

April 14, 2009

# Electric Guitar MULTI-FX and Sequencing **In Tune Innovations**



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# Itinerary

- ❖ Background
- ❖ The Effects
- ❖ Digital Logic
- ❖ User Interface
- ❖ Timeline & Business Plan
- ❖ Future Work
- ❖ Lessons Learned
- ❖ Questions?

# Background

Source: Javart, wikipedia

- ❖ Electric Guitar Effects
- ❖ Single & multi effects
- ❖ What is lost in commercial multi-FX?
  - What is gained?



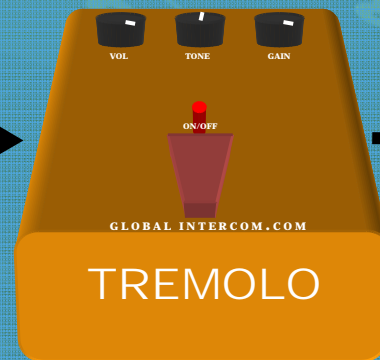


# Basic Concept

If you can have one pedal...



...then you can have two pedals...



...Or more than two...



source: [dolphinstreet.com](http://dolphinstreet.com)

...Or more than you can count...



source: [redbubble.com](http://redbubble.com)



...Or Chaos...



Source: [lizzydaymont.com](http://lizzydaymont.com)



Clean up time

# Multi-FX



# MULTI-FX



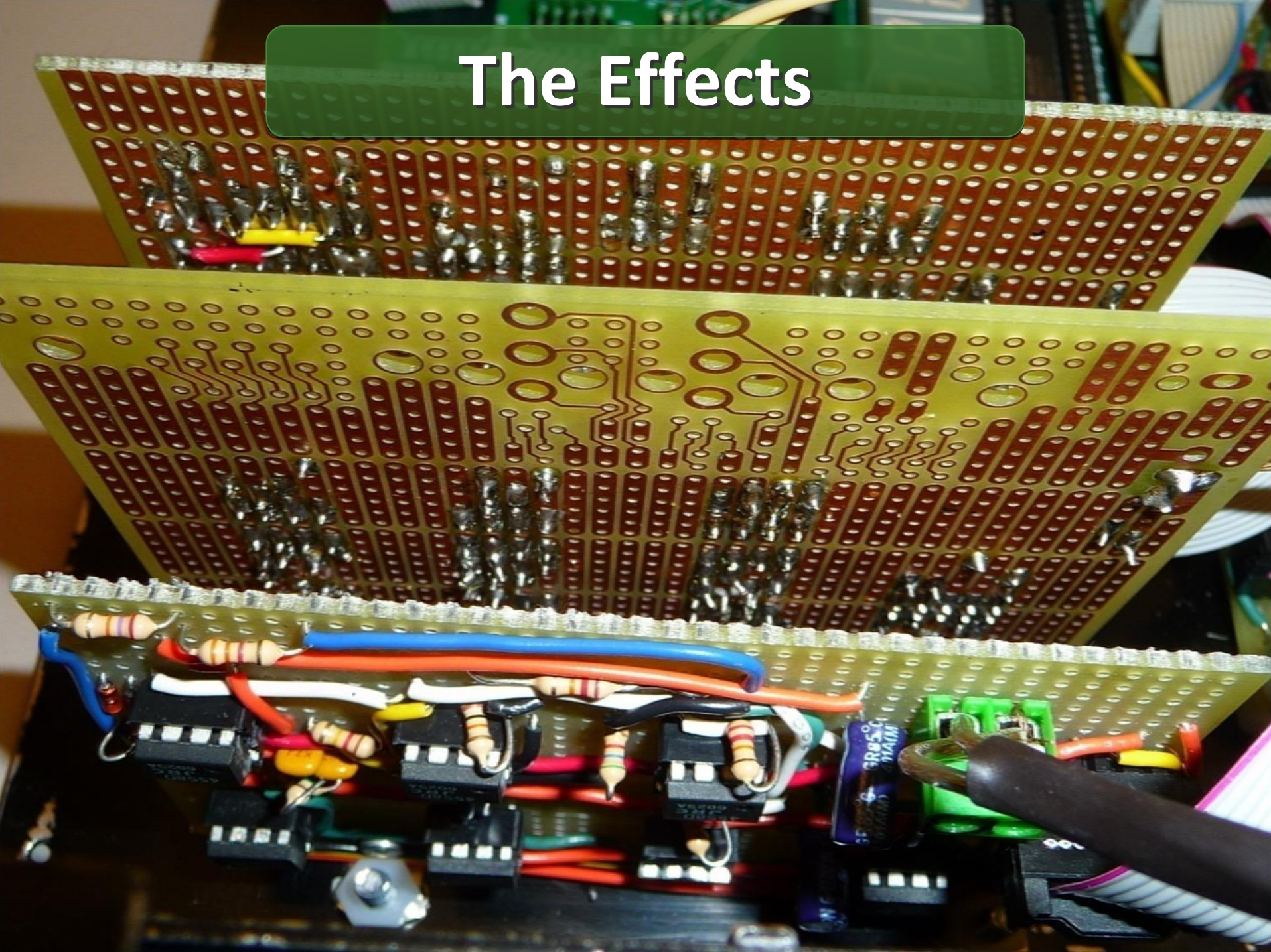
# Guitar FX

## ❖ In Tune Innovations product:

- 3 in 1 Electric Guitar Multi-FX
  - Settings can be saved and recalled

## ❖ Combining multi-FX, preset capability and effect sequencing

# The Effects



# The Effects

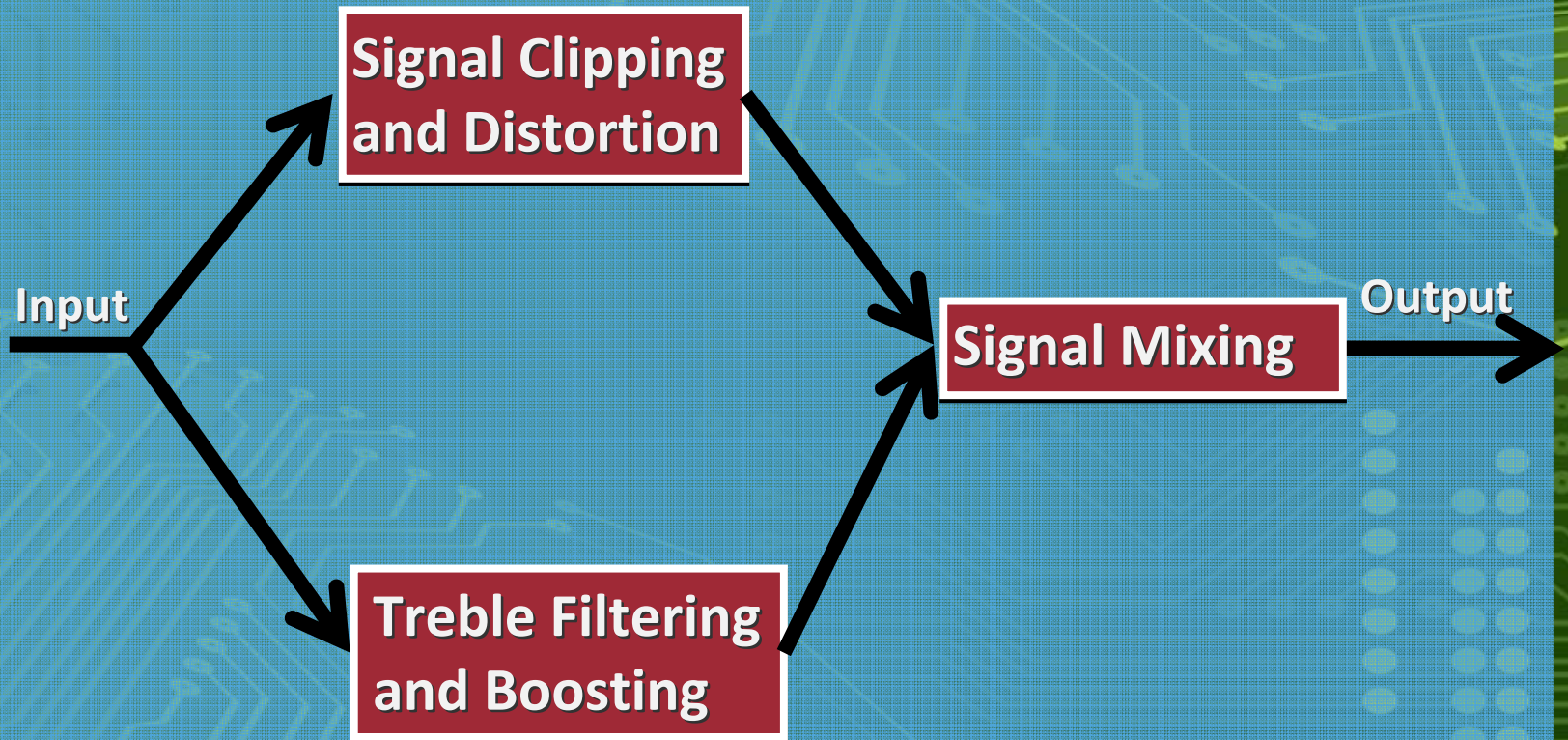
- ❖ Distortion with Treble Boost
- ❖ Tremolo
- ❖ Auto-Wah

