



# TRUMPET REFERENCE

*Vacuum Tube Phonostage*



Made in USA.

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# Description

The Trumpet Reference is a true reference-class phonostage for the most demanding of audiophiles. Based on the original Trumpet (Stereophile class-A recommended component), it adds pushbutton control of all functions, a second input, and upgrades for many of the components. The chassis has also been changed to reflect the reality of equipment racks by putting the power supply and amplifier boards in a side-by-side configuration. Status LEDs on the front panel indicate operational settings of the various functions. In addition to standard RIAA equalization, three other curves used in the LP "microgroove" era have been included. This combination of features, convenience, and sonic performance are unmatched at this price.

## *Specifications*

Item	Specification
Gain	44dB (MM) / 64dB, 70dB (MC)
Input Impedance	47k (MM) / 1k, 322, 181, 131, 91, 76, 64, 57 (MC)
Output Impedance	800 ohm
RIAA Response	+/-0.5dB from 20Hz to 20kHz
Bandwidth	8Hz to 500kHz
Distortion	<0.05% @1kHz
Noise	70dBA (MC)
Size	17" x 12" x 5"
Weight	19 lbs.
Power	120Vac / 240Vac, 70W
Tube Compliment	12AX7 x 4, 12AU7 x 4

# Operation

The Trumpet Reference installs between your turntable and linestage. Be sure to connect the ground lead to the grounding lug near the inputs. Connect the power cord to an AC source. Turn on using the power switch on the back panel. Press the *POWER* button on the front. Immediately the heaters will turn on and after a 32 second delay the high voltage supplies will activate.

## Controls

Control	Description
POWER	This button toggles power on and off. The left LED indicates heater voltage for the tubes; the right LED indicates high voltage.
EQ	There are four settings defined by turnover and cut, arranged left to right:  400Hz / 11dB (AES, early ffr) 500Hz / 11dB (Decca, EMI, late ffr) 500Hz / 13.7dB (RIAA) 500Hz / 16dB (Columbia, NAB)
STEREO	Left LED is mono.
INPUT	Left LED is MM.
POLARITY	Left LED is inverted (MC).
GAIN	There are two gain settings (MC):  64dB (>0.25mV cart) 70dB (<0.25mV cart)
LOADING	There are eight loading settings (MC), arranged left to right:  1k 322 181 131 91 76 64 57

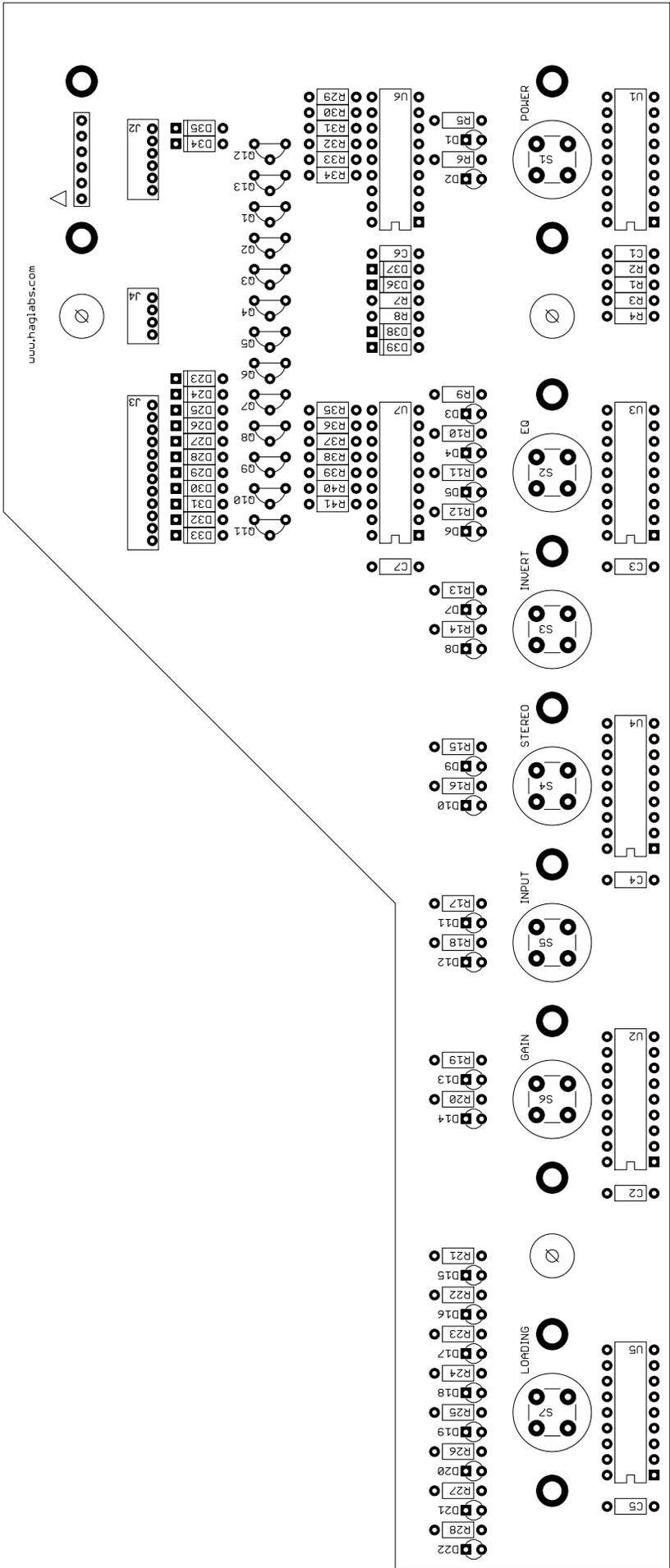
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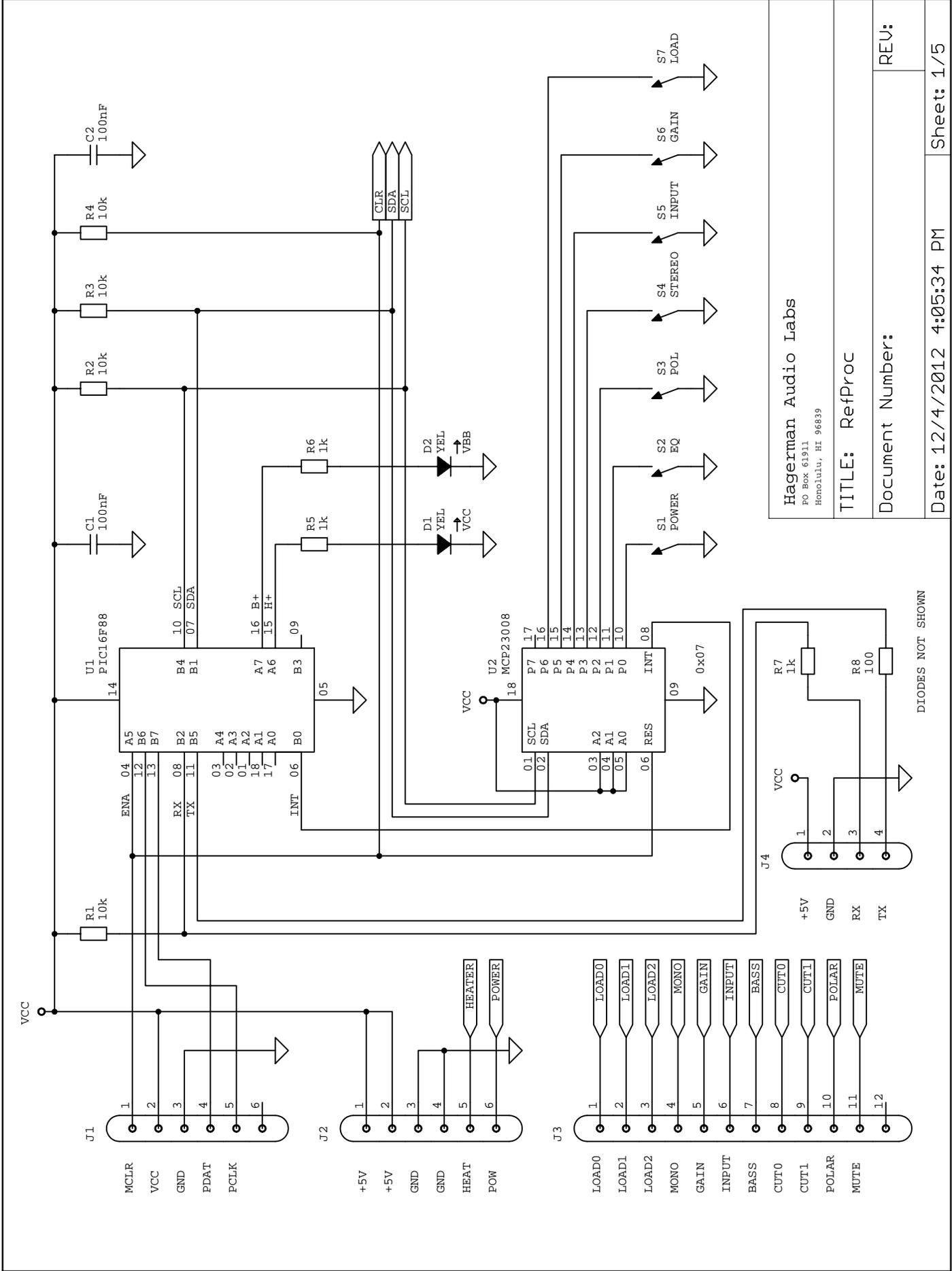
The Trumpet Reference responds admirably to tube rolling. New old stock (NOS) tubes are generally the best, offering various sonic improvements, with the final result becoming a matter of personal taste. Try to match in left/right pairs, to maintain equalization frequency balance. Always replace tubes with their equivalents! Do not use, for example, a 12AT7 in one of the 12AX7 locations. Starting from the rear of the unit, the tubes are in order: 12AX7, 12AX7, 12AU7, 12AU7.

