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Digital controller for high-efficiency resonant power supplyRev. 1 — 10 March 2016Product data sheet

1. General description

The TEA19161T is a fully digital controller for high-efficiency resonant power supplies. Together with the TEA19162T PFC controller and the TEA1995T dual SR controller, a complete resonant power supply can be built which is easy to design and has a very low component count. This power supply meets the efficiency regulations of Energy Star, the Department of Energy (DoE), the Eco-design directive of the European Union, the European Code of Conduct, and other guidelines. So, any auxiliary low-power supply can be omitted.

In contrast to traditional resonant topologies, the TEA19161T (LLC) shows a high efficiency at low loads due to the newly introduced low-power mode. This mode operates in the power region between continuous switching (also called high-power mode) and burst mode.

Because the TEA19161T is regulated via the primary capacitor voltage, it has accurate information about the power delivered to the output. The measured output power defines the mode of operation (burst mode, low-power mode or high-power mode). A configuration pin can easily set the transition levels of the operating modes.

The TEA19161T contains a low-voltage die with a fully digital controller for output power control, start-up, initializations, and protections. These protections include OverCurrent Protection (OCP), OverVoltage Protection (OVP), Open-Loop Protection (OLP), and Capacitive Mode Regulation (CMR). It also contains a high-voltage Silicon-On-Insulator (SOI) controller for high-voltage start-up, integrated drivers, level shifter, protections, and circuitry assuring zero-voltage switching.

The TEA19161T is designed to cooperate with the TEA19162T Power Factor Control (PFC) controller. For communications about start-up and protections, the TEA19161T contains a digital control interface. The digital control enables a fast latch reset mechanism. It maximizes the overall system efficiency at low output power levels by setting the TEA19162T to operate in burst mode.

The TEA19161T/TEA19162T/TEA1995T combination gives an easy to design, highly efficient and reliable power supply, providing 90 W to 500 W, with a minimum of external components. The system provides a very low no-load input power (< 75 mW; total system including the TEA19161T/TEA19162T/TEA1995T combination) and high efficiency from minimum to maximum load. So, any additional low-power supply can be omitted, ensuring a significant system cost saving and highly simplified power supply design.



2. Features and benefits

2.1 Distinctive features

- Complete functionality as a combination with TEA19162T
- Integrated high-voltage start-up
- Integrated high-voltage Level Shifter (LS)
- Extremely fast start-up (< 500 ms at V_{mains} = 100 V (AC))
- Continuously V_{SUPIC} regulation via the SUPHV pin during start-up and protection, allowing minimum SUPIC capacitor values
- Operating frequencies are outside the audible area at all operating modes
- Integrated soft start
- Power good function
- Maximum 500 kHz half-bridge switching frequency

2.2 Green features

- Extremely high efficiency from low load to high load
- Compliant with Energy using Product directive (EuP) lot 6
- Excellent no-load input power (< 75 mW for TEA19161T/TEA19162T/TEA1995T combination)
- Regulated low optocurrent, enabling low no-load power consumption
- Very low supply current during non-switching state in burst mode
- Transition between different operation modes (high-power/low-power/burst mode) occur at integrated, externally adjustable power levels
- Adaptive non-overlap time

2.3 **Protection features**

- Supply UnderVoltage Protection (UVP)
- OverPower Protection (OPP)
- Integrated adjustable overpower time-out
- Adjustable latch or restart function for OverPower Protection
- On-chip OverTemperature Protection (OTP)
- Capacitive Mode Regulation (CMR)
- Accurate OverVoltage Protection (OVP)
- Maximum on-time protection for low-side and high-side driver output
- OverCurrent Protection (OCP)
- Disable input

3. Applications

- Desktop and all-in-one PCs
- LCD television
- Notebook adapter
- Printers

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4. Ordering information

Table 1. Ordering information

Type number	Package			
	Name	Description	Version	
TEA19161T	SO16	plastic small outline package; 16 leads; body width 3.9 mm; body thickness 1.47 mm	SOT109-3	