# Distortion

Yes, there is such a thing as  
**good distortion**



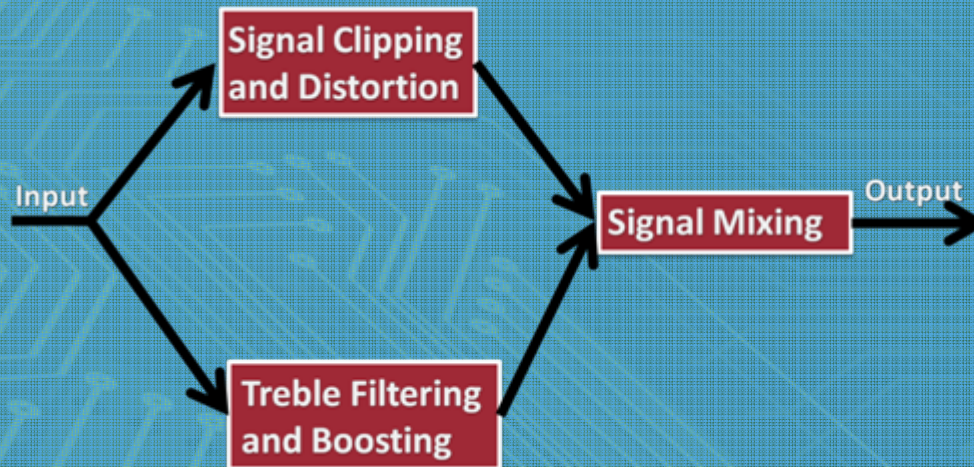
# Distortion



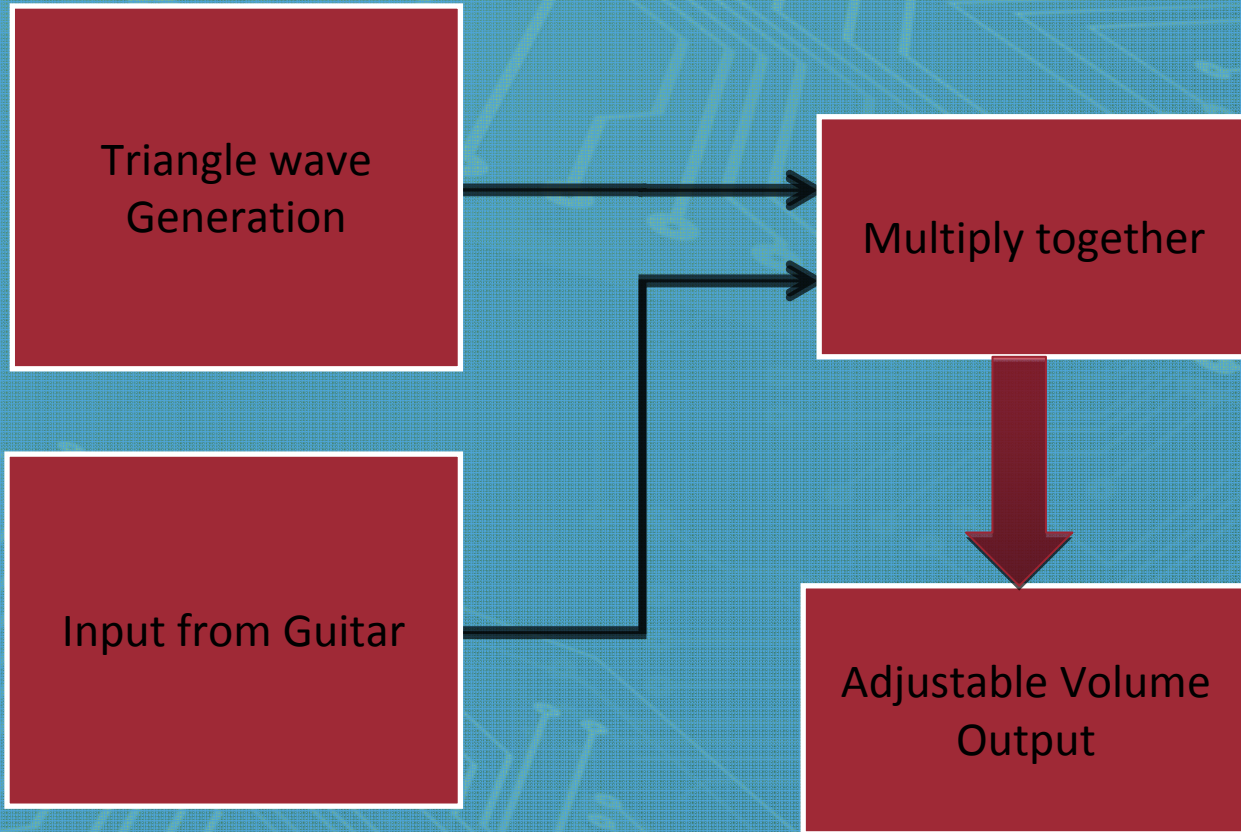
# Distortion

## ❖ Controllable Aspects

- Clarity Adjust
- Treble Boost Mix
- Output Volume



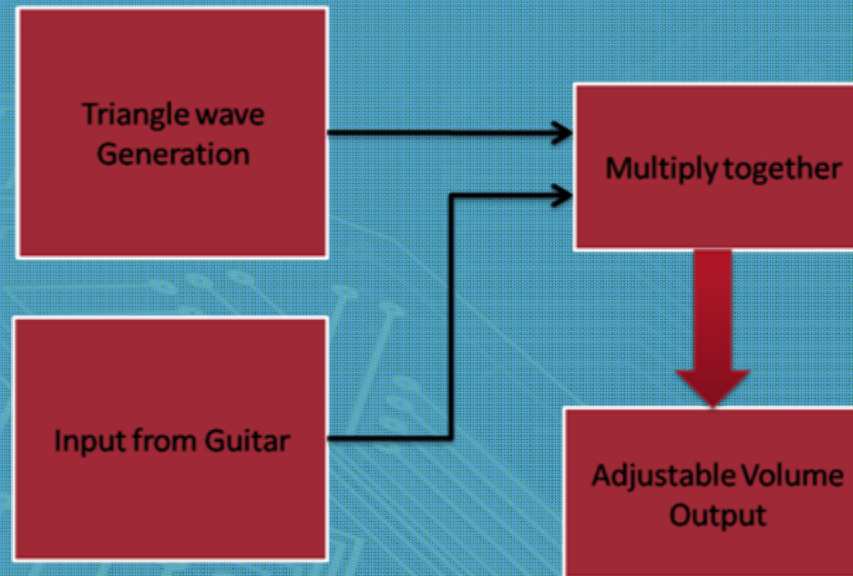
# Tremolo



# Tremolo

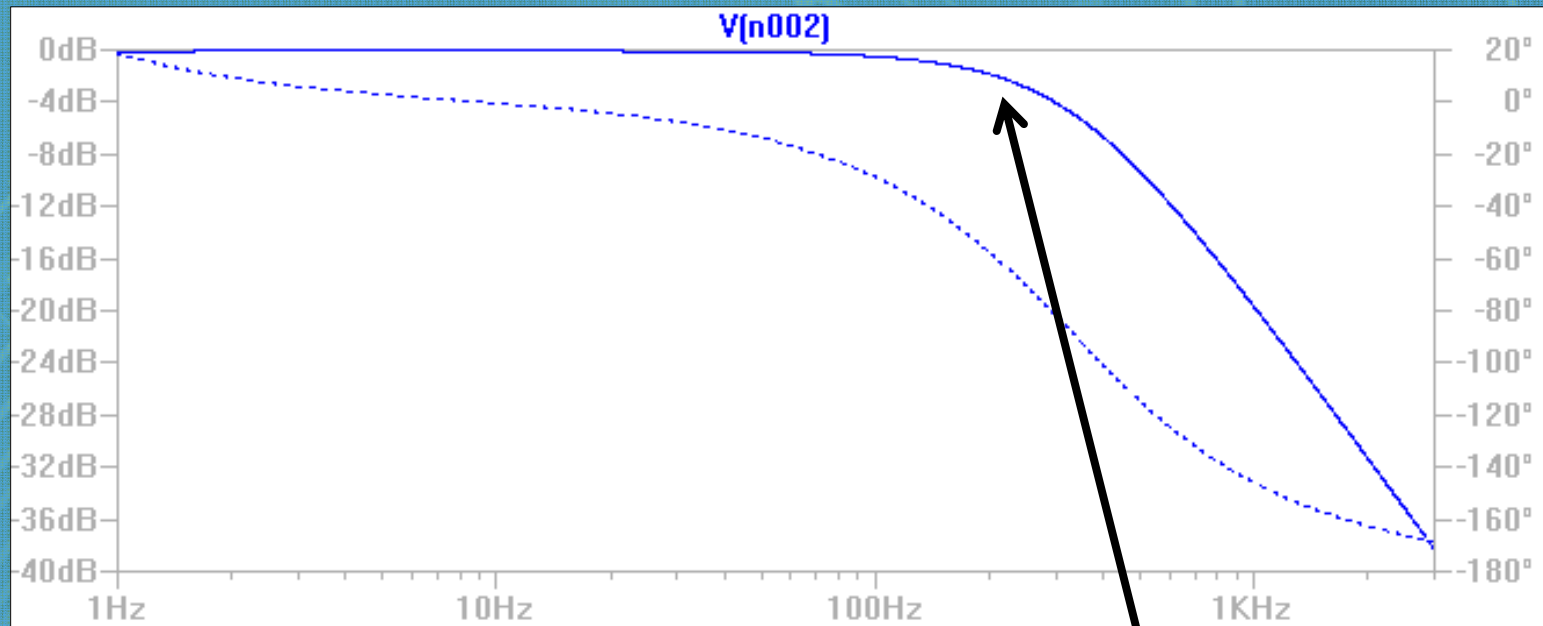
## ❖ Controllable Aspects

- Period of Tremolo wave
- Output Volume
