

Constant On-Time Controlled Four-Phase Buck Converter via Saw-Tooth-Wave Circuit and its Element Sensitivity

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Research Objective

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Objective

- Development of power supply with
- Fast response
 - Large current

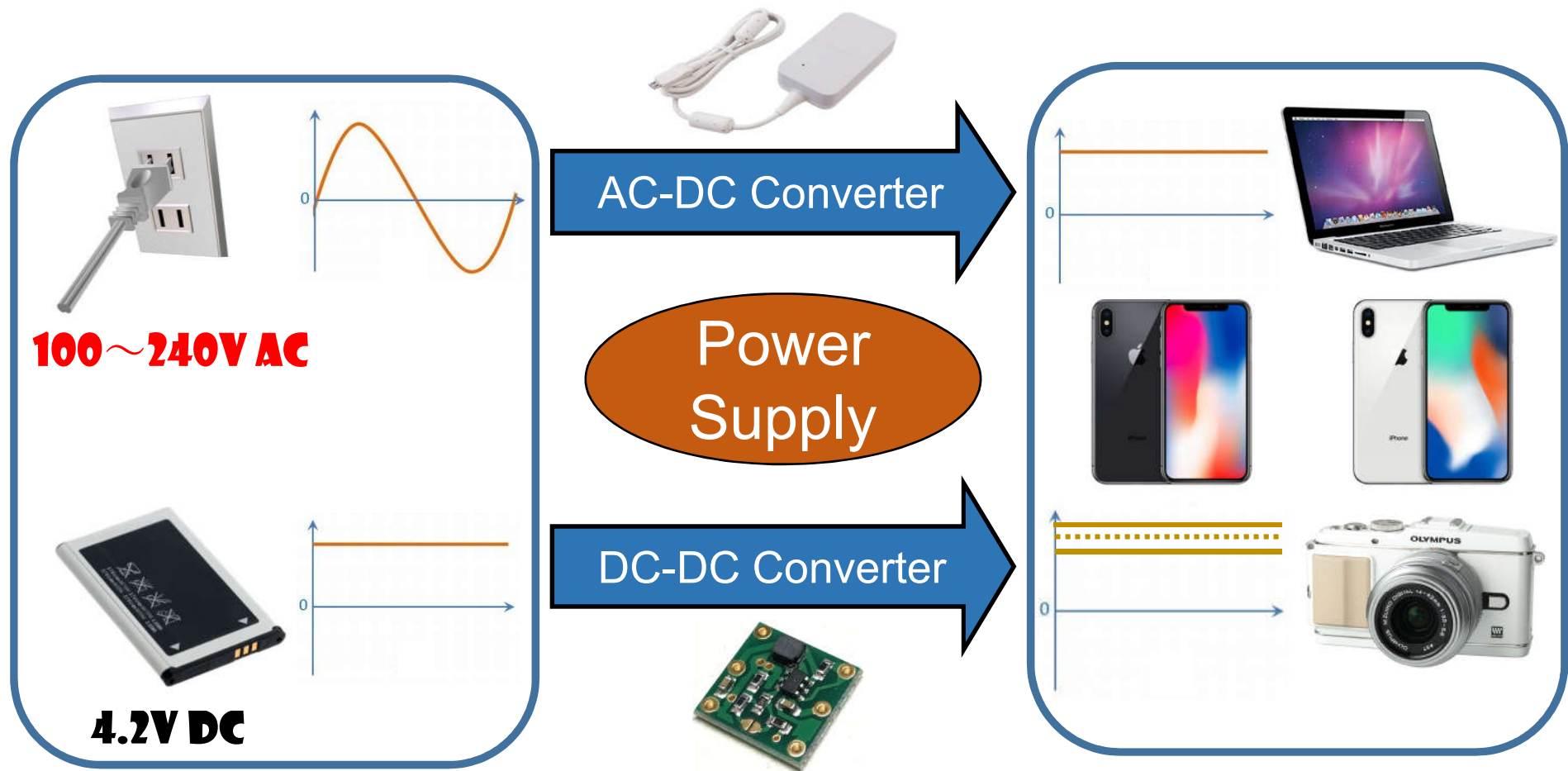
Approach

- Constant on-time control
- Multi-phase

- Research background
- Constant on-time control
- Four-phase converter solution
via saw-tooth wave circuit
- Simulation result
- Element sensitivity
- Conclusion

- **Research background**
- Constant on-time control
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via saw-tooth-wave circuit way
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What is Power Supply ?

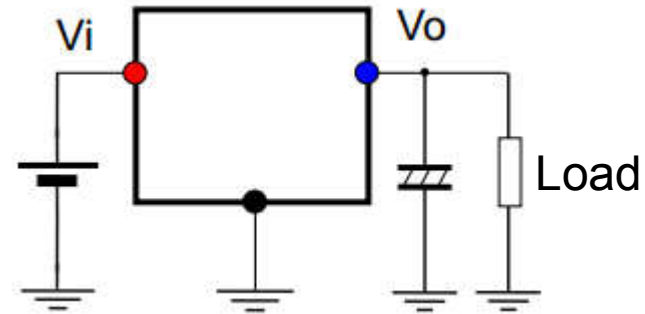


Power supply is demanded everywhere to provide appropriate voltage for electronic device

