

The following list was extracted from the Antique Wireless Association Old Timer's Bulletin, Vol 22 no 4, 1982.

ODES and TRONS

Vacuum tube technology hit its peak around 1960 with a glossary of odes and trons. Historians may wish to know the function of some of these tubes. Printed below is a fairly good list. Many, of course, have since died a natural death with solid-state development.

Additron - Name given to a special type of computer tube made in Canada

Alphatron - A particular form of ionization tube used for measuring the degree of vacuum

Anetron - A cold-cathode glow discharge vacuum-tube rectifier having a large cathode of sodium or other material and a copper anode

Anti-cyclotron - One form of travelling wave tube

Arditron - Name for a British photographic flash lamp

Argostron - Name for a British stroboscopic discharge tube

Augatron - A term sometimes applied to electron-multiplier tubes employing several secondary-emission stages.

Axlotron - A thermionic diode in which the anode current is controlled by the magnetic field produced by the filament current

Capacitron - One form of pool cathode tube

Carcinotron - A backward wave oscillator tube.

Cathetron - A grid-controlled mercury-vapour rectifier with the control electrode external to the tube

Charactron - A version of the cathode ray tube in which the luminous display takes the form of letters or numbers.

Dekatron - A cold cathode gas-discharge counter tube.

Diode - An electron tube having two electrodes only.

Donutron - A form of magnetron in which the frequency of the output can be controlled

Duo-diode or double diode. Two diodes mounted in a single envelope

Duo-dynatron - A form of dynatron on which an additional grid oscillating circuit produces a second series of oscillations of different frequency from that of the main oscillations.

Duo-triode or double triode. Two triodes mounted in a single envelope

Dyotron - A microwave three-electrode tube having a single cavity oscillator.

Emitron - One form of television camera tube.

Excitron - An electron tube with mercury-pool cathode

Genotron - Name for high-voltage rectifier tubes.

Heptode - A thermionic tube having seven electrodes.

Hexode - A thermionic tube having six electrodes.

Iconotron - Another name for the image iconoscope, one form of television camera tube.

Ignitron - One form of electron tube with a mercury pool cathode

Kenopliotron - A high-vacuum thermionic multiple valve combining a diode and a triode in such a way that the anode of the diode forms the cathode of the triode.

Kenotron - A name formerly applied to high-vacuum diode

Klystron - A form of velocity-modulated thermionic tube for microwave operation

Magnetron - A velocity-modulated micro-wave tube in which the electrons emitted from a thermionic cathode are given two motions: radial, due to the positive potential applied to the anode, and circumferential due to an axial magnetic field

Megatron - Another name for disc-seal thermionic tubes for very high frequency applications.

Octode - A thermionic tube having eight electrodes.

Orthicon - A camera tube in which a low-velocity electron beam scans a photo-active mosaic that has electric storage capacity.

Pentatron - Term sometimes applied to duo-triodes in which the two electrode systems share a common cathode.

Pentode - Thermionic tube having five electrodes.

Permatron - A thermionic gas-filled tube in which the moment at which the tube becomes conductive is controlled by an external magnetic field

Phanatron - A generic name applied to gas-filled thermionic rectifiers.

Photo-augitron - A name applied to photomultiplier tubes.

Plasmatron - A thermionic gas-filled tube in which continuous control is exercised over the anode current.

Pliotron - A generic name once applied to high-vacuum thermionic tubes having one or more grids.

Prionotron - A particular form of velocity modulation tube.

Quadratron - A name sometimes applied to a high-vacuum thermionic tetrode.

Quadrode - See Tetrode.

Remtron - A form of cold cathode tube used in counting and computing circuits.

Resnatron - A four-electrode cavity resonator tube of large output, characterized by its very high efficiency.

Skiatron - A form of cathode ray tube used for projecting television images.

Strobostron - A caesium-activated cathode gas-discharge tube particularly adopted for stroboscopic purposes.

Super-Emitron - A modification of the Emitron in which greater sensitivity is obtained by separating the functions of photo-emission and charge storage.

Tacitron - A form of thyratron having a grid of special design so that the tube current can be interrupted by grid action

Tetrode - A thermionic tube having four electrodes.

Thyratron - A gas-filled thermionic triode or tetrode in which the instant at which the tube conducts is controlled by a potential applied to one of the grids.

Triode - An electron tube having three electrodes.

Trochotron - A high-vacuum tube with multiple electrodes used in counting circuits.

Tropotron - A form of magnetron

Visitron - Name for a projection-type of cathode-ray tube.