## PHILIPS ELECTRON TUBE DIVISION

Eindhoven, March 1958

Dear Sirs,

We are pleased to send you herewith a new documentation dealing with our low-voltage instrument cathode-ray tubes $D G$ 7-31 and $D G$ 7-32.
This new brochure contains, apart from technical data on the above tubes, full circuit descriptions for two inexpensive general-purpose oscilloscopes. Therefore, the contents will be of interest not only to setmakers, but also to other circles, such as radio and T.V. service shops, technical schools and possibly amateurs. In view of this, we suggest to have this documentation distribused on a wide scale in the said circles.

We trust that this publication will stimulate the interest in these cathode-ray tubes, and remain,

Yours faithfully,



# LOW-VOLTAGE CATHODE-RAY TUBES <br> DG 7-31 AND DG 7-32 

The information given in this Bulletin does not imply a licence under any patent.

## PREFACE



In modern science and technology the oscilloscope has become a vital tool. Consequent on the rapid development in various branches of research and industry, improved and specialized oscilloscopes are in growing request, and therefore a range of modern oscilloscope cathode-ray tubes has been developed.

Apart from oscilloscopes used in modern measurina equipment, light weight oscilloscopes for use in control and maintenance apparatus are meeting with ever growing interest. One of the large fields of application is radio and television servicing, where small portable instruments are needed to enable the service-man to test and repair radio and TV sets "on the spot".

The construction of a type of oscilloscope that is considerably smaller and lighter than conventional types, however, can only be arrived at by reducing the necessary high anode voltage for the cathoderay tube, since this also implies reduction of the dimensions of the power supply.
In conformity with the above we developed two oscilloscope cathoderay tubes operating at an anode voltage of only 400 V , which makes for a high deflection sensitivity, so that the signals to be examined need less amplification, and thus a simpler amplifier circuitry suffices. In addition, these tubes are so constructed that no specific low-voltage phenomena as "burn-in" or"sticking-picture" need be feared. These tubes are the DG 7-31 and DG 7-32 which only differ in so far that the former has asymetric and the latter symmetric deflection.

The excellent properties of the tube types DG 7-31 and DG 7-32 are, amongst others, due to high precision in assembling the electron gun, as well as special methods of composing and applying the phosphor screen, which eliminate the burn-in effect. To make the screen conductive, a very thin, contrast improving tin-oxide layer is provided on the inner side of the glass front plate of the tube envelope, and in this way two great advantages are attained:
(1) The screen can be touched without change in potential (no electrostatic "body-effect");
(2) The screen shows no "sticking-picture" effects.

The electron gun used in the two types of tube is so designed that a high deflection sensitivity is ensured, whilst the focusing and brightness controls can be adjusted independently.

An additional advantage is that, as a consequence of the low anode voltage, the cathode can be earthed and hence no separate filament winding on the power transformer is needed.
For the convenience of our customers some basic circuits have been designed for the DG 7-31 and DG 7-32, and the present documentation contains two thoroughly tested circuit examples which will undoubtedly be of great help to equipment designers.

## TECHNICAL DATA OF THE <br> CATHODE-RAY TUBES DG 731 AND DG 7-32 ${ }^{1}$ )

## ELECTRICAL

Screen
Fluorescence:green
Persistence: medium
Heating indirect by a.c. or d.c.; series or parallel supply
Heater voltage
$V_{f}=6.3 \mathrm{~V}$
$I_{f}=\quad 0.3 \AA$

Focusing electrostatic
Deflection double electrostatic

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
D_{1} D_{1}, & \text { symmetric } \\
D_{2} D_{2}, & \text { symmetric }
\end{array}
$$



Interelectrode capacitances

| electrodes | symbol | value ( pF ) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | DG 7-31 | DG 7-32 |
| $D_{1}$ to $D_{1}$. | $\mathrm{C}_{\text {D1D1 }}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1.1 | 1.0 |
| $D_{2}$ to $D_{2}$. | $C_{\text {D2 } 22}{ }^{\text {, }}$ | 1.8 | 1.7 |
| $D_{1}$ to all | $C_{\text {D1 }}$ | $2.5{ }^{3}$ ) | $2.5{ }^{3}$, |
| $D_{1}$ 'to all | $C_{\text {D1 }}$. | $2.5{ }^{3}$ ) | $2.5{ }^{3}$, |
| $D_{2}$ to all | $C_{\text {D2 }}$ | $3.4{ }^{3}$ ) | 3. $7^{3}$ ) |
| $D_{2}$ 'to all | $C^{\text {D2 }}$, | $3.0{ }^{3}$ ) | $3.0{ }^{3}$ ) |
| Grid No.l to all | $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{gl}}$ | 7.6 | 7.6 |
| Cathode to all | $C_{k}$ | 3.2 | 3.2 |

Operating characteristics


[^0]Limiting values (design centre values)


Maximum circuit values
$\begin{array}{lll}\text { Deflection plate circuit resistance } R_{D} & =\max . & 5 \mathrm{M} \Omega \\ \text { Grid No.l circuit resistance } & R_{g l} & =\max .\end{array} \quad 0.5 \mathrm{M} \Omega$

## MECHANICAL

Mounting position: any
Net weight: $\quad 120 \mathrm{~g}$ ( 4.2 ounce)
Max. dimensions (in mm) and base connections:


* 3004

Base: duodecal l2-pins

[^1]
voltage.


## G-screen

The green fluorescent G-screen provides high visual contrast under conditions of normal ambient illumination. It has medium persist ence and can be used for visual observation of recurrent phenomena in the majority of applications.


G.screen.

