
R1-R6 10k Ω (6 off)

Integrated Circuit

ICT 741C Sockets

SK1-SK5 2mm miniature sockets (5 off)





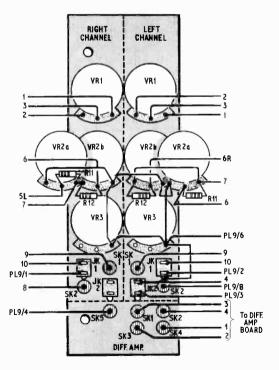


Fig. 9.7. Front panel wiring and inter-board connections. Note: Leads from VR3 as follows: wipers to SK2, unconnected tags to pin 8 on output amplifier board. Board positioning on the module is shown on the left with the McMurdo plug connections above

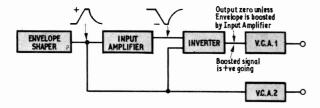


Fig. 9.8. Showing a method of obtaining a differential in envelope level

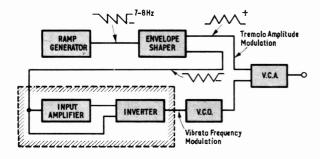


Fig. 9.9. Arrangement for combining tremolo and vibrato modulation

INPUT LEVEL

The total audio input signal level to the MFC6040 should not exceed 500mV and it is worthwhile ensuring that, if two signals are to be mixed in the v.c.a., each signal does not exceed 250mV peak. The penalty for neglecting this precaution lies in the possibility of damage to the device. The mean output level of the final stages will depend very much on the settings of the pan-pots. However, with 500mV input to the v.c.a. and with the pan-pots in midposition, the maximum output is unlikely to exceed 2.2V. Output level controls are provided so that the output may be tailored to suit a range of input levels required by external apparatus such as tape recorders, power amplifiers and so on.

When the Envelope Shaper is programming the amplitude of the audio signal it is normal to set the input level control to zero if the full 90dB range of the v.c.a. is to be used. An alternative method is to adjust the input level so that, with a zero level envelope, the signal is just audible. The provision of an envelope under these conditions will serve to emphasise parts of the continuing signal. This technique is useful when one channel is carrying a repetitive rhythm which is to be mixed with another signal derived from, say, the keyboard. In these circumstances it is sometimes possible for the rhythm to be swamped by the keyboard signal unless the former signal is boosted.

If it is required to provide a differential level of positive going envelope for the latter purpose a suitable method is illustrated in Fig. 9.8. Set the envelope shaper signal level to provide the lowest amplitude response required between the two channels. Route the positive-going envelope to an input amplifier set to unity gain and also to the inverter. The output of the input amplifier should similarly be routed to the inverter. Since the inputs to the inverter are now of equal level and opposite polarity, the net output will be zero. Advancing the

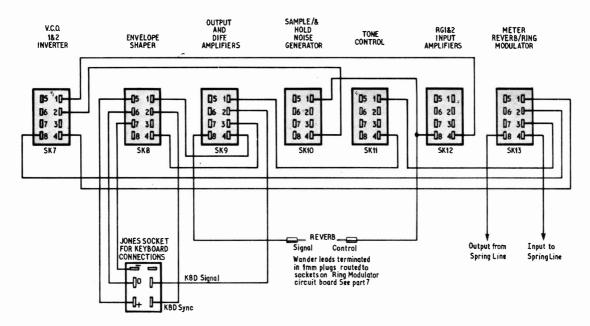


Fig. 9.10. Socket arrangement and wiring on connector mounting rails. Prewired interconnections are shown only

Table 1: Prewired Connections

| Terminal Number | SK7 V.C.O. 1 & 2 Inverter | SK8 Envelope Shaper | SK9 Output Amplifiers Diff. Amp. | SK10 Sample/ Hold Noise Gen. | SK11 Tone Control | SK12 Ramp Gens. 1 & 2 Input Amps. | SK13 Meter Reverb. Ring Mod. |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | Connect to | Connect to | Connect to | Connect to | Connect to | Connect to | Connect to |
| 1 | SK12 (4) | SK9 (4) | SK11 (4) | SK12 (8) | SK13 (3) | NC | SK7 (4) |
| 2 | SK10 (4) | Jones Skt. kbd. conn. sync. | Jones Skt. kbd. conn. signal | NC | NC | NC | SK7 (8) |
| 3 | NC | NC | SK8 (4) | NC | NC | NC | SK11 (1) |
| 4 | SK13 (1) | SK9 (3) | SK8 (1) | SK7 (2) | SK 9 (1) | SK7 (1) | Input to Spring Line |
| 5 | V+ | V+ | V+ | ٧+ | V+ | V+ | V+ |
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | V- | V | V- | V | V- | V- | V |
| 8 | SK13 (2) | NC | Wandering lead | NC | NC | SK10 (1) Wandering lead | Output from Spring Line |

gain control of the input amplifier will have the effect of providing a positive going envelope which may be adjusted to suit the requirements of the sofar unprogrammed output channel.

TREMOLO EFFECTS

An interesting experiment lies in the investigation of tremolo effects. Set a ramp generator to about 7-8Hz programming the envelope shaper direct. Adjust the attack and decay controls so that the resultant envelope is triangular in form and adjust the envelope level so that it provides peak modulation to a v.c.a. Couple a v.c.o. running at about 300Hz to the audio signal input of the same v.c.a. and adjust the input level control so that the sound does not die away completely at zero envelope level. The resultant pulsating sound is known as tremelo modulation.

The next stage is to take the negative going envelope and couple it to the same series of modules described in the previous example. The output of the inverter should be led to the v.c.o. providing the 300Hz signal. If the input level control to the v.c.a. is now turned to maximum and the input amplifier gain carefully increased the resultant sound is known as vibrato or, perhaps more suitably, frequency modulation. Variation of input amplifier gain, in conjunction with v.c.a. input level, can provide an interesting range of sounds in which tremelo and vibrato modulations are mixed. The schematic arrangement of modules for the above experiment is shown in Fig. 9.9.

Further interest may be provided by variation in the triggering rate of the envelope shaper and variation in the mark-space ratio of the envelope by careful adjustment of the ratio control.

PRE-WIRED INTERCONNECTIONS

This article concludes with some notes on interconnections which was outlined in Part 1. Permanently connected interwiring is advocated to reduce the problems associated with external patch cords which, besides being possible sources of humpick-up, can often render the front panel controls difficult to operate particularly if a complicated patch is in use.

Table 1 gives the scheme of interconnection, whilst Fig. 9.10 gives a wiring layout based on the original illustration shown in Part 2 of the series. The socket numbers shown correspond to the socket numbers on that illustration which is a view from behind, as it were, of the front panel also depicted in that issue. Those constructors who have changed the arrangement of modules from that shown in Part 2 should note that the wiring on the McMurdo sockets will have been re-routed accordingly and would, perhaps, be well advised to use the table of connections as a guide.

There are two minor changes in the interwiring differing from the block diagram depicted in Part 1. These are:

(a) V.c.o. I is no longer programmed direct from the envelope shaper since the range of sounds which could be produced was not considered wide enough to merit a permanent connection.

