

A Single-Input Dual-Output DC-DC Converter for Powertrain of PEM Fuel Cell Vehicle

Mudadla Dhananjaya, Devendra Potnuru., B. Krishna Chaitnya, Naresh Patnana, Jagadish Kumar Bokam

¹Dept. of EEE, Anil Neerukonda Institute of Technology & Sciences, Visakhapatnam, AP, India

²Dept. of EEE, Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engg. for women, Visakhapatnam, AP, India,

³Dept. of EEE, CBIT Engineering College, Hyderabad, India

^{4,5}Dept. of EEE, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam, AP, India,

Corresponding Author Email: devendra.p.07@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

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Multi-output converter plays a vital role in portable electronic and electric vehicle (EV) applications. In this regard, a new single-input dual output (SIDO) converter is proposed in this paper. Most of the single-input dual-output converter configurations presented by various researchers in the domain of multi-output converters function under particular assumptions about operational duty cycle and inductor current. Also, the issue of cross-regulation is still prevalent while operating the loads in many SIDO converters. The proposed configuration generates two output voltages in boost and buck-boost modes without any constraints on the duty ratio or inductor currents. In addition, it doesn't encounter cross-regulation problems; subsequently, the output voltage V_{01} (V_{02}) is not influenced by load changes in i_{02} (i_{01}). To verify the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed configuration, a 200 W prototype circuit is developed; simulation and experimental results are validated.

1. INTRODUCTION

Multi-input and multi-output converters, also called Multiport converters (MPCs), drew the attention of researchers, specifically working in the areas of grid-connected independent energy sources portable electronic and electric vehicle (EV) applications. Moreover, MPCs involve less number of components and deliver a compact structure compared to various DC-DC converters [1],[2]. As a result, the system's complexity and cost decrease, and the power density increases. Thus MPCs are an excellent solution for grid-connected systems, electric vehicles, and portable electronic applications [3-7].

As proposed in [8] and [9], a new SIMO converter simultaneously generates boost, buck, and inverted outputs controlled independently. However, producing 'n' voltage levels require $n + 2$ switches, which increases the size and cost. The state-space equations and output voltages in [8] have been further modified and rectified in [9]. The single coupled inductor-based SIMO buck is presented in [10] with lesser output inductor current ripple than single inductor SIMO converters. Gayatri et al. elaborately explained the comparative performance of SIDO converters and discussed the cross-coupling issues with coupled inductors [11]. And also proposed that the coupled inductor SIDO converter has a better steady-state and transient performance. However, in a SIMO configuration with a single inductor, the inductor is changed between the outputs, resulting in significant ripples and cross-regulation issues.

Different control approaches are proposed in the literature to overcome the cross-regulation issue in a single inductor-based SIMO converter; a current predictor is proposed in [12] instead

of the conventional charge-balance approach. However, the control approach in [12] is somewhat complicated to generate the duty ratios for active switches. Similarly, the deadbeat-based control approach is presented in [13]. It is based on output current observer, and hence it is sensitive to the noise and /or significant parametric variations. In [14], a multivariable digital controller-based SIMO converter is proposed to minimize the voltage ripples, suppress the cross-regulation problems, and regulate the output voltages. However, controller design may lead to an increase in the complexity of the converter.

A non-isolated and single switch SIMO converter topology is presented in [15]. It has a low device count with hence low cost and smaller size. However, it may be challenging to regulate the outputs independently with different duty ratios. Non-isolated SIMO converters [16-24] were also proposed to tackle the problems in a single inductor SIMO converter that independently regulates the output voltages. In [16], a new SIDO converter topology is presented with buck and super lift converter integration for generating the step-up and step-down output voltages for electrical vehicle applications. It has a constraint on-duty ratio viz. $D_2 < D_1$. The presented topologies in [17-18] could independently regulate the output voltage, and even the number of semiconductor devices required is less. However, the duty ratio selection is such that $i_{L1} > i_{L2}$ and outputs are arbitrary. Another SIMO converter, a combination of high gain step-up and Sepic converter, is suggested for PV applications in [19]. The output voltages are higher and improved than the input voltage in this configuration using capacitors and diodes. However, with additional capacitors and diodes, the overall cost and conduction losses also increase. A new SIDO buck-boost converter is developed to

generate the same positive and negative output voltage [20]. A topology synthesis process has been developed in [21] to develop various combinations.

A three output converter is suggested in [22] with high voltage gains, but it has a reduced number of power IGBTs than similar configurations. The conduction losses are higher due to more number of diodes. In [23], a novel SIMO converter structure is introduced. It uses a reduced passive filter element size and has a low magnitude of voltage stress on devices. Nevertheless, it has more device count, affecting the cost and size. High-density multi-output converter is proposed in [24] for portable applications. This configuration has a front-end switched-capacitor which improves the power density and limits the switching losses. Most recently, researchers proposed Maximum Power Point Tracking (MPPT) for Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) Fuel cell-based DC-DC converters[25]-[28]. In [25], MPPT using hybrid artificial bee colony algorithm with a fuzzy controller is developed for boost converter, ANN is suggested in [26],[27] for an high step up and quadratic boost converters and in [28], a PSO based MPPT for buck converter for proton - exchange membrane fuel cell-based buck converter. PEM Fuel Cell has good application potential in electric vehicles, distributed generation, portable power systems, microgrid and aerospace equipment[25].

