

**Department of Electronic and Telecommunication
Engineering**

University of Moratuwa

EN2160 - Electronic Design Realization



Variable Frequency Drive for AC Motors

Design Document

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This report is submitted as a partial fulfillment of module EN2160

2024.06.23

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1 General

Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) are electronic devices used to control the speed and torque of AC motors by varying the motor's input frequency and voltage. They are widely used in various industrial and commercial applications to optimize motor performance, enhance energy efficiency, and improve process control. The operation of a VFD can be broadly divided into three main stages: rectification, DC bus, and inversion.

Watch this [video](#) to understand how a VFD generally works.

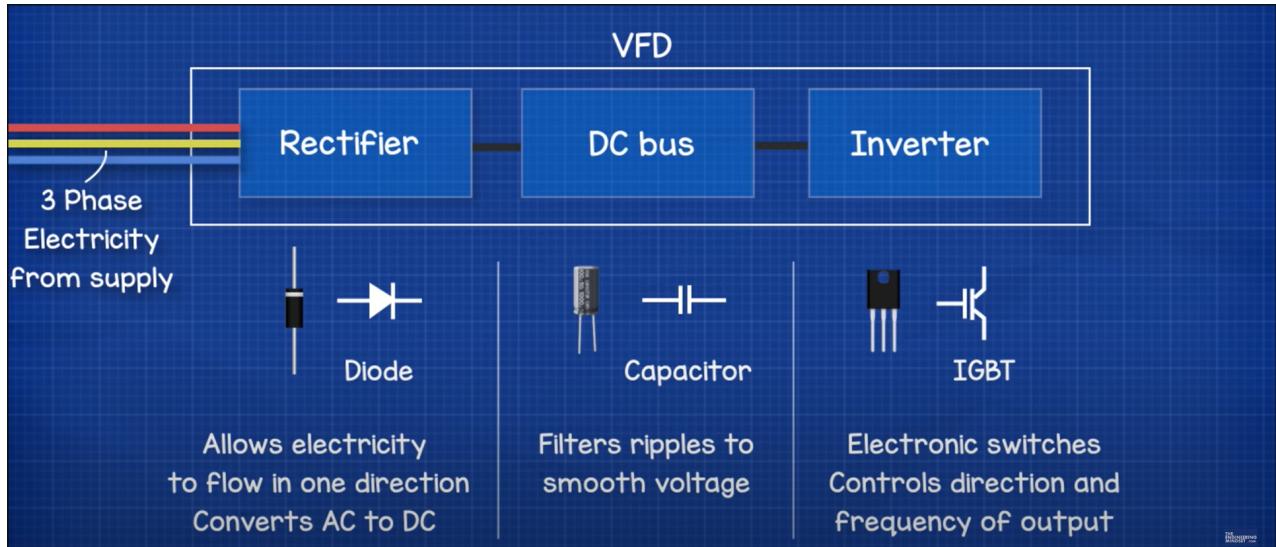


Figure 1: Block Diagram of a Variable Frequency Drive

1. **Rectification Stage:** In the first stage, the VFD converts the incoming AC power (usually at a fixed voltage and frequency, such as 230V, 50/60 Hz) into DC power. This is accomplished using a rectifier circuit, typically composed of diodes arranged in a full-wave bridge configuration. The rectifier outputs a pulsating DC voltage, which is then smoothed out using capacitors to reduce ripple.
2. **DC Bus Stage:** The rectified DC voltage is fed into the DC bus, which consists of large capacitors that store the electrical energy and filter out any remaining AC components. The DC bus serves as a stable intermediate link between the rectifier and inverter stages. Additional components, such as bleeding resistors and protection circuits (varistors, fuses), are included to enhance safety and reliability.
3. **Inversion Stage:** In the final stage, the inverter converts the DC power back into AC power with variable frequency and voltage. This stage uses power electronic switches, such as Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistors (IGBTs), to generate Pulse Width Modulated (PWM) signals. By adjusting the duty cycle of these PWM signals, the VFD controls the effective output voltage and frequency supplied to the motor. This allows for precise control over motor speed and torque.

1.1 How VFDs Work

1. Frequency and Voltage Control:

- The desired motor speed is set through a user interface, such as a potentiometer or a digital control panel.
- The VFD adjusts the output frequency to control the motor speed. Higher frequencies increase motor speed, while lower frequencies reduce it.
- To maintain optimal motor performance, the VFD also adjusts the output voltage in proportion to the frequency, following the V/f (Voltage/Frequency) control method.

2. Pulse Width Modulation (PWM):

- The VFD generates PWM signals by switching the IGBTs on and off at high frequencies. The width of each pulse is varied to control the effective output voltage.
- The PWM signals are filtered to produce a smooth AC waveform with the desired frequency and voltage.

3. Protection and Feedback:

- VFDs include various protection features, such as overcurrent, overvoltage, and thermal protection, to safeguard the motor and the drive itself.
- Feedback mechanisms, such as current sensing and temperature monitoring, are used to adjust the VFD's operation and ensure safe and efficient performance.

1.2 Advantages of VFDs

- Energy Efficiency: By matching motor speed to the actual load requirements, VFDs significantly reduce energy consumption compared to motors running at constant speed.
- Process Control: VFDs offer precise control over motor speed, enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of industrial processes.
- Reduced Mechanical Stress: Soft starting and stopping capabilities reduce mechanical stress on the motor and associated equipment, extending their lifespan.
- Flexibility: VFDs can be used with various types of AC motors and applications, providing versatile solutions for different industries.

2 Electronics Design

The electronics design of a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) for AC motors is pivotal to its functionality and efficiency. This design encompasses the integration of power electronics, control circuits, and protection mechanisms to regulate the motor's speed and torque. By converting fixed frequency and voltage input into variable output, the VFD enables precise control over the motor's performance. Essential components such as rectifiers, inverters, and pulse width modulation (PWM) techniques are employed to achieve this conversion. The electronics design also incorporates protection against overcurrent, overvoltage, and thermal overload, thereby enhancing the reliability and longevity of both the drive and the motor.

2.1 Power Circuit

The Power Circuit is responsible for handling and converting the high-voltage input to the appropriate levels required by the motor and other electronic components. This includes rectification of AC input to DC, and AC to DC converters. This section ensures the delivery of smooth and consistent power to the motor and other circuits, which is critical for precise motor control.

2.1.1 Rectifier

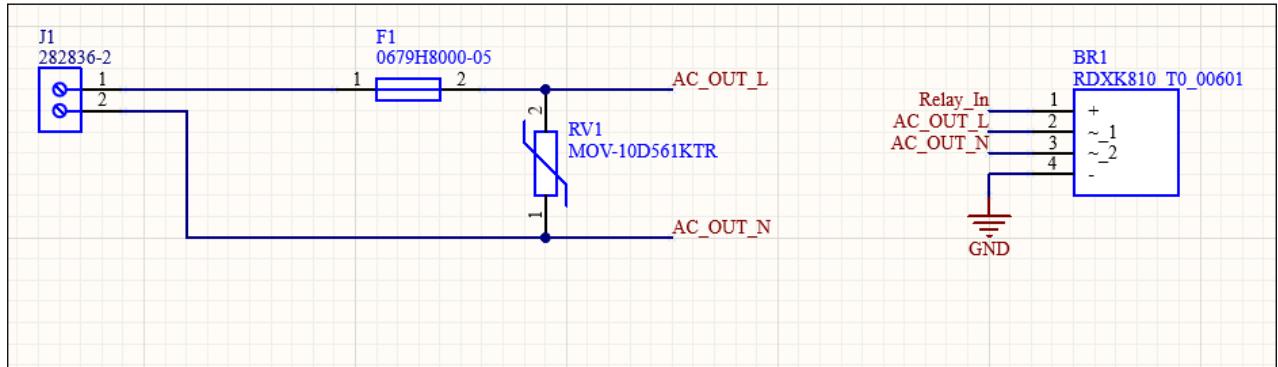


Figure 2: Rectifier

The power circuit of the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) begins with the conversion of an input voltage of 230V AC to DC. This is achieved using a full-wave rectifier(BR1), which ensures that the entire waveform of the AC input is utilized, providing a more efficient and smoother DC output. For protection, a varistor(RV1) is employed to safeguard the circuit from voltage spikes, which can occur due to transient events or power surges. Additionally, a fuse(F1) is integrated into the circuit to provide overcurrent protection, ensuring that the system is protected from excessive current that could potentially cause damage to the components. This initial conversion and protection stage is crucial for the reliable operation of the VFD, setting the foundation for subsequent stages of the design.

2.1.2 Smoothing Capacitors

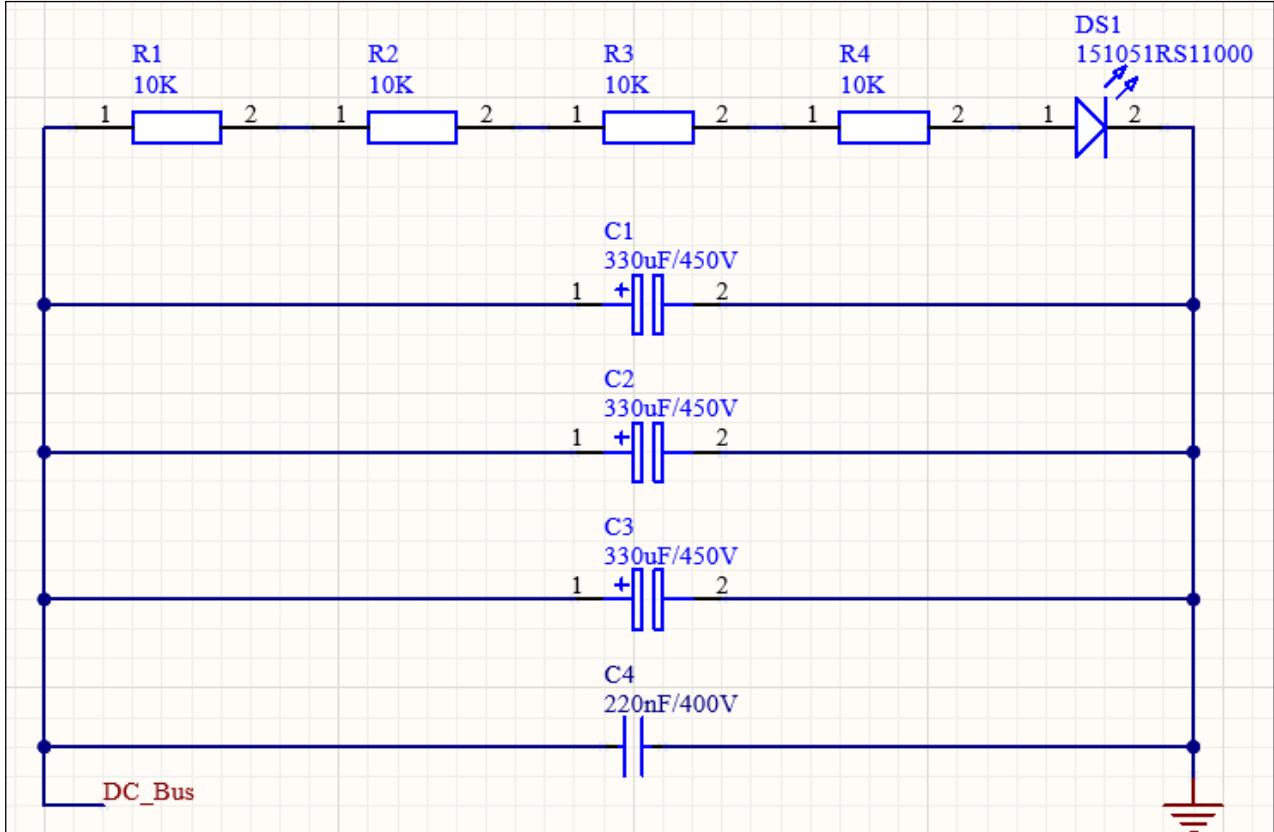


Figure 3: Rectifier

Following the rectification stage, the next component of the power circuit involves the smoothing of the DC output. This is accomplished using three smoothing capacitors(C1-C3), which are essential for reducing the ripple voltage present in the rectified DC signal. The capacitors store and release electrical energy to smooth out fluctuations, resulting in a more stable DC output that is suitable for the subsequent stages of the VFD.

To ensure safety and functionality, four bleeding resistors(R1-R4) are connected which will serve to discharge the capacitors when the power is turned off, preventing any residual charge that could pose a hazard or interfere with the operation of the circuit. An LED indicator is also incorporated into this stage, providing a visual indication that the capacitors are discharging. This LED offers a simple yet effective means of confirming that the discharge process is active, thereby enhancing the safety and monitoring capabilities of the power circuit.

2.1.3 AC-DC Converters

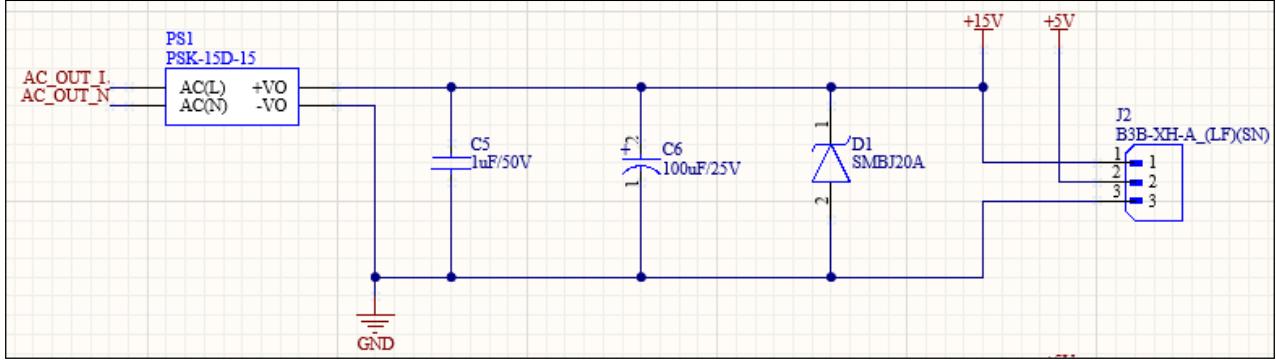


Figure 4: 15V AC-DC Converter

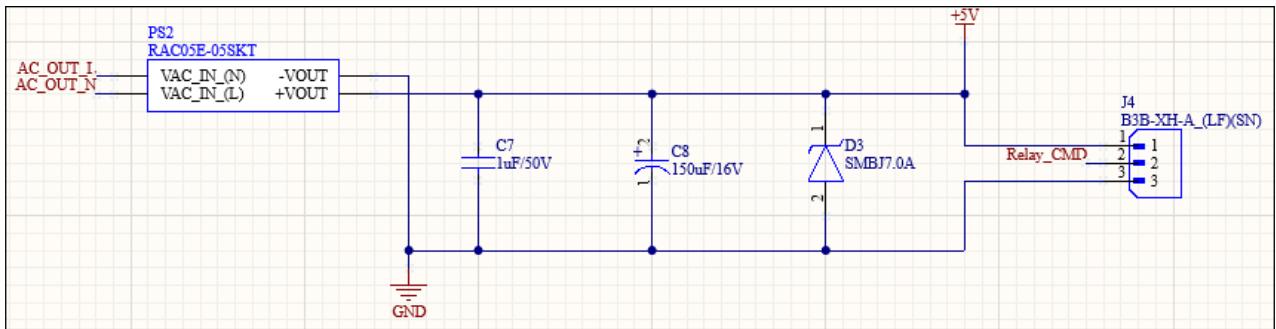


Figure 5: 5V AC-DC Converter

The design incorporates two AC-DC converters to supply the necessary operating voltages for various components within the VFD. Specifically, a 15V converter(PS1) and a 5V converter(PS2) are used to power the microcontroller, Intelligent Power Module (IPM), and the cooling fan. These converters ensure that each component receives the appropriate voltage, which is critical for their optimal performance. To maintain the integrity of the power supply and minimize noise, various filtering components(C5-C8, D1-D2) as recommended by the manufacturers are included in the circuit. These filtering components help in reducing electrical noise and ensuring stable operation of the VFD's sensitive electronic parts.

2.1.4 By Pass Relay Circuit

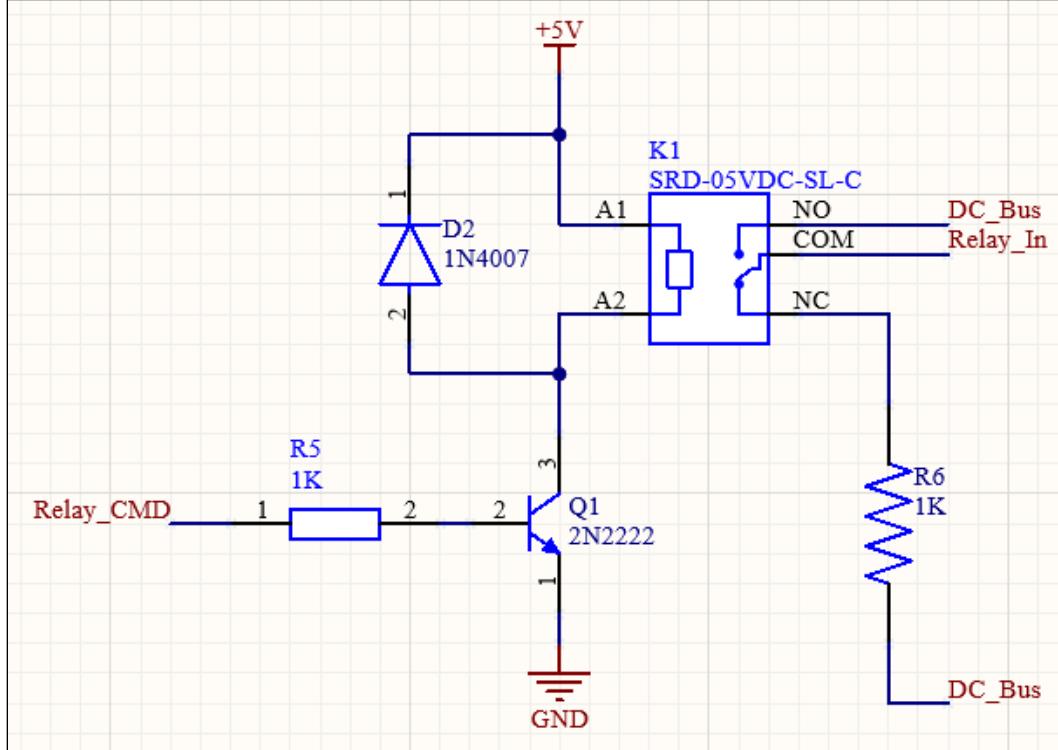


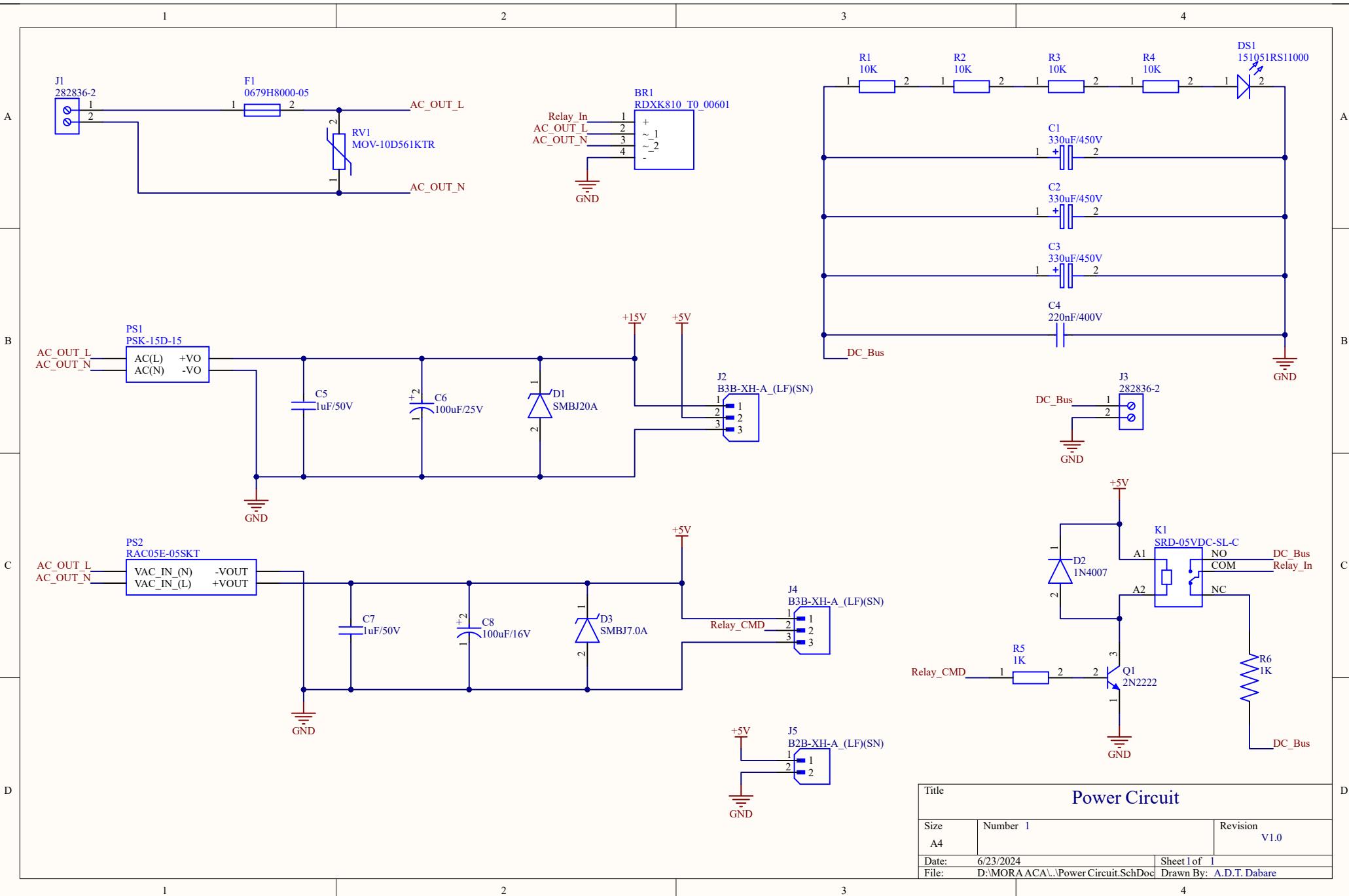
Figure 6: 5V AC-DC Converter

To manage the high inrush current when initially charging the capacitors, an initial charging resistor(R6) is employed. This resistor limits the current, preventing potential damage to the components. After approximately 8 seconds, the initial charging resistor is bypassed by a 5V relay(K1). The relay is activated by a command from the microcontroller, ensuring that the capacitors are fully charged before the resistor is bypassed.

However, the relay's coil requires a significant current of around 150mA, which an Arduino microcontroller cannot directly supply. To address this, an NPN transistor(Q1) is used to amplify the current. When the NPN transistor reaches saturation, it drives the relay effectively. This arrangement allows the low-current output from the microcontroller to control the higher-current requirement of the relay.

To protect the circuit from the voltage spike generated when the relay coil is de-energized, a diode(D2) is placed across the coil. This voltage spike, known as inductive kickback, results from the collapse of the magnetic field in the relay coil and can cause electromagnetic interference (EMI). The diode provides a path for the induced current, thereby preventing potential damage to the sensitive electronic components controlling the circuit. This protective measure ensures the longevity and reliability of the VFD system.

2.1.5 Schematic Design of the Power Circuit



2.1.6 PCB Layout of the Power Circuit

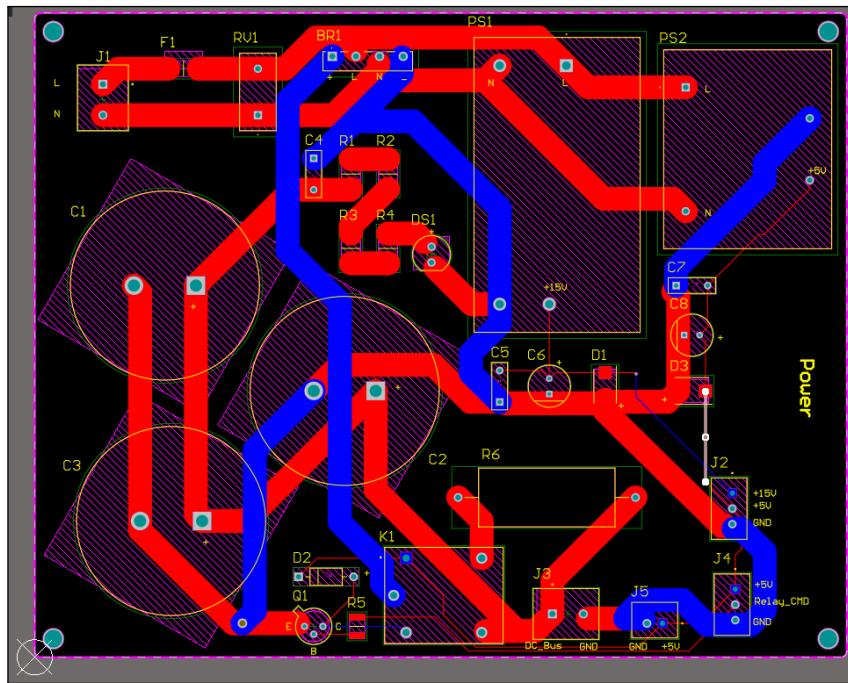


Figure 7: Power Circuit Bottom Layer PCB 2D Layout

- Dimensions - 131mm x 104mm
- Outer Copper Weight - 2 Oz
- 10A Trace Width - 4mm
- 1A Trace Width - 0.3mm

Inputs:		
Current	10	Amps
Thickness	2	oz/ft ² ▾

Optional Inputs:		
Temperature Rise	10	Deg C ▾
Ambient Temperature	25	Deg C ▾
Trace Length	100	mm ▾

Results for Internal Layers:		
Required Trace Width	9.36	mm ▾
Resistance	0.00270	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0270	Volts
Power Loss	0.270	Watts

Results for External Layers in Air:		
Required Trace Width	3.60	mm ▾
Resistance	0.00701	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0701	Volts
Power Loss	0.701	Watts

Figure 8: 10A Trace Width Calculation

Please visit this [Website](#) for trace width calculation.