Brightness of a G-screen as a
function of the screen current
per square cm screen area, with
the accelerating potential asa
parameter.


## A MINIATURE OSCILLOSCOPE FOR TV SERVICE



## INTRODUCT ION

The miniature service oscilloscope has been especially designed for the service-man, who on $a$ home service call must be able to repair a television set with a minumum of measuring instruments.

The weight of the apparatus described in this Bulletin has been minimized, the current consumption is kept low with a view to the heat dissipation, and its size is thus that it can easily be carried in a tool-bag.

The essential element of the unit is the Philips Cathode-Ray Tube DG 7-32, which, with an anode voltage of (minimum) 400 V , has a sensitivity of $0.49 \mathrm{~mm} / \mathrm{V}$ at the vertical plates, and $0.31 \mathrm{~mm} / \mathrm{V}$ at the horizontal plates. This means that for full deflection $2 \times 10 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$ has to be applied to the vertical deflection plates. $2 \times 16 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{cm}$ to the horizontal (time-base) plates. The DG 7-32 has a transparent, contrast-improving and conductive tin-oxide layer between the face and the phosphor; this layer is connected to the final anode, which gives full protection against electrostatic body-effect even at a high operation potential. As a consequence, the heater can be earthed, so that a small supply transformer can be used, no separate heater voltage winding being required.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE CIRCUIT

THE VERTICAL AMPLIFIER
The first tube in the amplifier for vertical deflection, the EC 92, is operated as a cathode-follower; it can be incorporated in a measuring head, or built into the oscilloscope.

Fig. 1.
Circuit diagram with Miller integrator transitron circuit and the EC 92 inserted in the measuring head.

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TRANSFORMER DATA
Primary ( $S_{1}$ ): 1430 turns of 0.25 mm enamelled copper wire. Secondary ( $S_{2}$ ): 1000 turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire, Tertiary $\left(S_{3}\right)$ : 1380 turns of 0.16 mm enamelled copper wire. Quartery ( $\mathrm{S}_{4}$ )
$1 \times$ Selenium rectifier SR250B90 2xGermanium diode OA85


$u^{\infty} u^{\mathbb{N}} u^{\infty} u^{\infty} u^{N} u^{\infty} u^{\infty} u^{\infty} u^{-1} u^{N} u^{\infty} u^{\infty}$






```
U-U
```

```
U-U
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RESISTORS


Fig. 2.
Circuit diagram in which the signal of the synchronisation amplifier is fed to a blocking oscillator.

```
    500 V
    \begin{array} { r } { 5 0 0 \mathrm { V } } \\ { 3 5 0 / 4 0 0 \mathrm { V } } \\ { 3 5 0 / 4 0 0 \mathrm { V } } \end{array}
    500 V
>
    500 V
                500 V
>
                500 V
> >
>
                    >> >
                    > >
> >
>
>
^ OOS
500 v
500 v
500 V
500 v
>>
                500 V
                    ^05&
                        500 v
```




