High Power Density AC-DC/ DC-DC/ DC-AC Conversion Techniques



7 - 8 DECEMBER 2020





Technical Co-Sponsor:



Supported by:







Presented by HJ Chiu Dean, Office of Industry-academia Collaboration National Taiwan University of Science and Technology Dec. 07, 2020 @ IEEE PECon in Malaysia







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Xi-men-ding Shopping District



Taipei Main Station



Presidential Office Building



Da-dao-cheng Wharf Taipei Songshan Airport



- Located in the most well-known university area in Taipei
- Easily accessed by Metro Rapid Transit and buses
- 10 minutes away from downtown area







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Taipei Arena





New Life Square Shopping District



Sun Yat-sen Memorial



Eastern District of Taipei



World University Rankings





Center for Power Electronic Technologies





Research Topics



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Switching Power Supplies

- --Adaptor
- --PC Power
- --TV Power
- --Server Power



Renewable Energy

- --Solar Power
- --Fuel Cell

Lighting Applications

- --LED
- --HID
- --Fluorescent







Design Projects

- Funding over US\$1,000,000/year supported by industry
- IC vendors: ST, TI, Infineon, ON semiconductor
- Power supply manufacturers: Delta, Lite-ON, FSP, AcBel, Meanwell
- System manufacturers: Chroma, ASUS, Gigabyte





Achievements & Honors

Grand Prize, US\$10,000

Grand Prize, US\$10,000

2013 International Future Energy Challenge (IEEE IFEC) – Columbus, Ohio

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Google Little Box Challenge Academic Award, US\$30,000

Primary Academic Institution	Principal Investigator
University of Colorado Boulder	Khurram K. Afridi
National Taiwan University of Science and Technology	<u>Huang-Jen Chiu</u>
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University of Stuttgart	Jörg Roth-Stielow
Queensland University of Technology	Geoff Walker

Empower a Billion Lives (EBL) US\$4,000

Pacific Asia Regional Award





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「小盒子挑戰賽學術獎」三萬美元獎金

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International Academic Activities



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Introduction to High Power Density Converters

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Special thanks to Prof. Yu-Chen Liu, National I-Lan University



Demand for Higher Power Density and Higher Efficiency

Data Center Power Supplies



Renewable Energy Inverters



Electric Vehicles



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Design Example From CPES (VT)



600V GaN based Converter



The State-of-the-Art:

Frequency: 100 KHz Efficiency: 96% Power density: 30 W/in³

Objectives:

Frequency: >1MHz Efficiency: > 96% Power density: > 200W/in³ Design for Manufacturability



Wide Bandgap Devices

- Better reverse-recovery characteristics
- Faster switching speeds
- Can reduce switching and driver loss at MHz switching
- Used for high-efficiency high-power-density converters







High-Frequency Converters

✓ How high-frequency converters achieve high efficiency:

- Soft-Switching
- Commonly used topologies for high efficiency
 - Phase-Shifted Full Bridge (PSFB) Converter
 - LLC Resonant Converter



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High-Frequency Converters

✓ How high-frequency converters achieve high efficiency:

- Soft-Switching
- Commonly used topologies for high efficiency
 - Phase-Shifted Full Bridge (PSFB) Converter
 - LLC Resonant Converter



Disadvantages

- Lagging leg cannot achieve zero voltage switching (ZVS) at light-load conditions
- Additional magnetic components (inductor) needed at output

Phase Shift Full Bridge Converter

High-Frequency Converters

✓ How high-frequency converters achieve high efficiency:

- Soft-Switching
- Commonly used topologies for high efficiency
 - Phase-Shifted Full Bridge (PSFB) Converter
 - LLC Resonant Converter

Compared with PSFB Converter

- When resonant converter operates in LLC region, primary-side ZVS is independent of load
- Secondary-side ZCS achieved
- No extra magnetic components needed, in addition to transformer

High-Frequency LLC Converter

✓ 100-kHz LLC Converter

Specifications and Parameters

Parameter	Value	
Input Voltage	380 V	
Output Voltage	12 V	
Output Power	1 kW	
Device	Serial number	
Primary -side MOSFET ($Q_1 \ Q_2$)	IPP60R099C7	
Secondary-side MOSFET ($Q_3 \ Q_4$)	BSC028N06NS	
Core of Transformer	PQ32/30 (Material: P47)	
Core of Resonant Inductor	PQI26/12 (Material: P47)	
Device	Value	
Turns Ratio	16	
Magnetizing Inductor (Lm)	140 µH	
Resonant Inductor (Lr)	25 µH	
Resonant Capacitor (C _r)	48.2 nF	
Output Capacitor (C _o)	5.96 mF	

