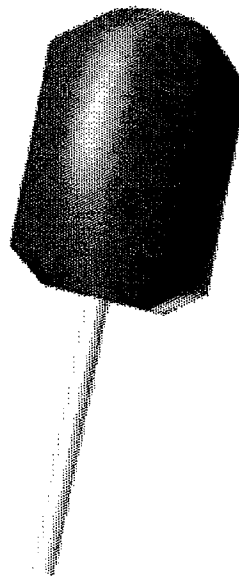




THE JOYSTICK REPORT

SEPTEMBER 19, 1997



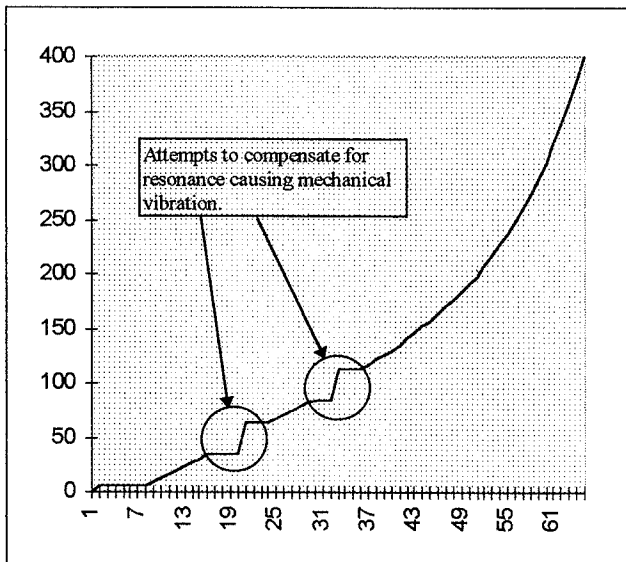
By Stephen L. Robinson

This report represents an effort to understand the esthetic effects of different speed profiles and their implementation in Pelco vector solving joysticks. The data was gathered directly from the programmed implementations of variable speed equipment and combined to obtain the net effect of the movement generated by the system.

For the purposes of this report, it is assumed that all joysticks are essentially linear and add no significant changes to the shape of the speed curve.

The following translation tables were obtained:

SPECTRA



An attempt was made in a recent release of Spectra, to make the movement feel smoother. To this end, we adjusted the movement profile to have more precise control at the lower end speeds.

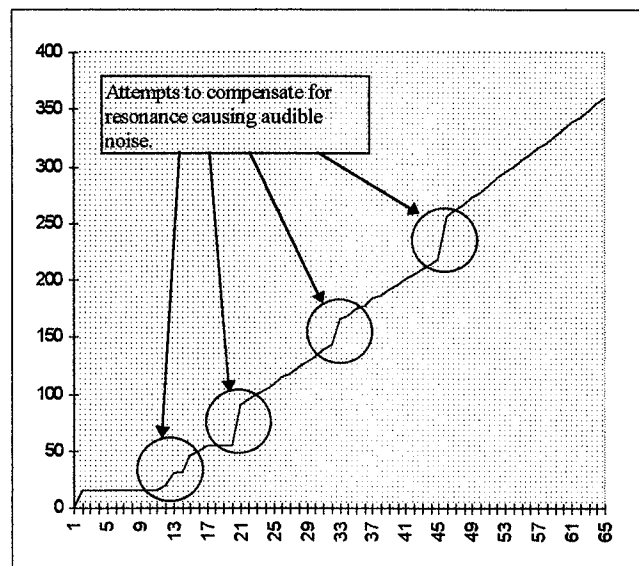
The "Y" axis on this chart represents movement in degrees per second times 10. The full range represented shows 0° to 40° per second.

The "X" axis represents the speed value received via protocol.

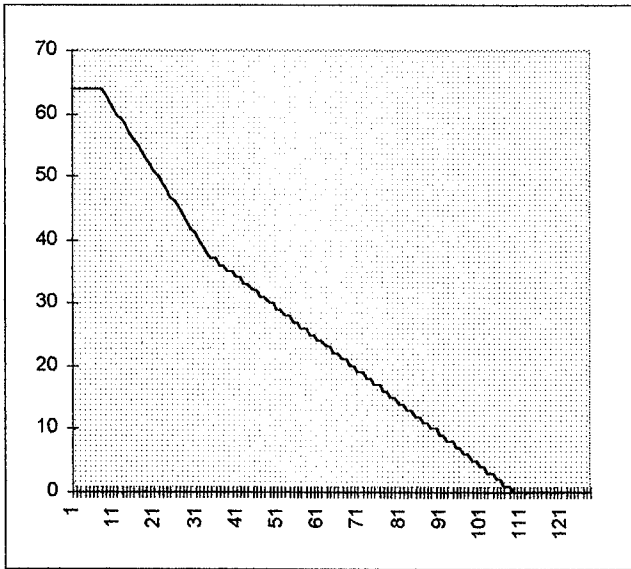
The chart at the right is the chart for Intercept. The noticeably choppy nature of the chart is due to an attempt to skip speeds that were causing significant noise problems in the Intercept dome.

As with Spectra, the speeds shown (on the "Y" axis) reflect ten times the speed in degrees per second.

INTERCEPT



KBD300



The information here shows the profile for the new 6700 system variable speed joystick.

