

STEREO IMPACT

PROBLEM REPORT

PR-1037

FM2 SWEA Anode 11

2005-03-15

PR Numbers: 1xxx=UCB, 2xxx=Caltech/JPL, 3xxx=UMd, 4xxx=GSFC/SEP, 5xxx=GSFC/Mag,
6xxx=CESR, 7xxx=Keil, 8xxx=ESTEC, 9xxx=MPAe

Assembly : SWEA/STE-D	SubAssembly :
Component/Part Number:	Serial Number: FM2
Originator: David Curtis	Organization: U.C. Berkeley
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Failure Occurred During (Check one)

Functional test Qualification test S/C Integration Launch operations

Environment when failure occurred:

Ambient Vibration Shock Acoustic
 Thermal Vacuum Thermal-Vacuum EMI/EMC

Problem Description

During SWEA/STE-D FM2 Calibrations Anode 11 (counting from zero) started counting well above the expected counts (it had been functioning properly). Counts from the test pulser are now always above normal, while counts from the MCP are sometimes high and sometimes zero. When no stimulus is applied, there are no counts. This channel had been working correctly previously. Shortly before Anode 11 started mis-behaving there was an incident with the instrument MCP high voltage. While ramping up the MCP voltage the housekeeping reported the MCP high voltage pegged at the top of range, which is higher than the supply can generate. In response the supply was shut down. Later the supply came up normally and the preamp seemed to work fine for a while, then failed. The anomalous HV reading could well be a telemetry hiccup and the timing a coincidence. Note that the preamps are well protected against high voltage discharge.

Analyses Performed to Determine Cause

The unit was disassembled and the pedestal electronics was tested by itself, which worked fine. SWEA was then re-attached to the pedestal via an extender and the signal from Anode 11 was monitored, which showed excessive counts coming at up to ~1MHz; it looked like some kind of ringing or feedback. SWEA was disassembled and the electronics boards were inspected (HV, preamp, and HV coupling boards), including the parts, wires, traces, and connectors. Nothing was found. The parts on the HV coupling board in the Anode 11 signal chain were tested with an ohm-meter, and found to be OK. The input impedance of the Anode 11 preamp looked OK (diodes to ground). The preamp board was tested by itself, and Anode 11 did not respond correctly to test pulser input (no counts). The preamp board power consumption was also anomalously high.

See below for more.

Corrective Action/ Resolution

Rework Repair Use As Is Scrap
Anode 11 preamp (U12 on the preamp board) and decoupling capacitor (C12 on the HV Coupling board) were replaced with fresh parts from CESR stock (same lot). The parts were sent to GSFC for failure analysis.

Date Action Taken: _____ **Retest Results:** _____

Corrective Action Required/Performed on other Units Serial Number(s): _____

Closure Approvals

Subsystem Lead: _____ Date: _____
IMPACT Project Manager: _____ Date: _____
IMPACT QA: _____ Date: _____
NASA IMPACT Instrument Manager: _____ Date: _____

