



ham radio

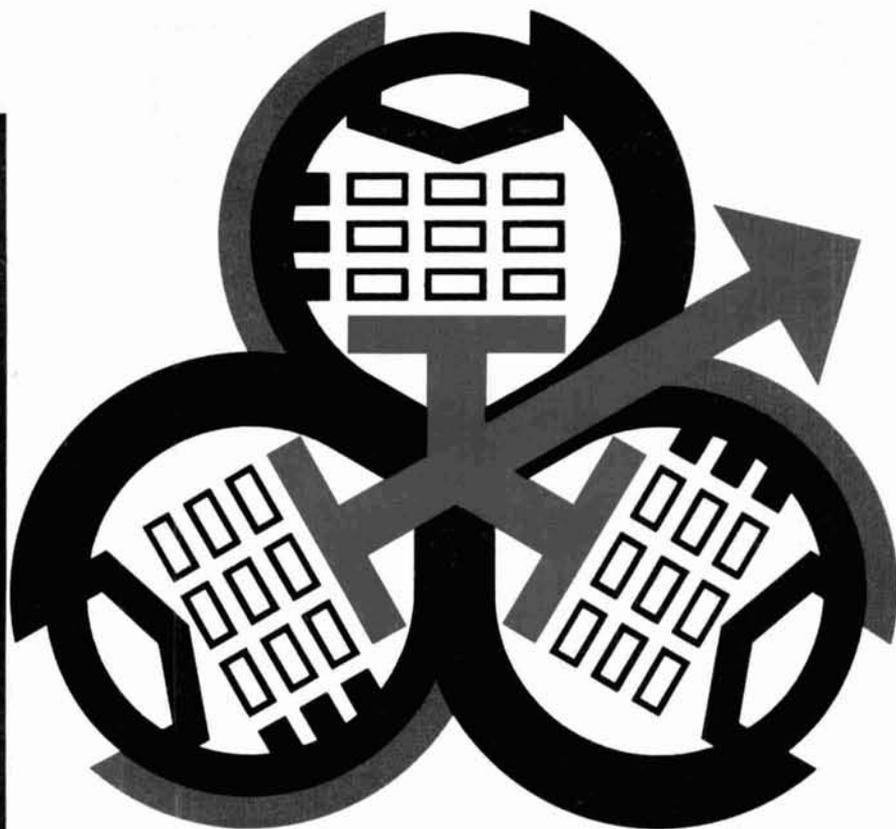
magazine

DECEMBER 1982

- improved TouchTone™ decoder
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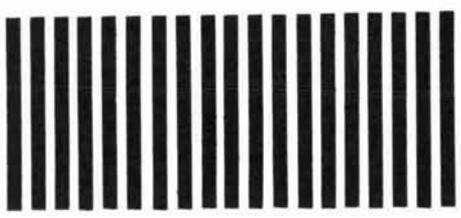
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contents

**12 low cost linear design
and construction**

R.P. Haviland, W4MB

24 improved TouchTone™ decoder

Jerry Hinshaw, N6JH

**30 rotary dial and encoder
for digital tuning**

C.A. Eubanks, N3CA

43 40-meter transmitter-receiver

Ed Marriner, W6XM

50 data bandwidths compared

J.T. Dijak, W9JD/2

54 battery charge sensor

F.T. Marcellino, W3BYM

58 ham radio techniques

Bill Orr, W5SAI

77 receiver dynamic range

Cornell Drentea, WB3JZO

84 is it stolen?

George H. Goldstone, W8AP

132 advertisers index

8 comments

80 DX forecaster

95 flea market

38 ham calendar

114 ham mart

70 ham notes

116 ham radio index

88 new products

6 reflections

10 presstop

132 reader service

REFLECTIONS

I must share this with you. I must blurt this out before I bust. We at *ham radio* magazine are so pleased with the turn of events and even more importantly with our glimpse at the future: a larger staff, a very welcome increased advertiser response (it's nice to be adding pages in groups of eight at the last minute), and so very importantly, your response to us. Yes, all the letters will be answered, the many article suggestions considered and encouraged. **Reflections** is our attempt at looking in both directions, remembering the past technical excellence of our hobby, individuals, and industry, while keeping an eye toward the future.

I feel very fortunate to be able to address so large a group of technical and knowledgeable individuals through this page and am taking the opportunity to throw out to the "floor" possibly the first question of our new technical forum section. The problem: *Normal communications channels down*. A fine gentleman, while honorably serving his country, suffered a wound that resulted in Padgett's disease. For those not familiar with it, this is a progressively degenerative bone malady. Fortunately, through modern medicine, its destructiveness has been arrested. However one quite intelligent human being with a fine mind is now deaf and almost totally blind. The two normal means of communications that most of us take for granted — seeing and hearing — are "down." But his speech is excellent and his ability and desire to learn new techniques are great. They are surpassed only by his desire to carry on normal communications. I might add that his memory is outstanding. He knows the Morse code (from army days) and he has very slight shadow vision. Are techniques available (such as aural to tactile converters, aural to light converters and so forth) that can be used to provide faster inputting under these circumstances? I am aware of articles on this subject that have appeared in some of the ham magazines. Do any of our readers know of, or have ideas for, other techniques that might help?

Presented below is a preview of some of the subject areas *ham radio* magazine will cover in 1983. Please feel free to respond with your suggestions for additions or changes:

<i>Antennas</i>	<i>Phased verticals</i>
<i>Filters</i>	<i>Preamplifiers</i>
<i>Future technology</i>	<i>Propagation</i>
<i>Ham computers</i>	<i>Receivers</i>
<i>Ham towers</i>	<i>Repeaters</i>
<i>Oscillators and synthesizers</i>	<i>RFI</i>

Two thousand miles of almost non-stop driving during my move from Denver, Colorado, to join *ham radio* in Greenville, New Hampshire, gave me plenty of time to reflect on and appreciate another wonderful aspect of ham radio, the ability to communicate with a cross-section of Amateurs from Salinas and Topeka, Kansas; Kansas City and St. Louis, Missouri; Indianapolis, Indiana; Zanesville, Ohio; Wheeling, West Virginia; Pittsburgh and Scranton, Pennsylvania; through Binghamton, New York — to name a few. The miles melted away with the good company provided by local hams as we discussed everything from lightning protection for highly exposed repeaters to elaborate test procedures for squeezing out that last tenth of a dB in a high-gain Yagi array. There is real joy in hearing a warm voice coming from the 2-meter transceiver telling one very weary driver that there are motels just ahead where a late arrival might find a welcome bed. How I appreciated each transistor, resistor, and capacitor in my mobile unit, the repeaters I worked through, Maxwell's equations, and, most of all, the operators and technicians who made it all possible. To the many Amateurs I talked to during this recent trip, a hearty thank you.

Rich Rosen, K2RR
technical editor

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comments

BCD addition/ subtraction

Dear HR:

After reading the April issue of *ham radio*, I would like to comment on the Ham Notebook item by Mr. Foot, WA9HUV. He is not alone in his desire for a method of BCD addition/

subtraction. However, Motorola already solved this problem many years ago with the introduction of a chip pair combination, the MC14560B and the MC14561B. The first is an NBCD adder and the second is a 9s complementer.

Connecting the units as shown in the data sheets (and reprinted in fig. 1) permits the user to choose a thumbwheel-selected number to program his synthesizer, or shift the number a fixed amount plus or minus. This feature is useful for setting a frequency source at a particular channel and then being able to shift its output to the upper or lower sideband.

The approximate cost per BCD digit is \$5.40 in unit quantities. It's a slightly more expensive approach, but one that does not require clocking and can be easily cascaded. For further

reading and more application assistance, I would recommend Motorola's application note AN-738, which covers the subject more completely.

Jeffrey L. Schiffer, Pres.

Phasetec Corporation

West Peabody, Massachusetts

quad versus Yagi

Dear HR:

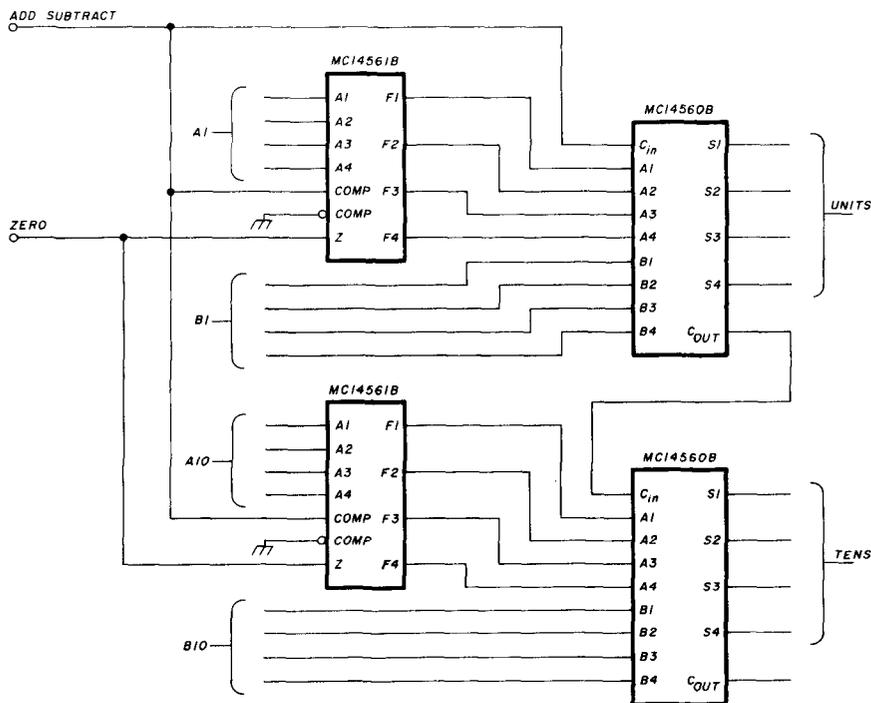
Quad lovers awake! We are again being attacked by the Yagis (*ham radio*, May, 1982, "Quad Owner Switches"). It is not immediately apparent that the quad was given a fair shake by the test procedure. For example, a five-element Yagi on a 32-foot boom is matched up against a three-element quad on a 27-foot boom on 20 meters. On 15 meters a five-element Yagi was up against a four-element quad. On 10 meters, where the correlation is best except for the reversal of directivity, the match is five versus five.

The next problem I had was whether there were any matching devices at the antennas. Were baluns used, were their losses equal, was each antenna delivering maximum power to the line?

What bugs me most is that the authors took boom height as a reference height for both the quad and the Yagi. If the quads were fed at the center of the lower element, that point should be taken as the height of the quad. This would put the current loop for each antenna at the same height. It would seem that the procedure used in the tests handed the Yagi a height advantage on the order of 12 feet on 20 meters, 9 feet on 15 meters, and 6 feet on 10 meters. This would be expected to affect the vertical angle of the main lobe of the quad. Some Amateurs have advocated feeding the center of the upper element of the quad to improve the gain. Of course, there is a current loop in each of the horizontal elements if they are fed, but the loop at the feedpoint will be greater.

C'mon home, guys. Wouldn't you rather fight than switch?

Howard B. Mouatt, W6BQD
Palm Desert, California



TRUTH TABLE

ZERO	ADD/SUBTRACT	RESULT
0	0	B plus A
0	1	B minus A
1	x	B

x = DON'T CARE

fig. 1. Connections for an NBCD adder and 9s complementer allowing a thumbwheel selected number or a number shift of a plus or minus fixed amount.

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"CQ 30 METERS" HAS FINALLY BECOME A REALITY for U.S. Amateurs. FCC Commissioners voted October 28 to grant "temporary access" to the new band. Acting on a suggestion made by Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, in an August letter to Chairman Mark Fowler (October Presstop), the Commissioners permitted General class and above to use 250 watts input, narrow-band (CW and RTTY) modes only, from 10.1 to 10.15 MHz. The 10.109-10.115 MHz slot, however, was held back to protect existing users. The band was opened at 1900Z on the 28th, with W1AW, K1ZZ, W1XX, and W9JUV among the many taking part in the U.S. 30-meter inaugural.

A Possible Conflict with the new band and also the 18 and 24 MHz bands has surfaced in FCC General Docket 82-625, released mid September. This Notice of Proposed Rule Making would open many segments of the 2-25 MHz HF spectrum, including the three new WARC bands (but no other Amateur frequencies), to various licensees in industrial radio services. Telephone and power companies plus oil, gas, and mineral exploration firms would all be authorized to use these frequencies when it was in the "national interest."

These Proposals Conflict With Other New WARC 79 Assignments as well as with the new Amateur bands, but it's predicted that frequencies conflicting with WARC allocations will be deleted as the NPRM is reviewed. The ARRL did, however, file comments pointing out the conflict prior to the comment closing date of November 5.

A "SPACE DXPEDITION" IS ALMOST CERTAIN FOR NEXT YEAR, when astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, will fly the space shuttle Columbia's ninth mission. After lengthy negotiations, NASA Houston agreed to let him take a specially reworked 2-meter handheld along, to operate when possible with a ground plane in the cargo bay. Only final approval from Washington is still needed for the October, 1983, operation, which would last seven days.

NOVICE EXAMS WOULD BE PREPARED AND GRADED as well as administered by Amateur volunteer examiners under an NPRM put forth by the Commissioners at their October 19 agenda meeting. It's proposed that examiners would make up an exam using the FCC Novice syllabus as a guide, let the applicant answer the questions, and then grade it. If the applicant passes both the written and the CW test, the examiner would note that on the applicant's Form 610, which would then be sent to Gettysburg where a license would be issued.

Some 97% Now Pass The Novice Exam under present procedures, which require the FCC to issue and grade Novice exams, so little compromise of standards is anticipated. In addition, the simpler procedures would drop about eight weeks from Novice licensing. Comment due date for PR Docket 82-727 had not been released at press time.

The ARRL Detailed Proposal for the preparation and administration of exams by Amateurs was delivered to the FCC on October 22. It should be released as an RM shortly.

Amateur Logbook Requirements Would Be Entirely Eliminated by another NPRM agreed to at that same agenda meeting. In this proposal the few remaining operating log requirements, such as noting changes in control operator, would be deleted, though certain station records would still need to be maintained. Comment due date for PR Docket 82-726 had not been released at press time.

SACRAMENTO AMATEURS MUST GET PERMISSION from a local pay TV Company before acquiring microwave equipment, according to a preliminary injunction issued by a superior court judge. He issued the order after hearing a suit from California Satellite Systems, Inc., against a local Amateur dealer who was also selling down-converters and antennas for the 2150 MHz pay TV band. He made the unusual ruling to "protect" the pay TV company, since they do not encode their signals and Amateur 2300-MHz equipment could be used to intercept the movie channel signals.

"AUTOMATIC CONTROL" OF AMATEUR RADIO BEACONS was authorized by the Commissioners on October 21. This means that operators of U.S. Amateur beacons will no longer have to shut down when they are unavailable to perform control operator functions.

CW Credit For Any Class Amateur License was also granted to holders of any class commercial CW ticket at the same meeting.

BURBANK CITY OFFICIALS ARE IN DEFAULT under federal court rules for having failed to respond to the complaint filed against them to test their severe antenna restrictions (see Observation and Opinion, August, 1982, Ham Radio, and recent Presstops). The judge hearing the case has set November 4 for a status report by the parties. Attorney W9MU, representing Burbank's Amateurs, intends filing a motion for class certification and preliminary injunction prior to the November 4 court date to keep pressure on Burbank officials.

FCC'S POWER MEASUREMENT NPRM, PR Docket 82-624, proposes changing power limits for all classes except Novices to 1500 watts PEP output. Novices would be limited to a 200-watt PEP output. Due date for comments is February 15, 1983; reply comments are due by March 1.

SONIC CABLE TV WAS FINED \$6,000 by the FCC for 2-meter interference following a two-year battle by WB6GVO. One third of the fine was for failing to correct the cable channel E problem after citation by an FCC engineer, while the remaining \$4,000 was imposed for the California company's on-going illegal interference to Amateur operations on 2 meters!

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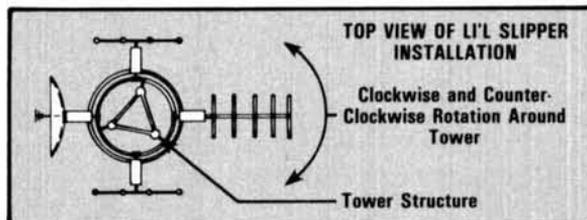
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Constructing a linear amplifier is one way an Amateur can save money. It's not so much that commercial amplifiers are overpriced for the components they contain, but because of OEM pricing, components bought singly may add up to more than the cost of an assembled unit. Home construction allows you to take advantage of a readily available supply of parts (well-stocked junk pile) that can be used or traded for other items.

When constructing your own amplifier, it's usually not possible to exactly duplicate a published design. Modifications are often required to accommodate differences in components. For this reason, a specific design, and more importantly, the steps used to arrive at it, are presented. By providing sufficient data,

minor and even major deviations from the specific design can be made while still obtaining good performance.

A review of amplifier design information, such as found in Bill Orr's *Radio Handbook*, in addition to this design data, is helpful prior to starting the project. Other good source material may be found in the *ARRL Handbook* and articles by W6SAI.

tubes

Tubes, and their availability, greatly influence the design approach to be taken. Good sources for low cost tubes are:

1. Surplus, often WW-II
2. Pull-outs from stations on a maintenance schedule
3. TV sweep tubes

A strong recommendation is in order: get the tubes you want to use *before* you start and get at least twice as many as you need, preferably two complete sets of spares. This will save you much trouble later, and possibly much expense (such as buying a low-production tube or making a design change). Test the tubes first, if at all possible, in a friend's rig or by

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Box 45, Daytona Beach, Florida 32019

table 1. Low-cost tubes for linears.

tube type	E_p , volts	I_p , mA, max.	rated/class C maximum dissipation	notes
6DQ5	800	250	24/100	1
6JE6	800	242	30/100	1
811	1200-1700	160	50/65	2,4
812	1200-1700	160	50/65	2,4
813	2000-2500	250	100/125	2,4
4-125	2000-3000	260	125	3
572B	2750	275	160	3
810	2500	300	125/175	2
4-250	4000	345	250	3
250TH	2000-3000	350	250	3
304TH	2000-3000	900	300	3
4-400	4000	317	400	3

Notes:

1. Average/peak ratio
2. CCS/ICAS ratio
3. Rated dissipation (ratings nomenclature depends on reference used)
4. A number of these tubes are no longer manufactured. Obtain spares prior to starting the design.

using a pair of transformers, one with the proper filament voltage, and a second at 300-700 volts. Test the tube as a diode with a series resistor to give rated current. This test lets you separate out most bad tubes.

Some of the common tubes to look for are listed in table 1. Though possibly considered old-fashioned, out of style and even obsolete, they are inexpensive and perfectly usable. If you have a set, with spares, or can find a set, don't be afraid to use them. This includes out-of-date or unusual tubes such as the 810 or the 715. There are some design considerations to look out for, however. These will be covered later.

TV sweep tubes have two ratings, one for average loads and another for peak loads, such as the flyback pulse in a sweep circuit. Average peak and duty cycle terms are important in the operation of any tube, and consequently are important design factors.

In amplifiers used in fm or teleprinter service a constant signal is present at all times, that is, the duty-cycle is 100 percent. With CW, the carrier is keyed on and off with a resulting duty cycle of approximately fifty percent. With SSB voice, the average energy is far below the peak, normally 10-16 dB down. This results in a duty cycle of ten percent or less. Use of clippers and other speech processors can raise SSB signal duty cycles to fifty percent or more. However, thirty to forty percent is probably nearly optimum. Low average power requirements of SSB service is the reason why modern linears can be made so small and why separate ratings are required for SSB and CW operation.

It makes quite a difference in component size if the rig is to be used for SSB only, or if it must also handle FSK teleprinter. This is one of your major design choices. If you are primarily interested in one mode, it's best to design for it and accept the performance you get with other modes.

In my case, eight 4-125s and four 813s were available. A review of some of the local ham stock showed more 813s available. Though nearly equivalent, the greater ruggedness of the 813 plate and the more severe cooling design requirements of the 4-125s tilted the choice toward the 813s.

The next factor considered is the design for input power level. I have never used a linear except on SSB. There didn't seem to be much reason for a linear unless it was well above the output of a normal rig (provided by most modern transceivers). This indicated a 2 kW PEP design. Experience indicates that a moderate amount of speech processing is best, with heavy processing only needed during pile-ups. Consequently, a normal duty-cycle of twenty to thirty percent seemed appropriate, with a capability of increasing to fifty percent. This allows for pile-up processing and CW if ever needed. It's preferable to design for peak outputs of at least twenty percent greater than normally used. A design capable of thirty percent duty-cycle at 2200 watts input, but with normal operation set for about 1800-1900 watts, would satisfy this requirement.

Amplifier efficiency for SSB operation is normally fifty percent at an average input level, versus sixty-five percent for CW. At an average input of 600

watts, approximately 300 watts of dissipation is indicated. This requires three 813s, with some safety factor, or two 813s with some overloading or operation at reduced power levels.

However, average dissipation is not the whole story. Peak operation must also be considered. At 2200 volts a 2200 watt capability means one ampere of plate current. This is twice the rating of a pair of 813s, and thirty-three percent more than three would supply.

One solution is to use four 813s. However, there is another approach. To see this, look at the tube ratings in **table 2**. Note that the major differences between continuous commercial and Amateur service is a lower plate dissipation, plate voltage, and current. The instantaneous plate voltage is allowed to go to 3200 volts and the peak plate current to 300 mA in the CCS a-m service, and even higher, to 4000 volts and 400 mA in the Amateur a-m service. Continuously-applied voltage is allowed to go to 2500 volts in the Amateur af amplifier service. However, in all cases, the plate dissipation must not exceed the CCS and Amateur limits of 100 and 125 watts, respectively.

The point is, we can choose a combination of operating conditions to suit the service we plan, within reasonable limits, as long as we do not exceed the rated plate dissipation. For example, for the 813:

For several continuous hours of teleprinter

$$E_p = 2,000, i_p = 180 \text{ mA}, P_{out} = 275 \text{ watts}$$

For typical CW

$$E_p = 2250, i_p = 220 \text{ mA}, P_{out} = 375 \text{ watts}$$

For non-processed SSB, at peak input

$$E_p = 2500, i_p = 300 \text{ mA}, P_{out} = 450 \text{ watts}$$

For SSB, with compression, at peak input

$$E_p = 2250, i_p = 220 \text{ mA}, P_{out} = 375 \text{ watts}$$

We could even raise the plate voltage for SSB to 1.5 times the normal commercial voltage, or approximately 2700-3000 volts. This isn't really good for the 813, since the internal construction leakage path is short. Other tubes, such as the 250TH or even some sweep tubes, have longer leakage paths but they already have maximum specified high voltage ratings. (Higher voltage operation makes it easier to drive the tube to peak output.)

We can now make another selection, the amplifier input, and the number of tubes required. Let's assume that a full "gallon" was the goal. For continuous teleprinter use, three 813s are required. CW could be

handled with two 813s, and SSB operation, with or without processing, requires three tubes. (The allowable PEP input decreases from 2 kW with no compression, since the average input must be kept under 1000 watts, as indicated by a meter.)

Other types require an even larger number of tubes. The extreme would be the sweep tubes, where eight or even ten would be required to achieve 2 kW PEP. As we will see, the design for this is special, but by no means impossible.

Incidentally, during the design stage we find there is some difference in circuit parameters for the CW, teleprinter, and SSB conditions. Simple designs represent performance compromises for some services. An alternative is to change the tube voltage-current operating point to suit the circuit, as done in the big Henry amplifiers.

I chose three 813s, with plate voltages between 2250 and 2500. Since SSB was the primary mode of operation, no special provision for CW or teleprinter seemed necessary. However, each designer should decide what modes are important and how much of a performance trade-off he's willing to accept.

power supply, part 1

At this point it's a good idea to consider some of the other large components — those in the power supply. The plate transformer is the key to this, and you may find some trading or surplus purchasing necessary (have you priced new kW supply transformers lately?).

Though large-capacity high voltage electrolytic capacitors aren't as common as they were a few years ago, they are still available. Because of size and weight problems, choke input and half-wave filtering are not attractive. The remaining choices are full wave, bridge and full-wave doubler circuits. For these, and capacity input, the transformer should have an RMS high voltage rating of about the plate voltage times 1.12, 0.56, and 0.3, for the three types respectively. DC voltages of 2200-2500 equate to 2500-2800 volts (CT) for the full wave, 1250-1400 volts for the bridge, and about 675-750 volts for the doubler.

Transformer power ratings are 1 kW continuous for teleprinter and CW, about 2 kW intermittent for heavily-processed SSB, but as low as 300-500 watts for SSB with no processing. This amounts to perhaps 60, 40, and 20 pounds, respectively — quite a difference due to duty cycle.

When you get a transformer with the required voltage and rating, you are ready to proceed with the design. My transformer turned out to be 925 volts each side of center tap, at 500 mA dc, ample for 300 watts continuous or a full gallon at a thirty percent duty

table 2. Typical operating characteristics.

tube type	811	572B	813	4-125
E_{FIL}	6.3	7.5	10	5
I_{FIL}	4	4	5	6.5
E_B	1700	2400	2500	2500
I_p rest	30	20	30	15
I_p max	160	250	200	110
I_g max	28	45	50	55
R_K	320	215	270	340
R_L	5200	4500	7000	13500
drive power	15	30	11	16
input power	270	600	500	275
output power	175	350	350	190
average dissipation	65	160	150	85

for 2 kW PEP input

no. tubes	4	4	3	4
Z plate	1300	1150	1750	3350
C tank-in (note 1)	300 pF	450 pF	225 pF	128 pF
L tank (note 1)	7.9 μ H	5.4 μ H	10.1 μ H	17 μ H
C tank-out (note 1)	1420 pF	1850 pF	1100 pF	50 pF

Notes:

1. Component values are given for 3.5 MHz
2. Design data is for 2 kW PEP grounded-grid linear service. Based on *Radio Handbook* data.

cycle. This was chosen over another rated at 725 volts each side of center-tap at 1.3 amperes, simply because of size and weight.

When selecting a transformer, don't forget to look at combination possibilities. If the transformers are rated for high altitude operation or show an adequate test voltage, it's safe to put two secondaries in series. Two identical secondaries in parallel are also okay. Don't forget the possibility of a low voltage transformer connected to buck or boost line voltage to allow use of the odd-voltage transformers you sometimes find, for example, with 170-volt or 265-volt primaries.

While you are searching for a transformer, look for filter capacitors. You will need a minimum (capacitance) of:

For full-wave or bridge rectifiers:

$$C = \frac{50,000 I_{max}}{E_p} \text{ microfarads}$$

For a voltage doubler:

$$C = \frac{150,000 I_{max}}{E_p} \text{ microfarads}$$

For a 2200-volt bridge-rectifier type of supply, capable of one ampere, this amounts to 22 μ F, or to 132 μ F at 450 volts working with six in series, and 175 μ F at 350 volts working with eight in series. These include an allowance for voltage surges. If possible, use even larger capacitors.

the plate circuit

With the basic tube operating conditions established, final design can start. As is common today, a single-ended design with tubes in parallel is assumed, since multi-band operation is much simpler.

The plate circuit looks like a generator, with an impedance of

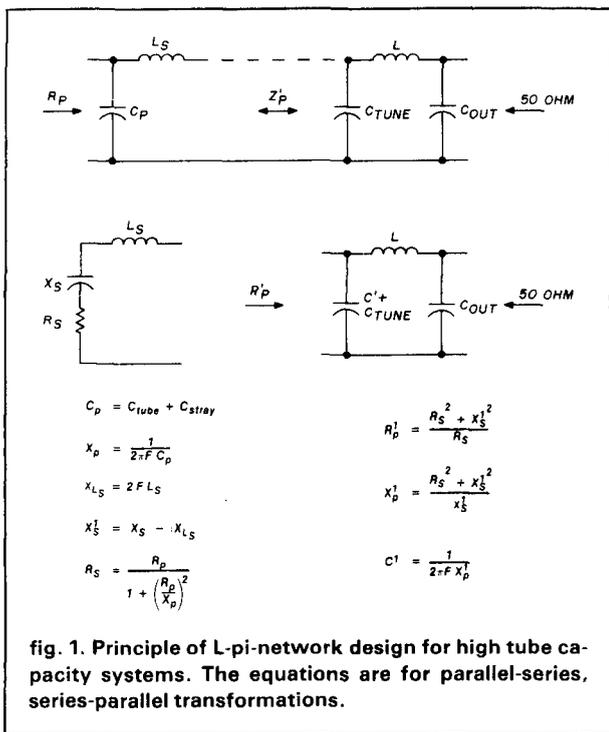
$$R_p = \frac{E_p}{k \times i_p \text{ design}} \text{ ohms}$$

where k equals 1.57 for a linear amplifier and 2 for a Class C amplifier. For an amplifier designed with reserve power capability, for example, one ampere at 2200 volts in linear operation, the plate resistance is 1400 ohms. For Class C operation it would be 1100 ohms. (Alternately, we could change the operating conditions of the tube to give the same impedance, say to 2500 volts at 850 mA.) The other alternative is to operate Class B for CW as well as SSB. This was the approach taken in this design.

A pi-matching circuit is normally used to transform this impedance to 50 ohms, needed for coax feed. The input capacitor reactance is:

$$X_c = \frac{R_p}{Q} \text{ ohms}$$

where a Q of ten is considered optimum. For the 813 design, this amounts to a reactance of 140 ohms, corresponding to an input capacitance of about 35 pF at 30 MHz, and to 340 pF at 3.5 MHz.



Here we run into a small problem. The plate circuit capacity of a single 813 is 14 pF, so we are faced with a capacity of 42 pF for the tubes alone. Adding 5 pF for strays, and 10 pF for tuning-capacitor minimum gives a pi-input capacity of 57 pF, too much for a Q of ten. The problem would be even worse if sweep tubes are used, eight in parallel giving as much as 160-pF plate capacity, with a total circuit capacitance of 180 pF. (Of course, the plate circuit resistance goes down also, to about 320 ohms, so a Q of 10 would allow as much as 150 pF.)

One way of solving this problem is to accept a higher Q on 10 and perhaps 15 meters. Using the previous values, this equates to a Q of 12, normally considered somewhat high, but acceptable.

Another way to handle this is to abandon the pi-network circuit. A push-pull tank could solve the problem. Past editions of the *ARRL Handbook* show a tapped-coil sweep-tube design, fine for a single band, but a nuisance for multiple band operation. Or, we could simply regard the output as a low impedance capacity-shunted source, as is done in transistor designs.

There is another approach which doesn't seem to have been described before. As a matter of fact, it should be considered in any matching design network above 14 MHz. The approach regards the output circuit as two networks in series. One of these is the normal pi-output circuit, and the second is the L network composed of tube and associated stray capacitance, plus the inductance of the lead from the

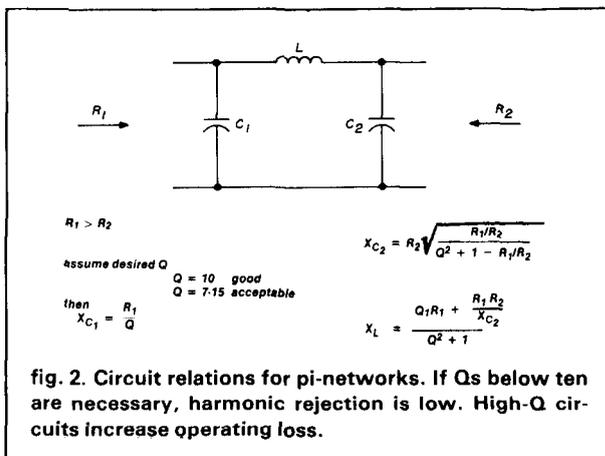
tube or tubes to the pi-network. Its equivalent circuit with the given design parameters is shown in **fig. 1**.

To see the importance of the technique use the given values: 1400 ohm plate impedance and $42 + 5 = 47$ pF of tube and stray capacitance. Assume that the lead from the tank circuit to the tubes is only four inches long, with a diameter of one-eighth inch, giving an inductance of about 0.05 μ H, and a reactance of about ten ohms at 30 MHz. Performing the parallel-to-series conversion, reducing the capacitive reactance by this amount and converting back again, gives an equivalent driving point impedance of 1170 ohms, and a shunt reactance of 109 ohms, or 50 pF. With a tank circuit Q of 10, the value of X_{C1} becomes 117 ohms, or 55 pF. A capacitor of 5 pF minimum capacity can be used and still obtain a pi-section Q of 10.

If the allowable capacity is still less than the tube and stray capacitance, the length of the plate lead can be further increased. However, the equivalent drive resistance will also decrease. Several more repetitions may be needed to obtain a workable combination.

Once the values have been obtained for the highest band, repeat the calculation for the next few lower bands. When the equivalent resistance approaches the tube resistance, use this for the lower bands, while maintaining a Q of 10. The values of the pi-network elements are then calculated using the formulas in **fig. 2**. Don't forget to use the equivalent impedance for R_1 at the higher bands.

What type of inductance should be used? Roller coils allow one to closely adjust circuit parameters for maximum efficiency, but they are expensive. Tap switching is perfectly acceptable, and there are many old tuner switches available that provide rugged low-resistance design. Looking ahead with eight bands between 3 and 30 MHz, the number of taps may be excessive. You may want to consider having one linear for 1.7-7.5 MHz, and another for 10-30 MHz.



This was my choice. It certainly makes design a lot easier.

the input circuit

The driving-point impedance, Z_K , of a grounded-grid amplifier is

$$Z_K \approx \frac{e_g \max}{i_{l \max} + 1.5 I_C} \approx 0.6 i_p$$

where e_g = rms grid drive voltage
 I_C = cathode current
 i_{\max} = fundamental current

For most combinations of tubes, this will probably be between 50 and 150 ohms.

The input circuit must be reasonably well-matched to the driving amplifier. It must also provide a load to the amplifier when the tube is cut off (Class C), or nearly so (Class B).

While the drive power used in grounded-grid operation is much greater than for grounded-cathode service, provisions must be made to prevent an overdrive condition from occurring. (Modern transceivers have more than sufficient output power). An automatic overdrive protection circuit is one possibility.

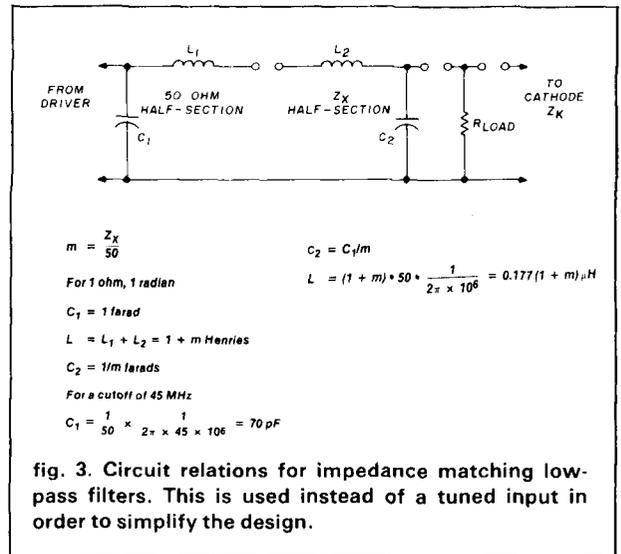
The usual way of preventing overdrive is to use a low Q tuned circuit in the cathode, say a Q of 2, plus ALC feedback to set the level. This is perfectly acceptable if the ALC is not forced to work too hard. However, the added coil switching is a nuisance.

An alternate method that doesn't use switching is shown in **fig. 3**. A lowpass filter, used in the drive circuit, provides an impedance transformation from 50 ohms to the tubes' input resistance. The filter output drives the tubes' cathodes and a resistor bank. The latter provides a load to the driver during the entire input cycle, and dissipates part of the driver's excess power.

Circuit losses and a varying driver load complicate the calculation of the required resistance. As an approximation for designs where between thirty to fifty percent of the rated driver output is required, a resistance of five times the cathode impedance has worked well. Basically, start with a higher resistance and monitor the drive level. If it is still excessive reduce the loading resistance until the exciter's maximum output just drives the amplifier throughout its linear range.

High power-rating resistors are not needed. For example, if the total drive is 50 watts, the resistors dissipate only 10-12 watts of it (using the above rule of thumb). A bank of six two-watt resistors will do.

Even though 813s have an isolated cathode, a filament choke is a good idea. For a kW amplifier, the choke core can be a 6-8 inch (150-200 mm) long, 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) diameter ferrite rod. If the amplifier is



to cover only the higher bands, 10 through 40, the winding can be trifilar, with two elements the filament conductors, the third a nylon cord, or other non-moisture absorbing spacer with the same wire diameter. For low frequency use, the filament leads can be bifilar wound. Number 12 wire is ample for three 813s, but be sure to estimate the voltage drop and allow for it when selecting a filament transformer. Low filament voltage causes problems with linearity and tube life.

One nice feature of the 813 is that it doesn't require bias in grounded-grid operation. If the operating mode requires bias, it can best be obtained by using a Zener diode. Shunt it with a resistor that will draw approximately ten percent of the expected grid plus plate current. This helps prevent instability. If a power Zener is not available, the circuit of **fig. 4** can be used.

power supply, part 2

Let's return to the power supply, keeping it simple. Our basic requirements are:

1. Apply only filament power for an adequate warm-up period.
2. Initially apply power to the plate circuit at a low level, to hold capacitor charge current down.
3. Apply full power to the plate circuit.
4. Remove plate and filament power simultaneously, or plate before filament.

We also want adequate protection for ourselves and the equipment. We can accomplish these functions manually, semi-automatically, or in a fully automatic mode. However, cost increases as the system becomes more automatic (complex).

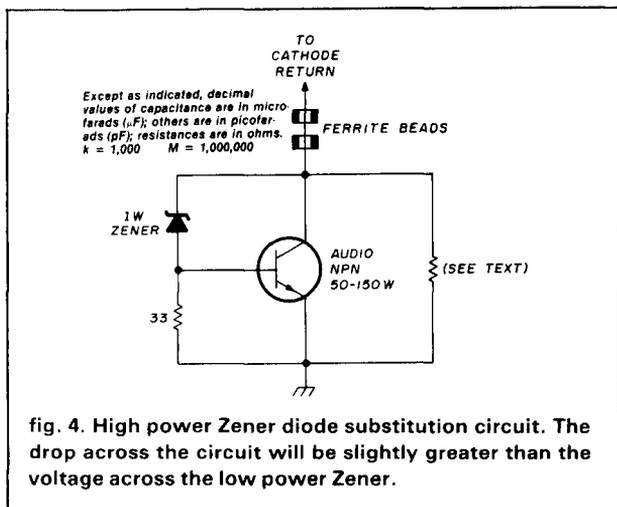


fig. 4. High power Zener diode substitution circuit. The drop across the circuit will be slightly greater than the voltage across the low power Zener.

A simple way of achieving partially protected manual operation is to use a progressively-operated switch for the transformer primary, as shown in fig. 5A. The first position turns on the filaments. After a short delay, the switch is placed in the second position, feeding power to the plate transformer through a dropping resistor. After an additional (short) delay full power is achieved by placing the switch in the operate position. This can be further modified by including one more intermediate voltage switch position.

For 120-volt operation, a single section switch can be used, as shown. Old TUs and Navy surplus are a good source of multi-position or rotary type switches. For 220-volt operation, both sides of the line should be switched for safety.

A simple semi-automatic version is shown in fig. 5B. Filament power goes on when the master switch is on. This enables a relay circuit, picked up when the transmitter is keyed. It applies power to the plate circuit and a series resistor holds this low until the capacitors charge up. This is controlled by another relay across the transformer primary, which activates when the charging current drops, shorting the series resistor. The first relay can be the antenna change-over relay.

This circuit is easily made automatic by activating the first relay from a time delay device, such as a fluorescent lamp starter. The relay removes power from the delay device when it activates. It should be separate from the antenna relay.

metering, antenna switching and ALC

Though simple metering is desirable, it must be remembered that good metering can help improve performance and extend tube life. Also, the FCC re-

quires input power-level monitoring if it exceeds 900 watts (or 1800 watts PEP).

If automatic drive limiting is used and set at the 1800 watt level, safe, legal operation with simplified metering is possible. Figs. 6A and 6B show two possibilities, the first measuring cathode current only, the second measuring grid and plate current. An external output wattmeter should also be used.

A plate voltage indication is also useful, and can serve as an ON indicator. An inexpensive type uses a neon bulb, connected across the bottom capacitor of the filter bank. The indicator warns of unusual conditions, including shorted or open capacitors, and excessive drain. Note that two resistors are shown across each filter capacitor. One serves as a bleeder and voltage-equalizing resistor and is normally wirewound. The second is a composition resistor, of 1 watt rated dissipation. It is a safety device that ensures filter discharge in case the wirewound resistor opens up. Good design practice is to choose the bleed resistors so that the sum of their drain plus the

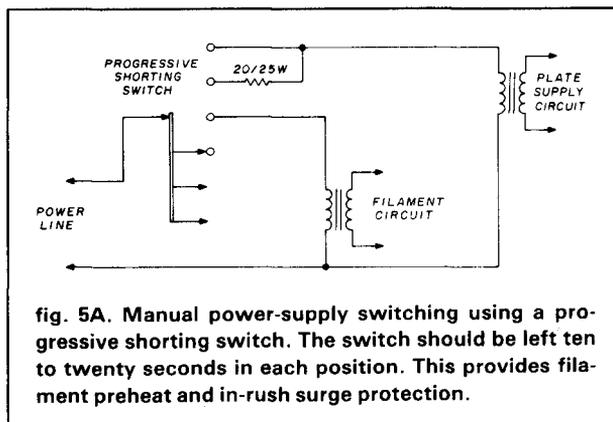


fig. 5A. Manual power-supply switching using a progressive shorting switch. The switch should be left ten to twenty seconds in each position. This provides filament preheat and in-rush surge protection.

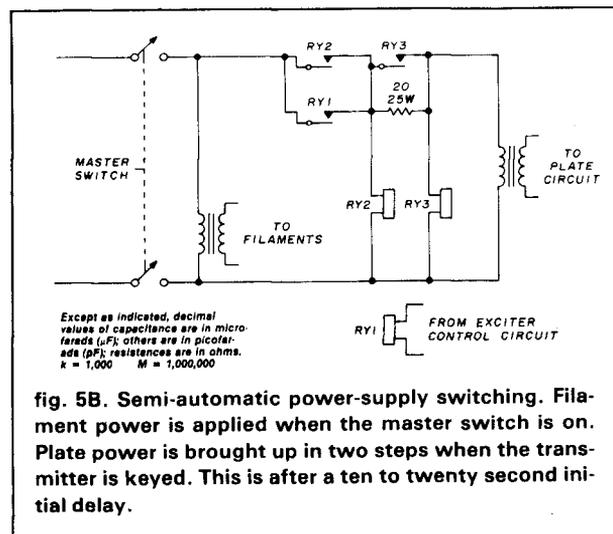


fig. 5B. Semi-automatic power-supply switching. Filament power is applied when the master switch is on. Plate power is brought up in two steps when the transmitter is keyed. This is after a ten to twenty second initial delay.

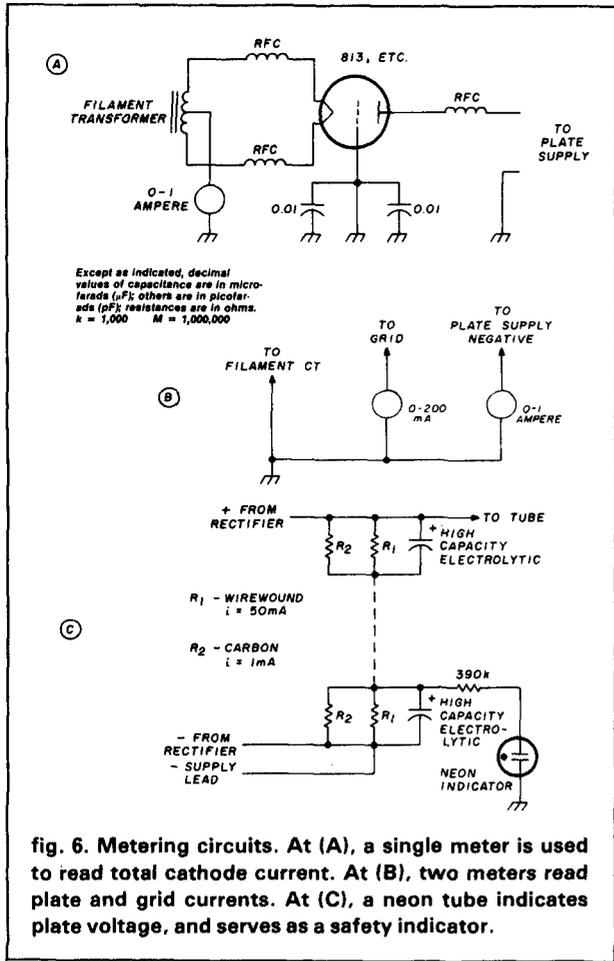


fig. 6. Metering circuits. At (A), a single meter is used to read total cathode current. At (B), two meters read plate and grid currents. At (C), a neon tube indicates plate voltage, and serves as a safety indicator.

idling current of the tubes is about ten percent of the design peak current.

I prefer to use a multiple pole relay in the antenna change-over circuit, wired as shown in fig. 7A. This provides protection for a receiver-transmitter combination, or a separate receiver used with a transceiver. (A 6-10 dB pad can be connected in this separate circuit to reduce signal loss in the main path due to paralleling mismatch.) Separate contacts on the relay can be used for power control, or for control of external devices.

While the trick of loading the input circuit can eliminate the need for an automatic level control, it's still a good idea to provide this. For one thing, you may want to use a different transmitter than designed for, and the back-up protection is beneficial.

The simplest approach to ALC is to use an rf level measurement technique to develop a threshold voltage. An ALC circuit is shown in fig. 7B. Assuming the grid loading has been adjusted, the ALC threshold control is set to give a barely discernible deflection on a VTVM at maximum design output. It can then serve as a backup for improper load.

TVI Prevention

Prevention of TVI is a design goal for any transmitter. Most of the basic steps can be handled fairly late in the design stage, but there are a few that must be initially considered. One of these is the nature and extent of needed output coax filtering. Lower circuit Q increases the need for filtering. For example, with a Q of 10, a two-section, lowpass filter will probably be sufficient though a three-section filter is better. For higher harmonic rejection, it's a good idea to install a form of suck-out trap. On a low-frequency transmitter, it can be placed across the plate circuit. However, the added capacitance is undesirable on the higher-frequency bands. For these, a trap at the point of attachment of the output coax to the pi-section loading capacitor is indicated. The trap can be a high-pass filter, with a small bank of load resistors to dissipate any harmonic energy present. A design using a 50-ohm load seems to work well. The cutoff frequency should be between the highest operating frequency and the TV i-f frequency of 45 MHz.

