

Switching strategy comparison of SP compensated inductive power transfer system

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Abstract—This paper presents a wireless power transmission system which is consisted of a full-bridge converter, two resonance circuits and a diode rectifier to obtain the desired output voltage. The focused topology is based on SP compensation circuit, where S denoted the primary coil is connected in series with the compensation capacitor, and P denoted the secondary coil is connected in parallel with the compensation capacitor. In this research, the phase-shift based pulse width modulation (PWM) control and frequency modulation control are used to contrast the differences between these two methods. Both schemes include voltage loop and current loop control, so as to get the required performances. Finally, a prototype of DC 200V/48V system with 500W rating and 15cm distance between two coils is set to verify the feasibility of the control idea.

Keywords—Wireless power transmission; pulse width modulation; frequency modulation.

I. INTRODUCTION

As the global environmental issues and the petroleum crisis, green energy technology is gradually taken seriously, while electric vehicle (EV) is one of the key techniques to the future development of green energy. Contrast with petroleum cars, EVs can reduce the carbon dioxide emissions, and is increasing in recent years and can be observed in the future to be substantial growth. However, electrical vehicles require external electric power to charging the battery, and nowadays most of charging methods rely on wires to charge, typically the wire will have metal contacts, which has the oxidation problem, and thereby may has sparks due to poor contact. Obviously, this situation would be dangerous to the users, where adopted the non-contact power transmission system would be prevent such a situation. In recent years, there are many researches focus on this type of non-contact power transmission issues.

There are many methods developed in the wireless power transmission, including electromagnetic induction, electromagnetic resonance, micro-wave conversion, and so on [1-4]. This paper focuses on the

electromagnetic induction method whose resonant frequency is low, so that the circuit elements are easily obtained, but the transmission distance is more limited, usually about 0cm ~ 20cm, and the coil coupling efficiency is relatively low, resulting in large magnetic flux leakages. Therefore, the circuit must be compensated by capacitors [5-10] to compensate for the reactive power generated by magnetic flux leakage.

In this paper, a SP (Series-Parallel) compensated inductive power transfer system with two modulation strategies is researched, including pulse width modulation and frequency modulation. The compensated network has been analyzed to obtain the required LC parameters, ensuring zero-voltage switching function for the full bridge converter. A 500W prototype is built with 15 cm air gaps. Constant voltage control and constant current control have been tested to verify the design validity. This paper is organized as follows: Section II describes the system architecture. The parameters design is discussed in Section III. Section IV shows the experimental results. Finally, the conclusion is presented in Section V.

II. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The researched system is depicted in Fig. 1. It includes a full-bridge converter, two loose coupled coils, and a rectifier. Two compensation capacitors in both circuits are shown as C_s , C_p . The control circuit is implemented by microcontroller with a wireless communication module.

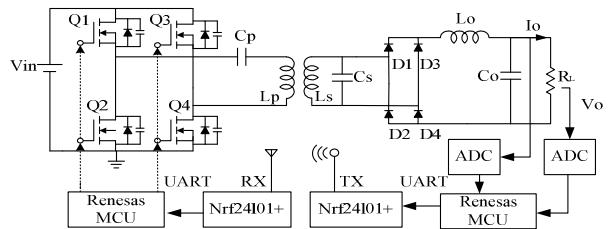


Fig. 1 The proposed inductive power transfer system.

A. TRANSMITTER and RECEIVER CIRCUIT

The transmitter circuit is crucial for wireless power transmission. Fig. 1 exhibits the resonant capacitor of the transmitter circuit is connected in series with the primary coil, and the receiver circuit catches the energy from the coils by using the same resonant frequency, afterward through the rectifier circuit output to the load. The resonant capacitor of the receiver is connected in parallel with secondary coil.

Fig. 2(a) shows the simplified equivalent circuit of the receiver, where L_s , C_s are connected in parallel to form a parallel resonant circuit, and R_{Load} noted the reflected resistance from the rectifier output load.

