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Closed–Loop Input Impedance of PWM Buck–Derived DC–DC Converters

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Abstract— The small-signal closed-loop input impedance is derived for the PWM buck dc-dc converter operated in continuous conduction mode (CCM), taking into account all parasitic resistances. The plots of the closed-loop input impedance are shown versus frquency for four values of the equivalent series resistance of the capacitor.¹

I. INTRODUCTION

A small-signal linear circuit model of the PWM buck converter has been developed, taking into account all parasitic resistances [1]-[3]. This derivation used an evergy conservation method. The current ripple in the inductor is neglected in [1], [2] and is taken into account in [3]. Openloop small-signal characteristics were illustrated using this model. The purpose of this paper is to present the derivation of the closed-loop input impedance of the voltagemode-controlled PWM buck dc-dc power converter with a proportional controller for CCM.

II. SMALL-SIGNAL CIRCUIT MODEL OF THE PWM BUCK CONVERTER

A circuit of the PWM buck converter is shown in Fig. 1(a). It consists of a power MOSFET as a switch S, a diode D1, an inductor L, and a filter capacitor C. The converter is fed by a dc input voltage source V_I and is loaded by a dc load resistance R. The switch is turned on and off at the switching frequency $f_s = 1/T$ and the on-duty ratio is $D = t_{on}/T$, where t_{on} is the time interval during which the switch is on. Parasitic components associated with each circuit component, where r_{DS} is the MOSFET's onresistance, R_F is the diode forward resistance, V_F is the diode threshold voltage, r_L is the equivalent series resistance of inductor L, and r_C is the ESR of the filter capacitor C.

Fig. 1(b) depicts a small-signal model of this converter [1], where d is the ac component of the switch duty ratio, v_i is the ac component of the input voltage, v_o is the ac component of the output voltage, I_L is the dc component of the inductor current, and i_l is the ac component of the inductor current. Resistance r is an equivalent averaged resistance (EAR) and is given by [1]

$$r = Dr_{DS} + (1 - D)R_F + r_L.$$
 (1)

Fig. 1(c) shows a block diagram of a closed-loop buck converter. T_p represents a small-signal model of the buck

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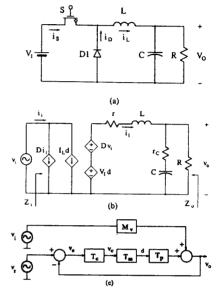


Fig. 1: PWM buck converter. (a) Circuit. (b) Small-signal model (c) Block diagram of the closed-loop voltage-mode-controlled converter.

converter, T_m represents a PWM modulator, T_c represents a controller, M_v represents an input-to-output voltage transfer function, T_{ol} is the the open-loop control-to-output transfer function, v_c is the output voltage of the controller, v_e is the error signal applied to the input of the controller, and v_r is the ac component of the reference voltage. This is a two-input and a single-output system. It is driven by two independent sources, v_r and v_i . The ac component of the output voltage is

$$v_o(s) = \frac{T_{ol}}{1 + T_{ol}} v_r(s) + \frac{M_v(s)}{1 + T_{ol}} v_i(s).$$
(2)

The PWM buck-derived converters such as the forward, push-pull, half-bridge, and full-bridge converters (which contain transformers) have the same small-signal model and characteristics as the PWM buck converter [2]. Therefore, the transformer turns ratio n is included in the subsequent equations. The equivalent averaged resistance r is the only difference between these converters [2].

