

LLC Converter Operating Principles and Optimization for Transient Response

High Voltage Power

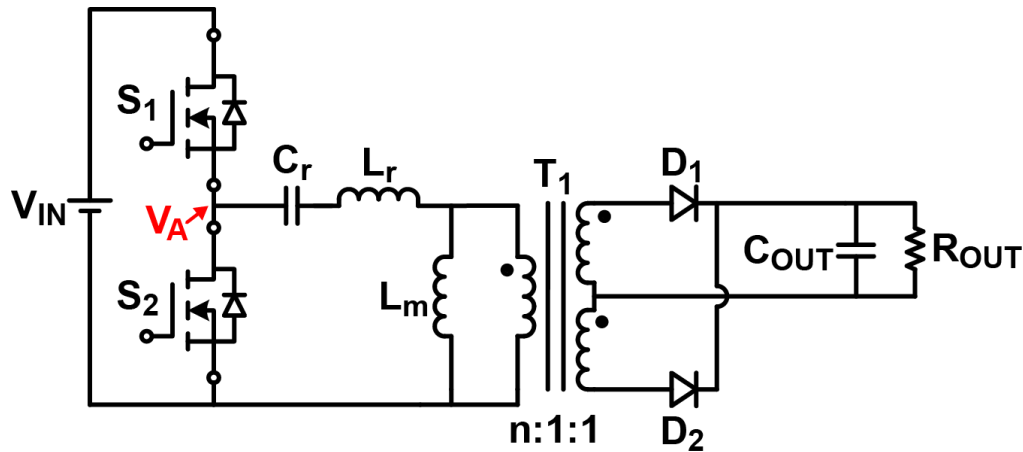
High Voltage Controllers

Agenda

- LLC Converters: Topology Benefits and Example Applications
- Basic Operating Principle
- LLC Power Stage Design Example
- Direct Frequency Control vs Hybrid Hysteretic Control
- Transient Response Considerations
- Test Results

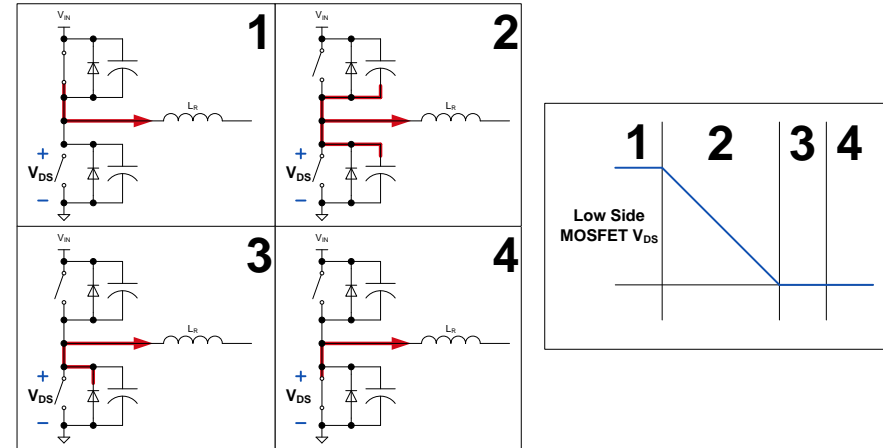
LLC Topology Benefits

- Soft switching over entire load range
- Reduced EMI signature (sinusoidal primary current)
- Efficiency of ~93% to 96% realizable
- Easy Magnetics integration



ZVS Switching

- Zero volt switching achievable when there is enough circulating current in the LLC power stage
- At gate turn-off, circulating current discharges the switch node capacitance
- Switch node must fully discharge during the dead time before the next gate turn-on
- ZVS greatly reduces switching losses and minimizes EMI



LLC Common Applications

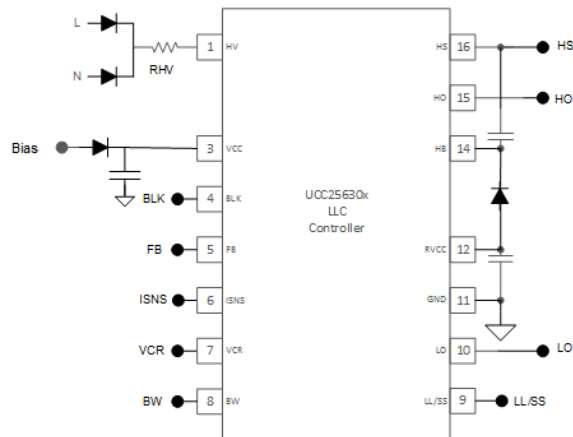
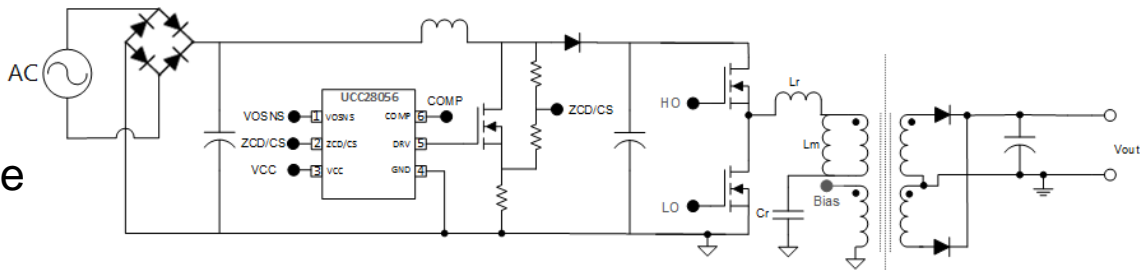
- Common Design Characteristics
 - Narrow, High voltage input
 - PFC input (~400V)
 - Low line input (85V to 120V)
 - High line input (190V to 265V)
 - Output Power
 - 100W to 1kW
 - High Efficiency Desired (~93% to 96%)
- Common Applications
 - OLED/LED TV
 - All-In-One (AIO) Power
 - AC Adapter
 - Projector



~100W – 1000W

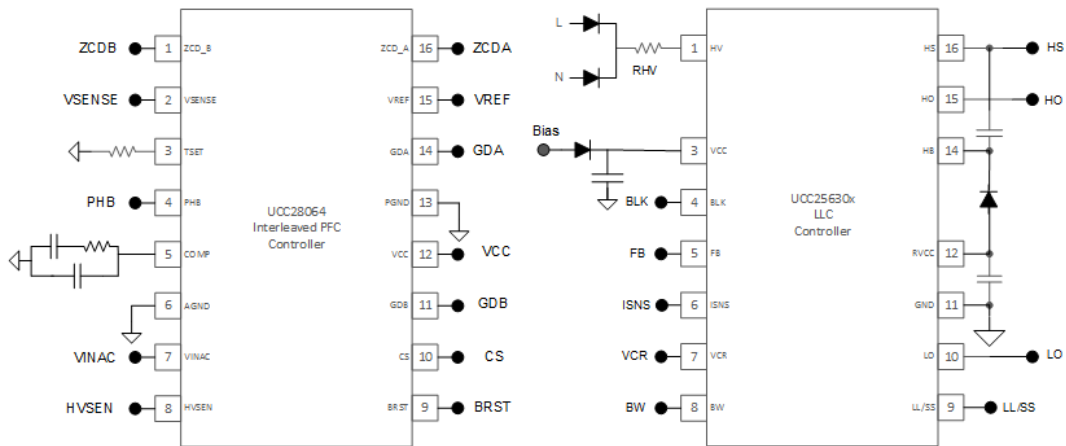
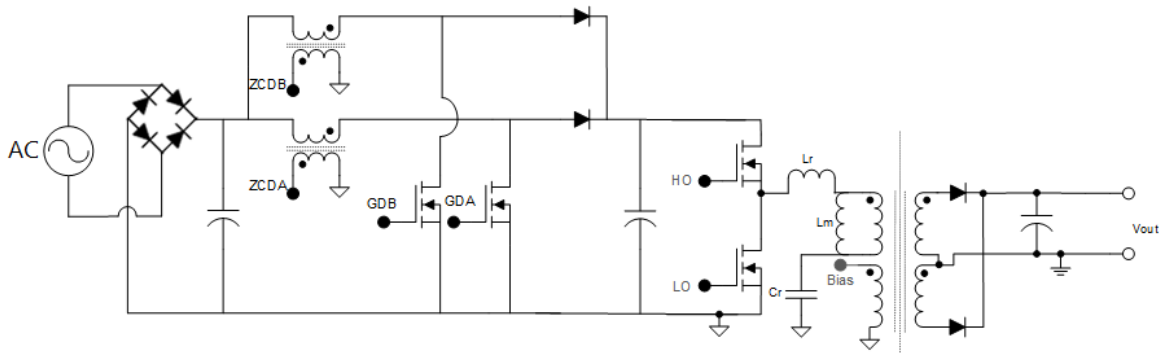
Example Application

- UCC28056 + UCC25630x
- Single Phase Transition Mode PFC + LLC
- Up to 300W
- System architecture minimizes number of high voltage dividers
 - maximizes efficiency across entire load range



Example Application

- UCC28064 + UCC25630x
- Interleaved Transition Mode PFC + LLC
- Greater than 300W
- Low profile designs
- High light load efficiency via phase shedding



PFC + LLC System Level Considerations

UCC28056

- 75W to 300W
- Very low standby power
- enables systems to meet energy standards while keeping PFC on during standby
 - Greatly simplifies power architecture
- No AUX winding required for zero cross detection

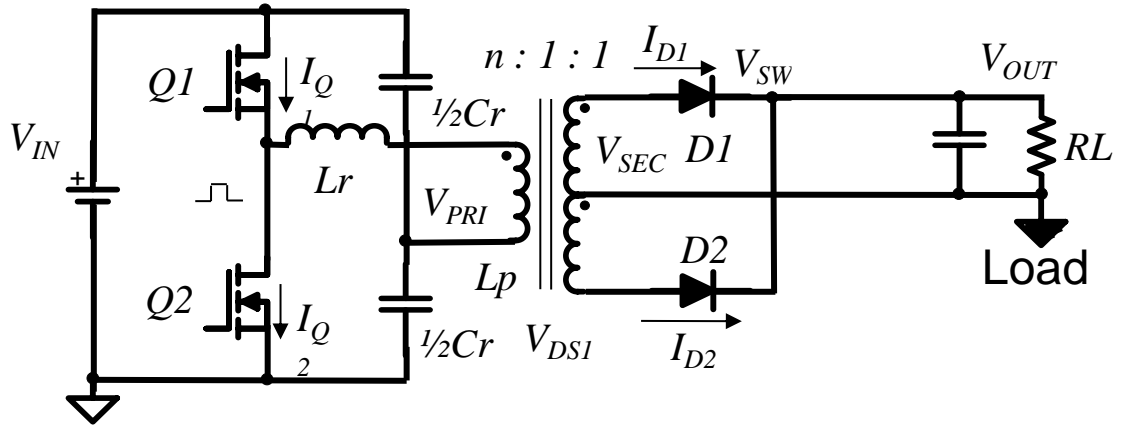
UCC28064

- 300W to 700W
- Reduced current ripple – higher system reliability
- User adjustable phase management and burst mode threshold to achieve low standby power
- Soft burst-on and burst-off avoids audible noise

LLC Operating Principle

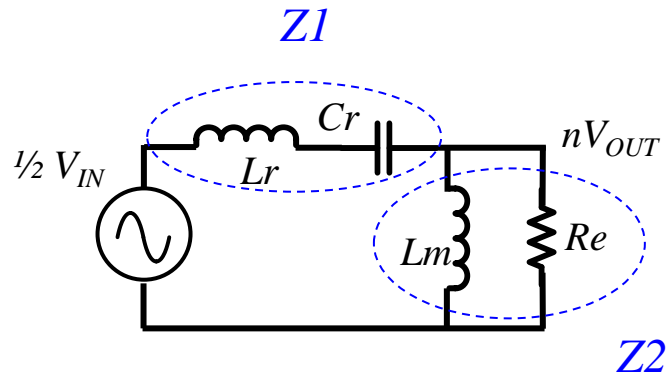
LLC Operating Principle

- L_r , C_r , L_p and reflected R_L forms an impedance divider
- Complex Gain Equation
- Gain varies by varying frequency.
- LLC operates at a fixed 50% duty cycle



LLC Operating Principle

- L_r , C_r , L_p and reflected RL forms an impedance divider
- Gain varies by varying frequency
- Q1 and Q2 always operating at 50% duty cycle
- Regulation achieved by modulating switching frequency

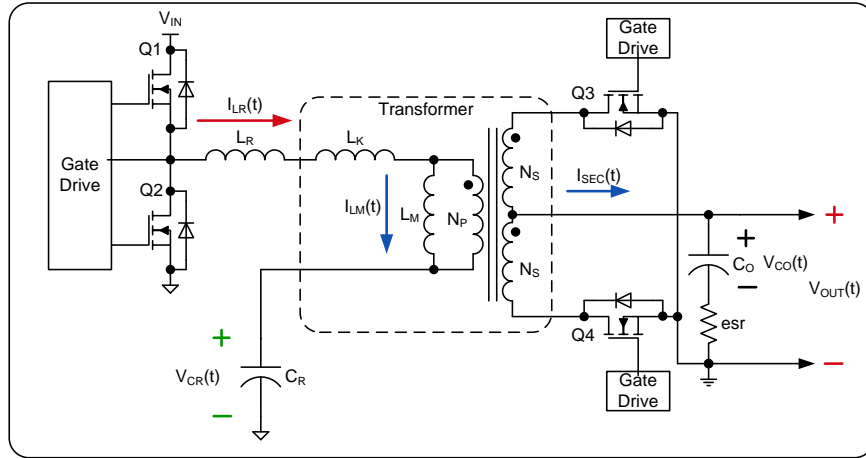


$$Z_1 = 2\pi F \times L_r + \frac{1}{2\pi F \times C_r}$$

$$Z_2 = \frac{2\pi F \times L_m \times R_e}{2\pi F \times L_r + R_e}$$

$$V_{OUT} = \frac{Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2} = \frac{V_{IN}}{2n}$$

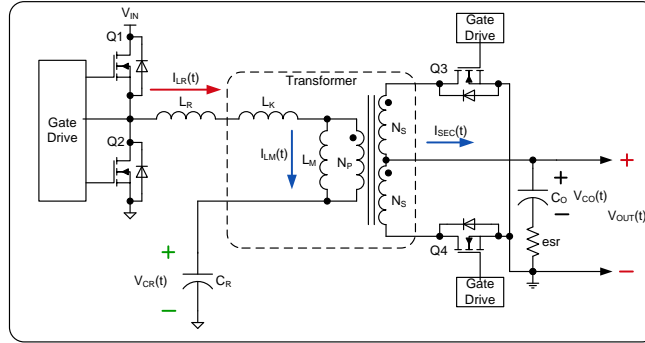
LLC Operating Principle



State	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
2	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
3	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
4	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
5	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
6	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF

LLC Operating Principle: At Resonance

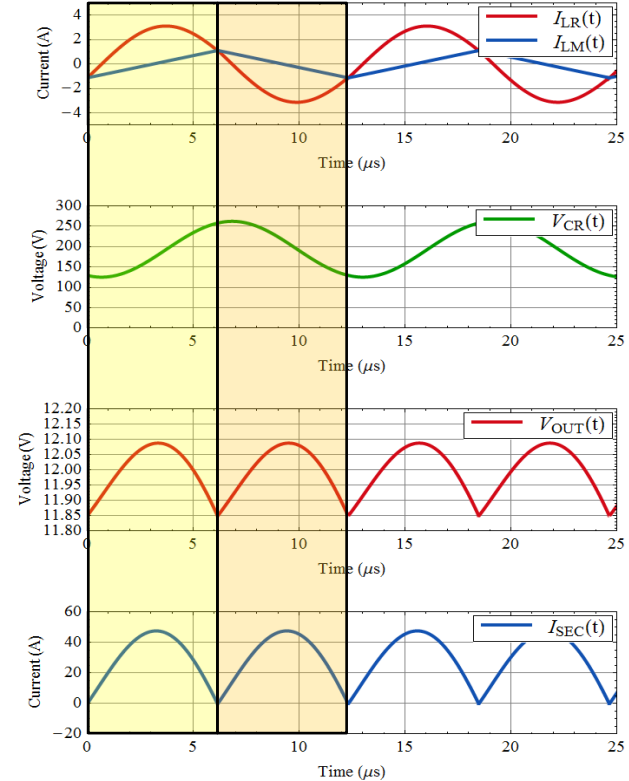
- When switching frequency is equal to resonant frequency of LLC tank:
 - Two possible states
 - Power stage gain equal to 1



Mode State Sequence: 1→5

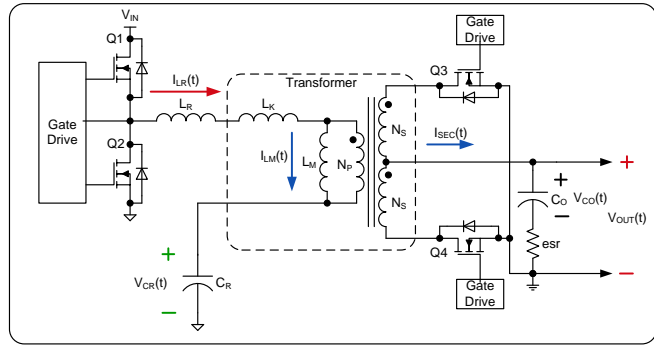
State	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
2	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
3	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
4	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
5	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
6	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF

LLC Resonant Tank Waveforms



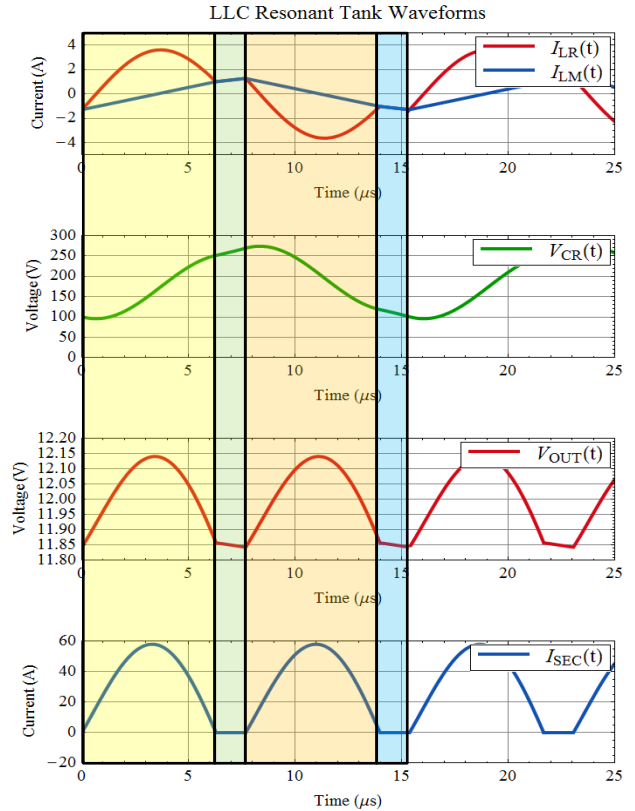
LLC Operating Principle: Below Resonance

- When switching frequency is less than resonant frequency of LLC tank:
 - Four possible states
 - Power stage gain > 1



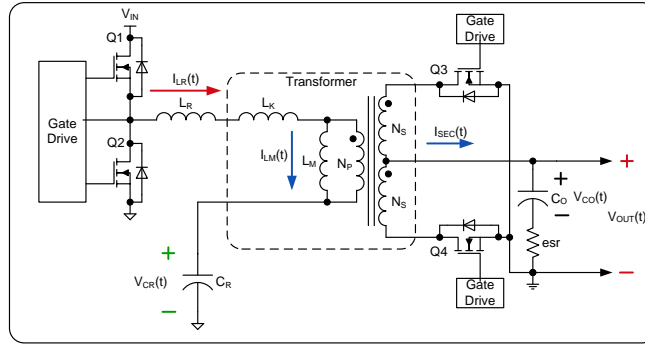
Mode State Sequence: 1 → 3 → 5 → 6

State	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
2	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
3	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
4	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
5	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
6	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF



LLC Operating Principle: Above Resonance

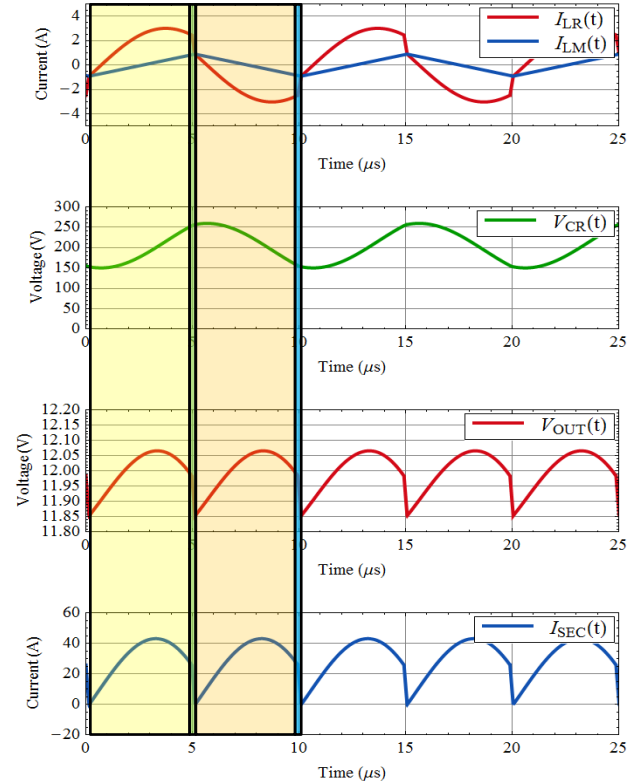
- When switching frequency is greater than resonant frequency of LLC tank:
 - Four possible states
 - Power stage gain < 1



Mode State Sequence: 1 → 4 → 5 → 2

State	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	ON	OFF	OFF	ON
2	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
3	ON	OFF	OFF	OFF
4	OFF	ON	OFF	ON
5	OFF	ON	ON	OFF
6	OFF	ON	OFF	OFF

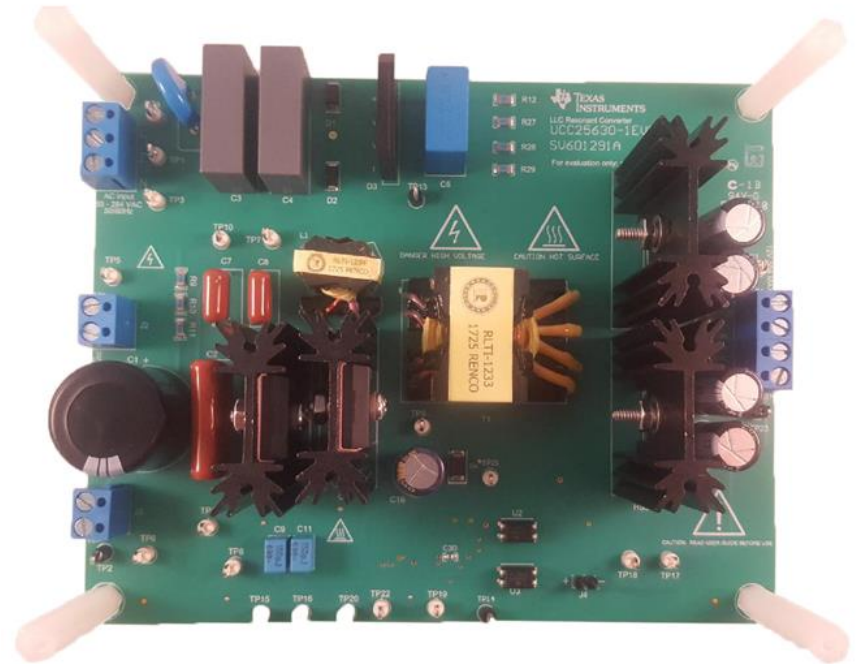
LLC Resonant Tank Waveforms



LLC Design Example

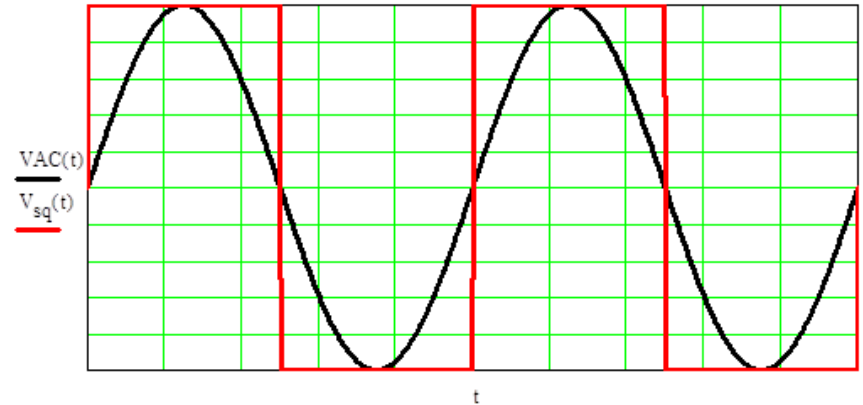
LLC Power Stage Design Example

- Input Voltage Range: 340V to 410V
- Output Voltage: 12V
- Total Output Power: 120W
- Switching Frequency
 - Total Range: 50kHz to 160kHz
 - Resonant Frequency: 100kHz
- Diode Rectification



LLC Power Stage: First Harmonic Approximation

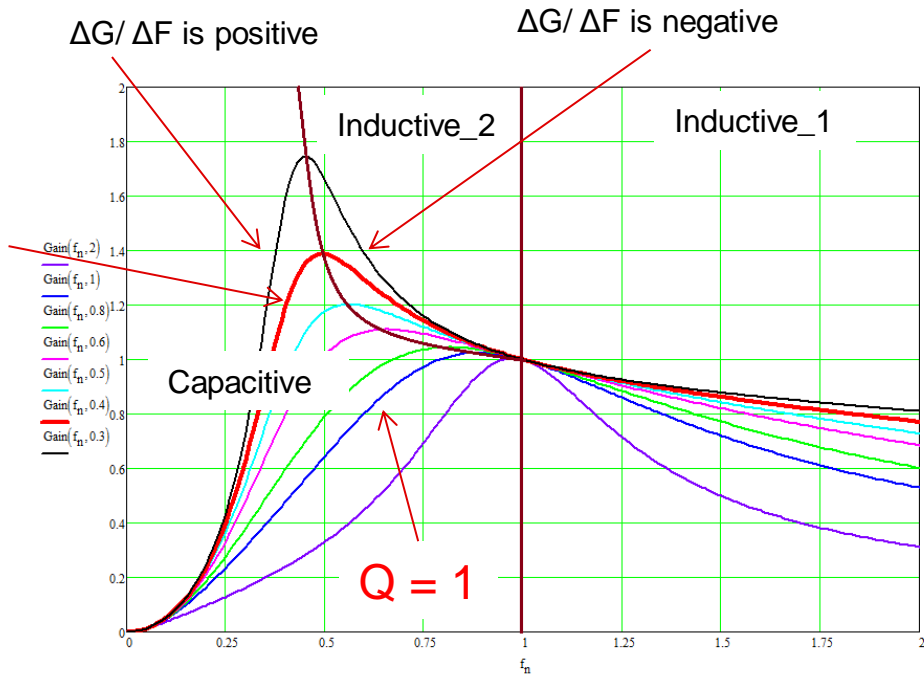
- LLC power stage analysis is difficult
 - No easy analytical solution
- First harmonic approximation is common design approach
 - Assumes only the first harmonic of the switching waveform is significant
 - Reasonably accurate close to resonant frequency
 - Increasingly inaccurate as operating point moves away from resonant frequency



LLC Stage: Gain Characteristic

- $Q = (\sqrt{L_R/C_R})/R_E$
- Resonant Tank peak gain increases as Q decreases – ie. as load decreases
- $\Delta G/ \Delta F$ slope changes as switching frequency crosses from Inductive to Capacitive region – **AVOID this**
 - **Loss of ZVS and control law reversal!**
- ZVS is possible in Inductive regions
 - Possible \neq Guaranteed
- Operate in Inductive regions

$Q = 0.4$



LLC stage gain vs normalised resonant frequency with Q as a parameter

LLC Power Stage Design Example: Transformer Turns Ratio and LLC Gain

- Determine Transformer Primary:Secondary Turns Ratio

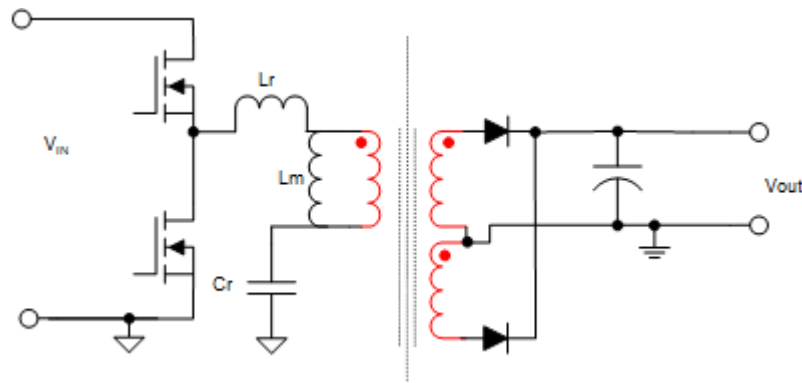
- $n = \frac{V_{IN_nominal}/2}{V_{out}} = \frac{390/2}{12} = 16.25$

- Turns ratio selected as 16

- Determine LLC power stage gain range

- $M_{g_min} = n \frac{V_{out} + V_{f_diode}}{V_{IN_max}/2} = 16 \frac{12 + 0.5}{410/2} = 0.976$

- $M_{g_max} = n \frac{V_{out} + V_{f_diode} + V_{loss}}{V_{IN_min}/2} = 16 \frac{12 + 0.5 + 0.5}{340/2} = 1.224$



LLC Power Stage Design Example: LLC Tank Parameters

- Calculate equivalent load resistance R_e

$$- R_e = \frac{8 \times n^2}{\pi^2} \times \frac{V_{out}}{I_{out}} = \frac{8 \times 16^2}{\pi^2} \times \frac{12}{10} = 249\Omega$$

