

ECE Topics #4 and 4A - Circuit Understanding – From Schematics to Block Diagrams

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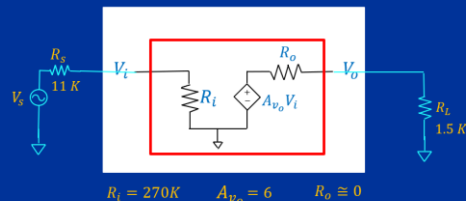
Companion videos at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yn8CaEnt390> (Part 1)

And <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8oGsBL6CHk4> (Part 2)

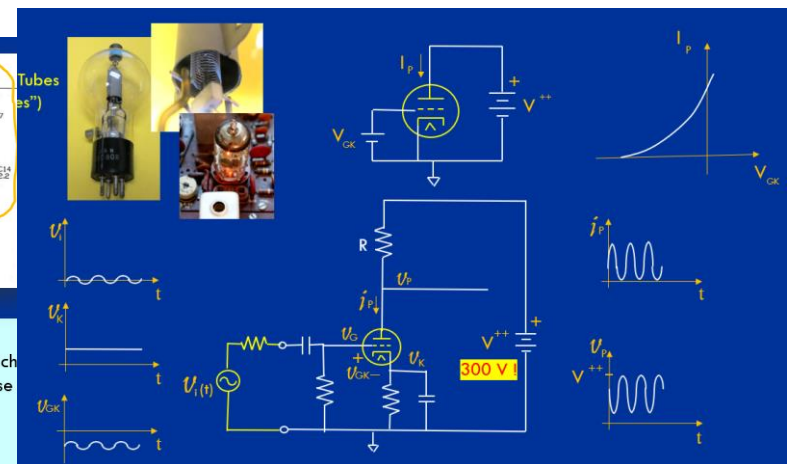
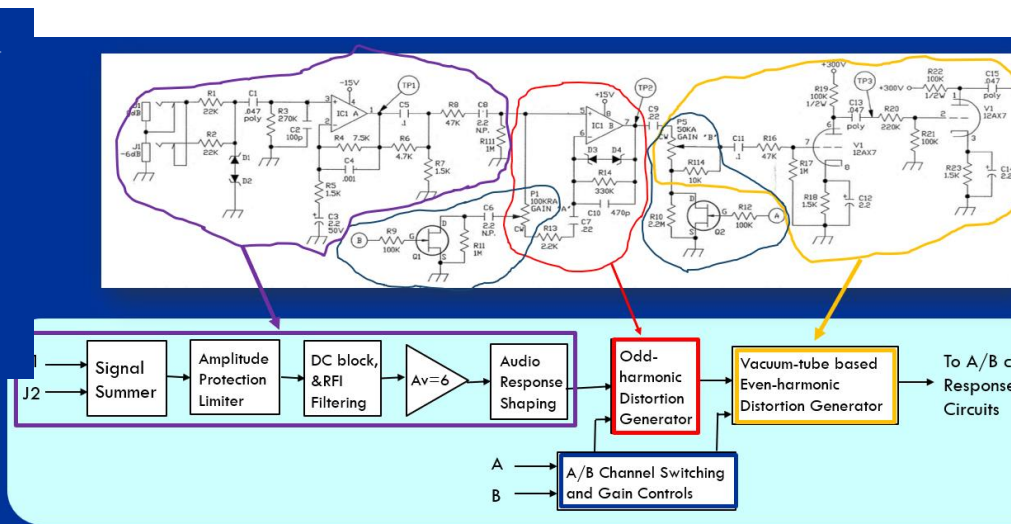
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This episode continues our journey through circuit theory and beyond. The goal is to illuminate the key aspects of circuit analysis that practicing engineers use to understand circuits. Linearity and Thevenin's theorem are introduced, but the main focus is on how these can be used to parse analog schematics into block diagrams that show the functions of different parts of the circuit.

Calculating Loaded Voltage Gain



$$A_{v_{loaded}} = \frac{V_o}{V_s} = \left(\frac{R_L}{R_L + R_s} \right) (A_{v_o}) \left(\frac{R_L}{R_L + R_o} \right) = (0.96)(6)(1) = 5.77 \approx 6$$

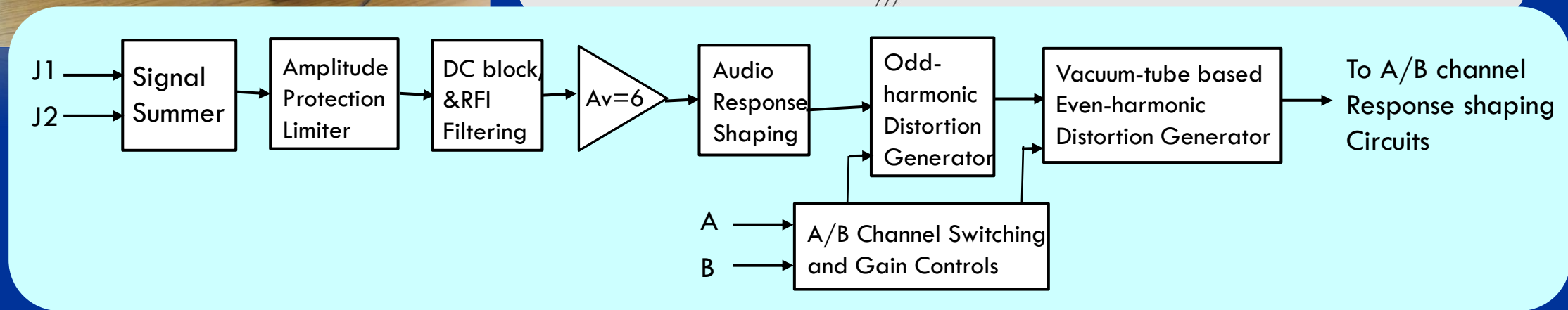
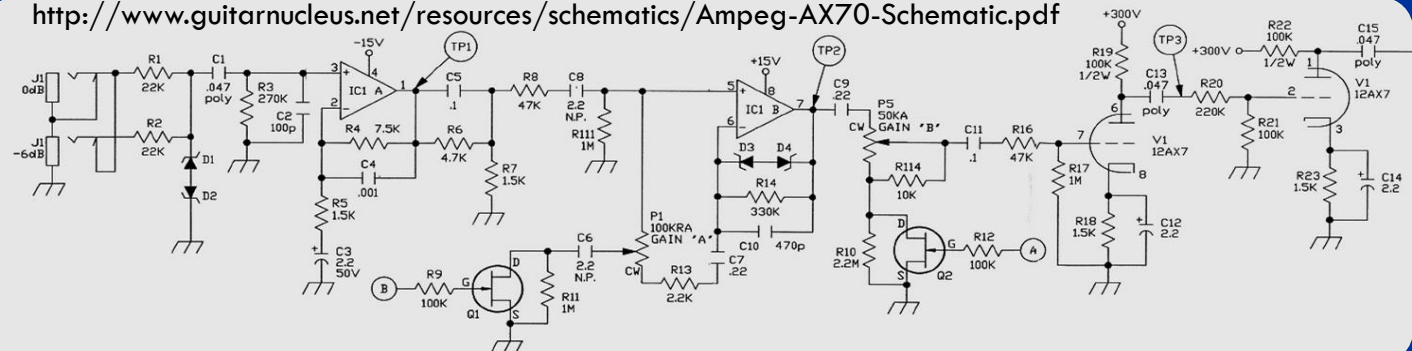


Topics in ECE #4

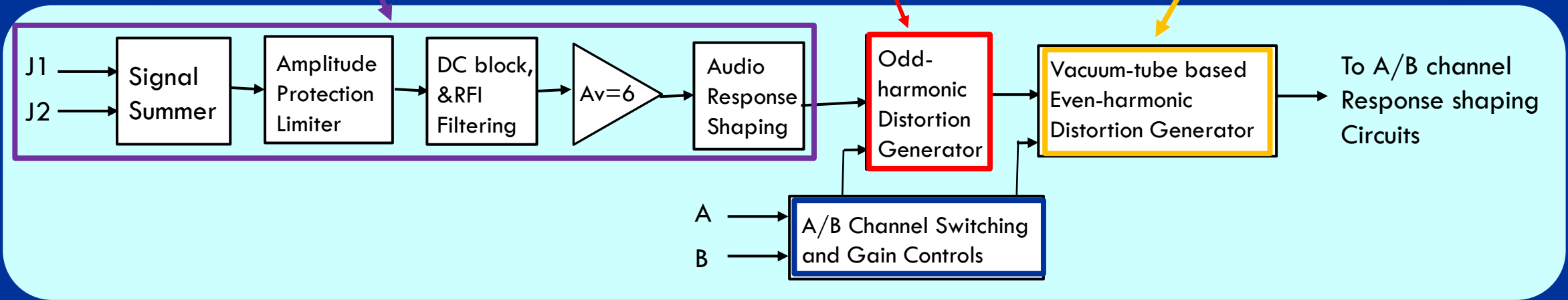
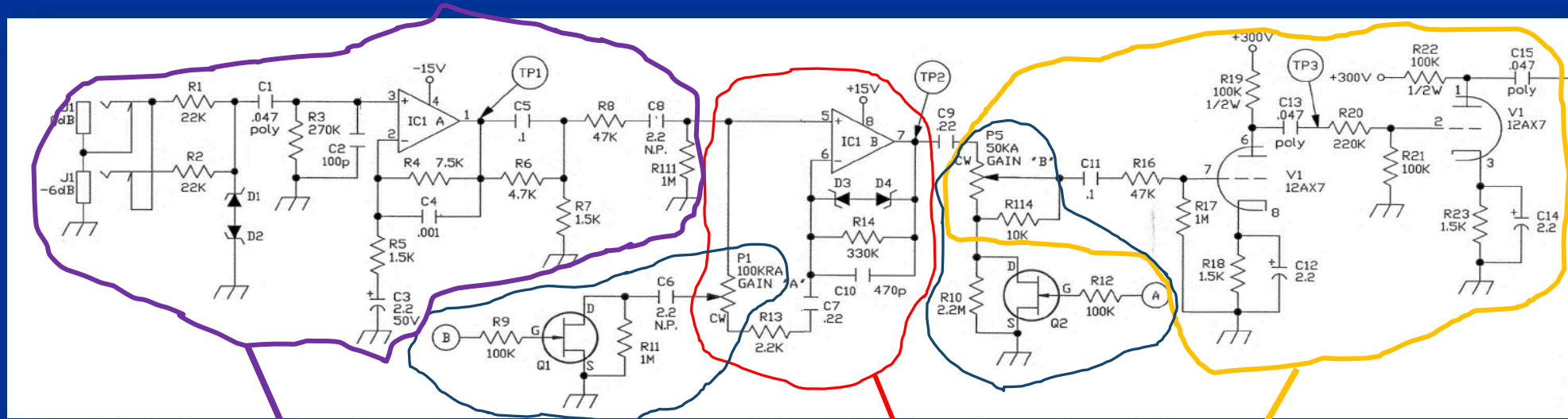
Understanding Circuits



<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources/schematics/Ampeg-AX70-Schematic.pdf>



Parsing Schematics into Block Diagrams



Today's Topics

- Prior Episode Review / Overview
- Linearity and Thevenin Equivalents
- Voltage Amplifiers (R_{in} A_{vo} R_{out} and $A_{v-loaded}$)
- Parsing Schematics into Block Diagrams
- Some Common Analog Subcircuits (Waveform clipping, RC Circuits, JFET switches, and Tube Amplifiers 😊)

