

Compressor-Limiter

- * COMPRESSOR & PEAK LEVEL LIMITER
- * CONSTANT OUTPUT LEVEL-ALL RATIOS (10dB Compression)
- ★ NOISE <-80 dB DISTORTION <0.1% THD
 </p>
- * SIMPLE OPERATION
- * SUPERB DYNAMIC PERFORMANCE

The SO1 COMPRESSOR-LIMITER is a further development of the well established F700 Series, which this SCAMP module now supersedes. The philosophy behind this design is a 'simple—to—operate' device that for typical amounts of compression maintains a constant output level as ratios are changed. Such a concept has proven popular in many studios where engineers working under pressure consider minimal adjustments to be optimum.

The parameters of the system have been specifically tailored to suit applications in the recording studio; in particular the peak level limiter has attack and release times that will give trouble free performance in extreme situations met on some instrumental tracks. In association with professional electronics the headroom will be sifficient to allow very fast transients to gently clip in the tape medium without audible effect.

The peak level limiter has been given an attack-time of $500\mu S$ and a fixed release of 250mS (these can be reduced greatly by changing fixed resistors for other special applications). Due to the excellence of the design, there is no over-limiting or undesirable side-effects on transient signals.

Compressor thresholds are linked to the ratio selection, so that for 10dB compression on any slope, the output level remains constant. Above that level of compression the slope tightens to 30:1 as the peak level limiter becomes operational. The peak limit threshold can be switched from this position (+16dBm output unattenuated) to just under clip level at +22dBm. In the latter mode the softer slopes continue to rise until (if ever) the higher limit threshold is reached.

The output threshold is adjusted to suit the maximum output level required (continuously variable from +16dBm to -4dBm). It is only necessary to increase the input potentiometer to obtain compression or limiting.

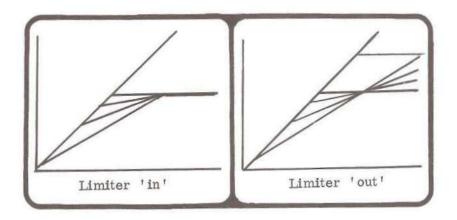
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84 OXFORD ROAD, READING RG1 7LJ, ENGLAND

The compressor section has variable *release* and *attack* times: The release is continuously variable from 25mS-2 secs with an *automatic multiple* network position that gives a rast recovery over 5dB gain reduction range on a slowly changing release platform. this forms an excellent general purpose release characteristics, increasing mean level without modulation effects. A three position attack switch gives options of $500\mu\text{S}(F)$; 2mS(M); 25mS(S).

The ratios available in the compressor section are 1:1, 1.5:1, 2:13:1, 5:1 and 10:1. The softest slope is extremely subtle, whilst the 10:1 ratio provides a *musical* limiter operating just under the peak level limiter when in the +16dBm threshold position.



The unit has a useful gain of 30dB which means that fully open the input threshold of limiting can be as low as -14dBm, or even lower for compression. Inputs and outputs are electronically balanced with an output drive capability of +24dBm into 600Ω .

Control-volt link switches enable the modules to be coupled for stereo or quadraphonic operation; standard units can be expected to match within ±2dB over the compression range without special matching.

Gain reduction is shown on a five-section LED column indicator; the red device shows the onset of peak level limiting whilst the green devices (four in number) show overall gain reduction, whether limiting or compression, in 4dB steps. There is also provision for the connection of an external gain reduction meter if required (ADR type 14 gain reduction meter).



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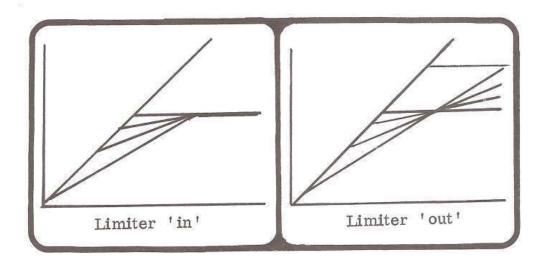


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3. TECHNICAL SECTION

3.1 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

All measurements taken with output feeding into 600Ω load.

INPUT:

 $>10K\Omega$ balanced.

OUTPUT:

<1Ω unbalanced, max. + 24dBm, min: -4dBm

(electronically balanced via board mounted

switch).

DISTORTION:

Better than 0.1% THD ref. + 12dBm.

FREQ. RESPONSE:

+ 0, -1dB 20Hz-25kHz

SIG.-NOISE:

Better than - 78dB ref. + 16dBm

COMMON MODE REJECTION:

Better than - 70dB @ 1kHz Better than - 60dB @ 10kHz

ATTACK:

Compressor Fast -500µS,

Med. -2mS

Slow -25mS

Peak Limiter: 500µS

RELEASE:

Compressor: Variable 25mS - 2 secs

Peak Limiter: 250 mS fixed

RATIOS:

Compressor: 1, 1.5, 2, 3, 5 and 10:1

Limiter:20:1

Any two may be stereo coupled via SCAMP rack mother board and front panel switch.

