

Modified Resonant Transition Switching for Buck Converter

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Abstract-A modified resonant transition switching technique for Buck converter using coupled inductor is proposed in this paper. The principle of operation of this converter is analysed in detail. An additional winding is added on the same core of the main inductor for the purpose of commutation. By using current control, Zero Voltage Switching (ZVS) conditions are ensured over wide load range. The main inductor current is kept in continuous conduction mode (CCM) with small ripple, which allows high output power and small filter parameters. Also, the switching frequency is kept constant when load changes. The simulation results are presented and they verify the analysis.

Index Terms-ZVSPWM converters, Coupled inductor, current control, continuous conduction mode

I. INTRODUCTION

Switched Mode Power Supplies [SMPS], have become the natural choice for most of the power supply problems, owing to their higher efficiency, they are widely used in industrial, residential and aerospace environments. The basic requirements are small size and high efficiency.

'Frequency goes up, size comes down', is a belief that has been the main motivating factor for switching a high frequencies so high switching frequency is necessary to achieve small size. Most of the present commercial SMPS, operate with a switching frequency of around 50 kHz, using Hard Switching PWM topologies. Consider a step down converter in fig1

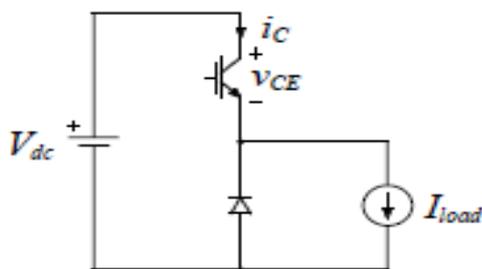


Fig.1 step down converter

If we use hard pulse width technique then IGBT have to sustain high power during transition as shown in fig2

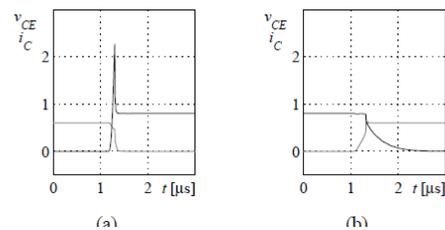


Fig.2 transient response

To solve this problem soft switching technique need to be used. soft switching must satisfy two conditions, (a) switch transitions should occur only when either the device current or device voltage is zero. (b) energy stored in parasitic elements are fully recovered.

They can be broadly classified as Zero Current Switching [ZCS] Converters and Zero Voltage Switching [ZVS] converters. In the ZCS converters, the Current through the device is brought to zero by external means, just prior to turn-off. Thus the turn-off losses as well as the voltage spikes due to stray inductance are totally eliminated. During the turn- on process, the current rise is slowed down, again by external means, so that the device voltage falls to zero before the current becomes appreciable. In the ZVS converters, the device voltage is brought to zero just prior to turn-on, thus totally eliminating the turn-on losses. During turn-off, the rate of voltage rise is limited, so that the device current falls to zero before the voltage rises substantially.

Some soft switching techniques are (a) snubber circuit (b) Resonant switch(c) Resonant Transition converter

In snubber circuit: are effective, to a limited extent, in reducing the device stress during switching transitions. However, they do not appreciably reduce the switching losses, as they only shift the power loss from the switches to the snubber resistors.

In resonant switch: The Resonant Switch Converters are obtained by simply replacing the controllable switch (es) in PWM converters, with the Resonant Switch. The Resonant Switch is a sub circuit consisting of semiconductor switches and resonant LC elements. The resonant elements shape The device current/voltage waveforms, so that the switching's can be done under favourable conditions But This type has some limitation peak current and peak voltage stress, conduction losses is high .

In Resonant Transition converter as in fig3

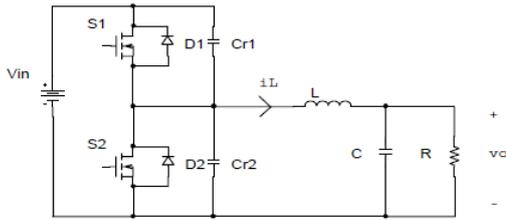


Fig.3 ZVS Buck converter using coupled inductor

The drawback of ZVRT converters is large ripple in the inductor current, which makes the conduction loss higher compared with the conventional PWM converters. Also, it needs large filter parameters. Since all output filter capacitors have Equivalent Series Resistor (ESR), large ripple current will generate high loss in the capacitors. High ripple current will also cause high magnetic core loss. For the sake of efficiency, the inductor current should have small ripple. This technique is only suitable in low power applications.

