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## Sliding motion, robust control and power loss minimization in a class of nonlinear switched converters

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In this paper we propose a sliding mode control scheme that allows robust control of the output voltage in a class of nonlinear switched converters that includes the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost, the Watkins-Johnson and the Inverse of Watkins-Johnson. Using a full-state reference profile-based sliding surface, periodic signals may be tracked by the output voltage under appropriate restrictions. Furthermore, semi-infinite programming techniques are used to minimize power losses while taking into account the existence of load perturbations. The procedure consists of choosing a reference signal for the inductor current with minimum root mean square, subject to the maintenance of sliding regime under possible load variation in a set with known bounds. Realistic simulation results show a highly robust performance in the presence of load disturbances.

### 1 Introduction

The possibility of using nonlinear DC-DC switching power converters as source inverters has been thoroughly studied during the last twenty years. The main reason for this is that the conventional full-bridge buck converter must incorporate a transformer to adequately perform step-up tasks, thus resulting in a significative increase of the weight and size of the power supply equipment.

When using nonlinear converters, efforts are handicapped by the nonminimum phase character shown by these devices when direct control over the output voltage is exerted (see Fossas *et al.*, 2002, for example). First attempts to solve the problem by means of a current-based indirect control in boost and buck-boost DC-AC inverters (Cáceres *et al.*, 1999; Hernández *et al.*, 2003) have led to systems with sensitivity to external perturbations and parameter uncertainties. On the other hand, direct control strategies of the output voltage that include passivity-based schemes (Rodríguez *et al.*, 2000) and PID-type sliding mode controllers (Tan *et al.*, 2005), have been used for regulation purposes. PI controllers also offer interesting performance in full-bridge nonlinear inverters (Liang *et al.*, 2002; Vázquez *et al.*, 2003; Sanchis *et al.*, 2005a,b). However, it is well known that PI control designs are based on a small signal model; this leads to output waveforms being sensitive to power stage parameter variations, such as the output load.

We address the possibility of using DC-DC converters of the family that includes the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost, the Watkins-Johnson and the Inverse of Watkins-Johnson (Erickson *et al.*, 2001), as source inverters. The main feature of these converters is that they possess two switches. Hence, taking advantage

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of the two control inputs, it is possible to design a sliding mode control strategy which is able to yield robust tracking of periodic signals by the output voltage and, at the same time, maintain the input current regulated at a prescribed level. The proposal employs a full-state reference profile-based sliding surface that does not depend on the plant parameters. The converter is assumed to undergo possible load variations in a set with known bounds. Restrictions for candidate signals to be tracked are derived.

The existing literature dealing with the aforementioned converters contains promising results for regulation tasks but, as far as the authors know, none of them has reported control designs for tracking purposes. A synchronous Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter prototype with a small-signal based controller (Sahu *et al.*, 2004) offers good performance in regulation tasks for low voltage range. In (Gaboriault *et al.*, 2004), the switching logic of the converter allows a smooth transition between buck, boost and buck-boost operation modes, depending on the input and the expected output voltage. Basic performance analysis of Watkins-Johnson and Inverse of Watkins-Johnson converters for regulation purposes is available in (Grant *et al.*, 2003a) and (Grant *et al.*, 2003b), respectively.

A preliminary version of this paper (Fossas *et al.*, 2005) is improved here with the sliding mode control analysis of the robust tracking in a class of nonlinear dynamical systems that includes the family of power converters with two switches. Furthermore, it is already known that proper energy transfer constitutes the main goal of power converters, meaning good efficiency and high output signal quality. Maximizing power efficiency requires minimization of the Root Mean Square (RMS) current flowing in the switching converter. This leads to two different effects, namely, optimization of the losses due to the power switching and minimization of the resistive losses in the inductors. Hence, the design incorporates a procedure to reduce power losses based on semi-infinite programming theory (Hettich *et al.*, 1993) and assuming known upper and lower bounds for the load variation; this technique has been successfully applied to a full-bridge boost converter in (Sanz *et al.*, 2006). Finally, the theoretical development is validated by carrying out illustrative simulations of a Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter with the realistic power electronics software package PSIM.

The article is organized as follows. Section 2 studies the sliding mode robust tracking control of a class of nonlinear systems that include the above cited family of switching power converters. Section 3 completes the procedure with a proposal to minimize energy losses in such systems. These results are applied to the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost, the Watkins-Johnson and the Inverse of Watkins-Johnson converters in Section 4. An example of the robust tracking of a sinusoidal reference by the output voltage of a Non-Inverting Buck-Boost system with power loss minimization is presented in Section 5. Section 6 contains the corresponding simulation results, while conclusions and suggestions for further research are presented in Section 7.

## 2 Sliding mode robust tracking control of a class of nonlinear systems

Consider the class of multi-input nonlinear systems with state-space dynamics modelled by

$$\dot{x} = Ax + \delta + [B(x) + C]u, \quad (1)$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A, B(x), C$  are  $n \times n$  square matrices,  $B(x)$  being linear, and  $\delta \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a vector. Matrices  $A, B(x), C$  and vector  $\delta$  depend on a set of characteristic parameters of the system, denoted  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l$ , which are known to belong to the closed set  $\Lambda = [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}] \times \dots \times [\lambda_{lmin}, \lambda_{lmax}]$ . Let also the control input vector  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be such that its components  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  have fixed feedback gains, i.e. each  $u_i$  takes its values in the discrete set  $\{u_i^-, u_i^+\}$ , and  $u_i^- < u_i^+$  is presumed.

The aim of the paper is to achieve the tracking of a predetermined  $T$ -periodic reference signal  $x_d(t)$  by the state vector  $x$ . Therefore, for the case that  $x_d$  is  $\mathcal{C}^1$ , the tracking error  $e = x - x_d$  allows the following description for system (1):

$$\dot{e} = Ae + B(e)u + [B(x_d) + C]e_u, \quad (2)$$

where  $e_u = u - u_N$  and  $u_N$  is the nominal tracking control:

$$\dot{x}_d = Ax_d + \delta + [B(x_d) + C]u_N.$$

The control target  $e = 0$  will be achieved by means of sliding motion. Let  $\sigma(e, t)$  be defined as the linear time-dependent surface

$$\sigma(e, t) = M(t)e, \quad (3)$$

$M(t)$  being nonsingular. The ideal continuous control  $u_{eq}(t)$  that makes  $\sigma(e, t)$  invariant by the dynamics defined in (2), also known as the *equivalent control*, is obtained solving

$$\sigma(e, t) = 0, \quad \dot{\sigma}(e, t) = 0.$$

Therefore, the nonsingularity of  $M(t)$  yields

$$\sigma(e, t) = 0 \iff e = 0, \quad (4)$$

and also

$$\dot{\sigma}(e, t)|_{e=0} = 0 \iff [B(x_d) + C](u_{eq} - u_N) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad e = 0,$$

which entails

$$u_{eq}(t) = u_N = [B(x_d(t)) + C]^{-1} [\dot{x}_d(t) - Ax_d(t) - \delta] \quad (5)$$

for the case  $[B(x_d(t)) + C]$  nonsingular. Moreover, the equivalent control  $u_{eq}(t)$  is required to lie within the  $\mathbb{R}^n$  region  $(u_1^-, u_1^+) \times \cdots \times (u_n^-, u_n^+)$  in order to prevent undesirable effects of control action saturation in the steady state.

