

Environment-Proof 100A Brushless DC Motor Controller with Field Oriented Control USB and CAN



Roboteq's KBL1xxx is a rugged, feature-packed, high-current single channel controller for brushless DC motors. Built in a water and dirt resistant enclosure, the controller can operate in one of several modes in order to sense the rotor position and sequence power on the motor's 3 windings in order to generate smooth continuous rotation. The controller also uses the Hall sensor and/or Encoder information to compute speed and measure traveled distance. The motor's may be operated in open or closed loop speed mode, position mode or in torque mode.

The KBL1xxx features several Analog, Pulse and Digital I/Os which can be remapped as command or feedback inputs, limit switches, or many other functions. The KBL1xxx accepts commands received from an RC radio, Analog Joystick, wireless modem, or microcomputer. Using CAN bus, up to 127 controllers can be networked at up to 1Mbit/s on a single twisted pair.

The controller's operation can be extensively automated and customized using Basic Language scripts. The controller can be configured, monitored and tuned in real-time using Roboteq's free PC utility. The controller can also be reprogrammed in the field with the latest features by downloading new operating software from Roboteq.

Applications

- Small Electric Vehicles, Electric Bikes
- Electric Boats
- Terrestrial and Underwater Robotic Vehicles
- Automatic Guided Vehicles
- Police and Military Robots
- Material Lifting Systems
- Animatronics
- Industrial Controls
- Hydraulic Pumps control

Key Features

- RS232, RS485, 0-5V Analog, or Pulse (RC radio) command modes
- Auto switch between RS232, Analog, or Pulse based on user-defined priority
- CAN bus interface at up to 1Mbit/s
- Built-in 3-phase high-power drivers for one brushless DC motor at up to 100A RMS (140A DC equivalent)
- Support for 10 KOhm NTC temperature sensors through analog inputs (requires an external 10 KOhm pull-up resistor)
- Trapezoidal commutation based on Hall Sensor position information
- Trapezoidal Sensorless
- Smooth and quiet three Phase sinusoidal mode
- Support for absolute angle encoders
 - Sin/Cos analog
 - SSI digital
 - Resolver
- Field Oriented Control in Sinusoidal modes
- Full forward and reverse motor control. Four quadrant operation. Supports regeneration
- Operates from a single power source
- Programmable current limit up to 100A RMS for protecting controller, motor, wiring and battery.
- Separate waterproof M12-type connector for Hall or SSI rotor sensor
- Accurate speed and Odometry measurement using Hall Sensor or encoder data
- Quadrature encoder input with 32-bit counter
- Up to six Analog Inputs for use as command and/or feedback
- Up to six Pulse Length, Duty Cycle or Frequency Inputs for use as command and/or feedback
- Up to six Digital Inputs for use as Limit Emergency stop or user inputs

- Two general purpose 40V, 1.5A output for brake release or accessories
- Custom scripting in Basic language. Execution speed 50000 lines per second
- Selectable min, max, center and deadband in Pulse and Analog modes
- Selectable exponentiation factors for each command inputs
- Trigger action if Analog, Pulse, Encoder or Hall counter capture are outside user selectable range (soft limit switches)
- Open loop or closed loop speed control operation
- Closed loop position control with encoder, analog or pulse/frequency feedback
- PID control loop
- Support for CANopen and two simplified CAN protocols
- Configurable Data Logging of operating parameters on RS232 Output for telemetry or analysis
- Built-in Battery Voltage and Temperature sensors
- Optional 12V backup power input for powering safely the controller if the main motor batteries are discharged
- Power Control wire for turning On or Off the controller from external microcomputer or switch
- No consumption by output stage when motors stopped
- Regulated 5V output for powering encoders, sensors, joysticks, RC radio, RF Modem or microcomputer
- Separate Programmable acceleration and deceleration for each motor
- Ultra-efficient 1.0 mOhm ON resistance MOSFETs
- Auto stop if no motion is detected
- Stall detection and selectable triggered action if Amps is outside user-selected range
- Short circuit protection with selectable sensitivity levels
- Overvoltage and Undervoltage protection
- Watchdog for automatic motor shutdown in case of command loss
- Overtemperature protection
- Diagnostic LEDs
- Efficient heat sinking using conduction bottom plate. Operates without a fan in most application
- Dust-proof and water-tight IP65 enclosure and connectors
- Power wiring via heavy duty M4 terminals terminals
- 5.50" (140mm) L, 4.45" W (113mm), 1.14" (29mm) H
- -40o to +85o C operating environment
- 440 g (0.96 lbs)
- Easy configuration, tuning and monitor using provided PC utility
- Field upgradeable software for installing latest features via the Internet

Orderable Product References

Reference	Number of Channels	Amps/Channel	Volts	FOC
KBL1660	1	100	60	Yes

Warning

A dangerous uncontrolled motor runaway condition can occur due to various reasons, including, but not limited to: command or feedback wiring failure, configuration errors, faulty firmware, errors in user scripts or programs, or controller hardware failure.