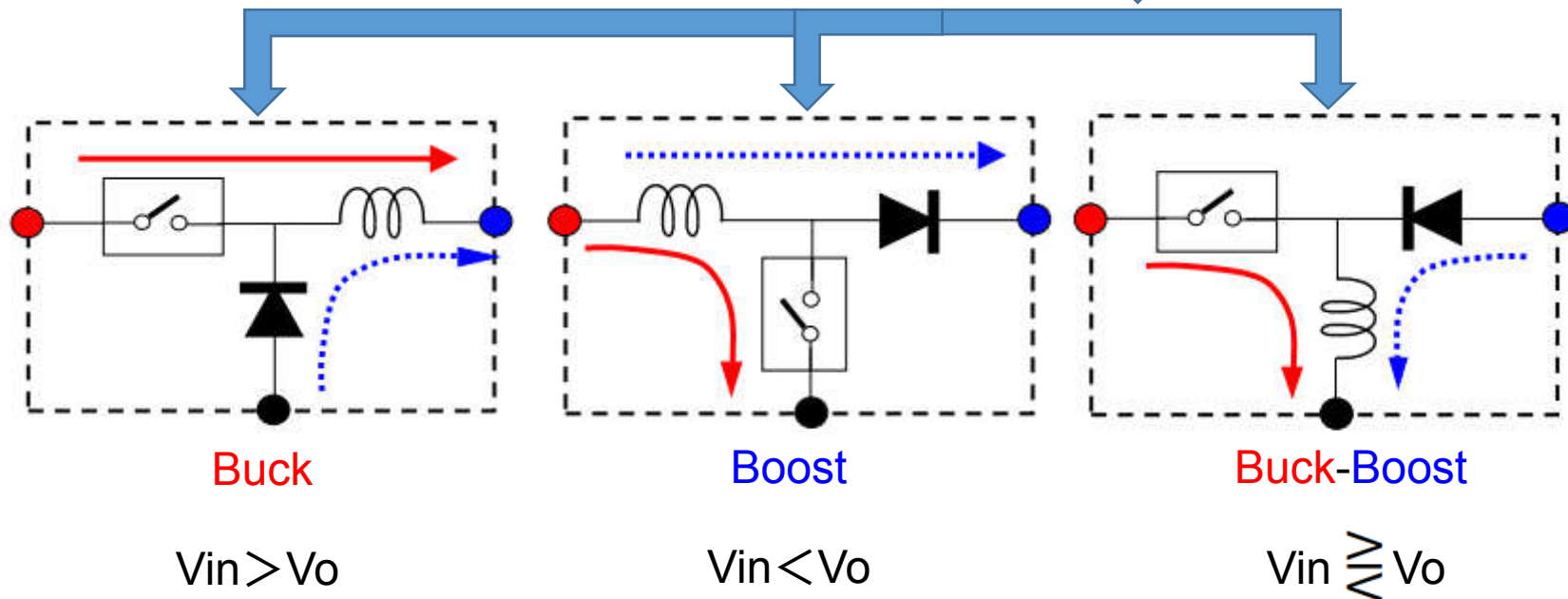
Classifications of DC-DC Converter



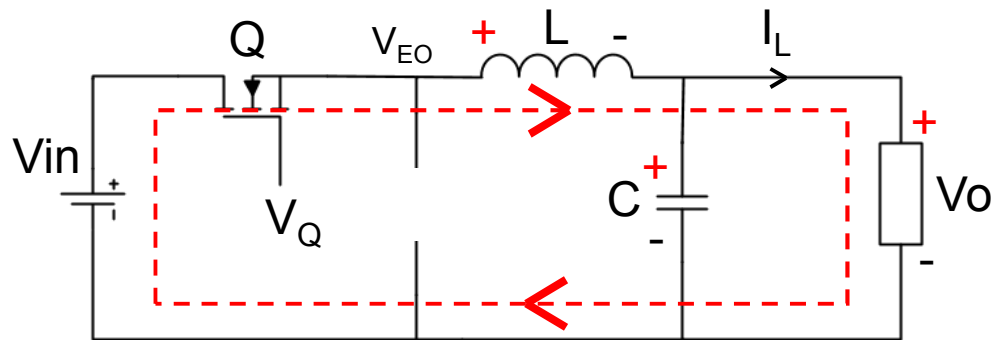
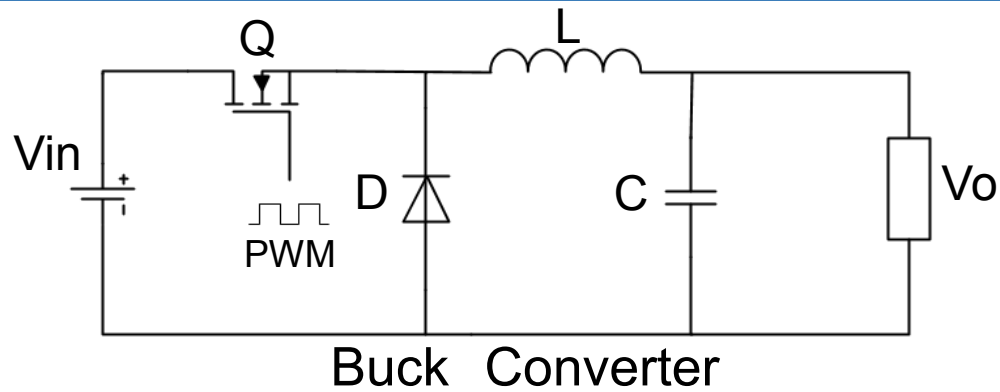
DC-DC converter



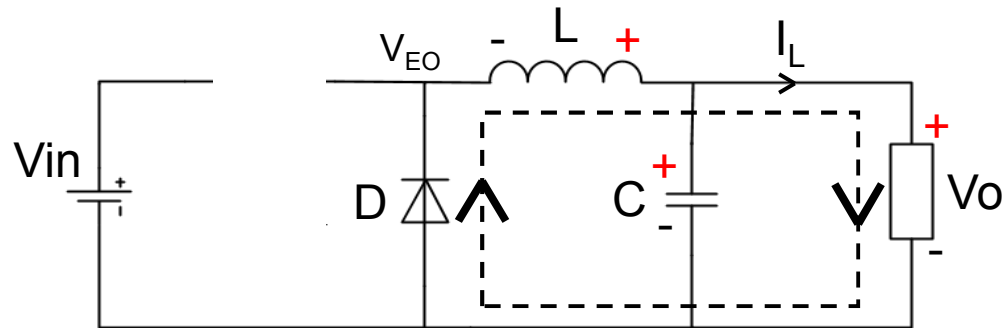
Basic configuration



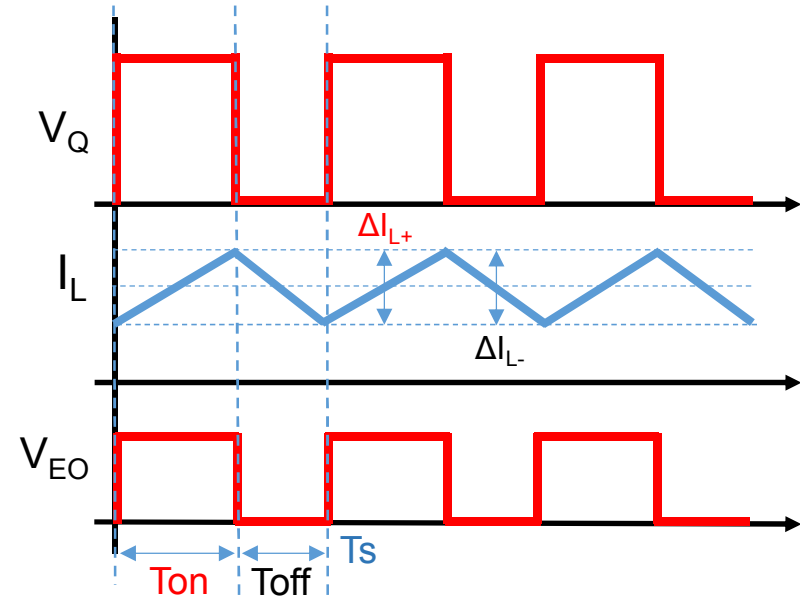
Operation of Buck Converter



On State: Q on D off



Off State: Q off D on



On State

$$V_{L\text{on}} = V_{\text{in}} - V_{\text{o}} = L \cdot (\Delta i_{L+} / \Delta t_{\text{on}})$$

Off State

$$V_{L\text{off}} = -V_{\text{o}} = L \cdot (\Delta i_{L-} / \Delta t_{\text{off}})$$

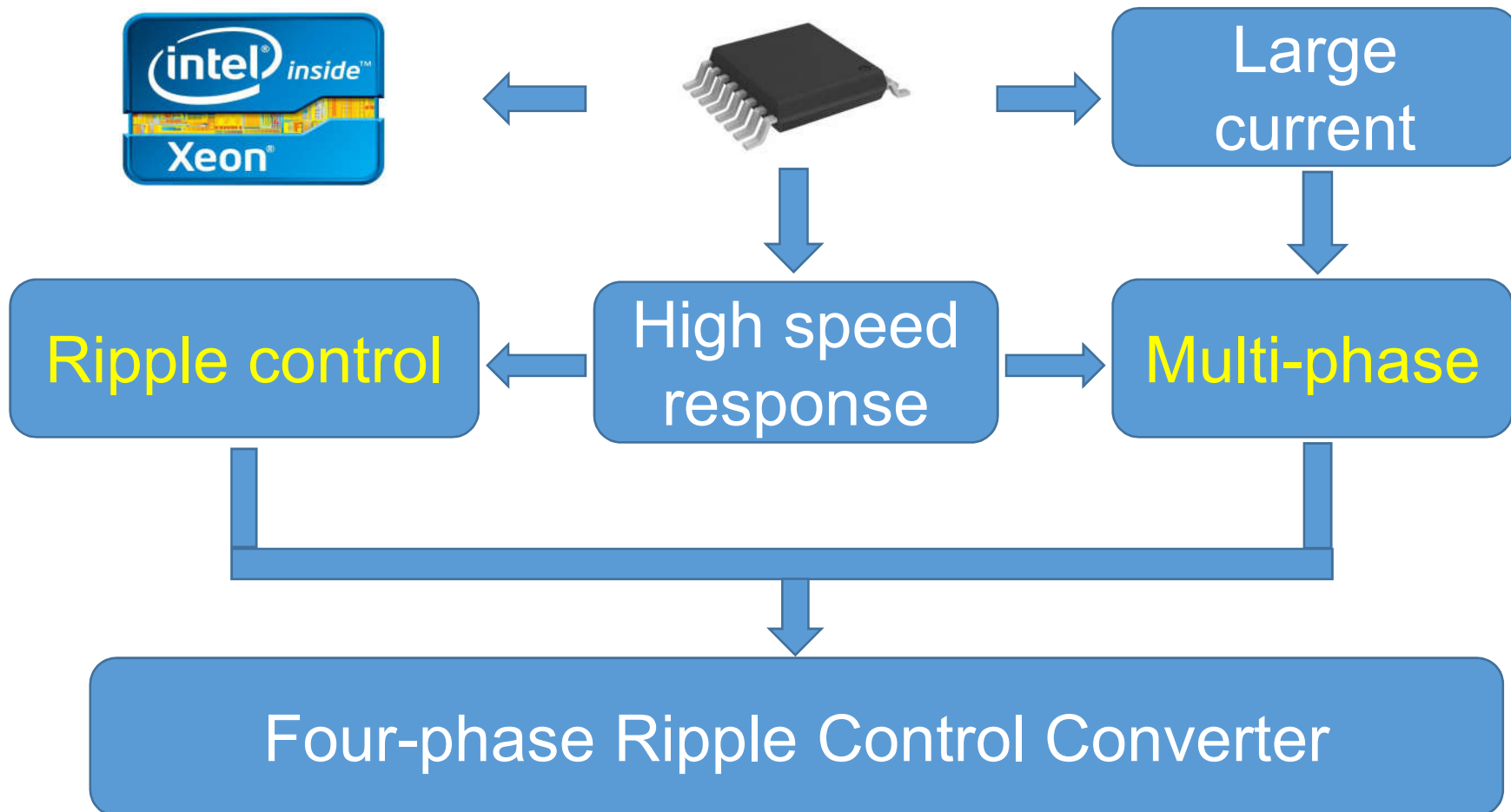
Volt-second
Balance

$$\Delta i_{L+} = \Delta i_{L-}$$

$$V_{\text{o}} = V_{\text{in}} \frac{T_{\text{on}}}{T_{\text{s}}}$$

Demand for Power Supply of Process

DC input	DC output	Max. output current	Max. output current step	Max. output current slew rate
12V	1.5V	120A	100A/us	930A/us

