

INVITED

# Noise Spread Spectrum with Adjustable Notch Frequency in Complex Pulse Coding Controlled DC-DC Converters

Yasunori Kobori\* , Nobukazu Tsukiji, Yifei Sun,  
Nobukazu Takai and Haruo Kobayashi

Gunma University, Japan

# Outline

## 1. Background

1-1 Switching Converter

1-2 EMI Reduction with clock modulation

## 2. Pulse Coding and Notch Characteristics

2-1 Pulse coding control

2-2 Simulation result with PWC control

2-3 Experimental results of PWC control

## 3. Automatic PWC Control for Radio Receivers

3-1 Generating the clock using PLL circuit

3-2 Adjustable direct generation from input frequency

## 4. Conclusion

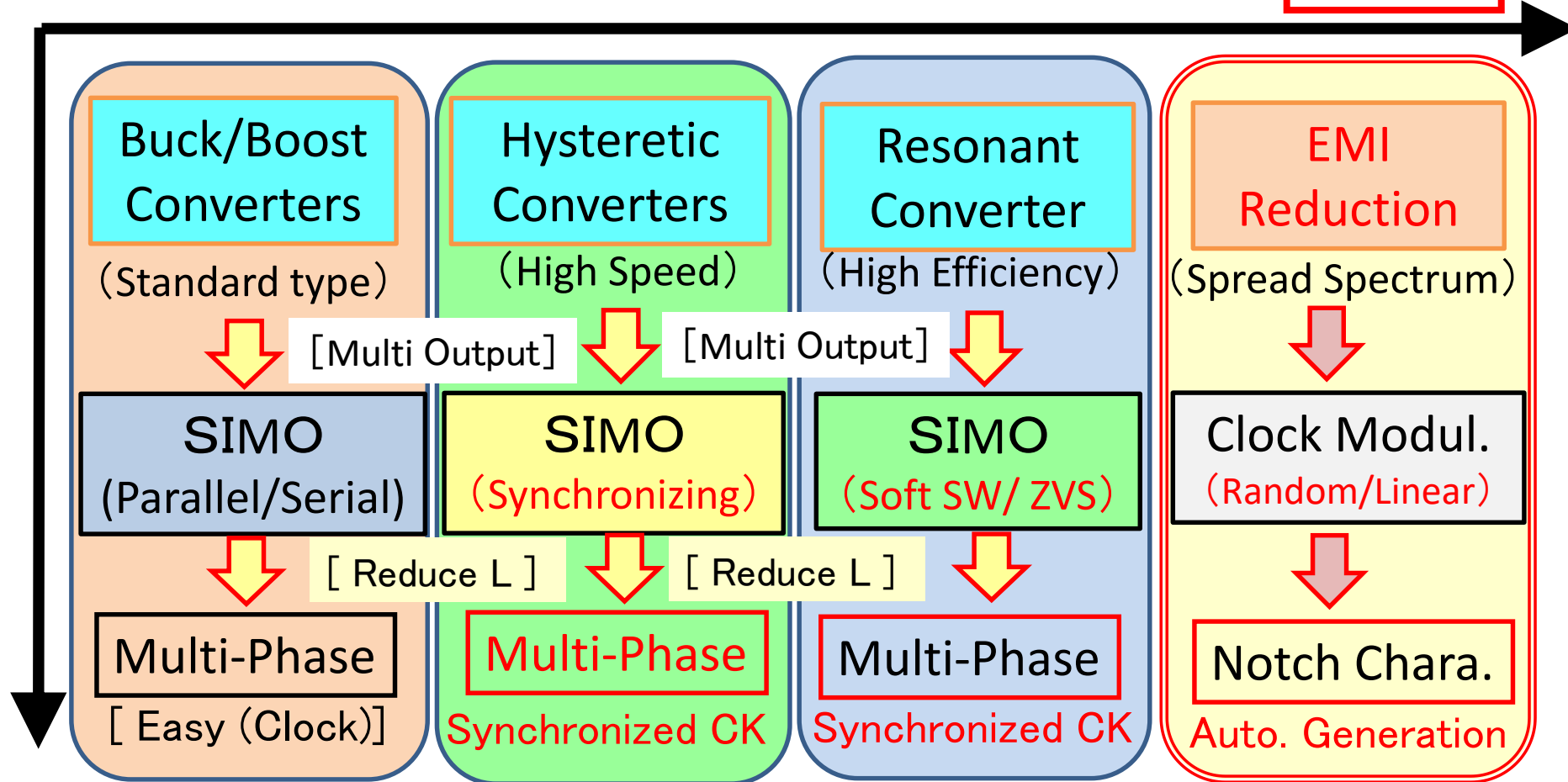
EMI: Electro-Magnetic Interference

PWC: Pulse Width Coding

# 1. Background

## ● Our Research about DC-DC converters

Functions

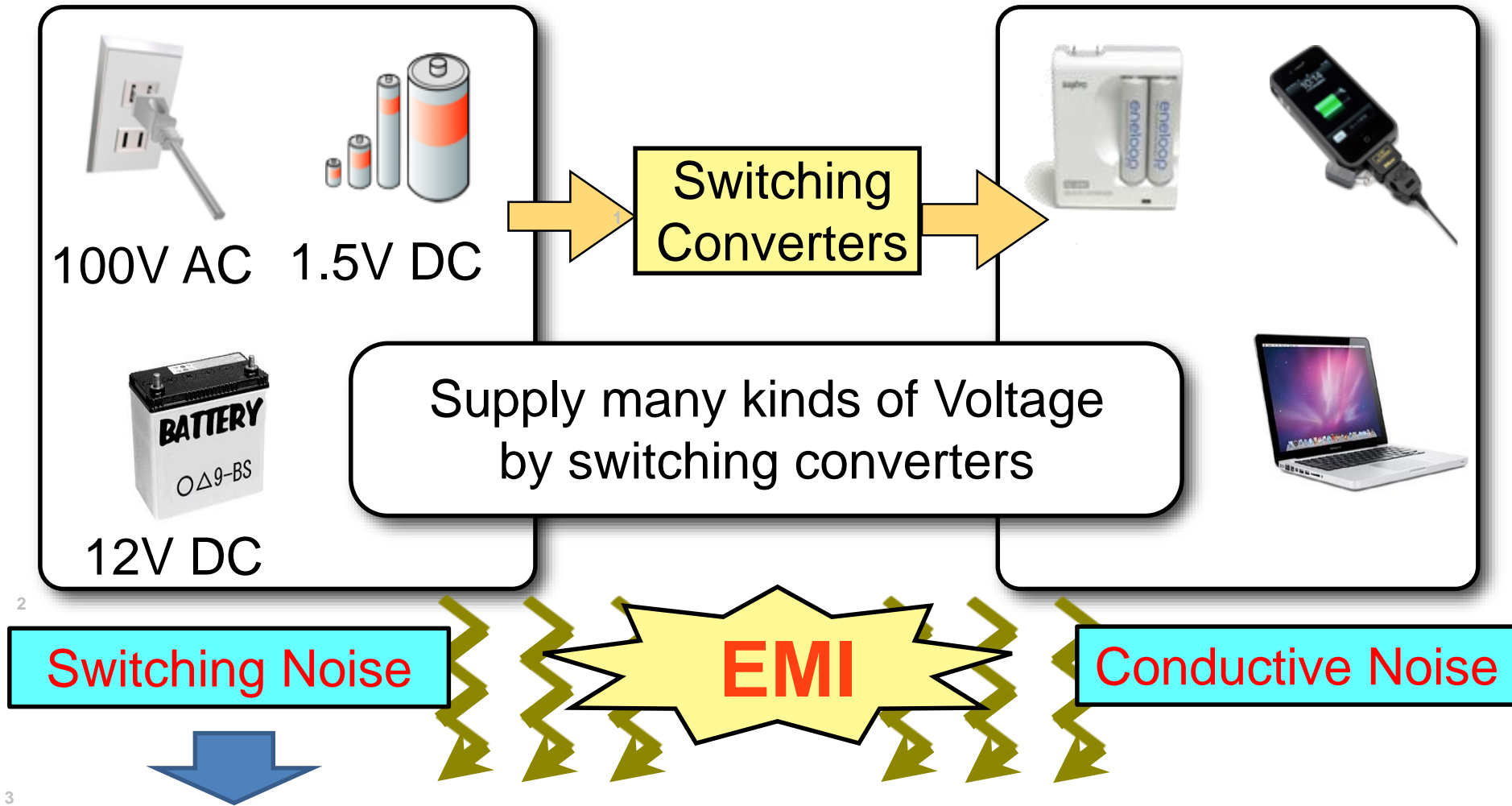


Low Cost  
High Power  
Low ripple

Fig.0 Our Research for Switching Converters

SIMO: Single-Inductor Multi-Output

# ● Switching noise and EMI trouble



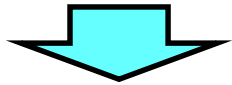
Important to reduce SW noise by decreasing clock spectrum level

Fig.1-1 background (EMI)

EMI: Electro-Magnetic Interference

# research process

- Reduce clock noise spectrum level below the Standard Level



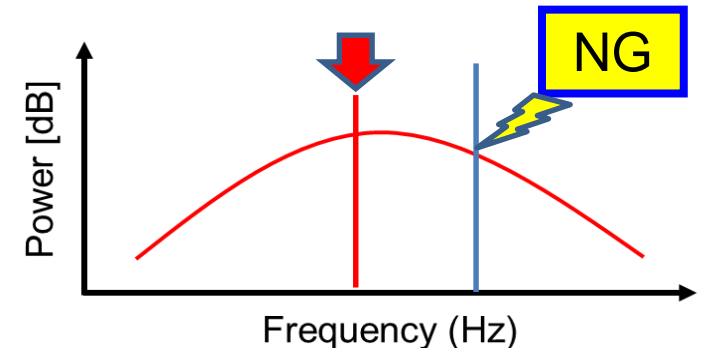
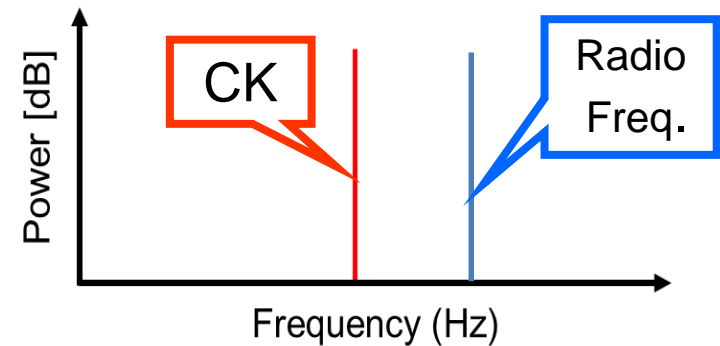
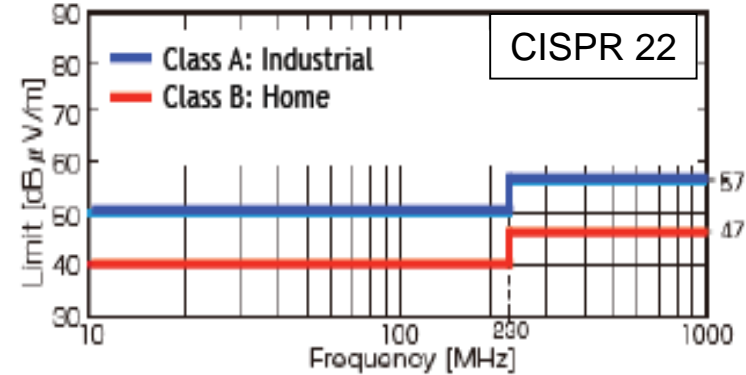
- ▲ By shaking the clock phase/frequency, spread the clock noise around clock frequency and harmonics.



- ◆ Radio receivers would not like to be affected by spread noise.

