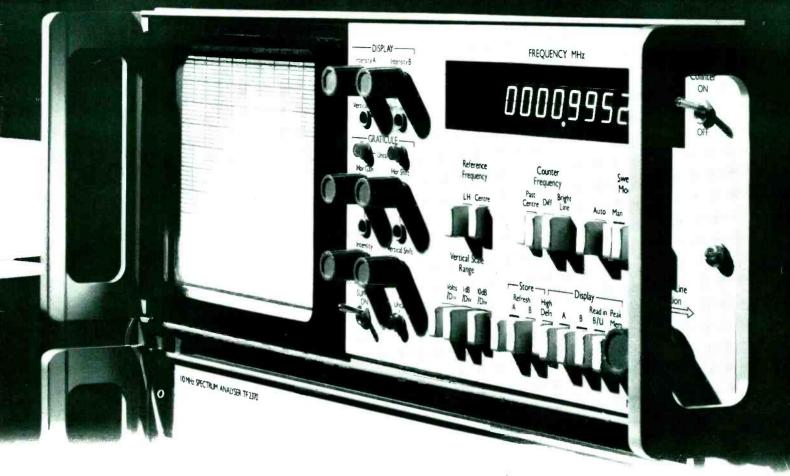


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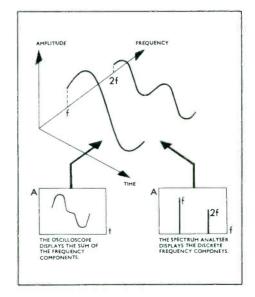
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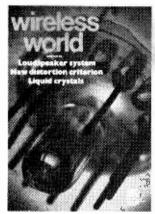
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wireless world

ELECTRONICS/TELEVISION/RADIO/AUDIO

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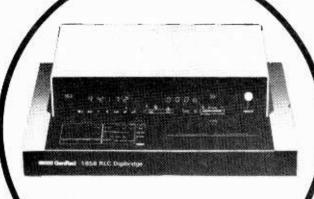
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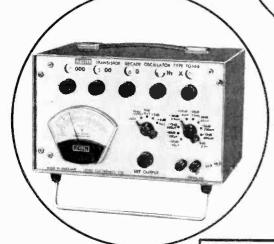
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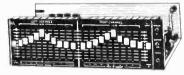
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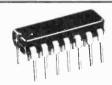
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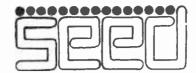
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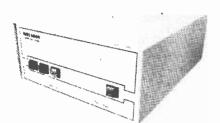
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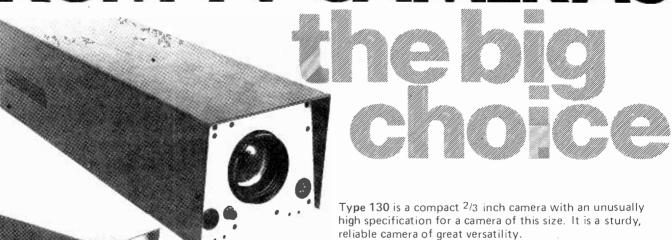
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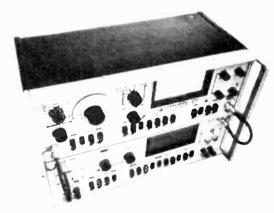
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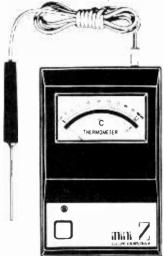
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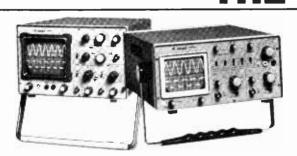
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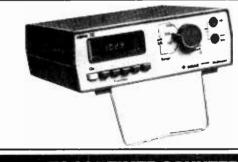
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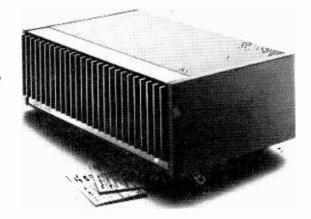
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85°C rated.

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BIM 4005

BIM 4003 (85x56x28.5mm)

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(161x96x58mm) £2.12* BIM 1006

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Colour Code

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console and held by screws running into

integral brass bushes. Stand-off bosses in

base for supporting small sub-assemblies etc. 4 self adhesive

LOW PROFILE BIMCONSOLES



1mm Grey Alumipanel nium recessed into front console base, which is moulded in Orange, Blue, Black or Grey ABS and sits on 4 self adhe-

rubber feet. Incorporating guides for holding 1.5mm thick pcb, the base also has stand-off bosses for supporting small sub-assemblies etc. and ventilation slots. Front panel is held by 4 screws which run into integral brass bushes.

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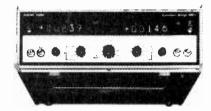
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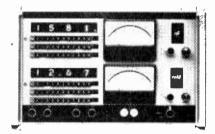
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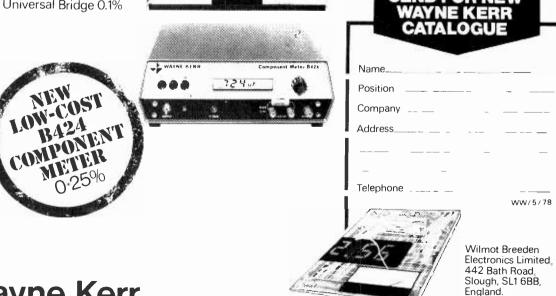
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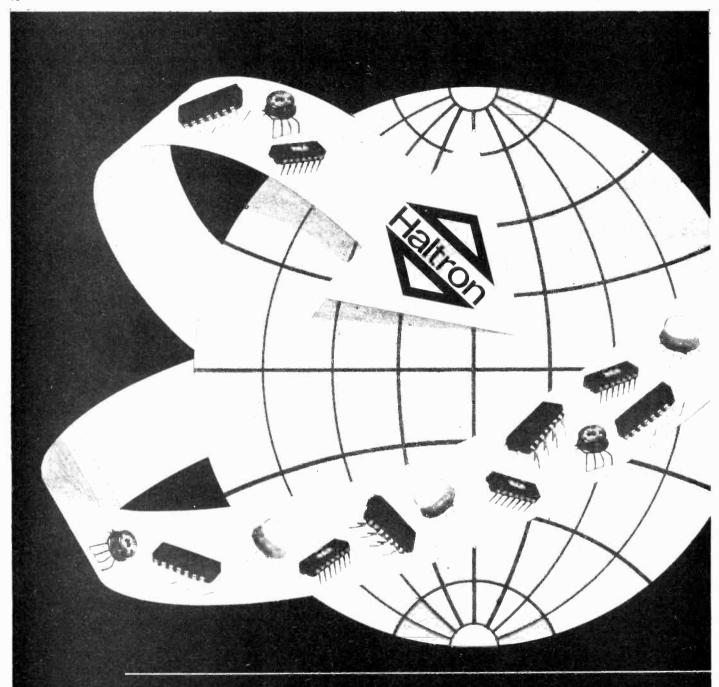
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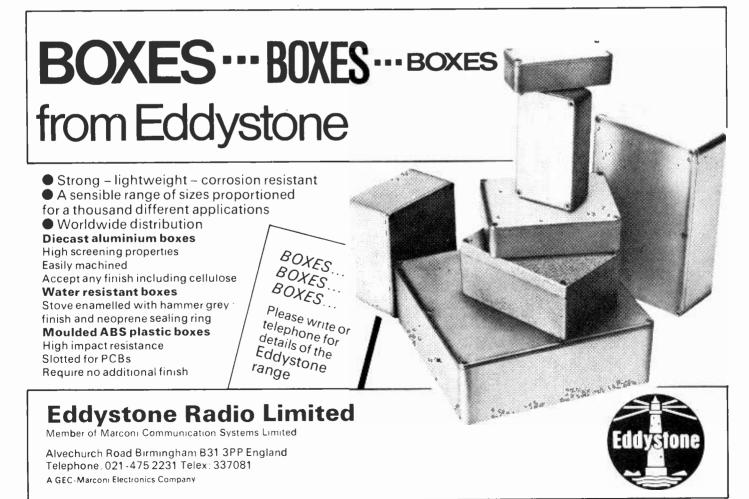
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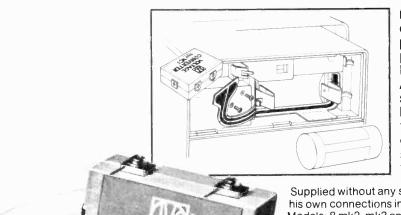
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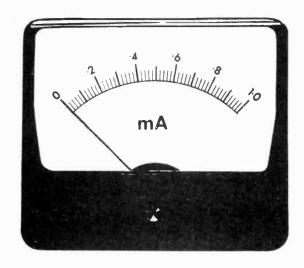
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METER PROBLEMS?



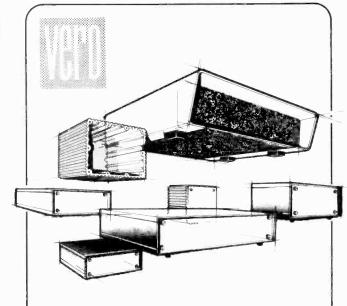
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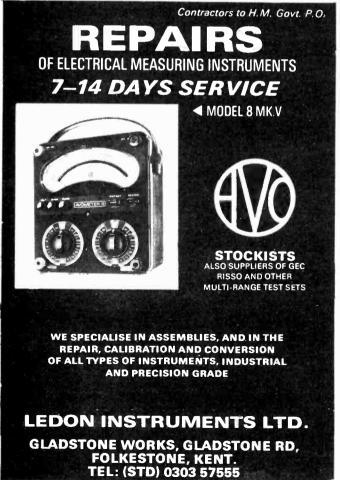
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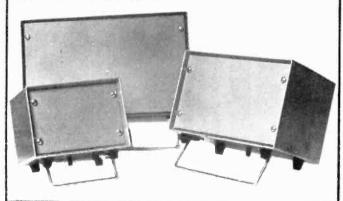
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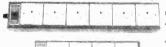
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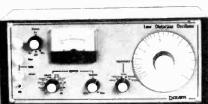
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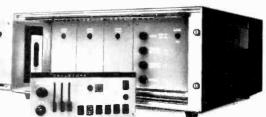
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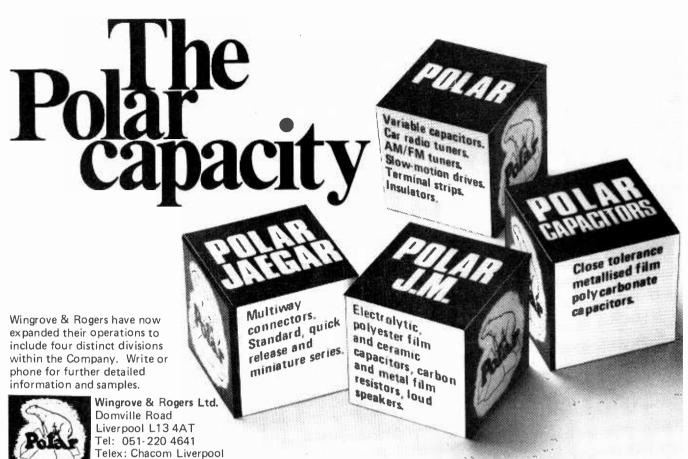
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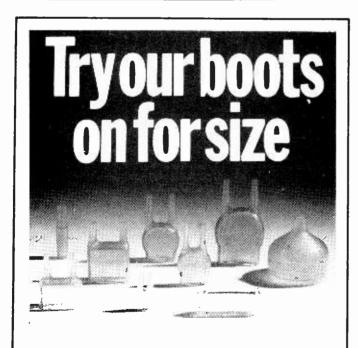
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wireless world

Thoughts from the drawing-board

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TWO RECENT speeches by well-known scientists about the job of the engineer have shown an astonishing vagueness and lack of knowlege of what engineering is all about. Perhaps being a Fellow of the Royal Society gives one an Olympian view of humanity that completely misses all the grubby details of how people actually earn their living. Sir Monty Finniston (who chairs the committee of enquiry into the engineering profession) told the IEE at its annual dinner that the engineer should have more authority, to match his responsibilities, and should be in a position "to influence the national scene more attractively and pertinently" than he does at present. "If the engineer is to play his proper role in society he must make relevant policy contributions to the decisions of political institutions". Sir Ieuan Maddock (one-time chief scientist in the Department of Trade and Industry), in a lecture to Imperial College, said that the engineer's future task will not be so much in applying established engineering skills as in harnessing nature "to solve social needs of growing complexity". He should be a bridge between "knowledge of the laws of nature and the growing and changing needs of society'

All fine stuff, that some like to hear. Of course, the reality is very different. The average engineer is not interested in his "role in society" or the "needs of society". Typically he works for an employer and to earn a living he has to satisfy the particular needs of that employer, quite regardless of whether they are good or bad for society at large. In turn the employer may influence society through the goods or services he supplies, but this process operates through the market mechanism, not according to any ideas or wishes of the engineer.

Collectively, engineers do not show any evidence of a desire to do great things for society, only a desire to improve their own incomes and status — and who would blame them for that. Nevertheless, the engineer does take part in public affairs as an individual. Here his personal characteristics are somewhat more important than his engineering knowledge, for value judgments control the way that factual knowledge is applied to human affairs.

What we don't want to see is the engineer elevated to the position of a super-technician of society, chosen simply because of his ability to design and operate systems at maximum efficiency. But Sir Monty Finniston obviously thinks this should be the aim. Because the great issues of the future affecting our lives "are likely to have very large and ever increasing technical content" policy decisions "must give greater weight to the views of those who both conceive the changes and implement them rather than to the non-technical beneficiaries". Note how ordinary people are objectified into "non-technical beneficiaries" in the chill language of total administration as Marcuse calls it. This is the authentic voice of the technocrat.

Raymond Aron, the French sociologist, has pointed out that all societies continue to train the men they need but that none, despite its proclaimed objectives, needs to have all men realize their individual potentialities and become fully capable of freedom in relation to their environment. In the industrialized countries we have already trained enough technocrats in the shape of economists, lawyers, educationists, bankers and psychiatrists to help us forge our own manacles, without adding engineers to the list. When organization becomes an end in itself, joy flies out of the window.

A new distortion measurement

Better subjective-objective correlation than given by t.h.d.

by R. A. Belcher, B.Sc., Ph.D., M.I.E.E., BBC Research Department

This article describes a new technique for measuring non-linearity distortion which gives much better correlation with subjective assessment of sound quality than does the conventional total harmonic distortion measurement. Known as the double comb-filter method, it uses pseudo-random binary test signals and largely digital processing, so the cost of instrumenting it can be expected to fall with the increasing availability of I.s.i. circuits. Ultimately, the hardware may cost less than that used at present for t.h.d. measurement. Ways are suggested for using the new technique to measure cross-over distortion, transient intermodulation distortion and other parameters such as "wow" and "flutter" and linear distortions. The BBC is now testing it on sound-signal transmission circuits and studio equipment.

RECENTLY THE HI-FI PRESS has been particularly interested in discussions about the best way of relating objective measurements to the subjective assessment of non-linearity in audio systems. Several articles have dealt with the relative merits of total harmonic distortion, two-tone intermodulation, or band-limited noise tests. The main conclusion seems to be that there is a lack of hard facts about the degree of correlation which can be expected between the measurement of distortion and the subjective effect.

Over the past decade broadcasting organisations have become increasingly interested in this problem. In particular, the BBC has been studying the use of noise-like test signals. As a result of five years' research work, a test method has been developed which gives distortion figures that correlate much better than total harmonic distortion measurements with subjective estimates of sound programme quality. The new test method uses pseudo-random noise as the test signal and comb-filter techniques to separate the distortion products from the test signal. Equipment for this method should be fairly cheap to produce as it makes use of digital signal processing.

To assess more fully the possible applications of the new method, the BBC is conducting field trials with experimental equipment, and the results of these trials should be available during 1978.

Traditionally, the non-linear distor-

tion of a sound signal circuit has been measured objectively by using a sine-wave test signal; the amount of non-linearity is conveniently expressed as the ratio, measured at the output of the test circuit, of the power level of the harmonic distortion products to the power level of the fundamental plus harmonics. This ratio is known as the total harmonic distortion and is sometimes quoted as a percentage; in this article it will be given as a decibel ratio.

It has long been recognised that total harmonic distortion measurements generally do not give a good indication of the subjective impairment due to non-linearity, and in 1950, in an effort to provide improved subjective agreement, Shorter' proposed that the measurement of distortion should be weighted to take more account of highorder harmonics. In 1960 Wigan² proposed an improved weighting criterion to be applied to the harmonics of a 1kHz test signal. His subjective data was obtained using a pulsed tone as the programme signal, and the non-linear distortion was produced by an arrangement which ensured that the amount of total harmonic distortion was substantially independent of the applied signal level.

Wigan's findings were of limited application as no way was suggested by which his weighting criterion could predict the unpleasantness of distorted programme (other than pulsed-tone) signals. Further, for experimental convenience he had also excluded circuits in which the amount of distortion was a function of signal frequency and applied signal level.

When a complex programme signal suffers non-linear distortion, unwanted signals arise not only by the generation of harmonics but also by intermodulation between the spectral components of the programme signal. In 1945, Brockbank and Wass published a mathematical analysis3 of the intermodulation spectrum generated by a multi-frequency programme signal. Their objective was to enable the distortion spectrum of a multifrequency input signal, e.g. a programme signal, to be predicted from knowledge of the distortion spectrum generated by a single-frequency input signal.

There are two accepted methods of

measuring the amount of intermodulation distortion of an audio frequency circuit. That adopted by the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE) was proposed by Hilliard⁴ in 1946, and the method adopted by the International Telephonic Consultative Committee (CCIF) was proposed by Scott⁵ in 1945. Both use two simultaneously applied sine-waves as a test signal, but they have different frequency spacings. The Hilliard method uses 60Hz and 3kHz, and the Scott method 3kHz and 3.05kHz.

To obtain a more complete knowledge of the variation of non-linear distortion with frequency it would be necessary to make measurements of intermodulation distortion over the whole frequency range of interest. This type of intermodulation test has been found to be of use by Harwood⁶ in research on improving the performance of loudspeaker units.

Unfortunately, no method has yet been devised to enable intermodulation tests to predict the unpleasantness of distorted programme signals.

One interesting result given by Brockbank and Wass is that if the programme signal is assumed to be represented by n tones, each of equal power, and if n is greater than 30, then the contribution to the total distortion power due to harmonic products is at least two orders of magnitude less than that due to intermodulation products. For complex signals such as those produced by speech and music, n is generally large enough for the distortion power level contributed by harmonic products to be negligible. They also derive an equation for the total distortion power, assuming that n is large enough for harmonic products to be ignored, which shows that the power of the distortion signal resides mainly in products generated by higher order terms in the power series. This emphasis on higher order distortion products is effectively what Wigan and Shorter recommend for improved subjective agreement.

Random noise tests

The work of Brockbank and Wass, and Shorter and Wigan suggests that a noise signal should be a good test signal for sound-signal non-linearity measurements, since *n* would then be very large, and the power level of the distortion

signal would automatically be weighted in favour of higher order terms.

Noise-like test signals have been applied to the routine non-linearity testing of various low-quality sound-signal transmission systems, e.g. multichannel communication systems⁷ and p.c.m. codes for speech signals⁸. The popularity of this type of test stems from the fact that the statistical properties of a speech signal have been treated as Gaussian, and therefore the unwanted noise power spectrum generated by a noise-like test signal was considered to be a good estimate of that produced by speech signals.

In 1963, Danes⁹ reported the use of a one-third octave band of noise centred on 8kHz for intermodulation testing in an f.m. sound broadcasting system, and he found some degree of correlation between the measured low-frequency noise power generated from the test signal and the subjective impairment of normal programme signals.

In 1970, a standard test signal was proposed by the CCIR for study¹⁰ by various member broadcasting organisations; it was to be used in measuring crosstalk and non-linearity in high-quality sound-signal transmission circuits. This test signal was to be produced by shaping the spectrum of a random noise signal, to make it representative of an average programme signal.

In 1971, Nikaido and Nitatori¹¹, of the NHK reported their study of nonlinearity measurements on sound broadcasting circuits using random noise as a test signal. Their test signal was similar to that proposed by the CCIR, but it had a ¾ octave wide spectral gap which could be moved in 1/2 octave steps to cover most of the audio-frequency range. Distortion products were selected in this gap by a 1/4 octave-wide filter. The result of each test was a plot of distortion versus centre-frequency. Their work did not include a study of the agreement between the measured distortion and its subjective effect.

In the BBC, tests for non-linearity are routinely, made by measuring the total harmonic distortion of a 1kHz tone. This signal is applied to a test circuit at a level 2dB higher than the nominal quasi-peak value of the programme signal. With the advent of f.d.m. transmission circuits routine tests using this high level signal were reported to cause undesirable levels of crosstalk interference. As the use of f.d.m. circuits was likely to increase, the BBC undertook to assess the standard test signal proposed by the CCIR in the hope that crosstalk problems would be less severe (this was confirmed by later work), and also that routine tests for non-linearity using this test signal would give at least as much information as was provided by the total harmonic distortion method.

In the form proposed by the CCIR, the standard test signal had no spectral gap in which to detect non-linearity pro-

ducts and was therefore only suited to crosstalk measurements. The BBC therefore proposed a variant of the test signal, having a spectral gap between 3.5kHz and the upper limit of the audio band, and conducted informal tests to study its use in routine tests for nonlinearity. The results showed that the degree of correlation between r.m.s. distortion measurements using this test sign'al and subjective assessments of the threshold of impairment of a programme item was at least as good as was obtained using a routine total harmonic distortion test, and was probably better.

Pseudo-random noise tests

Later measurements of this type were helped by replacing the random (thermal) noise source with a digitallygenerated pseudo-random binary sequence (p.r.b.s.) noise source. This type of source provided a power output which did not vary with temperature; moreover, as the amplitude of distortion products fluctuated regularly at the repetition rate of the pseudo-random noise, a meter with a short integration time (a BBC peak-programme meter¹²) could be employed. This enabled accurate measurements to be made more quickly and allowed the use of the meter which is routinely used within the BBC for circuit testing.

Then various band-splitting arrangements were considered with the aim of increasing the effective bandwidth of the test signal. First, a standard set of 1/3 octave filters was used but was later rejected because their rate of cut-off was insufficient to provide the required measurement resolution. It was then decided to construct a two-band arrangement using specially designed filters to provide high resolutions (approximately 80dB of noise separation) with noise bands of 150Hz to 700Hz, and lkHz to 3.5kHzapproximately.

Concurrently a formal subjective investigation provided data relating to a wider range of programme impairment and more critical listening material than had been used previously. These data related the operating points of four amplifiers to subjective impairment and could therefore be used at a later date to study the subjective agreement obtained with any objective method of non-linearity measurement, simply by making objective measurements on those amplifiers.

Next came the task of optimising various parameter values for the two-band method, using the new subjective data. This work is described more fully in a BBC Research Department report ¹³. Work was completed in mid-1973 and it was decided that the two-band method could give estimates of subjective impairment that were much more accurate than those given by the routine total harmonic distortion method. The two-band method was, however, of limited use as it was not designed for testing

circuits where non-linearity was pronounced at high signal frequencies.

In 1972, Nikaido14 reported his use of a sound-programme signal in making measurements of non-linearity. (Since a spectral gap had to be provided, the signal was not suitable for simultaneous broadcasting.) A disadvantage of this approach is that the measurements have to be integrated over a long time interval, as the results are influenced by the changing spectrum of the programme signals. The alternative would be to standardise on particular soundprogramme excerpts as test signals but this has the disadvantage that the resolution of the test apparatus would be limited by the distortion in the sound recording system. The practical requirement is for a method which uses a test signal which is accurately reproducible, which simulates a sound programme signal, and in addition is inexpensive to produce. For these reasons, the practice of using the soundprogramme signal as a test signal was. not considered by the BBC to be appropriate for routine tests.

Meanwhile methods by which bandsplitting might be improved were being considered. Multi-band techniques were investigated, but were not developed because of the difficulties of making high resolution comb-filters to provide a comb-like test signal spectrum with many "teeth", and a measurement filter with a complementary comb-like response. Furthermore, this approach would be prohibitively expensive.

Comb-filter methods

In 1974, I proposed an alternative approach to the problem. This new proposal recognised that the pseudorandom noise signal had itself a comblike spectrum (see Fig. 1(a)). If this noise signal were to be frequency-shifted, its components would be anharmonically related, and most of the distortion products would then fall in the gaps between them as shown at (c). Nonlinearity products would be measured by applying an equal and opposite frequency shift (d), followed by a comb-response filter (e) to remove the comb spectrum of the noise signal. The output of the comb-filter (f) would then be registered on a p.p.m.

Apparatus was constructed to test this proposal ¹⁵. The work was completed by mid-1975, and a comparison of the accuracies of this comb-filter method (the "single comb-filter method"), the two-band method, and a total harmonic distortion method revealed that both noise-separation methods were more accurate in their estimates of subjective impairment than the total harmonic distortion method. But the single comb-filter method was to be preferred since it could be used in testing circuits with frequency-dependent nonlinearity.

To improve the method a double-comb-filter technique was proposed in

which two p.r.b.s. signals were combined to provide a test signal with anharmonic components and two cascaded comb-filters were used to reject the test signal and accept the distortion signal for measurement. This arrangement is attractive as it should be less expensive to instrument and, furthermore, it has been found to be as accurate as the single comb-filter method using the subjective data given in reference 13. This accuracy also applies to frequency-dependent nonlinearities studied more recently.

Test signal generator

The test signal used with the double comb-filter method is produced by the addition of two signals, each having a harmonic spectrum but with different fundamental frequencies. The harmonic structure of each spectrum may be likened to a "comb" of frequencies. Intermodulation products generated from this test signal may be conveniently divided into two groups: those which arise by intermodulation within each comb structure and those which arise by intermodulation between combstructures. The first group of products will occupy the same frequency positions as the original comb structure and will therefore be indistinguishable from it. The second group of products will fall in the spectral gaps of the test signal and can therefore be measured. Fortunately, these measurable products represent a significant proportion of the total distortion signal. Two comb-filters having attenuation "teeth" aligned with the "teeth" of the test signal can be used to remove the original components and enable the remaining distortion products to be measured.

The test signal can conveniently be generated by two maximal length

pseudo-random binary sequence (p.r.b.s.) generators (m-sequences). Such binary signals can be generated by digital shift-registers with feedback. If an n-bit shift register is used to generate the p.r.b.s. signal then the sequence length is $2^{n}-1$. The spectrum of a p.r.b.s. signal consists of harmonics of the sequence repetition frequency and the harmonics are all substantially of equal power, as illustrated in Fig. 2(a) and (b), provided that the required test signal bandwidth is less than one tenth of the shift-register clock frequency. The repetition frequency of an m-sequence is given by the clock frequency divided by the sequence length.

When the two p.r.b.s. signals are added, the test signal spectrum illustrated in Fig. 2(c) is obtained. In practice this test signal is used at the same "peak" level measured with a p.p.m. as the "peak" level of the programme signal which it replaces. Fig. 2(d) shows the modified spectrum when distortion products are generated. A simple comb-filter response as in Fig. 2(e) is used to remove one p.r.b.s. signal, while a second filter (f) in tandem removes the other p.r.b.s. signal, leaving distortion products as illustrated in (g).

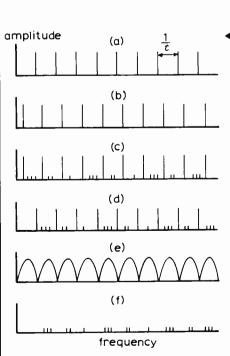
Fig. 3 is a simplified block diagram of the test-signal generator. G_1 and G_2 are m-sequence generators with repetition frequencies of 152.6Hz and 109.8Hz. These two frequencies were chosen by experiment. The first (152.6Hz) could be generated using a convenient shift-register and oscillator combination. The second frequency could be changed in steps of approximately 1Hz and within this limitation the second frequency was near optimum, i.e. that which gave best subjective/objective correlation. It should be noted that the more important parameter is the ratio of the two

frequencies rather than their absolute values; altering this ratio alters the weighting of odd and even order products, and therefore also the subjective/objective correlation.

The scaling amplifier adds the two binary signals in a given ratio, the optimum value for the ratio being that which gives a test signal spectrum with all components of equal power.

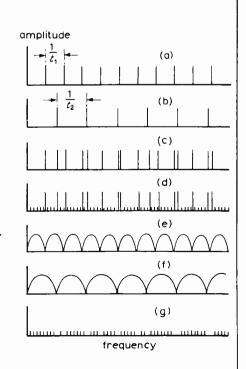
In later tests, a spectrum shaping of the test signal was found to be important as it helped to reduce the spread in subjective impairment attributable to a given distortion figure measured by the new method, taking into account both flat and frequency-dependent nonlinear effects. A suitable spectrum shaping characteristic is shown in Fig. 4. It can be produced by connecting a CCIR average programme weighting network18 in series with a 50 us deemphasis network. The band-pass characteristic of the shaping filter converts the p.r.b.s. digital signal into one with a multi-level noise-like waveform. If a shaping filter of this type were not used then a low-pass filter would be necessary.

The above filter characteristic agrees closely with that proposed by the UK Post Office19 as a result of recent measurements of the power loading and average spectra of sound programme signals for broadcasting. Their weighting characteristic is intended to be used to shape the spectrum of a white-noise signal in order to simulate that of an average sound-programme signal. Such a weighted noise signal could be of use in testing, for example, the power handling ability of loudspeakers or audio power amplifiers. It therefore seems likely that the test signal required by the double comb-filter method could also be of use in these areas.

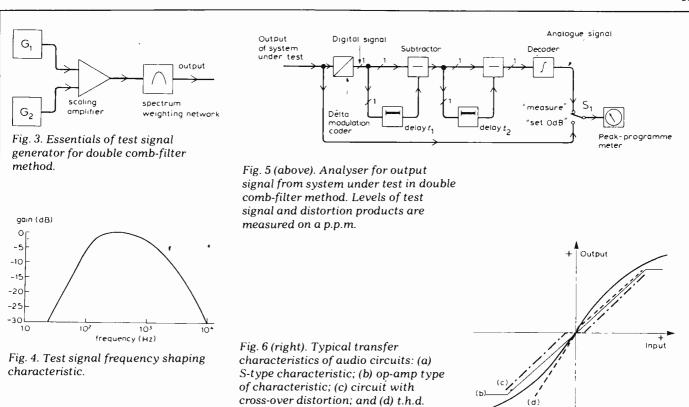


▼ Fig. 1. Spectra illustrating principle of the single comb-filter distortion measurement method: (a) spectrum of pseudo-random binary sequence; (b) the same p.r.b.s. frequency shifted; (c) signal from system under test, showing distortion products in gaps; (d) signal re-shifted; (e) response of comb-filter for removing comb spectrum of p.r.b.s. test signal; and (f) comb-filter output. (t is repetition period of p.r.b.s.)

Fig. 2. Spectra illustrating principle of the double comb-filter method $(t_1 \text{ and } t_2 \text{ are repetition periods of } m$ -sequences G_1 and G_2 respectively): (a) m-sequence G_1 ; (b) m-sequence G_2 ; (c) test signal; (d) signal from system under test; (e) first comb-filter response; (f) second comb-filter response; and (g) output from comb-filters.



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In the experiments with the double comb-filter method it was found to be advantageous to modify the quasi-peak to mean ratio of the test signal by including a dispersive network (four 700Hz single section all-pass circuits in tandem) after the weighting network. This modification allowed the optimum value for the mean test signal power loading to be reduced by IdB and is of use in testing circuits, e.g. f.d.m. carrier circuits, where it is necessary to keep the mean test power loading to a minimum during routine tests.

Test signal analyser

Fig. 5 is a simplified block diagram of the test signal analyser. Digital signal processing is used because of its stability and relative cheapness in providing the required performance. For further economy in analogue-to-digital and digital-to-analogue conversion, linear delta-modulation coding²⁰ is used in preference to linear pulse-code modulation (p.c.m.). The quantisation noise of the system limits the measurable separation to 54dB: this is later shown to be 17dB below the threshold of impairment.

The input signal to the analyser is applied to the delta-modulation coder which provides a 1-bit output signal at a rate of 4Mbit/s. This signal is then processed by a digital filter arrangement comprising two subtractors and two shift-register delays t_1 and t_2 . This filter is effectively two simple combfilters in tandem: a comb-filter operates by subtracting from an input signal a delayed version of itself. In Fig. 5 t_1 and t_2 are produced by approximately

27kbit and 37kbit shift registers respectively; time delays t_1 and t_2 are equal to the inverses of the test signal repetition frequencies. The delta-modulation signal is then decoded by analogue integration of the binary output signal. Emitter-coupled logic circuits were used in the delta-modulation coder and decoder in order to produce pulse waveforms with well-matched rise and fall times. This matching is essential in order to maintain low harmonic distortion within the measuring equipment.

constant with applied signal level.

A crystal oscillator is used to ensure that the comb-filter responses are maintained in accurate alignment with the "teeth" of the test signal, but for clarity, clock signal paths are omitted from Fig. 5. The gain of the direct path is set so that, at a signal frequency at which minimum loss is produced by the comb-filters, the output level from the "measure" path is equal to that from the "set 0dB" path.

The levels of test signal and distortion products are measured using a BBC peak programme meter (p.p.m.), which is a quasi-peak indicating instrument. It should be noted that the results reported later for the double comb-filter method may not be directly applicable if other meters are used. However, a simple additional circuit could be provided to simulate the action of a p.p.m. and to enable a noise-separation indication to be independent of the ballistics of the measuring instrument.

Using the arrangement in Fig. 5, the switch S_1 is set to the "set $0\,dB$ " position and the output test-signal level from the system under test is adjusted until a reading of $0\,dB$ is indicated by the

p.p.m. Noise-separation in dB is then indicated by the p.p.m. when SW_1 is set to "measure". This reading actually gives a measure of (signal + distortion)/(distortion); and although this is not a true separation figure it has proved to be satisfactory in use.

Listening tests

The purpose of the tests was to obtain subjective estimates of programme quality impairment caused by two circuits (A and B) for a selection of applied signal levels. The general form of the transfer characteristics of these two circuits is illustrated by curves (a) and (b) of Fig. 6. (a) is an "S-type" characteristic in which the total harmonic distortion increases with applied level. (b) is the sort of characteristic given by operational amplifiers, and this type of distortion is sometimes known as "hard-clipping"; the distortion is negligible until clipping occurs and then the total harmonic distortion increases rapidly with applied signal level.

Frequency-dependent distortions such as those that might occur in an f.m. transmission system were also included in the study. High-frequency signals were made more susceptible to nonlinearity distortion by inserting a $50\mu s$ pre-emphasis network in the input signal path. When pre-emphasis was used, a network with the complementary characteristic was connected in the output signal path to provide an overall flat amplitude-frequency response.

These tests require great care in the alignment of tape recording and signal level measurement apparatus because in order to correlate objective measure-

ments of non-linearity distortion accurately with subjective impressions, it is essential to ensure that the applied level of test signal bears a known relationship to the previously applied level of programme signal. This is particularly important when the amount of distortion varies rapidly with the applied signal level, e.g. when a hard-clipping circuit is operated near to overload.

For convenience both programme and test signal levels are referred to the operating point of the circuit under test by a parameter termed "relative gain". A more detailed explanation of this parameter is given in Reference 16.

The listening tests explored impairment levels in the range indicated by the six point scale shown in the following table:

Six-point subjective impairment scale

Grade	Impairment		
1	Imperceptible		
2	Just perceptible		
3	Definitely perceptible but not disturbing		
4	Somewhat objectionable		
5	Definitely objectionable		
6	Unusable		

Two programme items, "male speech" and "solo piano" were selected from a library of recorded test-excerpts as they were found to be subjectively more sensitive to distortion in the test-circuits than the other excerpts. The male speech item was used in tests in which non-linearity was not frequency-dependent and the solo piano item was used for the frequency-dependent case.

A companding system was used in the tape recording and reproduction of the test-programme so that recording noise was less likely to mask the distortion produced by the test-circuits. In addition, the programme signals went through the record-replay process only once, i.e. a "master" recording was used for the tests. No amplitude-compression was applied to the programme signals.

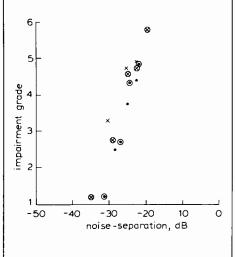
The subjective tests were carried out in a listening room having acoustics similar to those of a domestic living room.

Subjective-objective correlation

After the subjective tests had been completed, objective measurements were made using the two methods (double comb-filter method and total harmonic distortion method) whose correlations were to be compared. It was again essential to set the test levels with great care, and the "relative gain" parameter mentioned earlier was again used to ensure that the operating points of the circuits were the same as used in the subjective tests.

In order to study subjective-objective agreement plots of subjective impairment against objective distortion were drawn. In practice fairly straight but widely spaced, non-parallel lines can usually be obtained by a variety of distortion measurement methods. The

Fig. 7 (below). Plotted points showing good correlation between subjective average impairment grade and measured noise-separation in the double comb-filter method, with two circuits A and B. Note that points are closely grouped when compared with those in Fig. 8.



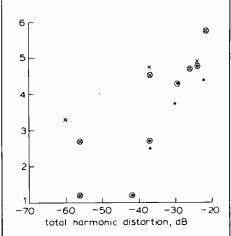


Fig. 8 (above). Plotted points showing lower correlation between subjective average impairment grade and measured total harmonic distortion, for circuits A and B. Note the relatively wide spread of the points compared with those in Fig. 7.

best correlation is judged to be obtained by the test method which gives the closest grouping of plots along a straight line of subjective impairment against objective distortion for a variety of test circuits.

Fig. 7 shows the measured spread in noise-separation against subjective impairment for circuits A and B, both with and without $50\mu s$ pre- and deemphasis. Similarly, Fig. 8 shows the measured spread for total harmonic distortion.

Taking grade 2.5 as a reference point for the comparison, Fig. 8 shows that the spread in total harmonic distortion is 23dB; it is apparent from the data shown that the routine total harmonic distortion method gives a very poor degree of correlation when more than one non-linear circuit is being considered.

Fig. 7 however, shows by the close grouping of plots (spread approximately 6dB at grade 2.5) that the noise-separation test gives much better correlation between subjective and objective measurement than does the total harmonic distortion method.

Possible future developments

An advantage of the total harmonic distortion method is that it employs standard laboratory items of equipment, e.g. a variable-frequency audio oscillator and a signal level meter, which may also be employed in the measurement of other sound circuit parameters such as the amplitude-frequency response.

Similar advantages apply to the double-comb filter test apparatus as it may also be used in the measurement of a wide range of sound signal distortions (both non-linear and linear), but before describing these applications in more detail, it will be useful to consider the various forms of non-linear distortion characteristics which can occur.

Fig. 6 illustrates some input-output transfer characteristics which may be exhibited by audio signal amplifiers. The type of characteristic applicable to a given amplifier can be conveniently identified by examining how the total harmonic distortion of a sine-wave signal varies with the applied signal levels. Curves (a) and (b) are the characteristics of circuits used in the listening tests described earlier. The types of non-linearity shown by curves (c) and (d) are described below, followed by a variant, type, (e). Formal listening tests have not yet been conducted for types (c) to (e), but some initial assessments have been made.

Curve (c) represents "cross-over" distortion, and in this case the total harmonic distortion increases as the applied signal level is reduced. Curve (d) represents the characteristic of a circuit where the total harmonic distortion is constant with applied signal level, and would be obtained with a circuit that gave unequal amplification to positive and negative half-cycles of a sine-wave.

Characteristics (a) to (d) have not included the possibility of the degree of non-linearity distortion being frequency-dependent as well as amplitude-dependent. This therefore is provided in type (e) which includes types (a) to (d) with, for example, preand de-emphasis networks to make the distortion more pronounced at high signal frequencies.

In addition, transient intermodulation distortion (t.i.d.) as described by Otala²¹ can sometimes occur in audio circuits. Essentially, t.i.d. occurs when the rate-of-change of the input signal is excessive. This type of distortion is generally not measurable using a lkHz total harmonic distortion test, and at present there is no accepted method for measuring t.i.d. and relating the objective measurement to the audible effect.

Experiments with the double combfilter apparatus have shown that nonlinearity types (c) to (e) and transient intermodulation distortion can readily be measured. The sensitivity of the method in measuring t.i.d. arises from the high slope of the test signal which can be equivalent to that of a full amplitude sine-wave signal at the upper limit of the audio band. Further more lengthy experiments would, however, be required in order to establish the subjective-objective correlation with these types of distortion. It is interesting to note that Levitt and others have determined a subjective threshhold of perceptibility for slope-overload distortion of speech signals22, and this may be of help in studies of t.i.d.

The double comb-filter apparatus can also be used for objective measurement of amplitude-frequency response errors, and "wow" and "flutter".

An indication of the presence of amplitude/frequency response errors can be obtained by a simple experiment using the test signal part of the apparatus together with a lkHz signal generator and an r.m.s. meter. Both signals are applied in turn at equal powers to the circuit under test. The output power of the circuit under test is measured: any difference in the power of one signal relative to the other (under linear conditions) indicates an error in the amplitude/frequency response. More detailed results can be obtained by analysing the spectrum of the p.r.b.s. test signal after passing it through the circuit under test. If a correlator is used it is then possible to measure delay and the degree of gain-phase matching of transmission circuits (as may be of interest in stereo or quadraphonic sound systems).

The technique of using a p.r.b.s. signal for testing linear systems is well known, but in the past has required expensive test apparatus (e.g. cross-correlators). With the advent of the microprocessor a relatively inexpensive equipment might well be produced for measuring linear distortions using a p.r.b.s. test signal, and such a microprocessor arrangement could easily be added to the double comb-filter apparatus since a-d and d-a converters are already provided.

When the double comb-filter method is used to measure the non-linearity distortion of sound recording and replay systems, "wow" and "flutter" produce spectral components in the gaps of the test signal. The "wow" and "flutter" components can readily be measured: only one p.r.b.s. signal and its complementary comb-filters are required. With this test signal, non-linearity products are hidden and only "wow" and "flut-

The author

R. A. Belcher joined the BBC Research Department in 1969 after graduating from the University College of North Wales. He has worked on many aspects of analogue and digital processing of sound and video signals and has been much involved in the use of subjective tests. In 1976 he was awarded the Gyr and Landis prize by the IEE for work on comb-filter methods of measuring audio distortion. and in 1977 he gained a Ph.D. from the University of Surrey for a thesis on this subject. Since early 1977 he has been doing research in quadraphony. Early this year Dr Belcher left the BBC to become a senior physicist at Velindre Hospital, Car-

ter" components appear in the spectral gaps. In practice it has been found that the recovered level of products generated by "wow" and "flutter" is much higher than the background noise of high-quality recorders; typical figures for "wow" and "flutter" noise-separation are 35dB at 15in/s and 30dB at 7½in/s. No work has been done to compare these "wow" and "flutter" figures with those measured by more conventional methods and no subjective tests have been conducted to establish tolerable levels of "wow" and "flutter" measured by this new method.

The measurement of non-linearity distortion in the presence of "wow" and "flutter" is likely to require comb-filters with wider stop-bands as the "wow" and "flutter" signals are likely to produce sidebands close to the spectral lines of the test signal. The more complex digital comb-filter required in this application could conveniently be instrumented using a microprocessor arrangement.

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A novel approach to switching regulator design

Simultaneous use of feedback and feedforward for low ripple regulators

by D. M. Divan and V. V. Ghate

The design principle proposed here uses feedback and feedforward simultaneously to allow switching regulators to operate with a very low ripple. Unlike other designs, it requires no compromises in switching frequency, the bulk of filter components, transient response, circuit complexity or efficiency. The example circuit discussed in the text is a 7.6V, 5A, 25kHz switching regulator which is shown to have an output ripple of only 2 to 4mV r.m.s.

SWITCHING REGULATORS, whether of the self-oscillating type or the constantfrequency, pulse-width modulated type, have certain limitations. The high frequency ripple required for regulator operation can be of the order of 50 to 100mV for a d.c. level of 5 volts, and attempts to improve this figure normally require a compromise. The compromise may involve an increased switching frequency or a poor transient response, or both. The best switching regulators available today still have to make do with a 20mV ripple and a settling time that could be of the order of 50ms1.2.3.

Other regulator problems faced by designers, especially those working with free running switching regulators, are stability, behaviour under light loading, variations of switching frequency with load and supply, the dependence of the output ripple on the filter, hysteresis, and the possibility of the regulator misfunctioning with certain types of reactive loads².

This article describes a new approach to regulator design that allows the designer to retain the advantages of the switching regulator without the accompanying disadvantages.

Principle of operation

The method which is to be described here uses feedback and feedforward simultaneously. A similar configuration was first used by P. J. Walker, in what he called a "current dumping amplifier", to get over distortion and thermal runaway problems in class B audio amplifiers⁴.

The principle can best be understood by considering the block schematic shown in Fig. 1. Consider the non-linear element N to be an arbitrary non-linear function. It can be shown that, if the voltage obtained at the output is to be

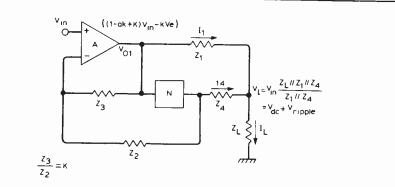
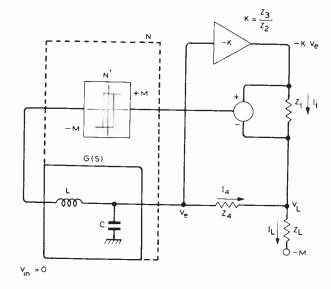
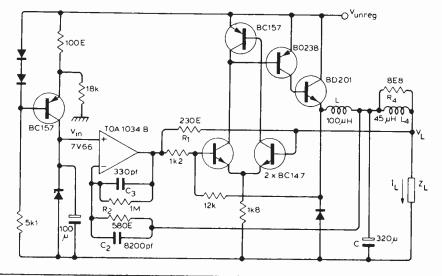


Fig. 1. Block diagram of a basic circuit showing how the use of both feedback and feedforward can result in error cancellation.

Fig. 2. (a) Block diagram of a switching regulator which incorporates feedback and feedforward. (b) Actual circuit diagram of switching regulator.





independent of $N(V_{01})$, the following condition has to be satisfied.

$$(Z_1 Z_2)/(Z_3 Z_4) = 1$$
 (1)

Mathematically, the equations indicate that the output is independent of the non-linearity, but it is not easy to get a physical feel of the circuit's operation, or to understand how the principle can be applied to improve the switching regulator design. The voltage $N(V_{01})$ can be said to consist of two parts, one part linearly dependent on $V_{\rm in}$, a $V_{\rm in}$, and the other, an error voltage $V_{\rm e}$, independent of $V_{\rm in}$. For the voltage $V_{\rm in}$, the operational amplifier acts like a non-inverting amplifier and it can be derived that the output voltage is:

$$V_{\rm L} = V_{\rm in} \cdot \frac{Z_{\rm L} //Z_{\rm l} //Z_{\rm 4}}{Z_{\rm l} //Z_{\rm 4}}$$
 (2)

where// means "in parallel with".

This conforms to the expression calculated for the entire circuit. Considering $V_{\rm e}$ as an independent voltage source, the operational amplifier output will be $-(Z_3/Z_2)V_{\rm e}$. The output voltage will be independent of $V_{\rm e}$ only when Equation 1 is satisfied. This way of looking at the circuit's operation, though not mathematically rigorous, allows the designer to get a feel of how the circuit operates, and to distinguish between the feedforward and the feedback mechanisms in the system.

The next step is the application of the principle to switching regulator design. A switching regulator is obtained if the non-linear block N is considered to be a switch having hysterisis followed by a low pass filter G(s), as indicated in Fig. 2(a). The actual circuit is shown in Fig. 2(b).

Current flowing through Z_1 generates the voltage required to overcome the hysterisis of the comparator. As the capacitor C charges up, the operational-amplifier output voltage starts falling, eventually causing the current through Z_1 to change direction. This, in turn, makes the comparator switch again. The process is therefore self-sustaining. If the bridge, consisting of the elements Z_1 , Z_2 , Z_3 and Z_4 , is balanced, the output will be free of any ripple. In fact, the ripple voltage at the filter output is analogous to the error voltage Ve in the above problem, and it is cancelled by feedforward.

The concept of using feedback and feedforward together, though well known, has not previously been applied to the design of switching regulators. The method is attractive because a number of operations are performed by a single gain element. The operational amplifier provides feedback for precise regulation, feedforward for ripple cancellation, and ripple amplification. By amplifying the ripple the need for a very sensitive comparator is alleviated. The equations given above also hold for a real operational amplifier with a finite gain bandwidth product, albeit with

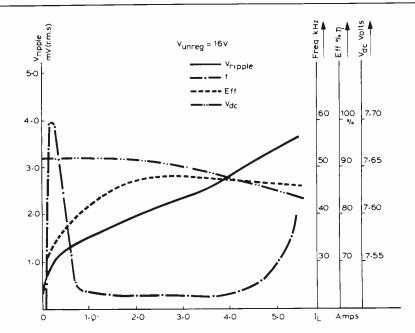


Fig. 3. Regulator characteristics for variations in load current when an unregulated input voltage of 16V is applied.

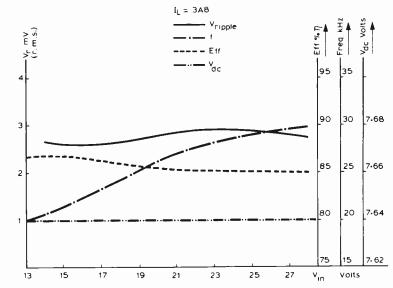


Fig. 4. Regulator characteristics, plotted against unregulated input voltage, for a load current of 3.8A.

minor modifications. Although the derivations are left for the interested reader, a simplified, nethertheless accurate, stability analysis of the system, using the describing function tchnique, yields an operating limit cycle which gives the switching frequency and the magnitude of the ripple that is to be cancelled⁵. A knowledge of both of these parameters is of prime importance to the designer.

Design procedure

The output impedance of the power supply can be shown to be equal to Z_1 in parallel with Z_4 . Consequently, to obtain good regulation, either Z_1 or Z_4 have to be inductors, so that the d.c. resistance of the branch is zero. Since most of the output current flows through Z_4 , making it the inductor helps to minimise power losses. A resis-

tor is used for Z_1 because the current flowing through it activates the comparator. It also allows the regulator to behave like a linear regulator for load currents which are insufficient to activate the comparator. Finally, to balance Equation 1, a resistor is chosen for Z_2 and a capacitor is chosen for Z_3 .

To obtain low output impedance, and to avoid (Z_3/Z_2) having a low value at higher frequencies, a resistance is added in parallel with L_4 and a capacitor is added in parallel with R_2 . The bridge balance condition is therefore maintained for all frequencies if the following equation is satisfied:

$$\frac{R_1 R_2 / (1 + s C_2 R_2)}{(1 / s C_3) (s L_4 R_4 / (s L_4 + R_4))} = 1$$
 (3)

which requires that $R_2C_3 = L_4/R_1$ (4)

and that
$$L_4/R_4 = R_2C_2$$
 (5)

Capacitor C_3 can be reduced slightly if a real amplifier with a finite gain bandwidth product is considered.

