



Technician License Course

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Chapter 3

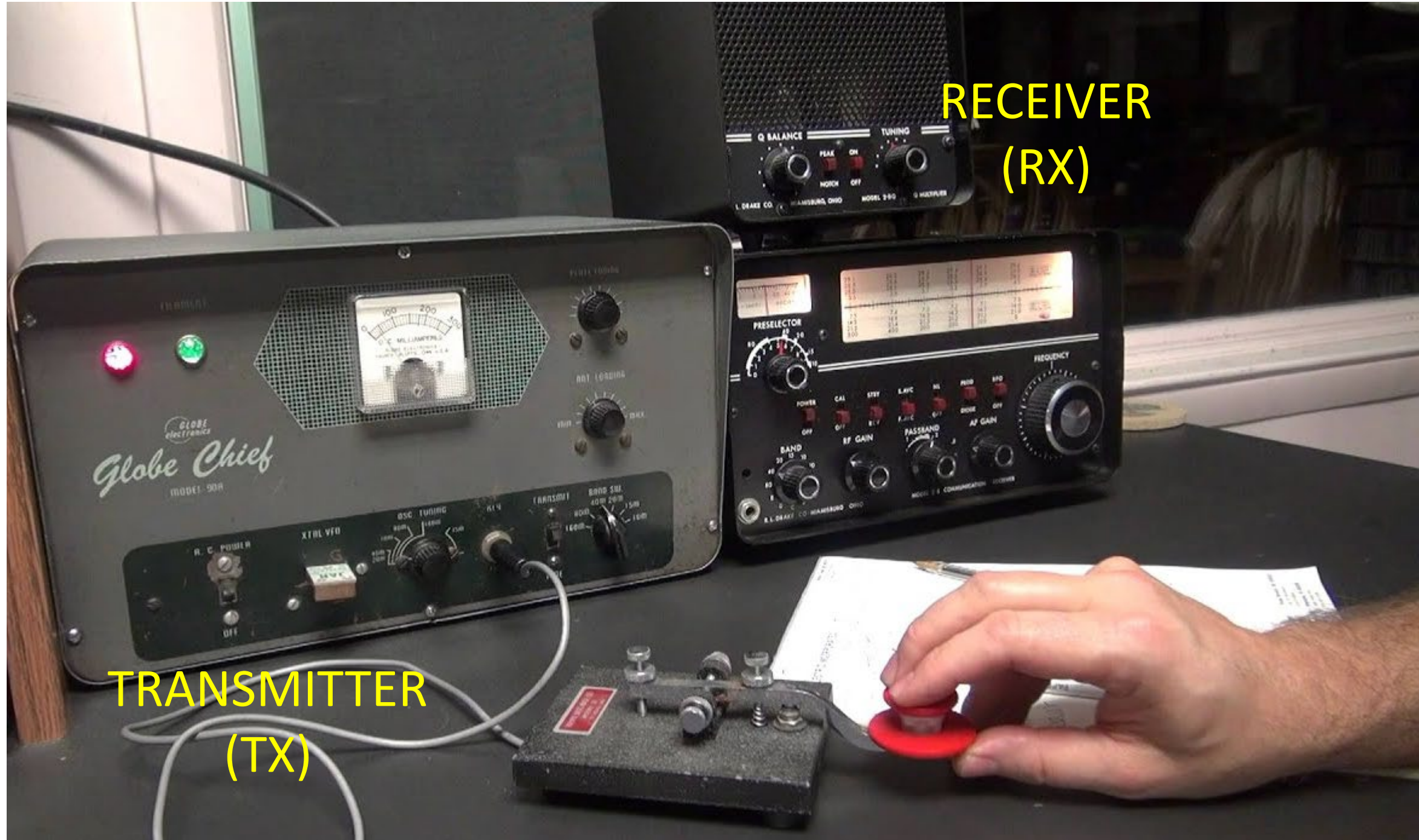
Lesson Plan Module - 7

Types of Radio Circuits



The Basic Transceiver

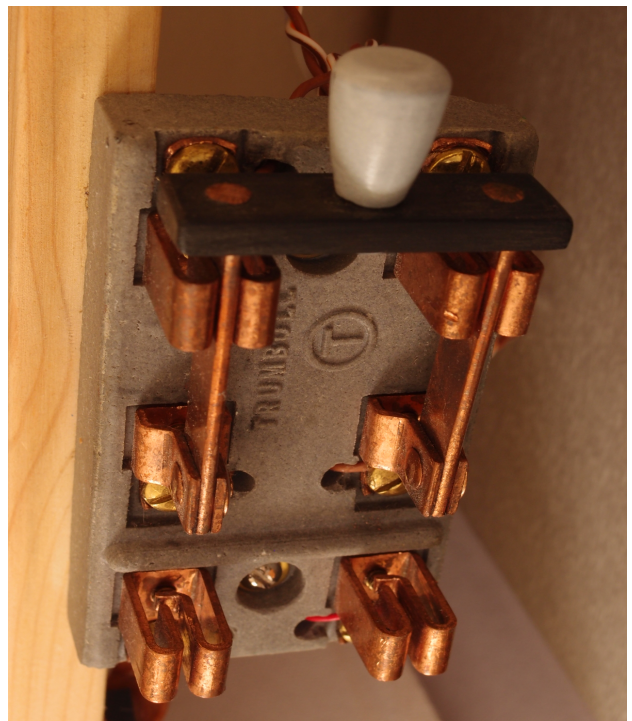




RECEIVER
(RX)

TRANSMITTER
(TX)

