Time Domain Simplified Equations and Its Iterative Calculation Model for LLC Resonant Converter

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This work was supported in part by National Key Research and Development Program of China under Grant 2018YFB0905305, and in part by Project of Science and Technology China Southern Grid under Grant 090000KK52190002.

ABSTRACT LLC resonant converters can achieve soft switching and loss reduction. However, the analysis methods of wide frequency range LLC converters generally have problems with incomplete working condition analysis at non-resonant frequencies and there is always a tradeoff between the accuracy and the simplicity. These problems will affect the loss calculation, synchronous rectification and so on. The research objective of this paper focuses on the full-bridge LLC resonant converter. In this paper, three conditions are analyzed in time-domain including switching frequency lower than the resonant frequency at heavy load, switching frequency lower than the resonant frequency at light load, and switching frequency larger than the resonant frequency. Based on proper assumption and simplification, the approximate equivalent of the trigonometric function is used to simplify the complex time-domain equations. The simplified equations are obtained with the resonant capacitor voltage and resonant inductor current as the key variables. In order to make the simplified equations easy to use, an iterative calculation model is proposed with more simplicity than sophisticated software to solve nonlinear equations. The simplified equations and the model proposed in this paper are verified by comparison with the fundamental analysis methods, the simulation, and the experiments. By using the iterative calculation model, the voltage, current, time and other variables of switching points can be obtained with the relative error less than 3% to theoretic values, which can be used in loss calculation, synchronous rectification and so on. And the iterative calculation model can be realized on DSP or other processors in real-time.

INDEX TERMS LLC resonant converter, time domain, simplified equations, and iterative calculation.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, LLC resonant converters have been widely applied in photovoltaic, electric vehicles and other fields because of their characteristics of soft switching in the full load range, and are developing towards high frequency, high efficiency and high power density with the help of wide band-gap devices [1]–[4].

Different from other DC-DC converters like Buck, Boost and so on, the analysis of resonant converter cannot be carried out by the state-space average method. Several analysis methods have been developed in the past. They can be summarized into three categories: 1) fundamental harmonic approximation (FHA), 2) FHA with time-domain corrections and 3) time domain analysis (TDA).

FHA method is the most widely used because that it is easier to obtain the converter’s voltage gain and the switching frequency range by concise mathematical formulas [5]–[7]. However, because FHA method is a kind of frequency domain method and assumes that only the fundamental component of primary square voltage transfers energy to load, which is not very accurate since the fact is that high harmonic components also transfer energy to load. Especially, when the switching frequency is far away from the resonant frequency, the resonant current has a serious distortion. On the other hand, some electric parameters used
to design LLC converters cannot be accurately analyzed by FHA method, such as the peak resonant current used to design the resonant inductor, the peak magnetizing current used to design the transformer, the resonant current RMS value used for the loss calculation and so on.

In order to improve the analysis accuracy, many studies have been conducted to analyze the characteristics of the converter based on time domain method in recent years. In the literature [8], combining with TDA method and FHA method, a novel over-current protection circuit for LLC converter is proposed. But most of the analysis is on the basis of FHA such as the primary current RMS value expression and the voltage gain expression. So the analysis error is large. In the literature [9], the voltage gain and the equivalent load under discontinuous conduction mode are modified by using the time-domain analysis. For this method, although the accuracy of this method is slightly improved compared with FHA, it still makes many assumptions, which will decrease its accuracy compared with the practical results. For example, the authors believe that the secondary current is sinusoidal, which contradicts the fact that the primary resonant current is not sinusoidal, especially in a wide output voltage range. In the literature [10], the converter gain expression is refined by combining time domain and frequency domain, and resonant factor and load factor are analyzed. But the definition of resonant factor and load factor is based on insufficient basis and lacks the experimental verification. The derivation procedure is complicated and the accuracy improvement is not obvious. In the literature [11], [12], time domain methods are used to find out all the possible parameters that can satisfy the required peak gain in PN and PON modes. However, the soft-switching condition of the converter will be lost and the switching losses will be increased. Besides, all the design results are just satisfied with the peak gain requirement, but the conditions at full frequency range are not discussed. In the literature [13], a voltage-fed full-bridge LLC resonant converter with symmetrical quadrupler rectifier circuit is analyzed with TDA method. But the equations are complex and need further simplification. In the literature [14], [15], the time-domain equations are simplified which make the conduction angles of the synchronous rectifiers easier to calculate. But some improper assumptions are used in the simplification. For example, the authors think the resonant current remain unchanged during the period while the LLC converter’s rectifier is in the off-state, which only applies if the excitation inductor is much larger than the resonant inductor. In the literature [16], a new average small-signal modeling technique is proposed based on [14], [15], so the unsuitable assumptions still exist. In the literature [17]–[19], the power loss estimation methods are presented with TDA method. But the equations to be solved contains a large number of unknowns and the difficulty of solving the equations is not considered. In the literature [20], the TDA is used to analyze the LLC resonant converter in DCM boost mode, and the formulas of voltage gain and current effective value are given. But no detailed analysis has been made on the working condition that the switching frequency is larger than the resonance frequency. In the literature [21], the TDA is used to optimize the efficiency of LLC resonant converters and the equations composed of related variables are given. But the solution process for the equations is not mentioned.

It can be summarized from the above literaturess that the TDA method has higher accuracy than FHA method and can be used to analyze the loss, the design of the magnetic components and synchronous rectification, etc. Without the assumptions and simplification, the time-domain equations contain a large number of trigonometric functions and unknowns which are difficult to deal with. So most TDA methods make assumptions and make simplifications based on these assumptions. However, some of the assumptions are wrong or only suitable for specific occasions and some of the simplifications are of small significance.

