

## TC 241S ADDENDUM

This instrument has been modified to include a fast timing amplifier.

The following specifications/changes apply to the timing amplifier.

### 2.0A SPECIFICATIONS

#### 2.1.A PERFORMANCE

INPUT AMPLITUDE RANGE 0 to  $\pm 1$  volt linear signal; 0 to  $\pm 3.5$  volts **dc**; maximum input (signal plus **dc**)  $\pm 4.5$  volts.

OUTPUT AMPLITUDE RANGE 0 to -5 volts linear into a 50 **ohm** load.

RISE TIME -10 ns with minimum integration and maximum differentiation.

GAIN TEMPERATURE INSTABILITY  $<0.1\%/^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 0 to  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$

#### 2.2A CONTROLS

##### 2.2.1A FRONT PANEL CONTROL

GAIN Six-position rotary switch selects gain factors from 5 to 250 in a 1-2.5-5 **sequence**.

##### 2.2.2A INTERNAL CONTROLS

INPUT **POLARITY** Two-position slide switch selects either positive or negative polarity preamplifier signals for the timing amplifier input.

DIFFERENTIATOR TIME CONSTANT Four individual **two-** position slide switches select differentiator time constants of 10 ns, 20 ns, 50 ns and 100 ns. Switches **may be used** in combination to provide intermediate time constants, i.e., 50 ns and 100 ns IN to provide a 150 ns time constant. All switches OUT provides a 5 ns time constant.

INTEGRATOR TIME CONSTANT **Four** individual two-position slide switches select integrator time constants of 10 ns, 20 ns, **50 ns** and 100 ns. Switches **may** be used in combination to provide intermediate time constants, i.e., 50 **ns** and 100 ns IN to **provide** a 150 ns time constant. All switches OUT provides a **5 ns** time constant. The rise time is approximately 2.2 times the selected time constant.

## **2.3A** CONNECTORS

### **2.3.1A** FRONT-PANEL CONNECTORS

OUTPUT Lemo type connector provides shaped timing output pulses with a full-scale linear range of 0 to -5 volts (-7 volts maximum) when terminated into a 50 ohm load. Rise time and decay time selected by the DIFFERENTIATOR and INTEGRATOR switch settings.

INPUT BNC type connector accepts either positive or negative polarity input signals. The input impedance is **50 ohms** dc-coupled, and the input is protected to **±4.5** volts absolute maximum.

## **2.4A** MTAL POWER REQUIREMENT (excluding preamplifier)

**+24V, 45 mA; +12V, 135 mA**  
**-24V, 45 mA; -12V, 115 mA**

\* \* \* \* \* CAUTION \* \* \* \* \*

The **PREAMP** connector on this instrument is directly compatible only with TENNELEC preamplifiers with serial numbers greater than 2000. It is also directly compatible with standard Aptec, Canberra, EG&G Ortec and PGT preamplifiers.

If a TENNELEC preamplifier with serial number less than 2000 is used, then a model ADT 1 PREAMP POWER ADAPTER must be used.

If there are any **questions** regarding the compatibility of the **PREAMP** connector of this instrument, **please contact** the TENNELEC Marketing Department for assistance.

\* \* • \* \* • \* \* \* WARNING \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*  
\*  
\* Improper connection to the **PREAMP** \*  
\* connector may permanently damage the \*  
• amplifier and/or preamplifier. TENNELEC \*  
\* assumes no liability for instrument \*  
\* damage. \*  
\*  
\* \*

# **INSTRUCTION MANUAL**

**TC 241 AMPLIFIER**

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## INTRODUCTION

The TENNELEC TC 241 is a high performance, economical spectroscopy amplifier in a single-width NIM module. The low noise and high countrate characteristics of the TC 241 are ideally suited for semiconductor detectors, proportional counters, and scintillation detectors.

The TC 241 incorporates four active integration networks which generate very symmetrical pseudo-gaussian unipolar signals. Switch selectable peaking times of 1, 3 and 6 usec allow the TC 241 to match the signal processing requirements of most detectors. The symmetry of the pulse-shaping network optimizes the signal-to-noise ratio while allowing excellent countrate capability (See Fig. 1.1).

A gated baseline restorer (BLR) with automatic threshold and restorer rate circuits provides superb high countrate performance without degrading ultimate resolution.

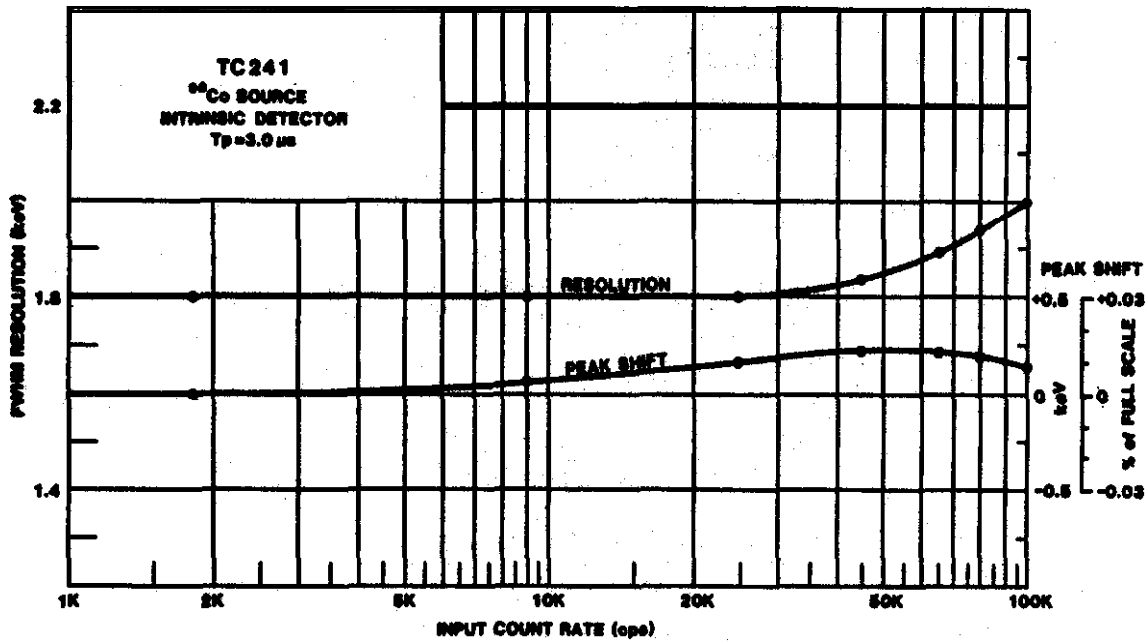


Fig. 1.1 Typical Resolution vs Countrate



The excellent **dc** stability of the TC 241 eliminates spectrum broadening caused by dc shift **of** the amplifier output and insures superior performance.

A unipolar delay option allows the **unipolar** output to be delayed 2 **usec** for gating applications.

## 2.0 SPECIFICATIONS

### 2.1 PERFORMANCE

**PULSE SHAPING** Active shaping networks produce pseudo-gaussian shaped unipolar **pulses** with selectable peaking times\* ( $t_p$ ), of 1, 3 or 6 **usec**. Unipolar pulse width at the 1.0% level equals 2.8  $t_p$ . Bipolar pulse peaks\* at 0.78  $t_p$  and crossover\* occurs at 1.36  $t_p$ . Bipolar crossover is delayed by 0.32  $t_p$  from the unipolar peak.

**GAIN RANGE** Continuously variable from x5 to x750.

**INTEGRAL NONLINEARITY**  $\leq \pm 0.05\%$  over 0 to +10V output range for 3 **usec** peaking time.

**NOISE** Less than 3.0 **uV** referred to the input for 6 **usec** peaking time, unipolar **shaping** and maximum gain; typically less than 3.2 **uV** for gain greater than 100. Bipolar typically less than 5.0 **uV** for gain greater than 100.

### TEMPERATURE INSTABILITY

#### UNIPOLAR

Gain  $\leq \pm 0.01\%/^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 0 to 50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$   
DC Level  $\leq \pm 10 \text{ uV}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 0 to 50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

#### BIPOLAR

Gain  $\leq \pm 0.01\%/^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 0 to 50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$   
DC Level,  $\leq \pm 30 \text{ uV}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 0 to 50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

**WALK**  $\leq \pm 3$  nsec over a 5011 dynamic range for 3 **usec** peaking time.

\*Measured from the leading 1.0% of maximum signal amplitude.

OVERLOAD RECOVERY Unipolar output recovers to within 2% of rated output from **x300** overload in less than 2.5 **non-overloaded** pulse widths at **maximum** gain, Bipolar output **recovers** to within 2% of rated output from x300 overload in less than 2.0 non-overloaded pulse widths at maximum gain.

SPECTRUM **BROADENING** (Unipolar) \*\* Typically less than 10% **FWHM** for **<sup>60</sup>Co 1.33 MeV gamma line** at 85% of rated output, 3 **usec** peaking time and incoming rate of 1 to 100 kcps.

SPECTRUM **SHIFT** (Unipolar) \*\* **Peak position shifts** typically less than **0.02%** for a **<sup>60</sup>Co 1.33 MeV gamma line** at 05% of rated **output**, 3 **usec** peaking time and incoming rate of 1 to **100** kcps.

