

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION . . . . .	vii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS . . . . .	viii
PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION . . . . .	ix
CHAPTER 1	
PHYSICAL CONCEPTS . . . . .	1
Excitation, Ionization, and Radiation . . . . .	1
Excitation and Ionization Potentials . . . . .	3
Types of Ionization . . . . .	4
Ionization by Collision . . . . .	4
Photoionization . . . . .	5
Space Charge and Space Current . . . . .	6
Deionization . . . . .	6
Emission of Electrons and Other Ions from Solids . . . . .	9
Electron Dynamics . . . . .	11
Motion of Electrons in Electric Fields . . . . .	11
Motion of Electrons in Magnetic Fields . . . . .	15
Problems . . . . .	17
CHAPTER 2	
THERMIONIC EMISSION: THE HIGH-VACUUM THERMIONIC DIODE . . . . .	19
Theory of Thermionic Emission . . . . .	19
Richardson's Equation . . . . .	21
Tungsten and Thoriated Tungsten Emitters . . . . .	23
Oxide-coated Emitters . . . . .	26
Cesiated Tungsten Emitters . . . . .	28
Mechanical Structure of Cathodes . . . . .	29
Effects of Gas upon Emission and Space Currents . . . . .	30
Limitation of Anode Current by Space Charge . . . . .	32
Child's Law . . . . .	33
Deviations from Child's Law Observed in Practical Diodes . . . . .	35
Classification of Tubes . . . . .	37
Structure of Typical Glass and Metal Tubes . . . . .	41
Bibliography . . . . .	42
CHAPTER 3	
GRID-CONTROLLED HIGH-VACUUM TUBES . . . . .	43
Theory of Grid Action in Triodes . . . . .	44
Functional Equations for Plate and Grid Currents . . . . .	45
Time of Transit of Electrons . . . . .	47
Static and Dynamic Characteristics . . . . .	47
Tube Factors . . . . .	50

	PAGE
Relation of Tube Factors to Characteristic Curves . . . . .	54
Sharp-cutoff and Remote-cutoff Grids. Variable-mu Tubes . . . . .	55
The Screen-grid Tetrode . . . . .	56
The Space-charge Tetrode . . . . .	58
The Suppressor Pentode . . . . .	59
The Beam Pentode . . . . .	63
Applied Voltages in Grid and Plate Circuits . . . . .	66
Form of Alternating Plate-current Wave . . . . .	66
Symbols for Electrode Voltages and Currents . . . . .	68
Current and Voltage Relations in the Grid and Plate Circuits . . . . .	71
Static and Dynamic Operating Points . . . . .	72
Series Expansion for Alternating Plate Current . . . . .	74
Harmonic Generation and Intermodulation . . . . .	77
Relation of Series Coefficients to Dynamic Tube Characteristics . . . . .	81
Dynamic Plate Resistance . . . . .	84
Problems . . . . .	85

#### CHAPTER 4

<b>METHODS OF ANALYSIS OF VACUUM TUBES AND VACUUM-TUBE CIRCUITS . . . . .</b>	<b>87</b>
The Equivalent Plate Circuit . . . . .	87
Construction of Equivalent Plate Circuits . . . . .	89
Equivalent Circuits for Electrodes Other than the Plate . . . . .	92
Tube Capacitances and Admittances . . . . .	93
Static Load Line . . . . .	97
Dynamic Path of Operation. Dynamic Load Line . . . . .	99
The Plate Diagram . . . . .	100
Plate Diagram for a Load Having Equal A-c and D-c Resistances . . . . .	102
Simplified Plate Diagram for a Load Having Unequal A-c and D-c Resistances . . . . .	102
Exact Plate Diagram for Loads Having Unequal A-c and D-c Resistances . . . . .	103
Graphical Analysis of Plate Current . . . . .	106
Formulas for Graphical Analysis . . . . .	107
Percentage Harmonic and Distortion Factor . . . . .	115
Construction of the Plate Diagram . . . . .	115
Graphical Determination of Power Output . . . . .	117
Dynamic Grid Characteristics . . . . .	118
Starting and Stopping Transients . . . . .	119
Problems . . . . .	121
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	123