In order to make more suitable assumptions, this paper analyzes the full bridge LLC resonant converter under three typical working conditions, which are divided based on the switching frequency and load, in time-domain, and the time-domain functions of each time period are obtained. According to the characteristics of each time period, the assumptions are made so that many triangle functions that are difficult to deal with in time domain analysis can be approximated. These assumptions do not seriously violate the actual waveform shape and physical characteristics, and verified by using the actual parameters in the reference.

Based on above assumptions, simplifications are made from the following two perspectives: 1) using the relation of inductance, capacitance, time and impedance to simplify, 2) making the resonant capacitor voltage and the resonant inductor current of the switching points as key variables which can be used to obtain the complete time-domain function and analyze the loss, the design of the magnetic components and so on. A simplified set of equations with the resonant capacitor voltage and the resonant inductor current as key variables is obtained after the simplifications.

In order to solve the simplified time domain equations without sophisticated software to solve nonlinear equations, an iterative calculation model is proposed. All variables are divided into two groups. The iterative solution formula between two groups of variables is obtained by simultaneous multiple equations. The suitable initial solution is proposed to put into the iterative formula, then all variables are solved with the relative error less than 3% to theoretic values, which can be used in loss calculation, synchronous rectification and so on.

This paper is organized as follows. Time domain analysis of the full-bridge LLC resonant converter under three typical working conditions, the assumptions and simplifications are analyzed in Section II. In Section III, the iterative calculation model is proposed. In Section IV, some experimental and simulation results are presented to verify the simplified time domain equations and the iterative calculation model. In Section V, some conclusions about the simplified time
domain equations and the iterative calculation model are summarized.

![FIGURE 1. Full-bridge LLC resonant converter topology.]

II. SIMPLIFIED TIME DOMAIN EQUATIONS

The topology of full bridge LLC resonant converter is shown in Fig. 1.

Where $S_1$–$S_4$ are active switches, $D_1$–$D_4$ are diodes, $L_r$ is the resonant inductor, $C_r$ is the resonant capacitor, $L_m$ is the excitation inductance of primary side of the transformer, turn ratio of transformer is $N:1$, $C_o$ is the output filter capacitor, $R_{load}$ is the load resistance. The switching frequency of the primary switches is $f_s$. The voltage of $C_r$ is $V_o$, the current of $L_r$ is $I_t$, the excitation current is $I_m$, the input voltage is $V_i$, the output voltage is $V_o$ and the output current is $I_o$. The reference direction is shown in Fig. 1.

The resonant frequency $f_r$, the normalized switching frequency $f_n$, the angular velocity $\omega_r$ and $\omega_m$, the inductance coefficient $L_n$, the resonance impedance $Z_r$, the voltage $V_o^*$ and the current $I_o^*$ are defined as:

\[
f_r = \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{L_r C_r}} \tag{1.1}
\]
\[
f_n = \frac{f_s}{f_r} \tag{1.2}
\]
\[
\omega_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_r C_r}} \tag{1.3}
\]
\[
\omega_m = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(L_r + L_m) C_r}} \tag{1.4}
\]
\[
L_n = \frac{L_m}{L_r} \tag{1.5}
\]
\[
Z_r = \sqrt{\frac{L_r}{C_r}} \tag{1.6}
\]
\[
V_o^* = N V_o \tag{1.7}
\]
\[
I_o^* = \frac{I_o}{N} \tag{1.8}
\]

In order to simplify the analysis, the influence of dead time and other stray parameters are not considered. When the primary leakage inductor cannot be ignored, it should be regarded as a part of $L_r$. At the same time, it is assumed that $C_o$ is large enough, and $V_o$ will not change in the steady-state.

Under different working conditions, the equivalent circuit of LLC resonant circuit varies in different periods, and the load has little influence on the condition when the switching frequency is greater than the resonant frequency. Therefore, three working conditions are analyzed in this paper, including Condition I: $f_n < 1$ with heavy load; Condition II: $f_n < 1$ with light load; Condition III: $f_n > 1$.

The waveforms of the resonant inductance current $i_t$, the excitation current $i_m$, the resonant capacitance voltage $V_c$ and the primary winding voltage $v_i$ under three working conditions are shown in Fig. 2. $t_1$, $t_2$ and $t_3$ are the time when the switch states of the LLC resonant converter change. In these moments, the resonant inductance currents and the resonant capacitance voltage are defined as $I_{r0}$, $I_{r1}$, $I_{r2}$, $I_{r3}$, $V_{c0}$, $V_{c1}$, $V_{c2}$ and $V_{c3}$.

A. SIMPLIFICATION OF CONDITION I

Referring to the known time-domain analysis [20], the time-domain functions of each time period under Condition I can be obtained:

\[
v_c(t) = I_{r0} Z_r \sin(\omega_t t) + (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^*) \cos(\omega_t t)
\]

\[
v_i(t) = I_{r0} \cos(\omega_t t) - V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^* \frac{V_{c0}}{Z_r} \sin(\omega_t t) \tag{1.9}
\]
\[
i_t(t) = I_r(t) = I_{r0} + \frac{V_{c0}^*}{L_r} \sin(\omega_t t) \tag{1.10}
\]

$t_1$ and $t_2$ are defined as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
0 & \rightarrow t_1: \\
& \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
t_1 &= \frac{T_k T_r}{2} \\
t_2 &= \frac{T_k T_r}{2}
\end{array} \right. \tag{1.11}
\]

where $T_r$ is $L_r C_r$ resonant period, $T_k$ is the time coefficient to be calculated and $T_n$ are defined as:

\[
T_n = \frac{1}{f_n} \tag{1.12}
\]

In most conditions, $L_m$ is larger than $L_r$, $\omega_m$ is smaller than $\omega_r$ and the time period from $t_1$ to $t_2$ is short. So the change of $i_t$ is very small in this period and the time period from 0 to $t_1$ can be regarded as $T_r/2$ in [10], [16]. But the requirements “$I_{r0}$ + $I_{r1}$ = 0” and “$V_{c0}$ + $V_{c1}$ = 0” are only met when $f_n$ is equal to $f_r$. This means $t_1$ is not equal to $T_r/2$. So $T_k$ is introduced to describe the relationship between $t_1$ and $T_r/2$. And $T_k$ is approx. equal to 1 in most conditions.

