

Buck-Boost PFC Converter with Active Power Decoupling Capability Using Time-sharing Control

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Abstract—This paper proposes a single-phase buck-boost PFC converter with active power decoupling (APD) using time-sharing control. The features of the proposed circuit are; 1) PFC and APD capability without additional inductors by sharing circuit components and 2) a wide DC voltage control owing to the buck-boost operation. The proposed method is characterized by two operating modes, discontinuous current mode (DCM) and triangular current mode (TCM). At the DCM method, time-sharing control is achieved by operating PFC and APD during each zero current period. In contrast, the TCM method achieves zero-voltage switching when switching between PFC and APD operation. Thus, switching loss is reduced compared to the DCM method. The validity of the proposed circuit operated in DCM is experimentally demonstrated by a 200-W prototype. It was confirmed that the output current ripple at twice the grid frequency is reduced by 90% in the experiment. Furthermore, the operation of the proposed circuit operated in TCM is demonstrated by simulation.

Keywords— *single-phase buck-boost PFC converter, active power decoupling, time-sharing, discontinuous current mode, triangular current mode, zero voltage switching*

I. INTRODUCTION

Recently, single-phase AC-DC converters are widely applied in power supplies of home appliances. High harmonics generation and low power factor by the power supplies cause problems in power transmission and distribution systems. In order to solve these problems, a power factor correction (PFC) circuit has been studied and developed[1]-[3]. Several types of PFC circuits have been proposed, such as boost, buck, and buck-boost types. The buck-boost PFC circuits are used in applications requiring a wide DC voltage range. In addition, a bulky electrolytic capacitor is necessary on the DC link to remove the single-phase power ripple. However, the lifetime of an electrolytic capacitor is highly dependent on the environmental temperature [4]. Moreover, the volume of electrolytic capacitors is large, which leads to an increase in the circuit volume.

In contrast, active power decoupling (APD) circuits have been proposed to reduce the size of DC-link capacitors [5]-[19]. The APD circuit uses a small film or ceramic capacitor as a buffer capacitor instead of an electrolytic capacitor. The output instantaneous power fluctuation is compensated by pulsating the power of the buffer capacitor at twice the grid frequency. However, several APD circuits require additional inductors to regulate the buffer capacitor voltage. Therefore, the power density may decrease due to bulky passive components.

This paper proposes single-phase buck-boost PFC converter with APD circuit using time-sharing control. The proposed circuit achieves a wide output voltage range by the four-switch buck-boost PFC converter. The originality of this paper is the time-sharing control strategy for APD, buck and boost in one cycle of switching period. The proposed time-sharing control has no control interference among APD, buck and boost. Furthermore, the number of inductors and switching devices are reduced by sharing circuit components.

In this paper, two types of inductor current control modes are explained to achieve time-sharing control. First, the proposed circuit's operating method in discontinuous current mode (DCM) is discussed. The validity of the proposed circuit operated in DCM is experimentally demonstrated by a 200-W prototype. Next, the method of operating in triangular current mode (TCM) is discussed. The operation of the proposed circuit operated in TCM is demonstrated by simulation.

II. PROPOSED PFC CONVERTER CONFIGURATION

Fig.1 shows the proposed single-phase buck-boost PFC circuit with an APD circuit. The APD circuit consists of only a small buffer capacitor and the switching device of SW_3 . The buck-boost PFC converter is used for the PFC capability, DC voltage control, and active power decoupling capability. The AC side leg of the buck-boost PFC circuit is Leg 1 and the DC side leg is Leg 2.

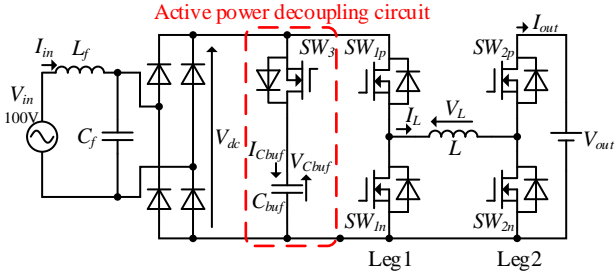


Fig. 1. proposed circuit configuration.