High-Frequency LLC Converter

✓ 100-kHz LLC Converter Power Loss Analysis

Main losses are transformer copper loss and secondary-side switch conduction loss

High-Frequency LLC Converter

✓ 100-kHz LLC Converter Power Loss Analysis

- Main losses are transformer copper loss and secondary-side switch conduction loss
- Others include resonant inductor loss and driver loss

High-Frequency LLC Converter

\checkmark Pros and Cons increasing frequency to 1 MHz

- Advantage
 - <u>Reduce transformer size</u>
 - Use leakage inductance of transformer as resonant inductor
 - Small resonant inductance is very improves efficiency and decreases volume
- Disadvantage
 - <u>Core loss</u> and <u>switching loss</u> will increase

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High-Frequency LLC Converter

1-MHz LLC Converter Power Loss Analysis

- $V_{in} = 380 V, V_o = 12 V, P_o = 1 kW$
- Main losses are core loss and switching loss

High-Frequency LLC Converter

✓ Comparison of 1-MHz and 100-kHz LLC Converter

- At high frequency:
 - Core loss increased by 37.65 W
 - Switching loss increased by 2.05 W
 - Driver loss increased by 3.88 W

High-Frequency LLC Converter

✓ 1-MHz LLC Converter Optimization

- At high frequencies, optimization of the magnetic components and switching losses are critical
- Core loss increases with switching frequency, so a core material suitable for high frequency applications should be utilized
- AC resistance of the magnetic coil increases with frequency, which increases copper wire loss
- Even though zero voltage switching (ZVS) is achieved on switch turn on, there is still some turn-off loss and reverse-recovery loss
- Faster switches (wide bandgap devices) can be used for their faster switch-off time to further reduce losses

Magnetic Component Loss

✓ Transformer Loss

- Core Loss
 - Core Material, AC Flux Density, Frequency
- Copper Loss
 - **Copper thickness, MMF, Air Gap, Frequency**

Copper Loss: Resistive Loss

- ✓ Loss from DC Resistance
 - Related to wire length and cross-sectional area, does not depend on frequency
- ✓ Loss from AC Resistance
 - Related to switching frequency, magnetic field strength, and cross-sectional area
 - Skin effect: effect of eddy currents caused by current flow through the conductor itself
 - **Proximity effect:** effect of eddy currents caused by current flow through an adjacent conductor
 - Skin and proximity effect cause current to be unevenly distributed, increasing effective resistance
 - Using PCB traces reduces the skin effect since the thickness can be controlled
 - Thus, the proximity effect is the main source of loss in highfrequency transformers that use layer-stacked windings

Copper Loss: Skin Effect

Skin Effect Simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

- **Comparing copper loss of litz wire and PCB traces**
- **Conditions: 5 A of current, same cross-sectional copper area** •

Copper Loss: Proximity Effect

Proximity effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

- Transformer can be modeled in Maxwell 2D for the LLC resonant converter
- Copper losses can be compared for different windings

Copper Loss: Proximity Effect

✓ Proximity effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

Case 1: Non-interleaved windings

At 100 kHz, 7.22 W of loss

At 1 MHz, 22 W of loss

Copper Loss: Proximity Effect

✓ Proximity effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

Case 2: Partially-interleaved windings

At 100 kHz, 1 W of loss

At 1 MHz, 3 W of loss

Copper Loss: Proximity Effect

Proximity effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

Case 3: Interleaved windings

At 100 kHz, 0.8 W of loss

At 1 MHz, 1.8 W of loss

Copper Loss: Proximity Effect

✓ Comparison Summary

- Losses for each winding structure are summarized in the table below
- AC resistance (R_{ac}) is much higher at higher frequencies than lower frequencies
- For transformer windings, if complete interleaving is not possible, partial interleaving can still greatly reduce copper loss
- At 1 MHz and higher, complete interleaving is most effective to reduce overall copper loss

Winding Structure	100 kHz	1 MHz
Non-Interleaved	7.22 W	22 W
Partial-Interleaved	1 W	3 W
Interleaved	0.8 W	1.8 W

Copper Loss: Fringing Effect

✓ Fringing Effect Basics

- In transformer applications, an air gap can be added to reduce the attenuation of inductance caused by high DC bias
- However, increasing the air gap also increases leakage flux
- Leakage flux through the conductor can cause eddy currents to generate hot spots and further losses

