

Electronic Ballast(E-B) for HID Lamps

Design Considerations
for Robust and High Efficient Ballast



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HID Ballast & 4-axis CNC contr



High Intensity Discharge Lamps

HPS lamp

(high pressure sodium)

- High efficacy: 130 lm/W
- Warm-up time : 6 min.
- Ignition impulse :
2-4kV 1us
- Yellow color
- Burning position free

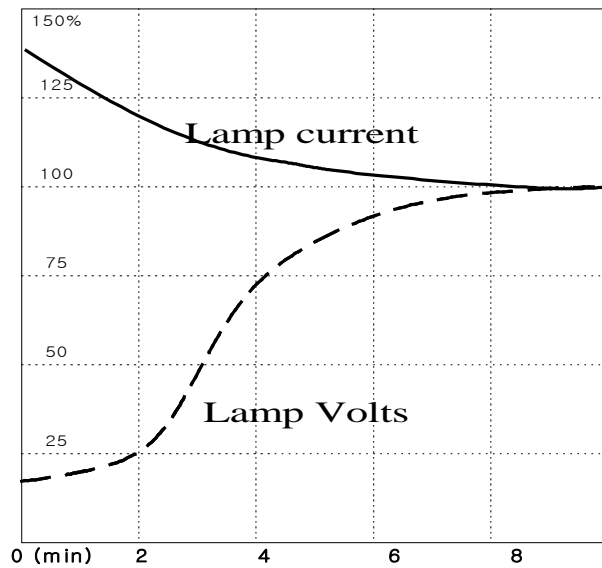
MH lamp

(metal halide)

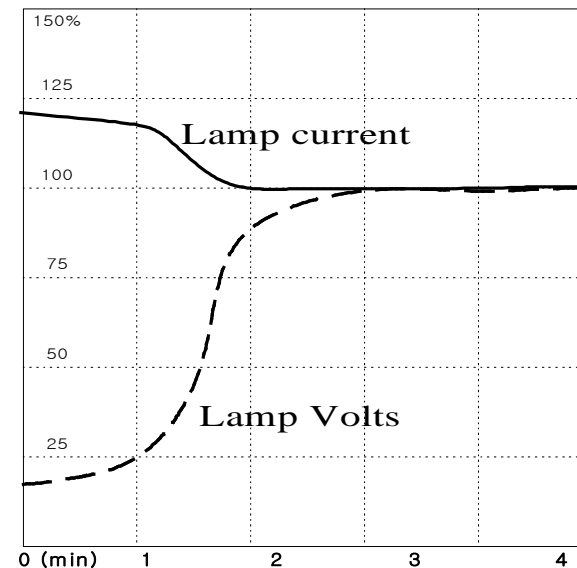
- Efficacy : 90 lm/W
- Warm-up time : 3 min.
- Ignition impulse :
2+1 electrodes: 0.8~2KV 10us
2 electrodes: same as
HPS lamp
- Excellent color rendering

Different Warm-up process

- HPS lamp



- MH lamp



Core-Coil Ballast

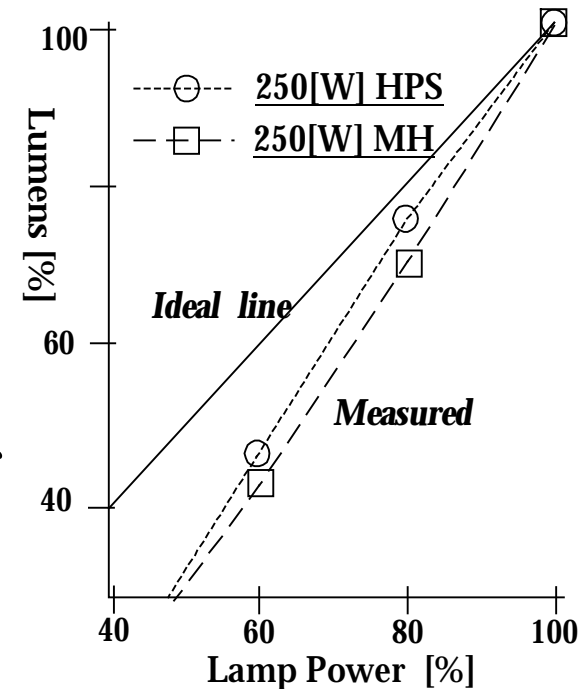
- Simple and robust
- Big and heavy
- Much flicker
- High A_{THD}
- Much losses on Ballast (iron loss)
- Choke Coil type
 - low losses
 - output uncontrollable (reduction in life)
- Constant Wattage type
 - good regulation
 - much losses