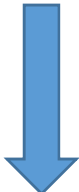


- Research background
- **Constant on-time control**
- Four-phase converter solution via saw-tooth-wave circuit
- Simulation result
- Element sensitivity
- Conclusion

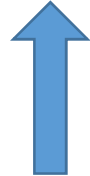
Merit of Constant on-time control

Ripple Control

Hysteresis window control

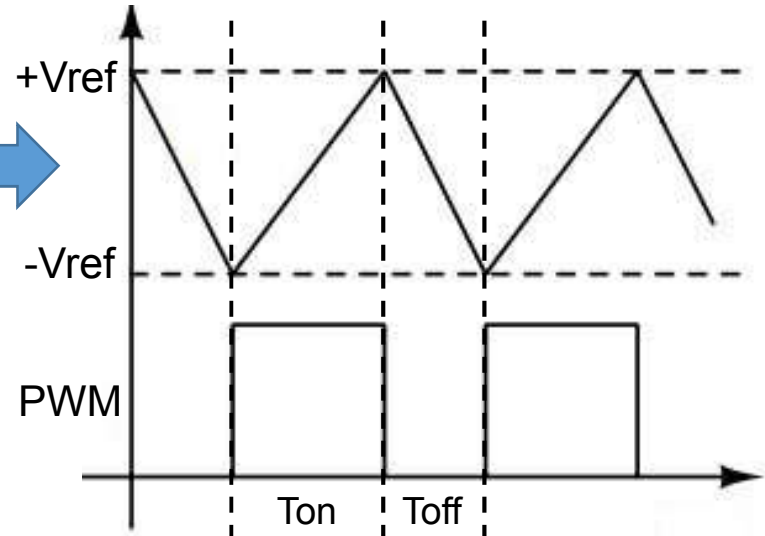
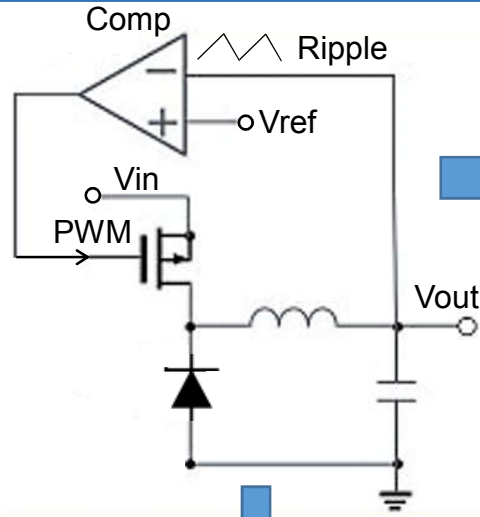


Extreme fast response



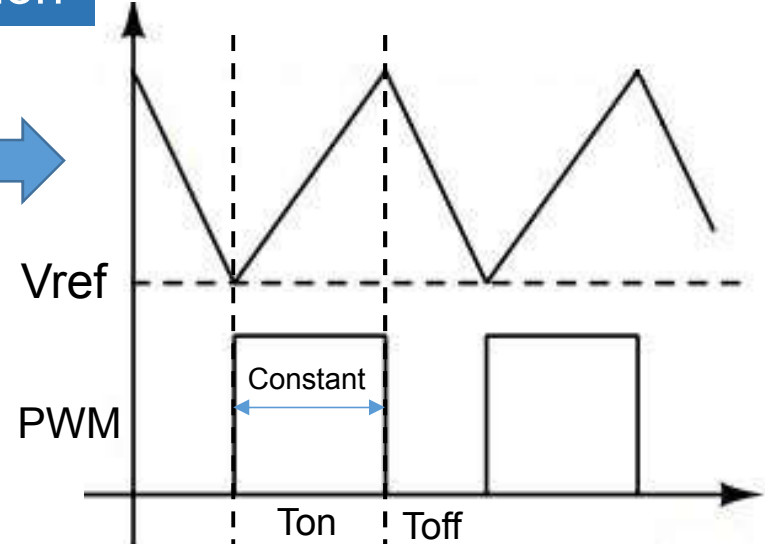
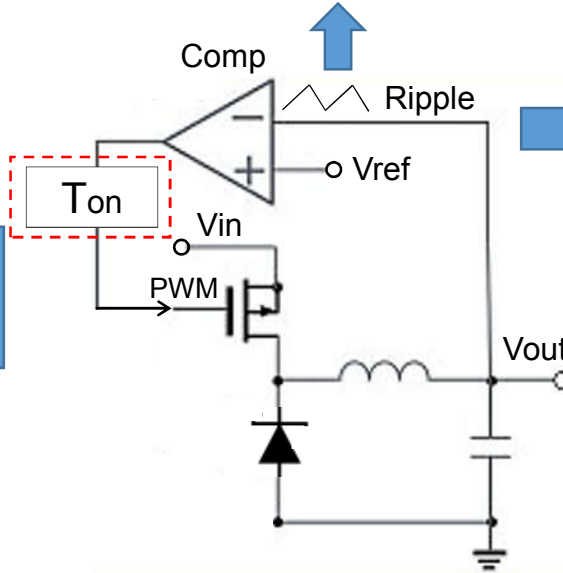
Constant on-time control