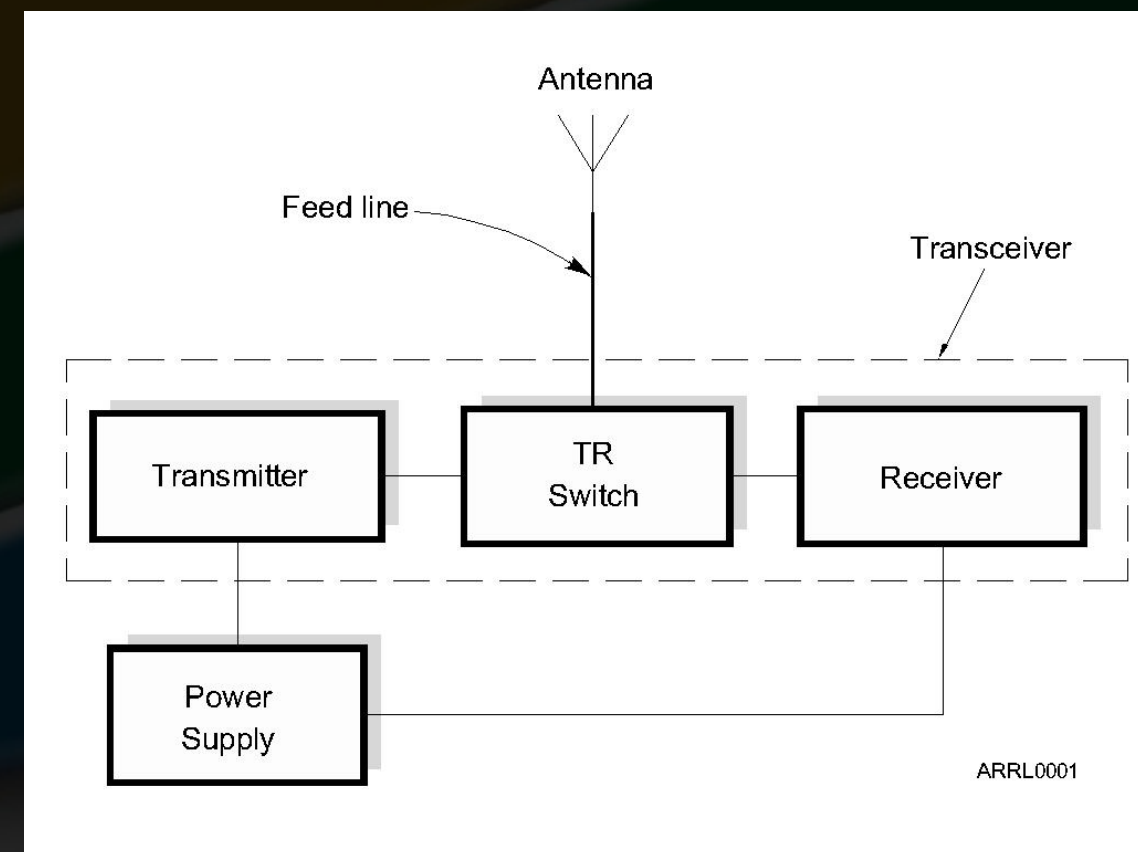
ANTENNA
(TR)
SWITCH





The Basic Transceiver

- Combination of “transmitter” and “receiver”
- Abbreviated “XCVR”
(X = trans)
- Antenna switched between transmitter and receiver by the TR switch

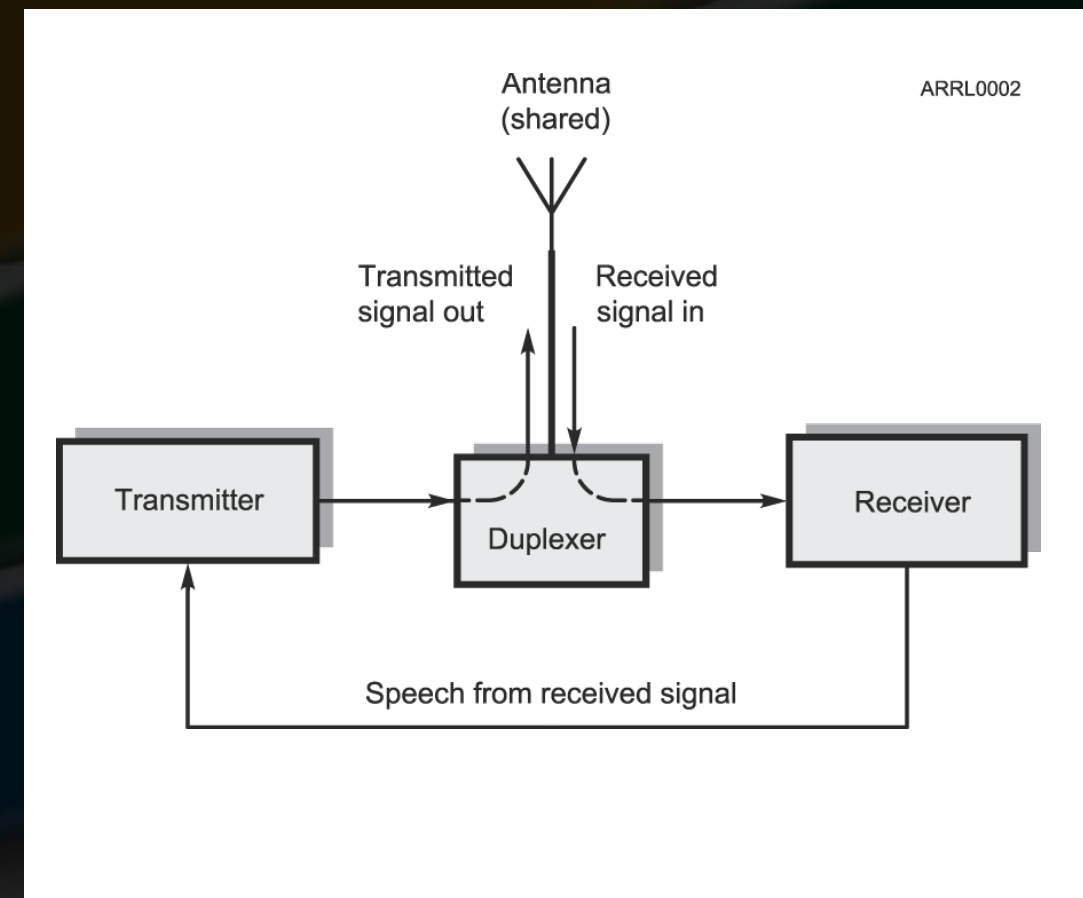


Transmit/Receive (TR) Switch

- TR switch allows a single antenna to be switched to the transmitter when sending and to the receiver when receiving.
 - In a transceiver, the TR switch is inside the unit and operates automatically.
 - Transceivers cannot transmit and receive at the same time like a telephone.

The Basic Repeater

- Relays signals from low-power stations over a wide area
- Simultaneously re-transmits received signal on the same band
- TR switch replaced with duplexer which allows antenna to be shared without switching





DUPLEXER

What Happens During Radio Communication? (Review)

- Transmitting (sending a signal):
 - Information (voice, data, video, commands, etc.) is converted to electronic form.
 - The information in electronic form is added to a radio wave.
 - The radio wave carrying the information is sent from the station antenna into space.

What Happens During Radio Communication? (Review)

- Receiving:
 - The radio wave carrying the information is intercepted by the receiving station's antenna.
 - The receiver extracts the information from the received wave.
 - The information is then presented to the user in a format that can be understood (sound, picture, words on a computer screen, response to a command, etc.).