- Fine Tune



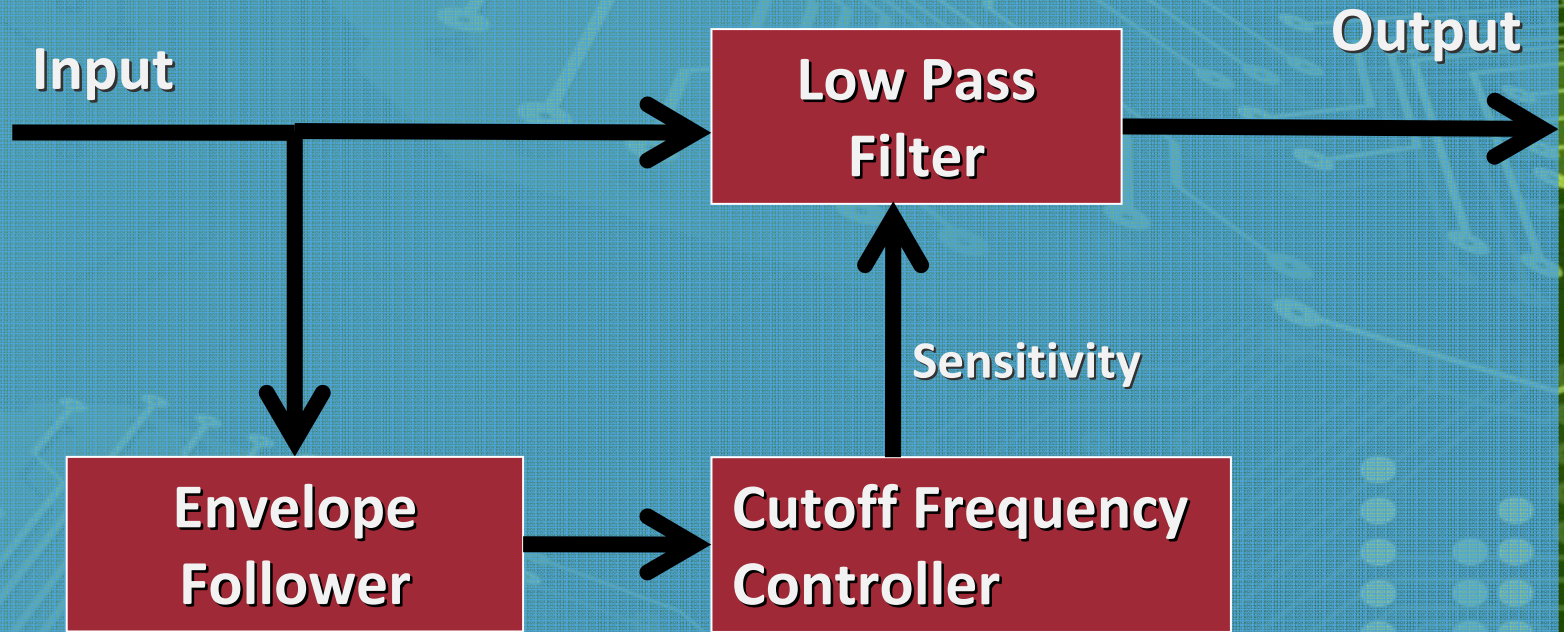
# Auto-WAH

## ❖ Automatic filtering



Cutoff Freq

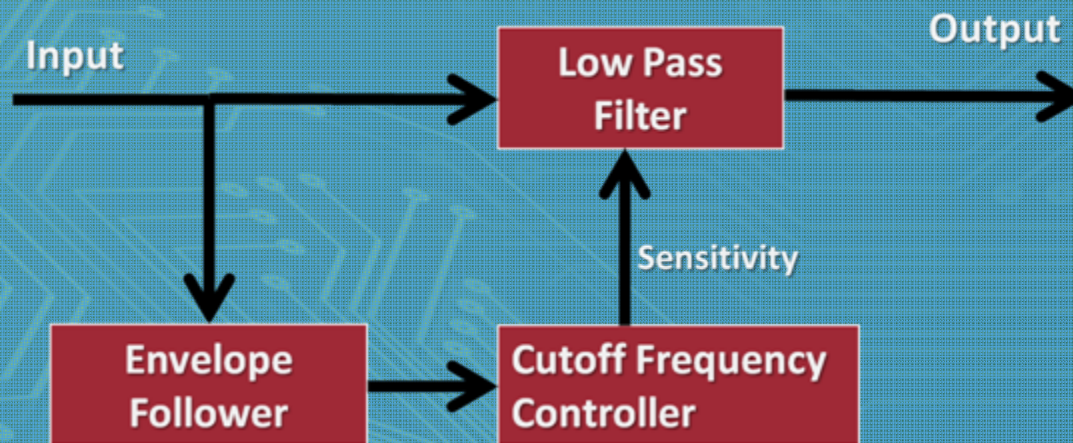
# Auto-WAH



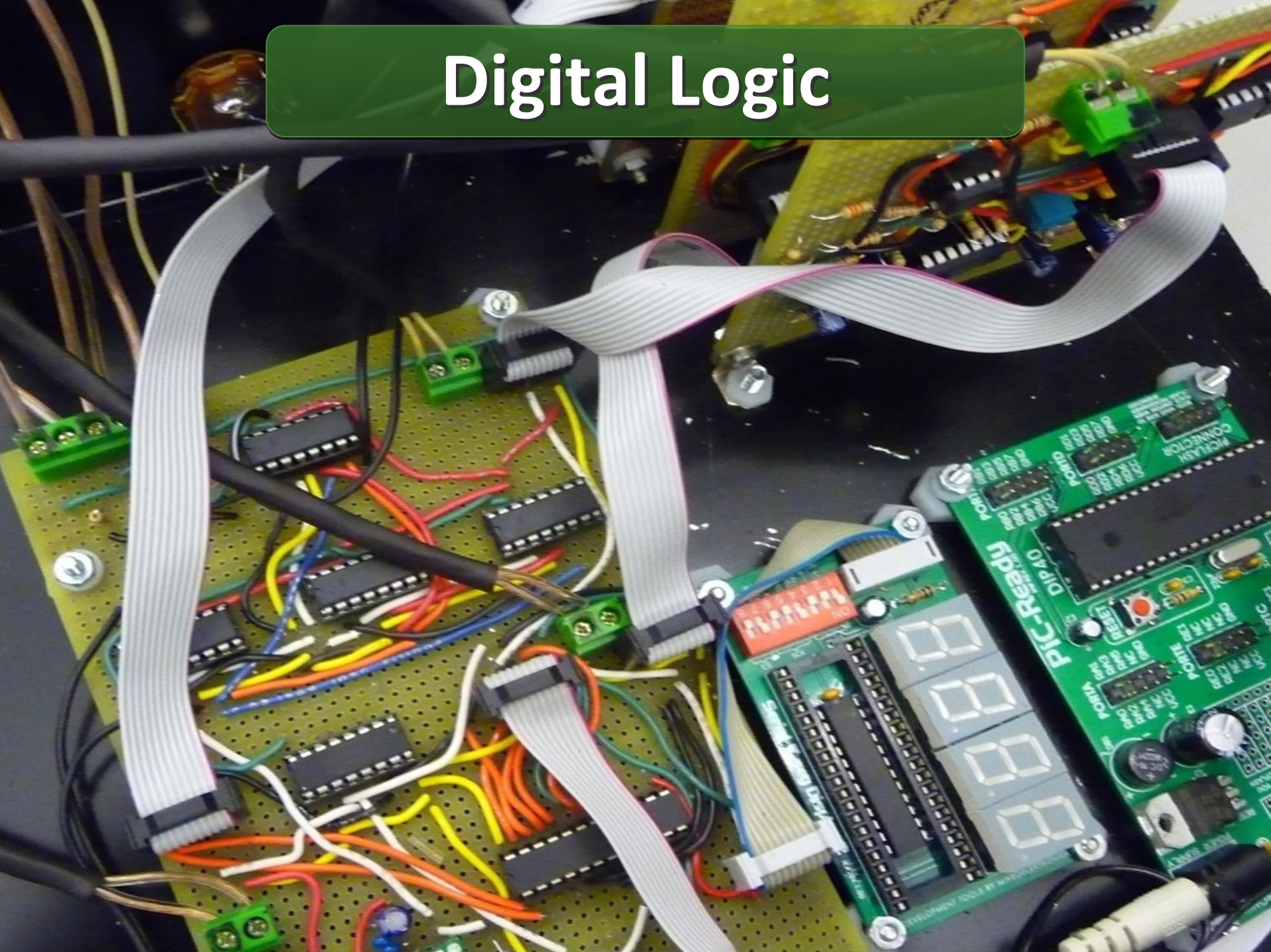
# Auto-WAH

## ❖ Controllable Aspects

- Sensitivity of Filter (because based on loudness)
- Moveable Range of Filter



# Digital Logic



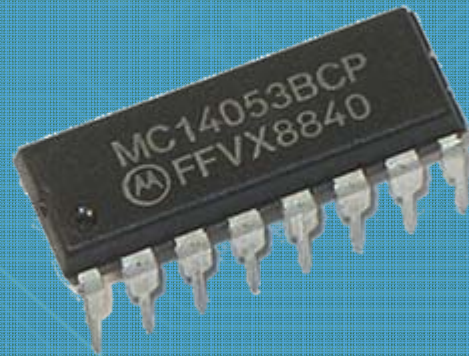