$$f_{sw} = \frac{V_o}{V_{in} \cdot T_{on}}$$



No phase compensation

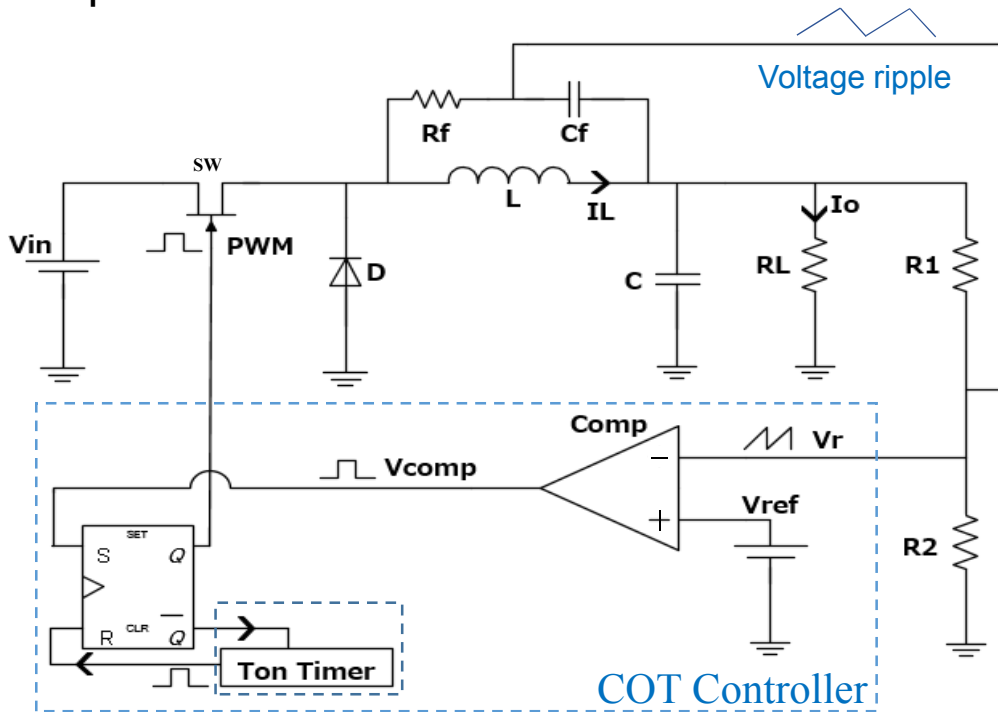
Frequency swings usually



Frequency keeps stable

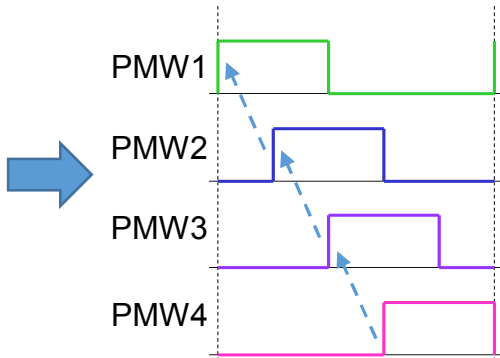
Operation of Constant on-time control

Proposed COT Converter

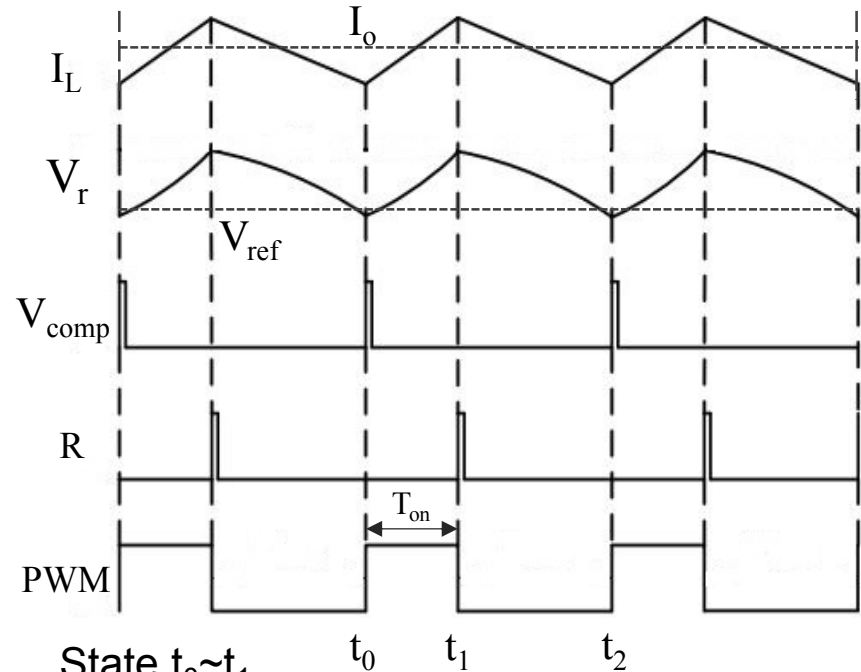


No External Clock

Tracking PWM with PWM1 is demanded without clock



Operation waveform



State $t_0 \sim t_1$

- ① V_r reaches to V_{ref} , V_{comp} comes out
- ② RS flip-flop is started by V_{comp} ,
- ③ PWM goes to HIGH, meanwhile Ton timer is started.
- ④ Ton timer is over
- ⑤ RS flip-flop is reset automatically
- ⑥ PWM goes to LOW.

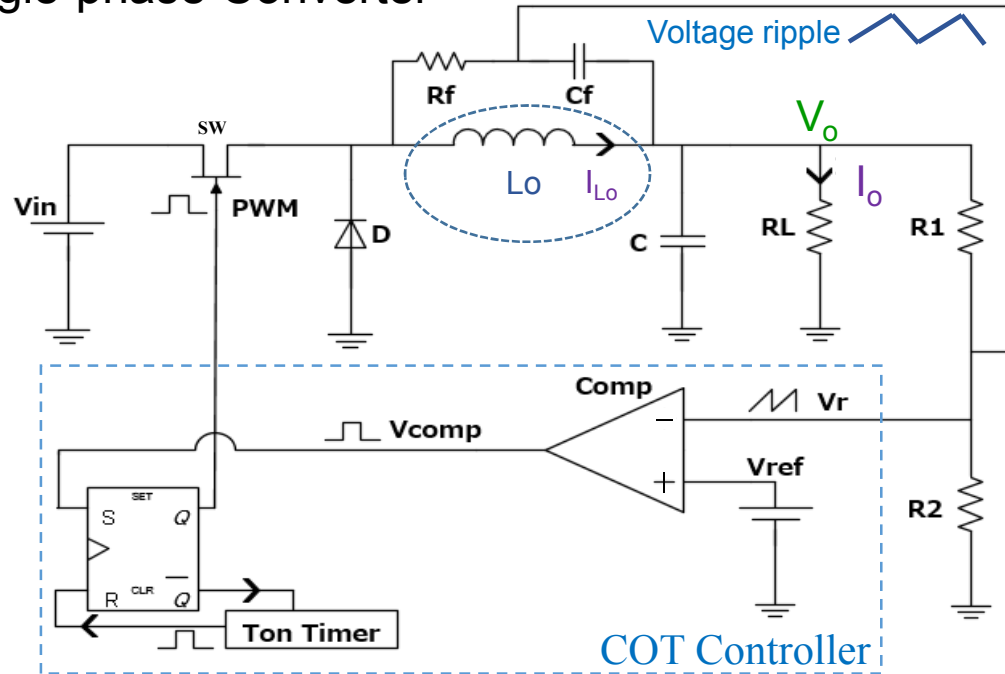
State $t_1 \sim t_2$

- ⑦ PWM keeps LOW until next cycle

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Demerit of Single-Phase Converter