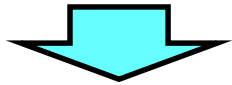
## ✘ Our Objective

- ★ Develop **Spread Spectrum Method** both to reduce the EMI noise and



# research process

- Reduce clock noise spectrum level below the Standard Level



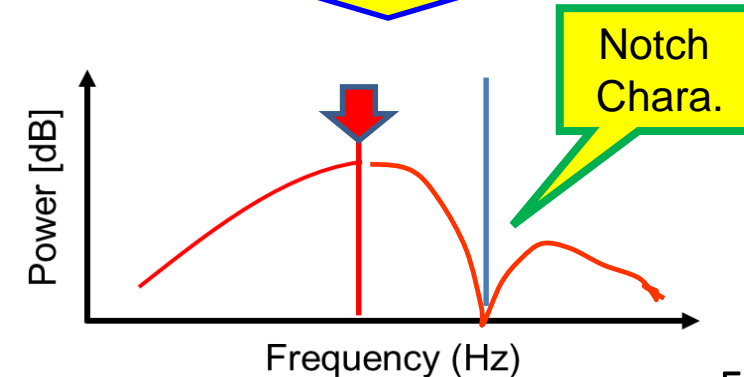
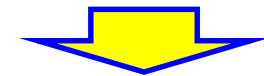
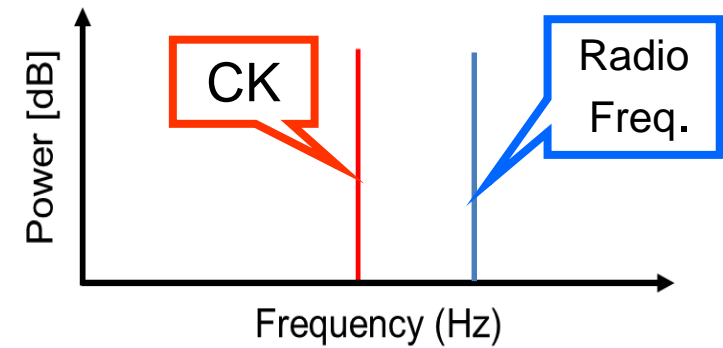
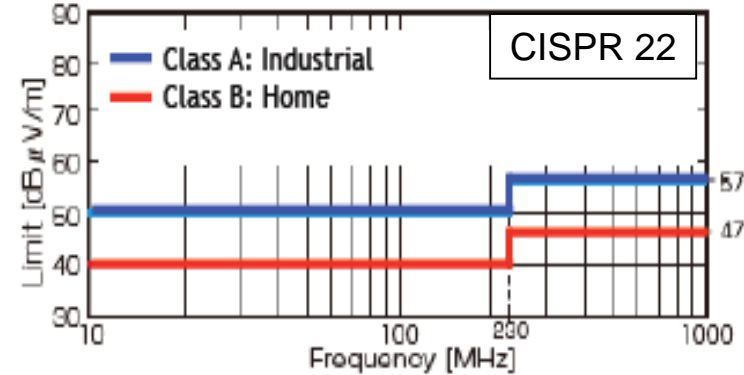
- ▲ By shaking the clock phase/frequency, spread the clock noise around clock frequency and harmonics.



- ◆ Radio receivers would not like to be affected by spread noise.

## ✘ Our Objective

- ★ Develop **Spread Spectrum Method** both to reduce the EMI noise and to reject noise at desired frequency with **Notch Characteristics**.



# 1-1 Switching Converter (Buck type)

- \* Output Voltage  $V_o$  is compared with  $V_{ref}$  and amplified.
- \* Amplified voltage  $\Delta V_o$  is compared with **SAW**-tooth signal.  
⇒ Generate the Pulse Width Modulation (**PWM**) pulse.
- \* Power SW is controlled by the PWM pulse.
- \* Inductor Current changes Up/Down to control  $V_o$  stable.

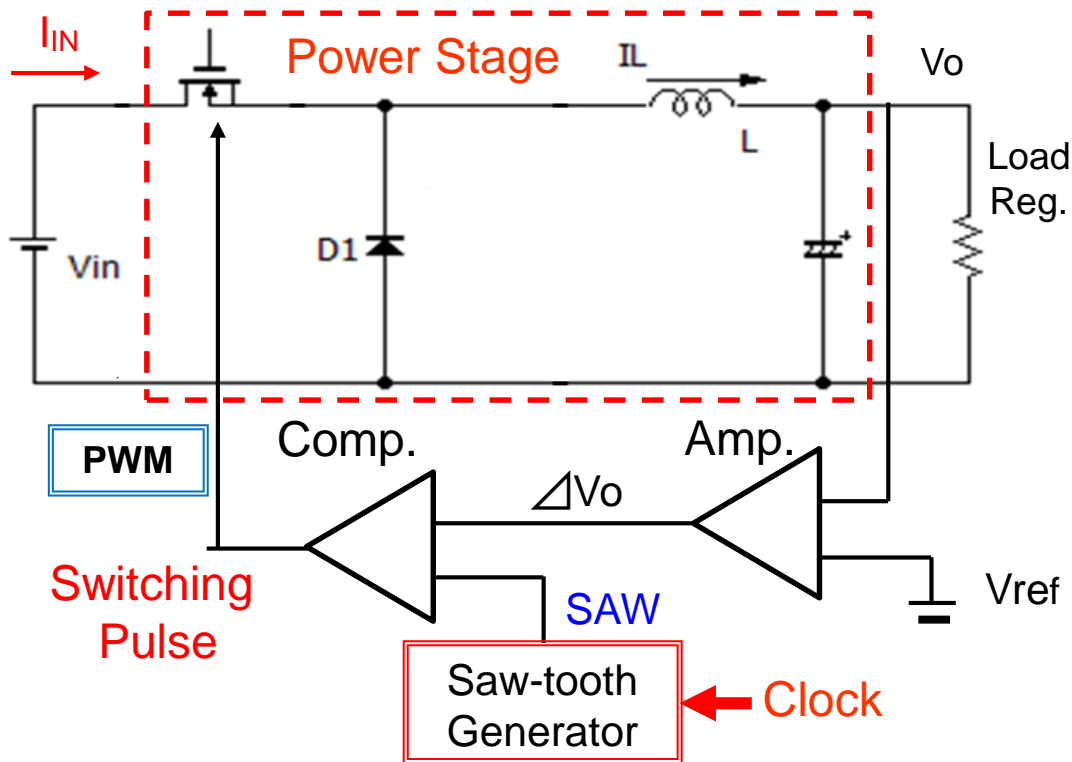


Fig.1-2 Circuit of the Buck converter

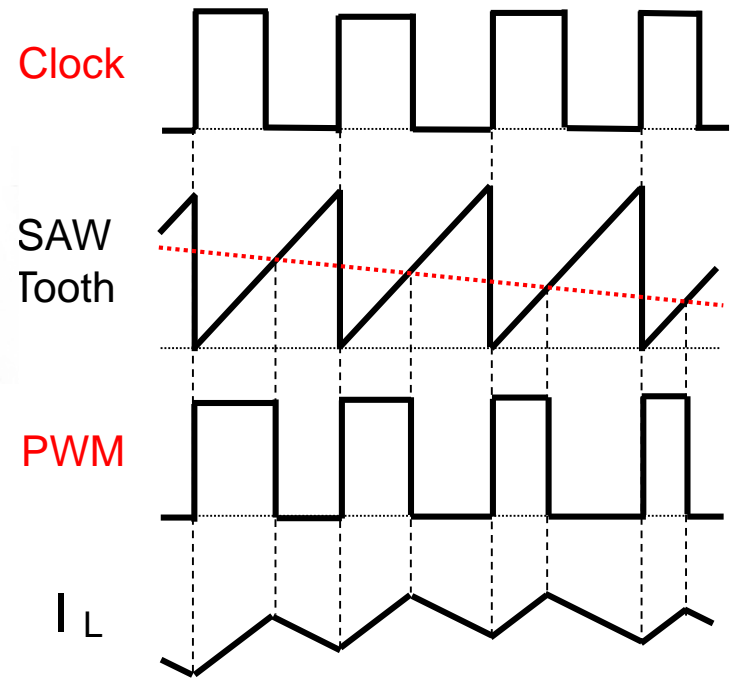


Fig.1-3 Waveforms 6

● Spectrum of PWM pulse

- \* Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI) Noise [from Circuit]
- \* Conductive Current Noise [Input Current]
- \* Noise Spectrum ( PWM pulse)  
⇒ High Level spectrum at  $F_{ck}$  (=200 kHz) & harmonics.

★ Reduce clock frequency spectrum

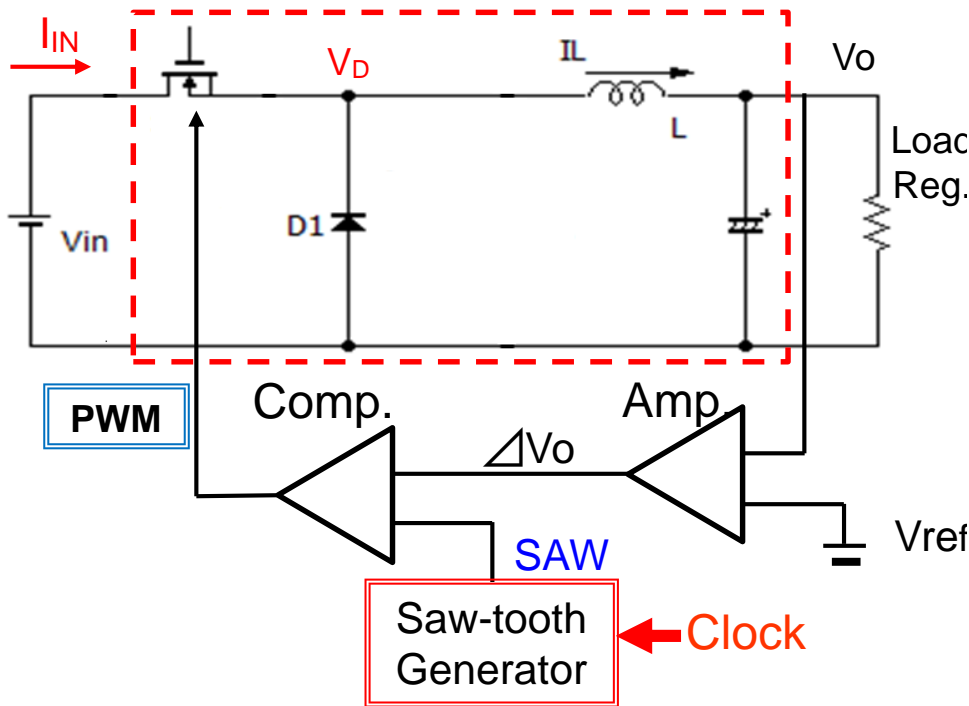


Fig.1-2 Circuit of the Buck converter

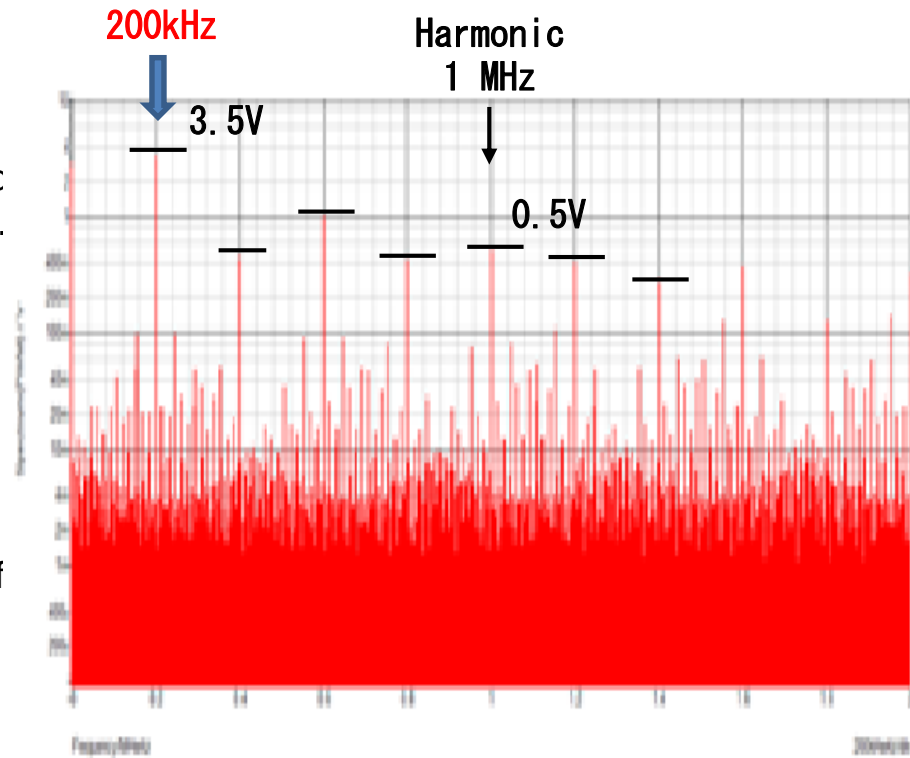


Fig.1-4 Noise Spectrum



# 1-2 EMI reduction with clock modulation

- \* To reduce EMI noise, clock pulse is modulated.
- ⇒ Clock spectrum is spread and reduced.

