

# A Sustainable Future Enabled By Power Electronics

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# Outline

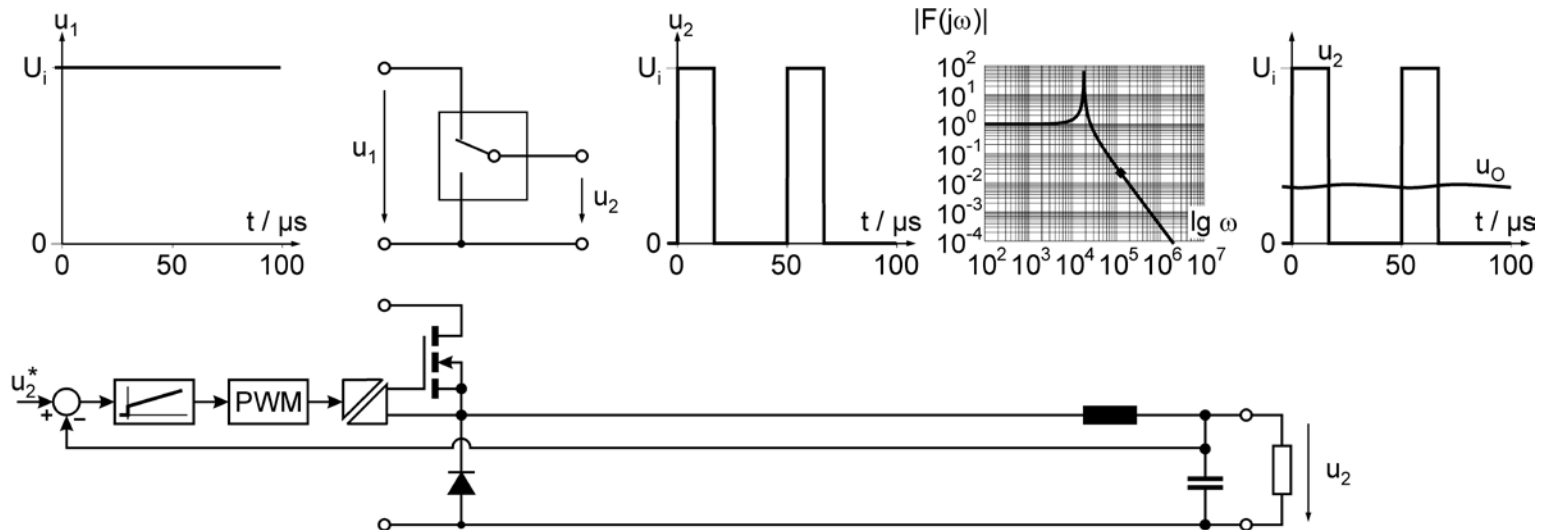
- ▶ Power Electronics 101
- ▶ Global Megatrends
- ▶ Resulting Requirements for Power Electronics
- ▶ *Multi-Objective Optimization Approach*
- ▶ *Google Little Box Challenge*
- ▶ Ultra Compact GaN Based Power Conversion
- ▶ Conclusion