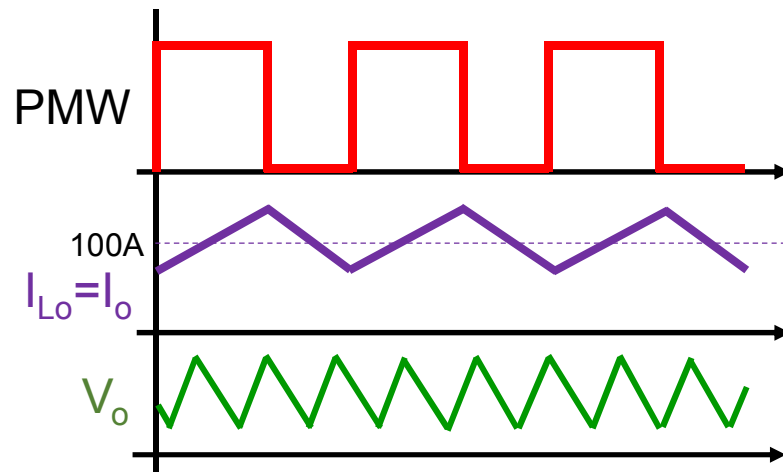
Single-phase Converter



The whole output current I_o will flow only through inductor L_o



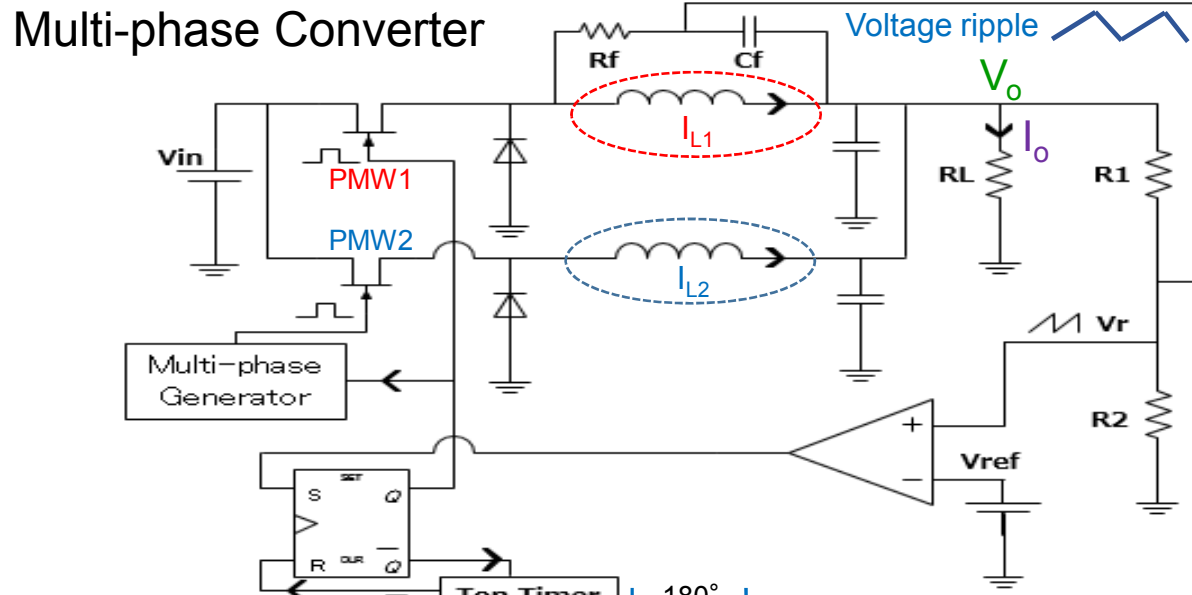
L_o will be large in size



Large load on Inductor L_o



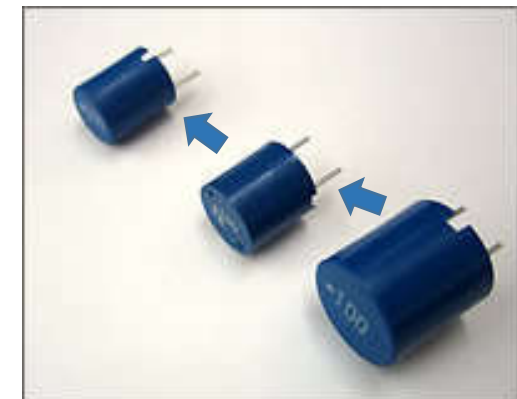
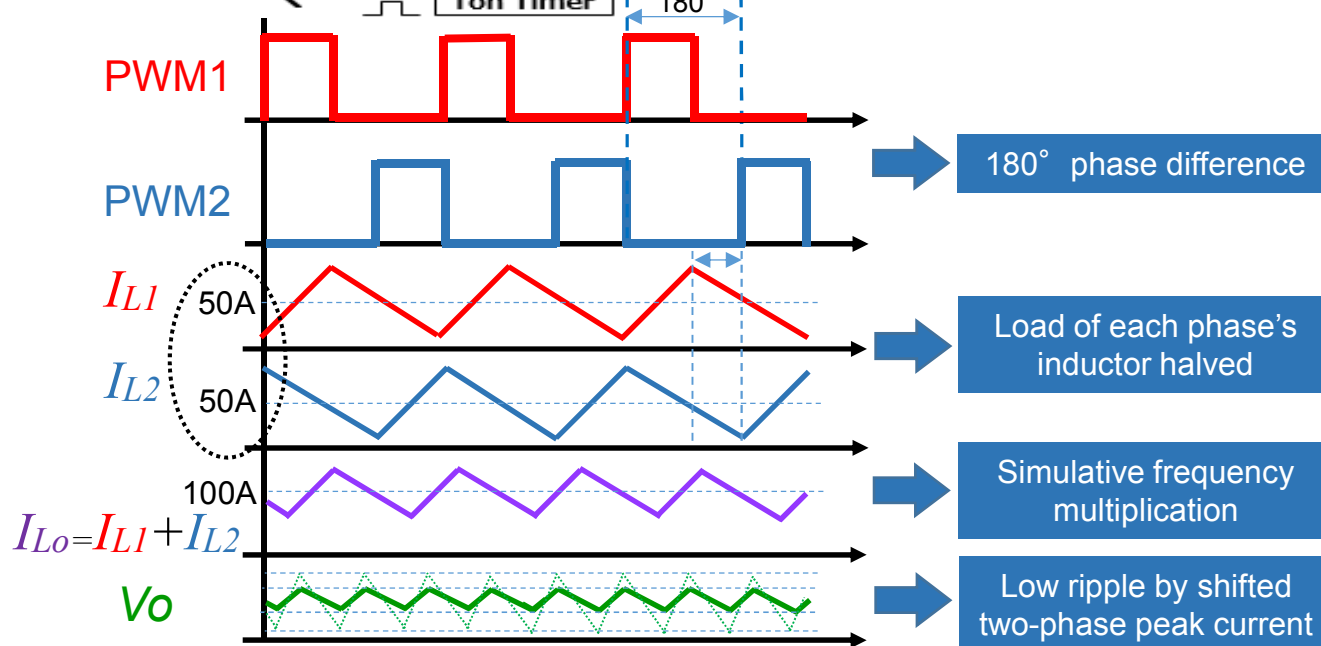
Merit of Multi-Phase Converter



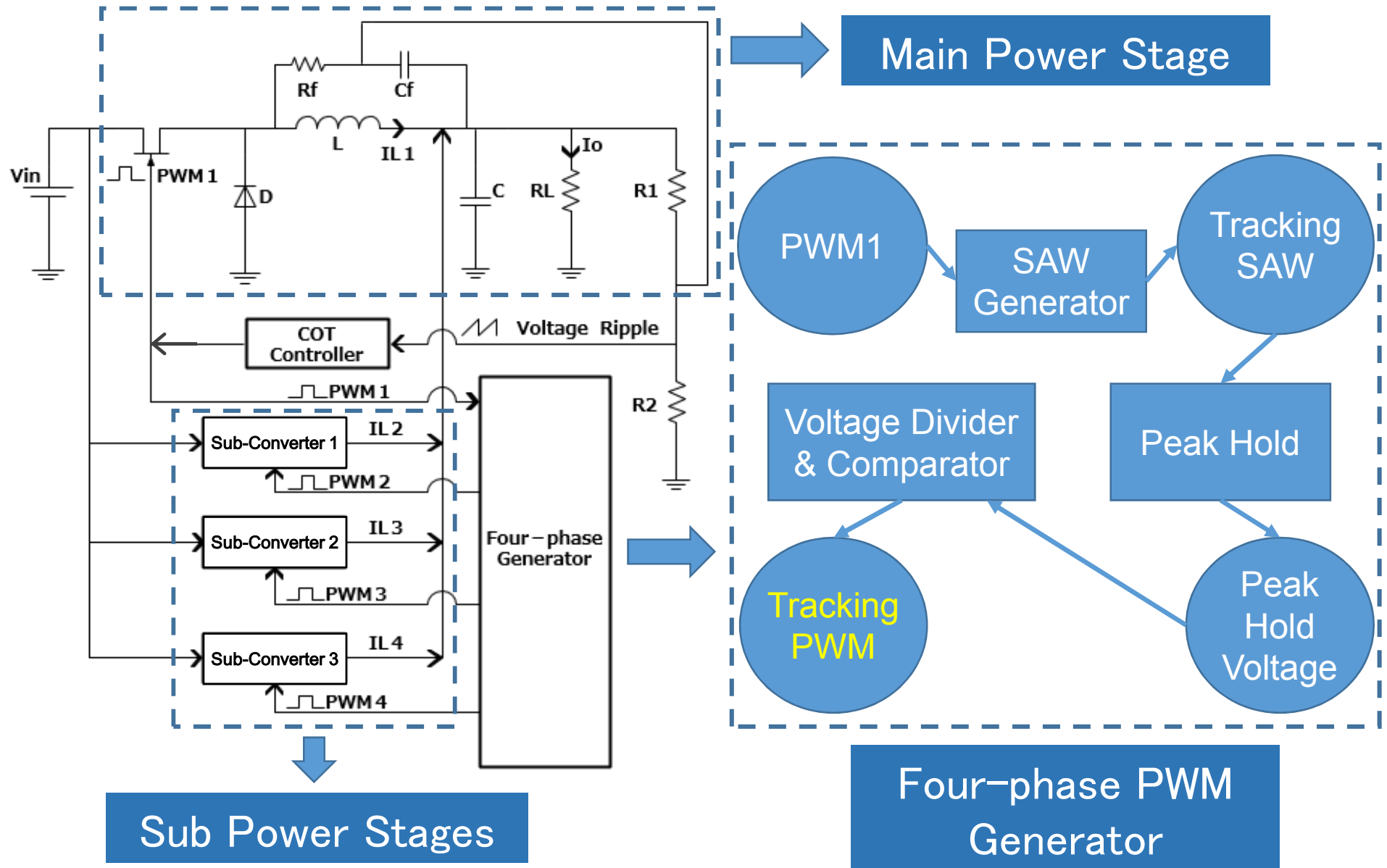
Inductor **L1** and **L2** will go shares with the **Io**