Electronic Ballast

- Small and light weight
- Low Ballast losses
- Lower maintenance cost
- Flicker-free
- Extends the life-time more than 50%
 - constant power
 - less ignition energy
- Higher cost ?
- EMI ?
- Reliability ?

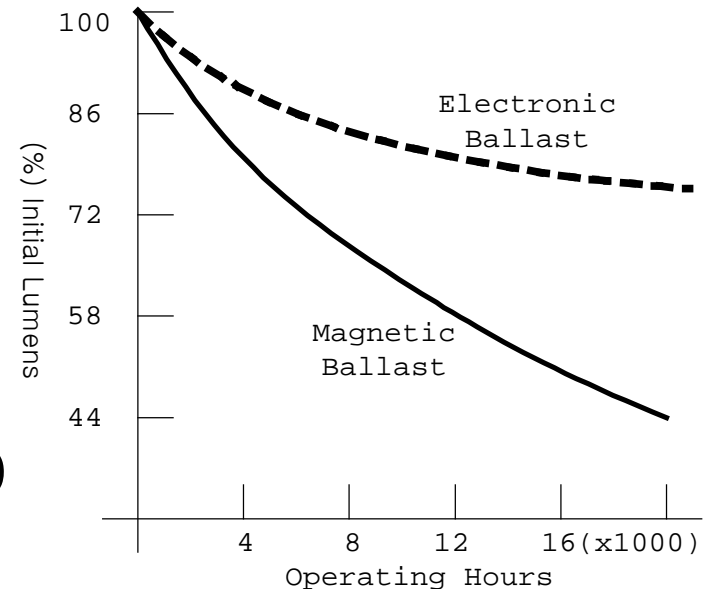
NO IMPROVEMENT OF LUMINOUS EFFICACY ON A HID ELECTRONIC BALLAST

- DIMMING causes sputtering of emissive material from electrodes.
 - Causes blackening
 - Degrades lamp life
- Never do DIMMING for long time(> 5 hrs) and below 50% of rated power.



Extending Life-time of HID lamp

- At the end of life
 - increasing the lamp voltage
(150% in HPS, 110% in MH)
 - decreasing the light output
due to blackening
- The life time depends on
 1. Ignition impulse energy
 2. Warm-up process (at cold electrode)



ü At least, 150% of rated life-time can be achieved with E-B.

Structures of E-B

Lamp voltage goes up as lamp ages.

HPS lamp

- 80V(new) \Rightarrow 160V(old)
large variation
- Cycling at the end of life. Big problem !
- E-B for HPS : needs a variable V_{DCBUS}
 $V_{DCBUS} = \text{min. } 300V$
max. 450V