In the modified ZVRT converters, the switching current can still be bi-directional so that ZVS conditions are retained and at the same time, the main inductor current is in continuous conduction mode with small ripple. The proposed technique helps to overcome the drawbacks of the ZVRT converter discussed above.

In this paper, the operational modes of the proposed Buck converter is analysed in detail. To achieve ZVS conditions in the switches and fast response, hysteresis current control is used in this converter. By using this method, the bi-directional current has the average value determined by the output of the voltage loop, hence by output power while its minimum value is always less than zero to achieve ZVS conditions. Also, the switching frequency is kept constant when the load changes.

II. PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION OF THE PROPOSED SOFT SWITCHING TECHNIQUE

The proposed ZVS-Buck converter is shown in fig.4. Inductor L_2 and L_1 are tightly coupled on the same ferrite core. The polarities of the inductor L_2 and L_1 are marked as in the schematic circuits to ensure that the voltage across the coupled inductor (L_2) can be used as the commutation source for soft switching for MOSFETs. The inductor L_r is small while the main inductor L_1 is comparatively large. Current i_r is controlled to be bidirectional (positive and negative) while the output current i_1 has small ripple. The waveforms for i_1 and i_r for Buck converter are shown in Fig.4

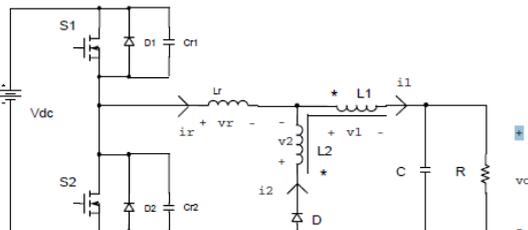


Fig.4 ZVS Buck converter using coupled inductor

Current i_r is controlled to be bidirectional (positive and negative) while the output current i_1 has small ripple. The waveforms for i_1 and i_r for Buck converter are shown in Fig 5

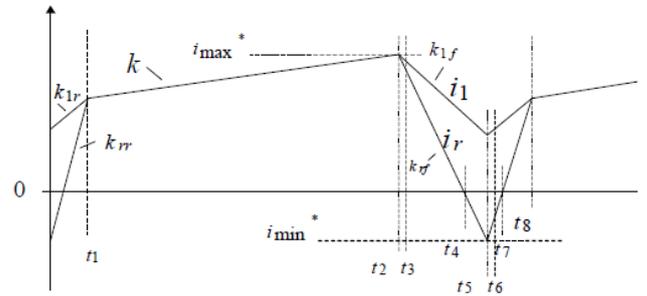
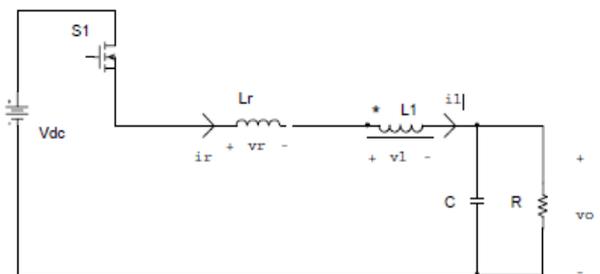


Fig.5 Waveforms of i_r and i_1

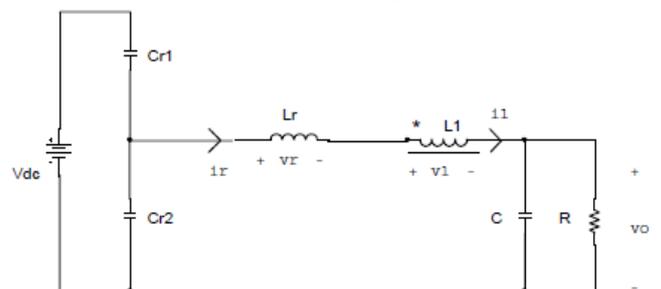
The current i_r is bi-directional, which ensures ZVS conditions for the two MOSFETs. Small ripple current in L_1 allows higher output power and lower requirements of the output filter capacitors. As an example, the Buck converter is analysed. There are seven modes in one switching cycle. The equivalent circuits for these modes are shown in Figure.

Mode 1 [$t_1 - t_2$]: at time t_1 , S_1 is turned on and D is off. Inductor L_r is in series with L_1 . The current i_r will rise linearly. When the current reaches the current reference i_{max} that is determined by the output of voltage regulation loop, S_1 is turned off.