III. CONTROL METHOD FOR DCM OPERATION

The proposed PFC converter has three modes for the V_{out} control depending on the relationship between the diode rectifier output voltage V_{dc} and the output voltage V_{out} as follows;

1. $V_{dc} < V_{out}$: Leg1 driving mode (buck operation)
2. $V_{dc} > V_{out}$: Leg2 driving mode (boost operation)
3. $V_{dc} \approx V_{out}$: 4-arm driving mode

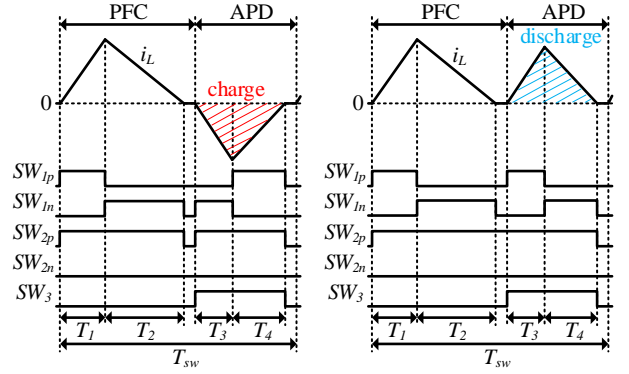
Moreover, the converter has two modes for APD operation:

1. C_{buf} charge mode
2. C_{buf} discharge mode

Fig. 2, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 show the inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period. In the proposed circuit, PFC and APD operation is achieved within one switching period by using time-sharing control by DCM. Thus, there are six control patterns in one switching period. Fig. 2 shows the waveforms of the Leg1 driving mode, Fig. 3 shows the Leg2 driving mode, and Fig. 4 shows the 4-arm driving mode. The current of C_{buf} flows through the inductor L from the output side by switching SW_{1p} and SW_{1n} during the zero current period of PFC operation.

Generally, a buck-boost operation for PFC is implemented using Leg1 driving and Leg2 driving mode. However, the input current is distorted due to an over-modulation in the condition that V_{dc} and V_{out} are almost same. In order to solve this problem, the 4-arm driving mode is added. In 4-arm driving mode, SW_{1p} and SW_{2n} switches in period T_1 , and SW_{1n} and SW_{2p} switches in period T_2 . The inductor voltage V_L does not be small in the condition that V_{dc} and V_{out} are almost same, thus over-modulation does not occur in 4-arm driving mode. Hence, the proposed circuit achieves low harmonic distortion current waveforms. During the PFC operation, the APD circuit is disconnected from the PFC circuit by turning SW_3 off, and during the APD operation, SW_3 is turned on to charge and discharge the C_{buf} . The buffer capacitor voltage V_{Cbuf} is controlled to be higher than the peak of input voltage and V_{out} . Thus, the body diode of SW_3 does not conduct.

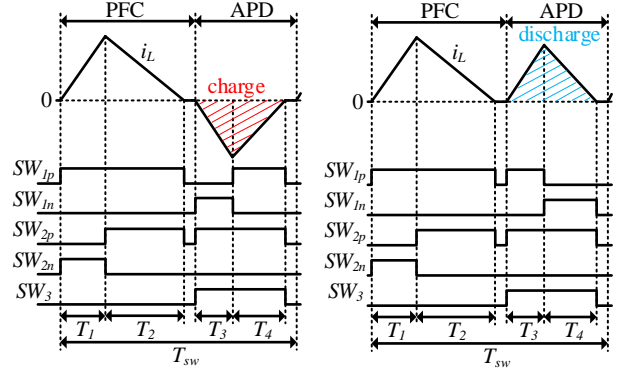
Fig. 5 shows the input current control block diagram. The duty ratios of periods $T_1 \sim T_4$ in Fig. 2, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 are defined as $d_1 \sim d_4$. These duties are calculated from the inductor current in DCM condition. The duty ratios in each mode are given by the following equations:



(a) charge mode

(b) discharge mode

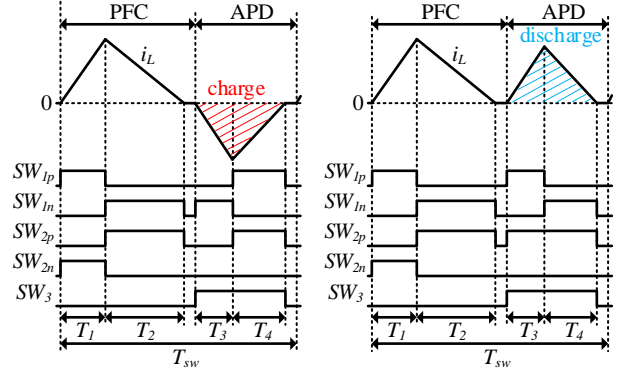
Fig. 2. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at Leg1 driving mode.



