

Power Electronic Converter with Improved Power Quality for EV Charger Application

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Abstract. High voltage electrical vehicle battery models are acquiring plenty of attention in both industry and the scholarly field for their capacity to decrease charging time and increase battery life. Existing EV chargers use a strong non-linear diode bridge rectifier to deliver Direct Current voltage at the DC-DC converter's input, which degrades input AC current power quality. Due to these issues, typical battery chargers must eliminate the input bridge to improve power quality (PQ). This research uses an upgraded PQ-based bridgeless (BL) Luo converter. Two Luo converters use this PFC converter's input inductor throughout their half cycles. A PFC converter without an input diode bridge may offer a cost less, power-density increased EV charging solution with few switches. Synchronizing the charger's input current with source voltage increases input power factor. Luo converters provide the largest voltage transfer gain. Various segments of the project were simulated in order to understand their characteristics. The open-loop and closed-loop analysis of ULC with PI control yields graphical results that highlight the connection between the duty cycle and voltage transfer gain. The simulation graphs obtained for the dc-dc buck converter and Li-Ion SOC also provide important results for analysis.

Keywords. Electric Vehicle, Luo Converter, Power Quality, Battery Charger, IEC 61000-3-2 standard.

1 Introduction

Conventional vehicles help amplify already existing issues like global warming, high carbon footprint, and pollution. Along with this, they're also responsible for the depletion of fossil fuels. The burning of fossil fuels, vehicle exhaust smoke, industrial outflow, and power stations have been major reasons for air pollution. Depending on exhaustible resources such as petroleum, natural gas, and coal, severe climate change and increasing energy cost are a few of the major problems across the globe.

In the automobile industry, electric vehicles have become popular recently. Electric vehicles help in controlling pollution majorly as the fuel used is electric power. This

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reduces the use of fossil fuels, which in turn reduces pollution coming from power generation stations. The popularity of electric vehicles has increased amongst the automobile industry, buyers, and environmentalists. The hour of need is to significantly cut pollution and use of non-renewable resources. Both these agendas are achieved by replacing conventional vehicles with electric automobiles. In the new decade, electric vehicles have acquired prominence among producers, preservationists just as purchasers. Rising worries related to climate has increased the need for cleaner energy. This has added to the interest in electric vehicles. These days, numerous nations on the planet are adding to accomplish a specific objective to promote non-polluting energy. To deal with increased fuel costs and to execute the natural arrangements with better expectations, EV is a choice that curbs the craving of a green wellspring of transportation with low emanations and plausible fuel economy. As of late, many explorations contemplate have shown that because of green climate, energy-saving highlight, and simpler method of execution, the innovation of EVs holds extra benefits over traditional energy advances. In metropolitan spaces across the globe, electric vehicles will increment significantly and will accomplish bigger acknowledgment in the vehicle market because of their higher productivity.

Electric vehicles rely on lead acid batteries for their power, thus they need a reliable charger to keep the vehicle and its accessories running [1-2]. A good battery charger it should have better input power quality, high efficiency, reliability and high power density,. Thus, the basic PQ indices used today should fulfil IEC 61000-3-2 standards [3]. The input power factor and total harmonic distortion (THD) must be below the required values. On-board, off-board, and bidirectional electric car charging stations exist. EVs store power in batteries, flywheels, or super capacitors. Customers should be able to charge their EVs anytime they have a charging connection since the battery is in the car. Many single-stage AC/DC converters with built-in PFC have been designed to solve battery charger PQ concerns [4]. Two-stage and single-stage EV battery chargers employ bridged, bridgeless, and interleaved AC-DC PFC converter topologies [5]. Single-stage EV chargers use soft switches, step down-fly back, and step up fly back PFC converters [6-9]. Single-stage PFC isolated topologies increase switch stress, output ripple, and DC link capacitor values. LC-based soft-switched PFC converters may minimize electronic component stress [10-11].

Table 1: Levels of charging

EVSE Types	Power Supply type	Charge Power	Approximate charging time for Li-ion Battery
AC charging station: Level-1-Residential	120/230 VAC & 12A to 16A	Approximately 1.42KW - 1.92KW	16 Hours
AC charging station: Level-2-Commercial	208/240 VAC & 15A to 80A	Approximately 3.1KW to 19.2KW	9 Hours
DC charging station: Level-3-Rapid Charging	300 to 600 VDC & higher limits of 400 A	120KW- 240KW	30 Minutes

Thus, device stress and switching component count must be considered while selecting an EV charger PFC converter. This compromise meets SAE J1772 power density and efficiency standards [12]. Bridgeless front-end power factor correction (PFC) converter-based chargers reduce device switching-cycle stress and conducting components.