Cartridge loading depends on the length and type of interconnects used and it is always good to start with a value close to the manufacturer's recommendation. Generally, loading provided by the Trumpet Reference is effectively *lower* than the equivalent from a transformer. That is, if you like the sound from 100 ohm transformer loading (into the MM input), then try the 131 ohm setting on the MC input. In the end, do *not* worry about numbers. Adjust to what your ears prefer.

As far as gain selection, it is better to go with *lower* gain if possible. This optimizes overall headroom and distortion of the audio system.

The EQ settings provide various curves for achieving better sound from your vinyl playback. The 3<sup>rd</sup> LED from the left is RIAA (modern) as will be used most often. The Decca and Columbia curves help with some older microgroove LPs. Again, this is adjusted for personal preference, and was never an exact science. Nevertheless, this can make a significant improvement for certain instruments such as violin and on vocals.





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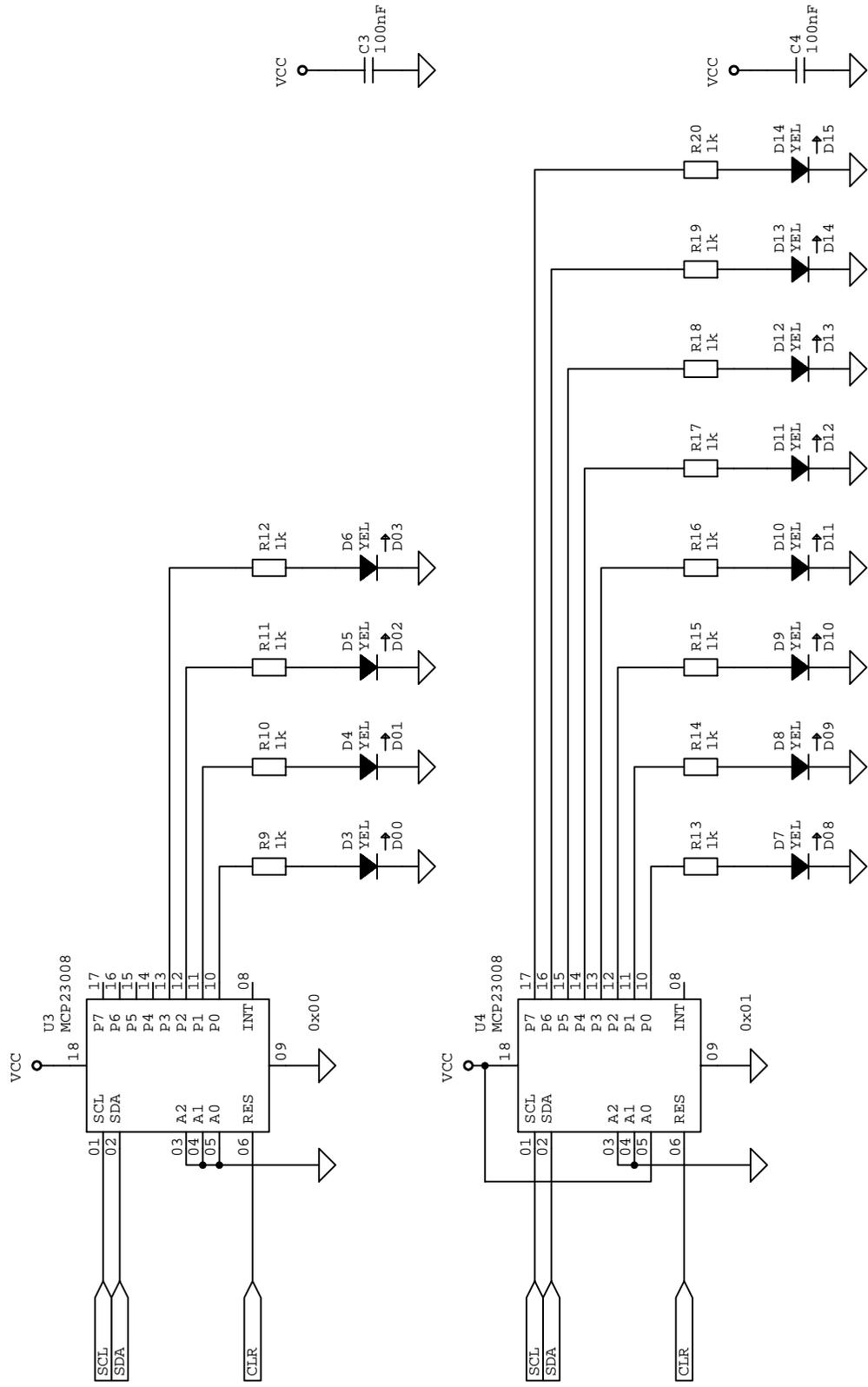
