

## Set 22 : Amplitude modulators

The term amplitude modulation here includes modulation with either one or two sidebands, with or without a carrier present, by one of four methods—multiplication, switching, non-linearity, or direct tuned-circuit modulation in a class C amplifier.

The circuits using 741s are limited to use with carrier frequencies of a few tens of kilohertz, but two other i.c. designs—the modulated crystal oscillator of page 27, the “micropower” circuit of page 32 and those of page 24—operate with carriers of the order of megahertz. And examples of v.h.f. modulators are given on page 33.

The i.c. modulator of page 24 can double as a with-carrier or suppressed-carrier circuit, and uses a biased gating-control input for the modulation. Balanced i.c. modulators appear in place of circuit modifications on this page (see also page 31).

Operating conditions for the lower circuit on card 7, originally omitted, have been added and further reading for the bridge modulator added.

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# Amplitude modulators

If the amplitude of a high-frequency sinusoidal carrier,  $c(t) = A \cos \omega_0 t$  is made to vary in sympathy with the instantaneous value of a low-frequency signal  $x(t)$  an amplitude-modulated signal is generated which has a spectrum concentrated in the vicinity of the unmodulated carrier frequency,  $f_0$ . The effect is to shift, or frequency-translate, the spectrum of the modulating signal to produce a pair of sidebands symmetrically disposed with respect to  $f_0$  as shown in Fig. 1. The resulting wave may be described by:  $y(t) = [A + x(t)] \cos \omega_0 t$ , so if, for example,  $x(t)$  is a pure tone modulating signal represented by  $x(t) = A_1 \cos \omega_1 t$  the a.m. output becomes  $y(t) = [A + A_1 \cos \omega_1 t] \cos \omega_0 t$  which may be written as  $y(t) = A[1 + m \cos \omega_1 t] \cos \omega_0 t$  where  $m = A_1/A$  is the modulation index, or modulation depth, and has a value  $\leq 1$  if over-modulation is to be avoided.

The amplitude modulated waveform is shown in Fig. 2, and if this is displayed on an oscilloscope the modulation index may be found from  $m = (B-C)/(B+C)$ . As well as measuring the modulation index, the oscilloscope may be used to examine the linearity of the modulation process if it has an X-Y facility. If the amplitude modulated wave is applied to the Y-amplifier and the low-frequency modulating signal applied to the X-amplifier a Lissajous figure of  $y(t)/x(t)$  is obtained as shown in Fig. 3.

The above process is what is generally accepted as understood when referring to a.m. However a family of processes may together be considered as amplitude modulation techniques which include

- a pair of sidebands with carrier (a.m.)
- a pair of sidebands without carrier (d.s.b. or d.s.b.s.c.) or with diminished carrier (d.s.b.d.c.)
- an upper or lower sideband without carrier (s.s.b.) or with diminished carrier (s.s.b.d.c.)
- a pair of single sidebands with independent modulation (i.s.b.)
- one sideband, carrier and a vestige of the other sideband (v.s.b.)

In general, the above systems depend in some way on the use of four basic

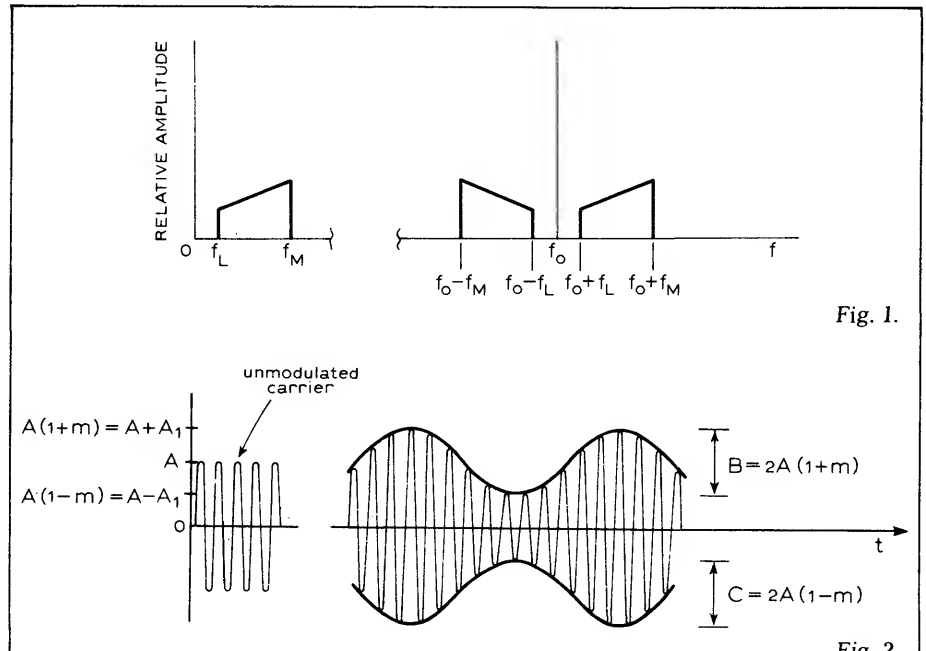


Fig. 1.

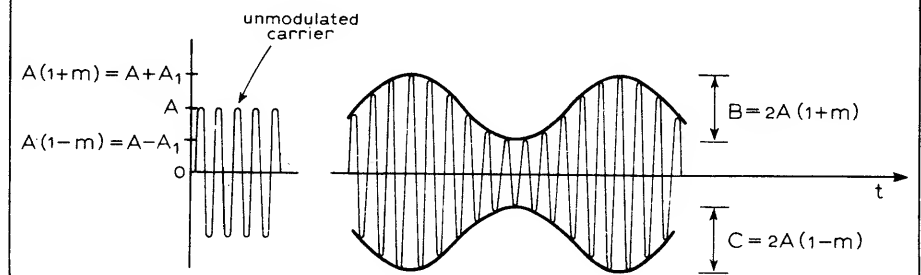


Fig. 2.

methods of producing amplitude modulation.

- analogue multiplication
- chopper modulation
- non-linear-device modulation
- direct tuned-circuit modulation

Except for the last method listed, modulation is normally performed at low power levels and the required output power obtained by class-B amplification of the modulated signal.

Analogue modulation, or multiplication, is obtained by applying the modulating signal and the carrier to a circuit providing an output which is a function of the product of its inputs. Output from the multiplier or balanced modulator is ideally a d.s.b.s.c. signal. This arrangement is often convenient for producing an s.s.b.s.c. signal by removing the unwanted sideband and any residual carrier by means of band-pass sideband filter.

Many multipliers or balanced modulators are available in the form of purpose-designed integrated circuits for operation at carrier frequencies of at least 100MHz. Depending on the nature of the modulating signal, the carrier

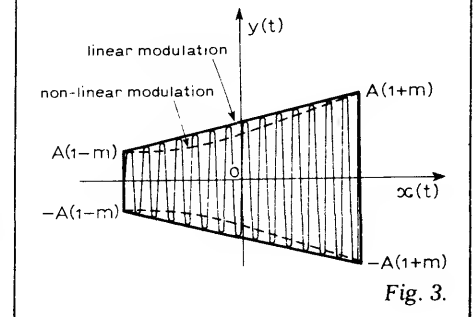


Fig. 3.

frequency and the required degree of unwanted-sideband and carrier suppression, the filter can be realized using L-C networks, quartz crystal lattice networks, ceramic disc resonators or mechanical filters. If the same signal is applied to both inputs of a multiplier it acts as a squarer and it, or any other square-law device, may be used to produce an a.m. output as shown in Fig. 4 if  $v_1(t) = A + x(t)$  and  $v_2(t) = V \cos \omega_0 t$ .

Chopper modulation is obtained by chopping the modulating signal at the carrier rate, using either a sinusoidal or a square-wave carrier, and then passing the resulting wave through a band-pass filter centred on the carrier frequency.

The bandpass filter will normally remove the component at the modulating frequency as well as the sidebands centred on the harmonics of the carrier frequency. To ease the requirements of the band-pass filter a balanced chopper modulator removes the low-frequency modulating signal component. The carrier-driven switches are normally realized using diode bridges or field-effect transistors.

Modulation using a non-linear device is achieved by adding the modulating and carrier-frequency components and then passing the resultant through a bandpass filter centred on the carrier frequency to extract the a.m. signal. The non-linear device should have non-linearity not exceeding second-order and the highest significant modulation frequency should not exceed one-third of the carrier frequency.

Direct tuned-circuit modulation is achieved by controlling the voltage across a parallel-tuned circuit, tuned to the carrier frequency, by means of the modulating signal and pulsing the tuned circuit at the carrier rate with a high-power, class-C amplified carrier pulse. If modulating frequency is too high its rate of increase can be such as to cause the envelope of the a.m. wave to become distorted due to the failure to follow the modulation.

The modulation techniques discussed above which use band-pass filters must provide a filter bandwidth suited to the transmission of the desired signal whilst rejecting all unwanted components. For a.m. and d.s.b. this bandwidth must be

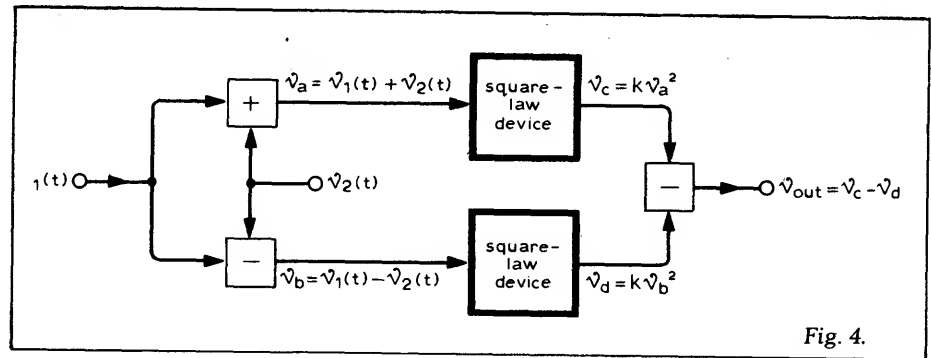


Fig. 4.

twice the highest modulating frequency and for s.s.b. it must be equal to the bandwidth of the modulating signal. In virtually all these cases the sharp cut-off required from the bandpass filter is only obtainable if the centre frequency of the filter is relatively low. Normally the filtration is achieved in the region of 50Hz to about 1MHz and the resulting modulated wave heterodyned, or frequency translated, to the required carrier frequency for transmission.

