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## ARTICLE TYPE

# Quasi-Z-Source-based Bidirectional DC-DC Converters for Renewable Energy Applications<sup>†</sup>

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#### Abstract

This paper presents a design, analysis and implementation of a novel impedancesource-based bidirectional DC-DC converter. The proposed converter employs an impedance network to the existing dual-active-bridge (DAB) circuit. It inherits all the advantages of the DAB converter along with extra benefits.Compared with the traditional isolated dc-dc converter, the proposed converter improved the boost ability of the converter. Also, the converter can withstand the shoot-through phenomenon in an H-bridge, improving the reliability.The converter can work in the normal buck-/boost DAB mode when extra boost is not required. The bidirectional feature is inherent along with soft switching capability. It is therefore well-suited for the applications, where wide range of voltage gains are required such as renewable energy systems. The topological configuration and control strategy of the proposed topology in both operational modes are discussed. Simulation and experiments have been carried out to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed converter topology. The peak efficiency 97% was observed at the rated load of 500 W.

#### **KEYWORDS:**

Impedance-source converter, DC-DC Converter, bidirectional, Dual active bridge

## **1** | INTRODUCTION

Renewable-energy penetrations are increasing in recent years due to the growing interest in clean energy alternatives rather than traditional generation. This growing number of renewable integrations leads to an increasing number of storage systems to solve the issue of the intermittent nature of these renewable sources. A bidirectional DC-DC converter is essential for such system to transfer power between two DC buses <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>. Figure 1 shows the typical system configuration of distributed power generation where a bidirectional dc-dc converter is needed for battery charging systems and power transfer between two DC buses. Multiple DC-DC converters are connected to common DC-bus which can connect to different load and sources. Another application area of bidirectional DC-DC converters is electric vehicles<sup>567</sup>, motor drive applications<sup>8</sup>, uninterruptible power supplies (UPS)<sup>9,10</sup>, solid-state transformers<sup>11</sup>, and more. Bidirectional DC-DC converters are divided into two types: non-isolated and isolated types. A non-isolated bidirectional DC-DC converter is suitable where galvanic isolation is not required, making the converter compact and efficient <sup>12,13,14</sup>. An isolated bidirectional DC-DC converter is needed to provide electrical isolation between input and output for protecting equipment and operators<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>This is an example for title footnote.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>0</sup>Abbreviations: ANA, anti-nuclear antibodies; APC, antigen-presenting cells; IRF, interferon regulatory factor

The most typical configuration of a bidirectional DC-DC converter is the DAB converter consisting of two single-phase Hbridge topologies interfaced by a high-frequency transformer<sup>16</sup>. Each bridge is controlled with a 50% constant duty cycle to generate a high-frequency square-wave voltage at its transformer terminals. The power flow from each bridge is controlled by a phase shift between the two bridges<sup>17,18,19,20</sup>. Power is delivered from one bridge to the other, which generates square-wave pulses with a leading phase angle. The output voltage depends on three parameters: the transformer turns ratio, the switching frequency and the transformer's leakage inductance. These parameters are usually fixed for the designed converter prototype, hence it has limited voltage-regulation ability and a lack of flexibility<sup>21</sup>. This paper aims to reduce the drawback of the DAB, thereby improving both the voltage regulation range and the reliability of the converter.

The impedance-source-based (ZS) converter is a new way of power delivery applicable for renewable-energy systems, originally proposed by Fang Z. Peng<sup>22,23</sup>. These converters overcome many limitations of traditional voltage-source and current-source power converters, and the concept of an ZS network can be applied to DC-DC, DC-AC, AC-AC and AC-DC power conversions. Hence there is an increasing research interest in impedance-source-based converters<sup>24</sup>. In<sup>25,26,27</sup> a high gain impedance source based dc-dc converter suitable for renewable energy applications were proposed.Many extensions of ZS converters with additional benefits have been reported in the literature such as for the quasi-z-source (qZS) as reported in<sup>28</sup>. A qZS based high step-up DC-DC converter has been presented in<sup>29</sup> for improved voltage gain. In<sup>30</sup> a qZS based bidirectional dc-dc converter with symmetric structure is presented, however the active and passive component count is high increasing the cost. The qZS features low inrush current, lower component count, high control flexibility, and continuous dc input current<sup>31,32</sup>.