*Remark 2.1* Note in (4) that the intersection of the switching manifolds  $\sigma_i = 0$  coincides with that of  $e_i = 0$ . So, the tracking error vanishes on the sliding surface (3). Furthermore, if  $\|\dot{M}(t)\|$  and  $\|M^{-1}(t)\|$  are bounded, the sliding equations associated with the switching surfaces  $\sigma_i(e, t) = 0$  are identical to those associated with  $e_i = 0$  (Utkin, 1992).

Let us now state the following hypotheses:

**H1.**  $A$  is a negative semidefinite matrix.

**H2.**  $B(x)$  is a linear matrix satisfying  $x^\top B(x) = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**H3.** The command profile  $x_d(t)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^1$  and  $T$ -periodic, and is such that the time-dependent  $n \times n$  square matrix  $D(t)$  defined below is nonsingular  $\forall t \geq 0$ :

$$D(t) = B(x_d(t)) + C.$$

**H4.** The equivalent control (5), which can be written as

$$u_{eq}(t) = D^{-1}(t) [\dot{x}_d(t) - Ax_d(t) - \delta], \quad (6)$$

lies inside the region  $(u_1^-, u_1^+) \times \cdots \times (u_n^-, u_n^+) \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \forall t \geq 0$ .

*Remark 2.2* Hypotheses H1 and H2 relate to the characterization of this class of systems. H3 is a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of the equivalent control (6) mentioned in H4. Finally, H4 ensures the non-saturation of the control action in the steady state. As detailed above, Hypotheses H3 and H4 entail necessary conditions on the candidate reference profiles  $x_d(t)$  for the control goal to be accomplished.

PROPOSITION 2.1 *Let*

$$\sigma(e, t) = -D^\top(t)e \quad (7)$$

*be a switching surface for system (2), and assume that Hypotheses H1 to H4 hold. Then, the control law defined componentwise as*

$$u_i = \begin{cases} u_i^+ & \text{if } \sigma_i > 0 \\ u_i^- & \text{if } \sigma_i < 0 \end{cases},$$

*produces a stable sliding regime of (2) on the intersection of the discontinuity surfaces  $\sigma_i = 0$ .*

*Proof* Let the real symmetric matrix  $W(t)$  be

$$W(t) = D^{-1}(t) [D^{-1}(t)]^\top,$$

which is well defined because of H3. This hypothesis also ensures the continuous differentiability of

$$V(\sigma, t) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^\top W(t) \sigma.$$

$W(t)$  is positive definite by construction, which makes  $V(\sigma, t)$  positive definite. Furthermore, as the eigenvalues of  $W(t)$  are positive real functions of  $t$ , we get (see Chen, 1984, for example)

$$0 \leq \kappa_{\min}(t) \|\sigma\|^2 \leq 2V(\sigma, t) \leq \kappa_{\max}(t) \|\sigma\|^2, \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

where  $\kappa_{\min}(t), \kappa_{\max}(t)$  are the smallest and largest eigenvalues of  $W(t)$ , respectively. The continuity and  $T$ -periodicity of such eigenvalues (recall H3 again) allow us to conclude that they achieve a maximum and a minimum value in  $[0, T]$ , i.e. there exist real, positive constants  $\rho_m, \rho_M$  fulfilling

$$\begin{aligned} 2\rho_m &\leq \min_{t \in [0, T]} \{\kappa_{\min}(t)\}, \\ 2\rho_M &\geq \max_{t \in [0, T]} \{\kappa_{\max}(t)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $V(\sigma, t)$  is lower and upper bounded in each sphere  $\|\sigma\| = R$  inside a neighbourhood of  $\sigma = 0$  by positive quantities depending only on  $R$ , and these lower and upper bounds  $h_R = \rho_m R^2, H_R = \rho_M R^2$ , respectively, are such that

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow 0} H_R = 0, \quad \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} h_R = \infty.$$

In order to evaluate the derivative of  $V(\sigma, t)$  along the trajectories of (2) note that

$$V(\sigma, t) = \frac{1}{2} e^\top e.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(\sigma, t) &= e^\top \dot{e} = e^\top [Ae + B(e)u + D(t)e_u] = \\ &= e^\top Ae - \sigma^\top [u - u_{eq}(t)] \end{aligned}$$

because of H2, H3, (5), (6) and (7). Moreover, due to H3 and H4, every component  $u_{ieq}(t)$  of the equivalent control vector is continuous,  $T$ -periodic and lies inside  $(u_i^-, u_i^+)$ ; therefore, it reaches maximum and

minimum values  $u_{ieq}^+$  and  $u_{ieq}^-$  therein, respectively. Denote as  $\epsilon = (\epsilon_i)$  the vector with components

$$\epsilon_i = \inf\{u_i^+ - u_{ieq}^+, |u_i^- - u_{ieq}^-|\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Hence, H1 and the proposed switching logic yield

$$\dot{V}(\sigma, t) \leq -\sum_{i=1}^{i=n} \epsilon_i |\sigma_i| \leq -\alpha \|\sigma\|_1, \quad \alpha = \inf_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \{\epsilon_i\} > 0.$$

By norm equivalence in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , there exists  $\bar{\alpha} > 0$  such that

$$\dot{V}(\sigma, t) \leq -\bar{\alpha} \|\sigma\|.$$

Then, stable sliding mode motion along the intersection of the discontinuity surfaces  $\{\sigma_1 = 0\} \cap \{\sigma_2 = 0\}$  occurs (Utkin, 1992).  $\square$

*Remark 2.3* The requirement of continuous differentiability for the Lyapunov function is essential for the existence of sliding regime in multi-input systems. Chapter 4 of (Utkin, 1992) contains clarifying examples.

*Remark 2.4* Note that, from Remark 2.1:

- (i)  $-D^\top(t)$  being nonsingular by Hypothesis H3, the intersection of the sliding surfaces  $\sigma_i = 0$  coincides with that of  $e_i = 0$ , thus yielding the achievement of the tracking target  $x(t) = x_d(t)$ .
- (ii) It follows from Hypotheses H3 and H4 that  $\| -\dot{D}^\top(t) \|$  and  $\| -[D^\top(t)]^{-1} \|$  are bounded. Hence, the sliding equations associated with  $\sigma_i(e, t) = 0$  are identical to those associated with  $e_i = 0$ .

The robustness of the system performance in the sliding regime is analyzed straightforwardly. Let system (1) suffer a disturbance in the following way:

$$\dot{x} = Ax + \delta + [B(x) + C]u + p(x, t)$$

$p(x, t)$  being a vector field that maps vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}$  onto  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Note that  $p(x, t)$  may model parametric perturbations as well as state-independent external disturbances.

**PROPOSITION 2.2** *If Hypothesis H3 is fulfilled, every perturbation  $p(x, t)$  satisfies the matching condition (Sira-Ramírez, 1988).*

*Remark 2.5* Proposition 2.2 guarantees the robustness of the converter in the sense that the induced sliding regimes exhibit a so-called *strong invariance property* (Sira-Ramírez, 1988): the ideal sliding dynamics is independent of the perturbation signal. However, the disturbance may affect the fulfillment of Hypothesis H4, because the equivalent control  $u_{eq}(t)$  transforms into

$$u_{eq}^p(t) = D^{-1}(t) [\dot{x}_d(t) - Ax_d(t) - \delta - p(x_d, t)].$$

Hence, H4 has to be preserved in order to prevent the loss of sliding motion on  $\sigma(e, t) = 0$ .

