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Title Oscillographic Method of Measuring Positive Grid Characteristics

By

Vac. Tube Engg. Dept. Div.

Information prepared for

Tests made by

Information prepared by O. W. Livingston

Countersigned by

Date 9-6-39

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Oscillographic Method of Measuring Positive Grid Characteristics

Vacuum Tube Engg. Dept.

September 6, 1939.

R-5344730

R-6917413 (4 pages)

R-6917417-422

Introduction

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the past in obtaining positive grid characteristics of high-vacuum triodes since tube dissipation while taking these points is so high that the destruction of the tube is likely to take place if the power is left on sufficiently long to read a standard meter.

To obviate this difficulty, tests have been made in which the power is applied for only a short time and oscillograms taken on all the essential data. This method, however, requires considerable calculation from the oscillograms obtained and in many cases errors or peculiar results in the tests are not noticed until the calculations are made which may be sometime after the tests and the test setup may be no longer available. The method used in these tests, we believe, overcomes many of the difficulties involved in these former methods. It is essentially a point-to-point method in which each point on the desired characteristic is obtained separately and can be read directly and plotted as the test progresses. In this way any errors may be checked immediately when the work is completed. No further calculation is necessary since the curves are immediately available.

The Method of Test

Fig. 1 (K-6917413 - Sheet 1) shows the schematic diagram of the test setup. Fundamentally, the operation is as follows. The plate supply condenser C_1 and the grid supply condenser C_2 are charged to a predetermined voltage through their respective rectifier tubes and transformers VT_1 , VT_2 , T_3 and T_4 . Then, when the switch S_1 is thrown to the discharge position an impulse generated in the grid transformers T_7 and T_8 "trip" the thyratrons VT_3 and VT_4 simultaneously applying potential to both the grid and anode. The wave shape of this voltage is similar to that shown in Fig. 2A, being essentially that of a condenser discharge. Since both the grid and anode potentials have this same shape, the instantaneous grid current and instantaneous plate current at the start of the phenomenon corresponds to the values normally obtained with the peak values of grid and plate voltage. The plate current in general always has the shape shown in Fig. A and the peak value of this is read readily by observing the drop across the series resistor R_{11} with a cathode-ray oscillograph and suitable amplifier and calibrating circuit. The

grid current under some conditions has the shape shown in Fig. 2A but under certain conditions may assume the shape shown in Fig. 2B, in which case the voltage appearing at the start of the phenomenon is measured. Under other conditions the grid current may go negative, in which case the negative peak is observed and recorded. It is important in this scheme that the decay of both the grid and the plate voltage be sufficiently slow that small errors in firing time of the two thyratrons VT₃ and VT₄ do not cause appreciable error. That is to say, it is important that the grid voltage is applied before the anode voltage has decayed appreciably, otherwise erroneous readings may be obtained.

Normally, the easiest method to operate this set is to make a calibration curve of the output voltage by the use of an oscillograph and amplifier on the potentiometers R₇-R₉ and R₈-R₁₀ versus the voltage on the primary of the anode transformer which may be varied by a Variac or other similar device. After this calibration curve is available, it is then possible to set the grid voltage to some predetermined value, such as plus 300 volts, and vary the anode voltage over the operating range reading the drop across R₁₁ and R₁₂ to obtain the grid and plate currents respectively.

In some cases, it is further desirable to add additional "bleeding" resistance across the voltage potentiometers, particularly in the case of low or negative currents which sometimes occur in the grid circuit in order to insure reliable "firing" of the thyratrons. Under some conditions, if the lead lengths are not kept down oscillations may occur. These may be observed readily on the oscillograph if the conventional sweep is used. In most cases they may be corrected by placing a small condenser from the grid to the cathode on the anode to the cathode. In all cases these condensers should be small compared with the grid or anode supply condenser so that the peak voltage will not be lowered appreciably. In taking readings it is sometimes convenient to turn off the sweep circuit and simply read the peak, but wherever this is done the sweep should be used from time to time to determine whether or not oscillations are present and, as in the case of the grid current, whether or not the peak value is the correct point to read.

Fig. 3 (K-6917413 - Sheet 2) shows the arrangement of one of the peak supply which may be used for either the grid or the anode by use of appropriate supply transformers and condensers. Fig. 4 (K-6917413 - Sheet 3) shows the switching arrangement used in connection with these outfits. Fig. 5 (K-5344730) shows the oscillograph amplifier and calibration circuit. The data sheets and curves attached show the results of this method in a practical instance.

OWL:HT

O. W. Livingston

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Sept. 6, 1939.

CALIBRATION OF GRID SUPPLY

<u>R₁/R₂</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>A-C</u>	<u>D-C</u>	<u>DC Volts</u>
980/20	50/1	25	6.4-	320
"	"	30	7.5+	375
"	"	35	9.1	455
"	"	40	10.5	525
"	"	45	11.8	590
"	"	50	13.2	660
"	"	55	14.4	720
"	"	"	14.5	725
"	"	60	15.6	780
"	"	65	16.9+	845
"	"	70	18.3	915
"	"	75	19.7	985
"	"	80	21.1	1055
"	"	85	22.4	1120
"	"	25	6.4	320
950/50	20/1	"	15.8	316
"	"	20	12.7	254
900/100	10/1	"	25.6	256
"	"	15	18.6	186
"	"	10	11.7	117
"	"	13	16.0-	160
"	"	9	10.4	104
"	"	8	9.1	91
950/50	20/1	30	19.1	382

