INSTRUCTIONS

MODEL AV-1015-B-P-FLTA

0 TO +25 V, 10 ns - 100 us

HIGH PERFORMANCE PULSE GENERATOR

WITH IEEE 488.2 AND RS-232 CONTROL

SERIAL NUMBER: _____

WARRANTY

Avtech Electrosystems Ltd. warrants products of its manufacture to be free from defects in material and workmanship under conditions of normal use. If, within one year after delivery to the original owner, and after prepaid return by the original owner, this Avtech product is found to be defective, Avtech shall at its option repair or replace said defective item. This warranty does not apply to units which have been dissembled, modified or subjected to conditions exceeding the applicable specifications or ratings. This warranty is the extent of the obligation assumed by Avtech with respect to this product and no other warranty or guarantee is either expressed or implied.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Phone: 613-226-5772 or 1-800-265-6681
Fax: 613-226-2802 or 1-800-561-1970

E-mail: info@avtechpulse.com
World Wide Web: http://www.avtechpulse.com

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Manual Reference: /fileserver1/officefiles/instructword/av-1015/OBS/AV-1015-B-P-FLTA,edition1.sxw.

INTRODUCTION

The AV-1015-B-P-FLTA is a high performance, GPIB and RS232-equipped instrument capable of generating 25V into 50Ω loads at repetition rates up to 1 MHz. The output pulse width is variable from 10 ns to 100 us. The rise and fall times are less than 5 ns.

The AV-1015-B-P-FLTA is a highly flexible instrument. Aside from the internal trigger source, it can also be triggered or gated by external TTL-level signals. A front-panel pushbutton or a computer command can also be used to trigger the instrument.

The AV-1015-B-P-FLTA features front panel keyboard and adjust knob control of the output pulse parameters along with a four line by 40-character backlit LCD display of the output amplitude, pulse width, pulse repetition frequency, and delay. The instrument includes memory to store up to four complete instrument setups. The operator may use the front panel or the computer interface to store a complete “snapshot” of all key instrument settings, and recall this setup at a later time.

This instrument is intended for use in research and development laboratories.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model:	AV-1015-B-P-FLTA
Pulse output amplitude[1]:	0 to 25 Volts ($R_L \geq 50$)
Rise time (20% - 80%):	5 ns
Fall time (80% - 20%):	5 ns
Pulse width[2]:	10 ns to 100 us
Pulse repetition rate:	1 Hz to 1 MHz
GPIB control:	Included as a standard feature.
Maximum duty cycle:	10%
Output impedance:	2 , approximately
Output polarity:	Positive
Jitter:	Pulse width: 0.1 %, (typically 0.01 %) Delay/Advance, Period: 0.1%, + 0.5 ns
Pulse aberrations:	5 % of amplitude
Double pulse spacing:	100 ns to 10 ms
Sync delay:	0 to 10 ms (between sync out and main pulse output)
Sync output:	+ 3 Volts, 50 ns (R_L > 1 K)
Gated operation:	Has a programmable high/low synchronous/asynchronous gate
External trigger:	+3 to +5V, 1 MHz, PW 50 ns
Minimum propagation delay external trigger modes:	Advance: 140 ns Delay: 140 ns Double pulse: 140 ns $PW_{IN} = PW_{OUT}$: 80 ns
Output protection:	The output is protected against short circuits, open circuits, and high duty cycle
Connectors:	BNC female
Power source:	120/240 Volts, 10 % (switchable), 48 Hz to 66 Hz
Dimensions (H x W x D):	100 mm x 430 mm x 375 mm (3.9” x 17” x 14.8”)
Weight:	10 kg (22 lbs)
Chassis material:	Aluminum. Anodized aluminum front panel with cast aluminum side panels (with blue-gray plastic trim) and aluminum top and bottom panels with blue-gray plastic trim.
Operating temperature:	+ 10 C to + 50 C
Accessories furnished:	one detachable 6’ power cord, one operation-maintenance manual
Option available:	19” rack mount kit (-R5)

1) The output amplitude may also be controlled by applying 0 to +10 Volts DC to a rear panel connector.