### 3 Energy minimization of the reference profile

Assume that system (1) can track a certain  $T$ -periodic reference signal  $x_d(t)$  such that Hypothesis H4 is fulfilled. Assume also that  $x_{id}(t)$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ , are fixed, while  $x_{1d}(t)$  may be arbitrarily chosen within the restriction imposed by H4. In order to simplify the control implementation effort, let us consider a

truncated Fourier series expansion for  $x_{1d}(t)$ :

$$x_{1d}(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^r a_k \cos k\omega t + b_k \sin k\omega t, \quad \omega = 2\pi T^{-1}. \quad (8)$$

A reasonable criterion for the election of the coefficients  $a_0, \dots, b_r$  is the minimization of the energy associated with the signal  $x_{1d}(t)$ , which is strongly related to its Root Mean Square (RMS) (see Section 1):

$$F(a_0, a_1, \dots, b_r) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x_{1d}^2(t) dt} = \sqrt{a_0^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{k=r} \frac{a_k^2 + b_k^2}{2}}. \quad (9)$$

Then, the problem to be solved consists of choosing  $a_0, a_1, \dots, b_r$  in such a way that the value of the function (9) is minimum on the domain defined by the inequalities derived from the fulfillment of Hypothesis H4. Furthermore, recalling that the system parameters  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l$  take values in the known set  $\Lambda = [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}] \times \dots \times [\lambda_{lmin}, \lambda_{lmax}]$ , according to Remark 2.5 it turns out that such restrictions are to be fulfilled  $\forall (t, \lambda) \in [0, T] \times \Lambda$ , where  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l)^\top$ . This situation is easily adjustable to the semi-infinite optimization problem stated and solved in what follows.

Firstly, let us establish some assumptions:

**Assumption A1.** Let the scalar functions  $\phi_i : \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , be continuously differentiable, and let  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^q$  be compact.

**Assumption A2.** The set

$$Z^P = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^p, \phi_i(z, y) \leq 0, \forall y \in Y, i = 1, \dots, m\} \quad (10)$$

is nonempty, i.e.  $Z^P \neq \emptyset$ .

**LEMMA 3.1** *Let Assumption A1 hold, and let also  $\psi_i : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , be defined as follows:*

$$\psi_i(z) = \max_{y \in Y} \{\phi_i(z, y)\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

*Then,  $\psi_i(z)$  is continuous  $\forall i = 1, \dots, m$ .*

*Proof* (Adapted from (Polak, 1987)) Note that  $\psi_i(z)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , exists  $\forall z \in \mathbb{R}^p$  because of the continuity of  $\phi_i$  and the compactness of  $Y$ , which are guaranteed by Assumption A1. Let us fix  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$  and  $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , and let  $y_0 \in Y$  be such that  $\psi_i(z_0) = \phi_i(z_0, y_0)$ . Consider now the open ball  $B(z_0, L)$ , centered at  $z_0$  and with arbitrary radius  $L$ . Then,  $\forall z \in B(z_0, L)$ ,  $\exists y \in Y$  verifying

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_i(z) - \psi_i(z_0) &= \phi_i(z, y) - \phi_i(z_0, y_0) = [\phi_i(z, y) - \phi_i(z_0, y)] + [\phi_i(z_0, y) - \phi_i(z_0, y_0)] \leq \\ &\leq \phi_i(z, y) - \phi_i(z_0, y), \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

because  $\psi_i(z_0) = \phi_i(z_0, y_0) \geq \phi_i(z_0, y)$ ,  $Y \ni y \neq y_0$ . The mean value theorem and the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality ensure the existence of  $z_1 \in B(z_0, L)$  satisfying

$$\phi_i(z, y) - \phi_i(z_0, y) \leq \left\| \left[ \frac{\partial \phi_i(z, y)}{\partial z} \right]_{(z_1, y)} \right\| \|z - z_0\|.$$

Since  $\frac{\partial \phi_i(z,y)}{\partial z}$  is continuous and  $\text{cl } B(z_0, L) \times Y$  is compact by Assumption A1,  $K_i \geq 0$  is such that

$$K_i \geq \sup \left\{ \left\| \frac{\partial \phi_i(z,y)}{\partial z} \right\|, \forall (z,y) \in B(z_0, L) \times Y \right\}.$$

Therefore,

$$\psi_i(z) - \psi_i(z_0) \leq K_i \|z - z_0\|. \tag{12}$$

Interchanging  $z$  and  $z_0$  in (11) and using (12), we get

$$\|\psi_i(z) - \psi_i(z_0)\| \leq K_i \|z - z_0\|, \quad \forall z \in B(z_0, L).$$

The continuity of  $\psi_i(\cdot)$  in  $z_0$  follows straightforwardly and,  $z_0$  being arbitrary, we obtain that  $\psi_i(\cdot)$  is continuous in  $\mathbb{R}^p, \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ . □

**LEMMA 3.2** *Let Assumptions A1 and A2 hold. Then, the set  $Z^P$  defined in (10) is such that:*

- (i)  $z \in Z^P$  iff  $\psi_i(z) \leq 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, p$ .
- (ii)  $Z^P$  is closed.

*Proof* (i) Trivial.

(ii)  $Z^P$  may be seen as the intersection of the inverse image of the closed subset  $(-\infty, 0]$  by  $\psi_i(\cdot), i = 1, \dots, m$ , which are continuous by Lemma 3.1. Then,

$$Z^P = \psi_1^{-1}((-\infty, 0]) \cap \dots \cap \psi_m^{-1}((-\infty, 0])$$

is closed. □

We are now ready to pose and solve the following Problem:

**Problem P1.** Find  $z \in \mathbb{R}^p$  that minimizes the real valued function

$$F(z) = \|z\|$$

on the domain defined by

$$Z^P = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^p, \psi_i(z) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, p\}.$$

**PROPOSITION 3.3** *Let Assumptions A1 and A2 hold. Then, Problem P1 has a solution in  $Z^P$ .*

*Proof*  $Z^P$  is nonempty by Assumption A2. Let  $\bar{z} \in Z^P$  and consider the closed ball  $\bar{B}(0, r) \subset \mathbb{R}^p$  centered in  $0 \in \mathbb{R}^p$  and with radius  $r = \|\bar{z}\|$ . Therefore, the set  $\bar{Z}^P = \bar{B}(0, r) \cap Z^P$ :

- (a) It is nonempty by construction, because it contains at least  $\bar{z}$ .
- (b) If P1 has a solution, it belongs to  $\bar{Z}^P$ , because

$$\|z\| > \|\bar{z}\|, \quad \forall z \in Z^P \setminus \bar{Z}^P, \quad \forall \bar{z} \in \bar{Z}^P.$$

(c) It is compact because  $\bar{B}(0, r)$  is compact and  $Z^P$  is closed by Lemma 3.2. Then,  $\bar{Z}^P$  is a closed subset of a compact set, thus compact.

