ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS

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"Then said a Teacher, Speak to us of Teaching.

And he said:

No man can reveal to you aught but that which already lies half asleep in the dawning of your knowledge.

The teacher who walks in the shadow of the temple, among his followers, gives not of his wisdom but rather of his faith and his lovingness.

If he is indeed wise he does not bid you enter the house of his wisdom, but rather leads you to the threshold of your own mind.

The astronomer may speak to you of his understanding of space, but he cannot give you his understanding.

The musician may sing to you of the rhythm which is in all space, but he cannot give you the ear which arrests the rhythm nor the voice that echoes it.

And he who is versed in the science of numbers can tell of the regions of weight and measure, but he cannot conduct you thither.

For the vision of one man lends not its wings to another man.

And even as each of you stands alone in God's knowledge, so must each one of you be alone in his knowledge of God and in his understanding of the earth."

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PREFACE

"Electronics is the science and technology which deals primarily with the supplementing of man's senses and his brain power by devices which collect and process information, transmit it to the point needed, and there either control machines or present the processed information to human beings for their direct use."[1]

This is an extremely broad definition and encompasses an enormous body of knowledge, so enormous that it is frequently subdivided into three superficially distinct areas of inquiry, as follows:

1 *electronic components*
2 *electronic circuits*
3 *electronic systems*

It is unrealistic and probably naive to assume that *electronics* can be separated into three minor areas that can be examined independently of one another. Systems, circuits, and components are very closely tied together. System requirements often lead to the development of new components and circuits. A new component may finally result in the practical realization of a new system, and this could stimulate the development of new circuits. So you can see that the separation of *electronics* into three minor areas of interest is an academic fiction. In spite of the artificiality of the division, it seems to be the only orderly approach to arranging the huge amounts of data facing us.

Electronic components as used here will signify devices such as vacuum and gas tubes, thermistors, varistors, transistors, and magnetic and dielectric amplifiers and storage elements. The term *electronic circuit* will refer to the connection of electronic components together with the ordinary elements of resistance, capacitance, inductance, and power sources into complete circuits.

This book presents the fundamental principles and techniques associated with electronic circuits without emphasizing particular components or system applications. If vacuum tube circuits seem to receive the greatest attention, it is only because the analysis of such circuits is more highly developed at the time of writing.

[1] Reprinted with permission from "Let Us Re-Define Electronics," by W. L. Everitt, *Proc. IRE*, vol. 40, no. 8, August, 1952, p. 899.

If I were asked to summarize this book as briefly as possible, the result would read as follows:

> Electronic components can be represented by simple equivalent circuits. Electronic circuit design is thereby reduced to *ordinary* circuit design and is no longer a problem in electronics.

When the idea is flatly stated like this, I am appalled at the size of the book. However, simple ideas are usually the most difficult to execute and explain. Many illustrations under varying conditions are required before the generality and simplicity are understood.

The book is subdivided into three parts, as follows:

Part I: *Introduction*

Part II: *Class A Circuits*

Part III: *Operation in the Switching Mode*

Part I is a brief introduction to the principles of equivalent circuits and the elements of electric circuit theory based on the complex frequency and Laplace transform approach.

Parts II and III are the main sections of the book. Most of the usual and some unusual circuits using nearly all the various components are presented. All circuits covered in Part II require continuous operation of the electronic component. This is called *Class A operation* in this book. Nearly all the circuits in Part III require discontinuous operation of the electronic component. This is defined in this book as *operation in the switching mode.*

The approach is almost entirely analytical. Although many useful methods from advanced mathematics are avoided, the book is still unashamedly mathematical in nature. I feel no compulsion to apologize for this. In the light of modern developments it would be surprising to handle the subject otherwise.

Many useful and informative results, formulas, and design charts are obtained, but the emphasis is on the techniques used rather than the results themselves. No attempt has been made to write a handbook of formulas or to compile an encyclopedia of illustrative numerical problems. The book presents the methods of formulating circuits to obtain useful design formulas and performance criteria.

The book should appeal to a diversified group of readers. Practicing engineers and physicists will find it to be a usable reference in their everyday work with circuit design and development. It can also be

used as a textbook at the graduate or undergraduate level covering a two- or three-semester sequence of courses.

