

# ML-8549

## Super Power Triode

High Duty  
Pulse Power  
to 60 Mw



ELECTRON TUBE SPECIALIST

### DESCRIPTION

The ML-8549 is a super-power general-purpose water-cooled triode featuring extremely favorable plate-grid current division which results in minimum drive-power requirements. The cathode of this tube consists of sturdy self-supporting thoriated-tungsten filaments. The coaxial terminals have low inductance and high heat-dissipation capability. Insulating members are low-loss ceramic.

When used as a switch tube in hard-tube pulse modulators for radar or similar applications, it can deliver more than 60 Mw pulse output with pulse widths up to 10,000 microseconds at a duty factor of .06. When used as a pulsed rf amplifier operating at frequencies up to 30 Mc, the ML-8549 is capable of delivering 10 Mw, also at long pulse duration and high duty factors. When used as a pulsed

modulator, a maximum plate voltage of 65 kVdc applies.

When operating as a Class C amplifier or oscillator at frequencies up to 30 Mc, the ML-8549 is capable of a continuous output in excess of 2.0 MW. The maximum CW plate-voltage rating of 25 kVdc applies at frequencies up to 30 Mc. Useful power output can be obtained at higher frequencies with reduced plate voltage and input.

The water-cooled anode of the ML-8549 is capable of dissipating up to 500 kW. The tube can be operated in air at maximum plate voltage ratings. The ML-8549 is supplied with an ion pump for maintaining a high vacuum during operation. This pump is normally mounted on the cathode end of the tube but can be mounted in a concealed position within the anode water jacket on special order.

*Note: Data contained herein are based on initial design and test criteria. Before using these data in final equipment designs, consult Machlett for possible revisions.*

### GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

#### Electrical

|                             |      |    |
|-----------------------------|------|----|
| Filament Voltage .....      | 7.6  | V  |
| Filament Current .....      | 1900 | A  |
| Amplification Factor .....  | 20   |    |
| Interelectrode Capacitances |      |    |
| Grid-Plate .....            | 280  | pf |
| Grid-Cathode .....          | 730  | pf |
| Plate-Cathode .....         | 25   | pf |

#### Mechanical

|  |                      |      |
|--|----------------------|------|
| Mounting Position .....                          | Vertical             |      |
| Type of Cooling .....                            | Water and forced-air |      |
| Water flow on anode for 500 kW dissipation ..... | 100                  | gpm† |
| Water jacket pressure for 100 gpm flow .....     | 30                   | psi  |
| Maximum Ceramic Temperature .....                | 165                  | °C   |
| Net Weight, approximate                          |                      |      |
| Tube .....                                       | 350                  | lb.  |
| Water jacket and accessories .....               | 600                  | lb.  |

†Additional forced-air or forced-oil cooling of the grid and filament terminals will be required.

ACCESSORIES

| Item  | Part No.  |
|---|-----------|
| Filament Connector .....                          | 510269    |
| Cathode Connector .....                           | 510270    |
| Grid Connector .....                              | 510272    |
| Water Jacket .....                                | 510271    |
| Ion Pump Connector with 14 ft. Polyethylene Cable |           |
| With Cannon Connector .....                       | 924-0022* |
| With unterminated supply end .....                | 924-0715* |

\* Part number of Varian Associates, Palo Alto, California.

MAXIMUM RATINGS AND TYPICAL OPERATING CONDITIONS

Pulse Modulator or Pulse Amplifier

| Maximum Ratings, Absolute Values  |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 65 kV <sup>Δ</sup> |
| Peak Plate Voltage .....          | 70 kV <sup>Δ</sup> |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -5000 V            |
| Peak Negative Grid Voltage .....  | -6000 v            |
| Pulse Cathode Current .....       | 1200 a             |
| Grid Dissipation .....            | 9 kW               |
| Plate Dissipation .....           | 500 kW             |
| Pulse Duration .....              | 10 ms <sup>#</sup> |
| Duty Factor .....                 | .06 #              |
| Typical Operation                 |                    |
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 65 kV              |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -4000 V            |
| Pulse Positive Grid Voltage ..... | 3000 v             |
| Pulse Plate Current .....         | 1100 a             |
| Pulse Grid Current .....          | 10 a               |
| Pulse Driving Power .....         | 70 kw              |
| Pulse Power Output .....          | 65 Mw              |
| Pulse Plate Output Voltage .....  | 59 kv              |

