## **Spectrum Analyzer Basics**

### Simplified Block Diagram



#### **Major Controls**

Frequency Sweep	Set Start/Stop or Center/Span
Reference Level	Define what power level the top of the display corresponds to (in dBm)
<b>Resolution Bandwidth</b>	Selects IF filter, determining resolution of display in frequency
	Also affects sweep speed, noise floor, etc.
Video Bandwidth	Controls averaging of noise out of detector
Attenuator	Protects mixer from strong signals, improves compression point and
	intermodulation performance of analyzer.
Marker	Reads-out frequencies/amplitudes

# Using the HP4195A Spectrum Analyzer

#### Setting the Mode and Connecting the Input

- { In the MEASURE button group, hit the CONFIG button
- { Choose SPECTRUM from the softkeys next to the screen
- { Connect your input signal to the R1 connector in the CHANNEL 1 group

#### Setting the Frequency Sweep

- { In the SWEEP group, hit START, and then enter a start frequency.
- { Hit **STOP** and then **enter a stop frequency**.
- { Alternatively, you can enter a CENTER frequency and a SPAN.

#### Setting the Amplitude Scale

- { In the **TRACE** group, hit **SCALE REF**.
- { Use the softkeys to enter new parameters. [Note: The Reference Level is the power level at the top of the graph (default is 0 dBm). The default scale is 10 dB/division.]

#### Using the Marker

- { Hit MKR-> in the MARKER/LINE CURSOR group.
- { Use the softkeys to move the marker to the maximum, to recenter the screen around the maximum, etc.

#### **Printing/Plotting**

- { Hit COPY, then HP\_IBdefine, and then TALKonly to put into the proper mode
- { Hit COPY, then Start
- { After printing stops, use the form-feed (FF) button on printer to advance paper and then tear off

#### Hints and Tips

- { If the sweep stops, hit **TRIG** and the **CONTmode** (it sometimes gets confused and stuck in a single-sweep mode)
- { If the analyzer complains about input signal too high, hit **REF ATTN** in the **CHANNEL 1** group at the bottom of the unit. Enter a new attenuation of 30 dB. <u>NEVER, EVER</u>, enter anything less than 10 dB unless you are *ABSOLUTELY*, *100%*, *POSITIVELY SURE ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING* (and can afford to pay for repairs!).