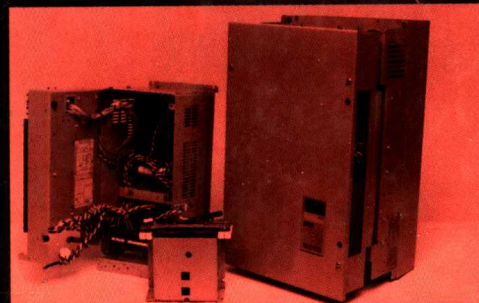
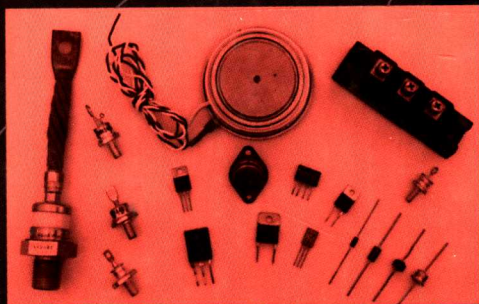


# Elements of Power Electronics



Philip T. Krein

# ELEMENTS OF POWER ELECTRONICS

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# PREFACE

## INTRODUCTION

Power electronics is one of the broadest growth areas in electrical technology. Today, electronic energy processing circuits are needed for every computer system, every digital product, industrial systems of all types, automobiles, home appliances, lamps and lighting equipment, motor controllers, and just about every possible application of electricity. At one time, the growth was pushed by energy conservation goals. Today, there are many more benefits in terms of reliable, lightweight power processors. A host of new applications is made possible by improvements in semiconductors and by better understanding of power electronics. Motors with integrated electronic controls will soon be the norm. Portable telephones and communication devices demand tightly optimized power management. Advanced microprocessors need special techniques to supply their power. Utilities worry about the quality of their product, and about how to use electronics for more effective power delivery.

This text presents modern power electronics in its many facets. But it is not a loose collection of information. Rather, the intent is to lay down a firm conceptual base from which engineers can examine the field and practice its unusual and challenging design problems. What makes the treatment different? First, a sound scientific framework is established, then students are encouraged to observe how the many converter types and methods branch out naturally from this framework. Second, the treatment is structured for aspiring student engineers. It is written to help students synthesize their electrical engineering study, as they finish an education and begin a career or advanced study. Third, it covers a great deal of support material, such as models for passive components and basic design strategies for magnetics, that is rarely taught but is ubiquitous for the practicing designer.

With a few important exceptions, past treatments of power electronics begin with devices, then develop specific application circuits case by case. In such a broad field, students with little experience are hard pressed to find the deep commonality. A few hours of Web browsing confirms how much misinformation exists about power electronics and design of conversion circuits. Modern devices have reached the point at which they no longer limit the applications. Imaginative designers have found a huge variety of solutions to many types of power electronics problems. It is essential to develop a system-level understanding of the needs and techniques, since a device focus can be unnecessarily constraining. Even so, books continue to be published following the practice of past treatments. Notable exceptions in-

clude the 1981 book by Peter Wood, *Switching Power Converters* (Van Nostrand), where a switching function approach was introduced as the first unifying framework for power electronics. More recently, the text by Kassakian, Schlecht, and Verghese, *Principles of Power Electronics* (Addison-Wesley, 1991), builds on Wood's framework with many extensions. Unfortunately, these two books tend to be best suited for students pursuing advanced degrees. This new book owes its roots to the Wood text, and shares the philosophy of the Kassakian text. However, from the outset it was planned for undergraduate students or other engineers with no prior power electronics background.

Why study power electronics? First, because it is fun. Power electronic circuits and systems are the basic energy blocks needed for things that move, light up, cook a meal, fire a combustion cylinder, or display information on a video monitor. Second, because it makes use of all a student's knowledge of electrical engineering, and aims at a new level of understanding. To most students, circuit laws are lifeless mathematical equations. To the power electronics engineer, Kirchhoff's laws are the beacon that guides a design—and the snare that catches the unwary or careless. A power electronics engineer needs a working understanding of circuits, semiconductor devices, digital and analog design techniques, electromagnetics as it affects layout and device action, power systems and machines, and the inner action of major applications. Third, because of the challenge. Since power processing is needed just about everywhere, there are few areas with more variety of design tasks. A power electronics expert might work on a 10 MW backup system one day, and on a 1 W system for battery processing the next. Fourth, because of the opportunity. The next personal computer you buy will have a power supply as big as the rest of its electronics combined. It will place extreme performance demands on the supply, and will require total reliability. The power supply will be a significant fraction of the cost to build the computer. Yet the computer manufacturer employs dozens of hardware-software engineers for every power electronics engineer. The need is there, and will grow.

