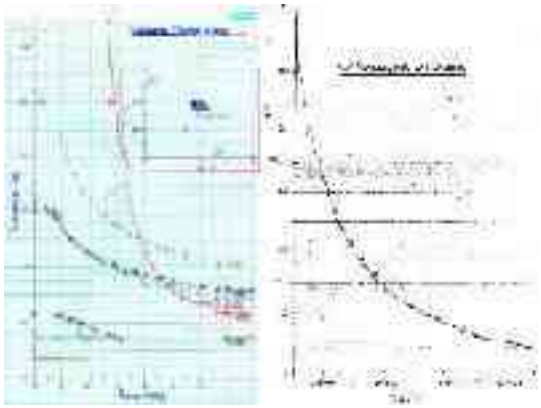
Varicap (a.k.a. varactor) diodes exhibit a variable capacitance when they are reverse biased with a variable voltage. Unfortunately specific varicap diode part numbers are often very hard to obtain and seem to go obsolete much more quickly than other types of semiconductor. Hence if you are attempting to build a project more than a few years old you might find it hard to get the specified varicap. However, in fact all diodes have the variable capacitance in reverse bias. On this page are the results from various experiments with ordinary diodes used as varicaps.



My early experiments in 1994.

Way back in 1994 (actually I think it might have been 1993) when I'd recently built a simple 8-digit frequ

Read More...

LED's as varicaps.

Here we are in 2007 and I've distinguished

David VK6DJ

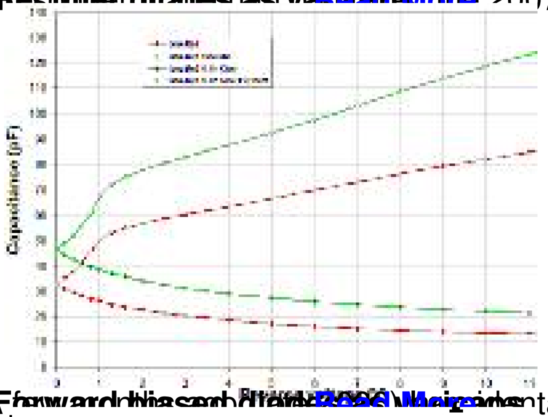
, who knows that I am fortunate to have an

AVO DET 2 Meter

requested some further

Read More...

Rectifier diodes as varicaps [Read More...] ... 2007 LED testing results here on my web site, than the (also disting



Forward biased ... [Read More...] ... tally discovered that LED's exhibit a variable capacitance even w

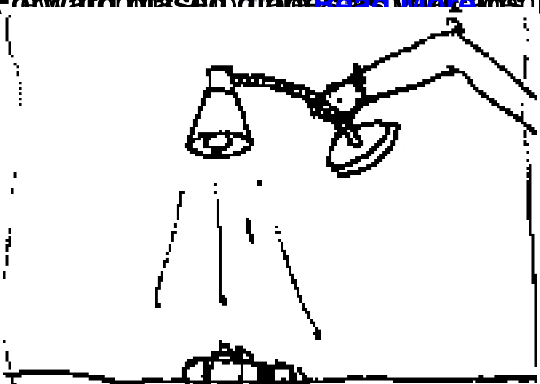
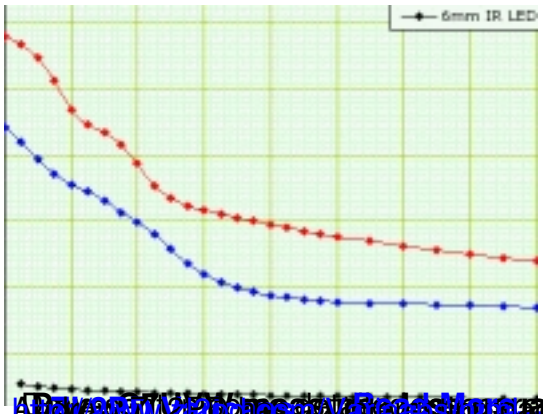


Photo ... [Read More...] ... LED's ... uished) wasted very little time in warning me that the capacitance

Further LED results [Read More...] ... VK6JWA made some further LED measurements in both forward and



A page investigating the variable capacitance of three slightly less u

Downloads

These excel spreadsheets contain all the data and charts used in these pages.

CLICK HERE for original 1994 measurements

CLICK HERE LED and rectifier Diode measurements from 2007

CLICK HERE for Fwd Bias measurements

CLICK HERE for Dave G7UVW measurements