L1 and **L2** will be small in size

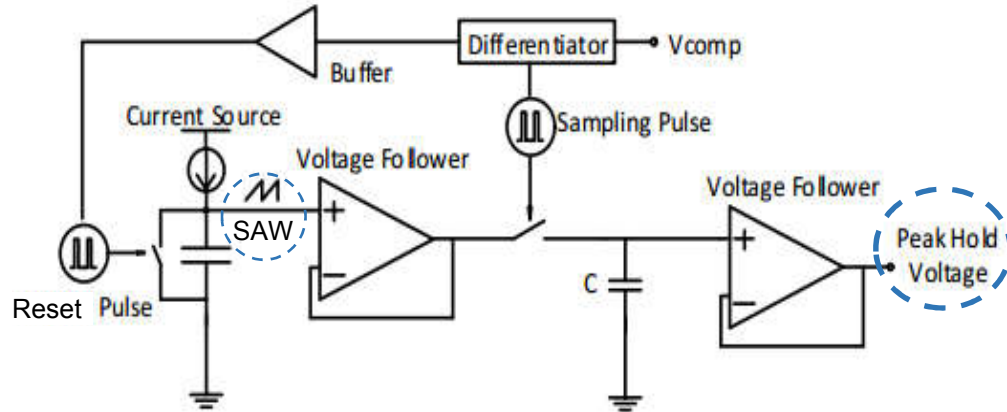


Proposed Four-Phase Converter Solution

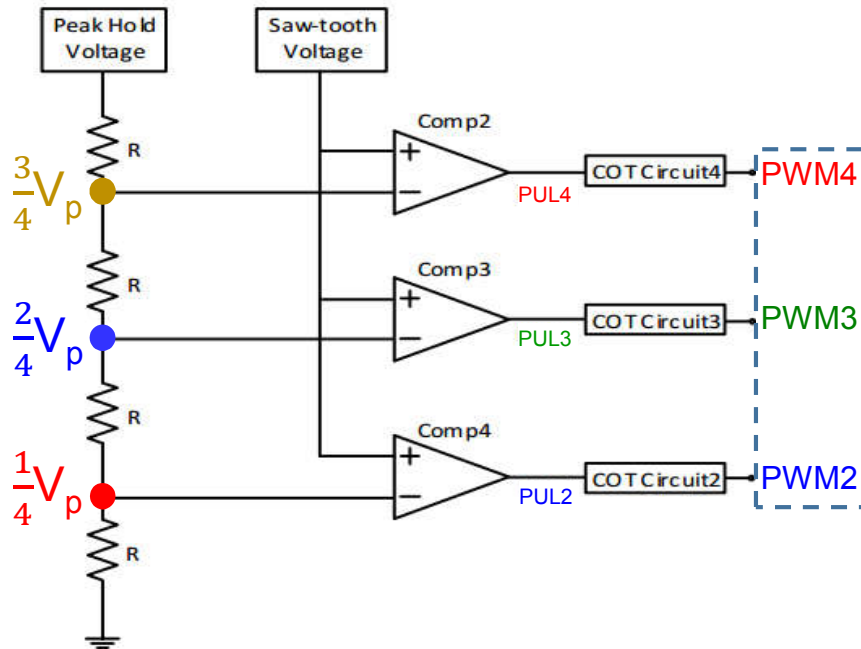


Generation of Four-Phase PWM

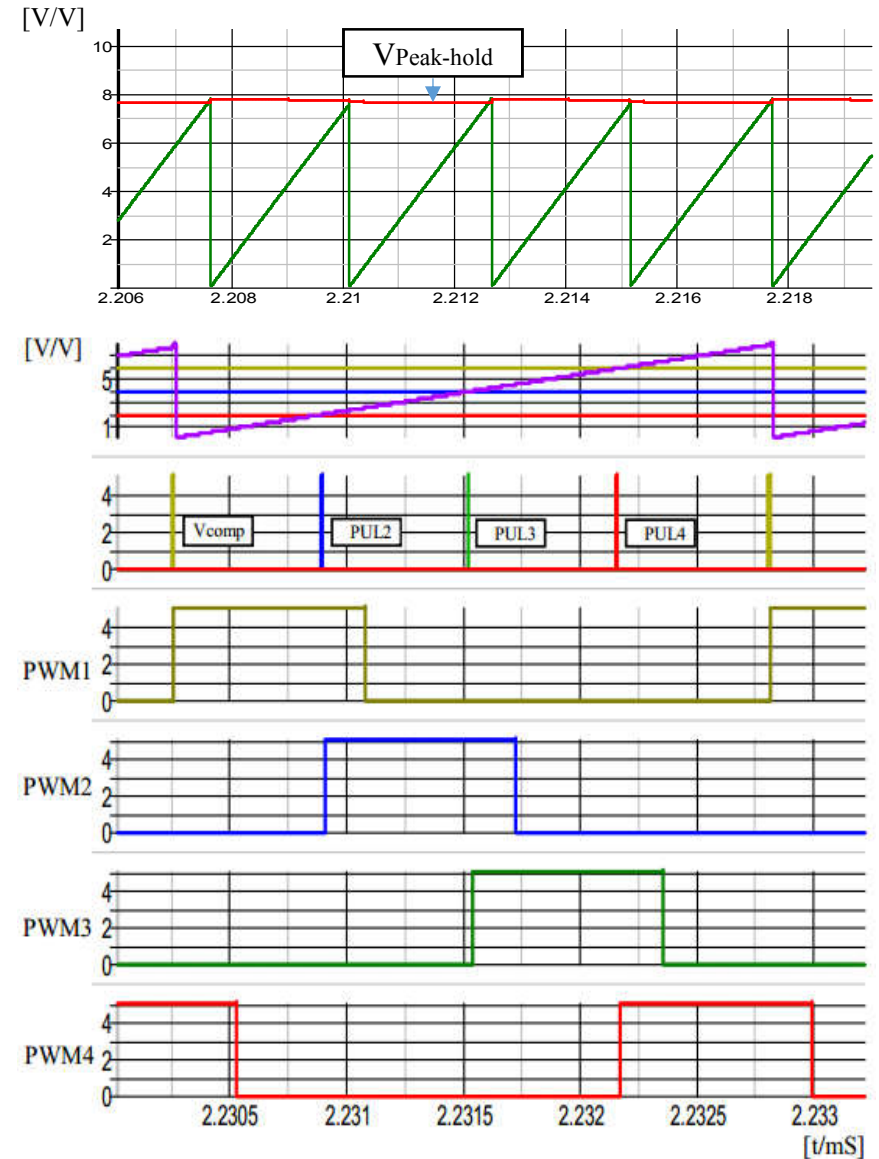
SAW Generator & Peak Hold



Voltage Divider & Comparator

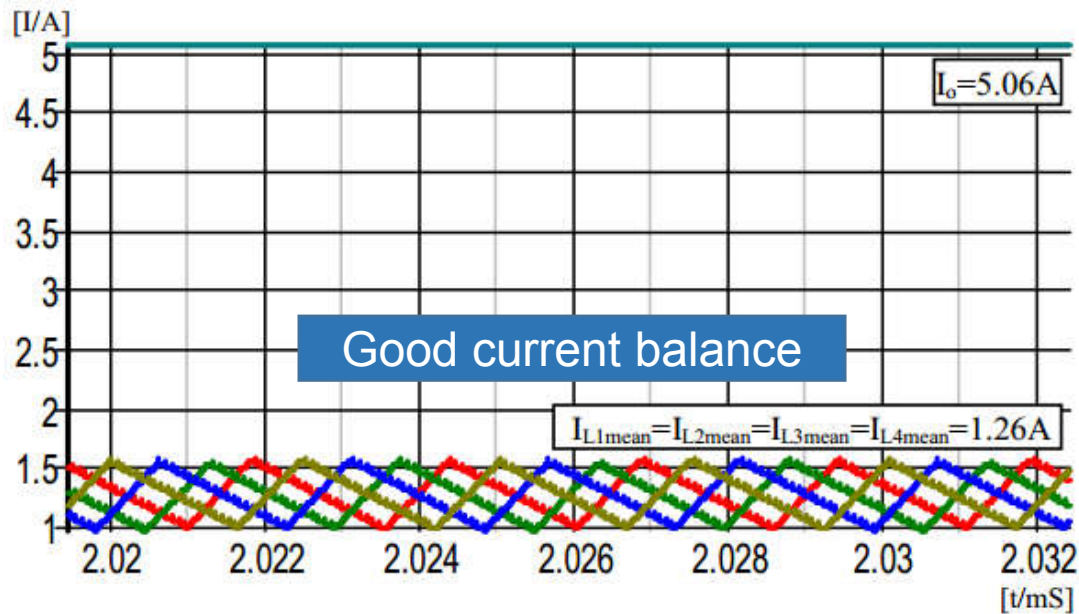


Operation waveform



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Current Balance



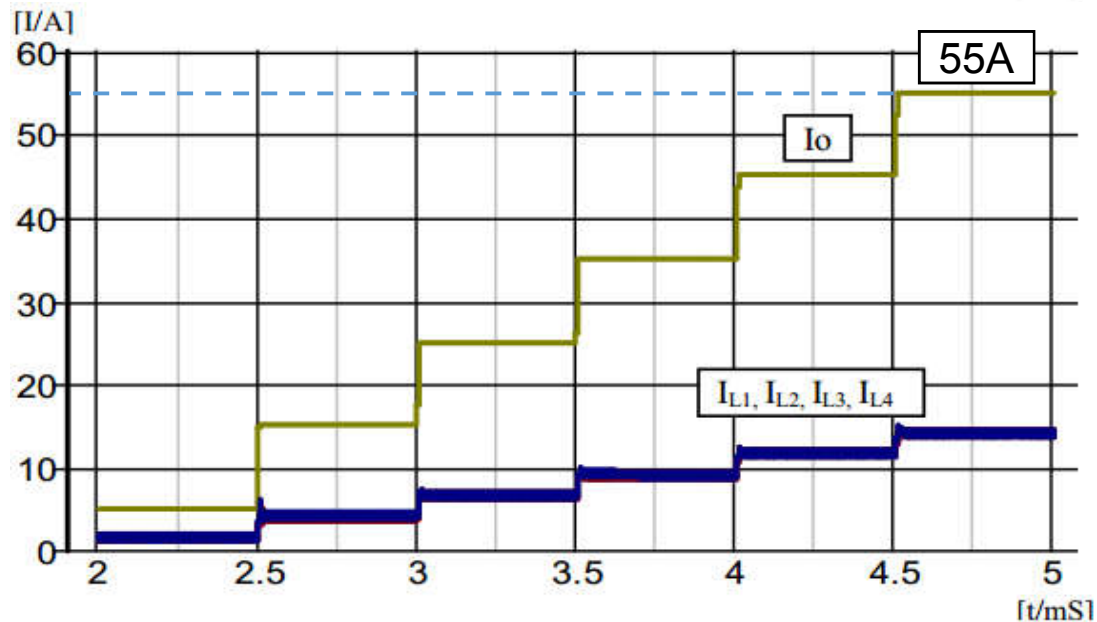
Current balance offset ΔI_L
 $(\Delta I_L = |I_L - I_o/2|)$

$$I_o = 5.06A$$

$$I_{L1} = I_{L2} = I_{L3} = I_{L4} = 1.26A$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta I_{L1} &= I_{L1} - I_o/4 \\ &= |1.26 - 5.06/4| = 0.005A \end{aligned}$$

