

# EE 238

## Power Engineering - II

### Power Electronics



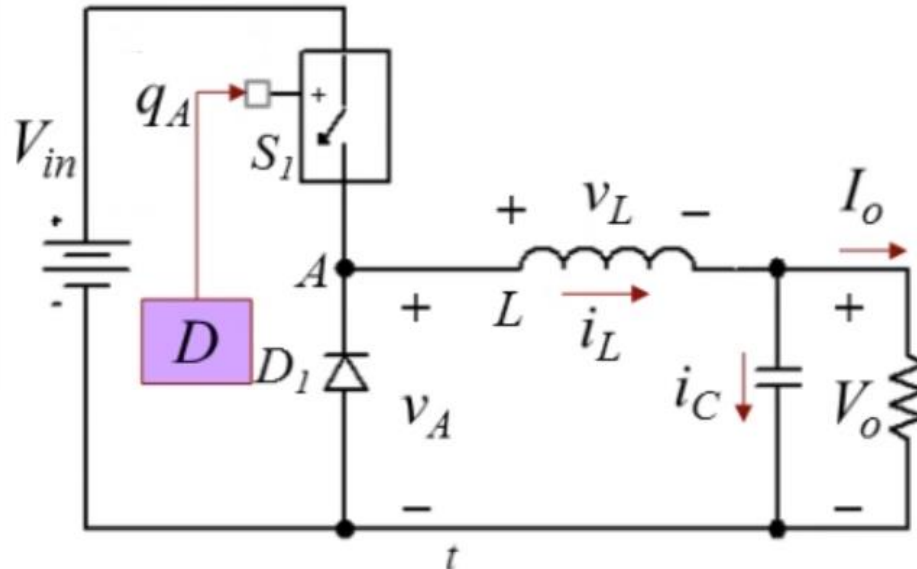
## Lecture 8

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# Buck Converter Waveforms

$$\frac{V_o}{V_{in}} = D$$



$$i_L(t) = i_L(t_o) + \int_{t_o}^t v_L(\tau) d\tau$$

## 1. ON interval

$$v_L(t) = V_{in} - V_o \quad \text{Slope of } i_L: m_1 = \frac{V_{in} - V_o}{L}$$

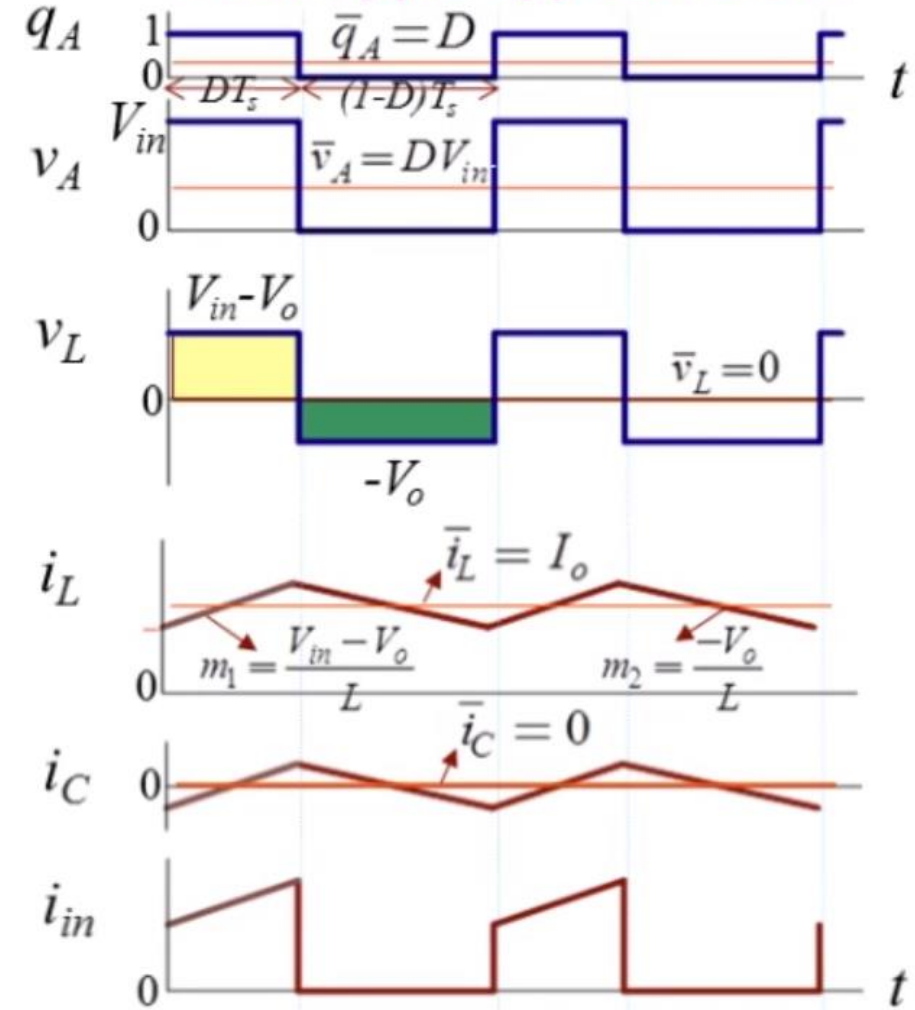
## 2. OFF interval

$$v_L(t) = -V_o \quad \text{Slope of } i_L: m_2 = \frac{-V_o}{L}$$

## 3. Average of $i_L$ obtained by KCL at output node

$$\bar{i}_L = I_o + \bar{i}_c = I_o \quad (\text{since } \bar{i}_c = 0)$$

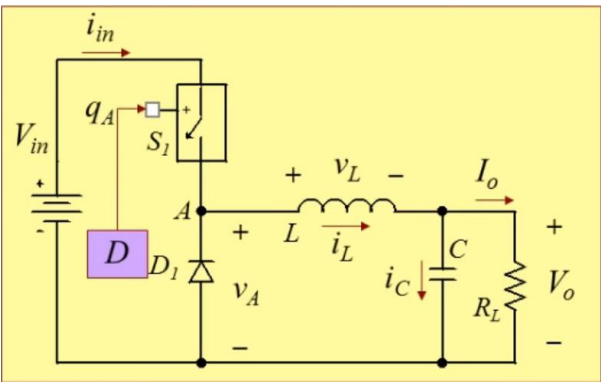
## Small ripple approximation



Instantaneous  $i_c$  obtained by KCL at output node  $i_c(t) = i_L(t) - I_o$

# Selection of Output Filter Inductor, L

- L and C together determine output voltage ripple
- L selected to limit the inductor current ripple to a chosen value
  - e.g. 10-20% of its average current ( $I_o$ )
  - trade-off explained in next slide
  - CCM considerations
- **Worst case design**
  - minimum D for fixed output buck



