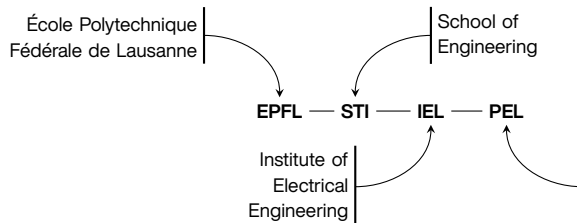


# SOLID STATE TRANSFORMERS FOR HIGH-POWER MEDIUM-VOLTAGE APPLICATIONS

**Prof. Dražen Dujčić**

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)  
Power Electronics Laboratory (PEL)  
Switzerland





- ▶ Online since February 2014
- ▶ Currently: 12 PhD students, 3 Post Docs, 1 Administrative Ass.
- ▶ Funding CH: SNSF, SFOE, Innosuisse
- ▶ Funding EU: H2020, S2R JU, ERC CoG
- ▶ Funding: Industry OEMs
- ▶ <https://www.epfl.ch/labs/pel/>



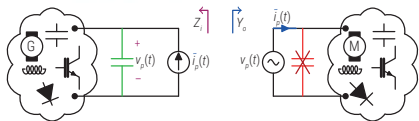
Competence Centre



▲ Power Electronics Laboratory - Research facilities

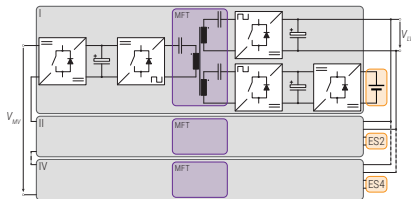
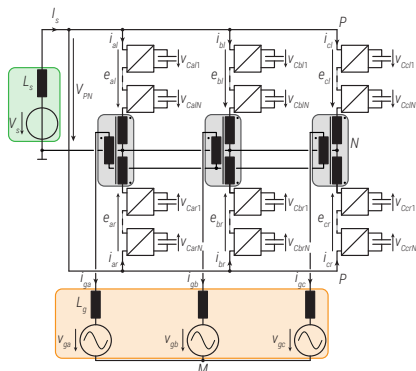
## MVDC Technologies and Systems

- ▶ System Stability
- ▶ Protection Coordination
- ▶ Power Electronic Converters



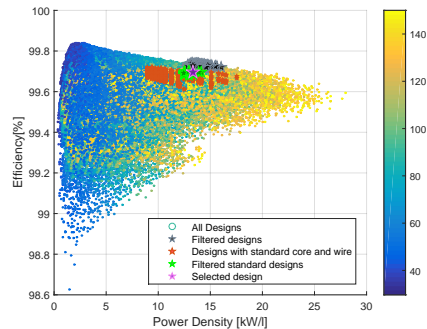
## High Power Electronics

- ▶ Multilevel Converters
- ▶ Solid State Transformers
- ▶ Medium Frequency Conversion



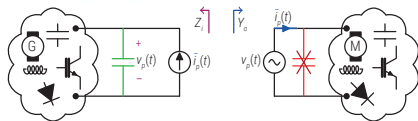
## Components

- ▶ Semiconductor devices
- ▶ Magnetics
- ▶ Modeling, Characterization



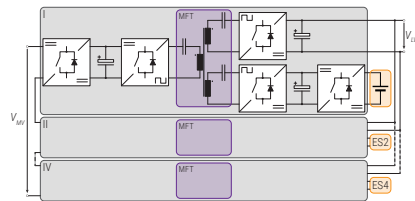
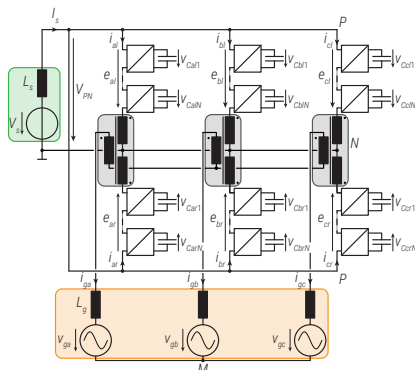
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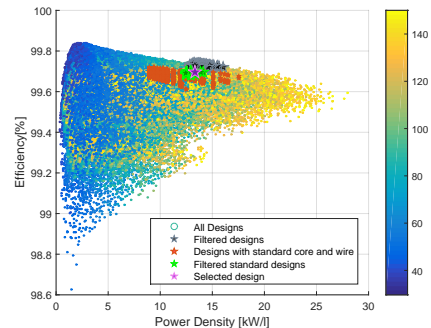
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## Components

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⇒ Medium Voltage High Power Electronics!

# SOLID STATE TRANSFORMERS

*What is it all about?*

# LINE FREQUENCY TRANSFORMERS

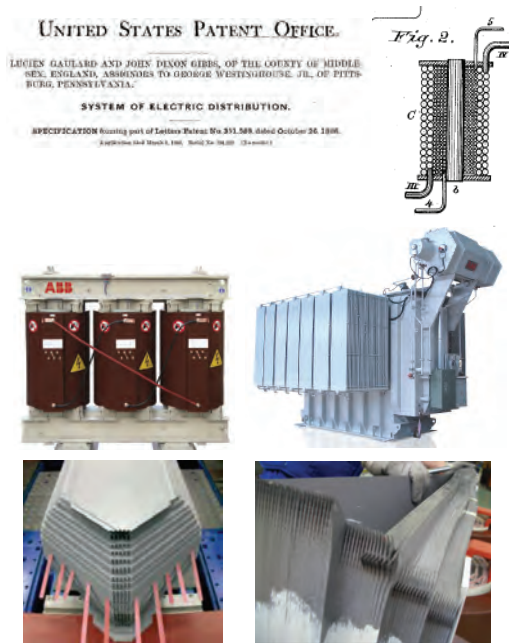
**IEC 60076-1 definition - Power Transformer:** A static piece of apparatus with two or more windings which, by electromagnetic induction, transforms a system of alternating voltage and current into another system of voltage and current usually of different values and at the same frequency for the purpose of transmitting electrical power.

## Line Frequency Transformers

- ▶ Around for more than 100 of years
- ▶ Operated at low (grid) frequencies: 16.7Hz, 25Hz, 50/60Hz
- ▶ Standardized shapes and materials
- ▶ Cheap:  $\approx 10\text{kUSD} / \text{MW}$  at MV level
- ▶ Efficient: routinely above 99 % for utility applications
- ▶ Simple and reliable device

## What are the problems?

- ▶ Bulky - for certain applications
- ▶ Inefficient - for certain applications
- ▶ Uncontrollable power flow
- ▶ Fixed transformation (power, voltage, current, frequency)
- ▶ Performs only AC-AC conversion
- ▶ Frequency is defined by the surrounding network



▲ Source: [www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)

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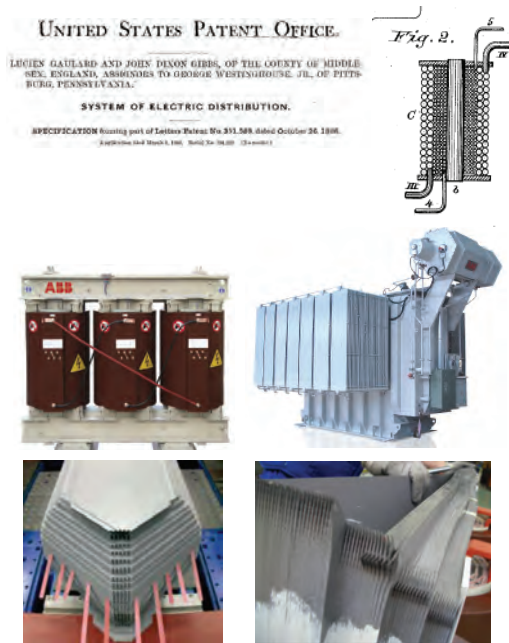
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⇒ Can we do better?

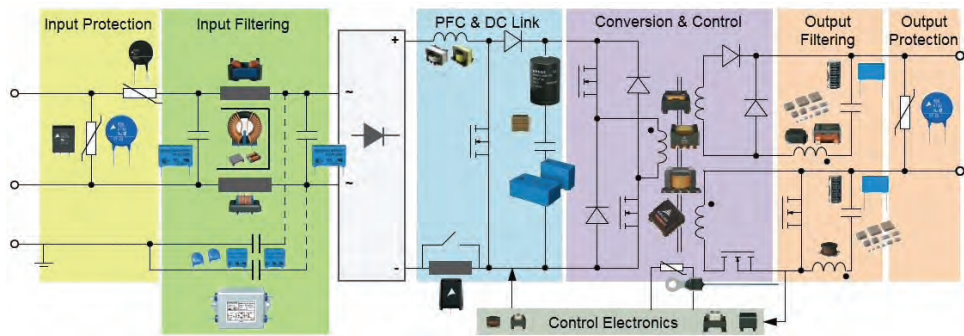


▲ Source: [www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)

# MEDIUM-HIGH FREQUENCY CONVERSION

## Switched Mode Power Supply (SMPS) technologies (Low Voltage)

- ▶ Medium or High frequency conversion is not a new thing!
- ▶ Widely deployed in low voltage/power applications
- ▶ High efficiency thanks to semiconductors
- ▶ Galvanic isolation at high frequency (standardized core sizes and shapes)
- ▶ Increased (high) power density (e.g. laptop chargers)
- ▶ Cost savings



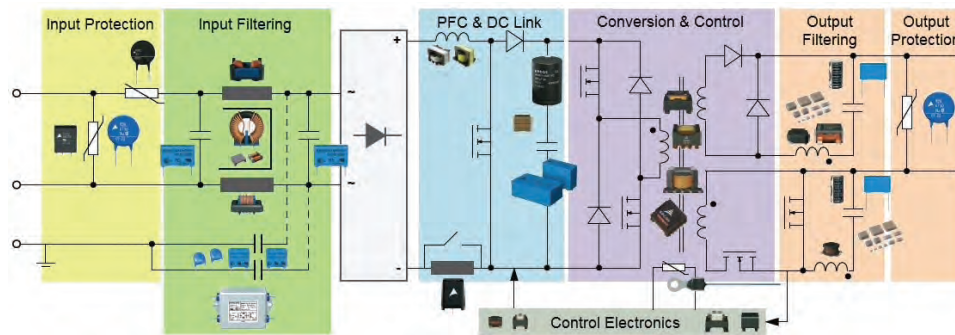
▲ SMPS technologies; Source: [www.mouser.ch/new/tdk/epcos-smps/](http://www.mouser.ch/new/tdk/epcos-smps/)



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▲ SMPS technologies; Source: [www.mouser.ch/new/tdk/epcos-smps/](http://www.mouser.ch/new/tdk/epcos-smps/)

⇒ Solid State Transformers should provide that for a High Power Medium Voltage Applications!