Users must be aware that such failures can occur and must ensure the safety of their system under all conditions. Roboteq will not be held liable for any damage or injury resulting from product misuse or failure.

Important Note

All products are not serviceable. If damage is suspected, the item must be replaced rather than repaired.

Attempting to service or repair the product voids any existing warranty and may pose safety risks.

Consult customer support for more information on replacements.

Power Wires Identifications and Connection

Power connections are made through high current screw terminals. A waterproof 8-pin M12 female connector provides connection to Hall or SSI rotor sensor. Communication and user I/O are located on the DSub15 connector.

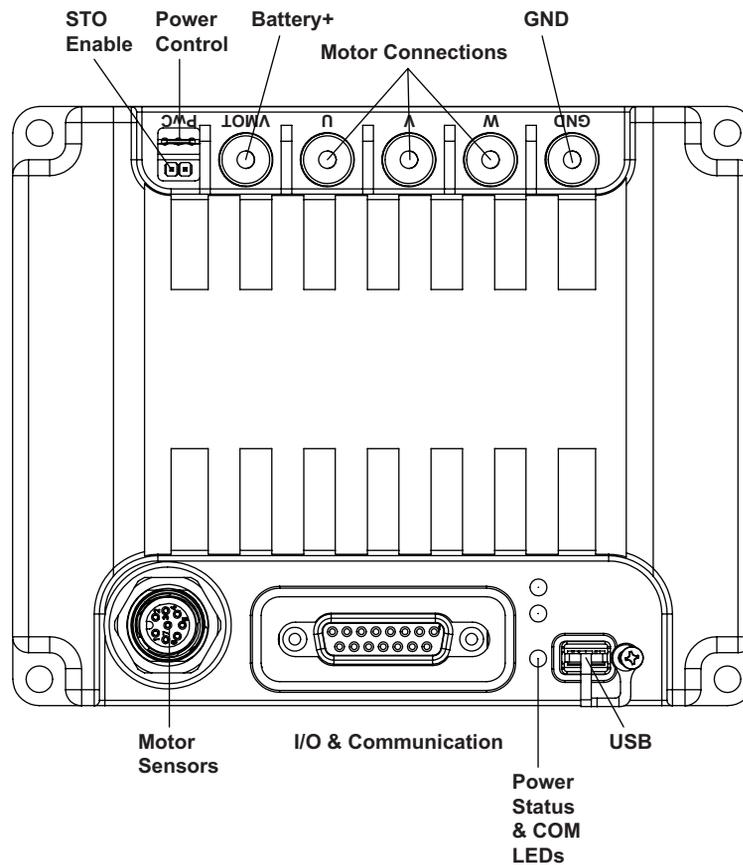


FIGURE 1. KBL1xxx Top View

Figure 2, below, shows how to wire the controller and how to turn power On and Off.

