



Designing of Transformer less Bidirectional DC-DC Converter

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Abstract: Transformer less Soft Switching Bidirectional DC-DC Chopper has been proposed in this paper. The above mentioned system can be operated with ZVS, fixed switching frequency, and a ripple-free inductor current regardless of the power flow direction. To provide ZVS of the power switches and a ripple-free inductor current, the proposed converter utilizes a simple auxiliary circuit that consists of an additional winding to the main inductor and an auxiliary inductor. In the ZVS operation, the reverse recovery problem of the anti parallel body diode of the power switch does not occur. The ripple-free inductor current can reduce the voltage ripple. Analysis of the proposed bidirectional DC-DC converter a discussed in detail, and the experimental results obtained on 100-W prototype are analyzed in this paper.

Key words: Bidirectional DC-DC converter, DC-DC power conversion ,zero-voltage-switching.

I. INTRODUCTION

Bidirectional DC-DC converters have been widely used in various industrial applications such as renewable energy systems, fuel cell vehicle, hybrid electric vehicle and uninterruptible power supplies. In those applications, bidirectional DC-DC converters control the power flow between the dc bus and the low-voltage sources such as back-up batteries, fuel cells, and super capacitors. Bidirectional DC-DC converters can be classified into isolated versions [2]–[7] and nonisolated versions [8]–[15]. It depends on the application.

This paper focuses on the transformer less Soft Switching Bidirectional Dc-DC Chopper . This converter is based on a half-bridge configuration where the combination of boost and buck converter. The nonisolated bidirectional DC-DC converter is shown in Figure. 1. Both boost and buck modes, the conventional bidirectional DC-DC converter can operate in continuous conduction mode (CCM).

Although the CCM operation can provide a low ripple current ,switching loss of the power switches is large and there exists the reverse recovery phenomenon of the anti parallel body diode of the power switch. With a smaller inductance, the conventional converter can operate with an inductor current that flows in both directions during each switching period.

II. THE PROPOSED CONVERTER

Figure. 1 shows a conventional nonisolated bidirectional DC-DC converter. In boost mode, the switch S_2 acts as a boost switch and the switch S_1 acts as a boost diode. In buck mode, S_1 acts as a buck switch and S_2 acts as a buck diode. Typically, back-up batteries or super capacitors act as the low side voltage source V_{lo} . The dc voltage bus as the high side voltage source V_{hi} Thus ZVS operation of the power switches is achieved. However, large inductor current ripple causes large voltage ripple and shortens lifetime of low-voltage sources such as batteries and fuel cells. Interleaving technique can be chosen to the bidirectional DC- DC converters. If there are several identical bidirectional ZVS DC-DC converters connected in parallel, current ripple problem can be solved [11]–[12]. However, the multichannel interleaved structure has many components and its control algorithm is complex.

Since the conventional non isolated bidirectional DC-DC converter shown in Figure.1 provides a continuous inductor current, the auxiliary circuits providing ZVS function can be a solution [10], [14]. However, most of them include one or more active switches which raise the overall cost. In order to remedy these problems, a new non isolated bidirectional ZVS DC-DC converter is proposed. This proposed converter can be operate as ZVS, fixed switching frequency, and a ripple free inductor current regardless of the direction of power flow.

A simple auxiliary circuit that consists of an additional winding to the main inductor and an auxiliary inductor provides ZVS function and cancels out the ripple component of the inductor current. The ripple-free inductor current can enlarge the lifetime of the battery that is usually used as a low side voltage source. The theoretical analysis is provided in the following section. The theoretical analysis is verified by a 100W experimental.

high-frequency filter capacitor at dc bus. The proposed bidirectional DC-DC converter is shown in Figure. 2. It is very similar to the conventional converter except that an additional winding N_s to the main inductor and auxiliary inductor L_s are added and the filter capacitor C_f is split into C_{f1} and C_{f2} . This auxiliary

circuit provides ZVS function and cancels out the ripple component of the main inductor current regardless of the direction of power flow. The equivalent circuit of the proposed converter is shown in Figure. 3.

