NORMALIZED STATICAL ANALYSIS WITH FREQUENCY AND LOAD VARIATION FOR THE CLASS-E CONVERTER BASED ON PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMERS

Raffael Engleitner*  
José Renes Pinheiro*  
Fábio Ecke Bisogno*  
Matthias Radecker†  
Yujia Yang†

*UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SANTA MARIA – UFSM/PPGEE/GEPOC  
Avenida Roraima, nº1000, Cidade Universitária.  
Santa Maria, RS, Brazil - 97105-900.  
†FRAUNHOFER INSTITUT FOR RELIABILITY AND MICROINTEGRATION  
Gustav-Meyer-Alee-25, Berlin, Germany - 13355

RESUMO
Análise Estática Normalizada com Variação de Frequência e Carga para o Conversor Classe-E utilizando Transformadores Piezoelétricos
Os transformadores Piezoelétricos permitem o projeto de aplicações promissoras para fontes de alimentação até 100W, melhorando a eficiência, reduzindo o tamanho, facilitando a obtenção de grandes relações de transformação, além de proporcionar alta imunidade contra ruídos eletromagnéticos e interferências. Por apresentarem um modelo elétrico equivalente de característica ressonante, utilizam-se topologias de conversores ressonantes para projetar estes conversores, como por exemplo, a topologia Classe-E. Para facilitar a análise de conversores de ordem superior, pode-se utilizar um método de análise normalizado. O controle do conversor Classe-E utilizando transformadores piezoelétricos é implementado através da variação da frequência e da razão ciclica de operação. O ganho estático é regulado através da variação da frequência de chaveamento, e a razão ciclica muda para atender as condições de comutação suave para diferentes frequências. Este artigo apresenta uma análise completa normalizada deste processo, incluindo variação normalizada da frequência e carga, permitindo escolher um ponto ótimo de projeto estático e avaliar seu comportamento com a variação de frequência, sem a necessidade de parâmetros de projeto. São mostrados resultados experimentais para um conversor abaixador de 3W, para uma entrada universal de 85-260 V AC e saída de 6 V DC, para validar a metodologia apresentada.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Conversor Classe-E, Conversores Ressonantes, Transformadores Piezoelétricos, Análise Normalizada.

ABSTRACT
Piezoelectric transformers (PTs) allow the design of promising power supply applications, increasing efficiency, reducing size, facilitating the achievement of high transformation ratio, besides providing high immunity against electromagnetic noise. Due to the electrical equivalent model having resonant characteristics, some resonant topologies are used...
to build these power supplies, i.e. the Class-E converter. In order to make easier the analysis of high order converters, it’s possible to use a normalized analysis method. The control of the Class-E converter using PTs is implemented through the switching frequency and duty cycle variation. The static gain is achieved though the switching frequency variation, while the duty cycle is adjusted with the purpose of achieving soft switching for different frequencies and loads. This paper shows a normalized analysis of this process, including a normalized frequency and load variation, without the need of design parameters. Experimental results for a 3W step-down converter are shown for a universal 85-260 V AC input and output voltage 6 V DC, to validate the proposed method.

**KEYWORDS:** Class-E Converter, Resonant Converters, Piezoelectric Transformers, Normalized Circuits Analysis.

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Piezoelectric Transformers (PTs) are an attractive option in order to reduce size, volume and weight in many low power applications (Yamane et al., 1998; Prieto et al., 2001). Building PTs into resonant topologies as Class-E, Half Bridge, Full Bridge, etc, provides high frequency and fast dynamical response designs (Yamane et al., 1998), allowing ZVS (zero voltage switching) without additional devices (Ninomiya et al., 1994). Therefore, PTs have been used in DC-DC converters (Yamane et al., 1998), CCFL (Cold-Cathode Fluorescent Lamps) backlighting inverters (Shoyama et al., 2004), offline power supplies (Diaz et al., 2001) and LED (light-emitting diode) lighting applications (Bisogno et al., 2006).

A normalized method was shown in (Kazimierczuk and Puczko, 1987), which allows the analysis of any converter using normalized graphics. The methodology avoids any parameter of the application, facilitating considerably the analysis and design of high order resonant topologies.