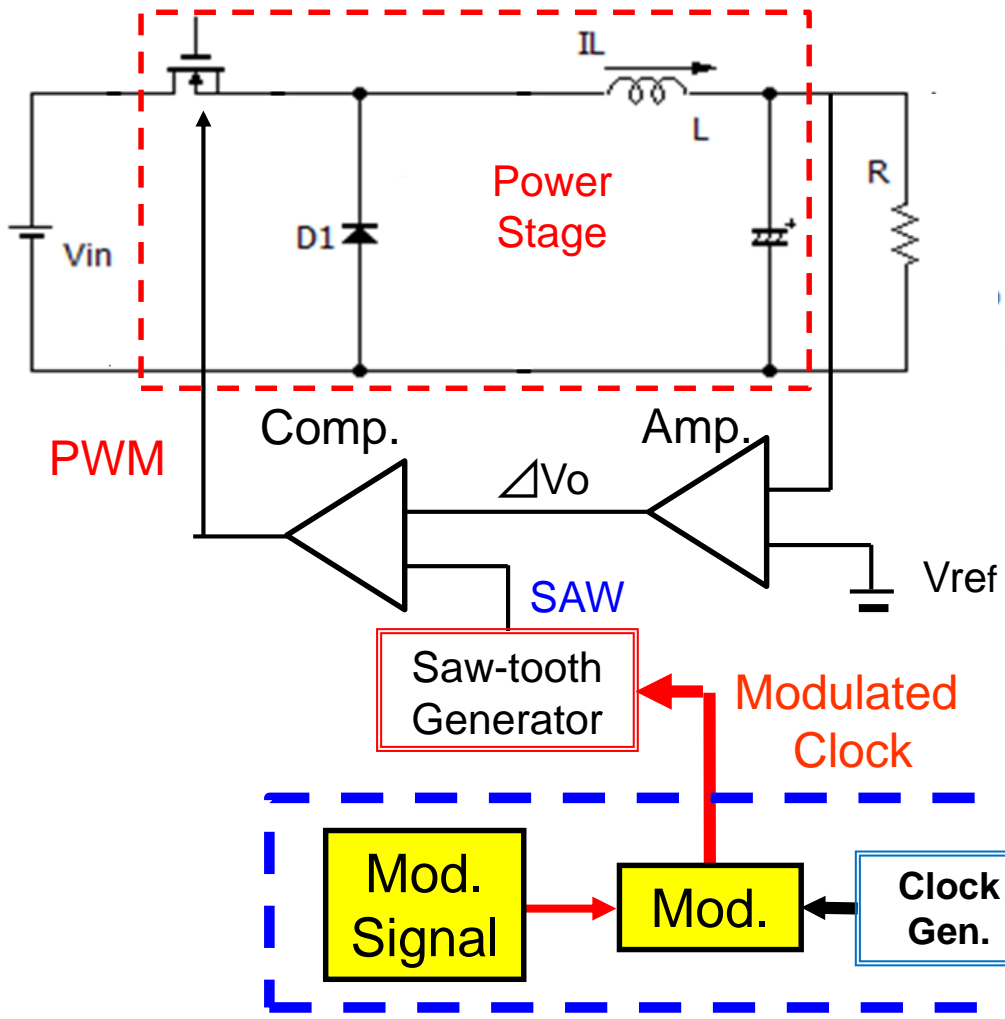


Fig. 1-5 Converter with EMI reduction

- \* Clock to SAW generator is modulated by shaking phase or frequency.
- ↓
- \* PWM pulse is modulated and the clock frequency is spread.

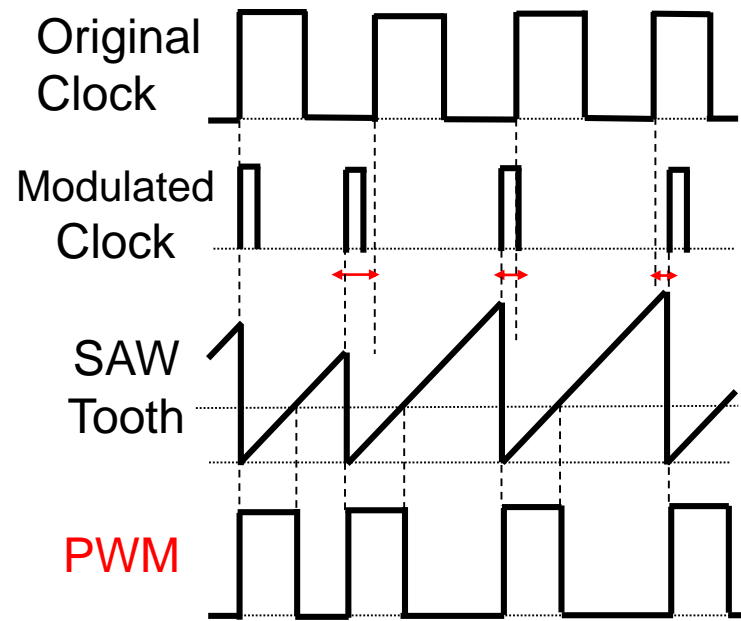


Fig.1-6 Waveforms 8

\* Clock modulation methods:

- (1) Random Digital, (2) Linear sweep, (3) Random Analog

1) **Random Digital** phase modulation:

- Using many shift resistors (> 1,000)
- Need same number of selectors
- Using M-sequence for random signal

- \*A lot of circuit
- \*Fast clock  
 $F_s > 200\text{MHz}$

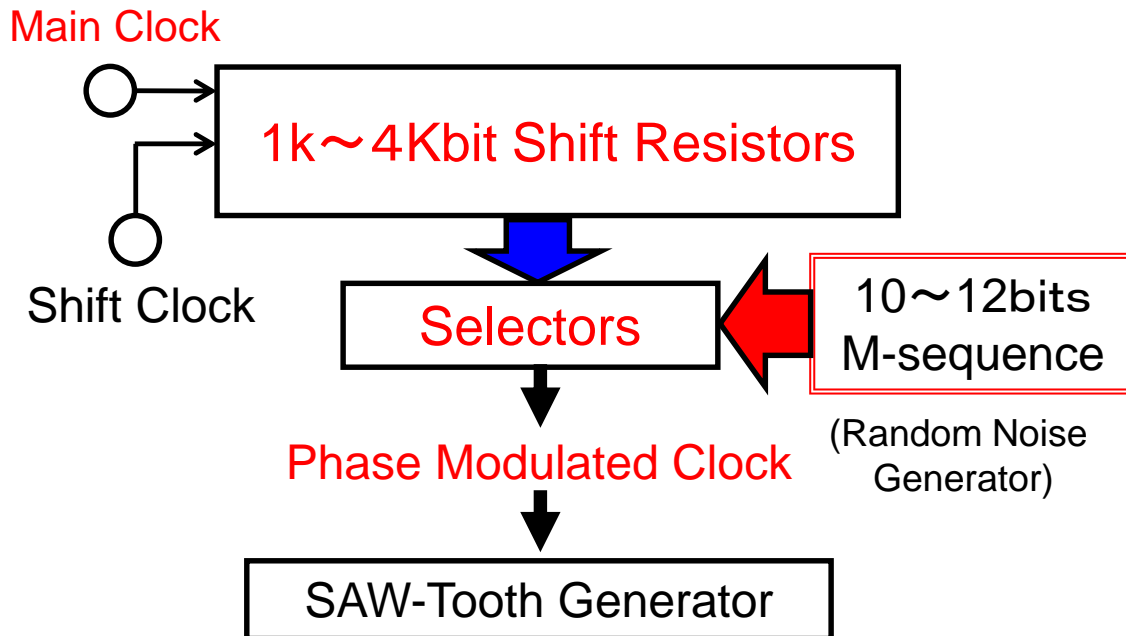


Fig. 1-7 Digital EMI reduction

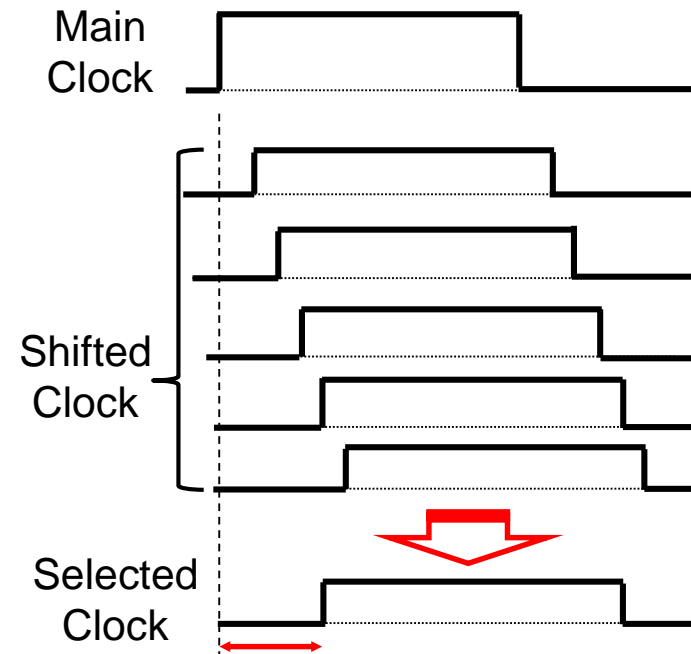


Fig.1-8 Timing chart 9

## 2) Linear sweep modulation:

VCO: Voltage Controlled Oscillator

- \* Clock pulse is generated using **VCO**.
  - VCO is modulated by **Triangular** signal with.
- \* Spectrum of modulated PWM pulse
  - Peak level is reduced and the top shape is flat.

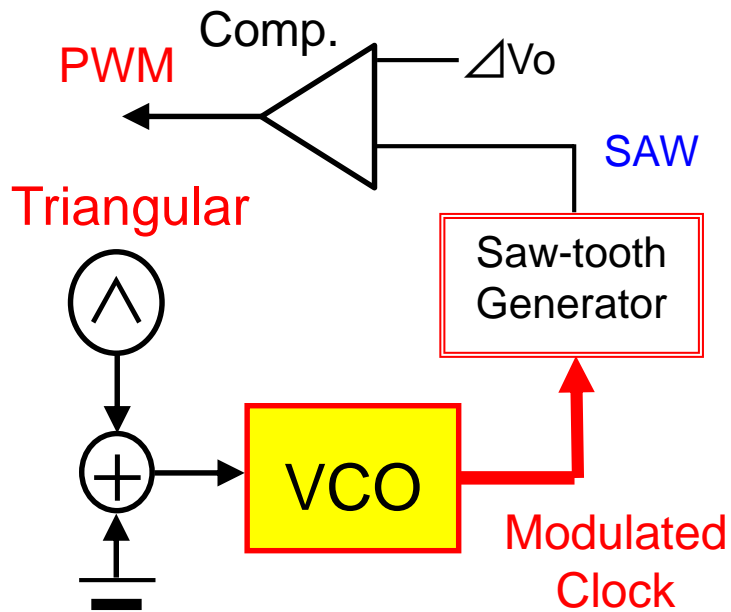


Fig. 1-9 Circuit of Linear Sweep

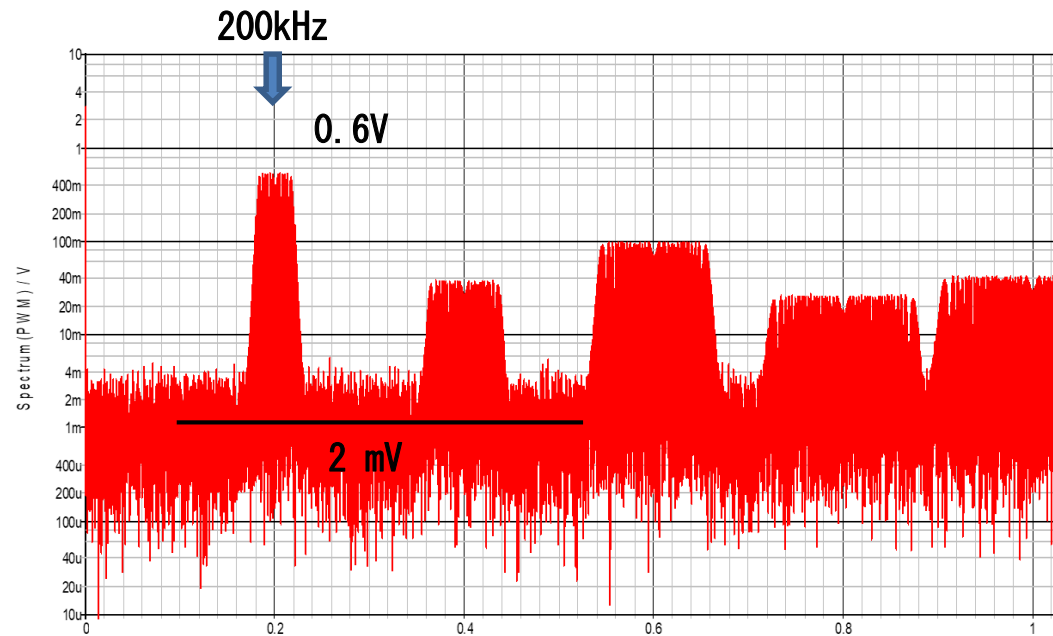


Fig. 1-10 Spectrum with Linear Sweep

# (3) Random Analog noise modulation:

## \* Pseudo Random Noise + PLL Circuit

- Random pattern is generated from M-sequence (3 bit) through LPF  $\Rightarrow$  pseudo random analog noise (Fig.1-12)
- Output of PLL circuit is the clock with random frequency.