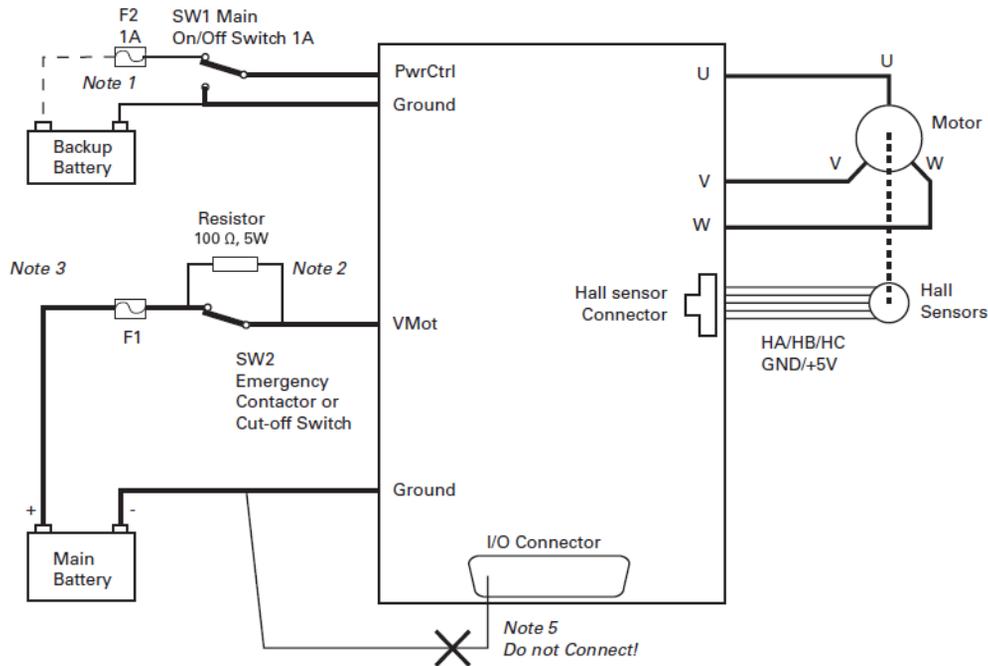


FIGURE 2. Powering the Controller. Thick lines identify MANDATORY connections

Caution

Carefully follow the wiring instructions provided in the Power Connection section of the User Manual. The information on this datasheet is only a summary.

Mandatory Connections

It is imperative that the controller is connected as shown in the above diagram in order to ensure a safe and trouble-free operation. All connections shown as thick black lines are mandatory. The controller must be powered On/Off using switch SW1 on the Power Control tab. Use a suitable high-current fuse F1 as a safety measure to prevent damage to the wiring in case of major controller malfunction.

Emergency Switch or Contactor

The battery must be connected in permanence to the controller's VMot terminal via a high-power emergency switch or contactor SW2 as additional safety measure. The user must be able to deactivate the switch or contactor at anytime, independently of the controller state.

Electrostatic Discharge Protection

In accordance with IEC 61000-6-4, Roboteq Motor Controllers are designed to withstand ESD up to 4kV touch and 8kV air gap. This protection is implemented without any additional external connections required.

Some specifications, such as EN12895, require a higher level of protection. To maximize ESD protection, up to 8kV touch and 15kV air gap, you may connect the metallic heatsink of the controller to your battery negative terminal. [See App Note 062918 for example connections.](#)

Precautions and Optional Connections

Note 1: Backup battery to ensure motor operation with weak or discharged batteries, connect a second battery to the Power Control wire/terminal via the SW1 switch.

Note 2: Use precharge 100Ω, 5W Resistor to prevent switch arcing.

Note 3: The voltage generated by motors rotating while not powered by the controller can cause serious damage even if the controller is Off or disconnected.

- Use the main SW1 switch on the Power Control wire/terminal to turn Off and keep Off the controller. In this way the controller cannot be powered up under any unwanted circumstances.
- Countermeasures should be taken to deal with any regeneration power if the battery or BMS system does not support energy to return back to it.
- Disconnecting the controller from the battery while motors are rotating could lead to a serious damage. In this case a regeneration brake system is needed.

Note 4: Beware not to create a path from the ground pins on the I/O connector and the battery minus terminal.

Controller Mounting

During motor operation, the controller will generate heat that must be dissipated. The published amps rating can only be fully achieved if adequate cooling is provided. Good conduction cooling can be achieved by mounting the controller to a metallic surface, such as the chassis, cabinet, etc.

Motor Sensor Connector

The KBL1xxx is equipped with a waterproof, standard M12 female 8-pin connector for attaching the motor's sensors, temperature sensor, and brake. Four of the connector's pins are assigned a different functionality depending on the type of sensor use for rotor position feedback. Pin assignment is in the table below.

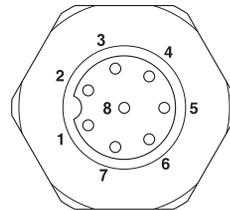


FIGURE 3. Motor Sensors Connector top view

TABLE 1.

Pin Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Hall	5VOut	Hall A	Hall B	Hall C	NC	Temp	Brake (1)	GND
SSI	5VOut	Clock+	Data+	Clock-	Data-	Temp	Brake (1)	GND
Sin/Cos	5VOut	NC	SIN	NC	COS	Temp	Brake (1)	GND
Resolver	5VOut	NC	SIN	NC	COS	EXC	Brake (1)	GND
Note 1: Open Drain Output. Same as DOUT2 on Dsub connector								

Connection to SSI Absolute Encoder

In Sinusoidal Mode, the controller can use motors equipped with absolute angle sensors with SSI interface. The controller issues an RS422-level differential Clock+/Clock- signal to, and receives a differential Data+/Data- signal from the encoder.