2) The output pulse width may also be controlled externally by applying a TTL level trigger of the desired width to a rear panel banana connector (PW IN = PW OUT mode).

ORIGINAL QUOTATION

April 9, 2003

To: Oliver Meike
Fraunhofer USA
Center for Laser Technology
46025 Port Street
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
734-354-6300 ext. 228
omeike@clt.fraunhofer.com

Following our discussions, I am pleased to quote as follows:

Quote number: 11505

Model number: AV-1015-B-P-FLTA

Amplitude: 0 to +25V, into 50 Ohms (i.e., 500 mA maximum)

Polarity: positive

Pulse width (FWHM): 10 ns to 100 us

Rise time: < 5 ns, 20%-80%

Fall time: < 5 ns, 80%-20%

Maximum duty cycle: 10%

Maximum PRF: 1 MHz

Output impedance: 2 Ohms, approximately

Other: as per the standard AV-1015-B. See http://www.avtechpulse.com/general/av-1015/ for details.

Price: $7998 US each, FOB destination.

Delivery: 60 days after receipt of order.

You would need to add a 50 Ohm resistor in series with your diode. The diode current would then be given by I = (Vout - Vdiode) / 50 Ohms.

Please call or email me if I can be of further assistance.

Regards,
Dr. Michael J. Chudobiak
VP, New Product Development

--- Avtech Electrosystems Ltd. ---------- since 1975 ---

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INSTALLATION

VISUAL CHECK

After unpacking the instrument, examine to ensure that it has not been damaged in shipment. Visually inspect all connectors, knobs, liquid crystal displays (LCDs), and the handles. Confirm that a power cord, a GPIB cable, and two instrumentation manuals (this manual and the “Programming Manual for -B Instruments”) are with the instrument. If the instrument has been damaged, file a claim immediately with the company that transported the instrument.

PLUGGING IN THE INSTRUMENT

Examine the rear of the instrument. There will be a male power receptacle, a fuse holder and the edge of the power selector card visible. Confirm that the power selector card is in the correct orientation.

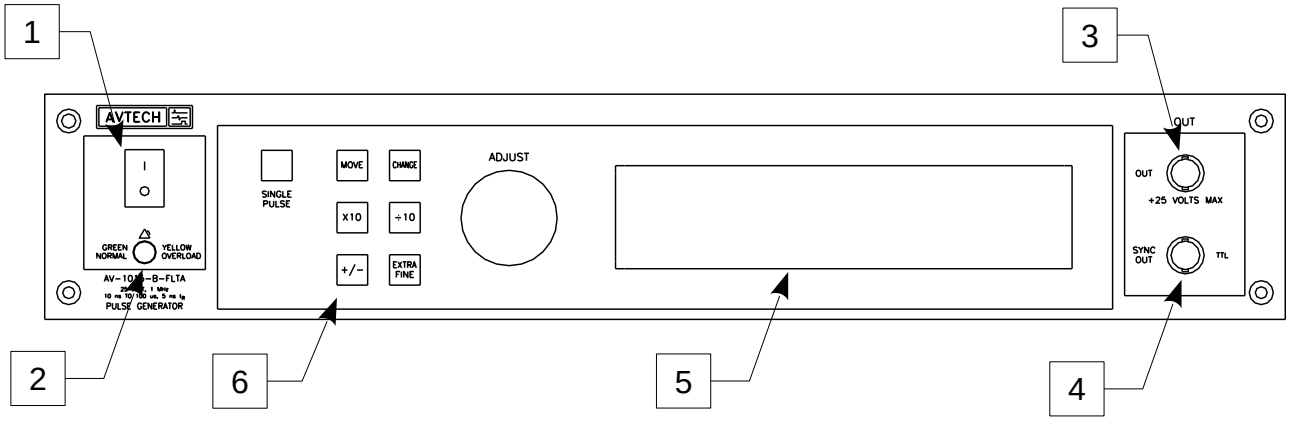
For AC line voltages of 110-120V, the power selector card should be installed so that the “120” marking is visible from the rear of the instrument, as shown below:

For AC line voltages of 220-240V, the power selector card should be installed so that the “240” marking is visible from the rear of the instrument, as shown below:

If it is not set for the proper voltage, remove the fuse and then grasp the card with a pair of pliers and remove it. Rotate horizontally through 180 degrees. Reinstall the card and the correct fuse.