# Effect Switching

- ❖ How do we route an analog signal using digital logic from our microcontroller?
  - Relays?
  - Transistor Logic?

# Effect Switching

- ❖ Solution: Analog Multiplexers!
- ❖ Four chained together
  - Allows any combination of effects
- ❖ 16 permutations



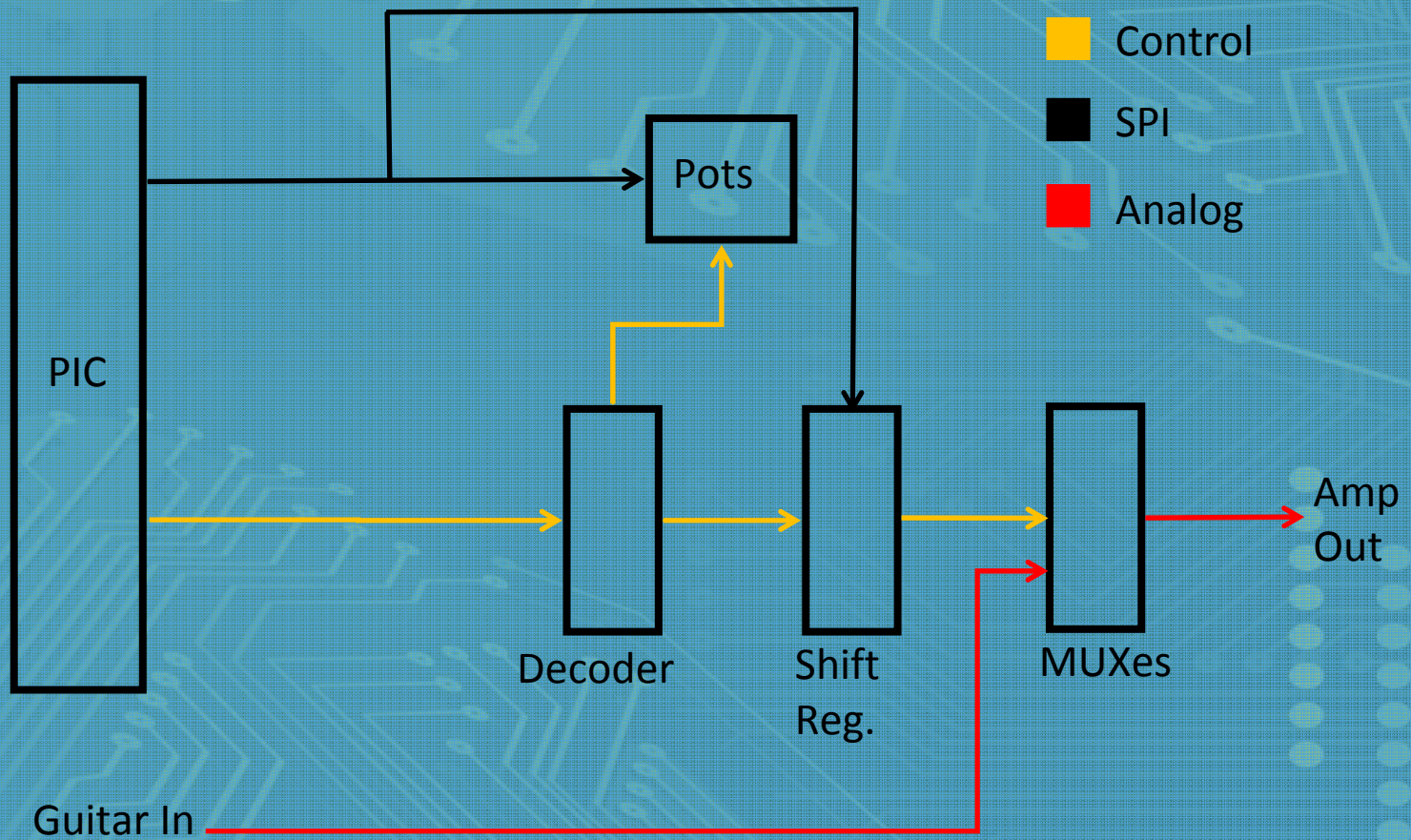


Effect  
Customization?

# Effect Customization

- ❖ Digital Potentiometers (pots)
- ❖ Two or three pots used per effect
- ❖ One hundred settings per pot
  