Connection to Analog Sin/Cos Absolute Encoder

The KBL1XXX has two high-speed analog inputs that can be used to capture absolute angle position from angular sensors with sin/cos voltage outputs. The signal must be 0-5V max with the 0 at 2.500V.

Connecting Resolver

Resolver wiring is similar to a Sin/Cos sensor with the addition of an excitation signal. Diagram below shows the necessary connections.

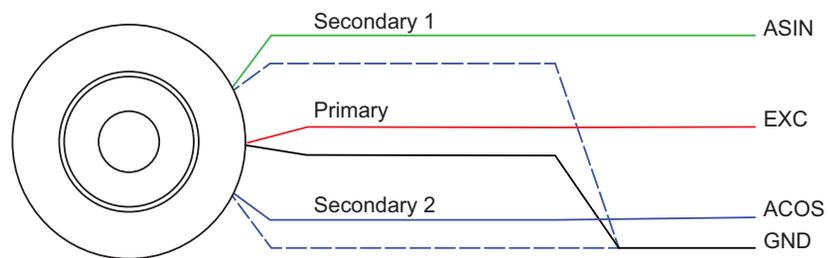


FIGURE 4. Resolver wiring

Commands and I/O Connections

Connection to RC Radio, Microcomputer, Joystick and other low current sensors and actuators is done via the 15-pin connector located in front of the controller. The functions of many pins vary depending on controller model and user configuration. Pin assignments are found in Table 2, below.

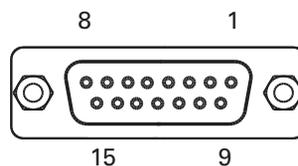


FIGURE 5. Connector Pin Locations

TABLE 2.

Connector Pin	Power	Dout	Com	RC	Ana	Dinput	Enc	Default Config
1		DOUT1 (1)						Unused
9		DOUT2 (1)(6)						Brake
2			TxOut					RS232Tx
10				RC 5 (7)	ANA5	DIN5/STO1 (5)		AnaCmd (3)
3			RxIn					RS232Rx
11			485-	RC4	ANA4	DIN4		Unused
4				RC1	ANA1	DIN1	ENCA (2)	RCRadio1
12			485+	RC3	ANA3	DIN3		Unused
5	GND							
13	GND							
6			CANL					CAN Low
14	5VOut							
7			CANH					CAN High
15				RC6 (7)	ANA6	DIN6/STO2 (5)		Unused
8				RC2	ANA2	DIN2	ENCB (2)	Unused

Note 1: Outputs are Open Drain. They pull to ground when on and float when off. Load must be connected between output and positive voltage.

Note 2: Encoder input requires RC inputs 1 and 2 to be disabled. Encoder is disabled in factory default.

Note 3: Analog command is disabled in factory default configuration.

Note 5: Remove STO Jumper to enable Safe Torque Off functionality

Note 6: DOUT2 is replicated on the M12 connector

Note 7: Not recommended for MultiPWM.

For use in environments where liquid particles or fine dust may present, the controller's cover is shaped for DSub connectors with waterproof hoods. Product references EDAC 627-230-015-010 or Assmann A-DS15-HOOD-WP.

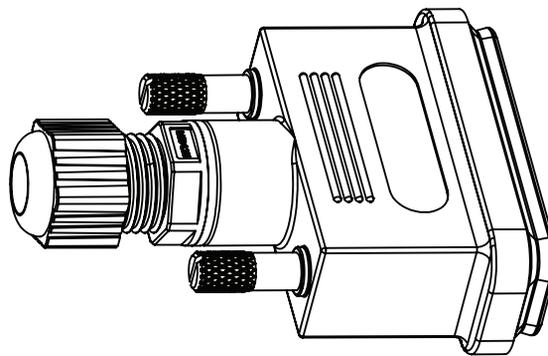


FIGURE 6. dsub15 waterproof shell

Default I/O Configuration

The controller can be configured so that practically any Digital, Analog and RC pin can be used for any purpose. The controller's factory default configuration provides an assignment that is suitable for most applications.