Copper Loss: Fringing Effect

Fringing effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

- Transformer with air gap can be modeled in Maxwell 2D •
- Effects of different air gaps can be compared •
- Case 1: Litz Wire •

1.53 W

Adding a gap at any location increases losses by 2.5 to 3.7 times

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Copper Loss: Fringing Effect

✓ Fringing effect simulation using ANSYS Maxwell 2D

- Case 2: PCB Windings
 - > Adding a gap at any location increases losses by 1.6 to 2.58 times
 - Compared to litz wire, the PCB windings are less affected by the fringing effect

Power Loss Summary

✓ Transformer total loss

- For transformers operating at 1 MHz, <u>electromagnetic effects</u> and losses are amplified
- It is important to <u>design for reduced core and copper loss</u>
- Core Loss
 - Eddy Current Loss: Choose an appropriate core material for high switching frequency
 - <u>Hysteresis Loss</u>: Considering core loss at high frequency operation, B_{max} should be designed to be less than 1000 Gauss

Copper Loss

- **<u>Rdc Loss</u>**: Need to consider cross-sectional area and length
- Rac Loss
 - □ <u>Skin Effect Loss</u>: Choose an appropriate conductor thickness
 - □ **<u>Proximity Effect Loss</u>**: Reduce loss with interleaved windings
 - Fringing Effect Loss: Choose a proper air gap position and winding shape to reduce losses

Fractional-Turn Transformer Structure Analysis

- Specifications: V_{in} =380 V, V_o =12 V, P_o =1 kW, f_{sw} =1 MHz
- Find out the design of the best fractional-turn transformer turns ratio under this specification
- Only considers core loss and copper loss during analysis

- $N_t = 4$ yields the minimum transformer loss
- Transformer turns ratio is 4:0.25
 4 sets of center taps are required on the secondary side


Quarter-Turn Transformer Design

- Specifications: V_{in}=380 V, V_o=12 V
- Equivalent Turns ratio: 16:1
- Fractional-turn transformer's turns ratio: 4:0.25



Fractional-turn LLC converter



Transformer primary side wiring





Quarter-Turn Transformer Design

- ✓ The winding layers and SRs arrangement (SPPS)
 - □ The primary windings are the middle layers, and the center-tapped secondary windings are the top/bottom layers
 - □ The SRs and capacitors are mounted directly on the secondary windings
 - □ In this way, the SR's termination loss is greatly reduced







Quarter-Turn Transformer Design

✓ Confirm the secondary current distribution using Q3D
 □ Except for the corners, they are evenly distributed.



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Quarter-Turn Transformer Design

- The secondary side is a quarter turn
 - > Effectively reduces copper loss
- Core height: 6mm
- Circuit volume: 26.4cm³







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Quarter-Turn Transformer Design

- ✓ Peak efficiency at half load is 97.01%
 - Primary side switch: GS66516T
 - Secondary side switch: BSC010N04LS
 - Core material: 3F46







Loss analysis results at full load



Transformer Structure Comparison



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Transformer Structure Comparison

Structure Item	Stacked PCB Winding	Integrated Matrix Transformer	Quarter-Turn Transformer
РСВ			
Advantage	 Symmetric rectifier current path Shorter rectifier current path 	 High power density Core loss reduction 	Lowest number of secondary- side turns is a fractional turn, and secondary-side loss can be effectively reduced
Disadvantage	 Complex design Limited by iron core high Higher termination loss 	 The minimum number of secondary-side turns is 1 Secondary-side copper loss cannot be effectively reduced 	The secondary-side layout must be symmetrical, otherwise it causes current and magnetic flux imbalance





High Power Density DC-DC Converter

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IEEE IFEC 2017, Blacksburg



System Architecture

- Operation frequency: 120~190 kHz
- L6599A is used as control IC

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- IR11688s is self-adaptive SR control IC
- L6599A is supplied by auxiliary power





Power Density

- 1st version
 - Power Density: 7.44 W/cm³ or 121.93 W/in³
- 2nd version
 - > Power Density:

9.94 W/cm³ or 162.88 W/in³



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- Operation frequency: ~ 500 kHz
- DSP chip TMS320F28035 is used as the controller
- DSP is supplied by auxiliary power
- Tested under closed-loop control
- All GaN devices are used





Version	Power Density	Core of Transformer
1st	5.32 W/cm ³ or 87.18 W/in ³	31.75 * 20.3 * 9.5 mm ³ (Material: P61)
2nd	7.93 W/cm ³ or 129.97 W/in ³	24 * 20.3 * 9.5 mm ³ (Material: P61)