#### CHAPTER 5

<b>AMPLIFIER DEFINITIONS, CLASSIFICATIONS AND CIRCUITS . . . . .</b>	<b>124</b>
Amplifier Distortion . . . . .	124
Amplifier Classification . . . . .	127
Amplifier Circuits . . . . .	128
Use of Cathode Resistors to Provide Bias . . . . .	131
Push-pull Amplifiers . . . . .	133
Frequency Range of Amplifiers . . . . .	138
Class A, Class AB, Class B, and Class C Amplifiers . . . . .	139
The Decibel . . . . .	141

## CHAPTER 6

	PAGE
<b>ANALYSIS AND DESIGN OF VOLTAGE AND CURRENT AMPLIFIERS . . . . .</b>	<b>144</b>
Voltage Amplification of Tube with Impedance Load . . . . .	144
Voltage Amplification of Direct-coupled Amplifiers . . . . .	147
Impedance-capacitance-coupled Voltage Amplifier . . . . .	147
Resistance-capacitance-coupled Amplifier . . . . .	149
Effect of Circuit Constants upon Resistance-capacitance-coupled Amplifier Response . . . . .	155
Practical Considerations in the Design of Resistance-capacitance-coupled Audio Amplifiers . . . . .	156
Design Procedure for Resistance-capacitance-coupled Voltage Amplifiers . . . . .	158
Effect of Plate Supply Filter and of Self-biasing Impedance . . . . .	161
Compensated Amplifiers . . . . .	162
The Cathode-follower Amplifiers . . . . .	164
Filter-type Wide-band Amplifiers . . . . .	174
Transformer-coupled Audio Amplifier . . . . .	174
Control of Amplification of Audio-frequency Amplifiers . . . . .	185
Volume Compression and Expansion . . . . .	186
Tone Control . . . . .	187
Tuned Radio-frequency Amplifiers . . . . .	188
Distortion in Radio-frequency Amplifiers . . . . .	193
Current Amplification . . . . .	194
Limit of Amplification . . . . .	196
Theory of Inverse Feedback Amplifiers . . . . .	197
Inverse Feedback Circuits . . . . .	204
Use of Inverse Feedback to Obtain High Selectivity . . . . .	208
Use of By-pass Condensers . . . . .	209
Use of Vacuum Tubes as Variable-impedance Elements . . . . .	211
Problems . . . . .	216
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	219

## CHAPTER 7

<b>CLASS A AND CLASS AB1 POWER AMPLIFIERS . . . . .</b>	<b>222</b>
Methods of Analysis of Power Amplifiers . . . . .	222
Power Relations in Vacuum-tube Plate Circuits . . . . .	223
Plate-circuit Efficiency . . . . .	224
Power Output . . . . .	225
Optimum Power Output . . . . .	226
Class A Power Amplifiers . . . . .	226
Triode Class A1 Power Amplifiers . . . . .	227
Theoretical Value of Triode Optimum Load and Power . . . . .	228
Optimum Power Output in Terms of Operating Plate Voltage . . . . .	233
Theoretical Plate-circuit Efficiency . . . . .	233
Limitation of Power Output by Plate Dissipation . . . . .	234
Determination of Power-triode Operating Conditions and Performance . . . . .	235
Class A Tetrode and Pentode Power Amplifiers . . . . .	238
Turn Ratio of Output Transformer . . . . .	244
Analysis of Push-pull Power Amplifiers . . . . .	246
Class A1 and Class AB1 Push-pull Triode Amplifier . . . . .	252
Push-pull Pentode Power Amplifiers . . . . .	256

	PAGE
Turn Ratio of Output Transformer. Plate-to-plate Load . . . . .	257
Problems. . . . .	258
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	259

## CHAPTER 8

CLASS B AND CLASS AB2 AMPLIFIERS . . . . .	261
Class B Audio-frequency Amplifiers. . . . .	261
Class B Characteristics . . . . .	263
Harmonic Content of Class B Amplifiers. . . . .	265
Power Output of Class B Amplifiers. . . . .	266
Power Input, Plate Dissipation, and Plate-circuit Efficiency . . . . .	267
Use of Hyperbolas in the Determination of Power and Efficiency . . . . .	268
Determination of Optimum Load . . . . .	269
Problems of Class B Amplification . . . . .	273
Class AB2 Operation . . . . .	279
Inverse-feedback Class B and Class AB Amplifiers . . . . .	280
Class C Amplification . . . . .	280
Problems. . . . .	281
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	281