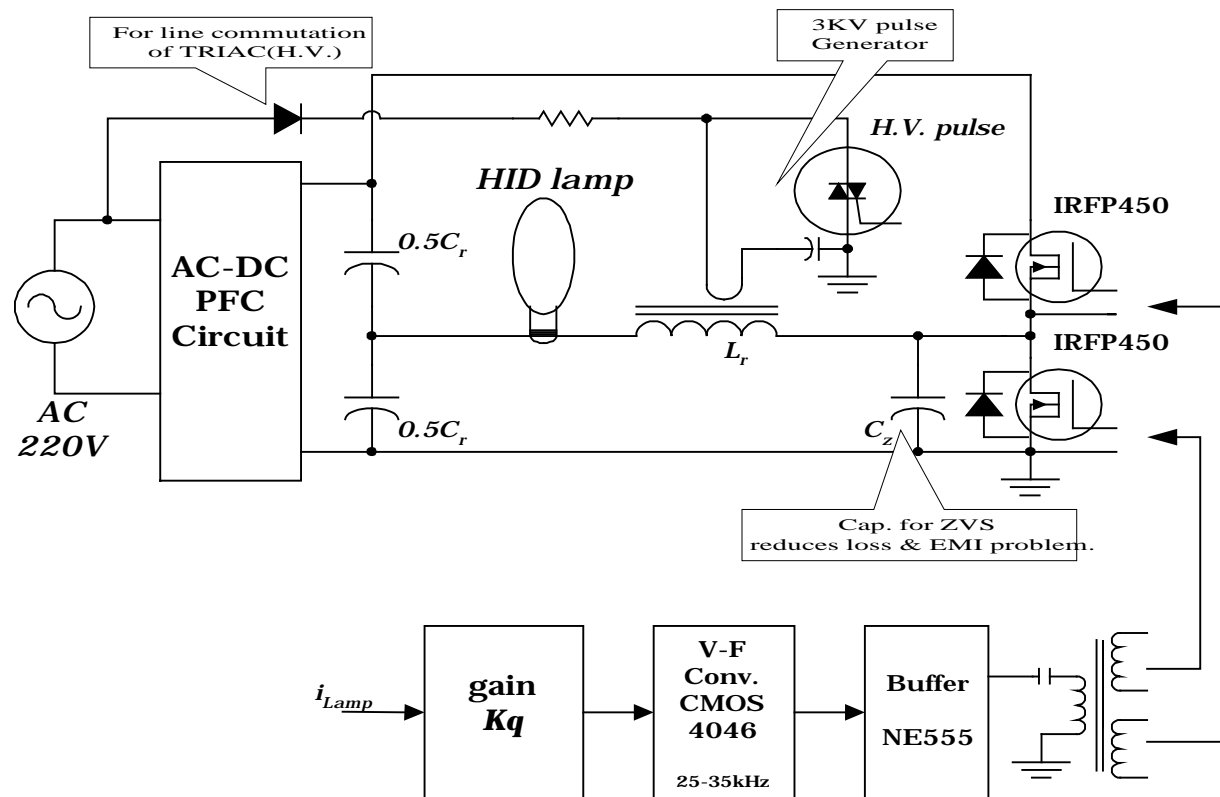
MH lamp

- 130V(new) \Rightarrow 150V(old)
small variation
- No cycling effect
- E-B for MH:
fixed $V_{DCBUS} = 380V$
- But, Acoustic Resonance Problem !

Iginition : H.V. pulses (HPS)

HPS lamp : 3kV 1us

- Using the main L and SCR discharging circuit.

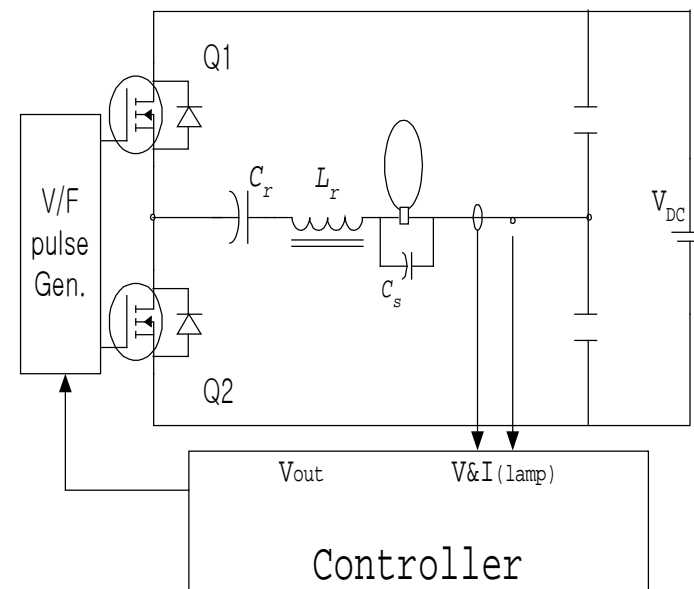
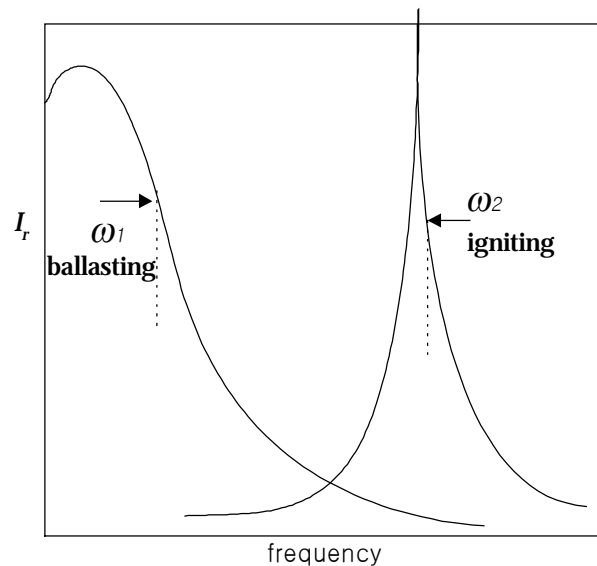