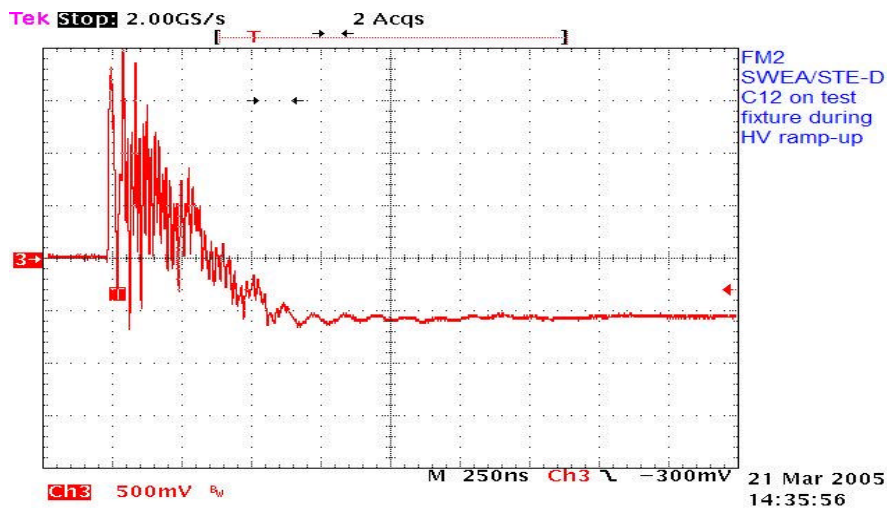
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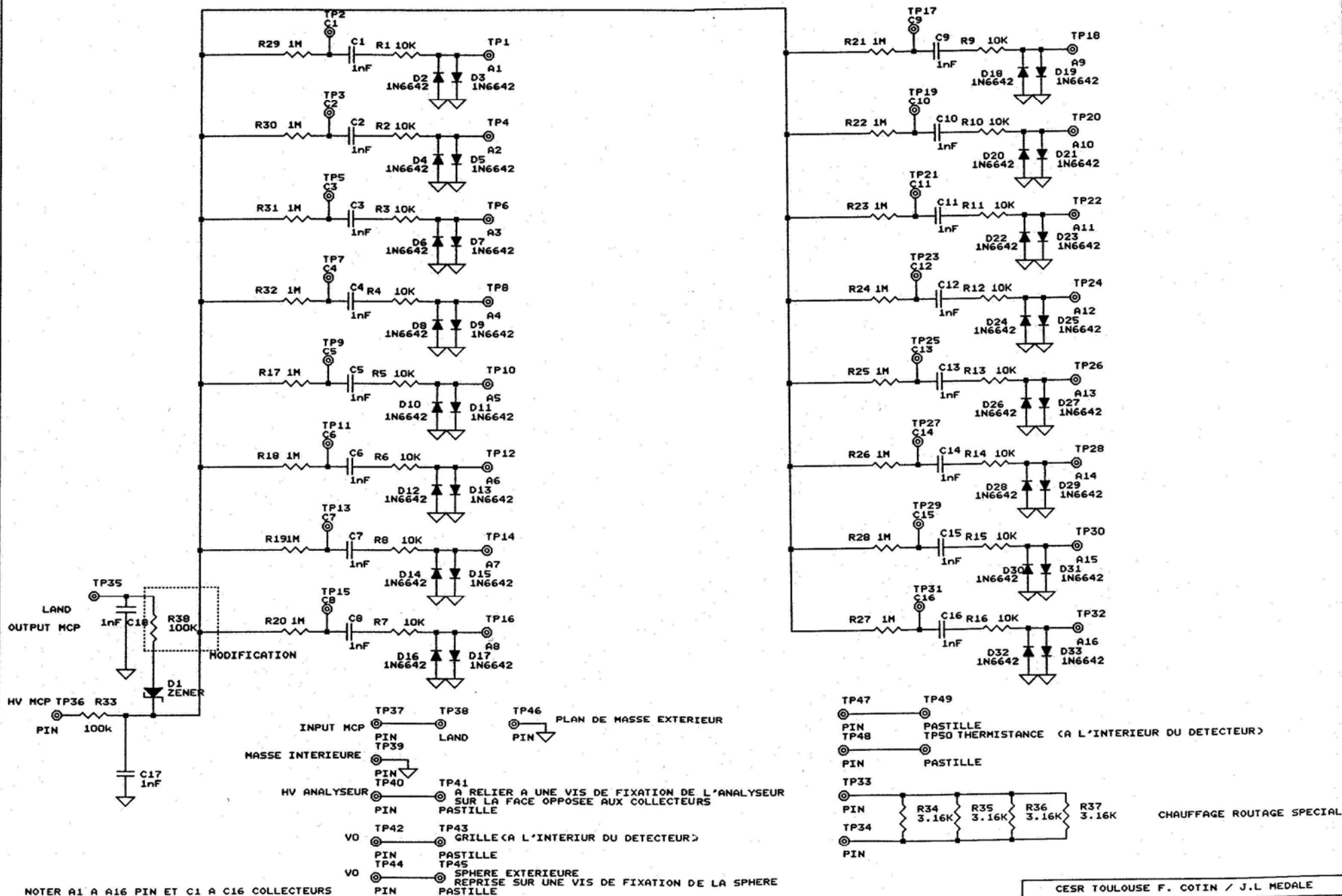
Analysis, continued

Anode 11 preamp (U12 on the preamp board) was replaced with a fresh part from CESR stock (same lot). The parts was sent to GSFC for failure analysis. The FM2 SWEA was re-assembled and returned to test. It worked fine on the bench (but MCP High Voltage cannot be applied except in vacuum), and was returned to the calibration chamber. When the MCP high voltage was again ramped up (in vacuum) the Anode 11 preamp again failed (no counts from either the test pulser or the MCP).

The unit was again disassembled and diagnosed. U12 was again found to be failed. The rest of the parts in the signal chain for all amplifiers were measured and found to be nominal. The decoupling capacitor for channel 11 (C12 – see schematic below) was removed from the decoupling board and tested under bias. It was found that the part exhibited fast transients, particularly while the bias voltage is being ramped up. Transients exceeded 2 volts in spite of protection diodes in the test circuit similar to those in the instrument, indicating the transient is faster than the diode can react. This could be the cause for the U12 failures.

