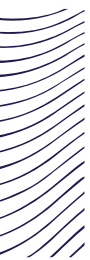


Power Electronics for PtX: Challenges and Opportunities

Pooya Davari
pda@energy.aau.dk





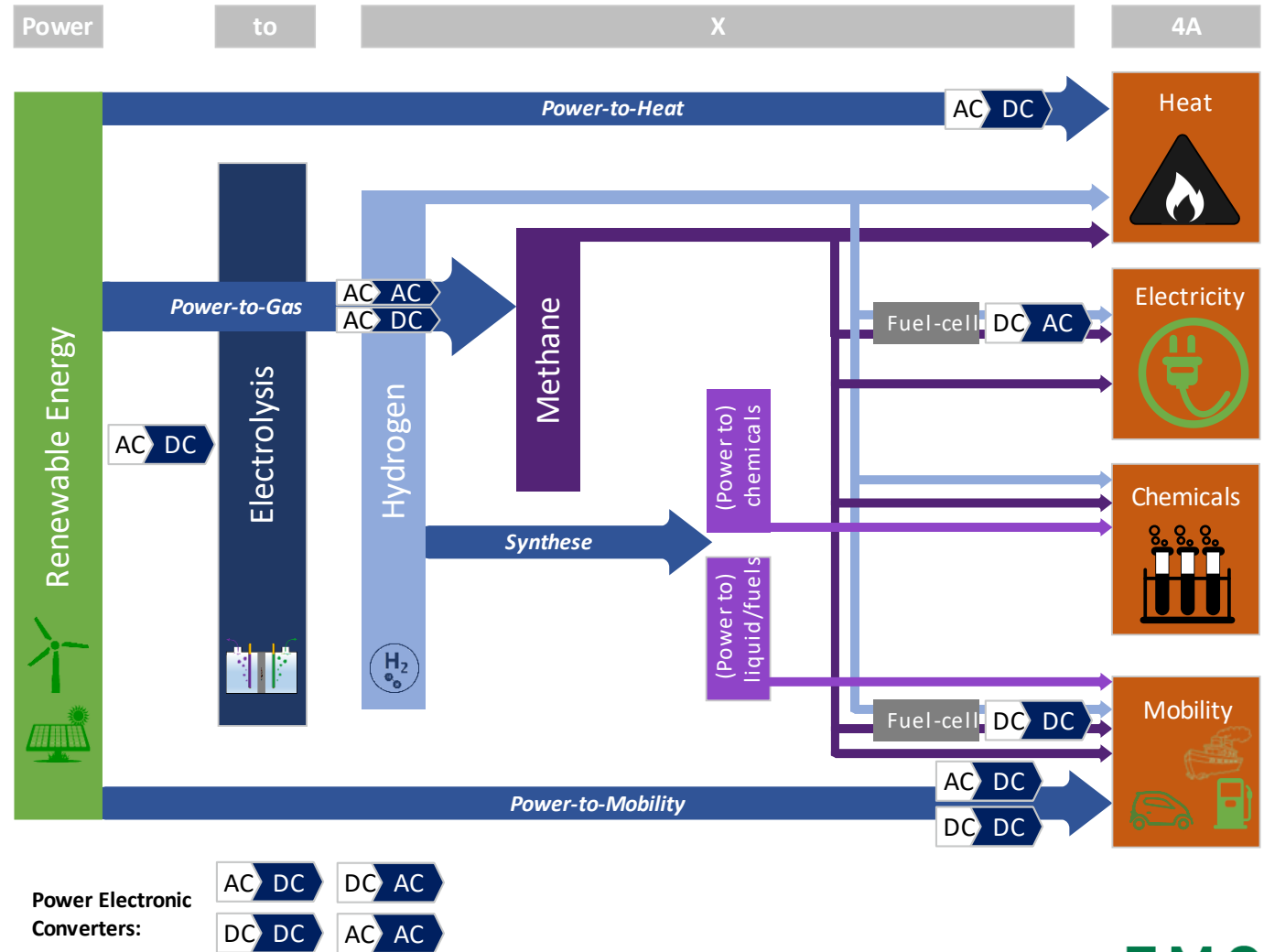
Outline

- INTRODUCTION
- TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW
 - ELECTROLYSIS
 - METHANE REFORMING
- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

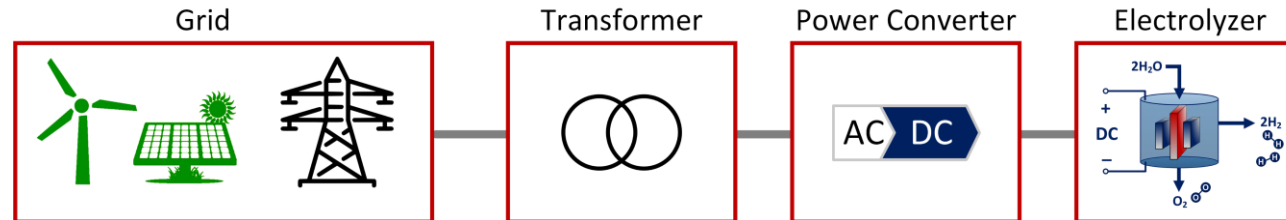
P2X and Role of Power Electronics

- Power electronic converters are needed across the whole powertrain



INTRODUCTION

General Requirements for Power Electronics



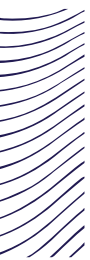
■ Requirements

- Input Voltage: 0.4 – 35 kV
- Output Voltage: 350 – 1000V
- Output Current: 1- 12 kA (< 5% ripple)
- Output Power
 - < 1MW
 - 1MW < P < 5MW
 - > 5MW
- Galvanic Isolation
- Controllability: Output Current/Voltage
- PF > 0.9
- THDi:
 - < 30% (small systems)
 - < 5% (large systems)

■ Recent Future Trends

- High efficiency requirement (> 98%)
- Pushing to 1500V output
- Higher power levels
- Load dependent THDi & PF
- High PF (>0.95) and low THDi (< 5%)
- Scalability
- Low foot-print and volume (reducing transformer size)
- High reliability
- Low cost [Euro/kW]
- Ancillary services



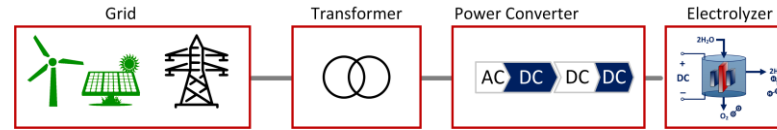
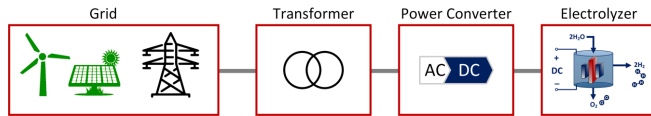