## ORGANIZATION AND USE

The book is organized into five parts. Four are here in your hands. Part V, the laboratory supplement, is available through a World Wide Web site. In Part I, the framework for power electronics is established. The three chapters in Part I offer a historical perspective, and establish key framework concepts such as switching functions, equivalent methods for filter design, diode circuit analysis, and regulation. Part II covers all the major converter classes—dc-dc, ac-dc, dc-ac, ac-ac, and resonant converters—in considerable depth. Students are often surprised to learn that they can become effective designers of useful converters by the time they are through Chapter 4. Chapter 8 presents perhaps the first undergraduate text material on the emerging subject of resonant converters. Part III covers the issues of components, from models for sources and loads to power semiconductors to the circuits that drive them. Unique features include the fundamental approach to magnetics design, coverage of wire sizing and parasitic resistance effects, and extensive examples. Part IV introduces control methods, again at the undergraduate level. Chapters 15 and 16 discuss general control issues and develop the popular frequency domain design approach. Chapter 17 provides a new perspective on an especially simple approach to large-signal control.

The book is big because of the breadth of the field. The general layout supports a first

course at the senior level, based on Part I and Part II. A second course would cover Part III and Part IV. At the University of Illinois, there is just one course at present. We attempt to cover Chapters 1–6, 11, and 12 in detail, with briefer treatments of 7–10 and 13–14. The chapters are relatively independent, so a variety of course arrangements can be supported. As prerequisites, students should recognize that all their basic course work in electrical engineering will be brought to bear for the study of power electronics. Prior courses in circuits, in electronics, in systems, and in electromagnetics are essential. Prior courses in electro-mechanics, analog or digital circuit and filter design, and power systems can be helpful, but are not vital.

A few things are not here. Space and time do not permit detailed coverage of individual applications. Motor control and telecommunications power are two examples. It is not possible to provide adequate coverage for dc or ac motor control, or for telecommunications power system design. Beyond the introduction in Chapter 6, the motor control application is left to books from others. The telecommunications application is left to a number of dc–dc converter examples.

The book makes extensive use of computer tools, and students are encouraged to follow this lead. However, no floppy disk is included because few readers find time to learn the programs on such disks. Instead, several example listings are given in the Appendix. Also, students may visit the Web site [http://power.ece.uiuc.edu/krein\\_text](http://power.ece.uiuc.edu/krein_text) to find copies of programs for downloading and to obtain updates to programs or to course materials. A group of industry-based students developed extensive Mathcad® applications. Some of these can be found on the site. Additional problems will be posted as well. Instructors can request Web access to problem solutions through the publisher.

A few words on chapter problems: In this book, a great many of the problems have a design orientation. This means the problems are open-ended, and not always completely specified. Students are encouraged to think about the *context* of a problem, and fill in information when necessary. There are no tricks here. In general, each problem attempts to describe a real system.

## UNITS, STANDARDS, AND SIGNIFICANT DIGITS

In general, the International System (SI) of Units is used throughout the text, consistent with IEEE standards. There are some exceptions in magnetics and capacitive components, in which the centimeter is common as the unit of length. If units are not listed explicitly, SI units should be assumed. Appendix B provides a review of some of the unit issues. When possible, graphics symbols are taken from *IEEE Standard 315-1975* (reaffirmed, 1993). The standard gives procedures for creating combination symbols. Unusual symbols, such as that for an ideal ac current source, attempt to follow the procedures.

There are dozens of numerical examples and hundreds of numerical problems in this text. It is important to be aware of significant digit issues. A real circuit application commonly has only about two significant digits. Tolerances on capacitors, inductors, and timing elements are wide. However, in power electronics we are often interested in small differences for efficiency measurements or other detailed information. It is important that small differences not be lost to round-off error in repeated calculations. In examples here, digits are carried through, and round-off is performed only as the last step in the computation.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am indebted to the many students who have given their insight and their active help in bringing this text about. Richard Bass, now at Georgia Institute of Technology, shared many suggestions on the lab material and as we began to use these notes in place of a published text. Pallab Midya, now at Motorola Corporation, along with Dr. Bass, provided some of the insights now present in Chapter 17 and in the lab sections of Part V. Christopher Nekolny, now at Commonwealth Edison, assisted in first-round production of Part I. A special debt is owed to Rüdiger Munzert, who spent many hours proofreading during his exchange visit from Technische Hochschule Darmstadt. He helped me simplify the English throughout the text, and made personal contributions to Chapter 17.