The figure below shows how to wire the controller to an analog potentiometer, an RC radio, the RS232 port, and the Digital output to a motor brake solenoid. You may omit any connection that is not required in your application. The controller automatically arbitrates the command priorities depending on the presence of a valid command signal in the following order: 1-Serial, 2-RC Pulse, 3-None. If needed, use the Roborun+ PC Utility to change the pin assignments and the command priority order.

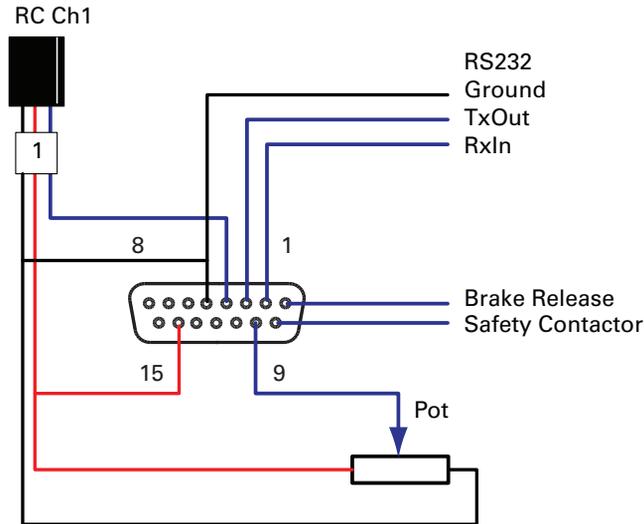


FIGURE 7. Factory Default Pins Assignment

Enabling Analog Commands

For safety reasons, the Analog command mode is disabled by default. To enable the Analog mode, use the PC utility and set Analog in Command Priority 2 or 3 (leave Serial as priority 1). Note that by default the additional securities are enabled and will prevent the motor from starting unless the potentiometer is centered, or if the voltage is below 0.25V or above 4.75V. The drawing shows suggested assignment of Pot 1 to ANA1. Use the PC utility to enable and assign analog inputs.

Connecting Thermistors

10 KOhm NTC temperature sensors can be connected to the controller's analog inputs. This enables reading of motor temperature through the controller's runtime variables and allows for active temperature protection. This connection can be achieved by using a 10 KOhm pull-up resistor between the analog input and the controller's 5V output. For more information about motor temperature readings and controller parameterization, please refer to the Roboteq Controller's User Manual.

CAN Bus Operation

The controller can interface to a standard CAN Bus network, using 4 possible protocols: Standard CANOpen, and three proprietary schemes (MiniCAN, RawCAN and RoboCAN). Please refer to the User Manual for details.

USB communication

Use USB only for configuration, monitoring and troubleshooting. USB is not a reliable communication method when used in a electrically noisy environments and communication will not always recover after it is lost without unplugging and replugging the connector, or restarting the controller. Always prefer RS232 communication when interfacing to a computer.

Status LEDs and Flashing Patterns

The controller is equipped with three LEDs. A Green Power LED, a Red/Green Status LED and a Yellow Communication LED.

After the controller is powered on, the Power LED will turn on, indicating that the controller is On. The Status LED will be flashing at a two second interval. The flashing pattern and color provides operating or exception status information.

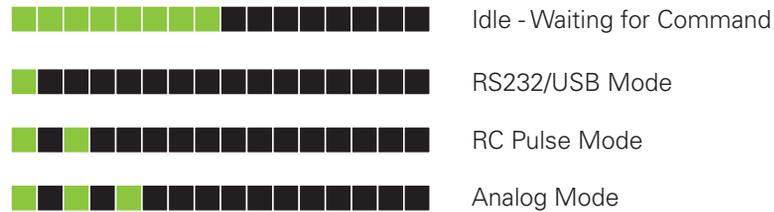


FIGURE 8. Normal Operation Flashing Patterns

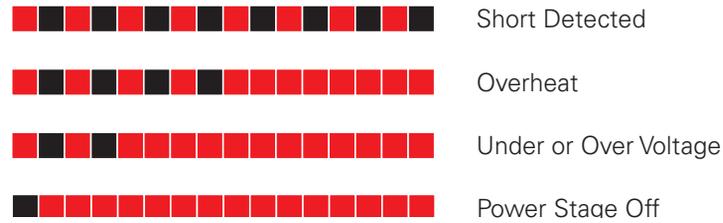


FIGURE 9. Exception or Fault Flashing Patterns

Additional status information may be obtained by monitoring the controller with the PC utility.