- Select ratio of magnetizing Inductance to resonant inductance: L_n

$$- L_n = \frac{L_m}{L_r}$$

- Select Quality Factor: Q_e

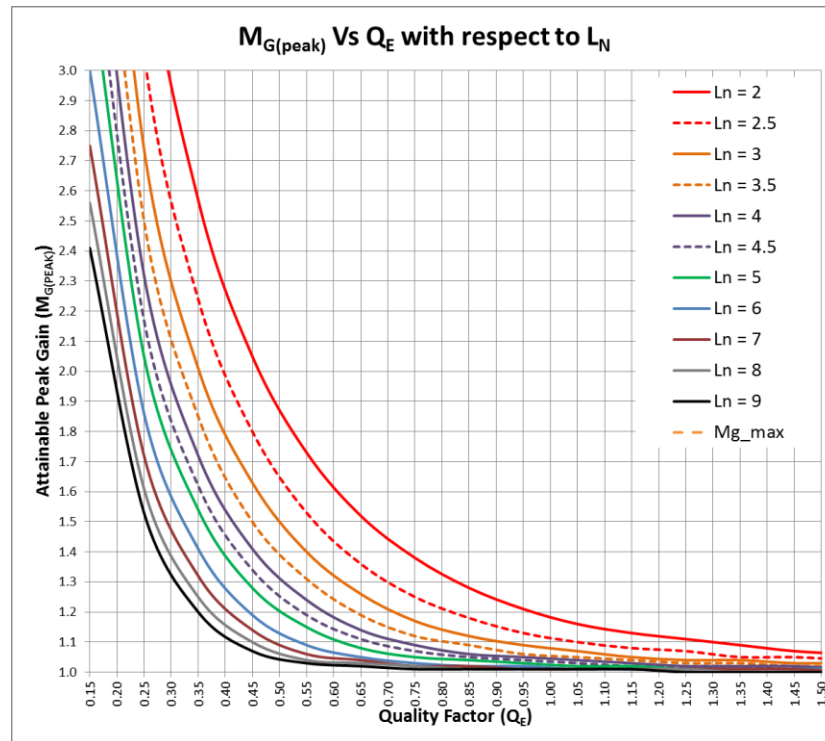
$$- Q_e = \frac{\sqrt{L_r/C_r}}{R_e}$$

- Goal is to select L_n and Q_e from graph so that attainable gain is $> M_{g_max}$

- L_n of 13.5 and Q_e of 0.15 selected

- Graph can be obtained from UCC25630x Calculator:

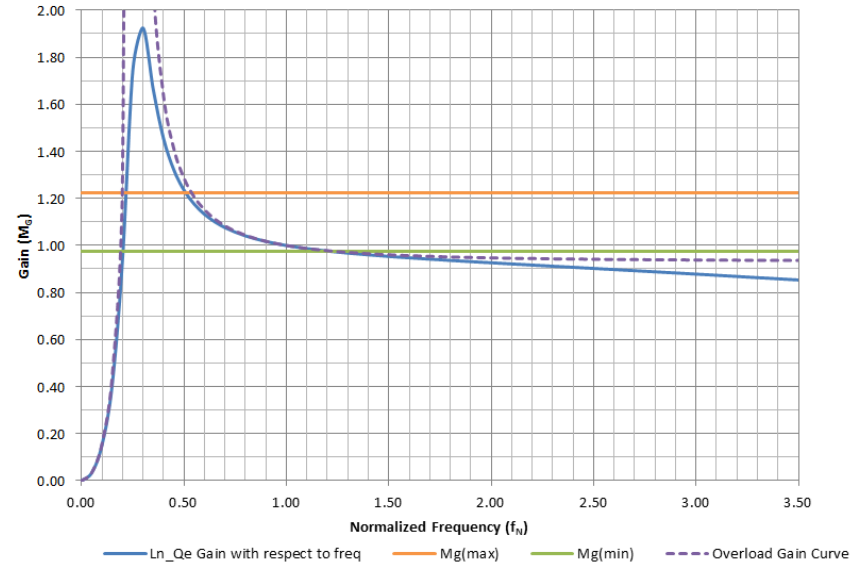
- <http://www.ti.com/product/UCC256302/toolssoftware>



LLC Power Stage Design Example: LLC Tank Parameters

- Select resonant capacitance: C_r
 - $C_r = \frac{1}{2\pi \times Q_e \times F_{res} \times R_e} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 0.15 \times 100\text{kHz} \times 249\Omega} = 42.6\text{nF}$
 - Use $C_r = 44\text{nF}$
- Select resonant inductance: L_r
 - $L_r = \frac{1}{(2\pi \times F_{res})^2 C_r} = \frac{1}{(2\pi \times 100\text{kHz})^2 \times 44\text{nF}} = 57.58\mu\text{H}$
 - Use $L_r = 61.5\mu\text{H}$
- Select magnetizing inductance: L_m
 - $L_m = L_n \times L_r = 13.5 \times 61.5\mu\text{H} = 830.25\mu\text{H}$
 - Use $830\mu\text{H}$
- Double check actual component values satisfy $Mg_{peak} > Mg_{max}$
 - Having some margin of $Mg_{peak} > Mg_{max}$ is needed

LLC Gain Curve with the Selected L_n and Q_e

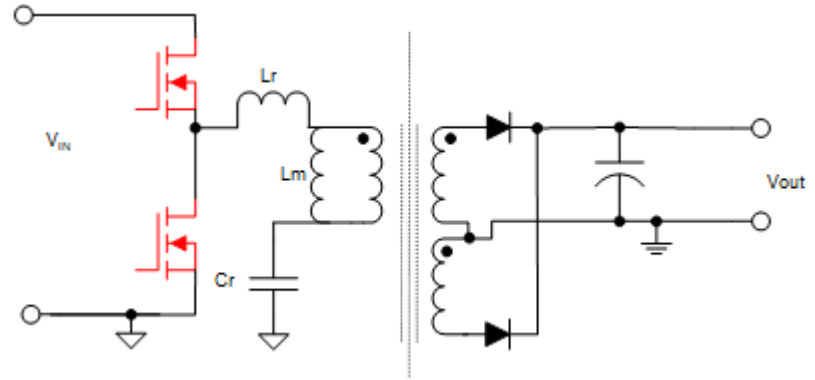


FHA
Calculation

$$\text{Gain}(f_n, Q) := \left| \frac{L_n \cdot f_n^2}{L_n \cdot f_n^2 + (f_n^2 - 1) \cdot (1 + j f_n \cdot L_n \cdot Q)} \right|$$

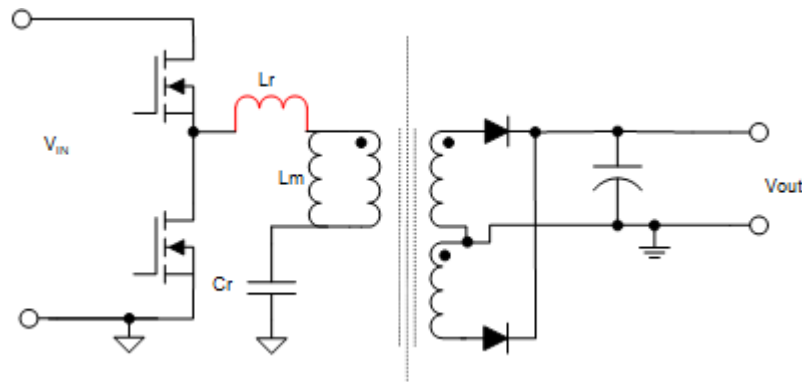
LLC Power Stage Design Example: Primary side MOSFETs

- Select Primary Side MOSFET' based on primary side resonant current and voltage stress
 - Primary RMS current: $I_{oe} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{I_{out}}{n} = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{1.1 \times 10A}{16} = 0.764 A$
 - RMS magnetizing current: $I_m = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \times \frac{n \times V_{out}}{2\pi F_{min} \times L_m} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \times \frac{16 \times 12}{2\pi 50kHz \times 830\mu H} = 0.659 A$
 - Total resonant Current: $I_r = \sqrt{I_{oe}^2 + I_m^2} = \sqrt{(0.764 A)^2 + (0.659 A)^2} = 1.01 A$
 - Choose MOSFET with current rating 1.1 times the total resonant current
 - Max voltage stress each MOSFET sees is equal to the input voltage
 - Choose MOSFET rated to 1.5 times the max input voltage



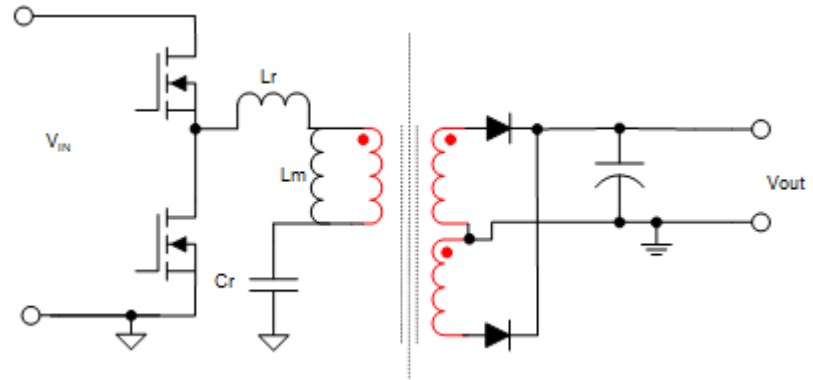
LLC Power Stage Design Example: Resonant Inductor

- Resonant inductor spec
 - Resonant inductance can either be implemented as discrete, external inductor or as the leakage inductance of the transformer (saves space)
 - For external resonant inductor, the maximum AC voltage across inductor is $V_{LR} = 2\pi F_{min} L_R I_R = 19.6V$
 - Complete Spec:
 - Inductance: $61.5\mu H$
 - Rated Current: 1.1A
 - Terminal AC Voltage Rating: 20V
 - Frequency Range: 50kHz to 111kHz



LLC Power Stage Design Example: Transformer

- Calculate secondary side currents
 - $I_{oes} = n \times I_{oe} = 16 \times 0.764 A = 12.218 A$
 - Current in each secondary winding:
 - $I_{ws} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \times I_{oes}}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \times 12.218}{2} = 8.639 A$
- Total Transformer Spec
 - Turns Ratio Primary : Secondary = 32 : 2
 - Primary Magnetizing Inductance: 830 μ H
 - Primary Winding Current: 1.1 A
 - Secondary Winding Current: 8.639 A
 - Switching Frequency Range: 50kHz to 111kHz



LLC Power Stage Design Example: Resonant Capacitor

- Calculate AC voltage on resonant capacitor

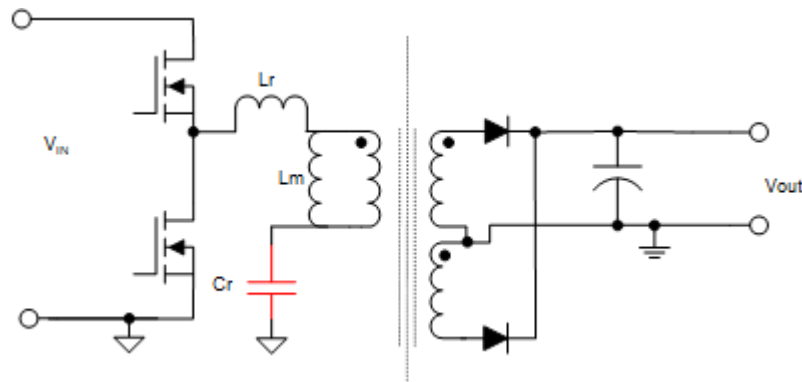
$$- V_{CR_AC} = \frac{I_r}{2\pi F_{min} C_r} = \frac{1.1 A}{2\pi \times 50 kHz \times 44 nH} = 72.5V$$

- Calculate peak resonant capacitor voltage

$$- V_{CR_peak} = \frac{V_{in_max}}{2} + \sqrt{2} V_{CR_AC} = \frac{410V}{2} + \sqrt{2} \times 72.5V = 307.5V$$

- Total resonant capacitor spec

- Peak Voltage: 308V
- Rated Current: 1.1A
- Low dissipation factor preferred to limit temperature rise in the resonant capacitor



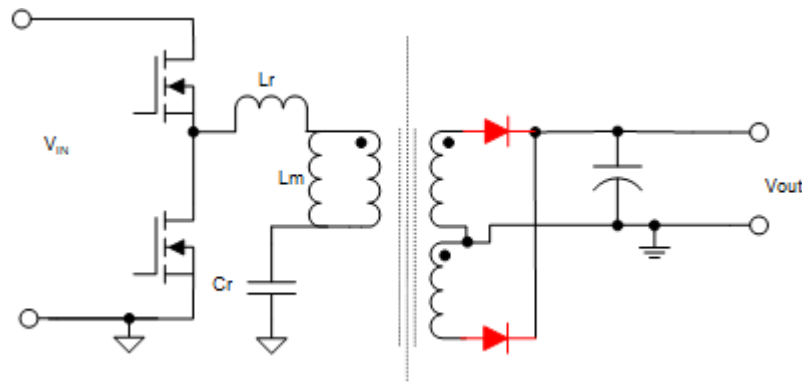
LLC Power Stage Design Example: Rectifier Diodes

- Calculate half-wave average current

$$- I_{ws} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \times I_{oes}}{\pi} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \times 12.218}{\pi} = 5.503 \text{ A}$$

- Calculate required voltage stress rating for each diode

$$- V_{DB} = 1.2 \times \frac{V_{IN,max}}{n} = 1.2 \times \frac{410}{16} = 30.75 \text{ V}$$



LLC Power Stage Design Example: Output Capacitance

- Required Capacitor RMS Current Rating

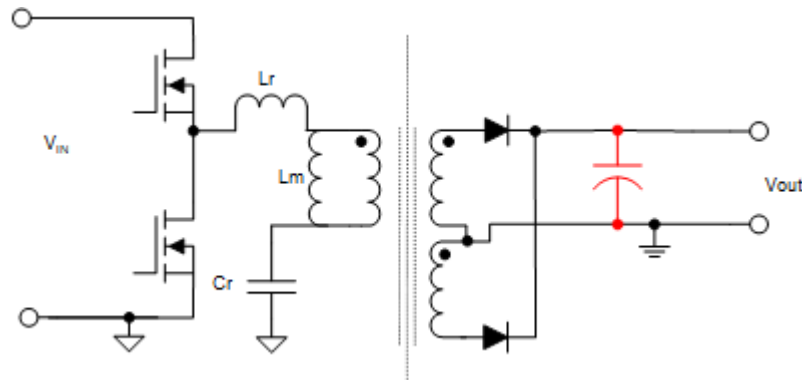
$$- I_{Cout} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} I_{out}\right)^2 - I_{out}^2} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} 10\right)^2 - 10^2} = 4.84 \text{ A}$$

- Max ESR

- Determined by maximum allowable ripple voltage at steady state

$$- ESR_{max} = \frac{V_{out(pk-pk)}}{\frac{\pi}{2} I_{out}} = \frac{0.3V}{\frac{\pi}{2} \times 10} = 19m\Omega$$