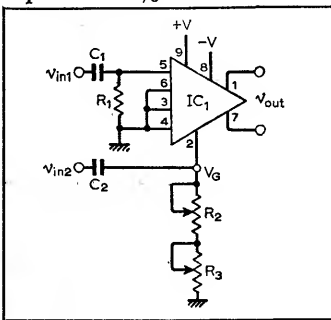
Another way is the phasing method of generating an s.s.b. signal which avoids the problems associated with filter design, but replaces them with the problem of designing a pair of networks (A and B) which are required to maintain a constant  $90^\circ$  phase difference between their outputs whilst their output amplitudes are held constant over the bandwidth of the modulating signal. Selection of either sideband is achieved by reversing the output from one of the balanced modulators or

by reversing the phase of either the carrier or the modulation to one balanced modulator. Because of the relative ease of inverting an audio signal, the modulating signal reversal is normally the simplest to accomplish in practice.

**I.C. package modulators**

**Typical performance**  
 Supplies  $\pm 10V$ , 10mA  
 IC<sub>1</sub> MC1445L  
 R<sub>1</sub> 47 $\Omega$   
 R<sub>2</sub> 4.7k $\Omega$ , R<sub>3</sub> 220 $\Omega$   
 C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub> 100nF  
**Amplitude modulator**  
 V<sub>G</sub> 2V d.c.

V<sub>in1</sub> (carrier) 130mV pk-pk  
 f<sub>c</sub> 1MHz  
 V<sub>in2</sub> (modulation) 1.3V pk-pk  
 f<sub>m</sub> 10kHz, to produce maximum useful modulation depth of  $\approx 78\%$ .



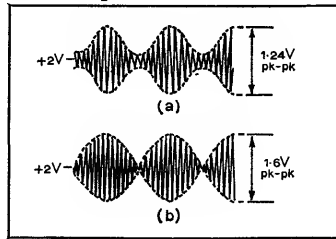
V<sub>out</sub> (pin 1 or 7) 800mV pk-pk unmodulated, see waveform opposite.

**Balanced modulator**  
 V<sub>G</sub> 2.5V d.c. to balance out carrier

V<sub>in1</sub> (carrier) 130mV pk-pk  
 f<sub>c</sub> 1MHz  
 V<sub>in2</sub> (modulation) 2.4V pk-pk (max)  
 f<sub>m</sub> 10kHz  
 V<sub>out</sub> (pin 1 or 7) see waveform opposite.

**Circuit description**  
 Many integrated circuit packages are available either in the form of purpose-designed modulators for producing a.m. or d.s.b. outputs or in the forms which can be readily adapted to these applications. An example of the latter type is the gate-controlled, two-channel-input wideband amplifier shown. This integrated circuit consists of a pair of differential-input amplifiers having a constant current switched between them under the control of a gating signal which cuts off one amplifier when the other is conducting. The output from each of these amplifiers is available via low-output-

impedance Darlington emitter followers. Although the gating signal would normally be at t.t.l.-compatible logic levels, the characteristics of the gate circuit allows the i.c. to be used as an amplitude modulator



when connected as shown. Although the voltage/gain/gate voltage characteristic is far from linear over the full gate voltage range, it is virtually linear over a range of a few hundreds of mV with respect to a suitable d.c. bias. This bias is obtained by connecting a coarse/fine control (R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>) between the gate (pin 2) and ground. The low-frequency modulating signal is superimposed on this bias by coupling it to the gate through C<sub>2</sub> and the carrier input is coupled via C<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>1</sub> to either of the input channels, pins 5 or 6 (as shown) or pins 3 and 4 (unused in circuit shown). The amplitude modulated output is available at either output, pin 1 or pin 7. With defined input signal levels, the output modulation depth may be varied using R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub>.

A double-sideband suppressed-carrier signal may be produced by applying the carrier simultaneously to both channels of the input differential amplifiers which then have their outputs cross-coupled.

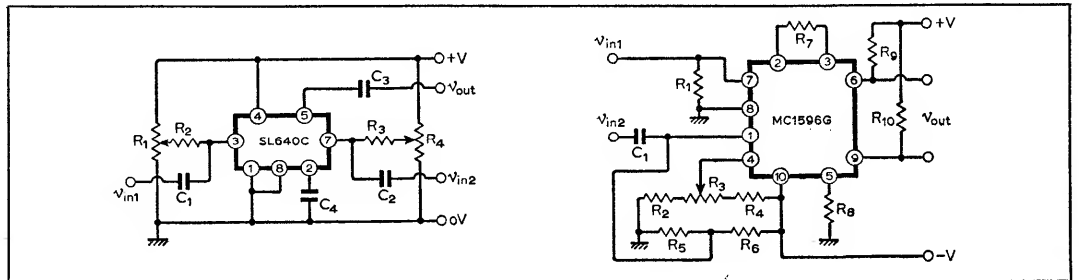
The resulting balanced modulator is as shown, but with pin 5 earthed and the junction of R<sub>1</sub> and C<sub>1</sub> taken to pins 6 and 3. If the carrier has sufficient amplitude to switch these channels completely off and on, the modulating signal is switched between the channels at the carrier frequency, which is equivalent to multiplying the modulating signal by a switching function—the required condition for producing a pair of side-frequencies and suppressing the carrier. If a reduced-amplitude carrier is required, this can be produced by slightly changing the d.c. bias applied to the gate terminal by means of R<sub>3</sub>.

**Component changes**  
 Useful range of supply  $\pm 4$  to 12V  
 Maximum useful carrier input  $\approx 280mV$  pk-pk producing unmodulated carrier output of  $\approx 3.3V$  pk-pk  
 f<sub>c</sub>(max)  $\approx 75MHz$   
 Maximum load current  $\approx 25mA$ .  
 Examples of integrated circuits purpose-designed as balanced modulators are the MC1596G and the SL640C. These packages are essentially intended to replace diode-bridge or ring modulators with transistor double-balanced modulators to overcome the disadvantages of the former type of less than unity gain the need for a high level signal at one input and the need to use up to three transformers. The inherently good matching of the monolithic transistors ensures that excellent carrier suppression is obtained with little need for balancing by external components when the

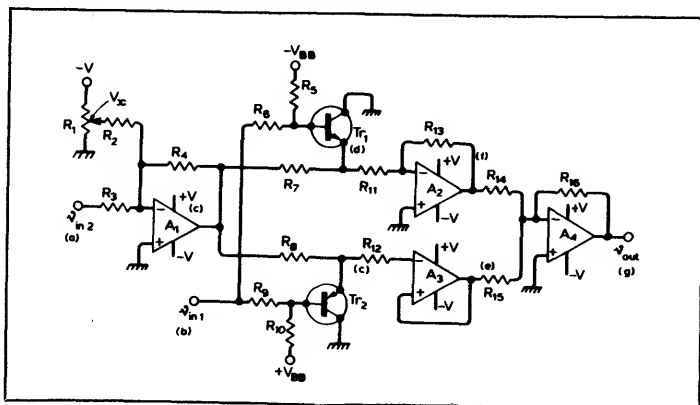
devices are used as double-sideband suppressed-carrier generators.  
 An arrangement of the SL640C for this purpose is shown. Typically, V = +6V, R<sub>1</sub> R<sub>4</sub> 10k $\Omega$ , R<sub>2</sub> R<sub>3</sub> 330k $\Omega$ , C<sub>1</sub> C<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>3</sub> should have low reactance compared with the source and output resistance, except for high frequency applications (i.e. f<sub>c</sub> approaching 75MHz) where the modulation source resistance should be low and C<sub>2</sub> of comparable reactance C<sub>4</sub> is a base-decoupling capacitor and must have a very low reactance at all frequencies used to minimize carrier and modulation feed-through. Resistors R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are adjusted to minimize modulation and carrier leakage respectively.  
 The circuit below shows the MC1596G used as an amplitude modulator.  
 Typically V  $\pm 8V$ , R<sub>1</sub> 47 $\Omega$   
 R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub> 1k $\Omega$   
 R<sub>3</sub> 470 $\Omega$ , R<sub>8</sub> 6.8k $\Omega$ , R<sub>9</sub> R<sub>10</sub> 3.9k $\Omega$ , C<sub>1</sub> 1 $\mu F$ .

**Further reading**  
 Microelectronics Databook: MC1445, MC1596 data sheets and AN-475, 2nd edition, Motorola 1969.  
 Integrated Circuit Databook, Plessey 1973, pp.103-5.  
 SL600-Series Application Manual, 2nd edition, Plessey 1974, pp. 29-34.

