January 2012 Volume 12, Issue 7

ANODE

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Anode Editor's Comments

Volume 12, Issue 7 January 2012



Ham Radio Software Transceiver

What is so great about this Ham Radio Software Transceiver?

No extra hardware needed, just your PC, a microphone, speakers and you are ready to call CQ on the virtual Ham Radio bands. Once you have installed this Ham Radio Software you will be able to communicate with thousands of Amateur Radio operators and radio enthusiasts from over 200 countries

around the world. You can even use it without a Ham Radio License.

http://www.hamsphere.com/

73 Magazine Lives! Goes back to 1961!

http://www.archive.org/details/73-magazine

Amateur radio mentioned in Prof RV Jones book 'Most Secret War'

From: Martin < Martinl22@hotmail.

com> (Your Company)

Date: Monday 02 January 2012

12:04:38

Groups: uk.radio.amateur

Reginald Victor Jones Assistant Di-(continued on page 3)

SDR prototype

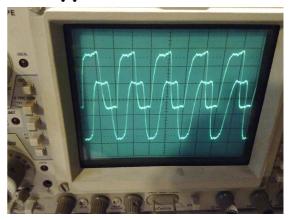
Special points of interest:

- Contact details on back page UPDATED 2011-11-14
- H a m Comp Latest on web
 site. Still
 under construction...

I have started work on constructing a 'simple SDR'. For a trial 'local oscillator', I am using a 20 MHz crystal oscillator taken from an old Ethernet adapter card. This when divided by two will give me an input frequency of 10 MHz +/- 44 kHz.

The output from the oscillator has TTL voltage levels and drives TTL chips quite happily. Of course I don't have all the 'fancy' high speed CMOS chips yet. But I do have Low power Schottky TTL chips to play with...

So there is the waveform of the



The 90 degree 'local oscillator'.

74LS74 divide by two. Now to try out the 'mixer' chip.

(Continued on page 2)

SDR prototype

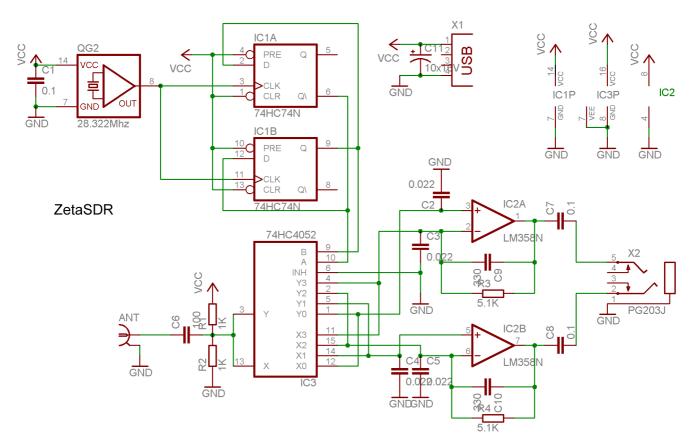
(continued from page 1)

Most of the circuits shown use a 4053 which is a 'triple' switch. I have some 4052's, dual switches, which I shall use in a similar circuit.

As you might imagine, there is a lot of interest out there on the Internet. One site that helped a lot is:-http://ea4nz.ure.es/sdr/sdr.html

His construction techniques are similar to my own. He seems to have been quite successful in building a DDS fed SDR, controlled by a PIC.

My circuit is going to look something like this:-



I have 'found' the LM358 dual op-amps and will be constructing this circuit or one similar over the next couple of weeks. Maybe I shall bring it to the next Ham Comp Saturday. That will be the 28th at 13:00 at the club house.

Anode Editor's Comments

(Continued from page 1)
rector of Intelligence (Science)

Professor Reginald Victor Jones, CH CB CBE FRS, (29 September 1911-17 December 1997) was a British physicist and scientific military intelligence expert who played an important role in the defence of Britain in World War II.

On Page 87

One day I was talking to a relative newcomer to Signals Intelligence, Flight Lieutenant Rowley Scott-Farnie, a generous natured ruby player who had badly injured a leg and who before the war had been in a bank. An enthusiastic radio amateur, he had joined the RAF Signals Intelligence Service at the outbreak of war.

Incidentally, our community of radio amateurs in Britain was to prove an invaluable reserve, both in Signals Intelligence and in Signals proper, as well as furnishing many of the staff for our rapidly increasing number of radar stations.

On Page 244

(Hitler)

He had no skilled reserve to draw upon among radio amateurs, as we had, because Hitler banned amateur radio before the war since it might provide communication links for disaffected organizations.

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Re: RTTY newsgroup

From: 7077 <blastfromthepast@gmx.

com> (... --- -.. .- .-..-)
Reply-To: blastfromthepast@gmx.com

Date: Thursday 10 September 2009 14:36:59

Groups: alt.ham-radio.rtty

References: 1

Frederick Day wrote:

Hello all,

Looking at the date time group on these messages, it would appear that this news group is not supported. This is a pity as I believe it is a good medium for the promulgation of advice and information .