In the 120V setting, a 1.0A slow blow fuse is required. In the 240V setting, a 0.5A slow blow fuse is required.

FRONT PANEL CONTROLS



1. POWER Switch. This is the main power switch.

2. OVERLOAD Indicator. When the instrument is powered, this indicator is normally green, indicating normal operation. If this indicator is yellow, an internal automatic overload protection circuit has been tripped. If the unit is overloaded (by operating at an exceedingly high duty cycle or by operating into a very low impedance), the protective circuit will disable the output of the instrument and turn the indicator light yellow. The light will stay yellow (i.e. output disabled) for about 5 seconds after which the instrument will attempt to re-enable the output (i.e. light green) for about 1 second. If the overload condition persists, the output will be disabled again (i.e. light yellow) for another 5 seconds. If the overload condition has been removed, the instrument will resume normal operation.

   This overload indicator may flash yellow briefly at start-up. This is not a cause for concern.

   Note that the output stage will safely withstand a short-circuited load condition.

3. OUT CONNECTOR. This BNC connector provides the main output signal, into load impedances of 50Ω or higher.

4. SYNC OUT. This connector supplies a SYNC output that can be used to trigger other equipment, particularly oscilloscopes. This signal leads (or lags) the main output by a duration set by the "DELAY" controls and has an approximate amplitude of +3 Volts to R_L > 1kΩ with a pulse width of approximately 50 ns.

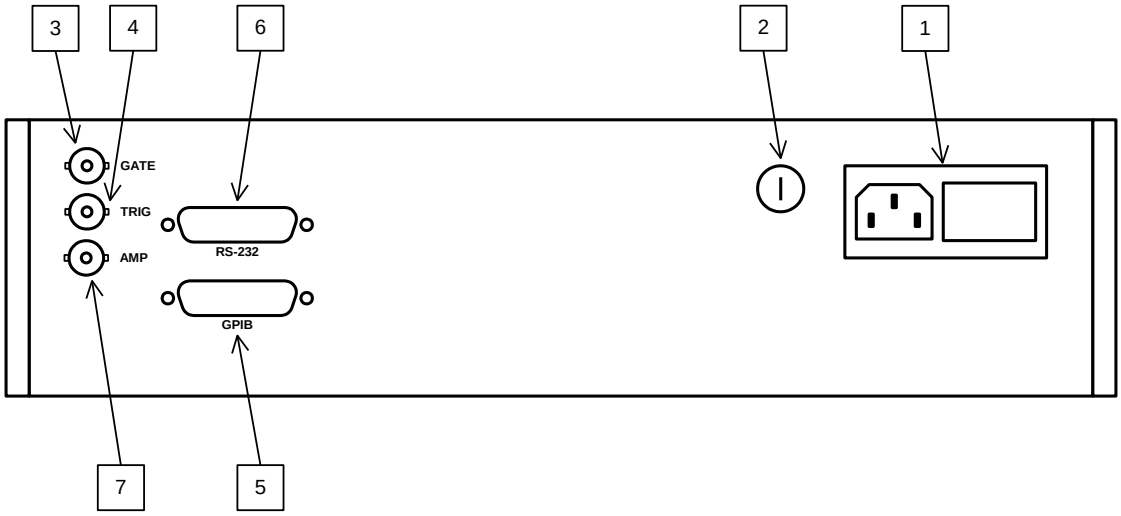
5. LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY (LCD). This LCD is used in conjunction with the keypad to change the instrument settings. Normally, the main menu is displayed, which lists the key adjustable parameters and their current values. The “Programming Manual for -B Instruments” describes the menus and submenus in

detail.