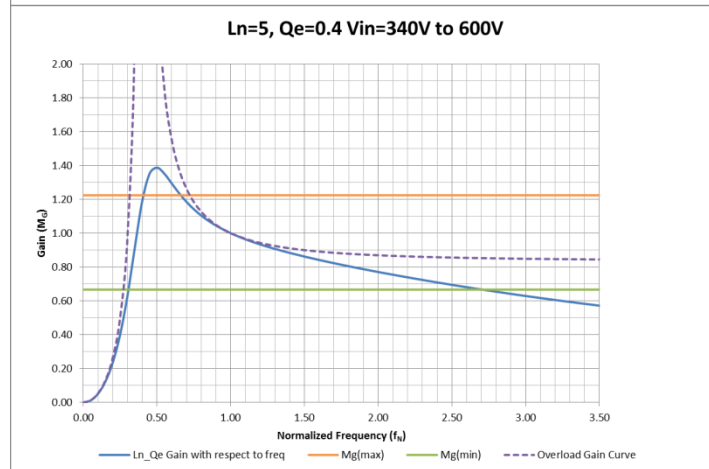
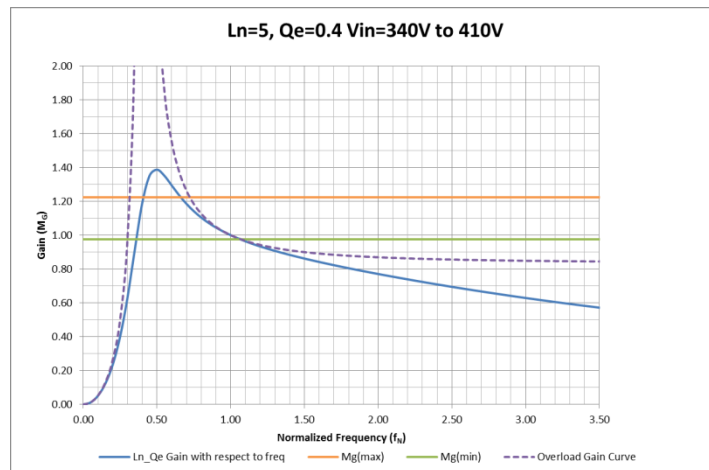
- Larger ESR results in more heat, reduced capacitor lifetime and larger output ripple



LLC Design Considerations

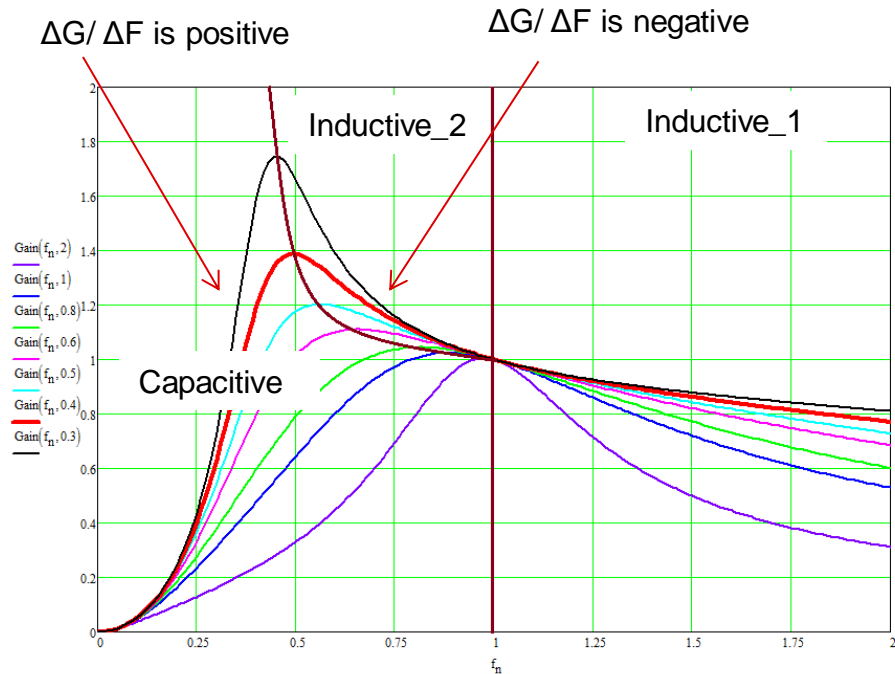
Why is Narrow Input Voltage Preferred?

- Min and Max input voltage determines necessary gain range
- Larger input voltage range results in larger required power stage gain range
- Operating point move further away from resonant frequency
 - Poor efficiency!
- FHA becomes less reliable
- Greater possibility for converter to operate in capacitive region and zero current switching
 - Avoid this

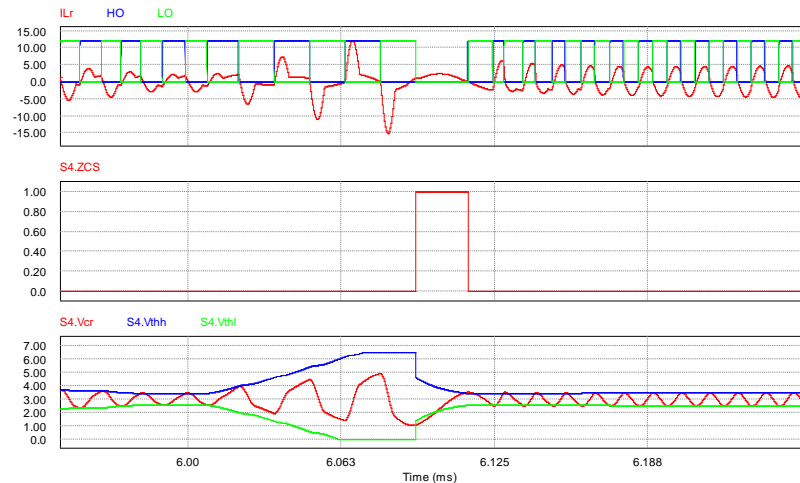
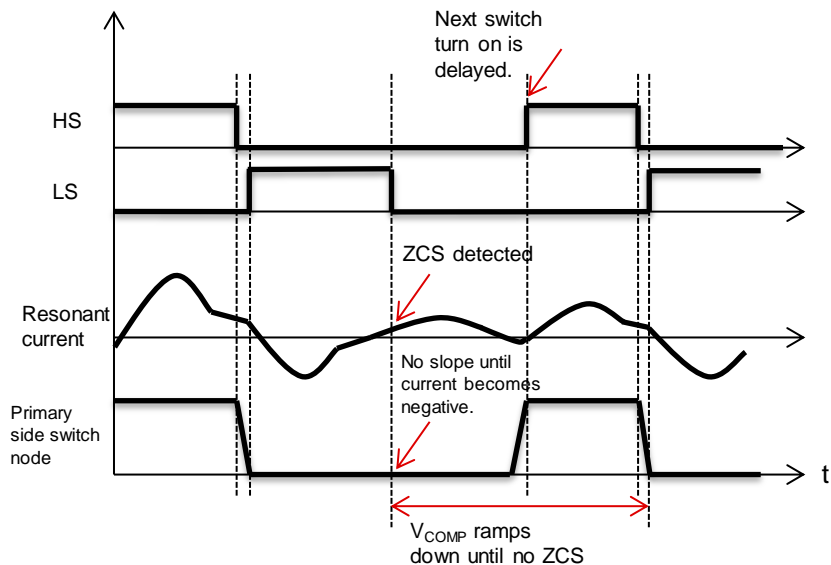


ZCS Avoidance

- ZCS leads to conduction of body diode in primary side MOSFETs
 - Large di/dt spike
 - Greater stress on primary side MOSFETs and probability of damage greatly increases
- Gain-Frequency relationship becomes inversed



ZCS Avoidance

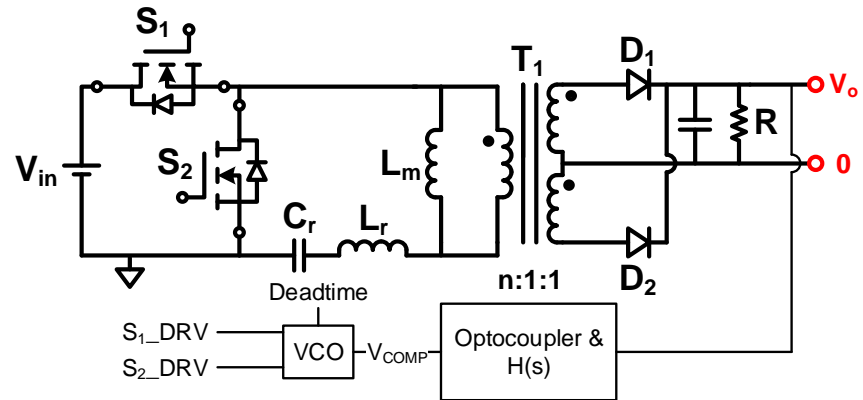


- UCC25630x algorithm incorporates ZCS avoidance
- Polarity of the inductor current is sensed at gate turn off edge
- ZCS is detected if at HS or LS turn off edge, the direction of the resonant current (|polarity) is not correct
- HS or LS switch will not be turned on until the next slew is detected on primary side switch node.
- Vcomp will be rapidly ramped down until there a complete switching cycle without a near ZCS event is detected.

Direct Frequency Control vs Hybrid Hysteretic Control

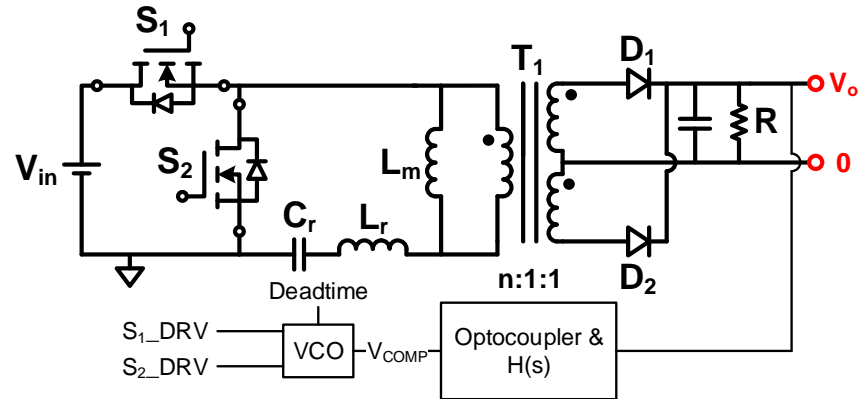
Direct Frequency Control (DFC)

- Analogous to voltage mode control
- Limited bandwidth and slow transient response
- Complex power stage transfer function



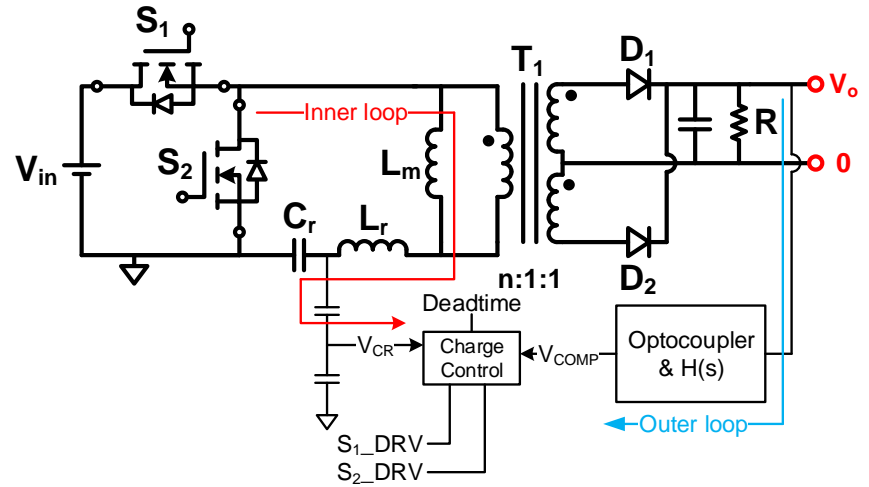
Direct Frequency Control (DFC)

- Power stage transfer function difficult to express analytically
- Compensation strategy is typically begin with integrator and increase bandwidth if enough phase margin is available



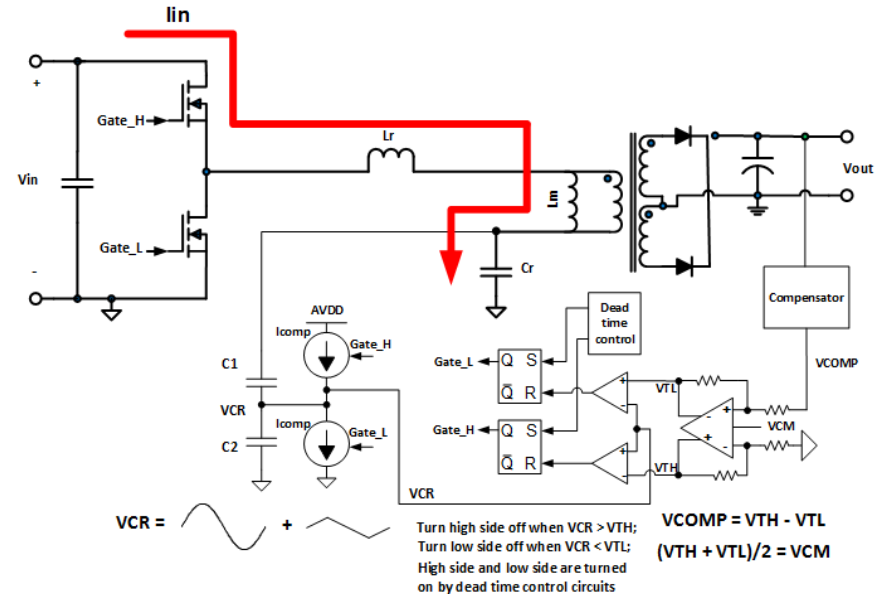
Hybrid Hysteretic Control (HHC)

- Charge control with added frequency compensation ramp
- Analogous to current mode control with added slope compensation
- 1st order power stage transfer function
- Higher bandwidth and fast transient response



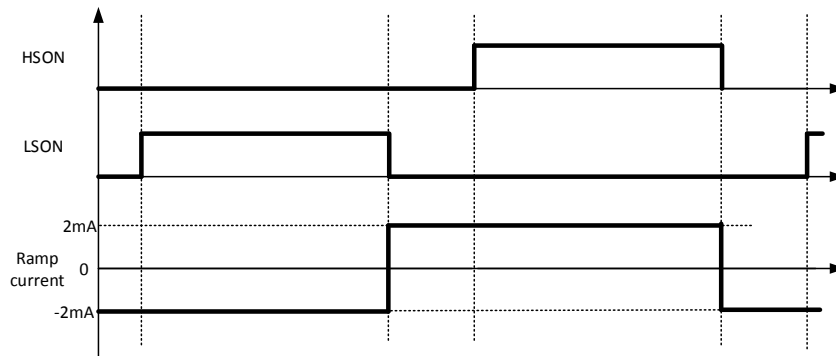
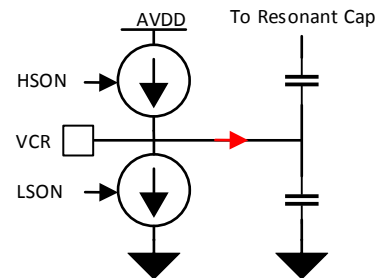
Hybrid Hysteretic Control (HHC)

- HHC operating principle
- Gate turn off thresholds (V_{TH} and V_{TL}) are derived from feedback
- Gate turn off determined by comparing VCR to V_{TH} and V_{TL}
- Gate turn on determined by adaptive dead time circuit