## CHAPTER 9

MODULATION AND DETECTION . . . . .	283
Modulation. . . . .	283
Amplitude Modulation. . . . .	284
Side Frequencies in Amplitude Modulation. . . . .	286
Amplitude Modulation by Curvature of Tube Characteristics. . . . .	287
Balanced Modulator. . . . .	291
Amplitude Modulation by Complete Rectification. . . . .	292
Linear Plate and Grid Modulation. . . . .	296
Graphical Modulation Analysis. . . . .	298
Secrecy Systems (Speech Scramblers) . . . . .	299
Detection of A-m Waves. . . . .	300
Detection by Curvature of Current-voltage Characteristic . . . . .	301
Analysis of Square-law Detection . . . . .	302
Frequency Converters. . . . .	305
Detection by Complete Rectification. . . . .	306
Analysis of Ideal Linear Diode Detection. . . . .	309
Detection Efficiency and Effective Input Resistance of the Ideal Linear Diode Detector. . . . .	312
Linear Diode Detection of the Sum of Two Voltages of Different Frequencies	314
Effect of Curvature of Diode Characteristic . . . . .	317
Design of Practical Diode Detectors. . . . .	317
Linear Plate Detection (Linear Transrectification). . . . .	320
Linear Grid Detection. . . . .	320
Graphical Detection Analysis. . . . .	322
Series Expansion and Equivalent Circuit for Detection. . . . .	323
Radio Communication by Means of A-m Waves . . . . .	325
Automatic Gain (Volume) Control (A.V.C.) . . . . .	326
Frequency Modulation. . . . .	327
Phase Modulation. . . . .	331

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
F-m Circuits . . . . .	331
Detection of F-m Voltage . . . . .	333
Interference Suppression . . . . .	336
Interference-to-signal Ratio in A-m Systems . . . . .	337
Interference-to-signal Ratio in F-m Systems . . . . .	338
Use of Preemphasis . . . . .	340
Static Interference . . . . .	341
Interference Caused by Carrier or Static of High Amplitude . . . . .	343
Advantages and Disadvantages of Frequency Modulation in Radio Communication . . . . .	343
Problems . . . . .	345
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	346

## CHAPTER 10

TRIGGER CIRCUITS, PULSE GENERATORS, AND OSCILLATORS . . . . .	349
Trigger Circuits . . . . .	349
Applications of Trigger Circuits . . . . .	356
Circuits for Generating Triggering Pulses . . . . .	357
Rectangular-wave and Rectangular-pulse Generators . . . . .	359
Vacuum-tube Oscillators . . . . .	360
Relaxation Oscillators . . . . .	361
The Multivibrator . . . . .	362
Van der Pol Relaxation Oscillator . . . . .	365
Relaxation Oscillators for the Generation of Saw-tooth Waves . . . . .	366
Use of Relaxation Oscillators in Frequency Transformation . . . . .	369
Analysis of Multivibrator Frequency Control . . . . .	371
Analysis of Sine-wave Oscillators . . . . .	372
Theory of Negative-resistance Oscillators . . . . .	373
Negative-resistance Oscillator Circuits . . . . .	380
Feedback Oscillators . . . . .	387
Generalized Feedback Oscillator Circuit . . . . .	392
Use of Self-bias to Limit Amplitude of Oscillation . . . . .	393
Resistance-capacitance-tuned Oscillators . . . . .	396
Wave Form and Frequency Stability of Feedback Oscillators . . . . .	401
Effect of Load upon Frequency. Use of Buffer Amplifier and Electron Coupling . . . . .	403
Resistance Stabilization . . . . .	405
Impedance Stabilization . . . . .	406
Crystal Oscillators . . . . .	408
Magnetostriction Oscillators . . . . .	409
Power Output of Oscillators . . . . .	411
Beat-frequency (Heterodyne) Oscillators . . . . .	412
Problems . . . . .	414
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	415

## CHAPTER 11

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTION IN GASES . . . . .	416
Current-voltage Characteristics of Glows . . . . .	416
Physical Aspects of Glow Discharge . . . . .	418
Potential Distribution in the Glow Discharge . . . . .	420
"Normal" and "Abnormal" Glow . . . . .	421