**Cross reference**  
 Set 21, card 2.



## Linear amplitude modulator

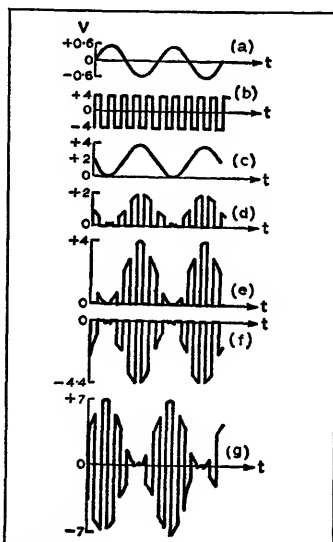


### Typical performance

Supplies  $\pm 15\text{V} + 7.5\text{mA}$ ,  
 $-9.3\text{mA}$ ,  $V_{BB} \pm 5\text{V} 0.75\text{mA}$   
 $A_1$  to  $A_4$  741  
 $R_1, R_3, R_7, R_8, R_{11}, R_{12}$  10k $\Omega$   
 $R_2$  100k $\Omega$   $R_4$  33k $\Omega$   
 $R_5, R_{10}$  4.7k $\Omega$   $R_6, R_9$  1.5k $\Omega$   
 $R_{13}, R_{14}, R_{15}$  22k $\Omega$   $R_{16}$  39k $\Omega$   
 $Tr_1$  BC125  $Tr_2$  BC126  
 $V_x$   $-5.5\text{V}$

$v_{in1}$  (carrier) 8V pk-pk square wave at  $f_c$  10kHz.

$v_{in2}$  (modulation) 1.2V pk-pk sine wave at  $f_m$  1kHz to produce a.m. output with 100% modulation (see graph right)  $v_{out}$  see waveforms opposite for 100% modulation.



### Circuit description

The modulating signal ( $v_{in2}$ ) is applied via  $R_3$  to the inverting, summing operational amplifier  $A_1$  and receives a gain of  $-R_4/R_3$ . Although this input is bipolar in nature the output from  $A_1$  is not permitted to go more negative than 0V due to the presence of a d.c. bias obtained from the  $-V$  rail via  $R_1$  ( $V_x$ ) which receives an inverting "gain" of  $R_4/R_2$ . This composite, positive signal is applied over separate paths to the inverting input of  $A_2$  (via  $R_7$  and  $R_{11}$ ) and to the non-inverting input of  $A_3$  via

$R_8$  and  $R_{12}$ . The junctions of these pairs of resistors are connected to ground through  $Tr_1$  and  $Tr_2$  when these "chopper" transistors are switched on by the square-wave carrier ( $v_{in1}$ ).

In the absence of a carrier input,  $Tr_1$  is held off by the reverse bias on its base from the  $-V_{BB}$  supply via  $R_5$  and  $Tr_2$  is held in the off state by the reverse base bias from the  $+V_{BB}$  rail through  $R_{10}$ . With  $R_5 \approx 3R_6$  and  $R_{10} \approx 3R_9$  a square-wave carrier having a peak value slightly less than  $V_{BB}$  is sufficient to overcome the reverse base voltages in the transistors and drive them hard into conduction. On positive half-cycles of the carrier,  $Tr_2$  remains off and  $Tr_1$  is switched on causing the junction of  $R_7$  and  $R_{11}$  to fall to within  $V_{CEsat}$  of ground, effectively removing the modulation input

to  $A_2$ . On the following negative half-cycles of the carrier,  $Tr_1$  is switched off and  $Tr_2$  switches on taking the junction of  $R_8$  and  $R_{12}$  to within  $V_{CEsat}$  of ground, effectively removing the modulation input to  $A_3$ . Thus, the signals applied to  $A_2$  and  $A_3$  are in the form of the modulating signal which has been chopped at the carrier rate. As the inverting input of  $A_2$  is a virtual earth and  $R_7 = R_{11}$  the signal applied to  $A_2$  is effectively of half the amplitude at the output of  $A_1$ . Hence, the output from  $A_2$  is an inverted form of the signal at  $Tr_1$  emitter which receives a gain of  $R_{13}/R_{11}$  and by making this gain 2 the output from  $A_2$  has the amplitude of that at  $A_1$  output.  $A_3$  is connected as a unity gain follower so the signal applied to its non-inverting input is fed to a high-impedance point.

Therefore, although  $Tr_2$  chops the modulating signal at the carrier rate the full peak-to-peak  $A_1$  output is applied to  $A_3$  and this chopped signal appears at the follower's output.  $A_2$  and  $A_3$  therefore provide equal-amplitude anti-phase chopped output signals. These two outputs are applied through equal resistors ( $R_{14}$  and  $R_{15}$ ) to the inverting, summing amplifier  $A_4$  which, with component values shown, provides a gain of magnitude 1.77 to produce a composite

output signal which is the linear sum of its inputs. The output waveform will contain the original carrier frequency and its harmonics with sets of upper and lower sidebands centred around each of the carrier components. For a pure amplitude-modulated wave the output waveform should be passed through a bandpass filter centred on the input carrier frequency and having a bandwidth sufficient to accommodate the sidebands of the highest modulating frequency.

As shown left, modulation depth is a linear function of the modulating signal input voltage,

100% modulation being achieved when the peak value of the modulation at  $A_1$  output is equal to the d.c. bias at that point.

With the low-cost operational amplifiers shown the circuit can function with carrier frequencies up to about 25kHz. Higher carrier frequencies can be used if operational amplifiers having a high gain-bandwidth product than the 741 are used, and in principle, the circuit should operate with carrier up to several MHz.

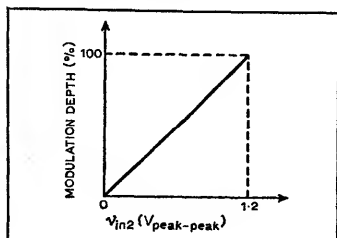
With suitable adjustment of the input signal levels and bias voltages the circuit can work from supplies between about  $\pm 4$  and  $\pm 18\text{V}$ . For the circuit as shown the maximum and minimum useful carrier-frequency inputs are approximately 11V pk-pk and 6.4V pk-pk respectively.

### Further reading

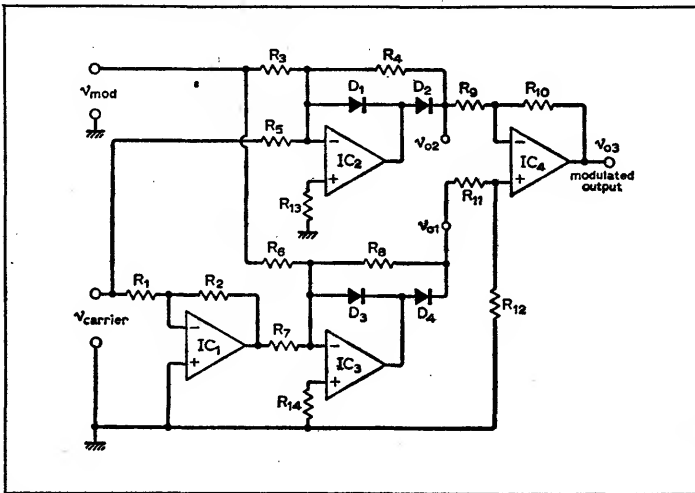
Linear modulator has excellent temperature stability, Electronic Circuit Design Handbook, Tab, 1971, 4th edition, p.405.

### Cross reference

Set 22, card 3.



**Modulator using precision rectifiers**



**Circuit description**

IC<sub>1</sub> acts as inverter for the carrier signal. The lower frequency modulation signal  $v_m$  is summed with the carrier and its inversion, via the absolute half-wave rectifier circuits of IC<sub>2</sub> and IC<sub>3</sub>, respectively. When the summed input is positive, the output of IC<sub>2</sub> tends toward a negative level due to inverter action and hence D<sub>3</sub> is forward biased. Therefore the negative peak outputs are clipped to a level approaching zero because D<sub>3</sub> is in the feedback loop. The output is characterized by V<sub>o1</sub>, that at V<sub>o2</sub> being similar, but of course the carrier is inverted. Non-linearity of the rectifier impedances introduces some distortion which is evident in the troughs of the modulated output and very slightly distorted at the higher levels of modulated carrier, though not the peaks of the envelope. Output filtering is unnecessary and hence drift of carrier-frequency offers no great problem.

**Component changes**

Maximum carrier amplitude to obtain 100% modulation 8V pk-pk ( $v_m \approx 8V$  pk-pk).  
 Maximum carrier frequency 23kHz before peaks distort (measured at  $f_m = 1kHz$  and  $m = 1$ ).  
 Maximum  $f_m$  at this  $f_c$  to minimize phase errors about 4kHz; then minimum carrier amplitude is 8V.

Maximum carrier amplitude 8.8V.

Use 741CS for faster slew-rate and slightly greater carrier frequency capability. R<sub>1</sub> fairly critical. Maximum variation of  $\pm 200\Omega$ . Other resistors variable over wide range provided ratios maintained. R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>9</sub>, etc i.e. accurately matched resistors are suggested. Use centre-tapped transformer to provide carrier and its inverted form, as shown above.

Useful range of this modulator is in the audio band, provided that the non-linearity is not significant. Crossover distortion will be minimized for high carrier frequencies, and large peak-to-peak carrier excursions.