$$L \frac{di}{dt} = v_L$$

Consider the  $T_{OFF}$  interval

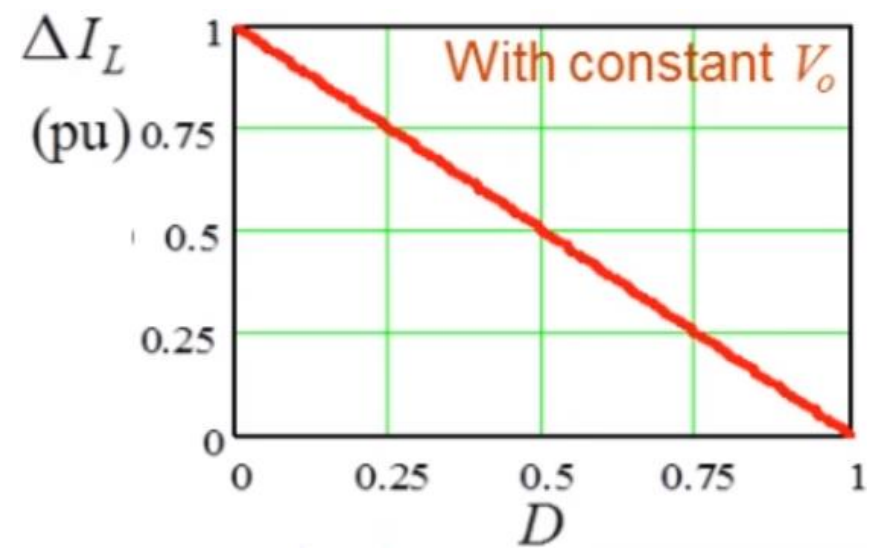
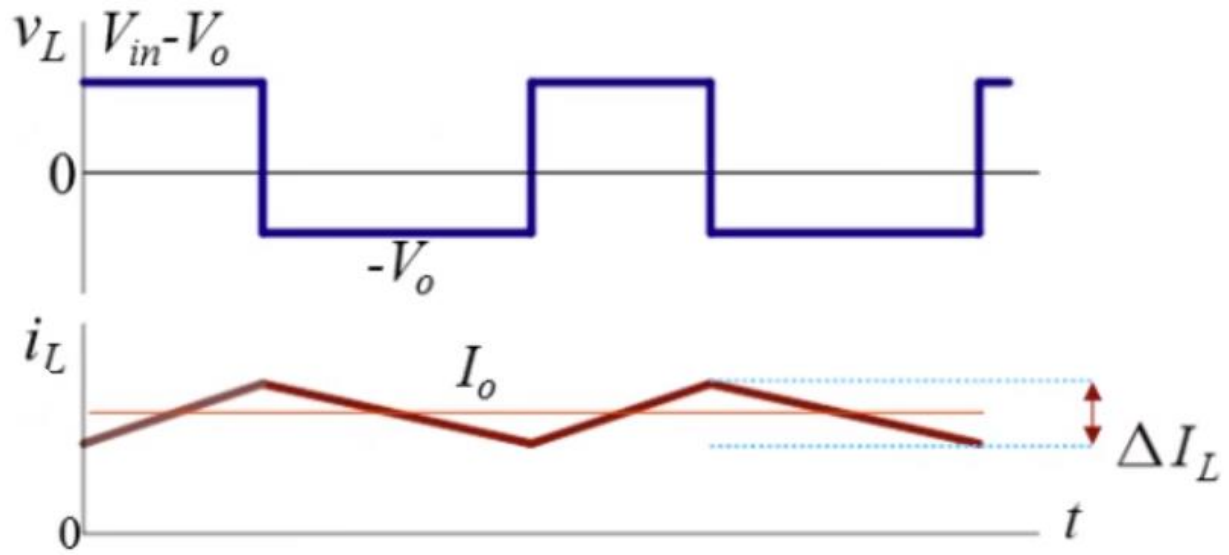
$$L \frac{\Delta I_L}{(1-D)T_S} = V_o$$

$\Delta I_L$  - Peak-peak ripple

For constant  $V_o$  and variable  $V_{in}$

$$\left( \frac{V_o}{V_{in,max}} \right) \leq D \leq \left( \frac{V_o}{V_{in,min}} \right)$$

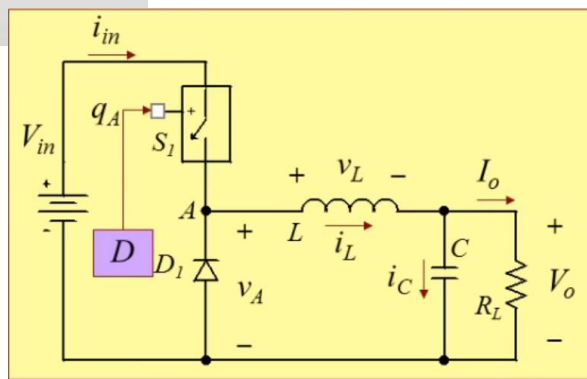
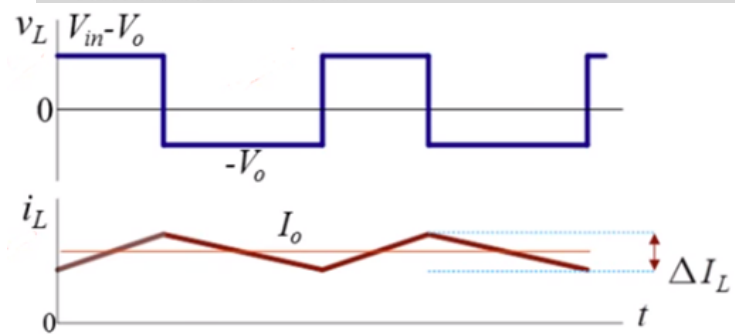
$$L = \frac{V_o (1-D) T_S}{\Delta I_L}$$