Later, (Bisogno et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2009) extended this idea, comparing the Class-E and Half Bridge piezoelectric converters. Static analyses concerning gain, ZVS conditions and the parameters selection have been presented. It was shown that this method favors the best operation point selection for each converter and allows a comparison between the topologies.

A dynamic model for the Class-E converter was presented by (Bisogno et al., 2005; Nittayarumphong et al., 2005). The method divides the converter in a low frequency circuit, related to the output filter, and a high frequency circuit, concerning the resonant part. The authors used frequency modulation (FM) in order to adjust the input-to-output gain to compensate input and load variations. However, the normalized methodology was not used. This inconvenience brings back the necessity of design parameters, as output power, input and output voltages, etc.

It is believed that analyzing high order power converter using the normalized method favors the optimum design and topologies comparison. So, an extended normalized overview which includes switching frequency and load normalized variations would be very useful. This paper has as the main contribution, the achievement of a static model of the converter, with normalized load and frequency variation.

### 2 NORMALIZED ANALYSIS OF THE CLASS-E CONVERTER

The purpose of the analysis is to obtain a numerical solution for many operation points so that is possible to compare them and obtain the optimum, without the parameters design. Independently of the operations point, it is forced that the converter operates under ZVS conditions.

Considering the Class-E topology built with PTs as shown in Figure 1, the ZVS conditions are obtained when the voltage at the switch achieves zero naturally before it turns on.

Due to the low-pass filter characteristics of the PT, some simplifications can be done in the circuit according to (Bisogno et al., 2004). It is possible to assume the output rectifier plus filter as an equivalent resistance (R_{eq}), and after that convert C_{d2} and R_{eq} to the primary side of the ideal transformer of the PT model. Therefore, the circuit becomes simplified as shown in Figure 2a.

The components that are in parallel on the output can be considered as a series arrangement for a fixed switching frequency through Equation (1). Further, they can be rearranged with other elements in the circuit according to equation (2).

The simplified circuit of Figure 2b is obtained.

\[ R_{Seq} = \frac{R_{eq}}{1 + R_{eq}^2 C_{eq} \omega^2} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{Seq} = \frac{1 + R_{eq} C_{eq}^2 \omega^2}{R_{eq}^2 C_{eq} \omega^2} \]

\[ R_S = R_{Seq} + R_{and} C_S = \frac{CC_{Seq}}{C + C_{Seq}} \]

### 2.1 Normalization

The first step to normalize the system is based on the differential equations that describe the stages of the circuit. The stages are shown in Figure 3. The equations are obtained according to the circuit of Figure 2b as other authors already proposed (Bisogno et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2009). The waveforms of the circuit of Figure 2b are shown in Figure 4.
\[
\dot{X} = AX + BU
\]  
(3)

As the system is described in two stages, two system will be created, \(X_{\text{stage1}}\) and \(X_{\text{stage2}}\). The frequency and other parameters from the matrices can be eliminated through constants substitutions. These constants are defined regarding the relation between the resonances of the reactive component of the circuit and the switching frequency. Besides, quality factors are defined to eliminate the dissipative elements. These constants are defined as:

\[
\begin{align*}
\omega_1 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_0 C}}; \quad \omega_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_1 C_1}}; \quad \omega_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_2 C_2}}; \\
A_1 &= \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_3}; \quad A_2 = \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_3}; \quad A_3 = \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} \quad \text{and} \quad Q_1 = \frac{L_0}{R_s} 
\end{align*}
\]  
(4)

Where \(\omega\) is the switching frequency. Thereby, the following normalized state space system can be achieved:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
V_{c1}/V_{cc} \\
I_{S1}/I_{cc} \\
I_{L}/I_{cc}
\end{bmatrix} = A(A_1, A_2, A_3, Q_1): \begin{bmatrix}
V_{c1}/V_{cc} \\
I_{S1}/I_{cc} \\
I_{L}/I_{cc}
\end{bmatrix} + B(A_1, A_2, A_3, Q_1).U(t)
\]  
(5)