CALIBRATION OF PLATE SUPPLY

<u>R₁/R₂</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>DC Reading</u>	<u>DC Value</u>
9900/100	100/1	30	23.6	2360
9950/50	200/1	35	13.6	2720
9950/50	200/1	40	15.5	3100
"	"	45	17.2	3440
"	"	50	19.3	3860
"	"	55	21.0	4200
"	"	60	22.9	4580
"	"	65	24.9	4980
"	"	70	27.3	5460
"	"	75	29.2	5840
9980/20	500/1	75	11.6	5800
"	"	80	12.4	6200
"	"	80	12.6	6300
"	"	85	13.5	6750
"	"	90	14.2	7100
"	"	95	15.1	7550
"	"	100	15.9	7950
"	"	105	16.8	8400
"	"	110	17.8	8900
"	"	115	18.4	9200
9900/100	100/1	30	23.6	2360
"	"	25	19.8	1980
"	"	20	14.5	1450
"	"	15	11.3	1130
9800/200	50/1	10	15.0	750
"	"	7	10.2	510

#25217

WL-891 CHARACTERISTICS

+100 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			E _p		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	AC	DC	R	V	I
20	13.7	.685	10	750	100	5	.05
"	15.8	.79	13	1000	"	4.4	.044
"	24.8	1.24	19.6	1500	"	4.2	.042
10	17.0	1.7	26	2000	"	5.2	.052
"	20.6	2.06	32.5	2500	"	5.0	.05
"	24.8	2.48	39	3000	"	6.0	.06
5	15.0	3.00	45.5	3500	"	"	"
"	17.4	3.48	52	4000	"	"	"
"	19.2	3.84	58+	4500	"	5.6	.056
"	22.8	4.56	65-	5000	"	6.8	.068
"	24.9	4.98	71	5500	"	6.2	.062
3	16.8	5.60	77	6000	"	7.0	.07
"	19.1	6.37	83	6500	"	7.6	.076
"	20.7	6.90	88.7	7000	"	7.2	.072

+200 Volt Grid

20	25.0	1.25	10	750	100	12	.12
10	14.2	1.42	13	1000	"	10.2	.102
"	18.2	1.82	19.6	1500	"	7	.07
"	23.8	2.38	26	2000	"	5.5	.055
"	27.3	2.73	32.5	2500	"	5	.05
5	16.6	3.32	39	3000	"	4	.04
"	19.0	3.80	45.5	3500	"	3	.03
"	22.5	4.50	52	4000	"	"	"
"	24.6	4.92	58+	4500	"	"	"
"	27.6	5.52	65-	5000	"	3-4	"
"	29.4	5.88	71	5500	"	3	"
3	19.4	6.47	77	6000	"	"	"
"	21.5	7.17	83	6500	"	"	"

#25217

WL-891 CHARACTERISTICS

+300 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			Ep		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	AC	DC	R	V	I
10	19.4	1.95	10	750	50	11.5	.275
"	21.0	2.1	13	1000	"	8.6	.172
"	26.0	2.6	19.6	1500	"	5.8	.116
5	16.0	3.2	26	2000	"	3.5	.07
"	18.6	3.72	32.5	2500	"	1.0	.02
"	21.0	4.2	39	3000	"	-0.8	-.016
"	24.3	4.86	45.5	3500	"	-1.3	-.026
3	16.2	5.4	52	4000	"	-3.5	-.07
"	18.0	6.0	58	4500	"	-4.3	-.086
"	19.2	6.4	65	5000	"	-4.2	-.084
"	21.4	7.13	71	5500	"	"	"

+400 Volt Grid

10	25.6	2.56	10	750	50	+20.5	.41
5	14.4	2.88	13	1000	"	+15.9	.318
"	17.6	3.52	19.6	1500	"	+7.8	.156
"	20.0	4.0	26	2000	"	+4.8	.096
"	23.7	4.74	32.5	2500	100	+3.4	.034
"	26.5	5.30	39	3000	"	-3.5	-.035
"	29.5	5.90	45.5	3500	"	-9.5	-.095
3	19.5	6.5	52	4000	"	-14.8	-.148
"	21.2	7.07	58+	4500	"	-18.5	-.185
"	22.8	7.63	65	5000	50	10.6	-.218

#25217

WL-891 CHARACTERISTICS

+500 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			E _p		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	AC	DC	R	V	I
5	16.0	3.2	10	750	25	+16.5	.660
"	18.0	3.6	13	1000	"	12.5	.500
"	21.8	4.36	19.6	1500	"	6.5	.260
"	24.6	4.96	26	2000	100	12.5	.125
"	29.5	5.6	32.5	2500	"	4.0	.04
3	17.2	5.73	"	2500	"	"	"
"	19.6	6.53	39	3000	"	-3.0	-.03
"	21.4	7.13	45.5	3500	"	-10.0	-.10
"	23.2	7.73	52	4000	"	-17.6	-.176

+600 Volt Grid

5	19.2	3.84	10	750	25	24.4	.976
"	21.6	4.32	13	1000	"	19.5	.780
"	25.8	5.16	19.6	1500	"	11.5	.460
3	18.0	6.0	26	2000	"	4.0	.160
"	20.3	6.77	32.5	2500	"	1.1	.044
"	22.1	7.37	39	3000	100	-4.0	-.04
"	24.4	8.13	45.5	3500	"	-10.8	-.108
"	25.6	8.53	52	4000	"	-19.4	-.194

+700 Volt Grid

5	21.8	4.36	10	750	20	+27.2	1.36
"	25.0	5.0	13	1000	"	21.6	1.08
3	17.8	5.93	19.6	1500	"	13.4	.67
"	20.7	6.9	26	2000	"	7.0	.35
"	22.8	7.6	32.5	2500	100	8.0	.08
"	25.0	8.33	39	3000	"	-3.2	-.032
"	26.3	8.73	45.5	3500	"	-12.3	-.123

#25217

WL-891 CHARACTERISTICS

+800 Volt GridAnode Amperes

<u>R</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>I</u>
3	14.4	4.8
"	16.8	5.6
"	19.5	6.5
"	22.2	7.4
"	25.0	8.33
"	27.3	9.1