# Trade-off in Selection of Inductor Current Ripple

## Larger L (small current ripple)

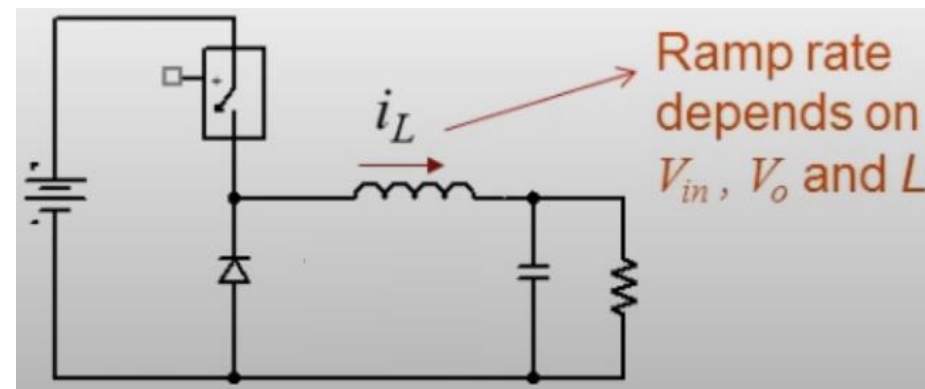
- Lower RMS current in switch, capacitor and inductor, hence lower conduction loss
- Smaller C is enough for same output voltage ripple
- Poor dynamic response to step loads (ramp rate of  $i_L$ )
- Bulky inductor
- Usually higher inductor resistance



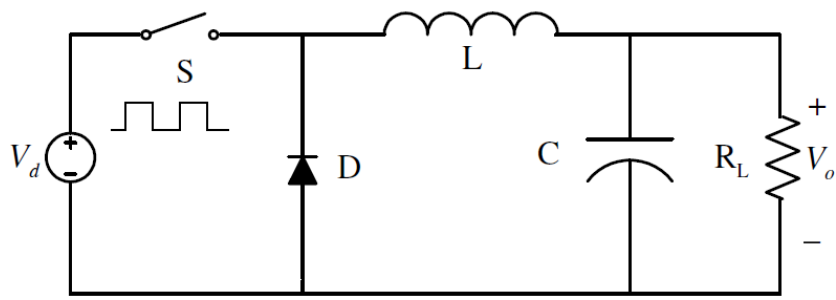
## Smaller L (high current ripple)

- Good dynamic response to step loads due to higher slew rate of inductor current
- Smaller size inductor, higher power density
- Larger RMS current in switch, inductor and capacitor, hence higher conduction loss
- Larger flux swing at high frequency

CCM Considerations →





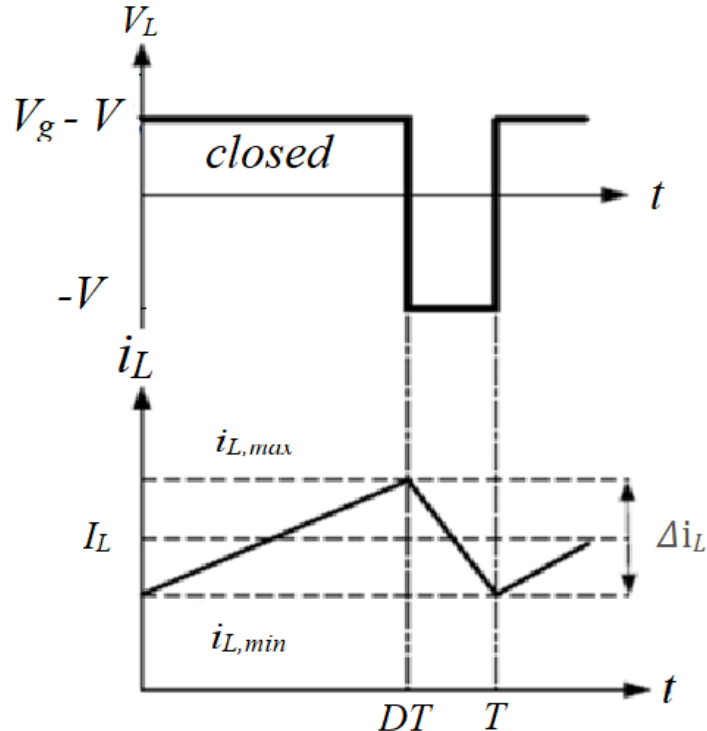


CCM  
Continuous  
Conduction  
Mode.  
(wrt i thru L)

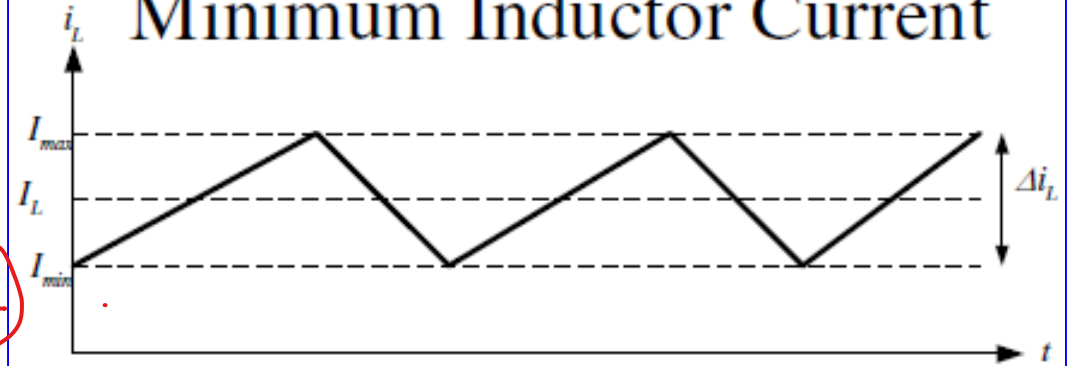
$$(\Delta i_L)_{\text{closed}} + (\Delta i_L)_{\text{opened}} = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{V_d - V_o}{L}\right) \cdot DT_s - \left(\frac{-V_o}{L}\right) \cdot (1-D)T_s = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow V_o = DV_d$$