```
U U
```


TRANSFORMER DATA
Primary ( $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ ): 1430 turns of 0.25 mm enamelled copper wire,
Secondary $\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right): 1000$ turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire,
Tertiary $\left(\mathrm{S}_{3}\right): 1380$ turns of 0.16 mm enamelled copper wire.
TRANSFORMER DATA
Primary ( $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ ): 1430 turns of 0.25 mm enamelled copper wire,
Secondary $\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right): 1000$ turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire,
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TRANSFORMER DATA
Primary ( $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ ): 1430 turns of 0.25 mm enamelled copper wire,
Secondary $\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right): 1000$ turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire,
Tertiary $\left(\mathrm{S}_{3}\right): 1380$ turns of 0.16 mm enamelled copper wire.
Quartery ( $\mathrm{S}_{4}$ ): $2 \times 44$ turns of 0.7 mm enamelled copper wire (bifilarly wound)
Order of windings $S_{4}-S_{1}-S_{3}-S_{2}$. (the thickest wire is wound on the core).
Insulation between the layers: Sheets of paper with a thickness of 0.01 mm .




Number of turns
Primary $\mathrm{S}_{1}: \quad 50$ turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire.
Secondary $\mathrm{S}_{2}: 50$ turns of 0.1 mm enamelled copper wire.
(With $S_{2}$ two sheets of 0.01 mm paper.)
Insulation between the windings 3 paper sheets
of 0.03 mm .
dimensional drawing of the core
Stacking height of core: 26 mm
Material: silicon iron sheet 2.6 (annealed)
No-load current: approx. 27 mA
Data of blocking transformer
Number of turns

CAPACITORS
TUBES

Fig.l shows the EC 92 inserted in the measuring head. The latter has the advantage of a very low input capacitance, viz. 5 pF with attenuator and 20 pF without. The cylindrical measuring head has a diameter of 25 mm and a length of 140 mm , and weighs 165 g.
The signal from the cathode-follower is taken via a $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ potentiometer with a $25 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ d.c. blocking capacitor, to prevent the oscillogram from "dancing" when the potentiometer is operated.

The input stage is followed by two amplifier stages. The first amplifier stage is equipped with an EF 80, whilst the second amplifier stage uses the pentode section of the ECF 80. The triode section of the ECF 80 feeds the signal symmetrically to the corresponding plates of the DG 7-32.

In the circuit of Fig. 2 the cathode-follower is incorporated in the oscilloscope. In this case the EC 92 and EF 80 can be replaced by one ECF 80, so that the number of tubes of the vertical amplifier is limited to two tubes ECF 80. The measuring head then only contains an attenuator of l:l0, which can be operated by a switch. the input capacitance being 12 pF with attenuator and 50 pF without. The sensitivity of the oscilloscope is 120 mV peak to peak/cm and the bandwidth $1 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ (measured on the -3 dB points), immaterial which of the two amplifiers is used.

THE TIME BASE
Synchronisation can be established in three ways:
(a) internally,
(b) externally,
(c) with $6.3 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.

The time base is preceded by a synchronisation amplifier tube, which amongst others has the advantage that distortion of the vertical signal is avoided. Two prototypes of oscilloscope have been developed; in one type the signal of the synchronisation amplifier is fed to a Miller integrator transitron circuit (Fig.l) whereas in the other this signal is passed to a blocking oscillator (Fig.2).
The Miller integrator transitron circuit, which can easily be synchronised, obtains the synchronisation directly from the cathode-follower at the input of the vertical amplifier. Hence the amplitude of the synchronising signal remains constant when the vertical amplifier potentiometer is operated.

This circuit has the following specific features:

- Highly linear saw-tooth.
- Constant amplitude of the saw-tooth for all the frequency ranges.

A drawback is that

- for varying the frequency in steps, two capacitors must be switched over, which necessitates the use of four switch contacts. For this purpose a double-deck wavelength switch with 24 contacts is used. ensuring frequency control in six steps.

At a supply of 250 V the EF 80 delivers a saw-tooth voltage of approximately 130 V , whilst the 130 V saw-tooth voltage for the other deflection plate is supplied by a phase invertor tube.
The specific property of a blocking oscillator is:

- Switching of the frequency can brought about by means of a simpler switch.

Disadvantages:

- The signal at the input of the vertical amplifier often being too weak, the output signal must be used for synchronisation. When changing the vertical amplitude, the amplitude of the synchronising signal is therefore also changed, which may necessitate readjustment of the frequency.
- A very short fly-back which may easily give rise to radiation.
- Variation of the amplitude when the frequency is switched.
- Non-linear saw-tooth which makes the use of a "bootstrap" circuit necessary. If this bootstrap circuit is also operated as a phase invertor, one triode can be dispensed with, which has been done in the experimental type.

Synchronisation may be achieved by means of a diode, in this case the germanium diode OA 85, which is included in the cathode circuit of the blocking oscillator. The resistance in the cathode circuit need be low only during fly-back (about 100 ohms), whereas during the sweep the resistance is about $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$. Thus the preceding circuit is loaded during fly-back only.

The SUPPLy
To ensure minimum weight and dimensions of the mains transformer, its design has been kept as simple as possible, i.e. the number of windings and tappings is reduced to a minimum. In order to avoid hum being displayed by the Cathode-Ray Tube, the transformer is positioned on the longitudinal axis of the tube, with the laminations and coil parallel to this axis. Two-phase rectification is applied to reduce the number of electrolytic capacitors required. The high tension supply for the Cathode-Ray Tube is, as can be seen in Fig.l, obtained by an extra voltage in series to that for the tube supply, if necessary this voltage can be stepped up to about 550 V .

TECHNICAL DATA:
Input resistance

| transitron <br> circuit | blocking <br> circuit |
| :---: | :---: |
| $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ with attenuator |