(b) The Envelope Shaper programming of reverberation depth has been replaced by R.G.2 to gain the benefit of the wholly opposite type of effect resulting from the use of negative-going programming signals. At the same time the R.G.2 connection to the envelope shaper has been replaced by a connection from the differential amplifier since it has been found, in practice, to be the more useful of the two.

Note: See Points Arising this month.

Next Month: Commencement of the Keyboard Unit. This is an independent instrument that can be used for live performance apart from the main Synthesiser.

WIND and RAIN EFFECTS By P. J. TYRRELL

This project describes the construction of a simple unit whose output when fed into an audio amplifier produces a sound resembling howling wind or falling rain. The circuit uses an operational amplifier in a dual-in-line package, which simplifies construction and aids stability in the high gain arrangement used. This also means that the circuit layout is less critical than if discrete components were used.

PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

The circuit consists basically of an active tuned filter fed from a white noise source. The sound of howling wind is produced by varying the resonant frequency of the filter. By removing one of the capacitors in the filter, the circuit behaves as a broad band amplifier, producing the sound of rain.

Fig. 1 shows the basic filter circuit used. The resonant frequency is determined by the values of C_1 , C_2 and R_1 , R_1 determining the gain of the system. Removing C_2 widens the bandwidth of the filter. In the final circuit this function is performed by placing a variable resistor in series with C_2 , permitting the rain to be gradually introduced.

INPUT A OUTPUT

Fig. 1. Basic filter circuit. C_1 and C_2 determine the resonant frequency and R_1 and R_2 determine the gain

FINAL CIRCUIT

The complete circuit of the unit is shown in Fig. 2. The white noise is generated in TR1 by giving it a reverse bias, then passed via R2 and C3 to the input of the filter. VR1 controls the resonant frequency of the filter, and is therefore, the wind control. VR2, in series with C2, is the rain control.

The output from the filter passes through R4 to VR3, the output level control and then to the output socket SK1 via C4. VR3 was wired as shown, not with the wiper connected to the output as it was envisaged that other equipment may be connected to the same input of the main amplifier.

The operational amplifier chosen for this circuit is the 741. It was chosen in preference to the 709 as the former requires no external frequency compensation and the greater bandwidth offered by the latter is not necessary in this application. The 741 will work satisfactorily from supply voltages of ± 4 to ± 15 volts, making it most suitable for operation from a pair of 9 volt batteries, as is done here. At this supply voltage the open loop voltage gain is over 90dB.

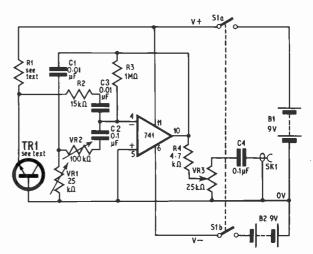


Fig. 2. Complete circuit diagram of the Wind and Rain Effects Unit

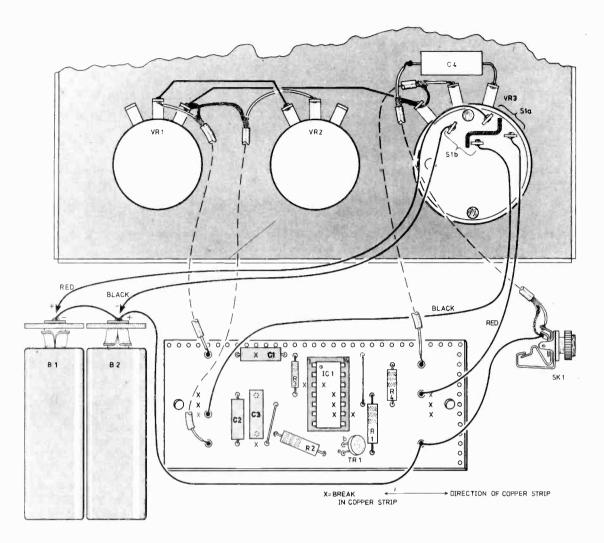


Fig. 3. Construction and interwiring details. All but battery leads should be screened leads

COMPONENTS . . .

Resistors

R1 100k Ω nominal (see text)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \textbf{R2} & \textbf{15k} \ \Omega \\ \textbf{R3} & \textbf{1M} \ \Omega \end{array}$

R4 4.7k Ω

All $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$ W $\pm 10\%$ carbon

Potentiometers

VR1 25k Ω linear VR2 100k Ω linear

VR3 25k Ω linear with double pole switch

Capacitors

C3 0·01μF C4 0·1μF

C1 0·01μF C2 0·1μF

All 160V polyester or polycarbonate

Semiconductors

TR1 Any npn transistor (see text)

IC1 SN72741 or equivalent

Miscellaneous

Aluminium box $5\frac{1}{4}$ in x 4in x $1\frac{1}{2}$ in B1, B2 9V PP3 batteries (2 off)

SK1 3.5mm jack socket

Veroboard 0-1in matrix, 31 holes x 13 strips

Veropins (6 off)

Knobs, nuts, bolts, screened wire, aluminium for battery holder

CONSTRUCTION

The circuit was constructed on a piece of 0·1 inch matrix Veroboard, using a socket for the 741.

Start by cutting the Veroboard to size (31 holes long by 13 strips wide). Next cut the copper strips according to Fig. 3, and then fix the Veropins for attachment of flying leads. All the components except TR1 and R1 should then be soldered in. The integrated circuit socket should be soldered before inserting the i.c. C4 is mounted directly onto VR3 to simplify wiring.

SELECTING TRI AND RI

In order to select suitable components for TR1 and R1, flying leads should be temporarily connected to V+, 0V and R2. The 9 volt batteries should be connected up and the output from R4 fed into an audio amplifier. VR2 can be left out of circuit, but VR1 should be temporarily wired in. It facilitates the selection process if a number of leads with insulated crocodile clips on both ends are available.

It is best to have a number of transistors at hand and select a suitably noisy specimen for TR1. Varying R1 alters the noise output from the transistor, but it should not be reduced below about two kilohms. In the prototype R1 was 100k\Omega and TR1 was a silicon npn device obtained from a computer board.

A pnp transistor can be used instead, by reversing the base and emitter connections. Alternatively, a noisy Zener diode, reverse biased, may be used. A number of advertisers in this magazine offer untested transistors for sale, cheaply in bulk, and it is worth investing in some of these.

Having chosen R1 and TR1, these should be soldered in place on the Veroboard.

CASE CONSTRUCTION

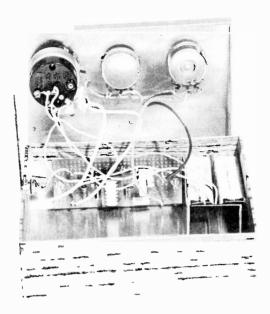
The prototype was constructed in a ready-made aluminium box. Construction and interwiring details for the box and its lid are shown in Fig. 3. A battery retaining clip can be made from a piece of aluminium. The end of this should be wrapped with insulating tape to prevent the battery clips from shorting out.

If it is thought that the batteries may be inadvertently inserted the wrong way round then the inside of the box, next to the Veroboard, can be insulated as well. The Veroboard is mounted with two 6BA bolts and fin spacers. One of the bolts serves to hold the battery retaining clip in position as well.