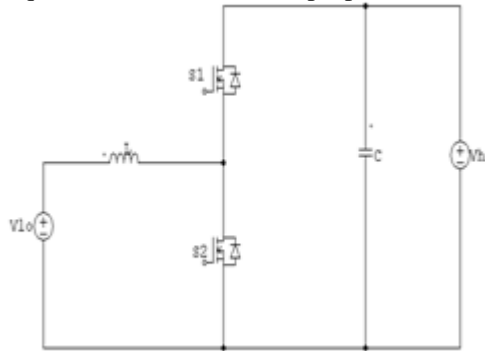


Figure.1 Block diagram of Conventional Bidirectional DC-DC Converter.

The coupled inductor L_c is designed as a magnetizing inductance L_m and an ideal transformer that has a turn ratio of $N_p: N_s (= 1: n)$. The leakage inductance of the coupled inductor L_c is included in the auxiliary inductor L_s . The diodes $D1$ and $D2$ represent the intrinsic body diodes of $S1$ and $S2$. The capacitors $C1$ and $C2$ are the parasitic output capacitances of $S1$ and $S2$. Since the capacitances of capacitors Cf_1 and Cf_2 are large enough, they can be considered as voltage sources V_{Cf_1} and V_{Cf_2} during a switching period. The average of the voltage across the inductor should be zero at steady-state according to volt-second balance law, the average values of the filter capacitors voltages V_{Cf_1} and V_{Cf_2} are equal to the voltages $V_{hi}-V_{lo}$ and V_{lo} , respectively. Figure. 4(a) shows the theoretical waveforms for the boost mode of the proposed converter. Figure. 4(b) describes the buck mode of the proposed converter. Figure. 5 shows the operating modes of boost and buck modes. Both boost and buck modes have four operating modes during a switching period $T_s (= t_4-t_0)$.

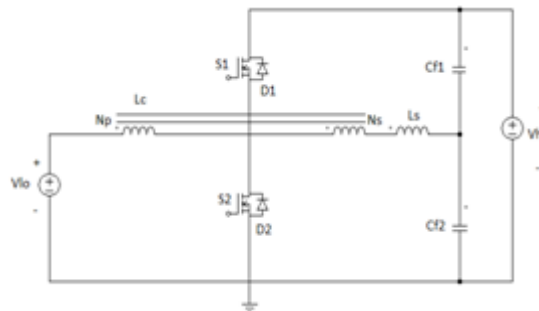


Figure.2 Circuit Diagram of the Proposed Bidirectional DC-DC Converter.

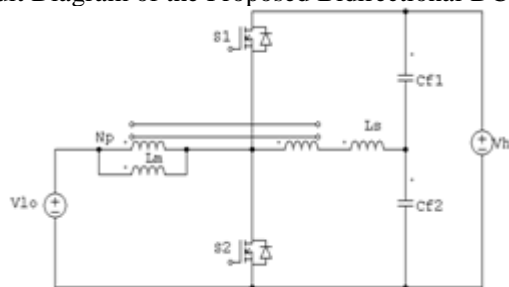


Figure.3 Equivalent Circuit diagram of the Proposed Converter

(A) boost Operation

As shown in Figure. 4(a), before t_0 , $S1$ is conducting. The magnetizing current i_m decreases linearly and the current i_{Ls} increases linearly. At t_0 , they have their minimum and maximum values I_{m2} and I_{Ls1} , respectively. is $(1-n)I_{Ls1}-I_{m2}$ at t_0 . With an assumption that the capacitors $C1$ and $C2$ are very small and the time interval in this mode is very short, so that all the currents can be considered as constant and the voltages v_{S1} and v_{S2} vary linearly. The transition time interval T_{t1} can be simplified as follows:

$$T_{t1} = \frac{(C_1 + C_2)V_{hi}}{\dots} \quad (1)$$

Mode 2 [t_1, t_2]: At t_1 , the voltage v_{S2} arrives at zero and the body diode $D2$ of $S2$ starts to conduct. Then, the gate pulse for the switch $S2$ is applied. Since the voltage v_{S2} is maintained as zero at the moment of the turn-on of $S2$, zero-voltage turn-on of $S2$ is achieved. Since the voltage v_p across the magnetizing inductance L_m is V_{lo} , the magnetizing current i_m increases linearly from I_{m2} as follows