Finding Schematics

<https://reverb.com/p/ampeg-ss-70c-2-channel-70-watt-2x10-guitar-combo>



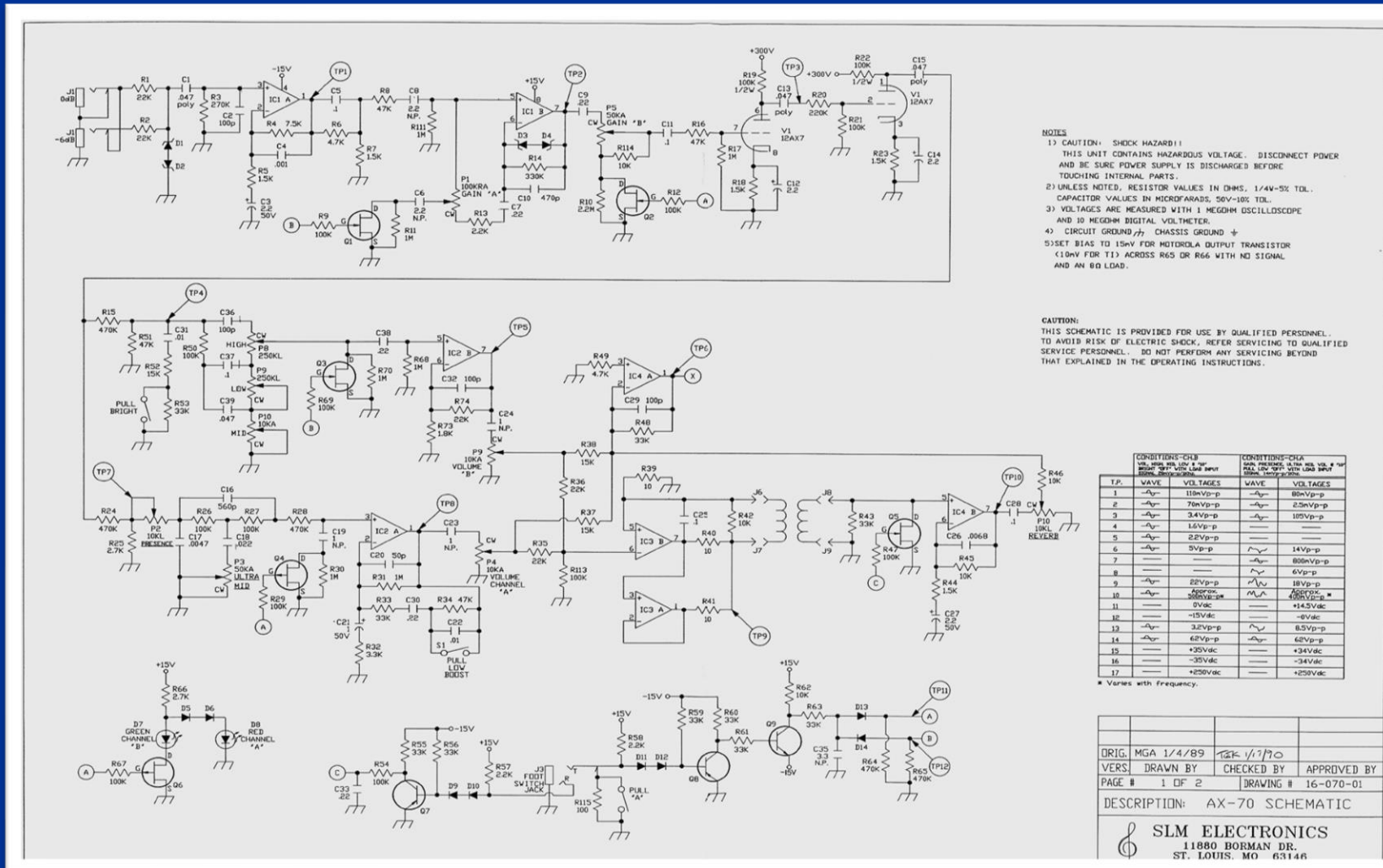
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources-schematics.html>. The page has a navigation menu with links for Home, Sale Items, Resources, About, and Contact. The main header features the 'Guitar Nucleus' logo, which includes a red guitar and a stylized atomic symbol. Below the header is a warning message: 'WARNING - If you are not a qualified technician please do not attempt any repair you are not confident with. Amplifiers (especially tube amps) contain high voltages that can kill ! Even when unplugged the capacitors can still contain a substantial charge and must be discharged before attempting any work.' A horizontal menu lists various amplifier brands: AMPEG | FENDER | GIBSON | KALAMAZOO | LANEY | MARSHALL | SILVERTONE | SOVTEK | VOX. The main content area is titled 'AMPEG AMP SCHEMATICS' and lists four items:

- [Ampeg A120 Schematic](#) 120 watt RMS Rack Mount Power Amp
- [Ampeg AX44C Schematic](#) 22 watt RMS 2-8 Guitar Combo
- [Ampeg AX70 Schematic](#) 70 watt RMS 1-12 Guitar Combo
- [Ampeg AC12 Schematic](#) 20 watt RMS 1-12 Guitar Combo

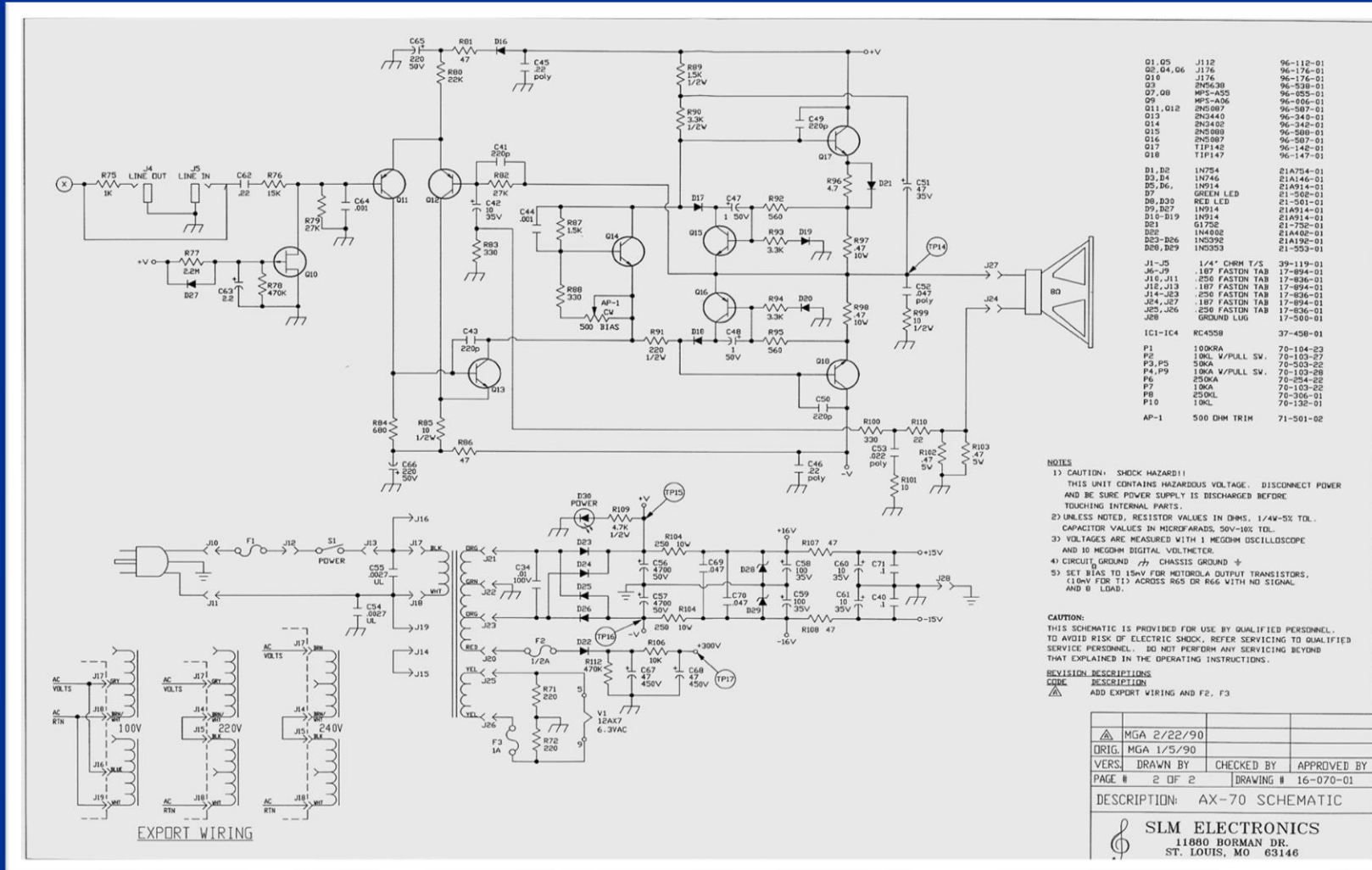
A yellow arrow points from the Ampeg logo on the amplifier image to the 'Ampeg AX70 Schematic' link in the list.

<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/index.html>

Today's Goal: Understand This One:

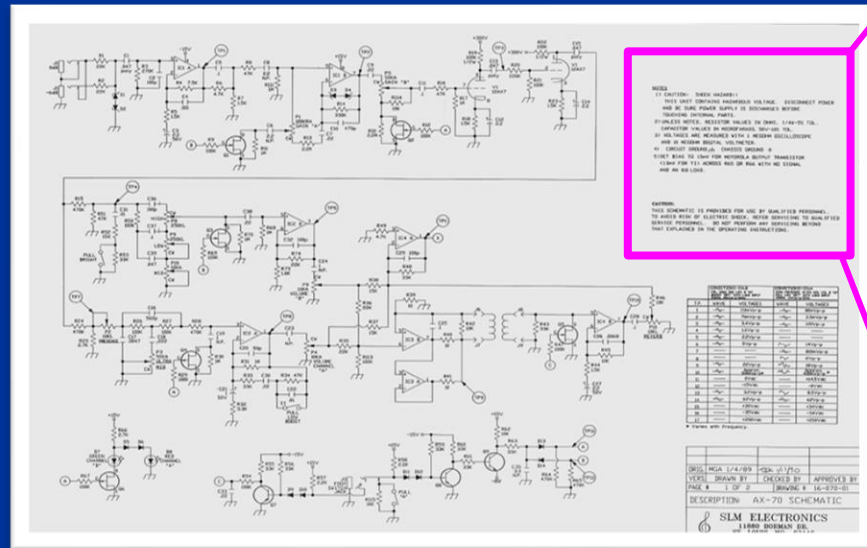


And This ... ?



<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources/schematics/Ampeg-AX70-Schematic.pdf>

Important Notes



<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources/schematics/Ampeg-AX70-Schematic.pdf>

NOTES

- 1) CAUTION: SHOCK HAZARD!! THIS UNIT CONTAINS HAZARDOUS VOLTAGE. DISCONNECT POWER AND BE SURE POWER SUPPLY IS DISCHARGED BEFORE TOUCHING INTERNAL PARTS.
- 2) UNLESS NOTED, RESISTOR VALUES IN OHMS, 1/4W-5% TOL. CAPACITOR VALUES IN MICROFARADS, 50V-10% TOL.
- 3) VOLTAGES ARE MEASURED WITH 1 MEGOHM OSCILLOSCOPE AND 10 MEGOHM DIGITAL VOLTMETER.
- 4) CIRCUIT GROUND \downarrow CHASSIS GROUND \perp
- 5) SET BIAS TO 15mV FOR MOTOROLA OUTPUT TRANSISTOR (10mV FOR TI) ACROSS R65 OR R66 WITH NO SIGNAL AND AN 8Ω LOAD.

Often, these are reversed

CAUTION:

THIS SCHEMATIC IS PROVIDED FOR USE BY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL. TO AVOID RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL. DO NOT PERFORM ANY SERVICING BEYOND THAT EXPLAINED IN THE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS.

Today's Topics



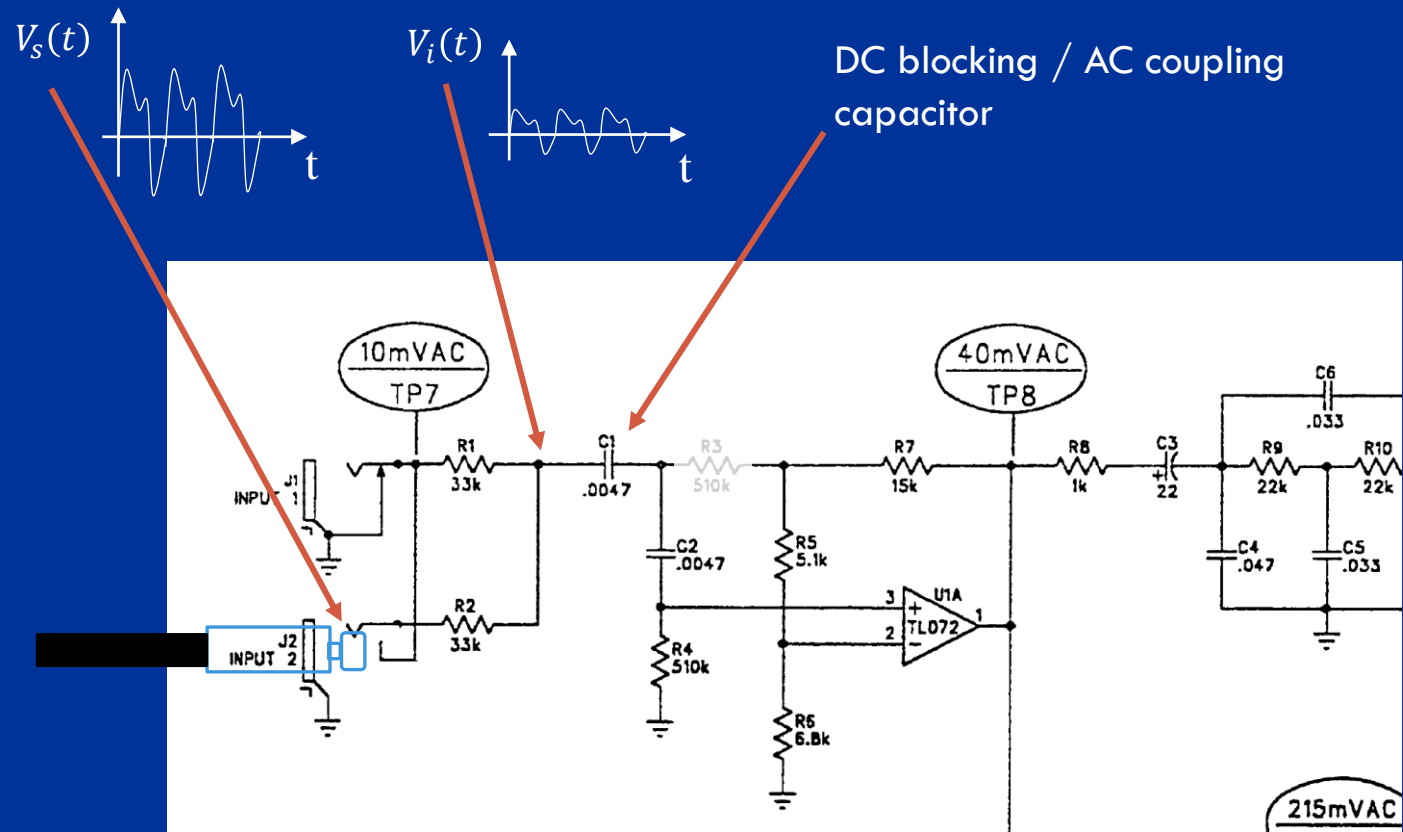
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A Quick Review