The prototype box was covered with woodgrain pattern, plastic self-adhesive, and the lid brushed with steel wool. A piece of foam plastic was glued to the inside of the lid, to prevent the batteries from rattling, and Leiraset legends applied above the three controls. The front panel was then given a coat of polyurethane varnish, to protect the surface and the lettering. Cellulose varnish should not be used as this dissolves Letraset.

FINAL WIRING UP

The circuit should be wired up using screened wire, apart from the battery leads, due to the possibility of instability in the high gain arrangement. Do not forget to connect C4, which is mounted on VR3.

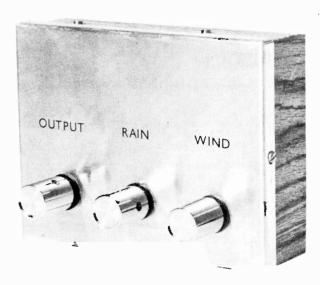


Photograph of the internal layout

TESTING AND OPERATION

With the circuit fully assembled, the current drawn from each battery should be about 1.6mA. With the unit connected to an audio amplifier, VR3 fully clockwise, VR2 and VR1 fully anticlockwise, a low moan should be audible. By advancing VR1 the frequency of the wind should rise up to a scream. With VR1 again fully anticlockwise, as VR2 is advanced, the sound of falling rain is heard, increasing in intensity with rotation of VR1 and VR2.

No detailed description of application is included here, as this is best left to the constructor's imagination.

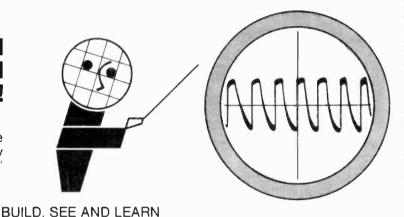


Photograph of the completed Wind and Rain Effects unit

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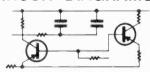


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| ZTX109 | Hp | ZTX382 | 13p | * DIOE |)E2 . | Z5272 | 18p | |
| ZTX212 | 14p | ZTX383 | 15p | ZS120 | 8р | ZS274 | 19p | |
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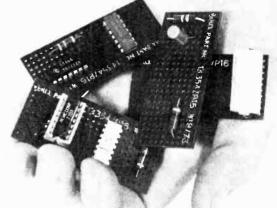
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NOVEMBER ISSUE ON SALE OCTOBER 12, 1973

PATENTS REVIEW...

FOUR CHANNEL VOLUME AND BALANCING CONTROL

In BP1 317 530 Motorola Inc. of Illinois, USA, describe a simple but useful system for balancing 4-channel sound. The patent is concerned mostly with cartridge players for cars.

The basic system diagram is shown in Fig. 1. Four channels drive four speakers i.e., left rear, left front, right rear, right front.

Each of the four speaker driver amplifiers uses a transistor to act as a variable impedance device to control the gain of the audio signal, see Fig. 1. Usually the transistors used are of the *npn* type with the collector connected to the drive for the speakers and the emitter connected to earth. For *pnp* types the emitter and collector connections are reversed.

Potentiometer VR2 acts as a side balance (left to right) control and has one end connected to the left channels and the other end connected to the right channels. As VR2 slider is moved it thus provides a variable voltage divider network between the respective

pairs of channels.

Adjustment of VR2 varies the amount of d.c. voltage delivered to the respective pairs of channels at the bases of their associated transistors. But the total sum of the d.c. applied remains the same; so it follows that although the respective pairs of channels are balanced, a constant volume is maintained with respect to the total output of the pairs of channels. This is because there is no

shunting or limiting effect.
Potentiometer VR3 acts as a control for balancing the front and rear sets of speakers. One end is connected to the rear channels and the other to the front channels. VR3 functions in exactly the same manner as VR2 dividing a fixed amount of d.c. voltage between the front and rear channel pairs.

In the circuit shown fixed value resistors are connected in series with the base of each transistor to serve as a bias current limiting device.

The overall gain or volume of the system is controlled by VR1, the slider being connected directly to the sliders of VR2 and VR3 respectively. Once control VR1 has been set to achieve the required overall volume level, this will be maintained whatever balancing

BP1 317 530

CHANNEL A-IN

VR1

BALANCE VR2

CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL CHANNEL TR2

TR2

TR2

TR4

Fig. 1

Its emitter is connected through

VR2 to a pair of voltage dividers and transistors TR3 and TR4.

positions are set on the other controls. Also, the set balance will remain the same as the overall voiume level is raised or lowered.

STEREO AMPLIFIER AVC

Blaupunkt-Werke of Germany in BP 1 307 074 describe an automatic volume control for a stereo amplifier. The idea is to provide a.v.c. with no cross-talk between channels, but without buffer amplifiers

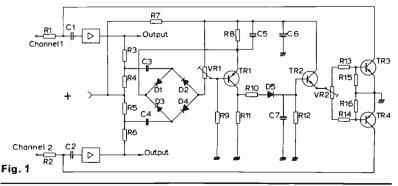
The output of the first channel amplifier is fed to one end of a potential divider network, the other end of the divider is connected to the positive line. Capacitor C3 connects the junction of resistors R3, R4 to one side of a bridge. The anodes of D2 and D4 connect via VR1 to the base of amplifier transistor TR1 and the cathodes of D3 and D4 are connected to the emitter of TR1. The second channel is connected in exact mirror fashion.

The collector of TR1 is connected through D5 and filter network C7, R12 to the base of TR2.

When one of the two channels produces a signal which is too large, the negative going half wave passes through the respective capacitors C3, C4, charged by the positive half wave and action of diodes D1, D3, via either D2 or D4 and VR1 to the base of TR1. The resultant control signal from the collector of TR1 is fed to the base of TR2 and is applied to the variable control VR2 which allows compensation for tolerances of TR3 and TR4.

With correct adjustment of VR2, the voltages on the bases of both TR3 and TR4 will be altered by equal amounts so that the collector/emitter junctions of the transistors are more or less conductive. This will achieve ganged automatic volume control because there will be an alteration in the ratio of the potentiometer in each channel formed by the input resistors R1, R2 and its respective transistors TR3 and TR4, with a resultant change in the fraction of the signal applied to the channel amplifiers.