Inputs:		
Current	1	Amps
Thickness	2	oz/ft ² ▾

Optional Inputs:		
Temperature Rise	10	Deg C ▾
Ambient Temperature	25	Deg C ▾
Trace Length	100	mm ▾

Results for Internal Layers:		
Required Trace Width	0.391	mm ▾
Resistance	0.0646	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0646	Volts
Power Loss	0.0646	Watts

Results for External Layers in Air:		
Required Trace Width	0.150	mm ▾
Resistance	0.168	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.168	Volts
Power Loss	0.168	Watts

Figure 9: 1A Trace Width Calculation

2.1.7 Component List of the Power Circuit

Item	Quantity	Reference	Part
1	2	J1, J3	5.08mm Pitch 2-Pin 2-Way Screw Terminal Block PCB Mount
2	1	F1	Surface Mount Fuses 8A 350 VAC 72 VCD
3	1	RV1	Varistors 180pF 560volts 10%
4	1	BR1	Bridge Rectifier (8A/1000V,Trr:250ns)
5	3	C1-C3	Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors - Snap In 450VDC 330uF
6	1	C4	0.22uf 400V- 224 Mylar Capacitor
7	4	R1-R4	Thick Film Resistors - SMD ResPowerQ 2512 10k 5% 2W
8	1	DS1	5 mm LED
9	1	PS1	AC/DC Power Modules 15 Vdc, 1 A, 15 W
10	1	PS2	AC/DC Power Modules 5W 90-264Vin 05Vout 1A
11	1	C5, C7	Ceramic capacitor Through Hole 1uF 50V
12	1	C6	Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitor Through Hole 100uF 25V
13	1	C8	Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitor Through Hole 100uF 16V
14	1	D1	ESD Suppressors / TVS Diodes 20volts 5uA 18.5 Amps Uni-Dir
15	1	D3	ESD Suppressors / TVS Diodes 20volts 5uA 18.5 Amps Uni-Dir
16	1	D2	Through Hole 1N4007 Diode
17	1	Q1	Through Hole 2N2222A NPN Transistor TO-92
18	1	R5	Thick Film Resistors - SMD 1210 1K Ohm Anti- Pulse AEC-Q200 10%
19	1	R6	Wirewound Resistors - Through Hole 5W 1K Ohm 5%
20	1	K1	5VDC Miniature Relay 10A 250VAC / 10A 30VDC
21	2	J2, J4	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 3 pin

2.2 IPM Circuit

The Intelligent Power Module (IPM) Circuit is the heart of the VFD, integrating the power devices with the necessary drive and protection circuitry. The IPM combines high-speed switching capabilities with protection features such as overcurrent, short circuit, and thermal shutdown. This circuit is crucial for maintaining the safe and efficient operation of the power components, enhancing the overall performance and reliability of the VFD. It also interfaces with the MCU to receive control signals and provide feedback on the system's status. We have utilized the [STGIPQ8C60T-HZ](#) as our Intelligent Power Module (IPM).

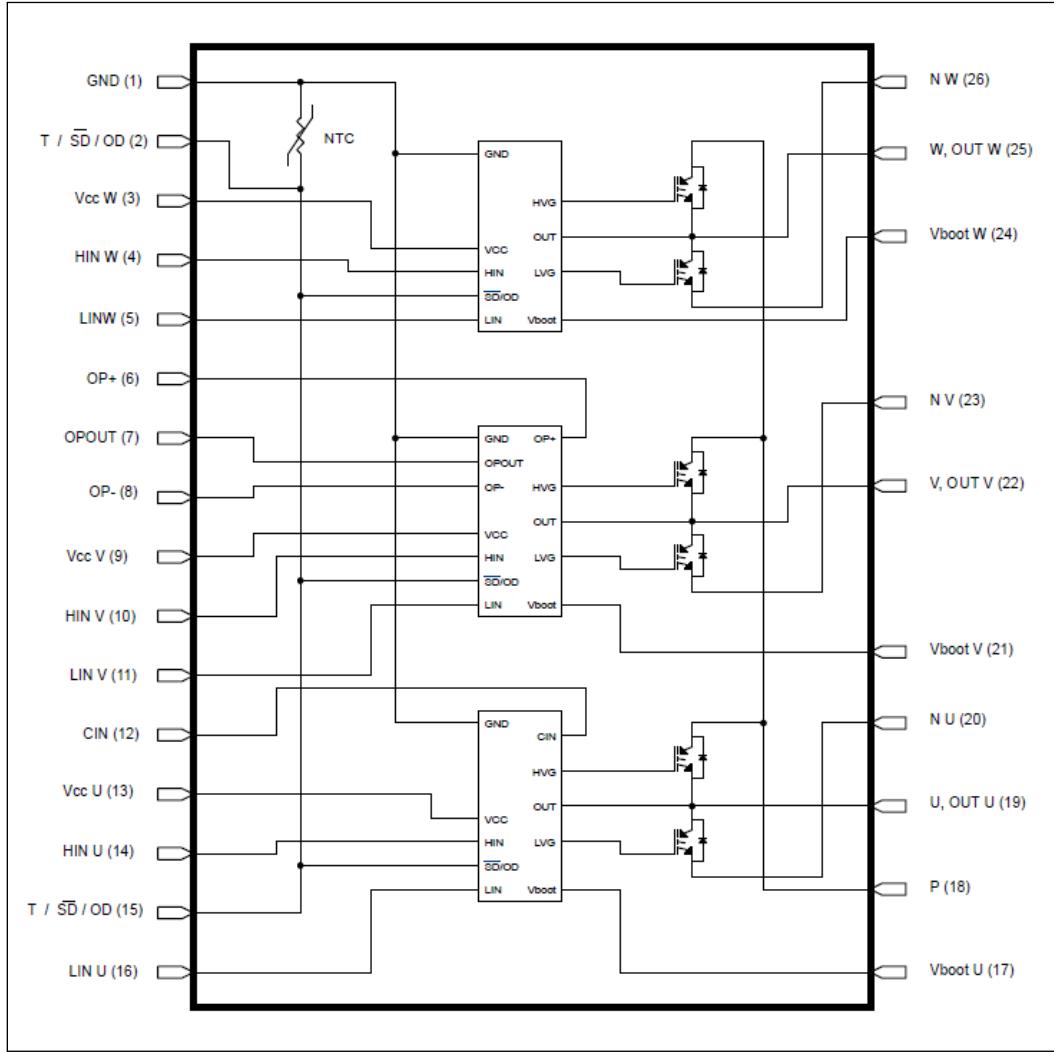


Figure 10: Internal Circuit of the IPM

2.2.1 Power Stage:

The IPM's power stage comprises six very fast Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistors (IGBTs) and their corresponding freewheeling diodes. These components are fundamental in switching the high currents required to drive AC motors efficiently. The IGBTs handle the main switching operations while the freewheeling diodes provide a path for current when the IGBTs are turned off, preventing voltage spikes and ensuring smooth operation.

2.2.2 Driving Network:

To control the IGBTs effectively, the IPM includes three high-voltage gate drivers. These drivers ensure precise switching of the IGBTs by providing sufficient voltage and current to their gates. Gate resistors are also incorporated to control the switching speed and reduce noise. Additionally, three bootstrap diodes supply the necessary voltage to the high-side gate drivers, enabling them to operate efficiently.

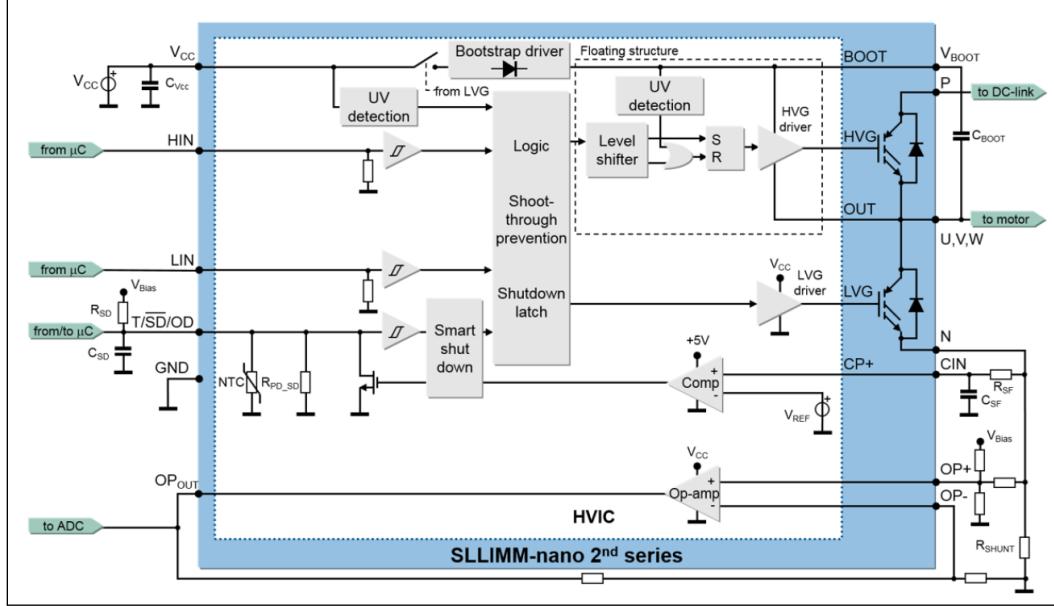


Figure 11: High Voltage Gate Driver Block Diagram

2.2.3 Protection and Optional Features:

- **Op-amp for Advanced Current Sensing:** The IPM integrates an operational amplifier (op-amp) for advanced current sensing. This feature allows accurate monitoring of the current flowing through the IGBTs, enabling the VFD to maintain optimal performance and protect against overcurrent conditions.
- **Comparator for Fault Protection:** A comparator is included to detect faults such as overcurrent and short-circuits. This feature provides rapid response to abnormal operating conditions, triggering protective measures to prevent damage to the IPM and connected components.
- **Smart Shutdown Function:** The IPM is equipped with a smart shutdown function that can deactivate the power stage in case of critical faults or errors. This function enhances the safety and reliability of the VFD by preventing potentially hazardous situations.
- **NTC Thermistor:** An NTC (Negative Temperature Coefficient) thermistor is employed for temperature sensing. It monitors the temperature of the IPM and surrounding components, helping to prevent overheating and ensuring thermal stability during operation.
- **Dead-time, Interlocking Function, and Undervoltage Lockout:** The IPM includes features such as dead-time management to prevent simultaneous conduction of IGBTs, interlocking functions to ensure proper sequencing of operations, and undervoltage lockout to protect against insufficient supply voltages.

These integrated features collectively enhance the performance, reliability, and safety of the VFD by providing robust power handling capabilities, precise control of switching operations, and comprehensive protection against various operational anomalies.

2.2.4 Input RC Filter

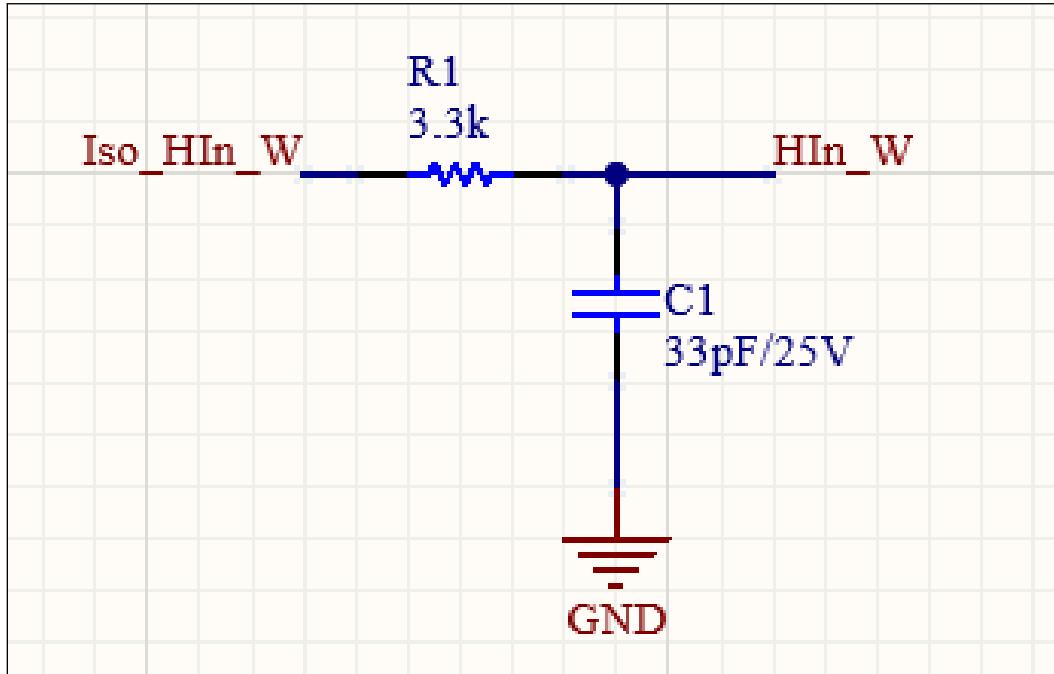


Figure 12: Input Signal Management

The STGIPQ8C60T-HZ Intelligent Power Module (IPM) uses active-high logic for its HIN and LIN input signals. Each high-side input includes a typical $375\text{ k}\Omega$ pull-down resistor to prevent floating inputs. To prevent input signal oscillation, wiring should be as short as possible. Additionally, it is recommended to use RC filters (R1, C1) on each input signal with a time constant of about 100 ns. These filters should be placed as close to the IPM input pins as possible to filter out high-frequency noise and ensure signal stability. Given that we have six PWM input signals, each requires an RC filter to prevent signal oscillation. These steps help maintain clean and stable input signals, enhancing the reliability of the VFD system.

2.2.5 Decoupling and Bootstrap Capacitors

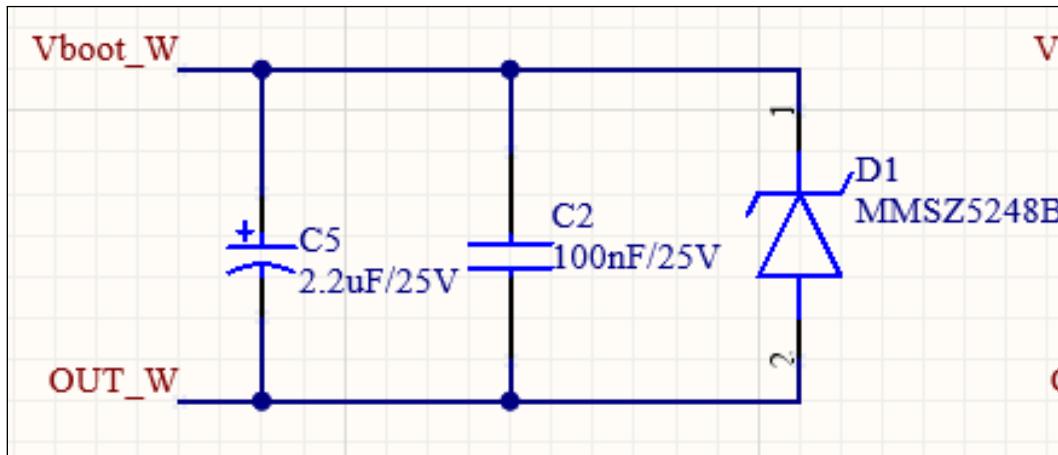


Figure 13: Bootstrap Circuit

To enhance the stability and performance of the STGIPQ8C60T-HZ Intelligent Power Module (IPM), it is recommended to use decoupling capacitors and additional components in the bootstrap circuit.

A decoupling capacitor (C2) with a value between 100 to 220 nF, featuring low Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR) and low Equivalent Series Inductance (ESL), should be placed in parallel with each bootstrap capacitor (Cboot). These decoupling capacitors help to filter high-frequency disturbances and ensure the smooth operation of the IPM. Both Cboot and C3 should be placed as close as possible to the U, V, W, and Vboot pins to maximize their effectiveness.

The negative electrodes of the bootstrap capacitors(C5) should be connected directly to the U, V, and W terminals, and kept separate from the main output wires. This separation helps to minimize noise and ensure accurate voltage levels.

To prevent overvoltage conditions, it is suggested to place a zener diode (D1) in parallel with each bootstrap capacitor (C5). This zener diode will clamp any excessive voltage, protecting the IPM and associated components from potential damage.

By implementing these measures, the VFD system can maintain stable operation, filter out high-frequency noise, and protect against overvoltage, thus enhancing overall reliability and performance.

2.2.6 Internal Non-Inverting Comparator

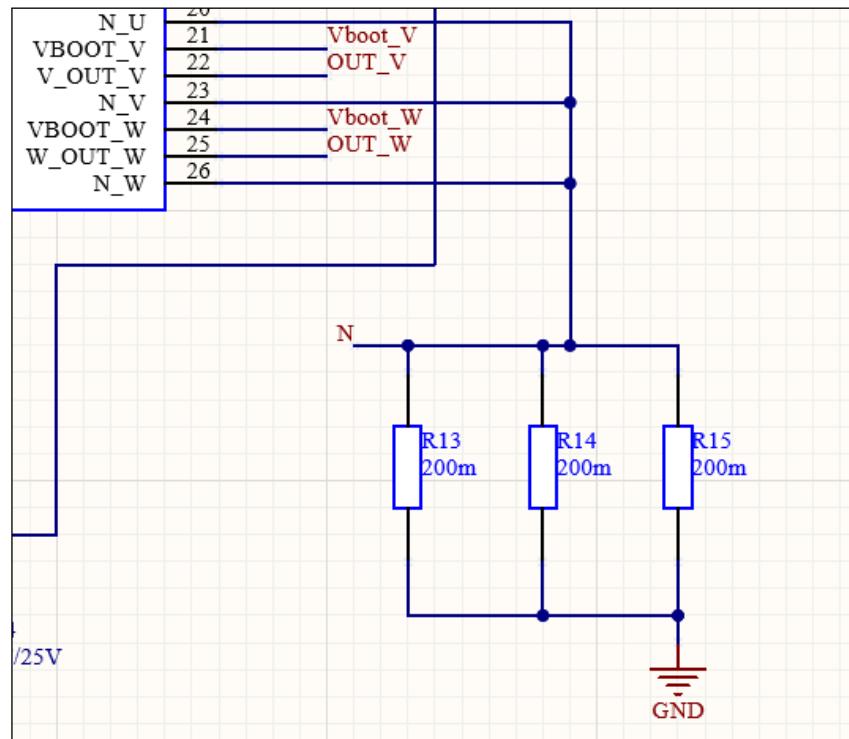


Figure 14: Shunt Resistors

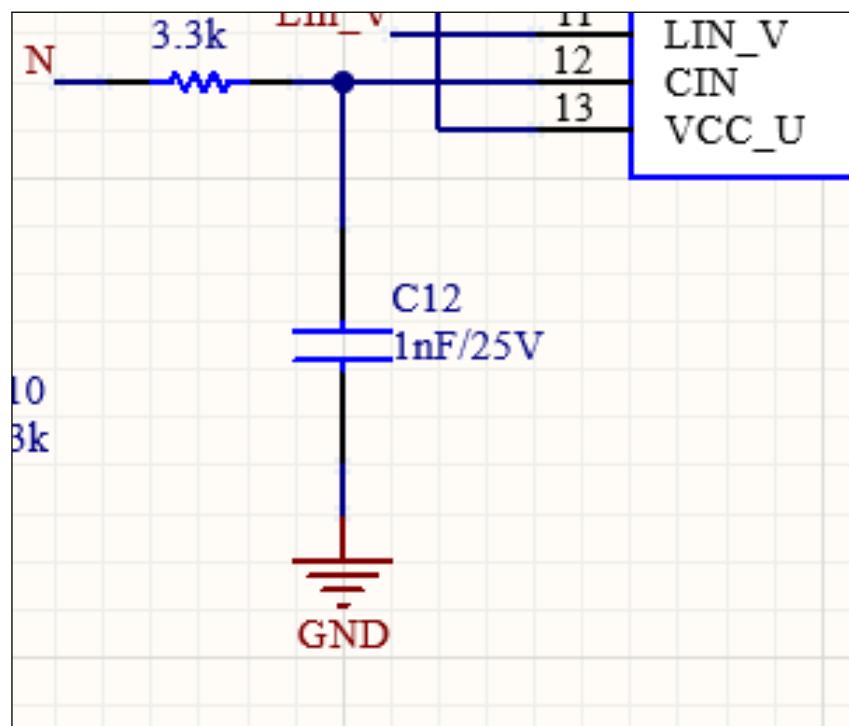


Figure 15: Cin Pin Configuration

The STGIPQ8C60T-HZ Intelligent Power Module (IPM) features an internal non-inverting comparator accessible via the **CIN** pin. This comparator can be used for short-circuit current detection, leveraging the current sensing shunt resistor connected to each phase leg.

Current Sensing: The shunt resistor, placed in each phase leg, allows for the detection of short-circuit currents through the internal comparator at the CIN pin. It is crucial to select a shunt resistor that meets the specific detection levels required for your application.

Noise Elimination: To filter out noise, an RC filter with a time constant of approximately 1 microsecond should be connected to the CIN pin. This filter helps to ensure accurate current sensing by eliminating high-frequency disturbances.

Connection Considerations: The connection length between the shunt resistor and the CIN pin should be minimized to reduce potential noise pickup and signal degradation.

Ovvoltage Protection: If the voltage applied to the CIN pin exceeds the specified reference voltage (VREF) detailed in the datasheet, the IPM will automatically shut down. Additionally, the T/SD/OD pin will be pulled down, signaling the microcontroller of the shutdown event. This feature helps protect the IPM and the overall system from overcurrent conditions.

By implementing these guidelines, the internal comparator can effectively detect short-circuit conditions, enhance the reliability of the current sensing mechanism, and protect the IPM from potential overcurrent damage.

2.2.7 NTC Thermistor / Shutdown / Open Drain

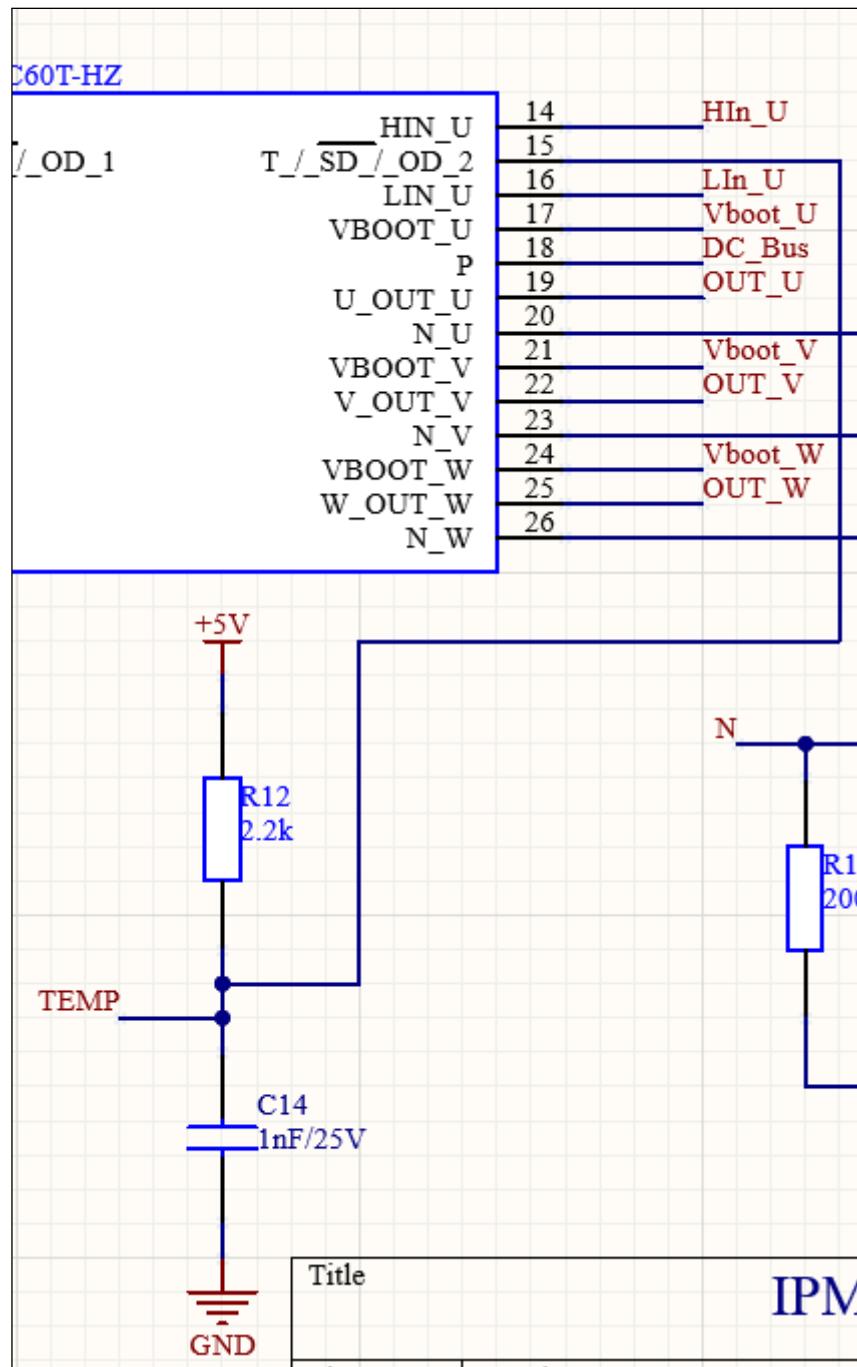


Figure 16: T/SD/OD Pin Configuration

The STGIPQ8C60T-HZ Intelligent Power Module (IPM) features T / SD / OD pins that provide shutdown and open drain functionalities, as well as temperature monitoring capabilities through an integrated NTC thermistor.