TECHNICAL SECTION 3. 3.2 Module Connections 1 + Ve in 2 Ve in 3 Ov 4 Ov Stereo link S 05 5 6 Stereo link S 06 7 + 48v Phantom supply 8 Ov Phantom supply 9 Stereo link S 01 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 + Phase output 20 - Phase output 21 Chassis Earth 22 Side chain Break Point Send 23 Side Chain Break Point Return 24 Earth 25 + Phase input - Phase input 26 INPUT CONNECTIONS 27 Ov 28 From Balanced/floating source: Connect 29 + and - phase as normal. From Unbalanced source: Connect 30 31 - phase (26) to signal earth of source and 32 + phase (25) to signal output of 33 source. 34 Earth (27) to chassis earth of source. 35 36 **OUTPUT CONNECTIONS** 37 To Balanced/floating Load: Switch on 38

to 'UNBAL'. Connect - phase (20) to signal earth of load and + phase (19) to signal input of load. Earth (21) to chassis earth of load

To Unbalanced load: Switch on board

board to 'BAL', connect + and - phase

and chassis earth as normal.

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Not oble to align? QHH often is shorted - replace

3.3 SETUP PROCEDURE

3

3.3.1 COMMON MODE REJECTION

Input amp - set up front panel controls:

- a) System 'Out'.
- b) Feed in 0dBm at 1kHz, earth = 27, signal = 25.
- c) Connect phase and inverted inputs together (pins 25 & 26).
- Adjust preset C.M.R., read output to measure -70dBm or better.
- e) Increase frequency to 10kHz and check output to measure -50dBm or better.
- Reconnect inputs for normal operation.
 N.B. Ground inverted input (26) for unbalanced system.

3.3.2 INITIAL SETUP

Set front panel controls:

Attack F
Release F
Output Max (+ 16)
Input Max

- a) Insert FET (E232).
- b) Turn FET bias fully clockwise.
- c) Turn 20dB meter preset midway.
- d) Turn 10dB meter preset midway.
- e) Set peak threshold preset fully anticlockwise.
- f) Set LED brightness preset fully anticlockwise.
- g) Switch line amp output switch to UNBAL.
- h) Connect a voltmeter between TPI and Ov.
- i) Set gain preset to MAX.
- Set voltmeter to zero via TPI preset i.e. TPI to Ov.

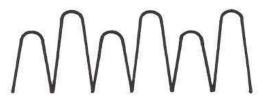
3.3.3 LIMIT RANGE/FET BIAS

- Feed in -26dBm.
- Adjust RANGE preset for -21dBm at output.
- Adjust FET bias preset for + 12dBm at output.
- d) Ref, measure distortion and null for better than 0.1% at 1kHz.

3.3.4 COMPRESSOR THRESHOLD/RECTIFIER BALANCE

- Increase output to + 14dBm (increase input 10dB and back off input pot for + 14dBm).
- Adjust rec. bal. preset for a symmetrical wave form at collector of P14 (BC 212B).





Correct

Incorrect

- c) Select 10:1 ratio.
- Increase input by 10dB and adjust output to read + 14dBm via rec. offset (thresh) preset.
- e) Increase input a further 10dB and adjust 20dB preset for + 5v at TP1.
- f) Reduce output by 10dB and adjust 10dB preset for + 2.6v at TP1.
- g) Switch through all compression ratios, and voltage at TP1 should not vary by more than ±0.3v. Outputs should remain constant, switch back to 10:1 ratio.

3.3.5 RELEASE/AUTO

- a) Increase release pot. to 'S'.
- b) Switch system out and observe meter. Voltage at TP1 should drop in a linear fashion and will take approx. 4 secs to reach 0v. Auto
- c) switch release to 'A'.
- d) Switch system 'In' then 'Out'; observe there is a fast release on top of a slow release.

3.3.6 ATTACK

- a) Set release pot. to 'F'.
- b) Switch system 'In'.
- c) Decrease input by 10dB (TP1 @ 2.6v).
- d) Select 1.5:1 ratio.
- e) Switch attack to S' output should increase by 2dB.
- f) Switch attack to 'M' output should increase by 1dB.