The filters will probably not be effective if the self-resonant frequencies of the grid and plate circuits occur at the same frequency and near any of the TV bands. Unfortunately, there is a version of Murphy's

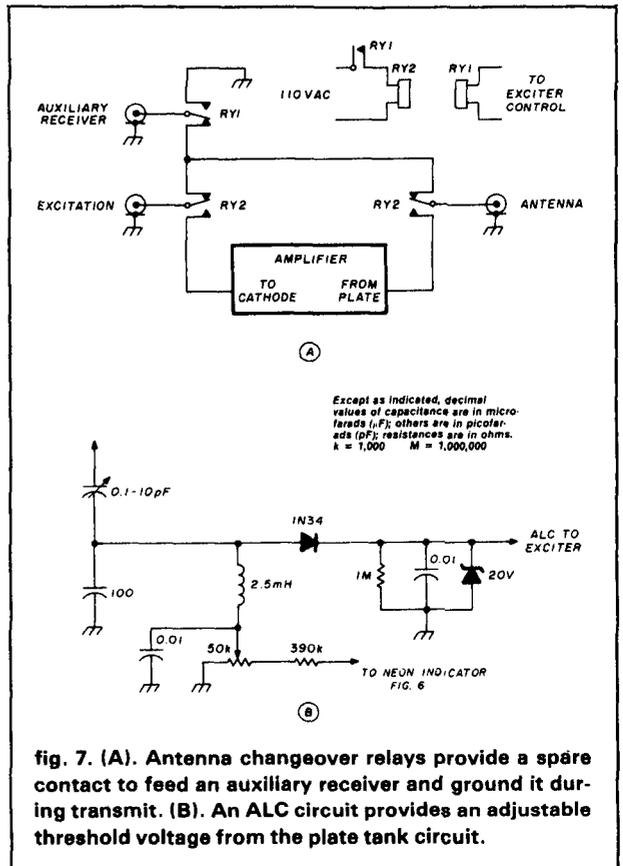


fig. 7. (A). Antenna changeover relays provide a spare contact to feed an auxiliary receiver and ground it during transmit. (B). An ALC circuit provides an adjustable threshold voltage from the plate tank circuit.

forget cooling. This is vital for the tubes. Cool tubes are less likely to fail prematurely.

Symmetry in the tube area of a multiple tube design is recommended. Keep lead lengths the same. These techniques help equalize the load distribution. Elsewhere, symmetry is not necessary. Don't force the layout to give a symmetrical front panel.

For homebrew construction, a dual-chassis layout seems to work well. A horizontal section contains the tubes and rf components, and a vertical section the power supply. Input and control elements are under the horizontal section. Front and rear panels, plus a U-shaped top and end and a flat bottom part, complete the mechanical elements. Use angles along the top and sides of the panels.

Perforated aluminum is fine for the top, ends, and bottom of this design, but a lot of screws will be necessary to make the joints rf-tight. A better way of fastening is to use 1/8-inch aluminum strap along all edges, clamping the thin perforated metal between this and angle sections, with screws every six inches or so. Front panel appearance is improved if the strap projects a 1/4-inch (6.4 mm) over the shield edge.

A compact linear layout is possible if the power supply is built separately. The two-chassis design works well with the tubes mounted horizontally. Four 811s or even 872s can be placed in a cabinet measuring 5-1/2 x 10 x 12 inches (140 x 254 x 305 mm). Rf components will be a little crowded, though, and a good cooling fan is a must.

Home-built designs don't need to be sloppy in appearance. Be careful to avoid dents and scratches, and paint the completed unit, either to match other gear or to contrast with it. (Don't paint mating-shield surfaces.) Use appropriate size stick-on or transfer lettering to label controls and the unit itself.

A special note: use honest-to-goodness dials, with engraved marks or a digital readout that can be pre-set to one degree or better. Keep a log of readings for each band. If manufacturers were more careful with their dial designs, we would have far less tune-up QRM on the bands.

putting it all together

Fig. 8 is the schematic of the linear used at W4MB for several years. These basic design goals were considered:

1. Legal limit with good linearity
2. Drive from two 6146s
3. 10-40 meter operation, with new band operation considered
4. Separate antenna tuning
5. Separate lowpass filter



fig. 9. General view of the amplifier of fig. 8. Note the TU-type bar knobs, and the vernier dials with calibrated scales for tune and load (makes band changing easier). Note the screen-wire shield over the meter.

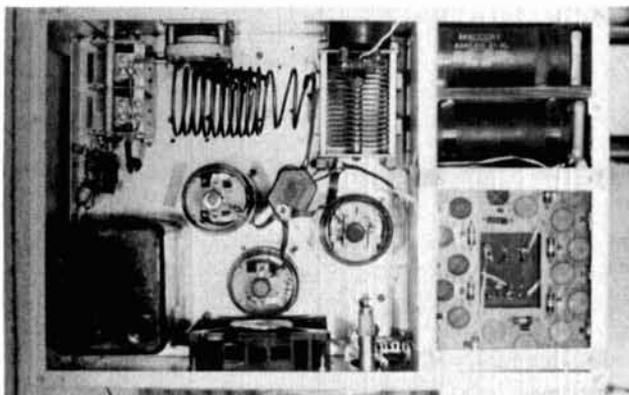


fig. 10. Top view of the amplifier. The rf section is at the top, the plate supply on right, and the filament transformer at the lower left. The harmonic trap is just above the filament transformer. The tank coil is constructed from a continuous length of heavy wire. The ALC circuit is at the bottom center.

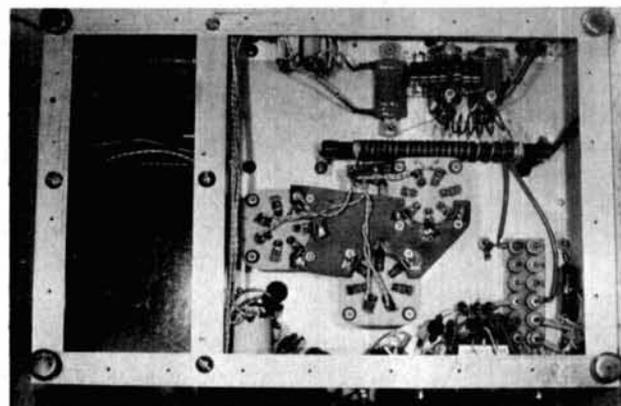
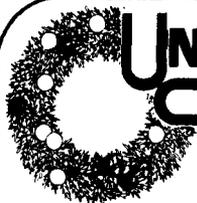


fig. 11. Bottom view of the amplifier. The copper plate in the center grounds all grids to chassis using metal standoffs. The grid filter and loading resistors are at the upper right. The coil is adjusted by spreading or squeezing turns to set the cut-off frequency above the 10-meter band.



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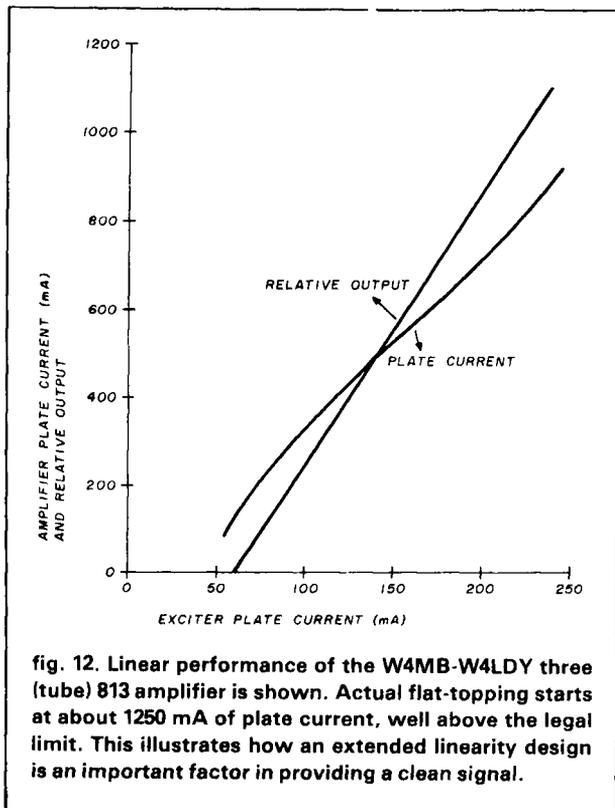


fig. 12. Linear performance of the W4MB-W4LDY three (tube) 813 amplifier is shown. Actual flat-topping starts at about 1250 mA of plate current, well above the legal limit. This illustrates how an extended linearity design is an important factor in providing a clean signal.

- Use tubes and components on hand
- Simple switching

Fig. 9 provides an overall view of the transmitter, fig. 10 the inside top view, and fig. 11 the bottom view. Note the use of a copper plate to connect the various drive grounds together, and the arrangement for making filament lengths the same. Plate leads are also the same length. The layout lead length brings the effective Q of the tank circuit to about 10.5 on 10 meters.

A graph of amplifier linearity is shown in fig. 12. More output is possible, but the combination of input loading and ALC limits the maximum input to 1800 watts PEP (note that this is above the legal limit if appreciable speech processing is used).

As seen in the photographs, there are no parasitic suppressors in the plate circuit in this design. No instability was noticed during testing. There have been one or two reports of a wide signal, so possibly some instability can arise as a result of load variation or mis-tuning. All solicited critical signal checks have agreed with the data and with unsolicited reports. This amplifier, as intended, produces a clean signal, and, because of its simplicity, is also a pleasure to operate.

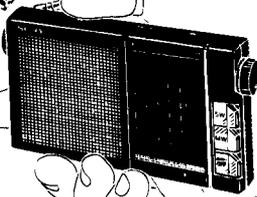
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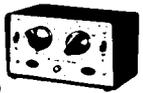
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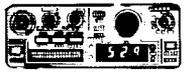


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Nearly all remote control of Amateur Radio equipment, be it of a repeater, an autopatch, or a remotely controlled station, is at least in part accomplished by the use of TouchTones, also known as DTMF (Dual-Tone, Multiple-Frequency) signals. Since most modern Amateur VHF and UHF equipment now on the market is available with DTMF-encoded keyboards that provide either twelve or sixteen combinations, the transmitter end of a control link is readily available.

At the receiving end, some means must be provided to detect and decode the incoming DTMF signals (as the name implies, each signal consists of a pair of tones transmitted simultaneously). In the case of a twelve-key pad, one of a set of three tones is combined with one of a set of four tones, to provide twelve different codes. For a sixteen-key encoder, eight tones total are needed, as shown in **fig. 1**. The decoder must detect these tones and provide some indication that a valid DTMF code has been received); at the same time, the decoder must not be spoofed by the randomly occurring tones in speech sent over the same channel.

prior technology

In the past, Amateurs have often used decoder circuits consisting of a detector tuned for each of the seven or eight tones. The detectors are usually either resonant reed filters, or more recently, monolithic tone-decoder PLL (phase-locked loop) integrated circuits, usually type 567.

My own experience is with this type of decoder system. Typically, they consist of seven 567 ICs, one for each frequency, a demultiplexer circuit to convert the two-of-seven output to a more useful code, such as one-of-ten, or binary. Such decoders work, but they can be a bit tedious to align initially, as each PLL must be individually adjusted. Furthermore, since the accuracy of each PLL detector depends on its RC network, they can drift with temperature changes or with time as the frequency-determining components age. These problems are usually depressingly familiar to anyone who has tried to keep a repeater autopatch decoder operating for any length of time.

an integrated decoder

In the last few years, the telecommunications industry, fueled by tremendous growth in the commercial markets, has begun to integrate many previously discrete components into more compact monolithic circuitry, in order to reduce the size and cost of communications equipment. Examples of this process are seen in ICs that replace the hybrid transformer in telephones, in the replacement of bulky analog filters by monolithic active filters and, recently, with the development of integrated DTMF decoder circuits.

One such DTMF decoder IC is ITT's 3201, which can decode all sixteen standard TouchTone signals to provide a four-bit binary output (see **table 1**). It uses an inexpensive 3.57945 MHz TV colorburst crystal as the frequency reference, so that temperature and age drifts are practically eliminated. In addition, it has excellent immunity to false outputs caused by

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ROW 3 852 Hz	7	8	9	C
ROW 4 941 Hz	*	0	#	D

fig. 1. Sixteen-key TouchTone pad shows how each key is assigned a discrete pair of tones.

table 1. Code list of the output of ITT's 3201 DTMF decoder IC.

input TouchTone code	outputs	
	binary	decimal equivalent
1	0001	1
2	0010	2
3	0011	3
4	0100	4
5	0101	5
6	0110	6
7	0111	7
8	1000	8
9	1001	9
0	1010	10
*	1011	11
#	1100	12
A	1101	13
B	1110	14
C	1111	15
D	0000	0

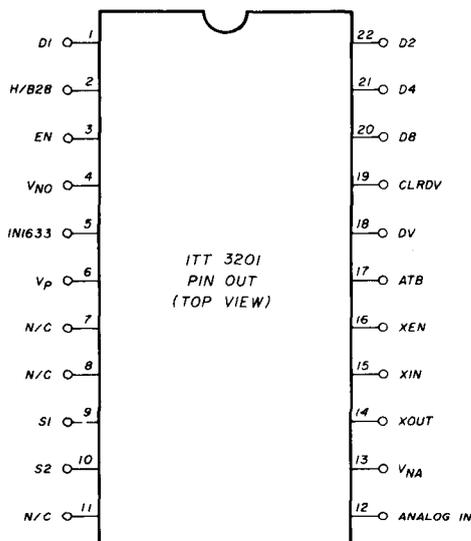


fig. 2. Pin assignments of the 3201 decoder.

speech or noise on its input. In this single IC are all the functions that my old 567-type decoder board failed to duplicate fully with ten ICs.

Fig. 2 shows that the 3201 is a CMOS LSIC (large-scale integrated circuit) housed in a 22-pin DIP. It requires only a single power supply, and draws little current. No front-end filtering is required, nor does the input have to be split into high and low bands, as some other DTMF ICs require. Audio from the receiver is fed directly to the 3201, and is automatically decoded.

The only catch, if there is one, is that the price is still higher than for the 567-type decoder. At the time

of writing, the single-piece price for the 3201 is about \$43.00, but that price should fall as the production quantity increases. In fact, the price has already fallen quite dramatically since the introductory price of \$95.00. (The trend in semiconductors is that they are expensive when introduced, and the price then steadily falls as the volume of use rises; this IC should not be an exception to that industry-wide rule).

My own feeling is that the cost of the device, if a bit high, is more than compensated for by the utter simplicity of its construction and adjustment, and by the long-term benefits of stable, crystal-controlled operation.

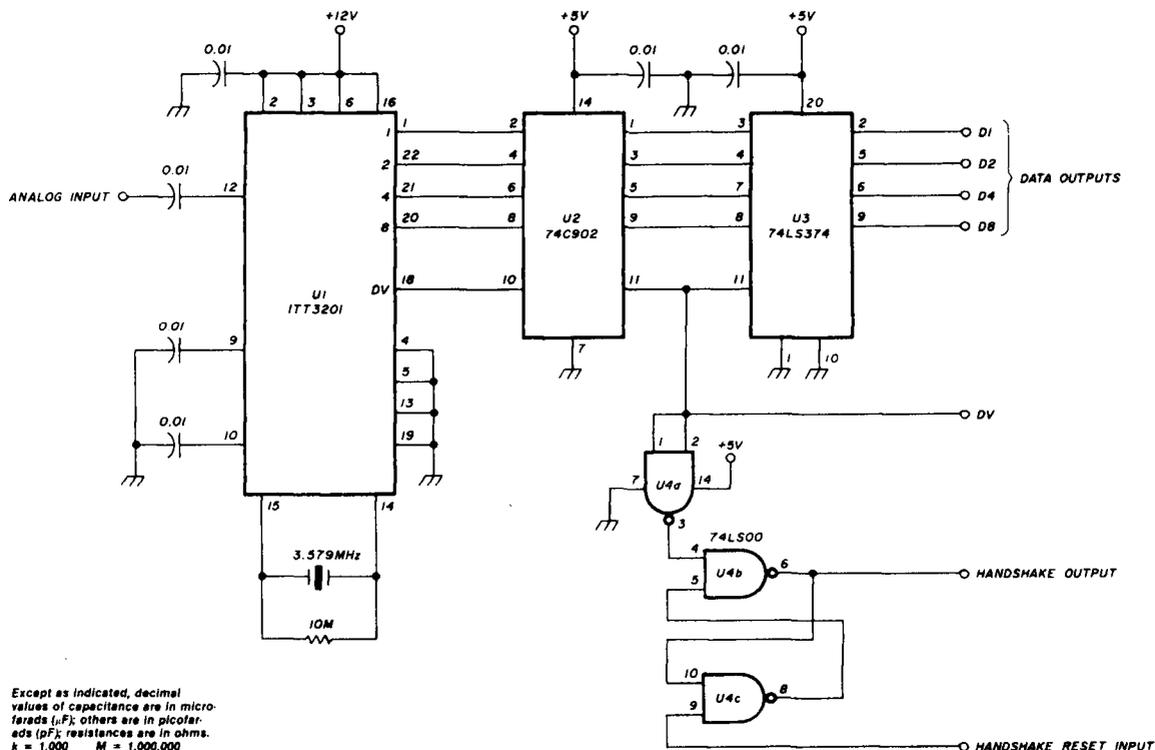


fig. 3. Schematic diagram of a decoder system. This circuit accepts a TouchTone input signal and produces a four-bit TTL-level output.

circuit description

In fig. 3, audio from the receiving system is fed to the high-impedance analog input of the 3201. If the input signal is a valid DTMF tone pair, the 3201 produces an output on the four data lines. During the time a tone is being received and decoded, the DV (Data Valid) output goes to the logic-high state.

The DV line serves as a signal that the four data outputs contain valid data; while DV is high, the data are good, and so the transition of DV from low to high can be used to latch the output of the decoder. The data latch (U3 in the diagram) is needed so that fleeting input signals (which may be as short as 40 milliseconds in length) can be held and read at a later time.

The output of the 3201 is CMOS level, and is not directly compatible with the usual TTL interface circuitry used in most microcomputers. This incompatibility is corrected by U2, the 74C902, a CMOS-to-TTL level converter.

Thus, when a valid DTMF signal is fed to the input of the 3201, properly-decoded output signals appear at the output lines of U2, and the DV output goes high. This transition of DV from low to high is used to clock U3, the 74LS374 octal data latch, which holds the decoded equivalent of the last DTMF signal received.

In order for a microcomputer system to tell the difference between a *newly* received DTMF input and a previously stored word, a handshake circuit has been included. This handshake is set by the DV line, and is reset after the word has been read by the computer. In other words: the output of the handshake latch goes high when the 3201 puts a new word into the data storage latch, and is reset again when the computer reads the output of the data latch. Therefore, if the computer is programmed to first look at the handshake output, it can determine if a new word is waiting to be read.

Since any computer that monitors the decoder can scan the output lines much faster than an operator's finger can press a button on the DTMF encoder keyboard, it is also a good idea to have the computer watch the DV line so it can tell a long input tone, which it has already read, from a newly received tone. The DV line, used in this way, is a form of key debouncing and prevents reading one tone as a series of several digits.

construction and testing

Layout and construction of this circuitry is non-critical. The few discrete components, such as the crystal and the bypass capacitors, can be soldered to the IC socket pins, and the rest of the wiring com-

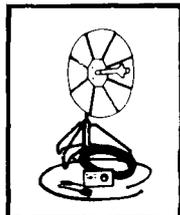
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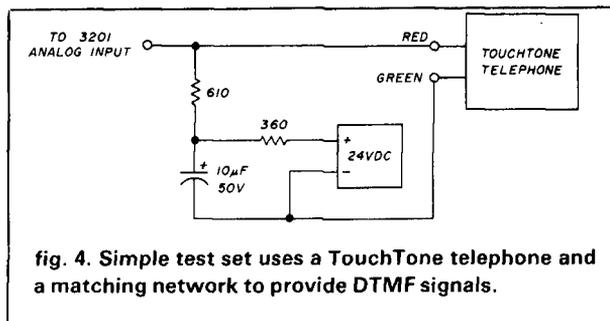


fig. 4. Simple test set uses a TouchTone telephone and a matching network to provide DTMF signals.

pleted with wire-wrap interconnections. (I built my decoder on a small prototype board with an edge connector to which the input and output were wired.)

Once the wiring is completed, and the supply voltages have been checked at the socket pins, the ICs can be installed. Keep in mind that the high-impedance input of the 3201, which is a CMOS device, is sensitive to damage by static electric charges. It is a good idea to keep the 3201 in the protective packaging it comes in until it is to be installed, and then equalize the potential of the circuit and the protective package by touching them together. Remove the 3201 and install it in its socket. Once the IC is installed, the danger of static charge damage is reduced.

There are no adjustable components (this is my kind of circuit!) so the unit should work when power is turned on and a DTMF signal is applied to the analog input. The circuit shown in fig. 4 is a simple test set that uses a standard TouchTone telephone to determine if the decoder is properly decoding the twelve tones. The telephone is disconnected from the phone lines, and hooked as shown to the network, which provides power for the phone's internal tone generator and matches the normal line impedance of 600 ohms.

If the decoder fails to work, check the wiring first. The DV line at the 3201's pin 18 should rise to nearly +12 volts when a DTMF signal is applied; if it does, the problems are probably elsewhere than in the 3201's circuitry.

summary

This decoder is a simple, modern alternative to the DTMF decoders of the past. It provides dependable performance, and should make remote-control systems easier to set up.

Except for the 3201, all the components are standard types and widely available. The 3201 can be obtained from the manufacturer at this address: ITT North Microsystems Division, 700 Hillsboro Plaza, Deerfield Beach, Florida 33441; telephone 305-421-8450.

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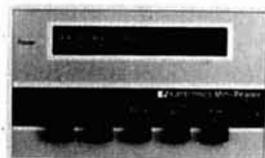


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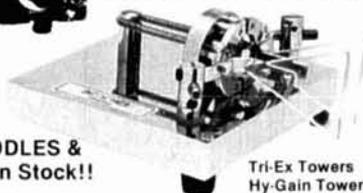
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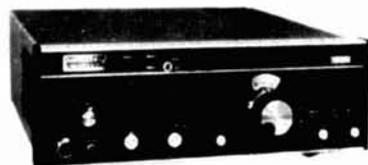
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a rotary dial and encoder for digital tuning

A digital controller using multiple dials and microprocessor logic

The shift to digital and microprocessor control of ham gear makes rotary dial encoding more popular. Earnshaw's approach to dial encoding, simplified and improved by Opal, offers a practical method for the Amateur builder.^{1,2} Both require discrete components for each dial.

This article describes another method incorporating multiple dials using microprocessor logic.³ This method reduces the number of components necessary and is suitable for digital controllers having concurrent tasks.

why encode the rotary dial

Switches are inherently digital; they are either on or off. Conventional tuning dials have an infinite number of positions. A digital tuning dial is not infinite; you must select the position closest to a desired setting.

Most 2-meter fm gear uses some form of discrete, digital frequency selection. This is difficult to use on lower bands without channelized frequencies: that rare DXCC contact may be between positions and will never be reached.

If you have a digitally-controlled master oscillator, one tuning solution is to use a potentiometer (pot) with an analog-to-digital converter. This has limits:

an inexpensive pot has less than a full turn and an expensive, ten-turn pot can't be spun continuously (nor does it have the range) of conventional tuners.

A better way is to use the continuous, segmented digital rotary dial and an encoder to determine direction and amount of rotation. Each dial position, or state, is used to drive a counter. The counter provides an input to the controlled function. Encoding may be accomplished through discrete circuitry or through a microprocessor program. The position resolution is limited only by the dimensions and construction quality of your encoding design. I resolve two hundred positions per revolution easily. Opal resolved four hundred, with a larger encoder disk and better construction.

the technique

Earlier rotary dial methods provided continuous updating of dial position, or state-change. This system polls four dials in sequence, to determine if any dial status has changed from the previous poll.

I selected a four-dial input because a station can require several. Four uses might be main tuning, bandspread, filter frequency setting and keyer or keyboard speed control. Four inputs also work well with an 8-bit microprocessor.

the basic dial

Fig. 1 shows the progression of logic states from a pair of optical interrupters scanning the marks on a disk. For any given state, movement of the dial disk

By C.A. Eubanks, N3CA, P.O. Box 127, Valencia, Pennsylvania 16059

will yield a new state that defines direction of rotation.

Table 1 summarizes all possible state-change combinations, original state to new state. Valid rotation is implied if only one of the optical interrupter inputs changes. Invalid rotation sensing occurs if both interrupters see a change; this change must be ignored. Invalid sensing could occur if the polling speed is too slow, or sensing could indicate the wrong direction if an even number of state changes were missed.

The microprocessor system used in dial sensing performs other tasks as well. Polling speed is subject to trade-offs. To test the speed, I tentatively selected Opal's fifty-mark encoder disk. Some experimentation with a conventional transceiver proved that the dial spins easily at one revolution per second. This became the design rotation-rate goal. Assuming the rotation algorithm senses all state changes: $(1 \text{ rev./Sec}) \times (50 \text{ marks/rev.}) \times (4 \text{ states/mark}) = 200 \text{ states/Sec}$. All else being equal, polling rate must occur once every five milliseconds.

Everything else is *not* equal, however. First, the dial spin rate is not constant. Sudden starts and stops create faster state changes. Second, interrupters are not ideally spaced; some state changes occur at a lesser angular displacement and the state-change rate can increase.

With these factors in mind, I finally selected a two millisecond polling rate. The encoder still loses a few counts on rapid dial movement, but I've noticed no erroneous counts.

table 1. Matrix diagram (Karnaugh Map) of all possible logic states of one dial's optical interrupter detector. A_0 and B_0 are the previous A and B interrupter states while A_1 and B_1 are the current states. L indicates left motion in *fig. 1*. R is right motion. N/C is no change; dial has not moved. N/A is a not-applicable condition resulting from non-allowed state-change progression of motion in either direction. The logical expression is used by the process subroutine shown in *fig. 4*.

		A_1A_0			
		00	01	11	10
B_1B_0	00	N/C	L	N/C	R
	01	R	N/A	L	N/A
	11	N/C	R	N/C	L
	10	L	N/A	R	N/A

$$L = \bar{A}_1A_0\bar{B}_1\bar{B}_0 + A_1\bar{A}_0B_1B_0 + \bar{A}_1\bar{A}_0B_1\bar{B}_0 + A_1A_0\bar{B}_1B_0$$

$$R = \bar{A}_1A_0B_1B_0 + A_1\bar{A}_0\bar{B}_1\bar{B}_0 + \bar{A}_1\bar{A}_0\bar{B}_1B_0 + A_1A_0B_1\bar{B}_0$$

the interface circuit

Fig. 2 is a schematic for one application card of the Intelligent Controller.³ The darlington output of each optical interrupter is buffered by 7414 hex schmitt inverters. This buffer provides hysteresis to prevent jit-

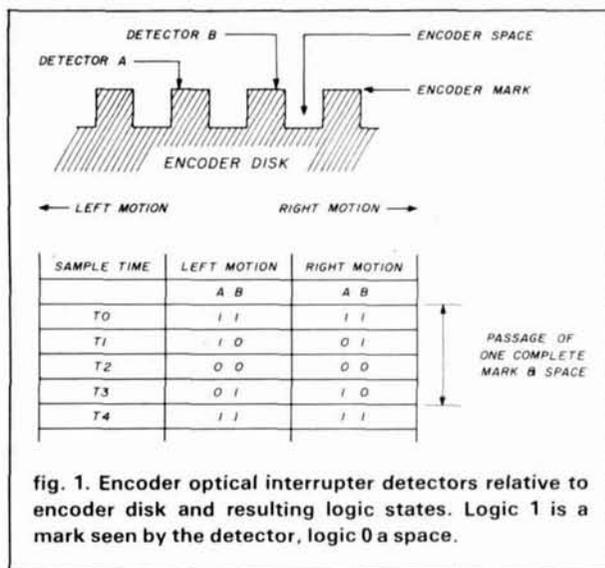
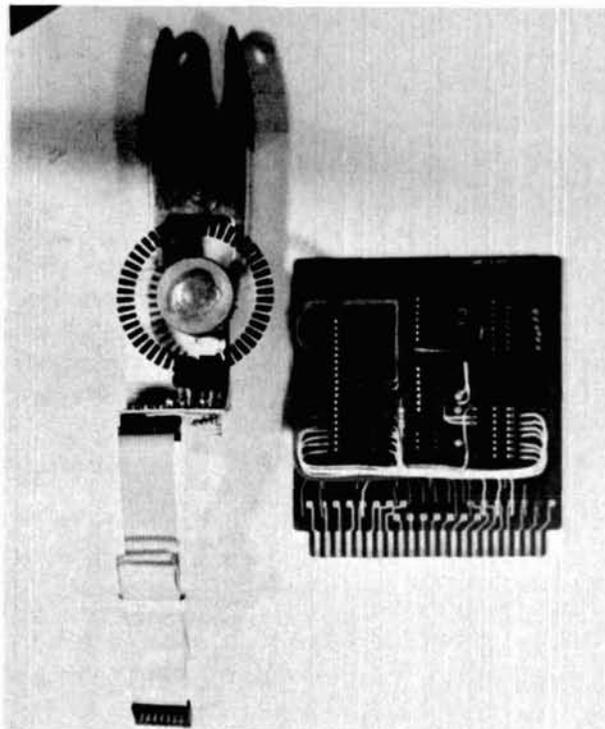
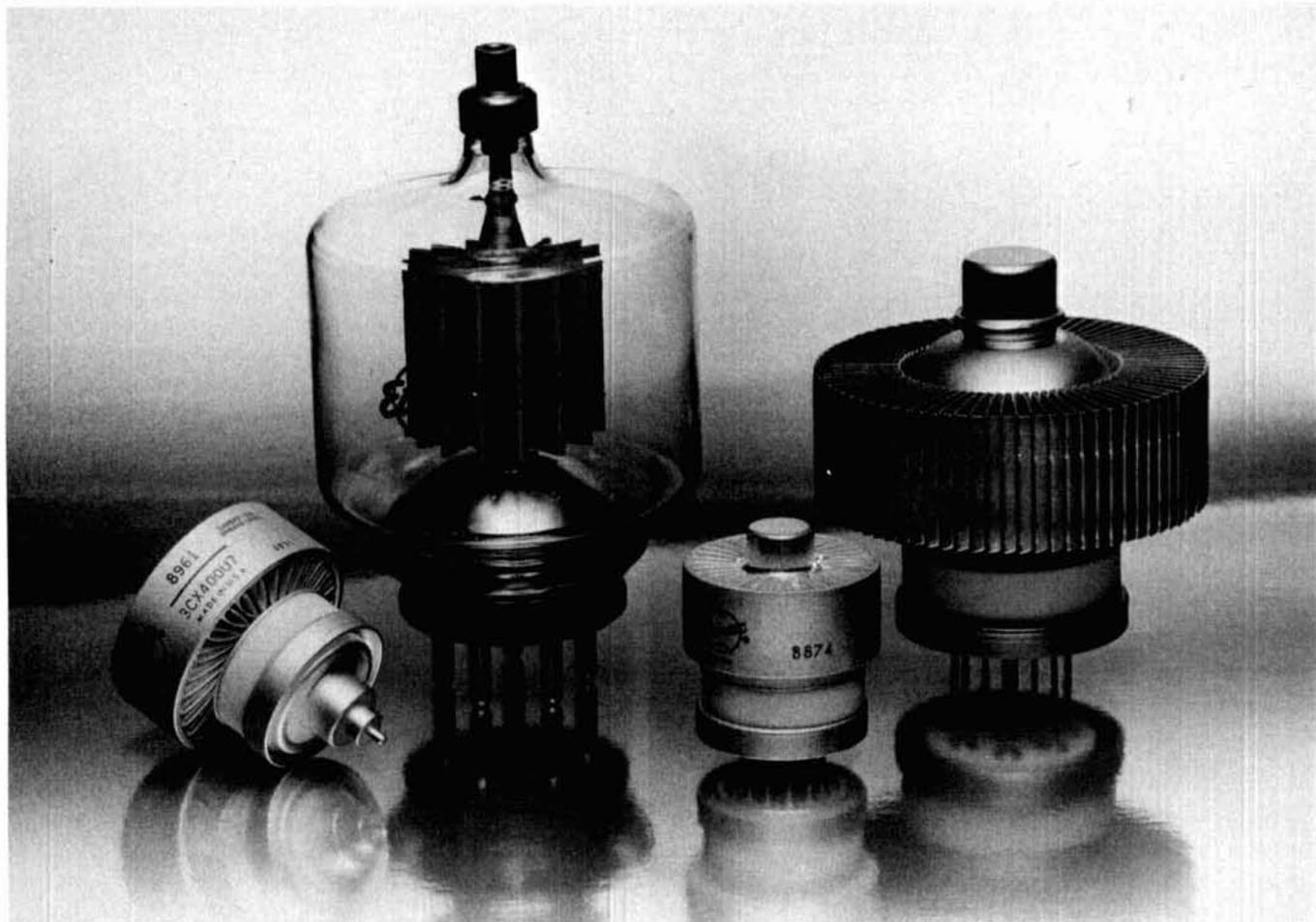


fig. 1. Encoder optical interrupter detectors relative to encoder disk and resulting logic states. Logic 1 is a mark seen by the detector, logic 0 a space.



The application card and one rotary dial assembly. Optical interrupters are visible at the disk bottom, just above the bracket for the ribbon cable DIP socket. The large chip on the card is the 8255 PPI with hex inverters at top center. Other card components are for another application not described here. The clamp is for photographic support of the dial assembly.



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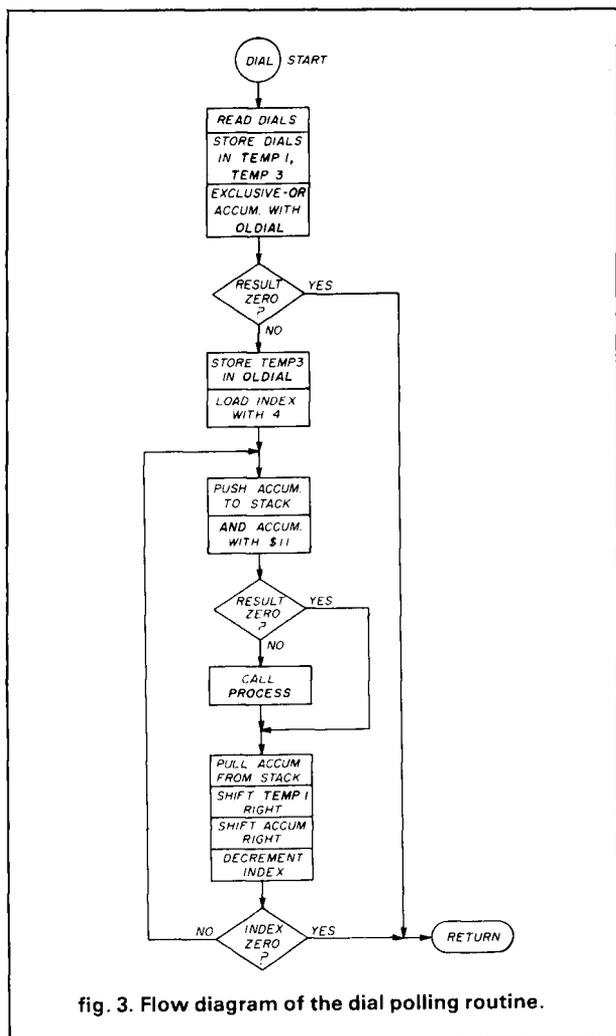


fig. 3. Flow diagram of the dial polling routine.

mount the interrupters with the shaft bushing for proper optical adjustment.

The dial subassembly holds a 16-pin DIP socket for interconnection to the application card. Flat-cable DIP plug cables are readily obtained. (Mine was an 18-inch (46 cm) cable from Radio Shack, part number 276-1976.)

I made the encoder disk in two steps: first I made a photocopy from the optical mask in fig. 1 of Opal's article, then transferred it to a thermal-contact transparency. This gives satisfactory results, but you can purchase finished disks directly from K3CU.*

Opal suggested cementing the disk to a large knob for support. I soldered a circular piece of PCB stock to the shaft and attached the disk with rubber cement. My technique takes less space, while Opal's is easier.

The exact location of the optical interrupters is not

*Photo disks are available from K3CU for \$1.00 each. Please send SASE to Chet B. Opal, K3CU, 5414 Old Branch Avenue, Temple Hills, Maryland 20748.

critical. The illuminator center should be near the mark mid-radius. Once assembled, the relative interrupter positions can be set by bending the leads. Two cautions: keep the interrupter leads long enough and be careful not to pull off the PC board foil.

The dial shaft should have some friction device to prevent drift or coasting. I included a short piece of helical compression spring between bushing and encoder disk. This takes up any axial play and provides the necessary friction.

The inverters and PPI were mounted on a Radio Shack prototype board (part number 276-157). This is compatible with the intelligent controller. The extra chips seen in the photo are to support a Morse keyboard. The two spare 8-bit ports of the PPI may be used for other purposes.

operation

I had some initial problems providing sufficient signal for inverter inputs. I believe the interrupter collector resistor values given in fig. 1 to be adequate for variations in both the interrupters and inverters. To make certain, the inverter and interrupter outputs can be checked with a high-impedance voltmeter. Inverter output should be low when interrupter output is high, and vice versa.

I wrote a simple program to drive a display for 256¹ counts to test the device. Depending on the spacing between interrupters, the count may go in either direction. The proper direction is obtained by repositioning the interrupters or modifying the service routine. I prefer the latter, having had some bad experiences with interrupter leads and foil peeling on the encoder subassembly.

Program documentation and burned 2716 EPROMs for the Intelligent Controller are available from the author. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for information.

acknowledgment

The author wishes to express appreciation to Chet B. Opal, K3CU, for his comments and review of this article.

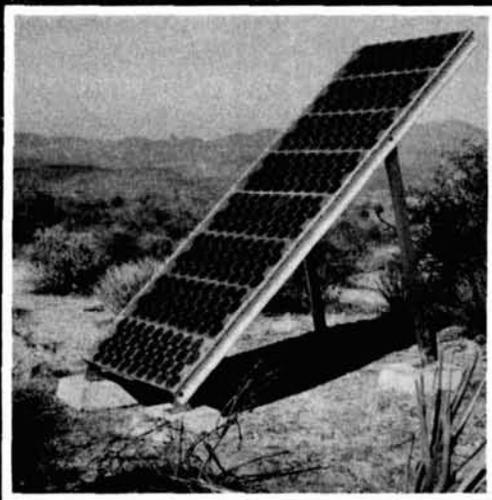
references

1. Lester A. Earnshaw, "A Tunable Synthesizer," *ham radio*, November, 1978, page 18.
2. Chet B. Opal, K3CU, "Rotary-Dial Mechanism for Digitally Tuned Transceivers," *ham radio*, July, page 14.
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appendix

The flow chart details presented here will be useful if you are interested in converting to a microprocessor other than a 6502 or are not familiar with programming.

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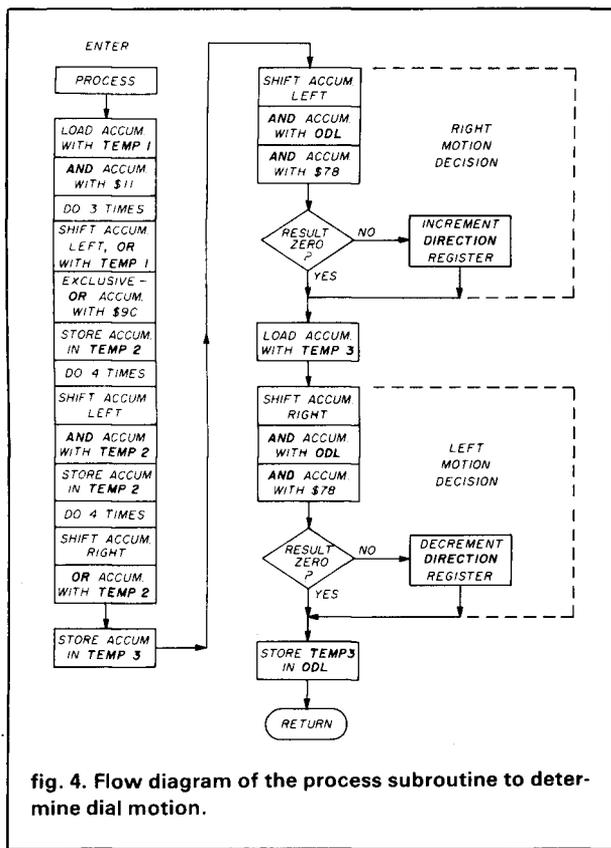


fig. 4. Flow diagram of the process subroutine to determine dial motion.

The dial routine in fig. 3 is invoked by a two-millisecond timer interrupt in the Intelligent Controller. This routine reads the status of all dials and compares that status with the previous status stored in the OLDIAL register. If there is no change, the routine returns from processor interrupt.

Change of dial input is indicated by one or more bits set to logic 1 after the exclusive-OR with OLDIAL. Each dial is then polled in a loop. The loop starts with dial status in the accumulator as follows:

$$A_0 \ A_1 \ A_2 \ A_3 \ B_0 \ B_1 \ B_2 \ B_3$$

The accumulator is first pushed onto the stack (temporarily saved), then masked by ANDing with a bit pattern of 00010001 (\$11 in hexadecimal notation). The result, on the first loop pass, will have A_3 in bit 4, B_3 in bit 0, and all other bits zero. If all bits are zero, no change in that dial occurred, the accumulator is restored by pulling it from the stack, and the accumulator is shifted right once. The index register (loop counter) is decremented, tested, and program flow continues at the loop start.

The purpose of right-shifting the accumulator is to provide separation in the \$11 AND for the next dial. The second loop pass will have A_2 in bit 4, B_2 in bit 0. Each loop pass will test individual dials in decreasing order.

Any non-zero result of the AND accumulator with \$11 will jump to the process subroutine shown in fig. 4. Entry to this subroutine will have TEMP1 holding an individual dial status in bits 4 and 0. Another mask with \$11 is assurance that the three accumulator left-shifts and ORs with TEMP1 will have an individual dial input arranged as:

$$A \ A \ A \ A \ B \ B \ B \ B$$

The accumulator is exclusive-ORed with a bit pattern of

10011100 or \$9C. The result of the exclusive-OR will set up the accumulator for subsequent testing of motion direction. Logic representation in the accumulator is now:

$$\bar{A} \ A \ A \ \bar{A} \ \bar{B} \ \bar{B} \ B \ B$$

Bit patterns in the accumulator will be as follows for the four possible optical interrupter state combinations:

$$\begin{array}{ll} A \ B = 01100011 & \bar{A} \ \bar{B} = 10010011 \\ \bar{A} \ B = 10011100 & A \ \bar{B} = 01101100 \end{array}$$

Only one pattern will exist for one dial, stored in TEMP2.

The next two instructions set the accumulator to hold a logic 1 in one of the higher four bits for one of the previous state combinations. This is done by left-shifting the accumulator four times, then ANDing with TEMP2. The next two instructions (four right-shifts and OR with TEMP2) will duplicate the higher four accumulator bits into the lower four. The accumulator is now set for motion determination and is stored in TEMP3. The accumulator and TEMP3 will have one of the following bit patterns dependent on dial status:

$$\begin{array}{ll} A \ B = 00100010 & \bar{A} \ \bar{B} = 00010001 \\ \bar{A} \ B = 10001000 & A \ \bar{B} = 01000100 \end{array}$$

One of these bit patterns will be loaded into a dial's ODL on subroutine exit.

The first motion decision occurs when the accumulator is shifted left once, then ANDed with the existing ODL (from a previous subroutine call). The result is ANDed again with 01111000 (\$78) to strip any extraneous bits. If the second AND yields a non-zero accumulator, right motion was detected and the direction register for that dial is incremented.

The second motion decision is made by loading the accumulator with TEMP3, shifting the accumulator right once, then ANDing with the existing ODL. The second AND with \$78 strips any extraneous bits. A non-zero result indicates left motion and the direction register is decremented. The final operation is updating the ODL with the current dial logic stored in TEMP3.

A key element in motion decision is the direction of accumulator shift prior to ANDing with the ODL register. This can be seen by examining the logic expressions in table 1, or the following state-change progression:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Right motion: } A \ B \rightarrow \bar{A} \ B \rightarrow A \ \bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{A} \ \bar{B} \rightarrow A \ B \\ \text{Left motion: } \bar{A} \ \bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{A} \ B \rightarrow A \ \bar{B} \rightarrow A \ B \end{array}$$

The current state combination must always be compared to the previous one.

Any out-of-sequence state combination will pass through the subroutine without effect on the direction register. Start-up may produce an arbitrary bit pattern in the ODL register byte and may cause an increment or decrement of the direction register; only one change occurs since subroutine exit will update ODL to the new dial logic. Set-up prior to motion decision ensures a minimum number of direction register glitches.

Each left-shift assumes a zero entering the least-significant bit. Each right-shift assumes a zero entering the most-significant bit. 6502 coding uses ASL and LSR instructions, respectively. TEMP3 is the Y-register of the 6502 with the X-register used as an index for each ODL and direction register in RAM.

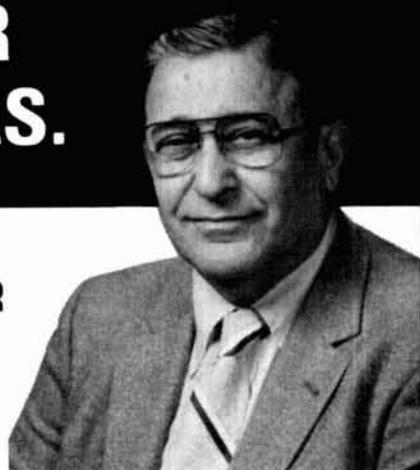
Calculated execution time of the four-dial program in the Intelligent Controller is 141 μ s with no dial change, 355 μ s with one dial change, and 436 μ s with two dial changes. Clock period is one microsecond and there is adequate time between 2-millisecond interrupts to execute other tasks in the controller program.

