

INSTRUCTIONS

MODEL AVR-A-1-S1-C PULSE GENERATOR

S.N.:

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 disassembled, 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

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

WARRANTY.....	
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	
FIG. 1: PULSE GENERATOR TEST ARRANGEMENT.....	
GENERAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS.....	
Fig. 1A: MAXIMUM PW VERSUS PRF FOR MODEL AVR-A-1 ($R_L = 50 \Omega$).....	
Fig. 2: FRONT PANEL CONTROLS.....	
FRONT PANEL CONTROLS.....	
Fig.3: BACK PANEL CONTROLS.....	
BACK PANEL CONTROLS.....	
Fig.4: SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM.....	
SYSTEM DESCRIPTION AND REPAIR PROCEDURE.....	
PERFORMANCE CHECK SHEET.....	

FIG. 1: PULSE GENERATOR TEST ARRANGEMENT

GENERAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) The bandwidth capability of components and instruments used to display the pulse generator output signal (attenuators, cables, connectors, etc.) should exceed 500 MHz.
- 2) The use of 60 dB attenuator at the scope vertical input channel will insure a peak input signal to the scope of less than one Volt (necessary only if sampling scope used). If a high impedance real time scope is used, the pulse generator must be terminated using a shunt 50 Ohm resistor.
- 3) The TRIG output channel provides TTL level signals. To avoid overdriving the TRIG input channel of some scopes, a 30 dB attenuator should be placed at the input to the scope trigger channel. The SYNC output precedes the main output when the front panel LEAD-LAG switch is in the LEAD position. The SYNC output lags the main output when the switch is in the LAG position.
- 4) To obtain a stable output display the PW and PRF and PRF FINE controls on the front panel should be set mid range. The front panel TRIG toggle switch should be in the INT position. The DELAY controls and the scope triggering controls are then adjusted to obtain a stable output. The scope may then be used to set the desired PRF by rotating the PRF and PRF FINE controls.
- 5) The output polarity is controlled by means of the front panel one turn PW control.
- 6) The output pulse width is controlled by means of the front panel one turn AMP control.
- 7) An external clock may be used to control the output PRF of the AVR unit by setting the front panel TRIG toggle switch in the EXT position and applying a 0.2 us (approx.) TTL level pulse to the TRIG BNC connector input. For operation in this mode, the scope time base must also be triggered by the external clock rather than from the SYNC output.

- 8) The AVR-1-PW features an output impedance of the order of several ohms (rather than 50 Ohms). The following consequences of this feature should be noted:
- a) When used to switch some semiconductor devices (e.g. bipolar and VMOS power transistors), the AVR unit will yield much faster switching times than those provided by 50 Ohm pulse generators.
 - b) The AVR unit will safely operate in to load impedances in the range of 50 Ohms to an open circuit. However, the fall time may degrade for load impedances higher than 50 Ohms.
 - c) The AVR unit may be effectively converted to a fifty Ohm output impedance generator by placing a fifty Ohm ½ watt carbon composition resistor in series with the output of the unit and the load. The maximum available load voltage will then decrease to 100 volts (from 200 volts).
 - d) The output switching elements may fail if the unit is inadvertently operated into a short circuit. The switching elements are easily replaced in the field following the procedure outlined in the REPAIR Section.
- 9) The maximum allowable output pulse width for each PRF range (1, 2 and 3, MAX and MIN) is given in the following table. The output amplitude will decrease and the rear panel 1.0A slow blow fuse may blow and in extreme cases, the unit may fail if the pulse width (i.e. duty cycle) conditions are exceeded (max duty cycle 0.5%).

	MAX PW (us)
Range 1	
PRF MAX (≈ 1.5 kHz)	1 us
PRF MIN (≈ 100 Hz)	1 us
Range 2	
PRF MAX (≈ 20 kHz)	0.2 us
PRF MIN (≈ 1.5 kHz)	1 us
Range 3	
PRF MAX (≈ 100 kHz)	0.05 us
PRF MIN (≈ 10 kHz)	0.5 us

- 10) AVR-A-1-S1-C units with a serial number higher than 5600 are protected by an automatic overload protective circuit which controls the front panel overload light. If the unit is overloaded (by operating at an exceedingly high duty cycle or by operating into a short circuit), the protective circuit will turn the output of the instrument OFF and turn the indicator light ON. The light will stay ON (i.e. output OFF) for about 5 seconds after which the instrument will attempt to turn ON (i.e. light OFF) for about 1 second. If the overload condition persists, the instrument will turn OFF again (i.e. light ON) for another 5 seconds. If the overload condition has been removed, the instrument will turn on and resume normal operation. Overload conditions may be removed by:
- 11) Reducing PRF (i.e. switch to a lower range)
 - 2) Reducing pulse width (i.e. switch to a lower range)
 - 3) Removing output load short circuit (if any)
- 12) The unit can be converted from 110 to 220V 50-60 Hz operation by adjusting the voltage selector card in the rear panel fused voltage selector-cable connector assembly.
- 13) For additional assistance:

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Fig. 1A: MAXIMUM PW VERSUS PRF FOR MODEL AVR-A-1 ($R_L = 50 \Omega$)