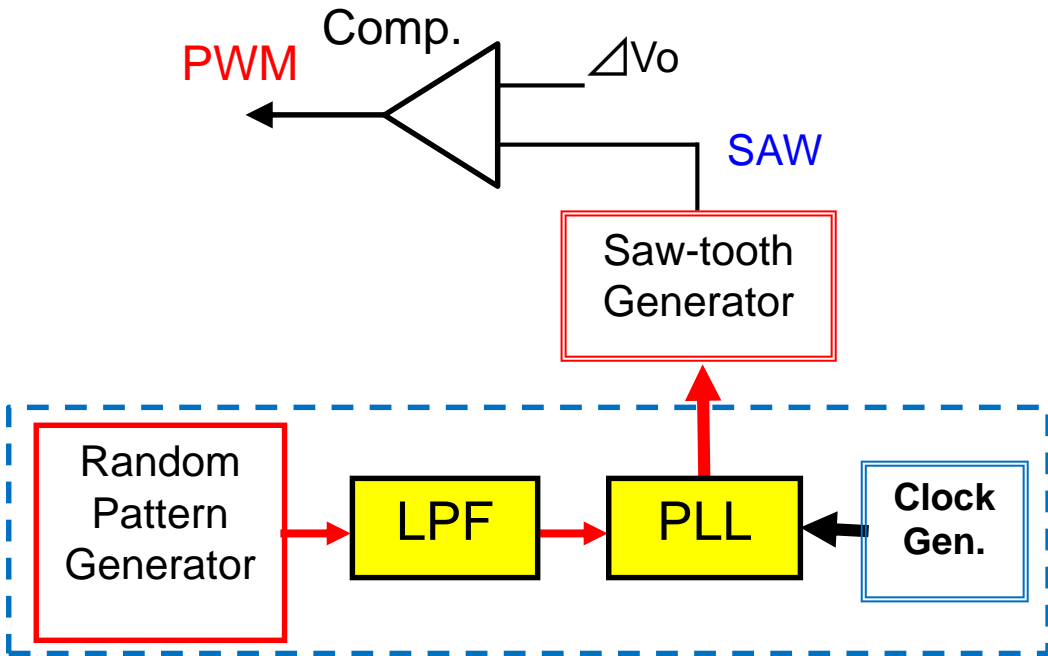


Fig. 1-11 Spectrum with Linear Sweep

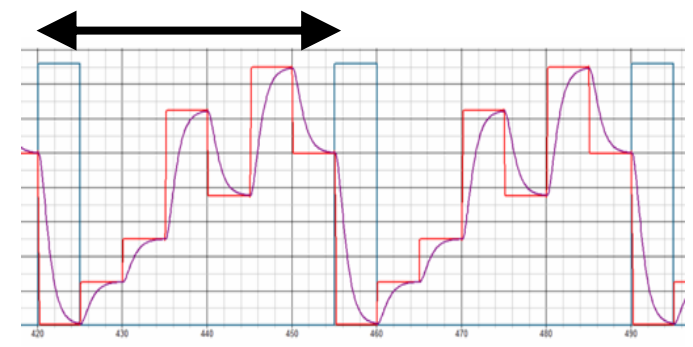


Fig. 1-12 pseudo random noise

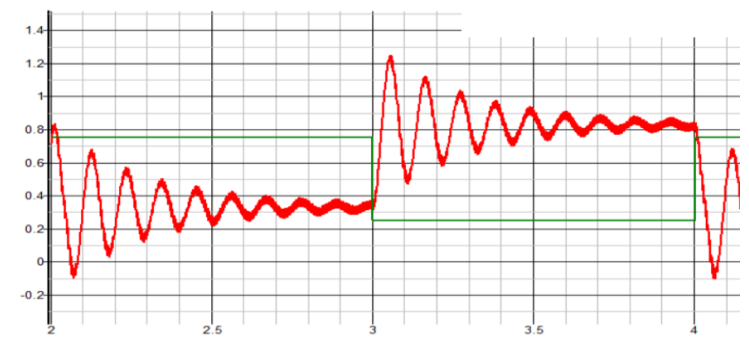


Fig. 1-13 PLL characteristics

- Simulated noise spectrum with EMI reduction
- Peak level is reduced to 2.0V (−4.9 dB)
- Harmonics are much reduced. (ex. −20 dB at 1.0 MHz)
- Output Voltage Ripple  $V_o$  is about 13 mVpp. (=0.3%)

◆ Bottom levels increase high!

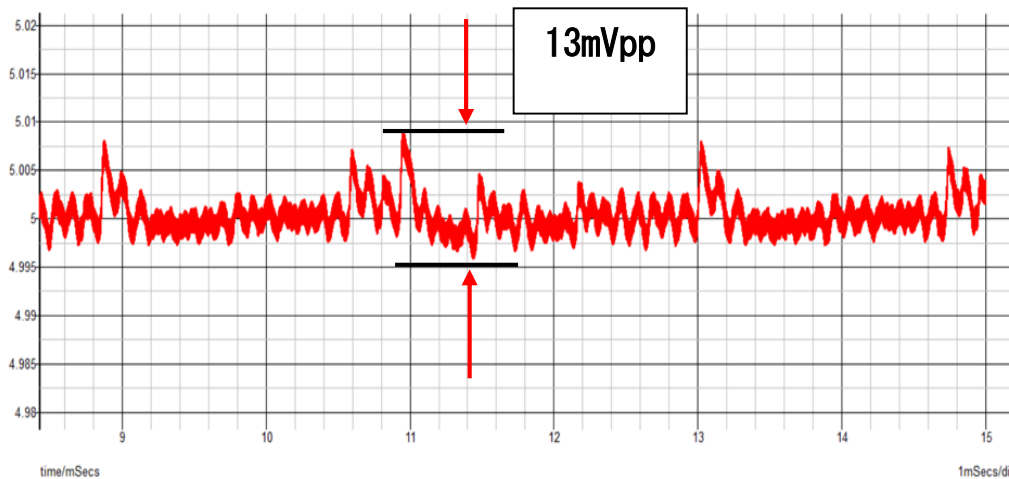
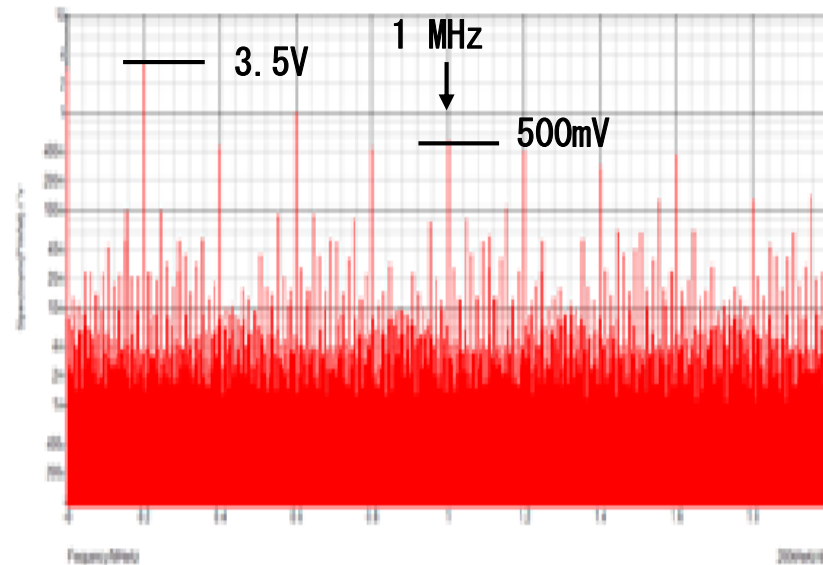
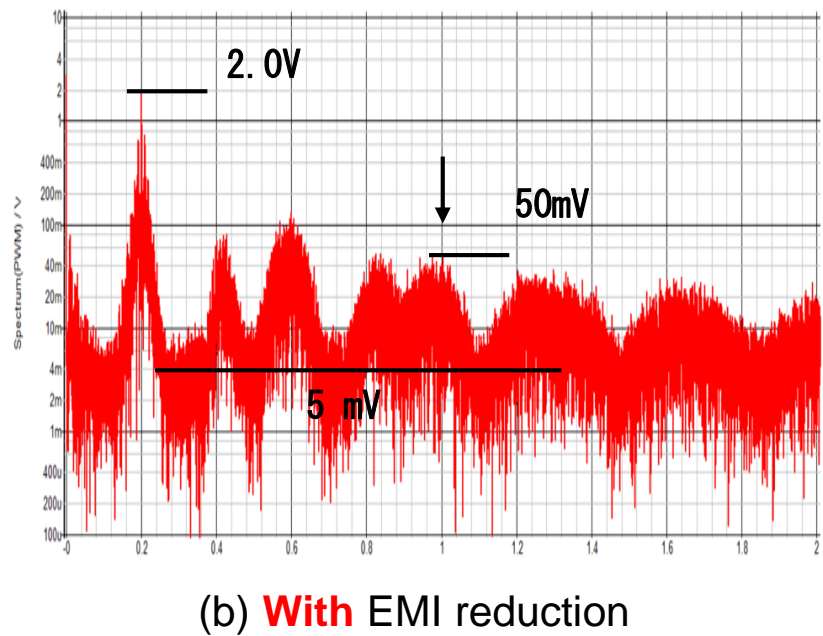


Fig.1-15 Output Voltage Ripple



(a) Without EMI reduction



(b) With EMI reduction

Fig.1-14 Comparison of Spectrum

# Outline

## 1. Background

1-1 Switching Converter

1-2 EMI Reduction with clock modulation

## 2. Pulse Coding and Notch Characteristics

2-1 Pulse coding control

2-2 Simulation result with PWC control

2-3 Experimental results of PWC control

## 3. Automatic PWC Control for Radio Receivers

3-1 Generating the clock using PLL circuit

3-2 Adjustable direct generation from input frequency

## 4. Conclusion

## 2. Pulse Coding and Notch Characteristics

### 2-1 Pulse coding control

#### ★ Switching Converter with Pulse Coding

\* Make SEL signal

by comparing  $\Delta V_o$  vs.  $V_r$

▪ Select Pulse-H or Pulse-L.