The system is solved for many operation points using mathematic software. These points contemplate many different values of duty cycle, \(A_1, A_2, A_3, \text{etc.}\) Normally the input voltage basis is defined first \((V_{cc})\), but the input current basis depends on the equivalent DC resistance of the circuit \((R_{cc})\). The DC resistance can be defined as a constant \((a)\) multiplied by the output equivalent resistance \((R_s)\), as shown below:

\[
R_{cc} = aR_s, \quad \frac{V_{cc}}{I_{cc}} = aR_s \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{P_{oR_s}}{V_{cc}^2} = \frac{1}{a}
\]  
(6)

The reverse of this constant, defined as \(P_{oR_s}/V_{cc}^2\), is called power transfer ratio or quadratic static gain of the converter. The power transfer ratio is calculated according to:

\[
\frac{1}{a} = \frac{V_{O_{RMS}}^2}{V_{cc}^2} = \frac{A_1^2}{2\pi Q_1^2} \int_0^{2\pi} I_L(\omega_s t)^2 d\omega_s t
\]  
(7)

The details on how to obtain the normalized state space system and how to derive the power transfer ratio equations are shown in (Bisogno, 2006).

### 2.2 Normalized Static Analysis

After obtaining the database with the numerical solutions for the Class-E converter for each operation point considering only the nominal frequency. It is possible to evaluate many normalized graphics, for instance, the gain variation for different duty cycles, as shown in Figure 5.

It can be seen in Figure 5a, that when \(Q_1\) remains constant, the gain changes as a function of \(A_3\). \(\text{Dc}=0.5\) provides a
good gain in a flat region, with less sensitivity to the duty cycle derivation.

Assuming that $A_3=1.2$ and varying $Q_1$, the gain nearly doesn’t change, as shown in Figure 5b. The variation of $Q_1$ means variation on the load of the converter. The output of the resonant circuit can be considered as a sinusoidal current source, and $Q_1$ variations can be neglected when $Q_1>5$.

There are other variables on the system that can be interesting for the design, for instance, normalized voltage ($V_{S_{\text{pk}}}$) and current ($I_{S_{\text{pk}}}$) peaks at the switch. The curves can be observed in Figure 6.

It can be implied from Figure 6 that designing the nominal point for low or high duty cycles, entails on high current or high voltage stresses respectively. It is possible to play with the design point from the right to the left depending on the switch technology and converter input voltage. In other words, it is possible to find a balance between voltage and current peaks. The point $Dc=0.5$ shows an equilibrium between the extremes. It can be confirmed by the curves in Figure 6c, obtained through the equation (8) for different values of $A_3$:

$$C_p = \frac{1}{V_{S_{\text{pk}}}I_{S_{\text{pk}}}}$$

The voltage and current peaks on the switches don’t change significantly for $Q_1$ and $A_3$ variations. The normalized graphic of the rms current in the elements can imply the point where the converter becomes lossier. It is defined $I_{S_{\text{rms}}}$ and $I_{L_{f_{\text{rms}}}}$ as the rms normalized current in the switch and the input inductor respectively. Both are shown in Figure 7.
Figure 7: Rms current in the inductor and in the switch as a function of Dc and $Q_1$. (a) Current in the switch. (b) Current in the inductor.

It is possible to infer from Figure 7 that the losses are lower for higher duty cycles. Other elements from the circuit belong to the PT, so the losses are not considered. The efficiency of the PT is near the unity (up to 97%) and its losses are not directly proportional to the current, but to physical characteristics related to mechanical oscillation.

3 STATIC MODEL WITH FREQUENCY VARIATION

When the circuit has to be normalized only for nominal frequency analysis, the circuit from Figure 2b returns precise results (Bisogno et al., 2004). However, when the switching frequency changes, the simplification represented by the equation (1) prevents the results to be correct, due to $\omega$ in the equation. This means that the approximation is valid only for the nominal frequency. To correct that, the differential equations have to be obtained according to the circuit of Figure 2a, not the one from Figure 2b as other authors proposed (Bisogno et al., 2004; Yang et al., 2009). The state space equations are again obtained. The frequency and other parameters from the matrices are again eliminated through constants substitutions. Due to the circuit change, new constants are defined in:

$$\omega_4 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_{eq}}}, \omega_5 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}, A_4 = \frac{\omega_4}{\omega}, A_5 = \frac{\omega_5}{\omega}, Q_A = \frac{f_{O1}}{\omega C_{eq}}$$