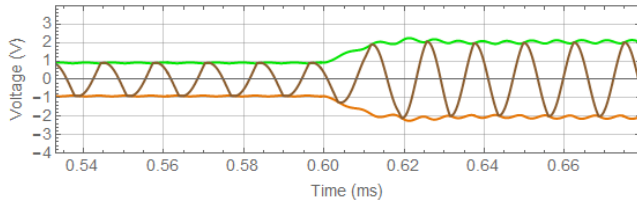
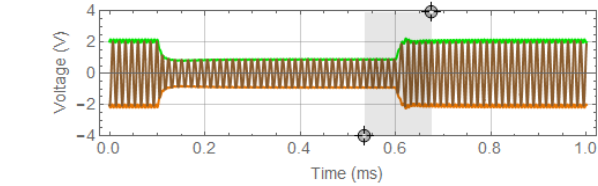


Hybrid Hysteretic Control (HHC)

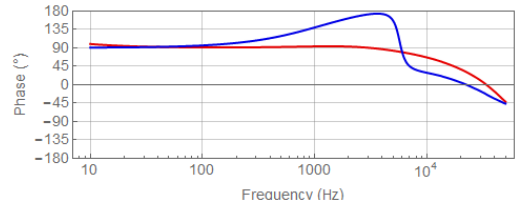
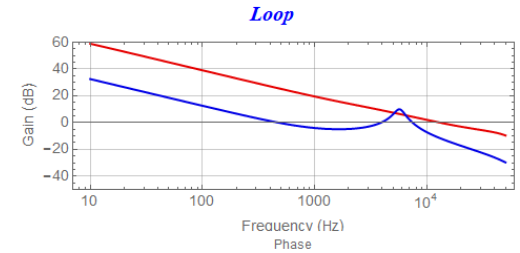
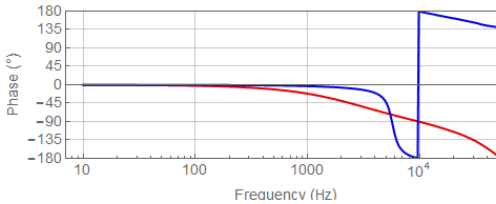
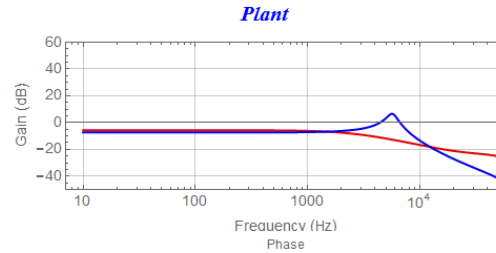
- Current sources on/off control synchronous to gate signal turn off edge
- Inherent negative feedback for low side and high side gate signal balance
- Automatically maintain the bias voltage at 3V – **no need for extra resistor dividers**
- Current sources are turned off during burst off period – **reduce standby power consumption**



Hybrid Hysteretic Control (HHC)



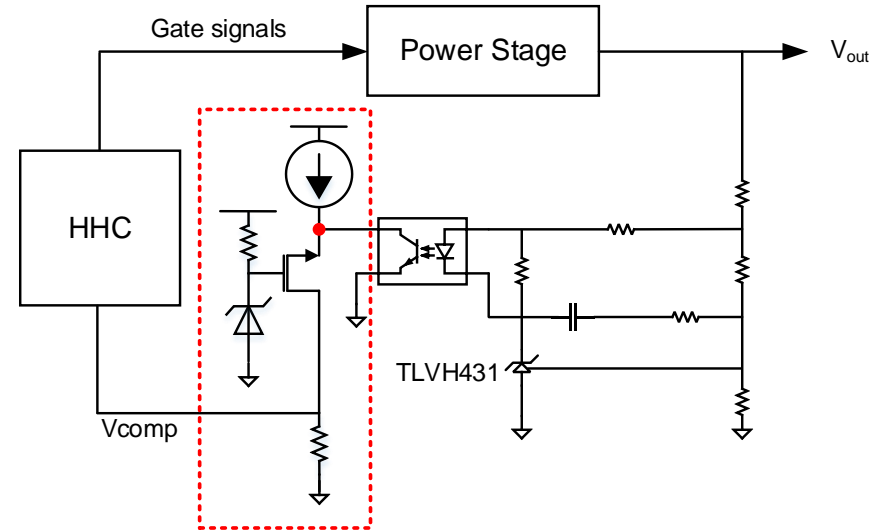
- ~1st order system
- Able to achieve higher bandwidth



– Frequency control – HHC

Hybrid Hysteretic Control (HHC)

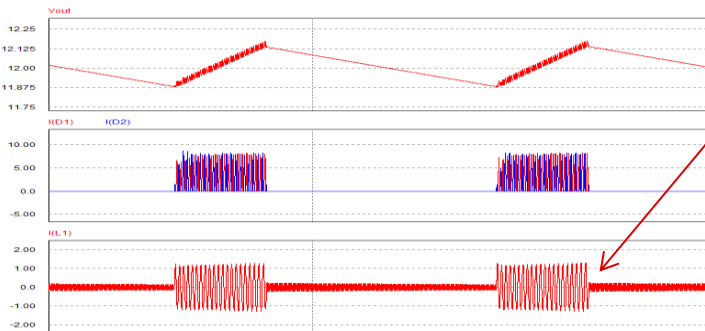
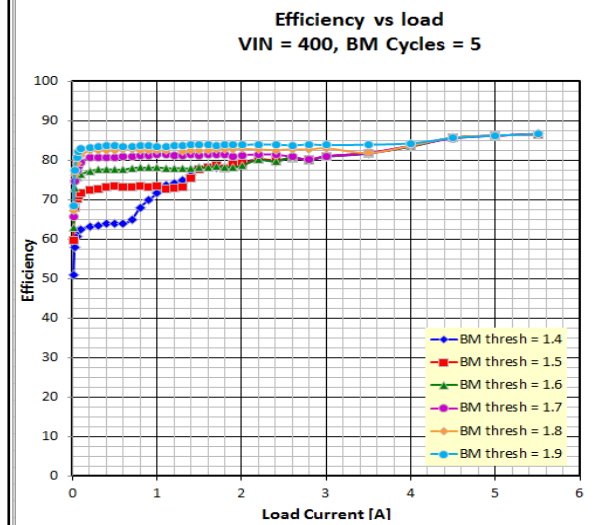
- Optocoupler collector voltage regulated at a constant voltage
 - **Higher loop bandwidth and fast transient**
- No extra pole introduced due to the optocoupler parasitic capacitor
 - **Low standby power consumption**



HHC: Burst Mode Control

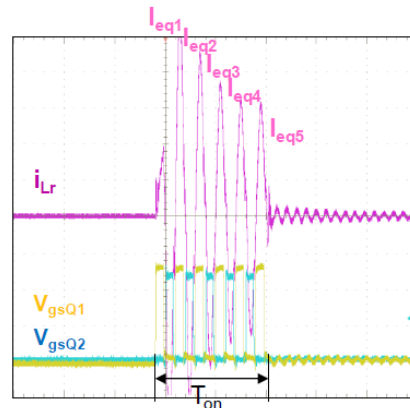
- Advanced burst mode
 - Converter operates at the operating point with the highest efficiency during the burst period
 - Burst mode threshold tunable through external resistors

Efficiency vs. load for different V_{IN} with different BM threshold setting

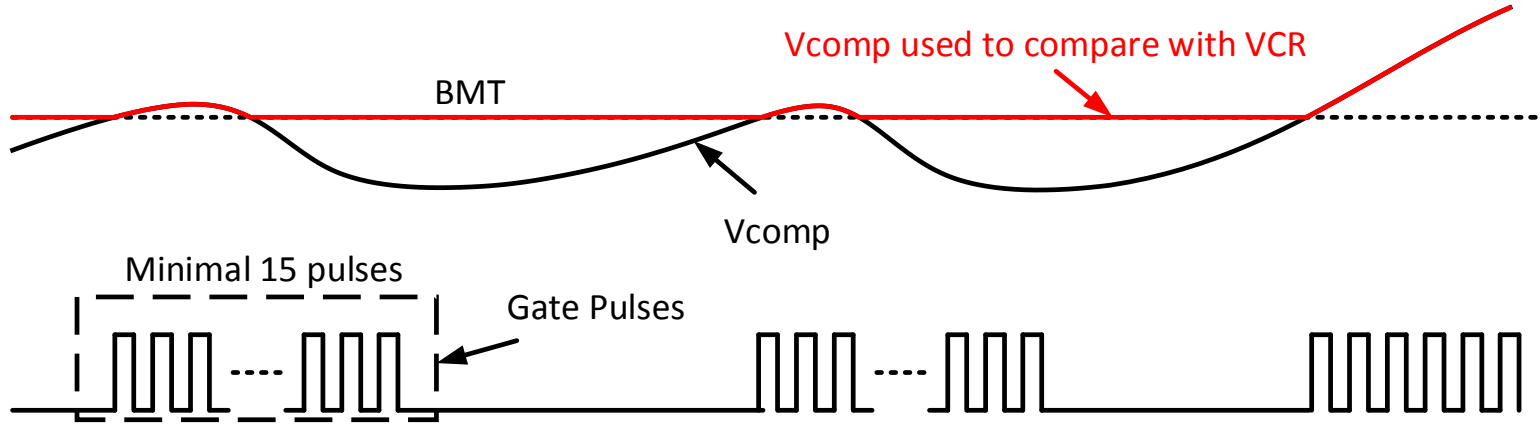


UCC25630x: I_{res} stays at optimal efficiency operation condition in every switching cycle

Conventional solution: I_{res} is not optimized



HHC: Burst Mode Control

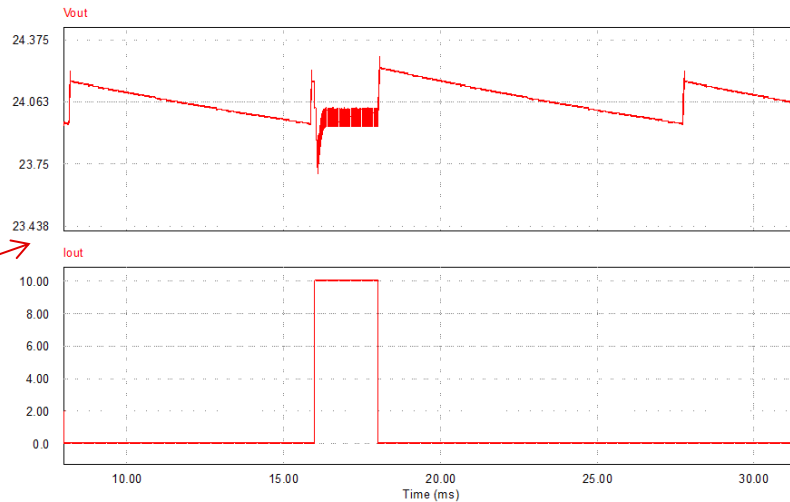


- Burst mode allows system to turn on for a minimal of 15 switching pulses and turn off for a longer time to improve the light load efficiency – **Low standby power consumption**
- The higher value of Vcomp and burst mode threshold (BMT) is used to compare with VCR for pulse generating guarantee a fast transient from light load/no load to full load – **Fast transient**

HHC: Burst Mode Control

- Fast exit from burst mode without large V_{OUT} dip
 - No need for secondary side wake up circuit

Load step between 0.5%
load and full load.
 V_{OUT} dip is ~100 mV



HHC Benefits

Fast Transient Response

- HHC simply plant to $\sim 1^{\text{st}}$ order system, allowing for a higher system bandwidth
- Innovated feedback chain removes extra pole introduced by the optocoupler parasitic capacitor
- Burst mode implementation allow the system to get out of burst mode fast, to guarantee for a fast transient from light load to heavy load

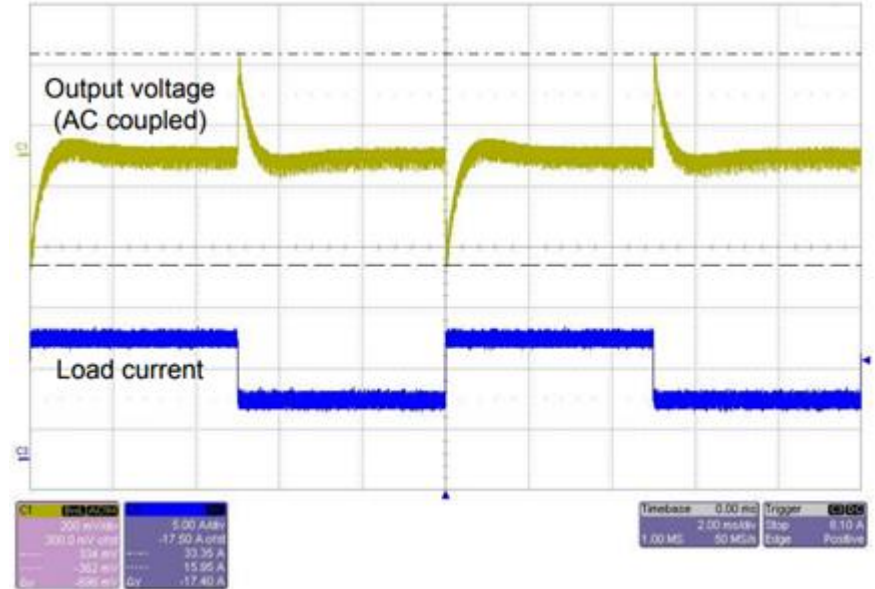
Low Standby Power Consumption

- Slope compensation remove the need for extra resistors to maintain the dc bias voltage on VCR
- Low optocoupler bias current helps to achieve a low standby power consumption on feedback loop
- Burst mode improve the light load efficiency by turning off the switching for certain period

LLC Transient Response

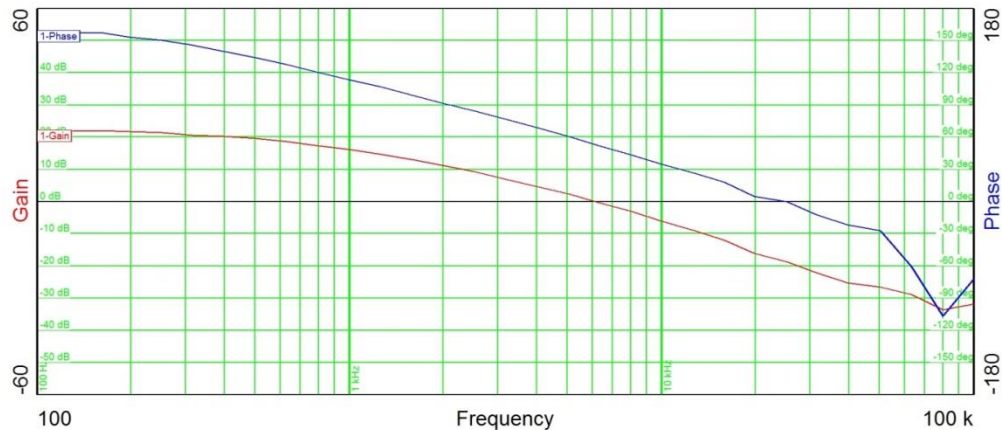
Load Transient Response

- Performance metric describing the power supply's response to sudden change in load current
- Factors to consider
 - Max output voltage deviation
 - Time needed for output voltage to return to regulation set point
 - Settling time behavior