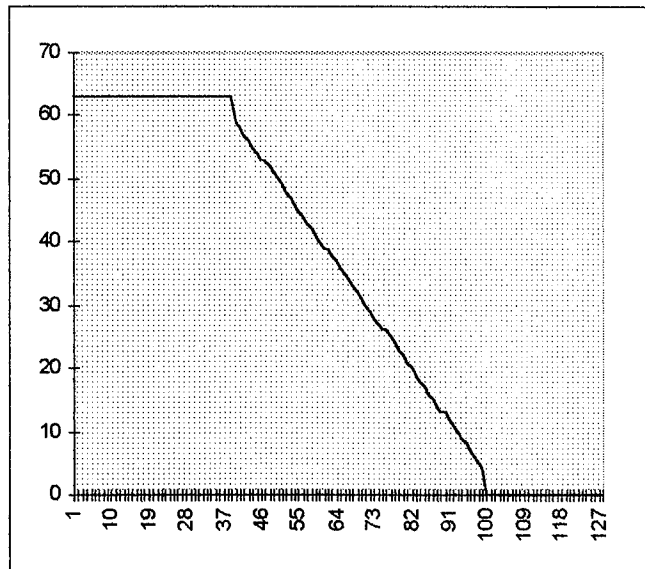
The KBD300 was given a fairly wide dead zone followed by a linear section with a slope of $\frac{1}{2}$. For the higher speed, where detailed control is less critical, the slope is 1 and there is a plateau at the top representing turbo speed.

MPT9500

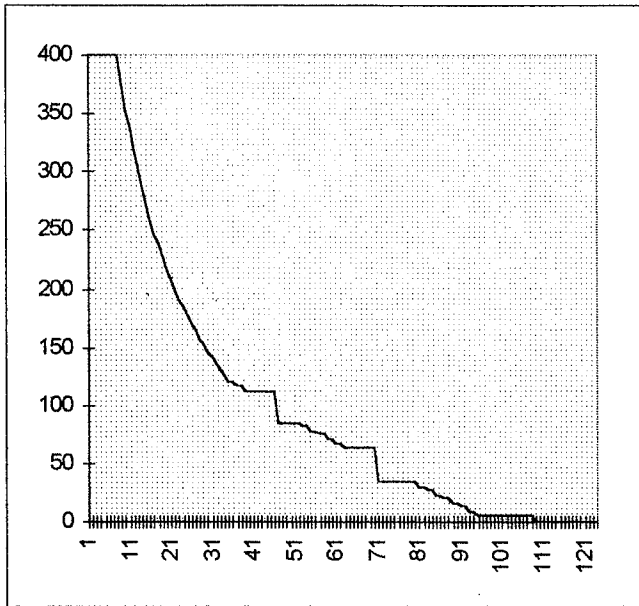
The MPT9500 joystick function was designed to give a very linear response. It has a wide dead zone (speed zero when the joystick is idle), and a wide zone at top speed.

It should be noted that the MPT9500 has a turbo button so the top speed shown here represents speed value 63, the highest speed not including turbo.

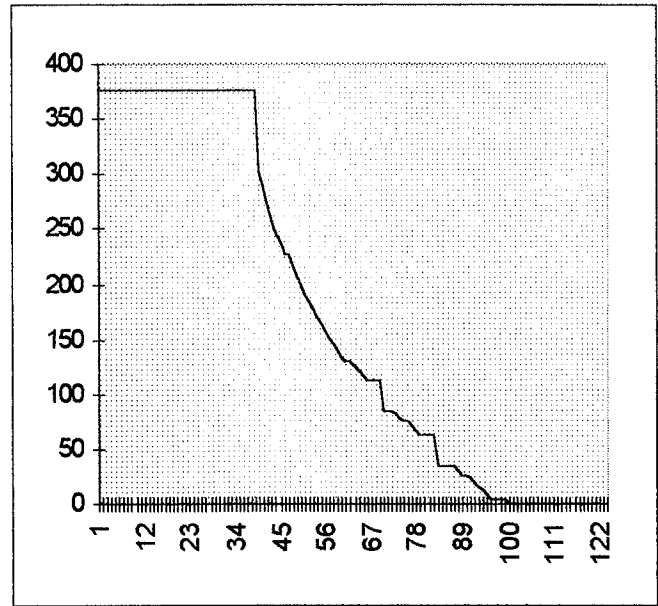
In the charts on the following page, I have taken and combined the profiles of the keyboards with the profiles of the Spectra and Intercept domes. The resulting profile shows the perceived motion as it relates to joystick movement.