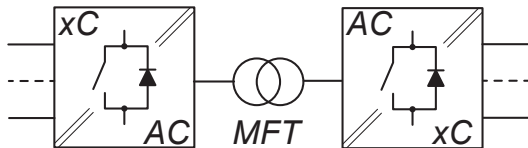
# SOLID STATE TRANSFORMERS?

## What not is a Solid State Transformer?

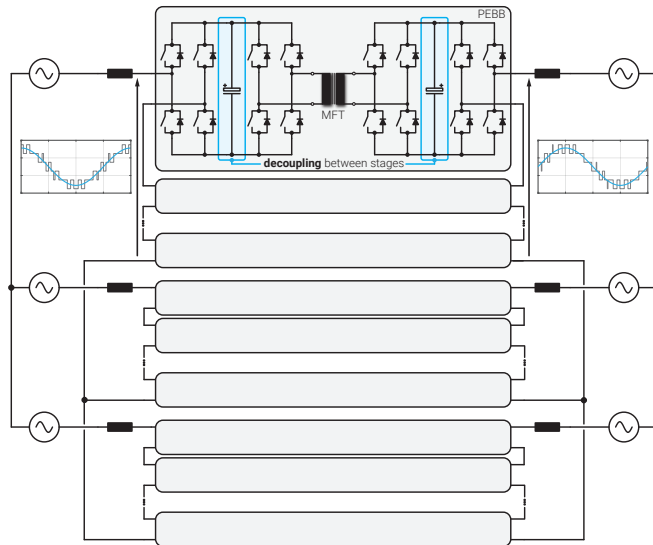
- ▶ Not a transformer replacement?
- ▶ Should not be compared against 50/60 Hz transformer!

## What is it?

- ▶ A **converter**
- ▶ A converter with **galvanic isolation**
- ▶ Can be designed for **DC** and **AC** (1-ph, 3-ph) grids
- ▶ Can be used in **LV, MV** and **HV** applications
- ▶ Can be made for **AC-AC, DC-DC, AC-DC, DC-AC** conversion
- ▶ Has direct **power electronic terminals**
- ▶ Transformer **high frequency** is design variable (kHz)



▲ Simplified SST concept



▲ SST employed with the aim of interfacing two AC systems [1], [2]

# SST DEMONSTRATORS

*Few selected examples with relevant applications and ratings...*

# HUST - 500KVA ELECTRONIC POWER TRANSFORMER - EPT

## Ratings

- ▶ Power: 500kVA
- ▶ Input AC voltage: 10kV, 50Hz
- ▶ Output AC voltage: 400V, 50Hz
- ▶ Efficiency: 93.72% (at 105 kW)
- ▶ Cost: 10x conv. transformer

## Topology

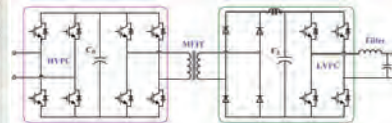
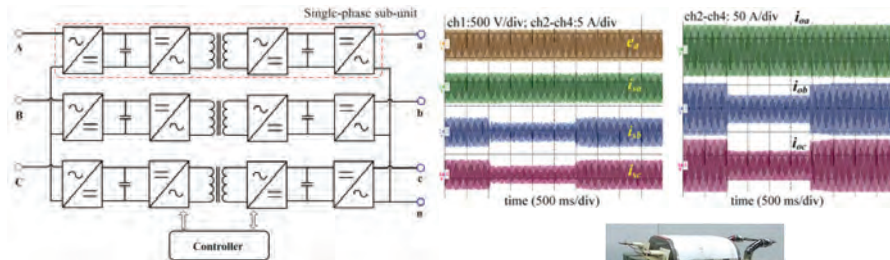
- ▶ AC-DC + DC-DC + DC-AC
- ▶ 6 cascaded stages per phase
- ▶ Unidirectional

## Semiconductor Devices

- ▶ HV side: 3.3kV IGBTs
- ▶ LV side: 1.2kV IGBTs?

## MFT

- ▶ Power: 30kW per MFT
- ▶ Frequency: 1kHz
- ▶ Core: Iron-based amorphous alloy
- ▶ Insulation / Cooling: solid /air



▲ HUST reported EPT [3]

## Ratings

- ▶ Power: 1.15MVA
- ▶ Input AC voltage: 10kV, 50Hz
- ▶ Output DC voltage: 750V
- ▶ Efficiency: ?
- ▶ Cost: ?

## Topology

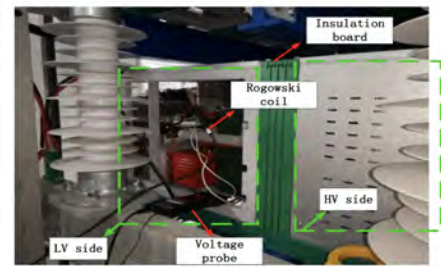
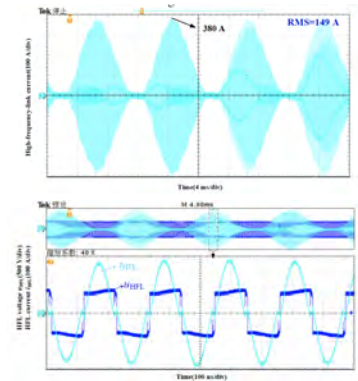
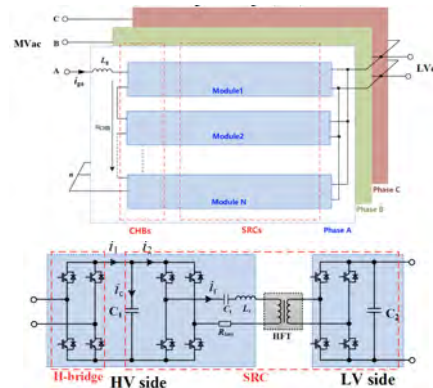
- ▶ AC-DC + DC-DC
- ▶ (5+1) cascaded stages per phase
- ▶ Bidirectional

## Semiconductor Devices

- ▶ HV side: 3.3kV IGBTs (ABB)
- ▶ LV side: 1.2kV IGBTs (Infineon)

## MFT

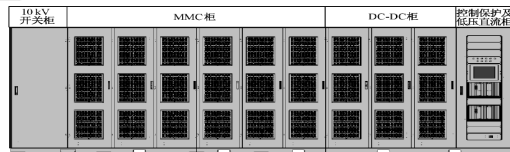
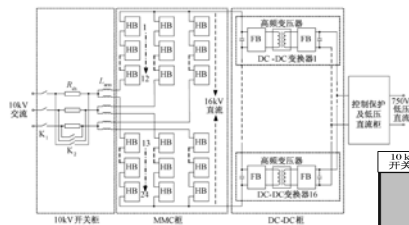
- ▶ Power: 75kW per MFT
- ▶ Frequency: 5.1kHz
- ▶ Core: ?
- ▶ Insulation / Cooling: ?



▲ 1.15 MW Solid State Transformer, ISOP AC-DC + DC-DC

## Ratings

- ▶ Power: 1MVA
- ▶ Input AC voltage: 10kV, 50Hz
- ▶ Output DC voltage: 750V
- ▶ Volume: 30 m<sup>3</sup>
- ▶ Efficiency: ?
- ▶ Cost: ?



## Topology

- ▶ AC-DC (MMC) + DC-DC (ISOP)
- ▶ 12 cells per branch, 16 DC-DC stages
- ▶ Bidirectional

## Semiconductor Devices

- ▶ MMC side: 3.3kV IGBTs (ABB)
- ▶ HV side: 1.7kV IGBTs (Infineon)
- ▶ LV side: 1.2kV IGBTs (Infineon)

## MFT

- ▶ Power: 70kW per MFT
- ▶ Frequency: 8.3kHz
- ▶ Core: ?
- ▶ Insulation / Cooling: Air insulation / cooling



▲ 1MW Solid State Transformer, MMC + DC-DC

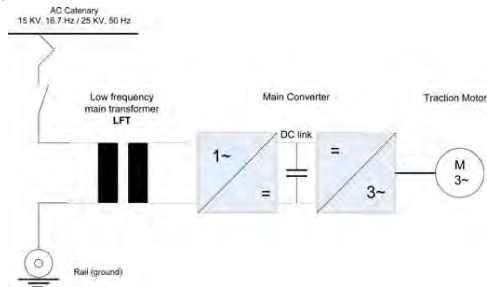
# SST FOR RAILWAY ON-BOARD ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

Seen as early adopters and motivated by:

- ▶ Weight decrease
- ▶ Volume decrease
- ▶ Efficiency increase



▲ Your daily SSB commute...