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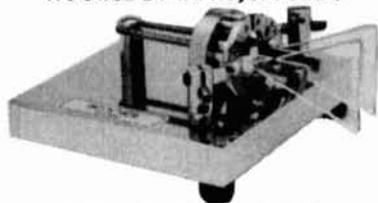
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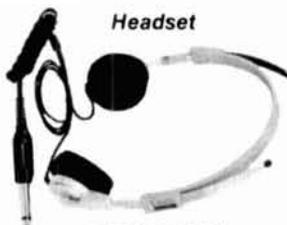
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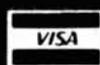


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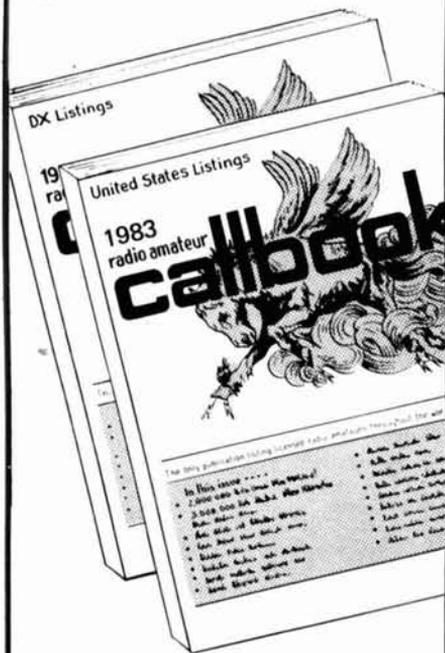
HAM CALENDAR

December

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SATURDAY
<p>WIAW Schedule April 25-October 24, 1982 MTWTFSS: - Days of Week Dy - Daily WIAW code practice and bulletin transmissions are sent on the following schedule:</p> <p>EDT Slow Code Practice MWF: 9 A.M. - 7 P.M. TTSS: 4 P.M. - 10 P.M. Fast Code Practice MWF: 4 P.M. - 10 P.M. TT: 9 A.M. TTSS: 7 P.M. CW Bulletins Dy: 5 P.M. - 8 P.M. - 11 P.M. MTWTF: 10 A.M. RTTY Bulletins Dy: 6 P.M. - 9 P.M. - 12 P.M. MTWTF: 11 A.M. Voice Bulletins Dy: 9:30 P.M. - 12:30 A.M.</p> <p>COT Slow Code Practice MWF: 8 A.M. - 8 P.M. TTSS: 3 P.M. - 9 P.M. Fast Code Practice MWF: 3 P.M. - 9 P.M. TT: 8 A.M. TTSS: 6 P.M. CW Bulletins Dy: 4 P.M. - 7 P.M. - 10 P.M. MTWTF: 9 A.M. RTTY Bulletins Dy: 5 P.M. - 8 P.M. - 11 P.M. MTWTF: 10 A.M. Voice Bulletins Dy: 8:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.</p> <p>PDT Slow Code Practice MWF: 8 A.M. - 4 P.M. TTSS: 1 P.M. - 7 P.M. Fast Code Practice MWF: 1 P.M. - 7 P.M. TT: 8 A.M. TTSS: 4 P.M. CW Bulletins Dy: 2 P.M. - 5 P.M. - 8 P.M. MTWTF: 7 A.M. RTTY Bulletins Dy: 3 P.M. - 6 P.M. - 9 P.M. MTWTF: 8 A.M. Voice Bulletins Dy: 6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.</p>						<p>ANNUAL HANDI-HAM WINTER HAMFEST - Held at the Eagles Club in Fairbault, MN. For more info contact W8FIT, 1114 Frank Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007 - 4</p> <p>EVERGLADES ARC OPERATING EVENT - Celebration of Everglades National Park - 4:51</p> <p>ADXA ANNUAL MEETING & BANQUET - Sponsored by the Arkansas DX Association at the Ft. Smith Ramada Inn. For more info contact Harold Wilson, 3507 Lochlane, N. Little Rock, AR 72116 - 4</p> <p>TELCO PIONEERS QSO PARTY - 4-6</p>
			1	2	3	4
<p>17TH ANNUAL HAZEL PARK ARC SWAP & SHOP - Held at the Hazel Park High School in Hazel Park, MI. For more info send SASE to Hazel Park ARC, P.O. Box 385, Hazel Park, MI 48030 - 5</p> <p>ARGONNE ARC COMMEMORATION TO NUCLEAR EXPERIMENT - To be held on the University of Chicago campus - 5*</p>	<p>WEST COAST BULLETIN - 9 PM PDT (8PM PST, 0400 UTC), 3540 kHz, A-1 22 WPM - 6</p>	<p>AMSAT East Coast Net 3850 kHz 8PM EST (0100Z Wednesday Morning)</p> <p>AMSAT Mid-Continent Net 3850 kHz 8PM CST (0200Z Wednesday Morning)</p> <p>AMSAT West Coast Net 3850 kHz 7PM PST (0300Z Wednesday Morning)</p>		<p>TRIPLE STATES RAC OPERATING EVENT - Operating out of Bethlehem, WV - 9*</p>	<p>ARRL 10-METER PARTY - 10-11</p>	<p>K1BCI C/Q RADIO CLUB SPECIAL EVENT - Honoring the anniversary of the Christmas Village in Torrington, CT - 11-19*</p>
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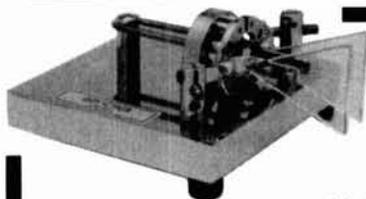
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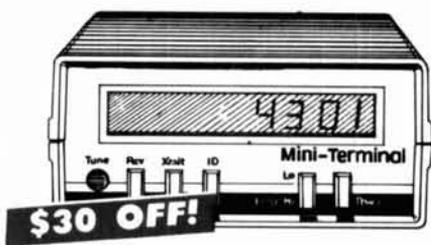
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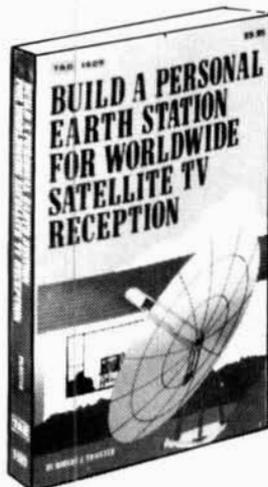
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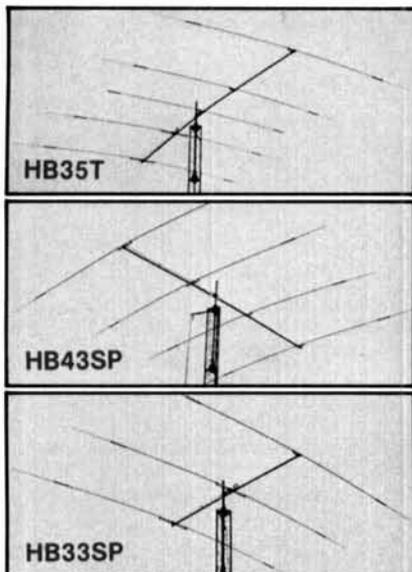
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a 40-meter transmitter-receiver

Useful construction hints for a versatile, complete package

A 40-meter transmitter and receiver using semi-break-in keying is described in this article. It uses transistors in all the circuits except for the final tube, driver and T-R switch.

This article indicates problem areas and cures. Many hobbyists like myself build circuits acquired from handbooks and magazine articles and they don't always work. During construction things change. Perhaps the layout, perhaps a fine copper short on a PC board which can only be seen with a magnifying glass. I have spent hours searching for opens on parts which appeared to be soldered only to find no connection actually existed. I now scrape all component leads before I solder to ensure good electrical contact.

Access to parts represents another variable and the constructor must choose from his collection or from other sources. For example, I had silver-plated, nylon-covered wire available which I used for the VFO coil. It works quite well and provides stable VFO operation.

PC board construction

Printed circuit board construction takes practice and experience. I start by cutting the copper PC board with a hacksaw, holding the board in a vise between two pieces of angle iron. I smooth the edges and rub the surface of the copper with steel wool until it's bright. Black paper tape and drafting dots are used for circuit layout, and I keep a pencil sketch of the work. The dots and holes are center-punched. The board is placed in a cut-out milk container and ferric chloride solution is poured over it. Fresh etching solution is used each time since it weakens after several applications. A 75-watt lamp, placed over the

container, hastens the etching process. I use steel tweezers to turn the board and pick it up because the solution can stain your fingers badly. Don't spill or drop any of it on the floor or sidewalk — it won't come off!

After the board is etched and washed the tape is removed and cleaned with paint thinner and the board is rubbed with steel wool again. Sometimes I put the board in a tinning solution if I have any on hand. If not, I hot solder-wipe the board. Holes are made with a number 60 drill and parts mounted and soldered one at a time with the board secured in a vise. Always check the board after you are done wiring. Run a scribe between the segments and look at the board with a magnifying glass. This sounds like a small point but can prevent problems such as shorts and open circuits.

Making boards by hand may seem to be time-consuming, but you will find it is fun and a good way to build. More elaborate methods include making negatives of the artwork and exposing photo-sensitized copper plates. However, that is a more expensive technique.

Occasionally, breadboarded circuits do not perform when printed on copper boards. Once again poor layout should be suspected. Above all, don't try to build an entire circuit and expect it to completely work initially. Build and test one section at a time.

power supply

A good place to start is by building a power supply. I built two receivers with an inexpensive 18-volt rms transformer using an LM 340-T regulator IC. The first two units worked. However, after constructing the third unit all the LM 340-Ts self-destructed though neither a capacitive nor resistive load had yet been connected. Exchanging the T unit with an LM 340-k-12 apparently solved the problem. An added benefit of this change was a total elimination of audio motor-boating. (A better transformer had also been introduced).

By Ed Marriner, W6XM, 528 Colima Street, La Jolla, California 92037

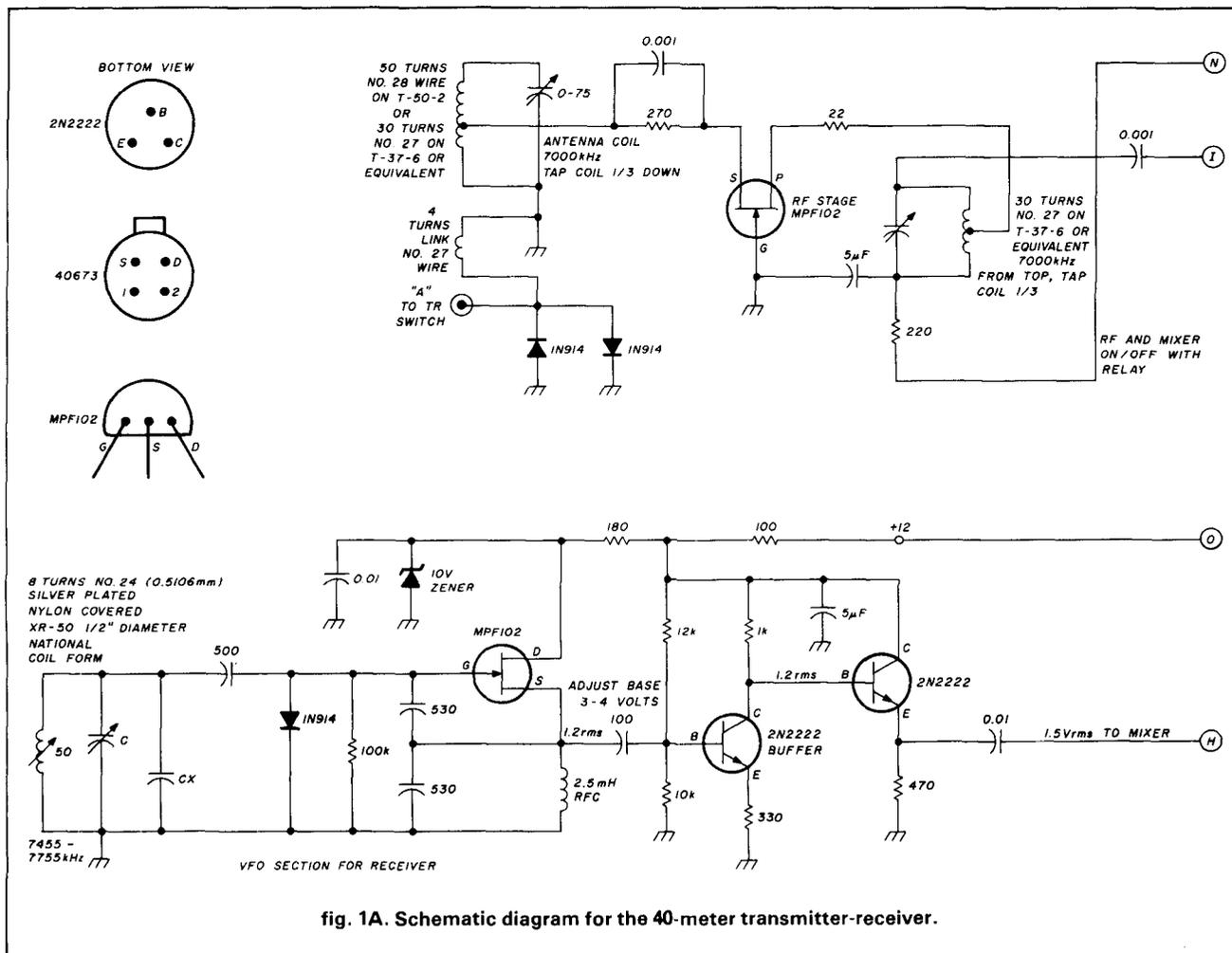


fig. 1A. Schematic diagram for the 40-meter transmitter-receiver.

Some experimenters use batteries (12-volt storage or Ni-Cds) to independently power their circuits. It also helps pinpoint causes of hum, unwanted oscillations and audio motor-boating. It's a good idea to run all the stages to a separate point, isolating each power lead with a 100-ohm resistor and five or more microfarad by-pass capacitors. This prevents inter-stage coupling.

audio amplifier

Now you have a working power supply, the next logical circuit to build is the audio stage. LM 380N chips work well and provide sufficient audio output. A 0.1 μ F capacitor on the input pin prevents hum when the volume control is lowered.

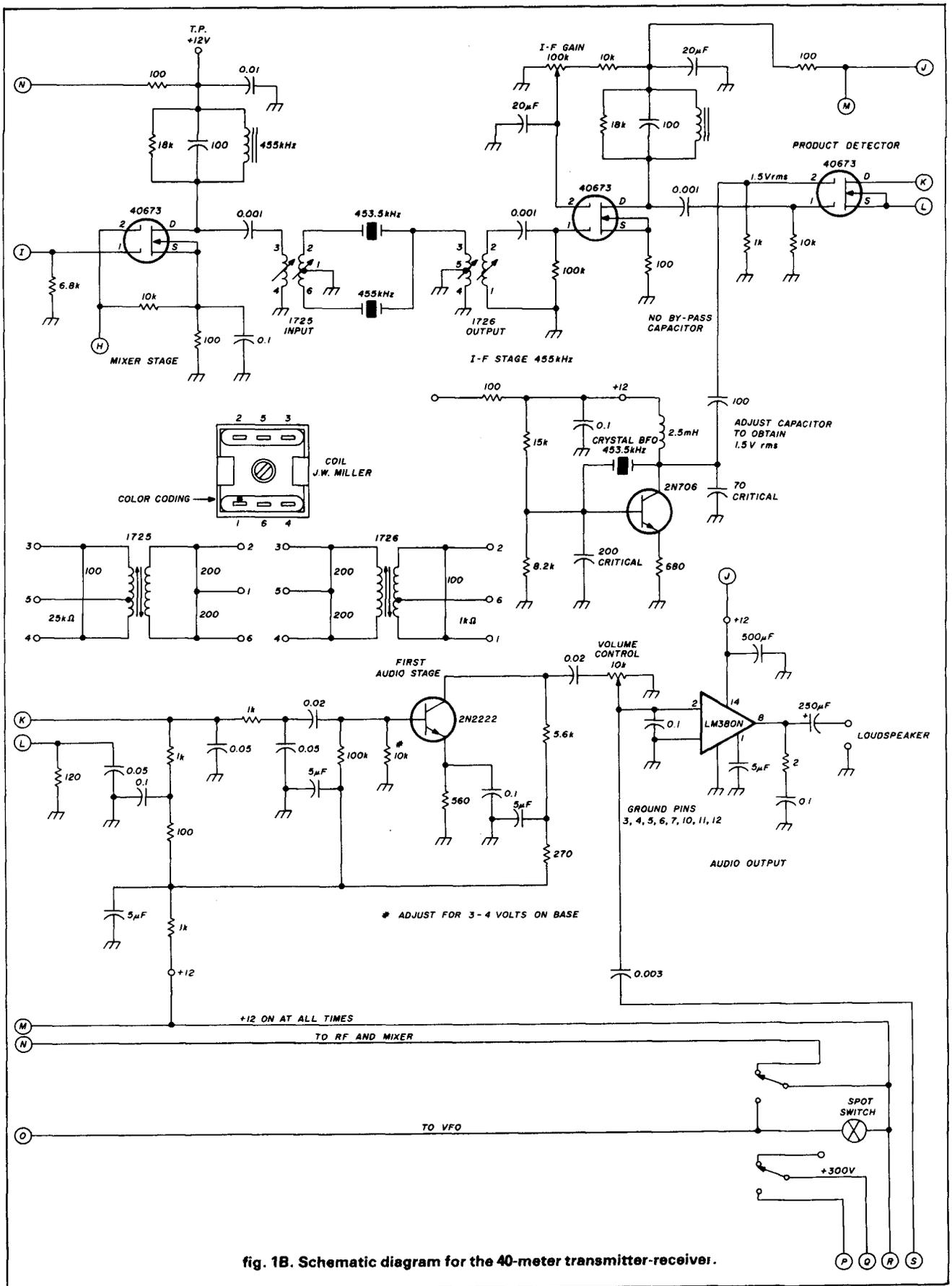
A common practice is to use between two and ten microfarad capacitors for coupling audio stages. I found the audio stage would block with this large a value and reduced it to 0.02 μ F. For CW low-frequency coupling is not necessary. The audio stages in this set are left on at all times to enable sidetone oscillator injection for CW monitoring.

product detector

A 40673 MOSFET is used as a detector and gain element. It eliminates the need for another i-f stage. Sufficient CW signal output is obtained from the mixer when a 1.5 V rms BFO level is injected. The 1k resistor and 0.05 microfarad capacitors form a filter that suppresses high frequency hiss (a mixer by-product), preventing its introduction into the audio stages.

bfo

A crystal BFO is simpler to build than a variable one. However, it is more difficult to make the 453.5 kHz crystal stage oscillate. After some research, the circuit in fig. 1. was tried. By placing an rf choke in the collector lead, and adjusting the capacitors from base to ground, the oscillator provided 10 volts rms output. I used a variable capacitor to experimentally determine the optimum values (200 pF from base to ground and 70 pF from collector to ground). The transistor oscillated only when the emitter was not grounded.



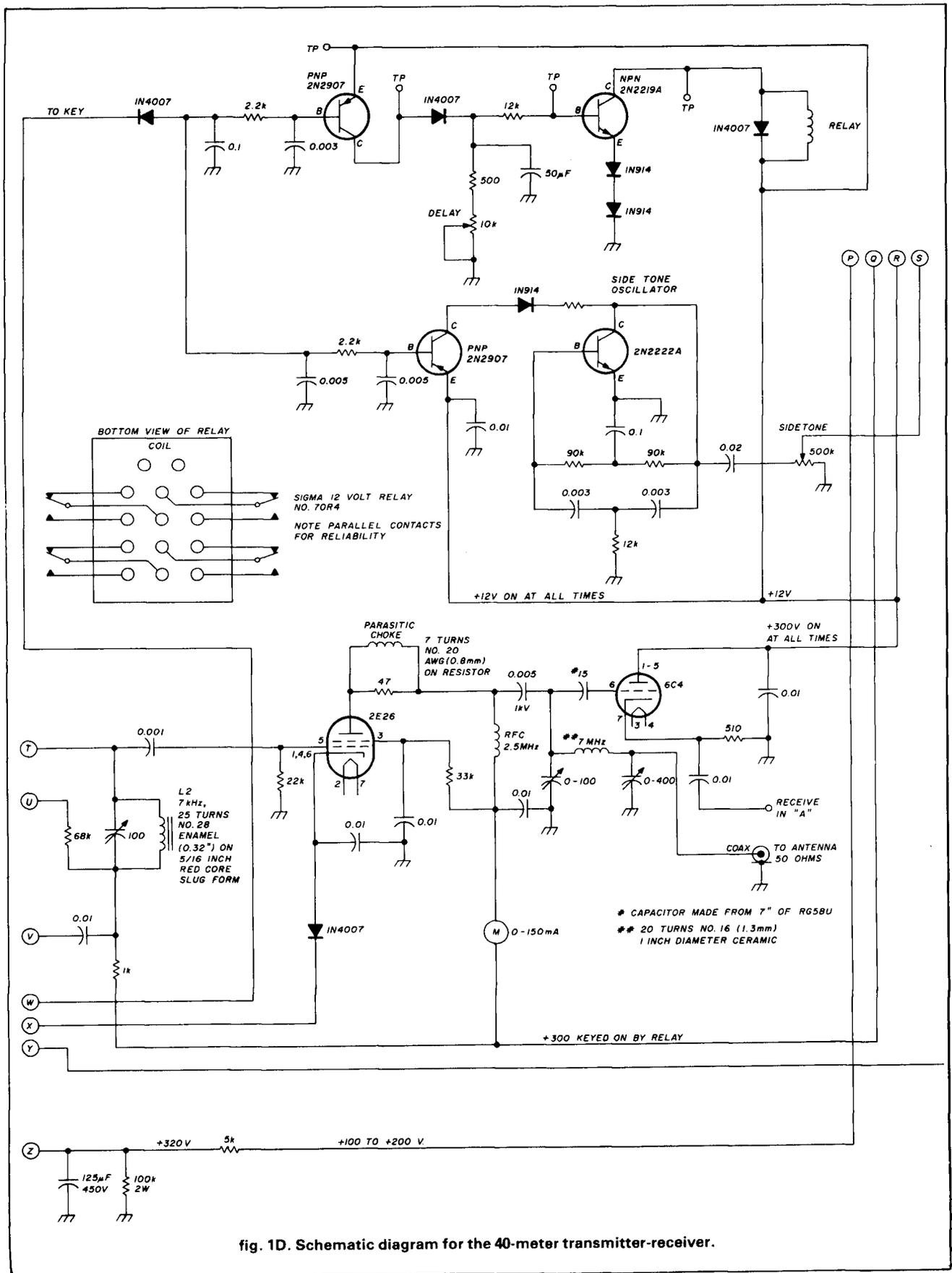


fig. 1D. Schematic diagram for the 40-meter transmitter-receiver.

Parts List

coils	J.W. Miller Co., 19070 Reyes Ave., Compton, California 90224.
semi-conductors	Semiconductors from Circuit Specialists, Box 3047, Scottsdale, Arizona 85267 or telephone 1-800-528-1417. Some semi-conductors can be found at Integrated Circuits Unlimited, 7889 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, California 92111.
printed circuit tape	Drafting tape for printed circuits. Mesa Design Reprographics, 4925 Convoy St., San Diego, California 92111, telephone 714-565-4724.
dots	Dots are called donut pad D144 for .150 od x .031 inch (3.81 mm x 0.79 mm).
tape	I use Bishop precision slit tape #201-250-11 which is .250 inch wide (6.35 mm). Tape 201-125-11, .125 inch (3.18 mm). Also some .062 inch wide tape is useful. The tape comes in all widths, from Bishop Graphics, Westlake Village, California 91359.
toroids	Amidon Associates, 12033 Otsego St., North Hollywood, California 91607.
i-f coils	Radio Shack sometimes has an assortment bag of coils. Check here for i-f coils. Those used in this set were potted in ceramic, red color and have two leads projecting out. No number for stock.
etching	Try WA3OJF, PO Box 398, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania 17070. You can get mixed solution at your local chemical supply house.

leled 18k resistor reduces the Q and chance of oscillation. The FET's source by-pass capacitor was left off to reduce the possibility of self-oscillation in the i-f stage.

rf and mixer stage

The rf and mixer stage is keyed by the relay for semi-break-in. Amidon (red) toroids are satisfactory for the coils as long as they resonate on 40 meters. Slug-tuned coils can be used as well. However, it is easier to tap down on toroid windings. The idea here is to sharpen the tuning without loading the circuit too heavily.

1N914 diodes inserted back-to-back on the antenna link coil reduce the rf if it exceeds 1 volt. The T-R switch reduces the transmitter leak-through rf level to about 2 volts.

vfo

A Colpitts' configuration is preferred for the receiver VFO. The 500 pF coupling and two fixed 530 pF capacitors are appropriate values needed for oscillation. The tuning capacitor, affected by these capacitors, requires careful matching for specific range coverage. The MFP-102 transistor stage provides 1.4 volts, enough to drive the buffer and emitter follower. This circuit eliminates frequency pulling by reducing mixer influence. The base voltage on the buffer is adjusted to read between 3 to 4 Vdc. This is accomplished by carefully selecting the 12k and 10k resistors. The 1.5 volts from the crystal filter provide one of the mixer inputs. Its injected level determines the mixer output.

transmitter

The transmitter VFO was designed for 80-meter operation to prevent 40-meter rf interference. The VFO is actuated when the relay closes. Better performance is achieved using this technique rather than keying the VFO directly. Drive is increased by placing an rf choke in the collector lead and taking the output from the collector rather than from the emitter. The emitter by-passing increases the rf drive to the 6AU6 doubler on 40 meters. The 6AU6 provides enough drive to the 2E26 with 300 volts on the plate. When lightly-loaded, the 2E26 plate has a pronounced tuning dip if sufficient drive is applied. The 6AU6 and 2E26 output stages are keyed and isolated by 1N4007 diodes. The keyed semi-break-in and sidetone circuits are also isolated from each other by diodes. A keying network, introduced by VU2JN, produces a clickless signal.

relay circuit

When the key is closed a positive pulse is transmitted to the 2N2219A base. The two 1N914 diodes ensure 2219A cutoff when the key is released. The diode across the relay eliminates any hang-up problems. The relay hold-in time is determined by the delay potentiometer and the 50 μ F capacitor. A positive voltage, from the sidetone keyer, applied to the base of the 2N2222 turns it on. The sidetone oscillator, which provides a clean, adjustable level, monitoring signal, is lightly-coupled to the LM 380N input.

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data bandwidths compared

Bandwidth requirements for four competitive data modulators

With increasingly crowded Amateur bands, will hams begin using more sophisticated digital-data modulation schemes in the future? FSK (frequency-shift keying) is the predominant modulation scheme used to transmit data in the Amateur service; but this may not always be the case, because there are several other possible schemes which are better than FSK in some ways. This article will compare the bandwidth requirements for four competitive methods of modulation data.

It is in our interest to use our limited spectrum space as efficiently as we can. I will be discussing FSK, CW, and two forms of PSK (phase-shift keying), that is, two-phase PSK, also called Binary PSK, or BPSK; and four-phase PSK, also called Quaternary PSK, or QPSK.

the fast-Fourier transform

In the discussion that follows, the signal spectra presented were generated by performing a spectrum analysis on a computer simulation of typical data modulated by each of the different schemes. This was done by creating a mathematical model of a data signal consisting of a sequence of 128 samples with

156 microsecond spacing and modulating it by each of the four methods. The results were then processed by a Fast-Fourier Transform computer program that produced a power spectra plot (showing energy content as a function of frequency) for each of the signals. I will not be discussing how this program operates, but only the results of this analysis.

The horizontal axis of each plot is frequency (in Hertz), and the vertical axis is the signal power for each frequency component in (dB relative to the strongest component). As a convenient reference, we will define the bandwidth of the signals as the band over which frequency components greater than -15 dB relative amplitude are present. This standard will allow bandwidth comparisons between the different modulation schemes.

frequency-shift keying

FSK is the most popular data mode today because it is comparatively simple to generate and demodulate. The output frequency of the transmitter is shifted between one of two different frequencies (mark or space) depending upon the data bit being sent (0 or 1). The demodulator can be two simple filters, one for each of the frequencies, and rectifiers and a slicer to determine which frequency channel has the most energy at any time.

An FSK signal using 1200 Hz and 1600 Hz was modelled for this analysis, and a data rate of 400 BPS (bits per second) was used. (This is about the maxi-

By J.T. Dijak, W9JD/2, 215 Tareyton Drive, Ithaca, New York 14850.

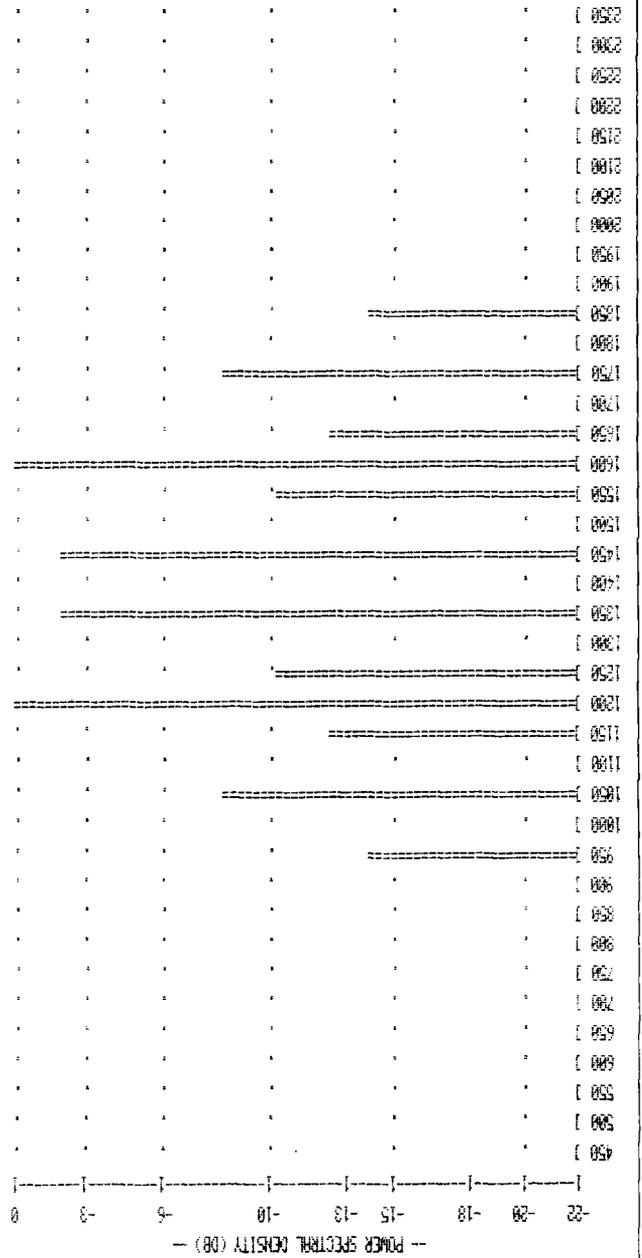
We could also send data using a CW signal where

CW

the others.
 trum, and we will use it as a reference in discussing
 knit signal of 900 Hz bandwidth. This is our first spec-

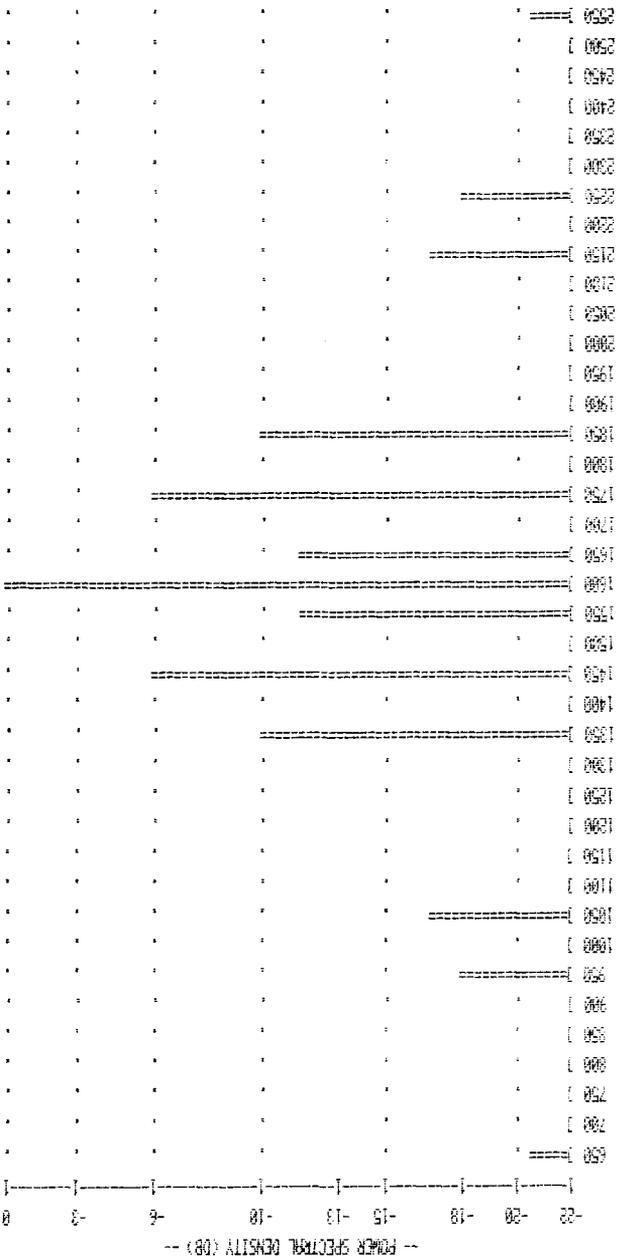
num reliable data rate that can be sent via FSK with
 a 400 Hz shift.) A sequence of eight data bits in a ran-
 dom pattern composed the signal sequence.
 Fig. 1 shows the spectrum plot for the FSK signal.
 We can see that the frequency components extend
 only from 950 to 1850 Hz, which makes for a tightly

Fig. 1. Analysis of frequency-shift keyed signal: the data rate of 400 BPS requires a bandwidth of 900 Hz, and provides moderate error protection.



400 HZ SHIFT FSK SIGNAL, 2.5 MS PULSE WIDTH, 1000 RAND 1600 HZ FREQS, DATA PATTERN IS 1,0,1,0,1,1,0 (RANDOM) FOR TYPICAL SIGNAL BANDWIDTH.

Fig. 2. Analysis of CW signal: the 400 BPS data rate requires only 500 Hz bandwidth, but has an error rate worse than that of the FSK method.



400 BPS CW DATA SIGNAL, 2.5 MS PULSE WIDTH, 1600 HZ CARRIER, DATA PATTERN IS 1,0,1,0,1,1,0 (RANDOM) FOR TYPICAL SIGNAL BANDWIDTH.

the presence of the signal could indicate a mark, and the absence, a space. This signal is also very simple to generate, and simple to demodulate. The error rate versus signal-to-noise ratio is not as good as that for an FSK signal, however. This is because it is easier to tell a mark from a space when we are considering two different frequencies than when we must determine the presence or absence of one signal in a noisy channel.

For this analysis, a CW signal at a 400 BPS data rate using 1600 Hz as the center frequency was used. The same data pattern used with the FSK signal was used with this signal.

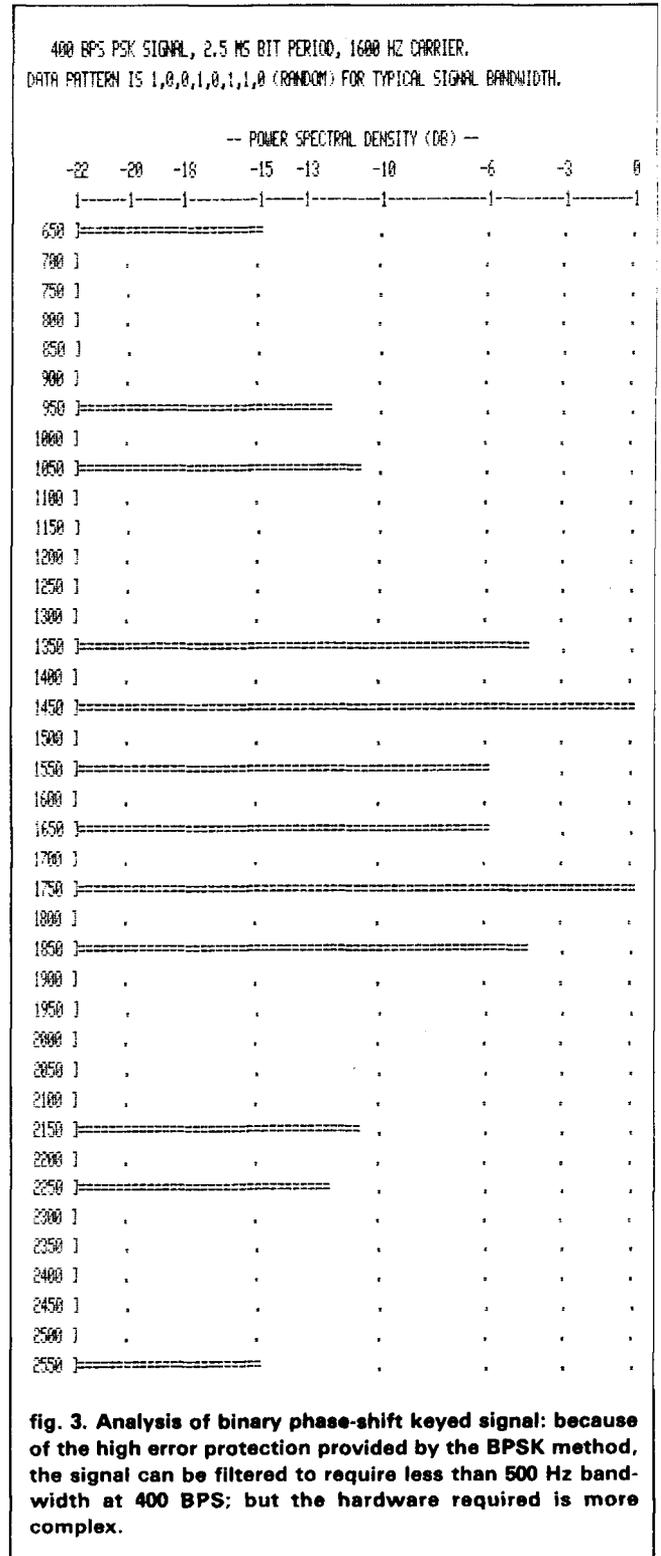
Fig. 2 shows the spectrum plot for the CW signal. We can see that (considering only -15 dB components or greater) the signal bandwidth (500 Hz) is narrower than for the FSK signal. We can also see that there are now other components farther out from the carrier. We can expect a small amount of signal distortion in the demodulator if we use filtering to limit our bandwidth to something on the order of what was required for FSK.

It is reasonable to expect the CW data signal to show higher harmonic spectral components than the FSK signal. The FSK waveform had smooth transitions between mark and space bits. The only difference between the two signals was a difference in frequency, and the transitions were made at a zero-crossing of the signal. Therefore, there were no abrupt changes in the FSK waveform. The CW signal, on the other hand, imposes very abrupt changes in the signal when it goes from mark to space — from no signal present, to full signal present. We know that higher harmonic terms are required in a signal spectrum to accomplish any abrupt transition like this in the waveform.

BPSK

Binary PSK sends a continuous carrier at one frequency, but the phase of the signal is shifted 180 degrees for a space bit. This signal, while requiring more complicated modulators and demodulators than either FSK or CW, provides an error rate superior to either other mode for a given signal-to-noise ratio.

Fig. 3 shows the spectrum plot for the 400 BPS BPSK signal. The same data pattern used in the previous examples was again used. We can see that the BPSK signal is wider than either the CW or FSK signals. This is not a surprise, since we know the BPSK waveform has very abrupt transitions at the bit boundaries where the phase of the carrier signal goes from $+180$ degrees to 0 degrees. In order to reproduce these abrupt transitions, the signal requires the higher harmonic spectral components that we see.



From this we can say that an unfiltered BPSK signal will require a wider signal bandwidth than CW or FSK for the same data rate; however, due to the superior synchronous detection process used (and required) with PSK, we can discard many of the

800 BPS QPSK SIGNAL, 2.5 MS BIT PERIOD, 1600 HZ CARRIER.
 DATA PATTERN IS 2,1,3,0,1,3,0,2 (RANDOM) FOR TYPICAL SIGNAL BANDWIDTH.

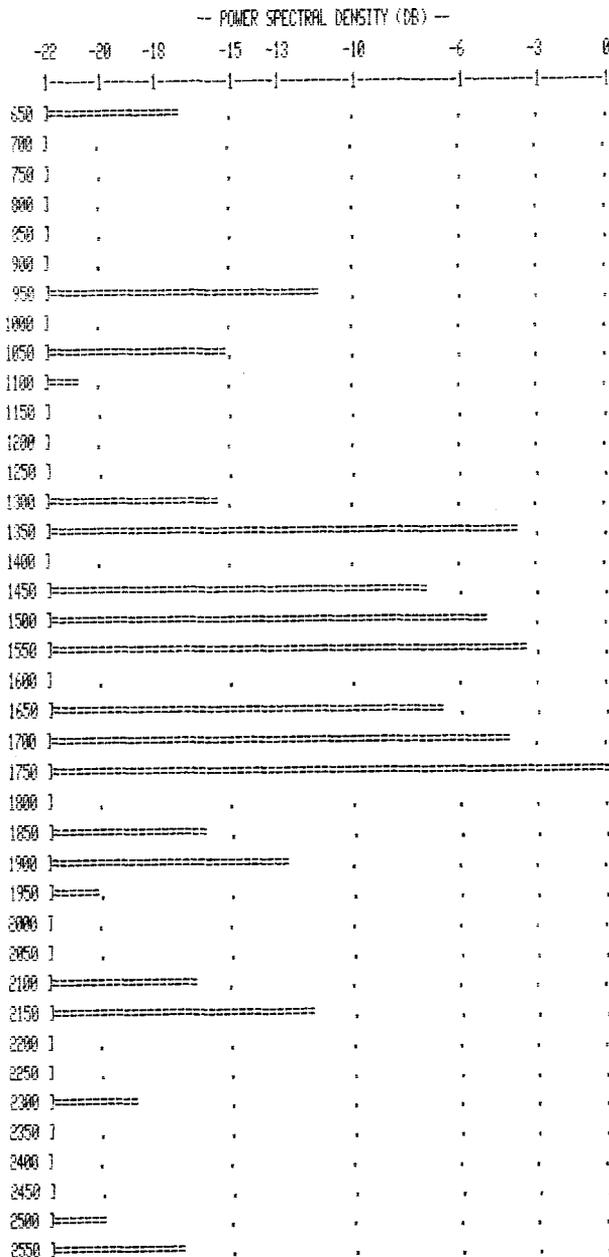


Fig. 4. Analysis of quaternary phase-shift keyed signal: because each bit in this system can have four states, filtered QPSK signals provide twice the data rate for the same bandwidth as the BPSK method (although the hardware is even more complex). The error rate is slightly worse than with the BPSK method.

higher harmonic spectral components (by filtering). This blurs the transitions between bits, but does not seriously disturb the most important signal information for each bit. We could use a filter at the transmit-

ter to limit signal bandwidth to that required for FSK, and the detection process would still work well. Then, in exchange for the added complexity of the BPSK modulator and demodulator, we could obtain superior error-rate performance at the same data rate and in the same bandwidth as FSK.

QPSK

Quaternary PSK sends a carrier with one of four possible phase states at any time (that is, 0, +90, +180, or +270 degrees). Rather than sending one of two possible signals during each bit interval in the channel, we now send one of four possible signals, so each channel can be used to send two data bits (also called a di-bit). This is how a QPSK signal using a 400 BPS signalling rate in the channel can maintain an 800 BPS data throughput.

Fig. 4 shows the spectrum plot for an 800 BPS (throughput) QPSK signal — twice the rate for the previous examples — operating at a 400 BPS signalling rate in the channel. The spectrum looks somewhat similar to the BPSK spectrum, except that there are now several additional frequency components close-in near the carrier.

The higher harmonic components decrease in amplitude at a rate similar to those for the BPSK signal. We are sending di-bits through the channel at a 400 BPS rate, so we can again filter the transmit signal to pass only components within 400 Hz of the carrier and obtain good receiver performance. (In fairness, we must note, however, that QPSK does not exhibit error-rate performance as good as BPSK — this is because it is more difficult for the decoder to make the proper decision from the more complicated signal set.)

The main advantage of QPSK is that, assuming we can tolerate a slightly worse error rate than with BPSK, we can send twice the data rate while using the same bandwidth as BPSK or FSK. This is especially important in Amateur Radio VHF fm applications where we have good signal-to-noise ratios, but limited bandwidths.

summary

FSK is currently the most popular data-modulation scheme, due to its simplicity; but, when Amateurs become interested in better error-rate performance and maximum data throughput for a given signal bandwidth, they will probably start moving toward filtered BPSK or QPSK. This will be especially true at VHF and UHF where the frequency-diversity advantages FSK enjoys at high-frequency frequencies are much reduced.

ham radio

battery charge sensor

A small sensor
that warns you
before your Ni-Cds discharge

Many a nickel-cadmium cell has been destroyed by depletion of its charge below the protective voltage level.¹ As many Amateurs know, when a Ni-Cd cell is discharged to near zero voltage there is a good possibility the cell may take on a reverse charge. The reason for this is the small differences in capacitance between cells; the cell reaching full discharge first is reversed charged. This condition can be prevented if the protective voltage level is detected and the cell is recharged.

My slightly vintage crystal 2-meter rig (a Kenwood TR2200A) uses ten Ni-Cd AA cells arranged in a four- and six-pack as its power source. The rig does have provision for monitoring the voltage level of the battery pack using the combination RF/S/battery-meter. This is fine if you operate in enough light to read the meter, which is, even under best conditions, somewhat inconvenient and difficult to read. But suppose you have no light — such as on your patio in the evening or in the forest on a camping trip. The battery meter is not of much use under these conditions.

My solution to this problem is a sensor circuit designed to continuously monitor the battery voltage and detect the approaching protective voltage level. When this level is reached, the sensor activates an alarm, which in my rig flashes the built-in channel pilot lamp at a 1-Hz rate. I chose to set this voltage level to 11 Vdc, which allows some additional time after the alarm to end a QSO. The lamp will automatically stop flashing when, during charge, 11 Vdc is exceeded. The sensor circuit and lamp are powered in such a way that the main ON/OFF power switch will turn off everything.

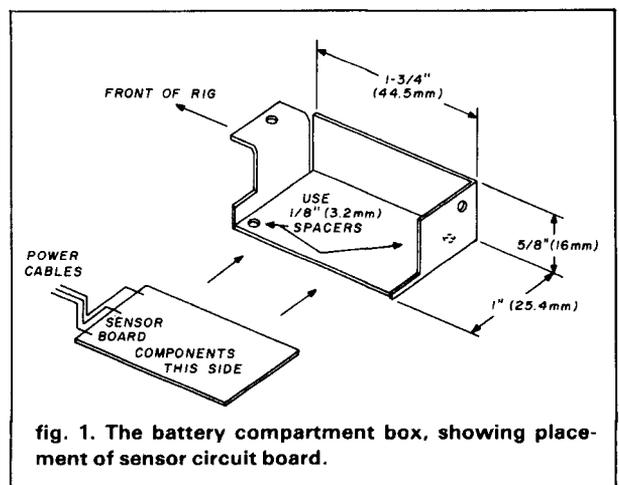


fig. 1. The battery compartment box, showing placement of sensor circuit board.

By F.T. Marcellino, W3BYM, 13806 Parkland Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20853

Introducing incredible tuning accuracy at an incredibly affordable price: The Command Series RF-3100 31-band AM/FM/SW receiver.* No other shortwave receiver brings in PLL quartz synthesized tuning and all-band digital readout for as low a price.† The tuner tracks and "locks" onto your signal, and the 5-digit display shows exactly what frequency you're on.

