

Solution for designing a fixed off-time controlled PFC pre-regulator with the L6564

Introduction

In this document we propose a third approach to the operation of PFC pre-regulators. In addition to the transition mode (TM) and the fixed-frequency continuous conduction mode (FF-CCM) operation of PFC pre-regulators, an alternative approach is offered that couples the simplicity and affordability of TM operation with the high-current capability of FF-CCM operation. This solution is a peak current-mode control with fixed-off-time (FOT). Design equations are given and a practical design for a 400 W board is illustrated and evaluated.

Two methods of controlling power factor corrector (PFC) pre-regulators, based on boost topology, are currently in use: the fixed-frequency (FF) PWM and the transition mode (TM) PWM (fixed on-time, variable frequency). The first method employs average current-mode control, a relatively complex technique requiring sophisticated controller ICs (e.g. the L4981A/B from STMicroelectronics) and a considerable component count. The second uses the more simple peak current-mode control, which is implemented with cheaper controller ICs (e.g. the L6561, L6562, L6562A and L6564 from STMicroelectronics), and much fewer external parts making it far more cost efficient. In the first method the boost inductor works in a continuous conduction mode (CCM), while TM makes the inductor work on the boundary between continuous and discontinuous mode. For a given power throughput, TM operation involves higher peak currents compared to FF-CCM (*Figure 1* and *Figure 2*).

Figure 1. Line, inductor, switch and diode currents in FF-CCM PFC

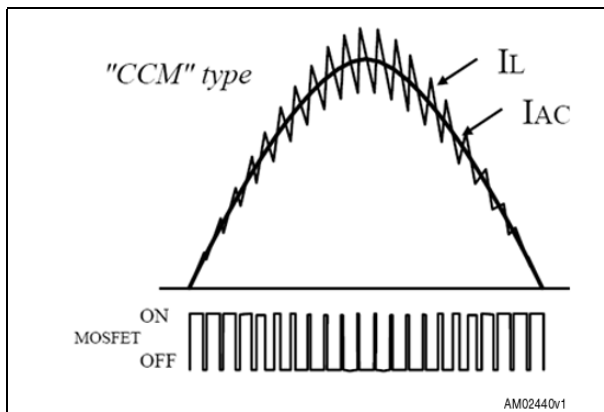
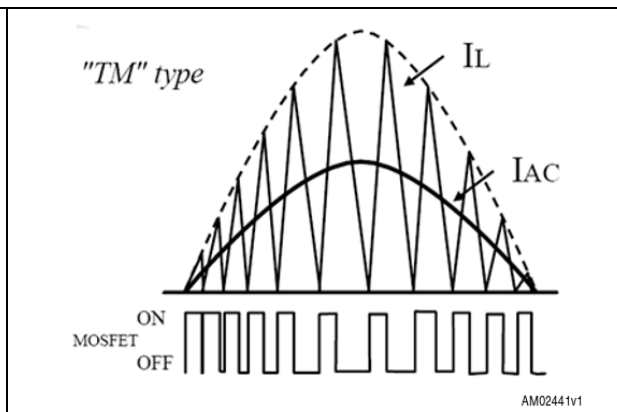


Figure 2. Line, inductor, switch and diode currents in TM PFC



This demonstration, consistent with the above mentioned cost considerations, suggests the use of TM in a lower power range, while FF-CCM is recommended for higher power levels.

This criterion, though always true, is sometimes difficult to apply, especially for a mid-range power level of around 150-300 W. Assessing which approach gives the better cost/performance trade-off needs to be done on a case-by-case basis, considering the cost and the stress of both power semiconductors and magnetics, but also of the EMI filter. At the same power level, the switching frequency component to be filtered out in a TM system is twice the line current, whereas it is typically 1/3 or 1/4 in a CCM system.

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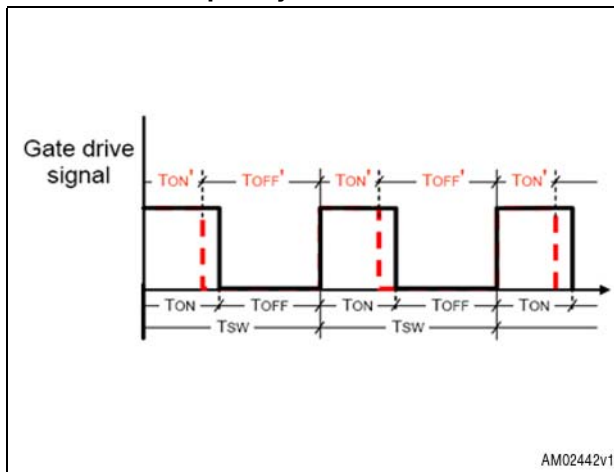
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1 Introduction to FOT control

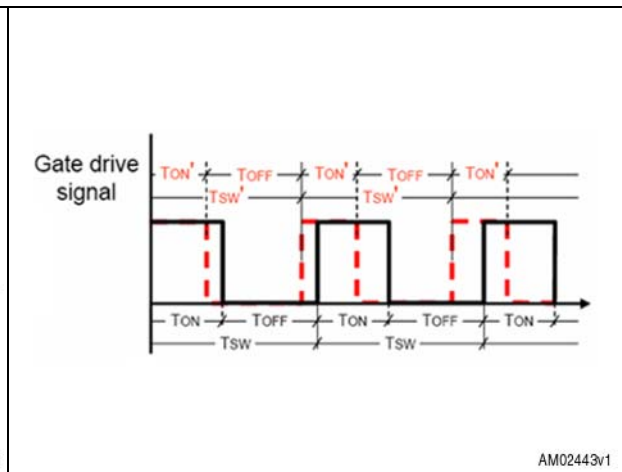
In the output power range already mentioned, where the TM/CCM usability boundary is uncertain, a third approach that couples the simplicity and affordability of TM operation with the high-current capability of CCM operation may offer a solution to the problem. Generally speaking, FF PWM is not the only alternative when CCM operation is desired. FF PWM modulates both switch on and off-times (their sum is constant by definition), and a given converter operates in either CCM or DCM depending on the input voltage and the loading conditions. Exactly the same result can be achieved if just the on-time is modulated and the off-time is kept constant, in which case, however, the switching frequency is no longer fixed (*Figure 3* and *Figure 4*). This is referred to as fixed-off-time (FOT) control. Peak-current-mode control can still be used.

Figure 3. Basic waveforms for fixed frequency PWM



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Figure 4. Basic waveforms for fixed-off-time PWM



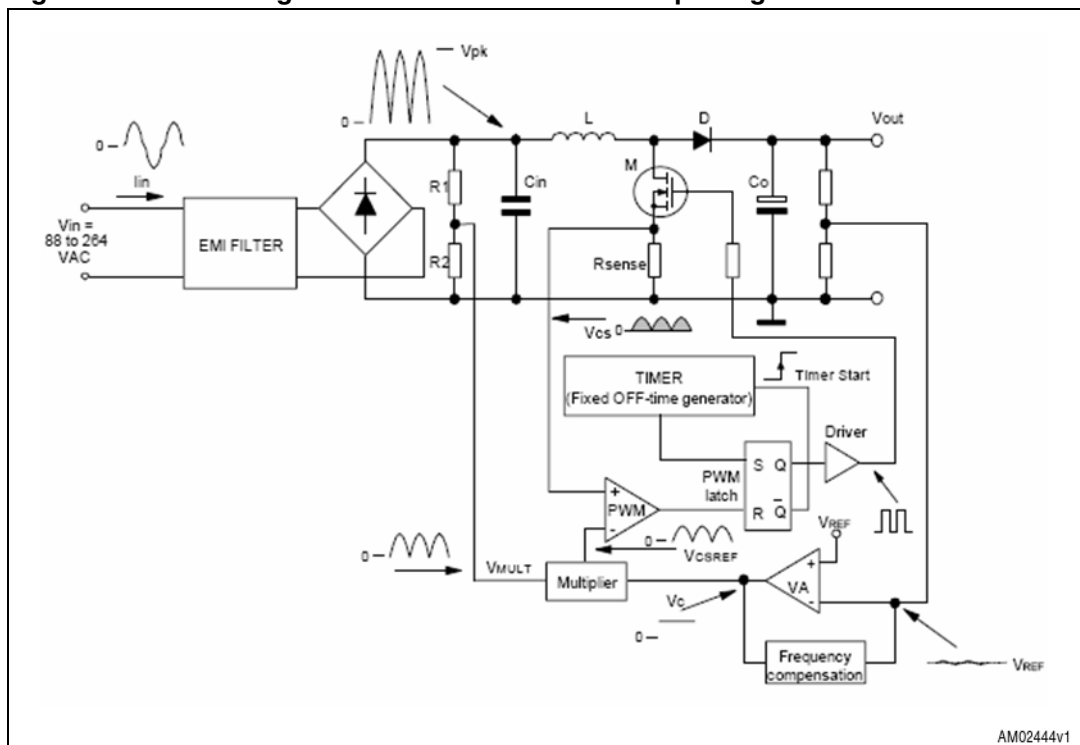
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It is worth noting that FOT control does not need a specialized control IC. A simple modification of a standard TM PFC controller operation, requiring just a few additional passive parts and no significant extra cost, is all that is needed.

2 Operation of an FOT- controlled PFC pre-regulator

In [Figure 5](#) a block diagram of an FOT-controlled PFC pre-regulator is shown. An error amplifier (VA) compares a portion of the pre-regulator's output voltage V_{out} with a reference V_{ref} and generates an error signal V_C proportional to their difference. V_C , a DC voltage by hypothesis, is fed into an input of the multiplier block and multiplied by a portion of the rectified input voltage V_{MULT} . At the output of the multiplier, there is a rectified sinusoid, V_{CSREF} whose amplitude is proportional to that of V_{MULT} and to V_C , which represents the sinusoidal reference for PWM modulation. V_{CSREF} is fed into the inverting input of a comparator that, on the non-inverting input, receives the voltage V_{CS} on the sense resistor R_{sense} , proportional to the current flowing through the M switch (typically a MOSFET) and the L inductor during the on-time of M. When the two voltages are equal, the comparator resets the PWM latch, and M, supposedly already on, is switched off.

