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Subject: Re: Class D amplification

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 20 Oct 2015 20:08:21 GMT

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I know what you mean. I've seen a lot of audio "darlings" come and go. Most times, they're fine and I have nothing to dislike in them. They're not the second coming, but they're not buttered poop either. They're just fine.

The Gaincard/Gainclone LM38xx-based amps were like that. Not bad, not bad at all. Not magic, but not bad.

Same with the Tripath amps, which is essentially what we're talking about here. I really like some of those amps.

I think I still prefer SET amps, but the perceived improvement isn't stark. It's pretty subtle, really.

As long as an amplifier is used within its limits, it's generally a commodity item to me. Not completely, but again, the differences are subtle between really good amps.

I will admit, though, that the Class D (or T) digital amps are a completely different paradigm. I'm not sure one can compare all the analog topologies in the same breath as comparing the digital designs. Still, even with their differences, I find each of these varied types of amplifiers to be perceptually similar in performance, provided they are used within their limits.

Now difference in speakers - that's night and day. That's why I spend so much more energy focused on them.

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