

**METHOD AND CIRCUIT FOR DRIVING POWER TRANSISTORS
IN A HALF BRIDGE CONFIGURATION ALLOWING FOR
EXCESSIVE NEGATIVE SWING OF THE OUTPUT NODE AND
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT INCORPORATING THE CIRCUIT**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and circuit for driving power transistors arranged in series in a half bridge configuration allowing for excessive negative swing of an output node between the transistors in the half bridge configuration. The series transistors are connected between a first voltage source and a common potential. A second voltage reference source is also provided. A terminal is connected to a common point coupled to anodes of intrinsic diodes of driver circuits for the power transistors. The second voltage source is connected between the common potential and the terminal so as to shift the level of the common point such that the intrinsic diodes will not forward bias due to negative output node transients generated by diode forward recovery and stray inductances. The circuit of the invention can also be incorporated in an integrated circuit comprising a single chip, e.g., a silicon chip.

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