Ep

<u>AC</u>	<u>DC</u>
10	750
13	1000
19.6	1500
26	2000
32.5	2500
39	3000

Grid Amperes

<u>R</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>I</u>
10	18	1.8
"	13.5	1.35
"	8.9	.89
"	4.9	.49
"	1.4	.14
25	-1.4	-.056

WL-892 CHARACTERISTICS

#25516

+100 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			E _D		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	A-C	D-C	R	V	I
25	9.0	.36	10.0	750	50	4.0	.08
"	11.3	.452	13.0	1000	"	"	"
"	11.0	.44	19.6	1500	"	3.9	.078
"	12.8	.552	26.0	2000	"	3.8-	.076
			32.5	2500			
"	16.0	.64	39.0	3000	"	3.5	.07
			45.5	3500			
"	19.0	.76	52.0	4000	"	3.4	.068
			58.0+	4500			
"	23.0	.92	65.0-	5000	"	"	"
			71.0	5500			
"	27.6	1.104	77.0	6000	"	3.2	.064
			83.0	6500			
10	12.5	1.25	88.7	7000	"	3.6	.072
			94.3	7500			
"	14.0	1.4	100.0	8000	"	"	"
			106.0	8500			
"	15.4	1.54	112.0	9000	"	3.5	.07

WL-892 CHARACTERISTICS

#25516

+200 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			Ep		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	A-C	D-C	R	V	I
25	23.6	.944	10.0	750	50	10.0	.20
10	10.3	1.03	13.0	1000	"	9.2	.184
"	11.2	1.12	19.6	1500	"	8.5	.17
"	12.1	1.21	26.0	2000	"	7.8	.156
"	13.9	1.39	39.0	3000	"	7.2	.144
"	16.0	1.6	52.0	4000	"	6.5	.13
"	18.0	1.8	65.0-	5000	"	5.8	.116
"	20.0	2.0	77.0	6000	"	5.2	.104
"	21.5	2.15	88.7	7000	"	4.7	.094
"	23.8	2.38	100.0	8000	"	4.5	.09
"	26.0	2.6	112.0	9000	"	4.1	.082

+300 Volt Grid

"	16.0	1.6	10.0	750	50	18.5	.370
"	16.8	1.68	13.0	1000	"	16.0	.32
"	18.2	1.82	19.6	1500	"	11.5	.23
"	20.0	2.0	26.0	2000	"	9.2	.184
5	11.8	2.36	39.0	3000	"	8.4	.168
"	12.9	2.58	52.0	4000	"	7.4	.148
"	13.8	2.76	65.0-	5000	"	6.5	.13
"	15.0	3.0	77.0	6000	"	5.8	.116
"	16.2	3.24	88.7	7000	"	4.2	.084
"	17.3	3.46	100.0	8000	"	3.0	.06
"	18.2	3.64	112.0	9000	"	1.4	.028

WL-892 CHARACTERISTICS

#25516

+400 Volt Grid

Anode Amperes			Ep		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	A-C	D-C	R	V	I
10	21.5	2.15	10.0	750	25	14.2	.568
"	24.5	2.45	13.0	1000	"	12.5	.500
5	13.5	2.7	19.6	1500	"	8.4	.336
"	14.8	2.96	26.0	2000	"	5.5	.220
"	16.2	3.24	39.0	3000	"	3.0	.12
"	17.3	3.46	52.0	4000	"	2.2	.088
"	19.0	3.8	65.0-	5000	"	2.0	.08
"	20.0	4.0	77.0	6000	"	1.4	.056
"	21.3	4.26	88.7	7000	"	0.6	.024
"	22.5	4.5	100.0	8000	"	0.5	.020
"	23.7	4.74	112.0	9000	"	-0.6	-.024

+500 Volt Grid

5	14.5	2.9	10.0	750	25	21.5	.860
"	16.0	3.2	13.0	1000	"	19.0	.76
"	17.4	3.48	19.6	1500	"	13.3	.532
"	18.9	3.78	26.0	2000	"	8.3	.332
"	21.0	4.2	39.0	3000	"	2.8	.112
"	23.0	4.6	52.0	4000	"	0.6	.024
"	24.4	4.98	65.0-	5000	"	0.3	.012
3	15.1	5.03	77.0	6000	"	-0.4	-.016
"	16.2	5.4	88.7	7000	"	-0.8	-.032
"	17.0	5.67	100.0	8000	"	-1.6	-.064
"	17.8	5.93	112.0	9000	"	-3.0	-.12