6. KEYPAD.

Control Name	Function
MOVE	This moves the arrow pointer on the display.
CHANGE	This is used to enter the submenu, or to select the operating mode, pointed to by the arrow pointer.
×10	If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, this increases the setting by a factor of ten.
÷10	If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, this decreases the setting by a factor of ten.
+/-	If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, and this parameter can be both positive or negative, this changes the sign of the parameter.
EXTRA FINE	This changes the step size of the ADJUST knob. In the extra-fine mode, the step size is twenty times finer than in the normal mode. This button switches between the two step sizes.
ADJUST	This large knob adjusts the value of any displayed numeric adjustable values, such as frequency, pulse width, etc. The adjust step size is set by the "EXTRA FINE" button. When the main menu is displayed, this knob can be used to move the arrow pointer.

REAR PANEL CONTROLS



1. AC POWER INPUT. A three-pronged recessed male connector is provided on the back panel for AC power connection to the instrument. Also contained in this assembly is a slow blow fuse and a removable card that can be removed and repositioned to switch between 120V AC in and 240V AC in.

2. DC FUSE. This T 0.5A, 250V fuse protects the internal DC power supply.

3. GATE. This TTL-level (0 and +5V) logic input can be used to gate the triggering of the instrument. This input can be either active high or active low, depending on the front panel settings or programming commands. (The instrument triggers normally when this input is unconnected). When set to active high mode, this input is pulled-down to ground by a 1 kΩ resistor. When set to active low mode, this input is pulled-up to +5V by a 1 kΩ resistor.

4. TRIG. This TTL-level (0 and +5V) logic input can be used to trigger the instrument, if the instrument is set to triggering externally. The instrument triggers on the rising edge of this input. The input impedance of this input is 1 kΩ. (Depending on the length of cable attached to this input, and the source driving it, it may be desirable to add a coaxial 50 Ohm terminator to this input to provide a proper transmission line termination. The Pasternack (www.pasternack.com) PE6008-50 BNC feed-thru 50 Ohm terminator is suggested for this purpose.)

   When triggering externally, the instrument can be set such that the output pulse width tracks the pulse width on this input, or the output pulse width can be set independently.

5. GPIB Connector. A standard GPIB cable can be attached to this connector to allow the instrument to be computer-controlled. See the “Programming Manual for -B

Instruments” for more details on GPIB control.

6. RS-232 Connector. A standard serial cable with a 25-pin male connector can be attached to this connector to allow the instrument to be computer-controlled. See the “Programming Manual for -B Instruments” for more details on RS-232 control.

7. AMP. The output amplitude can be set to track the DC voltage on this input. This input voltage may range between 0 and +10 Volts, which corresponds to minimum and maximum output amplitudes, respectively. (In normal operation, the output amplitude is set by the front-panel controls or via the computer interface.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

AMPLITUDE CONTROL

The AV-1015-B-P-FLTA is a voltage pulser, which generates 0 to +25V ($V_{PROGRAMMED}$) internally. When used with a diode load, the diode must be connected in series with a resistance (R_{SERIES}), so that the current through the diode is given by:

$$I_{DIODE} \approx (V_{PROGRAMMED} - V_{DIODE}) / R_{SERIES}$$

where V_{DIODE} is the voltage drop across the diode. R_{SERIES} must be 50 Ohms or higher. Setting R_{SERIES} to 50 Ohms has the advantage of providing a proper termination for 50 Ohm transmission lines, which will minimize waveform distortions.

BASIC PULSE CONTROL

This instrument can be triggered by its own internal clock or by an external TTL trigger signal. In either case, two output channels respond to the trigger: OUT and SYNC.

- OUT. This is the main output. The maximum output voltage is +25V.
- SYNC. The SYNC pulse is a fixed-width TTL-level reference pulse used to trigger oscilloscopes or other measurement systems. When the delay is set to a positive value the SYNC pulse precedes the OUT pulse. When the delay is set to a negative value the SYNC pulse follows the OUT pulse.

These pulses are illustrated below, assuming internal triggering and a positive delay. All waveforms are shown with positive amplitudes.