Fig. 2: FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

FRONT PANEL CONTROLS

- (1) ON-OFF Switch. Applies basic prime power to all stages.
- (2) PRF Control. With the PRF range switch (2) in 1 position, PRF control will vary PRF from 0.1 kHz to about 1.5 kHz. With the PRF range switch in 2 position, varies PRF from about 1.5 kHz to about 20.0 kHz. With the PRF range switch in the 3 position, varies PRF from about 10.0 kHz to 100 kHz. The operating PRF should be set using a scope.
- (3) PRF Control. See (2).
- (4) DELAY Control. Controls the relative delay between the reference output pulse provided at the TRIG output (5) and the main output (6) and (7). This delay is variable over the range of 0 to about 1.0 us. The TRIG output precedes the main output when the LEAD-LAG switch is in the LEAD position and lags when the switch is in the LAG position.
- (5) TRIG Output. This output is used to trigger the scope time base. The output is a TTL level 100 ns (approx.) pulse capable of driving a fifty Ohm load.
- (6) OUT Connector. BNC connector provides output to a fifty Ohm load.
- (7) PW Control. A one turn control which varies the output pulse width from 0.05 us to 1.0 us.
- (8) AMP Control. A one turn control which varies the output pulse amplitude from 0 to 200V to a fifty Ohm load.
- (9) EXT-INT Control. With this toggle switch in the INT position, the PRF of the AVR unit is controlled via an internal clock which in turn is controlled by the PRF and PRF FINE controls. With the toggle switch in the EXT position, the AVR unit requires a 0.2 us TTL level pulse applied at the TRIG input in order to trigger the output stages. In addition, in this mode, the scope time base must be triggered by the external trigger source.

(10) OVERLOAD INDICATOR. AVR-A-1-S1-C units with a serial number higher than 5600 are protected by an automatic overload protective circuit which controls the front panel overload light. If the unit is overloaded (by operating at an exceedingly high duty cycle or by operating into a short circuit), the protective circuit will turn the output of the instrument OFF and turn the indicator light ON. The light will stay ON (i.e. output OFF) for about 5 seconds after which the instrument will attempt to turn ON (i.e. light OFF) for about 1 second. If the overload condition persists, the instrument will turn OFF again (i.e. light ON) for another 5 seconds. If the overload condition has been removed, the instrument will turn on and resume normal operation. Overload conditions may be removed by:

- (11) Reducing PRF (i.e. switch to a lower range)
- (12) Reducing pulse width (i.e. switch to a lower range)
- (13) Removing output load short circuit (if any)

Fig.3: BACK PANEL CONTROLS

BACK PANEL CONTROLS

- (1) FUSED CONNECTOR, VOLTAGE SELECTOR. The detachable power cord is connected at this point. In addition, the removable cord is adjusted to select the desired input operating voltage. The unit also contains the main power fuse (0.50 A SB).
- (2) 1.0 A SB. Fuse which protects the output stage if the output duty cycle rating is exceeded.
- (3) DC OFFSET Input. To DC offset the output amplitude, connect a DC power supply set to the desired offset value to these terminals. The maximum allowable DC offset voltage is ± 50 volts, ± 200 mA. (Option).

Fig.4: SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION AND REPAIR PROCEDURE

The AVR-A-1-C consists of the following basic modules:

- 1) AVR-A-1-PG pulse generator module
- 2) AVR-A-1-CL clock module
- 3) +24V power supply board

The modules are interconnected as shown in Fig. 4.

The clock module controls the output PRF and the relative delay between the main output and the SYNC outputs. The PG pulse generator module generates the output pulse. In the event of an instrument malfunction, it is most likely that some of the output switching elements (SL4) may have failed due to an output short circuit condition or to a high duty cycle condition. The switching elements may be accessed by removing the cover plate on the bottom side of the instrument. NOTE: First turn off the prime power. The elements may be removed from their sockets by means of a needle nosed pliers. The SL4 is a selected VMOS power transistor in a TO 220 package and may be checked on a curve tracer. If defective, replacement units should be ordered directly from Avtech. When replacing the SL4 switching elements, take care to insure that the short lead (of the three leads) is adjacent to the black dot on the chassis. If the switching elements are not defective, then the four Phillips screws on the back panel should be removed. The top cover may then be slid off and operation of the clock and power supply modules should be checked. The clock module is functioning properly if:

- a) 0.1 usec TTL level outputs are observed at pins 2 and 3.
- b) The PRF of the outputs can be varied over the range of 0.1 kHz to 0.1 MHz using the PRF and PRF FINE controls.
- c) The relative delay between the pin 2 and 3 outputs can be varied by at least 500 ns by the DELAY controls.

The sealed clock module must be returned to Avtech for repair or replacement if the above conditions are not observed. The power supply board generated +24V DC to power the other modules. If the voltage is less than +24V, turn off the prime power and unsolder the lead from the 7824 regulator chip on the power supply board. Solder a 100 Ohm, 5 Watt resistor to the 7824 output to ground and turn on the prime power. A voltage of +24 Volts should be read. If the voltage is less then the power supply board is defective and should be repaired or replaced.

PERFORMANCE CHECK SHEET