The switching frequency can be calculated using the describing function technique. The analysis reveals that the 'switching frequency is independent of the load impedance, which is a desirable feature. An approximate value for the switching frequency can be obtained by the procedure given in the sample design below. However, an important constraint is the short-circuit current limitation of the operational amplifier. By decreasing the maximum current demand from the operational amplifier, the efficiency can be improved but this is detrimental to the transient response.

Regulator design

The following design steps refer to the regulator shown in Fig. 2(b):

For high frequencies, K is chosen as 25.

That is, in the limit ω approaches infinity:

$$(Z_3/Z_2) = C_2/C_3 = 25$$
 (6)

where $\omega = 2\pi f$

and from Equations 4, 5 and 6:

$$R_2C_3 = L_4/R_1 = R_2C_2/25 = L_4/25R_4$$
 (7)

The operational amplifier has an output current capability of 40mA and a maximum voltage swing of 5V pk-to-pk is to be allowed at its output. To allow a correction current of 10mA, R_1 should be 230Ω , and to allow the same amount of correction current to flow through Z_4 , L_4 is fixed at 45μ H, corresponding to an operating frequency of 25kHz. Assuming a value of 330pF for C_3 , the values of R_2 , C_2 and R_4 must be 580Ω , 8200pF and 8.8Ω respectively.

While calculating the exact values of the filter components L and C, it is necessary to consider the load on the filter due to L_4 . A complete analysis can only be made using the describing function technique. The relationship between the operating frequency f, L and C can be determined very approximately by considering that, at the frequency of operation, a 16V pkto-pk square wave is attenuated to a 200mV pk-to-pk triangular wave by a low pass filter having an inductor (L + L_4) and a capacitor C with its equivalent series resistance. A 320µF capacitor was used with an equivalent series resistance of 0.12Ω and an inductor (L) of $100 \mu H$.

Performance data

Performance curves for the regulator indicated in Fig. 2(b) are given in Figs 3 and 4. Fig. 3 gives curves for efficiency, output ripple, regulation and switching frequency as functions of the output current and Fig. 4 shows how the same parameters vary for different input voltages.

Referring to the design described, the equations for calculating the frequency of operation are valid only when the

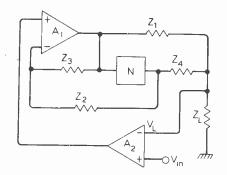


Fig. 5. Block diagram of circuit giving improved regulation performance. Amplifier A_2 should have a larger time constant than A_r

ripple current through the inductor L does not decay to zero. For very light loading the equations do not hold and the regulator tends to behave like a linear regulator and operates at very low switching frequencies. The switching frequency is highest at the point beyond which the regulator stops acting in the linear mode. For load currents higher than 600mA, the frequency of operation remains more or less constant until the inductor L starts saturating.

The efficiency of the regulator compares favourably with other switching regulators^{1,2}. Also, the load regulation is seen to be within 0.6% and the line regulation is better than 0.15% for a 100% change in the input voltage.

For any input or load condition the output ripple is seen to be within 4mV r.m.s. and spikes on the output are within 40mV pk-to-pk. Better ripple performance can be obtained by improving the bridge balance, minimising stray capacitances and improving ground layout. On a breadboard prototype made by the authors, these factors significantly affected the performance of the regulator. The ripple at the switching regulator output is reduced by 26dB by the feedforward mechanism.

By following the schematic in Fig.5 $^{\rm l}$, the regulation performance of the regulator can be further improved.

Conclusions

It has been seen that the performance of a self-oscillating switching regulator can be improved by the simultaneous application of feedback and feedforward. This principle can be applied to a constant frequency, pulse-width modulated switching-mode supply without any conceptual changes.

By combining feedback and feedforward, it is possible to design a switching regulator with the following characteristics:

- Extremely low output ripple despite the use of a low switching frequency and small filter components.
- High efficiency resulting from a low switching frequency.



Deepakraj M. Divan received his B. Tech. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India in 1975. He worked for two years for Messrs. Philips India Ltd as a development engineer with their electro-acoustic development laboratory where he worked primarily on the design and development of audio system components. Presently, he is working in the field of power electronics towards an M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering at the University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada.

- A reasonably constant switching frequency over a large operating range.
- Very good regulation.
- Ripple amplification enabling the use of an extremely insensitive comparator.

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Liquid crystals

A summary of one of the most widely-used display techniques

by J. C. Varney, Ebauches Electroniques SA, Switzerland

Watches containing liquid crystal displays are now widely available and liquid crystal panel displays are becoming more widely used. Yet the name — liquid crystal — appears to be an anomaly and the question "How can a crystal be a liquid?" is continually asked. Then again, when the display is described as a thin film of liquid crystal sandwiched between two transparent, conductively-coated glass plates, the problems involved in making reliable devices are not obvious.

A SOLID CRYSTAL is a material in which the constituent ions or molecules are rigidly held in a specific lattice structure; in other words, they are well ordered. In a liquid crystal the material is fluid but the constituent organic molecules are still ordered to some degree, the degree of ordering determining the type of liquid crystal. Thermotropic liquid crystals1 occur when a solid crystal is melted and exist until the fluid becomes clear and isotropic. This means the liquid crystal properties occur over a temperature range and, for a display system, this range should cover the operating temperatures likely to be met.

In a nematic liquid crystal, where the molecules generally lie parallel to each other, the main properties are the differences in dielectric constant and in refractive index values parallel with, and perpendicular to, the long axis of the rod-like molecule. These differences are termed the dielectric anisotropy and the optical anisotropy respectively. The former gives rise to a torque on the molecule in response to an electric field such that, with negative anisotropy, the molecule lies perpendicular to the field while with positive anisotropy it will tend to lie parallel to the field. Combined with the optical anisotropy, reorientation of molecules leads to modifications of the light transmission properties of thin films of the material.

A display device can now be envisaged as a thin film of material whose optical properties are changed by the application of an electric field but the precise ways in which the properties change are many and varied. The first electro-optic phenomenon used practically was termed dynamic scattering. If a negative dielectric anisotropy material is doped to become slightly conductive, the interaction between dielectric realignment and ionic current flow causes turbulence in the film. Ambient light is scattered to produce a cloudy display against a clear background. It should be stressed that liquid crystal displays do not emit light but merely act on light passing through

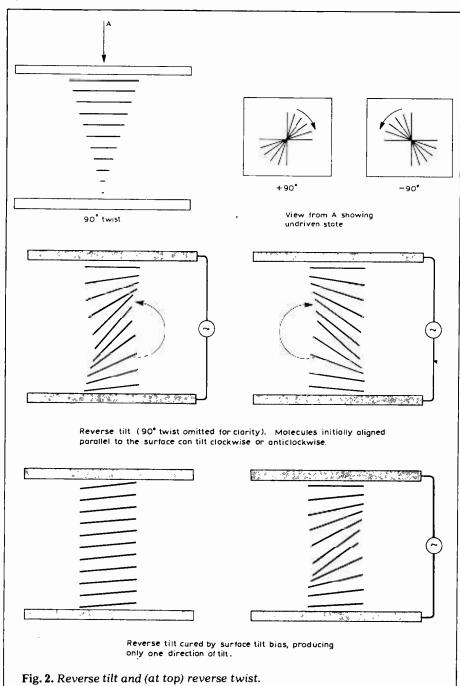
The thin film is made by sandwiching

the liquid crystal between two glass plates each with a transparent, conducting coating of tin or indium-tin oxide. The shape of the display is determined by the pattern selectively etched on the two coatings and the distance between the plates is set by a spacer about 12µm thick. The first room temperature nematic liquid crystals were very sensitive to moisture and a hermetic cell had to be developed to give them a usably long life. Cell fabrication techniques vary throughout the industry but generally the sealing and spacer material used is a glass frit although thermoplastics are also used.

The cells can be filled using the two hole method, where two holes at opposite ends of the cell allow the liquid crystal to be injected at one end and air to escape at the other. More commonly, the vacuum fill technique is used where a cell with one hole is evacuated and then dipped into a liquid crystal, atmospheric pressure forcing the material into the cell. Final seals include indium plugs for the hole, solder endcap sealing techniques and even laserheated, glass frit soldering. The cell should be driven by a.c. since the use of d.c. causes electrolysis effects which substantially reduce lifetimes.

While the dynamic scattering effect is still used for large displays, another effect has superseded it in the smaller

Fig. 1. Twisted nematic crystal with (a) no voltage applied and (b) threshold voltage applied. Note that when a voltage is applied the molecules tilt in the bulk of the cell and the 90° twist throughout the cell is destroyed. However, a remnant of the twisted structure is left at each surface as the molecules on the surface are firmly bonded. ight Incident light Polariser A Conductively coated glass Constrained East to West 90° twisted molecular Constrained North to South Polariser B crossed with respect to Polariser A) Conductively coated glass • 0 0 No light transmitted Light transmitted



panel meter and watch displays. This is the twisted nematic² (sometimes called the field effect) display where molecules on the glass plates are constrained to lie at ninety degrees to each other so imposing a ninety degree twist in the molecular structure. This molecular structure guides the polarisation of light passing through the cell so that inserting a twisted nematic cell between crossed polarisers allows light to be transmitted (Fig. 1a). Using a positive dielectric anisotropy material. application of an electric field destroys the twisted structure, and stops the guiding effect and so the polariser and cell sandwich does not transmit light. Two types of display are possible: dark on clear with crossed polarisers; or clear on dark with parallel polarisers. Coloured displays3 can also be made by using optical effects, such as coloured polariser material, or a birefringent layer.

Material stability problems using the original room temperature materials could still exist with the twisted nematic although the cell techniques employed enable these materials to be successfully used. The invention of the extremely stable biphenyl liquid crystal family⁴ slightly relaxed the demands made on the cell technology and a positive dielectric anisotropy mixture of the biphenyl family can have a nematic range of -10° to 60°C.

The main problem peculiar to the twisted nematic display has been achieving the desired molecular orientation at the glass surface. Evaporation of a dielectric material⁵, e.g. SiO, at an angle to the surface has been generally adopted. The orientation of the molecules at the surface depends on the angle of evaporation, the molecules tending to tilt away from the surface at certain angles. As the tilt angle gets smaller, so the viewing angle

of the display increases and the voltage response curve becomes more nonlinear, both desirable qualities.

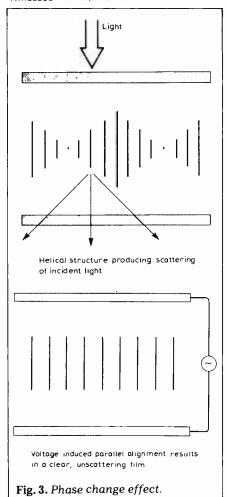
Early twisted nematic displays, and some less well-made present displays, suffer from reverse twist and reverse tilt (Fig. 2a). Reverse twist occurs when the ninety degree twist is in a different sense, i.e. $+90^{\circ}$ and -90° , in various areas of the cell so giving rise to a patchy appearance in the undriven state. It can be cured by the addition of a small amount of cholesteric liquid crystal6. (See Wireless World, May 1975 p.229-234.) The cholesteric material is a nematic with an inherent twist which biases the twisted nematic towards one twist sense. Reverse twist occurs when the molecules are parallel to the surface so that when a voltage is applied the molecules in the centre of the film can be reorientated in either direction to produce regions of different tilt angles, and a patchy appearance in the driven state. Reverse tilt in the driven state can be solved by giving the surface molecules a slight tilt to bias the driven-state tilt-angle in one direction.

The main advantages of the twisted nematic over dynamic scattering are the reduced power consumption (because the twisted nematic is a pure field effect while dynamic scattering requires current flow), enhanced contrast and greater aesthetic appeal.

At present the twisted nematic display is the dominant liquid crystal display in the watch and panel meter markets. The best displays have a wide viewing angle, reasonably bright background, no patches in either 'on' or 'off' areas and appear generally uniform. Response times are of the order of tens of milliseconds and, again, the best displays do not have the sluggish appearance of the poorer quality displays. Early liquid crystal displays tended to fail after a short time but, with the improvement in cell fabrication techniques, and the use of a.c. drive and newer materials, lifetimes of five years have been generally quoted, with longer lives anticipated as test data is accumulated.

What of the future? It seems probable that the twisted nematic liquid crystal display is perfectly suited to use in watches with respect to both the power requirements and the interface with c.m.o.s. circuitry. Under development at the present time is the dyed phase change effect8 where a dichroic dye (absorbing when light is polarised parallel to the long axis of the dye molecule, non absorbing when light is polarised perpendicular to the dye molecule long axis) is dissolved in a cholesteric-nematic mixture. The cholesteric imposes a twist on the nematic so that a helical structure is formed and, because of the dye, this appears coloured in the undriven state.

Application of an electric field to the positive dielectric anisotropy material results in a breakdown of the helical structure so that the display appears



clear due to the dye realigning in sympathy with the voltage realignment of the nematic molecules (Fig. 3). This display is brighter than the twisted nematic display since it does not require any polarisers, and it is hoped to make the contrast sufficiently high by the development of suitable dyes. The effect is considerably faster than the twisted nematic but requires higher drive voltages and quite stringent control of cell spacing. The main problem lies in developing dyes with good solubility in the nematic material, good dichroic properties, good colour characteristics and the required resistance to u.v. light. These are not trivial and no satisfactory solution has yet been found.

Many of the liquid-crystal display products on the market now employ multiplexing techniques. This means that instead of each segment being directly driven, the applied voltage is time-shared between several segments. Unlike l.e.ds for example, where multiplexing is easy due to the unidirectional, non-linear behaviour of the device, liquid crystals are not easy to multiplex. Since the device has a poor voltage threshold which also varies with temperature, multiplexing of liquid crystals is usually limited to two or three ways and is used extensively in the Japanese calculators and some watches. As the techniques improve, multiplexing will become commonplace in the field of liquid crystal displays, more especially so if the number of ways can be increased, and dedicated, multiplexing integrated circuits become readily available (the latter being particularly important for the o.e.m. market).

One common criticism of early liquid crystal displays, particularly in watches, was that they could not be seen in the dark. This has been overcome by two techniques; the first uses a filament microbulk plus a plastic light pipe to direct the light behind the display. The second technique uses tritium-activated "betalights" where pressurised tritium gas (radioactive hydrogen), inside a glass tube, emits electrons ('beta' particles) to strike a phosphor coating on the inside surface of the tube. This coating emits the desired light and these devices have a useful life of over 15 years.

Liquid crystal displays have come a long way since the first prototypes were made and the development effort now in full swing throughout the world promises to improve the devices even further. The advantages of low power consumption and continuous display will enable them to dominate the digital watch and calculator markets. With the multiplexing and aesthetic improvements on the way, liquid crystal displays will find applications in many of the markets where l.e.ds and fluorescent displays now dominate.

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Unique IC (`n-Amp Applications, Audio IC Op-Amp Applications, and IC Op-Amp Cookbook are three paperback books by Walter G. Jung.

The first two are smaller publications which have been extracted from the third. All of the volumes are packed with circuits, graphs and device information which makes them suitable for practising engineers or amateurs and hobbyists. Many of the circuits have worked examples showing how the component values are calculated which enables readers to design or modify circuits. Howard W. Sams & Co. Inc., 4300 West 62nd Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206, U.S.A.

Video Yearbook 1978 edited by Angus Robertson of Video and Audio Review. This second edition now contains 75 categories covering all forms of video equipment as well as audio, teletext and viewdata products. Most of the sections contain an alphabetical list of manufacturers together with brief product details. Other useful categories cover services, books, international television standards, jargon, journals, organisations, programme supplies and libraries. The book is sprinkled with photographs and concludes with an index section. Price £7.95 hardback, pp.440. Blandford Press, Link House, West Street, Poole, Dorset.

Electronic Communications by Dennis Roddy and John Coolen is intended for telecommunications students, and assumes a detailed knowledge of electronics and mathematics. The book is divided into five sections which cover communications fundamentals, electronic communication circuits, modulation of signals, transmission and radiation of signals, and communication systems. Two appendices cover logarithmic units and the transverse electromagnetic wave. Each section concludes with a list of problems. Pp.706 hardback. Reston Publishing Company, Inc., Reston, Virginia, U.S.A.

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TRAFFIC INFORMATION BROADCASTING

We read with interest the BBC article by S. M. Edwardson on broadcast traffic information systems published in your January issue. We are very disturbed at the suggestion that the BBC system may be less costly than ARI. We disagree. Moreover, the BBC system has not yet proved itself. ARI is already operational.

The BBC's assessments of costs were based on 1976 prices. According to our calculations, we believe that the comparative costs for 1978 should read as follows:

ARI BBC £ £
Capital cost 12,000 8,000,000

Additional decoder/receiver costs (assuming all motorists with radios add the traffic information system)

117,000,000 156,000,000

Totals: £117,012,000 £164,000,000 Minimum additional cost of the BBC system: £47 million

If, as is suggested in the BBC article, motorists were also to convert their home radio for breakfast listening, the special receiver cost would double, making the additional cost of the BBC system some £200 million! ARI involves no extra cost at home.

Of course, both the above figures are totally "pie in the sky" and are useful for comparison purposes only. There is no way that many motorists will be prepared to purchase special BBC fixed frequency add-on receivers which are only suited to providing traffic information at £20 or so (plus installation). On top of that, it would be necessary to find space on the crowded, modern car dashboard for the BBC receiver.

ARI, on the other hand, is undergoing dramatic growth on the Continent. It is spreading internationally — well over 2 million motorists have purchased ARI equipment (increasing by over 1 million a year, after only 3 years of life!) and 30% of newly registered cars in West Germany are fitted with ARI radios offered by all leading makes. So in terms of cost and acceptance, ARI is already well ahead.

Furthermore, all motorists with normal car radios can listen to traffic broadcasts put out by the ARI stations.

On the practical side, the BBC system poses many problems. Firstly, the BBC system requires a fixed frequency. With entertainment band transmitters booming in number from 4400 to over 10,000 in ITU regions 1 and 3 from November this year, there can be no chance of a fixed frequency being allocated in the entertainment broadcasting band - either in Britain or anywhere else. So the broadcasts would have to be made on a frequency outside the medium wave, motorists would be forced to buy special receivers to receive traffic information. With ARI, listeners can tune into traffic information stations in the normal way on standard radios at no extra cost at all!

Secondly, will broadcasters cease to provide traffic information on entertainment stations if the BBC system were to get under way? At present BBC research shows that 87% of motorists with radios welcome present raffic information services; so would broadcasters be prepared to upset their listeners by ceasing these services? AA research shows that nearly as many people partly listen to



their car radio for traffic information as for pop music – so traffic information clearly belongs correctly within the output of entertainment stations.

If we assume that broadcasters continue to issue traffic information, welcomed by 87% how many motorists would be prepared to buy a special BBC traffic-message-only, fixed-tune receiver? We believe very few.

The BBC system requires many more years of research, development and then, perhaps, installation of the necessary 70 or so special transmitters. ARI is tried and proven and can be plugged in overnight at £625 per transmitter. Motorists would receive immediate, urgent help. Moreover, during the time that the BBC system will take to develop, much more sophisticated driver guidance systems will become available. (Our own ALI Driver Guidance System using induction loops and providing individual drivers with directional guidance as well as traffic messages is already developed, ready for installation, and undergoing widescale assessment.)

The BBC has championed the need for an alternative system to ARI largely because in the late 1960s, when ARI was first on the drawing board, it was considered that ARI was an f.m. system and not suited to predominantly medium and long wave Britain. Two things were overlooked. Firstly, ARI was first developed for operation on medium and long waves - and even now is broadcast on these wavebands on the Continent. Secondly, overcrowding of the medium waveband, especially in the next few years, has led to a need for Britain to develop its f.m. broadcasting capability. Even now the BBC is advertising to educate the public to purchase radio sets which include the f.m. bands!

ARI has never been disputed as the only suitable system available for f.m. broadcasting, endorsed as such by the EBU. The BBC has also expressed this view. So ARI is clearly both versatile and better suited to the future needs of broadcasting and reception.

Clearly it is advisable to study and consider new and alternative systems of communication with motorists. We at Bosch and Blaupunkt are actively doing so. But meanwhile, surely, it would be better to accept the ARI system now and provide motorists with immediate help in receiving the services already available.

Andrew Rodger on behalf of Blaupunkt-Werke GmbH Watford

Mr Edwardson replies:

Mr Rodger has made so many misleading statements that I hardly know where to start, but perhaps it would be a good idea to make a fundamental point to begin with. Whereas the BBC has proposed a dedicated total

system, aimed at providing detailed local traffic information for those who want it, ARI is simply an aid to receiver-tuning and nothing more. ARI enables a listener to identify those broadcasting stations that are scheduled to transmit occasional traffic information messages in the way that BBC Radio 2 and BBC local radio stations operate at the moment. The obvious snag with this type of broadcasting is that only general information in limited amounts can be given and all listeners have to receive it whether they want to or not.

Having recognised this truth, further comparisons are almost pointless. Nevertheless, it is perhaps worth noting that Mr Rodger's cost figures boil down to a statement that a v.h.f. receiver with ARI would cost less than an l.f./m.f. receiver with Carfax. Manufacturers' estimates lead us to expect that a complete l.f./m.f. car radio with Carfax will cost about £50, in contrast to at least £150 for the cheapest ARI receiver capable of giving a choice of programme with automatic changeover to other stations broadcasting traffic information service inserts (one such receiver costs £740).

I wonder whether Mr Rodger is really serious when he writes of ARI's dramatic growth? He must surely be aware of the research work now going on into station and programme identification systems for use in radio broadcasting. If he wants a tuning aid, these new digital systems are well advanced and will do the tuning-aid job of ARI using only a fraction of their available capacities.

On the subject of an operating frequency or channel allocation, what more economical use of spectrum space can anyone envisage than a system that provides local information, yet potentially requires only one frequency for the whole world?

Carfax is a new but well developed system that will no doubt further evolve and improve with operating experience over the years. During this time, its usage will expand and its cost to the motorist will decrease. I am sure that Wireless World readers will appreciate that we have been well aware of the German system for some time and have studied its operation thoroughly. The more we see, the less we like it and the more convinced we are that the BBC proposal is much superior. By the way, when did the BBC endorse ARI? We have no such knowledge.

S. M. Edwardson

THE NRDC—FAILING IN ITS DUTY?

It is a great pity that the NRDC, as a result of one correct investment decision some twenty years ago, has the funding to regularly rewhitewash itself, while those like myself who have suffered severely at its hands lack the funding or motivation to put the record straight.

In the January issue, page 72, you quote the NRDC chairman as saying, "To my knowledge,..... there is no record of anyone leaving, going away from the NRDC and making a success of their invention somewhere else." I am such a case. After the NRDC put £1,000 into my invention, called "C.A.M.", and proclaimed that they wanted to support it further, I told the Secretary for Industry that I would never again try to do business with the NRDC. My inventions have

since received over £50,000 of government support. (Computer Weekly, Dec. 8, 1977, page 12.)

It is very rare for an inventor to escape from the destructive clutches of the NRDC. in *The Spectator*, Feb. 16, 1974, page 211, I described the technique by which the NRDC sabotages inventors (including myself) who approach them. My charges were never answered. While it is true that the NRDC admitted to mishandling my case, I have come across many other instances of similarly destructive behaviour.

A senior official of the NRDC said to me. "We are not supporting private inventors any more. All inventors hate us. We are a merchant bank now."

So long as it is generally known that the NRDC is not carrying out its proclaimed duty, to support private invention and new industry, it will do much less damage than it has done in the past. The trouble is that they have the funding and the motivation to continually re-whitewash themselves as more and more evidence of their destructive behaviour comes to light.

The damage to myself and my invention was very severe; a direct loss of one year in pushing forward my invention; very severe psychological stress when they played cat and mouse with me during that year. Years later, I still find it difficult to behave in a trusting manner with other government departments. I continue to suffer damage because it is difficult for other government departments to come in and try to fulfil the role that the NRDC should be fulfilling in my case. Mine is exactly the kind of case that the NRDC was set up to support; a major breakthrough in computer architecture and microelectronics requiring an investment of the order of £20,000 to £100,000.

On 24 July 1973, a government select committee called for an urgent enquiry into the behaviour of the NRDC (Third Report from the Select Committee on Science and Technology. Tracked Hovercraft Ltd. Session 1972-73). About a year ago, another report from the same committee, coincidentally also called "Third Report . . ", again lambasted the NRDC and called for an urgent inquiry into its behaviour.*

If the future of this country depends on the development of new products and new industries, this destructive behaviour over a period of so many years will be perhaps the major cause of our decline. Certainly I believe the NRDC is doing more damage to our economy than shop stewards in the car or shipbuilding industries.

Sir Monty Finniston, currently chairing the government inquiry into the state of the engineering profession, was in the NRDC from 1963 to 1973, the period during which I know they did a great deal of damage. He must at best repudiate the

* "Third Report from the Select Committee on Science and Technology. University — Industry Relations, Session 1975-76." Published 26 Oct. 1976, H.M.S.O., price £1.15.

"There was little indication in the evidence of either the NRDC of the Department of Industry that they were aware of the extent of the criticisms levelled against the Corporation. There was, indeed, an air of complacency about their evidence. This is a matter for concern in itself ..." — page 70, para. 5.55. Also. "It may well be that these functions would be better performed by a new institution without the accumulated scepticism and indifference which NRDC's policy and activities appear to have generated in some quarters." — page 72, para. 5.59.

NRDC, or at least explain his attitude to them, if we are to have any confidence that his current activity will be helpful. Does Sir Monty agree with the Select Committee that "... the conduct of the NRDC towards the staff of Tracked Hovercraft Limited falls far short of that expected of a good employer."? (Third Report, 24 July 1973, para. 49). Does he agree that "... the structure and powers of the NRDC are in need of urgent and fundamental review."? (ibid, para. 220).

Speaking more generally, can nothing be done about this cancer in our midst, the NRDC?

Ivor Catt, Computer Associative Modules Ltd, St Albans, Herts.

AUDIO EQUIPMENT REVIEWS

Allow me to call to your attention errors of fact which appear in Mr Raymond Cooke's letter in your last issue.

This matter really begins with your news item in the February issue (p.34) in which Mr Cooke, on being interviewed, stated that he was not invited to the preliminary discussion of measurement techniques to be employed in the forthcoming issue of *Hi Fi Choice Loudspeakers*. In fact, an oral invitation was given to a representative of his company, but in the event, no representative attended the meeting.

As for laboratory facilities being made available by KEF, the facts are that such computer facilities were made available by KEF in the previous "30 Loudspeaker Tests" for Hi Fi For Pleasure in 1976, taking advantage of KEF's then policy of encouraging the use of accurate measurement systems to review products in the British press. I was grateful for this facility. However, in the present project under discussion, I made a point of not asking KEF Electronics for computer facilities, but instead invited another manufacturer with similar capabilities, because I felt it would be fairer to both companies. In any event, the KEF tests that were required and conducted in 1976, were completed in less than one working day, a Saturday, with no apparent disruption of the firm's activities.

With regard to the present testing of 60 loudspeakers, the second manufacturer later withdrew his permission for our use of the computer and other facilities which he had earlier promised. As it happens, this merely meant in practice that we had to spend more time in compiling the test results. In other words, the refusal by the second manufacturer merely cost us more time and did not invalidate the tests themselves.

I would agree with Mr Cooke that a period of four to five months is needed for this type of evaluation, and in fact this was the precise period of time taken for our test and report. His comment of "less than two months" is inaccurate. As for the remark that it was undertaken by "one man with borrowed equipment" I would like to point out that in all, there were in addition to myself one assistant for a large proportion of the time, and a total of three persons engaged in the anechoic testing, plus a hired musician and six panellists, one of whom was an independent consultant who is professionally engaged in the recording industry and who was

commissioned to give his professional opinion on the products. In other words, I was the overall director and scientific manager of a team.

As for "borrowed equipment" this amounted to the hiring of a B & K gating unit, the remaining complete B & K audio testing station and ancillary equipment used being my own property. The D.o.E. anechoic facilities at Garston, Watford were hired, not borrowed, as is the case with several major manufacturers.

Finally we have to ask what is a "shoestring"? To my knowledge the allocation of funds for this project was far in access of anything that has been provided to date by other comparable hi-fi periodicals.

I realise that Mr Cooke has the interests of the hi-fi industry and its products at heart. In fact, KEF products usually, and deservedly, receive a good press. In the previous issue of *Hi Fi Choice* KEF products were outstanding. Furthermore, KEF took a great interest in that issue and contributed descriptive material in the introduction.

Finally, may I point out that full details of test philosophy, procedure and limitations are exhaustively discussed in the new issue of Hi Fi Choice, and if Wireless World readers have any reason to doubt the sincerity of Hi Fi Choice or its consultant reviewers, they need only read that issue to judge for themselves.

Martin Colloms London NW6

AUDIBLE AMPLIFIER DISTORTION

I am not sure just what Mr Howard (February letters) means by "transfer distortion", since it is a term I cannot recollect having seen in the literature. It seems to me that all amplifier distortion is, by the very nature of things, transfer distortion, i.e. distortion introduced while the signal is being transferred from the input to the output of the amplifier. Thus Mr Howard's introductory remark seems to mean simply that Peter Walker and I regard it as important to assess the audible performance of an amplifier by investigating its distortion. What else could we reasonably do?

Mr Howard states that the validity of the technique of listening to the distortion by itself rests firmly on the assumption that interaction of sub-threshold distortion with signal does not take place in the ear/brain complex. However, as he himself points out, the fact that such interaction can be shown to occur under certain highly artificial conditions, as described in the paper by G. Oster, does not necessarily mean that it would produce degradation of music signals. Indeed, there is plenty of evidence to show that, when listening to music, distortion must be considerably above the normal threshold-ofhearing level in order to be heard, or its presence in any way perceived. However, I grant that, in the light of these interesting findings about sub-threshold binaural beat perception, I perhaps ought not to have said that it "quite inescapably" follows that because the distortion of an amplifier is inaudible by itself, the amplifier may be regarded as subjectively perfect. So what is the evidence to show that this conclusion is nevertheless correct? The evidence is of several kinds, as follows.

Firstly, it is always found that with a good amplifier, whose distortion is inaudible when listened to on its own, the distortion has to be increased quite a lot before it begins to produce a just perceptible effect on musical quality. This increased distortion, when listened to on its own, is then found to be easily audible.

Secondly, it is well established that recording most kinds of live programme material on a first-class tape recorder does not result in any readily appreciable degradation in quality, except, perhaps, with regard to signal-to-noise ratio when the dynamic range is very wide. Yet doing this introduces peak distortion which may well be 40dB greater than that of a first-class amplifier, and which, reproduced by itself, is clearly audible far outside the room in which it is reproduced.

Thirdly, it is demonstrable that the distortion produced by a good amplifier is much quieter than the distorted acoustic output from a Dust Bug, which can easily be heard all over the room on heavily modulated passages if the volume control is turned down. But does anyone seriously suggest that the acoustic output from a Dust Bug is of any consequence?

Another method for temporarily increasing the distortion of an amplifier, while keeping the character of the distortion the same, and which is sometimes more convenient than that mentioned in my November 1977 article, is to alter the β -network to give less negative feedback and insert a corresponding amount of passive attenuation in front of the amplifier. This method should only be used, however, by those in a position to make quite sure that no kind of overloading occurs in the amplifier, for drastic overloading would invalidate the soundness of this technique.

For reasons such as the above, particularly the first, I think one is actually very safe indeed in maintaining that if distortion on programme is inaudible by itself, it won't be audible, or in any way perceptible, when accompanied by the masking effect of the programme. Masking effects are quite large and some of the broad facts about them are well established1. They are not invalidated by the fact that if a relatively loud tone, at frequency well below 1000 Hz, is presented to one ear by means of an earphone, the other ear can just detect, by means of beats, the presence of a tone of nearly the same frequency at a level somewhat below its normal threshold-of-hearing level. These highly artificial conditions never apply in normal circumstances.

I was sorry to find that Professor Fellgett (February letters) thinks I threw the baby out with the bathwater, in my November 1977 article, and from the rest of his letter I fear he really thinks more than one baby was thus ejected!

With regard to electric bells, I must confess to having taken little specific interest in these since my school days, except for a minor revival of interest at college when someone pointed out that the delayed build-up of current, due to inductance, when the contacts close, is a vital part of the theory. If full magnetization occurred instantly, the mechanical system would lose just as much energy when moving away from the magnet poles, with the contact closed, as it later gained on returning through exactly the same distance with the contacts still closed. Before making reference to "tintinnabular matters" in my article, I did do a few orderof-magnitude mental calculations, which convinced me that the effective build-up time constant would be so long, and the inductance value so high, that parameters of the connecting leads other than d.c. resistance could hardly be significant. A recent experiment on a bell shows the expected slow current rise, lasting several milliseconds, and rapid cut-off, a slight complication, not surprisingly, being a few "cobs" on the current waveform at the start of current flow, due to contact bounce. With this 4-volt bell, I find adding 0.2 ohm of extra series resistance in the supply circuit had a discernible effect on the sound, but even 1mH of added series inductance has no evident influence. I am therefore simply not inclined to believe that, for a given d.c. resistance, it will make a scrap of difference whether one uses Litz wire or not. While recognising that one could spend months investigating the fine details of electric bell behaviour, and still not be able to claim that one totally understood everything, I suggest that it would probably be more worthwhile to devote your attention to other matters!

I do not altogether agree that the lack of comprehensive theory of how the ear and brain act means we are largely deprived of quantitative limits, for these limits can usually be determined fairly satisfactorily by subjective experiments. The danger with mathematical theories of audition is that the assumptions on which they are based can so easily be wrong, and this can be lost sight of, at least temporarily, by those with great enthusiasm for the mathematics itself.

I do not share Professor Fellgett's concern over the supposed difficulty of defining "avoidance of overloading". A really firstclass amplifier will have a large amount of negative feedback, and recent suggestions that feedback should be used only in small amounts are simply nonsense and cannot stand up to rational investigation either theoretically or practically. A well-designed amplifier with plenty of feedback will normally have a very sharply-defined overload point, though it is important to remember that the instantaneous output voltage at which overload occurs is liable to depend markedly on the magnitude and nature of the load impedance, and may be at a point on output voltage waveform well below the peak if the overload is due to inability to supply sufficient output current rather than voltage. But, whatever the cause of overload. a large error voltage will rapidly develop in the feedback circuit if the input programme level slightly exceeds a certain critical setting. By arranging for this error voltage to operate an indicator circuit, the occurrence of overloading may be sensitively displayed. I have had an economical circuit of this type in operation for over a year, and it will be described in a later article in my present series. If, on given recorded programme input, the indicator just operates once or twice, then a very slight reduction in volume control setting, say 1dB, will be sufficient to ensure that no overloading occurs. The setup shown in Fig. 1 of the November article may, of course, be used to perform a similar function if the monitoring loudspeaker is replaced by a c.r.o. or other visual display. Please note that two resistors were inadvertently omitted, in series with S1 and S2

I think that many reported cases of inferior audible performance of amplifiers are due to overload occurring without the user being aware of it. For example, if an amplifier has a maximum instantaneous output current capability of 5A, but plenty of voltage capability, it will just give 100W mean sine-

wave power to an 8Ω resistance load. But a nominally 8Ω loudspeaker, whose impedance modulus drops at one frequency to $3\Omega-$ and such devices do exist! — can have a peak instantaneous voltage of only 15V developed across it at this frequency, and this voltage, referred in the usual way to the nominal 8Ω impedance value, yields a mean output power figure of only 14W. When various straightforward effects such as this are appreciated and allowed for, amplifiers are found not to be the subtle and mysterious things they are sometimes imagined to be.

I have carefully read the paper by Leinonen and Otala to which Professor Fellgett refers, and consider the noise intermodulation test there described to be an unreasonable one to apply to an audio amplifier. It will show up to advantage an amplifier having a very high slew-rate capability, but there is no virtue, other things being equal, in designing an audio amplifier to have a slewrate limit far in excess of the maximum slew-rate of any programme material it will ever have to handle. The test signal is stated to be band-limited white noise, the limiting filter having an attenuation rate above 20kHz of only 6dB/octave, so that the highfrequency part of its transfer function is presumably of the form1/(1 + pT). To determine the slew-rate of the noise coming out of this filter, one must differentiate the output, i.e. multiply it by pT. The differentiator output spectrum is therefore that of white noise fed through a network having a transfer function of the form pT/(1 + pT), which is the transfer function of an ordinary R-C a.c. coupling. If the bandwidth of the white noise source were infinite, the peak slew-rate as thus measured would also, in very idealized theory, be infinte. In practice it would be of infinite value, dependent on the particular white noise generator employed. Surely this is a very undesirable state of affairs for a so-called standardised test? Peter J. Baxandall

Malvern Worcs

Reference

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COMPUTERS: WORDS FROM A PROFESSIONAL

I see that computers and related subjects are beginning to take up an increasing amount of space in your journal. As a computer professional I take exception to some points in your March issue.

Firstly, in the otherwise excellent article "Integrated-circuit memories" by John Dwyer, the author states that "Floppy discs have a life of three months". After four years of using this medium I would disagree with this inaccurate and totally meaningless statement. I would also suggest that it will take an absolutely new technology to displace magnetic media for data storage, off line, in view of the very low cost, high packing density, and non-volatile nature. In a commercial installation one disk drive may have several hundred diskettes of data associated with it.

Secondly, I write programs, and in all the computer publications I read I see the word referred to as: "program." Why does this get

translated into "programme" in the pages of Wireless World?* I find this similar to reading about silicone chips in the computer press.

Finally, in your editorial on electronics and employment, you miss the point that commuting is a total waste of energy and manpower resources. Unlike some I never found a visit to Waterloo Station had any social value. Also I would suggest that the short staffing and presence of a high proportion of immigrant labour in the transport services suggests that this is not a socially desirable area. The problem of the future is should we provide employment manufacturing goods and services and preserve skills which are totally unwanted and redundant?

J. Watt Gibraltar Heights Gibraltar

* On the contrary, the word "programme", which was used in Wireless World for about fifty years before computers arrived, has been translated into "program" in the pages of the computer press. We are well aware of the wide use of "program" but think it introduces unnecessary mystification, suggesting that a "program" is somehow different from a "programme". In fact it is the same thing, a "descriptive notice of series of events" or "definite plan of intended proceedings" (Concise Oxford Dictionary). See also "Principles of digital computers" by D. S. Wilde, Wireless World, November and December 1960. – Editor.

DIRECT PERCEPTION OF RADIO WAVES?

Mr Wood's letter in the December 1977 issue concerning direct sensing of radio waves is most interesting [See also correspondence in February and March. — Ed.]

One day in 1959 while I was drifting quietly in a small boat under the ice cliffs at Port Lockroy, Antarctica, where we were studying ionospherics, including whistlers, I heard what sounded like a shell from a large gun whistling overhead. This was not unreasonable as foreign gunboats had been in the area at that time; however, there was no explosion or crump of a shell hitting its target. Shortly after this I heard, to my considerable amazement, the unmistakable sound of a whistler exactly as recorded on our whistler magnetic tapes. It was so difficult to imagine just how one could hear v.l.f. electromagnetic waves directly that I kept quiet about it to my colleagues - there is always the risk in such cases of being accused of Polar madness!

A few days later two of my colleagues both heard exactly what I had heard and insisted it was whistlers. Needless to say, I accused them of Polar madness or at best of mistaking ice squeaks for whistlers, but after convincing myself of their overwhelming conviction that they had indeed heard whistlers I admitted I too had heard them. Later in the year some American scientists, believing such a thing was possible, asked us to give details of times, directions and so on to add to evidence they had already started collecting on the subject.

Ten years later while listening to a lot of folklore about people being able to hear aurorae in Shetland, where I worked on, and still work on, geomagnetism, I wondered again whether some form of ion/acoustic coupling, together with focusing in the

auroral arc, could produce audible sounds directly. An acute human ear only needs a few dBs more gain to be able to listen to Brownian movement of molecules. Alas, I could raise nether the equipment nor the official interest to investigate this type of phenomenon properly, but I do still find it most intriguing.

A few years ago we were asked for advice by a lady concerning a claim that she could sense the N-S direction of the Earth's magnetic field but only when she had the television set on.

As there is growing concern over the whole question of acceptable flux levels of microwave radiation in one's working environment because of, among other things, the eye's ability to focus the radiation on the retina and hence cause possible damage by burning, perhaps readers should be invited to describe any incident at all where they have reason to believe that one or more of their senses has/ have been able to sense directly low level electromagnetic waves of whatever frequency. It might prove extremely enlightening.

A. G. Lewis Institute of Geological Sciences The Observatory Lerwick Shetland

Editor's note: Whistlers are electromagnetic waves in the audio frequency range. Generated by lightning discharges, they penetrate the ionosphere and are ducted along the lines of the Earth's magnetic field. The whistling character when heard—usually a note descending in pitch—results from the fact that the different frequencies generated travel at different speeds.

CASSETTE DECK MODIFICATIONS

Readers of Mr Linsley Hood's postscript in the February issue on his cassette deck design may be interested in some additional features that I have incorporated in my own unit. The first of these consists in replacing one of the two recording level controls by a $1k\Omega$ linear potentiometer to act as a motor speed control. The existing preset on the p.c.b. is removed. This has many uses - such as when replaying a tape recorder on a different machine (e.g. a portable recorder running slow due to ailing batteries), or when the tape threatens to end before the last chord of the concert! A dual control with independent shafts replaces the other gain control to maintain the original function.

Another change lay in rewiring the 'phones output jack on the front panel as a (mono) microphone input, since the writer's 'phones are of lower impedance than is good for the replay amplifier. The live and earthed switched contacts were interconnected so as to earth the input when not in use, and the internal lead taken to the switched contacts of the stereo jack sockets on the ear panel. A microphone plugged into either of these sockets therefore overrides the mono input to that channel.

Finally, the Lenco mechanism has a useful feature which many readers may not have discovered. In normal practice the record control may not be depressed whilst the cassette is in position. However, slight sideways movement of the fast wind/rewind

control permits this operation (the pause button may remain depressed meanwhile). A similar movement then terminates recording. T. Sharot Stanmore Middlesex

DIGITAL ELECTRONICS THEORY

Mr Davidson's letter in the March issue contains so many sweeping statements and unjustified generalisations that one can only surmise that it was written to stimulate debate. Otherwise, why should someone having available "clearly defined design rules" and "certain techniques which are not taught in any educational establishment in the country, nor written about in any textbook" not share this privileged knowledge? Similarly one would have to conclude that Mr Davidson's knowledge of educational establishments and textbooks is significantly less universal than he implies. It would also seem that he has not heard of transmission line theory, nor of those of its areas which are particularly relevant to digital techniques, such as line driving and Bergeron diagrams. Further, he seems unaware of the connection between risetime-based (time domain) digital techniques and the corresponding Bode diagram (frequency domain) analogue methods, which is, for example, hinted in Mr Baxandall's article in the same issue.

No doubt other readers will be able to supply reading lists, including Wireless World articles, which should demonstrate that "the practical problems" have indeed been studied. I content myself with pointing out to Mr Davidson that within the Post Office engineers are aware of the problems, and courses are available for those who wish to be "taught the important fundamental principles for competent digital system development" including "how lns steps propagate".

T. M. Forcer PO Marine Division Southampton

GAMES CHIP CONFUSION

The good news is that the Tank Game AY-3-8710 chips are in stock and have been since mid-March as promised. (April News of the Month, p.50.)

The bad news is that we feel you were misled by GI who apparently stated that the chip was not available in February. We knew of three companies who had the chip exstock in February, including one of GI's own distributors.

Marshall's are not often misled and we continually obtain products of this kind to maintain our range of 2000 integrated circuits.

Lastly, the price of the chip is £16.50 and the kit £29.95 including VAT, ex-stock from all our branches.

G. J. Clifton

A. Marshall (London) Ltd London NW2

Loudspeaker system design

Three-enclosure system with active delay and crossovers

by Siegfried Linkwitz

This detailed description of a multiple-driver loudspeaker design is in two parts and covers driver selection, enclosure design, the active crossover, equalization and positioning. Sufficient information is given to duplicate the system or to improve existing systems by equalizing the low-frequency response or adding a separate woofer box.

THE SYSTEM DESCRIBED has evolved over years and out of experimentation with many different configurations and types of drivers and enclosures. Many people have contributed their ideas. It is not "the ultimate loudspeaker", but it reveals enough about microphone placement and recording practices to suggest, that the recording studio is the next weak link in the chain between original and reproduction. The few recordings with good spatial definition are proof that the full potential of stereo has not been exploited. Possibly this potential has gone unnoticed because hardly any commercial loudspeaker reproduces the depth perspective adequately, giving either a diffuse or thin-walled stereo image.

Every driver becomes more directional as frequency increases. The radiation pattern of a rigid piston mounted at the end of a long tube is omnidirectional at frequencies where the ratio of piston diamter d to the wavelength $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ of radiated sound is small, Fig. 1. As d/λ increases the on-axis pressure increases but the pressure at 45° off-axis decreases relative to it. Experience shows that wide dispersion of sound is desirable for natural reproduction. Allowing for a maximum 6dB drop-off at 45° off-axis requires that a driver be only used over a frequency range where its equivalent piston diameter is less than one wavelength. This is an idealized assumption because real drivers do not behave exactly like rigid pistons but the general principle still holds that uniform, wide dispersion can only be expected for frequencies where $d/\lambda \le 1$.

In all loudspeaker designs the physical dimensions of driver, box and room have to be compared to the wavelength of the radiated sound to determine whether a dimension is acoustically small, as when $d/\lambda < 0.5$, or large, Fig, 2. A 200mm diameter driver for example should only be used up to 1.5kHz to maintain wide dispersion.

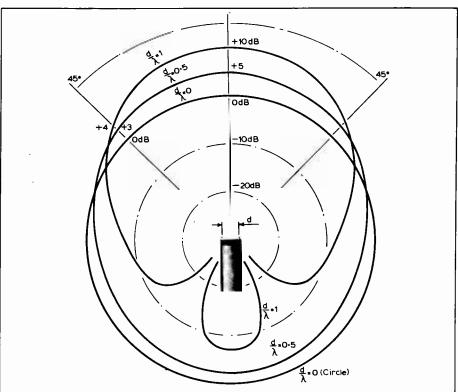


Fig. 1. Directivity pattern for a rigid circular piston in the end of a long tube as function of d/λ (d is piston diameter, λ is radiated sound wavelength). Wide dispersion can only be obtained for frequencies where $d/\lambda \le 1$.

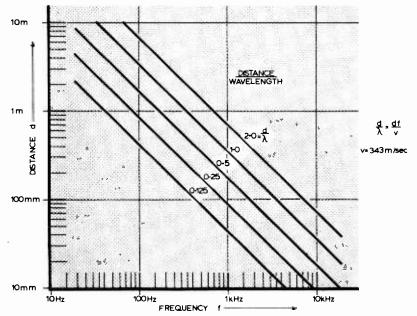


Fig. 2. Dimension (d) of driver, box or room must be compared to wavelength of sound to determine whether a dimension is acoustically small.

This is indeed a popular crossover frequency but it is also well within the critical frequency range of fundamentals and lower harmonics of many musical instruments. It is unavoidable that some change in the radiation pattern is introduced around the transition frequency from a larger to a smaller driver. In the design described a 100mm diameter driver is chosen which crosses over to a 25mm diameter unit at 3kHz. The radiation pattern change occurs therefore an octave higher in a relatively less critical frequency range, but still care has been taken in the design of the crossover circuitry to minimize irregularities in the transition

Some designers try to obtain wide dispersion or "omni-directionality" by using multiple drivers, covering the same frequency range. The fallacy in this approach can be seen by comparing the radiation pattern of a single driver to the resulting dispersion when two of these units radiate together, Fig. 3. If the distance d between the drivers is greater than half a wavelength signal cancellation can occur. The two outputs will be 180° out of phase whenever the path lengths from each of the drivers to the listener differ by an odd multiple of a half wavelength. As frequency increases the two units move relatively further apart (Fig. 2) and the locations for which the outputs cancel become more frequent. Such a system can only be described as multi-directional. Additional drive units further destroy the phase coherence of the direct sound output from the speaker system. This imparts the illusion of wide dispersion to all program material but lacks the accuracy in sound perspective which can be obtained from a single drive unit.

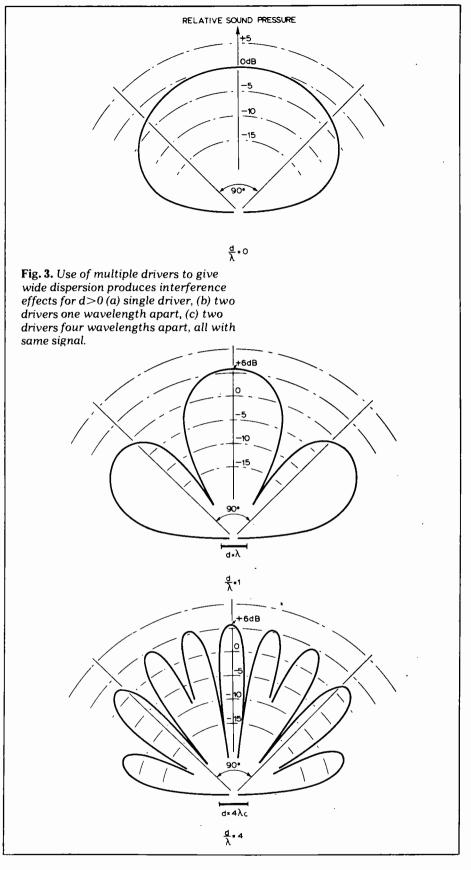
After establishing from the cone diameter the highest frequency up to which a driver can be used with good dispersion, the lower frequency limit will be determined from the cone excursion capability of the drive unit and the desired sound pressure level.

The radiation from the piston in a long tube was found to be omnidirectional for low frequencies where $d/\lambda \ll 1$, Fig. 1. If the piston moves with a peak-to-peak excursion a_{pp} at frequency f and radiates into free space, then the pressure p at a distance r from the source is

$$p = \frac{\pi^2 \rho_o}{8\sqrt{2}} \frac{a_{np} f^2 d^2}{r}$$

Normalizing the pressure with respect to the reference pressure $p=2\times10^{-4}\mu$ bar yields an expression for the more familiar sound pressure level (d and a pp increased in mm)

$$20\log (p/p_0) = -86 + 40\log f - 20\log r + 40\log d + 20\log a_{op}$$



Assuming a_{pp} is 6mm and f 70Hz a direct pressure level of 83dB at 1m can be obtained from the 100mm driver and 85dB from a 200mm unit.

These s.p.ls may not seem very high but crossing over to a woofer at 70Hz will double the maximally obtainable sound pressure (+6dB) and because signals from the left and right channels of a stereo system are predominantly in phase at such low frequency a further increase of approximately 6dB can be expected. Therefore from a stereo system with 100mm drivers a direct freefield s.p.l. of about 95dB can be expected. Furthermore the normal listening environment is a semireverberant room where sound is reinforced by reflections from walls and objects.

Practical experience confirms that a 100mm unit can handle program

material down to 70Hz at adequate levels and low distortion. This moves the crossover to the woofer to a less critical frequency range and a single large woofer can be used to cover the remaining frequency range below 70Hz. The large woofer enclosure can be placed separately from the relatively small midrange and tweeter enclosures and still be acoustically close because d/λ is small. Further consideration is given to this aspect of the system design later.

The frequency range below 70Hz could be covered by two 200mm units which will generate 90dB of direct s.p.l. at 35Hz and 1m or two 250mm diameter drivers with 94dB s.p.l. assuming 6mm peak-to-peak excursion capability.