WL-892 CHARACTERISTICS

#25516

+600 Volt Grid

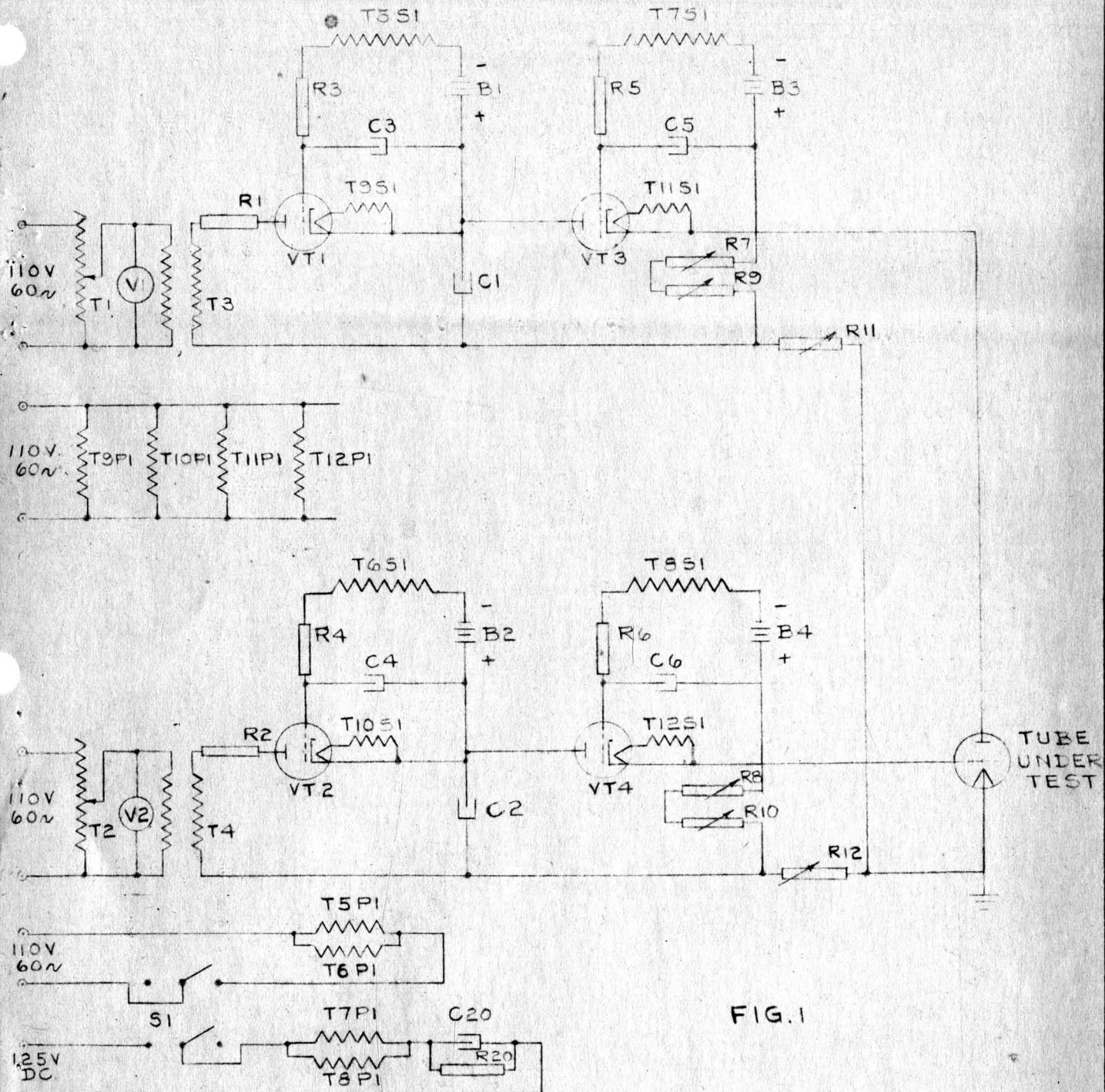
Anode Amperes			Ep		Grid Amperes		
R	V	I	A-C	D-C	R	V	I
5	18.0	3.6	10.0	750	20	25.0	1.25
"	19.6	3.92	13.0	1000	"	21.4	1.07
"	22.0	4.4	19.6	1500	"	14.5	.725
"	23.8	4.76	26.0	2000	"	10.6	.53
3	16.0	5.3	39.0	3000	"	3.0	.15
"	17.2	5.77	52.0	4000	"	-1.1	-.055
"	17.7	5.9	65.0	5000	"	-1.8	-.09
"	19.0	6.33	77.0	6000	"	-2.3	-.115
"	19.8	6.6	88.7	7000	"	-2.8	-.14
"	20.8	6.93	100.0	8000	"	-3.3	-.165
"	21.6	7.2	112.0	9000	"	-3.5	-.175

+700 Volt Grid

5	20.2	4.04	10.0	750	10	17.0	1.7
"	22.6	4.52	13.0	1000	"	13.6	1.36
"	25.4	5.08	19.6	1500	"	10.0	1.0
3	16.7	5.57	26.0	2000	20	14.4	.72
"	19.0	6.33	39.0	3000	"	6.4	.32
"	20.6	6.87	52.0	4000	"	-1.0	-.05
"	22.2	7.4	65.0	5000	"	-3.8	-.19
"	23.0	7.67	77.0	6000	"	-4.1	-.205
			88.7	7000			
			100.0	8000			
			112.0	9000			

+800 Volt Grid

5	23.0	4.6	10.0	750	10	23.0	2.3
"	26.0	5.2	13.0	1000	"	17.8	1.78
3	17.7	5.9	19.6	1500	"	13.0	1.3
"	19.0	6.33	26.0	2000	"	10.0	1.0
"	21.6	7.2	39.0	3000	"	5.0	0.5
"	23.4	7.8	52.0	4000	"	0.8	0.08
			65.0	5000			
			77.0	6000			
			88.7	7000			

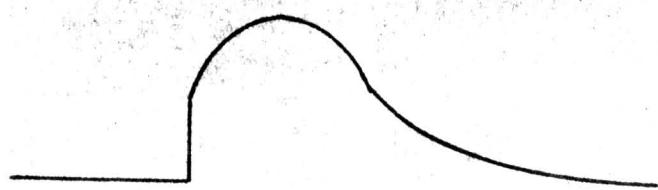


SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS
for
POSITIVE GRID CHARACTERISTIC TEST SET

	MADE BY L.J. Eastman AUG 23 1939	INSPECTED BY Aug. 31, 1939	JH 8413
REVISIONS	GENERAL ELECTRIC SCHENECTADY WORKS	K-6917413	VT ⁸ PRINTS TO
	SHEET NO. 1. CONT. ON SHEET 2		



(a)



(b)



(c)

