RENESAS

USER'S MANUAL

ISL6745EVAL2Z

Offline High Brightness White LED Driver with High Power Factor for Universal Input

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Introduction

The ISL6745UEVAL2Z utilizes Intersil's double-ended voltage mode PWM controller for a SEPIC converter application requiring a constant output current. It consists of separate assemblies for the driver and for the LED board, which supports as many as 21 high brightness LEDs. The LED driver board converts a universal (85V to 275VAC) AC input to a DC output rated at 300mA. The design can be further optimized for applications that do not require universal AC input. ISL6745LEVAL2Z is for 80V to 140V applications.

Worldwide, on average, 19% of the electric power goes for lighting [\[1](#page-13-0)1]. In 2000, about 567BKWH of electric energy (or 16% of the nation's electric energy in the United States) is for residential, commercial or industrial lighting [[22](#page-13-1)], [3[\]33](#page-13-2). The commonly used lighting technologies include incandescent and halogen bulbs, fluorescent and compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps. Generally, the efficiency of the lighting sources is indexed by efficacy, or lumen per watt weighted to the sensitivity of the human eye. The efficacy of typical energy saving CFL lamps is around 7%~8%, compared with 2% for the conventional the incandescent bulbs [4]. With the advancement of new materials and manufacturing processes, the economics and performance of high brightness LEDs are now attracting the attention of academia and industry. For instance, in 2006, Cree Inc. demonstrated a prototype with a record white LED luminous efficacy of 131 lm/W [5]. Compared with commonly used lighting sources, white LEDs provide equivalent or superior efficacy, and improvements are announced frequently. Unlike the CFLs, LEDs contains no mercury, and are less susceptible to breakage. They have a very long expected life (100,000 hours, more than 10x as much as CFLs), and high on/off repetition capability. Of particular interest, they are easy to power when compared to many traditional sources. The practical application of LED lighting for commercial and residential applications has become a reality. The typical operating current of the high brightness LED is about 300mA~1000mA. The typical drive voltage for high brightness white LED is about 2.5V to 4V.

The ISL6745UEVAL2Z evaluation board is a reference design for powering high brightness white LEDs. It utilizes the ISL6745 voltage mode PWM controller in the single-ended primary inductance converter (SEPIC) topology to convert a universal ac input to a variable 300mA DC output. See Figure [1.](#page-0-0)

This application note describes the circuit operation design constraints, description of the evaluation board, and its performance.

FIGURE 1. TOP VIEW OF DRIVE AND LED BOARDS

Key Features

- Universal AC Input
- Dimmable LED Brightness
- High Power Factor
- Overvoltage Protection
- Overcurrent Protection
- Transformerless

Specifications for ISL6745UEVAL2Z

- Input AC Voltage 85V to 275VAC (50Hz~60Hz)
- Outputs DC . Up to 300mA
- Output DC Voltage Ripple . 5%
- Typical Efficiency . 75%
- Typical Power Factor . >0.95

Operation Mechanism and Design Constraints

A simplified offline SEPIC converter for LED lighting applications is shown in Figure [3](#page-1-0), where the voltage across C_1 is the rectified AC voltage. A current sense resistor is placed in series with the switch S_1 . A second resistor is placed in series with the LED string to sense the load current. The control signals include the load current and switch current. The output voltage is sensed for the purpose of output overvoltage protection (OVP). Since the input capacitor C_1 is very small, the voltage waveform is the rectified input voltage, and the voltage applied to the SEPIC converter is approximately a rectified sinusoidal. To achieve high power factor, the envelope of the converter input current must track the rectified input voltage waveform. This is accomplished when the converter is operated at a constant switching frequency, a constant duty ratio, and while operating in the discontinuous conduction mode (DCM). Assuming the impedance of the power source is negligible, the voltage across C_1 is given in Equation [1,](#page-1-1) where subscript I denotes input AC line, and V_I is the amplitude of the input AC voltage with frequency ω_{l} .