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6. Pinning information

6.1 Pinning



6.2 Pin description

Table 2. Pin description					
Symbol	Pin	Description			
SUPIC	1	input supply voltage and output of internal HV start-up source; externally connected to an auxiliary winding of the LLC via a diode or to an external DC supply			
SNSFB	2	output voltage regulation feedback sense input; externally connected to an optocoupler			
SNSOUT	3	sense input for setting the burst frequency and monitoring the LLC output voltage; externally via a resistive divider and a diode connected to the auxiliary winding			
GND	4	ground			
SUPREG	5	regulated SUPREG IC supply; internal regulator output; input for drivers; externally connected to SUPREG buffer capacitor			
GATELS	6	LLC low-side MOSFET gate driver output			
n.c.	7	not connected			
SUPHV	8	internal HV start-up source high-voltage supply input; externally connected to (PFC) boost voltage			
GATEHS	9	LLC high-side MOSFET gate driver output			
SUPHS	10	high-side driver supply input; externally connected to bootstrap capacitor (C _{SUPHS})			
HB	11	low-level reference for high-side driver and input for half-bridge slope detection; externally connected to half-bridge node HB between the LLC MOSFETs			
n.c.	12	not connected			
SNSSET	13	settings for transition levels high/low power mode and low-power/burst mode, overpower level, overpower time-out, and restart or latched. Output of the power good signal.			
SNSCUR	14	LLC current sense input; externally connected to the resonant current sense resistor			
SNSCAP	15	LLC capacitor voltage sense input; externally connected to divider across LLC capacitor			
SNSBOOST	16	sense input for boost voltage; output for PFC burst control; externally connected to resistive divided boost voltage			

7. Functional description

7.1 Supply voltages

The TEA19161T includes:

- A high-voltage supply pin for start-up (SUPHV)
- A general supply to be connected to an external auxiliary winding (SUPIC pin)
- An accurate regulated voltage (SUPREG pin)
- A floating supply for the high-side driver (SUPHS pin)

7.1.1 Start-up and supply voltage

Initially, the capacitors on the SUPIC and SUPREG pins are charged via the SUPHV pin. The SUPHV pin is connected to the output voltage of a PFC via an external resistor. Internally, a high-voltage series switch is located between the SUPHV and SUPIC pins. From the SUPIC pin, the SUPREG pin is supplied using a linear regulator (see Figure 3).



Initially, when the voltage on the SUPIC pin is below the reset level V_{rstSUPIC} (3.5 V), the SUPIC charge current is internally limited to I_{lim(SUPHV)} (0.75 mA). In this way, the dissipation is limited when SUPIC is shorted to ground. When the voltage on the SUPIC pin exceeds V_{rst(SUPIC)}, the internal switch is closed.

To limit the IC power dissipation, an external resistor (R_{SUPHV}) is required to reduce the voltage drop between the SUPHV and SUPIC pins when charging the SUPIC capacitor. R_{SUPHV} must be dimensioned such that the maximum current is limited to below limiting value I_{SUPHV} (20 mA) and it can handle the required power dissipation. The maximum power dissipation of the external resistor can be reduced by using several resistors in series.

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When the SUPIC reaches the V_{start(SUPIC)} level (19.1 V), it is continuously regulated to this start level with a hysteresis (V_{start(hys)SUPIC}; -0.7 V). It activates the switch between the SUPHV and SUPIC pins when the SUPIC voltage drops to below

 $V_{start(SUPIC)} + V_{start(hys)SUPIC}$. It deactivates the switch when it exceeds $V_{start(SUPIC)}$. When start-up is complete and the LLC controller is operating, the LLC transformer auxiliary winding supplies the SUPIC pin. In this operational state, the HV start-up source is disabled (see Figure 4).