A new SIDO topology is presented in this paper to generate two output voltages with improved output voltage gains and to regulate the output voltages individually without any control constraints. The main advantage of the circuit configuration is that it avoids cross-regulation issues during the control of loads. The following is how the manuscript is organized: Section 2 describes the proposed SIDO architecture and operation modes. Section 3 discusses small-signal analysis. Section 4 covers the parameter design technique, power loss, and comparison analysis. Application of the proposed converter is presented in section.5. The recommended configuration's performance is verified 6, and the conclusions are provided in Section 7.

2. PROPOSED SIDO CONFIGURATION AND MODES OF OPERATION

The structure of the proposed single input dual-output DC-DC converter is depicted in Figure 1. This configuration consists of V_{DC} as the input voltage, active switches (S_1 - S_3), diodes (D_1 and D_2), and passive filter elements (L_1 - C_1) and (L_2 - C_2). It can generate two different output voltages, one as boost voltage (V_{01}) and the other as either buck or boost voltage (V_{02}). Also, this configuration can operate under a switch fault condition. It can generate the boost and buck output voltages with independent duty ratios.

The proposed structure has following advantages:

- The circuit structure is simple with out any operational constraints on the operating duty cycle ($D_1 > D_2$ or $D_2 < D_1$ or $D_1 = D_2$)
- Further, no control constraint like $i_{L1} > i_{L2}$ or $i_{L1} < i_{L2}$
- It can generate the independent output voltages
- The converter one output voltage is the positive buck-boost output which does not require inverting circuit. And another output voltage is boost voltage.
- The proposed configuration operates as SIDO, delivering the boost and buck outputs.

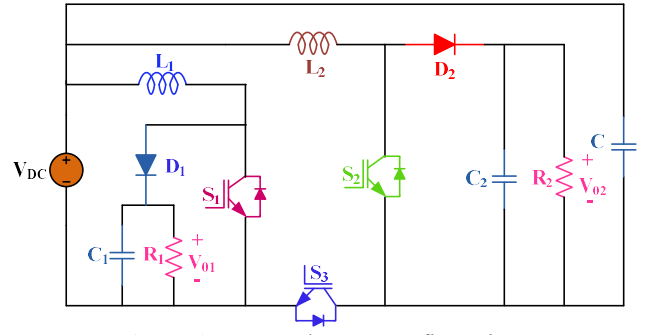


Figure 1. Proposed SIDO configuration

The other application areas of the proposed configuration are dc nanogrids, bias supplies, and solar battery chargers.

2.1. Modes of operation

Switching state 1:

The devices S_1 , S_2 , and S_3 are controlled in this mode. Figure 2(a) depicts the current flow, and during this mode, inductors are magnetized by the input DC source. Further, the capacitors are discharged their energy to the loads. The governing equations are given in (1)-(4) during this mode.

$$i_{L_1}(t) = \frac{V_{DC}}{L_1}t + i_{L_1(0)} \quad (1)$$

$$v_{C_1}(t) = v_{C_1(0)}e^{-\frac{1}{R_1C_1}t} \quad (2)$$

$$i_{L_2}(t) = \frac{V_{DC}}{L_2}t + i_{L_2(0)} \quad (3)$$

$$v_{C_2}(t) = v_{C_2(0)}e^{-\frac{1}{R_2C_2}t} \quad (4)$$

Switching state 2:

The body diode of the switches S_2 and S_4 are conducting as shown in Figure 2(b). The equations describing this mode are given in (5)-(8),

$$i_{L_1}(t) = \frac{V_{DC}}{R_1} + e^{-\alpha_1 t} [c_1 \cos \omega_{d1} t + c_2 \sin \omega_{d1} t] \quad (5)$$

$$v_{C_1}(t) = V_{DC} - \frac{L_1}{2C_1} e^{-\alpha_1 t} \left[\cos \omega_{d1} t \left(\frac{c_1}{R_1} - \omega_{d1} c_2 \right) + \sin \omega_{d1} t \left(\omega_{d1} c_1 + \frac{c_2}{R_1} \right) \right] \quad (6)$$

$$i_{L_2}(t) = e^{-\alpha_2 t} [c_3 \cos \omega_{d2} t + c_4 \sin \omega_{d2} t] \quad (7)$$

$$v_{C_2}(t) = -L_2 e^{-\alpha_2 t} \left[(-\alpha_2 c_3 + \omega_{d2} c_4) \cos \omega_{d2} t + (\omega_{d2} c_3 - \alpha_2 c_4) \sin \omega_{d2} t \right] \quad (8)$$

