

on each day of testing. Both measures yielded essentially identical results. There was no effect of days, but a highly significant effect due to intensity level (mean: $F = 147.9$, $df = 9,126$; median: $F = 93$, $df = 9,126$). Figure 2 shows mean startle as a function of shock intensity collapsed across days. The relation closely approximates that reported by Hoffman et al (1964).

DISCUSSION

The system described here seems to offer advantages over previous devices for recording the startle response. It is easy to construct and adjust, it is isometric and provides a digital output compatible with various contemporary digital instruments. Although the cost of the VTF converter employed above may be prohibitive in the small laboratory, a functionally equivalent device may be obtained from Anadex for about \$275 (without power supply, Model 7000-5072-00). Many digital voltmeters also operate on the principle of voltage-to-frequency conversion and may be adapted for this purpose.

Finally, it is worth noting that the principles employed in this system can be readily adapted for use in recording general motor activity by increasing the sensitivity of the system and monitoring the VTF at appropriate intervals.

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ERRATUM

STARR, B. J. Automated problem solving for the behavioral sciences. *Behavior Research Methods and Instrumentation*, 1972, 4, 161-164—In Fig. 2, the minus sign indicating the direction of the flow for negative evaluation of the argument ITALLY-NHI was omitted. The topmost decision box of the three sequential decisions at the bottom should read $K > N$ (not $K \geq N$). The subsequent decision box has the Y and N reversed.