The reader should have a background that includes elementary calculus, an introductory course in electronics, and a previous or concurrent course in a-c circuit theory will prove immensely helpful.

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CONTENTS

Part I: Introduction

1. *Principles of Equivalent Circuits* 3

1.1. Characteristics of Simple Circuits, 6. 1.2. Principle of Linear Approximation, 6. 1.3. Diode and Gas Triode Equivalent Circuits, 7. 1.4. Vacuum Triode Equivalent, 9. 1.5. Pentode and Beam Power Tube Equivalent, 13. 1.6. The Question of Nonlinearity, 14. 1.7. Interelectrode Capacitances and Lead Inductances, 14. 1.8. Modes of Operation, 16. 1.9. Transistor Equivalent Circuits, 17. 1.10. Transistor Equivalent for Class A Operation, 21. 1.11. Summary, 23.

2. *Principles of Circuit Theory* 26

2.1. Responses, 26. 2.2. Elements of Electric Circuits, 28. 2.3. Some Useful Network Theorems, 30. 2.4. A Generalized Concept of Frequency, 31. 2.5. Simple Transformations, 34. 2.6. The Laplace Transformation, 35. 2.7. Operation-Transform Pairs, 37. 2.8. The Inverse Laplace Transformation, 40. 2.9. Partial Fraction Expansion, 41. 2.10. Use of Partial Fractions in Inverse Transformation, 44. 2.11. A Sample Problem on Electric Circuits, 45. 2.12. Complex s Plane; Poles and Zeros, 47. 2.13. Transient Response Deduced from Pole Locations, 49. 2.14. Determination of the Steady State Response, 53. 2.15. Physically Realizable and Minimum Phase Shift Circuits, 56.

Part II: Class A Circuits

3. *Principles of Vacuum Tube Amplifiers* 61

3.1. Direct Current Circuit Connections, 61. 3.2. Load Lines and Operating Points, 63. 3.3. Operation of an Elementary Amplifier, 65. 3.4. Polarizing Potentials, 67. 3.5. Cathode and Screen Biasing Circuits, 69. 3.6. Types of Vacuum Tube Amplifiers, 70.

3.7. General Equation for Voltage Amplification, 73. 3.8. Practical Amplifier Circuits, 76. 3.9. Input Admittance of Grounded Cathode Amplifiers, 78. 3.10. Cathode Degeneration, 80. 3.11. Screen Degeneration, 84. 3.12. Simultaneous Cathode and Screen Degeneration, 87. 3.13. Grounded Plate Amplifier—Cathode Follower, 89. 3.14. Output Impedance of the Cathode Follower, 92. 3.15. Input Admittance of the Cathode Follower, 94. 3.16. Grounded Grid Amplifier, 95. 3.17. Decibels and the Use of Relative Magnitudes, 98.

4. *Single Stage Vacuum Tube Amplifiers* . . . 104

4.1. Criteria for Comparing Amplifiers, Steady State, 104. 4.2. Transient Response Criteria, 107. 4.3. Mutual Impedance, 111. 4.4. Resistance Coupled Amplifier, Equivalent Circuits, 114. 4.5. Resistance Coupled Amplifier, Performance Characteristics, 117. 4.6. Figure of Merit for Tubes, 120. 4.7. Design of Resistance Coupled Amplifiers, 122. 4.8. Shunt Peaked Video Amplifier, 123. 4.9. Shunt Peaked Amplifier, Performance Characteristics, 127. 4.10. Series Peaked Amplifier, Gain Equation, 133. 4.11. Series Peaked Amplifier, Response Characteristics, 136. 4.12. Low Frequency Compensation, No Degeneration, 140. 4.13. Compensation for Degenerative Effects, 148. 4.14. Single Tuned Amplifier, 149. 4.15. Double Tuned Amplifiers, 155.

