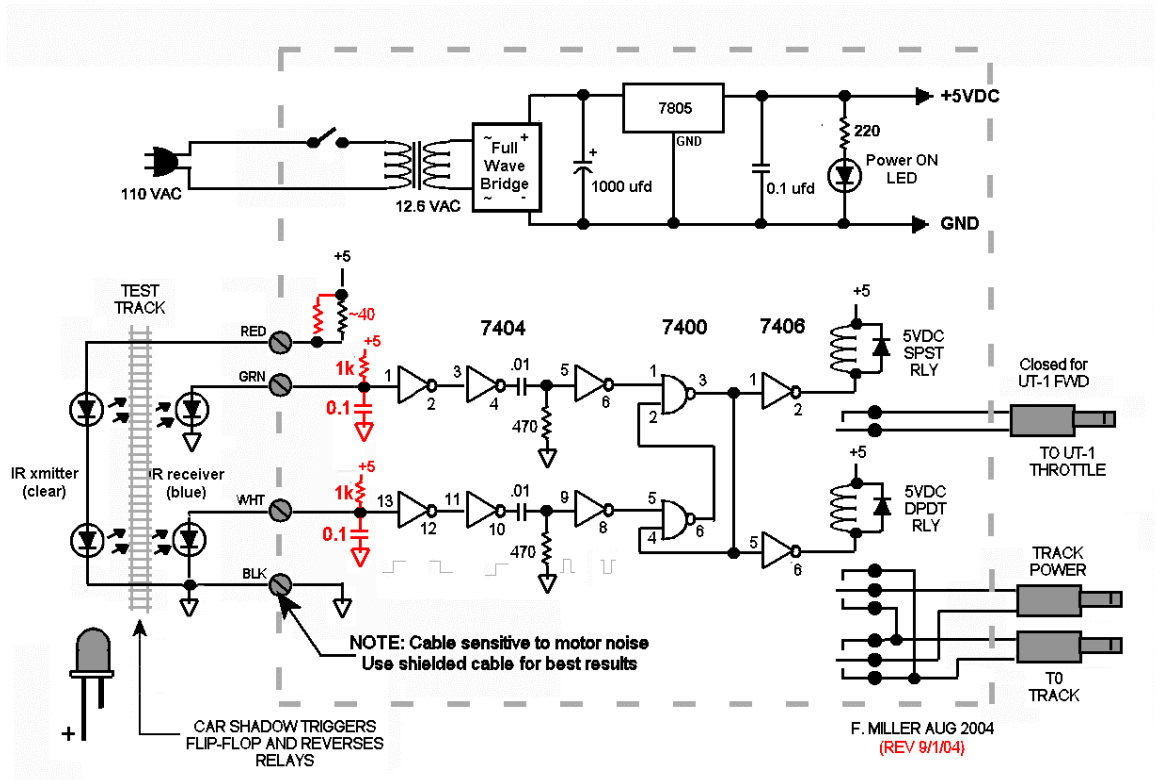


TEST TRACK REVERSING CIRCUIT by Fred Miller, MMR

This electronic circuit was designed to provide automatic reversing for a DC powered test track. Detection of a traveling locomotive by one of the IR detectors will cause the circuit to reverse the relay, thereby reversing the DC power to the tracks. Detection by the other IR detector at the other end of the track will reverse the relay and therefore the DC track power again.

TRACK REVERSING CIRCUIT



See note below for DCC throttle

Construction:

The circuit makes use of inexpensive TTL (Transistor-Transistor-Logic) chips and two IR transmitter-receiver pairs. The later are available from Radio Shack or other electronic supply sources. The circuit may need to be tweaked for the specific IR devices used. Note that the IR detection signal is not encoded (like a TV remote) so the circuit may be sensitive to sunlight or strong incandescent light. Placement of the IR receiver (and mounted in a tube) may reduce the effect of this extraneous light.

NOTE: See article on modifications to the Digitrax DCC UT-1 throttle to use this (or any reversing circuit) for DCC powered test tracks.