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just slightly ahead of our time.

Because my 2-meter rig is a Kenwood TR2200A, placement of the sensor was not difficult. In the battery compartment, the manufacturer had installed a rectangular box to take up space next to the four-cell pack. The box is removable by taking out two Phillips-head screws. The inside measurements of the box are $1 \times 1\text{-}3/4 \times 5/8$ inches, which lends itself to housing a miniature circuit board. Fig. 1 shows the removable portion of the box and how I mounted a hand-wired circuit board in place. Fig. 2 is the circuit board showing layout of parts.

circuit description

Assume the Ni-Cd battery pack has a charge between 11 Vdc and full charge. Under those conditions, the zener diode, CR3, will be biased into its forward breakdown region, developing a voltage at the junction of R1 and R2. If this voltage is above 0.65 Vdc, Q1 will be saturated with its collector pulled down essentially to ground. This condition prevents Q2 from conducting, and so the ground pin No. 1 of the 555 will be held high near the battery voltage. The 555 will not start oscillating until pin 1 is grounded. The output of the 555 is pin 3 and it is internally held at the battery voltage at this time. A PNP transistor, Q3, is used to control the alarm/channel lamp. The lamp will light every time Q3's base is grounded — or flash if the base is pulsed to ground.

As the battery pack depletes itself and the terminal voltage approaches 11 Vdc, CR3, a 9.2-Vdc zener, will stop conducting because it is biased above ground by CR1, CR2, and the emitter-base diode of Q1. Fig. 3 shows the sensor circuit, including the zener voltage drops for battery levels of 11 Vdc to full charge. To achieve the proper protective voltage level it is necessary for CR1, CR2, and Q1 to be sili-

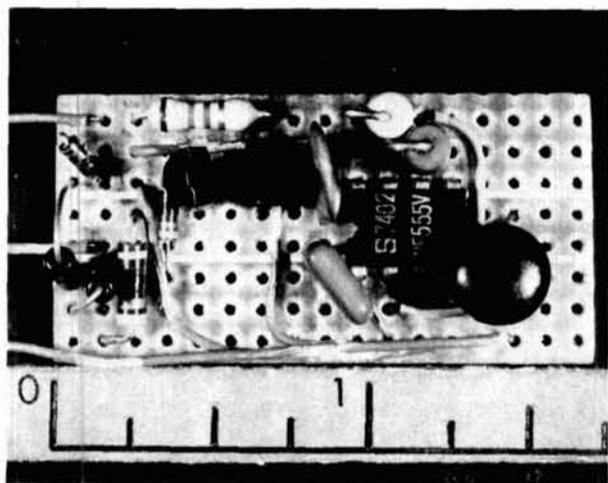


fig. 2. Sensor circuit board and parts layout.

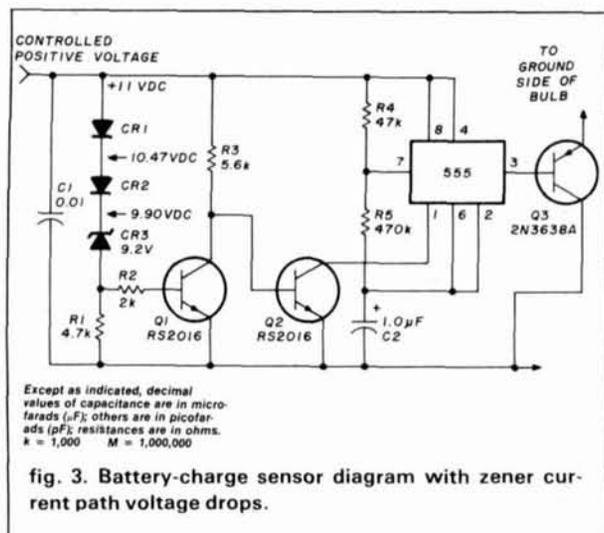


fig. 3. Battery-charge sensor diagram with zener current path voltage drops.

con devices. Germanium components will not do because of their lower forward bias voltages, placing the level far too low. When Q1 stops conducting, Q2 will saturate and ground pin 1 of the 555. At this time the channel lamp will begin to flash at a 1-Hz rate.

The sensor circuit is composed of fourteen components plus the circuit board. With a typical ham's junkbox, the sensor can be produced for less than five dollars. The circuit requires three hard-wired connections to the rig: a power ground, a connection to the ground side of the channel lamp, and a controlled positive battery voltage.

Normal operation of the TR2200A's front panel lamp switch is not impaired by the sensor circuit. The channel lamp can be turned on at any time — even when the lamp is flashing. The standby current drawn by the sensor is 5 mA at a battery charging voltage of 13.6 Vdc and it tapers to 2.28 mA just prior to the lamp's flashing at 11 Vdc. These current levels are constant and do not change under transmit conditions. I consider this current drain a small price to pay for Ni-Cd reverse-polarity protection. In my rig the original standby drain was 45 mA, so an additional 5 mA amounts to slightly more than 10 percent.

One nice feature of this sensor is that it can be removed quite easily for resale purposes. The rig would regain its original unmodified status with no unwanted front panel holes. But once the purpose of the sensor has been explained to the buyer, he probably would gladly accept the rig with the modification included.

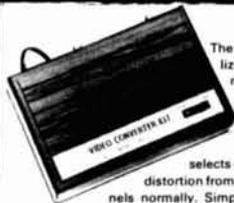
ham radio

reference

1. "Eveready Battery Applications and Engineering Data," Union Carbide Corporation, 1968.

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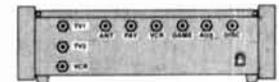
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ham radio TECHNIQUES

Bill Over
W6SAI

The fall antenna construction season is almost over and the winter months are close at hand. Not much time left this year for antenna experimentation!

Even so, here's some interesting and useful data on the inverted-V dipole antenna. This simple antenna is very popular. It has the forgiving characteristics of the dipole (easy to get into operation), it is inexpensive, a good radiator and it can be supported from a single center point.

This past summer some extensive tests were run on the inverted-V dipole by JA5COY (Japan) and were reported in a recent issue of *CQ-ham radio*, published in Tokyo.

JA5COY made measurements summarized in fig. 1. The first tests were on an 80-meter dipole (fig. 1A). The antenna exhibited a feedpoint impedance very close to 73 ohms, as expected, and the bandwidth between the 2-to-1 SWR points was about 330 kHz.

He then dropped the ends of the dipole to form an included angle of 120 degrees and repeated his tests (fig. 1B). The feedpoint impedance dropped from 73 ohms to 50 ohms and the bandwidth dropped to 310 kHz.

The last experiment was to decrease the included angle to 90 degrees (fig. 1C). The feedpoint impedance dropped down to 30 ohms at

resonance and the bandwidth further decreased to 210 kHz between the 2-to-1 SWR points of measurement. And, finally, the resonant frequency dropped about 35 kHz from that of the straight, horizontal dipole. Antenna height during these tests was not noted.

This is handy information, as it provides all that is needed for a pre-cut inverted-V dipole antenna. The summation is:

Dipole antenna:

$$\text{Length for resonant frequency} = \frac{468}{f(\text{MHz})} \text{ feet}$$

(Feedpoint impedance approximately 73 ohms.)

Inverted-V dipole antenna:

Included angle = 120 degrees

$$\text{Length for resonant frequency} = \frac{465.6}{f(\text{MHz})} \text{ feet}$$

(Feedpoint impedance approximately 50 ohms.)

Inverted-V dipole antenna:

Included angle = 90 degrees

$$\text{Length for resonant frequency} = \frac{463.3}{f(\text{MHz})} \text{ feet}$$

(Feedpoint impedance approximately 30 ohms.)

As an example, suppose you want an inverted-V dipole for 80-meter

phone operation to cover the range of 3750 to 4000 kHz. This is a span of 250 kHz. An antenna with an angle of 120 degrees included will do the job as it provides a bandwidth of about 310 kHz and — best of all — has a feedpoint impedance of about 50 ohms when mounted at a reasonable height above ground.

The mid-point of the chosen range is 3875 kHz, so the dipole is cut for this frequency:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Inverted-V dipole length} &= \frac{465.6}{3.875} \\ &= 120.15 \text{ feet, or } 120 \text{ feet, } 2 \text{ inches} \\ &\text{(round it off to 120 feet).} \end{aligned}$$

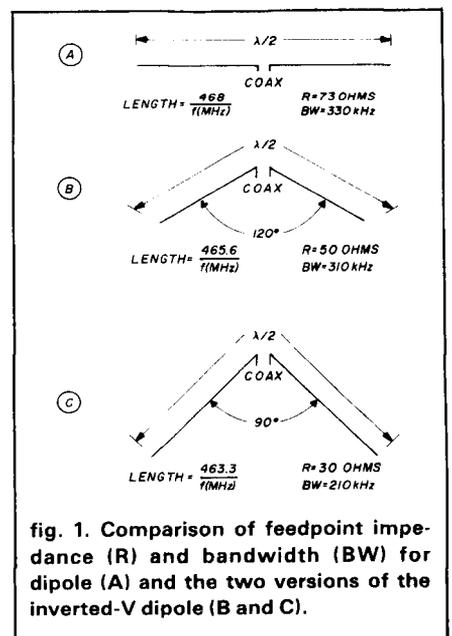


fig. 1. Comparison of feedpoint impedance (R) and bandwidth (BW) for dipole (A) and the two versions of the inverted-V dipole (B and C).

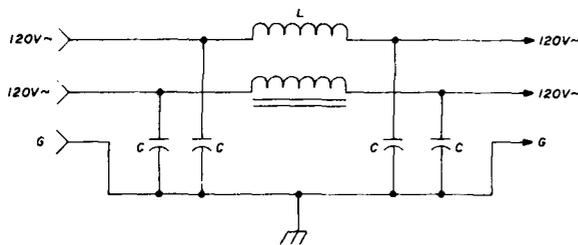


fig. 2. A simple line filter you can make. The dual winding coil (L) is composed of 20 bifilar turns No. 18 insulated wire, wound on a ferrite rod, 1/2-inch diameter. Rod is 61 nickel-zinc material having a permeability of 125 (J.W. Miller FR-500-7 or Amidon R61-050-750). Wires are wound in parallel and ends are held in place with twine and epoxy cement. Capacitors (C) are 0.01- μ F ceramic units, rated for continuous operation at 125 Vac and can withstand surges to 1400 volts (Aerovox AC-7, Centralab CI-103 or Sprague 125L-S10). Filter is built on a metal plate bolted within an aluminum chassis which serves as a dust cover. (Filter data from *Interference Handbook*, by Nelson, published by Radio Publications, Inc., Box 149, Wilton, Connecticut 06897).

Thus, the dipole will be 60 feet on a leg, with an included angle of 120 degrees and should cover the complete 80-meter phone region with an SWR of less than 2-to-1.

The antenna can be zeroed-in for minimum SWR by raising or lowering the ends of the dipole. As in the case of any antenna, the presence of nearby metallic objects (power lines, TV antennas, etc.) may alter the performance and SWR a bit.

more about TVI and RFI

TVI and RFI seem to be a sore subject these days. More hams and more entertainment equipment is the prime factor, plus the fact that solid-state circuits, as used in home entertainment equipment, operate at a lower signal level than does the older, tube-style gear. Nevertheless, the Amateur operator should make sure his equipment is clean and a few simple preventive, anti-TVI steps should be taken *even if there is no TVI or RFI*. Better to be safe than sorry!

Cleaning up the exciter: at the very least, an rf line filter should be used with the exciter to prevent rf from finding its way into the primary power line. A simple and effective line filter, such as the J.W. Miller¹ C-508-L, or equivalent, will be satisfactory. In ad-

dition, the exciter should be grounded (more about this later).

Cleaning up the linear amplifier: an rf line filter should be used on the linear amplifier. J.W. Miller Co., and others, make suitable filters, or you can build your own. A practical filter is shown in fig. 2.

Your antenna system: you'll require a lowpass filter between your transmitter and your antenna. It should go in the 50-ohm coaxial line after all such devices as SWR meters or coaxial switches. That is, there should be nothing between the filter and the antenna except the interconnection line. Several makes of lowpass filters are available; a good one is the Barker & Williamson 425, rated at 1 kW.² (The model 424 filter is rated at 100 watts — just the thing for your exciter.) Both these filters are designed for 50-ohm coaxial systems.

Your ground system: the station ground is important, especially from the FCC point of view. If you are ever visited by the FCC or a TVI committee, one of the first questions they will ask is, "Is the transmitting equipment grounded?"

To protect yourself in this instance, you'll need a ground lead from the equipment to the nearest ground point: either a water pipe ground or

an external ground rod driven into the soil.

From a legal point of view, this satisfies the requirement. But I don't have to tell you that such a ground is worthless as an rf ground. Unfortunately, a good rf ground is hard to get, unless your station is at ground level and the ground wire from the equipment to the ground is only a foot or two long! In most cases, this is an impossible requirement.

In my case, I am on the ground floor of my home. I connected all equipment (receiver, exciter, amplifier) together with flexible No. 10 insulated copper wire. I did not depend upon the shields of the coaxial interconnecting wires to do the job. The next step was to drill a small hole in the floor behind the operating table and drive an eight-foot (2.5 m) ground rod down into the earth through this hole, until only an inch of the rod protruded into the room. I then ran a No. 10 flexible wire from the equipment to the ground rod.

This provided a satisfactory ground on all bands except 10 meters. I found that I still had some rf floating around the equipment on that band, even though everything was supposedly at ground potential. I didn't want to drive another ground rod under the house (it was a terrible job), so I drove one into the ground at the point where my coaxial line came from under the house and passed across the yard to the antenna tower. I grounded the shield of the coaxial line to this ground rod and then, spurred on by over-enthusiasm, I drove a third ground rod at the base of the tower and tied the coaxial shield and the tower to this rod. In addition, I bypassed all the rotor control wires to the ground rod at the base of the tower.

That seemed to do the job. All equipment was rf-cold on all bands, I used a lowpass TVI filter for the transmitter and all power leads were filtered and bypassed. That should make my equipment TVI-proof. Did it?

cleaning up the TV receiver

The answer to the question, of course, is no. While my transmitting equipment was reasonably clean, both my TV receiver and those of my neighbors were wide open to strong local signals in the ham bands. My receiver (a ten year old RCA XL-100) turned black in the face when I went on the air with the linear amplifier — on any band!

When I removed the back from the set, the reason was apparent: a rat's nest of interconnecting wires running between printed circuit boards and no sign of any filtering or protective circuits. (The TV set was much worse, from a TVI point of view, than my previous one — an old tube model with very good internal shielding).

To clean up this receiver, it was necessary to use a line filter (J.W. Miller C-508-L), plus a good high-pass filter on the antenna ribbon line. One of the best filters is the J.W. Miller C-513-T3. This is a multiple section design enclosed in an aluminum box. It provides more low frequency attenuation than simpler filters.

The combination of the line filter and the high-pass antenna filter did the job. Now I could operate at full power on all bands below 30 MHz with no TVI. Eventually, I got Miller line and high-pass filters for my nearby neighbors and now I am clean on their TV receivers.

what about stereo equipment?

Ham signals can easily get into stereo gear and can cause a lot of problems. Again, the cause is simple. The equipment is mostly solid-state, operates at low signal levels and has no shielding or filtering against strong nearby radio transmissions! The stereo market is very competitive and everything that can be done to save a penny is done, and this includes omission of any RFI suppression circuits.

Filtering and bypassing interconnecting leads usually solves this vexing problem, but the subject is too

table 1. List of stations registered for operation on 10.1 and 10.15 MHz.

kHz	mode	call	location	kW	remarks
10,100.0	RTTY	RUZU	Molodzhnaya Base, Antarctica		Meteo
100.5	CW	KNY28	Washington, DC, U.S.A.	1.0	Algerian Embassy
102.0	RTTY	YIF25	Baghdad, Iraq	2.5	PTT
103.0	"	YIE99	" "	2.5	INA
103.3	ISB	WWL20	San Juan, PR, U.S.A.	2.0	Telcom
105.0	RTTY	RKA79	Moscow, U.S.S.R.	20.0	TASS
105.0	"	STL52	Khartoum, Sudan	5.0	SUNA
113.0	"	FJY2	Port-aux-Francais, Kerguelen Is.	1.0	Meteo/TFC
114.7	ISB	TTZ	N'Djamena, Chad	6.0	Telcom/TFC
115.0	CW	8PX	Barbados, Barbados	0.2	TFC
115.0	FAX	BAF4	Beijing, P.R. China		Meteo
116.5	RTTY	5NK33	Kano, Nigeria	3.5	Meteo
118.0	USB	RGI24	Moscow, U.S.S.R.	15.0	R. Moscow Feeder
118.5	RTTY	OEM70	Vienna, Austria	5.0	Meteo
118.7	"	STK	Khartoum, Sudan		Aero
120.0	"	HMR59	Pyongyang, North Korea		KCNA
122.0	"	AWC	Calcutta, India	2.5	Aero
123.1	CW	CSP40	Guarda, Portugal		Air Force
125.0	RTTY	ETD3	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	2.5	Aero
125.0	"	OLG3	Prague, Czechoslovakia	30.0	TFC
126.0	"	DKZ	Berlin, German D.R.		DP
127.5	"	NGD	McMurdo Base, Antarctica	15.0	USN
128.0	ISB	JBE30	Tokyo, Japan	10.0	TFC
130.0	RTTY	NAA	Colter, ME, U.S.A.	15.0	USN
130.0	"	YIF29	Baghdad, Iraq		INA
130.0	FAX	RBW48	Murmansk, U.S.S.R.	20.0	Meteo
132.0	RTTY	TNL55	Brazzaville, Congo	1.5	Aero
133.0	"	J3R			UNID
135.0	ISB	IRH31	Rome, Italy	10.0	Telcom
136.6	CW/USB		Emergency Nets of U.S.A.		USCG
137.0	RTTY	TNL97	Brazzaville, Congo	1.5	Meteo
140.0	RTTY/CW	RUZU	Molodzhnaya Base, Antarctica		Meteo/TFC
140.0	RTTY	UBJ	Baku, U.S.S.R.		Meteo
140.0	CW	UGE2	Bellinghousen Base, Antarctica		TFC
143.0	RTTY	A9C	Bahrain, Bahrain		Aero
144.9	"	HBO20	Geneva, Switzerland	10.0	
145.0	"	JA E30	Japan		
147.0	USB	TUP	Abidjan, Ivory Coast	2.0	Telcom
150.0	RTTY	SUA246	Cairo, Egypt	10.0	MENA

complex to cover in this short article. A recommended publication tells the whole story and gives you plenty of good data on RFI problems in general.³

two new, good books for Radio Amateurs

It is always refreshing to find publications of interest to Radio Amateurs. Prentice-Hall publishers (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey) are entering this field with two new books by Doug DeMaw, W1FB. Doug, as you

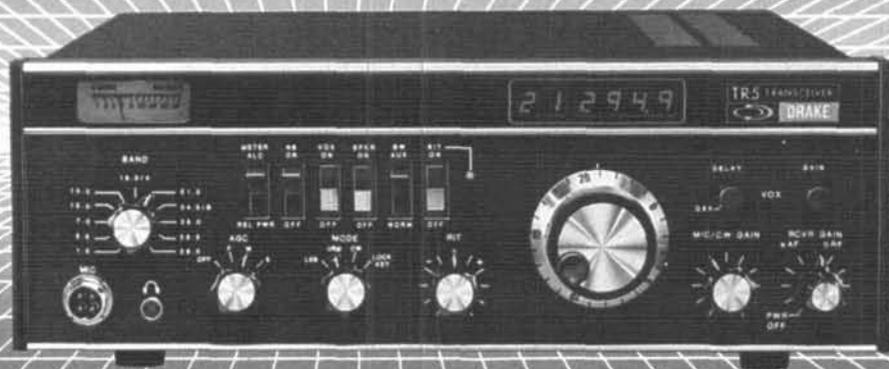
know, is the Senior Technical Editor of *QST* magazine.

Doug's first book is *Ferromagnetic-Core Design & Application Handbook*.⁴ This hardcover, 256-page book covers design and use of inductors using toroids, rods and pot cores for ferrite and powdered-iron materials.

Ferromagnetic materials are common today in receiver and transmitter circuits, power supplies, and antenna baluns, but the use and theory of these interesting devices are shroud-

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A rugged, solid-state PA provides continuous duty in SSB and CW modes. A cooling fan (FA7) is available for more demanding duty cycles, such as SSTV or RTTY. The PA also features very low harmonic and spurious output.

VOX GAIN, VOX DELAY, VOX disable, QSK, selectable AGC time constants, RIT and noise blanker selection are front panel controlled for ease of operation.

The TR5 is designed with modular construction techniques for easy accessibility and service.

GENERAL

Frequency Coverage: 1.8-2.0*, 3.5-4.0, 7.0-7.5, 10.0-10.5, 14.0-14.5, 18.0-18.5*, 21.0-21.5, 24.5-25.0*, 28.0-28.5*, 28.5-29.0, 29.0-29.7* MHz. (*With accessory range crystal).

Modes of Operation: Usb, Lsb, Cw.

Frequency Stability: Less than 1 kHz drift first hour. Less than 150 Hz per hour drift after first hour. Less than 100 Hz change for a $\pm 10\%$ line voltage change.

Readout Accuracy: ± 10 ppm ± 100 Hz.

Power Requirements: 13.6 V-dc regulated, 2 A. 12 to 16 V-dc unregulated, 0.8 V rms maximum ripple, 15 A.

Dimensions:

Depth: 12.5 in. (31.75 cm), excluding knobs and connectors.

Width: 13.6 in. (34.6 cm).

Height: 4.6 in. (11.7 cm) excluding feet.

Weight: 14 lb. (6.35 kg)

TRANSMITTER

Power Input (Nominal): 150 Watts, PEP or Cw.

Load Impedance: 50 ohms.

Spurious and Harmonic Output: Greater than 40 dB down.

Intermodulation Distortion: Greater than 30 dB below PEP.

Carrier Suppression: Greater than 50 dB.

Undesired Sideband Suppression: Greater than 60 dB at 1 kHz.

Duty Cycle:

Ssb, Cw: 100%.

Lock Key (w/o FA7 Fan): 30%, 5 minutes maximum transmit.

Lock Key (w/FA7 Fan): 100%.

Microphone Input: High Impedance.

Cw Keying: Instantaneous full break-in, adjustable delay.

RECEIVER

Sensitivity: Less than 0.5 μ V for 10 dB S + N/N except less than 1.0 μ V, 1.8-2.0 MHz.

Selectivity: 2.3 kHz minimum at -6 dB. 4.1 kHz maximum at -60 dB (1.8:1 shape factor).

Ultimate Selectivity: Greater than -95 dB.

Agc: Less than 5 dB output variation for 100 dB input signal change, referenced to agc threshold.

Intermodulation: (20 kHz or greater spacing) *Intercept Point:* Greater than 0 dBm. *Two-Tone Dynamic Range:* Greater than 85 dB.

I-F Frequency: 5.645 MHz.

I-F Rejection: 50 dB, minimum.

Image Rejection: 60 dB, minimum below 14 MHz. 50 dB, minimum above 14 MHz.

Audio Output: 2 watts, minimum @ less than 10% THD (4 ohm load).

Spurious Response: Greater than 60 dB down.

ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE

Model 7021 SL300 CW Filter
Model 7022 SL500 CW Filter
Model 7027 SL1000 RTTY Filter
Model 7023 SL1800 RTTY Filter

Model 7026 SL4000 AM Filter
Model 7024 SL6000 AM Filter
Model 1570 PS75 AC Power Supply
Model 1545 RV75 Synthesized Remote VFO

Model 1531 MS7 Speaker
Model 1507 CW75 Keyer
Model 1558 NB5 Noise Blanker
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ROTATOR MODEL	ANTENNA WIND-LOAD CAPACITY	
	MOUNTED INSIDE TOWER	WITH STANDARD LOWER MAST ADAPTER
AR22XL or AR40	3.0 sq. ft. (.28 sq. m)	1.5 sq. ft. (.14 sq. m)
CD45 II	8.5 sq. ft. (.79 sq. m)	5.0 sq. ft. (.46 sq. m)
HAM IV	15.0 sq. ft. (1.4 sq. m)	N/A
T ² X	20.0 sq. ft. (1.9 sq. m)	N/A
HDR300	25.0 sq. ft. (2.3 sq. m)	N/A

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ed in mystery for most Amateurs. Doug's book tells the whole story in simple words and terms and covers circuit design and application from A to Z. The information is invaluable and the book should be in every ham's library. Of great help is the section covering available cores and rods. Now when some article specifies a core with a red dot on it, or Q-2 material, I'll know what the author is talking about!

Doug's second book is *Practical RF Design Manual*,⁴ a hardcover book of 246 pages. This is a gold mine of information for the experimenter who designs and builds his own equipment, or for the inquisitive Amateur who wants to know how his gear works. It covers the important circuitry used in today's exciters, receivers and transceivers. It contains in-depth coverage that general-coverage handbooks can't afford to include, mainly because of a restriction on the total number of pages in the publication.

The book has an impressive section on receiver dynamic range, and equally handy sections on frequency control systems, very useful to the home constructor. It also includes more data on small- and large-signal amplifiers than I have ever seen in one publication. Best of all, the book is written in language the average Amateur can understand.

the 10-MHz Amateur band

I have monitored the 10-MHz band almost daily during the past year. Over 50 countries permit Amateur operation on this band and such good DXers as FB8WG and VK9YC operate regularly in the 10-MHz region. By the date this is in print, the band should be open to American Amateurs.

It is interesting to compare those who should be in this region against those who are actually there. **Table 1** shows the official International Telecommunications list of stations registered for operation between 10.1 and 10.15 MHz. Careful monitoring of the

band during the summer showed that most of these stations really weren't there, with the exception of NAA's powerful RTTY signal at 10.130 MHz. Most of the rest of the ITU-registered stations were conspicuous by their absence. In their place was a rag-tag group of intruders who have less legal reason for being there than do Radio Amateurs.

the new Radio Handbook

The twenty-second edition of the *Radio Handbook* (Howard W. Sams Co., publisher) has been on the market for a few months.⁵ I have edited this book since the fourteenth edition (1956). It is interesting to note the tremendous advance made in Amateur Radio in 26 years!

The new edition is primarily devoted to solid-state equipment, side-band and linear amplifiers — the latter hardly mentioned or known in 1956. And in addition, counters, phase-locked oscillators, fm, satellite communication, moonbounce, slow-scan TV, RTTY, color TV, spread-spectrum transmission, keyboards, keyers, solid-state amplifiers, and low noise reception are covered in the twenty-second edition of the *Radio Handbook*.

ham radio

references

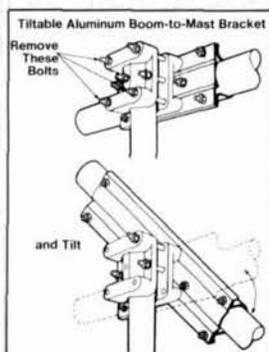
1. A copy of the J.W. Miller catalog can be obtained free by writing to: Bill Courtney, J.W. Miller Division, Bell Industries, Box 5825, Compton, California 90224.
2. A copy of the B&W catalog can be obtained free by writing Elmer Bush, Barker and Williamson, 10 Canal St., Bristol, Pennsylvania 19007.
3. RFI is no problem if you don't have it, but many headaches if you do. Recommended reading on this subject is the *Interference Handbook*, by William Nelson, WA6FQG, former RFI investigator, Southern California Edison Company. The Ham Radio Bookstore has this *Handbook*, or it may be ordered from Radio Publications, Box 149, Wilton, Connecticut 06897.
4. These books are available from the Ham Radio's Bookstore for \$28.95 each plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.
5. Available from the Ham Radio's Bookstore, Greenville, New Hampshire 03048 for \$34.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

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204BAS	10	25	4	36.5	26	4.9	7.6	21.3
205BAS	11.6	35	5	36.5	34	7.9	6.7	25
155BAS	12	25	5	24.5	26	10.4	7.6	35
105BAS	12	35	5	18.5	24	7.9	5.3	19
				5.6	7.3	4.6	10	13

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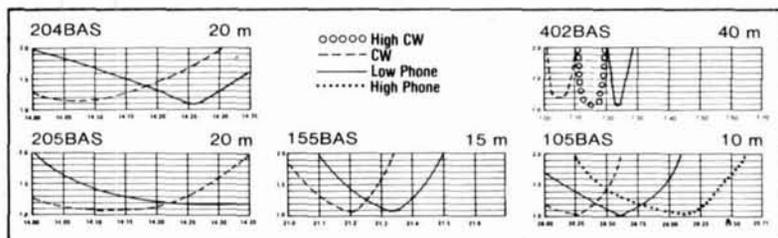


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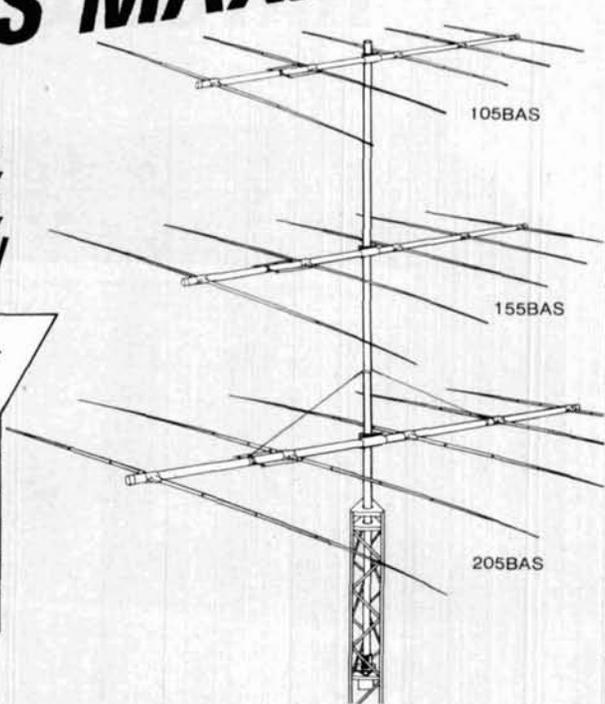


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Beauty is more than skin deep. The contemporary styling with the blackout LED frequency display (last digit in green), the baked-on textured bronze/black finish with aluminum trim will retain its handsome appearance permanently. Beneath its sleek exterior is a carefully crafted chassis packed with performance.

There are many other features, each with superb performance. An effective speech processor, notch filter, adjustable noise blanker, signal spotter, three position AGC, threshold ALC, simplified VOX, all controlled from the front panel. In addition, the CORSAIR has a compression loaded speaker, less than 2% audio distortion, and full accessory connections including remote bandswitch output. It even has a volume equalizing headphone output.

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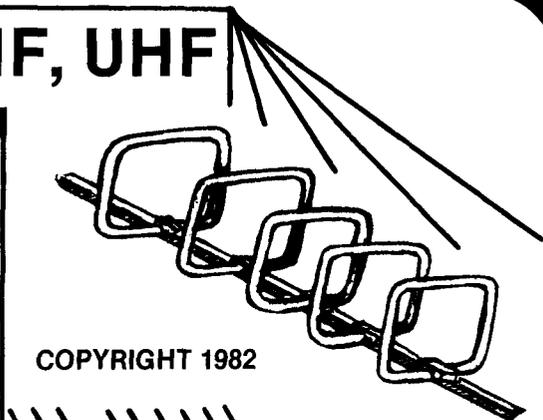
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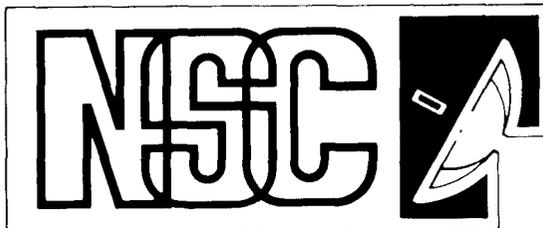
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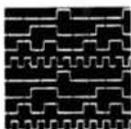
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Heath's SS-9000 Deluxe Synthesized HF Transceiver is a quantum leap ahead in terminal-controllable communications gear. Streamlined for ultimate performance. Consummate in every design detail. Pacesetter amateurs will use it to set a new high standard for station and contest control.

Entirely solid-state, broadbanded in design. Delivers 100 watts out on SSB, CW and RTTY.

Built-in Motorized Bandswitch rotates band selector to the desired setting under remote control.

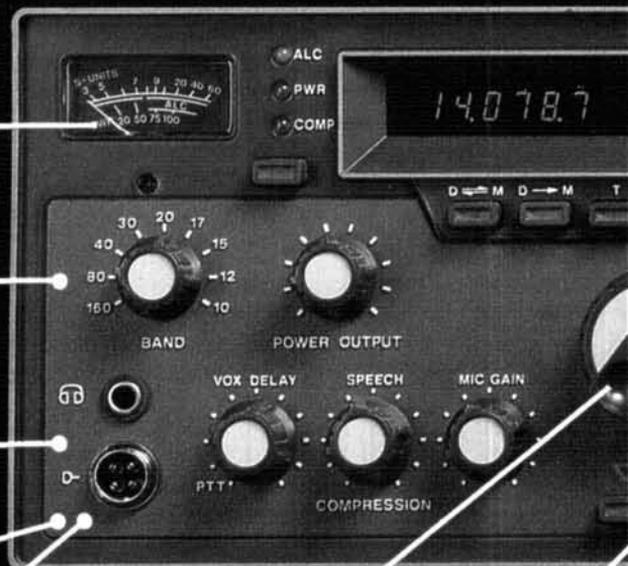
A Terminal Interface offers two-way communication between the Transceiver and an ASCII teletype, video terminal or computer through a rear panel RS-232C I/O port.

Commands are available to select, display and change the band, mode, all 27 memory and operating frequencies, passband shift, plus the band scanning and baud rates.

Also, set and toggle T/R/Tr status on the display, and freely manipulate the three frequencies on each band, with full diagnostic error-prompting.

Main tuning dial has optically-encoded shaft for smooth, linkage-free control and zero backlash.

Pushbutton up & down variable-speed scan traverses the band in 16 selectable rates, with 100 Hz final resolution and ultra-low drift.



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Unique dual digital display gives the smart operator multiplied advantage in frequency-handling speed and agility.

100% synthesized and micro-processor-based. A crystal controlled master oscillator provides exact PLL reference for super stability and repeatability.

Simultaneous readout of working frequencies. Pushbutton exchange with (and copy into) memory or opposite display permits instantaneous QSY.

256 bytes of on-board CMOS Random Access Memory accepts three inputs per band (preserved with battery backup) for a total of 27 frequencies to recall and work at will.

Superior over-current, thermal and high VSWR protection incorporated for safe, worry-free operation.

The PS-9000 AC Power Supply with Speaker and independent 12/24-hour digital clocks (illustrated below) is a perfectly matched component.

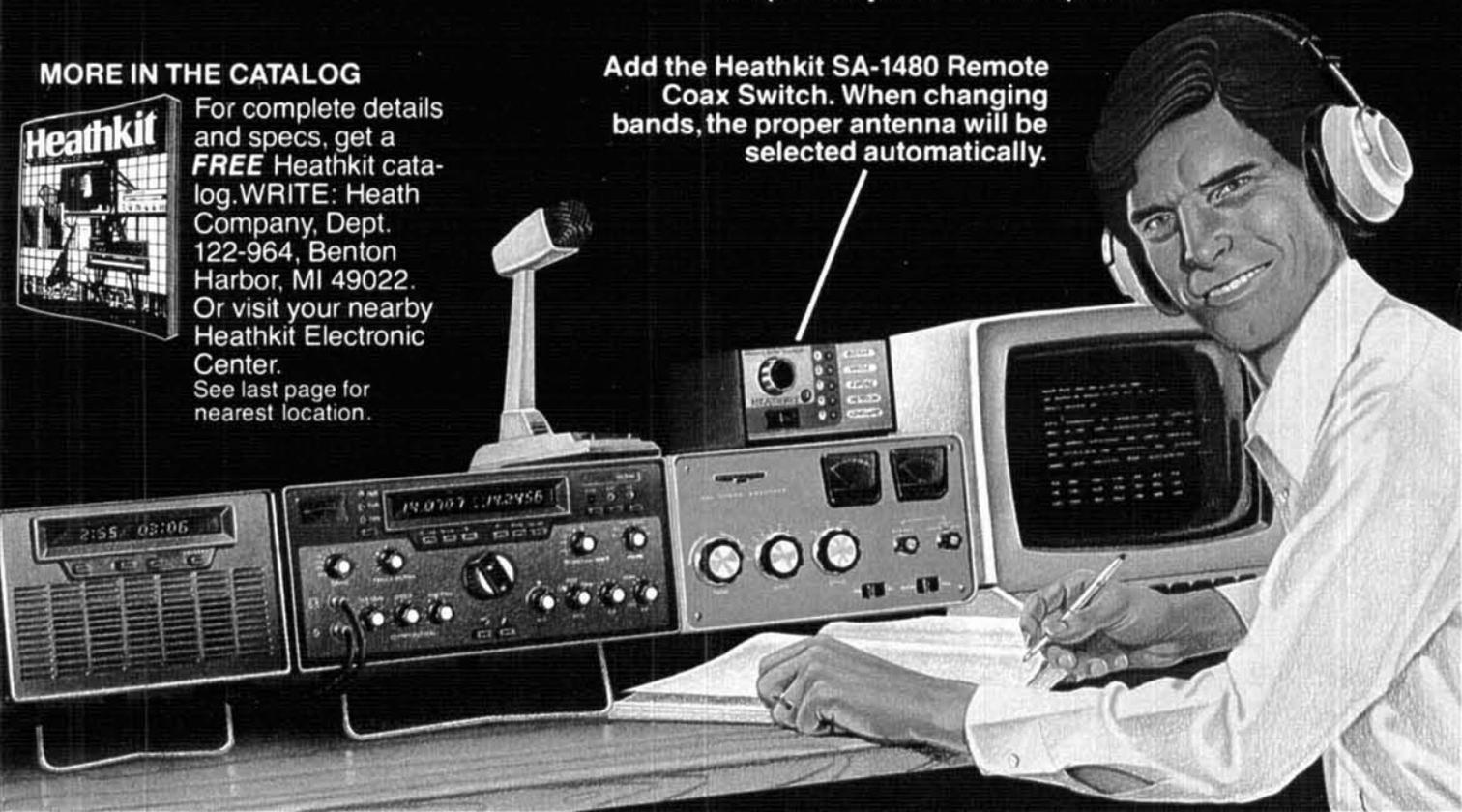
Assembled and tested in the USA.

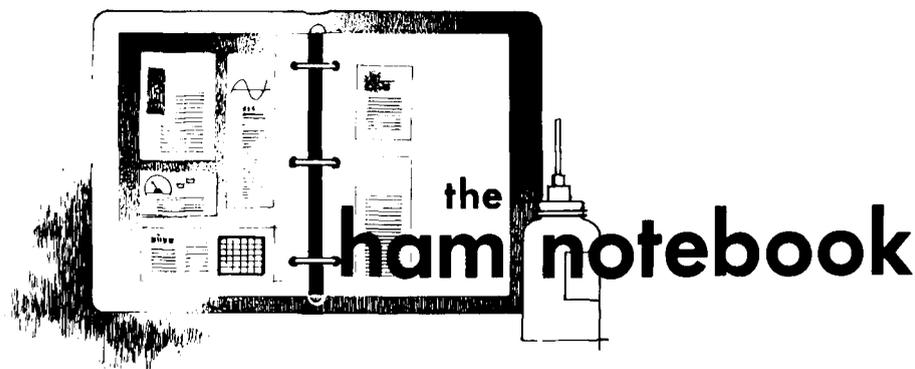
MORE IN THE CATALOG



For complete details and specs, get a **FREE** Heathkit catalog. WRITE: Heath Company, Dept. 122-964, Benton Harbor, MI 49022. Or visit your nearby Heathkit Electronic Center. See last page for nearest location.

Add the Heathkit SA-1480 Remote Coax Switch. When changing bands, the proper antenna will be selected automatically.





Ten-Tec 645 ultramatic keyer mods

I run my station on battery 100 percent of the time, and am always looking for a way to trim a few milliamps of drain. I became concerned with the appetite of my Ten-Tec 645 Ultramatic Keyer the first time I put a meter in series and discovered a quiescent drain of over 300 mA. After opening the case and pulling the board, I burned my thumb on the two 68 ohm 2-watt resistors used to drop the 12 Vdc line.

I removed R₁₇, R₁₈, and D₃, a 5.6 volt zener diode. In this same space I mounted an LM340 T-5 three-terminal regulator and a small heatsink.

The regulator mounted easily after I drilled a single hole for the middle (ground) wire. I could then put the keyer back in its original shape without a lot of telltale holes in the board.

Because this regulator is some distance from the 12 volt supply, I used an external bypass capacitor of 0.22 μ F on the input terminal of the regulator. Mount it as close as possible to the regulator. The 0.1 μ F capacitor recommended for the output is provided by C₉ already in place.

Next socket the ICs and substitute some 7400 LS chips for the original 7400s. I did this on a trial and error basis and found it worked for IC-1, IC-2, IC-3 but *not* IC-4 and IC-5.

Thus, you need two 74LS00 (IC 1 and 2) and one 74LS10 (IC-3). A check showed 120 mA quiescent, almost a two-thirds reduction! Not enough to fool with if you are using commercial ac, but enough to make a difference for extended battery operation.

Adding an extra key jack in parallel with the output of the 645 keyer allows you to use a straight key. Mount the phono jack on the rear panel and bypass with a 0.01 μ F capacitor.

The low speed range of the keyer can be expanded by changing the value of R₁ from 4.7K to 8.2K. Unless you really need 50 WPM, it is much nicer to be able to accurately adjust in the 10-20 WPM range; the top end is still above 40 WPM.

A stereo (three conductor) jack can be added to the rear panel to allow the use of the 645 paddles to feed a memory keyer (such as the Autek MK-1). Use a shorting jack and the paddles return to the 645 when the plug is removed. This saves getting used to new paddles for contest work.

Gil Frey, Jr., K4JST

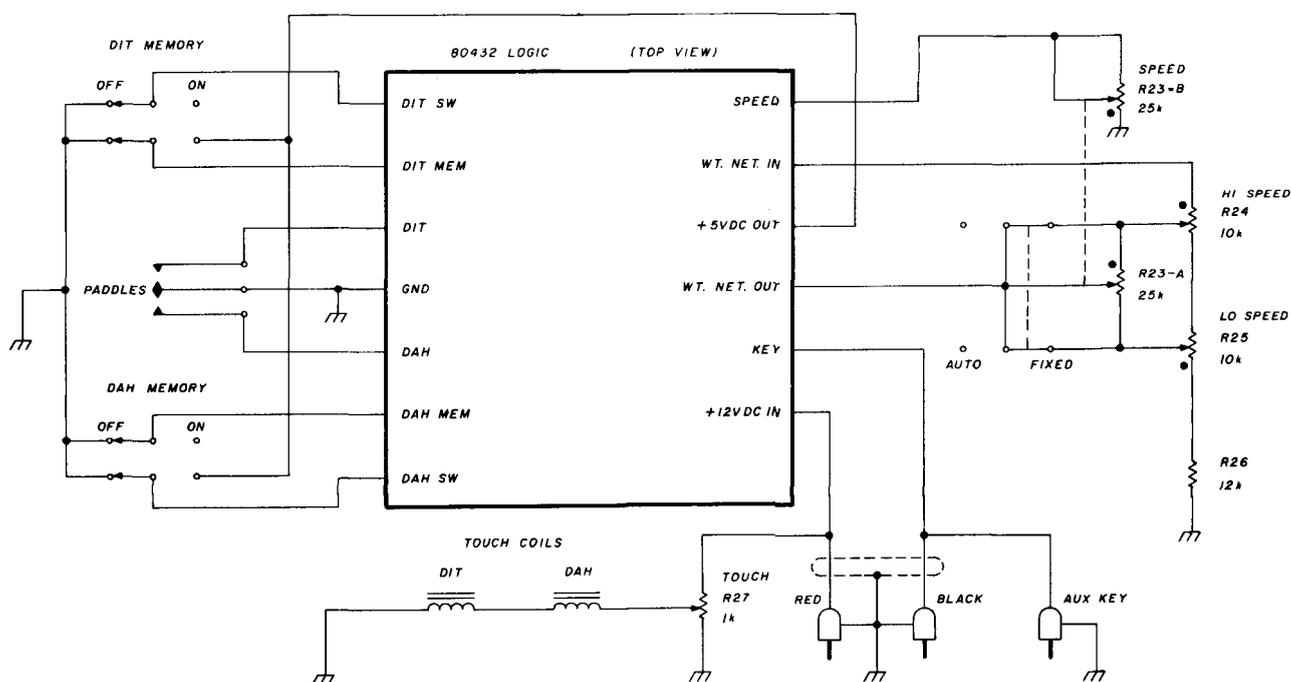


fig. 1. Logic board.