5. *Multistage Amplifiers in the Steady State* . . 162

5.1. The Cascade Connection, 163. 5.2. Identical Resistance Coupled Amplifiers in Cascade, 164. 5.3. Cascading Compensated Amplifiers, 169. 5.4. Synchronous Single Tuning, 171. 5.5. Number of Stages Required for Maximum Gain, 175. 5.6. Stage Gain for Maximum Bandwidth, Synchronous Connection, 177. 5.7. Symmetry in the Response of Tuned Amplifiers, 180. 5.8. Flat Functions, 184. 5.9. The Maximally Flat Function, 186. 5.10. Poles of the Maximally Flat Function, 187. 5.11. Maximally Flat Staggered n-uples, 191. 5.12. Exact Flat Staggering, Discussion, 196. 5.13. Exact Flat Staggering, Design Procedure, 199. 5.14. Overstaggering, 200. 5.15. Cascading of Flat Staggered n-uples, 204. 5.16. Double Tuned Amplifier: Equal Q, High Q Case, 205. 5.17. Distributed Amplifiers,

General, 210. 5.18. Cascading Distributed Amplifier Stages, 213. 5.19. Frequency Response of a Distributed Amplifier, 216.

6. *Transient Response of Multistage Amplifiers* . . 221

6.1. Composition of Rise Times, No Overshoot, 222. 6.2. Composition of Rise Times, Overshoot Present, 224. 6.3. Condition for Minimum Over-all Rise Time, 225. 6.4. Flat Top Response of Cascaded Video Amplifiers, 227. 6.5. Summary, Rules of Video Amplifier Behavior, 229. 6.6. Band-Pass, Low-Pass Analogy, 230. 6.7. Synchronous Single Tuning, 234. 6.8. Staggered Pairs, 237. 6.9. Envelope Response, Concluding Remarks, 241. 6.10. Transient Response of a Distributed Amplifier, 243.

7. *Feedback Circuits* 247

7.1. General Gain Equation, Single Closed Loop, 248. 7.2. Effect of Feedback on Gain, Distortion, and Noise, 250. 7.3. Feedback Circuit Connections, 252. 7.4. Cathode Degeneration Treated by Feedback Analysis, 254. 7.5. Effect of Cathode Degeneration on Response and Gain, 256. 7.6. Internal Impedance with Cathode Degeneration, 261. 7.7. A Simple Case of Voltage Feedback, Cathode Follower, 263. 7.8. Internal Impedance with Voltage Feedback, 266. 7.9. Grid-to-Plate Feedback, 267. 7.10. The Feedback Pair, 270. 7.11. Bandpass Feedback Pair, 272. 7.12. Stability in Feedback Amplifiers, 275. 7.13. The Nyquist Stability Criterion, 277. 7.14. Routh-Hurwitz Criterion, 280.

8. *Transistor Amplifiers* 284

8.1. Establishing the Q Point, 284. 8.2. Types of Transistor Amplifiers, 286. 8.3. Interelectrode Capacitances, 287. 8.4. The Method of Attack, 288. 8.5. Grounded Emitter Amplifier, No Feedback, 291. 8.6. Grounded Emitter Amplifier, 295. 8.7. Grounded Base Amplifier, 299. 8.8. Grounded Collector Amplifier, 303. 8.9. Comparison of Amplifier Types, 305. 8.10. Resistance Coupled Amplifier, Reference Case, 305. 8.11. Practical Resistance Coupled Amplifiers, 308. 8.12. Shunt Peaked Amplifier, 312. 8.13. Single Tuned Amplifier, 314. 8.14. Alpha Cutoff, 317. 8.15. Current and Power Gain, 318. 8.16. General Aspects of Cascading, 321.

9. *Noise* 323

9.1. Thermal Noise, 324. 9.2. Shot Noise, 325. 9.3. Partition Noise and Induced Grid Noise, 326. 9.4. Noise Bandwidth, 328. 9.5. Other Sources of Noise, 330. 9.6. Representation of Noise, 331. 9.7. Equivalent Noise Representation of an Amplifier, 333. 9.8. Noise Figure of an Amplifier Stage, 335. 9.9. Over-all Noise Figure of Cascaded Stages, 337. 9.10. Available Mid-Band Power Gain, 340. 9.11. Optimum Source Conductance, 341. 9.12. Transistor Noise, 342. 9.13. Noise Figures of Transistor Amplifiers, 344.

