

Transient Response Improvement of DC-DC Buck Converter by Adjustable Triangular Wave Generator

Shu Wu, Yasunori Kobori, Haruo Kobayashi

Gunma University, Japan

Outline

- Research Objective
- Proposed Triangular Wave Generator
 - Duty Cycle Modulation
 - Slope Adjustable Triangular Wave Generator
 - Improvement of Transient Response
- Stability Analysis
- Simulation Results
 - Line Transient Response
 - Load Transient Response
- Conclusion

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Transient Response

- Three disturbance sources

- Output reference signal ← 😊 Band-gap reference
- Input voltage ← 😊 Line feed-forward control
- Load ☹️ Trouble

Fast dynamic current slew rate presents challenge in load transient response of power supplies

Previous Control Schemes

- Feedback

- Voltage-Mode Control (VMC)

- Easy to design and analyze
 - Limited bandwidth: slow response

- Current-Mode Control (CMC)

- Inherent line feed-forward control
 - Wide band
 - Slope compensation
 - Current sensor

- Feed-forward

Complicated non-linear calculation

Research Objective

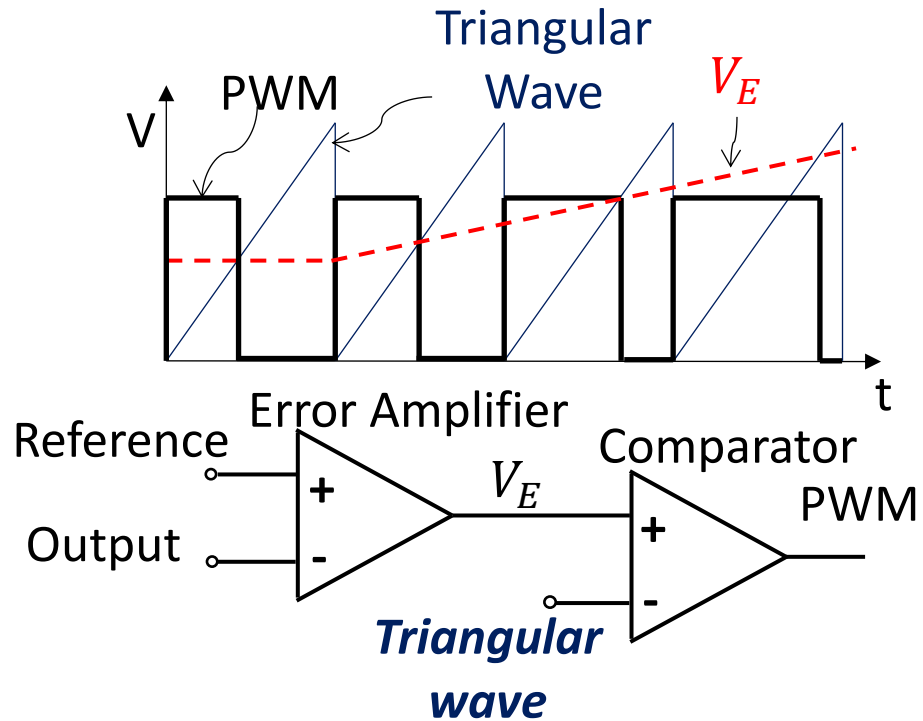
- Design a slope adjustable triangular wave generator to improve transient response of DC-DC buck converter
 - **Based on VMC:**
compared to CMC
 - Not require current sensor and slope compensation
 - **The slope is regulated by input and output voltage:**
compared to conventional VMC
 - Provide line feed-forward control and higher band-width
 - **Simple:**
compared to previous feed-forward control
 - Not require complicated calculation

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Duty Cycle Modulation (1)

Voltage-Mode Control

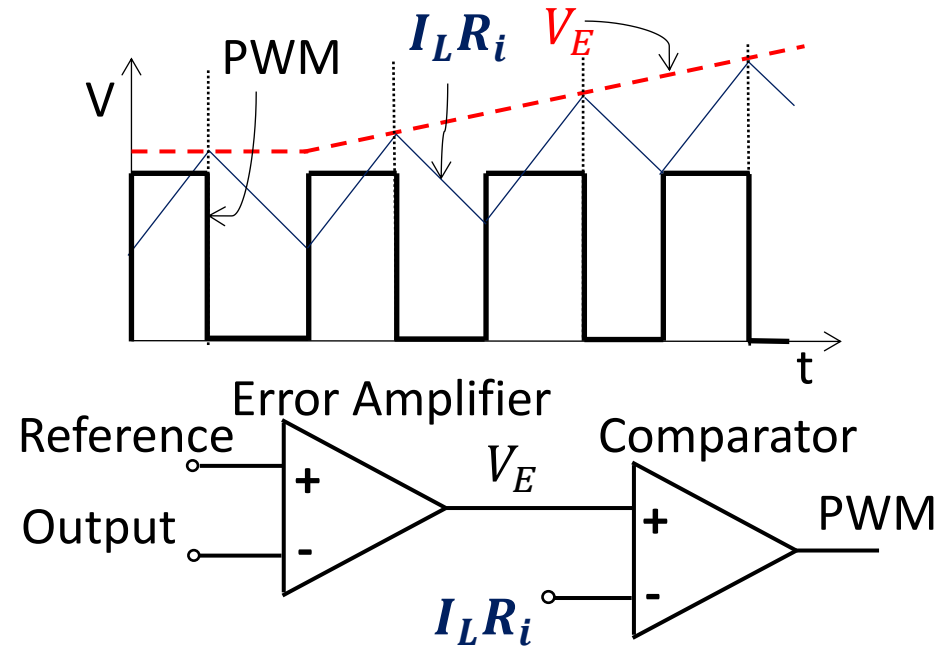


Triangular wave: constant ramp

Duty cycle modulation:

$$\Delta d = \frac{G_c}{V_p} \Delta v$$

Current-Mode Control



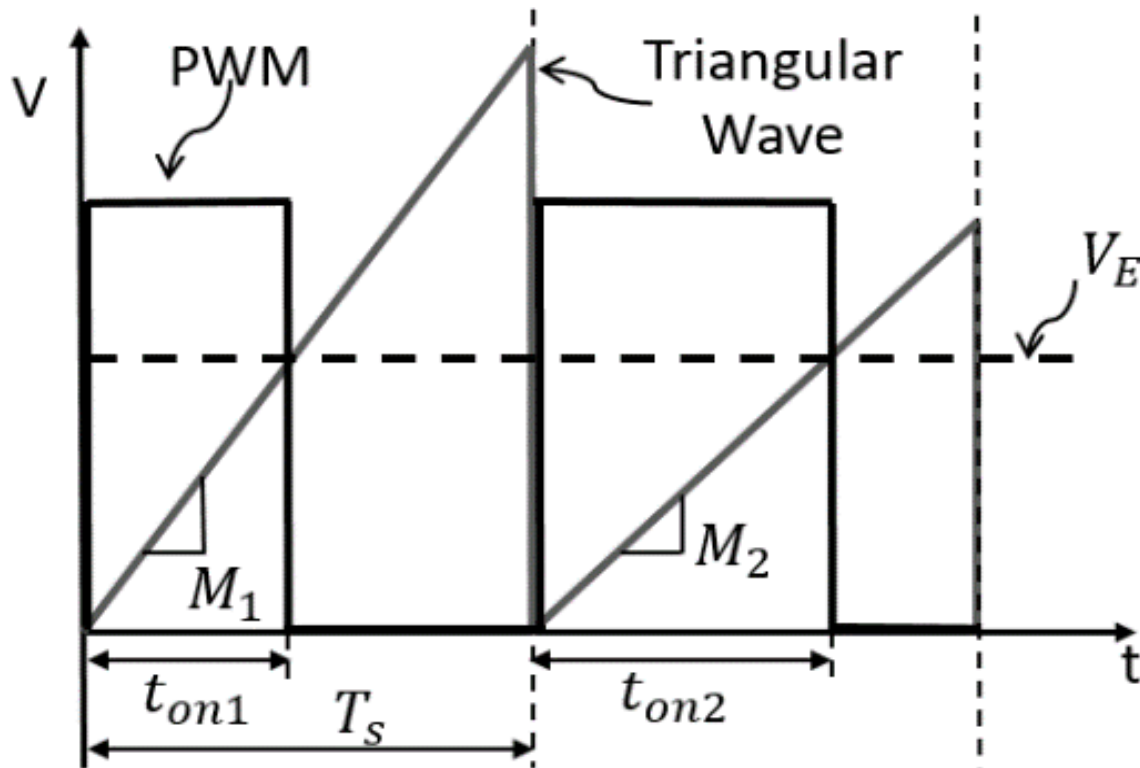
Triangular wave: proportional to inductor current

Duty cycle modulation:

$$\Delta d = \frac{L R_i f_s G_c}{V_{in} - V_{out}} \Delta v$$

Duty Cycle Modulation (2)