Figure 5. Block diagram of an FOT-controlled PFC pre-regulator



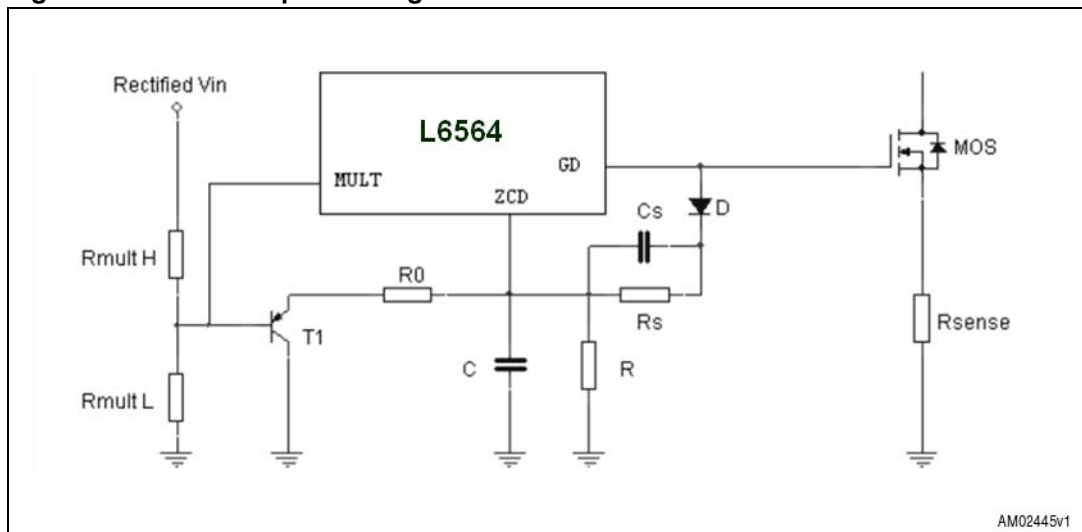
As a result, V_{CSREF} determines the peak current through M and the L inductor. As V_{CSREF} is a rectified sinusoid, the inductor peak current is also enveloped by a rectified sinusoid. The line current i_{in} is the average inductor current that is the low-frequency component of the inductor current resulting from the low-pass filtering operated by the EMI filter. The PWM latch output Q going high activates the timer that, after a predetermined time in which T_{OFF} has elapsed, sets the PWM latch, therefore turning M on and starting another switching cycle. If T_{OFF} is such that the inductor current does not fall to zero, the system operates in CCM. It is apparent that FOT control requires nearly the same architecture as TM control, the only change is the way the off-time of M is determined. It is not a difficult task to modify externally the operation of the standard TM PFC controller so that the off-time of M is fixed.

For the controller, we refer to the L6564 [4]. For a more detailed and complex description of the fixed off-time technique and in particular the line modulated FOT, please refer to [5].

3 Implementing the line-modulated fixed-off-time

The circuit that implements LM-FOT control with the L6564 PFC controller is shown in [Figure 6](#). During the on-time of the MOSFET the gate voltage $V_{GD} = 15\text{ V}$ is high, diode D is forward biased and the voltage at the ZCD pin is internally clamped at $V_{ZCDclamp}$ (5.7 V typ.). During the MOSFET off-time V_{GD} is low, diode D is reverse-biased and the voltage at the pin decays with an exponential law until it reaches the triggering threshold ($V_{ZCDtrigger} \sim 0.7\text{ V}$ typ.) which causes the switch to turn on. The time needed for the ZCD voltage to go from $V_{ZCDclamp}$ (clamping level) to $V_{ZCDtrigger}$ (trigger level) defines the duration of the off-time, or T_{OFF} .

Figure 6. Circuit implementing FOT control with the L6564



The circuit in [Figure 6](#). makes T_{OFF} a function of the RMS line voltage thanks to the peak holding effect of T1 (which acts as a buffer) along with R and C whose time constant is significantly longer than a line half-cycle. With the addition of R0 and T1, as long as the voltage on the ZCD pin during T_{OFF} is above $V_{mult} + V_{BE}$, C is discharged through R and R0, following the law:

Equation 1

$$V'_{ZCD}(t) = \left[V_{ZCDclamp} - \frac{R}{R_0 + R} \cdot (V_{mult} + V_{BE}) \right] \cdot e^{-\frac{t \cdot (R + R_0)}{(R \cdot R_0) \cdot C}} + \frac{R}{R_0 + R} \cdot (V_{mult} + V_{BE})$$

As $V'_{ZCD}(t)$ falls below $V_{mult} + V_{BE}$, T1 is cut off and C is discharged through R only, so that its evolution from that point on is described as:

Equation 2

$$V'_{ZCD}(t) = \frac{R}{R_0 + R} \cdot (V_{mult} + V_{BE}) \cdot e^{-\frac{t}{R \cdot C}}$$

$V'_{ZCD}(t)$ decreases from $V_{ZCDclamp} = 5.7\text{ V}$ to $V_{mult} + V_{BE}$ in the following time period t' :

Equation 3

$$t' = -\frac{R \cdot R_0}{R + R_0} \cdot C \cdot \ln \left[\frac{(V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}) \cdot R_0}{V_{\text{ZCDclamp}} \cdot (R + R_0) - (V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}) \cdot R} \right]$$

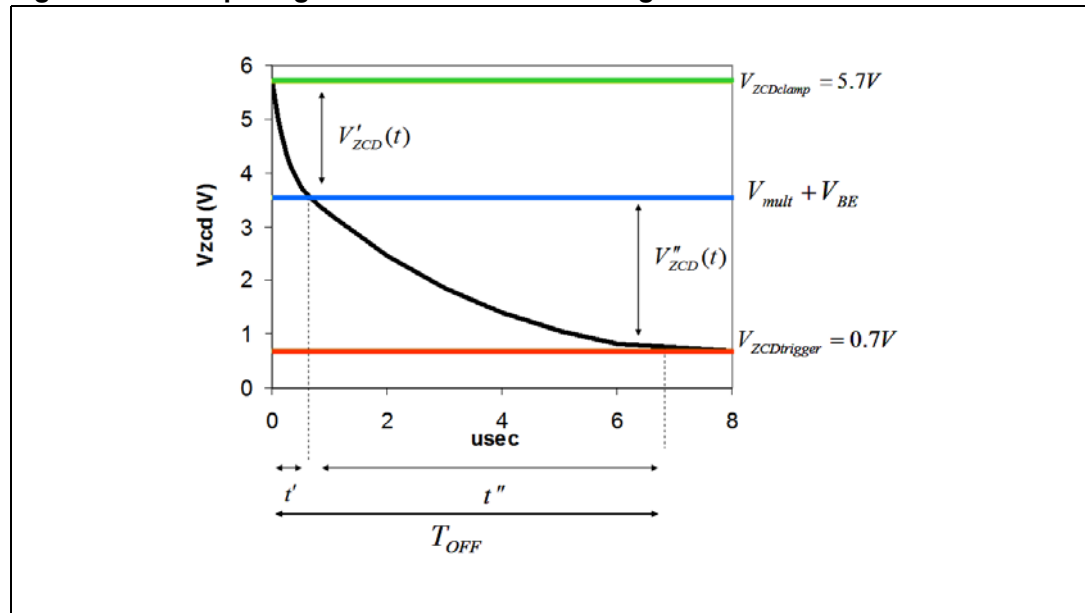
and $V''_{\text{ZCD}}(t)$ decreases from $V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}$ to $V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}} = 0.7 \text{ V}$ (trigger level) in the following time period t'' :

Equation 4

$$t'' = -RC \cdot \ln \left[\frac{V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}}}{V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}} \right]$$

Figure 7 illustrates the signal on the ZCD pin with the two discharging time constants depending on the two resistors R , R_0 and the L6564 parameters, particularly the upper clamp voltage and the triggering voltage of the ZCD pin.

Figure 7. ZCD pin signal with the fixed off-time generator circuit



The sum of the two time periods is the off-time function:

Equation 5

$$T_{\text{OFF}} = -RC \cdot \left[\frac{R_0}{R + R_0} \cdot \ln \left[\frac{(V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}) \cdot R_0}{V_{\text{ZCDclamp}} \cdot (R + R_0) - (V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}}) \cdot R} \right] + \ln \left(\frac{V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}}}{(V_{\text{mult}} + V_{\text{BE}})} \right) \right]$$

In this way, once the multiplier operating point (that is, the $V_{\text{mult}}/V_{\text{AC}}$ ratio) is fixed, with the proper selection of R and R_0 , it is possible to increase T_{OFF} with the line voltage so that, at maximum line voltage, it is always $T_{\text{ON}} > T_{\text{ONmin}}$, where T_{ONmin} is the minimum on-time of the L6564 gate drive [4]. This is a required condition in order to avoid line distortion [5].

It is easy to see that T_{OFF} is now a function of the instantaneous line voltage. We refer to this technique as line-modulated fixed-off-time (LM-FOT) [5].

This modification, although simple, introduces profound changes in the timing relationships, with a positive influence on the energetic relationships. From the control point of view, modulating T_{OFF} is a feed-forward term that modifies the gain but does not change its characteristics. Consequently, all of the properties of the standard FOT control are maintained. Due to the highly non-linear nature of the T_{OFF} modulation introduced by T1 and R0, its effects are discussed only qualitatively and the quantitative aspects are provided graphically for a specific case in [5].

As a practical rule, it is convenient to first select a capacitor and then to calculate the resistor needed to achieve the desired T_{OFF} (see [Section 4.3.7 on page 19](#)).

As the gate voltage V_{GD} rises, the Rs resistor charges the C timing capacitor as quickly as possible up to $V_{ZCDclamp}$, without exceeding the clamp rating ($I_{ZCDx}=10$ mA). Then it must fulfill the following inequalities:

Equation 6

$$\frac{V_{GDx} - V_{ZCDclamp} - V_F}{I_{ZCDx} + \frac{V_{ZCDclamp}}{R}} < R_s < R \cdot \frac{V_{GD} - V_{ZCDclamp} - V_F}{V_{ZCDclamp}}$$

where V_{GD} (assume $V_{GD} = 10$ V) is the voltage delivered by the gate driver, $V_{GDx} = 15$ V its maximum value, and V_F the forward drop on D.

When working at high line/light load the on-time of the power switch becomes very short and the Rs resistor alone is no longer able to charge C up to $V_{ZCDclamp}$. The speed-up capacitor Cs is then used in parallel to Rs. This capacitor causes an almost instantaneous charge of C up to a certain level, after that, Rs completes the charge up to $V_{ZCDclamp}$. It is important that the steep edge caused by Cs does not reach the clamp level, otherwise the internal clamp of the L6564 undergoes uncontrolled current spikes (limited only by the dynamic resistance of the 1N4148 and the ESR of Cs) that could overstress the IC. Cs must then be:

Equation 7

$$C_s < C \frac{V_{ZCDclamp}}{V_{GDx} - V_{ZCDclamp} - V_F}$$

4 Designing a fixed-off-time PFC

4.1 Input specification

The following is a possible design procedure for a fixed-off-time mode PFC using the L6564. This first part is a detailed specification of the operating conditions of the circuit that is needed for the calculations in [Section 4.2 on page 11](#). In this example a 400 W, wide-input range mains PFC circuit is considered. Some design criteria are also given.

- Mains voltage range (Vac rms): $V_{AC_{min}} = 90Vac$ $V_{AC_{max}} = 265Vac$ (1)

- Minimum mains frequency: $f_l = 47Hz$ (2)

- Rated output power (W): $P_{out} = 400W$ (3)

Because the PFC is a boost topology the regulated output voltage depends strongly on the maximum AC input voltage. In fact, for correct boost operation the output voltage must always be higher than the input and therefore, as $V_{in\ max}$ is V_{pk} , the output has been set at 400 Vdc as the typical value. In cases where the maximum AC input voltage V_{ACmax} is higher than 265 V, as typical in ballast applications, the output voltage must be set higher accordingly. As a rule of thumb the output voltage must be set 6/7% higher than the maximum input voltage peak.

- Regulated DC output voltage (Vdc) $V_{out} = 400V$ (4)

The target efficiency and PF are set here at minimum input voltage and maximum load. They are used for the following operating condition calculation of the PFC. Of course at high input voltage there is higher efficiency.

