

ABSTRACT

The present invention concerns a non-linear transfer function generator, e.g., for implementing "white stretch" of a luminance signal. Specifically, first (196) and second (198) emitter-follower amplifiers have their inputs coupled in parallel and their outputs coupled in series via first resistor (210) of a voltage divider. A second resistor (216) of the voltage divider is coupled to a point (218) of reference potential. A bias source is coupled to the second amplifier, e.g., via the second resistor of the voltage divider, so that the dynamic response of the second amplifier to an input signal is limited with respect to the first amplifier. The output signal of the first amplifier is linear and an output signal developed at the output of the second amplifier is non-linear. The linear and non-linear output signals are combined by a current steering network (188) in response to a control signal (V_c) representative of a characteristic of a processed version of the luminance signal.

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