Bridgeless fly back converter-based circuits [13–15] are too complicated for low-power PFC applications. Step down or step up PFC converters are popular utility interface frontend converters for high-power applications due to their superior input wave shaping. The wide input voltage control range of the buck-boost PFC converter [18] optimizes EV battery charging. The SEPIC, Cuk, Zeta, and Luo converters are among the single-phase buck-boost PFC converters examined in [19–22]. The Cuk converter is ideal for EV charger PQ improvement because it overcomes these limits and decreases input and output current ripples.

Luo converters [21–22] are the most common DC-DC power converters because of their superior voltage control over a broad supply voltage range and better efficiency under low loads. Series Luo DC-DC converters include re-lift, ultra-lift, and super-lift mechanisms [23–26]. This BL Luo topology outperforms DBR-based Luo converters, BL converters [27], and integrated boost-fly back converters in conduction loss and efficiency at high power levels. The battery current is managed via a fly back converter in DCM when charging in CC-CV mode.

An electric vehicle, popularly known as an EV, gets its power from collector systems which are in turn powered by electricity. The source of power could differ, battery, fuel cells, solar panels, electric generator, etc. The benefits of EV can be boosted when it's connected to a power grid. A few would constitute sustaining renewable energy resources, balancing load, support of reactive power. The main problem with EVs is the life cycle and efficiency of batteries, problems pertaining to battery chargers, and the charging infrastructure of batteries. This issue can be tackled using active rectifiers in the circuit. One such fixture is the ultra-lift Luo converter which can be incorporated with DC-DC converters to yield better results in the field of onboard battery charging for EVs. This system increases voltage transfer gain; hence, improving efficiency. This paper majorly covers efficient battery charging- discharging and motor efficiency of traction motors and load analysis.

1.1 Limitations

- **Cost.** The cost of implementing power electronic converters with improved power quality can be a limitation for widespread adoption. These converters often require additional components, such as capacitors, inductors, and power semiconductor devices, which can increase the cost of the system.
- **Size and Weight.** Some power electronic converters can be large and heavy, which can be a limitation for applications where space is limited. For example, in EV chargers installed in public spaces, the converter must be compact and lightweight to minimize installation costs.
- **Efficiency.** Power electronic converters can introduce power losses due to the conversion process, which can reduce the overall efficiency of the EV charging system. Efforts are being made to improve the efficiency of power electronic converters by using advanced control techniques and power semiconductor devices with lower on-state resistance.
- **EMI/EMC.** Power electronic converters can generate electromagnetic interference (EMI) and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) issues due to the high-frequency switching of power semiconductor devices. These issues can cause problems with other electronic devices in the vicinity, such as radio and communication systems.
- **Reliability.** Power electronic converters are subject to various stress factors, such as temperature, voltage, and current. These stress factors can affect the reliability of the converter over time. Therefore, it is essential to design power electronic converters with sufficient margin and reliability to ensure long-term operation.

- **Compatibility.** Compatibility with different types of EVs is a limitation. Different EV models may have different charging requirements and battery chemistries. Therefore, the power electronic converter must be compatible with different EV models to achieve widespread adoption.

1.2 Challenges

Power electronic converters with improved power quality for EV charger applications face several challenges, including:

- **High power demand.** EVs requires high power levels for charging, which can be challenging to provide efficiently and reliably. The power electronic converter must be designed to handle high power levels and maintain high efficiency over a wide range of operating conditions.
- **Harmonic distortion.** Power electronic converters can introduce harmonic distortion into the AC power grid, which can cause issues with power quality and interfere with other equipment. The converter must be designed to minimize harmonic distortion and meet relevant power quality standards.
- **EMI/EMC issues.** Power electronic converters can generate electromagnetic interference (EMI) and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) issues due to switching noise and high-frequency signals. The converter must be designed to minimize EMI and meet relevant EMC standards.
- **Thermal management.** High-power converters generate significant amounts of heat, which must be dissipated to ensure reliable operation. The converter must be designed with appropriate cooling and thermal management systems to prevent overheating and ensure long-term reliability.
- **Cost.** Power electronic converters can be expensive due to the need for high-quality components and advanced control systems. The converter must be designed with cost in mind while still meeting performance and reliability requirements.
- **Efficiency.** High-efficiency operation is critical for power electronic converters in EV charger applications to minimize losses and reduce operating costs. The converter must be designed to operate efficiently over a wide range of operating conditions, including variations in load and input voltage.
- **Safety.** EV charger applications require high levels of safety to protect against electric shock and other hazards. The converter must be designed to meet relevant safety standards and incorporate appropriate safety features, such as isolation transformers and fault detection systems.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Electric Vehicle

Electric vehicles (EVs) are vehicles that use one or more electric motors powered by rechargeable batteries to propel the vehicle. EVs can be powered by batteries, fuel cells, or a combination of both. Battery electric vehicles (BEVs) use rechargeable batteries to store electricity, which is then used to power the electric motor. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) combine an electric motor with an internal combustion engine (ICE) and can run on electricity, gasoline, or a combination of both. Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) use hydrogen fuel cells to generate electricity to power the electric motor.

EVs offer several advantages over traditional gasoline-powered vehicles, including reduced greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, lower operating costs, and less maintenance.

They also provide a quieter and smoother ride compared to vehicles with internal combustion engines.

However, there are still some challenges that need to be addressed for EVs to become more widely adopted, including the cost of batteries, limited driving range, and the availability of charging infrastructure. Despite these challenges, the market for electric vehicles is growing rapidly, driven by government incentives, advancements in battery technology, and increasing public awareness of the environmental benefits of EVs.

2.2 Design of an EV battery charger

- Determine the specifications and requirements of the charging equipment and the EV battery being charged, such as the battery chemistry, capacity, voltage, and current rating.
- Choose the appropriate charging method based on the battery chemistry and the charging time required. For example, lithium-ion batteries typically require a constant current-constant voltage (CC-CV) charging method.
- Select the appropriate power electronic converter, such as a three-level neutral point clamped (NPC) converter with a power factor correction (PFC) circuit.
- Design the input filter circuit to reduce the harmonic distortion in the grid current and improve the power quality.
- Determine the input power requirements of the converter, such as the input voltage and current rating.
- Design the converter control strategy to regulate the input current and output voltage to ensure safe and efficient charging while also meeting the power quality requirements of the grid.
- Implement safety features such as overvoltage protection, over current protection, and short-circuit protection to prevent any damage to the battery or charging equipment.
- Test and validate the charging system to ensure it meets the specifications and requirements of the charging equipment and the EV battery being charged.

2.3 Configuration of Improved PQ Charger with BL Luo PFC Converter

The improved power quality (PQ) charger with BL Luo PFC converter has a specific configuration that enables it to provide high power quality and efficiency for electric vehicle (EV) charging applications. Here is an overview of the configuration:

- **AC input:** The AC input voltage is the power source for the charger. It is typically a three-phase AC voltage, which is rectified and filtered to provide a DC voltage.
- **Rectifier:** The rectifier circuit converts the AC voltage to DC voltage. It consists of a bridge rectifier and a capacitor filter.
- **BL Luo PFC converter:** The BL Luo PFC converter is used to improve the power factor and reduce harmonic distortion in the input current. It consists of two inductors, L1 and L2, and two switches, S1 and S2, which operate in a complementary manner to provide power factor correction.
- **DC-DC converter:** The DC-DC converter is used to regulate the DC voltage and current output to the EV battery. It typically consists of a high-frequency transformer and a rectifier/filter circuit.
- **Output voltage and current regulation:** The output voltage and current of the charger are regulated by a feedback control system that adjusts the duty cycle of the switches in the DC-DC converter. The output voltage and current are monitored by sensors and compared to a reference signal to determine the necessary adjustment.

- EV battery:** The EV battery is the final destination for the electrical energy provided by the charger. It stores the electrical energy and provides it to the EV motor when needed.