# Basic Structure of Electronic *Power* Processing Systems

— *Power Electronic Systems* —

# ► Power Electronics 101

## ■ Basic Principle Step-Down DC/DC Conversion



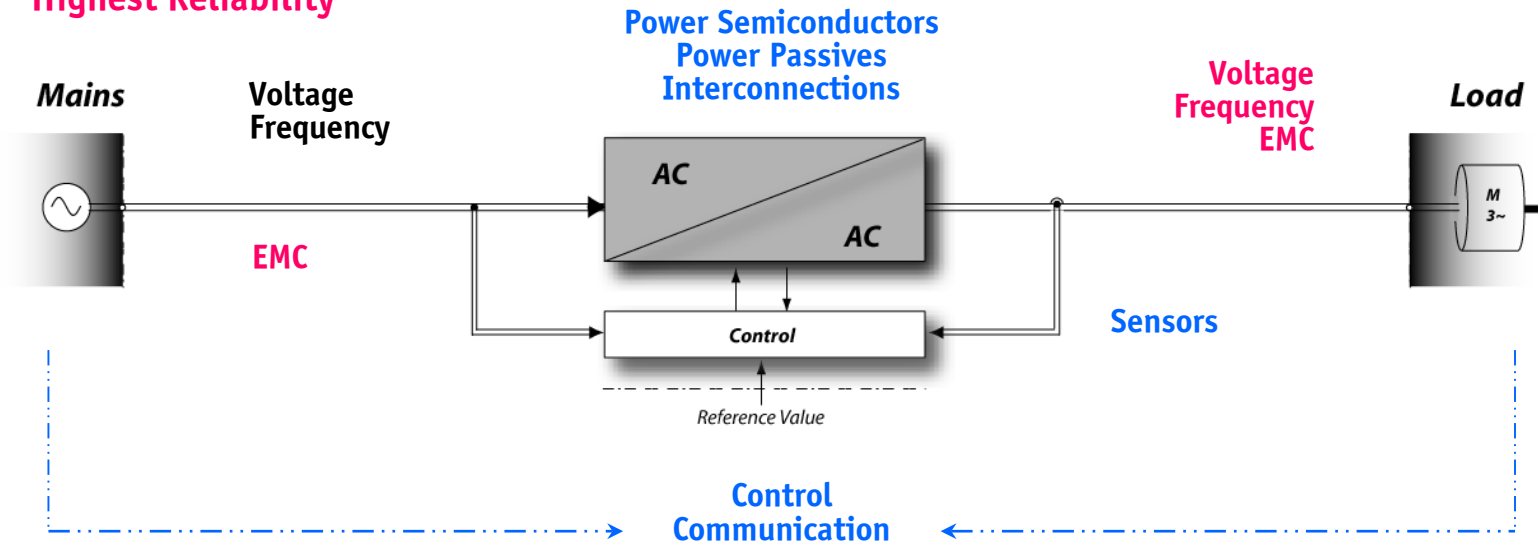
Power Semiconductors Circuits  
 Control Engineering  
 Electronics  
 Drives/El. Machines  
 Simulation

Sensors/Signal Electronics  
 Electromagnetic Systems  
 Energy Systems  
 EMC

# ► Power Electronics 101

## ■ Electronic Power Processing

- Highest Efficiency
- Highest Compactness
- Highest Dynamics
- Highest Compatibility
- Highest Reliability



