

**Model J744**  
**Optical-Electrical Converter**



Technical Manual

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# 1 Introduction

This is the technical manual for the Highland Model J744 compact analog optical-to-electrical converter.

Features of the J744 include:

- ST or FC fiberoptic input
- DC coupled, 1 GHz analog bandwidth
- Nominal 1 V / mW gain
- Two available wavelength ranges
- Compact 2.5" x 3.3" enclosure



## 2 Specifications

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| FUNCTION              | DC-coupled analog optical-electrical converter   |
| INPUT                 | 850 nm versions accept 62.5/125 $\mu$ m multimode fiber<br>1310/1550nm versions accept 9/125 $\mu$ m singlemode fiber<br>Optional ST or FC connectors<br>Linear from 0 to 2 mW optical input |
| OPTICAL WAVELENGTH    | GaAs version: 700- 875 nm<br>InGaAs version: 1100 - 1650 nm  |
| PROPAGATION DELAY     | Light in to electrical out < 850 ps  |
| OUTPUT                | DC coupled, SMA connector<br><br>50 ohm source impedance<br><br>1 V/mW nominal sensitivity at peak wavelength, Hi-Z load<br>0.5 V/mW nom into 50 ohms  |
| BANDWIDTH             | DC to > 1GHz   |
| RISETIME              | < 350 ps   |
| JITTER                | < 12 ps RMS, J720 + J744   |
| OPERATING TEMPERATURE | 0 to 60°C  |
| CALIBRATION INTERVAL  | 1 year   |
| POWER IN              | +12 VDC, 135mA nominal.<br>J12 wall-plug universal-input power supply included   |
| CONNECTORS            | ST or FC optical input receptacles<br>Gold plated SMA analog output jack<br>2.1mm X 5.5mm barrel power connector   |
| INDICATOR             | LED: Green power   |
| PACKAGING             | Aluminum enclosure, 3.3" (L) x 2.5" (W) x 1.0" (H)<br>J732 mounting flange included  |

### 3 Overview

The J744 includes a fast fiber-coupled photodiode, a transimpedance amplifier, an output amplifier, and power supplies.

Output is nominally 1 volt per milliwatt of optical input when driving a high impedance load, such as a hi-Z oscilloscope. Output is 0.5 V/mW into a 50 ohm load.

Bandwidth will be limited when driving a hi-impedance oscilloscope by the scope's typical input capacitance. Full bandwidth requires that the J744 drive a very fast 50 ohm scope through a short, low-loss 50 ohm coaxial cable.

Two versions are available with peak wavelength response at 850 or 1500 nm.

The J744-1 and -11 versions use a GaAs photodiode and are typically used with 850 nm sources.  
Please refer to

Figure 1 below for the GaAs photodiode's nominal wavelength curve:

