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Electronic circuitry and method

Abstract

According to one embodiment, electronic circuitry includes: transmitting circuitry to output a first waveform including N pulse waveforms (N is a natural number larger than 1) in response to an input signal; transfer circuitry to transfer the first waveform as a second waveform that includes at least N+1 pulse waveforms, via electromagnetic coupling; and receiving circuitry configured to receive the second waveform and determine the input signal based on the at least N+1 pulse waveforms.

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Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

(1) This application is based upon and claims the benefit of priority from the prior Japanese Patent Application No. 2022-041102, filed on Mar. 16, 2022, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD

(2) The present embodiment relates to electronic circuitry and a method.

BACKGROUND

(3) An input signal transmitted using insulated signal transmission is outputted as an analog waveform whose pulse edges contained in the input signal have been enhanced by band-pass filter type frequency characteristics of insulation elements.

(4) A receiver receives as many pulses as pulses included in the analog waveform transmitted from a transmitter and thereby determines a signal. For this transmission, a method that can reduce power consumption is desired.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- (1) FIG. 1 is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to the present embodiment;
- (2) FIG. 2 is a diagram showing a circuit configuration of a transmit pulse generation circuit;
- (3) FIG. 3 is a diagram showing a transmit signal outputted in combination with a trigger signal and a data signal;
- (4) FIG. 4 is a diagram showing activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission;
- (5) FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing an example of an operation whereby transmitting circuitry transmits an analog waveform;
- (6) FIG. 6 is a diagram showing structures of an insulation element and receiving circuitry;
- (7) FIG. 7 is a diagram showing changes in pulses taking place on specific terminals when cut-off frequency (f_{c_hpf}) of the insulation element is changed;
- (8) FIG. 8 is a conceptual diagram showing a structure of a pulse detection circuit;
- (9) FIG. 9 is a diagram showing a relationship between transmit signals and pulse patterns;
- (10) FIG. 10 is a diagram showing a configuration of a pulse detection circuit;
- (11) FIG. 11 is a diagram showing an operation concept of the pulse detection circuit;
- (12) FIGS. 12A to 12F are diagrams comparing a case in which the number N of pulse waveforms is three with a case in which the number N is two;
- (13) FIG. 13 is a diagram showing a relationship between the number of pulses included in an analog waveform and power consumption.
- (14) FIGS. 14A and 14B are diagrams showing signal amplitude and power consumption when a first transmit pulse is increased;
- (15) FIG. 15 is a diagram showing an overall configuration of a pulse detection circuit according to a variation;
- (16) FIG. 16 is a diagram showing a configuration of a transmit pulse generation circuit according

to a variation;

(17) FIG. **17** is a diagram showing activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission;

(18) FIG. **18** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to a variation;

(19) FIG. **19** is a diagram showing a circuit configuration of a transmit pulse generation circuit according to a variation;

(20) FIG. **20** is a diagram showing a transmit signal outputted in combination with a trigger signal and a data signal;

(21) FIG. **21** is a diagram showing activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission;

(22) FIG. **22** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to a variation;

(23) FIG. **23** is a diagram showing a configuration of receiving circuitry according to a variation;

(24) FIG. **24** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to a variation;

(25) FIG. **25** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to a variation;

(26) FIG. **26** is a diagram showing a transmit signal outputted in combination with a data signal; and

(27) FIG. **27** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry according to a variation.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

(28) According to one embodiment, electronic circuitry includes: transmitting circuitry to output a first waveform including N pulse waveforms (N is a natural number larger than 1) in response to an input signal; transfer circuitry to transfer the first waveform as a second waveform that includes at least N+1 pulse waveforms, via electromagnetic coupling; and receiving circuitry configured to receive the second waveform and determine the input signal based on the at least N+1 pulse waveforms.

(29) FIG. **1** shows an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000** according to the present embodiment. FIG. **2** shows a circuit configuration of a transmit pulse generation circuit (transmit pulse generator) **110**. FIG. **3** shows a transmit signal outputted in combination with a trigger signal and a data signal. FIG. **4** shows activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission.

(30) The transmitting and receiving circuitry (electronic circuitry) **1000** includes transmitting circuitry **100**, an insulation element **200**, and receiving circuitry **300**.

(31) The transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000** transmits signals, with the transmitting circuitry **100** on an input side and the receiving circuitry **300** on an output side being insulated by the insulation element **200**, which is an electrical insulator.

(32) The transmitting circuitry **100** outputs an analog waveform (first waveform) based on an input signal. Specifically, the transmitting circuitry **100** outputs the analog waveform (first waveform) in synchronization with transition of the input signal. The transmitting circuitry **100** may also be called a transmission device or a transmitter.

(33) The input signal is produced, for example, by converting an analog signal outputted from a current sensor or a voltage sensor into a digital signal.

(34) The input signal includes signals such as noise, other than an electrical signal observed by the current sensor or the voltage sensor and to be amplified.

(35) The transition of the input signal indicates changes in the state of the input signal. The transition of the input signal includes, for example, a rising edge and falling edge of the input signal.

(36) The transmitting circuitry **100** includes the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and a control signal generator **120** (a control signal generation circuit).

(37) The analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is a waveform including successive pulse waveforms.

(38) The successive pulse waveforms include not only pulse waveforms spaced without any interval, but also pulse waveforms spaced at regular intervals. The successive pulse waveforms include, for example, pulse waveforms spaced at one-second intervals.

(39) For example, if the number of pulse waveforms is N (N is a natural number larger than 1), the transmitting circuitry **100** transmits an input signal as an analog waveform made up of N successive pulse waveforms.

(40) The pulse waveforms can represent Boolean values if it is determined whether the pulse waveforms are High or Low based on amplitude.

(41) For example, the analog waveform can be regarded as a digital signal represented by N bits.

(42) In the following description, it is assumed that the number N of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform is two, but this does not exclude cases in which the number N is other than 2.

(43) The transmitting circuitry **100** functions as a transmitter configured to transmit an input signal by converting the input signal into an analog waveform having two pulse waveforms.

(44) In the description given here, of the pulses outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100**, the pulse outputted first is designated as a first transmit pulse (first transmit pulse waveform) and the pulse outputted next is designated as a second transmit pulse (second transmit pulse waveform).