	PAGE
Theory of Glow Ignition . . . . .	422
Time Required for Ignition . . . . .	427
Paschen's Law . . . . .	427
Glow Breakdown . . . . .	429
Distinction between Ignition and Breakdown Voltage . . . . .	431
Application of the Current-voltage Diagram . . . . .	432
Dynamic Current-voltage Characteristics . . . . .	433
Grid Control of Glow Discharge . . . . .	436
Theory of Arc Discharges . . . . .	438
Arcs with Separately Heated Cathodes . . . . .	440
Grid Control of Arcs . . . . .	441
Magnetic Control of Arcs . . . . .	444
Igniter Control of Arcs . . . . .	445
Deionization . . . . .	446

## CHAPTER 12

<b>GLOW- AND ARC-DISCHARGE TUBES AND CIRCUITS . . . . .</b>	<b>448</b>
Essential Facts Concerning Glow and Arc Discharges . . . . .	448
Applications of Glow Tubes . . . . .	449
The Glow-discharge Tube as a Light Source . . . . .	449
The Glow-discharge Tube as a Voltage Stabilizer . . . . .	452
The Glow-discharge Tube as a Rectifier . . . . .	453
The Glow-tube Relaxation Oscillator . . . . .	454
The Grid-glow Tube . . . . .	458
Grid-glow-tube Circuits . . . . .	459
Starter-anode Glow Tubes . . . . .	461
Arc-discharge Tubes . . . . .	462
Advantages of Arc-discharge Tubes . . . . .	463
Tungar Rectifier . . . . .	463
Cathode Structure of Low-pressure Hot-cathode Arc Tubes . . . . .	464
Choice of Gas or Vapor . . . . .	466
Arc-tube Ratings and Definitions . . . . .	467
Grid Current Previous to Firing . . . . .	468
Electrode Structure and Characteristics of Thyratrons . . . . .	469
Comparison of Thyratrons and High-vacuum Tubes . . . . .	473
Precautions Required in the Use of Arc Tubes . . . . .	475
Applications of Hot-cathode Arc-discharge Tubes . . . . .	475
Hot-cathode Arc Tube as a Light Source . . . . .	475
Hot-cathode Arc Diode as a Rectifier . . . . .	476
Arc Tube as a Control Device. D-c Operation . . . . .	476
Parallel Control . . . . .	477
Series Control . . . . .	479
Relaxation Control . . . . .	480
Counter-e.m.f. Control . . . . .	484
Parallel Switching Circuits. High-speed Counting Circuits . . . . .	486
Thyratron Saw-tooth-wave Generator . . . . .	488
Thyratron Inverters . . . . .	491
D-c Transformer . . . . .	501
Thyratron Motors . . . . .	503
The Use of Arc Tubes as Amplifiers . . . . .	505
A-c Operation of Thyratrons. Phase Control . . . . .	505

## CONTENTS

xvii

	PAGE
Phase-control Circuits . . . . .	509
Use of Saturable Reactor in Phase-control Circuits . . . . .	515
Voltage Impulses for Grid Control . . . . .	516
Applications of A-c-operated Control Circuits . . . . .	517
Welding Control . . . . .	520
Mercury Pool Arc-discharge Tubes . . . . .	522
Comparison of Igniter and Grid Control . . . . .	523
Ignitron Structure . . . . .	525
Ignitron Circuits . . . . .	526
Externally Controlled Mercury Pool Arc Tube . . . . .	528
The Stroboton . . . . .	528
Stroboscopes . . . . .	529
Problems . . . . .	532

## CHAPTER 13

<b>LIGHT-SENSITIVE TUBES AND CELLS</b> . . . . .	<b>533</b>
Types of Photoelectric Phenomena . . . . .	533
Laws of Photoelectric Emission . . . . .	534
Definitions . . . . .	535
Current-wave-length Characteristics . . . . .	536
Types of Phototubes . . . . .	538
Characteristics of Vacuum Phototubes . . . . .	538
Phototube Sensitivity . . . . .	539
The Gas Phototube . . . . .	540
Phototube Circuits . . . . .	543
Sensitivity of Phototube and Direct-coupled Amplifier . . . . .	548
The Anode Diagram . . . . .	549
Design of Phototube Circuits . . . . .	550
Secondary-emission Multipliers . . . . .	551
Photoconductive Cells . . . . .	553
Photovoltaic Cells (Barrier-layer Cells) . . . . .	556
Problems . . . . .	560
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	561