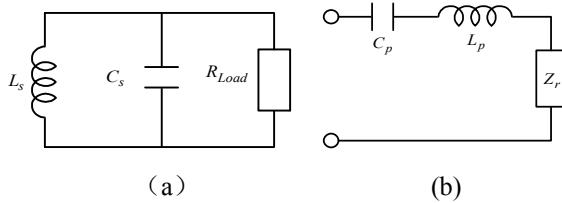


Fig. 2 The equivalent circuit of transmitter and receiver, (a) receiver, (b) transmitter.

B. OPERATION PRINCIPLE

From Fig. 2(a), the equivalent impedance Z_s can be obtained:

$$Z_s = j\omega L_s + \frac{1}{j\omega C_s + \frac{1}{R_{Load}}} \quad (1)$$

Fig. 2(b) shows the simplified equivalent circuit of the transmitter, where L_p , C_p are connected in series to form a series resonant circuit, and Z_r noted the reflected impedance from the receiver, and can be shown in the following:

$$Z_r = \frac{\omega^2 M^2}{Z_s} \quad (2)$$

$$R_e Z_r = \frac{\omega^2 M^2 R_{Load}}{R_{Load}^2 (\omega^2 C_s L_s - 1)^2 + \omega^2 L_s^2} \quad (3)$$

$$I_m Z_r = \frac{-\omega^3 M^2 (C_s R_{Load}^2 (\omega^2 C_s L_s - 1) + L_s)}{R_{Load}^2 (\omega^2 C_s L_s - 1)^2 + \omega^2 L_s^2} \quad (4)$$

$$\omega_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_s C_s}} \quad (5)$$

If the full-bridge converter is switching at the same frequency as the receiver resonant frequency, then the reflected impedance can be simplified as follows:

$$R_e Z_r = \frac{M^2 R_{Load}}{L_s^2} \quad (6)$$

$$I_m Z_r = -\frac{\omega_r M^2}{L_s} \quad (7)$$

From Fig. 2(b), the equivalent impedance Z_t can be obtained as follows:

$$Z_t = \frac{1}{j\omega C_p} + j\omega L_p + Z_r \quad (8)$$

The real part of the impedance determines actually the power transfer to the transmitter, and the imaginary part determines the reactive power flow in the transmitter. The best way is to operate the switching frequency in the transmitter resonant frequency so as to achieve the load reactance is zero to eliminate the ineffective reactive power, ensuring maximum power transfer. That is

$$I_m Z_t (\omega = \omega_r) = 0 \quad (9)$$

Thus the primary side capacitance C_p value can be chosen as follows:

$$C_p = \frac{1}{\omega_r^2 (L_p - M^2 / L_s)} \quad (10)$$

III. PARAMETERS DESIGN

Fig. 3 shows the coupling coil diagram. This paper adopts the same coil radius of 25cm for both transmitter and receiver, and the coil parameters are listed in Table 1.

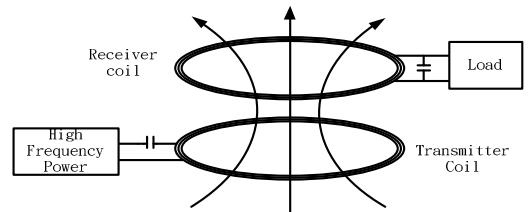


Fig. 3 Coupling coil diagram.

Table1. Coil parameters

	Primary Coil	Secondary Coil
Inside diameter r (cm)	25	25
Winding depth d (cm)	8	4
Coil turns N	16	4
Coil inductance L_p/L_s (uH)	262	19.7
Coupling coefficient k	0.24	
Mutual inductance M (uH)		17.4
Distance of two coils (cm)		15

As the inductance is 262uH for the transmitter coil, and a resonant frequency range of 40 kHz ~ 50 kHz is chosen in this paper, therefore, the compensation capacitance obtained from (10) is shown as follows:

$$C_{p(40kHz)} = 64.19 \times 10^{-9} \text{ (F)}, C_{p(50kHz)} = 41.08 \times 10^{-9} \text{ (F)}$$

For a resonant frequency range from 40 kHz to 50 kHz, it is clear that the primary compensation capacitance is between 41.08nF and 64.19nF. In this paper, a capacitance of 44nF is selected, and the coil inductance is $262 \mu \text{H}$, thus the resonant frequency can be shown as follows:

$$f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_p C_p}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{262 \times 10^{-6} \times 44 \times 10^{-9}}} = 46 \text{ (kHz)}$$

