Analysis of Single Phase AC-DC SEPIC Converter using Closed Loop Techniques

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ABSTRACT: This paper proposes single phase AC-DC SEPIC converter using closed loop techniques for domestic and industrial applications. The Single Ended Primary Inductor Converter (SEPIC) is a type of DC-DC converter allowing the electrical potential (voltage) at its output to be greater then, less then, or equal to that of its input. A SEPIC converter is similar to the BUCK-BOOST and BOOST-BUCK converter, but has advantages of having non-inverted output (The polarity of the output voltage is same as that of the input). There are two types of techniques, open loop and closed loop technique. In open loop, a non-isolated SEPIC converter is used. This has lower power factor and high THD. Hence the closed loop technique is used to improve power factor and THD. The control techniques are voltage follower approach and average current control technique. By using the above techniques the power quality parameters will be improved when compared to open loop. The simulation of SEPIC converter is done by using the software tool PSIM (Power Simulation).

KEYWORDS: SEPIC converter, Power Factor Correction, Harmonic reduction, PWM, PSIM.

INTRODUCTION

Power conversion is converting electric energy from one form to another, converting between AC and DC or just varying the voltage and frequency or some combination of these. The power conversion systems can be classified according to the type of input and output power

- AC to DC (Rectifier)
- DC to AC (inverter)
- DC to DC (DC to DC converter)
- AC to AC (DC to AC converter)

DC to DC converters are important in portable electronic devices such as cellular phones and laptop computers, which are supplied by power from batteries mainly. The majority DC to DC converters also control the output voltage. AC to DC converters (rectifier) is an electrical device that converts alternating current (AC), which periodically reverses direction, to direct current (DC), which flows in only one direction. The process is well-known as rectification. Rectifiers have several uses, however are often found serving as components of DC power supplies and high-voltage direct current power transmission systems. Rectification may well serve in roles other than to generate direct current for use as a source of power. Because of the alternating nature of the input AC sine waves, the method of rectification only produces a DC current that, while unidirectional, consists of pulses of current. Several applications of rectifiers, such as power supplies for television, radio and computer equipment, necessitate a steady constant DC current (as would be produced by a battery). Normally AC-DC conversion is carried out by simply rectifying the AC input and the rectified output voltage is filtered by means of a large valued capacitance to get a nearly constant DC output voltage. In this conversion, the input AC supply current is drawn in narrow pulses since the capacitor voltage value is nearly constant. This narrow pulse current of high peak, results in power quality problems to nearby consumers, which include higher value of THD on supply current, higher THD of input supply voltage, lower value of power factor and displacement factor. These large harmonic currents are undesirable because they not only produce distortion of AC line voltage but also result in conducted and radiated electromagnetic interference (EMI). The problem becomes more serious particularly when several drive units are connected to single phase supply where the input power pulsates at twice the frequency. Recent international regulations governing the power quality and harmonic currents pollution limits at the utility have placed an increased emphasis on the application of improved power quality AC-DC converters to feed the load. For ideal sine wave line voltage, harmonic currents do not contribute to active power; this
result in increased value of RMS current and therefore produces higher losses in the utility line. It is a prime concern to consider these power quality issues to design an AC-DC power converter, which provides unity power factor at input mains and also results in close regulations of output DC voltage. The single-ended primary-inductance converter (SEPIC) is a DC/DC-converter topology that provides a positive regulated output voltage from an input voltage that varies from above to below the output voltage. This kind of conversion is helpful when the designer uses voltages (e.g., 12 V) from an unregulated input power supply such as a low-cost wall wart. The SEPIC converter topology is one that fulfils all above requirements without inverting output voltage polarity. The circuit was first developed at AT&T Bell laboratories in the mid 1970s and has not been very widely used until recently. Now it is becoming more and more popular, especially in power conversion systems where the input voltage varies in wide range. In typical DC-DC power conversion system the output voltage must be kept constant regardless of changes in the input voltage or in effective load resistance. Therefore, such system invariably requires feedback control loop. Its design is based on the dynamic model of DC-DC power conversion system. Several topologies of single phase AC-DC converters are implemented in buck, boost, and buck-boost converters with improving the power quality in terms of reducing the harmonics of input current [2]. In a buck type DC-DC converter reported in [1] & [3], the DC output voltage is controlled using the digital multi loop PID controller and high frequency-link(HFL) power conversion systems(PCSSs). We have proposed a circuit to realize isolated buck boost DC to DC conversion; and the full-bridge (FB) boost converter, [4] in this circuit the input voltage is close to output voltage. The modified SEPIC converter is integrated with solar powered system [5]. The typical model used closed loop control with maximum power point tracking (MPPT) algorithm to get high efficiency. Studies and analysis of cuk converter circuit is controlled the duty ratio of the switching element with output constant was reported in [6]. In this paper introduce a buck converter and SEPIC converter working in a step-down mode of operation and using for the optimized equation [7].