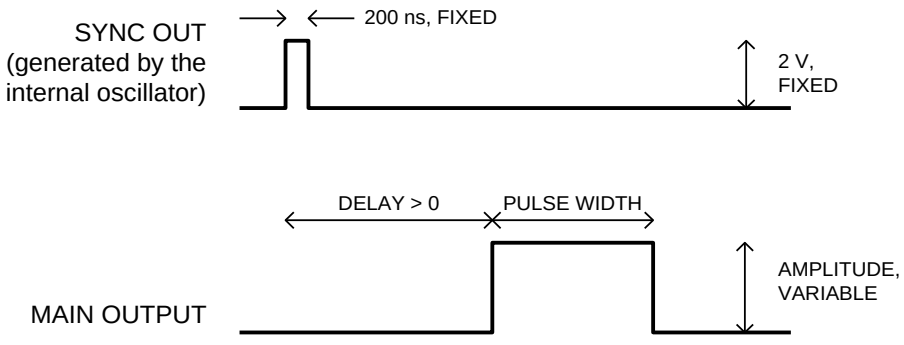


Figure A

If the delay is negative, the order of the SYNC and OUT pulses is reversed:

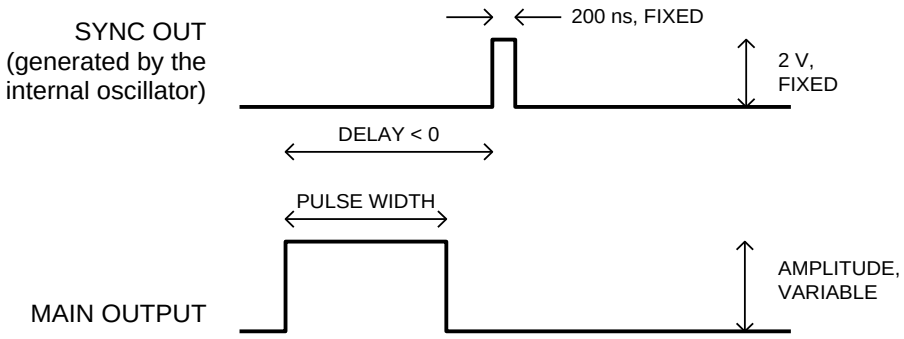


Figure B

The next figure illustrates the relationship between the signal when an external TTL-level trigger is used:

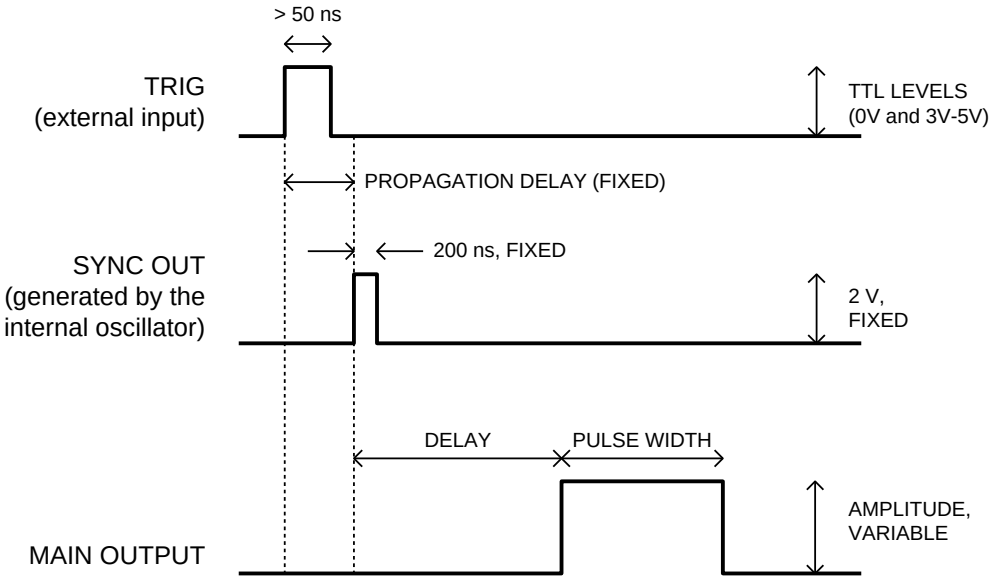


Figure C

As before, if the delay is negative, the order of the SYNC and OUT pulses is reversed.

In general, the delay, pulse width, and frequency (when in the internal mode), of the OUT pulse can be varied with front panel controls or via the GPIB or RS-232 computer interfaces.