▲ Typical (conventional) traction on-board power supply chain



▲ Various realization of traction transformers, Source: [www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)

# WORLD'S FIRST - 1.2 MW SST TOPOLOGY

## Characteristics

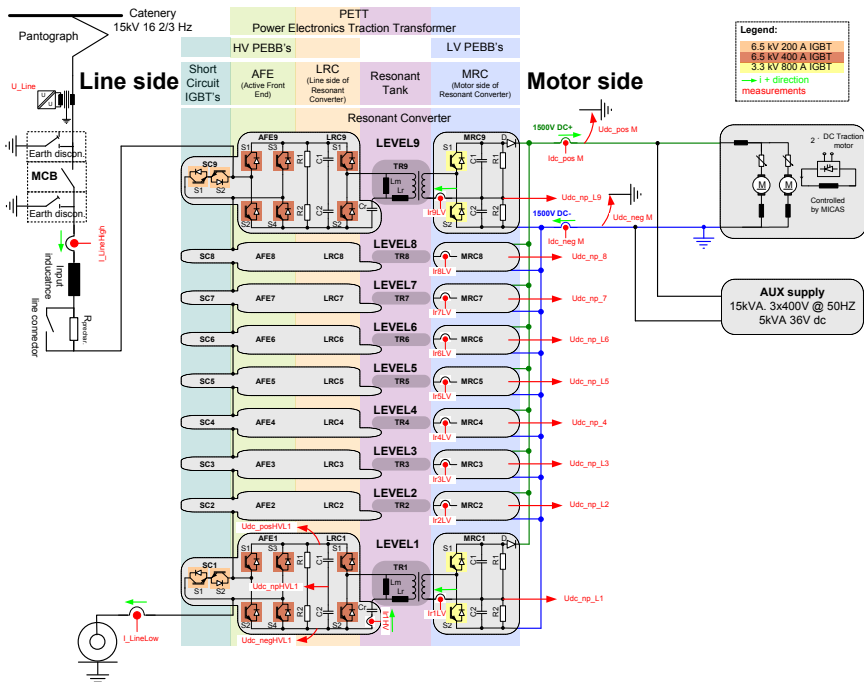
- ▶ 1-Phase MVAC to MVDC
- ▶ Power: 1.2MVA
- ▶ Input AC voltage: 15kV, 16.7Hz
- ▶ Output DC voltage: 1500 V
- ▶ 9 cascaded stages (n + 1)
- ▶ Input-Series Output-Parallel (ISOP)
- ▶ Double stage conversion

## 99 semiconductor devices

- ▶ HV PEBB: 9 x (6 x 6.5kV IGBT)
- ▶ LV PEBB: 9 x (2 x 3.3kV IGBT)
- ▶ Bypass: 9 x (2 x 6.5kV IGBT)
- ▶ Decoupling: 9 x (1 x 3.3kV Diode)

## 9 MFTs

- ▶ Power: 150kW
- ▶ Frequency: 1.75kHz
- ▶ Core: Nanocrystalline
- ▶ Winding: Litz
- ▶ Insulation / Cooling: oil



▲ Power Electronics Traction Transformer topology [4], [5]

[1] D. Dujic et al. "Power Electronic Traction Transformer-Low Voltage Prototype." *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics* 28:12 (Dec. 2013), pp. 5522-5534



# WORLD'S FIRST - 1.2 MW SST PROTOTYPE

## Retrofitted to shunting locomotive

- ▶ Replaced LFT + SCR rectifier
- ▶ Propulsion motor - 450kW
- ▶ 12 months of field service
- ▶ No power electronic failures
- ▶ Efficiency around 96%
- ▶ Weight:  $\approx$  4.5 t



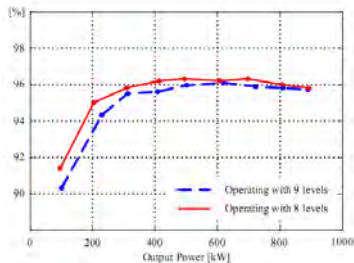
## Technologies

- ▶ Standard 3.3kV and 6.5kV IGBTs
- ▶ De-ionized water cooling
- ▶ Oil cooling/insulation for MFTs
- ▶  $n + 1$  redundancy
- ▶ IGBTs used for bypass switch



## Can be seen now at:

- ▶ Swiss Museum of Transport
- ▶ <https://www.verkehrshaus.ch>



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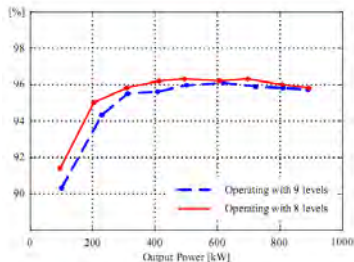
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Why? What are the challenges?

▲ Power Electronics Traction Transformer prototype [4], [5]

# SOLID STATE TRANSFORMER CHALLENGES

## Applications

- ▶ Feasibility
- ▶ Benefits
- ▶ Business case

## Topology

- ▶ Complexity
- ▶ Modularity
- ▶ Scalability

## Semiconductors

- ▶ Efficiency
- ▶ Si, SiC, GaN?
- ▶ Reliability

## Magnetics

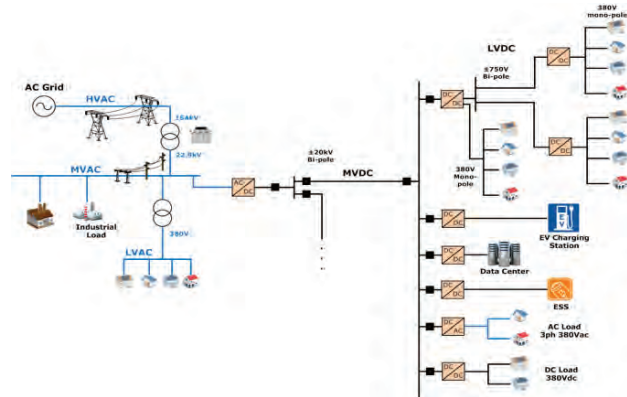
- ▶ Efficiency
- ▶ Power density
- ▶ Customization

## Control

- ▶ Performances
- ▶ Protection
- ▶ Integration



▲ Power electronics constituents



▲ SST enabling future MVDC grids and and linking it with existing AC grids

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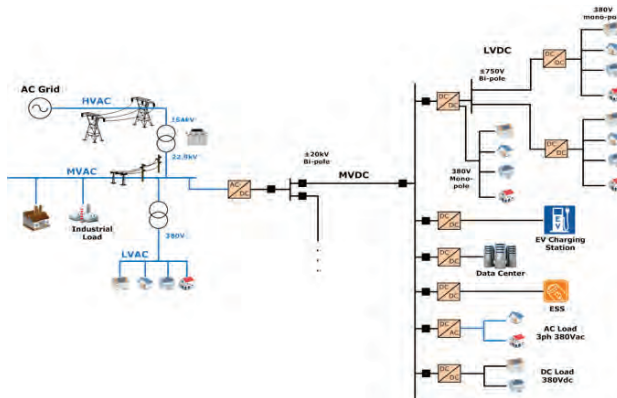
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▲ SST enabling future MVDC grids and linking it with existing AC grids



A number of technology gaps are driving research in this domain, but business case is strongly linked to application!

# SST APPLICATIONS: MVDC, MVAC

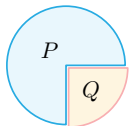
*A new breed of power distribution networks...*

# WHY DC?

- ▶ No reactive power

Example: @  $\cos(\varphi) = 0.95$

$$\frac{P}{Q} \approx \frac{3}{1}$$



- ▶ No constraints imposed upon transmission distance
- ▶ Transmission capacity increase
- ▶ Lower transmission losses
- ▶ Alleviated stability problems

- ▶ No skin effect ( $R_\gamma \downarrow \Rightarrow P_\gamma \uparrow$ )

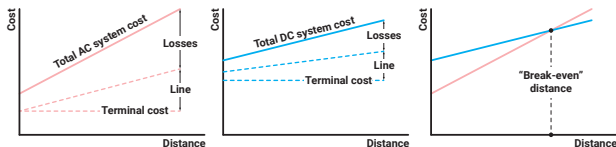
- ▶ Cheaper solution ("Break-even distance")

- ▶ Underwater cable transmission

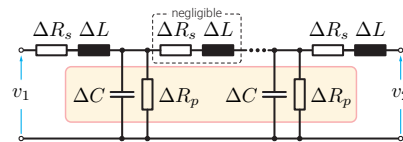
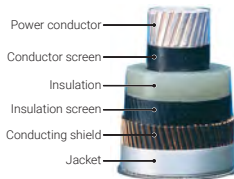
- ▶ No need for synchronization (Marine applications)

- ▶ Direct integration of Renewable Energy Sources

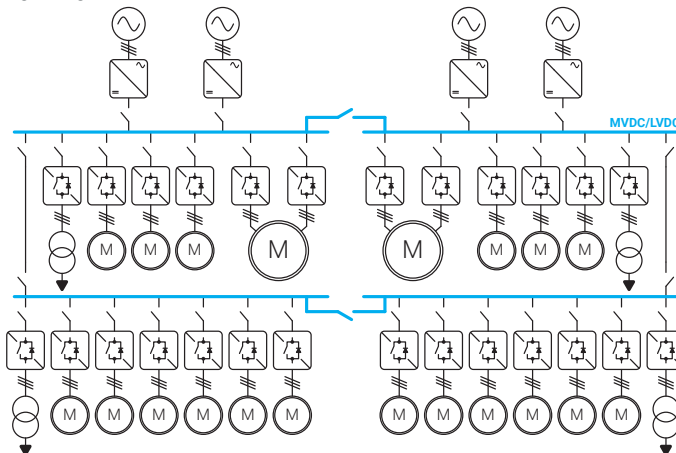
- ▶ Challenges  $\Rightarrow$  DC Transformer/Protection?