III. OPEN-LOOP TRANSFER FUNCTIONS

The small-signal model of Fig. 1(b) can be used to describe the converter performance for frequencies f up to

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about one-half the switching frequency f_s . Using this model, one can derive the control-to-output (or duty ratio-to-output) transfer function in the s-domain

 $v_o(s)$

$$T_{p}(s) \equiv \frac{1}{d(s)} |_{v_{i}(s)=0}$$

$$= \frac{V_{I}Rr_{C}}{nL(R+r_{C})} \frac{s + \frac{1}{Cr_{C}}}{s^{2} + s\frac{C(Rr_{C}+Rr+r_{C}r)+L}{LC(R+r_{C})}} + \frac{R+r}{LC(R+r_{C})}$$

$$= \frac{V_{I}R\omega_{r}^{2}}{n\omega_{z}(R+r)} \frac{s + \omega_{z}}{s^{2} + 2\xi_{r}\omega_{r}s + \omega_{r}^{2}}$$
(3)

where the frequency of the zero is

_ / \

$$\omega_z = \frac{1}{Cr_C} \tag{4}$$

the corner frequency is

$$\omega_r = \sqrt{\frac{R+r}{LC(R+r_C)}} \tag{5}$$

and the damping ratio is

$$\xi_r = \frac{C(Rr_C + Rr + r_C r) + L}{2\sqrt{LC(R + r_C)(R + r)}}.$$
 (6)

Fig. 2(a) and (b) shows plots of the magnitude and the phase of T_p . The characteristics of T_p are plotted for four values of r_C because they strongly depend on r_C .

The voltage transfer function of the PWM modulator is

$$T_m \equiv \frac{d(s)}{v_c(s)} = \frac{1}{V_{Tm}} \tag{7}$$

where V_{Tm} is the peak value of the ramp voltage of the PWM modulator. It is assumed that $V_{Tm} = 5$ V, resulting in $T_m = 0.2 = -14$ dB.

The control-to-output transfer function of the converter and the modulator is given by

$$T_1(s) \equiv \frac{v_o(s)}{v_c(s)} = T_m T_p(s)$$
$$= \frac{V_I R \omega_r^2}{n \omega_z V_{T_m}(R+r)} \frac{s + \omega_z}{s^2 + 2\xi_r \omega_r s + \omega_r^2}.$$
(8)

Fig. 2(c) depicts a Bode plot of $|T_1|$. The phase shift ϕ_{T_1} of T_1 is the same as the phase shift ϕ_{T_p} and is depicted in Fig. 2(b).

To obtain a wide bandwidth of the open-loop transfer function, a proportional controller is used. The controller which employs an inverting op-amp is shown in Fig. 3. Since the operation at high frequencies is of interest, the frequency response of the op-amp should be taken into account. For this reason, a pure proportional controller is difficult to realize. The voltage transfer function of the controller for the ac component is

$$T_c(s) \equiv \frac{v_c(s)}{v_e(s)} = \frac{A_{vo}}{1 + \frac{s}{\omega_{HJ}}} = \frac{A_{vo}}{1 + \frac{sA_{vo}}{\omega_1}}$$
(9)

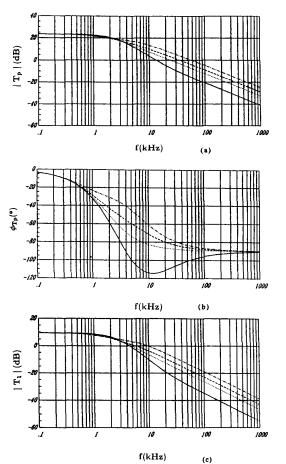


Fig. 2: Control-to-output transfer function $T_p = |T_p| e^{j\phi_{T_p}}$ and $|T_1|$ for $V_I = 30$ V, n = 1, $L = 5 \mu$ H, C = 1 mF, $R = 0.25 \Omega$, $r = 0.15 \Omega$, D = 0.3, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω . (a) $|T_p|$ against f. (b) $\phi_{T_p} = \phi_{T_1}$ against f. (c) $|T_1|$ against f.