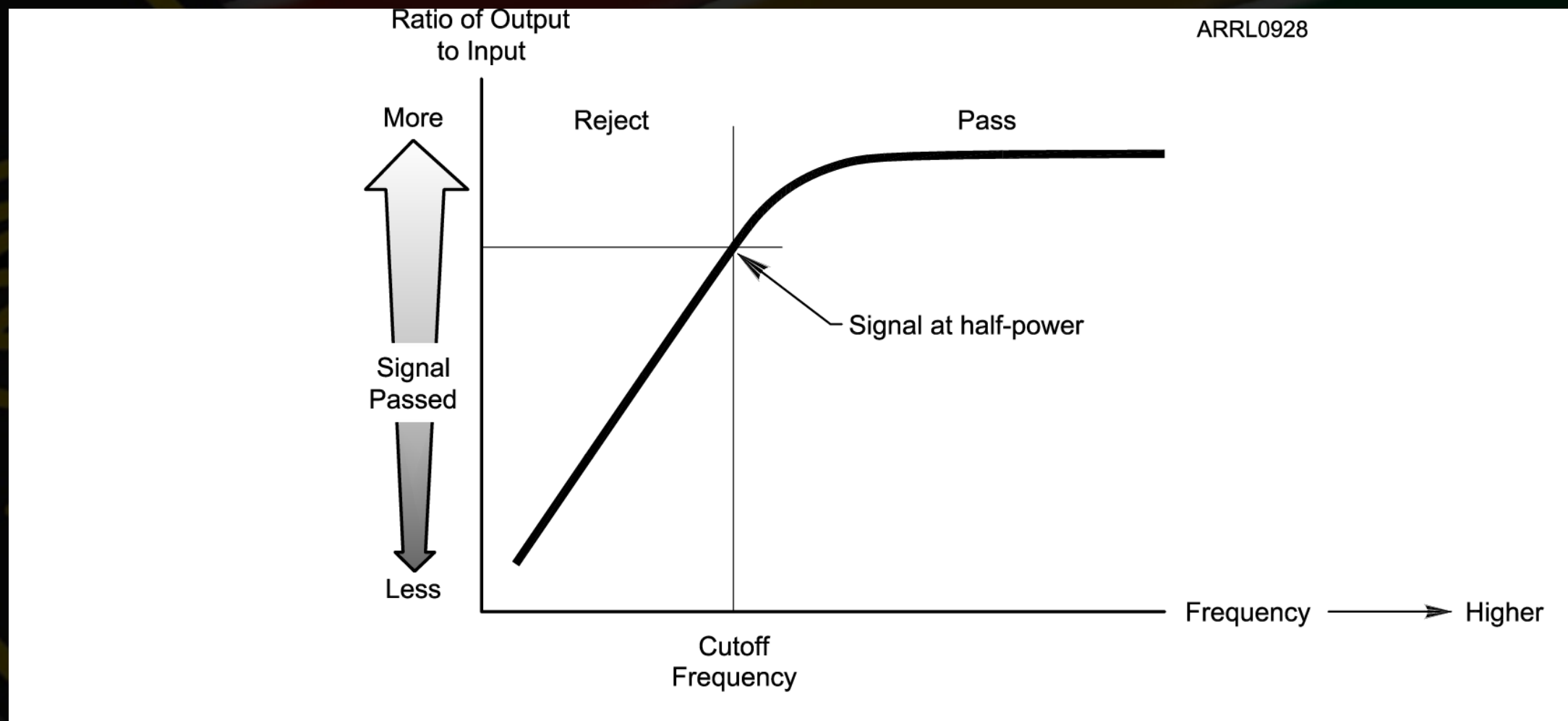
What Happens During Radio Communication? (Review)

- Adding and extracting the information can be simple or complex.
- This makes ham radio fun...learning all about how radios work.
- Don't be intimidated. You will be required to only know the basics, but you can learn as much about the "art and science" of radio as you want.

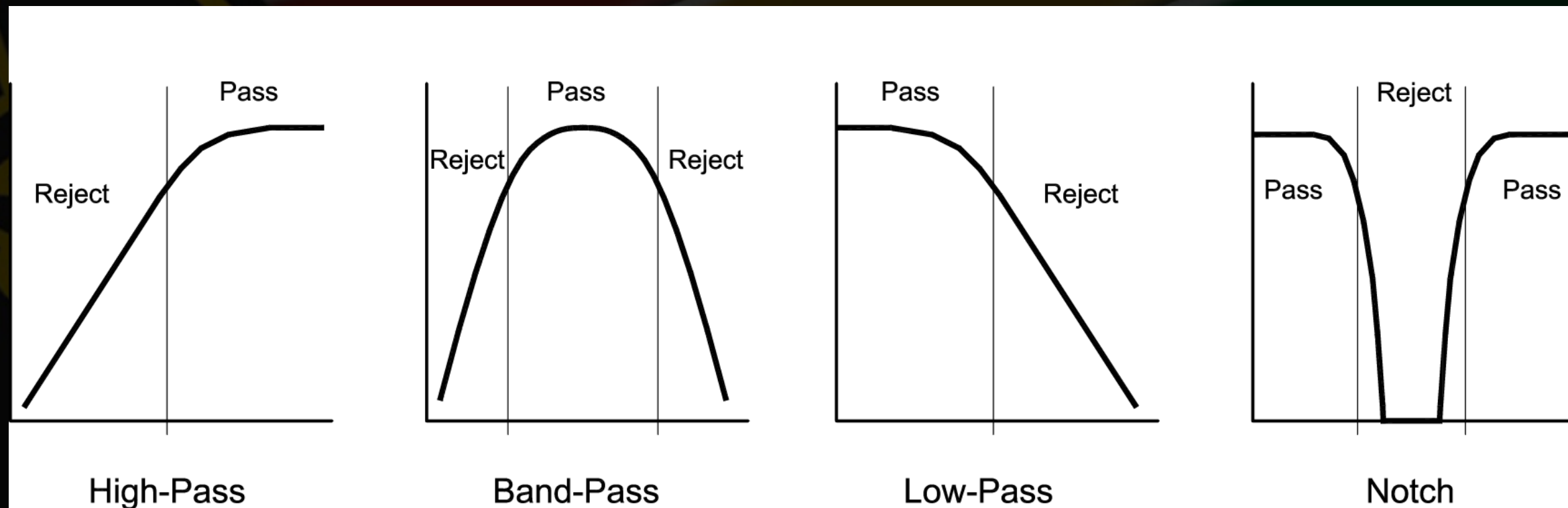
Filters

- Circuits that act on signals differently according their frequency.
- Filters can reject, enhance, or modify signals.