Generally, the secondary resonance frequency is designed near to primary resonance frequency of 46 kHz. Therefore, the secondary compensation capacitance is given by:

$$C_s = \frac{1}{\omega_r^2 L_s} = \frac{1}{(2\pi \times 46 \times 10^3)^2 \times 19.7 \times 10^{-6}} = 607 \times 10^{-9} (\text{F})$$

Fig. 4 shows the voltage gain plot of the researched inductive power transfer system with different load cases. It shows the output gain of SP topology has frequency bifurcate phenomenon for light load, such as $R_L=12\Omega$ related to $R_L=32\Omega$, and it should be avoided in the use of frequency modulation control strategy. Thus the switching frequency must be higher than the bifurcate frequency to regulate the output voltage, and this will result in an adverse effect for the system efficiency. This paper focuses on the influence due to switching strategies.

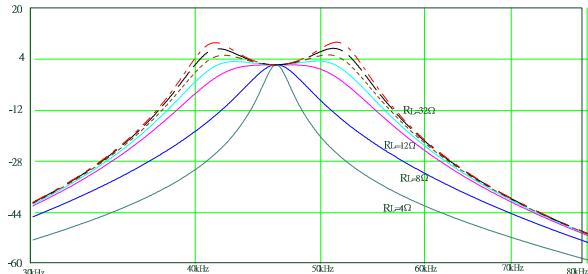


Fig. 4 Voltage gain plot of the researched SP topology.

Fig. 5 shows the case of phase shift control based pulse-width modulation, and Fig. 6 shows the case of frequency modulation based control method.

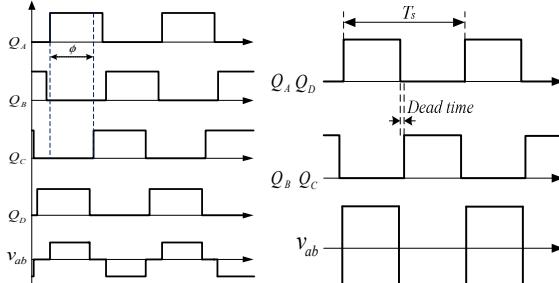


Fig. 5 Phase-shift PWM.

Fig. 6 Frequency modulation.

Fig. 7 shows the relationship of switching frequency and resonant frequency for the variable frequency modulation. The switching frequency f_s is shifted from the resonance frequency f_r to get the required output energy, and f_s will shift close to f_r when the load is heavy, which is shown as Fig. 7(a), otherwise f_s is shifted away from f_r , such as Fig. 7(b).

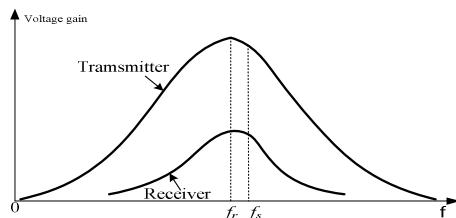


Fig. 7(a) The relationship between f_s and f_r for frequency modulation at heavy load case.

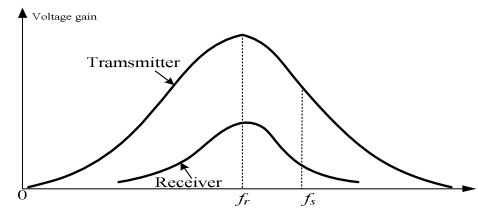


Fig. 7(b) The relationship between f_s and f_r for frequency modulation at light load case.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The prototype circuit parameters are shown in Table 2.

Tab. 2 Wireless power transmission parameters

Electrical Parameters	Value
Input voltage V_{in} (V)	200
Output voltage V_{out} (V)	48
Output current I_{out} (A)	10.6
Primary coil inductance L_P (uH)	264
Secondary coil inductance L_S (uH)	19.7
Primary capacitor C_P (nF)	48
Secondary capacitor C_S (nF)	607
Load R_L (Ω)	4.6~23
Switching frequency(Hz)	51k~60k

A. FREQUENCY MODULATION STRATEGY

Fig. 8 shows the transmitter input voltage and current for the frequency modulation method. Fig. 8(a) shows the case of 509W switched at 51 kHz, and Fig. 8(b) shows the case of 102W switched at 57.8 kHz. It shows the full-bridge converter supplies an inductance load, thus the four switches have the performance of zero-voltage switching function. Fig. 9 shows a case of power switch state at 102W.