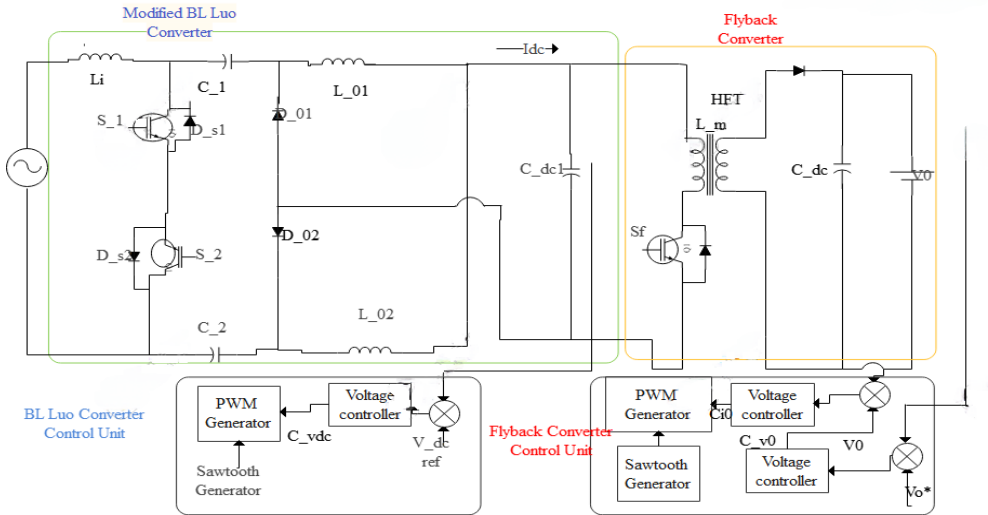
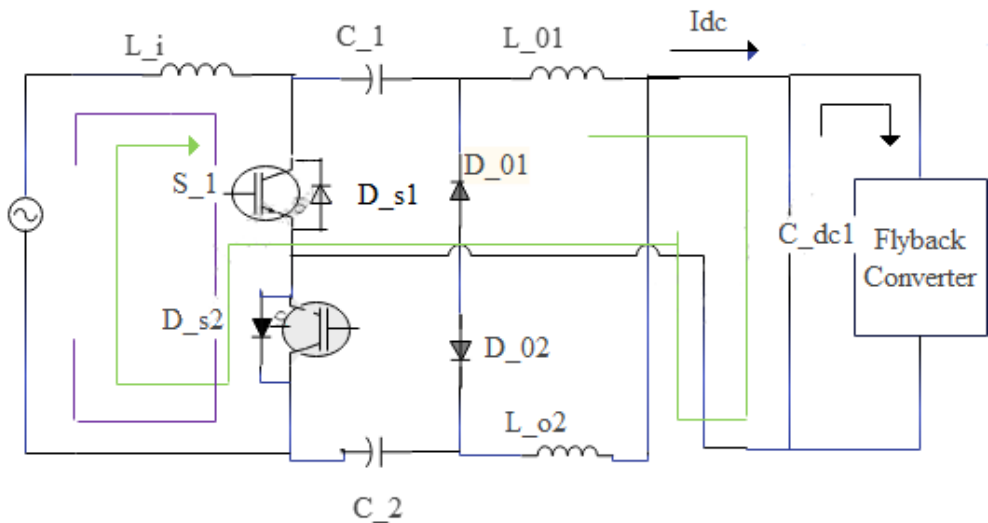