Ignition : H.V. pulses (MH)

MH lamp : 800V 1ms

- Using the main L and a small C_s in parallel with lamp.

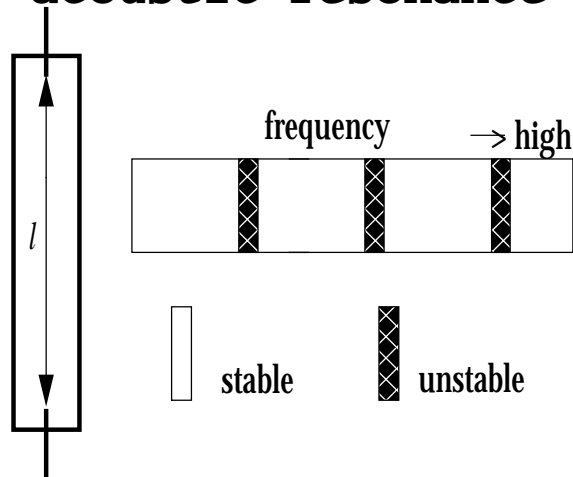
ω_1 : at ballasting ω_2 : at igniting



Acoustic Resonance(AR) makes Sound or Unstable arc.

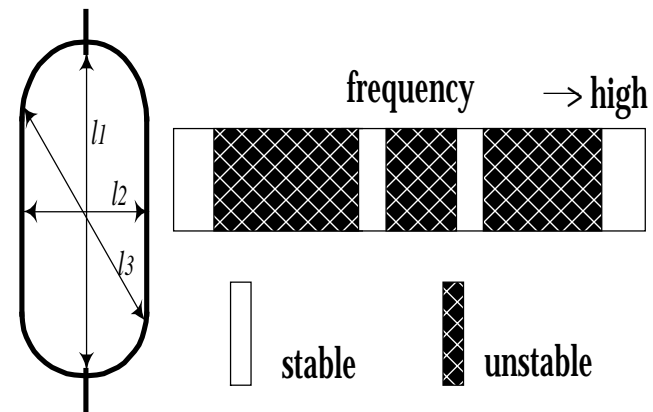
HPS lamp

- Narrow band AR
- bands of acoustic resonance



