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x BOX 5120, LCD MERIVALE OTTAWA, ONTARIO CANADA K2C 3H5

## MODEL AVR-D3-B-MS1

0 TO $\pm 250$ VOLTS, 0 TO $\pm 5$ AMP
SEMICONDUCTOR

TEST PULSER

WITH IEEE 488.2 AND RS-232 CONTROL

SERIAL NUMBER: $\qquad$

## 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: 888-670-8729 (USA \& Canada) or +1-613-686-6675 (International)
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World Wide Web: http://www.avtechpulse.com

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## INTRODUCTION

The AVR-D3-B-MS1 is a high performance, GPIB and RS232-equipped instrument capable of generating the bipolar waveform shown below:


In the waveform shown above, a wide negative pulse (with pulse width PW2 and amplitude -V2) is interrupted by a shorter positive pulse (PW1, +V1). The three highlighted transition have switching times of 20 ns or less. (The final transition to ground is slower).

This waveform allows both turn-on and turn-off transitions to be tested, without biasing the devices with thermally-troublesome DC currents.

The main output is normally connected to a user-supplied test circuit, similar to that shown below:


A 50 Ohm output impedance exists between the internal pulse generator circuit and the output connector on the front panel of the instrument.

A monitor output ("MON") is provided as well, for monitoring the internal pulse waveform. It can be used to sense the voltage drop across the main output resistance, thus providing a measure of the actual output current. However, the user of a dedicated current transformer or current probe is normally recommended for current sensing.

The AVR-D3-B-MS1 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.

The instrument is protected against overload conditions (such as short circuits) by an automatic control circuit. An internal power supply monitor removes the power to the output stage for five seconds if an average power overload exists. After that time, the unit operates normally for one second, and if the overload condition persists, the power is cut again. This cycle repeats until the overload is removed.

This instrument is intended for use in research, development, test and calibration laboratories by qualified personnel.

## AVAILABLE OPTIONS

-R5 Option: This is the optional rack-mounting kit. The R5 rack-mount kit may also be ordered separately.
-VXI Option: Adds a rear-panel Ethernet connector, allowing the instrument to be remotely controlled using the VXI-11.3, ssh (secure shell), telnet, and http (web) protocols. In particular, the VXI-11.3 features allows software like LabView to control an instrument using standard VISA communications drivers and network cabling, instead of using old-style GPIB cabling. (This eliminates the need for a GPIB controller card and its proprietary drivers.)

## SPECIFICATIONS



| Model ${ }^{1}$ : | AVR-D3-B-MS1 |
| :---: | :---: |
| V1 amplitude: | +1V to +250V |
| V2 amplitude: | -1V to -250V |
| PW1 pulse width: | 10 to 100 us |
| PW2 pulse width: | 30 to 300 us |
| Output impedance ( $\mathrm{R}_{\text {Out }}$ ): | 50 Ohms |
| Maximum output current: | $\pm 250 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{R}_{\text {out }}= \pm 5 \mathrm{Amps}$ |
| Maximum power dissipated internally, in Rout: | $(5 \mathrm{~A})^{2} \times 50 \Omega \times 300 \mathrm{us} \times 10 \mathrm{~Hz}=3.75 \mathrm{~W}$ |
| Switching time ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}}$ ): | $\leq 20 \mathrm{~ns}(20 \%-80 \%)$, as measured at the "MON" connector. The switching times at the "OUT" connector may be slower due to the effective of Rout and and the cabling / circuit capacitance (CLOAD). The time constant of any degradation will be given by $\tau=R_{\text {OUT }} \times C_{\text {LOAD }}$. This switching time ( $t_{R}$ ) applies to the three transitions noted in the waveform above. The fourth transition will be much slower. |
| Pulse repetition frequency | 1 Hz to 10 Hz , adjustable, or single-shot. |
| Supplied test jigs: | None (user-supplied) |
| Propagation delay: | $\leq 150$ ns (Ext trig in to pulse out) |
| Jitter: | $\pm 100 \mathrm{ps} \pm 0.03 \%$ of sync delay (Ext trig in to pulse out) |
| Trigger required: | External trigger mode: TTL, 50 ns or wider |
| Sync delay: | Variable 0 to $\pm 1$ second (sync out to pulse out) |
| Sync output: | +3 Volts, 100 ns , will drive 50 Ohm loads |
| Gated operation: | Active high or low, switchable. |
| Connectors: | Out, Trig, Sync, Gate: BNC |
| GPIB \& RS-232 control ${ }^{1}$ : | Standard feature on all -B units. |
| LabView drivers: | Available for download at http://www.avtechpulse.com/labview. |
| Ethernet port, for remote | Optional ${ }^{2}$. Recommended as a modern alternative to GPIB / RS-232. |