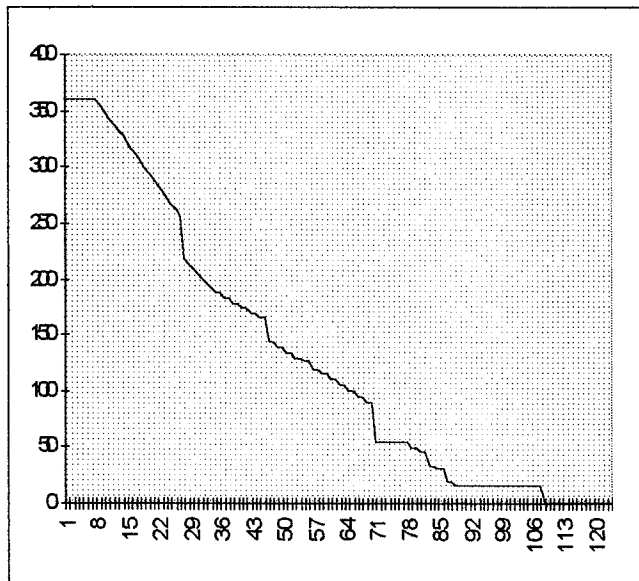
Spectra / KBD300



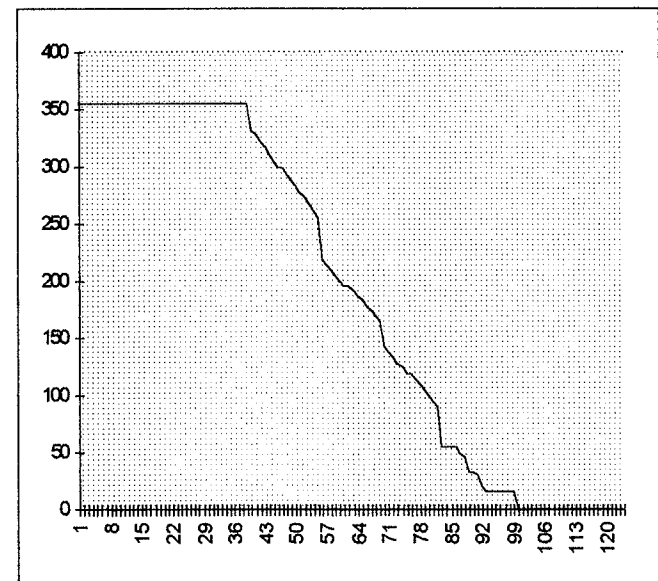
Spectra / MPT9500



Intercept / KBD300

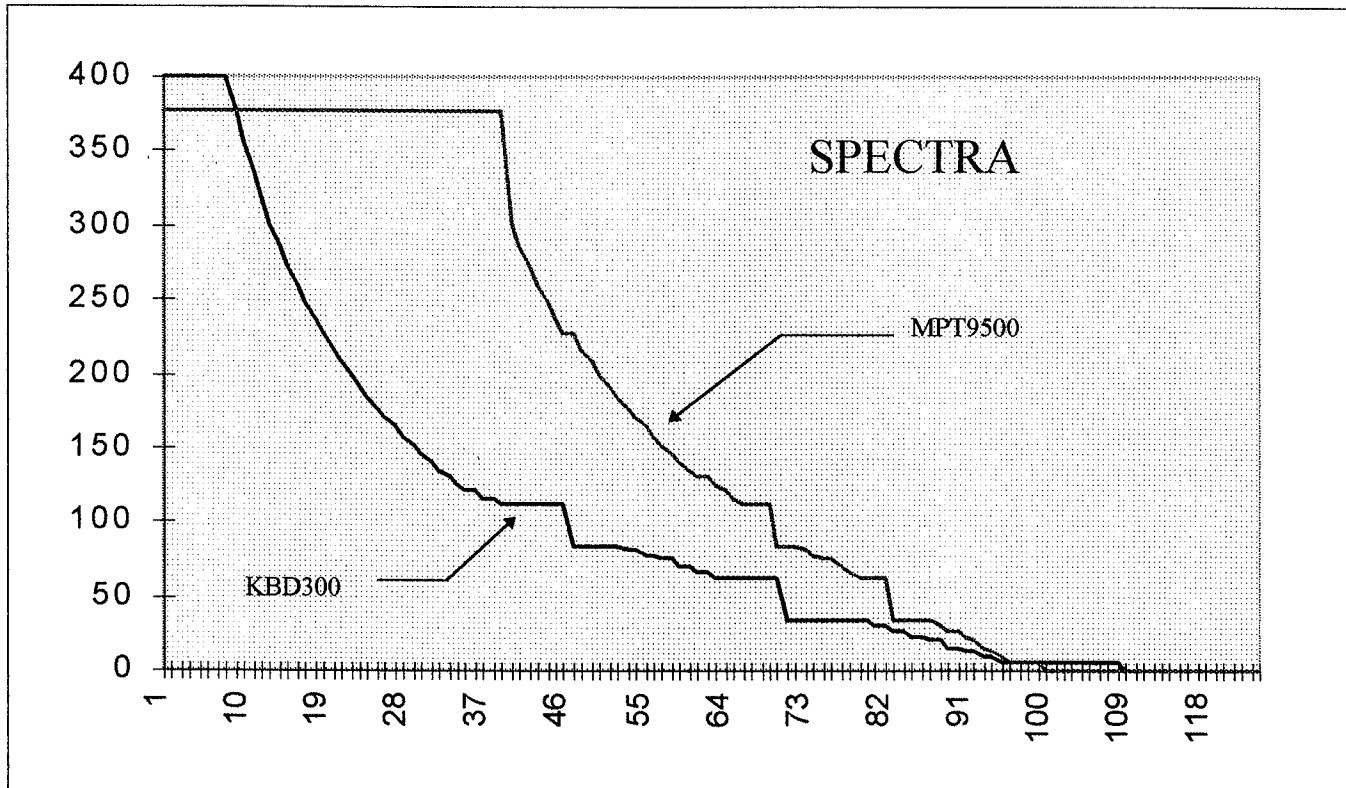


Intercept / MPT9500



In a recent test, several people were asked to evaluate the feel of the KBD300 used in association with the 6700 matrix and Spectra. One of the comments was that the MPT9500 drove Spectra better than the KBD300. This is not surprising since the engineer working on Spectra used the MPT9500 extensively in testing and tuning Spectra's performance.

The chart below contrasts the speed output of Spectra against the joystick positions for the two keyboards.