- Expected efficiency (%): $\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} = 90\%$ (5)

- Expected power factor: $PF = 0.99$ (6)

Because of the narrow loop voltage bandwidth, the PFC output may experience overvoltages at startup or in the case of load transients. To protect from excessive output voltages that can overstress the output components and the load, in the L6564, a device pin (PFC_OK, pin #6) has been dedicated to monitor the output voltage with a separate resistor divider, selected so that the voltage at the pin reaches 2.5 V if the output voltage exceeds a preset value (V_{ovp}) larger than the maximum V_{out} that can be expected, also including worst-case load/line transients.

- Maximum output voltage (Vdc): $V_{OVP} = 430V$ (7)

The mains frequency generates a $2f_L$ voltage ripple on the output voltage at full load. The ripple amplitude determines the current flowing into the output capacitor and the ESR. Additionally, a certain hold-up capability in case of mains dips can be requested from the PFC in which case the output capacitor must also be dimensioned, taking into account the required minimum voltage value ($V_{out\ min}$) after the elapsed hold-up time (t_{Hold}).

- Maximum output low frequency ripple: $\Delta V_{out} = 10V$ (8)

- Minimum output voltage after line drop (Vdc): $V_{out\ min} = 300V$ (9)

- Hold-up capability (ms): $t_{Hold} = 20ms$ (10)

The PFC minimum switching frequency is one of the main parameters used to dimension the boost inductor. Here we consider the switching frequency at low mains on top of the sinusoid and at full load conditions. As a rule of thumb, it must be higher than the audio bandwidth in order to avoid audible noise and additionally it must not interfere with the L6564 minimum internal starter period, as given in the datasheet. Alternatively, if the minimum frequency is set too high the circuit shows excessive losses at higher input voltage and probably operates skipping switching cycles not only at light load. The typical minimum frequency range is 55÷95 kHz for wide range operation.

- Minimum switching frequency (kHz) $f_{sw\ min} = 80kHz$ (11)

The design is done on the basis of a ripple factor (the ratio of the maximum current ripple amplitude to the inductor peak current at minimum line voltage) $kr=0.34$.

- Ripple factor $k_r = 0.34$ (12)

In order to properly select the power components of the PFC and dimension the heat sinks in case they are needed, the maximum operating ambient temperature around the PFC circuit must be known. Please note that this is not the maximum external operating temperature of the entire equipment, but it is the local temperature at which the PFC components are working.

- Maximum ambient temperature (°C): $T_{ambx} = 50°C$ (13)

4.2 Operating condition

The first step is to define the main parameters of the circuit, using the specification points given in [Section 4.1 on page 9](#):

Rated DC output current:

Equation 8

$$I_{out} = \frac{P_{out}}{V_{out}} \quad I_{out} = \frac{400W}{400V} = 1.00A$$

Maximum input power:

Equation 9

$$P_{in} = \frac{P_{out}}{\eta} \quad P_{in} = \frac{400W}{90} \cdot 100 = 444.44W$$

Referring to the main currents shown in [Figure 1](#), the following formula expresses the maximum value of current circulating in the boost cell which means at minimum line voltage of the selected range:

RMS input current:

Equation 10

$$I_{in} = \frac{P_{out}}{VAC_{min} \cdot PF} \quad I_{in} = \frac{400W}{90Vac \cdot 0.99} = 4.99A$$

It is important to define the following ratios in order to continue describing the energetic relationships in the PFC:

Equation 11

$$k_{min} = \sqrt{2} \frac{VAC_{min}}{V_{out}} \quad k_{min} = \sqrt{2} \frac{90Vac}{400V} = 0.32$$

Equation 12

$$k_{max} = \sqrt{2} \frac{VAC_{max}}{V_{out}} \quad k_{max} = \sqrt{2} \frac{265Vac}{400V} = 0.94$$

From [Equation 11](#) and [Equation 12](#):

Line peak current:

Equation 13

$$I_{PKmax} = \frac{2 \cdot P_{in}}{k_{min} \cdot V_{out}} \quad I_{PKmax} = \frac{2 \cdot 444.44W}{0.32 \cdot 400V} = 6.98A$$

Inductor Ripple- ΔI_{Lpk} :

Equation 14

$$\Delta I_{L_{pk}} = \frac{6 \cdot k_r}{8 - 3 \cdot k_r} \cdot I_{PK_{max}} \quad \Delta I_{L_{pk}} = \frac{6 \cdot 0.34}{8 - 3 \cdot 0.34} \cdot 6.98A = 2.04A$$

Inductor peak current:

Equation 15

$$I_{L_{pkmax}} = \frac{8}{8 - 3 \cdot k_r} \cdot I_{PK_{max}} \quad I_{L_{pkmax}} = \frac{8}{8 - 3 \cdot 0.34} \cdot 6.98A = 8.01A$$

It is also possible to calculate the RMS current flowing into the switch and into the diode, needed to calculate the losses of these two elements.

RMS switch current:

Equation 16

$$I_{SW_{rms}} = \frac{P_{in}}{k_{min} \cdot V_{out}} \cdot \sqrt{2 - \frac{16 \cdot k_{min}}{3\pi}} \quad I_{SW_{rms}} = \frac{400W}{0.32 \cdot 400V} \cdot \sqrt{2 - \frac{16 \cdot 0.32}{3\pi}} = 4.22A$$

RMS diode current:

Equation 17

$$I_{D_{rms}} = \frac{P_{in}}{k_{min} \cdot V_{out}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{16k_{min}}{3\pi}} \quad I_{D_{rms}} = \frac{400W}{0.32 \cdot 400V} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{16 \cdot 0.32}{3\pi}} = 2.57A$$

It is worth remembering that the accuracy of the approximate energetic relationships described here is quite good at maximum load for low values of parameter k, that is, at low line voltage, but worsens at high line and as the power throughput is reduced. Since, in the design phase, current stress is calculated at maximum load and minimum line voltage, their accuracy is acceptable for design purposes.

4.3 Power section design

4.3.1 Bridge rectifier

The input rectifier bridge can use standard slow recovery, low-cost devices.

Typically a 600 V device is selected in order to obtain a good margin against mains surges. An NTC resistor, limiting the current at turn-on, is required to avoid overstress to the diode bridge.

The rectifier bridge power dissipation can be calculated using equations [Equation 18](#), [Equation 19](#), [Equation 20](#). The threshold voltage (V_{th}) and dynamic resistance (R_{diode}) of a single diode bridge can be found in the component datasheet.

Equation 18

$$\bar{I}_{inrms} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot I_{in}}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot 4.99A}{2} = 3.53A$$

Equation 19

$$\bar{I}_{in_avg} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot I_{in}}{\pi} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \cdot 4.99A}{\pi} = 2.25A$$

The power dissipated on a D15XB60 bridge may be:

Equation 20

$$P_{bridge} = 4 \cdot R_{diode} \cdot \bar{I}_{inrms}^2 + 4 \cdot V_{th} \cdot \bar{I}_{in_avg}$$

$$P_{bridge} = 4 \cdot 0.025\Omega \cdot (3.53A)^2 + 4 \cdot 0.7V \cdot 2.25A = 7.53W$$

4.3.2 Input capacitor

The input filter capacitor (C_{in}) is placed across the diode bridge output. This capacitor must smooth the high-frequency ripple and must sustain the maximum instantaneous input voltage. In a typical application an EMI filter is placed between the mains and the PFC circuit. In this application the EMI filter is reinforced by a differential mode Pi-filter after the bridge to reject the differential noise coming from the whole switching circuit. The design of the EMI filter (common mode and differential mode) is not described here. The value of the input filter capacitor can be calculated as follows, simply considering the output power that the PFC should deliver at full load:

Equation 21

$$C_{in} = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot P_{out} \quad C_{in} = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot 400W = 1\mu F$$

The maximum value of this capacitor is limited to avoid line current distortion. The value chosen for this design is 1 μF .

4.3.3 Output capacitor

The output bulk capacitor (C_o) selection depends on the DC output voltage (4), the allowed maximum voltage (7) and the converter output power (3).

The 100/120 Hz (twice the mains frequency) voltage ripple (V_{out} = peak-to-peak ripple value) (8) is a function of the capacitor impedance and the peak capacitor current:

Equation 22

$$\Delta V_{out} = 2 \cdot I_{out} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{(2\pi \cdot 2f_l \cdot C_o)^2} + ESR^2}$$

With a low ESR capacitor the capacitive reactance is dominant, therefore:

Equation 23

$$C_O \geq \frac{I_{out}}{2\pi \cdot f_j \cdot \Delta V_{out}} = \frac{P_{out}}{2\pi \cdot f_j \cdot V_{out} \cdot \Delta V_{out}} \quad C_O \geq \frac{400W}{2\pi \cdot 47Hz \cdot 400V \cdot 10V} = 338\mu F$$

Vout is usually selected in the range of 1.5% of the output voltage. Although ESR does not usually affect the output ripple, it should be taken into account for power loss calculations. The total RMS capacitor ripple current, including mains frequency and switching frequency components, is:

Equation 24

$$I_{Crms} = \sqrt{ID_{rms}^2 - I_{out}^2} \quad I_{Crms} = \sqrt{(2.56A)^2 - (1.0A)^2} = 2.36A$$

If the PFC stage must guarantee a specified hold-up time, the selection criterion of the capacitance is different. Co has to deliver the output power for a certain time (t_{Hold}) with a specified maximum dropout voltage (Vout min) that is the minimum output voltage value (which takes load regulation and output ripple into account). Vout min is the minimum output operating voltage before the 'power fail' detection and consequent stopping by the downstream system supplied by the PFC.

Equation 25

$$C_O = \frac{2 \cdot P_{out} \cdot t_{Hold}}{(V_{out} - \Delta V_{out})^2 - V_{outmin}^2} \quad C_O = \frac{2 \cdot 400W \cdot 20ms}{(400V - 10V)^2 - (300V)^2} = 242.3\mu F$$

A 20% tolerance on the electrolytic capacitors must be taken into account for correct dimensioning.

Following the previous relationships, after selecting the commercial value of 330 μF the actual hold-up capability and ripple voltage are recalculated.

In detail:

Equation 26

$$t_{hold} = \frac{C_O \cdot [(V_{out} - \Delta V_{out})^2 - V_{outmin}^2]}{2 \cdot P_{out}} \quad t_{hold} = \frac{330\mu F \cdot [(400V - 10V)^2 - (300V)^2]}{2 \cdot 400W} = 22ms$$

Equation 27

$$\Delta V_{out} = \frac{I_{out}}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot f_j \cdot C_O} \quad \Delta V_{out} = \frac{1.0A}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot 47Hz \cdot 330\mu F} = 10.2V$$

4.3.4 Boost inductor

In the continuous mode approach, the acceptable current ripple factor, Kr, is typically fixed in the range between 10% to 35%. For this design, the maximum specified current ripple factor is 34%.