(9)

Where $\omega$ is the switching frequency. Thereby, the normalized state space system represented by can be achieved:

$$\begin{bmatrix}
V_{c1}/V_c \\
I_{S1}/I_c \\
I_L/I_c
\end{bmatrix} = A_{(A_1,A_2,A_3,A_4,A_5,Q_1,Q_4)} \cdot \begin{bmatrix}
V_{c1}/V_c \\
I_{S1}/I_c \\
I_L/I_c
\end{bmatrix} + B_{(A_1,A_2,A_3,A_4,A_5,Q_1,Q_4)} \cdot U(t)$$

(10)

After the selection of the nominal operation point according to curves as shown in section 2, it is possible to verify how the output can be regulated. As shows in (Yang et al., 2004) for different resonant converters topologies, the regulation is achieved through the switching frequency variation close to the resonance of the resonant tank. The maximum gain is achieved at the peak of the resonance. (Yang et al., 2004) also infers that is possible to have ZVS when the converter works on the right side of the resonance curve. The input-to-output regulation can be achieved through the frequency adjust concerning curves as in Figure 8. These are hypothetical gain curves for the circuit in Figure 1a, considering different loads represented by $Q_1$. The nominal operation point is given for minimum $Q_1$, where the maximum power transfer is achieved. The load at this point respects the equation (11):

$$R'_{eq} = \frac{1}{\omega C_{eq}}$$

(11)

Assuming that $Q_1$ minimum is equal 1 as shown in Figure 8, the maximum gain is obtained at the peak of the admittance curve ($f_{O1}$). However, (Diaz et al., 2004) showed that when ZVS is required, it is necessary to have a distance between the resonance peak and the minimum operation frequency. The reason is that some reactive energy is necessary to achieve ZVS. At the peak, current and voltage are totally in phase to each other. Besides, the sensitivity at this point is too high.

Figure 8: Operation regions and resonance frequencies.

This difference is defined as $\Delta f$, and implies that the minimum switching frequency has to be $f_{O1} + \Delta f$ for nominal load. For other loads, the minimum frequency changes due to
the resonance frequency variation, \( f_{O2} \) and \( f_{O3} \). Therefore, it is assumed that the minimum switching frequency is placed at the point 1 in Figure 8. This point has the maximum gain keeping ZVS, and the frequency can be increased to regulate the converter, for instance the point 2.

When the load changes to \( Q_1=10 \) or \( Q_1=100 \), the ZVS regions become 3-4 and 5-4 respectively. Nevertheless, the maximum gain is defined by the nominal load at point 1, limiting the operation between 6-4 for \( Q_1=100 \), not 5-4 anymore. This statement induces to the conclusion that the minimum switching frequency takes place at point 1. This is an important conclusion in order to justify the control strategy shown in Figure 9. It is based on the switching frequency and duty cycle variation, always for frequency values higher than the nominal one, at point 1.

To work in this way, the output voltage has to be measured and compared to the reference value. The error is compensated and the control voltage goes to a VCO (Voltage Controlled Oscillator). The VCO provides the triangular wave which has the switching frequency information.

It is important to observe that the normalized analysis method shown in the sections 1 and 2 find always the solution for the point 1 in Figure 8. Thus, the frequency variation is not considered. However, if the switching frequency increases as a result of the control strategy, the switch turns on while the current goes through the anti-parallel diode, as shown in Figure 10b.

The current \( (I_{S1}) \) and the voltage \( (V_{S1}) \) in the switch for a nominal operation point \( (f_s/(f_{O1}+\Delta f)=1) \) are shown in Figure 10a. This point is the point 1 in Figure 8. Figure 10b shows the behavior after the frequency being increased. There is a duty cycle window which is shown in Figure 10b. It is defined by the time while the current crosses the anti-parallel diode of the switch. These windows change for each frequency value, but for any point inside this window ZVS can be achieved.