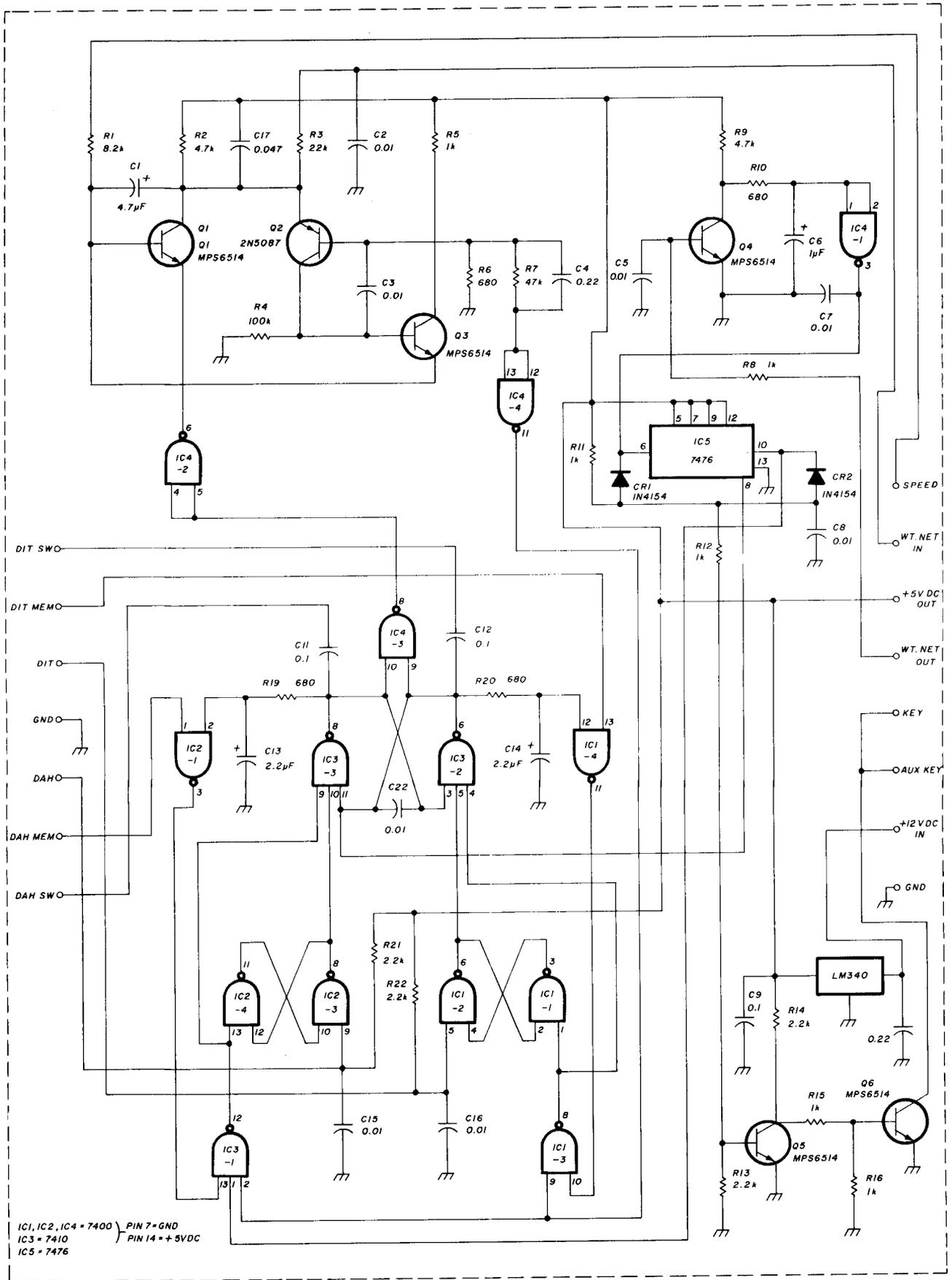
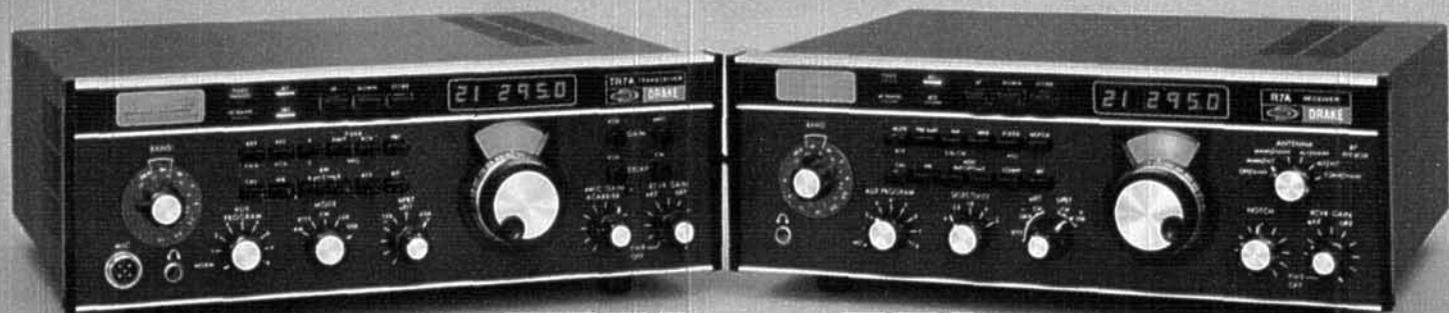


fig. 2. Wiring block diagram.

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TR7A Transceiver

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- **Full Passband Tuning (PBT)** enhances use of high rejection 8-pole crystal filters.

New! Both 2.3 kHz ssb and 500 Hz cw crystal filters, and 9 kHz a-m selectivity are standard, plus provisions for two additional filters. These 8-pole crystal filters in conjunction with careful mechanical/electrical design result in realizable ultimate rejection in excess of 100 dB.

New! The very effective NB7 Noise Blanker is now standard.

New! Built in lightning protection avoids damage to solid-state components from lightning induced transients.

New! Mic audio available on rear panel to facilitate phone patch connection.

- **State-of-the-art design** combining solid-state PA, up-conversion, high-level double balanced 1st mixer and frequency synthesis provided a no tune-up, broadband, high dynamic range transceiver.

R7A Receiver

- **CONTINUOUS NO COMPROMISE** 0 to 30 MHz frequency coverage.

- **Full passband tuning (PBT).**

New! NB7A Noise Blanker supplied as standard.

- **State-of-the-Art features** of the TR7A, plus added flexibility with a low noise 10 dB rf amplifier.

New! **Standard ultimate selectivity choices** include the supplied 2.3 kHz ssb and 500 Hz cw crystal filters, and 9 kHz a-m selectivity. Capability for three accessory crystal filters plus the two supplied, including 300 Hz, 1.8 kHz, 4 kHz, and 6 kHz. The 4 kHz filter, when used with the R7A's Synchro-Phase a-m detector, provides a-m reception with greater frequency response within a narrower bandwidth than conventional a-m detection, and sideband selection to minimize interference potential.

- **Front panel pushbutton control** of rf preamp, a-m/ssb detector, speaker ON/OFF switch, i-f notch filter, reference-derived calibrator signal, three agc release times (plus AGC OFF), integral 150 MHz frequency counter/digital readout for external use, and Receiver Incremental Tuning (RIT).

The "Twins" System

- **FREQUENCY FLEXIBILITY.** The TR7A/R7A combination offers the operator, particularly the DX'er or Contester, frequency control agility not available in any other system. The "Twins" offer the only system capable of no-compromise DSR (Dual Simultaneous Receive). Most transceivers allow some external receiver control, but the "Twins" provide instant transfer of transmit frequency control to the R7A VFO. The operator can listen to either or both receiver's audio, and instantly determine his transmitting frequency by

appropriate use of the TR7A's RCT control (Receiver Controlled Transmit). DSR is implemented by mixing the two audio signals in the R7A

- **ALTERNATE ANTENNA CAPABILITY.** The R7A's Antenna Power Splitter enhances the DSR feature by allowing the use of an additional antenna (ALTERNATE) besides the MAIN antenna connected to the TR7A (the transmitting antenna). All possible splits between the two antennas and the two system receivers are possible.

Specifications, availability and prices subject to change without notice or obligation.

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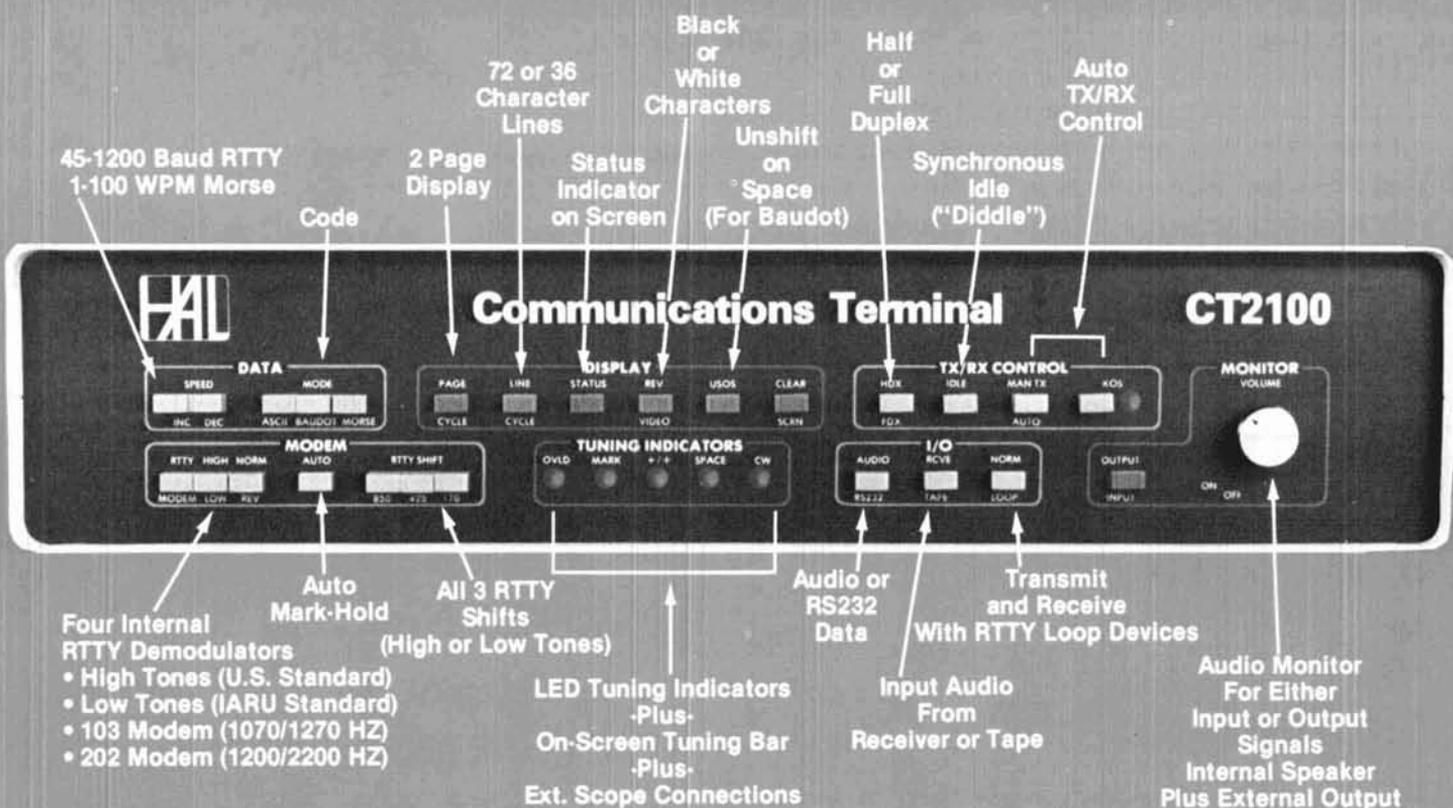


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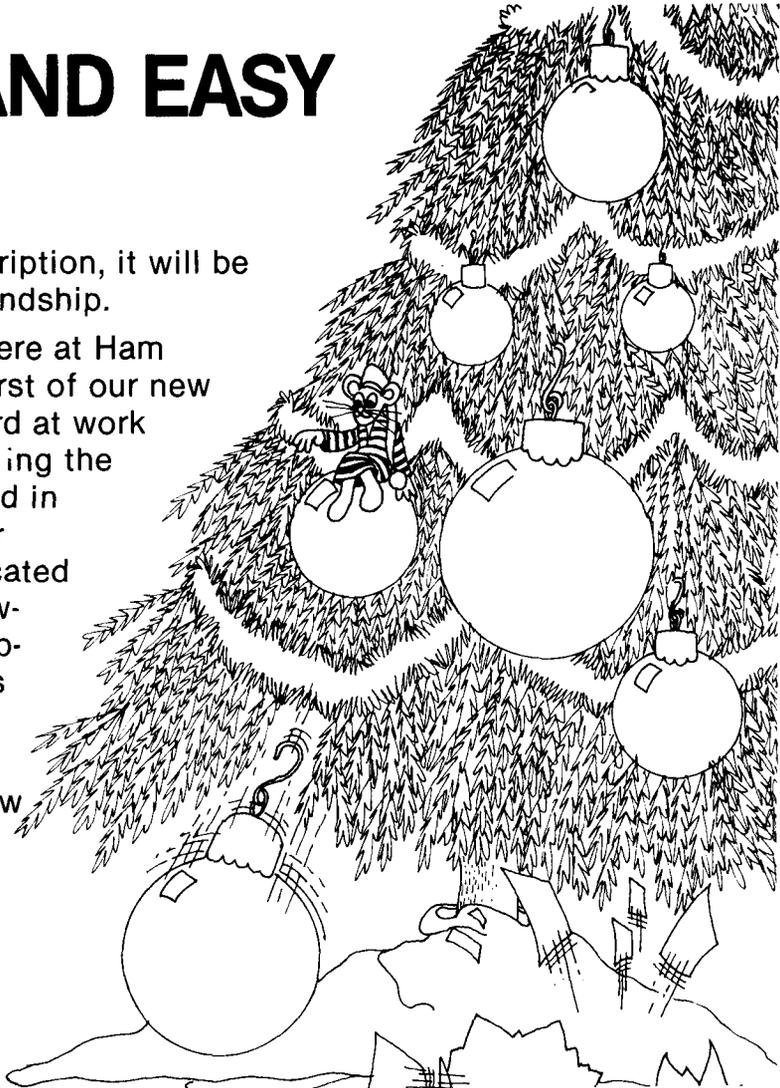
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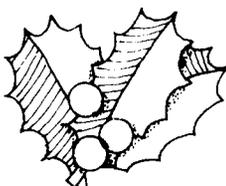
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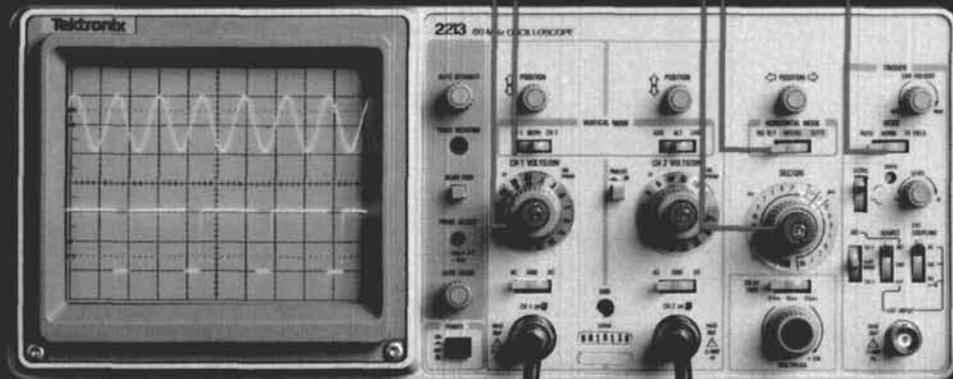
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HDX40	40 ft	18 sq ft	281	8XB7	313	26	339
HDX48	48 ft	18 sq ft	363	8XB8	399	30	429

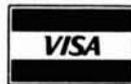


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receiver dynamic range

Defining and deriving a popular and important specification

Today's communications receiver is expected to detect and extract information from signals of varying levels in a crowded spectrum. Earlier designs were concerned primarily with good sensitivity and selectivity. New requirements call for a high degree of rejection of spurious products produced by non-linear interaction of many strong signals, sometimes far removed from the receiving frequency.

One method of determining the quality of receiver performance is to specify both an upper and lower signal-handling power limit, that is, a spurious-free dynamic range. To establish performance criteria requires a knowledge of the receiver's sensitivity (MDS), its third-order intercept point (defined later), system noise figure, and i-f bandwidth. Let's first define dynamic range.

Dynamic range is the power range over which a device such as a radio receiver provides useful operation. The upper limit of the dynamic range (P_U) is limited by the level of two equal input signals that create a third-order intermodulation product, which is equal in amplitude to the Minimum-Detectable-Signal (MDS)* level. The MDS is considered as the lower

limit (P_L) of the dynamic range, and is defined as a signal 3 dB greater than the equivalent noise level for a specified i-f bandwidth. The minimum detectable signal can be found through eq. 1.

$$P_L(dBm) = MDS(dBm) \quad \text{eq. 1}$$

$$= -171 \text{ dBm}^\dagger + NF(dB) + 10 \log(BW)_{IF}$$

Where: MDS is the low-power limit of dynamic range in dBm.

NF is system noise figure in dB.

BW_{IF} is i-f bandwidth in Hz.

P_L is lower power limit of dynamic range in dBm.

The upper limit of the dynamic range can then be expressed by eq. 2.

$$P_U(dBm) = 1/3 (MDS + 2 IP) \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

$$= 1/3 (-171 \text{ dBm}) + NF(dB) + 10 \log BW_{IF}(\text{Hz}) + 2/3 IP(dBm)$$

Where: P_U is the upper power limit of the dynamic range in dBm.

IP is receiver's third order input intercept point in dBm.

By combining the two equations, we can find eq. 3 for the total spurious-free dynamic range:

$$SFDR(dBm) = P_U(dBm) - P_L(dBm) \quad \text{eq. 3}$$

$$= 1/3 (MDS + 2 IP) - MDS$$

$$= 2/3 (IP - MDS)$$

$$= 2/3 (IP(dBm) - NF(dB) - 10 \log BW_{IF}(\text{Hz}) + 171 \text{ dBm})$$

*Sometimes referred to as the noise floor.
 $\dagger KTB + 3 \text{ dB} = -171 \text{ dBm}$.

By Cornell Drentea, WB3JZO, 7140 Colorado Avenue, N., Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55429

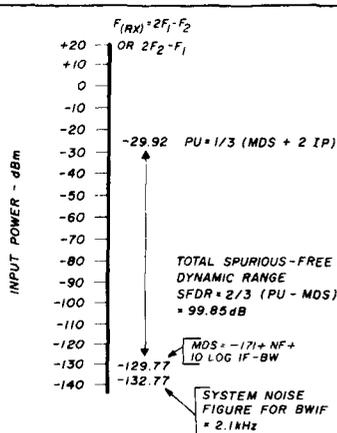


fig. 1. Determining the dynamic range of a receiver with a noise figure of 8 dB, an i-f bandwidth of 2.1 kHz, and an input intercept point of +20 dBm.

Where: *SFDR* is the spurious free dynamic range. This equation shows that the dynamic range is directly proportional to the intercept point (IP) and inversely proportional to the noise figure (NF), and i-f bandwidth (BW_{IF}).

We can then say that the dynamic range improves with lower noise figures, narrower i-f bandwidths and higher intercept points.

The following example shows a practical application for the dynamic-range formula. Assume a typical high-performance receiver with a noise figure of 8 dB, an i-f bandwidth of 2.1 kHz and an input intercept point of +20 dBm. Substituting these quantities in eq. 3 yields:

$$SFDR = \frac{2}{3} (+20 \text{ dBm} - 8 \text{ dB} - 10 \log 2100 \text{ Hz} + 171 \text{ dBm}) = 99.85 \text{ dB}$$

$$SFDR = 99.85 \text{ dB}$$

The total distribution of this number can best be understood by examining the graph in fig. 1. We know that the total spurious-free dynamic range (SFDR) for our receiver is 99.85 dB, but what is not known is where this range fits in the total picture of the receiver's sensitivity, and once this is found, what this range means from a practical performance point of view. We had previously determined that the lower limit of the dynamic range is given by the Minimum Detectable Signal (MDS). If, using eq. 1 for our example, we find the lower limit of the receiver's dynamic range to be -129.77 dBm.

$$MDS = -171 + 8 + 10 \log 2100 = -129.77 \text{ dBm}$$

We can then say that the system's noise level for an i-f bandwidth of 2.1 kHz is 3 dB below this num-

ber, or -132.7 dBm (MDS is defined as a signal 3 dB greater than the equivalent noise level for a specified i-f bandwidth).

Knowing the MDS, the IP (20 dBm) and with the help of eq. 2, we can determine the upper limit of our 99.85 dB dynamic range:

$$P_u = \frac{1}{3} (-129.77 + 40) = -29.92 \text{ dBm}$$

The same result would be obtained if we added the total dynamic range of 99.85 dB to the MDS:

$$P_u = 99.85 + (-129.77) = -29.92 \text{ dBm}$$

This last procedure could be used to verify the validity of eq. 2.

If these numbers are plotted as shown in fig. 1, we can conclude that the receiver in our example will perform undisturbed for all input signals varying from approximately -30 dBm to -130 dBm, with the receiver tuned to a third-order intermodulation product produced by two strong signals equal in amplitude and differing in frequency from each other. The amplitude of these signals, as well as the difference frequency (ΔF), were represented in our example by the +20 dBm input-intercept point. In practice, this quantity is a function of the output intercept of all non-linear elements, such as mixers, amplifiers, etc., involved in the design of the receiver, as we will see next.

intercept method

Fig. 2 shows the intercept method, used as an evaluation method for the strong-signal handling capability of a radio receiver. In practice, the dynamic range of a receiver is measured with the setup shown in figs. 3 and 4.

First, the MDS is found as shown in fig. 3. The MDS is measured as the power necessary at genera-

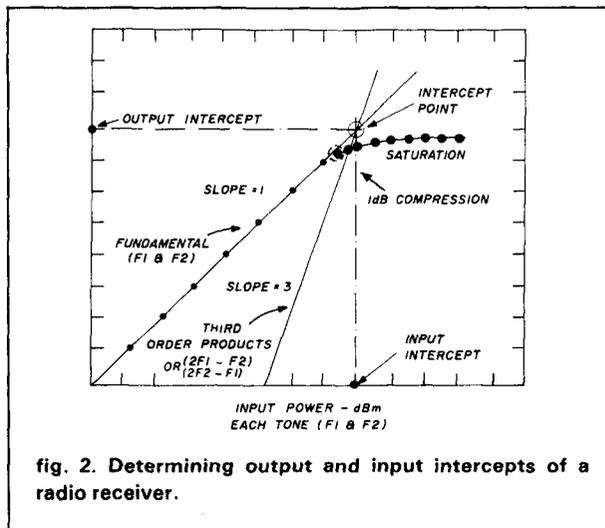


fig. 2. Determining output and input intercepts of a radio receiver.

tor G (expressed in dB), to produce a 3 dB increase in audio output over the noise level of the receiver. The MDS is specified for a given i-f bandwidth. The greatest bandwidth should be used for a worst-case analysis.

Knowing the MDS, the setup in fig. 4 can be used to actually find the output intercept, and with this information, the input intercept can be plotted as shown in fig. 2.

To find the output intercept point, the outputs of the two signal generators (G_1 and G_2) are combined in a hybrid combiner. The output of the combiner (which now contains a two tone signal) is applied through a calibrated step attenuator to the receiver.

The two generators are usually 10 kHz apart, with the receiver tuned to 2F2-F1 or 2F1-F2, a third order product. The attenuator is then varied until the response of the receiver at the frequency of the third-order product is the same as that produced by the MDS found earlier. The performance is specified by measuring and plotting the output intercept as shown.

If the receiver is well designed, the desired output signal and the distortion product curve will intersect as high as possible, as shown in our example. This is the output intercept which describes the intermodulation response of the receiver.

The input intercept can also be plotted from the intercept point. This number can then be used to find the spurious-free dynamic range as previously discussed.

In conclusion, the receiver processes a weak signal in the presence of many adjacent strong signals. Because of the deficiencies in the design of the first mixer and the front end, if a preamplifier is used, the receiver may not be able to copy the weak signal, and it may be completely blocked out. The receiver's ability to perform under such conditions is expressed by the spurious-free dynamic range.

This article was adapted from the book *Radio Communications Receivers* by the author, published

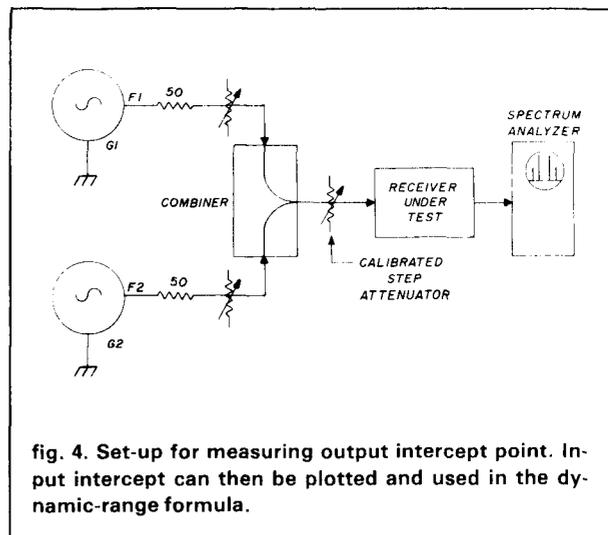


fig. 4. Set-up for measuring output intercept point. Input intercept can then be plotted and used in the dynamic-range formula.

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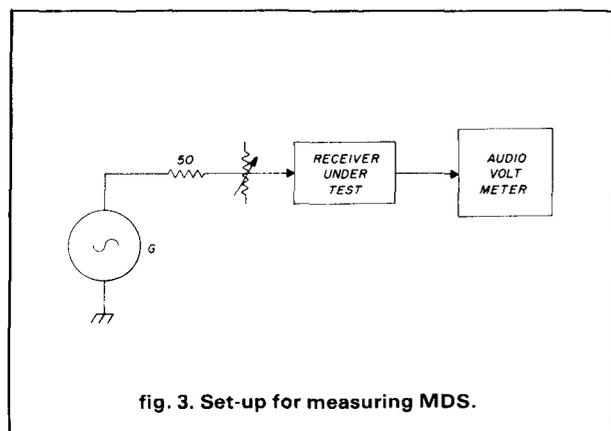
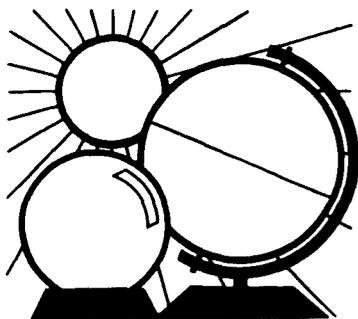


fig. 3. Set-up for measuring MDS.



DX FORECASTER

Garth Stonehocker, KØRYW

last-minute forecast

December is probably the best month for winter DX. The low signal absorption combined with high daytime MUFs result in excellent signals on the higher DX bands (10 and 20 meters). On the other end of the frequency spectrum, the long nights make for excellent DX on 40 through 160 meters.

Expect the 27-day solar maximum just at the end of November and again on the 23rd of December: consequently, the higher DX bands should be active the first week and the last week-and-a-half of the forecast period. The days in between should favor the lower frequency bands. December is traditionally one of the quietest insofar as geomagnetic disturbances are concerned, but the days of highest probability will be around the 9th, 18th, and 28th.

The winter solstice will take place on the 22nd at 0439 UT. A partial eclipse of the sun (74 percent obscured) will occur on the 15th across Europe, extreme northeast Africa, and west Asia, and on the 30th there will be a total eclipse of the moon across North America, Asia, and Australia. Lunar perigee will be on the 2nd at 1100 UT and the 30th at 2200 UT; by coincidence, full moon will be on the 1st and 30th.

The Geminid meteor shower, which reaches its peak on December 13th and 14th provides the richest and most reliable display of the year, with rates of 60 to 70 per hour (determined mainly by radio, because of the poor weather in December). Also, a smaller portion of the shower (15 to

20 per hour) is observed on December 22.

more on the radio-quality index

If you have talked Santa into bringing you a home computer for Christmas, you may want to use it to enhance your ham radio DX operating by programming a radio-quality index into it. A formula was given in the DX Forecaster column in the August, 1982, *ham radio*. Further programming and debugging help is given below.

I have divided the formula into three sections, a term and factors, and given representative values within the ranges of the variables. First is the seasonal term, θ , which is used as the power to which the solar flux, ϕ , is raised. This term is needed to increase quality in the summertime, probably representing increased signal strengths from sporadic-E layer propagation. It varies from 0.7375 in winter to 1 near summer solstice, as in the following table:

day	A		
	0.49315x	cos ² A	θ
1 (January)	0.49315	0.999925	0.7375
80 (March)	39.45200	0.59626	0.8435
172 (June)	84.82180	0.008215	0.9978

Day number x is the day of the year, starting with January 1 as 1. February 1 would be 32, and so on. Use trig identity, $\cos^2 A = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 2A)$.

The radio flux factor, $\log (\sqrt[4]{\phi})^\theta$, is the log to base 10 of the fourth root of the radio flux number, right from WWV. The ϕ varies from about 65 to 400, and the value of this factor for

three values of ϕ and the θ extremes of 1.0 and 0.7375 are as follows:

ϕ	log ϕ	factor value in	
		June	December
70	1.84510	0.461	0.340
150	2.17609	0.544	0.401
375	2.57403	0.643	0.475

The magnetic factor is $e^{-0.01A}$, where A is the magnetic number (estimate) for the day from WWV. The exponential function e^x is used. A table of representative values is as follows:

A	-0.01A	$e^{-0.01A}$
5	-0.05	0.9512
10	-0.10	0.9048
50	-0.50	0.6065
100	-1.00	0.3679

Finally, putting the factors all together with the 10-times factor and the +0.82 term to shift the scale to a 0 to 9 range of numbers, an overall example for March 21, 1982, (day 80) with solar flux of 150 and A of 10 is calculated as follows:

$$Q = 10 \frac{0.8435}{4} (2.17609) (0.9048) + 0.82 = 4.15 + 0.82 = 4.97 \text{ or } 5$$

band-by-band summary

Ten, fifteen, and twenty meters will have DX from most areas of the world during daylight and into the evening almost every day. Long skip and one-long-hop trans-equatorial openings toward evening can be opportunities for new DX locations. Look for them during the few disturbed geomagnetic periods, otherwise watch for high solar flux days for ten and fifteen meter openings.

Forty, eighty, and one-sixty meters are the night DXer's bands. Excellent extended periods of long skip, albeit over shorter distances than on the higher bands, can make a cold winter night enjoyable. Low noise and quiet geomagnetic conditions generally result in pleasant operating this time of year. Happy Holidays, and lots of DX during the coming new year!

ham radio

WESTERN USA

GMT	PST	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
0000	4:00	10	20	15	15	15	10	10	15
0100	5:00	15	20	15	15	15	10	10	15
0200	6:00	15	20	15	15	15	10	10	15
0300	7:00	20	20	15	15	15	15	10	15
0400	8:00	—	40	20	15	15	15	15	20
0500	9:00	—	40	20	20	15	15	15	20
0600	10:00	—	—	20	20	20	20	15	20
0700	11:00	—	—	20	20	20	20	15	20
0800	12:00	—	—	20	20	20	20	20	40
0900	1:00	—	—	20	40	20	20	20	40
1000	2:00	—	—	—	40	20	40	—	40
1100	3:00	—	—	—	40	40	40	—	40
1200	4:00	—	—	—	—	40	40	40	40
1300	5:00	—	—	—	40	—	40	40	—
1400	6:00	—	20	—	20	—	40	—	—
1500	7:00	20	20	—	20	—	—	—	—
1600	8:00	20	20	20	15	—	40	20	—
1700	9:00	20	20	15	15	—	20	15	—
1800	10:00	20	15	15	15	—	15	15	—
1900	11:00	15	15	15	10	20	15	15	20
2000	12:00	15	15	10	10	20	10	15	15
2100	1:00	15	20	15*	15*	15	10	15	15
2200	2:00	15	20	15	15*	15	10	10	10
2300	3:00	10	20	15	15	15	10	10	10

MID USA

GMT	MST	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
0000	5:00	15	20	15	15	15	10	15	15
0100	6:00	15	20	15	15	15	15	15	15
0200	7:00	15	20	15	15	15	15	15	15
0300	8:00	20	20	15	15	15	15	15	20
0400	9:00	—	40	20	20	15	20	15	20
0500	10:00	—	40	20	20	15	20	20	20
0600	11:00	—	40	20	40	15	20	20	—
0700	12:00	—	40	—	40	20	20	20	—
0800	1:00	—	40	—	40	20	20	20	20
0900	2:00	—	40	—	20	20	—	—	20
1000	3:00	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	20
1100	4:00	—	—	—	40	—	—	—	20
1200	5:00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1300	6:00	20	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
1400	7:00	20	20	—	15	—	—	—	—
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2200	3:00	—	20	15	15	15	10	10	15*
2300	4:00	—	20	15	15	15	10	10	15

EASTERN USA

GMT	EST	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
0000	7:00	15	20	15	15	15	15	10	15
0100	8:00	15	20	20*	20	15	15	15	15
0200	9:00	15	20	20	20	15	15	15	20
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2100	4:00	—	15	10	15	15	10	15	20
2200	5:00	—	15	15	15	15	10	10	15
2300	6:00	—	15	15	15	15	10	10	15

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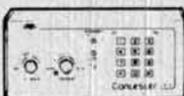
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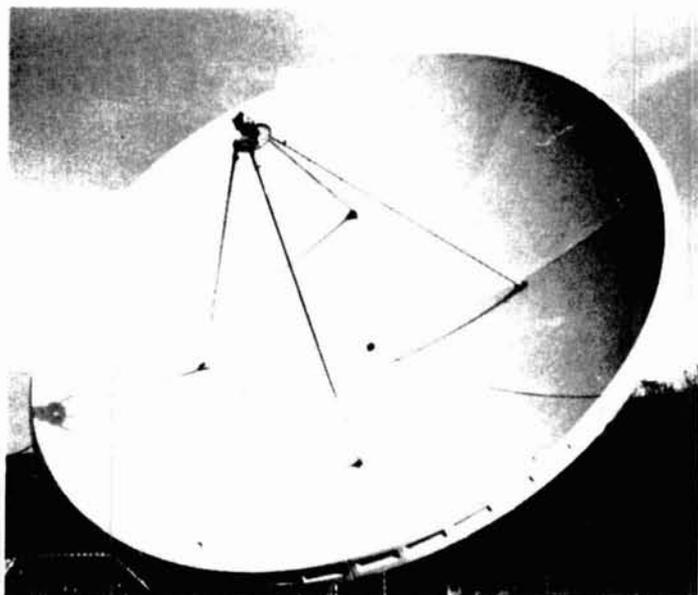
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is it stolen?

How to avoid being burnt by more than rf

Willie Hambone earned the name "Bargain Willie" at his local radio club for good reason. He always knew the price of the latest radio equipment, and had a feeling for what a seller would expect when it was offered at a ham flea market. He was, of course, a veteran of the Dayton Hamvention; after Willie had made the pilgrimage to Dayton for several years, his acquaintances wondered what equipment he *didn't* have. But when the annual local hamfest — one of the largest in the state — came, Willie was there.

This time Willie's eagle eye fastened on the latest model Modzilla 870, complete with power supply, Modzilla mike, and 870-RV remote VFO. No manual; but the seller assured Willie that since it was a current model, he would have no trouble getting one from the U.S. distributor for \$10, and he'd shave that off the price. Price? Well, the current market price was \$1,350 — but since the seller was about to take a job working for an oil exploration company in South America, and needed some cash to pay his wife's hospital bill, he'd take \$675 — exactly half price — less the \$10 to buy a manual.

Not everybody goes to a hamfest with \$665 in his pocket, but Willie always said that cash talks, and his hot little hands soon pulled that bargain price out of his wallet, gave it to the seller, and proceeded to carry his new acquisition to his car. The rest of the hamfest was anti-climactic for Willie; he could hardly wait to get his new gear home and on the air. Since it was a class piece of equipment, he decided he ought to check with another ham in town who had a Modzilla 870; and after his friend had reviewed the tune-up procedure with him over the telephone, Willie plugged it in for the smoke test.

It worked beautifully. The path to Europe was

open on 15, and it was no trouble to work Gs and DLs with the barefoot rig, one station after another. During the next few days, Willie checked the rig out on other bands, and found it even brought in QSOs on 160. In short, he was delighted, both with the rig and with his bargain. He was tempted to forget about the instruction manual, lack of which had shaved \$10 off the price — but when he thought that *someday* he'd sell the rig for a later model, he wrote a letter to Modzilla's U.S. distributor in La Squinta, California, enclosing \$10 for a manual, carefully noting the serial number of the equipment so that he would get the proper edition for his new 870.

Willie's joy seemed unlimited. The heatsink on his 870 hardly had a chance to cool down, so happily did Willie describe his bargain far and wide during the next few weeks. Then, on Saturday afternoon, it happened.

the problem arises

The doorbell rang, and with some disgust, Willie — who was home alone — answered. The caller turned out to be a Deputy Sheriff with a folded sheet of paper in his hand. "Willie Hambone?" he inquired.

"That's me," Willie acknowledged.

"Mr. Hambone," the deputy went on, "I have a search warrant signed by Judge Green of the County Court, authorizing me to search your premises for pieces of stolen radio equipment. They are called a Modzilla Model 870 and an 870-RV; and I have a picture of this type of equipment. If you have it here and want to show it to me, fine; otherwise, my partner and I will have to go through your house, room by room."

Willie felt the floor sinking beneath him. "Look, officer, I have a Modzilla 870, and you're welcome to look at it; but I paid good money for it. I didn't steal it from anybody; I bought it, and it's mine!"

They proceeded to Willie's shack, where Willie announced, "Here it is. These are produced by the

By George H. Goldstone, W8AP, 1010 Burnham Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

thousands. Maybe a few get stolen, but I paid for this one."

"You may have paid for it, Mr. Hambone, but if this equipment carries serial number 89-6634, you are in possession of stolen property. May I look at the serial number on the back?"

Willie already knew the number; his heart sank. His request for an instruction manual, giving the serial number . . . of what was a stolen rig!

It didn't take the deputy long to check the number. But if Willie felt bad about losing \$665, he felt even worse after the deputy's next announcement:

"Mr. Hambone, you are under arrest, charged with receiving and concealing stolen property of a value sufficient to constitute a felony. I must advise you that you are not required to make any statement; any statement you make can be used against you in court; you are entitled to counsel; and if you cannot afford counsel, an attorney will be provided for you. You must come with me to the County Jail, where you will be booked, and you will be allowed to call an attorney from there."

Willie's bargain had evaporated. In fact, so had his world.

what happened to Willie

Willie hired a competent lawyer, whose services were not inexpensive. At a preliminary hearing, his lawyer raised the defense that Willie had no knowledge the transceiver was stolen; that such knowledge is an essential element of the crime of receiving stolen property. The judge agreed and dismissed the charge, but his remarks to Willie are worth noting:

"Mr. Hambone, I am dismissing the charge of receiving stolen property, although I hesitate to do so. You are an Amateur Radio operator, and I feel quite sure you knew the true value of this equipment at the time you bought it. Such knowledge of value would permit this court to draw an inference that you sensed the equipment was stolen. Since you have no criminal record, I am dismissing the complaint; but if you are ever again found to have stolen equipment in your possession, the court will take a different attitude."

Some bargain, that transceiver! Willie not only lost the \$665 he had paid for the Modzilla 870; he paid his attorney's fee, and in local ham circles, he was now known as "the ham who has been had."

The unhappy situation fictionalized here may well have happened, at least in many details. We all know expensive Amateur Radio equipment is stolen from time to time. The elaborate high-frequency mobile installation is almost a thing of the past. VHF and some HF equipment is now made small enough that the owner can unplug the major component — a transceiver — and carry it in his briefcase.

The development of the ARRL insurance program, to a considerable extent, is the result of growing radio equipment theft. This article is not designed to tell you how to avoid theft of your equipment; it is designed to suggest ways in which you may avoid the purchase of *stolen* equipment.

Traditionally, physical possession is considered one indication of ownership. While it may be an *indication* of ownership, it does not prove your title to the property. So, where do you obtain some proof of title? As to new merchandise — and let us take a typical transceiver purchased from an established dealer — you will receive a paid invoice, identifying the goods by make, model, and serial number. Considering the importance of equipment warranties, every buyer should insist that a serial number be included on his invoice. This invoice is evidence of a contract of sale, and by law, a contract of sale implies a warranty of good title to the merchandise sold, and that the transfer is a rightful one.¹

At any flea market, the majority of vendors are not merchants regularly dealing in Amateur Radio equipment. More often, they are individuals with usable gear they no longer want or need, which they want to convert into money or other ham gear. We normally do not expect such a casual seller to furnish ownership documentation; it is unusual when he furnishes a receipt for the goods you purchase. If a seller will accept your check in payment, you may note on the back, "In payment for Johnson Invader Serial No. 116628," but this only shows what the check paid for; it does nothing to prove that the seller was the owner.

proof of ownership

It is not too much to ask a seller of any major item of equipment to furnish some evidence the goods are his. Every ham should staple his purchase invoice onto the back of the instruction manual for reference at the time it is sold. There are tactful ways to ask for title evidence; you will not make friends by saying "How do I know it isn't stolen?" but you can easily say, "Do you have an invoice to show where this gear was purchased?"

Not everyone keeps sales invoices. Sometimes we want to forget how much money went into one piece of gear! But there is no reason why a Bill of Sale cannot be given, preferably in a form which will identify both buyer and seller, say where the seller obtained the equipment, state the selling price, contain a warranty of title in all cases, a warranty against liens, and a warranty of condition whenever condition is vital to the sale. A suggested form for a Bill of Sale is shown in **fig. 1**. It can easily be reproduced in quantity to use at hamfests and flea markets; perhaps the club

BILL OF SALE

The Seller, _____
(Name of Seller)

_____ in consideration
(Address of Seller)

of the price of \$ _____ paid to him, receipt of which is
acknowledged, hereby sells to _____
(Name of Purchaser)

_____ (Address of Purchaser)

the following equipment:

(Quantity)	(Description)	(Serial No.)
originally purchased from _____		

Seller represents and warrants that he is the owner of the equipment sold, and no other person has any interest in it, or lien upon it by way of an unperfected Financing Statement, or otherwise. As to the condition of the equipment, Seller makes the following representations:
(Check one below which applies)

1. The equipment is in good working condition.
 2. The equipment is sold "as is", and Seller makes no representation as to its performance.
 3. The equipment requires repairs (other than normal alignment) in order to meet the performance specifications of the manufacturer.

Witness: _____

_____ (Signature of Seller)

Date of Sale: _____

fig. 1. Sample Bill of Sale form.

sponsoring the affair can have them printed, and make them available at printing cost.

effect of a Bill of Sale

Between seller and buyer, the Bill of Sale is clear proof that the seller has transferred whatever ownership he had to the buyer. In most cases, possession of a Bill of Sale by the buyer precludes any criminal intent on his part, should the gear prove to be stolen; without criminal intent, you would not end up with a charge of receiving stolen property as suggested in poor Wille's example.

if the seller has valid title to the property, the Bill of Sale effectively transfers it to the purchaser. But if the seller does not have good title to the property, the purchaser acquires no more ownership than the seller had. It is certainly worthwhile to protect yourself against criminal liability by asking for and receiving a Bill of Sale. Would you *want to* make a deal with someone who refuses to give a *Bill of Sale*?

possible liens

Much new radio equipment is bought on credit. Some radio supply houses reputedly make more money on their credit operations than on the sale of the gear itself, which can occur when a supplier does the financing rather than using Master Charge, VISA, etc. If the gear has been financed by the purchaser, the seller or the financing agency has probably filed what is called a Financing Statement. When a Financing Statement has been recorded, the party ex-

tending credit may have rights to the goods after the *date of recording* which are legally superior to those of the purchaser. If you acquire an expensive piece of relatively new gear from someone who has a reputation for buying everything on credit, you would be wise to check with your County Clerk or Register to see if there is the lien of a Financing Statement recorded against what you plan to buy. A Bill of Sale should include a representation that no such lien exists.

some common-sense conclusions

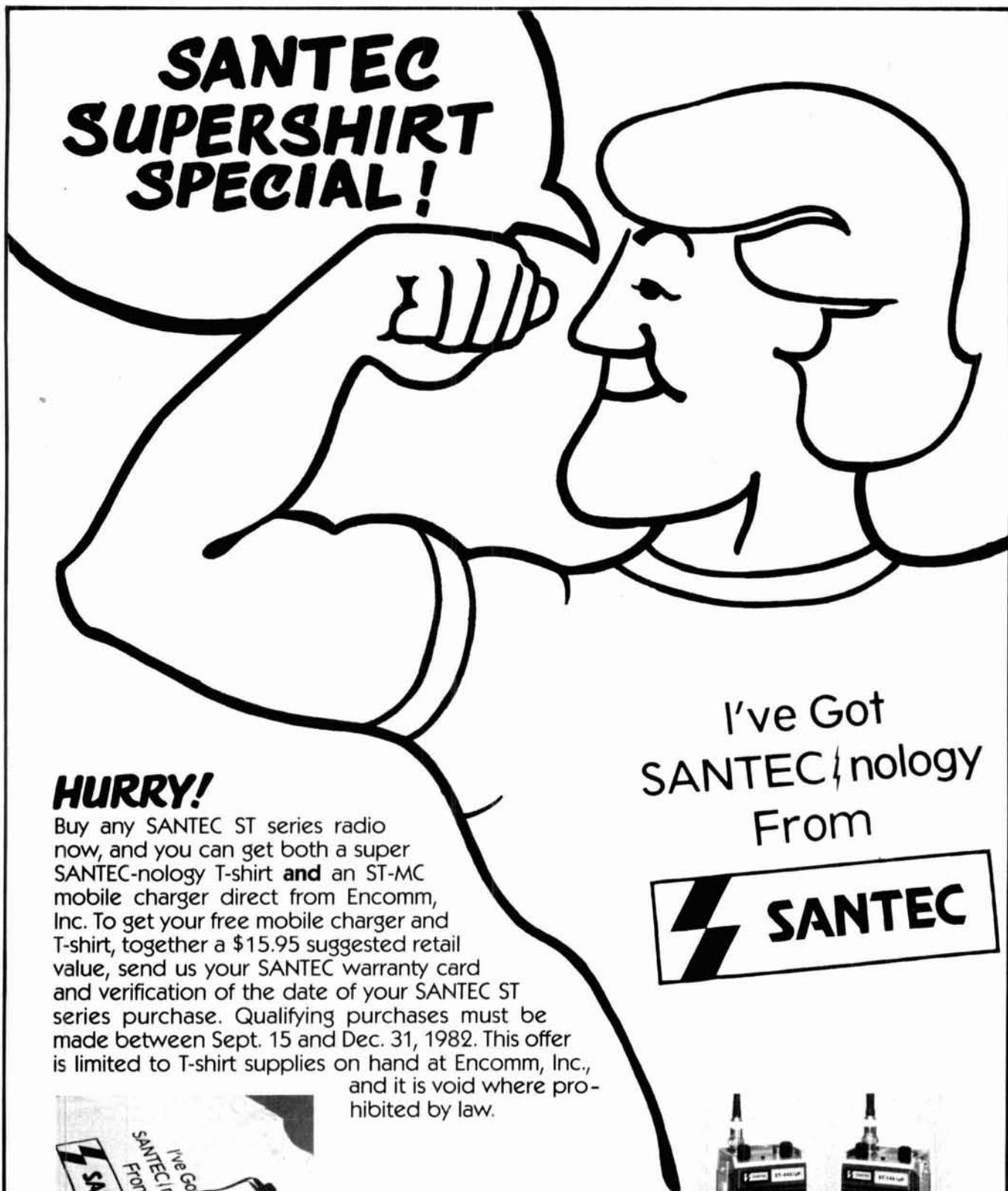
No one wants his own equipment stolen, nor does anyone want to help thieves of Amateur Radio equipment by furnishing them a market. We can all help shrink the stolen equipment market by retaining our purchase documents, complete with serial numbers. When buying used gear, insist on evidence of ownership; ask for purchase records, but take a Bill of Sale in any event. The Bill of Sale, if properly drawn up, will show that you purchased the equipment in good faith, will identify the seller, and can also serve as a warranty of the condition of the equipment. Taking into account the present cost of equipment — either new or good used gear — insisting on a Bill of Sale is a wise precaution!

references

1. *Uniform Commercial Code*, Section 2-312.

ham radio

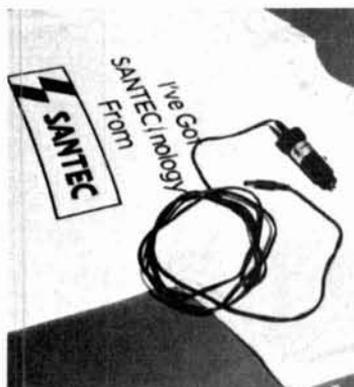
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Heil EQ200 mike equalizer

We always thought we had good audio from our transmitter. No one ever complained about garbled speech or hard-to-understand transmission. Granted, we have had people tell us we sound like Demosthenes, the Greek orator who practiced with stones in his mouth . . . that was before Bob Heil sent us his latest product, the EQ200 microphone equalizer.