BP1 307 074



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| | 12p | AF127 | 20p | BFI15 | 25p | OC42 | 12p | 2N3704 13p | | | | |
| | 12p | AFI39 | 32p | BFI73 | 20p | OC44 | 120 | 2N3705 12p | | | | |
| | 12p | AFI78 | 32p | BFI77 | 28p | OC45 | 120 | 2N3706 IIp | | | | |
| | 120 | AF180 | 40p | BFI78 | 32p | 0070 | 12p | 2N3707 12p | | | | |
| | i2p | AFI8I | 40p | BF179 | 32p | OC71 | 12p | 2N3708 10p | | | | |
| | | BC107 | | BFI80 | 32p | OC72 | 12p | 2N3709 IIp | | | | |
| | 22p | | 9p | BFIBI | 32p | OCBI | 12p | 2N3710 11p | | | | |
| | 22p | BC108 | 9p | | | | | | | | | |
| | 50p | BC109 | 9p | BFI94 | 15p | OC82D | 12p | 2N3711 11p | | | | |
| | 45p | BC 147 | 13p | BF195 | 15p | 2N2904 | 20p | 2N4062 12p | | | | |
| | 33p | BC148 | 13p | BF197 | 15p | 2N2926F | 3 9n | 40360 35p | | | | |
| | 36p | BC149 | 13p | BF200 | 32p | 2N29260 | | 40361 35p | | | | |
| AFII4 2 | 20p | BC157 | 14 _D | BFY50 | 20p | | | 40362 40p | | | | |
| AFI15 | 20p | BC158 | 14p | BFY51 | 20p | 2N2926 | | 40408 40p | | | | |
| AFII6 2 | 20p | | | | | 2N29260 | | | | | | |
| | 20p | BC159 | 14p | BFY52 | 20p | | 10p | ZTX302 15p | | | | |
| | 38p | BC187 | 22p | BU-105 | 225p | 2N3054 | 58p | ZTX500 15p | | | | |
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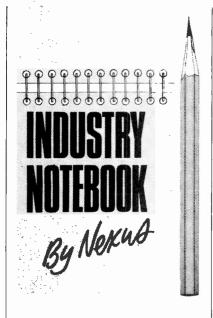
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| 2N706 | 0-10 | BC113 | 0.16 | DD008 | 0.38 | OC26 | 0.85 | 7404 7405 | 0-20 0-20 |
| 2N706A 2N708 | 0.12 | BC115 BC116 | 0·20 0·20 | G D3 G D4 | 0.33 0.10 | OC28 OC29 | 0-65 0-65 | 7406 | 0-40 0-40 |
| 2N709 | 0·40 0·55 | BC116 BC116A BC118 | 0·23 0·15 | GD5 GD8 | 0-33 0-25 | OC35 | 0.40 | 7407 7408 | 0.25 |
| $2N1091 \\ 2N1131$ | 0.25 | BC121 BC122 | 0.20 | GD12 | 0.10 | OC36 | 0-65 | 7409 7410 | 0-33 0-20 |
| $\frac{2\mathrm{N}1132}{2\mathrm{N}1302}$ | 0·25 0·18 | BC125 | 0.20 | GET102 GET103 | 0-50 | 0C41 0C42 | 0·35 0·40 | 7411 | 0.28 |
| 2N1303 | 0·18 0·22 | BC126 | 0.65 0.55 | GET113 GET114 | 0·35 0·30 | OC44 | 0.70 0.18 | 7412 7413 | 0-28 0-30 |
| 2N 1304 2N 1305 | 0.22 | BC140 BC147 | 0.12 | GETIIo | 0-75 | OC44M | 0.17 | 7416 7417 | 0-30 0-30 |
| 2N1306 2N1307 | 0-28 0-28 | BC148 BC149 | 0·10 0·12 | GETII6 GETI20 | 0-85 0-50 | OC45M | 0·18 0·18 | 7420 7422 | 0.20 |
| 2N1308 2N2147 | 0·28 0·75 | BC149 BC157 BC158 | 0·14 0·12 | GET872 | 0.30 | 00'46 | 0.27 0.60 | 7423 | 0.40 |
| 2N148 | 0-60 | BC160 | 0.63 | GET380 | 0.55 | 0057 0058 0059 | 0-60 0-60 | 7425 7427 | 0-87 0-87 |
| 2N2160 2N2218 | 0.61 0.23 | BC160 BC169 BCY31 | 0·14 0·45 | GET881 GET882 | 0.25 0.35 | OC66 | 0.50 | 7428 7430 | 0-48 |
| 2N2219 2N2369A | 0.25 | BCY32 BCY33 BCY34 | 0-85 0-38 | GET885 GEX44 | 0·35 0·08 | 0070 0071 | 0·18 0·15 | 7432 | 0.87 |
| 2N2444 | 1.99 | BCY34 | 0-45 0-55 | GEX 44 GEX 45/1 | 0·45 0·30 | 0072 0073 | 0·25 0·50 | 7433 7437 | 0·48 0·48 |
| 2N2613 2N2646 | 0.28 0.50 | BCY35 BCY39 BCY40 | 1.00 | GEX941 GJ3M | 0.50 | OC74 | 0.30 | 7438 7440 | 0-48 0-20 |
| 2N2904 2N2904A | 0.20 | BCY40 BCY42 | 0.80 | GJ4M GJ5M | 0.38 0.25 | 0075 0076 0077 | 0-30 0-30 | 7441AN 7442 | 0-85 0-85 |
| 2N2906 2N2907 | 0-20 0-23 | BCY42 BCY70 BCY71 | 0.15 | GJ7M HG1005 | 0.50 0.50 | 0077 0078 | 0.55 0.25 | 7450 | 0.20 |
| 2N2924 | 0-23 | BCZ10 | 0-60 | HS100A | 0.20 | OC79 | 0-30 0-28 | 7451 7453 | 0-20 0-20 |
| 2N2925 2N2926 | 0·15 0·10 | BD121 | 0.65 1.00 | | 0·20 0·25 | 0C81D | 0.28 | 7454 7460 | 0-20 0-20 |
| 2N3054 2N3055 | 0-45 | BD123 BD124 | 1.00 0.80 | MAT120 MAT121 | 0-20 0-25 | OC81M OC81DM | 0-20 0-18 | 7470 | 0.88 |
| 2N3702 | 0.10 | BDY11 BF115 | 1.45 0.22 | MJE520 MJE2955 | 0.65 | OC81Z OC82 | 0·45 0·28 | 7472 7473 | 0.88 0.44 |
| 2N 3705 2N 3706 | 0·12 0·11 | BF117 | 0.50 | MJ E3055 | 0-75 | OC85D | 0.25 | 7474 7475 | 0·48 0·59 |
| 2N3707 2N3709 | 0·13 0·10 | BF167 BF173 | 0-23 0-25 | NKT128 NKT129 | 0·45 0·30 | OC83 OC84 | 0·25 0·25 | 7476 | 0-45 0-80 |
| 2N3710 | 0.11 0.11 | BF181 | 0-38 0-22 | NKT211 | 0.25 0.25 | 0C114 0C122 | 0·38 1·00 | 7480 7482 | 0.87 |
| 2N3711 2N3819 | ∩-35 | BF185 | 0.22 | NKT213 NKT214 | 0.24 | OC123 | 1·10 0·40 | 7483 7484 | 1.20 |
| 2N5027 2N5088 | 0.58 0.88 | BF194 BF195 | 0·13 0·13 | NKT216 NKT217 | 0-40 0-45 | OC139 OC140 OC141 | 0.65 | 7486 7490 | 0-50 0-75 |
| 28301 28304 | 0.59 1.15 | BF196 BF197 | 0·15 0·15 | NKT217 NKT218 NKT219 | 1·13 0·33 | OC141 OC169 | 0-80 0-20 | 741AN | 1.10 |
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| AC107 AC126 | 0.35 0.25 | BFX30 | 0.28 0.98 | NKT272 NKT273 NKT274 | 0·20 0·20 | OC203 OC204 | 0.55 0.65 | 74100 | 2-16 |
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| 11,158 | 0.20 | BFX86 BFX87 | 0·25 0·25 | NKT301 NKT304 | 0·85 0·75 | OC460 OC470 | 0.20 0.30 | 74119 | 1.92 |
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| ACV20 | 0.27 0.22 | BFY10 BFY11 | 1.25 | NKT404 NKT678 NKT713 | 0.80 | ORP60 | 0.45 | 74123 74141 | 1·44 1·00 |
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| AF106 AF114 | 0-80 0-25 | BSX60 BSX76 | 0-93 0-18 | OA85 OA86 | 0-15 0-15 | 8X644 8X645 | 0-85 0-85 | 74190 | 2.30 |
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| AF118 AF119 | 0-50 0-20 | BSY95 | 0-12 0-12 | OA200 OA202 | 0.08 0.10 | V60/2011 XA101 | 0.10 | 74194 | 1.72 |
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| AF125 AF126 | 0.30 0.30 | BTY42 | 0.92 | OAZ200 | 0.50 | XA152 | 0.15 | 74197 | 1.58 |
| AF127 AF139 | 0-80 0-88 | ********* | 0.75 | OAZ201 OAZ202 | 0-45 0-45 | XA161 XA162 | 0-25 0-25 | 74198 74199 | 3·16 2·88 |
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CMOS CATCHES ON