## Average, Maximum and Minimum Inductor Current



Average inductor current = Average current in  $R_L$

$$\Rightarrow I_L = I_R = \frac{V_o}{R}$$

Maximum current :

$$I_{\max} = I_L + \frac{\Delta i_L}{2} = \frac{V_o}{R} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{V_o}{L} (1-D)T \right)$$

$$= V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} + \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right)$$

Minimum current :

$$I_{\min} = I_L - \frac{\Delta i_L}{2} = V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} - \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right)$$

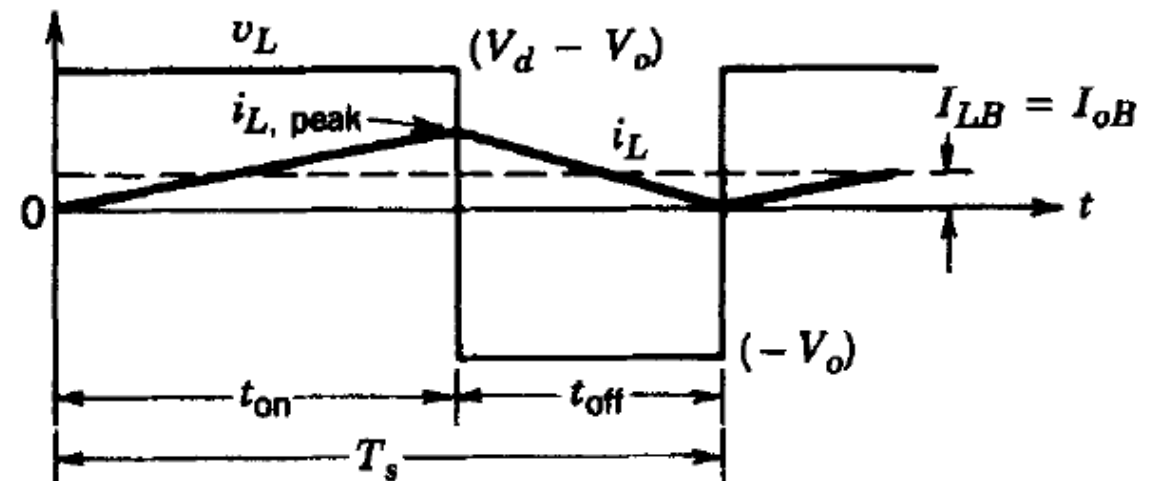
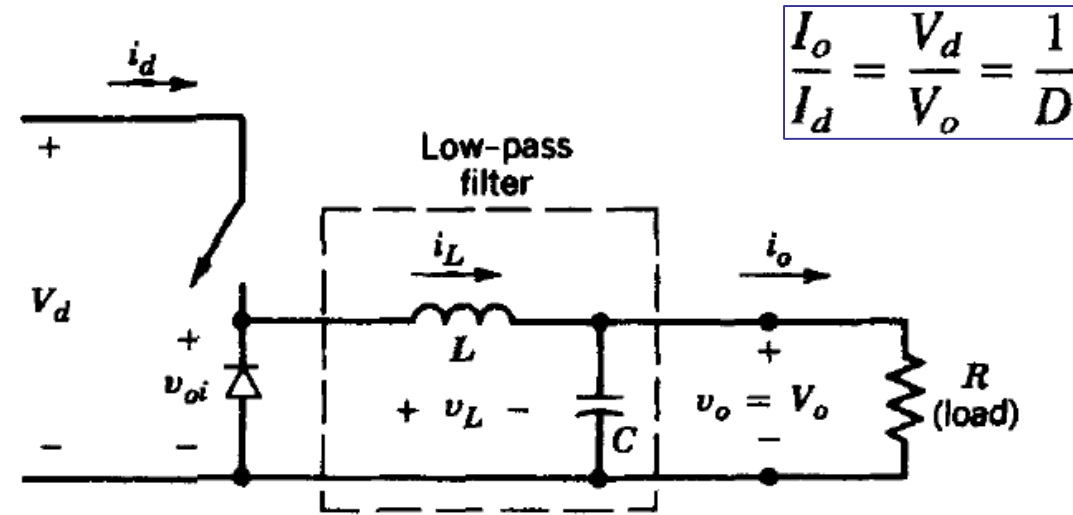
Inductor current ripple :

$$\Delta i_L = I_{\max} - I_{\min}$$

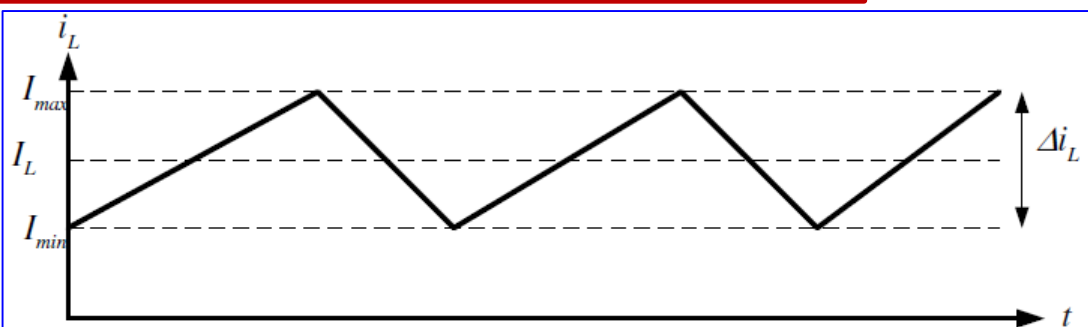
# STEP-DOWN (BUCK) CONVERTER

## BOUNDARY BETWEEN CONTINUOUS AND DISCONTINUOUS CONDUCTION

Equations that show the influence of various circuit parameters on the conduction mode of  $i_L$ .