Bob Heil is well-known throughout the audio field as an expert on sound reproduction. Besides being a professional organist, he is in constant demand by music groups from rock bands to Philharmonic orchestras. He knows his audio. In a conversation with Bob, he stated that the most misunderstood and neglected part of any ham station is the microphone/audio circuitry. Sure, there have been compressors, clippers, and whatever. But they do more to compound the problems of poor audio than solve them.

With this in mind, Bob determined to apply his professional expertise to solve the problem. Looking through manufacturers specifications, Bob found most modern transmitters and transceivers have filter networks that limit audio input to the 300-3,000 Hz range. But most *microphones* are designed to cover a much broader range of frequencies, since they are used in services as diversified as stereophonic reproduction to paging services. The broader response of the microphone will be transmitted, and this will unnecessarily broaden your output.

The solution he came up with is the

EQ200. The basic circuit is two 741 op amps (cm 1458). One-half of the first IC is used as a preamplifier and a transformer to provide proper impedance matching. The other half of the IC is used as a peaking lowpass active filter. The second IC is used as a shelving highpass filter and a line summing amplifier.

There are three controls on the front panel of the unit. The mike pre-amp gain may be adjusted from 0 to +20 dB. Heil advises that this be set so the microphone will not overload or clip. The LO control is used as a boost and cut control. Boost refers to increasing the level, cut reduces the level. The boost and cut is ± 12 dB. The low filter is centered at 490 Hz. The HI control is also a boost and cut, with the filter centered at 2800 Hz.

As mentioned before, most microphones used today were not designed for ham use; their audio response is usually much greater than is necessary. Since all microphones are different, there is no universal setting. Heil has some recommended settings, but it best to set the processor through a trial-and-error process. Luckily, we have a friend who received an EQ200, so we tested and set our processors together. It was interesting to actually hear how the high and low tones can be emphasized and deemphasized to create a truly pure-sounding signal.

The only problem we found was that we chewed up batteries. That can be remedied easily by installing a 9 Vdc supply or adding a low drain LED to remind you the unit is on. This is more of an inconvenience than a problem. Bob Heil tells us a newer model will incorporate these changes.*

Finally, Bob provides some helpful hints about how to use the microphone properly, such as keeping adequate spacing between mouth and microphone and making sure your operating room is not full of echoes.†

The EQ200 is a nice item to have between your rig and microphone. Price is \$49.95 for the basic unit. For

more information, contact Heil Sound, Box 26, Marissa, Illinois 62257.

*For those who own EQ200s, changing the input resistors from 10K to 100K should solve the problem of excessive power drain.

†As an added feature, the EQ200 can be modified to work as a two-tone generator for SSB tuning and testing. A parts kit is available from Heil Sound for an additional \$7.00.

new high-frequency equipment line

Yaesu Electronics Corporation is pleased to announce the availability of the new FT-102 line of high-frequency equipment. The FT-102 transceiver uses an all-new transmitter section, featuring three 6146B final tubes for extremely low distortion. In addition to VOX and an rf clipping-type speech processor, the FT-102 transmit audio may be adjusted for optimum response to the operator's voice.



The FT-102 receiver uses JFET components in the front end for wide dynamic range. A number of filter options are available, with wide/narrow filter selection independent of the mode switch. Audio peak filtering for CW, audio shaping for all modes, and an i-f notch filter provide intelligence recovery. The noise blanker is highly effective against the Woodpecker and pulse noises.

Equipped for SSB and CW operation, the FT-102 option list includes an a-m/fm module for activating those modes. Other accessories for the FT-102 are the FV-102DM synthesized VFO, the SP-102 speaker with audio filter, the SP-102P speaker/patch, and the FC-102 1.2-kw an-

tenna tuner with optional remote antenna selector.

For further details, contact Yaesu Electronics Corp., P.O. Box 49, Paramount, California 90723.

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A new, free catalog lists over 1500 electronic items which can be ordered through the mail. Parts are high quality, no rejects or seconds. Large line of semiconductors, LED displays, lamps, connectors, sockets, headers, jumpers, switches, meters, amplifiers, generators, etc. Some items are available in kit form or assembled. All items can be shipped immediately from stock.

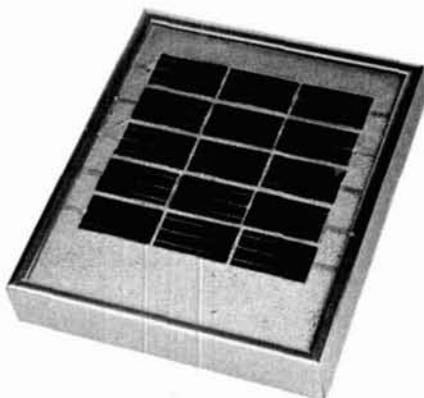
For more information, contact Sintec Company, Drawer Q, Milford, New Jersey 08848; telephone 1-800-526-5960 (New Jersey residents dial 201-996-4093).

photovoltaic battery charger

The Phaeton II Photovoltaic Battery Charger manufactured by International Solar Products Corporation of Durham, North Carolina, produces 4.8 volts of direct current power at 240 milliamps in peak sunlight. Four AA cells, two C cells, and two D cells can be charged with the unit. Batteries are fully recharged in 14 to 16 hours of sunshine.

Phaeton II measures 6 x 7 inches and weighs less than two pounds. It is constructed with anodized gold or silver frame, heavy-duty aluminum battery cradles and the same silicone covering used to protect the solar cells on orbiting communication satellites. The unit contains no plastic parts.

The manufacturer states the average consumer could spend as much as \$100 per year on throw-away batteries to power portable radios, tape recorders, toys, games, flashlights,



cameras, and other electronic appliances found in many homes today. At \$49.50, the Phaeton II can totally replace this annual cost after it pays for itself in the first 6 to 7 months of use.

The unit is available directly from the manufacturer, International Solar Products Corporation, 1105 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, North Carolina 27701; telephone 919-489-6224.

frequency counter program

A cassette program that turns the Apple II computer into an audio frequency counter with an accuracy of 30 parts-per-million. You may consider this a rather expensive frequency counter, especially when it doesn't cover rf at all. However, it is aimed primarily at those experimenters who already have an Apple II computer.

This counter has a twist to it. Unlike most frequency counters, it does not gate the unknown for a fixed reference period. Rather it counts an approximately equal number of clock pulses over an exact (but arbitrary) multiple of whole cycles of the unknown. Then it calculates the frequency from this average, much as a period counter would. The result is that the full stated accuracy is achievable in less than two seconds, over the entire audio range. This means that in less than two seconds you can find out the frequency of your sub-audible tone encoder to within 0.01 Hz. The counter can achieve even

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greater accuracy if you have a little patience. It also keeps a running average of the last N (default is 50) samples. If fewer than N have been taken, it will average them. The result is accuracy approaching 1 PPM.

Although the Apple's time base (which is the reference for this program) isn't calibrated or compensated, it is crystal controlled and therefore relatively stable over short periods once it has temperature stabilized. Included is a procedure (need only your cassette recorder, microphone, and a color TV) to calibrate it in software, using the 15734.26 Hz horizontal oscillator frequency of a color TV receiver. This signal is of course locked to the station it is receiving, which, if a network program is being viewed, is in turn locked to a cesium 3.579545 MHz reference at the network.

A copy of the cassette costs \$15. For more information and dealer prices, contact Wilton Helm, WA6GQO, 827 Vinton Court, Thousand Oaks, California 91360.

micro computer pollution control

Power-line electrical noise, hash, and spikes often cause erratic computer operation. In addition, severe spikes from lightning or heavy machinery may damage expensive hardware. Many systems create their own pollution. Disks and printers often create enough electrical interference to disrupt an entire program. Nearby electronic equipment is affected as well.

Electronic Specialists' recently-announced Magnum Isolator Model ISO-17 is designed to control severe electrical pollution. Incorporating heavy duty spike/surge suppression, the Magnum Isolator features four individually quad-Pi filtered ac sockets. Equipment interactions are eliminated and disruptive/damaging power line pollution is controlled. The Magnum Isolator will control pollution for an 1875-watt load. Each socket can handle a 1000-watt load. Price, \$181.95.

For more information, contact Electronic Specialists, Inc., 171 South Main Street, P.O. Box 389, Natick, Massachusetts 01760; telephone 617-655-1532.

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The C22 has many features, including bias as a linear amplifier IE: fm, SSB, CW; it can be keyed with as little as 300 mW; 2 watts in with 20 watts out; and dc power 13.6 Vdc at 3 amps (full output).

For additional information, contact Mirage Communications Equipment, Inc., P.O. Box 1393, Gilroy, California 95020; telephone 408-847-1857.

300-watt antenna tuner

Palomar Engineers introduces the new PT-407 antenna tuner. The PT-407 is a general-purpose tuner for 1.8-30 MHz, for matching antennas



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Published 12 times per year by Mike Stone WB0QCD
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407 is an efficient tuner with a large, airwound coil, a large balun for open-wire feed, and with ceramic insulation throughout. It is housed in an 8 x 4 x 7-inch aluminum cabinet with brushed aluminum control panel and black vinyl cover. All controls are on the front panel. Coaxial connectors are SO-239. Porcelain feedthrough insulators are used for balanced line and single wire inputs.

The PT-407 Antenna Tuner sells for \$149.95. For further information write to Palomar Engineers, 1924-F W. Mission Road, Escondido, California 92025; telephone 714-747-3343.

regulated dc power supply

The precision-regulated dc power supply from Tripp-Lite converts 120 Vac into 13.8 Vdc. It allows users to operate dc mobile equipment on ac



home power, and it saves money, as this unit is inexpensive and eliminates the need for buying ac equipment.

Features include solid-state integrated circuits for precise regulation; filter insuring low noise operation; current limiting electronic foldback for automatic overcurrent protection; heavy duty power transformer for complete line isolation; ripple voltage from 0 to full load is only 0.1 volts maximum; on/off indicator light and on/off switch on face-plate; UL listed ac cord and plug type SPT-2.

For more information, contact Tripp-Lite, 500 N. Orleans, Chicago, Illinois 60610.

Hamtronics® kits

The R76 VHF fm receiver kit is a new version of the R75 receiver for 10 meters, 6 meters, 2 meters, 220 MHz, or the adjacent commercial bands. It features a very low noise front end, pump-resistant squelch with hysteresis to lock onto fading signals, on-board volume and squelch controls for easy wiring, and fixed i-f filters for easy alignment. It has also been reduced in size — now only 3 1/4 x 4 inches (8.25 x 10.16 cm). It is available in two selectivity options, starting at \$84.95.

The model R451 UHF receiver kit includes the features in the R76 kit as well as automatic frequency control to lock onto drifting transmit signals. Kits are available with various options starting at \$94.95.

Hamtronics® new line of low-noise amplifiers resembles the popular P30 and P432 receiver preamps, but the circuit is new. The LNA 28, LNA 50, LNA 144, LNA 220, and LNA 432 units are optimized for lowest noise figure at the ham bands, but they can also be used on adjacent commercial bands. The LNA 432 also provides very good gain and noise figures for UHF TV signals and the new 800 MHz commercial band: 0.5 dB at 28 and 50 MHz, 0.6 dB at 144 MHz, 0.7 dB at 220 MHz, and 0.95 dB at 432 MHz. Gain runs from 33 dB at 28 and 50 MHz to 17 dB at 432 MHz. The price is \$39.95 for the VHF units and \$44.95 for the UHF unit.

The Shuttle receiver kit, a special version of the Hamtronics R110-450 UHF a-m aircraft receiver to listen to the space shuttle, is now available off the shelf for \$94.95.

For further information, contact Hamtronics, Inc., 65-V Moul Road, Hilton, New York 14468-9535; telephone 716-392-9430.

5/8 antenna for handhelds

Centurion has added a new model to their line of heavy-duty telescoping antennas. It is a full-length 5/8-wave



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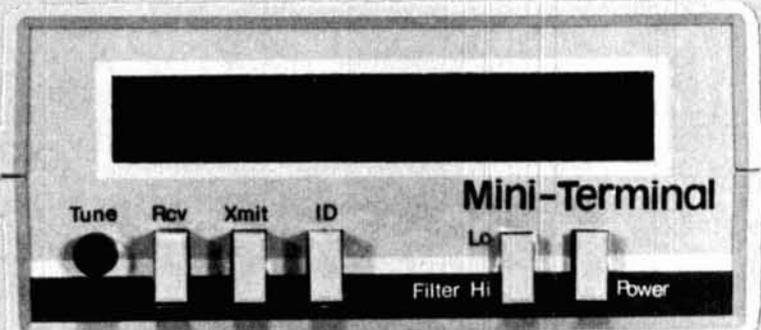
Designated Style F, the new antenna for VHF frequency bands from 118-174 MHz is fitted with a BNC connector.

For more information, contact



Centurion International, P.O. Box 82846, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-2846; telephone 402-467-4491.

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special keyboard

Pipo Communications has just announced a specially designed keyboard compatible with the Collins KWM-380 high-frequency radio. The new sixteen-button keyboard is color-coordinated and has the fourth row buttons marked to indicate their function. This will facilitate ease of operation by eliminating the need to memorize what the buttons do. The keyboard sells for \$20 and has a frame available for \$3.

For more information or to order, please contact Pipo Communications, P.O. Box 3435, Hollywood, California 90028; telephone 213-852-1515.

6-meter transceiver

ICOM has announced the IC-505, a fully synthesized multimode transceiver covering 50 to 54 MHz (option), USB, LSB, and CW on fm. It uses an internal battery pack (9 C-size batteries), and puts out three watts of rf power when run on its batteries, or ten watts when connected to an ex-

ternal 13.6 volt dc source. Low power is 0.5 watts.



Features include an LCD frequency display for low battery consumption, provision for internal memory back-up, dual VFOs, five memories plus a call channel, memory scan, program scan, sideband squelch, LCD annunciators for VFO, scan, memory channel, call and split, and split frequency operation.

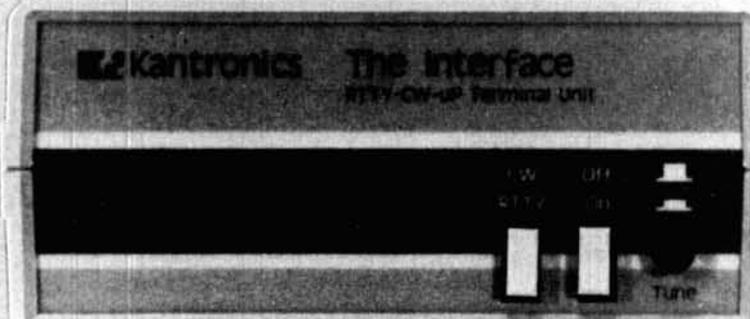
For more information, contact ICOM America, Inc., 2112 116th Avenue, N.E., Bellevue, Washington 98004; telephone 206-454-8155.

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Lunar Electronics announces a line of narrow-band tuned receiving preamplifiers for the VHF and UHF communities. Typical specifications exceed previously available receiving preamplifiers by up to ten times in performance. Exhibiting very high gain at VHF, typically 22-24 dB, moderate gain at UHF, typically 16 dB, plus a very low noise figure, typically 0.3-0.4 dB at VHF and 0.5-0.6 dB at UHF land mobile frequencies, these units are also well suited to high rf environments, exhibiting 1 dB compression power levels of +10 dBm or more. The good gain, coupled with very low noise figure, effectively reduces a typical repeater receiver sensitivity to that of ambient limitations. Improvements in receiver performance have been consistently reported by users at 6-10 dB in a typical repeater installation between the duplexer and receiver input.

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BNC out the standard option. SMA to RG-58 connectors are included as option for UHF units. Frequencies are available from as low as 15 MHz to the 800 MHz land mobile bands.

For more information, contact Lunar Electronics, 2775 Kurtz Street, Suite 11, San Diego, California 92110; telephone 714-299-9740.

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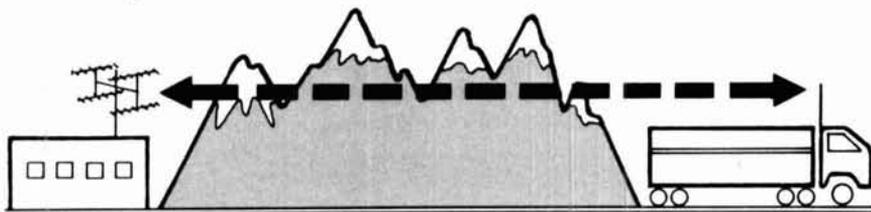
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T-106	135			1.06	1.75
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T-68	57	47	21	.68	.95
T-50	51	40	18	.50	.70
T-37	42	30	15	.37	.60
T-25	34	27	12	.25	.45

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CORE SIZE	MIX Q1 u = 125 .1-70 MHz	MIX Q2 u = 40 10-150 MHz	MIX H u = 850 to 10MHz	SIZE OD [in.]	PRICE USA \$
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Chart shows uH per 100 turns

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WANTED: Early Hallicrafter "Skyriders" and "Super Skyriders" with silver panels, also "Skyrider Commercial", early transmitters such as HT-1, HT-2, HT-8, and other Hallicrafter gear, parts, accessories, manuals. Chuck Dachis, WD5EOG, The Hallicrafter Collector, 4500 Russell Drive, Austin, Texas 78745.

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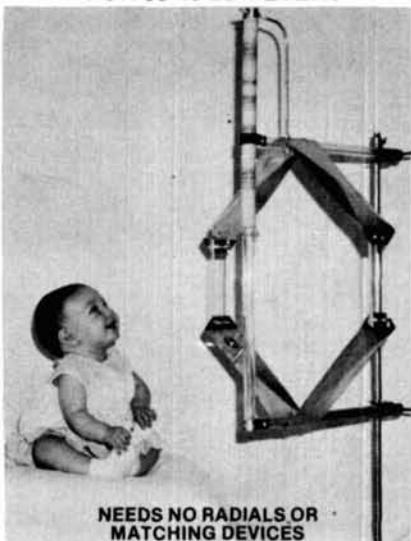
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Coming Events
ACTIVITIES
"Places to go..."

ILLINOIS: Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs Ham-fest will be held February 6, 1983 at Arlington Park Race Track EXPO Center, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Free Flea Market tables and plenty of floor space. Large commercial area including computer section. For general info call W9JTO at 311-231-9524. Clear paved parking.

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INDIANA — SOUTH BEND: Hamfest Swap & Shop, January 2, 1982, first Sunday after New Year's Day at Century Center downtown on U.S. 33 Oneway North between St. Joseph Bank Building and river. Industrial History Museum in same building. Carpeted half acre room. Tables \$3 each. Four lane highways to door from all directions. Talk-in freq: 52-52, 99-39, 93-33, 78-18, 69-09, 145.43, 145.29.

MINNESOTA: The annual Handi-Ham Winter Hamfest, Saturday, December 4, at the Eagles Club, Faribault. Registration at 9 AM. Handi-Ham equipment auction, noon dinner, program and prize drawing. Talk-in on 19/79. For more information: Don Franz, W0FIT, 1114 Frank Avenue, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007.

VIRGINIA: Richmond Frostfest '83. The annual winter Ham Radio and Computer Show will be held Sunday, January 16 at the State Fairgrounds, Richmond. General admission: \$4.00. All indoor flea market and commercial exhibits. Major prizes in HF and VHF equipment and a minicomputer. Sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, P.O. Box 1070, Richmond, VA 23208.

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT? To pick a winner for "Amateur of the Year" at the Dayton Hamvention and get Free Tickets too. Write for details: Hamvention, P.O. Box 44, Dayton, Ohio 45401, attention awards. Do it now!

OPERATING EVENTS

"Things to do..."

DECEMBER 4: The Everglades ARC will operate W4SVI, 1300 UTC, December 4 and 2200 UTC December 5 to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the dedication of Everglades National Park. Frequencies: 10 kHz up from lower edges of 40 to 10 meter General phone bands and 146.52 MHz. Certificates for QSL and large SASE to: W4SVI, c/o Dick Dowst, Everglades ARC, 14511 S.W. 287th Street, Leisure City, FL 33033.

DECEMBER 17: The Switzerland of Ohio ARES will operate a Christmas special event station at Jerusalem, Ohio, under the call N8DLJ, December 17, 18, 19 from 1600 to 2200Z each day. Frequencies: First 10 kHz of General phone portion of each band and the first 10 kHz of the Novice bands as propagation permits.

DECEMBER 7: KC0FW plans to operate from St. Kitts (VP2K) December 7 to 13. All bands 160-10 phone and CW. Special attention to working Europeans and JA's.

DECEMBER 1-31: The BBC is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the official start of the Empire Service (now renamed the External Service). To commemorate this, the Ariel Radio Group has obtained special call signs. Stations will be GB2BBC, GB3BBC, GB8BBC, Central London; G3BBC, West London and GB4BBC, Caversham near Reading. Also other BBC Club Stations will participate. 80m to 2m with maximum activity around December 19. Main operating mode SSB on HF.

DECEMBER: The Borealis ARC will present the Worked All North Pole Certificate to anyone working a minimum of three BARC members. Operating time 0400-0900Z, 30 kc up from lower edge of Novice and General bands. For certificate send call signs, dates worked and \$2.00 to: Borealis ARC, c/o Wendell Keller, SR Box 80343, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

DECEMBER 9: The Triple States Radio Amateur Club will operate from Bethlehem, West Virginia, December 9 - December 12 from 1400 to 2300 UTC daily. Frequencies: for W8DDL8 will be 7.275, 14.325, 21.415 and 28.550 MHz on SSB and 7.110, 14.075, 21.110 and 28.110 MHz on CW. For a special holiday certificate for contacts SASE to: TSRAC, 26 Maple Lane, Bethlehem, Wheeling, WV 26003.

DECEMBER 18: The Sandy River ARC, Farmington, Maine, will operate KA1CNG, Saturday, December 18, 1500Z to Sunday, December 19, 2100Z to celebrate Chester Greenwood Day. Also mobile from the Chester Greenwood Day Parade and related activities Tuesday, December 21, 1400Z to 2100Z. Frequencies: 5 to 10 kHz from bottom of General band edges and 3940 kHz. Certificate for your QSL card and two first-class stamps to KA1CNG, 5 Franklin Ave., Farmington, Maine 04938.

DECEMBER 4: The Argonne Amateur Radio Club plans to operate the club's memorial station, W9QVE, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the first controlled nuclear chain reaction experiment conducted at Alonzo Stagg field on the University of Chicago campus, from 1500 GMT through 2400 GMT December 5. Frequencies: 20 kHz up from lower edge of General portion of bands 80 to 10m, phone and CW.

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XF-9D	AM	5.0 kHz	8	73.70
XF-9E	FM	12.0 kHz	8	73.70
XF-9M	CW	500 Hz	4	51.55
XF-9NB	CW	500 Hz	8	91.35
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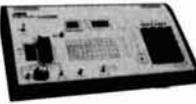
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SOE-28	B	1.39 - 2.81	2.5	5.8	5.81 x 4.88 x 2.50	18.1 lbs.
SOE-18	B	4.25 - 23.6	10.0	15.0	10.00 x 4.88 x 2.76	12.1 lbs.
SOE-18	B	4.25 - 23.6	25.0	21.5	17.5 x 10.00 x 4.88 x 2.88	18 lbs.
SOE-12	E	11.8 - 17.2	11.2	9.2	6.81 x 4.88 x 1.62	12.1 lbs.
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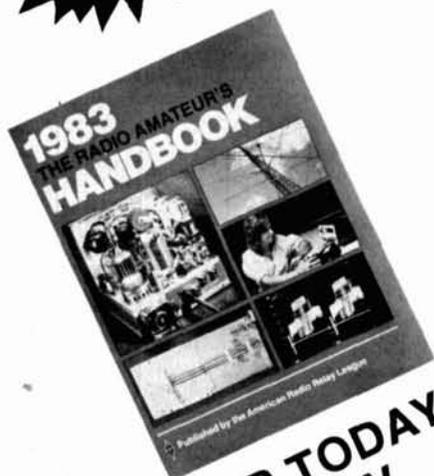
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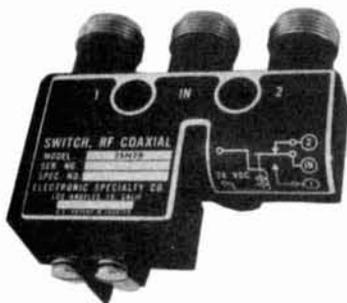
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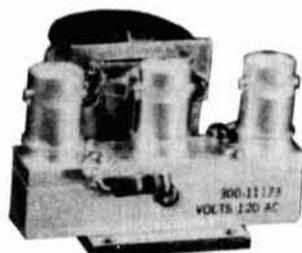
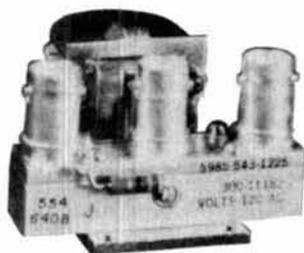
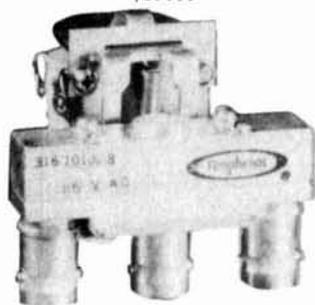
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The Recall Phone Telephone employs the latest state of art communications technology. It is a combination telephone and automatic dialer that uses premium-quality, solid-state circuitry to assure high-reliability performance in personal or business applications. \$49.99



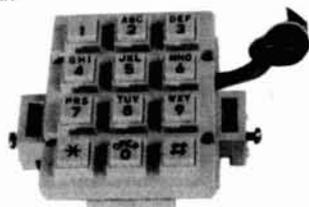
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Super Glue #CE-486 high strength rapid bonding adhesive. Alpha Cyanoacrylate. Set-Time 20 to 40 sec., 0.7fl.oz. (20gm.) \$2.00



TOUCH TONE PAD

This pad contains all the electronics to produce standard touch-tone tones. New with data.



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Perfect for those unscrambler projects. New with data.



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INTEGRATED CIRCUIT.

		1 to 10	11up
MC1372P	Color TV Video Modulator Circuit.	\$ 4.42	\$2.95
MC1358P	IF Amp., Limiter, FM Detector, Audio Driver, Electronic Attenuator.	5.00	4.00
MC1350P	IF Amplifier	1.50	1.25
MC1330A1P	Low Level Video Detector	1.50	1.15
MC1310P	FM Stereo Demodulator	4.29	3.30
MC1496P	Balanced Modulator/Demodulator	1.50	1.25
LM565N	Phase Locked Loop	2.50	2.00
LM380N14	2Watt Audio Power Amplifier	1.56	1.25
LM1889N	TV Video Modulator	5.00	4.00
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FERRANTI ELECTRONICS AM RADIO RECEIVER MODEL ZN414 INTEGRATED CIRCUIT.

Features:

1.2 to 1.6 volt operating range., Less than 0.5ma current consumption. 150KHz to 3MHz Frequency range., Easy to assemble, no alignment necessary. Effective and variable AGC action., Will drive an earphone direct. Excellent audio quality., Typical power gain of 72dB., TO-18 package. With data. \$2.99 or 10 For \$24.99

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EIMAC TUBE SOCKETS AND CHIMNEYS

		\$POR
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SK400	Socket For 4-125A,250A,400A,400C,4PR125A,400A,4-500A,5-500A	74.00
SK406	Chimney For 4-250A,400A,400C,4PR400A	36.00
SK416	Chimney For 3-400Z	390.00
SK500	Socket For 4-1000A/4PR1000A/B	51.00
SK600	Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ	73.00
SK602	Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ	11.00
SK606	Chimney For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ	60.00
SK607	Socket For 4CX600J,JA	60.00
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SK646	Chimney For 4CX600J,JA	225.00
SK700	Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F	225.00
SK711A	Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F	86.00
SK740	Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F	86.00
SK770	Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F	225.00
SK800A	Socket For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B	40.00
SK806	Chimney For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B	225.00
SK810	Socket For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B	300.00
SK900	Socket For 4X500A	57.00
SK906	Chimney For 4X500A	650.00
SK1420	Socket For 5CX3000A	585.00
SK1490	Socket For 4CV8000A	

JOHNSON TUBE SOCKETS AND CHIMNEYS

124-111/SK606	Chimney For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R, 4CX350A,F,FJ	\$ 10.00
122-0275-001	Socket For 3-500Z, 4-125A, 250A, 400A, 4-500A, 5-500A	(pair)15.00
124-0113-00	Capacitor Ring	15.00
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124-115-2/SK620A	Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R, /4CX350A,F,FJ	55.00
	813 Tube Socket	20.00

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.8pf	10pf	100pf*	430pf
1pf	12pf	110pf	470pf
1.1pf	15pf	120pf	510pf
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1.5pf	20pf	150pf	620pf
1.8pf	22pf	160pf	680pf
2.2pf	24pf	180pf	820pf
2.7pf	27pf	200pf	1000pf/.001uf*
3.3pf	33pf	220pf*	1800pf/.0018uf
3.6pf	39pf	240pf	2700pf/.0027uf
3.9pf	47pf	270pf	10,000pf/.01uf
4.7pf	51pf	300pf	12,000pf/.012uf
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6.8pf	68pf	360pf	18,000pf/.018uf
8.2pf	82pf	390pf	

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"TVRO BOARD LIST"

70 MHZ IF BOARD: This circuit provides about 43dB gain with 50 ohm input and output impedance. It is designed to drive the Demodulator. The on-board bypass filter can be tuned to bandwidths between 20 and 35 MHz with a passband ripple of less than 1/4 dB. Hybrid IC's are used for the gain stages.

SINGLE AUDIO BOARD: This circuit recovers the audio signals from the 6.8 MHz frequency. The Miller 9051 coils are tuned to pass the 6.8MHz subcarrier and the 9052 coil tunes for recovery of the audio.

DUAL AUDIO BOARD: Duplicate of the single audio but also covers the 6.2 range.

DC CONTROL BOARD: No description.

DUAL AUDIO BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	\$ 25.00
2 3pf sm	1.00
2 12pf sm	1.00
2 50pf sm	1.00
2 68pf sm	1.00
4 91pf sm	1.00
5 .001mfd	.35
6 .01mfd	.35
2 .047mfd	.35
1 .47mfd 25vdc	.35
2 1mfd 10vdc	.59
4 4.7mfd 35vdc	.59
1 470mfd 25vdc	1.29
2 220K 1/4w	.15
2 150K 1/4w	.15
2 6.8K 1/4w	.15
2 3.3K 1/4w	.15
2 2.2K 1/4w	.15
4 1K 1/4w	.15
2 10 ohm 1/4w	.15
2 50K pots	1.00
1 5K pot	1.00
2 CA3065	2.16
1 LM380	1.56
1 7812 Voltage Reg.	1.17
5 2N2222	.50
4 Miller 9051	5.99
2 Miller 9052	5.99
TOTAL KIT PRICE	97.62

DC CONTROL BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	15.00
2 470mfd 25vdc	1.29
2 4.7mfd 25vdc	.59
1 1meg 1/4w	.15

3 10K 1/4w	.15
1 3.3K 1/4w	.15
3 2.2K 1/4w	.15
1 1K 1/4w	.15
2 5K 10 turn trimpot	1.00
4 10K 10 turn trimpot	1.00
1 10K 10 turn with dial	10.00
1 7815 Voltage Reg.	1.17
1 LM324	2.50
1 5 pole rotary switch	2.50
1 SPDT switch	1.00
1 DPDT switch	1.00
1 0-lma meter	5.00
1 18 to 24vdc at 1 amp power supply	24.99
TOTAL KIT PRICE	74.27

DEMODULATOR BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	\$ 40.00
1 1mfd 35vdc	.59
13 .01mfd 50vdc disc	.35
1 470mfd 25vdc	1.29
2 100mfd 16vdc	.69
2 22mfd 35vdc	.59
3 4.7mfd 35vdc	.59
1 4300pf sm	2.00
1 330pf sm	1.00
1 100pf sm	1.00
1 91pf sm	1.00
2 3pf sm	1.00
1 2 to 8pf ceramic trimmer	1.00
1 100uh choke	1.50
1 4.7uh choke	1.50
1 2.7uh choke	1.50

4 100K 1/4w	.15
1 51 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 27K 1/4w	.15
5 10K 1/4w	.15
1 8.2K 1/4w	.15
2 4.7K 1/4w	.15
1 2.2K 1/4w	.15
1 1.2K 1/4w	.15
3 1K 1/4w	.15
3 560 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 470 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 390 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 300 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 270 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 150 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 41 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 10K pot	1.00
1 NE592/LM733N	2.50
1 NE564	5.00
1 MWA120 (Motorola)	7.80
1 7812 Voltage Reg.	1.17
1 7815 Voltage Reg.	1.17
3 2N2222	.50
2 1N34/38	.50
1 HP5082-2800	2.20
1 5 to 7 volt Zenner	1.00
TOTAL KIT PRICE	92.25

COMPLETE KIT WITH DUAL AUDIO \$923.23
COMPLETE KIT WITH SINGLE AUDIO 880.77

LESS 10% ON ALL COMPLETE KIT ORDERS

BOARDS AND PARTS MAY BE PURCHASED SEPERATELY AT THE PRICES LISTED ABOVE.

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TVRO BOARD DESCRIPTION AND PARTS LIST

DUAL CONVERSION BOARD: This board provides conversion from the 3.7-4.2 band first to 900 MHz where gain and bandpass filtering are provided and, second, to 70 MHz. The board contains both local oscillators, one fixed and the other variable, and the second mixer. Construction is greatly simplified by the use of Hybrid IC amplifiers for the gain stages.

DEMODULATOR BOARD: This circuit takes the 70 MHz center frequency satellite TV signal in the 10 to 200 millivolt range, detects them using a phase lock loop, de-emphasizes and filters the result to produce standard NTSC video. Other outputs include the audio subcarrier, a DC voltage proportional to the strength of the 70 MHz signal, and AFC voltage centered at about 2 volts DC.

DUAL CONVERSION BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	\$ 25.00
6 47pf chip caps	1.00
2 4.7mfd 35vdc	.59
2 .01mfd 50vdc disc cap	.35
4 1.5 to 8pf piston trimmer cap	5.99
2 470 ohm 1/4w	.15
2 MWA320 (Motorola)	8.65
1 7815 Voltage Reg.	1.17
1 VT08090	150.00
1 VT08240	156.25
2 1N4005	.39
1 DBM500/1100 (Varil)	125.00
1 MLP102 (Engleman)	25.00
8 SMA Male Connector	5.00
TOTAL KIT PRICE	572.64

70 MHZ IF BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	25.00

3 MWA120	7.80
7 .01mfd 50vdc	.35
2 4.7mfd 35vdc	.59
1 10pf sm	1.00
5 22pf sm	1.00
1 18pf sm	1.00
1 33pf sm	1.00
2 330 ohm 1/4w	.15
5 J.W. Miller 4500-4	4.99
1 7815 Voltage Reg.	1.17
TOTAL KIT PRICE	86.45

SINGLE AUDIO BOARD	PRICE EACH
Printed Circuit Board	\$ 15.00
1 3pf sm	1.00
1 12pf sm	1.00
1 50pf sm	1.00
1 68pf sm	1.00
2 91pf sm	1.00
3 .001mfd	.35
3 .01mfd	.35

1 .047mfd	.35
1 .47mfd	.35
1 1mfd 10vdc	.59
3 4.7mfd 35vdc	.59
1 470mfd 25vdc	1.29
1 220K 1/4w	.15
1 150K 1/4w	.15
1 6.8K 1/4w	.15
1 3.3K 1/4w	.15
1 2.2K 1/4w	.15
3 1K 1/4w	.15
1 10 ohm 1/4w	.15
1 50K pot	1.00
1 5K pot	1.00
1 CA3065/MC1358P	2.16
1 LM380	1.56
1 7812 Voltage Reg.	1.17
3 2N2222	.50
2 Miller 9051	5.99
1 Miller 9052	5.99
TOTAL KIT PRICE	55.16

Toll Free Number

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"CHIPS"

FAIRCHILD VHF AND UHF PRESCALER CHIPS		PRICE
95H90DC	350MC Prescaler divide by 10/11	\$ 8.50
95H91DC	350MC Prescaler divide by 5/6	8.50
11C90DC	650MC Prescaler divide by 10/11	15.50
11C91DC	650MC Prescaler divide by 5/6	15.50
11C06DC	UHF Prescaler 750MC D Type Flip Flop	12.30
11C05DC	1GHz Counter Divide by 4 (Regular price \$75.00)	50.00
11C01FC	High Speed Dual 5/4 Input NO/NOR Gate	15.40
82S90	Presetable High Speed Decade/Binary Counter used with the 11C90/91 or the 95H90/91 Prescaler can divide by 100. (Signetics)	5.00
11C24DC	This chip is the same as a Motorola MC4024/4324 Dual TTL Voltage Control Multivibrator.	3.37
11C44DC	This chip is the same as a Motorola MC4044/4344 Phase Frequency Detector.	3.37

GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. GUNN DIODE MODEL Y-2167
 Freq. Gap (GHZ) 12 to 18, Output (Min.) 100mW, Duty (%) CW, Typ. Bias (Vdc) 8.0, Type. Oper. (MAdc) 550, Max. Thres. (mAdc) 1000, Max. Bias (Vdc) 10.0. **\$39.99**

VARIAN GALLIUM ARSENIDE GUNN DIODES MODEL VSX-9201S5
 Freq. Coverage 8 to 12.4GHz, Output (Min.) 100mW, Bias Voltage (Max.) 14vdc, Bias current (mAdc) Operating 550 Typ. 750 Max., Threshold 850 Typ. 1000 Max. **\$39.99**

VARI-L Co. Inc. MODEL SS-43 AM MODULATOR
 Freq. Range 60 to 150MC, Insertion Loss 13dB Nominal, Signal Port Imp. 50ohms Nominal, Signal Port RF Power + 10dBm Max., Modulation Port BW DC to 1KHZ, Modulation Port Bias 1ma. Nominal. **\$24.99**

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Gain	6dB	15dB
Noise Figure	11dB	2.3dB to 3dB
Power Output	+ 17dB	- 2dB to - 3dB
Gain Flatness	1dB	1dB
Input Power Vdc	+ 24	+ 15
mA	100	10
	PRICE \$70.00	PRICE \$75.00

HEWLETT PACKARD MIXERS MODELS	10514A	10514B
Frequency Range	2MHz to 500MC	2MHz to 500MC
Input/Output Frequency L & R	200KHz to 500MC	200KHz to 500MC
	X DC to 500MC	DC to 500MC
Mixer Conversion Loss (A)	7dB	7dB
(B)	9dB	9dB
Noise Performance (SSB) (A)	7dB	7dB
(B)	9dB	9dB
PRICE	\$49.99	PRICE \$39.99

FREQUENCY SOURCES, INC MODEL MS-74X MICROWAVE SIGNAL SOURCE
 MS-74X: Mechanically Tunable Frequency Range (MHz) 10630 to 11230 (10.63 to 11.23GHz) Minimum Output Power (mW) 10, Overall Multiplier Ratio 108, Internal Crystal Oscillator Frequency Range (MHz) 98.4 to 104.0, Maximum Input Current (mA) 400.

The signal source are designed for applications where high stability and low noise are of prime concern. These sources utilize fundamental transistor oscillators with high Q coaxial cavities, followed by broadband stable step recovery diode multipliers. This design allows single screw mechanical adjustment of frequency over standard communications bands. Broadband sampling circuits are used to phase lock the oscillator to a high stability reference which may be either an internal self-contained crystal oscillator, external primary standard or VHF synthesizer. This unique technique allows for optimization of both FM noise and long term stability. List Price is \$1158.00 (THESE ARE NEW) **Our Price—\$289.**

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DEFECTIVE MATERIAL: All claims for defective material must be made within sixty (60) days after receipt of parcel. All claims must include the defective material (for testing purposes), our invoice number, and the date of purchase. All returns must be packed properly or it will void all warranties.

DELIVERY: Orders are normally shipped within 48 hours after receipt of customer's order. If a part has to be backordered the customer is notified. Our normal shipping method is via First Class Mail or UPS depending on size and weight of the package. On test equipment it is by Air only. FOB shipping point.

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HOURS: Monday thru Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

INSURANCE: Please include 25¢ for each additional \$100.00 over \$100.00, United Parcel only.

ORDER FORMS: New order forms are included with each order for your convenience. Additional forms are available on request.

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PRICES: Prices are subject to change without notice.

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page.