(a) charge mode

(b) discharge mode

Fig. 3. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at Leg2 driving mode.



(a) charge mode

(b) discharge mode

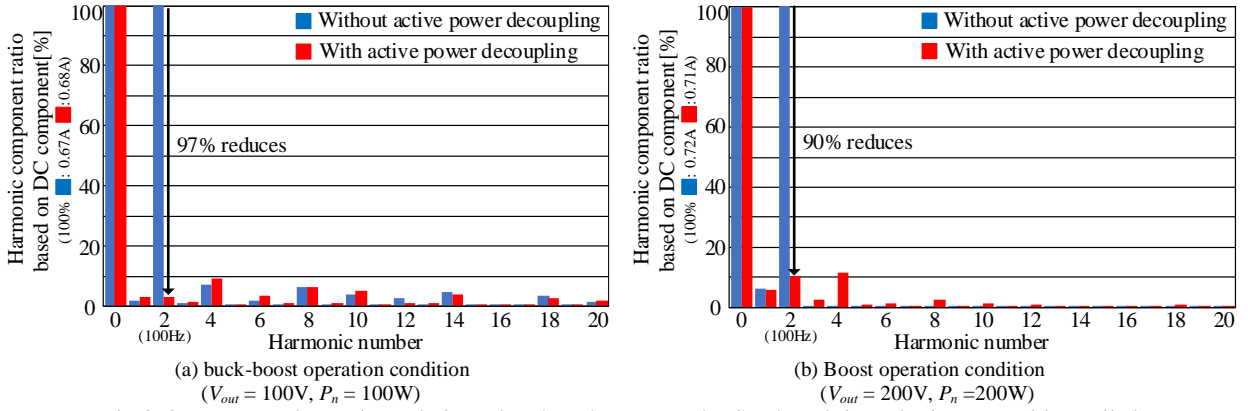
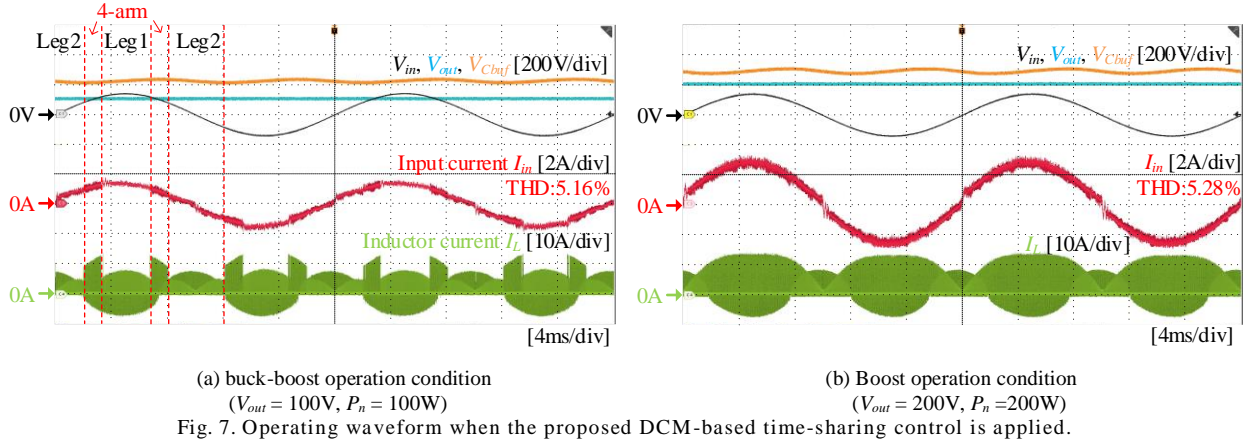
Fig. 4. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at 4-arm driving mode.

<For Leg1 driving mode>

$$d_{1_Leg1} = \sqrt{\frac{2L}{(V_{dc} - V_{out})T_{sw}}} i_{in}^* \dots\dots\dots (1),$$

$$d_{2_Leg1} = d_{1_Leg1} \frac{V_{dc} - V_{out}}{V_{out}} \dots\dots\dots (2),$$

<For Leg2 driving mode>



From the experimental results, the proposed circuit and control method has been achieved for PFC and APD operation. However, the problem of the proposed method is that the maximum efficiency is only 90.2%. One of the reasons for this problem is that zero voltage switching (ZVS) is not achieved at DCM operation when the operation is switched between PFC and APD.