$$i_m(t) = I_{m2} - \frac{V_{lo}}{L_m} t \quad (2)$$

Since the secondary voltage v_s across the secondary winding of the coupled inductor L_c is nV_o , the voltage v_{Ls} across the auxiliary inductor L_s is $-(1-n)V_o$. Then, the inductor current i_{Ls} decreases linearly as follows:

$$i_{Ls}(t) = I_{Ls1} - \frac{(1-n)V_o}{L_s} t \quad (3)$$

Since the primary current i_p is equal to nI_{Ls} , the current at the low-voltage side i_{lo} can be derived from (2) and (3) as follows:

$$i_{lo}(t) = i_m(t) + i_p(t) = I_{m2} + nI_{Ls1} + \frac{V_{hi}}{L_m} t - \frac{n(1-n)}{L_s} V_o t \quad (4)$$

Since the switch current i_{S2} is $i_{lo} - i_{Ls}$, it can be obtained from (3) and (4). At the end of this mode, the inductor current i_{Ls} arrives at its minimum value $-I_{Ls2}$ and the magnetizing current i_m arrives at its maximum values I_{m1} . **Mode 3** [t_2, t_3]: This mode begins with the turn-off of S_2 . At this moment, the switch current i_{S2} is $I_{m1} + (1-n)I_{Ls2}$. This current starts to charge C_2 and discharge C_1 . Similar to Mode 1, the transition time interval T_{t2} can be considered as follows:

$$T_{t2} = \frac{(C_1 + C_2)V_{hi}}{(1-n)I_{Ls2} + I_{m1}} \quad (5)$$

Mode 4 [t_3, t_4]: At t_3 , the voltage v_{S1} across the switch S_1 arrives at zero and its body diode D_1 starts to conduct. After that, the gate pulse for the switch S_1 is applied. Since the voltage v_{S1} is maintained as zero at the moment of the turn-on of S_1 , zero voltage turn-on of S_1 is achieved. In this mode, the voltage v_p is $(V_{hi} - V_o)$. So, the magnetizing current i_m decreases linearly as follows:

$$i_m(t) = I_{m1} - \frac{V_{hi} - V_o}{L_m} t \quad (6)$$

Mode 1 [t_0, t_1]: This begins with turn-off of S_1 . The switch current i_{S1} :

$$i_{S1}(t) = I_{m1} - nI_{Ls2} - \frac{V_{hi} - V_o}{L_m} t + \frac{n(1-n)V_o - V_{lo}}{L_s} t$$

low-voltage side current i_{lo} can be derived as follows:

$$T_{t1} = \frac{(C_1 + C_2)V_{hi}}{(1-n)I_{Ls1} + I_{m2}} \quad (7)$$

At the end of this mode, the inductor current i_{Ls} arrives at its maximum value I_{Ls1} and the current i_m arrives at its minimum values I_{m2} .

(B). Buck Operation:

The buck operation of the above proposed converter is identical to its boost operation except that the directions of the magnetizing current i_m and the low-voltage side current i_{lo} are opposite to those in boost mode. As shown in Figure. 4(b), before t_0 , S_1 is conducting. The magnetizing current i_m decreases linearly and the current i_{Ls} increases linearly. At t_0 , they have their maximum values $-I_{m2}$ and I_{Ls1} , respectively. **Mode 1** [t_0, t_1]: This begins with turn-off of S_1 . The switch current i_{S1} is $(1-n)I_{Ls1} + I_{m2}$ at t_0 . With an assumption that the capacitors C_1 and C_2 are very small and the time interval in this mode is very short so that all the currents can be considered as constant and the voltages V_{S1} and V_{S2} can consider to be vary linearly. The transition time interval T_{t1} can be simplified as follows:

$$i_m(t) = -I_{m2} + \frac{V_{hi}}{L_m} t \quad (8)$$

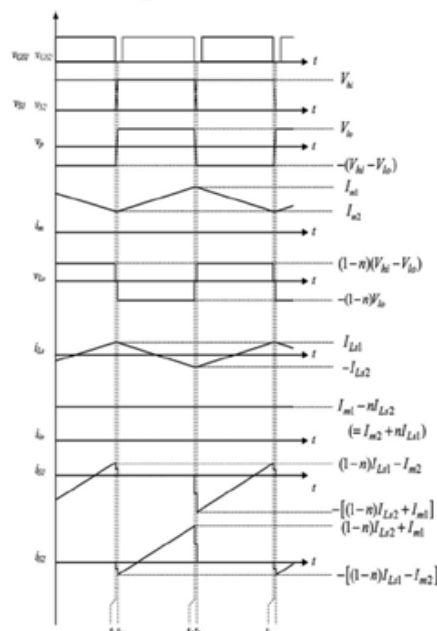


Figure 4 Output Waveforms

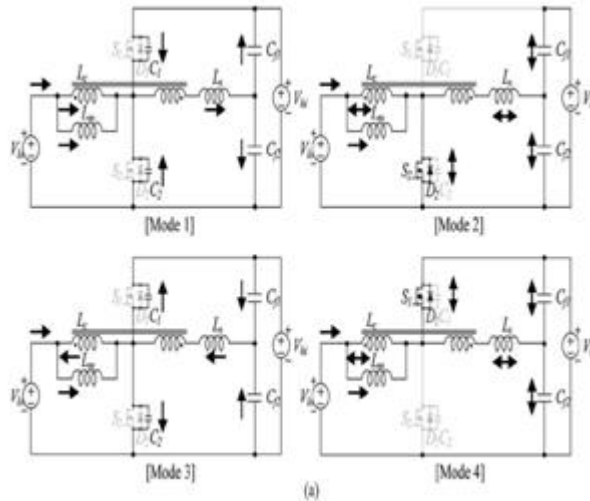


Figure.5 Operating principle (Boost mode).

Mode 2 [t1, t2]: At t1, the voltage VS 2 arrives at zero and the body diode D2 of S2 starts to conduct. Then, the gate pulse for the switch S2 is applied. Since the voltage vS 2 is maintained as zero at the moment of the turn-on of S2, zero-voltage turn-on of S2 is achieved. Since the voltage vp across the magnetizing inductance Lm is Vlo, the magnetizing current Im increases linearly from -Im2 as follows:

$$i_{Ls}(t) = I_{Ls1} - \frac{(1-n)V_{lo}}{L_s} t \quad (9)$$

Since the secondary voltage vs across the secondary winding of the coupled inductor Lc is nVlo, the voltage vLs across the auxiliary inductor Ls is -(1-n)Vlo. Then, the inductor current iLs decreases linearly as follows

$$i_{Ls}(t) = i_m(t) + i_p(t) = -I_{m2} + nI_{Ls1} + \frac{V_{lo}}{L_m} t - \frac{n(1-n)}{L_s} V_{lo} t \quad (10)$$

Since the primary current Ip is equal to nIls and the low-voltage side current ilo can be derived from (9) and (10) as follows:

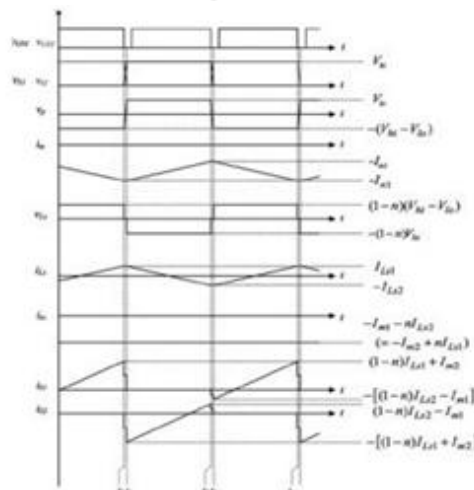
$$T_{t2} = \frac{(C_1 + C_2)V_{hi}}{(1-n)I_{Ls2} - I_{m1}} \quad (11)$$