Pulse-H: with H-Duty ratio

\* In order to control  $V_o$ ,  
duty ratios of coding pulses  
are very important.

$$\star D_H > D_O > D_L \quad \dots (1)$$

$$D_O = V_o / V_{in}$$

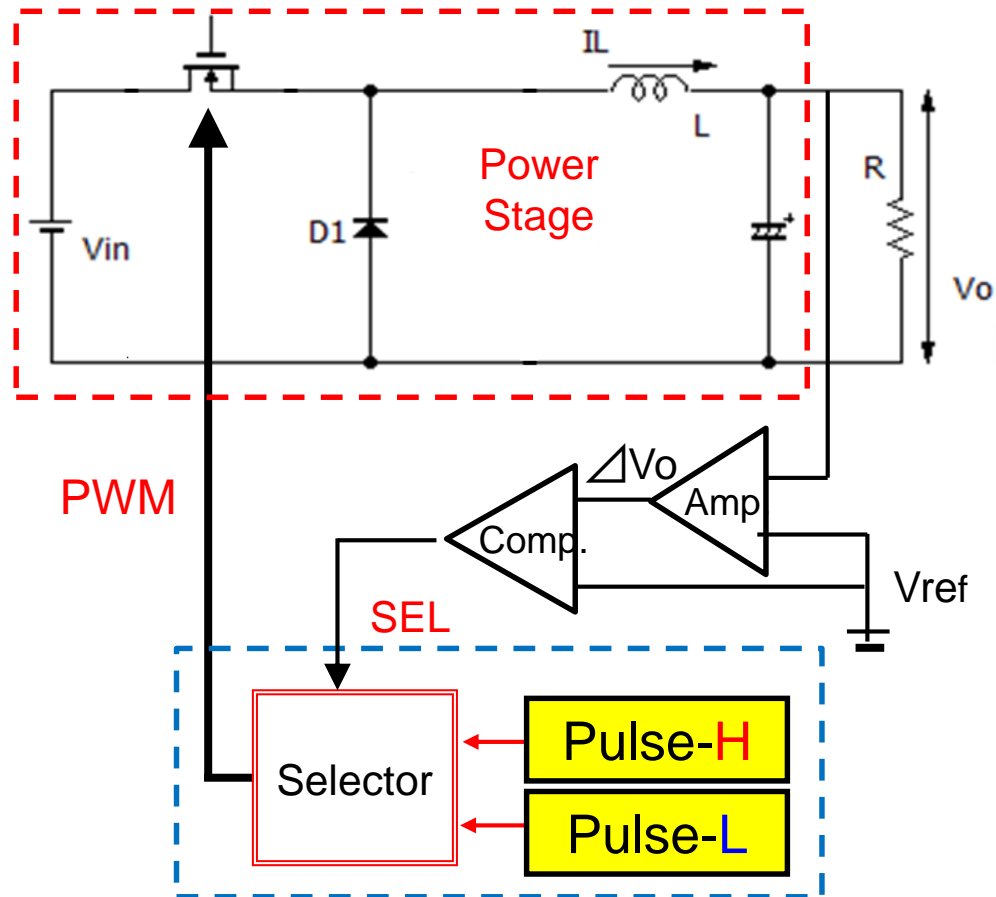


Fig.2-1 Switching Converter with Pulse Coding

## ★ Pulse Coding control

### 1) Pulse Width Coding (PWC)

- Pulse width is different.
- Notch frequency:  $F_n$

$$F_n = N / (W_H - W_L) \quad \dots (2)$$

### 2) Pulse Phase Coding (PPC)

- Pulse phase is different.

$$F_n = N / (2 \cdot \tau) \quad \dots (3)$$

### 3) Pulse Cycle Coding (PCC)

- Pulse cycle (period) is different.

$$F_n = N / (T_L - T_S) \quad \dots (4)$$

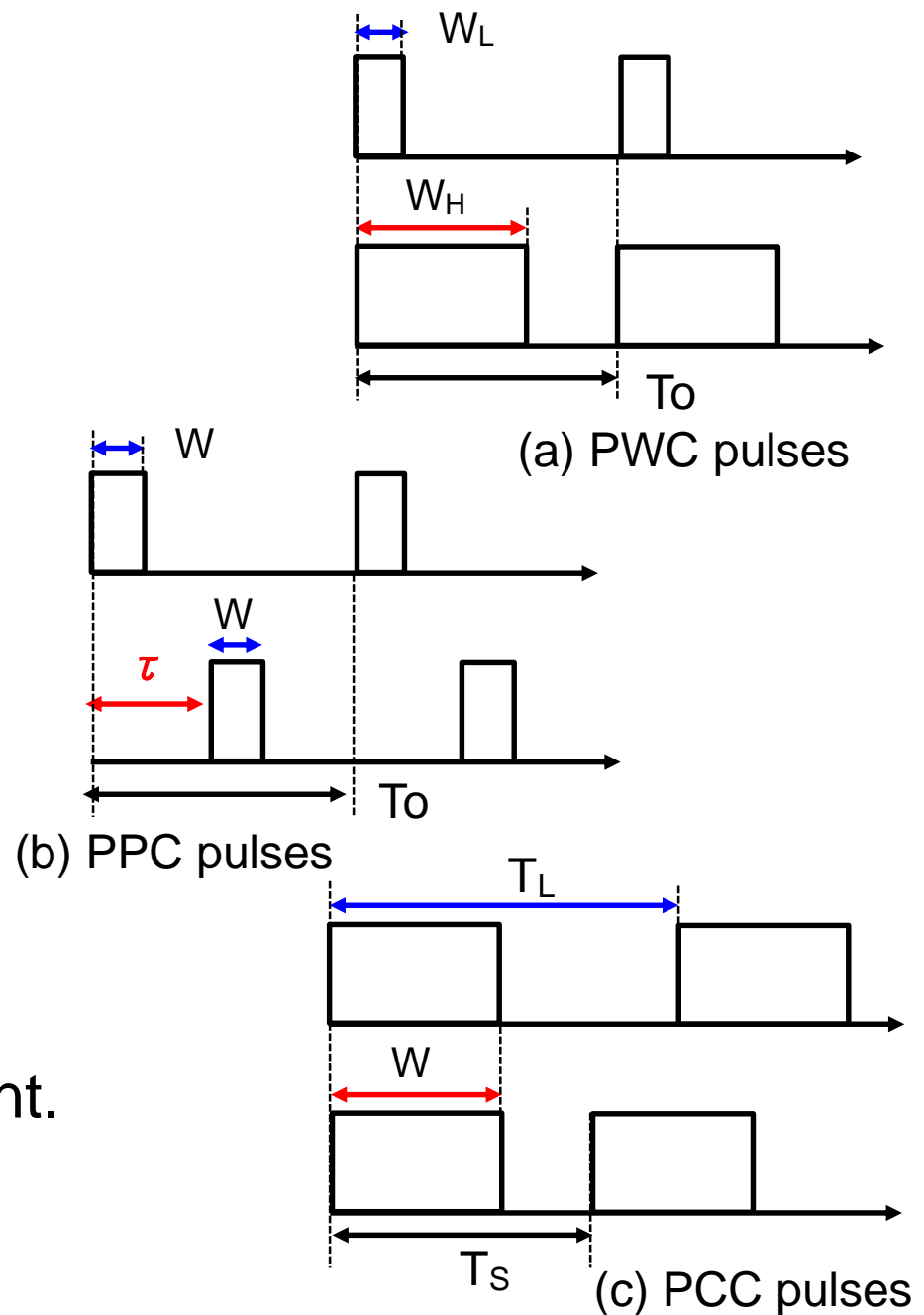


Fig.2-2 Pulse Coding control



## ★ Complex Pulse Coding control

### 1) Pulse Width & Phase Coding (PWPC)

- Pulse width & phase are different.
- Notch frequency:  $F_n$

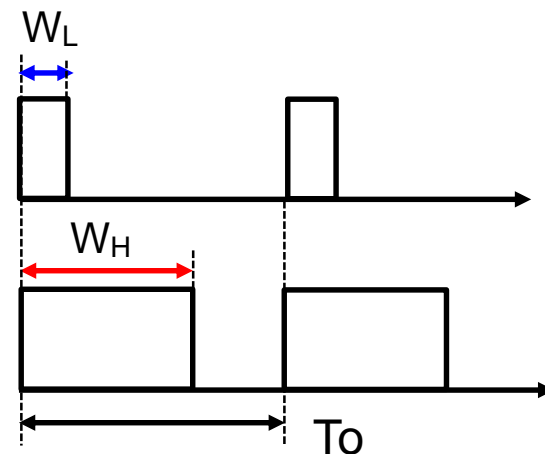
$$F_{n1} = N / (2 \cdot \tau)$$

$$F_{n2} = M / (T_L - T_S)$$

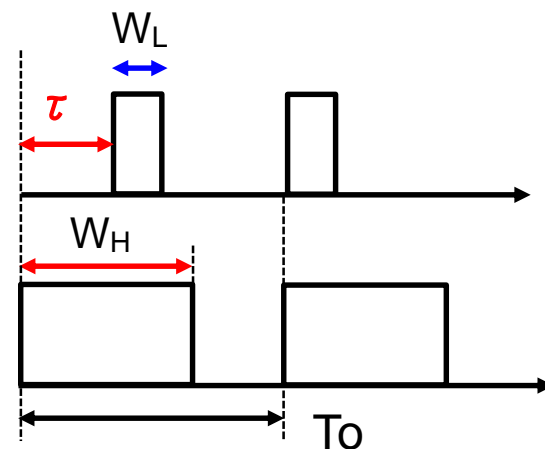
### 2) Double notch characteristics

When set  $\tau = (T_L - T_S) / 2 \quad \dots (5)$

then  $F_{n1} = F_{n2}$ . : Double Notch



(a) PWC pulses



(b) PWPC pulses

Fig.2-3 PWPC control

## 2-2 Simulation result with PWC control

- Simulation results with **PWC** control
- \* Condition:  $V_i=10V$ ,  $V_o=5V$ ,  $F_{ck}=500kHz$
- \* Pulses: H-Pulse  $W_H=1.7\mu s$ ,  $D_H=0.85$   
L-Pulse  $W_L=0.4\mu s$ ,  $D_L=0.2$
- \* Static Ripple:  $\Delta V_o < 2mV$  @  $I_o=0.25A$
- \* Overshoot =  $2.5 mV$  @  $\Delta I_o=0.125A$