Example: Fender “Champion 30” Guitar Amp



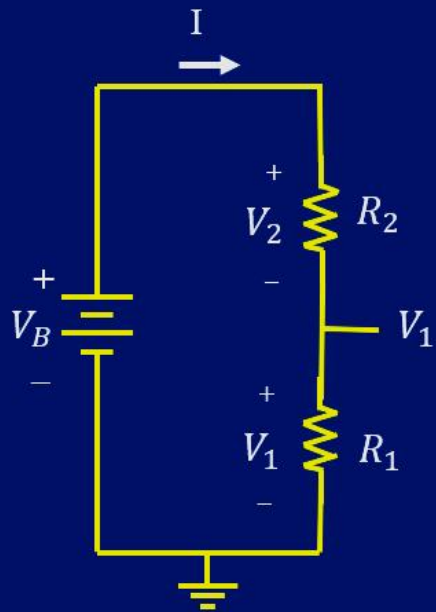
<https://reverb.com/p/fender-champion-30-2-channel-30-watt-1x10-guitar-practice-amp-1999-2002>



<https://music-electronics-forum.com/filedata/fetch?id=832608>

Voltage Divider Circuits

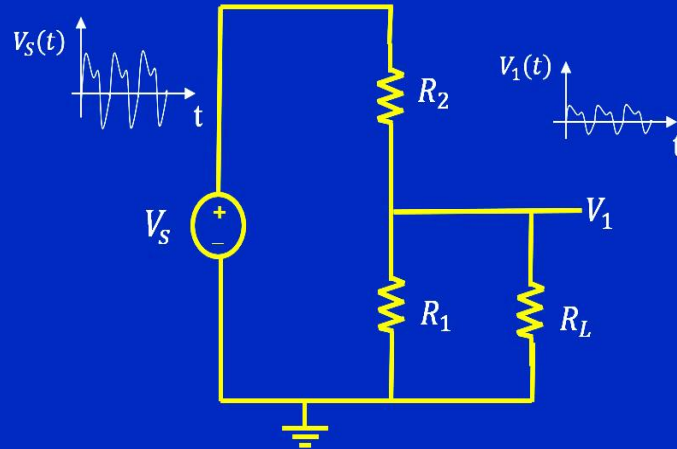
Voltage Divider concept



$$V_1 = V_B \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

Loaded Voltage Divider, and using engineering approximations in analysis

Leverage already known V-divider and Parallel-R results...



$$V_1 = V_S \frac{R_{eq}}{R_{eq} + R_2}$$

where $R_{eq} = R_1 \parallel R_L = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_L}\right)}$

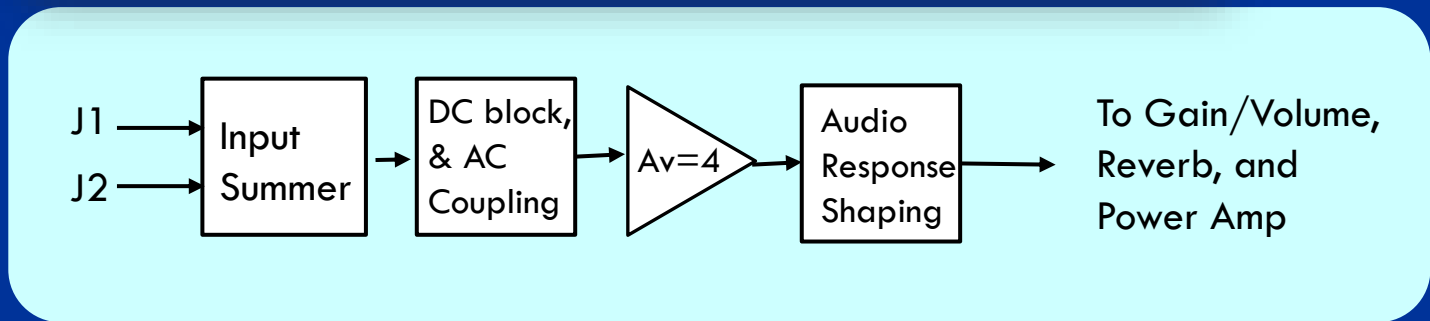
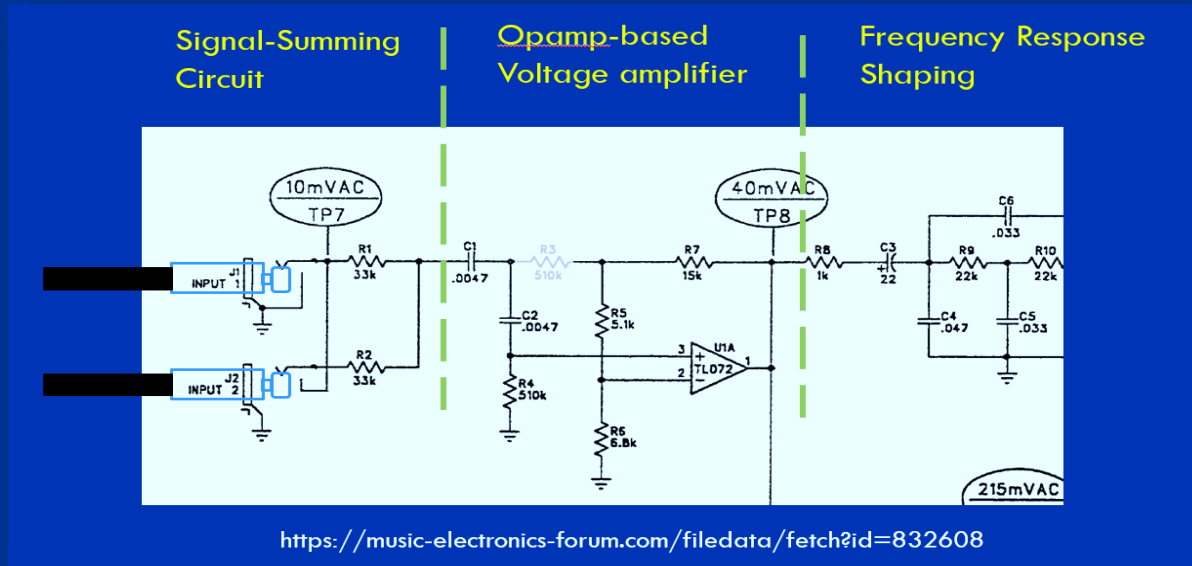
NOTE: if $R_L \gg R_1$ then $R_{eq} \approx R_1$

An important simplification !

Parsing into Functional Blocks



<https://reverb.com/p/fender-champion-30-2-channel-30-watt-1x10-guitar-practice-amp-1999-2002>



Today's Topics

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- Linearity and Thevenin Equivalents

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- Parsing Schematics into Block Diagrams

- Some Common Analog Subcircuits

(Waveform clipping/limiting, RC Circuits, JFET switches, and Tube Amplifiers 😊)

Linearity and Thevenin Equivalents

For “linear circuits”,
Output can be found by ...

- Finding output from each individual source, with other source values set to zero
- Adding the individual outputs together

A “Thevenin” equivalent circuit:

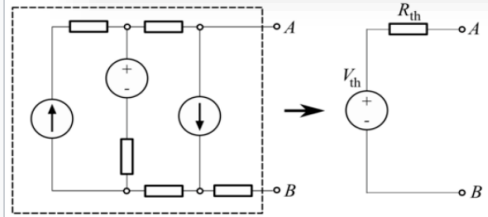
- Can replace a complex linear circuit with a simpler one, to help in understanding
- Consists of a voltage source in series with a source impedance

Thévenin's theorem

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

As originally stated in terms of direct-current resistive circuits only, **Thévenin's theorem** states that "Any linear electrical network containing only voltage sources, current sources and resistances can be replaced at terminals A – B by an equivalent combination of a voltage source V_{th} in a series connection with a resistance R_{th} ."

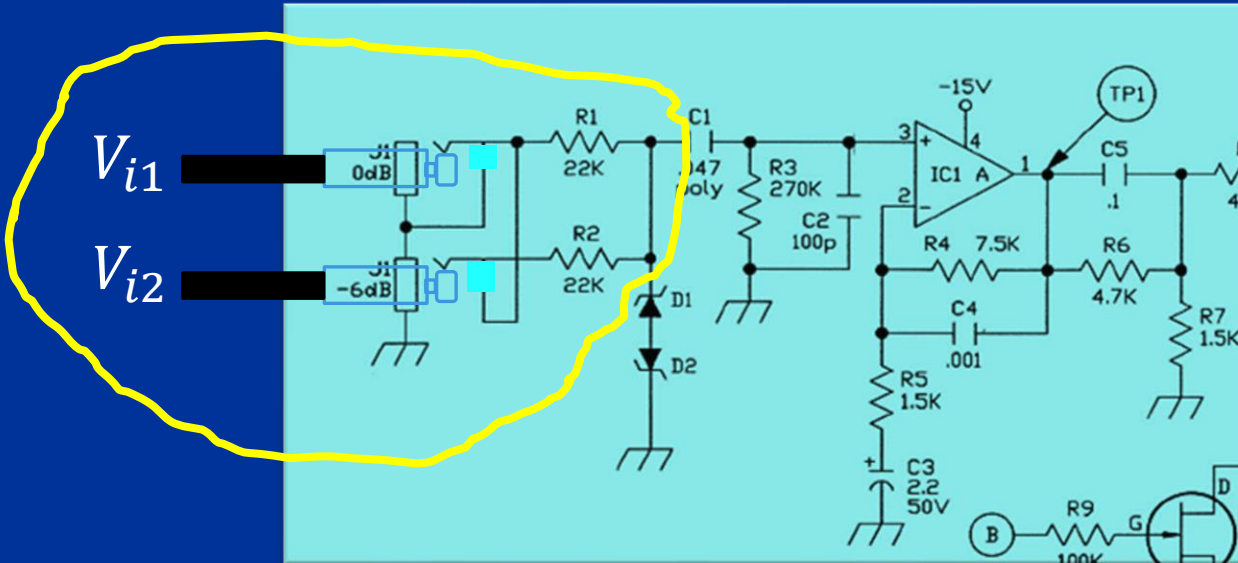


Any black box containing only resistances, voltage sources and current sources, can be replaced by a Thévenin equivalent circuit consisting of an equivalent voltage source in series connection with an equivalent resistance.

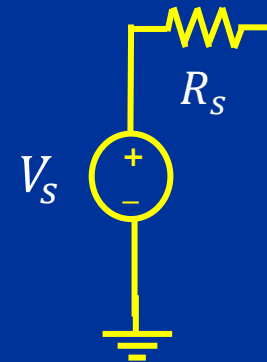
- The equivalent voltage V_{th} is the voltage obtained at terminals A – B of the network with terminals A – B open circuited.
- The equivalent resistance R_{th} is the resistance that the circuit between terminals A and B would have if all ideal voltage sources in the circuit were replaced by a short circuit and all ideal current sources were replaced by an open circuit.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Th%C3%A9venin%27s_theorem

Linearity and Thevenin Equivalents



“Thevenin” source model of circled section of circuit



$$V_S \cong \frac{1}{2}V_{i1} + \frac{1}{2}V_{i2}$$

$$R_S \cong 11K$$

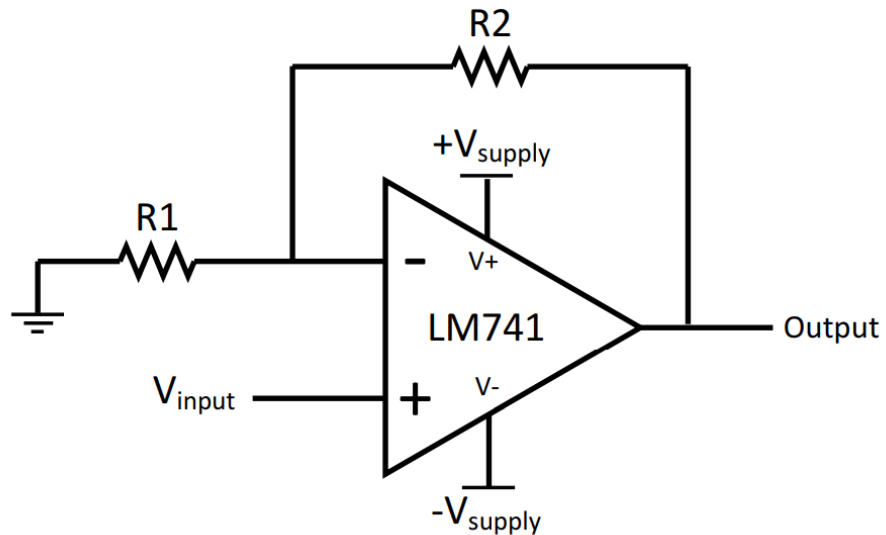
Today's Topics

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- ➔ • Voltage Amplifiers (R_{in} , A_{vo} , R_{out} and $A_{v-loaded}$)
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(Waveform clipping/limiting, RC Circuits, JFET switches, and Tube Amplifiers 😊)

