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SF6100

Laser diode driver

Datasheet & User Manual

Before powering on your driver, read this manual thoroughly.

If you have any doubt or suggestion, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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1. Features

- Current ripple <20mA
- No need to adjust voltage
- Soft-start
- Adjustable current limit
- Thermal warning and shutdown
- Reverse current protection
- Crowbar circuit protection
- Wide input voltage range
- Universal controls

2. Applications

- Supplying laser diodes, bars and arrays
- Supplying high power LED arrays

3. Description

The SF6100 is a non isolated DC/DC SMPS with constant current output. Driver produces high stability low ripple current. Protection features include an over current protection with adjustable limit, soft-start, thermal warning and shutdown, reverse current protection and crowbar circuit protection. This means the SF6100 can safely drive non linear loads like laser diodes and LEDs.

The universal control allows to select digital and analogue controlled parameters for easier integration.

SF6100 is available in thermal enhanced half-brick package with aluminum base plate to aid thermal dissipation. Driver can be mounted on any thermal conductive surface enough to dissipate driver losses.

4. Absolute maximum ratings

| | MIN | MAX | UNIT |
|------------------------------|-------|------|------|
| Vin+ to Vin- | -0.3 | 55 | V |
| Analogue control pins to GND | -0.3 | 5.5 | V |
| RXD to GND | -25 | 25 | V |
| TXD to GND | -13.2 | 13.2 | V |
| Operating temperature | 0 | 50 | °C |

5. Power supply requirements

The driver requires a DC power supply. The power supply must be able to cover the driver output power and losses. The driver efficiency is up to 96% and power dissipation is up to 35W.

The power supply voltage must be at least 27% higher than the voltage drop of your laser diode. If you are not sure with power supply selection, please, don't hesitate to contact us.

6. Electrical characteristics

| PARAMETER | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNIT |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----|---------|----------------------|------|
| Output voltage | | 5 | | 0,73*U _{in} | V |
| Output current | | 1 | | 20 | A |
| Ripple current | | 10 | 12 | 20 | mA |
| Current set step | Set by analogue pin | | →0 | | A |
| | Set by RS-232 | | 0,1 | | |
| Current set accuracy | | | +/-1 | | % |
| Pulse repetition frequency (F) | QCW-mode | 0,1 | | 100 | Hz |
| Pulse duration | Set by RS-232 | 1 | 1/F - 1 | 1638 | ms |
| | Set by analogue pin | 0,5 | | 1/F | |
| Power dissipation | | | | 35 | W |
| Internal measurements accuracy | | | +/-2 | | % |

7. Typical Performance Characteristics

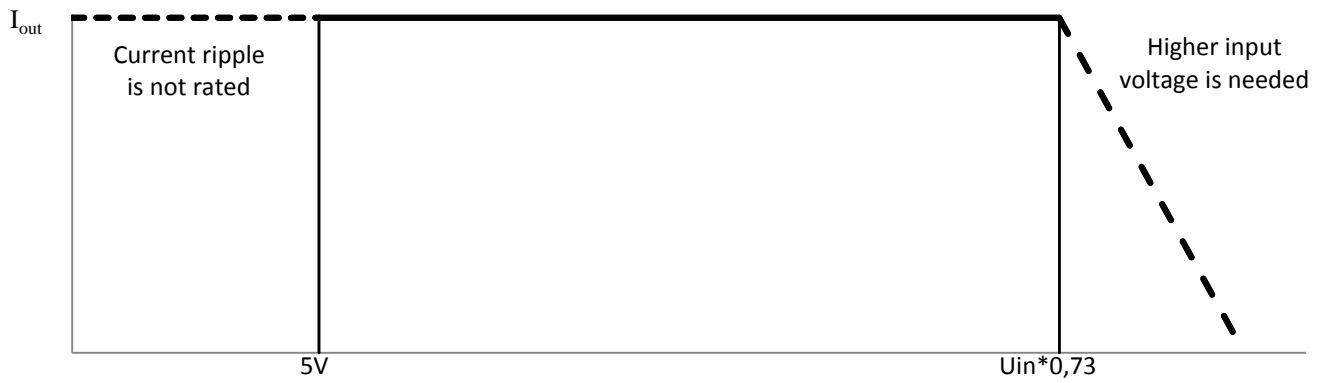


Fig. 1 – output characteristics.

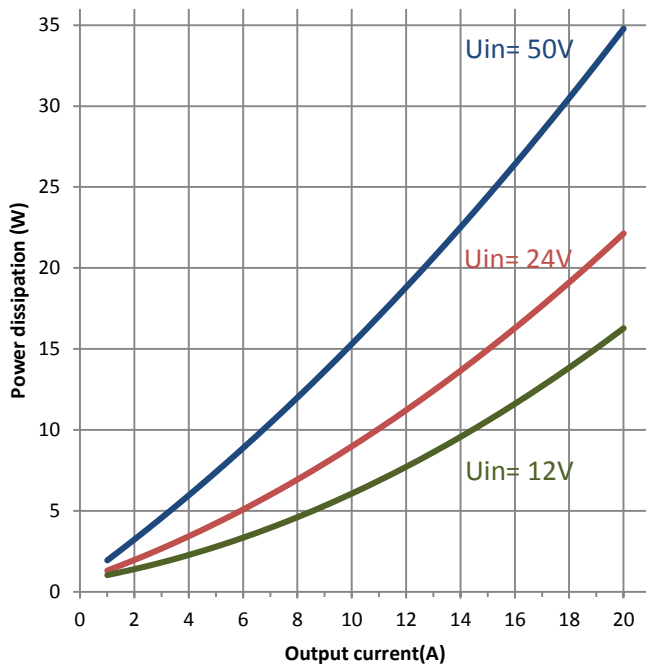


Fig. 2 – Power dissipation vs output current.