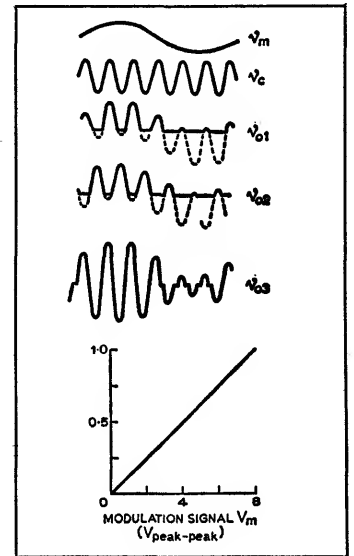
**Circuit modifications**

High-frequency performance is

**Typical data**

- Supply  $\pm 10V$
- IC<sub>1-4</sub> 741
- R<sub>1-10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub> 10k $\Omega$
- R<sub>11</sub> 4.7k $\Omega$
- R<sub>13</sub>, R<sub>14</sub> 3.3k $\Omega$
- D<sub>1-4</sub> 1N914
- V<sub>mod</sub> 1V pk-pk at 1500Hz
- V<sub>carrier</sub> 2V pk-pk at 10kHz

limited by slew rate and gain of the op-amp in turning off say diode D<sub>1</sub> and turning on diode D<sub>2</sub>. This switching speed is increased by the circuit shown middle. Additional gain is added during the switching transition of the order of 250 up to 30kHz obtained with the addition of Tr<sub>1</sub> to Tr<sub>4</sub> circuitry. At the switching instant, D<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> are off, thus opening the feedback loop, and do not shunt this additional network. When conduction recommences, one diode heavily conducts, shunts the high output impedance of this additional stage giving again an overall gain of near unity. Low-value resistors provide small time constants for stray capacitance. Frequency response will be above that of op-amp when additional stage driven from supply currents of the i.c. This reduces peak-to-peak swing requirement of amplifier and should be within slew-rate limit at higher frequencies. Typical data Small-signal bandwidth 30kHz



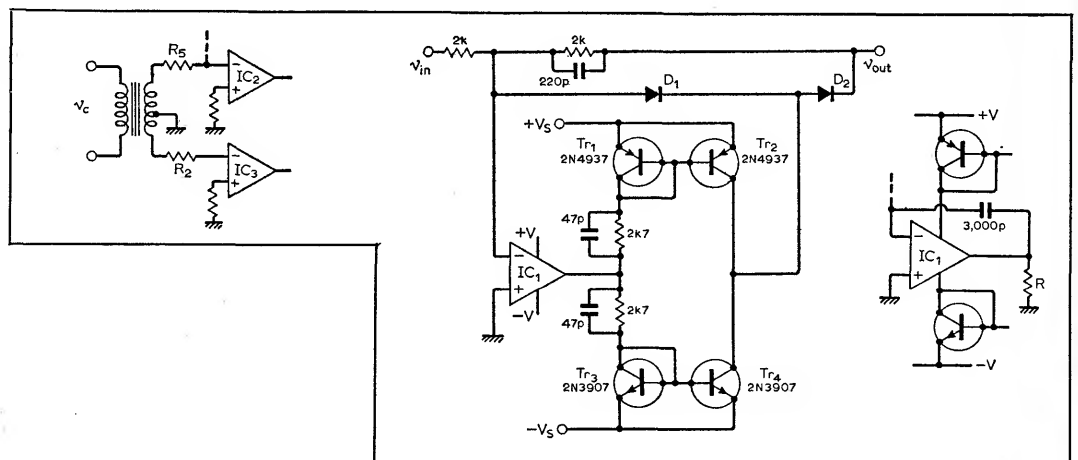
to 300kHz  
 IC<sub>1</sub> BB3500B.  
 R 100 $\Omega$ . Chosen to limit rated output current for a 1V swing at output. Other components as before.

**Further reading**

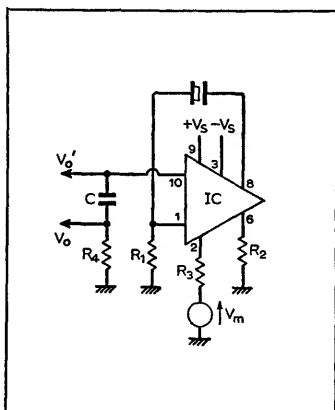
- Inexpensive AM modulator, *Electronic Design*, vol. 20, Sept. 27, 1974.
- Graeme, J. Applications of operational amplifiers—third generation techniques, McGraw-Hill, 1973.
- Graeme, J. Boost precision rectifier BW above that of op-amp used. *EDN*, July 5, 1974.

**Cross references**

- Set 4, card 3
- Set 22, cards 2, 5
- Set 15, card 1



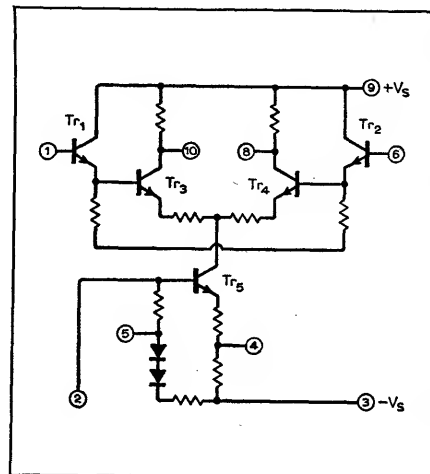
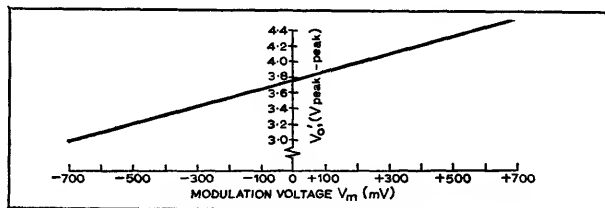
### Modulated crystal oscillator



#### Components

Crystal 1MHz  
 $R_1, R_2$  1k $\Omega$   
 $R_3$  600 $\Omega$   
 $R_4$  100k $\Omega$   
 $C$  27pF

$V_s$  6V  
 IC CA3000  
 C.r.o. probe used had impedance of 10M $\Omega$  in parallel with 10pF.



#### Performance

Graph shown of  $v'_o$  (not  $v_o$ ) was obtained with d.c. values of  $v_m$  and indicates a modulation sensitivity of 1.07V/V and a modulation depth of approximately 25% over the range shown. Range was limited by the fact that increasing  $v_m$  beyond +700mV caused limiting on the negative peaks of  $v'_o$ . Lower limit was very much lower than that shown but there is no point in going beyond a symmetrical condition.

With the c.r.o. probe on  $v_o$  the modulation depth fell to 11% (due to the loading of the probe) and this was maintained from d.c. to approximately 2kHz without appreciable distortion. Higher frequencies caused phase distortion.

With  $R_1$  set at 500 $\Omega$  no carrier oscillations were obtained.

With higher  $R_1$ , however, little effect was observed, e.g.

$R_1=10k\Omega$  produced a modulation depth of 10.5% although with approximately 12% increase in carrier amplitude.

Variation of  $R_2$  in the range 1.5 $\Omega$  to 1500 $\Omega$  produced very little effect; thereafter limiting occurred.

#### Description

The CA3000 is a d.c. amplifier in a 10-pin T0-5 package. The schematic is shown above. Emitter follower inputs  $Tr_1$  and  $Tr_2$  provide high input impedance (0.2M $\Omega$ ), the remainder of the circuit being conventional long-tailed pair

( $Tr_3$  and  $Tr_4$ ) differential amplifier design with constant-current tail ( $Tr_5$ ). With external connections as shown in the main diagram the circuit becomes a crystal oscillator with feedback to pin 1. These oscillations are modulated by  $v_m$  which controls the tail current. Output at pin 10 contains the (carrier) oscillations plus harmonics modulated by  $v_m$ , plus  $v_m$  itself, plus d.c. The high-pass filter consisting of  $C$  and  $R_4$  eliminates the d.c. and  $v_m$ , leaving the amplitude modulated signal.

Since the oscillator is a crystal oscillator the frequency of oscillation is extremely well defined so variations in other components, supply voltages etc. will produce very little frequency modulation.

#### Modifications

Due to the symmetry of the CA3000 one can reverse the roles of pins 10, 8 and pins 1, 6; no advantage or disadvantage accrues.

All the unwanted terms in  $v'_o$  (including carrier harmonics) can be removed by use of a

suitable bandpass filter.

Because the output impedance of the amplifier is high (8k $\Omega$ ) a tuned L-C filter may be used as shown below in our case with a carrier of 1MHz and modulating signal of 2kHz a Q of 250 is permissible but would reduce the modulation depth by 0.707 at 2kHz.

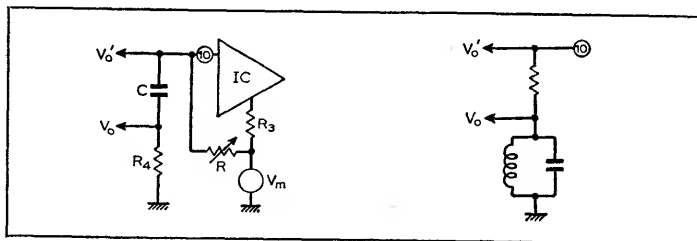
Since the modulation depth is inherently low, a lower Q would appear advisable and if possible one would be better with a more rectangular bandpass filter.

If one simply wants to remove the modulating signal from  $v'_o$ , the arrangement shown below can, with suitable adjustment of  $R$  simply cancel the offending term. We achieved this with a value of  $R$  of approximately 15k $\Omega$ . This has the additional effect of reducing the carrier at  $v_o$  by approximately 30% but enabled one to increase the modulation depth to approximately 43%,  $v_m$  being 6.8V pk-pk.  $C$  and  $R_4$  were retained for direct comparison but obviously do not help to give the max. obtainable. Modulation depth of

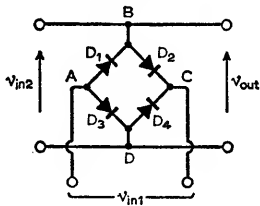
approximately 47% at  $v_o$  was achieved by increasing the positive supply to 12V. Alteration of the negative supply had little effect. No change in carrier amplitude was observed with this increased supply. One cannot guarantee this performance since the device is being driven outside the manufacturer's recommendations. Presumably if the alterations of modification no. 1 were used it would be the negative supply which would require alteration.