For the approximations of the time-domain functions in $0$–$t_1$, due to $T_k \approx 1$ and $\omega t_1 \approx \pi$, the following approximation can be obtained.

\[
\sin(\omega t_1) \approx \pi(1 - T_k)
\]
\[
\cos(\omega t_1) \approx -1 \tag{1.13}
\]
By combining $t = t_1$, (1.9), (1.11) and (1.13), the following equation can be obtained.

$$\pi(T_k - 1) \times I_0 Z_r + (V_c + V_1) = 2 \times (V_1 - V_0^s) \quad (1.14)$$

$$I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r = -\pi(T_k - 1) \times (V_1 - V_o^s - V_c) \quad (1.15)$$

$$-I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r = \frac{\pi}{I_n} T_k V_o^s \quad (1.16)$$

For the approximations of the time-domain functions in $t_1 - t_2$, due to $\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 \approx 0$, the following approximation can be obtained.

$$\sin(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1) \approx \omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 \quad (1.17)$$

$$\cos(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1) \approx 1$$

In order to verify the validity of the approximation, $\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1$ can be transformed as follow.

$$\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 \approx \frac{\pi}{f_n} - 1 \quad (1.18)$$

The data in several papers are cited to calculate the approximate scope of $\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1$. The results are shown in the table below.

From the table above, it can be seen that the requirement “$\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 < 0.5$” is generally met. The larger the value of $\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1$ is, the larger the approximate error will be. When the requirement of “$\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 = 0.5$” is met, the approximate error can be calculated as shown below.

$$\left| \frac{\cos(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1) - 1}{\cos(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1)} \right| \approx 0.14 \quad (1.19)$$

$$\left| \frac{\sin(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1) - (\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1)}{\sin(\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1)} \right| \approx 0.04 \quad (1.20)$$

When the requirement of “$\omega m t_2 - \omega m t_1 < 0.5$” is met, the approximate error of sine function is small enough to be acceptable. But the approximate error of cosine function is still large, which means further correction is still needed.

By combining (1.10) and (1.17), the following equations can be obtained.

$$v_c(t) = \frac{I_c}{C_f} (t - t_1) + V_1$$

$$i_c(t) = I_{c1} - \frac{V_{c1} - V_i}{L_n + 1} (t - t_1) \quad (1.21)$$

It can be seen from (1.21) that $I_{c1}$ determines the change rate of the resonant capacitor voltage and is a constant, but in fact, the change rate is affected by the resonant inductor current and is not a constant. This contradiction is caused by the approximate error. In order to solve this contradiction, the equivalent current is introduced to replace $I_{c1}$ in the expression of the resonant capacitor voltage. In the period from $t_1$ to $t_2$, the resonant inductor current keeps changing and the change is nearly linear. So the average value of the resonant inductor current in this period can be regard as the equivalent current and can be expressed as $(I_c + I_{c1})/2$. Similarly, the equivalent voltage expressed as $(V_{c1} + V_c)/2$ is introduced to
replace \( V_{c1} \) in the expression of the resonant inductor voltage. After the above correction, the equations of the period from \( t_1 \) to \( t_2 \) can be obtained as follow.

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{c2} &= I_1 t_1 + I_2 (t_2 - t_1) + V_{c1} \\
I_2 &= I_1 - \frac{2V_{c1} + V_{c2} - 2V_1}{2(L_n + 1)L_c}(t_2 - t_1)
\end{align*}
\] (1.22)

When the requirement of \( \omega_m t_2 - \omega_m t_1 > 0.5 \) is met, the approximate errors of sine and cosine functions are both large even when the corrections are made. This will converge to inaccurate or even wrong results when using the following iterative algorithm. Therefore, it is not recommended to use these simplified equations when \( f_1 \) is far lower than \( f_1 \) or \( L_n \) is too small. In fact, a very wide frequency range will make it difficult to design magnetic components. And more and more LLC designs use transformer leakage inductance as resonance inductance, which means a large \( L_n \). In other words, the assumptions about the approximation and the correction made in this paper are applicable to some extent.

The following equations can be seen from the symmetry of resonance waveform:

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{c2} &= -V_{c0} \\
I_2 &= -I_0
\end{align*}
\] (1.23)

By combining (1.11), (1.22) and (1.23), the following equation can be obtained:

\[-\frac{\pi}{2} (T_n - T_k) \times (I_0 Z_r - I_1 Z_r) + (V_{c0} + V_{c1}) = 0 \] (1.24)

\[
\frac{\pi}{2} (L_n + 1) \times (I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r) = -(T_n - T_k)
\times (2V_1 + V_{c0} - V_{c1})
\] (1.25)

From the perspective of energy transfer, the following equation is also considered.

\[
\int_{t_0}^{t_2} (i_t - i_0) dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_2} I_0^* dt
\] (1.26)

Using (1.9) and (1.10) to simplify (1.26), we can get:

\[-T_k \times (I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r) - \frac{2}{\pi} \times (V_{c0} - V_{c1}) = 2T_n \times I_0^* Z_r
\] (1.27)

The simplified time-domain equation for Condition I is as follows.