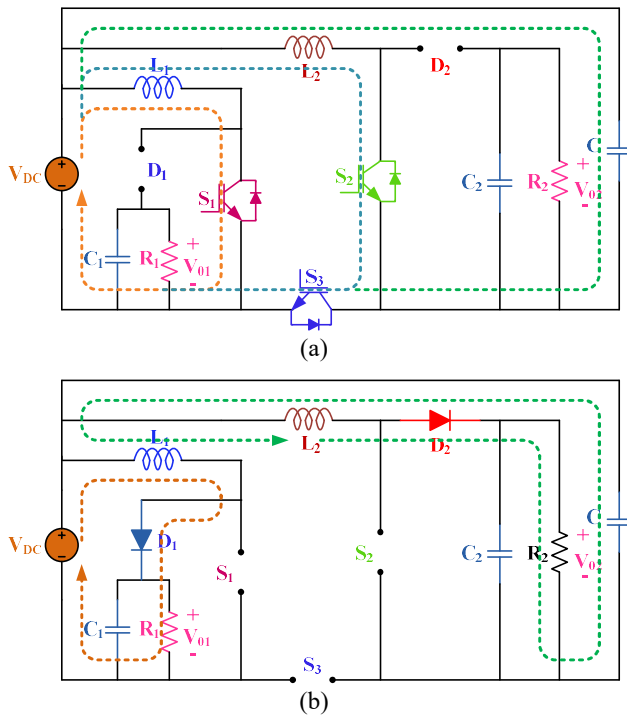


Figure 2. Switching states of the converter: (a). state 1 and (b) state 2

where

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{2R_1C_1}, \omega_{d1} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{R_1^2C_1^2} - \frac{4}{L_1C_1} \right)}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{2R_2C_2} \text{ and } \omega_{d2} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{R_2^2C_2^2} - \frac{4}{L_2C_2} \right)}$$

Output voltages of the proposed configuration are as follows

$$V_{01} = \frac{V_{DC}}{(1-D_1)}, V_{02} = V_2 + \frac{D_2V_{DC}}{(1-D_2)} \quad (9)$$

where D_1 and D_2 are the duty ratio of the switches S_1 , S_2 , and S_3 , respectively.

It is observed that during the switching state-1 and 2 operation, the load (R_1) and (R_2) are isolated from the ground, as shown in Figure 3. It is observed that during any mode of operation, all the loads are not connected at one ground point electrically; however, they might be connected physically at a common ground. Moreover, this configuration of the circuit is such that energy associated with the inductor is confined to one output only and is not shared with the other outputs during the control and also independently regulates output voltages with independent duty-cycles. As a result, load current i_{02} (i_{01}) does not influence the output voltages V_{01} (or V_{02}). Hence the proposed converter loads are isolated during the control and avoid all the cross-regulation problems. More importantly, the configuration has two independent outputs without control constraints like $i_{L1} > i_{L2}$ or $D_1 + D_2 <= 1$.

2.2. Semiconductor stress analysis

Semiconductor stresses of the proposed configuration are presented in Eq. in (10)-(21) as follows [26].

Voltage stresses

$$V_{S_1} = V_{01}, V_{D_1} = V_{01}$$

$$V_{S_2} = V_{S_3} = \left(\frac{V_{DC} + V_{02}}{2} \right) \quad (10)$$

$$V_{D_2} = (V_{DC} + V_{02})$$

Current stresses

Mode 1:

$$i_{S_1} = i_{L_1}, i_{S_2} = i_{S_3} = i_{L_2}, i_{D_1} = i_{D_2} = 0 \quad (11)$$

Mode 2:

$$i_{S_1} = i_{S_2} = i_{S_3} = 0, i_{D_1} = i_{L_1}, i_{D_2} = i_{L_2} \quad (12)$$

3. SMALL SIGNAL MODELING

The system transfer functions for the developed circuit configuration are derived as procedure given in [29], and their equations are described in (13)-(28). The equations are written in a state-space form (13)-(14).

$$\dot{x}(t) = Bx(t) + Cu(t) \quad (13)$$

$$y(t) = Dx(t) + Eu(t) \quad (14)$$

The above equations form are the switching modes in (15) and (16) during one switching period.

$$\dot{x}(t) = B_n x(t) + C_n u(t) \quad (15)$$

$$y(t) = D_n x(t) + E_n u(t) \quad (16)$$

The state equations are followed as,

$$\dot{x}(t) = dB_1x(t) + (1-d)B_2x(t) + dC_1u(t) + (1-d)C_2u(t) \quad (17)$$

$$y(t) = dD_1x(t) + (1-d)D_2x(t) + dE_1u(t) + (1-d)E_2u(t) \quad (18)$$

To linearize the above equations, perturbations are considered in all parameters below.

$$d = D + \hat{d} \quad (19)$$

$$U(t) = U + \hat{u}(t) \quad (20)$$

$$X(t) = X + \hat{x}(t) \quad (21)$$

$$Y(t) = Y + \hat{y}(t) \quad (22)$$

The average model of the converter is given in matrix form,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} i_{L_1}(t) \\ i_{L_2}(t) \\ v_{C_1}(t) \\ v_{C_2}(t) \end{bmatrix} = B \begin{bmatrix} i_{L_1}(t) \\ i_{L_2}(t) \\ v_{C_1}(t) \\ v_{C_2}(t) \end{bmatrix} + CV_{DC} \quad (23)$$

where

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{-(1-D_1)}{L_1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{(1-D_2)}{L_2} \\ \frac{(1-D_1)}{C_1} & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_1 C_1} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{(1-D_2)}{C_2} & 0 & \frac{-1}{R_2 C_2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (24)$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{L_1} \\ \frac{D_2}{L_2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

The output voltages \hat{v}_{01} and \hat{v}_{02} are determined by \hat{d}_1 and \hat{d}_2 , as illustrated

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{v}_{01}(s) &= G_{vd1} \hat{d}_1(s) \\ \hat{v}_{02}(s) &= G_{vd2} \hat{d}_2(s) \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

