Description

This invention relates to electron beam positioning error correction circuitry in a video display apparatus.

New, flatter faceplate picture tubes, such as the RCA Corporation square-planar picture tubes, have aspherically curved faceplate contours. A tube of this type, having a complex curvature faceplate, is described in the following U.S. patent applications:

1. U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 469,772, filed February 25, 1903, by F.R. Ragland, Jr. entitled CATHODE-RAY TUBE HAVING AN IMPROVED SHADOW MASK CONTOUR, corresponding to U.K. Published Application GB-A-2136200, published 12 September 1984.
2. U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 469,774, filed February 25, 1983 by F.R. Ragland, Jr. entitled CATHODE-RAY TUBE HAVING A FACEPLATE PANEL WITH A SUBSTANTIALLY PLANAR PERIPHARY, corresponding to U.K. Published Application GB-A-2136198, published 12 September 1984.
3. U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 469,775, filed February 25, 1983, by R.J. D'Amato et al., entitled CATHODE-RAY TUBE HAVING DIFFERENT CURVATURE ALONG MAJOR AND MINOR AXES, corresponding to U.K. Published Application GB-A-2136199, published 12 September 1984.
4. U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 529,644, filed September 6, 1983, by R.J. D'Amato et al., entitled CATHODE-RAY TUBE HAVING A FACEPLATE PANEL WITH AN ESSENTIALLY PLANAR SCREEN PERIPHERY, corresponding to U.K. Published Application GB-A-2147142, published 1 May 1985.

In one form of flatter faceplate picture tube, as typified by the RCA 110° COTY-SP, square-planar, 27V, color television picture tube, A68ACC10X, the formula for the tube faceplate sagittal height, z, in millimeters, with reference to the center of the faceplate is given by:

$$Z = A_1X^2 + A_2X^4 + A_3Y^2 + A_4X^2Y^2 + A_5X^4Y^2 + A_6Y^4 + A_7X^2Y^4 + A_8X^4Y^4,$$

where X and Y are the distance coordinates, in millimeters, from the faceplate center along the major and minor axes, respectively, and where:

$A_1 = -0.236424229 \times 10^{-4}$
$A_2 = -0.363538575 \times 10^{-8}$
$A_3 = -0.422441063 \times 10^{-3}$
$A_4 = -0.213537355 \times 10^{-8}$
$A_5 = +0.883912220 \times 10^{-13}$
$A_6 = -0.100020398 \times 10^{-9}$
$A_7 = +0.117915353 \times 10^{-14}$
$A_8 = +0.527722295 \times 10^{-21}$

The picture tube faceplate defined by this formula has a relatively shallow curvature near the center of the faceplate, which increases near the edges along paths parallel to both the major and minor axes of the tube. The overall result is a faceplate of relatively flat appearance and with planar edges, namely, with points along the top, bottom, right and left edges located substantially in a common plane.

In general, the raster scanned on the phosphor screen of a picture tube may exhibit an east-west or side pincushion raster distortion. This distortion may be substantially corrected by a side pincushion correction circuit that produces a parabolic amplitude modulation of the horizontal deflection current. The required vertical rate parabola voltage may be obtained from the vertical deflection circuit by integration of the vertical sawtooth current.

When using such a conventional circuit for raster correction in a picture tube, such as a square-planar picture tube that has an aspherically curved faceplate, a small but often objectionable raster distortion may remain at the top and bottom of the display, as illustrated by the solid vertical lines in a raster display R in FIGURE 1. Due to the aspherically curved geometry of the faceplate, the vertical lines bend away from the vertical direction near the top and bottom of the raster display, where the curvature of the faceplate increases. The overall appearance of the vertical lines in FIGURE 1 is slightly barrel-shaped.

In accordance with the invention there is provided video display apparatus with correction of raster distortion, comprising: deflection means including horizontal and vertical deflection windings for generating respectively therein, horizontal and vertical deflection currents to enable an electron beam of a picture tube to scan a raster on a phosphor screen; a parabola generator coupled to said deflection means for producing a parabolic voltage which modulates the scanning of said electron beam to provide correction of side pincushion raster distortion; characterized in that, said picture tube has a phosphor screen located on a faceplate having an aspherically curved surface contour, with at least one of a minor and major axis exhibiting a curvature that changes from an edge of the faceplate to the center; and wherein said side pincushion correction leaves uncorrected a raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of said faceplate; and means for nonlinearly modifying said parabolic voltage as a function of said change in faceplate curvature to provide additional modulation of the scanning of said electron beam for correcting said raster distortion due to the as-

pherically curved geometry of the faceplate.

In the drawing:

FIGURE 1 illustrates vertical lines in a raster display scanned on the screen of a square-planar picture tube;

FIGURE 2 illustrates, in block diagram form, raster scanning circuitry used in conjunction with raster scanning on the aspherically curved faceplate of a square-planar picture tube, shown schematically in FIGURE 2 from a side elevation view, in partial breakaway;

FIGURE 3 illustrates detailed embodiments of the horizontal and vertical deflection circuits of FIGURE 2, including circuitry embodying the invention that corrects for the residual side pincushion distortion illustrated in FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 illustrates a detailed embodiment of a portion of the circuit of FIGURE 3; and

FIGURE 5 illustrates waveforms useful in explaining operation of the circuits of FIGURES 3 and 4.