| control using VXI-11.3, ssh, telnet, \& web: | See http://www.avtechpulse.com/options/vxi for details. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Settings resolution: | The resolution of the timing parameters varies, but is always better than $0.15 \%$ of the set value. The amplitude resolution is typically $0.02 \%$ of the maximum amplitude. |
| Settings accuracy: | Typically $\pm 3 \%$ (plus $\pm 1 \mathrm{~V}$ or $\pm 2 \mathrm{~ns}$ ) after 10 minute warmup. For high-accuracy applications requiring traceable calibration, verify the output parameters with a calibrated oscilloscope. |
| Power requirements: | 100-240 Volts, 50-60 Hz |
| Dimensions: | $100 \mathrm{~mm} \times 430 \mathrm{~mm} \times 375 \mathrm{~mm}$ ( 3.9 " $\times 17$ " $\times 14.8$ ") |
| Chassis material: | Cast aluminum frame and handles, blue vinyl on aluminum cover plates |
| Mounting: | Any. Add -R5 to the model number to add a rack-mount kit. |
| Temperature range: | $+5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |

1) -B suffix indicates IEEE-488.2 GPIB and RS-232 control of amplitude and frequency. See http://www.avtechpulse.com/gpib for details.
2) Add the suffix -VXI to the model number to specify the Ethernet port.

## REGULATORY NOTES

## FCC PART 18

This device complies with part 18 of the FCC rules for non-consumer industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) equipment.

This instrument is enclosed in a rugged metal chassis and uses a filtered power entry module (where applicable). The main output signal is provided on a shielded connector that is intended to be used with shielded coaxial cabling and a shielded load. Under these conditions, the interference potential of this instrument is low.

If interference is observed, check that appropriate well-shielded cabling is used on the output connectors. Contact Avtech (info@avtechpulse.com) for advice if you are unsure of the most appropriate cabling. Also, check that your load is adequately shielded. It may be necessary to enclose the load in a metal enclosure.

If any of the connectors on the instrument are unused, they should be covered with shielded metal "dust caps" to reduce the interference potential.

This instrument does not normally require regular maintenance to minimize interference potential. However, if loose hardware or connectors are noted, they should be tightened. Contact Avtech (info@avtechpulse.com) if you require assistance.

## EC DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY



We Avtech Electrosystems Ltd.
P.O. Box 5120, LCD Merivale

Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K2C 3H4
declare that this pulse generator meets the intent of Directive 2004/108/EG for Electromagnetic Compatibility. Compliance pertains to the following specifications as listed in the official Journal of the European Communities:

EN 50081-1 Emission
EN 50082-1 Immunity
and that this pulse generator meets the intent of the Low Voltage Directive 72/23/EEC as amended by 93/68/EEC. Compliance pertains to the following specifications as listed in the official Journal of the European Communities:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { EN 61010-1:2001 } & \begin{array}{l}
\text { Safety requirements for electrical equipment for } \\
\text { measurement, control, and laboratory use }
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$

## DIRECTIVE 2002/95/EC (RoHS)

This instrument is exempt from Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 January 2003 on the Restriction of the use of certain Hazardous Substances (RoHS) in electrical and electronic equipment. Specifically, Avtech instruments are considered "Monitoring and control instruments" (Category 9) as defined in Annex 1A of Directive 2002/96/EC. The Directive 2002/95/EC only applies to Directive 2002/96/EC categories 1-7 and 10, as stated in the "Article 2 - Scope" section of Directive 2002/95/EC.

## DIRECTIVE 2002/96/EC (WEEE)

European customers who have purchased this equipment directly from Avtech will have completed a "WEEE Responsibility Agreement" form, accepting responsibility for WEEE compliance (as mandated in Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Union and local laws) on behalf of the customer, as provided for under Article 9 of Directive 2002/96/EC.