Figure 1: Proposed block diagram

2.4 Operation of BL Luo Converter

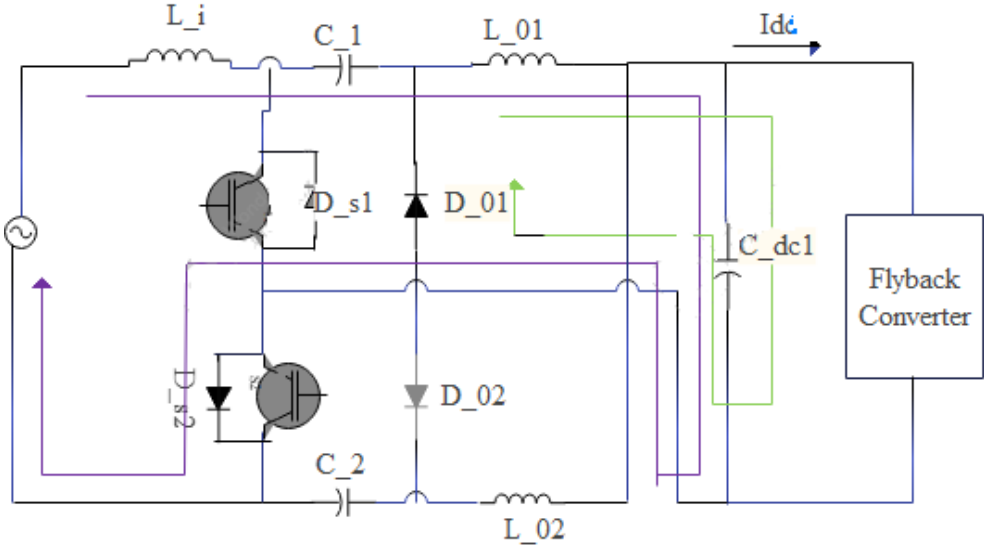
2.4.1 Positive Half Cycle

(a) **Mode 1:** During the initial period of the positive half cycle, the input voltage is positive and the diode D_1 is forward biased, allowing the inductor L_1 to store energy. The capacitor C_1 is charged through the diode D_2 .



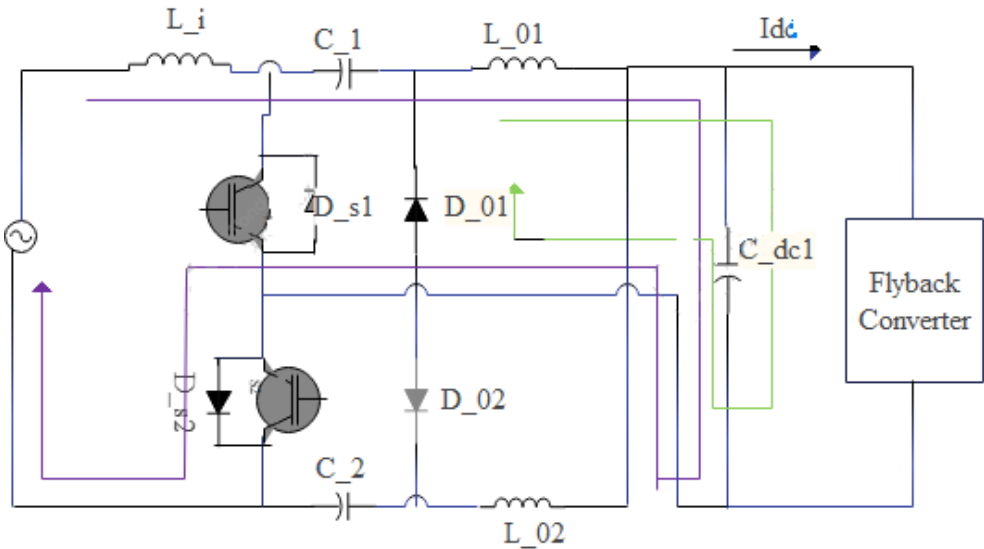
2. (a)

(b) Mode 2: Once the input voltage reaches a certain threshold, the switch S1 is turned on and the inductor L1 starts to discharge its stored energy. The current flows through the switch S1 and the diode D2, charging the capacitor C1.



2. (b)

(c) Mode 3: Once the input voltage reaches its peak value, the switch S1 turns off and the diode D1 starts to conduct, allowing the inductor L1 to store energy again.