\[
\begin{align*}
\pi (T_k - 1) \times (I_0 Z_r + V_{c0} + V_{c1}) &= 2 \times (V_i - V_{0^*}) \\
(I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r) &= -\pi (T_k - 1) \times (V_i - V_{0^*} + V_{c0}) \\
-(I_0 Z_r - I_1 Z_r) &= \frac{\pi}{L_n} T_k \times V_{0^*} \\
-\frac{\pi}{2} (T_n - T_k) \times (I_0 Z_r - I_1 Z_r) + (V_{c0} + V_{c1}) &= 0 \\
2 \frac{\pi}{L_n + 1} \times (I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r) &= -(T_n - T_k) \times (2V_i + V_{c0} - V_{c1}) \\
T_k \times (I_0 Z_r + I_1 Z_r) - \frac{2}{\pi} \times (V_{c0} - V_{c1}) &= 2T_n \times I_0^* Z_r
\end{align*}
\] (1.28)

In order to clarify the relationship between variables, the matrix of equations can be obtained as follow by transforming (1.28). Eq. (1.29), as shown at the bottom of the next page.

By comparing with the equations solved in other papers, equations we proposed in this manuscript are simpler. From the matrix form of the equation shown below, it is noted that the parts at both ends of the equal sign are the product of a coefficient matrix and a voltage matrix without variables related to time and frequency. \( T_k \) and \( T_n \) are coefficients without units. Therefore when the resonance frequency changes, as long as \( V_i \), \( V_{0^*} \), \( I_{0^*} \), \( Z_r \) and \( L_n \) are the same, the shapes of voltage and current waveforms remain the same as well as \( V_{c0} \), \( V_{c1} \), \( I_{0^*} \) and \( I_{c1} \). This characteristic also exists in FHA method, which has never been mentioned in other existing TDA papers.

**B. SIMPLIFICATION OF CONDITION II**

The analysis in 0–\( t_2 \) under Condition II is the same as that under Condition I. In \( t_2 \)–\( t_3 \), the primary winding voltage is too low to make rectifier diodes on secondary side conduct. The circuit state and equivalent circuit in this period are shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4.

From the above analysis, it can be seen that there is the following equation at \( t_3 \):

\[(V_{c3} + V_i) \frac{L_{m}}{L_{m} + L_i} = V_{0^*} \] (1.30)

![FIGURE 3. The circuit state in \( t_2 \)–\( t_3 \) under Condition II.](image)

![FIGURE 4. The equivalent circuit in \( t_2 \)–\( t_3 \) under Condition II.](image)

Similar to the time-domain analysis in [20], the time-domain functions in \( t_2 \)–\( t_3 \) under Condition I can be obtained:

\[
\begin{align*}
v_c(t) &= I_{c2} \sqrt{(L_n + 1)Z_r} \sin(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2) \\
&+ (V_{c2} + V_i) \cos(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2) - V_i \\
i_t(t) &= I_{t2} \cos(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2) \\
&- \frac{V_{c2} + V_i}{\sqrt{(L_n + 1)Z_r}} \sin(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2) \\
i_m(t) &= I_{m2} \cos(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2) \\
&- \frac{V_{c2} + V_i}{\sqrt{(L_n + 1)Z_r}} \sin(\omega_m t - \omega_{m} t_2)
\end{align*}
\] (1.31)
Define \( t_1, t_2 \) and \( t_3 \) as follows. Similar to \( T_k, T_d \) is introduced to describe the relationship between \( t_2 \) and \( T_d/2 \). The time period from \( t_2 \) to \( t_3 \) is usually short, so \( T_d \approx 1 \).

\[
\begin{aligned}
  t_1 &= \frac{T_k T_r}{2} \\
  t_2 &= \frac{T_d T_n T_r}{T_n T_r} \\
  t_3 &= \frac{T_n T_r}{2}
\end{aligned}
\]  

(1.32)

Similar to (1.17) and (1.22), the approximation and the correction are applied to (1.31). For details, please see the Appendix B. The simplified time-domain equations of Condition II are given as (1.33), as shown at the bottom of the page.

**C. SIMPLIFICATION OF CONDITION III**

The analysis in 0–\( t_1 \) under Condition III is the same as that under Condition I. At time \( t_1 \), the states of switches change. In \( t_1–t_2 \), the circuit state and equivalent circuit under Condition III are shown in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6.

Define \( t_1 \) and \( t_2 \) as (1.11).

It can be seen from Fig. 6 that \( V_t \) and \( V_o^* \) act on \( L_t \) and \( C_t \) together, which makes the resonant current decrease rapidly, so the time period of \( t_1–t_2 \) is generally very short and \( T_k \) is approximately equal to \( T_n \).

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  \pi(T_k - 1) & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
  1 & 1 & -\pi(T_k - 1) & 0 \\
  -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
  -\frac{\pi}{2}(T_n - T_k) & \pi(T_n - T_k) & 1 & 1 \\
  \frac{\pi}{2}(L_n + 1) & \frac{\pi}{2}(L_n + 1) & (T_n - T_k) & -(T_n - T_k) \\
  -T_k & -T_k & -\frac{2}{\pi} & \frac{2}{\pi}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
  I_o Z_t \\
  I_t Z_t \\
  V_c 0 \\
  V_c 1
\end{bmatrix}
\approx
\begin{bmatrix}
  2 & -2 & 0 \\
  -\pi(T_k - 1) & \pi(T_k - 1) & 0 \\
  0 & -\frac{\pi}{T_n} T_k & 0 \\
  -2(T_n - T_k) & 0 & 0 \\
  0 & 0 & 0 & 2T_n
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
  V_t \\
  V_o^* \\
  I_t Z_t
\end{bmatrix}
\]  

(1.29)