#### References

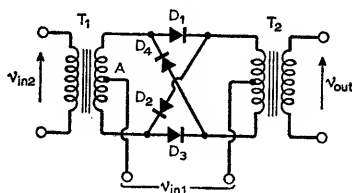
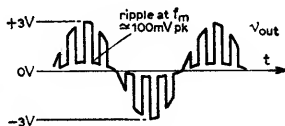
RCA applications notes ICAN5030.  
 Card 8, this set.  
 Low-cost 2-stage circuit forms versatile a.m. oscillator. 100 Ideas for Design, Hayden, 1966



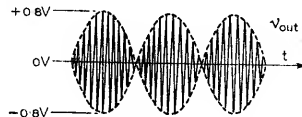
**Diode bridge modulators**



**Typical performance**  
 D<sub>1</sub> to D<sub>4</sub> PS101  
 V<sub>in1</sub> carrier 10V pk-pk  
 sine wave at f<sub>c</sub> 10kHz, from  
 600-Ω source.  
 V<sub>in2</sub> modulation 6V pk-pk  
 sine wave at f<sub>m</sub> 200Hz from  
 600-Ω source.  
 V<sub>out</sub> see waveform below.



**Typical performance**  
 D<sub>1</sub> to D<sub>4</sub> PS101, T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub> RS  
 type T/T1, ratio 1:1  
 V<sub>in1</sub> carrier 1.2V pk-pk  
 sine wave at f<sub>c</sub> 4kHz from  
 600-Ω source.  
 V<sub>in2</sub> modulation 2V pk-pk  
 sine wave at f<sub>m</sub> 200Hz from  
 600-Ω source.  
 V<sub>out</sub> see waveform below



**Component changes**

D<sub>1-4</sub> Any general purpose, discrete or monolithic silicon, germanium or Schottky types. A square-wave carrier source may be used in either circuit together with an output filter. A floating source for carrier in Cowan modulator (left) can be simulated from grounded-type using a transformer.

**Circuit descriptions and modifications**

Both modulators are widely used at low carrier frequencies. In the Cowan arrangement diode switching in the bridge is under the control of the carrier alone provided that its amplitude is much greater than that of the modulating signal. Assuming this condition exists, then during the half-cycles of the carrier when point C is positive with respect to point A, the diodes will be reverse-biased and they present a high impedance shunted across the path between the modulation source and the output. When the carrier goes through its other alternate half-cycles, point A is positive with respect to point C, the diodes become

forward-biased and the bridge provides a low-impedance shunt path across the modulation source. The higher frequency carrier voltage therefore causes the diode bridge to act as a single-pole single-throw switch which passes the modulating signal to the output during one half-cycle of the carrier and attenuates the modulation during the other half-cycle. As the magnitude of the modulating signal increases the carrier controlled switching of the diodes becomes less perfect (see waveform and a ripple appears on the output waveform at the modulation frequency. This ripple is due to the larger-amplitude modulating signal causing some small amount of conduction on the diodes during their off state. When V<sub>in2</sub> polarity makes point B positive with respect to point D a diode leakage path exists through D<sub>2</sub>, the carrier source and D<sub>3</sub>, and through D<sub>1</sub>, the carrier source and D<sub>4</sub>, when B becomes negative with respect to D. This modulator produces an output waveform containing

the original modulating-frequency components and sets of upper and lower sidebands centred on the original carrier frequency and its harmonics, all of which are ideally suppressed. To remove all components except the original carrier frequency a band-pass filter must be incorporated at the output.

A simple method of achieving this filtration, at the same time isolating the output from the bridge and simulating the floating-source carrier by means of a transformer is shown top. In this arrangement R<sub>2</sub> should be about 10R<sub>1</sub>; (1+h<sub>fe</sub>) R<sub>4</sub> should be much greater than R<sub>3</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> chosen to damp the output tuned circuit sufficiently to pass the desired sidebands.

The double-balanced bridge-ring modulator obtained its name from its ability to suppress both the original modulating signal and the carrier from its output. Hence it is to be preferred to the Cowan modulator when the carrier frequency does not greatly exceed the highest modulating frequency. In the circuit shown, when point A is positive with respect to point B, D<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>3</sub> are forward-biased and D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>4</sub> reverse-biased. When B becomes positive with respect

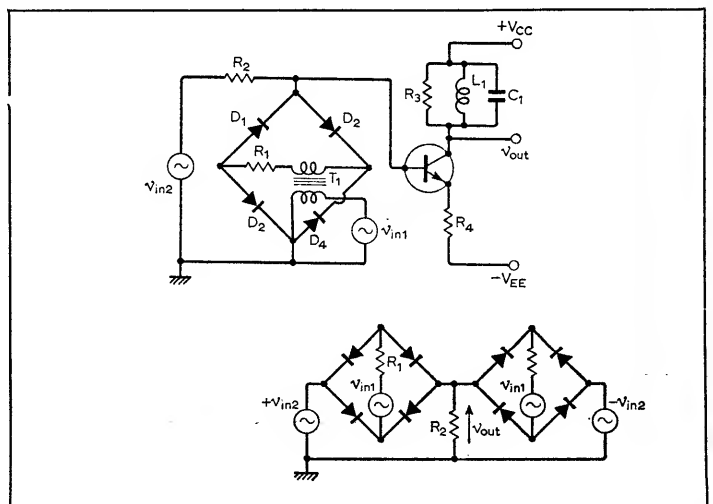
to A, D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>4</sub> are forward-biased with D<sub>1</sub> and D<sub>3</sub> reverse-biased. Hence the modulating signal will pass from Tr<sub>1</sub> to Tr<sub>2</sub> over two different paths during alternate half cycles of the carrier causing a 180° phase shift of the output after each carrier half-cycle. When wideband transformers are used the output waveform consists of sets of upper and lower sidebands centred on the original carrier frequency and its harmonics, all of which are, ideally, suppressed.

The output waveform differs from the above due to the use of a.f. transformers with a 10-kHz carrier so that very little of the sidebands of harmonic carrier frequencies are present at the output due to transformer imperfections.

Many other forms of bridge ring modulators exist, the basic form of one type using two diode bridges to simulate the effect of a reversing switch

**Further reading**

Clarke, K. K. & Hess, D. T. Communication Circuits: Analysis & Design, chapter 8, Addison-Wesley, 1971. Bell Telephone Labs. Transmission Systems for Communications, 4th edition, 1971, pp. 125-8. Cross reference Set 22, card 3.

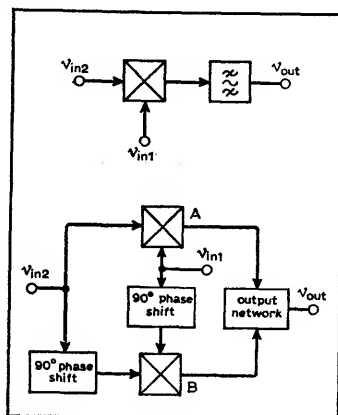




## Single sideband generation

### Filter method

A single-sideband signal can be produced by feeding the carrier  $v_{in1}$  and modulating signal  $v_{in2}$  to a balanced modulator to produce a double-sideband suppressed-carrier output which is then passed through a bandpass filter to select either the upper or lower sideband as required. The degree of carrier suppression depends on the design of the balanced modulator and the rate of cut of the sideband filter, which must have a bandwidth equal to that of the baseband modulating signal. A number of different filter realizations may be used, their suitability depending on the carrier frequency at which the filtration is performed. The use of L-C ladder filters is normally restricted to carriers in the approximate range of 20kHz to about 100kHz due to the relatively low Q-factor values obtainable with low-cost inductors. The much higher Qs obtainable with quartz crystals allow the design of bandpass filters using a lattice structure at frequencies above about 500kHz. Ladder-type mechanical filters provide much higher Qs than L-C resonant circuits, which give them excellent selectivity characteristics in a useful carrier range of about 50kHz to 1MHz. Ceramic elements using the piezo-electric effect, but having lower Q values than quartz crystals, can be used in a ladder structure over a carrier range of about 250kHz to 1MHz. Whatever the nature of the bandpass filter the same filter could be used to select either the upper sideband or the lower sideband by shifting the carrier frequency to the appropriate edge of the filter response, assuming the filter to have a similar rate of cut at both edges. The balanced modulator could be replaced by an amplitude modulator in certain applications, the degree of carrier suppression depending on the filter attenuation



characteristic. The unwanted sideband can be removed without the use of bandpass filters by means of phase shift techniques. The basic form of a phasing method s.s.b. generator is shown below. The carrier frequency is applied to balanced modulators A and B with a  $90^\circ$  phase shift introduced in one path. The modulating signal is also applied to both balanced modulators, to A directly and to B via a wideband  $90^\circ$  phase-shifting network. The output signals from the modulators, when combined, result in the suppression of one sideband. If the other sideband is required instead this can be achieved by reversing the phase of the carrier applied to one modulator, or by reversing the phase of the modulating signal

to one modulator, or by reversing the output of one of the modulators. Of these methods the second is usually preferred due to the relative ease of inverting a.f. signals. In this method of s.s.b. generation, the modulating signals applied to both balanced modulators should ideally differ by  $90^\circ$  over their complete frequency range whilst retaining equal magnitudes. This is virtually impossible to achieve in a single network as shown over, so practical forms use a pair of networks to more closely approach the ideal requirements as shown below.

The number of different networks that could be used to realize the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ -networks is almost limitless, but to meet the required conditions over a range of frequencies indicates the need to combine an all-pass characteristic with a non-uniform time delay as a function of frequency over the required frequency range, which results in a type of ladder structure.

