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Abstract

An electronic ballast for a low-pressure discharge lamp
(LA) contains an inverter that is fed with direct
5 voltage (U_{BUS}) and the output of which is connected to a
load circuit containing terminal contacts for the lamp
(LA), a heating transformer that has a primary winding
(T_p), which is connected to the output of the inverter,
and a respective secondary winding (T_{s1} , T_{s2}), which is
10 located in a heating circuit with a coil (W_1 , W_2), for
heating each of the two electrodes of the lamp (LA),
and a series circuit arrangement that is connected in
parallel with the load circuit and which contains the
primary winding (T_p) of the heating transformer and an
15 electronic switch arrangement (S_3 , S_4). For the
purpose of identifying the type of lamp and the state
of the lamp, the currents in one of the two heating
circuits and in the primary winding (T_p) of the heating
transformer are measured and evaluated.

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[Figure 1]