Hence, the result follows due to the fact that continuous functions, such as  $F(\bar{z})$ , exhibit minimum value in compact sets. □



Table 1. State space descriptors of a class of switched power converters

Converters	$k_1$	$k_2$
Non-Inverting Buck-Boost	0	0
Watkins-Johnson	1	0
Inverse of Watkins-Johnson	0	1

#### 4 Robust output voltage tracking with power losses minimization in basic nonlinear DC-to-DC converters with two switches

The basic nonlinear switched converters Non-Inverting Buck-Boost, Watkins-Johnson and Inverse of Watkins-Johnson (Erickson *et al.*, 2001) have a general state-space representation in terms of a two-dimensional system with the inductor current  $i_L$  and the capacitor voltage  $v_C$  as state variables. For a systematic analysis it is advisable to minimize the number of parameters of the system. This purpose may be achieved with the change of variables:

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{V_g} \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} i_L, \quad x_2 = \frac{1}{V_g} v_C, \quad t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}} \tau,$$

and the introduction of

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} > 0$$

which make the system dimensionless:

$$\dot{x}_1 = u_1 - x_2 u_2 + k_1 (u_2 - 1) + k_2 x_2 (1 - u_1) \quad (13)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -\lambda_1 x_2 + x_1 u_2 - k_2 x_1 (1 - u_1). \quad (14)$$

The values of the parameters  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  for the different converters are summarized in Table 1. The control gains  $u_1, u_2$  take values in the discrete set  $\{0, 1\}$ . Moreover, as the converters are assumed to undergo possible load variations in the bounded set  $[R_{min}, R_{max}]$ ,  $\lambda_1 \in [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$ .

Note that the dynamical system (13),(14) matches the general state-space representation (1):

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k_2 \\ -k_2 & -\lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \delta = \begin{pmatrix} -k_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B(x) = \begin{pmatrix} -k_2 x_2 & -x_2 \\ k_2 x_1 & x_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Furthermore, Hypotheses H1 and H2 are trivially fulfilled. Hence, the sliding mode control model studied in Section 2 is straightforwardly applicable to the robust tracking control of any reference  $x_d(t) = (x_{1d}(t), x_{2d}(t))^T$  that allows the verification of Hypotheses H3 and H4:

(i)  $D(t)$  is

$$D(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - k_2 x_{2d}(t) & k_1 - x_{2d}(t) \\ k_2 x_{1d}(t) & x_{1d}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (15)$$

H3 requires  $x_{1d}(t), x_{2d}(t) \in \mathcal{C}^1$  and  $T$ -periodic, with  $x_{1d}(t) \neq 0, \forall t \in [0, T]$ .

(ii) According to (6) and (15), H4 is fulfilled  $\forall x_{1d}(t), x_{2d}(t)$  such that

$$0 < u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1) = \frac{x_{1d} \dot{x}_{1d} + x_{2d} (\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d}) + k_1 [x_{1d} - (\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d})]}{x_{1d}} < 1, \quad \forall (t, \lambda_1) \in Y, \quad (16)$$

$$0 < u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1) = \frac{\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d} + k_2 [x_{1d}(1 - \dot{x}_{1d}) - x_{2d}(\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d})]}{x_{1d}} < 1, \quad \forall (t, \lambda_1) \in Y, \quad (17)$$

where  $Y = [0, T] \times [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$ . Note that Remark 2.5 has been taken into account.

Therefore, Proposition 2.1 and Remark 2.4 lead straightforwardly to the following result:

**PROPOSITION 4.1** *Let  $x_{1d}(t), x_{2d}(t)$  be  $C^1$  and  $T$ -periodic, with  $x_{1d}(t) \neq 0, \forall t \in [0, T]$ , and such that (16),(17) hold. Let also*

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1(e, t) &= -e_1 + k_2 [x_{2d}(t)e_1 - x_{1d}(t)] e_2 \\ \sigma_2(e, t) &= x_{2d}(t)e_1 - x_{1d}(t)e_2 - k_1 e_1, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

be switching surfaces. Then, the control law

$$u_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma_1 > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \sigma_1 < 0 \end{cases}, \quad u_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma_2 > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \sigma_2 < 0 \end{cases},$$

yields the tracking target  $x_1 = x_{1d}(t), x_2 = x_{2d}(t)$ , in the sliding regime.

The power dissipated in a resistive circuit element is directly proportional to the square of the Root Mean Square (RMS) of the current that flows through the element. Moreover, as the target is the tracking of  $T$ -periodic output voltage references  $x_{2d}(t)$ , it is reasonable to search for inductor reference profiles which are also  $T$ -periodic. Hence, assuming a truncated Fourier series development for  $x_{1d}$  (see (8)), we may minimize its RMS (9) subjected to the restrictions imposed by H4, i.e. (16) and (17).

Hence, let

$$x_{1d} = x_{1d}(z, t) = z_1 + \sqrt{2} \sum_{k=1}^r z_{2k} \cos k\omega t + z_{2k+1} \sin k\omega t, \quad \omega = 2\pi T^{-1}, \quad z \in \mathbb{R}^{2r+1}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Let us also denote  $y = (t, \lambda_1) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and assign

$$f(y) = f(t, \lambda_1) = \dot{x}_{2d}(t) + \lambda_1 x_{2d}(t), \quad \text{and} \quad g(y) = g(t, \lambda_1) = x_{2d}(t) [\dot{x}_{2d}(t) + \lambda_1 x_{2d}(t)].$$

Straightforward calculation allows one to prove the following result:

**PROPOSITION 4.2** *Let  $Y = [0, T] \times [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and consider the scalar functions*

$$\phi_1(z, y) = \phi_1(z, t, \lambda_1) = g(t, \lambda_1) + x_{1d}(z, t) \left[ \frac{\partial x_{1d}(z, t)}{\partial t} - 1 \right] + k_1 [x_{1d}(z, t) - f(t, \lambda_1)], \quad (19)$$

$$\phi_2(z, y) = \phi_2(z, t, \lambda_1) = -g(t, \lambda_1) - x_{1d}(z, t) \frac{\partial x_{1d}(z, t)}{\partial t} - k_1 [x_{1d}(z, t) - f(t, \lambda_1)], \quad (20)$$

$$\phi_3(z, y) = \phi_3(z, t, \lambda_1) = -[x_{1d}(z, t) - f(t, \lambda_1)] + k_2 \left\{ x_{1d}(z, t) \left[ 1 - \frac{\partial x_{1d}(z, t)}{\partial t} \right] - g(t, \lambda_1) \right\}, \quad (21)$$

$$\phi_4(z, y) = \phi_4(z, t, \lambda_1) = -f(t, \lambda_1) - k_2 \left\{ x_{1d}(z, t) \left[ 1 - \frac{\partial x_{1d}(z, t)}{\partial t} \right] - g(t, \lambda_1) \right\}. \quad (22)$$

If  $\phi_i(z, y) < 0, \forall y \in Y, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , then restrictions (16) and (17) are fulfilled.

It is now time to establish restrictions on the output voltage reference profile  $x_{2d}(t)$  in order to ensure the existence of solution for Problem P1. To this end we take into account the following lemma.