Outline

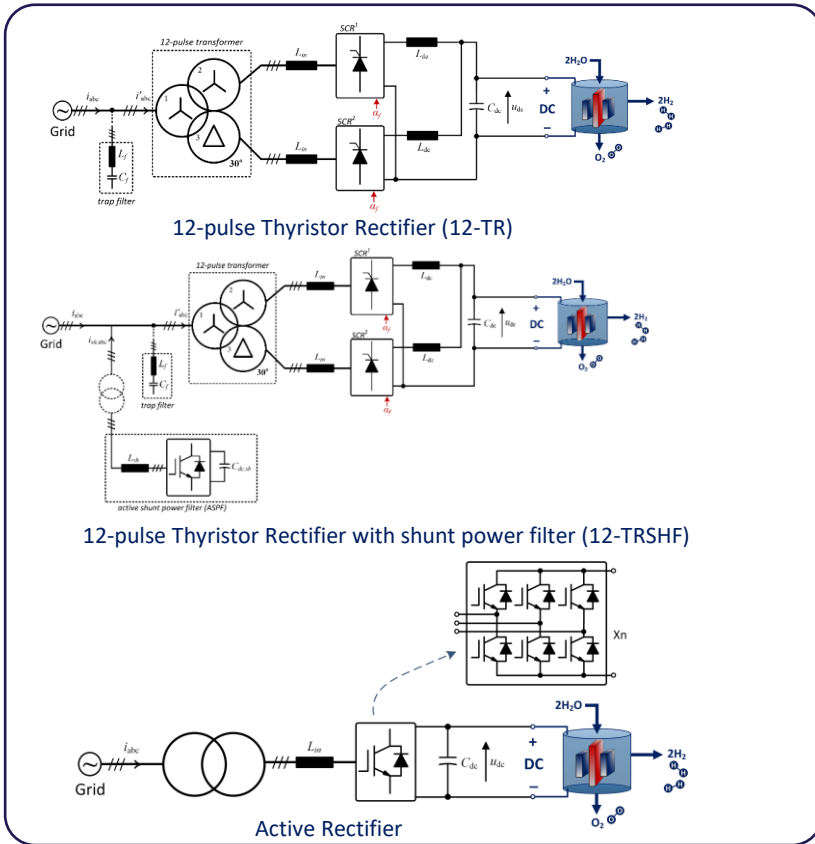
- INTRODUCTION
- **TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW**
 - ELECTROLYSIS
 - **METHANE REFORMING**
- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- CONCLUSION

TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

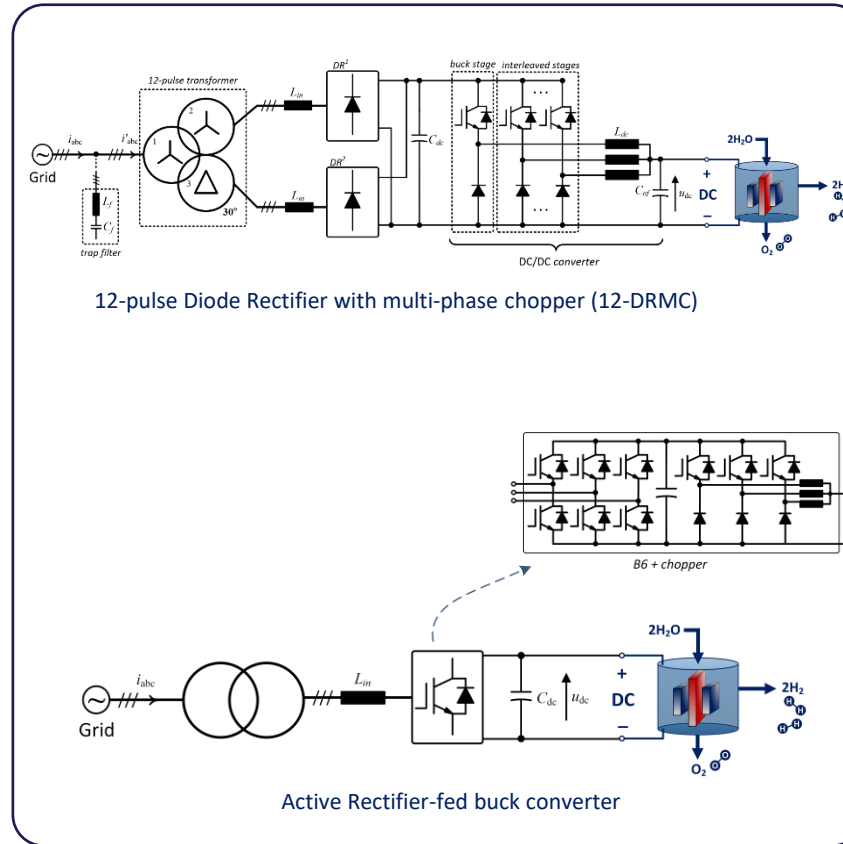
State-of-the-Art (general classification):



Single-stage power supplies



Double-stage power supplies



Ref: M. Chen, S. F. Chou, F. Blaabjerg, P. Davari, "Overview of Power Electronic Converter Topologies Enabling Large-Scale Hydrogen Production via Water Electrolysis". *Appl. Sci.* 2022.
 A. Abdelhakim and F. Canales, "Power Electronics Role in Future Hydrogen Systems", APEC 2023.

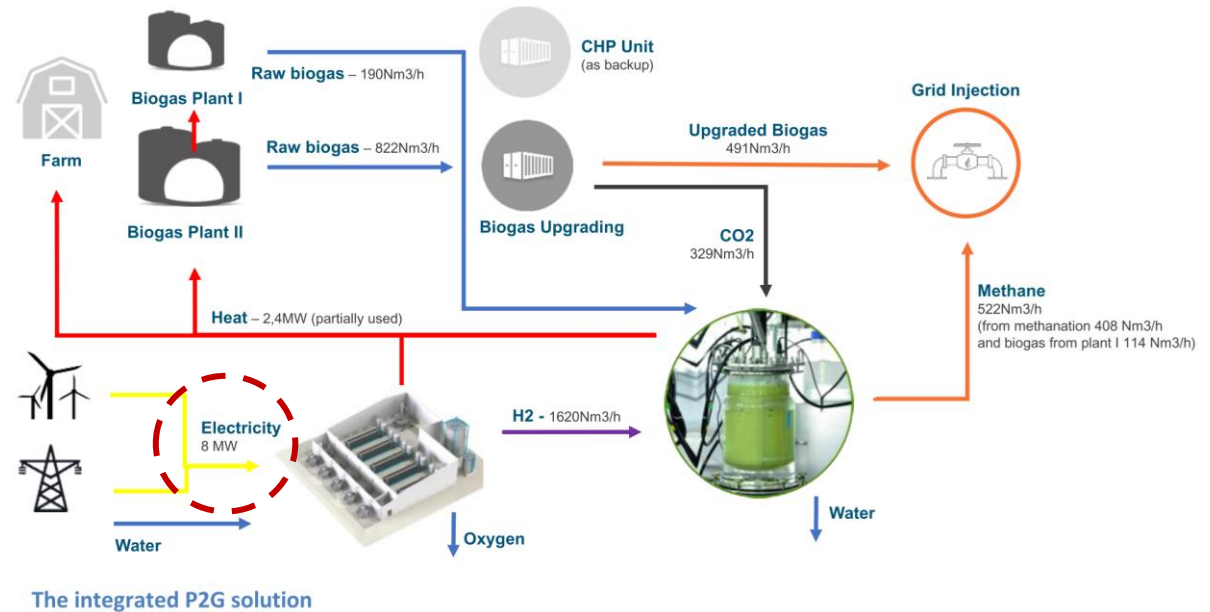
TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

BioCat Project

EUDP



- EUDP Project with NEL Hydrogen

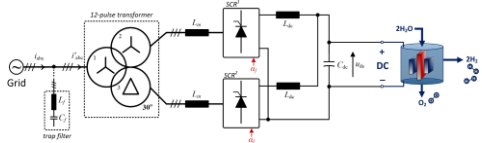


TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

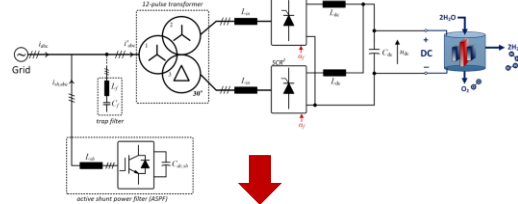
State-of-the-Art (Comparison):

BioCat Project (EUDP) – 5 MW case study @BOL

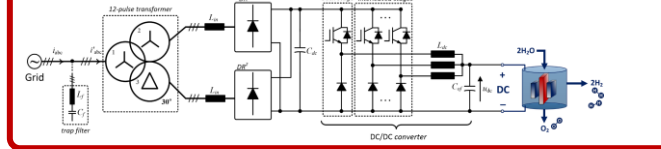
12-pulse Thyristor Rectifier (12-TR)