Final round preparation could not have been completed without the efforts of four current students. Matthew Greuel created most of the lab figures. Daniel Logue found a way to build camera-ready computer output for simulation figures. Richard Muyschondt created several simulations and assisted with proofreading. Luis Amaya became the resident SPICE expert for circuit simulation. I am very grateful for all of this assistance.

My colleagues in power electronics have made many constructive suggestions. The ideas from David Torrey of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute have been particularly useful, and I appreciate the encouragement. The comments of Thomas Sloane of Alpha Technologies were especially significant and challenging. Others provided encouraging comments too numerous to be mentioned here.

I am grateful for the support of my wife, Sheila Fitzgerald Krein, and family in this project. They have tolerated the long hours and extra workload with grace. It has been a difficult time because of some family tragedies, and I deeply appreciate their forbearance.

## CREDITS AND CAVEATS

Many power conversion circuits and control techniques are the subject of active patent protection. The author cannot guarantee that specific circuits or methods described in the text are available for general use. This is especially true of resonant conversion material in Chapter 8.

Power electronics by its nature is an excellent subject for laboratory study. However, it brings many more hazards than more familiar areas of electronics. Readers who plan experimental work in the field should take proper safety precautions in the laboratory.

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# NOMENCLATURE

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
$\alpha$	Phase delay angle
$\beta$	Turn-off angle
$\delta$	Difference angle, for relative phase control
$\epsilon$	Electric permittivity
$\eta$	Efficiency, $P_{\text{out}}/P_{\text{in}}$
$\lambda$	Flux linkage, Wb-turns
$\mu$	Magnetic permeability
$\xi$	Time constant ratio, $t/T$
$\rho$	Resistivity
$\sigma$	Electrical conductivity; Stefan–Boltzman constant
$\tau$	Time constant, $L/R$ or $RC$
$\phi$	Flux; phase angle
$\omega$	Radian frequency; radian shaft rotational speed
$\mathcal{P}$	Permeance
$\mathcal{R}$	Reluctance
$A$	Area
$B$	Magnetic flux density
$C$	Capacitance
$D$	Duty ratio
$E$	Electric field
$F$	Force
$G$	Open-loop transfer function
$H$	Magnetic field intensity; feedback transfer function
$I$	Current
$J$	Current density
$K$	Closed-loop transfer function
$L$	Inductance
$M$	Modulating function



$N$	Number of turns
$P$	Power
$Q$	Reactive power; quality factor
$R$	Resistance
$S$	Apparent power
$T$	Period; temperature
$V$	Voltage
$W$	Work; energy
$X$	Reactance
$Y$	Admittance
$Z$	Impedance
$a$	Turns ratio
$b$	Fourier sine coefficient
$c$	Constant (in general)
$d$	Time-varying duty ratio
$e$	Control error
$f$	Frequency
$g$	Gap length
$h$	Heat transfer coefficient
$i$	Time-varying current
$j$	$\sqrt{-1}$
$k$	Modulation index; gain
$l$	Length
$m$	Integer index
$n$	Integer index
$p$	Integer index; instantaneous power
$q$	Switching function
$s$	Laplace operator
$t$	Time
$u$	System input; Heaviside's step function
$v$	Time-varying voltage
$x$	State variable
$y$	Output variable