V. CONTROL METHOD FOR TCM OPERATION

In this chapter, the time-sharing control using TCM is explained. This control method extends the time-sharing control using DCM described in the previous chapter. By operated in TCM, it is possible to achieve ZVS[20]-[22] when operation is switched, and high efficiency is achieved through the reduction of switching losses.

Fig. 9, Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 show the inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at TCM. The PFC operation is applied in the first half of one switching period, and the APD operation is applied in the second half. Depending on the voltage conditions, one of three modes for the PFC operation is selected from Leg1, Leg2, and 4-arm driving modes. In addition, one of two modes for the APD operation from C_{buf} charging and discharging mode. Hence, there are six control patterns in one switching period, the same as in the DCM method. Fig. 9 shows the waveforms of the Leg1 driving mode, Fig. 10 shows the Leg2 driving mode, and Fig. 11 shows the 4-arm driving mode. In the proposed method, TCM

operation is achieved by the negative current flow during the switching time from PFC to APD operation ($T_2 - T_3$ period), as shown in Fig. 9, Fig. 10 and Fig. 11. The inductor current is controlled separately for PFC and APD operation by switching the operation with the set bottom current I_{bot} and top current I_{top} . TCM operation achieves ZVS by the negative current of switching devices during the dead time. Thus, the switching period T_{sw} must be controlled in TCM according to the current command value in order to achieve ZVS. In addition, T_{sw} is related to achieving two current command values, which are PFC and APD operation. Hence, the T_{sw} is determined by three current commands which are for the required negative current of switching devices for ZVS, the PFC current and the APD current.

Fig. 12 shows the control block diagram of the proposed control method. The input current command i_{in}^* is calculated based on the power command value. The APD current command i_{APD}^* is the same as in the DCM method: the charge/discharge current command $i_{Lbuf}^*(8)$ is added to the output of the PI controller that controls the average buffer capacitor voltage $V_{Cbuf,ave}$. The power pulsation is compensated by pulsating V_{Cbuf} through adding i_{Lbuf}^* to the PI controller output.

The operating time of each switching pattern is expressed as T_1, T_2, T_3 and T_4 . The PFC operation period T_1 , the APD operation period T_3 and switching period T_{sw} must be calculated from the operating conditions. In contrast, T_2 and T_4 are uniquely determined from the time to reach the bottom current I_{bot} and top current I_{top} , respectively. Thus, the derivation of T_{sw}, T_1 , and T_3

is explained using the Leg 1 driving mode and discharge mode. T_{sw} is derived so that the current average current values of PFC and APD operations within one switching period are equal to each current command value. However, deriving T_{sw} requires solving nonlinear simultaneous equations that need to be obtained by numerical analysis. The switching frequency T_{sw} is not uniquely derived from an analytical calculation. Therefore, in this paper, T_{sw} is derived by approximating the equation as $I_{bot} = I_{top} = 0$, which makes the equation analyzable. T_{sw} for Leg 1 drive and discharge mode, which is derived using approximation, is expressed in (9).

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{out}(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \left(V_{Cbuf} i_{APD}^* \pm \sqrt{\frac{V_{Cbuf} V_{dc}^2 i_{in}^* (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}{V_{out}(V_{dc} - V_{out})}} \right) - \frac{2L(V_{dc}^2 V_{out} i_{in}^* - V_{Cbuf} V_{dc}^2 i_{in}^* + V_{Cbuf} V_{dc} V_{out} i_{APD}^* - V_{Cbuf} V_{out}^2 i_{APD}^*)}{V_{out}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})(V_{dc} - V_{out})} + \left(\frac{V_{Cbuf}}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} \right) 2Li_{bot} \dots \dots \dots (9)$$

The command values for periods T_1 and T_3 are derived based on (9). The period T_1 is derived from the input current command and the period T_3 is derived from the APD current command value using (10) and (11).

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2LT_{sw}}{V_{dc} - V_{out}}} i_{ave_PFC} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} i_{bot} \dots \dots \dots (10)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2LV_{out}T_{sw}}{V_{Cbuf}(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}} i_{ave_APD} + \frac{2L^2 i_{bot}^2}{(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})^2} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} i_{bot} \dots \dots \dots (11)$$

Note that the results of deriving T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 for the other operating modes are shown in the Appendix.