The particular drivers chosen for this design are the 100mm KEF B110 low frequency/midrange unit, the 25mm KEF T27 tweeter and the KEF B139 woofer. A different unit like the KEF B200 or some other make with adequate excursion capability and linearity could be substituted for the B139.

There are of course considerations other than dispersion and cone excursion which must enter into the selection of a drive unit, such as smoothness of frequency response, freedom from high Q resonances, minimum phase behaviour, and low non-linear distortion. Unfortunately few meaningful data are published by many manufacturers. Knowing the magnet weight and flux density is of little help. With some training though the ear can sort out those drive units that seem worth further investigation and the units chosen for this design proved to be very satisfactory.

The selection of drivers was primarily guided by the desite for wide, uniform dispersion and crossover frequencies as high and low as possible. Had emphasis been placed on high power output capability or lower non-linear and Doppler distortion then larger diameter drivers would have to be chosen, or the crossover frequencies shifted to a more critical frequency range. Wide disper-

sion can only be obtained from a small drive unit which will also have higher distortion than a larger unit. It appears though that psychoacoustically the increased distortion is outweighed by an improved sound perspective which gives a greater sense of realism. Some further investigation of this subject is needed.

Speaker enclosures

Usually the size of a loudspeaker enclosure is dictated by the required low frequency response and efficiency. A different approach is taken here where the enclosure is optimized for minimum secondary radiation over as wide a frequency range as possible. The low frequency output capability is treated as a separate problem.

The purpose of the enclousre is to control the radiation from the back of the cone. A closed box design is chosen as the simplest form of enclosure. If the largest box dimension is less than a quarter wavelength at the highest frequency from the driver then the box is acoustically small and the air volume inside the enclosure will act like a uniform soring. The box has to be made sufficiently stiff so that the internal air pressure changes will not deflect the walls and cause secondary radiation. The woofer enclosure can be made small relative to the 70Hz maximum frequency. It will therefore have no internal air volume resonances and resonances of the box panels can be pushed above 70Hz by crossbracing of the walls.

The enclosure for the B110 presents greater difficulties because of the wider

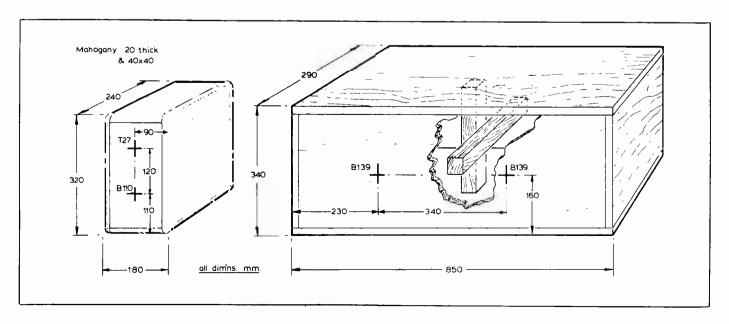
Fig. 4. Loudspeaker enclosure dimensions. As there is little stereo information below the 70Hz limit of the enclosures (left), a centre woofer covers the remaining range down to 25Hz (right).

frequency range covered. The volume inside the enclosure will exhibit cavity resonances which have to be eliminated. Acoustic energy is stored whenever one of these resonances is excited and gradually released after the excitation has been removed. Most of this acoustic energy exits through the cone: the speaker regurgitates its own characteristic box sound. Fortunately it is not difficult to dampen cavity resonances. The technique of filling the enclosure with long-fibre wool is well established and very effective.^{2,3}

Another form of undesired secondary radiation comes from the enclosure walls themselves. The walls can be excited to vibrate by the internal air volume pressure changes, but more serious is the direct transmission of the mechanical vibration of the driver's cone to the enclosure. The walls then radiate the transmitted mechanical energy as sound, particularly when its frequency coincides with a panel resonance.

It is not unusual that more energy is radiated directly from the enclosure walls than from the cone at resonance frequencies. If for example the vibrating enclosure surface has ten times the area of the cone then its acoustic output will already equal that of the cone if it has only one tenth of the cone excursion. The output of most loudspeakers is coloured by radiation from the enclosure walls.

It has been verified experimentally that vibration coupling between the driver and the walls occurs primarily through the rigid mounting of the driver to the enclosure. Vibration-mounting the driver to the enclosure with some form of complaint suspension will significantly reduce the wall excitation, but it poses some difficult mechanical design problems. The natural frequency of the driver mounting has to be well below the acoustical output frequency. The mount has to seal the enclosure air tight and provide sufficient mechanical support for the driver. Another approach would be to enclose the box



to which the driver is mounted by a second box avoiding all rigid coupling between the two

For the design described here a single, totally enclosed box was chosen, Fig. 4. The B110 driver was attached to it with soft rubber grommets in the four mounting holes of the basket and the sealing foam gasket barely compressed. Comparing this to a directly mounted driver by tapping on either basket indicates a significant reduction in coupling to the box. Some further investigation of this subject is in progress.

The relatively small size for the B110/T27 assembly has the advantage that the internal air volume resonances occur at high frequencies where they can be damped effectively with wool filling. The lowest cavity resonance occurs at 600Hz, the next ones at 800, 1000, 1200Hz etc. The resonances are measured easily with a small omnidirectional electret microphone protruding into the box and applying a sweep signal to the B110. Filling the boxes rather tightly with long-fibre wool attenuates all the resonances to a smooth frequency response inside the box and at the outside cone surface.

The boxes are constructed out of 20mm mohagony boards. The panels are quite stiff. The lowest panel resonance was observed at 430Hz using a magnetic phono pickup in a makeshift tonearm as vibration transducer. A 430Hz tone was measured to decay 40dB in 120msec after the electrical signal was removed. This indicates that the resonance was a Q of 36 according to $0.7f_R\tau_{40dB}$.

The Q is quite high and the decay time s long. By applying approximately two litres of roof patching tar to the inside of the box the resonant frequency was lowered to 300Hz due to the added mass to the panels. The decay time decreased to 40ms, corresponding to a Q of 8.4. While this treatment proved effective it does point out the problem that a small panel can have a high Q which is difficult to dampen because of its high stiffness and large mass. Better results might be expected from a thin plywood construction, with thick layers of damping material to attenuate resonances and to reduce the direct transmission of sound from the inside of the box.4. Ideally of course the panels should not be excited in their resonances at all, neither from the air pressure changes inside the box nor from the mechanical coupling to the driver.

A small box presents a small obstacle to omnidirectional sound propagation. This is a clearly audible advantage when properly placed in the room. As the box is only marginally wider than the B110 driver it can be assumed that the radiation pattern for a piston at the end of a long tube is an adequate first-order approximation to its sound dispersion, Fig. 1. The T27 tweeter is mounted as closed as possible to the B110. At the crossover frequency of 3kHz the spacing corresponds to a distance of one wavelength. In the vertical

Enclosure design objectives

- ▶ Narrow frontal area for optimum horizontal dispersion; tweeter mounted directly above the midrange unit.
- **●** Box edges rounded to reduce scattering.
- **▶** Drivers mounted to minimize direct transmission of vibration.
- ♠ Air cavity resonances attenuated with filling materials to eliminate delayed re-transmission through cone.

plane therefore the radiation pattern at the crossover frequency should follow the previously discussed behaviour of two drivers contributing equally, Fig. 3h

Ideally the sound from the T27 should be able to disperse freely in all directions, but because of the large width of the front panel relative to the cone diameter a wave emanating from the cone will initially be blocked by the panel and then encounter an abrupt transition where it ends, Fig. 5. A second wave is generated at the cabinet edge which will interfere with the original wave. If a pulse is radiated from the T27 then a secondary pulse of lower amplitude is generated at a time $t=d/c=260\mu s$ later; the original pulse is smeared out. This scattering of sound should be avoided by eliminating sharp discontinuities through bevelling of the cabinet edges.⁵.

Figure 6 shows the on-axis amplitude response of a small driver mounted in the center of a cube and of a sphere.6 Clearly the sphere with its surface gradually receding from the source produces a much smoother response than the cube with its sharp edges. Therefore the larger box relative to the driver the more closely should it approach the shape of a sphere. It follows that the midrange/tweeter enclosures might be further improved by reducing their size and a more curved driver mounting area. Papier maché, cardboard or epoxy fibreglass with damping materials applied to it rather than wood might be more suitable

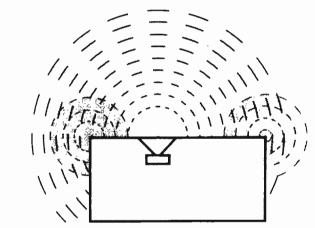


Fig. 5. Sound scattering from the sharp corners of a loudspeaker enclosure producing a smeared out transient behaviour of the system.

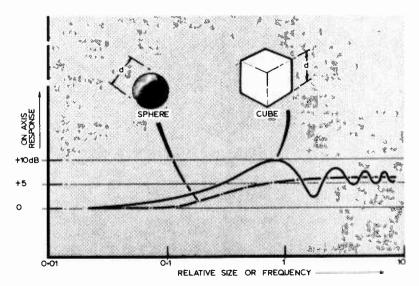


Fig. 6. On-axis frequency response of a point source mounted in different enclosures shows smoother response of sphere (after ref. 6).

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materials for the unconventional contours of such an enclosure

For the given design the frequency range extends down to 70Hz where the B110 has its enclosed resonance. As there is little meaningful stereo information below this frequency a single centre-channel woofer box can cover the remaining range down to 25Hz, Fig. 4. This is built with internal bracing to stiffen it and to push panel resonances to frequencies above 70Hz. In addition 25mm- thick heavy felt is glued to all panels to reduce direct transmission. The box is loosely fitted with long-fibre wool.

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This article will be concluded with active crossover and equalizer designs and a discussion of speaker location.

Current broadcasting techniques "a hybrid rat-bag of improvisation"

TV engineers may propose a 1875-line tv service for Band III when 405 line transmissions are no longer needed, but it seems unlikely that the frequencies will be used for television, according to Dr Boris Townsend, head of the IBA's engineering information service. Speaking at the first of the three IBA lectures on tomorrow's broadcasting, he said, "I expect that we shall lose the use of these frequencies for television, which will be a pity, for band III has excellent propagation characteristics for our purposes. Nevertheless, I expect the engineers to put up a case for a new television service in the band using the latest advance in engineering terms: for example, better definition, 1875 scanning lines, larger pictures, tone gradation scales tailored to human physiology and, I hope, a certain technical flexibility to make television more helpful in teaching the handicapped child with abnormal physiology."

Speaking of the current state of broadcasting technology he said, "We are stuck with old-fashioned television transmissions which are a hybrid rat-bag of improvisation and almost incompatible technologies, which carry a quite unnecesssary amount of repetitive data yet still reproduce inadequate detail, inadequate contrast, inadequate colour gamut, and pictures which lack most of the attributes of real life. It is a system which gives the viewer and listener little choice and to which any graduate tea-boy engineer could now suggest improvement. What are we going to do about it?

"In the next few years, not much. We did something about our equally outmoded radio transmissions, and duplicated our use of precious wavelengths with our stereo f.m. transmissions using circular polarisation. These transmissions are glorious. What hap-

pened? Nothing. The public ignored them. Everyone still listens on antiquated amplitude-modulation receivers — statistically, so to speak."

Dr Townsend warned of the problems technology could bring if it were directed solely at increasing efficiency and reducing costs: "Perhaps unemployment is a more important matter than television automation. If it is, then should design engineers be devoting their thinking to making this public service of television an under-capitalised, more labour-intensive operation? It is a naive thought. But the basic dilemma is a matter of concern to many engineers." The problem of deciding among the bewildering array of technical possibilities "is not a problem which should be left to engineers." were moving so fast in some areas, and not at all in others, "that we may be unable to prevent some massive mistakes on their part unless we speak quickly, and precisely, and regularly with them."

In questions after his speech he said of surround sound, "We can do it. Whether people want it is another matter, whether people will like it when they have got it. I think they will like it, but whether they will think it worth the trouble and the cost I'm dubious." There were also problems of production, and engineers had to get used to it to make the best use of the new forms of drama

Dr Townsend predicted that the changes at the transmission end of the broadcasting chain would be radical: "Engineers are making a two-pronged thrust forward. One is a miniaturisation of the analogue techniques which have been used in our studios since Savoy Place and Alexandra Palace, while the other is based... on digits." Both analogue and digital methods were dependent on

micro-circuits. "The reduction in costs is staggering. An integrated circuit now costs about the same as an apple." Complex functions could be performed with devices that could be cheaply mass-produced, and circuits were getting, and would continue to get, even smaller, and so even more complex. While mechanisms grew more and more expensive, electronics became cheaper: "Compare the £70 monochrome television receiver, of dubious performance, which sold in 1938, with its contemporary 1938 £100 small motor car; and then take today's large, bright, reliable monochrome television receiver, still at the same £70, and its contemporary £2,000 Mini. So," he added, "whenever we can replace mechanisms by electronics we shall."

Programme labelling for sound broadcasts

Electronic "labelling" of sound broadcast programmes is definitely on the way, according to a BBC spokesman, and the only problem is deciding the best way to do it. This technique (described by Duncan MacEwan in "Radio in the '80s" in the May 1977 issue) uses data signals associated with the broadcast signal to identify particular programmes or channels so that they can be automatically pre-selected at the receiver for, say, an evening's listening or recording purposes. An automatic "search tuning" receiver could be arranged to select programmes of a particular type. The labelling code signals could be transmitted on a subcarrier in or out of band or by frequency modulation of the a.m. carrier.

Cassette tape programmer — 2

Quiz machine and modifications to the calculator

by Evert Olsson

IN QUIZ MODE questions are recorded by voice and after each question the correct answer is recorded in coded form by pushing the appropriate button on the calculator. On replay, i.e. running the quiz, S_2 is in the search position and the tape stops after each question. Selecting the correct answer on the keys makes the tape start again to replay the next question. The calculator display is covered during replay and also the keyboard functions if answers in a form other than figure-encoded are desired.

Comparisons of the answers from the key-board with the correct ones is carried out by ten transistors and resistors in the circuitry marked subunit. The correct answer is left in IC₁ until a matching code has been delivered by

the keys. Each bit is compared in an exclusive-OR circuit consisting of two transistors, and all of the outputs are wire-ANDed so that all bits must be correct to make the common output high. Diode D9 ensures that the comparison result is valid only when the clock oscillator is not running. A capacitor on the comparator output is necessary because the input signals from the matrix may have different fall times which could make the comparator output signal momentarily correct even if the wrong key has been pressed. When the correct answer is obtained the shift register is cleared via D43 and S_2 and the start flip-flop is set via D_{42} . The diodes are necessary to make sure that the register is not activated before the start flip-flop.

Fig. 5. Answer counter. This circuit is connected to the calculator via three adaptation circuits.

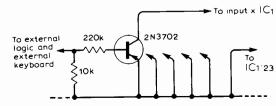


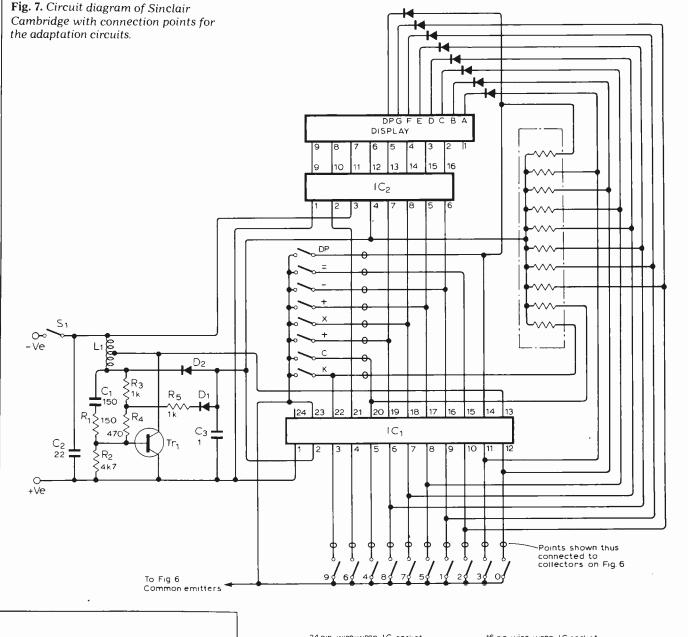
Fig. 6. Adaptation circuits. Eighteen of these interface the logic to the calculator keys.

If only the quiz function is required, IC2, IC3 and diodes D22 to D39 can be omitted. In the quiz mode it is useful to count the number of answers, i.e. key depressions, and display them. This can be achieved by the addition of the circuit shown in Fig. 5. Unfortunately a simple addition of the key depressions. i.e. key 1+key 1+etc, cannot be used because the sequence is continuously interrupted by answers other than one. This circuit overcomes the problem by using the error correction facility of the calculator. If an incorrect figure is entered during a chain addition it may be corrected without losing the previous calculation. This is achieved by pushing the cancel button and entering the correct number. In Fig. 5 the circuit receives a pulse from D₁ to D₅ for every key depression. This clocks the counter whose outputs are decoded by a diode matrix. Outputs 2, 4, 6, and 8 drive three transistor switches which are in parallel with the calculator cancel. + and 1 keys. Therefore, every answer which is displayed on the calculator is cancelled and replaced by the addition of one. In this way every key depression advances the display by one. Using this system requires the calculator to be completely erased before the start of a quiz so that Is are not added to a previous total. This circuit must also be disconnected when. the programming function is used.

Adaptation circuits

In the Sinclair Cambridge the calculator levels are 0 and -14V so a total of 18 adaptation circuits are required to interface from the key switches to the t.t.l. logic described earlier, and to rectify the signal path from the external logic to the calculator l.s.i. circuit. Rectification is necessary because most of the kevboard input pins are also outputs to the multiplexed display. The circuit in Fig. 6 requires the calculator zero to be connected to the logic +5V and the calculator negative terminal to the t.t.l. 0V. If any of the 18 inputs are taken to a t.t.l. 0V the corresponding p.n.p. transistor is turned on.

Because of a space limitation in the calculator, it is advantageous to use a separate keyboard for the quiz machine. If this is adopted, all of the adaptation circuits can be wired outside the calculator. Also, other instructions can be added such as memory, jumps, and print.

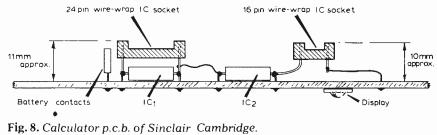


Modifications to the calculator

Connections to the Cambridge can be made using 24 and 16 pin wirewrap sockets as shown in Fig. 8. The larger socket is mounted and soldered "piggy-back" on IC₁ with all pins except for 21 cut so that the socket height becomes 11mm. Pin 21 is bent out and soldered to pin 3 of IC₂. Pins 2, 13 and 24 are not used. The resistor network may have to be removed while soldering pins 1 to 12 and if this is done they can be replaced with \%W types.

On the smaller socket, pins 9 to 16 are bent at right angles and soldered to the corresponding pins on IC₂. Pins 1 to 8 of the socket are connected to display inputs A to G and the decimal point with enamelled wire. Holes for connection to the d.i.l. sockets have to be made in the rear of the calculator case, suitable male plugs are Augat types 624-AG1 and 616-AG1. These plugs should be mounted on a piece of vero board together with the adaptation circuits. A lead from this board is then connected to the external keyboard and logic.

Although other calculators may be



interfaced, the supply voltage, display,

Other programme sources

and inputs may differ.

Once the adaptation circuits have been constructed, various programme sources can be used as long as the input pulses are long enough to pass the anti-bounce circuitry of the calculator. Fig. 9 shows a simple programme source which gives up to 15 steps. This can be used for simple but frequent calculations containing sequences or constants. Pause and finish may be programmed to allow the input of variables and the reading of results.

For the calculation of, for example, the cross sectional area of a round piece of wire using the cassette programme source the programme should be written as follows. The formula of $A = \pi . d^2/4$ is well known and does not need rearranging.

rearranging. Constants and operations C.C. double clear P pause. tape started with acknowledge key = K input diameter value as a constant C clear constant not result × 3.1416 + 4 P pause — programme finished Spoken comments Input wire diameter. P pause diameter. Read out area.

A second example is the calculation of component values in an active three-pole filter as shown in Fig. 10. The following equations are used:

```
P = -2G/(3A+1)
    =G(G(4A+1) + 3A+1)/(4A+1)(3A+1)^{2}
R1 = (1 - G^{2})/(4A + 1) (3A + 1)^{2}
A1 = (3 - P^{2})/3
B1 = (2P^{3} - 9P + 27R1)/27
1 = (B1)^{2}/4 + (A1)^{3}/27
S1 = {}^{3}1 - BB1/2
S1 = {}^{3}1 - BB1/2

S2 = -{}^{3}1 + BB1/2
                                                                       8
Y1 = S1 + S2
                                                                       9
X = Y1 - P/3
                                                                     10
   = 1/2 AX (G - (3A + 1) X)
                                                                     11
Z = 2 (G - (3A + 1) X)
                                                                     12
C3=X/R 2 \pi F
 C2 = Y/R 2 \pi F
                                                                      14
C1 = Z/R \ 2 \cdot \pi F
```

For the input variables, A is the passband gain (A = R4/2R), G is a constant which is dependent on whether the three-pole section is used alone or cascaded to make a higher-order filter. For three poles G = 2, for six poles G = 22.3006 and 1.5412 respectively. F is the 3dB cut-off frequency and R is the resistor value in Fig. 10. The values of C, C, and C3 are output variables and all of the others are temporary or auxiliary variables. Other auxiliary variables are created in the programme and are given arbitrary names. The programme sequence follows the order of the equations. It should be noted that in 7 and 8 the third root may be negative in which case the negative sign should be carried along. Before equation 10 is evaluated the expression $(B1)^2/4 + (A1)^3/27 \ge 0$ should be checked to determine that the final solution will be real.

The programme shown in the table contains about 400 steps which is the practical limit with comments for one side of a cassette. For a complex programme such as this it is necessary to keep a table with each execution of the auxiliary variables. Their names should be noted so that they can be found for later re-entry.

General programming considerations

When a programme like the one shown is to be written try to determine whether the intermediate results will be negative or too large/small for the display. Also, can a division by zero occur or are there any negative or imaginary roots. It is also necessary to known in detail the properties of the calculator. For example, negative numbers cannot be input directly on the Sinclair Cambridge but this can be overcome by inputting zero minus the number. This only works if the first number in a chain calculation is not preceded by \times or \div . If it is preceeded by +, the zero is not needed. This procedure has been used in the programme example.

Fig. II shows a t.t.l. interface circuit for the digit drive pulses and the segment/decimal-point drive. The digit pulses are already t.t.l. compatible but it is advisable to use this circuit to limit the loading on IC₂. The voltage divider on the input is included to 'imit the

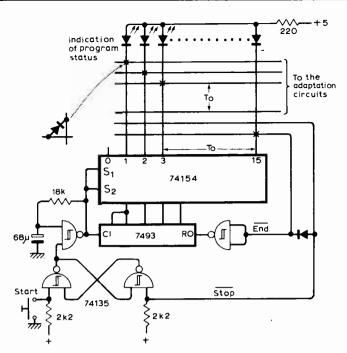


Fig. 9. Programme source for up to 15 steps

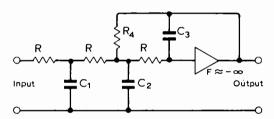
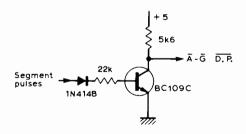


Fig. 10. Active filter for programme example.



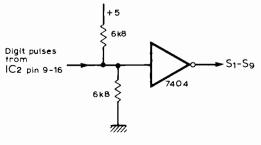
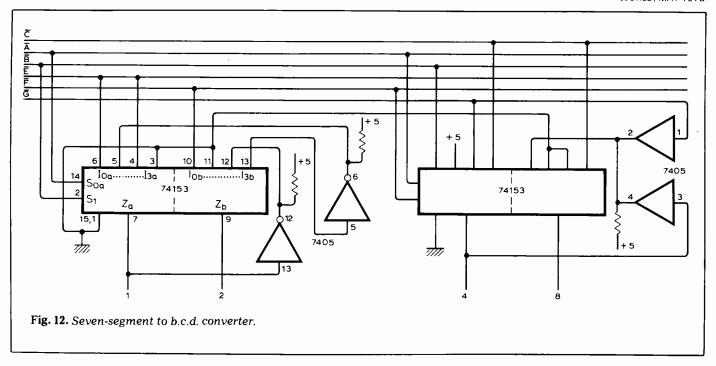


Fig. 11. T.t.l. interface circuits



Constants and operations	Spoken Comments	Pause = K Pause / / + +	Input S11	
operations		C/3=K	Input S11	
CC	Input A	Pause / / + +	mpano i j	
Pause \times 3 + 1 = K		C/3=K	Input S11	
2/C ×	Input G	Pause / / + +	придатт	
Pause =	Read P change sign	C/3	Read S1 with same	
Pause C C	Input A	C/ 3	sign as S1'	
Pause × 4 + 1 ×	Input G	Pause C	Input B1	
Pause + 1 =	Read Q'	Pause /2 +		
Pause C C			Input Q1	
Pause × 3 +	Input A	Pause =	Read S2 with sign	
Pause =	Input Q'	Pause C	Guess 3rd root of	
Pause = Pause C C	Read Q"	D 16	S2' and input	
	Input A	Pause = K	Input]S21	
Pause × 4 + 1 —	Read Q'''	Pause / / + +		
	Input A	C/3=K	Input S21	
Pause = $K \times C \times$	Input Q'''	Pause / / + +		
Pause =	Read Q _N	C/3=K	Input S21	
Pause CC	Input G	Pause / / + +		
Pause X	Input Q''	C/3=	Input S2 with opposit	
Pause/	Input Q _N		sign as S2"	
Pause =	Read Q	Pause C C 0	Input S2 with sign	
Pause C C	Input G	Pause	Input S1 with sign	
Pause = $K \times$		Pause =	Read Y1	
C - 1/	Input Q_N	Pause C	Input B1	
Pause =	Read R1 change sign	$Pause = K \times C$	Read IMTEST	
Pause C C	Input/P/	Pause C O	Input A1 with sign	
Pause = $K \times C$		$Pause = K \times X$	perrit With sign	
/3-	Input Q	C/27+	Input IMTEST	
Pause =	Read A1 change sign	Pause =	If result < 0 no real	
Pause C C O	Input P with sign	1 0000	solution	
	(+ or)	Pause C C O		
Pause = $K \times X$	(+ 01 -)	Pause / 3 +	Input P changed sign	
C/13.5 =	Read B 1' with sign	Pause =	Input Y 1 with sign	
Pause C C O			Read X	
ause C C O	Input P with	Pause ×	Input A '	
Pause X	reversed sign	Pause × 2 =	Read 2 AX	
	Input Q	Pause × 1.5=	Read 3 AX	
Pause/3 +	Input R1 with sign	Pause C	Input G	
Pause +	Input B11 with sign	Pause —	Input X	
Pause =	Read B1	Pause —	Input 3 AX	
Pause K ×		Pause X	Input 2 AX	
C/4 =	Read SQR'	Pause = K / /	Read Y	
Pause C C O	Input A1 with sign	Pause C	Input 3 AX	
Pause = $K \times \times$		Pause +	Input X	
C/27 +	Input SQR'	Pause —	Input G	
ause =	Read SQR	Pause \times 2 =	Read Z change sign	
	Guess square root	Pause C	3 3	
	and input	355/113 ^{x)}		
ause = K	Input SQR	×2×	Input F	
Pause / +C	р	Pause X	Input R	
2 = K	Input SQR _v	Pause = K	Input X	
ause / + C	p=r.o.dr.jy	Pause /	Read C3	
2=K	Input SQR,	. 30307	Input Y	
Pause / +	mput 34n _y	Pause /	•	
2/2=	Read Q1	rause/	Read C2	
		Daviss /	Input Z	
Pause X 2 —	Input B1	Pause /	Read C1	
Pause / 2 =	Read S1' with sign	Pause	END	
Pause C	Guess 3rd root and	Pau s e		
	input	(* is approximation of π)		

reverse voltage on the l.e.ds. One of the output signals S1 to S8 will be high when the corresponding digit in the calculator is on. For converting the 7-segment code to b.c.d. the circuit in Fig. 12 is used. Note that the Cambridge uses six segments for 6 and 9, whereas some others use only 5. In such cases the circuit in Fig. 12 will not fit directly. The 74153 is used as a double four-way selector where inputs S_0 and S_1 control the switching. A minus sign is encoded as the b.c.d. value 12, and no digit gives the b.c.d. value 0. This may be useful with a calculator that suppresses leading or trailing zeroes.

Into the air with no pilot

The pilot light on your stereo tuner may have been misleading you since February 27. On that day the BBC started to radiate continuous pilot tone on Radios 1/2 and 3. "More than 90% of programmes in Radio 2 and Radio 3 v.h.f. are now transmitted in stereo," said a BBC statement. "At the moment the practice is to switch the pilot tone on and off, according to whether or not a stereophonic programme is being transmitted. With some receivers a loud click is produced whenever the pilot tone is switched on or off. To avoid this inconvenience it has now been decided to radiate the pilot tone continuously on Radios 1/2 and Radio 3." Listeners who wanted to know which programmes were in stereo could consult Radio Times.

It seems a strange decision since the click is no worse than that most amplifiers make when they are switched off, but at least the high stereo content of the two stations makes the pilot light less misleading than on London's news station LBC.

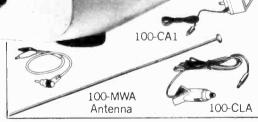


Here is a portable, high precision frequency counter up to 100 MHz guaranteed, typically 110MHz. It has 8 big, bright (0.6") LED displays, so there's no range changing. The crystal time base has 3ppm accuracy and updates the display every second. Sensitivity is astounding. It will trigger at 30 mV, yet is protected to 200 V peaks. It comes complete with clip lead input cable. An antenna for coupling to RF equipment indirectly, and a low-loss in-line RF tap are optionally available. Take it with you anywhere. Run it on internal rechargeable NiCad's, 110 or 220V AC, 12V from your car cigarette lighter socket or from any external 7.2 to 12V DC supply.

Input frequencies over 100MHz cause the most significant digit to flash Input voltages below 6.6 V DC flash all 8 digits at 1 Hz, alerting the user, and prolonging remaining battery life. The MAX-100, gives you the maximum for your money.

Telephone 01-890 0782 and give us your Access, Barclaycard or American Express number, and your order will be in the post that night.

Or, write your order, enclosing cheque, postal order, or stating credit card number and expiry date. (Don't post the card!) Alternatively, ask for our latest catalogue, showing all CSC products for the engineer and the home hobbyist.



Specifications

Frequency range: 20 Hz to 100 MHz guaranteed? Input impedance:

1 M \alpha shunted by 56 pF capacitor.

Temperature stability: better than 0.2 ppm/°C between 0 and 50°C. Decimal point:

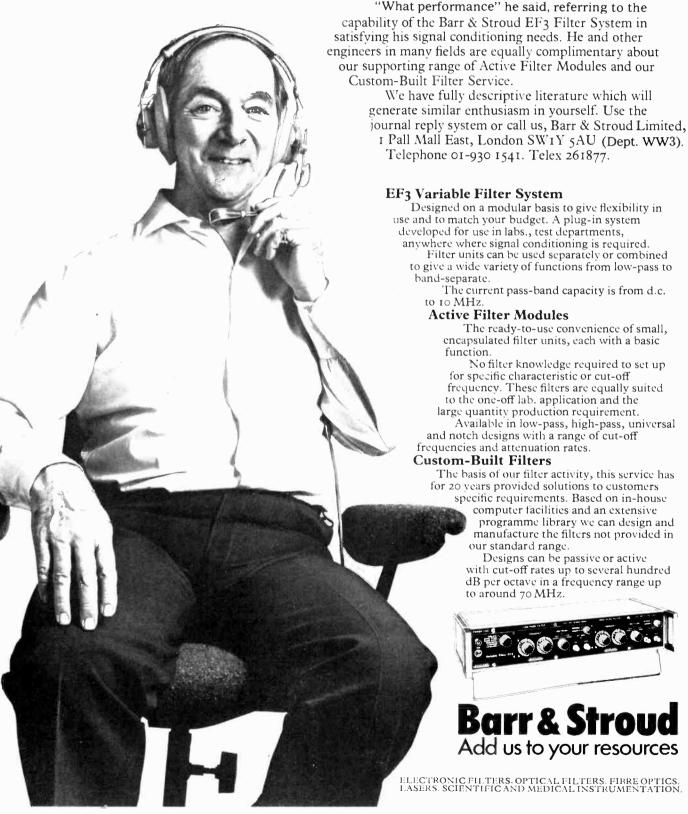
Automatically appears between sixth and seventh digit when frequency exceeds 1 MHz. Size: 1.75" x 7.38" x 5.63"

MAX-100+input cable(batteries not included)	_£85.37
100-CLA for 12V DC use via cigarette lighter	_£ 2.48
100-CA1 for charging NiCad's	_£ 6.21
100-CA2 for 110 or 220 V AC mains supply	_£ 6.21
100-MWA antenna	_£ 2.48
100-LLC low loss RF tap	_£ 9.29
100-CC soft carry case	_£ 6.21
VAT (8%) and postage included.	

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At the end of the test session the communications engineer sang the praises of our filters.



Stereo power and phase meter

Power output measurements from 1 mW to 400W in a variable load

by C. T. Hodgson

A twin meter instrument for simultaneous output power and phase measurements on the two channels of an audio frequency stereo system. Power measurements in the range 1 mW to 400 watts per channel can be made by feeding switched internal resistances. The instrument is easily calibrated using either a.c. or d.c. For sinusoidal inputs the meter readings are accurately related to mean power.

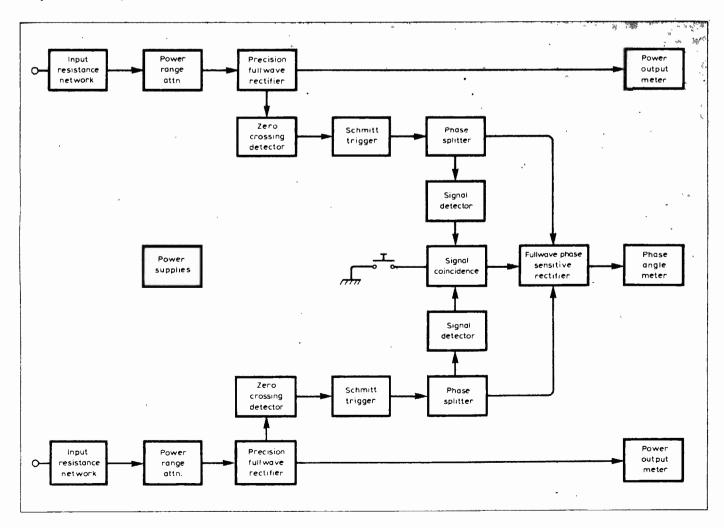
OUTPUT POWER is generally one of the first specifications of an audio system to be looked for by the average hi-fi enthusiast. Power levels of 100 watts per channel, and more, are commonplace in present-day hi-fi systems. But there are many variations in power rating quoted

in descriptions of audio amplifiers; for example, average power, peak power, music power, continuous power, mean power, and another power rating that is being increasingly used nowadays called r.m.s. power. This is absolute nonsense, of course, like talking about a miniature watt, and a number of authhorities, for example Baxandall1, have aired their strong objections to its continued use. It is important, therefore, to state clearly exactly which units of power this instrument actually measures. A moving coil loudspeaker is far from being purely resistive over the whole audio frequency spectrum, if indeed at any frequency but, unless otherwise stated, it is ordinarily understood that the loading of an amplifier under laboratory tests is predominantly resistive.

In a circuit consisting only of a simple

resistance the power in watts is given by the expression I2R where I is the d.c. or r.m.s. value of the current; this is the mean power. This instrument uses an almost pure resistance to load the amplifier under test and the power it indicates is relative to mean power. Some authorities contend that, where peaky signals are involved, such as noise (and music, in general, can be considered as noise by this definition), there is some justification for an alternative standard unit of power. Whilst this may be true in certain very special circumstances, in the author's opinion the specification of mean power in the established way is more valuable and more easily measured for direct

Fig. 1. Block diagram of complete instrument.



comparison of systems. Measurement of absolute power by the classical method of determining its thermal or chemical effect is inconvenient in audio engineering practice to say the least.

In this instrument the value of the load resistance is first selected by a switch from a range of built-in commonly used values. The same switch unit selects a tap on the resistor such that the voltage output at the tapping point is the same for the five values of load resistance. This voltage is applied to a precision rectifier circuit through an attenuator calibrated in mean power: 1mW to 100 watts in six decade steps. The rectifier therefore works only over a restricted range of voltages. After rectification the unidirectional half sine-waves are applied directly to a moving coil volt-meter which reads the average value, $2/\pi$ times the maximum value. The meter is actually calibrated in dB, where 0dB is at the centre of the scale and corresponds to the selected value of power on the power range selector switch. A standard VU meter could also be used since these are calibrated in a similar way; the only difference is the percentage f.s.d. for a given power level. This is far from being an absolute method of power measurement, but the accuracy on pure sinewaves or square-waves (and d.c. of course) is excellent and the presentation of power is direct and extremely convenient. It is subject to some degree of error in the presence of waveform distortion and figures are given in the text for values of 2nd and 3rd harmonic distortion up to 50%. Errors for more realistic values of distortion are too small to read on the meters.

The 3dB bandwidth of the amplifier extends to over 200 kHz and is flat from

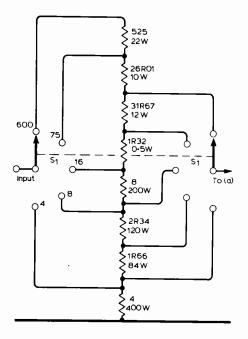
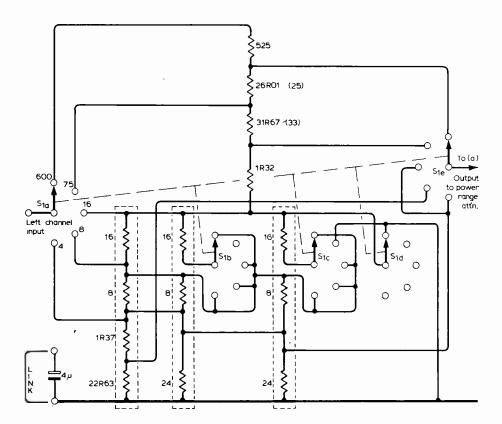


Fig. 2. Input resistance switching arrangement in its basic form.

zero to around 30kHz. The twinchannel capability, like that of a double-beam oscilloscope, enables direct comparison of stereo amplifier channel characteristics such as frequency response and output power, etc., to be observed over the whole range of audio frequencies. The inclusion of a precision phase meter is primarily for circuit research and development work. The phase relationship between the two channels from 5Hz to 50kHz is continuously presented in direct form, and the combination of

Fig. 3. Practical arrangement for switching input resistance.



three panel meters is useful for settingup stereo and quadrophonic systems and for the purpose of demonstration.

Circuit design

Load selector. There are five fixed values of input resistance, 4, 8, 16, 75 and 600 ohms. The three lower values are those most commonly used in audio equipment for the British market as well as many other countries whilst the other two are well established values for attenuating networks and source impedances for test gear. The input impedance selector switch has three separate functions apart from the twin channel function; firstly it selects the desired value of load resistance, secondly it controls the distribution of power within the load and thirdly it taps the load network to provide the same output voltage, for a given output power, for any of the five load resistances.

The basic resistance network is shown in Fig. 2. The high-power loads for the three lower resistance values are constructed from commercially available electric fire elements. This is a very cheap and practical method of constructing high-wattage resistors, since any non-standard value can be wound and power can be spread evenly over a large area. The length/diameter ratio of the resistance coils is such that the inductance is small. The switching arrangement of the sections and the close screening provided by the heat sink and mounting rods all help to minimise the inductive reactance. There are three 1kW bars for each channel, making six in all. The heat sink is a prefabricated structure of aluminium allov

1kW bar elements, for a 240V supply, have a nominal resistance of 55 ohms. They are rewound, with the original wire, to a value of 48 ohms, in three sections of 8, 16 and 24 ohms. One element in each triple has an additional tap on the 24 ohm section, but all bars could incorporate this tap, if desired for the purpose of standardization. It is unimportant which bar is additionally tapped: indeed all three taps could be connected together in the interests of symmetry. The input impedance selector switch connects the sections in various series-parallel arrangements. For example, each 4 ohm load consists of six parallel paths of 24 ohms, as in Fig. 3, so that the heat generated is evenly spread within the heat sink. Each bar is supported on a 0.25in diameter aluminium alloy rod which effectively conducts heat to the cabinet metalwork. The effectiveness of this arrangement is such that the temperature rise inside the cabinet is approximately 0.12°C/watt; this could be further improved by anodising the sink black, but this has not been done on the prototype. On the two higher resistance ranges (75 and 600 ohms) the power handling capacity is rather lower: using the components specified,

25 watts can be safely handled on both of these ranges.

Power range selector. There are six preselected values of output power, from 1mW to 100W in 10dB steps, for which the output meter reads 0dB. If the power meter has 0dB as its centre calibration, the full scale deflection on the highest range is +6dB, corresponding to 400 watts per channel. If standard VU meters are used then full scale deflection will be restricted to 200 watts per channel. Using external loads as power shunts in addition to the internal chain of switched resistors can extend the range of power measurements to any desired value.

The power range selector takes the form of a switched attenuator, connected across the output terminals of the input load resistance, see Fig. 4. The 'total resistance value of the attenuator is $68.89k\Omega$, so that errors in power measurement and input resistance caused through circuit loading by the attenuator are negligible. For simplicity, only single, standard1% values of resistance in the E12 range are used in the attenuator, but the errors in attenuation are sufficiently small to make this a most practical arrangement. Output loading in this application is the impedance of the non-inverting input of an operational amplifier and it is sufficiently high to cause negligible error.

Precision rectifier. A number of circuit configurations have been published for minimising the effect of non-linearity of diode I_a/V_a characteristics by incorporating them in the feedback path of a high-gain amplifier. One basic arrangement is simply to connect a diode bridge rectifier in the feedback loop of an operational amplifier and feed a moving-coil meter directly from the common-polarity terminals. Such an arrangement works extremely well in practice, its main drawback being that

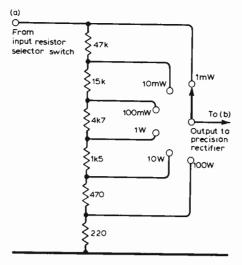


Fig. 4. Range switch, preferably using 1% resistors.

neither of the meter terminals can be grounded. Alternative arrangements, using an additional operational amplifier to deal with the positive and negative halves of the input waveform separately, do not have this defect. There is little difference in the performance of any one of them but the arrangement described by Mann² is used in this instrument because it is probably the simplest to construct and very easily balanced, an important feature in the present application. The output impedance is low, it has one output terminal grounded and therefore it can be used to drive external recording instruments if desired.

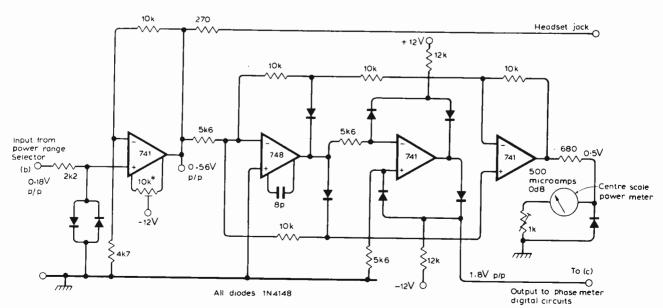
The circuit diagram of the complete rectifier is shown in Fig. 5. For sine-wave input, the output waveform consists of almost perfect, unidirectional, half sine-waves. The average value of the output voltage is therefore 0.637

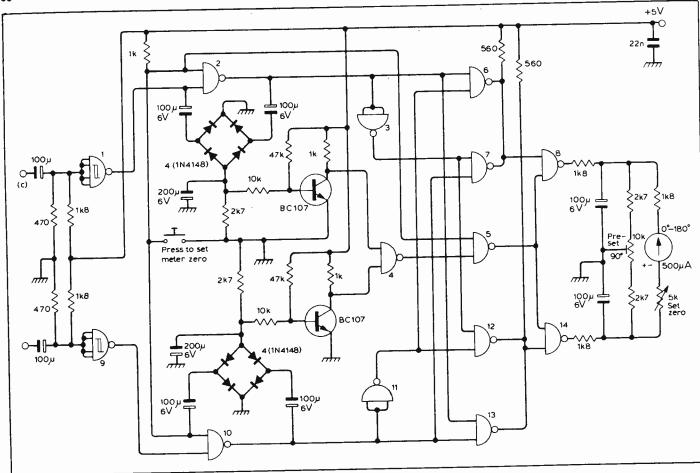
Fig.5. Precision full-wave rectifier circuit (748) and zero-crossing detector. The nulling pot. on the first 741 sets the correct balance in the rectifier for meter zero (power).

times the peak value. A moving-coil voltmeter responds linearly to the average voltage but the scale can be calibrated in any desired units, and in this application the units are dB referred to any one of the six standard power values selected by the power range selector. Thus, on the lowest range 0dB corresponds to 1mW in any of the selected values of load resistance, and on the highest power range it corresponds to 100 watts. The performance figures of an amplifier are so much more easily compared with the specification by this type of presentation. It is not intended as a substitute for an oscilloscope but rather to enable one to reserve the oscilloscope for examination of waveforms in other parts of the circuit whilst continuously monitoring the output power.

Phase-angle meter. Like the full wave rectifier the phase meter, seen in Fig. 6, is also a precision circuit. The principle of operation is well known but the circuit arrangement used in this instrument embodies a number of novel features. The two input signals are first converted into square waves, paying particular attention to the preservation of the 1:1 mark-space ratio over the range of input levels. If the squarewaves are simply added by a NAND gate, the output consists of a varying duty-cycle pulse of constant amplitude. The average d.c. output is directly proportional to the duty-cycle ratio, and hence phase angle, but in this simple arrangement the duty-cycle is only 25% for a 90° phase angle. Considerable smoothing is needed to obtain a steady meter indication at low audio frequencies.

The circuit used in this instrument operates in push-pull and full-wave addition is employed. In this way the output for signals in-phase or out-of-phase is d.c. and can be used down to fractional cycle signals. At 90° phase difference the output is a square wave





at twice the frequency of the input waveform. This is the worst condition and, with a modest degree of smoothing, the system is very effective at frequencies well below 10Hz. The precision depends entirely on the effectiveness of the squaring circuits. Signals from the power range selector switch are in the range 0.057 to 0.36 volts peak/peak (corresponding to 0.18 volts -10dB and +6dB respectively) and perfect squaring has to be achieved only over this restricted range. There are three stages in this operation; firstly the open loop gain of the 748 precision full wave rectifier is used as the first stage of a zero crossing detector. This is followed by a second zero crossing detector designed to drive an integratedcircuit Schmitt trigger, IC1 in Fig. 6. A NAND gate, IC2, provides phaseinverted square waves to that, after full-wave rectification, d.c. is obtained. The d.c. output from each signal detector is fed to a NAND gate, IC4, which switches on the phase sensitive rectifier only when two signals are present.

A second NAND gate in each channel, IC_3 and IC_{11} , provides the bi-phase drive to the phase-conscious rectifier, which uses four open-collector NAND gates connected in push-pull pairs; one pair for each channel sharing a common load resistance. The electronic switching of the meter circuit enables a test condition for 0° to be generated, so that the meter series resistance (5k Ω) can be adjusted to make the directly calibrated meter read accordingly. A simple method of checking that the phase

Fig. 6. Phase meter, fed by zero-crossing detector in Fig. 5.

meter is operating correctly is to inject a signal into one channel using the 600 ohm range and to feed the other channel through a capacitor of known value. The input frequency for any phase angle can then be calculated—tan $\theta = X_{\rm c}/R$ and for a 45° check, $\omega RC = 1$. Using a $0.1\mu F$ capacitor, 45° corresponds to a frequency of 2653Hz. The same test condition can be used to verify the

Following education at Hull Technical College and after a brief period as a sea-going wireless operator the author entered the Civil Service, joining Sir Robert Watson-Watt's team at Bawdsey (Radar) research station one year before World War two. Until early 1942 he worked on antennas, receiver installation and calibration of the original chain of radar (CH) stations in the UK. He moved with Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE, now RSRE) to Malvern in early 1942, where he worked, almost exclusively, on the development of lownoise i.f. amplifiers for radar receivers. After the launch of the first American space satellite, he joined the newlyformed Satellite Tracking Group at Malvern under the direction of Dr. W. A. Scott-Murray, and headed the receiver design team. During the five years prior to retirement he was a Principal Scientific Officer in the Guided Weapons Group at

The author now has his own laboratory where he is able actively to continue experimental work in various fields of electronics.

independence of the indicated phase angle on the input power over the range f.s.d. to -30dB on the output power meters.

The phase indicating meter is a centre-zero (pointing) movement, actually marked 90° on the scale. A preset potentiometer (10k Ω) connected across the meter circuit enables the circuit d.c. conditions to be balanced at this point. This is an unusual arrangement and may need some clarification. On connexion to a stereo system one wants to know the phasing of the output signals, that is, whether they are in-phase or out-of-phase, and so the meter indication should be unambiguous. A centre zero (reading) meter with full-scale indications of ±90° would be meaningless in this application. For instant verification that a stereo pick-up, microphones or tape recorder heads are correctly phased, two lamp indicators could be used instead of an expensive meter. This is a simple modification since the output at 0° and 180° is d.c. of opposite polarity.

Phase and distortion. It is interesting, especially in view of the volume of correspondence on the effects of phase distortion published in the Wireless World recently, to observe (and listen to) sine waveforms with known amounts of harmonic distortion. The illustrations given in Figs. 8 and 9 of 2nd and 3rd harmonic distortion respectively show the horrifying appearance of extreme examples, but the main purpose of these is to illustrate the effect of

+5V

12-5V 15mA

2 k 2

Earth

2 k 2

5k6

\$ 5 k 6

5k

50mA

UA78

2N3704

2N3704

≥330

560

ىر 200 50V

ے بر200

50V

ىر 200 50V ىر 200 50V

00000000000

240V 50~

nhn

20-0-20V

nhi

6V2

¹2N3703

4 6V2

Fig. 7. Suggested power supply. Any similar source of the required power is suitable.