$$
v_{C1}(t) = V_{\parallel} \sin(\omega_1 t) \tag{Eq. 1}
$$

If the switching frequency of the converter is much higher than the utility frequency, and C_2 is properly sized, the voltage across C_2 will be equal to the voltage across C_1 . A feedback voltage, V_m , is created by the error amplifier. V_m is the amplified difference between the LED current, Io, and the reference voltage, Ir. Varying the reference voltage causes a proportional change in the LED brightness. The current signal from the current sense resistor, Rcs, which is connected in series with the boost switch S1, is compared with the overcurrent threshold for overcurrent protection. A sawtooth carrier signal is compared with the feedback signal Vm and generates the PWM signal to control the turn on/off of the switch. Typical waveforms of the inductor current, switch and diode currents are shown in Figure [2.](#page-1-2)

FIGURE 2. TYPICAL OPERATION WAVEFORMS

FIGURE 3. SEPIC CONVERTER FOR LED LIGHTING

TABLE 1. SEPIC CONVERTER

TABLE 1. SEPIC CONVERTER (Continued)

NAME	DESCRIPTION
C_F	Feedback Capacitor
I_{ADJ}	Brightness Dimming Control
СS	The MOSFET Current
Dς	Output Diode

There are three stages of operations:

- 1. The switch turns on, Diode is off.
- 2. The switch turns off, the diode is on.
- 3. Both switch and diode are off.

During each switching period, the following circuit equations can be derived.

SWITCH S1 TURNS ON

At the beginning of the cycle, when switch S1 turns on, the free-wheeling current in L_1 is $I_{L1}(0)$ and the voltage across the input inductor L_1 is V_{C_1} . The freewheeling current in L_1 is $I_{1,1}(0)$. The voltage applied to the input inductor L₁ is V_{C1}. Since the voltage across C_2 equals V_{C1} , the same voltage is applied to $L₂$. The inductor currents are given in Equation [2,](#page-2-0) where 0 denote the initial condition of the state variables. The switch current is the sum of the two inductor currents, and is given in Equation [3](#page-2-1). This stage ends at t_{ON} .

$$
i_{L1}(t) = i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_1}t
$$
 (EQ. 2)

$$
i_{L2}(t) = -i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_2}t
$$

$$
i_{Q}(t) = i_{L1(t)} + i_{L2(t)} = \left(\frac{v_{C1}}{L_1} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_2}\right)t
$$
 (EQ. 3)

DIODE D5 CONDUCTS

The voltage applied to inductor L_1 is $-V_0$, the same as inductor L_2 . The current in L_1 decays according to Equation [4.](#page-2-2) The current in L_2 decays and reverses. This stage ends when i_{L1} equals $-i_{L2}$. The diode current is the sum of both the inductor currents. The currents are given in Equation [5](#page-2-3), where t_{ON} is the interval when the switch is on.

$$
i_{L1}(t) = \left(i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_1} t_{ON} - \left(\frac{v_{O}}{L_1} \right) t \right)
$$
(EQ.4)

$$
i_{L2}(t) = \left(i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_1} t_{ON} - \frac{v_{O}}{L_1} t \right)
$$

$$
i_{D}(t) = (v_{C1} t_{ON} - V_{O} t) \left(\frac{1}{L_1} + \frac{1}{L_2} \right)
$$
(EQ.5)

DIODE D5 AND SWITCH S1 BLOCKING

This is the freewheeling period of both inductors L_1 and L_2 . The freewheeling currents are given in Equation [6](#page-2-4).

$$
i_{L1}(1) = \left(i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_1} t_{ON} - \frac{v_O}{L_1} t_d \right)
$$

\n
$$
i_{L2}(1) = \left(i_{L1(0)} + \frac{v_{C1}}{L_2} t_{ON} - \frac{v_O}{L_1} t_d \right)
$$
 (EQ. 6)

where, the diode conducting time, t_d , is determined by the volt-second balance of the inductors, where V_I is the amplitude of the AC line voltage.

