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Diode Clipping circuits

:Basic Definition

There are a variety of diode circuits called *clippers (limiters or selectors)* that have the ability to "clip" off a portion of the input signal above (*positive*) or below (*negative*) certain level without distorting the remaining part of the alternating waveform. Depending on the orientation of the diode, the positive or negative region of the input signal is "clipped" off.

There are two general categories of clipper: *series* and *parallel*. The series configuration is dined as one where the diode is in series with the load. While the parallel variety has the diode in a branch parallel to the load (see Fig. 3-1).



Simple Series (Positive) clipper



Simple parallel (Negative) clipper

Fig. 3-1

Example 3-1:

Biased Series (Negative) Clipper, see Fig. 3-2.



Fig. 3-2

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Example 3-2:

Biased parallel(Positive) Clipper, see Fig. 3-3.



Fig. 3-3

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A variety of series and parallel clippers with the resulting output for the sinusoidal input are provided in Fig. 3-4.



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Fig. (3-4)

Example 3-3:

Double Diode Series Clipper, see Fig. 3-5.



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Example 3-4:

Double Diode Parallel Clipper, see Fig. 3-6.







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$$V_{tr1} - i_{d_1}R - V_d - E_1 \blacksquare 0;$$

$$V_{tr_1} \blacksquare 0.7 \blacksquare 2.3 \blacksquare 3V.$$
For $t \blacksquare 0 \rightarrow t_1, t_2 \rightarrow t_3, \Box \rightarrow T;$
Both $D_1 \Box D_2$ will be OFF,
And $V_o \blacksquare 0V.$
For $t \blacksquare t_1 \rightarrow t_2; D_1 ON$ while $D_2 OFF$,
And $V_o \blacksquare 3V.$
For $t \blacksquare t_3 \rightarrow t_4; D_1 OFF$ while $D_2 ON$,
 $\circledast V_o \blacksquare - 6V.$



Fig. 3-6 (cont.)

Example 3-5:

Special Type Clipper: A comparator, see Fig. 3-7.



 $V_{tr_2} \equiv i_{d_2} R \equiv V_d \equiv E_2 \blacksquare 0;$

$$V_{tr_2}$$
 = - 0.7 - 5.3 = - 6 V









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(c)

(d)

Fig. 3-9