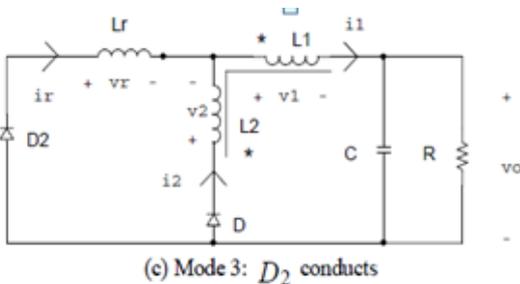
(a) Mode 1: S_1 conducts

Mode 2 [$t_2 - t_3$]: When S_1 is turned off at t_2 , resonance occurs between the inductor L_r and snubber capacitors (C_{r1} , C_{r2}). During this interval, C_{r1} is charged and C_{r2} is discharged. At time t_3 , the voltage across C_{r2} becomes zero and D_2 begins to conduct.

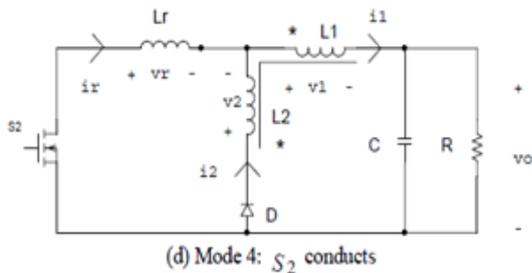


(b) Mode 2: L_r , C_{r1} and C_{r2} resonant

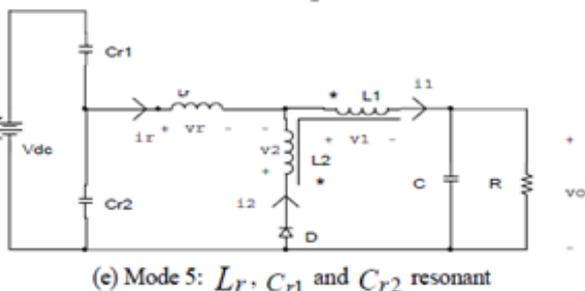
Mode 3 [$t_3 - t_4$]: When D_2 conducts, the voltage across the output inductor (v_1) changes its polarity. Because inductors L_2 and L_1 are tightly coupled, v_2 is negative. The current in L_r begins to decrease due to the voltage across L_2 . Because L_r is comparatively small, its current will decrease much faster than that of L_1 . As long as D_2 is on, the gate signal can be applied to S_2 so that S_2 can be turned on at zero voltage.



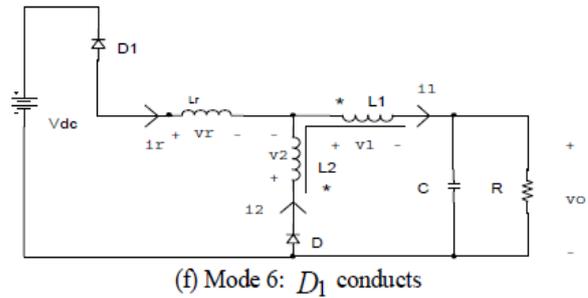
Mode 4 [$t_4 - t_5$]: at time t_4 , i_r reduces to zero and S_2 begins to carry current. The current i_r rises in opposite direction. When i_r reaches the current reference i_{min} at time t_5 , S_2 is turned off. The value of i_{min} is set by controller to make sure that the energy stored in L_r is large enough to charge and discharge the snubber capacitors thoroughly so that ZVS conditions can be satisfied.



Mode 5 [$t_5 - t_6$]: When S_2 is turned off, resonance occurs between the inductor L_r and the snubber capacitors (C_{r1} and C_{r2}). This mode is similar to **Mode 2**. Capacitor C_{r1} is discharged while C_{r2} is charged. At time t_6 , the voltage across C_{r1} becomes zero.



Mode 6 [$t_6 - t_7$]: D_1 begins to conduct. During this duration, i_r and i_1 begin to increase. The conduction of D_1 makes it possible for S_1 to be turned on at zero voltage. At time t_7 , i_r will be equal to zero.



Mode 7 [$t_7 - t_8$]: i_r and i_1 continue to increase. At time t_8 , the current i_r will be equal to i_1 so that current in inductor L_2 becomes zero.

III. CONTROL STRATEGY

As discussed above, to achieve ZVS conditions, the current i_r should be bi-directional. Since the voltage mode control has low response it can't be used in this case. So inductor current control method is used here.