In FIGURE 1, there are illustrated vertical lines in a raster display R that is generated on the phosphor screen of a faceplate 30 of a square-planar picture tube SP of FIGURE 2. Horizontal and vertical deflection circuits 20 and 40 of FIGURE 2 generate horizontal and vertical deflection currents in horizontal and vertical deflection windings L_H and L_V, respectively. The horizontal and vertical deflection currents deflect electron beams 18 in square-planar picture tube SP to produce raster display R on faceplate 30.

Square-planar picture tube SP incorporates a glass envelope 11 comprising a generally rectangular faceplate panel 19 and a tubular neck 14 connected by a funnel 16. Panel 19 comprises viewing faceplate 30 and a peripheral flange or side wall 12, which is sealed to funnel 16 by a glass frit 17. A generally rectangular three-color cathodoluminescent phosphor screen 15 is carried by the inner surface of faceplate 30. The screen may be a line screen, with the phosphor lines extending substantially parallel to the minor or vertical axis Y-Y of the tube. Alternatively, the screen may be a dot screen. A multi-aperture color selection electrode or shadow mask 13 is mounted within panel 19 in predetermined spaced relation to screen 15. An electron gun 10, shown schematically by dashed lines in FIGURE 2, is mounted within neck 14 to generate and accelerate the three electron beams 18 along convergent paths through mask 13 to screen 15.

The line and field deflection currents in line and field deflection windings L_H and L_V, respectively, subject the three electron beams 18 to vertical and horizontal magnetic flux that scans the beams horizontally in the direction of the major or horizontal axis X-X and vertically in the direction of the minor axis Y-Y, in a rectangular raster pattern over screen 15. The longitudinal axis of picture tube SP is labeled Z-Z in FIGURE 2.

Faceplate 30 of square-planar color picture tube SP is relatively flat. The curvature of the faceplate is complex and may be approximated in accordance with the polynominal expression given above. In the field scanning direction, or as the electron beams are scanned from top edge to bottom edge, vertically, the curvature of the faceplate decreases from top edge to center and then increases again to the bottom edge. A similar situation holds in the line scanning direction.

Assume that horizontal and vertical deflection circuits 20 and 40 of FIGURE 2 correct for distortions such as S-distortion, north-south and gullwing distortion. Furthermore, assume that horizontal deflection circuit 20 generally corrects for side pincushion distortion by parabolically modulating the amplitude of the horizontal deflection current. The display of a vertical line pattern on faceplate 30 by means of raster line scanning produces a raster display such as illustrated in solid-line in FIGURE 1. The generally vertical lines exhibit a residual distortion at the top and bottom of the raster which, due to the aspherically curved geometry of faceplate 30, causes the vertical raster lines to be bent inward toward the center in a barrel-like manner.

In accordance with a feature of the invention, horizontal deflection circuit 20 nonlinearly modifies the parabolic modulation of the horizontal deflection current to straighten the vertical lines at the top and bottom of the raster, as illustrated by the dashed-line, straight line segments of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 illustrates detailed embodiments of vertical deflection circuit 40 and horizontal deflection circuit 20 of FIGURE 2 that include nonlinear waveshaping circuitry in accordance with an aspect of the invention. In horizontal deflection circuit 20 of FIGURE 3, a B+ voltage is applied to the primary winding W_P of a flyback transformer T1 via a small valued resistor 21. A capacitor 22 provides filtering. Primary winding W_P is coupled to a horizontal output stage 70 of horizontal deflection circuit 20. Horizontal output stage 70 includes a horizontal oscillator and driver 25, a horizontal output transistor Q1, a first retrace capacitor C_{R1} coupled across transistor Q1, a damper diode D2, a second retrace capacitor C_{R2} coupled across diode D2 and the series arrangement of a linearity inductor 26, an S-shaping capacitor C_S, deflection winding L_H of FIGURE 2, and a resonant circuit 27, comprising a capacitor C1 in parallel with the inductance of a tapped winding W1 of a transformer T2. Deflection winding L_H is coupled to the tap terminal of winding W1.

Resonant circuit 27 is tuned to produce ap-

proximately two cycles of oscillation during the horizontal trace interval for introducing an oscillatory current component into horizontal deflection current i_H that provides dynamic S-correction of the raster scanned on faceplate 30 of square-planar picture tube SP of FIGURE 1. The function of dynamic S-correction, resonant circuit 27 is more fully described in U.S. Patent US-A-4,563,618, by P.E. Haferl, issued January 7, 1986, entitled S-CORRECTED DEFLECTION CIRCUIT.

To provide side pincushion correction, the amplitude of horizontal deflection current i_H is modulated at a vertical rate by a side pincushion correction modulator circuit 80 that drives horizontal output stage 70. Side pincushion correction modulator circuit 80 includes a damper diode D3 with a grounded anode and a cathode coupled to the anode of damper diode D2, a retrace capacitor C_{R3} coupled across diode D3, a modulator choke inductor L_m coupled to the junction of retrace capacitors C_{R2} and C_{R3}, and a modulator control circuit 60 coupled to choke L_m.

Modulator control circuit 60 modulates at a vertical rate the modulator current i_m in choke L_m, to concurrently modulate the retrace pulse voltage V_{Rm} developed across modulator retrace capacitor C_{R3}. The modulation of retrace pulse voltage V_{Rm} produces a concurrent but opposite sense modulation of deflection retrace pulse voltage V_{Rd} across deflection retrace capacitor C_{R2}. The vertical rate modulation of deflection retrace pulse voltage V_{Rd} produces the required vertical rate modulation of horizontal deflection current i_H thatprovides side pincushion correction.