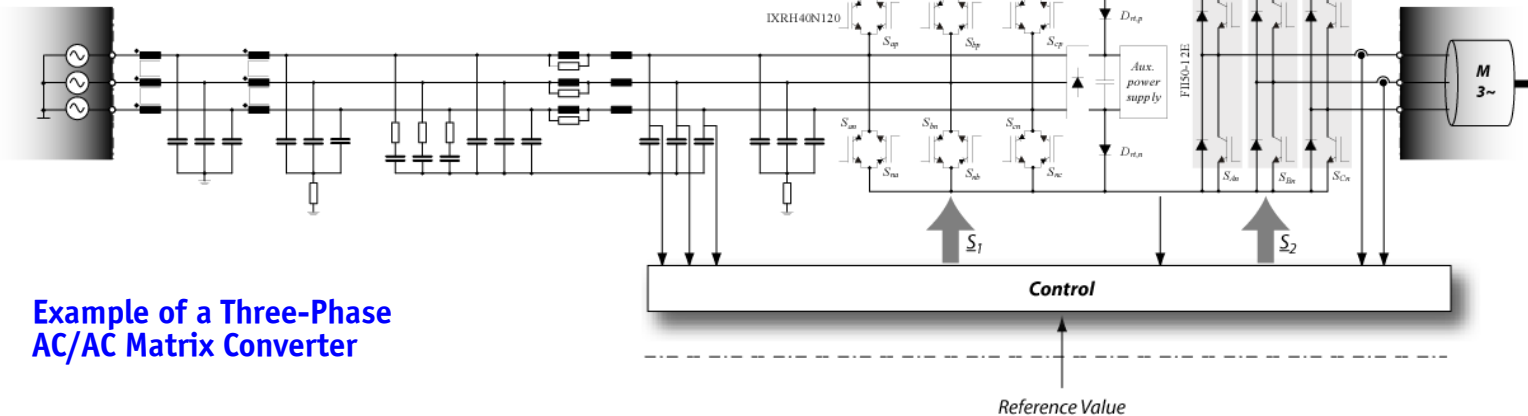
# ► Power Electronics 101

## ■ Electronic Power Processing

- Highest Efficiency
- Highest Compactness
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- Highest Reliability



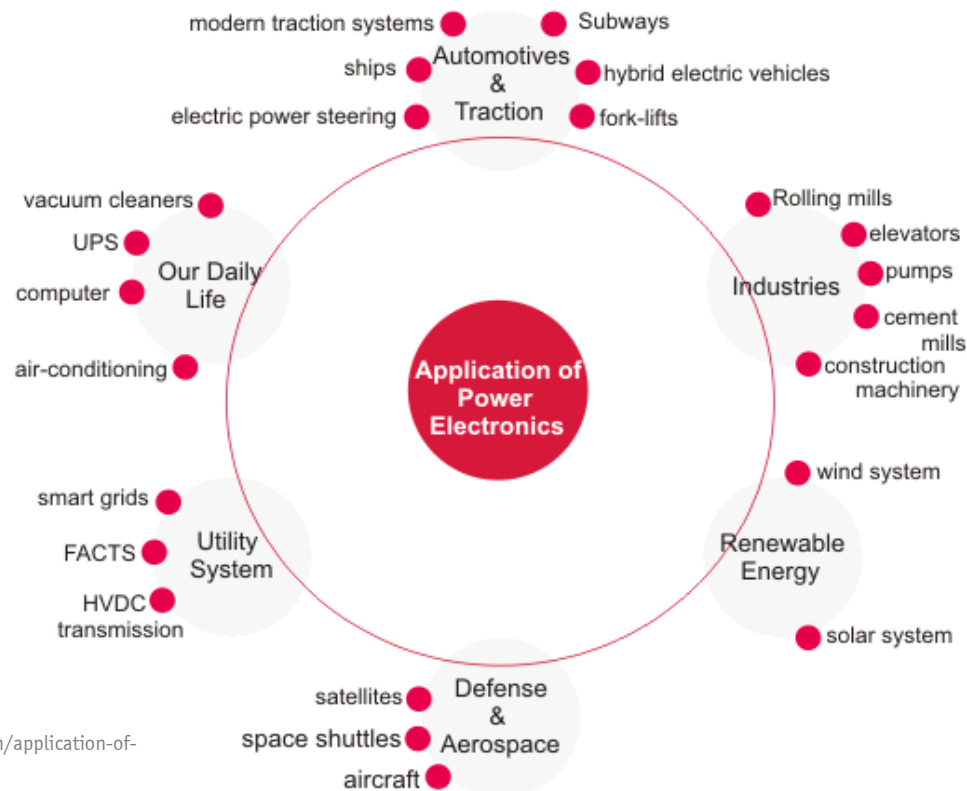
Mains



Example of a Three-Phase  
AC/AC Matrix Converter

# ► Power Electronics Applications

- Industry Automation / Processes
- Communication & Information
- Transportation
- Lighting
- etc., etc.



Source: <https://www.electrical4u.com/application-of-power-electronics/>

.... Everywhere !