(45) The transmit pulse generation circuit **110** generates pulse waveforms. According to the present embodiment, the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** generates pulse waveforms using differential current pulses.

(46) The transmit pulse generation circuit **110** includes current sources **111_1** to **111_4** and switches **112_1** to **112_4**.

(47) The current sources **111_1** to **111_4** (first current sources) pass a current of I_1 and are connected to the switches **112_1** to **112_4** (first switches), respectively.

(48) The switches **112_1** to **112_4** control outputs of the current sources by opening and closing. For example, when any of the switches turns ON, a current flows through the circuit.

(49) In output control of the current sources, the opening and closing of the switches **112_1** to **112_4** are not limited to opening and closing of mechanical contacts.

(50) The switches **112_1** to **112_4** may perform output control of the current sources using logic gates. For example, the switches **112_1** to **112_4** may be digital circuits such as transistors or integrated circuits (ICs).

(51) By combining transmit pulses differing in polarity, the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** transmits two types of signals—an H signal and an L signal—as transmit signals.

(52) The H signal, for example, indicates that a digital signal is High and the L signal, for example, indicates that a digital signal is Low.

(53) For example, to transmit an H signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switches **112_1** and **112_4** are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a current of I to I_{out} .

(54) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switches **112_2** and **112_3** are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a current of $-I_1$ to I_{out} .

(55) In other words, to transmit an H signal, as shown in FIG. 4, the switch **112_1** is set to ON and OFF in order.

(56) Similarly, the switch **112_2** is set to OFF and ON in order. The switch **112_3** is set to OFF and ON in order. The switch **112_4** is set to ON and OFF in order.

(57) The currents flowing through I_{out} are outputted in the following order: I_1 and $-I_1$.

(58) For example, to transmit an L signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switches **112_2** and **112_3** are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a current of $-I_1$ to I_{out} .

(59) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switches **112_1** and **112_4** are turned ON

simultaneously, thereby outputting a current of I1 to Iout.

(60) In other words, to transmit an L signal, as shown in FIG. 4, the switch **112_1** is set to OFF and ON in order.

(61) Similarly, the switch **112_2** is set to ON and OFF in order. The switch **112_3** is set to ON and OFF in order. The switch **112_4** is set to OFF and ON in order.

(62) The currents flowing through Iout are outputted in the following order: -I1 and I1.

(63) The control signal generator **120** generates control signals for use to control operation of the switches included in the transmit pulse generation circuit **110**.

(64) The control signal generator **120** controls switch operation of the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** using two types of signals: a data signal and a trigger signal.

(65) The trigger signal indicates timing for the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** to transmit a pulse. The trigger signal allows determination as to whether the trigger signal is High or Low.

(66) The control signal generator **120** transmits a pulse signal on a rising edge of the trigger signal.

(67) The data signal indicates the type of signal outputted by a transmit pulse. As with the trigger signal, the data signal allows determination as to whether the data signal is High or Low.

(68) The control signal generator **120** controls the switches included in the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** such that transmit pulses will be outputted according to whether the data signal is High or Low.

(69) According to the present embodiment, the control signal generator **120** transmits an H signal when the data signal is High. When the data signal is Low, the control signal generator **120** transmit an L signal.

(70) For example, as shown in FIG. 3, at a time when a rising edge of a trigger signal is detected and the data signal is shown to be High, the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** transmits an H signal.

(71) For example, at a time when a rising edge of a trigger signal is detected and the data signal is shown to be Low, the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** transmits an L signal.

(72) The trigger signal and the data signal may be combined, forming an input signal that causes an analog waveform (first waveform) to be outputted.

(73) The transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and the control signal generator **120** are integrally incorporated in the transmitting circuitry **100** according to the present embodiment, but may be provided separately.

(74) For example, the transmitting circuitry **100** may output an analog waveform and one or both of the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and the control signal generator **120** may be provided outside the transmitting circuitry **100**.

(75) FIG. 5 shows an example of an operation whereby the transmitting circuitry **100** transmits an analog waveform.

(76) The control signal generator **120** determines whether a rising edge of a trigger signal has been received (S1001). If a rising edge of a trigger signal has been received, the control signal generator **120** goes to S1002, but otherwise finishes the process.

(77) The control signal generator **120** determines whether a data signal has been received (S1002). If a data signal has been received, the control signal generator **120** goes to S1003, but otherwise finishes the process.

(78) The control signal generator **120** determines the type of the received data signal (S1003). If a High data signal has been received, the control signal generator **120** goes to S1004, but if a Low data signal has been received, the control signal generator **120** goes to S1005.

(79) If the received data signal is High, the control signal generator **120** controls the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** so as to output an H signal (S1004).

(80) Similarly, if the received data signal is Low, the control signal generator **120** controls the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** so as to output an L signal (S1005).

(81) FIG. 6 is a diagram showing structures of an insulation element **200** and receiving circuitry

300. FIG. 7 shows changes in pulses taking place on specific terminals when cut-off frequency (f_{c_hpf}) of the insulation element **200** is changed.

(82) Using electromagnetic coupling, the insulation element **200** transmits the analog waveform transmitted from the transmitting circuitry **100**. The insulation element **200** may also be called a transfer circuitry.

(83) In so doing, the insulation element **200** functions as a filter configured to extract specific frequency bands from a signal transmitted from the transmitting circuitry **100** (bandpass characteristics). As a result, the analog waveform transmitted from the transmitting circuitry **100** changes shape.

(84) According to the present embodiment, the insulation element **200** is an isolation transformer made up of an insulation element to increase withstand voltage performance and provided with high-pass filter characteristics, but may be another type of element such as a condenser or a capacitor.

(85) Using the characteristics of a high-pass filter, the insulation element **200** outputs the analog waveform (second waveform) by enhancing a frequency component corresponding to the pulse width. The analog waveform whose frequency component is enhanced by the insulation element **200** includes a signal such as noise other than the electrical signal to be amplified.