Pin Availability and Flexibility: There are two T / SD / OD pins, located on opposite ends of the IPM package to offer higher flexibility in PCB layout. Only one of these pins needs to be used for proper device operation.

Enable/Disable Function: The T / SD / OD pins serve as enable/disable controls for the IPM. These pins operate with active-low logic, meaning the device will shut down if a voltage below a specific threshold is applied. When this occurs, each half-bridge of the IPM goes into a tri-state mode.

Integration with Internal Comparator: The T / SD / OD pins are linked to the status of the internal comparator, which handles short-circuit protection and smart shutdown functions. If the comparator detects a fault, the T / SD / OD pin is pulled down, functioning as a FAULT indicator.

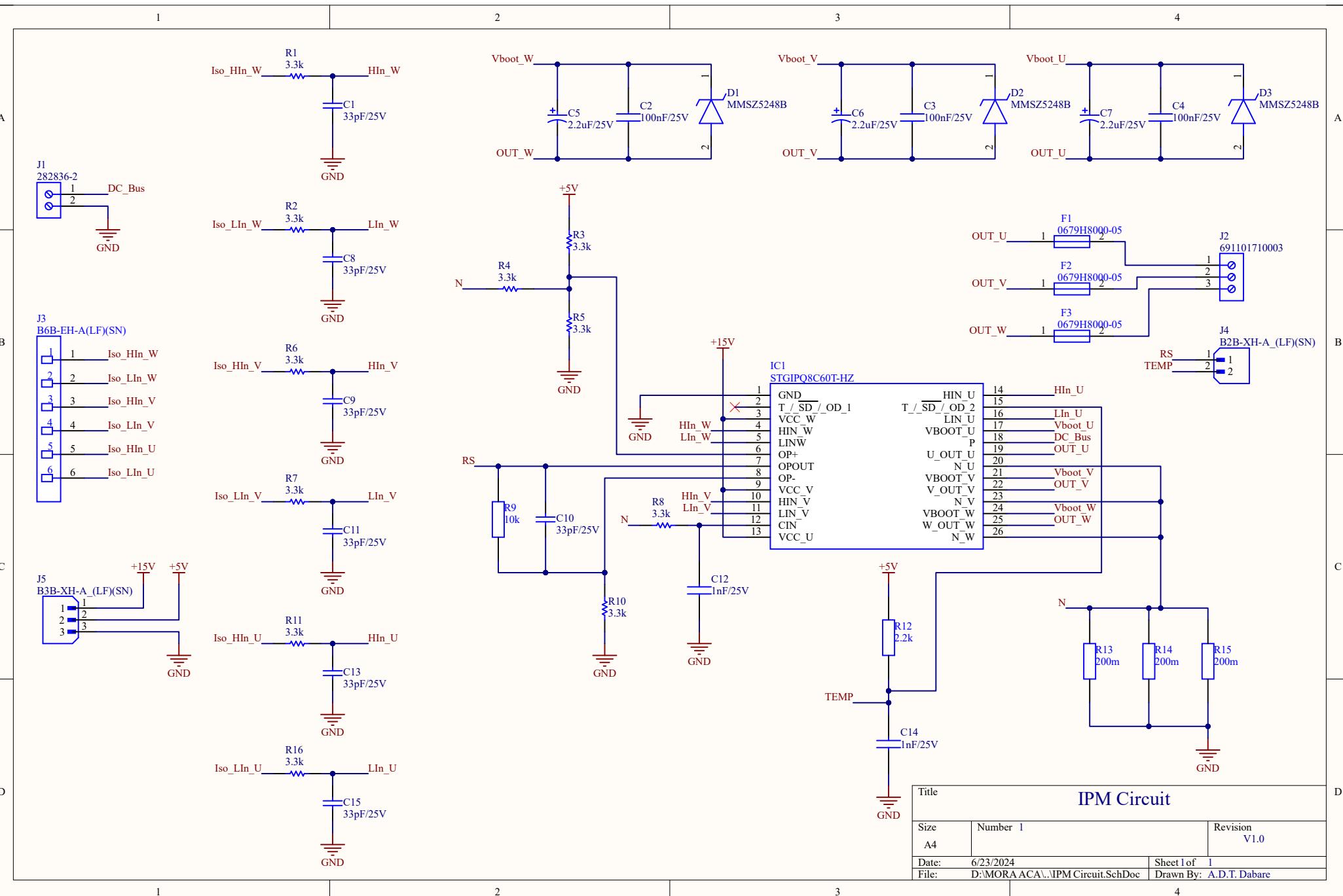
Open Drain Configuration: When the comparator triggers, the T / SD / OD pins are configured in an open drain mode. The voltage at these pins should be pulled up to the 3.3V or 5V logic power supply through an appropriate pull-up resistor. For 3.3V MCU power supplies, use a 1 k Ω resistor (RSD), and for 5V supplies, use a 2.2 k Ω resistor.

Temperature Monitoring: The T / SD / OD pins can also be used for temperature monitoring due to the co-packaged NTC thermistor. To prevent undesired shutdowns, a capacitor (CSD) with a time constant no higher than 1 microsecond should be used in conjunction with the pull-up resistor.

By implementing these guidelines, you can ensure reliable operation, effective fault detection, and protection, as well as accurate temperature monitoring of the IPM.

Refer this document for a detailed description of the [SLLIMM-nano 2nd series](#) providing guidelines for motor drive control.

2.2.8 Schematic Design of the IPM Circuit



2.2.9 PCB Layout of the IPM Circuit

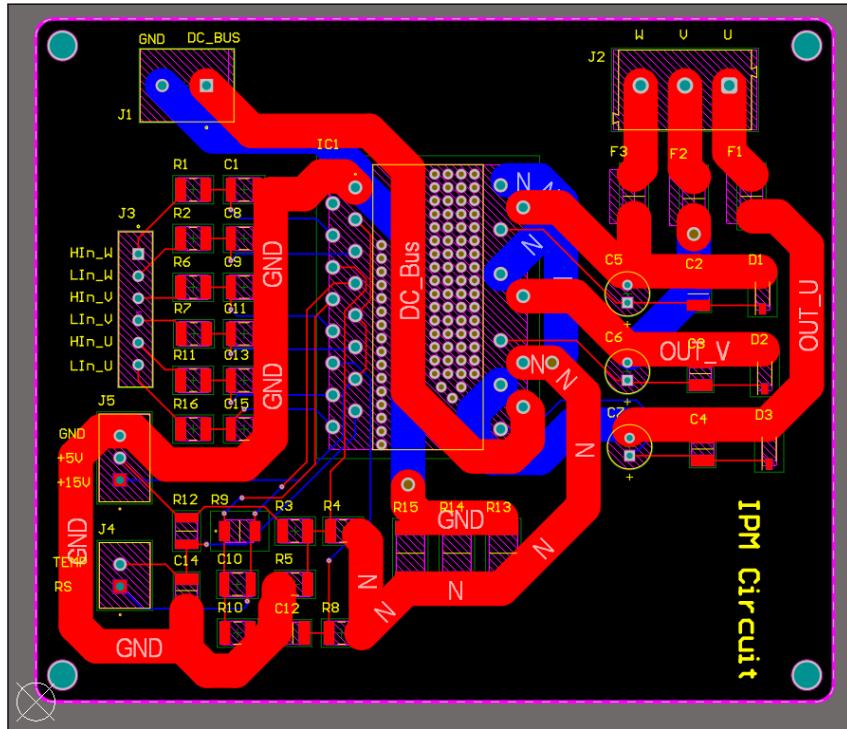


Figure 17: IPM Circuit Top Layer PCB 2D Layout

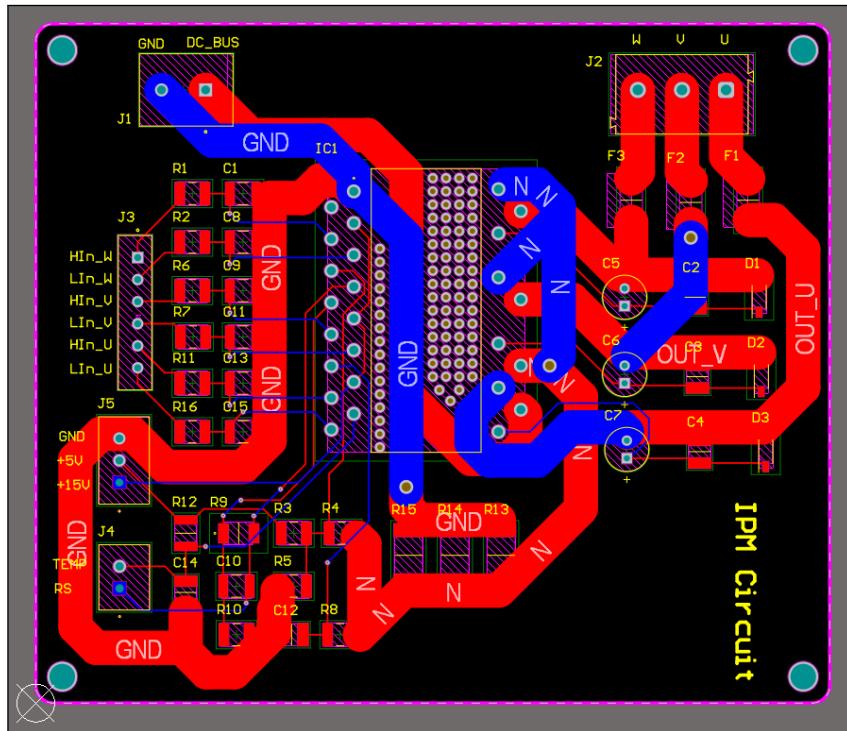


Figure 18: IPM Circuit Bottom Layer PCB 2D Layout

- Dimensions - 90mm x 77mm
- Outer Copper Weight - 2 Oz

- 10A Trace Width - 4mm
- 1A Trace Width - 0.3mm

Inputs:		
Current	10	Amps
Thickness	2	oz/ft ² ▾
Optional Inputs:		
Temperature Rise	10	Deg C ▾
Ambient Temperature	25	Deg C ▾
Trace Length	100	mm ▾
Results for Internal Layers:		
Required Trace Width	9.36	mm ▾
Resistance	0.00270	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0270	Volts
Power Loss	0.270	Watts
Results for External Layers in Air:		
Required Trace Width	3.60	mm ▾
Resistance	0.00701	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0701	Volts
Power Loss	0.701	Watts

Figure 19: 10A Trace Width Calculation

Please visit this [Website](#) for trace width calculation.

Inputs:		
Current	1	Amps
Thickness	2	oz/ft ² ▾
Optional Inputs:		
Temperature Rise	10	Deg C ▾
Ambient Temperature	25	Deg C ▾
Trace Length	100	mm ▾
Results for Internal Layers:		
Required Trace Width	0.391	mm ▾
Resistance	0.0646	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0646	Volts
Power Loss	0.0646	Watts
Results for External Layers in Air:		
Required Trace Width	0.150	mm ▾
Resistance	0.168	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.168	Volts
Power Loss	0.168	Watts

Figure 20: 1A Trace Width Calculation

2.2.10 Component List of the IPM Circuit

Item	Quantity	Reference	Part
1	1	J1	5.08mm Pitch 2-Pin 2-Way Screw Terminal Block PCB Mount
2	1	J2	5.08mm Pitch 3-Pin 3-way Pluggable Screw Terminal Block PCB Mount
3	3	F1-F3	Surface Mount Fuses 8A 350 VAC 72 VCD
4	1	IC1	IGBT Modules SLLIMM nano 2nd series IPM, 3-phase inverter, 8A, 600V
5	1	J3	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 6 pin
6	1	J5	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 3 pin
7	1	J4	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 2 pin
8	3	R13-R15	Current Sense Resistors - SMD TLRP 2512 3.0W R200 1% 25PPM 4K RL
9	11	R1-R8, R10, R11, R16	Thick Film Resistors - SMD CRGCQ 1210 3K3 5% SMD Resistor
10	7	C1, C8-C11, C13, C15	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT 25V 33pF X8R 1210 10%
11	2	C12, C14	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT WCAP-CSGP 1000pF 1210 10% 25V MLCC
12	3	C2-C4	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT KGM32RR71E104MU NEW GLOBAL PN 25V .1uF X7R 1210 20%
13	3	D1-D3	Zener Diodes 500mW,ZENER,SOD-123,18V
14	1	R12	Thick Film Resistors - SMD 1/2watt 2.2Kohms 5%
15	1	R9	Thick Film Resistors - SMD 1210 10Kohms 1% AEC-Q200

2.3 MCU Circuit

The Microcontroller Unit (MCU) Circuit acts as the brain of the VFD, executing the control algorithms and handling communication with other system components. It processes input from sensors, user commands, and feedback from the IPM circuit to generate precise PWM signals that control the inverter stage. The MCU also manages system diagnostics, fault detection, and user interface, ensuring that the VFD operates within its specified parameters and responds appropriately to any changes in operating conditions. We are using the [ATmega328-PU](#) as our microcontroller.

2.3.1 PWM Signals

The MCU generates six PWM signals that are used to control the IPM (Intelligent Power Module). These PWM signals modulate the voltage and frequency supplied to the AC motor, enabling precise control over its speed and torque.

2.3.2 Isolators

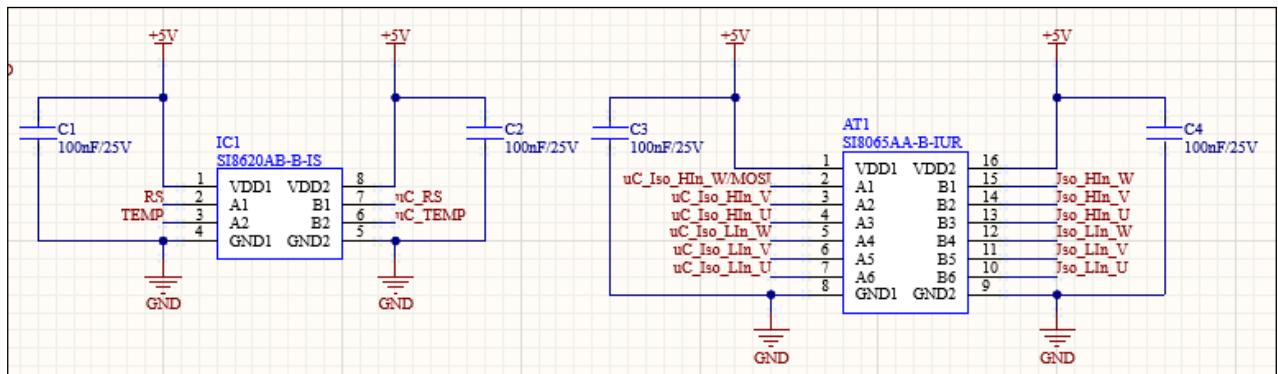


Figure 21: Isolators

To ensure safety and proper signal integrity, two isolators are used in the circuit. These isolators separate the high and low voltage sides, protecting the MCU from potential high voltage surges and ensuring that the PWM signals and feedback signals are transmitted without interference. (Since the IPM has integrated an application-specific type HVIC inside the module, direct coupling to the MCU terminals without an optocoupler is possible.)

2.3.3 Other Input/Output Pins

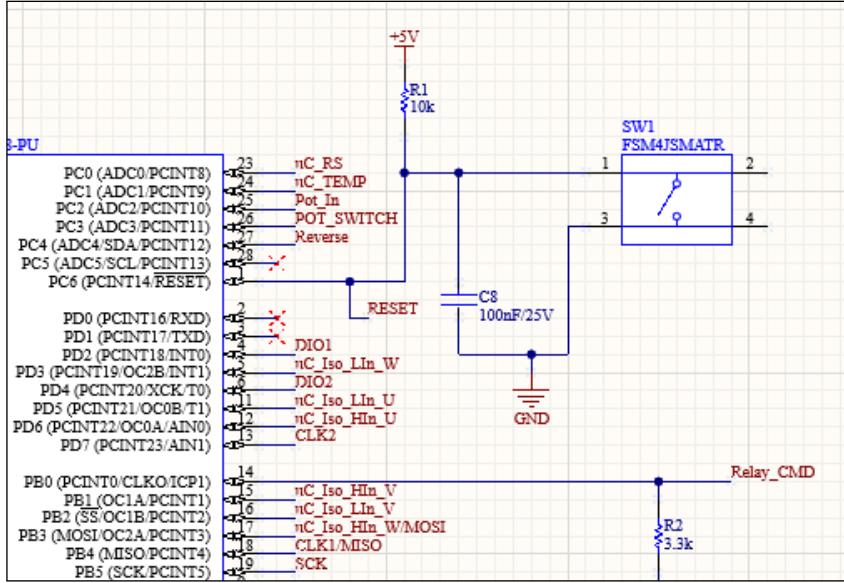


Figure 22: Other Input/Output Pins

- **POT_SWITCH:** This pin is connected to a rocker switch, which signals the MCU to start generating PWM signals. The switch acts as an on/off control for the VFD system.
- **POT_In:** This pin is connected to a potentiometer, allowing the user to adjust the motor speed. By varying the resistance, the potentiometer changes the input voltage, which the MCU interprets to adjust the frequency of the PWM signals, typically ranging from 20 Hz to 120 Hz.
- **Display Control Pins:** The MCU also has pins (DIO1, DIO2, CLK1, CLK2) dedicated to controlling two 7-segment, 4-bit digital LED displays (TM1637). These displays show the frequency of the PWM signals and the current flowing through the motor, providing real-time feedback to the user.
- **Relay_CMD:** This pin generates a signal to bypass the initial charging resistor in the power circuit after an 8-second delay. This command activates a relay to ensure the capacitors are fully charged before the resistor is bypassed, preventing high inrush currents.

2.3.4 Oscillator

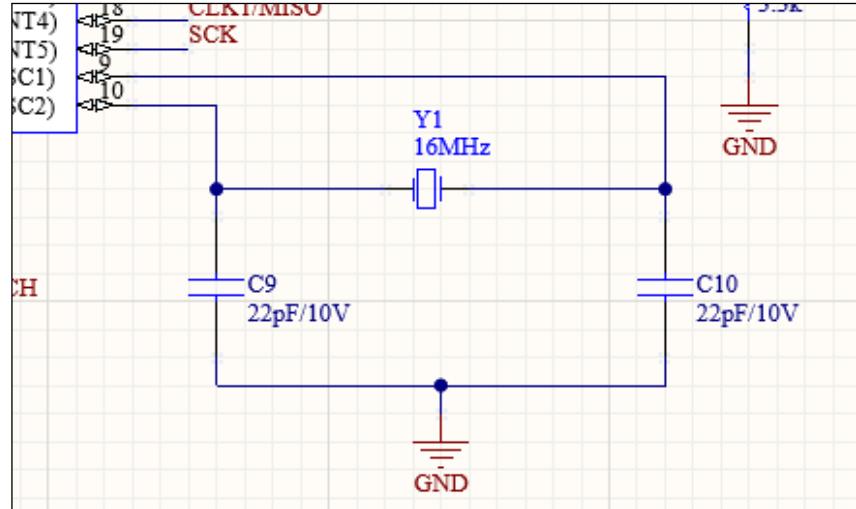


Figure 23: Oscillator

The MCU uses a 16 MHz oscillator(Y1) to provide a stable clock signal. This oscillator ensures precise timing for the generation of PWM signals and other time-sensitive operations within the MCU.

2.3.5 Input Power and Decoupling Capacitors

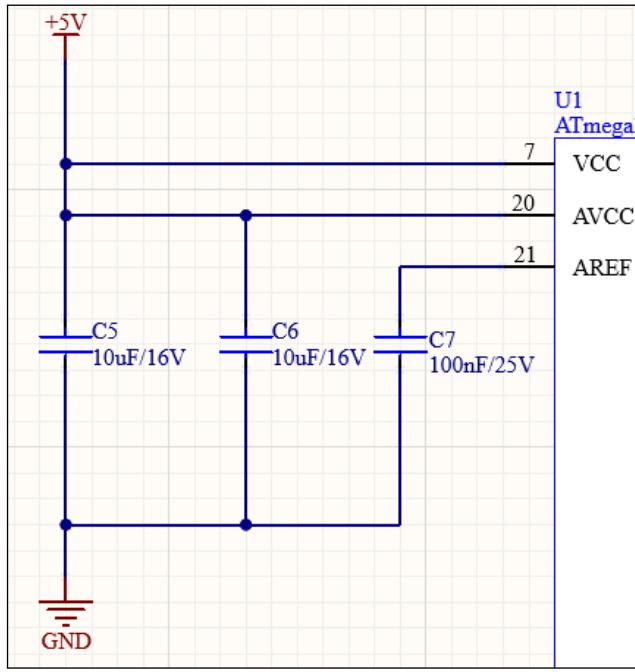
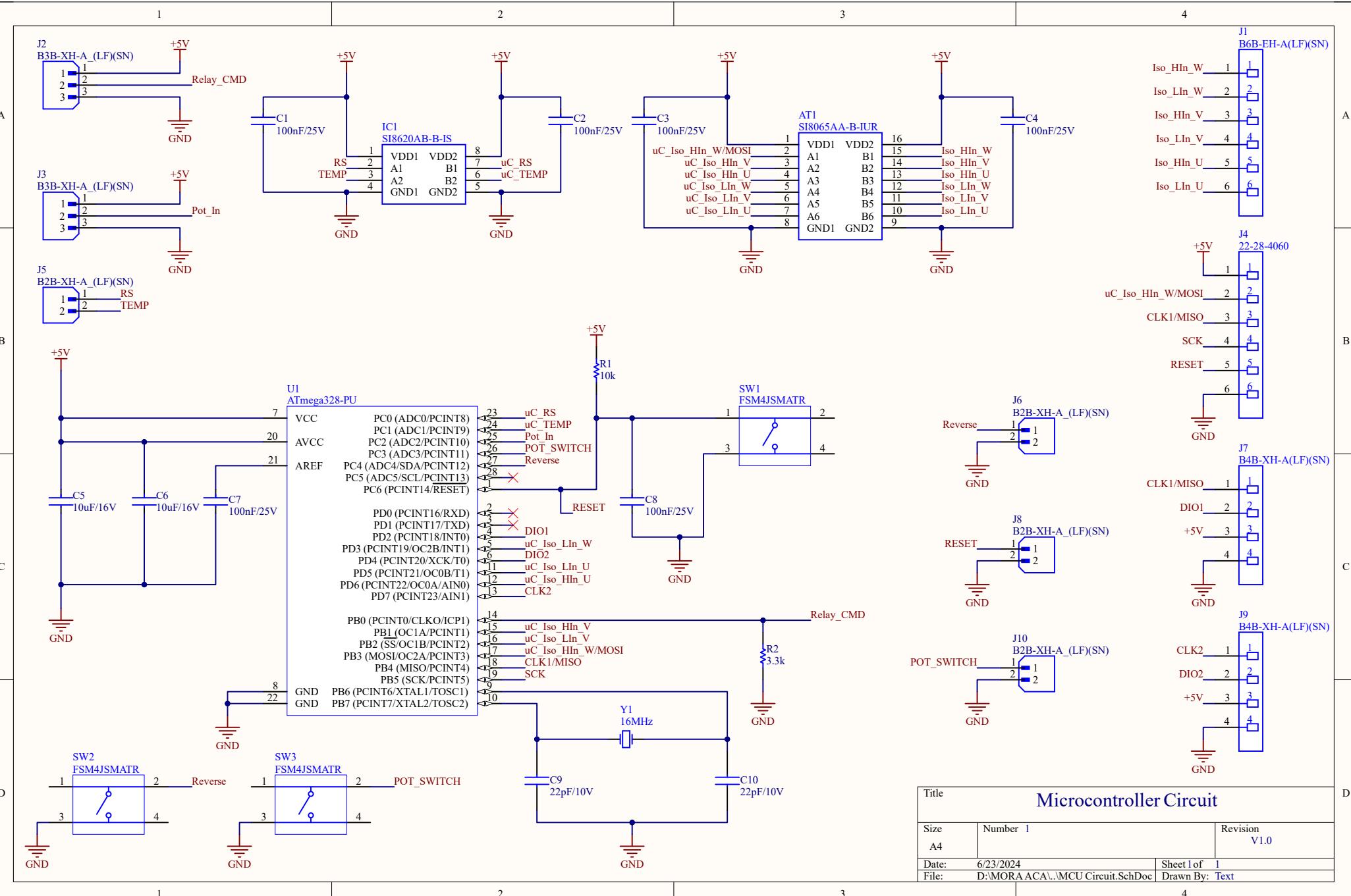


Figure 24: Oscillator

To ensure stable operation, the MCU circuit is equipped with decoupling capacitors (C5-C7). These capacitors filter out noise and stabilize the power supply, preventing voltage fluctuations from affecting the MCU's performance.