## Global Megatrends



*Climate Change  
Digitalization  
Sustainable Mobility  
Urbanization  
Alleviate Poverty  
Etc.*



## Global Megatrends

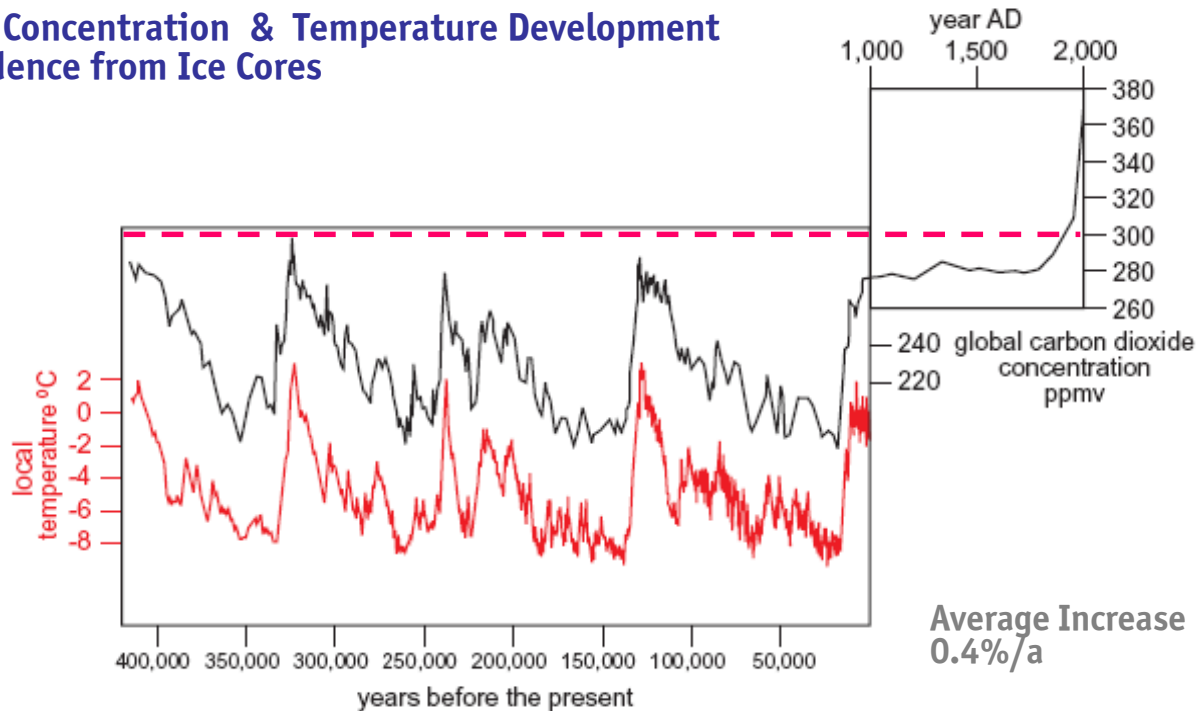


**Climate Change** →

*Digitalization*  
*Sustainable Mobility*  
*Urbanization*  
*Alleviate Poverty*  
*Etc.*

## ► Climate Change

- CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration & Temperature Development
- Evidence from Ice Cores



- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions *Intensity* (CO<sub>2</sub>/GDP) to Stabilize Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration
- 1/3 in 2050 → less than 1/10 in 2100 (AIST, Japan @ IEA Workshop 2007)

## ► Climate Change

- CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration & Temperature Development
- Evidence from Ice Cores



Source: H. Nilsson  
Chairman IEA DSM Program  
FourFact AB

- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions *Intensity* (CO<sub>2</sub>/GDP) to Stabilize Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentration
- 1/3 in 2050 → less than 1/10 in 2100 (AIST, Japan @ IEA Workshop 2007)

## → Utilize Renewable Energy (1)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Higher Reliability (!)
- Lower Costs