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  \pi(T_k - 1) & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
  1 & 1 & 0 & -\pi(T_k - 1) & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
  -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
  0 & \frac{\pi}{2}(T_k - T_d T_n) & \frac{\pi}{2}(T_k - T_d T_n) & 0 & -1 & 1 \\
  0 & \frac{2}{\pi}(L_n + 1) & -\frac{2}{\pi}(L_n + 1) & 0 & (T_k - T_d T_n) & (T_k - T_d T_n) \\
  -T_k & -T_k & -\frac{2}{\pi} & \frac{2}{\pi} & 0 & 0 \\
  \frac{\pi}{2} T_o(1 - T_d) & 0 & -\frac{\pi}{2} T_o(1 - T_d) & -1 & 0 & -1 \\
  \frac{\pi}{2}(L_n + 1) & 0 & \frac{2}{\pi}(L_n + 1) & T_n(1 - T_d) & 0 & -T_n(1 - T_d) \\
  0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
  I_o Z_t \\
  I_t Z_t \\
  I_t Z_t \\
  V_c 0 \\
  V_c 0 \\
  V_c 1 \\
  V_c 2
\end{bmatrix}
\approx
\begin{bmatrix}
  2 & -2 & 0 \\
  -\pi(T_k - 1) & \pi(T_k - 1) & 0 \\
  0 & \frac{\pi}{T_n} T_k & 0 \\
  0 & 0 & 0 \\
  2(T_k - T_d T_n) & 0 & 0 \\
  0 & 0 & 2T_n \\
  0 & 0 & 0 \\
  2T_n(1 - T_d) & 0 & 0 \\
  1 & -(\frac{1}{T_n} + 1) & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
  V_t \\
  V_o^* \\
  I_t Z_t
\end{bmatrix}
\]  

(1.33)
into (1.9).

\[
\begin{align*}
V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a &= I_{00}Z_r \sin(\pi T_k) + (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a) \\
I_{00}Z_r &= I_{00}Z_t \cos(\pi T_k) - (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a) \sin(\pi T_k)
\end{align*}
\]  (1.34)

Using the analysis method of SOTC for reference [22], (1.30) can be reduced to the following equations:

\[
(V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a)^2 + (I_{00}Z_r)^2 = (V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a)^2 + (I_{10}Z_t)^2
\]  (1.35)

\[
\tan(\pi T_k) = \frac{(V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a) I_{00}Z_r - (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a) I_{10}Z_t}{I_{00}I_{10}Z_r^2 + (V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a) (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a)}
\]  (1.36)

Equation (1.31) can be simplified as follows:

\[
(V_{c0} - V_i) (V_{c0} + V_i - 2V_i + 2V_o^a) = (I_{10} - I_0) (I_{10} + I_0) Z_r^2
\]  (1.37)

In general, considering the design of the magnetic components and the loss of the primary side switch, the switching frequency will not be more than the twice of the resonance frequency and \(0.5 < T_n < 1\). Due to the relationship of \(T_k \approx T_n\), \(0.5\pi < \pi T_k < \pi\) is usually satisfied under Condition III, namely, \(|\pi (1 - T_k)| < 0.5\pi\). Then Taylor expansion can be used as follow.

\[
\tan(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 2^n (2^n - 1) B_{2n}}{(2n)!} x^{2n-1}, |x| < \frac{\pi}{2}
\]  (1.38)

where \(B_{2n}\) is the 2n term of Bernoulli number. According to the requirement of precision, \(\tan(x)\) can be expanded by selecting the appropriate terms. If two terms are taken here for expansion, the following equation can be obtained:

\[-\tan(\pi T_k) \approx \pi (1 - T_k) + \frac{\pi^3}{3} (1 - T_k)^3\]  (1.39)

Due to the relationship of \(T_k \approx T_n\), when \(f_r < f_s < 1.275 f_r\), the approximate relative error of (1.39) is less than 3% because 0.784 < \(T_k < 1\). If the switching frequency is too high to meet the above conditions, more items shall be taken for expansion to ensure the calculation accuracy.

By combining (1.36) and (1.39), the univariate third-order lacunary equation can be obtained with \(T_k\) as the unknown number. According to the practical significance, the effective solution is real solution, then the Cardano’s Formula can be used to solve it, as follows:

\[
X = \frac{(V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a) I_{00}Z_r - (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a) I_{10}Z_t}{I_{00}I_{10}Z_r^2 + (V_{c1} - V_i + V_o^a) (V_{c0} - V_i + V_o^a)}
\]

\[
T_k = 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{3X}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{9X^2}{4} + 1} + \frac{3X}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{9X^2}{4} + 1} \right]
\]  (1.40)

\[
T_k = \frac{\pi}{2 \sqrt{2}} \left[ \frac{T_n - T_k}{T_n - T_k} \right] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_{00}Z_r \\ I_{10}Z_t \\ V_c \end{bmatrix}
\]  (1.42)

### III. ITERATIVE CALCULATION MODEL

Three sets of simplified time-domain equations are obtained. All variables can be calculated by solving these equations so that all waveforms of LLC resonant converter can be reproduced. But the accurate expressions of variables are difficult to derive. The traditional numerical methods need large amount of calculation cost and are difficult to realize on the microprocessors in real-time.

In this paper, an iterative algorithm is designed to improve the practicability of the simplified time-domain equations and can be realized on DSP or other processors in real time.

The basic idea of the iterative algorithm proposed in this paper is as follows:

1) The variables to be solved are divided into two groups: one is the time coefficients, including \(T_n, T_k\) and \(T_d\); the other is the key variables related to voltage and current, including \(V_{c0}, V_{c1}, V_{c2}, \dot{I}_{00}, \dot{I}_{10}, \dot{I}_{11}\) and \(\dot{I}_{22}\).