Last year European manufacturers bought £1 million worth of CMOS devices. This year the figure will be £3 million and 1974 will see European sales topping £7 million. If these figures are correct, and top Motorola marketing men be ever they are, then the faith of the pioneers led by RCA will be fully justified.

Watch out for Motorola grabbing a big share of the CMOS market. Their UK marketing manager is talking of "dedication" to the technique and is backing his words with a costly promotional campaign centred on a big applications semil. to be staged in London in early October. The seminar will also be going on tour to other Furopean capitals.

Motorola latched on to the CMOS bandwagon by second-sourcing established RCA devices. But the pattern is now changing. Of 48 device types brought to the market last year by Motorola, 23 types were second-sourced RCA but 25 were Motorola originals. This year's developments bring the score up to 30 types second-sourcing RCA plus 50 Motorola

While Motorola's newest European plant was in construction at East Kilbride there was indecision on its final function. But now the CMOS market is firming up I can reveal that East Kilbride is to be the major European centre for CMOS production.

originals.

At present, wafer diffusion is based on Phoenix, Arizona, assembly and packaging in plants in Mexico, Korea and Malaysia and with European testing in Scotland.

But East Kilbride is scheduled to start diffusion of 3-inch wafers in October and will thus have complete capability to serve Europe and will be totally committed to this task.

Manufacturers of CMOS see a world market worth more than £80 million annually in two years time. CMOS, they say, will bite savagely into the present TTL and DTL dominated markets at frequencies up to 25MHz. But more important is the opening up of completely new markets for which other forms of logic are not suitable. Cited are watches and clocks, car electronics, domestic appliances, and even toys.

DRIVE-IN

The car market is not only opening up for electronic component manufacturers. The automatic test equipment (ATE) brigade are also moving in.

Historically, ATE found its feet in testing complex avionic systems and has slowly found its way down to more mundane tasks such as checking out PCB boards and other assemblies in manufacturing plants where it is used to speed up production and cut costs because automatic diagnosis of faults dispenses with skilled labour.

Car manufacturers are being invited to attend Automatic Testing 73 Exhibition and Conference in Brighton in November where the programme includes papers on automated engine test beds. More than 30 ATE equipment manufacturers will be showing their skills in hardware and novel applications in the exhibition halls. But potential users of ATE still need a lot of education on the subject. I note from the provisional list of papers to be presented that D. B. Gem-mell of Membrain I.td. has submitted one with the intriquina title 'Some Fancies and Fantasies in ATE Architecture" that could be amusing as well as instructional.

TECHNICIAN TRAINING

A discussion document on technician training has been produced by a working party of the Institution of Electrical and Electronics Technician Engineers under the chairmanship of Robert Winton of Mullard Ltd. Entitled "The Future Development of Further Education Courses for Technician Engineers and Technicians" it proposes a modular course structure which will bring students forward to the educational standards stipulated by the Engineers' Registration Board.

An "open house" meeting will take place at 2.30 p.m., October 16. at the IEE H.Q., Savoy Place, for those interested in discussing the document with the working party. The document can be obtained free on request from the IEETE, 2 Savoy Hill, London, WC2R OBS.

CUT-PRICE COMPUTERS

While world meat prices soar, the cost of computing comes tumbling down. Computer Automation is now offering the latest Naked Mini/LSI for less than £500 in quantities of 200 or more. This is a computer-on-a-card, a single PCB of $15 \times 17 \times 1$ in dimensions weighing only 4lbs and designed for OEM use.

If you want the same thing boxed as a stand-alone unit with control console, data input key-board and power supply the cost is £995 for one-off but still, say Computer Automation, less than half the listed price of the PDP-11-05 or Nova 1210 of comparable specification. Secret of the new low price is a central processor that uses only seven MOS LSI chips custom-built for the company.

AUTUMN BOOM

After the August holiday season expect plenty of product and business announcements in September. Electronics is concluding marketing deals with more overseas companies. Dymar Electronics will be launching a complete new range of land mobile communications equipment in London on September 12 which could well be countered by a surprise an-nouncement from market leader Pye. But Dymar, one of the liveliest companies in mobile radio. has a fine reputation and should continue to prosper in this highly competitive but fast-expanding field

Expect, too, some new products from Racal Group whose 5th biennial Racalex exhibition and conference opens on September 25

RAIDING PARTY

While British TV manufacturers are worried about the invasion of Japanese sets in the UK market, a group of British components and equipment manufacturers will be probing the Japanese market at the great Japan Electronics Show in Osaka in October.

Fifteen companies are taking the long trip East with the backing of the Department of Trade and Industry and the Electronic Engineering Association. Trade prospects in Japan, say the DTI, are good for companies that have the right products.

TION FROM OUR POSTBAG

Correspondents wishing to have a reply must enclose a stamped addressed envelope. We regret we are unable to guarantee a reply on matters not relating to articles published in the magazine. Technical queries cannot be dealt with on the telephone.

PLUGGING THE LEAK

Sir-With regard to your present series of articles "P.E. Sound Synthesiser". First, may I point out, that my comments are in no way intended to "have a go" at Mr Shaw's circuits, which show considerable technical ability and have no doubt required considerable effort on his behalf.

I have found, however, during evaluation of the Ramp Generator circuit a possible snag and there-fore supply my findings as other readers may find my conclusions

useful.

In Mr Shaw's circuit, an OC140 transistor is employed to switch the direction of integration. It would appear that the two main factors governing the choice of transistor type are; low leakage—since the transistor is in a high current amplifying loop—and high base/emitter reverse bias capability—since the emitter is fixed at -3.5V during main ramp, with the base held at approximately -14V by the comparator output.

On testing my constructed generator, it was found that upon switching on the integrator output ramped positive to its positive saturation level, although zero volts was applied to the input and the 10 megohm shunt in circuit. Adjustment of the offset null pot proved useless.

The problem, it was found, was due to leakage in TR1, being sufficient to drive the integrator, which once started, naturally continued to ramp until hitting the rail; the leakage being too large to be offset by the null control.

I believe Mr Shaw's choice of transistor was due to the OC140's base/emitter reverse bias capability. which is in the order of 20V; however, the leakage current of the device, being of germanium junction construction, can be as high as 3 microamps, more than adequate to cause ICI to integrate. Further, since the direction of integration produced is positive, the comparator cannot switch and a steady state is produced with IC1 output "stuck" at the positive rail.