When the system enters the protection mode, the SUPIC pin is also regulated to the start level. During the non-switching period of the burst mode, the system also activates the switch between the SUPHV and SUPIC pins when the SUPIC voltage drops below $V_{\text{low}(\text{SUPIC})}$. It regulates the voltage with a hysteresis of $V_{\text{low}(\text{hys})\text{SUPIC}}$. In this way, the system avoids that the SUPIC undervoltage protection $(V_{\text{uvp}(\text{SUPIC})})$ is triggered because of a long non-switching period in burst mode.



7.1.2 Regulated supply (SUPREG pin)

The voltage range on the SUPIC pin exceeds that of the maximum external MOSFETs gate-source voltage. So, the TEA19161T incorporates an integrated series stabilizer. The series stabilizer creates an accurate regulated voltage ($V_{intregd(SUPREG)} = 11 \text{ V}$) at the buffer capacitor C_{SUPREG} . The stabilized voltage is used to:

- · Supply the internal low-side LLC driver
- Supply the internal high-side driver using external components
- As a reference voltage for optional external circuits

To ensure that the external MOSFETs receive sufficient gate drive, the voltage on the SUPREG pin must reach $V_{uvp(SUPREG)}$ before the system starts switching. If the SUPREG voltage drops to below this undervoltage protection level, the system restarts.

7.1.3 High-side driver floating supply (SUPHS pin)

External bootstrap buffer capacitor C_{SUPHS} supplies the high-side driver. The bootstrap capacitor is connected between the high-side driver supply, the SUPHS pin, and the half-bridge node, HB. C_{SUPHS} is charged from the SUPREG pin using an external diode D_{SUPHS} (see Figure 27).

Careful selection of the appropriate diode minimizes the voltage drop between the SUPREG and SUPHS pins, especially when large MOSFETs and high switching frequencies are used. A large voltage drop across the diode reduces the gate drive of the high-side MOSFET.

7.2 System start-up

Figure 5 shows the flow diagram corresponding with Figure 4.



When the SUPIC or SUPREG pins drop to below their stop levels, the TEA19161T enters the no supply state. It recharges the SUPIC and SUPREG pins to their start levels via the SUPHV pin. When the start levels are reached, measuring the external resistances on the SNSSET, SNSOUT, and GATELS pins initializes the settings.

During the no supply and readout settings states, the SNSBOOST pin is pulled low, disabling the TEA19162T PFC. When the settings have been defined, the SNSBOOST pin is released and the PFC starts up. When the SNSBOOST reaches the minimum level $V_{start(SNSBOOST)}$, the LLC starts switching.

When a small optocurrent is detected ($I_{SNSFB} < I_{reg(SNSFB)}$), the output voltage is close to its regulation level. As the SUPIC pin must then be supplied via the primary auxiliary winding, charging via the SUPHV is disabled.

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7.3 LLC system regulation

A typical resonant controller regulates the output power by adapting the operating frequency.



If the power drops and so the voltage of the LLC converter exceeds the targeted regulation level (12 V or 19.5 V typical), the optocurrent increases and the voltage at the SNSFB decreases (see Figure 6). The resonant controller then increases the frequency according to its internal frequency control curve. Because of the higher frequency, the power to the output is reduced and the output voltage drops. If the output voltage becomes too low, the controller lowers the system frequency, increasing the output power. In this way, the system regulates the output power to the required level.

As a small change in frequency gives a significant change in output power, frequency control has a high gain of the control loop. To increase the efficiency at low loads, most converters switch to burst mode as soon as the output power is below a minimum level.

The burst mode level is mostly derived from the voltage on the SNSFB pin. For a frequency controlled resonant converter, it implies that the burst mode is entered at a certain frequency instead of at a certain load. A small variation of the resonant components then results in a significant variation in power level at which the burst mode is activated.

In the TEA19161T, the control mechanism is different. The advantage is a constant gain of the control loop and a burst mode which is derived from the output power. The TEA19161T does not regulate the output power by adjusting the frequency but by the voltage across the primary capacitor.