2) The equations under the same working condition are simplified and divided into two sets of solutions: the solutions for \(T_n, T_k\) and \(T_d\) which are expressed by \(V_1, V_{o}^a, \dot{I}_{00}, Z_r, L_n, V_{c0}, V_{c1}, V_{c2}, \dot{I}_{00}, \dot{I}_{11}\) and \(\dot{I}_{22}\); the solutions for \(V_{c0}, V_{c1}, V_{c2}, \dot{I}_{00}, \dot{I}_{11}\) and \(\dot{I}_{22}\) which are expressed by \(V_1, V_{o}^a, \dot{I}_{00}, Z_r, L_n, \dot{I}_{10}, T_k\) and \(T_d\).

3) Considering the approximate value of \(T_n, T_k\) and \(T_d\), a set of suitable values can be taken as the initial value for the iterative calculation.

4) When the errors of the last two groups of iterative variables are large, the iteration is continued until the accuracy requirements are met, and the final solutions are obtained.

The simplification process of the three working conditions is complex, and the derivation process is shown in the Appendix A. The iterative formulas of Condition I is as...
follows in (2.1), as shown at the bottom of the page, where (i) and (i+1) are iterative numbers. Due to $T_k \approx 1$, by combining $T_{k(0)} = 1$ and (2.2), as shown at the bottom of the page, the initial value under Condition I can be obtained as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
T_k(0) &= 1 \\
T_n(0) &= 1 + \frac{4L_a}{\pi^2}(1 - \frac{V_i}{V_o^*}) \\
T_{n(i+1)} &= 1 + \frac{4L_a}{\pi^2}(1 - \frac{V_i}{V_o^*})
\end{align*}
$$

(2.3)

After simplification of the equations under Condition II, it can be seen that two variables are fixed values:

$$
\begin{align*}
V_{c0} &= V_i - \left(\frac{1}{T_n} + 1\right)V_o^* \\
I_{t1} &= \frac{\pi V_o^*}{2L_nZ_t}
\end{align*}
$$

(2.4)

The iterative formulas of Condition II is as (2.5), as shown at the bottom of the page, and (2.6), as shown at the bottom of the page.

$$
\begin{align*}
I_{0(i+1)} &= \pi \left(T_k(i) \left(\pi^2T_k(i) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) - 4\right) V_o^* - 4L_a \left(V_k(i) - T_k(i)\right) \left(\pi^2T_k(i) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) - 4\right) V_o^* + (T_n(i) - T_k(i)) V_i\right) + 2L_a\pi \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) Z_t \\
I_{t1(i+1)} &= -\pi \left(T_k(i) \left(\pi^2T_k(i) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) - 4\right) V_o^* - 4L_a \left(T_k(i) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) - 4\right) V_o^* + (T_n(i) - T_k(i)) V_i\right) - 2L_a\pi \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) \left(T_n(i) - T_k(i)\right) Z_t \\
V_{c0(i+1)} &= V_i - V_o^* + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(2I_{0(i+1)} - 3I_{0(i+1)}T_k(i) - I_{t1(i+1)}T_k(i) - 2I_{t1}T_n(i)\right) Z_t \\
V_{c1(i+1)} &= V_i - V_o^* + \frac{1}{4\pi} \left(2I_{0(i+1)} - I_{0(i+1)}T_k(i) + I_{t1(i+1)}T_k(i) + 2I_{t1}T_n(i)\right) Z_t \\
T_k(i+1) &= 1 + \frac{I_{t1(i+1)} + I_{0(i+1)}Z_t}{\pi \left(V_{c0(i+1)} - V_i + V_o^*\right)} \\
T_n(i+1) &= T_k(i+1) + \frac{2L_a}{\pi^2T_k(i+1)V_o^*} \left(\pi \left(T_k(i+1) - 1\right)I_{0(i)}Z_t + 2(V_o^* - V_i)\right)
\end{align*}
$$

(2.1)

Because Condition II is similar to Condition I and $T_3 \approx 1$, the initial value under Condition II can be obtained as (2.7), as shown at the bottom of the page.

$$
\begin{align*}
T_k(0) &= 1 \\
T_{n(0)} &= 1 + \frac{4L_a}{\pi^2}(1 - \frac{V_i}{V_o^*}) \\
T_{n(0)} &= 1 + \frac{4L_a}{\pi^2}(1 - \frac{V_i}{V_o^*})
\end{align*}
$$

(2.10)

(2.7)

Since $T_k$ is not used in (2.8), the initial values of the three working conditions can be unified, namely, (2.7) can be the initial value for all three working conditions. In the basic idea of iterative algorithm, the identification of working condition
is added to form a complete iterative algorithm. Under Condition I and Condition II, $V_o^* > V_i$. Under Condition III, $V_o^* < V_i$. The relationship between $V_i$ and $V_o^*$ can be used to distinguish the first two conditions and the third condition. $V_o^*$ under Condition II is the fixed value, but $V_o^*$ under Condition I is less than this fixed value. So $V_o^*$ can be used to distinguish Condition I and Condition II.

With $V_i$, $V_o^*$, $I_o^*$, $T_n$ and $L_n$ as input and $T_n$, $T_k$, $T_d$, $V_c0$, $V_c1$, $V_c2$, $I_0$, $I_1$ and $I_2$ as output, the iterative calculation model is shown in Fig. 7.

![Flow chart of iterative algorithm](image)

FIGURE 7. The flow chart of iterative algorithm.

Where the error is expressed as follows:

$$\text{error} = \frac{|T_{n(i+1)} - T_{n(i)}|}{T_{n(i)}} \times 100\% \quad (2.11)$$

All variables influence each other in the iteration process. When the error of $T_n$ is small enough, the error of other variables will also be small.