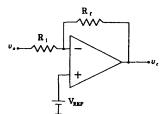


Fig. 3: Circuit diagram of the proportional controller.

where the low frequency gain is

$$A_{vo} = \frac{R_f}{R_i}.$$
 (10)

The open-loop control-to-output transfer function is

$$T_{ol}(s) = T_c(s)T_1(s) = T_c(s)T_mT_p(s).$$
 (11)

Plots of T_{ol} are shown in Fig. 4. The crossover frequency f_c of the open-loop transfer function | T_{ol} | is 27 to 100 kHz

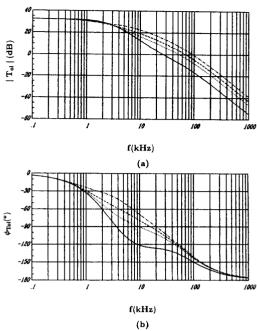


Fig. 4: Open-loop transfer function $T_{ol} = |T_{ol}| e^{j \phi_{T_{ol}}}$ for $L = 5 \ \mu\text{H}, C = 1 \ \text{mF}, R = 0.25 \ \Omega, r = 0.15 \ \Omega, D = 0.3, A_{vo} = 14$, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω . (a) $|T_{ol}|$ against f. (b) $\phi_{T_{ol}}$ against f.

for r_C ranging from 0.01 to 0.1 Ω . The phase margin is greater than 45°. Since the phase $\phi_{T_{ol}}$ never crosses -180°, the gain margin cannot be determined.

The input-to-output (or line-to-output) voltage transfer function (which describes the input-output noise transmission), is

$$M_{v}(s) \equiv \frac{v_{o}(s)}{v_{i}(s)} |_{d(s)=0}$$

$$= \frac{DRr_{C}}{nL(R+r_{C})} \frac{s + \frac{1}{Cr_{C}}}{s^{2} + s\frac{C(Rr_{C}+Rr+r_{C}r)+L}{LC(R+r_{C})}} + \frac{R+r}{LC(R+r_{C})}$$

$$= \frac{DR\omega_{r}^{2}}{n\omega_{z}(R+r)} \frac{s + \omega_{z}}{s^{2} + 2\xi_{r}\omega_{r}s + \omega_{r}^{2}}.$$
(12)

It follows from (12) that $|M_v|$ increases with increasing D. Therefore, M_v should be considered for the maximum value of D. Plots of $|M_v|$ are shown in Fig. 5.

The open-loop input impedance is

$$Z_i(s) \equiv \frac{v_i(s)}{i_i(s)} \mid_{d(s)=0}$$
$$= \frac{n^2 L}{D^2} \frac{s^2 + s \frac{C(Rr_C + Rr + r_C r) + L}{LC(R + r_C)} + \frac{R + r}{LC(R + r_C)}}{s + \frac{1}{C(R + r_C)}}$$
$$= \frac{n^2 L}{D^2} \frac{s^2 + 2\xi_r \omega_r s + \omega_r^2}{s + \omega_{cr}}$$

where

$$\omega_{cr} = \frac{1}{C(R+r_C)}.$$
 (14)

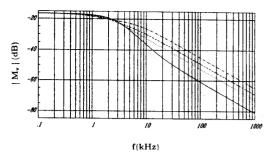


Fig. 5: Magnitude of the open-loop input-to-output transfer function | M_v | against f for $V_I = 30$ V, n = 1, $L = 5 \mu$ H, C = 1 mF, $R = 0.25 \Omega$, $r = 0.15 \Omega$, D = 0.3, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω .

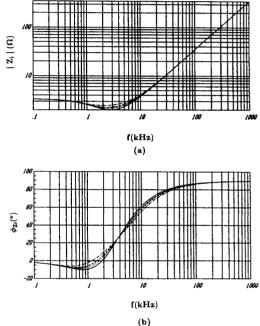


Fig. 6: Open-loop input impedance $Z_i = |Z_i| e^{j\phi_{Z_i}}$ for D = 0.3, n = 1, $L = 5 \mu$ H, C = 1 mF, $R = 0.25 \Omega$, $r = 0.15 \Omega$, D = 0.3, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω . (a) $|Z_i|$ against f. (b) ϕ_{Z_i} against f.

For s = 0,

$$Z_i(0) = \frac{n^2(R+r)}{D^2}.$$
 (15)

Fig. 6 shows plots of Z_i as a function of frequency.