Customers who have purchased Avtech equipment through local representatives should consult with the representative to determine who has responsibility for WEEE compliance. Normally, such responsibilities with lie with the representative, unless other arrangements (under Article 9) have been made.

Requirements for WEEE compliance may include registration of products with local governments, reporting of recycling activities to local governments, and financing of recycling activities.


## AC POWER SUPPLY REGULATORY NOTES

This instrument converts the AC input power to the +24 V DC voltage that powers the internal circuitry of this instrument using a Tamura AAD130SD-60-A switching power supply. According to the manufacturer, the Tamura AAD130SD-60-A has the following certifications:

UL60950-1
IEC60950-1
CSA C22.2 No. 60950-1
EN60950-1
and is compliant with:
EN61000-3-2
EN61000-4-2 Level 2
EN61000-4-2 Level 3 (Air Only)
EN61000-4-4 Level 3
EN61000-4-5 Level 3
EN61000-4-11
CISPR 11 and 22 FCC Part 15 Class B (conducted)

## FIRMWARE LICENSING

Instruments with firmware versions 5.00 or higher use open-source software internally. Some of this software requires that the source code be made available to the user as a condition of its licensing. This source code is distributed on the device itself. To access it, log in as user "source" with password "source". The source files are provided in this user's home directory, and are accessible using standard viewing and file transfer tools (such as vim, sz, and scp).

Earlier firmware versions do not contain any open source software.

## 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.

## POWER RATINGS

This instrument is intended to operate from $100-240 \mathrm{~V}, 50-60 \mathrm{~Hz}$.
The maximum power consumption is 57 Watts. Please see the "FUSES" section for information about the appropriate AC and DC fuses.

This instrument is an "Installation Category II" instrument, intended for operation from a normal single-phase supply.

## CONNECTION TO THE POWER SUPPLY

An IEC-320 three-pronged recessed male socket is provided on the back panel for AC power connection to the instrument. One end of the detachable power cord that is supplied with the instrument plugs into this socket. The other end of the detachable power cord plugs into the local mains supply. Use only the cable supplied with the instrument. The mains supply must be earthed, and the cord used to connect the instrument to the mains supply must provide an earth connection. (The supplied cord does this.)
\$ Warning: Failure to use a grounded outlet may result in injury or death due to electric shock. This product uses a power cord with a ground connection. It must be connected to a properly grounded outlet. The instrument chassis is connected to the ground wire in the power cord.

The table below describes the power cord that is normally supplied with this instrument, depending on the destination region:

| Destination Region | Description | Option | Manufacturer | Part Number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia | $\begin{gathered} \text { BS } 1363, \\ 230 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{gathered}$ | -AC00 | Qualtek | 370001-E01 |
| Australia, New Zealand | $\begin{gathered} \text { AS 3112:2000, } \\ 230-240 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{gathered}$ | -AC01 | Qualtek | 374003-A01 |
| Continental Europe, Korea, Indonesia, Russia | European CEE 7/7 "Schuko" 230V, 50 Hz | -AC02 | Qualtek | 364002-D01 |
| North America, Taiwan | NEMA 5-15, $120 \mathrm{~V}, 60 \mathrm{~Hz}$ | -AC03 | Qualtek | 312007-01 |
| Switzerland | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SEV } 1011, \\ & 230 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{aligned}$ | -AC06 | Qualtek | 378001-E01 |
| South Africa, India | $\begin{gathered} \text { SABS 164-1, } \\ 220-250 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{gathered}$ | -AC17 | Volex | 2131H 10 C3 |
| Japan | $\begin{gathered} \text { JIS } 8303, \\ 100 \mathrm{~V}, 50-60 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{gathered}$ | -AC18 | Qualtek | 397002-01 |
| Israel | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{SI} 32, \\ 220 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{gathered}$ | -AC19 | Qualtek | 398001-01 |
| China | $\begin{aligned} & \text { GB 1002-1, } \\ & 220 \mathrm{~V}, 50 \mathrm{~Hz} \end{aligned}$ | -AC22 | Volex | 2137H 10 C3 |

## PROTECTION FROM ELECTRIC SHOCK

Operators of this instrument must be protected from electric shock at all times. The owner must ensure that operators are prevented access and/or are insulated from every connection point. In some cases, connections must be exposed to potential human contact. Operators must be trained to protect themselves from the risk of electric shock. This instrument is intended for use by qualified personnel who recognize shock hazards and are familiar with safety precautions required to avoid possibly injury. In particular, operators should:

1. Keep exposed high-voltage wiring to an absolute minimum.
2. Wherever possible, use shielded connectors and cabling.
3. Connect and disconnect loads and cables only when the instrument is turned off.
4. Keep in mind that all cables, connectors, oscilloscope probes, and loads must have an appropriate voltage rating.
5. Do not attempt any repairs on the instrument, beyond the fuse replacement procedures described in this manual. Contact Avtech technical support (see page 2 for contact information) if the instrument requires servicing. Service is to be performed solely by qualified service personnel.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

This instrument is intended for use under the following conditions:

1. indoor use;
2. altitude up to 2000 m ;
3. temperature $5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$;
4. maximum relative humidity $80 \%$ for temperatures up to $31^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ decreasing linearly to $50 \%$ relative humidity at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$;
5. Mains supply voltage fluctuations up to $\pm 10 \%$ of the nominal voltage;
6. no pollution or only dry, non-conductive pollution.

## LABVIEW DRIVERS

A LabVIEW driver for this instrument is available for download on the Avtech web site, at http://www.avtechpulse.com/labview. A copy is also available in National Instruments' Instrument Driver Library at http://www.natinst.com/.

## FUSES

This instrument contains four fuses. All are accessible from the rear-panel. Two protect the AC prime power input, and two protect the internal DC power supplies. The locations of the fuses on the rear panel are shown in the figure below:


## AC FUSE REPLACEMENT

To physically access the AC fuses, the power cord must be detached from the rear panel of the instrument. The fuse drawer may then be extracted using a small flat-head screwdriver, as shown below:


## DC FUSE REPLACEMENT

The DC fuses may be replaced by inserting the tip of a flat-head screwdriver into the fuse holder slot, and rotating the slot counter-clockwise. The fuse and its carrier will then pop out.

## FUSE RATINGS

The following table lists the required fuses:

| Fuses | Nominal Mains Voltage | Rating | Case Size | Recommended Replacement Part |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Littelfuse Part Number | Digi-Key Stock Number |
| \#1, \#2 (AC) | 100-240V | $0.5 \mathrm{~A}, 250 \mathrm{~V}$ Time-Delay | $5 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 0218.500HXP | F2416-ND |
| \#3 (DC) | N/A | 2A, 250V, Time-Delay | $5 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 0218002.HXP | F2420-ND |
| \#4 (DC) | N/A | 1A, 250V, Time-Delay | $5 \times 20 \mathrm{~mm}$ | 0218001.HXP | F2419-ND |

The recommended fuse manufacturer is Littelfuse (http://www.littelfuse.com).
Replacement fuses may be easily obtained from Digi-Key (http://www.digikey.com) and other distributors.

## FRONT PANEL CONTROLS



1. POWER Switch. This is the main power switch. When turning the instrument on, there is normally a delay of $5-10$ seconds before anything is shown on the main display.

If the main menu does not appear after 30 seconds, turn off the instrument and leave it off for at least 60 seconds before applying power again.

Allow 30 seconds before re-powering an instrument that has been switched off. If the power is switched more frequently than that, the turn-on delay may be longer (up to 20 seconds) as the internal software performs filesystem checks.
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 $0 \Omega$ or higher.

Caution: Voltages as high as $\pm 250 \mathrm{~V}$ may be present on the center conductor of this output connector. Avoid touching this conductor. Connect to this connector using standard coaxial cable, to ensure that the center conductor is not exposed.
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 $R_{L}>50 \Omega$ with a pulse width of approximately 100 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 <br> mode, pointed to by the arrow pointer. |
| $\times 10$ | If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, this <br> increases the setting by a factor of ten. |
| $\div 10$ | If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, this <br> decreases the setting by a factor of ten. |
| $+/-$ | If one of the adjustable numeric parameters is displayed, and <br> this parameter can be both positive or negative, this changes the <br> sign of the parameter. |
| EXTRA FINE | This changes the step size of the ADJUST knob. In the extra- <br> fine mode, the step size is twenty times finer than in the normal <br> mode. This button switches between the two step sizes. |
| ADJUST | This large knob adjusts the value of any displayed numeric <br> adjustable values, such as frequency, pulse width, etc. The <br> adjust step size is set by the "EXTRA FINE" button. |
|  | When the main menu is displayed, this knob can be used to <br> move the arrow pointer. |