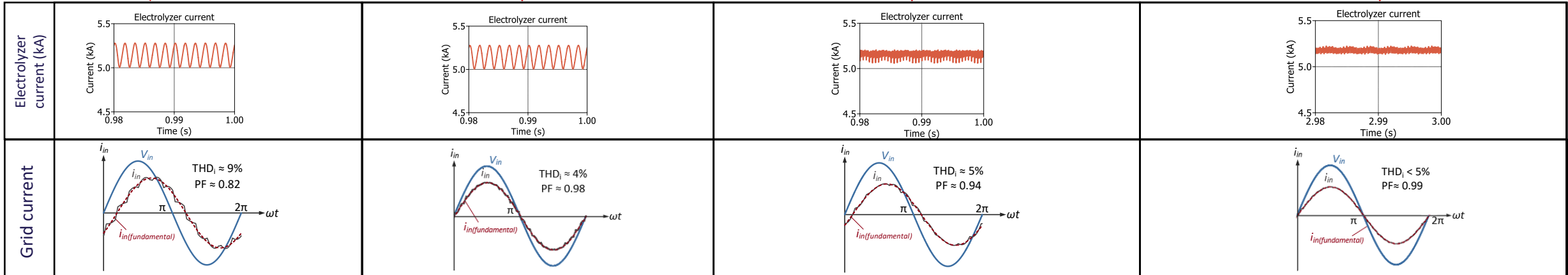
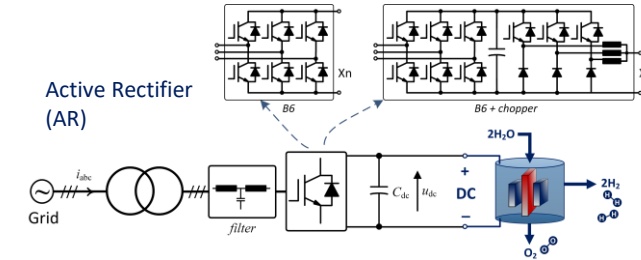
12-pulse Thyristor Rectifier with shunt power filter (12-TRSHF)



12-pulse Diode Rectifier with multi-phase chopper (12-DRMC)



Active Rectifier (AR)



	Power Quality	Efficiency	Cost	Reliability	Control Complexity	Footprint
12-TR	-	+	+	++	+	-
12-DTRMC	Δ	Δ	+	+	Δ	-
12-TRSHF	+	Δ	-	Δ	-	-
AR	++	Δ	-	Δ	-	-

Ref: M. Chen, S. F. Chou, F. Blaabjerg, P. Davari, "Overview of Power Electronic Converter Topologies Enabling Large-Scale Hydrogen Production via Water Electrolysis". *Appl. Sci.* 2022.

TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

State-of-the-Art (Industrial Solutions):

12-Thyristor Rectifier



KraftPowerCon
Sweden

- ❑ Nominal Output: 1000 V, 1500 A
- ❑ Power: 1.5 MW
- ❑ Efficiency: >98%

12-Diode Rectifier with Multiple Chopper



AEG Power Solutions
Germany

- ❑ Nominal Output: 1000 V, 1250 A
- ❑ Power: 1.25 MW-10 MW
- ❑ Efficiency: >97%

Two-level active rectifier



SMA
Germany

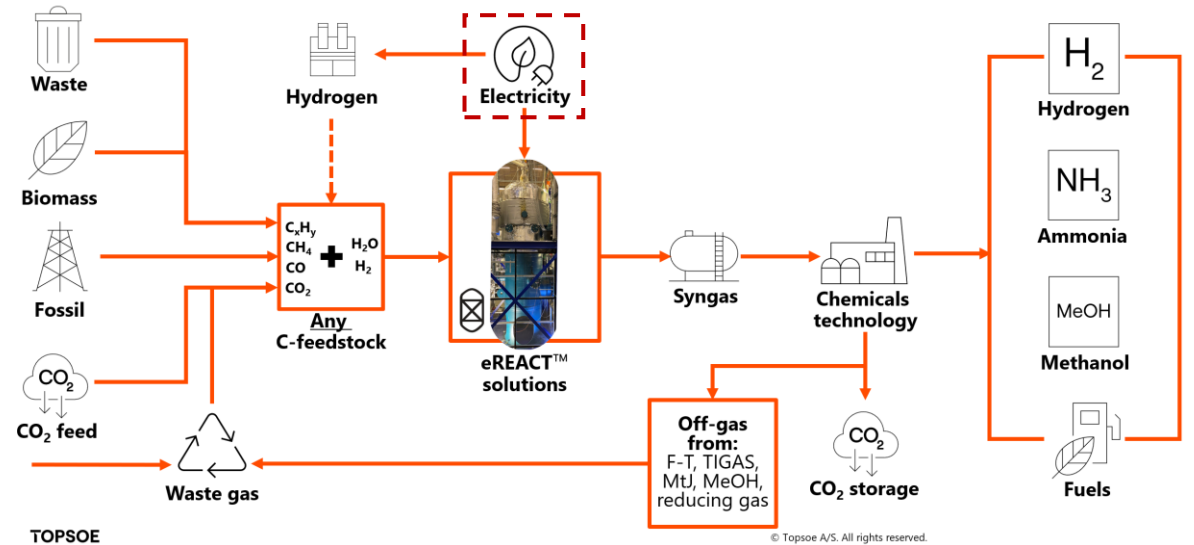
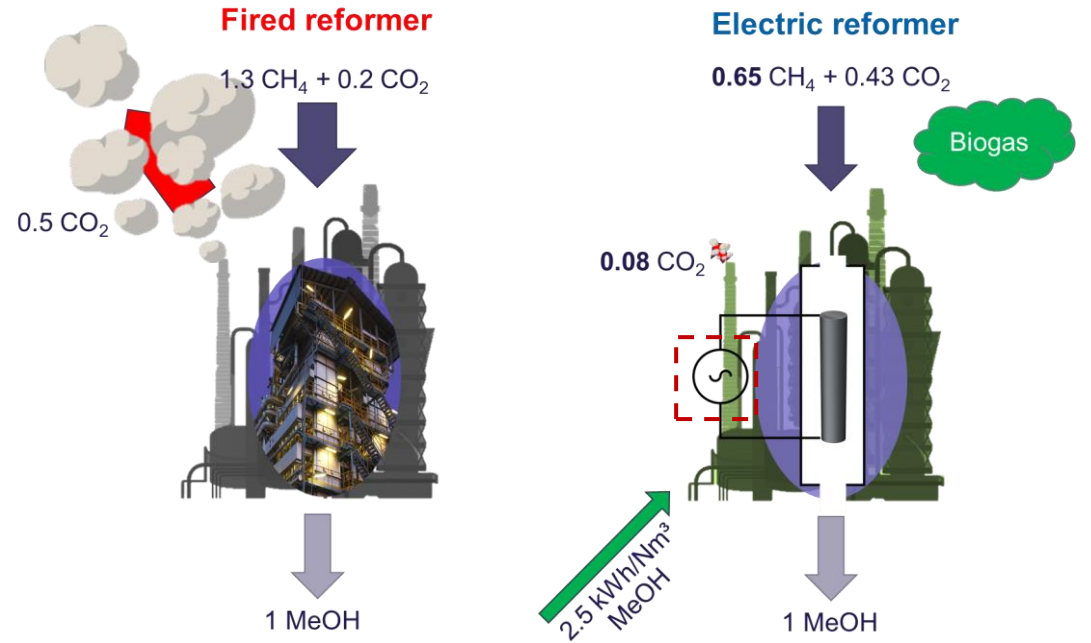
- ❑ Nominal Output: 1500 V, 2000 A
- ❑ Power: 1-3 MW
- ❑ Efficiency: >97%

TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

eREACT Technology

EUDP

- Electrically driven steam methane reforming technology (eSMR)
- EUDP Project with Haldor Topsøe A/S
 - (Pilot Site Foulum)
- ❑ Green Methane based on renewables
- ❑ Integration of methanol as an energy vector
- ❑ Contribution to balancing the electricity grid



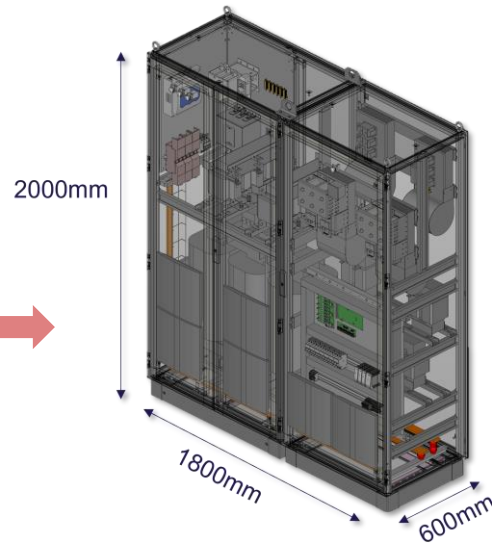
TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

eREACT Technology

12-Diode Rectifier with Multiple Chopper (12-DRMC):

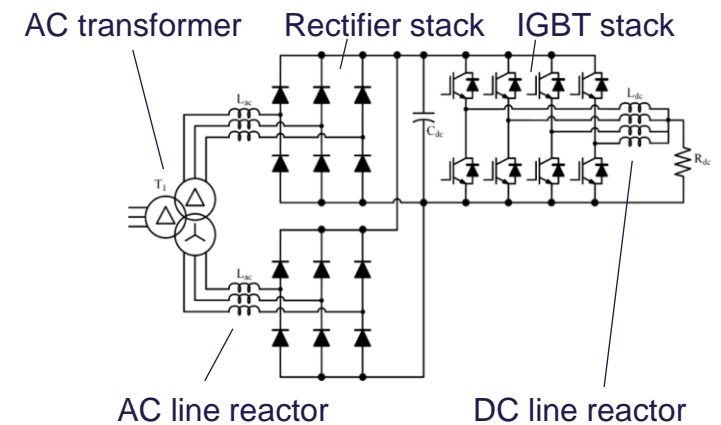
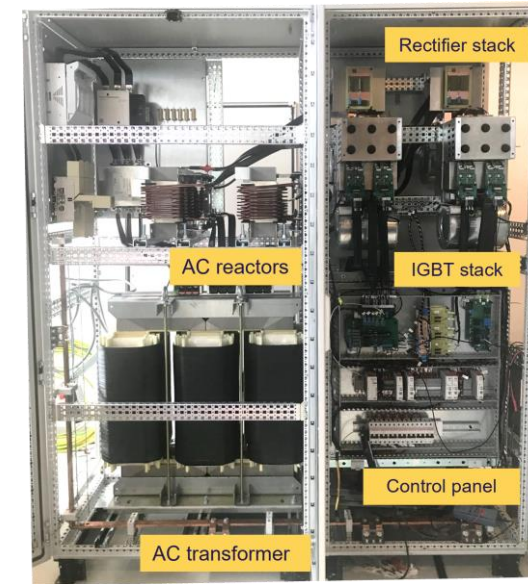


Pilot Site in Foulum



Specifications

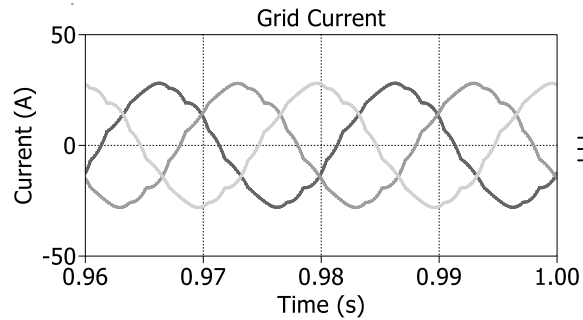
- Input AC Voltage: 400 V
- Output DC Voltage: 150 V (Pilot)
- Output DC Current: 850 A (Pilot)
- Output Power: 128 kW (Pilot)
- Galvanic Isolation
- Controllability: Output Voltage/ Output Current



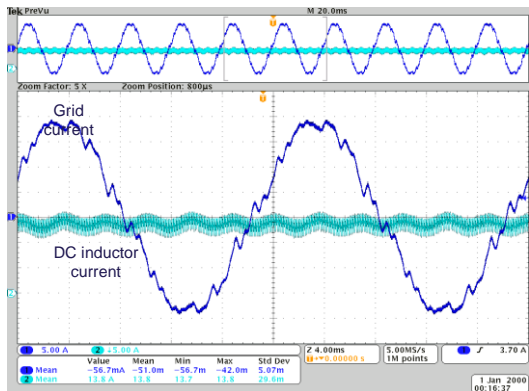
TOPOLOGY OVERVIEW

eREACT Technology

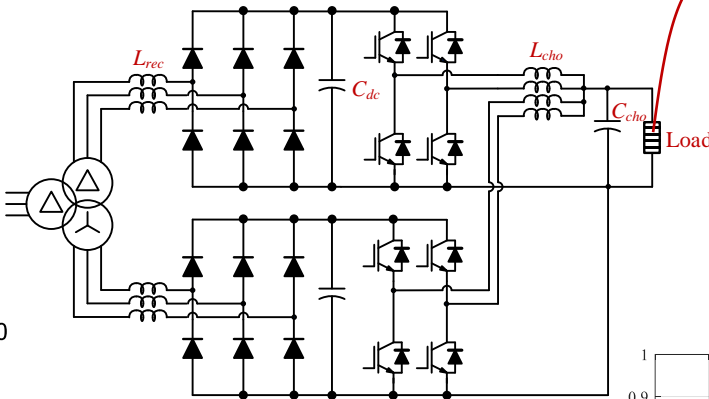
12-Diode Rectifier with Multiple Chopper (12-DRMC):



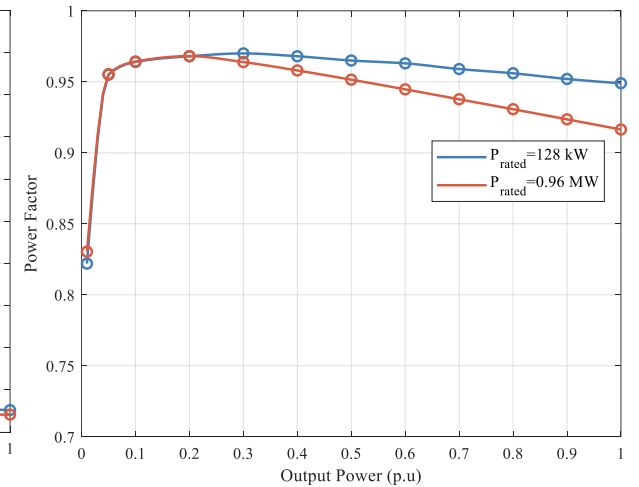
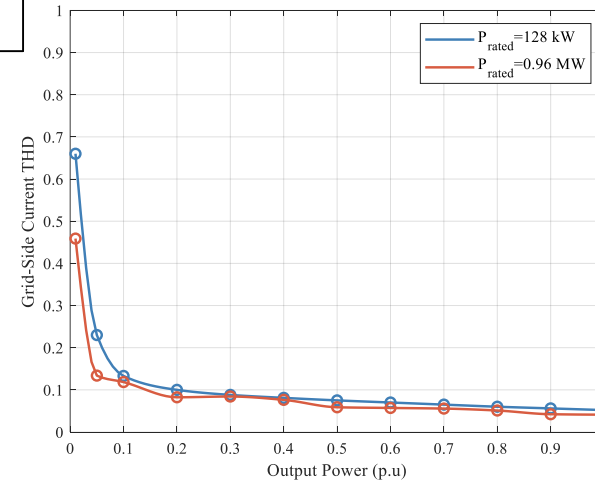
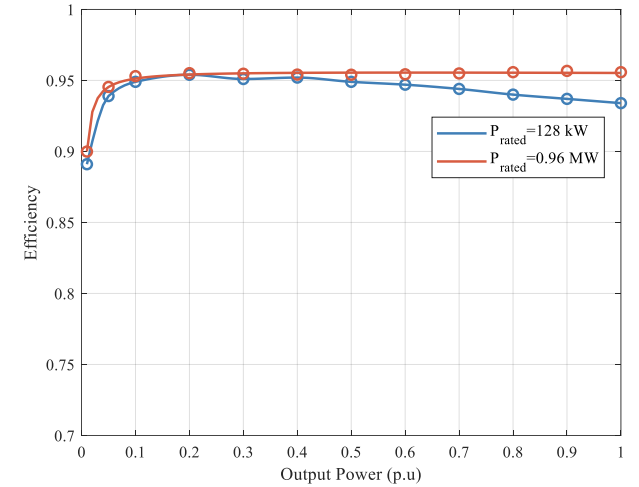
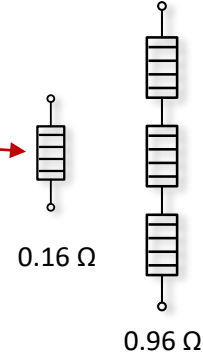
Grid current @ 0.96 MW (Output: 960V, 1000 A)