TRIGGER MODES

This instrument has four trigger modes:

- Internal Trigger: the instrument controls the trigger frequency, and generates the clock internally.

- External Trigger: the instrument is triggered by an external TTL-level clock on the back-panel TRIG connector.

- Manual Trigger: the instrument is triggered by the front-panel “SINGLE PULSE” pushbutton.

- Hold Trigger: the instrument is set to not trigger at all.

These modes can be selected using the front panel trigger menu, or by using the appropriate programming commands. (See the “OP1B Interface Programming Manual” for more details.)

GATING MODES

Triggering can be suppressed by a TTL-level signal on the rear-panel GATE connector. The instrument can be set to stop triggering when this input high or low, using the front-panel gate menu or the appropriate programming commands.

MECHANICAL INFORMATION

TOP COVER REMOVAL

If necessary, the interior of the instrument may be accessed by removing the four Phillips screws on the top panel. With the four screws removed, the top cover may be slid back (and off).

Always disconnect the power cord before opening the instrument.

There are no user-adjustable internal circuits. For repairs other than fuse replacement, please contact Avtech (info@avtechpulse.com) to arrange for the instrument to be returned to the factory for repair.

⚠ Caution: High voltages are present inside the instrument during normal operation. Do not operate the instrument with the cover removed.

RACK MOUNTING

A rack mounting kit is available. The -R5 rack mount kit may be installed after first removing the one Phillips screw on the side panel adjacent to the front handle.

ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE

To prevent electromagnetic interference with other equipment, all used outputs should be connected to shielded 50Ω loads using shielded 50Ω coaxial cables. Unused outputs should be terminated with shielded 50Ω BNC terminators or with shielded BNC dust caps, to prevent unintentional electromagnetic radiation. All cords and cables should be less than 3m in length.

MAINTENANCE

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

This instrument does not require any regular maintenance.

On occasion, one or more of the four rear-panel fuses may require replacement. All fuses can be accessed from the rear panel. See the “FUSES” section for details.

CLEANING

If desired, the interior of the instrument may be cleaned using compressed air to dislodge any accumulated dust. (See the “TOP COVER REMOVAL” section for instructions on accessing the interior.) No other cleaning is recommended.

MINIMIZING WAVEFORM DISTORTIONS

USE 50 OHM TRANSMISSION LINES

Connect the load to the pulse generator with 50 transmission lines (e.g. RG-58 or RG-174 cable). If possible, use a 50 load. If the actual device under test has a high impedance, consider adding a 50 termination in parallel with the load to properly terminate the transmission line.

USE LOW-INDUCTANCE LOADS

Lenz's Law predicts that for an inductive voltage spike will be generated when the current through an inductance changes. Specifically, $V_{SPIKE} = L \times dI_{LOAD}/dt$, where L is the inductance, I_{LOAD} is the load current change, and t is time. For this reason, it is important to keep any parasitic in the load low. This means keeping wiring short, and using low inductance components. In particular, wire-wound resistors should be avoided.

PROTECTING YOUR INSTRUMENT

TURN OFF INSTRUMENT WHEN NOT IN USE

The lifetime of the switching elements in the pulse generator module is proportional to the running time of the instrument. For this reason the prime power to the instrument should be turned off when the instrument is not in use. In the case of failure, the switching elements are easily replaced following the procedure described in a following section.

DO NOT EXCEED 1 MHz

The output stage may be damaged if triggered by an external signal at a pulse repetition frequency greater than 1 MHz.