| $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ | $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ without attenuator |
| 5 pF | 12 pF with attenuator |
| 20 pF | 50 pF without attenuator |

Max. in put voltage
Sensitivity
Frequency response

300 V peak-to-peak
110 mV per cm deflection
3 db down at $\mathrm{l} \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ and $3 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$ (see Fig. 3 )

Frequency range time
base 20 to $16000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ in six steps
26 W
$100 \times 120 \times 270 \mathrm{~mm}$
2600 g .


## A VERSATILE OSCILLOSCOPE

## INTRODUCTION

A modern cathode-ray oscilloscope comprises a number of units, the more important of which are shown in the block diagram of Fig.l. Here, switch $S$ connects the plates for horizontal deflection either to the timebase generator or to the amplifier for horizontal deflection.
In such an arrangement, however, certain tubes, i.e. either those of the horizontal amplifier or those of the timebase generator, although switched to the supply unit, do not perform any useful function. Not only is this uneconomical of power but the provision of separate units as horizontal amplifier and timebase generator results in an expensive construction.


> Fig.l. Block diagram of an oscilloscope. By means of switch S either a timebase generator or an amplifier forhorizontal deflection is connected to thecorresponding deflection plates of the cathode-ray tube.

Moreover, when switch $S$ is in the lower position and the horizontal amplifier is in operation, the oscillator of the timebase generator is not inoperative but continues to operate, thus introducing the risk of interference with the horizontal amplifier.

Below a more economical arrangement is described which is particularly advantageous when incorporated in the design of small oscilloscopes. In this arrangement the horizontal amplifier itself can be converted into a timebase generator by a simple switching operation.
By using double triodes throughout and employing selenium rectifiers instead of thermionic rectifiers, the number of tubes, except the cathode-ray tube, has been limited to four. Nevertheless, the overall sensitivity is high, and push-pull output provides symmetrical deflection voltages for both pairs of plates.

## THE OSCILLÅTOR

In order that the switching arrangements when changing-over from amplifier to timebase generator shall be as simple as possible, a single-tube oscillator should be adopted. Two types suggest themselves: the transitron oscillator and the blocking oscillator.
the transitron oscillator
If combined with the Miller integrator, this oscillator has very good linearity, the error being in the order of only $0.25 \%$. It has, however, two drawbacks for the application under consideration, namely that it requires a pentode, and that for step control of the frequency it is necessary to switch two elements, namely the discharge capacitor in the control-grid circuit and the coupling capacitor between the grids $g_{2}$ and $g_{3}$.

THE BLOCKING OSCILLATOR
The above drawbacks do not apply to the blocking oscillator, in which, for step control of the frequency, only one element, namely the charging capacitor in the grid circuit has to be changed. It has, however, the disadvantage that, when operated at normal supply voltages, the linearity error is much greater, amounting to between 5 and $15 \%$ (see section "Linearity of the Timebase Voltage").


Fig.2. Circuit of a cathode follower that can be
switched for operation as a blocking oscillator by
changing theswitches from position 1 to position 2.

Fig. 2 shows how easily an amplifying tube, in this case a cathode follower, can be switched for operation as a blocking oscillator. The grid circuit of the tube is tuned to a frequency of 5 to $10 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$, so that the very small inductance of the feed-back coil in the anode circuit cannot adversely affect the operation of the tube as a cathode follower. The coil may therefore remain permanently in the anode circuit, and need not be short-circuited when the unit is connected as a cathode follower.

## SYNCHRONISING THE BLOCKING OSCILLATOR

In principle, a triode blocking oscillator can be synchronised by applying either a positive pulse to the grid or a negative pulse to the anode, the latter ultimately reaching the grid as a positive pulse via the feedback transformer.

Difficulties arise, however, when no pulses are available, for example if the synchronising signal is sinusoidal. Such a signal can hardly be applied to the grid without impairing the operation of the oscillator, and synchronisation via the anode is very insensitive because the feedback transformer has a very poor response at the relatively low signal frequencies. There thus remains only the possibility of synchronising via the cathode circuit. This can be readily achieved by including a resistor in the cathode circuit and applying the synchronising pulses to it. This method has the disadvantage that the resistor introduces a form of feedback which reduces the transconductance of the tube circuit. It is therefore desirable to keep the resistor small, and to obtain the synchronising pulses from a source of low internal resistance.


Fig. 3. Blocking oscillator in which the synchronizing voltage is applied to $\alpha$ germanium diode $G$ included in the cathode circuit of the oscillator tube.

In the preliminary design, therefore, the synchronising voltage was derived from the cathode of the output stage of the vertical amplifier. Apart from the fact that this is a low voltage, so that synchronisation was not very stable, there was the additional drawback that the flyback pulse appeared at the beginning of the forward sweep.
On the strength of the fact that a low value of cathode resistance is necessary only during the time when the oscillator tube is drawing anode current, and since, during the greater part of the forward sweep no anode current flows so that a high value of cathode resistance is not objectionable, it was decided to substitute a germanium diode for the cathode resistor. During the forward sweep of the sawtooth voltage the diode has an internal resistance of approximately $1 \mathrm{M} \Omega$, but as soon as anode current commences to flow, this resistance decreases, and during the flyback drops to approximately $100 \Omega$. If the synchronising voltage.is applied to point $P$ (Fig.3) the instant at which flyback occurs can be controlled (see Fig.4), and thus the oscillator can be synchronised.

Fig. 4. Oscillogram showing how synchronisation can be performed by applying the synchronising voltage to point $P$ of the circuit of Fig. 3 .


In these circumstances the necessary synchronising voltage can be taken from the anode circuit of the output stage of the vertical amplifier.