Plate-Modulated RF Power Amplifier  
Class C Telephony

Carrier conditions per tube for use with a maximum modulation factor of 1.0

| Maximum Ratings, Absolute Values  |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 16 kV                         |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -4000 V                       |
| DC Plate Current .....            | 100 A                         |
| Plate Input .....                 | 1.6 MW                        |
| Plate Dissipation .....           | 330 kW                        |
| Typical Operation                 |                               |
|                                   | Cathode Drive      Grid Drive |
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 15      15 kV                 |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -2000      -2000 V            |
| Peak RF Plate Voltage .....       | 13      13 kv                 |
| Peak RF Grid Voltage .....        | 3500      3500 v              |
| DC Plate Current .....            | 90      90 A                  |
| Peak RF Fundamental Plate Current | 162      162 a                |
| RF Load Resistance .....          | 102      78 ohms              |
| Driving Power .....               | 300      4 kW                 |
| Plate Dissipation .....           | 300      300 kW               |
| Power Output .....                | 1.3‡      1.1 MW              |

Plate-Pulsed RF Power Amplifier and Oscillator  
Class C

| Maximum Ratings, Absolute Values      |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Peak Plate Pulse Supply Voltage ..... | 40 kV <sup>Δ</sup>            |
| DC Grid Voltage .....                 | -4000 V                       |
| Pulse Cathode Current .....           | 1200 a                        |
| Grid Dissipation .....                | 9 kW                          |
| Plate Dissipation .....               | 500 kW                        |
| Pulse Duration .....                  | 10 ms <sup>#</sup>            |
| Duty Factor .....                     | .06 #                         |
| Typical Operation                     |                               |
|                                       | Cathode Drive      Grid Drive |
| Peak Plate Pulse Supply Voltage ..... | 38      38 kv                 |
| DC Grid Voltage .....                 | -2300      -2300 V            |
| Peak RF Grid Voltage .....            | 5500      5500 v              |
| Peak RF Plate Voltage .....           | 32      32 kv                 |
| Peak Plate Current from Pulse Supply  | 400      400 a                |
| Peak RF Fundamental Plate Current     | 630      630 a                |
| Peak Plate Dissipation .....          | 5.2      5.2 Mw               |
| Plate Dissipation at .01 Duty .....   | 52      52 kW                 |
| Peak Driving Power .....              | 1750      33 kw               |
| Peak Grid Dissipation .....           | 24      24 kw                 |
| RF Load Resistance .....              | 60      51 ohms               |
| Peak Power Output .....               | 11.8‡      10 Mw              |

RF Power Amplifier and Oscillator  
Class C Telegraphy

Key-down conditions per tube without amplitude modulation.†

| Maximum Ratings, Absolute Values  |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 25 kV   |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -4000 V                                       |
| DC Plate Current .....            | 150 A   |
| Plate Input .....                 | 3.0 MW  |
| Plate Dissipation .....           | 500 kW  |
| Typical Operation                 |   |
|                                   | Cathode Drive      Grid Drive      Grid Drive |
| DC Plate Voltage .....            | 20      20      25 kV                         |
| DC Grid Voltage .....             | -2600      -2600      -3100 V                 |
| Peak RF Grid Voltage .....        | 4400      4400      4900 v                    |
| Peak RF Plate Voltage .....       | 18000      18000      23000 v                 |
| DC Plate Current .....            | 110      110      115 A                       |
| Peak RF Fundamental Plate Current | 200      200      220 a                       |
| RF Load Resistance .....          | 112      90      107 ohms                     |
| Plate Dissipation .....           | 460      460      450 kW                      |
| Grid Driving Power .....          | 450      9      10 kW                         |
| Grid Dissipation .....            | 2500      2500      2500 W                    |
| Power Output .....                | 2.3‡      1.8      2.5 MW                     |