VI. SIMULATION RESULT AT TCM OPERATION

The proposed control method is verified by simulation under two voltage and power conditions similar to the experimental conditions at DCM operation. Table. 2. shows the simulation conditions. The bottom current I_{bot} and top current I_{top} were set to 0.5 A for both conditions. The output current I_{out_LPF} is the waveform passed through an LPF for observation with a 1 kHz cutoff frequency.

Fig. 13 (a) shows the operating waveforms under the buck-boost operation condition ($V_{out} = 100V, P_n = 100W$). The output current I_{out_LPF} is the waveform passed through an LPF for observation with a 1 kHz cutoff frequency. The active power decoupling was applied, and the average value of V_{Cbuf} was set to 230V. In the buck-boost operation condition, the operation mode switches between Leg1, Leg2, and 4-arm driving modes within the grid period by the relationship of the voltage amplitude between V_{dc} and V_{out} . Fig. 13 (a) shows that the proposed circuit achieves an input current power factor of 0.99

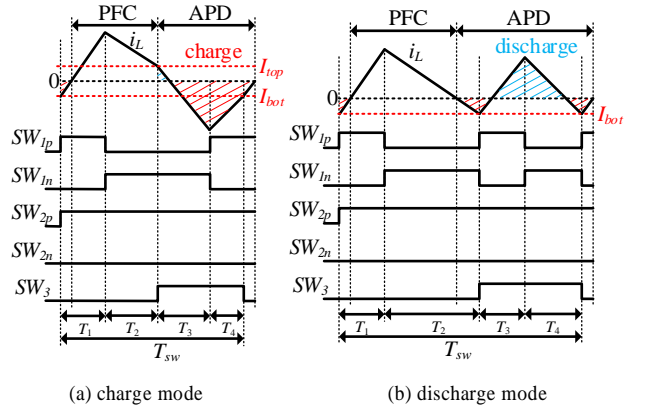


Fig. 9. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at Leg1 driving mode

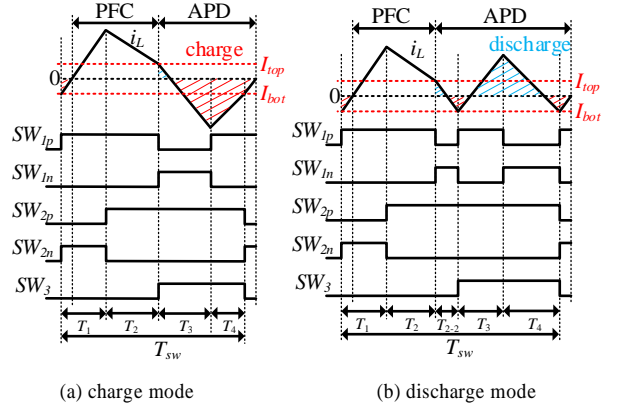


Fig. 10. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at Leg2 driving mode

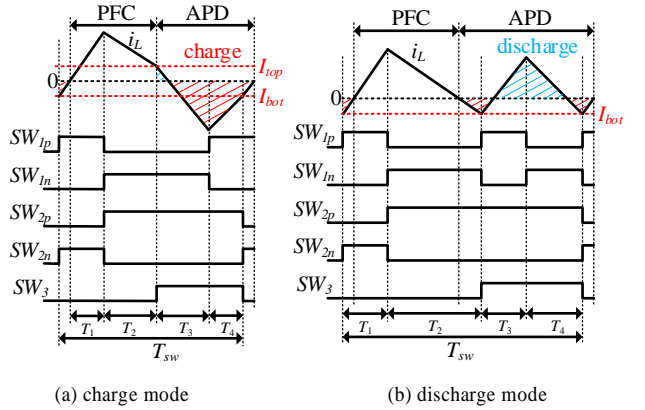


Fig. 11. Inductor current waveform and switching pattern for one switching period at 4-arm driving mode

and an input current THD of 3.2%. Fig. 9 (b) shows the operating waveforms under the boost operation condition ($V_{out} = 200V, P_n = 200W$). The active power decoupling was applied, and the average value of V_{Cbuf} was set to 300V. Fig. 13 (b) shows that the proposed circuit achieves an input current power factor of 0.98 and an input current THD of 4.7%.

Fig. 14 shows the results of the harmonic analysis of the

output current. Fig. 14 shows that the 2nd-order harmonics (100 Hz) of the output current are reduced by more than 95% in both conditions compared to without APD.