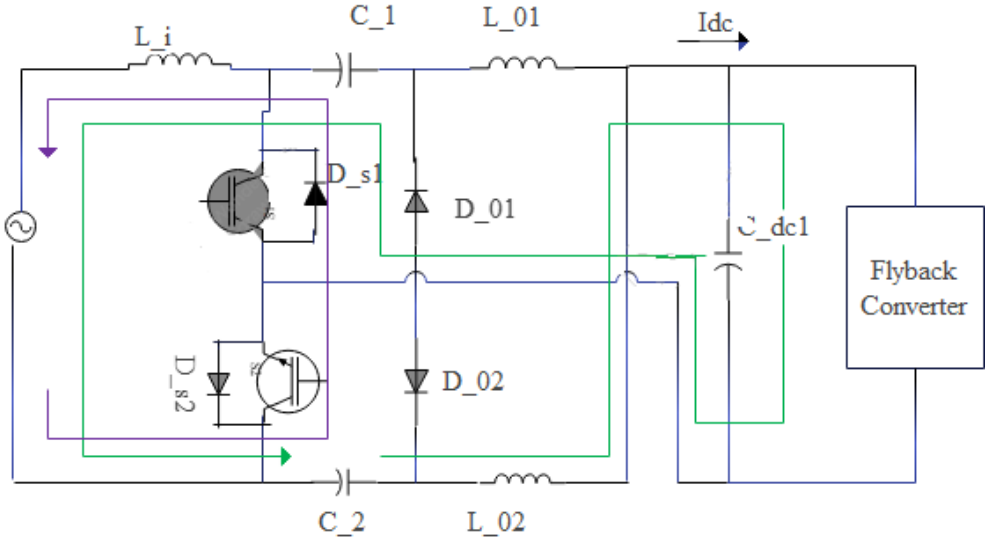


2. (c)

Figure 2: Positive Half Cycle modes of operation of Modified EV Charger with BL Luo PFC Converter

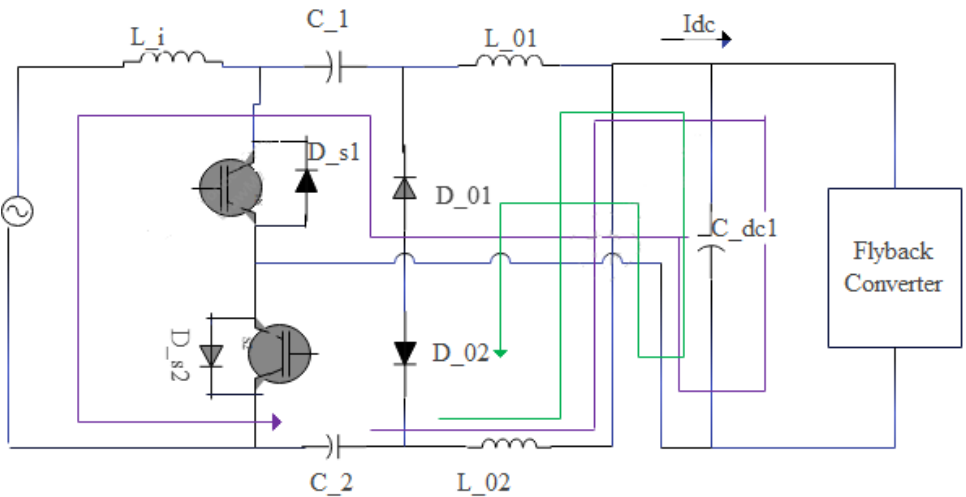
2.4.2 Negative Half Cycle

(d) Mode 4: During the initial period of the negative half cycle, the input voltage is negative and the diode D3 is forward biased, allowing the inductor L2 to store energy. The capacitor C1 is discharged through the diode D2.



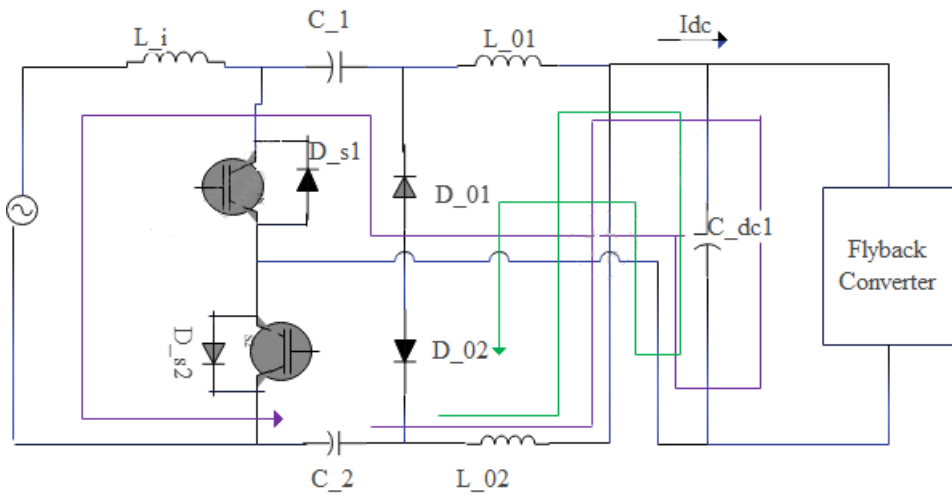
3. (a)

(e) Mode 5: Once the input voltage reaches a certain threshold, the switch S2 is turned on and the inductor L2 starts to discharge its stored energy. The current flows through the switch S2 and the diode D2, charging the capacitor C1.