3.3.7 PEAK LIMIT/LED 'METER' COLUMN

- a) Feed in -16dBm.
- b) Select 1:1 ratio.
- c) Switch 'Pk Limit' to + 16.
- d) Back off input pot. for + 17dBm at the output.
- e) Adjust Pk threshold pre-set for + 16dBm at the output.
- f) Observe red LED is on indicating peak limiting.

a FREE download from the archives of AnalogRules.com

- g) Increase input by 10dB gain reduction should be indicated by green LEDs showing up to and incl. + 8.
- h) Increase input a further 10dB all LEDs should be on and output should rise to + 17dBm max.
- i) Increase LED brightness to desired level via LED brightness pre-set. (Approx. halfway.)
- j) Feed in -6dBm.
- k) Turn output pot. fully anticlockwise (-4) and adjust output min. preset for -4dBm at the output.

3.3.8 BAL/UNBAL MODE

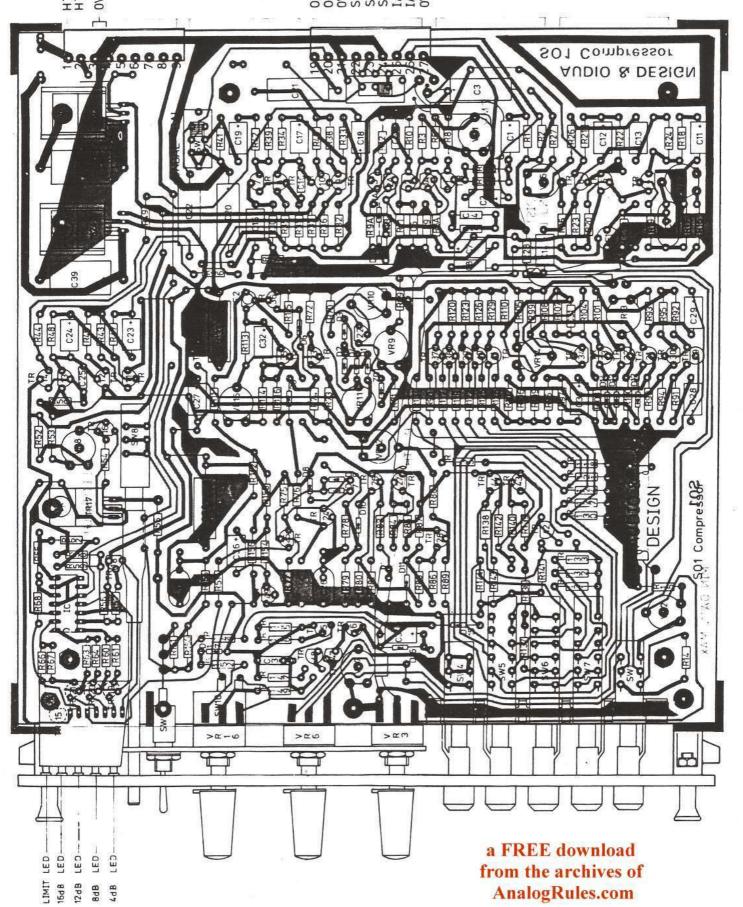
a) Switch 'bal/unbal' switch, located on P.C.B., to 'bal'. The output will now be -10dBm on Pin 19(Phase) and -10dBm on Pin 20 (Inverse Phase).

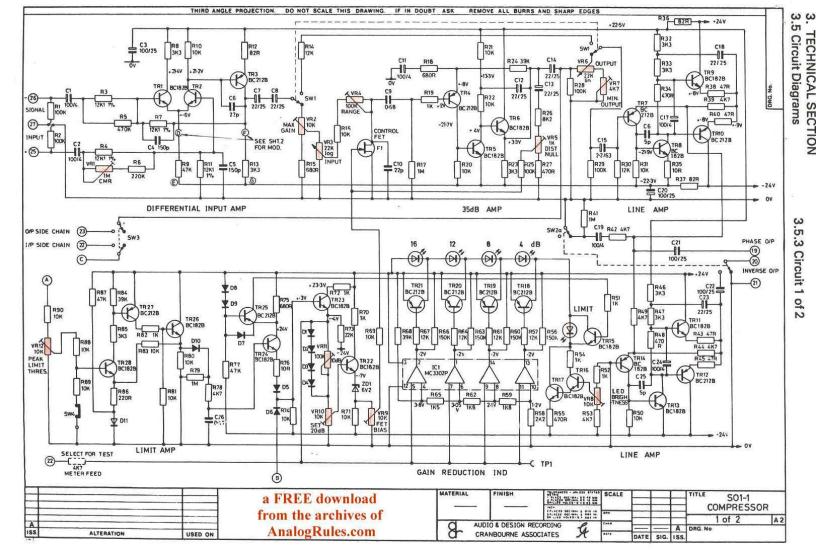
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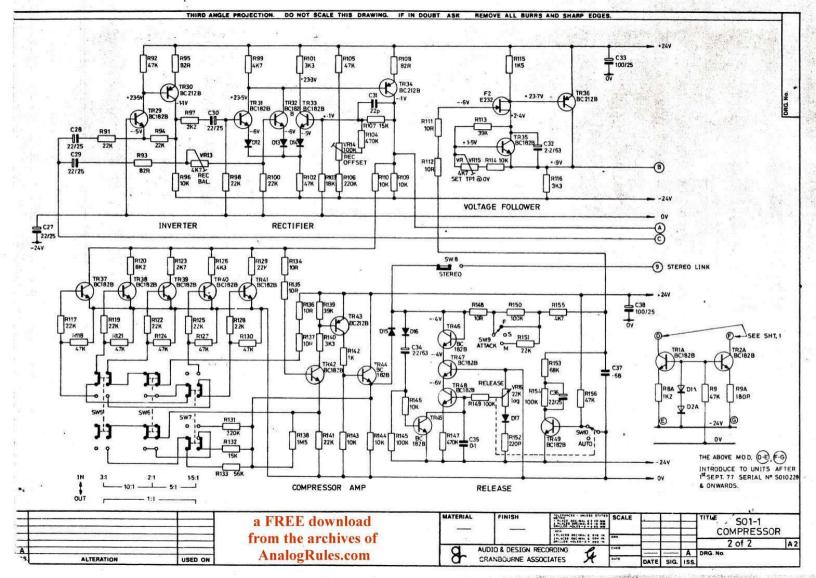
/P+PHASE /P-PHASE /V IDE CHAIN I/P IDE CHAIN O/P IDE CHAIN OV IP+PHASE 'P-PHASE 3. TECHNICAL SECTION