# CONTENTS

PREFACE	<i>xiii</i>
NOMENCLATURE	<i>xvii</i>

## PART I: PRINCIPLES

<b>1 BACKGROUND</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 The Energy Basis of Electrical Engineering	3
1.2 What Is Power Electronics?	5
1.3 The Need for Electrical Conversion	9
1.4 History	11
1.4.1 The Early History of Rectifying Devices	11
1.4.2 Inverters, Controlled Rectifiers, and the SCR	13
1.4.3 Inversion from dc Voltage	15
1.4.4 Power Supplies and dc–dc Conversion	19
1.4.5 Power Electronics as a Practice	20
1.4.6 Summary and Future Developments	22
1.5 Goals and Methods of Electrical Conversion	24
1.5.1 The Basic Objectives	24
1.5.2 The Efficiency Objective—The Switch	24
1.5.3 The Reliability Objective—Simplicity and Integration	25
1.5.4 Important Variables and Notation	26
1.5.5 Conversion Examples	27
1.6 Recap	33
Problems	34
References	37
<b>2 ORGANIZING AND ANALYZING SWITCHES</b>	<b>39</b>
2.1 Introduction	39
2.2 The Switch Matrix	40
2.3 The Reality of Kirchhoff's Voltage and Current Laws	42
2.4 The Switch State Matrix and Switching Functions	47
2.5 Overview of Switching Devices	53
2.6 Analyzing Diode Switching Circuits	56
2.7 The Significance of Fourier Analysis	65
2.8 Review of Fourier Series	65
2.9 Power and Average Power in Fourier Series	71
2.10 Fourier Series Representation of Switching Functions	75
2.11 Summary and Recap	77
Problems	79
References	83

**3 CONVERTER CONCEPTS 85**

3.1 Introduction	85
3.2 Source Conversion	86
3.3 Distortion	87
3.4 Regulation	93
3.5 Equivalent Sources	98
3.6 Introduction to Power Filtering	101
3.7 Power Filter Examples	103
3.8 Power Factor	108
3.9 Recap	111
Problems	112
References	115

**PART II: CONVERTERS AND APPLICATIONS****4 DC–DC CONVERTERS 119**

4.1 The Importance of dc–dc Conversion	119
4.2 Why Not Voltage Dividers?	120
4.3 Linear Methods and Direct dc–dc Converters	122
4.3.1 Linear Regulators	122
4.3.2 The Buck Converter	123
4.3.3 The Boost Converter	129
4.4 Indirect dc–dc Converters	132
4.4.1 The Buck-Boost Converter	132
4.4.2 The Boost-Buck Converter	135
4.4.3 The Flyback Converter	136
4.4.4 Other Indirect Converters	138
4.5 Forward Converters	140
4.5.1 Basic Transformer Operation	140
4.5.2 General Considerations in Forward Converters	142
4.5.3 Catch-Winding Forward Converter	142
4.5.4 ac Link Forward Converters	145
4.5.5 Boost-Derived Forward Converters	148
4.6 Bidirectional Converters	149
4.7 dc–dc Converter Design Examples	150
4.8 Recap	155
Problems	157
References	161

**5 DIODE-CAPACITOR CIRCUITS AND RECTIFIERS 163**

5.1 Introduction	163
5.2 Rectifier Overview	163
5.3 The Classical Rectifier—Operation and Analysis	166
5.4 The Classical Rectifier—Regulation	173
5.5 Inductive Filtering	174
5.6 Charge Pumps	178
5.7 ac–dc Switching Power Converters	182
5.7.1 Introduction	182
5.7.2 Controlled Bridge and Midpoint Rectifiers	182

5.7.3 The Complementary Midpoint Rectifier	190
5.7.4 The Multiinput Bridge Rectifier	192
5.8 Effects of Line Inductance	196
5.9 Recap	199
Problems	201
References	205

## 6 INVERTERS 207

6.1 Introduction	207
6.2 Inverter Considerations	208
6.3 Voltage-Sourced Inverter Control	211
6.4 Pulse-Width Modulation	216
6.4.1 Introduction	216
6.4.2 Creating PWM Waveforms	220
6.4.3 Drawbacks of PWM	226
6.4.4 Multilevel PWM	226
6.4.5 Inverter Input Current under PWM	227
6.5 Pulse-Width Modulated Rectifiers	229
6.6 Current-Sourced Inverters	231
6.7 A Short Introduction to Converters for ac Drives	232
6.8 Inverter Design Examples	234
6.9 Recap	240
Problems	243
References	246

## 7 AC TO AC CONVERSION 249

7.1 Introduction	249
7.2 Frequency Matching Conditions	250
7.3 Direct-Switching Frequency Converters	251
7.3.1 Slow-Switching Frequency Converters: The Choice $f_{in} - f_{out}$	252
7.3.2 The Choice $f_{switch} = f_{in} + f_{out}$	255
7.3.3 Unifying the Direct Switching Methods: Linear Phase Modulation	259
7.4 The Cycloconverter	260
7.5 Other Nonlinear Phase Modulation Methods	265
7.6 PWM ac-ac Conversion	266
7.7 dc Link Converters	267
7.8 ac Regulators	270
7.9 Integral Cycle Control	276
7.10 Recap	276
Problems	278
References	281