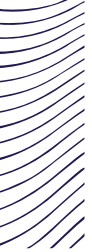


Grid current (experiment)



Series string for 1MW



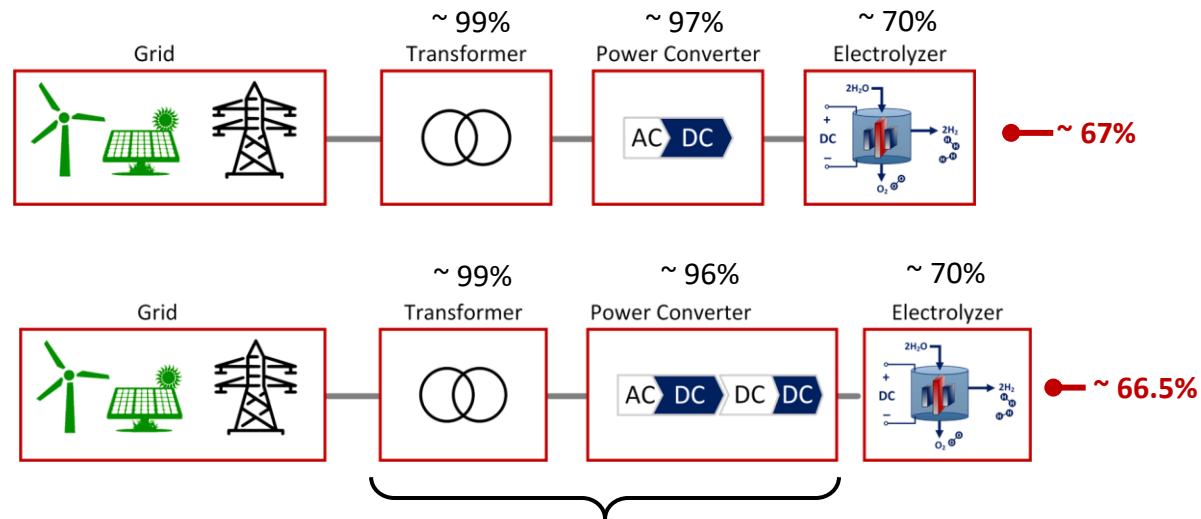


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CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Design for Higher Performance



Impact on:

- Total system cost (Euro/kW)
- Electrolyzer efficiency and lifetime (current ripple)
- Overall system foot-print and volume
- Materials saving (e.g., less copper mass → CO₂ reduction)
- Scalability to cover different stack sizes (time-to-market + savings on R&D effort)

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Modular Multi-cell Rectifier (MMR)

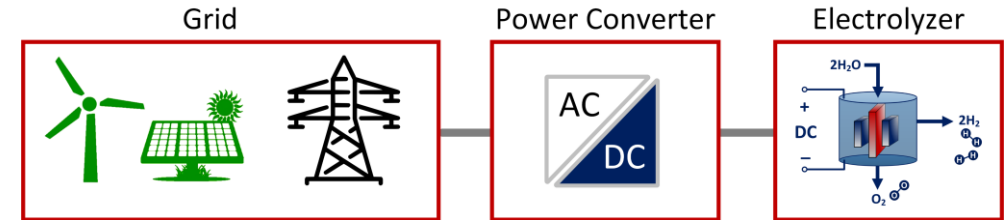
Next Generation Power Converter



- + Solid-State Transformer (SST) = no LFT
- + High power density
- + Reliable (Redundancy)
- + THDi < 5%
- + PF ≈ 0.99

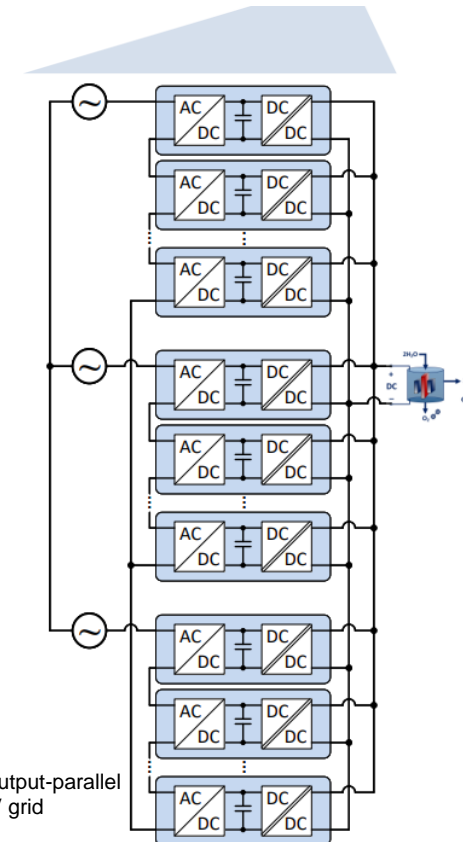
- + Scalable to any stack size
- + Efficiency can be further improved (MV SiC)
- + Load independent performance

- Cost comparing to LFT-based solutions
- High control complexity
- High component counts
- Lack of technology standardization



CHARACTERISTIC PERFORMANCE INDICES FOR 1000 kVA LFT-BASED AND SST-BASED SOLUTIONS IN AC/DC APPLICATIONS. [*]

	LFT	AC/DC factor	SST
Losses [W/kVA]	32.7	×0.53	17.3
Volume [l/kVA]	4.5	×0.35	1.6
Weight [kg/kVA]	3.9	×0.32	1.3

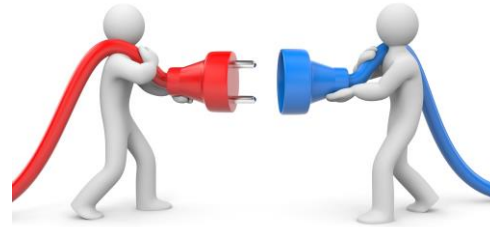


Input-series output-parallel (ISOP) for MV grid

[*] J. E. Huber and J. W. Kolar, "Volume/weight/cost comparison of a 1MVA 10 kV/400 V solid-state against a conventional low-frequency distribution transformer," 2014 IEEE Energy Conversion Congress and Exposition (ECCE), 2014.