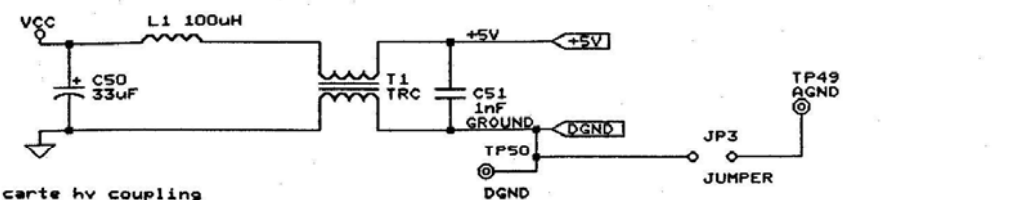
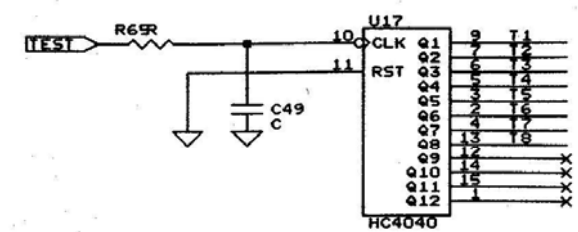
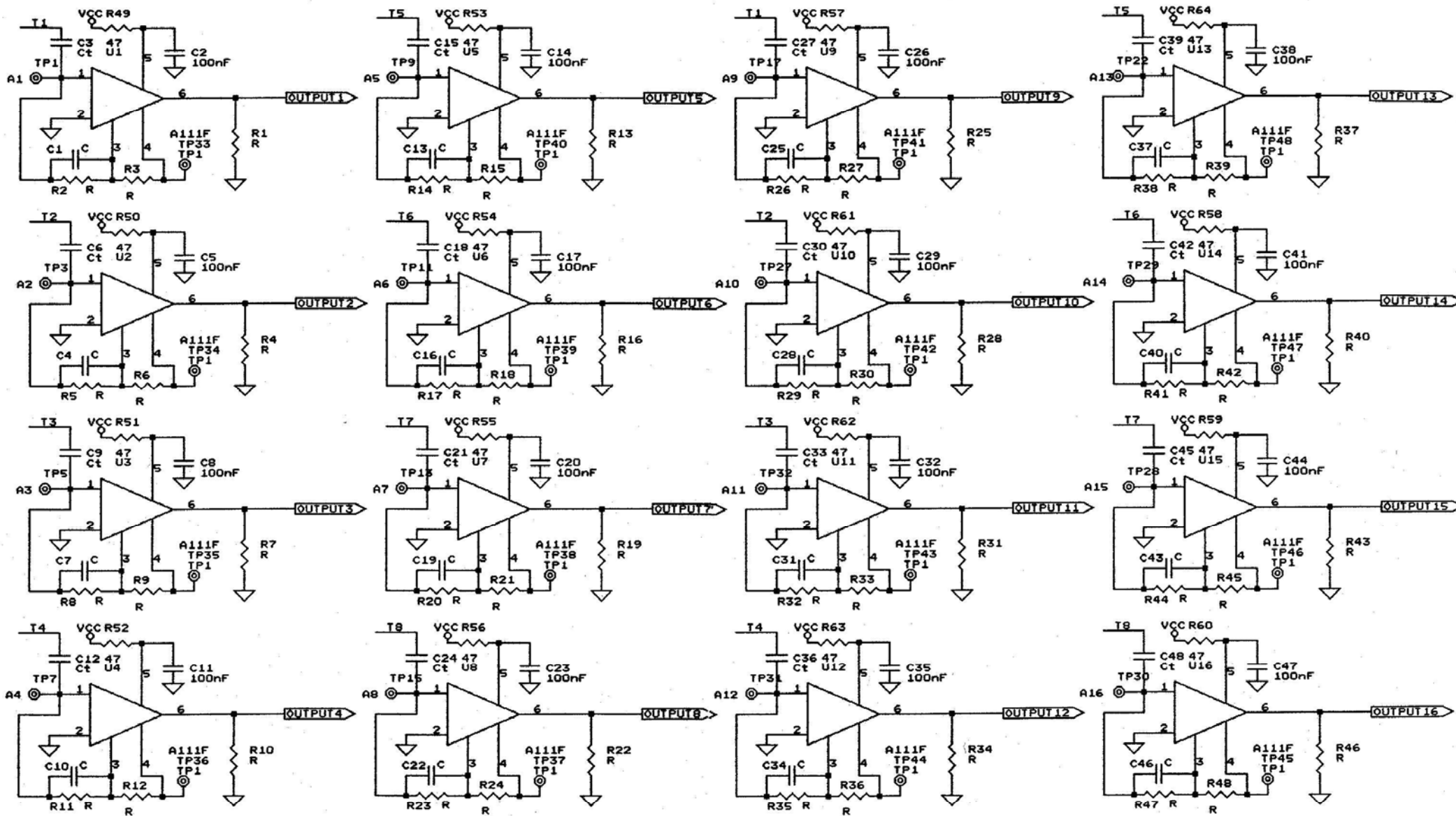


C12 and U12 were replaced with spares from CESR flight stock.



NOTER A1 A A16 PIN ET C1 A C16 COLLECTEURS

CESR TOULOUSE F. COTIN / J.L. MEDALE		
Size	Document Number	REV
A3	SHEA:HV COUPLING	7
Date:	October 4, 2002	Sheet 1 of 1



Note A1 a A16 connecte a la carte hv couplings
 TP49 ET TP50 connectes a la carte hv
 Ct realise dans le circuit imprime
 TP33 a TP48 sont des points de test une pastille