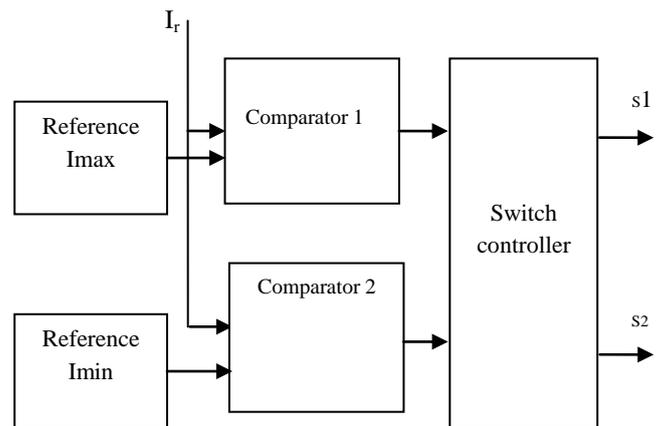


Fig.6 Block diagram for circuit diagram

The current I_r , through the inductor L_r is compared with the reference values I_{max} and I_{min} . When $I_r \geq I_{max}$ then S_1 is turned OFF and S_2 is turned ON. When $I_r \leq I_{min}$ then S_2 is turned OFF and S_1 is turned ON. Thus controls for the MOSFETs are achieved in an easier way than the existing control schemes by this method as in fig6.

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

The converter is simulated using simulation software MATLAB version 7.10.0.

Components	Simulation value
Switches, S1,S2	Ideal
Diode	Ideal
Capacitance, C	$10^{-10} \mu\text{F}$
Resonant inductor, Lr	$4.2 \mu\text{H}$
Inductor, L2	$10 \mu\text{H}$
Main inductor, L1	$100 \mu\text{H}$