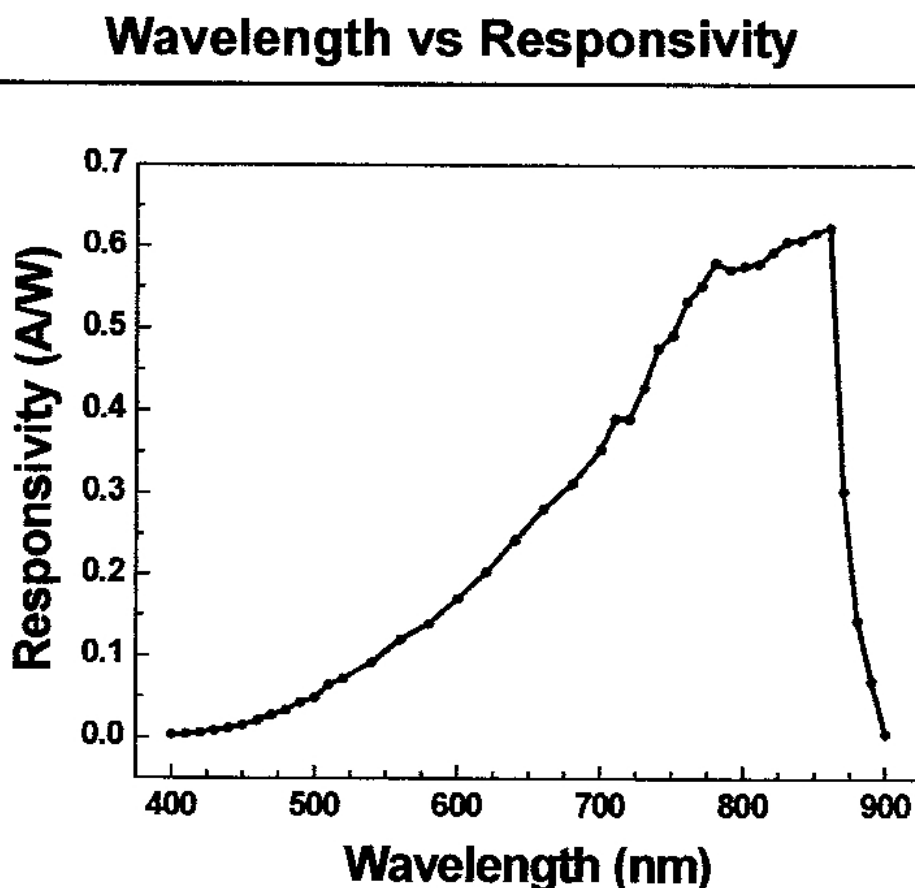


Figure 1: 850 nm GaAs detector typical response

The J744-3 and -13 versions use an InGaAs photodiode and are typically used with 1310 and 1550 nm sources. Please refer to Figure 2 below for the InGaAs photodiode's nominal wavelength curve:

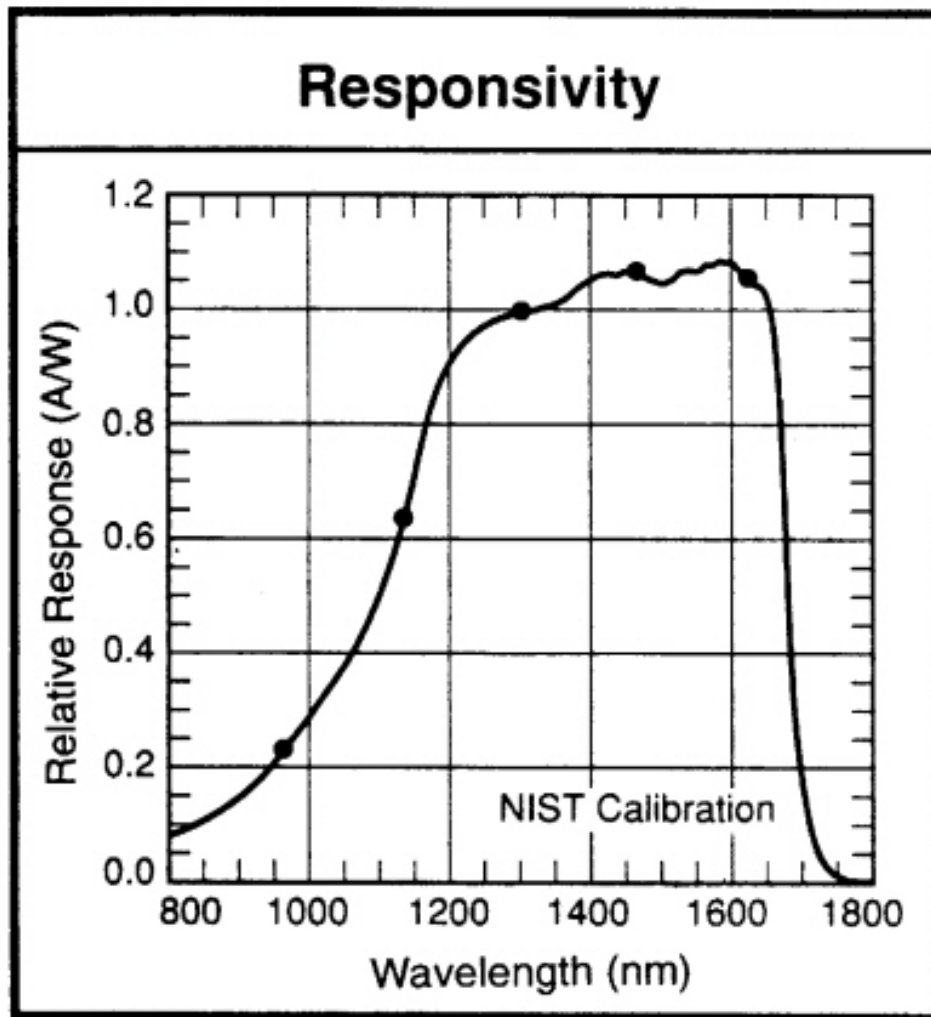


Figure 2: 1310/1550 nm InGaAs detector typical response



## 4 Waveforms

Figure 3 and Figure 4 below show typical O/E performance, showing both optical and electrical signals. Optical signals were produced using an 850nm multimode 10Gb/s SFP module for GaAs versions. A 1310nm singlemode 10Gb/s SFP was used for InGaAs versions. The reference photodetector was a Tektronix SD-43 8GHz O/E. All electrical signals were resolved using a Tektronix SD-24 20GHz sampling head and 11801B scope.

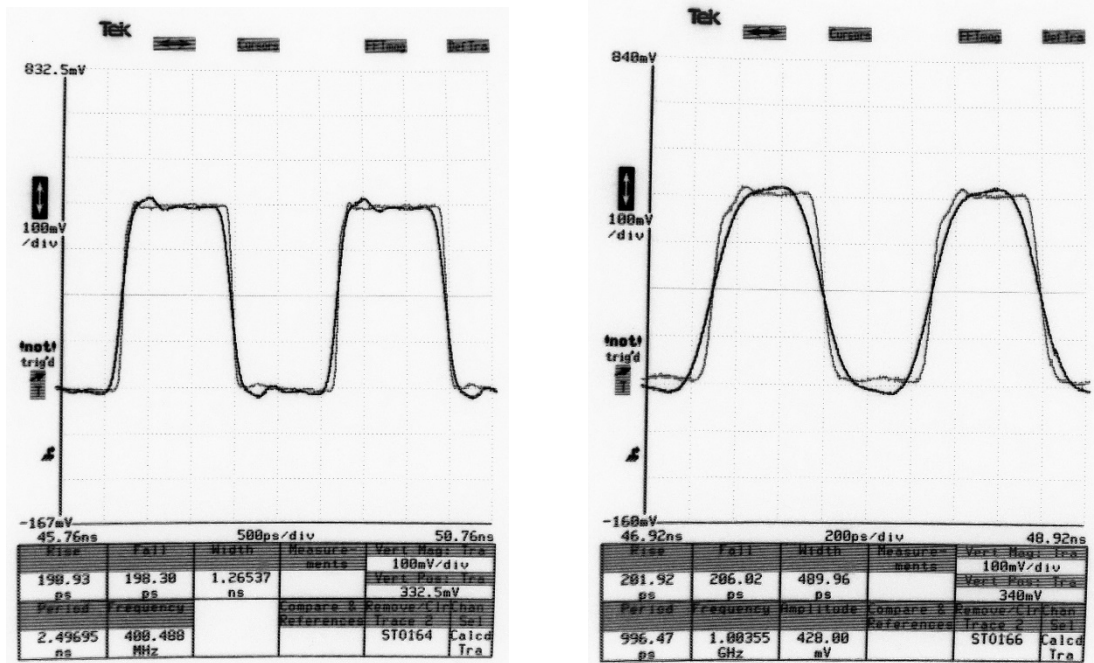


Figure 3: J744-1 and -11 GaAs versions with 850nm optical source at 400MHz and 1GHz