$$
t_{d} = \frac{t_{ON}}{V_{O}} V_{I} |sin \omega_{I} t|
$$
 (EQ. 7)

To ensure the converter operates in DCM, the freewheeling time should be greater than or equal to zero as expressed in Equation [8.](#page-2-5)

$$
t_s \ge t_{ON} + t_d \tag{EQ.8}
$$

Therefore, the duty ratio of the PWM is expressed in Equation [9](#page-2-6).

$$
d < \frac{V_O}{V_O + V_I}
$$
 (EQ. 9)

Averaging this diode current in one switching cycle gives the average output current $I_O(t)$ during that switching cycle.

$$
i_{O}(t) = \frac{1}{t_{s}} t \int_{0}^{t_{s}} i_{D}(t) dt = \frac{1}{L_{1} \| L_{2}} \frac{(t_{ON} V_{1} \sin(\omega_{1} t))2}{2t_{s} V_{O}}
$$
 (EQ. 10)

Averaging the $I_O(t)$ over one line period, yields the average current of the output, since the average output capacitor current is zero. Therefore, the output current equals the average diode current. The output current also equals the average current in inductor L_2 , since the average current in C_2 is zero. Therefore, the dominate ripple frequency is twice the line frequency as expressed in Equation [11](#page-2-7).

$$
i_{O} = \frac{1}{t_{1}} \int_{0}^{t_{1}} I_{O}(t) dt = \frac{1}{L_{1} \| L_{2}} \frac{d^{2} t_{s} V_{1}^{2}}{4 V_{O}}
$$
 (EQ. 11)

The constraints for selecting the inductors are expressed in Equation [12:](#page-2-8)

$$
L_1 \parallel L_2 < \left(\frac{V_1}{V_0 + V_1}\right)^2 \frac{t_s V_0}{4I_0}
$$
 (EQ. 12)

As can be seen, the maximum ripple current in the input inductor L_1 occurs at the peaks of the input voltages as expressed in Equation [13](#page-2-9).

$$
I_{1rp} = \frac{t_{ON}V_1}{L_1}
$$
 (EQ. 13)

Since, we assume unity power factor, and assume the power conversion efficiency is η as shown in Equation [14.](#page-2-10)

1 $\frac{1}{2}V_1I_1\eta = V_0I_0$ (EQ. 14)

If we define the ripple factor Krpi = Irp/Il, where Il is the peak of the input current, then the constraint for DCM operation of the converter is as expressed in Equation [15](#page-3-0).

$$
L_1 > \frac{t_{ON}V_1}{I_{rp}} = \frac{t_{ON}V_1}{K_{rp}I_1} = \frac{t_{ON}(V_1)^2 \eta}{2K_{rp}V_0I_0}
$$
(EQ. 15)

$$
L_2 < \left(\left[\frac{V_1 + V_0}{V_1} \right]^2 \frac{4I_0}{t_sV_0} - \frac{2K_{rp}V_0I_0}{t_{ON}V_1^2 \eta} \right]^{-1}
$$

In the above analysis, it is assumed that the voltage across the input capacitor C_1 is independent of the circuit operation and follows the rectified input voltage closely. Furthermore, the voltage across C_2 is identical to the voltage across C_1 . If the assumption is not correct, the current waveform will be distorted.

The input capacitor can be estimated by using Equation [16.](#page-3-1)

$$
C_1 = \frac{4K_{rpi}^{2}t_{s}dp}{K_{rpv}V_{1}^{2}L_{2}}
$$
 (EQ. 16)

The AC source delivers power as a sine wave. Since the input is rectified, power is delivered to the load at twice the input line frequency. Therefore, the ripple frequency on the output voltage is also twice of the line frequency. To reduce the ripple, the output capacitor needs to be selected according to Equation [17.](#page-3-2)

$$
C_{Q} > \frac{V_{1}I_{1}}{2V_{rp-p}V_{Q} \omega_{1}}
$$
 (EQ. 17)