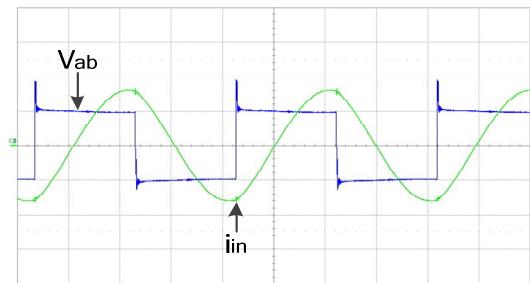


Fig. 8(a) The transmitter input voltage and current in the case of 509W.

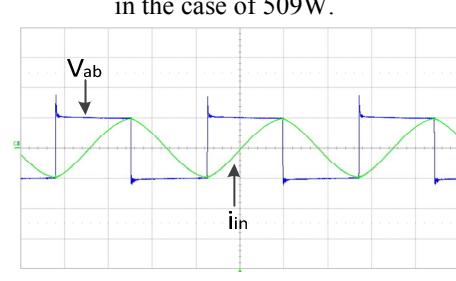


Fig. 8(b) The transmitter input voltage and current in the case of 102W.

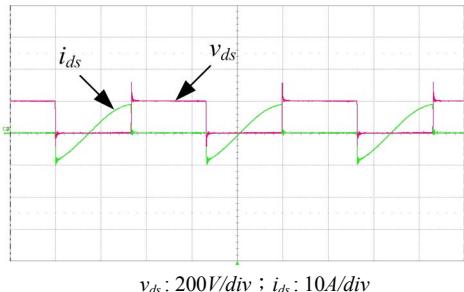


Fig. 9 Q1 switching waveform at 102W.

The transmitter and receiver voltages and currents are depicted in Fig. 10, where Fig. 10(a) shows the transmitter, and Fig. 10(b) shows the receiver. The power is about 102W.

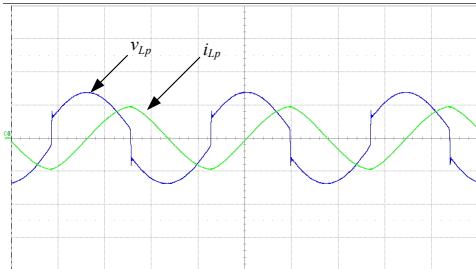


Fig. 10(a) The voltage and current waveforms of the transmitter for 102W output.

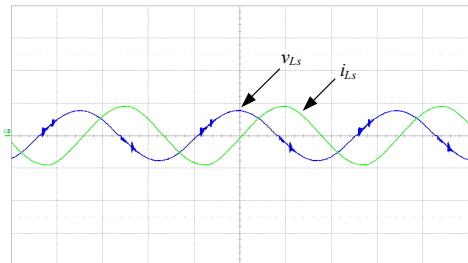


Fig. 10(b) The voltage and current waveforms of the receiver for 102W output.

The performance of constant voltage and constant current control is exhibited in Fig. 11, where R_L is 4.6 ohms in constant current mode, and is adjusted to 23 ohms to raise the output voltage V_o to 48V, and maintains at this value so as to achieve the constant voltage mode function. Fig. 12 shows the system efficiency for the frequency modulation scheme.

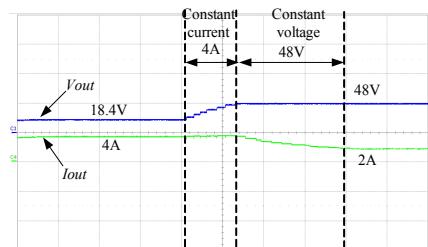


Fig. 11 Constant voltage and constant current regulation.