VII. CONCLUSION

This paper proposed a single-phase buck-boost PFC converter with active power decoupling using the time-sharing control. The proposed circuit achieves a wide output voltage range. In addition, the time-sharing control achieves high power density by sharing the inductor and the devices between PFC and APD operation. The time-sharing control using two types of inductor current modes, DCM and TCM, are proposed. The DCM method was tested under two conditions: buck-boost and boost operation conditions. From the experimental results, it was verified that the input current THD was 5.3% and the power factor was 0.98 under both conditions. In addition, the 2nd-order harmonics (100 Hz) of the output current was reduced by 90%. However, the DCM method has the problem that its maximum efficiency is only about 90%. In contrast, the TCM method reduces switching loss compared to the DCM method by ZVS. The simulation results of the TCM method showed that the proposed control method achieves fundamental

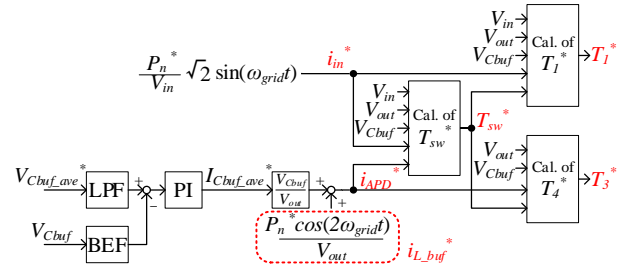


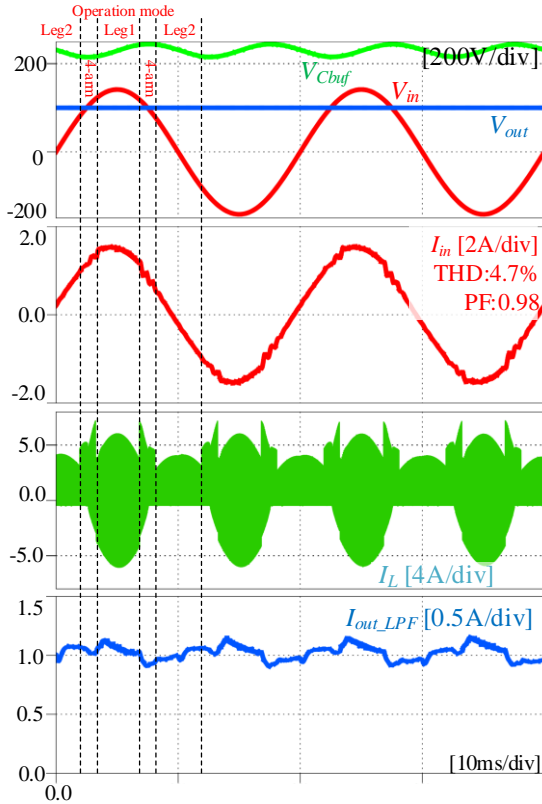
Fig. 12. Control block diagram at TCM operation.

Table 2. Experimental parameters at TCM operation

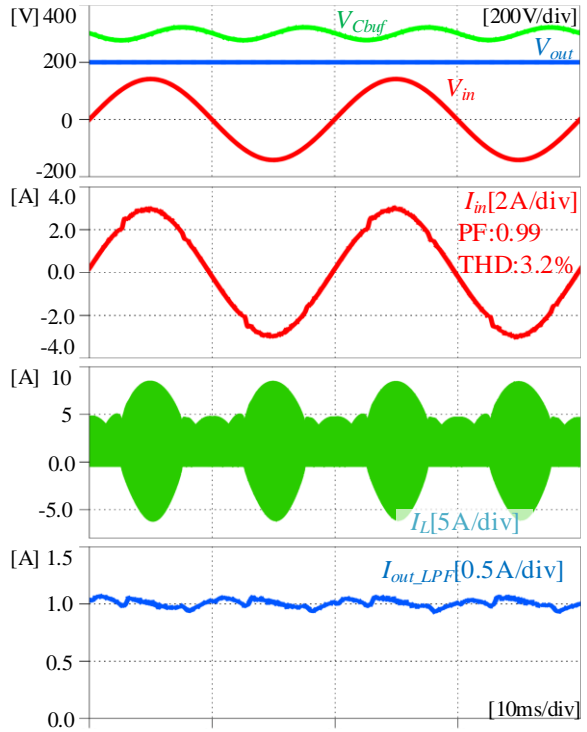
Items	Value
Grid voltage V_{in}	100 V _{rms}
Grid angular frequency ω_{grid}	$2\pi \cdot 50$ rad/s
Inductor L	250 μ H
Buffer capacitor C_{buf}	47 μ F
Input filter inductor L_f	1.3 mH
Input filter capacitor C_f	5 μ F
Voltage control natural frequency ω_h	100 rad/s
Voltage control damping factor ζ	0.707

PFC and APD operation.