My suggested solution to the problem, should it arise, is as follows:

The OC140 may be replaced by a silicon transistor such as a BC109; this will reduce the maximum possible leakage current to nA. However, since the BC109 cannot withstand the high reverse bias, the base/emitter junction will Zener. This will not affect the circuit operation, but if it is considered "not nice" to Zener the junction, a small signal diode—such as an IN914—can be inserted in series with the base to protect the transistor.

Finally, since a silicon transistor has a higher "on" resistance than a germanium device the 82 ohm resistor should be reduced in value until the ramp starts at zero volts. Without modification of this value the ramp will be approximately 200mV negative of earth.

Alan A. Thomas, Engineering Dept., Dolby Laboratories Inc.

I am indebted to Mr Thomas who, with his lucid explanation of an apparent fault in the Ramp Generator, has highlighted an omission in the settingup procedure for which I humbly apologise.

In order to avoid the problems associated with current leakage through TRI it is necessary to temporarily disconnect R6 from the summing junction of ICI during the balancing of the offset. With the setting-up procedure as outlined in the original text ICI can be prevented from going into positive saturation by adjustment of VRI to counteract the leakage through TRI but this is a rather unsatisfactory method since it is not possible to be absolutely sure of the input conditions at ICI and thus there is little point in nulling the offset.

Mr Thomas's suggestion of replacing the OC140 with a diode protected BC109 is particularly valid since it has been learned that, although the OC140 is still available from a number of sources, it is now considered to be an obsolete device.

BACK NUMBERS WANTED

Anyone who can supply the undermentioned are asked to communicate directly with the reader.

November 1972 Mr. J. M. Cathrine, 53 Boosbeck Road, Skelton-in-Cleveland, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Yorkshire, TS12

May 1971 Mr. D. J. Broad, 34 Rowan Crescent, Dartford, Kent, DAI 2QX.

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Mr. S. A. Hook, 21 Peak Veiw Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 4NW.

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April 1973 Mr. D. Weightman, 21 Glenroy Street, Roath, Cardiff.

July 1972 to March 1973 Mr D. Couser, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. March 1973 Mr H. Brede, 24 Branet Road, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

We regret that back numbers of Practical Electronics can no longer be supplied. We will try to publish announcements of readers' requirements (without a guaranteed date) free of charge.

> August 1972 and February 1973 Mr. Hans. Gram, Civilingenior Tarphagevej 253-6800 Varde, Scandinavia. October 1972 Mr G. Hibbert, 12 Moray Street, Richmond, NSW, Australia.

October and November 1972 Mr. R. Thomas, 8440 18th Ave. S.W. Seattle, Washington, 98106, USA.

November and December 1968 Mr P. Ghose, Wireless inspector, 310-8, Hill Colony. P.O.—Bihar. India.

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| Ref. | Amps. | · v | Veig | ht | Size cm. | Secon | dary Tabs | ρ. | & P |
| No. | | 160 | oz - | | | 500011 | 30.) 1003 | | ~ ' |
| 124 | 0.5 | 2 | 4 | 7.0 | 6.7 > 6.1 | 0-24-30-40 | 1-48-60V | 1.62 | 36 |
| 126 | 1.0 | 3 | 4 | 8.9 | 7.7 × 7.7 | | | 2.26 | 36 |
| 127 | 2.0 | 6 | 4 | 9.9 × | 96 86 | | 11 | 3.55 | 42 |
| 125 | 3.0 | | 12 | 12·1 × | | 11 | | 5.41 | 52 |
| 123 | 4.0 | 13 | 12 | | 11.8 \ 10.2 | -11 | | 6.98 | 67 |
| 120 | 6.0 | 15 | 8 | 14·0 × | 12 1 × 11-8 | | | 10.12 | 82 |
| 122 | 10.0 | 25 | 0 | 17·2 × | 12.7×14.0 | 1. | | 16.75 | |

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| T-0 × | 20, 11 | CIR | 111 2 | Q2, E1' | 0. F. or | P. I | Up. | | | |
|-------|---------|-------|-------|---------|----------|-------|--------------|---------|---------|-----|
| | LE | AD | A | CID B | ATTE | RY (| CHARGER | TYPE | | |
| Ref. | Amps. | | Veig | ht | Size c | m. | | | | & P |
| No. | | 16 | οz | | | | | | £ | , b |
| 45 | 1.5 | - 1 | 8 | 7·0 × | 6-1 × | 6-1 | 1 | | 1.61 | 30 |
| 5 | 4.0 | 3 | 4 | 89× | 7·7 × | 7.7 | Please note | , these | 2.45 | 42 |
| 86 | 6.0 | 6 | 4 | 9·9× | 9.6 × | 8.6 | units do no | tin- | 3.70 | 52 |
| 146 | 6.0 | | 12 | 9.9 × | 10·2 × | 8.6 | clude rectif | iers | 4.22 | 52 |
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| Q1 | | 3 | API17 type transistors | 0.55 |
| Q1 | | 3 | OC171 H.F. type transistors | 0.55 |
| 1 Q I | 5 | 7 | 2N2926 Sil. Epoxy transistors | |
| | | | mixed colours | 0.55 |
| Q1 | 6 | 2 | GET880 low noise Germanium | |
| | | | transistors | 0.55 |
| QI | 7 | 5 | npn 2 × ST.141 & 3 × ST.140 | 0.55 |
| Q1 | 8 | 4 | MADT'82 × MAT 100 & 2 × MAT | |
| - | | | 120 | 0.55 |
| Q1 | 9 | 3 | MADT'S 2 × MAT 101 & 1 × MAT | |
| ~ - | - | - | 121 | 0.55 |
| 02 | n | 4 | OC44 Germanium transistors A.F. | 0.55 |
| 00 | | | ACIAN COMMENTANT CHANGISTON ATT. | 0 50 |

| | M | | 121 | 0.00 |
|---|-----|-----|------------------------------------|------|
| į | Q20 | 4 | OC44 Germanium transistors A.F. | 0.55 |
| į | Q21 | - 4 | AC127 npn Germanium transistors | 0.55 |
| | Q22 | 20 | NKT transistors A.F. R.F. coded | 0.55 |
| | Q23 | 10 | OA202 Silicon diodes sub-min. | 0.55 |
| | Q24 | 8 | OA81 diodes. | 0.55 |
| | Q25 | 15 | IN914 Silicon diodes 75PIV 75mA | 0.55 |
| | Q26 | 8 | OA95 Germanium diodes sub-min | |
| | | | IN 69 | 0.55 |
| | Q27 | 2 | 10A 600 PIV Silicon rectifiers | |
| | | | I8425R | 0.55 |
| | Q28 | 2 | Silicon power rectifiers BYZ13 | 0.55 |
| | Q29 | 4 | Silicon transistors 2 x 2N696, 1 x | |
| | | | 2N697, 1 × 2N698 | 0.55 |
| | Q30 | 7 | Silicon switch transistors 2N706 | |
| | | | | |

Q31 6 Silicon switch transistors 2N708, 0.55 npn
3 pnp Silicon transistors 2 × 2N1131,
1 × 2N1132
3 Silicon npn transistors 2N1711 0.55 0.55 0.55