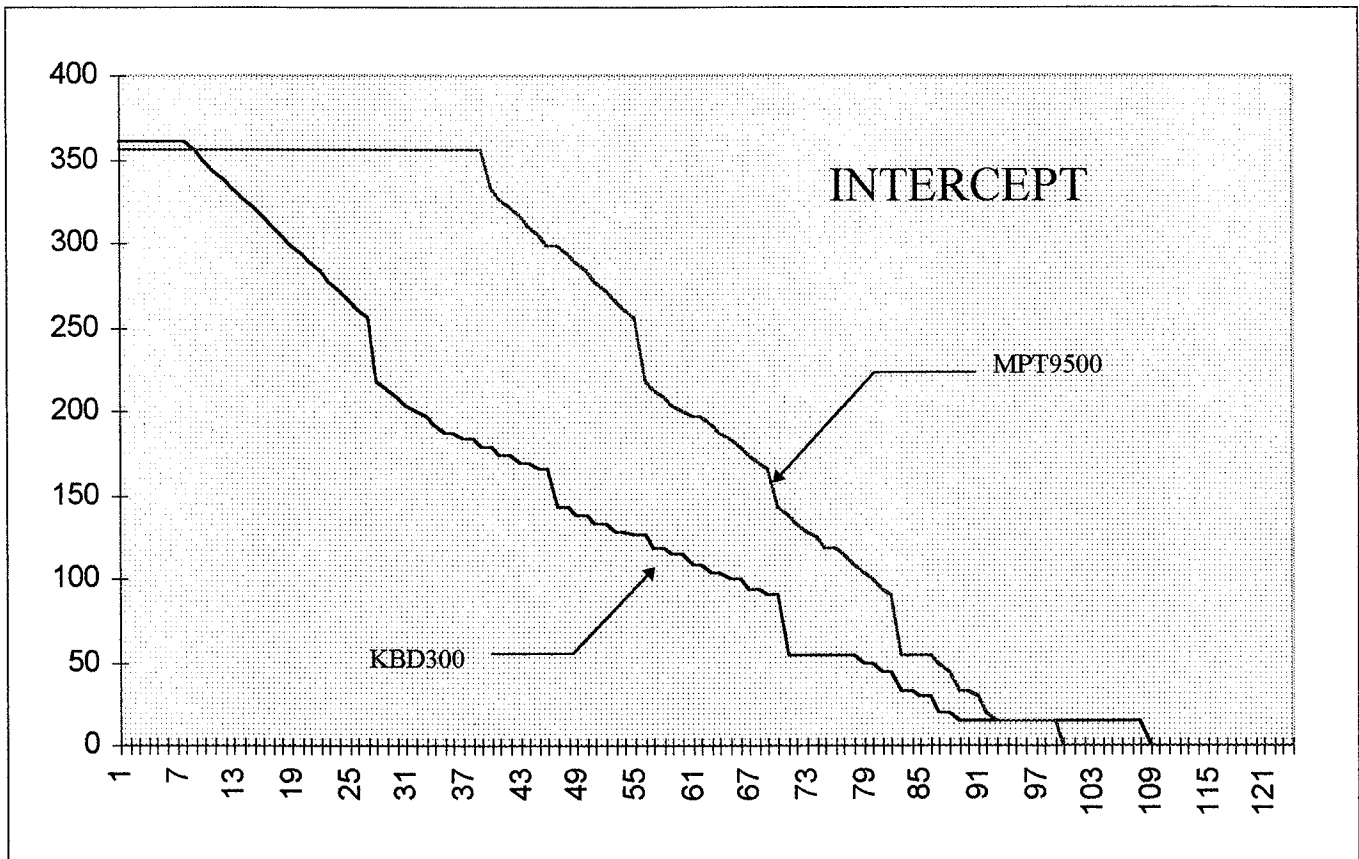


It's apparent, from this diagram, that the KBD300 is loaded much more toward the low end and will provide excellent low speed control. At many of the useful higher speeds (when tracking someone walking or running) there is less control.

At the lower part of the curve, there is very little change in speed for a relatively large joystick movement. At the upper part of the curve, speed changes much more rapidly. This seems to result in a perceived loss of control at the upper speeds.

The MPT9500, on the other hand, has a much more even distribution of speeds throughout the range. Very little low speed control is lost. All the same speeds are there, they just don't occupy the same range of motion on the joystick.

Notice, in the above graphs, that the low end loading aggravates the skipped speeds. The keyboard creates a longer horizontal sweep so you spend more time at a single speed to avoid some speeds... then, suddenly, it changes speeds.



These charts clearly show how choppy the motion control on Intercept really is. The efforts to reduce the noise in Intercept have introduced a bunch of “no go” zones. It was discovered that operating the Intercept dome at speeds in this range produced unacceptable noise and those speeds were removed from the speed tables. You can see others (of varying size) on the chart as indicated by the vertical lines showing a jump from one speed to another.

While the MPT9500 makes these smaller, I doubt that the difference is noticeable. The speed jumps are so large that no amount of fine adjustment in the behavior of the keyboard will be able to compensate and make the system operate smoothly.