To calculate the required inductance L of the boost inductor, use the following formula with a 3.76 μs off-time set at 90 Vac (see the following ZCD pin dimensioning to find the meaning of this value):

Equation 28

$$L(VAC) = (1 - k_{min}) \cdot \frac{V_{out}}{\Delta I_{Lpk}} T_{OFF}(VAC) \quad L(VAC_{min}) = (1 - 0.32) \cdot \frac{400V}{2.04A} 3.76\mu s = 501\mu H$$

After calculating the inductor value at low mains and at high mains L(VACmax), L(VACmin) (Equation 28) depending also on the off-time, the minimum value must be taken into account. It becomes the maximum inductance value for the PFC dimensioning.

Figure 8 shows the switching frequency versus the θ angle calculated inverting Equation 28 with a 500 μH boost inductance and fixing the line voltage at minimum and maximum values.

Figure 8. Switching frequency fixing the line voltage

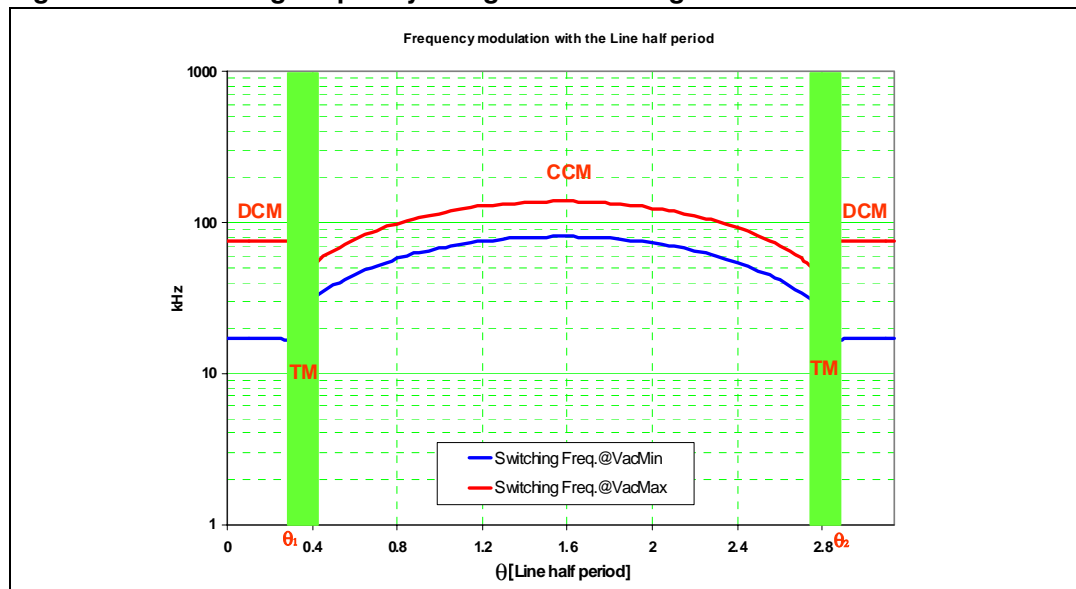
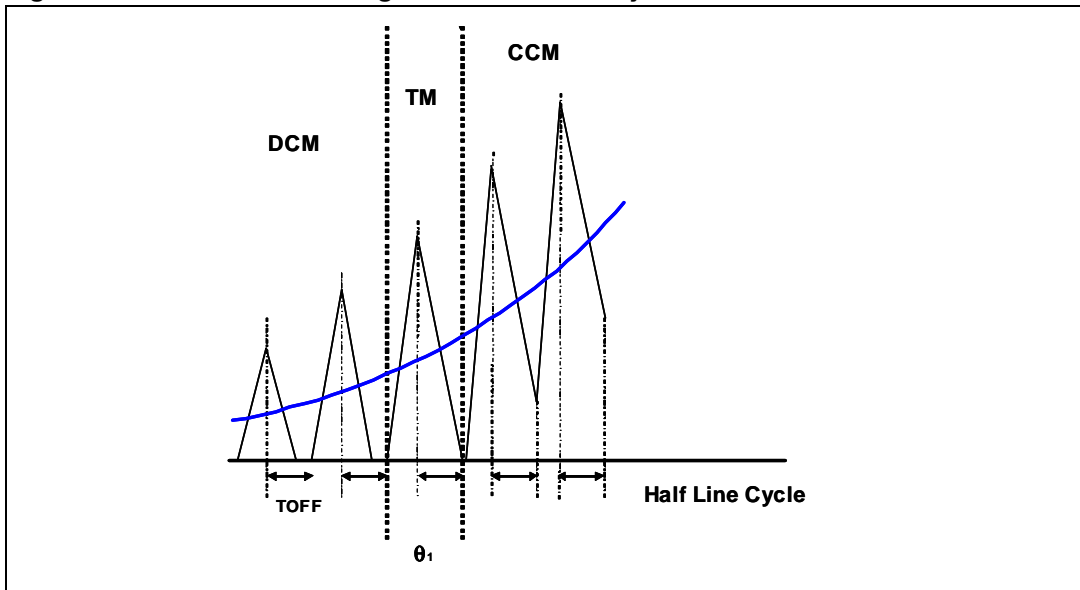


Figure 9. The effect of fixing off-time - boundary between DCM and CCM



The effect of fixing the off-time is to generate a continuous conduction mode in the center region of the line half-cycle between the two transition angles. Close to the zero-crossing, the system works in discontinuous conduction mode and in transition mode at the boundary.

The inductor core size is determined assuming a peak flux density $B_x \sim 0.25$ T (depending on the ferrite grade selected and relevant specific losses) and calculating the maximum current according to Equation 15 as a function of the maximum current sense pin clamping voltage and sense resistor value.

DC and AC copper losses and ferrite losses must also be calculated to determine the maximum temperature rise of the inductor.

4.3.5 Power MOSFET selection and power dissipation calculation

The selection of the MOSFET concerns mainly its $R_{DS(on)}$, basically proportional to the output power. The MOSFET breakdown voltage is selected considering the PFC nominal output voltage (4) adding some margin (20%) to guarantee reliable operation.

Therefore, a voltage rating of 500 V ($1.2 \cdot V_{out} = 480$ V) is selected. Using its current rating as a rule of thumb, we can select a device having ~ 3 times the RMS switch current (Equation 16) but, the power dissipation calculation gives the final confirmation that the selected device is the right one for the circuit, also taking the heat sink dimensions into account. For example, in a 400 W PFC application two parallel STP12NM50FP MOSFETs can be selected.

The MOSFET's power dissipation depends on conduction, switching and capacitive losses.

The conduction losses at maximum load and minimum input voltage are calculated by:

Equation 29

$$P_{cond}(VAC) = R_{DS(on)} \cdot (I_{SW_{rms}}(VAC))^2$$

Because, normally in the datasheets the $R_{DS(on)}$ is given at an ambient temperature (25 °C), to correctly calculate the conduction losses at 100°C (typical MOSFET junction operating

temperature), a factor of 1.75 to 2 should be taken into account. The exact factor can be found on the device datasheet.

Now, combining equations [Equation 29](#) and [Equation 16](#), the conduction losses referred to a $1 \Omega R_{DS(on)}$, at ambient temperature as a function of Pin and VAC can be calculated:

Equation 30

$$P'_{cond}(VAC) = 2 \cdot (ISW_{rms}(VAC))^2 = 2 \cdot \left(\frac{P_{in}}{k(VAC) \cdot V_{out}} \cdot \sqrt{2 - \frac{16 \cdot k(VAC)}{3\pi}} \right)^2$$

The generic switching losses due to the MOSFET commutation occurring at turn-on and turn-off can be basically expressed by:

Equation 31

$$P_{switch}(VAC) = V_{MOS} \cdot I_{MOS} \cdot \left(\frac{t_{rise} + t_{fall}}{2} \right) \cdot f_{sw}(VAC)$$

Because the switching frequency depends on the input line voltage and phase angle on the sinusoidal waveform, it can be demonstrated that from [Equation 31](#) the switching losses per 1 µs of current, rise and fall-time can be written as:

Equation 32

$$P'_{switch}(VAC) = V_{out} \cdot \left(IL_{pkmax} - \frac{\Delta IL_{pk}}{2} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\sin \vartheta)^2 \cdot f_{sw}(VAC, \theta) \cdot d\vartheta$$

From the STP12NM50FP datasheet $t_{rise} = t_{fall} = 0.01 \mu s$ is the crossover time at turn-on and off.

At turn-on the losses are due to the discharge of the total drain capacitance inside the MOSFET itself. In general, the capacitive losses are given by:

Equation 33

$$P_{cap}(VAC) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot C_d \cdot V_{MOS}^2 \cdot f_{sw}(VAC)$$

Where C_d is the total drain capacitance including the MOSFET and the other parasitic capacitances such as inductor etc. At the drain node, V_{MOS} is the drain voltage at MOSFET turn-on.

Taking into account the frequency variation with the input line voltage and the phase angle, the capacitive losses per 1 nF of total drain capacitance can be calculated as:

Equation 34

$$P'_{cap}(VAC) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (V_{out})^2 f_{sw}(VAC, \vartheta) \cdot d\vartheta$$

The total drain capacitance (C_d) of the two parallel MOSFETs is 0.36 nF, not including the other component contributions, V_{out} is the drain voltage at MOSFET turn-on.

The MOSFET total losses as a function of the input mains voltage is the sum of the three previous losses from [Equation 30](#), [Equation 32](#), and [Equation 34](#), multiplied for relevant MOSFET parameters:

Equation 35

$$P_{\text{loss}}(\text{VAC}) = RDS_{\text{on}} \cdot P'_{\text{cond}}(\text{VAC}) + \left(\frac{t_{\text{rise}} + t_{\text{fall}}}{2} \right) \cdot P'_{\text{sw}}(\text{VAC}) + C_d \cdot P'_{\text{cap}}(\text{VAC})$$

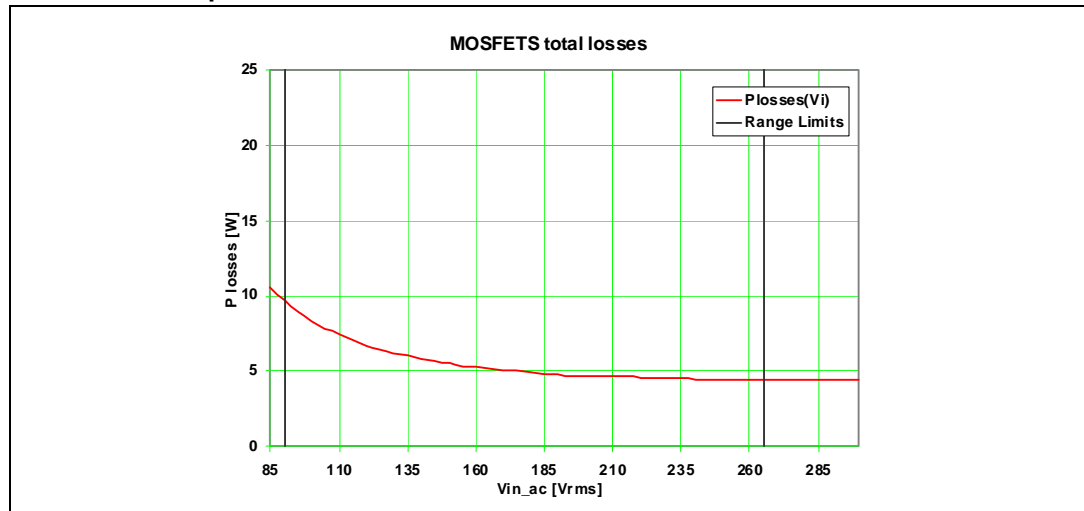
From [Equation 35](#) using the data relevant to the MOSFET selected, the losses at Vitamin and VACmax can be calculated and plotted like in [Figure 10](#). We can observe that the maximum total losses is 9 W and it occurs at VACmin. From this number and the given maximum ambient temperature (13), the total maximum thermal resistance required to keep the junction temperature below 125°C is:

Equation 36

$$R_{\text{th}} = \frac{125^{\circ}\text{C} - T_{\text{ambx}}}{P_{\text{loss}}(\text{VAC})} \quad R_{\text{th}} = \frac{125^{\circ}\text{C} - 50^{\circ}\text{C}}{9\text{W}} = 8.1 \frac{^{\circ}\text{C}}{\text{W}}$$

If the result of [Equation 36](#) is lower than the junction-ambient thermal resistance given in the MOSFET datasheet for the selected device package, a heat sink must be used.