Sample Plot of Filter Frequency Response



Types of Filters



Adding Information - Modulation

- When we add some information to the radio wave (the *carrier*), we *modulate* the wave.
 - Morse code (CW), speech, data
- Different modulation techniques vary different properties of the wave to add the information:
 - Amplitude, frequency, or phase

Adding Information - Modulation

- Modulator and demodulator circuits
 - Modulators add information to an RF signal, demodulators recover the information
- A circuit that generates an RF signal and adds the modulation to that signal is often called an exciter.

Adding Information - Modulation

- A circuit that generates an RF signal and adds the modulation to that signal is often called an *exciter*.
- In a transmitter, the exciter circuit is often followed by a *mixer* circuit that converts the modulated RF signal to the desired output frequency, and then a *power amplifier* circuit that boosts the output of the transmitter to the desired output power level.

Changing Frequency - Mixers

- Signal frequencies can be changed by combining with another signal, called *mixing*
 - Also referred to as *heterodyning*
- Two signals are combined in a *mixer*
 - Generates *mixing product* signals
 - Sum and difference of the input signals
 - Shifts frequency by adding or subtracting

Transverter

- Short for “transceiving converter” (XVTR)
- Converts a transceiver to operate on another band
 - Usually to a higher frequency
 - External mixers shift frequency
- Typical examples
 - HF SSB/CW at 28 MHz converted to/from 222 MHz
 - VHF SSB/CW at 144 MHz converted to/from 10 GHz

Why use a transverter?



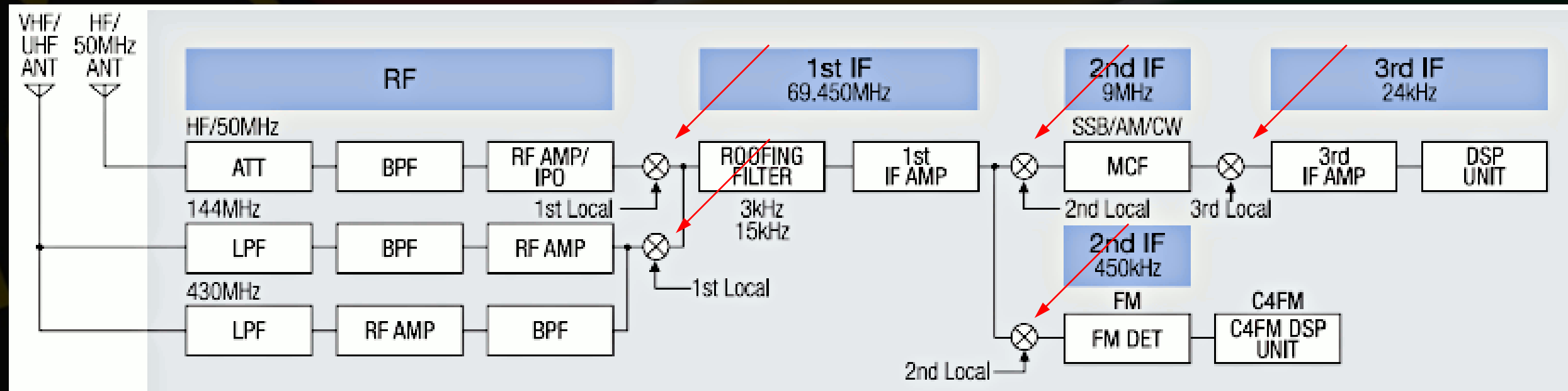
Transverter



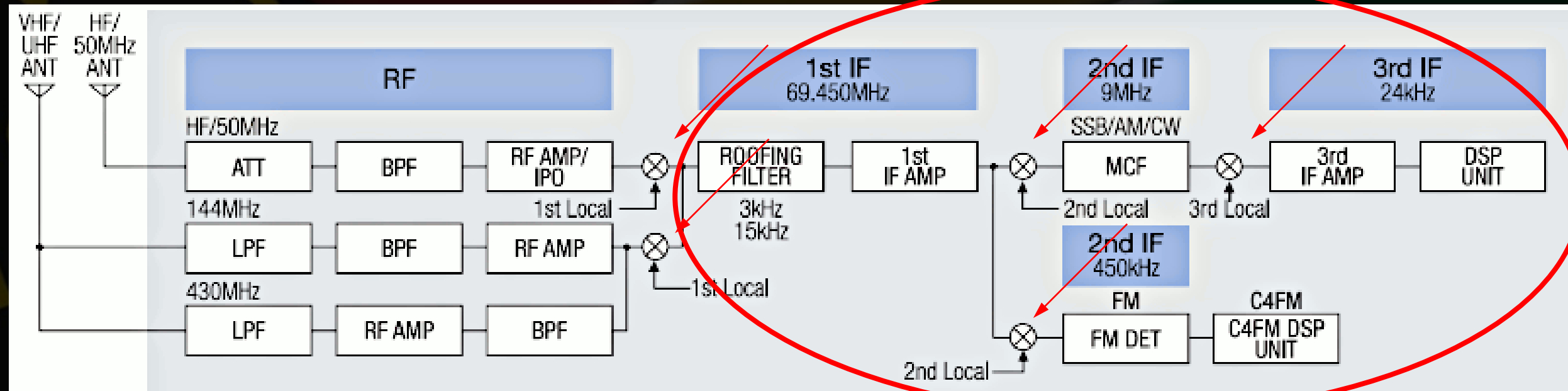
Changing Frequency - Mixers

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- Two signals are combined in a *mixer*
 - Generates *mixing product* signals
 - Sum and difference of the input signals
 - Shifts frequency by adding or subtracting
- Different than a *multiplier* which multiplies a signal's frequency by some integer, usually 2 or 3