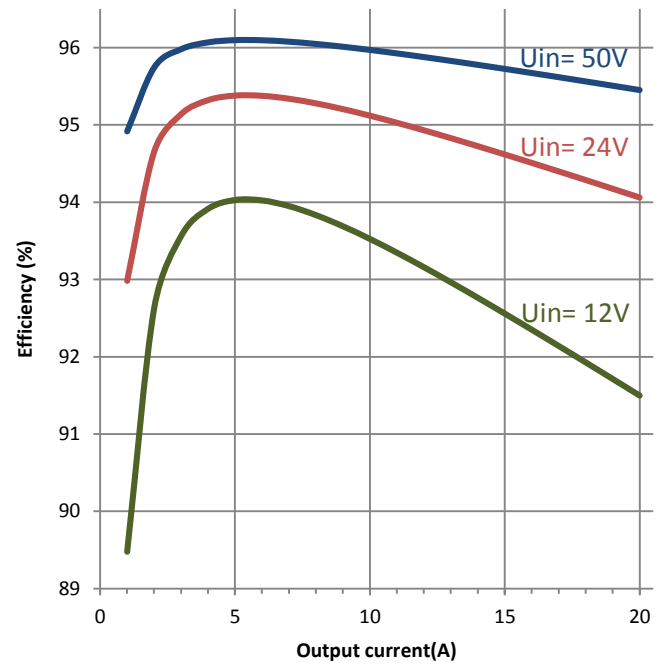


Fig. 3 – Efficiency vs output current.

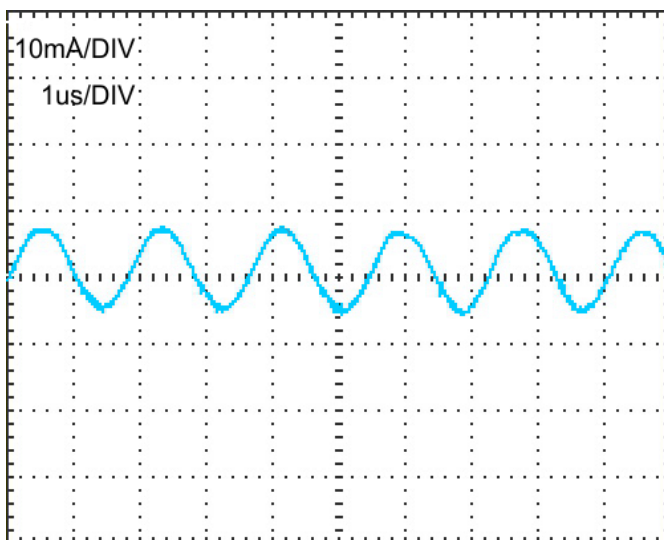


Fig. 4 – Ripple current @ 10A.

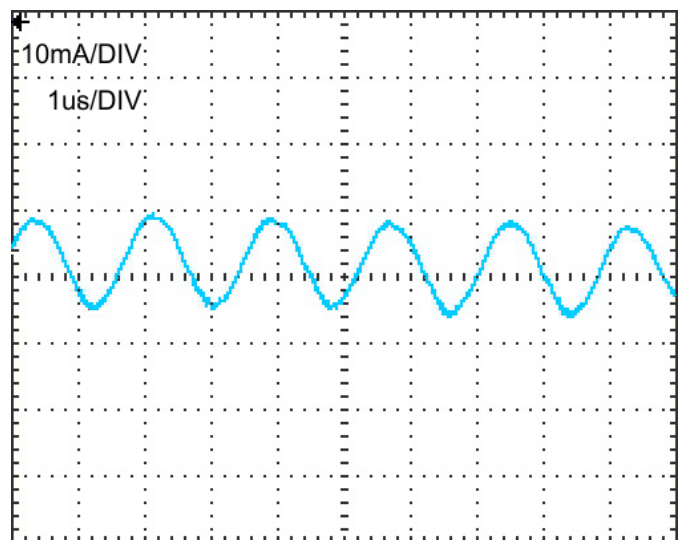


Fig. 5 – Ripple current @ 15A.

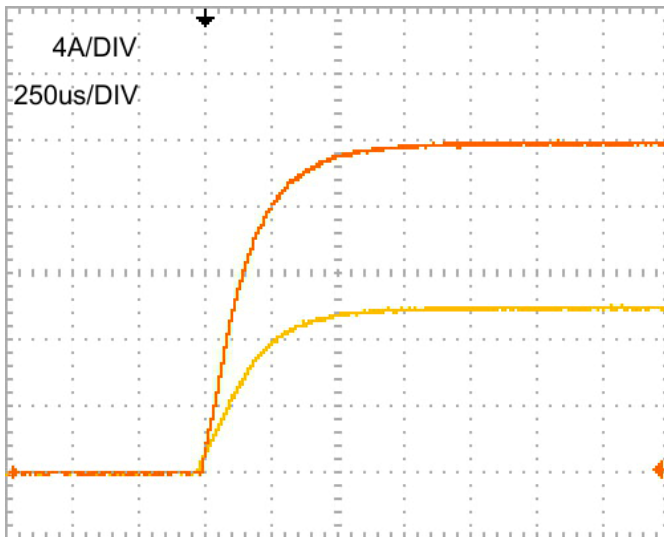


Fig. 6 – Typical start up sequence
@ 0A->10A and 0A->20A.