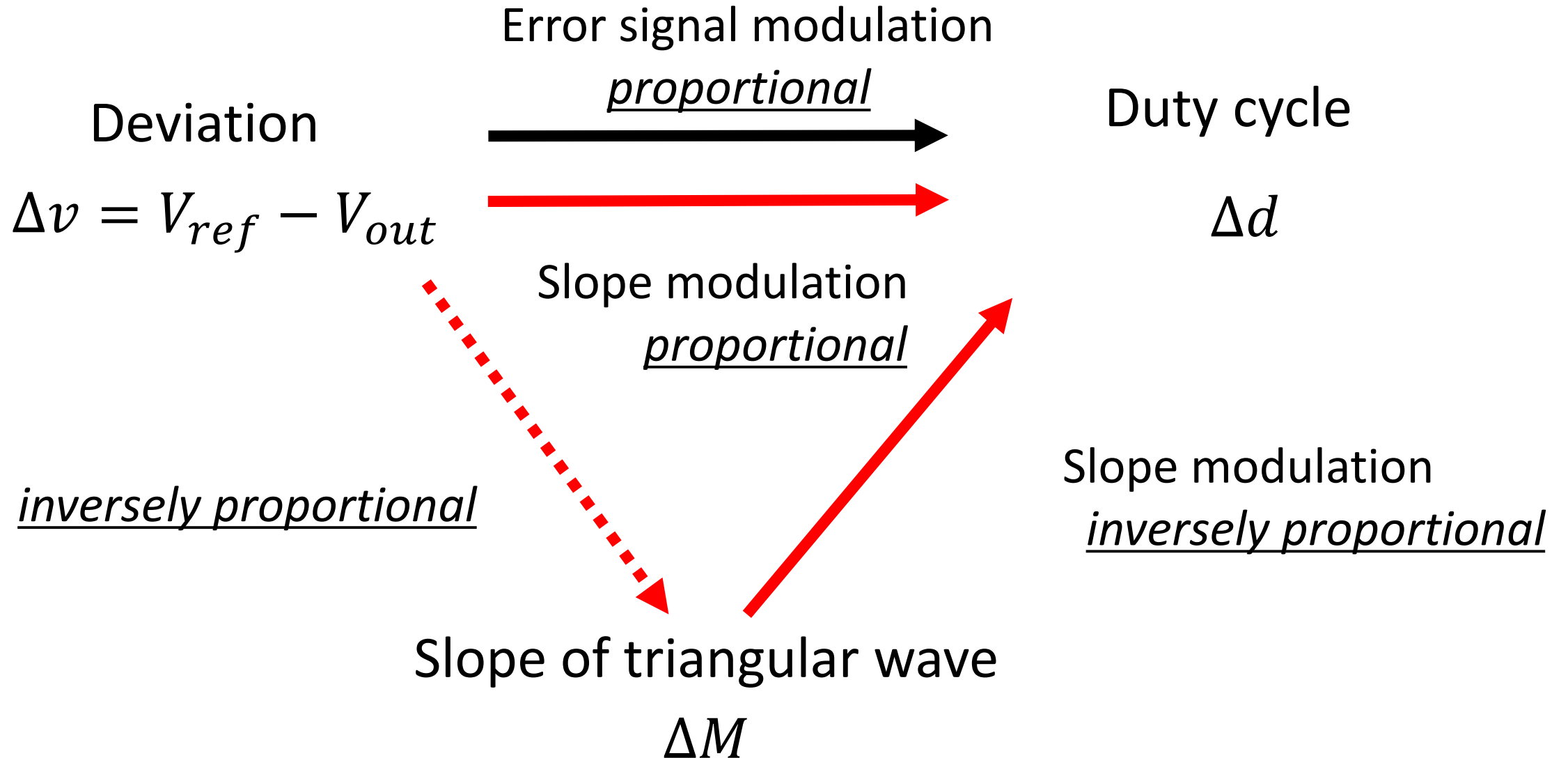
- During load transient response, slope of triangular wave always **keep constant** (conventional VMC and CMC).
- Duty cycle modulation by slope (proposed).



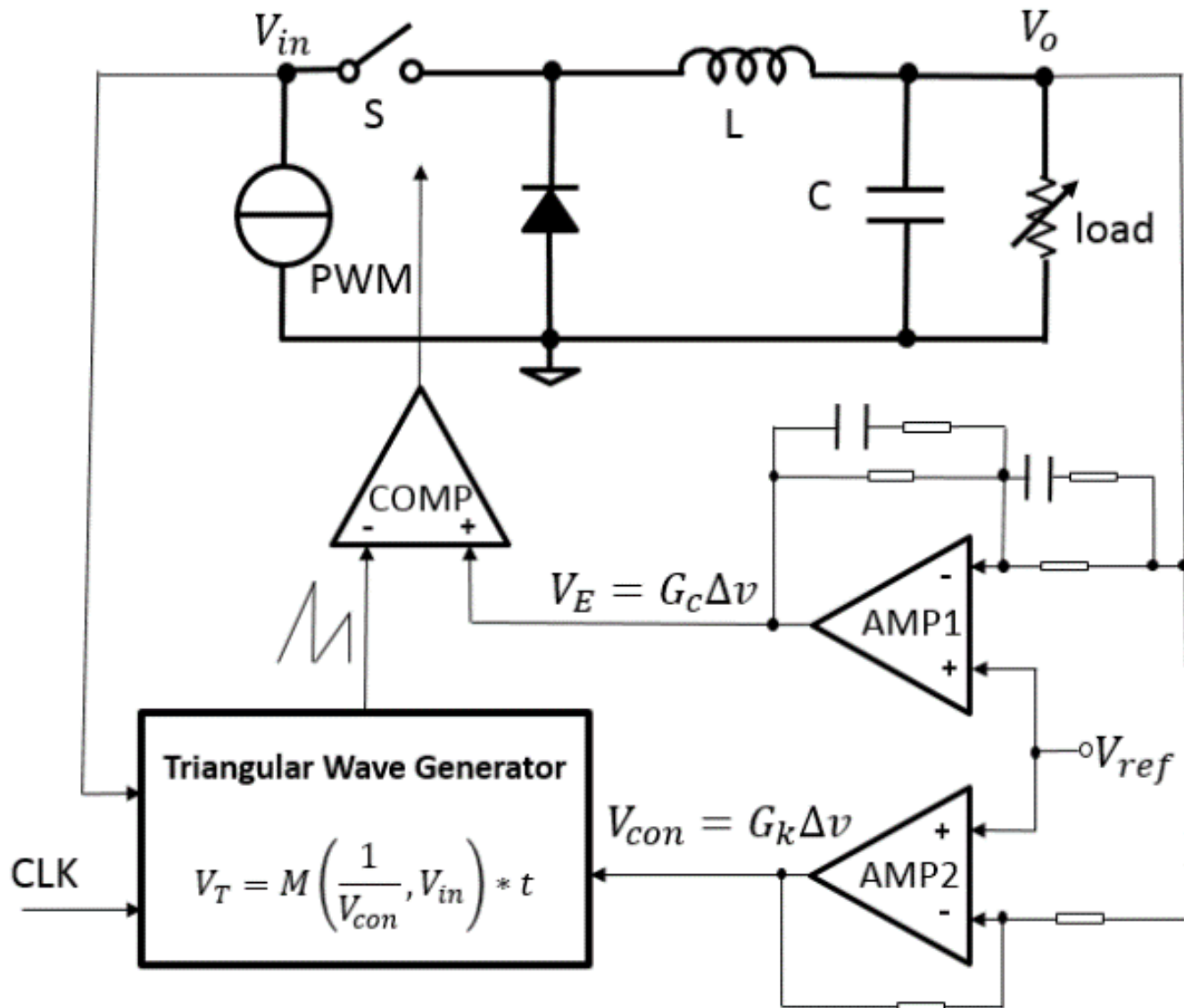
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta d &= \frac{t_{on2} - t_{on1}}{T_s} \\ &= \frac{V_E}{T_s} \left(\frac{1}{M_2} - \frac{1}{M_1} \right) \\ &= \frac{V_E}{T_s} \Delta \frac{1}{M}\end{aligned}$$

Duty cycle variation is inversely proportional to slope.

Duty Cycle Modulation (3)



System Configuration



Op-amp1:

- generate error signal
- Type 3 compensation

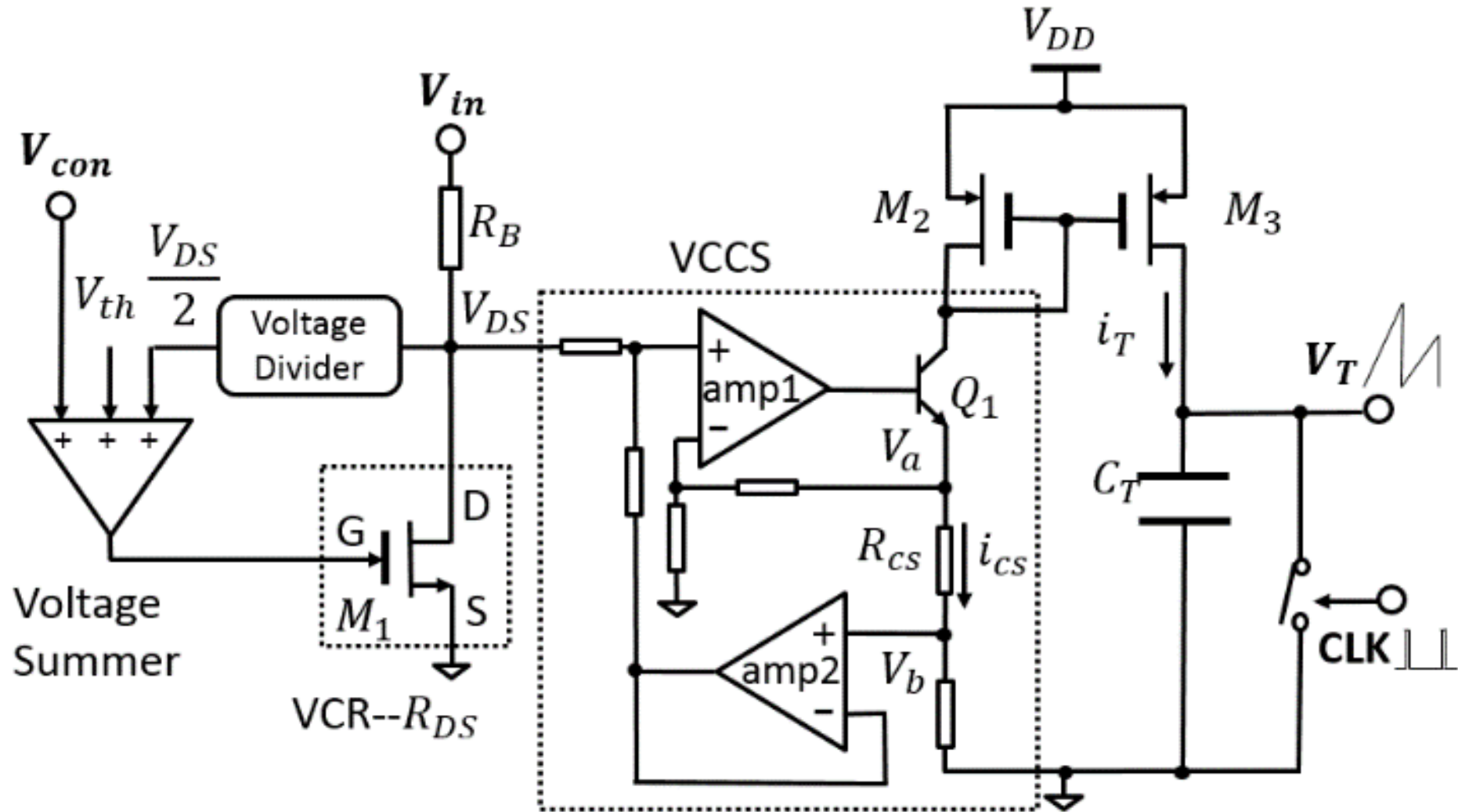
Op-amp2:

