

Important points of step down chopper

- A step-down chopper that acts as a variable resistance load can produce an output voltage from 0 to V_s .
- Although a dc converter can be operated either at a fixed or variable frequency, it is usually operating at fixed frequency with a variable duty cycle.
- The output voltage contains harmonics and a dc filter is needed to smooth out the ripples.

Generation of duty cycle.

Duty cycle K can be generated by comparing a dc reference signal v_r with sawtooth carrier signal v_{cr} . It is shown in fig. 3 where v_r is the peak value of v_r , and v_{cr} is the peak value of v_{cr} . The reference signal v_r is given by

$$v_{cr} = \frac{V_r}{T} t \quad \text{--- (12)}$$

which must equal T to the carrier signal

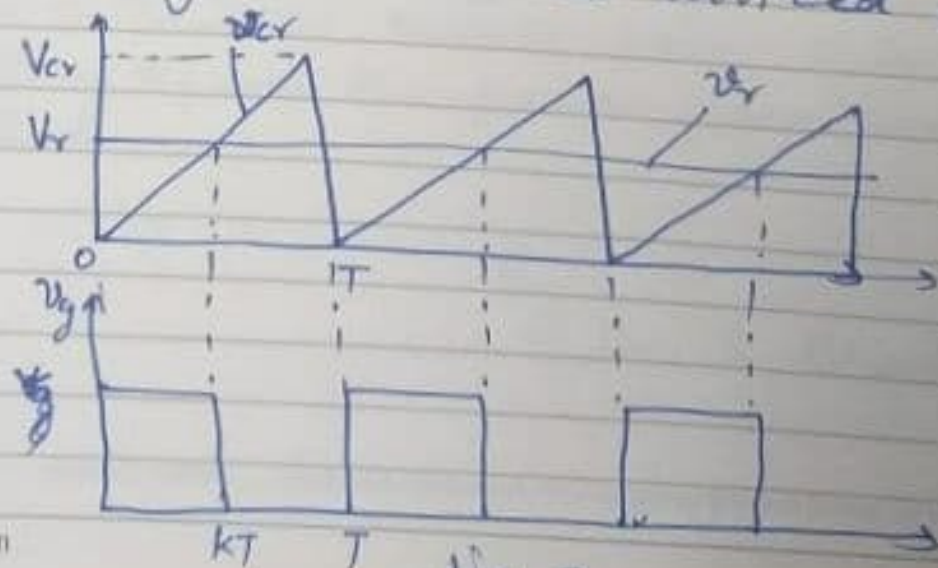
$$v_{cr} = V_{cr} \text{ at } KT. \text{ That is}$$

$$V_{cr} = \frac{V_r}{T} \cdot KT$$

which gives the duty cycle K as

$$K = \frac{V_{cr}}{V_r} = M \quad \text{--- (13)}$$

where M is the modulation index. By varying the carrier signal v_{cr} from 0 to V_{cr} the duty cycle K can be varied from 0 to 1.



Step down converter with RL Load:

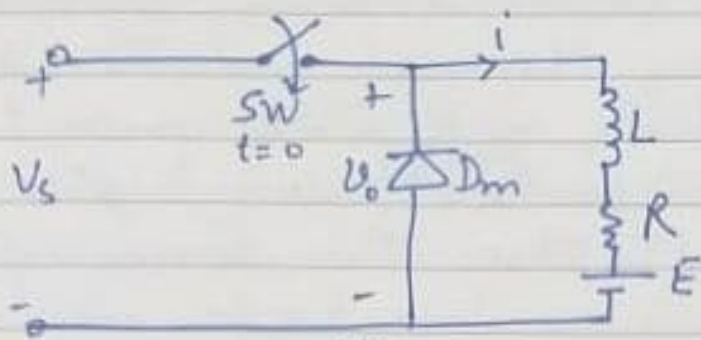
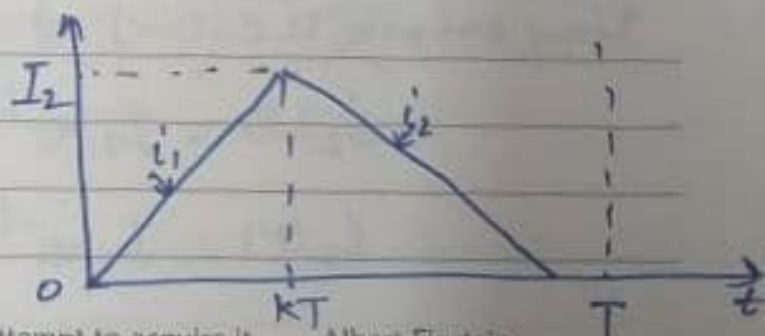
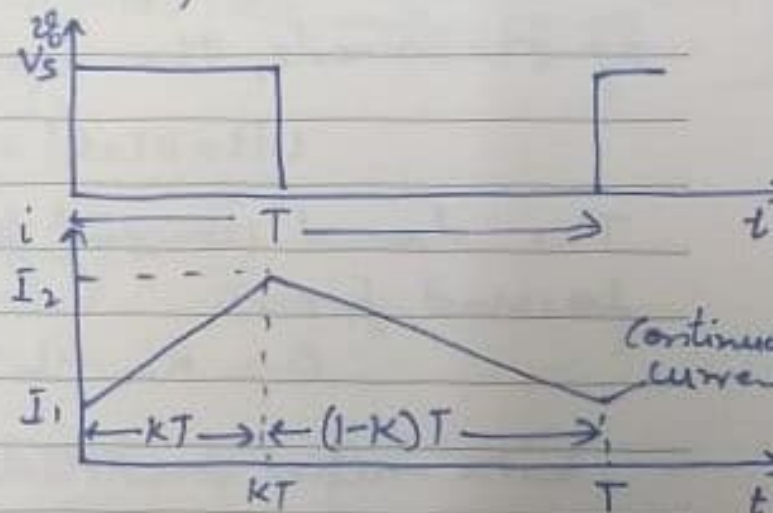
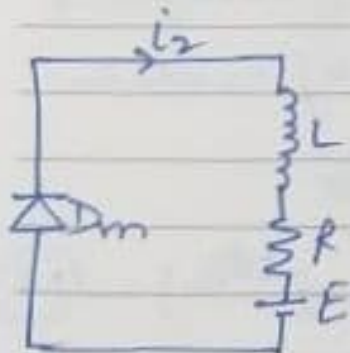
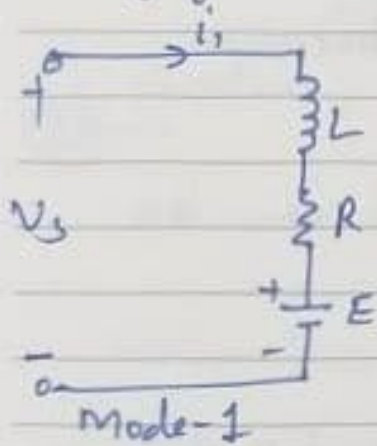


Fig. 4

Converter with RL load is shown in fig-4. Operation is divided into two modes. During mode-1, converter is switched on and the current flows from supply to load. During mode-2, the converter is switched off and the load current continues to flow through free-wheeling diode D_m . The equivalent ckt and waveforms are shown in fig. 5(a) and 5(b) respectively.



Learning is not a product of schooling but the lifelong attempt to acquire it.....Albert Einstein

(a) Equivalent ckt's

(b) waveforms.

Waveforms are drawn with the assumption that load current varies linearly. However, the current flowing through inductor rises or falls exponentially, with a time constant. The load time constant $\tau = \frac{L}{R}$ is much higher than the switching period T . Thus the linear approximation is valid.

The load current for mode-1

$$V_s = Ri_1 + L \frac{di_1}{dt} + E$$

with initial condition $i_1(t=0) = I_1$, gives the load current as

$$i_1(t) = I_1 e^{-tR/L} + \frac{V_s - E}{R} (1 - e^{-tR/L}) \quad \text{--- (14)}$$

this mode is valid for $0 \leq t \leq t_1 (= KT)$ and at the end of this mode, the load current becomes.

$$i_1(t = KT = t_1) = I_2 \quad \text{--- (15)}$$

The load current for mode-2 can be found from

$$0 = Ri_2 + L \frac{di_2}{dt} + E$$

with initial condition $i_2(t=0) = I_2$ and redefining time origin (i.e. $t=0$) at the beginning of mode 2,

$$i_2(t) = I_2 e^{-tR/L} + L \frac{di_2}{dt} + E$$

$$i_2(t) = I_2 e^{-tR/L} + \frac{E}{R} (1 - e^{-tR/L}) \quad \text{--- (16)}$$

This mode is valid for $0 \leq t \leq t_2 (= (1-K)T)$ at the end of this mode, the load current becomes

$$i_2(t=t_2) = I_3 \quad \text{--- (17)}$$

At the end of mode 2, the converter is turned on again in the next cycle.

Under steady state condition,

$$I_1 = I_3$$

The peak to peak ripple current can be determined from eqn (14) to (17).

From eqn (14) and (15) gives

$$I_2 = I_1 e^{-KTR/L} + \frac{V_s - E}{R} (1 - e^{-KTR/L})$$

From eqn (16) and (17) I_3 is given

$$I_3 = I_1 = I_2 e^{-(1-K)TR/L} - \frac{E}{R} (1 - e^{-(1-K)TR/L})$$

Solving for I_1 and I_2

$$I_1 = \frac{V_s}{R} \left(\frac{e^{Kz} - 1}{e^z - 1} \right) - \frac{E}{R}$$

$$\text{where } z = \frac{TR}{L}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_s}{R} \left(\frac{e^{-Kz} - 1}{e^{-z} - 1} \right) - \frac{E}{R}$$