Q33 Q34 3 Silicon npn transistors 2N1711
7 Silicon npn transistors 2N2369,
500MHz (code P397)
3 Silicon pnp T0-5 2 × 2N2904 &
1 × 2N2905
7 2N3941 T0-18 plastic 300MHz npn
3 2N3063 npn Silicon transistors
7 pnp transistors 4 × 2N3703,
3 × 2N3702 0.55 Q35

0.55 0.55 0.55 Q36 Q37 Q38

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| U 9 | 20 | Mixed Voltages, 1 Watt Zener Diodes | | 0.1 |
| U10 | 20 | BAY50 charge storage Diodes DO-7 Glass | | 0. |
| U11 | 25 | PNP Sil. Planar Trans. TO-5 like 2N1132, 2N2904 | | 0-1 |
| U12 | | Silicon Rectifiers Epoxy 500mA up to 800 PIV | | 0- |
| U13 | | PNP-NPN Sil. Transistors OC200 & 28 104 | | 0- |
| U14 | | Mixed Silicon and Germanium Diodes | | 0. |
| U15 | | NPN Sil. Planar Trans. TO-5 like BFY51, 2N697 | | 0. |
| U16 | | 3 Amp Silicon Rectifiers Stud Type up to 1000PIV | | 0.1 |
| U17 | 30 | Germanium PNP AF Transistors TO-5 like ACY 17-22 | | 0. |
| U18 | | 6 Amp Silicon Rectifiers BYZ13 Type up to 600 PIV | | 0- |
| U19 | 25 | Silicon NPN Transistors like BC108 | | 0. |
| U20 | | 1.5 Amp Silicon Rectifiers Top Hat up to 1000 PIV | | 0. |
| U21 | | AF. Germanium Alloy Transistors 2G300 Series & OC7 | | 0. |
| U23 | 30 | MADT's like MHz Series PNP Transistors | | 0.1 |
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| U32 | 25 | Zener Diodes 400mW DO-7 case 3-18 volts mixed | | 0.5 |
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| U44 | | Sil. Trans. Plastic TO-5 BC115/NPN | | |
| U45 | | 3A SCR. TO66 up to 600PIV | | 1.1 |

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1200

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| | | | | | 0.5 |
| | | | | | 0.5 |
| 0.55 | UIC74=8×7474 | 0.55 | | | 0.5 |
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| 0.55 | UIC80 = 5 × 7480 | 0.55 | | | |
| | IIIC81-5 × 7481 | | UIC199= | $= 5 \times 74199$ | 0-5 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | UICXI= | | |
| 0.55 | $0.1C83 = 5 \times 7.83$ | 0.55 | | 74'8 | T-01 |
| | 0·55 0·55 0·55 0·55 0·55 0·55 0·55 0·55 | 0.55 UIC48=5×7446 0.55 UIC48=5×7448 0.55 UIC59=12×7450 0.55 UIC51=12×7451 0.55 UIC51=12×7451 0.55 UIC63=12×7453 0.56 UIC64=12×7460 0.55 UIC79=8×7470 0.55 UIC79=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC78=8×7473 0.55 UIC80=5×7480 0.55 UIC80=5×7480 | $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | $\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ |

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| 220µF | 7 p | 16 VC | LT | 33μF | |
| 330µF | 7 p | lõμF | 7p | $47\mu F$ | |
| 1.000µF | 13p | 33µF | 7p | 100μ F | |
| $4.700 \mu F$ | 29p | 68µF | 7p | 150µF | 1 |
| 6.8 VOLT | • | 150µF | 8p | 200µF | 1 |
| $33\mu F$ | 70 | 220aF | 9ր | 470µF | 1 |
| 68µF | 7p | 680µF | 17p | 680µF | 2 |
| 150µF | 7 p | 1,000µF | 19p | $1,000 \mu F$ | 2 |
| 470µF | 11p | 1,500µF | 28p | $2.200 \mu F$ | 4 |
| 68011F | 14p | $2.200 \mu F$ | 36p | $3.300 \mu F$ | в |
| 1.000411 | 18p | $3,300 \mu F$ | 38p | 63 VOI | T |
| 1.500µF | 20p | 6,800µF | 63p | lμF | |
| $^2,220 \mu F$ | 22p | 25 V C | LT | $2\cdot 2\mu \mathbf{F}$ | |
| 3,300µF | 27p | 10µF | 7p | 4·7μF | |
| 6,800µF | 39p | 22µF | 7p | 6.8µF | |
| 15,000µF | 63 p | 47µF | 7p | 10µ F | |
| $10,000 \mu F$ | 49p | 100µF | 8p | $22\mu F$ | |
| 10 VOLT | | 150µF | 8p | $68 \mu \Gamma$ | 1 |
| $22\mu F$ | 7p | 220µF | 10p | $100 \mu F$ | 1 |
| $47\mu F$ | 7p | 470µF | 14p | 150µF | 1 |
| 100µF | 7 p | 680µF | 20p | 200μ F | 1 |
| 220µF | 8p | 1.000µF | 22p | $330 \mu F$ | - 8 |
| 330µF | 10p | $2.200 \mu F$ | 40p | 470µF | 2 |
| $470\mu F$ | 10p | 3,300µF | 48p | $1.000 \mu F$ | 4 |
| | | | | 1 " OO . T | |

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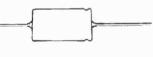
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| 301 | TO99 | |
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MP8113

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Small high quality type (linear only).

All valves 100-5 meg ohms.

0:1 watt 5\frac{1}{2}p each

2:5 watt 6\frac{1}{3}p each

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|-----|---|---------------|-------------|
| | 24in × 3fin | 19p | 26p |
| | 2lin × 5in | 28p | 28 p |
| | 3fin × 3fin | 28p | 28p |
| nn. | 3∮in × 5in | 33p | 32p |
| | 5in × 17in (plain) | 94p | - |
| | | 22p | |
| -86 | Vero cutter, 50p; Pin | insertion Too | ls (0·1 and |
| 40 | 0-15 matrix) at 61p. | | |

0.15

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12p

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|------|---------|-------|------------|
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| 50 | 1N4001 | 41p | PL4001 8p |
| 00 | IN 4002 | 41p | PL4002 9p |
| 00 | IN 4003 | | PL4003 10p |
| 00 | IN4004 | 6 i p | PL4004 10p |
| 00 | IN4005 | 8p | PL4005 13p |
| 00 | IN 4006 | 9 p | PL4006 15p |
| 000 | IN4007 | 10p | PL4007 20p |
| ENE | P DIOI | DES | |

| 400mW B. 3·33-33V. 1 watt 6·8 | | | | | p each p each |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| THYR!S PIV 1 Amp 3 Amps 7 Amps | 50 28 44 | 100 25 50 96 | 200 41 60 1·01 | 300 44 — | 400 58 66 1-24 |

RESISTORS

nesis! UKS i watt 5% carbon 1p each i watt 10% carbon 2ip each l watt 10% carbon 2ip each Range 10 ohms to 4:7 meg. i watt m/o 2% 3p each Range 10—1 meg ohms



13p 11p 14p 11p 15p 13p 16p 13p socket 3-way plug socket 4-way.plug socket 5-way.plug socket



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Such are the results of using a PZ8 Mk 3 to drive two Z.50 Mk 2 power amplifiers. Developed from the original Z.50, the Mk 2 has improved thermal stability, better regulated D.C limiting to ensure more symmetrical output voltage swing with still less distortion at lower outputs and automatic transient overload protection. The PZ.8 Mk.3 is the most advanced power supply unit ever to be made at a reasonable price. It cannot be damaged by direct shorting, nor will it fail through overloading, because of an ingenious re-entrant current limiting principle used usually only in expensive laboratory equipment. Because output voltage is variable, the PZ8 Mk.3 makes a worthwhile alternative where PZ.5 and PZ.6 are recommended for Project 60 applications, particularly since this most powerful of all Sinclair supply units can be operated from a smaller mains transformer. Together, the Z.50 Mk.2 and PZ.8 Mk.3 provide new standards of performance and reliability and these modules are compatible with earlier types in the Project 60 range.