FT-991A Receiver Block Diagram



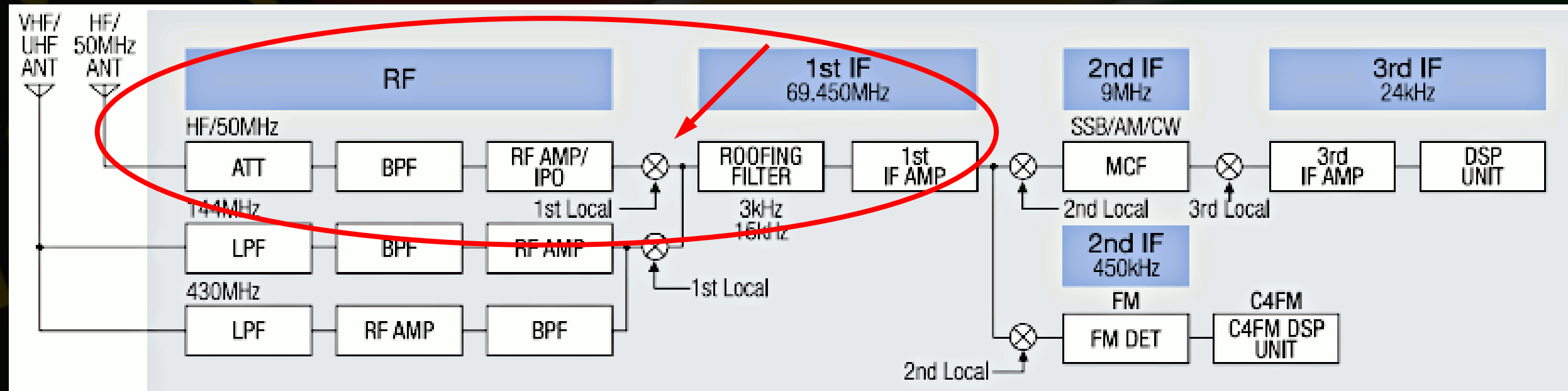
FT-991A Receiver Block Diagram



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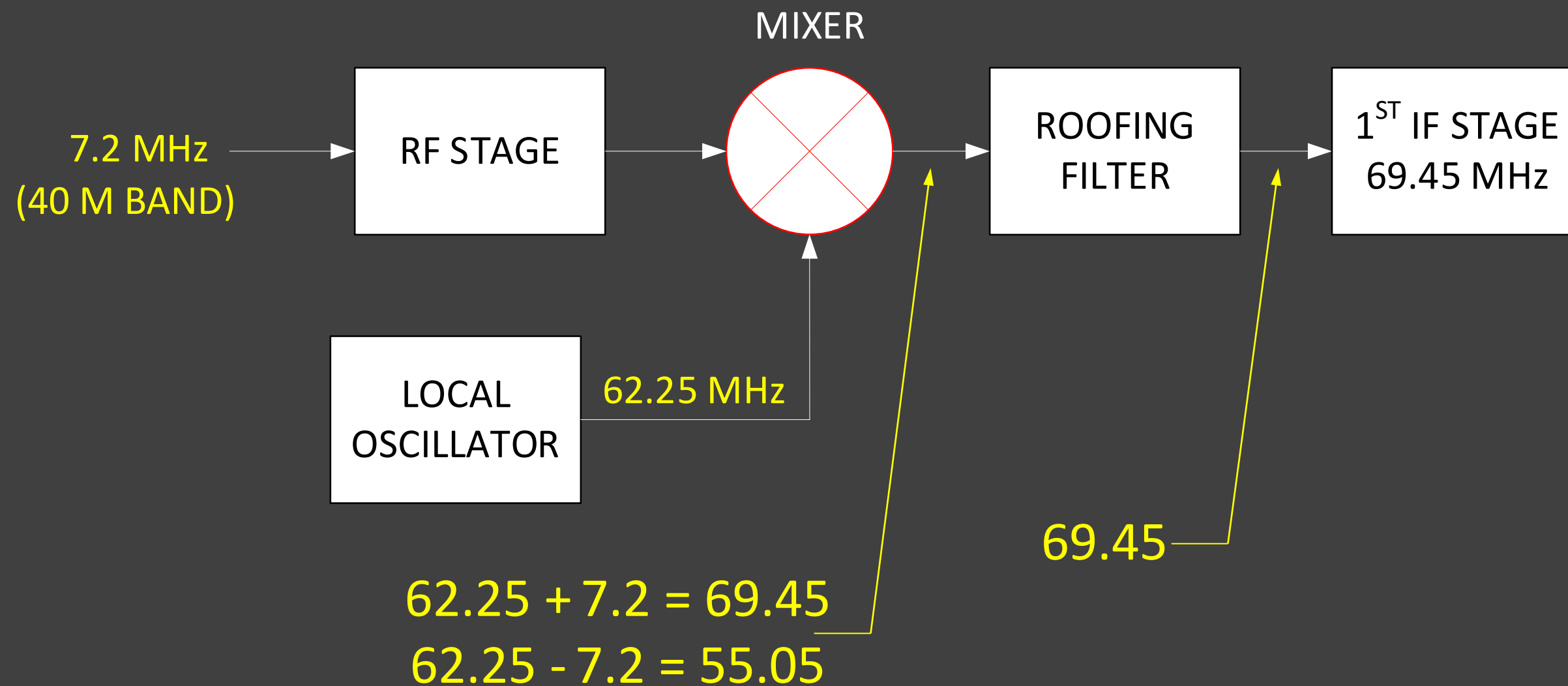
90% of the circuitry is shared no matter which band you are operating on.

FT-991A Receiver Block Diagram



Right now, let's focus in on just one of these mixers to get an idea of how it works.

Yaesu FT-991A Receiver (partial block diagram)



- What you do have to remember:

- An *oscillator* is a circuit for *producing* an RF (or AF) *signal*.
- A *mixer* is a circuit that produces signals at the *sum and difference* of the two input frequencies. It is *used to change the frequency* of a radio frequency signal.

Oscillators and mixers are circuits inside every radio. If you go down to your local ham radio store and tell them you want to buy a mixer or oscillator, they'll look at you funny.

Sensitivity and Selectivity


- Two essential tasks for a receiver:
 - Hear a signal and hear only one signal
- *Sensitivity* is a measure of how well the receiver can detect weak signals
- *Selectivity* is a measure of the receiver's ability to discriminate between signals
- *Preamplifiers* make a receiver more sensitive (the preamplifier is added between antenna and receiver)



Practice Questions


What type of amateur station simultaneously retransmits the signal of another amateur station on a different channel or channels?





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Repeater station



Which term describes the ability of a receiver to detect the presence of a signal?

Which term describes the **ability** of a receiver to detect the presence of a signal?

Sensitivity




What is a transceiver?




What is a transceiver?

A unit combining the functions of a transmitter
and a receiver




Which of the following is used to convert a radio signal from one frequency to another?





Which of the following is used to convert a radio signal from one frequency to another?

Mixer



Which term describes the ability of a receiver to discriminate between multiple signals?



Which term describes the ability of a receiver to discriminate between multiple signals?