Take the Condition I as an example: $V_i$, $V_o^*$, $I_o^*$, $Z_t$ and $L_n$ are taken as the input of the iterative calculation model and $T_n$, $T_k$, $V_c0$, $V_c1$, $I_0$ and $I_1$ are obtained.

Then the complete time-domain function are obtained as follows, which can be used to draw all waveform.

$$t \in (0, \frac{T_k T_r}{2})$$

$$\begin{align*}
  v(t) &= I_0 Z_t \sin(\omega m t) + (V_c0 - V_i + V_o^*) \cos(\omega m t) + V_i \\
  i(t) &= I_0 \cos(\omega m t) - \frac{V_c0 - V_i + V_o^*}{Z_t} \sin(\omega m t) \\
  i_m(t) &= I_0 + \frac{V_o^* r}{L_m} t 
\end{align*} \quad (2.12)$$

$$t \in \left(\frac{T_k T_r}{2}, \frac{T_n T_r}{2}\right)$$

$$\begin{align*}
  v(t) &= I_1 \sqrt{(L_n + 1) Z_t} \sin(\omega m t - \omega m T_k T_r) + (V_c1 - V_i) \cos(\omega m t - \omega m T_k T_r) + V_i \\
  i(t) &= I_1 \cos(\omega m t - \omega m T_k T_r) - \frac{V_c1 - V_i}{\sqrt{(L_n + 1) Z_t}} \sin(\omega m t - \omega m T_k T_r) \\
  i_m(t) &= I_0 + \frac{V_o^* r}{L_m} t 
\end{align*} \quad (2.13)$$

It is noted from the waveform characteristics of the Condition I and the complete time-domain functions that synchronous rectification can be easily achieved.

Based on the complete time-domain function, the peak resonant current $I_r$ and the peak magnetizing current $I_m$ can be both obtained very easily as follow. The two values can be used to design the resonant inductor and the transformer.

$$I_r = \max \left( \sqrt{I_{r0}^2 + \left(\frac{V_c0 - V_i + V_o^*}{Z_t}\right)^2}, -I_0 \right) \quad (2.14)$$

$$I_{m} = \max (I_1, -I_r) \quad (2.15)$$

\[
\begin{align*}
  I_{r0(i+1)} &= -\frac{T_{n(i)} V_o^*}{2T_o Z_t} \\
  V_c0(i+1) &= -\frac{T_{n(i)} I_o^* Z_t}{r_o} \\
  V_c1(i+1) &= -\frac{r_o I_o^*}{V_i} V_c0(i+1) \\
  I_{r1(i+1)} &= \frac{1}{Z_t} \left( (V_c0(i+1) - V_c1(i+1)) (V_c0(i+1) + V_c1(i+1) - 2V_i + 2V_o^*) + I_{r0(i+1)}^2 Z_t^2 \right) \\
  X_{(i+1)} &= \frac{(V_c1(i+1) - V_i + V_o^*) I_o(i) Z_t - (V_c0(i) - V_i + V_o^*) I_{r1(i)} Z_t}{I_{o(i)} I_{r1(i)} Z_t^2 + (V_c1(i) - V_i + V_o^*) (V_c0(i) - V_i + V_o^*)} \\
  T_k(i+1) &= 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{3X_{(i+1)}}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{9X_{(i+1)}^2}{4} + 1} \right) \\
  T_n(i+1) &= \frac{2(V_c1(i+1) + V_c0(i))}{\pi (I_{r0(i)} - I_{r1(i)}) Z_t} + T_k(i+1)
\end{align*}
\quad (2.8)
Similar to the calculation for \( I_{Dp} \) and \( I_{Dm} \), the loss expression can be easily obtained based on the complete time-domain function. But the loss expression of algebraic is complex and is not the focus of this paper. Thus, the specific expressions about the loss will not be presented here.

### IV. VERIFICATION

In order to demonstrate the advantages of the methods proposed in this paper, the comparison will be made from global and local perspective.

From the global perspective, voltage gain is the most concerned design requirements of LLC converter, and is also the frequently analyzed object in FHA method. Besides, when the demand of maximum voltage gain under heavy load is satisfied, the demand of maximum voltage gain under light load will also be satisfied. Therefore, the curve of voltage gain under heavy load is regarded as the key comparison objective from a global perspective.

From the local perspective, in some specific working condition, the magnetic component design, loss analysis and synchronous rectification analysis will be more accurate with a more accurate waveform. The waveform can be deduced by time-domain function with the key variables \( V_1, V_2, I_{Dp}, I_{Dm}, Z_r, L_D, T_k, T_d, V_{C0}, V_{C1}, V_{C2}, I_D, I_{11} \) and \( I_{12} \) involved. Therefore, these key variables are regarded as the key comparison objectives from the local perspective. At the same time, the deduced waveform is compared with the real waveform. These above comparisons are carried out under three typical working conditions including Condition I, Condition II and Condition III.

In order to demonstrate the simplicity of iterative calculation, the calculation cost of iterative calculation is analyzed. The relevant parameters of LLC resonant converter used in the experimental verification are shown in the table below.

#### TABLE 2. Related parameters of LLC resonant converter.

| Symbols | Parameter names | Value |
|---------|----------------|-------|
| \( V_i \)  | Input voltage  | 100 V  |
| \( L_i \)  | Resonant inductor | 28.8 \( \mu \)H |
| \( C_r \)  | Resonant capacitor | 23.5 nF |
| \( L_m \)  | Excitation inductance | 100 \( \mu \)H |
| \( f_r \)  | Resonant frequency | 193.46 kHz |
| \( N \)    | Turn ratio of transformer | 410/48 |
| \( R_{(D)} \) | On-resistance of diode | 1.7 m\( \Omega \) |
| \( V_o \)  | Conductance Voltage of diode | 0.8 V |

Considering the influence of diodes’ on-resistance and conductance voltage, \( V_o \) is modified in iterative calculation and fundamental harmonic analysis.