This paper proposes a bidirectional quasi-Z-source based dc-dc converter where a bidirectional qZS network is added at the input side of the DAB converter (abbreviated as qDAB). Due to a high frequency transformer, the converter has an advantage of reduced power density and ground leakage current is minimum. This converter has two degree of freedom to boost the input voltage either by transformer turns ratio or by the utilization of extra switching state- the shoot-through state (simultaneous conduction of both switches of the same phase leg of the converter) in its operation states, so the converter boost ability gets improved. Thus the proposed converter is suitable for distributed power generation systems. Apart from that, the converter can also be used for EV charger, solid-state transformer, fuel cell application for distributed generation etc. Compared with the traditional bidirectional isolated dc-dc converter, this converter has higher boost ability, low input current ripple, wider voltage regulation range, simple control and high reliability. The circuit structure of the qDAB is shown in Fig. 2, consisting of impedance network, and a high-frequency transformer connecting two H-bridges on either side.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: Section 2 gives an overview of the proposed topology, the control methods of the converter are presented in Section 3, Section 4 illustrates the comparison of proposed converter with other topologies, Section 5 provides simulation and experimental results. Section 6 concludes the paper.



FIGURE 1 A typical distributed power generation system



FIGURE 2 Proposed converter topology

## 2 | DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED QDAB)

Fig. 2 shows the proposed converter topology, consisting of an impedance network  $(L_1, L_2, C_1, C_2 \text{ and } S_5)$ , and a high-frequency transformer connecting the two H-bridges, one on either side. The diode in the qZS network is replaced by an active switch with a parallel diode to make the converter bidirectional. The impedance network provides extra boost ability utilizing an additional switching state called a "shoot-through" state. In a shoot-through state, any leg or all legs of the H-bridge inverter is short-circuited.

Power flow from left to right is considered as a forward power flow and from right to left is called reverse power flow. In the forward-power-transfer mode, the converter has the flexibility to work in a boost mode of operation if extra boost is required utilizing shoot-through states. In reverse-power-transfer mode, the converter can work as a conventional DAB converter performing a buck/boost operation.

In the forward-power-transfer mode, the converter goes through three operational states: active state, zero state and shoot-through state.

## 2.1 | Active State

During the active state, cross-connected switch pairs ( $S_1$  and  $S_4$  or  $S_2$  and  $S_3$ ) conduct and the power is transferred from the input side to the output side through an isolation transformer as shown in Fig. 3 . The voltage across the primary of the transformer is the dc-link voltage  $\pm V_{dc}$  which is reflected to the secondary side. The dc source charges the quasi-Z source network capacitors, while the inductor transfers its energy to the load.



FIGURE 3 Active State

## 2.2 | Zero State

During the zero state, the primary winding of the isolation transformer is shorted through either the top ( $S_1$  and  $S_3$ ) or bottom ( $S_2$  and  $S_4$ ) switches, thus the primary current freewheels either from upper or lower switches. So, no power is transferred from primary to secondary side. The circuit state during this operation mode is shown in Fig.4.



FIGURE 4 Zero State

## 2.3 | Shoot-through State

As stated previously, the shoot-through state is when one or all legs in the H-bridge inverter is turned on. This state boosts the dclink voltage and also protects the circuit from damage, thus improving the system's reliability significantly. The circuit structure during this operation mode is shown in Fig. 5 where all four switches  $(S_1 - S_4)$  are conducting, leading the transformer voltage  $(V_{tx,1})$  to drop to zero. During this state, the diode  $D_5$  will be reverse biased and the capacitor voltage  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  charges the inductors  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  without shorting the DC capacitors.



FIGURE 5 Shoot-through State

Assume that  $T_S$  is the switching time period,  $T_{ST}$  is the shoot-through switching time and  $T_{NST}$  is the non-shoot through (active and zero state) time period. The shoot-through duty cycle is thus  $D_{ST} = T_{ST}/T_S$ . During the non-shoot-through state  $T_{NST}$  (Figs. 3 and 4) the following equations holds:

$$v_{L1} = V_1 - V_{C1}, \ v_{L2} = -V_{C2}, \ I_{C1} = I_{L1} - I_l, \ I_{C2} = I_{L2} - I_l \tag{1}$$

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During the shoot-through interval  $T_{ST}$  (Fig. 5) the following equations can be obtained

$$v_{L1} = V_1 + V_{C2}, v_{L2} = V_{C1}, I_{C1} = -I_{L2}, I_{C2} = -I_{L1}$$
 (2)