Figure 10. Conduction losses and total losses in the STP12NM50FP MOSFET couples for the 400W FOT PFC



[Figure 10](#) shows the trend of the total losses ([Equation 35](#)) versus the input line voltage for two selected STP12NM50FP MOSFETs.

4.3.6 Boost diode selection

Following a similar criterion to that of the MOSFET, the output rectifier can also be selected. A minimum breakdown voltage of 1.2·V_{out} ([4](#)) and a current rating higher than 3·I_{out} ([Equation 8](#)) can be chosen for a rough, initial selection of the rectifier. The correct choice is then confirmed by the thermal calculation. If the diode junction temperature works within 125°C the device has been correctly selected, otherwise a bigger device must be selected. The switching losses can be significantly reduced if an ultra-fast diode is employed. Since

this circuit operates in the continuous current mode, the MOSFET has to recover the boost diode minority carrier charge at turn-on. Therefore, an ultrafast or a SiC rectifier must be selected.

In this 400 W application an STTH8R06 (600 V, 8 A) can be selected. The STTH8R06 offers the best solution for the continuous current mode operation due to its very fast reverse recovery time, typically 25 ns. This part has a breakdown voltage rating (V_{rrm}) of 600 V, average forward current rating (I_{fave}) of 8 A and reverse recovery time (t_{rr}) of 25 ns. The rectifier AVG (*Equation 8*) and RMS (*Equation 17*) current values and the parameter V_{th} (rectifier threshold voltage) and R_d (dynamic resistance) given in the datasheet allow the calculation of the rectifier losses.

From the STTH8R06 datasheet, V_{th} is 1.16 V, R_d is 0.08 Ω , neglecting the recovery losses:

Equation 37

$$P_{diode} = V_{th} \cdot I_{out} + R_d \cdot I_{D_{rms}}^2 \quad P_{diode} = 1.16V \cdot 1.0A + 0.08\Omega \cdot (2.56A)^2 = 1.69W$$

From (13) and *Equation 37* the maximum thermal resistance to keep the junction temperature below 125°C is then:

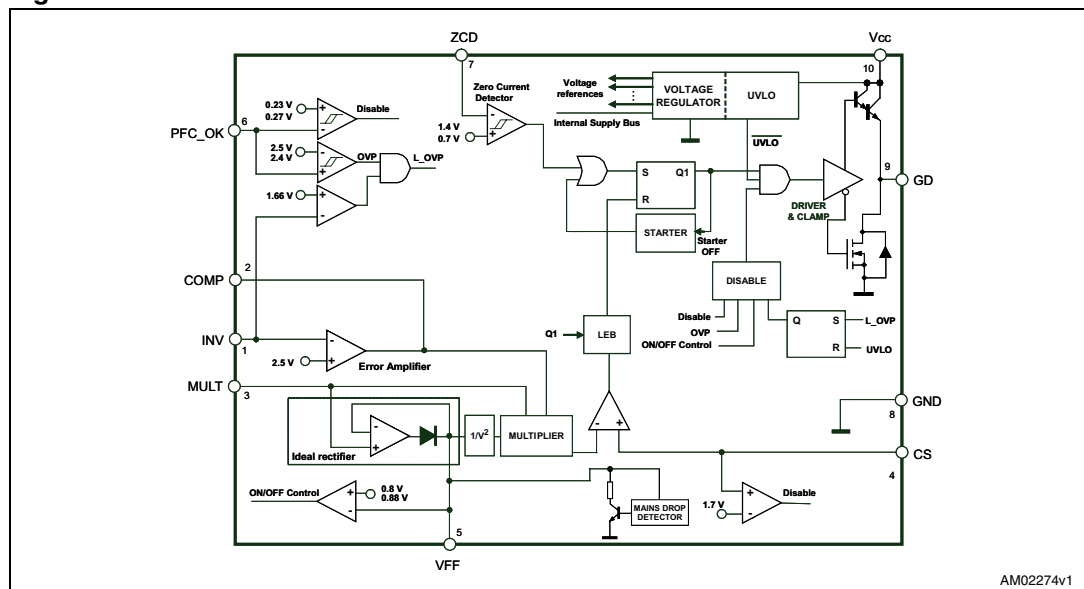
Equation 38

$$R_{th} = \frac{125^\circ C - T_{ambx}}{P_{diode}} \quad R_{th} = \frac{125^\circ C - 50^\circ C}{1.69W} = 44.45 \frac{^\circ C}{W}$$

4.3.7 L6564 biasing circuitry

Following the dimensioning of the power components, the biasing circuitry for the L6564 is also described here. For reference, the internal schematic of the L6564 is represented in *Figure 11*. For more detail on the internal functions please refer to the datasheet.

Figure 11. L6564 internal schematic



Pin 1 (INV) is connected both to the inverting input of the E/A and to the OVP circuitry. A resistive divider is connected between the boost regulated output voltage and this pin. The internal reference on the non-inverting input of the E/A is 2.5 V (typ.), the output voltage (Vout) of the PFC pre-regulator is set at its nominal value, by the resistors ratio of the feedback output divider. RoutH and RoutL are then selected considering the desired nominal output voltage and the desired output power dissipated on the output divider. For example for a 50 mW output divider dissipation:

Equation 39

$$R_{\text{outH}} = \frac{(V_{\text{OUT}} - 2.5\text{V})^2}{50\text{mW}} \quad R_{\text{outH}} = \frac{(400\text{V} - 2.5\text{V})^2}{50\text{mW}} = 3.160\text{M}\Omega$$

With the commercial value selected $R_{\text{outH}} = 3 \text{ M}\Omega$

Equation 40

$$\frac{R_{\text{outH}}}{R_{\text{outL}}} = \frac{V_{\text{out}}}{2.5\text{V}} - 1 \quad \frac{R_{\text{outH}}}{R_{\text{outL}}} = \frac{400\text{V}}{2.5\text{V}} - 1 = 159$$

Equation 41

$$R_{\text{outL}} = \frac{R_{\text{outH}}}{159} \quad R_{\text{outL}} = \frac{3\text{M}\Omega}{159} = 18.8\text{k}\Omega$$

$R_{\text{outL}} = 62 \text{ k}\Omega$ in parallel to a $27 \text{ k}\Omega$ can be selected. Please note that for R_{outH} a resistor with a suitable voltage rating ($>400 \text{ V}$) is needed, or more resistors in series must be used.

Pin 6 (PFC_OK - feedback failure protection): The PFC_OK pin is dedicated to monitoring the output voltage with a separate resistor divider. This divider is selected so that the voltage at the pin reaches 2.5 V if the output voltage exceeds a preset value (Vovp), usually larger than the maximum Vout that can be expected, also including worst-case load/line transients. For a maximum output voltage Vout max of 430 V and selecting a 50 μA current flowing into the divider:

Equation 42

$$R_L = \frac{V_{\text{REF_PFC_OK}}}{I_{\text{divider}}} \quad R_L = \frac{2.5\text{V}}{50\mu\text{A}} = 50\text{k}\Omega$$

By selecting a commercial value of $51\text{k}\Omega$

Equation 43

$$R_H = R_L \cdot \left(\frac{V_{\text{OUT_MAX}}}{V_{\text{REF_PFC_OK}}} - 1 \right) \quad R_H = 51\text{k}\Omega \cdot \left(\frac{430\text{V}}{2.5\text{V}} - 1 \right) = 8.721\text{M}\Omega$$

Connecting in series, two $3.3 \text{ M}\Omega$ resistors and one $2.2 \text{ M}\Omega$ resistor, a total value of $8.8 \text{ M}\Omega$ can be obtained.

Note that both feedback dividers connected to the L6564 pin #1 (INV) and pin #6 (PFC_OK) can be selected without any constraints. The unique criterion is that both dividers must sink

a current from the output bus which needs to be significantly higher than the current biasing the error amplifier and PFC_OK comparator.

The OVP function described above can handle "normal" over-voltage conditions, that is, those resulting from an abrupt load/line change or occurring at start-up. If the over-voltage is generated by a feedback disconnection for instance, when one of the upper resistors of the output divider fails to open, an additional circuitry detects the voltage drop of pin INV. If the voltage on pin INV is lower than 1.66V (Typ.) and at same time the OVP is active, a feedback failure is assumed.

Therefore, the gate drive activity is immediately stopped, the device is shut down, its quiescent consumption is reduced to below 180 μ A and the condition is latched as long as the supply voltage of the IC is above the UVLO threshold. To restart the system it is necessary to recycle the input power, so that the Vcc voltage of the L6564 goes below 6 V and that one of the PWM controllers goes below its UVLO threshold. Note that this function offers complete protection against feedback loop failures or erroneous settings, and also against the failure of the protection itself. Either resistor of the PFC_OK divider failing short or open or a PFC_OK pin floating may result in shutting down the IC and stopping the pre-regulator. In addition, the PFC_OK pin doubles its function as a not-latched IC disable: a voltage below 0.23 V shuts down the IC, reducing its consumption below 2 mA. To restart the IC, simply let the voltage at the pin go above 0.27 V.

Pin 2 (COMP): This pin is the output of the E/A that is fed into one of the two inputs of the multiplier. A feedback compensation network is placed between this pin and the INV pin (pin#1). It must be designed with a narrow bandwidth in order to avoid the system rejecting the output voltage ripple (100 Hz) that would cause high distortion of the input current waveform. A theoretical criterion to define the compensation network value is to set the E/A bandwidth (BW) from 20 to 30 Hz.

For a more complex way of compensating the FOT PFC please refer to [1], [2], [3].

A compensated two-pole feedback network for this 400 W FOT PFC can be obtained with the following values:

$$C_{\text{compP}} = 100\text{nF} \quad C_{\text{compS}} = 1\mu\text{F} \quad R_{\text{compS}} = 56\text{k}\Omega \quad (14)$$

to which the following open-loop transfer function and its phase function correspond.