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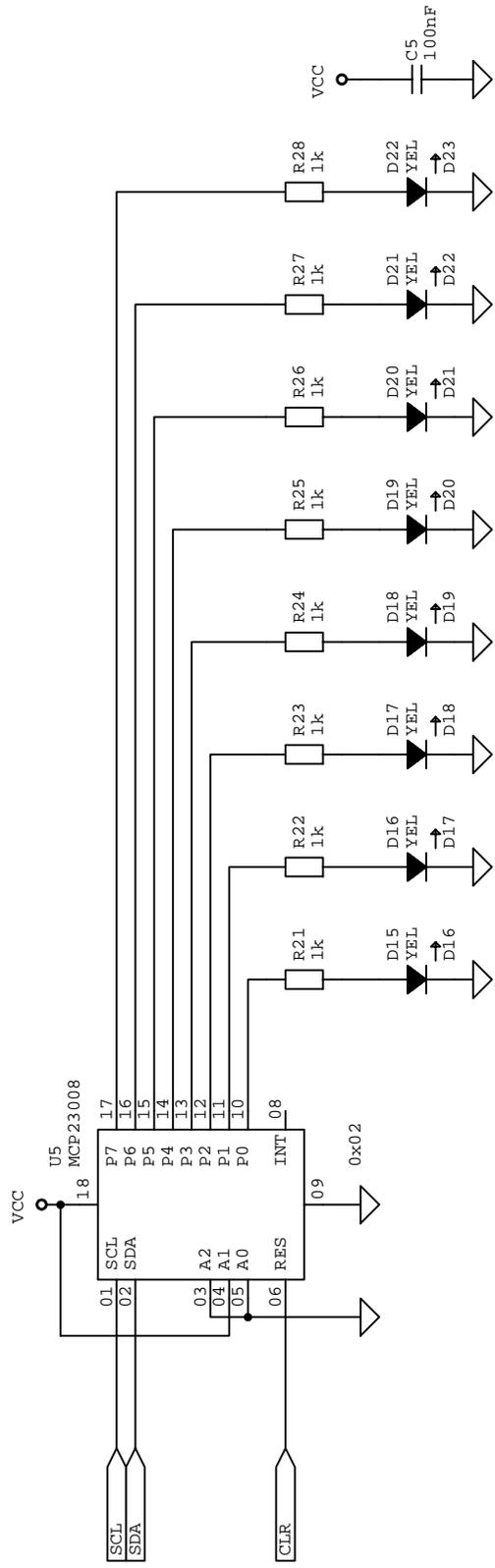
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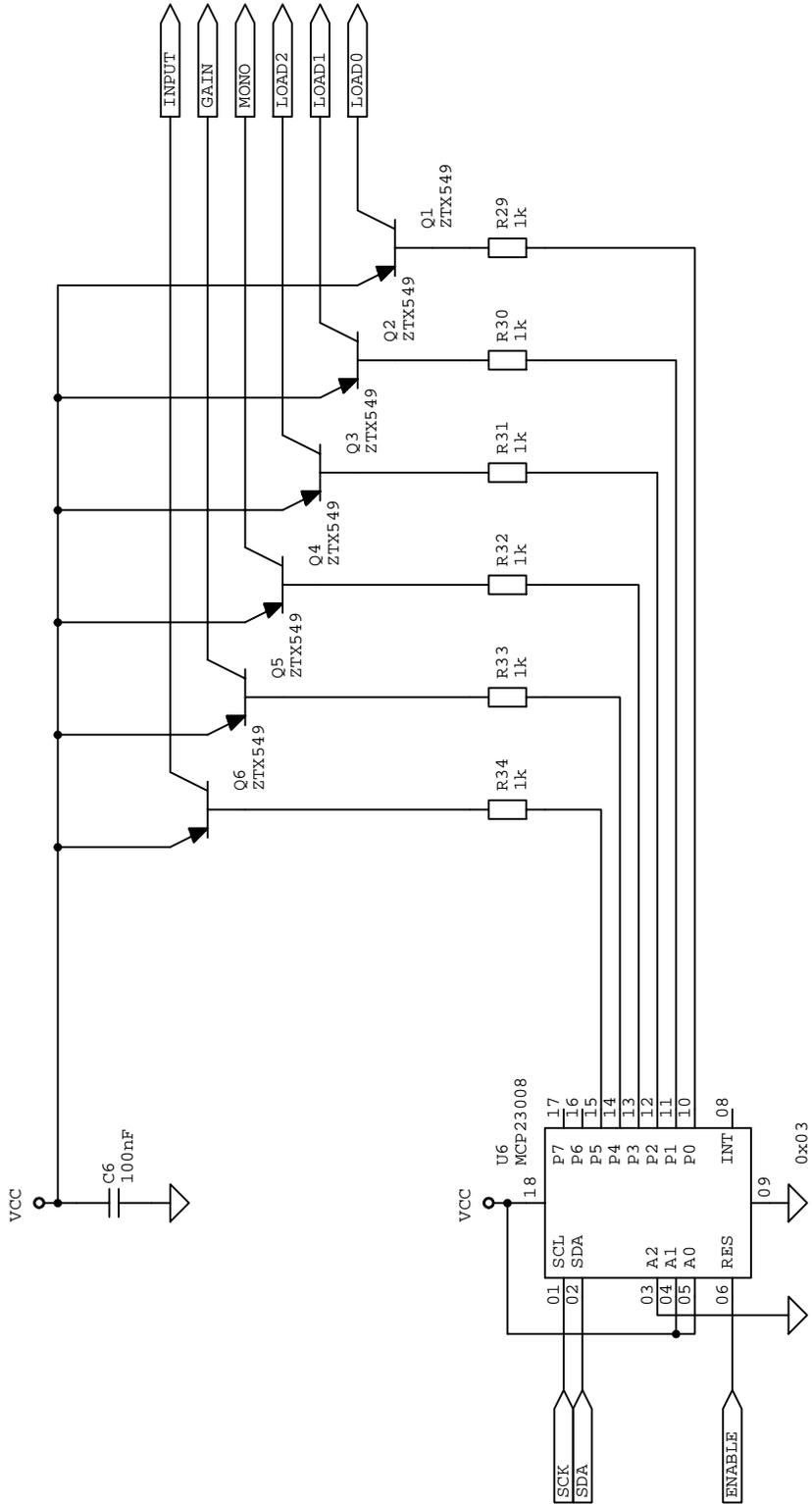
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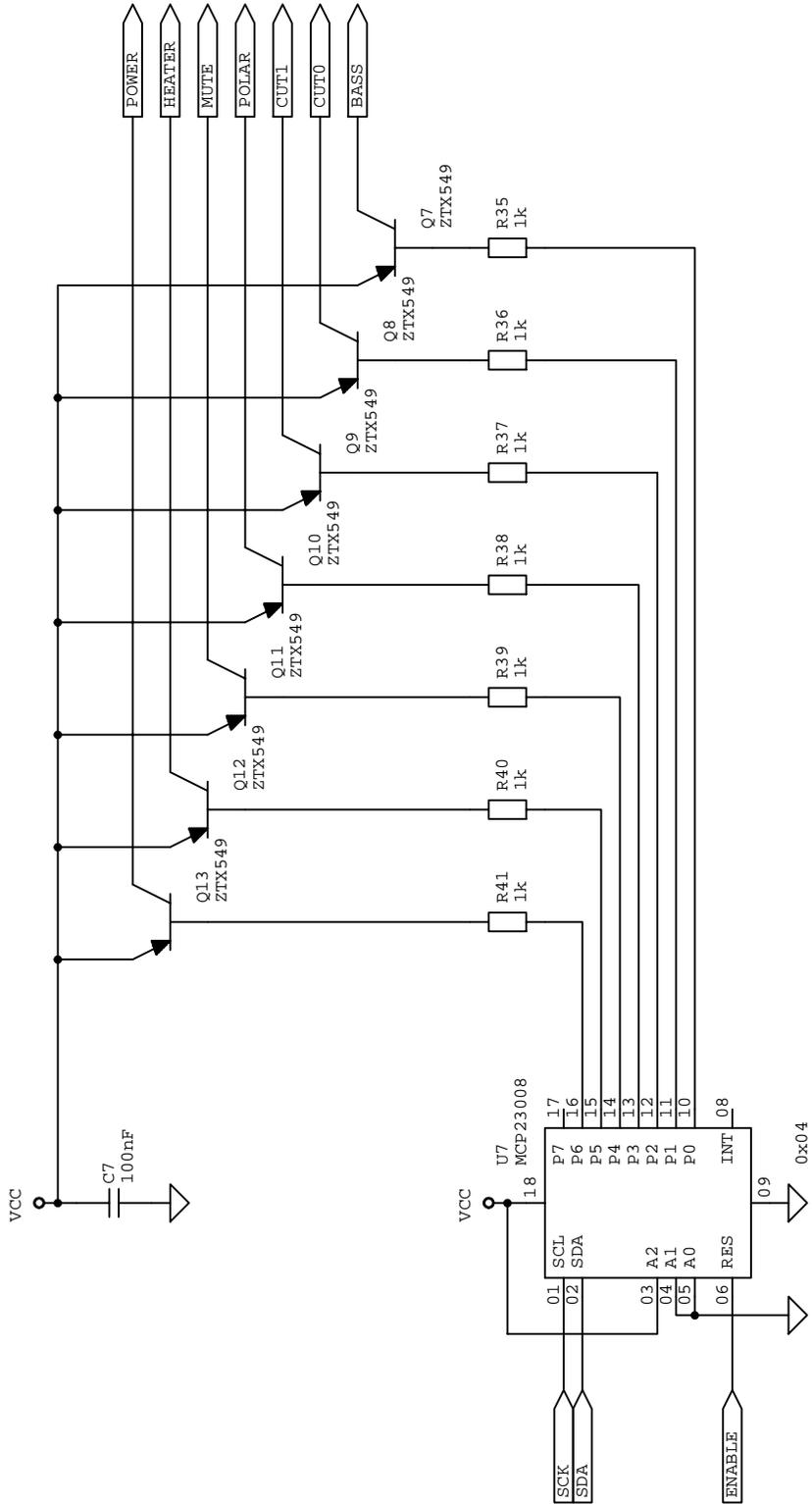
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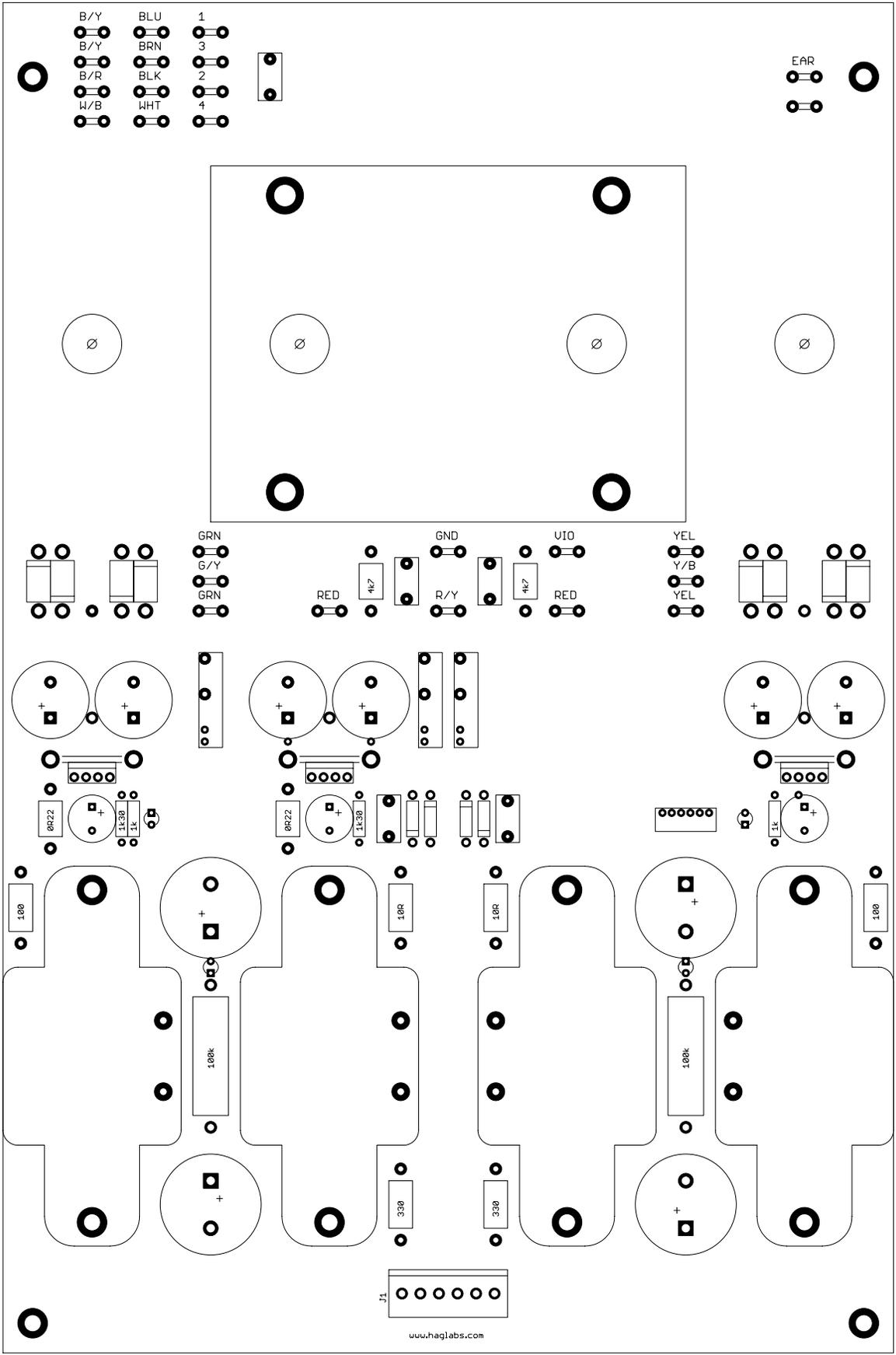