## REAR PANEL CONTROLS



1. AC POWER INPUT. An IEC-320 C14 three-pronged recessed male socket is provided on the back panel for AC power connection to the instrument. One end of the detachable power cord that is supplied with the instrument plugs into this socket.
2. AC FUSE DRAWER. The two fuses that protect the AC input are located in this drawer. Please see the "FUSES" section of this manual for more information.
3. DC FUSES. These two fuses protect the internal DC power supplies. Please see the "FUSES" sections of this manual for more information.
4. GATE. This TTL-level ( 0 and +5 V ) 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 pulleddown to ground by a $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor. When set to active low mode, this input is pulledup to +5 V by a $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor.
5. TRIG. This TTL-level ( 0 and +5 V ) 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 $1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$. (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.)
6. 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.
7. 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.
Instruments with firmware versions of 5.00 or higher require a user name ("admin") and a password ("default", as shipped from the factory) when logging into a serial terminal session. See the "Programming Manual for -B Instruments" for more details on RS-232 control.
8. MON Connector. This output may be used to sense the voltage drop across the main output resistance, thus providing a measure of the actual output current. It is connected to the internal pulse generator ( $\mathrm{V}_{\text {PULSE }}$ ) through a $50 \Omega$ resistance. The MON output should operate into a load impedance of $50 \Omega$ or higher. If a $50 \Omega$ load is used, note that a $2: 1$ voltage divider effect will occur. If this output is not used, it should be covered with a metal BNC dust cap, to prevent interference with other equipment.

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Caution: Voltages as high as $\pm 250 \mathrm{~V}$ may be present on the center conductor of this output connector. Avoid touching this conductor. Connect to this connector using standard coaxial cable, to ensure that the center conductor is not exposed.
9. Network Connector. (Optional feature. Present on -VXI units only.) This Ethernet connector allows the instrument to be remotely controlled using the VXI-11.3, ssh (secure shell), telnet, and http (web) protocols. See the "Programming Manual for -B Instruments" for more details.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

## 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. The OUT channel is the signal that is applied to the load. Its amplitude and pulse width are variable. 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, with internal triggering:


The next figure illustrates the relationship between the signal when an external TTLlevel trigger is used:


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 "Programming Manual for -B Instruments" 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 frontpanel gate menu or the appropriate programming commands.

## MINIMIZING WAVEFORM DISTORTIONS

## USE 50 OHM TRANSMISSION LINES

Connect the load to the pulse generator with $50 \Omega$ transmission lines (e.g. RG-58 or RG174 cable). If possible, use a $50 \Omega$ load. If the actual device under test has a high impedance, consider adding a $50 \Omega$ termination in parallel with the load to properly terminate the transmission line.

The $50 \Omega$ output impedance present in the AVR-D3-B-MS1 will "back-match" the transmission line, resulting in improved performance.

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, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {SPIKE }}=\mathrm{L} \times \mathrm{dl}_{\text {LOAD }} / \mathrm{dt}$, 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.

## TYPICAL USAGE AND WAVEFORMS

The AVR-D3-B-MS1 generates high-voltage, high-current waveforms that are suitable for a number of transistor turn-on time, turn-off time, and storage time tests.

The setup shown below is appropriate for testing the 2N5686 NPN transistor, based on the MIL-PRF-19500/464G specification. (Note that Figure 2 of MIL-PRF-19500/464G apparently has an error where it specifies VBB $=4.0 \mathrm{~V}$. It should actually be negative, i.e., -4.0 V ).


## TURN-ON TEST

Table 1 of MIL-PRF-19500/464G specifies that the turn-on tests should be performed with a forward base current of +2.5 A . This corresponds to a V1 setting for $\mathrm{V}_{\text {pulse }}$ of:

$$
\mathrm{V} 1 \approx\left(\mathrm{R}_{\text {out }}+4 \Omega\right) \times 2.5 \mathrm{~A}+0.7 \mathrm{~V}=+135.7 \mathrm{~V}
$$

Under these conditions, the voltage at $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ will be approximately:

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}} \approx(4 \Omega \times 2.5 \mathrm{~A})+0.7 \mathrm{~V}=+10.7 \mathrm{~V}
$$

Before the turn-on state, the input to the biased-off transistor is specified to be -2 V in Figure 2 of MIL-PRF-19500/464G. Thus we set V2 $=-2 \mathrm{~V}$ on the AVR-D3-B-MS1. Since no current flows in the reverse state in this test, there is no voltage drop.