OPERATING TEMPERATURE 0 to **50°C**

## **2.2** CONTROLS

### **2.2.1** FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

**COARSE GAIN** Six-position rotary switch selects gain factors from 10 to 500 in a 1-2-5 sequence.

**FINE GAIN** Ten-turn precision potentiometer with linear calibration from 500 to 1500. The dial numbers should be considered **as multipliers** operating on the **COARSE GAIN** setting, with 500 and **1500** corresponding to multipliers of 0.5 and 1.5 respectively. The **FINE GAIN** control extends the total gain **range** from 5 to 750.

**POLE-ZERO (P/Z)** **15-turn** screwdriver adjustable control for cancellation of, **preamplifier** decay times from 35 **usec** to infinity.

**POS-NEG** Two-position toggle switch selects either positive **or negative** polarity **preamplifier** signals for the amplifier input.

**BLR-P/Z** **Two-position** toggle switch enables the baseline restorer in the **BLR** position. The **P/Z** position disables the baseline restorer for accurate pole-zero cancellation **adjustment**.

\*\*\*Results **may** not be reproducible if measurements are made **with** a detector which exhibits a larger number of slow-risetime **signal** components.

## 2.2.2 INTERNAL CONTROLS

**PEAKING TIME** *Four* individual three-position slide switches (accessible through the module's side shield) selects unipolar peaking time of 1, 3 or 6 usec. Bipolar peaking time equals 0.78 of selected unipolar peaking time.

**NOTE:** All four PEAKING TIME switches MUST be set to the 'same position for proper operation of the amplifier.

**UNIPOLAR DELAY OPTION** When installed, a two-position slide switch (accessible through the module's side shield) selects either prompt (OUT) or a 2 usec delay (IN) for the unipolar output. The bipolar output is unaffected by the unipolar delay selection.

**OUTPUT IMPEDANCE** Individual two-position slide switches (accessible through the module's side shield) selects an output impedance of either <1 ohm or 50 ohms for the UNIPOLAR and BIPOLAR outputs. The total peak output current is limited to 50 mA, for either the UNIPOLAR and BIPOLAR outputs, when operated in the <1 ohm position. All outputs are short circuit protected in either OUTPUT IMPEDANCE position.

## 2.3 CONNECTORS

### 2.3.1 FRONT PANEL CONNECTORS

**INPUT** BNC connector accepts either positive or negative polarity input signals. The input risetimes must be less than the selected peaking time with decay times of 35 usec to infinity. The input impedance is 1000 ohms dc-coupled (500 ohms pulse), and the input is protected to  $\pm 25V$  absolute maximum.

**UNIPOLAR** BNC connector provides dc-restored ( $0 \pm 5 mV$ ) unipolar shaped output pulses with a full-scale range of 0 to +10V (+11.5V maximum). The UNIPOLAR OUTPUT IMPEDANCE switch selects an output impedance of either <1 ohm or 50 ohms for both front and rear panel UNIPOLAR output connectors. The total peak output current is limited to 50 mA in the <1 ohm position. Both UNIPOLAR connectors are short circuit protected in either UNIPOLAR OUTPUT IMPEDANCE position.

BIPOLAR BNC connector provides ground referenced (0  $\pm 10$  mV) bipolar shaped output pulses with a full-scale range of 0 to +10V (+11.5V maximum). The BIPOLAR OUTPUT IMPEDANCE switch selects an output impedance of either <1 ohm or 50 ohms for both front and rear panel BIPOLAR output connectors. The total peak output current is limited to, 50 mA in the <1 ohm position. Both BIPOLAR connectors are short circuit protected in either BIPOLAR OUTPUT IMPEDANCE position.

### 2.3.2 REAR PANEL CONNECTORS

INPUT Refer to INPUT of Sec. 2.3.1.

UNIPOLAR Refer to UNIPOLAR of Sec. 2.3.1.

BIPOLAR Refer to BIPOLAR of Sec. 2.3.1.

**PREAMP** A 9-pin Amphenol 17-10090 type connector accepts signals from TENNELEC preamplifiers and provides power to TENNELEC or other commercially available preamplifiers.

#### \* \* \* \* CAUTION \* \* \* \*

The **PREAMP** connector on this instrument is directly compatible only with TENNELEC preamplifiers with serial numbers greater than 2000. It is also directly compatible with standard Aptec, Canberra, EG&G Ortec and PGT preamplifiers.

If a TENNELEC preamplifier with serial number less than 2000 is used, then a model ADT 1 PREAMP POWER ADAPTER must be used (See Sec. 3.2.1).

If there are any questions regarding the compatibility of the **PREAMP** connector of this instrument, please contact the TENNELEC Marketing Department for assistance.



### 3.0 INSTALLATION

#### 3.1 POWER CONNECTION

The TC 241 AMPLIFIER, requires a **NIM-standard** bin and power supply, **such as the TENNELBC TB3/TC 911**, for operation. The **bin** provides mechanical **mounting** and power **supply distribution**. Always **turn OFF** the bin power supply when inserting or removing any modules.

All TENNELEC NIM modules are designed **so** that it is not possible to overload the power supply, even with a full complement of modules in **the** bin. Since this may not be true when the bin contains modules other than those of TENNELEC **design**, the power supply **voltages** should be checked after all modules have been inserted. The TENNELEC Bin and Power Supply provides power supply test points on the bin control panel for monitoring the dc voltage levels.

#### 3.2 PREAMPLIFIER CONNECTION

##### 3.2.1 ORIGINAL TENNELEC PREAMPLIFIERS (Serial Number <2000)

The **PREAMP** connector of **this** amplifier is NOT **directly compatible** with TENNELEC preamplifiers with serial numbers less than **2000**. A model ADT 1 PREAMP POWER ADAPTER is required.

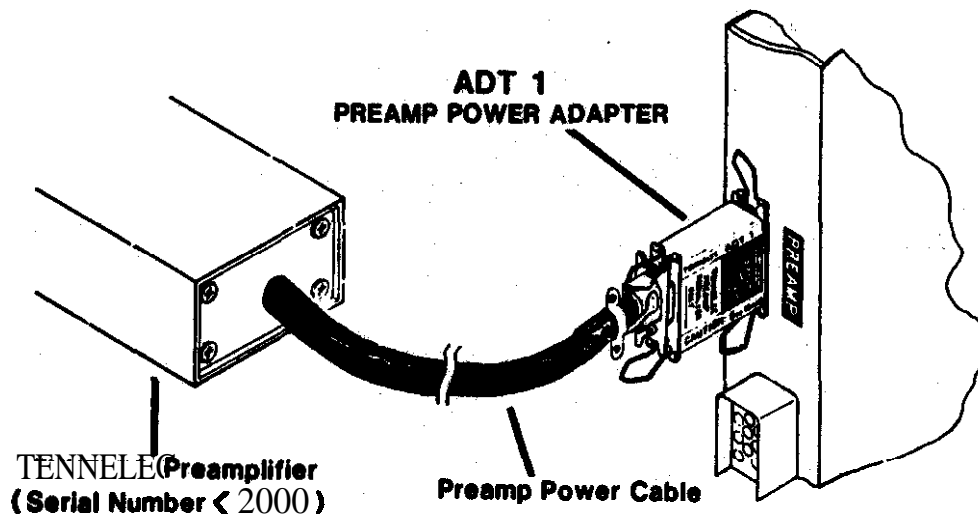


Fig. 3.1 Original **TENNELEC** Preamplifier Power Connections

The ADT 1 **PREAMP POWER ADAPTER** should be **physically** mounted to the amplifier's rear panel **PREAMP** connector (See Fig. 3.1).

The preamplifier's power cable is then connected to the ADT 1 adapter., **As with the original TENNELEC configuration, the preamplifier's output: signal is present in the power cable and no external BNC cable is required from the preamplifier's output to the amplifier's input.** The amplifier's front panel PCS-NEG switch should be set to match the preamplifier's output signal polarity.

### 3.2.2 TENNELBCPREAMPLIFIERS(**SerialNumber**>2000)

The **PREAMP** connector of this amplifier is directly **compatible** with TENWELEC preamplifiers with **serial** numbers greater than 2000.

The preamplifier's **power** cable is directly connected to the amplifier's **PREAMP** connector. The preamplifier's output signal is present in the power cable and no external BNC cable is required from the preamplifier's output to the **amplifier's** input. **The** amplifier's front panel POS-NEG switch should be set to match the preamplifier's **output** signal polarity,

### 3.2.3 OTHER PREAMPLIFIERS

The **PREAMP**P connector of this amplifier is directly **compatible** with standard **Aptec**, Canberra, **EG&G** Ortec and PGT preamplifiers.

The preamplifier's **power** cable is directly connected to the amplifier's **PREAMP** connector. The preamplifier's output signal, **should be** connected to the amplifier's rear panel **INPUT** connector with a BNC cable. The BNC cable should be spirally wrapped with the preamp power cable to reduce **noise** pickup.

#### 4.1.2 TEST SYSTEM SETUP

Set the TC 241 controls **as follows**, then insert into the NIM bin such that the **internal** controls are accessible.