FIG. 2

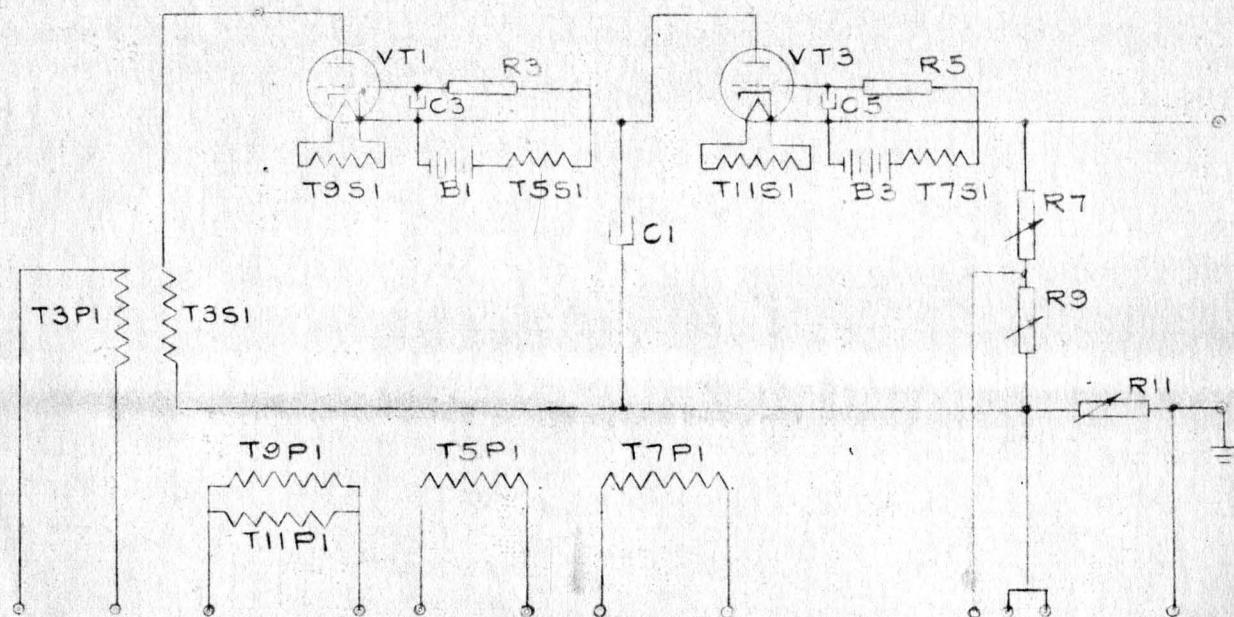


FIG.3

SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS
for
POWER SUPPLY AND SWITCHING UNIT
for
POSITIVE GRID CHARACTERISTIC TEST

	MADE BY L. J. Erickson AUG 23 1939	INSPECTED BY Aug. 31, 1939 JH. 8413	
REVISIONS	GENERAL ELECTRIC SCHENECTADY WORKS	K-6917413	YT 8 PRINTS TO
		SHEET NO. 2 CONT. ON SHEET 3	

THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION

K-6917413

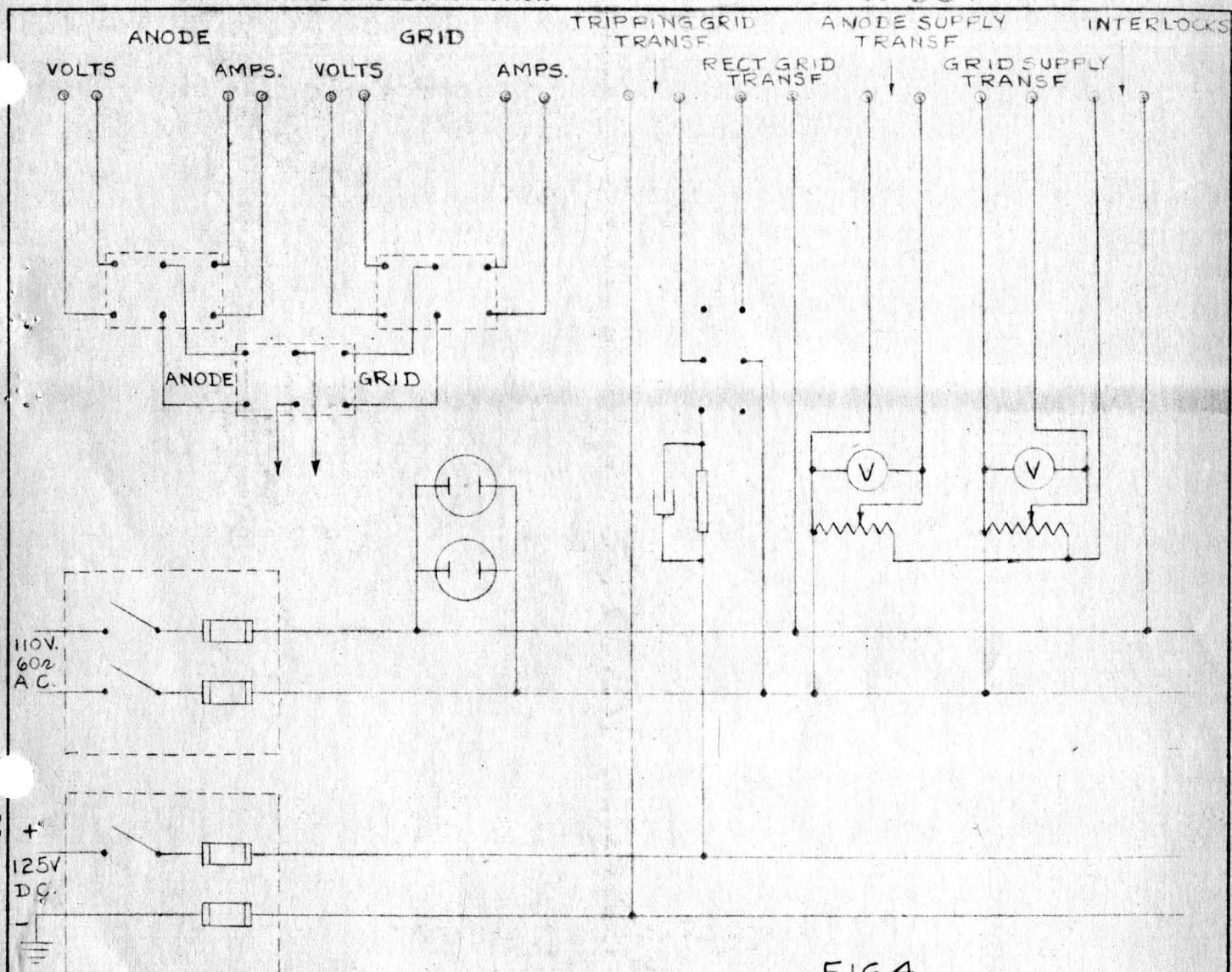


FIG. 4

**SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS
CONTROL UNIT
for
POSITIVE GRID CHARACTERISTIC TEST**

	MADE BY L.J. ENCKOWSON AUG. 24, 1939	INSPECTED BY Aug. 31, 1939.	JH 8413	
REVISIONS	GENERAL ELECTRIC SCHENECTADY WORKS	K-6917413	VT ⁸ PRINTS TO	
		SHEET NO. 3 CONT. ON SHEET 4		

T1, T2 115 volt; 500 VA variac
 T3 Anode supply trans. P.T. 110/220 to 6600
 T4 Grid supply trans. P.T. 110/220 1100/2200
 T5,T6,T7,T8 Grid trans. 110/110 insulated 15 kv - 100 VA
 T9,T10,T11,T12 Filament trans. Y - 2052

 C1 Anode supply condenser 16mfd - 9000 volts
 C2 Grid supply condenser 45mfd - 1200 volts
 C3,C4,C5,C6 Grid condensers 0.002mfd - 1000 volts
 C20 7mfd - 300 volt

 R1, R2 Charging resistors
 R3,R4,R5,R6 Grid resistors
 R7 100,000 ohm, decade box
 R8 10,000 " " "
 R9 1.000 " " "
 R10 1.000 " " "
 R11 100 " " "
 R12 100 " " "
 R20 5.000 " blue stick

 V1 0-150 volts or less, as required
 V2 0-150 " " " "

 VT1, VT2 FG-41 thyratrons
 VT3, VT4 " "

NOMENCLATURE

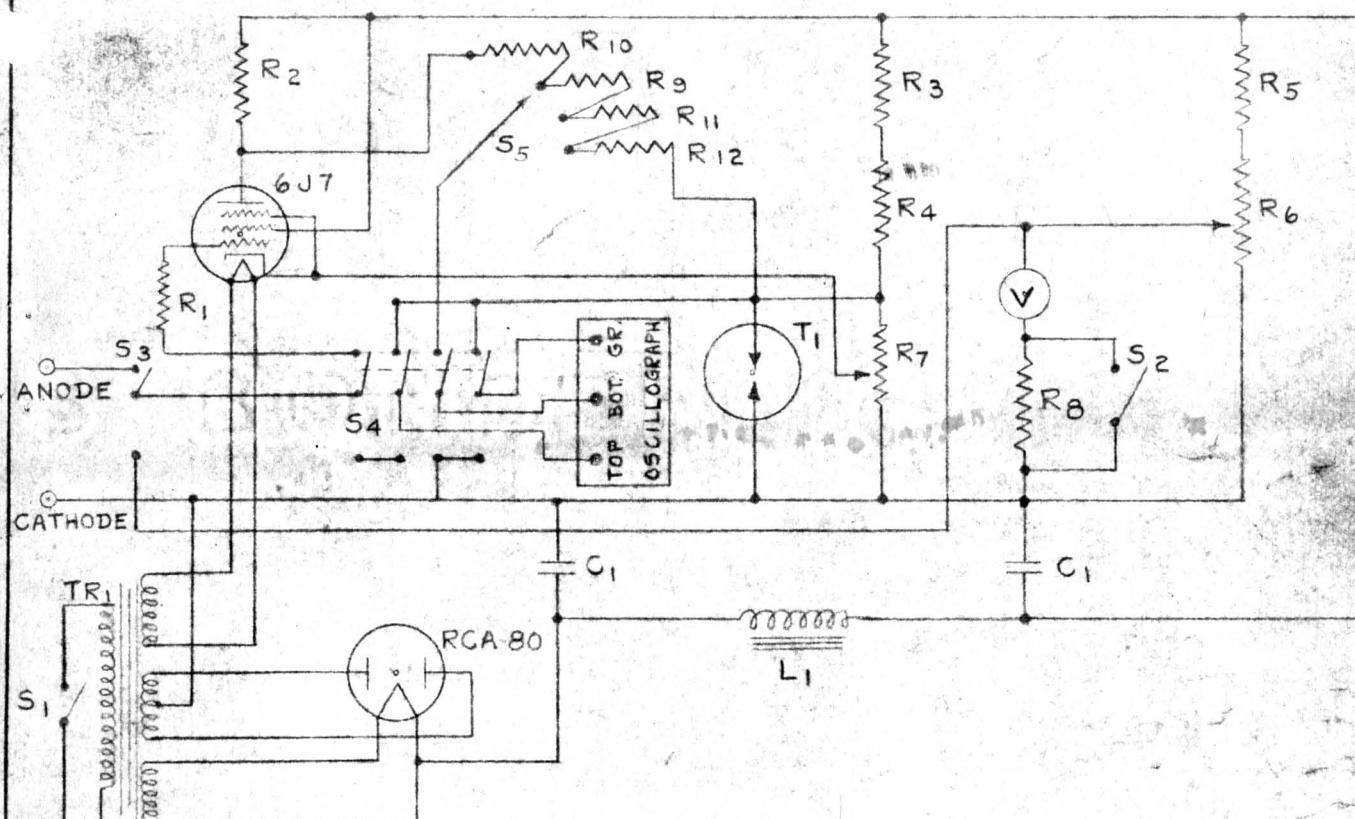
for

SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS

for POSITIVE GRID CHARACTERISTIC TEST

	MADE BY L. J. Eschenbach, AUG-23-1939	INSPECTED BY Aug. 31, 1939	JH
REVISIONS	GENERAL ELECTRIC SCHENECTADY WORKS	K-6917413	8413
		VT	PRINTS TO
F-449-A (4-39) rev.	SHEET NO. 4	CONT. ON SHEET FINAL	

THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION



NOMENCLATURE

110V A.C.	R ₁	-	10,000 ohm resistor	ohmite type	0385
	R ₂	-	50,000 "	"	" " 0392
	R ₃	-	10,000 "	"	1 watt " WW-1
	R ₄	-	5,000 "	"	" " WW-1
	R ₅	-	7,500 "	"	25 watt " B-100
	R ₆	-	2,500 "	"	Yaxley Potentiometer
	R ₇	-	10,000 "	"	"
	R ₈	-	---	voltmeter multiplier 3:1 ratio	
	R ₉	-	50,000 ohm resistor		F-1
	R ₁₀	-	100,000 "	"	F-1
	R ₁₁	-	25,000 "	"	F-1
	R ₁₂	-	25,000 "	"	F-1

V - 25 volt meter DO-40

T₁ - Glow lamp CD-5003

L₁ = 9XD234Al reactor

TR₁ - Power supply transformer Kenyon 650V; 6.3V; 5 V

C₁ - 7 mfd condenser 67x8

S2 - Single pole double throw federal anti-capacity switch

S₄ - Four "

$S_1 - S_2$ - Single " single " snap switch

S₅ - 4 contact Yaxley switch

DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS

DIAGRAM OF CONNECTIONS

OSCILLOGRAPH AMPLIFIER-CALIBRATOR CIRCUIT
ROOM 426

ROOM 426

ALSO FOR RATING AS SHOWN ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PRINT