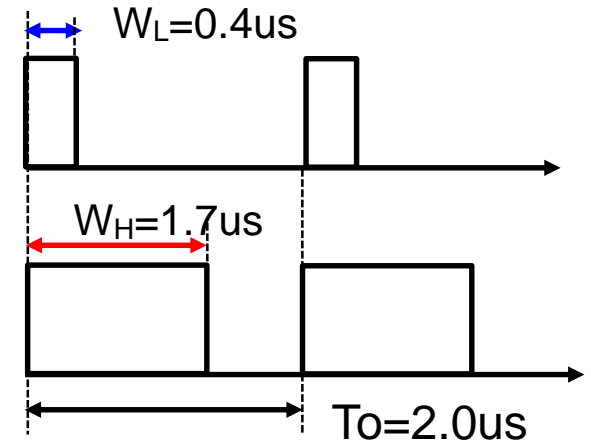


Fig.2-4 PWC Pulses

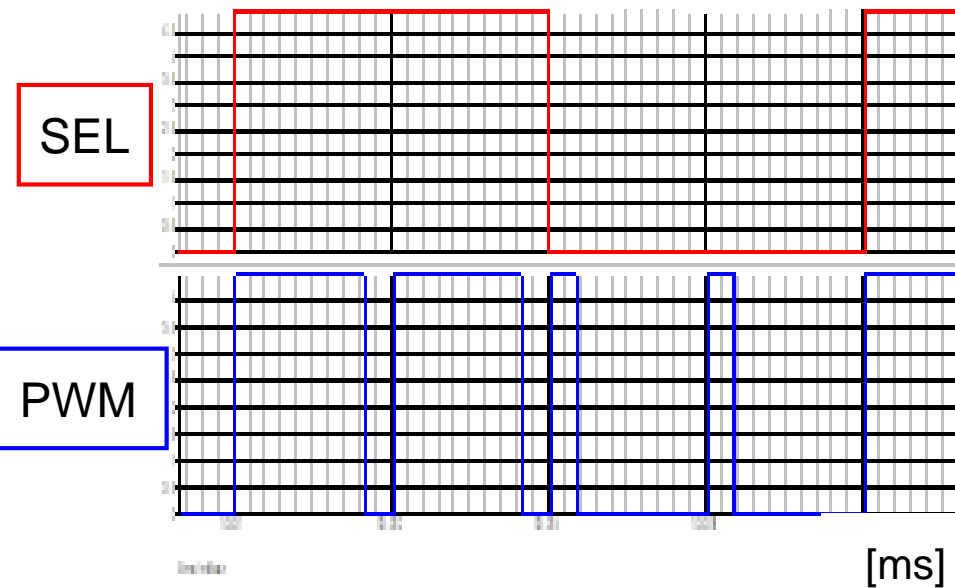


Fig.2-5 Signals with PWC control

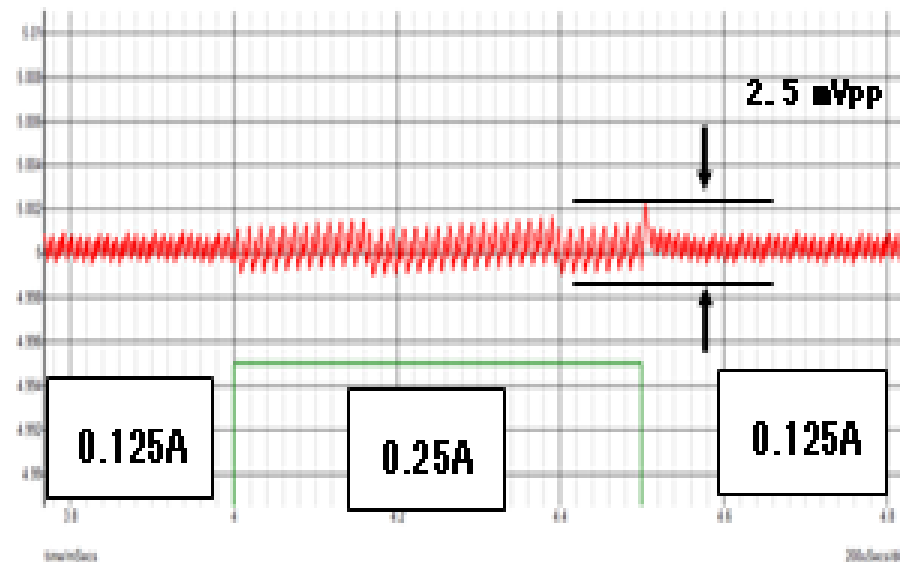


Fig.2-6 Output ripple with PWC control

● Noise Spectrum with **PWC** control of PWM pulse

\* Notch Freq. :  $F_N = N/(W_H - W_L) = N/1.3\mu s = 0.77, 1.5 \text{ MHz}$

Peak Level Reduction:  $3.5V \Rightarrow 0.9V$  (**-11.8 dB**)

\* Frequency relation :  $F_{ck} < F_n < 2F_{ck}$

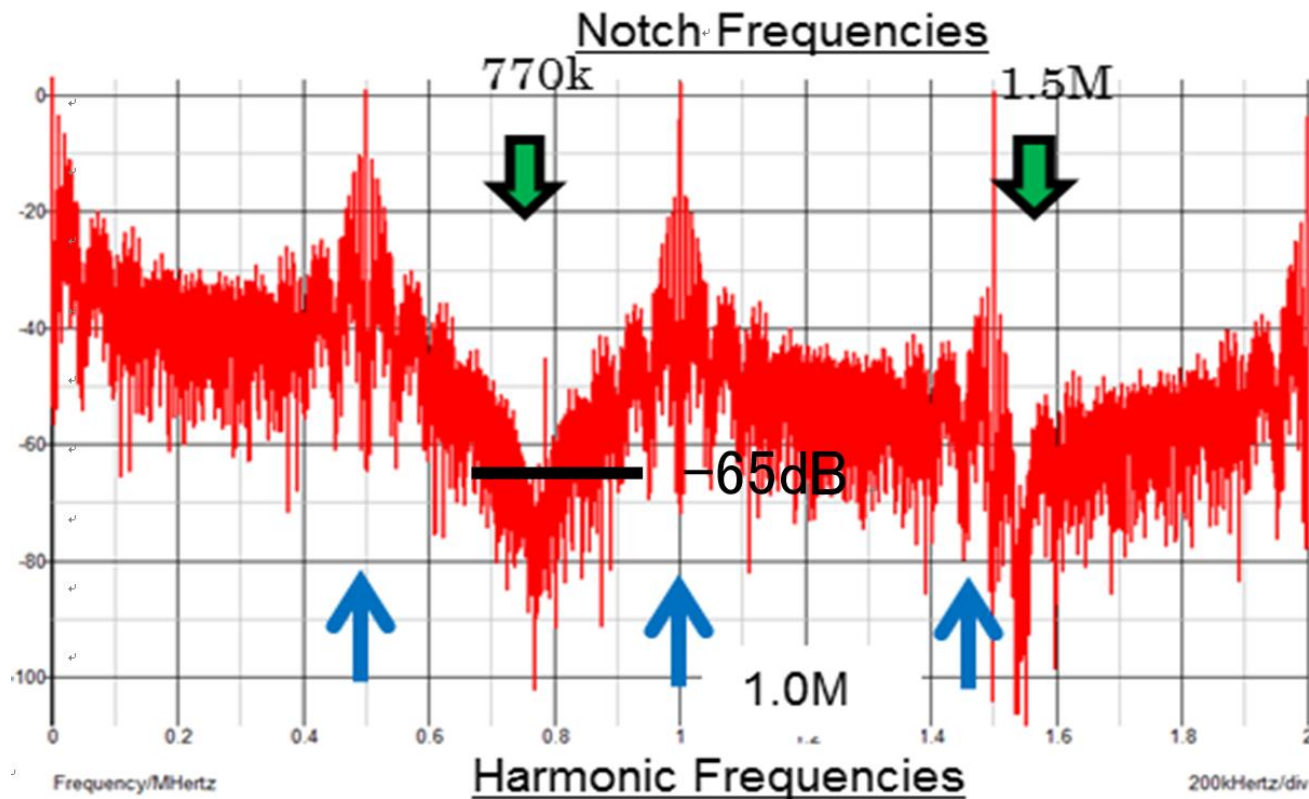


Fig. 2-7 Noise Spread Spectrum with PWC control

● Noise Spectrum with **PWPC** control:

\* Conditions:  $V_i=10V$ ,  $V_o=5.0V$ ,  $F_{ck}=1.4\text{ MHz}$  ( $T_{ck}=714\text{ ns}$ )

$W_H=480\text{ ns}$ ,  $W_L=320\text{ ns}$ ,  $\tau = (W_H - W_L)/2 = 80\text{ ns}$