COARSE GAIN	<b>100</b>
FINE GAIN	1.00
<b>P/Z</b>	Fully CCW
<b>POS-NEG</b>	<b>POS</b>
BLR-P/Z	<b>P/Z</b>
PEAKING <b>TIME (PCB)</b>	<b>3 usec</b>
UNIPOLAR DELAY <b>(PCB)</b>	OUT

Set the Tail **Pulser** controls as follows:

PULSE HEIGHT	<b>10.0</b>
RELAY	OFF
POL	+
DIRECT OUT/EXT IN	DIRECT OUT
OUTPUT	<b>5V</b>
ATTENUATION	5x10

Set the Oscilloscope controls as follows:

CH AVERT SENS	<b>5 Volts/Div</b> (dc-coupled)
<b>CH B</b> VERT SENS	<b>5 Volts/Div</b> (dc-coupled)
VERT DISPLAY MODE	CH A
<b>HORZ SWEEP</b>	<b>2 usec/Div</b>
TRIGGERING	POS EXTERNAL

Connect the DIRECT OUTPUT of the TC 812 to the EXTERNAL TRIGGER INPUT of the oscilloscope with a BNC cable. Place a BNC tee on the front panel INPUT connector of the TC 241 and connect a 50 ohm terminator on one side of the tee. Connect a BNC cable between the TC **812** OUTPUT and the remaining side of the BNC tee.

#### 4.1.3 TEST SYSTEM OPERATION

Apply power to the **NIM bin** and set the Digital Multimeter (**DMM**) for **200 mV dc full-scale**. Connect the **DMM's** negative lead to the GND (ground) test point of the NIM bin. **Touch the DMM's** positive lead to the center pin of the TC **241's** UNIPOLAR **connector**; the DMM should indicate **0 ±5 mV**. Repeat for BIPOLAR **connector**; the DMM should indicate **0 ±10 mV**.



### 3.2.4 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

When an external BNC cable longer than ten feet is used to connect the preamplifier output to the amplifier input, the characteristic impedance of the cable should match the impedance of the preamplifier output. All TENNELEC preamplifiers, contain 50 ohm series termination, therefore 50 ohm, RG-59 cable is recommended.

To minimize electrical noise pickup when external BNC signal and/or high voltage cables are connected between the preamplifier and NIM bin (containing the amplifier and high voltage power supply), the cable lengths should match the preamp power cable length and be spirally wrapped with the preamp power cable.

### 3.2.5 HIGH VOLTAGE DETECTOR BIAS

It is recommended that the detector high-voltage power supply be mounted in the same NIB bin as the amplifier to reduce ground-loop noise pickup. The high-voltage cable between the H.V. supply and the preamplifier should be spirally wrapped with the preamp power cable.

## 4.0 OPERATING PROCEDURES

### 4.1 FIRST-TIME OPERATIONS

Users will find it helpful to familiarize themselves with the TC 241 AMPLIFIER by conducting a few simple tests.

#### 4.1.1 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

1. NIN Bin and Power Supply (TENNELEC TB3/TC 911 or equivalent).
2. Precision Tail Pulser (TENNELEC TC 812 or equivalent).
3. Oscilloscope (TEKTRONIX 465 or equivalent).
4. Digital Multimeter (FLUKE 8010A or equivalent).
5. Shielded 50 ohm cables with BNC connectors.
6. BNC tee and 50 ohm terminator.

Connect BNC cables from the UNIPOLAR and BIPOLAR outputs of the TC 241 to the Channel A and Channel B vertical inputs, respectively, of the oscilloscope. Turn the RELAY power of the TC 812 to the ON position and adjust the oscilloscope trigger control for a stable display. Adjust the TC 241 P/Z control for proper compensation (refer to Sec. 4.2). Return the oscilloscope vertical, and horizontal controls to their initial settings. Switch the oscilloscope to the alternate display mode. Positive unipolar and bipolar shaped pulses should be present (See Fig. 4.1). Note the time relationship of the unipolar peak to both the bipolar peak and bipolar zero-crossing. Switch the TC 241 BLR-P/Z control to the BLR position; the unipolar signal should not change,

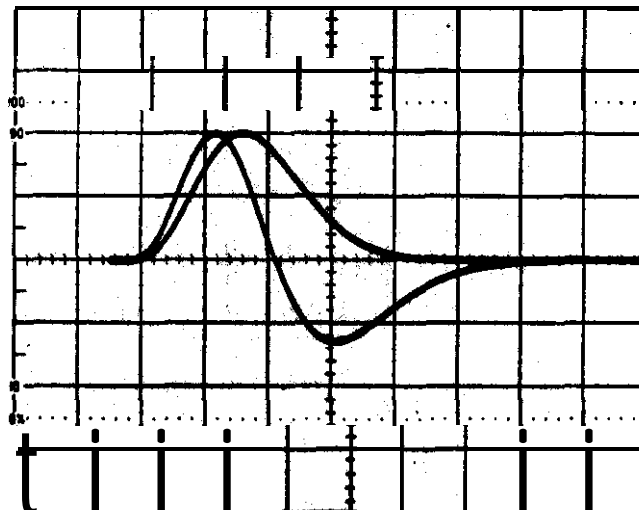


Fig. 4.1 TC 241 Linear Output Pulse Shapes

For instruments with the UNIPOLAR DELAY OPTION, position the unipolar signal peak around the center vertical graticule line. Switch the UNIPOLAR DELAY control to the IN position. Note that the unipolar signal is delayed by 2 usec, while the bipolar signal remains prompt. Return the UNIPOLAR DELAY control to the OUT position.

Change all four of the TC 241 PEAKING TIME switches to the 6. usec position. The unipolar signal should now peak at 6 usec.

Reduce the TC 241's COARSE GAIN to 50. The maximum amplitude of both the unipolar and bipolar signals should decrease to 5.0 volts. Increase the TC 241's FINE GAIN control to 1.500 (fully CW). The maximum amplitude of both signals should increase to 7.5 volts.

#### 4.2 POLE-ZERO (P/Z) CANCELLATION

Accurate setting of the P/Z control is essential for good resolution at high count rates in unipolar operation and for correct operation of the BLR circuit. With bipolar operation, accurate setting is not important regarding resolution, but is important if quick recovery from heavily overloading signals is required. The adjustment procedure is as follows:

Using a detector and a radioactive source as an input, observe the UNIPOLAR output signals of the amplifier on an oscilloscope with a triggered sweep. The oscilloscope MUST be de-coupled to the amplifier.

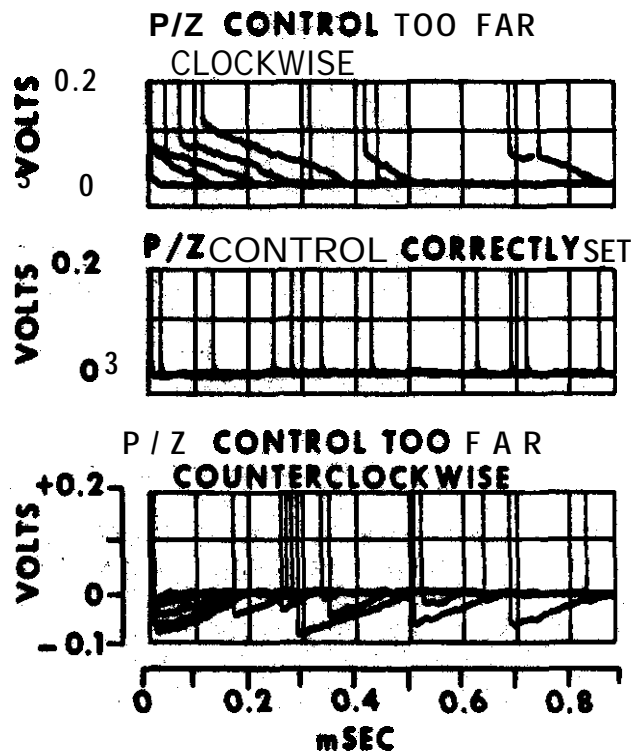


Fig. 4.2 P/2 Control Adjustment

**Adjust** the amplifier gain so that **the highest** energy peak **produces** an amplifier output of approximately 9 volts. Adjust the **source** strength, and/or spacing from detector to **provide** a count rate between **2,000** and **10,000** cpe. **Increase** the **oscilloscope** vertical sensitivity to **100 mV/Div**.

**Compensation** is **accomplished** by turning the P/X control for flattest possible **baseline** (See **Fig. 4.2**).

A **second** method of setting the control is to increase the **sweep speed** so that the pulse duration occupies approximately 2 **cm** of sweep. Then, looking at the baseline (which will be **fuzzy**) about one pulse width from the **end** of the pulse, adjust the P/Z control for minimum baseline **smear**.

NOTE: Oscilloscopes **such as** the TEKTRONIX **Model 465 and 475** will **overload** with a 10 volt input signal when the vertical sensitivity is **set for** 100 mV/Div or less. The **Resistor Bridge/Diode Limiter** shown in **Fig. 4.3** is recommended to prevent overloading the, **oscilloscope (this** bridge/limiter is also used for amplifier **linearity measurement**). The **FROM GENERATOR OUTPUT** connector is **not used** when connected as an oscilloscope overload limiter.

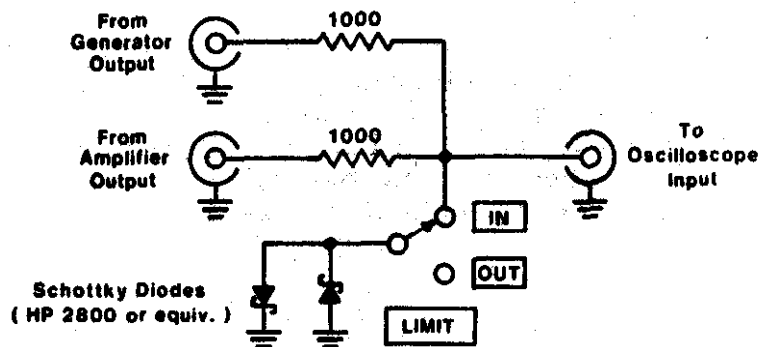


Fig. 4.3 Resistor Bridge/Diode Limiter

### 4.3 AMPLIFIER NOISE

The typical equivalent noise referred to the input vs amplifier gain for unipolar and bipolar shaping is shown in Fig. 4.4 and Fig. 4.5 respectively.