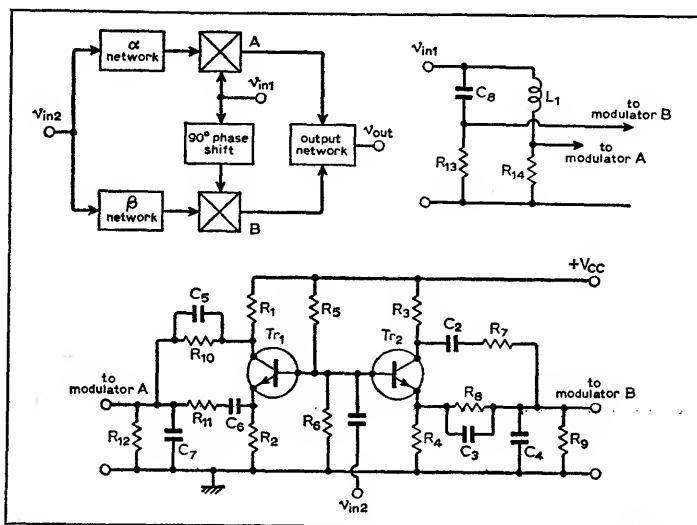
An example of such a realization is shown above. This configuration is capable of maintaining the phase difference at the outputs to within about  $\pm 1^\circ$  of the desired  $90^\circ$  phase difference over a frequency range of about 10:1. For the speech bandwidth of approximately 300Hz to 3kHz typical values

are given below.

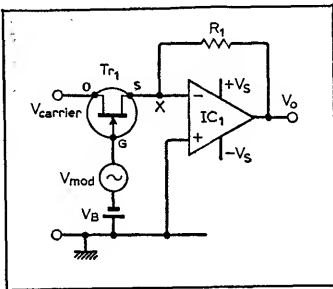
Supply +15V,  $Tr_1$ ,  $Tr_2$  general-purpose, reasonably well-matched silicon n-p-n transistors.  
 $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  680 $\Omega$   
 $R_5$  15k $\Omega$ ,  $R_6$  6.8k $\Omega$ ,  $R_7$ ,  $R_{11}$  1.775k $\Omega$ ,  $R_8$ ,  $R_{10}$  10k $\Omega$   
 $R_9$ ,  $R_{12}$  4.02k $\Omega$ ,  $C_1$  100nF  
 $C_2$  45.9nF,  $C_3$  8.2nF,  $C_4$  21nF  
 $C_5$  32.4nF,  $C_6$  181nF,  $C_7$  83.1nF.  
 The required  $90^\circ$  phase shift between the carrier frequency inputs to the two balanced modulators can be achieved in a number of different ways, for example from a quadrature sinusoidal oscillator. A simple arrangement for a fixed carrier frequency using a parallel pair of L-R and C-R branches is shown right, the  $90^\circ$  phase shift occurring at the frequency where the inductive and capacitive reactances equal  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  respectively. For example with  $R_{13}$ ,  $R_{14}$  50 $\Omega$   $C_8$  8nF and  $L_1$  20 $\mu$ H the carrier should be set to 397.89kHz with  $v_{in1}$  derived from a 600- $\Omega$  source.

### Further reading

Pappen, E. W. *et al.* Single Sideband Principles and Circuits, McGraw-Hill 1964.  
*Proc. I.R.E.* Dec. 1956—special issue on s.s.b. techniques.  
 Dome, R. B. Wideband phase-shift networks, *Electronics*, Dec. 1946, pp.112-5.  
 Betts, J. A. High-frequency communications, E.U.P., 1967, chapter 5.



### FET modulators



#### Typical data

IC<sub>1</sub> 741, Tr<sub>1</sub> 2N5457

Supply ±15V

R<sub>1</sub> 10kΩ

v<sub>mod</sub> 1V pk-pk f<sub>mod</sub> 1kHz

v<sub>carrier</sub> 100mV pk-pk

f<sub>carrier</sub> 10kHz

v<sub>B</sub> ≈ 0.75V

Output at v<sub>o</sub> as shown top.

D.C. transfer function between input carrier and v<sub>o</sub>, for varying V<sub>GS</sub> of f.e.t., provides information on linear regions.

#### Circuit description

This circuit uses an n-channel junction f.e.t. in its voltage-controlled resistance mode, and hence the gain of the inverter-amplifier will be dependent on the slope resistance of Tr<sub>1</sub>. The drain-source conductance g<sub>DS</sub> of Tr<sub>1</sub> is fairly well defined by  $g_{DS} = 2I_{DSS} / -V_P + 2I_{DSS}V_m / V_P^2 = K_1 + K_2 V_m$  provided  $|V_{DS}| < 100mV$ .

I<sub>DSS</sub> is the drain current for V<sub>GS</sub>=0 and V<sub>DS</sub>=-V<sub>P</sub>. In this circuit V<sub>GS</sub>=V<sub>mod</sub>+V<sub>B</sub>, and if V<sub>B</sub>=|V<sub>P</sub>|, then  $g_{DS} = (2I_{DSS} / V_P) (V_{mod} / V_P)$ . The output from IC<sub>1</sub> is V<sub>o</sub> and is -R<sub>1</sub> g<sub>DS</sub> V<sub>carrier</sub> hence

$$V_o = -R_1 2I_{DSS} / V_P^2 (V_{carrier}) (V_{mod})$$

i.e. proportional to the product of the carrier and modulation signals. Note that point x is a virtual earth point and  $|V_{carrier}| = |V_{DS}|$ . This restricts the carrier to a maximum of 100mV pk-pk to limit distortion. Positive values of V<sub>mod</sub> much greater than  $|V_P| + 0.7V$  will forward-bias the gate-source junction, hence this determines the maximum allowable modulating signal.

#### Component changes

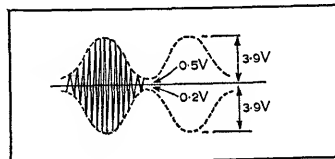
R<sub>1</sub> 10 to 20kΩ to provide increased output.

Carrier peaks can be equalized by biasing carrier with V<sub>x</sub>, say. For V<sub>x</sub>=29mV, other parameters as before, output envelope is shown below.

#### Circuit modification

● Operational amplifier may be replaced by a single transistor in circuit shown (ref. 1).

Output will contain a signal proportional to the carrier and modulating signal product which can be applied to a bandpass filter centred at f<sub>c</sub>. C is large enough to be an a.c. short-circuit for the carrier frequency. I<sub>E</sub> is chosen to make h<sub>1b</sub> of the transistor small, given by  $h_{1b} = 26 / I_{E(mA)}$ . This ensures that v<sub>carrier</sub> ≈ v<sub>DS</sub>.



Also, since  $i_d = g_{DS} v_{mod}$  and  $i_c = \alpha(I_E + i_d)$  then  $v_o = V_{CC} - \alpha I_E R_L - \alpha g_{DS} R_L v_{carrier}$ . This provides, an a.c. product of  $2\alpha R_L I_{DSS} / V_P^2 \times (v_{carrier}) (v_{mod})$ . Similar limitations to levels apply in this circuit ( $\alpha$  common base current gain).

● Figure (bottom) comprises a combination of a dual gate m.o.s.f.e.t. and inverting amplifier.

Tr<sub>1</sub> 40841, IC<sub>1</sub> SN72709 supply ±12V.

For double-sideband suppressed-carrier operation, the carrier is fed forward through R<sub>4</sub>.

If v<sub>mod</sub> ≫ v<sub>carrier</sub>, then gain V<sub>DS</sub> is given by  $-(K_1 + K_2 v_{mod}) R_1 v_c$  i.e.  $V_{DS} = -K_1 R_1 v_c - K_2 R_1 v_m v_c$ . Provided  $(R_4 / R_3) v_c = (R_4 / R_2) K_1 R_1 v_c$ ,

then the above condition is obtained, i.e. v<sub>out</sub> is proportional to the product of the two signals.

To obtain amplitude modulation the circuit is opened at X. Modulation depth must be limited to around 60%. At these levels of carrier and modulating signals where v<sub>m</sub> is no longer much greater than v<sub>c</sub> the g<sub>m</sub> of the f.e.t. is a function of both signals causing unwanted harmonics.

Modulation depth may be increased if output filters are employed. Note that other analogue multipliers may be used as amplitude modulators, but an important limitation will be their frequency responses.

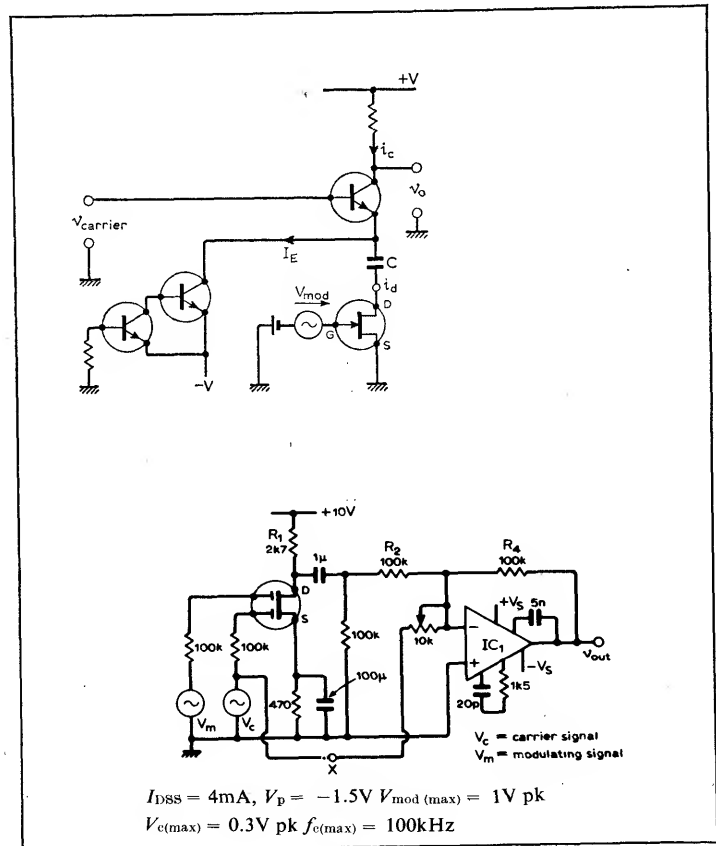
#### Further reading

1. Clark, K. K. & Hess, D. T. Communication circuits—analysis and design, Addison-Wesley 1971.

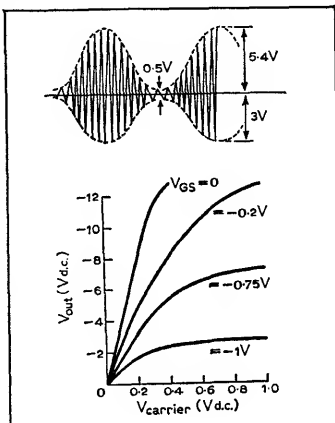
Ideas for design, *Electronic Design*, January 4, 1973, p.98.