- ❖ High amount of customization
- ❖ Simplicity

# High Level Digital Circuitry





**Microcontroller**

# Microcontroller

- ❖ Microchip's PIC

- ❖ PIC18F4520

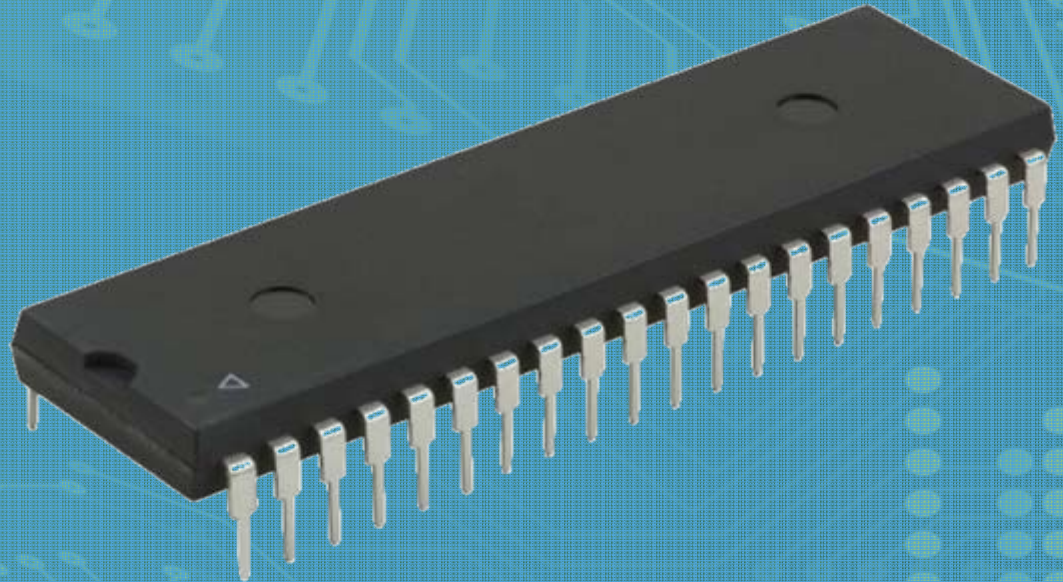
- ❖ 40 Pin

- ❖ 10 MIPS

- ❖ 32KB Flash

- ❖ 1.5KB RAM

- ❖ 256B Eeprom



# Eeprom

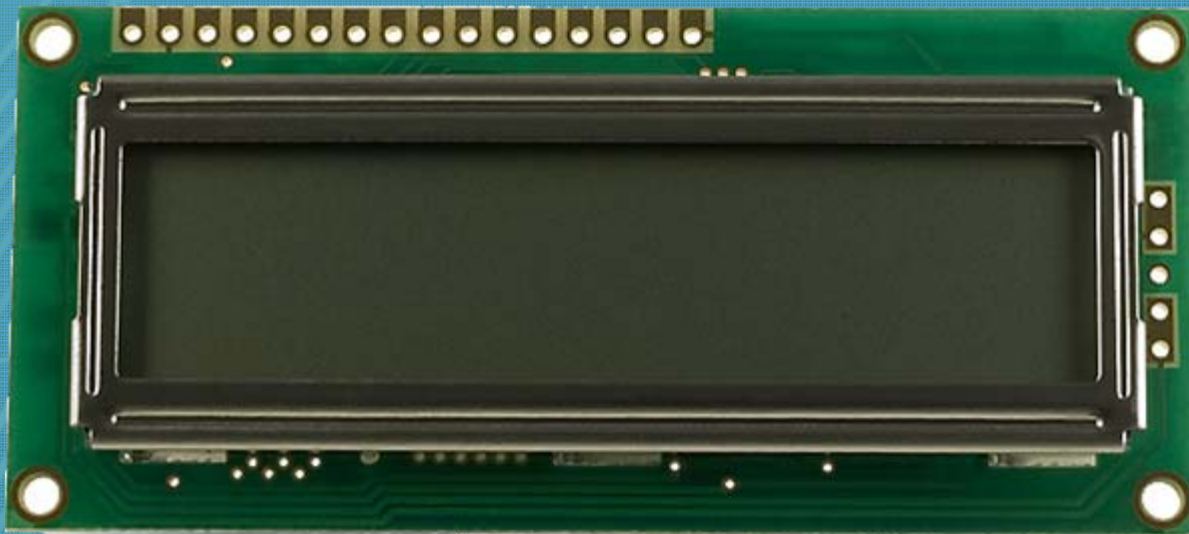
- ❖ Persistent storage
- ❖ Where saves are located
- ❖ Maximums
  - Eight effect chain saves
  - One effect chain autosave
  - One playlist save
- ❖ Can easily be expanded



# User Interface

## ❖ Displays

- 16x2 character LCD
- Three 7-segment displays
- Three LED bypass indicators



# User Interface

## ❖ Inputs

- Four stomp switches
  - One momentary
- Seven buttons
- One rotary encoder

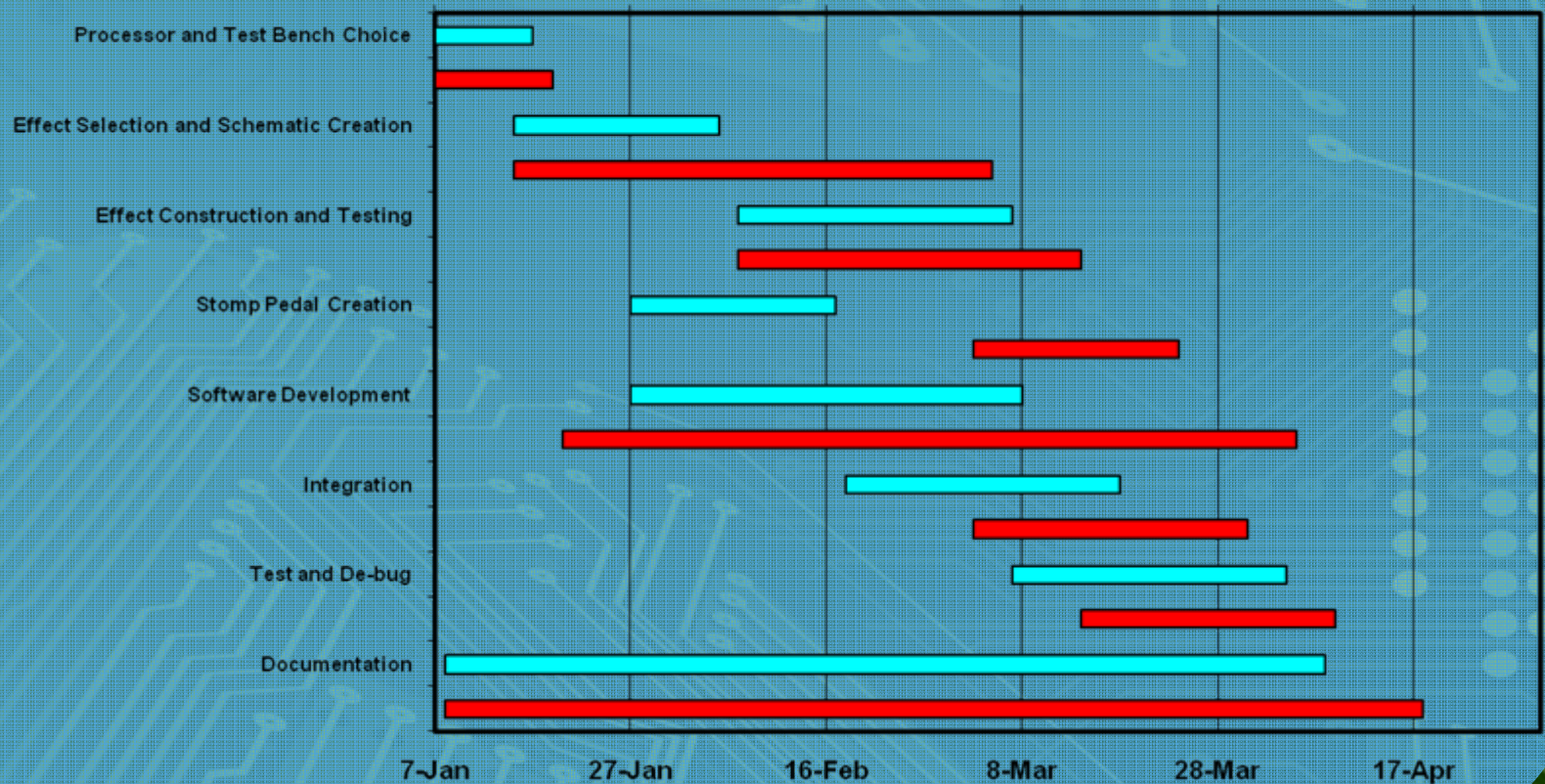


# Logistics



# Timeline

Estimated in Blue, Realized in Red



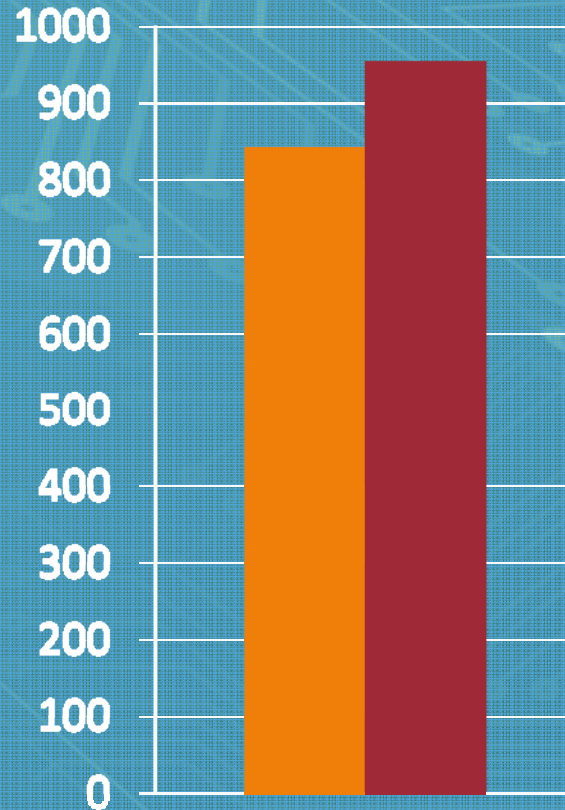
# Finances

## ❖ Estimated

- Total Cost \$840.91

## ❖ Realized

- Total Cost \$952.53



# Cost Overruns?

## ❖ Major Expenses

- First order Doubled  $\approx$  \$100
- Shipping on 1<sup>st</sup> Order  $\approx$  \$100
- Replaced all stomp switches  $\approx$  \$50
- Rebuilt Distortion Board  $\approx$  \$20
- Built new Button Board  $\approx$  \$25

# Cost per Unit

- ❖ Roughly \$250 per unit
- ❖ Savings:
  - No Development boards
  - No PIC Programmer
  - Smaller 7-Seg
  - PCB instead of Vector Board
  - Only the parts we need!