During the steady state, the average voltage across the inductor over a cycle is zero. From (1) and (2), we have

$$\begin{cases} V_{L1} = v_{L1}^{-} = \frac{T_{ST} (V_1 + V_{C2}) + T_{NST} (V_1 - V_{C1})}{T_S} = 0\\ V_{L2} = v_{L2}^{-} = \frac{T_{ST} (V_{C1}) + T_{NST} (-V_{C2})}{T_S} = 0 \end{cases}$$
(3)

The capacitor voltages and DC-link voltage thus can be obtained as:

$$V_{C1} = \frac{1 - D_{ST}}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1, \ V_{C2} = \frac{D_{ST}}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1 \tag{4}$$

$$V_{dc} = V_{C1} + V_{C2} = \frac{1}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1 = BV_1$$
(5)

where B is the boost factor of the converter. From (5), it is clear that the converter boost ability can be increased by increasing the shoot-through duty cycle. The output voltage of the converter can be obtained as:

$$V_2 = \frac{n}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1 = BnV_1 \tag{6}$$

where n is the transformer turns ratio.

During the reverse-power-transfer mode, the converter can work as a normal DAB converter. The switch  $S_5$  is turned on, shorting the diode which allows the backward power flow. The passive impedance network  $(L_1, L_2, C_1 \text{ and } C_2)$  acts as a low-pass LCL filter network. The power flow is controlled by modulation of the switches  $Q_1$ - $Q_4$  and  $S_1$   $S_4$ . The circuit structure during the reverse-power-transfer mode is shown in Fig. 6.



FIGURE 6 Reverse-power-transfer mode

#### **2.4** | Design Parameters

In this section, an overview of the design process of the proposed DC-DC converter is discussed. The design parameters of passive components of qZS network ( $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ ,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ) are introduced. The inductors and capacitors of qZS network is selected based on the desired ripple current and ripple voltage during the active states and shoot-through states.

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**TABLE 1** The voltage stress across the switch and capacitor

Voltage stress on switching device	Voltage stress on capacitor
$\mathbf{V}_{sw} = \frac{1}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1$	$\mathbf{V}_{C1} = \frac{1 - D_{ST}}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1,$
	$V_{C2} = \frac{D_{ST}}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1$

Substituting  $V_{c2}$  from (4) into (2), the  $V_{L1}$  can be given by:

$$V_{L1} = \frac{1 - D_{ST}}{1 - 2D_{ST}} V_1 \tag{7}$$

During shoot-through state, the inductor current increases linearly. The inductor current ripple ( $\Delta I_{L1}$ ) in the  $L_1$  can be derived as:

$$\Delta I_{L1} = \frac{V_{L1}\Delta T}{L_1} = \frac{(1 - D_{ST})D_{ST}T_S}{L_1(1 - 2D_{ST})}V_1 \tag{8}$$

where  $\Delta T$  is the time interval during shoot-through operation,  $D_{ST}T_S$ . Similarly, the current ripple ( $\Delta I_{L2}$ ) through the inductor  $L_2$  is derived as:

$$\Delta I_{L2} = \frac{V_{L2}\Delta T}{L_2} = \frac{(1 - D_{ST})D_{ST}T_S}{L_2(1 - 2D_{ST})}V_1 \tag{9}$$

Thus the required value of inductor is designed using (8) and (9) choosing the acceptable current ripple. Similarly, the qZS capacitors can be designed to limit the DC-link voltage ripple. From capacitors currents ( $I_{C1}$  and  $I_{C2}$ ) from (1), the capacitor voltage ripples ( $\Delta V_{C1}$ ,  $\Delta V_{C2}$ ) on capacitors ( $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ) can be derived as

$$\Delta V_{C1} = \frac{I_{L2}\Delta T}{C_1} = \frac{I_{L2}D_{ST}T_S}{C_1}$$
(10)

$$\Delta V_{C2} = \frac{I_{L1}\Delta T}{C_2} = \frac{I_{L1}D_{ST}T_S}{C_2}$$
(11)

The value of capacitance is calculated using (10) and (11) taking into account an acceptable voltage ripple on them.

#### 2.5 | Voltage Stress Analysis

This section presents the voltage stress of the proposed converter across switches and capacitors. The voltage stress are important factors that affect the performance of the converter and the size of converter cost and volume. The proposed converter achieves lower voltage stresses on the power switches and capacitors as shown in Table1 . The voltage across the capacitors  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  is lower reducing the required capacitor rating. Similarly, the input current is continuous due to input inductor  $L_1$ , which greatly reduces the input stress. The switching stress across the switch is  $B^*V_1$ .