Theory and Ideal Curves

A family of curves, with equal percentage change between each step, can be generated with a simple algorithm that meet the criteria of smooth perceived operation. The algorithm is:

Find the value for X where:

T = Top value required

L = Lowest value required

S = Number of steps

$$X = \sqrt[S]{T/L}$$

Now the speed for any given step = $L(X)^S$

If, for example, you want to go from .5 to 40 in 10 steps then:

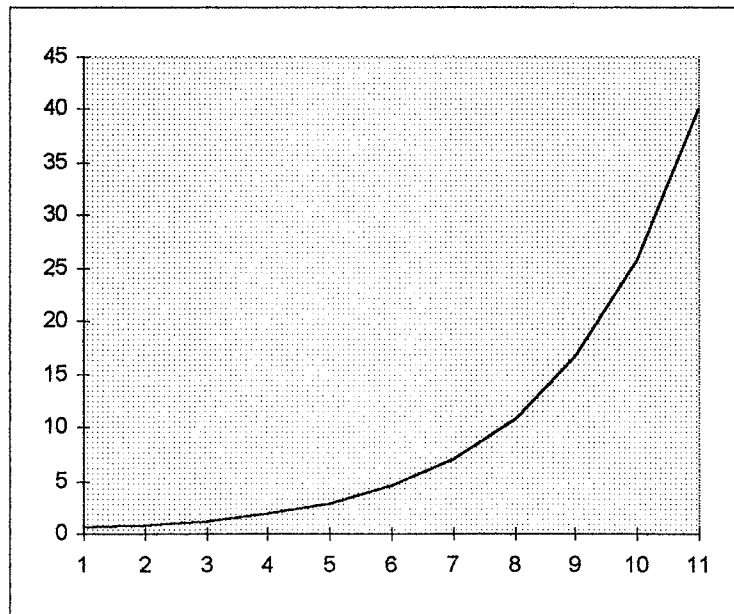
$$X = \sqrt[10]{40/.5} \text{ which is } 1.549918988$$

and the table of these speeds is:

Step	Value
1	0.5000
2	0.7750
3	1.2011
4	1.8616
5	2.8854
6	4.4721
7	6.9314
8	10.7432
9	16.6511
10	25.8078
11	40.0000

and the graph looks like this

This curve, as it turns out, is an exponential curve and can be represented as a straight line on a graph using a log scale.



This can be turned into a family of curves by weighting the curve with a straight line with the same start and end points. The values for the straight line are calculated as follows:

Where:

T = Top value

L = Lowest value

S = Number of steps

Step size $X = (T-L)/S$ in our example, $X = (40-.5)/10 = 3.95$

The table looks like this:

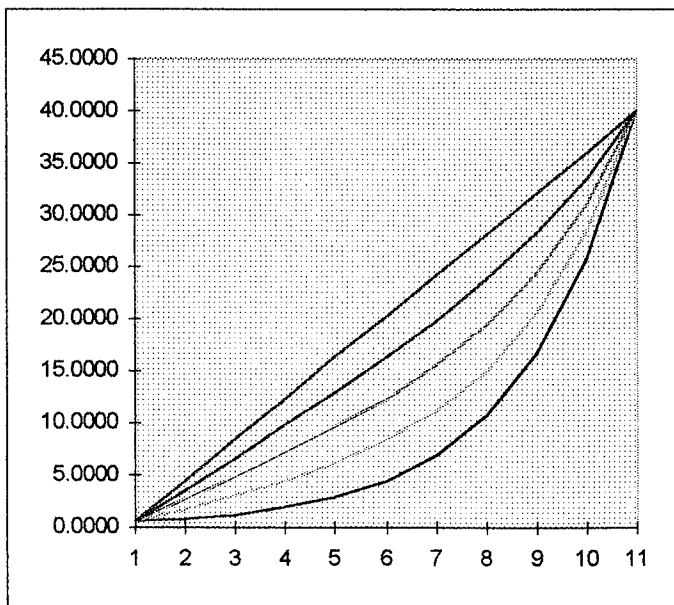
Step	Curve	Straight	$\frac{3}{4}$ Curve	$\frac{1}{2}$ Curve	$\frac{1}{4}$ Curve
1	0.5000	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
2	0.7750	4.45	1.69	2.61	3.53
3	1.2011	8.40	3.00	4.80	6.60
4	1.8616	12.35	4.48	7.11	9.73
5	2.8854	16.30	6.24	9.59	12.95
6	4.4721	20.25	8.42	12.36	16.31
7	6.9314	24.20	11.25	15.57	19.88
8	10.7432	28.15	15.09	19.45	23.80
9	16.6511	32.10	20.51	24.38	28.24
10	25.8078	36.05	28.37	30.93	33.49
11	40.0000	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00

The $\frac{3}{4}$ curve value is calculated by:

$(3 * \text{Curve} + \text{Straight}) / 4$

This gives us points that are $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way between the curve and a the straight line.

and the graphs look like this:



What is implemented in Spectra is the $\frac{1}{2}$ curve and $\frac{1}{2}$ straight member from the family. This was chosen without experimentation based on recommendations only.

The theory is, if you choose the straight line, you won't be happy with the low end control (it moves to fast to be able to make fine adjustments). In conjunction with this, you can't really "see" things that well when the horizon is passing by at 40° per second.

Therefore, you need a curve that is weighted to give more fine, low end control and less high speed control.

Having equal percentage change between steps gives a predictable, smooth feel.