With the PRF set to 10 Hz , PW1 set to 10 us, PW2 set to 30 us, and a 10 us delay setting, the following waveforms are obtained for $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I N}}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {out }}$ (as defined in the diagram above):


The top waveform shows $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I}}$ swinging from -2 V to +10.7 V , approximately.
The bottom waveform shows the collector voltage falling from +30 V to 0 V with a $10 \%-$ $90 \%$ transition time of 840 ns . This is ton, the turn-on time. MIL-PRF-19500/464G specifies ton to be 1.5 us or less, so this particular device meets the test requirements.

An On Semi 2N5686G (datecode BM1129) transistor was used for this test.

## TURN-OFF TEST

As with the turn-on test, Table 1 of MIL-PRF-19500/464G specifies that the turn-off tests should be performed with a forward base current of +2.5 A . This corresponds to a V1 setting for VPulse of:

$$
\mathrm{V} 1 \approx\left(\mathrm{R}_{\text {out }}+4 \Omega\right) \times 2.5 \mathrm{~A}+0.7 \mathrm{~V}=+135.7 \mathrm{~V}
$$

Under these conditions, the voltage at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ will be approximately:

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}} \approx(4 \Omega \times 2.5 \mathrm{~A})+0.7 \mathrm{~V}=+10.7 \mathrm{~V}
$$

The reverse base current is specified to be -2.5A for the turn-off test. This corresponds to a V2 setting for Vpulse of:

$$
\mathrm{V} 2 \approx\left(\mathrm{R}_{\text {out }}+4 \Omega\right) \times-2.5 \mathrm{~A}=-135 \mathrm{~V}
$$

With the PRF set to 10 Hz , PW1 set to 10 us, PW2 set to 30 us, and a 10 us delay setting, the following waveforms are obtained for $\mathrm{V}_{\text {cURR-MON }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {out }}$ :


The top waveform shows the output of a current probe on the base ( $\mathrm{V}_{\text {CURR-MON }}$, scaled at $1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{A}$ ) swinging from +2.5 A to -2.5 A , approximately.

The bottom waveform shows the collector voltage starting to rise to $10 \%$ of its final value after a delay of 960 ns . This is $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{s}}$, the storage time. MIL-PRF-19500/464G specifies $t_{s}$ to be 2.0 us or less, so this particular device meets the test requirements.

The photo below is the same, except that the cursors measure the collector $10 \%-90 \%$ rise time, corresponding to the turn-off time (toff):

$t_{\text {off }}$ is measured as 800 ns . MIL-PRF-19500/464G specifies toff to be 3.0 us or less, so this particular device meets the test requirements.

An On Semi 2N5686G (datecode BM1129) transistor was used for this test.
The waveform below shows the VMON and VIN waveforms that correspond to the last two photos:

$\mathrm{V}_{\text {mon }}$ shows that the pulser is generating a fast-switching pulse.
$\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I N}}$ shows a "bump" in the waveform on the + to - transition, due to the effect of the storage time and the $50 \Omega$ output impedance of the pulser. This is not a concern, as $V_{\text {curr-mon }}$ shows that the desired current is in fact obtained (-2.5A).

## IMPEDANCE NOTES

The "bump" in the waveform noted above might be avoided if the pulse generator had a low output impedance. However, some tests explicitly require a 50 Ohm output impedance in the pulse generator (such as MIL-PRF-19500/498E, MIL-S-19500/537).

MIL-PRF-19500/464G does not specify a particular output impedance. The tests above show the $50 \Omega$ output impedance produces good results with MIL-PRF-19500/464G.

Some tests call for a $51 \Omega$ resistance to ground to be added at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I}}$. This may help suppress any observed transmission line ringing when the transistor switches off (becoming an open circuit, mismatching the transmission line).

## TRANSITION TIME NOTES

The internal pulse generator has a $20 \%-80 \%$ switching time of 20 ns or less. The transitions times observed at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I}}$ may be higher, due to the RC time constant effect of $\mathrm{R}_{\text {out }}$ and any parasitic capacitance in the user's cabling.