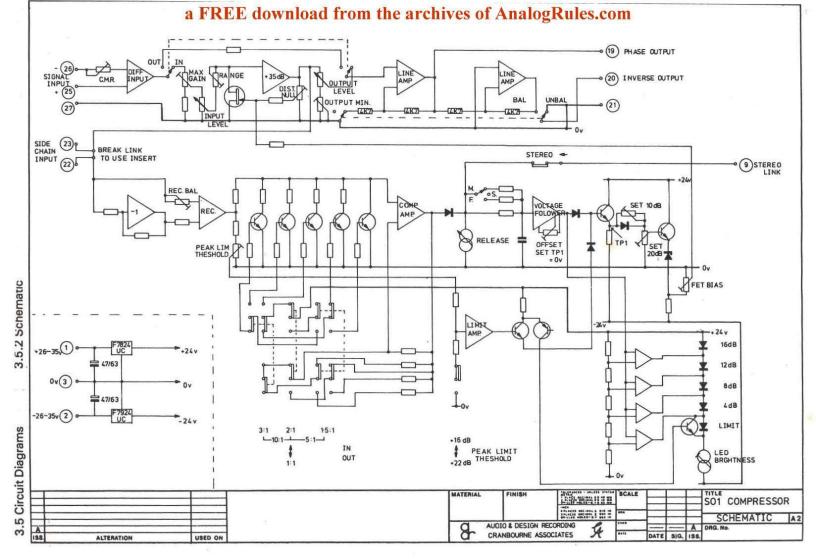
3.5 Circuit Diagrams

3.5.1 General Arrangement

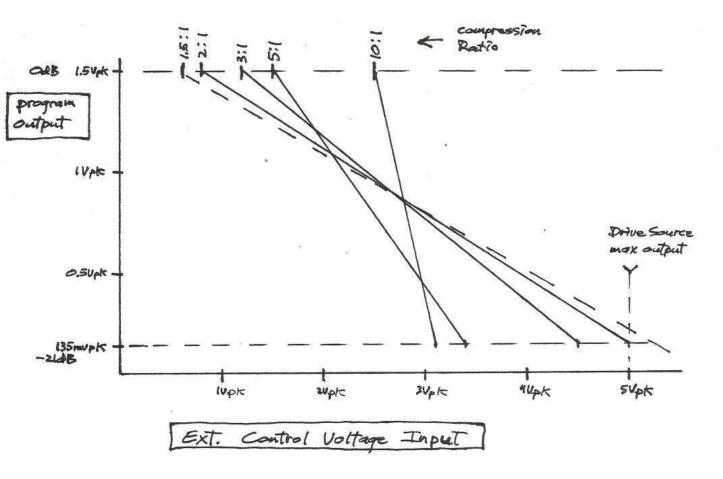








Scenp SO1 Compressor Ext Control Input Dynamic Range



Note: Straightures of lines weren't measured. To get compressions in between OdB & -21dB, use CEDS on compressor front pml. Conditions:

- Attack & Release times were set to fast (and didn't metter).
- All measurements were done with scape
- Control signal was 5ttl = sinewave, applied to edge connector pin # 23 on back of maintrame.
- Program signal was little sinewave, applied to edge connector pin# 25 on back of maintinume.