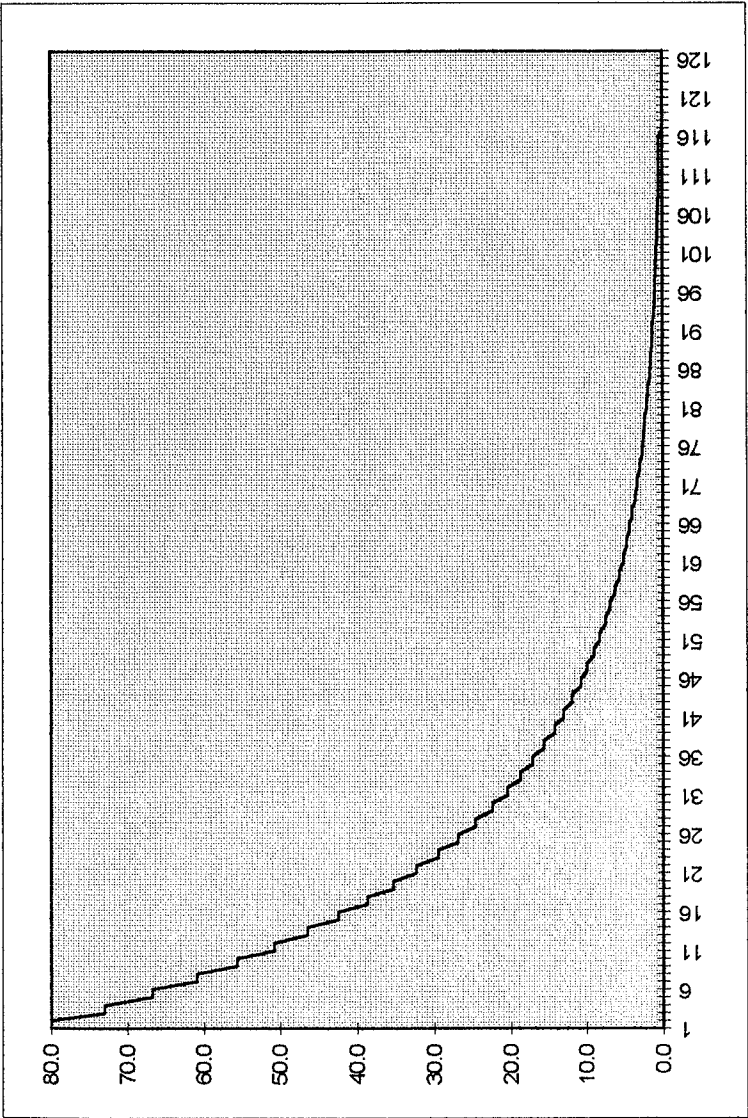
34	10.0	49.14545455	39.3466	29.548	19.7489
35	10.9	50.59090909	40.6667	30.742	20.8182
36	11.9	52.03636364	42.0091	31.982	21.9546
37	13.1	53.48181818	43.3761	33.27	23.1646
38	14.3	54.92727273	44.7699	34.612	24.455
39	15.7	56.37272727	46.193	36.013	25.8336
40	17.1	57.81818182	47.6484	37.479	27.3087
41	18.8	59.26363636	49.1389	39.014	28.8894
42	20.5	60.70909091	50.668	40.627	30.5858
43	22.5	62.15454545	52.2393	42.324	32.4089
44	24.6	63.6	53.8569	44.114	34.3706
45	27.0	65.04545455	55.525	46.005	36.4841
46	29.5	66.49090909	57.2485	48.006	38.7638
47	32.3	67.93636364	59.0328	50.129	41.2255
48	35.4	69.38181818	60.8834	52.385	43.8865
49	38.7	70.82727273	62.8067	54.786	46.7656
50	42.4	72.27272727	64.8097	57.347	49.8835
51	46.4	73.71818182	66.8998	60.081	53.2629
52	50.9	75.16363636	69.0853	63.007	56.9286
53	55.7	76.60909091	71.3753	66.142	60.9078
54	61.0	78.05454545	73.7798	69.505	65.2302
55	66.7	79.5	76.3094	73.119	69.9283
56	73.1	80.94545455	78.9762	77.007	75.0378
57	80.0	82.39090909	81.7932	81.195	80.5977

34	221	47
35	220	46
36	219	46
37	218	45
38	217	45
39	216	44
40	215	44
41	214	43
42	213	43
43	212	42
44	211	42
45	210	41
46	209	41
47	208	40
48	207	40
49	206	39
50	205	39
51	204	38
52	203	38
53	202	37
54	201	37
55	200	36
56	199	36
57	198	35
58	197	35
59	196	34
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61	194	33
62	193	33
63	192	32
64	191	32
65	190	31
66	189	31
67	188	30
68	187	30
69	186	29
70	185	29

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13.0
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9.0
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5.7
5.7
5.2
5.2
4.8
4.8
4.4
4.4
4.0
4.0
3.6
3.6

71	184	28	3.3
72	183	28	3.3
73	182	27	3.0
74	181	27	3.0
75	180	26	2.7
76	179	26	2.7
77	178	25	2.5
78	177	25	2.5
79	176	24	2.3
80	175	24	2.3
81	174	23	2.1
82	173	23	2.1
83	172	22	1.9
84	171	22	1.9
85	170	21	1.7
86	169	21	1.7
87	168	20	1.6
88	167	20	1.6
89	166	19	1.4
90	165	19	1.4
91	164	18	1.3
92	163	18	1.3
93	162	17	1.2
94	161	17	1.2
95	160	16	1.1
96	159	16	1.1
97	158	15	1.0
98	157	15	1.0
99	156	14	0.9
100	155	14	0.9
101	154	13	0.8
102	153	13	0.8
103	152	12	0.7
104	151	12	0.7
105	150	11	0.7
106	149	11	0.7
107	148	10	0.6