## CHAPTER 14

<b>POWER SUPPLIES</b> . . . . .	<b>564</b>
Definitions . . . . .	564
Basic Rectifier Circuits . . . . .	565
Factors Affecting Choice of Rectifier Tubes and Circuits . . . . .	567
Characteristics of Rectifier Circuits . . . . .	569
Current Wave Form . . . . .	572
Smoothing Filters . . . . .	574
Analysis and Design of Condenser Filters . . . . .	575
Illustrative Problem . . . . .	581
Analysis and Design of Choke-condenser (L-section) Filters . . . . .	582
Illustrative Problem . . . . .	589
Choke-condenser Filter with Condenser Input . . . . .	590
Voltage Stabilizers . . . . .	590
Current Stabilizer . . . . .	594
Problems . . . . .	595
Supplementary Bibliography . . . . .	595

## CHAPTER 15

	PAGE
<b>ELECTRON-TUBE INSTRUMENTS AND MEASUREMENTS.</b>	597
Vacuum-tube Voltmeters . . . . .	597
Use of Transfer Characteristics in Voltage Measurement . . . . .	598
Plate-detection (Transrectification) Voltmeters . . . . .	598
Balanced Plate Circuits . . . . .	602
Diode Voltmeters . . . . .	604
Grid-detection Voltmeter . . . . .	607
Logarithmic Voltmeter . . . . .	608
Voltmeters Based on Voltage or Current Amplifiers . . . . .	609
Slide-back Voltmeters . . . . .	610
Inverted Voltmeter . . . . .	612
Vacuum-tube Ammeters . . . . .	612
Vacuum-tube Wattmeter . . . . .	618
Vacuum-tube Ohmmeters . . . . .	619
Time and Speed Meters . . . . .	620
Counting Circuits . . . . .	623
Frequency Meters . . . . .	624
Cathode-ray Oscilographs (Oscilloscopes) . . . . .	628
Deflection of Electron Beam . . . . .	630
Cathode-ray Tube Screens . . . . .	633
Oscilloscope Time Bases . . . . .	634
Oscilloscope Amplifiers . . . . .	638
Electronic Switches for the Observation of Two Waves . . . . .	639
Electronic Transient Visualizers . . . . .	641
Oscillographic Comparison of Frequencies . . . . .	644
Effect of Capacitance of Deflecting Plates . . . . .	647
Electron-ray Tube . . . . .	648
Determination of Static Tube Characteristics . . . . .	649
Dynamic Measurement of Tube Factors . . . . .	650
Tube-factor Bridges . . . . .	651
Harmonic Analyzers . . . . .	659
Measurement of Voltage Amplification . . . . .	665
The Use of Triangular and Rectangular Waves in Amplifier Analysis . . . . .	666
Measurement of Power Output . . . . .	667
Determination of Optimum Power Output and Optimum Load . . . . .	668
Problem . . . . .	669

## APPENDIX

<b>PARALLEL EQUIVALENT CIRCUITS</b> . . . . .	671
<b>POWER RELATIONS IN VACUUM-TUBE PLATE CIRCUITS</b> . . . . .	672
<b>LINEAR MODULATION</b> . . . . .	673
<b>CHART FOR THE DETERMINATION OF REACTANCE</b> . . . . .	675
<b>CHART FOR THE DETERMINATION OF DECIBEL GAIN</b> . . . . .	676
<b>CONVERSION-FACTOR CHART FOR POWER TUBES</b> . . . . .	677
<b>PLATE CHARACTERISTICS OF TYPICAL AMPLIFIER TUBES</b> . . . . .	678

*CONTENTS*

xix

PAGE

OPERATION CHARACTERISTICS OF TYPICAL RECTIFIER TUBES . . . . .	683
RECTIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS FOR A TYPICAL DIODE DETECTOR TUBE . . . . .	684
OPERATING DATA FOR TYPICAL RECEIVING TUBES. . . . .	685
OPERATING DATA FOR TYPICAL POWER THYRATRONS. . . . .	686
OPERATING DATA FOR TYPICAL IGNITRONS . . . . .	688
AUTHOR INDEX . . . . .	689
SUBJECT INDEX. . . . .	697
SYMBOL INDEX . . . . .	709
PROBLEM ANSWERS . . . . .	713