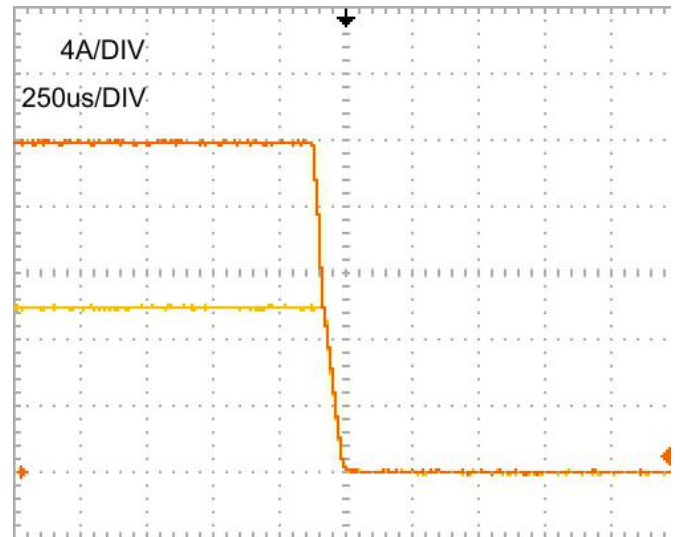


Рисунок 7 - Typical stop sequence
@ 10A->0A and 20A->0A.

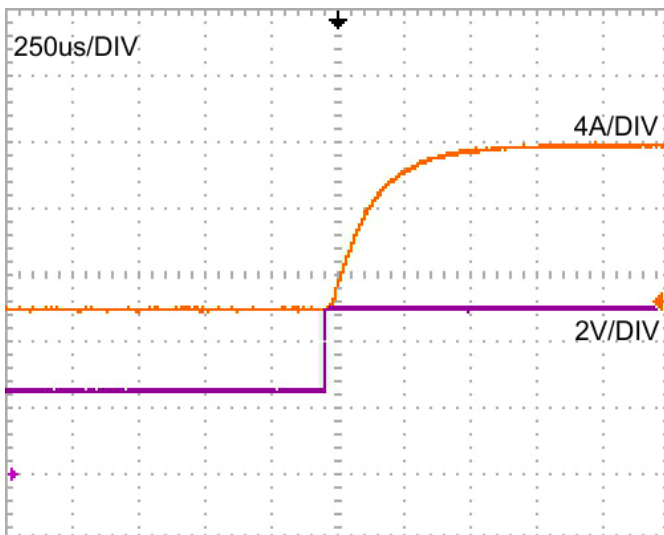


Fig. 8 – Transient response @ 10A->20A and analogue
current set signal.

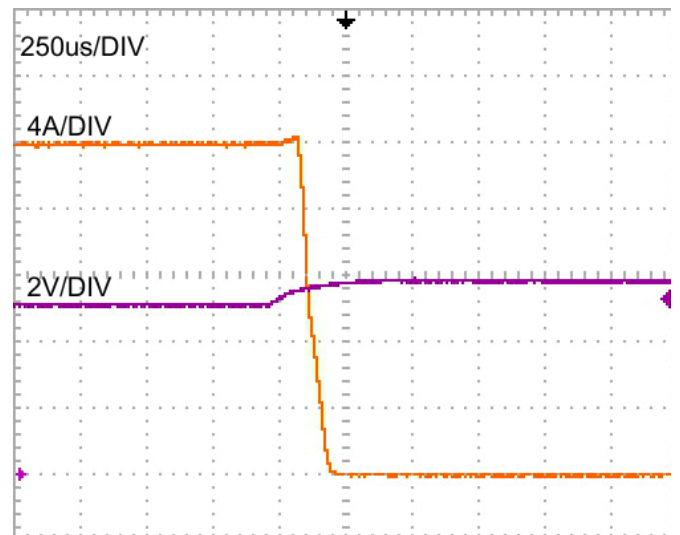


Fig. 9 – Over-current protection shut down and analogue
current set signal @ Current limit = 20,3A.

8. Pin and terminal functions

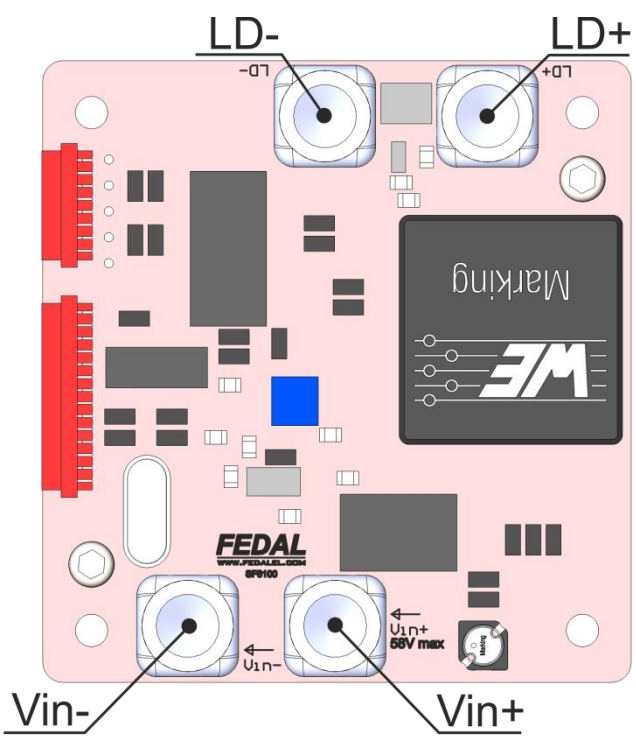
Please, note polarity!