LEMMA 4.3 Let  $Y = [0, T] \times [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Let also  $x_{2d}(t)$  be a  $\mathcal{C}^1$ ,  $T$ -periodic function satisfying  $x_{2d}(t) \neq 0$  and  $f(t, \lambda_1) = \dot{x}_{2d}(t) + \lambda_1 x_{2d}(t) \neq 0$ ,  $\forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y$ . Then,

$$g(t, \lambda_1) = x_{2d}(\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d}) > 0, \quad \forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y.$$

*Proof* (i)  $\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d} > 0$  and  $x_{2d} < 0$ , yields

$$x_{2d}(0)e^{-\lambda_1 t} < x_{2d}(t) < 0, \quad \forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y,$$

which cannot be fulfilled by any periodic function because, at instant  $t = T$ , it should be

$$x_{2d}(0)e^{-\lambda_1 T} < x_{2d}(T) = x_{2d}(0) < 0.$$

(ii)  $\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d} < 0$  and  $x_{2d} > 0$ , yields

$$0 < x_{2d}(t) < x_{2d}(0)e^{-\lambda_1 t}, \quad \forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y,$$

which is again impossible to fulfil for any periodic function. □

Hence, regarding Lemma 4.3, let us now introduce the following hypotheses:

**H5.** Let  $Y = [0, T] \times [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$  be a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .  $x_{2d}(t)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^2$ ,  $T$ -periodic and is such that

$$f(t, \lambda_1) = \dot{x}_{2d}(t) + \lambda_1 x_{2d}(t) > 0, \quad \forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y.$$

**H6.1**  $x_{2d}(t) > 0$ ,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$ .

**H6.2**  $1 > x_{2d}(t) > 0$ ,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$ .

**H6.3**  $x_{2d}(t) > 1$ ,  $\forall t \in [0, T]$ .

The existence of a solution for Problem P1 depends upon the following lemma.

LEMMA 4.4 Let  $x_{2d}(t)$  be an output voltage reference. If Hypothesis H5 holds, the functions  $\phi_i(z, y)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , defined in (19),(20),(21),(22), are continuously differentiable. Moreover, assume that:

(i) H5 and H6.1 hold for  $k_1 = k_2 = 0$ ,

(ii) H5 and H6.2 hold for  $k_1 = 1$ ,  $k_2 = 0$ ,

(iii) H5 and H6.3 hold for  $k_1 = 0$ ,  $k_2 = 1$ ;

then, the set  $Z^P$  defined as

$$Z^P = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^{2r+1}, \quad \psi_i(z) \leq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4\}, \quad (23)$$

where

$$\psi_i(z) = \max_{y \in Y} \{\phi_i(z, y)\}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

is nonempty.

*Proof* The continuous differentiability of  $\phi_i(z, y)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , follows immediately from its own definition and from the fact that  $x_{2d}(t)$  is assumed to be  $\mathcal{C}^2$  in Hypothesis H5.

It is also straightforward from H5 and any of H6. $i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , that  $f(y)$  and  $g(y)$  are continuous and positive  $\forall y \in Y$ . Furthermore,  $Y$  being compact,  $f(y)$  and  $g(y)$  reach maximum and minimum values in  $Y$ , i.e. there exist  $f_M, f_m, g_M, g_m \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that:

$$f_M = \max_{y \in Y} \{f(y)\}, \quad f_m = \min_{y \in Y} \{f(y)\}, \quad g_M = \max_{y \in Y} \{g(y)\}, \quad g_m = \min_{y \in Y} \{g(y)\}.$$

Let us now see how the hypotheses regarding  $x_{2d}(t)$  require  $Z^P \neq \emptyset$  in each case:

- ( $k_1 = k_2 = 0$ ) Setting  $z_2 = \dots = z_{2r+1} = 0$  in (19),(20),(21),(22) one gets:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{100}(z_1; y) = g(y) - z_1, & \phi_2(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{200}(y) = -g(y), \\ \phi_3(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{300}(z_1, y) = f(y) - z_1, & \phi_4(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{400}(y) = -f(y). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\phi_{200}(y) < 0, \phi_{400}(y) < 0, \forall y \in Y$ , because of Hypotheses H5 and H6.1.

- ( $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 0$ ) Setting  $z_2 = \dots = z_{2r+1} = 0$  in (19),(20),(21),(22) one gets:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{110}(y) = g(y) - f(y), & \phi_2(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{210}(z_1, y) = -g(y) + f(y) - z_1, \\ \phi_3(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{310}(z_1, y) = f(y) - z_1, & \phi_4(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{410}(y) = -f(y). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\phi_{110}(y) < 0, \phi_{410}(y) < 0, \forall y \in Y$ , because of Hypotheses H5 and H6.2.

- ( $k_1 = 0, k_2 = 1$ ) Setting  $z_2 = \dots = z_{2r+1} = 0$  in (19),(20),(21),(22) one gets:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{101}(z_1, y) = g(y) - z_1, & \phi_2(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{201}(y) = -g(y), \\ \phi_3(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{301}(y) = f(y) - g(y), & \phi_4(z_1, 0, \dots, 0; y) &= \phi_{401}(z_1, y) = -f(y) + g(y) - z_1. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\phi_{201}(y) < 0, \phi_{301}(y) < 0, \forall y \in Y$ , because of Hypotheses H5 and H6.3.

Therefore, the  $\mathbb{R}^{2r+1}$  subset

$$Z_1^P = \{(z_1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{2r+1}; z_1 \geq \max\{f_M, g_M\}\}$$

is trivially a subset of  $Z^P$  in each case. □

**PROPOSITION 4.5** *Assume that:*

- (i) H5 and H6.1 hold for  $k_1 = k_2 = 0$ ,
- (ii) H5 and H6.2 hold  $k_1 = 1, k_2 = 0$ ,
- (iii) H5 and H6.3 hold  $k_1 = 0, k_2 = 1$ .

*Then, Problem P1 has solution in the domain  $Z^P$  defined in (23).*

*Proof* Proposition 3.3 guarantees the existence of solution of Problem P1 under Assumptions A1 and A2, which follow from the hypotheses established in this Proposition because of Lemma 4.4. □

*Remark 4.1* Note that the unperturbed situation  $\lambda_{1min} = \lambda_{1max}$  leads to a subset of the domain  $Z^P$  in which it is also possible to prove the existence of solution for Problem P1 by following Proposition 4.5. (Sanz *et al.*, 2006) contains numerical examples of power loss minimization in a full-bridge boost converter for both the perturbed and unperturbed situations.

## 5 Example: robust tracking of a sinusoidal reference with power losses minimization in a Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter

According to Section 4, the mathematical model of the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter, depicted in Figure 1, is:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= u_1 - x_2 u_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\lambda_1 x_2 + x_1 u_2. \end{aligned}$$

Hypotheses H3 and H4 are fulfilled whenever the current and voltage reference profiles  $x_{1d}(t)$  and  $x_{2d}(t)$

are such that  $x_{1d}(t) \neq 0$  and (see (16),(17))

$$0 < u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1) = \frac{x_{1d}\dot{x}_{1d} + x_{2d}(\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d})}{x_{1d}} < 1, \quad \forall (t, \lambda_1) \in Y, \quad (24)$$

$$0 < u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1) = \frac{\dot{x}_{2d} + \lambda_1 x_{2d}}{x_{1d}} < 1, \quad \forall (t, \lambda_1) \in Y, \quad (25)$$

where  $Y = [0, T] \times [\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}]$ . Remark 2.5 has been taken into account.

Following equation (18), the switching surface expression is

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_1(e, t) &= -e_1 \\ \sigma_2(e, t) &= x_{2d}(t)e_1 - x_{1d}(t)e_2, \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

and the control law that yields  $x_1 = x_{1d}(t)$ ,  $x_2 = x_{2d}(t)$ , is the one contained in Proposition 4.1. To this end  $x_{1d}(t)$  and  $x_{2d}(t)$  must satisfy the requirements of Proposition 4.1.

