

Abstract:

Circuit arrangement.

The invention relates to a circuit arrangement for high-frequency operation of a discharge lamp (La), comprising

- input terminals (1,2) for connection to a supply voltage source,
- a load branch provided with terminals (H1,H2) for accommodating the
- 5 discharge lamp and with an electrode heating transformer (L3) provided with a primary winding (P) and secondary windings (Sec1, Sec2), each secondary winding being shunted by a branch comprising an electrode (E11, E12) of the discharge lamp,
- at least one switching element (S1, S2) for generating a high-frequency current through the load branch from a supply voltage delivered by the supply voltage
- 10 source,
- a control circuit (I) for generating a control signal for rendering the switching element conducting and non-conducting with high frequency,
- a dimmer circuit (II) coupled to the control circuit for adjusting the frequency of the control signal.
- 15 According to the invention, each branch shunting a secondary winding of the transformer also comprises inductive means (L1, L2) and capacitive means (C1,C2) and has a resonance frequency which is different from the resonance frequency of the load branch. It is achieved by this that a discharge lamp operated by means of the circuit arrangement can be dimmed over a wide range with a comparatively long
- 20 electrode life and only very little blackening at the ends of the discharge vessel.

Fig. 1.