Never ground any lead of the output. This may destroy the laser diode and driver!

Never use any grounded probes (e.g. from the oscilloscope) at the output!

Control pins are not isolated!

Terminals

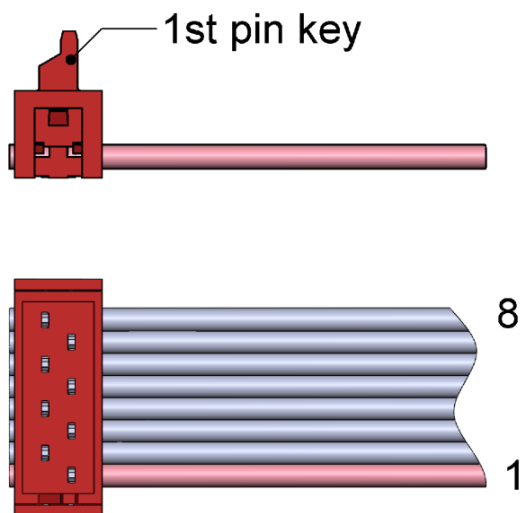
| Terminal | Description |
|--|--|
|  | Connect to the positive terminal of the power supply. Please, note polarity! |
| | Connect to the negative terminal of the power supply. Please, note polarity! |
| | Connect to the laser diode anode. Please note polarity! Do not ground. This will destroy the driver |
| | Connect to the laser diode cathode. Please note polarity! Do not ground. This will destroy the laser diode. |

Controls

| No | Description |
|----|--|
| 1 | Current limit poti. Clockwise to increase current limit threshold, counterclockwise to decrease current limit threshold. |
| 2 | Analogue control connector. |
| 3 | Digital control connector (RS-232). |

Digital control connector (RS-232)

Wurth WR-MM 6901 5700 08 72 or TE Connectivity 215083-8



| Pin | Description |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 1 | NC |
| 2 | RXD (connect to computer TXD) |
| 3 | NC |
| 4 | TXD (connect to computer RXD) |
| 5 | NC |
| 6 | NC |
| 7 | NC |
| 8 | GND |

Analogue control connector

Wurth WR-MM 6901 5700 14 72 or TE Connectivity 1-215083-4

| PIN | I/O | Name | Description |
|-----|-----|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | I | Enable | High = operates; Low = stop. Internally pulled down. Use TTL or CMOS signal to drive enable pin. Don't connect any mechanical switches directly to enable pin. |
| 2 | | GND | |
| 3 | O | Crowbar status | High = fault; Low = normal operation. Internally pulled down. |
| 4 | O | +5V | Auxiliary +5V power supply. Up to 300mA output current capability. |
| 5 | I | Interlock | Open = locked; Low = operates. Internally pulled up. |
| 6 | O | Over-temperature warning | High = $t^0 > 90^{\circ}\text{C}$; Low = $t^0 < 90^{\circ}\text{C}$. Internally pulled down. |
| 7 | | GND | |
| 8 | O | -15V | Auxiliary -15V power supply. Up to 30mA output current capability. |
| 9 | O | Voltage monitor | 0-10V = 0-50V at the output. |
| 10 | O | +15V | Auxiliary +15V power supply. Up to 30mA output current capability. |
| 11 | O | Current monitor | 0-10V = 0-20A at the output. |
| 12 | O | +15V | Internally connected to pin #10 |
| 13 | I | Current set | 0-5V = 0-20A at the output. |
| 14 | | GND | |

9. Analogue control description

Enable

The enable pin is active high 3.3V and 5V compatible logic input. Driver operates when enable pin is high. To ensure correct start-up without overshoot, the soft-start sequence initiates when the enable pin becomes high.

The enable pin can be used for QCW operation. The output may be pulsed by applying a TTL signal to enable pin. The minimum pulse duration is about 500us depends on soft-start time.

Crowbar status

Crowbar status pin reports the status of the protection shorting crowbar clamp across the output. The crowbar will short the output while over-current shutdown and over-temperature shutdown. While the protection shutdown the enable pin is ignored. Disconnect the driver from power to reset the protection status.

Interlock

The Interlock pin must be connected to GND in order for output current to be delivered. It can be used for external interlock e.g. door or over-temperature switches.

Over temperature warning

When temperature of driver PCB exceeds 90 °C the over-temperature warning will go high to indicate driver is in danger of shutting down due to over-temperature condition. When temperature of driver PCB exceeds 100°C, the driver will shut down.

Voltage monitor

The output voltage of the driver can be monitored by voltage monitor. 0-10V = 0-50V with +/-2% accuracy.

Current monitor

The output current of the supply can be monitored by current monitor. 0-10V = 0-20A with +/-2% accuracy.

Current set

The driver output current is set by applying an analog signal to the current set pin. 0-5V = 0-20A.