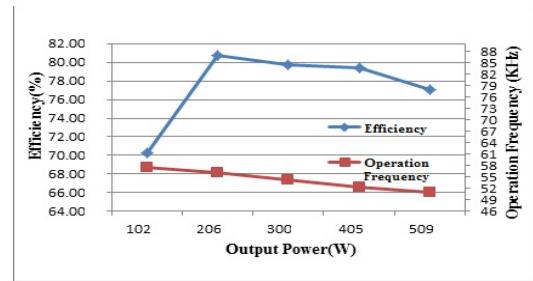


Fig. 12 Efficiency for frequency modulation strategy.

B. PHASE-SHIFT PWM STRATEGY

Fig. 13 shows the transmitter input voltage and current for the phase-shift PWM control method. Fig. 13(a) shows the case of 476W, and Fig. 13(b) shows the case of 101W. The switching frequency is 48.8 kHz.

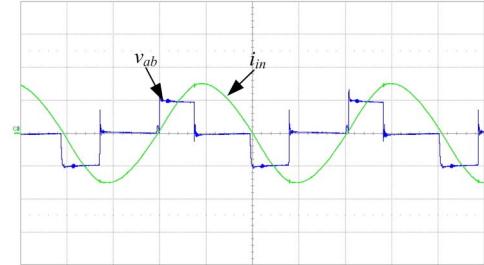


Fig. 13(a) The transmitter input voltage and current in the case of 476W.

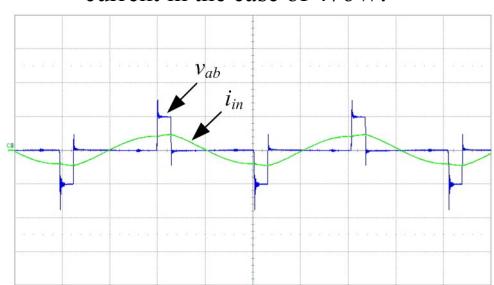


Fig. 13(b) The transmitter input voltage and current in the case of 101W.

The voltage and current waveforms of the transmitter and receiver are depicted in Fig. 14, where Fig. 14(a) shows the transmitter, and Fig. 14(b) shows the receiver. Fig. 15 shows the efficiency in this modulation scheme.

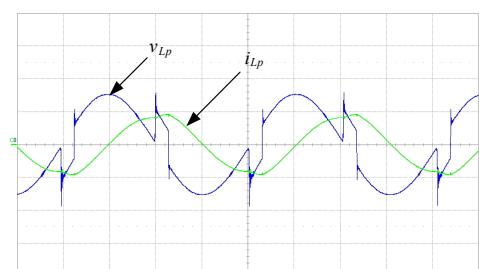


Fig. 14(a) The voltage and current waveforms of the transmitter for 101W load output.

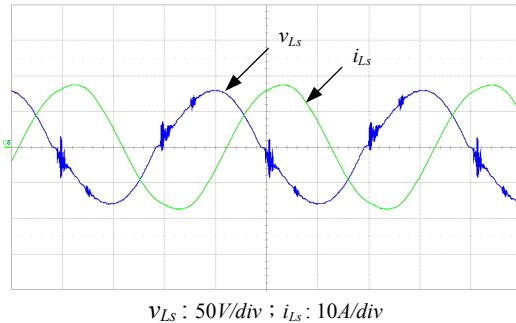


Fig. 14(b) The voltage and current waveforms of the receiver for 101W load output.

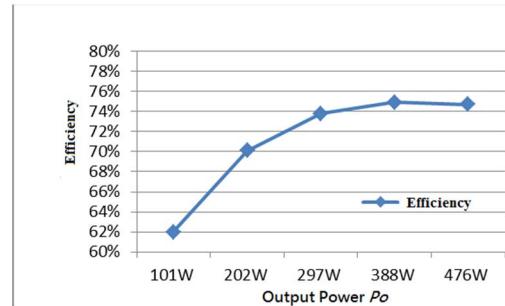


Fig. 15 Efficiency for phase-shift PWM strategy.

V. CONCLUSION

This paper is to explore the non-contact power transmission system with two modulation schemes, including phase-shift PWM method and frequency modulation method. Both control algorithms are consisted of voltage loop and current loop. The experimental results show the frequency modulation has better performance for the efficiency even though the switching frequency is higher than the phase-shift PWM method. It also shows the phase-shift PWM method will induce large harmonics in the terminal voltages of transmitter and receiver.

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