- Amplify deviation
- Control variable of TWG

TWG: slope adjustable

- $V_{in} \propto M$
- $G_k \Delta v \propto \frac{1}{M}$

Triangular Wave Generator (1)

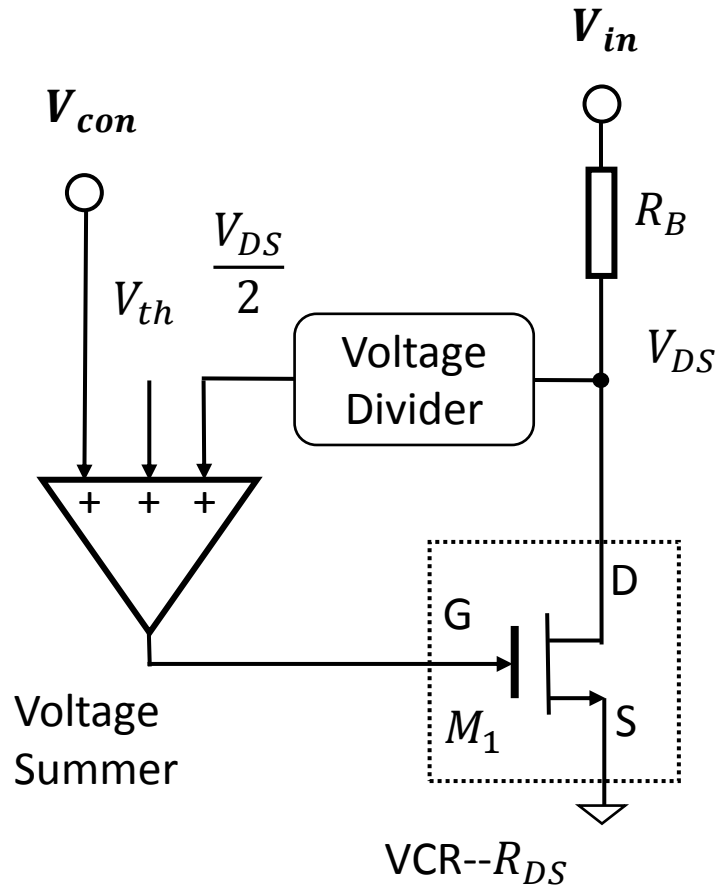


VCR: Voltage Controlled Resistor

VCCS: Voltage Controlled Current Source

Triangular Wave Generator (2)

- VCR



Triode region

$$I_D = K_n \left((V_{GS} - V_{th})V_{DS} - \frac{V_{DS}^2}{2} \right) \quad \text{where } K_n = \mu_n C_{ox} W/L$$



$$\frac{1}{R_{DS}} = \frac{I_D}{V_{DS}} = K_n \left(V_{GS} - V_{th} - \frac{V_{DS}}{2} \right)$$

Set $V_{GS} = V_{th} + \frac{V_{DS}}{2} + V_{con}$ by voltage summer, get a voltage controlled resistor

$$R_{DS} = \frac{1}{K_n V_{con}} \dots\dots(1)$$

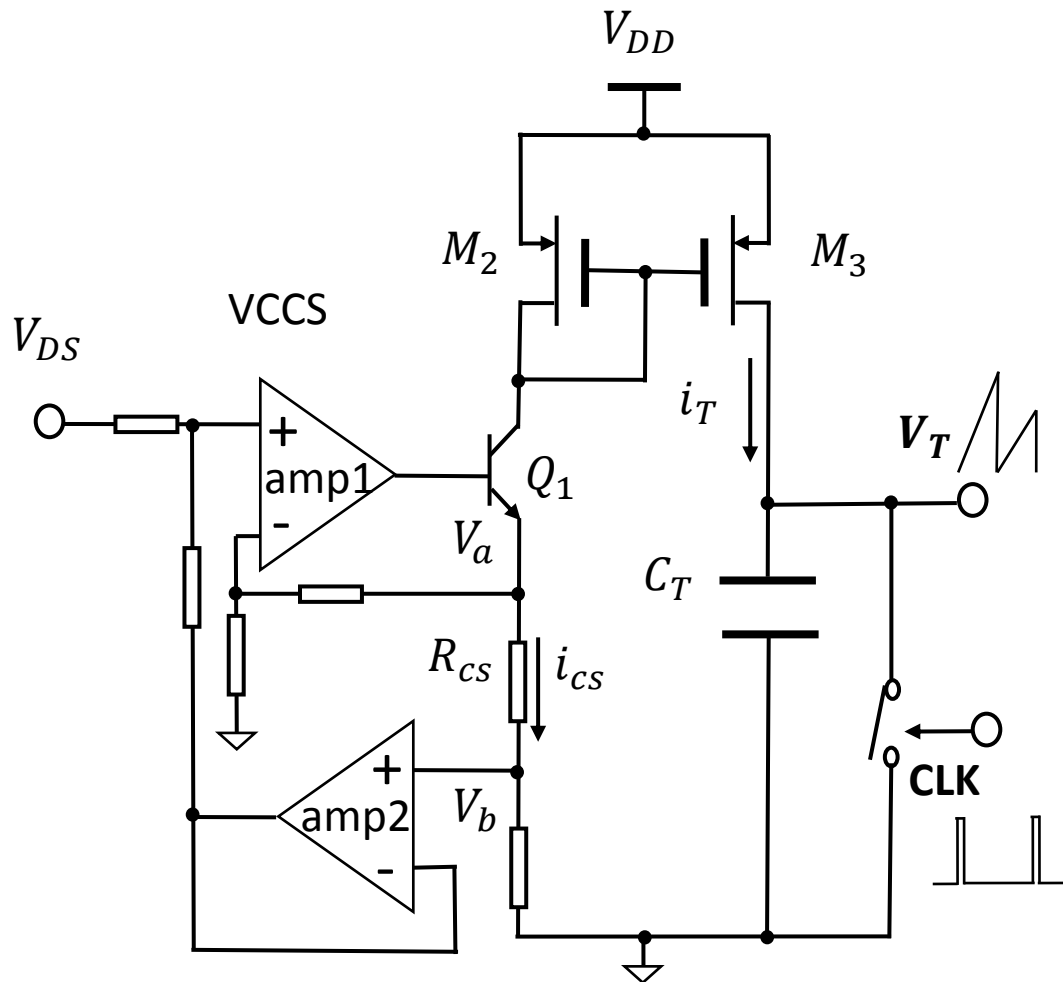
If $R_B \gg R_{DS}$

$$V_{DS} = \frac{1}{K_n R_B} \frac{V_{in}}{V_{con}} \dots\dots(2)$$

V_{DS} is controlled by input voltage and control variable

Triangular Wave Generator (3)

- VCCS & TWG



$$i_T = i_{CS} = \frac{V_a - V_b}{R_{CS}} = \frac{V_{DS}}{R_{CS}}$$

$$V_T = \frac{i_T}{C_T} t$$

Substitute Eq. (2)

$$V_T = \frac{V_{in}}{K_n R_B R_{CS} C_T V_{con}} t = M \left(\frac{1}{V_{con}}, V_{in} \right) t \dots\dots(3)$$