Anyway, I do have a question that someone may be able to advise me upon, or at least point me in the correct direction.

Is there anyway by using MMTTY or TrueTTY that the baud rate of a transmission can be accurately determined? I realise that an oscilloscope may be connected to the demodulator output and the time intervals be measured, but this only produces a rough guide. Also one has to be careful that the stop mark is not the element being measured.

Any ideas would be welcome.

Fred M0RFD

Ham RTTY is usually 45(.5) Baud, anything else is usually 50 or 75 but will be encrypted. I've not seen any data software that can make a guess at the type of data, it would be a useful feature and was included in the firmware of my old PK232 with it's slow Z80 processor.

The group is not quite dead, merely pining for the fjords...

7077

{---}

QRP has not failed me yet in the last year.

From: Satans Rat <punkbiscuit@googlemail.

com (A noiseless patient Spider)

Date: Monday 02 January 2012 14:09:18

Groups: uk.radio.amateur

I've just finished a nice QSO on 10 Mhz CW with a Polish station and it's occurred to me that I've been pretty much doing nothing but QRP this year on HF c.w.

No more than 5 watts, and either a homebrew Miracle Whip style antenna, or a bit of wire (Continued on page 4)

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slung over a wardrobe (I do like taking the pee with antennas)!

Every single time I have been on I've always managed to make a QSO, even though sunspots have gone back down the plughole in the last month or two.

Who the heck needs QRO?;-)

Re: QRP has not failed me yet in the last year.

Yesterday from INDOORS inland I had a 500 mW day.

I set myself a target to make at least one QSO from 30m upwards using 500 mw and a 20ft wire thrown over the wardrobe ;-)

I managed it on 30/20/17/15m easy enough, but 10m was lousy and on 12m I needed the full 5w to work a W8.

The whole shebang can at best be described as a "non serious" station, at worst a pile of poop, and yet it worked.

I certainly had no advantages with that lot.

I very much doubt I would have had as much success using ssb and as usual I find using CW boosts the chances of making QSO's by 3 or 4 times.

Thank gawd for CW.

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TEST TRANSMISSION WITH GRIMETON RADIO/SAQ ON 17.2 KHZ

From: Brian Howie <bri> <bri> <bri> co.uk>

Reply-To: Brian Howie <bri>demon.co.uk>

Date: Friday 06 January 2012 20:11:16

Groups: uk.radio.amateur (sent by Lars/SM6NM)

Because of the missing Christmas Eve transmission we will have a test transmission on Tuesday 10th, 2012 at 13:30 UTC.

There will only be a transmission with "VVV VVV DE SAQ SAQ SAQ" running for about 30 minutes and no message.

For further information on what happened on the Christmas Eve transmission, read out website www.alexander.n.se.

There will be no QSL-card on this transmission.

You can get soundcard software at Http://sites.google.com/site/sm6lkm/saqrx

Brian Howie

SR2, or not SR2?

From:lugh@eternal-flames.gov (Tuatha D� Danann)

Date:Tuesday 20 December 2011 23:04:25 Groups:uk.radio.amateur

The thread on here about Andy's TRF receiver, reminded me of a VHF TRF kit which was available back in the early/mid 1960s from an advertiser in Practical Wireless.

ISTR the company making them was a small radio shop on the road down below the cathedral, at Worcester (I visited it once,) I think it was called Johnson's Radio - or it might have been John's - with the radio kit being the SR2.

The kit used a single valve - a 6C4 as I recall - and with a choice of two coils (the selected one had to be soldered in) gave you choice of 60-130 MHz or 120-180 MHz or something like that. As far as I remember there were only about eight components in total, including the valve-holder and a Jacksons 35pf air-spaced variable.

A fun thing to build - almost instant gratification (continued on page 5)

Anode Editor's Comments

(Continued from page 4)

in fact as building took less than an hour :) and it cost around £3. It worked too.

Sadly, the thing produced so much garbage that it also knocked out any Band I/III televisions over a range of a hundred yards or so as you tuned around. ;-)

I think that, or maybe an HAC of around the same time, was my last dabbling with valve T.R.F.'s

Happy Daze...

Nick.

{---}

How young?

From:MM6AHJ <Glesga@SPAMl.com> Aioe. org NNTP Server)

Date: Sunday 11 December 2011 18:08:30

Groups: uk.radio.amateur

A pleasant afternoon with my young nephew visiting us and suitably enamoured with the new telescopic, loaned on the usual semi-permanent basis.

Hearing the radio he expressed some curiosity at which I let him dab away at a morse key, demanding to know more of this 'morse' thing we let him loos on the CW section of 20m. Coupled with the ERA Reader gadget, he was knocked out at all this happening 'in secret'?

Writing down the name of the station, we showed him QRZ and he found the German guy and the info on him, amazed as it tallied with what was said on CW. I unearthed an ancient key with buzzer & battery and a set of Flip-cards, he was ecstatic at the whole experience.