#### A. VOLTAGE GAIN CURVE COMPARISON

The voltage gain curve of LLC resonant converter determines the voltage conversion range of the converter, which is of great significance to the design of the converter.

The fundamental harmonic analysis method has simple calculation and low accuracy while the simulation based on Simulink has complex calculation and high accuracy. Compared with the fundamental harmonic analysis method and the simulation, the simplicity and the accuracy of the iterative calculation model can be presented. Compared with experimental results, the accuracy of the iterative calculation model can be further proved.

1.35 \( \Omega \) load resistance is taken as the heavy load condition, the switch frequency changes at the range of 130-250 kHz, and the output voltage curves are compared with the switching frequency under the fundamental harmonic analysis method (I), simulation results (II), experimental results (III) and the method proposed in this paper (IV).

For calculation simplicity, the iterative times of the model is less than 10, which means the calculation is less than the simulation method.

For calculation accuracy, it can be seen from Fig. 8 that the fundamental analysis method is close to the simulation and experiment when the switching frequency is close to the resonance frequency, but when the switching frequency is far away from the resonance frequency, the error becomes larger and larger. In contrast, the curve of the iterative calculation method is basically consistent with the curve of simulation and experiment, the accuracy is very high, and the error will not increase when the difference between the switching frequency and resonant frequency increase.

#### B. KEY VARIABLES COMPARISON

On the basis of above analysis, the corresponding points of the three conditions (Condition I: \( f_s = 160 \) kHz and \( R = 1.35\Omega \); Condition II: \( f_s = 160 \) kHz and \( R = 2.75\Omega \); Condition III: \( f_s = 220 \) kHz and \( R = 1.35\Omega \)) are selected for further experiments, and the variables of iterative calculation are compared with simulation and experiment. Tektronix p2200 probes and CyberTek CPL8100B probes are used to measure the voltage of the resonant capacitor and the current of the resonant inductor. And the simulation results are based on the Simulink.

It can be seen from the comparison table of key variables that the calculation results based on the method proposed in
TABLE 3. Comparison of key variables.

| Key Variables | Experiment | Calculation | Simulation |
|---------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| $f_s$/kHz     | 160        | 161.25      | 160        |
| $V_s$/V       | 12.12      | 12.06       | 12.06      |
| $V_d$/V       | -88        | -82         | -82        |
| $V_t$/V       | 72         | 51          | 50         |
| $I_o$/A       | -1.7       | -1.61       | -1.60      |
| $I_p$/A       | 1.5        | 1.49        | 1.47       |
| $T_o$         | 1.153      | 1.022       | 1.019      |

Condition II

| $f_s$/kHz     | 160        | 161.56      | 160        |
| $V_s$/V       | 12.26      | 12.31       | 12.31      |
| $V_d$/V       | -66        | -52         | -52        |
| $V_t$/V       | 28         | 17          | 16         |
| $I_o$/A       | -1.1       | -1.54       | -1.53      |
| $I_p$/A       | 1.4        | 1.53        | 1.52       |
| $T_o$         | 0.991      | 1.002       | 1.003      |
| $T_d$         | 0.882      | 0.952       | 0.945      |

Condition III

| $f_s$/kHz     | 220        | 218.71      | 220        |
| $V_s$/V       | 9.12       | 9.12        | 9.12       |
| $V_d$/V       | -46        | -38         | -38        |
| $V_t$/V       | 41         | 35          | 35         |
| $I_o$/A       | -0.6       | -1.04       | -1.05      |
| $I_p$/A       | 1.4        | 1.51        | 1.49       |
| $T_o$         | 0.814      | 0.862       | 0.856      |

The calculation waveforms of Fig. 9 are drawn according to the time-domain function expression by using the results of the iterative model. For example, Fig. 9(a) is drawn according to (2.12) and (2.13). The simulation waveform is basically the same as the calculated waveform. Here, only the difference between the calculated waveform and the actual waveform is compared.

It can be seen from Fig. 9 that although there are some errors due to practical stray and parasitics, the calculated waveform is very similar to the experimental waveform. And the accuracy of the method proposed in this paper can meet the requirements of the design phase for LLC converters.

C. SIMPLICITY OF ITERATIVE CALCULATION

By analyzing the iterative model, the following table about the calculation cost for each iteration step can be obtained. See Appendix D for detailed analysis.

TABLE 4. The calculation cost for each iteration step.

|                | Condition I | Condition II | Condition III |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| Additions      | 23          | 22           | 16            |
| Multiplications| 27          | 19           | 23            |
| Divisions      | 3           | 6            | 2             |
| Extractions of a root | 0 | 2 | 4 |

10 or less iterations are spent in the previous comparison experiments. Compared with non-linear solution software, the calculation cost of our proposed model are much fewer. That means the proposed model has the capability to be embedded into the DSP or other processors to be run in real-time with few resource occupation.

V. CONCLUSION

Based on suitable assumption and simplification, the time-domain equations are simplified by using the voltage, current and time of the switching points as variables. The simplified time-domain equations under three conditions are obtained, and an effective iterative model is designed to solve the
relevant variables of the switching points without sophisticated nonlinear solution software. From a global perspective, the method in this paper can obtain a voltage gain curve with high accuracy in a relatively wide frequency range. From a local perspective, the relative errors between the calculated results and the simulation results are less than 3%. The relative errors between the calculation and the experiment is a little large because of practical stray and parasitics which will be added to the simplified equations to further improve accuracy in the future. And more model-based analysis about the loss, the design of the magnetic components, and the synchronous rectification will be done in the future. Besides, the calculation of iterative model is very less and can be realized on DSP or other processors in real-time.

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