

LT2940 Power Monitor

DESCRIPTION

Demonstration circuit 1495A showcases the LT2940 Power Monitor, configured to measure up to 30W over a range of 8V to 40V and 0A to 3A. LEDs indicate when the load power exceeds 12.5W. Power is indicated at PMON with a scaling factor of 10W/V; IMON indicates current at 1A/V.

All scaling factors and the voltage and current measurement ranges may be reconfigured by changing a few resistors. The LT2940's comparator can monitor either the power output, PMON, or the current output, IMON.

Design files for this circuit board are available. Call the LTC factory.

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PERFORMANCE SUMMARY **Specifications are at TA = 25°C**

OVERVIEW

The LT2940 is a four-quadrant multiplier designed to measure current and voltage, multiply them, and produce an output proportional to power. A second output is proportional to the measured current. All inputs and outputs are bipolar; the LT2940 measures positive or negative power, voltage and current. The power and current outputs operate in current mode, with a full scale of $\pm 200\mu$ A. To facilitate use in a practical application, the current sense pins (I+ and I-) are designed to operate over a 4V to 80V common mode range, independent of the supply pin, V_{CC} . This permits the LT2940 to measure, for example, a 48V supply while operating on a 12V supply. The LT2940 includes an auxiliary comparator with a fixed 1.25V reference and complementary outputs.

A distinction must be drawn between the features and performance of the LT2940, and the features and performance of DC-1495A. The LT2940 has the following important features:

- Four quadrant power measurement with bidirectional power and current outputs
- \bullet V_{cc}-independent, high-side current sense input
- 4V to 80V current sense input operating range
- \bullet 6V to 80V V_{cc} operating range
- 100V absolute maximum rating

DC-1495A

● Auxiliary comparator with complementary outputs

As configured, DC-1495A features:

- Single quadrant power and current measurement with unidirectional outputs
- 8V to 40V, 0A to 3A measurement range
- 30W full scale power monitor output, 10W/V
- 3A full scale current monitor output, 1A/V
- 75V maximum input, limited by clamp
- $\bullet\;V_{CC}$ connected to INPUT turret
- LEDs indicate load power above (red) or below (green) 12.5W

DC-1495A includes provision for optional components, allowing the board to be reconfigured for different scaling and a variety of applications.

Components

Components are divided into four basic groups:

R12A, R12B, R12C, C1, D1, D2: these components are associated with V_{CC} (D1 supplies constant current to the LEDs). A zero ohm jumper installed in any one of the R12 positions selects the source of power for V_{CC} : input, output, or external supply connected to the V_{CC} turret. Use a resistor if filtering is desired. As built R12B is stuffed with 10 Ω and V_{CC} is bypassed with 100nF, serving both as a V_{CC} filter and also as a snubber for the input.

An SMAT70A clamp diode, D2, is connected directly across the input to ground. It has a maximum dc standoff rating of 75V. Do not exceed 75Vdc or D2 will be permanently damaged. The LT2940 can tolerate up to 100V input absolute maximum on the V_{CC} , I+, I– and LATCH pins. Nevertheless, when connecting to supplies greater than 50V it is possible to exceed 100V owing to ringing. D2 is included to prevent destruction of the LT2940 while performing bench tests.

R9A, C2, R9B: configuration resistors and noise filter for the LATCH pin. As stuffed the comparator operates in "flow-through" mode; install 47kΩ at R9B or tie the LATCH turret high (>2.5V) for latching behavior. Grounding the LATCH turret clears the comparator after latching.

RJ-2, R2A, R1A, R1C, R2B, R1B: divider components for voltage sense pins V+ and V–. As stuffed, R2A and R1A form a 5:1 divider that monitors the output voltage, with a 40V full scale value. By re-arranging the components it is possible to achieve a variety of configurations for single-ended and differential voltage measurements.

C3, R3, RJ-4, RJ-5, R4B, R4A, C4, R5B, R5A, C5: configuration and scaling resistors and integration or filter capacitors for PMON, IMON and the comparator input, CMP+. DC-1495A is stuffed with 15kΩ load resistors for PMON and IMON (R4A and R5A), and RJ-4 connects PMON to CMP+.