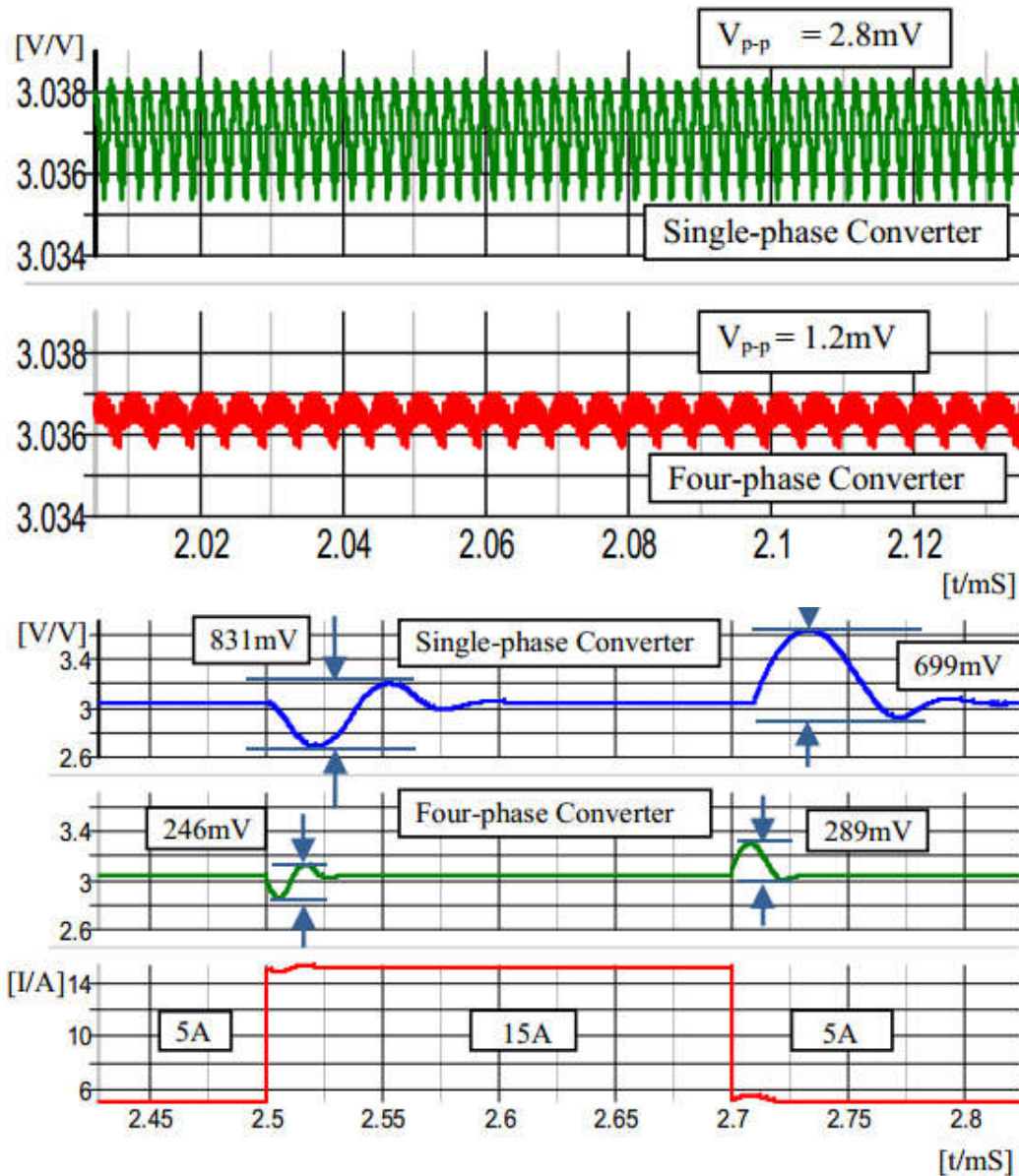
$$\begin{aligned} \delta &= 0.005 / (5.06/4) \times 100\% \\ &= 0.39\% \end{aligned}$$



Large load current achieved

Good current balance during transient response

Comparison



$V_{out} : 3\text{V}$

Static state characteristic

	Ripple peak to peak	Ripple range
Vout	57%off	under1%

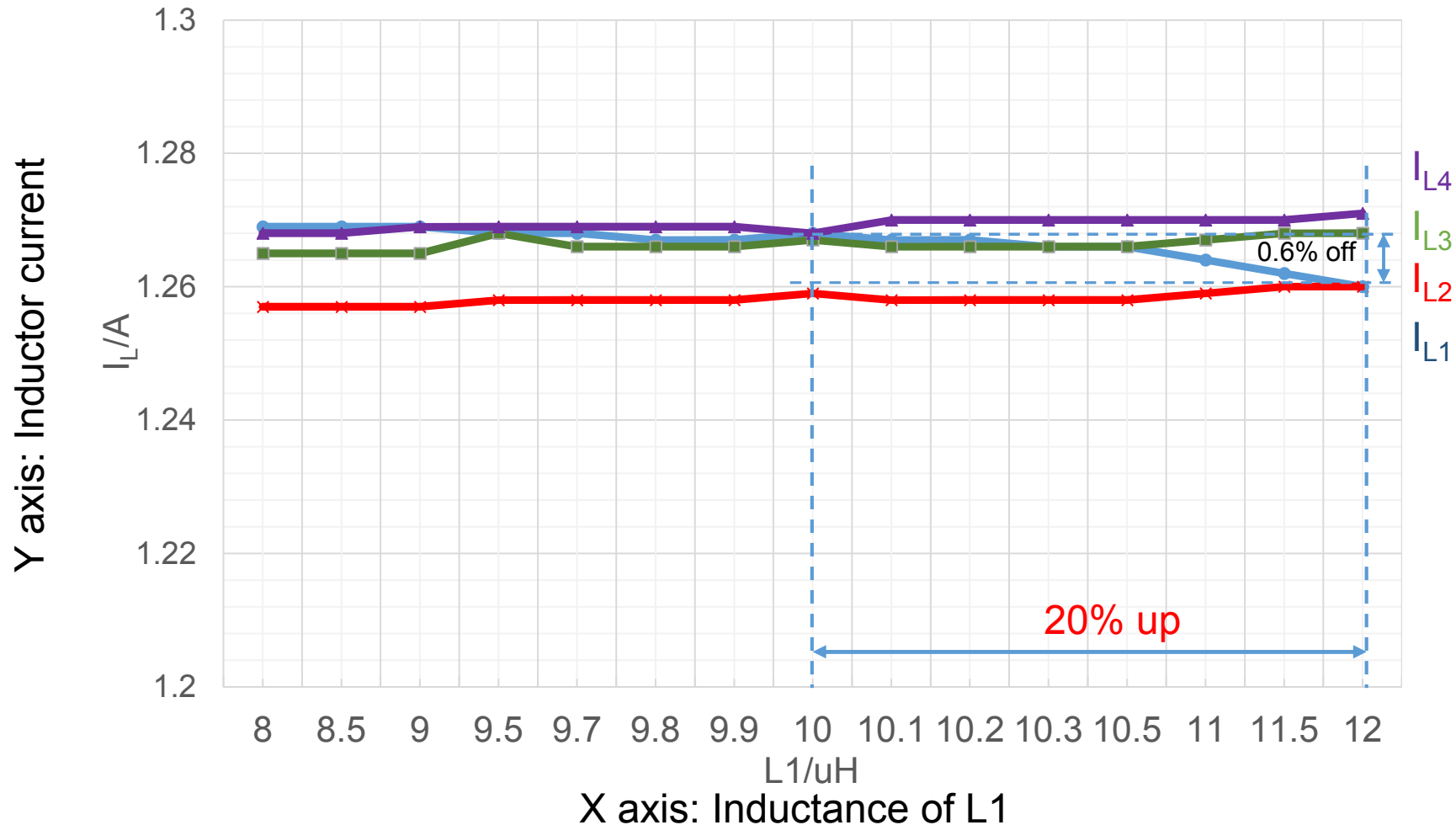
$I_{load} : 5\text{A} \rightarrow 10\text{A} \rightarrow 5\text{A}$