The final aim of the study of the device is the possibility of developing a robust inverter. Therefore we exemplify the tracking procedure with a sinusoidal reference. Hence, let us state the following hypothesis: **H7**. Let  $x_{2d}(t) = A + B \sin \omega t$  be such that

$$A > B \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\omega}{\lambda_{1min}}\right)^2} > 0.$$

**PROPOSITION 5.1** *Let  $x_{2d}(t) = A + B \sin \omega t$  be a reference candidate to be tracked by the output voltage of a Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter. If Hypothesis H7 holds, then Problem P1 has a solution.*

*Proof* Straightforward calculation allows one to see that  $x_{2d}(t)$  satisfies Hypotheses H5 and H6.1. Hence, Proposition 4.5 yields the result.  $\square$

On the other hand, in the selection of an expression for the inductor current reference, a trade off between effective minimization of the power losses and complexity of the controller structure has to be taken into account. Hence, our proposal is to compare the results associated with constant and first harmonic Fourier expansions for the inductor current reference profile, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} x_{1d}(t) &= x_{1d}^* \\ x_{1d}(t) &= a_0 + a_1 \cos \omega t + b_1 \sin \omega t. \end{aligned}$$

### 5.1 Constant inductor current reference

Let  $x_{2d}(t) = A + B \sin \omega t$  satisfy H7. Then, it follows from Proposition 5.1 that Problem P1 has a solution for  $x_{1d} = x_{1d}^*$ . Moreover, from the proof of Lemma 4.4 a solution is given by

$$x_{1d}^* = \max\{f_M, g_M\},$$

where  $f_M$  and  $g_M$  are now:

$$f_M = \max_{(t, \lambda_1) \in Y} \{\lambda_1 A + B\omega \cos \omega t + B\lambda_1 \sin \omega t\},$$

$$g_M = \max_{(t, \lambda_1) \in Y} \left\{ \lambda_1 \left( A^2 + \frac{B^2}{2} \right) + AB\omega \cos \omega t + 2\lambda_1 AB \sin \omega t - \frac{\lambda_1 B^2}{2} \cos 2\omega t + \frac{B^2 \omega}{2} \sin 2\omega t \right\}.$$

## 5.2 First harmonic Fourier expansion for the inductor current reference

Proposition 5.1 ensures that Problem P1 has a solution for any sinusoidal voltage reference satisfying H7. Note that in this case it turns out that, following (22),  $\phi_4(z, y) = \phi_4(y) = -f(y)$ , and Hypothesis H7 guarantees that  $\phi_4(y) < 0, \forall y \in Y$ . Hence, we have to consider only  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  and  $\phi_3$  in solving Problem P1. Specific expressions for these scalar maps (see (19),(20),(21)) are:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1(a_0, a_1, b_1, t, \lambda_1) = & \lambda_1 \left( A^2 + \frac{B^2}{2} \right) - a_0 - [a_1 - (a_0 b_1 + AB)\omega] \cos \omega t - (b_1 + a_0 a_1 \omega - 2\lambda_1 AB) \sin \omega t + \\ & - \left( \frac{\lambda_1 B^2}{2} - a_1 b_1 \omega \right) \cos 2\omega t - (a_1^2 - b_1^2 - B^2) \frac{\omega}{2} \sin 2\omega t, \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_2(a_0, a_1, b_1, t, \lambda_1) = & -\lambda_1 \left( A^2 + \frac{B^2}{2} \right) - (a_0 b_1 + AB)\omega \cos \omega t - (2\lambda_1 AB - a_0 a_1 \omega) \sin \omega t + \\ & - \left( a_1 b_1 \omega - \frac{\lambda_1 B^2}{2} \right) \cos 2\omega t - (B^2 + b_1^2 - a_1^2) \frac{\omega}{2} \sin 2\omega t, \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

$$\phi_3(a_0, a_1, b_1, t, \lambda_1) = \lambda_1 A - a_0 + (B\omega - a_1) \cos \omega t + (B\lambda_1 - b_1) \sin \omega t. \quad (29)$$

Once the change of variables

$$a_0 = z_1, \quad a_1 = \sqrt{2}z_2, \quad b_1 = \sqrt{2}z_3$$

is introduced in (27),(28),(29), Problem P1 may be numerically solved with

$$F(z_1, z_2, z_3) = \sqrt{z_1^2 + z_2^2 + z_3^3}$$

by means of the function `fseminf`, available in the Optimization Toolbox of MATLAB. Essentially, the routine uses cubic and quadratic interpolation techniques to estimate peak values in the semi-infinite constraints. The peak values are used to form a set of constraints that are supplied to a sequential quadratic programming (SQP) method.

## 6 Simulation results

The power electronics software PSIM is used to carry out the simulations. The parameters of the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter are: a DC voltage source  $V_g = 40V$ , a nominal output resistance  $R = 20\Omega$ , an inductance  $L = 1mH$  with an internal resistance  $0.01\Omega$  and a capacitor  $C = 60\mu F$  with an internal resistance  $0.01\Omega$ . Each switch is implemented by means of an IGBT with a saturation voltage of  $2V$  and a power diode with a voltage drop of  $0.5V$ .

Figure 2 shows the complete closed-loop circuitry used to perform the simulations. The sliding mode controllers require the use of multipliers, sums and comparators which can be implemented by means of analogue techniques. A detailed description of the procedure may be found in (Biel *et al.*, 2004). The sliding mode controllers use hysteresis cycle comparators (Bilalović *et al.*, 1983; Bülher, 1986) with hysteresis cycles of  $0.02V$  for  $\sigma_1$  and  $0.4V$  for  $\sigma_2$ , as well as zero order holders. Hence, the maximum switching frequency is limited to  $120KHz$ . Expressions of  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are in equation (26).

The output voltage reference for tracking is

$$v_{Cd}(\tau) = 60 + 40 \sin 2\pi\nu\tau,$$

with  $\nu = 50Hz$ . The values of the corresponding normalized variables are:

$$x_{2d}(t) = 1.5 + \sin \omega t,$$

with  $\omega = 0.0770$ , corresponding to a normalized period of  $T = 81.65$ .

Finally, the converter is assumed to undergo load variations up to 100% of the nominal value, i.e., from  $20\Omega$  to  $40\Omega$ . The load perturbations induce a possible variation of  $\lambda_1$  in the set  $[\lambda_{1min}, \lambda_{1max}] = [0.1021, 0.2041]$ .

These settings guarantee that Hypothesis H7 holds. Hence, Proposition 5.1 ensures that Problem P1 has a solution for both constant and first harmonic Fourier expansion reference profiles for the inductor current. Table 2 contains the optimum values for the reference parameters provided by MATLAB, as well as the corresponding RMS values. Note that the use of a periodic reference for the inductor current entails a RMS reduction of 32.47% with respect to a constant reference. In terms of power consumption, this grows to 60.84%.

Table 2. Optimized parameters for the inductor current reference and associated RSM in normalized variables

$x_{1d}(t)$	$a_0$	$a_1$	$b_1$	RMS
Constant	1.2934	0	0	1.2934
Periodic	0.6891	0.1711	0.5754	0.8093

The fulfillment of restrictions (24),(25), which indicate that the converter is working in the unsaturated zone in the steady-state  $\forall(t, \lambda_1) \in Y$ , may be visualized by means of a 3D plot of the equivalent controls corresponding to constant and periodic current reference profiles in Figures 3 and 4, respectively. Sectional plots of both figures for  $\lambda_1 = 0.2041$ , which corresponds to  $R = 20\Omega$ , are included in Figures 5 and 6.