The control transfer functions for the proposed configuration are as below with a small-signal analysis.

$$\frac{\hat{v}_{01}(s)}{\hat{d}_1(s)} = \frac{V_{DC}}{(1-D_1)^2} \left[\frac{1 - s \frac{L_1}{R_1(1-D_1)^2}}{1 + s \frac{L_1}{R_1(1-D_1)^2} + s^2 \frac{L_1 C_1}{(1-D_1)^2}} \right] \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{\hat{v}_{02}(s)}{\hat{d}_2(s)} = \frac{V_{DC}}{R_2} \left[\frac{1 + s C_2 R_2}{1 + s \frac{L_2}{R_2} + s^2 L_2 C_2} \right] \quad (28)$$

4. PARAMETERS DESIGN AND CONVERTER ANALYSIS

4.1. Design of parameters

This converter's parameters design is followed as per the procedure given in [30].

$$\begin{aligned} L_{1\min} &= \frac{2}{27} \frac{R_{L1\max}}{f_s} \\ L_{2\min} &= \frac{R_{L2\max}(1-D_{\min})}{2f} \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

f_s = switching frequency, D_{\min} = Minimum duty cycle

Current ripple through inductors is given in (30)

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta i_{L_1\max} &= \frac{V_{01} D_{\min} (1-D_{\min})}{f_s L_1} \\ \Delta i_{L_2\max} &= \frac{V_{02} (1-D_{\min})}{f_s L_2} \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Calculation of filter capacitance value is

$$C_{1\min} = \frac{D_{\max} V_{01}}{V_{cpp} R_{L1\max} f_s}, C_{2\min} = \frac{D_{\max}}{2r_c f_s} \quad (31)$$

where

$V_{01,02}$ = Output voltage, f_s = Switching frequency, D_{\max} = Max. duty ratio, D_{\min} = Min. duty ratio V_{cpp} = Peak-to-peak

$$V_{cpp} = \frac{V_r}{2} \quad (32)$$

The ripple voltage (V_r) is 1% V_0

4.2. Power losses calculations

Power losses are essential for calculating efficiency as follows [31], and is shown in Eq. (29)-(29).

$$P_{loss_IGBT} = P_{con} + P_{sw} \quad (33)$$

The IGBT conduction losses are

$$P_{con} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (R_{on} i_F + V_{Fo}) i_F dt \quad (34)$$

Where, R_{on} = Switch ON-state resistance, V_{Fo} = Threshold voltage, i_F = Forward current, and T = Switching period = $1/f$. The switching losses are calculated using the energy associated during ON and OFF.

$$P_{sw} = (E_{OFF,j} + E_{ON,j}) \times f \quad (35)$$

The efficiency of the proposed converter is

$$\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{out} + P_{sw} + P_{con}} \quad (36)$$

Table 1. Parameter Specifications

Parameter	Simulation s	Experiments
Input DC source	50 Volts	50 Volts
Output magnitude	100 Volts	100 Volts
Load currents (I_{01}/I_{02})	2/1.5 Amp	2/1.5 Amp

Switching frequency (<i>f</i>)	50 kHz	50 kHz
Inductor <i>L</i> ₁	0.6 mH	0.5mH
Inductor <i>L</i> ₂	1.5 mH	2 mH
Capacitor <i>C</i> ₁	200uF	220uF
Capacitor <i>C</i> ₂	360 uF	470 uF

4.3. Performance comparison

This subsection presents performance comparison in terms of power components, energy storage elements, maximum stresses on active switches, etc., presented in this subsection with recently proposed MLCs. In Table.1, the details are given. In [15], it has reduced the power devices. However, it may be challenging to regulate the outputs independently with different duty ratios. In [18] has less number of components and proposed for EV’s auxiliary power supply application. Nevertheless, it has a constraint of $i_{L1} > i_{L2}$ for generating output voltages.

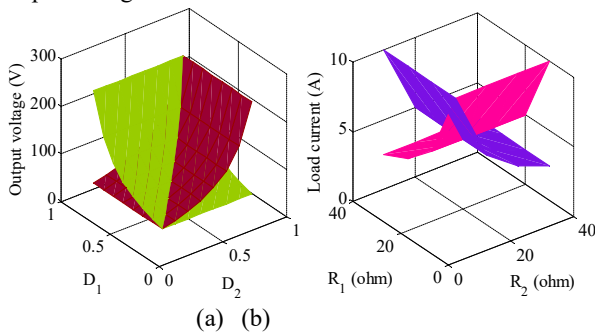


Figure 3. (a) Output voltage vs. duty ratio, and (b) load current vs. load

A SIMO converter illustrated in [19] generates positive and negative output voltages. However, it utilizes more components, increasing the size, cost, and power losses. A new SIDO converter is presented in [23]. It has low semiconductor stress. However, it has more device count, affecting the cost and size. A high-density multioutput converter is suggested in [24] for portable electronic applications. This configuration has more active switches, which may affect the converter efficiency.