(86) An analog waveform outputted by the insulation element **200** includes a first receive pulse based on a first transmit pulse and a second receive pulse based on a second transmit pulse. Besides, the analog waveform outputted by the insulation element **200** includes a third receive pulse, which is an enhanced pulse waveform produced when the first transmit pulse and the second transmit pulse have their frequency components enhanced by the insulation element **200**.

(87) The insulation element **200** outputs an analog waveform including three pulse waveforms to the receiving circuitry **300**. In other words, the insulation element **200** outputs pulse waveforms larger in number than the two pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100**.

(88) For example, if the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform is N , the receiving circuitry **300** determines the signal based on at least $N+1$ pulse waveforms.

(89) On the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000**, an analog waveform transmitted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is passed through the insulation element **200** and then through a low-pass filter **310** described later, and subsequently received by a pulse detection circuit **330** and the like.

(90) If t_{pulse} designates pulse width and a fundamental frequency is given as $f_0=1/t_{pulse}$, when the cut-off frequency (f_{c_hpf}) of the high-pass filter **210** is changed in a range of $0.02f_0$ to f_0 on terminals A, B, and C in FIG. 6, resulting waveforms are shown as in FIG. 7.

(91) If the receiving circuitry **300** receives a larger number of pulse waveforms than the number N of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform transmitted by the transmitting circuitry **100**, it is necessary to set the cut-off frequency of the insulation element **200** appropriately.

(92) For example, in the present embodiment, when the cut-off frequency of the insulation element **200** is changed on terminals A, B, and C shown in FIG. 6, results are shown as in FIG. 7.

(93) The waveform measured on terminal A in FIG. 6 is an analog waveform immediately after transmission from the transmitting circuitry **100**, i.e., a waveform resulting from measurement of the transmit pulse. The waveform measured on terminal B in FIG. 6 is an analog waveform immediately after passage through the insulation element **200**. The waveform measured on terminal C in FIG. 6 is an analog waveform immediately after passage through the low-pass filter **310**, i.e., a waveform resulting from measurement of the receive pulse.

(94) When f_{c_hpf} is $0.02f_c$, two receive pulses corresponding to two transmit pulses transmitted are observed on terminal C.

(95) In so doing, on the receiving circuitry **300**, pulses based on the two receive pulses are reproduced and reception based on three receive pulses is disabled.

(96) When f_{c_hpf} is $0.1f_c$ to $0.4f_c$, three receive pulses corresponding to two transmit pulse

waveforms transmitted are observed on terminal C.

(97) In other words, if appropriate cut-off frequencies are selected on the insulation element **200**, an outline of the receive pulses measured on terminal C is reproduced.

(98) The receiving circuitry **300** receives an analog waveform. The receiving circuitry **300** may also be called a receiver. The analog waveform received by the receiving circuitry **300** is a transmit signal from which noise and the like have been removed by the insulation element **200**.

(99) From the receive pulses included in the received analog waveform, the receiving circuitry **300** determines whether digital signals are High or Low, and thereby reproduces the input signal.

(100) The receiving circuitry **300** includes a low-pass filter **310**, a comparator **320**, and a pulse detection circuit **330**.

(101) The low-pass filter **310** gradually reduces frequency components higher than a cut-off frequency without attenuating frequency components lower than the cut-off frequency.

(102) Due to the characteristics of the insulation element **200** as a high-pass filter, a signal outputted from the insulation element **200** mainly includes frequency components higher than the cut-off frequency (by attenuating the frequency components lower than the cut-off frequency).

(103) The low-pass filter **310** gradually reduces the frequency components higher than the cut-off frequency from the signal to extract a signal having appropriate frequency components.

(104) When there is no need to extract frequency components from a signal outputted from the insulation element **200**, e.g., when the transmitting circuitry **100** is mainly made up of specific low frequency components, the low-pass filter **310** may be bypassed.

(105) In any case, the receive pulses received by the receiving circuitry **300** are pulses resulting from extraction of specific frequency components as with a signal passed through a band-pass filter.

(106) The comparator **320** detects a pulse signal.

(107) The comparator **320** outputs a signal according to polarity of the detected pulse signal.

(108) According to the present embodiment, the comparator **320** shapes the signal extracted by the low-pass filter **310** into a rectangular wave. Specifically, if the pulse signal is High, the comparator **320** outputs a High rectangular wave. If the pulse signal is Low, the comparator **320** does not produce any output.

(109) The comparator **320** transmits the rectangular wave to the pulse detection circuit **330**.

(110) According to the present embodiment, the comparator **320** includes two comparators **320_1** and **320_2**.

(111) The comparator **320_1** (first comparator) and the **320_2** (second comparator) are opposite to each other in terms of inverting input connection and non-inverting input connection.

(112) For example, a circuit connected to the non-inverting input of the comparator **320_1** is connected to the inverting input of the comparator **320_2**. Similarly, a circuit connected to the inverting input of the comparator **320_1** is connected to the non-inverting input of the comparator **320_2**.

(113) The comparators **320_1** and **320_2** output CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2, respectively, to the pulse detection circuit **330**.

(114) FIG. **8** is a conceptual diagram showing a structure of the pulse detection circuit **330**. FIG. **9** shows a relationship between transmit signals and pulse patterns.

(115) FIG. **10** shows a circuit structure of the pulse detection circuit **330**. FIG. **11** shows an operation concept of the pulse detection circuit **330**.

(116) The pulse detection circuit **330** detects pulse waveforms outputted by the comparator **320**. Specifically, the pulse detection circuit **330** outputs a signal by comparing the detected pulse waveforms with specific pulse patterns. The pulse detection circuit **330** may also be called a pulse detector.

(117) The pulse detection circuit **330** determines whether waveforms of CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 accepted as input match any of predetermined pulse patterns **1** and **2**.

(118) For example, if the pulse detection circuit **330** is configured to output High when pulse pattern **1** is matched and output Low when pulse pattern **2** is matched, an output signal can be determined based on a transmitted pulse pattern.

(119) The pulse detection circuit **330** makes the determination by detecting the rising edge of the output from the comparator **320**.

(120) For example, in detecting pulse pattern **1**, as shown in FIG. **9**, a waveform made up of Input, No Input, and Input is received as CMPOUT1.

(121) The pulse detection circuit **330** recognizes the waveform by detecting a rising edge of CMPOUT1.