#### **3** | CONTROL METHOD OF QDAB

During the forward-power-transfer mode, PWM shoot-through method is used whereas, during the reverse-power-transfer mode, the phase shift modulation technique is used in the qDAB. Details of the control technique for both operation modes are given below.

#### 3.1 | Forward Power Flow Control

In this operational mode, the switches of the input-side bridge  $(S_1 - S_4)$  are switched on and the switches at the output-side bridge  $(Q_1 - Q_4)$  act as a synchronous rectifier. The boost ability can be obtained not only by the transformer turns ratio but also by the introduction of shoot-through states. A PWM shoot-through control technique is used which is derived from PWM control with a shifted shoot-through modulation technique. In this modulation technique, shoot-through states are generated within zero states which are equally distributed during the switching intervals as shown in Fig. 7. During this switching cycle, the converter goes

into six states (within  $t_0 - t_6$ ) over a cycle with two active states ( $t_0 < t < t_1$ ) and ( $t_3 < t < t_4$ ), two zero states ( $t_1 < t < t_2$  and  $t_4 < t < t_5$ ) and two shoot-through state ( $t_2 < t < t_3$  and  $t_5 < t < t_6$ ). The active state is kept intact and is independently controllable. Only two shoot-through states are used per period, which minimizes the switching loss. In the switching cycle, switches  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are operated at the switching frequency  $f_s$  while switches  $S_3$  and  $S_4$  operate at twice the switching frequency  $2^*f_s$ . Also, the position of shoot-through state is within a zero state and is independent of the active state which is independently controllable, allowing a full range of voltage regulation.

Fig. 8 shows the logic used to generate the modulation technique. A single saw-tooth carrier signal is used to generate the PWM signals and the shoot-through signals by comparing with reference signals. The modulation logic is simple and is easily implantable in an analog or digital controller such as a digital signal processor (DSP), Field-programmable gate array (FPGA), dSPACE, a microcontroller, logic gates etc. The control switching logic is implemented in a digital controller (a Xilinx Spartan 6 FPGA) using the MATLAB Simulink HDL coder toolbox. The gate signal, with a 10% shoot-through duty cycle, is shown in Fig. 9.



FIGURE 7 Switching waveforms of proposed topology in boost mode

#### 3.2 | Reverse-power-flow control

During the reverse mode of operation, the converter works as a DAB converter with buck/boost functionality. The simplest control of a DAB is to provide a square-wave pulse to each H-bridge and control the phase shift between these bridges to regulate the amount and direction of power flow<sup>21</sup>.

In this operation mode, the converter can operate with the phase-shift modulation technique. During this operation mode, each bridge is controlled with a 50% constant duty cycle generating a high-frequency square wave voltage at the transformer







**FIGURE 9** Gate pulse in forward-power-transfer mode with  $D_{st} = 0.1$ 

terminals. The power-flow direction and amount are controlled by the phase shift between the two bridges. The power is delivered from right to left bridge, where the right bridge has a leading phase angle. The output power equation in this operation mode is given as:

$$P_O = \frac{V_1 V_2 n}{2\pi f_s L} \delta \left( 1 - \frac{|\delta|}{\pi} \right) \tag{12}$$

where,  $f_s$  is the switching frequency, L is the equivalent inductance of the transformer referred to the primary side and  $\delta$  is the phase shift between the two bridges in radians. From (12), the power flow depends on the switching frequency, equivalent inductance, and phase shift. As the switching frequency  $f_s$  is inversely proportional to the inductance, their product is constant. Thus, phase-shift ratio is a key parameter that limits the power flow. From (12), the maximum value of power flow occurs when the phase-shift angle is  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . However, increasing  $\delta$  will increase the reactive power, and typical phase shift values are in the range of 2- 15<sup>16</sup>. When  $\delta$  is positive, the power flows from right bridge to left bridge and when it is negative from left to right. Typical transformer voltage and current waveforms when power is flowing in reverse-power-transfer mode and when  $V_{tx,2} < V_{tx,1}$  are shown in Fig. 10 and the gate pulses during this mode are shown in Fig. 11 . As shown in Fig. 10 , the instantaneous value of current  $I_{11}$  and  $I_{12}$  can be calculated as<sup>1</sup>.