Figure 11 helps to understand the modulator behavior in the control loop from Figure 9. It is suppose to generate a triangular wave with variable frequency according to the VCO input voltage, and a duty cycle that respects the ZVS conditions. To respect the ZVS conditions, it is necessary to implement a function that adjusts the duty cycle. This function is called duty cycle tracking. So, the main contribution of this paper is the analysis the frequency, load and input variation using the normalized concept, in order to obtain the general duty cycle window of the class-E converter. With this achievement, it is possible to understand the behavior of the circuit for all conditions, and implement the duty cycle tracking in the modulator. Figure 12 shows the so called duty cycle window for different \( Q_1 \) and \( A_3 \). It can be seen that for different loads, with \( A_3 \) constant, the duty cycle window changes considerably in Figure 12a.

For \( Q_1 \) constant, depending on \( A_3 \), there are different regions for the duty cycle in Figure 12b. It can be seen that \( A_3=1.2 \) provides bigger ZVS region.

\[ \frac{P_o}{V_{cc}} = \frac{I_{O2}^2}{I_o^2} = \frac{V_o^2}{V_{cc}^2} \]  \hfill (12)

It can be inferred from Figure 13, that higher \( A_3 \) provides higher gain at all frequency range. On the other hand, the
higher the quality factor, the lower the frequency range necessary to change from the maximum to the minimum gain.

Figure 13: Normalized gain vs. switching frequency. (a) Constant $Q_1$. (b) Constant $A_3$.

4 NORMALIZED REGULATION WITH FREQUENCY AND LOAD VARIATION

In order to know the behavior of the circuit for the whole operation range, the load variation has to be included in the analysis. To explain how it works, four boundary operation points were defined, as shown in Figure 14.

Figure 14a shows the frequency response of the converter regarding the gain for different loads. Figure 14b shows a zoom of the operation region. The four corners of the operation region are defined as:

**Point 1** – Lowest input voltage, lowest switching frequency, nominal load and highest gain. This is the design point obtained according to the method shown in section 2.

**Point 3** – Lower input voltage, higher gain, minimum load. The minimum load is defined as thirty times the nominal one. It is not necessary to sweep the load further, because the behavior remains the same.

**Point 2** – Higher input voltage, minimum gain, nominal load.

**Point 4** – Higher input voltage, minimum gain, minimum load.

First, for the maximum gain, the load was changed from the nominal (point 1) to minimum load (point 3). The output was supposed to be constant. When the load changes from full to light load, the gain increases, so the frequency has to increase to compensate the gain. This process provides the first curves in the left of Figure 15, which are highlighted with the numbers 1 and 3 on the extremes. Some simulations were done...
for gains in between the maximum and the minimum. These curves help to assure that the duty cycle window exists for the whole operation range.

Finally, for the minimum gain, the load was swept from nominal value (point 2) to light load (point 4). This process provides the last curve on the right of Figure 15, which is highlighted with the numbers 2 and 4 on the extremes. The upper part of the curves means the maximum duty cycle and the lower part, the minimum. As the simulations consider all possibilities of frequency, gains and loads, the result obtained is called global duty cycle window.

With this method is possible to analyse the global duty cycle window for different nominal designs parameters as shown in Figure 16. Figure 16a shows the global duty cycle windows for three different designs regarding $A_3$. The same sweep procedure from Figure 15 were done. It is clearly noticed that higher $A_3$ provides bigger duty cycle window. While for $A_3=0.1$ is not possible to achieve ZVS for the whole operation range. The limits where the solution does not exist are represented by the letter “X” at the Figure.

Figure 16b shows the window for different quality factors. The results are the same range of duty cycle, but in a small range of frequency. It means that for higher $Q_1$, a lower frequency variations has to be applied to reduce the gain. This was expected once the curves become sharper.

Figure 16c show different duty cycle designs. The result shows that for $Dc=0.7$ is not possible to find solution for all frequency and loads for the circuit normalized parameters.
On the other hand, for higher duty cycles the windows become bigger.

Finally is possible to design the system through two curves only, as shown in Figure 17. The operation points, 1, 2, 3 and 4 are detailed in the Table 1. Using the minimum and maximum frequency values is possible to build a function for the desired duty cycle.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point 1</th>
<th>Point 2</th>
<th>Point 3</th>
<th>Point 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vo/Vcc</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( fs/(fo+\Delta f) )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.041</td>
<td>1.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( r )</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dc</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.22-0.36</td>
<td>0.24-0.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 17: Desired duty cycle behavior.