10. *Negative Resistances and Class A Oscillators* 349

10.1. Theory of Negative Resistance Oscillators, 349. 10.2. Types of Negative Resistance Characteristics, 352. 10.3. Stable and Unstable Operating Points, 355. 10.4. Methods of Triggering, 356. 10.5. Oscillator Classification, 358. 10.6. Classification of Negative Resistance Devices, 349. 10.7. Negative Resistance in the d-c Characteristic, 360. 10.8. The Method of Isoclines, 362. 10.9. Cyclograms, 367. 10.10. Negative Resistance Produced by Feedback, 370. 10.11. Representative Feedback Oscillator Circuits, 371. 10.12. Analysis of Feedback Oscillators, 375. 10.13. Analysis of a Colpitts Oscillator, 376. 10.14. Wien Bridge Oscillator, 379. 10.15. Transistor Crystal Oscillator, 383. 10.16. Negative Grid UHF Oscillator, 386. 10.17. Parasitic Oscillations, 388.

11. *Nonlinear Class A Circuits* 392

11.1. Dynamic Transfer Characteristics, Triodes and Pentodes, 392. 11.2. Nonlinearity in Diodes, 396. 11.3. Power Series Treatment of Nonlinearity, 398. 11.4. Evaluation of the Coefficients in the Harmonic Series, 401. 11.5. Some Practical Considerations of Nonlinearity, 405. 11.6. An Idealized Class A Vacuum Tube Power Amplifier, 407. 11.7. Harmonic Distortion in Triodes and Pentodes, 409. 11.8. Plate Circuit Efficiency, 412. 11.9. Methods of Feed, a-c and d-c Load Lines, 415. 11.10. Plate Dissipation, 418. 11.11. The Parallel Connection of Power Amplifiers. 11.12. Push-Pull Amplifiers, 420. 11.13. Vacuum Tube Power Amplifiers, Concluding Remarks, 423. 11.14 Power Gain of Transistor Amplifiers, 424. 11.15. Push-Pull Transistor Power Amplifiers, 425. 11.16. Square Law Amplitude Modulation, 427. 11.17. Square Law Detectors, 428. 11.18. Applications in Gain Control, 429.

Part III: Operation in the Switching Mode

12. *Vacuum Tube Power Amplifiers in the Switching Mode* 435

12.1. Factors of Interest, 435. 12.2. Operation in the Switching Mode, 436. 12.3. Preliminary Steps in the Analysis, 439. 12.4. Harmonic Generation vs. Conduction Angle, 442. 12.5. Plate Circuit Efficiency, 446. 12.6. Effect of Conduction Angle on Efficiency, 447. 12.7. Low Pass Power Amplifiers, 449. 12.8. Efficiency with a Tuned Load Circuit, 450. 12.9. Tuned Amplifiers at the Saturation Point, 452. 12.10. Optimum Design of a Tuned Class C Amplifier, 456. 12.11. Neutralization, 459. 12.12. Power Supply Connections for Tuned Amplifiers, 462. 12.13. Parasitics, 464. 12.14. Power Oscillators, 464. 12.15. Concluding Remarks, 465

13. *Modulation and Modulators* 467

13.1. Principles of Amplitude Modulation, 467. 13.2. Principles of Angle Modulation, 470. 13.3. Frequency Modulation (FM), 472. 13.4. Phase Modulation, 476. 13.5. Comparison of AM and FM; Interference and Noise, 478. 13.6. Pulse-Time Multiplexing, 479. 13.7. Methods of Amplitude Modulation, 481. 13.8. Plate Modulated Class C Amplifier Design, 483. 13.9. Some Other Amplitude Modulation Circuits, 488. 13.10. Balanced Modulator, 491. 13.11. High Level and Low Level Modulation, 492. 13.12. Design of Class B Amplifiers, 493. 13.13. Reactance Tube Frequency Modulation, 497. 13.14. Center Frequency Stabilization, 499. 13.15. The Armstrong System, 501. 13.16. The Phasitron, 503.