The maximum voltage stress on the power switches of topology given in [15] and the proposed converter is the same magnitude. It is equal to the sum of input and output voltages. It is equivalent to supply voltage for topology given in [18] and comparable to output voltage topology presented in [24]. The suggested converter in [23] has less voltage stress, i.e., equals to half of the output voltage. However, the out voltage magnitude is checked at different duty ratios; the corresponding output voltage vs. duty ratio plot is shown in Figure 3(a). Similarly, load current vs. load is depicted in Figure 3(b). From plots 3(a) and (b), it is observed that without any duty cycle constraint, the converter can generate the different output voltages and also independently regulate the outputs.

From this comparative analysis, it was observed that each circuit configuration has some advantages and some drawbacks. The proposed topology is simple in design, and without any limitations on inductor currents and operating duty ratio, it can generate two different output voltages, which also allows to regulate them independently. The output voltage V_{01} is in boost mode, and the other is either buck or boost voltage (V_{02}). Also, this configuration can be extended to operate under a switch fault condition. Moreover, It has low voltage and current stresses.

Table 2: Comparison between different SIMO topologies

Ref.	G_{port}	$S_{V_Stress}/S_{I_Stress}$	$D_{V_Stress}/D_{V_Stress}$	N_s	N_D	N_L	N_c	$N_{component}$	N_{input}	N_{output}	Loads are isolated from each other during control
[15]	$V_{01} = \frac{D}{(1-D)}$ $V_{02} = \frac{1}{(1-D)}$ $D < 1$	$V_{Smax} = V_{02}$ $i_S = i_{L1}$	$V_{D1} = V_g + V_{01}$ $V_{D2} = V_{02}$ $i_{D1} = i_{L2}, i_{D2} = i_{L1}$	1	2	2	3	8	1	2	Yes
[18]	$V_{01} = D_1 V_i, V_{02} = D_2 V_i$ $D_1 + D_2 < 1$	$V_{Smax} = V_i, V_{S0-2} =$ $i_{S0} = i_{L1} + i_{L2}$ $i_{S1} = i_{L2} - 2i_{L1}$ $i_{S2} = i_{L1} - 2i_{L2}$		3	-	2	2	7	1	2	Yes

[19]	$V_{01} = \frac{V_{in}D(1+D)}{(1-D)^2},$ $V_{02} = \frac{-V_{in}D}{(1-D)}$ $0 < D < 1$	$V_{Smax} = V_{in} + V_{02}$ $V_S = V_{in} + V_{02}$ $V_{S1} = V_{01} - V_{02}$ $i_S = i_{L1} + i_L, i_{S1} =$	$V_{D2} = V_D = V_{in} + V_{02}$ $V_{D1} = V_{01} - V_{02}$	2	3	2	3	10	1	2	Yes
[23]	$v_{01} = \frac{v_{in}}{(2-d_1-d_2)},$ $v_{02} = \frac{v_{in}(1-d_2)}{(2-d_1-d_2)}$ $0.5 < d_1 \& d_2 < 1$	$V_{Smax} = \frac{V_{01}}{2}$ $V_{S1-6} = \frac{V_{01}}{2}$ $i_{Smax} = i_{L1}$		6	-	2	3	11	1	2	Yes
[24]	$V_{01} = \frac{2+D}{3},$ $V_{02} = \frac{1+D}{3}, V_{03} = \frac{D}{3}$ $0 < D < 1$	$V_{Smax} = V_{01}$ $i_{Smax} = i_{L1}$		12	-	3	8	23	1	3	Yes
Proposed	$V_{01} = \frac{V_{DC}}{(1-D_1)},$ $V_{02} = \frac{D_2V_{DC}}{(1-D_2)}$ $0 < D_1 < 1, 0 < D_2 < 1$	$V_{Smax} = V_{01}, V_{S1} =$ $V_{S2,3} = \frac{(V_{DC} + V_{02})}{2}$ $i_{S1} = i_{L1}, i_{S2,3} = i_{L2}$	$V_{D1} = V_{01}$ $V_{D2} = V_{DC} + V_{01}$ $i_{D1} = i_{L1}, i_{D2} = i_{L2}$	3	2	2	3	10	1	2	No

5. APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED CONVERTER FOR FUEL CELL VEHICLES

The proton exchange membrane fuel cell (PEMFC) can be used to drive the electric vehicle with hydrogen (H₂) and oxygen (O₂) are input sources. Figure 4(a) depicts the PEMFC's basic structure. The H₂ is oxidized as described in (37) at the anode when it operates. Further, the hydrogen will combine with oxygen and produce water (H₂O) as described [32].

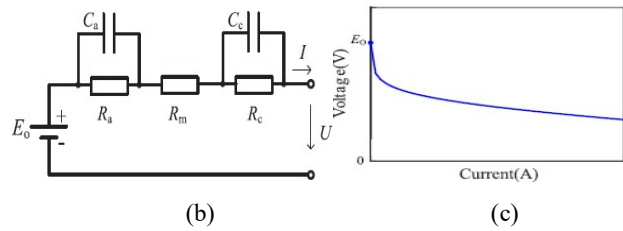
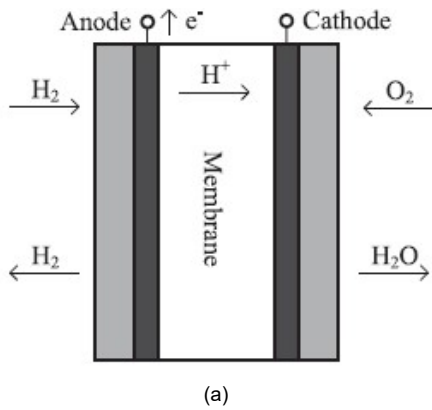
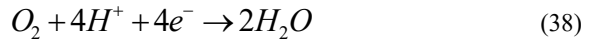


Figure 4. (a) Basic structure of PEMFC, (b) Simplified circuit for PEMFC, and (c) Output characteristic curve of voltage-current (*V*-*A*) of PEMFC [28].