3. (b)

(f) Mode 6: Once the input voltage reaches its peak value, the switch S2 turns off and the diode D3 starts to conduct, allowing the inductor L2 to store energy again.



3.(c)

Figure 3: Negative Half Cycle modes of operation of Modified EV Charger with BL Luo PFC Converter

Overall, the BL Luo PFC converter operates by storing energy in the inductors during the initial part of each half cycle and then using that energy to charge the output capacitor during the rest of the cycle. This allows for improved power factor correction and reduces harmonic distortion in the input current.

2.5 Design of Fly back Converter

The fly back converter is an important component in the power electronic converter with improved power quality for EV charger application. Here are some key design considerations for the fly back converter in this application:

- **Input and output voltage:** The fly back converter should be designed to step down the DC voltage from the rectifier/filter circuit to the required voltage level for the EV battery. The input voltage will depend on the AC supply voltage, which is typically a three-phase voltage. The output voltage will depend on the specific requirements of the EV battery and the charging rate.
- **Transformer selection:** A suitable transformer must be selected that can handle the power requirements and provide the required voltage ratio. The transformer should be designed to operate efficiently and minimize leakage inductance and winding capacitance, which can cause voltage spikes and EMI issues.
- **Switching frequency:** The switching frequency of the fly back converter should be selected carefully to optimize efficiency and minimize EMI. It should be chosen based on the transformer size, the desired efficiency, and any noise or interference concerns.
- **Switching device selection:** The switching device, such as a MOSFET or IGBT, should be selected based on the switching frequency, power requirements, and voltage rating.
- **Diode selection:** The diode used in the fly back converter should be selected to handle the reverse voltage and switching speed required by the application.
- **Magnetic component design:** The magnetic components, including the transformer and inductor, should be designed to minimize losses and optimize performance. This may involve careful selection of materials and winding configurations.

- **Feedback control:** The output voltage of the fly back converter should be regulated using feedback control, such as a voltage regulator or PWM control. The control circuit should be designed to ensure stable and accurate regulation of the output voltage, even under varying load conditions.

3. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

The power electronic converter with improved power quality for EV charger application has been designed and simulated in this study. The converter topology used in this study is a three-level neutral point clamped (NPC) converter. The proposed converter has a power factor correction (PFC) circuit that helps to improve the power quality of the converter. The simulation results show that the proposed converter has better performance compared to the conventional two-level converter. The power factor of the proposed converter is closer to unity, which reduces the harmonic distortion in the grid current.

3.1 Simulation Results

With a 2.3% input current THD, the Luo PFC converter meets the IEC 61000-3-2 standard. Luo converters maintain DC link voltage. This output voltage regulates the charger's maximum power during the CC and CV phases. The source's rms voltage is 168V–256V. This upgraded EV charger works well in either case if the IPF is near to unity. 168.2V and 256.4V rms source voltages have 1.8% and 2.3% input current distortion, respectively. The input rms current is amplified to 5.23A at 168.2V and decreased to 3.482A at 256.4V to maintain power output. The PFC-based charger meets IEC 61000-3-2 power standards.

