

# Silicon Complexity

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A Hardware Perspective:

from simple, functionally overloaded  
to complex and specialised components

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Telefunken 1939: Einheits-Fernsehempfänger E 1  
15 tubes

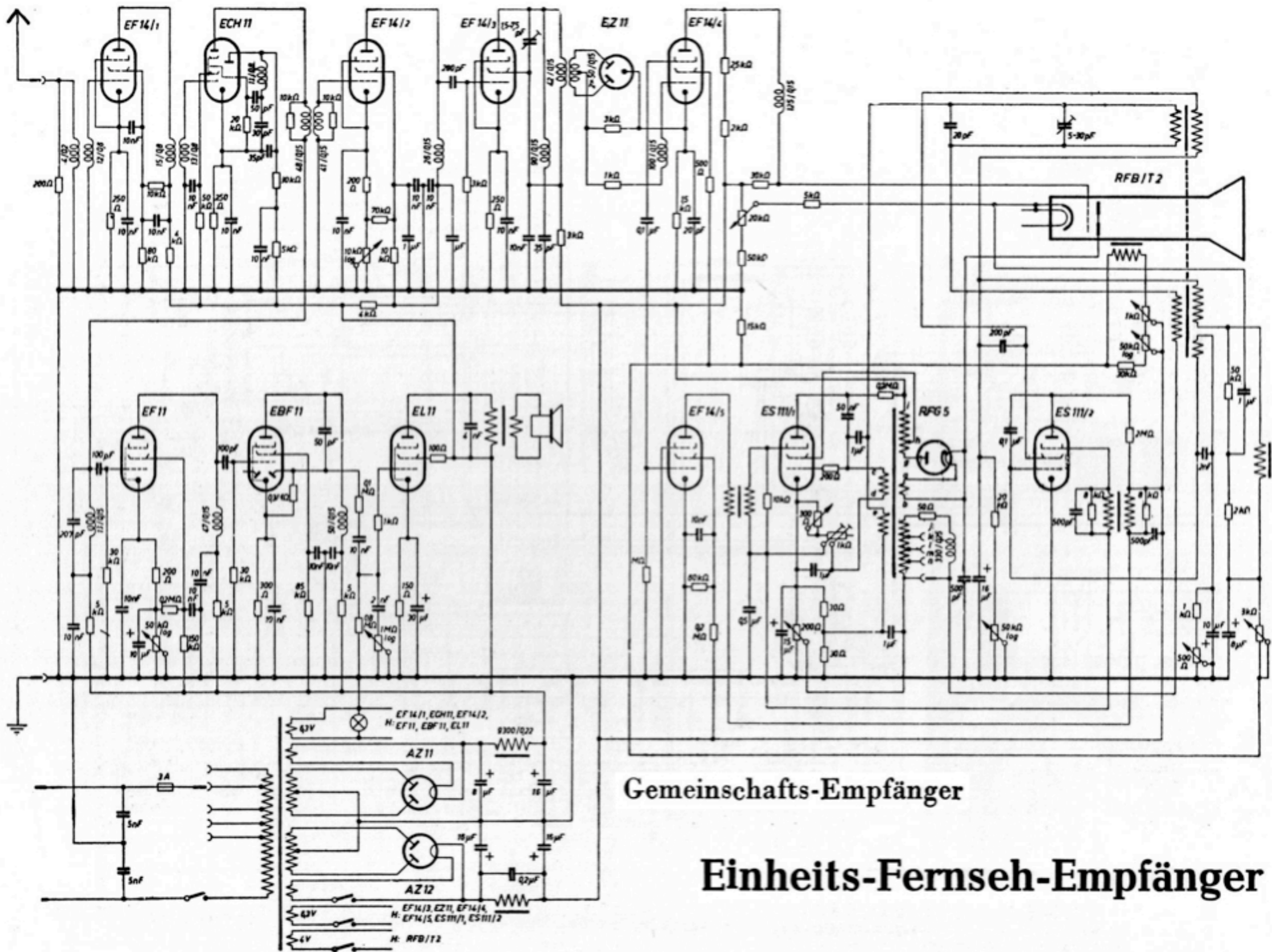
# Flyback transformers / Horizontal deflexion unit

Functional overload:  
oscillator used for  
high voltage also

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“For the first time the high voltage for the picture tube was generated by the flyback impulse of the horizontal (line) output transformer and was rectified in a special high tension rectifier tube (RFG 5). This solution was much better than a separate expensive high voltage rectifier with a high voltage transformer.”