#### Cross reference

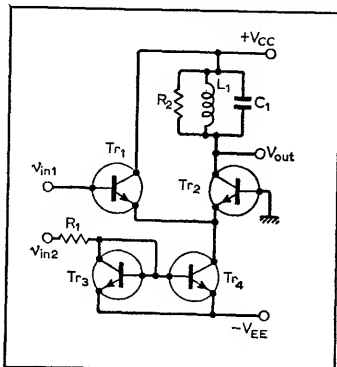
Set 22, card 1.



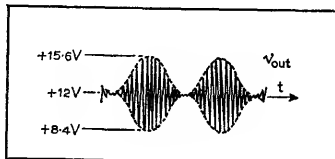
I<sub>DSS</sub> = 4mA, V<sub>P</sub> = -1.5V V<sub>mod(max)</sub> = 1V pk  
V<sub>c(max)</sub> = 0.3V pk f<sub>c(max)</sub> = 100kHz



## Long-tailed pair modulators



**Typical performance**  
 Supply  $\pm 12\text{V}$ ,  $\pm 2.7\text{mA}$   
 $\text{Tr}_1$  to  $\text{Tr}_4$  1/5 of CA3086  
 (pin 13 substrate connected to  $-V_{EE}$ )  
 $R_1, R_2$   $4.7\text{k}\Omega$



### Circuit description

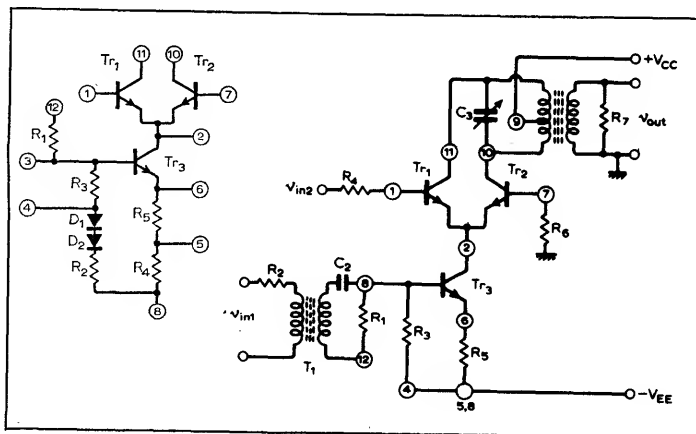
Circuit shown above is an example of an amplitude modulator having one input channel which is linear and the other channel highly non-linear. Although the multiplication from such a circuit is far from ideal, amplitude modulation can be obtained by applying the carrier to the non-linear input channel, applying the modulating signal to the linear input channel and taking the output across a bandpass filter centred on the carrier frequency. In this circuit the collector current of  $\text{Tr}_2$  is a linear function of the common tail current but a highly non-linear function of the voltage between the bases of  $\text{Tr}_1$  and  $\text{Tr}_2$  due to the voltage drive from the carrier source to  $\text{Tr}_1$  base. Transistors  $\text{Tr}_3$  and  $\text{Tr}_4$  form a current mirror that acts as a current source for the differential pair  $\text{Tr}_1$  and  $\text{Tr}_2$ . Quiescent tail current is determined by  $R_1$  with the single-ended (grounded) modulation source  $V_{in2}$  set to zero. This quiescent current is then varied by the modulating signal. The collector current of  $\text{Tr}_2$  thus contains the modulating signal as well as the carrier and its sidebands, together with carrier harmonics and their sidebands due to the non-linear relationship between the collector current and the carrier drive voltage between  $\text{Tr}_1$  and  $\text{Tr}_2$  bases. To obtain an output amplitude-modulated wave the bandpass filter, in this case the parallel tuned circuit  $L_1C_1R_2$ , must have a sufficiently high loaded

Q-factor to remove the modulation-frequency components and the harmonic carrier and sideband components. For the circuit shown the theoretical value of the centre-frequency for the tuned circuit is  $f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_1C_1}}$  Hz =  $1.592\text{MHz}$  which is within 1% of the value in practice. The loaded Q-factor is  $Q_L = 2\pi f_0 R_2 C_1 = 47$  which provides a passband (to 3dB down points) having a width of  $f_0/Q_L = 33.87\text{kHz}$  which is suitable for audio modulation, up to 15kHz. By suitable choice of  $L_1$  and  $C_1$  carrier frequencies up to about 100MHz may be used, with adjustment of  $Q_L$  by means of  $R_2$  to provide a suitable bandwidth for the highest modulating frequency. Whereas the above circuit is formed by interconnecting the monolithic individual transistors to produce the long-tailed pair, other integrated circuits are

$L_1$   $10\mu\text{H}$ ,  $C_1$   $1\text{nF}$   
 $V_{in1}$  carrier  $100\text{mV}$  pk-pk sine wave at  $f_c$   $1.61\text{MHz}$  to produce unmodulated carrier output from tuned circuit of  $3.6\text{V}$  pk-pk.  
 $V_{in2}$  modulation  $25\text{V}$  pk-pk (max) sine wave at  $f_m$   $1\text{kHz}$  to produce approximately 100% modulation depth output from tuned circuit.  
 $V_{out}$  see waveform left.

manufactured in the long-tailed pair configuration. Examples of these are the CA3004, CA3005 and CA3006 the last type being particularly suited to use as a balanced modulator due to the small input offset voltage (typically 1mV). The internal structure of this integrated circuit is shown. The i.c. consists of a well-balanced differential-input amplifier  $\text{Tr}_1$  and  $\text{Tr}_2$  fed from a constant-current source  $\text{Tr}_3$ . Due to the versatile biasing arrangements a number of different operating modes may be used but pin 8 must be connected to the most negative direct voltage in the circuit and pin 9 to the most positive direct voltage used. Pin 12 is normally connected to ground. A typical balanced modulator circuit using this integrated circuit is shown below. In this application, the diodes,  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  of the integrated biasing network are short-

circuited, the modulating signal is applied between the differential pair bases  $V_{in2}$  and the carrier applied to the base of the constant-current transistor  $\text{Tr}_3$  via transformer  $T_1$ . The differential-output double-sideband suppressed-carrier signal between  $\text{Tr}_1$  and  $\text{Tr}_2$  collectors is converted to a single-ended output by the tuned transformer  $T_2$  which suppresses the unwanted output components. Attention should be paid to careful printed circuit layout and screening to obtain the best performance. Typically the carrier suppression is around 25dB below the wanted double-sideband output when  $V_{in2}$  is adjusted to produce  $16\text{mV}$  r.m.s. at pin 1 and  $V_{in1}$  adjusted to produce  $31.5\text{mV}$  r.m.s. across the primary winding of  $T_1$  at a frequency of  $1.75\text{MHz}$ . Typical values: Supplies  $V_{CC} +6\text{V}$ ,  $V_{EE} -6\text{V}$ ,  $R_1, R_3, R_5$  part of i.c.,  $R_2, R_4, R_6, R_7$   $50\Omega$ ,  $C_1$   $560$  to  $870\text{pF}$ ,  $C_2$   $10\text{nF}$ ,  $C_3$   $90$  to  $400\text{pF}$ ,  $T_1$  9.6:1 step-up,  $T_2$  bifilar wound 9:1 step-down with primary tapped 3:1. This degree of carrier suppression may make the circuit suitable for double-sideband systems requiring the transmission of a pilot carrier. For applications requiring a higher degree of suppression an improvement may be obtained by increasing the modulation signal input and decreasing the carrier input voltage.

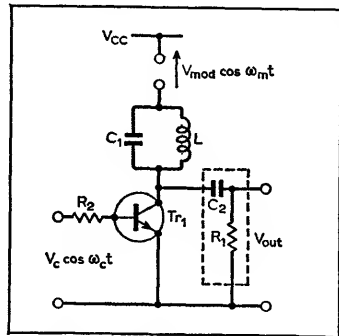


### Further reading

Clarke, K. K. & Hess, D. T. Communication circuits: analysis and design, Addison-Wesley, 1971, chapters 3, 4 & 8. RCA Solid-State Databook SSD-201B, 1973, pp.183-8. Solid State Databook, RCA, SSD-202B, '74 Series, Nov. 1973, pp.108-33. Cross reference Set 20, card 4



### Direct tuned-circuit modulator



#### Circuit description

This circuit demonstrates the principle that may be used to perform the initial modulation of a carrier signal, which may then be used to drive a power amplifier. Transistor  $Tr_1$  is driven hard into conduction once every carrier-cycle so that its base-collector junction is forward biased. The related collector current pulses excite the tank circuit  $LC_1$  which is tuned to the carrier frequency which therefore rings between pulses at a frequency  $f_c$ . The waveform at the transistor collector or across the tuned circuit is shown opposite at (b). The envelope is approximately the superposition of  $V_{CC} + v_{mod}$  and is of the form  $(V_{CC} - V_{CEsat})(1 + m \cos \omega_m t)$  where the modulating index  $m = v_{mod} / (V_{CC} - V_{CEsat})$ . To maintain approximately 100% modulation for variation of  $V_{CC}$ , the modulating signal is linearly related as shown in graph.