The figure 1 shows the block diagram of single phase AC-DC SEPIC converter. In that, ac voltage is given as input and the diode rectifier converts the ac voltage into dc voltage. The converted dc voltage is given to SEPIC converter circuit and then the required output voltage is obtained. AC-DC converters produce steady direct current (DC) from alternating current (AC) inputs. In a typical converter, the AC input is rectified and connected to a high frequency, high voltage switching circuit employing a transformer to create the desired DC output voltage.

Such DC-DC power conversion subsystems can be realized by different circuit topologies. Among them the buck, boost, buck-boost and Cuk converters are the basic and the most used. Each of the circuit topology has its advantages.
and disadvantages and the choice depends on requirements for power conversion system. In general, circuits with the switch referenced to the ground node are preferred to simplify the switch driving circuits. Additionally, the non-pulsating input current is desirable to minimize EMI and reduce the need for additional filter elements. Significant advantage of the power conversion system is also the ability to generate output voltage either above or below the input voltage. In Figure 2 the circuit topology of the non isolated SEPIC converter is presented. It consists of two inductances, two capacitors, one MOSFET transistor, one diode, the input voltage source and the load resistance at the output of the converter. The amount of energy exchanged is controlled through switch S1, which is classically a transistor such as a MOSFET.

II. ANALYSIS OF THE SEPIC CONVERTER

A SEPIC is a type of DC-DC converter allowing the electrical potential (voltage) at its output to be less than, greater than, or equal to that at its input; the output of the SEPIC is controlled by the duty cycle of the control transistor. SEPIC is effectively a boost converter followed by a buck-boost converter, consequently it is like to a conventional buck-boost converter, other than has advantages of having non-inverted output (the output has the same voltage polarity as the input), passing through a series capacitor to couple energy from the input to the output (and thus can respond more gracefully to a short-circuit output), and being able of factual shutdown: after the switch S1 is turned off, its output drops to 0 V, following a rather hefty transient abandon of charge. SEPICs are helpful in applications in which a battery voltage can be above and below that of the regulator's intended output.

The schematic diagram for a basic SEPIC is shown in Figure 3. As with other switched mode power supplies (specifically DC-to-DC converters), the SEPIC interactions energy between the capacitors and inductors in order to convert from one voltage to another. The amount of energy exchanged is proscribed in switch S1, which is classically a transistor such as a MOSFET. MOSFET offers much higher input impedance and lower voltage drop than bipolar junction transistors (BJTs), and do not require biasing resistors as MOSFET switching is controlled by differences in voltage rather than a current, like with BJTs.

A. CONTINUOUS MODE

A SEPIC is said to be in continuous-conduction mode if the current through the inductor L₁ never falls to zero. During a SEPIC's steady-state process, the average voltage across the inductor L₁ (V_L₁) is equal to the input voltage (V_IN). Because capacitor C₁ blocks direct current (DC), the average current across it (I_C₁) is zero, making inductor L₂ the simply source of load current. Hence, the average current through inductor L₂ (I_L₂) is the same as the average load current and hence independent of the input voltage.

\[ V_{IN} = V_{L1} + V_{C1} + V_{L2} \]  \hspace{1cm} (1)

Because the average voltage of V_C₁ is equal to V_IN, V_L₁ = -V_L₂. For this reason, the two inductors can be wound on the same core. Since the voltages are the equivalent in magnitude, their belongings of the mutual inductance will be zero, assuming the polarity of the windings is correct. Also, since the voltages are the same into magnitude, the ripple currents from the two inductors will be equal in magnitude. The average currents are summed as follows:

\[ I_0 = I_{L1} - I_{L2} \]  \hspace{1cm} (2)

When switch S₁ is turned on as shown in Figure 4, current I_L₁ increases and the current I_L₂ increases in the negative direction. The energy to enhance the current I_L₁ comes from the input supply. Since S₁ is a little while closed, and the instant voltage V_C₁ is just about V_IN, the voltage V_L₂ is approximately -V_IN. Therefore, the capacitor C₁ supplies the energy to increase the magnitude of the current in L₂ and thus increase the energy stored into L₂. The easiest method to
visualize this is to consider the bias voltages of the circuit in a D.C. state, and then close $S_1$. When switch $S_1$ is turned off, the current $I_{C1}$ becomes the similar as the current $I_{L1}$, while inductors do not allow instantaneous changes during current. The current $I_{L2}$ will keep on in the negative direction; within reality it never reverses direction. It can be seen from the figure that a negative $I_{L2}$ will add to the current $I_{L1}$ to increase the current delivered toward the load. Using Kirchhoff's Current Law, it can be shown that $I_{D1} = I_{C1} - I_{L2}$. It can then be concluded, that whilst $S_1$ is off shown in Figure 5, power is delivered to the load from both $L_2$ and $L_1$. $C_1$, though is being charged by $L_1$ throughout this off cycle, and will in turn recharge $L_2$ throughout the on cycle.