## 8 INTRODUCTION TO RESONANCE IN CONVERTERS 283

8.1 Introduction	283
8.2 Review of Resonance	284
8.2.1 Characteristic Equations	284
8.2.2 Step Function Excitation	286
8.2.3 Phasor Analysis of Series-Resonant Filters	289
8.3 Parallel Resonance	292

8.4	Soft Switching Techniques—Introduction	296
8.4.1	Soft Switching Principles	296
8.4.2	Basic Configurations	297
8.4.3	Parallel Capacitor as a Soft Switching Element for the dc–dc Case	299
8.5	Soft Switching in dc–dc Converters	300
8.5.1	Description of Quasi-Resonance	300
8.5.2	ZCS Transistor Action	301
8.5.3	ZVS Transistor Action	307
8.6	Resonance Used for Control—Forward Converters	312
8.7	Recap	313
	Problems	316
	References	322

## **9 DISCONTINUOUS MODES 325**

9.1	Introduction	325
9.2	dc–dc Converters Acting in Discontinuous Mode	326
9.2.1	The Nature of Discontinuous Mode	326
9.2.2	Discontinuous Mode Relationships for dc–dc Converters	330
9.2.3	Critical Inductance	333
9.2.4	Critical Capacitance	338
9.3	Rectifiers and Other Converters in Discontinuous Mode	339
9.3.1	Rectifiers	339
9.3.2	ac Regulators Revisited	343
9.4	Recap	344
	Problems	345
	References	349

## **PART III: REAL COMPONENTS AND THEIR EFFECTS**

### **10 REAL SOURCES AND LOADS 353**

10.1	Introduction	353
10.2	Real Loads	353
10.3	Wire Inductance	358
10.4	Critical Values and Examples	360
10.5	Real Sources and Interfaces for Them	364
10.5.1	Impedance Behavior of Sources	364
10.5.2	dc Source Interfaces	365
10.5.3	Interfaces for ac Sources	369
10.6	Recap	375
	Problems	376
	References	379

### **11 CAPACITORS AND RESISTORS 381**

11.1	Introduction	381
11.2	Capacitors—Types and Equivalent Circuits	381
11.2.1	Major Types	381
11.2.2	Equivalent Circuit	384
11.2.3	Impedance Behavior	386
11.2.4	Simple Dielectric Types and Materials	388

11.2.5 Electrolytics	390
11.2.6 Double-Layer Capacitors	392
11.3 Effects of ESR	392
11.4 Wire Resistance	395
11.5 Resistors	400
11.6 Recap	402
Problems	403
References	407

## **12 CONCEPTS OF MAGNETICS FOR POWER ELECTRONICS 409**

12.1 Introduction	409
12.2 Maxwell's Equations with Magnetic Approximations	409
12.3 Materials and Properties	411
12.4 Magnetic Circuits	412
12.4.1 The Circuit Analogy	412
12.4.2 Inductance	413
12.4.3 Ideal and Real Transformers	420
12.5 The Hysteresis Loop and Losses	423
12.6 Saturation as a Design Constraint	427
12.6.1 Saturation Limits	427
12.6.2 General Design Considerations	430
12.7 Design Examples	433
12.7.1 Core Material and Geometry	433
12.7.2 Design Checks and Capacity	438
12.7.3 Losses	441
12.8 Recap	443
Problems	446
References	449

## **13 POWER SEMICONDUCTORS IN CONVERTERS 451**

13.1 Introduction	451
13.2 Switching Device States	451
13.3 Static Models	454
13.4 Switch Energy Losses and Examples	462
13.4.1 General Analysis of Losses	462
13.4.2 Losses during Commutation	464
13.4.3 Examples	469
13.5 Simple Heat Transfer Models for Power Semiconductors	473
13.6 The P-N Junction as a Power Device	479
13.7 P-N Junction Diodes and Alternatives	482
13.8 The Thyristor Family	484
13.9 Bipolar Power Transistors	488
13.10 Field-Effect Transistors	491
13.11 Insulated-Gate Bipolar Transistors	495
13.12 Snubbers	499
13.12.1 Introduction	499
13.12.2 Lossy Turn-Off Snubbers	499
13.12.3 Turn-On Snubbers	504
13.12.4 Combined Snubbers	507
13.12.5 Lossless Snubbers	508
13.13 dc-dc Converter Design Example	508