Source: M. Prahm / Flickr

Medium-Voltage Power  
Collection and Connection  
to On-Shore Grid

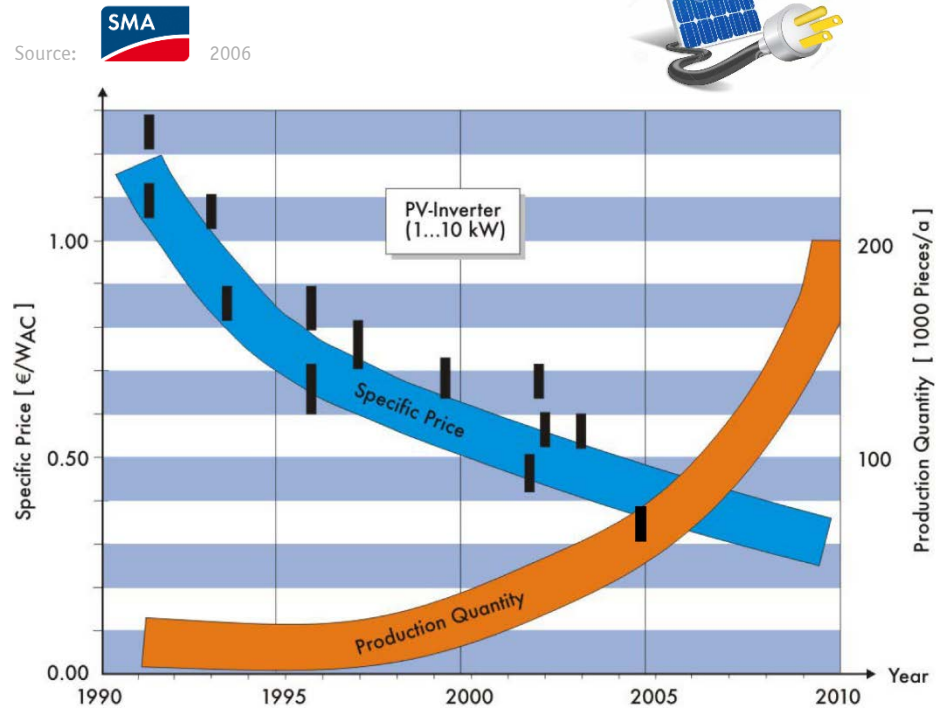


- ▶ Off-Shore Wind Farms
- ▶ Medium Voltage Systems

## → Utilize Renewable Energy (2)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Extreme Cost Pressure (!)
- Higher Efficiency
- Higher Power Density



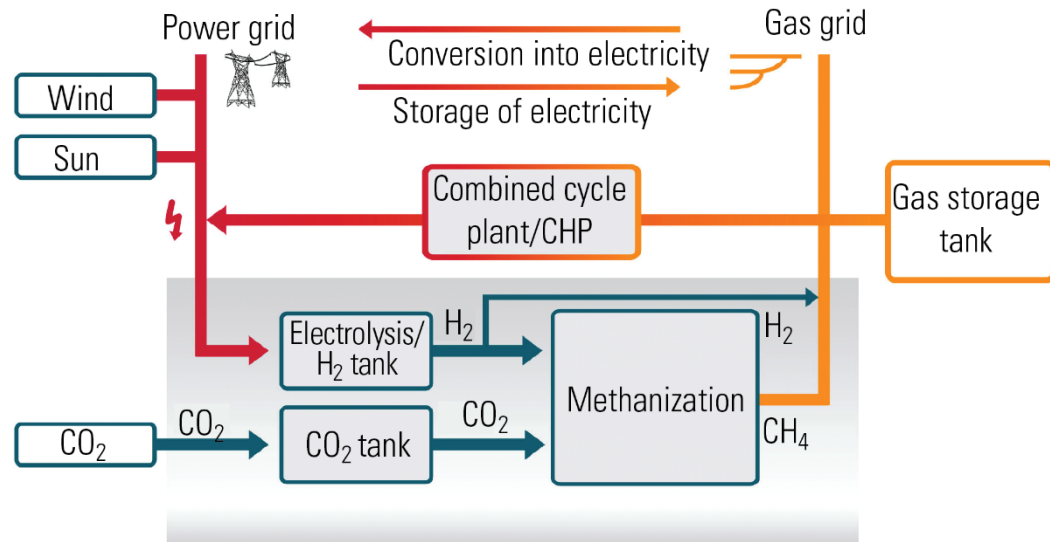
- ▶ Photovoltaics Power Plants
- ▶ Up to Several MW Power Level
- ▶ Future Hybrid PV/Therm. Collectors