Figure 12. Open loop transfer function-bode plot

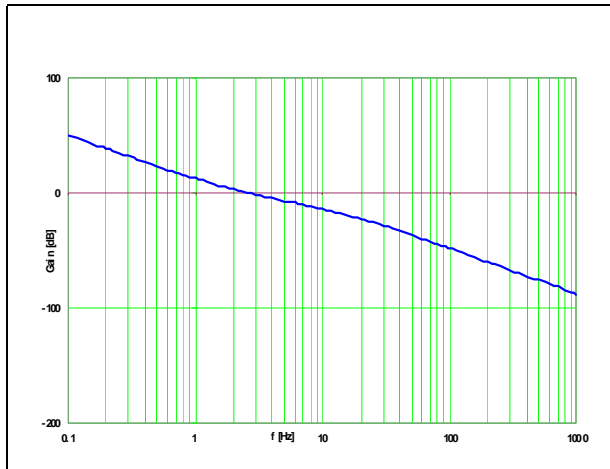
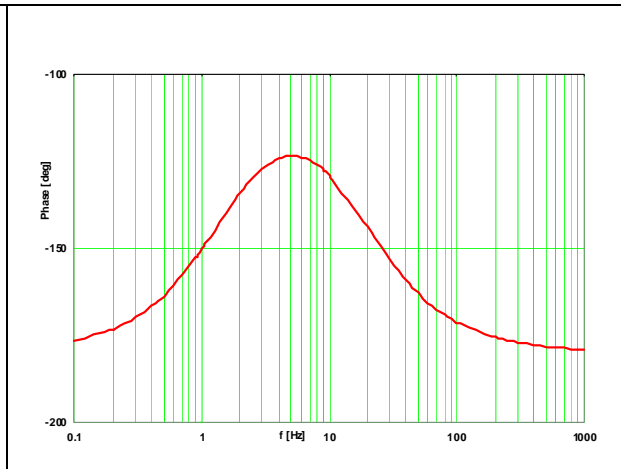


Figure 13. Phase plot



The two bode plot charts are relevant to the PFC operating at the main voltage set point of 265 Vac and full load. In this condition the crossover frequency is $f_c = 4$ Hz, the phase margin is 50° and the third harmonic distortion is below 3%.

Pin 4 (CS): The #4 pin is the inverting input of the current sense comparator. Through this pin, the L6564 senses the instantaneous inductor current, converted in a proportional voltage by an external sensing resistor (R_s). As this signal crosses the threshold set by the multiplier output, the PWM latch is reset and the power MOSFET is turned off. The MOSFET stays in off-state until the PWM latch is set again by the ZCD signal. The pin is equipped with 150 ns (typ.) leading-edge blanking for improved noise immunity.

The sense resistor value (R_s) can be calculated as follows. For the 400 W PFC it is:

Equation 44

$$R_s < \frac{V_{cs_{min}}}{I_{L_{pk_{max}}}} \quad R_s < \frac{1.0V}{8.01A} = 0.124\Omega$$

Where:

- I_{Lpk} : it is the maximum peak current in the inductor, calculated as described in 4.2
- $V_{csmin} = 1.0$ V, it is the minimum voltage admitted on the L6564 current sense (on the datasheet).

Because the internal current sense clamping sets the maximum current that can flow in the inductor, the maximum peak of the inductor current may be calculated considering the maximum voltage V_{csmax} allowed on the L6564 (on datasheet):

Equation 45

$$I_{L_{pk_{sat}}} = \frac{V_{cs_{max}}}{R_s} \quad I_{L_{pk_{sat}}} = \frac{1.16V}{0.12\Omega} = 9.67A$$

The calculated I_{Lpkx} is the value at which the boost inductor must not be in saturation and it is used for calculating the inductor number of turns and air-gap length.

The power dissipated by Rs is given by:

Equation 46

$$P_s = R_s \cdot ISW_{rms}^2 \quad P_s = 0.12\Omega \cdot (4.22)^2 = 2.14W$$

According to the result, for example four parallel resistors of 0.47 Ω with 1 W of power rating can be selected.

Pin 3 (MULT): The MULT pin is the second multiplier input. It is connected, through a resistive divider, to the rectified mains to obtain a sinusoidal voltage reference. The multiplier is described by the relationship:

Equation 47

$$V_{CS} = V_{CS_OFFSET} + k_m \cdot \frac{(V_{COMP} - 2.5V) \cdot V_{MULT}}{V_{FF}^2}$$

Where:

- V_{CS} (Multiplier output) is the reference for the current sense (V_{CS_OFFSET} is its offset).
- $k = 0.45$ (Typ.) is the multiplier gain.
- V_{COMP} is the voltage on pin 2 (E/A output).
- V_{MULT} is the voltage on pin 3. V_{FF} is the second input to the multiplier for $1/V^2$ function. It compensates the control loop gain dependence on the mains voltage. The voltage at this pin is a DC level equal to the peak voltage on the MULT pin (#3).

Figure 14. Multiplier characteristics family for VFF =1 V

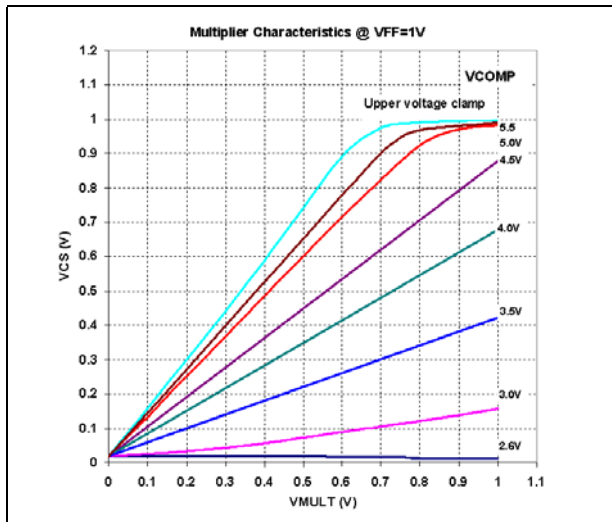
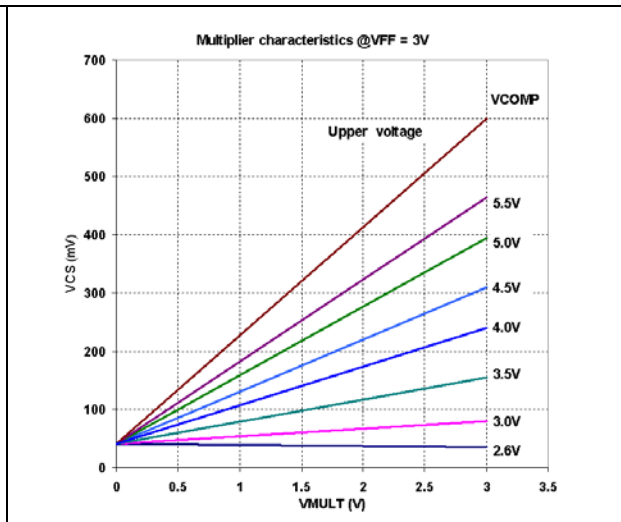


Figure 15. Multiplier characteristics family for VFF=3 V



A complete description is given in the diagram in [Figure 14](#) and [Figure 15](#) which shows the typical multiplier characteristics family. The linear operation of the multiplier is guaranteed within the range 0 to 3 V of VMULT and the range 0 to 1.16 V (typ.) of Vcs, while the minimum guaranteed value of the maximum slope of the characteristics family (typ.) is:

Equation 48

$$\frac{dV_{CS}}{dV_{MULT}} = 1.66 \frac{V}{V}$$

The voltage on the MULT pin is also used to derive the information from the RMS mains voltage for the VFF compensation.

Before describing the correct operating point of the multiplier for the brownout function the voltage feed forward pin and its enable-disable property is here described:

Pin 5 (voltage feed forward): The power stage gain of PFC pre-regulators varies with the square of the RMS input voltage. As does the crossover frequency (f_c) of the overall open-loop gain because the gain has a single pole characteristic. This leads to large trade-offs in the design. For example, setting the gain of the error amplifier to get $f_c = 20 \text{ Hz @ } 264 \text{ Vac}$ means having f_c about $4 \text{ Hz @ } 88 \text{ Vac}$, resulting in sluggish control dynamics. Additionally, the slow control loop causes large transient current flow during rapid line or load changes that are limited by the dynamics of the multiplier output. This limit is considered when selecting the sense resistor to let the full load power pass under minimum line voltage conditions, with some margin. But a fixed current limit allows excessive power input at high line, whereas a fixed power limit requires the current limit to vary inversely with the line voltage.

Voltage feed-forward can compensate for the gain variation with the line voltage and allow the overcoming of all of the above-mentioned issues. It consists of deriving a voltage proportional to the input RMS voltage, feeding this voltage into a squarer/divider circuit ($1/V^2$ corrector) and providing the resulting signal to the multiplier which generates the current reference for the inner current control loop.

In this way, a change of the line voltage causes an inversely proportional change of the half-sine amplitude at the output of the multiplier (if the line voltage doubles the amplitude of the multiplier, output is halved and vice versa), so that the current reference is adapted to the new operating conditions with (ideally) no need for invoking the slow dynamics of the error amplifier. Additionally, the loop gain is constant throughout the input voltage range, which significantly improves the dynamic behavior at low line and simplifies loop design.

Actually, with another PFC embedding the voltage feed-forward, deriving a voltage proportional to the RMS line voltage implies a form of integration, which has its own time constant. If it is too small the voltage generated may be affected by a considerable amount of ripple at twice the mains frequency which causes distortion to the current reference (resulting in high THD and poor PF); if it is too large there may be a considerable delay in setting the right amount of feed-forward, resulting in excessive overshoot and undershoot of the pre-regulator's output voltage in response to large line voltage changes. Clearly a trade-off was required.

The L6564 produces an innovative voltage feed-forward which, with a technique that makes use of just two external parts, overcomes this time constant trade-off issue regardless of which voltage change occurs on the mains, both surges and drops. A capacitor CFF and a resistor RFF, both connected from the VFF pin (pin #5) to ground, complete an internal peak-holding circuit that provides a DC voltage equal to the peak of the rectified sine-wave applied on the MULT pin (pin #3). In this case the following value has been selected:

$$C_{FF} = 1\mu\text{F} \quad R_{FF} = 1\text{M}\Omega \quad (15)$$

In this way, in the case of a sudden line voltage rise, CFF is rapidly charged through the low impedance of the internal diode; in case of line voltage drop, an internal mains drop detector enables a low impedance switch which suddenly discharges CFF, avoiding long settling time before reaching the new voltage level. Consequently an acceptably low steady-state ripple and low current distortion can be achieved without any considerable undershoot or overshoot on the pre-regulator's output, like in systems with no feed-forward compensation. This pin is internally connected to a comparator in order to provide the brownout (AC mains undervoltage) protection. A voltage below 0.8 V shuts down (not latched) the IC and brings its consumption to a considerably lower level. The IC restarts when the voltage at the pin rises above 0.88 V. These details must be taken into account during the MULT divider selection.