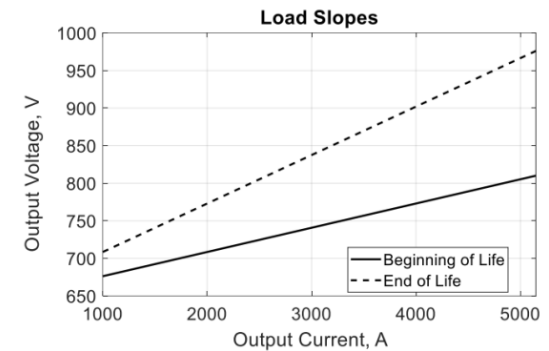
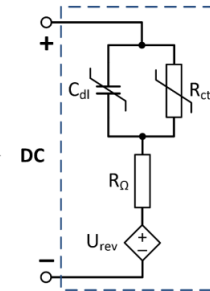
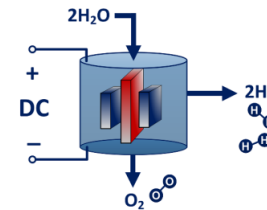
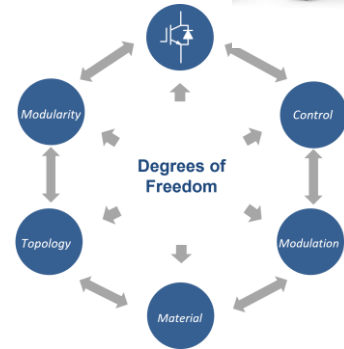
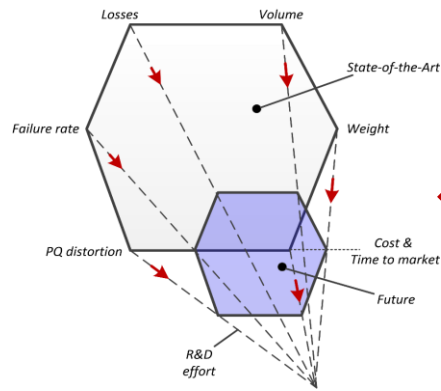
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Design for Higher Performance



Power electronic

Electrolyzer



Aging-depended electric characteristic

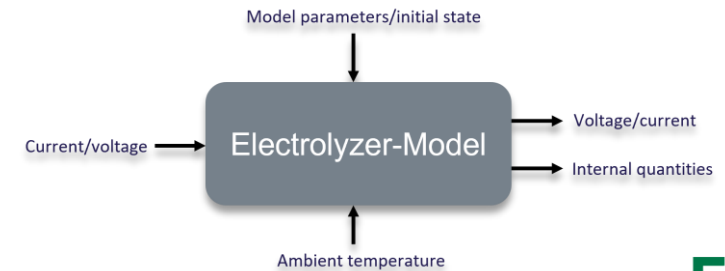
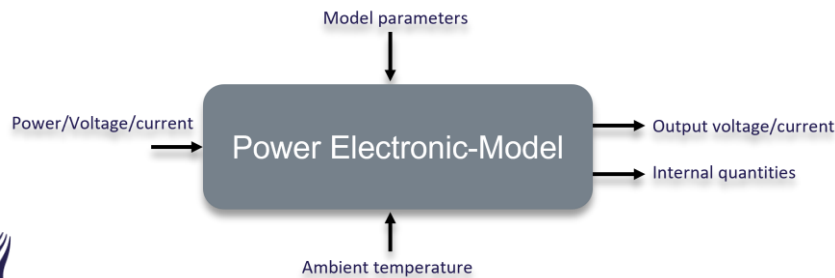
- Efficient and Scalable
- Modular and reliable
- High power quality and grid compatible
- **Strong need for Digital Twin models**

Chemistry-aware Digital Twin models



- Energy efficient solutions
- Lifetime prediction and improvement
- Dynamic behavior
- Hybrid solutions with battery storage
 - Better utilization
 - Grid ancillary services

- Predicting efficiency and reliability
- Exploring new materials for better life-time and efficiency
- Accelerating development time
- **Strong need for Digital Twin models**



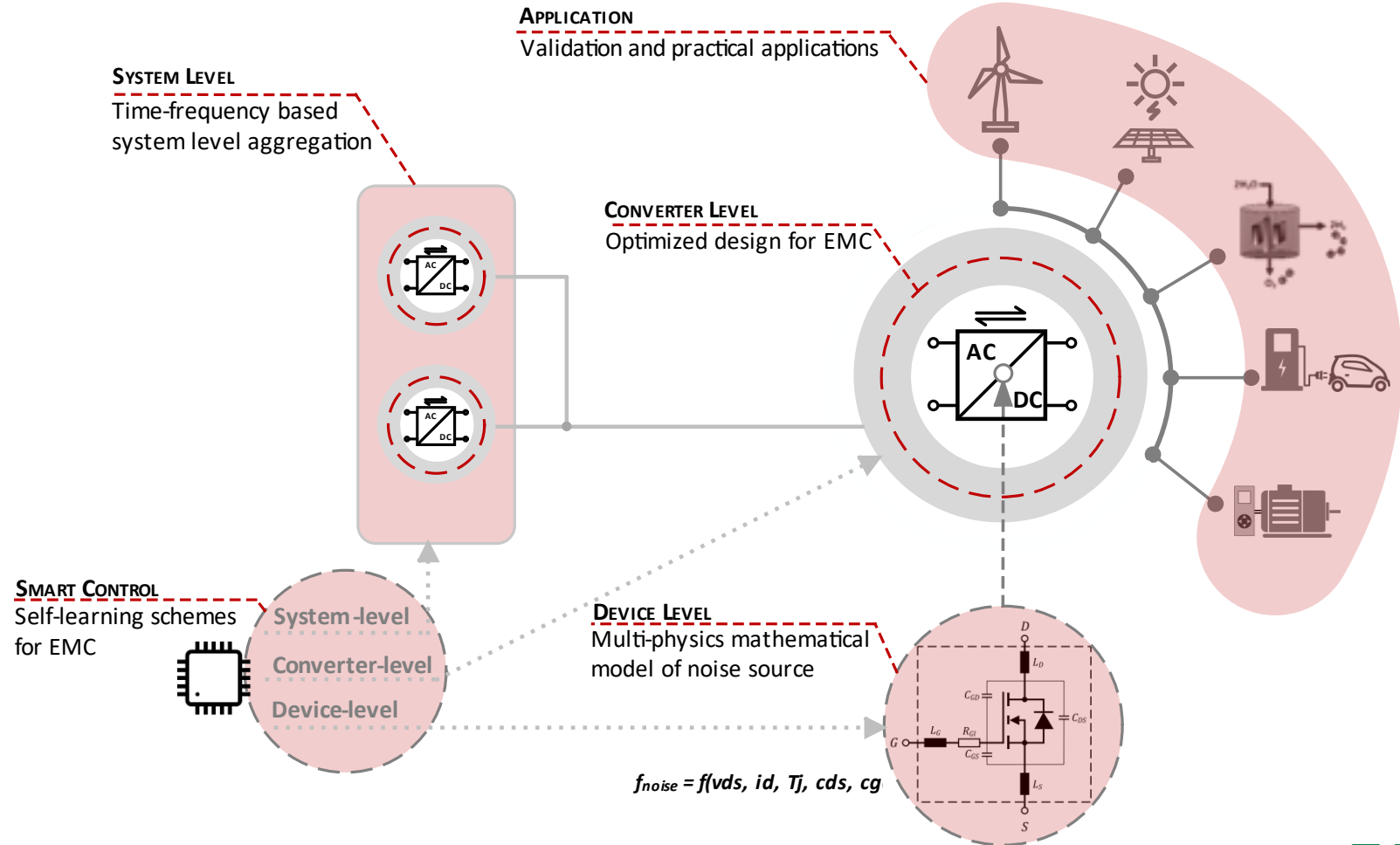
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Digital Twin Modeling

Innovation Fund Denmark



Our Methodology:



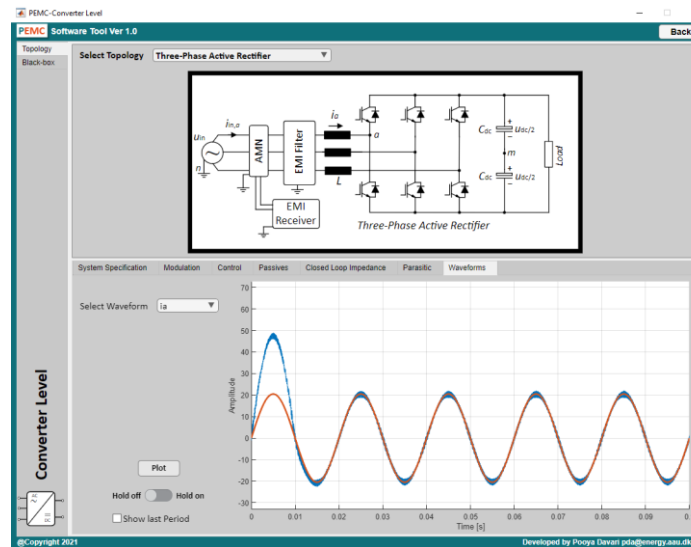
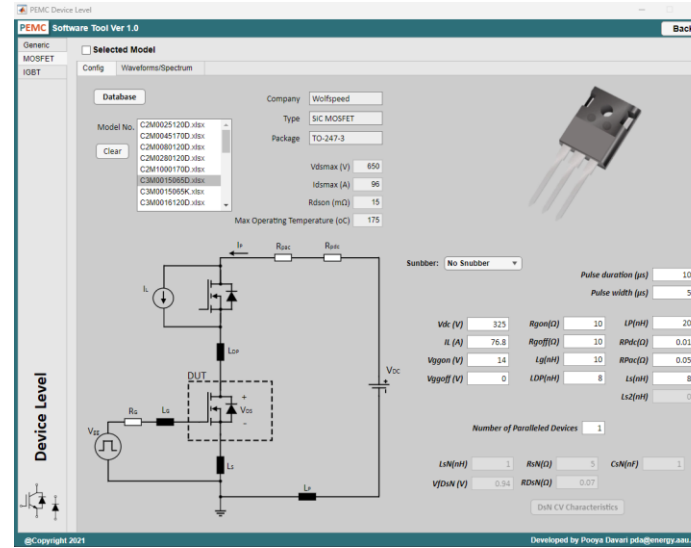
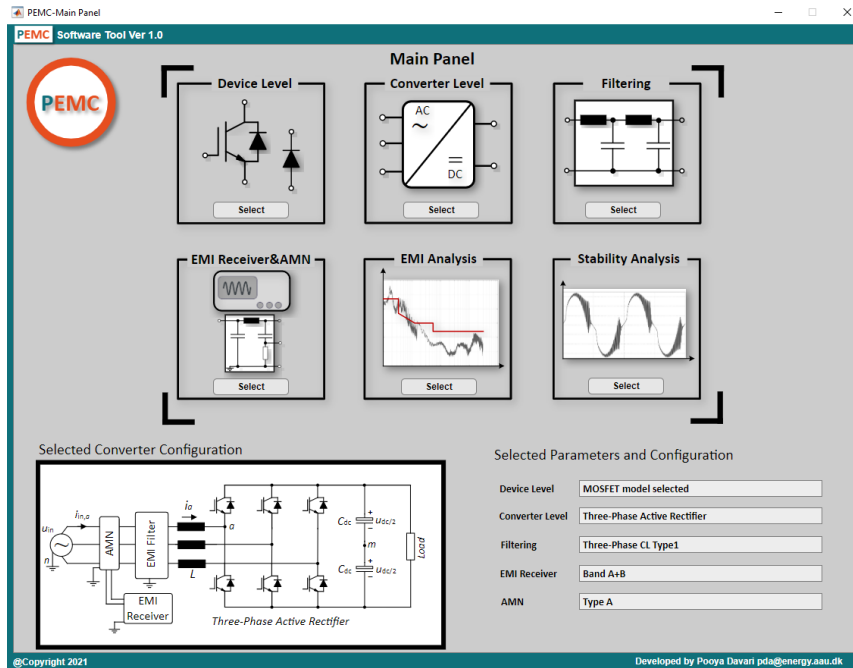
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

PEMC Software-Tool

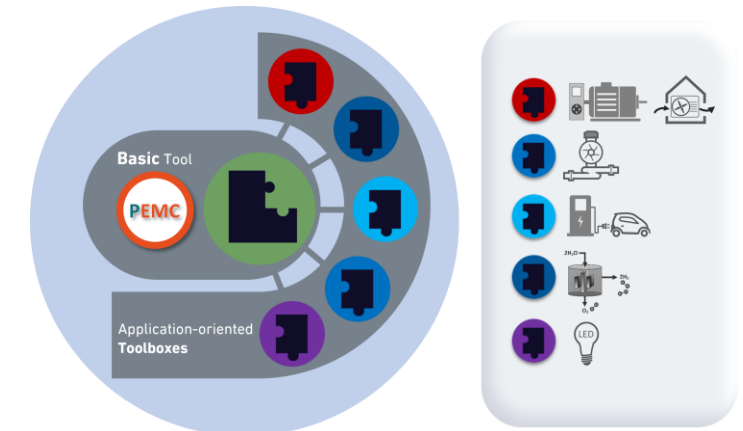


POWER ELECTRONICS SOFTWARE
TOOL FOR ELECTROMAGNETIC
INTERFERENCE PRE-COMPLIANCE

The tool is developed based on Power Electronics
Digital Twin concept.



- ❑ **25%-40%** product development cost reduction
 - ❑ **30%** faster time-to-market
 - ❑ Up to **20 times** faster simulation time compared to existing commercial software tools
 - ❑ **Focused** solely on power electronic converters
- ✓ Large collection of power converter topologies (suitable for different application areas)
 - ✓ Full dynamic simulation
 - ✓ Control and efficiency optimization
 - ✓ Optimized design following grid compatibility standards