The current set pin can be used for analogue modulation by applying sign, square or ramp signal with the DC component. Analogue modulation amplitude depends on frequency. Please, control the output current while using this feature.

If you use arbitrary/function generator or lab PS for current set, make sure it is in High Z mode. Please, be careful, control the current set and current monitor pin voltages while getting started.

10. How to get started

1. Unpack your driver;
2. Connect a dummy load (e.g. a Schottky diode) to the LD- and LD+ terminals. Please note polarity;
3. Connect the controls (analogue and/or digital);
4. Connect the power supply. Please note polarity;
5. Rotate the current limit poti trimmer counterclockwise several times;
6. Turn on the power supply;
7. Set the current equal to the desired current limit threshold;
8. Enable the driver;
9. Rotate the poti trimmer slowly while the crowbar status pin becomes high;
10. Restart the power supply to reset protection;
11. Make sure the over-current protection limit is set right;
12. Make sure that all controls work;
13. Turn off the power supply and disconnect a dummy load;
14. Connect the laser diode to the LD- and LD+ terminals. Please note polarity ;

11. Cooling

The driver produces up to 35 W of losses. Thus the base plate has to be mounted on a thermal conduction surface to ensure proper operation and prevent an over-temperature shutdown.

Additional cooling can be achieved by placing the driver into the airflow of a fan.

12. Internal protections

Several security features protect the laser diode and driver from damage. Reverse diode protects the laser diode from reverse currents. In case of an over-current or an over temperature condition, the control logic disables the driver and the output shorts by a crowbar clamp. A soft-start mechanism slowly raises the current at startup to protect the laser diode against current overshoot.

13. Digital control description (RS-232)

When the input voltage applied the driver is always in “analogue current set, external enable and allowing interlock” state. Any other state should be set any time after powering the driver if needed.

Serial port settings:

| Baud rate | Data bits | Stop bits | Parity | Flow control |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------|
| 115200 | 8 | 1 | none | none |

Data exchange between the driver and the PC is only initiated by the PC. All commands are sent in plain text format. All commands are sent with prefix. Number of command follows the prefix without any symbols. If there is the value after the command they separate with “space” symbol. The command ends with “carriage return” symbol.

The format of the command to set the value (P-type);

| Number of byte | Value | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | P (50h) | Set prefix |
| 2-5 | Number of the parameter | Hex-number of the parameter. For example, 0100h |
| 6 | 'space' symbol (20h) | |
| 7-10 | New value of the parameter | Hex-value of the parameter. For example, 0000h |
| 11 | 'return carriage' symbol<CR> (0Dh) | End of the command |

The device does not respond to P-type commands by default. (see section "the protocol extension")

You can request the value of parameter by the J-type command. The device will return a value of requested parameter.

The format of the command to get the value (J-type)

| Number of byte | Value | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | J (4Ah) | Request prefix |
| 2-5 | Number of the parameter | Hex-number of the parameter. For example, 0100h |
| 6 | 'return carriage' symbol<CR> (0Dh) | End of the command |

The format of the response

| Number of byte | Value | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | K (4Bh) | Response prefix |
| 2-5 | Number of the parameter | Hex-number of the requested parameter |
| 6 | 'space' symbol (20h) | |
| 7-10 | Returned value of the parameter | Hex-value of the parameter |
| 11 | 'return carriage' symbol<CR> (0Dh) | End of the command |

If the device could not recognize a command, it return an error message with error code.

The format and codes of errors.

| Error (returned command) | Reasons (one or few) |
|--------------------------|---|
| E0000 | 1) Internal buffer of device is overflowed. 2) Cannot find <CR> (0x0D) or \and <LF> (0x0A) . 3) Format of command is invalid. |
| E0001 | 1) Unknown command (it does not P- or J-type command). 2) The device failed to correctly interpret a command. |
| E0002 | The CRC of received command (see section “the protocol extension”). |
| K0000 0000 | Request or set the parameter that does not exist. |

Available parameters and its description.

| Action | | | R/W | HEX-number of parameters |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|----------|--------------------------|
| Frequency (0,1 Hz) | Value | | R/W | 0100 |
| | Minimum | | R | 0101 |
| | Maximum | | R | 0102 |
| Duration (0,1 ms) | Value | | R/W | 0200 |
| | Minimum | | R | 0201 |
| | Maximum | | R | 0202 |
| Current (0,1 A) | Value | | R/W | 0300 |
| | Minimum | | R | 0301 |
| | Maximum | | R | 0302 |
| | Measured value | | R | 0307 |
| Voltage (0,1 V) | Measured value | | R | 0407 |
| State of the device (bit mask) | Start (Enable) | 0008h | W | 0700 |
| | Stop (Diabie) | 0010h | | |
| | Internal current set | 0020h | | |
| | External current set | 0040h | | |
| | Ext. Enable | 0200h | | |
| | Int. Enable | 0400h | | |
| | Allow Interlock | 1000h | | |
| | Deny Interlock | 2000h | | |
| State of the device (bit mask) | 0 bit | 1 – device is powered on (always = 1) | R | 0700 |
| | 1st bit | 1 – started; 0 – stopped | | |
| | 2nd bit | 1 – Internal current set; 0 – External current set | | |
| | 4th bit | 1 – Ext. Enable; 0 – Int. Enable | | |
| | 7th bit | 0 – interlock is allowed; 1 – interlock is denied | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|------|
| Serial number | Return the hex-value of the serial number | | R | 0701 |
| Information about the purpose and possibilities of the device | Type of device 0-3 bits | 5 – CW driver 6 – pulse driver | R | 0702 |
| | Appointment 4-7 bits | 1 – Independent unit | | |
| | Flags 8-11 | 8 – supports RS-232 9 – supports USB 10 – supports LAN 11 – supports TEC | | |
| Information about parameters that you can change (bit mask) | 0 bit | 1 – the device supports this option | R | 0703 |
| | 1st bit | Frequency | | |
| | 2nd bit | Duration | | |
| | 3rd bit | Current | | |
| Lock status (bit mask)* | 0 bit | Reserve | R | 0800 |
| | 1st bit | Interlock | | |
| | 3rd bit | Over current | | |
| | 4th bit | Overheat (warning) | | |