Lowest equivalent input noise results when, a high COARSE GAIN and low FINE GAIN are used to produce the same overall gain; For example, with unipolar shaping and a 3 usec peaking time, a COARSE GAIN of 100 and a FINE GAIN of 0.750 result in an overall gain of 75 with an equivalent input noise of 4.8  $\mu\text{V}$ , while a COARSE GAIN of 50 and a FINE GAIN of 1.500, although still producing an overall gain of 75, result in an equivalent input noise of 6.2  $\mu\text{V}$ .

### 4.4 PEAKING TIME CONSIDERATIONS

The optimum peaking time, for, a particular system depends on the detector characteristics and counting rate. A general discussion of peaking time requirements is presented below; consult the detector manufacturer for specific shaping requirements,

#### 4.4.1 GASPROPORTIONAL DETECTOR

The, required peaking time for a gas proportional detector depends on the charge collection time of the detector, which is related to the physical size (both the outer electrode and center wire), fill gas and high voltage. Generally, a larger detector will have a slower collection time.

Correct pole-zero compensation is not possible because of the peculiar charge collection characteristics, resulting in either an undershoot or back porch on the trailing-edge, of, a unipolar shaped signal. Bipolar shaping is recommended because it reduces this effect without degrading detector resolution.

TC 241

TYPICAL RMS NOISE vs GAIN SETTING  
UNIPOLAR SHAPING

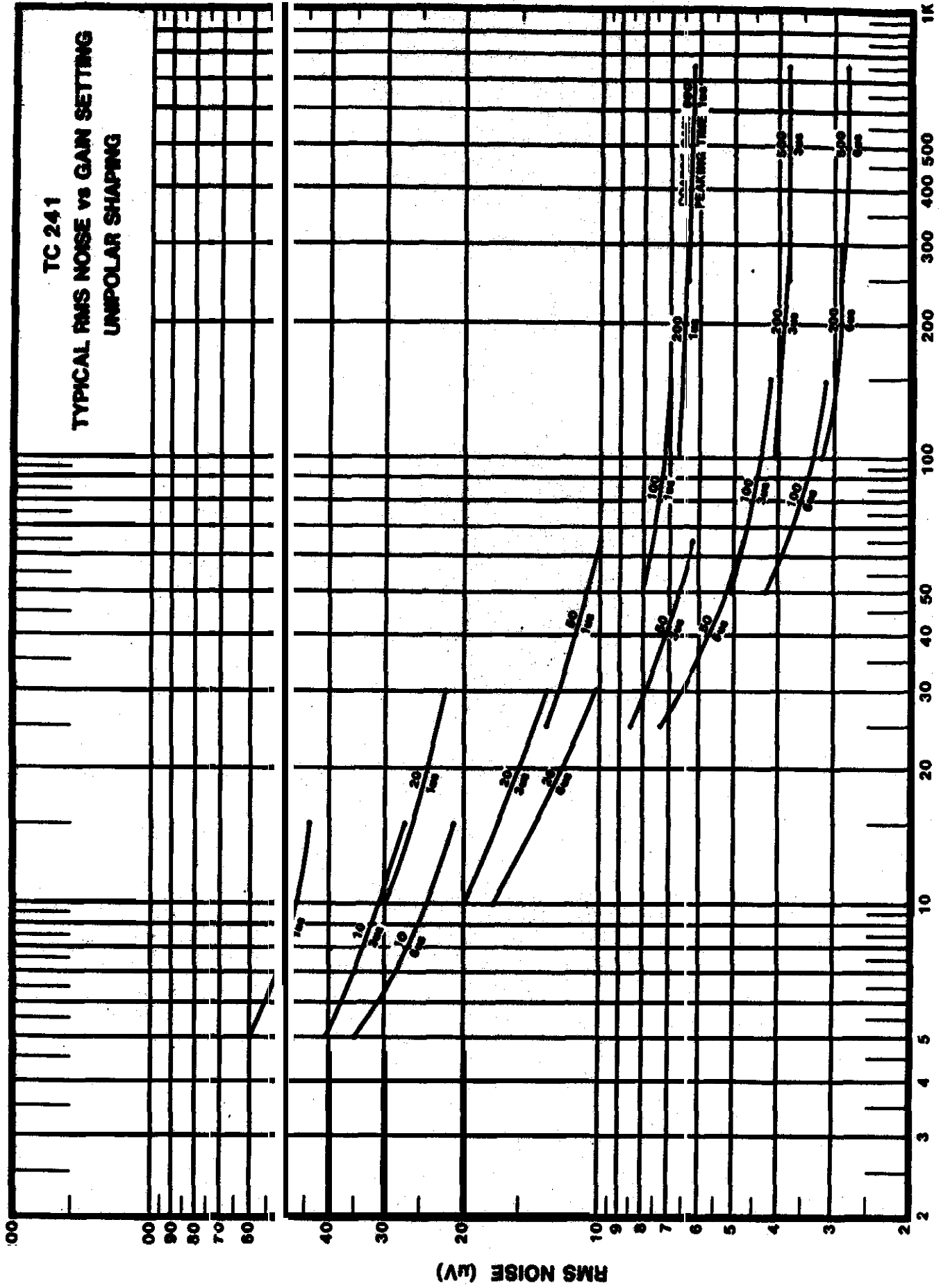


Fig. 4.4 Unipolar Noise vs Gain and Peaking Time

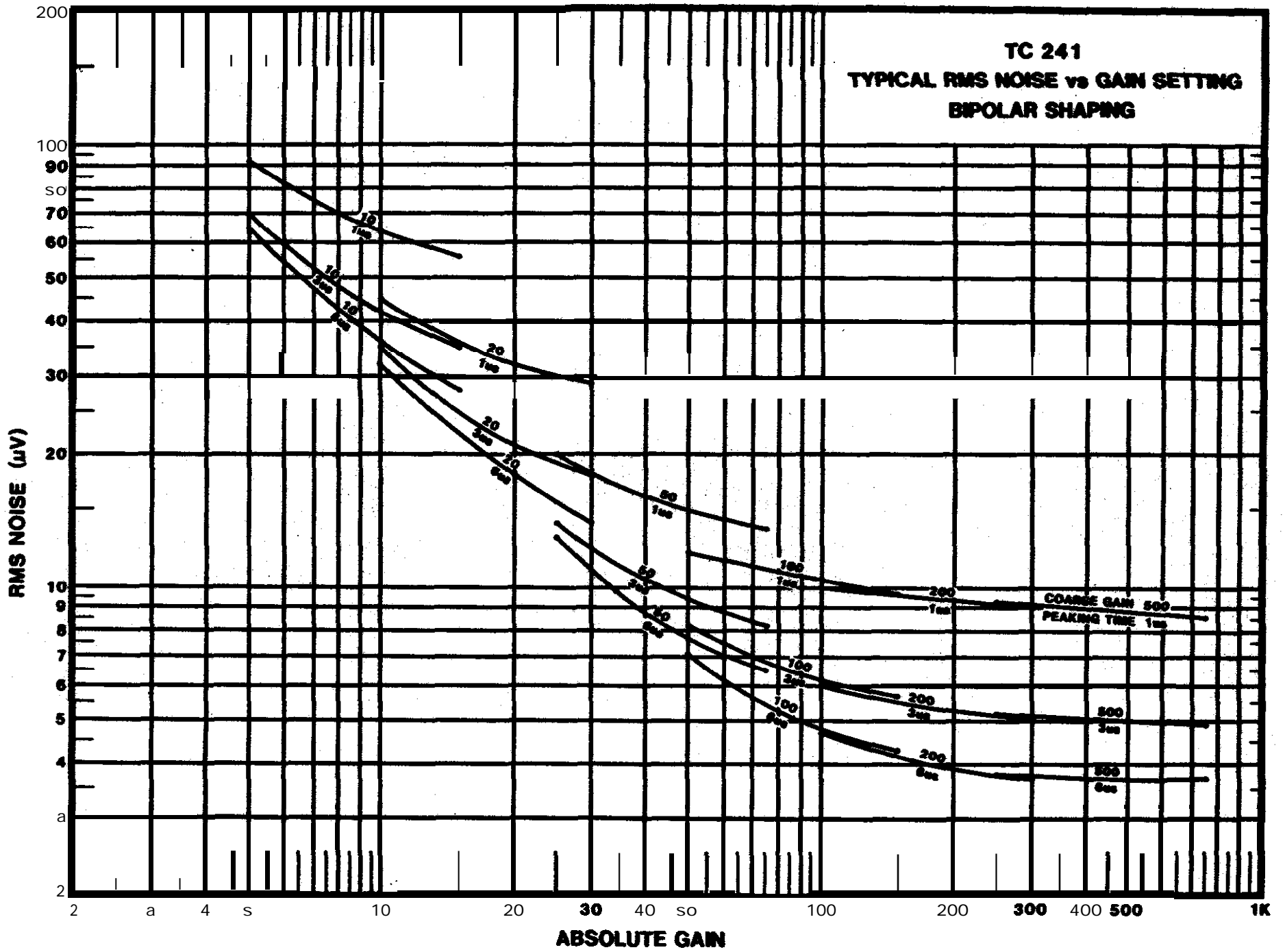


Fig. 4.5 Bipolar Noise vs Gain and Peaking Time

#### 4.4.2 GERMANIUM DETECTOR

Unipolar shaping, and a peaking time of 3 or 6 usec generally will give best results for germanium detectors, depending on the detector size, configuration, and counting rate.