# BOUNDARY BETWEEN CONTINUOUS AND DISCONTINUOUS CONDUCTION



Average inductor current = Average current in  $R_L$

$$\Rightarrow I_L = I_R = \frac{V_o}{R}$$

Maximum current :

$$I_{\max} = I_L + \frac{\Delta i_L}{2} = \frac{V_o}{R} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{V_o}{L} (1-D) T \right)$$

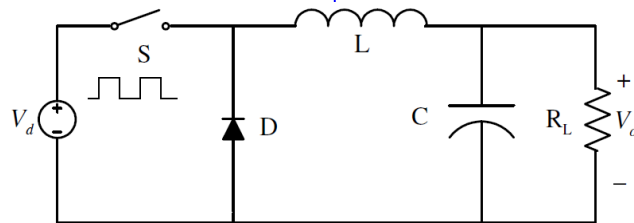
$$= V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} + \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right)$$

Minimum current :

$$I_{\min} = I_L - \frac{\Delta i_L}{2} = V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} - \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right)$$

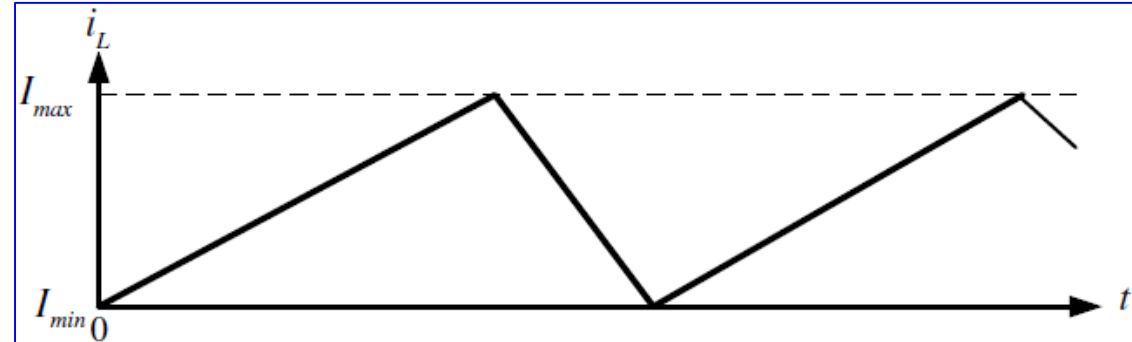
Inductor current ripple :

$$\Delta i_L = I_{\max} - I_{\min}$$



For constant  $V_o$  and variable  $V_{in}$

$$\left( \frac{V_o}{V_{in,max}} \right) \leq D \leq \left( \frac{V_o}{V_{in,min}} \right)$$



From previous analysis,

$$I_{\min} = I_L - \frac{\Delta i_L}{2} = V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} - \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right)$$

For continuous operation,  $I_{\min} \geq 0$ ,

$$V_o \left( \frac{1}{R} - \frac{(1-D)}{2Lf} \right) \geq 0$$

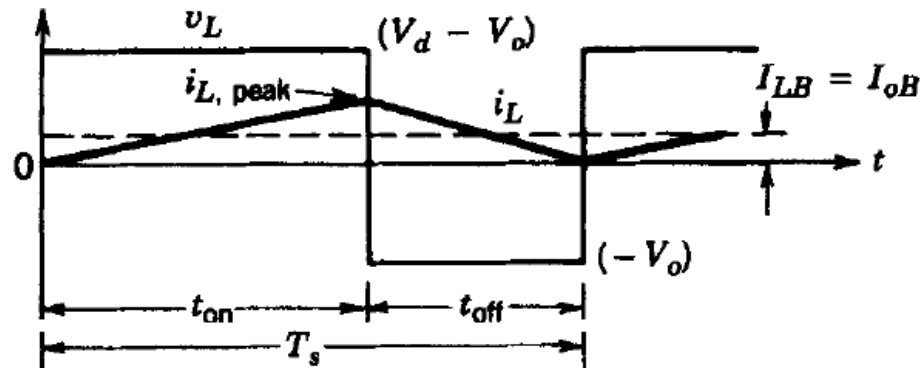
$$\Rightarrow L \geq L_{\min} = \frac{(1-D)}{2f} \cdot R$$

**At the boundary,**  
 **$R_{critical} = ??$**

This is the minimum inductor current to ensure continuous mode of operation.

Normally  $L$  is chosen to be  $\gg L_{\min}$

# BOUNDARY BETWEEN CONTINUOUS AND DISCONTINUOUS CONDUCTION



$$I_{\max} = I_L + \frac{\Delta i_L}{2}$$

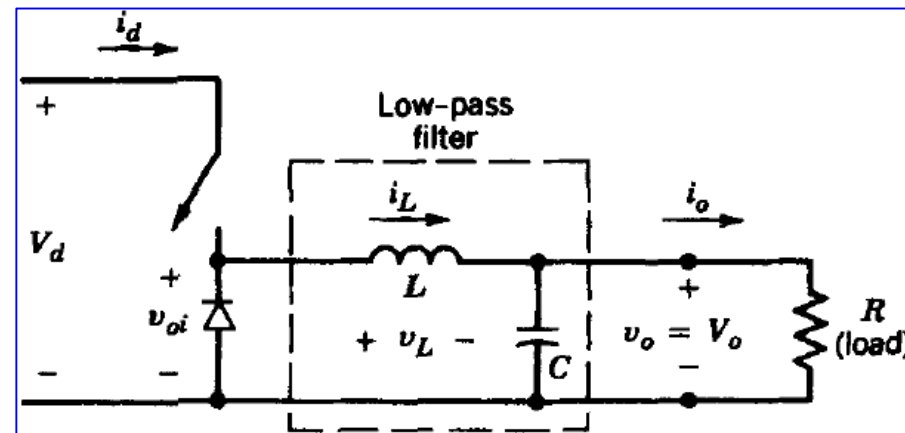
$$I_{\min} = I_L - \frac{\Delta i_L}{2}$$