11.1 cm



1st version (Height: 1cm)

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12.7 cm



9.6 cm

2nd version(Height: 1cm)

Efficiency Curve



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GaN based server power supply







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high power density/ small form factor/ digital control 51





GaN based server power module

Circuit P	Parameters
Input/ Output voltages	380V/12V
Output Power	800W
Switching Freq.	1MHz
Primary Switches	GS66508T
Secondary Switches	BSC0500NSi
Core Material	ML91S
Turns Ratio	16:1
Dimension	6.5cm x 3.2cm x 0.7cm

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Prototype





GaN based 48V DC-DC module

Circuit Paramete	ers
Input Voltage	48 V
Output Voltage	6 V
Output Current	190 A
Output Power	1100W
Efficiency	98 %
Power Density	70 W/cm ³
Transformer Turns Ratio	2:0.25
Core Material	P63
Primary Switches	EPC2053
Secondary Switches	EPC2023
Primary Driver IC	LM5113
Secondary Driver IC	UCC27611
Resonant Capacitance	1.05 μF
Resonant Inductance	23 nH
Magnetizing Inductance	2.4 μH

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GaN based 48V DC-DC module





GaN based 48V DC-DC module

– Peak Efficiency 98.2%

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Power Density 70 W/cm³



Power Losses@1100W



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GaN based 48V DC-DC module



1. M. H. Ahmed, F. C. Lee and Q. Li, "Two-Stage 48V VRM With Intermediate Bus Voltage Optimization For Data Centers," in IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Power Electronics.

2. Z. Ye, R. A. Abramson and R. C.N. Pilawa-Podgurski, " A 48-to-6 V Multi-Resonant-Doubler Switched-Capacitor Converter for Data Center Applications," 2020 Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition (APEC)



GaN based totem-pole bridgeless CCM PFC

G566516B (e4)



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	low fre	equei	T ncy leg	

High frequency leg

Item	Value
V _{in}	90~264Vac
Efficiency	99% @ 230Vac
Power Factor	0.99
V _{out(max)}	400V
Output power	1kW @ 90-132V 2.6kW @ 180-264V
Control IC	TMS320F28035
High Freq. Switches	GS66516B









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GaN based totem-pole bridgeless CCM PFC





GaN based totem-pole bridgeless CCM PFC





GaN based totem-pole bridgeless CCM PFC



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GaN based totem-pole bridgeless CCM PFC



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High power density GaN based adaptor

Item		Valu	e
V _{in}		110 V	ac
Vo		19 Vo	lc
Po		45 V	V
Turns ratio		12:2	2
Fs		518kl	Ηz
Core		ERI2	5
Efficiency		93%	,)
V _{out} (V)	I _{out} (A)	P _{out} (%)	Efficiency (%)
19.065	0.5945	25	91.40
19.064	1.1799	50	92.57
19.063	1.7644	75	93.77
19.063	2.3647	100	94.18

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Miniaturization







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High Power Density Bidirectional Converters

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System Architecture

- First stage: Open-Loop CLLC resonant converter
- Second stage: Multiphase SR Buck/Boost converter
- TMS320F28069 is used as controller
- Bluetooth is used for communication





CLLC Resonant Converter

Advantages:

- Primary side achieves ZVS over full load range
- Secondary side achieves ZCS in LLC region







Transformer Design



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Transformer Design

✓ Transformer with controllable leakage integration

- Without primary and secondary resonant inductors
- Increasing the power density









Transformer Design

✓ Transformer with controllable leakage integration

- The ratio between center leg and outer leg
- Check the coupling coefficient by MAXWELL
- Turns ratio is 9:3



Width of	Coupling	I (II)	T (TT)
Center Leg	Coefficient	$L_{lkp}(\mu \mathbf{\Pi})$	L _{lks} (μΠ)
0.1mm	0.9291	7.08	0.871
0.2mm	0.9197	7.58	0.934
0.3mm	0.9116	8.06	0.994
0.4mm	0.9044	8.49	1.04
0.5mm	0.8981	8.89	1.98
0.6mm	0.8922	9.29	1.14
0.7mm	0.8869	9.64	1.19
0.8mm	0.8820	10.02	1.24
0.9mm	0.8774	10.40	1.29
1.0mm	0.8731	10.79	1.34



Transformer Design

✓ Transformer with controllable leakage integration

- PCB winding for the transformer
- Interleaved structure for lower MMF
- Check the value of Magnetomotive Force