A peaking time of 6 usec is preferred for applications requiring ultimate low-count rate resolution, while 3 usec is preferred at high-count rates. Resolution as a function of count rate at 3 and 6 usec peaking times for a typical intrinsic germanium detector is shown in Fig. 4.6. A performance crossover occurs above 80 Kcps with 3 usec peaking time providing better resolution.

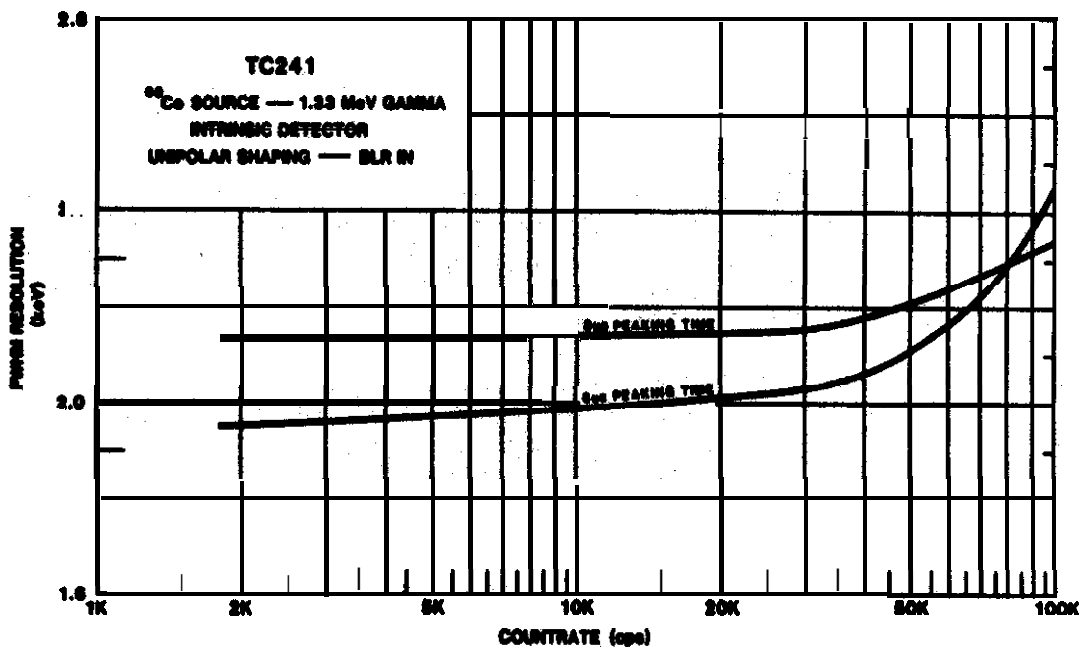


Fig. 4.6 Resolution vs Count rate

#### 4.4.3 SCINTILLATION DETECTOR

Scintillation detectors require a peaking time of two to three times the decay time constant of the scintillator (a 1 usec peaking time is about optimum for NaI scintillators). Bipolar shaping is preferred because it reduces the effect of overload and detector microphonics without degrading resolution.



#### 4.4.4 SILICON SURFACE BARRIER DETECTOR

Unipolar shaping and a peaking time of 1 or 3 **usec** usually will give best results, depending on the detector capacitance and leakage current. Generally, large area detectors are **resolution-limited** by their high capacitance, thus benefit from a longer peaking time. Small detectors are resolution-limited by their leakage current; which implies a shorter peaking time?

#### 4.5 OUTPUT TERMINATION CONSIDERATIONS

The TC 241 allows **individually** switchable output terminations of either **<1 ohm or 50 ohms** for both the UNIPOLAR and BIPOLAR outputs. The TC 241 is shipped with both OUTPUT IMPEDANCE switches in the 50 ohm position.

Series 50-ohm termination is recommended for general applications and is **required** for long cable lengths and/or high noise environments. In extreme situations series termination along with shunt termination at the receiving end may be required, however, this reduces the signal amplitude at the receiving end of the cable to 50% of the non-shunt-termination value. An in-line 50 ohm terminator or **BNC Tee** and 50 ohm terminator may be used for shunt termination.

The **<1 ohm** termination is **useful** when driving several instruments from the **same** amplifier output connector. The **output signal amplitude** will be relatively independent of the load impedance, which is not the case with series 50 ohm termination. However, the amplifier may oscillate when driven into overload.

#### 5.0 AMPLIFIER TEST

##### 5.1 NOISE TEST

##### 5.1.1 EQUIPMENT REQUIRBD

1. NIM Bin and Power Supply (**TENNELEC TB3/TC 911** or equivalent).
2. Precision Tail **Pulser** (**TENNELEC TC 812** or equivalent).
3. Oscilloscope (**TEKTRONIX 465** or equivalent).
4. AC Voltmeter (**HP400, HP3400A** or equivalent).
5. Shielded 50 ohm cables with **BBC connectors**.
6. **BNC tee** and **50 ohm terminator**.

### 5.1.2 NOISE TEST SETUP

Set the TC 241 controls as fellows, then insert into the **NIM** Bin.

COARSE GAIN	500
FINE GAIN	1.500
<b>P/Z</b>	Fully CCW
POS-NEG	<b>POS</b>
BLR-P/Z	<b>P/Z</b>
<b>PEAKING TIME (PCB)</b>	<b>6 usec</b>

Set the Tail Pulser controls as follows:

PULSE HEIGHT	1.33
POL	+
<b>DIRECT OUT-EXT IN</b>	DIRECT-OUT
OUTPUT	<b>1V</b>
ATTENUATION	10

Set the Oscilloscope **controls** as follows:

VERT SENS	2 Volts/Div (do-coupled)
<b>HORIZ SWEEP</b>	1 usec/Div
TRIGGERING	<b>POS</b> EXTERNAL

Connect the system shown in Fig. 5.1.

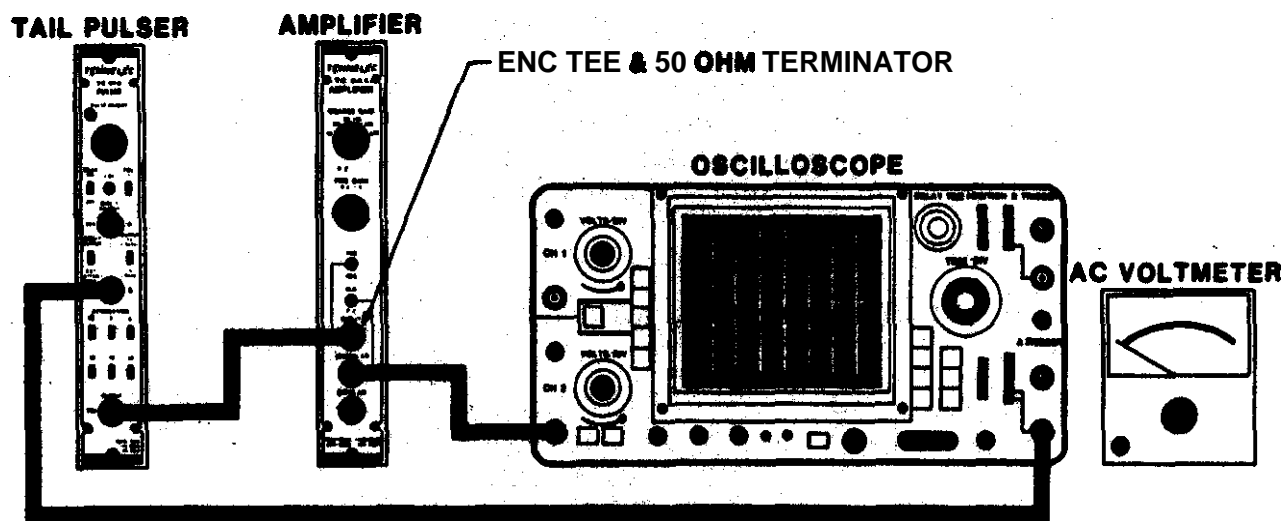


Fig. 5.1 Noise Test Setup

### 5.1.3 NOISE MEASUREMENT

Apply power to the NIM Bin and adjust the oscilloscope trigger control for a, stable display. Adjust the TC 812 PULSE HEIGHT control for an exact 10.0 volt signal from the TC 241 UNIPOLAR output. The overall amplifier gain ( $A_o$ ) is calculated from

$$A_o = \frac{1000}{\text{PULSE HEIGHT Dial Setting}}$$

where the TC 812 PULSE HEIGHT dial setting reads direct. A typical PULSE HEIGHT dial setting of 1.33 would indicate an overall gain of 752.

Turn the TC 812 'RELAY switch to the OFF position. Remove the cable from the oscilloscope vertical input and reconnect to the ac-voltmeter input. Read the output noise ( $N_o$ ) from the ac-voltmeter (for an average responding meter, such as the HP400 series, the reading must be multiplied by 1.135 to get the true rms value). The noise referred to the input ( $N_i$ ) is obtained by dividing the output noise ( $N_o$ ) by the overall amplifier gain ( $A_o$ ).

### 5.2 NONLINEARITY

#### 5.2.1 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

1. NIM BIN and Power Supply (TENNELEC TB3/TC 911 or equivalent).
2. Precision Tail Pulser (TENNELEC TC 812 or equivalent).
3. oscilloscope (TEKTRONIX 465 or equivalent).
4. Resistor Bridge/Diode Limiter (See Fig. 4.3).
5. Shielded 50 ohm cables with BNC connectors.
6. BNC tee and 50 ohm terminator.