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The input power (related to the output power) of a resonant converter can be calculated with <u>Equation 1</u>:

$$P_{in} = V_{boost} \times I_{boost} = V_{boost} \times \Delta V_{Cr} \times C_r \times f_{sw}$$
(1)

<u>Equation 1</u> shows that the input power has a linear relationship with the capacitor voltage difference ΔV_{Cr} .

<u>Figure 7</u> shows an alternative explanation of the linear relationship between the input power and the energy stored in the resonant capacitor.



When the high-side switch is on, a primary current is flowing through the transformer and resonant capacitor C_r as indicated by the red line. Half the energy the input delivers is transferred to the output. The other half charges resonant capacitor C_r . The voltage across the resonant capacitor increases.

When the high-side switch is off and the low-side switch is on, the energy which is stored in resonant capacitor C_r is transferred to the output and its voltage decreases. In this way, the linear relationship between the increase of the resonant capacitor voltage and the output power can be seen.

Although the TEA19161T uses the primary capacitor voltage as a regulation parameter, all application values, like the resonant inductances, resonant capacitor, and primary MOSFETs remain unchanged compared to a frequency controlled LLC converter. A secondary TL431 circuitry in combination with an optocoupler connected to the primary SNSFB pin continuously regulates the output voltage.

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7.3.1 Output power regulation loop

Figure 8 shows the output power regulation loop of V_{cap} control as used by the TEA19161T. Figure 9 shows a corresponding timing diagram.



Fig 8. Regulation loop V_{cap} control



When the divided resonant capacitor voltage (V_{SNSCAP}) exceeds the capacitor voltage high level ($V_{hs(SNSCAP)}$), the high-side MOSFET is switched off (see Figure 9 (t1). After a short delay, the low-side MOSFET is switched on. Because of the resonant current, the resonant capacitor voltage initially increases further but eventually drops.

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When the divided capacitor voltage (V_{SNSCAP}) drops to below the capacitor voltage low level ($V_{Is(SNSCAP)}$), the low-side MOSFET is switched off (see Figure 9 (t2)). After a short delay, the high-side MOSFET is switched on. Figure 9 shows that the switching frequency is a result of this switching behavior. In a frequency controlled system, the frequency is a control parameter and the output power is a result. The TEA19161T regulates the power and the frequency is a result.

The difference between the high and low capacitor voltage level is a measure of the delivered output power. The value of the primary optocurrent, defined by the secondary TL431 circuitry, determines the difference between the high and low capacitor voltages.

Figure 9 also shows the behavior at a transient. If the output load increases, the current pulled out of the SNSFB pin decreases. The result is that the TEA19161T increases the high-level capacitor voltage and lowers the low-level capacitor voltage. According to Equation 1, the output power increases and eventually the output voltage increases to its regulation level.

To minimize no-load input power of the system, the primary current into the optocoupler is continuously regulated to 85 μ A (see Section 7.5).

7.3.2 Output voltage start-up

The system controls the output power by regulating the primary V_{Cr} (see <u>Section 7.3</u>). When the system is in regulation and the output voltage is stabilized, a small change in ΔV_{Cr} corresponds to a small change in the output current (see <u>Equation 2</u>).

$$P_{out} = V_{out} \times I_{out} \sim V_{boost} \times I_{boost} = \Delta V_{Cr} \times C_r \times f_{sw} \times V_{boost}$$

$$I_{out} \approx C_r \times f_{sw} \times V_{boost} \times \frac{\Delta V_{Cr}}{V_{out}}$$
(2)

However, before start-up, when the output voltage is around zero, a small capacitor voltage increase (ΔV_{Cr}) corresponds to a substantial output current increase. So, at start-up, the divided ΔV_{Cr} voltage (ΔV_{SNSCAP}) is slowly increased from a minimum value to the regulation level. As a result, the system starts up at a higher frequency. The GATELS resistor sets the starting value of the ΔV_{SNSCAP} .