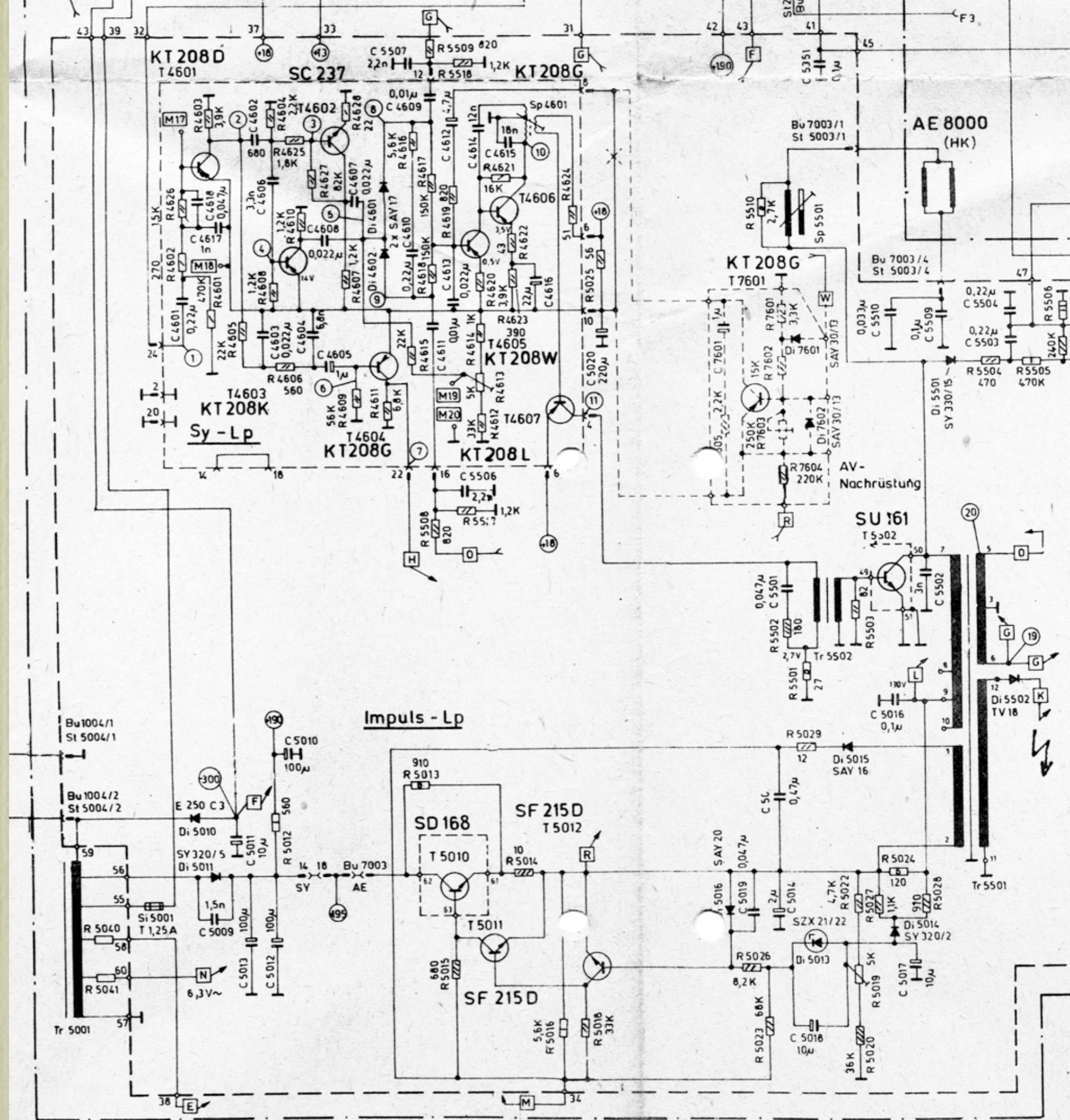


Gemeinschafts-Empfänger

Einheits-Fernseh-Empfänger

# 1970s

- Transistors: cheaper than tubes
- slight increase in active elements
- functional overload remains



# 1980s

- ICs
- black box
- system designer needs external parameters only



## NTE1683 Integrated Circuit Horizontal/Vertical Processing Circuit

### **Description:**

The NTE1683 is an integrated circuit in an 18-Lead DIP type package designed for color TV deflection signal processing circuits.