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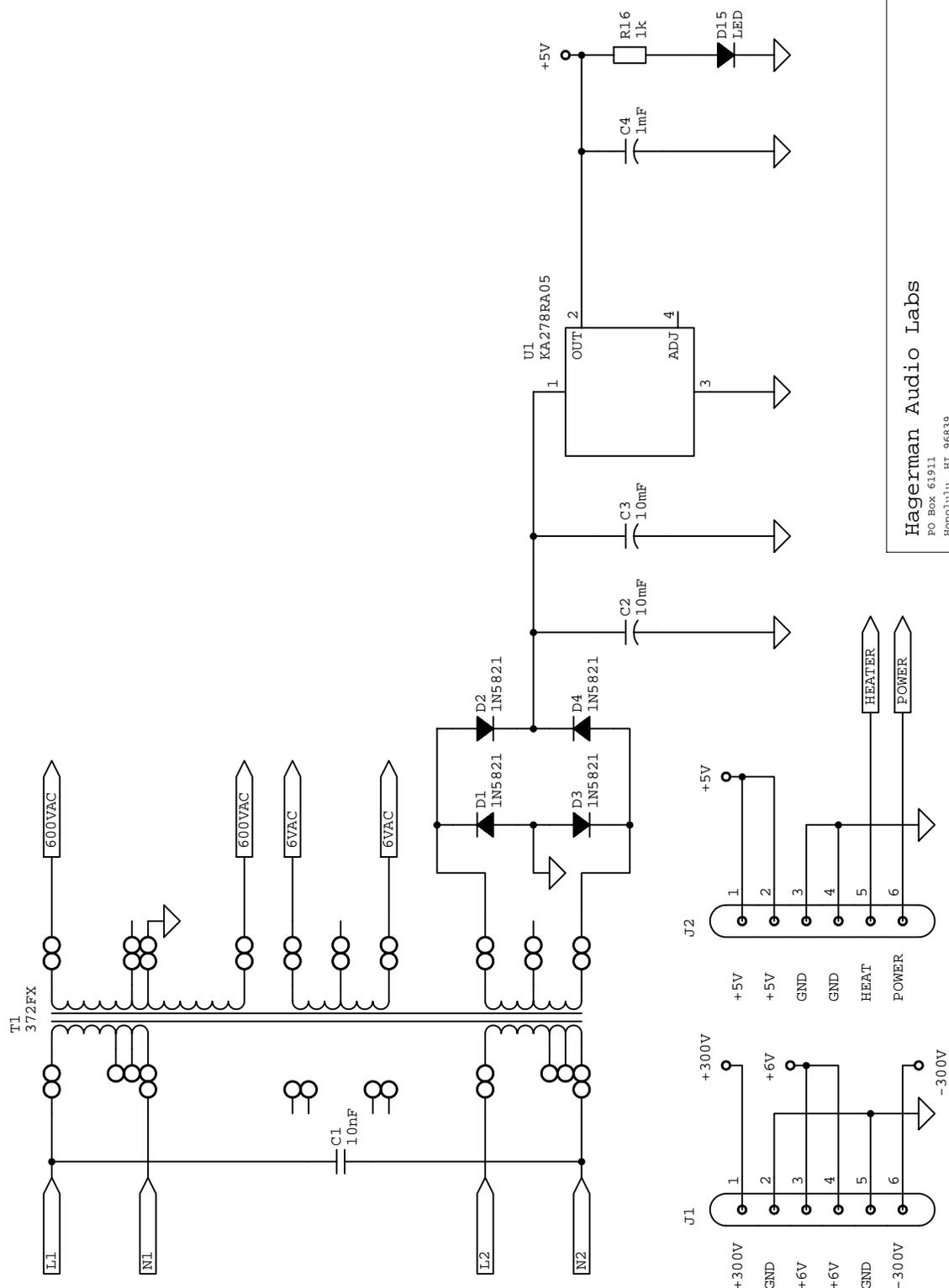
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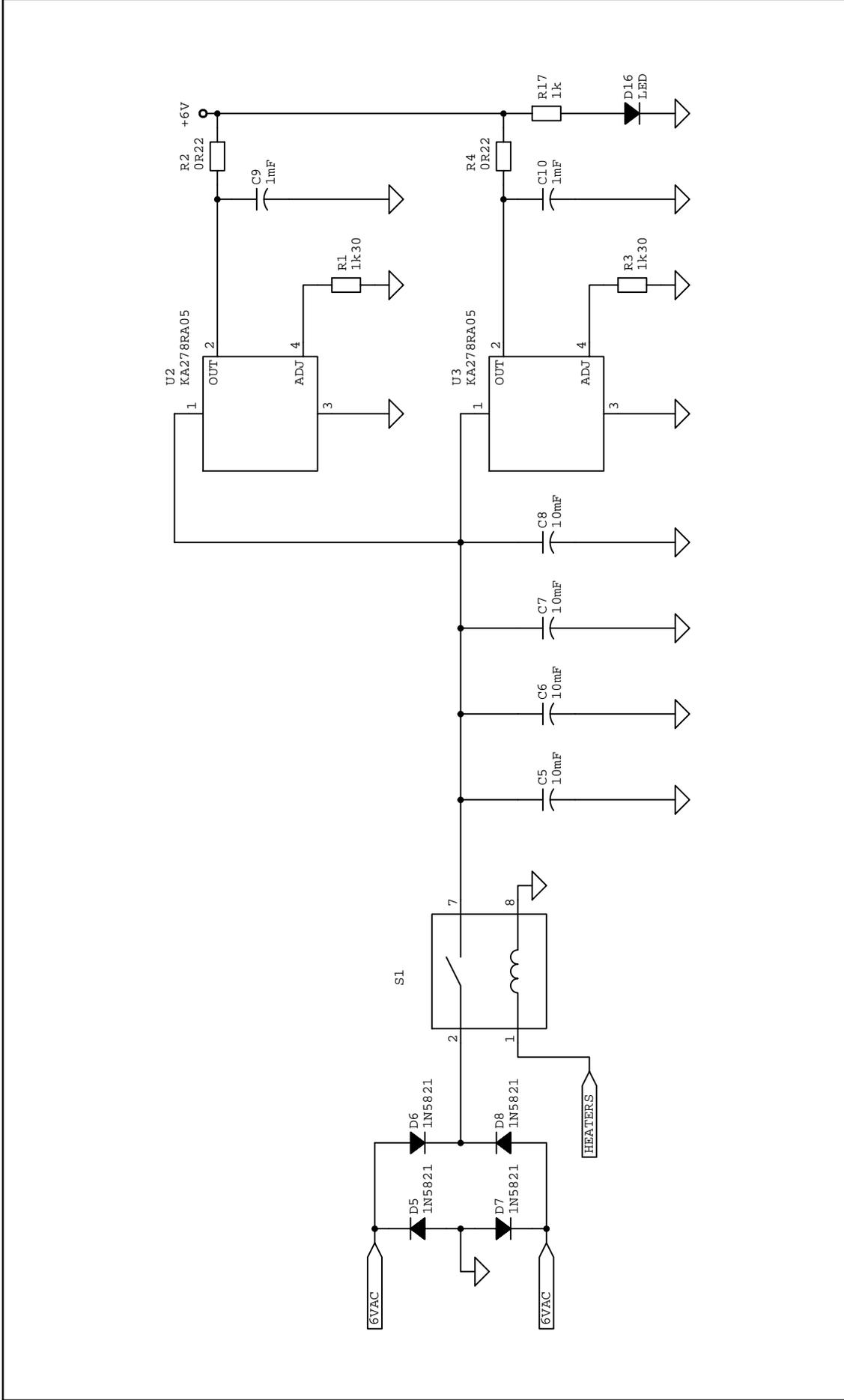
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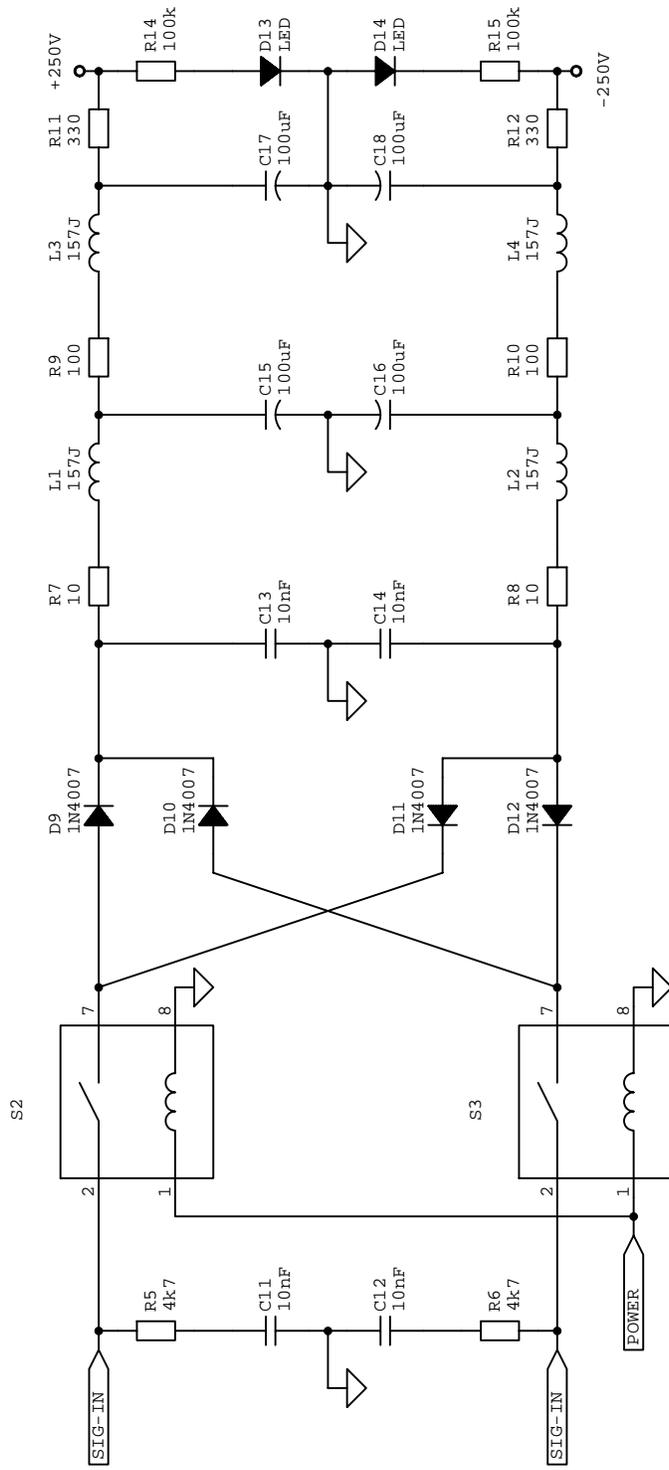
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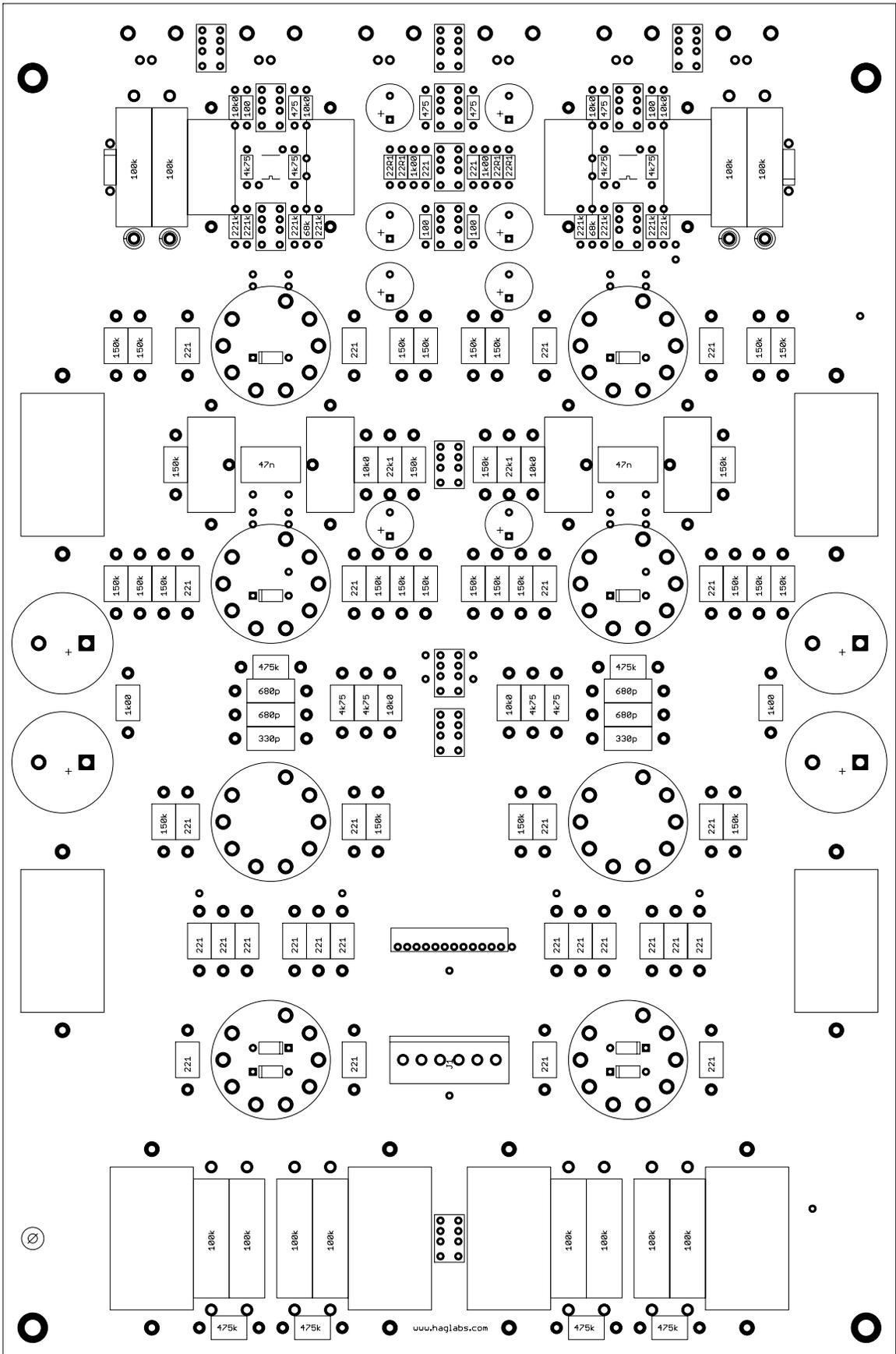