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7.4 Modes of operation

Figure 10 shows the control curve between the output power and the voltage difference between the high and low capacitor voltage levels.



When the output power (P_{out}) is at its maximum, the low capacitor voltage level (V_{Is(SNSCAP)}) is at its minimum and the high capacitor voltage (V_{hs(SNSCAP)}) is at its maximum level. According to Equation 1, the maximum $\Delta_{VSNSCAP}$ (V_{hs(SNSCAP)} – V_{Is(SNSCAP)}), which is the divided ΔV_{Cr} voltage, corresponds to the maximum output power.

When the output load decreases, the ΔV_{SNSCAP} voltage decreases. As a result, the output power decreases and the output voltage is regulated. This mode is called high-power mode.

When the output power drops to below the transition level ($P_{t(lp)}$), the system enters the low-power mode. External components can set the applied $P_{t(lp)}$ level (see Section 7.7.3).

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To compensate for the hold period, ΔV_{SNSCAP} is initially increased at entering the low-power mode (see <u>Section 7.4.2</u>). In low-power mode, the output power is initially regulated by adapting ΔV_{SNSCAP} , until it reaches a minimum. Then, the output power is regulated by lowering the duty cycle of the low-power mode with a fixed ΔV_{SNSCAP} until the period time of a low-power cycle reaches a maximum (1 / $f_{lp(min)}$). The system enters the burst mode (see <u>Section 7.4.3</u>).

7.4.1 High-power mode

In high-power mode, the system operates as described in <u>Section 7.3.1</u>. Figure 11 shows a flow diagram of the high-power mode.



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When the system is off, GATELS is on and GATEHS is off. The external bootstrap buffer capacitor (C_{SUPHS}) is charged via the SUPREG pin and an external diode. The system remains in this state for at least the minimum on-time ($t_{on(min)}$) of GATELS. Before entering the next state, one of the following conditions must be fulfilled:

- The V_{SNSCAP} voltage drops to below the minimum V_{SNSCAP} voltage (V_{Is(SNSCAP}))
- The measured current exceeds the OCP level (see Section 7.6.6)
- The system is close to capacitive mode (see <u>Section 7.6.5</u>)
- The maximum on-time (t_{on(max)}), a protection that maximizes the time the high-side or low-side MOSFET is kept on, is exceeded.

In the next state, to avoid false detection of the HB peak voltage, the system waits until the minimum non-overlap time $(t_{no(min)})$ is exceeded. When it is exceeded, the system starts to detect the end (= peak voltage) of the HB node. When it detects the peak of the HB node and the measured resonant current is negative (or zero), it enters the next state.

If the system does not detect a peak at the HB node, it also enters the next state when the maximum non-overlap time $(t_{no(max)})$ is exceeded under the condition of a negative (or zero) resonant current.

Finally, the third and fourth states (see <u>Figure 11</u>) describe the GATEHS and GATEHS to GATELS transition criteria which are the inverse of the first two states.

7.4.2 Low-power mode

At low loads, the operating frequency of a resonant converter increases. As a result, the magnetization and switching losses increase. For this reason, the efficiency of a resonant converter drops at low loads. A newly introduced low-power mode ensures high efficiency at lower loads as well.

When the output power drops to below the $P_{t(lp)}$ level, the system enters the low-power mode (see Figure 10 and Figure 12). It continues switching for 3 half-cycles (low-side, high-side, low-side) with a fixed duty cycle of 67 %. To ensure a constant output power level, it increases the energy per cycle ($V_{hs(SNSCAP)} - V_{ls(SNSCAP)}$) at the same time. So 1/3 of the time the converter is in a "hold" period. The result is a 33 % magnetization and switching losses reduction.