The opposing sense modulation of retrace pulse voltages V_{Rd} and V_{Rm} produces an unmodulated retrace pulse voltage V_R at the collector of horizontal output transistor Q1. Retrace pulse voltage V_R is applied to the primary winding W_P of flyback transformer T1 for generating an unmodulated retrace pulse voltage V_{RH} at a terminal A of a secondary winding W_s. An unmodulated retrace pulse voltage is also generated in a high voltage winding W_{HV} for developing an ultor accelerating potential at a terminal U of a high voltage generating circuit 23.

FIGURE 3 also illustrates a detailed embodiment of vertical deflection circuit 40 of FIGURE 2. Vertical deflection circuit 40 includes a vertical deflection amplifier U1 coupled to vertical deflection winding L_V of FIGURE 2 for generating a vertical deflection current i_V that deflects the electron beams in picture tube SP of FIGURE 2 in the vertical direction. Vertical deflection winding L_V is coupled to a north-south and gullwing distortion correction circuit 34 for modulating vertical deflection current i_V in a manner that corrects both north-south pincushion distortion and gullwing distortion of the raster when scanning raster lines on square-planar picture tube SP of FIGURE 2. A description of the operation of north-south pincushion and gullwing correction circuit 34 may be found in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 719,227, filed April 2, 1985, by P.E. Haferl, entitled NORTH-SOUTH PINCUSHION CORRECTED DEFLECTION CIRCUIT, corresponding to PCT International Publication WO-A-85/04756, published 24 October 1985, and in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 733,661, filed May 10, 1985, by P.E. Haferl et al, entitled GULLWING DISTORTION CORRECTED DEFLECTION CIRCUITRY FOR A SQUARE-PLANAR PICTURE TUBE, corresponding to PCT International Publication WO-A-86/00170, published 3 January 1986.

Vertical deflection current i_V, after passing through correction circuit 34, flows through a coupling or vertical S-shaping capacitor C_V and a current sampling resistor R_s. Coupling capacitor C_V integrates vertical deflection current i_V to develop across the capacitor C_V between terminals 35 and 36 an AC parabola voltage, of almost ideal waveshape, that repeats at the vertical deflection rate. The voltage across capacitor C_V comprises the AC parabola voltage superimposed upon a DC level established by vertical deflection amplifier U1. The voltage V_{sV} developed across current sampling resistor R_s is illustrated in FIGURE 5a and comprises an AC, S-shaped, sawtooth voltage repeating at the vertical deflection rate. The voltage V1 developed at terminal 35 is illustrated in FIGURE 5b and equals the sum of the voltages developed across capacitor C_V and resistor R_s. Thus, the AC component of voltage V1 during the vertical trace interval t_3-t_7 of FIGURE 5b is a generally parabolically shaped voltage that is skewed downward by the relatively small sawtooth voltage component derived from sampling resistor R_s.

The voltages at terminals 35 and 36 are applied to vertical deflection amplifier U1 to provide DC and AC feedback, respectively, to the amplifier. The vertical rate voltages V1 and V_{sV}, the horizontal rate retrace pulse voltage V_{RH} and a voltage V_{ds} developed across winding W2 of transformer T2 are coupled to correction circuit 34 to provide deflection synchronization information and to provide waveform information that produces the required waveshaping and modulation of vertical deflection current i_V, as described in the aforementioned U.S. patent applications.

Vertical deflection circuit 40 may be considered as a low impedance voltage source 48 that generates parabola voltage V1 at output terminal 35 of the source.

Vertical parabola voltage V1 is nonlinearly waveshaped by a nonlinear waveshaping network 50 and is then applied via a DC blocking capacitor C2 and a parabola amplitude adjusting potentiom-

eter R_a to the noninverting input terminal of an amplifier U2 of side pincushion modulator control circuit 60. Vertical sawtooth voltage V_{sv} is applied to the inverting input terminal of amplifier U2 via the wiper arm of a trapeze adjusting potentiometer R_t and a resistor 31. The DC level at the inverting input terminal is controlled by a width adjusting potentiometer 33 that couples a +25V source to the inverting input terminal of amplifier U2 via a resistor 32 and the wiper arm of potentiometer 33. The output of amplifier U2 is coupled to an inverting driver stage U3 that applies a modulation voltage V_m to modulator choke inductor L_m.

Side pincushion modulator control circuit 60 is operated in a switched mode at the horizontal rate. A horizontal sawtooth voltage generator 29, synchronized by horizontal retrace pulse voltage V_{RH}, applies a horizontal rate sawtooth voltage V_{sH} to the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 via a resistor R_g. Resistor R_g represents the effective source impedance of sawtooth voltage generator 29. The output of amplifier U2 is a pulse width modulated, horizontal rate voltage having a duty cycle that varies at a vertical rate. Modulation voltage V_m therefore is also a pulse width modulated, horizontal rate voltage having a duty cycle that varies at a vertical rate. This enables the drive provided by side pincushion correction modulator circuit 80 to be varied in a manner that corrects side pincushion distortion.

Side pincushion correction modulator circuit 80 operates in a manner similar to that described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 651,301, filed September 17, 1984, by P.E. Haferl, entitled EAST-WEST CORRECTION CIRCUIT, corresponding to U.K. Published Application GB-A-2150796, published 3 July 1985. Other side pincushion correction circuits, such as switched mode diode modulator circuits, may be used to drive horizontal output stage 70.