(122) Similarly, a waveform made up of No Input, Input, and No Input is received as CMPOUT1.

(123) The pulse detection circuit **330** recognizes the waveform by detecting a rising edge of CMPOUT2.

(124) The pulse detection circuit **330** recognizes the waveforms in the following order: a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT1, a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT2, and a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT1.

(125) The pulse detection circuit **330** compares the recognized waveforms with pulse pattern **1** and thereby checks for a match. The pulse detection circuit **330** outputs a High signal corresponding to pulse pattern **1**.

(126) For example, in detecting pulse pattern **2**, as shown in FIG. **9**, a waveform made up of No Input, Input, and No Input is received as CMPOUT1.

(127) Similarly, a waveform made up of Input, No Input, and Input is received as CMPOUT2.

(128) The pulse detection circuit **330** recognizes the waveforms in the following order: a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT2, a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT1, and a rising edge of the input from CMPOUT2.

(129) The pulse detection circuit **330** compares the recognized waveforms with pulse pattern **2** and thereby checks for a match. The pulse detection circuit **330** outputs a Low signal corresponding to pulse pattern **2**.

(130) Specifically, the pulse detection circuit **330** includes sets of series-connected three flip-flops **331** and **332**, AND gates **333**, NOR gates **334**, and a signal determination circuit **335**.

(131) The three flip-flops **331** are connected in series.

(132) The flip-flops **331** are made up of flip-flops **331_1** to **331_3**. The flip-flops **331** make up a circuit in which as many flip-flops as the number of pulse waveforms received by the receiving circuitry **300** are connected in series.

(133) According to the present embodiment, in the receiving circuitry **300**, since three pulse waveforms are received, three flip-flops are connected in series via the AND gates between the flip-flops.

(134) For example, if the receiving circuitry **300** receives N+1 pulse waveforms, N+1 flip-flops are connected in series via the AND gates between the flip-flops.

(135) Of the flip-flop **331_1**, a set terminal S is connected with CMPOUT1 and a reset terminal R is connected with a NOR gate **334_1**. The flip-flop **331_1** outputs an output result (first output signal) from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to an AND gate **333_1**.

(136) Of a flip-flop **331_2**, a set terminal S is connected with an output result of the AND gate **333_1** and a reset terminal R is connected with the NOR gate **334_1**. The flip-flop **331_2** outputs an output result (first output signal) from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to an AND gate **333_2**.

(137) Of a flip-flop **331_3**, a set terminal S is connected with an output result of the AND gate **333_2** and a reset terminal R is connected with the NOR gate **334_1**. The flip-flop **331_3** outputs an output result as DET_H (second output signal) from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to the signal determination circuit **335**.

(138) For example, when CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 become High in the order—CMPOUT1,

CMPOUT2, and CMPOUT1, the flip-flop **331** outputs DET_H indicating a High state.

(139) Three flip-flops **332** are connected in series.

(140) The flip-flops **332** are made up of flip-flops **332_1** to **332_3**. The flip-flops **332** make up a circuit in which as many flip-flops as the number of pulse waveforms received by the receiving circuitry **300** are connected in series.

(141) According to the present embodiment, in the receiving circuitry **300**, which receives three pulse waveforms, three flip-flops are connected in series via AND gates between the flip-flops.

(142) Of the flip-flop **332_1**, a set terminal S is connected with CMPOUT1 and a reset terminal R is connected with a NOR gate **334_2**. The flip-flop **332_1** outputs an output result from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to an AND gate **333_3**.

(143) Of a flip-flop **332_2**, a set terminal S is connected with an output result of the AND gate **333_3** and a reset terminal R is connected with the NOR gate **334_2**. The flip-flop **332_2** outputs an output result from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to an AND gate **333_4**.

(144) Of a flip-flop **332_3**, a set terminal S is connected with an output result of the AND gate **333_4** and a reset terminal R is connected with the NOR gate **334_2**. The flip-flop **332_3** outputs an output result as DET_L (second output signal) from an output terminal Q and transmits the output result to the signal determination circuit **335**.

(145) For example, when CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 become High in the order—CMPOUT2, CMPOUT1, and CMPOUT2, the flip-flop **332** outputs DET_L indicating a Low state.

(146) In other words, if the Mth pulse waveform (M is a natural number between 1 and N, both inclusive) of a receive pulse included in an analog waveform matches a corresponding pulse waveform of pulse pattern **1** or pulse pattern **2**, the Mth flip-flop connected in series outputs the Mth pulse waveform to the (M+1)th flip-flop connected next.

(147) Similarly, the flip-flops **331** and **332** repeats a similar process for the first to (N+1)th flip-flops and outputs DET_H or DET_L.

(148) To prevent erroneous determination due to noise components and the like other than the received pulse signal, the flip-flops **331** and **332** may be configured not to respond to pulses longer or shorter by a predetermined amount than a pulse signal to be transmitted.

(149) For example, by setting a response time of the flip-flops **331** and **332** appropriately, short pulses can be removed.

(150) For example, by adding a timeout-based reset mechanism to the flip-flops **331** and **332** themselves, long pulses may be removed.

(151) The NOR gates **334** are intended to reset the flip-flops **331** and **332**, respectively.

(152) When the signal received by the receiving circuitry **300** comes to an end, i.e., when both CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 become Low, the NOR gates **334** reset the respective flip-flops **331** and **332** such that determination of the signal to be received next will not be affected.

(153) Based on DET_H and DET_L, the signal determination circuit **335** determines whether the transmitted signal is High or Low. The signal determination circuit **335** may also be called a signal determinator.

(154) As shown in FIG. **11**, the output is determined based on DET_H and DET_L, which in turn are based on the outputs of CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2.

(155) FIGS. **12A** to **12F** compare a case in which the number N of pulse waveforms is three with a case in which the number N is two.

(156) FIG. **13** shows a relationship between the number of pulses included in an analog waveform and power consumption.

(157) The pulses included in the analog waveform allows determination as to whether the pulses are High or Low, based on amplitude.

(158) In so doing, the High state may mean High in a positive output direction or High in a negative output direction.