Operational Amplifiers (Opamps)



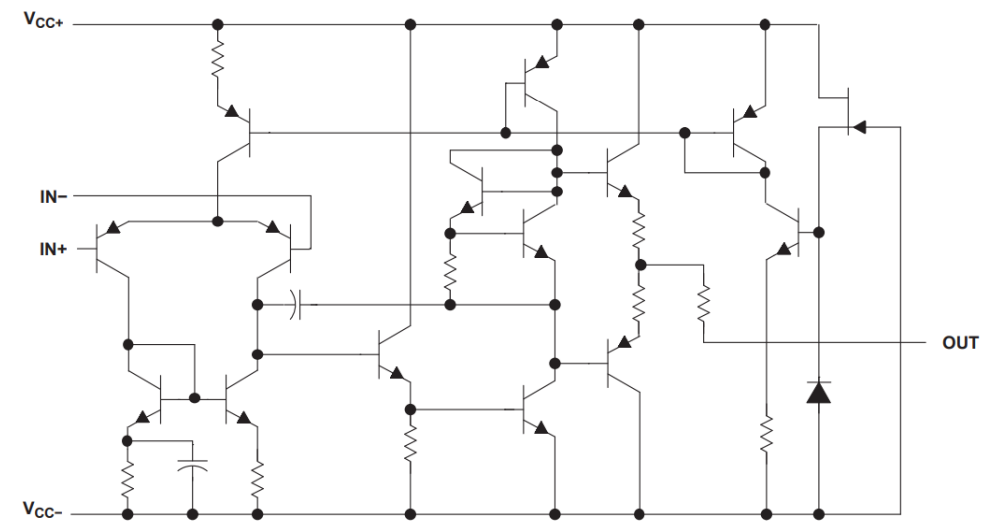
Typical Application



www.ti.com

SLOS073G – MARCH 1976 – REVISED OCTOBER 2014

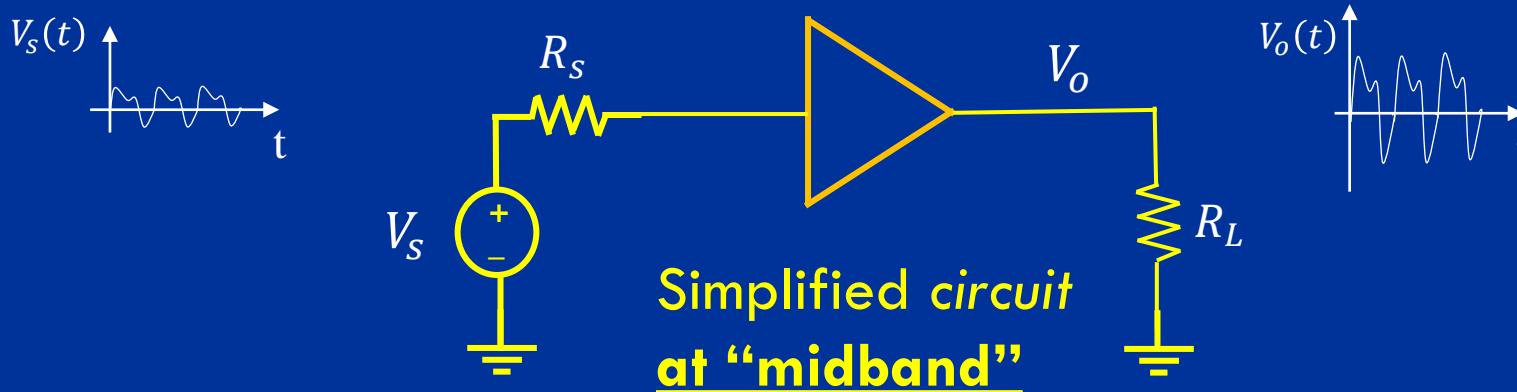
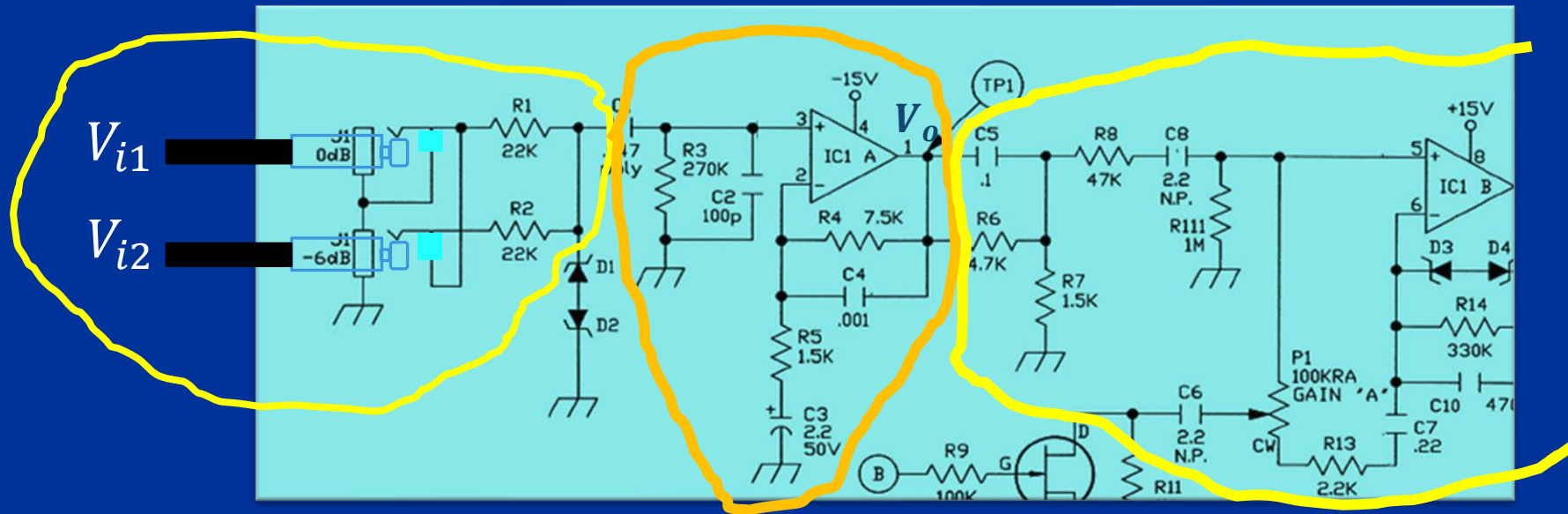
RC4558



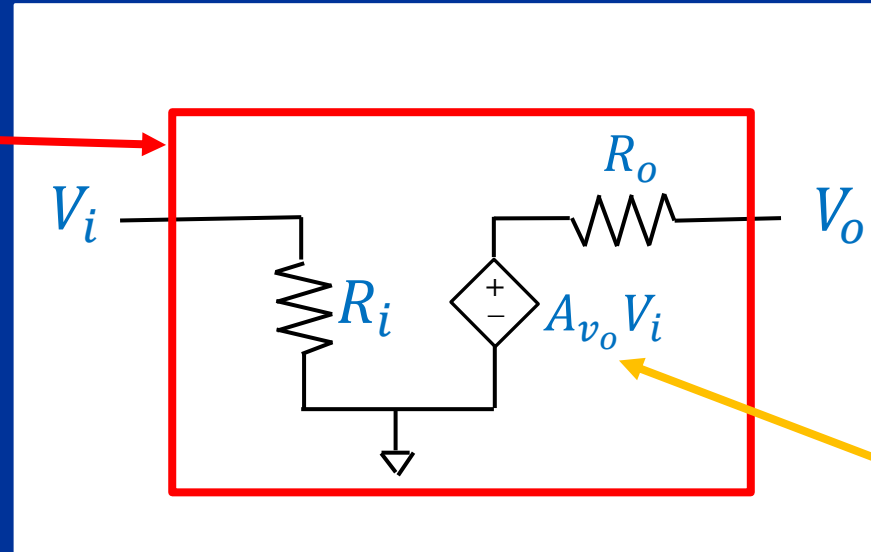
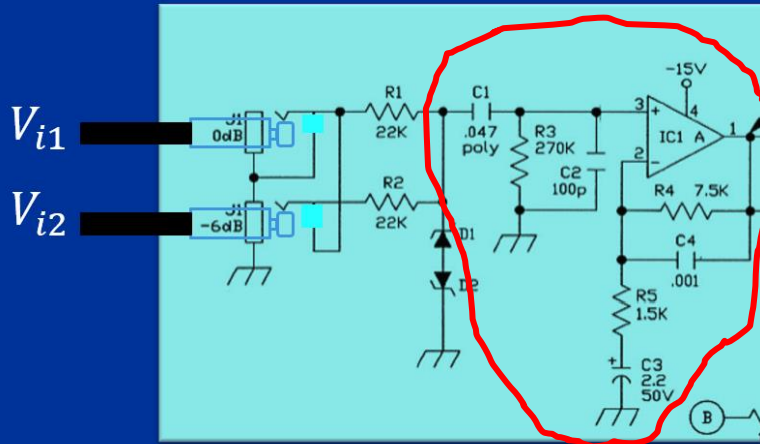
NOTE

- Classic, dual-supply devices shown
- Better performance devices exist today

Amplifier Gain Stage



Gain Stage Equivalent Circuit



Simplified equivalent circuit at "midband", based on Thevenin's theorem

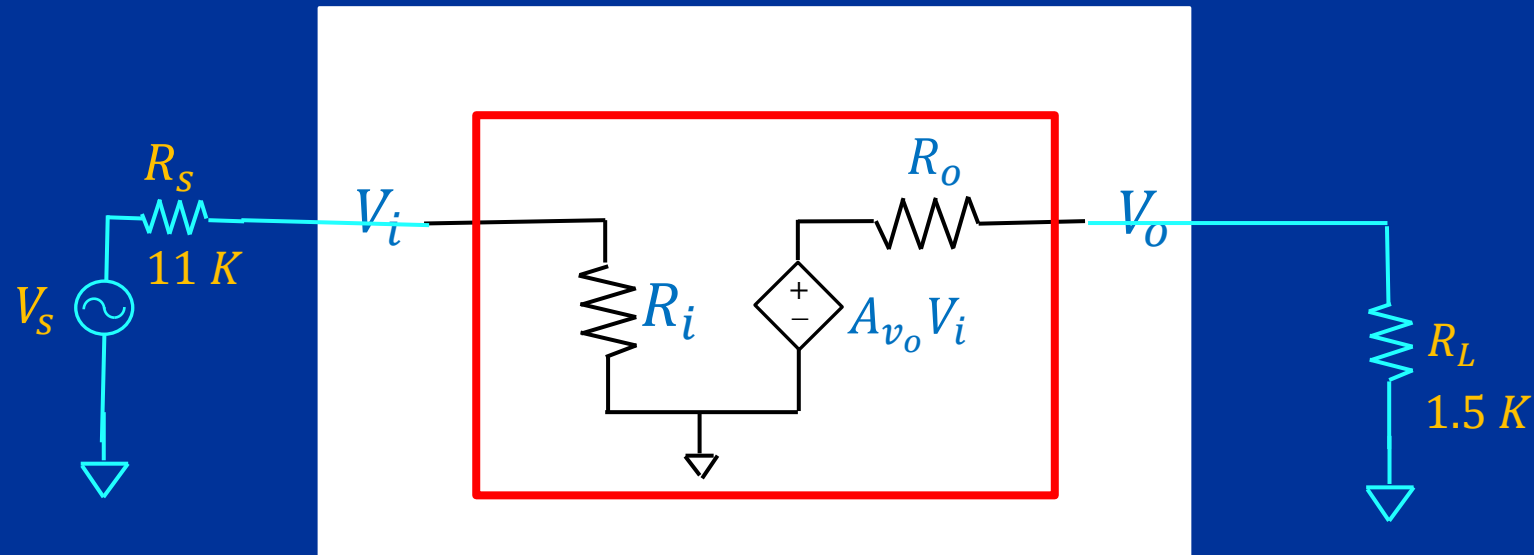
$$R_i = 270K$$

$$R_o \cong 0$$

$$A_{v_o} = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \left(1 + \frac{R_4}{R_5}\right) = 6$$

- In general, R_i , R_o , and A_{v_o} depend on amplifier device, circuit configuration, and biasing
- Should use Z_i , Z_o , and complex $A_{v_o}(f)$, but this simplified treatment is sufficient at midband
- **We typically want R_i large, and R_o small. Why ?**