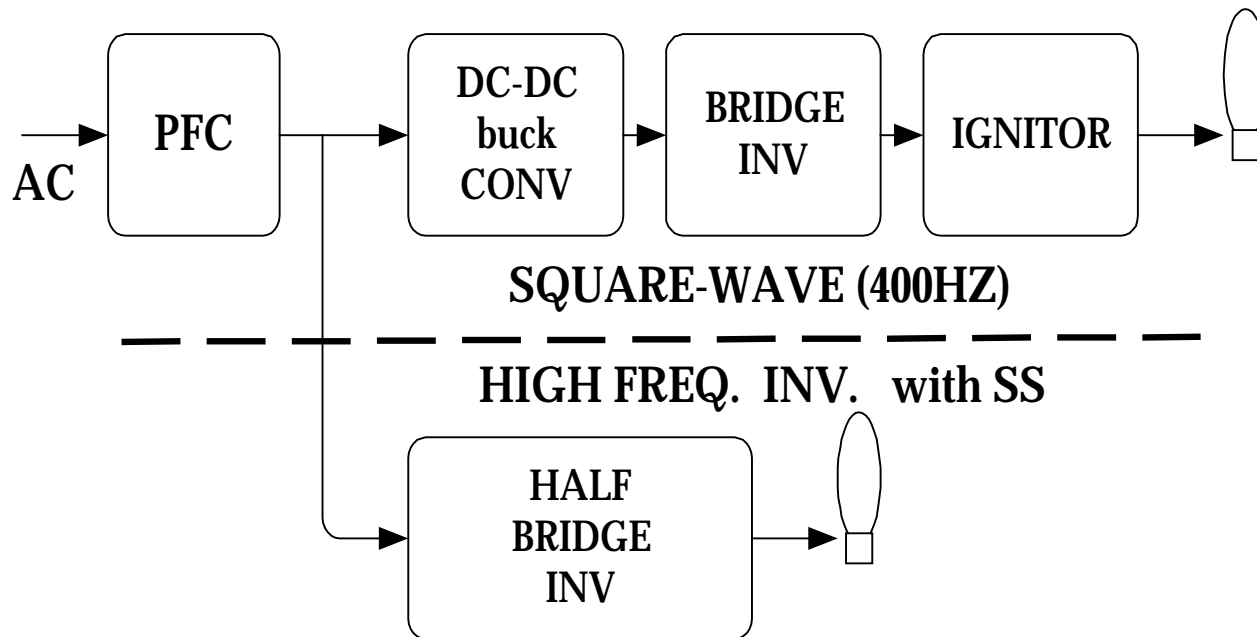
MH lamp

- Wide band AR
- bands of acoustic resonance



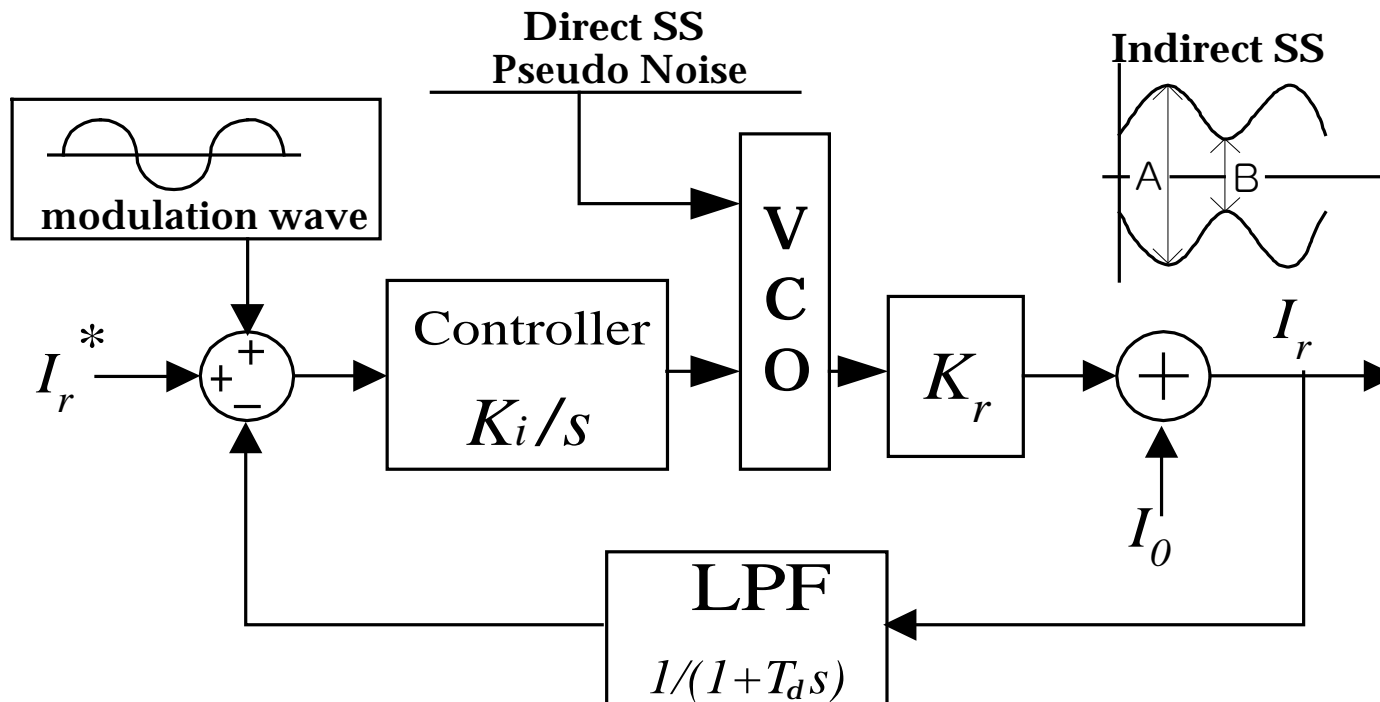
Removing AR by applying

- Square-wave driving(400Hz) : high losses, high cost
- Spread spectrum at High Freq. : low losses, low cost
 - operating freq. $20\text{kHz} < f < 100\text{kHz}$
 - Above 100kHz, Losses and EMI problem!