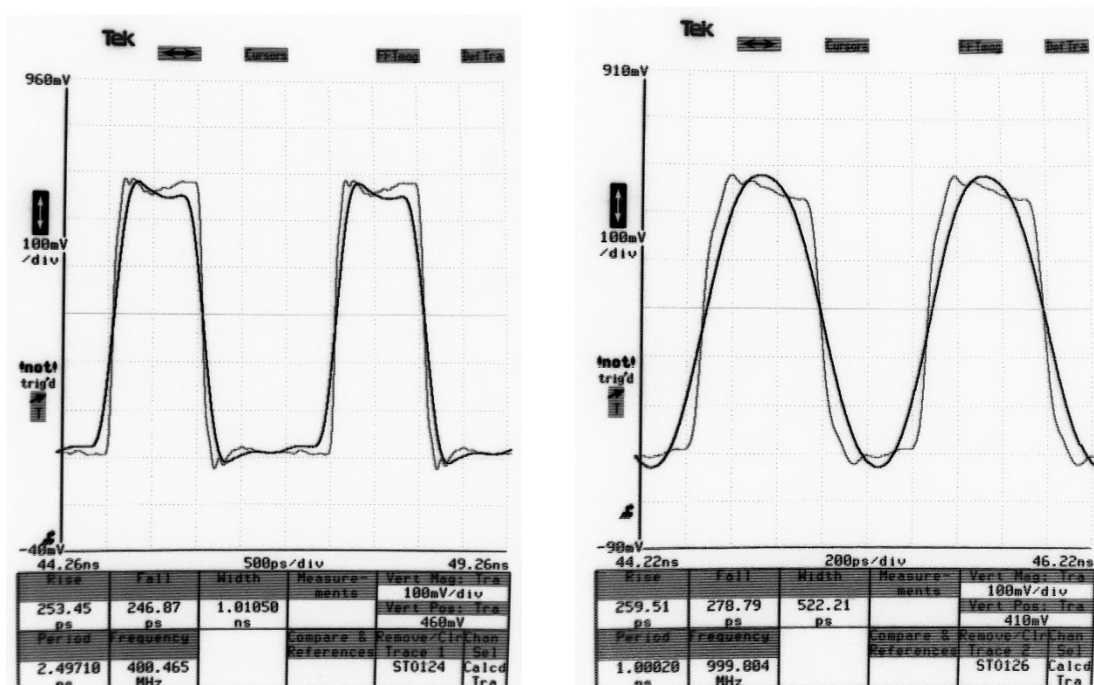


Figure 4: J744-3 and -13 InGaAs versions with 1310nm optical source at 400MHz and 1GHz



## 5 Versions

Standard versions of the J744 include:

| Model   | Part Number | Nom Wavelength | Fiber Connector | Photodiode |
|---------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| J744-1  | 21A744-1    | 850nm          | ST              | GaAs       |
| J744-11 | 21A744-11   |                | FC              |            |
| J744-3  | 21A744-3    | 1310nm/1550nm  | ST              | InGaAs     |
| J744-13 | 21A744-13   |                | FC              |            |

## 6 Customization

Consult factory for information about additional custom versions.

## 7 Hardware Revision History

Revision A    January 2020  
                  Initial PCB release

## 8 Accessories

- J12-1:    12 volt power supply (included with purchase)
- J44-1:    3' SMA to SMA cable
- J59-1:    3' ST to ST fiberoptic cable (multi mode simplex)
- J60-1:    3' FC to FC fiberoptic cable (single mode simplex)
- J61-1:    3' ST to ST fiberoptic cable (single mode simplex)
- J732-1:   mounting flange (included with purchase)