## LINEARITY OF THE TIMEBASE VOLTAGE

In the case of an unloaded blocking oscillator, as represented in Fig. 3, the linearity is determined by the difference in discharge current at the beginning and at the end of one cycle, and hence the linearity error $a=\left(I_{1}-I_{2}\right) / I_{1}$. Since $V_{r}=I . R$, the expression for the linearity may be written:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=\frac{\left(V_{r}\right)_{1}-\left(V_{r}\right)_{2}}{\left(V_{r}\right)_{1}}=\frac{\Delta V_{c}}{\left(V_{c}\right)_{1}+V_{b}} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and since $\left(V_{C}\right) l<V_{b}$, this formula may be simplified to:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=\frac{\Delta V_{c}}{V_{b}} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

From this follows the well-known conclusion that where ais required to be small, $\Delta V_{c}$. i.e. the amplitude of the sawtooth voltage, should be kept small compared with the supply voltage $V_{b}$.
The voltage $\Delta V_{c}$ is as a rule too large to be applied directly to the grid of the following amplifier tube and must therefore be reduced to a suitable value by means of a voltage divider, represented by $R_{2}+R_{3}$ in Fig. 5 . This voltage divider constitutes a load on the blocking oscillator, and it is now necessary to examine the effect of this load on the frequency and upon the linearity


Fig. 5. To reduce the output voltage of the blocking oscillator to a convenient value, the voltage divider formed by $R_{2}, R_{3}$ has been provided. The neon lamp $N$ may be connected in parallel with the capacitor $C$ to prevent the voltage across the latter from assuming excessive values in the event of the tube becoming defective. The coupling capacitor $C_{k}$ may beincluded to prevent the supply voltage frombeing reduced due to the presence of the voltage divider $R_{2}, R_{3}$.

In the absence of a load the duration of one cycle is given by:

$$
T=\frac{\Delta V_{c}}{V_{b}} \cdot R_{1} C
$$

(see Fig. 6). provided $\Delta V_{c} \ll V_{b}$. The repetition frequency is therefore:

$$
f=\frac{1}{\frac{\Delta V_{\mathrm{c}}}{\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{b}}} \cdot{ }_{R_{1} C}}=\frac{V_{\mathrm{b}}}{\Delta V_{\mathrm{c}} R_{1} C}
$$

If the load consisting of $R_{2}+R_{3}$ is now introduced, the supply voltage $V_{b}$, according to Thevenin's theorem, will fall to:

$$
V_{b},=V_{b} \cdot \frac{R_{2}+R_{3}}{R_{1}+R_{2}+R_{3}}
$$



Fig.6. Diagram illustrating the duration $T$ of one cycle.

The charging resistance is now:

$$
R_{1} \cdot=\frac{R_{1}\left(R_{2}+R_{3}\right)}{R_{1}+R_{2}+R_{3}}
$$

so that

$$
f=\frac{V_{b} \cdot \frac{R_{2}+R_{3}}{R_{1}+R_{2}+R_{3}}}{\Delta V_{c} C \cdot \frac{R_{1}\left(R_{2}+R_{3}\right)}{R_{1}+R_{2}+R_{3}}}=\frac{V_{b}}{\Delta V R_{1} C}
$$

It is therefore seen that the load due to $R_{2}=R_{3}$ does not affect the repetition frequency.

There is, however, an increase in the linearity error as a consequence of the reduced supply voltage, since $V_{b}$ ' must be substituted for $V_{b}$ in eq.(2), so that:

$$
a=\frac{\Delta V_{C}}{V \cdot \frac{R_{2}+R_{3}}{R_{1}+R_{2}+R_{3}}}=\frac{\Delta V_{C}}{V_{b}} \cdot\left(1+\frac{R_{1}}{R_{2}+R_{3}}\right)
$$

The value of $R_{1} /\left(R_{2}+R_{3}\right)$ depends upon the desired frequency response curve (which determines $R_{3}$ ) and the available amplification (which determines $R_{2}$ ). This matter will not be pursued further here, because in the design described in this Article a circuit is used in which the attenuator $R_{2}, R_{3}$ is not necessary.

As a matter of interest it can be mentioned that the voltage amplitude of most blocking oscillators is between 15 and 20 V , so that, with a supply voltage of 300 V . the linearity error amounts to about $5 \%$, which is sufficiently small for simple oscilloscopes. The coupling capacitor $C_{k}$ shown in broken line in fig. $\begin{gathered}\text { is often }\end{gathered}$ included in order to prevent a reduction in supply voltage due to $R_{2}+R_{3}$. In the time constant $C_{k}\left(R_{2}+R_{3}\right)$ is very large compared with l/f, this method may be attractive, but if $f$ is small, C must be given a very high value to meet this requirement.

Sometimes the generated sawtooth voltage is deliberately distorted by means of an $R C$ network in order to ensure that a linear sawtooth reappears on the other side of $C_{k}$.
Should the oscillator fail to function due to a defective heater, or should the tube be removed, $C$ is charged up to the full supply voltage. Often a neon lamp ( $N$ in Fig.5) , for example type $Z 10$, is connected in parallel with C. This lamp becomes conductive at about 70 V and thus functions as a voltage limiter, permitting a charge capacitor of low working voltage rating to be used. It is shown later that the neon lamp can also be made to effect a further considerable improvement in linearity.

## IMPROVEMENT OF LINEARITY BY FLOATING SUPPLY VOLTAGE

Eq. (1) for the linearity error,

$$
a=\frac{\left(V_{R}\right)_{1}-\left(V_{R}\right)_{2}}{\left(V_{R}\right)_{1}}
$$

may also be written:

$$
a=\frac{V_{b}=\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}-\left\{V_{b}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{2}\right\}}{V_{b}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}}
$$

where $V_{b}$ is constant. If, however, $V_{b}$ is caused to increase during the sawtooth period from $\left(V_{b}\right) 1$ to $\left(V_{b}\right)$ 2, the above equation becomes:
or

$$
\alpha=\frac{\left(V_{b}\right)_{1}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}-\left\{\left(V_{b}\right)_{2}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{2}\right\}}{\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}+\left(V_{b}\right)_{1}}
$$

$$
a=\frac{\left(V_{b}\right)_{1}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}-\left\{\left(V_{B}\right)_{2}+\Delta V_{b}+\left(V_{C}\right)_{2}\right\}}{\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}+\left(V_{b}\right)_{1}}=
$$

$$
=\frac{\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}-\Delta V_{b}-\left(V_{C}\right) 2}{\left(V_{C}\right)_{1}+\left(V_{b}\right)_{1}} \simeq \frac{\Delta V_{C}-\Delta V_{b}}{V_{b}} .
$$

If, now, $\Delta V_{b}=\beta \Delta V_{C}$, this last equation becomes:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=\frac{\Delta V_{C}(1-\beta)}{V_{b}} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

From this it follows that the nearer the factor $\beta$ approaches unity, the better will be the linearity.

