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(54) Electronic ballast for fluorescent lamp

(57) An electronic ballast for a fluorescent lamp includes a rectifier circuit (11), a filter circuit (16), a high frequency generating and control circuit (17), a starting circuit (18) for the fluorescent tube and main (14) and auxiliary (13) circuits used to increase the power factor of the ballast and to suppress the harmonic current interference. Because of the introduction of the main and the auxiliary current-uninterrupted circuits, the input current is continuous and follows the variation with the

input voltage and the power factor of the ballast is increased while the post high frequency generating and control circuit tends to be stable in operation. Furthermore, the interference of the harmonic current for the ballast will be suppressed effectively, the contamination to power network will be reduced and the electrical security in operation will be enhanced.

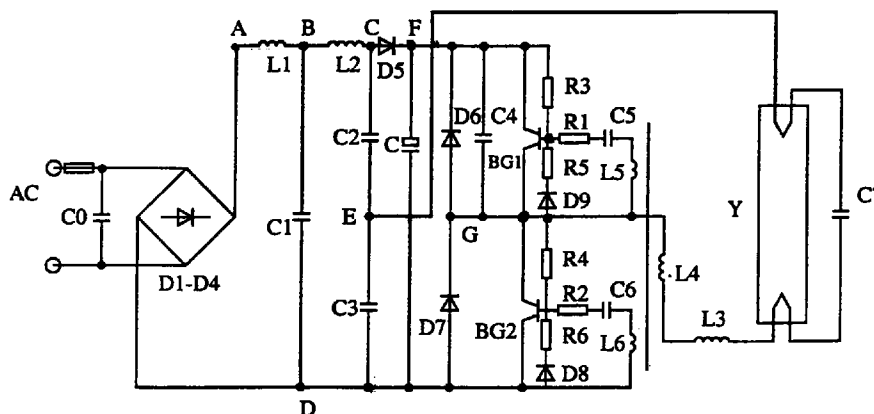


Fig. 5



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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 30 4183

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO 96 07297 A (PHILIPS) 7 March 1996 * page 4, line 6 - page 5, line 17; figure 1 *	1,2	H05B41/29
Y	--- EP 0 395 776 A (SIEMENS) 7 November 1990 * column 4, line 31 - column 5, line 24; figures 2-7 *	1-3	
Y	--- VERDERBER R R ET AL: "HARMONICS FROM COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INDUSTRY APPLICATIONS SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, DEARBORN, SEPT. 28 - OCT. 1, 1991, vol. VOL. 2, no. -, 28 September 1991, pages 1853-1858, XP000299694 INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS * page 1854, right-hand column, line 11 - page 1854, right-hand column, line 38; figures 4,6 *	1-3	
A	--- EP 0 621 743 A (PHILIPS NV) 26 October 1994 -----		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)  H05B H02M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>26 August 1998</b>	Examiner <b>Speiser, P</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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