The communication LED gives status information on the CAN and USB.

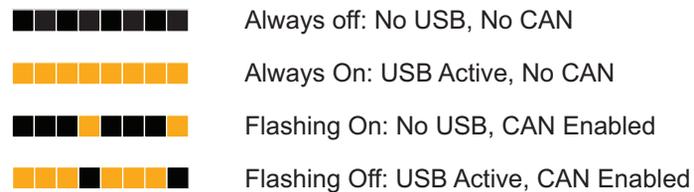


FIGURE 10. Communication LED Flashing Patterns

Measured and Calculated Amps

The controller includes Amps sensors in line with the motor terminals and on the battery ground terminals. Both Motor Amps and Battery Amps are therefore measured with precision.

When motor is rotating, amps are AC. The KBL1XXX measures and is rated based on RMS Amps. The table below shows the relation between the RMS current and the DC Equivalent in Sinusoidal and Trapezoidal modes. In sinusoidal mode, DC equivalent are the amps resultant from the torque (I_q) and quadrature (I_d) vectors. In trapezoidal mode, they are the DC amps that flow through the two coils that are active at any one time.

	Amps RMS	DC Equivalent
Sinusoidal	100A	170A ($I_{rms} * 1.414$)
Trapezoidal	100A	147A ($I_{rms} * 1.225$)

Electrical Specifications

Absolute Maximum Values

The values in Table 3, below, should never be exceeded. Permanent damage to the controller may result.

TABLE 3.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Battery Leads Voltage	Ground to VMot			62	Volts
Reverse Voltage on Battery Leads	Ground to VMot	-1			Volts
Power Control Voltage	Ground to Pwr Control wire			62	Volts
Motor Leads Voltage	Ground to U, V, W wires			62 (1)	Volts
Digital Output Voltage	Ground to Output pins			40	Volts
Analog and Digital Inputs Voltage	Ground to any signal pin on 15-pin & Hall inputs			30	Volts
RS232 I/O pins Voltage	External voltage applied to Rx/Tx pins			30	Volts
Case Temperature	Case	-40		85	°C
Humidity	Case			100 (2)	%
Note 1: Maximum regeneration voltage in normal operation. Never inject a DC voltage from a battery or other fixed source					
Note 2: Non-condensing					

Power Stage Electrical Specifications (at 25°C ambient)

TABLE 4.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Battery Leads Voltage	Ground to VMot	0 (1)		62	Volts
Motor Leads Voltage	Ground to U, V, W wires	0 (1)		62 (2)	Volts
Power Control Voltage		0 (1)		65	Volts
Minimum Operating Voltage		9 (3)			Volts
Over Voltage protection range	Ground to VMot	5	60 (4)	62	Volts
Under Voltage protection range	Ground to VMot	0	5 (4)	62	Volts
Idle Current Consumption	VMot or Pwr Ctrl wires	50	100 (5)	150	mA
ON Resistance (Excluding wire resistance)	VMot to U, V or W. Ground to U, V or W		1.5		mOhm
Max Current for 60s	Motor current			100	Amps
Continuous Max Current per channel	Motor current			100 (7)	Amps
Current Limit range	Motor current	10	100 (8)	100	Amps
Stall Detection Amps range	Motor current	10	100 (8)	100	Amps
Stall Detection timeout range	Motor current	1	65000 (9)	65000	milliseconds
Short Circuit Detection threshold (10)	Between Motor wires or Between Motor wires and Ground			-	Amps
Motor Acceleration/Deceleration range	Motor Output	100	500 (11)	65000	milliseconds

Note 1: Negative voltage will cause a large surge current. Protection fuse needed if battery polarity inversion is possible

Note 2: Maximum regeneration voltage in normal operation. Never inject a DC voltage from a battery or other fixed source

Note 3: Minimum voltage must be present on VMot or Power Control wire

Note 4: Factory default value. Adjustable in 0.1V increments

Note 5: Current consumption is lower when higher voltage is applied to the controller's VMot or PwrCtrl wires

Note 6: Max value is determined by current limit setting. Duration is estimated and is dependent on ambient temperature cooling condition

Note 7: Estimate. Limited by heat-sink temperature. Current may be higher with better cooling

Note 8: Factory default value. Adjustable in 0.1A increments

Note 9: Factory default value. Time in ms that Stall current must be exceeded for detection