Some tests call for extremely fast switching times (< 2ns for MIL-PRF-19500/498E). However, this is not truly necessary, because the parameters being tested are measured on the scale of microseconds. A 20 ns switching time will not affect the measurements in any meaningful way.

## PROGRAMMING YOUR PULSE GENERATOR

## KEY PROGRAMMING COMMANDS

The "Programming Manual for -B Instruments" 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) <br> trigger:source internal <br> (selects internal triggering) |
| :--- | :--- |
| frequency 1000 Hz | (sets the frequency to 1000 Hz ) |
| pulse:delay 10 us | (sets the delay to 10 us) |
| pulse:width1 10 us | (sets the positive pulse width to 10 us) |
| pulse:width2 30 us | (sets the negative pulse width to 30 us ) |
| volt:ampl1 +100 | (sets the positive pulse amplitude to +100 V) |
| volt:ampl2 -200 | (sets the negative pulse amplitude to -200 V) |
| output on | (turns on the output) |

For triggering a single event, this sequence would be more appropriate:
*rst
trigger:source hold output on pulse:delay 10 us pulse:width1 10 us pulse:width2 30 us volt:ampl1 +100 volt:ampl2 -200
trigger:source immediate trigger:source hold output off
(resets the instrument)
(turns off all triggering)
(turns on the output)
(sets the delay to 10 us)
(sets the positive pulse width to 10 us)
(sets the negative pulse width to 30 us)
(sets the positive pulse amplitude to +100 V )
(sets the negative pulse amplitude to -200 V )
(generates a single non-repetitive trigger event)
(turns off all triggering)
(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:delay }10\mathrm{ us
pulse:width1 }10\mathrm{ us
pulse:width2 }30\mathrm{ us
volt:ampl1 +100
volt:ampl2 -200
output on
```

(resets the instrument)
(selects internal triggering)
(sets the delay to 10 us)
(sets the positive pulse width to 10 us)
(sets the negative pulse width to 30 us)
(sets the positive pulse amplitude to +100 V )
(sets the negative pulse amplitude to -200 V )
(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 "Programming Manual for -B Instruments". (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> |  |
| :DELay | <numeric value> |  |
| :GATE |  |  |
| :LEVel | HIgh \| LOw |  |
| [SOURce]: |  |  |
| :VOLTage |  |  |
| [:LEVel] |  |  |
| [:IMMediate] |  |  |
| [:AMPLitude] | <numeric value> |  |
| :PROTection <br> :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"] |
| :ENABIe | <numeric value> | [implemented but not useful] |
| SYSTem: |  |  |
| :COMMunicate |  |  |
| :GPIB |  |  |
| :ADDRess < | <numeric value> |  |
| :SERial |  |  |
| :CONTrol |  |  |
| :RTS | Full \| RFR |  |
| :[RECeive] |  |  |
| :BAUD | 2400 \| 4800 | 9600 |  |



## OTHER INFORMATION

## APPLICATION NOTES

Application notes are available on the Avtech web site, at http://www.avtechpulse.com/appnote.

## MANUAL FEEDBACK

Please report any errors or omissions in this manual, or suggestions for improvement, to info@avtechpulse.com. Thanks!

## 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 and allow the instrument to sit unpowered for 10 minutes before opening the instrument. This will allow any internal stored charge to discharge.

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. Service is to be performed solely by qualified service personnel.

全 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 - R 5 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 loads using shielded coaxial cables. Unused outputs should be terminated with shielded coaxial terminators or with shielded coaxial dust caps, to prevent unintentional electromagnetic radiation. All cords and cables should be less than $3 m$ 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.

WIRING DIAGRAMS


PCB 158N - LOW VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY, 1/3


PCB 158N - LOW VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY, 2/3


PCB 158N - LOW VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY, 3/3


PCB 168B - HIGH-VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY


PCB 228A - NEGATIVE UV CONTROL PCB


## PCB 174A - DUAL PW PCB



PCB 104E - KEYPAD / DISPLAY BOARD, 1/3


## PCB 104E - KEYPAD / DISPLAY BOARD, 2/3



## PCB 104E - KEYPAD / DISPLAY BOARD, 3/3



## MAIN WIRING



PERFORMANCE CHECK SHEET