2.3.6 Schematic Design of the MCU Circuit



2.3.7 PCB Layout of the MCU Circuit

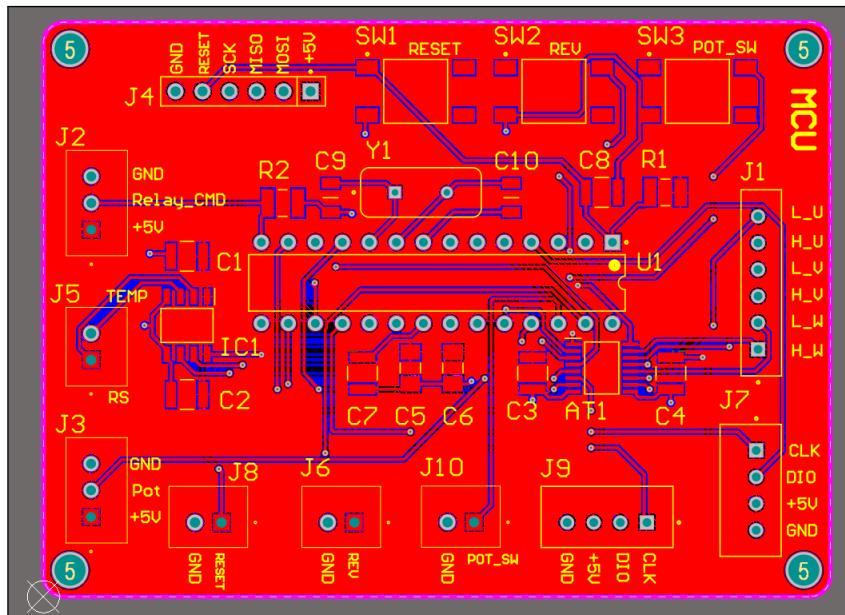


Figure 25: MCU Circuit Top Layer PCB 2D Layout

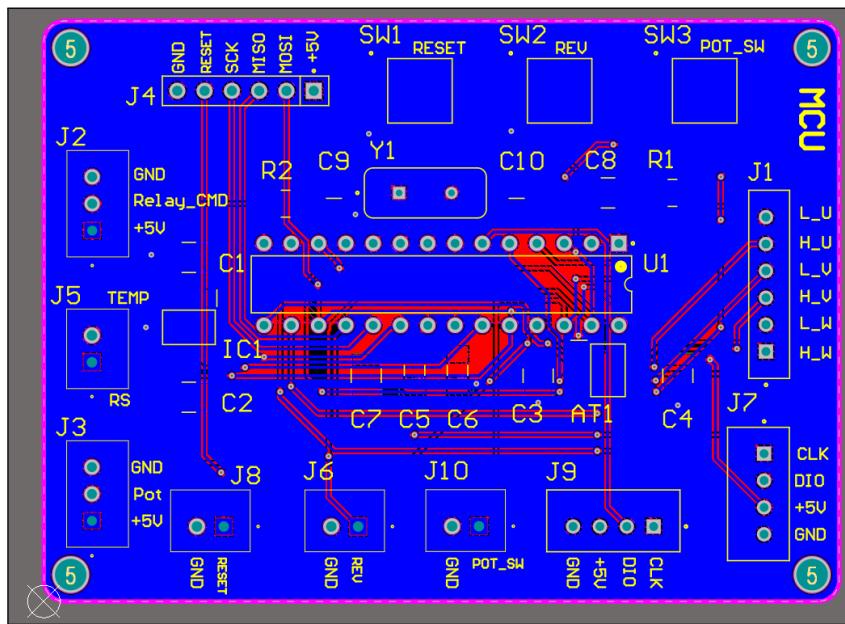


Figure 26: MCU Circuit Bottom Layer PCB 2D Layout

- Dimensions - 74mm x 54mm
- Outer Copper Weight - 1 Oz
- 1A Trace Width - 0.35mm

Inputs:		
Current	1	Amps
Thickness	1	oz/ft ² ▾

Optional Inputs:		
Temperature Rise	10	Deg C ▾
Ambient Temperature	25	Deg C ▾
Trace Length	100	mm ▾

Results for Internal Layers:		
Required Trace Width	0.781	mm ▾
Resistance	0.0646	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.0646	Volts
Power Loss	0.0646	Watts

Results for External Layers in Air:		
Required Trace Width	0.300	mm ▾
Resistance	0.168	Ohms
Voltage Drop	0.168	Volts
Power Loss	0.168	Watts

Figure 27: 1A Trace Width Calculation

Please visit this [Website](#) for trace width calculation.

2.3.8 Component List of the MCU Circuit

Item	Quantity	Reference	Part
1	1	J1	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 6 pin
2	2	J2, J3	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 3 pin
3	4	J5, J6, J8, J10	JST wire connectors 2.54mm with socket - 2 pin
4	1	J4	Long 6-pin Single row male headers 2.54mm
5	1	U1	Atmel ATMEGA328P-PU Microcontroller
6	1	IC1	Digital Isolators 2.5 kV 2-channel digital isolator
7	1	AT1	Digital Isolators 6 ch 1 kV digital isolator
8	3	SW1-SW3	Tactile Switches SPST OF(ON) RND SMT MINI PB TACT SWITCH
9	1	Y1	16MHz Crystal Oscillator - Through Hole
10	6	C1-C4, C7, C8	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT KGM32RR71E104MU NEW GLOBAL PN 25V .1uF X7R 1210 20%
11	1	R2	Thick Film Resistors - SMD CRGCQ 1210 3K3 5% SMD Resistor
12	1	R1	Thick Film Resistors - SMD 1210 10Kohms 1% AEC-Q200
13	2	C5, C6	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors SMD/SMT 16V 10uF 1210
14	2	C9, C10	Multilayer Ceramic Capacitors MLCC - SMD/SMT WCAP-CSGP 22pF 1206 5% 10V MLCC