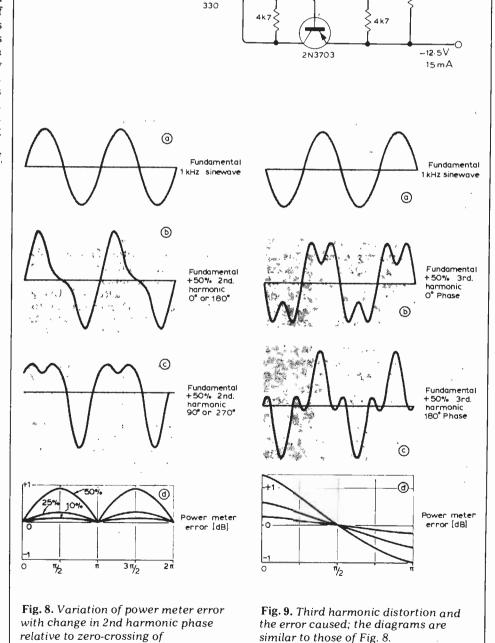
varying the relative phase between the fundamental and harmonic on power meters of this sort. The error graphs given in Fig. 8(d) show that, for an harmonic content of 50%, an increase of about 0.9 dB in power meter reading is given for a phase angle of $\pi/2$. This is interesting insofar that distortion of a sinewave of voltage or current can only be caused by the addition of "foreign matter" and therefore noise, harmonics or whatever must necessarily add power. At 50% waveform distortion $V_{\text{fundamental}} / V_{\text{harmonic}} = 2$, corresponding to an increase of 25% in power, i.e. + 0.9691 dB. It is perhaps only a matter of academic interest that, because of this. those points on the graph of Fig. 8(d) corresponding to 0 or π which show almost zero error are, in reality, points of maximum error in actual power and that the 0.9dB error shown at $\pi/2$ is, in fact, very nearly the true value. A similar argument for 3rd or any other harmonic also applies but it must be stressed that the power meter errors given in Figs. 8(d) and 9(d) are the practical result of adding measured percentages of harmonic under controlled phase. In a practical situation one seldom knows what constitutes waveform distortion (let alone phase) hence the specification for amplifiers is usually quoted in terms of total harmonic distortion (t.h.d.) and is given as a percentage of the fundamental at certain spot frequencies. For as much as 10% t.h.d. the maximum error given by meters of this sort is of the order of \pm 0.2dB. Practically all of this error is caused by 3rd, and, to a lesser extent,

The author is indebted to Mr. E. F. Good for helpful discussions and for checking the manuscript and also to Texas Instruments for permission to reprint the circuit of the 'Full Wave Rectifier' (IC $_2$ and IC $_4$ in Fig. 5.

References

other odd harmonics.

- 1. P. J. Baxandall. 'Low-cost High-quality Loudspeaker'. High Fidelity Designs: Wire-less World Publication.
- 2. Richard Mann. Applications of Operational Amplifiers. Semiconductor Circuit Design, Vol. 2, Texas Instruments Ltd.



fundamental. Parameters are 10%, 25%

and 50% 2nd harmonic.

CIRCUIT IDEAS

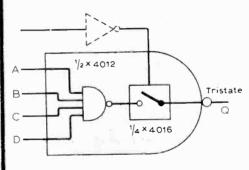
Transformerless enlarger timer

Most photographic enlarger timers require a transformer for their low voltage d.c. supply. This circuit runs from 1mA supplied by the mains via a $10 \mathrm{k}\Omega$ resistor and rectifier. A Ferranti ZN1034E timer i.c. generates the delay and supplies $+5\mathrm{V}$ for the c.m.o.s. gates. The triac is triggered with $100\mu\mathrm{s}$ 60mA. pulses at the zero-crossing point. The c.m.o.s. logic generates these pulses when activated by the timer's \overline{Q} output A logarithmic potentiometer may be calibrated from 1 to 120s.

M. J. Mayo, Gloucester.

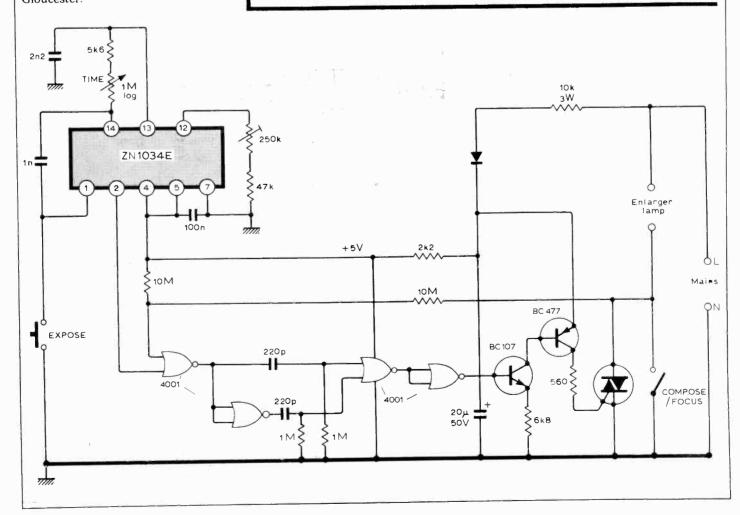
Tristate c.m.o.s.

AT PRESENT only a few tristate circuits are produced in c.m.o.s., and



frequently the available configuration is unsuitable. For example, the 4502 strobed hex inverter can only be used with all its outputs simultaneously disabled. Any c.m.o.s. logic circuit can be readily converted into a tristate form by the addition of an analogue gate. The circuit shows a four input NAND with an analogue gate, to produce a NAND tristate. The input operates in the opposite sense to a 4502, logic 1 is on, logic 0 is off. The addition of an invertor ensures conformity.

Dr. D. Price, Knockholt, Kent.

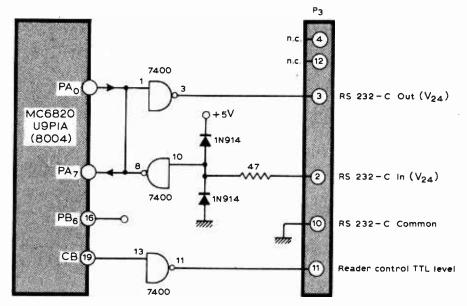


Simplified console interface for MEK6800D1 microcomputer

A SIMPLIFIED console interface can greatly reduce the cost of a MEK microcomputer. This design is used with either t.t.l. level or RS232-C compatible i.o. terminals. Standard teletypes use the current loop interface which is part of the normal MEK interface.

To construct the circuit the MEK is built following the instructions, but the parts in the console interface (lower right corner of the MEK circuit diagram U9 U17-21) are omitted. No alteration of the board is necessary but jumper leads and the additional components are added where necessary. The 7400 is substituted for the U17 and is a direct replacement. P3 is connected as shown in the MEK instructions but 12 V are not needed. The t.t.l. output of the simplified interface will drive most RS232-C interfaces although it is out of their specification. The dioderesistor network on the input, interfaces the RS232-C output to t.t.l. level and may be eliminated if the console terminal is already at t.t.l. level.

As no modifications to the MEK circuit board are made, it is possible to



reconvert to the normal interface if desired.

M. F. Smith.

M. F. Smith, University College, Galway, Ireland.

C.m.o.s. touch switch

BECAUSE this c.m.o.s. touch switch does not rely on mains hum for switching, it can be used with battery powered circuits. The design is also immune to noise spikes. Schmitt trigger IC₁ forms a 100kHz oscillator and IC_{2w} which is biased into the linear region, amplifies the output and charges C₁ via the diode. IC_{2b} acts as a level detector. When the sensor is touched the oscillator signal is severely attenuated which causes C₁ to discharge and IC_{2b} to cleanly change state.

The sensor can be constructed from two capacitors or a piece of double sided printed circuit board etched as shown. Because the oscillator can drive several switches, a multiple sensor can also be constructed. If necessary, the output from IC_{2b} can drive a latch circuit.

N. Sunderland,

Reading, Berks.

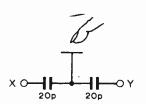
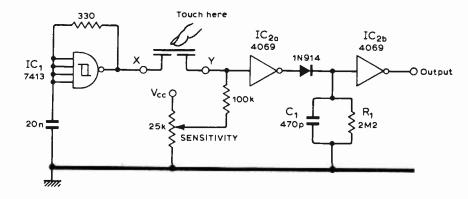
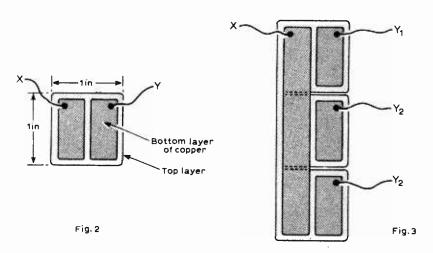
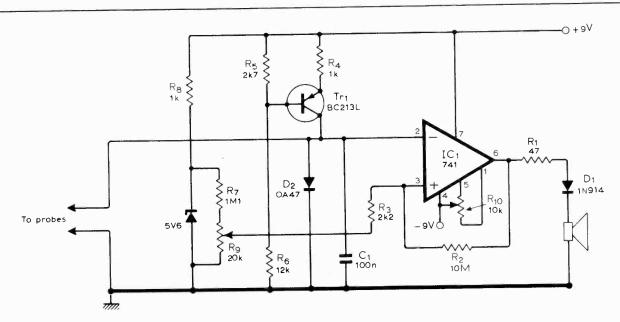


Fig.1







Continuity tester

THIS INSTRUMENT was designed for testing equipment which has active components connected. The probes have an open circuit output clamped at 0.3V, and the short circuit current is only 1mA. Transistor Tr₁ forms a constant current source of 1mA with the collector, and

therefore the probe, held at 0.3V by a germanium diode. The op-amp forms a Schmitt trigger with an adjustable threshold set by $R_{\mathfrak{g}}$ This trigger point determines the maximum resistance that will operate the circuit, and may be preset within the range 0 to 90Ω . Use of

 $R_{\rm 10}$ in conjunction with $R_{\rm 9}$ eases setting-up for low values of resistance. An ITT miniature sounder type U5-35R is used to indicate continuity. If a noncapacitive sounder is used $R_{\rm 1}$ can be omitted.

R. Batty, University of Sheffield.

Feedforward amplifier

THIS VOLTAGE amplifier drives a grounded load and uses feedforward to reduce distortion. Components R_a , C_a and C_b are used to balance any delays between the two amplifiers. If close tolerance components are used it is possible to obtain very low distortion levels for high output signals. If conventional op-amps such as 741s are used for A_1 and A_2 , and $C_a = C_b = 0$,

$$V_{\text{main}} = + \frac{R_1 + R_1 / / R_2}{R_1 / / R_2} V_{\text{in}} + V_{\text{d}}$$

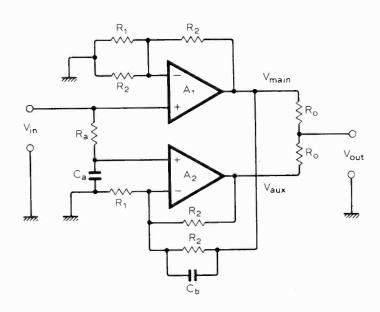
where V_d is composed of noise and hum

$$V_{\text{aux}} = -V_{\text{main}} + \frac{R_1 + R_1 / / R_2}{R_1 / / R_2} V_{\text{in}} - V_{\text{d}}$$

Therefore,

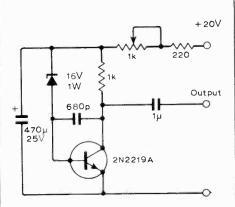
$$V_{\text{out}}/V_{\text{in}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{R_1 + R_1//R_2}{R_1//R_2}$$

In the prototype $R_1=100k\Omega,~R_2=10k\Omega,$ and $R_9=1k\Omega.$ Giovanni Stocchino, Rome, Italy



Simple noise generator

THE CIRCUIT shown was used as an emergency noise generator because it can be assembled quickly. Noise from this generator falls in the audio range and the wideband level is over 1V, ad-



justable to zero by the potentiometer. Without the 680pF capacitor the noise extends up to 30MHz with a wideband level of more than 5V.

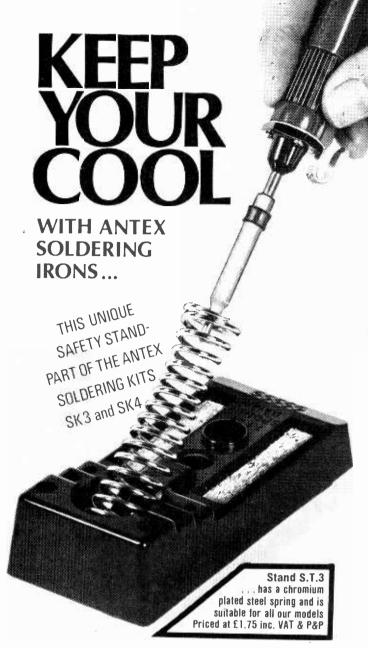
If lower zener and supply voltages are used, the noise level is reduced drastically.

D. Di Mario,

Yeoville,

Johannesburg,

South Africa.



With the new Antex soldering stand you have the assurance that with the iron tucked neatly into the strong angled spring coil you have maximum safety when preparing or waiting for the iron to heat. Moulded into this stand is provision for six alternative bits, and two small sponges for cleaning bits.

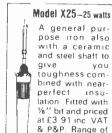
This sturdy plastic stand is a useful addition to any household or workshop. The SK3 and SK4 kits comprise of a full instruction card mounted with either the CX miniature soldering iron or the larger X25 general purpose iron. Included in both of these kits is the safety stand.

All the range of Antex soldering irons are made on the principle of putting the heating element inside a shaft, then the desired bit is eased over the shaft, giving maximum heat transference, this is why so often a small Antex iron can do the job of a larger conventional iron. The precision made slide on bits are slit to make them easily interchangeable.

Our comprehensive range is sure to meet your need.

Model CX-17 watts





A general pur-pose iron also with a ceramic and steel shaft to give you toughness combined with nearperfect ınsu-

lation Fitted with %" bit and priced at £3 91 inc VAT & P&P. Range of 4 other bits available

REAR APPROVED



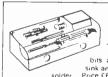
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The Viewdata computer — 2

More on the software used for information retrieval

by S. Fedida B.Sc(Eng.), M.Sc., F.I.E.E., A.C.G.I., Post Office Research Centre

Now the Post Office has announced that Viewdata is to go ahead as a public service early in 1979 the current articles on this information retrieval system become of more immediate interest. The April issue described the hardware of the computer and some of the software. In this article, the remainder of the software is explained. (See also articles on the overall system, terminals and codes, February-May, 1977.)

It is in the register save area of the master segment of the old process that the contents of the working registers are stored, when a change is made to a new process. These working registers are

S: The sequence register (or programme counter), 16 bits.

L: The local workspace register, 16 bits.

A: Accumulator, 32 bits.

B: Accumulator extension, 32 bits.

X: Index register, 16 bits.

Y: Base register, 16 bits.

Z: Base register, 16 bits.

E:

C: Control register or condition marker, 8 bits.

If the old process is in the RUN or HELD state all its registers are saved — otherwise only the S and L registers are saved. Thus computer information about the status of a process is saved, whenever it relinquishes control of the processor.

(b) Load hardware and other registers. Once the working registers of the old process are saved, the hardware segment registers are loaded with the required parameters for the new process.

Hardware segment register. An essential part of the segmentation system described above is the hardware segment register unit (h.s.r.u) which consists of eight hardware registers, each of 20 bits, which define the position and length of certain segments in store in

 HPR
 8 bits
 12 bits

 RW
 SR
 SB

Fig. 8. Layout of hardware segment registers.

the way indicated in Fig. 8. The field SB, which is 12 bits long, defines the segment base as a multiple of 64 bytes (thus covering the complete range of the main store, which has a maximum

capacity of 256kbytes), while the length of the segment L is given by field SR (or segment range) as L = 64 (SR + 1) bytes.

The eight registers of the h.s.r.u. contain the following information: HSR(4) is pointer to master segment from SST entry i.e. P+4

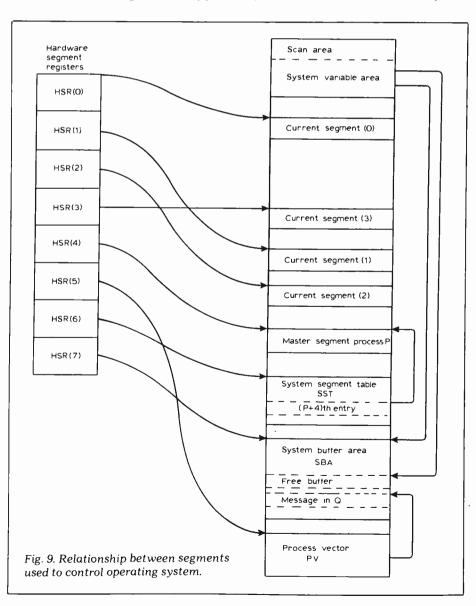
HSR(0) to HSR (3) define the four current segments of the current process. HSR(4) defines the master segment of the current process.

HSR(5) defines the process vector HSR(6) defines the system segment table.

HSR(7) defines the system buffer area.
Associated with registers HSR(0) to

(3) which define the locations of the four current segments of the process are four 2-bit hardware protection registers (h.p.r.), shown in Fig.8, which contain the access permissions of the four segments. The first bit, R, if set, permits reading from the segment for data or instructions while the second bit, W, if set, permits the writing into the segment.

The hardware segment registers thus provide the addresses of systems tables such as system segment table (already dealt with above), the address of the process vector and system buffer area, (which will be dealt with later), the



address of the current segments (with their access permissions) and of the master segment of the current process. They are also used for mapping the virtual address, used within programmes to actual addresses in the main store, as will be indicated in the

Items of storage, i.e. data or code, are accessed by processes using a 16-bit virtual address. The most significant two bits of the virtual address define the segment in which the item to be accessed is located by reference to the appropriate HSR (HSR (0) to HSR (3)). The remaining 14 bits define the displacement of the item for the start of the segment. The mapping from virtual address to real address converts the 14-bit virtual address to an 18-bit real address, using the SR and SB fields of the appropriate hardware segment register as specified by the most significant two bits of the virtual address. The mapping is done entirely by hardware and is consequently very fast. It is in this address mapping and the checking of access permissions that reside a great deal of the store protection against corruption which Nucleus provides.

Hardware segment masters HSR (5) to HSR (7) are loaded initially when the

system is first set running, for example following initial programme load.

When the new process is selected to run, HSR(4) is loaded from SST(P + 4), where P is the number of the process, thus specifying the master segment. If the segment is absent the process cannot be run and a special error trap occurs (master segment break). HSR(0) to HSR(3) are loaded using the four CST entries in the master segment, which refer to entries in the SST. These are transferred from the SST to the hardware segment registers. When the hardware segment registers have been loaded, the S and L registers are now loaded from the "save" area of the master segment of the process, thus providing the instruction number from which the programme sequence is to start.

State of the new process

The state of the process is now tested, i.e. whether it is in the READY or the RUN state. This is done by reference to the process vector, which has been mentioned briefly earlier.

The process vector (PV) is a segment accessible to Nucleus for the control of all processes. The starting address of the

process vector segment is given by the contents of HSR(5). The process vector contains one 8-byte long entry for each process in the system, starting at byte 8P of the beginning of PV, where P is the process number. The process vector entry for each process contains various details regarding the process, among which are three sub-fields S, L, A in the STATE field which define the state of the process. The READY state corresponds to S=0, L=0 and A=4 while the RUN state corresponds to S=0, L=0, A=1. We shall assume here that the process selected is in the RUN state (i.e. should be run). Nucleus then loads the remaining registers B, A, X, Y, Z, E, C from the "save" area of the master segment, and initiates the execution of the process, starting at the store location indicated by the contents of the S register (programme counter), the code being contained in current segment CST(3). The relationship between segments used to control the operation of the computer is shown in Fig. 9.

Running a process under control of Nucleus

We shall now look at the interaction of Nucleus and the actual running of a process. For the purpose of illustration we shall choose the GATE process which accepts a character from input, identifies the task to be performed and passes the character on, together with other data (the message) to the task selected.

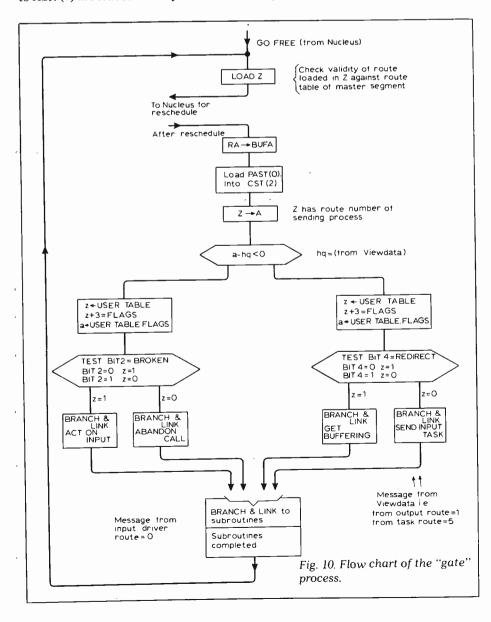
We enter the sequence of operation where it ended above, i.e. at the point where the process (GATE) is directed to a piece of code starting at a location indicated by the programme counter S (see Figs. 3 and 10).

The reschedule. We had initially set the GATE process (and others) to the RUN state at IPL to set the system to operate. The GATE process first places a valid route number in Z and returns to Nucleus for a reschedule, i.e. to ensure that no other process of higher priority (in this case lower process number) is waiting to be given control of the processor.

The GATE process is first set to the FREE state, i.e. inactive state, pending the investigation of whether there is a message requiring processing and, if none exists, the receipt of one. This procedure involves the setting of SCAN bit to 1, and fields S, L and A in the process vector to 0. Other fields in the process vector entry for the GATE process are also examined, see Fig. 11. The fields of interest are:

STIM. This is a set of 16 independent bits used to record the presence of fixed messages and interrupts awaiting processing by the process. In the current Viewdata system fixed messages (as opposed to queued messages) are not used, but interrupts are.

S, L, A. As we have seen above, they define collectively the STATE of the process.



QEND. A pointer to the queue of incoming messages awaiting processing by the process; QEND = 0 if the queue is empty.

We have seen that communications between processes, i.e. the continuity links which ensure that a whole sequence of operations each implemented by a separate process may be carried out in toto, is accomplished by messages, called inter-process messages (IPM), which are sent from one process to another. The information passed on in an IPM defines the task to be performed and the data to be used.

When a process sends a message to another process it loads registers A, X and Y with the required information parameters and loads register Z with a route number which is an entry from a table in the master segment of the sending process which specifies the destination (the process which is to receive the message and how the message is to to be retrieved, i.e. the queueing parameters) and then invokes Nucleus to complete the operation. If a data segment is sent with the message the first two bits of register Y indicate the current segment (CST) of the sending process containing this data.

Nucleus then assembles the message in a message buffer (see below) in which it inserts the following data, see Fig.12: (1) parameters A, X and Y from registers A, X and Y; (2) the current segment number of the sending process (CST) containing the data to be included in the message, as indicated by the first two bits of register Y which are then set to zero; and (3) the identity (i.e. number) of the sending and destination processes and a pointer indicating the location of the message buffer.

In the Viewdata system the message buffer is allocated by Nucleus from a list of unused buffers (known as the free queue), the address of which is obtained from an entry in the system variable area called QFREE (Fig. 13).

If the current message is the only one waiting to be processed by the destination process an entry is made at QEND in the process vector entry (Fig.11) of the destination process giving the address of the message buffer, which now forms the beginning of an independent message queue awaiting processing by the destination process. If, however, there are already other messages in the message queue of the destination process, its address is found at QEND and the message is added to the tail of the queue. Figs.13 and 14 show the FREE-QUEUE and the incoming message queue for a process (process N).

We may now return to the GATE process, and the flow diagram of Fig. 3 (April issue) at the point where Nucleus examines the QEND field of the process vector entry for the GATE process. If QEND is not zero, the value of QEND is a pointer to the tail of the message queue awaiting processing. Nucleus changes the state of GATE from FREE to READY, by setting SCAN(N) = 0 in

STIM TRANSFER S 1 Δ Q COUNT WAIT ROUTE Q END Fig. 11. Process vector entry for a process. POINTER SENDER Control intormation DESTINATION SEGMENT PARAMETER A Message PARAMETER A parameters PARAMETER X PARAMETER Y

SVA and A = 4 in the process vector entry then reschedules (searches in the SCAN field whether there is a process of higher priority, i.e. lower process number, requiring attention) by returning to the top of the flow chart in Fig. 3.

Fig. 12. Message buffer.

A reschedule is also carried out if QEND = 0, i.e. there are no messages awaiting processing but GATE is left in the FREE state.

Assuming that a message is awaiting processing, GATE has been set at READY, and since no other process has been in control of the processor the old branch is taken. The process state is

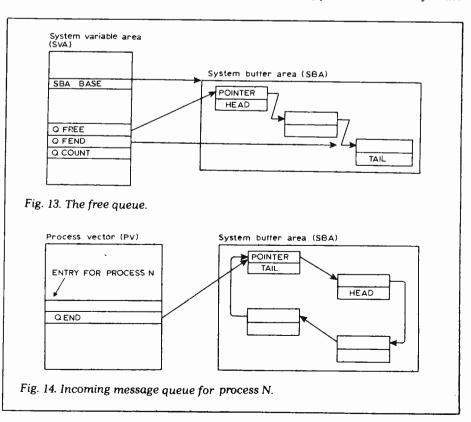
re-examined. It is at READY and the following procedure takes place: (1) the parameters of the message are loaded from the message buffer to registers A, X, Y; (2) the route number of the sending process is transferred from the message buffer to register Z; (3) the entry of the data segment, CST(2), of the old process is transferred to PAST(0) (programme accessible register) of the GATE process; (4) the GATE process is set to RUN, i.e. field A in the process vector entry is set to 1; and (5) control is returned to GATE process where it had left off and the code pertaining to the GATE process is followed by the processor.

The Viewdata tables

We have seen so far how, starting from IPL, a process such as GATE is initially activated in what may be considered a dummy run, given control of the processor and allowed to comply with the codes specific to that process, which is found always in CST (3) using a valid but not meaningful route number. The code in the process then demands a change of state to the FREE state which invokes Nucleus and leads to a reschedule.

As a result of the reschedule and on the assumption that a message requiring attention is found in the system, control is returned to GATE, together with additional information and data pertaining to that message. This information is deposited in registers A, X and Y and the route number of the sending process is register Z.

The data passed with the message which was located in the CST (2) of the sending process is transferred as a result of the message passing to the PST(0) of the receiving process. On re-entry to the



GATE process, register A is saved in a buffer local to the programme so as to free the register for subsequent use and the data in the PST(0) is transferred to the CST (2) of the GATE process. (In fact only pointer addresses are changed.)

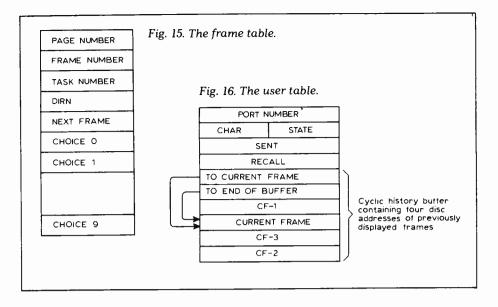
The same procedure follows essentially in all the processes comprising the Viewdata software package as such, with the content of CST(2) being handed over from one process to another throughout the series of transactions of a user session. This data comprises a set of tables which are collected together in a segment specific to a particular user. This segment, although continually changing in content, remains allocated to a user throughout the session. We talk of a user being transferred from one process to another when we mean that the user segment passes from one process to another throughout a session.

The user segment. The user segment of storage is made up of five components: (1) the frame control area; (2) the frame; (3) the frame table; (4) the user table; (5) the input buffer; and (6) the user work area.

The frame control area contains the user number of the user currently connected to the port number corresponding to the segment, and the sequence of four characters made up of one FF (form feed) and three CR (carriage returns) which are output in one transfer clear the screen before a new frame of data is sent down the line for display.

The frame component consists of 960 bytes of storage and receives from disc the data to be displayed to the user. It is not always full, as on the average the content of a page displayed to the user is only 500 to 600 bytes long, since a substantial part of it must be left unused to meet editing requirements as regards appearance, tabulation etc. Nevertheless since the maximum number of character positions in a displayed page is 960 (24 rows of 40 characters) the full amount is allowed in the frame region. The contents of the frame region may be modified, in certain cases, before being sent down the line to the user.

The frame table is a table 64 bytes long which is compiled at the same time as the frame and reflects the data structure of the information provided. It is stored with the frame content in disc storage and transferred to main storage at the same time as the associated frame. The structure of the frame table is shown in Fig. 15. The contents of the frame table determine the action of the system following the user's response to a displayed frame. The frame table contains the identity (i.e. number) of the page, and frame*, the task number, i.e.



the process number which deals with a user response relating to the frame, and the actual disc addresses of the next frame and the frames corresponding to the choices offered in the current frame. It also contains DIRN (direction) which is used by a task number to decide whether the frame is to be output directly (DIRN = 0) or sent to another task specified for modification (DIRN \neq 0).

NOOFCHARS specifies the number of significant characters to be output from frame.

The process specified by TASK-NUMBER relates to the user's response to the available selection from the list and moves the appropriate disc address to NEXTFRAME, where it will be accessed by process DISC to retrieve the frame selected.

The user table (see Fig.16) contains details pertinent to the user's current transactions. In particular it contains a buffer which maintains a record of the current frame (as a disc address) and the address of the three previous choices, thus enabling a user to retrace his steps. Frame addresses are entered in the user table by the DISC process and retrieved when necessary by one or more of the TASK processes. The user table also contains PORTNUMBER, which is the identity of the computer port to which the user is connected. This is used by the OUTPUT process when sending data to the user. Other parameters are:

SENT. This is set by GATE when it sends a user segment in the system in a message passing operation.

RECALL. If additional characters are received thereafter they are entered by GATE in the input buffer section of the user segment and RECALL is set. When the OUTPUT receives the user segment in due course it will return the user segment to GATE without outputting a frame.

STATE. This gives an indication to TASK as to whether the message consists of a single character or a component of a character string.

CHAR contains the next character of

input which the system is required to process.

The input buffer is an area of the user segment for the exclusive use of GATE process in which characters arriving may be stored while the user segment is traversing the Viewdata system.

The user work area is a work space area available to TASK in which intermediate results may be stored, as, for example, when TASK is assembling a character string which is being received one character at a time.

The next article will describe the optimisation of the Viewdata system to enable it to handle as many simultaneous users as possible.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Electronics II by D. Bishop follows the syllabus of one of the technician courses run under the Technician Education Council which was established in 1973. The book is divided into six sections which cover the elementary theory of semiconductors, thermionic valves, the c.r.t., small signal amplification, waveform generation, logic elements and circuits. Each section concludes with a list of exercises in the form of Q & A. Price £2.95 paperback, pp. 76. Macmillan Press, 4 Little Street, London WC2R 3LF.

CMOS Cookbook by Don Lancaster is a very readable introduction to c.m.o.s. and its uses. Like most books, it starts with a chapter on basics followed by a list of devices together with schematic diagrams and brief descriptions. The following chapters discuss logic techniques and circuits. The last chapter describes some l.s.i. devices for circuits such as a stopwatch, frequency counter, and video game. The book is well illustrated with circuit diagrams, waveforms and truth tables. Price £6.95 paperback. Pp. 414. Prentice/Hall International, 66 Wood Lane End, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4RG.

^{*} A page may consist of several continuation frames. Continuation frames have the same serial number of the page (i.e. the first frame) but end with an alphabetic suffix A to Z.

NEWS OF THE MONTH

Experimental Post Office facsimile service

THE POST OFFICE are to begin an experimental "Fax Bureau" facsimile transmission service. The experiment, details of which are not yet fully available, is to start later this year, when the first of two stages will be inaugurated in an unspecified regional test area. Post Office sources say the equipment is being ordered from Muirhead for the transmission of "urgent documents" between centres within the UK

The first part of the experiment, to start in the summer, will be to provide a simple type of machine which will not require much staff training. A directory of facsimile users will be provided similar to that available for the Telex service. The aim is to encourage greater use of public switched telephone network.

The second stage will be to supply a more complicated machine which will enable documents to be transmitted out of office hours when the machine is unattended. These will use electrostatic coated paper. This service has not been given a timetable yet but at the earliest they could start next year.

In 1975 the Post Office arranged a trial in which head post offices up and down the country had facsimile transmission systems installed for public use for a trial period. The Post Office say there was no public demand. Office-to-office transmission is likely to be a very different matter, however. The Post Office have installed a great many machines for their internal use and, for example, their press office sends copies of releases to Manchester for retyping on the Manchester letter-head in the same format.

At the time that Telex was being developed there was no demand for facsimile, but the makers believe that some form of facsimile would now be preferred.

A new document facsimile transmission unit from ITT brings the likelihood of a small, cheap portable machine for the home a step nearer. The Telefax, made by ITT Business Systems, is an office machine small and light enough (8kg) to be carried from one desk to another, though it could not really be described as portable. Two of the machines can receive from or transmit to each other over a telephone line. At the moment they have to be connected through a phone socket but ITT say they will shortly be making an acoustic coupler available. They rent at £45 a month, and sell at £1,500.

Transmission time for a sheet of A4 paper is three minutes. Most of the machines in current use are from group one; they take six minutes to transmit an A4 page. The variety of group one machines available do not conform to any standard, so they are not interworkable. In September last year the CCITT met to agree standards for the newer two and three minute group two machines which were about to appear and ITT say the Telefax conforms to this standard. It requires a scan speed of 360 lines per minute and a.m./p.m./v.s.b. modulation on a 2100Hz

carrier. Group three machines with subminute transmission times will use digital compression techniques but ITT believe their use will be confined to mail rooms.

ITT's Telefax uses a combination of amplitude and phase modulation and vestigial sideband to reduce the transmission time from six to three minutes, with a resolution of 3.85 lines/mm. Two minute transmissions are possible at 3.1 lines/mm.

There are many reasons for the growth of the facsimile market. The increasing complexity of the information to be sent, often requiring accompanying drawings, makes telex transmission impractical, as does the spread of Japanese as one of the main languages of commerce. Telex also needs an operator at either end, since the machines cannot be used unattended, and not only does this cost money, but it may mean that mistakes are made both in transmission, and in the interpretation of the received information. Facsimile eliminates these, as well as making it possible to sign the document: at least one case is recorded of a solicitor sending a document by facsimile to New York and receiving a facsimile of the signed document back, and it appears that the facsimile signature is acceptable in a court of law. In addition, the charges for the use of the telephone have increased sharply in recent years, making facsimile more attractive.

It appears that Britain's share of the European facsimile machine population is, at 28%, 10% ahead of that of its nearest Europen rival, West Germany. According to a survey by Quantum Science, there are 11,000 machines here. By 1980 that number will

have doubled, though we will then only have a quarter of the 90,000 machines in Europe. The group two machines being sold will overtake those of group one towards the end of 1980, the survey says. Over two years ago another report, by Ronald Brown, said that the facsimile market was about to take off as a result of the economic recovery, the need to save fuel, and there being more machines to transmit to.

According to Ronald Brown, the UK market would reach £10 million by 1978, and that in Western Europe would reach £55 million. According to the Quantum Science survey, the UK market is worth £16.5 million, and will reach £32.2 million by 1980. The discrepancy can be accounted for largely by inflation.

On the face of it, it seems odd that the UK market should be so far ahead in anything. ITT admit privately that the reason is Muirhead's "education" of the market. Muirhead have been in facsimile since the end of the last war, but they have largely confined themselves to the professional market, such applications as pictures from news agencies, seismography, oil logs from oil rigs (which can be up to 20 feet long), the transmission of news pages, and weather charts from satellites.

Muirhead say they have 70% of the world market for photo transmission, and 95% of the market for newspaper page transmission. Bearing in mind that Muirhead have developed a documents transmission system with the Ministry of Defence for sending a sheet of A4 over the telephone in one minute, ITT's stated intention to take 30% of the facsimile market in the next three years looks a tall order.

The ITT machine will be made under an agreement with the Qwip Corporation, an Exxon subsidiary, using electronics by ITT Creed at Brighton which bring it into line with the three minute standard. Qwip supply about 1,200 of their machines a month.

Industry failure to create new jobs "an outrage": Chapple

THE DEVELOPMENTOF System X would lead to a major contraction of jobs, yet the companies involved had barely any facilities for retraining workers, according to Mr Frank Chapple, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing union.

Speaking at the annual lunch of the British Industrial Measuring and Control Apparatus Manufacturers' Association at the Cafe Royal in mid-February, he said that the British telecommunications industry had failed to consider the effect on workers of introducing advanced electronic equipment. "We are locked on to a technology which will undoubtedly destroy thousands of working people's environment."

The failure of the companies to provide retraining was an outrage because they were among the biggest in the land, even the world. They were not "one man bands overtaken by events," he said. "Their social responsibility is nil."

"We must examine this new sort of technological unemployment. It is too grave for companies to say that redundancies are necessary to protect the jobs of those who remained. Government, industry and unions have got to generate a new vision of society at work. The high risks of the new technologies cannot be left to the market to decide."

In market research, Government cooperation, marketing and protecting the home industry Britain had failed to compete with the Japanese, who intended, he said, to dominate the world's electronic market in the next decade. "Civil servants, predatory companies and trade unions cannot continue to follow their mutually destructive whims and fancies. We must accelerate the advent of the shorter working week. Investment in training is needed and we must work towards education for industrial technology. The situation not only demands co-operation but leadership of a determined character. Technical change must enrich working life."

Whatever happened to hi-fi?

LAST CHRISTMAS was one of the most dismal on record for the hi-fi industry. In December audio systems made by members of the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association were delivered at half the level in the same month in 1976, according to figures just released by BREMA.

In December the year before that, British manufacturers delivered 53,000 systems, making a total for the year of 733,000 units. In 1976, one of the worst for the British economy since the way, the figures fell to 728,000, though the December figure had reached 82,000, and that for September had made the 112,000 mark.

Last December's figure plummetted to 44,000, less than that for August. Last year the highest total reached was in October, falling to the December low. Altogether, deliveries in 1977 were 568,000, a drop of 22%.

The pattern was repeated for record players. In 1976 deliveries were 181,000, of which 144,000 were UK made. In 1977 the figure was 104,000, with 90,000 made in the UK. Only the radio receiver picture is brighter, with increases in both total sets delivered, from 3.6 million in 1976 to 4.5 million, and UK deliveries up from 322,000 to 423,000, though even here the British makers have a very small piece of the market, and the figures were distorted during the year by changes in the way customs and excise categories imported radios.

Deliveries of television sets were slightly up too, from 2.5 million for 1976 to 2.7 million, with the British share increasing from 1.7 million to 1.8 million, showing an increase in the number of imports.

the number of imports.

Some measure of the dent in hi-fi sales can be gauged from the slight but measurable increase in sales volume of other consumer electronics goods, and from the fact that the whole of the Department of Trade figures for the whole of the retail trade show that sales in December were up 16% on those a year earlier, reflecting an increase in disposable income from tax cuts which are said to give the average family an extra £200 a year. Retail sales showed increases in value varying between 11 and 17% right through the year. Sales of durable goods were down in volume on the previous year, but up in value to over twice their 1971 level. The volume of retail sales has also been rising since the trough towards the latter half of 1975, according to the Department of Trade.

So why is hi-fi so depressed? BREMA say that the figures for audio should be treated with caution. One reason for the decline has been that some types of product are no longer as popular as they were, and these more than offset the increases in deliveries of those types of audio equipment which replace them. An example is the falling popularity of amplifier-turntables, and another is that of tuner-amplifier-turntables. There has been a significant rise in music centres, however. Another reason for treating the figures carefully is that they are only applicable to BREMA members' products, and they take no account of manufacturers' stocks, which could be high enough to allow a considerable increase in sales without reflecting that increase in the deliveries to the shops. All the same, BREMA say that sales of all consumer electronics products are disappointing, and those for British made equipment in general, and audio in particular, are "just as disappointing".

It is not possible to put any figures on the

value or volume of imported audio being sold in recent months because the Department of Trade statistical office only has figures up to the third quarter of 1977. Nevertheless reports from the industry suggest that Japanese manufacturers have done as badly as the British makers.

One reason may be the sheer volume of products that the manufacturers, particularly the Japanese, are putting on to the market.

In addition, the unit price of hi-fi may make it a less attractive buy than a freezer, particularly in a time of rising food prices and a tendency among the public to start turning their rose beds over to carrots and Brussels sprouts.

Dealers have noticed the tendency for more of their business to be done on credit, reflecting the lack of immediately disposable income.

Dealers stress that the hi-fi magazines have a great effect on purchasing. They say they know at once if a certain product has had a good review. This is especially noticeable, as they claim often happens, when a product has not previously merited much attention. They also say the advice given in the magazines is often conflicting, and there is a tendency to concentrate on equipment which is either not easily available or out of the normal price range. They say that no effort is made to stress the difference in price between an enthusiastically-reviewed product and one which is panned but which is at a lower price and may offer good value for money. The slight differences between products are exaggerated to the point where the customer feels the difference is so great that nothing within his price range is worth owning.

Another influence on potential buyers seems to be the conflicting advice given by dealers who are more interested in pushing certain lines than in giving objective advice. Some dealers do not, in any case, know much about what they are selling, particularly when they are expected to take on new lines of Japanese equipment which uses ever more complex techniques.

Manufacturers are now concentrating on changing their methods of selling, appointing selected dealers to distribute their products instead of allowing wholesalers to sell to all and sundry. Wholesale distribution, they say, has led to a price war, with no-one benefiting (except perhaps the customer) because of the low volume of sales. Importers have even been said to have been offering goods for nothing, provided a minimum of stock is ordered, though importers deny this.

According to a survey last autumn by Mintel, more than a third of the adult population have bought goods from a discount warehouse, and hi-fi and audio products came out of the list with 27% of all sales.

Mr Charles Strasser, Vice-chairman of the International Consumer Electronics Association, which represents importers, told Wireless World that members of the ICEA were "extremely buoyant" about the market. He said that the Christmas market had been slow to take off but that the British industry had painted too black a picture of the lack of demand.

He said that importers had been hit by import quotas to protect industries which, in many cases, did not exist in this country—"There is nothing to protect"— and by the fall in value of the pound against the yen. The currency fall had been 23% in the last 18 months, to which must be added the effect of Japanese inflation, producing total price rises of 30% or so. To that 14% import duty must be added to most audio products, but "the Japanese are no longer selling on price, they're selling on quality." The rising yen was "the only cloud on the horizon."

Government focusses on microprocessors

THE PRIME MINISTER has announced the formation of three new working parties to examine the effects of new technology. The first will examine the applications of semiconductors an area where microprocessors are making available cheaply and in great number "capabilities that up to now have required large and expensive computers." The second will look at the effects of technology on unemployment and related matters. The third will examine the best ways of converting these new techniques into profitable industries.

The three working parties will report in June to the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, set up in 1976 to advise the government on the effects of science and technology on society. Its chairman is Lord Peart. The council will then report to the government by the end of the

The announcement, at a speech towards the end of February to the annual lunch of the Parliamentary and Scientific committee, followed news of the Department of Industry's intention to give financial help to the application of microprocessors in all branches of British Industry. At Microsys-

tems '78, the February conference in London of which Wireless World was one of the sponsors, Mr Don Harrison, deputy chief scientific officer in the computer systems and electronics division of the DoI, said that the microprocessor is important in its own right and should be treated separately from other microelectronics. If somebody came to the DoI with a new way of using microprocessors - perhaps a world first - in, say, hospital work or beer automation, the Department would be glad to consider support for it. The level of support has not yet been decided but informed sources think it may be comparable to that to be available for microelectronic components. The figure of £80 million over five years has been suggested.

The move is part of the Government's "new industrial strategy" and the DoI will also be asking sector working parties of the NEDC, representing different industries, to study ways in which microprocessors could be used to improve the efficiency of their manufacturing and other processes.

A nationwide series of conferences on the industrial strategy are to be held by the Department of Industry, the NEDO and the British Council of Productivity Associations.

News in brief

The IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and Systems will be held at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York, from May 17 to 19, 1978.

The **British Association** for the Advancement of Science is to hold its annual meeting at Bath University from September 4 to 8.

The National Research and Development Corporation, in its evidence to the Wilson Commmittee, to review the working of financial institutions, says it would be better able to meet the needs of innovators if it could accept a lower success rate for joint projects with industry. The NRDC was set up after a bill was introduced into parliament by the young Harold Wilson in 1948.

The Post Office have ordered l.s.i. chips for single channel p.c.m. coder/decoders from General Instruments. Licences have been granted for the manufacture of the 9900 chips here and abroad. GI are also to supply m.o.s. i.c.s for Viewdata.

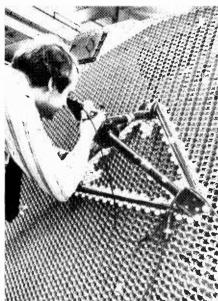
GEC Semiconductors are to hold two more microprocessor courses this year, from June 20 to 22, and October 24 to 26. The courses will be on the resident Coral 66 compiler for 8080 and 8085 microprocessors, and will be held at Wembley, Middlesex.

Nasa has been supplied with a laser beam recorder to produce faster and better photos from all their satellites. The Operational Laser Beam Recorder has been supplied by RCA.

Correction—"Reliability"

Dr Griffiths of Chelsea Instruments Ltd has directed our attention to an error in the printing of H. R. Henly's article on "Reliability", which appeared in February 1978, p.41. The heading of the last column of Table 1 should read "Joint failure rate/1000 hours". Our apologies to readers and to Mr Henly.

Practical Wireless have asked us to point out that, contrary to our news item on games chips in the April issue (p.50), they did not publish an article on the GI tank game mentioned. They will be publishing a full constructional article on the 8710 in their June issue, however.



An engineer aligns the elements in an electronically-scanned, phased aerial array for the US Army Patriot air defence system. Each element is inserted into a socket on the frame

Electronics in the defence white paper

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE has spent more than £100 million with GEC, in 1976/7 according to the 1978 defence white paper published in February. Plessey won orders worth between £50 and £100 million, and EMI, Ferranti and Lucas were among the seven British companies with whom the MoD spent between £25 and £50 million. The £10 to £25 million group included MEL (part of Philips), Racal, and Smiths Industries. The 13 companies winning orders between £5 and £10 million included Decca, Mullard, Rank, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and Ultra Electronic Holdings.

The 38 firms listed received £1,600 million in contract payments. The white paper says that around 40% of the military budget is taken up in buying equipment. In 1977/8 this amounted to £2,523 million, and equipment expenditure in 1978/9 will rise to £2,770 million, or £3,060 million if "associated personnel and other costs" are added.

Of total procurement spending 44% (£1,353 million) will go to producing new equipment, 27% (£831 million) to producing new spares, 4% (£121 million) on research and 25% (£755 million) on the development of approved systems including r&d support costs such as headquarters expenses.

Of the £2,184 million to be spent on producing new equipment and spares £1,900 million or more will go to British industry and the Royal Ordnance factories. Of the £1,876 million to be spent on r&d, £608m will be spent outside the MOD. In 1976/77 the MOD spent £2,138m on military equipment of which about 70% was spent on national contracts with British industry, and 20% as the MOD share of collaborative projects. Ten per cent was spent on contracts overseas.

The MOD estimates that 200,000 people are working full time on national military spending, and another 70,000 are working on overseas military sales. In 1978/9 overseas equipment sales "will probably amount to at least £900 million." These sales are supported by the Defence Sales Organisation (see WW March 1978 p38). The white paper says that at least as many people again are employed in supporting these various contracts in industry generally, meaning that over half a million people are in some way involved in making military products. "We estimate that about half of those employed in the aerospace industry are engaged on military work including work for export, and warship building accounts for up to a third of those employed in the shipbuilding industry. Defence work will continue to be a major factor in sustaining the levels of employment and technological expertise in British Aerospace, British Shipbuilding and other important associated sectors of industry, notably elec-

The navy are developing several new types of sonar which are being fitted to surface ships, submarines and helicopters for the better detection and classification of submarines. "Advanced new electronic warfare and communications equipment are included in national and collaborative development and production programmes. A NATO collaborative development programme is in hand for a decoy system for use against anti-surface ship missiles. Production orders have been placed for an improved inertial navigational system which will be

fitted in submarines and the new antisubmarine cruiser. An advanced air surveillance and target indication radar is being developed and will be in service with the surface fleet by the mid-1980s." The Seaspray airborne search radar is being fitted to the Lynx helicopter and will give target information for Sea Skua missiles. A derivative of Seaspray, Blue Fox, is being developed and will be fitted to Sea Harrier "for air to air and air to surface roles". Most of the surface fleet will be fitted with computer-based action information systems and digital data links by the mid-1980s.

• The Army is continuing development of Supervisor, "a battlefield surveillance and target acquisition system using real time data transmission". Supervisor is based around an unmanned miniature helicopter, a prototype of which will make its first flight this spring. The Cervantes trailer-mounted radar to locate rocket launchers and mortars is also continuing development.

Deployment of the Rapier all weather blindfire tracking radar DN181 has now begun. "In July last year and electronic-warfare regiment took its place in the order of battle of 1(BR) Corps. Most of its equipment will be British, although some is being bought from France. Further improvements in our electronic-warfare capability are under consideration."

The replacement for the Bruin tactical trunk communications system Ptarmigan, is now in its final development stages (WW September 1977, p.49). Wavell, the new command and control automatic data processing system, will be installed in all formation headquarters in 1(BR) Corps if trials to be carried out in BAOR are successful.

● The DN181 blindfire tracking radar will be fitted to the Rapier systems now in service with the RAF. The planned programme of improvements to the United Kingdom Air-Defence Ground Environment (UKADGE), which is receiving money from NATO, is now well advanced and development will begin this year. A number of early warning stations will also be re-equipped.

The MOD are conducting "feasibility studies" for an Identification Friend or Foe system to replace existing equipment. The new system should be suitable for sale to other NATO countries.

Work has begun on equipment to exchange digital data between fighters, airborne early warning aircraft, ships and UKADGE, and the MOD are investigating the introduction of a general purpose ground communication system, using digital transmission and computer switching techniques. New v.h.f. and u.h.f. airborne radio systems are being installed in most RAF aircraft to replace obsolescent equipment and to satisfy new international standards. New v.h.f. and u.h.f. ground radios are also being introduced. "Techniques to improve beyond-lineof-sight radio systems are being studied and the installation of a new h.f. radio ground/air network for strike command aircraft has begun. The United Kingdom is co-operating closely with its allies to ensure that, where necessary, future communications systems are interoperable."

On electronic warfare the white paper says that passive radar warning equipment is being fitted in a variety of aircraft.

Europe inches towards a world data network

THE FIRST MEETING of the council of ministers of posts and telecommunications of the EEC since Britain joined the community broke up in December without any decisions being reached. The aim was to harmonise the postal and telecommunications services of the member states, and, though the meeting ended with the European Communities Commission being asked to undertake "further studies" and to report back later, an ECC statement issued towards the end of February said that the president of the Council, Mr L. Défosset of Belgium, had described the meeting as "extremely positive" and had said that the foundations had been laid for "fruitful co-operation at the dawning of extraordinary technological development." The meeting had been called by

The statement noted that the rapid development of electronic techniques implied widespread change in the community's telecommunications services. The Commission was asked to draw up a list of the main techniques in use or on the drawing board with a view to working towards an integrated electronic system including telephones and data processing.

The statement noted that in the United States every 100 people of their 210 million population had 70 telephones. The EEC, with its population of 260 million, had only 30 per 100. The Japanese were working on a plan to reach the US density level by 1980, but the EEC had no such target.

One of the greatest sources of growth in telecommunications in the 1980s will be data transmission. A number of different systems are in experimental use around the world on private or public networks, and the members of the ITU sub-agency, the CCITT (International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee) are concerned to arrive at common standards for communications between computers and for access by data terminals of all kinds, especially those which the futurologists imagine most of us will soon have installed in our homes. The new public data networks will provide connections between computers and associated devices bought or rented, not from the telecommunications authorities in the country where the equipment is installed, as is now the case with the telephone and telex services, but from the manufacturers of the various computer devices by the users. Computers and their peripherals are not generally designed to work with or into those of competing manufacturers, so interface standards have

There already exist a number of private networks which companies or other organisations, particularly multinational companies, have built up for themselves. In many cases these are based on data transmission over the public telephone lines, or so-called permanent lines leased from the national PTT. Our Post Office, for example, provides a national and an international data service, Datel 2400/12. which disseminate date at 2,400 bits/s over the public telephone network. Lower speeds are provided as well, as on the Datel 200 service. In each case the Post office provides interface with the public

network or leased line, the modulator/demodulator, or Modem. Modems operating at 4.8 and 9.6 kbit/s are now being designed.