(159) The pulses included in the analog waveform repeats a positive output (P) and a negative

output (N). For example, when a first transmit pulse is High, the analog waveform produces a positive High output.

(160) When a second transmit pulse is High, a negative High output is produced. Similarly, a positive output and a negative output are repeated.

(161) For example, as shown in FIG. 12A, when the number N of pulses included in an analog waveform is three, the first transmit pulse and the third transmit pulse are outputted in a positive High state and the second transmit pulse is outputted in a negative High state.

(162) In this case, the output pulses are outputted through the insulation element **200** as an analog waveform such as shown in FIG. 12B.

(163) Next, the waveform is outputted from the comparator **320** in the form shown in FIG. 12C. The pulse detection circuit **330** detects the pulse by detecting a rising edge of the output.

(164) For example, as shown in FIG. 12D, when the number N of pulses included in an analog waveform is two, the first transmit pulse is outputted in a positive High state and the second transmit pulse is outputted in a negative High state.

(165) In this case, the pulses are outputted through the insulation element **200** as an analog waveform such as shown in FIG. 12E.

(166) Next, the waveform is outputted from the comparator **320** in the form shown in FIG. 12F. The pulse detection circuit **330** detects the pulse by detecting a rising edge of the output.

(167) Regardless of whether the number N of pulses is two or three, the pulse detection circuit **330** can detect three rising edges. In other words, even if the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is small, rising edges of output with the same number of pulse waveforms can be detected.

(168) Consumed power increases with increases in the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100**. In other words, power consumption of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000** is proportional to the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform.

(169) For example, in FIG. 13, the abscissa represents transmit current and the ordinate represents estimated current consumption of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000**. In FIG. 13, the solid line represents a case in which the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is three and the broken line represents a case in which the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is two.

(170) The current consumption of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000** can be reduced when the number of pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** is two compared to when the number is three.

(171) FIGS. 14A and 14B show signal amplitude and power consumption when a first transmit pulse is increased.

(172) According to the present embodiment, all the pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry **100** are equal in height, but may be different in height.

(173) For example, the first transmit pulse may be higher in power, i.e., higher in signal amplitude, than the other transmit pulses.

(174) When the first transmit pulse and the other transmit pulses are equal in power, as a result of transmission through the insulation element **200**, the first receive pulse becomes the lowest in signal amplitude.

(175) As shown in FIG. 14A, the signal amplitude of the first transmit pulse with positive High output is a times the signal amplitude of the second transmit pulse with negative High output, increasing the signal amplitude of the first receive pulse and thereby allowing the receiving circuitry **300** to receive the signal.

(176) In FIG. 14B, the abscissa represents the increase ratio of the first transmit pulse and the

ordinate represents the pulse peak voltage of the receive pulse. In FIG. 14B, the solid line represents the first receive pulse, the chain line represents the second receive pulse, and the dashed line represents the third receive pulse.

(177) For example, as shown in FIG. 14B, when the first transmit pulse is one time or more, the other receive pulses become higher than the first receive pulse whose pulse peak voltage is the lowest. In other words, the other receive pulses have higher signal amplitudes than the first receive pulse.

(178) In any case, since the first transmit pulse is a times the second transmit pulse, the analog waveform including N transmitted pulses does not preclude output of an analog waveform including N+1 pulses, and both the analog waveforms can be outputted simultaneously.

(179) Thus, according to the present embodiment, from the analog waveform including two pulses and transmitted by the transmitting circuitry 100, the transmitting and receiving circuitry 1000 can receive three pulses using the analog waveform received by the receiving circuitry 300.

(180) This allows the receiving circuitry 300 to determine the signal based on a larger number of pulse waveforms than the pulse waveforms included in the analog waveform outputted by the transmitting circuitry 100. In other words, the transmitting and receiving circuitry 1000 can transmit signals at reduced power consumption. Besides, the transmitting and receiving circuitry can transmit signals resistant to noise and disturbances.

(181) (Variation 1)

(182) FIG. 15 shows an overall configuration of a pulse detection circuit 2330 according to Variation 1.

(183) According to Variation 1, transmitting and receiving circuitry 2000 includes receiving circuitry 2300. The receiving circuitry 2300 includes the pulse detection circuit 2330.

(184) Except for the receiving circuitry 2300 and the pulse detection circuit 2330, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry 2000 is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry 1000, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(185) The pulse detection circuit 2330 includes a waveform pattern comparator 2331 and waveform memories 2332 and 2333.

(186) The pulse detection circuit 2330 receives outputs CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 from the comparator 320 using the waveform pattern comparator 2331 without involving a flip-flop or the like.

(187) The pulse detection circuit 2330 determines an inputted signal based on pulse patterns stored in memory.

(188) The waveform pattern comparator 2331 compares inputted waveforms obtained as outputs of CMPOUT1 and CMPOUT2 with waveforms stored in the waveform memories 2332 and 2333, and outputs an appropriate signal if a degree of match is equal to or higher than a threshold.

(189) For example, an H signal is outputted as a received signal if the inputted waveforms match the waveforms in the waveform memory 2332 and an L signal is outputted as a received signal if the inputted waveforms match the waveforms in the waveform memory 2333.

(190) If a threshold for use to determine the degree of match is set appropriately, the waveform pattern comparator 2331 can be configured to prevent erroneous determination due to noise and the like.

(191) The waveform memories 2332 and 2333 are storage cells configured to store waveforms corresponding to specific pulse patterns in advance.

(192) The waveform memories 2332 and 2333 may also be called storages.

(193) According to the present embodiment, pulse pattern 1 is stored in the waveform memory 2332. Similarly, pulse pattern 2 is stored in the waveform memory 2333.

(194) According to Variation 1, the waveform pattern comparator 2331 can determine signals transmitted by an electronic circuit using elements other than flip-flops, without involving DET_H and DET_L.

(195) (Variation 2)

(196) FIG. 16 shows a configuration of the transmit pulse generation circuit 3110. FIG. 17 shows activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission.

(197) According to Variation 2, the transmitting and receiving circuitry 3000 includes transmitting circuitry 3100. The transmitting circuitry 3100 includes the transmit pulse generation circuit 3110.