# Business Comparison



## Holy Stain - \$99US

- Analog Distortion;
- Other effects Digital
- Only choice of Distortion + 1 Effect
- No saves or memory



## Boss ME-20 \$200 US

- 17 Digital Effects
- 3 Effects Chained
- Memory Feature



# Business Comparison



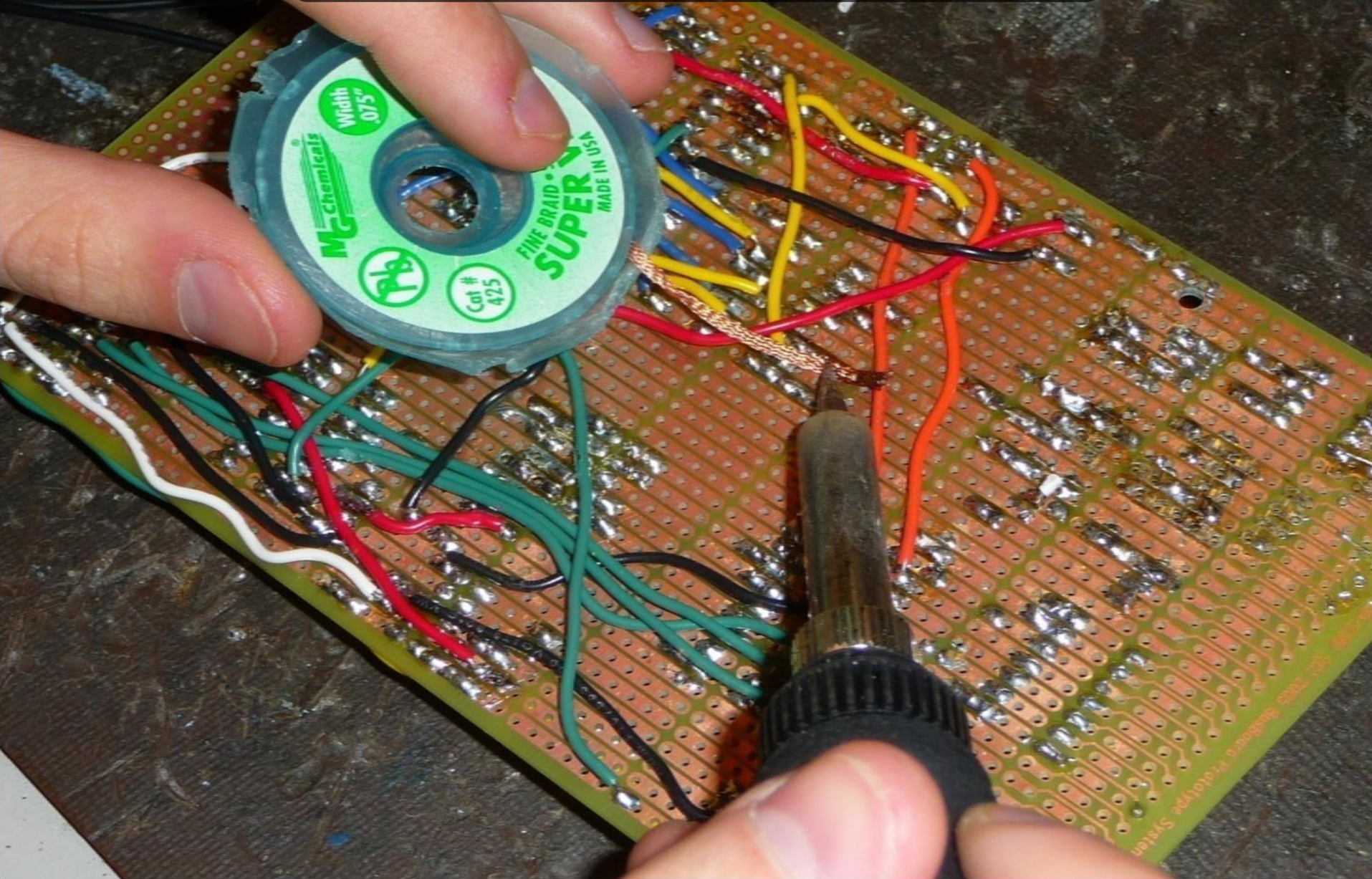
Carl Martin Quattro - \$623US

Pure Analog circuitry

Variable Effect Order

No saves or playlist ability

# Future Work



# Future Work

- ❖ Manufactured PCB's
- ❖ Sockets for effects
- ❖ More appropriate case
- ❖ Effect tweaking

# Acknowledgements

- ❖ ESSEF
- ❖ Patrick Leung
- ❖ Steve Whitmore
- ❖ Jamie & Jason
- ❖ Fred Heep
- ❖ Peers

# Lessons Learned

- ❖ Research and planning
- ❖ Standardization!

# Lessons Learned

- ❖ Plan your exit early
- ❖ Take ownership

# Lessons Learned

- ❖ Modularity
- ❖ Constant testing and repeatability

# Lessons Learned

- ❖ Nothing is permanent
- ❖ Meet your deadlines



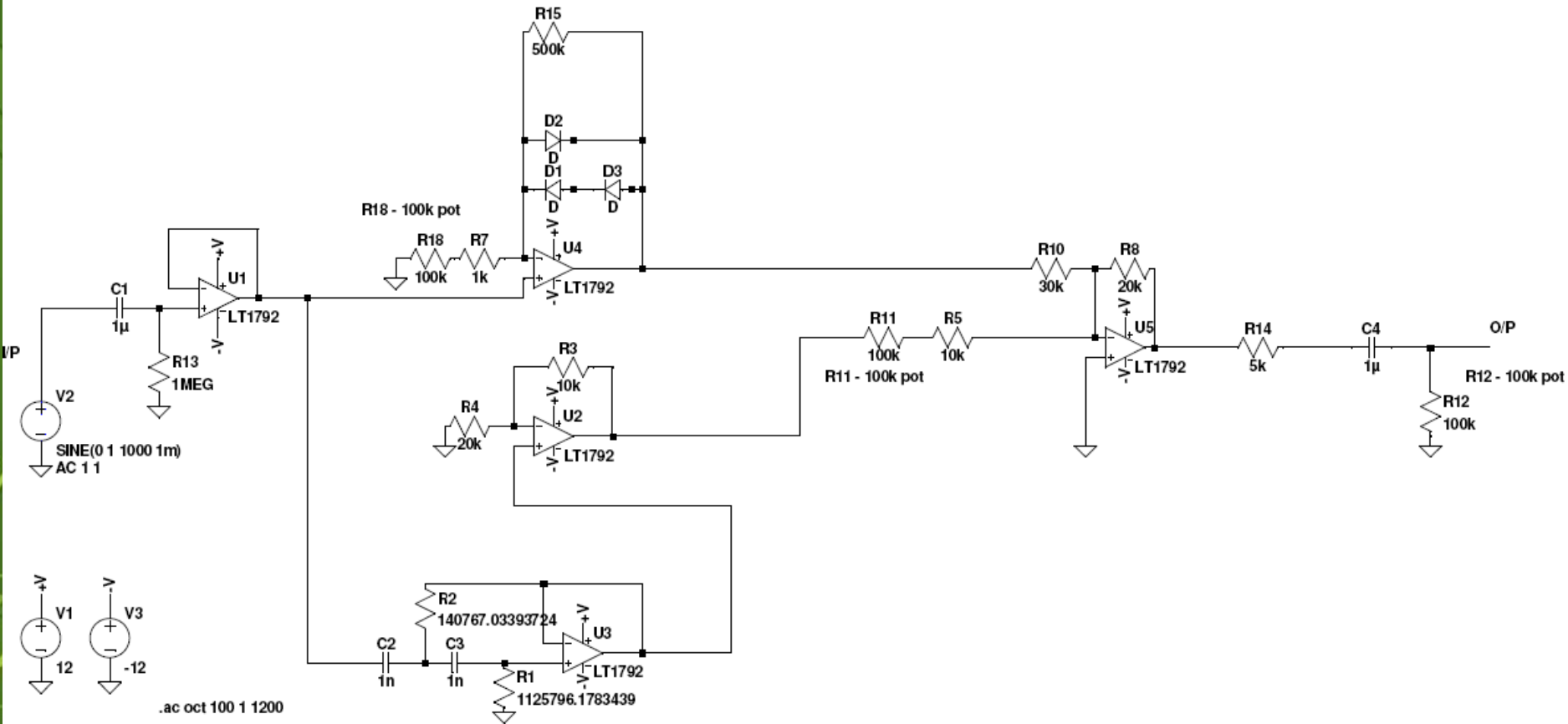
Questions, Comments?