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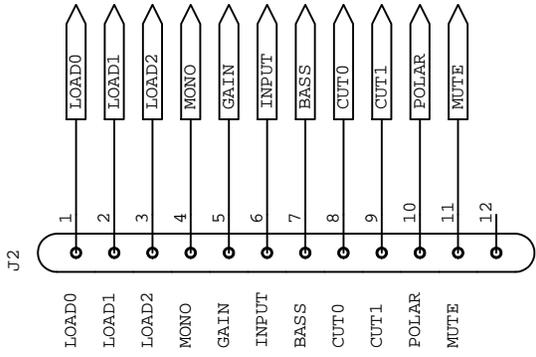
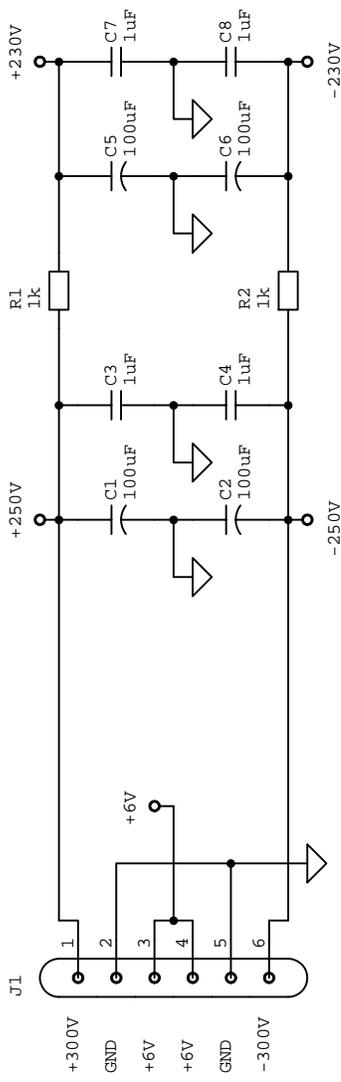
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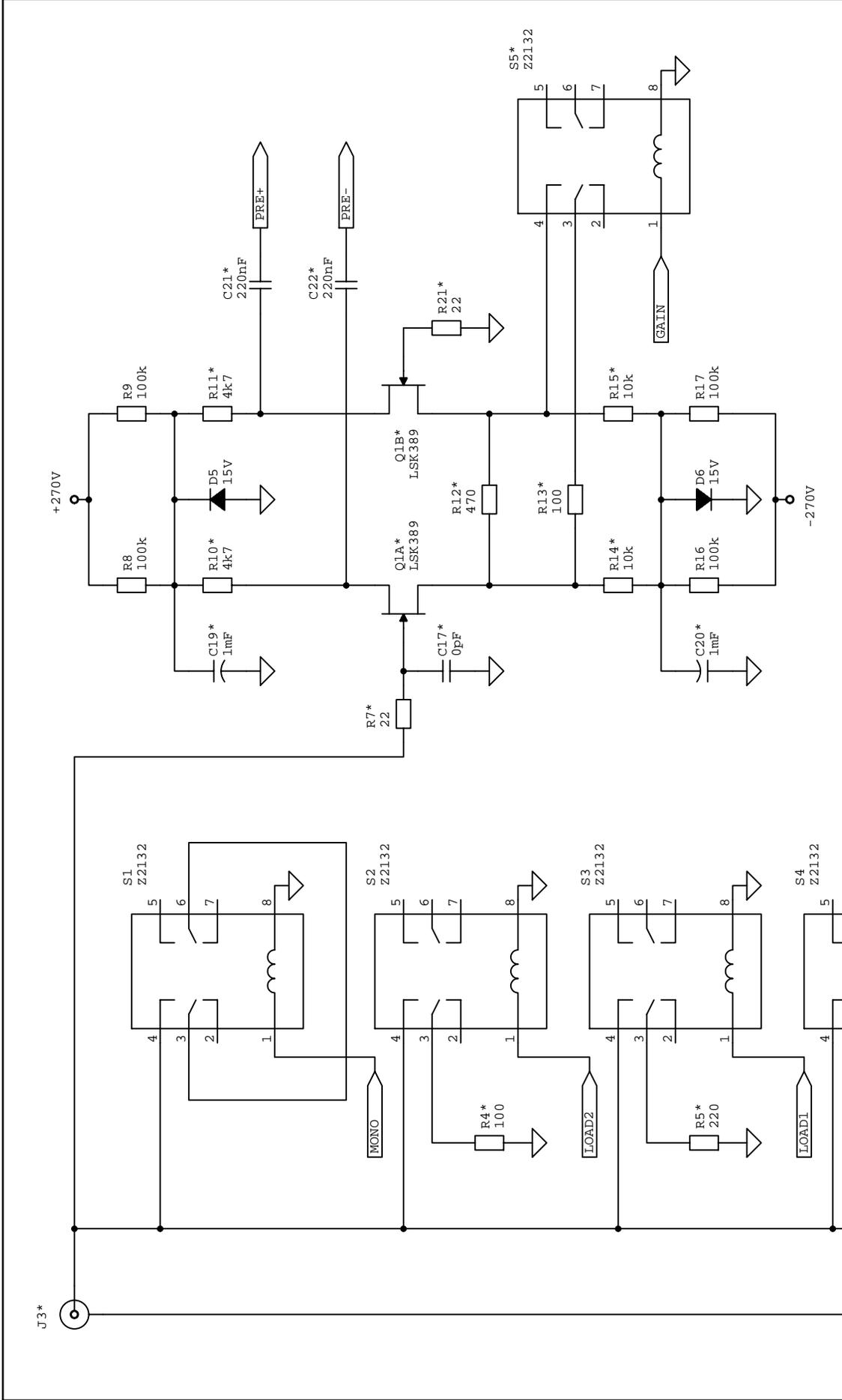
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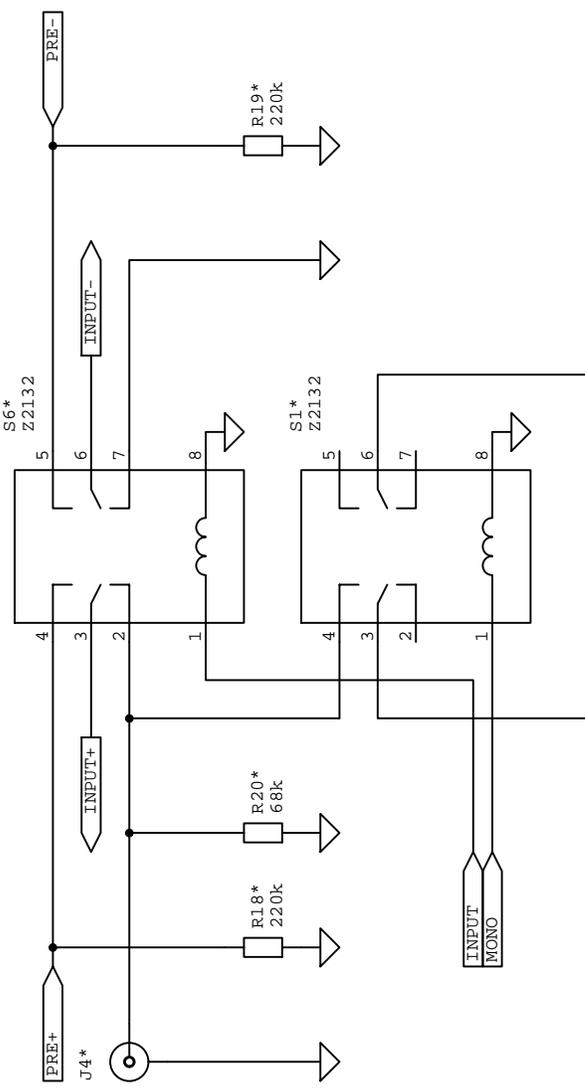
