

ABSTRACT

5 Process for the recognition of the rectifier effect
appearing in a gas discharge lamp (G1, G2) and an
electronic ballast, for the operation of gas discharge
lamps (G1, G2), with which such a process finds employment.
The electronic ballast includes a monitoring or control
circuit (IC2) which monitors an operating parameter of a
10 load circuit (E) of the electronic ballast, whereby this
operating parameter corresponds to the lamp voltage or is
dependent thereon. The monitoring circuit (IC2) integrates
this monitored operating parameter over a full period and
determines upon the presence of a rectifier effect if the
15 integration result deviates from a predetermined
integration desired value. Further, for the recognition of
the rectifier effect, the duration of the positive and
negative half-waves of the monitored parameter can be
compared.

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(Figure 1)