**Thank you for attending our  
presentation**

The image features a central blue rounded rectangle with a fine grid pattern. This rectangle is set against a dark green background that contains a complex, glowing yellow-green circuit board pattern. The circuit lines are intricate, with many small circular nodes and branching paths. On the left side of the image, there is a vertical column of bright yellow circular dots. The overall aesthetic is technical and digital.

# Technical Addendum

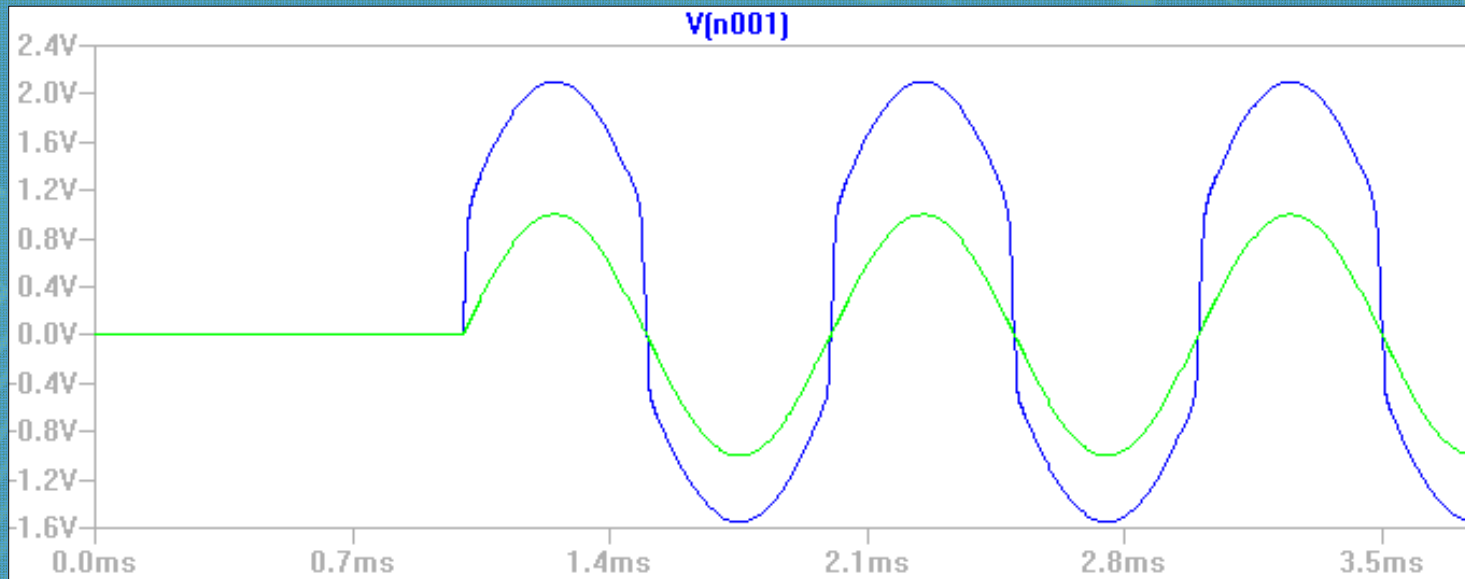
# Distortion w/ Treble BOOST



Distortion with Treble Boost  
(c) 2009 InTune Innovations

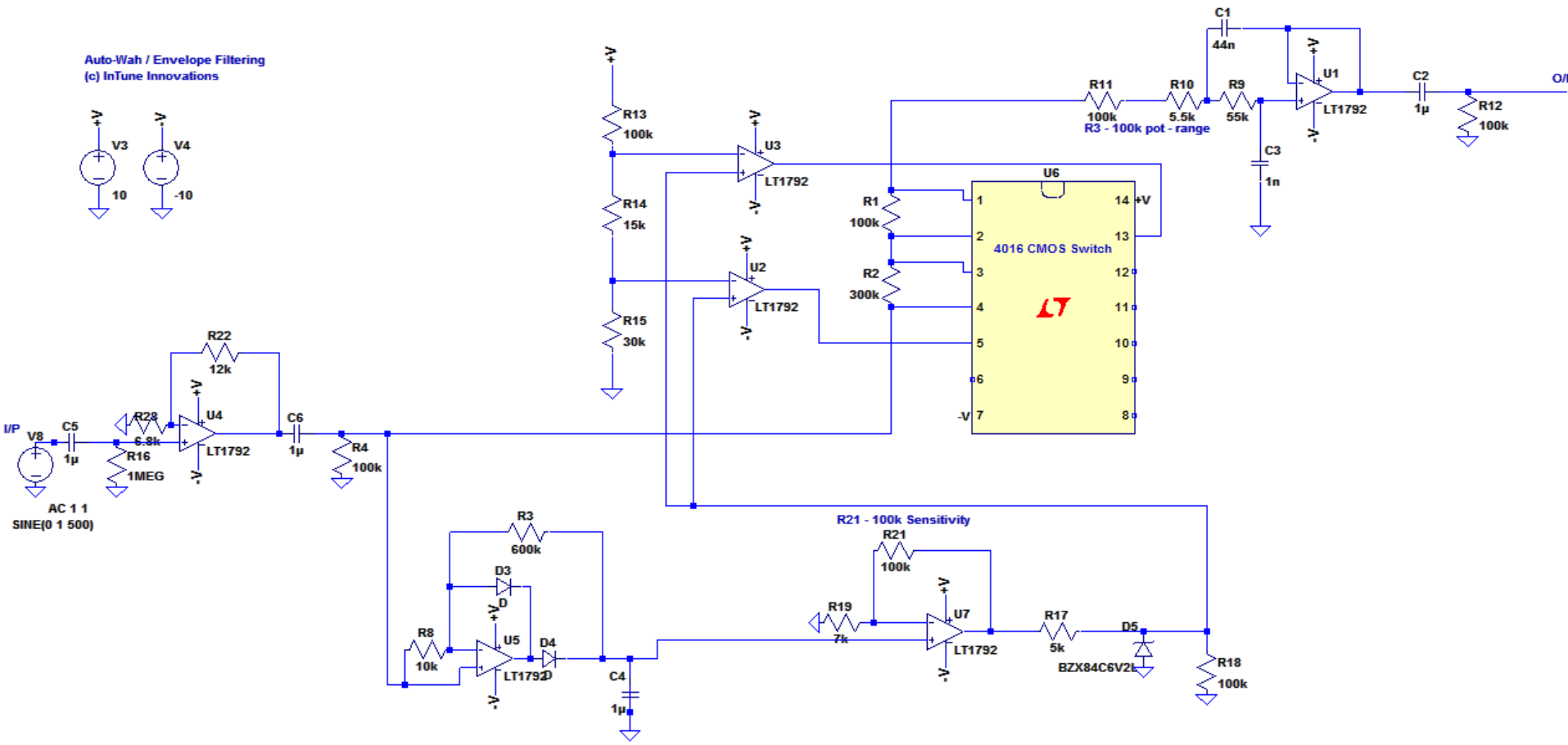
# Distortion

## ❖ Distortion waveform



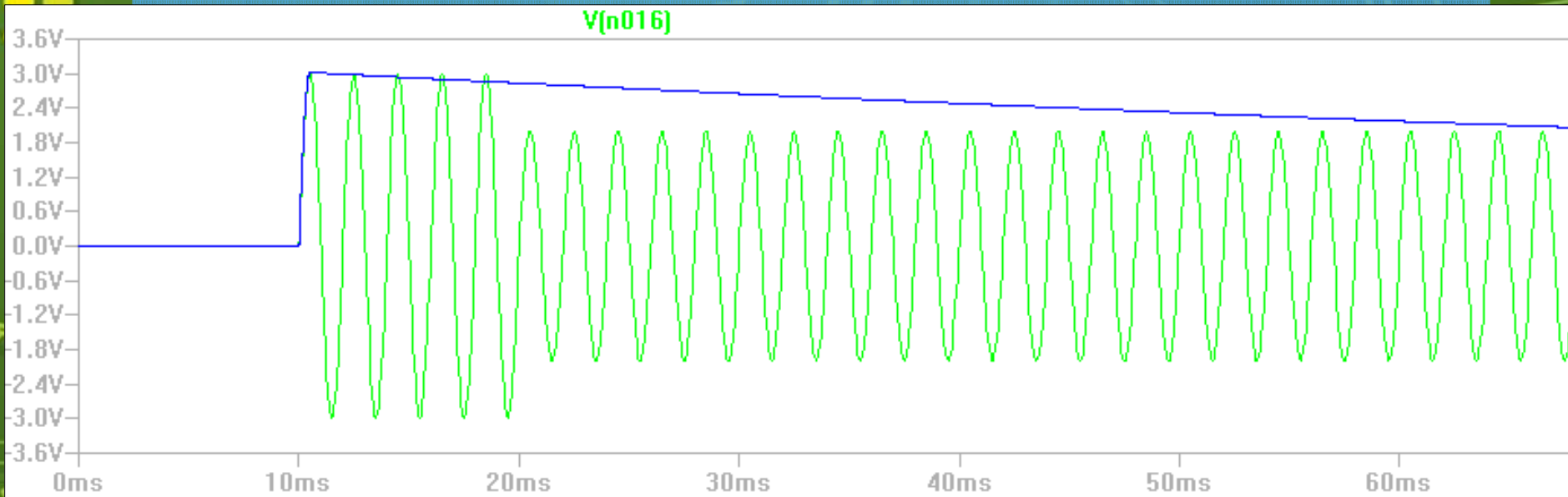


# Auto-Wah



# Auto-WAH

## ❖ Envelope Follower



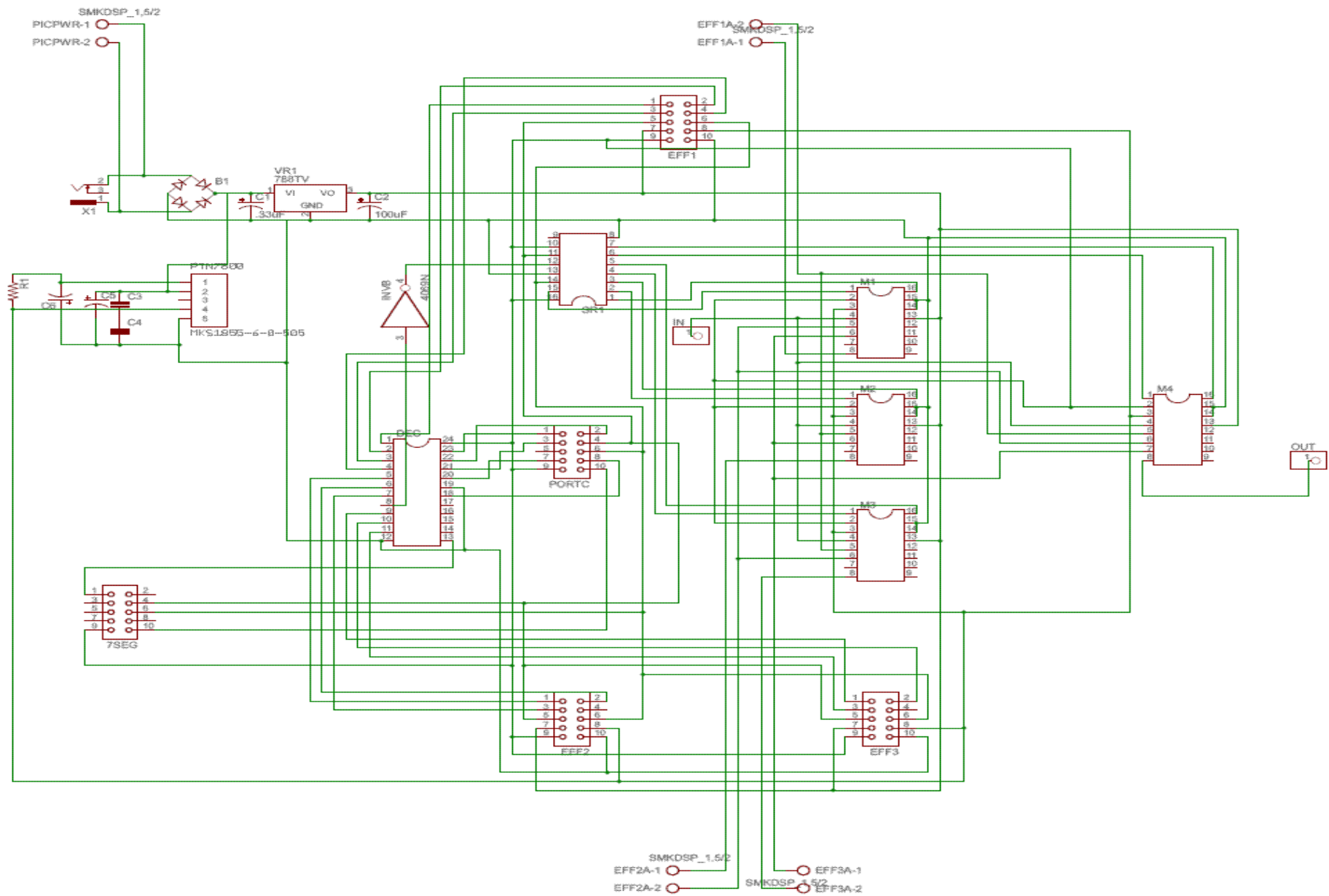
# Actual Costs

Expenses	Michael				
Date:					
01/18/09	Placed order at circuit-ed.com:				
	Item	Price	Quantity		
	PICFLASH2 PIC USB Programmer	\$115.00	1		
	LCD 4-BIT MODE ADAPTER Board	\$8.00	2		
	KEYPAD 4x4 Accessory Board	\$12.00	2		
	16x2 LCD Bl/Wh w/ Soldered Connector	\$10.00	2		
	SERIAL 7-SEGMENT 2 Accessory Board	\$29.00	1		
	PIC-READY Mini Board	\$31.00	2		