### **Features:**

- An auto-synchronized circuit, composed of a phase comparator circuit and a frequency-discriminator circuit
- Vertical and horizontal oscillator circuit operations which are highly stable against changes in supply voltage and temperature
- Built-in high tension protector circuit

### **Absolute Maximum Ratings:** ( $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified)

#### Supply Voltage

$V_{7-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V
$V_{15-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V

#### Circuit Voltage

$V_{1-5, 10}$ .....	6V
$V_{3-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V
$V_{4-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V
$V_{6-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V
$V_{9-5, 10}$ .....	9V
$V_{12-5, 10}$ .....	4.5V
$V_{13-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V
$V_{18-5, 10}$ .....	13.8V

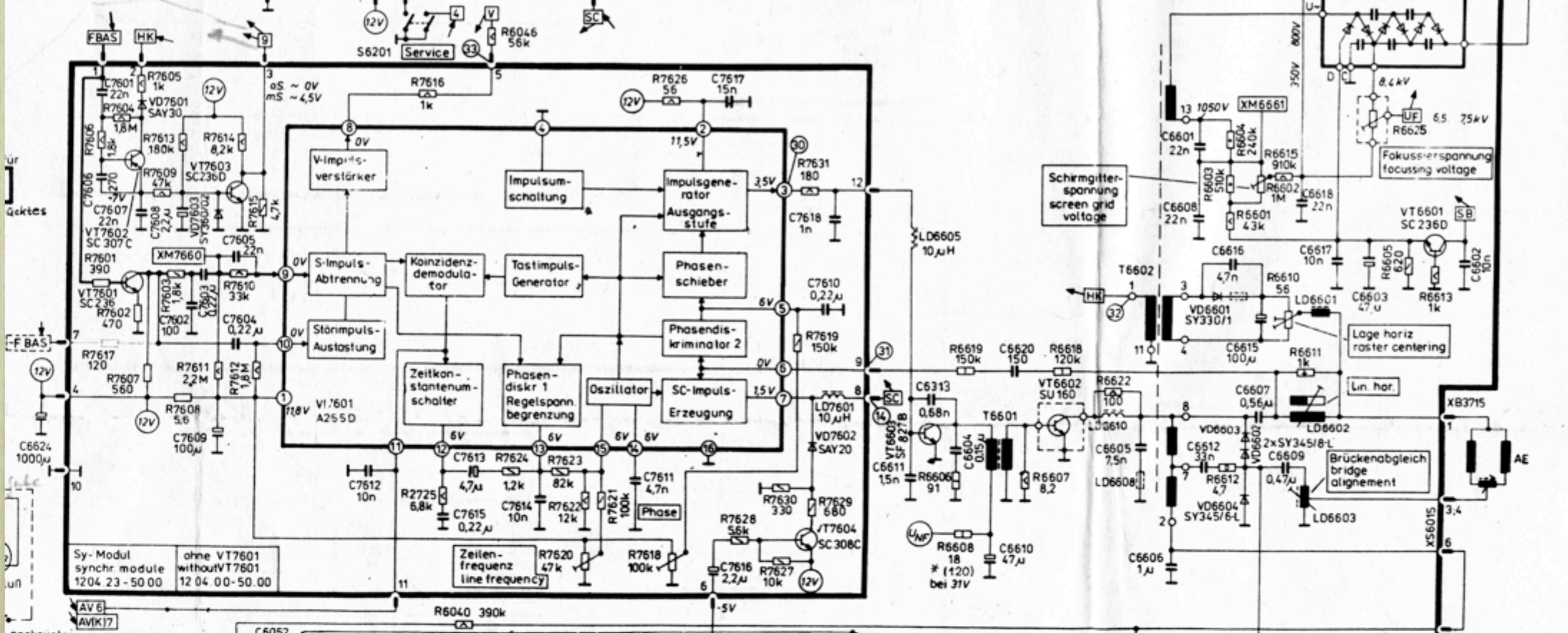
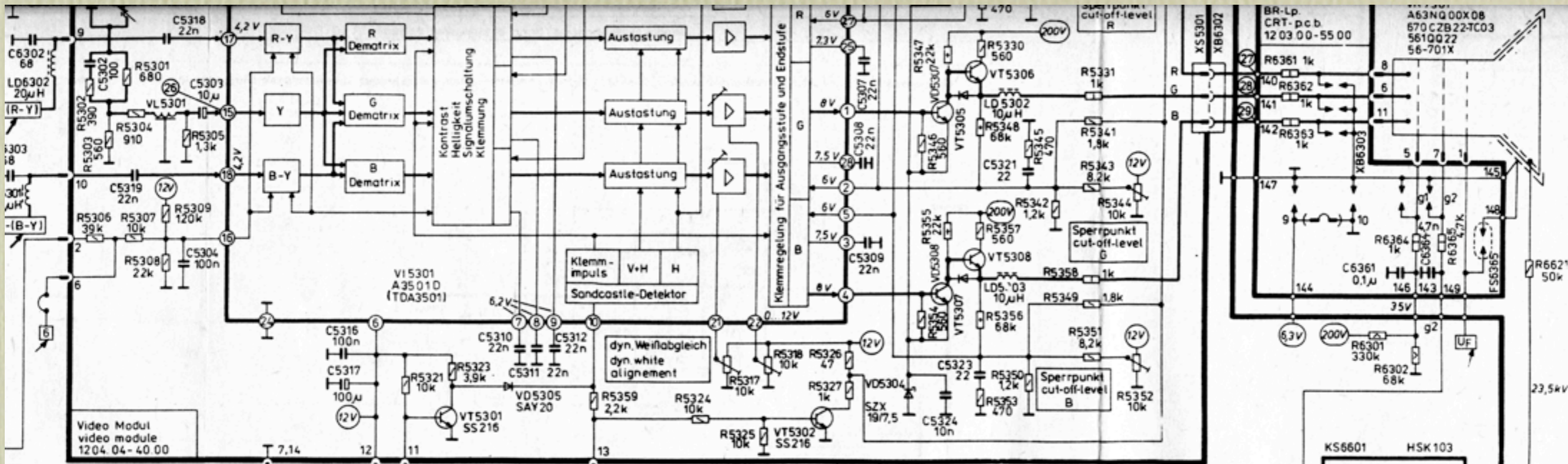
#### Circuit Current