In accordance with an aspect of the invention, nonlinear waveshaping network 50 is interposed between terminal 35 and the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 of side pincushion modulator control circuit 60. Nonlinear waveshaping network 50 modifies the waveshape of parabola voltage V1 at terminal 35 to generate a modified parabola voltage V2 at a terminal 37, as illustrated by the solid-line waveform of voltage V2 in FIGURE 5f. Shaped parabola voltage V2 is then applied to the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 via AC coupling capacitor C2 and potentiometer R_a. The additional waveshaping provided by nonlinear waveshaping network 50 corrects the residual side pincushion error that would otherwise exist when scanning a raster on the phosphor screen of a square-planar picture tube.

Nonlinear waveshaping network 50 comprises a constant current source CS in series with a potentiometer R2 that is coupled to the wiper arm of trapeze adjusting potentiometer R_t. A diode D1, functioning as a unidirectional switch, is coupled between the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 and terminal 37, with the cathode of diode D1 being coupled to terminal 37.

In operation, constant current source CS generates an almost ideal constant current i_0, illustrated in FIGURE 5d, that does not significantly change in value throughout the entire vertical deflection interval t_3-t_8.Diode D1 is reverse biased by voltage V2 during the interval t_b of FIGURE 5. During this interval, all of current i_0 that flows into end terminal 38 of potentiometer R2 flows out of the other end terminal 39, as illustrated in FIGURE 5c by the current i_3 during the interval t_b. Current i_3 flows in that portion R2b of potentiometer R2 between intermediate wiper arm terminal 41 and end terminal 39 coupled to the wiper arm of potentiometer R_t. The solid-line waveform of FIGURE 5c also illustrates the voltage V3 developed by current i_3 in resistance R2b.

When diode D1 is nonconductive, during the interval t_b of FIGURE 5, constant current source CS advantageously establishes an adjustable DC bias voltage level V_b at intermediate wiper arm terminal 41, as illustrated by the dotted-line waveform of FIGURE 5c. Voltage V_b equals the constant voltage level V_0 that is established for voltage V3 by constant current source CS, summed with the vertical sawtooth voltage developed at the wiper arm of trapeze adjusting potentiometer R_t. Illustratively, voltage level V_0 is shown in FIGURE 5c at a level established by the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 when the wiper arm is in a centered position.

When diode D1 is nonconductive, voltage V1 is divided by a voltage divider (R1, R_a, R_b, R_g) coupled between terminal 35 and the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 for developing voltage V2 at terminal 37, which terminal is an intermediate point of the voltage divider. As illustrated in FIGURES 5b and 5f, voltages V1 and V2 exhibit substantially the same waveshape during the interval t_b.

During the second half of vertical trace, after the center of trace instant t_5, voltages V1 and V2 decrease in amplitude. Near time t_6, voltage V1 has decreased to a threshold voltage level V'_{a1} and voltage V2 has decreased to a threshold voltage level V_{a1}. The decreased voltage V2 at terminal 37 near time t_6 or time t_1, enables diode D1 of nonlinear waveshaping circuit 50 to begin conducting, thereby coupling together terminals 37 and 41.

Diode D1 continues to conduct throughout the interval t_a of FIGURE 5. During this interval, voltages V1 and V2 are below the threshold levels V'_{a2} and V_{a2}, respectively. At the end of the interval

t_a, near time t_3 or time t_4, voltages V1 and V2 have increased sufficiently to reestablish at terminal 41 the bias voltage level V_b of FIGURE 5c that forces diode D1 to become nonconductive.

During the interval t_a, when diode D1 is conductive, a portion of constant current i_o of FIGURE 5d, that flows in the upper resistance portion R2a of potentiometer R2, is shunted away from resistance R2b via the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 and diode D1. The shunt current i_c in diode D1 is illustrated in FIGURE 5e during the interval t_1-t_4 or t_5-t_9. Current i_c substracts from constant current i_o when diode D1 is conductive to reduce the amplitude of current i_3 in resistance R2b by the amount of current shunted. As illustrated in FIGURE 5c, current i_3, during the interval t_a, has the same waveshape as current i_c of FIGURE 5e, but inverted in phase.

The waveshape of current i_c is determined in accordance with the waveshape of the parabolic component of voltage V1 that is applied to the voltage divider (R1, R2b) formed when diode D1 is conductive. The amplitude of current i_c is related to the difference in value between the bias voltage level V_b and the parabolic voltage V1.

Correction current i_c, flowing into terminal 37, modifies the waveshape of voltage V2 during the interval t_a to correct the residual side pincushion error that would otherwise exist in raster display R of FIGURE 1. Correction current i_c flows mainly in resistor R1 to provide an additional voltage drop between terminals 37 and 35 that produces a flatter slope to the sides of parabola voltage V2 during the conduction interval t_a of diode D1.

The solid-line waveform of FIGURE 5f during the interval t_a illustrates voltage V2 with diode D1 conducting. The dashed-line waveform illustrates the waveshape that voltage V2 would have assumed had diode D1 remained nonconductive during the interval t_a. Comparing the solid-line waveform with the dashed-line waveform in FIGURE 5f, one notes that the presence of nonlinear network 50 waveshapes parabola voltage V2 during the intervals t_3-t_4 and t_5-t_7, when the top and bottom of the raster are being scanned.