Improve Line Transient Response

----- Line feed-forward Control

Transfer function from error signal to output voltage (VMC buck converter)

$$V_{out} = \frac{1}{LCs^2 + \frac{L}{R}s + 1} \frac{V_{in}}{V_P} V_E$$

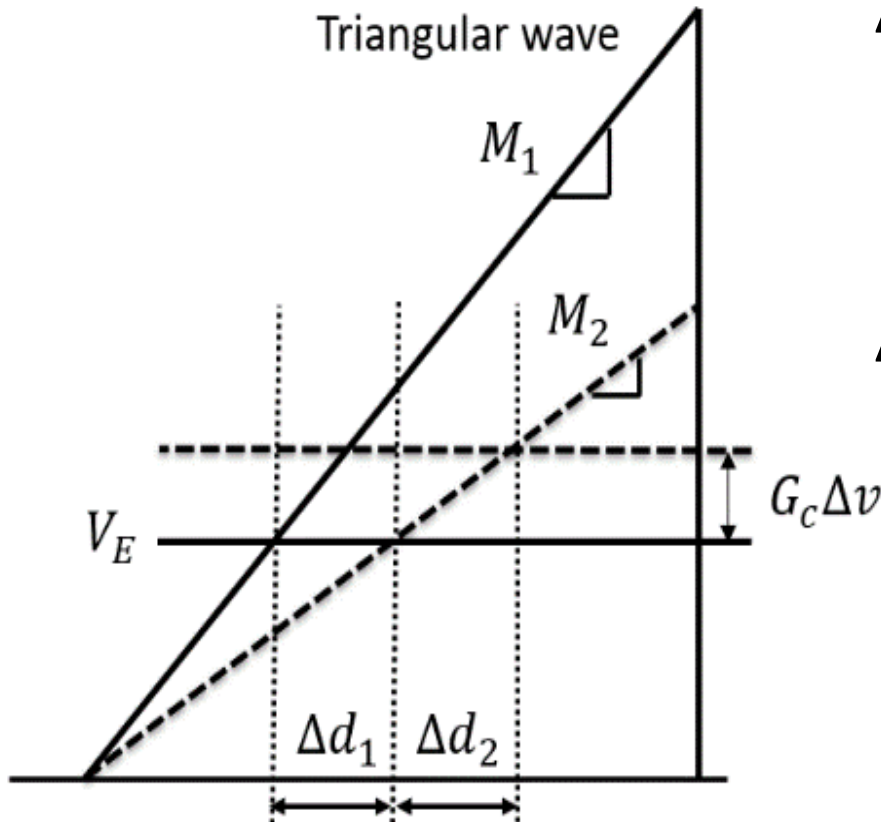
Since $V_p = MT_s$, where M depend on V_{in} (proportional) and V_{con}



Input voltage change effects are reduced.

Improve Load Transient Response

----- Additional duty cycle modulation



Δd_1 is caused by **slope modulation**

$$\Delta d_1 = \frac{V_E}{T_s} \left(\frac{1}{M_1} - \frac{1}{M_2} \right) = \frac{V_E}{T_s} \Delta \frac{1}{M}$$

Δd_2 is caused by **slope modulation** and **error signal modulation**

$$\Delta d_2 = \frac{G_c \Delta v}{T_s} \left(\frac{1}{M_1} - \Delta \frac{1}{M} \right) = \frac{G_c \Delta v}{T_s M_1} - \frac{G_c \Delta v}{T_s} \Delta \frac{1}{M}$$

$$\Delta d = \Delta d_1 + \Delta d_2 = \left(\frac{V_E}{T_s} - \frac{G_c \Delta v}{T_s} \right) \Delta \frac{1}{M} + \frac{G_c \Delta v}{T_s M_1} \dots (4)$$

Additional duty cycle modulation
by proposed TWG

Conventional VMC

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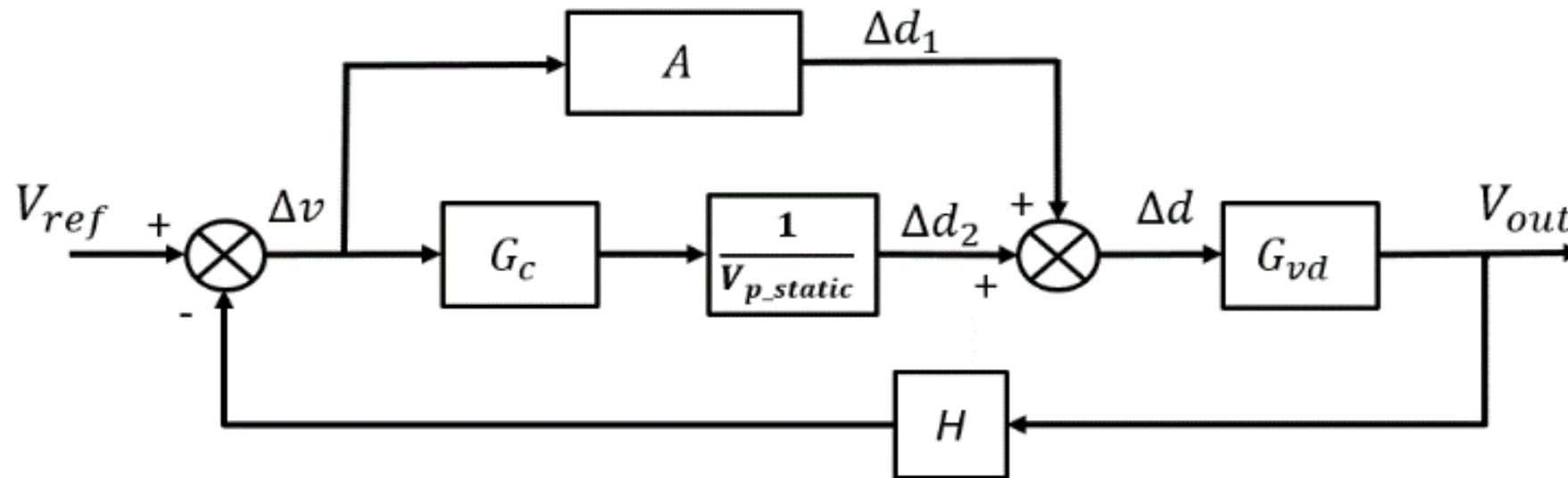
System Block Diagram

Ignore non-linear terms

$$\Delta d = \Delta d_1 + \Delta d_2 \approx A\Delta v + \frac{G_c}{V_{p_static}} \Delta v$$

$$A = \frac{K_n R_B R_{CS} C_T V_E G_k}{T_s V_{in}}$$

$$V_{p_static} = T_s M_1$$



$$\text{Open-loop transfer function: } T = \left(A + \frac{G_c}{V_{p_static}} \right) G_{vd} H$$

Example

Power Stage

- $V_{in} = 5V$
- $V_{out} = 3.5V$
- $V_{p_static} = 3V$
- $L = 10\mu H$ ($ESR = 10m\Omega$)
- $C = 50\mu F$ ($ESR = 10m\Omega$)
- $R = 35\Omega$
- $f_{switch} = 1MH$

Phase Compensation

- Type 3 compensation
- $f_c = \frac{f_{switch}}{20} = 50kHz$
- $PM = 40^\circ$

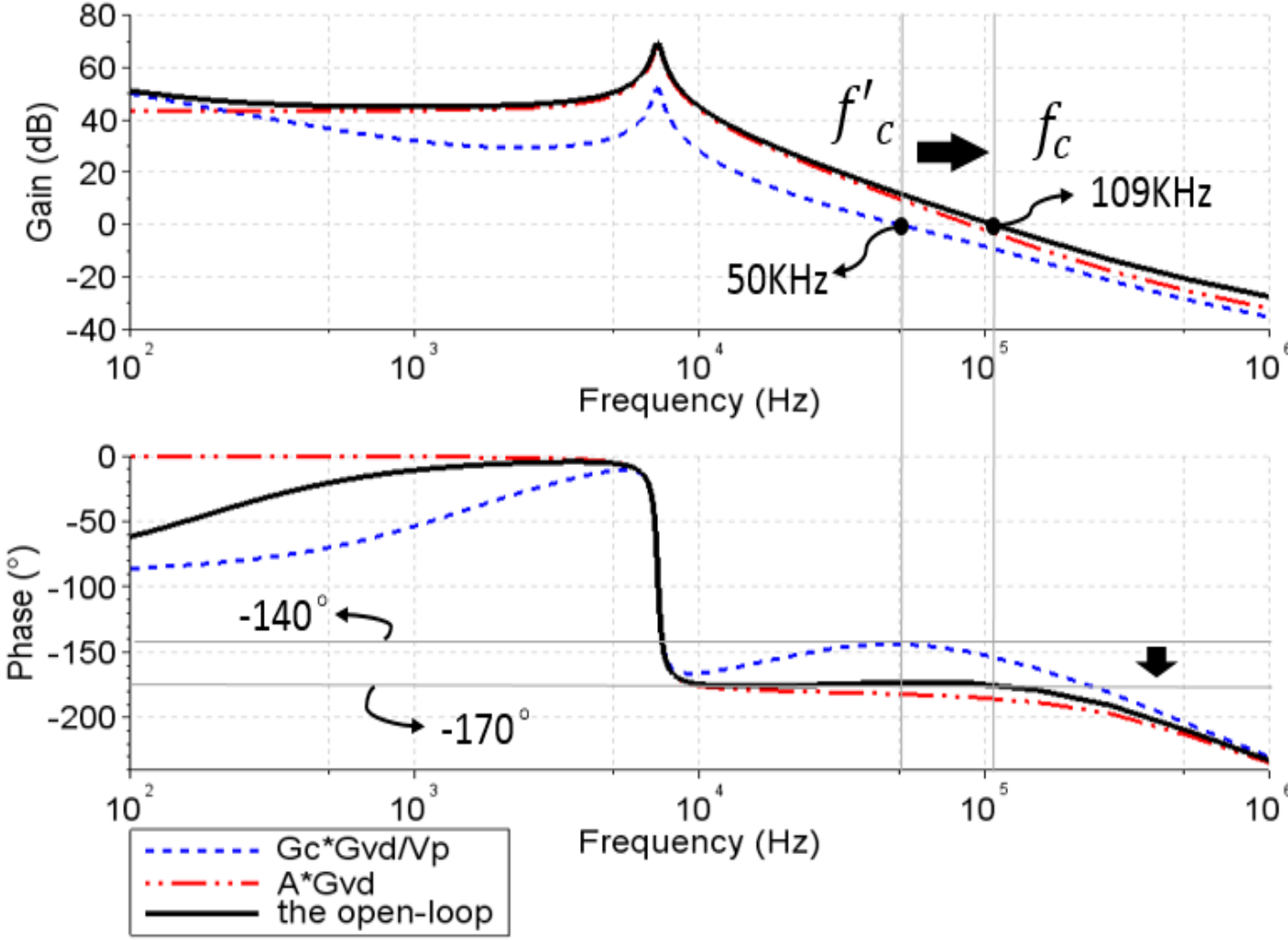
Design for conventional VMC

TWG

- $G_k = 10$
- $R_B = 1k\Omega$
- $K_n \approx 3$
- $R_{CS} = 100\Omega$
- $C_T = 50pF$