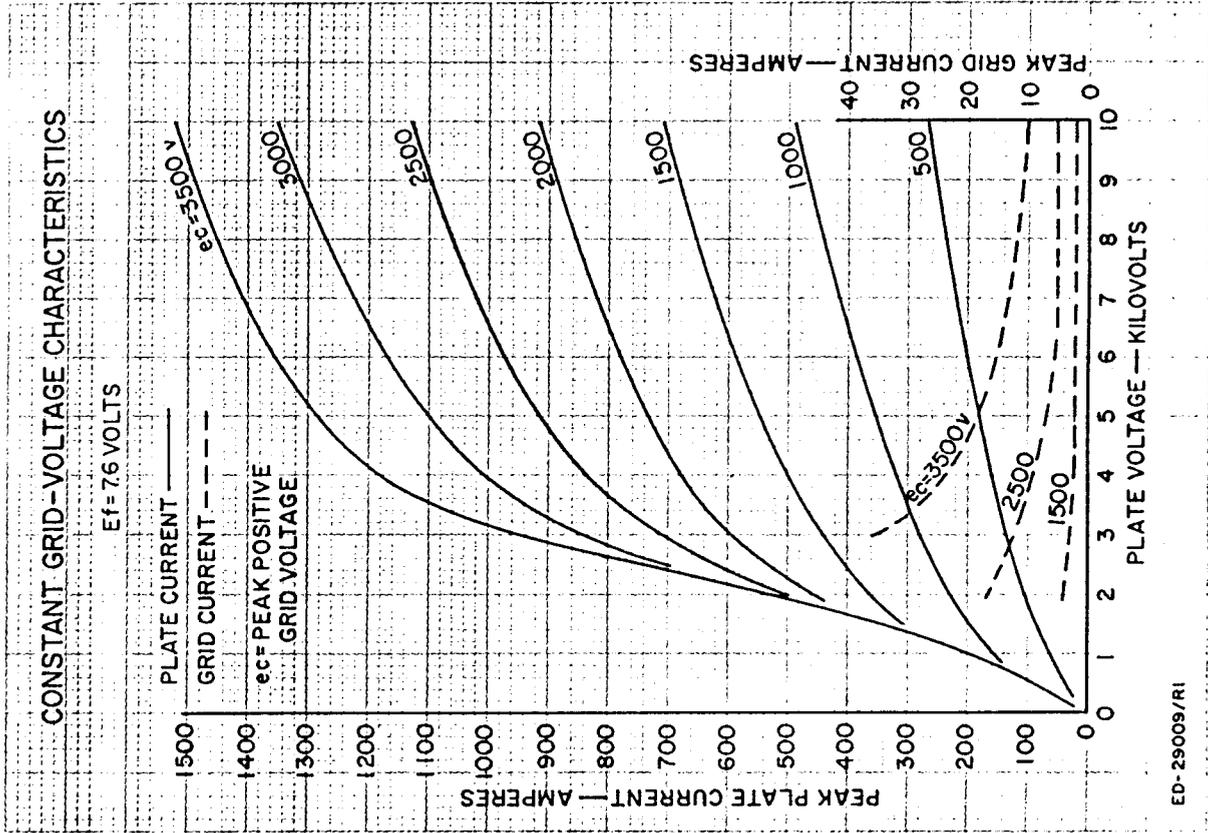
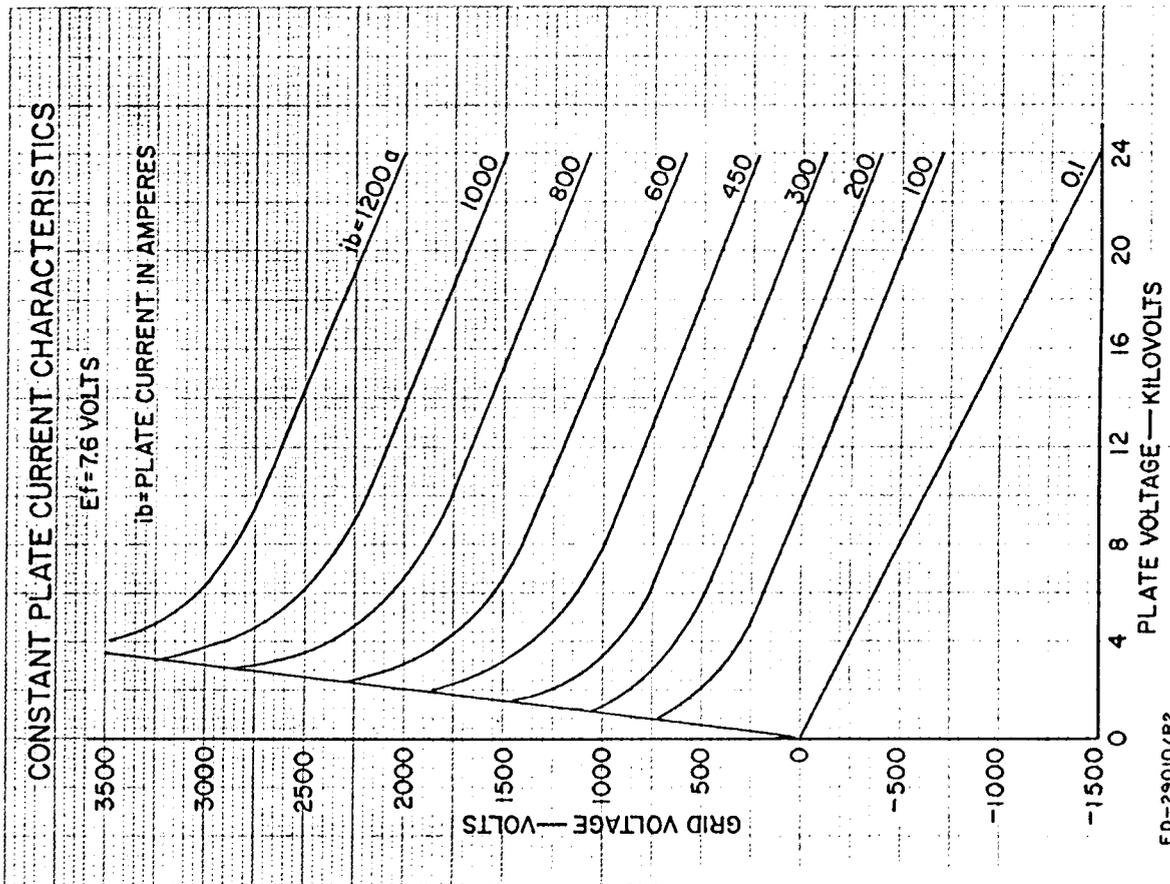
<sup>Δ</sup>Maximum plate voltage ratings apply with the tube in air or immersed in oil.