* If temperature of the device reaches the over temperature warning threshold the overheat flag will be set. If the device is in over temperature protection state, then it will be set overheat and over current flags together.

The maximum duration depends on the set value of the frequency. When you change frequency, a new value of the maximum duration is compute automatically. The duration of pulse cannot be less than 2 ms and more than period of frequency minus 1 ms. For low frequencies the duration cannot be more than 1638.3 ms, because the size of variable in internal memory of MCU is 14-bit value.

Set the zero frequency to switch the device into CW mode or set not zero frequency value to switch the device into QCW (long pulses) mode. If you try to set a value more or less than limits, then the value will be rounded to limit. Any attempts to set a new state of the device, except “start”, forcibly switch the device to the state “stop”. Some states of the device are mutually exclusive, for example, if you set “Ext. Enable”, then you will not be able to set the state “start”. If you send “start” and “stop” commands to each other, the device will save all parameters in the internal memory. The saving process lasts about 300 ms. In this time the device does not respond to any actions. The device is able to save the next parameters in the internal memory:

- Frequency
- Duration
- Current
- Settings of the RS protocol extension (see section «the protocol extension»)

14. Digital control description (extended)

WARNING! *Extended protocol recommend for advanced users only. In addition, it might be use for integration of the device with other devices for systems.*

Use the parameter number 0704h for configure the extended protocol. In extended protocol, you can enable and disable the next options: checksum (CRC 8-bit CCITT), return a new value of parameter after P-type commands, change baud-rate, change protocol-mode (text-plain or binary).

The description of the protocol extension command

| Action | | | R\W | HEX-number of parameters |
|---|--|--|-----|--------------------------|
| Information about the extended protocol | 0 bit | 1 – the device supports this option | R | 0704 |
| | 1st bit | Checksum (1 – on, 0 – off) | | |
| | 2nd bit | Return a new value for P-type commands (1 – on, 0 – off) | | |
| | 3-5 bits | Baud-rate 0 – 2400 1 – 9600 2 – 10417 3 – 19200 4 – 57600 5 – 115200 (default) | | |
| | 6th bit | Data exchange mode (1 – binary, 0 –text-plain) | | |
| Configuring of the extended protocol | On checksum (CS) | 0002h ¹ | W | 0704 |
| | Off checksum | 0004h ¹ | | |
| | Return a new value for P-type commands | 0008h ¹ | | |
| | Do not return answer for P-type commands | 0010h ¹ | | |
| | Set new baud-rate(baud) ² | 0100h – 2400 0120h – 9600 0140h – 10 417 0180h – 57 600 01A0h – 115200 | | |
| | Text-plain mode on ³ | 0200h | | |
| | Binary mode on | 0400h | | |

¹In binary mode the specified commands are ignored by the device

²Here are binary numbers

³For more information, see section “binary mode”

Text-plain mode

All commands in text-plain mode should be in ASCII.

WARNING! *If you enable the checksum it will change format of commands. After <CR> symbol you will be write 2 bytes of checksum and last byte will be <LF> (0Ah – “new line” symbol). Checksum is computed for all bytes of command before checksum bytes (including<CR> symbol).*

All answers of the device will also contain a checksum, including K-type and E-type answers. Checksum is computed by CRC-CCITT-8 algorithm. This is the main difference between the format of commands for the extended protocol and standard protocol.

The format of commands for enabled checksum

| Number of byte | Value | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | P,J,K,E | Type of command |
| 2-5 | Number of parameter | Hex-number of value |
| 6 | ‘space’ symbol (20h) | <i>(does not use for J and E-type commands)</i> |
| 7-10 | New value of the parameter | Hex-value of parameter <i>(does not use for J and E-type commands)</i> |
| 11 | ‘return carriage’ symbol<CR> (0Dh) | End of value |
| 12-13 | Checksum | CRC checksum of the first 11 bytes <i>(for J and E-type commands checksum is computed for the first 6 bytes)</i> , including <CR> symbol. |
| 14 | ‘new line’ symbol<LF> (0Ah) | End of command |

Possible problems

1. The device waiting for symbol <LF>. If <LF> symbol does not received and buffer is overflowed, then all symbols after overload will be processed as a new command. The device returns an error. In this case, it is recommended to send the <LF> symbol. The device will generate an error and clear the buffer for the next command.
2. All symbols after the <LF> symbol will be processed as a new command.