5 EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

A 3W Classe-E piezoconverter was implemented to validate the theoretical results. The PT used is the same device as (Bisogno et al., 2004). The parameters are shown in the Table 2 and a picture of the transformer in Figure 18.

The PT behavior was tested through frequency response measurements using the equipment [AP200]. The measurements where done for different loads shown in Table 2, as shown in Figure 19a. The highlighted region is zoomed in Figure 19b.

Figure 18 shows the experimental curves obtained with nominal load \( Q_1 = 30.7 \) for the same frequencies highlighted in Figure 19b, \( fs = 157 \text{kHz} \) and 166kHz. For these two points, the used duty cycles, and the allowed ones (Dc window) are shown in the Table 3. This table also shows the rms voltage in the output resistor \( (R_{eq}) \). It is important to observe that for this design, although the resonance frequency is around 155 k\( \text{kHz} \), the first point to provide ZVS is 157 kHz. This value is given by \( A_1 \) and represent the point \( fs/(fo+\Delta f)=1 \).

Figure 21 shows the comparison between the experimental and the theoretical results for the duty cycle window and the normalized gain. It can be inferred from the results that the developed analysis is valid and provides good results.
Figure 20: Experimental results, Ch1=Gate of the switch, Ch2=Voltage at the output resistor ($R_{eq}$), Ch3=Current in the switch plus parasitic capacitor and Ch4=Switch voltage. (a) $f_s=157\text{kHz}$. (b) $f_s=166\text{kHz}$.

Table 2: Parameter of the Implemented Converter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$V_{in_ac}$</td>
<td>85-260</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_s$</td>
<td>155...172</td>
<td>kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$V_{o_rms}$</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_o$</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Q_1$</td>
<td>30.7-61.4-480</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_L$</td>
<td>12-44-360</td>
<td>$\Omega$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Experimental results for $V_{cc}=200\text{V}$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$f_s$</th>
<th>Applied Dc</th>
<th>Dc window</th>
<th>$V_{o_rms}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>157kHz</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>166kHz</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.05-0.28</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Figure 21a, it’s seen that the real duty cycle window is even bigger then the theoretical one. In Figure 21b can be seen that the the curves are close and parallel to each other. There is a small DC error that can be easily eliminated by the integral part of the compensator when the closed loop be implemented.

Figure 22 shows the comparison among the model, the SPICE simulation and the experimetal results for the global duty cycle window. Four different loads were selected for the measurements. Figure 22a shows the results for the maximum gain at $V_{cc}=120\text{V}$, while the Figure 22b illustrates the results for an intermediate gain at $V_{cc}=180\text{V}$. It can be seen a small deviation on the experimental curves. However, there is always a common region between model and measurements. The results induce to the conclusion that the duty cycle function should be implemented near to the lower curve given by the model. This would guarantee ZVS for all operation range.

Figure 21: Results comparison between theory and experiments. (a) Duty cycle window. (b) Gain $Vo/Vin$. 
Figure 22: Experimental results of the global duty cycle window. (a) For minimum input voltage, Vcc=120V. (b) For 1.5 times the minimum voltage, Vcc=180V.

6 CONCLUSIONS

This paper shows an extension on how to analyze resonant converters based on a normalized methodology. The theory was applied to the Class-E topology with piezoelectric transformers, due to the promising characteristics of this combination, as reduced size, weight, etc.

Former papers introduced the normalized method to design the nominal point of the converters, regardless the overall operation range.

The whole operation range was considered in this work. The switching frequency and the load where swept to obtain the global duty cycle window of the circuit. This window defines which duty cycles should be applied for each switching frequency in order to obtain ZVS. This information is used to implement the modulator and is called duty cycle tracking.

These results allow to achieve the optimum desing point which considers the complete operation of the converter, including frequencies and loads.

The methodology was validated experimentally with a 3W step-down prototype. It was designed for universal input, 85-260 V AC, and an output of 6 V DC.

The SPICE simulation and the mathematical model are completely in agreement. The model and experimental results are in agreement with a small deviation given by neglected parasitic components. The results help to understand the complex behavior of such a converter.

REFERENCES