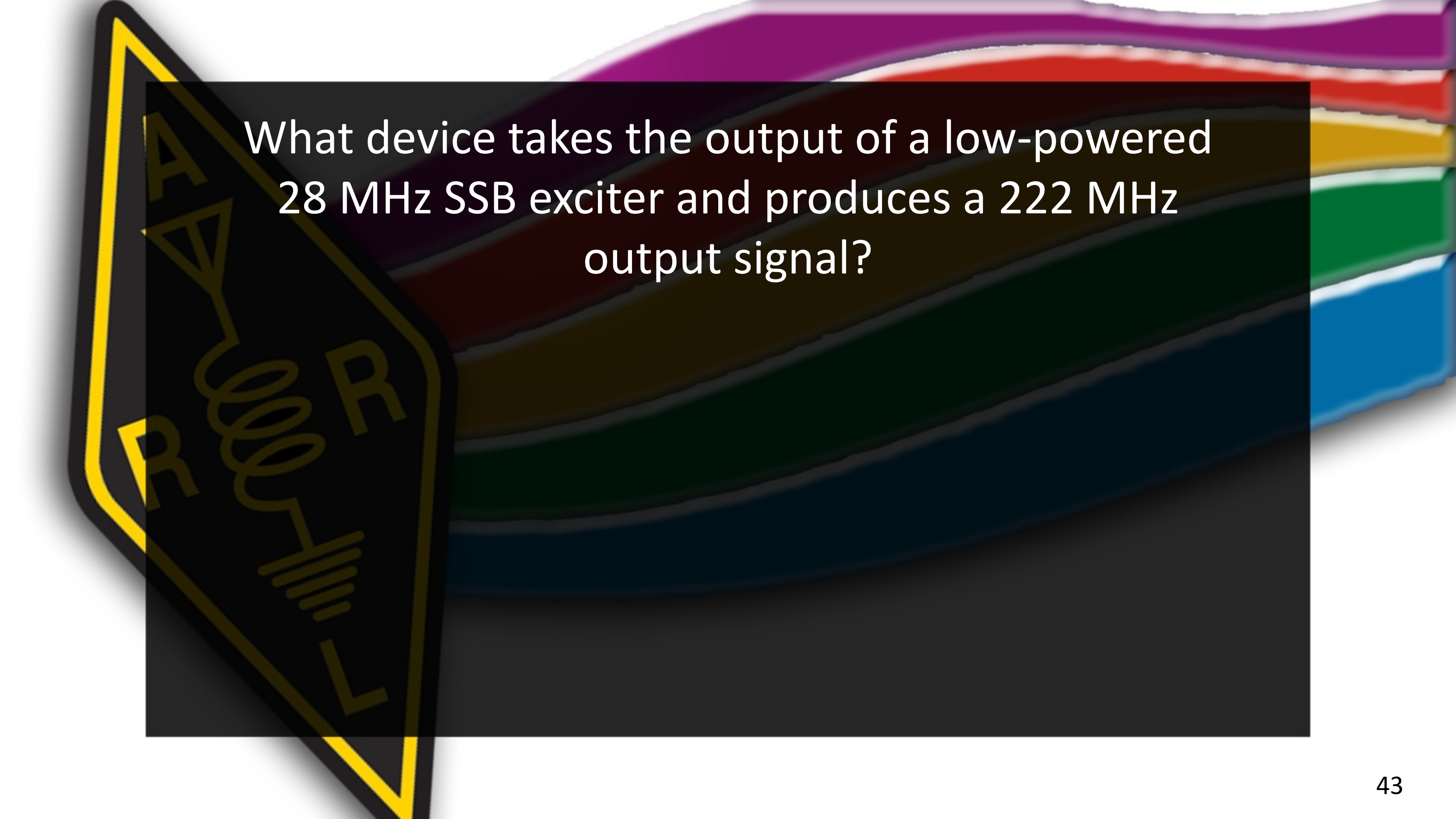
Selectivity

What is the name of a circuit that generates a signal of a desired frequency?