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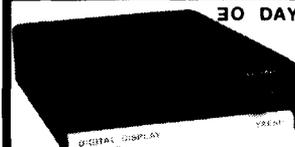
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ham radio *cumulative* *index*

1978-1982

antennas and transmission lines

general

Antenna gain and directivity
W2PV p. 12, Aug 79

Antenna geometry for optimum performance
N4HI p. 60, May 82

Antenna parameters, equations for determining
KG6B p. 40, Mar 82

Antenna restrictions: another solution
N4AQD p. 46, Jun 80

Antenna restrictions (letter)
K3SRO p. 6, Nov 81

Beam antenna mast lock
W4KV p. 68, Jun 81

Best way to get an antenna into a tree (HN)
WA5VLX p. 84, Mar 81

Coaxial connections, sealing (HN)
W5XW p. 64, Mar 80
letter, K7ZFG p. 6, Oct 80

De-icing the quad (HN)
W5TRS p. 75, Aug 80

Dipole antenna length reference chart (HN)
W6XM p. 75, Oct 81

Earth anchors for guyed towers
W5QJR p. 80, May 80

Gain calculations, simplified
W1DTV p. 78, May 78

Ground current measuring on 160-meters
W0KUS p. 46, Jun 79

Ground systems (letter)
ZL2BJR p. 6, Nov. 80

Half-delta loop
VE2CV p. 37, May 82

Light-bulb dummy loads (HN)
W6HPH p. 74, Oct 81

Lightning protection
K9MM p. 18, Dec 78
Comments, W6RTK p. 6, Jul 79
Comments, W2FBL p. 6, Jul 79
Letter, K9MM p. 12, Dec 79

Neglected antenna for 40 and 80 meters
W0WL p. 44, Jan 82
Comments, W0WL p. 8, May 82

Radials, installing, for vertical antennas
K3ZAP p. 56, Oct 80

Scaling antenna elements
W7ITB p. 58, Jul 79

Smith chart, numerical
W8MQW p. 104, Mar 78

Solid-state T-R switch for tube transmitters
K1MC p. 58, Jun 80

The Zepp (letter)
W2RHQ p. 63, Aug 82

Vertical antenna, folded umbrella, top-loaded
VE2CV p. 12, Sep 82

Vertical-vee, converting (letter)
KA5KVV p. 8, Sep 82

VSWR and power meter, automatic
W0NK p. 34, May 80

Wattmeter, low power (letter)
W0DLQ p. 6, Jan 80

high-frequency antennas

Aligning Yagi beam elements (HN)
WA2SON p. 92, May 81

Base-loaded vertical antenna for 160 meters
W6XM p. 64, Aug 80

Beverage antenna for 40 meters
KG6RT p. 40, Jul 79

Big quad — small yard
W6SUN p. 56, May 80

Butterfly beam
W1XU p. 30, May 81

Compact loop antenna for 80 and 40 meters
W6TC p. 24, Oct 79

De-icing the quad (HN)
W5TRS p. 75, Aug 80

Delta loop, top-loaded
W1DTY p. 57, Dec 78

Dipole antenna over sloping ground
N4HI p. 18, May 82

Dipole antenna, trimming the (HN)
W5NPD p. 69, Jul 81

Folded end-fire radiator
N7WD p. 44, Oct 80

Folded umbrella antenna
WB5IIR p. 38, May 79

Ground-mounted vertical for the lower bands,
improved (HN)
W5NPD p. 68, Nov 80

Ground systems for vertical antennas
WD8CBJ p. 31, Aug 79

Half-square antenna, the
N0AN p. 48, Dec 81
Short circuit p. 79, Oct 82

Half-wave vertical
VE2CV p. 36, Sep 81

Ham radio techniques
W6SAI p. 32, Sep 81

High-frequency Yagi antennas, understacking
W1XT p. 62, Jun 80

High-gain phased array, experimental
KL7IEH p. 44, May 80
Short circuit p. 67, Sep 80

Junk-box portable antenna
W3SMT p. 24, Oct 81

K7CW quad
K7CW p. 36, Sep 82

Log-periodic antennas for high-frequency Amateur
bands
W4AEO, W6PYK p. 67, Jan 80

Log-periodic fixed-wire beams for 75-meter DX
W4AEO, W6PYK p. 40, Mar 80

Log-periodic fixed-wire beams for 40 meters
W4AEO, W6PYK p. 26, Apr 80

Log periodic design
W6PYK, W4AEO p. 34, Dec 79

Loop antenna, compact (letter)
W6WR p. 6, Feb 80

Low-band antenna problem, solution to
W8YFB p. 46, Jan 78

Mobile color code (letter)
WB6JFD p. 90, Jan 78

Mobile high-frequency antenna, refinements to
W3NZ p. 34, Jun 81

Multiband antenna system
VK2AOU p. 62, May 79

Multiband vertical antenna system
W0NCU p. 28, May 78

Open quad antenna
I2RR p. 36, Jul 80

Phased antenna (letter)
Thacker, Jerry p. 6, Oct 78

Phased vertical antenna for 21 MHz
W6XM p. 42, Jun 80

Phased vertical arrays, pattern calculations for
WB5HGR p. 40, May 81

Quad antenna, modified
ZF1MA p. 68, Sep 78

Quad antenna, repairs (HN)
K9MM p. 87, May 78

Quad for 7-28 MHz
W3NZ p. 12, Nov 80

Quad owner switches
N6NB, W6AQ p. 12, May 82
Comments, W6BQD p. 8, Dec 82

Quad, three-element, for 15-20 meters using circular elements
W4OVO p. 12, May 80

Quad, three-element switchable, for 40 meters
N8ET p. 26, Oct 80

Quad variations, more (HN)
W5TRS p. 72, Oct 80
Short circuit p. 70, Feb 82

Quads vs Yagis revisited
N6NB p. 12, May 79
Comments, WB6MMV, N6NB p. 80, Oct 79

Selective receiving antennas
W5TRS p. 20, May 78

Short antennas, efficiency of
W1GV/4 p. 18, Sep 82

Shunt-fed tower (HN)
N6HZ p. 74, Nov 79

Six-element wide-beam for 10 (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 30, Dec 81

Small beams, high performance
G6XN p. 12, Mar 79

Stressed quad (HN)
W5TIU p. 40, Sep 78

Suspended long Yagi (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 34, Nov 81

The K2GNC Giza beam
K2GNC p. 52, May 81

Trapped antenna, trapping the mysteries of
N3GO p. 10, Oct 81
Comments, K9CZB p. 8, Feb 82

Traps and trap antennas
W8FX p. 34, Aug 79

Triband Yagi beam (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 68, Jan 81

Two delta loops fed in phase
WBHXR p. 60, Aug 81

Vertical antenna for 40 and 75 meters
W6PYK p. 44, Sep 79

Vertical antenna, portable
W8NWV p. 48, Jun 78

W8JK antenna, a new look at
OD5CG p. 60, Jul 81

Wilson Mark II and IV, modifications to (HN)
W9EPT p. 89, Jan 80

Windom antennas
K4KJ p. 10, May 78

Windom antenna (letter)
K6KA p. 6, Nov 78

Pt. I Yagi antenna design: performance calculations
W2PV p. 23, Jan 80
Short circuit p. 66, Sep 80

Pt. II Yagi antenna design: experiments confirm computer analysis
W2PV p. 19, Feb 80

Pt. III Yagi antenna design: performance of multi-element simplistic beams
W2PV p. 18, May 80

Pt. IV Yagi antenna design: multi-element simplistic beams
W2PV p. 33, Jun 80

Pt. V Yagi antenna design: optimizing performance
W2PV p. 18, Jul 80

Pt. VI Yagi antenna design: quads and quagis
W2PV p. 37, Sep 80

Pt. VII Yagi antenna design: ground or earth effects
W2PV p. 29, Oct 80

Pt. VIII Yagi antenna design: stacking
W2PV p. 22, Nov 80

Pt. IX Yagi antennas: practical designs
W2PV p. 30, Dec 80

Yagi beam elements, aligning (HN)
WA2SON p. 79, Jan 81

ZL special antenna, 10-meter, for indoor use
K5AN p. 50, May 80

3.5-MHz broadband antennas
N6RY p. 44, May 79

3.5-MHz sloping antenna array
W2LU p. 70, May 79

3.5-MHz tree-mounted ground-plane
K2INA p. 48, May 78

7-MHz antenna array
K7CW p. 30, Aug 78

7-MHz rotary beam
W7DI p. 34, Nov 78

14-MHz delta-loop array
N2GW p. 16, Sep 78

vhf antennas

Antenna-performance measurements using celestial sources
W5CQW4RXY p. 75, May 79

Dual quad array for two meters
W7SLO p. 30, May 80

Folded whip antenna for vhf mobile — Weekender
WB2IFV p. 50, Apr 79

Ham radio techniques
W6SAI p. 32, Sep 81

Inexpensive five-eighth wave groundplane (HN)
W7CD p. 84, Mar 81

Magnetic mount for mobile antennas
W8HK p. 52, Nov 78

Microwave-antenna designers, challenge for
W6FOO p. 44, Aug 80

Microwave antenna, homebrew
WB0VGI, Johnson p. 68, Sep 82

Multiband J antenna
WB6JPI p. 74, Jul 78

OSCAR az-el antenna system
WA1NXP p. 70, May 78

Re-entrant cavity antenna for the VHF bands
W4FXE p. 12, May 81

True north, how to determine for antenna orientation
K4DE p. 38, Oct 80
Comments, N6XQ, K4DE p. 7, Mar 81

Using a 2-meter quarter-wave whip on 450 MHz (HN)
K1ZJH p. 92, May 81

Yagi uhf antenna simplified (HN)
WA3CPH p. 74, Nov 79

144-MHz mobile antenna
W8QIB p. 68, May 79

1296-MHz antenna, high-gain
W3AED p. 74, May 78

matching and tuning

A coreless balun
WA2SON p. 62, May 81

Active antenna coupler for VLF
Burhans, Ralph W. p. 46, Oct 79

Antenna bridge calculations
Anderson, Leonard H. p. 34, May 78

Antenna bridge calculations (letter)
W5QJR p. 6, Aug 78

Antenna bridge calculations
K6GK p. 85, Mar 81
Short circuit p. 84, Nov 81

Antenna match, quick and simple
Anderson, Leonard H. p. 58, Jan 81
Short circuit p. 70, Feb 82

Antenna tuners (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 30, Jul 81

Balun design, another
W6HPH p. 54, May 82

Broadband balun, high performance
K4KJ p. 28, Feb 80

Broadband balun, simple and efficient
W1JR p. 12, Sep 78

Broadband reflectometer and power meter
VK2ZTB, VK2ZZQ p. 28, May 79

Coaxial-line transformers, a new class of
W6TC p. 12, Feb 80
Short circuit p. 70, Mar 80
Short circuit p. 67, Sep 80

Half-wave balun: theory and application
K4KJ p. 32, Sep 80

Ham radio techniques
W6SAI p. 42, Oct 81

High-frequency mobile antenna matcher, simple
W6BCX p. 28, Jun 81

Johnson Matchbox, improved
K4IHV p. 45, Jul 79
Short circuit p. 92, Sep 79

L-matching network, appreciating the
WA2EWT p. 27, Sep 80

Lowpass antenna matching unit, inductance-tuned
W0YBF p. 24, May 82

Low swr, how important?
W1GV/4 p. 33, Aug 81
Comments K1KSY, W1GV/4 p. 6, Dec 81

Macromatcher: increasing versatility
K9DCJ p. 68, Jun 80

Matching complex antenna loads to coaxial transmission lines
WB7AUL p. 52, May 79

Matching sections
KL7HIT p. 68, Mar 82

Matching transformers, multiple quarter-wave
K3BY p. 44, Nov 78

Noise bridge construction (letter)
OH2ZAZ p. 8, Sep 78

Noise bridge calculations with TI 5859 calculators
WD4GRI p. 45, May 78

Omega-matching networks, design of
W7ITB p. 54, May 78

Optimum pi-network design
DL9LX p. 50, Sep 80

Swr meter
WB6AFT p. 68, Nov 78

Swr meter, how accurate? (HN)
WB9TQG p. 78, Jan 81

Swr meter for the high-frequency bands
WB6AFT p. 62, Oct 81

Swr, what is your?
N4OE p. 68, Nov 79

T-Network impedance matching to coaxial feedlines
W6EBY p. 22, Sep 78

Tandem pi networks
W6MUR p. 32, Jul 82

Transformers, coaxial-line
W6TC p. 18, Mar 80

towers and rotators

Antenna guys and structural solutions
W6RTK p. 33, Jun 78

Antenna position display
AE4A p. 18, Feb 79

Armstrong beam rotator
KP4DM p. 68, Feb 82

CDE tailtwiner rotor, pulse-position control of
WB4EXW p. 30, Jan 81

Ham-M rotator automatic position control
WB6GNM p. 42, May 77

Ham-M rotator control box, modification of (HN)
K4DLA/W1RDR p. 68, Nov 80

KLM antenna rotor, computer control for (HN)
W8MQW p. 66, Feb 81

Rotator starting capacitors (letter)
W6WX p. 92, Sep 79
Short circuit p. 70, Mar 80

transmission lines

Antiflex coaxial cable connection (HN)
W4KV p. 42, May 82

Cheapie coax (letter)
WB4AHZ p. 8, May 82

Coax cable, repairing water damage (HN)
W5XW p. 73, Dec 79

Coax cable, salvaging water-damaged (HN)
W5XW p. 88, Jan 80

Coaxial cable connectors, homebrew hardline-to-uhf	
K2YOF	p. 32, Apr 80
Coaxial connectors, sealing, (HN)	
W5XW	p. 64, Mar 80
Letter K7ZFG	p. 6, Oct 80
Coaxial-line transformers, a new class of	
W6TC	p. 12, Feb 80
Short circuit	p. 70, Mar 80
Short circuit	p. 67, Sep 80
Coax, measuring with an RCL bridge (HN)	
WB9TQG	p. 78, Oct 82
CConnectors for CATV coax cable	
W11IM	p. 52, Oct 79
Hardline, matching 75 to 50-ohm	
W4VRV	p. 43, Oct 82
Hybrid coupler	
W1OOP	p. 36, Jun 82
Matching transformers, multiple quarter-wave	
K3BY	p. 44, Nov 78
Matching 75-ohm CATV hardline to 50-ohm system	
K1XX	p. 31, Sep 78
Measuring coax cable loss with an swr meter	
WB9TQG	p. 35, May 81
Comments, WD4KMP, WB9TQG	p. 6, Sep 81
Comments, W4PPB	p. 8, Feb 82
Pi, pi-L, and tandem quarter-wave line matching networks, response of	
W6MUR	p. 12, Feb 82
Plumber's delight coax connector (weekender)	
N4LI	p. 50, May 81
PL-259 connectors, attaching to RG-58/U cable (HN)	
W5BVF	p. 81, Jan 82
Rf power divider (HN)	
W5TRS	p. 80, Feb 82
T coupler, the (HN)	
K3NXU	p. 68, Nov 80
Time-domain reflectometry, checking transmission lines with	
K7CG	p. 32, Jul 80
Transformers, coaxial-line	
W6TC	p. 18, Mar 80
Transmission-line circuit design for 50 MHz and above	
W6GGV	p. 38, Nov 80
Transmission-line design, Pt. 2: distributed resonant circuits in uhf/vhf lines	
W6GGV	p. 62, Jan 81
Transmission-line design, Pt. 3: distributed resonant circuits in vhf/uhf lines	
W6GGV	p. 56, Feb 81
Transmission-line design, Pt. 4: distributed resonant circuits in vhf/uhf lines	
W6GGV	p. 64, Mar 81
Transmission-line design, Pt. 5: 50 MHz and above	
W6GGV	p. 72, Apr 81
Transmission lines, long, for optimum antenna location	
N4UH	p. 12, Oct 80
Transmit/receive switch, solid-state vhf-uhf	
W4NHH	p. 54, Feb 78
Zip-cord feedlines (HN)	
W7RXV	p. 32, Apr 78
Zip-cord feedlines (letter)	
WB6BHI	p. 6, Oct 78
75-ohm CATV cable in amateur installations	
W7VK	p. 28, Sep 78
75-ohm CATV hardline matching to 50-ohm systems	
K1XX	p. 31, Sep 78

Better audio for mobile operation	
K6GCO	p. 48, Feb 81
Duplex audio-frequency generator with AFSK features	
WB6AFT	p. 66, Sep 79
Handheld transceiver, audio amplifier for	
N1RM	p. 38, Jul 81
Headphones, dual-impedance (HN)	
AB9Q	p. 80, Jan 79
Heath HW-2036 mods (letter)	
Moshier, E.A.	p. 8, Jun 81
Microphones and simple speech processing	
W1OLP	p. 30, Mar 80
W5VWR	p. 6, Sep 80
Phone patch using junk-box parts	
K7NM	p. 40, Oct 80
RC active filters (letter)	
W6NRM	p. 102, Jun 78
Simulated carbon microphones, using with Amateur transmitters	
W9MKV	p. 18, Oct 81
Speech processor, split-band (letter)	
WA2SSO	p. 6, Dec 79
Speech processors (letter)	
K3ND	p. 6, Aug 80
Speech processing, split-band (letter)	
Schreuer, N7WS	p. 74, Feb 80
Speech systems, improving	
K2PMA	p. 72, Apr 78
TR-2400, external microphone for (HN)	
WB21FV	p. 64, Mar 82
Variable-frequency audio filter	
W4VRV	p. 62, Apr 79
Voice-band equalizer	
WB2GCR	p. 50, Oct 80

Collins 75S-3 alignment (HN)	
N1FB	p. 79, Jan 81
Collins 516F-2 low-voltage and bias modification (HN)	
N1FB	p. 68, Jul 81
Collins 516F-2 power supply, transient protection for	
W6AD	p. 31, Apr 81
DenTron 160XV transverter, stabilizing the (weekender)	
WB2QLL	p. 46, Jun 81
Drake R-4C backlash, cure for (HN)	
W3CVS	p. 82, May 79
Drake R-4C, cleaner audio for (HN)	
K1FO	p. 88, Nov 78
Drake R-4C receiver audio improvements (HN)	
W3CVS	p. 79, Jan 81
Drake R-4B and TR-4, split-frequency operation	
WB8JQC	p. 66, Apr 79
Drake R-4C, new audio amplifier for	
WB0JGP, K8RRH	p. 48, Apr 79
Drake R-4C, new product detector for (HN)	
WB0JGP	p. 94, Oct 78
Drake R-4C product detector, improving (HN)	
W3CVS	p. 64, Mar 80
Drake TR-7 transceiver, Woodpecker noise blanker for (HN)	
K1KSY	p. 67, Feb 81
Drake TR-22C sensitivity improvement (HN)	
K7OR	p. 78, Oct 79
Drake T-4X transmitters, improved tuning on 160 meters (HN)	
W1BI, W1HZH	p. 81, Jan 79
Factory service (letter)	
W6HK	p. 6, Jul 80
FT-101E, 10-meter preamp for	
K1NYK	p. 26, Jul 81
Feedline loss, calculating with a single measurement at the transmitter (HN)	
K9MM	p. 96, Jun 78
Hallcrafters HT-37, improving	
W6NIF	p. 78, Feb 79
Ham-M rotator control box, modifications of (HN)	
K4DLA/W1RDR	p. 68, Nov 80
Ham-M rotator torque loss (HN)	
W1JR	p. 85, Jun 79
Short circuit	p. 92, Sep 79
Ham-3 rotator, digital readout for	
K1DG	p. 56, Jan 79
Heath HD-10 keyer, positive lead keying (HN)	
W4VAF	p. 88, Nov 78
Heath Model 10-4530 oscilloscope, modifications	
Bailey	p. 20, Aug 82
Heath HD-1982 Micoder for low-impedance operation	
Johnson, Wesley	p. 86, May 78
Heath HR-2B external speaker and tone pad (HN)	
N1FB	p. 89, Nov 78
Heath HW-8, improved keying for (HN)	
W3HVK	p. 60, Aug 82
Heath HW-101 sidetone control (HN)	
AD9M	p. 79, Jul 79
Heath HW-2036 antenna socket (HN)	
W3HCE	p. 80, Jan 79
Heath HW-2036, carrier-operated relay for	
WD5HYQ	p. 58, Feb 80
Heath HW2036; Lever action switch illumination (HN)	
W2IFR	p. 99, Jul 78
Heath HW2036, outboard LED frequency display	
WB8TJL	p. 50, Jul 78
Heath HW-2036, updating to the HW-2036A	
WB6TMM, WA6ODR	p. 62, Mar 79
Heath HWA-2036-3 crowbar circuit (HN)	
W3HCE	p. 88, Nov 78
Heath Micoder improvements	
W1OLP	p. 42, Nov 78
Heath Micoder matching (letter)	
WB8VUN	p. 8, Sep 78
Heath SB-102 modifications (letter)	
W1JE	p. 110, Mar 78
Heath SB-400/SB-401, simple speech amplifier for (HN)	
W8LMH	p. 72, Jun 81
Heathkit Micoder adapted to low-impedance input (HN)	
WB2GXF	p. 78, Aug 79
Heathkit HW-8, increased break-in delay (HN)	
K6YB	p. 84, Jun 79
Heathkit HW-2036, updating the	
WA4BZP	p. 50, Nov 80

commercial equipment

Amateur Radio equipment survey number two	
W1SL	p. 52, Jan 80
Atlas 210 transceiver, sidetone (HN)	
ZL2RP	p. 67, Mar 82
Short circuit	p. 79, Oct 82
Atlas 350 AGC circuit, modifications (HN)	
K0RL	p. 42, May 82
Autek filter (HN)	
K6EVQ, WA6WZQ	p. 83, May 79
CDE tallwister rotor, pulse-position control of	
WB4EXW	p. 30, Jan 81
Cleanup tips for amateur equipment (HN)	
Fisher	p. 49, Jun 78
Collins KWM-2, updating	
W6SAI	p. 48, Sep 79
Collins KWM-2 KWM-2A, owners' reports	
WB1CHQ	p. 22, Mar 81
300-Hz crystal filter for Collins receivers (letter)	
G3UFZ	p. 90, Jan 78
Collins S-line backup power supply (HN)	
N1FB	p. 78, Oct 79
Collins S-line monitoring (HN)	
N1FB	p. 78, Aug 79
Collins S-line, owners' report	
WB1CHQ	p. 12, Apr 81
Collins 32S cooling (HN)	
N1FB	p. 74, Nov 79
Collins 32S, improved stability for (HN)	
N1FB	p. 83, May 79
Collins 32S PA disable jacks	
N1FB	p. 65, Mar 80
Collins 75S CW sidetone (HN)	
N1FB	p. 93, Apr 79
Collins 32S-1, updating	
N1FB	p. 76, Dec 78
Collins 51J, modifying for ssb reception	
W6SAI	p. 66, Feb 78
Collins 51J product detector (letter)	
K5CE	p. 6, Oct 78
Collins 516F-2 high-voltage rectifier (HN)	
N1FB	p. 85, Jun 79
Collins 516F-2 solid-state rectifiers (HN)	
N1FB	p. 91, Feb 79
Collins 75S receiver, (HN)	
N1FB	p. 94, Oct 78

audio

Active filters	
K6JM	p. 70, Feb 78
Add-on selectivity for communications receivers	
G4GMQ	p. 41, Nov 81
Audio processor, communications for reception	
W6NRW	p. 71, Jan 80
Audio response, tailoring (HN)	
N1FB	p. 42, May 82

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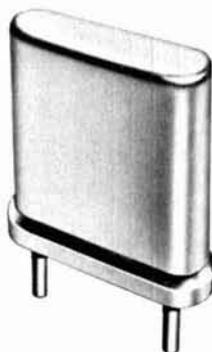


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Heathkit SB-104A, improved receiver performance for N2EO	p. 78, Apr 81
Heath's new all-band transceiver, the SS-9000 W9JUV	p. 12, Nov 82
Henry 2K4 and 3KA linears, electronic bias switching W1CBY	p. 75, Aug 78
Hy-Gain 400 rotator, improved indicator system for W4PSJ	p. 60, May 78
HP-35 calculator, keyboard cleaning (HN) Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 40, Jul 78
ICOM IC-2A(T), odd splits N7AAD	p. 65, Jul 82
ICOM IC-22S, using below 146 MHz (HN) W1IBI	p. 92, Apr 79
ICOM 701 owners' report WB1CHQ	p. 56, Oct 81
Johnson Matchbox, improved K4IHV	p. 45, Jul 79
Short circuit p. 92, Sep 79	
Kenwood TR-7400A, scanner for (the Kønscan 74) WB7QYB	p. 50, Jan 81
Kenwood TR-7500, preprogrammed (HN) W9KNI	p. 95, Oct 78
Kenwood TS-520-SE transceiver, counter mixer for W5NPD	p. 80, Sep 80
KLM antenna rotor, computer control for (HN) W8MQW	p. 66, Feb 81
Measurements Corporation 59 grid-dip oscillator improvements W6GXN	p. 82, Nov 78
Micro Mart RM terminal modification (HN) WA5VQK	p. 99, Jun 78
National NCL-2000, using the Drake T-4XC (HN) K5ER	p. 94, Jan 78
Ni-cad battery charging (letter) W6NRM	p. 6, Jul 80
Owners' survey, TR7 WB1CHQ	p. 66, Nov 81
Owners survey: 2-meter handhelds KA1ZM	p. 35, Jul 82
R-1000 mod (HN) W6XM	p. 60, Aug 82
S-line, QSK noise (HN) N1FB	p. 66, Mar 82
SB-220 transceiver, inrush current protection for — Weekender W3BYM	p. 66, Dec 80
SB-303 receiver, noise reduction (HN) Suzuki	p. 70, Jun 82
Sony ICF-2001, eight-channel memory scanner for W3CSW	p. 54, Aug 82
Swan 160X birdie suppression (HN) W6SAI	p. 36, Oct 78
Swan 350, curing frequency drift WA6IPH	p. 42, Aug 79
Ten-Tec Horizon/2 audio modification (HN) WB9RKN	p. 79, Oct 79
Ten-Tec Omni-D, improved CW agc for (HN) W6OA	p. 88, Jan 80
TS-820/TS-820S, reducing interference in (HN) W4MB	p. 88, Jan 80
TS-820 filter switching modification (HN) K7OAK	p. 72, Jun 80
Wilson Mark II and IV, modifications to (HN) W9EPT	p. 89, Jan 80
Yaesu FT-227R memorizer, improved memory (HN) WA2DHF	p. 79, Aug 79
3-500Z tube failure (HN) AG6K	p. 78, Oct 82
5CX1500A power pentode (HN) K9XI	p. 77, Oct 82

construction techniques

Anodize dyes (letter) W4MB	p. 6, Sep 79
Anodizing aluminum VE7DKR	p. 62, Jan 79
Comments, WA9UXK	p. 6, Nov 79

AN/UPX-8 cavities, converting surplus W6NBI	p. 12, Mar 81
Cabinet construction techniques W7KDM	p. 76, Mar 79
Cheap dots (HN) W6XM	p. 77, Sep 82
Cliplead carousel (HN) WB1AQM	p. 79, Oct 79
Coaxial cable connectors, homebrew hardline-to-uhf K2YOF	p. 32, Apr 80
Coax cable, salvaging water-damaged (HN) W5XW	p. 88, Jan 80
Crystal switching, remote (HN) WA8YBT	p. 91, Feb 79
Dust buildup, decreasing (HN) K4KI	p. 77, Sep 82
Fan, speed control (HN) K4KI	p. 77, Sep 82
Lightning protection (letter) K9MM	p. 12, Dec 79
Metal cleaning with dip-type cleaners (HN) W5XW	p. 82, Jan 82
Comment, K6YPD p. 8, Jun 82	
Metalized capacitors (HN) W8YFB	p. 82, May 79
Microcircuits, visual aids for working on K9SRL	p. 90, Jul 78
Phone plug wiring (HN) N1FB	p. 85, Jun 79
PC layout using longhand WB9QZE	p. 26, Nov 78
Comments, W5TKP p. 6, Jun 79	
Printed circuit layout and drilling template WA4WDL	p. 73, Jul 82
Printed-circuits, simple method for (HN) W4MTD	p. 51, Apr 78
Rejuvenating transmitting tubes with thoriated-tungsten filaments (HN) W6NIF	p. 80, Aug 78
Set screws, taming (HN) W5PGG	p. 64, Mar 82
Ten-Tec Omni-D, improved CW agc (HN) W6OA	p. 72, Dec 79
Wilson Mark II and IV modifications (HN) W9EPT	p. 73, Dec 79
Wire-wound potentiometer repair (HN) W4ATE	p. 77, Feb 78

digital techniques

Basic rules and gates Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 76, Jan 79
Counters and weights Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 66, Aug 79
Digiscope WB0CLH	p. 50, Jun 79
Digital-circuit problems, avoiding built-in, part one W1BG	p. 43, Sep 81
Comments VE2QO p. 6, Dec 81	
Digital-circuit problems, avoiding built-in, part two W1BG	p. 50, Oct 81
Comments VE2QO p. 6, Dec 81	
Digital techniques: gate arrays for control Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 82, Jan 80
Digital techniques: inside a phase-frequency detector Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 28, Sep 82
Digital techniques: shocking truths about semiconductors Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 36, Oct 82
Down counters Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 72, Sep 79
Flip-flop internal structure Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 86, Apr 79
Gate arrays for pattern generation Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 72, Oct 79
Gate structure and logic families Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 66, Feb 79
Making waves W6HDM	p. 44, Mar 82
Multivibrators and analog input interfacing Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 78, Jun 79

Packet radio, introduction to VE2BEN	p. 64, Jun 79
Propagation delay and flip-flops Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 82, Mar 79
Self-gating the 82S90/74S196 decade counter (HN) W9LL	p. 82, May 79
Synthesizers, VHF and UHF, design of digital components G4CLF	p. 26, Jul 82
Talking digital clock K9KV	p. 30, Oct 79

features and fiction

DXer's Diary W9KNI	p. 18, Mar 81
DXer's Diary W9KNI	p. 26, Apr 81
Comments p. 6, Sep 81	
DXer's Diary W9KNI	p. 22, Jun 81
DXer's Diary W9KNI	p. 60, Aug 81
DXer's Diary W9KNI	p. 70, Dec 81
James R. Fisk memorial W1XU	p. 2, Jun 80
James R. Fisk, W1HR — some reflections W6NIF	p. 6, Jun 80
Jim Fisk, tribute to, publisher's log W1NLB	p. 8, Jun 80
From Amateur to professional K1ZU	p. 54, Aug 81
Hallcrafters history W6SAI	p. 20, Nov 79
Hallcrafters story (letter) K0ADM	p. 6, May 80
Hallcrafters story (letter) W1TVN	p. 6, May 80
Hallcrafters story (letter) WA2JVD	p. 6, Sep 80
Ham radio techniques: triband Yagi beam for 20, 15, and 10 meters W6SAI	p. 68, Jan 81
Short circuit p. 84, Nov 81	
Ham radio techniques: earth-moon-earth W6SAI	p. 40, Feb 81
Ham radio techniques: more about moonbounce W6SAI	p. 34, Mar 81
Ham radio techniques: ten-meter band W6SAI	p. 38, Apr 81
Ham radio techniques: 160-meter band W6SAI	p. 46, May 81
Ham radio techniques: amateur radio, 1933 W6SAI	p. 41, Jun 81
Ham radio techniques: antenna tuners W6SAI	p. 30, Jul 81
Ham radio techniques: amateur radio 1941 W6SAI	p. 30, Aug 81
Ham radio techniques W6SAI	p. 32, Sep 81
Ham radio techniques W6SAI	p. 42, Oct 81
Ham radio techniques: radio-frequency interference W6SAI	p. 34, Nov 81
Ham radio techniques: radio-frequency interference W6SAI	p. 30, Dec 81
Heilschreiber, a rediscovery PA0CX	p. 28, Dec 79
Jammer problem, solutions for UX3PU	p. 56, Apr 79
Comments p. 6, Sep 79	
Jim, a tug at your memory W4VT	p. 28, May 81
Observation and opinion W9KNI	p. 6, Jul 81
Reinartz, John L., father of shortwave radio WA6CBQ	p. 10, Aug 81
Shopping for parts by mail W8FX	p. 16, Jul 81
Comments K1THP p. 6, Dec 81	
Tune in on the world WA4PYQ	p. 12, Jun 81

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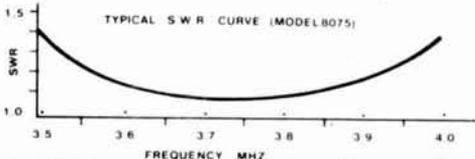
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K3NXU p. 74, Mar 81
- Amateur fm, close look at
W2YE p. 46, Aug 79
- Antenna design for omnidirectional
repeater coverage
N9SN p. 20, Sep 79
- Command function debugging circuit
WA7HFY p. 84, Jun 78
- Deviation, measuring
N6UE p. 20, Jan 79
- Digital scanner for 2-meter synthesizers
K4GOK p. 56, Feb 78
- External frequency programmer (HN)
WB9VWM p. 92, Apr 79
- Fm demodulator using the phase-locked
loop
KL7IPS p. 74, Sep 78
- Comments
Anderson, Leonard H. p. 6, Apr 79
- Folded whip antenna for vhf mobile —
Weekender
WB2IFV p. 50, Apr 79
- Frequency synthesizers, 600 kHz offset
for (HN)
K6KLO p. 96, Jul 78
- Ni-cad charger, any-state
WA6TBC p. 66, Dec 79
- Preamplifier for handi-talkies
WB2IFV p. 89, Oct 78
- Private call system for vhf fm (HN)
W9ZTK p. 77, Feb 78
- Receivers, setup using hf harmonics (HN)
K9MM p. 89, Nov 78
- Repeater channel spacing (letter)
WB6JPI p. 90, Jan 78
- Repeater jammers, tracking down
W4MB p. 56, Sep 78
- Repeater interference: some corrective
actions
W4MB p. 54, Apr 78
- Simple scope monitor for vhf fm
W1RHN p. 66, Aug 78
- Single-tone decoder
WA2UMY p. 70, Aug 78
- Solar powered repeater design
WB5REA/WB5RSN p. 28, Dec 78
- Speech processor for fm transmitters
G4CLF, G3RZP p. 76, Mar 82
- Subaudible tone encoders and decoders
W8GRG p. 26, Jul 78
- Synthesizer, 144 MHz, 800-channel
K4VB, WA4GJT p. 10, Jan 79
- Synthesizer, 144-MHz CMOS
K9LHA p. 14, Dec 79
- Tone-alert decoder
WBZXH p. 64, Nov 78
- Tone generator, IC (HN)
W6IPB p. 88, Mar 79
- Touch-tone decoder, IC
W3QG p. 26, Jul 78
- Touch-tone decoder, third generation
WA7DPX p. 36, Feb 80
- Short circuit p. 67, Sep 80
- 144-MHz synthesizer, direct output (letter)
WB6JPI p. 90, Jan 78

integrated circuits

- Active filters
K6JM p. 70, Feb 78
- Binary coded decimal addition (HN)
WA9HUV p. 66, Apr 82
- Comment, Schiffer, Jeffrey L. p. 8, Dec 82
- CMOS programmable divide-by-N counter (HN)
W7BZ p. 94, Jan 78
- Exar XR-205 waveform generator as capacitance
meter (HN)
W6WR p. 79, Jul 79
- IC arrays
K6JM p. 42, Sep 78

- IC op amp update
Jung, Walter p. 62, Mar 78
- Op amp challenges the 741
WASSNZ p. 76, Jan 78
- Socket label for ICs (HN)
WA4WDL, WB4LJM p. 94, Jan 78
- TouchTone decoder, an improved
N6JH p. 24, Dec 82
- TTL ICs, simple tests for
W6ALF p. 37, Mar 82
- TTL oscillator (HN)
WB6VZM p. 77, Feb 78
- 555 timer operational characteristics
WB6FOC p. 32, Mar 79
- 2716 EPROM programmer
N3CA p. 32, Apr 82

keying and control

- Accu-keyer speed readout
K5MAT p. 60, Sep 79
- Biquad bandpass filter for CW
N0DE p. 70, Jun 79
- Short circuit p. 92, Sep 79
- Comments p. 6, Nov 79
- Cathode key with the Heath HD-1410 (HN)
K9XM, N9MX p. 80, Jan 82
- CMOS keyer, simple
HB9ABO p. 70, Jan 79
- Code speed counter
K8TT p. 86, Feb 79
- Constant pitch monitor for cathode or grid-block
keyed transmitters (HN)
K4GMR p. 100, Sep 78
- CW break-in, quieting amplifiers for
W1DB p. 46, Jan 79
- CW identifier, versatile
WB2BWJ p. 22, Oct 80
- Short circuit p. 70, Feb 82
- CW keyboard using the APPLE II computer
W6WR p. 60, Oct 80
- CW memory modification (HN)
W0DLQ p. 93, May 81
- CW operator's PAL
W2YE p. 23, Apr 79
- CW signal processor
W7KGZ p. 34, Oct 78
- Comments, VE3CBJ p. 6, Jun 79
- Dasher
KH6JF p. 68, Mar 79
- Deluxe memory keyer with 3072-bit capacity
W3VT p. 32, Apr 79
- Short circuit p. 92, Sep 79
- Short circuit p. 89, Jan 82
- Electronic keyer
OK3IA p. 10, Apr 78
- End-of-transmission K generator
G8KGV p. 58, Oct 79
- Keyer, single-chip, for QRP (weekender)
W3HVK p. 70, Oct 82
- Keyer with memory (letter)
Hansen, William p. 6, Dec 79
- Key toggle
W6NRW p. 50, Mar 79
- Memory keyer, W7BBX (letter)
SP2DX p. 6, Jan 80
- Memory keyer, (letter)
W3VT p. 6, Feb 80
- Memory keyer, 2048-bit (HN)
GW4CQT p. 73, Jun 80
- Microcomputer-based contest keyer
K9CW p. 36, Jan 81
- Paddle for electronic keyers
ZS6AL p. 28, Apr 78
- Programmable accessory for electronic keyers
(HN)
K9WGN/W0USL p. 81, Aug 78
- Programmable keyer, Autek MK-1, expanded memory
for
N9AKT p. 58, Jan 80
- Radio Shack ASCII keyboard encoder for micro-
processor-controlled CW keyboard, using (HN)
VE7ZV p. 72, Oct 80

- Ten-Tec 645 ultramatic keyer mods (HN)
K4JST p. 70, Dec 82
- Transceiver diplexer: an alternative to relays
N6RY p. 71, Dec 80
- WPM readout for deluxe memory keyer (weekender)
WA10EH p. 50, Apr 82

measurements and test equipment

- Antenna bridge calculations
Anderson, Leonard H. p. 34, May 78
- Antenna bridge calculations (letter)
W5OJR p. 6, May 78
- Automatic noise-figure measurements
Repair Bench
W6NBI p. 40, Aug 78
- Battery charger sensor
W3BYM p. 54, Dec 82
- Broadband reflectometer and power meter
VK2ZTB, WB2ZZQ p. 28, May 79
- Capacitance measurements with a
frequency counter — Weekender
Moran, John p. 62, Oct 79
- Capacitance meter
Mathieson, P. H. p. 51, Feb 78
- Capacitance meter, simplified
WASSNZ p. 78, Nov 78
- Capacitance meter, (simplified), improvements to
WA3CPH p. 54, Mar 80
- Counter control pulses (HN)
W9LL p. 70, Apr 80
- Deviation, measuring
N6UE p. 20, Jan 79
- Digital capacitance meter
K4GOK p. 66, Aug 80
- Diode noise source for receiver noise measurements
W6NBI p. 32, Jun 79
- Dip meters, a new look at
W6GXN p. 25, Aug 81
- Dip-meter converter for VLF
W4YOT p. 26, Aug 79
- Electrolytic capacitors, measuring capacitance of
KP4DIF p. 24, Sep 80
- Field-strength meter for the high-frequency Amateur
bands
WB6AFT p. 42, Jul 81
- Frequency counter, capacitance-measurement
accuracy for
W1ZUC p. 44, Apr 80
- Short circuit p. 67, Sep 80
- Frequency counter, miniature
K5WKQ p. 34, Oct 79
- Frequency counter, K4JIU, modifications for (HN)
K4JIU p. 65, Mar 80
- Frequency counter, modify for direct
counting to 100 MHz
WA1SNG p. 26, Feb 78
- Frequency counter, front-ends for a 500-MHz
K4JIU p. 30, Feb 78
- Frequency counter, high-impedance preamp
and pulse shaper for
I4YAF p. 47, Feb 78
- Frequency counter, simple (HN)
W2QBR p. 81, Aug 78
- Frequency counter, simplifying
W1WVP p. 22, Feb 78
- Short circuit p. 94, Feb 79
- Frequency counters, uhf and microwave
W6NBI p. 34, Sep 79
- Frequency counters, understanding and using
W6NBI p. 10, Feb 78
- Frequency counters, high-sensitivity
preamplifier for
W1CFI p. 80, Oct 78
- Function generator, integrated circuit
N3FG p. 30, Aug 80
- Gallon-size dummy load
W4MB p. 74, Jun 79
- Grid-dip meter, no-cost
W8YFB p. 87, Feb 78

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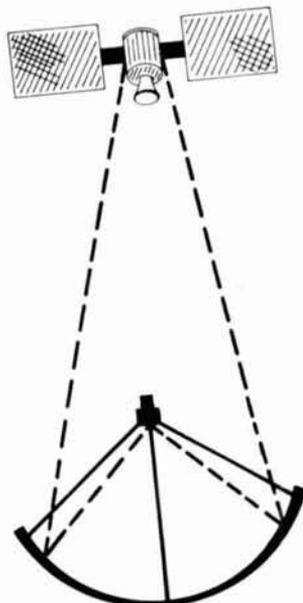
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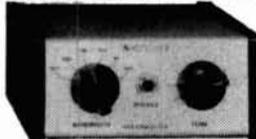
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Impedance bridge measurement errors and corrections	
K4KJ	p. 22, May 79
Inductance meter, easy-to-build	
W6XM	p. 76, Apr 82
Comments, WB2LAO	p. 8, Sep 82
Short circuit	p. 79, Oct 82
K4EEU frequency standard, battery backup for (HN)	
N4BA	p. 68, Jul 81
Light-bulb dummy loads (HN)	
W6HPH	p. 74, Oct 81
Logic probe	
K9CW	p. 83, Feb 79
Logic probe, digital	
N6UE	p. 38, Aug 80
Meter amplifiers, calibrating	
W4OHT	p. 80, Sep 78
Multiplexed counter displays (HN)	
K1XX	p. 87, May 78
Noise bridge calculations with TI 58/59 calculators	
WD4GR1	p. 45, May 78
Noise figure measurements	
W6NBI	p. 40, Aug 78
Comments	
WB5LHV, W6NBI	p. 6, Aug 79
Noise-figure meter, automatic, for preamplifiers and converters	
K9IMM	p. 12, Feb 81
Prescaler, 1-GHz, for frequency counters	
W6NBI	p. 84, Sep 78
Prescaler, 600-Hz, for use with electronic counters	
WA1SP1	p. 50, Apr 80
Resistance values below 1 ohm, measuring (letter)	
W1PT	p. 91, Jan 78
Resistance values, measuring below 1 ohm	
W4OHT	p. 66, Sep 77
Rf current readout, remote (HN)	
W4ATE	p. 87, May 78
Rf power meter, part 1: instrument description and construction	
N6YC	p. 70, May 81
Rf power meter, part 2: measurements and measurement accessories	
N6YC	p. 55, Jun 81
Comments W3NQN	p. 6, Oct 81
RTTY test generator	
WB9ATW	p. 64, Jan 78
Noise bridge construction (letter)	
OH2ZAZ	p. 8, Sep 78
Spectrum analyzer, microwave	
N6TX	p. 34, Jul 78
Spectrum analyzer tracking generator	
W6URH	p. 30, Apr 78
Sweep generator, stable wideband	
W7BAR	p. 18, Jun 81
Short circuit	p. 84, Nov 81
Swr measuring at high frequencies	
DJ2LR	p. 34, May 79
Swr meter	
WB6AFT	p. 68, Nov 78
Swr meter for the high-frequency bands	
WB6AFT	p. 62, Oct 81
Comments, WA4UPN, WB6AFT	p. 36, Mar 82
Tester for 6146 tubes (HN)	
W6KNE	p. 81, Aug 78
Test-equipment mainframe	
W4MB	p. 52, Jul 79
Testing power tubes	
K4IPV	p. 60, Apr 78
TV locator	
W6BD	p. 24, Aug 78
Two-tone generator	
N1RM	p. 32, Jun 82
Two-tone signal generator (HN)	
K4KI	p. 77, Sep 82
Vhf prescaler	
W8CHK	p. 92, Jun 78
VLF dip meter, no-adjust bias for (HN)	
WB31DJ	p. 69, Jul 80
Voltage calibrator for digital voltmeters	
W6NBI	p. 66, Jul 78
Short circuit	p. 94, Feb 79
Voltmeter calibrator, precision	
Woods, Hubert	p. 94, Jun 78
VSWR bridge, broadband power-tracking	
K1ZDI	p. 72, Aug 79
VSWR and power meter, automatic	
W0INK	p. 34, May 80

Wattmeter, low power (letter)	
W0DLQ	p. 6, Jan 80
Wien Bridge oscillators, voltage-controlled resistance for	
W4SSNZ	p. 56, Feb 80
1.5 GHz prescaler, divide by 4	
N6JH	p. 88, Dec 78

microprocessors, computers and calculators

An RS-232 to TTL interface	
WD4KGI	p. 70, Nov 82
Calculator or computer — which to buy?	
W4MB	p. 86, Nov 82
Computer rfi (letter)	
KA5HJI	p. 8, Jun 81
Computer, satellite, for under \$150	
WB6POU	p. 12, Mar 80
CW keyboard, Microprocessor controlled	
WB2DFA	p. 81, Jan 78
CW keyboard using the APPLE II computer	
W6WR	p. 60, Oct 80
CW trainer/keyer using a single-chip microcomputer	
N6TY	p. 16, Aug 79
Data retrieval program using the APPLE II computer (HN)	
WB6YHS	p. 75, Oct 81
Digital keyboard entry system	
N2YK/N2GW	p. 92, Sep 78
Frequency counters, CMOS timing circuit for (HN)	
Bevel, David H.	p. 72, Jul 82
Ham gear controller: part 1	
N3CA	p. 12, Oct 82
Ham gear controller: part 2	
N3CA	p. 25, Nov 82
IC tester using the KIM-1	
W3GUL	p. 74, Nov 78
Interfacing a 10-bit DAC (Microprocessors)	
Rony, Titus, WB4HYJ	p. 66, Apr 78
Microcomputer-based contest keyer	
K9CW	p. 36, Jan 81
Radio Shack ASCII keyboard encoder for microprocessor-controlled CW keyboard using the (HN)	
VE7ZV	p. 72, Oct 80
Video display, simple	
VK3AOH	p. 46, Dec 78

miscellaneous technical

Ac-line switching precautions (HN)	
W5PGG	p. 69, Jul 81
Air pressure, measuring across transmitting tubes (HN)	
W4PSJ	p. 89, Jan 80
Amplifier for 220 MHz, stripline kilowatt	
W2GN	p. 12, Apr 82
Amplitude companded sideband	
WB6JNN	p. 48, Dec 80
Analog-to-digital display converter for the visually handicapped	
KB7JW	p. 44, Jan 81
Battery charging (letter)	
Carlson	p. 6, Nov 80
Circuit figure of merit (letter)	
W2JTP	p. 6, Dec 80
Communiting filters	
W6GXN	p. 54, Sep 79
Computer for the blind (HN)	
W8MQW	p. 69, Jun 82
Crystal filters, monolithic	
DK1AG	p. 28, Nov 78
Crystal use locator	
W4BSWR	p. 36, Nov 80
CW identifier, versatile	
WB2BWJ	p. 22, Oct 80
Short circuit	p. 70, Feb 82

CW identifier, versatile, an improved memory for	
WB2BWJ	p. 24, Feb 82
CW station, updating (HN)	
KM5T	p. 77, Oct 82
Data bandwidths compared	
W9JD/2	p. 50, Dec 82
DSB generators, audio-driven (HN)	
W5TRS	p. 68, Jul 80
Earth anchors for guyed towers	
W5QJR	p. 60, May 80
Eimac 5CX1500A power pentode, notes on	
K9XI	p. 60, Aug 80
Electrolytic capacitors (letter)	
WB8MKU	p. 6, Jun 81
Electrolytic capacitors, re-forming the oxide layer (HN)	
K9MM	p. 99, Jul 78
Field-strength meter and volt-ohmmeter	
WB6AFT	p. 70, Feb 79
Filters, bridged	
W6MUR	p. 51, Oct 82
Four-quadrant curve tracer/analyzer	
W1QXS	p. 46, Feb 79
Frequency divider, diode	
W5TRS	p. 54, Aug 80
Frequency-lock loop	
WA3ZKZ	p. 17, Aug 78
Ground systems, notes on	
K6WX	p. 26, May 80
Gyrator: a synthetic inductor	
WB9ATW	p. 96, Jun 78
Ham radio techniques: radio-frequency interference	
W6SAI	p. 34, Nov 81
Ham radio techniques: radio-frequency interference	
W6SAI	p. 30, Dec 81
Hf synthesizer, higher resolution for	
N4ES	p. 34, Aug 78
Hyperbolic navigation (letter)	
Burhans, Ralph W.	p. 6, Feb 81
Impedance bridge measurement errors and corrections	
K4KJ	p. 22, May 79
Impedance measurements using an SWR meter	
K4QF	p. 80, Apr 79
Inductance or capacitance, a method for measuring (HN)	
W2CHO	p. 68, Jul 80
Instant balun (letter)	
W8MQW	p. 6, Aug 81
Interference problems, how to solve	
ON4UN	p. 93, Jul 78
Light-emitting diodes: theory and application	
WB6AFT	p. 12, Aug 80
Lightning protection for the amateur station	
K9MM	p. 18, Dec 78
Comments	
W6RTK, WB2FBL	p. 6, Jul 79
Linear-amplifier cost efficiency	
W8MFL	p. 60, Jul 80
Linear tuning, a fresh look at (HN)	
W2OLU	p. 74, Aug 80
Low cost linear design and construction	
W4MB	p. 12, Dec 82
Matching networks, how to design	
Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 44, Apr 78
Multiplexing, the how and why of	
KH6N	p. 60, Sep 81
Navigational aid for small-boat operators	
W5TRS	p. 46, Sep 80
Ni-cad battery charging (letter)	
W6NRM	p. 6, Jul 80
Operation upgrade: part 1	
W6BNB	p. 12, Sep 81
Operation upgrade: part 2	
W6BNB	p. 28, Oct 81
Optimum pi-network design	
DL9LX	p. 50, Sep 80
Passive lumped constant 90-degree phase-difference networks	
K6ZV	p. 70, Mar 79
PCB "threat" (letter)	
VE5JK	p. 66, Sep 80
Phase-locked loops	
WB6FOC	p. 54, Jul 78
Phase-shift network, 90-degree, offers 2:1 bandwidth	
K6ZV	p. 66, Feb 80
Pi network design	
Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 36, Mar 78
Comments	
Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 6, Apr 79