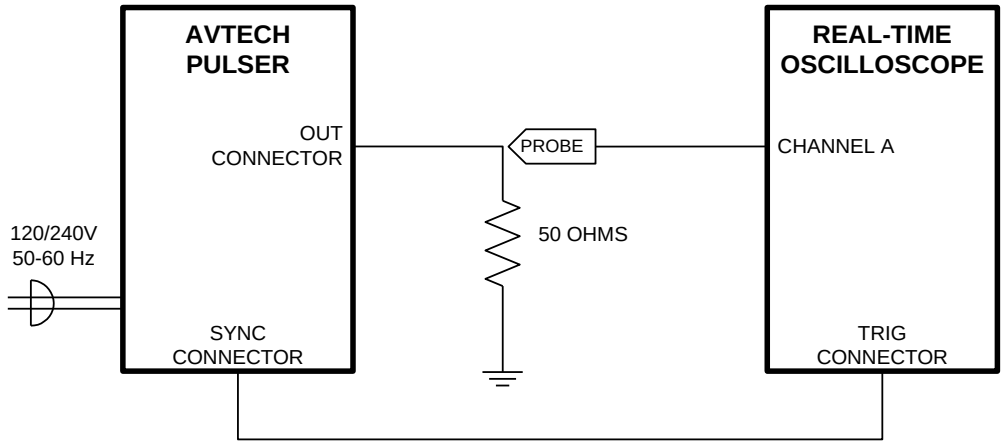
NEVER APPLY AN EXTERNAL VOLTAGE TO THE OUTPUT

Externally generated potentials must never be applied to the output. It may damage the instrument. Failures resulting from this are not covered by the warranty.

OPERATIONAL CHECK

This section describes a sequence to confirm the basic operation of the instrument. It should be performed after receiving the instrument. It is a useful learning exercise as well.

Before proceeding with this procedure, finish reading this instruction manual thoroughly. Then read the “Local Control” section of the “OP1B Interface Programming Manual” thoroughly. The “Local Control” section describes the front panel controls used in this operational check - in particular, the MOVE, CHANGE, and ADJUST controls.



BASIC TEST ARRANGEMENT

1. Connect the pulse generator to an oscilloscope as shown above. Note that:

   a) The bandwidth capability of components and instruments used to display the pulse generator output signal (attenuators, cables, connectors, etc.) should exceed 200 MHz.

   b) Set the oscilloscope to trigger externally with the vertical setting 10 V/div, and the horizontal setting at 100 ns/div.

2. Turn on the AV-1015-B-P-FLTA. The main menu will appear on the LCD.

3. To set the AV-1015-B-P-FLTA to trigger from the internal clock at a PRF of 10 kHz:

   a) The arrow pointer should be pointing at the frequency menu item. If it is not, press the MOVE button until it is.

   b) Press the CHANGE button. The frequency submenu will appear. Rotate the ADJUST knob until the frequency is set at 10 kHz.

c) The arrow pointer should be pointing at the “Internal” choice. If it is not, press MOVE until it is.

d) Press CHANGE to return to the main menu.

4. To set the delay to 100 ns:

a) Press the MOVE button until the arrow pointer is pointing at the delay menu item.

b) Press the CHANGE button. The delay submenu will appear. Rotate the ADJUST knob until the delay is set at 100 ns.

c) The arrow pointer should be pointing at the “Normal” choice. If it is not, press MOVE until it is.

d) Press CHANGE to return to the main menu.

5. To set the pulse width to 50 ns:

a) Press the MOVE button until the arrow pointer is pointing at the pulse width menu item.

b) Press the CHANGE button. The pulse width submenu will appear. Rotate the ADJUST knob until the pulse width is set at 50 ns.

c) The arrow pointer should be pointing at the “Normal” choice. If it is not, press MOVE until it is.

d) Press CHANGE to return to the main menu.

6. At this point, nothing should appear on the oscilloscope.

7. To enable the output:

a) Press the MOVE button until the arrow pointer is pointing at the output menu item.

b) Press the CHANGE button. The output submenu will appear.

c) Press MOVE until the arrow pointer is pointing at the “ON” choice.

d) Press CHANGE to return to the main menu.

8. To change the output amplitude:

a) Press the MOVE button until the arrow pointer is pointing at the amplitude menu item.

b) Press the CHANGE button. The amplitude submenu will appear. Rotate the ADJUST knob until the amplitude is set at +25V.

c) Observe the oscilloscope. You should see 50 ns wide, 25V pulses.

d) Rotate the ADJUST knob. The amplitude as seen on the oscilloscope should vary. Return it to +25V.

e) Press CHANGE to return to the main menu.

9. Try varying the pulse width, by repeating step (5). As you rotate the ADJUST knob, the pulse width on the oscilloscope will change. It should agree with the displayed value.