GENERAL



ELECTRIC WORKS

DRAWN BY L. J. Erickson MAR 13, '37
INSPECTED BY April 1-37

K-5344730

Vac. Tube Engg. Dept.
August 29, 1939.O. W. Livingston
Aug. 29, 1939

900

800

700

600/1100

500/1000

400/900

300

200

100

VOLTAGE

CALIBRATION
GRID VOLTAGE SUPPLY

GRID VOLTAGE SUPPLY

A-C VOLTAGE

670

10/80

20/90

30

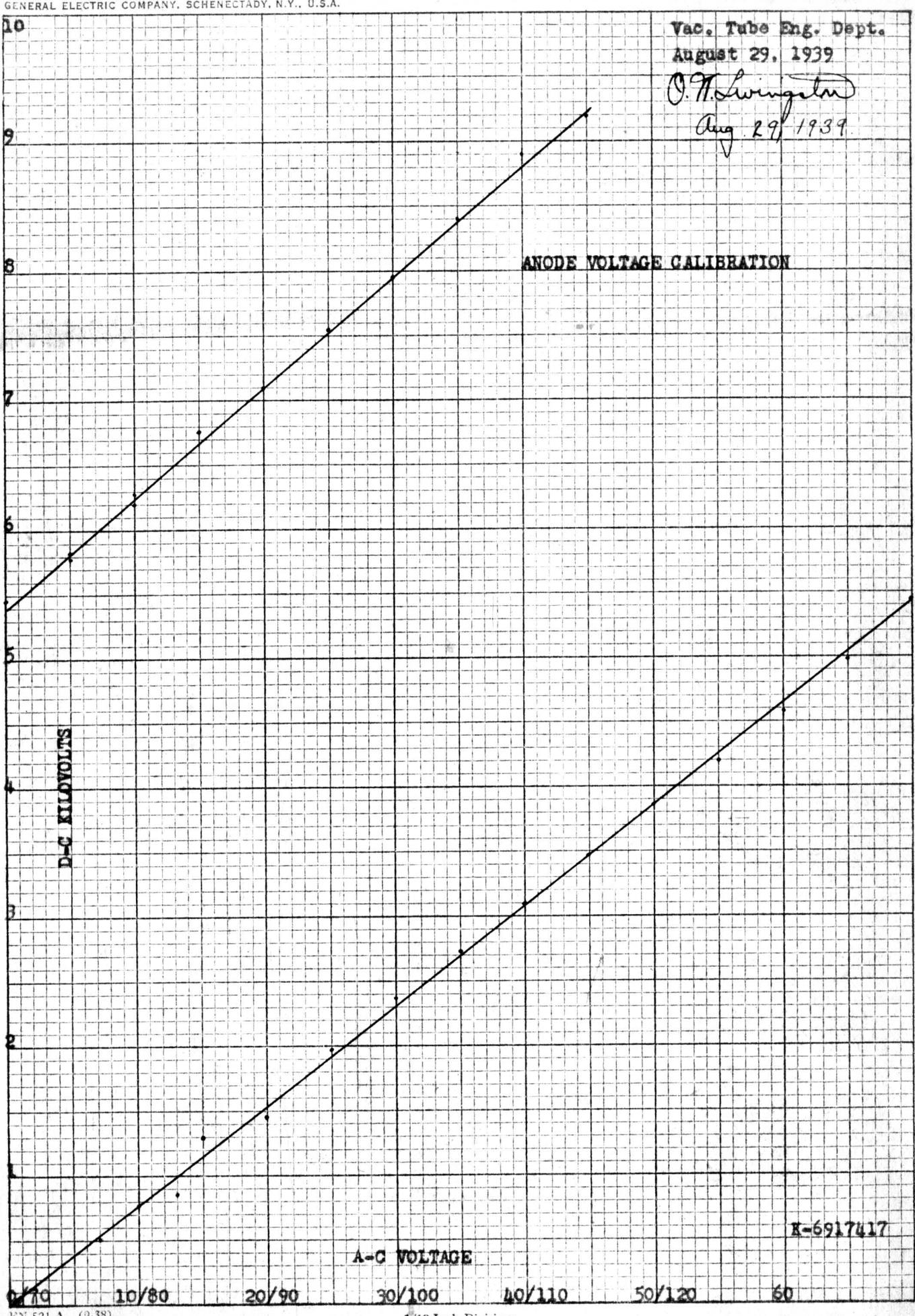
40

50

60

K-6917421

E. P. Rogers
H-8447

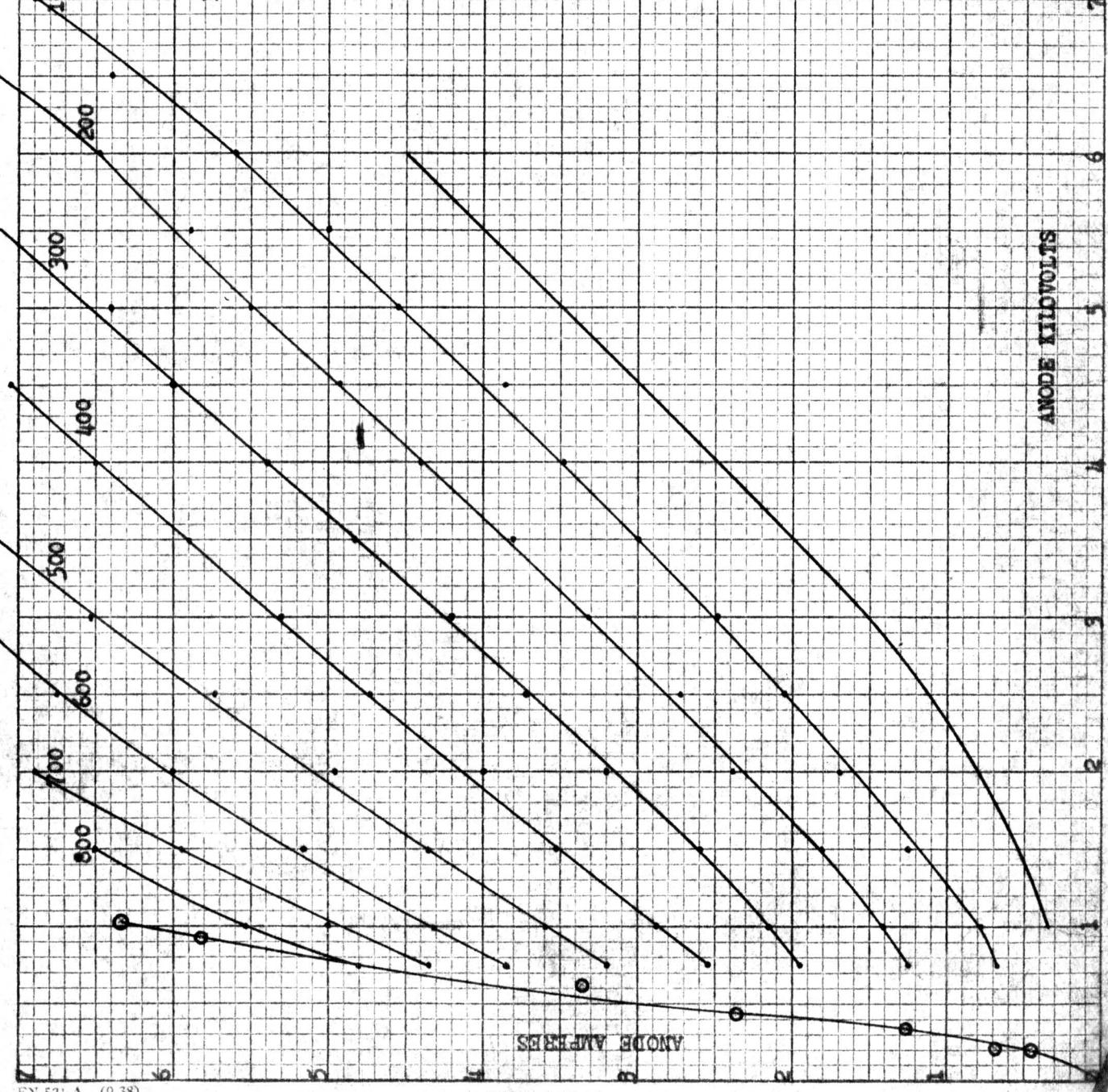
Vac. Tube Eng. Dept.
August 29, 1939O. H. Swingle
Aug. 29, 1939

Vac. Tube Engg. Dept.

August 29, 1939

O. W. Livingston
Aug 29, 1939

PLATE CHARACTERISTICS

WL-891
#25217

1.8 800

Vac. Tube Engg. Dept.

August 29, 1939

O.W. Livingston
Aug 29, 1939

WL-691

#25217

GRID CURRENT CHARACTERISTICS

1.4

700

1.2

1.0

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

AMPERES GRID CURRENT

500

400

300

200

100

ANODE VOLTAGE

1.6

1000

2000

3000

600

700

800

500

600

5000

6000

300

K-6917418

100

200

Vac tube Engg. Dept.
August 29, 1939.

G. H. Livingston
Aug 29, 1939

PLATE CHARACTERISTICS

WL-892
#25516

600

700

800

400

300

200

100

ANODE VOLTAGE

K-6917420

5000 6000 7000 8000 9000

3000 4000

2000

1000

500

ANODE AMPERES

6

5

4

3

2

1

0

Vac. Tube Engg. Dept.
WL-892
August 29, 1939.

O'Neill Livingston
Aug. 29, 1939.

WL-892
#25516

GRID CURRENT CHARACTERISTICS