Dynamic load regulation

Transient response	Undershoot	Overshoot
Peak to Peak voltage	70%off	59%off
Recovery time	75%off	80%off

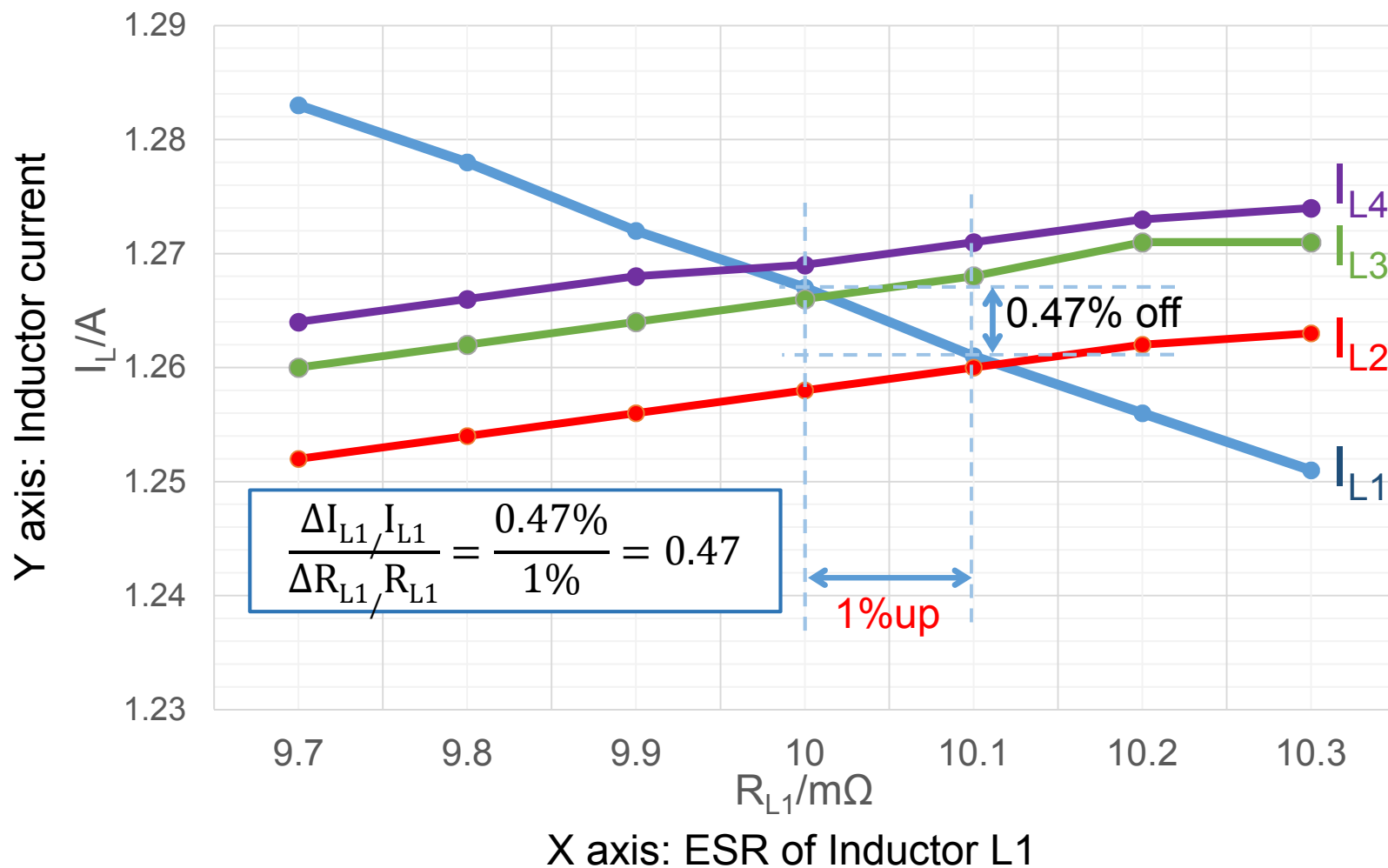
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Current balance via $\Delta L1$



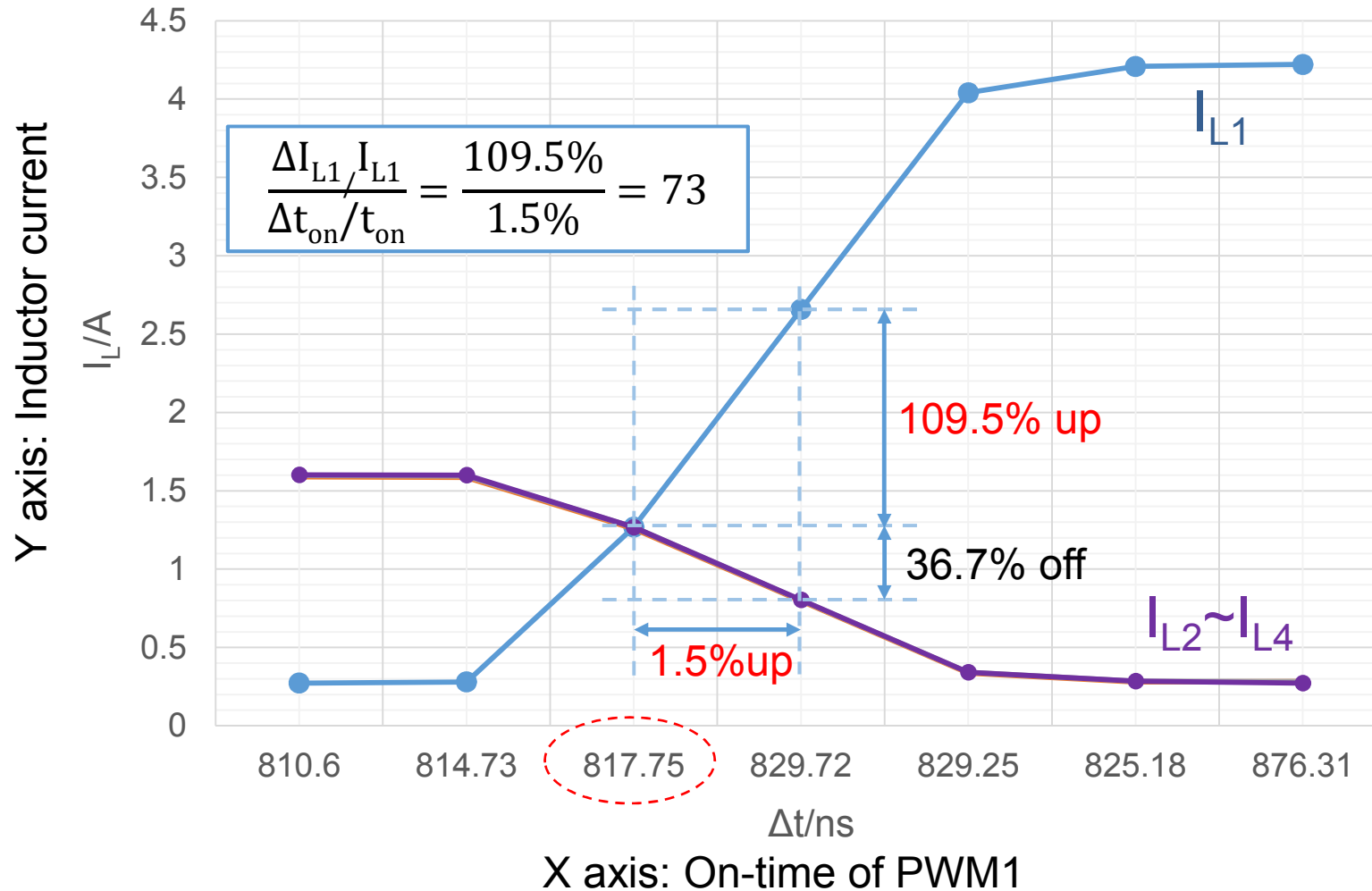
Current balance shows **extreme low sensitivity to Inductance of L1**

Current balance via ESR of L1



Current balance shows
low sensitivity to ESR of L1

Current balance via on-time of PWM1



Current balance shows **extreme high sensitivity to on-time of PWM1**

Conclusion

- Proposal of four-phase DC-DC converter with constant-on-time control
- Four-phase PWM generators designed with analog circuits
- Good current balance, Large load current
- Low output voltage ripple, Fast response
- Current balance offset via $\Delta L1$ shows low sensitivity
- Current balance offset via on-time of PWM1 Δt shows high sensitivity and the Δt must be set at a certain time with few deviation

Thank you for your attention

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Q&A

- Q: Will you make the converter into six-phase or more
- A: Of course. But the first thing I have to do is to make the circuit into practical application. As you see, it is not enough to test the characteristic just by simulation.