This completes the operational check.

PROGRAMMING YOUR PULSE GENERATOR

KEY PROGRAMMING COMMANDS

The “OP1B Interface Programming Manual” describes in detail how to connect the pulse generator to your computer, and the programming commands themselves. A large number of commands are available; however, normally you will only need a few of these. Here is a basic sample sequence of commands that might be sent to the instrument after power-up:

*rst	(resets the instrument)
trigger:source internal	(selects internal triggering)
frequency 1000 Hz	(sets the frequency to 1000 Hz)
pulse:width 50 ns	(sets the pulse width to 50 ns)
pulse:delay 20 ns	(sets the delay to 20 ns)
volt:ampl 25	(sets the amplitude to +25 V)
output on	(turns on the output)

For triggering a single event, this sequence would be more appropriate:

*rst	(resets the instrument)
trigger:source hold	(turns off all triggering)
pulse:width 50 ns	(sets the pulse width to 50 ns)
output on	(turns on the output)
volt:ampl 25	(sets the amplitude to +25 V)
trigger:source immediate	(generates a single non-repetitive trigger event)
trigger:source hold	(turns off all triggering)
output off	(turns off the output)

To set the instrument to trigger from an external TTL signal applied to the rear-panel TRIG connector, use:

*rst	(resets the instrument)
trigger:source external	(selects internal triggering)
pulse:width 50 ns	(sets the pulse width to 50 ns)
pulse:delay 1 us	(sets the delay to 1 us)
volt:ampl 25	(sets the amplitude to +25 V)
output on	(turns on the output)

These commands will satisfy 90% of your programming needs.

ALL PROGRAMMING COMMANDS

For more advanced programmers, a complete list of the available commands is given below. These commands are described in detail in the “OP1B Interface Programming Manual”. (Note: this manual also includes some commands that are not implemented in this instrument. They can be ignored.)

Keyword	Parameter	Notes
LOCAL		
OUTPut:		
:[STATe]	<boolean value>	
:PROTection		
:TRIPped?		[query only]
REMOTE		
[SOURce]:		
:FREQuency		
[:CW | FIXed]	<numeric value>	
[SOURce]:		
:PULSe		
:PERiod	<numeric value>	
:WIDTh	<numeric value>	
:DCYCle	<numeric value>	
:HOLD	WIDTh | DCYCle	
:DELay	<numeric value>	
:GATE		
:TYPE	ASYNC | SYNC	
:LEVel	HIgh | LOw	
[SOURce]:		
:VOLTage		
[:LEVel]		
[:IMMediate]		
[:AMPLitude]	<numeric value> | EXTernal	
:PROTection		
:TRIPped?		[query only]
STATUS:		
:OPERation		
:[EVENt]?		[query only, always returns "0"]
:CONDition?		[query only, always returns "0"]
:ENABle	<numeric value>	[implemented but not useful]
:QUEStionable		
:[EVENt]?		[query only, always returns "0"]
:CONDition?		[query only, always returns "0"]
:ENABle	<numeric value>	[implemented but not useful]
SYSTem:		
:COMMunicate		
:GPIB		
:ADDRess	<numeric value>	
:SERial		
:CONTrol		
:RTS	ON | IBFull | RFR	
:[RECeive]		
:BAUD	1200 | 2400 | 4800 | 9600	
:BITS	7 | 8	
:ECHO	<boolean value>	
:PARity		

:[TYPE]	EVEN | ODD | NONE	
:SBITS	1 | 2	
:ERRor		
:[NEXT]?		[query only]
:COUNT?		[query only]
:VERSion?		[query only]
TRIGger:		
:SOURce	INTernal | EXTernal | MANual | HOLD | IMMediate	
*CLS		[no query form]
*ESE	<numeric value>	
*ESR?		[query only]
*IDN?		[query only]
*OPC		
*SAV	0 | 1 | 2 | 3	[no query form]
*RCL	0 | 1 | 2 | 3	[no query form]
*RST		[no query form]
*SRE	<numeric value>	
*STB?		[query only]
*TST?		[query only]
*WAI		[no query form]

PERFORMANCE CHECKSHEET