\* Notch Frequency:  $F_N = 1/160\text{ns} = 6.25\text{ MHz}$

Bottom Level:  $V_B: -65\text{dB} \Rightarrow -75\text{ dB} (-10\text{dB})$

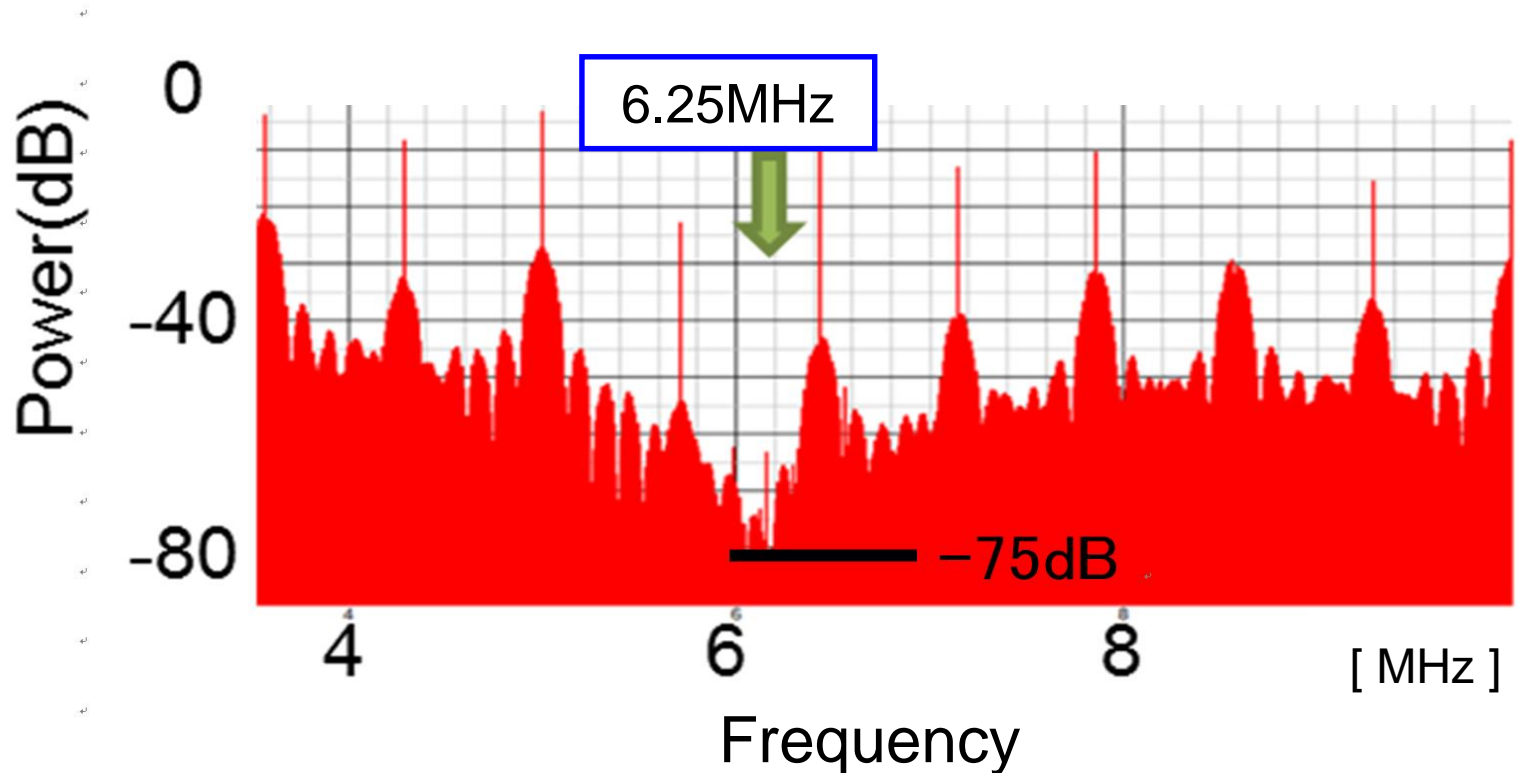


Fig.2-8 Noise Spectrum of PWPC control

## 2-3 Experimental result with PWC control

\* Conditions :  $W_H=5.0$  ns,  $W_L=1.0$  ns,  $T_{ck}=160$  kHz

\* Notch Frequency:  $F_n=1 / (5.0 - 1.0) \mu s = 250$  kHz

\* Relation:  $F_{ck} < F_n=274$  kHz  $< 2 \cdot F_{ck}$

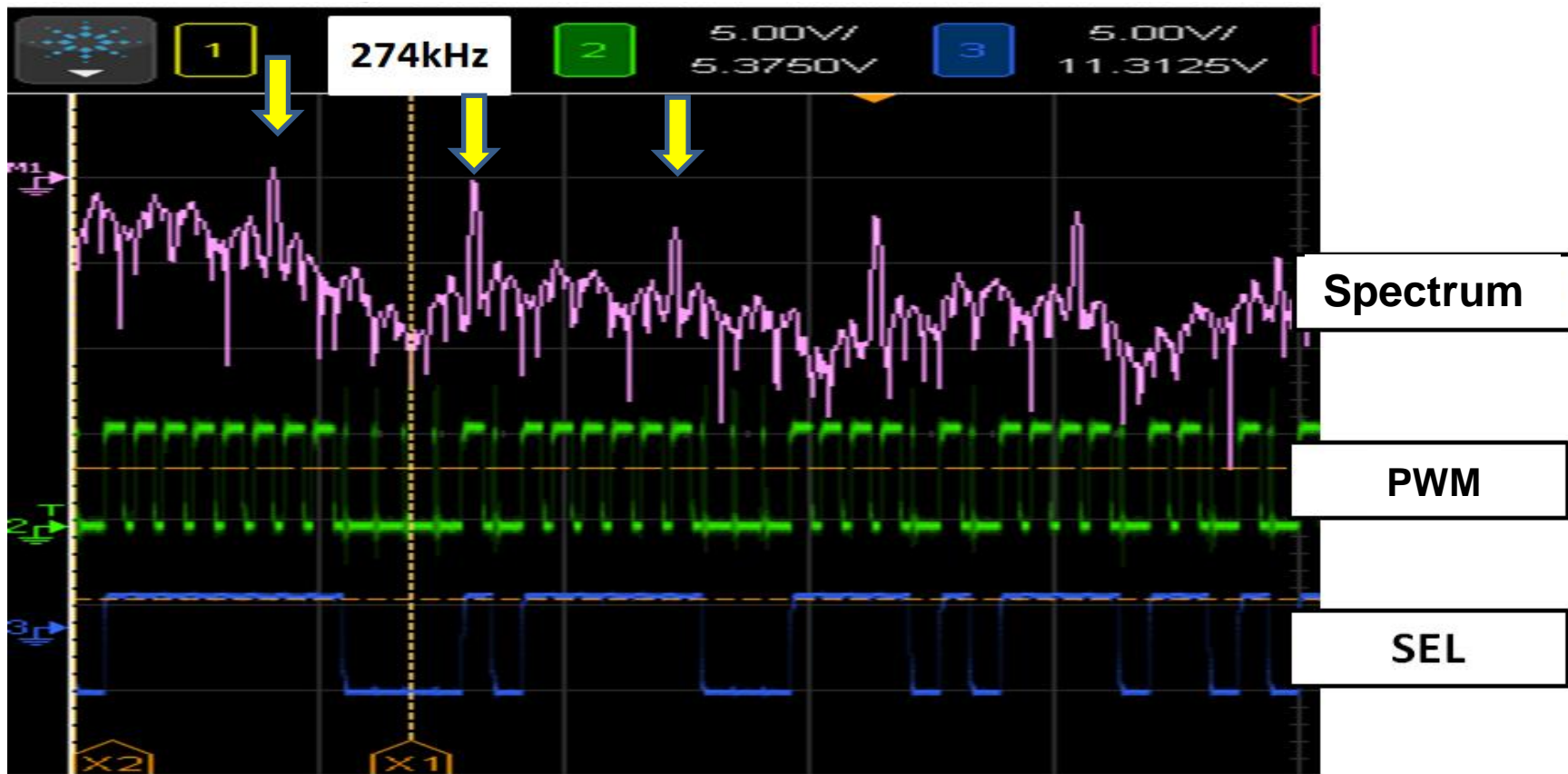


Fig.2-9 Noise spectrum & major signals with PWC

## ● Experimental result 2 with PWC

\* Conditions 2:  $W_H=2.0$  ns,  $W_L=1.0$  ns,  $F_{ck}=420$  kHz

\* Notch Freq.:  $F_N=1 / (2.0 - 1.0) \mu s = 1.0$  MHz

\* Relation:  $2 \cdot F_{ck} < F_n = 1.05 \text{ MHz} < 3 \cdot F_{ck}$

DSO-X 4024A, MY53480449: Fri Feb 12 12:44:06 2016

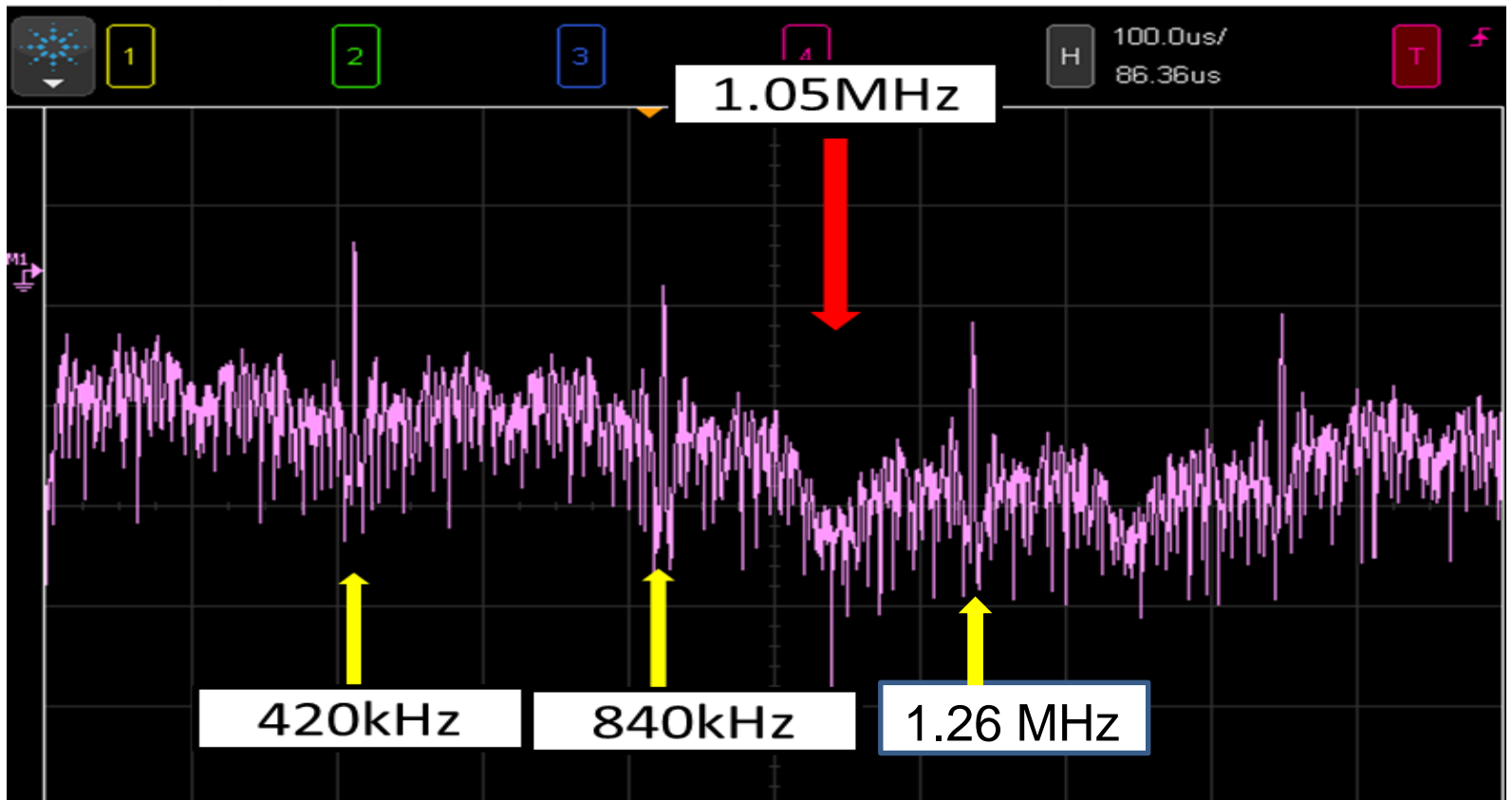


Fig. 2-10 Another noise spectrum with PWC 2

# Outline

## 1. Background

1-1 Switching DC-DC Converter

1-2 EMI Reduction with clock modulation

## 2. Pulse Coding and Notch Characteristics

2-1 Pulse coding control

2-2 Simulation result with PWC control

2-3 Experimental results of PWC control

## 3. Automatic PWC Control for Radio Receivers

3-1 Generating clock pulse & coding pulses

3-2 Adjustable pulse generation from input frequency

## 4. Conclusion

# 3. Automatic PWC Control for Radio Receiver

## 3-1 Generating clock pulse & coding pulses

● Relations among  $F_{in}$ ,  $F_{ck}$ ,  $F_n$  and  $W_H$ ,  $W_L$

\* Better to generate  $F_n$  at middle of  $F_{ck}$  :

▪  $N=1$ :  $F_{ck} < F_n < 2 \cdot F_{ck}$

▪  $N=2$ :  $2 \cdot F_{ck} < F_n < 3 \cdot F_{ck}$

$$\therefore F_n = (N+0.5) \cdot F_{ck} \Rightarrow T_{ck} = T_n \cdot (N+0.5) \quad \dots (7)$$

\* Static duty ratio  $D_o$  and Coding pulses

▪  $D_o = V_o / V_{in}$ ,  $T_n = W_H - W_L = T_{in} \quad \dots (8)$

▪  $W_H = D_o \cdot T_{ck} + T_{in}/2$ ,  $W_L = D_o \cdot T_{ck} - T_{in}/2 \quad \dots (9)$

★ After generating  $T_{ck}$  from  $T_{in}$ ,

$W_H$  &  $W_L$  are set with Eq. (9).



★ Case:  $N=1, D_o=0.5$

$$T_{ck} = T_{in} \cdot (N+0.5) = 1.5 \cdot T_{in} \Rightarrow 2 \cdot T_{ck} = 3 \cdot T_{in} \quad \dots(10)$$

● How to generate  $F_{ck}$  from  $F_{in}$

(A) using **PLL circuit**

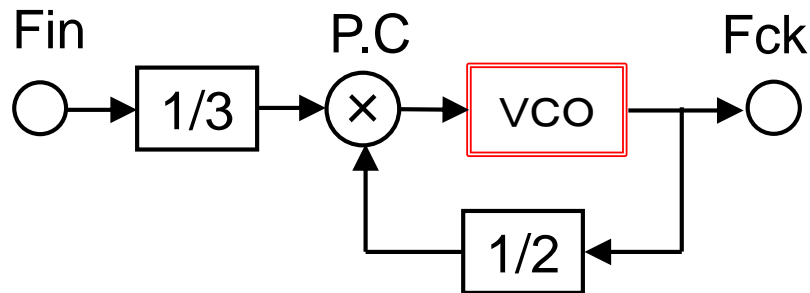
(B) Using **Direct calculation**

(A) Generating  $T_{ck}$  using **PLL circuit** : (Presentation IPS01-03 [Sun])

\* Use **VCO** and generate  $F_{ck} = (2/3) \cdot F_{in}$

\* Generate coding pulses  $W_H, W_L$  from  $T_{in}$  &  $T_{ck}$

$$W_H = T_{in}/2 + T_{ck}/2, \quad W_L = T_{in}/2 - T_{ck}/2 \quad \dots(9')$$



P.C : Phase Comparator  
VCO: Voltage Controlled Oscillator

Fig. 3-1 PLL circuit with VCO

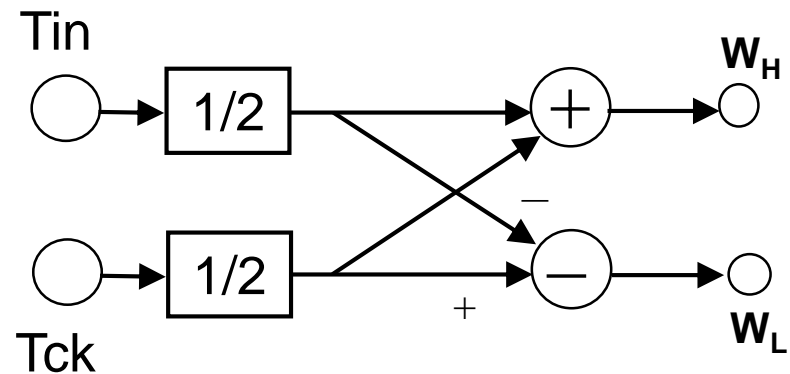


Fig. 3-2 Generating  $W_H$  &  $W_L$

\* Simulation result:  $F_{in} = 500 \text{ kHz}$

▪ Noise spectrum:  $F_{ck} = 330 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $F_n = 520 \text{ kHz}$

▪ Step Response with  $F_{in}$  change: @  $F_{in} = 0.5 \text{ MHz} \Leftrightarrow 1.0 \text{ MHz}$

