

# TAPE RECORDER PEAK LEVEL INDICATOR

MANY of the high quality tape decks presently available utilise VU meters to monitor the recording levels in each stereo channel. Unfortunately, only the most sophisticated and expensive models provide any indication of the peak level rather than the average level. Because of this, it is possible for overloads to go unnoticed, especially in percussive music.

The purpose of this circuit is to form an add-on unit to perform this function. The input level is sensed for each channel by gates acting as

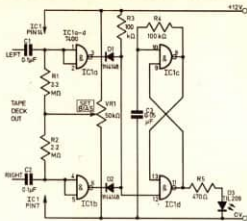


Fig. 1

Schmitt triggers (Fig. 1). They have present a d.c. bias which sets the input level at which triggering occurs. Their outputs are fed to a monostable type circuit which lights the l.e.d. in a short pulse for each input peak.

I have found the best setting for the bias pot. to be at the point

where the l.e.d. is just turning on with a two-tone sine wave input to the deck which gives a level of about +2VU.

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