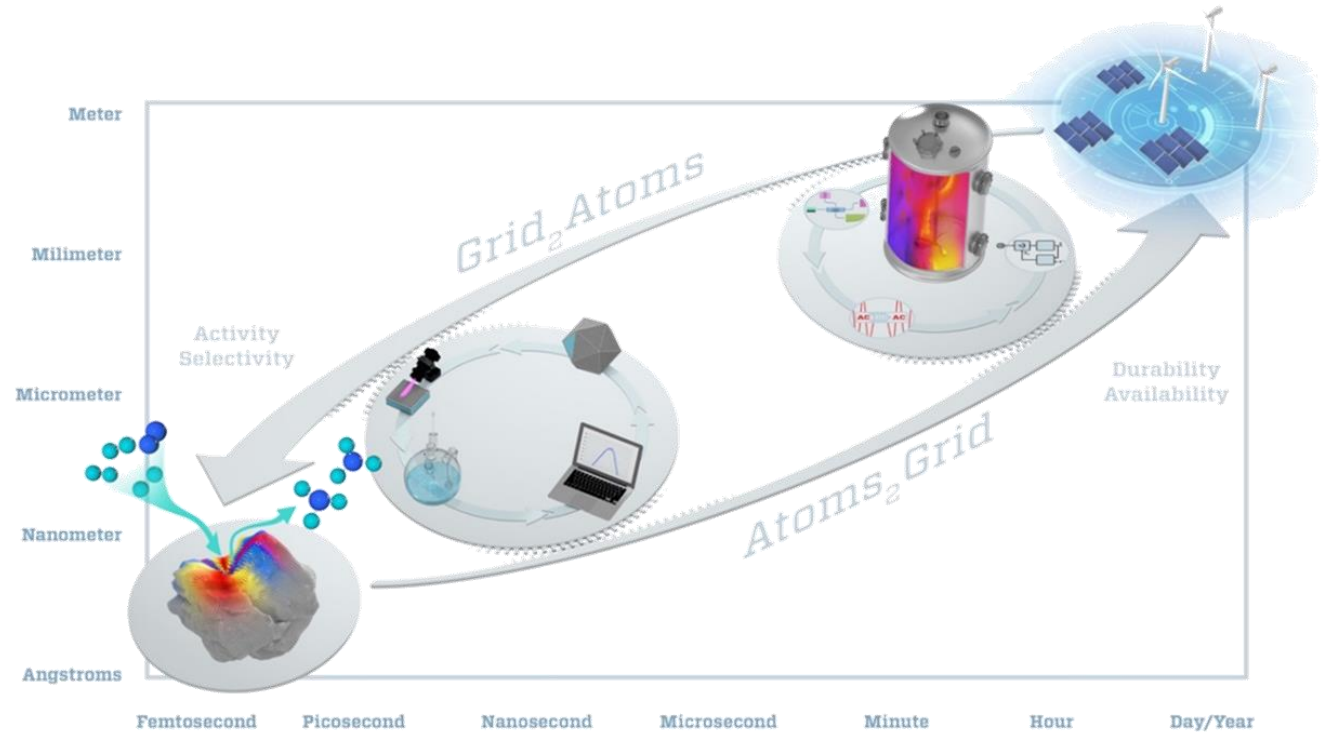
ACCELERATING P2X

CAPeX New Pioneer Center



Center leader: Tejs Vegge, DTU, Co-lead: Frede Blaabjerg, AAU

- Educate and mentor the next generations of P2Xperts and 50-60 PhDs and 50-60 postdocs by establishing the CAPeX Academy and three international fellowship programs



- Digital twins at multiple scales
- Coupling data from experiments and models
- Change conditions at one scale and track effect up/down in scale
- Determine consequences
 - Efficiency and selectivity
 - Durability at system level

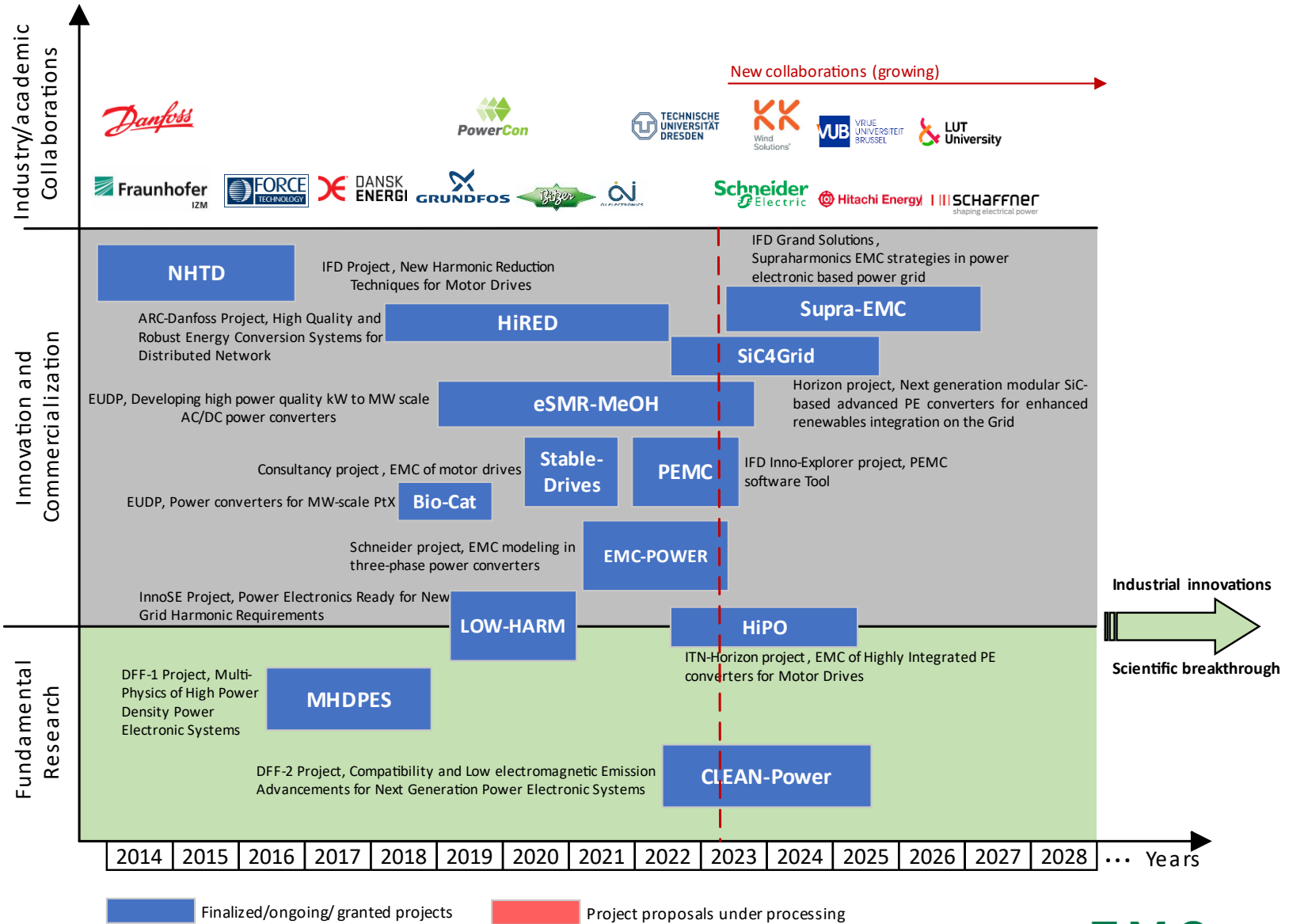


EMC RG

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATIONS

□ We are open to national and international collaborations with **academia** and **industry**.

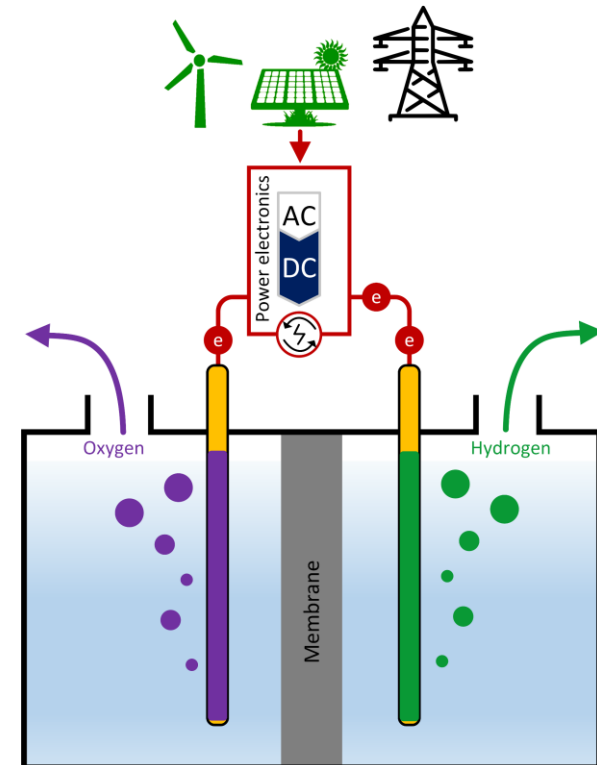
[Link \(Projects\)](#)



CONCLUSION

Role of Power Electronics in P2X

- The green transition hinges on more efficient, durable, cost-effective and scalable design for Power2X
- Power electronic converters will impact the system total costs of ownership and production
- System efficiencies and reliabilities require further improvement
- Lack of confidence in utilizing new technologies
- Faster processes are needed to understand and develop new components, devices and systems
 - Digital-twin modeling and Virtual-oriented simulation
 - Open-access databases
 - Unified/standard modeling approach
 - Power hardware in-the-loop (PHIL) simulation





Aalborg University
AAU Energy

EMC



**EMI/EMC IN POWER ELECTRONICS
RESEARCH GROUP**

Thank you!

<https://www.energy.aau.dk/research/research-groups/emc>