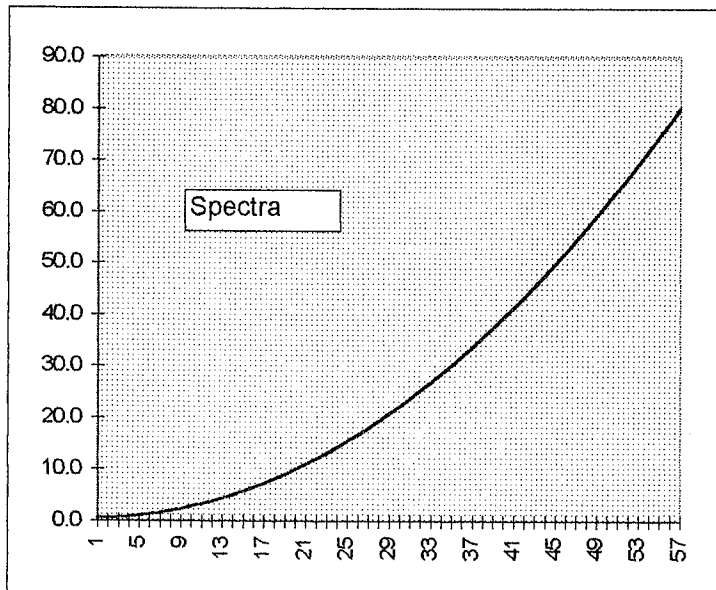
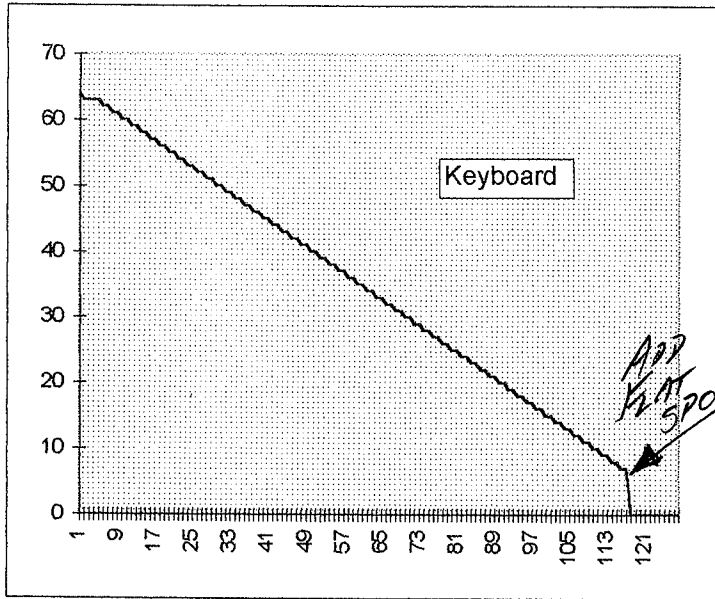
108	147	10	0.6
109	146	9	0.5
110	145	9	0.5
111	144	8	0.5
112	143	8	0.5
113	142	7	0.5
114	141	7	0.5
115	140	7	0.5
116	139	7	0.5
117	138	0	0.0
118	137	0	0.0
119	136	0	0.0
120	135	0	0.0
121	134	0	0.0
122	133	0	0.0
123	132	0	0.0
124	131	0	0.0
125	130	0	0.0
126	129	0	0.0
127	128	0	0.0

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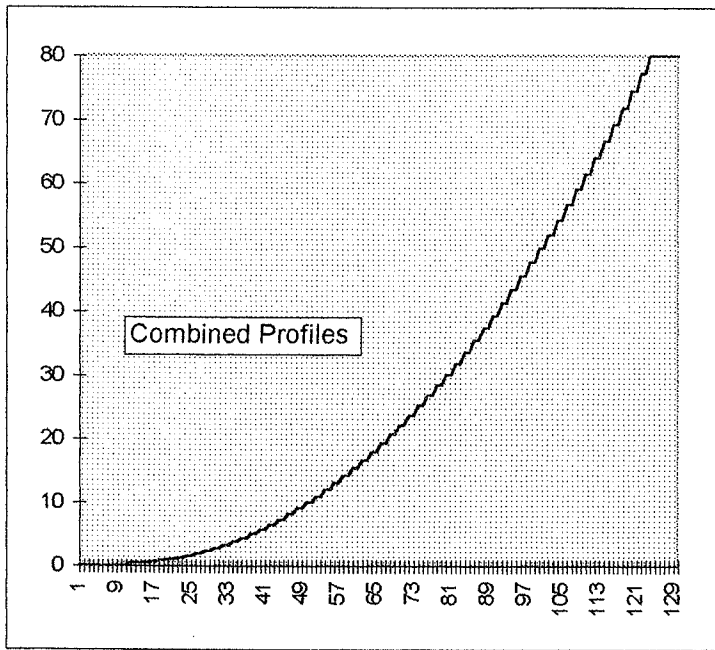
Ideal from 80 to zero