3 Photographs of the PCB

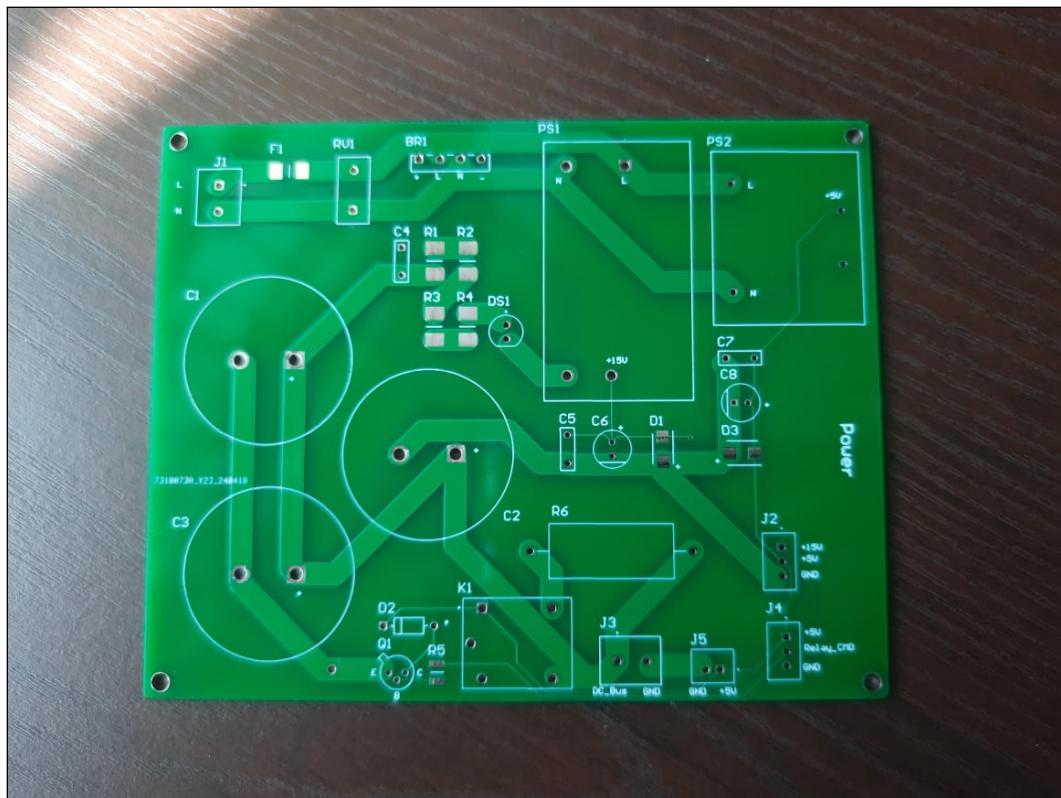


Figure 28: Bare PCB of the Power Circuit



Figure 29: Soldered PCB of the Power Circuit

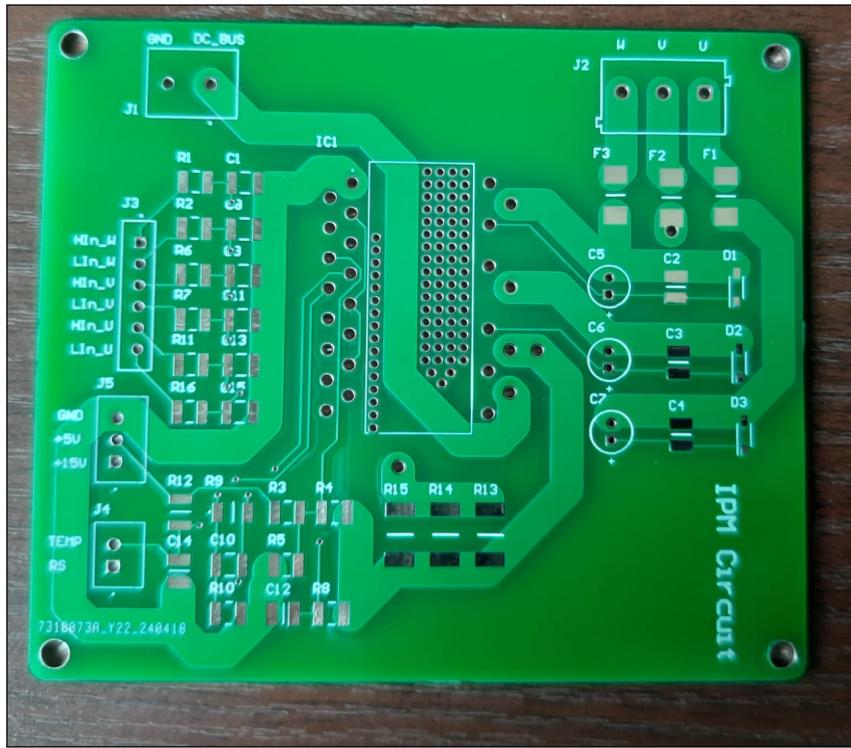


Figure 30: Bare PCB of the IPM Circuit

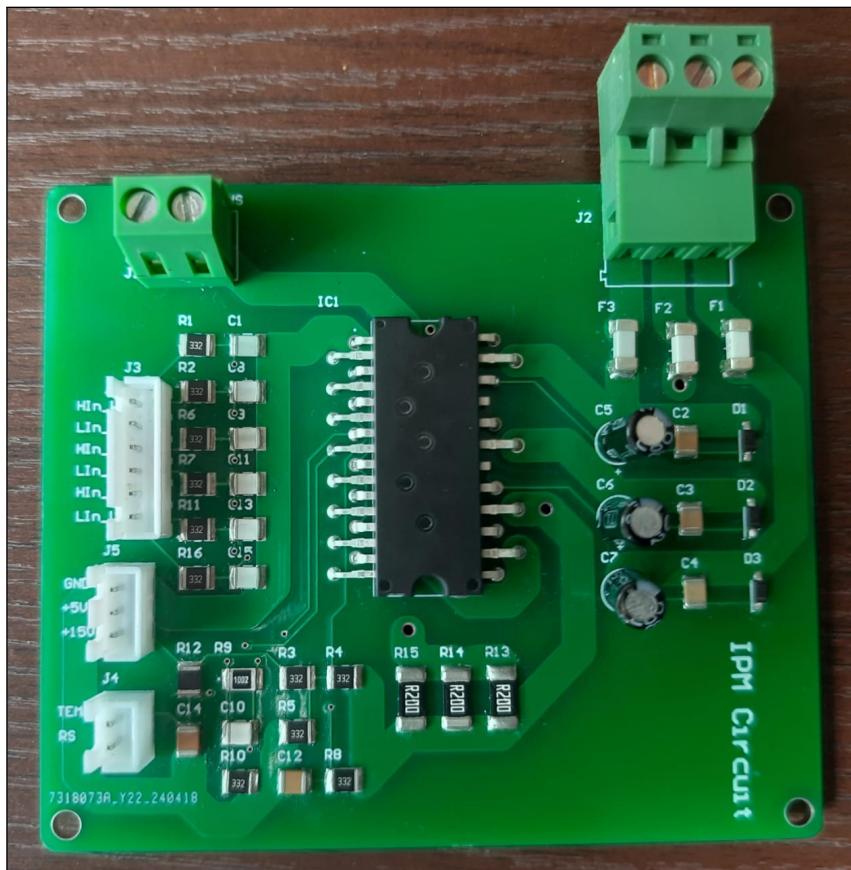


Figure 31: Soldered PCB of the IPM Circuit

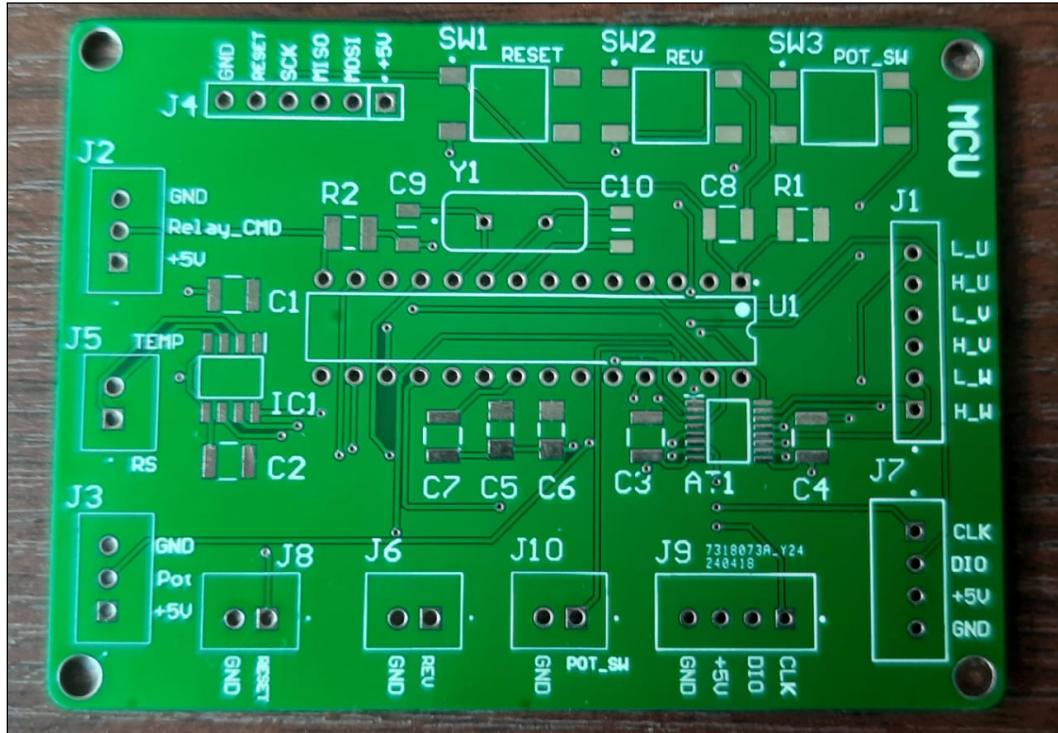


Figure 32: Bare PCB of the MCU Circuit

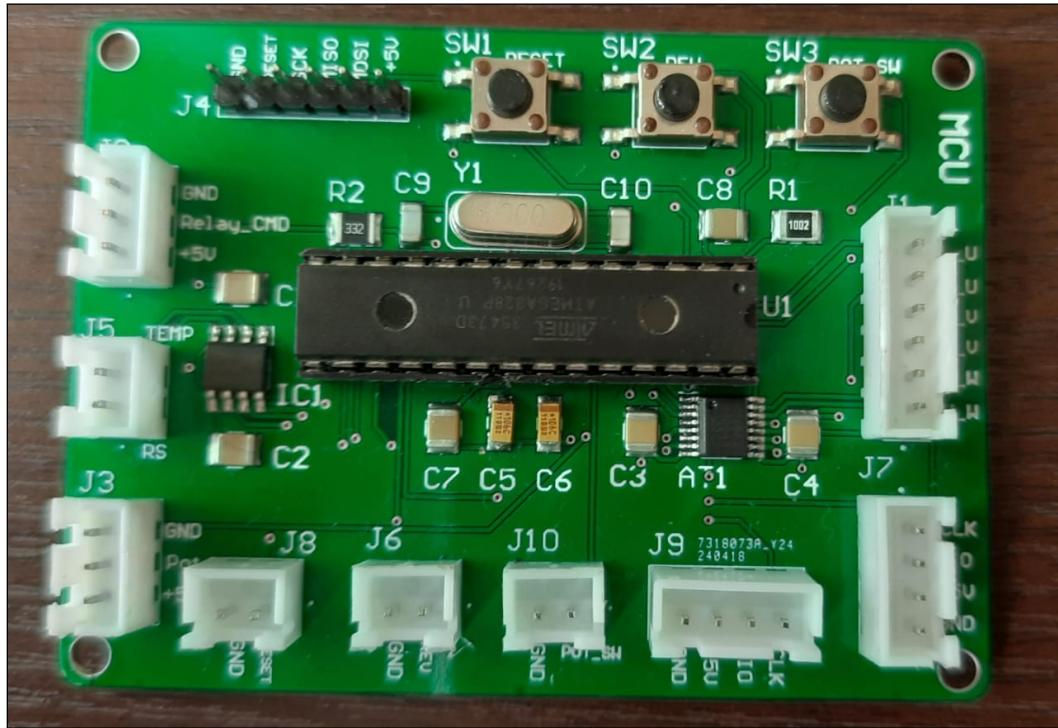


Figure 33: Soldered PCB of the MCU Circuit

4 Enclosure Design

4.1 Enclosure Assembly

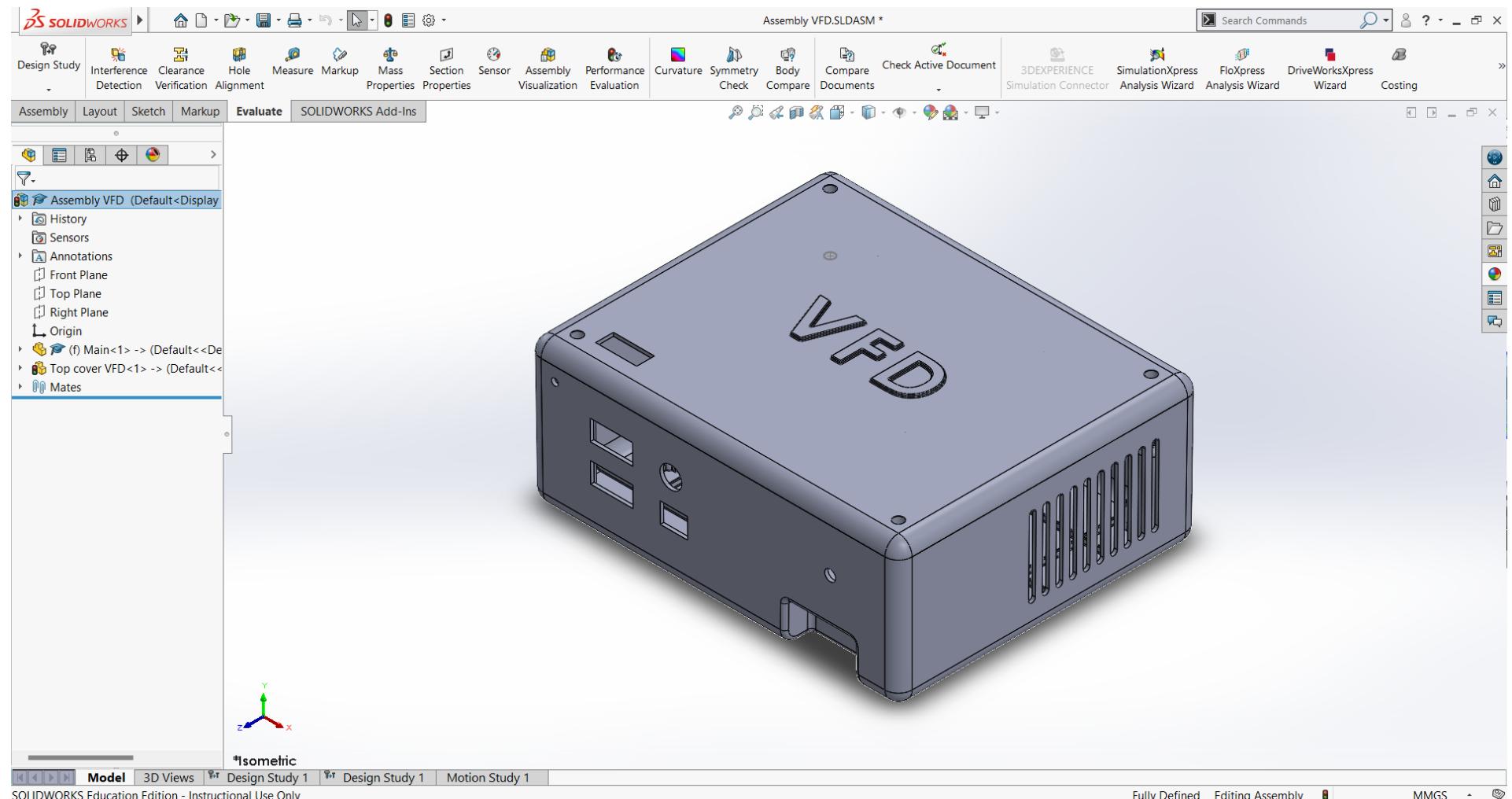


Figure 34: Isometric View

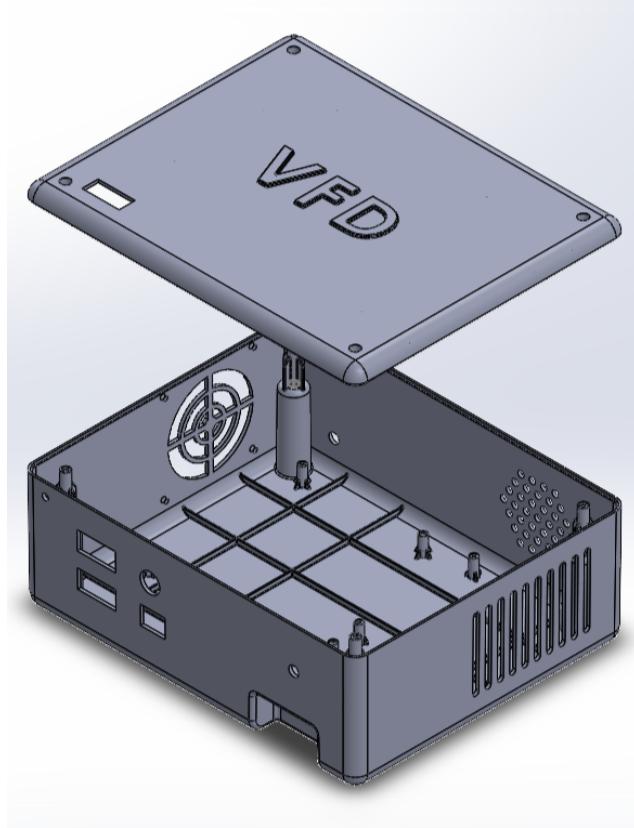


Figure 35: Exploded View - 1

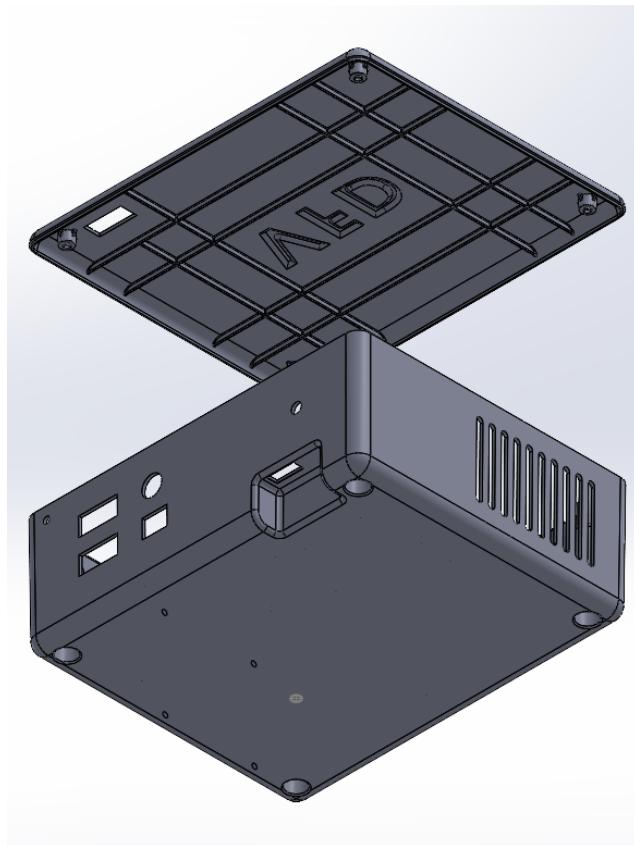


Figure 36: Exploded View - 2

4.2 Bottom Part

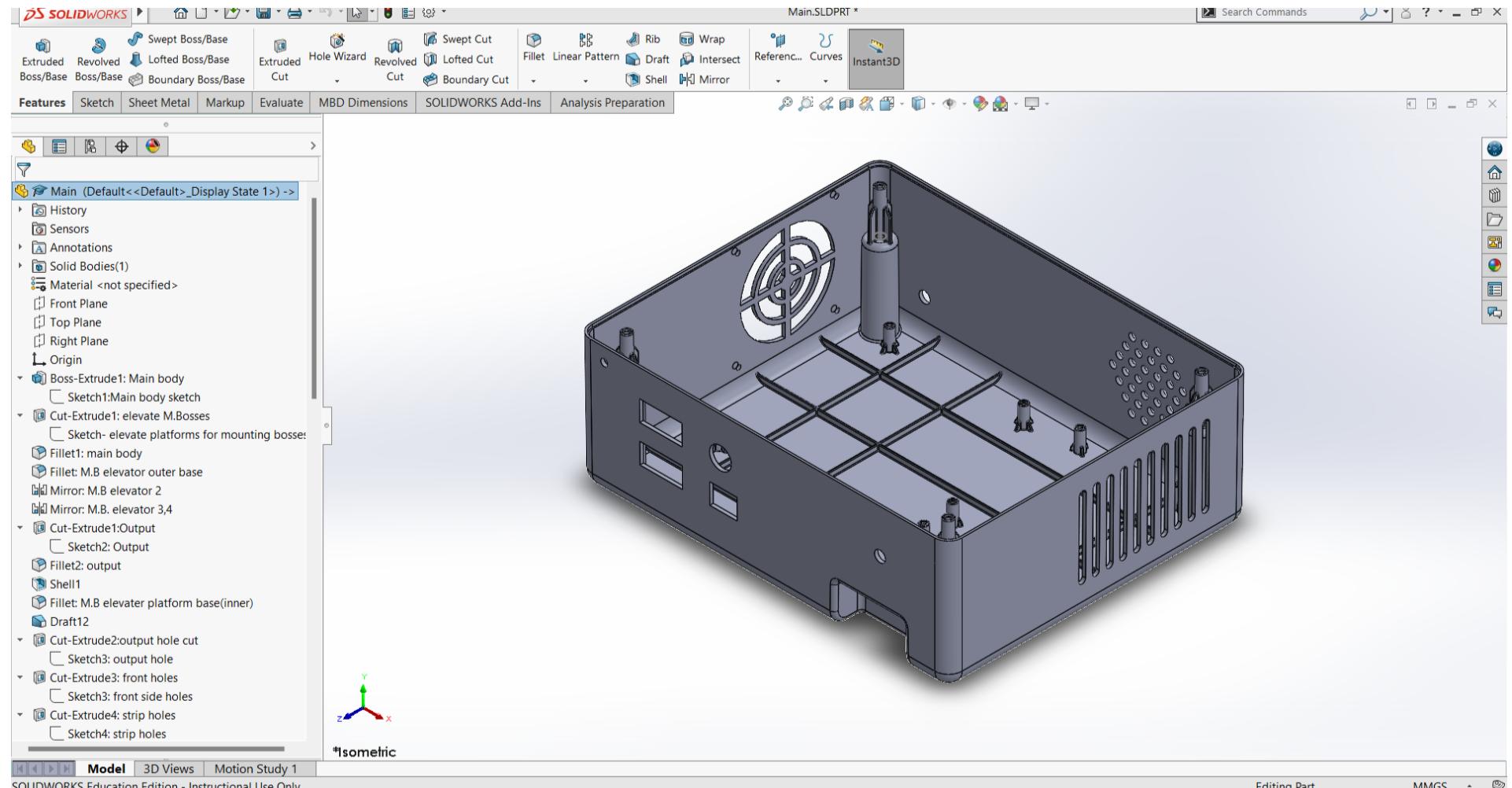


Figure 37: Isometric View

4.2.1 Bottom Part Mold Design

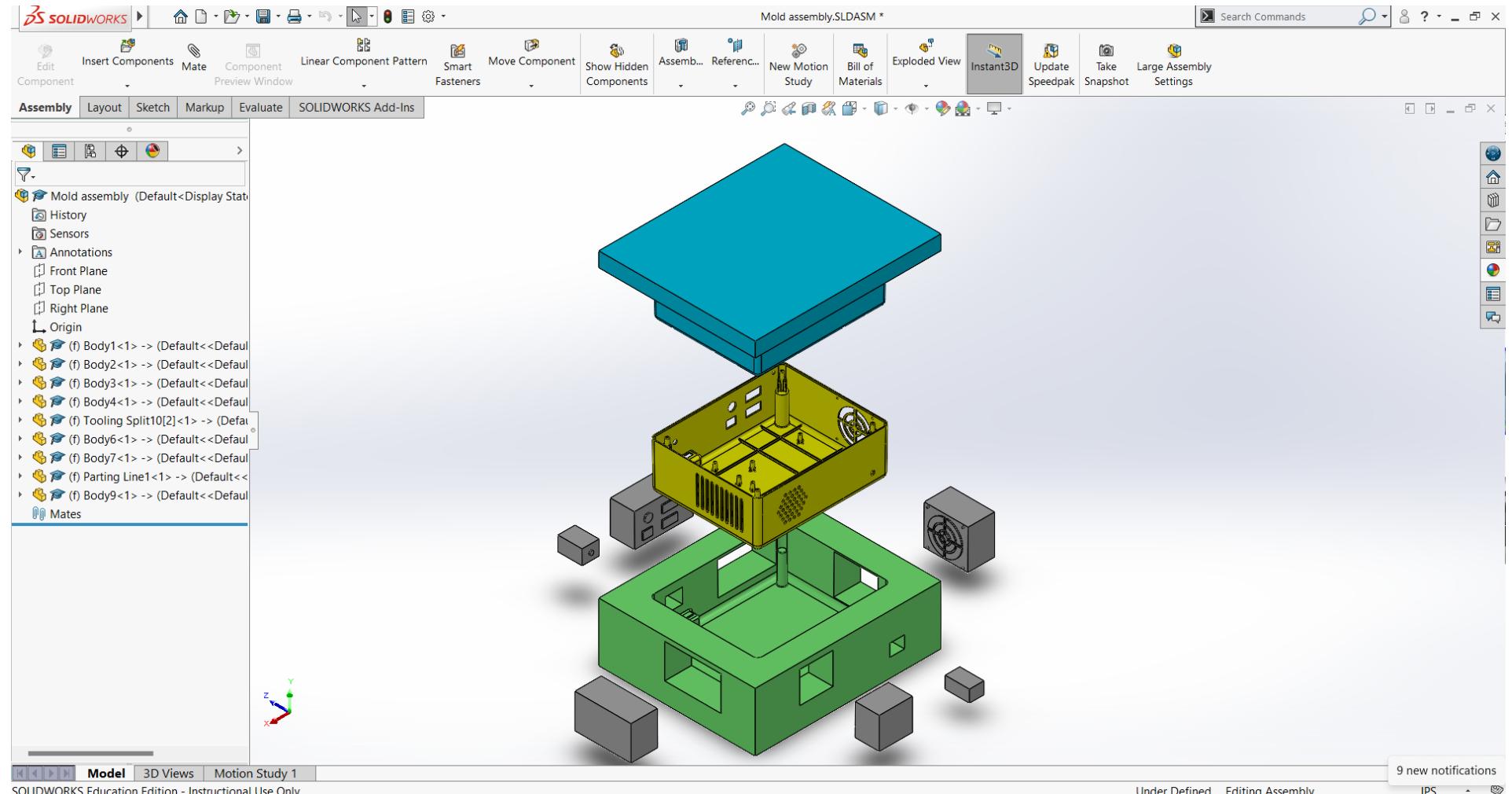


Figure 38: Mold Design Exploded View - 1

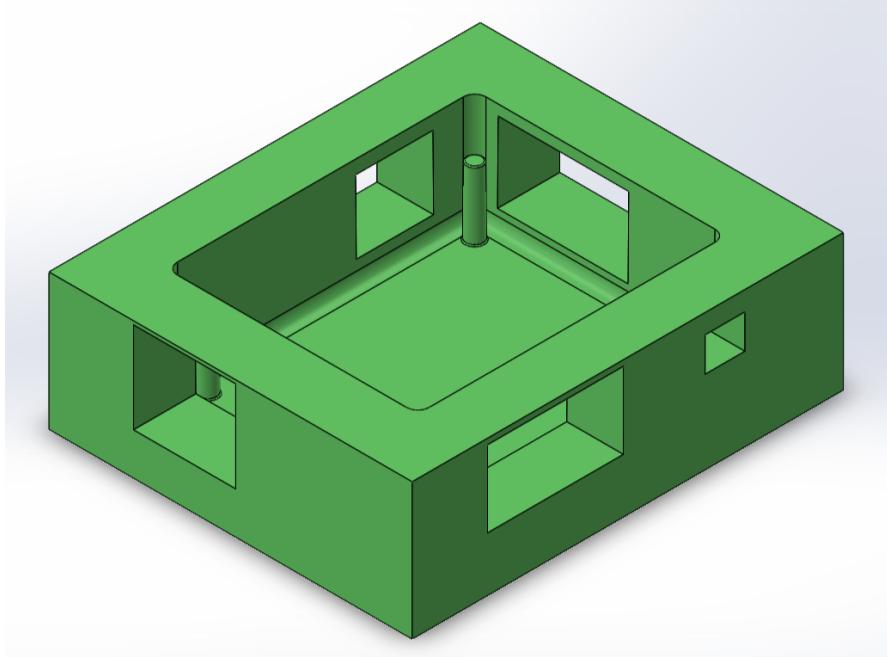


Figure 39: Mold Cavity

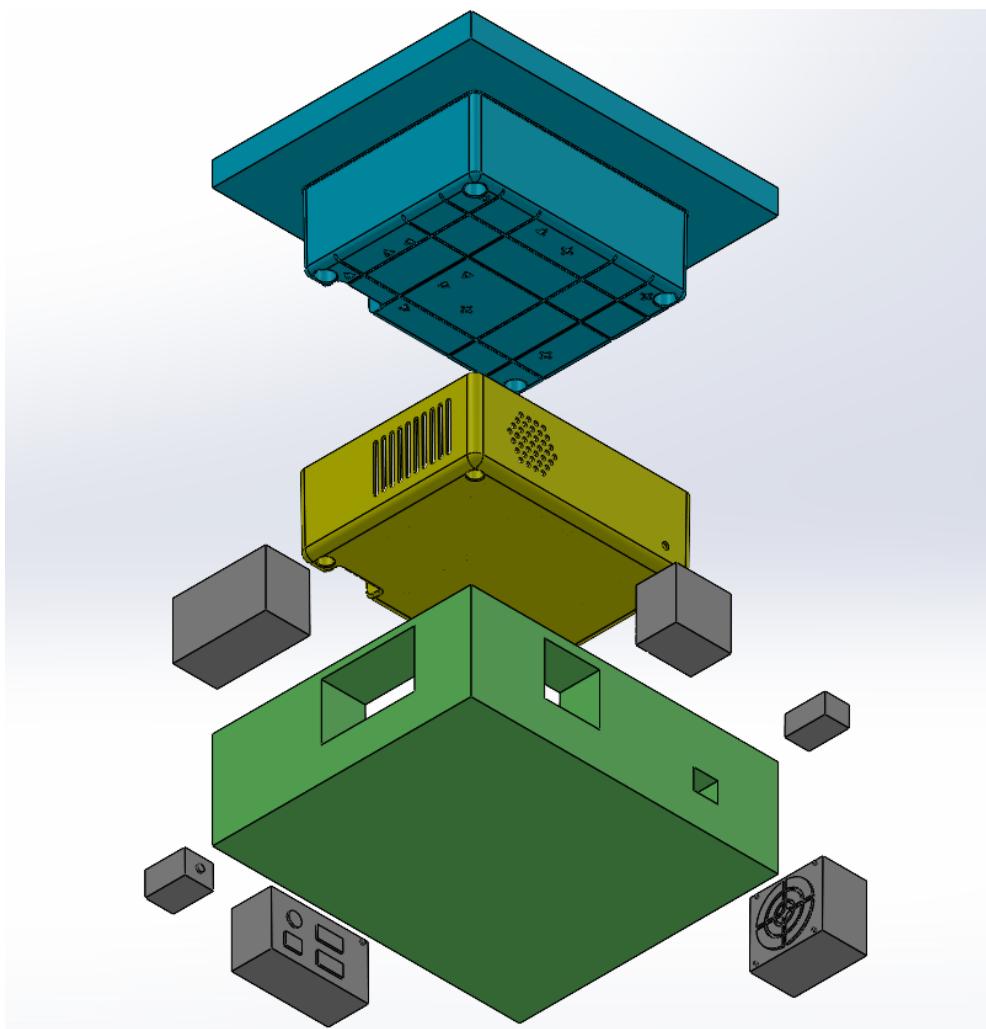


Figure 40: Mold Design Exploded View - 2

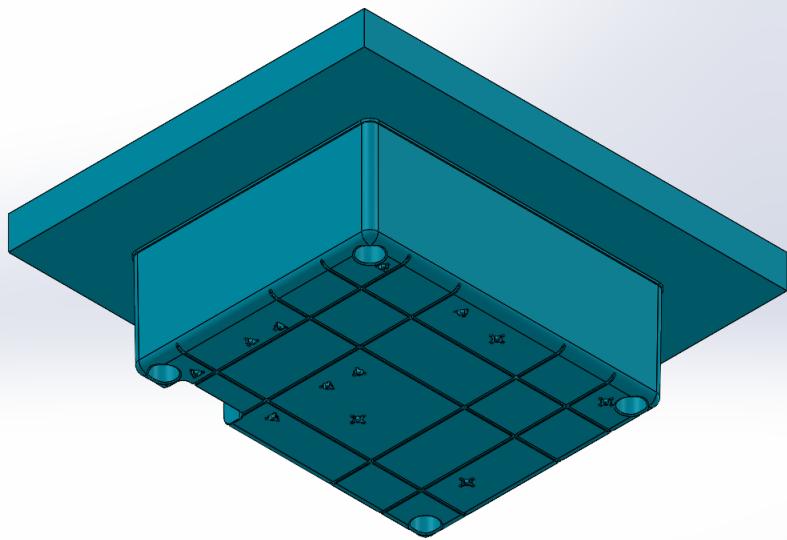
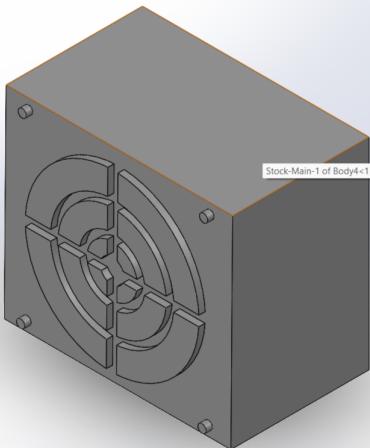
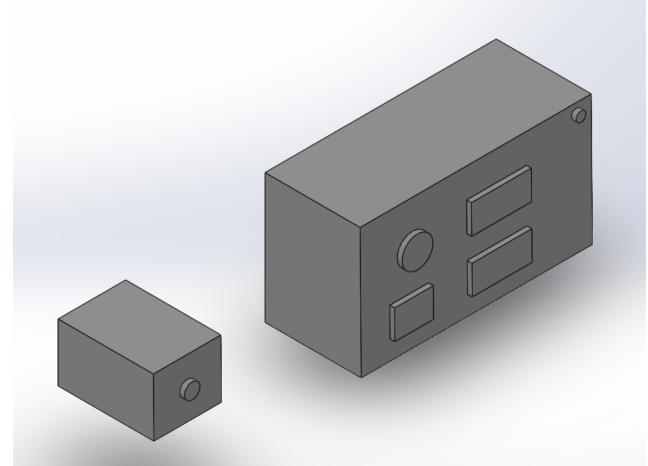