Load Transient Response

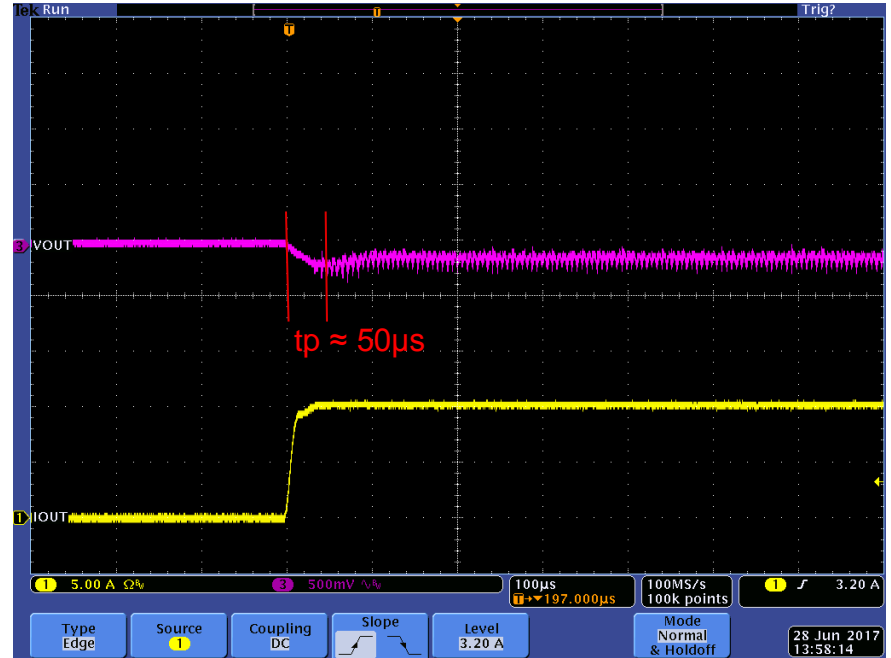
- Transient response dependent on converter bandwidth and phase margin
- Approximation of delay between transient event and converter response from bode plot
 - $t_p = \frac{1}{4 \times f_c}$
 - f_c is crossover frequency
 - t_p is time from start of transient event to valley of output voltage dip
 - Approximation does not include slew rate or ESR considerations



Load Transient Response

- UCC25630-1EVM crossover frequency: 6kHz
- Approximation of delay between transient event and converter response:

$$- t_p = \frac{1}{4 \times f_c} = \frac{1}{4 \times 6 \text{kHz}} = 50 \mu\text{s}$$



Load Transient Response

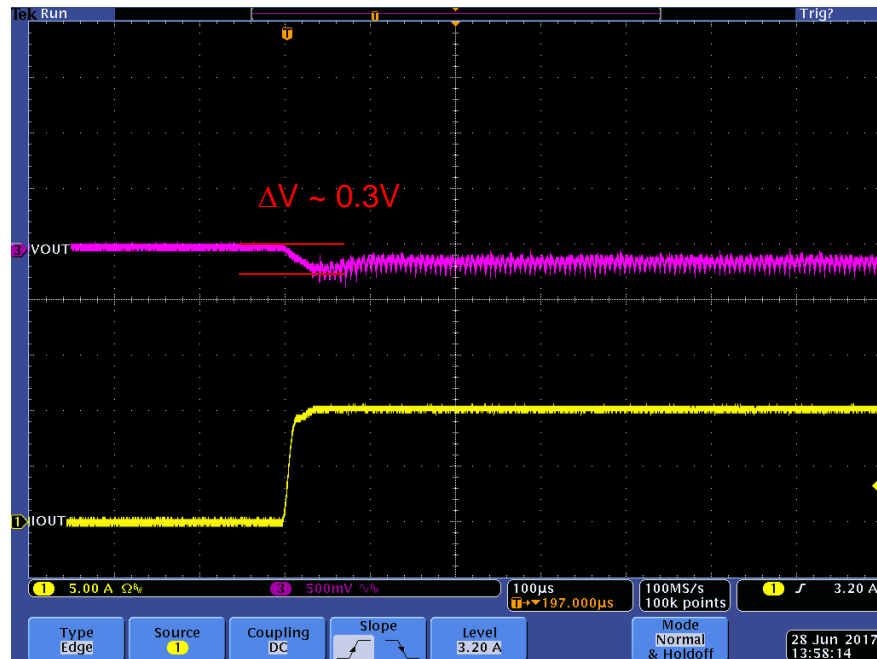
- Converter is unable to instantaneously react to transient event
- After the transient event but before converter responds, charge is transferred from output capacitance to the load, resulting in output voltage droop
- Maximum droop in output voltage dependent on closed loop output impedance, load step and slew rate

Load Transient Response

- Maximum voltage droop can be approximated from total output capacitance and ESR

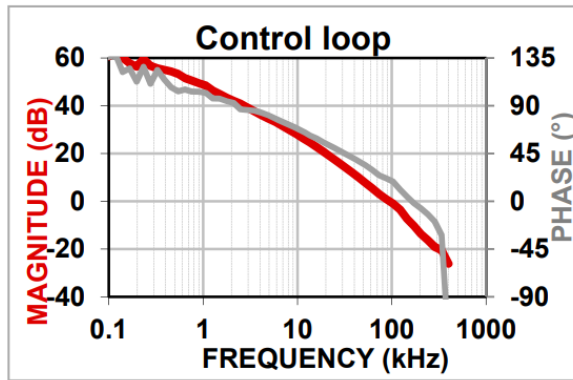
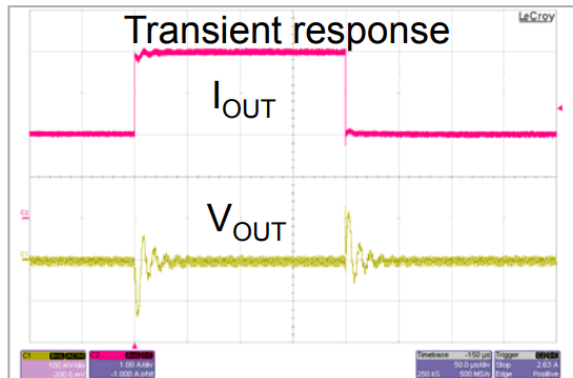
$$- \Delta V_{out} = \frac{\Delta I_{LoadStep} \times \Delta t_p}{C_{out}} + \Delta I_{LoadStep} \times R_{ESR}$$

$$- \Delta V_{out} = \frac{10 \text{ A} \times 50 \mu\text{s}}{1968 \mu\text{F}} + 10 \text{ A} \times 1.75 \text{ m}\Omega = 272 \text{ mV}$$

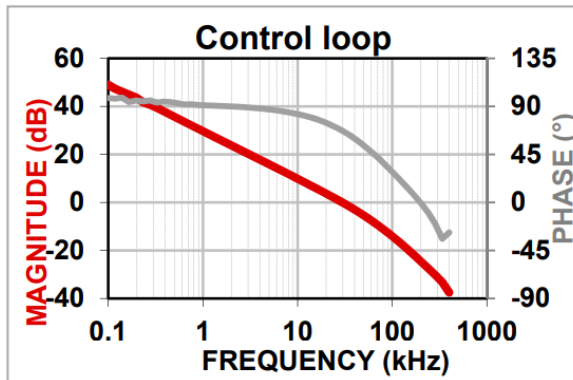
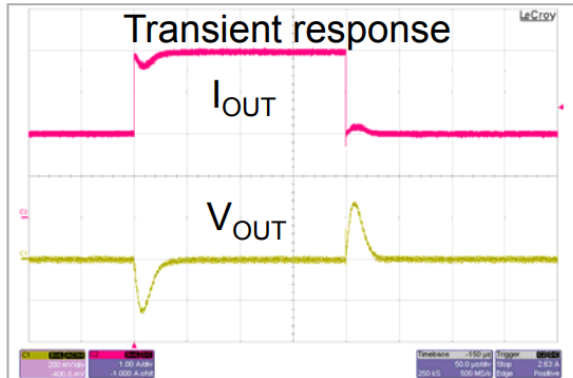


Load Transient Response

- Phase margin describes stability of the power converter
- determines the output voltage settling time and settling behavior
- Insufficient phase margin results in underdamped response and oscillation in output voltage
- $>45^\circ$ phase margin a must, $>60^\circ$ phase margin preferred



Phase Margin= 20°



Phase Margin= 67°

Compensation Goals

- Target higher bandwidth for faster transient response
- Maintain at least $>45^\circ$ phase margin at crossover frequency
- $>10\text{dB}$ gain margin

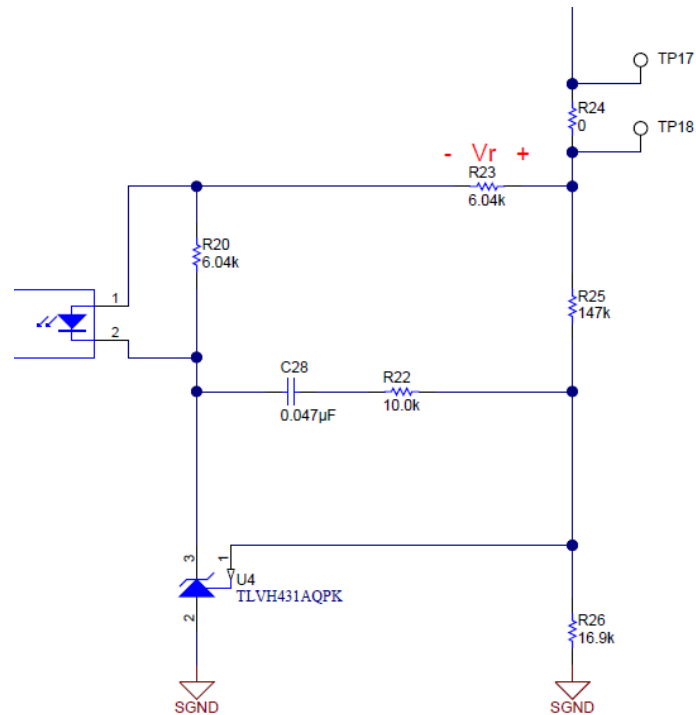
Isolated Compensation

- Type II

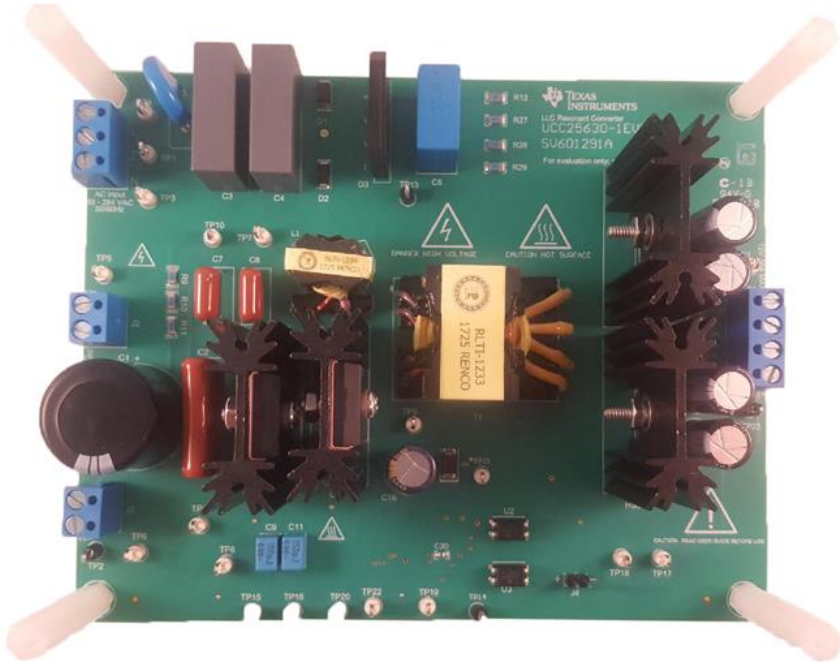
$$- F_Z = \frac{1}{2\pi C_{28}(R_{22}+R_{25})}$$

$$- \frac{V_r(s)}{V_o(s)} = \frac{1+sC_{28}(R_{25}+R_{22})}{sC_{28}R_{25}}$$

- R22 used to adjust mid-band gain of the feedback network



Test Results: UCC25630x EVM

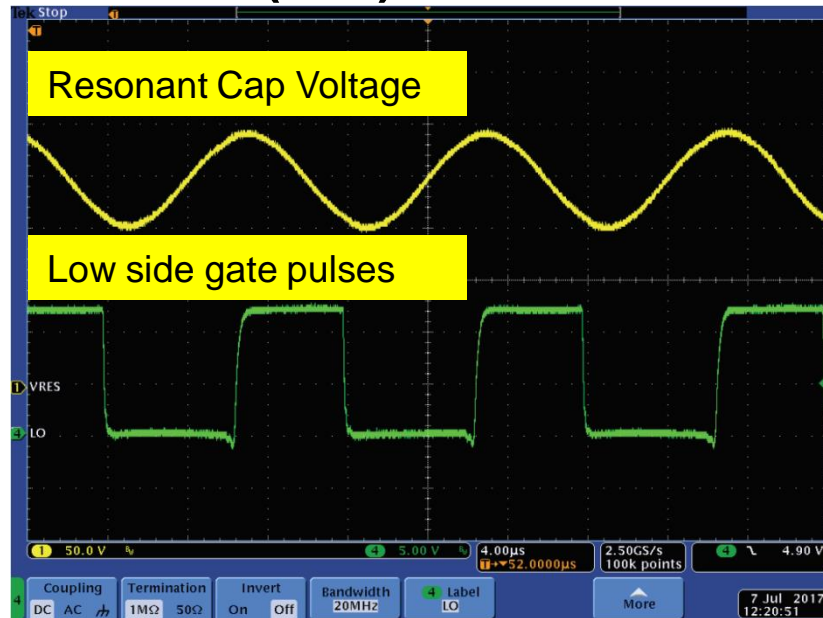


- Input voltage: 340 Vdc – 410 Vdc
- Output voltage: 12 Vdc
- Output current (rated): 10A
- Resonant frequency: 96kHz

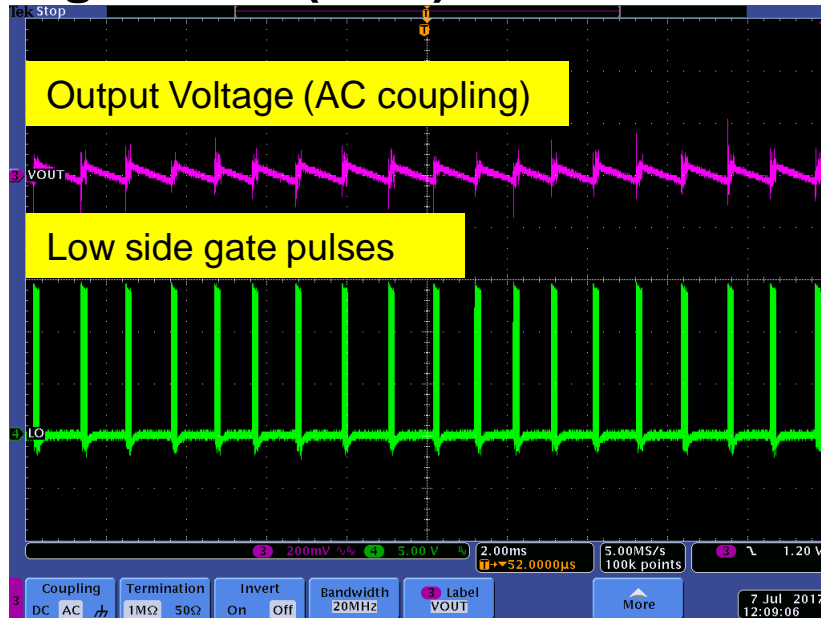


Test Results: Typical Waveforms

Full Load (10A)