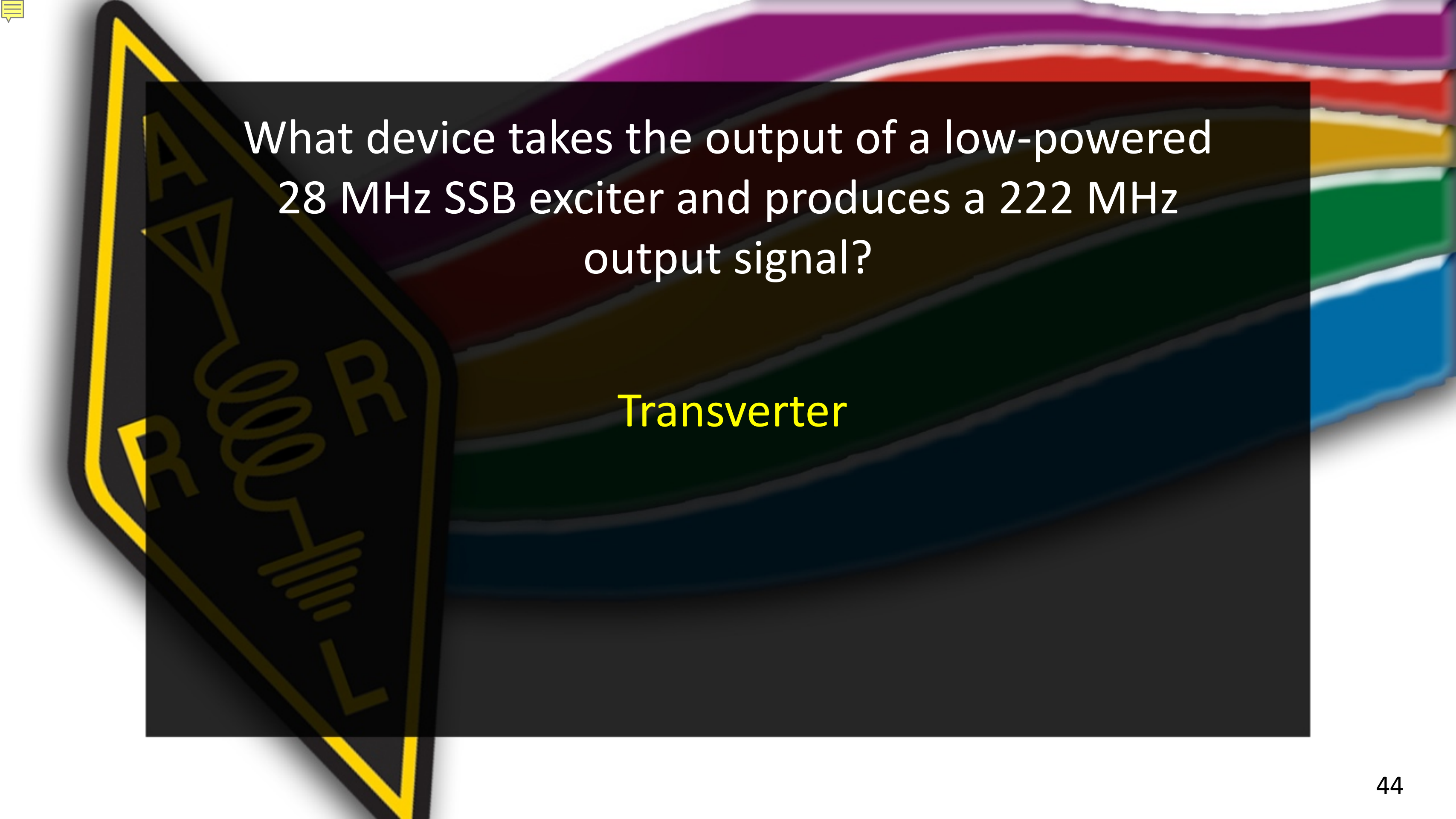


What is the name of a circuit that generates a signal of a desired frequency?

Oscillator



What device takes the output of a low-powered
28 MHz SSB exciter and produces a 222 MHz
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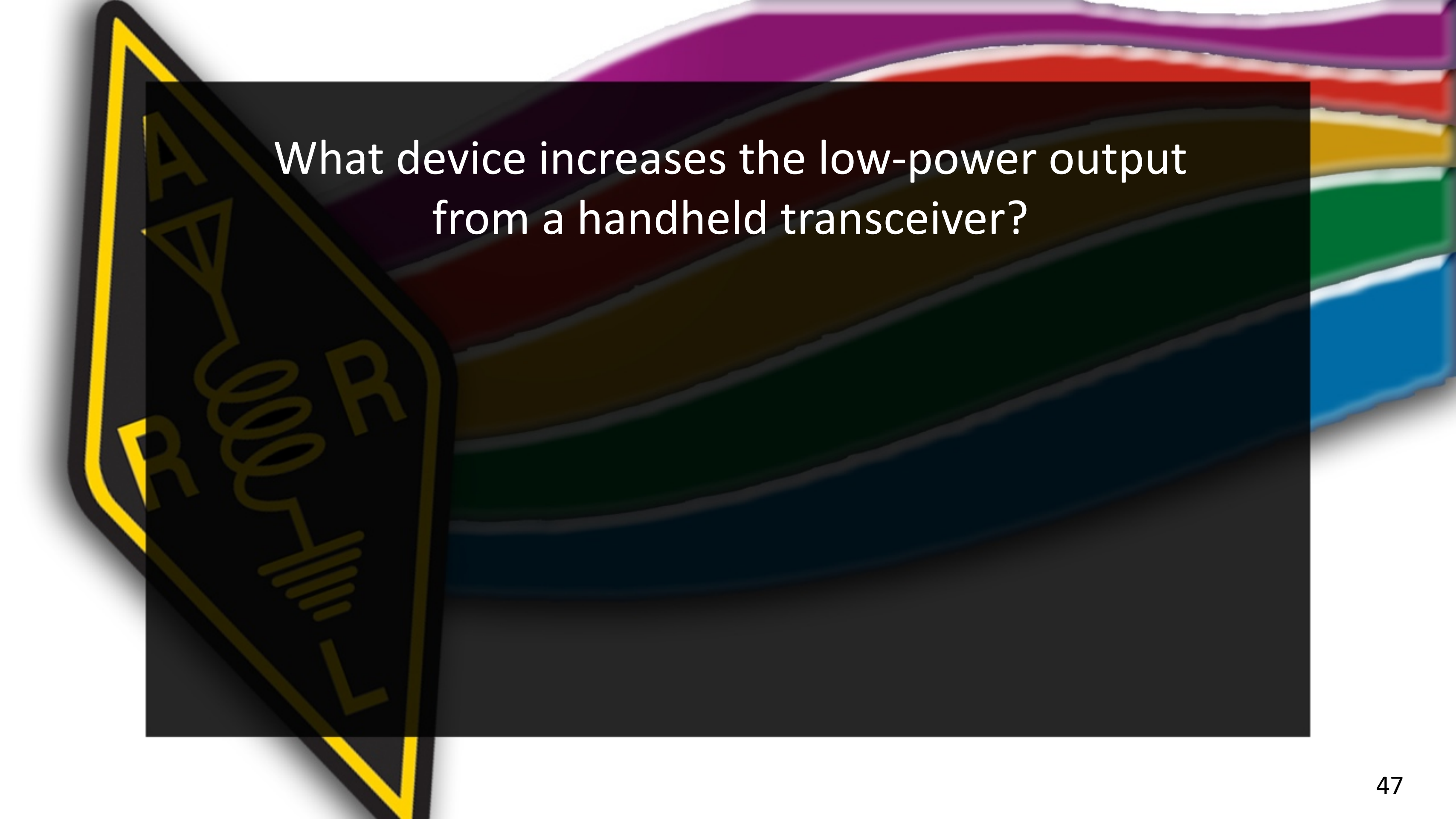
Transverter