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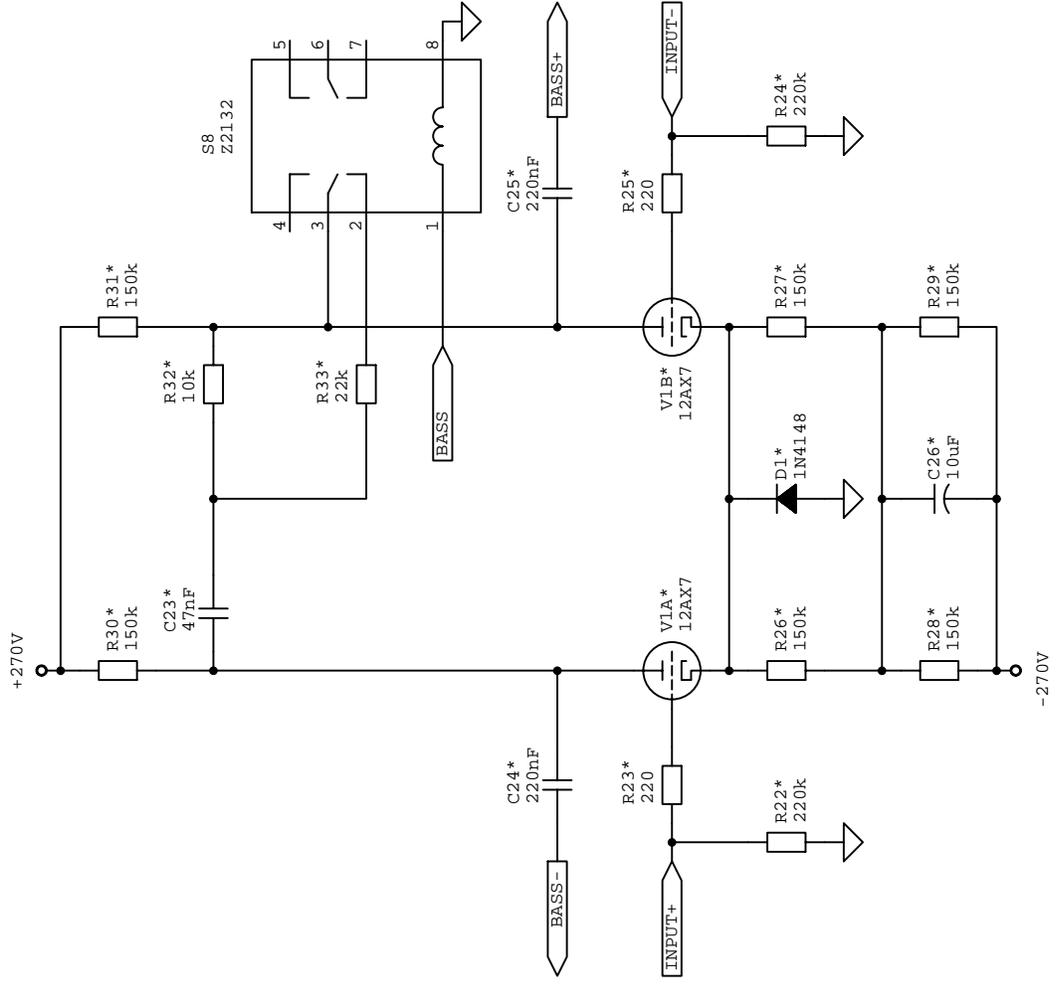
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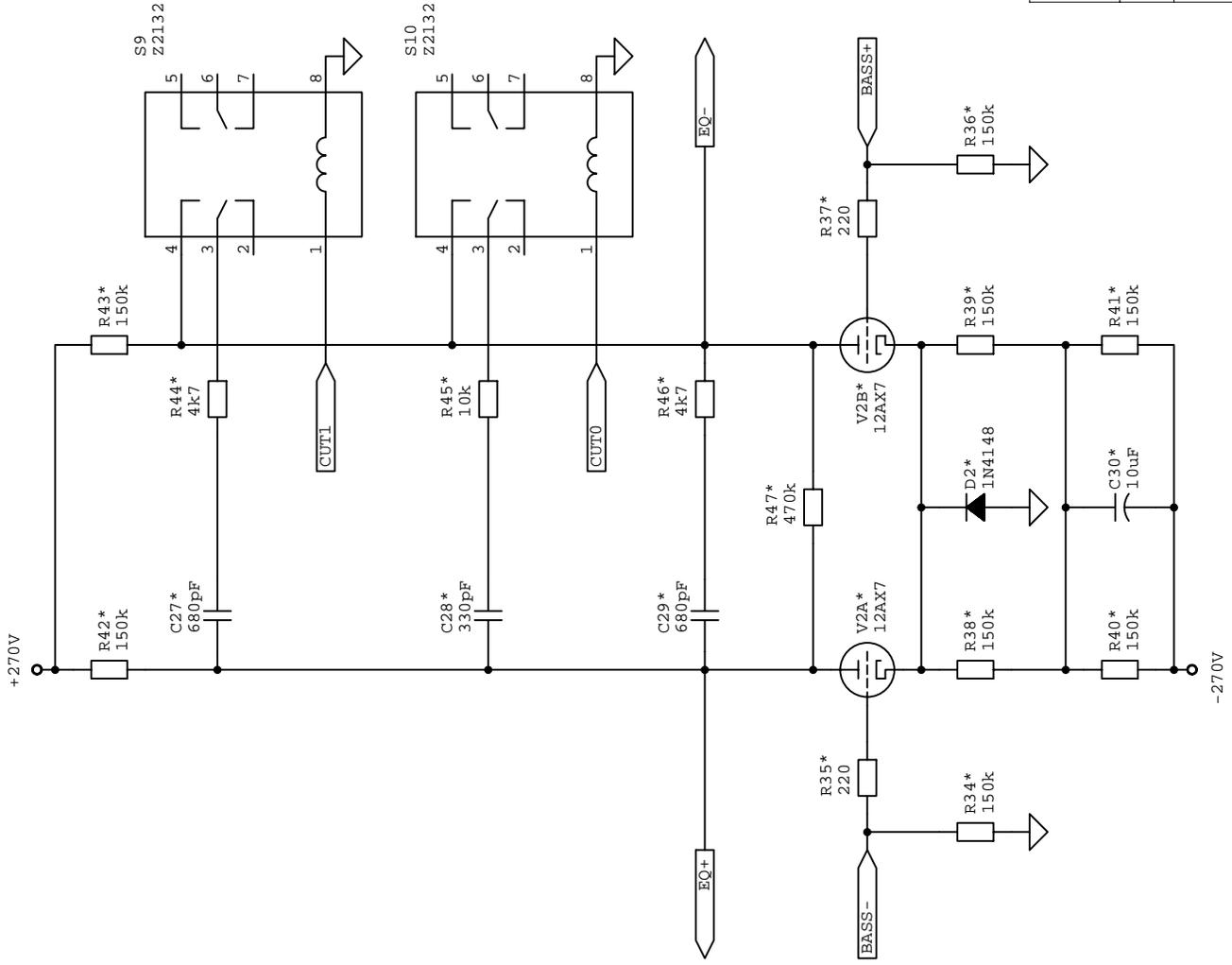
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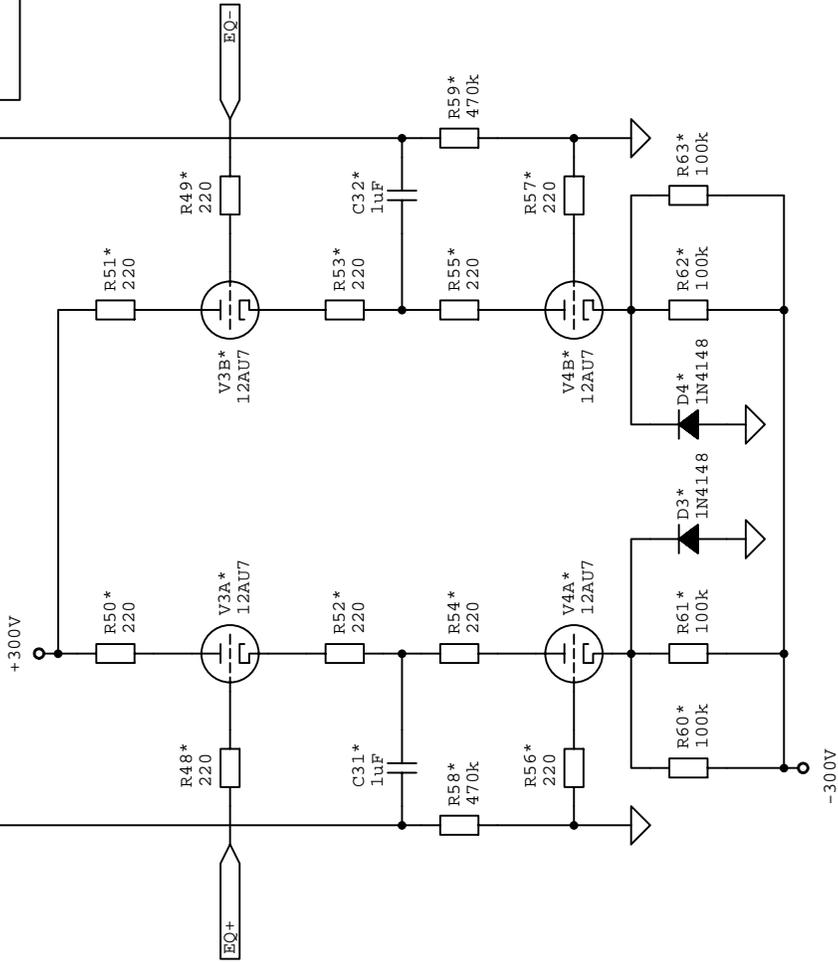
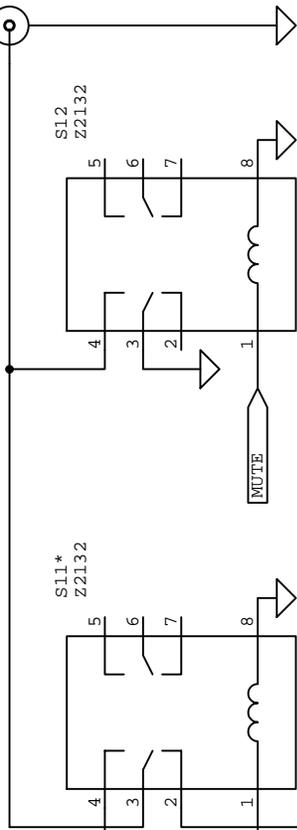
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