$$(\Delta i_L)_{\text{closed}} = \left( \frac{V_d - V_o}{L} \right) \cdot DT$$

At the boundary, the average inductor current is

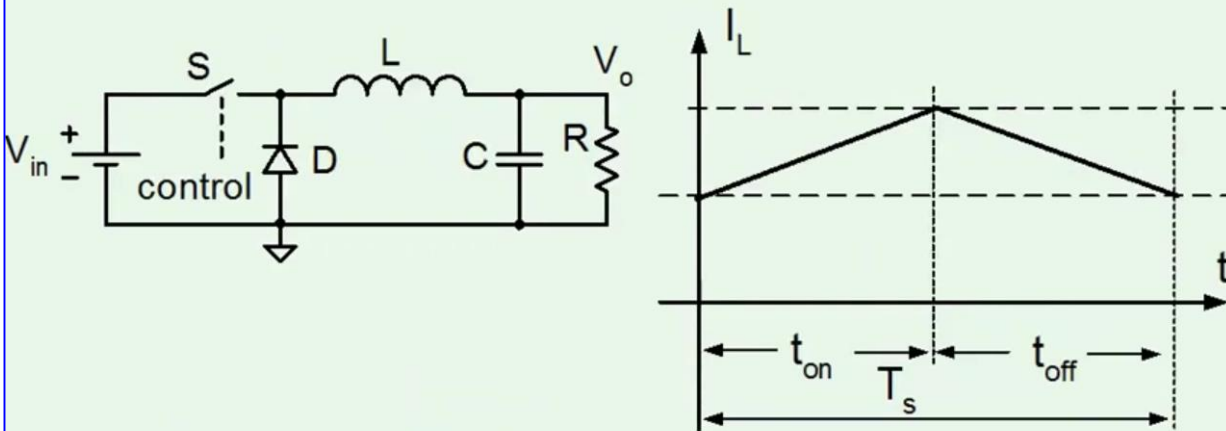
$$I_{LB} = \frac{1}{2} i_{L, \text{peak}} = \frac{t_{on}}{2L} (V_d - V_o) = \frac{DT_s}{2L} (V_d - V_o) = I_{oB}$$

Therefore, during an operating condition (with a given set of values for  $T_s$ ,  $V_d$ ,  $V_o$ ,  $L$ , and  $D$ ), if the average output current (and, hence, the average inductor current) becomes less than  $I_{LB}$ , then  $I_L$  will become discontinuous.



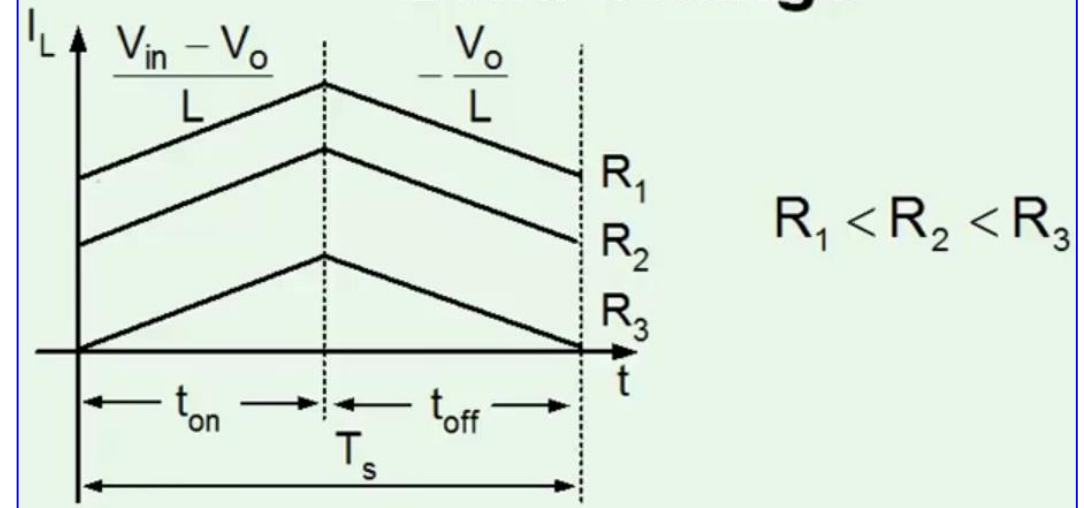


## Load Change with Fixed D

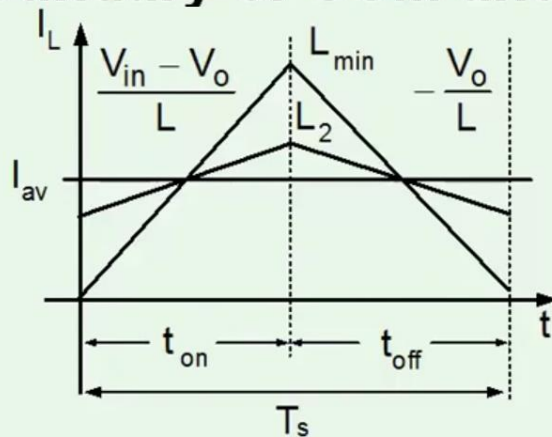


How will  $I_L$  change if  $R$  is getting smaller?

## Load Change



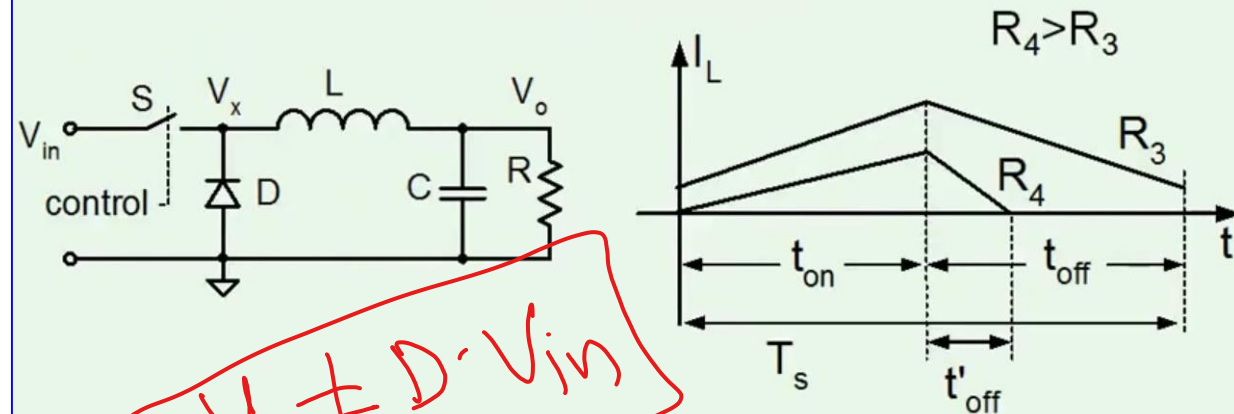
## Boundary of CCM and DCM



• For CCM  $L > L_{min}$

• In Buck  $\frac{V_o}{L_{min}} t_{off} = I_{pk} = 2I_{av}$   $L_{min} = \frac{V_o D_{off}}{2I_{av} f_s} = \frac{R D_{off}}{2f_s}$

## Discontinuous Inductor Current Mode (DCM)



$V_o \neq D \cdot V_{in}$

- Different voltage transfer ratio  $\neq D_{on}$
- Higher ripple current

# STEP-DOWN (BUCK) CONVERTER

Depending on application, either  $V_d$  or  $V_o$  remains constant.