- ▶ Cost comparison between AC and DC systems



- ▶ High voltage cable



- ▶ DC Ship distribution system - frequency decoupling through a DC distribution

[3] U. Javid et al. "Stability Analysis of Multi-Port MVDC Distribution Networks for All-Electric Ships." *IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Power Electronics* (2019), pp. 1-1

## Installations

- ▶ ABB HVDC Light demo: 4.3 km/ $\pm 9$  kV<sub>dc</sub> [7]
- ▶ Tidal power connection: 16 km/10 kV<sub>dc</sub> (based on MV3000 & MV7000) [8]



- ▶ Unidirectional oil platform connection in China: 29.2 km/ $\pm 15$  kV<sub>dc</sub> [9]

## Projects

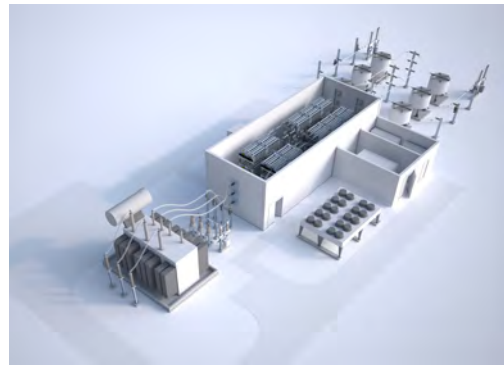
- ▶ Angle DC: conversion of 33 kV MVac line to  $\pm 27$  kV MVdc [10]

## Universities

- ▶ Increased number of laboratories active in high power domain
- ▶ China, Europe, USA,...

## Products

- ▶ Siemens MVDC Plus
  - ▶ 30 - 150 MW
  - ▶ < 200 km
  - ▶ <  $\pm 50$  kV<sub>dc</sub>



- ▶ RXPE Smart VSC-MVDC
  - ▶ 1 - 10 MVar
  - ▶  $\pm 5$  -  $\pm 50$  kV<sub>dc</sub>
  - ▶ 40 - 200 km

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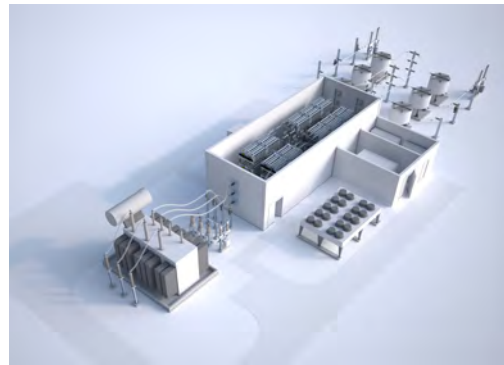
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Several demonstrations of MVDC power distribution networks around the world!

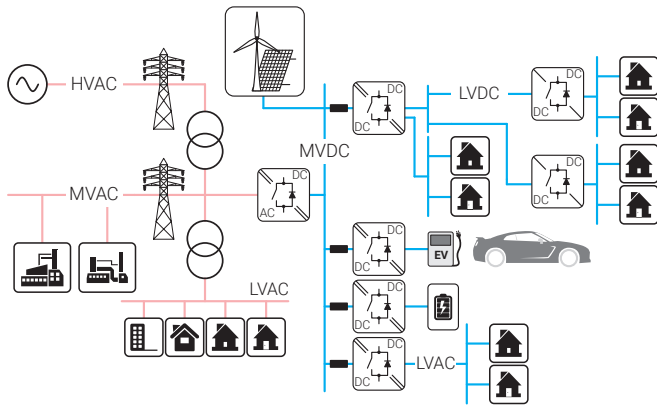


# MVDC DC-DC CONVERTERS

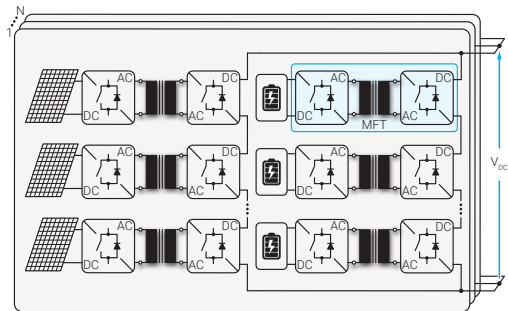
*Building blocks of Solid State Transformers*

# MVDC DC-DC SST

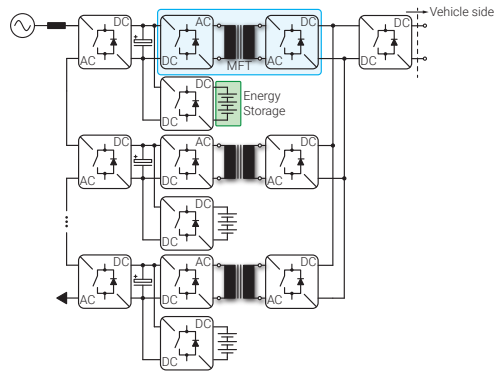
- ▶ Inherent part of the AC-AC SST
- ▶ Expansion of the existing power system
- ▶ Enabling technology for MVDC
- ▶ Penetration of renewable energy sources
- ▶ Fast / Ultra Fast EV charging
- ▶ **Medium Frequency** conversion



▶ Power electronics dominated power system



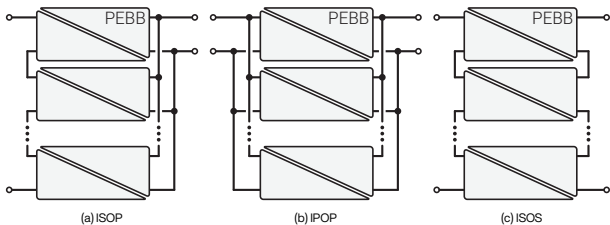
▶ Employment of a DC-DC SST within RES-based systems



▶ Fast EV charging concept

## Fractional power processing

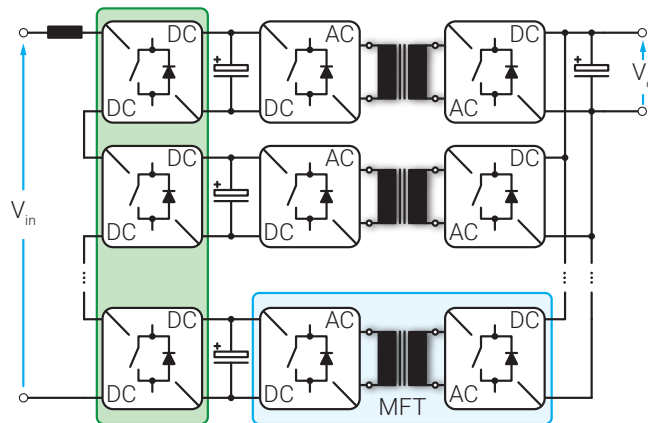
- ▶ Multiple MFTs
- ▶ Equal power distribution among PEBBs
- ▶ MFT isolation?
- ▶ Various PEBB configurations



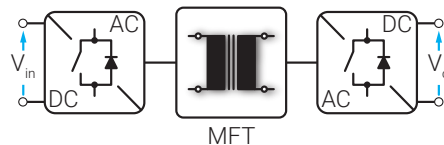
▲ Different structures employed depending upon the voltage level

## Bulk power processing - Monolithic converter structures

- ▶ Single MFT
- ▶ Isolation solved only once
- ▶ Various configurations/operating principles
- ▶ **PEBB** = Power Electronics Building Block



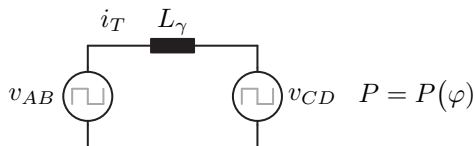
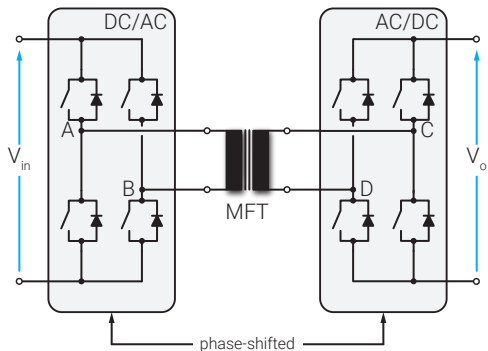
▲ Fractional power processing - ISOP converter structures