When realistic simulations of the converter performance are carried out following the guidelines given in Section 5, the DC terms of the inductor current references provided by MATLAB optimization routines have to be slightly increased for sliding motion to be induced. This is a foreseeable effect of unmodelled dynamics and parasitic resistances. Table 3 provides the real values (in ampères) of the ideal and practical values of the DC components of the inductor current references, as well as the RSM values. The percentage reduction of RSM and power loss when using a periodic rather than a constant inductor current reference are about 35.57% and 58.49%, respectively. These values are similar to the above reported for the ideal case.

Table 3. Ideal and practical values for the DC term of the inductor current reference and associated RSM

$i_{Ld}(\tau)$	$i_{Ld0}$ (ideal)	$i_{Ld0}$ (practical)	RMS (ideal)	RMS (practical)
Constant	12.67 A	14.00 A	12.67 A	14.00 A
Periodic	6.75 A	8.00 A	7.93 A	9.02 A

Simulations of the behaviour of the converter for constant and periodic inductor current references are depicted in Figures 7 and 8, respectively. In both cases, the output voltage performs a precise robust tracking of the reference profile. Meanwhile, the inductor currents also respond as expected and achieve the prescribed references. The load current is included in the plots aiming to show the disturbance forced in the output load parameter, which consists of periodic jumps of 100% of the nominal value.

## 7 Conclusions and suggestions further research

Robust control of the output voltage in a family of nonlinear switching power converters that includes the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost, the Watkins-Johnson and the Inverse of Watkins-Johnson, is performed by means of sliding modes. The proposed switching surface uses a full state reference profile. Output voltage asymptotic tracking of periodic references under arbitrary load variations in a set with known bounds

is achieved. Meanwhile, the inductor current is independently regulated, and semi-infinite optimization techniques are used to choose a reference profile that minimizes power losses whilst maintaining the system in the sliding regime. Realistic simulation results for a Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter validate the proposal.

Further research may study the implementation of the proposed scheme by constructing an experimental prototype. Moreover, issues concerning the behaviour of the proposed scheme under non-resistive loads and the differential connection of two converters in order to have a robust inverter should be addressed.

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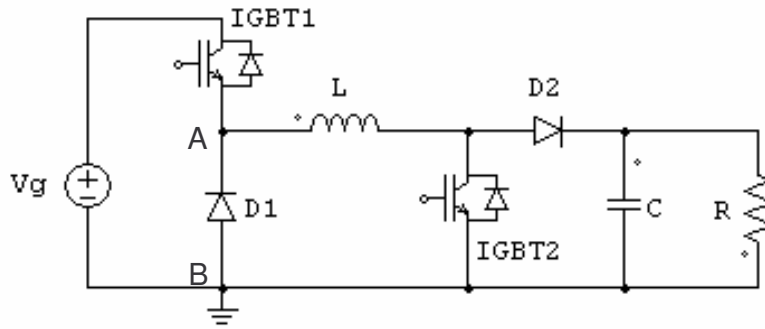


Figure 1. Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter.

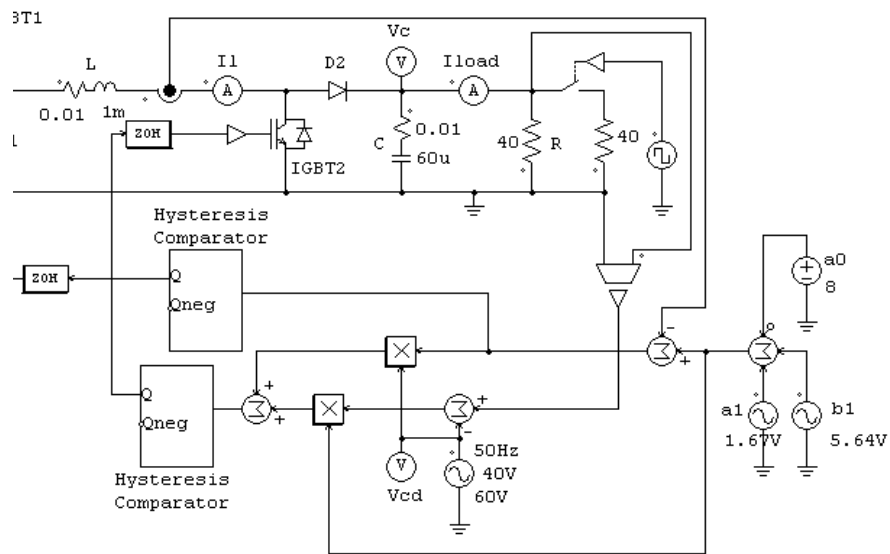


Figure 2. Closed-loop scheme of the Non-Inverting Buck-Boost converter used in the PSIM simulations.

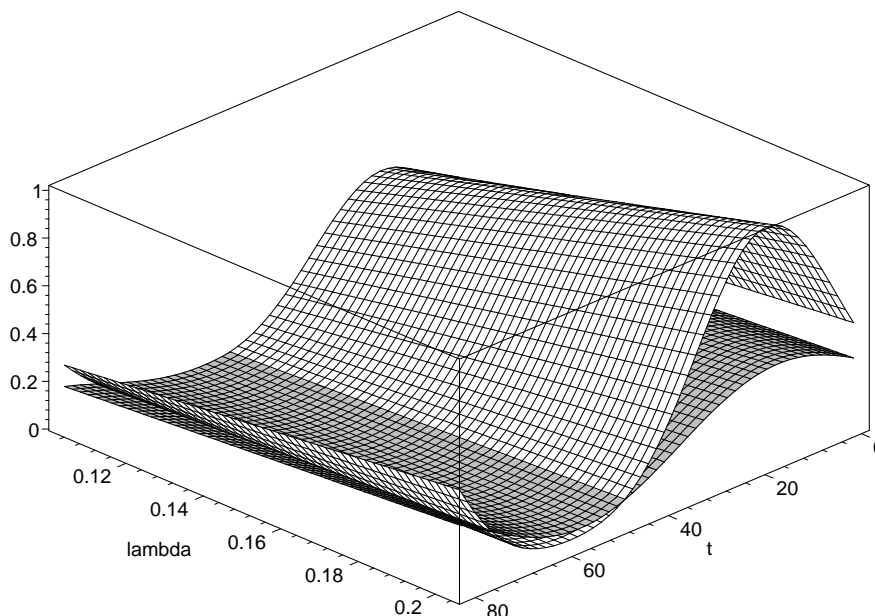


Figure 3. Equivalent control functions  $u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1)$  (white) and  $u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1)$  (grey), associated with a constant current reference.