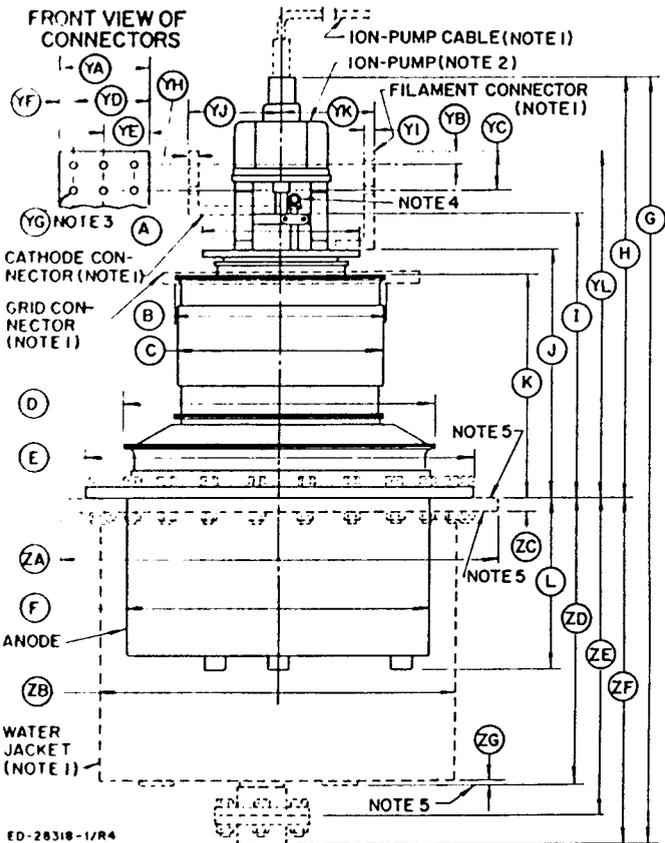
<sup>#</sup>For applications requiring longer pulse duration or higher duty factors, consult the Machlett Engineering Department.

<sup>†</sup>Modulation essentially negative may be used if the positive peak of the envelope does not exceed 115% of the carrier conditions.