3.1.1 Proposed Simulink diagram

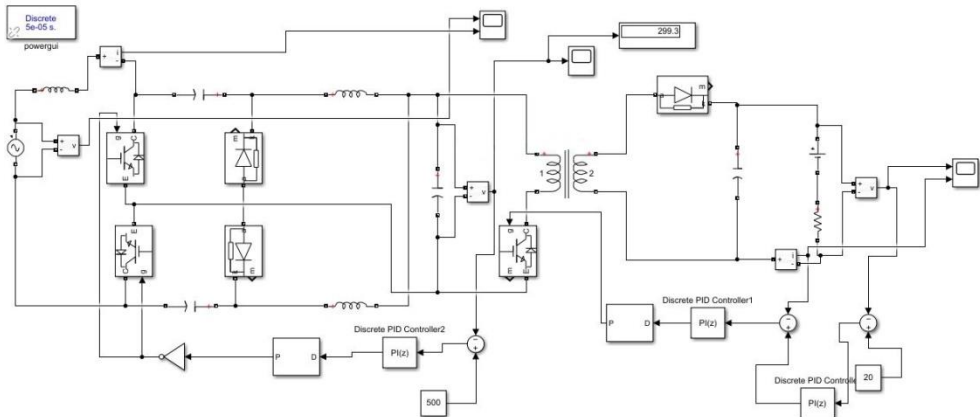


Figure4: Proposed Simulink diagram

The supply voltage for the power electronic converter with improved power quality for EV charger application can be either single-phase or three-phase, depending on the application requirements. In most cases, the EV charging stations use a three-phase supply voltage, which provides a balanced and efficient power delivery to the converter.

The design of the converter should take into account the input voltage range and the maximum output power required for the EV charging application. The converter should also have a high power factor and low harmonic distortion to meet the power quality requirements of the grid and prevent any damage to the charging equipment.

3.1.2 Output Response



Figure5: Supply Voltage

The supply voltage for the converter can also be regulated using different control strategies, such as pulse width modulation (PWM) or phase-shift control. The control strategy should be selected based on the specific application requirements and the desired performance of the converter.



Figure 6: Supply Current

The supply current for the power electronic converter with improved power quality for EV charger application depends on the input voltage and the power level of the converter. In general, the supply current for the converter will be higher when the input voltage is lower, or the output power is higher.

It is important to ensure that the supply current for the converter does not exceed the maximum current rating of the power supply or cause any voltage drops or disruptions in the power supply. This can be achieved by designing the converter to operate within the input voltage and current limits of the power supply and by implementing appropriate control strategies to regulate the converter's input current.

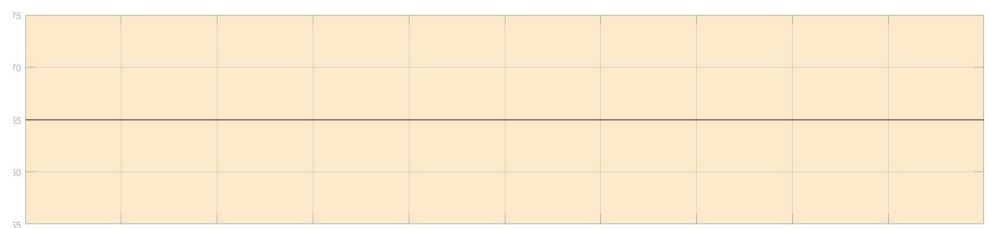


Figure 7: Output Voltage

The output voltage of the power electronic converter with improved power quality for EV charger application depends on the specific requirements of the charging equipment and the EV battery being charged. In general, the output voltage of the converter should be regulated to provide a stable and controlled charging voltage to the battery.

It is important to ensure that the output voltage of the converter is within the safe operating limits of the charging equipment and the EV battery being charged. This can be achieved by designing the converter to regulate the output voltage within the specified voltage range and implementing appropriate protection circuits to prevent any overvoltage or voltage surges.

4 Conclusions. Power Electronic converter with Improved Power Quality for EV Charger Application for Onboard charging in EV can work under low AC voltage and also in residential household area and is capable to withdraw low AC voltage to obtain low DC input voltage into the Luo converter which finally get boosted to balance charge the battery pack with active cell balancing and inductive charge transfer method. A prototype front-end BL Luo PFC converter enhances PQ-based EV battery chargers. Half-cycle operation reduces the BL Luo PFC converter's loss by removing the line diodes and common inductor. Eliminating the input filter and constructing the converter in DCM decreases the charger's size and cost because fewer sensors are needed. Enhance power quality and fix regular charging. The charger's increased PQ performance is assessed with a main current THD of 2.3%, 1.8%, and 2% under steady state settings with the stated battery load and throughout a wide input voltage fluctuation range. This charger also performs well during start up and load fluctuations. Thus, our EV charging system is the best alternative to existing chargers. A fly back DC-DC converter follows this BL converter to charge the battery during CC and CV. This EV charger has improved PQ, according to testing. After a quick charge, the BMS monitors the charging and discharging cycle to avoid overcharging or deep discharging. Overall, the reviewed literature provides a comprehensive understanding of the recent advancements in power electronic converters for EV charger applications and highlights the potential for future research in this area.

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