## Discontinuous-Conduction Mode with Constant $V_d$

In many applications (e.g., dc motor speed control),  $V_d$  remains constant and  $V_o$  is controlled by adjusting  $D$ .

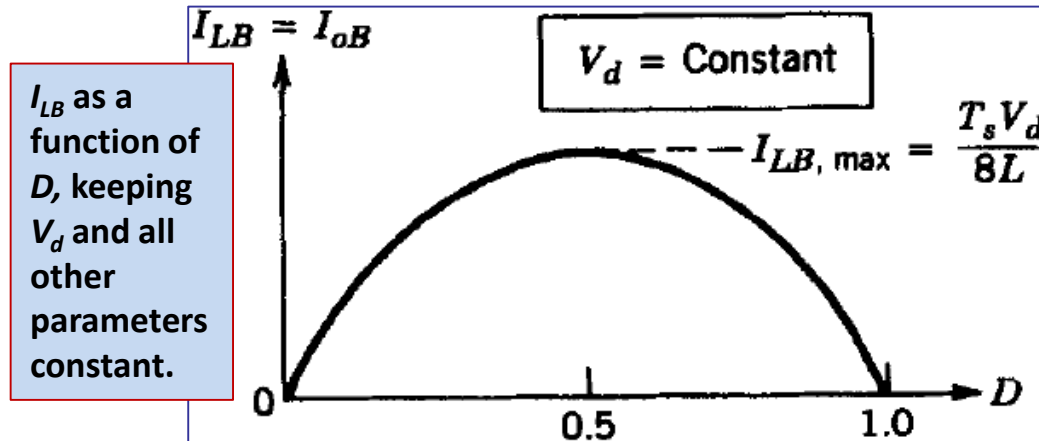
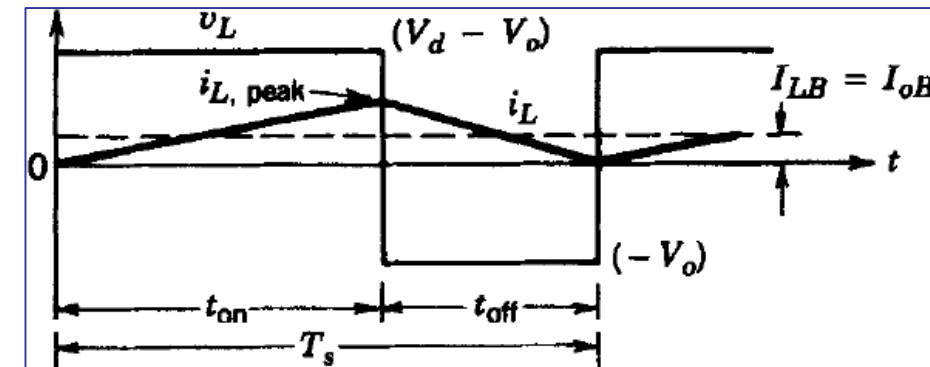
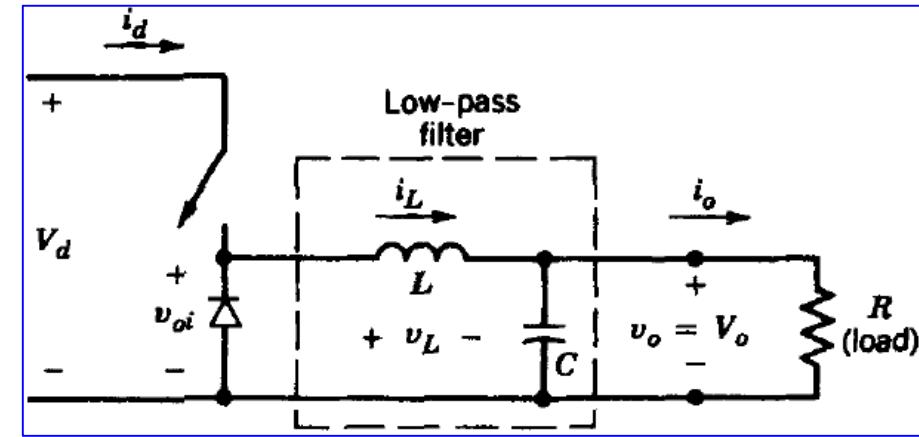
At the edge,  $I_{LB} = \frac{DT_s}{2L} (V_d - V_o) = I_{oB}$  Since  $V_o = DV_d$ ,  $I_{LB} = \frac{T_s V_d}{2L} D(1 - D)$

Output current required for CCM is maximum at  $D = 0.5$ :

$$I_{LB, \max} = \frac{T_s V_d}{8L} \Rightarrow I_{LB} = 4I_{LB, \max} D(1 - D)$$

Assuming the converter is operating at the edge for given values of  $T_s$ ,  $L$ ,  $V_d$ , and  $D$ . If these are kept constant and the output load power is decreased (i.e., the load resistance goes up), then the average inductor current will decrease.

## Discontinuous-Conduction Mode



# STEP-DOWN (BUCK) CONVERTER

Assumption: converter is operating at the edge for given values of  $T$ ,  $L$ ,  $V_d$ , and  $D$ , which are kept constant  
The output load power is decreased (i.e., the load resistance goes up), then the average inductor current will decrease.

During  $\Delta_2 T_s$ , power to  $R$  is supplied by  $C$  alone and  $v_L$  is zero.