Since the switch current iS 2 is Io-ILs, it can be obtained from (10) and (11). At the end of this mode, the inductor current iLs arrives at its minimum value -ILs2 and the magnetizing current im arrives at its maximum values -Im1. Mode 3 [t2, t3]: This mode begins with the turn-off of S2. At this moment, the switch current iS 2 is -Im1+ (1-n)ILs2. This current starts to charge C2 and discharge C1. Similar to Mode 1, the transition time interval Tt 2 can be considered as follows

$$i_m(t) = -I_{m1} - \frac{V_{hi} - V_{lo}}{L_m} t \quad (12)$$

Mode 4 [t3, t4]: At t3, the voltage vS 1 across the switch S1 arrives at zero and its body diode D1 starts to conduct. After that, the gate pulse for the switch S1 is applied. Since the voltage VS 1 is maintained as zero at the moment of the turn-on of S1, zero voltage turn-on of S1 is achieved. In this mode, the voltage Vp is (Vhi-Vlo). So, the magnetizing current Im decreases linearly as follows:

$$i_{Ls}(t) = -I_{Ls2} - \frac{(1-n)(V_{hi} - V_{lo})}{L_s} t \quad (13)$$



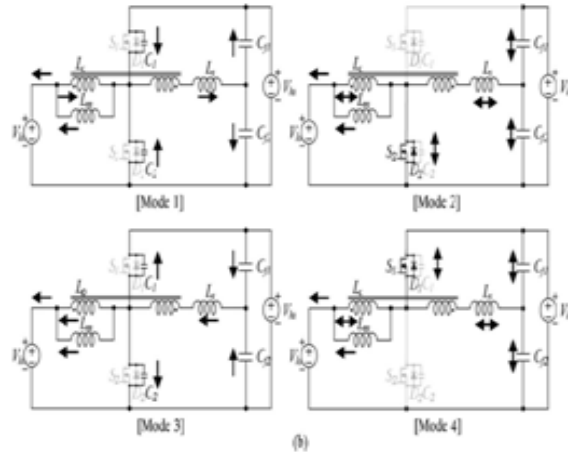


Figure 6. Operating Principle (Buck mode)

Since the voltage v_{Ls} across the inductor L_s is $(1-n)(V_{hi}-V_{lo})$, the current i_{Ls} increases linearly as follows

$$i_{Ls}(t) = -I_{m1} - nI_{Ls2} - \frac{V_{hi}-V_{lo}}{L_s} t + \frac{n(1-n)(V_{hi}-V_{lo})}{L_s} t \quad (14)$$

From (14) and (15), the low-voltage side current i_{lo} can be derived as follows

$$L_s = n(1-n)L_m \quad (15)$$

Since the switch current I_{S1} is $I_{Ls} - I_{lo}$, it can be obtained from (14) and (15). At the end of this mode, the inductor current I_{Ls} arrives at its maximum value I_{Ls1} and the current I_m arrives at its minimum values $-I_{m2}$

(C). Ripple Current Cancellation:

The ripple-free low-voltage side current can reduce the voltage ripple and enlarge the lifetime of the battery that is usually used as a low side voltage source. In the proposed converter, the ripple-free current characteristic can be easily achieved by utilizing the simple auxiliary circuit. From (4), (8), (12), and (16), the zero-ripple condition can be obtained by

$$V_{lo}DT_s = (V_{hi} - V_{lo})(1 - D)T_s \quad (14)$$

(D). Relation between V_{lo} and V

The relation between V_{lo} and V_{hi} is equal to that of the conventional bidirectional DC-DC converter shown in Figure 1. Referring to the voltage waveforms v_p across the magnetizing inductance L_m shown in Figure 4(a) and 4(b), the volt-second balance law gives