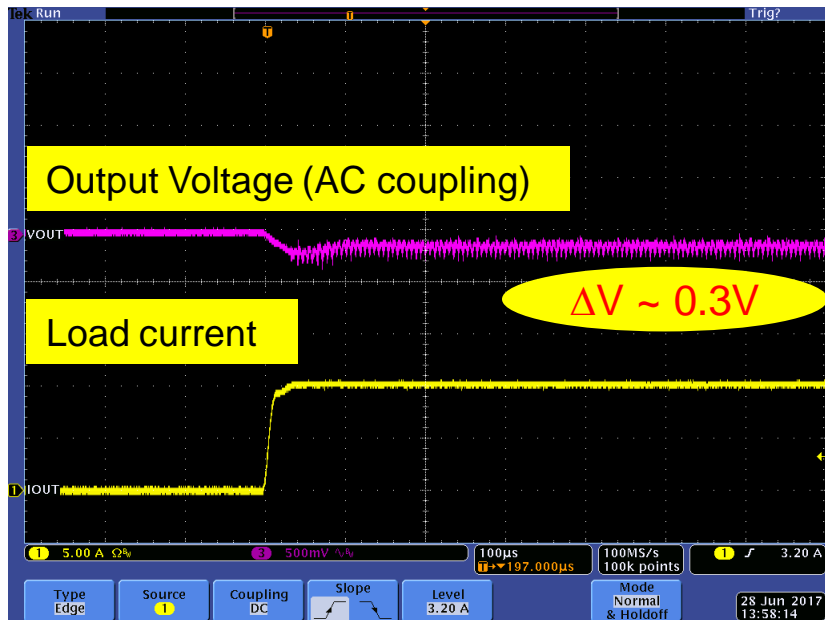


Light Load (0.1A)

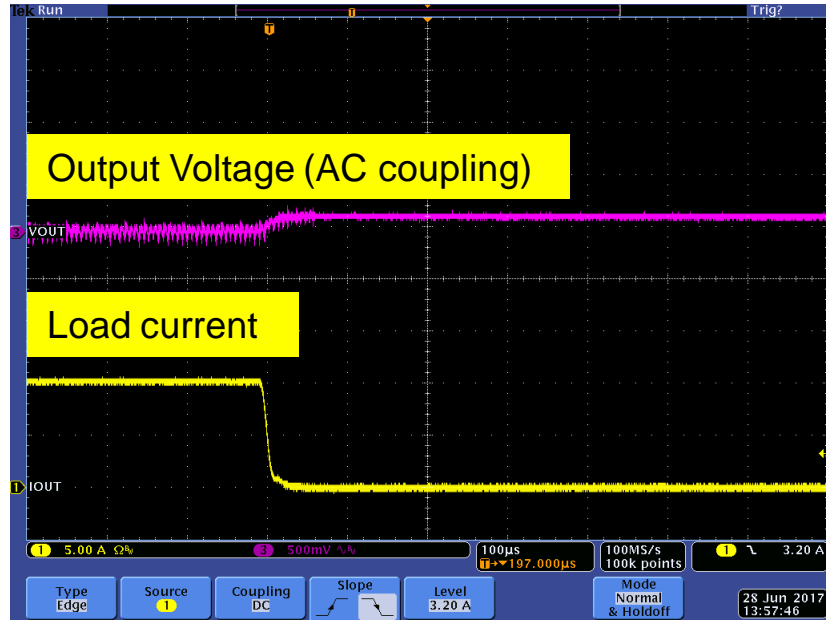


Test Results: Transient Response

No Load to Full Load

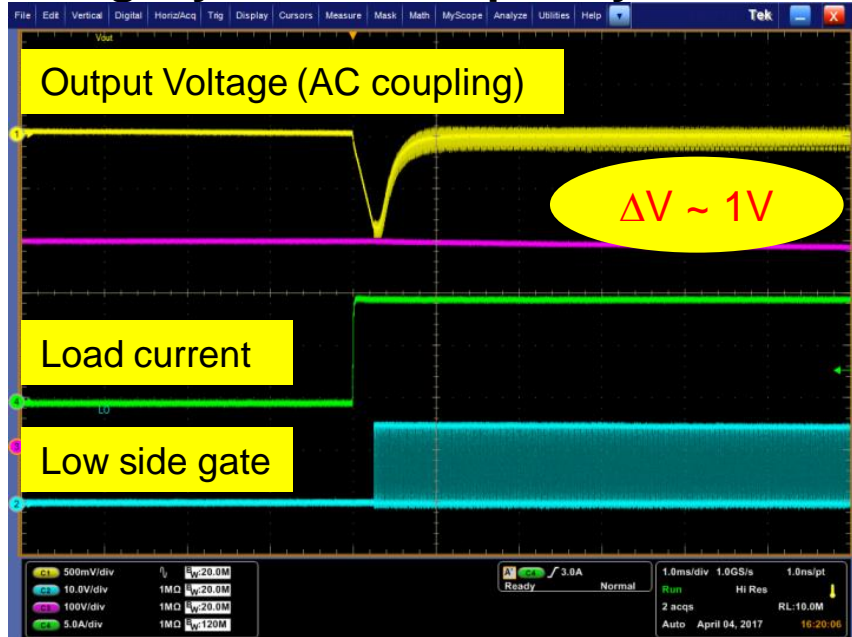


Full Load to No Load

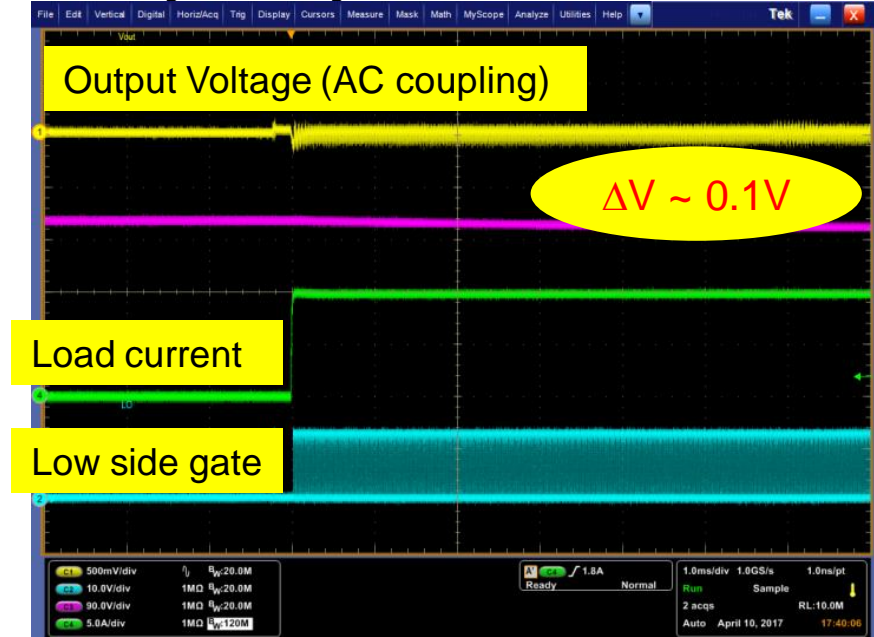


Transient Response DFC vs HHC: 12V Supply

Legacy: Direct Frequency Control

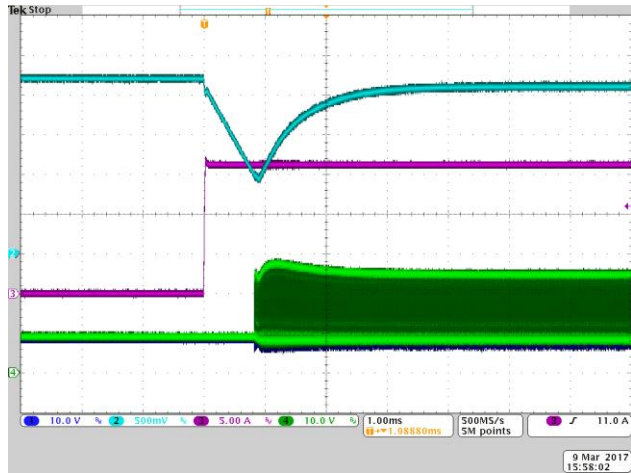


TI: Hybrid Hysteretic Control



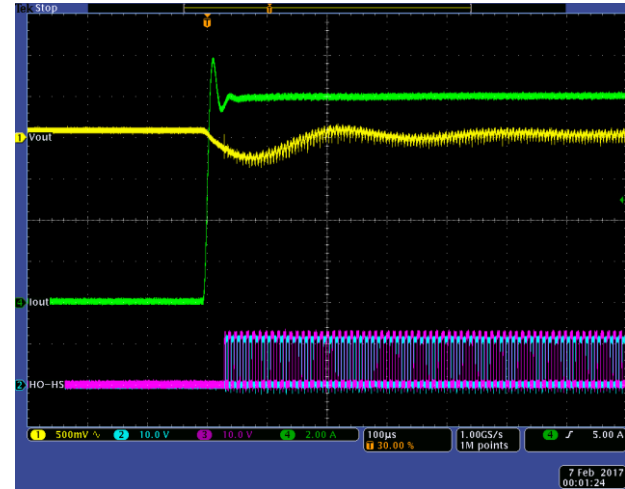
Transient Response: Competitor #1 vs UCC25630x

Competitor #1



CH1: LO
CH2: Vout **10.8% Vout dip from no load to full load**
CH3: Iout
CH4: HO-HS

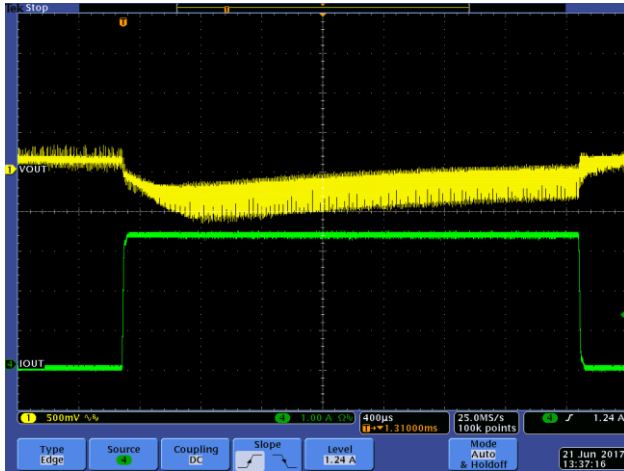
TI: UCC25630x



CH1: Vout **1.25% Vout dip from no load to full load**
CH2: LO
CH3: HO-HS
CH4: Iout

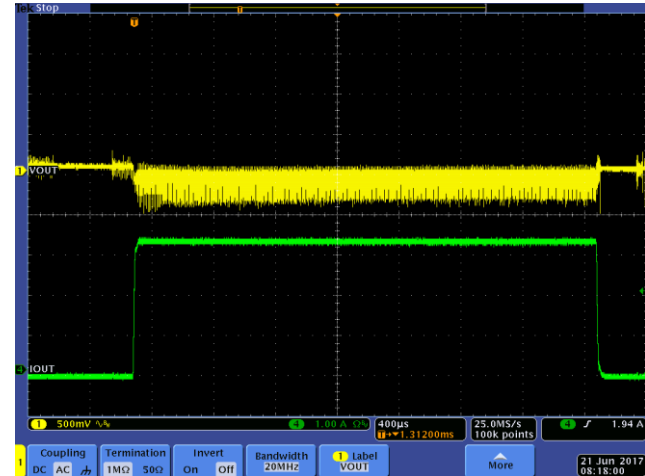
Transient Response: Competitor #2 vs UCC25630x

Competitor #2 using DFC Control



Vout dip: 600mV

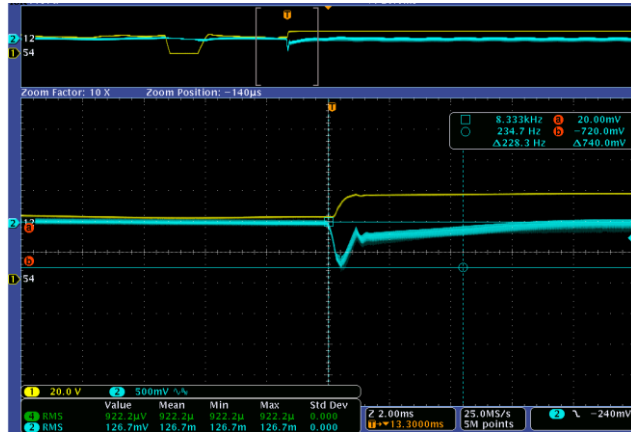
TI: UCC25630x



Vout dip: 250mV

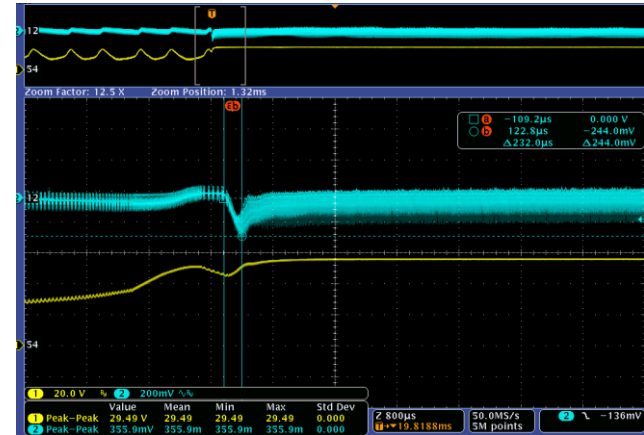
Transient Response: Competitor #3 vs UCC25630x

Competitor #3 using DFC Control



Vout dip: 740mV

TI: UCC25630x



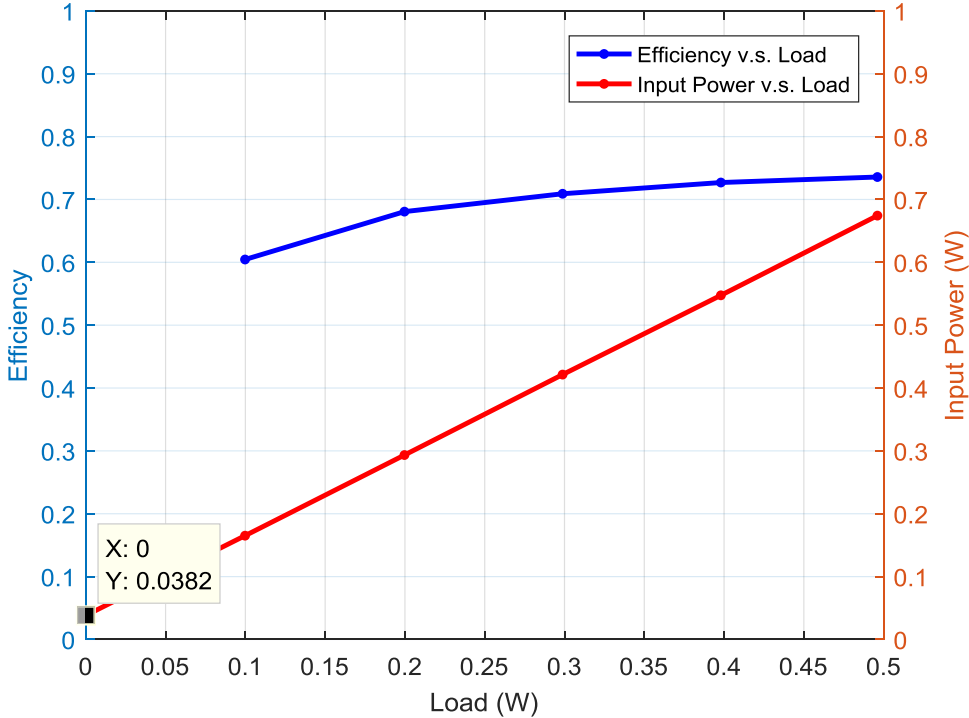
Vout dip: 244mV

System Level Benefits to Improved Transient Response

- Tighter regulation of output voltage is realizable without needing additional output capacitance
- Output capacitance can be significantly reduced and meet the same transient response performance as direct frequency control