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As the system continuously tracks the primary capacitor voltage, it knows exactly when to enter the "hold" period. It can also continue again at exactly the correct voltage and current levels of the resonant converter. In this way, a "hold" period can be introduced which reduces the magnetization and switching losses without any additional losses. The currents I_{D1} and I_{D2} (see Figure 12) are the secondary currents through diodes D1 and D2 (see Figure 27).

When in the low-power mode the output power is further reduced, the amount of energy per cycle (= ΔV_{SNSCAP}) is reduced and the duty cycle remains the same (see Figure 13).

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When, in low-power mode, the minimum energy per cycle is reached, the duty cycle regulates the output power (see <u>Figure 14</u>). Increasing the "hold" period lowers the duty cycle.



To avoid audible noise, the system reduces the duty cycle until the frequency reaches $f_{lp(min)}$ (23 kHz). If the output power is lowered further, the system enters the burst mode.

7.4.3 Burst mode

In burst mode, the system alternates between operating in low-power mode and an extended hold state (see <u>Figure 15</u>). Because of this additional extended hold period, the magnetization and switching losses are further reduced. So, the efficiency of the system is increased.

Figure 15 shows that all operating frequencies are outside the audible area. The minimum low-power frequency is 23 kHz. Within a low-power period, the system is switching at the resonant frequency of the converter, which is typically between 50 kHz and 200 kHz.



The burst frequency $(1 / t_{burst})$ is continuously regulated to a predefined value, which can be set externally to 200 Hz, 400 Hz, 800 Hz or 1600 Hz. I_{sec} is the secondary current flowing through either diode D1 or D2 (see Figure 27).

When the primary optocurrent (I_{SNSFB}) drops to below 106 μ A, a new burst-on period is started. The end of the burst-on period depends on the calculated number of low-power cycles. The number of low-power cycles within a burst-on is continuously adjusted so that the burst period is at least the period defined by the setting (see Figure 16).



The system continuously measures the burst period from the start of the previous burst-on period to a new burst-on period. At t1, the measured burst period (t_{burst}) equals the required T_{burst} . So, the next number of low-power cycles equals the number of previous low-power cycles. At a constant output power, the system expects that when the next burst-on period has the same number of low-power cycles as the previous burst-on period, the burst period (t_{burst}) remains constant.

At a positive transient (t2), a new low-power cycle is started immediately to minimize the drop in output voltage. The measured time period, at time t2, is below the targeted burst period. The system increases the number of burst cycles. At t3, it measures the burst period again. In this example, the burst period is still below the targeted burst period. So, the system increases the number of low-power cycles again and again until the measured burst period equals the target burst period, which occurs at t4.

7.5 Optobias regulation

In a typical application, the output voltage is sensed using a TL431 and connected to the SNSFB pin of the TEA19161T via an optocoupler (see Figure 27). Because of the behavior of the TL431, the current through the optocoupler is at the maximum level when the output power is at the minimum level. It is therefore one of the most critical parameters to achieve the required no-load input power. To achieve maximum efficiency at low load/no-load, the TEA19161T continuously regulates the optocurrent to a low level that is independent of the output load.

A very low optocurrent reduces the transient response of the system, because of the parasitic capacitance at the optocoupler collector. So, the TEA19161T applies a fixed voltage at the SNSFB pin. It measures the current through the optocoupler which defines the required output power. Via an additional internal circuitry, which adds an offset to the required output power, the optocurrent is continuously (slowly) regulated to the $I_{reg(SNSFB)}$ level (= 85 μ A). This level is independent of the output power.

At a positive load transient, the optocurrent initially decreases (see Figure 9; I_{SNSFB}). The TEA19161T immediately increases the ΔV_{SNSCAP} which again increases the output power.



