Lecture 7
ECEN 4517/5517

Experiments 4-5: inverter system

Exp. 4: *Step-up dc-dc converter (cascaded boost converters)*

*Analog PWM and feedback controller to regulate HVDC*

Exp. 5: *DC-AC inverter (H-bridge)*
Due dates

Now:
   Quiz on Exp. 3 part 1.

This week in lab (Mar. 6 – 9):
   Finish Exp. 3: get MPPT working outside.

Next week: noon on Tuesday Mar. 13
   Prelab assignment for Exp. 4 (one from every student)

Next week: 5 pm on Friday Mar. 16:
   Exp. 3 Part 2 final report (one per group)
Goals in upcoming weeks
Exp. 4: Step-up dc–dc converter

Controller IC:
Demonstrate operating PWM controller IC (UC 3525)

Power Stage:
Demonstrate operating power converter (cascaded boost converters)

Closed-Loop Analog Control System:
Demonstrate analog feedback system that regulates the dc output voltage
Measure and document loop gain and compensator design

Graduate Section:
Develop and verify system loss budget
Analytical model of control-to-output transfer function
Step-up DC-DC cascaded boost converters

Next week’s prelab assignment

Need to step up the 12 V battery voltage to HVDC (120-200 V)
We will build inverter capable of producing same rated power as PV panel (85 W)
How much power can you get using the parts in your kit?
How efficient can your design be?
Key limitations:
  - MOSFET on-resistances, rated voltages
  - Capacitor rms current ratings, rated working voltages
  - Switching loss
  - Inductor (core + dc copper + proximity) loss, saturation current
Need to choose duty cycles, switching frequency, inductances
Must ensure that all components operate within their specified limits
Design inductors
Converter loss budget
An example

Operating point: \( V_{\text{in}} = 13 \text{ V}, \ V_{\text{out}} = 200 \text{ V}, \ P_{\text{out}} = 85 \text{ W} \)

- MOSFET conduction loss \( 2.2 \text{ W} \)
- Diode conduction loss \( 1.5 \text{ W} \)
- Switching loss \( 3.5 \text{ W} \)
- Inductor loss (core + dc copper + proximity) \( 4.3 \text{ W} \)
  
  \[ \text{Total loss:} \quad 11.5 \text{ W} \]
  \[ \text{Predicted efficiency:} \quad 88\% \]

(must document calculations to support above values)
The UC3525 PWM Control IC

Key functions:
- Oscillator (sawtooth wave generator)
- PWM comparator and latch
- Error amplifier
- 5.1 V reference
- Pulse-steering logic
- Output drivers
- Shutdown and soft-start circuitry
How a pulse-width modulator works
Equation of pulse-width modulator

For a linear sawtooth waveform:

\[ d(t) = \frac{v_c(t)}{V_M} \quad \text{for} \ 0 \leq v_c(t) \leq V_M \]

So \( d(t) \) is a linear function of \( v_c(t) \).
Sawtooth (Ramp) Oscillator

UC1525A Oscillator Schematic

Power Electronics Laboratory
\[ I = \frac{(5.1 \text{ V}) - 2(0.7 \text{ V})}{R_T} \]

\[ V_{\text{max}} = (5.1 \text{ V}) \frac{14 \text{ k}\Omega}{14 \text{ k}\Omega + 7.4 \text{ k}\Omega} = 3.3 \text{ V} \]

\[ V_{\text{min}} = (5.1 \text{ V}) \frac{2 \text{ k}\Omega || 14 \text{ k}\Omega}{(2 \text{ k}\Omega || 14 \text{ k}\Omega) + 7.4 \text{ k}\Omega} = 1.0 \text{ V} \]

Blanking pulse causes driver outputs to be low, so that \( dT_s \leq t_c \)

Increasing \( R_D \) reduces maximum allowed duty cycle \( D_{\text{max}} \)
PWM Comparator and Latch

- PWM comparator "Comp"
- PWM latch is reset by oscillator during blanking interval, which starts the $DT_s$ interval
- PWM latch is set by PWM comparator, which ends the $DT_s$ interval
- The PWM latch prevents noise in the analog input from causing multiple switching during a switching period
Error Amplifier

Transconductance amplifier

Model:

\[ i_9 = g_m(v_2 - v_1) \]
The differential voltage gain is: $g_m Z(s)$

With large $Z(s)$, the differential voltage gain is large. The data sheet specifies a low-frequency differential voltage gain of at least 1000 (60 dB).
The error amplifier is connected as a unity-gain stage: $v_{comp} = v_{in}$

The duty cycle $D$ can be adjusted by the external pot.
Outputs of the UC3525A

Frequency of the outputs is one half the oscillator frequency. Duty cycle cannot be greater than 50%.

Such outputs are needed in some types of switching converters such as “push-pull.”

Outputs A and B can be OR-ed to restore the PWM pulses at the oscillator frequency.
Soft start and shutdown

The shutdown pin (10) turns off the chip outputs. Ground this pin to ensure that the outputs are not shut down.

A capacitor can be connected to the soft start pin (8). The voltage on this pin limits the maximum duty cycle. At turn on, the capacitor will start at 0V, and then will charge from the 50 $\mu$A current source. This overrides the feedback loop and starts the converter gently.