	Order Total with shipping	\$335.68 USD			
	GST	\$37.63			
	Total (in CAD)	\$432.57 CAD			
		\$432.57 CAD			
01/29/09	Digikey order #1	\$86.70 CAD			
02/14/09	Digikey order #2	\$72.56 CAD			
02/17/09	Stomp switches	\$30.00 CAD			
03/08/2009	Digikey order #3	\$105.83 CAD			
	(subtract sam's order)	-\$10.96			
03/24/09	Digikey order # 4	\$58.07 CAD			
04/06/2009	Hos Electronics: 3 Foot switches	\$50.40 CAD			
Expenses	Tom				
RP ITEMS					
	ITEM	Price Per	QTY	TOTAL w/ SFU Discount	
	IDC CON	0.88	22	18.48	
	Terminal Block	7.1	1	6.74	
	Protoboard	12.8	3	32.64	
	Wire	.37/ft	10	3.5	
	IDC Header	2	3	6	
			TOTAL	67.36	
Cumulative Total:		\$952.53			



# Project CPU

LCD 4-BIT MODE ADAPTER Board	\$8.00	
16x2 LCD Bl/Wh w/ Soldered Connector	\$10.00	
PIC-READY Mini Board	\$31.00	
Hos Electronics: 3 Foot switches	\$50.40	
Dig Pot (3 per feat)	\$9	
Multiplier	\$8	
Case	\$60	
Voltage Regulator	\$13	
OpAmps and Bilateral Switch (3 per feat)	\$5	
Decoder	\$1	
Voltage Converter	\$3.50	
Misc. Electrical	\$20.00	
PCB Creation	\$5	
Multiplexor (4)	\$10	
7 Seg Pads	\$2.50	
Shop Supplies	\$10.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$246.40</b>	



SMKOSP\_1.5/2  
 EFF2A-1  
 EFF2A-2  
 SMKOSP\_1.5/2  
 EFF3A-1  
 EFF3A-2