$A \approx 30$

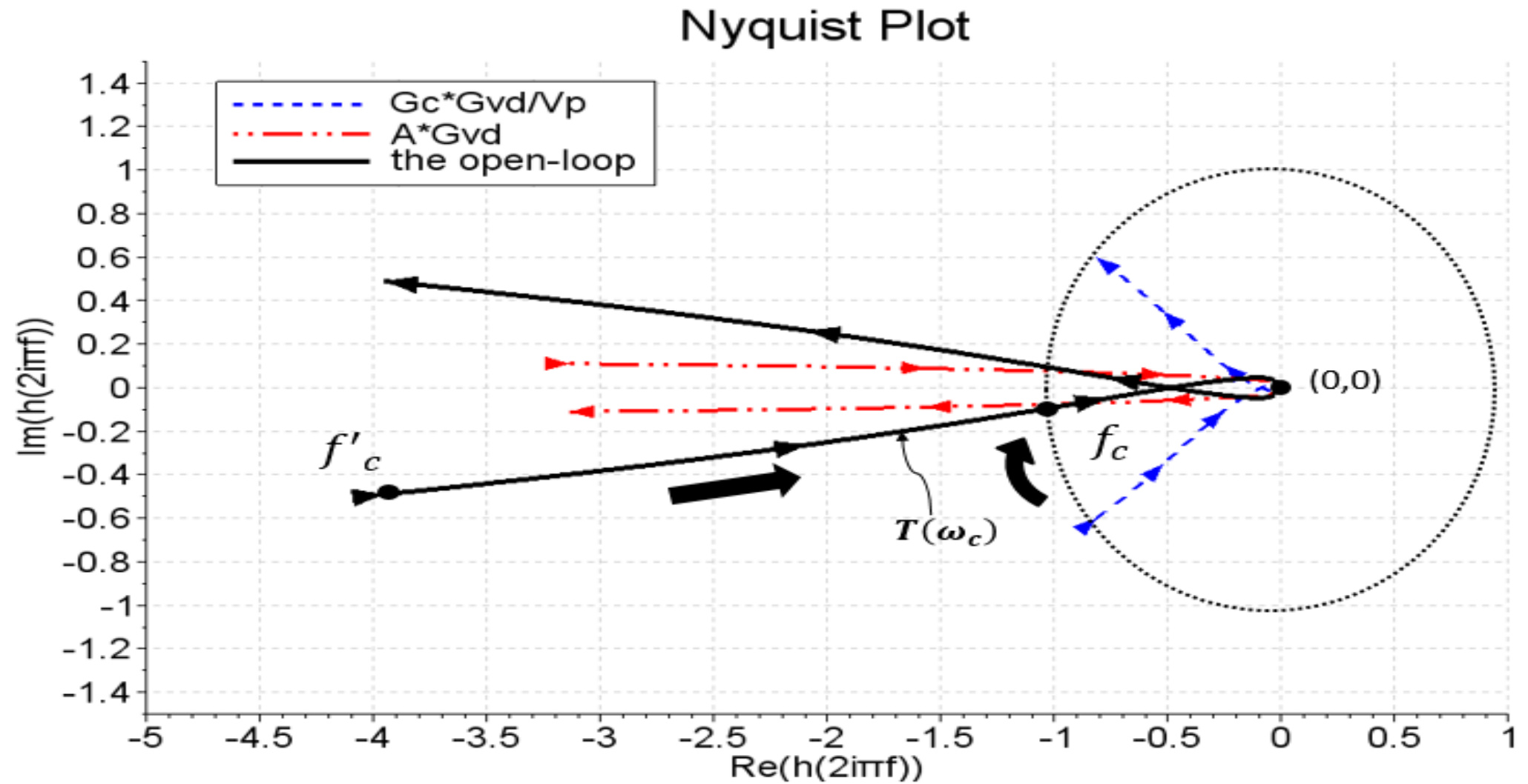
Bode Plot



Compare to conventional VMC
 --- $(G_c G_{vd} / V_p)$

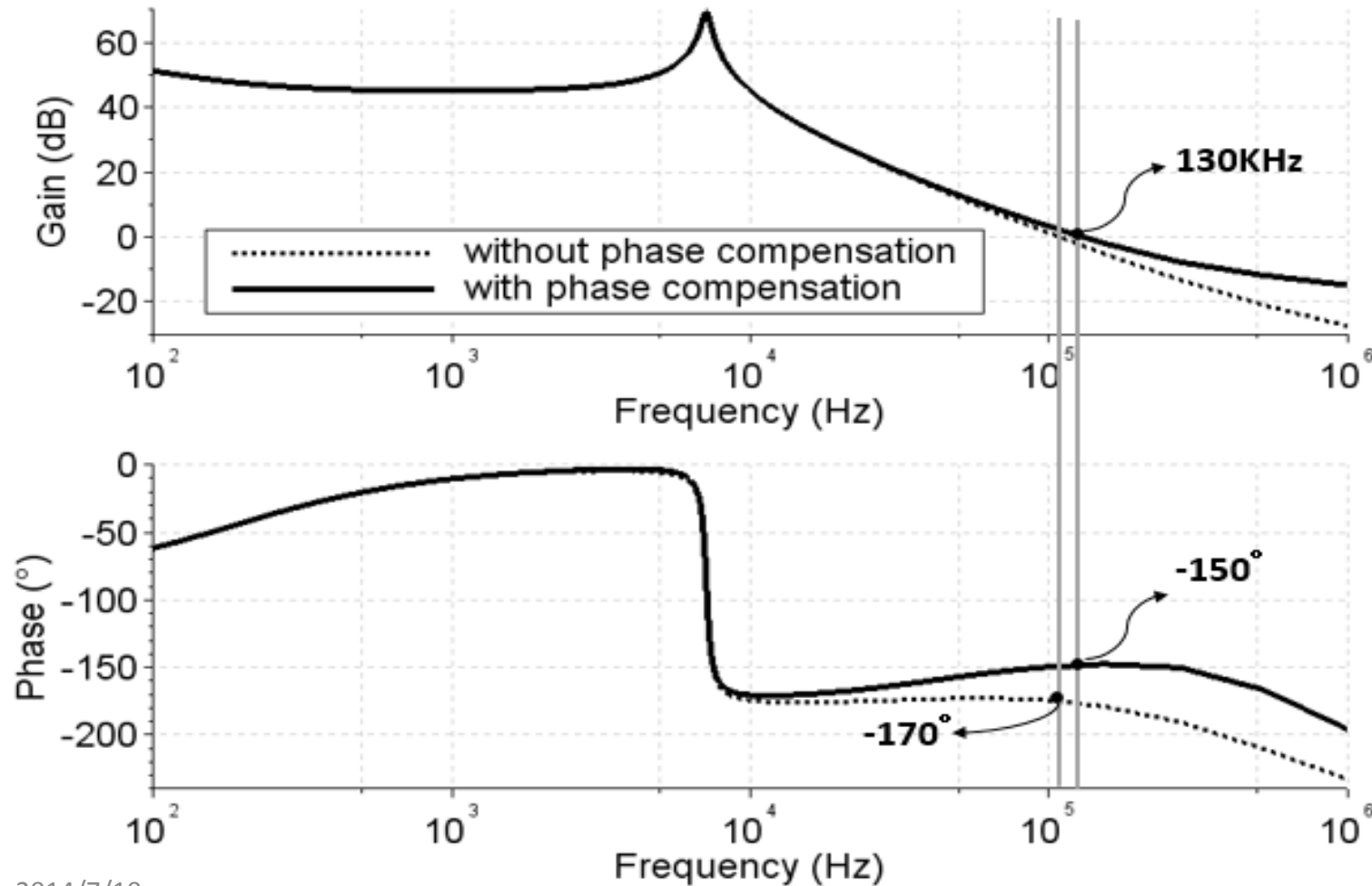
- Bandwidth is **increased**
 50kHz \rightarrow 109kHz
- Phase margin is **decreased**
 40° \rightarrow 10°