A circuit in which $\beta$ can approach unity very closely is shown in Fig.7. Here the blocking oscillator is followed by a cathode follower, so that the oscillator is not loaded. The load output impedance, $1 / S$, of the cathode follower permits the use of a lowresistance amplitude control, $P$. It will also be observed that the neon lamp previously mentioned is not connected in parallel with $C$ but between the discharge resistor $R$ and the cathode of the cathode follower, and is supplied via a resistor $R_{N}$ from $V_{b}$.


Fig.7. Circuit in which the factor $\beta$ can be made to approach unity very closely.

The factor $\beta$ is now determined by the voltage amplification $G=\Delta V_{k} / \Delta V_{g}$ of the cathode follower. In the circuit used, $G$ was 0.95 , so that for a sawtooth amplitude of 15 V the linearity error becomes:

$$
\alpha=\frac{15(1-0.95)}{85}<1 \% .
$$

## CHANGE-OVER FROM HORIZONTAL AMPLIFIER TO TIMEBASE GENERATOR

Fig. 8 shows the first tube of the horizontal amplifier connected as a timebase oscillator (a) and as an amplifier (b). The nonessential connections in each case are shown in thin lines.

In Fig. $8 a$ the lefthand triode is the actual generator, the frequency of which can be adjusted by means of $R_{4}$ and by changing $C_{1}$. The right-hand triode is the cathode follower, its cathode resistor being $R_{1}+R_{2}\left(R_{2}>R_{1}\right)$. To prevent $R_{3}$ from causing considerable drop in the charging voltage of $C_{1}$ at high values of $R_{4}$, the resistor $R_{3}$ is connected not to earth but to the moving contact of $R_{1}$, so that only a small alternating voltage is applied across $R_{3}$. $R_{3}$ is thus apparently increased by a factor of $1 /(1-\beta)$. The output voltage of the cathode follower is applied via $R_{5}$ and $R_{2}$ to the attenuator $P$, and thence, via $S_{1}$, to the output stage. $S_{1}$ also short-circuits the anode impedance of the cathode follower.

When $S_{1}$ is moved to the position shown in Fig. 8b, this shortcircuit is removed, and the alternating voltage at the anode of the right-hand triode is applied to the output stage. The cathode of the right-hand triode and the upper terminal of $R_{1}$ are earthed


Fig.8. Circuit for switching the first tube of the horizontal
amplifier as a timebase oscillator (a) or as an amplifier (b).
in this position of $S_{1}$. The sliding contact of $R_{1}$ should now be so adjusted that the voltage between the cathode of the left-hand triode and earth is zero, thus preventing voltage pulses arising at the right-hand control grid when the step attenuator $S_{2}$ is switched over. The capacitor $C_{1}$ is also short-circuited to earth in this position of $S_{1}$ so that it cannot be charged via $R_{4}$.

## THE AMPLIFIERS FOR HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL DEFLECTION

Except for one minor detail which will be noted later, the two amplifiers are identical, so that phase measurements over a wide frequency range can be made. The voltage amplification in both amplifiers is 1000, and the response curve is level within 1 dB from 0.5 to $200000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ (see Fig.9).


Fig.9. Response curve of the vertical andhorizontal amplifiers. The curve in broken line was plotted without the correction coil $L$ shown in Fig. 10 being included in the circuit.

The circuit diagram is reproduced in Fig.l0. As previously mentioned, the first stage is arranged as a cathode follower. A low input capacitance is thus obtained, and low-resistance components may therefore be employed for the step attenuator $A$ and the amplitude control $R_{12}$. Phase correction with parallel capacitors is not necessary.

The cathode of the second stage is directly earthed, thus avoiding the necessity of $\alpha$ decoupled cathode resistor, an important advantage since otherwise a very large capacitance would be necessary to ensure adequate decoupling at the lowest frequencies (about $0.5 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ ). (A non-decoupled cathode resistor reduces the amplification by about $30 \%$.)
Negative grid bias is obtained from the voltage divider $R_{13}$, $R_{14}$ $\left(R_{13}=1 \mathrm{M} \Omega, R_{14}=100 \mathrm{M} \Omega\right)$. The lower end of $R_{14}$ is connected to a voltage of approximately -170 V.

The function of capacitor $C_{3}$ is to eliminate the influence of the grid capacitance upon the frequency response curve. The capacitance across $R_{15}$ is compensated by a small coil $L$ which is included in the anode circuit of the right-hand triode section. Without this coil the response curve is level within 1 dB up to $75 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$; with this coil the response is flat up to $200 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$.

As is seen from the circuit diagram, the amplifier has a push-pull output stage, thus providing symmetrical deflecting voltages for the cathode-ray tube. This presented one difficulty. If the righthand control grid of the output tube is earthed, either directly
or via a capacitor, any voltage surge at $C_{17}$, due to a sudden fluctuation of mains voltage, will be applied asymmetrically to the output amplifier, and the image will thus show a temporary shift which will be verticalin the case of the vertical amplifier. In order to prevent this very objectionable effect, $C_{6}$ is connected between the positive side of $C_{17}$ and the grid of the right-hand section of the output tube. At frequencies for which $1 / \omega C_{17}<R_{15}$. no difficulties need be anticipated in view of the shape of the frequency response curve; but at low frequencies matters are somewhat different.


Fig. 10. Circuit diagram of the complete amplifier for vertical deflece tion. The circuit of the amplifier for horizontal deflection is identical to this circuit apart from the fact that the decoupling capacitor $\left(C_{7}\right)$ of the grid of the right-hand section of the output tube is connected to earth instead of to the positive terminal of the smoothing capacitor $C_{17}$. (For the sake of clarity the components have been given the same numbers as those of the complete circuit diagram. Fig.13.)

This can be investigated by considering the output stage as a differential amplifier for which $\overline{V_{g-g}}=\overline{V_{g 1}}+\overline{V_{g 2}}$, and disregarding the effect of $C_{6}$ and $C_{4}$ upon the frequency response curve. At low frequencies the voltage $\overline{V_{q}}$ g is amplified without phase distortion to $\overline{V_{\alpha-\alpha}}$. The voltage $\overline{V_{\alpha-\alpha}}$ is therefore exactly in phase (or for that matter in antiphase) with $\overline{V_{g-g}}$.
If, now, $C_{6}$ is earthed, $\overline{V_{g 2}}=0$, and hence $\overline{V_{g-g}}=\overline{V_{C}}+\overline{V_{R}}=\overline{V_{g 1}}$. From the vector diagram, Fig.ll, it is seen that $\overline{V_{g l}}$ lags by an angle $a$ with respect to $\mu V_{g 0}$ at low frequencies. (For the sake of simplicity the influence of $R_{57}$ and any preceding $R C$ filters upon the frequency response curve has been neglected.)