Binary mode

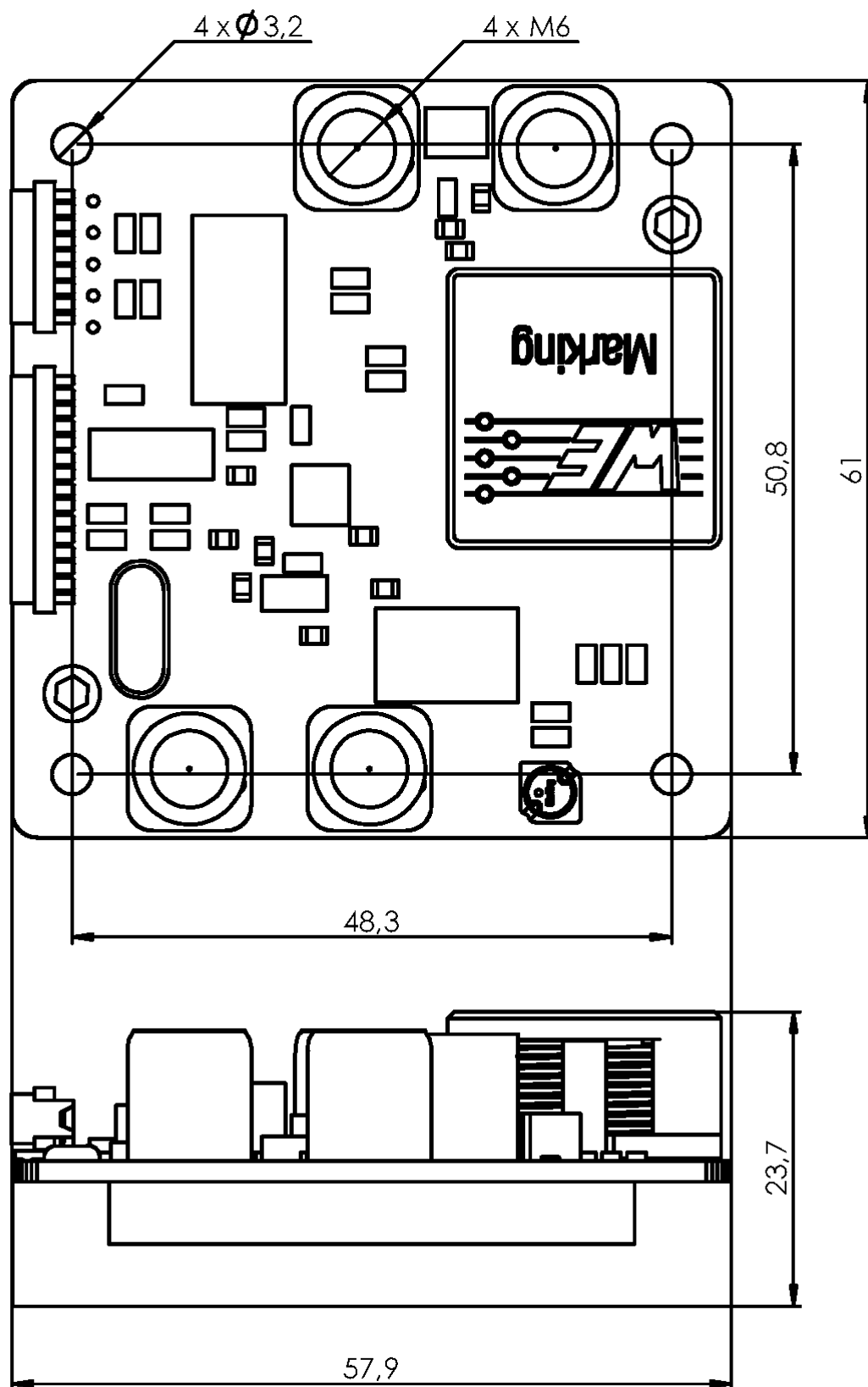
The binary mode has a significant difference. In this mode, data are exchanged in binary form. Length of any type of command is 8 bytes! In this mode, next options are always enable and you cannot disable it: return a new value of parameter for P-type commands and checksum. The format of binary mode commands is represented in table 8.

The format of binary mode commands

| Number of byte | Value | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Type of command | 50h (P - ascii) – Set a new value of parameter, 4Ah(J- ascii) – Get a value of parameter, 4Bh(K-ascii) – answer of the device, 45h (E - ascii) – Error. |
| 2-3 | Number of parameter | Hex-number of parameter |
| 4-5 | Value of parameter | Hex-value of parameter. This value is STRICTLY REQUIRED in the binary mode. If this value does not make sense, it will be returned as 0000 (K or E-type commands) or you should set it field to any value (for P or J-type commands). |
| 6 | ‘return carriage’ symbol<CR> (0Dh) | End of value |
| 7 | Checksum | CRC checksum of the first 11 bytes(<i>for J and E-type commands checksum is computed for the first 6 bytes</i>), including <CR> symbol. |
| 8 | ‘new line’ symbol<LF> (0Ah) | End of command |

15. Mechanical dimensions

All dimensions in mm.