But the public network is likely to be of variable quality, and is subject to misrouting and disconnection. Even in the case of a leased line, the PTT can take it away if the authority needs it for itself. In addition, where a number of companies band together to create a network using leased lines, as a group of arilines might do for bookings and so on, they have to operate and maintain the equipment themselves. The lines are also under-used, and the user is not allowed to share his network to make its use more efficient

Hence the growing enthusiasm for a network of lines dedicated to carrying data and designed for the purpose. And since great emphasis has been placed on the best possible use of the available lines, much of the effort has been placed on developing packet switching systems.

Packet switching is defined by the CCITT as "The transmission of data by means of addressed packets whereby a transmission channel is occupied for the duration of transmission of the packet only. The channel is then available for use by packets being transferred between different data terminal equipments." The data you wish to transmit is put into the network and the switching then takes over. It will either send it on or hold it until its destination is free to accept it. The packet is transmitted by whichever route is free, that is by the quickest route, and there will usually be several routes.

The National Physical Laboratory began to study packet switching 12 years ago. In April, 1977, the Post Office started a full Experimental Packet Switching Service (EPSS) which will run until April, 1979. The full service began, after 15 months of limited customer testing, with the opening of switching centres in London, Manchester and Glasgow. There are now 33 customers for the service, the latest to join being the South West Universities' Regional Computer Centre at Bath. The packet switching exchanges at the three centres use Ferranti Argus 700E computers to switch the packets, and they are interconnected by 48kbit/s circuits

Customers can choose between packet mode of character mode operation. Simpler terminals transmit serially using ten or 11 bit characters which are assembled into packets at the switching centre before being sent to their destination. "Intelligent" terminals transmit and receive in packets, each with an address code, a data section of up to 2,040 bits, and an error-checking code. Nine of the 14 Argus computers are used to switch packets, six in London operating in pairs to form three packet switching units, two in Manchester and one in Glasgow, each operating singly. One more computer at each exchange monitors and controls the system, another at telecommunications headquarters produces bills and system statistics, and another in London is for research and development. The system is open for eight hours a day, five days a week, but, according to the Post Office Engineering Union journal, longer operating periods are planned

The European Commission is anxious to foster a common policy for the EEC within the CEPT.

"Multinational private undertakings have already started to offer international communications services, and unless the member states are prepared to co-operate the community will inevitably lag behind in the new technologies." The statement stressed the need to agree common prices leading to a common integrated electronic system which would enable countries to compete in world markets, "This is particularly important as the community is already lagging behind in the development of microelectronic silicon technologies (v.l.s.i.) which will soon be on offer in international markets from Japan, and will put her in a very competitive position if European know-how in this field is not sufficiently developed."

In 1972 the 17 European PTTs pooled resources to produce a massive study of Europe's data communications needs, the Eurodata study. The work had been done by various consultant firms, but in December, 1976, the Eurodata Foundation was formed to take over the custody and maintenance of the Eurodata information from the consultants. The work on Eurodata will form the basis of the intended future development of European data communications and work is still going on.

With SESA (the French society for the study of automation systems), Logica has been responsible for part of the development of the European Informatics Network, a research project among ten European governments and Euratom, and Euronet, a packet switching network among the nine EEC countries. The haphazard development of packet-switching networks has provided valuable experience of this new technique, experience which is now being pooled in a great effort to ensure that future systems use a common standard for interfacing the several types of terminals with what is hoped will become a worldwide data network. The CCITT has developed a standard, X25, to which Euronet will conform. Terminals in the nine countries will have access to data bases holding specialised scientific, technical and socio-economic information. At the end of 1975 the EEC Commission placed a contract with the PTTs for the supply of an international packet-switching network to be operating by the end of this year. In June, 1977, the French PTT placed a contract on behalf of the EEC PTTs for the development and supply of the Euronet network.

The Euronet system will be managed from London, and there will be packet switching exchanges there and in Paris, Rome and Frankfurt. Remote Access multiplexer sites will be available in Dublin, Amsterdam, Brussels, Luxembourg and Copenhagen. The switching exchanges will be linked by at least two 48kbit/s links, and the rest by 9.6kbit single links.

The tariffs for Euronet, which is due to start in January next year, were announced a few weeks ago. Initially it will operate solely to meet the needs of the EEC commission, but eventually it will be expanded to allow access by companies, private individuals, and non-EEC traffic.

The Post Office's EPSS does not conform to the X25 standard and the BPO has just placed an order with the American Telenet Corporation for the supply of a complete packet switching network because no British supplier makes equipment that conforms to X25.



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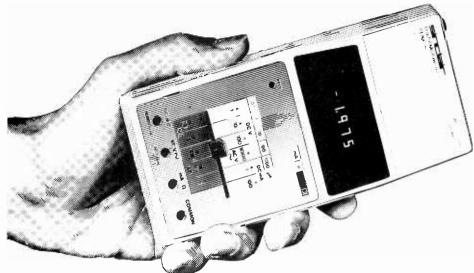
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 $3\frac{1}{2}$ digit resolution. Sharp, bright, easily read LED display, reading to ± 1.999 . Automatic polarity selection. Resolution of 1 mV and 0.1 nA $(0.0001 \, \text{U} \, \text{A})$.

Direct reading of semiconductor forward voltages at 5 different currents. Resistance measured up to 20 Mm. 1% of reading accuracy.

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The PDM 35's 1% of reading compares with 3% of full scale for a comparable analogue meter. That makes it around 5 times more accurate on average.

The PDM35 will resolve 1 mV against around 10 mV for a comparable analogue meter – and resolution on current is over 1000 times greater.

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Technical specification

DC Volts (4 ranges)

Range: 1 mV to 1000 V. Accuracy of reading 1.0% ± 1 count. Note: 10 M Ω input impedance.

AC Volts (40 Hz-5 kHz)

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Accuracy of reading: $1.0\% \pm 1$ count.

Note: Max. resolution 0.1 nA.

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Dimensions: 6 in x 3 in x $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.

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Audio power amplifier design — 3

Nyquist and Bode diagrams

"Design methods suitable for a variety of applications can never be reduced entirely to a set of rules" — H. W. Bode

by Peter J. Baxandall, B.Sc.(Eng.), F.I.E.E., F.I.E.R.E.

In the March issue it was explained that, assuming negligible non-linearity distortion, the closed-loop transfer function for a feedback amplifier gives full information about the frequency response, phase response, and transient response. In principle, therefore, all theoretical design work could be done by choosing the circuit configuration and values to yield a desired transfer function. However, this is such a tedious and inflexible approach for most amplifier design purposes that other techniques are much preferred.

ALTHOUGH the Nyquist Diagram seldom actually drawn by amplifier designers, it is the best starting point one can make to gain an understanding of the preferred techniques used in amplifier design. For clarity, Fig. 1(a) has been included even though it is a repeat of Fig. 1 in the March issue. Figure 1(b) shows a phasor diagram for this circuit, drawn in the conventional manner and, for simplicity, the β -network is assumed to give attenuation but no phase shift. Figure 1(c) gives the phasor diagram for the circuit, drawn in accordance with the neater and generally much preferable scheme advocated by M. G. Scroggie¹, in which points on the phasor diagram are lettered to correspond to points on the circuit diagram, neither arrow heads nor voltage symbols then being required. With either scheme, if one likes, the whole phasor diagram may be envisaged as rotating, conventionally anticlockwise. Then the vertical distances between the ends of the phasors represent instantaneous voltage values. Therefore, at the instant of time depicted by the angular position of the diagram shown in Fig. 1(c), points b and c are positive with respect to e. The lengths of the phasors, of course, represent the corresponding peak, or, if preferred, r.m.s. voltage values. The more I use the Scroggie method of drawing phasor diagrams, the more I like it, and my only regret is that, through sheer inertia, I did not change over to it far sooner.

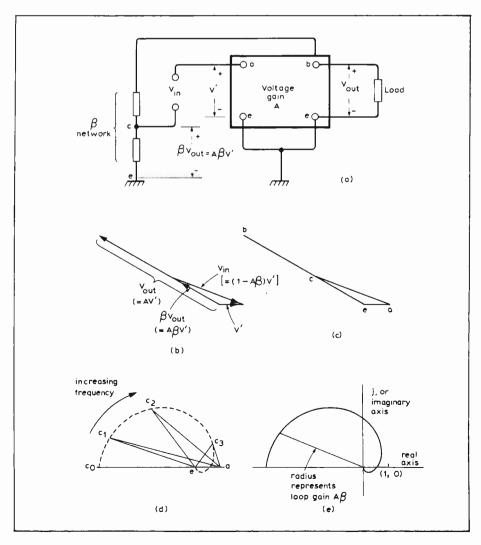
Both of the phasor diagrams shown represent the conditions in the circuit of Fig. 1(a) at one frequency only, and the Nyquist diagram can be regarded as

being derived from a set of such phasor diagrams covering all frequencies. These are drawn on the convenient' basis that V' has the same value for all of them, being represented by ea in diagram Fig. 1(d). (Usually only the voltage at c is included in the diagram, b is left out.) Therefore, as the frequency is varied, a succession of voltage phasor diagrams, as shown in Fig. 1(d), is obtained. In this example, for simplicity, the amplifier is assumed to be d.c. coupled, so that at zero frequency the feedback voltage βV_{out} , or $A\beta V'$, is exactly in antiphase with the voltage V'. The locus of c, shown as a broken line in Fig. 1(d), is essentially the Nyquist diagram. Normally, however, the quantities plotted in a Nyquist diagram are not voltages, but gains, and are obtained by dividing all the quantities in

the phasor diagrams shown in Figs. 1(b), (c) and (d) by V'. The Nyquist diagram in its normal form therefore appears as shown in Fig. 1(e), and is an Argand diagram showing how the loop gain $A\beta$ varies in amplitude and phase as the frequency is varied. Nevertheless, for some purposes, it is more convenient to think in terms of voltage phasor diagrams.

At low frequencies, especially when the loop gain is much larger than depicted here, the feedback voltage βV_{out} , represented, for example, by ec₁, is nearly equal in magnitude to the signal input voltage c₁a, so that the gain of the

Fig. 1. Basic feedback-amplifier circuit, with voltage-phasor diagrams and Nyquist diagram.



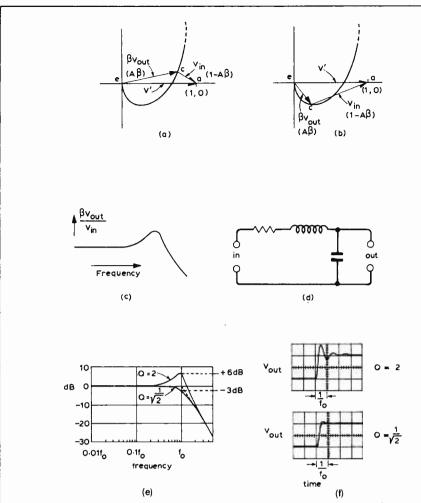


Fig. 2. (a) and (b) show enlarged Nyquist/voltage-phasor diagrams for the critical region. (c) shows the type of frequency response resulting from (a) and (b), the circuit (d) having an approximately similar sort of response. (e) and (f) show accurate frequency and step responses for the (d) circuit for two values of Q.

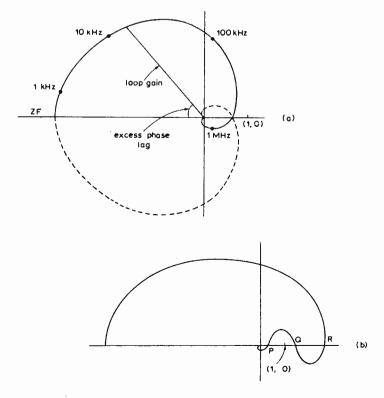


Fig. 3. Diagrams illustrating Nyquist's criterion.

amplifier, $V_{\rm out}/V_{\rm in}$, approximates closely to $1/\beta^*$. Consider now the phasor relationship existing at higher frequency, much when the tip of the AB phasor has swung round to the region of the Nyquist diagram (in Fig. 1(e)) which is close to the point (1, 0). The details may be shown more clearly by redrawing just the relevant parts of the diagram to a larger scale. This has been done on a voltage basis in Fig. 2(a) and 2(b), but with the corresponding dimensionless, or gain, quantities shown in brackets. Also, both the conventional and the Scroggie representations have been combined, to suit all readers! In Fig. 2(a) it is seen that the $\beta \textit{V}_{out}$ phasor is now much longer than the $V_{\rm in}$ phasor, making the amplifier gain with feedback much greater than 1/β. At even higher frequencies, as shown in Fig. 2(b), βV_{out} has become much less than $V_{\rm in}$, so that the gain of the complete amplifier is now much less than $1/\beta$. From this it is evident that the closedloop frequency response will be of the form shown in Fig. 2(c), and that if the Nyquist diagram goes very close to the point (1, 0), the peak in the frequency response will be of large magnitude. To obtain such a frequency response with purely passive elements, an arrangement such as that shown in Fig. 2(d) would be required, and it is obvious that this circuit, if supplied with a voltage step input, will ring if the Q-value is high enough. The frequency and step responses for two values of Q are shown in Figs. 2(e) and 2(f) respectively.

Since the frequency response of an amplifier whose Nyquist diagram passes close to the point (1,0) is broadly similar to that of a passive circuit such as that shown in Fig. 2(d), it seems reasonable to expect, on these grounds alone, that the amplifier, like the passive circuit, will exhibit very ringy behaviour if the peak in its frequency response is of large magnitude — and this is, indeed, the case.

It is evident from the above simple phasor diagram considerations that if the Nyquist diagram passes through the point (1,0), the required value of $V_{\rm in}$ for a finite output at that frequency becomes vanishingly small. Oscillation will then occur. A difficult question to answer, however, is whether oscillation can occur under any other conditions. Nyquist, in his famous paper of 1932^2 , looked very deeply into this problemand enunciated his stability criterion, which is now universally accepted as being correct.

Nyquist's criterion

Nyquist's criterion states that if a Nyquist diagram, as already described, is plotted for all frequencies from zero to infinity, together with its image in the real axis, as shown in Fig. 3(a), the

* Referring to Fig. 1(b), $V_{out}/V_{in} = AV'/(1-A\beta)V' = (1/\beta) \times A\beta/(1-A\beta)$, showing that the gain becomes approximately $1/\beta$ when $|A\beta| > 1$.

amplifier will be stable only if the point (1, 0) lies outside the enclosed figure so formed.

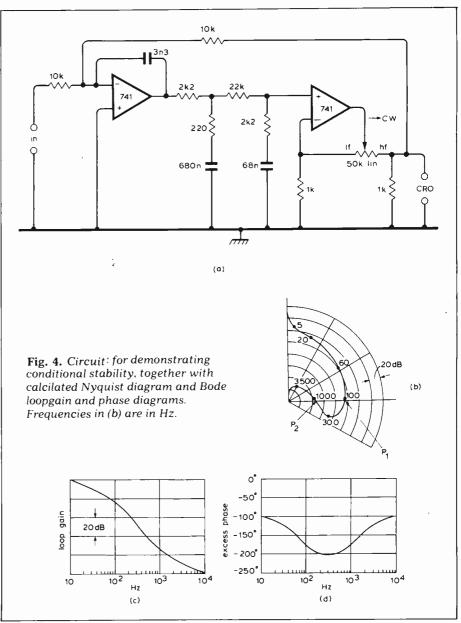
The example shown in Fig. 3(a) relates, as before, to a d.c.-coupled amplifier. The angle labelled "excess phase lag" refers to the phase lag that builds up with rising frequency due to shunt capacitances, transistor phase lags etc. The word "excess" is often inserted here to make it clear that the angle referred to does not include the 180° phase angle which is inherent in the fact that the feedback is negative at zero frequency. The frequencies marked on the Nyquist diagram are intended to be fairly typical of those which might apply to an audio amplifier. Though the Nyquist criterion, as stated, calls for frequencies from zero to infinity, it is clearly neither feasible nor necessary to cover such a range in practice. It is possible to be caught out, however, if measurements are stopped at too low a frequency, for a Nyquist diagram expected to continue shrinking with rising frequency as it passes the point (1, 0) can occasionally come back away from the origin again in a manner such as to jeopardise stability. This is especially liable to happen when transformers are employed, due to complex resonances involving leakage inductances and winding capacitances.

When complete Nyquist diagrams are plotted, it is usually more convenient to adopt a linear scale of decibels radially, to accommodate the wide range of loop gain magnitudes involved. Sometimes, however, only the part of the diagram fairly near the point (1, 0) need be plotted, and a linear scale may then suffice.

When the loop gain of a feedback amplifier is changed without altering any of the time-constants - for example, by a simple alteration in the value of the overall β – the obvious way to represent this would be to alter the size of the Nyquist diagram, leaving the point (1, 0) fixed. However, a much easier and quicker procedure is to leave the diagram as it is and shift the position of the point (1, 0), effectively altering the scale of the diagram. Usually there is no need to draw the image of the Nyquist diagram in the real axis, as shown in Fig. 3(a), because it is normally obvious whether the point (1, 0) would lie within the complete figure thus formed, without needing to see the broken-line part.

Conditional stability

It is possible to have an amplifier whose Nyquist diagram is something like that shown in Fig. 3(b). With the loop gain adjusted so that the unity-loop-gain point (1,0) is in the space between P and Q, the amplifier will be stable, for the diagram does not encircle the point. An increase in loop gain, represented by moving the point (1,0) to the left, will result in the onset of oscillation once the point (1,0) reaches P. A decrease in loop



gain, represented by moving the point (1, 0) to the right, will also cause oscillation (at a different frequency) by the time the point (1, 0) reaches Q. If the reduction in loop gain is sufficient to move the point (1, 0) beyond R, stability will again be achieved.

When operated with the point (1, 0)between P and Q, the amplifier is said to be conditionally stable. In this state, it should be noted that, at the frequencies corresponding to the points Q and R, there is zero phase shift round the loop and a loop gain greater than unity - and yet oscillation does not occur. A conditionally stable amplifier may thus be defined as one in which reducing the loop gain causes it to oscillate. An amplifier which remains stable for all values of loop gain setting between the normal one and zero is said to be absolutely stable3. It is important to distinguish between the term "conditionally stable", as defined above, and a quite different usage of the same term as applied to an amplifier which is stable only if the load impedance satisfies certain conditions. The converse term in this latter case is "unconditionally stable", meaning that the amplifier remains stable with any passive load impedance whatever connected.

Amplifiers having conditional stability in the sense of a reduction in loop gain causing oscillation, are normally to be avoided, and I have never come across a case of one being intentionally used for an engineering application. Their interest lies rather in the light that they throw on one's understanding of the full significance and correctness of Nyquist's criterion.

It is quite easy to make up a simple circuit exhibiting conditional stability, and Fig. 4(a) shows a suitable recipe. This circuit can be made the basis of an excellent and convincing lecture demonstration. With the potentiometer slider at the left, giving low loop gain, the amplifier is absolutely stable, and gives a fairly well damped square-wave response with, say, a 5Hz input square wave. As the slider is moved to the right, increasing the loop gain, the response becomes more and more ringy, going into continuous oscillation at just over 100Hz with sufficient gain increase. Turning the gain up further produces violent oscillation of increasing frequency, as the point (1, 0) is moved across from P1 to P2 in the calculated Nyquist diagram shown in Fig. 4(b). As P2 is reached, the sustained oscillation becomes gentle only, with a frequency of just over 800Hz. Increasing the loop gain still more gives stability once again, but this time it is conditional stability. The more the gain is turned up, the better the damping of the squarewave response becomes, an appropriate square-wave frequency under these conditions being about 100Hz. For demonstration purposes, the output may be reproduced on a loudspeaker. The rather unusual gain control arrangement adopted enables the gain to be adjusted over a very wide range (about 68dB) without the control becoming too "touchy". It is the same arrangement as that used in the BBC Outside-Broadcast amplifier, type OBA/94, and such schemes, which combine passive and feedback gain control using a single potentiometer, have many applications. With a c.r.o. fed from the point shown in Fig. 4(a), it is the forward gain of the demonstration circuit that is controlled, the overall β-value remaining constant. Only a small output level can be produced when the potentiometer slider is over to the left, and a c.r.o. sensitivity of 50mV/cm will be found appropriate. An alternative is to feed the c.r.o. from the potentiometer slider, which enables a high output level to be obtained at all potentiometer settings. Now, however, both the forward gain and the overall β -value of the demonstration circuit are being varied, so that the signal gain in

the non-oscillating states is dependent on the potentiometer setting.

In the valve era, a strong argument against the use of conditionally stable amplifiers was that the gradual rise in mutual conductances during warm-up caused oscillation to occur before the final conditionally-stable state was reached. As mentioned on page 163 of reference 3, such oscillation, once it started, was liable to persist indefinitely, because of the reduced effective stage gains under overload conditions. It is interesting to note that the demonstration model in Fig. 4 shows no tendencies of this kind if overloaded while in the conditionally-stable state. The only advantage that can be gained by adopting a conditionally-stable design is that it permits a much more rapid attenuation of loop gain with rising frequency than could otherwise be permitted, so that more feedback can be kept in operation up to a higher frequency, with a greater consequent reduction in distortion. Since extremely low distortion can readily be obtained in more straightforward ways, it is probably best to forget about such possibilities.

Gain and phase curves

During design work on feedback amplifiers, most engineers, rather than using Nyquist diagrams, think in terms of curves of gain magnitude and phase, against frequency. The diagrams drawn, which often use straight-line approximations to the true curves, are sometimes called Bode diagrams⁵. Fig. 5 shows simple examples which may be compared with the curves shown in the

table in Part 2. Frequently, it is sufficient to draw only the gain diagrams, for provided the networks involved are so-called minimum-phase-shift networks, definite relationships exist between the gain and phase characteristics³. Then, provided the loop-gain characteristic is designed to meet certain requirements, discussed below, the phase characteristic will automatically be such that stability is assured. In this context, it is obviously necessary to have a very clear conception of just what does, and what does not, constitute a minimum-phase-shift (m.p.s.) network. It has sometimes been said that all the circuits used in ordinary amplifiers are of the m.p.s. type, but this is not necessarily always true. Any circuit in which there is more than one signal path from input to output, is liable not to have m.p.s. characteristics; that is, it is liable to produce more phase shift than necessary for the given gain characteristic. Such a non-m.p.s. network is always equivalent to a m.p.s. network in cascade with an all-pass network, the latter producing phase shift only, without gain variation. A simple example of such a non-m.p.s. circuit, which frequently occurs in amplifiers, is shown in Fig. 6(a). At the frequencies of present interest, the collector resistor R_c exerts negligible shunting effect and may be ignored. At very high frequencies, where C may be regarded as a short-circuit, $V_{\rm out} = I_{\rm in} \times (1/g_{\rm m}).$

At lower frequencies the circuit operates as a Blumlein integrator and gives $V_{\text{out}} = -I_{\text{in}} \times (1/p\text{C})$, where $p = j\omega$. The general relationship is therefore:

The general relationship is therefore:

$$V_{\text{out}} = I_{\text{in}} \left(\frac{1}{g_{\text{m}}} - \frac{1}{pC} \right)$$
 (1)

or
$$V_{\text{out}} = \frac{I_{\text{in}}}{g_{\text{m}}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{pT} \right)$$
 (2)

where $T = C \times \frac{1}{g_m}$

Now, (2) may be written:

$$V_{\text{out}} = -\frac{I_{\text{in}}}{g_{\text{m}}} \times \frac{1 - pT}{pT}$$

The significance of this may be more vividly seen if it is expressed in the form:

$$V_{\text{out}} = -\underbrace{\frac{I_{\text{in}}}{g_{\text{m}}} \times \frac{1+pT}{pT}}_{A} \times \underbrace{\frac{1-pT}{1+pT}}_{B}$$
 (3)

Part A of Equation 3 represents the response of the network shown in Fig. 6(b), which is relatively innocuous from a feedback-stability point of view. Part B, however, represents an all-pass characteristic (as shown at the bottom of the table on page 44 of the March article), and introduces extra phase lag without affecting the magnitude of the loop gain. Frequently, however, these complications do not significantly affect the stability of an amplifier, be-

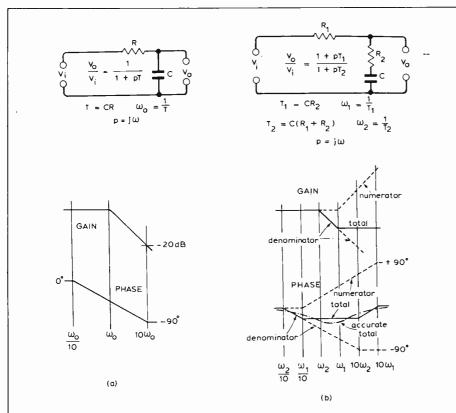


Fig. 5. Diagrams showing how straightline approximations to the gain and phase characteristics of simple networks may be easily and quickly drawn.

cause they come in at frequencies well above the unity-loop-gain frequency. For example, with C=100pF and a collector current of 5mA, giving an ideal gm value of 200mA/V, the frequency at which the all-pass term gives 90° phase lag is, in ideal theory, 320MHz. Sometimes, however, a resistor of, say, 100Ω is included in the transistor emitter lead - maybe as part of a currentlimiting scheme - giving much-reduced gm. This, in association with a higher C value, say 470pF, gives an ideal theoretical all-pass 90° frequency of 3.2MHz, so that the all-pass term will give 10° lag at about 300kHz - not necessarily negligible.

Under overload conditions, the transistor in Fig. 6(a) may be temporarily cut off. Then, the only path from input to output is that via C, and the intended phase inversion of the stage is completely lost. With a large amount of overall feedback, which then becomes positive, momentary trigger-action, or high-frequency oscillation, may occur. Unravelling subtle effects such as this—and there are many others—can at times make development work on feedback amplifiers a difficult and demanding exercise.

From the above discussion it will be appreciated that, for most audio amplifier design purposes, it is safe to assume that the networks involved are of the minimum-phase-shift variety, but the possibility of things being otherwise should not be entirely forgotten.

Assuming m.p.s. networks, a high-frequency attenuation rate of 20dB/decade (6dB/octave), if continued over a wide frequency band, say two decades or more, will cause the excess phase lag to reach nearly 90°. A sustained attenuation rate of 40dB/decade will give nearly 180° lag, and will bring the Nyquist diagram in almost horizontally from the right, so that, with sufficient loop gain, it will pass very close to the point (1,0). This will give a large peak in the frequency response and a very ringy step response.

In the above context it is usual to refer to the stability margins of an amplifier — the gain margin and the phase margin, as shown in Fig. 7. The gain margin is a measure of how much more feedback could be applied without oscillation occurring, and the phase margin shows how much extra internal phase lag would be necessary, at the frequency of unity loop gain, to reach the oscillation point.

The magnitudes of the stability margins that should be left in a practical amplifier design are dependent on a number of considerations, as follows:

- (a) The margins, as designed, should be "comfortable", to ensure that likely production variations do not lead to trouble.
- (b) The margins should satisfy (a) under all conditions of amplifier

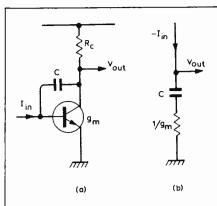


Fig. 6. (a) Circuit not having minimum-phase shift (m.p.s.) characteristics. (b) Circuit having same amplitude response as (a), but giving less phase lag at high frequencies.

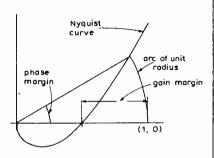
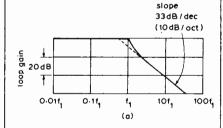
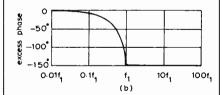


Fig. 7. Diagram illustrating the definition of gain margin and phase margin.





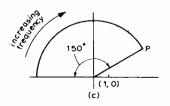


Fig. 8. Loop-gain, phase and Nyquist diagrams for amplifier having "Bode ideal" loop-gain-attenuation characteristics.

loading which it is considered necessary to take into account.

- (c) Adequate margins, as in (a) and '(b), should be maintained at all signal levels, not just under small-signal conditions.
- (d) In many television, radar and c.r.o. amplifier designs, a step response with little or no overshoot is vital, but this is not normally the case with audio amplifiers except, perhaps, to satisfy the demands of some reviewers and their public! Although a highly ringy step response justifiably arouses one's general suspicions about an audio amplifier design, a high-Q ring at 150kHz, say, will nevertheless not, in itself, have the slightest deleterious effect on the sound reproduction.

The argument against designing for excessive stability margins is that any audio amplifier so designed could easily be made to have less non-linearity distortion by altering the design to have more high-frequency feedback and smaller stability margins. However, with modern fast, silicon planar transistors, it is possible to obtain a superb performance, with regard to high-frequency distortion, even when the stability margins are made quite large, giving impressive-looking square-wave response. The present-day tendency is to do this.

A long time ago Bode³ suggested that for purposes such as low-distortion audio amplifiers, a 30° phase margin is a sensible choice, and argued that a good philosophy, when practicable, is to hold the loop gain at its full value up to some chosen high frequency f_1 , such as 10kHz, and then attenuate it as rapidly as possible, consistent with not exceeding 150° excess phase lag. In this way, with good design in other respects, the loop gain may be reduced to well below unity before unpredictable phase lags, due to the complex behaviour of transformers etc., become significant. He also showed that the ideal loop gain attenuation law to achieve a constant 150° phase lag above f_1 is as shown in Fig. 8(a).

If the steep rate of gain attenuation above f_1 were maintained for too long before reaching the $33\,\mathrm{dB/decade}$ asymptotic rate, the corresponding phase curve would dip below -150° , but recover to -150° asymptotically at very high frequencies. In addition, this effect, if pronounced, would result in an amplifier having conditional stability if the loop gain were set high enough. A comparable state of affairs is shown in Figs. 4(c) and 4(d).

A characteristic of an amplifier with "Bode ideal" loop gain attenuation, assuming a flat β -network, is that the magnitude of the high-frequency response peak (6dB), and the shape of the

step response, are independent of the loop-gain setting over a wide range** due to the constant 30° phase margin. This is only true if the loop gain is set high enough for the point (1, 0) to be well to the left of the point P in Fig. 8(c). I have recently set up an experimental amplifier circuit in which the loop gain is attenuated accurately at 33dB/ decade, with a minimum-phase-shift network, over a frequency range of 1000:1. With the loop gain set to make the high-frequency peak occur somewhere in the central region of this frequency range, the peak is indeed of 6dB magnitude, as would be predicted from the Nyquist diagram geometry see Figs. 8(c) and 2(a). It is also interesting to note that the step response, whose shape is almost perfectly independent of loop-gain setting over a wide range, is nearly indistinguishable from the O=2 waveform of Fig. 2(f). There is no absolutely fixed theoretical relationship between the phase margin and the shape of the closed-loop step response, even when β is constant. Nevertheless, with reasonably "tame" Nyquist diagrams, as illustrated in this article, a 30° phase margin will always give an approximation to a single-mode ring with an effective Q-value in the region of 2.

** A feature perhaps particularly desirable in the valve era, since mutual conductances tended to fall off with valve ageing.

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- 2. Nyquist, H., Regeneration Theory, Bell System Tech. J., Jan. 1932, p.126.
- 3. Bode, H. W., Network Analysis and Feedback Amplifier Design. (van Nostrand 1945). (See p.162 re conditional stability; p.303 re gain/phase relationships; p.454 re Bode ideal attentuation characteristics.)
- 4. Berry, S. D., New Equipment for Outside Broadcasts, *The BBC Quarterly*, Vol. 7 No. 2, pp. 120-128 (Summer 1952).
- 5. Cherry, E. M. and Hooper, D. E., Amplifying Devices and Low-Pass Amplifier Design, p.501. (John Wiley 1968).

Corrections

Figures 2(e) and 2(f) should have appeared in the March issue as Figs. 6(b) and 6(c). Unfortunately, the dB scaling was produced incorrectly in Fig. 6(b), and Fig. 6(c) was inadvertently omitted.

It was stated on page 43 of the March issue that the closed-loop transfer function of an amplifier contains information about the stability margins. E. F. Good has pointed out that this statement is not strictly correct, for the stability margins are purely functions of A β , whereas the transfer function gives the value of A/(1-A β) only, i.e. (1/ β)×A β /(1-A β). A β , and hence the stability margins as normally specified, are therefore deducible only if the value of β is known as well as that of the whole transfer function.

P.J. Baxandall, B.Sc.(Eng.), F.I.E.E., F.I.E.R.E.

Peter J. Baxandall was educated at King's College School, Wimbledon, obtaining his degree in electrical power engineering at Cardiff in 1942. After wartime work as a radio instructor, he moved in 1944 to TRE (now RSRE), Malvern, working on microwave techniques for the first two years and then joining Professor F. C. Williams's team on electronic circuit research work.

In 1971 he set up as an independent electro-acoustical consultant, having had a strong hobby interest in this field for many years. He has since done much practical and theoretical work for British audio firms, this work involving the design of capacitor microphone circuits, transformers, oscillators, f.m. receivers, audio amplifiers and loudspeakers.

He is a member of the Audio Engineering Society and a fellow of the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society.



BBC Engineering report stresses economy

MR JAMES REDMOND'S foreword to the annual report of BBC Engineering stresses the efforts BBC engineers have made to cut costs. Three two-camera lightweight mobile tv production units were in service, he noted, and a third was ordered. "Productions made in this way in 1977 included the 'The Mayor of Casterbridge', taking full advantage of the realism combined with economy which is possible with this method of programmemaking ... More generally BBC engineers have been engaged as usual in a very wide range of activities to maintain, extend and improve existing services and find better (and sometimes more economical) ways of providing the technical tools needed for programme making.

The foreword notes that nearly 98% of the population can now receive colour tv. The Corporation completed the plan for, and started work on, the radio frequency changes "made necessary by the decisions of the 1975 World Administrative Radio Conference". (See WW April, p.49)

Elsewhere the report says that new u.h.f. stations were being opened at a rate of one a week, but that the cost per person served had risen to £25. In 1970 it was about £2.08.

Last year the BBC paid £6.6 million for Post Office services, of which £3 million was for telephone bills, £2.4 million for permanently rented programme and communications lines, £0.9 million for satellite circuits, and £0.3 million for o.b. and other temporary circuits.

Next year (1977/8) the BBC plans £28 million worth of capital expenditure of which the greatest part, £8.8 million, will be spent on replacements, and £8.1 million on transmitters and communications. Land and buildings will cost £1.4 million. The capital programme appears to show a dispropor-

tionate allocation to London. While Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland receive a total of £3 million, the English Regions will get £1.9 million, and London another £1.8 million.

In the last two years the capital programme has hovered at around the £18 million mark, and the forecast for 1978/9 is £40 million.

The IBA's annual report for the year to March 31, 1977 also notes that the law of diminishing returns is affecting the spread of their u.h.f. coverage. Like the BBC, they added a mere half million tv viewers for the cost of around 60 new transmitters. Only one person in 100 is now totally dependent on 405 line coverage, says the IBA, but one in 20 probably still has a 405 line set. A further programme of 270 low power relay stations is now under way to reach the 200,000 or so people in groups of between 500 and 1,000.

The Japanese have an even worse problem than we do, since Japan is more fragmented even than the British Isles. The present Japanese tv network covers 97% of Japan but the cost of reaching the remote mountain and island regions is now prohibitive. Japan is now experimenting with satellite broadcasting, and has paid Nasa to launch the experimental direct broadcast to launch their Medium-scale Broadcasting Satellite for Experimental Purposes (BSE). The launch date was fixed for March 23 at the earliest.

According to a Nasa statement the craft will test new methods of transmitting high quality colour tv economically to the Japanese islands and Okinawa. Antenna size will be between 3 and 5ft.

The satellite, built under a Toshiba contract by General Electric, will be the third to experiment in direct satellite broadcasting after ATS6 and the US-Canada Communications Technology Satellite, CTS.

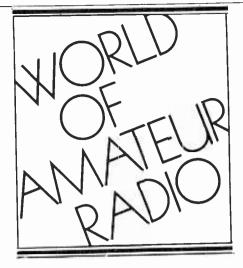
Now TE mode on 432MHz?

The record-breaking long-distance (3,180 miles) contacts made on 144MHz via ionospheric reflection between amateur stations in Venezuela and Argentina, reported in the March issue. have proved to be more than just onetime freaks. During February, world distance records on 144MHz were again broken - and more than once. First the record was extended to 3,825 miles as a result of an s.s.b. phone contact between KP4EOR in Puerto Rico (about 18° North) and LU5DJZ in Argentina, and then again to 3,940 miles when KP4EOR worked a 10-watt station LU8DIN, also in Argentina but over a hundred miles further away. CX8BE in Chile also heard KP4EOR but, perhaps the most sensational of all, is that YV5ZZ in Venezuela is reported to have heard the Argentinian LU3AAT on 432.1MHz! All of these contacts and reception reports appear to have been due to transequatorial (TE-mode) propagation. Whereas, until recently, this form of inospheric reception was thought not to extend much above 70 or 100MHz, it has thus been shown now to extend to 144MHz and even above 400MHz, although of course this still has to be confirmed by two-way con-.

This sudden extension to the upper frequency limits of TE-mode propagation appears to be another reflection of the very rapid rise in sunspot numbers which has re-opened almost daily the 28MHz band during recent weeks and also brought to British listeners the sounds of American citizens' band operation on 27MHz.

Liberated ladies?

Although in the UK the number of "young lady" (YL and XYL) operators has been increasing gradually over the years, they still represent a very small minority of amateurs, considerably fewer than in the United States or even among the "club station" operators of the USSR. In a recent survey of YL amateurs in the USA, several comment how much the hobby has meant to them. "Ham radio can open new worlds to a fuller life" - Lenore Jenson, W6NAZ, a radio actress. "An absolutely great hobby for women" - Jan Shillington, N9YL, mother and housewife. "Outside of my parents, ham radio has been the strongest influence in my life ... it helped me decide the direction of my education and opened career opportunities" - an electrical engineering student at Purdue University. "If a young girl is physically large or awkward on the dance floor, over the airways she's the same as anyone else ... women are doers, I build a lot of my own stuff" - Dr Christine Haycok, WB2YBA. "It gave me the chance to build my own circuits" - Sue Heller,



K3YL, reading electrical engineering at Drexel University. "You have a friend every place you go... I got off the plane in Russia and someone was right there waving my QSL" — Flo Majerus, W7QYA, pilot, teacher and dyed-in-the-wool c.w. operator.

The family approach to amateur radio is underlined in a recent letter from a WoAR reader, Joseph Schwartz of Flushing, NY. He is K2VGV, his wife is WA2JQC, his son is K2VG, his daughter K2ZCS, his son-in-law K2KGF and his grandson is WA2HPS.

Another RAE pre-test

London-area candidates taking this year's Radio Amateurs' Examination have the opportunity of helping the City & Guilds of London Institute by taking a pre-test based on multiple-choice questions, similar to those which will be used in the examination proper from 1979 onwards. The Institute is particularly anxious to check the system on a representative sample of candidates, including those who have been studying on their own. Such pre-tests help City & Guilds by enabling the reviewing panel to judge whether questions are of suitable standard for inclusion in a question bank for use in future examinations. The pre-test will be held at City & Guilds of London Institute, 76 Portland Place, London W1 on Tuesday, May 2 from 10.00 a.m. For candidates it is a useful way of revising their studies and gaining examination experience. Anyone willing to assist should phone Miss Jackie Clifford (01-278 2468, ext. 485).

From all quarters

Don Miller, W9NTP, is developing a form of slow-scan television which should allow the transmission of moving pictures in a 35kHz bandwidth, with a field rate of 3.75 per second. It is based on a standard s.s.t.v. unit with extra memory and with audio sent by narrow-band frequency-modulation of the carrier. He hopes to get special authorisation to transmit signals on

29MHz and so become the first to transmit moving pictures across the Atlantic on h.f.

Approximately 70 amateur television enthusiasts are active around Melbourne on 426MHz, 580MHz (channel 34), 1296MHz and shortly on 10GHz.

Oscar 8 success

The entirely successful launch of Oscar 8 (formerly known as AMSAT-Oscar-D) on March 5 means that amateurs now have available a new "Mode J" facility, in the form of a 145.9-to-435.1MHz active transponder, in addition to another "Mode D" 145.9-to-29.4MHz transponder. The 435.095MHz beacon of Oscar 8 was immediately heard in the UK and the following day the 20.402MHz beacon was well received. A number of European stations began working through the satelite soon after it was in orbit although it had been requested this should not be done until a fortnight after launching. The sunsynchronous orbit is very close to that planned, with a provisional period of about 103.23 minutes and an inclination of about 98.989°

In brief

Arthur C. Clarke has become honorary Life Member No 2001 in AMSAT, the amateur satellite organisation AMSAT-UK now have a secretary for the first time, Ronald J. C. Broadbent, G3AAJ, 94 Herongate Road, Wanstead Park, London E12 5EQ They hope to have displays at the RSGB's Alexandra Palace exhibition, May 5-6, and Suffolk Wireless Revival Show, May 14 The Northern Mobile Rally is being held at The Victoria Park Hall, Keighley, on Sunday, May 21 and is organised by the Otley Radio and Electronics Society A Raynet Symposium covering many aspects of the Radio Amateurs' Emergency Network is being held on April 15 at the Post House Hotel, Leicester from 09.30 a.m. RSGB affiliated societies in the South London region are consulting members on whether "because of the apparently unstoppable misuse of the London repeater GB3LO" to press the RSGB to use its power as licensee to close it down A new 432.81MHz beacon station is expected to open soon at Crowborough, Sussex. The callsign GB3WHA has been chosen in memory of the late W. H. (Bert) Allen, G2UJ An amateur. holding an extra class licence has been sentenced to 18 months in jail (to be suspended after 90 days) in the United States for transmitting obscenities and causing malicious interference to repeaters. He was caught after local amateurs had co-operated with the FCC who used sophisticated direction finding equipment to trace transmissions made from fast-travelling cars.

PAT HAWKER, G3VA

NEW PRODUCTS

Low-cost teleprinter

The Teleprinter 800 has been produced specifically for five-unit telegraph operation. It employs many of the modules used in the Printer 800 which entered full production a year ago. A highly-readable 7 × 5 dot matrix head produces conventional black and red printing on standard 210/216mm wide teleprinter paper. A paper roll of up



to 130mm diameter can be housed within the printer and, by using a carbon interleaved paper, one original and three copies may be printed. A three-position baud rate switch is fitted enabling speeds of 50 and 75 plus one other optional speed. It has a four-row keyboard, using capacitive key switches and m.o.s. encoding. and includes automatic figures and letters shift coding, and shift controls for the generation of control signals. A buffer is used so that the transmitting speed is limited to that of the line speed, regardless of the typing speed. An audible alarm warns when the buffer becomes full. Trend Comunications Limited, Edric House, Castle Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP13 6RG. WW 301

Desoldering tools

Three desoldering tools have been made by Electroplan Ltd as an attempt to provide models suitable for every application. The SR2 has a large suction stroke and is suitable for large solder pads and i.cs. It has a safe loading mechanism and the

double-action suction chamber is closed while melting solder, and released by a conveniently situated push button. The SR3AS is designed to deal with solder removal where components are tightly grouped or otherwise inaccessible. The third tool, type SR3A, is similar to the SR3AS but it incorporates a safety guard. With these tools, replaceable p.t.f.e. nozzles can be easily removed for cleaning. Electroplan Limited, P.O. Box 19, Orchard Road, Royston, Herts. SG8 5HH.

WW 302

Electronic worktop

This unit was designed to avoid the problem of having to remove one's tools and equipment from the kitchen table. The worktop, which measures 24 x 20 in., has a removable rubber mat, holes drilled into the sides for accommodating small tools, and a lock-

able tool box in the centre of the rear panel. A variable 20V, 1A power supply is built into the unit, as well as a loudspeaker, volume control and two 13A sockets. The unit is priced at around £49.00 in kit form or about £58.00 ready wired. A small vice is available as an optional extra for £4.50. Home Radio (Components) Limited, 234-240 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR43HD.

WW 303

Keyboard switch

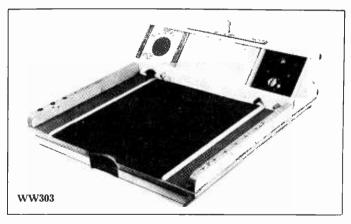
The Erg-KEY RS5020 is a low-profile keyboard push switch having a normally-open s.p.s.t. configuration. Its 12.4mm square key face protrudes only 5.08mm above its mounting plane. The switching action is dual-wiping and effected by torsion beam elements which are claimed to give extremely high reliability and exhibit a typical contact

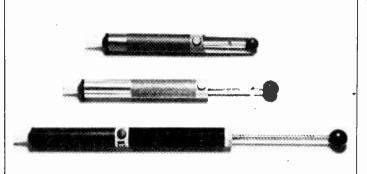
bounce time of only 25 µs. To ensure continued reliability and low contact resistance ($40 \text{m}\Omega$), the phosphor bronze switching elements have a 15 \times 10⁻⁶ in thick gold plating over a 50 imes10⁻⁶ in thick nickel layer. This is claimed to provide a life of more than 10×10^6 operations for a 12V, 40mA d.c. resistive load over a working temperature range of -40°C to +60°C. Erg Industrial Corporation Limited, Luton Road, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU5 4LJ. WW 304



The AF150 and AF151, made by National Semiconductor Ltd., are general-purpose building-block filters which have been designed for use in applications which would otherwise be difficult and costly to design. These devices have been introduced because of the successes of the AF100 Bi-Quad active filter and the AF120 gyrator. The AF150 is a higherfrequency version of the AF100 and extends the upper range from 10kHz to 100kHz, with a centre frequency Q product of 200,000. This has been accomplished using high-frequency opamps and laser-trimmed resistors. The device has the same configuration as the AF100 in that it simultaneously offers low-pass, high-pass and bandpass outputs, while requiring only four external resistors to set the frequency, Q-value, and gain of the filter. In addition, by using the LF356 op.-amp., all-pass and notch filters can be formed, it is claimed. The AFI51 is a dualconfiguration filter, providing two separate active filters in one package, the performance of both filters being the same as that of the AF100. This allows the user to design fourth-order filters in a single package. It is also possible, claim the makers, to design eighth-order filters in one package. Delivery is from stock. National Semiconductor Limited, 19 Goldington Road, Bedford MK40 3LF.

WW 305





WW302

Communications receivers

A range of synthesized communications receivers, designed by Redifon Telecommunications Ltd., provide fast, continuous tuning over the frequency range 15kHz to 30MHz, and are fully remotely controlled. The receivers, R1000 series, use a single optical tuning dial (as described in pp65-66, Sept. 77 issue), which allows tuning in either direction at a slow (600Hz per revolution) or fast 600kHz per revolution) rate. Once tuned, a pushbutton may be used to disengage the tuning control and lock the receiver to the chosen frequency. A seven-figure l.e.d. display provides the frequency readout to the nearest 10Hz. Receivers in the R1000 series have a 20-channel memory permitting up to 19 settings of frequency, mode and bandwidth to be stored for later, rapid recall. The remaining channel is used to store the operational status of the receiver, in the event of power failure, so that it can be recalled when power is regained. Also included in the receiver is a scanning facility which enables any of the channels held in store

to be scanned with channel dwell times adjustable between 0.1 and 15s. According to the makers, because of its a.g.c. system, an R1000 receiver has excellent dynamic range, blocking and cross modulation characteristics. For example, an unwanted signal of 1mV e.m.f., 20kHz removed from a wanted signal of 1mV e.m.f., will reduce the output by less than 3dB, and an interferring 30 per cent modulated signal at least 20kHz from a wanted signal of 300 uV e.m.f. must be greater than 300mV e.m.f. to cause 3% modulation. Other specifications include a sensitivity, for a 10db signal-to-noise ratio and 3 kHz bandwidth on s.s.b. and c.w., of between 0.7 and 7.9 µV e.m.f., depending on frequency. The selectivity on s.s.b. is from 350 to 2700Hz, or optionally 250 to 3000Hz, at the 6dB point, and the frequency stability is quoted as ±3Hz peak deviation (short term) and within 1 part in 106 per year (long term). The extended and remote control facilities of the receiver permit a high degree of flexibility. For example, full duplication of all receiver controls and displays, including tuning and ancillary functions, such as antenna selection, may be provided. As many as 16 receivers can be controlled in this way from a single control unit. The marine version of the R1000 series has received UK type approval to MPT 1201 and is designed to meet other European specifications. Price for the standard main frame is less than £5,000. Redifon Telecommunications Limited, Broomhill Road, Wandsworth, London SW18 4JQ. WW 306

Fibre-optic devices

Infrared emitters and detectors from RCA Ltd, have integral fibre-optic cables so that they may easily be connected into optical communication systems with the minimum of encapsulation problems. The range includes a high-speed, galliumaluminium-arsenide infrared emitter, silicon avalanche photodiodes, and hybrid photodiode/amplifier modules. The infrared emitter, type C30133, is designed for continuous d.c. or pulsed operation, and has a typical power output of 0.5mW at a peak forward current of 1A in the pulsed mode, and 150µW at a forward current of 200mA in the continuous d.c. mode. Its typical rise time is 3ns and its frequency response is 150MHz. The silicon avalanche photodiodes, types C30903E to C30908E, are available with light-pipe diameters of 0.25, 0.5, 1.25 and 2.5mm. They use a double-diffused reachthrough structure to achieve high responsivity and very short rise and fall times. The spectral response range is from 400 to 1100nm. Types C30909E to C30911E have an additional m.o.s.f.e.t. preamplifier, giving them a typical system bandwidth of up to 50MHz. RCA Solid State-Europe, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, TW16 7HW. WW 307

Sheet metal enclosures

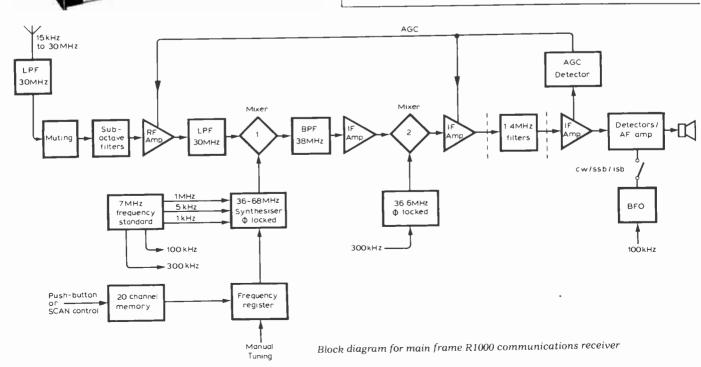
A large range of sheet metal enclosures, manufactured by Actu Boxes, have been made available on an ex-stock delivery basis. The range covers 22 standard units in sizes from $4\times4\times1\%$ in to $18\times18\times6$ in. The enclosures have



fully-welded seams, deepthreaded lids, corner inserts to retain the lids, and gaskets to seal them. Consequently, they are suitable for use in damp or dusty environments. A comprehensive leaflet giving technical details and prices, is available from Actu Boxes, Vale Lane, Hartcliffe Way, Bristol BS3 5RU.