(198) Except for the transmitting circuitry 3100 and the transmit pulse generation circuit 3110, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry 3000 is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry 1000, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(199) The transmitting circuitry 3100 includes the transmit pulse generation circuit 3110 and control signal generator 120.

(200) The transmit pulse generation circuit 3110 generates pulse waveforms. According to the present embodiment, the transmit pulse generation circuit 3110 generates pulse waveforms based on differential voltage pulses.

(201) The transmit pulse generation circuit 3110 includes a terminal 3111_1 with a voltage V1 applied thereto, and switches 3112_1 to 3111_4.

(202) Whereas in the description given here, four switches are provided, the number of switches is not limited to this.

(203) For example, to transmit an H signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switches 3112_1 and 3112_4 are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a voltage V1 to Vout.

(204) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switches 3112_2 and 3112_3 are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a voltage -V1 to Vout.

(205) In other words, to transmit an H signal, as shown in FIG. 17, the switch 3112_1 is set to ON and OFF in order.

(206) Similarly, the switch 3112_2 is set to OFF and ON in order. The switch 3112_3 is set to OFF and ON in order. The switch 3112_4 is set to ON and OFF in order.

(207) Voltages are outputted to Vout in the following order: V1 and -V1.

(208) For example, to transmit an L signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switches 3112_2 and 3112_3 are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a voltage -V1 to Vout.

(209) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switches 3112_1 and 3112_4 are turned ON simultaneously, thereby outputting a voltage V1 to Vout.

(210) In other words, to transmit an L signal, as shown in FIG. 17, the switch 3112_1 is set to OFF and ON in order.

(211) Similarly, the switch 3112_2 is set to ON and OFF in order. The switch 3112_3 is set to ON and OFF in order. The switch 3112_4 is set to OFF and ON in order.

(212) Voltages are outputted to Vout in the following order: -V1 and V1.

(213) According to Variation 1, if the voltage V1 outputted to Vout is High and the voltage -V1 is Low, the transmit pulses transmitted by the transmitting circuitry 3100 may be, for example, differential voltage pulses other than current pulses.

(214) (Variation 3)

(215) FIG. 18 shows an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry 4000 according to Variation 3.

(216) FIG. 19 shows a circuit configuration of a transmit pulse generation circuit 4110 according to Variation 3.

(217) FIG. 20 shows a transmit signal outputted in combination with a trigger signal and a data signal.

(218) FIG. 21 shows activation and deactivation of switches during signal transmission.

(219) According to Variation 3, transmitting and receiving circuitry 4000 includes transmitting circuitry 4100. The transmitting circuitry 4100 includes the transmit pulse generation circuit 4110.

(220) Except for the transmitting circuitry 4100 and the transmit pulse generation circuit 4110, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry 4000 is the same as that of the transmitting

and receiving circuitry **1000**, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(221) The transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** generates pulse waveforms. According to the present embodiment, the transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** generates pulse waveforms based on pseudo differential current pulses.

(222) By being connected, for example, with an insulation element **4200** whose midpoint is connected to a ground point, the transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** can also deal with a situation in which Ioutp and Ioutn outputted for the pseudo differential configuration do not become equal to each other.

(223) Whereas according to the present embodiment, the insulation element **4200** is made up of a transformer, if connected to a ground point, the insulation element **4200** may be made up of an element such as a capacitor or a condenser other than a transformer.

(224) For example, as shown in FIG. **20**, at a time when a rising edge of a trigger signal is detected and the data signal is shown to be High, the transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** transmits an H signal.

(225) For example, at a time when a rising edge of a trigger signal is detected and the data signal is shown to be Low, the transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** transmits an L signal.

(226) The transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** includes current sources **4111_1** and **4111_2** and switches **4112_1** and **4112_2**.

(227) Whereas in the description given here, two current sources and two switches are provided, the numbers of current sources and switches are not limited to this.

(228) For example, to transmit an H signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switch **4112_1** is turned ON, thereby outputting a current **I1** to Ioutn.

(229) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switch **4112_2** is turned ON, thereby outputting a current of **I1** to Ioutp.

(230) In other words, to transmit an H signal, as shown in FIG. **21**, the switch **4112_1** is set to ON and OFF in order.

(231) Similarly, the switch **4112_2** is set to OFF and ON in order.

(232) The currents flowing through Ioutp are outputted in the following order: no output and **I1**. The currents flowing through Ioutn are outputted in the following order: **I1** and no output.

(233) For example, to transmit an L signal, in the first transmit pulse, the switch **4112_1** is turned ON, thereby outputting a current of $-I1$ to Ioutn.

(234) Next, in the second transmit pulse, the switch **4112_2** is turned ON, thereby outputting a current of **I1** to Ioutp.

(235) In other words, to transmit an L signal, as shown in FIG. **21**, the switch **4112_1** is set to OFF and ON in order.

(236) Similarly, the switch **4112_2** is set to ON and OFF in order.

(237) The currents flowing through Ioutp are outputted in the following order: **I1** and no output. The currents flowing through Ioutn are outputted in the following order: no output and **I1**.

(238) According to Variation 3, the transmit pulses transmitted by the transmitting circuitry may be current pulses based on a pseudo differential current.

(239) (Variation 4)

(240) FIG. **22** shows an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000** according to Variation 4. FIG. **23** shows a configuration of receiving circuitry **5300** according to Variation 4.

(241) According to Variation 4, the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000** includes transmitting circuitry **5100**, an insulation element **5200**, and receiving circuitry **5300**.

(242) The transmitting circuitry **5100** includes the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and a control signal generator **5120** (a control signal generation circuit). The receiving circuitry **5300** includes a comparator **5320**, the pulse detection circuit **330**, and a controller **5340**.

(243) Except for the control signal generator **5120** included in the transmitting circuitry **5100**, the

insulation element **5200**, and the comparator **5320** and controller **5340** included in the receiving circuitry **5300**, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000** is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000**, and thus description thereof will be omitted. Based on a signal received from outside, the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000** appropriately adjusts a relationship between cut-off frequency and pulse width.

(244) In the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000**, pulse width, i.e., a pulse period, affects a signal transmission rate. The smaller the pulse width, i.e., the shorter the pulse period, the higher the transmission speed of the signal can be.