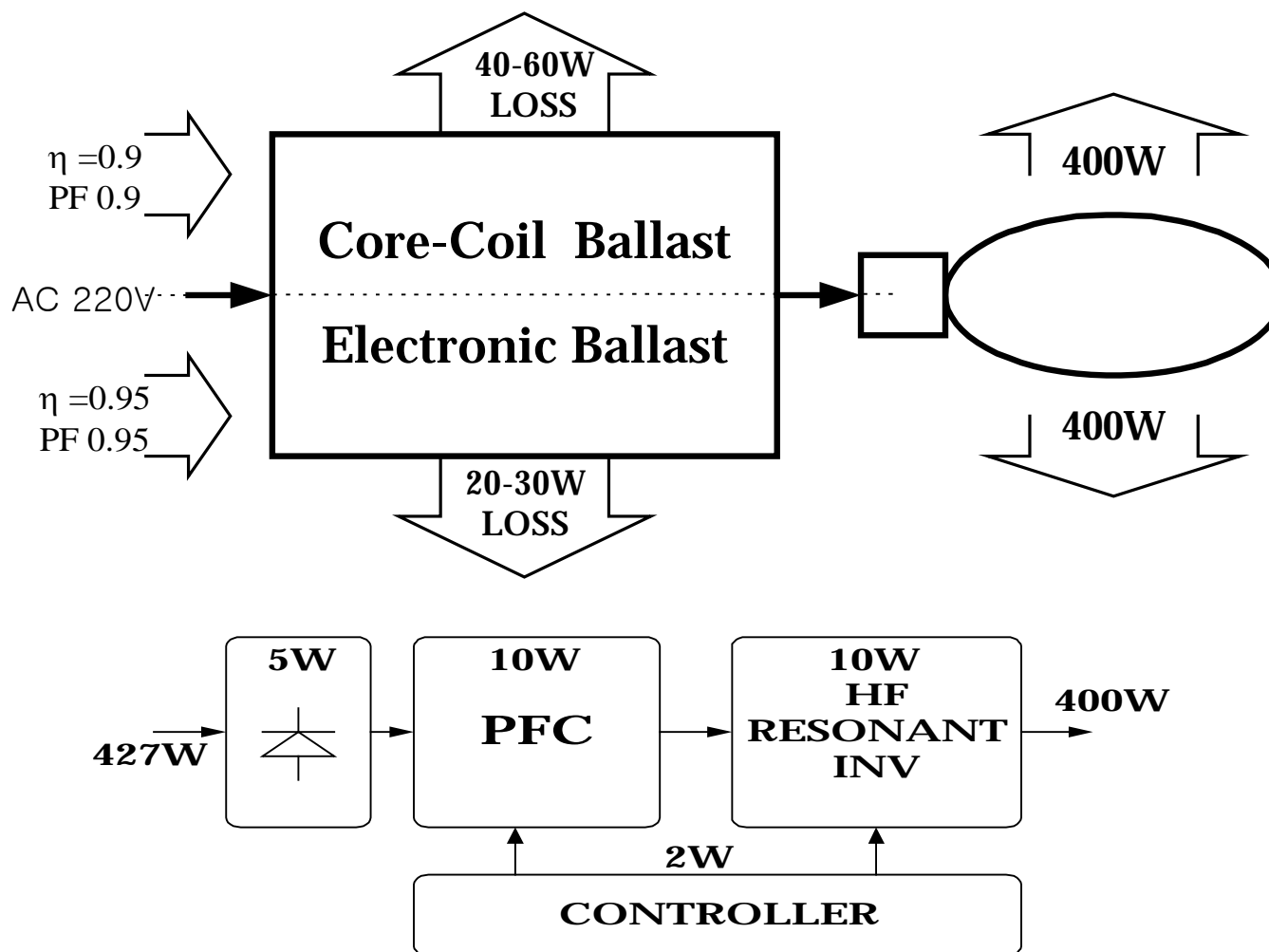


Spread Spectrum(SS) technique

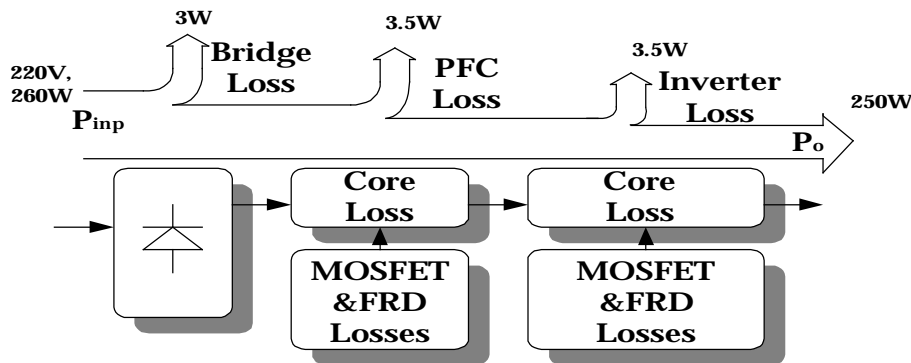
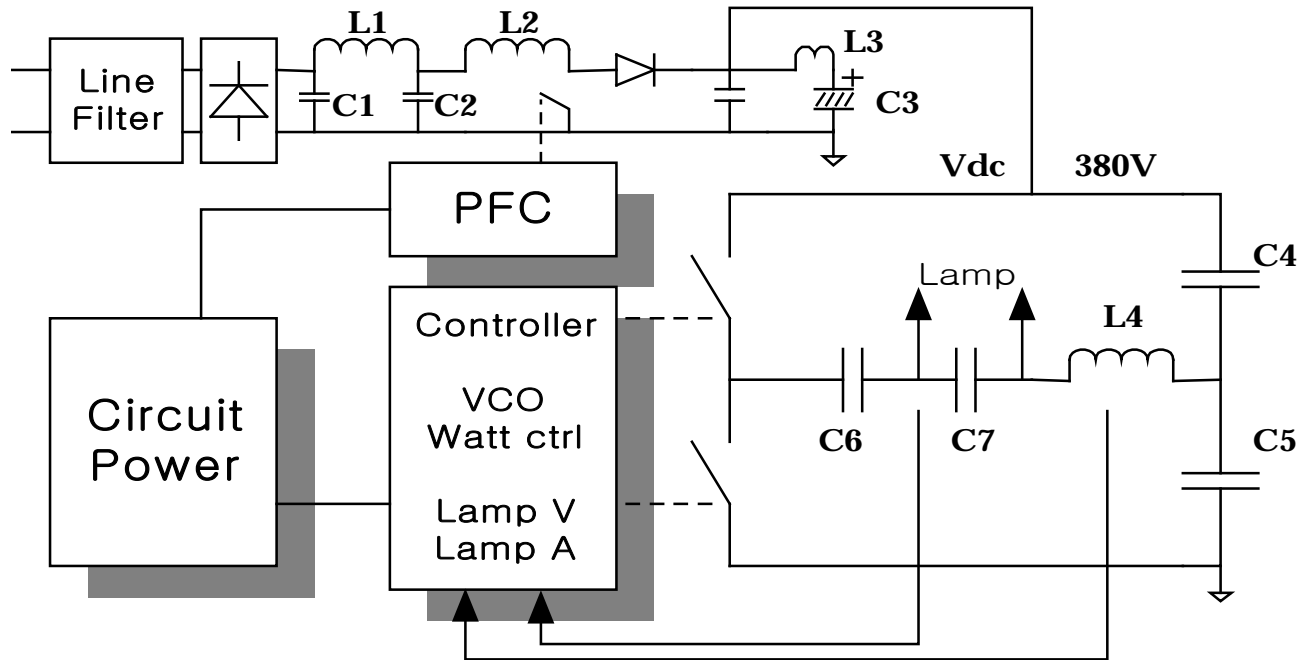
1. By Amplitude Modulation(Indirect SS)
 - Ripple on the current (mod. index)
2. By Random Mod. (Direct SS)
 - No current ripple



