

IGBT commonly used in photovoltaic inverters

Can IGBTs be used in a solar inverter?

These topologies use IGBTs as the power discrete semiconductor of choice for achieving high efficiency and high reliability. This application note presents how Bourns® Trench-Gate Field-Stop (TGFS) IGBTs with co-packaged Fast Recovery Diodes (FRDs) can be used in a solar inverter application to enable efficient power conversion.

What is the role of IGBT in an inverter?

As a power device, IGBT (insulated gate bipolar transistor) plays the role of power conversion and energy transmission in the inverter, and is the heart of the inverter. At the same time, IGBT is one of the most unreliable components in the inverter, which is very sensitive to the temperature and current of the device.

Can Bourns® Trench-Gate field-stop (TGFS) IGBTs be used in a solar inverter?

This application note presents how Bourns® Trench-Gate Field-Stop (TGFS) IGBTs with co-packaged Fast Recovery Diodes (FRDs) can be used in a solar inverter application to enable efficient power conversion. It also outlines the optimal IGBT features necessary for superior thermal performance while delivering low power dissipation.

Are insulated-gate bipolar transistors a good choice for solar inverter applications?

For solar inverter applications, it is well known that insulated-gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) offer benefits compared to other types of power devices, like high-current-carrying capability, gate control using voltage instead of current and the ability to match the co-pack diode with the IGBT.

What is an example of an IGBT?

Examples of IGBT Use and Techniques IGBTs are used in a wide variety of applications including solar inverter, energy storage system, uninterruptible power supply (UPS), motor drives, electric vehicle charger and industrial welding as well as in domestic appliances.

Can IGBT degradation cause a failure of an inverter?

This IGBT degradation would most likely not cause the failure of an inverter, but could degrade performance. Furthermore, it is highly questionable if a device exhibiting significant instability would operate for the expected lifetime of an inverter (i.e. 5 to 20 years).

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