$$I_{l1} = -\frac{(V_{tx,2} + V_{tx,1})\delta + (V_{tx,2} - V_{tx,1})(\pi - \delta)}{2\pi f_c L}$$
(13)

$$I_{l2} = \frac{(V_{tx,2} + V_{tx,1})\delta - (V_{tx,2} - V_{tx,1})(\pi - \delta)}{2\pi f_s L}$$
(14)



FIGURE 10 Operation waveforms of the converter in reverse-power-transfer mode

## 4 | COMPARISON WITH OTHER TOPOLOGIES

The performance of the proposed converter is compared with that of the existing DAB converter and impedance-source based isolated DC-DC converters from the literature<sup>33</sup>. Several factors have been considered for comparison with other topologies which includes number of active switches, range of soft switching, boosting ability, cost, reliability, input type, voltage regulation range, and control strategy. Table 1 shows the comparison of the proposed topology with others from the literature.

From Table 3 , it is clear that the proposed topology has superior advantages compared with existing ones from the literature. Some advantages of the proposed converter with respect other isolated bidirectional converter can be summarized as:

1. The proposed qDAB has higher boost ability and inherits all the other features of DAB. This is because of the insertion of a pre-boost impedance network stage which can boost the input voltage using the shoot-through duty cycle.



FIGURE 11 Gate pulses of the switches in reverse-power-transfer mode

**TABLE 2** Summary of comparison for different isolated bidirectional converters

Parameters	DAB	[ <sup>33</sup> ]	[ <sup>34</sup> ]	Proposed
Active switch	8	12	6	9
Soft switching range	Narrow	None	Narrow	Wide
Boosting ability	Limited	High boost ratio	Limited	High boost ratio
Cost	Low	High	High	Medium
Reliability	Low	High	Low	High
Input source	Voltage	Voltage/current	Voltage	Voltage/current
Voltage regulation range	Low	High	Low	High
Control strategy	Simple	Complex	Complex	Simple

- 2. Reliability of the converter is also improved due to short-circuit immunity across the same leg.
- 3. The soft switching range is limited for DAB wherein the modualtion scheme of the proposed converter provides ZVS on all switches irrespective of the load.
- 4. The control strategy of the proposed converter is simple as it only requires to control four switches during the forward power transfer mode while the body diode on the other side acts as a synchronous rectifier.
- 5. The output voltage of qDAB can be stepped up/down not only by the transformer turns ratio but also by the proposed modulation method, so it has wider voltage regulation range.
- 6. In addition to high boost ability, the proposed converter provides continuous input current and low voltage stress to the switch which is equal to output voltage.

## 5 | SIMULATION AND EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

To verify the effectiveness of the proposed converter topology, a 500-W prototype was built and tested. A laboratory prototype shown in Fig. 12 is constructed based on TMS320F28335 DSP. The simulation was carried out using MATLAB Simulink software. The system parameters for both simulation and experiments are shown in Table 3 . The proposed bidirectional DC-DC converter was tested for both forward and reverse power-transfer operations. During forward-power-transfer mode, the converter



FIGURE 12 Photograph of the prototype

utilizes the shoot-through state, thereby performing the boost mode of operation while during the reverse-power-transfer mode the converter works as a buck/boost converter using the phase-shift modulation technique.

Parameter	Value
Switching frequency	24 <i>kHz</i>
Switches $(S_1 - S_4 \text{ and } Q_1 - Q_4)$	Sic MOSFET (BSM080D12P2C008)
Transformer Turns ratio	1:1
Inductors	1.7 <i>mH</i>
Capacitors	$1000 \ \mu F$
Input voltage, $V_1$	50 V
Power rating	500 W
Transformer leakage inductance	11.5 μH
Transformer winding resistance	$20 m\Omega$
Transformer magnetizing inductance	1.6 <i>mH</i>

TA	ABLE 3	Simulation	/Experimen	tal Parameters
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#### 5.1 | Boost mode in forward-power-transfer operation

For the boost mode of operation, 10% and 20% shoot-through states are added into the normal operational states of a qDAB. When the shoot-through duty cycle was set to be 10% the output voltage is boosted by the factor of *B* as indicated in (6) as shown in the simulation and experimental results in Fig. 13 and Fig. 14. The input voltage, 50 V, was boosted to 62 V and the transformer voltage is symmetric, which avoids transformer saturation and reduces the output voltage ripple. The simulation and experimental results for the shoot-through duty cycle of 20 %, where the input voltage is boosted to 83 V is shown in Fig. 15 and Fig. 16. The voltage spikes arise due to sudden transition in voltage level due to switching. These voltage spikes can be minimized using the larger electrolytic capacitor at the input side.