WW 308





V.h.f. radiotelephone

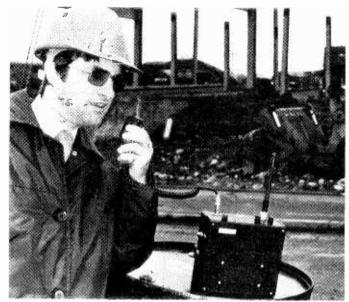
The Callbuoy 30T is a 25V portable radiotelephone for v.h.f. communications. It has been introduced as a high power transportable version of the model 30, which Callbuoy introduced last vear when they entered the mobile radio market. The equipment is powered by a rapidrechargeable nicad battery pack, making it, it is claimed, one of the most powerful transportable v.h.f. radiotelephones available. This pack allows up to eleven hours of operation before recharging is necessary. The unit offers up to twelve channels within the v.h.f. high, mid' or low bands. Full selective calling facilities are available. Callbuoy Electronics Limited, Marketing Division, 8 The Grove, Slough, Berkshire. ww309

Colour television camera system

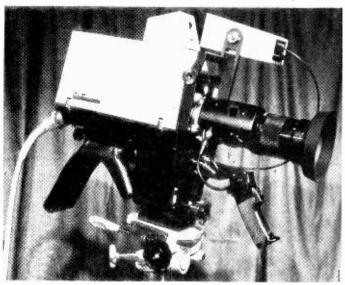
Successor to the widely-adopted Mk VIII colour television camera, the Mk IX nas been announced by Marconi Communications Systems. The new equipment is described as a system, since the aim of versatility has meant the use of two camera types, for studio or outside broadcast work, a common control unit and a number of accessories to enable the system to function in almost any situa-

The cameras both incorporate four Plumbicons - 30mm for the studio camera and 25mm in the portable unit - which can be of several different types to provide the required characteristics. Sensitivity is such that an illumination of 800 lux on to an object showing 60% reflectivity will cause a current of 300nA at f4. Monitoring test signals are provided in the studio camera's electronic viewfinder, so that R G and B registration can be carried out at the camera without recourse to remote control. For OB work, the portable camera is small, requires no back pack and yet produces a picture which is comparable in quality with its larger version. Optical viewfinders of mono or binocular form can be provided or the electronic studio type can be fitted. The portable camera is equally useful for studio use, an adaptor taking the complete range of lenses.

Several design features assist automatic operation: automatic registration of the tube outputs, automatic centering, auto black and auto white balance, auto iris and a dynamic gain control for improving detail resolution in dark or light parts of the picture. Instead of the thin-



WW309



WW310

film circuitry employed in the Mk VIII camera, Marconi have used i.cs in the design of the new system. Marconi Communications System Ltd, Marconi House, Chelmsford, Essex CM 1 7PL WW 310

Precision voltage reference

Using a differential input circuit, claimed to be unique, National Semiconductor Ltd has developed a 2.5V band-gap reference i.c. that performs as if it were a zener shunt regulator. According to National, this is the first 2.5V reference diode that can be used as either a positive or negative reference device and, in addition. has an adjustable breakdown voltage and adjustable temperature coefficient. The device will also operate with excellent regulation over a current range from 300 µA to 10 mA. Unlike other 2.5V references on the market the i.c. is a two-terminal device. There are three types of reference in the series, LM136, LM236 and LM336, the main differences being in their package sizes and working temperature ranges. National Semiconductor Limited, 19 Goldington Road, Bedford MK40 3LF. WW 311

Epoxy resin mix

The hybrid electronics market, according to Teknis Ltd, needs a two-part, simple-mix-ratio gold epoxy resin. The H81E, they say, fulfils this need. It offers a 1:1 non-critical mix ratio and includes the pure gold powder in both the resin and the hardener. The resin, which has a three-day pot life and a two-year shelf life, without refrigeration, is from the same family as the H20E two-part, silver-filled epoxy resin. Teknis Limited, Teknis House, Meadrow, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 3HQ. WW 312

Solid-state relays

A series of solid-state relays, from Magnecraft, have been made available by a UK distributor. The relays are designed for switching applications and are available in 24 current ratings from 2.5 to 40A, with switching capabilities of up to 480V. All of the devices have optical isolation between the inputs and the outputs and switch at zero volts. Since the coupling capacitance between the input and the output is less than 11pF, and there is no magnetic coupling, the possibility of noise, present on the load side of the relay, being coupled into the control circuit is virtually eliminated. Switching transients are also eliminated because turn-on is at zero volts and turn-off is at zero amps. Diamond H. Controls Limited, Vulcan Road North, Norwich NR6

WW 313

U.h.f. power transistors

Three u.h.f. power transistors, types BLW79, BLW80 and BLW81, are suitable for transmitting applications in mobile radio. They may be used in class A, B or C modes of operation. The devices are rated at 2W, 4W and 10W respectively and have high power gains specified down to a 12.5V supply rail. Resistance stabilization enables them to be used without voltage regulation and provides protection against damage due to severe load mismatches for supply voltages up to 16.5V. Mullard Limited, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HD. WW 314

Low voltage stabilizers

Two low-voltage stabilizers, types BZV56-C1V5 and C2V0, are intended for applications where the voltage is too low for zener diodes to be used. The devices. which consist of two or three series-connected base-emitter junctions on one planar chip, are suitable for low-power clipping, level shifting and voltage and temperature stabilization of transmitter base-emitter biasing networks. These diodes have a guaranteed, reverse blocking voltage of 4V. Forward voltages and differential resistances for the C1V5 and C2VO are 1.35 to 1.55 and 2.00 to 2.30V and less than $2\bar{0}\Omega$ and 30Ω respectively. Total power dissipation is 250mW up to an ambient temperature of 45°C. Mullard Limited, Mullard House, Torrington Place, London. WC1E 7HD. WW 315

_240 Watts!

HY5

Preamplifier

The HY5 is a mono hybrid amplifier ideally suited for all applications. All common input functions (mag Cartridge, tuner etc.) are catered for internally, the desired function is achieved either by a multi-way switch or direct connection to the appropriate pins. The internal volume and tone circuits merely require connecting to external potentiometers (not included). The HY5 is compatible with all LP power amplifiers and power supplies. To ease construction and mounting a P.C. connector is supplied with each pre-amplifier. FEATURES: Complete pre-amplifier in single pack.—Multi-function equalization.— Low noise.— Low distortion.— High overload.— two simply combined for stereo.

APPLICATIONS: HiFi.—Mixers.— Disco.— Guitar and Organ.— Public address.

SECCIECTIONS:

SPECIFICATIONS:

SPECIFICATIONS:
INPUTS Magnetic Pick-up,3mV Ceramic Pick-up 30mV: Tuner: 100mV: Microphone: 10mV: Auxiliary 3-100mV: input impedance 47kt) at 1kHz
OUTPUTS Tape 100mV: Main output 500mV R.M.S.

ACTIVE TONE CONTROLLS Treble ± 12dB at 10kHz. Bass ± at 100Hz. DISTORTION 0.1% at 1kHz. Signal/Noise Ratio 68dB OVERLOAD 38dB on Magnetic Pick-up. SUPPLY VOLTAGE ± 16.50V. Price £5.22 ± 65p VAT P&P free.

14Y5 mounting board 81.48p + 6p VAT P&P free.

HY30

15 Watts into 8Ω

The HY30 is an exciting New kit from L.P. it features a virtually indestructible L.C. with short circuit and thermal protection. The kit consists of L.C. heatsink, P.C. board, 4 resistors, 6 capacitors, mounting kit, together with easy to follow construction and operating instructions. This amplifier is ideally suited to the beginner in audio who wishes to use the most up-to-date technology available. FEATURES: Complete kit.— Low Distortion.— Short, Open and Thermal Protection.— Easy to Build APPLICATIONS: Updating audio equipment.— Guitar practice amplifier.— Test amplifier.— Audio oscillator.

OSCHIATOR SPECIFICATIONS:

OUTPUT POWER 15W R M S into 8t) DISTORTION 0.1% at 15W INPUT SENSITIVITY 500mW FREQUENCY RESPONSE 10Hz-16kHz — 3dB

Price £5.22 + 65p VAT P&P free.

HY50

25 Watts into 8Ω

The HY50 leads I L P is total integration approach to power amplifier design. The amplifier features an integral heatsink together with the simplicity of no external components. During the past three years the amplifier has been refined to the extent that it must be one of the most reliable and robust High Fidelity modules in the World

FEATURES: Low Distortion — Integral Heatsink — Only five connections — 7 Amp output transistors

PROTECTIONS: A MANUAL M

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO 75dB FREQUENCY RESPONSE 10Hz-45kHz -- 3dB

SUPPLY VOLTAGE - 25V SIZE 105 50 25mm Price £6.82 + 85p VAT P&P free

HY120

60 Watts into 8Ω

The HY120 is the baby of LLP's new high power range, designed to meet the most exacting requirements including load line and thermal protection, this amplifier sets a new standard in modular FEATURES: Very low distortion — Integral Heatsink — Load line protection — Thermal protection —

reactions: Very low distortion — integral heatship — Load line protections — No external components

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi — High quality disco — Public address — Monitor amplifier — Guitar and

SPECIFICATIONS:

SPECIFICATIONS:
(IMPUT SENSITIVITY 500mV
OUTPUT POWER 60W RMS into 8() LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16() DISTORTION 0.04% at 60W at:

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO 90dB FREQUENCY RESPONSE 10Hz-45kHz --3dB. SUPPLY VOLTAGE

.±35V. Size 114 x 50 x 85mm

Price £15.84 + £1.27 VAT P&P free.

HY200

120 Watts into 8Ω

The HY200 now improved to give an output of 120 Watts, has been designed to stand the most rugged conditions, such as disco or group while still retaining true Hi-Fi performance.

FEATURES: Thermal shutdown — very low distortion — Load-line protection — Integral Hearsink — No external components.

No external components.

APPLICATIONS: Hi-Fi — Disco — Monitor — Power Slave — Industrial — Public address

SPECIFICATIONS:
INPUT SENSITIVITY 500mV

OUTPUT POWER 120W RMS into 8\(\Omega\) LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16\(\Omega\) DISTORTION 0.05\(\Omega\) at 100W at SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO 96dB. FREQUENCY RESPONSE 10Hz-45kHz -- 3dB SUPPLY VOLTAGE -- 45V

SIZE 114 x 100 x 85mm. Price £23.32 + £1.87 VAT P&P free.

The HY400 is I L P 's "Big Daddy" of the range producing 240W into 40! It has been designed for high power discolor public address applications. If the amplifier is to be used at continuous high power levels a cooling fan is recommended. The amplifier includes all the qualities of the rest of the family to lead the market as a rure high power his-fidelity power module.

FEATURES: Thermal shutdown — Very low distortion — Load line protection — No external **HY400** 240 Watts into 4Ω

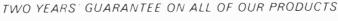
components **APPLICATIONS**: Public address — Disco — Power slave — Industrial. **SPECIFICATIONS**: OUTPUT POWER 240W RMS into 4Ω LOAD IMPEDANCE 4-16 Ω . DISTORTION 0.1% at 240W at

SIGNAL/NOISE RATIO 94dB. FREQUENCY RESPONSE 10Hz-45kHz -- 3dB. SUPPLY VOLTAGE

INPUT SENSITIVITY 500mV SIZE 114 x 100 x 85mm Price £32.17 + £2.57 VAT P&P free.

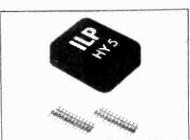
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PSU36 suitable for two HY30 s £5.22 plus 65p VAT P P free PSU50 suitable for two HY50 s £6.82 plus 85p VAT P P P free PSU 70 suitable for 2 HY 120s £13.75 plus £1 10 VAT P P free PSU90 suitable for one HY200 £12.65 plus £1 10 VAT P P free PSU90 suitable for when V200 £12.65 plus £1 01 VAT P P free PSU180 suitable for two HY2000 s or one HY400 £23.10 plus £1 85 VAT P P free



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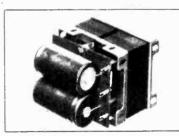
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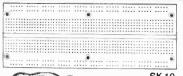








NICIRCUIT







SK 10. Takes up to eight 14 pin DILs. All components insert directly. Insertion life of 10,000 cycles. Contact resistance 5 milliohm average. Housing is acetal copolymer.

SK 50. Half size version of SK 10 for tight places and student use. Takes four DILs

Both sockets carry a lifetime quarantee. If a unit ever fails in normal usage, return it to us for a free replacement. No questions

A good case for your system HO 6 high impact moulded case. Takes four SK 10 sockets. Size 3.5in. H x 7.6in. W x 9in D (8.9 x 19.3 x 22.9cm.). Slope approx 17



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CA3189E

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HA11219

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EC3302 premium fet/varicap
AT/NT3302 Combined tuner/am gang Reference series tuner modules for FM

As well as all those previously advertized.....
EF5803 3 MOSFET very high gain low noise
88-108 6 stage varicap tuner with
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functions afc, mule, meters etc.
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911968 MPX decoder - 2w af monitor 16.45

CA3189E HA1137W TBA120 TBA120S uA720 TBA651 HA1197 MC1350P MC1330 uA753 MC1496 TDA1062 TDA1083 ULN2204 TDA1083 TDA1083

723CN 0,80° 14x9 5cm0.30
NE5508 0,80° 16x9 5 0.36
TAA550 0.50° 1,75x9.5 0.39
1290 1.95° 20x9.5 0.51
PLL 8 misc mw coil 0.27
8038CC 4,50° 1 coupling 0.20
NE565V 2.50° 1 coupling 0.20
NE566V 2.50° 1 coupling 0.20
NE565V 3.50° 1 k1115 10/0.25
NE561B 3.50° 1 k1115 10/0.25
NE562B 3.50° 1 k1115 10/0.25
NE562B 3.50° 1 k115 10/0.25
NE562B 3.50° 1 k115 10/0.25
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MVam15 1.05
MVam215 1.05
BA479 0.35
BA479 0.35
BA479 0.35
BA482 0.21 12.24hr 11.25;
BA182 0.21 12.24hr 11.25;
CA91 0.08
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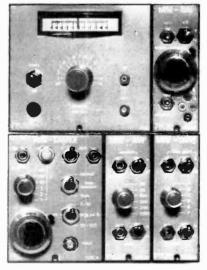
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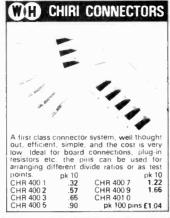


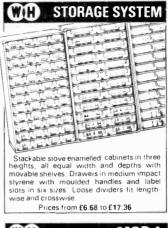
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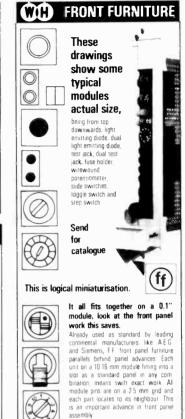
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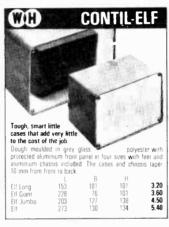




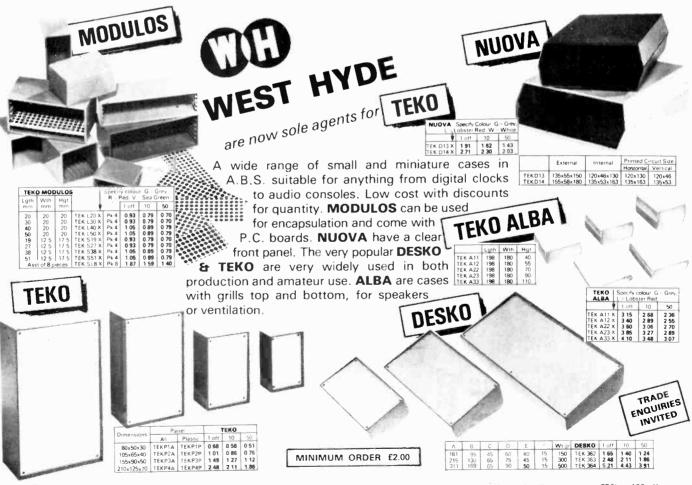












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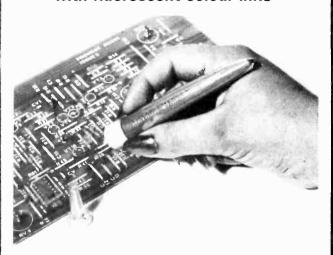
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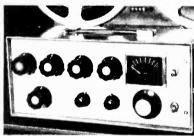
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£250 £350 HEWLETT PACKARD 693D sweep oscillator DERRITRON Digital Wheatstone Bridge MUIRHEAD K-134-A Battery op, wave analyser PYE EHT scalamp voltmeter 0-40KV £110



RADIO CORPS PB1 pulse & bar generato SIEMENS Level oscillator 12-160KHz SCHOMANDL type FD1 frequency meter £125
Bruel & Kjoer type 3301 Automatic Frequency Response Bruel & Kjoer type 3301 Automatic Frequency Recorder 200Hz-20KHz MUIRHEAD-PAMETRADA D489EM Wave Analyse

TEKTRONIX 555 scope with plug-ins types CA (2 off), 21 and TEKTRONIX 545 main frames. £210. Choice of plug-in units

EKTRONIX 585A oscilloscope with '82' P I DC-80MHz TEKTRONIX type 180A Time-mark generator TELEQUIPMENT D53 Oscilloscope.

TEKTRONIX 556, 50MHz Oscilloscope.

NOTICE, All the pre-owned equipment shown has been carefully tested in our workshop and reconditioned where necessary It is sold in first-class operational condition and most items carry our three months' guarantee. Calibration and certificates can be arranged at cost. Overseas enquiries certificates can be arranged at cost. Overseas enquiri-welcome. Prices quoted are subject to an additional 8% VAT

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Standard attenuator: 0-100db 0-300 mHz DPR UHF Sig. gen. type SDR 0-3-1 GHz, £750 UHF Signal generator type SCH, £175 UHF Test receiver type USVD. £325 POLYSKOP SWOB I.

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Transistor Amplifier Kit.

(70 Watts into 8 ohms)

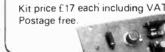
The Mainline 70 is a fully transistorised amplifier, in Kit form, for the Home Enthusiast who likes to make his own equipment. It is supplied with printed circuit board, heat sink and component parts ready for assembly. Simple circuit details are given for a suggested suitable AC Power Supply or it can be used with an existing unit giving the required output.

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(up to 70W	$\leq 0.15\%$

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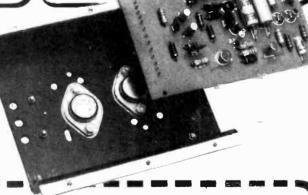


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Mains operated — delay can be accurately set with pointers knob for periods of up to 2½ hrs 2 contacts suitable to switch 10 amps — second contact opens few minutes after 1st contact 95p.



MOTORISED DISCO SWITCH

With 10 amp changeover switches, multi-adjustable. Switches are rated at 10 amp each so a total of 200w can be controlled and this would provide a negative of display. The motors are 50%, but they are of such a low wattage, conty 2 stats, that they can be driven by a resistor or condenser voltage dropper 8 Switch model £5.25. 10 Switch model £5.75.

SMITHS CENTRAL HEATING



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push-button gives 10 variations as follows (1) continuous hot water and continuous central heating (2) continuous hot water but central heating off at riight (3) Continuous hot water but central heating off at riight (3) continuous hot water but central heating only for 2 periods during the day (4) hot water and central heating both on but day time only (5) hot water ald day but central heating only for 2 periods during the day (6) hot water and central heating on for 2 periods during the day (in the for its more time use with central heating off (7) not water continuous (8) hot water day time only (9) hot water twice daily (10) everything off A handsome looking unit with 24-hour movement and the switches and other parts necessary to select the desired programme of heating Supplied complete with wring diagram Originally sold we believe at over £15 — we offer these, while stocks last at £7.50 each including VAT & Postage



LOW R.P.M. MOTORS

Made by Crouzet — Smiths — SAIWA — Venner and similar famous companies — all supplied ready for 230/240v 501z mains working all £2.75 each Following speeds in stock when preparing this advertisement

2 revs per hour 1/2	revs rev

s per day 1 rev per hour y per min 1 rev per min n 15 rpm 16 rpm 20 rpm 25



EXTRACTOR

Ex-computers made by Woods of Colchester ideal for fixing through panel — reasonably quiet running — very powerful 2500 rpm Choice of two sizes 5 or 6½ dia £5 and

FLUORESCENT INVERTOR



For camping — car repairing — emergency lighting from a 12v battery you can't beat fluorescent lighting. It will offer pienty of well distributed light and is economical. We offer invertor for 21 and 13 watt miniature tube for only £3.75 with tube and tube holders as well

MINI-MULTI TESTER

Amazing, deluxe pocket size precision moving coil instrument — jewelled bearings — 1000 opv — mirrored scale 11 Instant ranges measures —

measures — DC volts 10 50 250 1000

1000 AC volts 10 50 150 1000 DC amps 0-1 mA and 0-100 mA

100 mA
Continuity and resistance
0-150K ohms
Complete with insulated
probes leads battery,
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Unbelievable value only
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FREE
Amps ranges kit enable you to read DC current from 0.10 amps. d
the 0-10 scale. It is free if you purchase quickly but if you already or
tester and would like one send £1.50.

HUMIDITY SWITCH
American made by Ranco their type No. J11. The action of this device depends upon the dampness causing a membrane to stretch and trigger a sensitive microswich adjustable by a screw quite sensitive — breathing on it for instance will switch ton Micro 3 amp at 250 v.a. Coverall size of the device approx. 3½ in long, 1 in wide and 1½ in deep 75p.





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Selt priming portable its dull or electric motor pumps up to 200 gallons per hour depending upon revs Virtually uncorrod able use to suck water oil petrol fertiliser chemicals, anything liquid. Hose connectors each end. £2 post paid.

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Rated one of the finest performers in
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complete with a pair of Plessey
speakers this should sell at about £30
— but due to a special bulk buy and as
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we offer the system complete at only
£15 including VAT and postage
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These are pulse operated switches as used in automatic telephone switchboards etc. The pulse moves the switch arm through one position. Except where indicated the selectors are 25 position types and 50v. Coil is standard. 24v. or. 12v. operation extra at £2 per switch.

3 pole.

£4.80 £5.94 £7.02 £9.72



24 HOUR TIMERSThe one illustrated is the E control this uses the Smiths mechanism as in their autoset 2 on/off s per 24 hours, 13 amp contacts override switch



INDUCTION MOTORS

One illustrated is our reference MM11 made for ITT '4" stack 1½" spindle £2.25. ½" stack model £1.75. 1" stack £2.75. 1½" stack £3.25.



20v % amp £1.50 8v % amp £1.75 6 3v 2 amp £1.75 25v 1 ½ amp £2.25 24v 2 amp £2.50 50v 2 amp £4.50 9v 1 amp £1.50 8 5v 0 8 5v ½ amp £ 8 5v 0 8 5v ½ amp £1.50 100w auto 230 115v £2 8 5kv £9.50

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Probably one of the best spit motors is di-Originally intended to be used in very high priced robusts. It weiver this can be put to plenty of other uses for instance young offer of bother perior to drive a fumble for stone polishing, in fact there are one entits to its uses. Normal mains operation, £4,32 and admis post & VAT.



— THIS MONTH'S SNIP

THE LIGHT PIPE

A 20-feet flexible pipe or tube holding miniature camps, along which a band of light travels must attract attention. Similarly, a string of fairy lights re-arranged so that the light chases along it looks really attractive

We supply a switching kit for this travelling strav-and the price is

travelling array and the price is only £7.50 complete with instruc-



STEREO TUNER

Japanese made FM tuner and matching decoder. Two items for less than average price of the tuner only - £11.20 the two. Don't miss this — stocks will not last long. Ditto but in cabinet with glass front. £14.50.



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12 voit two 10 amp changeover plug in 95p. 12v three
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Many other types with different coil voltages and contact
arrangements are in stock_enquiries invited



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1 Ref No KE220 3d 1 2 3d soir 50 92 £6 30 26 Ref No KE22 50 4 25 soir 50 92 £7 28 3 Ref some as above 110 soils 50 92 £3 30 46 Ref some as above 110 soils 6 9E £3 30

Prices include Post & VAT but orders under £6.00 please add 500 to offset packing etc. Bulk enquiries please phone for generous discount 01.688 1833.

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IT'S FREE!

Our monthly Advance Advertising Bargains List gives details of bargains arriving or just arrived — often bargains which sell out before our advertisement can appear. — It's an interesting list and it's free — just send S.A.E. Below are a few of the Bargains still available

MAINS TRANSFORMERS					
All these have 230/240v 50hz	Primary				
VOLTAGE	CURRENT	REF.	PRICE		
1v	2 amp	TM 1	€1.94		
2.4v	5 amp	TM 2	€1.62		
4 v	7 amp	TM 32	£2.70		
fiv	¾ amp	TM 3	85		
6.5v	¼ amp	TM 37	85		
6 5v	200 mA	TM 21	€1.62		
6 5 v 0 0 5 v	100 mA	TM 21	£1.62		
6 5 v 0 6 5 v	750 mA	TM 7	£2.16		
6 3v 0 6 3v	100 mA	TM 33	€1.62		
6 3v	2 amp	TM 4	€1.89		
8 5v	1 amp	TM 12	£1.62		
8 5v + 8 5v sep winding	₁₂ amp	TM 12	€1.62		
9v	1 amp	TM 5	€1.62		
9v	1 amp c core	TM6	€1.80		
9v	31/2 amp	TM 11	£2.70		
9 v	5 amp	TM 38	£3.24		
10v	25 amp	TM 15	£4.86		
10v 0 10v	12½ amp	TM 15	€4.86		
12 v O 12 v	4 amp	TM 27	€4.32		
12v	¹2 amp	TM 9	£1.05		
13v	¾ amp	TM 7	€2.16		
12v	1 amp	TM 10	€1.89		
12v-0 12v	50mA	TM 19	£1.62		
12v0 12v	1 amp	TM 41	£3.24		
15v tapped 9v	2 amp	TM 11	€2.70		
15v	7 amp	TM 27	£4.32		
15v 0 15v	31/2 amp	TM 27	£4.32		
15v-0 15v	3 ½ amp	TM 35	£4.86		
17v	½ amp	TM 12	£1.62		
18v	³4 amp	TM 13	£1.90 £1.62		
20v	¹2 amp	TM 14 TM 27	£4.32		
20v	5 amp 12½ amp	TM 15	£4.86		
20v	6 amp	TM 15	£4.88		
20v 0 20v	100 mA	TM 21	£1.62		
13v 24v	1 1/2 amp	TM 16	£2.12		
24v 1 24v	2 amp	TM 17	€2.70		
24v + 2v 7 amp	2 amp	TM 39	€2.97		
24v + 2v / amp	4 amp	TM 40	£3.78		
24v 25v	1 ½ amp	TM 18	€2.43		
26v	2 amp	TM 39	£2.98		
30v tapped 24 20 15 & 12	31/2 amp	TM 27	€4.32		
30v	8 amp	TM 15	€4.86		
37v	37 amps	TM 34	€31.86		
40v tapped @ 30v 20v & 10v	6 amo	TM 15	£4.86		
50v - 2 amp with 6 3v shrouded		TM 22	£4.86		
50v	B amp	TM 29	£11,65		
60v	5 amp	TM 24	£7.02		
75v = 3 amp with 6 3v shrouded		TM 23	€8.10		
75 v	4½ amp	TM 24	£7.02		
80v tapped 60v & 75v	4 amp	TM 24	€7.02		
100v	1 amp	TM 25	£7.02		
100v-0 100v	½ amp	TM 25	£7.02		
130v tapped 120v	½ amp	TM 28	£3.78		
200v	½ amp	TM 25	£7.02		
250v-0-250v with 6 3 v 2A	50 mA	TM 36	£3.78		
250v	100 mA	TM 36	£3.78		
500v	50 mA	TM 36	£3.78		

100 mA 1 m3 50 £3.78 50 mA 100 mA 1 m3 6 £3.78 50 mA 100 mA 1 m3 6 £3.78 50 mA 1 m3 6 £3.78 100 mA 1 m3 6 m3 6 m3 78 100 mA 1

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AM/ Fix R-D10 Of the property of the property

AM: FM Tuner — real bargain @ £5.30 + 64p0

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For digital displays the 10 postitions being evenly spaced through the 360 turn and there is no stop. Silver-plated contacts are rated @ 5 amps normally an expensive switch but offered @ 86p each

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Very good quality

The screw down type top accepts a 4mm plug

The screw down section also has a hole through which which solid wire may

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1.11 These terminals grip like a vice but connection in the first place is quick

and simple. Hold back the trigger. — push in wire. — let go of trigger

definitely a time-save incessed.

definitely a time-sa	aver buce as	p the pair		
VOLTAGE	`,	CURRENT	REF.	PRICE
260v	4	60 mA	TM 26	£3.24
1 Kv			TM 44	Please apply
2 Kv			TM 44	Please apply
5 Kv		5 mA	TM 30	£7.02
O. f. IV		10 4	744.24	C10 26



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12v dc operated with two sets of changeover contacts. The unique leature of this relay is its beavy lead ou wires. These provide adequate support and therefore the relay needs no fixing. On the other hand there is a itizing but through one side so if you wish you can itx the relay and use its very strong load buts to secure circuit components — an expositive relay, we are effering them of only 87p each.

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Type 1 2 3 4 5 6		8-60v 8-60v 8-60v 8-60v 8-60v		Price £24.60 £22.31 £18.11 £12.47 £9.30 £6.60 \$40.48-60v ABOVE RANGE	Carr £2 00 £2 00 £1 75 £1 75 £1 00 £1 00
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14 15 16 17 18	12-24v 12-24v 12-24v 12-24v 12-24v	12v 30v 12v 20v 12v 10v	A 24v 30 A 24v 15 A 24v 10 A 24v 5 A 24v 2	A £16.33 A £12.55 A £6.80	£3 00 £2 00 £2 00 £1 00 £1 00

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Pri tapped 200-220-240v Sec 240v 700 watts open type cable lead connections £10. carr. £2

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24 v AC	2 CO	8	85p	
12v AC	2 CO	8	85p	
1 2 v AC	3 CO	1.1	95 p	
48 v OC	3 CO	1.1	65p	
48 v OC	2 CO	8	65p	
24 v OC	2 CO	8	85p	
12 v DC	2 CO	8	85p	
10v DC	3 CO	11	95p	

STANDARD OPEN TYPE 7 AMP CON-

	TACTS			
	COIL VOLTAGE	CONTACT	PRICE	
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	240v AC	2 CO	75p	
	240 v AC	1 CO	65p	
	110 v AC	3 CO	65p	
	110v AC	2 CO	65p	
	50 v AC	3 CO	65p	
	48 v DC	3 CO	50p	
	24 v OC	2 CO	75p	
	12 v D C	2 CO	75p	
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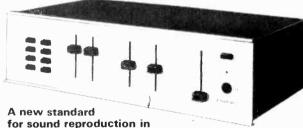
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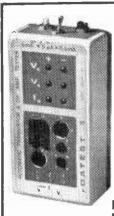
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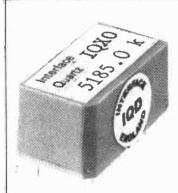
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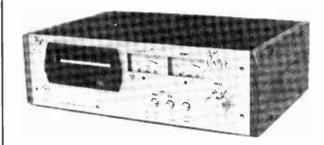
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The unit is designed to decode not only UHJ but virtually all other 'quadrophonic' systems (Not CD4), including the new BBC HJ 10 input

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With Home Office Type approval

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Wireless World Dolby noise reducer



- switching for both encoding (low-level h.f. compression) and decoding
 a switchable f.m. stereo multiplex and bias filter.
- provision for decoding Dolby f.m. radio transmissions (as in USA).
- no equipment needed for alignment.
- suitability for both open-reel and cassette tape machines
- check tape switch for encoded monitoring in three-head machines.

Typical performance

Noise reduction better than 9dB weighted. Clipping level 16.5dB above Dolby level (measured at 1% third harmonic content)

Harmonic distortion 0.1% at Dolby level typically 0.05% over most of band, rising to a maximum of 0.12%

Signal-to-noise ratio: 75dB (20Hz to 20kHz, signal at Dolby level) at Monitor output

Dynamic Range > 90db

30mV sensitivity

Complete Kit PRICE: £39.90 + VAT

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Calibration tapes are available for open-reel use and for cassette (specify which) Price £2.20+VAT

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Single channel plug-in Dolby PROCESSOR BOARDS (92 x 87mm) with gold plated contacts are available with Price £8.20+VAT

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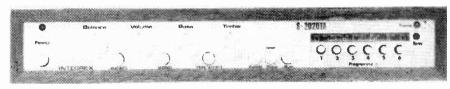
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Brief Spec. Amplifier Low field Toroidal transformer, Mag, input, Tape In/Out facility (for noise reduction unit, etc.), THD less than 0.1% at 20W into 8 ohms. Power on/off FET transient protection. All sockets, fuses, etc., are PC mounted for ease of assembly. Tuner section uses 3302 FET module requiring no RF alignment, ceramic IF INTERSTATION MUTE, and phase-locked IC stereo decoder. LED tuning and stereo indicators. Tuning range 88—104MHz. 30dB mono S/N @ 1.2 LV. THD 0.3%. Pre-decoder 'birdy' filter.

PRICE: £58.95 + VAT

NELSON-JONES STEREO FM TUNER KIT

A very high performance tuner with dual gate MOSFET RF and Mixer front end, triple gang varicap tuning, and dual ceramic filter/dual IC IF amp.



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IC stabilized PSU and LED tuning indicators. Push-button tuning and AFC unit. Choice of either mono or stereo with a choice of stereo decoders.

Compare this spec. with tuners costing twice the price.

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With ICPL Decoder £36.67+VAT
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Sens. 30dB S/N mono @ 1.2μ V THD typically 0.3% Tuning range 88—104MHz LED sig. strength and stereo indicator

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A low-cost Stereo Tuner based on the 3302 FET RF module requiring no alignment. The IF comprises a ceramic filter and high-performance IC Variable INTERSTATION MUTE.

PLL stereo decoder IC. Pre-decoder 'birdy' filter Push-button tuning

PRICE: Stereo £31.95+VAT



S-2020A AMPLIFIER KIT

Developed in our laboratories from the highly successful "TEXAN" design. PC mounting potentiometers, switches, sockets and fuses are used for ease of assembly and to minimize wiring

Power 'on / off' FET transient protection.

Typ Spec. 24+24W r.m.s. into 8-ohm load at less than 0.1% THD. Mag. PU input S/N 60dB. Radio input S/N /2dB. Headphone output. Tape In/Out facility (for noise reduction unit, etc.). Toroidal mains transformer.

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TRIACS

2 Amp Volts 100 200 400	TR12A 100 £0	rice 0.31 0.51 0.71	10 Amp. T048 Case Volts No Price 100 TR110A 100 £0.77 200 TR110A 200 £0.92 400 TR110A 400 £1.12
6 Amp Valts 100 200 400	TR16A/100 £0	7rice 0.51 0.61 0.77	10 Amp T0220 Case Voits No Price 400 IB110A 400P £1.12 D1ACS BR100 £0.20 D32 £0.20

SUPER UNTESTED PAKS

	001 211 011120122		
PAK	No.	Order No.	Price
U50	100 Germ. Gold bonded OA47 thade	16130	£0.60
U51	150 Germ OA70 '81 diode	16131	£0.60
U52	100 Silicon Diodes 200mA 0A200	16132	€0.60
U53	150 diodes 75mA 1N4148	16133	€0.60
U54	50 Sil Rect Top Har 750mA	16134	€0.60
U55	20 Sil Rect Stud Type 3 Amp	16135	€0.60
U56	50 400mW Zeners D07 Case	16136	€0.60
U57	30 NPN Trans BC107 8 Plastic	16137	€0.60
U58	30 PNP Trans BC177 178 Plastic	16138	€0.60
U59	25 NPN T039 2N697 2N1711 sil	16139	€0.60
U60	25 PNP 1059 2N2905 silicon	16140	£0.60
U61	30 NPN TO18 2N706 silican	16141	€0.60
U62	25 NPN BFY50 51	16142	€0 60
U63	30 NPN Plastic 2N3906 silicon	16143	€0.60
U64	30 PNP Plastic 2N3905 silicon	16144	€0.60
U65	30 Germ 0071 PNP	16145	£0.60
U66	15 Plastic Power 2N3055 NPN	16146	£1.20
U67	10 TO3 Metal 2N3055 NPN	16147	€1 20
U68	20 Unijuni tion trans IIS43	16148	€0.60
U69	10 1 amp SCR TO39	16149	£1.20
U 70	8 3 amp SCR TO66 case	16150	€1.20

Code Nois mentioned above are given as a guide to the type of device in the pak. The devices themselves are normally unmarked.

COMPONENT PACKS

	-		0	
Pack No.	Qty.		Order No	. Price
C1		Resistor mixed value approx. (Count by		
	200	weight)	16164	'£0.60
C2	150	Capacitors mixed value approx (Count		
		by weight)	16165	'£0.60
C3	50	Precision resistors. Mixed values	16166	'£0.60
C4	80	16th W Resistors mixed preferred		
		values	16167	£0.60
C5		Pieces assorted ferrite rods	16168	'£0.60
C6		Tuning gangs MW 1W VHF	16169	£0 60
C7	1	Pack wire 50 metres assorted colours		
		single strand	16170	€0.60
C8		Reed switches	16171	.E0.60
C9		Micro switches	16172	'£0.60
C10		Assorted pots	16173	€0.60
C11	5	Metal jack sockets 3 x 3.5mm 2 x		
		standard switch types	16174	£0.60
C12	30	Paper condensers preferred types	16175	
		mixed values	16176	'£0.60
C13		Electrolytics trans types	161/6	£0.60
C14	1	Pack assorted haldware - Nuts	16177	.60.60
C15	-	bolts grommets etc	16178	£0.60
C16		Mains slide switches ass	16179	£0.60
C17		Assorted tag strips and panels Assorted control knobs	16180	£0.60
C18		Rotary wave change switches	16181	£0.60
C19		Relays 6 — 24V operating		
C20	1		16182	.EO 60
C20		ins copper laminate approx 200 sq		
C21	1.5	Assorted tuses 100mA-5 amp	16183	€0.60
C22		Meires PVC sleeving assorted size and	16184	€0.60
622	50	colour		
C23	60	1/2 watt resistors mixed preferred values	16185	€0.60
			16188	'£0.60
C24		Presets assorted type and value	16186	£0.60
C25	30	Metres stranded wire assorted colours	16187	€0.60

SLIDER PAKS

Pack No.	Oty.	Order No	. Price	
S1	6 Slider potentiometers, mixed values	16190	'£0.60	
S2	6 Slider potentiometers, all 470 phms	16191	'£0.60	
S3	6 Slider potentiometers, all 10k lin	16192	'£0.60	
S4	6 Slider potentiometers, all 22k lin	16193	'£0.60	
S5	6 Slider potentiometers, all 47k lin	16194	'£0.60	
S6	6 Slider potentiometers, all 47k log	16195	'£0.60	

CERAMIC PAKS

	peatable value	
		Order No. Price
MC1	24 miniature ceramic capacitors is of eiich	
	value - 22pt 27pt 33pt 39pt 47pt 68pt	

value - 22pt 27pt 33pt 39pt 47pt 68pt		
82pt	16160	'£0.60
MC2 24 miniature ceramic capacitors 3 of each		
value - 100pf 120pf 150pf 180pf		
220pt 330pf & 390pt 270pt	16161	'£0.60
MC3 24 miniature ceramic capacitors 3 of each		
value - 470pl 560pl 680pl 820pl		
1000pf 1500pt 2200pl & 3300pf	16162	'£0.60
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value - 470pl 560pl 680pl 820pl		
1000cf 1500pf 2200pf & 3300pf	16163	'£0.60

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CARBON POTENTIOMETERS

			_		
	LINEAR TRACK	(1	LOG TRACK	
Value	No.	Price	Value	No.	Price
1 K	1831	'£0.26	4K7	1842	'£0.26
2K2	1832	'£0.26	10K	1843	'£0.26
4K7	1833	'£0.26	22K	1844	'£0.26
10K	1834	'£0.26	47K	1845	'£0.26
22K	1835	'£0.26	100K	1846	'£0.26
47K	1836	'£0.26	220K	1847	'£0.26
100K	1837	'£0.26	470K	1848	'£0.26
220K	1838	'£0.26	1 M	1849	'£0.26
470K	1839	'£0.26	2M2	1850	'£0.26
1 M	1840	'£0.26			
2M2	1841	'£0.26	1		

DUAL GANG. These high quality pots are fitted with wire end terminations 6mm. 50mm plastic shaft 10mm hushes supplied with shakeproof washer and nut. Track tolerance: 2D but matched to within 2d8.

other				
LINEAR TRAC	K		LOG TRACK	(
No.	Price	Value	No.	Price
1851	'£0.78	4K7	1860	*£0.78
1852	'£0.78	10K	1861	'£0.78
1853	*£0.78	22K	1862	'£0.78
1854	°£0.78	47K	1863	'£0.78
1855	'£0.78	100K	1864	'£0.78
1856	'£0.78	220K	1865	'£0.78
1857	'£0.78	470K	1866	'£0.78
1858	'£0.78	1 M	1867	'£0.78
1859	'£0.78	2M2	1868	'£0.78
	No. 1851 1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1856 1857 1858	No. Price 1851 'C0.78 1851 'C0.78 1852 'C0.78 1853 'C0.78 1853 'C0.78 1855 'C0.78 1855 'C0.78 1855 'C0.78 1855 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1857 'C0.78 1858 'C0.78 'C0.78 1858 'C0.78 'C0.78 'C0.78 T858 'C0.78 'C	No. Price Value 4K7 1851 120.78 10K 1852 120.78 12K 1853 120.78 12K 1855 1855 120.78 12K 1855 1855 120.78 1856 1857 120.78 1857 1858 120.78 1858 120.78 1470K 1858 1470K No. Price Value No. 1851 120.78 100K 1861 1852 100K 1861 1853 1853 120.78 1854 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1855 1857 1856 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 1858 1857 185	

SINGLE GANG SWITCHED. Fitted with double pole on off switches. The switch action is incorporated within the rotary action of the pot. Switch rating 1.5 amps at 250V AC.

LINEAR TRACKS			LOG TRACK		
Value	No.	Price	Value	No.	Price
4K7	1870	'£0.60	4K7	1879	'£0.60
10K	1871	'£0.60	10K	1880	'£0.60
22K	1872	.60.60	22K	1881	'£0.60
47K	1873	'£0.60	47K	1882	'£0.60
100K	1874	.60.60	100K	1883	'£0.60
220K	1875	'£0.60	220K	1884	*£0.60
470K	1876	'£0.60	470K	1885	'£0.60
1.M	1877	'£0.60	1M	1886	'£0.60
2M2	1878	*£0.60	2M2	1887	'£0.60

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	£0.31
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	€0.57
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.1 pite	h		.15	Pitch	
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The S450 is supplied fully built, tested and aligned. The unit is easily installed using the simple instructions supplied.

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Comprising Teak veneered cabinet size $16\frac{3}{4}$ "x $11\frac{1}{2}$ "x $3\frac{3}{4}$ " other parts include alumium chassis heatsink and front panel bracket plus back panel and appropriate sockets etc. KIT PRICE £13.25 plus 85p postage

Frequency Response + 1dB 20Hz 20KHz Sensitivity of inputs 1 Tape Input 100mV into 100K ohms Radio Tuner 100mV into

Radio Tuner 100mV into 100K ohms
 Magnetic P U. 3mV into 50K ohms
 P U. Input equalises to R1AA curve with 1dB from 20Hz to 20KHz
 Supply — 20-35V at 20mA.

Dimensions = 299mm x 89mm x 35mm.

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10w R.M.S. AUDIO **AMPLIFIER MODULE**

The AL30A is a high quality audio amplifier module replacing our AL20 & 30. The versatility of its design makes it ideal for record players, tape recorders, stereo amps, cassette and cartridge players. A power supply is available comprising a PS12 together with a transformer T538, also for stereo, the pre-amp PA12

SPECIFICATION

- Output Power 10w. R.M.S.
- Load Impedance 8 to
- Sensitivity 90my for full
- Frequency Response 60Hz to 25KHx + 2db.
- Supply 22 to 32 volts
- Input Impedance 50K
- Total Harmonic Distortion Less than .5% (Typically .3%).
- Max. Heat Sink Temp

Dimensions 90 x 64 x 27mm



25 Watts (RMS)

Max Heat Sink temp 90C. ★ Frequency response 20Hz to 100KHz * Distortion better than 0.1 at 1KHz * Supply voltage 15-50v * Thermal Feedback * Latest Design Improvements * Load — 3,4,8, or 16 onms * Signal to noise ratio 80db ★ Overall size 63mm. 105mm. 13mm

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

Pre-Amplifier com-pletely redesigned for use AL30A Amplifier Modules. Features include on/off volume. Balance, Bass and Treble controls. Complete

Frequency Response 20Hz-20KHz (-3dB). Bass and Treble range. 12dB. Input Impedence 1 meg ohm. Input Sensitivity 300mV. Supply requirements 24V.5mA. Size 152mm Response 20Hz-20KHz

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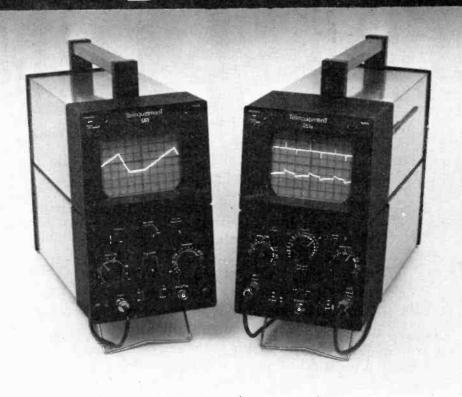
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cable. control knobs £6.2	Ŏ
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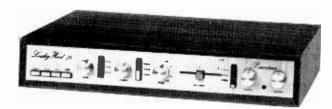
2 each of packs 1-7. 1 each of packs 8-16 inclusive are required for complete stereo amplifier. Total cost of individually purchased packs . . . £92.80 The standard model of our kit for Mr. Linsley Hood's 7.5 watt design has for a long time offered exceptional performance at a very modest cost with high quality high power ready-built units of comparable quality generally being over three times the price.

IWFRTR.

Features of the amplifier include very low distortion (less than 0.01%). 75W rms per channel power output, rumble filter variable transition frequency tone controls, a spe monitoring facilities and individually adjustable inputs. This model is based on 5 circuit boards which not having the controls mounted on them can if desired, be effectively used separately in high performance audio systems not based on our metalwork.

Our new De Luxe model uses 14 boards which interconnect with gold plated contacts and are designed to have the potentiometers and switches mounted upon them. This system almost eliminates internal writing, making installation after their assembly, delightfully straightforward, and as each board can be easily removed in seconds from the chassis checking and maintenance is so simple that even newcomers to electronics will be able to cope competently with the kit. Additional features of our new model are inclusion of the fleatest circuit improvements, generously sized heat sinks for heavy duty use, even in tropical climates, and metal oxide resistors throughout for long term stability and

STANDARD LINSLEY-HOOD 75W AMPLIFIER

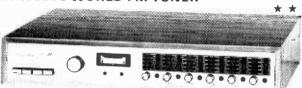


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Designed in response to demand for a tuner to complement the world-wide acclaimed Linsley-Hood 75W Amplifier, this kit provides the perfect match. The Wireless World (Skingley and Thompson) published original circuit has been developed further for inclusion into this outstanding slimline unit and features a pre-aligned front end module, excellent a.m. rejection and temperature compensated varicap tuning, which may be controlled either continuously or by push-button pre-selection. Frequencies are indicated by a frequency meter and sliding LED indicators, attached to each channel selector pre-set. The PLL stereo decoder incorporates active filters for "birdy" suppression and power is supplied via a toroidal transformer and integrated regulator. For long term stability metal oxide resistors are used throughout. stability metal oxide resistors are used throughout

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WIRELESS WORLD FM TUNER



SPECIAL PRICE FOR COMPLETE KIT £70.20

LINSLEY-HOOD CASSETTE DECK



£79.60 SPECIAL PRICE FOR COMPLETE KIT

Price 1. Stereo PCB (accommodates 2 rep. amps. 2 meter amps, bias/erase osc. relay) £3.35 Miniature relay with socket £2.90 5. PCB. all components for solenoid, speed control circuits Goldring-Lenco mechanism as specified Function switch, knobs

Oual VU meter with illuminating lamp £1.90 £6.95 Toroidal transformer with E.S. screen 0-117V. 234V. Sec. 15V £4.90

Pac	
10.	Set of capacitors, rectifiers, t.C. voltage regulato
	P.C.B. for power supply (Powertran design) £2.80
11.	Set of miscellaneous parts, including sockets, fus
	holder, fuses, interconnecting wire, etc . £3.41
12.	Set of metalwork including silk screened fasci panel, internal screen, fixing parts, etc £7.11
13.	Construction notes £0.2
14	Teak cabinet 18.3" x 12.7" x 3.1" £10.70

One each of packs 1-14 inclusive are required for complete stereo cassette deck. Total cost of individually purchased packs £83.00

Matsushita WY 436 AZ head (optional extra) . £4.50

Published in Wireless World (May, June, August 1976) by Mr. Linsley-Hood, this design, although straightforward and relatively low cost, nevertheless provides a very high standard of of the tape back ground. Push button switches are used to provide a choice of equalization time constants, a choice of bias levels and also an option of using an additional pre-amplifier for implemented by electronic circuity. This unit which is powered by a toroidal transformer and uses metal oxide resistors throughout offers an excellent match for the Wireless World Tuner (Matsushita WY 436 AZ head as recommended in the follow-up article) is offered as an optional extra but this will be automatically supplied FREE OF CHARGE with all orders for complete kits!

Pack 1. Set of low noise resistors 2. Set of small capacitors 3. Set of power supply capacitors 4. Set of miscellaneous parts 5. Set of side mains. P.B. switches 6. Set of pois. selector switch 7. Set of semiconductors. (Cs. skts. 8. Toroidal transformer—240V prim	£2.60 £2.20 £3.50 £1.50 £2.80 £7.25	£3.50 £1.50 £2.80 £7.75		£0.40 £0.25 £4.50 complete	
e.s. screen			packs T20 + 20 £ 40.90 . T30 + 3		

Designed by Texas engineers and described in Practical Wireless: the Texan was an immediate success. Now developed further in our laboratories to include a Toroidal transformer and additional improvements: the slinish 120+20 delivers 20W rins per channel of the Hir Fit a exceptionally flow cost. The **easy to build** design is based on a single F. Glass PCB and features all the normal facilities found on quality amplifiers including scratch and rumble filters addaptable input selector and headphones socket. In a follow-up arricle in Prat fical Wirels further formal facilities found on the F30+30. These include RF interference filters and a tape monitor facility. Power output of his model is 30W into specific channel.

EXPORT A SPECIALITY!

Export Department can readily despatch orders of any size to any country in the world. Some of the countries to which we sent kits last year are shown in this advertisement. To assist in estimating postal costs our catalogue gives the weights of all packs and kits. This will be sent free on request, by airmail, together with our Export Postal Guide, which gives current postage prices.