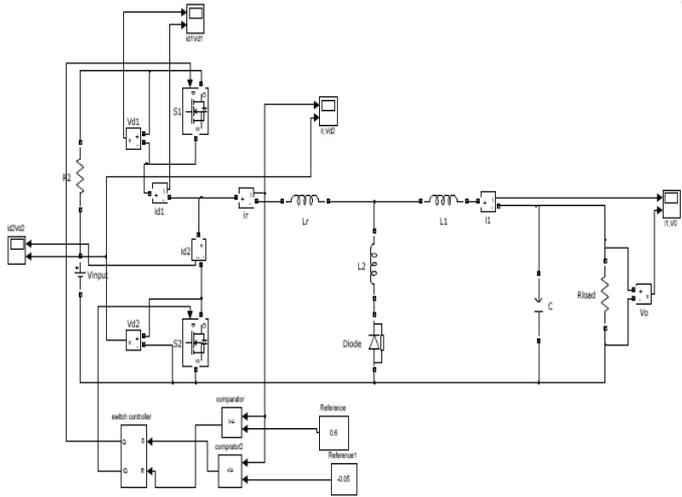


Fig.7 Matlab simulation model

Output Waveforms

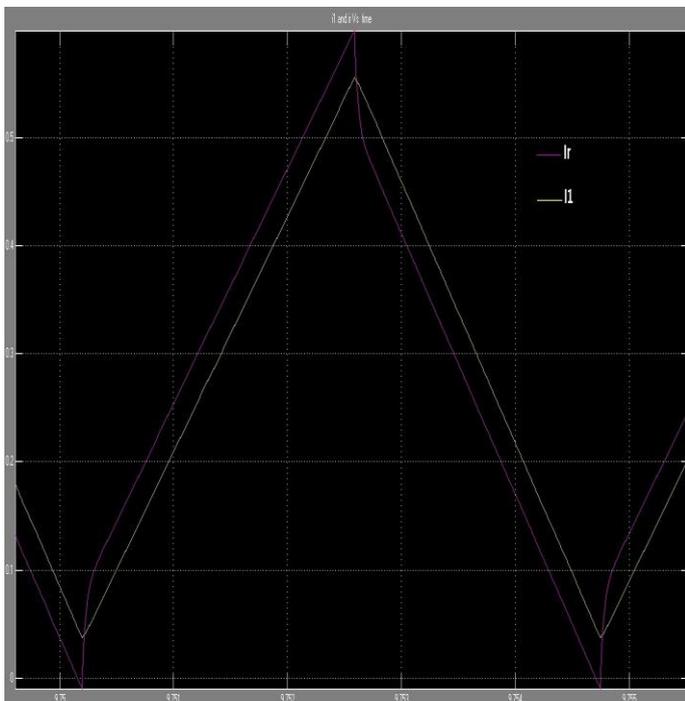


Fig :8 Waveforms of i_r and i_1

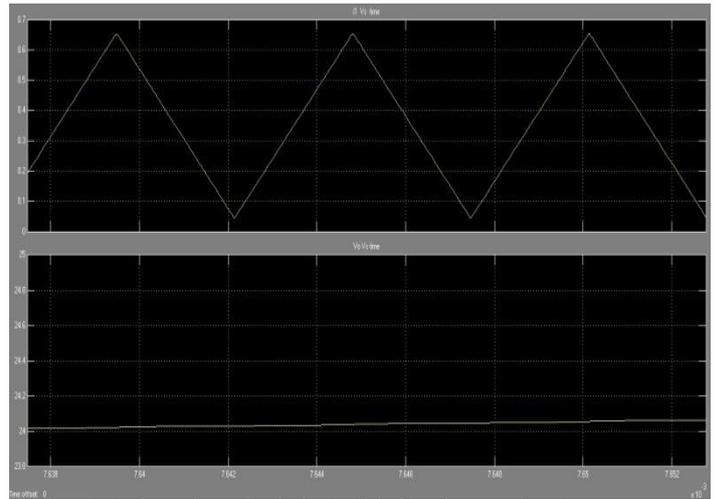


Fig:9 current through main inductor(I_1) Vs time and output voltage(V_0) Vs time

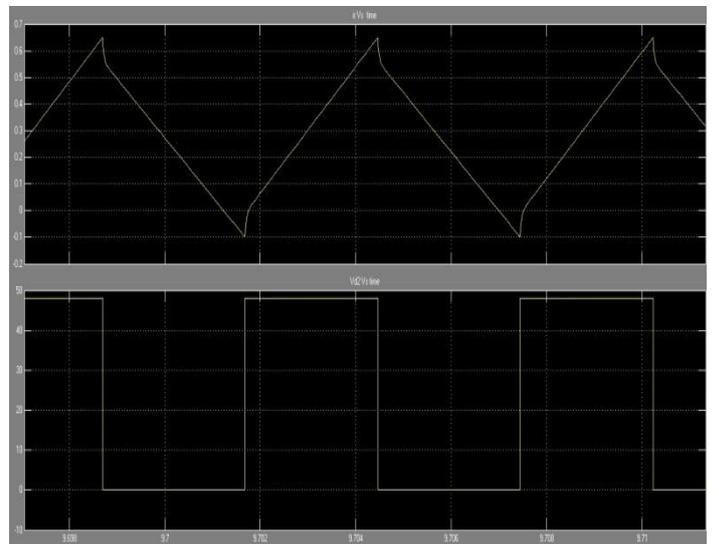


Fig:10 current through resonant inductor(I_r) Vs time and voltage across switch,S2 (V_{d2}) Vs time

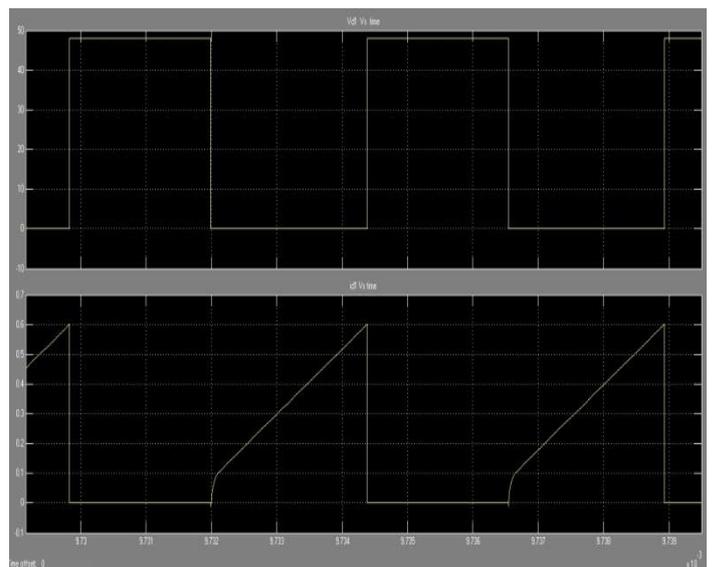


Fig :11 voltage across switch,S1 (V_{d1}) Vs time and current through switch S1(I_{a1}) Vs time

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper a soft switching technique for buck converter is proposed. This technique allows the main inductor current to operate in continuous conduction mode (CCM) with small ripple current and at the same time ensures ZVS conditions of the switch. A modified current control is used in this converter to achieve ZVS condition. The modes of operation are analyzed in detail. MATLAB results (fig 8,9,10,11) of the converter is presented in the paper, they agree with the analysis. Because of soft switching conditions high efficiency could be obtained in this converter. Continuous main inductor current will allow high power application and reduced filter size. Feature investigation is underway for boost converter.

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