▲ Bulk power processing concept

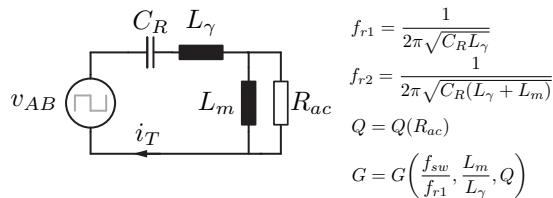
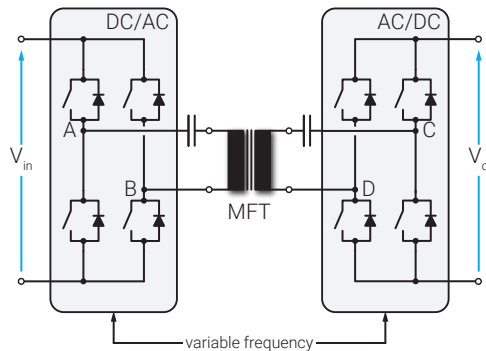
# COMMON PEBB CONFIGURATIONS

## Dual-Active Bridge



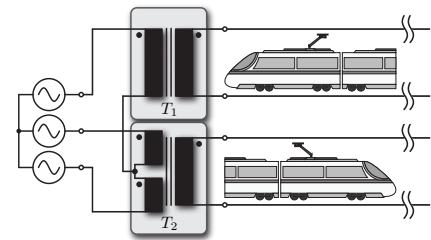
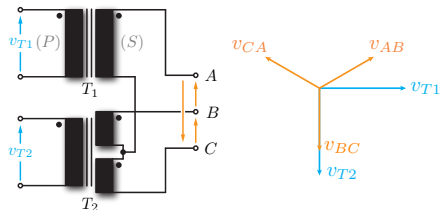
▲ Dual Active Bridge [11]

## Resonant Converters



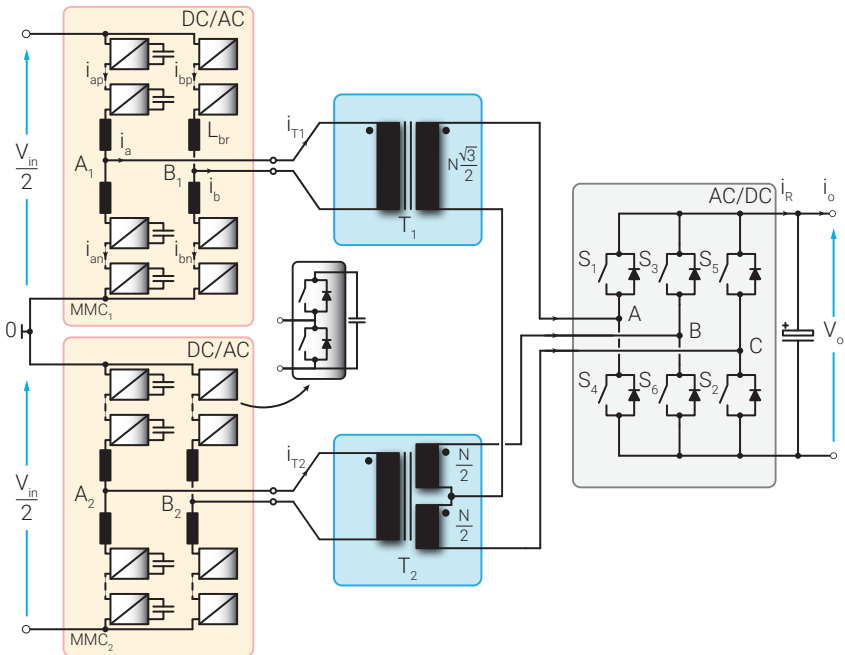
▲ LLC Resonant Converter

# MMC-BASED BIDIRECTIONAL DC-DC CONVERTER EMPLOYING STC



## ▲ Scott Transformer Connection

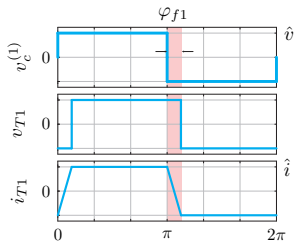
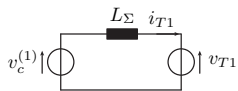
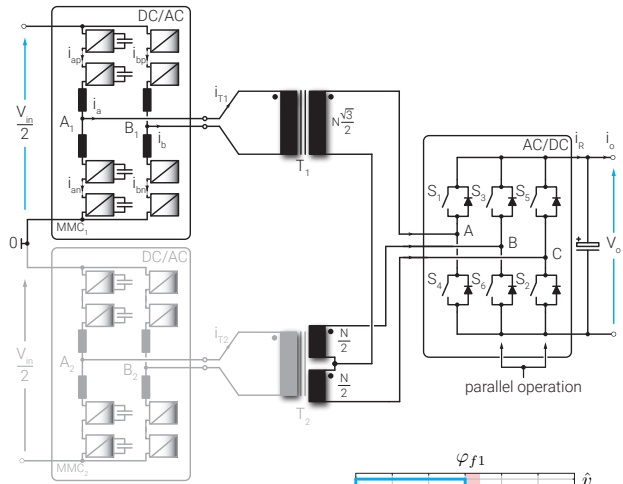
- ▶ 3PH 3W Tx  $\Rightarrow$  2 x 1PH Tx
- ▶ Number of MMC branches reduction ( $N_L \downarrow$ )
- ▶ Ability to operate in a pure rectifier mode
- ▶ Medium frequency operation



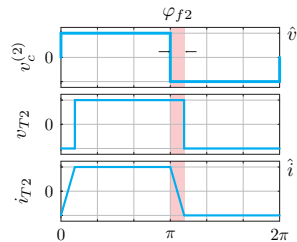
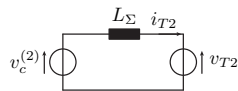
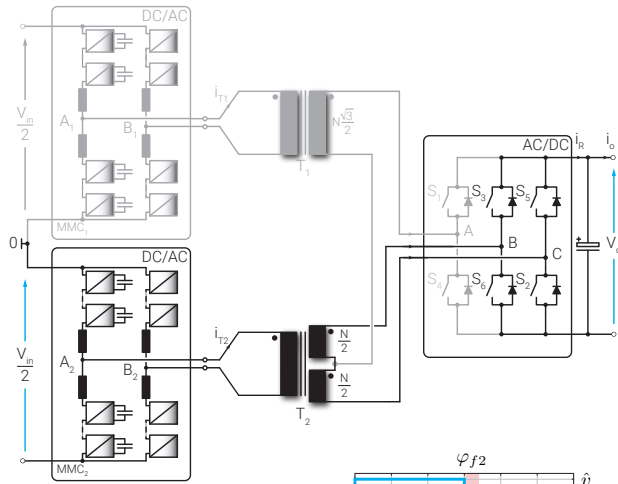
▲ MMC-Based High Power DC-DC Converter Employing Scott Transformer Connection [12]

[8] S. Milovanovic and D. Dujic, "High-Power DC-DC Converter Utilising Scott Transformer Connection," *IET Electric Power Applications* (2019)

# OPERATION UNDER FAULTS



▲ Converter operation in the case of "Minus" DC pole malfunction



▲ Converter operation in the case of "Plus" DC pole malfunction

# SOLID STATE RESONANT CONVERSION

*Benefiting from soft switching...*

# TYPICAL HIGH POWER SEMICONDUCTORS (MW CONVERTERS)

## IGBT Plastic Modules



▲ IGBT modules: (left) Single 6.5kV IGBT; (middle) Dual 6.5kV IGBT; (right) Dual IGBT module (cut view)

## IGBT Press-Pack Modules



▲ IGBT press-pack modules: (left) Single 4.5kV press-pack IGBT; (middle) Press-pack IGBT - cut view; (right) Short circuit failure design

## IGCT



▲ IGCT: (left) Wafer; (middle) 4.5kV, 5.2kA Reverse Blocking IGCT; (right) 6.5kV, 3.8kA Assymmetric IGCT



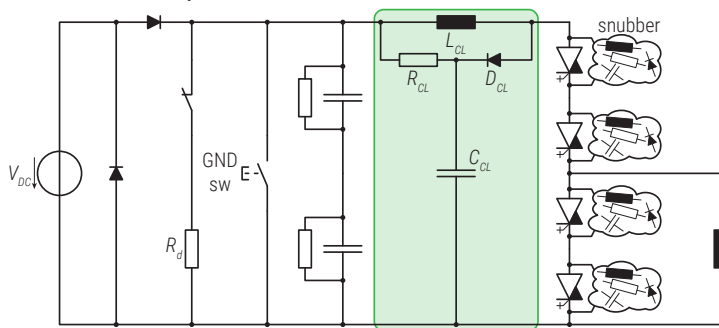
## Motivation

- ▶ Bulk power conversion
- ▶ IGCT characterization
- ▶ IGCT optimization
- ▶ High power magnetics design



▲ Multifunctional IGCT test setup

## Characterization setup



▲ One test setup configuration

## Objectives

- ▶ IGCT soft switching
- ▶ DC-DC resonant conversion
- ▶ High power SST



[11] D. Stamenkovic et al. "IGCT Low-Current Switching, TCAD and Experimental Characterization." *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics* (2019), pp. 1-1

[12] D. Stamenkovic and D. Dujic. "Application of the IGCT for Resonant Conversion with Low Switching Losses." *IEEJ Journal of Industry Applications* 9.3 (2020), pp. 1-10

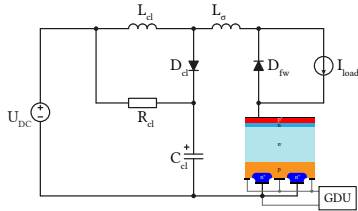
# SOLID STATE RESONANT CONVERSION WITH IGCT



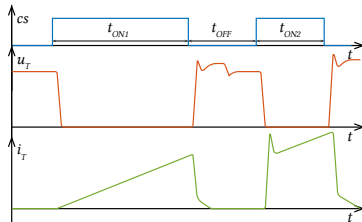
▲ IGCT characterization test setup

## IGCT low current turn-off?

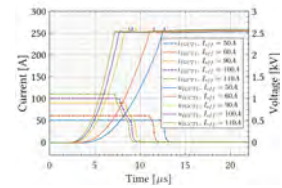
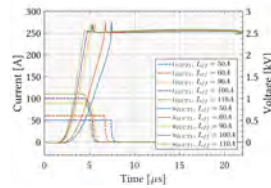
- ▶ Not a part of data sheet
- ▶ Very important for resonant converters
- ▶ How low can we go?