Calculating Loaded Voltage Gain



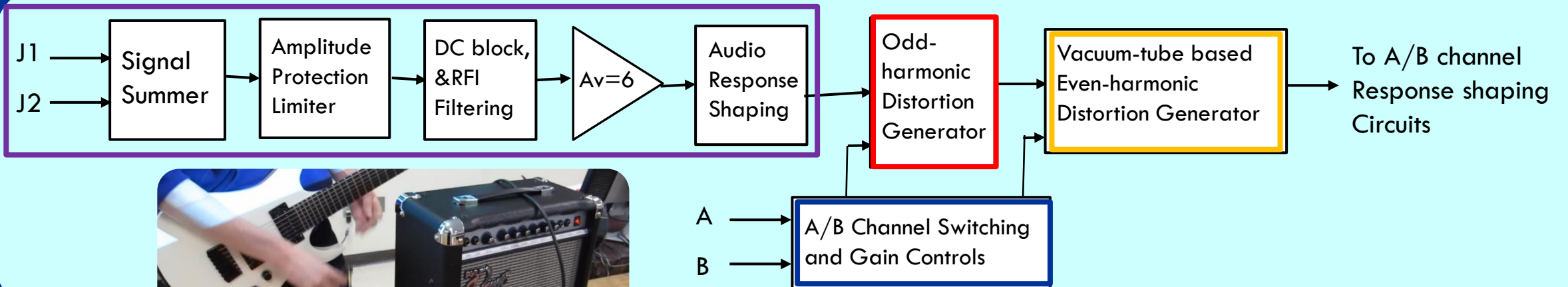
$$R_i = 270\text{ K} \quad A_{v_o} = 6 \quad R_o \cong 0$$

$$A_{v_{loaded}} = \frac{V_o}{V_s} = \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + R_s} \right) (A_{v_o}) \left(\frac{R_L}{R_L + R_o} \right) = (0.96)(6)(1) = 5.77 \approx 6$$

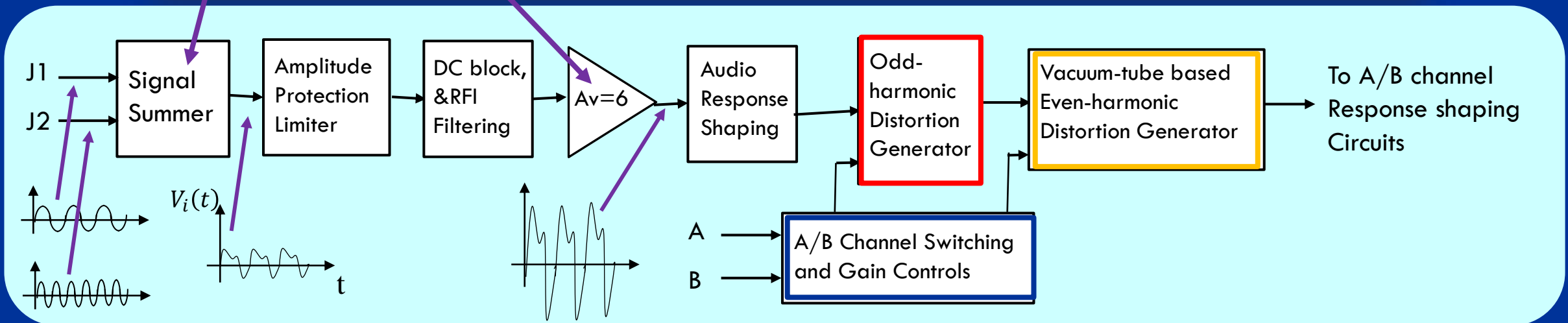
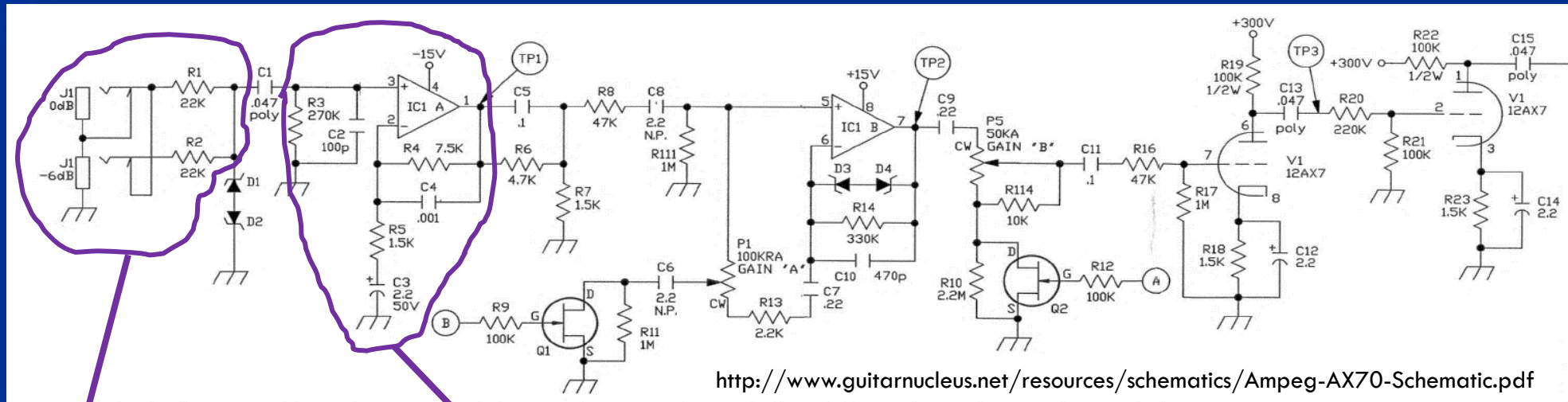
Topics in ECE #4A

Understanding Circuits

(Part 2 – Schematics to Block Diagrams)



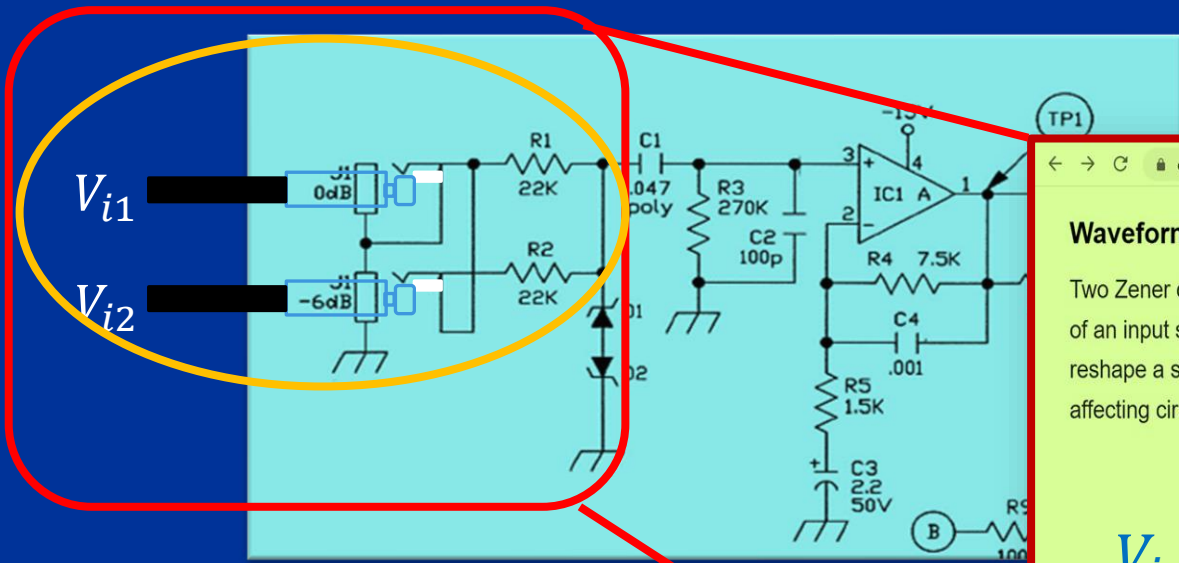
Circuits Covered in Part 1



Circuits to be Covered Today

- Zener Diode input over-voltage protection
- AC Coupling (DC Blocking) Capacitors
- Frequency dependent V-dividers – the Math
- Highpass and Lowpass corner frequencies
- JFET analog switches
- Opamp-based clipping amp for distortion
- Vacuum Tube amplifiers

Zener Diode Clipping/Protection Circuit



Thevenin source model

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zener_diode

Waveform clipper [edit]

Two Zener diodes facing each other in series clip both halves of an input signal. Waveform clippers can be used not only to reshape a signal, but also to prevent voltage spikes from affecting circuits that are connected to the power supply.^[10]

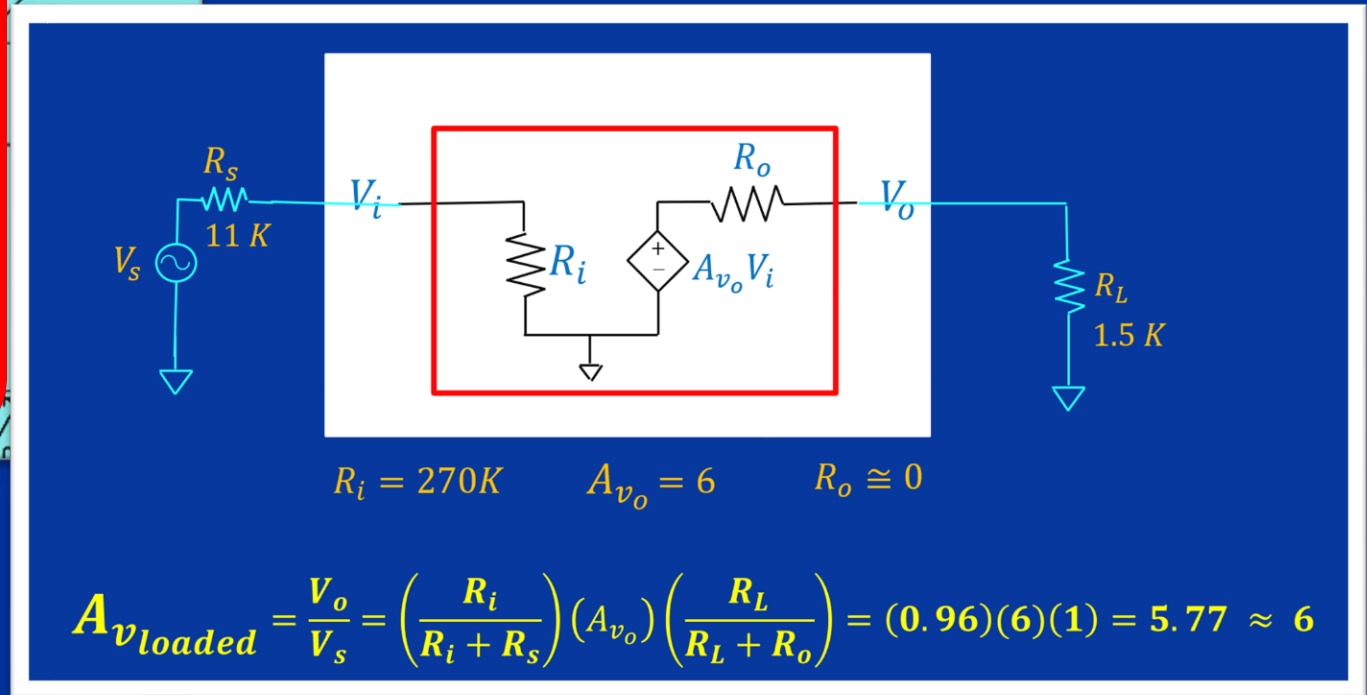
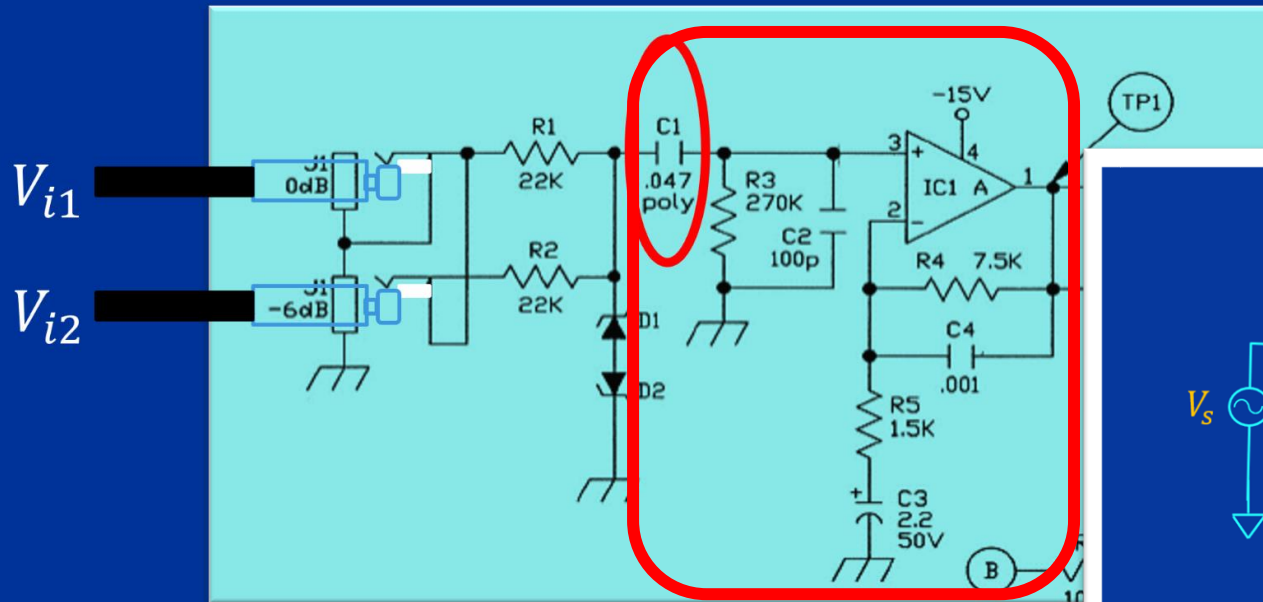
$$V_{in} \cong \frac{1}{2} V_{i1} + \frac{1}{2} V_{i2}$$

$$R_s \cong 11K$$

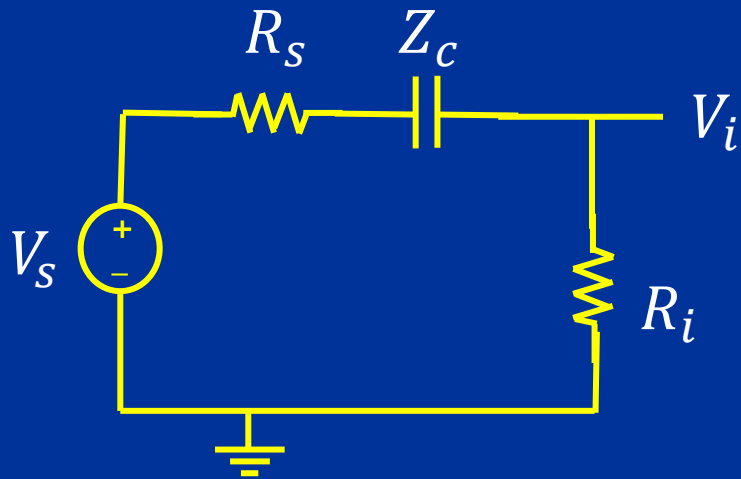
Examples of a waveform clipper (V_{in} polarity is irrelevant)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zener_diode
With edits/additions in blue