In future works, the efficiency of the TCM method will be compared with that of the DCM method based on the experimental results.

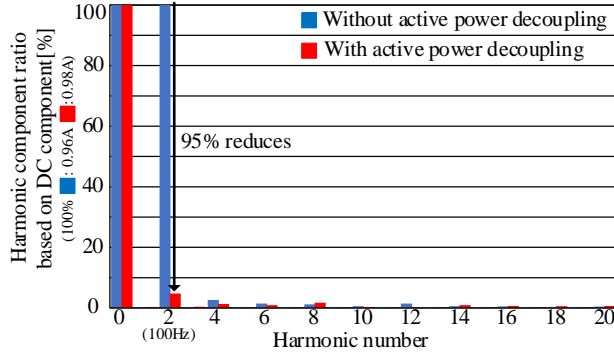


(a) buck-boost operation condition
($V_{out} = 100V$, $P_n = 100W$)

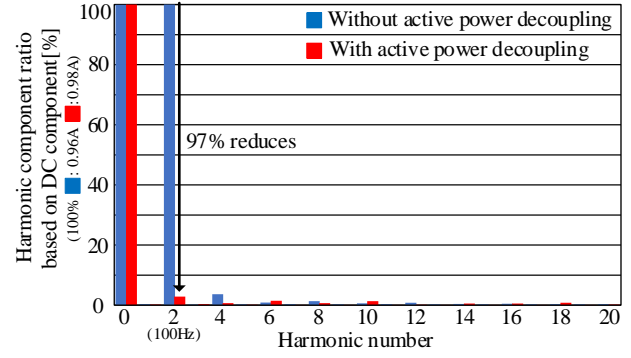


(b) boost operation condition
($V_{out} = 200V$, $P_n = 200W$)

Fig. 13. Simulation results when the proposed TCM-based time-sharing control is applied.



(a) buck-boost operation condition
($V_{out} = 100V, P_n = 100W$)



(b) boost operation condition
($V_{out} = 200V, P_n = 200W$)

Fig. 14. Output current harmonics analysis results when the proposed TCM-based time-sharing control is applied.

APPENDIX

T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 in Leg 1 driving and charge mode are derived as follows ;

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2LT_{sw}}{V_{in} - V_{out}} i_{ave_PFC} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} i_{bot}} \dots\dots\dots (A-1)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2L(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})T_{sw}}{V_{out} V_{Cbuf}} |i_{ave_APD}| + \frac{L^2 i_{top}^2}{V_{out}^2 V_{Cbuf}} + \frac{L}{V_{out}} i_{top}} \dots\dots\dots (A-2)$$

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \left(V_{Cbuf} |i_{ave_APD}| + \sqrt{\frac{V_{Cbuf} V_{in}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) i_{ave_PFC} |i_{ave_APD}|}{V_{out} (V_{in} - V_{out})}} \right) + \frac{2L(-V_{in}^2 V_{out} i_{ave_PFC} + V_{Cbuf} V_{in}^2 i_{ave_PFC} - V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} |i_{ave_APD}| + V_{Cbuf} V_{out}^2 |i_{ave_APD}|)}{V_{out}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) (V_{in} - V_{out})} \dots\dots\dots (A-3)$$

T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 in Leg 2 driving and discharge mode are derived as follows ;

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2L(V_{out} - V_{in}) i_{PFC}^* T_{sw} - L^2 i_{top}^2}{V_{in} V_{out}} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf}} i_{bot}} \dots\dots\dots (A-4)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2LV_{out} T_{sw}}{V_{Cbuf} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} i_{APD}^* + \frac{L^2 i_{bot}^2 (V_{Cbuf}^2 + V_{out} V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}^2)}{V_{Cbuf}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})^2}} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} i_{bot} \dots\dots\dots (A-5)$$

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{in} (V_{out} - V_{in})} \left\{ V_{out} i_{ave_PFC} + \sqrt{\frac{V_{Cbuf} V_{in} i_{ave_APD} i_{ave_PFC} (V_{out} - V_{in})}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}}} \right\} + \frac{2L(V_{Cbuf} V_{in}^2 i_{ave_APD} - V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} i_{ave_APD} - V_{out}^3 i_{ave_PFC} + V_{Cbuf} V_{out}^2 i_{ave_PFC})}{V_{in} V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) (V_{in} - V_{out})} \dots\dots\dots (A-6)$$