Positions are provided for 3 sense resistors, allowing for high current operation or for combining two or three resistors in parallel to achieve a specific value. Sufficient copper is present on the circuit board to handle more than 10A; beyond this point DC-1495A can be connected to an off-board sense resistor or shunt using the INPUT and OUTPUT terminals. In this case remove RS1, RS2, and RS3. The I+ and I– terminals allow precise Kelvin examination of the current sense signal, as seen by the LT2940.

Multiplier Operation

The LT2940 has two differential inputs which we will call V_V and V_I . V_V is the voltage across the V+ and V– voltage input pins, and V_1 is the voltage across the I+ and I– current sense input pins. The voltages at these inputs are multiplied together by a four-quadrant Gilbert cell, producing a current at the PMON output proportional to the product of V_V and V_I. Specifically,

PMON Output Current = $V_V \times V_I \times 500 \mu A/V^2$

Where 500µA/V² is the gain or transfer function of the multiplier, and a $V_V \times V_I$ product of 0.4V² drives the PMON output to 200µA full scale.

Although the multiplier core can handle a maximum $V_V \times V_I$ product of just ±0.4V², the voltage

and current inputs can handle $±8V$ and $±200mV$ without clipping. Thus it is possible to produce a full scale $V_V \times V_I$ product of 0.4V² with inputs of 4V×100mV, 8V×50mV, or 2V×200mV, to name just a few possible combinations. In effect, the LT2940 PMON output can be made to operate at full scale over an input voltage or current range of 4:1. A load resistor connected from PMON to ground (R4A) establishes the final scaling factor and full scale output voltage.

Current Monitor

The current sense input, V_{I} , is monitored by a gm stage producing 200µA full scale at the IMON output for a 200mV input, corresponding to a gm of 1mA/V.

Scaling

DC-1495A is easily modified or re-scaled for other voltage, current and power levels, by changing a few resistors. The primary objective is to produce as much PMON output signal as possible at maximum input power, without overdriving the current and voltage inputs. The problem is where do you start?

Where scaling is concerned, most applications will fall into one of two classes: constant resistance loads and constant power loads. If the load is constant resistance, maximum power, maximum voltage and maximum current all coincide. The voltage input V_V can be scaled for 4V and the current input V_1 scaled for 100mV at this point. For example, a 20 Ω load with a maximum input voltage of 20V is scaled with a voltage divider of 5:1 producing 4V, and a sense resistor of 100mΩ producing 100mV at 20V/20Ω=1A.

If the load is constant power, the voltage and current inputs can be scaled to the mid-point of the input operating voltage range. For example, maximum power is 100W and the input voltage range is 40V to 60V, scale the voltage input to 4V with a 50V input (12.5:1) and the current input to 100mV (2A dropped across 50mΩ sense resistor). When scaled in this fashion, there is plenty of operating range in the voltage and current inputs to handle the 40V and 60V corners.

In any application, the output voltage is set with a load resistor. For example, if an input of 2W drives the multiplier to 200µA full scale, a PMON load resistor of 10kΩ produces 2V, a convenient scaling factor of 1W/V. The IMON output is similarly treated. The accuracy of the IMON output is not affected by over-ranging the multiplier.

Telecom Example

For a 200W telecom application with an operating range of 20V to 80V, use the following component values:

Voltage divider: 10:1; R2A=102kΩ, R2B=11.3kΩ, 1%; R1B=0Ω

Current sense resistor: RS1=20mΩ, 1%, 1W

PMON output resistor: R4A=10.0kΩ, 1%

PMON scaling: 100W/V, 2V=200W full scale

IMON output resistor: R5A=49.9kΩ, 1%

IMON scaling: 1A/V, 10V=10A full scale

For a summary of input and output ranges and limits, see Table 1 in the LT2940 data sheet.

QUICK START PROCEDURE

Operation of DC-1495A is straightforward: connect an input supply of 8V to 40V, connect a voltmeter to the PMON turret and add a load to the output. The voltmeter will indicate load power with a scaling factor of 10W/V. IMON is scaled at 1A/V.

For example, a 10 Ω load and 10V supply will generate a PMON output voltage of 1V, indicating a power of 10W. Increasing the input voltage to 11.2V will increase the power to the 12.5W trip threshold and the red LED will turn on.

FULL SCALE OUTPUT

FULL SCALE OUTPUT

3A

IMON

20
2001