Because the potential (voltage) across capacitor $C_1$ may reverse direction each cycle, a non-polarized capacitor should be used. Conversely, a polarized tantalum or electrolytic capacitor may be used in some cases, because the potential (voltage) across capacitor $C_1$ will not change unless the switch is closed long enough for a half cycle of resonance among inductor $L_2$, and by this time the current in inductor $L_1$ could be quite large. The capacitor $C_{IN}$ is required to reduce the effects of the parasitic inductance and internal resistance of the power supply. The boost or buck capabilities of the SEPIC are possible because of capacitor $C_1$ and inductor $L_2$. Inductor $L_1$ moreover switch $S_1$ create a standard boost converter, which generates a voltage ($V_{S1}$) that is higher than $V_{IN}$, whose magnitude is determined by the duty cycle of the switch $S1$. Since the average voltage across $C_1$ is $V_{IN}$, the output voltage ($V_O$) is $V_{S1} - V_{IN}$. If $V_{S1}$ is less than double $V_{IN}$, after that the output voltage will be a lesser amount than the input voltage. If $V_{S1}$ is greater than twice $V_{IN}$, after that the output voltage will be greater than the input voltage. The development of switched-power supplies can be seen by coupling the two inductors in a SEPIC converter together, which begins to resemble a Flyback converter, the most basic of the transformer-isolated SMPS topologies.

B. DISCONTINUOUS MODE

A SEPIC is said to be here discontinuous-conduction mode if the current through the inductor $L_1$ is allowed to fall to zero.

III. POWER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TECHNIQUES

There are some control techniques to improve the power quality in the control circuits, which are voltage follower approach and average current control technique. These techniques are explained detail in below.

A. VOLTAGE FOLLOWER APPROACH

Figure 6 shows the block diagram of a single-phase AC-DC converter with voltage follower operation. As shown in Figure 6, voltage follower uses a very simple control feedback, which only requires output voltage sensing. The bridge
rectifier is used at the input AC side with a power factor corrector using an inductor and capacitor combination. Now, a small value of output voltage, compared to the reference value and resulting value, passes through the output voltage controller, which generates the PWM output and is used for switching the converter. It has inherent power factor correction characteristics with constant duty ratio and switching frequency, offering an attractive solution for lower power applications. The output voltage regulation is provided by the feedback loop as shown in Figure.6 where the output sensed voltage is compared with a reference value and the error is amplified in a proportional integral (PI) controller which is compared with a saw-tooth ramp, thus providing the pulse to power switch. Therefore, this circuit is controlled by the difference in the on-time interval and the constant switching frequency $f_s$.

Advantages
- Constant switching frequency
- No need of current sensing
- Simple PWM control

B. AVERAGE CURRENT CONTROL TECHNIQUE

Another control method, which allows a better input current waveform is the regular current control represented in Figure.7. Here the inductor current is sensed and filtered by a current error amplifier whose output drives a PWM modulator. In this way the inside current loop tends to minimize the error between the average input current and its reference. This later is obtained in the similar way as in the peak current control. The converter works in CICM, thus the same considerations done with regard to the peak current control can be applied.

Advantages
- Constant switching frequency.
- No need of compensation ramp.
- Control is fewer sensitive to commutation noises, due to current filtering.
- Improved input current waveforms than for the peak current control since, near the zero crossing of the line voltage, the duty cycle is close to one, so reducing the dead angle in the input current.

IV. DESIGN OF PROPOSED SEPIC CONVERTER

The design steps for the proposed are as follows,

Step 1: Switching Frequency

$$F_{SW} = 10kHz$$

Step 2: Duty Cycle

$$D_{min} = \frac{V_O + V_D}{V_O + V_{IN(max)} + V_D} \quad (3)$$
\[ D_{\text{max}} = \frac{V_0 + V_D}{V_0 + V_{\text{IN(min)}} + V_D} \]  

\[ D_{\text{min}}, D_{\text{max}} \text{ are the minimum and maximum duty cycle} \]

Step 3: Inductor Current

\[ \Delta I_L = \frac{I_{\text{OUT}} \ast V_O \ast 40\%}{V_{\text{IN(min)}}} \]  