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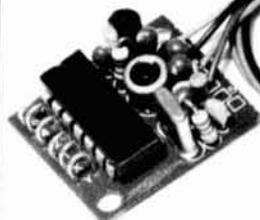
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Plasma-diode experiments	
Stockman	p. 62, Feb 80
Q systems	
W1IUZ	p. 6, Nov 80
Quartz crystals	
WB2EGZ	p. 37, Feb 79
Radio sounding system	
KL7GLK	p. 42, Jul 78
Relay, inexpensive automatic send/receive	
W0PBV	p. 40, May 82
Repeater controller, microprocessor-based	
KB0CY	p. 12, Mar 82
Rf chokes, performance above and below resonance	
WA5SNZ	p. 40, Jun 78
Rf exposure	
WA2UMY	p. 26, Sep 79
Rf interference, suppression in telephones	
K6LDZ	p. 79, Mar 77
Rf radiation, environmental aspects of	
K6YB	p. 24, Dec 79
Rf power distributor, the	
W3BYM	p. 46, Dec 81
Rfi cures: avoiding side effects	
WB9TQG	p. 52, Sep 81
Comments WB7SYB, WB9TQG, VE2QO	p. 6, Dec 81
Rotary-dial mechanism for digitally tuned transceivers	
K3CU	p. 14, Jul 80
Semiconductor curve tracing simplified	
W6HPH	p. 34, Aug 80
Signal-strength, measuring	
W2YE	p. 20, Aug 80
Solid-state amplifier switching (HN)	
WB2HTH	p. 75, Aug 80
Sorting and inventory of standard resistor values, computer program for	
WA6SWR	p. 66, Jun 81
Speed of light (letter)	
KL6WU	p. 67, Sep 80
Speed of light (letter)	
WB2AOT	p. 6, Apr 80
Speed of light (letter)	
W4MLM	p. 6, Aug 80
Speed of light, observations on, through the metric system	
W7ITB	p. 62, Jan 80
Super beep circuit for repeaters	
KP4AQI	p. 48, Jul 81
Synthesizer system, simple (HN)	
AA7M	p. 78, Jul 79
Talking clock (letter)	
N9KV	p. 75, Feb 80
Talking digital readout for amateur transceivers	
N9KV	p. 58, Jun 79
Talking digital readout (letter)	
N5AF	p. 6, May 80
T coupler, the (HN)	
K3NXU	p. 78, Nov 80
Timer, electronic (HN)	
W9EBT	p. 65, Mar 82
Tubes, surplus (letter)	
W2JTP	p. 6, Aug 80
Tubes, surplus (letter)	
Sellati	p. 66, Sep 80
TVI locator	
W6BD	p. 23, Aug 78
Varactor tuning tips (HN)	
N3GN	p. 67, Feb 81
Variable-inductance variable frequency oscillators	
W0YBF	p. 50, Jul 80
VLF dip meter, no-adjust bias for (HN)	
WB3IDJ	p. 69, Jul 80
Wideband amplifier summary	
DJ2LR	p. 34, Nov 79
Wilkinson hybrids	
WA2EWT	p. 12, Jan 82

novice reading

Novice playground (letter)	
WA5MUF	p. 8, Jan 82

Novice roundup (letter)	
KA9AZY	p. 8, Jun 81
Operation upgrade: part 1	
W6BNB	p. 12, Sep 81
Operation upgrade: part 2	
W6BNB	p. 28, Oct 81

operating

Amateur band intruders (letter)	
W5SAD	p. 6, Oct 80
Amateur radio, 1933 (ham radio techniques)	
W6SAI	p. 41, Jun 81
Amateur radio, 1941 (ham radio techniques)	
W6SAI	p. 30, Aug 81
Best best regards regards (letter)	
W6BQD	p. 8, Jan 82
Comments, N4AGS	p. 8, Apr 82
Comments, KA8NFD	p. 8, May 82
Comments, KA2AGZ	p. 8, Sep 82
Blind ham (letter)	
Gerrey, Bill	p. 8, Sep 82
Burglar alarm RFI (letter)	
WB2YVY	p. 8, Mar 82
Card from Frenchy (letter)	
W2LPV	p. 8, Apr 82
County awards (letter)	
KB7SB	p. 8, Jul 81
CW anyone?	
W7JWJ	p. 44, Mar 81
CW memory, simple — Weekender	
K4DHC	p. 46, Nov 80
CW nets (letter)	
N4EVS	p. 8, Jun 82
DX and QRP (letter)	
W6QJL	p. 8, Oct 82
DXer's diary	
W9KNI	p. 18, Mar 81
DXer's diary	
W9KNI	p. 26, Apr 81
Comments	p. 6, Sep 81
DXer's diary	
W9KNI	p. 22, Jun 81
DX Forecaster	
K0RYW	p. 76, Nov 81
DX Forecaster	
K0RYW	p. 78, Dec 81
EI2W six-meter report (letter)	
EI2W	p. 12, Jul 80
EME, 70-CM, requirements and recommendations	
W1JR	p. 12, Jun 82
Short circuit	p. 79, Oct 82
FCC actions (letter)	
W1ZI	p. 6, Apr 80
FCC actions (letter)	
N8ADA	p. 6, Apr 80
Great-circle maps	
N5KR	p. 24, Feb 79
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 53, Jan 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 60, Feb 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 26, Mar 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 26, Apr 82
Ham radio techniques: the crystal ball	
W6SAI	p. 68, May 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 76, Jun 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 42, Jul 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 42, Aug 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 40, Sep 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 20, Oct 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 46, Nov 82
Ham radio techniques	
W6SAI	p. 58, Dec 82
Hamvention slide show (letter)	
N8ADA	p. 8, Jan 82
Homebrew linears: treat or trap? (HN)	
VK4LR	p. 77, Nov 82
Intruder watch (letter)	
ZL6IW/ZL1BAD	p. 6, Aug 81

Is it stolen?	
W8AP	p. 84, Dec 82
Lifeline SAR (letter)	
WB9PFZ	p. 8, Apr 82
Listening in on 10 fm	
W8FX	p. 62, Jan 82
Monitor, tone alert	
W4KRT	p. 24, Aug 80
On-air tune-up (letter)	
K3EQ	p. 36, Mar 82
Operation upgrade: part 4	
W6BNB	p. 32, Feb 82
Operation upgrade: part 5	
W6BNB	p. 56, Mar 82
Operation upgrade: part 6	
W6BNB	p. 56, Apr 82
Operation upgrade: part 7	
W6BNB	p. 54, Jun 82
Operation upgrade: part 8	
W6BNB	p. 56, Jul 82
Operation upgrade: part 9	
W6BNB	p. 58, Sep 82
Operation upgrade: part 10	
W6BNB	p. 60, Oct 82
Operation upgrade: part 11	
W6BNB	p. 58, Nov 82
Other guy (letter)	
KA2GXS	p. 8, May 82
Propagation of radio waves	
W1GV4	p. 26, Aug 82
Protecting amateur radio (letter)	
K2JLY	p. 8, Jul 81
QRP (letter)	
W5QJM	p. 8, Nov 82
RST feedback (letter)	
V4OVO	p. 6, Dec 80
RST feedback (letter)	
W0NN	p. 6, Dec 80
RST (letter)	
W0JCK	p. 6, Feb 81
Selfish attitudes (letter)	
K2OZ	p. 6, Nov 80
Ten-meter band (ham radio techniques)	
W6SAI	p. 38, Apr 81
Ten-second call swaps (letter)	
WB1FJE	p. 6, Aug 81
Transceiver tuning (letter)	
N6TO	p. 8, Jun 82
True north for antenna orientation, how to determine	
K4DE	p. 38, Oct 80
Wearing cans (letter)	
WB9FRV	p. 8, Jul 81
Who pays the jammer (letter)	
W3MEO	p. 8, Oct 82
2 meters outlawed (letter)	
AA8C	p. 8, Aug 82
160-meter band (ham radio techniques)	
W6SAI	p. 46, May 81

oscillators

AFC circuit for VFOs	
K6EHV	p. 19, Jun 79
Colpitts oscillator design technique	
WB6BPI	p. 78, Jul 78
Short circuit	p. 94, Feb 79
Crystal oscillator, low-frequency (HN)	
W6XM	p. 66, Mar 82
Crystal ovens, precision temperature control	
K4VA	p. 34, Feb 78
CW BFO crystal for the 75S-3 (HN)	
N1FB	p. 80, Feb 82
IC crystal controlled oscillators (letter)	
W7EKC	p. 91, Jan 78
Noise sideband performance in oscillators, evaluating	
DJ2LR	p. 51, Oct 78
Overtone crystal oscillators without inductors	
WA5SNZ	p. 50, Apr 78
Phantom-coil VXO	
W3MT	p. 66, Jan 82
Comments, W3MT	p. 8, Jul 82
TTL oscillator (HN)	
WB6VZW	p. 77, Feb 78
UHF local-oscillator chain	
N6TX	p. 27, Jul 79
Vfo design using characteristic curves	
I2BVZ	p. 36, Jun 78

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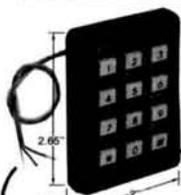
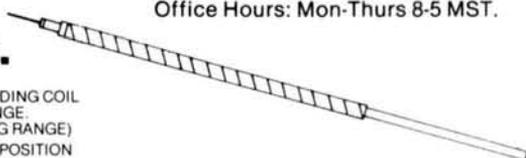
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Many other interesting coil kits in our NEW LIST 5C. You must send a stamped envelope to receive our coil kit list.

Voltage-tuned mosfet oscillator WA9HUV	p. 26, Mar 79
1-MHz oscillator, new approach WA2SPI	p. 46, Mar 79
5-ampere power supply, adjustable N1JR	p. 50, Dec 78

power supplies

Adjustable 5-ampere supply N1JR	p. 50, Jan 79
Battery charging (letter) Carlson	p. 6, Nov 80
Bench power supply — Weekender WB6AFT	p. 50, Feb 80
Constant-current battery charger for portable operation K5PA	p. 34, Apr 78
Drake R-4C receiver improved power supply W3RJ	p. 28, Feb 82
Dual voltage surge-protection for high-voltage power supplies (weekender) K8VIR	p. 42, Aug 81
Electrolytic capacitors (letter) WB8MKU	p. 6, Jun 81
High-current regulated dc supply N8AKS	p. 50, Aug 79
IC power supply, adjustable (HN) W3HB	p. 95, Jan 78
Instantaneous-shutdown high-current regulated supply W6GB	p. 81, Jun 78
Low-voltage dc power supplies — Repair Bench K4IPV	p. 38, Oct 79
Ni-cad charger, any-state WA6TBC	p. 66, Dec 79
Nickel-cadmium batteries, time-current charging W1OLP	p. 32, Feb 79
Power supply for the big amplifier W6YUY	p. 64, Jun 82
Protection for your solid-state devices W1OOP	p. 52, Mar 81
Regulated power supplies, designing (letter) W9HFR	p. 110, Mar 78
Safe power for your low-noise GaAs FET amplifier WA9HUV	p. 18, Nov 82
Squirrel-cage motors make field-day power supplies (HN) K6DZY	p. 74, Aug 81
Trans-global power supply (HN) W9CGI	p. 76, Nov 82
Two-way power for the IC2AT 2-meter handheld WB3JF	p. 57, Feb 82
Comments WB4MNW, WB3JF	p. 8, Jul 82
Variable high-voltage supply W1OLP	p. 62, Dec 79
Variable-voltage power supply, 1.2 amps WB6AFT	p. 36, Jul 78
VHF transceivers, regulated power supply for WA8RXU	p. 58, Sep 80

propagation

<i>Calculator-aided propagation predictions</i> N4UH	p. 26, Apr 79
Comments	p. 6, Sep 79
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 76, Jan 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 92, Feb 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 78, Mar 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 52, Apr 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 76, May 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 52, Jun 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 56, Jul 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 46, Aug 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 48, Sep 81

DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 46, Oct 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 76, Nov 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 78, Dec 81
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 74, Jan 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 74, Feb 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 82, Mar 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 70, Apr 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 50, May 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 42, Jun 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 78, Jul 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 80, Aug 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 82, Sep 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 82, Oct 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 84, Nov 82
DX forecaster K0RYW	p. 80, Dec 82
Radio signals, radiation of W1GV4	p. 26, Jun 82

receivers and converters

general

Active mixers, performance capability: part 1 DJ2LR	p. 30, Mar 82
Active mixers, performance capability: part 2 DJ2LR	p. 38, Apr 82
Audio processor, communications, for reception W6NRW	p. 71, Jan 80
Automatic repeater/receiver sensitivity (HN) VE7ABK	p. 81, Jan 82
Auto-product detection of double-sideband K4UD	p. 58, Mar 80
Letter G3JIP	p. 6, Oct 80
Bandsreading techniques for resonant circuits (letter) W0EJO	p. 6, Aug 78
Bandsreading techniques (letter) Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 6, Jan 79
Broadband jfet amplifiers N8DX	p. 12, Nov 79
Communications receiver K2BLA	p. 12, Jul 82
Communications receivers, calculating the cascade intercept point of WA7TDB	p. 50, Aug 80
Crystal ladder filters, systematic design of N7WD	p. 40, Feb 82
CW filter, high performance W3NQN	p. 18, Apr 81
Comments W3NQN	p. 6, Nov 81
Detector, logarithmic with post-injection marker generator W1ERW	p. 36, Mar 80
Digital display N3FG	p. 40, Mar 79
Comments	p. 6, Jul 79
Digital readout, universal WB8IFM	p. 34, Dec 78
Digital vfo basics Earnshaw	p. 18, Nov 78
Direct-conversion receivers (HN) YU2HL	p. 100, Sep 78
Diversity reception K4KJ	p. 48, Nov 79
Dynamic range, measuring WB8CTW	p. 56, Nov 79
I-f transformers, problems and cures — Weekender K4IPV	p. 58, Mar 79

Low-noise preamplifiers with good impedance match W1OOP	p. 36, Nov 82
Measuring receiver dynamic range: an addendum (HN) WB8CTW	p. 86, Apr 81
Multiple receivers on one antenna (Two for one) (HN) W2OZY	p. 72, Jun 80
Noise Blanker W5QJR	p. 54, Feb 79
Noise figure relationships (HN) W6WX	p. 70, Apr 80
Phase-locked 9-MHz bfo W7GHH	p. 49, Nov 78
Phase-locked up-converter W7GHH	p. 26, Nov 79
Power-line noise K4TWJ	p. 60, Feb 79
Receiver dynamic range W3JZO	p. 77, Dec 82
Receiver dynamic range (letter) AA6PZ	p. 7, Aug 80
Rf-agc amplifier, high-performance WA1FRJ	p. 64, Sep 78
Rotary dial and encoder for digital tuning N3CA	p. 30, Dec 82
Signal-strength, measuring W2YE	p. 20, Aug 80
Superhet tracking calculations WA5SNZ	p. 30, Oct 78
Talking clock (letter) N9KV	p. 75, Feb 80
Talking digital readout (letter) N5AF	p. 6, May 80
Vacuum-tube receivers, updating W6HPH	p. 62, Dec 78
Short circuit	p. 73, Dec 79
Wideband amplifier summary DJ2LR	p. 34, Nov 79

high-frequency receivers

Blanking the Woodpecker: part 1 VK1DN	p. 20, Jan 82
Blanking the Woodpecker, part 2: a practical circuit VK1DN	p. 18, Feb 82
Comments, NP4B	p. 8, Jul 82
Blanking the Woodpecker, part 3: an audio blanker VK1DN	p. 22, Mar 82
Collins receivers (letter) G3UFZ	p. 90, Jan 78
Communications receivers, high frequency, recent developments in circuits and techniques for DJ2LR	p. 20, Apr 80
Communications receivers for the year 2000: part 1 DJ2LR	p. 12, Nov 81
Communications receivers for the year 2000: part 2 DJ2LR	p. 38, Dec 81
CW regenerator for Amateur receivers W3BYM	p. 64, Oct 80
Digitally programmable high-frequency communications receiver WA9HUV	p. 10, Oct 78
Comments Foot, WA9HUV	p. 6, Apr 79
Diversity receiver, high-frequency, from the 1930s K4KJ	p. 34, Apr 80
Drake R-4C product detector, improving (HN) W3CVS	p. 64, Mar 80
Frequency synthesized local-oscillator system W7GHH	p. 60, Oct 78
Inexpensive CW filter (HN) WB1AFQ	p. 80, Jan 82
Low-noise 30-MHz preamplifier W1HR	p. 38, Oct 78
Short circuit	p. 94, Feb 79
Radio interference to shortwave receivers (HN) W6XM	p. 68, Jul 81
Reciprocating detector W1SNN	p. 68, Oct 78
Shortwave converter, portable PY2PE1C	p. 64, Apr 81

Shortwave receiver, portable monoband, with electronic digital frequency readout PY2PE1C	p. 42, Jan 80
Simple 40-meter receiver — Weekender W6XM	p. 64, Sep 80
Synthesizer, high resolution hf (letter) DJ2LR	p. 6, Jan 79
Ten-Tec Omni-D, improved CW agc for (HN) W6OA	p. 88, Jan 80
Transceiver, 40-meter, for low-power operation WB5DJE	p. 12, Apr 80
Understanding performance data of high-frequency receivers	
K6FM	p. 30, Nov 81
Comments KL7HT, K6FM	p. 8, Aug 82
Up-conversion receiver for the high-frequency bands: part 1	
W2VJN	p. 54, Nov 81
Up-conversion receiver for the high-frequency bands: part 2	
W2VJN	p. 20, Dec 81
Woodpecker noise blanker DJ2LR	p. 18, Jun 80
80-meter receiver for the experimenter W6XM	p. 24, Feb 81
Comments	p. 6, Jun 81
7-MHz receiver K6SDX	p. 12, Apr 79
432-MHz converter N9KD	p. 74, Apr 79

vhf receivers and converters

Cavity bandpass filters	
W4FXE	p. 46, Mar 80
Communications receivers for the year 2000: part 1	
DJ2LR	p. 12, Nov 81
Communications receivers for the year 2000: part 2	
DJ2LR	p. 36, Dec 81
Interesting preamplifier for 144 MHz (HN) WA2GFP	p. 50, Nov 81
K9LHA 2-meter synthesizer, extending the range of (HN) K9LHA	p. 52, Dec 81
Synthesized 2-meter mobile stations, automation for W9CGI	p. 20, Jun 80
144-432 MHz GaAs fet preamp JH1BRY	p. 38, Nov 79

RTTY

Active bandpass filter for RTTY W4AYV	p. 46, Apr 79
AFSK generator, an accurate and practical K0SFU	p. 56, Aug 80
Baudot, a vote for (letter) W6NRM	p. 8, Mar 82
Cleaning teleprinters (HN) W8CD	p. 86, May 78
Digital reperfr/TD WB9ATW	p. 58, Nov 78
Dual demodulator terminal unit KB9AT	p. 74, Oct 78
Comments	
WB6PMV, KB9AT	p. 6, Oct 79
Duplex audio-frequency generator with AFSK features WB6AFT	p. 66, Sep 79
Electronic teleprinter keyboard W0PHY	p. 56, Aug 78
Hellschreiber, a rediscovery PA0CX	p. 28, Dec 79
Hellschreiber (letter) K6KA	p. 6, Mar 80
Comment, G5XB	p. 6, Sep 80
Hellschreiber (letter) W6DKZ	p. 6, Mar 80
LED tuning indicator for RTTY WA0ELA	p. 50, Mar 80
Modulator-demodulator for vhf operation W6LLO	p. 34, Sep 78
Phase-coherent RTTY modulator K5PA	p. 26, Feb 79
RTTY tuning indicator, a tree (HN) N1AW	p. 74, Oct 81

Selcom	
K9HVW, WB4KUR, K4EID	p. 10, Jun 78
Slow ASCII W3FVC	p. 6, Jun 81
SSB transmitters, FSK adapter for WA3PLC	p. 12, Jul 81
Comments N1AL, WA3PLC	p. 8, Mar 82
Comments WB5DPZ, N1AL	p. 8, Oct 82
Test generator, RTTY WB9ATW	p. 64, Jan 78
XK2C AFSK generator, the W3HVK	p. 58, Nov 80

satellites

AMSAT-OSCAR D W3PK, G3CZ	p. 16, Apr 78
Antenna accuracy in satellite tracking systems N5KR	p. 24, Jun 79
Calcu-puter, OSCAR W9CGI	p. 34, Dec 78
Geostationary satellite bearings with the programmable calculator (HN) WA6BKC	p. 87, Apr 81
Geostationary satellites, locating W2TQK	p. 66, Oct 81
Comments W1DXH	p. 8, Jan 82
Comments W2TI	p. 8, Feb 82
Short circuits	p. 89, Jan 82
OSCAR az-el antenna system WA1NXP	p. 70, May 78
Phase III spacecraft orbits, geometry of W8MQW	p. 68, Oct 80
Programming for automated satellite communication KP4MD	p. 68, Jun 78
Receiving preamplifier for OSCAR 8 Mode J K1RX and Puglia	p. 20, Jun 78
Satellite communications on 10 meters (letter) G3IOR	p. 12, Dec 79
Satellite tracking — pointing and range with a pocket calculator Bail, John A.	p. 40, Feb 78
Tracking satellites in elliptical orbits WA6VJR	p. 46, Mar 81

semiconductors

Amplifiers, biasing Class-A bipolar transistor KQ7B	p. 32, Aug 82
Antenna bearings for geostationary satellites, calculating N6TX	p. 67, May 78
GaAs field-effect transistors, introduction WA2ZZF	p. 74, Jan 78
Mosfet power amplifier, 160 - 6 meters WA1WLW	p. 12, Nov 78
Mospower fet (letter) W3QQM	p. 110, Mar 78
Predicting close encounters: OSCAR 7 and OSCAR 8 K2UBC	p. 62, Jul 79
Protecting solid-state devices from voltage transients WB5DEP	p. 74, Jun 78
Switching inductive loads with solid-state devices (HN) WA6ROC	p. 99, Jun 78

single sideband

Early single-sideband transmitter (ham radio techniques) W6SAI	p. 30, Dec 81
Linear amplifier design W6SAI	
Part 1	p. 12, Jun 79
Part 2	p. 34, Jul 79
Part 3	p. 58, Aug 79
Linear amplifier, modular, for the high-frequency Amateur bands K8RA	p. 12, Jan 81
Comments K1THP	p. 6, Mar 81

Phasing networks (letter) W2ESH	p. 6, Nov 78
Speech processor, split-band N7WS	p. 12, Sep 79
SSB phasing techniques, review VK2ZTB	p. 52, Jan 78
Short circuit	p. 94, Feb 79
SSB phasing techniques, review (letter) WB9YEM	p. 82, Aug 78
Transceiver, high-frequency with digital readout DJ2LR	p. 12, Mar 78
Transverter, low-power, high-frequency W0RBR	p. 12, Dec 78

software

TI58/TI59 (HN) K3VGX	p. 65, Mar 82
----------------------	---------------

television

Broadcast quality television camera W4BRMC	p. 10, Jan 78
Console, video, for ATV WB8LGA	p. 12, Jan 80
CRT character enhancer W9CGI	p. 66, Aug 82
Display SSTV pictures on a fast-scan TV K8AEP	p. 12, Jul 79
Medium-scan television W9NTP	p. 54, Dec 81
SSTV, applying microcomputers to G3CZ/4X	p. 20, Jun 82

transmitters and power amplifiers

general

Air pressure measurements across transmitting tubes (HN) W4PSJ	p. 73, Dec 79
A-m/fm converter for facsimile transmission, an SM6FJB	p. 12, Dec 81
CQer, automatic, for RTTY W4AYV	p. 18, Nov 80
Digital readout, universal WB8IFM	p. 34, Dec 78
Digital vfo basics Earnshaw	p. 18, Nov 78
Eimac 5CX1500A power pentode, notes on K9XI	p. 60, Aug 80
High-voltage fuses in linear amplifiers (HN) K9MM	p. 76, Feb 78
Linear power amplifiers (letter) KB5EY, W6SAI	p. 6, Dec 79
Lowpass filters, elliptic, for transistor amplifiers W3NQN	p. 20, Jan 81
Pi network design Anderson, Leonard H.	p. 36, Mar 78
Comments	p. 6, Apr 79
Pi networks (letter) W6NIF	p. 6, Oct 78
Pi-network rf choke (HN) W6KNE	p. 98, Jun 78
Quartz crystals (letter) WB2EGV	p. 12, Dec 79
Rf leakage from your transmitter, preventing K9MM	p. 44, Jun 78
Single-conversion transceivers, digital frequency display for K6YHK	p. 28, Mar 81
Talking clock (letter) N9KV	p. 75, Feb 80
Talking digital readout (letter) N5AF	p. 6, May 80
40-meter transmitter-receiver W6XM	p. 43, Dec 82
XK2C AFSK generator, the W3HVK	p. 58, Nov 80

high-frequency transmitters

- Air pressure, measuring across transmitting tubes (HN)
W4PSJ p. 89, Jan 80
- ALC circuits, an analysis of
K4JW p. 19, Aug 81
- Kilowatt mobile for DX
K5DUT p. 43, Dec 80
- Linear-amplifier cost efficiency
W8MFL p. 60, Jul 80
- Linear amplifier design
W6SAI
Part 1 p. 12, Jun 79
Part 2 p. 34, Jul 79
Part 3 p. 58, Aug 79
- Linear amplifier, modular, for the high-frequency
Amateur bands
K8RA p. 12, Jan 81
Comments K1THP p. 6, Mar 81
- Linear amplifiers, modifying for full break-in operation
K4XU p. 38, Apr 78
- Lowpass filters, elliptic, for transistor amplifiers
W3NQN p. 20, Jan 81
- Mosfet power amplifier, for 160 - 6 meters
WA1WLW p. 12, Nov 78
- Transceiver, high-frequency with digital readout
DJ2LR p. 12, Mar 78
- Transverter, low-power, high-frequency
WA0RBR p. 12, Dec 78

vhf and uhf transmitters

- Converter, dc-dc, increases Gunnplexer frequency swing (HN)
W1XZ p. 70, Apr 80
- Synthesized 2-meter mobile stations, automation for
W9CGI p. 20, Jun 80
- 10-GHz transceiver for amateur microwave communications
DJ7OO p. 10, Aug 78
- 30-MHz preamplifier, low-noise
W1HR p. 38, Oct 78
- 220-MHz kilowatt linear
W6PO p. 12, Jun 80

troubleshooting

- I-f transformers, problems and cures — Weekender
K4IPV p. 56, Mar 79

vhf and microwave

general

- Battery-voltage monitor for HTs (weekender)
K2MWU p. 78, Sep 82
- Cavity filters, surplus, how to modify for 144 MHz
W4FXE p. 42, Feb 80
- Earth-moon-earth (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 40, Feb 81
- EI2W six-meter report (letter)
EI2W p. 12, Jul 80
- Frequency synthesizer (letter)
WA3AXS p. 12, Jul 80
- F-237/GRC surplus cavity filter, conversion versatility using the
W4FXE p. 22, Dec 80
- GaAs field-effect transistors, introduction
WA2ZZF p. 74, Jan 78
- Gunn oscillator design for the 10-GHz band
WB22KW p. 6, Sep 80
- Handheld transceiver mount (a 2-way ashtray for your car) (weekender)
KB2XM p. 64, Jul 81
- Instant balun (letter)
W8MQW p. 6, Aug 81
- K9LHA 2-meter synthesizer, extending the range of (HN)
K9LHA p. 52, Dec 81

- L-band local oscillators
N6TX p. 40, Dec 79
- Microstrip transmission line
W1HR p. 28, Jan 78
- Microwave bibliography
W6HDO p. 68, Jan 78
- Microwave-frequency converter for vhf counters
KA9BYI p. 40, Jul 80
- Microwave network for multimode communications
K4TWJ p. 36, Aug 82
- Microwave path evaluation
N7DH p. 40, Jan 78
- Microwave systems, first building blocks for
WA2GFP p. 52, Dec 80
- Monitor, tone alert
W4KRT p. 24, Aug 80
- More about moonbounce (ham radio techniques)
W6SAI p. 34, Mar 81
- Multipurpose uhf oscillator, simplifying the
WA9HYV p. 26, Sep 81
- Plasma-diode experiments
Stockman, Harry p. 62, Feb 80
- Repeater security
WA5FRF p. 52, Feb 81
- Spectrum analyzer microwave
N6TX p. 34, Jul 78
- Super beep circuit for repeaters
KP4AQI p. 48, Jul 81
- Synthesized time identifier for your repeater
WA4GUA p. 42, Nov 82
- Tone decoder, the ultimate
WD9EIA, WB9HGZ p. 32, Sep 82
- Touchtone auto-dialer, portable
K2MWU p. 12, Aug 82
- Two-meter autopatches, tone-encoder for
WB0VSZ p. 51, Jun 80
- Varactor tuning tips (HN)
N3GN p. 69, Dec 80
- Voltage-tuned UHF oscillator, multipurpose
WA9HUV p. 12, Dec 80
- VHF techniques
W6NBI p. 62, Jul 80
- VHF transceivers, regulated power supply for
WA8RXU p. 58, Sep 80
- Weak-signal communications
W4LTU p. 26, Mar 78
- Wireless 220-MHz to 2-meter converter (weekender)
W3RW p. 36, Jan 82
- X-band calibrator
WA6EJO p. 44, Apr 81
- 10-GHz cross-guide coupler
WB22KW p. 66, Oct 79
- 10-GHz Gunnplexer transceivers, construction and practice
Comments, W6OAL p. 26, Jan 79
p. 6, Sep 79
- 40-meter transmitter-receiver
W6XM p. 43, Dec 82
- 144-MHz frequency synthesizer, CMOS
K9LHA p. 14, Dec 79
Short circuit p. 81, Apr 80
- 440-MHz bandpass filter
WA8YBT p. 62, Nov 79
- 1296-MHz double-stub tuner
K6LK p. 70, Dec 78
- 1296-MHz microstrip filter, improved grounding for
N6TX p. 60, Aug 78

vhf and microwave antennas

- Antenna-performance measurements using celestial sources
W5CQ/W4RXV p. 75, May 79
- Cylindrical feedhorns, second-generation
WA9HUV p. 31, May 82
- Fresnel-zone plate for 10.4 GHz
WB6YVK p. 44, May 82
Comments, KB9O, WB6YVK p. 8, Nov 82
- Inexpensive five-eighth wave groundplane (HN)
W7CSD p. 84, Mar 81
- OSCAR az-el antenna system
WA1NXP p. 70, May 78
- Re-entrant cavity antenna for the vhf bands
W4FXE p. 12, May 81
- True north, how to determine for antenna orientation
K4DE p. 38, Oct 80
Comments, N6QX, K4DE p. 7, Mar 81

- Using a 2-meter quarter-wave whip on 450 MHz (HN)
K1ZJH p. 92, May 81
- Weathering the elements at 10.4 GHz
WB6YVK p. 74, Aug 82
- 1296-MHz antenna, high-gain
W3AED p. 74, May 78

vhf and microwave receivers and converters

- Add fm to your receiver (weekender)
K3NXU p. 74, Mar 81
- Cavity filters, surplus, how to modify for 144 MHz
W4FXE p. 42, Feb 80
- Crystal-controlled vhf receivers, tuning aid for (HN)
WA1FHB p. 69, Jul 80
- Fm transceiver, remote synthesized for 2 meters
WB4UPC p. 28, Jan 80
- Kenscan 74
WB7QYB p. 50, Jan 81
Short circuit p. 89, Jan 82
- Microwave mixer, new
WA0RDX p. 84, Oct 78
- Modification of K9LHA 2-meter synthesizer for 144-148 MHz coverage (HN)
K9LHA p. 93, May 81
- Preamplifier design, UHF, computer-aided
KB0O p. 28, Oct 82
- Preamplifiers, vhf low-noise
WA2GFP p. 50, Dec 79
- Synthesizer, genesis of a
VE3FIT p. 38, Mar 81
- Uhf local-oscillator chain
N6TX p. 27, Jul 79
- Vhf receiver, general-purpose
K1ZJH p. 16, Jul 78
- Vhf/uhf preamplifier burnout (HN)
W1JR p. 43, Nov 78
- 2-meter synthesizer, frequency modulator for
K9LHA p. 68, Apr 81
- 2-meter transverter
W6HPH p. 24, Jan 82
- 10-60 MHz preamp, low-noise, low-cost
WA2GFP p. 65, May 81
- 30-MHz preamplifier, low-noise
W1HR p. 38, Oct 78
Short circuit p. 94, Feb 79
- C42
- 144-432 MHz GaAs fet preamp
JH1BRY p. 38, Nov 79
- 432-MHz converter
N9KD p. 74, Apr 79
- 432-MHz GaAs preamp
JH1BRY p. 22, Apr 78
- 432-MHz preamplifier, low-noise
WB5LUA p. 26, Oct 78
- 1296-MHz local-oscillator chain
WA2ZZF p. 42, Oct 78
- vhf and microwave transmitters
- AN/UPX-6 cavities, converting surplus
W6NBI p. 12, Mar 81
- CMOS 2-meter synthesizer
K9LHA p. 14, Dec 79
Short circuit p. 89, Jan 82
- Fm transceiver, remote synthesized for 2 meters
WB4UPC p. 28, Jan 80
- Linear amplifiers, solid-state vhf
AF8Z p. 48, Jan 80
- Modification of K9LHA 2-meter synthesizer for 144-148 MHz coverage (HN)
K9LHA p. 93, May 81
- Solid-state power for 1296 MHz
N6JH p. 30, Feb 81
- Synthesizer, genesis of a
VE3FIT p. 38, Mar 81
- 2-meter synthesizer, frequency modulator for
K9LHA p. 68, Apr 81
- 50-MHz SSB exciter
K1LOG p. 12, Oct 79
- 144-MHz 10/80-watt amplifier
WB9RMA p. 12, Feb 79

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Aluma _____ 589	Jameco _____ 333
ARRL _____ 780	Jensen _____ 293
Amidon _____ 005	Kantronics _____ 605
Amp Supply _____ 991	Kenwood * _____
Anteck _____ 733	Lockwood _____ 059
Atlantic Surplus * _____	Lowrance _____ 065
ATV Magazine _____ 001	Long's _____ 468
AutoConnect _____ 037	Lunar _____ 577
Barker & Williamson _____ 015	MFJ _____ 082
Barry * _____	MHz Elec. _____ 415
Bauman _____ 017	Madison _____ 431
Bencher _____ 629	Mirage _____ 760
Ben Franklin _____ 864	National Satellite _____ 046
Bilal _____ 817	Nemal _____ 968
Bit "O" Byte _____ 023	P.C. * _____
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Budwig _____ 233	Panasonic _____ 683
Butternut * _____	Peterson Elec. _____ 047
Caddell Coil _____ 244	Photowatt _____ 070
Caywood _____ 053	Pipo _____ 481
Ceco _____ 054	Polar Research _____ 008
Centurion _____ 798	Power General _____ 048
Comm. Spec. _____ 330	Pro-Search _____ 983
Comm Tek _____ 055	RF Products _____ 064
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C. D. C. _____ 988	Radio Warehouse * _____
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Digi-Key _____ 520	SAROC * _____
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DX Signal _____ 057	Sintec _____ 030
Elec. Specialists _____ 039	Spectronics * _____
Encomm _____ 888	Spectrum Int. _____ 108
Epsilon _____ 040	Tektronix * _____
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Galaxy _____ 026	Ten-Tec * _____
Goldsmith Scientific _____ 042	TET _____ 009
Grand Systems _____ 027	Texas Towers _____ 681
Hal Comm. _____ 057	The Comm Center _____ 634
Hallward _____ 043	Tripp-Lite _____ 069
Hal-Tronix _____ 254	Ungar _____ 062
H. R. B. _____ 150	Universal Comm. _____ 885
H. R. Magazine * _____	UNR-Rohn _____ 410
Ham Shack _____ 879	Valor _____ 946
Hamtronics, N.Y. _____ 246	Vanguard Labs _____ 716
Harrison Radio _____ 044	Varian _____ 043
Heath _____ 060	Vidare _____ 067
Heil Sound _____ 013	Webster Assoc. _____ 423
Wilton Helm _____ 068	Western Elec. _____ 909
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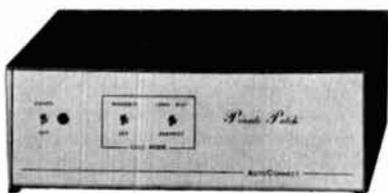
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Advertisers index

AGL Electronics _____	82
Alaska Microwave Labs _____	97
Albia Electronics _____	67
All Electronics Corp. _____	121
Aluma Tower Company _____	101
American Radio Relay League _____	103
Amidon Associates _____	123
Amp Supply _____	94
Anteck, Inc. _____	127
Atlantic Surplus Sales _____	121
ATV Magazine _____	90
AutoConnect _____	132
Barker & Williamson, Inc. _____	82
Barry Electronics _____	29
Bauman, R. H., Sales Company _____	96
Bencher, Inc. _____	39, 123
Ben Franklin Electronics _____	101
Bilal Company _____	96
Bit "O" Byte _____	127
Buckmaster Publishing _____	127
Budwig Mfg. Company _____	121
Butternut Electronics _____	89
Caddell Coil Corp. _____	127
Caywood Electronics _____	94
Ceco _____	101
Communications Specialists _____	136
Comm Tek _____	129
Crown Microproducts _____	101
Current Development Corp. _____	42
Delcraft _____	129
Digi-Key _____	49
Doppler Systems _____	121
Drake, R.L., Co. _____	25, 61, 72
DX Signal Co. _____	115
Electronic Specialists, Inc. _____	125
Encomm, Inc. _____	87
Epsilon Records _____	115
Ferritronics Limited _____	125
Fox-Tango Corp. _____	101, 129
Galaxy Electronics _____	90
Goldsmith Scientific Corporation _____	123
Grand Systems _____	115
Hal Communications Corp. _____	39, 73
Hallward Products _____	101
Hal-Tronix _____	28
Ham Radio's Bookstore _____	98, 100, 127
Ham Radio Magazine _____	74
The Ham Shack _____	91
Hamtronics, N.Y. _____	119
Harrison Radio _____	37
Heath Company _____	68, 69
Hoosier Electronics _____	98
Icom America, Inc. _____	Cover II
Independent Crystal Supply Company _____	90
International Crystal _____	119
International Solar _____	125
JWL Electronics _____	66
Jameco Electronics _____	99
Jensen Tools, Inc. _____	94
Kantronics _____	92, 93
Trio-Kenwood Communications _____	2, Cover IV
H.N. Lockwood, Inc. _____	121
Lowrance Electronics, Inc. _____	65
Long's Electronics _____	40, 41
Lunar Electronics _____	94
MFJ Enterprises _____	9
MHz Electronics _____	104-113
Madison Electronics Supply _____	7
Mirage Communications Equipment, Inc. _____	97
National Satellite Communications _____	66
Nemal Electronics _____	94
P.C. Electronics _____	42
Palomar Engineers _____	95
Panasonic _____	55
Peterson Electronics _____	127
Photowatt International, Inc. _____	35
Pipo Communications _____	127
Polar Research _____	11
Power General _____	129
Pro-Search Electronics _____	135
RF Products _____	129
Radio Amateur Callbook _____	39
Radio Warehouse _____	123
Radio World _____	121
SAROC _____	102
Sherwood Engineering _____	94
Simple Simon Electronic Kits, Inc. _____	57
Spectronics _____	23
Spectrum International, Inc. _____	98
Tektronix _____	75
Telex Communications _____	62, 63
Tennessee Electronics _____	123
Ten-Tec _____	64
TET Antenna Systems _____	42
Texas Towers _____	76
The Comm Center _____	96
Ungar, Division of Eldon Industries _____	1
Universal Communications _____	22
UNR-Rohn _____	119, 129
Valor Enterprises, Inc. _____	125
Vanguard Labs _____	121
Varian, Eimac Division _____	33
Vidare, Inc. _____	83
Webster Associates _____	97
Western Electronics _____	94
West Jersey Communication Products _____	121
Yaesu Electronics Corp. _____	Cover III

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Unique Cascaded Filter System

The FT-102 utilizes an advanced 8.2 MHz and 455 kHz IF system, capable of accepting as many as three filters in cascade. Optional filters of 2.9 kHz, 1.8 kHz, 600 Hz, and 300 Hz may be combined with the two stock 2.9 kHz filters for operating flexibility you've never seen in an HF transceiver before now!

All New Receiver Front End

Utilizing husky junction field-effect transistors in a 24 volt, high-current design, the FT-102 front end features a low-distortion RF preamplifier that may be bypassed via a front panel switch when not needed.

IF Notch and Audio Peak Filter

A highly effective 455 kHz IF Notch Filter provides superb rejection of heterodynes, carriers, and other annoying interference appearing within the IF passband. On CW, the Audio Peak Filter may be switched in during extremely tight pile-up conditions for post-detection signal enhancement.

Variable IF Bandwidth with IF Shift

The FT-102's double conversion receiver features Yaesu's time-proven Variable Bandwidth System, which utilizes the cascaded IF filters to provide intermediate bandwidths such as 2.1 kHz, 1.5 kHz, or 800 Hz simply by twisting a dial. The Variable Bandwidth System is used in conjunction with the IF Shift control, which allows the operator to center the IF passband frequency response without varying the incoming signal pitch.

Wide/Narrow Filter Selection

Depending on the exact combination of optional filters you choose, a variety of wide/narrow operating modes may be selected. For example, you may set up 2.9 kHz in SSB/WIDE, 1.8 kHz in SSB/NARROW, then select 1.8 kHz for CW/WIDE, and 600 Hz or 300 Hz for CW/NARROW. Or use the Variable Bandwidth to set your SSB bandwidth, and use 600 Hz for CW/WIDE and 300 Hz for CW/NARROW! No other manufacturer gives you so much flexibility in selecting filter responses!

Variable Pulse Width Noise Blanker

Ignition noise, the "Woodpecker," and power line noise are modern-day enemies of effective Amateur operation. The FT-102 Noise Blanker offers improved blanking action on today's man-made noise sources (though no blanker can eliminate all forms of band noise) for more solid copy under adverse conditions.

Low Distortion Audio/IF Stage Design

Now that dynamic range, stability, and AGC problems have been largely eliminated thanks to improved technology, Yaesu's engineers have put particular attention on maximizing intelligence recovery in the receiver. While elementary filter cascading schemes often degrade performance, the FT-102's unique blend of crystal and ceramic IF filters plus audio tone control provides very low phase delay, reduced passband ripple, and hence increased recovery of information.

Heavy Duty Three-Tube Final Amplifier

The FT-102 final amplifier uses three 6146B tubes for more consistent power output and improved reliability. Using up to 10 dB of RF negative feedback, the FT-102 transmitter third-order distortion products are typically 40 dB down, giving you a studio quality output signal.

Dual Metering System

Adopted from the new FT-ONE transceiver, the Dual Metering System provides simultaneous display of ALC voltage on one meter along with metering of plate voltage, cathode current, relative power output, or clipping level on the other. This system greatly simplifies proper adjustment of the transmitter.

Microphone Amplifier Tone Control

Recognizing the differences in voice characteristics of Amateur operators, Yaesu's engineers have incorporated an ingenious microphone amplifier tone control circuit, which allows you to tailor the treble and bass response of the FT-102 transmitter for best fidelity on your speech pattern.

RF Speech Processor

The built-in RF Speech Processor uses true RF clipping, for improved talk power under difficult conditions. The clipping type speech processor provides cleaner, more effective "punch" for your signal than simpler circuits used in other transmitters.

VOX with Front Panel Controls

The FT-102 standard package includes VOX for hands-free operation. Both the VOX Gain and VOX Delay controls are located on the front panel, for maximum operator convenience.

IF Monitor Circuit

For easy adjustment of the RF Speech Processor or for recording both sides of a conversation, an IF monitor circuit is provided in the transmitter section. When the optional AM/FM unit is installed, the IF monitor may be used for proper setting of the FM deviation and AM mic gain.

WARC Bands Factory Installed

The FT-102 is factory equipped for operation on all present and proposed Amateur bands, so you won't have to worry about retrofitting capability on your transceiver. An extra AUX band position is available on the bandswitch for special applications.

Full Line Of Accessories

For maximum operating flexibility, see your Authorized Dealer for details of the complete line of FT-102 accessories. Coming soon are the FV-102DM Synthesized VFO, SP-102 Speaker/Audio Filter, a full line of optional filters and microphones, and the AM/FM Unit.

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General coverage, Superior dynamic range, 2 VFO's, 8 memories, Scan, Notch... COMPACT!

TS-430S

The TS-430S combines the ultimate in compact styling with advanced circuit design and performance. An all solid-state SSB, CW, and AM transceiver, with FM optional, covering the 160-10 meter Amateur bands, it also incorporates a 150 kHz-30 MHz general coverage receiver having a superior dynamic range, dual digital VFO's, 8 memories, memory scan, programmable band scan, IF shift, notch filter, all-mode squelch, and built-in speech processor.

TS-430S FEATURES:

- **160-10 meter operation, with general coverage receiver**
With 160-10 meter Amateur band coverage, including WARC 30, 17, and 12 meter bands, it also features a 150 kHz-30 MHz general coverage receiver. Innovative UP-conversion digital PLL circuit, for superior frequency stability and accuracy. UP/DOWN band switches for Amateur bands or 1-MHz steps across entire 150 kHz-30 MHz range. Two digital VFO's continuously tuneable from band to band. Band information output on rear panel.
- **USB, LSB, CW, AM, with optional FM**
Operates on USB, LSB, CW, and AM, with optional FM, internally installed. AGC time constant automatically selected by mode.
- **Compact, lightweight design**
Measures only 10-5/8 (270) W x 3-3/4 (96) H x 10-7/8 (275) D. inches (mm), weighs only 14.3 lbs. (6.5 kg.).
- **Superior receiver dynamic range**
Use of 2SK125 junction-type FET's in the Dyna-Mix high sensitivity, balanced, direct mixer circuit provides superior dynamic range.
- **10-Hz step dual digital VFO's**
10-Hz step dual digital VFO's operate independently, include band and mode information. Different band and mode cross operation possible. Dial torque adjustable. STEP switch for tuning in 10-Hz or 100-Hz steps. A=B switch quickly shifts "B" VFO

to the same frequency and mode as "A" VFO, or vice-versa. VFO LOCK switch provided. RIT control tunes VFO or memory. UP/DOWN manual scan possible using optional microphone.

- **Eight memories store frequency, mode, and band data**
Memories store frequency, mode, and band data. Eighth memory stores receive and transmit frequencies independently. M.CH switch for operation of memory as independent VFO, or fixed frequency.
- **Lithium battery memory back-up**
Estimated five-year life.
- **Memory scan**
Scans memories in which data is stored.
- **Programmable automatic band scan**
Scans programmed band width. Scan speed adjustable. HOLD switch interrupts band or memory scan.
- **IF shift circuit for minimum QRM.**
IF passband may be moved to place interfering signals outside the passband, for best interference rejection.
- **Tuneable notch filter built-in**
Deep, sharp, tuneable, audio notch filter.
- **Narrow-wide filter selection**
NAR-WIDE switch for IF filter selection on SSB, CW, or AM, when optional filters are installed. (2.4 kHz IF filter built-in.)
- **Speech processor built-in**
Improves intelligibility, increases average "talk-power".
- **Fluorescent tube digital display**
Indicates frequency to 100 Hz (10 Hz modifiable).

All solid-state technology

Input rated 250 W PEP on SSB, 200 W DC on CW, 120 W on FM (optional), 60 W on AM. Built-in cooling fan, multi-circuit final protection. Operates on 12 VDC, or 120 VAC, or 220/240 VAC with optional PS-430 AC power supply.

- **All-mode squelch circuit, built-in**
- **Noise blanker, built-in**
- **RF attenuator (20 dB)**
- **Vox circuit, plus semi break-in with side-tone**

Optional accessories:

- PS-430 compact AC power supply.
- PS-30 or KPS-21 AC power supplies.
- SP-430 external speaker.
- MB-430 mobile mounting bracket.
- AT-130 compact antenna tuner, 80-40 m incl. WARC.
- AT-230 base antenna tuner, 160-10 m incl. WARC.
- FM-430 FM unit.
- YK-88C (500 Hz) or YK-88CN (270 Hz) CW filters.
- YK-88SN (1.8 kHz) narrow SSB filter.
- YK-88A (6 kHz) AM filter.
- MC-42S UP/DOWN hand microphone, UP/DOWN switch.
- MC-60A deluxe desk microphone, UP/DOWN switch.

More information on the TS-430S is available from all authorized dealers of Trio-Kenwood Communications, 1111 West Walnut Street, Compton, California 90220.

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Specifications and prices are subject to change without notice or obligation.