Amplifier Model at “Midband” (from Part 1)



AC Coupling - The “Complex” Math



Full Coupling
(at high frequency)

$$V_i = V_s \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + R_s} \right)$$

No Coupling
(at DC)

$$V_i = V_s \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + (-j\infty) + R_s} \right) = 0$$

“OK” Coupling

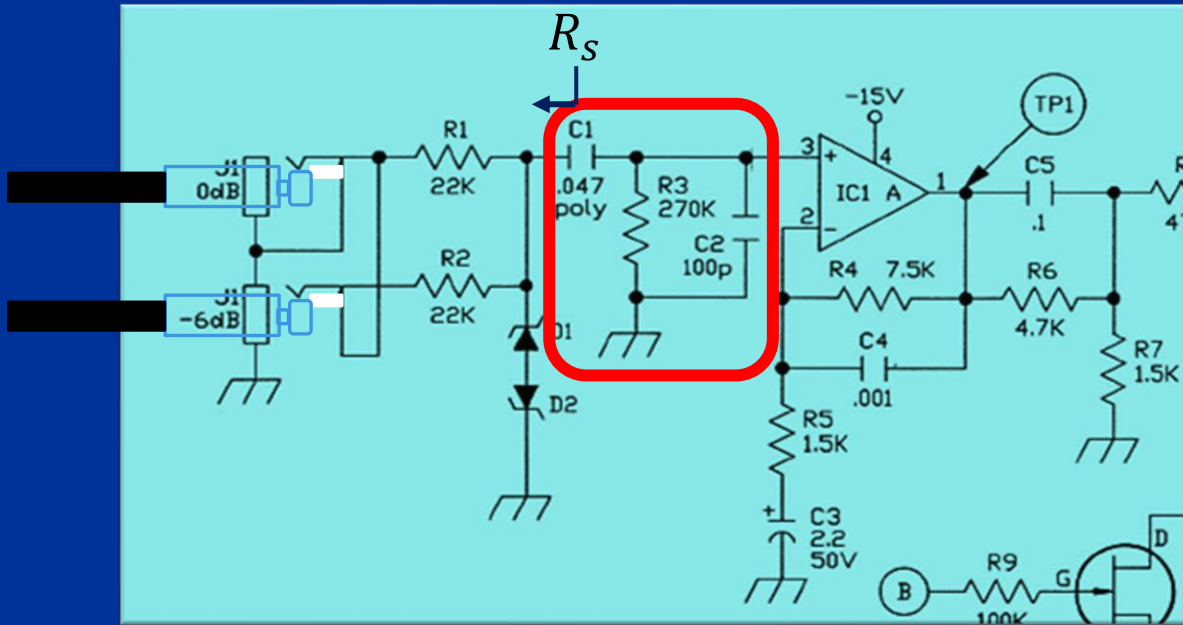
(at “corner frequency” f_c
where $X_c = R_i + R_s$)

$$\begin{aligned} V_i &= V_s \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + (-jX_c) + R_s} \right) \\ &= V_s \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + R_s} \right) \left(\frac{1}{(1 - j)} \right) \\ &= V_s \left(\frac{R_i}{R_i + R_s} \right) (0.7071 \angle 45^\circ) \end{aligned}$$

$$Z_c = -jX_c$$

$$X_c = \frac{1}{2\pi f C}$$

More Input Protection



Recall

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f C}$$

Corner frequencies occur when $X_C = R$

C1 blocks any DC input “offsets” so that amplifier IC1 does not saturate, while “coupling” audio into amplifier

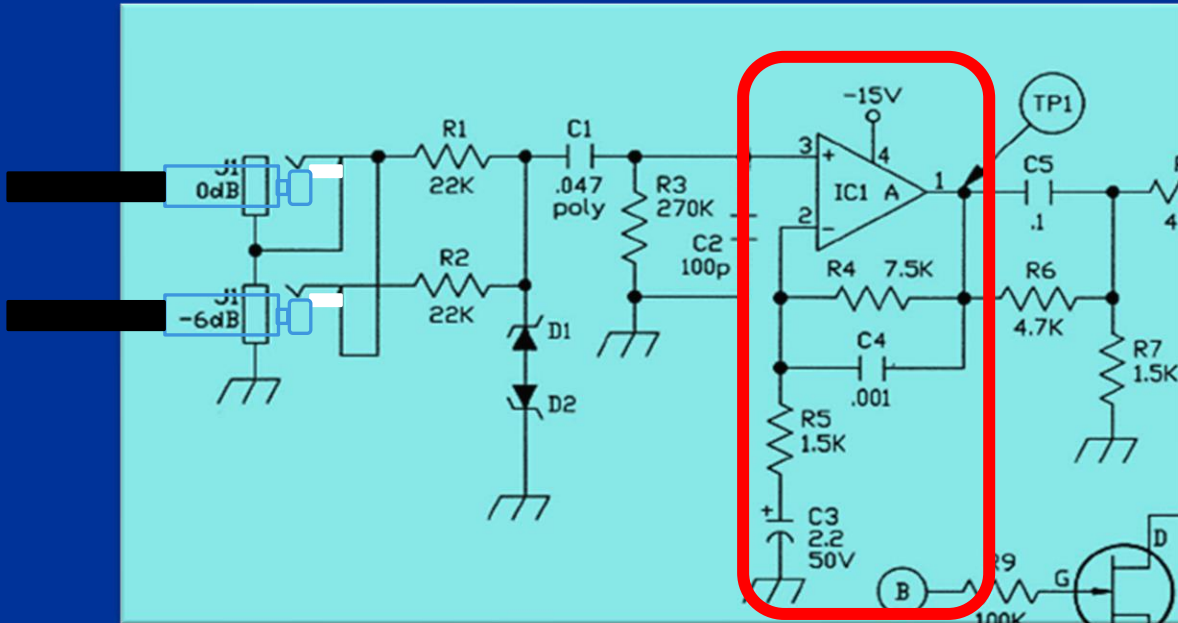
“High-pass” corner frequency is

$$f_H \cong \frac{1}{2\pi(R_S + R_3)C_1} = 12 \text{ Hz}$$

C2 “shorts” radio frequency interference to ground, so it doesn’t disturb amplifier IC1. R_S, C_2 forms a frequency-dependent voltage divider. Here

low-pass corner is $f_L \cong \frac{1}{2\pi R_S C_2} = 150 \text{ kHz}$

Gain Stage (amplifier)



At “Midband” (audio frequencies here), C3 connects R5 to ground, and C4 is nearly an open circuit 😊

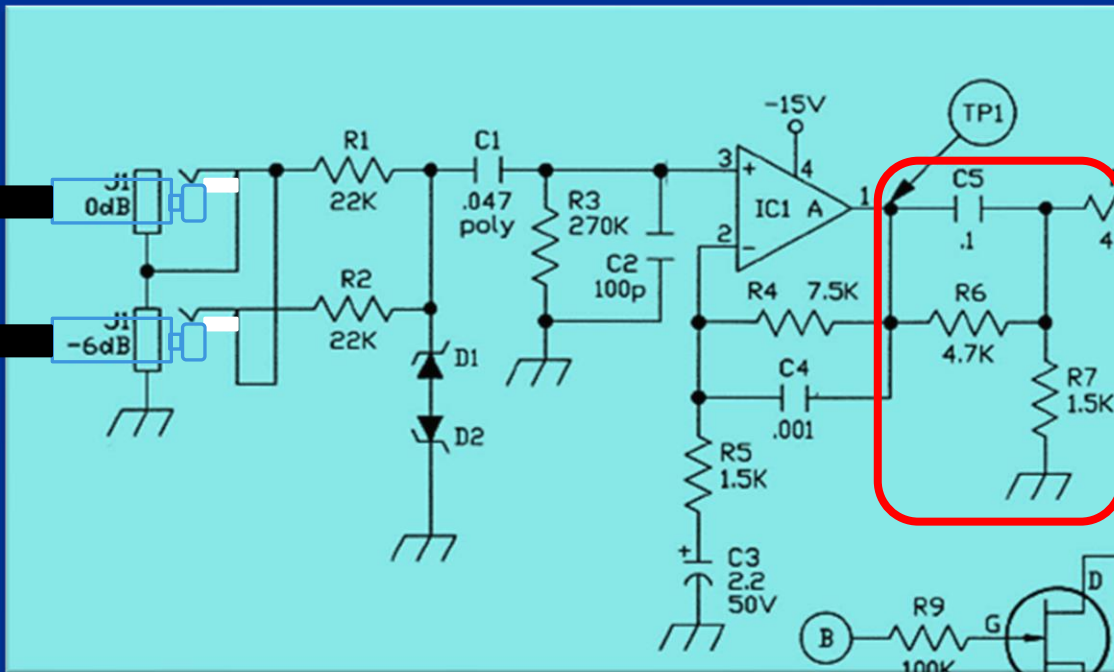
So circuit reduces to a simple amplifier with gain of

$$A_v = \frac{R_4 + R_5}{R_5} = \frac{9K}{1.5K} = 6 \text{ V/V}$$

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f C}$$

- C4 reduces gain at high frequencies (above 20 kHz).
- C3 reduces gain at low frequencies (below 50 Hz).

Frequency-Response Shaping

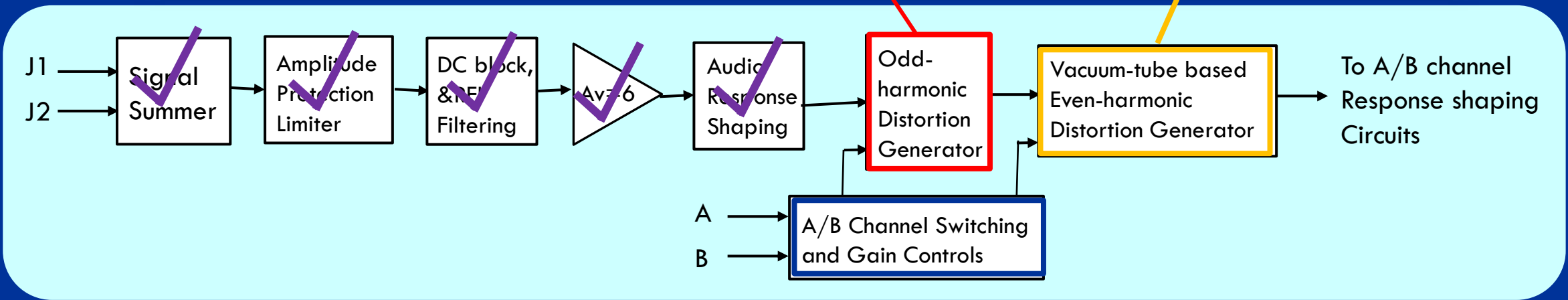
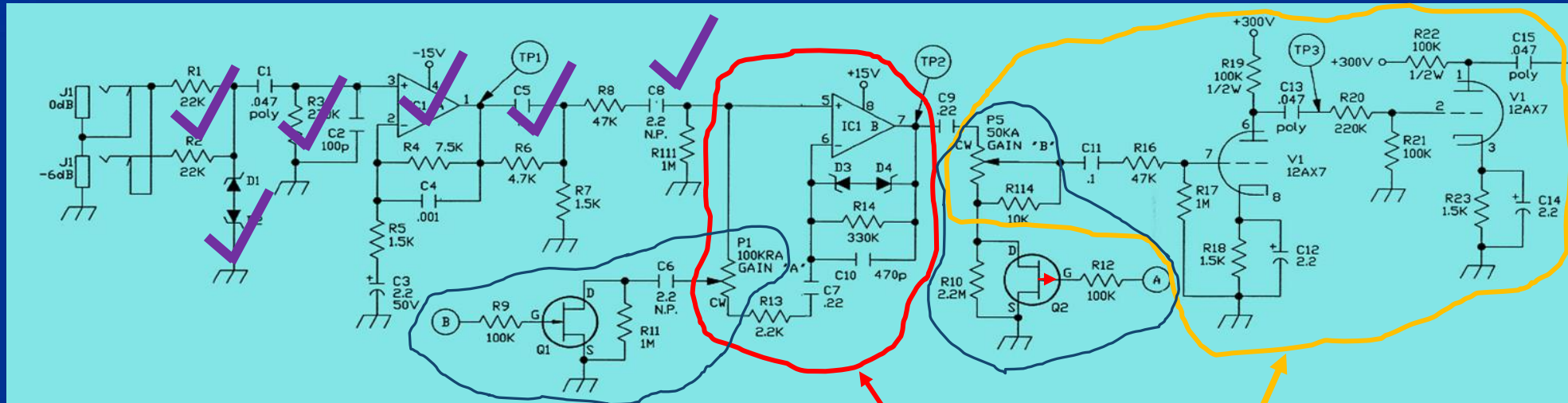


- R6, C5, R7 create a frequency-dependent voltage divider
- At low-frequency ($\ll 340$ Hz), $X_{C5} \gg R6$, so division is approx $R7/(R7+R6) = 0.24$
- At high-frequency ($\gg 1$ kHz), $X_{C5} \ll R7$, so not much voltage division. C5 just couples signal to next stage
- Response is 12 dB **bass-cut, treble-boost**


NOTES :

- Voltage division values shown are approximate. Complex math is needed for detailed analysis.
- Loading of next stage should always be considered ! (Here, it is > 1 M Ohm – so we're OK)

Gain and Distortion Generators



An Interesting YouTube Video ...