Again, equating the integral of  $v_L$  over one time period to zero yields:

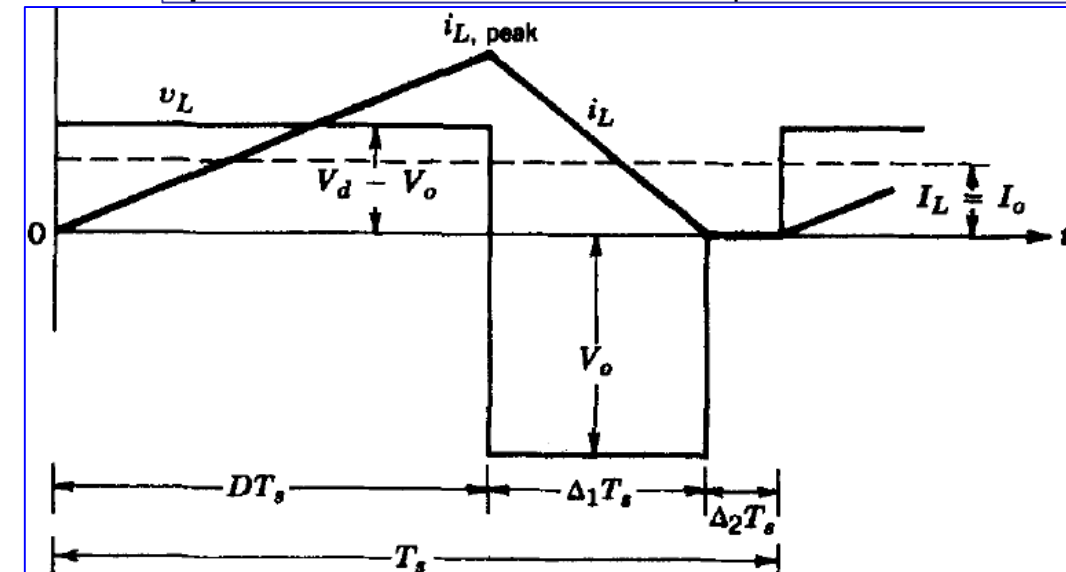
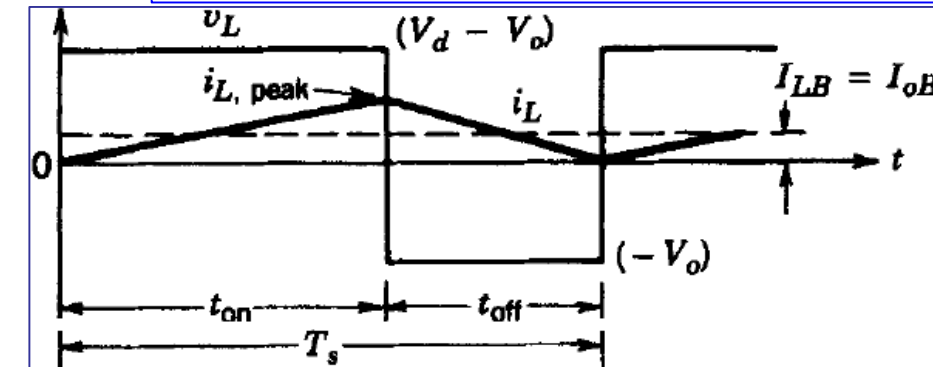
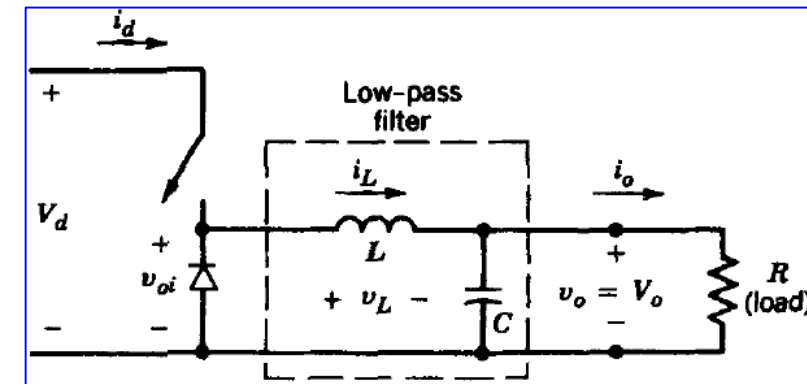
$$(V_d - V_o) DT_s + (-V_o) \Delta_1 T_s = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{V_o}{V_d} = \frac{D}{D + \Delta_1}$$

$$\text{where } D + \Delta_1 < 1.0.$$

~~★~~ Hence, for same  $D$ ,  $V_0$  in DCM  $>$   $V_0$  in CCM. ✓

# Discontinuous-Conduction Mode



# STEP-DOWN (BUCK) CONVERTER

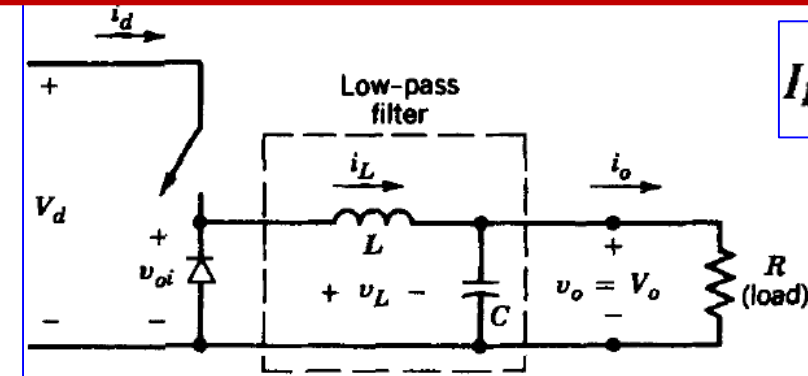
$$-v_o = L \frac{di_L}{dt} \Rightarrow L \int_{i_{Lpeak}}^0 di_L = -V_o \int_0^{\Delta_1 T_s} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow i_{Lpeak} = \frac{V_o}{L} \Delta_1 T_s \quad \therefore \frac{V_o}{V_d} = \frac{D}{D + \Delta_1}$$

$$I_o = i_{L,peak} \frac{D + \Delta_1}{2} = \frac{V_o T_s}{2L} (D + \Delta_1) \Delta_1$$

$$= \frac{V_d T_s}{2L} D \Delta_1 = 4 I_{LB,max} D \Delta_1 \therefore \Delta_1 = \frac{I_o}{4 I_{LB,max} D}$$

# Discontinuous-Conduction Mode



$$I_{LB,max} = \frac{T_s V_d}{8L}$$

$$\therefore \frac{V_o}{V_d} = \frac{D}{D + \Delta_1} = \frac{D^2}{D^2 + \frac{1}{4} (I_o / I_{LB,max})}$$

The step-down converter characteristic in both modes of operation for a constant  $V_d$ .  $V_o/V_d$  is plotted as a function of  $I_o/I_{LB,max}$  for various values of  $D$ . The boundary between CCM and DCM is shown by the dashed curve.