Nyquist Plot



Increase Phase Margin

Add a high frequency zero point to A: $A \rightarrow A * (s + \omega_h)$



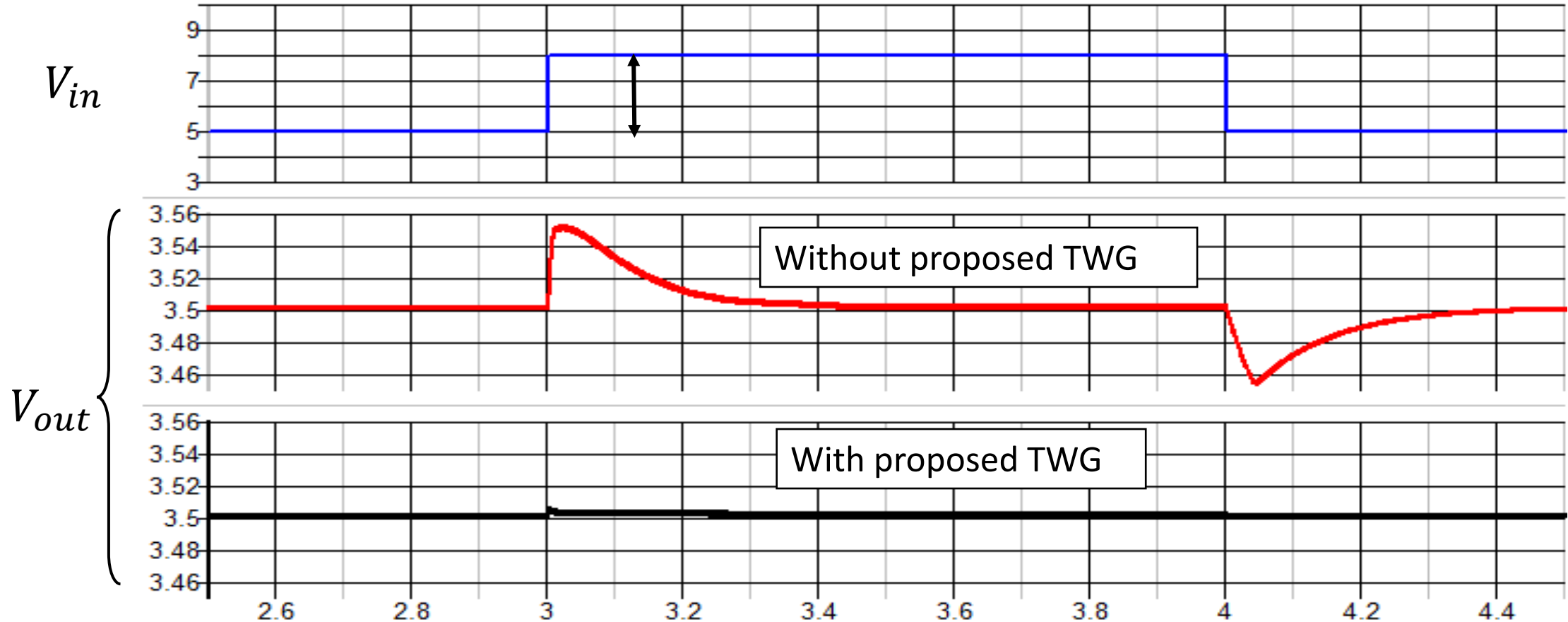
- Bandwidth
 $109\text{kHz} \rightarrow 130\text{kHz}$
- Phase Margin
 $10^\circ \rightarrow 30^\circ$

Outline

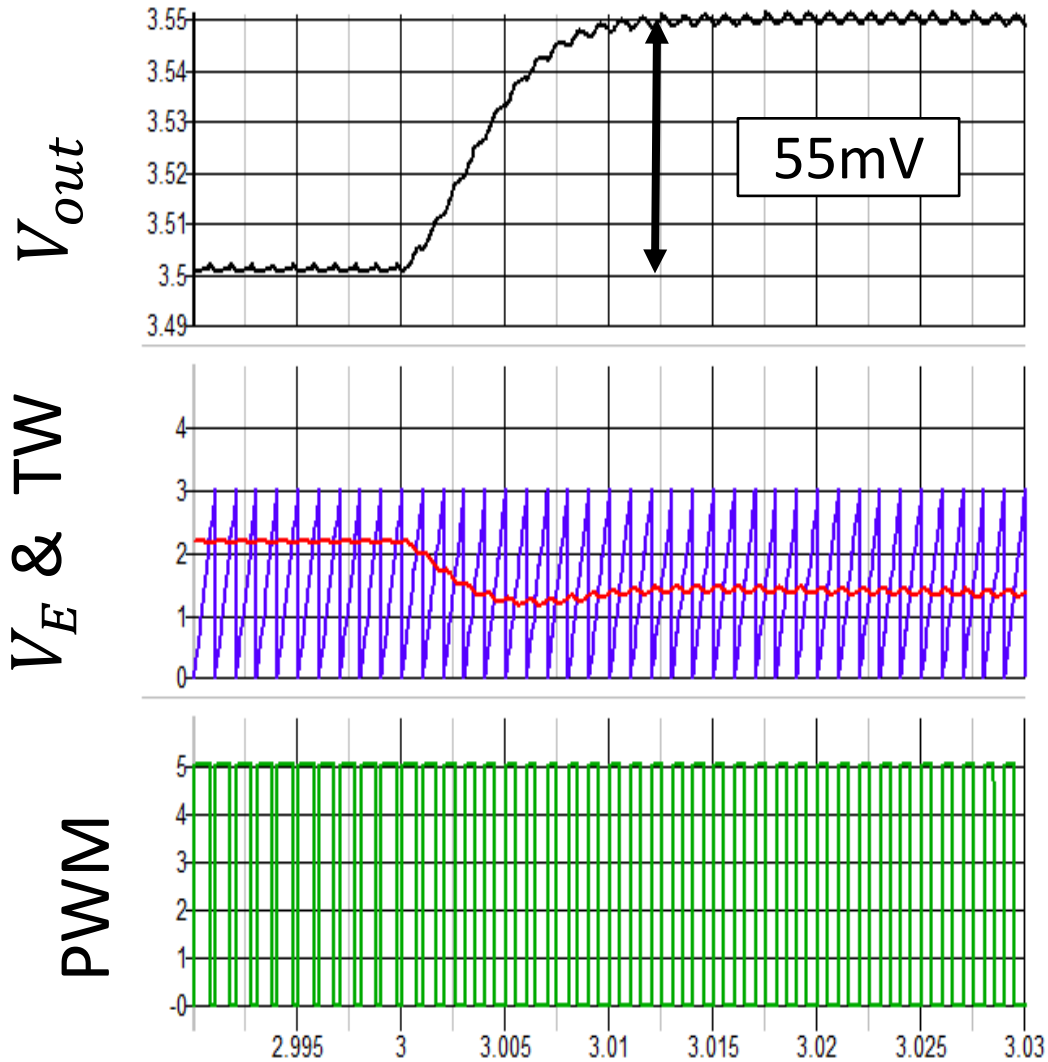
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Line Transient Response (1)

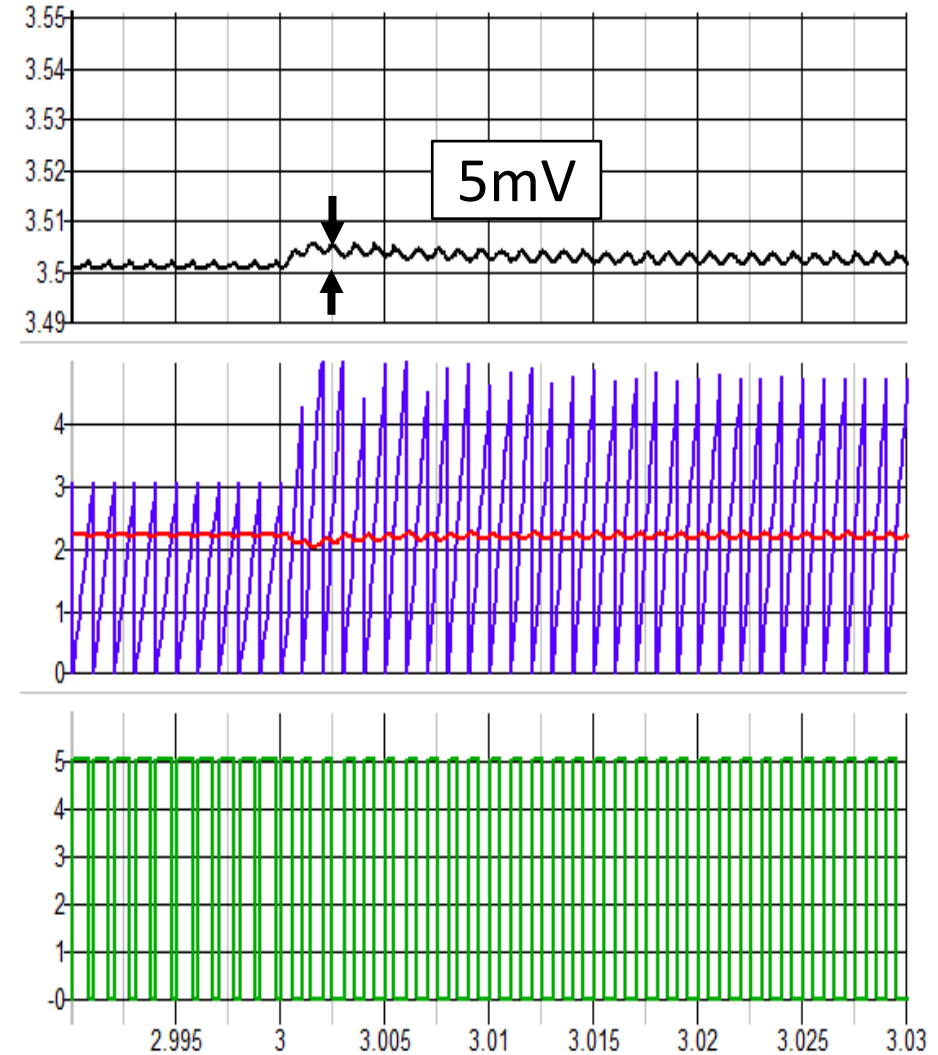
$V_{in}: 5V \leftrightarrow 8V$



Line Transient Response (2)