14. *Rectifiers and Power Filters* 506

14.1. The Diode Switch and Equivalent Circuits, 506. 14.2. Rectifier and Filter Circuits, Single Phase Supply, 508. 14.3. Rectifier Performance Criteria, 511. 14.4. Gas Triode Rectifiers, 513. 14.5. Rectifier with *RC* Filter, Introduction, 518. 14.6. Characteristics of Rectifiers with *RC* Filters, 522. 14.7. *RC* Filter Design, Sample Problem, 527. 14.8. Rectifier with L-Section Filter, 530. 14.9. Critical Values for L-Section Filter Components, 534. 14.10. Pi-Section Filter, 537. 14.11. Voltage Regulated Power Supplies, 538. 14.12. Radio Frequency Power Supplies, 539.

15. *Detectors and Mixers* 543

15.1. Linear Diode Detector, 543. 15.2. Maximum Permissible Capacitance, 545. 15.3. Equivalent Representation of a Linear Detector, 547. 15.4. Input Impedance of a Diode Detector, 549. 15.5. Some Other Detector Circuits, 552. 15.6. Automatic Gain Control, 553. 15.7. Problems in FM Detection, 555. 15.8. Amplitude Limiters, 555. 15.9. Discriminators, 556. 15.10. Principles of Mixers, 560. 15.11. Some Actual Mixer Circuits, 564. 15.12. Equivalent Circuits of Mixer Stages, 567.

16. *Magnetic Amplifiers* 569

16.1. Operating Principles, Zero Control Voltage, 569. 16.2. Operation with Control Voltage Applied, 573. 16.3. Some Amplifier Characteristics, 576. 16.4. The Transfer Function, 577. 16.5. Bias and Signal Windings, 578. 16.6. The Use of Rectifiers, 579. 16.7. Gain and Time Constant, Elementary Magnetic Amplifier, 580. 16.8. Response Time, 583. 16.9. Series Connected Amplifier, Inductive Load, 584. 16.10. The Use of Feedback, 588. 16.11. Figure of Merit with Feedback, 591. 16.12. Self-Balancing Magnetic Amplifiers, 593. 16.13. Self-Saturating Amplifier Circuits, 596. 16.14. Single Core Magnetic Amplifiers, 597. 16.15. Cascading, 600.

17. *Wave Shaping and Computing Circuits* 601

17.1. Diode Clippers, 601. 17.2. Triode and Pentode Clippers, 603. 17.3. Some Applications of Clipping Circuits, 607. 17.4. Direct Current Removal and Restoration, 609. 17.5. The Switch Tube, 611. 17.6. Transient Response of *RC* Circuits, 612. 17.7. Differentiators and Integrators, 615. 17.8. Integration and Differentiation with Feedback Amplifiers, 619. 17.9. Sawtooth Voltage Generators, 622. 17.10. Flyback Time Reduction, 626. 17.11. Trapezoidal Voltages (Sawtooth Currents), 627. 17.12. *RLC* Circuit Response, 631. 17.13. *RLC* Peakers and Ringing Circuits, 633. 17.14. Nonregenerative (Storage Type) Counters, 636. 17.15. Counter Refinements and Recycling, 641. 17.16. Coincidence and Time Selection Circuits, 643. 17.17. Effects of Shunt Capacitance, 647. 17.18. Magnetic Amplifier Coincidence Circuit, 647.

18. *Trigger Circuits and Nonsinusoidal Oscillators* 652

18.1. Classification of Trigger Circuits, 652. 18.2. Basic Multivibrator Type Circuit, 653. 18.3. Bistable Multivibrator, 655. 18.4. Bistable Multivibrator, Variations and Refinements, 657. 18.5. Monostable Plate Coupled Multivibrator, Operation, 660. 18.6. Monostable Plate Coupled Multivibrator, Analysis, 661. 18.7. Monostable Cathode Coupled Multivibrator, Normal State, 666. 18.8. Monostable Cathode Coupled Multivibrator, Timing State, 668. 18.9. Astable Multivibrators, 674. 18.10. Transition and Recovery Times, 675. 18.11. Principles of the Phantastron, 676. 18.12. Phantastron Analysis, 679. 18.13. Phantastron Circuits, 682. 18.14. Blocking Oscillator Principles, 683. 18.15. Negative Resistance in Transistor Circuits, 685. 18.16. Transistor Trigger Circuits, 688. 18.17. Bistable Magnetic Amplifier, 692.

Index 696