The electric charge “e⁻” will facilitate electric current when the load is connected across anode and cathode. The equivalent circuit is shown in Figure 4(b), where the parameters C_a is capacitance and R_a is the resistor due to anode reaction. The open-circuit voltage is represented with V_o. Similarly, the C_c and R_c are capacitors and resistor parameters due to cathode reactions. The equivalent series resistance of the membrane is expressed with R_m for the PEMFC. Finally, V_i and I are the output voltage and current of the fuel cell. Therefore, the output voltage V_i can be expressed as

$$V_i = V_o - I(R_a + R_m + R_c) \quad (39)$$

The output terminal voltage vs. load current characteristics with PEMFC is shown in Figure 5(c). It is observed that output

voltage will vary with load variation on the fuel cell and decrease with the increase in the load current.

Application of the proposed SIDOconverter for fuel cell vehicles

The proposed configuration is suitable for fuel cell-based electric vehicles based on its characteristics explained previously. The power train of the fuel cell-based EV is shown in Figure 5, wherein the input power sources consist of fuel cell and supercapacitor or battery pack. The dc-dc converters are required to interface the fuel cell power source and supercapacitor stack with the dc bus and control the power fed to the motor and EV auxiliaries. This hybrid energy scheme is such that the average power generated by the fuel cell source is used to drive the motor. In contrast, a supercapacitor or battery pack can observe the frequency regenerative power using a bidirectional converter.

Moreover, the common dc bus will also feed the power to the EV auxiliaries like wiper or LED lamps, etc. The characteristic of the fuel cell is such that the terminal output voltage is variable for load variations. Therefore, the power converter with a wide range of output gains is required to meet the characteristics of the fuel cell source.

The proposed DC-DC converter is designed with a wide range of DC voltage gains, and hence it is suitable for fuel cell-based power sources. As shown in Figure 5 with low voltage fuel cell with high voltage dc bus. The converter generates the boost voltages as given in equation (9) for different duty ratios. As the fuel cell has a slow dynamic response and gives the average power to the dc bus, the supercapacitor fed bidirectional converter will be used during the vehicle's acceleration or deceleration (braking). The supercapacitor drives the loads during the acceleration and observes the regenerative power completely during deceleration or braking. The fuel cell source will drive the vehicle steady-state and charge the supercapacitor when needed. The switch fault tolerance feature is also included in the proposed work to improve the reliability.

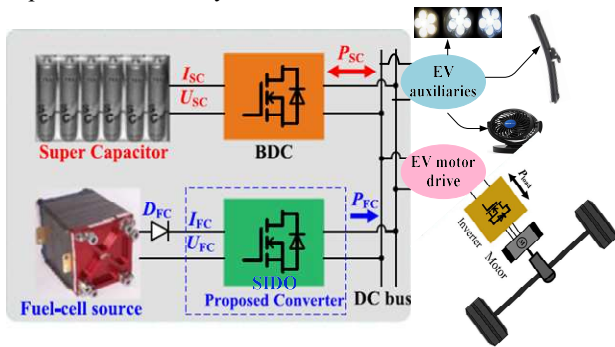


Figure. 5. Powertrain of fuel cell vehicles with the DC-DC converter

6. SIMULATION AND EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION

6.1. Simulation verification

The MATLAB/Simulink environment is used to verify the working of the suggested topology with the parameter values described in Table 1. The input voltage is $V_{DC} = 50$ V, switching frequency of 50 kHz at duty ratio is fixed at 50%.

The V_{01} and V_{02} are shown in Figure 6(a) and (c), respectively, and corresponding inductor currents i_{L1} and i_{L2} are demonstrated in Figure 6(b) and (d), respectively. It is noted that the output voltage nearly equals theoretical values. The transient behavior of the proposed configuration is also checked by suddenly changing load; the related results are shown in Figure 7(a) and (b) for V_{01} and V_{02} , respectively. The voltage and current stresses are illustrated in 8(a-e) for the active switches at 50 % duty ratio as per areas equations are given in Table.2.