#### 5.2.2 NONLINEARITY TEST SETUP

Set the TC 241 controls as follows, then insert into the NIM Bin.

COARSE GAIN	10
FINE GAIN	1.000
P/Z	Fully CCW
PGS-NEG	NEG
'BLR-P/E	P/Z
PEAKING TIME (PCB)	3 usec

Set the Tail Pulser **controls** a6 f0110W6:

PULSE HEIGHT	10.0
RELAY	ON
POL	
DIRECT OUT-EXT IN	DIRECT OUT
OUTPUT	5v
ATTENUATION	5

Set the **Oscilloscope** control6 a6 follows:

VERT SENS	2 Volts/Div (de-coupled)
HORIZ SWEEP	1 usec/Div
TRIGGERING	NEG EXTERNAL

Connect the **system** as shown in Fig. 5.2.

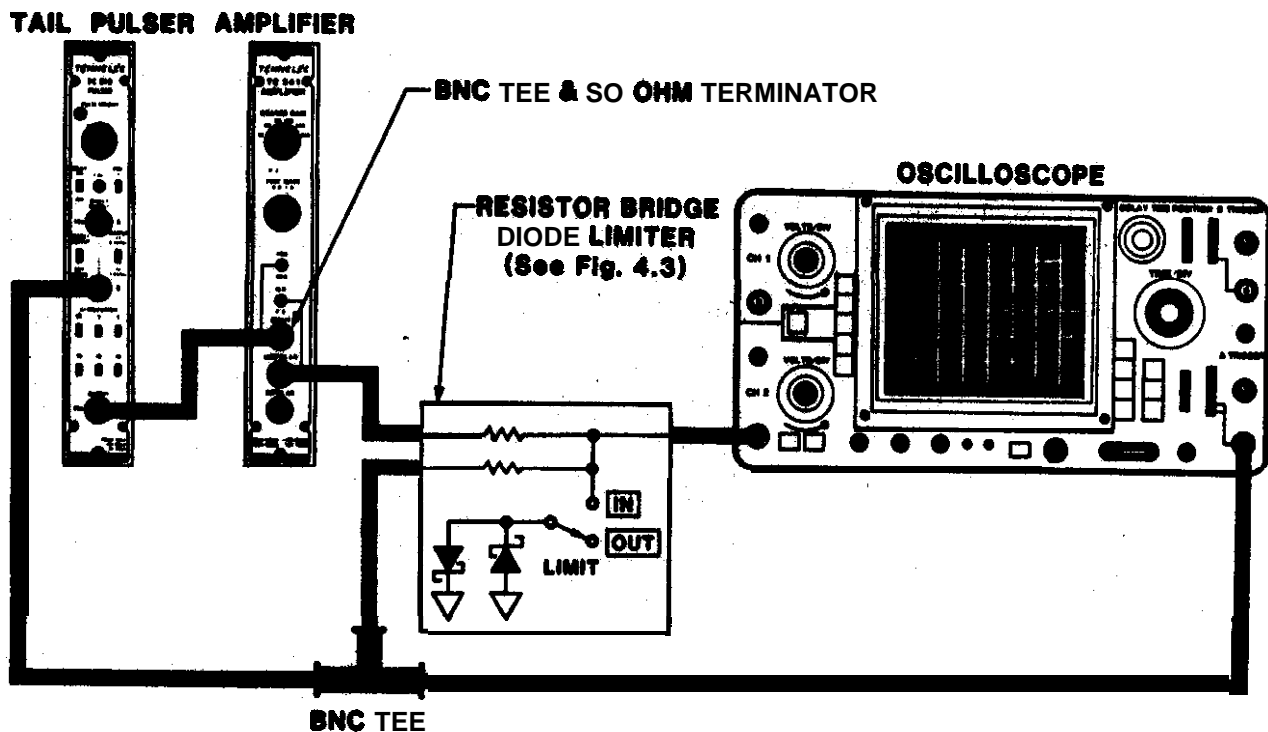


Fig. 5.2 Nonlinearity **Test** Setup

### 5.2.3 NONLINEARITY MEASUREMENT

Apply power to the NIM Bin and **adjust the oscilloscope trigger control** for a stable **display**. With the diode limiter **OUT**, **adjust** the *FINEGAIN* control for a null **signal** on the waveform in Fig. 5.3. Switch the limiter

IN and increase oscilloscope **sensitivity** to **5 mV/Div**, if possible. As the sensitivity is increased; improve the null, using the FINE GAIN control as necessary. In traversing the last three steps of oscilloscope sensitivity, note that a small null imbalance should increase proportionally as the sensitivity is **increased**. IF THIS DOES NOT OCCUR, IT INDICATES INADEQUATE OVERLOAD **CAPABILITY** OF THE OSCILLOSCOPE. The maximum usable sensitivity is the last step before nonproportional response sets in.

Having reached **maximum usable** sensitivity, complete the test by gradually reducing the pulser output to zero while observing the change in null voltage (do **not** touch the ATTENUATOR). The interpretation of the results are as follows:

Since the generator **supplies bridge** signal as well as amplifier input signal, varying the generator output should not affect the null if the amplifier is perfectly linear (this is very nearly the case with the TC 241).

The **per-mV** unbalance of the null corresponds to an amplifier nonlinearity of  $1 \text{ mV}/5\text{V} = 0.02\%$  (a **5 mV unbalance** would represent  $5 \times 0.02\% = 0.1\%$  nonlinearity). Typically, the null shift with a TC 241 is less than **1 mV**.

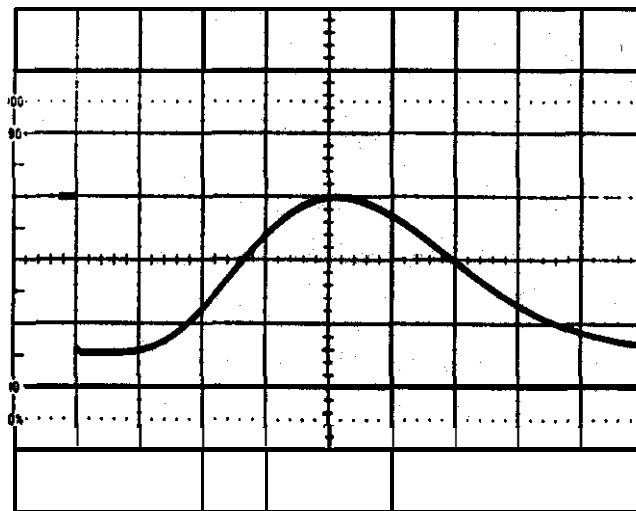


Fig. 5.3 Bridge-Balance Waveform.

## 6.0 CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The TC 241 AMPLIFIER consist of three gain stages, two active-filter stages, two output driver stages, and an active baseline restorer (BLR) with automatic threshold and restorer rate circuits as shown in the TC 241 BLOCK DIAGRAM. The overall transfer function of the amplifier synthesize an  $e^{-3t} \sin^4 t$  time response resulting in a pseudo-gaussian pulse shape.

Transistors Q1 through Q6 form a low-noise input op-amp stage with switch selectable gains of 20, 10, 4, or 2. Diodes D1 and D2 provide input protection, while diodes D3 through D5 provide biasing and overload limiting.

Input-polarity selection and additional gain is provided by IC1. Diode D8 provides overload limiting.

Fine-gain adjustment and additional switch selectable gain is provided by IC2. Diode D9 provides overload limiting.

IC3 and IC4 form a four-pole active integrator.

The signal from the integrators is differentiated, then buffered by IC5 and transistors Q8 and Q9 to provide a high-current BIPOLAR output. Diodes D13 and D14 provide overload limiting.

The integrated signal, is directly applied to IC6 and transistors Q10 and Q11 to provide a high-current UNIPOLAR output., Diodes D20 and D21 provide overload limiting.

Baseline restoration of the UNIPOLAR output is provided by transconductance amplifier IC7. capacitor C51 functions as an output level memory. IC9 and IC10 form a peak detector for the negative noise excursions at the UNIPOLAR output, which determines the BLR gate threshold. IC8 and transistor Q13 gate the restorer current whenever the UNIPOLAR output exceeds the BLR gate threshold. An additional, exponentially decaying restoration current is provided when switch S9 is in the BLR position. This additional current is disabled with switch S9 in the P/Z position for accurate pole-zero cancellation adjustment.

## 7.0 SHIPPING DAMAGE

Upon receipt of the instrument, examine it for shipping damage. Damage claims should be filed with the carrier. The claims agent should receive a full report; a copy of that report should be sent to TENNELEC, Inc., P.O. Box D, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830. The model number and serial number of the instrument must be included in the report. Any remedial action taken by TENNELEC, Inc., will be based on the information contained in this report.

## 8.0 SERVICING

In the event of a component failure, replacement may be done in the field, or the instrument may be returned to our plant for repair. There will be no charge for repairs that fall within the warranty.

## 9.0 WARRANTY

In connection with TENNELEC's warranty, (inside front cover), TENNELEC suggests that if a fault develops, the customer should immediately notify the TENNELEC Customer Service Manager. He may be able to prescribe repairs and send replacement parts which will enable you to get the instrument operating sooner and at less expense than if you returned it.