T20 + 20 AND T30 + 3020W, 30W AMPLIFIERS



SPECIAL PRICES FOR COMPLETE KITS T20+20 KIT PRICE £33.10

T30+30 KIT PRICE £38.40

EXPORT ORDERS: No minimum order charge! Prices same as for U K customers but no Value Added Tax charged Postage charged at a ctual cost plus 500 documentation and handling. Please send payment with order by Bank Draft. Postal Order. International Money Order or cheque drawn on an account in the U.K. Alternatively for orders over £500 we will accept Irrevocable Letter of Credit payable at sight in London. OMAN

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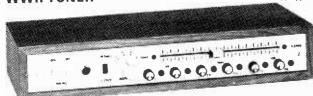
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WWII TUNER

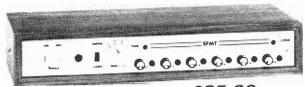


SPECIAL PRICE FOR COMPLETE KIT £47.70

AVAILABLE AS SEPARATE PACKS - PRICES IN OUR FREE CATALOGUE

Following the success of our **Wireless World FM Tuner Kit** this cost reduced model was designed to complement the **T20+20** and **T30+30** amplifiers and the cabinet size, front panel format and electrical characteristics make this tuner compatible with either The frequency meter of the more advanced model has been omitted and the mechanics simplified, however the circuitry is identical and this kit offers most outstanding value for money Facilities included are switchable afc, adjustable, switchable muting. LED tuning indication and both continuous and push-button channel selection (readily adjusted by controls on the front panel)

POWERTRAN SFMT TUNER



PRICE FOR COMPLETE KIT £35.90

AVAILABLE AS COMPLETE KIT ONLY

The requirement was a simple, low cost design which could be constructed easily without special alignment equipment but which still gives a first class output suitable for feeding any of our very popular amplifiers or any other high quality audio equipment. Not finding a suitable published circuit, the requirement was met by design and development work in our own laboratories and this funer, which uses a pre-aligned front end module can be set up with the aid of nothing more sophisticated than a multi-meter. A phase-locked-loop is used for stereo decoding and controls include switchable act switchable muting and push-button channel selection (adjustable by controls on the front panel). This unit matches well with the T20+20 and T30+30 amplifiers.

International powersla 200 + 200 watt Amplifie



COMPLETE KIT AS FEATURED IN ELECTRONICS TODAY INTERNATIONAL

Super-Fi performance for studio/monitoring/h-fi use with the inherent reliability and ruggedness for the most demanding group/disco applications.

- Features

 * over 200W rms continuous from each of 2 totally independent DC coupled amplifiers over 800W peak power!

 * over 200W rms continuous from each of 2 totally independent DC coupled amplifiers over 800W peak power!

 * highly original fully complementary high linearity of p stage utilizing the inherent symmetry of no less than 4 differential pairs!

 * highly original fully complementary high linearity of p stage utilizing the inherent symmetry of no less than 4 differential pairs!

 * ultra low feedback (an incredible low 14dB overall!) together with super high slewing rate (20V/µs) banish ricochet effects and TiD!

 * distortion only 0.03% at FULL power 1KHz rising to only 0.07% at 10KHz (how many high power amplifier producers dare to quote at this frequency?)

 * independent stabilized power supplies driven by custom designed TORO!DAL transformers

 * inherent reliability monster heat sinks for cool running at the hottest venues electronic open and short circuit protection 4 rugged power transistors/amplifier each 250W rating
- * professional quality metal oxide resistors, cermet adjusters, fibre glass boards, sturdy 19" rack mounting cabinet complete with sleeve and feet for free
- * professional quality inetal duto troubles of the standing work too
 standing work too
 standing work too
 standing work too
 too build plenty of working space with ready access to all components minimal wirring, extensive instructions suitable for both experienced constructors and
 newcomers to electronics can be purchased one channel at a time
 value for money quality and performance comparable with ready-built amplifiers costing over £6001



OVER 800W PEAK POWER!



PSI 4002 STUDIO MODEL

etc £12.10

9. Cabinet, including chassis, anodised silver on black parals, fixing parts etc. Please state whether Slave or Studio model required £27.50

10. Handbook £0.50 or free on request when ordering any of above packs.

2 each of packs 1-7 (A or B), 1 each 8. 9 and 10 are required for complete 200 + 200W professional applications.

		Price
Pac	b control of the cont	
1	Cibes place printed preguit board for nower 2000	€4.2
9.	Set of capacitors, metal exide resistors, thermistor, cermet pre-sets for power amp	£6.4
۷.	Set of Capacital's, ineral axios resistors, the market pro-	£27 6
3	Set of semiconductors for power amp with mounting hardware, cooling tabs	LL1.0
٥.	Pair of menster black drilled heat sinks, transistor mounting bracket	€ 6.9
4.	Pair of mension black of little near sings, it ansisted mounting at some O 15th Classic states	
- 5	Toroidal transformer, Primary 0-117V-234V. Secondaries 42-0-42V. 0-15V. 0-15V. Electrostatic	20166
٥.	Total state of the	£ 19.2
	and the second s	
6	Set of all narts for stabilized power supply including fibre glass printed circuit doard, mounting of	LACKE
٠.	semiconductors, resistors, capacitors, etc	£ 20 5
	SEMICONDUCTORS, PESISTORS, CAPACITORS, etc.	
7a	Set of all parts for buffer/overdrive unit including fibre glass printed circuit board, semicond	uctors
in.	Sol of an party lot serviced to BCI 4001 and	63.8
	resistors, capacitors, controls — required for PSI 4001 only	. LO.0

40 60 90 et. 50

SPECIAL OFFER PRICES FOR COMPLETE KITS -

Wireless World Designs: Full kits are not available for the projects below but PCBs and component sets are stocked. Further

details of these and other packs are in our Free Ca	itaiogue		
30W Bailey Amplifier BAIL Pk 1 F-/Glass PCB BAIL Pk 2 Resistors, Capacitors BAIL Pk 3 Semiconductors	£1.00 £2.35 €4.70	Regulated Power Supply for Bailey Amplifier 60VS Pk 1 F/class PCB 60VS Pk 2 Resistors. Capacitors 60VS Pk 3 Semiconductors 60VS Pk 6A Toriodal transformer	£0.85 £2.20 £3.10 £8.80
Bailey Burrowa Stereo Pre-Amp. BBPA Pk 1 F Glass PCB (stereo) BBPA Pk 2 Resistor capacitors (stereo) BBPA Pk 3R Rotary potentiometers (stereo) BBPA Pk 4R Rotary switches (stereo)	£ 2.80 £6.70 £2.85 £3.60	Stuart Tape Recorder TRRC Pk 1 Replay Amp F/G PCB (stereo) TRRC Pk 1 Record Amp F/G PCB (stereo) TROS Pk 1 Bias/Erase F/G PCB (stereo)	£1.30 £1.70 £1.20
Linsley-Hood Low Distortion Oscillator. LDO Pk. 1. Fibreglass PCB LDO Pk. 2. M. O. Resistors Capacitors LDO Pk. 3. Semiconductors	£1.65 £2.60 £3.90	E. F. Taylor Pre-Amplifier EFTP Pk 1 Fibreglass PCB (stereo) EFTP Pk 2 M O Res caps (stereo) EFTP Pk 3 Semiconductors (stereo)	£1.45 £3.20 £4.20

PSI 4001 kit price £205.00 PSI 4002 kit price **£220.00**

NEW! Improved stereo decoder (as described in April 1978 W W)
F/Glass PCB, M O Res, Caps, Cermet pre-sets, IC, IC socket £6.30

SQ QUADRAPHONIC DECODERS

These state-of-the-art circuits described by CBS are offered as kits of superior quality with close tolerance capacitors metal oxide resistors and Fibregliass PCBs designed for edge connector insertion. Further information on these kits is given in our FREE CATALOG. BY The Basic matrix decoder. If Full logic decoder CET. 20.0 LT Full logic decoder with variable blend. CET. 20.0 LT A full logic

Value Added Tax not included in prices **UK Carriage FREE**

SERVICING FACILITIES: Available for all **complete kits PRICE STABILITY: Order with confidence irrespective of any price changes we will honour all prices in this advertisement until June 30th, 1978, if this month's advertisement is mentioned with your order. Errors

and VAT rate changes excluded

U.K. ORDERS: Subject to 12½% surcharge for VAT (i.e. add 1/6 to the price) No charge is made for carriage for current rate if charged

SECURIOR DELIVERY: For this optional service (U.K. mainland only)

SALES COUNTER: If you prefer to collect your kit from the factory, call at Sales Counter (at rear of factory) Open 9 a m -4 30 p m Monday-Thursday

QUALITY: All components are brand new first grade full specification guaranteed devices. All resistors (except where stated as metal oxide) are low noise carbon film types. All printed circuit boards are fibreglass, drilled roller tinned and supplied with circuit diagrams and construction layouts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE

Total cost of individually purchased packs (200 + 200W)

POWERTRAN ELECTRON

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POPULAR SEMICONDUCTORS. (A very small selection from our vast stocks, please enquire about devices not listed.)

			P		don	O HIDOI	at ac	11003	1101	noteu.j	1
2N697	0.31	2N3402	0.45	2N4036	0.72	2N5190	0.65	ACY17	1.00	BC171B	0.17
2N698	0.49	2N3414	0.18	2N4058	0.62	2N5210	0.38	ACY22	0.65	BC172C	0.15
2N700	0.28	2N3415	0.18	2N4059	0.17	2N5220	0.15	ACY30	0.60		
2N914	0.38	2N3416	0.21	2N4060	0.22	2N5225	0.16	AD150	3.10	BC173C	0.17
2N929	0.37	2N3417	0.25	2N4061	0.19	2N5232	0.22	AD161		BC177	0.22
2N930	0.37					2145232			1.00	BC178B	0.35
2N1131	0.32	2N3439	0.85	2N4062	0.20	2N5245	0.37	AD162	1.00	BC179B	0.25
2N1303	0.80	2N3441	0.92	2N4121	0.27	2N5248	0.14	AF106	0.60	BC182A	0.12
2 N 1 3 O		2N3442	1.45	2N4122	0.27	2N5293	0.44	AF109	0.82	BC182L	0.15
2 N 1 50 1		2N3565	0.25	2N4123	0.19	2N5294	0.44	AF114	0.70	BC183A	0.12
	0.35		0.25	2N4124	0.19	2N5401	0.44	AF115	0.70	BC183LA	0.15
2N1613	0.30	2N3567	0.25	2N4125	0.19	2N5416	1.65	AF118	0.70	BC184	0.12
2N1637	0.72	2 N 3 6 3 8	0.17	2N4126	0.19	2N5447	0.16	AF124	0.70	BC184L	0.15
2N1890	0.30	2N3639	0.38	2N4235	1.35	2N5448	0.16	AF139	0.75	BC205	0.17
2N1893	0.30	2N3644	0.40	2N4236	1.65	2N5449	0.20	AF200	1.30	BC212A	0.15
2N1991	1.10		0.25	2N4237	1.65	2N5457	0.35	AF201	1.30	BC212LA	
2N2193	0.50		0.29	2N4240	1.70	2N5458	0.35	AF239	0.70		
2N2194	0.42	2N3702	0.14	2N4250	0.26	2N5555	0.65	AF240	1.25	BC213B	0.15
2N2217	0.55		0.14	2N4266	0.32	2N6109	0.55	AF279		BC213LA	
2N2218	0.35		0.14	2N4284	0.38	2N6122	0.44	AF280	0.88	BC214	0.17
2N2219	0.38		0.14	2N42B6	0.32	2N6123	0.48		0.95	BC214L	0.18
2N2221	0.25			2N42B7				ASY28	1.30	BC237B	0.15
2N2222	0.25		0.14	2N4287	0.22	2N6124	0.45	ASY55	0.70	BC238B	0.13
2N2270	0.49		0.14		0.22	2N6125	0.47	BC107	0.15	BC239C	0.17
2N2368	0.49		0.12	2N4292	0.27	2N6288	0.50	BC108	0.15	BC256A	0.29
2N2369			0.12	2N43D2	0.31	2S702	3.30	BC109	0.16	BC257A	0.18
2N2309 2N2483	0.27		0.12	2 N4 303	0.33	25703	3.95	BC113	0.22	BC258B	0.24
	0.30		0.12	2N4342	0.60	40232	0.60	BC114	0.22	BC259B	0.19
2N2613	0.90		1.39	2 N4401	0.20	40311	0.55	BC115	0.22	BC261A	0.25
2N2646	0.80	2N3714	1.55	2N4402	0.20	40316	0.95	BC116	0.21	BC262B	0.26
2N2848	1.10		1.70	2N4403	0.20	40363	1.45	BC118	0.22	BC263B	0.28
2N2904	0.31	2N3794	0.21	2N4822	0.83	40389	0.70	BC135	0.22	BC264B	0.65
2N2905	0.31	2N3819	0.36	2N4870L		40408	0.82	BC136	0.21	BC307B	0.16
2N2906	0.25	2N3B20	0.39	2N4871L	0.51	40440	0.70	BC137	0.22	BC308B	0.16
2N2907	0.25	2N3821	0.95	2N4898	1.55	40512	1.70	BC138	0.44	BC309C	0.16
2N2923	0.17	2N3827	0.27	2N4901	1.65	40594	0.87	BC140	0.30	BC327	0.22
2N2924	0.17	2N3854A		2N4902	2.20	40595	0.98	BC141	0.32	BC328	0.20
2N2925	0.19		0.30	2N4903	2.75	40573	0.80	BC142	0.32	BC337	0.20
2 N 3 0 1 1	0.37	2N3856A		2 N4 9 0 4	1.85	AC126	0.48	BC147	0.13	BC414	0.17
2N3020	0.75	2N3858A	0.70	2N4905	2.40	AC127	0.48	BC148	0.15	BC415	
2N3053	0.25	2N3859A		2N4920	0.83	AC128	0.48	BC148	0.15	BC415	0.16
2N3054	0.72		0.18	2N5086	0.30	AC151	0.43		0.15		0.17
2N3055	0.75		1.98	2N5087	0.30	AC152	0.54	BC153		BC547A	0.13
2N3108	0.75			2N5088	0.30	AC153		BC154	0.30		0.13
2N3133	0.50		0.30	2N5088 2N5089	0.30	AC153K	0.59	BC157A	0.15	8C548	0.13
2N3242	0.68		0.18	2N5089 2N5129		AC176	0.54	BC158B	0.15	BC549B	0.14
2N3250	0.35		0.18		0.62	AC176 AC176K		BC159B	0.17	BC558	0.13
2N3301	0.45		0.18	2N5130	0.22		0.90	BC160	0.33		0.15
2N3302	0.39		0.95	2N5131	0.22	AC187	0.50	BC167B	0.13	BCY54	2.40
2N3392	0.39		0.55	2N5137	0.22	AC187K	0.65	BC1688	0.13		0.27
2N3394	0.17		0.65	2N5143	0.22	AC18B	0.54	BC169B	0.13	BCY70	0.21
2N3394	0.17		0.65	2N5180	0.58	AC18BK	0.65	BC170B	0.19		0.26
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CATALOGUE

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											EL509			
ALL PRICES SHOWN INCLUDE V.A.T. AT 12 ½ %												EM81		
0A2	1.20	6AX4	0.75	6L12	0.50	12AU6	0.50		0.62		0.60	EBL21	2.00	EM83
0B2	0.40		0.75		0.80		0.62	30PL13		CV63	1.00	EC52	1.00	EM84
0C3 0Z4	0.56		0.65		2.00		0.60	30PL14		CV988	0.25	EC53	1.00	EM85
1A3	0.60		0.90		0.48		0.50	30PL15		CYIC	1.00	EC54	1.00	EM87
1A5GT							0.85	35A3 35C5	00.1 06.0	CY31	1.00- 0.50	EC86 EC88	0.84 0.84	EMM803 EY51
1A7GT	9.60	6BH6	170		0.60		0.55	35D5	0.90	D63	0.50	EC90	0.50	EY81
1B3GT	9.55		0.75	6PI5	0.48		1.15	35L6G	T 0.80	DAC32		EC92	1.00	EY83
1C2	1.00	6BK7A		6Q7G	0.75		3.56	35W4	0.55	DAF91	0.35	EC97	0.75	EY86/7
1D5 1G6	1.00 1.00	6BN8 6BQ5	1.50 0.48	6Q7GT 6Q7M	0.75			35Z3	0.80	DAF96	00.1	ECC32	1.00	EY88
1H5GT		6BQ7A	1.40	6R7G	0.70		1.50	35Z4G		DC90	0.70	ECC33	2.00	EY91
1L4	0.25	6BR7	1.00	6R7(M)				50B5	0.95	DD4 DF33	0.80 0.75	ECC35 ECC40	1.00	EZ35
1LD5	0.70	6BR8	1.25	6SA7	6.70	12K8	0.75	50C5	0.70	DF9t	0.30	ECC81	0.52	FZ40
ILN5	0.70	6BW6	3.75	6SC7G		12Q7G		50CD60		DF96	1.00	ECC82	0.62	EZ41
1N5GT 1R5	0.75 0.50	6BW7 6BX6	0.65 0.40	6SG7	0.70	12SA70 12SC7		50EH5	0.85	DH63	0.75	ECC83	0.52	EZ80
154	0.40	6BY7	0.40	6SH7 6SJ7	6.70 0.70	12SG7	0.50 0.55	50L6G1 66KU	1.00 1.00	DH76	9.50	ECC84 ECC85	0.50	EZ81
185	9.35	6BZ6	1.50	6SK7	1.00	12SH7	0.50	72	0.70	DH77 DH81	0.60	FCC86	0.50 2.00	EZ90 FC4
1T4	0.30	6C4	0.50	6SK7G		125.77	0.60	77	0.45	DK32	0.80	ECC88	0.72	FW4/500
1U4	0.70	6C6	9.45	6SQ7	6.70	12SK7	0.60	85A2	1.40	DK40	1.00	ECC91	0.35	FW4/800
1U5 2D21	0.85 9.55	6C9 6C10	2.00	6U4GT 6U7G	1.00 0.55	12SN7C	17 0.75 0.80	85A3 90C1	1.40	DK91	0.50	ECC189	1.00	GY501
2GK5	0.75	6CB6A	0.65	6U8	0.50	12SQ7 12SQ70		90CV	1.50 5.50	DK92	1.00	ECC804	0.90	GZ30
2X2	0.70	6C12	0.55	6V6G	0.50	125R7	0.75	108C1	0.40	DK96 DL33	0.70	ECC807 ECF80	2.80 0.65	GZ32 GZ33
3A4	0.55	6CD6G	4.00	6X2	0.80	13D8	2.00	150C2	1.20	DL63	0.70	FCF82	0.50	GZ34
3B7	0.55	6CG8A	6.90	6X4	0.96	14117	0.75	215SG	0.60	DL82	1.00	ECF86	0.80	GZ37
3D6	0.40	6CL6	0.75	6X5GT	0.50	1487	1.00	303	1.20	DL92	0.65	ECH35	2.00	HABC80
3Q4 3Q5GT	0.80	6CL8A 6CM7	0.96 1.00	6Y6G 6Y7G	9.95 1.25	1723 18	1.25	305 807	1.20	DL94	E.00	ECH42	1.00	HLI3C
354	0.65	6CS6	6.75	7A7	1.00	19AQ5	0.65	956	0.50	DL96 DM70	1.00	ECH81 ECH83	0.55 1.00	HL23 HL23DD
3V4	1.00	6CU5	0.90	7B6	1.00	19BG60		1625	2.50	DM71	1.75	ECH84	0.75	HL41
4CB6	0.75	6D3	0.75	7B7	1.00	19G6	6.50	1821	1.00	DW4/35		ECL80	0.55	HLAIDD
4GK5 5CG8	0.75 0.75	6DE7	0.90	7D6 7F8	2.00	19H1	4.00	5702	1.20	DY51	2.00	ECL82	0.80	HL42DD
5R4GY	1.00	6DT6A 6EW6	0.85 0.85	7H7	2.00	19Y3 20D1	0.40	5763 6057	2.75	DY87/6	0.52	ECL83	1.50	HN309
5T4	2.00	6E5	1.00	7R7	2.00	20D4	2.50	6060	2.00	DY802 E80CC	0.50 4.75	FCL85	0.90	HVR2 HVR2A
5U4G	1.99	6FT	0.80	7V7	2.00	20F2	0.85	6067	2.00	ESOCE	6.00	ECL86	0.64	HY90
5V4G	00.1	6F6G	0.70	7Y4	0.80	20L1	1.20	6146	4.70	EXOF	5.50	ECLL800	10.00	KT2
5Y3GT 5Z3	0.65	6F12	0.70	77.4	0.80	20Pl	1.00	6463	2.00	E81CC	2.00	EF22	1.00	KT8
5Z4G	0.75	6F14 6F15	0.90 0.85	8D2 8D8	0.50 0.52	20P3 20P4	1.00 0.84	7025 7193	2.00 0.60	FR2CC	2.00	EF40 EF41	1.00	KT32
5Z4GT	00.1	6F16	1.00	9BW6	0.90	20P5	1.50	7475	1.20	E88CC	3.50	EF73	1.00	KT41 KT44
6 30L2	0.90	6F18	0.60	9D7	0.70	25A6G	1.00	9002	0.55	E92CC	4.50	EF90	0.40	KT63
6A8G	1.40	6F23	1.00	91.18	0.45	25L6G	1.00	9006	0.45	E180CC	5.00	EF83	1.70	KT66
6AC7 6AG5	0.70 0.35	6F24	0.86	10C2	0.70	25Y5	0.80	A1834	1.50	E180F	5.50	EF85 EF86	0.45	KT71
6AG7	0.70	6F25 6F26	1.00 0.45	10C14 10D1	0.60 1.00	25 Z4G 25 Z5	0.50 0.75	A3042 AC2PEN	1.00	E182CC E188CC	5.50 4.50	LFX9	0.52 0.55	KT8I KT88
6AH6	0.70	6F28	0.85	10DE7	0.80	2576G	0.90	AC2PEN		E280F	12.50	EF91	0.70	L63
6A.I5	0.70	6F32	1.00	10F1	1.00	28D7	2.00		1.00	F283CC	2.00	EF92	0.70	LN119
6AJ8	0.55	6G6G	90.1	10F9	0.65	30A5	0.75	AC6/PE		E1148	0.60	EF93	0.65	LN152
6AK5 6AK6	0.45	6GH8A 6GK5	0.80 0.75	10F18 10FD12	0.65	30C1	0.80	AC P4	1.50	EA50	0.46	EF94	0.55	LN309
6AK8	0.48	6GK6	2.00	10L14	0.45	30C15 30C17	0.90	AC PEN	1.20	EA76 EABCNO	1.30 0.48	EF95 EF97	0.45	LZ319 LZ329
6AL5	0.25	6GU7	0.90	IOLDH	0.75	30C18	2,25	AC THI		EAC91	0.55	EF98	0.90	M8083
6A.M6	0.70	6H6GT	0.50	10LD12	6.45	30F5	0.70	AL60	1.50	EAF42	1.00	EF183	0.50	M8136
6AM8A	0.70	6J5GT	0.65	10PL12	0.75	BOLL	0.39	ARP3	0.00	EAF801	1.50	EF184	0.50	M8137
6AN8 6AO6	0.70	6J6 6J7G	0.35 0.50	10P13 10P14	0.90 2.50	30L15	0.75	ATP4	0.50	F.B34	0.50	EF904 EH90	6.25	M8162
6AQ8	0.50	6J7M	0.65	10P14 10P18	0.90	301,17 30P4.MR	0.70 0.98	AZI AZI	0.50 1.00	EB91 EBC41	0.25 1.00		0.75	M8195 MHL4
6AR5	1.05	6JU8A	9.90	[2A6	1.00	30P12	0.74	AZ41	0.50	EBC81	1.00	EL32	1.00	MHLD6
6AS7	1.50	6K7G	0.50	12AC6	0.80	30P19		B36	0.75	EBC90	0.60	EL34	2.50	MKT4
6AT6	0.80	6K8G	0.50	12AD6	9.80	30P4	0.90	B719	0.50	EBC91	0.65		3.00	MUI2'14
6AU6 6AV6	0.62	6K8GT 6L1	0.55 2.50	12AE6	0.80	30P16 30P18	0.50	B729	0.90	EBF80	1.00		3.00	MX40
6AW8A	1.15	6L7(M)	1.50	12AT6 12AT7	0.52	30PL1	2.20	BL63 CL33	2.00	EBF83 EBF89	0.45		1.00	N150 N308
		(1111)	,	16/11/	J.M.	501 L4	-50 1	- 63,61	2.00	PDL02	0.40	-	. 200	1 40/07

	0.75	P61	0.60	PY81	0.80	U12/14	1.15	700	0.70	ADIO	0.33	BYZ15	2.03	OC65	1.31
	0.73	PABC80		PY82	0.40	UIG	1.00	X76M	0.75	AD162	0.53	CG12E	0.23	OC70	0.14
	0.95	PC86	0.80	PY83	080	U17		X119	0.60	AF102	1.04	CG64H	0.23	OC71	0.13
	2.50	PC88	0.80	PY88	1.12		1.00	X142	1.00	AF106	0.58	FSY11A	0,26	OC72	0.13
	2.00	PC92		PY301		U18/20	2.50	X150	1.00	AF114	0.30	FSY41A		OC74	0.26
	2.50		0.65		0.50	U19	4.00	X719	0.55	AF115	0.30	GD4	0.38	OC75	0.13
	00.1	PC95	1.00	PY500	2.05	1'22	0.85	Z145	1.00	AF117	0.23	GD5	0.32	OC76	0.18
	1.00	PC97	0.75	PY500A		U25	1.00	Z152	0.40	AF121	0.35	GD6	0.32	OC77	0.32
	1.00	PC'900	9.65	PY800	0.60	U26	0.90	Z329	0.70	AF124	0.36	GD8	0.23	OC78	0.18
	1.00	PCC84	0.39	PY801	0.80	U31	0.50	Z719	0.40	AF125	0.50	GD9	0.23	OC78D	0.18
	1.20	PCC85	0.47	PZ30	0.50	1.33	1.75	Z729	0.52	AF139	0.76	GDII	0.23	OC79	0.47
	1.45	PCC88	0.61	QP21	1.10	U35	1.75	Z749	1.00	AF178	0.79	GD12	0.23		
03	2.50	PCC89	0.49	QQV03	/10	U37	2.00	Z759	6.50	AFI80	0.56	GD14		OC81	0.13
	0.80	PCC189	0.60	1 ' '	2.00	U43	0.80	Transist		AF186	0.64	GD14 GD15	0.58	OC8LD	0.13
	1.50	PC C805	0.75	QS75/20	0.1.0	U45	1.20	and Dio		AF239	0.44	GD16	0.47	OC82	0.13
	1.50	PCC806	0.70	QS95/10		U47	1.00	1N1124/		ASY27			0.23	OC82D	0.13
	0.45	PCF80	0.80	QV03/1		L'49	0.90	IN4744.6			0.50	GET119	0.30	OC83	0.23
	1.00	PCF82	0.45	OV04/7		U50	0.65	1N4952		ASY28	0.38	GET573		OC84	0.28
	0.50	PCF84	0.70	OV06/2		U52	1.00	2N404	0.58	ASY29	0.58	GET587	0.50	OC123	0.26
		PCF86	0.57	R10	5.00	U76			0.21	BA115	0.16	GET872	1.11	OC140	1.11
	1.45	PCF87	0.90	RII	1.00	U78	0.70	2N966	0.61	BAI16	0.21	GET873	0.18	OC169	0.50
	0.50	PCF200	1.55				0.95	2N1756	0.58	BA129	0.14	GET882	0.58	OC171	0.40
	1.00			R12	0.80	U81	0.80	2N2147	0.99	BA130	0.12	GET%87	0.26	OC172	0.41
	1.00	PCF201	1.45	R16	2.00	U150	1.00	2N2297	0.26	BA148	0.20	GET889	0.26	OC204	0.50
	0.42	PCF800	00.1	R17	1.50	U151	0.80	2 N2369	0.16	BA153	0.18	GFT896	0.26	OC296	1.95
	0.45	PCF801	0.49	R19	0.75	U153	0.60	2N2613	0.45	BCY10	0.53	GET897	0.26	ORP12	13.0
- (9.96	PCF802	0.80	R20	0.90	U191	0.50	2N3053	0.38	BCY12	0.58	GET898	0.26	SFT237	0.50
	1.00	PCF805	2.25	R52	0.75	1/192	0.40	2N3121	2.90	BCY33	0.23	GEX113	0.21	SM1036	
00	2.50	PCF806	0.70	RK34	1.00	U193	0.80	2N3703	0.23	BCY34	0.26	GEX36	0.58		0.58
00	2.50	PCH200	1.20	SP4	1.50	U251	1.00	2N3709	0.23	BCY38	0.26	GEX45	0.38	ST1276	0.58
	1.40	PCL82	0.62	SP13C	0.75	U281	0.75	2N3866	1.16	BC107	0.14	GEX55	0.87	SX1 6	0.21
	1.75	PCL83	1.20	TH4B	1.00	U282	0.70	2N3988	0.58	BC 108	0.14	GT3	0.30	U14706	0.30
	.00	PCL84	0.50	TH233	1.00	U291	0.50	25323	0.58	BC109		Mi		XZ30	0.30
	.00	PCL86	0.85	TP2620	1.00	U301	1.00	AAL19	0.18	BC113	0.14		0.18	Y543	0.21
	25	PC128	1.50	TP22	1.00	U329	1.00	AA120	0.18		0.30	MAT100	0.45	Y728	0.21
	.00	PCL800	1.30	TP25	1.00	L'339	0.50	AA129	0.18	BC115	0.18	MAT101	0.50	l	
	0.90	PCL801	2.20	UABC80		U349	0.60	AAZI3		BC116	0.30	OA9	0.14		
	1,80	PCL805/		UAF42	0.70	U381	0.70		0.21	BC118	0.26	OA47	0.12		
		11.	0.65	UBC41	0.70	U403	0.90	AC107	0.18	BF154	0.30	OA70	0.18		
	1.70	PE-HDD		UBC81	0.55			AC113	0.30	BF158	0.21	OA73	0.18	l	
	1.68	PEN25	100	UBF80	0.50	U404	0.75	AC114	0.47	BF159	0.30	OA79	0.11		
	.00	PEN45	1.00	UBF89	0.39	U709	0.45	AC126	0.14	BF163	0.23	OA81	11.0		
	1.00					U801	1.00	AC127	0.20	BF173	0.44	OA85	0.11	ALL	
	1.00	PEN45DE		UBL21	2.00	U4020	1.00	AC128	0.26	BF180	0.35	OA86	0.23		
	1.70	PEN46	1.00	UC92	9.50	V1.\$492	9.50	AC132	0.23	BF181	0.47	OA90	0.14	PRIC	ES
	1.00	PEN453I		L'CC84	0.90	VP2	1.50	AC154	0.30	BF185	0.47	OA91	0.11	INC. II	DE
. 1	.00		2.00	UCC85	0.50	VP4(5)	2.00	AC156	0.23	BFY50	0.26	OA95	0.11	INCLU	
6	.55	PENA4	1.00	UCF80	0.80	VP13C	0.60	AC157	0.30	BFY51	0.23	OA200	0.11	V.A.	r
0	.90	PENDD/		UCH21	2.00	VP23	0.65	AC165	0.30	BFY52	0.23	OA202	0.12		
	.00	4020	1.00	UCH42	1.00	VP41	0.90	AC166	0.30	BTX.34 14		OC19	1.46	NOTH	ING
	.00	PFL200	1.35	UCH81	0.60	VT61A	0.75	AC168	0.44	Billion	2.31	OC22	0.44		
	.00	PL33	1.00	UCL82	0.75	VUIII	1.00	ACI69	0.38	BY100	6.21	OC23	0.44	EXTR	iA .
	.00	PL36	0.80	UCI83	1.00	VU120	1.00	AC176	0.64	BYIOL				TO	
	.70	PL81	0.49	UF41	0.70	VU120A	1.00	AC177	0.32	BY101	0.18	OC24	0.44		
	50	PL81 A	0.75	UF42	1.00	VU133	1.00	ACY17	0.35		0.21	OC28	0.69	PAY	
		PL82	0.50	LIFYO	0.46	VX6020	00.1	ACY18	0.35	BYI14	0.21	OC29	0.73		
_ !	00.	PL83	0.50	UF85	0.50	W76	0.50		0.35	BY126	0.18	OC36	1.00		
		PL84	0.50	L'FX9	0.52	W8LM	1.20	ACY19		BY127	0.21		0.50		
6	.75	PL95	1.00	UL41	0.90	W107		ACY20	0.35	BYY23	1.16		0.58		
	.65	PL302	0.36			W719	1.00	ACY21	0.35	BYZ10	0.30		0.73		
0	.ZB	PL504 50		UL46	1.00		0.45	ACY22	0.35	BYZII	0.30	OC43	1.37		
	.56	PL004 50		UL84	0.90	W729	1.20	A4470	100	D 4 517		#1.000 ex			
1	.20	D# COC	1.05	4.1M80	1.00	WD709	1.00	MATCE	TED I	RANSIS	TOR S	ETS			

WD709 1.00 XE3 0.00 XFY12 0.60 XH15 0.60 XSG15 1.20 X41 1.00 X61 2.00 MATCHED TRANSISTOR SETS LP15 (AC13. AC154, Ac 157 AA120), 61p per pack 1 OC81D and 2 OC81, 50p. 1 OC84 and 2 OC85, 50p. 1 OC82D and 2 OC82 56p. set 013 OC83 76p. 1 watt Zeners, 24v 27v, 3v, 36v, 43v, 47v, 51v, 13v 15v, 16v 18v, 20v, 24v 30v, 12p each. All goods are unused and subject to the manufacturers, guarantee. Terms of husiness. Cash or cheque with order. Despatch charges. — Orders below £25 in value, add 50p for post and packing. Orders over £25 post and packing free of charge. All orders cleared same day any parcel insured against damage in transit for 5p extra per partiel. Conditions of sale available on request. Many others in stock too numerous to list. Please enclose S.A.E. for reply to any enquiries. All prices subject to change without notice.

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MULTI RANGE MÉTERS Type MF15A A C / D C volts 10 50 250 500 1000 Ma 0.5 0.10 0.100 Sensitivity 2000V 24 range, diameter 133 x 93 x 46mm Price £6.50 plus 50p PAP (£7.56 inc VAT & P)



TRIAC.
Raytheon tag symmetrical Triac Type Tag 250/500v 10 amp 500 piv
Glass passivated pilastic triac. Swiss precision product for long term
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application sheet). Suitable Diac 22p.

O to 60 MINUTES CLOCKWORK TIMER. Double pole 15 amp 230AC. Contacts (no diai) ϵ 1.50, P&P 30p (ϵ 1.94 $_{19C}$ VAT & P)

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Size 27mm x 5mm 10 for £5.00 [inc VAT £5.72] Min

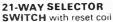


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ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLY

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The ingenious electro mechanical device can be switched up to 21 positions and can be resert from any position by energising the reset coil 230/240v A C operation Unit is mounted on strong chassis Complete with cover. Price £5.50 P&P 7.5p (£6.75 inc. VAT & P)



VORTEX BLOWER AND VACUUM UNIT

VACUUM UNIT
Dynamically balanced to tally enclosed 9"
roor with max air delivery of 1.5 cubic
metres per min Max static pressure
600mm MG Suction or blow from 2
side-by-side 37mm i D circular apertures
fitted to base of unit Powerful continuously
cated 115va c motor mounted on alloy base
with fixing facilities D imensions, Length
22cm x width 25cm x height 25cm



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Smith type FFB 1906 022 220 240v A.C. Aperture 10x4 //cm overall size 10x14cm Price £3.75 p&p 75p tind. VAT £4.86). Other types available phone for details

NI-CAD BATTERY	Height (mm)
35 AH 1 2v Metal	219

Postage 30p per unit

Width Length 75 29

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12v 11 way 4 bank (3 non-bridging, 1 le £2.50 P&P 35p (£3.08 inc VAT & P)



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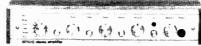
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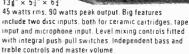
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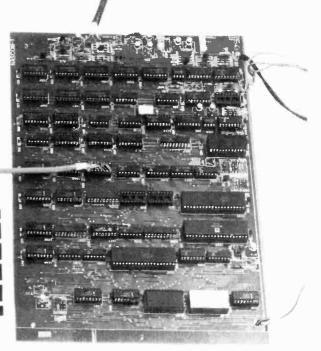
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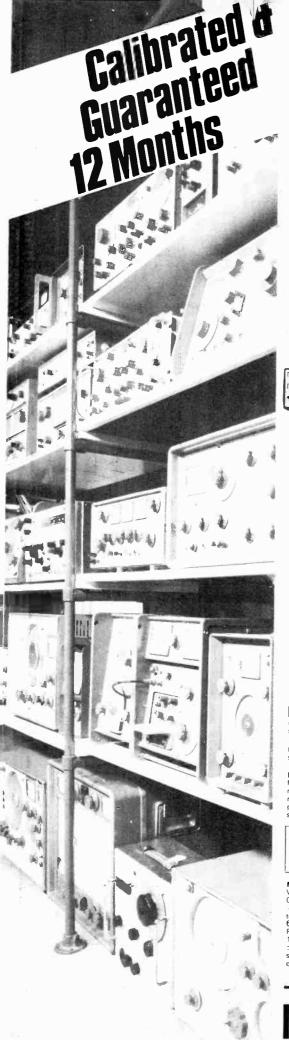


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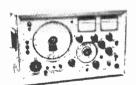
with ferminating Unit £183.00 F.M./A.M. Signal Generator TF995B/2. Frequency Range 200kHz to 22MHz in five bands. Output 0.1 μ.V-200mv Output Impedance 75Ω Modulation (F M) Normal deviation continuously variable in two ranges ±25kHz and ±75kHz on all bands Greater deviation is available on most bands. Modulating Frequency Internal FM 1kHz. External FM 50Hz to 15kHz. Modulation (A.M.) Internal AM 1kHz. 0-50% External AM 50Hz to 10kHz. 0-50% External AM 50Hz to 10kHz. 0-50%

U.H.F. Signal Generator TF1060. Frequency range 450-1250MHz (1 band) Output 0.15 μ V to 445mV Output Impedance 50 Ω Int. sine A.M.-1kHz Ext. pulse

A.M. Signal Generator TF144H & H/S. Frequency range: 10kHz to 72MHz in twelve overlapping bands. Output Attenuator. 2µV to 2V. Output Impedance 50Ω Modulation Internal AM 400Hz & 1kHz to 10 to 80% External AM 20Hz to 20kHz.0 to 80%

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A.M. Signal Generator TF144H/4S. A.M. Signal College Strate Str



A.M. Signal Generator TF801D/1.
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Phase A.M. Signal Generator TF2003.



Two-Tone Signal Source TF2005R. The instrument comprises two identical low-distortion a f. oscillators and a monitored distortion a 1. Socilators and a monitoriogradite distortion at the state of the measurement of inter modulation distortion using the methods recommended by S.M.P.T.E. and C.C.I.F. Frequency Range 20Hz-20kHz in six bands (each oscillator can be adjusted and used independently). Harmonic Distortion Less than 0.05% between monic Distortion Less than 0.0% between 0.5Hz and 6kHz when using unbalanced output Generally less than 0.1% under other conditions Intermodulation Below -80dB with respect to the wanted signal Amplitude Reference Level Up to +10dBm from each oscillator. Output Attenuator 111dB in 0.1dB steps

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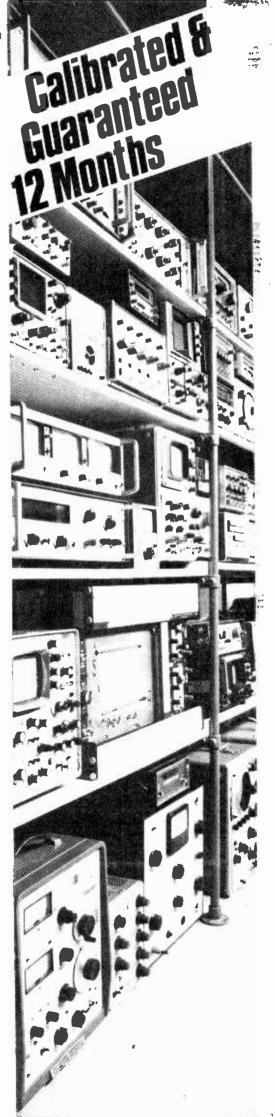
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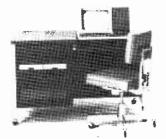


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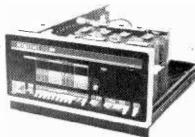


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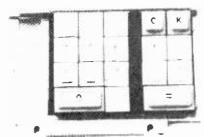


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2.00		TEXAS	260	C-MOS I	.Cs 20p	1458 Dual (OP. AMP:	8 pin DIL	70p	AC125	35p	FRANSIS'	22p	2N3055	48p	*SIGNAL
7400 74H00		74107 74109	36p 89p	CD4001AE	20p	301A Fxt (8 pin DIL 8 pin DIL	36p 100p	AC126 AC127	25p 25p	BFY51 BFY52	22p		67p 140p	OA47 9p OA81 20p
74S00	63p	74110	55p 90p	CD4002AE CD4006AE	20p 95p	CA3140 BIMC)S	8 pin DIL 8 pin DIL	100p	AC128	25p 20p	BFY90 BRY39	90p 45p	±2N3565 ±2N3643	30p 48p	OA85 20p
74LS00 7401		74111 74116	200p	CD4007AE	20p		speed	8 pin DIL 14 pin DIL	200p 120p	AC141 AC142	20p	BSX19	20p 20p	±2N3644 ±2N3702	48p	OA91 9p
7402		74118	84p 120p	CD4008AE CD4009AE	107p 61p	LM348N Quad	i Op Amp i Op Amp	14 pin DIL	125p 140p	AC176 AC187	25p 25p	BSX20 ★BU105	140p	*2N3703 *2N3704	12p 12p	OA95 9p OA200 8p
7403 7404	18p 23p	74120 74121	32p	CD4009AE	60p		slew rate o Amp	8 pm D1L T099	200p	AC187K AC188	30p 25p	BU108 ★ BU205	250p 200p	★2N3705	12p	OA 202 10p IN 914 4p
74H04	36p	74122	54p	CD4011AE	20p	RC4136 Quad	Op Amp	14 pin DIL 14 pin DIL	120p 70p	AC188K AD149	30p 49p	★BU208 ★MJE340	300p 65p	★2N3706 ★2N3707	12p	IN916 9p IN4148 4p
7405 7406	25p 43p	74123 74125	76p 73p	CD4012AE CD4013AE	20p 55p	709 Ext	Comp	8 / 14 pin DIL 8 / 14 pin DIL	36p 22p	AD161	45p	MJ481 MJ491	175p 200p	±2N3708 ±2N3709	12p 12p	RECTIFIER
7407	43p	74126	70p	CD4015AE	90p	747 Dual		14 pin DIL	70p 36p	AD162 AF114	45p 30p	MJ2501	225p	2N3773 2N3866	300p	*8Y100 25p *BY126 12p
7408 7409	25p 27p	74128 74132	75p 70p	CD4016AE CD4017AE	50p 100p		Comp ramable Op Amp	8 / 14 pin DiL TO-5 —	180p	AF115 AF116	30p	MJ2955 MJE2955	120p 130p	*2N3903 *2N3904	18p	★ BY127 10p
7410	18p	74136	75p	CD4018AE	110p	LINEAR I.C	The state of the s			AF117 AF127	30p 25p	MJ3001 MJE3055	225p 70p	★2N3905	20p	1N4001 5p 1N4002 5p
74H10 7411	28p 24p	74141 74142	75p 320p	CD4019AE CD4020AE	52p 120p	★AY-1-0212 ★CA3028A	Tone Generator Diff Cascade Amp	16 pin DiL TO5	600p 95p	AF139	43p 48p	★MPSA06 ★MPSA12	30p 50p	±2N3906 2N4036	16p 70p	IN4004 6p
7412	25p	74145	90p	CD4022AE	100p	★CA 3046	5 Transistor Array Quad Low Noise Ami	14 pin DIL p. 16 pin DIL	80p 200p	AF239 BC107/B	9p	±MPS A56	32p	2N4D58 +2N4D59	15p 10p	IN4007 7p IN5401 13p
7413	36p 75p	74147 74148	190p 160p	CD4023AE CD4024AE	22p 80p	#CA3048 #CA3053	Diff Cascade Amp	105	70p	BC108/8 BC109/B	9p 10p	★MPSU06 ★MPSU56	78p	+2 N4060	13p	IN5404 18p
7414 7416	33p	74150	140p	CD4025AE	22p	CA3080E *CA3089E	Op Transcond Amp. FM IF System	8 pin DIL 16 pin DIL	90p 225p	BC109C ★BC117	12p 22p	OC28 OC35	140p 140p	±2N4123 ±2N4124	22p 22p	IN5407 23p
7417	36p 18p	74151	72p 85p	CD4026AE CD4027AE		★ CA3090 ICL7106	FM stereo Multi Dec Mxd 3½ Digit DVM	16 pin DIL 40 pin DiL	400p £13	★BC147	9p	OC36	140p 20p	*2N4125 *2N4126	22p	2.7V to 33V*
7420 7421	40p	74153 74154	150p	CD4028AE		ICL8038CC	VCO Fun Gen	14 pin DIL	370p 200p	*BC148 *BC149C	9p 10p	#R2008B	200p	#2N4289 #2N4401	20p 27p	#400mW 9p #1W 18p
7422	22p	74155	90p 90p	CD4029AE CD4030AE		LM339N LM377N	Vol Quad Comparate Dual 2W Aud Amp	14 pin DIL	175p	*BC157 *BC158	11p 10p	±R2010B ±TIP29A	200p 40p	±2N4403	27p 90p	BRIDGE
7423 7425	37p 30p	74156 74157	90p	CD4035AE	131p	★LM380 ★LM381	2W Audio Amp Stereo Preamp	14 pin DIL 14 pin DIL	99p 175p	*BC159 *BC169C	11p 12p	±TIP29C ±TIP30A	55p 48p	2N4427 *2N5087	27p	RECTIFIERS
7427	37p	74159	190p	CD4040AE CD4042AE	120p	LM3911N *MC1310P	Temp Controller FM Stereo Dec	8 pin DiL 14 pin DiL	150p 190p	*BC172 BC177	11p 18p	★TIP30C TIP31A	60p 52p	#2N5089 2N5191	27p 85p	
7428 7430	36p 18p	74160 74161	120p 120p	CD4043AE	100p	★MC1351P	Lim / Det Aud Pream Multipher		97p 450p	BC178	17p	TIP31C TIP32A	52p 58p	2N5194 2N5296	90p 55p	*1A 50V 25p *1A 100V 27p
7432	36p	74162	120p	CD4046AE	140p	MC1495L ★MC1496L	Bal Mod/Demod	14 pin DIL	100p	BC179 ★BC182	18p 12p	TIP32C	82p	±2N5401	50p 160p	*1A 200V 30p *1A 400V 32p
7437 7438	36p 36p	74163 74164	120p 120p	CD4047AE CD4049AE		★MC3340P ★MC3360P	Electronic Attenuator ¼ W Audio Amp	8 pin DIL	160p 160p	#BC183 #BC184	12p 13p	TIP33A TIP33C	90p 115p	2N6034 2N61D7	55p	*1A 600V 36p *2A 50V 30p
7440	19p	74165	220p	CD4050AE		NE555 NE556	Timer Dual 555	8 pin D(L 14 pin DIL	40p 100p	BC187	30p	TIP34A TIP34C	115p 160p	2 N6247 (Comp to 2)	190p (3055)	*2A 100V 35p
7441 7442	75p 70p	74166 74167	160p 340p	CD4054AE CD4055AE		NE561	PLL with AM Demod PLL with VCO		425p 425p	#BC212 #BC213	10p	TIP35A	225p 290p	2N6254 2N6292	130p	*2A 200V 40p *2A 400V 45p
7443	140p	74170	250p	CD4056AE	135p	NE562 NE565	PLL	14 pin DIL	140p 200p	±BC214 BC461	14p 36p	TIP35C TIP36A	270p	40290 40360	250p 40p	*3A 200V 60p *3A 600V 72p
7444 7445	140p 120p	74172 74173	720p	CD4059AE CD4060AE		NE566 NE567	PLL Fun Gen PLL Tone Dec	8 pm DIL 8 pm DIL	180p	BC478 ★BC516	30p 60p	TIP36C TIP41A	340p 65p	40361	45p	*4A 100V 84p *4A 400V 90p
7446	100p	74174	120p	CD4069AE	27p	RC4151 SN72710	Vol to Fre Converter Diff Comparator	8 pin DiL 14 pin DIL	400p 50p	*BC517	65p 18p	TIP41B TIP41C	70p 78p	40362 40364	45p 120p	6A 50V 90p
7447 7448	85p 80p	74175 74176	85p 120p	CD4071AE CD4072AE		+SN72733 +SN76003N	Video Amp	14 pin DIL	120p 245p	BCY70 BCY71	22p	TIP42A	70p 76p	40409 40410	80p 85p	6A 100V 96p 6A 200V 108p
7450	18p	74177	120p	CD4081AE	21p	★ SN76013N	Pwr Aud Amp with in Pwr Aud Amp with in	t HS 16 pin DIL	140p	BCY72 BD131	18p 63p	TIP42B TIP42C	82p	40411 40636	300p 130p	6A 400V 120p 10A 400V 270p
7451 7453	20p 20p	74179	160p 110p	CD4093AE CD4502AE		*SN76023N *SN76033N	Pwr Aud Amp with in Pwr Aud Amp with in	nt HS 16 pin DIL	140p 230p	8D132 #BD135	65p 48p	TIP2955	78p 30p	40594	100p	25A 400V 400p
7453	18p	74180 74181	298p	CD4510AE		*\$P8515 *TAA621A	Prescaler 450MHz + Aud Amp for TV	10 16 pin DIL QIL	675p 225p	+BD136	50p 52p	+2TX108 +2TX300	10p 13p	40595 40871	110p 80p	TRIACS
7460 7470	18p	74182	82p 160p	CD4511AE CD4516AE		★ TAA661B	FM (F Amp-Limiter / 1 Audio Amp	Det QIL QIL	120p 250p	#8D139 #8D140	58p	+2TX500 2N457A	15p 190p	40872	84p	Plastic
7470	36p 30p	74184 74185	150p	CD4518AE		★TBA6418 ★TBA651	Tuner & IF Amp	16 pin QIL	200p 90p	8DY56 BF115	200p . 22p	2N697	22p	FETs #BF244B	36p	Amp Volts 3 400 85p
7473	34p	74186	920p	CD4520BE		★TBA8 00 ★TBA8 10	5W Audio Amp 7W Audio Amp	QIL QIL	100p	BF167 BF170	23p 23p	2N698 2N706	45p 20p	*BF256B	70p	6 400 99 p 6 500 107 p
7474 74LS74	34p 56p	74190 74191	160p 160p	CD4528AE CD4560BE	250n	★TBA820 ★TCA940	2W Audio Amp 10W Audio Amp	QIL QIL	80p 200p	BF173 BF177	25p 26p	2N708 2N918	20p 40p	#MPF102 #MPF103	45p 40p	10 400 120 p
7475	45p	74192	120p	MEMD	RIES 750p	★T0A2 020	20W Audio Amp Function Generator	QIL/DIL 14 pin DIL	325p 400p	BF178	28p	2N930 2N1131	18p 18p	#MPF104 #MPF105	40p 40p	15 400 160p 15 500 180p
7476 7480	36p 50p	74193 74194	160p 120p	1702A 2102-2	750p 160p	*R2206CP *R2216CN	Speech Comp & Exp		700p 200p	BF179 BF180	33p 33p	2N1132	18p	*2N3819 *2N3820	25p 50p	40430 130 p
7481	95p	74195	95p	2107	£7	ZN1034E +ZN414	Precision Timer TRF Radio Receiver	TO-18	110p	BF184 ★BF194	22p 10p	2N1304 2N1305	75p 75p	2N3823	57p	40669 130p DIAC
7482 7483	90p 90p	74196 74197	120p 120p	2112-2	300p 1500p	ZN424E ZN425E	Gated Lin. Amp 8 bit D / A Converter	14 pin DIL 16 pin DIL	135p 430p	*BF195 *BF196	9p 14p	2N1306 2N1307	75p 75p	★2N5245 ★2N5457	40p 40p	BR100 30p
7484	110p	74198	250p	2708	£12		eets on above at 20p eac	h +S A E.		±BF197	15p	2N1308 2N1309	75p 75p	*2N5458 *2N5459	40p 40p	For TO-220 Vol
7485 7486	120p 34p	74199 74221	250p 160p	2716 80 80A	£35 1200p	00070	OPTO-ELECTI	RDNICS ORP12	90p	BF200 BF257	32p 32p	2N1613 2N1711	25p	*2N5460 *2N5485	70p 40p	Regs and Transis- tors 17° C/W 25p
7489	320p	74251	140p	8212	200p	OCP70 OCP71	90p 120p	ORP60	90p	BF258 BF259	36p 45p	2N1893	25p 30p	MOSFET		CRYSTAL
7490 7491	36p 85p'	74265 74278	90p 290p	8216 8224	225p 400p	2N5777	45p	ORP61	90p	BF337 ★BFR39	30p 30p	2N2102 2N2219	55p 20p	3N128	96p	*1 MHz 370p
7492	55p	74279	140p	8228	700p	LEDS TIL209 Red	16p	0.2" Red	18p	#BFR40 #BFR41	30p 30p	2N2222 2N2369	20p	3N140 3N141	95p 95p	
7493 74 9 4	36p 90p	74283 74290	190p 150p		450p 800p	TIL211 Gree	n 20p	Green	20p	₩BFR79	30p 30p	2N2484 2N2904	30p	3N187 3N201	180p 80p	****
7495	70p	74293	150p	8255	800p	TIL32 Infrar	ed 75p EVEN SEGMENT	Yellow	36p	#BFR80 BFR81	30p	2N2905 2N2906	A 25p	3N2O4 40603	80p 63p	PLEASE SEND
7496 7497	84ր 340թ	74298 74365	200p	8T28 AY-5-1013	225p 600p	3015F	EVEN SEGMENT 190p	TIL 311	600p		30p 30p	#2N2926F	7 P	40673 40841	90p 80p	S.A.E.
74100	120p	74366	150p	AY-5-2376	1100p	DL704 Red	140p	TIL 312	110p	BFX30	34p 30p	*2N29266 *2N29260	10p	UJTs		FOR
74104 74105	65p 65p	74390 74393	200p 225p	R0-3-2513 X887	650p 1360p	DL707 Red.		TIL 313 TIL 321/322	110p 130p	BEY85	30p 30p	*2N29261 *2N29260		+TIS43 2N2160	34p 120p	CATALOGUE
	E REGUL			PLASTIC		FND 357	120p	TIL 330 ± 1	140p	BFX87	30p 30p	2N3053 2N3054		2N2646 +2N4871	48p 65p	CATALOGUE
1 Amp	Positive			Amp Negat		FND 500 / 5	.07 120 p 5491 84p : 75492 \$		0.200e	BFX88	зор	2143034	330		-	
		l 15p l 15p		5V 7905 12V 7912	160p					1488	300p	81LS95	170p	9316	225p	9602 175
15V	7815	l 15p		15V 7915 18V 7918	160p	SCR-TH		106 Stud 06D	110p	1489A 75107	270p 160p	81LS96 81LS97	170p	9321 9322	160p	MC6800 £11
2417	7024	115p 115p		24V 7924	160p	1A 50V 1	TO5 70p 4	A/400V Plastic	c 63p	75182 75324	200p 400p	81LS98 9302	170p	9324	150p 175p	MC6820 £6 MC6850 £7
I M309K	1 Amp 5V	TO3 140p	T8A625	B 12V 0.5A	700p	1A100V 3	rO5 80p ∗ ∧ rO5 90p 0	//CR101 5A/15V TO-92	2 35p	75325 75450	400p 85p	9308	315p 275p	93417	400p 400p	
LM309H	100mA 5\ 5A 5V TO	105 75 p	E7	100m	A T092	3A400V S	Stud 100p 2N	13525		75451	72 p	9312	160p	93436 93446	650p 650p	
VARIAB	LE VOLTA	GE REGU	LATOR	+5∨	70p			6A/400V TO-66 14444	120p	75452	72p	9314	165p	35440	озор	
723 2V	to 37V 1 2V to 37V	50mA 14	pin DIL	45p + 12V 300p + 15V	70p 70p	16A100V	Plastic 160p 8	BA / 600V Plasti	c 185p	\/AT	RATES	All ite	ms at	8% EX	CEPT	where
78MGT2	2C 0.5A DII			135p _5∨	80g	1646000	Plastic 180p ± 2 Plastic 220p 0	2N5060) BA/30V TO-92	2 34p			hich are				
	V to 30 V 1			70p -12V	80p					di Ke					MAE	IC LTD.
LOW PI	RDFILE D	IL SOCKE	TS BY	TEXAS 15p. 18	oin 36 n	Minimun P&P 25	n Order £2	Mail Order C		c ordon	20000	ted 5/	SAND	HURST R	OAD, L	ONDON, NW9
22 pin	40p, 24	pin 44p ,	28 pin	50p, 40	pin 56p	Piease ac	id VAT to total	Govt., Colle	ges, et	c. tortoers	accep	Teu. Te	l: 01-2	04 4333. 1	elex 92	ONDON, NW9 2800
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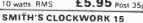
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n	Ref.	Amps	£	P&P
	112	0.5	2.64	78
	79	10	3.57	.96
	3	2.0	5.27	.96
•	20	3.0	6.20	1.14
	21	4.0	7.44	1.14
2	51	5.0	8.37	1.32
)	117	6.0	9.92	1.45
	88	8.0	11.73	1.64
3	80	10.0	13.33	1 84