13.14 Recap	521
Problems	527
References	530

## **14 INTERFACING WITH POWER SEMICONDUCTORS 533**

14.1 Introduction	533
14.2 Gate Drives	534
14.2.1 Overview	534
14.2.2 Voltage-Controlled Gates	534
14.2.3 Current-Controlled Gates	539
14.2.4 Pulsed Gate Drives	543
14.2.5 Other Thyristors	548
14.3 Isolation	549
14.4 P-Channel Applications and Shoot-Through	554
14.5 Sensors for Power Electronic Switches	556
14.5.1 Resistive Sensing	556
14.5.2 Integrating Sensing Functions with the Gate Drive	559
14.5.3 Nonelectrical Sensing	562
14.6 Recap	566
Problems	568
References	571

## **PART IV: CONTROL ASPECTS**

## **15 OVERVIEW OF FEEDBACK CONTROL FOR CONVERTERS 575**

15.1 Introduction	575
15.2 The Regulation and Control Problem	576
15.2.1 Introduction	576
15.2.2 Defining the Regulation Problem	576
15.2.3 The Control Problem	577
15.3 Review of Feedback Control Principles	578
15.3.1 Open-Loop and Closed-Loop Control	578
15.3.2 Block Diagrams	580
15.3.3 System Gain	582
15.3.4 Transient Response	585
15.3.5 Stability	586
15.4 Converter Models for Feedback	591
15.4.1 Basic Converter Dynamics	591
15.4.2 Fast Switching	594
15.4.3 Piecewise-Linear Models	594
15.4.4 Discrete-Time Models	595
15.5 Voltage-Mode and Current-Mode Controls for dc–dc Converters	596
15.5.1 Voltage-Mode Control	596
15.5.2 Current-Mode Control	600
15.5.3 Large-Signal Issues in Voltage-Mode and Current-Mode Control	603
15.6 Comparator-Based Controls for Rectifier Systems	606
15.7 Proportional and Proportional-Integral Control Applications	610
15.8 Recap	612
Problems	616
References	619

## 16 APPROXIMATE METHODS FOR CONTROL DESIGN 621

- 16.1 Introduction 621
- 16.2 Averaging Methods and Models 621
  - 16.2.1 Formulation of Averaged Models 622
  - 16.2.2 Averaged Circuit Models 629
- 16.3 Small-Signal Analysis and Linearization 631
  - 16.3.1 The Need for Small-Signal Models 631
  - 16.3.2 Obtaining Models 632
  - 16.3.3 Generalizing the Process 634
- 16.4 Control and Control Design Based on Linearization 637
  - 16.4.1 Transfer Functions 637
  - 16.4.2 Control Design—Introduction 642
  - 16.4.3 Compensation and Filtering 646
  - 16.4.4 Compensated Feedback Examples 650
  - 16.4.5 Challenges for Control Design 655
- 16.5 Recap 656
- Problems 658
- References 660

## 17 GEOMETRIC CONTROL FOR POWER CONVERTERS 663

- 17.1 Introduction 663
- 17.2 Hysteresis Control 664
  - 17.2.1 Definition and Basic Behavior 664
  - 17.2.2 Hysteresis Control in dc–dc Converters 665
  - 17.2.3 Power Factor Corrector 676
  - 17.2.4 Inverters 676
  - 17.2.5 Design Approaches 679
- 17.3 General Boundary Control 682
  - 17.3.1 Behavior Near a Boundary 682
  - 17.3.2 Possible Behavior 683
  - 17.3.3 Choosing a Boundary 683
- 17.4 Other Classes of Boundaries 689
- 17.5 Recap 690
- Problems 693
- References 695

## APPENDIXES

- APPENDIX A: SOME USEFUL TRIGONOMETRIC IDENTITIES 699
- APPENDIX B: MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS 701
- APPENDIX C: COMPUTER ANALYSIS EXAMPLES 704
- APPENDIX D: REFERENCE MATERIALS 749
- INDEX 757



**PART I**

# PRINCIPLES