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DC Buffer Multiphase SR Buck/Boost Converter

Advantages:

- Using the output inductor can reduce the current ripple
- The Triangular Current Mode is used to achieve ZVS

Disadvantages:

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• The control method is complicated



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DC Buffer Multiphase SR Buck/Boost converter

✓ ZVS condition

- **I**_R is the key point for ZVS
- When I_R is large, it causes the higher conduction loss
- When I_R is lower, it loses the property of ZVS





Whole System& 3D Model












Midterm version Power density: 1.6 W/cm³

- Six-layers PCB layout
- Volume: 24.93*8.1*3.27 (cm³)



 \approx

• Twelve-layers PCB layout

Final version

• Volume: 16.93*8.1*3.27 (cm³)

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Power density: 2.3 W/cm³





Efficiency Curves: Whole System

Forward Mode

• The efficiency is $93.41(V_0=48V)$, $94.43\%(V_0=45V)$ and $92.78\%(V_0=40V)$

Reverse Mode

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• The efficiency is 92.39%, 94.07% and 93.59% with V_{dc} =50V





Experimental Results

- CLLC test waveform (Forward Mode)
- V_{in}=400V V_o=66V













Experimental Results

- CLLC test waveform (Reverse Mode)
- $V_{in} = 66V V_o = 400V$











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Experimental Results

- SR buck test waveform (Forward Mode)
- $V_{bus} = 66V V_o = 40V$



1000W







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Experimental Results

- SR buck test waveform (Forward Mode)
- V_{bus} =66V V_o =48V



1000W







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Experimental Results

- SR buck test waveform (Reverse Mode)
- V_{in} =48V V_{bus} =66V











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SiC-based High Power Density Bidirectional DC-DC Converter

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DAB Bidirectional DC-DC Converter



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18kW/ 300kHz SiC-based HPD DAB Converter













SiC based bidirectional power

- **Switching frequency** > 300kHz
- **High power density**
- **D** Robust and simple control
- □ **Bi-directional power conversion**





High Power Density PV Inverter

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Google LBC Academic Award, 2015





Google Little Box Academic Award

Primary Academic Institution	Principal Investigator
University of Colorado Boulder	Khurram K. Afridi
National Taiwan University of Science and Technology	Huang-Jen Chiu
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid	José A. Cobos
Texas A&M University	Prasad Enjeti
ETH Zürich	Johann W. Kolar
University of Bristol	Neville McNeill
Case Western Reserve University	Timothy Peshek
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	Robert Pilawa-Podgurski
University of Stuttgart	Jörg Roth-Stielow
Queensland University of Technology	Geoff Walker



Photovoltaic Inverters





LBC Specifications

Parameter	Requirement	Comment
Maximum load	2 kVA	Load will be adjusted so that at most 2 kVA is sourced at 240 V RMS AC output at 60 Hz
Power density	> 50 W/in ³	In accordance with maximum load and volume requirements
Volume	< 40 in ³	Require rectangular enclosure, max dimension 20 in., min 0.5 in.
Voltage input	450 V DC, 10 Ω Resistor	See voltage source description
Voltage output	240 +/- 12 V AC	Single phase. See description below
Frequency output	60 +/- 0.3 Hz	Single phase
Power factor of load	0.7-1	Leading and lagging, load description below
Voltage output THD+N	< 5%	Total harmonic distortion+noise



Inverter Topology





Parallel Ripple Decoupler Topology



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Overall Power Stage





Reverse Current Control



 \times Without reverse current control it may cause high RMS current

✓ Maintain reverse current to a fixed value





Inverter Inductor Current



Set reverse-current as 5 A

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Circuit Specifications

Parameter	Value
Maximum load	2 kW
Input voltage	450 V DC, 10 Ω resistor
Output voltage	240 V AC
Output frequency	60 Hz
Power factor of load	1 (Resistive load)
Ripple decoupler switching frequency	700 kHz
Inverter switching frequency	200~500 kHz



Thansphorm TPH3205WS GaN HEMT are used as power switches



Reverse-Current Control





Output Voltage Waveform



@ 2000 W



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DC/AC efficiency (CEC): 96.5 %



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Power Density

Top View



Volume : 22.055 in³ Dimensions : 5.985 inch x 3.685 inch x 1.000 inch Power density: 90.682 W/ in³

Side View



Google Little Box Academic Award

Google granted US\$30,000 award for research of high power density PV inverters







Thank you for your attention!



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