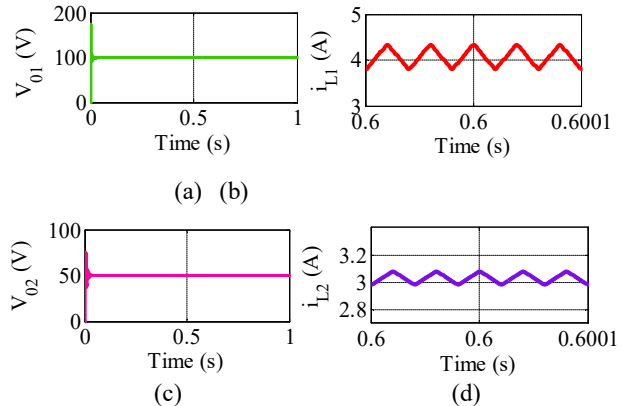


Figure 6. (a) V_{01} , (b) i_{L1} , (c) V_{02} and (d) i_{L2}

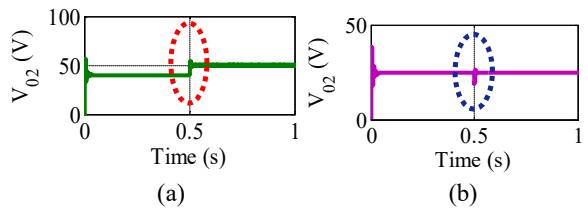
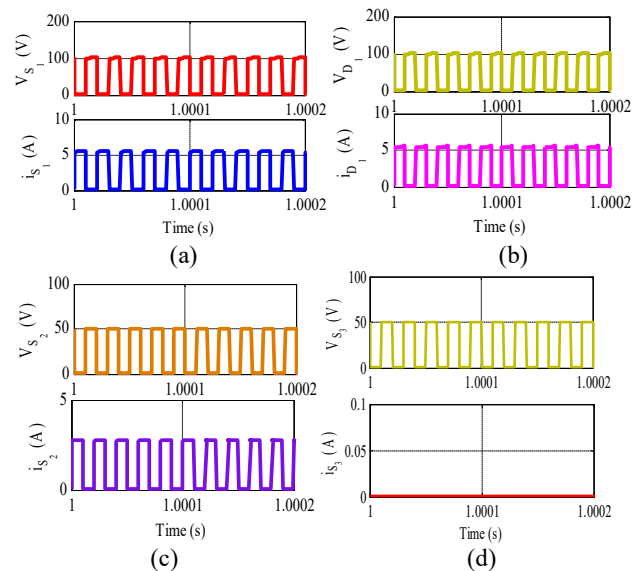


Figure 7. Output voltage at load variations: (a) V_{01} and (b) V_{02}



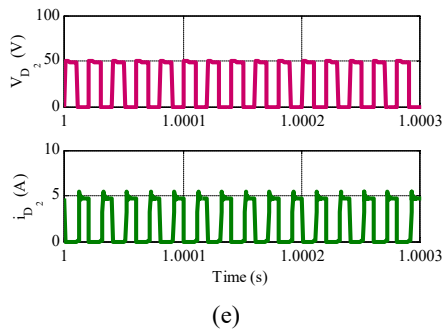


Figure 8. Voltage & current stresses on: (a) S₁, (b) D₁, (c) S₂ (d) S₃, and (e) D₂.

6.2. Experimental verification

The proposed topology is validated on the experimental laboratory prototype (200W) with specifications listed in Table.1. However, it can be scaled up high power rating to meet the real-time applications. The output voltages can be boosted by changing the duty ratios as shown in Figure 3(a) and the equations given in Table.II for the proposed converter. It consists of a power supply of 0-30V and 0-10A, IGBT modules (STGW30NC120HD IGBTs), A3120 gate driver, and DSP 28335 controller. The experiment is conducted at $V_{DC} = 50$ V, and the output voltages are shown in Figure 9(a) and Figure 9(c) at duty ratios of $D_1 = D_2 = 50\%$. The corresponding inductor currents i_{L1} and i_{L2} are shown in Figure 9(b) and Figure 9(d), respectively. It is observed that both simulation and experimental output voltage magnitudes are matched with the equation given in (9). Further to validate the dynamic behavior, the converter is subjected to a sudden change load. The corresponding output voltages for input voltage variation are shown in Figure 10. The voltage and current stresses on IGBTs S₁, S₂ and S₃ and diodes D₁ and D₂ are shown in Figure 11(a)-(d), respectively. The maximum voltage stress in the proposed topology is equal to the output voltage magnitude (V_{O1}) and matches with theoretical calculations given in Section 2. The efficiency plot of the proposed converter for load variation is shown in Figure 12(a), and the experimental setup is shown in Figure 12(b). Therefore, the proposed converter is suitable for PEM fuel cell-based applications like electric vehicles, distributed generation, portable power systems, microgrids, and aerospace equipment.

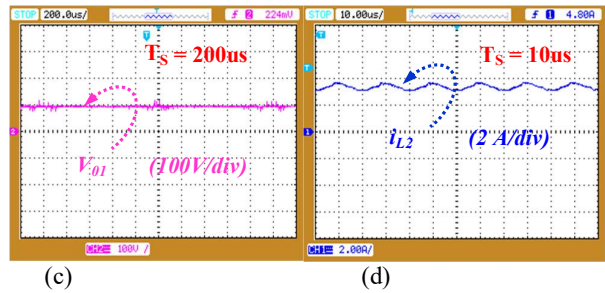


Figure 9. Experimental results: (a) V_{O1}, (b) i_{L1} (c) V_{O2}, (d) i_{L2}

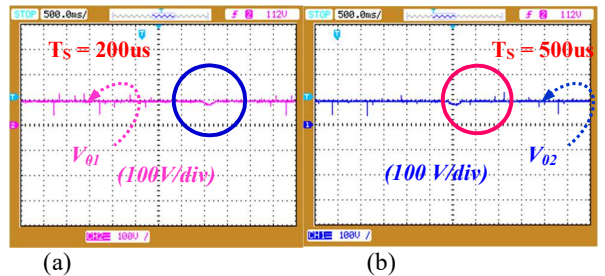


Figure 10. Output voltage at load variations: (a) V_{O1} (b) V_{O2}.