The duty ratio is controlled by the difference between the reference signal $I_{AD,I}$ and the voltage across the current sense resistor R_S . By changing the current sense resistor, or the reference signal $I_{AD,I}$, the brightness of the LED can be dimmed. A Type I Error Amplifier is used as shown in Figure [3](#page-1-0), with the crossover frequency determined by the feedback capacitor C_{fb} and the resistor R, given in Equation [18](#page-3-3).

$$
\omega_{\rm C} = \frac{1}{\rm RC_{fo}}\tag{Eq. 18}
$$

The bandwidth should be less than the line frequency, so that the duty ratio of the converter does not disturb the sinusoidal power delivery from the source. Otherwise, harmonics appear in the input line current and degrade power factor. However, the bandwidth should be wide enough to allow adequate control of the load current. As a trade-off, the cut-off frequency can be around half of the line frequency.

Overvoltage protection is needed to protect the LED and converter from damage. Due to the nonlinear relationship between the diode current and voltage, a small increase in output voltage can cause a large increase in current. The overvoltage protection is implemented by comparing the output voltage with a constant reference voltage, and the comparator output is used to control a small FET in parallel with the softstart capacitor. Once the output voltage reaches the threshold, the FET is turned on, the soft-start capacitor discharged, and the duty cycle is reduced to zero. The PWM output is shutdown until the output voltage decays below the reset threshold. A new soft-start cycle begins at this time. This behavior repeats until the cause of the overvoltage is removed.

 I_{Ω} = 300mA

Waveforms

FIGURE 4. INPUT VOLTAGE AND CURRENT (VAC = 80V, I_{Ω} = 30mA

Waveforms **(Continued)**

FIGURE 6. INPUT VOLTAGE AND CURRENT, VAC = 240V, $I_{O} = 300mA$

FIGURE 8. OUTPUT VOLTAGE AND RIPPLE Io = 300mA FIGURE 9. OUTPUT VOLTAGE AND RIPPLE Io = 200mA

FIGURE 7. OUTPUT VOLTAGE AND RIPPLE I_O = 100mA

FIGURE 10. THE DRAIN-SOURCE VOLTAGE

Waveforms **(Continued)**

FIGURE 11. THE GATE SIGNAL AND DRAIN-SOURCE VOLTAGES

Performance of ISL6745UEVAL2Z

The schematic of the ISL6745UEVAL2Z evaluation board is shown in [page 12](#page-11-0). The bill of material (BOM) for universal AC application is shown on [page 8.](#page-7-0) Figure [1](#page-0-0) on [page 1](#page-0-0) shows photographs of the drive board and LED board. The configuration of the test bench is shown in Figure [12.](#page-5-0)

FIGURE 12. TEST BENCH CONFIGURATION

To perform the bench testing, the following equipment is necessary:

- Programmable AC power supply, 275VAC minimum
- Fan to cool heatsinks
- Oscilloscope, 4 channels, 20MHz minimum bandwidth
- DC electronic load, 1A minimum
- DC Multimeter
- Power meter with power factor calculation

When operating the evaluation board, certain precautions need to be followed.

- 1. The power stage of the evaluation board has exposed high voltage and demands extra caution when operating. The voltage rating of the probes should meet the highest voltage present in the board. Isolation of the oscilloscope power source is needed when doing the measurement.
- 2. Power source considerations: It is important to choose the correct connector when attaching the source supply. An appropriate AC power supply is needed with adjustable output voltage (up to 300V) and current (up to 0.5A) with current limit capability.
- 3. Loading considerations: It is important to have a firm connection when attaching the load. In case an electronic load is used instead of the LED board, an appropriate electronic load with current up to 500mA and voltage up to 80V is desirable.
- 4. Air flow conditions: Full rated power should never be attempted without providing the specified 200 CFM of airflow over the LED board. This can be provided by a stand-alone fan.
- 5. When applying power the first time, it is suggested to apply light load, and set the current limit of the source supply to less than 1.5x of the wattage of the load. Start the circuit with the minimum AC voltage (80V). A quick efficiency check is the best way to confirm proper operation.
- 6. To measure the output voltage ripple more accurately, it is suggested to measure as closely as possible to the converter's output terminals. Since the AC signal being measured is small relative to the DC level, care must be exercised to minimize noise pick-up from external sources. The bandwidth of the oscilloscope can be set to 20MHz. Use very short and direct connections to the oscilloscope probe such that the total loop area in the signal and ground connections is as small as possible.