<sup>‡</sup>Includes power transferred from driver stage.

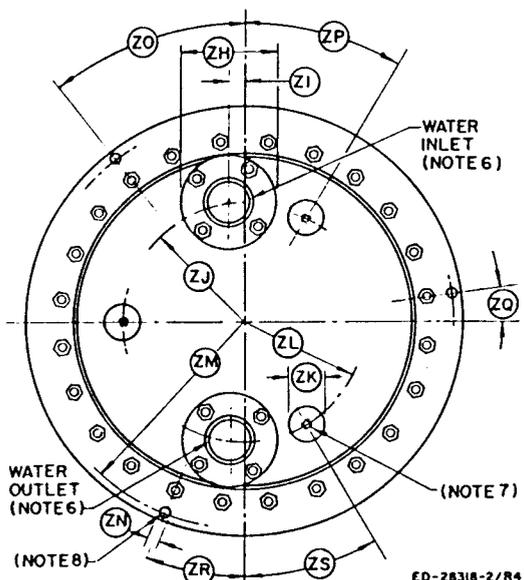
**WARNING:** Operation of this tube may produce x-rays. Adequate rayproof shielding must therefore be provided in the equipment.





DIMENSIONS FOR OUTLINE OF ML-8549

| Ref. | Inches* |         |         | Notes   |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|      | Minimum | Nominal | Maximum |         |
| A    |         | 9.63    |         |         |
| B    |         | 12.31   |         |         |
| C    |         | 12.0    |         |         |
| D    |         | 18.25   |         |         |
| E    |         | 22.88   |         |         |
| F    |         | 17.50   |         |         |
| G    |         | 45.75   |         |         |
| H    |         | 25.19   |         |         |
| I    |         | 17.03   |         |         |
| J    |         | 14.75   |         |         |
| K    |         | 13.44   |         |         |
| L    |         | 9.94    |         |         |
| YA   |         | 5.25    |         |         |
| YB   |         | .88     |         |         |
| YC   |         | 2.38    |         |         |
| YD   |         | 4.38    |         |         |
| YE   |         | 2.63    |         |         |
| YF   |         | .88     |         |         |
| YG   |         | .44     |         | 3       |
| YH   |         | .50     |         |         |
| YI   |         | .50     |         |         |
| YJ   |         | 5.38    |         |         |
| YK   |         | 5.38    |         |         |
| YL   |         | 20.78   |         |         |
| ZA   |         | 25.88   |         |         |
| ZB   |         | 20.25   |         |         |
| ZC   |         | .75     |         |         |
| ZD   |         | 17.06   |         |         |
| ZE   |         | 18.88   |         |         |
| ZF   |         | 20.56   |         |         |
| ZG   |         | .13     |         |         |
| ZH   |         | 5.56    |         |         |
| ZI   |         | .94     |         |         |
| ZJ   |         | 7.19    |         | 6       |
| ZK   |         | 2.00    |         |         |
| ZL   |         | 7.19    |         | 7       |
| ZM   |         | 12.25   |         | 8       |
| ZN   |         | .81     |         | 8       |
| ZO   |         | 37.5°   |         | degrees |
| ZP   |         | 30.0°   |         | degrees |
| ZQ   |         | 7.5°    |         | degrees |
| ZR   |         | 22.5°   |         | degrees |
| ZS   |         | 30.0°   |         | degrees |



BOTTOM VIEW OF WATER JACKET

NOTES:

1. Ion-pump cable, terminal connectors and water jacket not supplied with tube. Other terminal connectors can be designed on special order.
2. Five-liter-per-second ion pump. Ion pump can be mounted in a concealed position within the water jacket on special order.
3. Six holes, diameter (YG).
4. Connection for forced-oil or forced-air cooling of cathode re-entrant cavity, 3/8-inch male pipe thread.
5. Water jacket may be supported by upper or lower surface of flange or by three pads on bottom of jacket.
6. Water inlet and outlet are Anaconda No. 1740, 2 1/2-inch copper tube flange unions, on circle radius (ZJ).
7. Three holes for mounting, 1/2"-13 ANC tap, on circle radius (ZL).
8. Three holes, diameter (ZN), on circle radius (ZM), for alternate mounting.

\*Limits to be determined.

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