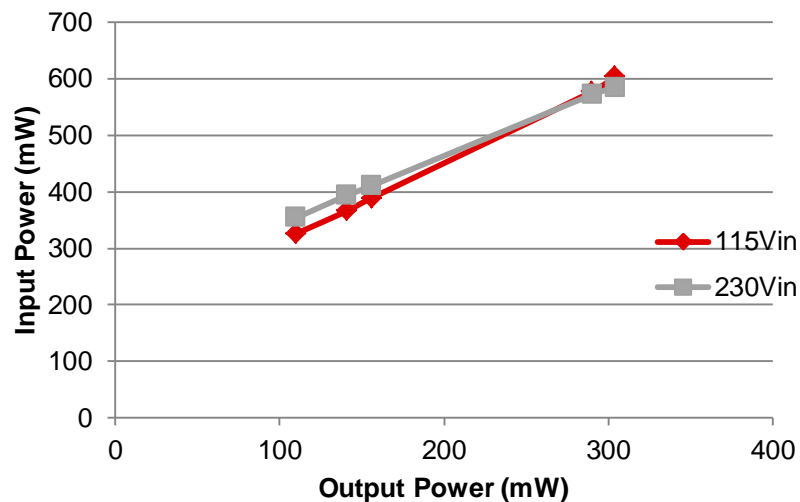
Light Load Power Consumption (UCC25630-1EVM)

38.2 mW no load power consumption

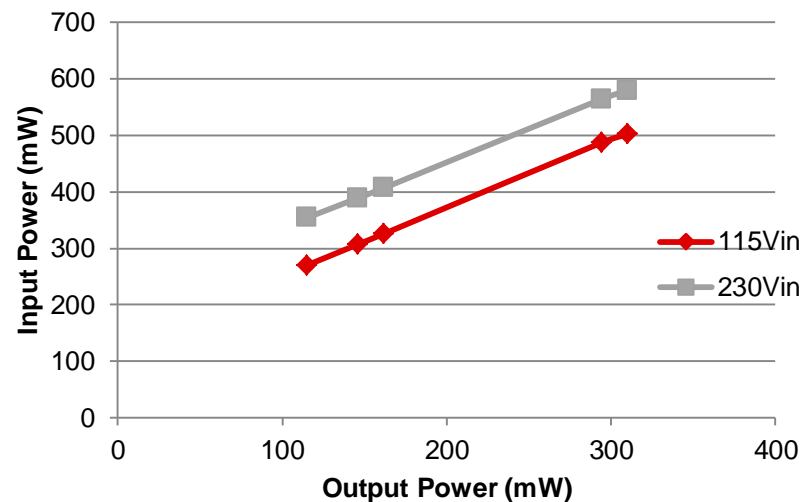


Standby Power: Competitor #2 vs UCC25630x

Competitor #1 Standby Power



TI: UCC25630x Standby Power



UCC28056 + UCC25630x Standby Power

- PMP21251 170W transition mode PFC + LLC design
- 70mW no load standby power at 115Vac
- 89mW no load standby power at 230Vac



Standby Power System Level Benefits

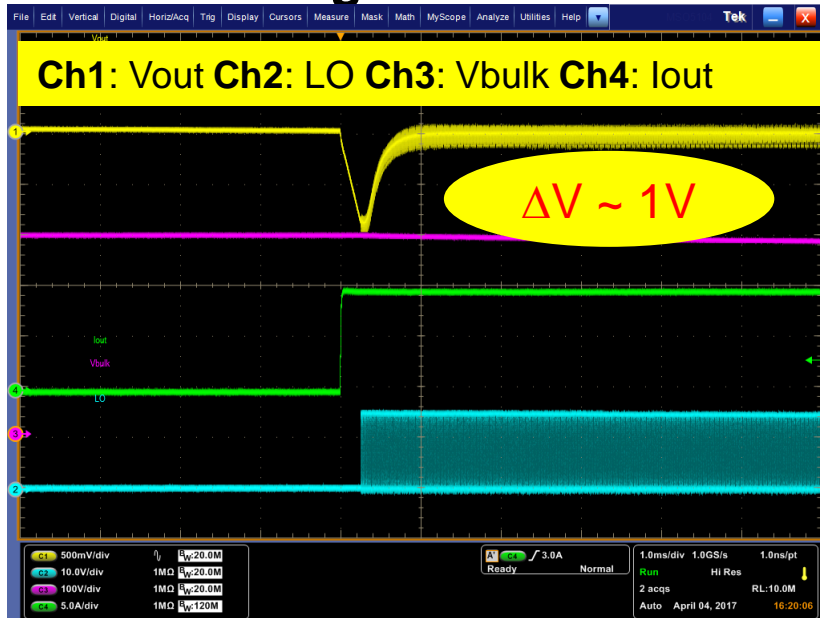
- Enables designs to meet modern energy standards such as DOE Level VI and CoC Tier II
- PFC does not need to be disabled at light load to meet efficiency goals
- Keeping PFC 'always on' simplifies power supply architecture and provides faster response from standby to full load

Retrofitting UCC25630x into Gaming Station

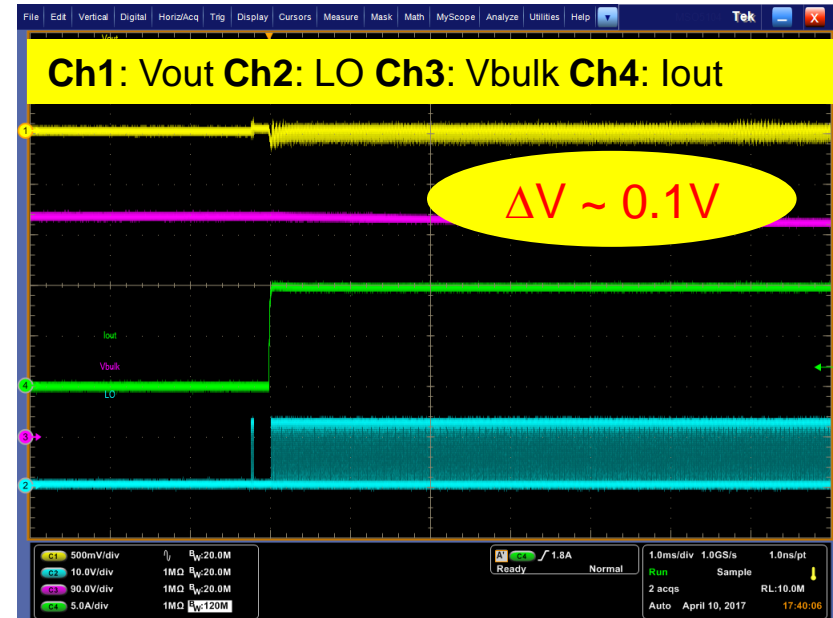
Gaming: Transient Response

- Test Condition: $V_{inAC}=115V$, $V_{out}=12V$, I_{out} step from 0A to 10A
- Transient performance is 10x better with UCC25630x

Original Board



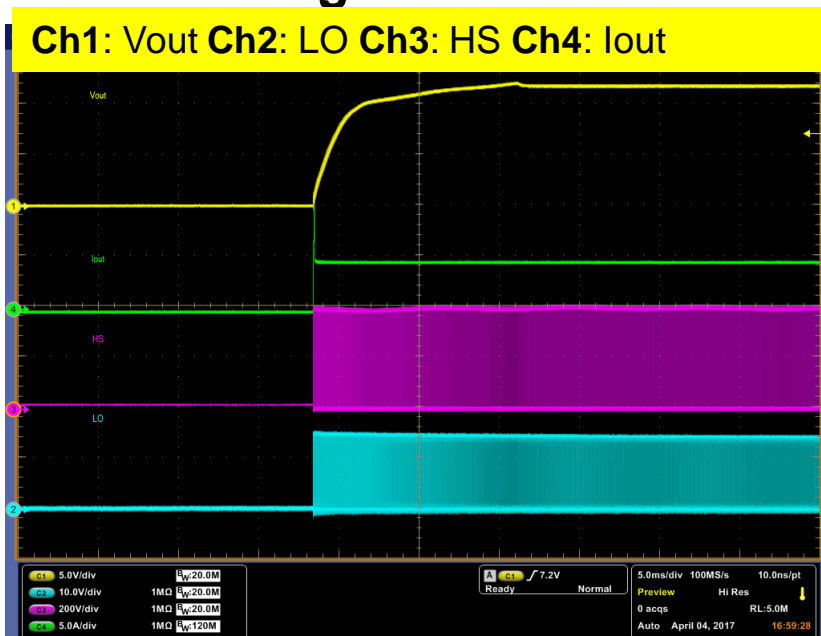
TI: UCC25630x



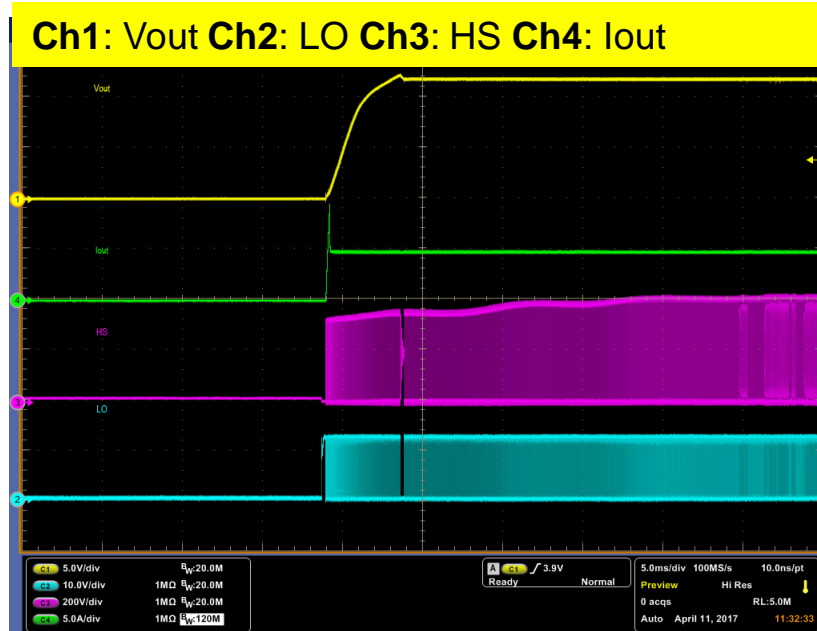
PS4: Startup

- Test Condition: $V_{inAC}=115V$, $V_{out}=12V$, $I_{out}=5A$

Original Board



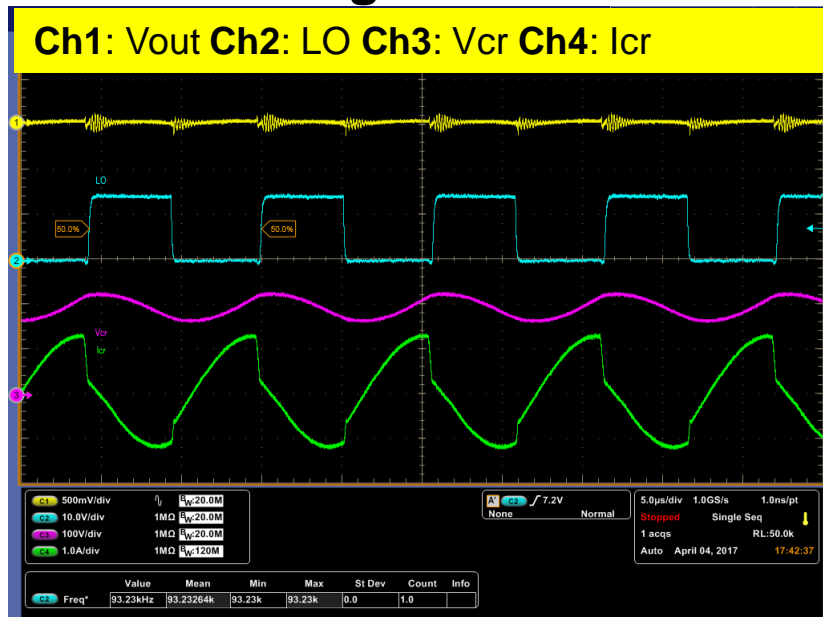
TI: UCC25630x



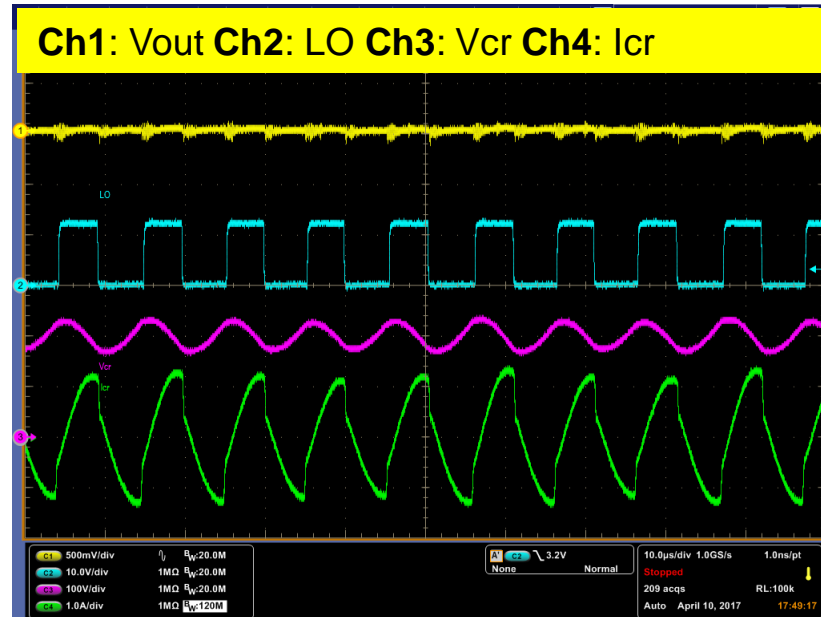
PS4: Load Regulation

- Test Condition: $V_{inAC}=115V$, $V_{out}=12V$, $I_{out}=10A$

Original Board



TI: UCC25630x



Summary

- LLC is an excellent topology choice for designs with narrow, high voltage input and requires high efficiency across entire load range.
- First harmonic approximation forms the foundation of the LLC design flow
- Hybrid hysteretic control offers improved transient performance, reducing the required output capacitance to meet a given output voltage regulation requirement