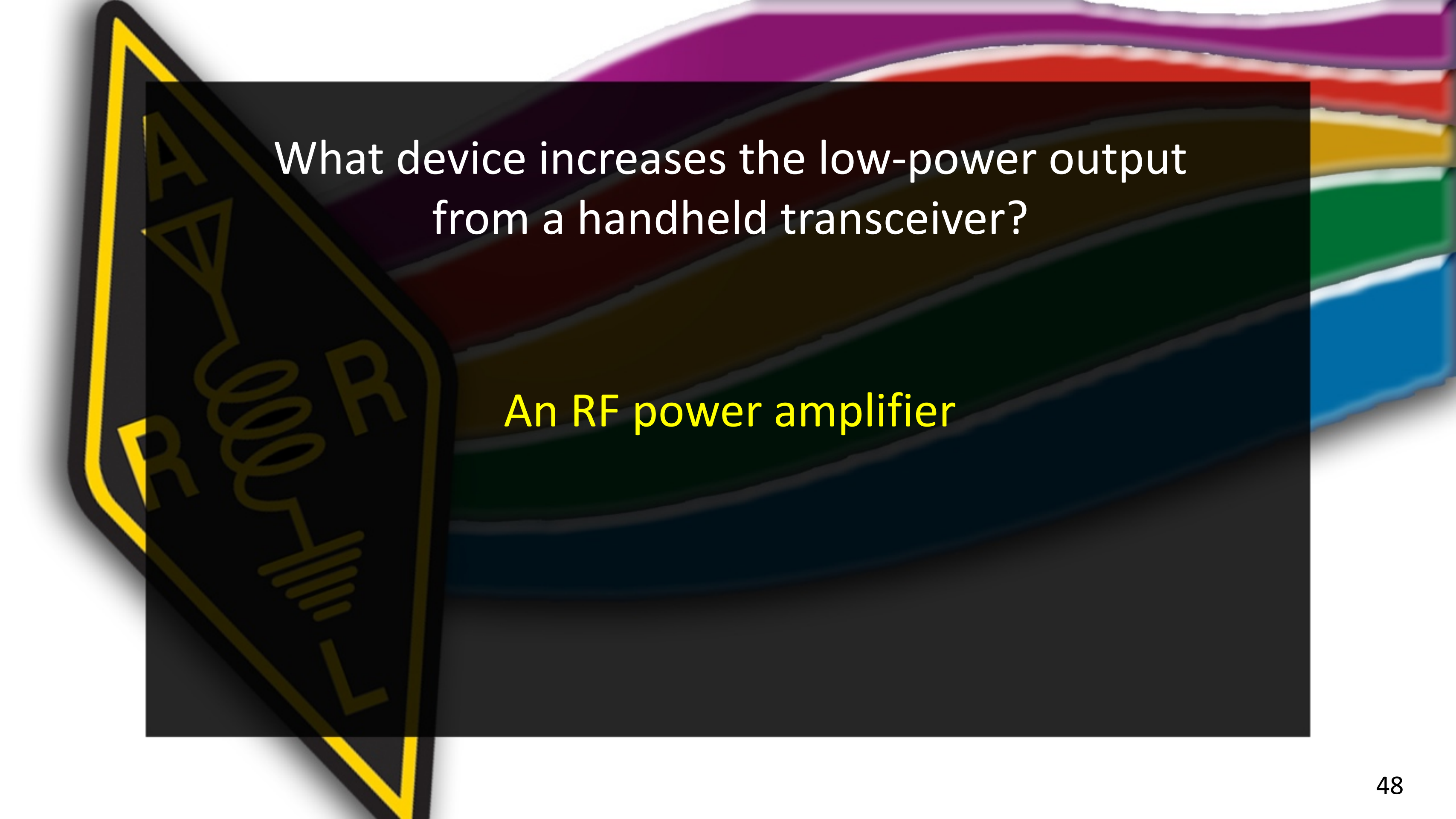
Which of the following describes combining speech with an RF carrier signal?

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Modulation



What device increases the low-power output from a handheld transceiver?

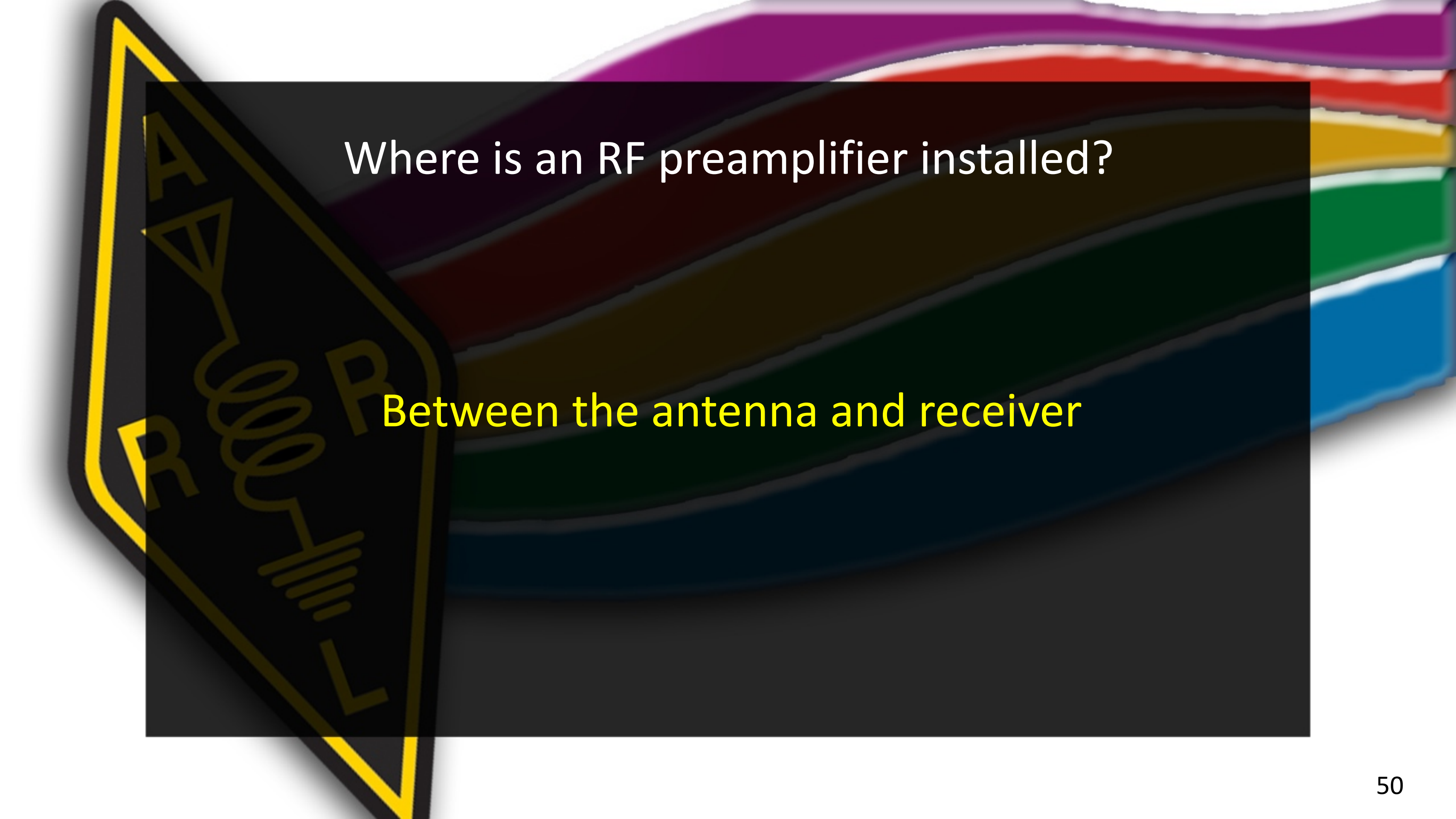


What device increases the low-power output from a handheld transceiver?

An RF power amplifier

Where is an RF preamplifier installed?





Where is an RF preamplifier installed?

Between the antenna and receiver



End of Module 7