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67	500			10.99	1.64
84	1000			18.76	2 08
93	1500			23.28	OA
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207	500, 500	0-8-9, 0-8-9	2.59	7 1
208	1A. 1A	0-8-9, 0-8-9	3.53	.78
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206	1A, 1A	0-15-20, 0-15-20	4.63	96
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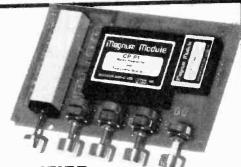
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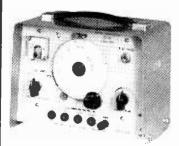
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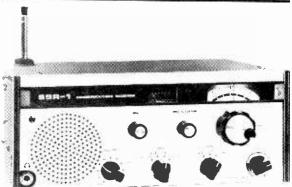
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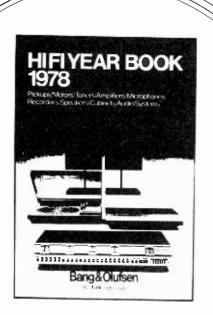
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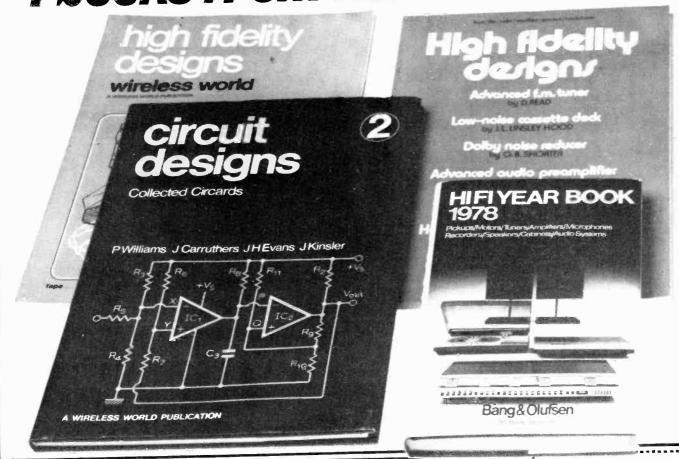
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Land a good job

Your Radio Officer's qualifications can mean a lot here on shore If you're thinking of a shore-based job, here's where you'll find interesting work, job security, good money, and the opportunity to enjoy all the comforts of home where you appreciate them most – at home!

The Post Office Maritime Service has vacancies at Portishead Radio and some of its other coast stations for qualified Radio Officers to undertake a wide variety of duties, from Morse and teleprinter operating to traffic circulation and radio telephone operating.

To apply, you must have a United Kingdom Maritime Radio Communication Operator's General Certificate or First Class Certificate of Proficiency in Radio-telegraphy or an equivalent certificate issued by a

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The starting pay at 25 or over works out at around £4093; after three years' service this figure rises to around £5093. (If you are between 19 and 24 your pay on entry will vary between approximately £3222 and £3732). Overtime is additional, and there is a good pension scheme, sick-pay benefits, at least 4 weeks' holiday a year, and excellent prospects of promotion to senior management.

For further information, please telephone Andree Trionfi on 01-432 4869 or write to her at the following address: ETE Maritime Radio Services Division (L690), ET17.1.2, Room 643, Union House, St. Martins-le-Grand, London EC1A 1AR.

Post Office Telecommunications

THE CITY UNIVERSITY

COMPUTER ENGINEER

A vacancy exists for an engineer (male or female) to work on the maintenance and development of computing equipment (electrical and mechanical).

Experience of ICL1900 series computers and EAL equipment would be an advantage. Applicants may eventually be required to work unsupervised shifts. The equipment includes 2 x 1900 series computers, an EAL690 hybrid system and a PDP11/34.

Salary will be in the range £3345 to £3966 or £3966 to £4722 per annum inclusive of London Allowance, Shift Allowance is paid and annual leave is 3 weeks plus one week at Christmas and Easter, inclusive of Bank Holidays.

Application forms and further details can be obtained form the Personnel Office, The City University, St. John Street, London EC1V 4PB. (Tel. 253 4399 extn 334). (8030)

ELECTROSONIC

TEST/TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS STARTING SALARY £3300-£3700

Electrosonic Ltd. is a leading company in the rapidly expanding fields of lighting control and audio visual systems situated in South East London, within easy reach of rural Kent.

Experienced electronic engineers are required initially for testing and fault finding of unit and systems electronic equipment employing some of the latest digital and analogue circuitry.

Applicants should have considerable experience in the testing and fault finding of modern electronic equipment, academic training to HNC/ Degree level is desirable.

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Mr. R. D. Naisbitt, Personnel Director **ELECTROSONIC LTD**.

815 WOOLWICH ROAD, LONDON SE7 TELEPHONE: 01-855 1101

(8094)

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

Salary Scale £3162-£4708

This is a new post, created to help improve audiology (hearing testing) services in the area covered by the North West Thames Regional Health Authority. It is intended to provide a calibration and equipment advisory service for audiology and hearing aid centres throughout the Region.

The work includes routine calibration and servicing, and some development work in the Audiology Department at Charing Cross Hospital

The technician will work under the supervision of, and to the standards defined by the Audiological Scientist. He or she will work in conjunction with the Electronics Section of the Department of Medical Physics. Applicants should have an interest in audiology electronics but can be trained in the use of calibration. Own transport would be an advantage

Further details and an application form for either of the above posts obtainable from the District Personnel Department. Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, LON-DON W6 8RF. Tel. 748 2040 ext. 2997.

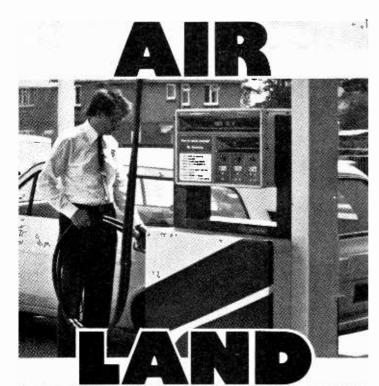
Closing date for receipt of applications 28th April, 1978.

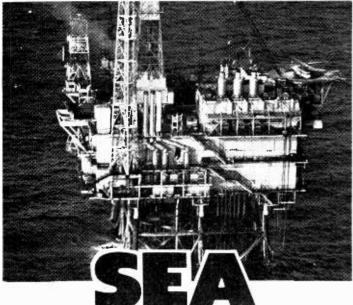
8039

Appointments

ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS We have openings everywhere from 300 fathoms up to 70,000 feet







The launch of our new expansion programme means a total of 1500 new jobs in Scotland over the next five years and we are looking for people like you to fill some of the most vital ones.

It is our belief that we hold a bright future for electronic and mechanical design/development engineers in our organisation which has established a world-wide reputation for designing and producing technologically advanced systems for the world's armed forces.

Even so, the major avionic systems being produced for Tornado, the Sea Harrier, the Jaguar, the Nimrod, the Japanese F-1 and the Lynx Helicopter represent only one level of our operation.

We are now in the business of applying our technology to land and sea. Revolutionary Ferranti Systems made in the Edinburgh area, in the form of communication technology, are being used throughout the world to increase industrial efficiency. And revolutionising petrol station forecourts throughout Britain is Ferranti Autocourt.

The technology, which the company has developed over the years for military applications, is even being used to solve problems in the North Sea. Current interests include equipment for surveying the precise position of oil well holes, a navigator for mini-submarines, crane load transfer systems, tele-control and communications systems.

Test Engineers: Technical Authors: Draughtsmen/women: Design and Development Engineers: Service Engineers: Spares Engineers: Planning Engineers: Production Engineers:

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If you would like one, please write or ring: John McPhee,

Staff Appointments Officer, Ferranti Limited Ferry Road, EDINBURGH EH5 2XS. 031-332 2411, Ext. 226.

FERRANTI

(8027)

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in the treatment of Cancer, a subject which demands sustained developments, sophisticated equipment and highly professional Engineers.

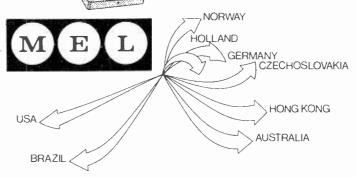
If you are a self-reliant, mature and adaptable Engineer prepared to spend periods of six to sixteen weeks away from base, join our team and

M.E.L. a Division of Philips Electronic and share the challenge and rewards of worldwide installation work.

> Male or female, you will need to be qualified to HNC level with a good knowledge of semi-conductor and digital circuitry and ideally with experience of modern high power radar and computer systems.

Based in Crawley, Sussex midway between London and Brighton you could become involved in projects as far afield as the USA, Austria, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Holland. China. Brazil and Norway. So if you are looking for the opportunity to carry out worthwhile medical installation work on a worldwide basis, get in touch - NOW.

Contact Alistair Budd, Personnel Officer. MEL, Manor Royal, Crawley, Sussex. Telephone: Crawley 28787.





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Engineers in various categories are wanted. Salary scale within the range £3,500 to £5,500.

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These vacancies occur in the Middle East. Far East and Australia Very generous salaries will be paid to the successful applicants together with free

A Company Car will also be provided.

There are excellent promotion prospects for the right persons.

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C. G. R. Medical Ltd.

Astronaut House, Feltham, Middlesex

Giving full details of education, and career to date

(8118)

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ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN Salary scale £3162-£4129

Required to work on a wide range of service, electrical safety, and development work in the Electronics section of the Medical Physics Department at Charing Cross Hos-

Applicants should hold at least an O.N.C. or equivalent and have had recognised practi-cal training

cal training
Further details and an application form from
District Personnel Department, Fulham
Palace Road, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8RF,
Tel 748 2040 ext 2997.

Closing date for receipt of application 28th April. (8026)



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Has vacancies for:

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to work in the fields of:

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Appointment will be in the grades of Higher Scientific Officer and Scientific Officer for which the minimum academic qualification is HNC or equivalent. For Higher Scientific Officer 5 years' post-qualification experience is required except for candidates with First or Second Class Honours degree when this is reduced to 2 years' post graduate experience.

Salaries are:

Scientific Officer £2593 - £4032 Higher Scientific Officer £3746 - £4976

Also required are:

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Minimum qualification is Ordinary National Certificate or equivalent but preference will be given to more experienced candidates with higher qualifications.

Lower Salary Scale £2875 - £3951 for minimum qualifications Higher Salary Scale £3951 - £4447

All above salary scales include Phase I and II Pay Supplements.

For application forms please apply to:

The Administration Officer (Dept. W4/78)
HM Government Communications Centre
Hanslope Park
Hanslope
Milton Keynes
Bucks
MK19 7BH

8071

Technical People

Communications. Instrumentation and Control Potters Bar

The Telecommunications Department of Eastern Gas has a number of attractive career opportunities within its technical team.

It's Eastern Gas policy to give young technical talent every encouragement to gain extra qualifications. Those displaying ambition and potential are given the opportunity to attend our Management College allowing them to progress and to fill the Senior Management Posts of the future.

These posts are open to young men and women aged 23 or over with ONC in Electrical Engineering or City and Guilds certificate in Telecommunications. Ideally you will have previous experience in maintenance or installation in either microwave, digital systems or instrumentation. Reference 8528 WW.

Start a career now in Telecommunications Instrumentation and Control

Potters Bar

Do you have 'O' levels in science based subjects and are currently studying for ONC OND or 'A' levels? If so we are willing to provide training for an absorbing and well paid career in telecommunications, instrumentation and control systems. This could possibly include sponsorship to attend colleges to obtain further technical qualifications.

The work is concerned with the design, maintenance and operation of large and sophisticated integrated communications networks a field which is developing fast.

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If you are interested please write or phone for further information to Senior Recruitment Officer, Eastern Gas, Star House, Mutton Lanc, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 2PD.

Telephone: Potters Bar 51151 ext 426.

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A vacancy exists for a

TECHNICIAN GRADE III

in the Department's electronic/ mechanical workshop. The appointee as a member of a small team will be employed to assemble, maintain and repair primarily electronic equipment used in the Department's teaching and research laboratories. The successful applicant will be qualified to OND/ONC, electronic apprenticable of agricultural to the product of the control of the contro ticeship or equivalent level. Experience of analogue or digital circuitry is particularly relevant.

Salary scale according to age and experience within scale £2,688-£3,060. Applications in writing giving the names and addresses of two referees to the Deputy Bursar, University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD, by 6 May, 1978.

We pay top salaries for the right engineers Starting at £4000 p.a. for Bench Engineers Increasing appreciably for Field Service Engineers

London's largest independent radiotelephone company is expanding fast! We have built a reputation for reliable efficient service. If you have the capability we need you urgently

Knowledge or experience of mobile V.H.F. equipment is what we're looking for Call Mike Rawlings or Bill Clarke on 01-328 5344 Now!

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Please write for company application form

The Company Secretary

RACECOURSE TECHNICAL SERVICES LTD.

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(8047)

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Herts

To £5,000

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An engineer is required to assist with further development work with particular emphasis on turning ideas and prototypes into economic hardware

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If you can match the potential that this company have to offer



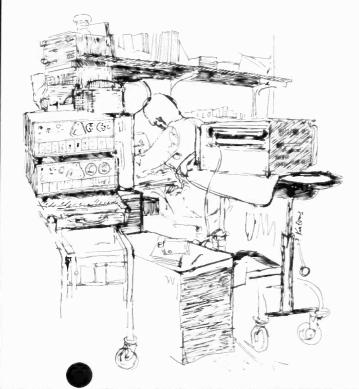
Recruitment

Contact Graham Ince-Luton (0582) 417562 PER. 56 Park Street, Luton, Beds.

Applications are welcome from both men and women.

Appointments

Marconi Instruments



ELECTRONIC TECHNICIANS

Opportunities for the experienced and sometimes inexperienced in St. Albans and Luton.

Work situations range from fault finding on PCB's and components, to batch product testing of equipment that utilise very advanced techniques including microprocessors and the repair/calibration of all manner and types of test instruments.

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Marconi Instruments Limited,

Longacres, St. Albans, Herts. tel: St. Albans, 59292









A GEC-MARCON ELECTRONICS COMPANY

TEST ENGINEERS

When reliability matters, people come to Pye

When the 1952 expedition, led by Sir John Hunt, made the first successful ascent of Everest, they carried with them Pye portable radiophone equipment – equipment with a long reputation for efficiency and reliability under arduous conditions.

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There's not room to tell you all the details here, but we can assure you of a competitive salary, company stability, job security and satisfaction, well equipped workshops and a variety of equipment, using both IC's and transistor.

Openings are available at Haverhill, Suffolk and at Cambridge, both extremely pleasant places to live, with key-worker housing available at Haverhill. In addition, considerable assistance is provided for those moving from other parts of the country.

Write or phone (reversing charges if necessary) to

Claire Barton, Pye Telecommunications Ltd., Dept. W.1 St. Andrew's Road, Cambridge CB4 10W Tel: Cambridge 61222

Catherine Dawe, Pye Telecommunications Ltd., Dept. W.1 Colne Valley Road, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 8DU Tel: Haverhill 4422



Pye Telecommunications Ltd



Service and Test Engineers

As aircraft and electronics equipments become more sophisticated and our servicing programme expands, the need for experienced Service and Test Engineers increases.

At Stanmore, we are involved in the provision of spares and the repair, maintenance and overhaul of a variety of British and American airborne electronic equipment.

We need Engineers who can successfully maintain the high standards and efficiency required both in the aircraft and the workshop.

It's skilled work, calling for sound practical experience of radio and electronics theory, ranging from audio to microwave and including the use of advanced test equipment for fault diagnosis. Training in this field will be given to suitable, less experienced engineers.

The Company offers excellent salaries and benefits together with first-class working conditions in well-equipped workshops. This Unit is conveniently situated in pleasant surroundings within easy reach of the A1 and M1.

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If the job sounds interesting and you'd like to put us to the test, write with details of experience to:

Mrs. E. Wagg,

Marconi-Elliott Avionic Systems Ltd., 22-26 Dalston Gardens, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 1BZ. Tel: 01-204 3322.

7917

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Candidates should be qualified up to Chartered Engineering standard and should possess experience in the power, radio or microwave engineering spheres

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The Personnel Manager, Belling & Lee Limited, **Great Cambridge Road,** Enfield. Middx. Tel: 01-363 5393

Electronic Components for Tomorrow

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIANS FOR COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS

TASK TERMINALS LIMITED have vacancies in central London for young, energetic Electronics Technicians. Responsibilities would include some design and construction, and installation and maintenance of computer communications equipment. This means working with microprocessors, minicomputers, and electro-mechanical compuperipherals of varying complexity.

Specific qualifications and experience are not essential, but a working knowledge of digital electronics is important. Our preference is for people with a little experience, and who are adaptable and keen to mould themselves into the job, taking advantage of training courses and on-the-job training. This is a good oppor-tunity to enter a very interesting and rewarding industry with a small company well known in its field

Salaries are negotiable from £3,000 p.a., plus additional benefits. Some travel will be necessary, and applicants should hold a full U.K. driving licence If you are interested please write to Steve Clifford giving brief details, and we will arrange an informal interview at your convenience.

TASK TERMINALS LIMITED 117 Cleveland Street London, W1. 01-637 4516

(8046)

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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Department of Physics

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Salary will be on the Research Staff Range I8 Scale -£2904-£3547, depending on age, qualifications and experience

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Staff Officer, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey GU25XH, or telephone Guildford 71281, Ext. 452. Completed forms should be returned by 28 April 1978

(8028)

The job you're now looking for we've probably already

We're in touch with over 3000 major companies who are continually looking for key personnel like you – but who don't always advertise.

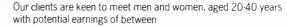
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Instead, they send us a brief which we compare to the requirements of candidates on our register. Then we draw up a shortlist.

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All you have to do is clip the coupon, we'll send you a confidential application form ... consider it an interview and give us relevant details about yourself. There's no risk, no cost, no obligation and no time wasting. Simply send us the form and we'll do the rest.

We'll find you one of those jobs you usually hear about after they've been filled.



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Frequent overseas travel
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For further details of qualifications and experience required, salary levels and precise geographical locations, telephone 01-581 0286, or write to

8032

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Mechanical

Designers

Invest your future with us!

As Europe's largest exporter of two-way radio systems, we intend expanding several of our design teams by the appointment of high-calibre draughtsmen and women.

Join Pye Telecom, and you'll join a group attached to one of our Development Laboratories, working on electrically orientated mechanical product design Ideally, you should have wide experience of medium and high production methods, and of design in sheet metal, plastics, die-casting and P.W.B.s

An ONC, a C & G, or better still, an HNC is desirable.

We offer a good salary + a generous relocation allowance and good career prospects. You will also discover an extremely attractive working environment and the most modern facilities available

Apply by phone or letter to Alan Depauw, Pye Telecom, Newmarket Road, Cambridge Telephone Cambridge 61222, Ext. 138.

(8033)



Appointments

RADIO TECHNICIANS

Government Communications Headquarters has vacancies for Radio Technicians. Applicants should be 19 or over.

STANDARDS required call for a sound knowledge of the principles of electricity and radio, together with 2 years experience of using and maintaining radio and electronic test gear.

DUTIES cover highly skilled telecommunications / electronic work, including the construction, installation, maintenance and testing of radio and radar telecommunications equipment and advanced computer and analytic machinery.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must hold either the City and Guilds Telecommunications Part 1 (Intermediate) Certificate or equivalent HM Forces qualification.

SALARY (inc. supps.) from £2,673 at 19 to £3,379 at 25 (highest pay on entry) rising to £3,883 with opportunity for advancement to higher grades up to £4,297 with a few posts carrying still higher salaries.

Opportunities for service overseas.

Further particulars and application forms available from:

GCHQ

Recruitment Officer (Ref. WW/5) GCHQ, Oakley Priors Road, Cheltenham, GL52 5AJ Cheltenham (0242) 21491 ext 2270

(8035)

VIDEO RECORDING & STUDIO ENGINEER £3861 - £4615 p.a.

To supervise work in new recording and editing area using state of the art techniques including Plumbicon colour telecine and a wide range of VTRs — some to broadcast standard. Also to assist with work in two adjoining studios which contain Video 80 colour cameras and sophisticated ENG post-production systems with colour corrections and multi-track sound.

Operational experience of sound and colour video systems, preferably in a broadcasting or educational institution, and an HNC or equivalent educational qualification are desirable.

Application forms and details from the Personnel Officer, Brighton Polytechnic, Moulsecomb, Brighton BN2 4GJ. Tel. Brighton 693655. Ext. 2536.

Closing date: 17th May, 1978.

(8072)

SENIOR ENGINEER

Independent Television News Ltd. has a vacancy for a Senior Engineer to work in their Radio Links section. The work involves the installation and maintenance of temporary microwave links and R.T. systems for Outside Broadcasts.

Candidates should be qualified to H.N.C. or above and have experience of SHF, UHF and VHF radio systems. Television experience would be an added advantage.

Salary: £5,920 per annum.

Please telephone the Personnel Office on 01-637 3144 for an application form, quoting reference 3514.

Apply your skills to

INTER ACTIVE COMPUTING FOR ENGINEERS

Rutherford Laboratory

The Engineering Board of the Science Research Council is setting up a national Interactive Computing Facility. This is being managed by staff at the Rutherford Laboratory, in Oxfordshire, (where some of the country's most powerful computing resources are sited.) Based on a network with major nodes at Chilton, Edinburgh and Manchester, the computing equipment includes a twin processor IBM 360 / 195, two DEC 10 s. a Prime 400, a GEC 4070. a III FR80 colour microfilm recorder and numerous other computers and peripheral devices. An electron beam lithography unit is also planned.

We now have opportunities for **GRADUATE ENGINEERS AND PHYSICISTS** to help in the nationally important work of developing applications software for the new facility

Analogue & Digital Systems

To develop new applications software for CAD in Analogue and Digital Systems, we now wish to fill the following posts

- 1 To establish and maintain programs providing a comprehensive digital design system. Areas to be covered range from specification languages through simulation and test generation to placement and routing on both LSI chips and PC boards.
- 2 To mount and maintain packages for circuit analysis, analogue simulation on the circuit synthesis.
- optimisation and some circuit synthesis.

 To construct and maintain a device and materials library for use in conjunction with the analogue and digital design software.

These appointments will either be at HSO level of as Research Associates (on a fixed term basis of three years). Considerable experience in the relevant disciplines is necessary and appointed staff will be expected to co-operate with University Research workers in making substantial contributions to this field. The posts may also involve attachment to an appropriate University group. (701)

Finite Elements

- To mount and maintain established finite elements packages and to assist users in their use. Some experience of finite element modelling on computers is necessary for this post at SO level.
- 2 To establish a finite element software library suitable for use in advanced research Substantial experience of finite element techniques is necessary for this post, which may be held either at an appropriate University or at the Rutherford Laboratory. This post will either be at HSO level or as a Research Associate.

We expect successful applicants to collaborate with University researchers in making major contributions to finite element techniques (702)

Depending on qualifications and experience salaries will be within the following scales

Scientific Officer Higher Scientific Officer Research Associate £2743 = 4218) (includes supplements £3928 = 5213) Salaries are currently £4943 = 7443) under review)

Except where indicated, you will be based at the Rutherford Laboratory at Chilton 18 miles south of Oxford. Accommodation may be available and we have daily travel facilities to most of the neighbouring towns and villages.

The Hutherford has its own restaurant and recreational facilities. Shops, banks and sports, social clubs are available on the adjoining AERE Harwell site.

Please write for further details and application form quoting the appropriate reference number, to Ruth Jeans of the Personnel Group 803



The British Council Invites applications for the following posts:

ENGINEER/ SUPERVISOR (Singapore)

British Council English Language Institute, Singapore

Required for August, 1978 — one Engineer/Supervisor to assist teachers in the technical aspects of producing programmes for CCTV and the language laboratory

He/She will be responsible for the extensive He/She will be responsible for the extensive educational technology installed by the Representation. Candidates should be qualified to HNC/City and Guilds Final Certificate level and have at least 3 years' operations and maintenance experience in colour broadcasting or high quality CCTV studio. Experience in studio-lighting and electronic editing of ¾" video cassette recorders and a knowledge of language laboratory equipment would be an advantage.

Salary range: £4734-£5618 p.a

Benefits Overseas and children's allowances: free furnished accommodation, medical scheme; employers portion of superannuation contribution; 2-year Sub-Formula contract, renewable

Return fares are paid. Local contracts are guaranteed by the British Council.

Please write briefly stating qualifications and length of appropriate experience, quoting reference number 78 PO 71-73 and title of post, for further details and application form to the British Council (Appointments), 6 Davies Street, London W1 Y 2AA. (808)

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW ELECTRONIC MUSIC STUDIO

TECHNICIAN - GRADE V

This 16-track Studio has an improved Synthi 100 with PDPB control (EMS Computer Synthi), Ampex MM1000, various Revox and Teac tape machines, partial Dolby A (to be expanded). Technician's workshop adjacent with good facilities, inc. Tektronix 'scope. Technician's duties include responsibility for general maintenance of studio and other Music Department facilities; designing, building and modifying equipment, including digital devices; providing ment, including digital devices; providing technical support for electronic music

Relevant ONC/HNC qualification and mini num of 7 years experience Salary range £3186-£3720. All applications should be addressed to the Personnel Officer, Univer-sity of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ

In reply please quote Ref. No. 4105FH

ST. LOYE'S COLLEGE, EXETER training the physically disabled for o commerce and industry

R/TV INSTRUCTOR

Applications invited for person to instruct practical skills and related theory in repair of radio and television receivers and other electronic equipment to a standard equi-valent to City & Guilds 222 Part III.

The successful candidate will be mature and have considerable skilled trade experience an advantage.

Excellent pension scheme and canteen facilities. Over 4 weeks' leave a year. Salary currently starting at £3,698 rising by 4 annual increments to £4,447 due for Stage 3 review on 1st April.

Written applications giving 2 referees (1 technical) to the principal. (8110)

Royal Holloway College (University of London)

Egham Hill, Égham, Surrey

GRADE 5 INSTRUMENT **TECHNICIAN**

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

required to provide a comprehensive service of maintenance, repair, modification and calibration for a wide range of scentific instruments. Salary on the scale £3.186-£3.720 plus £275 London allowance. Applications should be sent to the Personnel Officer, from whom further details may be obtained. (8080) required to provide a comprehensive service

Electronics Engineers

Have you heard the one about the R. and D. Engineer that studied the intricacies of sockets for three years?

Too many potentially expanding Research and Development careers die young, stifled by boredom and enforced specialisation

If you see yourself excelling, the last thing you'll want is to hide away in an albeit superbly equipped lab delving into the finer points of something less than absorbing

The Rank Organisation are proud of the diversity of their R + D function. As front-runners in a number of original fields, eg thermal imaging, we understand the importance of keeping creative flair glowing bright

At Rank Research Laboratories you'll be given the opportunity to use your talents in a small, unstructured unit where you'll have a real chance to demonstrate your abilities both theoretically and practically at the applied research end of the R + D Spectrum

To fit the bill, initially we'll expect you to have a degree or HND in Electronics or Physics coupled with 2-3 years' experience ideally in circuit design, transducers, electro-optics or instrument development.

Your salary will be competitive and negotiable, supplemented by the excellent Rank Organisation benefits package

But more than that, we are offering a positive step away from the "socket"

If interested, please drop a line to the Director of Rank Research Laboratories for an application form at: Phoenix Works, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex. Telephone: 01-568 9766.





Belling & Lee Limited, a member of the Pye/Philips Group, designs, manufactures and markets a comprehensive range of electromechanical components for the Electronics Industry world wide.

Further opportunities have been identified to expand sales overseas, particularly in Western Europe

We are looking for a person (male or female) to join an existing team to assist in exploiting these opportunities

The successful applicant will have a background and knowledge of engineering, be fluent in at least one major European language and preferably experienced in overseas sales activities

Whilst this position is based at Enfield it is expected that approx 50% of the Sales Engineers time will be spent overseas.

Full product training will be given.

Applications are confidential and should be addressed to:



Mr. J. D. Bostock, Personnel Manager, Belling & Lee Limited, Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex. 'phone 01-363 5393 ext 214

Electronic Components for Tomorrow

FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER

£3,172-£3,512 based Ewell

To carry out part-time on-site service to schools' audio visual aids equipment and part time repair/service work to equipment at the Media Resources Centre, Ewell

The successful applicant will be experienced in some of the following: Colour TV/Video, language laboratories, radio speaker systems, Hi/Fi installations. The department is responsible for the repair of all A/V items in schools i.e. projectors, record players, tape recorders, radio, TV/video etc and practical experience in the work is essential

For applications see below

ELECTRONIC SERVICE ENGINEER £2,749-£3,172 Pirbright

To be based at the Media Resources Centre near Woking and carry out bench service to schools' audio visual equipment. Experience on one of the following: radio, television, video, projectors, tape recorders, language laboratory decks essential. The ability to diagnose and correct service faults and work to a high standard also essential.

For both posts application form from Media Resources Centre, Glyn House, Church Street, Ewell, Surrey, Tel: 01-393 0208.



(8029)

TV Broadcasting Engineer

Thames Television are seeking a TV Broadcasting Engineer, male or female, who has a relevant qualification, degree or a HND, to join us at our excellent studios in Teddington, Middlesex.

This position involves operation and maintenance of VTR. Telecine and general TV equipment in a Central Apparatus Room. Experience in one of these fields is desirable but not essential for the 'right' person.

A salary from £3750 for regular shift pattern working will be negotiated based upon your age, qualifications and experience. We have a choice of excellent staff restaurants plus the sort of facilities and benefits which you would expect from a major, go-ahead company.

For application form, please phone or write to The Staff Relations Officer, Thames Television, Teddington Lock, Teddington, Middlesex. Tel. 01-977 3252.



8119

Brunei

This is a new vacancy in the Telecommunications Department which is currently undertaking an extensive improvement and development programme

Senior Telecommunications Engineer

The successful candidate will be a corporate member of the IEE, IERE or equivalent, and will be responsible for the management and operation of international circuits via an earth satellite ground station, connecting microwave circuits, and an SPC international exchange.

Applicants should have at least 5 years experience in a senior position in a telecommunications operating or manufacturing organisation on microwave radio and multiplex work. Preference will be given to those with experience in the operation or commissioning of earth satellite ground stations or on international automatic switching.

Salary for a contract of 3 years, is in a range equivalent to £8610-£9230 pa tax free including a special allowance, and attracts 25% tax free gratuity.

Benefits include free first class passages, generous paid leave, children's holiday visit passages and education allowances, outfit allowance, subsidised housing, and interest-free car loan.

For full details and application form write quoting MT/318/W D



The Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations, Recruitment Division,

4 Millbank, London SW1P 3JD.

OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE ENGINEER

The service department of a small expanding electronic/computer company requires an additional Service/Calibration engineer. The work is varied and involves the repair, refurbishment and final calibration of the complete spectrum of Test Equipment. A thorough knowledge of fault finding techniques and measurement methods is essential, also a basic knowledge of logic would be

The company is situated at King's Cross, London, and an excellent salary is negotiable according to experience.

For further details, please contact:

Mike Jones, Service Manager 49-53 Pancras Road, London NW1 2QB Telephone: 01-837 7781 Ext. 31

80691

THE UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX

Electronics Technician

Male / Female

Grade 3, in the Social Psychology Laboratory, starting as soon as possible. The vacancy in a small growing department is for a technician with experience of transistor circuit. Applicants should be capable of desinging and constructing simple apparatus and should preferably be interested in CCTV or computing.

Salary scale £2688-£3060 per annum.

Further particulars and application form, returnable by 3rd May, are available from the Assistant Secretary (Establishment), Office of Arts and Social Studies, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9QN (66755 ext. 1050 Mrs. Boterhoven). (8053)

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK **TECHNICIAN**

Applications are invited for the post of Grade 4 Technician in the Department of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences, to assist in maintaining and servicing electrical and electronic equipment. Previous experience electronic equipment Previous experience of laboratory instrumentation is desirable but not essential, training will be provided where necessary. The post offers scope for initiative and opportunities arise to assist research staff in the building of 'one-off items of equipment. occupies well equipped laboratories in pleasant rural surroundings between Coventry and Kenilworth both of which are within easy commuting distance Salary on an incremental scale £2.995-£3.402 pa
The post carries four weeks annual holiday together with a generous entitlement for customary and statutory holidays

Applications giving full details of age past experience etc and naming two referees should be sent to the Academic Registrar University of Warwick. Coventry CV4 7AL as soon as possible Please quote Ref. No. 32/T/78

(8025)

AUDIO VISUAL UNIT University of London King's College

AUDIO TECHNICIAN GRADE 4

required with experience in sound recording and electronic servicing, to be responsible for the use and maintenance of audio-visual equip-ment including language laboratory facilities. Knowledge of a foreign language an advantage. Qualifications 0 N C or equivalent 4 weeks annual holiday Contributory pension scheme Salary on scale £3420 p a rising to £3868 p a inclusive

Apply in writing with full details to The Head Clerk, Ref. 191139/WW. King's College London, Strand WCZR 2SL

(8050)

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required for work on our range of commer-cial metal detectors. Must have at least five years' experience in testing, fault finding and mechanical and electrical inspection. and be prepared to work at a fast production

We offer good wages, three weeks holiday plus sickness benefits, and work that is interesting and rewarding Excellent opportunity for right person with

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RF/Analogue Circuitry Design To work on state-of-the-art projects in VHF and UHF. Quote position ref. 58/77,

Radar Research

To work on antenna and receiver design. digital signal processing and system analysis. Quote position ref. 12/78.

Your sound, practical knowledge of these areas should be coupled with the analytical competence neccessary to validate your work and the ability to think creatively. You will,

preferably, have been actively engaged on RF or radar projects for a few years.

The STL environment is stimulating and encourages the development of every individual's ideas. As the main research centre for ITT's European business, both the scope of the projects and the back-up available are second to none-with salaries and benefits to match These include generous expenses for relocation

Please write with brief details or phone, quoting the appropriate position reference to: V. Hartridge, Standard Telecommunication Laboratories Ltd., London Road, Harlow, Essex CM17 9NA. Tel: Harlow 29531



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Opportunities within our General Service Section for engineers to work on a wide range of phototypesetters, VDU's and keyboards.

The successful candidates should hold HND, HNC or equivalent and have at least two years' experience in servicing electronic equipment.

Product training will take place at our Kingsbury Works and will take 2/3 months. Candidates should already reside or be prepared to move to within one hour's driving distance of London NW9. Relocation expenses will be met where appropriate.

Salaries will be negotiated on the basis of individual experience and qualifications. Expenses and a company car, which may be used for private purposes, will be provided

Please ring or write to David Hilton, Personnel Manager, Linotype-Paul Limited, Kingsbury Works, Kingsbury Road, London NW9 8UT. Tel: 01-205 0123

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH RESEARCH OFFICER — ELECTRONICS

A graduate, or equivalent, electronics engineer or physicist is required to assist in the development of novel instrumentation for fundamental biomedical research. The appointment will be in the Electronics Laboratory of the Institute's Engineering Department Experience in analog techniques is desirable and the successful applicant will be expected to design and construct electronics for a new laser-based biomedical measurement system. Salary on an incremental scale between £3629 and £4810 according to age and experience. (Phase 3 increase being negotiated payable 1.4.78) Excellent social and sports facilities and pleasant surroundings.

Please apply quoting reference RO/ENG to Mrs P. A. Wilde, Personnel Officer, NIMR, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill, LONDON NW7 1AA. or telephone 01-959 3666 extension 221

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This is an opportunity to design, plan and manage the implementation of a wide range of interesting and unique computer/communication systems. The computer systems range from the use of microprocessors for specific applications, through mini computers to large main frame systems employing the whole range of peripheral devices. The communication systems range from line communications through the full spectrum of radio communications including satellite communications.

Most posts are designated project officer/manager, and involve the interpretation of internal customer requirements, and the preparation of project studies, designs and plans which provide technical solutions and define and cost all resource requirements to implement the solution.

Candidates must have passed, or been exempted from, examinations qualifying them for corporate membership of IEE or IERE, and have an aggregate of at least 5 years' recognised study, professional training and experience. Project management experience in the computer/communications field an advantage

Starting salary between £3950 and £5240, depending on qualifications and experience. **Salaries under review.** Promotion prospects. Noncontributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 19 May 1978) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link. Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 2JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote T(16)85/1.

(8112)

GCHQ Cheltenham

Are You Interested In

Radio Communications



and do you have practical experience in this field

if you have City and Guilds Intermediate Certificate in Electronics or Telecommunications; ONC; or an equivalent qualification

then the Metropolitan Police Office has a job for you as a Radio Technician.

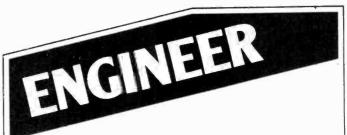
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For further information and an application form please apply to: The Secretary, Room 213/ /RT, 105 Regency Street, London, SW1P 4AN or telephone 01-230 3122 (24 hour answering service).

8051)



The BBC requires an Engineer in its Site Acquisition Section. The successful candidate would be involved in establishing the reception qualities at sites being considered for extending the Transmitter network. He/she would need to be able to carry out precision field strength measurements and the subjective and objective assessment of the received signal quality both sound and vision and be competent to undertake the calibration, alignment and maintenance of reception and test equipment.

Minimum qualifications required: an appropriate HND, HNC, or C&G Full Technological Certificate (Telecommunications).

The successful candidate will be based in London, but will be required to spend a considerable time away from base. A driving licence is essential.

Commencing salary will be between £3975 and £4305 depending upon experience. A higher starting salary might be considered if experience exceptional. Requests for application forms to The Engineering Recruitment Officer, BBC Broadcasting House, London, W1A 1AA, quoting reference number 78.E.4033/WW and enclosing a self addressed envelope at least 9 in x 4 in. Closing date for completed application forms is fourteen days after



GRANADA TELEVISION LIMITED

SENIOR ENGINEER

(Re-advertisement)

We have a vacancy in the Engineering Department at our Manchester studios for an experienced electronics engineer (male or female) to assist the Technical Maintenance Supervisor. The Senior Engineer is responsible for co-ordinating the assignments of the mechanical, electrical and technical workshops, for acquiring special stores items and replacement components, for organising the repair of equipment by manufacturers and for maintaining an up-to-date technical equipment register for the station. Candidates need to be experienced in all aspects of television engineering, with a good knowledge of the component market. Some knowledge of the skills of the mechanical fitter and the electronic wireman is essential. The preferred age range is 30 to 40.

Salary £5,502, inc. of supplements; regular days Monday to Friday. ACTT conditions apply. $\hfill >$

Apply with full details of qualifications, experience and job history, stating age to:



Robert Connell
Personnel Manager
Granada Television Limited
Quay Street
MANCHESTER M60 9EA

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

Sharp U.K. is fastest-growing subsidiary of one of the world's leading multi-national electronics companies with sales of several hundred million pounds.

Immediately the company is looking to fill two positions in their Technical and Service Department based in Manchester.

TECHNICAL ENGINEER

REF: 192

The job involves performance testing on equipment working jointly with service engineers on testing and alignment for hi-fi equipment and acting as technical consultant and adviser to both the public and the trade. The successful applicant will have a thorough knowledge of electronics, preferably with five years' experience of testing and alignment work for hi-fi equipment.

SERVICE MANAGER

DEE: 285

The company is shortly to launch a range of Optonica hi-fi equipment. The Service Manager will be totally responsible for administering all aspects of service for this range and will act as technical adviser to dealers.

A thorough knowledge of top-quality hi-fi equipment is essential together with relevant administrative experience. The ability to deal with trade customers at all levels is vital. The above positions are open to both male and female candidates.

Written applications only (stating the positions applied for) to:

Y Inhoue SHARP ELECTRONICS (UK) LTD. 107 Hulme Hall Lane Manchester

8084



GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF RADIO INTERESTED IN SHIPS AND YACHTS?

Small independent Company requires Radio Engineer for installation and service of Radio Telephones and other marine equipment. Good knowledge of VHF and some experience of MF & HF and Radar an advantage. Current driving licence.

MARINE RADIO SERVICES LIMITED

3 South Black Lion Lane, London W6 748 0110

(8111)

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SELLY OAK HOSPITAL

SENIOR ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

required for Electro Bio Medical Engineering Department based at Selly Oak Hospital, to undertake the repair, maintenance and calibration of a wide range of medical and scientific equipment. An O N C is necessary.

Salary £3405-£4353 inclusive of supplements. Grade (3).

For further information and application form please contact District Engineer, South Birmingham Health District, Oak Tree Lane. Selly Oak, Birmingham 829 6JF Tel 021-472 5313; ext. 4556 (8089)

ROYAL HOLLOWAY COLLEGE (University of London), Egham Hill, Egham Surrey. Grade 5 Instrument Technician Chemistry Department required to provide a comprehensive service of maintenance, repair, modification and calibration for a wide range of scientific instruments. Salary on the scale £3,186-£3,720 plus £275 London allowance. Applications should be sent to the Personnel Officer, from whom further details may be obtained. (8080

TELEVISION ENGINEER

A vacancy occurs with an old establishment Retailer.

The Post requires sumeone with a wide range of experience in Television and Audio equipment, a clean driving licence is essential. Large flat available for suitable applicant.

HYDES OF CHERTSEY LTD. 56/60 Guildford Street, Chertsey Telephone: Chertsey 63243

./8001

MAINTENANCE ENGINEER for Sound Transfer Suite is currently required by Rank Film Laboratories to service and maintain film sound equipment, both magnetic and photographic. Experience with Westrex equipment an advantage. Good salary and first class benefits package. Applications from male or female candidates should be made in writing to: The Personnel Manager Rank Film Laboratories Limited. North Orbital Road, Denham, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB9 5HQ. Or 'phone Denham 2323 for application form. (8085



We require staff, male or female, to prepare and maintain the latest in communications equipment used by the Police and Fire Brigades in England and Wales.

You will need to be qualified at least to City and Guilds Intermediate Telecommunications standard and be able to demonstrate practical skills in locating and diagnosing faults in a wide range of equipment from computer based data transmission to FM and AM radio systems. You would live near to and work from one of our service centres located throughout England and Wales or our Headquarters in the London area. Specialised courses of training are run to assist staff to keep up to date with developments and new equipment, and there are opportunities for day release to gain higher qualifications. Applications from registered disabled persons will be considered.

Promotion prospects are good and the work represents a secure future with generous leave allowances and a non-contributory pension scheme.

Possession of a driving licence is essential since some travelling will normally be involved.

The salary is £2323 (at 17), £2763 (at 21) and £3218 (at 25), rising to a maximum of £3698, plus a 1977 pay supplement of 5% of total earnings, subject to a minimum of £101.29 and a maximum of £208.80 a year.

If you are interested in working with us, then write for further details and an application form to:—

Mr C B Constable Directorate of Telecommunications Horseferry House Dean Ryle Street LONDON SW1P 2AW Telephone: 01-211 6420

(8036)

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS. Electronics Technician Grade III required in the Department of Physiology. The person appointed will be responsible, under the head of the department, the departmental electronics engineer, for the construction, modification and maintenance of electronic equipment associated with research and teaching of biological studies. Must be capable of working from precise instructions circuit diagrams, sketches and manuals. Applicants should hold ONC or equivalent qualifications in relevant subjects. Salary on the scale £2,688 to £3,060 according to qualifications and experience. Applications stating age, qualifications and full experience, together with the names and addressed to Mr E. French, Departmental Superintendent, Department of Physiology, Medical Multipurpose Building, Mount Preston Street, Leeds LS2 9NQ. (8043)

TRAINEE EXECUTIVE with technical and commercial ability wanted for Managing Director of TV retail business of the highest standing. Established 1927. A suitable applicant would be trained to take increasing charge during the gradual retirement of the present Managing Director. Exceptional opportunity for keen and capable young applicant. Write only, stating age and details of background and career. Drazin Ltd, 57 Heath St, Hampstead, N.W.3. (8091

V.H.F. SERVICE TECHNICIAN required by London Car Telephones to work on base station and mobile radio equipment. Very well equipped busy workshop in Croydon, but also field service engineers required in the home counties. Ample opportunities for unlimited overtime. Experienced persons only. Salary and bonuses commensurate with ability. Contact J. S. CLARK, 01-680 1010. (7987)



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(7943

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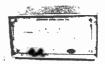
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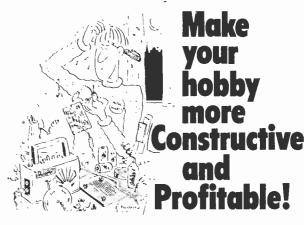
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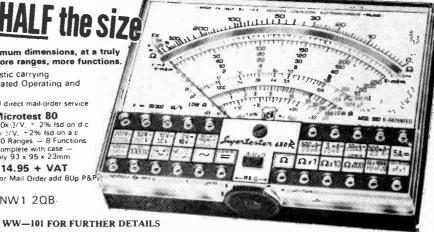
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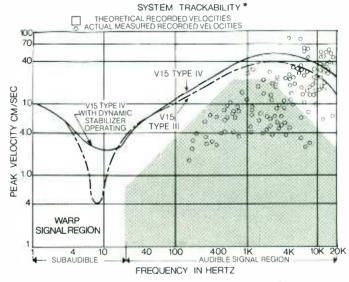


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