

TELEVISION RECEIVER COMPRISING A CATHODE RAY TUBE (CRT)

The invention relates to television receivers comprising a cathode ray tube (CRT).

5 In such television receivers, stray emission may take place once the receiver is switched off (or to standby) due to high voltages lingering in the CRT. This problem is conventionally addressed by reducing the voltages in the CRT when the receiver is turned off. Various solutions are described in the patent application EP 0 810 785.

10 The goal of the invention is to improve the reduction of stray emission by discharging the cathode thanks to a new solution which can be used in addition to the preceding ones.

According to this new solution, a television receiver comprises a cathode ray tube, a first circuit for providing a high voltage
15 to the cathode and a second circuit for providing on at least an output at least a luminance signal controlling an electron stream of the cathode ray tube, wherein the second circuit includes means for boosting said luminance signal when the receiver switches from on to off.

20 The second circuit includes brightness setting means having a source input receiving a gross signal, a comparator having an input connected to said source input and generating an error signal according to a difference between said comparator input and a reference signal, and controlled amplifying means for amplifying the gross signal into the
25 luminance signal according to the error signal. When the receiver is switched off, a signal simulating absence of gross signal is sent to comparator input so that the error signal and consequently the amplification and the luminance signal are boosted.

The invention will now be explained in the light of the
30 attached drawings and more specifically :

- figure 1 schematically representing an embodiment of the invention ;
- figure 2 representing a practical implementation of this embodiment ;
- 35 - figure 3 representing a detailed view of a circuit of figure 3.

As schematically shown in figure 1, a television receiver includes a cathode ray tube 3, a first circuit 1 for providing a high voltage HV to the cathode of the CRT 3 and a second circuit 2 for providing a luminance signal Y controlling the electron stream of the

CRT 3. An amplifier 4 can be provided between the second circuit 2 and the CRT 3 to input a signal with a sufficient power to the CRT.

On colour television receiver (usually called CTV), three circuits similar to the second circuit 2 are provided respectively for red, green and blue parts of the image. The description below will only mention one circuit 2 but it should be understood that the invention can apply to any of the three circuit 2, and possibly to several at the same time.

The second circuit 2 processes the gross signal Y' from a video source, e.g. a tuner or a VCR, into the luminance signal Y . The second circuit 2 notably provides a brightness setting as follows.

During the horizontal blanking interval, reference signals (usually 2 reference signals) are transmitted to adjust the pedestal level and the brightness so that the luminance of the following horizontal line is displayed with the correct intensity.

Therefore the second circuit 2 includes a comparator 20 comparing the gross signal Y' (on a comparator input 42) to a reference signal V_0 during horizontal blanking intervals. If the gross signal Y' is not strong enough (that is the references transmitted during the horizontal blanking interval reveal a low signal), then the comparator generates an error signal E proportional to the need of amplifying the gross signal Y' to obtain the luminance signal Y . An amplifier 22 controlled by the error signal E amplifies the gross signal Y' into the luminance signal Y accordingly.

When the television receiver is switched off, a signal SH is sent by a microprocessor of the receiver for contacting a switch K connected between the comparator input and the ground. The comparator input is then connected to the ground, thus simulating an absence of gross signal Y' . As a consequence, there is a boost in the error signal E , thus in the amplification by amplifier 22 and in the end in the luminance signal Y .

This boost in the luminance signal Y discharges the cathode of the CRT 3 whereto no more energy is supplied.

A practical way to implement this embodiment is described thereafter in relation to figure 2 and figure 3.

A video processor IC 5 is used for video signal processing. In the example, the video processor IC 5 is a TA1268N from Toshiba. The

video IC 5 includes brightness setting means as described above, including notably a comparator whose input is represented under reference 42 (corresponding to pin 42 of TA1268N).

5 A resistor R (75 k Ω) and a capacitor C (1 μ F) are connected in series (RC-circuit) and are interposed between the comparator input 42 and the ground. This RC-circuit provides averaging of the gross signal in order to obtain the signal to be compared to the reference signal for brightness setting purposes.

10 In parallel to the RC circuit, the comparator input 42 is connected to the ground through the emitter-transmitter path of a transistor K. The base of the transistor K is connected through a voltage divider 6 to a wire 7 providing the SH signal from the microprocessor of the receiver when the receiver is switched from on to off (or standby).

15 A detailed view of the part of the video processor IC 5 related to the invention is represented on figure 3. The video IC 5 includes a black stretching element 23, a brightness setting circuit 8 and a pedestal clamping circuit 9.

20 The clamping circuit 9 comprises a comparator 24 comparing the pedestal level of the gross signal Y' during the horizontal blanking time dedicated to the pedestal reference (that is when clamping switch 25 is closed) with a reference voltage V_0 . The gross signal is corrected accordingly thanks to subtractor 26.

25 The brightness setting circuit includes previously described comparator 20 and controlled amplifying means 22. A brightness switch 21 links the output of comparator 20 (carrying error signal E) to the control pin of amplifying means 22 ; the brightness switch is closed only during horizontal blanking intervals, where the reference signals are received. An isolation resistor 27 is interposed between the input of comparator 20 and the wire 10 carrying the luminance signal.

CLAIMS

1. Television receiver comprising a cathode ray tube (3), a first circuit (1) for providing a high voltage (HV) to the cathode and a second circuit (2) for providing on at least an output at least a luminance signal (Y) controlling an electron stream of the cathode ray tube (3), the second circuit (2) including means for boosting said luminance signal (Y) when the receiver switches from on to off, wherein the second circuit (2) includes brightness setting means (8) having a source input receiving a gross signal (Y'), a comparator (20) having an input (42) connected to said source input and generating an error signal (E) according to a difference between said comparator input and a reference signal (V_0), and controlled amplifying means (22) for amplifying the gross signal (Y') into the luminance signal (Y) according to the error signal (E), and wherein a signal (SH) simulating absence of gross signal (Y') is sent to the comparator input (42) when the receiver is switched off.
2. Television receiver according to claim 1, wherein simulating absence of gross signal (Y') is realised by contacting a switch (K) connected between said comparator input and ground.
3. Television receiver according to claim 2, wherein the switch (K) is controlled by a microprocessor.
4. Television receiver according to claim 2, wherein the switch (K) is a transistor which base is connected a wire (7) providing a signal from a microprocessor.