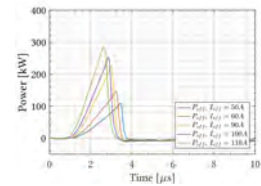
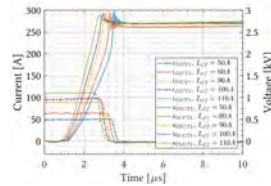
▲ TCAD single-pulse and double-pulse simulation circuit



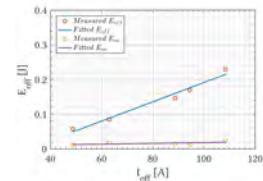
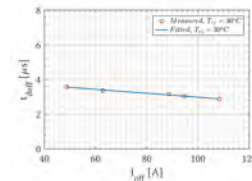
▲ Typical double-pulse test waveform



▲ TCAD simulated turn-off at 30°C (left) and 115°C (right)



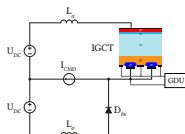
▲ Experimental turn-off at 30°C (left) and transient power loss (right)



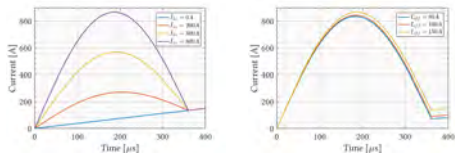
▲ Experimental turn-off delay (left) and turn-off energy (right)

## IGCT resonant pulse pre-flooding?

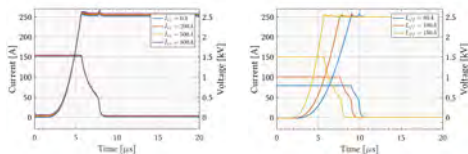
- ▶ High resonant peak current, low turn-off current



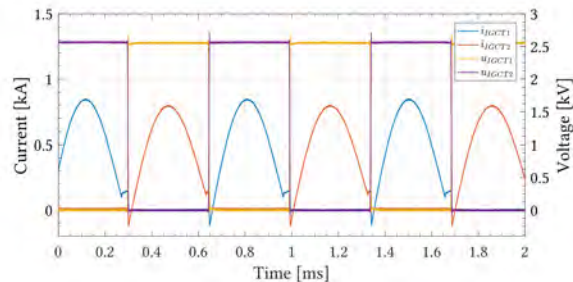
- ▲ TCAD single resonant-pulse circuit



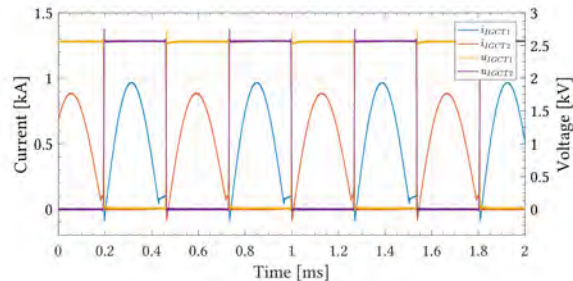
- ▲ IGCT pre-flooding with high resonant current



- ▲ IGCT constant current turn-off



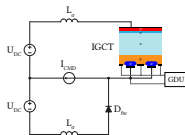
- ▲ Experimental waveforms for continuous operation at 1440Hz



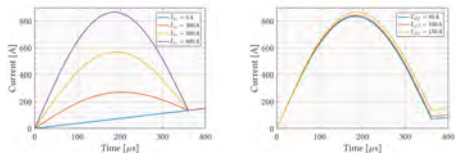
- ▲ Experimental waveforms for continuous operation at 1860Hz

## IGCT resonant pulse pre-flooding?

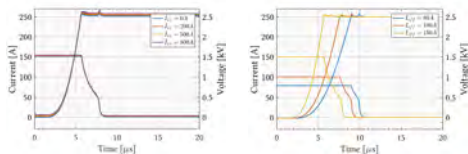
- ▶ High resonant peak current, low turn-off current



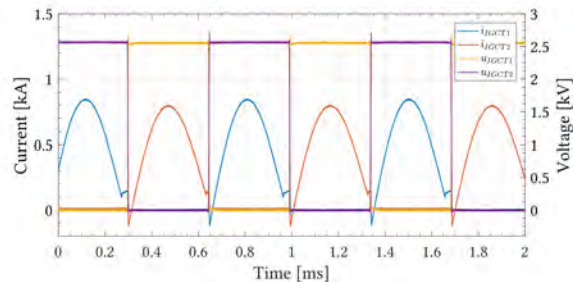
- ▲ TCAD single resonant-pulse circuit



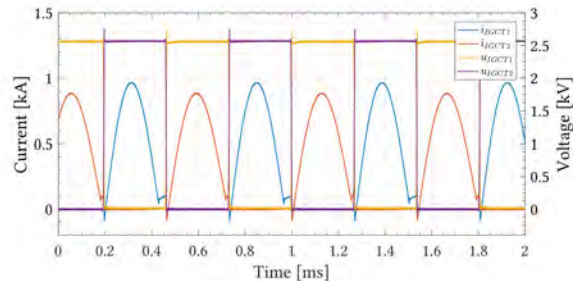
- ▲ IGCT pre-flooding with high resonant current



- ▲ IGCT constant current turn-off



- ▲ Experimental waveforms for continuous operation at 1440Hz



- ▲ Experimental waveforms for continuous operation at 1860Hz

⇒ Two 4.5kV, 3kA IGCT devices in half-bridge configuration can process 1 MW of power - Beauty of Bulk Power processing!

# MFT DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

*Increasing power density through high frequency switching...*

Transformer scaling law:

$$V_T \propto \frac{A_w \cdot A_e}{A_p} = \frac{P_t}{k_f k_u J_m f_{sw} B_m} \Rightarrow V_T \propto \frac{1}{f_{sw}}$$
$$\Rightarrow V_T \propto \frac{1}{J_m}$$
$$\Rightarrow V_T \propto \frac{1}{B_m}$$

- ▶  $P_t$  - MFT power
- ▶  $A_p$  - core area product
- ▶  $A_w$  - window area
- ▶  $A_e$  - core cross-section area
- ▶  $k_f$  - converter waveform coefficient
- ▶  $k_u$  - core window utilization coefficient
- ▶  $B_m$  - limited by material
- ▶  $J_m$  - limited by cooling
- ▶  $f_{sw}$  - limited by power electronics and losses

Multiphysics design optimization problem:

## Electrical design

- ▶ Managing HF losses
- ▶ Accurate electric parameter design
- ▶ ...

## Magnetic design

- ▶ Non-sinusoidal excitation
- ▶ Core losses (hysteresis and eddy current losses)
- ▶ ...

## Dielectric design

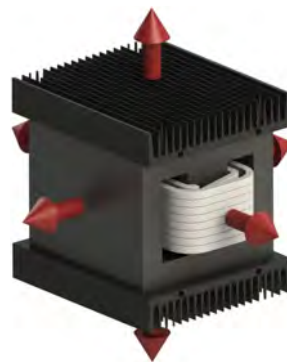
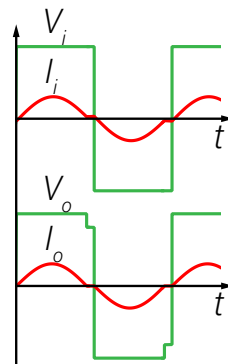
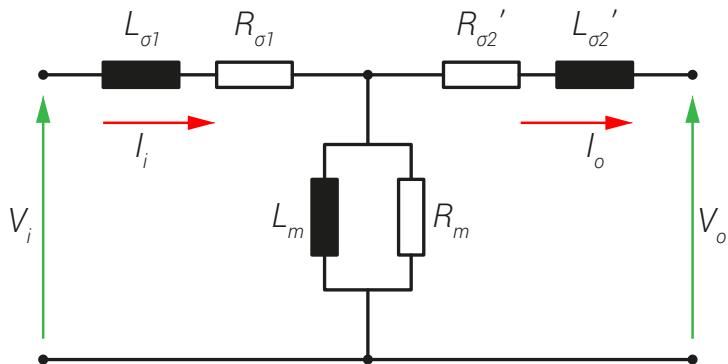
- ▶ Insulation coordination
- ▶ High  $dV/dt$  characteristic of the square voltage waveform
- ▶ ...

## Thermal design

- ▶ Thermal anisotropy of different materials
- ▶ System integration
- ▶ ...