Test report

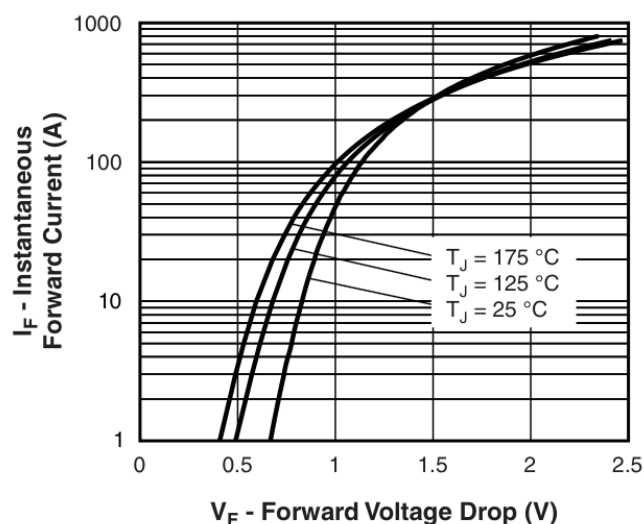
Test conditions:

- Test load – 60EPU04 diodes 44 in series, unless otherwise specified;
- The output current is measured with Hall-effect current sensor VAC 4646-X201;
- The temperature is measured at the hottest point of driver;
- Supplying voltage is 55V.

Measuring instruments:

- Oscilloscope Tektronix TDS2024C;
- Arbitrary / function generator Tektronix AFG3021C;
- Infrared thermometer Optris MS.

Serial No.: _____



60EPU04 typical forward voltage drop characteristics.

Interface test

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| +/-15V, 5V | |
| External enable | |
| External current set | |
| Internal enable | |
| Internal current set | |
| Interlock | |
| Over current protection | |
| Over voltage protection | |

QCW mode test

| Parameter | Value | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------|-----|----------|
| | Set | Measured | Set | Measured |
| Current, A | 10 | | 20 | |
| Frequency, Hz | 100 | | 20 | |
| Duration, ms | 5 | | 5 | |
| Rise time, us | - | | - | |

Soft-start stability test

| # of diodes in series | Rise time @ 20A |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 12 (~12V @ 20A) | |
| 23 (~22V @ 20A) | |
| 36 (~34V @ 20A) | |

CW mode test

| Parameter | Current (A) | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Value | Set | Measured via current monitor | Measured via RS-232 | Measured via 4646-X201 sensor |
| | Ext. 4A (1V) | | | |
| | Ext. 12A (3V) | | | |
| | Ext. 20A (5V) | | | |
| | Int. 4A | | | |
| | Int. 12A | | | |
| | Int. 20A | | | |

Continuous test

| Parameter | Current (A) | Time (min) | Temperature (°C) |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------------|
| Value | 20A | 0 | |
| | | 10 | |
| | | 20 | |
| | | 30 | |

Tested by _____

Date _____

Test report

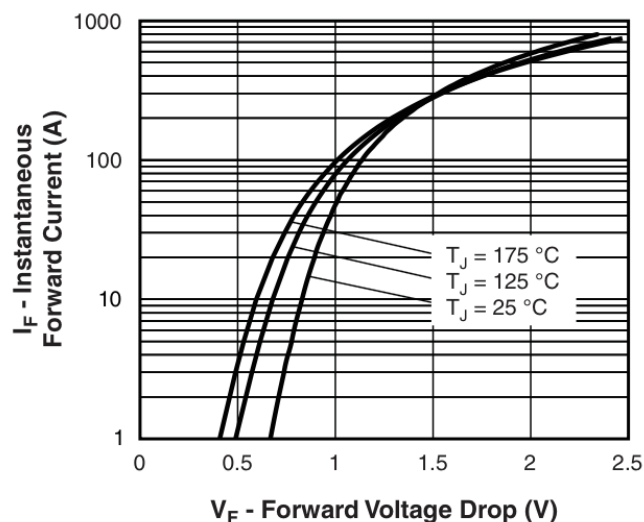
Test conditions:

- Test load – 60EPU04 diodes 44 in series, unless otherwise specified;
- The output current is measured with Hall-effect current sensor VAC 4646-X201;
- The temperature is measured at the hottest point of driver;
- Supplying voltage is 55V.

Measuring instruments:

- Oscilloscope Tektronix TDS2024C;
- Arbitrary / function generator Tektronix AFG3021C;
- Infrared thermometer Optris MS.

Serial No.: _____



60EPU04 typical forward voltage drop characteristics.

Interface test

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| +/-15V, 5V | |
| External enable | |
| External current set | |
| Internal enable | |
| Internal current set | |
| Interlock | |
| Over current protection | |
| Over voltage protection | |

QCW mode test

| Parameter | Value | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------|-----|----------|
| | Set | Measured | Set | Measured |
| Current, A | 10 | | 20 | |
| Frequency, Hz | 100 | | 20 | |
| Duration, ms | 5 | | 5 | |
| Rise time, us | - | | - | |

Soft-start stability test

| # of diodes in series | Rise time @ 20A |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 12 (~12V @ 20A) | |
| 23 (~22V @ 20A) | |
| 36 (~34V @ 20A) | |

CW mode test

| Parameter | Current (A) | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Value | Set | Measured via current monitor | Measured via RS-232 | Measured via 4646-X201 sensor |
| | Ext. 4A (1V) | | | |
| | Ext. 12A (3V) | | | |
| | Ext. 20A (5V) | | | |
| | Int. 4A | | | |
| | Int. 12A | | | |
| | Int. 20A | | | |

Continuous test

| Parameter | Current (A) | Time (min) | Temperature (°C) |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------------|
| Value | 20A | 0 | |
| | | 10 | |
| | | 20 | |
| | | 30 | |

Tested by _____

Date _____