(245) In the receiving circuitry **5300**, to detect pulses of a small pulse width, it is necessary to increase operating speed of the comparator **5320**.

(246) In the receiving circuitry **5300**, the higher the operating speed of the comparator **5320**, the higher the power consumption.

(247) In the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000**, if the operating speed of the comparator **5320** is fixed based on the highest transmission rate needed for signal transmission, power is consumed based on the operating speed.

(248) In the transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000**, even after a signal is transmitted at the highest transmission rate, the comparator **5320** needs to operate at high speed at high power consumption.

(249) The transmitting and receiving circuitry **5000** can reduce power consumption by adjusting the speed of the comparator **5320** according to the necessary transmission rate.

(250) The control signal generator **5120** controls the pulse width of the transmit pulse based on a pulse width adjustment signal.

(251) By adjusting the pulse width of the transmit pulse, the receiving circuitry **5300** described later can receive a signal transmitted by the transmitting circuitry **5100**.

(252) The insulation element **5200** changes cut-off frequency of the insulation element **5200** based on a cut-off frequency adjustment signal (second adjustment signal).

(253) When the cut-off frequency is adjusted, the analog waveform including N pulses transmitted by the transmitting circuitry **5100** results in an output of an analog waveform including N+1 pulses.

(254) The receiving circuitry **5300** receives a signal using the comparator **5320** whose operating speed has been adjusted based on a comparator operating speed adjustment signal (first adjustment signal).

(255) Based on the received comparator operating speed adjustment signal (first adjustment signal), the controller **5340** adjusts the operating speed of the comparator **5320**.

(256) According to Variation 4, the comparator **5320** includes a comparator **5320_1** and a comparator **5320_2**, which are opposite to each other in terms of inverting input connection and non-inverting input connection.

(257) The comparator **5320_1** and the comparator **5320_2** operate at operating speeds adjusted by the controller **5340**.

(258) The controller **5340** can readjust the operating speed of the comparator **5320** adjusted once. For example, if the comparator operating speed adjustment signal is changed, the operating speed of the comparator **5320** can be changed based on the signal.

(259) According to Variation 4, the controller **5340** configured to receive the comparator operating speed adjustment signal and the comparator **5320** are provided separately, but may be provided integrally. For example, the comparator **5320** may receive the comparator operating speed adjustment signal directly and adjust an operation signal based on the received signal.

(260) Whereas the pulse width adjustment signal, the cut-off frequency adjustment signal, and the comparator operating speed adjustment signal are provided from outside according to Variation 4, fixed values may be set during manufacturing or before shipment.

(261) According to Variation 4, by adjusting the pulse width, the cut-off frequency, and the comparator operating speed according to the necessary transmission rate, power consumption can

be reduced regardless of the input signal.

(262) (Variation 5)

(263) FIG. **24** shows an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry **6000** according to Variation 5.

(264) According to Variation 5, the transmitting and receiving circuitry **6000** includes transmitting circuitry **6100**, the insulation element **200**, the receiving circuitry **300**, and an AD converter circuit **400**.

(265) The transmitting circuitry **6100** includes the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and a control signal generator **6120** (a control signal generation circuit).

(266) Except for the control signal generator **6120** included in the transmitting circuitry **6100** as well as the AD converter circuit **400**, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **6000** is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000**, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(267) The transmitting and receiving circuitry **6000** accepts analog input signals as input. The transmitting and receiving circuitry **6000** functions as an isolation amplifier that transmits analog signals in an insulated manner.

(268) The AD converter circuit **400** converts analog input signals into digital input signals. The AD converter circuit **400** may also be called an AD converter. The AD converter circuit **400**, which is also called an analog-digital converter circuit, can use a flash ADC, pipeline ADC, a AE modulator, and the like.

(269) The AD converter circuit **400** and the control signal generator **6120** accept a CLK signal (clock signal) as input.

(270) By being timed with the CLK signal, the AD converter circuit **400** converts an analog input signal into a digital signal and outputs the digital signal as a data signal.

(271) Based on the CLK signal, the control signal generator **6120** captures the data signal while the output from the AD converter circuit **400** remains unchanged and generates a control signal intended for the transmit pulse generation circuit **110**.

(272) For example, the output signal of the AD converter circuit **400** changes on a rising edge of the CLK signal, and the control signal generator **6120** captures the data signal on the falling edge and generates a control signal.

(273) Variation 5 makes it possible to convert an analog signal accepted as input into a digital signal and transmit the digital signal to the receiving circuitry **300**.

(274) (Variation 6)

(275) FIG. **25** is a diagram showing an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry **7000** according to Variation 6.

(276) FIG. **26** shows a transmit signal outputted in combination with a data signal.

(277) According to Variation 6, the transmitting and receiving circuitry **7000** includes transmitting circuitry **7100**, the insulation element **200**, and the receiving circuitry **300**.

(278) The transmitting circuitry **7100** includes the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** and a control signal generator **7120** (a control signal generation circuit).

(279) Except for the control signal generator **7120** included in the transmitting circuitry **7100** a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **7000** is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **1000**, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(280) The transmitting circuitry **7100** transmits signals in response to transition of a data signal.

(281) The control signal generator **7120** generates control signals for use to control operation of the switches included in the transmit pulse generation circuit **110**.

(282) The control signal generator **7120** controls switch operation of the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** based on the data signal.

(283) The data signal indicates the type of signal outputted by a transmit pulse. The data signal allows determination as to whether the data signal is High or Low.

(284) The control signal generator **7120** controls the switches included in the transmit pulse generation circuit **110** such that transmit pulses will be outputted according to changes of the data signal between High and Low.

(285) According to Variation 6, when a rising edge of the data signal is detected, the control signal generator **7120** transmits an H signal. When a falling edge of the data signal is detected, the control signal generator **7120** transmits an L signal.

(286) The data signal may be an input signal that causes an analog waveform (first waveform) to be outputted, in response to transition of the data signal.

(287) Here, the transition of the data signal means changes in the state of the data signal. The transition of the data signal occurs, for example, as a rising edge and a falling edge of the data signal.