#### Circuit notes

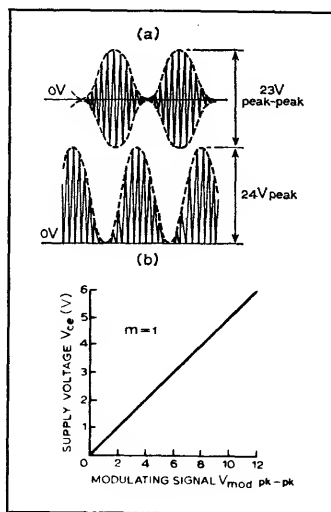
- Tuned circuit Q in the range 30 to 50.
- Filter circuit (high pass) of  $C_2R_1$  provides useful demonstration technique only. Normally output coupled out via tapped-down transformer where L is the primary.
- $R_1$  value chosen empirically to minimize phase shift of positive and negative carrier peaks of waveform.
- Frequency range of modulating signal 1Hz to 20kHz, but some reduction in  $R_1$  is necessary at the higher frequency to maintain symmetry of waveform.

#### Applications

In certain situations, a.m. is performed at low power levels, and power levels suitable for transmission are developed by power amplifiers. An example of such a circuit is shown over<sup>2</sup>, top. To preserve a wideband performance a push-pull configuration of  $Tr_1, Tr_2$  minimizes unwanted harmonic content. Typical performance data:

- $V_{CC}$ : 12.5V
- Peak envelope power: 40W
- Modulation: 95%
- Carrier frequency: 118 to 136MHz
- Carrier input power: 5mW.

A similar concept but at a low power is described in the circuit<sup>4</sup> shown over, bottom. Typical output 100mW depending on transistor at a carrier frequency of 27MHz (US citizens band). Collectors are supplied push-pull, but the bases are paralleled, as distinct from above circuit.

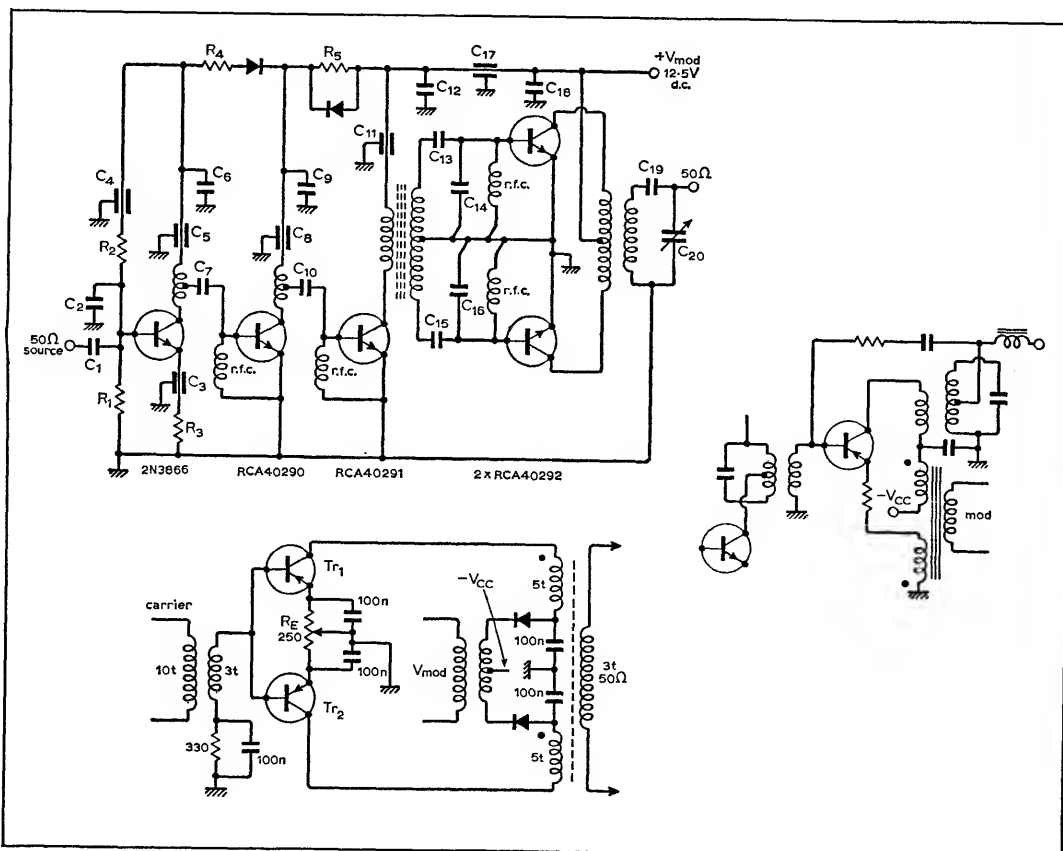


#### Further reading

- 1 Clarke, K. & Hess, D. Communication circuits: analysis and design. Addison-Wesley 1971.
- 2 Getting transistors into single-sideband amplifiers. Motorola application report AN-150.
- 3 RCA application note AN-3749, 1968.
- 4 100 ideas for design, no. 4, Hayden 1964.
- 5 Stokes, V. O. Radio transmitters, Van Nostrand 1970.
- 6 100 ideas for design, no. 3, Hayden 1964.

**Cross reference**  
Set 7, card 6.

$R_E$  permits balancing of transistor characteristics to cancel carrier. Circuit right is one in which modulation is applied both to collector and emitter<sup>5</sup>.



The transconductance operational amplifier triple array CA 3060, when connected as a four-quadrant multiplier in the arrangement shown.

The output current from amplifier 1 and 2 is in the form  $I_{out} = g_m V_{IN}$  where  $g_m$  is the forward transconductance.

Hence  $I_{0(1)} = -g_1 V_x$  and

$I_{0(2)} = +g_2 V_x$ .

$V_{out} = (I_{0(1)} + I_{0(2)}) R_L =$

$V_x R_L (g_2 - g_1)$ .

Because the  $g_m$  is almost proportional to bias current,  $I_B$ , then

$$I_{B2} \approx \frac{V_y - (-V_s)}{R_2}$$

where  $-V_s$  is the negative supply.

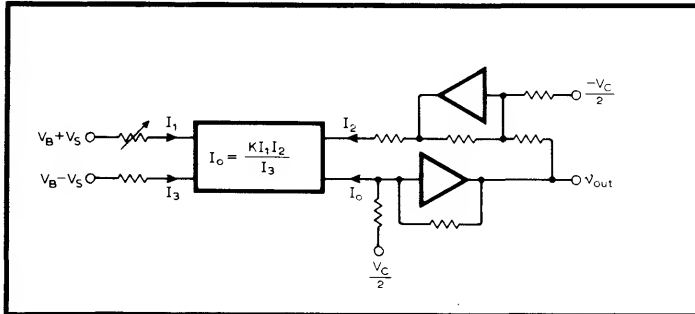
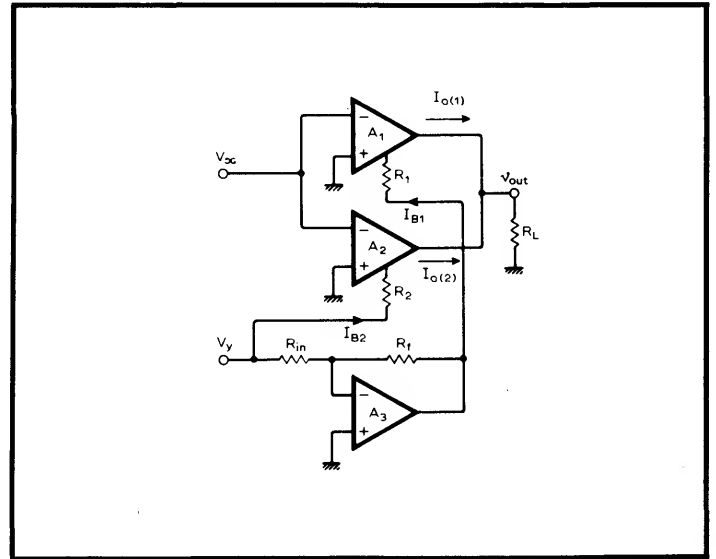
Therefore

$$g_2 = k_1 I_{B2} = k_2 (V_y + V_s).$$

Because the bias current for  $A_1$  depends on  $-V_y$ , then  $g_1 = k_2 (-V_y + V_s)$ . This means that the output voltage is approximately  $2k_2 R_L V_x V_y$ , or  $V_{out} \propto V_x V_y$ . Fuller circuits are given in the reference, allowing for gain equalization and examples of modulated waveforms are shown.

**Reference**

RCA Integrated Circuits 1976, p. 171.



The analogue multiplier/divider is assumed to have a characteristic given by  $I_0 = K I_1 I_2 / I_3$  where  $I_1, I_2, I_3$  are input currents,  $I_0$  is the output current and where  $K$  is a parameter dependent on temperature, device ageing etc. Such a circuit is suitable as a precision modulator, where a product term should be generated to an accuracy of

around 0.1%. For this condition, the effects of  $K$  must be eliminated. The above configuration using negative feedback is shown to provide an a.c. gain proportional to a modulating signal, but independent of the constant  $K$ .

**Reference**

Faulkner, E. A. *Electronics Letters*, 11th Nov. 1976, vol. 12,