# MFT CHALLENGES..

- ▶ **Skin and proximity effect losses:** impact on efficiency and heating
- ▶ **Cooling:** increase of power density  $\Rightarrow$  decrease in size  $\Rightarrow$  less cooling surface  $\Rightarrow$  higher  $R_{th}$   $\Rightarrow$  higher temperature gradients
- ▶ **Non-sinusoidal excitation:** impact on core and winding losses and insulation
- ▶ **Insulation:** coordination and testing taking into account high  $\frac{dV}{dt}$  characteristic for power electronic converters
- ▶ **Accurate electric parameter control:** especially in case of resonant converter applications

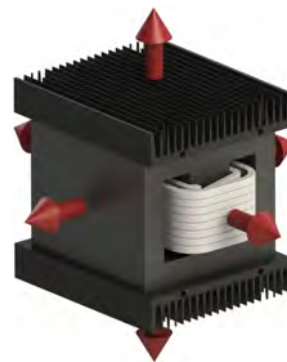
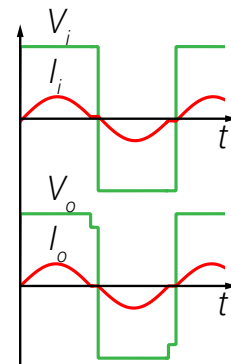
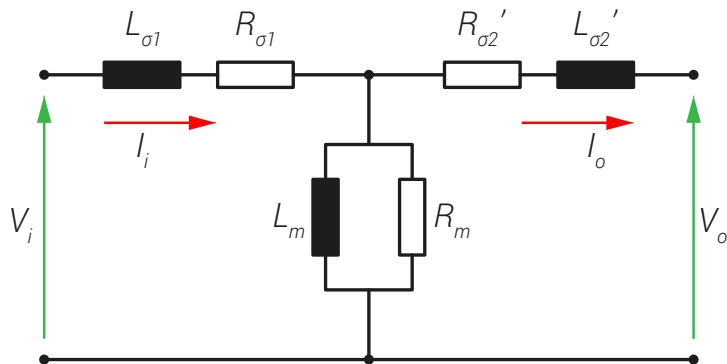


▲ Medium Frequency Transformer challenges



# MFT CHALLENGES..

- ▶ **Skin and proximity effect losses:** impact on efficiency and heating
- ▶ **Cooling:** increase of power density  $\Rightarrow$  decrease in size  $\Rightarrow$  less cooling surface  $\Rightarrow$  higher  $R_{th}$   $\Rightarrow$  higher temperature gradients
- ▶ **Non-sinusoidal excitation:** impact on core and winding losses and insulation
- ▶ **Insulation:** coordination and testing taking into account high  $\frac{dV}{dt}$  characteristic for power electronic converters
- ▶ **Accurate electric parameter control:** especially in case of resonant converter applications



▲ Medium Frequency Transformer challenges

$\Rightarrow$  MFT design requires multiphysics considerations and multiobjective optimization!

# MFT VARIETY OF DESIGNS...

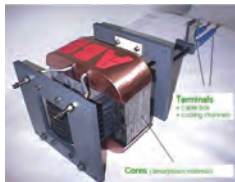
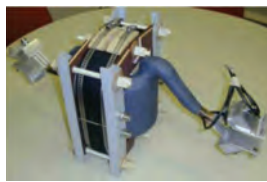


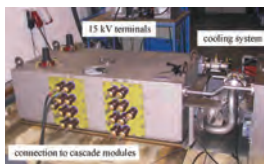
ABB: 350kW, 10kHz



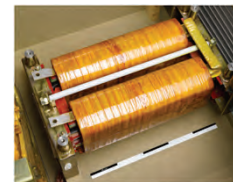
ABB: 3x150kW, 1.8kHz



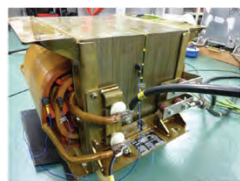
BOMBARDIER: 350kW, 8kHz



ALSTOM: 1500kW, 5kHz



IKERLAN: 400kW, 5kHz



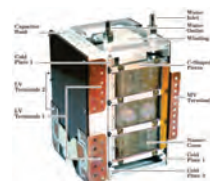
IKERLAN: 400kW, 1kHz



FAU-EN: 450kW, 5.6kHz



CHALMERS: 50kW, 5kHz



ETHZ: 166kW, 20kHz



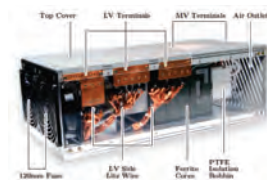
EPFL: 300kW, 2kHz



STS: 450kW, 8kHz



KTH: 170kW, 4kHz



ETHZ: 166kW, 20kHz



EPFL: 100kW, 10kHz



ACME: ???kW, ???kHz

# MFT VARIETY OF DESIGNS...

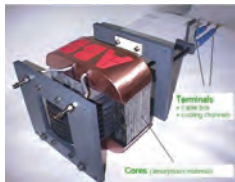
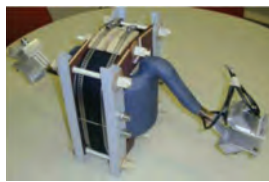


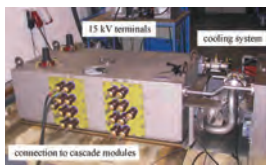
ABB: 350kW, 10kHz



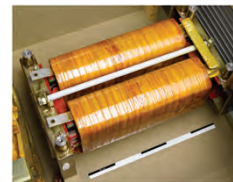
ABB: 3x150kW, 1.8kHz



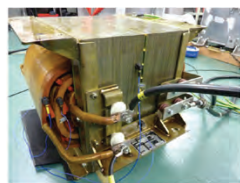
BOMBARDIER: 350kW, 8kHz



ALSTOM: 1500kW, 5kHz



IKERLAN: 400kW, 5kHz



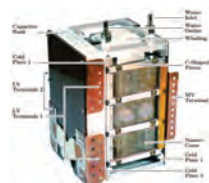
IKERLAN: 400kW, 1kHz



FAU-EN: 450kW, 5.6kHz



CHALMERS: 50kW, 5kHz



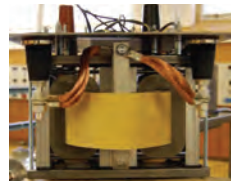
ETHZ: 166kW, 20kHz



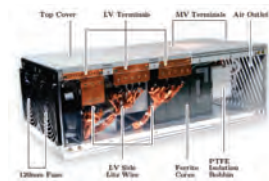
EPFL: 300kW, 2kHz



STS: 450kW, 8kHz



KTH: 170kW, 4kHz



ETHZ: 166kW, 20kHz



EPFL: 100kW, 10kHz

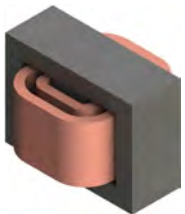


ACME: ???kW, ???kHz

⇒ Many design degrees of freedom are available!

## Construction choices:

### ▶ MFT Types



Shell Type



Core Type



C-Type



Coaxial Type

### ▶ Winding types



Litz Wire



Foil



Coaxial



Hollow

## Materials:

### ▶ Magnetic Materials

- ▶ Silicon Steel
- ▶ Amorphous
- ▶ Nanocrystalline
- ▶ Ferrites

### ▶ Windings

- ▶ Copper
- ▶ Aluminum

### ▶ Insulation

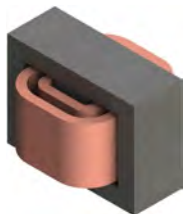
- ▶ Air
- ▶ Solid
- ▶ Oil

### ▶ Cooling

- ▶ Air natural/forced
- ▶ Oil natural/forced
- ▶ Water

## Construction choices:

### ► MFT Types



Shell Type



Core Type



C-Type



Coaxial Type

### ► Winding types



Litz Wire



Foil



Coaxial



Hollow

## Materials:

### ► Magnetic Materials

- Silicon Steel
- Amorphous
- Nanocrystalline
- Ferrites

### ► Windings

- Copper
- Aluminum

### ► Insulation

- Air
- Solid
- Oil

### ► Cooling

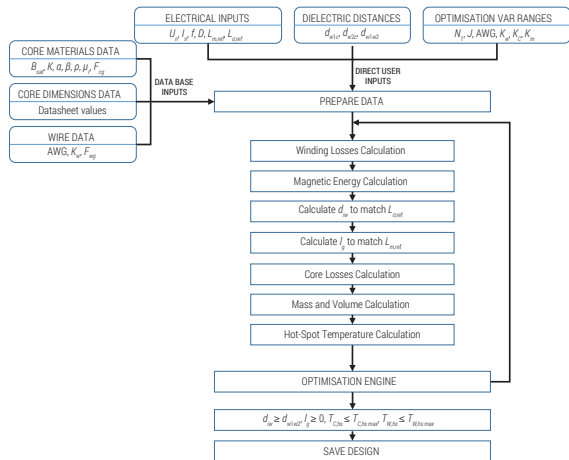
- Air natural/forced
- Oil natural/forced
- Water

⇒ Any combination can produce reasonably performing MFT. Optimization problem!