(288) According to Variation 6, the control signal generator **7120** can control transmission and reception of signals using the data signal.

(289) (Variation 7)

(290) FIG. **27** shows an overall configuration of transmitting and receiving circuitry **8000** according to Variation 7.

(291) According to Variation 7, the transmitting and receiving circuitry **8000** includes transmitting circuitry **8100**, the insulation element **4200**, and the receiving circuitry **300**.

(292) The transmitting circuitry **8100** includes the transmit pulse generation circuit **4110** and a control signal generator **8120** (a control signal generation circuit).

(293) Except for the control signal generator **8120** included in the transmitting circuitry **8100**, a configuration of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **8000** is the same as that of the transmitting and receiving circuitry **4000**, and thus description thereof will be omitted.

(294) While certain embodiments have been described, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the inventions. Indeed, the novel embodiments described herein may be embodied in a variety of other forms; furthermore, various omissions, substitutions and changes in the form of the embodiments described herein may be made without departing from the spirit of the inventions. The accompanying claims and their equivalents are intended to cover such forms or modifications as would fall within the scope and spirit of the inventions.

Claims

1. Electronic circuitry comprising: transmitting circuitry configured to output a first waveform including N pulse waveforms (N is a natural number larger than 1) in response to an input signal; transfer circuitry configured to transfer the first waveform to a second waveform that includes at least (N+1) pulse waveforms, via electromagnetic coupling; and receiving circuitry configured to receive the second waveform and determining the input signal based on the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms, wherein the receiving circuitry includes a pulse detection circuit configured to determine the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms included in the second waveform, based on a pulse pattern, the pulse detection circuit comprises (N+1) flip-flops connected in series and a signal determination circuit configured to determine a first output signal outputted by an (N+1)th flip-flop of the (N+1) flip-flops, an M.sup.th flip-flop of the (N+1) flip-flops (M is a natural number between 1 and N, both inclusive) outputs an output signal to an (M+1).sup.th flip-flop of the (N+1) flip-flops, in response to an M.sup.th pulse waveform included in the second waveform, the output signal outputted from the (N+1).sup.th flip-flop being the first output signal, the signal determination circuit is configured to determine that the first output signal is outputted from the (N+1).sup.th flip-flop to output a second output signal, and the pulse detection circuit detects the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms based on the second output signal.
2. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein: the receiving circuitry further includes a

comparator configured to detect the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms included in the second waveform; and the comparator outputs a signal according to a polarity of the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms.

3. The electronic circuitry according to claim 2, wherein: the comparator includes a first comparator and a second comparator; and an inverting input of the first comparator and a non-inverting input of the second comparator are connected with each other, and a non-inverting input of the first comparator and an inverting input of the second comparator are connected with each other.
4. The electronic circuitry according to claim 2, wherein the comparator is further configured to change an operating speed of the comparator based on a first adjustment signal.
5. The electronic circuitry according to claim 4, wherein the transfer circuitry extracts a specific frequency band of the first waveform and outputs a signal of the extracted specific frequency band as the second waveform.
6. The electronic circuitry according to claim 5, wherein the transfer circuitry is configured to change the specific frequency band based on a second adjustment signal.
7. The electronic circuitry according to claim 5, wherein the transfer circuitry is an insulation element.
8. The electronic circuitry according to claim 7, wherein the insulation element is a transformer or a condenser.
9. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the pulse detection circuit comprises a storage storing the pulse pattern, wherein the pulse detection circuit is configured to determine whether the at least (N+1) pulse waveforms included in the second waveform match the pulse pattern in the storage.
10. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the transmitting circuitry includes a transmit pulse generation circuit configured to generate the N pulse waveforms; and the transmit pulse generation circuit includes first current sources and a plurality of switches configured to control outputs of the first current sources, and the transmit pulse generation circuit is configured to generate the N pulse waveforms by combining outputs from the first current sources based on opening and closing of two of the plurality of switches.
11. The electronic circuitry according to claim 10, wherein the transmitting circuitry further includes a control signal generation circuit configured to control the input signal of the transmit pulse generation circuit based on a data signal that indicates a pulse polarity of the N pulse waveforms to be outputted.
12. The electronic circuitry according to claim 11, wherein the control signal generation circuit is configured to further control the input signal of the transmit pulse generation circuit based on a trigger signal that indicates output timing of the N pulse waveforms.
13. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the N pulse waveforms are current pulses and are outputted based on a differential current or a pseudo differential current.
14. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the N pulse waveforms are voltage pulses and are outputted based on a differential voltage.
15. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the transmitting circuitry outputs the first waveform as an analog waveform.
16. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, further comprising an analog-to-digital (AD) converter configured to convert an analog input signal into a digital input signal, wherein: the AD converter outputs the digital input signal based on timing of a clock signal; and based on the timing of the clock signal, the transmitting circuitry receives the digital input signal and transmits the N pulse waveforms.
17. The electronic circuitry according to claim 1, wherein the N pulse waveforms include a first transmit pulse waveform and a second transmit pulse waveform following the first transmit pulse waveform, and the first transmit pulse waveform is larger in amplitude than the second transmit

pulse waveform.

18. A method comprising: outputting a first waveform including N pulse waveforms (N is a natural number larger than 1) in response to an input signal; transferring the first waveform to a second waveform that includes at least $(N+1)$ pulse waveforms, via electromagnetic coupling; receiving the second waveform and determining the input signal based on the at least $(N+1)$ pulse waveforms; determining the at least $(N+1)$ pulse waveforms included in the second waveform, based on a pulse pattern; determining a first output signal outputted by an $(N+1)$.sup.th flip-flop of $(N+1)$ flip-flops connected in series; outputting an output signal from an M .sup.th flip-flop of the $(N+1)$ flip-flops (M is a natural number between 1 and N , both inclusive) to an $(M+1)$.sup.th flip-flop of the $(N+1)$ flip-flops, in response to an M .sup.th pulse waveform included in the second waveform, the output signal outputted from the $(N+1)$.sup.th flip-flop being the first output signal; determining that the first output signal is outputted from the $(N+1)$.sup.th flip-flop to output a second output signal; and detecting the at least $(N+1)$ pulse waveforms based on the second output signal.