The flattening of parabola voltage V2 occurs when the raster lines between lines L3 and L4 and between lines L6 and L7 of FIGURE 1 are being scanned. This flattening produces less modulation of the amplitude of deflection current i_H when scanning the top and bottom raster lines. The result of the nonlinear waveshaping is the straightening of the bent vertical line segments of raster display R of FIGURE 1 to correct the residual side pincushion error caused by the increased curvature of the faceplate of a square-planar picture tube in the top and bottom regions of the faceplate.

FIGURE 4 illustrates a more detailed embodiment of a portion of the circuitry of FIGURE 3 that includes nonlinear waveshaping network 50. Items in FIGURES 3 and 4 similarly identified perform similar functions or represent similar quantities.

Inverting driver stage U3 comprises a switching transistor Q2 driven at its base by amplifier U2 and having its collector coupled to choke inductor L_m and its emitter coupled to ground. During those intervals within each horizontal deflection cycle that transistor Q2 is non-conductive, modulator current i_m flows to the B+ supply via a flywheel diode D4. DC biasing for the base of transistor Q2 is established by voltage dividing resistors 42 and 43. To provide stabilized operation of transistor Q2, negative feedback from the collector of the transistor to the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 is provided via a resistor 44.

Horizontal sawtooth voltage generator 29 comprises an RC network including a resistor 45 coupled to flyback transformer terminal A and a capacitor 46 coupled to the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2. DC biasing of the noninverting input terminal is provided by resistor R_b. Horizontal retrace pulse voltage V_{RH} is integrated by the RC network to develop the horizontal sawtooth voltage V_{sH} that produces the horizontal rate switching of transistor Q2. The duty cycle of the horizontal rate switching is modulated by means of the vertical rate modulation of the AC-zero level of voltage V_{sH}.

In FIGURE 4, constant current source CS comprises a DC voltage source of relatively large magnitude, such as the 140 volt, B+ voltage source, coupled to a resistor R3 of relatively large value, such as 180 kilohm. The amplitude of constant current i_o is mainly determined by the value of the B+ voltage divided by the sum of the values of resistors R3 and R2. Current i_o establishes an adjustable bias voltage level V_b at the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 that maintains diode D1 nonconductive during the interval t_b of FIGURE 5 when parabola voltage V1 is sufficiently large in amplitude to keep the diode reverse biased. During the remaining interval t_a, parabola voltage V1 is sufficiently small in amplitude to enable diode D1 to shunt some of current i_o away from resistance portion R2b of potentiometer R2 to provide the correction current i_c that waveshapes parabola voltage V2.

Advantageously, diode D1 is DC coupled to voltage source 48 via resistor R1, with the cathode of diode D1 being coupled on the DC side (with respect to parabola voltage V1) of coupling capacitor C2. By means of the DC connection of diode D1 to voltage source 48, the diode switching instants t_4 and t_5 may be adjusted by potentiometer R2 independently of the adjustment of east-west parabola amplitude potentiometer R_a. When potentiometer R_a is adjusted for the desired parabola

amplitude, the AC-zero level of the parabola voltage applied to the noninverting input terminal of amplifier U2 also varies. This variation of the AC-zero level has little or no effect on the switching of diode D1.

For example, assume amplitude potentiometer R_a is adjusted to provide the proper amount of side pincushion correction when the central raster lines are being scanned between raster line L4 and raster line L6 of FIGURE 1 during the interval t_4-t_5 of FIGURE 5. Potentiometer R2 may then be adjusted to establish a bias voltage level V_b that enables diode D1 to switch conductive states near times t_4 and t_5. The switching of diode D1 near times t_4 and t_5 provides the required additional waveshaping of voltage V2 that corrects the residual side pincushion error in the top and bottom regions of raster display R.

The instants when diode D1 switches conductive states are controlled by the DC bias level V_b established by potentiometer R2 rather than by amplitude potentiometer R_a. The adjustment of potentiometer R2 has no significant effect on the previous amplitude adjustment provided by potentiometer R_a.

When the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 is moved towards end terminal 39, the conduction interval t_a of diode D1 decreases and the cutoff interval t_b increases.The location of raster lines L4 and L6 where nonlinear waveshaping begins moves away from center raster line L5 towards top and bottom raster lines L3 and L7, respectively. The peak downward excursion of voltage V2, that occurs near the beginning of retrace near times t_2 and t_7, also moves downward toward the dashed-line level that represents the peak downward excursion when diode D1 is cutoff for the entire vertical deflection interval t_2-t_7.

The amount of nonlinear waveshaping of parabola voltage V2 may be defined as the voltage difference between the dashed and solid-line waveforms V2 of FIGURES 5ft at times t_3 and t_7, the start and end of vertical trace, respectively. This voltage difference relative to the dashed-line waveform V2 represents the amount of correction resulting on the raster display of FIGURE 1.

When the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 is moved toward end terminal 38, the amount of nonlinear waveshaping increases until the conduction interval t_a of diode D1 equals the nonconduction interval t_b. As the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 is moved further toward end terminal 38, the amount of waveshaping begins to decrease and reaches zero when bias voltage level V_b is set at a sufficiently high level to enable diode D1 to conduct for the entire vertical deflection interval.