So at what age should kids be introduced to 'radio'?

Now this is one smart bunny, who soaks up info like a sponge and remembers it! I dare say on others it would be wasted by less serious pastimes. If he wants more, this nutty old uncle is only too happy to provide, but in which direction at this early stage?

one response was:-

So if you regard Morse as a language, no age is too young. Absolutely true.

Until around 8 - 10 the young learn communication, e.g. languages, music etc. with a different part of the brain than adults. One of the reasons they find it easy.

This changes around puberty when the hormonal chemicals change the brain synapses. Go to it....MM6AHJ

Jon G4FUT (Retired Psychologist)

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New Amateur Radio Home Construction List

Electronic home construction (DIY) is undergoing a boom at the moment with Maker and Hacker groups springing up everywhere. A new amateur Radio builder list has started to cater for the growing interest in building simple projects.

If you are currently a ham radio builder, or interested in becoming one, the Hamradio-builder mailing list has been created with you in mind.

Diane Bruce, VA3DB says of the list, "A recent look at some old 73 Magazines brought to mind the simple projects this magazine produced.

(Continued on page 6)

Club Birthday List for this month

1/4		Bernelea	Child of Herculaas / Magda Wallace
1/5		Rowan	Child of ZR6NPH Noel / Gail Hammond
1/8		Herculaas (Jnr)	Child of Herculaas / Magda Wallace
1/8	ZRAA2370	Edgar Wallace	
1/11		Nellie	Spouse of ZU6FEM Goosen Thompson
1 / 12		Nicole	Child of ZS6CJB Chris / Lindsay Botham
1 / 12		Leandra	Child of ZR6JEN Derrick/Yolandi Jenner
1 / 14		Trisha	Spouse of ZS6KVN Kevin Smith
1 / 16	ZS6DUG	Douglas Cossey	
1 / 21		Francois	Child of ZR6OST Anton/Sandra Oosthuysen
1 / 25	ZS6JQ	Cedar Ryan	
1 / 25	ZS6VKF	Phillip Snyman	
1 / 28	ZS6BM	Marinus Brand	
1 / 29		Sonja	Child of ZS6DUG Douglas / Lnita Cossey
1 / 29		Jo-Anne	Spouse of ZR6BUC Gavin Buckle
1 / 29		Cornelia	Spouse of Edgar Wallace

Anode Editor's Comments

(Continued from page 5)

So my thought was to do something similar, but meant for the web instead of dead tree. I am not talking a full fledged magazine, but a website where we can put simple beginner type articles, with copious photos and good instructions. We hope it will become a bit like Maker Magazine but for the radio amateur."

The project is just getting started. If you are interested in joining this community you can sign up for the list at:

http://diana.db.net/mailman/listinfo/hamradio-builder

Video - The DIY Magic of Amateur Radio released http://www.southgatearc.org/news/december2011/ the_diy_magic_of_amateur_radio_released.htm [all one url]

There are Hackspaces around the UK where people meet up to carry out constructional projects see

http://hackspace.org.uk/

The West Rand Amateur Radio Club
Established in 1938
KG33XU 26.14122 South - 27.91870 East

P.O. Box 5344 Weltevreden Park 1715

Phone: 083 267 3835 (Chairman)
Email: zs6wr.club@gmail.com
Web page: www.zs6wr.co.za

Bulletins (Sundays at ...)
11h15 Start of call in of stations

11h30 Main bulletin start

Frequencies

Output: 439.000 MHz 7.6 MHz split Input: 431.4 MHz (West Rand Repeater) 145,625 MHz (West Rand Repeater)

(HF Relay when possible)

Radio Amateurs do it with more frequency!

Chairman (technical)	Phillip van Tonder	ZS6PVT	083 267 3835	zs6wr.club@gmail.com OR zs6pvt@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Geoff Levey	ZS6GRL	082 546 5546	glevey@gmail.com
Secretary	Rory Crouch	ZS6RBJ	082 448 4445	rorycrouch@mweb.co.za
Treasurer	David Cloete	ZR6AOC	083 449 8991	zr6aoc@mweb.co.za
Member	Romeo Nardini	ZS6ARQ	082 552 4440	roshelec@global.co.za
Member (Anode & Technical)	John Brock	ZS6WL	011 768 1626	brockjk@gmail.com
Member	Johan van Vuuren	ZS6JVV	082 558 5811	johanvv@absamail.co.za
SARL Liaison (PIO)	Willem Weideman	zs6wwj	082 890 6775	willem@zs6wwj.co.za
Club Manager & Groundsman	Nico Vorster	ZS6NJV	082 221 1266	zs6njv@gmail.com

West Rand members - we need your input!

To make this the best ham radio magazine in South Africa we need your input. Please submit articles, comments, suggestions etc.

Please send plain text with no formatting to the email address below.

See Club website at www.zs6wr.co.za for all ANODE back issues.



We need your input! Email us articles, comments and suggestions please. zs6wr.club@gmail.com