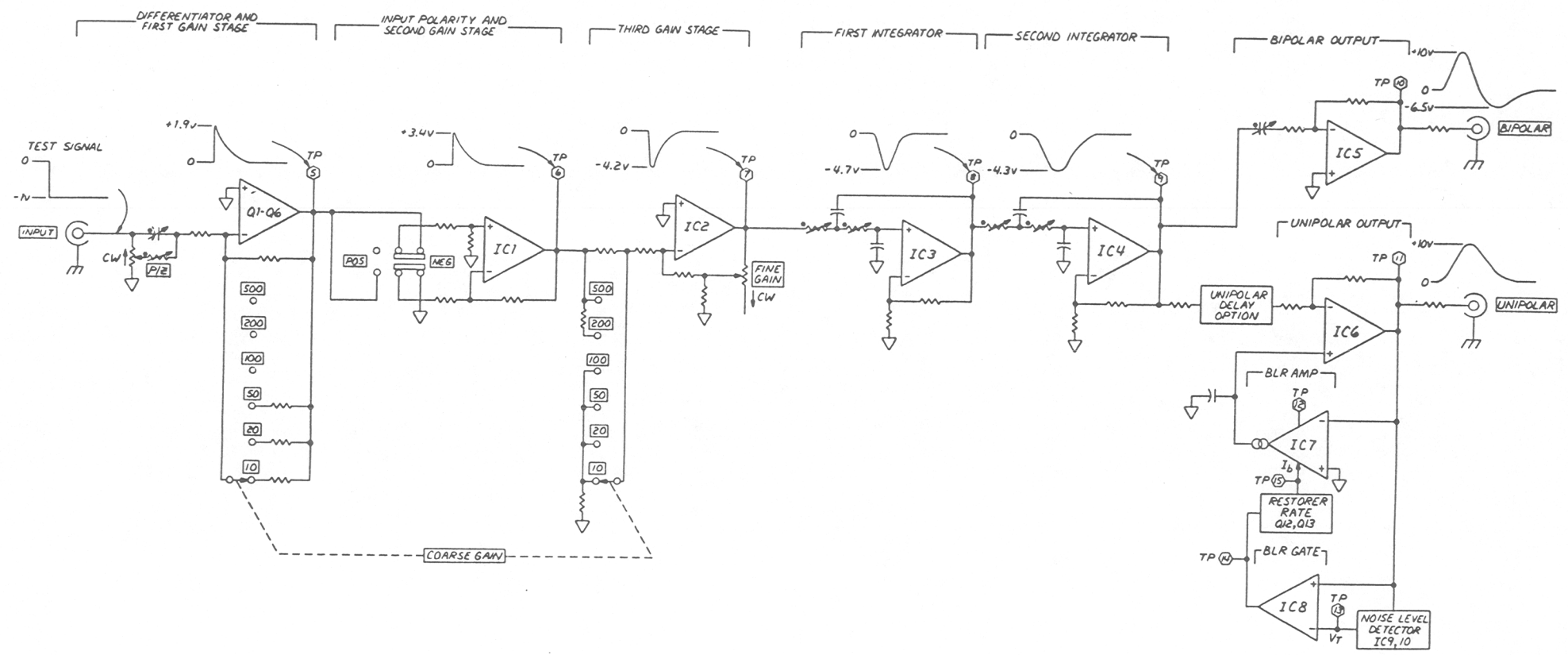
Should return prove necessary, the TENNELEC Customer Service Manager must be informed in WRITING, BY CABLE or TWX of the nature of the fault and the model number and aerial number of the instrument. Pack the instrument well and ship PREPAID and INSURED to TENNELEC, Inc., 601 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830. As stated in the warranty DAMAGE IN TRANSIT WILL BE REPAIRED AT THE SENDER'S EXPENSE as will damage that obviously resulted from abuse or misuse of the instrument.

Quotations for repair of such damage will be sent for your approval before repair is undertaken.





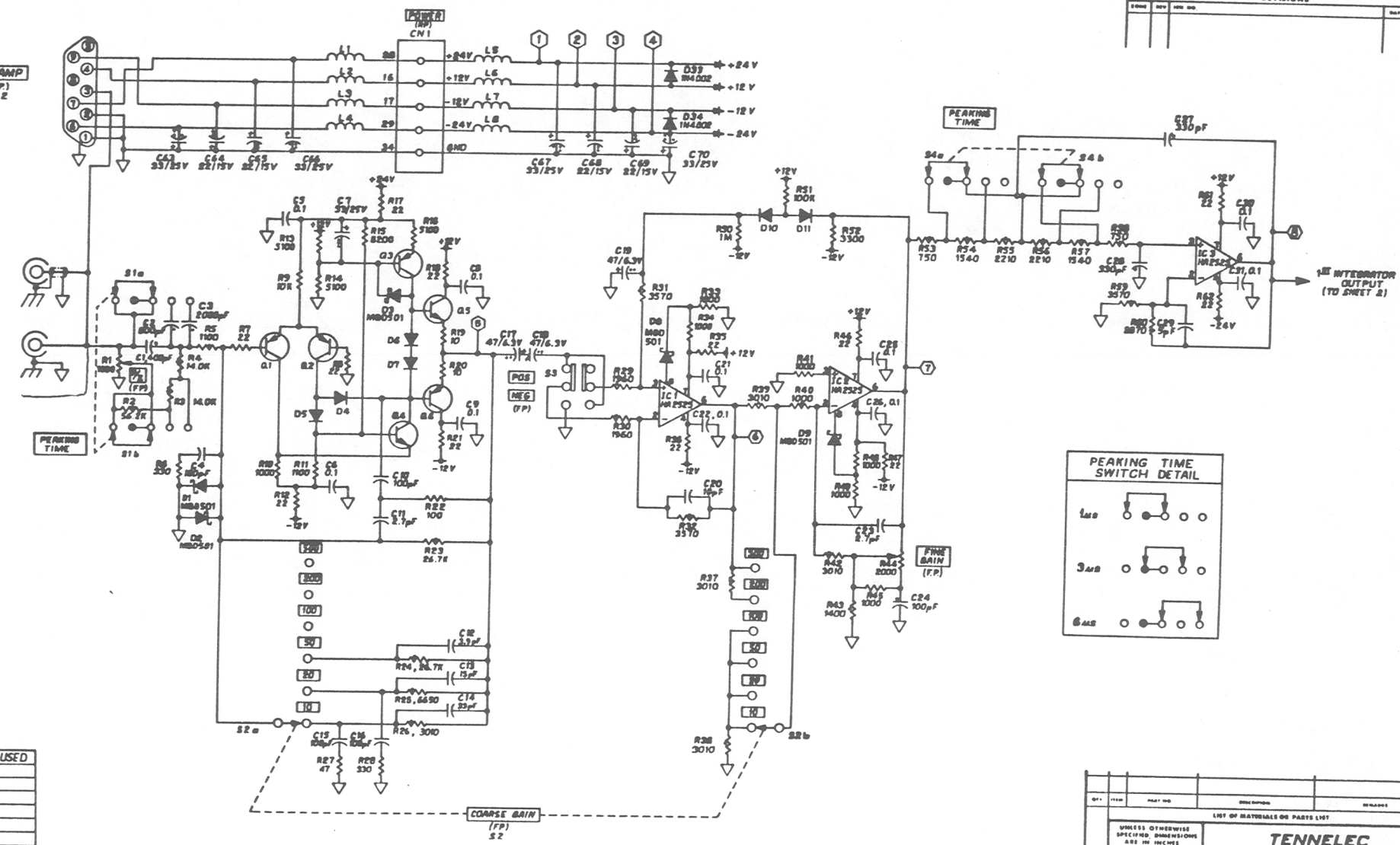
REVISIONS				DATE	BY



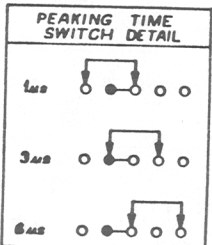
- NOTES:  
 (1) \* DENOTES SWITCHED 'PEAKING TIME' COMPONENT.  
 (2) O DENOTES TEST POINTS.  
 (3) TYPICAL WAVEFORMS SHOWN ARE FOR THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:  
 (A) COARSE GAIN: 10  
 (B) FINE GAIN: 1,000  
 (C) POS-NEG: NEG  
 (D) BLR - P/2 : P/2  
 (E) PEAKING TIME : 3 μs  
 (F) -1 VOLT STEP INPUT

QTY	ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
LIST OF MATERIALS OR PARTS LIST				
<b>TENNELEC</b>				
P O BOX 8, DAN RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37030				
<b>TC 241</b>				
<b>BLOCK DIAGRAM</b>				
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES				
TOLERANCES: DECIMALS				
.5 & .1 & .003				
.25 & .010				
.1 & .050				
FRACTIONS: ANGLES				
3/16				
DATE	DESIGNED BY	CHECKED BY	DATE	BY
D	ROSELL 9-7-61	SMITH	11-16-61	TP 241