The suggested procedure to properly set the operating point of the multiplier is now described. First, the maximum peak value for V_{MULT} , $V_{MULTmax}$ is selected. This value, which occurs at maximum mains voltage, should be 3 V or thereabouts in wide range mains and less in single mains. The sense resistor selected is $R_s = 0.12 \Omega$ and it is described in the pin 4 section. According to the L6564 datasheet and to the linearity setting of the pin, the maximum voltage on the multiplier input is:

$$V_{MULTmax} = 3V \quad (16)$$

From (16) the maximum required divider ratio is calculated as:

Equation 49

$$k_p = \frac{V_{MULTmax}}{\sqrt{2} \cdot V_{ACmax}} = \frac{3.00V}{\sqrt{2} \cdot 265Vac} = 8 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

Supposing a 60 μA current flowing into the multiplier divider the lower resistor value can be calculated:

Equation 50

$$R_{multL} = \frac{V_{MULTmax}}{60\mu A} = \frac{3.00V}{60\mu A} = 50k\Omega$$

A commercial value of 51 k Ω for the lower resistor is selected. The upper resistor value can now be calculated:

Equation 51

$$R_{multH} = \frac{1-k_p}{k_p} R_{multL} = \frac{1-8 \cdot 10^{-3}}{8 \cdot 10^{-3}} 51k\Omega = 6.319M\Omega$$

In this example a $R_{multH} = 6.9 M\Omega$ and a $R_{multL} = 51 k\Omega$ can be selected. For R_{multH} a resistor with a suitable voltage rating (>400 V) is needed, or more resistors in series must be used.

The voltage on the multiplier pin with the selected component values re-calculated at minimum line voltage is 0.93 V and at maximum line voltage is 2.74 V. So the multiplier works correctly within its linear region.

Because the MULT divider also determines the mains input voltage at which the PFC starts and stops (brownout function), these values are calculated using the actual divider ratio:

Equation 52

$$V_{\text{START}} = \frac{0.88\text{V}}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{R_{\text{multH}} + R_{\text{multL}}}{R_{\text{multL}}} \quad V_{\text{START}} = \frac{0.88\text{V}}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{6.9\text{M}\Omega + 51\text{k}\Omega}{51\text{k}\Omega} = 84.8\text{V}$$

And also the stop voltage:

Equation 53

$$V_{\text{STOP}} = \frac{0.80\text{V}}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{R_{\text{multH}} + R_{\text{multL}}}{R_{\text{multL}}} \quad V_{\text{STOP}} = \frac{0.80\text{V}}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{6.9\text{M}\Omega + 51\text{k}\Omega}{51\text{k}\Omega} = 77.1\text{V}$$

Start and stop PFC mains voltage are compatible with the input mains voltage range (1).

In order to obtain the required startup and shutdown voltage, a reiteration may be required, by selecting MULT resistors and checking the actual PFC start and stop mains voltage.

Pin 7 (ZCD): This is the input of the zero current detector circuit. In FOT mode, it is connected to the line-modulated fixed-off-time circuit seen in [Figure 6](#). Taking into account the information in [Section 3: Implementing the line-modulated fixed-off-time](#), the starting point for the design of that circuit is the pair of the desired values for T_{OFF} on the top of the line voltage sinusoid at minimum ($T_{\text{OFF}} @ \text{VAC}_{\text{min}}$) and maximum line ($T_{\text{OFF}} @ \text{VAC}_{\text{max}}$) obtained by setting the switching frequency on the peak of the sinusoid at low mains and considering the minimum on-time of the L6564:

Equation 54

$$T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{min}}) = \frac{k_{\text{min}}}{f_{\text{swmin}}} \quad T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{min}}) = \frac{0.32}{80\text{kHz}} - 220\text{ns} = 3.76\mu\text{s}$$

Equation 55

$$T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{max}}) = \frac{T_{\text{ONmin}} \cdot k_{\text{max}}}{1 - k_{\text{max}}} \quad T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{max}}) = \frac{450\text{ns} \cdot 0.94}{1 - 0.94} - 220\text{ns} = 6.1\mu\text{s}$$

Where F_{swmin} is the switching frequency on top of the sinusoid of the input voltage at $\text{VAC}_{\text{min}} = 90 \text{ Vac}$ ([Figure 16](#)) and 220 ns is a corrector factor in order to consider the delay between the ZCD and GD signal.

Considering the ratio between [Equation 55](#), [Equation 54](#), we have:

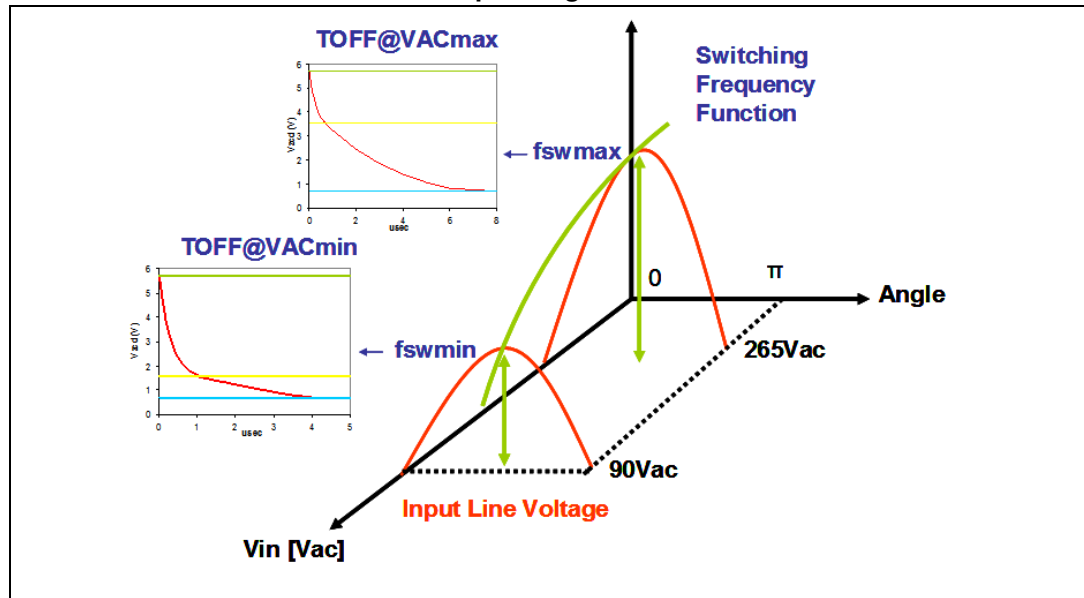
Equation 56

$$\rho_x = \frac{T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{max}})}{T_{\text{OFF}}(\text{VAC}_{\text{min}})} \quad \rho_x = \frac{6.1\mu\text{s}}{3.76\mu\text{s}} = 1.63$$

In the formula, [Equation 55](#) and [Equation 54](#), the delay between the ZCD signal and the gate drive signal is taken into account in order to increase the accuracy of the mathematical model.

From the theory of the line modulation fixed off-time, T_{OFF} increases with the line voltage so that at maximum line voltage the condition $T_{ON} > T_{ONmin}$ [4] is always true. This is important in order to avoid line distortion [5].

Figure 16. Switching frequency function on the peak of the sinusoid input voltage waveform and the corresponding off-time value



Now considering the two discharging resistors R and R0 of the circuit in [Figure 6](#), the ratio is defined as:

Equation 57

$$K_1 = \frac{R}{R_0 + R}$$

where $0 < K_1 < 1$. Through the definition of the k2 parameter the expected time constant $\tau = (R/R_0)C$ is underlined, necessary for achieving the desired $T_{OFF@90\text{ Vac}}$.

Equation 58

$$K_2 = \frac{T_{OFF}(VAC_{min})}{\tau}$$

Finding a way to obtain K1 and K2 means to gain the values of R and R0 and the discharging time constant of the capacitor C.

The following section describes the mathematical way of obtaining the two parameters K1 and K2. Combining [Equation 56](#), [Equation 57](#), [Equation 58](#) with the expression of the off-time ([Equation 5](#)), the following expressions are obtained:

Equation 59

$$\rho(V_{\text{multmin}}, k_1) = \frac{\left[\ln \left[\frac{\left[V_{\text{multmin}} \cdot \frac{V_{\text{ACmax}}}{V_{\text{ACmin}}} + V_F \right] \cdot (1 - k_1)}{\left[V_{\text{ZCDclamp}} - \left[V_{\text{multmin}} \cdot \frac{V_{\text{ACmax}}}{V_{\text{ACmin}}} + V_F \right] \right] \cdot (k_1)} \right]^{1 - k_1} + \ln \left(\frac{V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}}}{V_{\text{multmin}} \cdot \frac{V_{\text{ACmax}}}{V_{\text{ACmin}}} + V_F} \right) \right]}{\left[\ln \left[\frac{\left[V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F \right] \cdot (1 - k_1)}{\left[V_{\text{ZCDclamp}} - \left[V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F \right] \right] \cdot (k_1)} \right]^{1 - k_1} + \ln \left(\frac{V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}}}{V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F} \right) \right]}$$

Equation 60

$$k_2(V_{\text{multmin}}, k_1) = \left[\frac{-1}{1 - k_1} \cdot \ln \left[\frac{\left[V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F \right] \cdot (1 - k_1)}{\left[V_{\text{ZCDclamp}} - \left[V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F \right] \right] \cdot k_1} \right]^{1 - k_1} + \ln \left(\frac{V_{\text{ZCDtrigger}}}{V_{\text{multmin}} + V_F} \right) \right]$$

From [Equation 56](#) and [Equation 59](#), solving the following equation:

Equation 61

$$\rho(V_{\text{multmin}}, k_1) - \rho_x = 0 \quad K_1 = 0.903$$

And then substituting K1 value into the [Equation 60](#) expression, the k2 parameters are obtained:

Equation 62

$$K_2 = k_2(V_{\text{multmin}}, k_1) \quad K_2 = 11.17$$

From the values of K1 and K2 it is possible to calculate the time constant $\tau = (R1//R2) \cdot C$ necessary to achieve the desired $T_{\text{OFF}}@90 \text{ Vac}$:

Equation 63

$$\tau = \frac{T_{\text{OFF}}(V_{\text{ACmin}})}{K_2} \quad \tau = \frac{3.76\mu\text{s}}{11.17} = 336.35\text{ns}$$

Now, by selecting a capacitor C in the hundred picofarad range or a few nanofarads, for example a C =220 pF, it is possible to determine the required equivalent resistance value:

Equation 64

$$R_{\text{eq}} = \frac{\tau}{C} \quad R_{\text{eq}} = \frac{336.35\text{ns}}{220\text{pF}} = 1.53\text{k}\Omega$$

From [Equation 57](#) R and R0 are found:

Equation 65

$$R = \frac{R_{eq}}{1-K_1} \quad R = \frac{1.53k\Omega}{1-0.903} = 15.79k\Omega$$

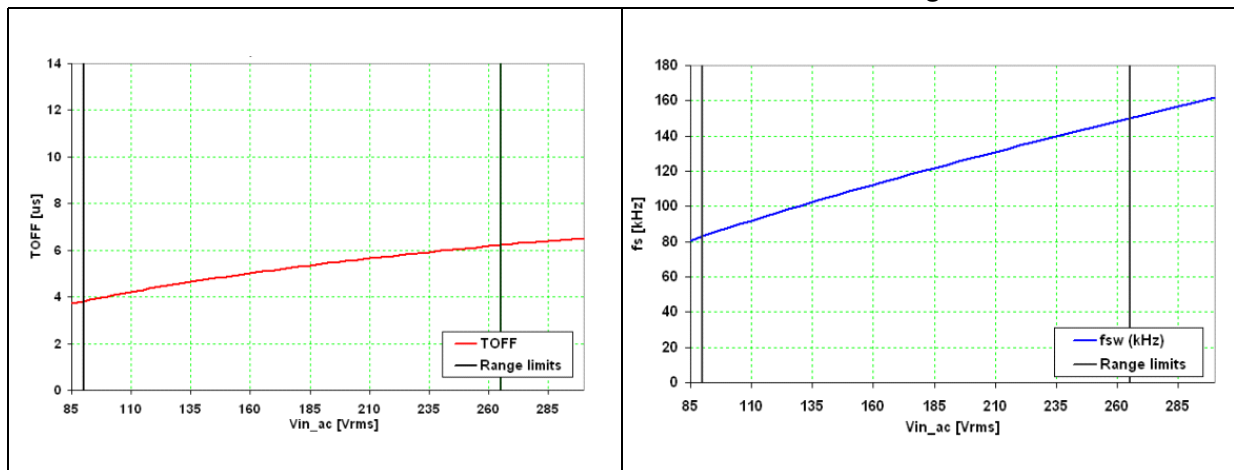
Equation 66

$$R_0 = \frac{R_{eq}}{K_1} \quad R_0 = \frac{1.53k\Omega}{0.903} = 1.5k\Omega$$

A commercial value $R = 15\text{ k}\Omega$ and a $R_0 = 1.5\text{ k}\Omega$ has been chosen.