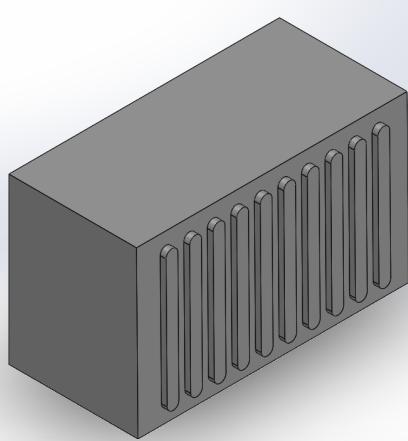
Figure 41: Core - 1



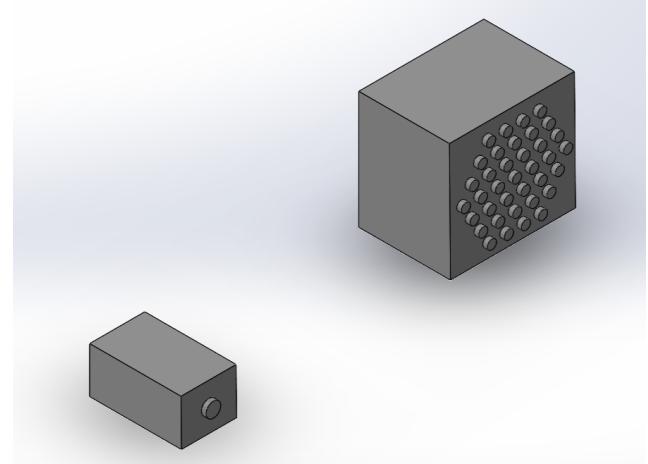
(a) Core - 2



(b) Core - 3,4



(c) Core - 5



(d) Core - 6,7

Figure 42: Cores of Bottom Part Mold

4.3 Top Part

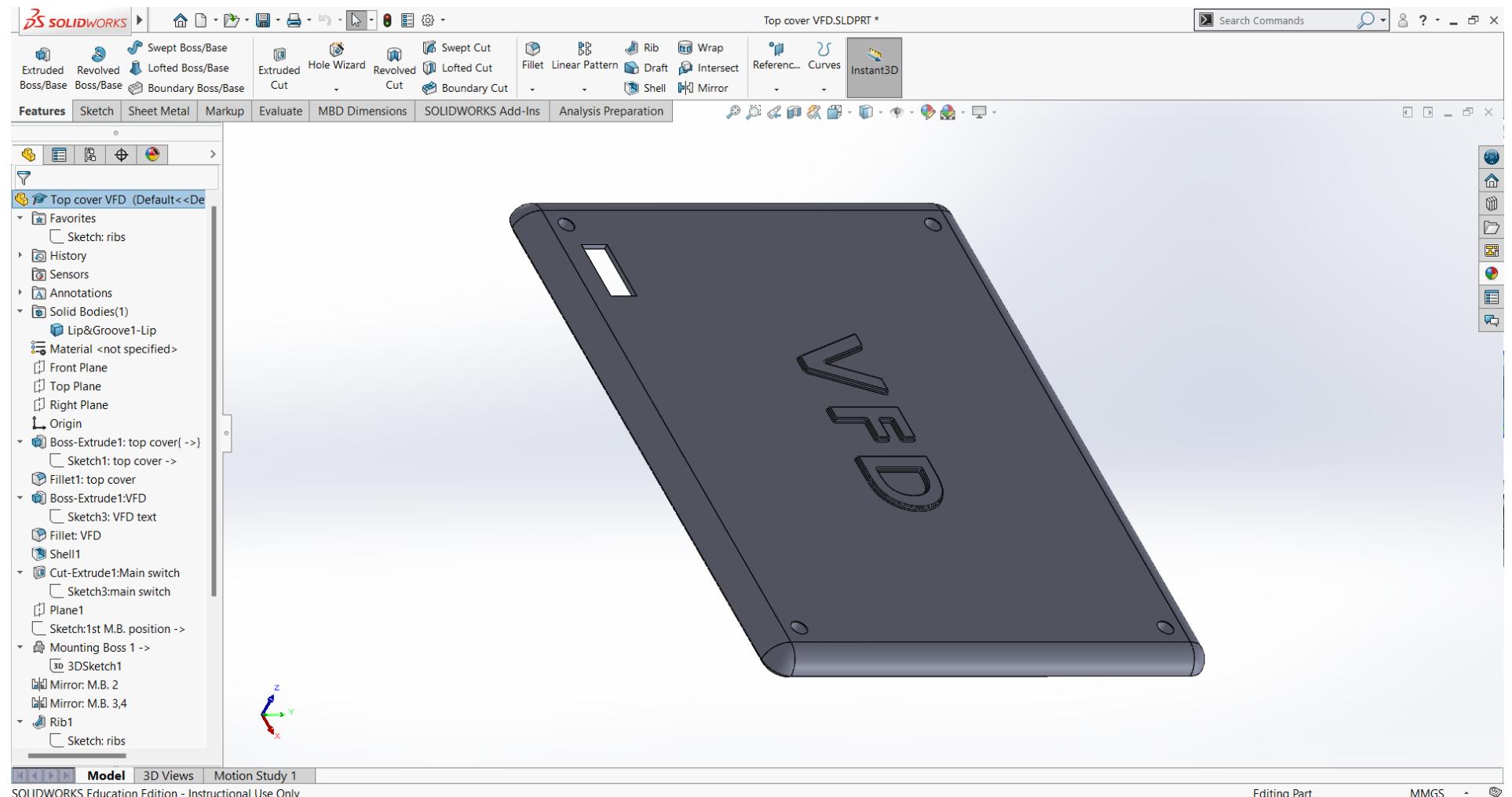


Figure 43: Isometric View

4.3.1 Top Part Mold Design

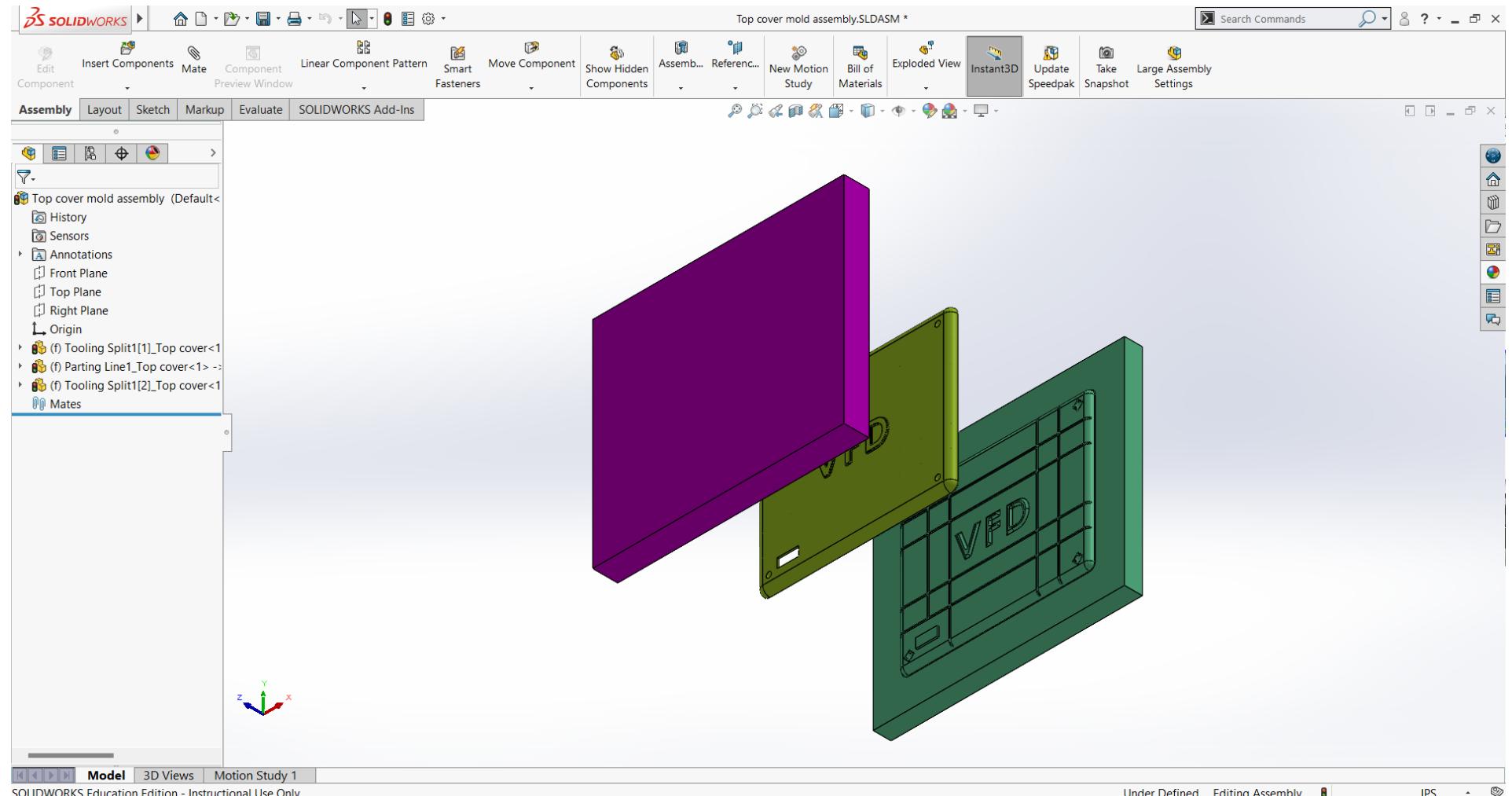


Figure 44: Mold Design Exploded View - 1

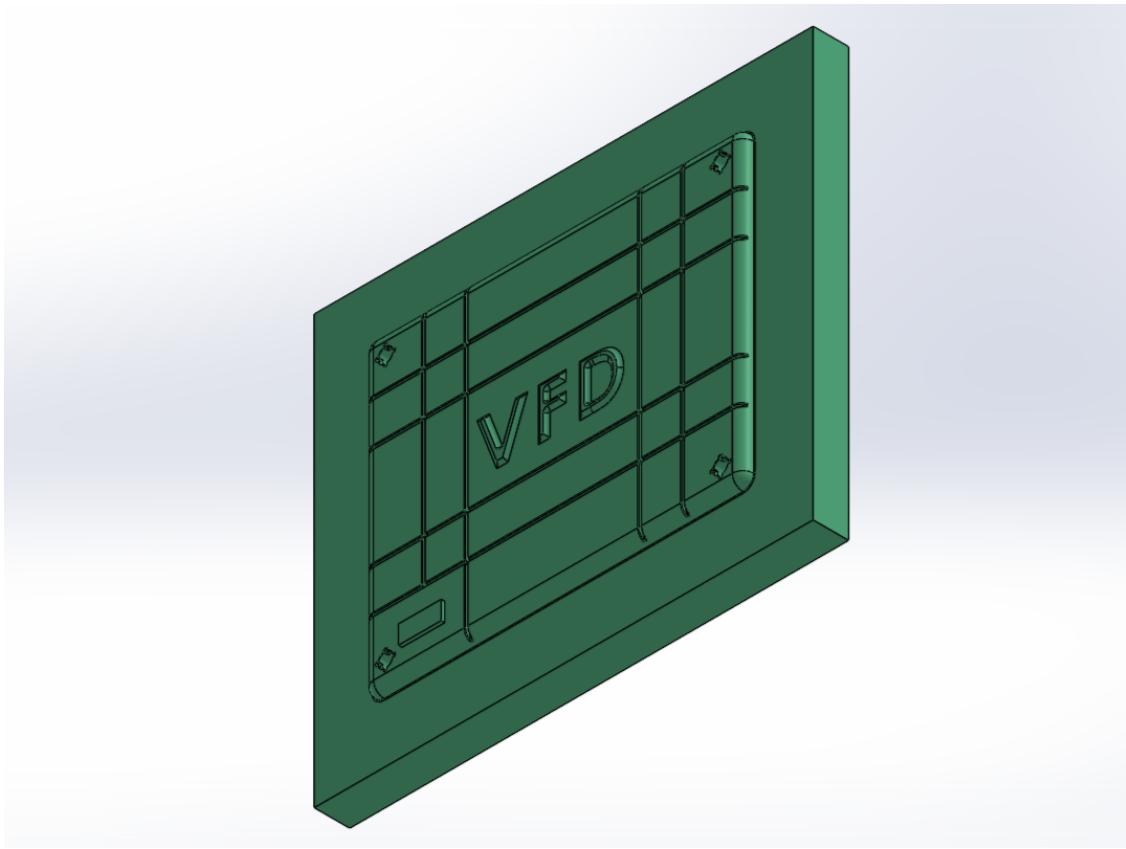


Figure 45: Mold Core

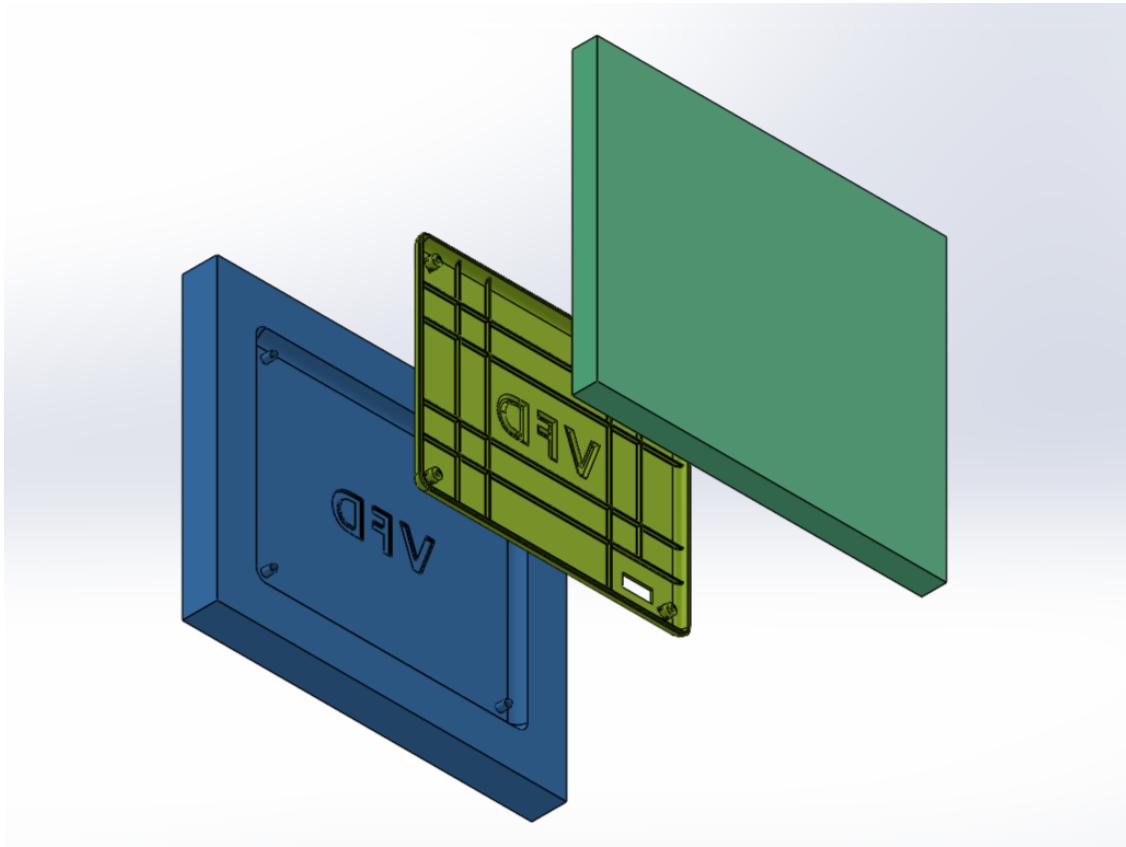


Figure 46: Mold Design Exploded View - 2

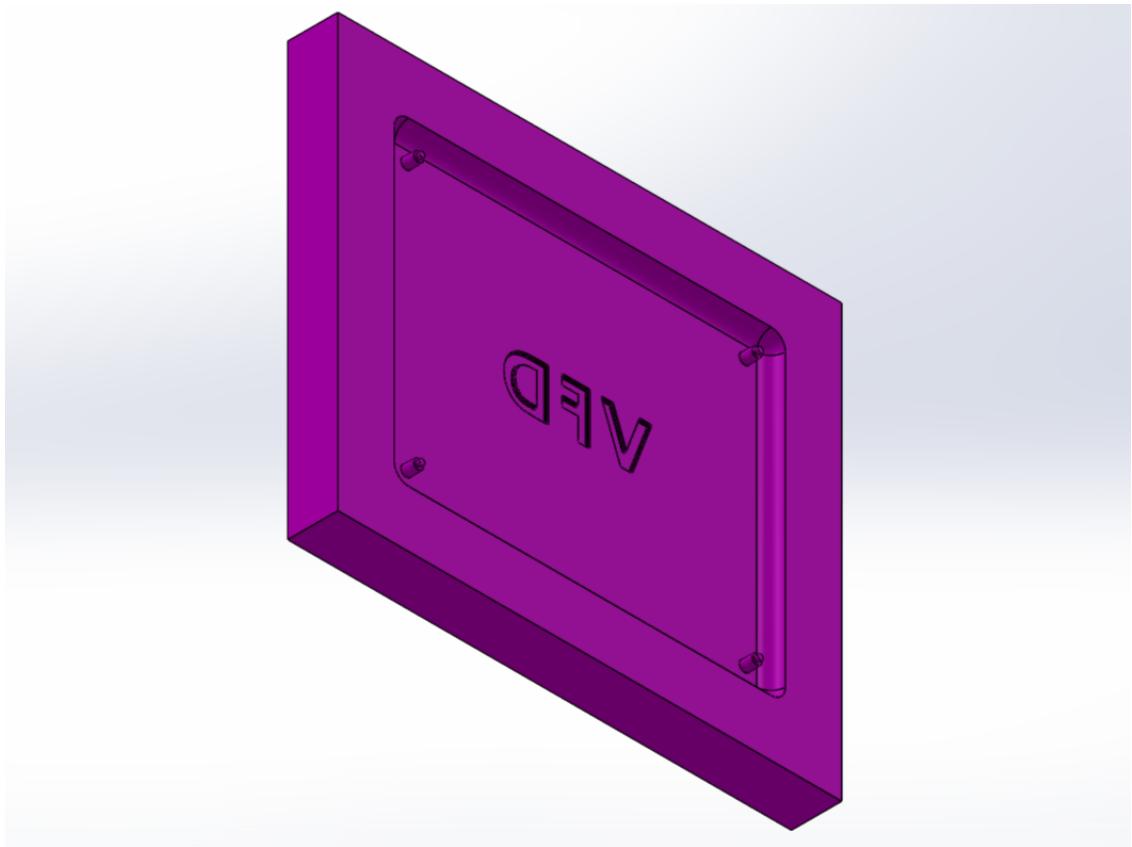


Figure 47: Mold Cavity

4.4 Material and Mass Properties

4.4.1 Mass Properties of The Bottom Part Using ABS Material

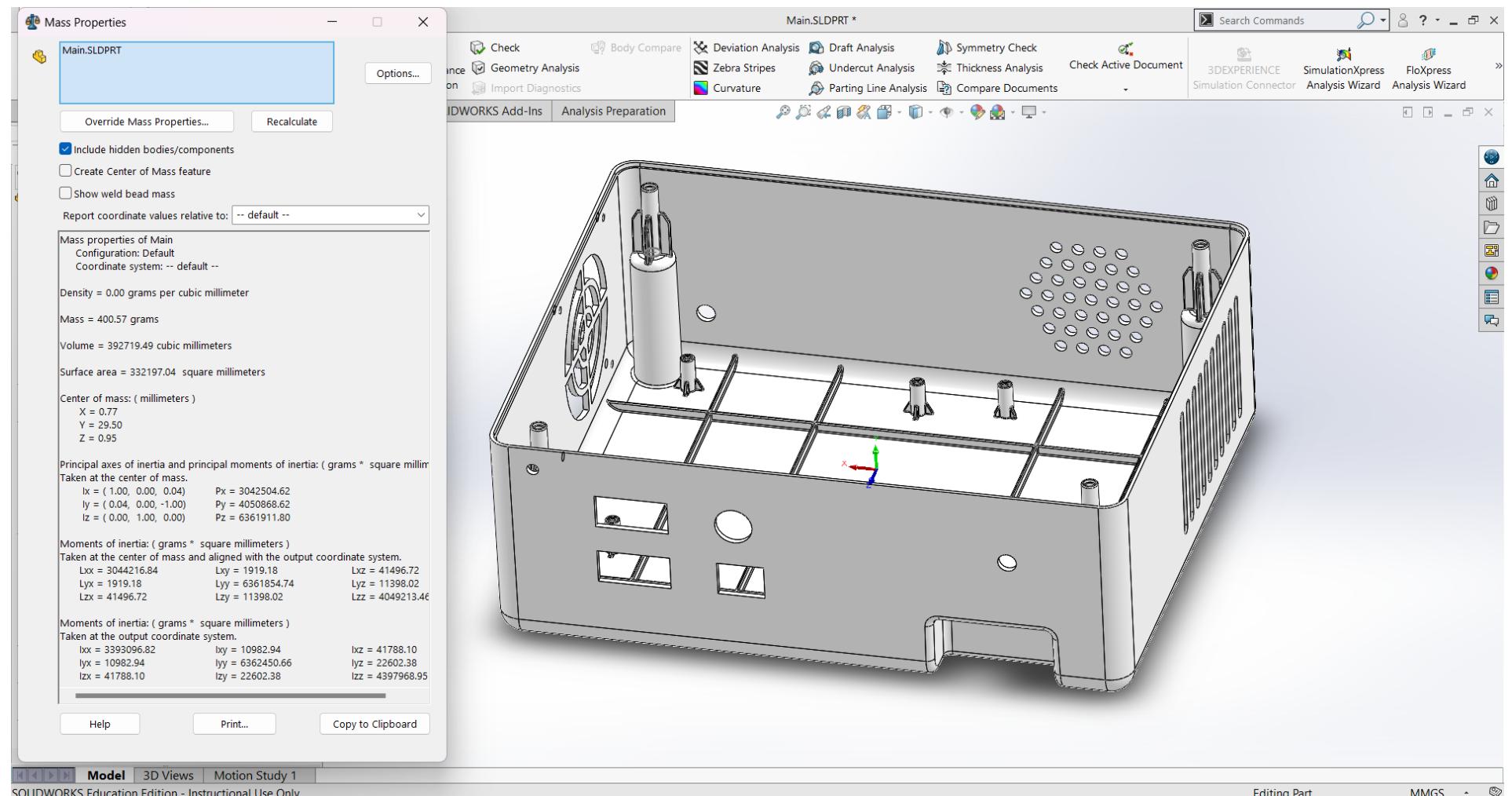


Figure 48: Mass Properties

4.4.2 Mass Properties of The Top Part Using ABS Material

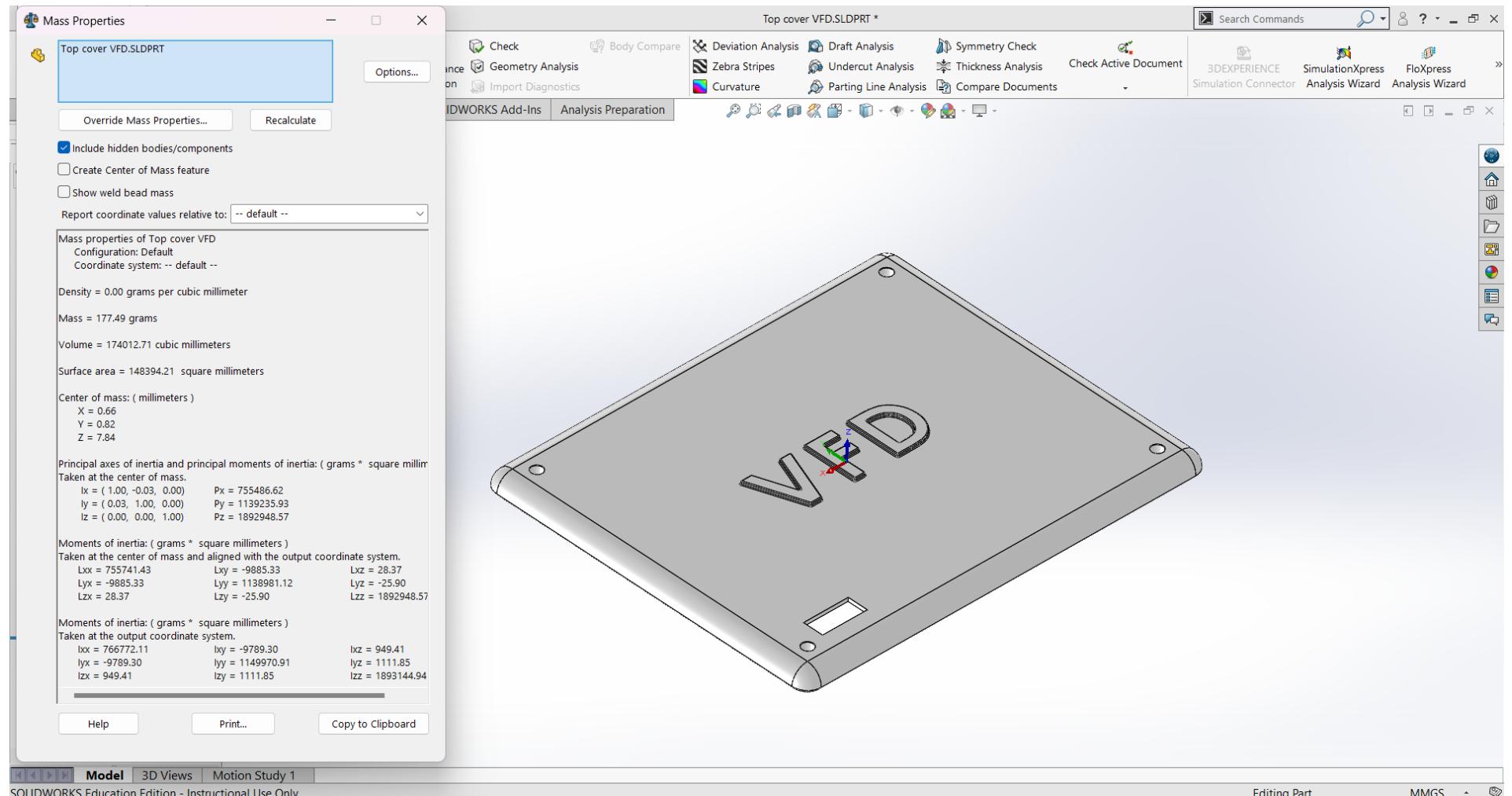
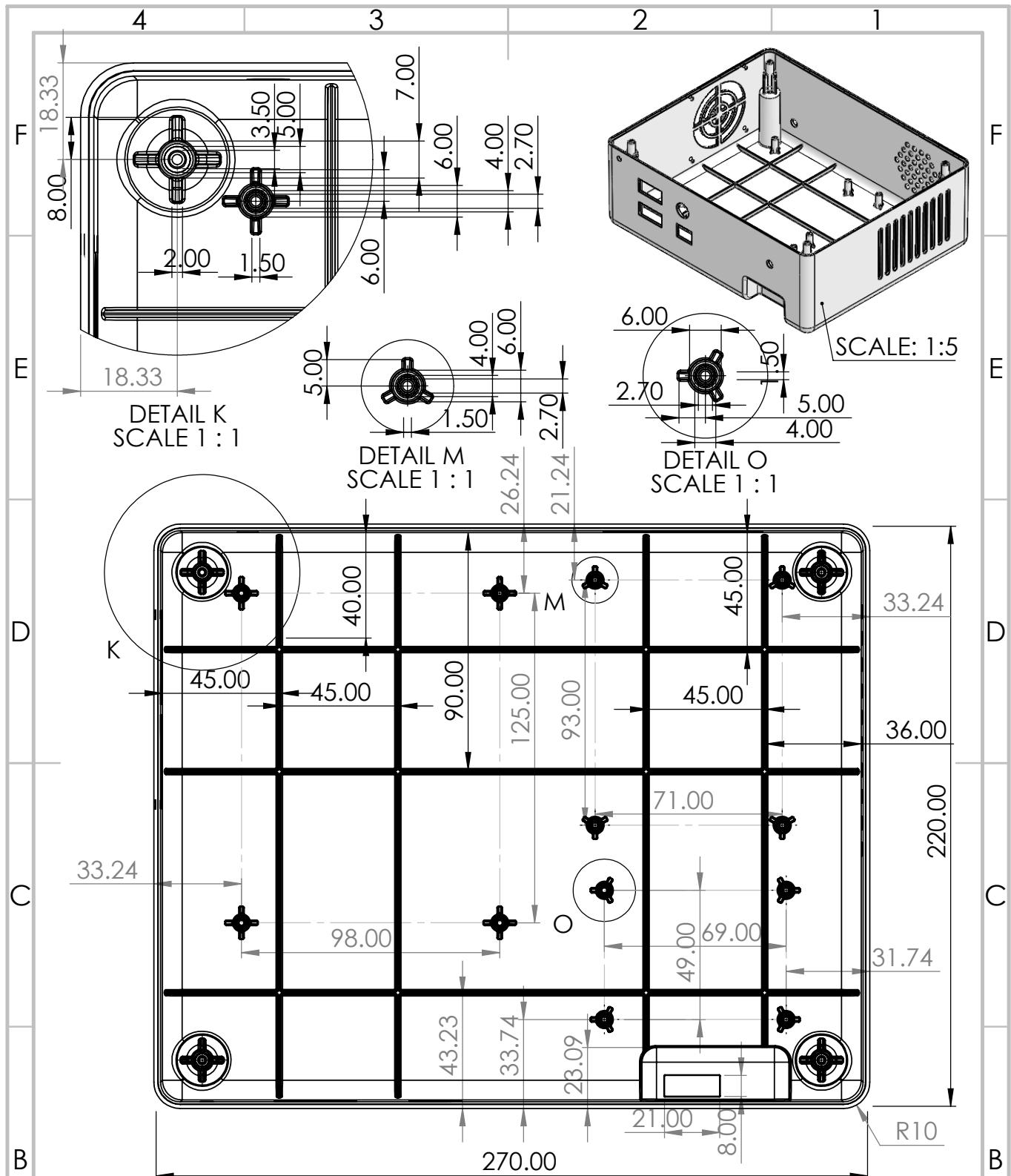
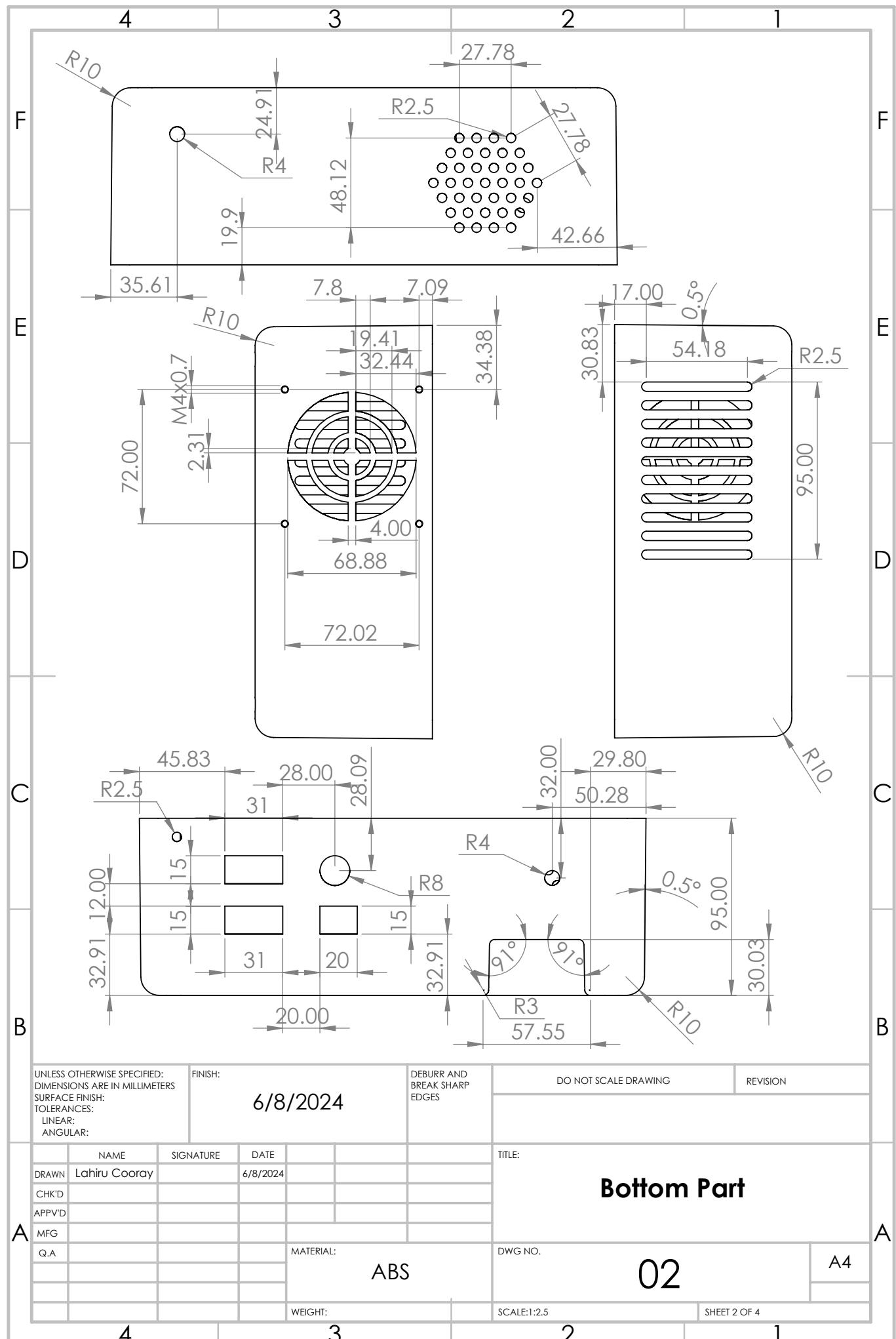