IV. CLOSED-LOOP INPUT IMPEDANCE

The closed-loop input impedance can be derived as follows. Referring to the block diagram shown in Fig. 1(c) (13) and assuming $v_r = 0$,

$$v_o = T_p d + M_v v_i \tag{16}$$

$$d = -v_o T_c T_m = -(T_p d + M_v v_i) T_c T_m.$$
(17)

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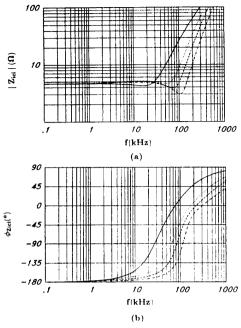


Fig. 7: Closed-loop input impedance $Z_{icl} = |Z_{icl}| e^{j\phi_{Zicl}}$ for $A_{vo} = 14$, $f_1 = 1$ MHz, $V_{Tm} = 5$ V, D = 0.3, n = 1, $L = 5 \mu$ H, C = 1 mF, $R = 0.25 \Omega$, $r = 0.15 \Omega$, D = 0.3, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω . (a) $|Z_{icl}|$ against f. (b) ϕ_{Zicl} against f.

Dividing (12) by (3) gives

$$M_v = \frac{D}{V_I} T_p. \tag{18}$$

Substitution of (11) and (18) into (17) yields

$$d = -\frac{T_c T_m M_v}{1 + T_c T_m T_p} v_i = -v_i \left(\frac{M_v}{T_p}\right) \left(\frac{T_{ol}}{1 + T_{ol}}\right)$$
$$= -\frac{DT_{ol}}{V_l (1 + T_{ol})} v_i. \tag{19}$$

Neglecting V_F in a dc model of the buck converter [1],

$$I_L = \frac{DV_I}{n(R+r)}.$$
 (20)

Finally, the closed-loop input admittance is given by

$$Y_{icl} = \frac{1}{Z_{icl}} \equiv \frac{i_i}{v_i} = \frac{Di_l + I_L d}{nv_i}$$
$$= \frac{1}{Z_i} \frac{1}{1 + T_{ol}} - \frac{DI_L}{V_I} \frac{T_{ol}}{1 + T_{ol}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{Z_i} \frac{1}{1 + T_{ol}} - \frac{D^2}{n^2 (R + r)} \frac{T_{ol}}{1 + T_{ol}}$$
(21)

where $i_l = n(Dv_i + V_I d)/(D^2 Z_i)$. If s = 0 and $|T_{ol}| > 1$ then

$$Z_{icl}(0) \approx -\frac{n^2(R+r)}{D^2} = -Z_i(0).$$
 (22)

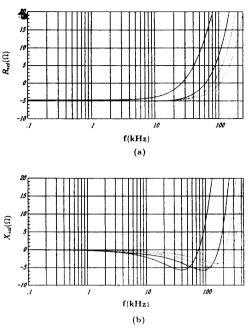


Fig. 8: Closed-loop input impedance $Z_{icl} = R_{icl} + jX_{icl}$ for $A_{vo} = 14$, $f_1 = 1$ MHz, $V_{Tm} = 5$ V, D = 0.3, n = 1, $L = 5 \mu$ H, C = 1 mF, $R = 0.25 \Omega$, $r = 0.15 \Omega$, D = 0.3, and various values of $r_C = 0.01$ (solid line), 0.03, 0.05, and 0.1 Ω . (a) R_{icl} against f. (b) X_{icl} against f.

For $f >> f_c$ and $|T_{ol}| << 1$, $Z_{icl} \approx Z_i(1+T_{ol}) \approx Z_i$. Figs. 7 and 8 show plots of the closed-loop input impedance. It can be seen from Fig. 8(a) that the closed-loop input resistance R_{icl} is negative at low frequencies.

V. CONCLUSIONS

The small-signal closed-loop input impedance of the PWM buck-derived dc-dc power converters has been derived and illustrated for four values of the ESR of the filter capacitor. A proportional controller was used. Plots of the closedloop input-impedance have been shown. The closed-loop input resistance is negative at low frequencies. The results agree with those obtained from the state-space averaging method [4].

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