REVISIONS			
NO.	REV.	BY	DATE



See pg 3



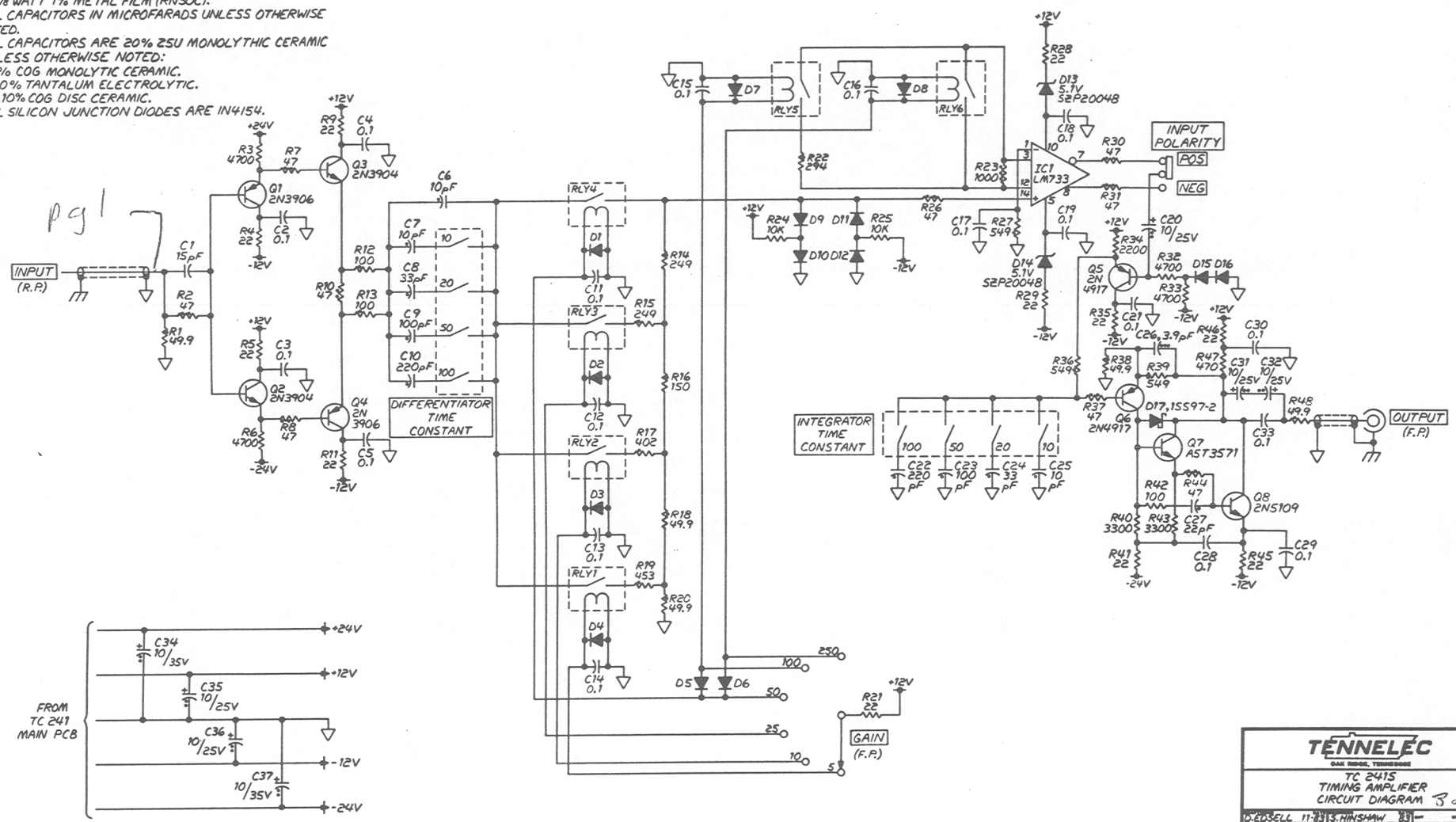
LAST USED	NOT USED
R142	
C70	
D34	
Q14	
IC10	
S10	
LB	
CNB	
TP15	

NO.	ITEM	PART NO.	QUANTITY	REMARKS
LIST OF MATERIALS OR PARTS LIST				
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES				
TOLERANCES: DECIMALS				
R - 0.1000				
M - 0.010				
F - 0.005				
FRACTIONS ANGLES				
01/16 01/8				
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TENNELEC</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">P. O. BOX 9, OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TC 241</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM</b></p>				
SHEET	D	REVISED BY	REVISED DATE	DESIGNED BY



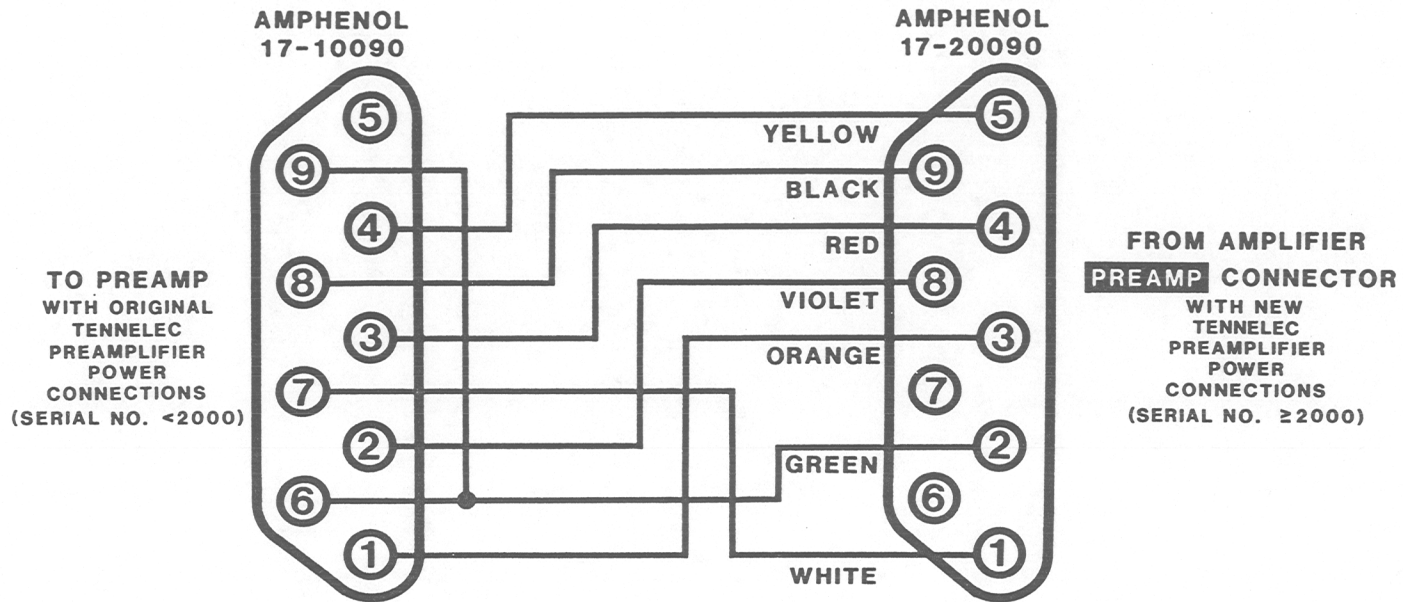
REVISIONS					
REV	ECN	DESCRIPTION	INC BY	APP BY	DATE

- NOTES:  
 (1) ALL RESISTORS IN OHMS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 (2) ALL RESISTORS ARE 1/4 WATT 5% DEPOSITED CARBON UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED:  
 • 1/4 WATT 1% METAL FILM (RN 55C).  
 • 1/8 WATT 5% DEPOSITED CARBON.  
 • 1/8 WATT 1% METAL FILM (RNSOC).  
 (3) ALL CAPACITORS IN MICROFARADS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 (4) ALL CAPACITORS ARE 20% Z5U MONOLYTHIC CERAMIC UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED:  
 • 5% COG MONOLYTHIC CERAMIC.  
 • 10% TANTALUM ELECTROLYTIC.  
 • 10% COG DISC CERAMIC.  
 (5) ALL SILICON JUNCTION DIODES ARE IN4154.



**TENNELEC**  
 OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE  
 TC 2415  
 TIMING AMPLIFIER  
 CIRCUIT DIAGRAM 3 of 3  
 RUSSELL H. HAYSHAW  
 TC 2415

**NOTES**  
 (1) ADT-1 ADAPTER PHYSICALLY MOUNTED  
 AT AMPLIFIER **PREAMP** CONNECTOR.



TO PREAMP  
 WITH ORIGINAL  
 TENNELEC  
 PREAMPLIFIER  
 POWER  
 CONNECTIONS  
 (SERIAL NO. <2000)

FROM AMPLIFIER  
**PREAMP** CONNECTOR  
 WITH NEW  
 TENNELEC  
 PREAMPLIFIER  
 POWER  
 CONNECTIONS  
 (SERIAL NO. ≥2000)

PREAMPLIFIER PIN ASSIGNMENT

PIN	ORIGINAL TENNELEC	NEW TENNELEC
1	PREAMP OUT	POWER GND
2	PHANTOM	SIGNAL GND
3	+12V	PREAMP OUT
4	TEST	+12V
5	HV BIAS	TEST
6	SIGNAL GND	-24V
7	POWER GND	+24V
8	-12V	PHANTOM
9	TEST GND	-12V

QTY	ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	REMARKS
LIST OF MATERIALS OR PARTS LIST				
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES			<b>TENNELEC</b>	
TOLERANCES: DECIMALS .XXX ± .005 .XX ± .015 .X ± .020			P. O. BOX D, OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830	
FRACTIONS ANGLES ±1/64 ±1°			<b>PREAMPLIFIER POWER ADAPTER</b>	
SIZE	MATERIAL	DATE	INCHES	DATE
C	FINISH	DEN BY	D. E. SELLS 1-7-81	S. HINSHAW 1-81
		CHK BY	W. C. BYRNE 1-7-81	S. HINSHAW 1/8/81
		SCALE	NONE	
				MODEL NO. DRAWING NO. <b>ADT-1</b>