The soft switching on all switches are achieved with this proposed modulation technique. Unlike the DAB, where soft switching is limited to the rated load, this modulation method achieves soft switching in all legs for all load conditions. Figures 17 and 18 show the zero-voltage switching (ZVS) of switches  $S_1$  and  $S_3$ . Similarly, switches  $S_2$  and  $S_4$  have the same switching pattern as  $S_1$  and  $S_3$ . Thus, ZVS is achieved in all switches.



FIGURE 13 Simulation results: input/output voltage, transformer voltages for  $D_{st} = 0.1$ 



**FIGURE 14** Experimental results: input/output voltage, transformer voltage. (Ch. 1:  $V_1$  [100V/div]; Ch. 2:  $V_2$  [100V/div]; Ch. 3:  $V_{tx,1}$  [100V/div]; Ch. 4:  $V_{tx,2}$  [100V/div] time: [8 $\mu$ s/div]).

#### 5.2 | Buck/Boost operation in reverse-power-transfer mode

During the reverse-power-transfer mode, the converter works with the phase-shift modulation to transfer the power. Figure 19 shows the experimental results of the transformer voltages and current during this operational mode. The square-wave voltage of the secondary leads the primary voltage so that the power flows from the secondary bridge to the primary as indicated in (12). Figure 20 shows the observed waveform when the input voltage is 50 V, while the output is 57 V when the power is transferred from bridge 2 to bridge 1 with the phase-shift angle  $\delta = 20^{\circ}$ . The output voltage can be varied with a change of phase-shift angle, thus the converter has a flexibility of working as a buck/boost mode of operation using closed-loop operation.



FIGURE 15 Simulation results: input/output voltage, transformer voltages for  $D_{st} = 0.2$ 



**FIGURE 16** Experimental results: input/output voltage, transformer voltage. (Ch. 1:  $V_1$  [100V/div]; Ch. 2:  $V_2$  [100V/div]; Ch. 3:  $V_{tx,1}$  [100V/div]; Ch. 4:  $V_{tx,2}$  [100V/div] time: [8 $\mu$ s/div]).

Figure 21 shows how efficiency of the proposed converter varied with the load during forward power transfer mode. The peak efficiency was observed at 97% at zero-shoot through state when the converter was operated at the rated load of 500 W. The power loss in qDAB is mainly associated with switching, conduction loss and core losses across the magnetic components. A detail overview and mathematical investigation of these losses are presented in <sup>35</sup>

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**FIGURE 17** Drain-to-source voltage and current of  $S_1$ 



**FIGURE 18** Drain-to-source voltage and current of  $S_3$ 

## 6 | CONCLUSION

This paper proposes a quasi-Z-source based isolated bidirectional DC-DC converter applicable for renewable-energy systems. An impedance network is used to improve the boost ability of the conventional DAB converter. The converter works as a boost converter in the forward-power-transfer mode and buck/boost in the reverse mode of operation. It has a higher boost ability than the conventional DAB converter and inherits all the other features. The boost ability can be acquired not only by the transformer but also by the impedance-source network, so the converter's boost ability gets improved. Also, due to the immunity to short-circuits across the legs of the inverter, the reliability of the converter can be improved. Simulation and experimental results demonstrated the suitability of proposed topology and control method.



**FIGURE 19** Experimental waveform of transformer voltage, transformer current in reverse-power-transfer mode when  $\delta = 20^{\circ}$  (Ch. 1:  $V_{tx,2}$  [100V/div]; Ch. 2:  $V_{tx,1}$  [100V/div]; Ch. 3:  $I_L$  [10A/div]; time: [10 $\mu$ s/div]).



**FIGURE 20** Experimental waveform of Input/output voltage and transformer current when  $\delta = 20^{\circ}$  (Ch. 1:  $V_1$  [100V/div]; Ch. 3:  $V_2$  [50V/div]; Ch. 4:  $I_L$  [20A/div]; time: [10 $\mu$ s/div]).

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FIGURE 21 Efficiency of the converter at different load.

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