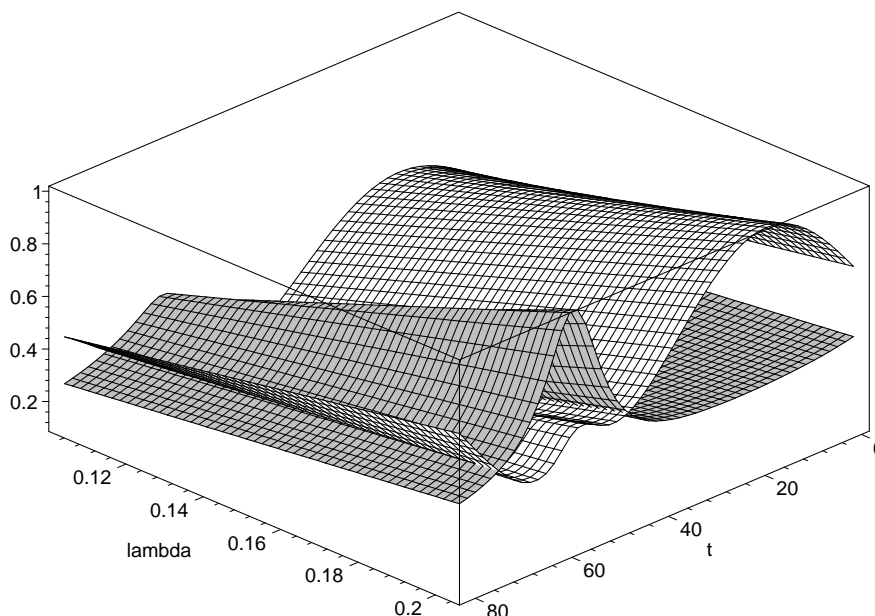


Figure 4. Equivalent control functions  $u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1)$  (white) and  $u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1)$  (grey), associated with a periodic current reference.

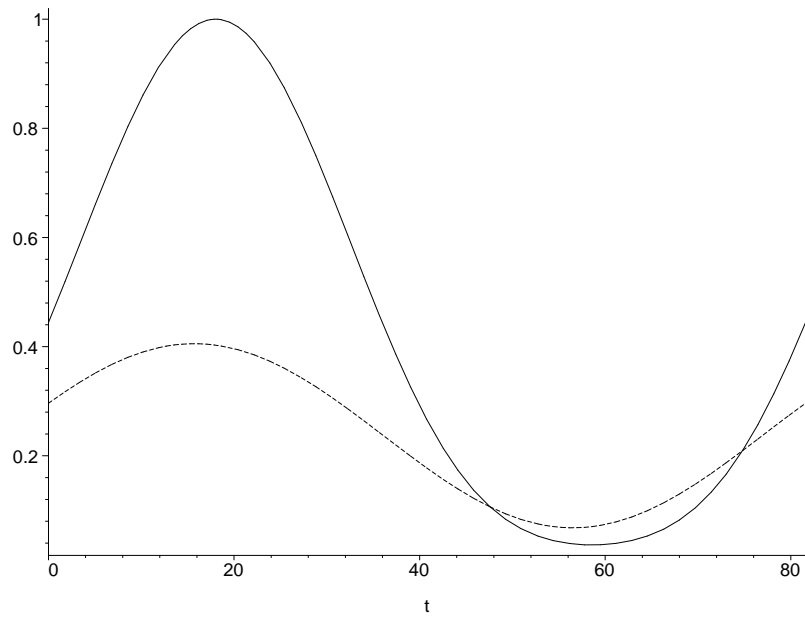


Figure 5. Sectional plot of Figure 2 for  $\lambda_1 = 0.2041$ . The equivalent controls are  $u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1 = 0.2041)$  (solid) and  $u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1 = 0.2041)$  (dotted)

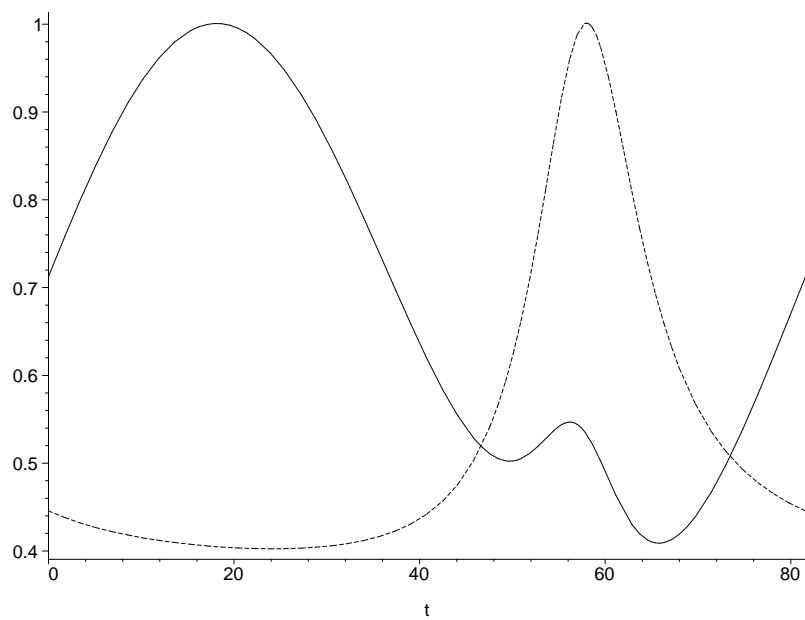


Figure 6. Sectional plot of Figure 3 for  $\lambda_1 = 0.2041$ . The equivalent controls are  $u_{1eq}(t, \lambda_1 = 0.2041)$  (solid) and  $u_{2eq}(t, \lambda_1 = 0.2041)$  (dotted)

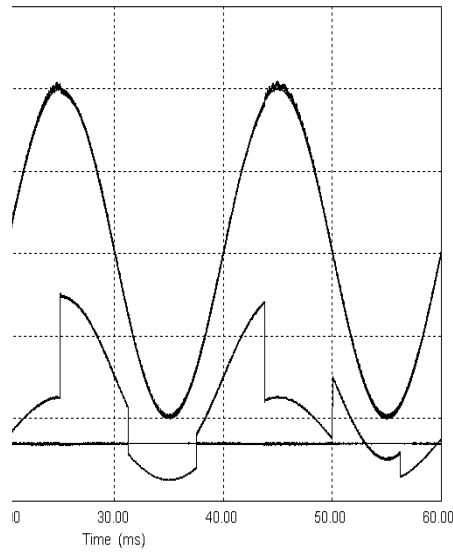


Figure 7. Robust output voltage tracking with a constant inductor current reference: (1) Inductor current  $i_L$ , (2) Output voltage  $v_C$  tracking the reference profile, (3) Load current multiplied by 10.

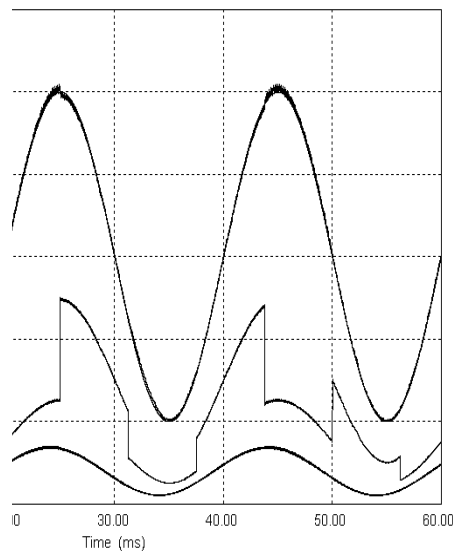


Figure 8. Robust output voltage tracking with a periodic inductor current reference: (1) Inductor current  $i_L$ , (2) Output voltage  $v_C$  tracking the reference profile, (3) Load current multiplied by 10.