Ripple =  $15 \text{ mV}_{pp}$ , Undershoot =  $-15 \text{ mV}$

Settling time (recovery time):  $T_s = 0.15 \text{ ms}$

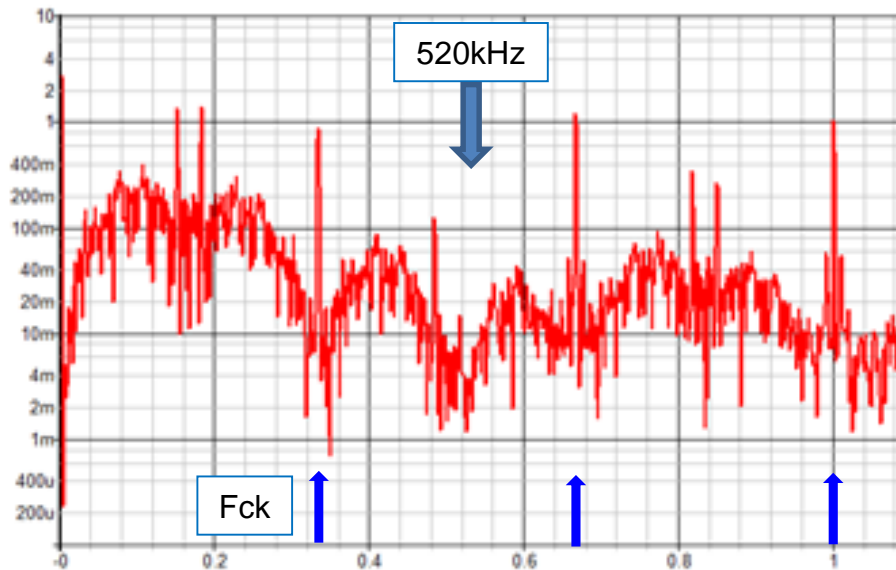


Fig. 3-3 Noise spectrum with auto generated coding pulses

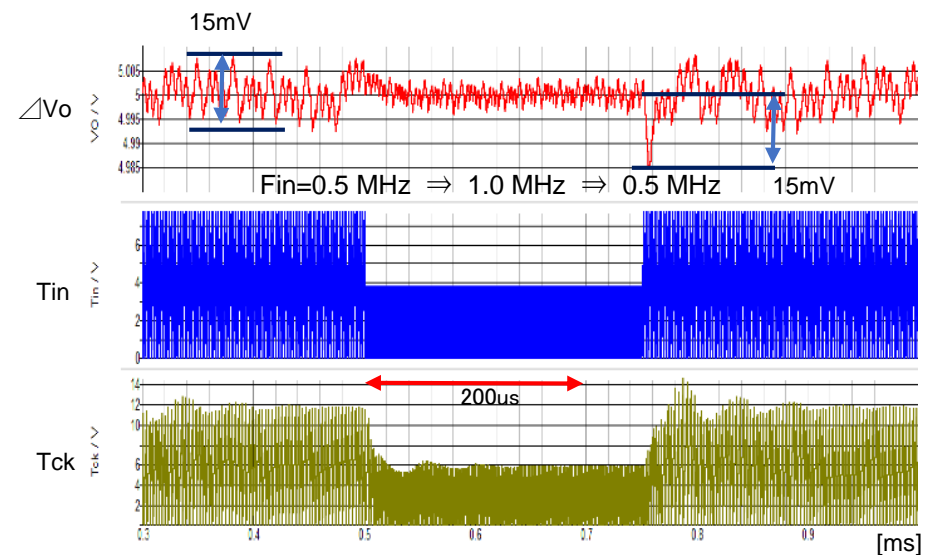


Fig. 3-4 Transient response with  $F_{in}$  change

## (B) Generating Tck using **Direct calculation**

- \* Generate **Tck** from **Tin** using Eq. 10 :  $T_{ck} = 1.5 \cdot T_{in}$  (N=1)
  - Measure **Tin** and generate **Tck** using digital/analog circuit.

- \* Calculate coding pulses  $W_H$  &  $W_L$  from **Tin** & **Tck**

$$W_H = T_{in}/2 + T_{ck}/2, \quad W_L = T_{in}/2 - T_{ck}/2 \quad \dots (9')$$

### ● Simulation result: **Fin=750 kHz**

- Static voltage ripple:  $\Delta V_o = 3\text{mV}$  @  $F_{in} = 750\text{kHz}$
- Step Response: when  $F_{in} = 1.25\text{M} \Leftrightarrow 1.0\text{M} \Leftrightarrow 0.75\text{MHz}$   
 $\Delta V_o = \text{Over/Undershoot} = 4\text{mV}$ , **Settling time  $\doteq 0$  ms**

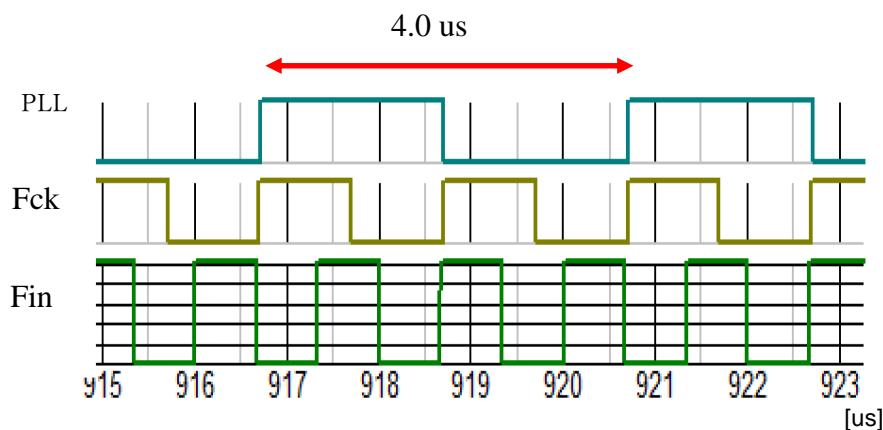


Fig. 3-5 Direct generation of Tck

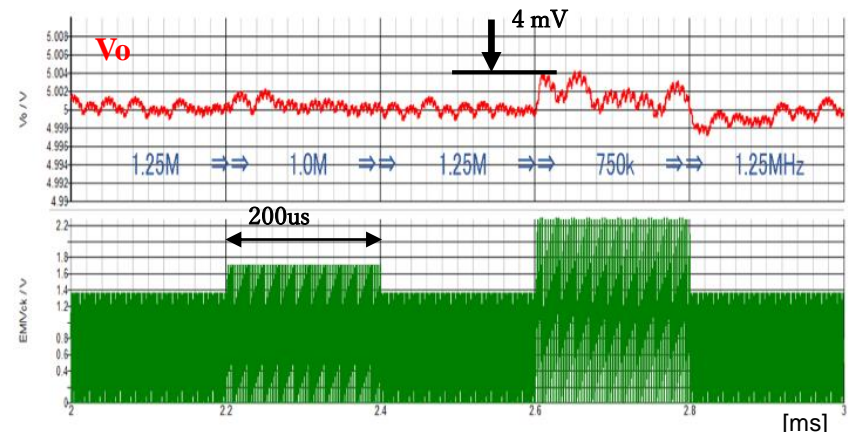


Fig. 3-6 Transient response with  $F_{in}$  change

● Noise spectrum with Linier sweep EMI reduction

\* Case 1:  $F_{in} = 750 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $N=1$

▪  $F_n = 750 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $F_{ck} = 500 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $F_{ck} < F_n < 2F_{ck}$

\* Case 2:  $F_{in} = 1.25 \text{ MHz}$ ,  $N=2$

▪  $F_n = 1.27 \text{ MHz}$ ,  $F_{ck} = 500 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $2F_{ck} < F_n < 3F_{ck}$

● There appears the large notch at  $4 \cdot F_n$

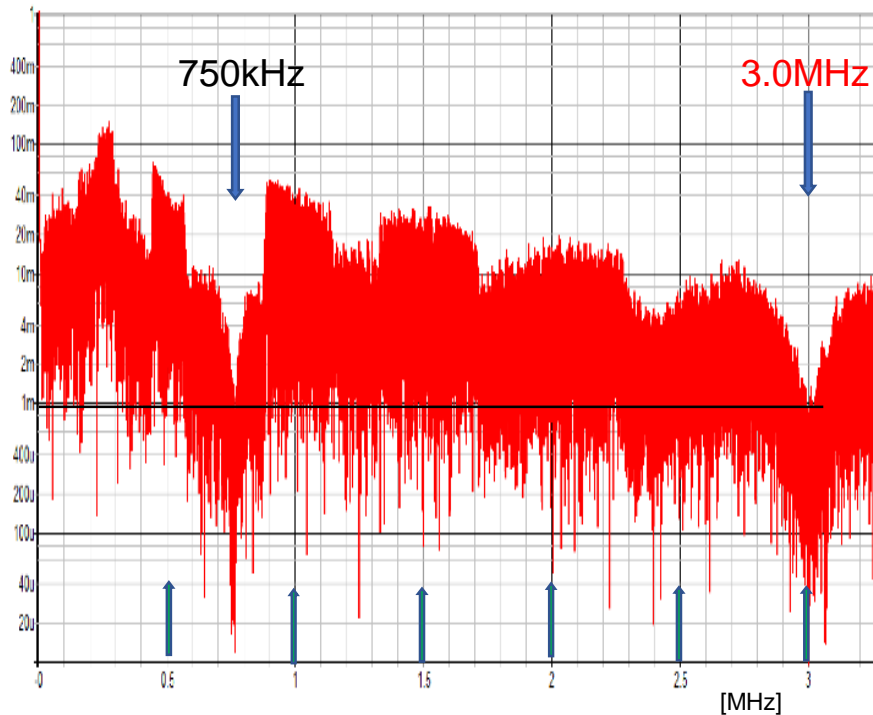


Fig. 3-7 Noise spectrum ( $N=1$ )

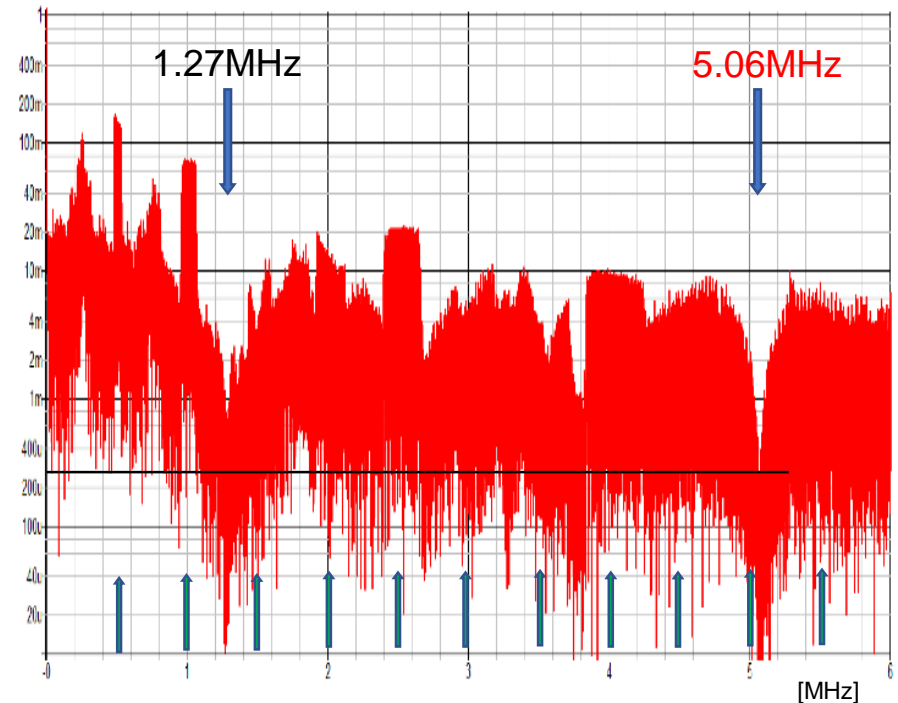


Fig. 3-8 Noise spectrum ( $N=2$ ) 27

# Conclusion

★ Developed Pulse Coding Control in order to generate **notch characteristics** at desired frequency.

1. Theoretical Notch Frequency:

- **PWC** :  $F_N = N / (W_H - W_L)$       \* **Complex Pulse Coding**
- **PPC** :  $F_N = N / (2 \tau)$       **PWPC = PWC + PPC**
- **PCC** :  $F_N = N / (T_L - T_S)$

2. Experimental Noise Spectrum with **PWC** :

- Notch appears at  $F_n = (N + 0.5) \cdot F_{ck}$

3. Automatic notch generating method:

1) Generate  $F_{ck}$  from  $F_{in}$  :  $F_{ck} = 2/3 \cdot F_{in}$  ( or  $T_{ck} = 1.5 \cdot T_{in}$  )

(A) using PLL circuit      (B) using Direct Calculation

2) Make  $W_H$  &  $W_L$  from  $T_{in}$  &  $T_{ck}$  and set  $F_n$ :

$$\Rightarrow W_H = T_{in}/2 + T_{ck}/2, \quad W_L = T_{in}/2 - T_{ck}/2$$

● Future Work:

Investigate why the **large notch at  $4 \cdot F_n$**  appear.

Thank you for your kind attention!

Is there any question?