Note 10: Controller will stop until restarted in case of short circuit detection

Note 11: Factory default value. Time in ms for power to go from 0 to 100%

Command, I/O and Sensor Signals Specifications

TABLE 5.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Main 5V Output Voltage	Ground to 5V pin on DSub15	4.7	4.9	5.1	Volts
5V Output Current	5V pin on DSub15			100	mA
Digital Output Voltage	Ground to Output pins			40	Volts
Digital Output Current	Output pins, sink current			1	Amps
Output On resistance	Output pin to ground		0.75	1.5	Ohm
Output Short circuit threshold	Output pin	1.05	1.4	1.75	Amps
Input Impedances	AIN/DIN Input to Ground		53		kOhm
Digital Input 0 Level	Ground to Input pins	-1		1	Volts
Digital Input 1 Level	Ground to Input pins	3		30	Volts
Analog Input Range	Ground to Input pins	0		5.1	Volts
Analog Input Precision	Ground to Input pins		0.5		%
Analog Input Resolution	Ground to Input pins		1		mV
Pulse durations	Pulse inputs	20000		10	us
Pulse repeat rate	Pulse inputs		50	250	Hz
Pulse Capture Resolution	Pulse inputs		1		us
Minimum Pulse on or Pulse off duration	Pulse inputs	25			us
Frequency Capture	Pulse inputs	100		2000	Hz
Encoder count	Internal	-2.147		2.147	10 ⁹ Counts
Encoder frequency	Encoder input pins			200 (1)	kHz

Note 1: Encoder input requires RC inputs 1 and 2 to be disabled. Encoder is disabled in factory default

Operating & Timing Specifications

TABLE 6.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Command Latency	Command to output change	0	0.5	1	ms
PWM Frequency	Motor outputs	10	16 (1)	20	kHz
Closed Loop update rate	Internal		200	40	Hz
RS232 baud rate	Rx & Tx pins		115200 (2)		Bits/s
RS232 Watchdog timeout	Rx pin	1 (3)		65000	ms

Note 1: May be adjusted with configuration program
 Note 2: 115200, 8-bit, no parity, 1 stop bit, no flow control
 Note 3: May be disabled with value 0

Motor Characteristics Requirement for FOC current control

For proper FOC current control and motor operation under sinusoidal commutation, it is necessary for the motor to meet a minimum load inductance, minimum load L/R and maximum electric operating speed requirements. The minimum required inductance is necessary in order to ensure low Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) of the motor current. Furthermore, to achieve proper current response and stability, the controller's current loop sampling rate will limit the minimum permissible motor time constant $\tau=L/R$ and the maximum operating electric speed.

TABLE 7.

Parameter	Input DC Voltage (V)	Value	Units
Minimum load phase inductance (1)	12	25	uH
	24	40	uH
	48	60	uH
	60	80	uH
Minimum load inductance/resistance ratio (1)	0 - 60	1	msec
Maximum operating electric speed (2)	0 - 60	15000	RPM
Note 1: Star connected three phase load considered. In case the motor phase inductance does not fulfill the above requirements (minimum phase inductance and inductance/resistance ratio) an external AC inductor with proper inductance value is recommended to be added.			
Note 2: Maximum rotor speed is calculated from the maximum operating electric speed and pole pairs. For example, in a motor with 4 pole pairs the maximum operating rotor speed is $15000/4 = 3750$ rpm			

Scripting

TABLE 8.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typical	Max	Units
Scripting Flash Memory	Internal		32000		Bytes
Integer Variables	Internal			4096	Words (1)
Boolean Variables	Internal			8192	Symbols
Execution Speed (2)	Internal	30,000		70,000	Lines/s
Note 1: 32-bit words					
Note 2: Execution Speed was calculated based on low communication load with the controller. In high communication workload, minimum time might be reduced drastically.					

Thermal Specifications

TABLE 9.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Board Temperature	PCB	-40		85 (1)	°C
Thermal Protection range	PCB				°C
Thermal resistance	Power MOSFETs to heats sink			1	°C/W
Note 1: Thermal protection will protect the controller power					
Note 2: Max allowed power out starts lowering at minimum of range, down to 0 at max of range					

The KBL1xxx uses a conduction plate at the bottom of the board for heat extraction. For best results, attach firmly with thermal compound paste against a metallic chassis so that heat transfers to the conduction plate to the chassis. If no metallic surface is available, mount the controller on spacers so that forced or natural air flow can go over the plate surface to remove heat.