T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 in Leg 2 driving and charge mode are derived as follows ;

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2L(V_{out} - V_{in}) T_{sw} i_{PFC}^* + \frac{L^2 i_{top}^2}{V_{in} V_{out}}}{V_{in} V_{out}} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf}} i_{bot}} \dots\dots\dots (A-7)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2L(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) T_{sw}}{V_{out} V_{Cbuf}} |i_{APD}^*| + \frac{L^2 i_{bot}^2}{V_{out} V_{Cbuf}} + \frac{L^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) (V_{Cbuf} i_{bot}^2 - V_{out} i_{top}^2)}{V_{out}^2 V_{Cbuf}^2}} + \frac{L}{V_{out}} i_{top} \dots\dots\dots (A-8)$$

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \left(V_{Cbuf} |i_{ave_APD}| + \sqrt{\frac{V_{out} V_{Cbuf} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) i_{ave_PFC} |i_{ave_APD}|}{V_{in} (V_{out} - V_{in})}} \right) + \frac{2L(-V_{Cbuf} V_{in}^2 |i_{ave_APD}| + V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} |i_{ave_APD}| + V_{out}^3 i_{ave_PFC} - V_{Cbuf} V_{out}^2 i_{ave_PFC})}{V_{in} V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}) (V_{in} - V_{out})} \dots\dots\dots (A-9)$$

T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 in 4-arm driving and discharge mode are derived as follows ;

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2LT_{sw}}{V_{in}} i_{PFC}^* + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf}} i_{bot}} \dots\dots\dots (A-10)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2LV_{out} T_{sw}}{V_{Cbuf} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} i_{APD}^* + \frac{L^2 i_{bot}^2 (2V_{Cbuf}^2 - V_{out}^2)}{V_{Cbuf}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})^2}} + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf} - V_{out}} i_{bot} \dots\dots\dots (A-11)$$

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \left(V_{Cbuf} i_{ave_APD} + (V_{in} + V_{out}) \sqrt{\frac{V_{Cbuf} i_{ave_APD} i_{ave_PFC} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}{V_{in} V_{out}}} \right) - \frac{2L(V_{out}^3 i_{ave_PFC} - V_{in}^2 V_{Cbuf} i_{ave_PFC} - V_{out}^2 V_{Cbuf} i_{ave_PFC} + V_{in} V_{out}^2 i_{ave_PFC})}{V_{in} V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} + \frac{V_{in}^2 V_{out} i_{ave_PFC} + V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} i_{ave_APD} - 2V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} i_{ave_PFC}}{V_{in} V_{out} (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \dots\dots\dots (A-12)$$

T_{sw} , T_1 , and T_3 in 4-arm driving and charge mode are derived as follows ;

$$T_1 = \sqrt{\frac{2LT_{sw}}{V_{in}} i_{PFC}^* + \frac{L}{V_{Cbuf}} i_{bot}} \dots\dots\dots (A-13)$$

$$T_3 = \sqrt{\frac{2L(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})T_{sw}}{V_{out}V_{Cbuf}} |i_{APD}| + \frac{L^2 i_{bot}^2}{V_{out}V_{Cbuf}} - \frac{L^2 i_{bot}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}{V_{out}V_{Cbuf}^2} + \frac{L^2 i_{top}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}{V_{out}V_{Cbuf}^2}} + \frac{L}{V_{out}} i_{top}$$

..... (A-14)

$$T_{sw} = \frac{4L}{V_{out}(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})} \left\{ V_{Cbuf} |i_{ave_APD}| + (V_{in} + V_{out}) \sqrt{\frac{V_{Cbuf}(V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})i_{ave_PFC} |i_{ave_APD}|}{V_{in}V_{out}}} \right\}$$

$$\frac{2L(V_{out}^3 i_{ave_PFC} - V_{Cbuf} V_{in}^2 i_{ave_PFC} - V_{Cbuf} V_{out}^2 i_{ave_PFC} + 2V_{in} V_{out}^2 i_{ave_PFC} + V_{out}^2 V_{in} i_{ave_PFC})}{V_{in} V_{out}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}$$

$$\frac{-2V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} i_{ave_PFC} + V_{Cbuf} V_{in} V_{out} |i_{ave_APD}|}{V_{in} V_{out}^2 (V_{Cbuf} - V_{out})}$$

..... (A-15)

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