Step 4: Inductor L1 and L2

\[ L_1 = L_2 = \frac{V_{\text{IN(min)}} \ast D_{\text{max}}}{I_L \ast F_{\text{SW}}} \]  

Step 5: Output Ripple Voltage

\[ \Delta V_{\text{CIN}} = \frac{I_{\text{OUT(max)}}}{C_{\text{IN}} \ast F_{\text{SW}}} \ast \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}} + V_{\text{OUT}} + V_D} \]  

Step 6: Output Capacitor

\[ C_{\text{OUT}} = \frac{I_{\text{OUT}} \ast D_{\text{max}}}{V_{\text{RIP}} \ast 0.5 \ast F_{\text{SW}}} \]  

Step 7: Load Resistance

\[ R = \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{I_{\text{OUT}}} \]  

Based on the above steps, the design parameters are calculated as shown in Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inductor L₁ = L₂</td>
<td>3.495 mH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacitor Cᵢₙ = Cₛ</td>
<td>10 µH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacitor Cₒ₀</td>
<td>89.49 µF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistance R</td>
<td>133.33 Ω</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table I Design Parameters for the proposed converter

V. SIMULATION AND RESULTS

A. SIMULATED CIRCUIT DIAGRAM AND RESULTS FOR OPEN LOOP CONTROL OF SINGLE PHASE SEPIC CONVERTER

Figure 8 shows the simulated diagram for an open loop control of single phase SEPIC converter. The switch is triggered at a switching frequency of 10 kHz. Both the THD and power factor are measured at the input side.

Figure 9 and 10 shows the input voltage and current waveforms for the above circuit. The peak input voltage is measured as 18.849 V. Figure 11 and Figure 12 shows the output voltage and output current for the proposed converter. Result analysis for open loop control of SEPIC converter is shown in Table 2.
B. SIMULATED CIRCUIT DIAGRAM AND RESULTS FOR CLOSED LOOP CONTROL OF SINGLE PHASE SEPIC CONVERTER USING VOLTAGE FOLLOWER APPROACH

Figure 13 shows the closed loop control of single phase SEPIC converter using voltage follower approach, in which the output voltage of the converter will be sensed and compared with the reference voltage, and then the error voltage is amplified in a PI controller. In PWM modulator, the error voltage is compared with the saw tooth ramp thus the pulse will be generated and given to the switch.
The input voltage and the current waveforms for the above circuit are shown in figure 14 and 15. Figure 16 and Figure 17 shows the output voltage and output current waveforms for the closed loop control of SEPIC converter. Result analysis for the voltage follower approach of the SEPIC converter is shown in Table 2.
C. SIMULATED CIRCUIT DIAGRAM AND RESULTS FOR CLOSED LOOP CONTROL OF SINGLE PHASE SEPIC CONVERTER USING AVERAGE CURRENT CONTROL TECHNIQUE

The simulated diagram of SEPIC converter using average current control technique is shown in Figure 18. In this technique, as mentioned above, in this method both the voltage and current will be sensed. The rectified voltage from the diode bridge and the output voltage of the error amplifier are multiplied and it gives the reference current. This is called the outer loop i.e., the voltage loop. In the inner loop i.e., the current loop, inductor current is compared with the saw tooth ramp. The output pulse generated will be given to the switch. The input voltage and the current waveforms for the above circuit are shown in figure 19 and 20.

Figure 21 and 22 shows the output voltage and output current waveforms for the closed loop control of SEPIC converter. Result analysis for the voltage follower approach of the SEPIC converter is shown in Table II.
Comparison | Output Voltage(volts) | Power Factor | THD %
---|---|---|---
Open loop | 12.69 | 0.6529 | 84.15
Voltage Follower Approach | 14.93 | 0.7510 | 45.58
Average Current Control | 15.24 | 0.9761 | 1.12

Table. 2 Comparison between open loop and closed loop control technique

VI.CONCLUSION

The design, simulation and development of single-switch Buck-Boost SEPIC converter with high frequency non-isolation has been carried out for 15v output. With this designed converter, simulation has been done in standard PSIM (Power Simulation) software. High power quality is obtained with design parameters with power factor in the order of 0.97 and THD in the order of 1.12% using the Power Quality Improvement Techniques. Simulated and test results on the developed converter show the improved performance of the proposed high frequency Non-isolated AC-DC SEPIC converter in terms of low THD of supply current and improved power factor of AC mains.

REFERENCES

BIOGRAPHY

Mr. A. Ramkumar received the B.Tech degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Kalasalingam University, Krishnankoil in 2012. Currently he is doing his M.E degree in Applied Electronics at Renganayagi Varatharaj College of Engineering, Sivakasi. His main area of interest includes power electronics and power quality.

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