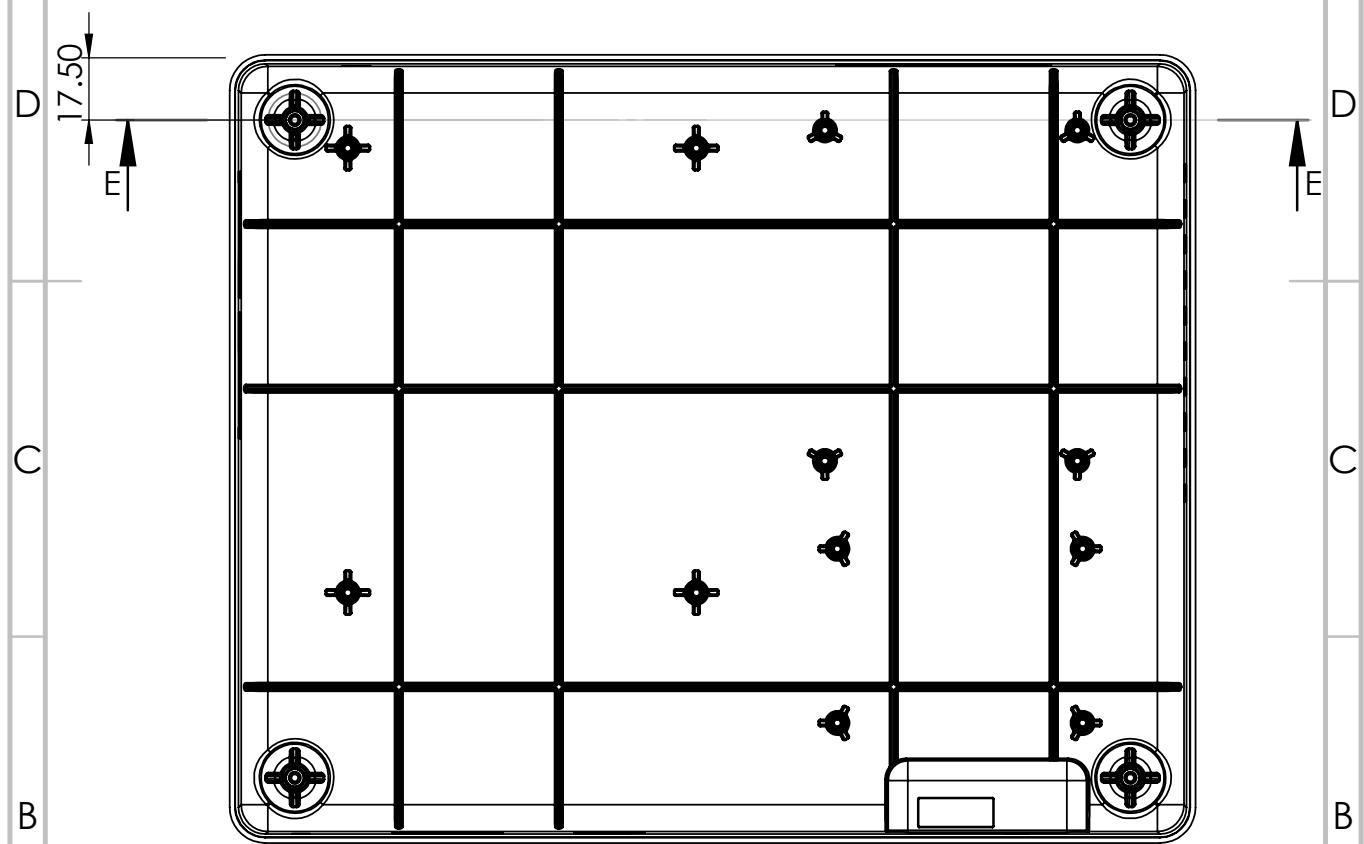
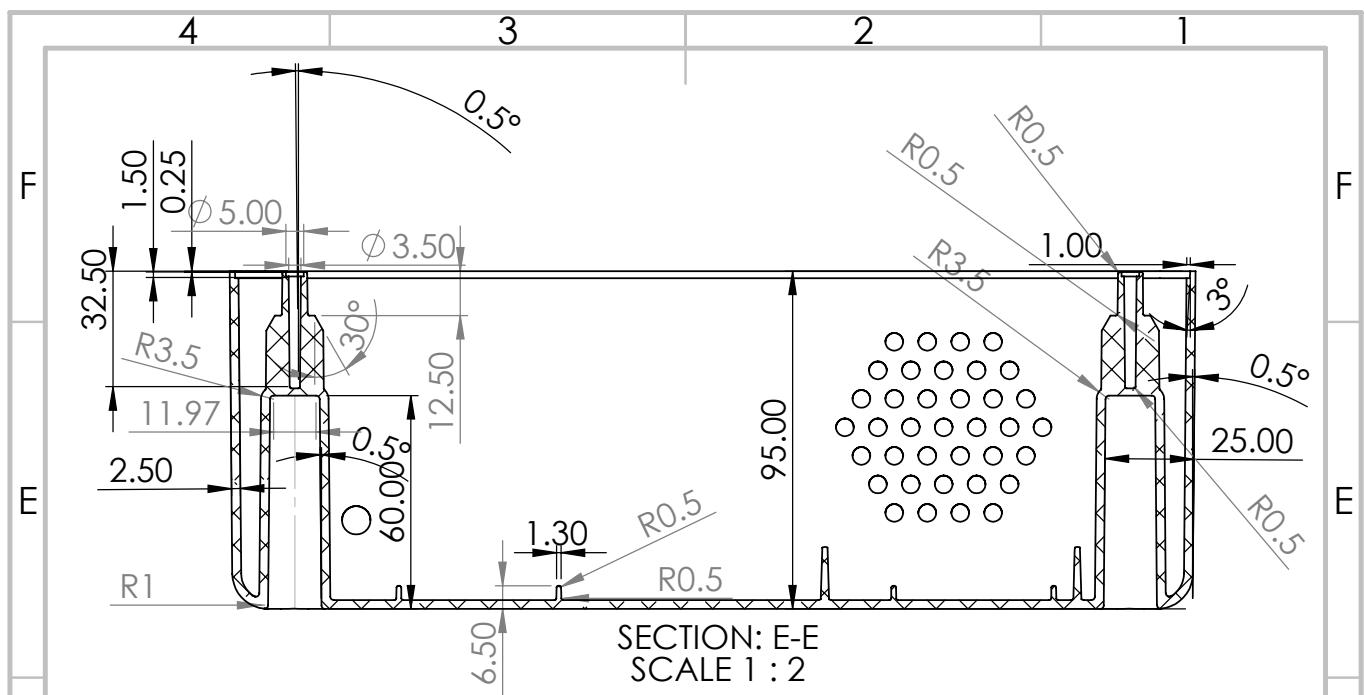
Figure 49: Mass Properties

5 Detailed Design Drawings

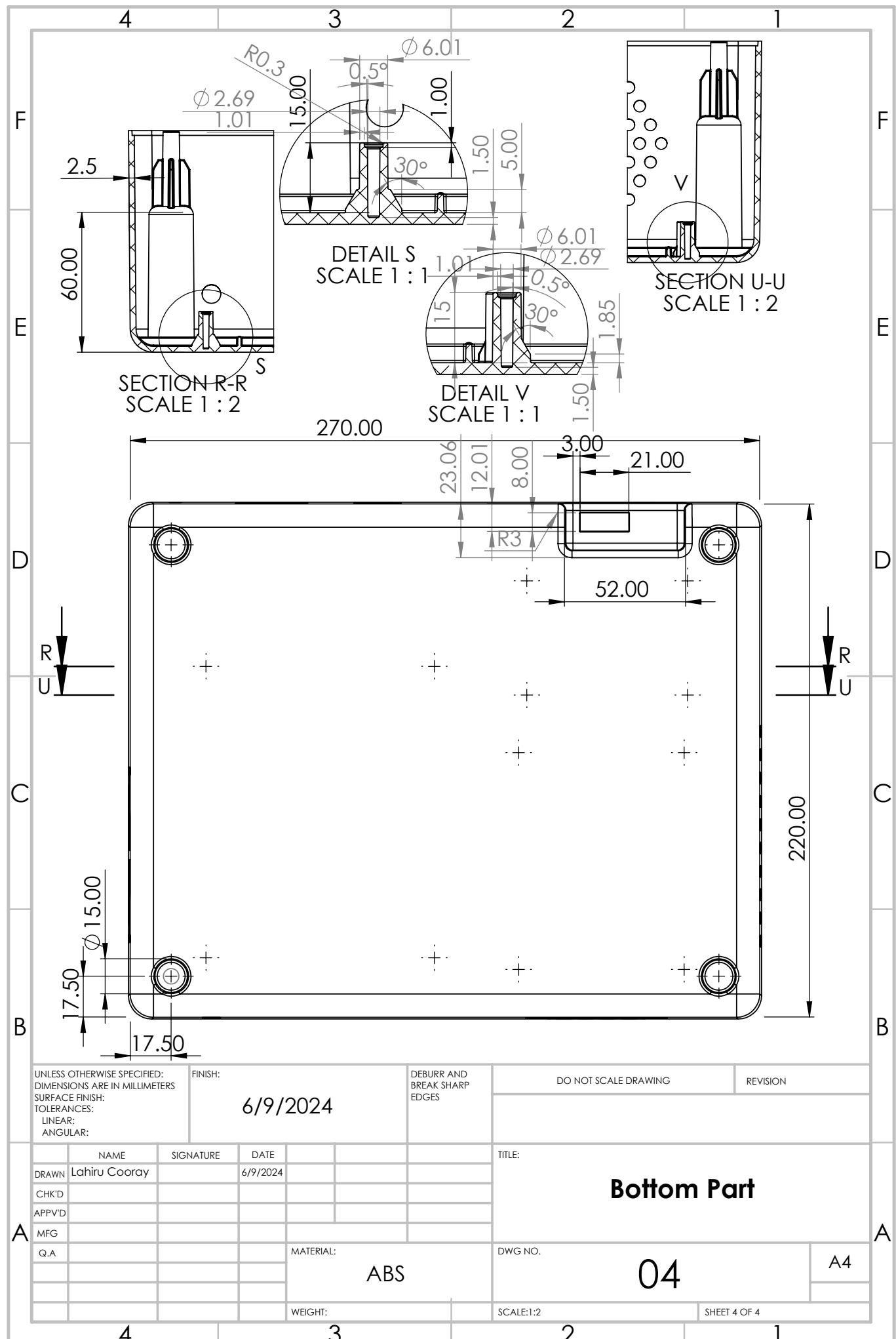


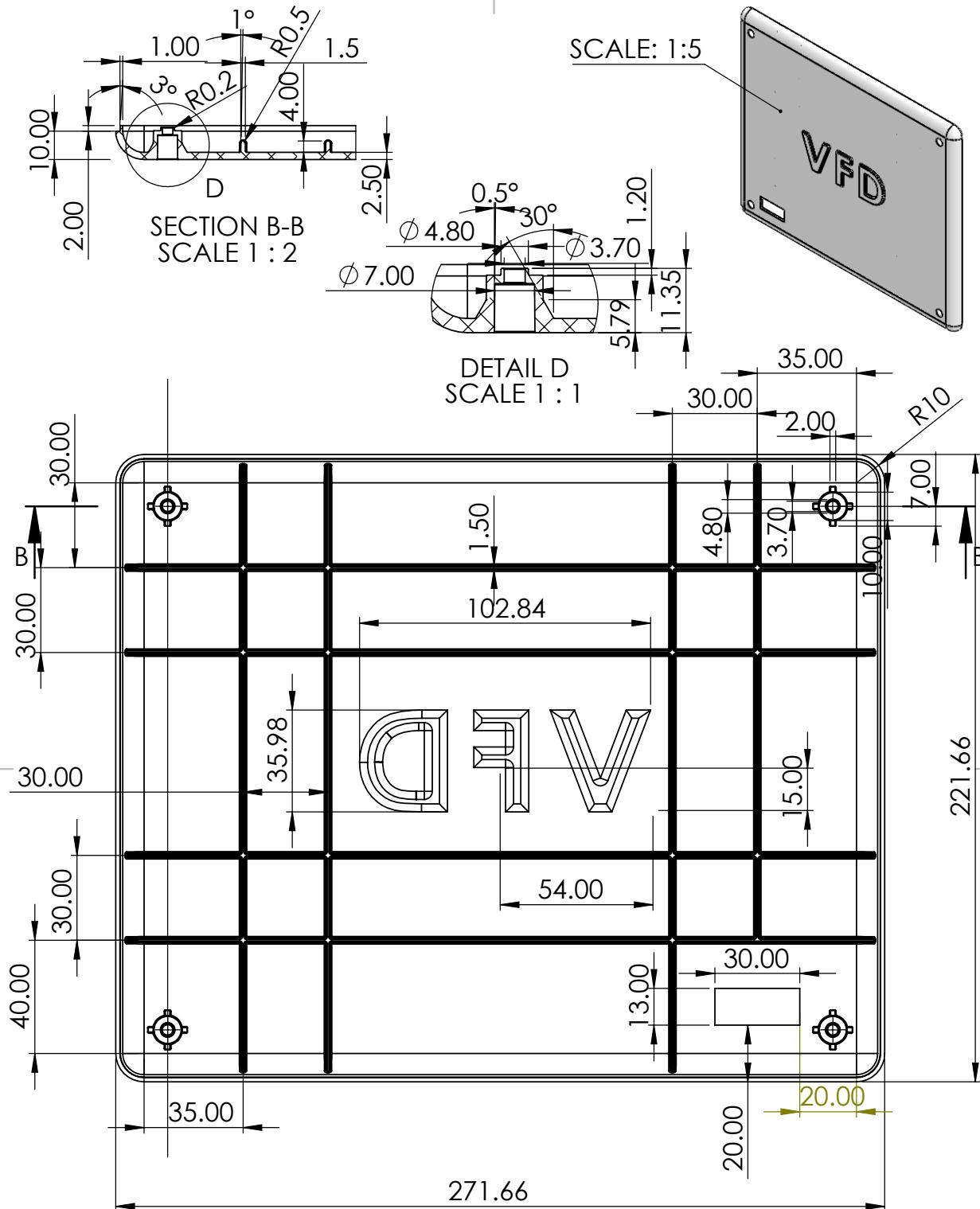
UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED: DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS SURFACE FINISH: TOLERANCES: LINEAR: ANGULAR:		FINISH: 6/8/2024			DEBURN AND BREAK SHARP EDGES	DO NOT SCALE DRAWING	REVISION
A	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE			TITLE: Bottom Part	
	DRAWN	Lahiru Cooray	6/8/2024				
	CHK'D						
	APPV'D						
	MFG						
	Q.A						
MATERIAL: ABS				DWG NO.	01	A4	
				SCALE:1:2	SHEET 1 OF 4		
1	3	2	1				





UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED: DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS SURFACE FINISH: TOLERANCES: LINEAR: ANGULAR:		FINISH: 6/8/2024	DEBURR AND BREAK SHARP EDGES	DO NOT SCALE DRAWING	REVISION
DRAWN	NAME Lahiru Cooray	SIGNATURE 6/8/2024	DATE		
CHK'D				TITLE: Bottom Part	
APPV'D					
MFG					
Q.A					
		MATERIAL: ABS	DWG NO. 03	A4	
		WEIGHT:	SCALE:1:2	SHEET 3 OF 4	





UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:
DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS
SURFACE FINISH:
TOLERANCES:
LINEAR:
ANGULAR:

FINISH:

DEBURR AND BREAK SHARP EDGES

DO NOT SCALE DRAWING

REVISION

	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE	
DRAWN	Lahiru Cooray		6/9/2024	
CHK'D				
APPV'D				
MFG				
Q.A				MATERIAL:
				ABS
				WEIGHT:

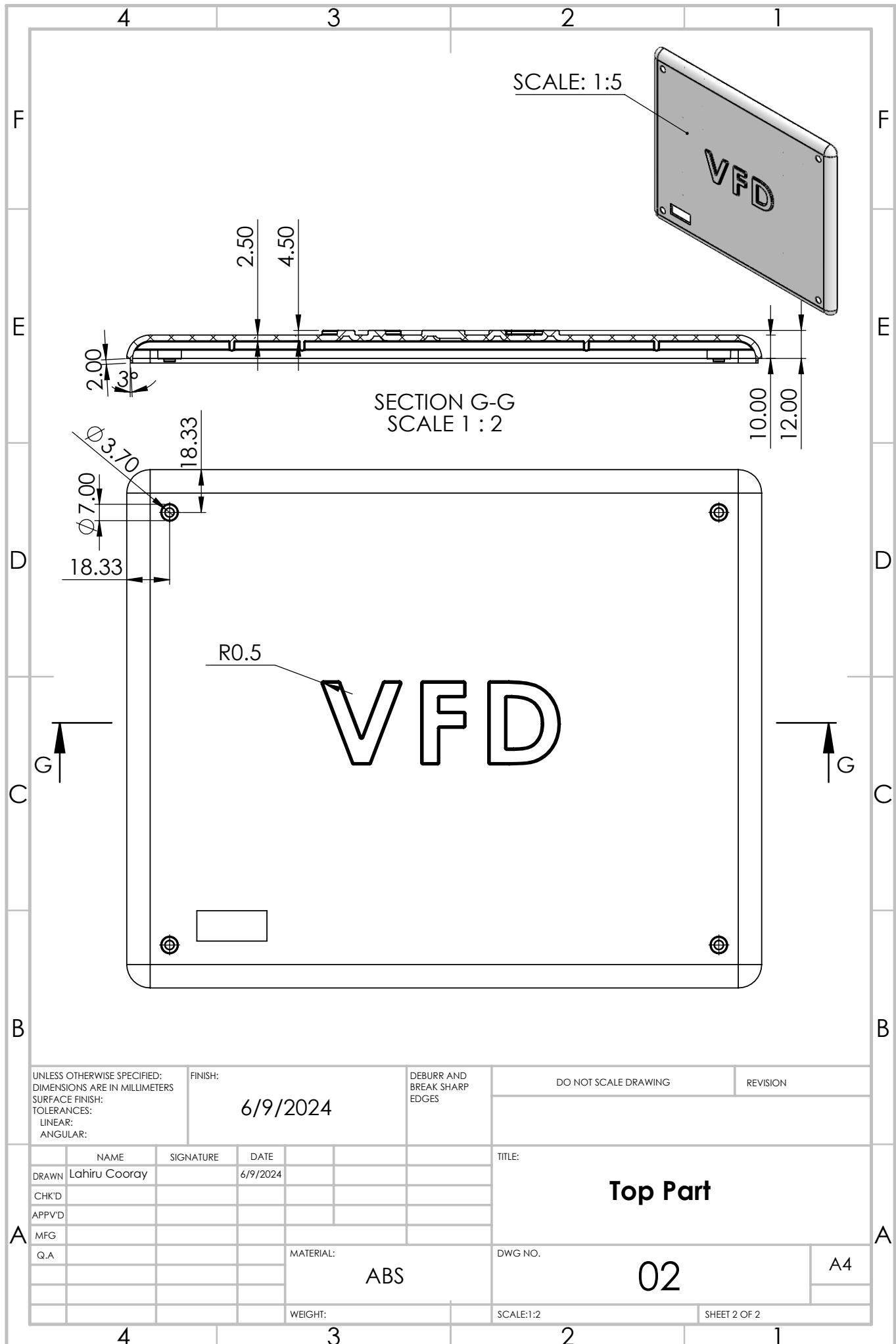
TITLE

Top Part

DWG NO

01

A4



6 Photographs of the Physically Built Enclosure



Figure 50: 3D printed Bottom and Top parts



Figure 51: 3D printed Bottom Part

7 Photographs of the Circuit Integration

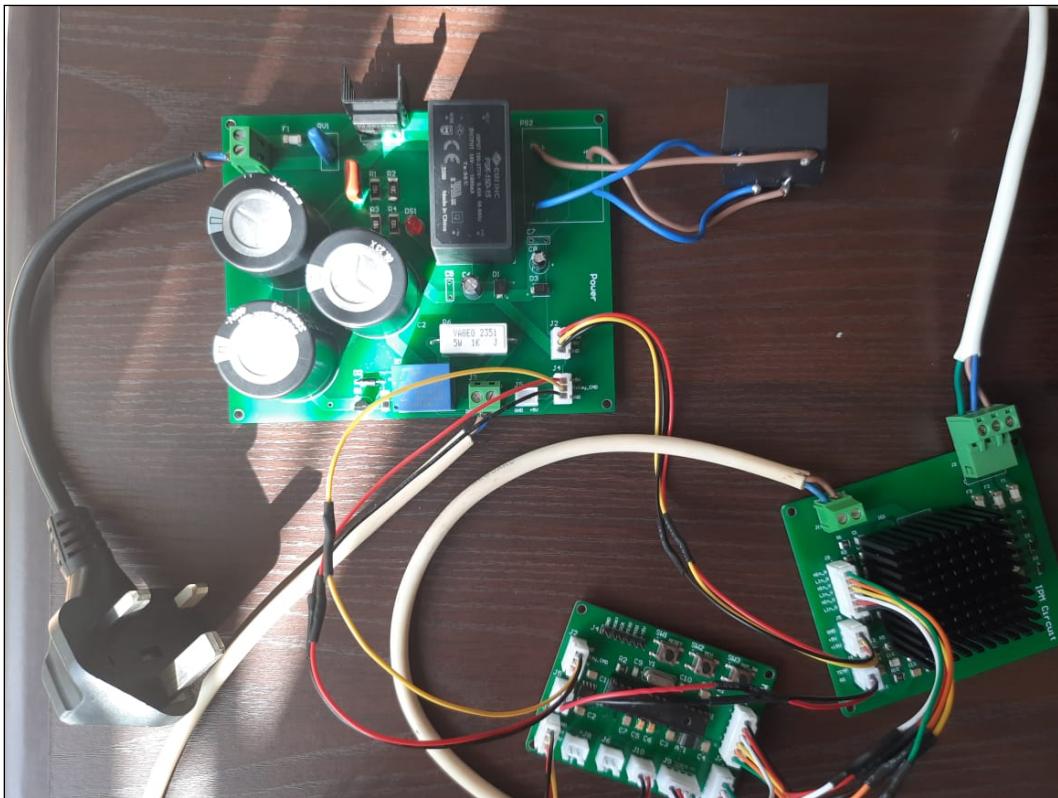


Figure 52: Power Circuit and IPM Circuit

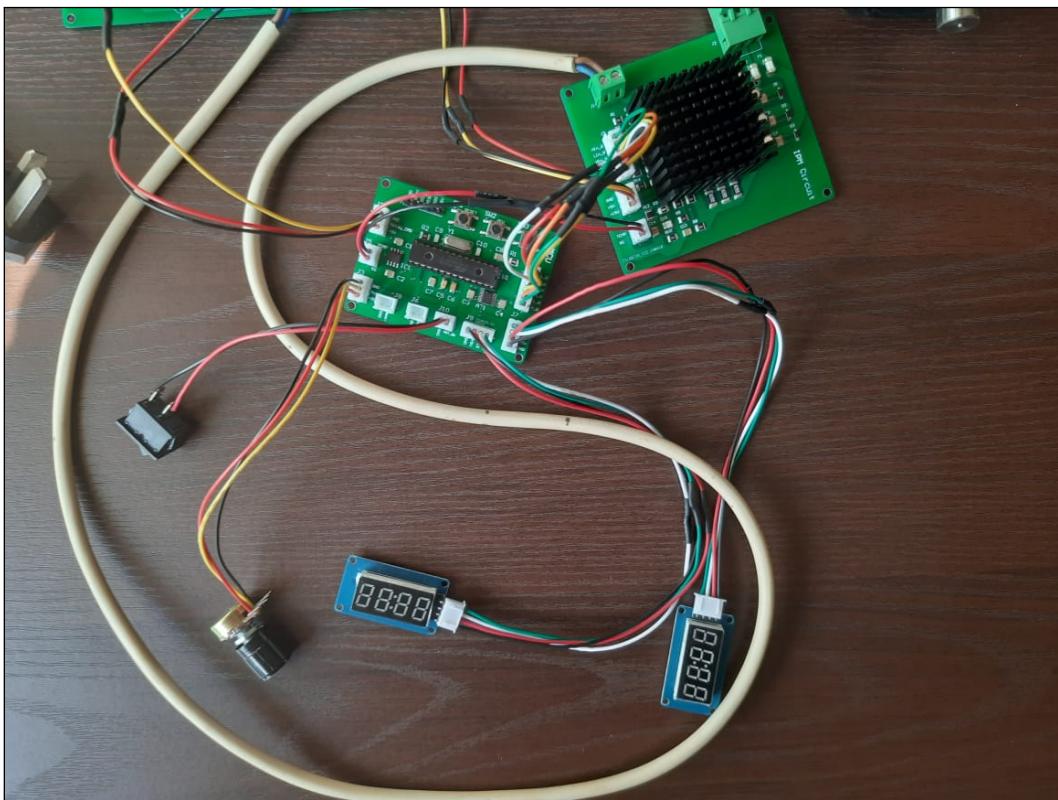


Figure 53: IPM Circuit and MCU Circuit

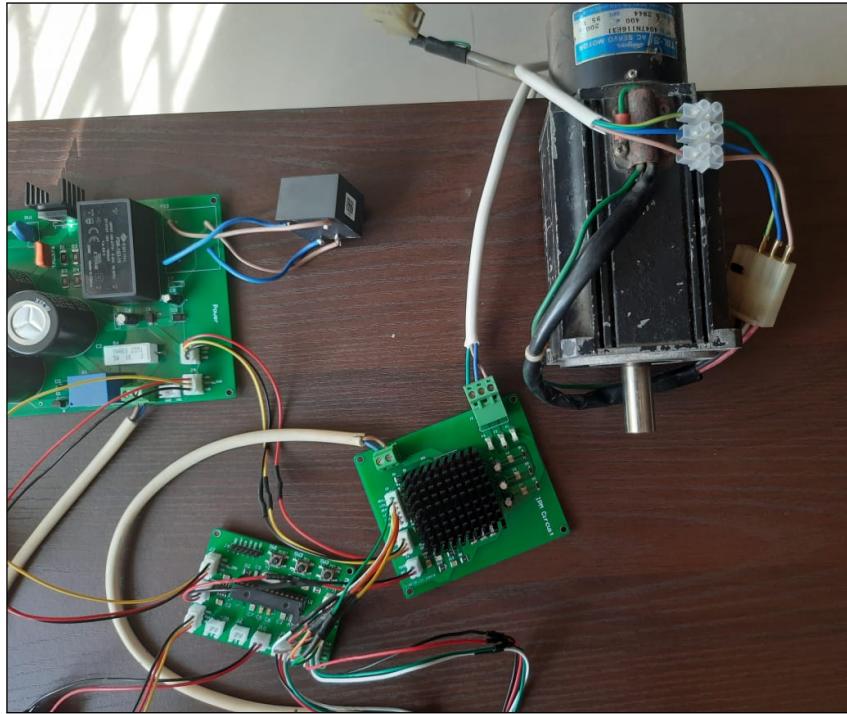


Figure 54: IPM Circuit and the Stepper Motor

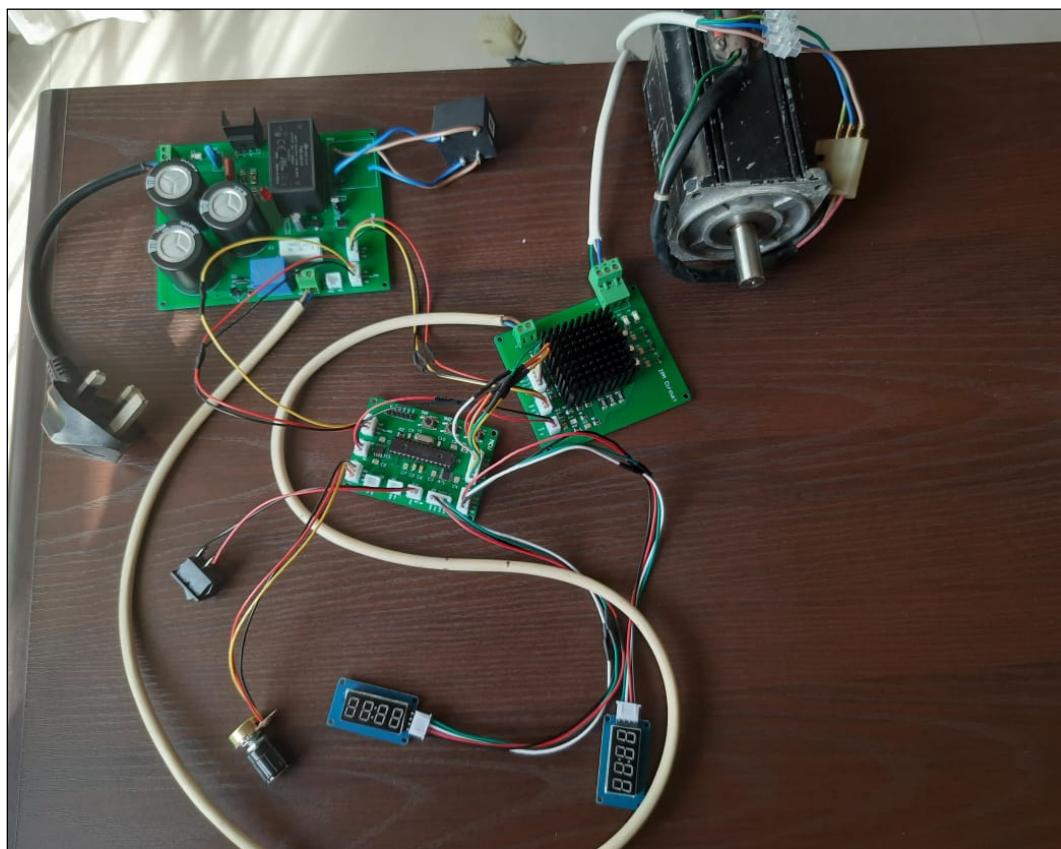


Figure 55: Whole Circuit

8 Detailed Programming Information

8.1 Arduino Code for The Micro-controller

```
1  /* MIT License
2
3  Original code by Matan Pazi
4  Copyright (c) 2023 Matan Pazi
5
6  Modifications by Lahiru Cooray
7  Copyright (c) 2024 Lahiru Cooray
8
9  Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy
10 of this software and associated documentation files (the "Software"), to
11 deal
12 in the Software without restriction, including without limitation the rights
13 to use, copy, modify, merge, publish, distribute, sublicense, and/or sell
14 copies of the Software, and to permit persons to whom the Software is
15 furnished to do so, subject to the following conditions:
16
17 The above copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in
18 all copies or substantial portions of the Software.
19
20 THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED "AS IS", WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR
21 IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY,
22 FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND NONINFRINGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE
23 AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT HOLDERS BE LIABLE FOR ANY CLAIM, DAMAGES OR OTHER
24 LIABILITY, WHETHER IN AN ACTION OF CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM
25 ,
26 OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOFTWARE OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN
27 THE SOFTWARE. */
28
29 #define _DISABLE_ARDUINO_TIMERO_INTERRUPT_HANDLER_
30 #include <wiring.c>
31 #include <stdint.h>
32 #include <avr/interrupt.h>
33 #include <avr/io.h>
34 #include <EEPROM.h>
35 #include <TM1637Display.h>
36
37 #define CLK1 12
38 #define DIO1 2
39 #define CLK2 7
40 #define DIO2 4
41 #define CURR_INPUT A0
42 #define POT_INPUT A2
43 #define THREE_PH 0
44 #define PWM_RUNNING 2
45 #define PWM_NOT_RUNNING 1
46 #define PWM_NOT_SET 0
47 #define DEADTIME_ADD 5
48 #define DEADTIME_SUB 2
```

```

47 #define SHORT_CLICK      10
48 #define LONG_CLICK       500
49 #define POT_SWITCH_SAMPLES 2
50 #define BOOT_CAP_CHARGE_TIME   160
51 #define RELAY_CHARGE_WAIT     2000000
52 #define DISPLAY_BLINK       100
53 #define MIN_PWM_VAL        6
54 #define BUTTON_IS_PRESSED    (!((PINC >> PINC4) & 1))
55 #define POT_SWITCH_IS_ON     (!((PINC >> PINC3) & 1))

56
57 const uint8_t THREE_PHASE[] = {
58     SEG_A | SEG_B | SEG_C | SEG_D | SEG_G ,
59     SEG_A | SEG_B | SEG_E | SEG_F | SEG_G ,
60     SEG_B | SEG_C | SEG_E | SEG_F | SEG_G ,
61     0,
62 };
63 const uint8_t SPACE[] = {
64     0,
65 };

66
67 const float Sine[] = {125.0,179.0,223.0,246.0,246.0,223.0,179.0,
68 125.0,71.0,27.0,6.0,6.0,27.0,71.0,125.0};
69 const uint8_t Sine_Len = 15;
70 const uint8_t Min_Freq = 20;
71 const uint8_t Max_Freq = 120;
72 const uint16_t Base_Freq = 1041;
73 const float Min_Amp = 0.1;
74 const float Max_Amp = 1.0;
75 const float V_f = 1.66667; // V/f value. 200Vac/120Hz for the motor we test
    the VFD on
76 const float VBus = 230.0;
77 bool Phase_Config = 0;
78 bool Config_Editable = 0;
79 int16_t Sine_Used[] = {125,179,223,246,246,223,179,125,71,27,6,6,27,71,125};
80 uint8_t Click_Type = 0;
81 uint8_t PWM_Running = PWM_NOT_SET;
82 uint32_t Timer = 0;
83 uint32_t Click_Timer = 0;
84 uint32_t Pot_Switch_Off_Timer = 0;
85 uint32_t Pot_Switch_On_Timer = 0;
86 uint32_t Display_Timer = 0;
87 uint32_t Timer_Temp = 0;
88 uint32_t Timer_Temp1 = 0;
89 uint32_t Init_PWM_Counter = 0;
90 uint16_t Curr_Value = 0;
91 uint8_t Sine_Index = 0;
92 uint8_t Sine_Index_120 = Sine_Len / 3;
93 uint8_t Sine_Index_240 = (Sine_Len * 2) / 3;
94 uint8_t OVF_Counter = 0;
95 uint8_t OVF_Counter_Compare = 0;
96
97 TM1637Display Display1(CLK1, DIO1);

```

```

98 TM1637Display Display2(CLK2, DIO2);
99
100 void setup()
101 {
102     cli();
103     CLKPR = (1 << CLKPCE);
104     CLKPR = (1 << CLKPS0);
105     sei();
106     Display1.setBrightness(0x02);
107     Display2.setBrightness(0x02);
108     Display1.clear();
109     Display2.clear();
110     PORTC = (1 << PORTC3) | (1 << PORTC4);
111     DDRD = (1 << DDD6) | (1 << DDD5) | (1 << DDD3);
112     DDRB = (1 << DDB3) | (1 << DDB2) | (1 << DDB1) | (1 << DDB0);
113
114     Wait_A_Bit(RELAY_CHARGE_WAIT);
115
116     PORTB = (1 << PORTB0);
117 }
118
119
120 void loop()
121 {
122     uint8_t Desired_Freq;
123     uint8_t OVF_Counter_Compare_Temp;
124     float Amp;
125     Curr_Value = analogRead(CURR_INPUT) << 3;
126     Desired_Freq = ((uint8_t)(analogRead(POT_INPUT) >> 3));
127     if (Desired_Freq < Min_Freq) Desired_Freq = Min_Freq;
128     else if (Desired_Freq > Max_Freq) Desired_Freq = Max_Freq;
129     OVF_Counter_Compare_Temp = (uint8_t)(Base_Freq / Desired_Freq);
130     {
131         OVF_Counter_Compare = OVF_Counter_Compare_Temp;
132     }
133     Amp = ((float)(Desired_Freq) * V_f) / VBus;
134     if (Amp < Min_Amp) Amp = Min_Amp;
135     else if (Amp > Max_Amp) Amp = Max_Amp;
136     {
137         for (int i = 0; i < Sine_Len; i++)
138         {
139             Sine_Used[i] = (int16_t)(Amp * Sine[i]);
140         }
141     }
142     Pot_Switch_State_Check();
143     if (BUTTON_IS_PRESSED) Button_Click();
144     if (PWM_Running != PWM_NOT_SET) Display(PWM_Running, Config_Editable,
145         Desired_Freq);
146     Timer++;
147 }

```

```

149
150 void Pot_Switch_State_Check()
151 {
152     if (POT_SWITCH_IS_ON)
153     {
154         if (PWM_Running != PWM_RUNNING)
155         {
156             if (Timer - Timer_Temp > 1) Pot_Switch_On_Timer = 0;
157             else Pot_Switch_On_Timer++;
158             Timer_Temp = Timer;
159             Pot_Switch_Off_Timer = 0;
160             if (Pot_Switch_On_Timer > POT_SWITCH_SAMPLES)
161             {
162                 Pwm_Config();
163                 Pot_Switch_On_Timer = 0;
164                 Pot_Switch_Off_Timer = 0;
165                 Display1.clear();
166                 Display2.clear();
167             }
168         }
169     }
170     else
171     {
172         if (PWM_Running != PWM_NOT_RUNNING)
173         {
174             if (Timer - Timer_Temp > 1) Pot_Switch_Off_Timer = 0;
175             else Pot_Switch_Off_Timer++;
176             Timer_Temp = Timer;
177             Pot_Switch_On_Timer = 0;
178             if (Pot_Switch_Off_Timer > POT_SWITCH_SAMPLES)
179             {
180                 Pwm_Disable();
181                 Pot_Switch_On_Timer = 0;
182                 Pot_Switch_Off_Timer = 0;
183                 Display1.clear();
184                 Display2.clear();
185             }
186         }
187     }
188 }
189
190
191 void Button_Click()
192 {
193     if (BUTTON_IS_PRESSED)
194     {
195         if (Timer - Timer_Temp1 > 1) Click_Timer = 0;
196         else Click_Timer++;
197         Timer_Temp1 = Timer;
198         if (Click_Timer > SHORT_CLICK)
199         {
200             Reverse_3_Phase();

```

```

201     }
202     Click_Timer = 0;
203 }
204
205 else Click_Timer = 0;
206 }
207
208
209 void Display(uint8_t PWM_Running, bool Blink, uint8_t Desired_Freq)
210 {
211     if (PWM_Running == PWM_RUNNING)
212     {
213         if (Desired_Freq > 99) Display1.showNumberDec(Desired_Freq, false, 3, 1)
214             ;
215         else
216         {
217             Display1.setSegments(SPACE, 1, 1);
218             Display1.showNumberDec(Desired_Freq, false, 2, 2);
219         }
220         if (Curr_Value > 999) Display2.showNumberDec(Curr_Value, false, 4, 0);
221         else
222         {
223             Display2.setSegments(SPACE, 1, 0);
224             Display2.showNumberDec(Curr_Value, false, 3, 1);
225         }
226     }
227     else
228     {
229         Display_Timer++;
230         if (Blink && (Display_Timer == DISPLAY_BLINK))
231         {
232             Display1.clear();
233             Display2.clear();
234         }
235         else if (Display_Timer > (2*DISPLAY_BLINK))
236         {
237             Display1.setSegments(THREE_PHASE);
238             Display_Timer = 0;
239         }
240     }
241
242
243 void Wait_A_Bit(uint32_t Executions_To_Wait)
244 {
245     volatile uint32_t Timer_Temp2 = 0;
246     while (Timer_Temp2 < Executions_To_Wait)
247     {
248         Timer_Temp2++;
249     }
250 }

```

```

252
253 void Pwm_Disable()
254 {
255     PWM_Running = PWM_NOT_RUNNING;
256     cli();
257     Init_PWM_Counter = 0;
258     TCCR0A = 0;
259     TCCR0B = 0;
260     TCCR1A = 0;
261     TCCR1B = 0;
262     TCCR2A = 0;
263     TCCR2B = 0;
264     sei();
265 }
266
267
268 void Pwm_Config()
269 {
270     if (Phase_Config == THREE_PH)
271     {
272         cli();
273         PWM_Running = PWM_RUNNING;
274         GTCCR = (1<<TSM) | (1<<PSRASY) | (1<<PSRSYNC);
275         TCCR0A = (1 << COM0A1) | (1 << COM0B1) | (1 << COM0B0) | (1 << WGM00)
276             ;
277         TCCR0B = (1 << CS00);
278         TIMSK0 = (1 << TOIE0);
279         OCROA = 0;
280         OCROB = 127;
281         TCCR1A = (1 << COM1A1) | (1 << COM1B1) | (1 << COM1B0) | (1 << WGM10)
282             ;
283         TCCR1B = (1 << CS10);
284         OCR1A = 0;
285         OCR1B = 127;
286         TCCR2A = (1 << COM2A1) | (1 << COM2B1) | (1 << COM2B0) | (1 << WGM20)
287             ;
288         TCCR2B = (1 << CS20);
289         OCR2A = 0;
290         OCR2B = 127;
291         TCNT0 = 0;
292         TCNT1H = 0;
293         TCNT1L = 0;
294         TCNT2 = 0;
295         GTCCR = 0;
296         Init_PWM_Counter = 0;
297         Wait_A_Bit(BOOT_CAP_CHARGE_TIME);
298         sei();
299     }
300 }
```

```

301 ISR (TIMERO_OVF_vect)
302 {
303     OVF_Counter++;
304     if (OVF_Counter >= OVF_Counter_Compare)
305     {
306         if (Sine_Index == Sine_Len) Sine_Index = 0;
307         if (Sine_Index_120 == Sine_Len) Sine_Index_120 = 0;
308         if (Sine_Index_240 == Sine_Len) Sine_Index_240 = 0;
309         if ((Sine_Used[Sine_Index] - DEADTIME_SUB) < MIN_PWM_VAL)
310         {
311             OCR0A = 0;
312         }
313         else
314         {
315             OCR0A = uint8_t(Sine_Used[Sine_Index] - DEADTIME_SUB);
316         }
317         OCR0B = OCR0A + DEADTIME_ADD;
318         if ((Sine_Used[Sine_Index_120] - DEADTIME_SUB) < MIN_PWM_VAL)
319         {
320             OCR1A = 0;
321         }
322         else
323         {
324             OCR1A = uint8_t(Sine_Used[Sine_Index_120] - DEADTIME_SUB);
325         }
326         OCR1B = OCR1A + DEADTIME_ADD;
327         if ((Sine_Used[Sine_Index_240] - DEADTIME_SUB) < MIN_PWM_VAL)
328         {
329             OCR2A = 0;
330         }
331         else
332         {
333             OCR2A = uint8_t(Sine_Used[Sine_Index_240] - DEADTIME_SUB);
334         }
335         OCR2B = OCR2A + DEADTIME_ADD;
336         OVF_Counter = 0;
337         Sine_Index++;
338         Sine_Index_120++;
339         Sine_Index_240++;
340     }
341 }
342
343
344 void Reverse_3_Phase()
345 {
346     if (Phase_Config == 0)
347     {
348         Pwm_Disable();
349         uint8_t tempIndex = Sine_Index_120;
350         Sine_Index_120 = Sine_Index_240;
351         Sine_Index_240 = tempIndex;
352         PORTB &= ~((1 << PORTB0) | (1 << PORTB1) | (1 << PORTB2));

```

```

353     PORTD &= ~((1 << PORTD3) | (1 << PORTD5) | (1 << PORTD6));
354 }
355 }
```

8.2 Troubleshooting Guide

8.2.1 Compilation error: redefinition of 'void __vector_16()'

The compilation error "redefinition of void __vector_16()" occurs when there are conflicting definitions of the Timer0 overflow interrupt handler in the Arduino environment.

- Navigate to the wiring.c file inside the Arduino installation directory (e.g., C:\Users\>User\AppData\Local\Arduino15\packages\arduino\hardware\avr\1.8.6\cores\arduino on Windows).
- Locate the existing handler for Timer0 overflow interrupt.
- Add the following lines to 'wiring.c' (Put #ifndef \#endif, around the existing handler, Ensure you have administrative privileges to modify the wiring.c file).

```

1 #ifndef _DISABLE_ARDUINO_TIMERO_INTERRUPT_HANDLER_
2
3     #if defined(__AVR_ATtiny24__)
4         #elif defined(__AVR_ATtiny44__)
5             ISR(TIMO_OVF_vect)
6         #else
7             ISR(TIMERO_OVF_vect)
8         #endif
9     {
10         // Copy these to local variables so they can be stored in registers
11         // (volatile variables must be read from memory on every access)
12         unsigned long m = timer0_millis;
13         unsigned char f = timer0_fract;
14
15         m += MILLIS_INC;
16         f += FRACT_INC;
17         if (f >= FRACT_MAX) {
18             f -= FRACT_MAX;
19             m += 1;
20         }
21
22         timer0_fract = f;
23         timer0_millis = m;
24         timer0_overflow_count++;
25     }
26
27 #endif
```

- In your source code put these two lines at the top of the file.

```

1 #define _DISABLE_ARDUINO_TIMERO_INTERRUPT_HANDLER_
2 #include <wiring.c>
```

9 References

For further information about our Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) project for AC motors, please visit our GitHub repository at https://github.com/LahiruCooray/VariableFrequencyDrive_Project. This repository contains detailed documentation, code, and resources related to our VFD project, offering insights into its development and implementation.

10 Signed Declaration by Other Group Members

This document, detailing the design and development of a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), has been thoroughly reviewed and cross-checked by an independent group to ensure accuracy and completeness. The contents include an overview of general VFD operation, detailed electronics design including schematics and PCB layouts, enclosure design, comprehensive programming information, photographs of the PCBs and enclosure, as well as daily log entries documenting the project's progress. The review and cross-checking process confirms that all aspects have been meticulously checked and validated.

Cross-checked by (members of Zero Gravity Lifting Device project - Group G) :

Name - Abeyrathna S.M.S.M.B. (210005H)

Signature -



Name - Abeywardhane R.N. (210015M)

Signature -



Name - Kumarasinghe R.D. (210321X)

Signature -



Name - Weerasinghe C.N. (210687X)

Signature -



11 Appendix

This section describes the timeline of the project, including the time period of the project's tasks and the details of the tasks performed during that period.

1st February 2024: Deciding on the project and preparing project proposal: We, Lahiru Cooray and Danidu Dabare, a team of two electronic and telecommunication undergraduates, gathered to exchange ideas and thoughts on possible project ideas. Following a thorough discussion, we decided on the Variable Frequency Drives for AC Motors project as it aligns well with the learning outcomes of the module. A brief project proposal was created.

1st February 2024 - 9th February 2024: Reviewing progress and planning next steps: Here's a paraphrased version of the text: Throughout this week, we each conducted independent searches for resources related to the project. These resources encompassed existing products, research papers, and videos demonstrating these products in use within the industry.

9th February 2024 - 15th February 2024: Creating stakeholder map, observing users, and identifying needs: During this time, we identified the project's stakeholders, both internal and external, which helped us understand how to meet each of their needs. After that, we began observing users online, discovering instances where they had previously used similar products. We also compiled a list of requirements for the project, including user expectations and the functional specifications of the final product.

15th February 2024 - 22nd February 2024: Stimulation of ideas: During this period, our team brainstormed innovative ideas to make our product stand out and provide users with additional, convenient features. These concepts would help us develop better conceptual designs

1st March 2024 - 7th March 2024: Development of conceptual designs: In the subsequent stage of the project, we developed conceptual designs intended as potential foundations for the final product. We meticulously aligned these designs with our list of requirements to ensure they met all specified needs. Our process yielded three conceptual designs, each featuring block diagrams depicting the final product and sketches outlining the proposed features. Following thorough deliberation, we evaluated these designs and ultimately selected one as our preferred choice.

11th March 2024: Review: We conducted a comprehensive review of our work and the progress achieved thus far to ensure that our conceptual design aligned closely with our project goals.

12th March 2024 - 15th March 2024: Deciding on components: During this time, we decided on what components will be used on the product. This was especially for main components like the microcontroller, IPM module, AC-DC converters.

15th March 2024 - 31st March 2024: Circuit design: During this period, we focused on designing the circuit for the product. We consulted existing schematics to enhance our understanding and proceeded to design the power circuit, IPM circuit and microcontroller circuit.

1st April 2024 - 12th April 2024: PCB Design: During this phase, we meticulously designed the Printed Circuit Board (PCB) using Altium, ensuring strict adherence to all PCB design standards and ensuring manufacturability.

1st April 2024 - 12th April 2024: Component Selection: Parallel with the PCB design, we also selected the rest of the components for the project such as resistors, capacitors, connectors, heat sinks, etc.

17th April 2024 - 19th April 2024: Enclosure Design: After completing the PCB, we began designing the enclosure. We sequenced this step after the PCB design to ensure that the enclosure size could be precisely determined based on the PCB's dimensions and components

20th April 2024: Sending the PCB for manufacture: The PCB design files were sent to JLCPCB, China to be manufactured..

30th April 2024: Arrival of manufactured PCB

7th May 2024: Soldering: On this day, we soldered the components onto our three PCBs.

As of 5th June 2024, we have successfully completed the PCB assembly and the 3D printed enclosure for our Variable Frequency Drives for AC Motors project. We were not able to carry out our testing phase successfully due to the strike held by the non-academic staff and the laboratories being closed.