Blind Test #3:
*Distortion

Tube, Solid State, or Software? - Amp Blind Test Challenge!!

Darrell Brau...
822K subscribers


Subscribe

2.9K

Share

184K views 6 years ago

Can you hear the difference between a tube amp, solid-state amp, and amp modeling software? Take the challenge and find out!
If you enjoyed this video, be sure to like and subscribe :) [Show more](#)



Amp 2

Tube, Solid State, or Software? - Amp Blind Test Challenge!!

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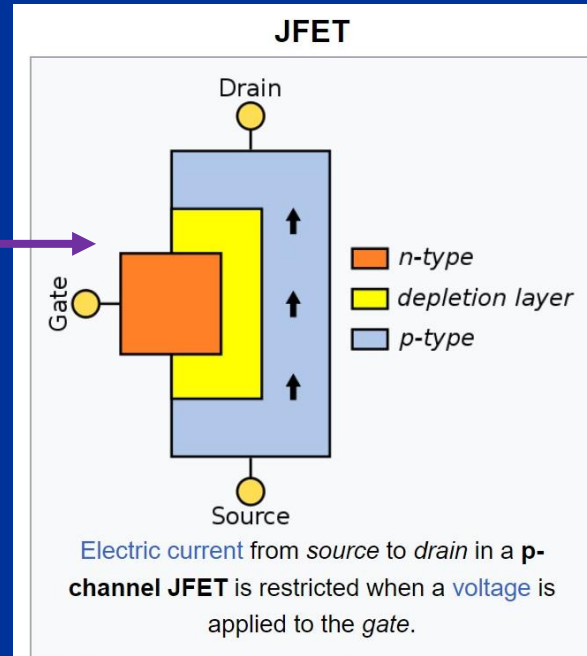
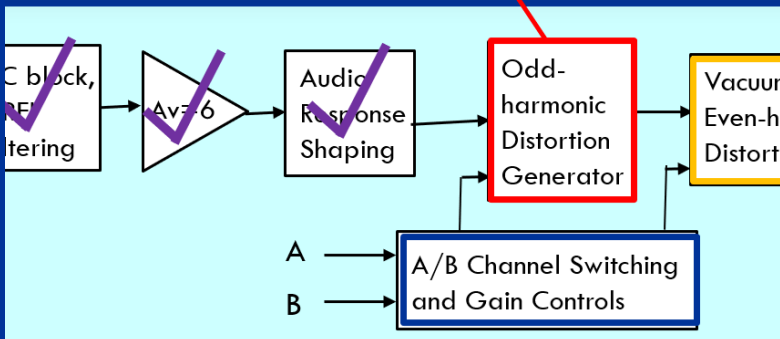
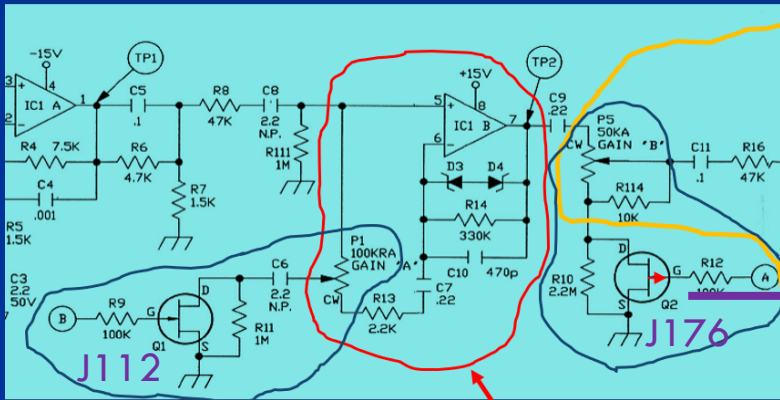
184K views 6 years ago

Can you hear the difference between a tube amp, solid-state amp, and amp modeling software? Take the challenge and find out!
If you enjoyed this video, be sure to like and subscribe :) [Show more](#)

Darrell Braun Guitar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRvRZNg8L0w>

See also: <https://producerhive.com/ask-the-hive/odd-vs-even-harmonic-distortion/>

JFET Analog Switches



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JFET>

J111, J112

JFET Chopper Transistors N-Channel — Depletion

Features

- Pb-Free Packages are Available*

MAXIMUM RATINGS

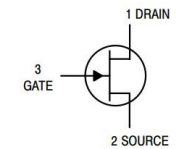
Rating	Symbol	Value	Unit
Drain-Source Voltage	V_{DS}	-35	Vdc
Gate-Source Voltage	V_{GS}	-35	Vdc
Gate Current	I_G	50	mAdc
Total Device Dissipation @ $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ Derate above = 25°C	P_D	350 2.8	mW mW/ $^\circ\text{C}$
Lead Temperature	T_L	300	$^\circ\text{C}$
Operating and Storage Junction Temperature Range	T_J, T_{stg}	-65 to +150	$^\circ\text{C}$

Maximum ratings are those values beyond which device damage can occur. Maximum ratings applied to the device are individual stress limit values (not normal operating conditions) and are not valid simultaneously. If these limits are exceeded, device functional operation is not implied, damage may occur and reliability may be affected.



ON Semiconductor®

<http://onsemi.com>



TO-92
CASE 29-11
STYLE 5

J111, J112

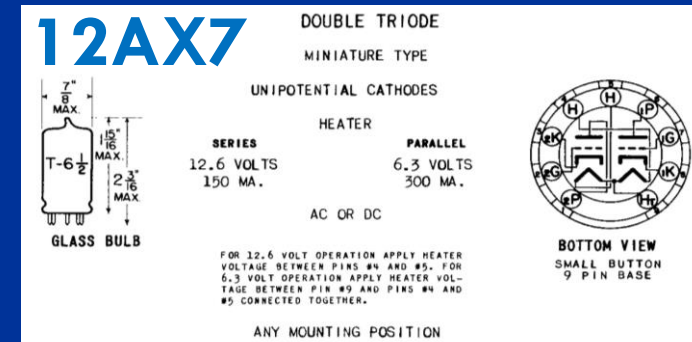
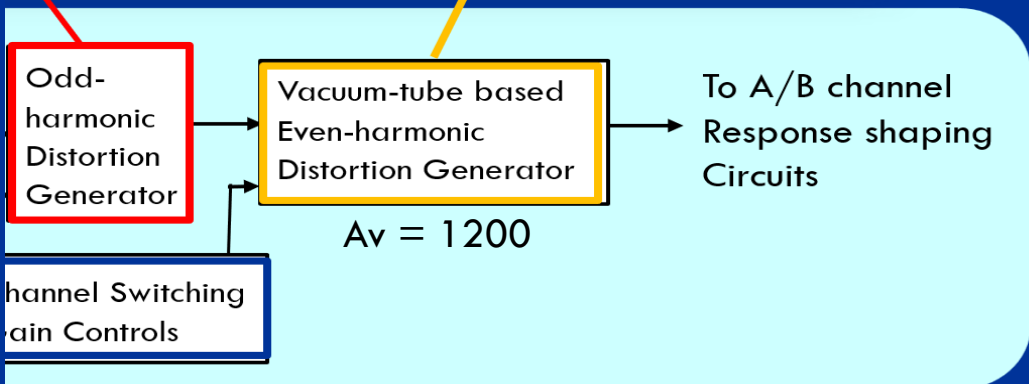
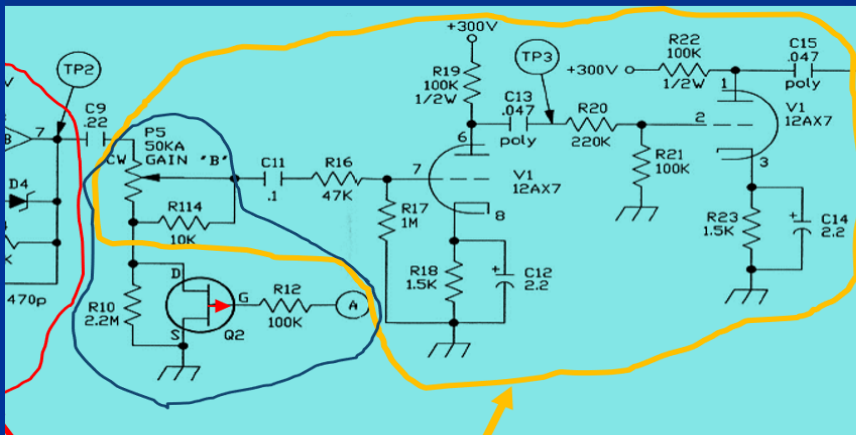
ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS ($T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Max	Unit	
OFF CHARACTERISTICS					
Gate Source Cutoff Voltage ($V_{DS} = 5.0\text{ Vdc}, I_D = 1.0\ \mu\text{Adc}$)	J111 J112	$V_{GS(off)}$	-3.0 -1.0	-10 -5.0	Vdc
Drain-Cutoff Current ($V_{DS} = 5.0\text{ Vdc}, V_{GS} = -10\text{ Vdc}$)		$I_{D(off)}$	-	1.0	nAdc
ON CHARACTERISTICS					
Static Drain-Source On Resistance ($V_{DS} = 0.1\text{ Vdc}$)	J111 J112	$r_{DS(on)}$	- -	30 50	Ω
Drain Gate and Source Gate On-Capacitance ($V_{DS} = V_{GS} = 0, f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$)		$C_{dg(on)}$ $C_{sg(on)}$	-	28	pF

<https://www.farnell.com/datasheets/3360937.pdf>

Tube Amplifier Subcircuit

DANGER ! HIGH-VOLTAGE !



MAXIMUM PLATE DISSIPATION 1 WATT

TYPICAL OPERATING CONDITIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

CLASS A₁ AMPLIFIER - EACH TRIODE UNIT

HEATER VOLTAGE	12.6	6.3	12.6	6.3	VOLTS
HEATER CURRENT	150	300	150	300	MA.
PLATE VOLTAGE	100		250		VOLTS
GRID VOLTAGE	-1		-2		VOLTS
PLATE CURRENT	0.5		1.2		MA.
PLATE RESISTANCE	80 000		62 500		OHMS
TRANSCONDUCTANCE	1 250		1 600		μMHOS
AMPLIFICATION FACTOR	100		100		

SIMILAR TYPE REFERENCE: Characteristics somewhat similar to types 6SL7GT and 12AU6GT.