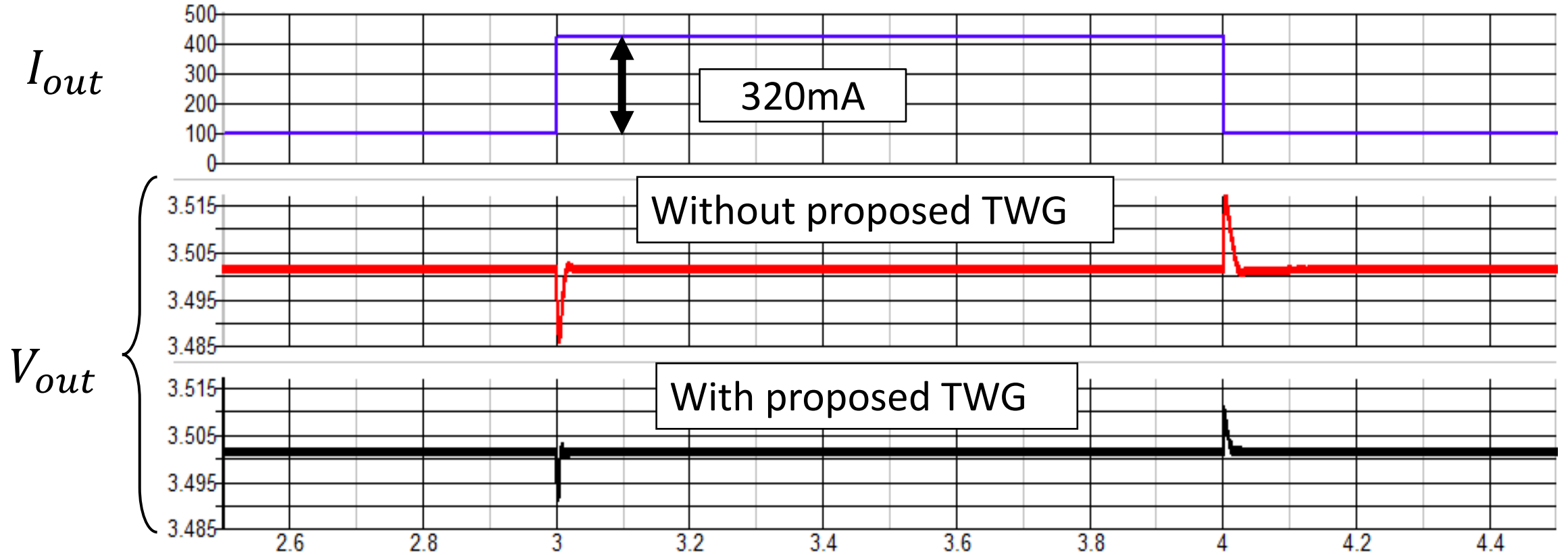
Without proposed TWG



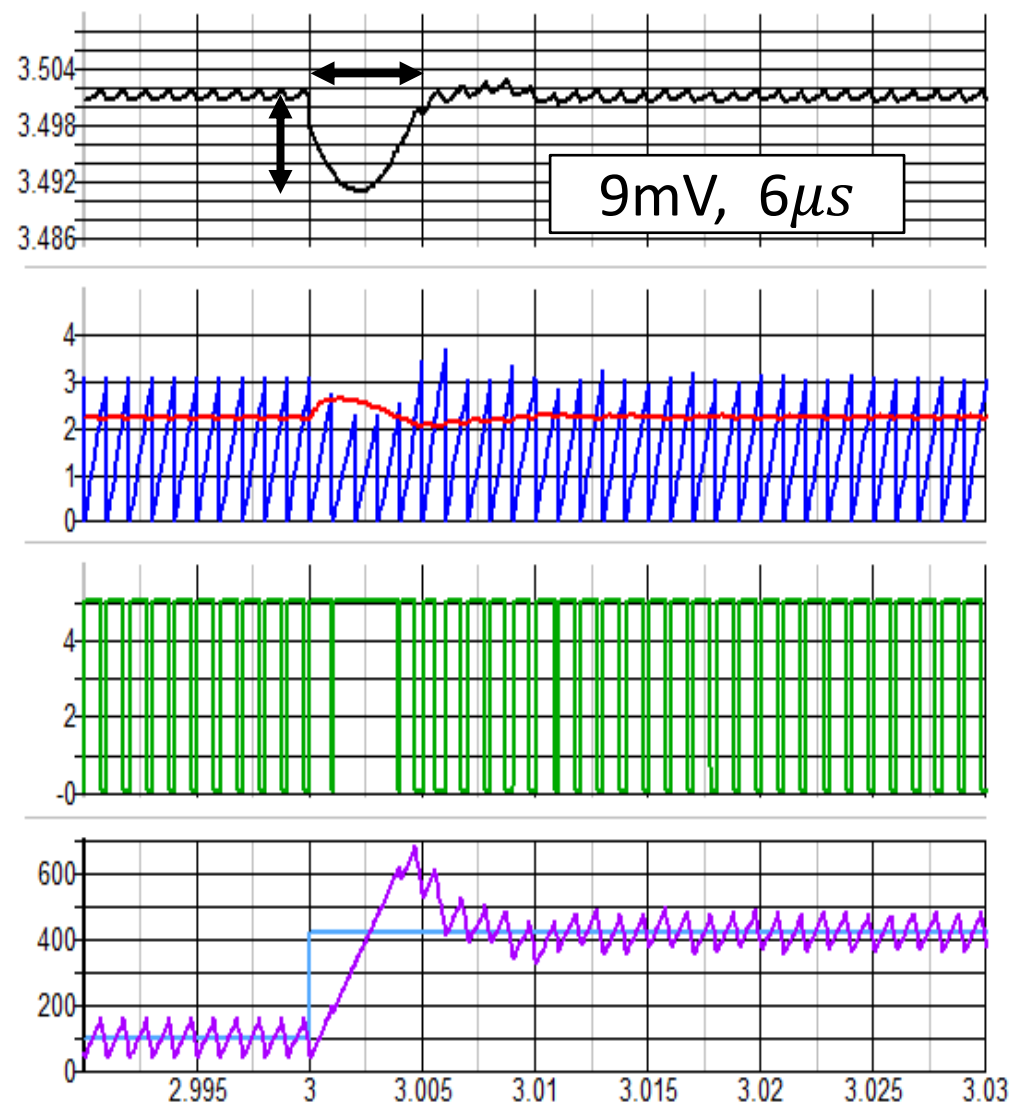
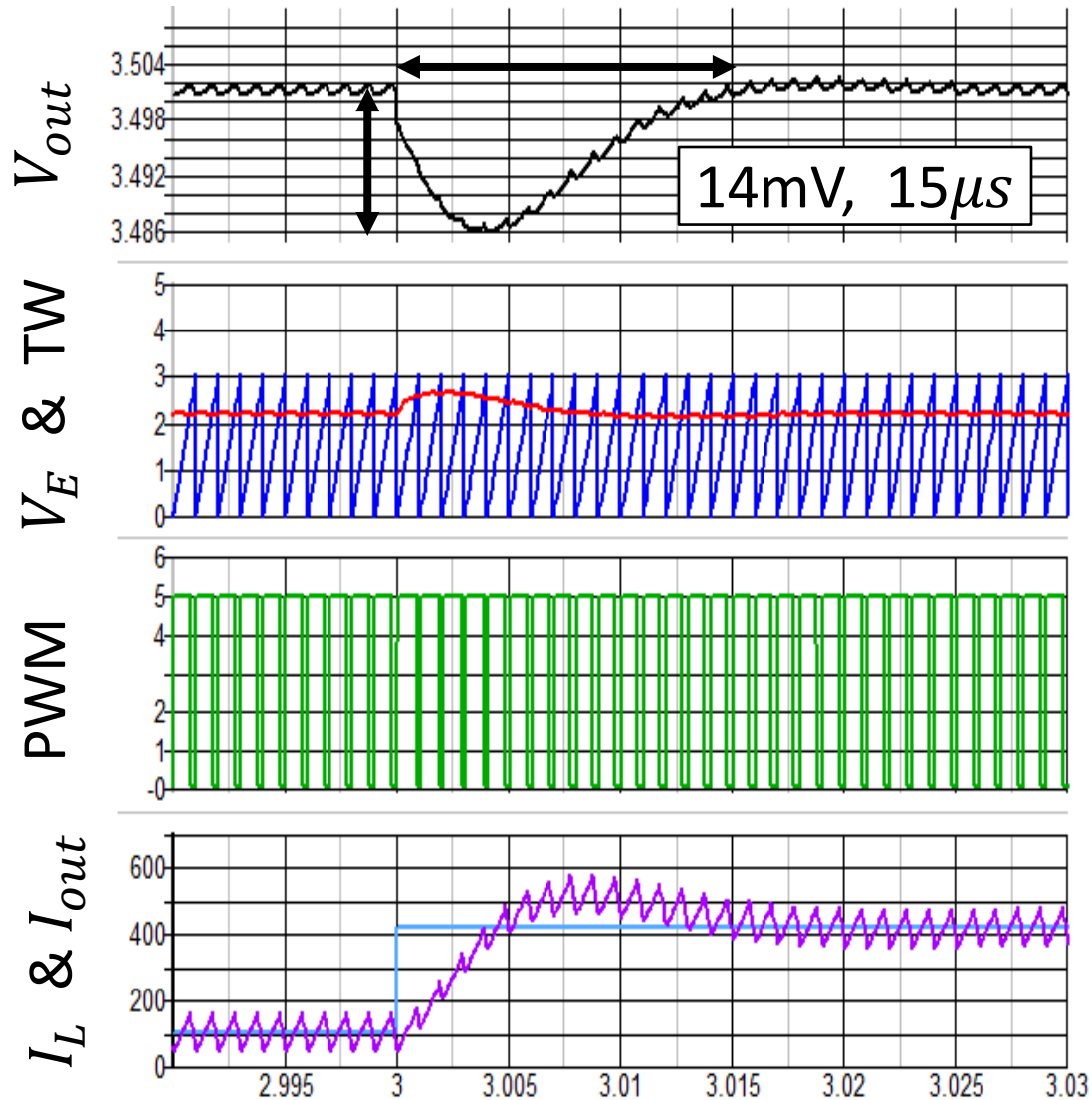
With proposed TWG