Figure 17 shows that when the optocurrent decreases, the internal voltage across the 12 k Ω resistor drops to below the targeted level of 1020 mV (= 85 μ A × 12 k Ω). The TEA19161T then slowly increases an additional offset at the power level (Δ P). It continues to increase the additional offset until the optocurrent reaches the target of 85 μ A. At a negative transient, the additional offset to the power level is decreased. As a result, the output voltage increases which again increases the optocurrent. In this way, the optocurrent is continuously regulated to the I_{reg(SNSFB)} level (see Figure 9).

The behavior of the internal circuitry connected to the SNSFB pin is the same as the behavior of the traditional circuitry. The fixed voltage at the SNSFB pin and the continuous regulation of the optocurrent level does not influence the regulation level. The advantage, however, is a reduction in no-load input power and an optimization of the transient response.

When the system operates in low-power mode at the minimum energy per cycle and at minimum duty cycle, it can no longer reduce the optocurrent level to the $I_{reg(SNSFB)}$ target (\approx 85 µA). If the output power decreases further and the optocurrent increases to above the level of $I_{start(burst)}$ (\approx 106 µA), the burst mode is triggered. When the output power drops to below this level again, a new burst cycle is started (see Figure 15 and Figure 16).

7.6 Protections

Table 3 gives an overview of the available protections.

Protection	Description	Action	PFC
UVP SUPIC/SUPREG	undervoltage protection SUPIC/SUPREG pins	$\label{eq:LLC} LLC = off; recharge via SUPHV; \\ restart when V_{SUPIC} > V_{start(SUPIC)} \\ and V_{SUPREG} > V_{start(SUPREG)} \\ \end{array}$	off
UVP SUPHS	undervoltage protection SUPHS pin	GATEHS = off	
UVP SNSBOOST	undervoltage protection boost	LLC = off; restart when V _{SNSBOOST} > V _{start(SNSBOOST)}	
OVP output	overvoltage protection output	latched after 5 consecutive cycles ^{[1][2]}	off
CMR	capacitive mode regulation	system ensures that mode of operation is inductive	
OCP	overcurrent protection	switch off cycle-by-cycle; After 5 consecutive cycles, it follows the OPP setting. ^[2]	off
OTP	overtemperature protection	latched ^[2]	off
OPP	overpower protection	latched ^[2] /safe restart ^[3]	off

Table 3. Protections

[1] Can be longer due to the sharing of the internal ADC converter.

[2] Latched implies that the system only restarts after a mains disconnection.

[3] Can be set by external components.

When the system is in a latched or safe restart protection, the SUPIC voltage is regulated to its start level via the SUPHV pin.

7.6.1 Undervoltage protection SUPIC/SUPREG

When the voltage on the SUPIC pin or the SUPREG pin is below its undervoltage level $V_{uvp(SUPIC)} / V_{uvp(SUPREG)}$, the LLC converter stops switching. The capacitors at the SUPIC and SUPREG pins are recharged via the SUPHV pin (see Figure 5). The SNSBOOST pin is pulled low, disabling the PFC. When the supply voltages exceed their start levels, the system restarts.

7.6.2 Undervoltage protection SUPHS

To ensure a minimum drive voltage at the high-side driver output (GATEHS), this driver is kept off when its voltage is below the minimum level ($V_{SUPHS} < V_{rst(SUPHS)}$).

7.6.3 Undervoltage protection boost

The PFC output voltage is measured via a resistive divider connected to the SNSBOOST pin. The voltage at the SNSBOOST pin must exceed the start level $(V_{SNSBOOST} > V_{start(SNSBOOST}))$ before the system is allowed to start switching.

When the system is operating and the voltage at the SNSBOOST pin drops to below the minimum level ($V_{SNSBOOST} < V_{uvp(SNSBOOST})$), the LLC converter stops switching. When it exceeds the start level, it restarts.

7.6.4 Overvoltage protection

When the voltage at the SNSOUT pin exceeds the $V_{ovp(SNSOUT)}$ level for at least 5 consecutive switching cycles, the OVP protection is triggered. The voltage at the SNSOUT pin is internally measured via an ADC converter. As the same ADC converter toggles between measuring the SNSOUT and SNSBOOST pins (see Figure 1), there is an additional delay before the OVP is triggered. OVP is a latched protection. The PFC is disabled via the SNSBOOST pin.