$$\frac{V_{hi}}{V_{lo}} = \frac{1}{1-D} \quad (15)$$

Where $D = (t_2 - t_1) / T_s$

(E). I_{Ls1} and I_{Ls2}

The auxiliary inductor current I_{Ls} always flows through $C_f 1$ and $C_f 2$. Since the average value of a current flowing through a capacitor should be zero at steady state, it can be seen easily from Figure 4(a) and (b) that I_{Ls1} is equal to I_{Ls2} . From Modes 2 and 4 in both boost and buck modes, I_{Ls1} and I_{Ls2} can be obtained as follows:

$$I_{Ls1} = I_{Ls2} = \frac{(1-n)V_{lo}DT_s}{2L_s} \quad (16)$$

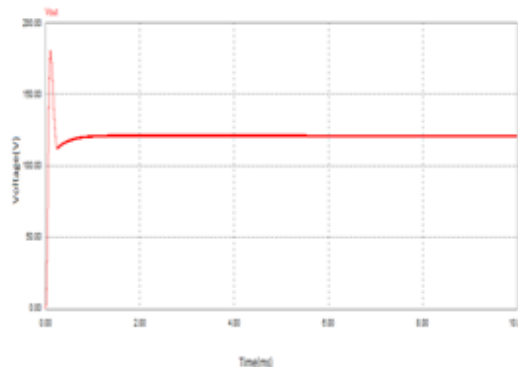


Figure.7 Output Of Boost Converter

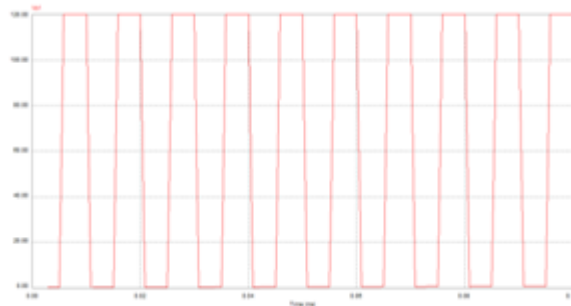


Figure.8 Output Across Switch S1

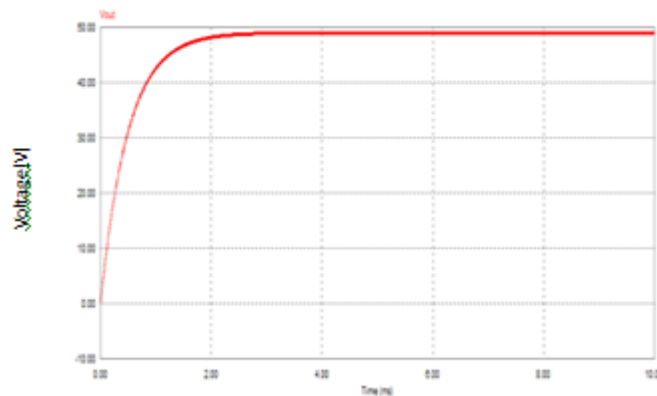


Figure 9. Output of Buck Converter

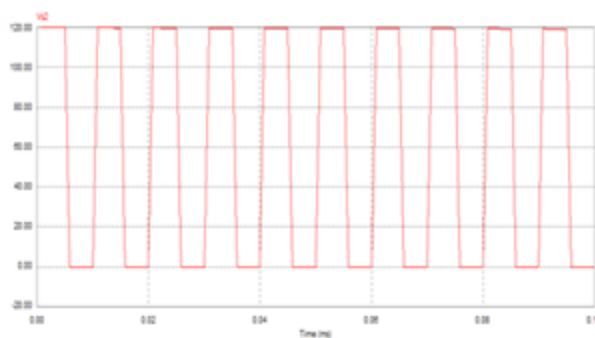


Figure 10. Output Across Switch S2.

III. CONCLUSION

A new Transformer less Soft Switching Bidirectional DC-DC Converter has been proposed. ZVS of the power switches is always achieved and the reverse recovery problem of the anti parallel body diode of the power switches is solved in this research. Soft switching of power switches reduces the switching loss and improves the efficiency compared with the conventional non isolated bidirectional dc-dc converter when heavy load is applied. This provides the ripple-free current characteristic in low-voltage side regardless of load condition.

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