



### Legend:

- $V_a$  = Volts Anode/Plate
- $V_g$  = Volts Grid
- $I_a$  = Current Anode/Plate
- $R_p$  = Internal Tube Plate Resistance - Typically found on a tube's datasheet as  $R_p$ ,  $R_i$ , or Plate Resistance. Note: this is not the same as the plate load resistor external to the tube.

### Amplification Factor ( $\mu$ or $\mu_u$ ) :

- $\mu$  or  $\mu_u = \Delta V_a / \Delta V_g$  where  $I_a$  is constant
- $\mu$  equals the change in plate voltage divided by a change in grid voltage
- $\mu$  has no unit of measure
- $\mu$  is a measure of grid efficiency. The higher the  $\mu$ , the larger the plate voltage change (output signal) is as a result of a change in grid voltage (input signal)
- Amplification Factor or  $\mu$  is typically provided on a tube's datasheet

### Transconductance ( $G_m$ ):

- $G_m = \Delta I_a / \Delta V_g$  where  $V_a$  is constant
- $G_m$  equals a change in plate current divided by a change in grid voltage with the plate voltage held constant.
- Thus, if you know the  $G_m$  value from the datasheet, you know the amount of plate current you will vary with a given change in grid voltage
- $G_m$  unit is in  $\mu\text{mhos}$  ( $\mu\text{mhos}$ )
- Transconductance or  $G_m$  is typically provided on a tube's datasheet.

### Tube Characteristics Interrelationships:

- $\mu = G_m \cdot R_p$
- $R_p = \mu / G_m$
- $G_m = \mu / R_p$