Mechanical Specifications

TABLE 10.

Parameter	Measure point	Min	Typ	Max	Units
Weight	Board		380 (0.84)		g (lbs)
Power Wire Gauge	Power Terminals			8	AWG
Torque	D-sub standard connector		0.4 (3.54)		Nm (in-lbs)
Torque	Terminal block		0.8 (7.10)		Nm (in-lbs)
Torque	Mounting screws (4/M2.5)		0.36 (3.2)		Nm (in-lbs)

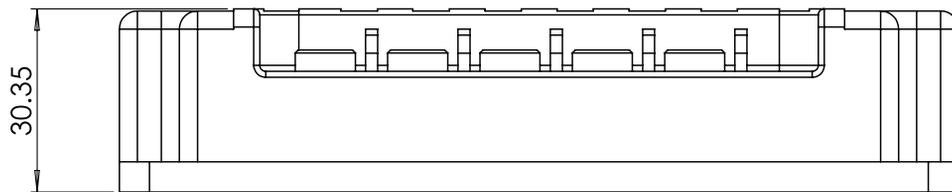


FIGURE 11. KBL1xxx Side View and Dimensions

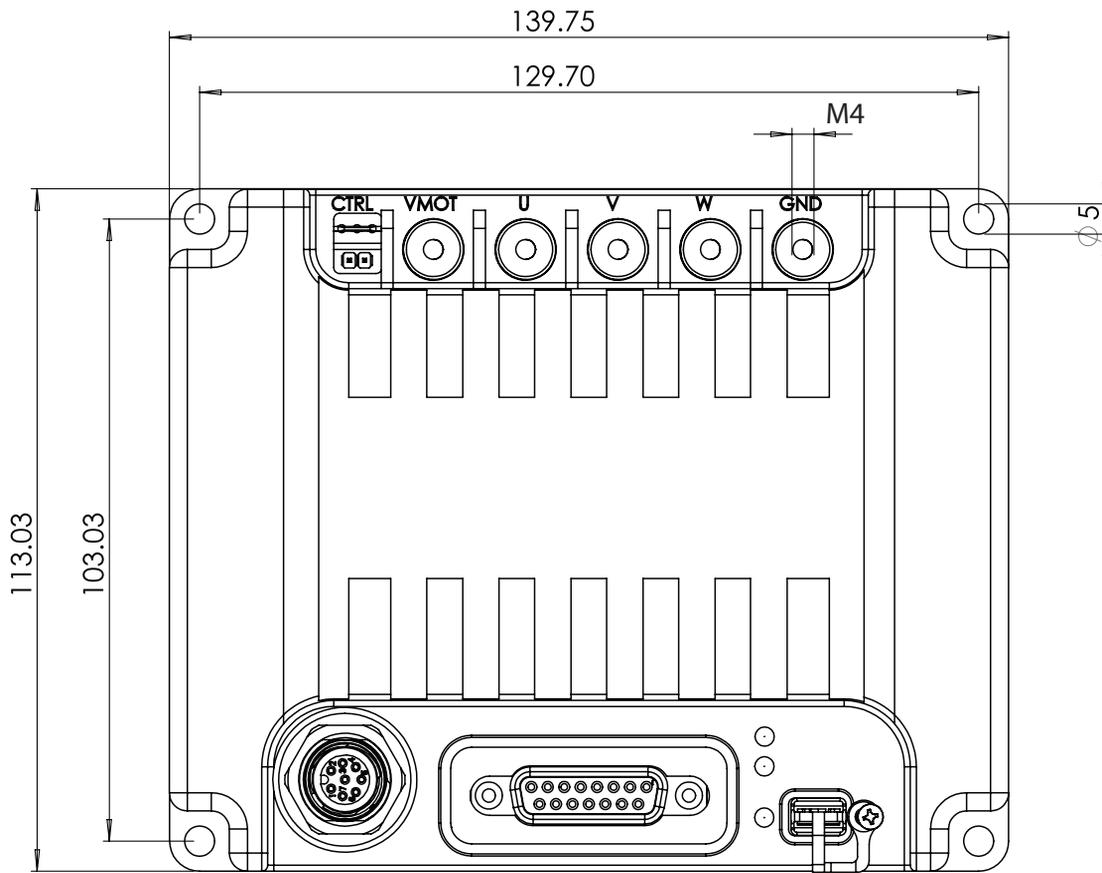


FIGURE 12. KBL1xxx Top View and Dimensions