Load Transient Response (1)

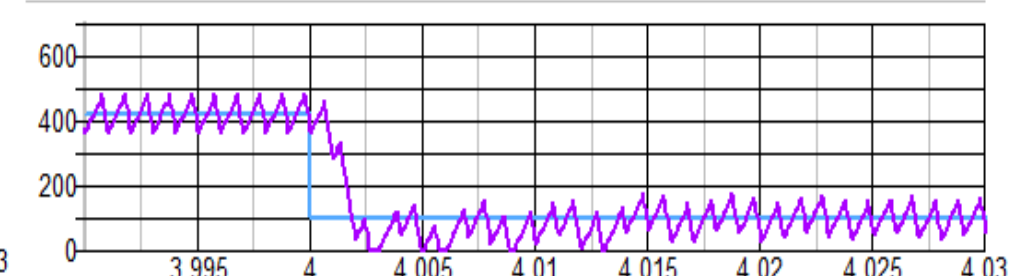
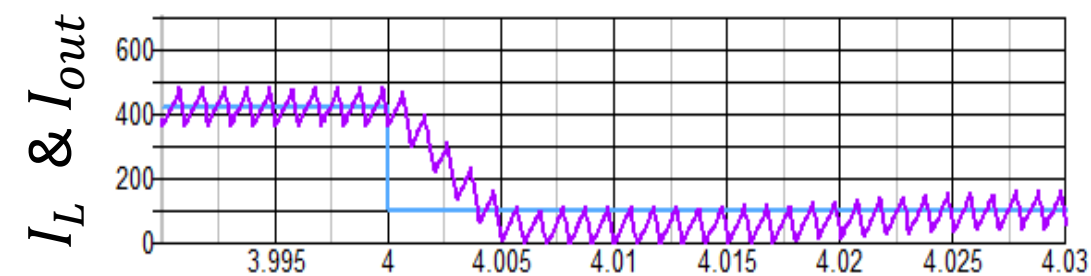
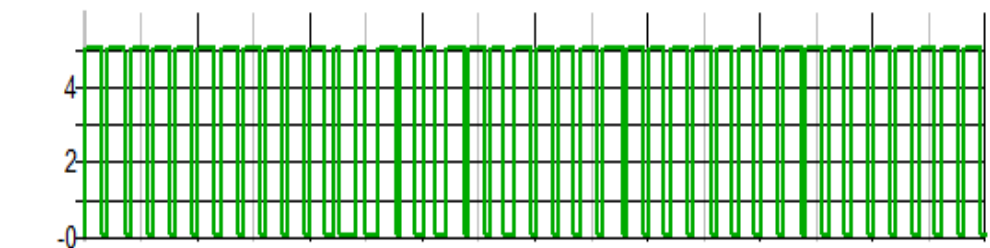
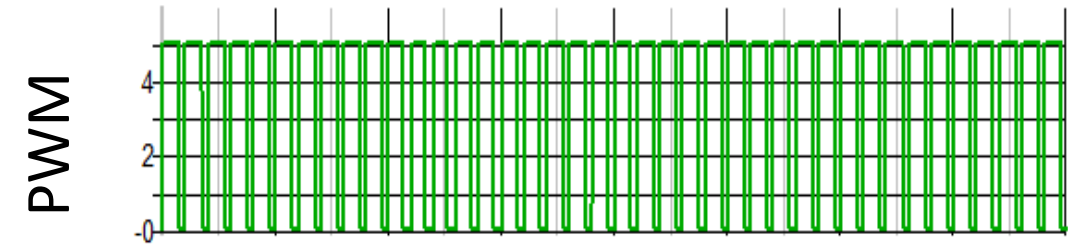
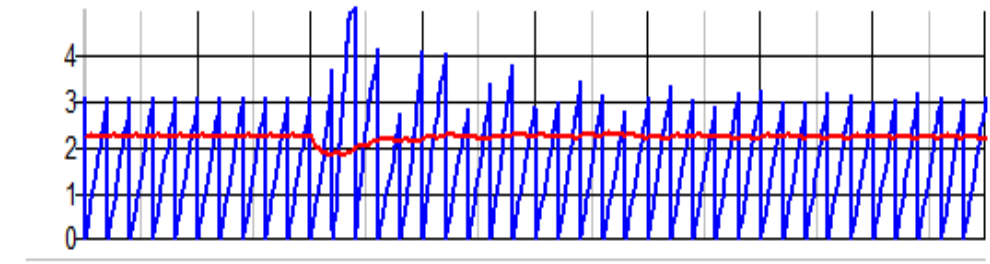
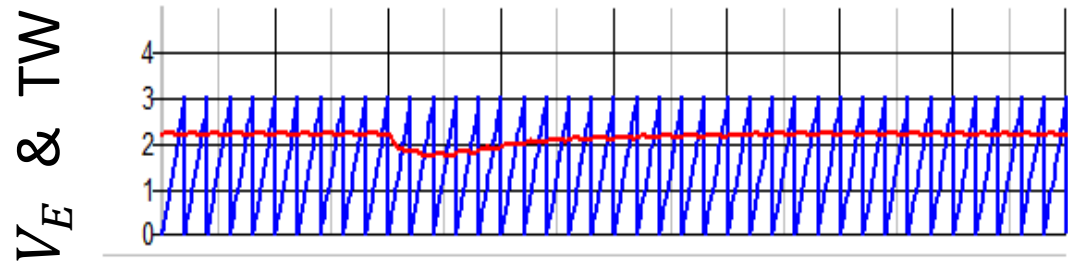
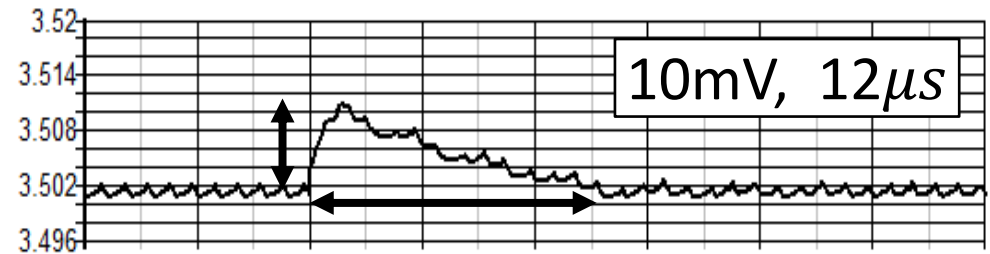
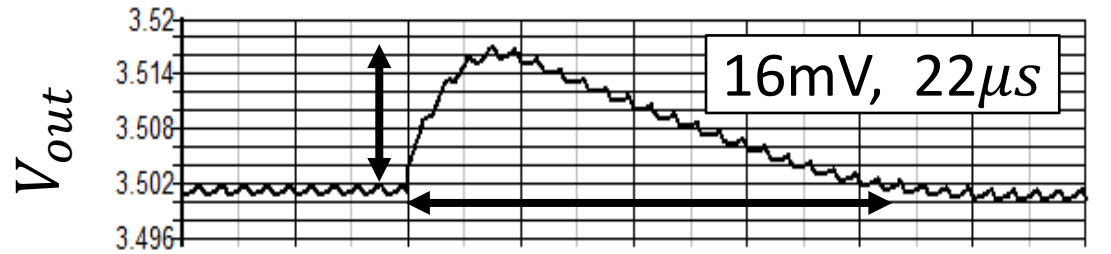
I_{out} : 100mA \leftrightarrow 420mA



Load Transient Response (2) --- step up



Load Transient Response (3) --- step down



Without proposed TWG

With proposed TWG

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Conclusion

- Design a slope adjustable triangular wave generator for DC-DC converter.
 - Improve line and load transient response
 - Simple
 - Not require current sensor and slope compensation
- Next Step
circuit implementation

The End

Thanks for your attention

Q&A

- Normally, we increased the feedback gain to improve transient response. So that, what is the advantage of your method, comparing to the normal method?

A: with a larger feedback gain, we can get higher bandwidth, but it is limited by the gain-bandwidth product of op-amp, especially, VMC need Type 3 compensation. The proposed method increase the open-loop bandwidth by a novel way. Although it also limited by op-amp, but not so much as conventional method.

- During line transient response, which parameter is changed?

A: Since the triangular wave slope is controlled by input voltage, it means the peak value of triangular wave $--V_p$ also be controlled by input. During line transient response, the variation in V_{in} is eliminated by the changed V_p .