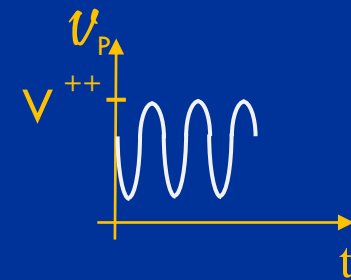
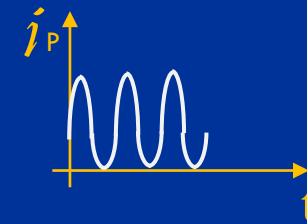
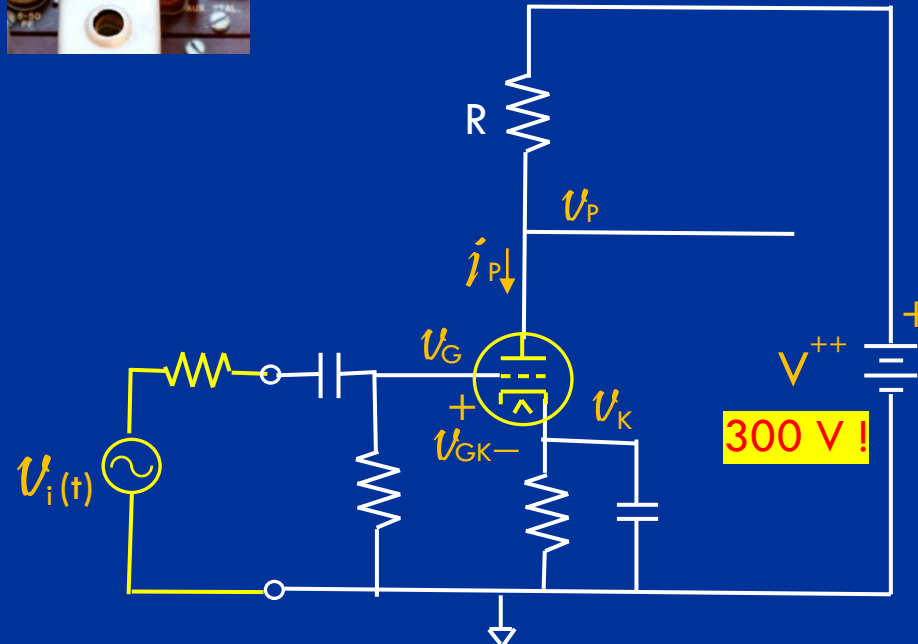
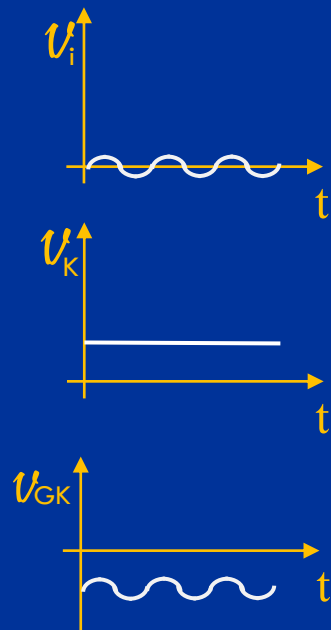
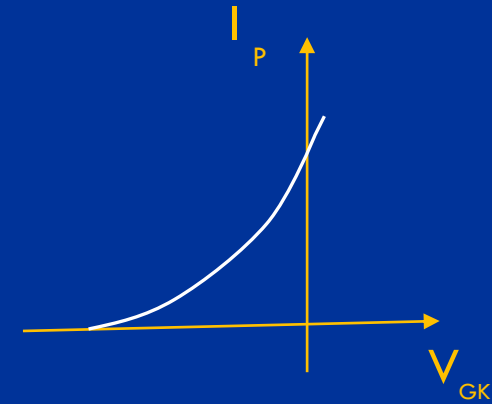
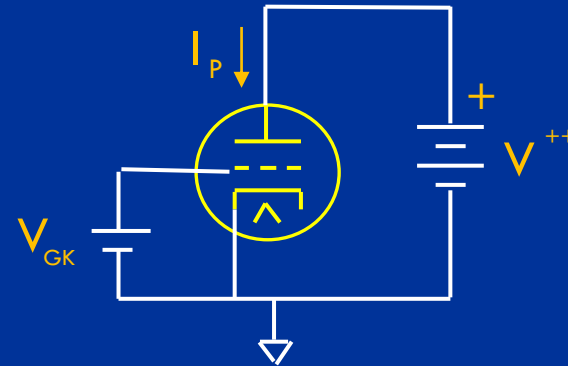
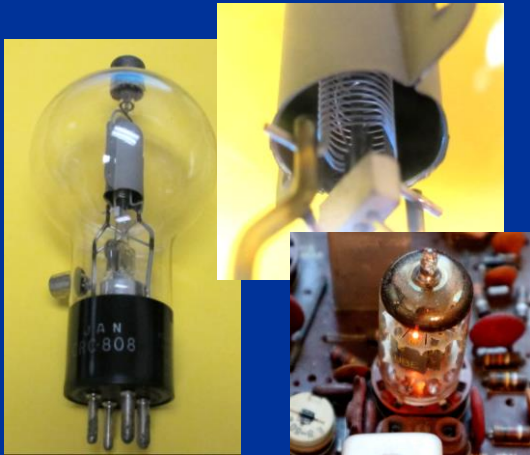
COPYRIGHT 1947 BY TUNG-SOL LAMP WORKS INC. ELECTRONIC TUBE DIVISION NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, U. S. A.

$$A_v = -g_m R = -(1600 \times 10^{-6})(62,500) = -100$$

About -60 when 100 K plate resistor included ...

Producing Even-Order Distortion

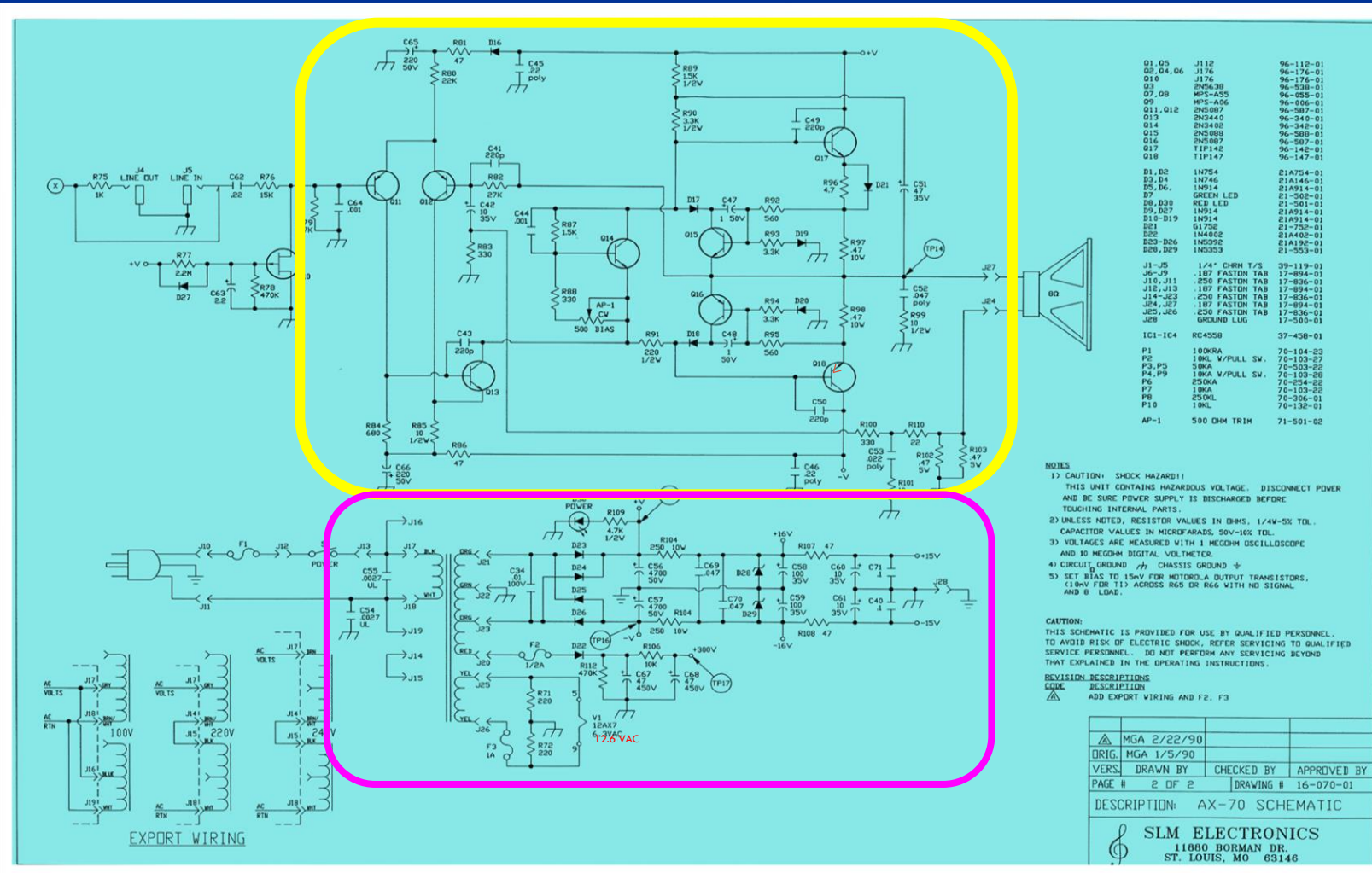
Vacuum Tubes
(or "Valves")



More Circuits to Learn !

Power Amplifier

(Giant, Discrete, High Power "Opamp" circuit)



Power Supply Circuits

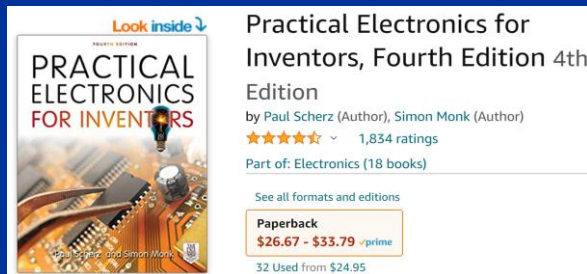
<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources/schematics/Ampeg-AX70-Schematic.pdf>

Different Ways to Learn

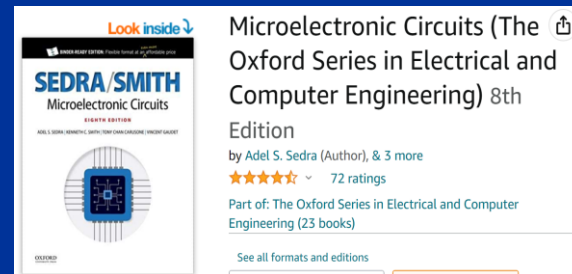
Videos and Websites

- This Video / Playlist / Channel 😊
- Other Videos
- ECEfiles.org
- Other Websites

Books



<https://www.amazon.com/Practical-Electronics-Inventors-Fourth-Scherz-dp-1259587541/dp/1259587541/>



<https://www.amazon.com/Microelectronic-Circuits-Electrical-Computer-Engineering/dp/0190853549/>

University Courses

Freshman year

Fall semester (16 credit hours)

- CHM 210 - Chemistry I Credits: (4)
- COMM 105 - Public Speaking IA Credits: (2)
- ECE 015 - New Student Assembly Credits: (0)
- ECE 210 - Introduction to Electrical Engineering Credits: (3)
- ENGL 100 - Expository Writing I Credits: (3)
- MATH 220 - Analytic Geometry and Calculus I Credits: (4)

Spring semester (17 credit hours)

- BIOL 198 - Principles of Biology Credits: (4)
or
- CHM 230 - Chemistry II Credits: (4)
- ECE 115 - New Student Design Project Credits: (1)
- ECON 110 - Principles of Macroeconomics Credits: (3)
- MATH 221 - Analytic Geometry and Calculus II Credits: (4)
- PHYS 213 - Engineering Physics I Credits: (5)

Sophomore year

Fall semester (17 credit hours)

- CHE 354 - Basic Concepts in Materials Science and Engineering Credits: (1)
- CHE 356 - Fundamentals of Electrical Properties Credits: (1)
- ECE 241 - Introduction to Computer Engineering Credits: (3)
- ECE 410 - Circuit Theory I Credits: (3)
- MATH 240 - Elementary Differential Equations Credits: (4)
- PHYS 214 - Engineering Physics II Credits: (5)

Spring semester (16 credit hours)

- CIS 209 - C Programming for Engineers Credits: (3)
- ECE 511 - Circuit Theory II Credits: (3)
- ECE 525 - Electronics I Credits: (3)
- MATH 222 - Analytic Geometry and Calculus III Credits: (4)
- STAT 510 - Introductory Probability and Statistics I Credits: (3)

Junior year

Fall semester (16 credit hours)

- **Humanities/Social Science Elective Credits: (3)
- ECE 431 - Microcontrollers Credits: (3)
- ECE 526 - Electronics II Credits: (3)
- ECE 540 - Applied Scientific Computing for Engineers Credits: (3)
- ECE 557 - Electromagnetic Theory I Credits: (4)

Spring semester (17 credit hours)

- **Humanities/Social Science Elective Credits: (3)
- ECE Technical Electives Credits: (3)
- ECE 502 - Electronics Laboratory Credits: (2)
- ECE 512 - Linear Systems Credits: (3)
- ECE 581 - Energy Conversion I Credits: (3)
- ENGL 415 - Written Communication for Engineers Credits: (3)

Senior year

Fall semester (15 credit hours)

- ***Technical electives Credits: (6)
- CE 530 - Statics and Dynamics Credits: (3)
- ECE 530 - Control Systems Design Credits: (3)
- ECE 590 - Senior Design Experience Credits: (3)

Spring semester (15 credit hours)

- ***Technical electives Credits: (9)
- **Humanities/Social Science Elective Credits: (3)
- ME 513 - Thermodynamics I Credits: (3)

Electrical engineering options

General option

Possible Future Videos

- More Opamp circuits
- Real-world opamp limitations (gain-bandwidth product, bias current, output voltage swing, output current limits...)
- Frequency response, complex impedances, and Fourier analysis
- Power amps (including class AB linear, and class D switching designs)
- Modern power supplies (including linear regulators and switch-mode supplies)
- More “big circuit” walkthroughs 😊 ...

THANKS FOR WATCHING !