Ballast Losses (In case of 400W MHD)



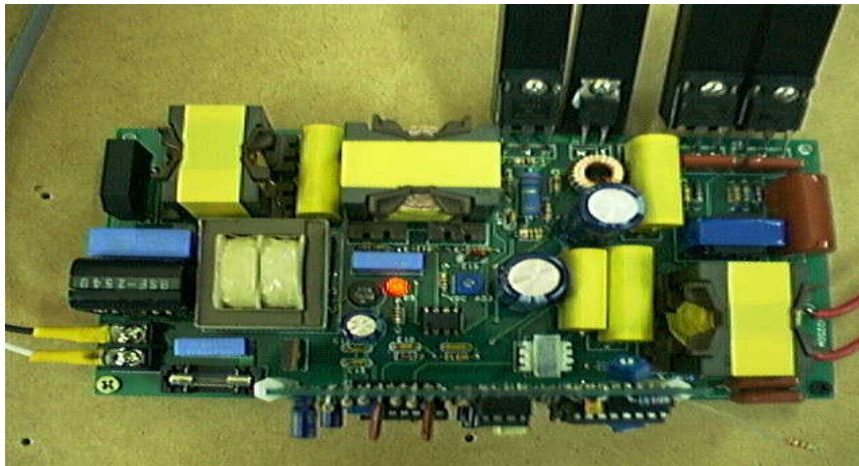
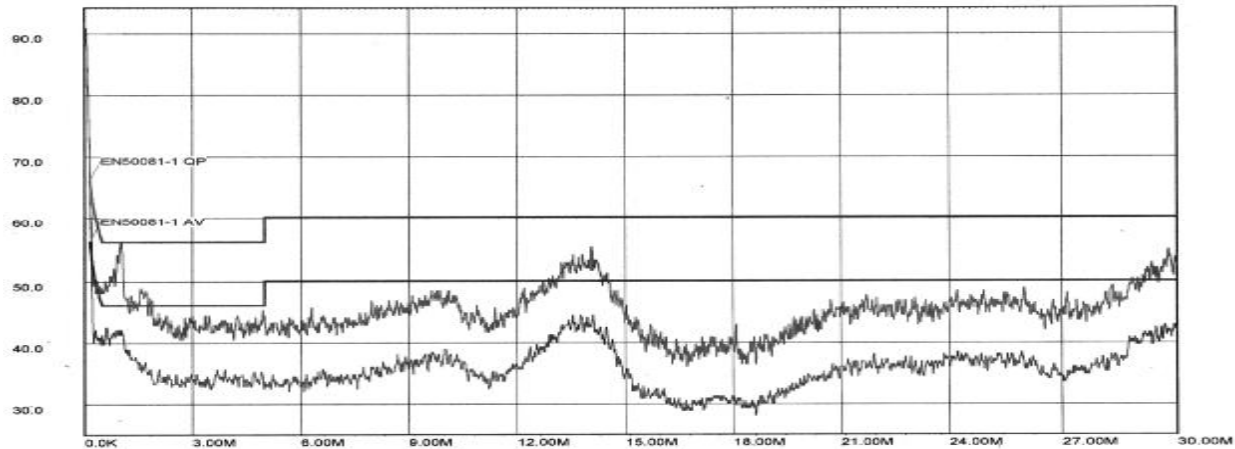
E-B for 250W MH lamp



Ballast Loss:10W
P.F:0.99
A_{THD}:6%
Constant Output
Low EMI

EMI level of E-B(250W MH)

HAMEG Instruments
Ave: Max.HLD RBW: 9kHz
Print date: 1/1/88 12:23:12 AM
Unit: dBuV



What I did and doing(since 1990)

- HPS lamps : 35W, 150W, 250W, 400W
- MH lamps : 250W, 400W
- HQI lamps: 150W, 250W