The amplitude of current i_c changes when potentiometer R2 is adjusted. However, the peak amplitude that parabola voltage V2 attains remains substantially the same at all levels of adjustment because correction current i_c of FIGURES 3 and 4 flows mainly in resistor R1 and does not add any significant charge to AC coupling capacitor C2. No significant portion of current i_c flows in capacitor C2 because of the long time constant associated with capacitor C2 and resistors R_a, R_b, R_g. Current i_c causes a very small increase of the average DC voltage at terminal 37, not illustrated in waveform FIGURE 5. This increase amounts to approximately 75 millivolt, which is 1/4 the voltage difference between the dashed and solid-line waveforms of voltage V2 in FIGURE 5f, at times t_3 and t_7.

When diode D1 becomes conductive, voltage source 48 becomes DC coupled to current source CS. At the same time an additional load impedance becomes coupled to current source CS derived from the voltage divider (R1, R_a,R_b, R_g). Because of the DC connection provided by diode D1 between the wiper arm of potentiometer R2 and voltage source 48, the additional voltage that is coupled in-circuit with current source CS during the interval t_a of FIGURE 5 is relatively small. The additional voltage, $\Delta V3$, equals the voltage difference between the constant voltage level V_0 of FIGURE 5c and the voltage V3 developed across resistance R2b.

The peak-to-peak amplitude of voltage $\Delta V3$ is relatively small, approximately one volt peak-to-peak for the values given in FIGURE 4. Because the peak-to-peak amplitude $\Delta V3$ is much smaller than the B+ voltage of constant current source CS, the shunt current i_c that source CS supplies when diode D1 is conductive is also small relative to current i_0 and has substantially no effect on the amplitude of the constant current. For the values given in FIGURE 4, the amplitude of current i_0 changes less than one percent during the conduction interval t_a shown in FIGURE 5.

End terminal 39 of potentiometer R2 may be advantageously coupled to trapeze adjusting potentiometer R_t rather than to ground. This connection enables nonlinear waveshaping network 50 to provide a common-mode rejection of the sawtooth voltage component of parabola voltage V1. Thus, diode D1 nonlinearly waveshapes only the parabolic component of voltage V1 and not the sawtooth component. The common-mode rejection of the waveshaping of the sawtooth component of voltage V1 may be noted from the waveforms of FIGURES 5c and 5e, which are symmetrical about the center of trace instant t_5.

Nonlinear waveshaping network 50 advantageously produces gradual changes in the slope of parabola voltage V2 at the switching instants of diode D1 that smoothly straightens the bent segments of the vertical lines in raster display R in

FIGURE 1, without introducing wiggly line excursions of the vertical line pattern near raster lines L4 and L6.

Nonlinear waveshaping network 50 operates as a current divider to divide current i_0 into current i_3 and current i_c during conduction of diode D1. Thus, the change in the forward voltage drop of diode D1, produced by variations in ambient temperature, has little influence on the waveshaping of the parabola voltage.

Claims

1. Video display apparatus with correction of raster distortion, comprising

deflection means (20,40) including horizontal (L_H) and vertical (L_V) deflection windings for generating respectively therein, horizontal and vertical deflection currents to enable an electron beam (18) of a picture tube (SP) to scan a raster on a phosphor screen (15);

a parabola generator (48) coupled to said deflection means (20,40) for producing a parabolic voltage which modulates the scanning of said electron beam (18) to provide correction of side pincushion raster distortion;

characterized in that, said picture tube (SP) has a phosphor screen (15) located on a faceplate (30) having an aspherically curved surface contour, with at least one of a minor and major axis exhibiting a curvature that changes from an edge of the faceplate to the center; and wherein said side pincushion correction leaves uncorrected a raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of said faceplate (30); and

means (50) for nonlinearly modifying said parabolic voltage as a function of said change in faceplate curvature to provide additional modulation of the scanning of said electron beam (18) for correcting said raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of the face plate (30).

2. Apparatus according to claim 1 characterized in that the aspherically curved geometry of said faceplate (30) results in areas of said faceplate (30) near the top and bottom being of increased curvature relative to the curvature in areas near the center.

3. Apparatus according to claim 2 characterised in that said raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of the faceplate (30) comprises a barrel-like distortion of a raster display of a vertical line pattern in said areas near the top and bottom of said faceplate (30).

4. Apparatus according to Claim 2 wherein said nonlinearly modifying means (50) comprises a current source (CS) coupled to said parabola generator (48) and a switched current divider (D1,42) that switches from a first conductive state to a second conductive state during that portion of a vertical trace interval when a raster is being scanned on said faceplate (30) in said areas of increased curvature.

5. Apparatus according to Claim 4 wherein said parabola generator (48) develops a parabolically shaped input voltage repeating at a vertical deflection rate and having both a DC component voltage and an AC parabolic component voltage, and wherein said switched current divider comprises an impedance (R2) receiving a constant current from said current source (CS) for establishing a bias voltage level, and switching means (D1) responsive to said bias voltage level and direct current coupled to said parabola generator (48) for shunting a portion of said constant current when said input voltage goes beyond a threshold voltage level established in accordance with said bias voltage level to modify the waveshape of said input voltage in a manner that corrects said residual raster distortion.