Joystick			Dome Motion Control					0	0
Motion Control			Average	Distance	Adjustment	Adjusted	Motion	Step	
Left	Right	Sent	Step Size	From Mid.	To Step	Step	Profile	No.	
0	255	64	1.445455	-28	-1.4	0.045455	0.5	7	0
1	254	63	1.445455	-27	-1.35	0.095455	0.5	8	0
2	253	63	1.445455	-26	-1.3	0.145455	0.6	9	0
3	252	63	1.445455	-25	-1.25	0.195455	0.8	10	0
4	251	63	1.445455	-24	-1.2	0.245455	1.0	11	0
5	250	62	1.445455	-23	-1.15	0.295455	1.2	12	0
6	249	62	1.445455	-22	-1.1	0.345455	1.5	13	0
7	248	61	1.445455	-21	-1.05	0.395455	1.9	14	0
8	247	61	1.445455	-20	-1	0.445455	2.3	15	7
9	246	60	1.445455	-19	-0.95	0.495455	2.7	16	7
10	245	60	1.445455	-18	-0.9	0.545455	3.2	17	8
11	244	59	1.445455	-17	-0.85	0.595455	3.8	18	8
12	243	59	1.445455	-16	-0.8	0.645455	4.3	19	9
13	242	58	1.445455	-15	-0.75	0.695455	5.0	20	9
14	241	58	1.445455	-14	-0.7	0.745455	5.7	21	10
15	240	57	1.445455	-13	-0.65	0.795455	6.4	22	10
16	239	57	1.445455	-12	-0.6	0.845455	7.2	23	11
17	238	56	1.445455	-11	-0.55	0.895455	8.1	24	11
18	237	56	1.445455	-10	-0.5	0.945455	9.0	25	12
19	236	55	1.445455	-9	-0.45	0.995455	9.9	26	12
20	235	55	1.445455	-8	-0.4	1.045455	10.9	27	13
21	234	54	1.445455	-7	-0.35	1.095455	12.0	28	13
22	233	54	1.445455	-6	-0.3	1.145455	13.1	29	14
23	232	53	1.445455	-5	-0.25	1.195455	14.2	30	14
24	231	53	1.445455	-4	-0.2	1.245455	15.4	31	15
25	230	52	1.445455	-3	-0.15	1.295455	16.6	32	15
26	229	52	1.445455	-2	-0.1	1.345455	17.9	33	16
27	228	51	1.445455	-1	-0.05	1.395455	19.3	34	16
28	227	51	1.445455	0	0	1.445455	20.7	35	17
29	226	50	1.445455	1	0.05	1.495455	22.1	36	17
30	225	50	1.445455	2	0.1	1.545455	23.6	37	18
31	224	49	1.445455	3	0.15	1.595455	25.2	38	18
32	223	49	1.445455	4	0.2	1.645455	26.8	39	19
33	222	48	1.445455	5	0.25	1.695455	28.4	40	19
34	221	48	1.445455	6	0.3	1.745455	30.1	41	20
35	220	47	1.445455	7	0.35	1.795455	31.8	42	20
36	219	47	1.445455	8	0.4	1.845455	33.6	43	21
37	218	46	1.445455	9	0.45	1.895455	35.5	44	21
38	217	46	1.445455	10	0.5	1.945455	37.4	45	22
39	216	45	1.445455	11	0.55	1.995455	39.3	46	22
40	215	45	1.445455	12	0.6	2.045455	41.3	47	23
41	214	44	1.445455	13	0.65	2.095455	43.4	48	23
42	213	44	1.445455	14	0.7	2.145455	45.5	49	24
43	212	43	1.445455	15	0.75	2.195455	47.6	50	24
44	211	43	1.445455	16	0.8	2.245455	49.8	51	25
45	210	42	1.445455	17	0.85	2.295455	52.0	52	25
46	209	42	1.445455	18	0.9	2.345455	54.3	53	26
47	208	41	1.445455	19	0.95	2.395455	56.7	54	26

48	207	41	1.445455	20	1	2.445455	59.1	55	27	10.9
49	206	40	1.445455	21	1.05	2.495455	61.5	56	27	10.9
50	205	40	1.445455	22	1.1	2.545455	64.0	57	28	12
51	204	39	1.445455	23	1.15	2.595455	66.6	58	28	12
52	203	39	1.445455	24	1.2	2.645455	69.2	59	29	13.1
53	202	38	1.445455	25	1.25	2.695455	71.8	60	29	13.1
54	201	38	1.445455	26	1.3	2.745455	74.5	61	30	14.2
55	200	37	1.445455	27	1.35	2.795455	77.3	62	30	14.2
56	199	37	1.445455	28	1.4	2.845455	80.0	63	31	15.4
57	198	36							31	15.4
58	197	36							32	16.6
59	196	35							32	16.6
60	195	35							33	17.9
61	194	34							33	17.9
62	193	34							34	19.3
63	192	33							34	19.3
64	191	33							35	20.7
65	190	32							35	20.7
66	189	32							36	22.1
67	188	31							36	22.1
68	187	31							37	23.6
69	186	30							37	23.6
70	185	30							38	25.2
71	184	29							38	25.2
72	183	29							39	26.8
73	182	28							39	26.8
74	181	28							40	28.4
75	180	27							40	28.4
76	179	27							41	30.1
77	178	26							41	30.1
78	177	26							42	31.8
79	176	25							42	31.8
80	175	25							43	33.6
81	174	24							43	33.6
82	173	24							44	35.5
83	172	23							44	35.5
84	171	23							45	37.4
85	170	22							45	37.4
86	169	22							46	39.3
87	168	21							46	39.3
88	167	21							47	41.3
89	166	20							47	41.3
90	165	20							48	43.4
91	164	19							48	43.4
92	163	19							49	45.5
93	162	18							49	45.5
94	161	18							50	47.6
95	160	17							50	47.6
96	159	17							51	49.8
97	158	16							51	49.8
98	157	16							52	52



99	156	15
100	155	15
101	154	14
102	153	14
103	152	13
104	151	13
105	150	12
106	149	12
107	148	11
108	147	11
109	146	10
110	145	10
111	144	9
112	143	9
113	142	8
114	141	8
115	140	7
116	139	7
117	138	0
118	137	0
119	136	0
120	135	0
121	134	0
122	133	0
123	132	0
124	131	0
125	130	0
126	129	0
127	128	0



52	52
53	54.3
53	54.3
54	56.7
54	56.7
55	59.1
55	59.1
56	61.5
56	61.5
57	64
57	64
58	66.6
58	66.6
59	69.2
59	69.2
60	71.8
60	71.8
61	74.5
61	74.5
62	77.3
62	77.3
63	80
63	80
63	80
63	80
63	80
63	80
63	80
64	Turbo