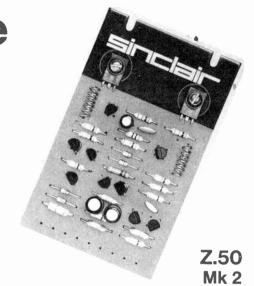
Z.50 Mk.2 SPECIFICATIONS

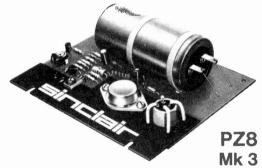
Input impedance 100 KΩ
Input (for 30w into 8Ω) 400mV
Signal to noise ratio, referred to full o/p at 30v HT 80dB or better
Distortion 0.02% up to 20W at 8Ω
See published curve
Frequency response 10Hz to more than 200 KHz · 1dB
Max. supply voltage 45v (4Ω to 8Ω speakers) (50v 150 speakers only)

Min. supply voltage 9v Load impedance — minimum: 4Ω at 45v HT Load impedance — maximum: safe on open circuit

£5.48 T VAT PZ.8 Mk.3 SPECIFICATIONS Nominal working output 45V. Adjustable between 20 & 50V £7.98 T VAT.

Mains Transformer £5.98 + v A.T. 59p





Other power supplies

In addition to the remarkable Sinclair PZ 8 Mk,III as described, there are two other power units available, which should be chosen according to their types in order to buy to best advantage. All are for operation from A C mains 240V.

PZ.5 30 volt, unstabilised $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{£4.98} \\ + \text{ v.A T } 49 \text{p} \end{array}$ PZ.6 35 volt, stabilised (Not suitable for Super

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Stockists also ofter this same quarantee in co-operation with Sinclair Radionics Ltd Each Project 60 module is tested before leaving our factory and guaranteed to work perfectly. Should any defect arise in normal use, we will service it at once and without any charge to you. A small charge may be made in those cases where damage arises through miss-use. No charge is made for postage by surface mait. Air Mail charged at cost.

Typical Project 60 applications

| System | The Units to use | together with | Units cost |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Simple battery record player | Z.50 | Crystal P.U., 12V battery volume control, etc. | £5.48 + V.A.T. 54p |
| Mains powered record player | Z.50, PZ.5 | Crystal or ceramic P.U. volume control, etc. | £10.46 + V.A.T.£1 04 |
| 12W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp, for average needs | 2 x Z.50, Stereo 60; PZ.5 | Crystal, ceramic or mag, P.U., F.M. Tuner, etc. | £25.92 + VA.T. £2.59 |
| 25W. RMS continuous sine wave stereo amp, using low efficiency (high performance) speakers | 2 x Z.50, Stereo 60; PZ.6 | High quality ceramic or magnetic P.U., F.M. Tuner, Tape Deck, etc. | £28.92 + V.A.T. £2.89 |
| 80W. (3 ohms) RMS continuous sine wave de luxe stereo amplifier. (60W, RMS into 8 ohms) | 2 x Z.50 Mk.2, Stereo 60; PZ.8 Mk.3 transformer | As above | £34.90 + V.A.T. £3.49 |
| Indoor P.A. | Z.50 Mk.2, PZ.8 Mk.3 transformer | Mic., guitar, speakers, etc., controls | £19.44 + V.A.T.£1.94 |



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Specifications

Construction: A sealed seamless sound or pressure chamber is used with internal baffle, and special high flux driver

Loading: Up to 14 watts RMS, into 8 ohms Frequency response: From 60 to 16,000 Hz Size and styling: 248 mm square x 120 mm deep (93" x 43") with neat pedestal base



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Stereo 60 pre-amp/control unit

Designed specifically for Project 60 systems, the Stereo 60 is equally suitable with any high quality power amplifier. Silicon epitaxial planar transistors used throughout ensure high signalto-noise ratio and excellent tracking between channels. Input selection is by press buttons, with accurate equalisation on all input channels. The unit is easy to mount,

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{SPECIFICATIONS-Input sensitivities:} \ Radio-up\ to\ 3mV.\ Mag.\ p.u.\ 3mV.\ correct\ to\ R.I.A.A.\ curve\\ \pm 1dB\cdot 20\ to\ 25,000Hz\ \ Ceramic\ p.u.-up\ to\ 3mV.\ Aux-up\ to\ 3mV.\ \textbf{Output:}\ 250mV.\ \textbf{Signal\ to\ noise\ ratio:}\\ better\ than\ 70dB.\ \ \textbf{Channel\ matching:}\ within\ 1dB.\ \ \textbf{Tone\ controls:}\ TREBLE+12\ to\ -12dB\ at\ 10KHz: \end{array}$ BASS+12 to —12dB at 100Hz. Front panel: brushed aluminium with black knobs and controls. Size:

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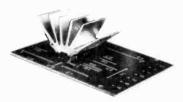
AFU filter unit

For use between Stereo 60 and two Z 30's or Z 50's in stereo formation. Cut off frequencies are continuously variable, with 12dB/octave cut in the rejection band. Two stages of filtering – rumble (high pass) and scratch (low pass). Amplitude and phase distortion are negligible. Supply voltage needed – 15–35V. H.F. cut-off (—3dB) 28KHz to 5KHz. L.F. (—3dB) 25Hz to 100Hz. For Project 60 or any good stereor system. Built, tested and guaranteed



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SPECIFICATIONS

Output power: 6 watts RMS continuous (12 watts peak) into 6–8 Ω . Frequency Response: 5Hz to $100 \mathrm{KHz} \pm 1 \mathrm{dB}$. Total Harmonic Distortion: Less than 1%. (Typical 0.1%) at all output powers and frequencies in the audio band output powers and requencies in the audio band (28V). Load Impedance: 3 to 15 ohms. Input Impedance: 250 Kohms nominal. Power Gain: 90dB (1,000,000,000 times) after feedback. Supply Voltage: 6 to 28V. Quiescent current: 8mA at 28V. Size: 22×45×28mm including pins and heat sink

Manual available separately 15p post free

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the simple way to build a **Project 60 system** without soldering

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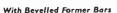
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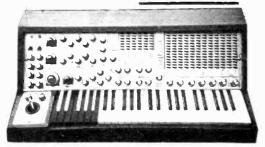
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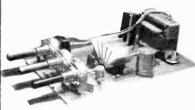
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