If, however, $C_{6}$ is connected as shown in Fig. 10, then $\overline{V_{g-q}}=\overline{V_{g}}+$ $\overline{V_{g 2}}=\overline{V_{R}}$, which at low frequencies leads $\mu V_{g 0}$ by an angle $\beta$. Although $\alpha$ increases towards a maximum with decreasing frequency to become smaller again when the frequency decreases still further, $\beta$ will show a continuous increase.
By giving $C_{17}$ a high value ( $50 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ) and by selecting a triode with a high internal resistance (ECC 83), it has been possible for $\beta$ to be so far reduced that the frequency response curve is flat within 1 dB down to as low as $0.5 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$.


Fig.ll. Vector diagram showing that $V_{g l}$ lags by an angle $a$ and that $V_{R}$ leads by an angle $\beta$ with respect to $\overline{\mu V_{g 0}}$.

In the horizontal amplifier, the corresponding capacitor $C_{14}$ is earthed for the following reasons:
(1) When the device is connected as a timebase generator, $R_{15}$ is short-circuited (see Fig. $8 b$ ), and $V_{g l}$ is derived from a tube now connected as a cathode follower, which functions as a stabiliser since $\Delta V_{k}=\Delta V_{\alpha} / \mu$, and $\mu$ for the ECC 83 is 100.
(2) When the device is connected as an amplifier, the earthing of $C_{6}$ would undoubtedly cause a certain amount of horizontal instability in the event of sudden fluctuations of mains voltage, but the sensitivity of the horizontal deflection system of the cathode-ray tube is considerably less than the vertical sensitivity so that the degree of instability is proportionately less. If desired, the change-over switching can be so arranged that $C_{6}$ is connected to the positive terminal of $C_{17}$ in the amplifier position, and to earth in the timebase position of switch $S_{1}$ (cf. Fig.8).

## THE POWER UNIT

In order to keep the apparatus as simple and compact as possible. selenium rectifiers have been used, thus avoiding the necessity of providing additional windings of the mains transformer for the heaters of the rectifying tubes.
For the amplifiers, two voltages of $+V_{b}$ and $-V_{b}$ with respect to earth are required. These can be obtained in two ways:
(1) Fromatransformer provided with two series-connected secondary windings as shown in Fig. l2a. Each winding produces, after rectification, a voltage $V_{b}$.
(2) From a transformer with only one secondary winding as shown in Fig. $12 b$. The required voltages $+V_{b}$ and $-V_{b}$ can then be obtained by voltage doubling.
The two circuits are not equally efficient. With the former, the charging current surges occur simultaneously after each cycle; with

$\underline{a}$
Fig.l2. (a) Power unit in which the transformer is provided with
two series-connected secondary windings, each of which produces
a voltage $V_{b}$ after rectification. (b) Power unit consisting of a
voltage doubler circuit supplying two equal voltages $V_{b}$.
the latter they occur alternately after each half cycle. The losses in the first arrangement will thus be greater, and in practice it is found that for the same rectifier output current the alternating current drawn from the mains in the case of the voltage doubler arrangement is the smaller by about $30 \%$. This arrangement has therefore been adopted on the score of economy, simplicity and compactness.

## THE COMPLETE CIRCUIT

The circuit diagram of the complete oscilloscope is shown in Fig. 13. ivost of the more noteworthy features have been described and explained in previous paragraphs, leaving only a few details for further discussion.

The maximum input signal which may be applied between input terminals $I_{2}$ and $I_{3}$ for vertical deflection or between terminals $I_{11}$ and $I_{12}$ for horizontal deflection is slightly more than 60 V (r.m.s. value). To permit the application of higher input voltages, resistors $R_{1}$ and $R_{85}$ have been included, which allow voltages up to about 300 V (r.m.s. value) to be applied via terminals $I_{1}$ and $I_{3}$ or $I_{10}$ and $I_{12}$ respectively.
The output voltage of the push-pull output stages is applied directly to the deflection plates in position 2 or switches $S_{2}$ for vertical deflection and $S_{3}$ for horizontal deflection. Amplitude and phase distortion at very low frequencies are thus avoided. and at the same time parasitic capacitance in parallel with the anode resistance is reduced to a minimum. In position l of these switches the deflection plates are connected, via isolating capacitors, to terminals $I_{4}$ and $I_{5}$ for vertical deflection or $I_{7}$ and $I_{8}$ for horizontal deflection.

In the horizontal amplifier a neon lamp $N$, type $Z 10$, is connected between the right-hand control grid of tube $T_{4}$ and earth. This lamp becomes conductive during the change-over from oscillator to amplifier and vice versa, and so prevents excessively high voltages occurring between the grid and cathode of the right-hand section of tube $T_{4}$.

Switch $S_{4}$ serves for selecting the frequency range of the timebase oscillator. To avoid the risk of $\mathrm{T}_{5}$ oscillating in the case of a sinusoidal timebase (position 10 of switch $S_{4}$ ), a direct voltage of approximately -3.5 V (taken from $R_{62}, R_{63}$ ) is applied to its


Fig.13. Circuit diagram of the complete cathode-ray oscilloscope with switch $S_{6}$
in the timebase position. (For component values, see opposite page.)


## CAPACITORS

| $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ | $=5$ | $\underset{\text { trimmer }}{\mathrm{pF} \max . .}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{C}_{2}$ | 0.27 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ | 0.047 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 300$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{4}$ | . 47 | $\mu \mathrm{F} .500$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{5}$ | 00 | 12. |
| $\mathrm{C}_{6}$ | . 47 | . 500 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{7}$ | 0.27 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{8}$ | 0.27 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{9}$ | . 27 | $\mu \mathrm{F} .500$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{10}$ | 0.27 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |
| , | 0.27 | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |
| $\mathrm{c}_{12}$ | . 27 | . 500 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{13}$ | . 27 | 50 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{14}$ | 0.47 | 50 |
| $\mathrm{C}_{15}$ |  | F, 300 |
|  | 0. | $\mu \mathrm{F}, 500$ |



## TUBES. ETC.