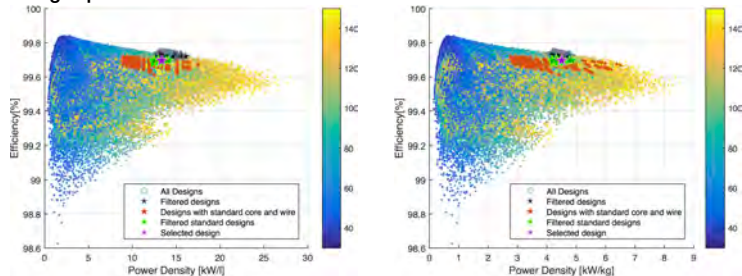
## Challenges

- ▶ High voltage MFT design - insulation coordination
- ▶ Precise parameter control - resonant operation
- ▶ High power conversion - thermal design
- ▶ Characterization of magnetic materials

## Design algorithm

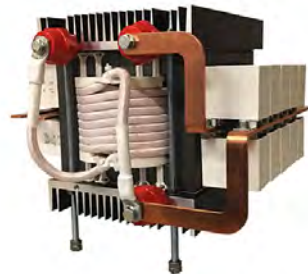


## Design optimization results



## Prototype as proof of concept

- ▶  $P = 100 \text{ kW}$
- ▶  $V_p = V_s = 750 \text{ V}$
- ▶  $f_{sw} = 10 \text{ kHz}$



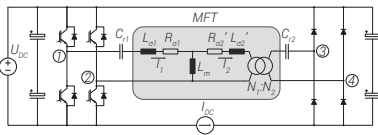
[13] M. Mogerovic and D. Dujic. "100kW, 10kHz Medium Frequency Transformer Design Optimization and Experimental Verification." *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics* PP (2018)

[14] M. Mogerovic and D. Dujic. "Sensitivity Analysis of Medium Frequency Transformer Designs for Solid State Transformers." *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics* PP (2018)

# MFT POWER TESTS

## Test setup topology:

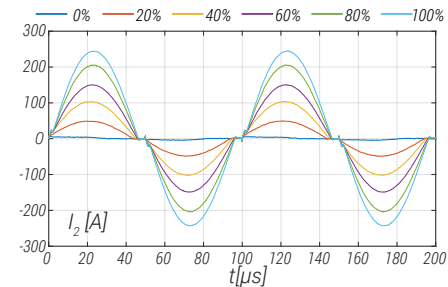
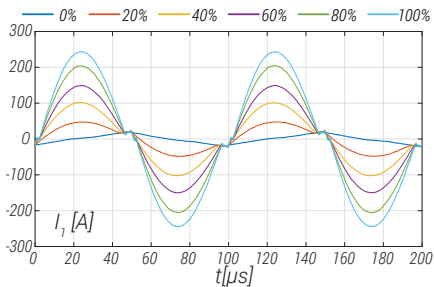
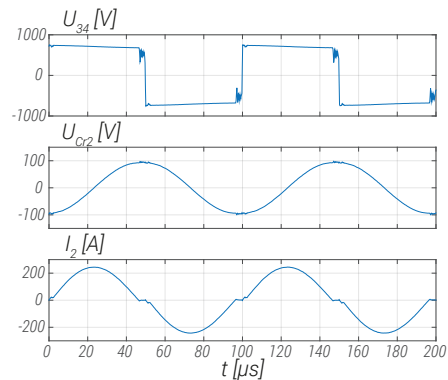
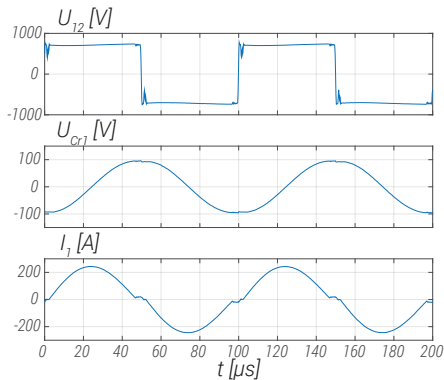
- ▶ B2B resonant converter
- ▶ Input voltage maintained by  $U_{DC}$
- ▶ Power circulation via  $I_{DC}$
- ▶ Open loop power tests



## Test setup:



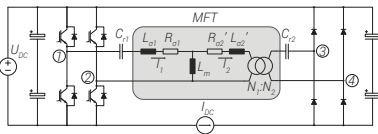
## Measurement results:



# MFT POWER TESTS

## Test setup topology:

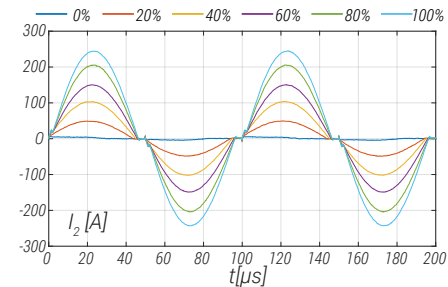
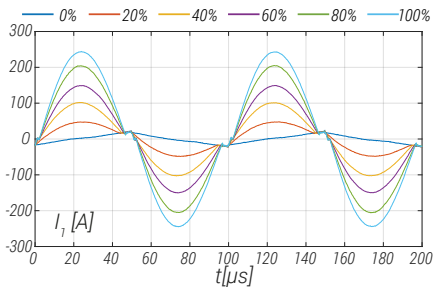
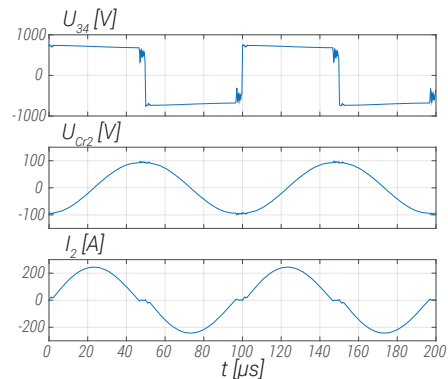
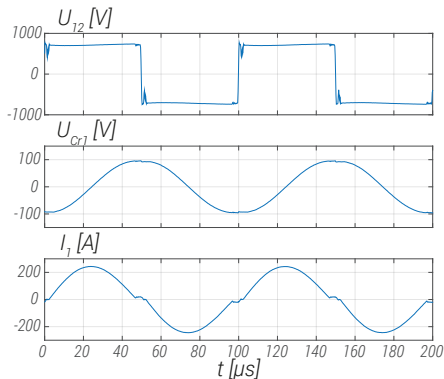
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- ▶ Input voltage maintained by  $U_{DC}$
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## Test setup:



## Measurement results:



⇒ Medium Frequency Transformers are essential technology for Solid State Transformers!



# SUMMARY

# SOLID STATE TRANSFORMER TECHNOLOGY

## Applications

- ▶ Feasibility
- ▶ Benefits
- ▶ **Business case**

## Topology

- ▶ **Complexity**
- ▶ Modularity
- ▶ Scalability

## Semiconductors

- ▶ Reliability
- ▶ Si, SiC, GaN?
- ▶ **Cost**

## Magnetics

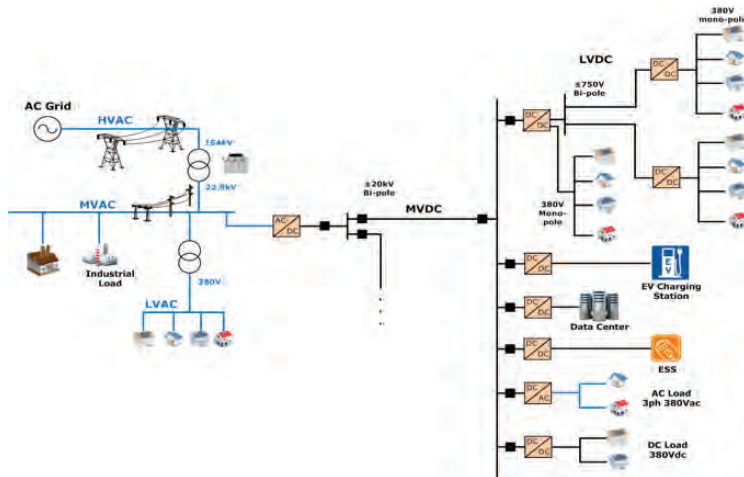
- ▶ Efficiency
- ▶ Power density
- ▶ **Customization**

## Control

- ▶ **Performances**
- ▶ Protection
- ▶ Integration



▲ Power electronics constituents



▲ Possible future MVDC grids and its links with existing grids

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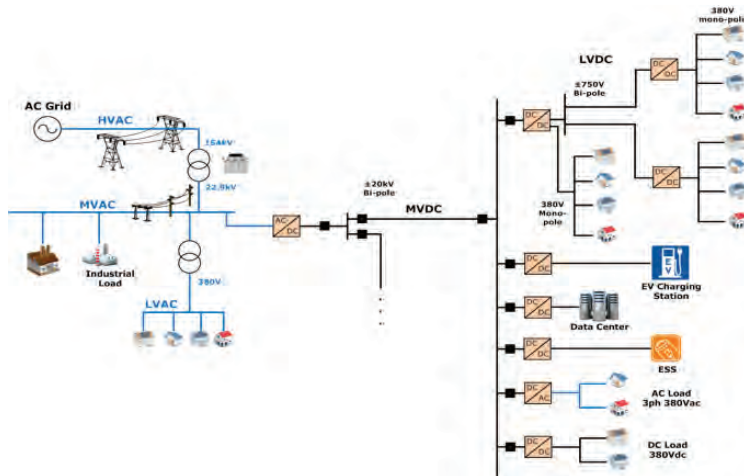
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▲ Power electronics constituents



▲ Possible future MVDC grids and its links with existing grids

⇒ SST is expected to transform future energy systems? It proves to be not that simple! There is work ahead for all of us!

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