7.6.5 Capacitive Mode Regulation (CMR)

The TEA19161T has a Capacitive Mode Regulation (CMR) which ensures that the system is always operating in inductive mode and avoids operation in capacitive mode.

At lower input voltage or higher output power and depending on the resonant design, the resonant current can already approach zero before the capacitor voltage reaches the regulation level.

When the resonant current has changed polarity before the switches are turned off and the other switch is turned on, hard switching occurs. This event is called capacitive mode. To avoid that the system operates in capacitive mode, the system also switches off the high-side/low-side switch when the resonant current approaches zero.

Figure 18 shows the signals that occur when a resonant converter is switching in CMR mode. At t1 (and also at t3), the low-side switch is on while the resonant current approaches zero before V_{SNSCAP} reaches $V_{Is(SNSCAP)}$. At t2, the resonant current is also close to changing polarity while the divided capacitor voltage (V_{SNSCAP}) has not reached the $V_{hs(SNSCAP)}$ level yet. To avoid a turn-off of the high-side switch at a negative current or the low-side at a positive current, the system also turns off the high-side/low-side switch when the primary current approaches zero. So at t2, the high-side switch is turned off because the primary current is close to zero. At t₃ (and also at t₁), the low-side switch is turned off, although V_{SNSCAP} did not reach the regulation level ($V_{Is(SNSCAP)}$) yet. The primary current is measured via an external sense resistor connected to the SNSCUR pin. The capacitive mode protection levels are $V_{reg(capm)}$ (-100 mV and +100 mV, respectively).

In this mode, the amount of output power is reduced and the output voltage decreases.

The TEA19161T does not enter a so-called "capacitive mode protection", but avoids this mode of operation.

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7.6.6 Overcurrent protection

The system measures the primary current continuously via a sense resistor connected to the SNSCUR pin. If the measured voltage exceeds the overcurrent level (V_{ocp}), the corresponding switch (GATELS/GATEHS) is turned off, but the system continuous switching. In this way, the primary current is limited to the OCP level. If the OCP level is exceeded for 5 consecutive cycles (GATELS and/or GATEHS), the system stops switching and enters the latched OCP protection mode. The PFC is disabled via the SNSBOOST pin.

7.6.7 Overtemperature protection

When the internal junction temperature exceeds the T_{otp} level, the overtemperature protection is triggered. OTP is a latched protection which also disables the PFC.

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7.6.8 Overpower protection

The external capacitive/resistive divider connected to the SNSCAP pin must be chosen such that:

- The voltage difference between $V_{hs(SNSCAP)}$ and $V_{ls(SNSCAP)}$ equals $\Delta V_{opp(SNSCAP)}$
- The voltage difference between V_{hs(SNSCAP)} and V_{ls(SNSCAP)} occurs at 125 % of the maximum output power or at 175 %, depending on the settings

When the ΔV_{SNSCAP} (V_{hs(SNSCAP)} – V_{ls(SNSCAP)}) exceeds the $\Delta V_{opp(SNSCAP)}$ voltage difference, an internal counter is started. When this counter exceeds t_{d(opp)} (50 ms/200 ms), the system enters a latched/safe restart protection as defined by the external settings.

The voltage difference between V_{hs(SNSCAP)} and V_{ls(SNSCAP)} is also limited to $\Delta V_{th(max)SNSCAP}$, which then corresponds to an output power of 150 % or 200 %, depending on the settings (see Figure 19). If the output of the LLC converter requires additional power, the output voltage drops as the power delivered by the LLC converter is limited to 150 % or 200 %.

An additional option is to disable the overpower counter, using the external settings. In this way, the overpower rating can be used as an extension of the typical power level.