Patentansprüche

1. Video-Anzeigegerät mit einer Raster-Verzerrungskorrektur, welches aufweist:
   - Ablenkmittel (20, 40) mit Wicklungen für Horizontal- (L_H) und Vertikal- (L_V) Ablenkung zur jeweiligen Erzeugung von Strömen zur Horizontal- und Vertikalablenkung darin, um es einem Elektronenstrahl (18) einer Bildröhre (SP) zu erlauben, ein Raster auf einem Leuchtstoffschirm (15) abzutasten (zu scannen);
   - einen Parabelgenerator (48), der mit den Ablenkmitteln (20, 40) zur Erzeugung einer Parabelspannung gekoppelt ist, welche das Abtasten des Elektronenstrahls (18) moduliert, womit eine Korrektur von Seiten-Nadelkissen-Rasterverzerrung (side pincushion raster distortion) erreichbar ist;

   dadurch gekennzeichnet,

   daß die Bildröhre (SP) einen Leuchtstoffschirm (15) aufweist, der auf einem Schirmträger (30) angeordnet ist, der eine asphärisch gekrümmte Oberflächenkontur hat, wobei zumindest eine der Haupt- oder Nebenachsen eine Krümmung aufweist, die von einem Rand (edge) des Schirmträgers zu seinem

FIGURE 1, without introducing wiggly line excursions of the vertical line pattern near raster lines L4 and L6.

Nonlinear waveshaping network 50 operates as a current divider to divide current i_0 into current i_3 and current i_c during conduction of diode D1. Thus, the change in the forward voltage drop of diode D1, produced by variations in ambient temperature, has little influence on the waveshaping of the parabola voltage.

Claims

1. Video display apparatus with correction of raster distortion, comprising

deflection means (20,40) including horizontal (L_H) and vertical (L_V) deflection windings for generating respectively therein, horizontal and vertical deflection currents to enable an electron beam (18) of a picture tube (SP) to scan a raster on a phosphor screen (15);

a parabola generator (48) coupled to said deflection means (20,40) for producing a parabolic voltage which modulates the scanning of said electron beam (18) to provide correction of side pincushion raster distortion;

characterized in that, said picture tube (SP) has a phosphor screen (15) located on a faceplate (30) having an aspherically curved surface contour, with at least one of a minor and major axis exhibiting a curvature that changes from an edge of the faceplate to the center; and wherein said side pincushion correction leaves uncorrected a raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of said faceplate (30); and

means (50) for nonlinearly modifying said parabolic voltage as a function of said change in faceplate curvature to provide additional modulation of the scanning of said electron beam (18) for correcting said raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of the face plate (30).

2. Apparatus according to claim 1 characterized in that the aspherically curved geometry of said faceplate (30) results in areas of said faceplate (30) near the top and bottom being of increased curvature relative to the curvature in areas near the center.

3. Apparatus according to claim 2 characterised in that said raster distortion due to the aspherically curved geometry of the faceplate (30) comprises a barrel-like distortion of a raster display of a vertical line pattern in said areas near the top and bottom of said faceplate (30).

4. Apparatus according to Claim 2 wherein said nonlinearly modifying means (50) comprises a current source (CS) coupled to said parabola generator (48) and a switched current divider (D1,42) that switches from a first conductive state to a second conductive state during that portion of a vertical trace interval when a raster is being scanned on said faceplate (30) in said areas of increased curvature.

5. Apparatus according to Claim 4 wherein said parabola generator (48) develops a parabolically shaped input voltage repeating at a vertical deflection rate and having both a DC component voltage and an AC parabolic component voltage, and wherein said switched current divider comprises an impedance (R2) receiving a constant current from said current source (CS) for establishing a bias voltage level, and switching means (D1) responsive to said bias voltage level and direct current coupled to said parabola generator (48) for shunting a portion of said constant current when said input voltage goes beyond a threshold voltage level established in accordance with said bias voltage level to modify the waveshape of said input voltage in a manner that corrects said residual raster distortion.

Patentansprüche

1. Video-Anzeigegerät mit einer Raster-Verzerrungskorrektur, welches aufweist:
   - Ablenkmittel (20, 40) mit Wicklungen für Horizontal- (L_H) und Vertikal- (L_V) Ablenkung zur jeweiligen Erzeugung von Strömen zur Horizontal- und Vertikalablenkung darin, um es einem Elektronenstrahl (18) einer Bildröhre (SP) zu erlauben, ein Raster auf einem Leuchtstoffschirm (15) abzutasten (zu scannen);
   - einen Parabelgenerator (48), der mit den Ablenkmitteln (20, 40) zur Erzeugung einer Parabelspannung gekoppelt ist, welche das Abtasten des Elektronenstrahls (18) moduliert, womit eine Korrektur von Seiten-Nadelkissen-Rasterverzerrung (side pincushion raster distortion) erreichbar ist;

   dadurch gekennzeichnet,

   daß die Bildröhre (SP) einen Leuchtstoffschirm (15) aufweist, der auf einem Schirmträger (30) angeordnet ist, der eine asphärisch gekrümmte Oberflächenkontur hat, wobei zumindest eine der Haupt- oder Nebenachsen eine Krümmung aufweist, die von einem Rand (edge) des Schirmträgers zu seinem

Zentrum sich verändert;

- wobei die Seiten-Nadelkissen-Korrektur eine - auf die asphärisch gekrümmte Geometrie des Schirmträgers (30) zurückführbare - Rasterverzerrung unkorrigiert läßt; daß Mittel (50) vorgesehen sind zum nichtlinearen Modifizieren der Parabelspannung als Funktion der Änderung der Schirmträger-Krümmung, um eine zusätzliche Modulation der Abtastung des Elektronenstrahls (18) zu erhalten zur Korrektur der Rasterverzerrung aufgrund der asphärisch gekrümmten Geometrie des Schirmträgers (30).

2. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** daß die asphärisch gekrümmte Geometrie des Schirmträgers (30) Gebiete nahe ihrem oberen und unteren Ende ergibt, die von erhöhter Krümmung gegenüber der Krümmung in Gebieten nahe ihrem Zentrum sind.

3. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 2, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** daß die Rasterverzerrung aufgrund der asphärisch gekrümmten Geometrie des Schirmträgers (30) eine fassähnliche (barrellike) Verzerrung einer Rasteranzeige eines Vertikal-Linienmusters in den Gebieten nahe dem oberen und unteren Ende des Schirmträgers (30) aufweist.

4. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 2, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** daß die Mittel (50) zum nichtlinearen Modifizieren eine - mit dem Parabelgenerator (48) gekoppelte - Stromquelle (CS) und einen geschalteten Stromteiler (D1, 42) aufweisen, der von einem ersten leitenden Zustand in einen zweiten leitenden Zustand während des Abschnitts eines vertikalen Hinlaufintervalls schaltet, zu dem ein Raster auf dem Schirmträger (30) in den Gebieten erhöhter Krümmung abgetastet wird.

5. Anzeigegerät nach Anspruch 4, **dadurch gekennzeichnet,** daß der Parabelgenerator (48) eine parabelförmige Eingangsspannung erzeugt, die sich mit der vertikalen Ablenkrate wiederholt und die sowohl eine DC-Spannungs-Komponente als auch eine AC-Parabel-Spannungs-Komponente aufweist;
daß der geschaltete Stromteiler eine Impedanz (R2) aufweist, die einen Konstantstrom von der Stromquelle (CS) zum Bilden eines Vorspannungspegels (bias voltage) erhält;
daß schaltende Mittel (D1) abhängig von dem Vorspannungspegel und dem Gleichstrom mit dem Parabelgenerator (48) gekoppelt ist zum Ableiten (for shunting) eines Teils des Konstantstromes dann, wenn die Eingangsspannung über eine Schwellenspannung hinausgeht, die in Übereinstimmung mit dem Vorspannungspegel gebildet ist, um die Signalform der Eingangsspannung so zu modifizieren, daß die verbleibende Rasteryerzerrung (residual raster distortion) korrigiert wird.

Revendications

1. Dispositif d'affichage vidéo avec correction de distorsion de trame comprenant :
   - des moyens de déviation (20, 40) incluant des enroulements de déviation horizontale (L_H) et verticale (L_V) pour y générer respectivement des courants de déviation horizontale et verticale pour permettre à un faisceaux électronique (18) d'un tube image (SP) de balayer une trame sur un écran de luminophores (15) ;
   - un générateur parabole (48), couplé auxdits moyens de déviation (20, 40) pour produire une tension parabolique gui module le balayage dudit faisceau électronique (18) pour assurer la correction de la distorsion de trame en coussinet latéral caractérisé en ce que ledit tube image (SP) possède un écran de luminophores (15) positionné sur une plaque frontale (30) présentant un contour de surface incurvé de façon asphérique, avec au moins un axe secondaire et un axe principal présentant une courbure qui change d'un bord de la plaque frontale vers le centre et dans lequel ladite correction du coussinet latéral laisse non corrigée une distorsion de trame due à la géométrie incurvée asphériquement de ladite plaque frontale (30) et,
   - des moyens (50) pour modifier de façon non linéaire ladite tension parabolique en tant que fonction de ladite modification de courbure de la plaque frontale pour obtenir une modulation additionnelle du balayage dudit faisceau électronique (18) afin de corriger ladite distorsion de trame due à la géométrie incurvée asphériquement de la plaque frontale (30).

2. Dispositif selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que la géométrie incurvée asphériquement de ladite plaque frontale (30) est réalisée dans des zones de ladite plaque frontale (30)

* C L M S *

proche du sommet et de la partie inférieure qui possèdent une courbure augmentée par rapport à la conduite dans des zones proches du centre.

3. Dispositif selon la revendication 2, caractérisé en ce que ladite distorsion de trame due à la géométrie incurvée asphériquement de la plaque frontale (30) comporte une distorsion en forme de tonneau d'un affichage de trame d'une configuration de lignes verticales dans lesdites zones proches du sommet et du bas de ladite plaque frontale (30).

4. Dispositif selon la revendication 2 dans lequel lesdits moyens de modification non linéaire (50) comprennent une source de courant (CS) couplée audit générateur de parabole (48) et un diviseur de courant commuté (D1, 42) qui commute d'un premier état conducteur à un second état conducteur pendant la portion de l'intervalle de trace verticale lorsqu'une trame est en cours de balayage sur ladite plaque frontale (30) dans lesdites zones de courbure augmentée.

5. Dispositif selon la revendication 4 dans lequel ledit générateur parabole (48) développe une tension d'entrée en forme de parabole se répétant à la vitesse de déviation verticale et ayant à la fois une tension de composante en courant continu et une tension de composante parabolique en courant alternatif, et dans lequel ledit diviseur de courant commuté comporte une impédance (R2) recevant un courant constant de ladite source de courant (CS) pour établir un niveau de tension de polarisation, et des moyens de commutation (D1) agissant en réponse audit niveau de tension de polarisation et dirigeant du courant couplé audit générateur parabole (48) pour shunter une portion dudit courant constant lorsque ladite tension d'entrée va au-delà d'un niveau de tension de seuil établi en fonction dudit niveau de tension de polarisation, pour modifier la forme d'onde de ladite tension d'une manière qui corrige ladite distorsion de trame résiduelle.