$I_1$ .....	-1/1mA
$I_2$ .....	-10/10mA
$I_3$ .....	-3/50mA
$I_4$ .....	-1/1mA
$I_6$ .....	0/500mA
$I_8$ .....	-2/0mA
$I_9$ .....	-1/0mA
$I_{11}$ .....	-40/2mA
$I_{12}$ .....	-1/3mA
$I_{13}$ .....	0/40mA
$I_{16}$ .....	-3/3mA
$I_{18}$ .....	0/1mA

Power Dissipation,  $P_D$  ..... 940mW

Operating Temperature Range,  $T_{opr}$  .....  $-20^\circ$  to  $+70^\circ\text{C}$

Storage Temperature Range,  $T_{stg}$  .....  $-55^\circ$  to  $+150^\circ\text{C}$



- Complexity increases – but is encapsulated
- Well-defined interfaces
- Task for system designer becomes easier –  
Reliability goes up
- Functional overload remains as tradition for all  
fixed-synced TVs and computer screens
- Multisync monitors *require* separation of  
horizontal frequency and high tension  
transformation



# DATA SHEET



## **TDA4857PS**

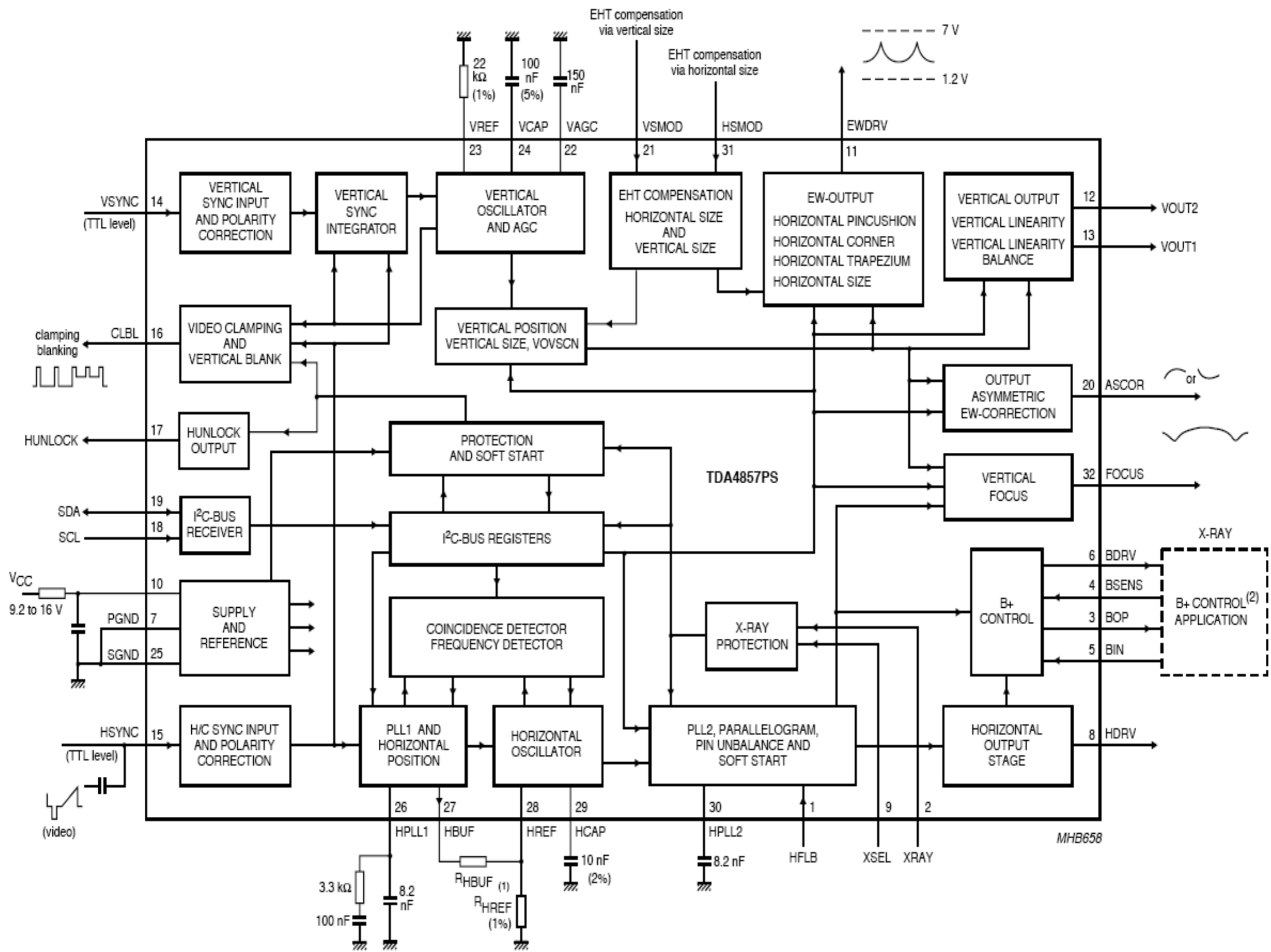
I<sup>2</sup>C-bus autosync deflection  
controller for PC monitors

Product specification  
Supersedes data of 2000 Jan 31  
File under Integrated Circuits, IC02

2001 Apr 11

2000:

- Highly complex multi-sync deflection controller:
- but system design easier than ever!



# 2005:

- One-chip TV
- Most complex so far
- Number of active elements not even advertised anymore
- but system design easier than ever!