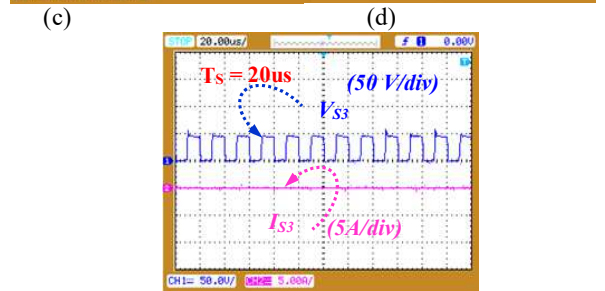
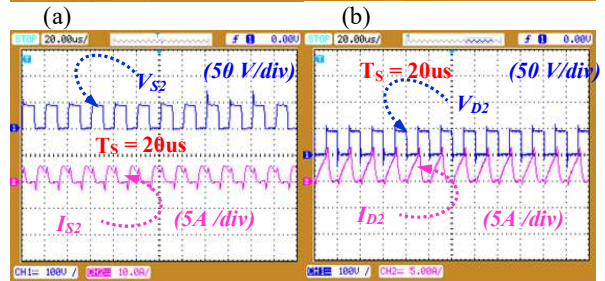
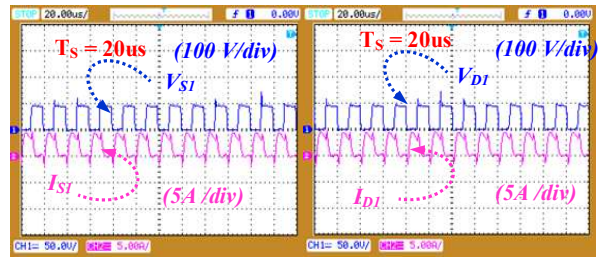
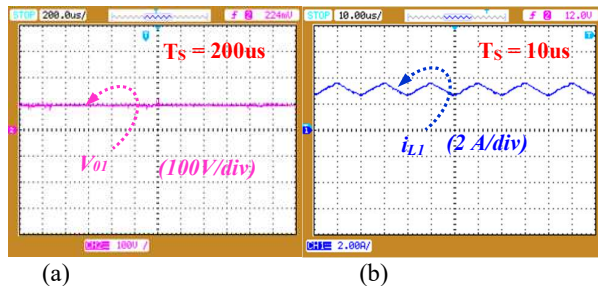


Figure 11. Voltage & current stresses on: (a) S₁, (b) D₁, (c) S₂ (d) S₃, and (e) D₂.



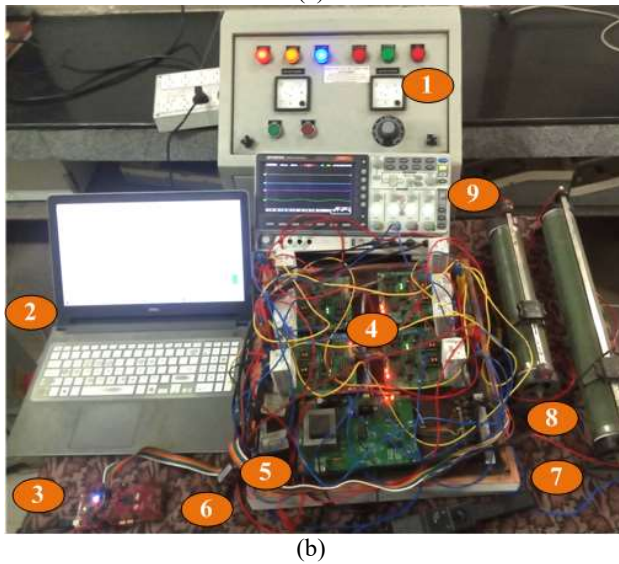
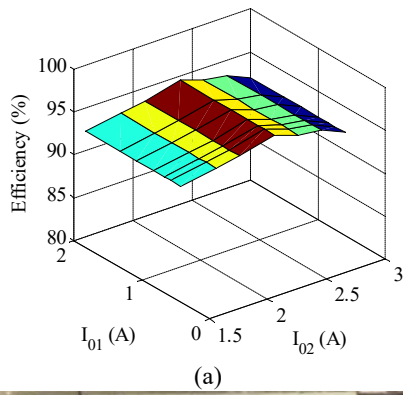


Figure 12. (a) Proposed converter efficiency, (b) Experimental photograph developed in the laboratory: (1) Voltage source, (2) Laptop (3) DSP 28335 Controller, (4) IGBT power circuit module, (5) Inductors, (6) Capacitors, (7) Current probe, (8) Load (R^1) and (R_2), and (9) DSO.

7. CONCLUSION

A new structure of a SIDO converter is proposed in this paper. The configuration is free from operational constraints on duty ratio and inductor currents. This paper also describes the working principle and operating modes of the proposed configuration in detail. The proposed converter is helpful to operate both in boost and buck-boost modes to obtain a different set of output voltages. The results are illustrated that the cross-regulation issues are eliminated with this converter. Finally, all the stated features of the proposed converter have been well established with simulation and experimental verifications.

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