[Figure 17](#) and [Figure 18](#) show the trend of the off-time and the switching frequency vs the input mains voltage. The PFC inner current loop works in the range of 80 kHz-150 kHz.

Due to the tolerance of the capacitor selected (C) and the two discharging resistors, it is important to take into account a variation on the switching frequency in a real board of about $\pm 10\%$.

Figure 17. Off-time vs. input mains voltage**Figure 18. Switching frequency vs. input mains voltage**

Finally the R_s limiting resistor should be selected according to the inequalities ([Equation 6](#)):

Equation 67

$$\frac{15V - 5.7V - 0.6V}{10mA + \frac{5.7V}{1.53k\Omega}} < R_s < 1.53k\Omega \cdot \frac{10V - 5.7V - 0.6V}{5.7V}$$

and the speed-up capacitor C_s using [Equation 7](#).

Equation 68

$$C_s < 220pF \cdot \frac{5.7V}{15V - 5.7V - 0.6V}$$

This means that after calculations:

Equation 69

$$726\Omega < R_s < 1k\Omega$$

Equation 70

$$C_s < 144pF$$

For example, a commercial value of the limiting resistor of 1 k Ω and a speed-up capacitor of 100 pF can be selected for this application.

Pin 8 (GND) acts as the current return both for the signal internal circuitry and for the gate drive current. When laying out the printed circuit board, these two paths should run separately.

Pin 9 (GD) is the output of the driver. The pin is able to drive an external MOSFET with 600 mA source and 800 mA sink capability.

The high-level voltage of this pin is clamped at about 12 V to avoid excessive gate voltages if the pin is supplied with a high V_{CC}. To avoid undesired switch-on of the external MOSFET because of some leakage current when the supply of the L6564 is below the UVLO threshold, an internal pull-down circuit holds the pin low. The circuit guarantees 1.1 V maximum on the pin (@ I_{sink} = 2 mA), with V_{CC} > V_{CC_ON}. This allows the omitting of the bleeder-resistor connected between the gate and the source of the external MOSFET used to this purpose.

Pin 10 (V_{CC}) is the supply of the device which is externally connected to the start-up circuit (usually, one resistor connected to the rectified mains) and to the self-supply circuit.

Whatever the configuration of the self-supply system, a capacitor is connected between this pin and ground.

To start the L6564, the voltage must exceed the start-up threshold (12 V typ.). Below this value the device does not

and consumes less than 90 μ A (typ.) from V_{CC}. This allows the use of high value start-up resistors (in the hundreds k Ω), which reduces power consumption and optimizes system efficiency at low load, especially in wide range mains applications.

When operating, the current consumption (of the device only, not considering the gate drive current) rises to a value depending on the operating conditions but never exceeding 6 mA.

The device continues to work as long as the supply voltage is over the UVLO threshold (13 V max). If the V_{CC} voltage exceeds 22.5 V an internal zener diode, 20 mA rated, is activated in order to clamp the voltage. Please remember that during normal operation the internal zener doesn't have to clamp the voltage, because in this case the power consumption of the device increases considerably and its junction temperature also increases. The suggested operating condition, for safe operation of the device, is below the minimum clamping voltage of the pin.

5 Design example using the L6564-FOT PFC Excel® spreadsheet

An Excel spreadsheet has been developed to allow a quick and easy design of a boost PFC pre-regulator using the STMicroelectronics L6564 controller, operating in fixed-off-time.

[Figure 21](#) shows the first sheet precompiled with the input design data used in [Section 4: Designing a fixed-off-time PFC](#).

Figure 19. Excel spreadsheet design specification input table

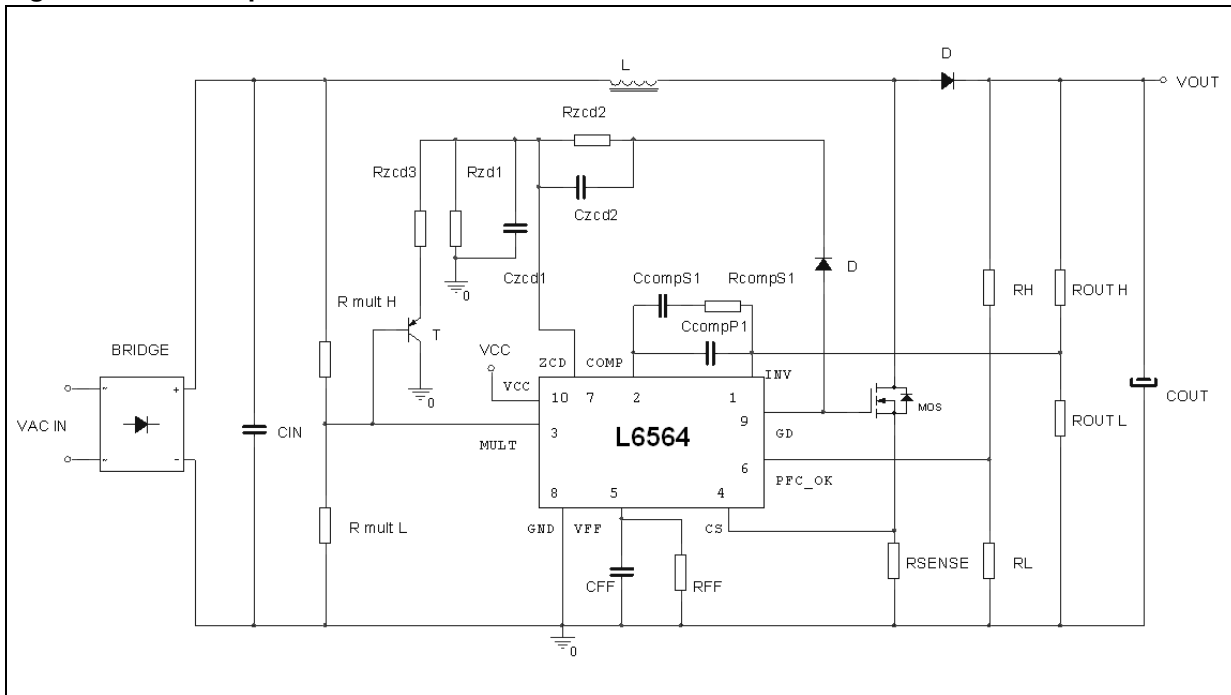
Design Specs:	Parameter	Value	Unit []
<u>Mains Voltage Range</u>	<u>VacMin</u>	90	VACrms
<u>Mains Voltage Range</u>	<u>VacMax</u>	265	VACrms
<u>Min.Mains Frequency</u>	<u>f_l</u>	47	Hz
<u>Regulated Output Voltage</u>	<u>Vout</u>	400	Vdc
<u>Rated Output Power</u>	<u>Pout</u>	400	W
<u>Max. Output Low Frequency Ripple</u>	<u>Δ Vout</u>	10	Vpk-pk
<u>Holdup Capability</u>	<u>Thold</u>	20	ms
<u>Min. Output Voltage after Line drop</u>	<u>VoutMin</u>	300	Vdc
<u>Max. Switching Frequency @ Vac min (on line voltage sinusoid peak):</u>	<u>fmax</u>	80	kHz
<u>Expected Efficiency</u>	<u>η</u>	90	%
<u>Expected Power Factor</u>	<u>PF</u>	0.99	---
<u>Max inductor current ripple to peak ratio (@VACmin,Pout_max)</u>	<u>Kr</u>	0.34	---
<u>Maximum Ambient Temperature</u>	<u>Tambx</u>	50	°C

Figure 20. Other design data

Other Design Data:	Parameter	Value	Unit []
<u>Maximum Magnetic Flux Density</u>	<u>Bmax</u>	0.25	T
<u>Ripple Voltage Coefficient</u>	<u>r</u>	0.1	---

The tool is able to generate a complete parts list of the PFC schematic represented in [Figure 21](#), including the power dissipation calculation of the main components.

Figure 21. Excel spreadsheet FOT PFC schematic



The bill of material in [Figure 21](#) is automatically compiled by the Excel spreadsheet. It summarizes all the selected components and some salient data.

Figure 22. Excel spreadsheet BOM

400 W FOT PFC BASED ON L6564 BILL OF MATERIAL			
		Selected Value	Unit []
BRIDGE RECTIFIER	D15XB60		
MOSFET P/N	2 x STP12NM50PF		
DIODE P/N	STTH8R06		
Inductor	L	500	μH
Max peak Inductor current	I_{lpkx}	9.67	A
Sense resistor	R_{sx}	0.12	Ω
Power dissipation	P_s	2.14	W
INPUT Capacitor	C_{in}	1	μF
OUTPUT Capacitor	C_{out}	330	μF
Pin3 - MULT Divider	R_{mult L}	51	kΩ
	R_{mult H}	6900	kΩ
ZCD FOT circuit	R_{zcd1}	15	kΩ
	R_{zcd2}	1	kΩ
	R_{zcd3}	1.5	kΩ
	C_{zcd1}	220	pF
	C_{zcd2}	100	pF
Diode P/N	1N4148		
pnp-BJT P/N	BC857C		
Feedback Divider	R_{outH}	3000	kΩ
	R_{outL}	18.8	kΩ
Output divider for PFC_OK	R_L	51	kΩ
	R_H	8800	kΩ
Compensation Network	C_{compP}	100	nF
	C_{compS}	1000	nF
	R_{compS}	56	kΩ
Voltage Feedforward	C_{FF}	1000	nF
	R_{FF}	1000	kΩ
IC Controller	L6564		

6 Reference

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6. “400W FOT-controlled PFC pre-regulator with the L6563”, AN2485
7. “A systematic approach to frequency compensation of the voltage loop in boost PFC pre-regulator”, abstract

7 Revision history

Table 1. Document revision history

Date	Revision	Changes
03-May-2010	1	Initial release.
02-Dec-2010	2	Updated: Section 4.3.7 on page 19.
09-Feb-2011	3	Updated: Figure 11 on page 19.

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