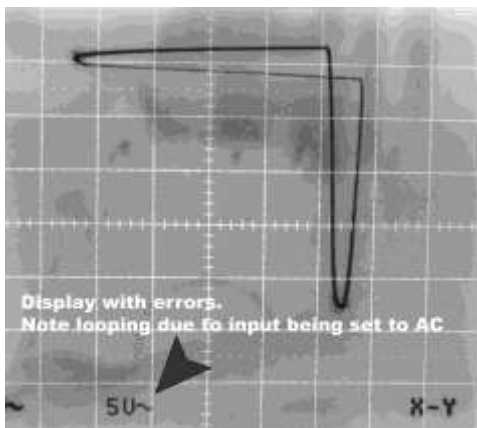




Hints, Tips and Troubleshooting the tracER

The tracER unit is a simple unit to get started with, however, issues can occur which will cause the unit to appear non-functional or give unexpected results. This support document is designed to help overcome these issues and provides some simple troubleshooting steps to try.

- 1. Unit is non-operational, no trace on screen.**
 - Check the unit and oscilloscope are on by noting the on/off switch position.
 - Make sure the power supply is AC, not DC and rated between 9VAC and 24VAC.
 - Check the power supply is actually outputting a voltage, use a multimeter set to AC Volts to check.
 - Check the barrel jack or the screw terminals are making good contact/connection.
- 2. The trace on screen looks like a clipped sine wave or sloped square wave.**
 - Make sure the oscilloscope is set to XY mode, on analog scopes this is probably a front panel setting or switch, with digital scopes this setting will be in the menu tree.
- 3. Trace on screen is vertical, not horizontal.**
 - The BNC jack leads are reversed – swap the leads over.
- 4. My trace is horizontal, but is sloped.**
 - If the setting switch is set to Low, move it to the High position
 - On an Analog oscilloscope, various magnetic fields can affect the trace position; a trace rotation screw is often included on the front panel to allow the user to correct the trace alignment to the graticule, use a small screwdriver to turn this rotation screw.
- 5. The horizontal line is too long and makes readings hard to assess.**
 - If making changes to the volts/division controls does not reduce the trace width, try using a lower voltage to power the tracER. Typically a 9 – 12 VAC supply will give a shorter line than an 18V – 24VAC supply.
- 6. My display shows loops similar to the image below:-**



This issue is often due to the input polarity setting on the oscilloscope being set to AC rather than DC. Check the polarity and change. With Analog units, this is likely a front panel switch or button. Digital units will have the setting in the menu tree.

This image shows the correct trace alignment with inputs set to DC:-