Figure [10](#page-4-0) is the drain-source voltage of the switch. In Figure [11](#page-5-1), the D-S voltages of the MOSFET are shown with the corresponding gate signal at input peak and valley, respectively. Three distinct modes of operation can be observed.

- 1. As the FET is on, V_{DS} is zero. The input voltage is applied to the inductor L_1 , and the same voltage is applied to L_2 . During this interval, the output load is powered by the output capacitor.
- 2. When the FET gate signal is removed, the current in inductor L_1 begins to charge the capacitor C_2 and the output capacitor C_O through the output diode. At the same time, the inductor $L₂$ also charges the output capacitor. Power transfers from input to output.
- 3. Oscillation begins as this period is ended indicating DCM Oscillation begins as this period is ended molicating DCM Figures [4](#page-3-4), [5](#page-3-5) and [6](#page-4-1) show the input current and the voltage operation.

across the input capacitor C_1 for low line and high line operations. As can be seen from these waveforms, the power factor is comparatively high. Several possibilities can deteriorate the performance of the regulator:

- 1. L_1 and L_2 do not meet the design constraints causing the converter to operate in continuous conduction mode (CCM). Therefore, the energy stored in the inductors will be released to the DC capacitor C_1 , which will cause input current waveform distortion.
- 2. The control bandwidth exceeds.
- 3. The current sense signal reaches the peak current protection threshold. This may be caused by the saturation of the inductor, or improper setting of the current sense resistor, or OCP limit.
- 4. Improper choice of the output capacitor.
- 5. The intermediate capacitor C_2 is too big so that the voltage across it does not track the input voltage. The input current can be more distorted for high line operation since the capacitor C_2 can only be optimized for one input voltage.
- 6. The inductors get saturated. In this case, the peak current limit will be exceeded and the current waveform will contain large amount of third order harmonics.

The output voltage and LED current are shown in Figures [7,](#page-4-2) [8](#page-4-3) and [9](#page-4-4) for various load conditions. The voltage across the LED strings (of 21 LEDs in series) is shown in Figure [13.](#page-6-0) The output voltage increases almost linearly with the LED current as expected. The ripple of the output voltage is governed by Equation [16](#page-3-1) and is in proportion to the output power. The relation of the ripple to the load current is shown in Figure [14.](#page-6-1) The power factor versus input voltage for different LED currents is shown in Figure [15](#page-6-2). For most of the operational conditions, the power factor is above 0.9.

CAUTION: This evaluation unit should be used and operated only by persons experienced and knowledgeable in the design and operation of high voltage power conversion equipment. Use of this evaluation unit constitutes acceptance of all risk inherent in the operation of equipment having accessible hazardous voltage. Careless operation may result in serious injury or death. Use safety classes of other suitable eye protection. The maximum voltage of ISL6745LEVAL2Z is 140V.

Bill of Materials for ISL6745UEVAL2Z

Bill of Materials for ISL6745UEVAL2Z (Continued)

Bill of Materials for ISL6745LEVAL2Z

Bill of Materials for ISL6745LEVAL2Z **(Continued)**

Bill of Materials for ISL6745LEVAL2Z **(Continued)**

NOTES: Unless otherwise specified 1) All Capacitors are Ceramic 10% 2) All Resistors are 1%

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ISL6745EVAL2Z Layout

FIGURE 16. TOP SILKSCREEN

FIGURE 17. BOTTOM SILKSCREEN

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