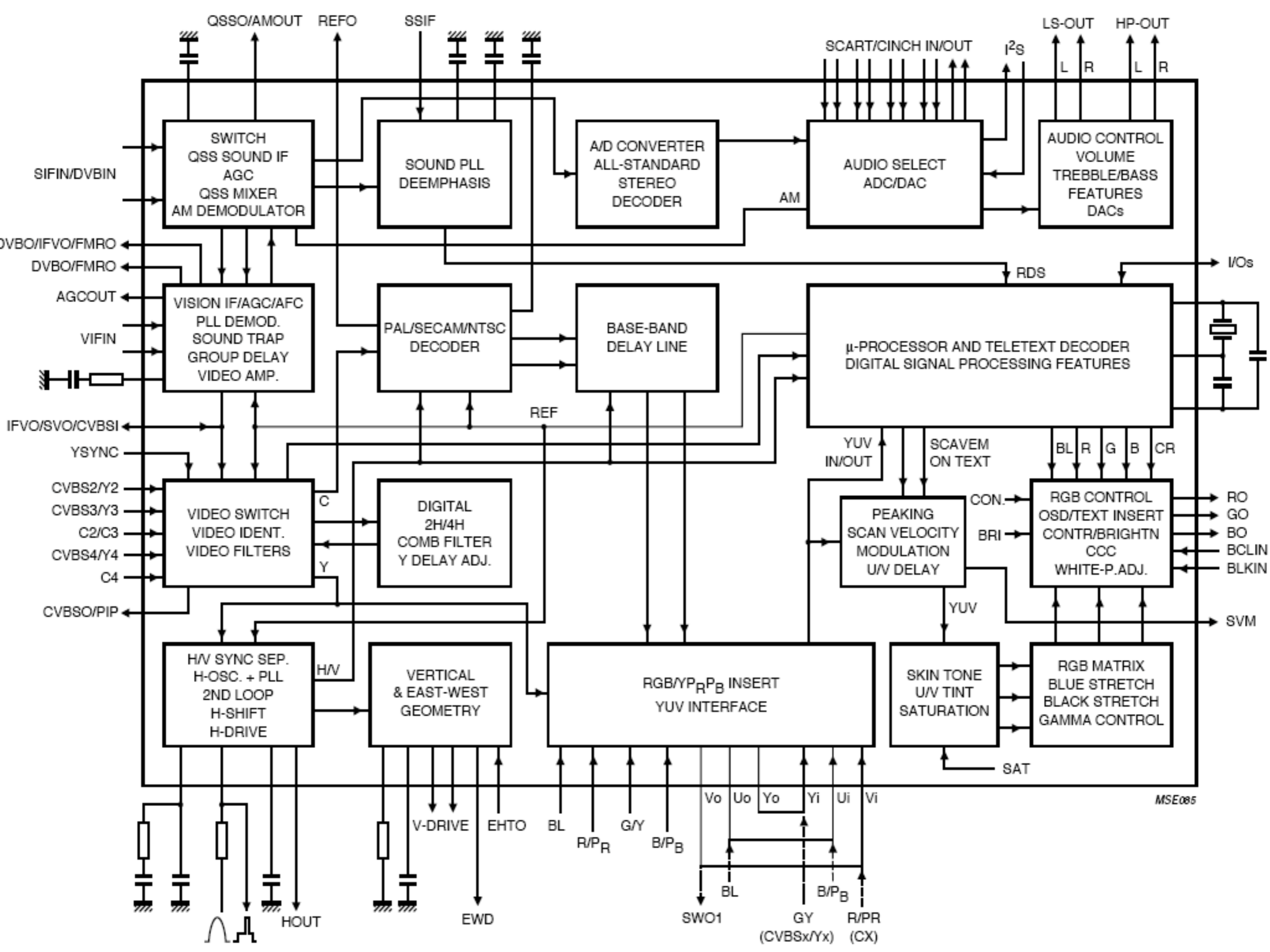


Semiconductors

All in one: superb picture quality,  
digital stereo sound, flash memory

UOC<sup>III</sup>: 3rd generation Ultimate One Chip TV solution

**PHILIPS**



We haven't even discussed digital transmission yet!

DVB-S/C/T

MPEG-x

Timeshift TV

And it works reliably!

# Hardware vs. Software

- Are there different approaches to reliability hardware vs. software?
- Software quality?
- We need standards – but not too many?
- Self healing hardware:
  - simple: capacitors (foil vaporizes at shortcut)
  - complex: Harddisk reassigns defective sectors
  - experimental: FPGAs (redundant logic arrays)

# Biological autonomicity

- Nature is complex from quantum to the universe:  
Difference in man-made vs. natural complexity?
- Replication of information in every living cell:  
do we need abundance of stored information?
- Ants: often quoted as example for simple  
components forming a complex system:  
Pervasive systems –  
providing redundancy & abundance?
- Plastic foil: simple but vulnerable  
Human skin: self-healing due to complexity

- Adding complexity to complexity (in the design) to achieve simplicity (for the end-user)
  - nothing wrong if well treated:
- Structure and Encapsulation
- Well-defined interfaces (APIs) hiding complexity
- **No paradoxon:** complexity is unavoidable



Everything is simpler than you think  
and at the same time  
more complex than you imagine.



Johann Wolfgang von Goethe  
cited on wikipedia.org