```
Sel_
Sel2 = selenium rectifier 2 < 220C85 in series
Tr}\mp@subsup{1}{1}{:}\quad\mp@subsup{w}{1}{}=\mathrm{ approx. 120 }\mu\textrm{H},\mp@subsup{w}{1}{}:\mp@subsup{w}{2}{}=2.5:
Tr}\mp@subsup{2}{2}{: w w
    w
    w
    w}\mp@subsup{}{4}{}=6.3\textrm{V},0.4
```

control grid, in addition to the $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ voltage, so that this tube is almost cut-off.
$S_{6}$ is the switch for changing from timebase generator to horizontal amplifier. It will be observed that the contact connected to the control grid of $T_{5}$ is not situated immediately adjacent to the contact connected to the synchronising voltage, but is separated from it by two earthed contacts. This is to prevent part of the synchronising voltage being transferred, either capacitively of by conduction (e.g. via the leakage path between the contacts), to the grid of $T_{5}$, which would cause mutual interference between the two amplifiers.

The mains switch, $S_{8}$, may be combined with one of the potentiometers. Generallyit is coupled to the potentiometer for brightness control, but this has the practical disadvantage that the apparatus may remain switched on unintentionally, no image being visible. It is preferable, therefore, to combine $S_{8}$ with the focusing control, $R_{35}$, since at any setting of this potentiometer an image remains visible on the screen.

TECHNICAL DATA

## SENSITIVITY

Between vertical deflection plates,
terminals $I_{4}$ and $I_{5} \quad 10 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm}$
Between horizontal deflection plates, terminals $I_{7}$ and $I_{8}$
$16 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm}$
At input of vertical amplifier,
terminals $I_{2}$ and $I_{3}$ terminals $I_{1}$ and $I_{3}$ (approx.)
$10 \mathrm{mV}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm}$
$50 \mathrm{mV}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm}$
At input of horizontal amplifier

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { terminals } I_{11} \text { and } I_{12} & 16 \mathrm{mV}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm} \\
\text { terminals } I_{10} & \text { and } I_{12} \\
\text { (approx.) } & 80 \mathrm{mV}_{\mathrm{rms}} / \mathrm{cm}
\end{array}
$$

## FREQUENCY RESPONSE

Vertical amplifier
from $0.5 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $200 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} \quad-1 \mathrm{~dB}$
at $250 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} \quad-3 \mathrm{~dB}$
Horizontal amplifier
from $0.5 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$ to $200 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s} \quad-1 \mathrm{~dB}$
at $250 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$
$-3 d B$

## MAXIMUM INPUT VOLTAGE

Between terminals $I_{2}$ and $I_{3}$ or
between terminals $I_{11}$ and $I_{12}$ (approx.) $60 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{rms}}$
Between terminals $I_{1}$ and $I_{3}$ or
between terminals $I_{10}$ and $I_{12}$ (approx.) $300 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{rms}}$
INPUT RESISTANCE
$0-60$ volt input circuits (approx.) $2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$
$0-300$ volt input circuits (approx.) $10 \mathrm{M} \Omega$

INPUT CAPACITANCE
$\begin{array}{lllll}\text { At terminals } & I_{2} \text { or } I_{11} & \text { (approx.) } \\ \text { At terminals } I_{1} \text { or } I_{10} & \text { (approx.) }\end{array}$
5 pF
1 pF

TIMEBASE FREQUENCIES
Position on S $\quad$ Frequency range (c/s)

S YNCHRON ISATION
Position 1 on $S_{7}$ off
Position 2 on $S_{7}$ internal, from vertical amplifier
Position 3 on $S_{7}$ internal, $50 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$
Position 4 on $S_{7}$ external via terminal $I_{g}(0.5$ to 5 V$)$

BEAM MODULATION
Via terminal $I_{6} 0.5$ to 3 V

DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT
Height 20 cm , width 30 cm , depth $17.5 \mathrm{~cm} ;$ weight 5 kg .

## COMPONENTS AND MATERIALS

The electrical as well as mechanical performance of electronic applications depend on the quality of every single component that is used for the assembly of the apparatus. This refers not only to tubes and semi-conductors, but just as much to components and materials.

In this Bulletin no more than a few members of the big family of electron tubes are described, whilst in the parts lists only some components are mentioned. The very important group of mechanical parts, which in fact contributes equally to the success of the final apparatus, could for practical reasons not be indicated in the various circuits.

For all information on the most complete range of high-quality building blocks that can be offered to the Electronic Industry please apply to the address mentioned on the cover.



[^0]:    1) Type DG 7-31 is identical to the DG 7-32, but has asymmetric deflection for the $D_{2} D_{2}$ plates. With the DG 7-31, $D_{2}$ has to be connected to ( $g_{2}+g_{4}$ ).
    2) Measured on a circle of 50 mm diameter.
    3) Except the opposite deflection plate.
    ${ }^{4}$ ) For calculation of the grid 3 potentiometer a grid 3 current of min. - $15 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ and max. $+10 \mu \AA$ must be taken into account.
[^1]:    1) For calculation of the grid 3 potentiometer a grid 3 current of min. $-15 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ and max. $+10 \mu \AA$ must be taken into account.