## → Utilize Renewable Energy (3)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Electrolysis for Conversion of Excess Wind/Solar Electric Energy into Hydrogen
  - Fuel-Cell Powered Cars
  - Heating

Hydrogenics 100 kW  
H<sub>2</sub>-Generator (η=57%),  
High Power @ Low  
Voltage



Source: www.r-e-a.net

## Global Megatrends



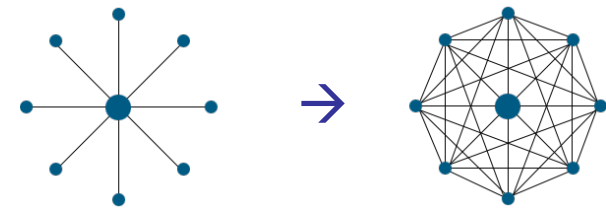
*Climate Change*  
***Digitalization*** →  
*Sustainable Mobility*  
*Urbanization*  
*Alleviate Poverty*  
*Etc.*

# ► Digitalization

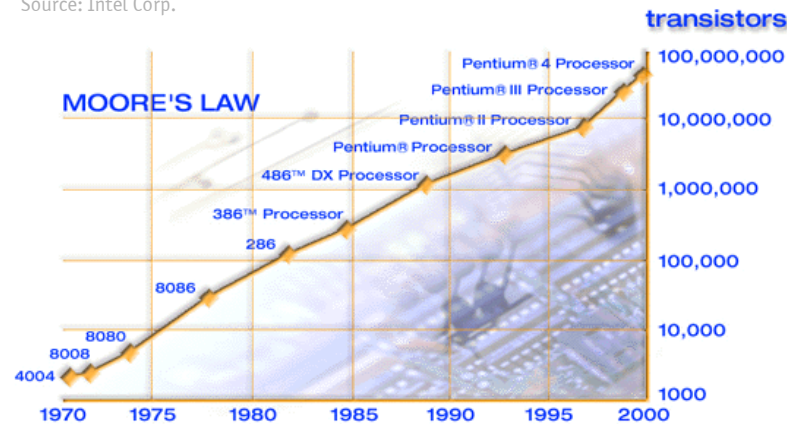
## ■ Internet of Things (IoT) / Cognitive Computing

- Ubiquitous Computing / BIG DATA
- Blockchain Tech. / DApps.
- Fully Automated Manufacturing / Industry 4.0
- Autonomous Cars
- Etc.

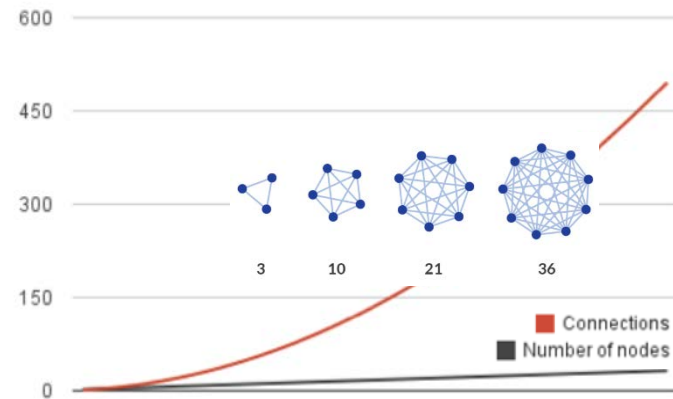
– Moving from Hub-Based to Community Concept Increases Potential Network Value Proportional to  $n^2$ )



Source: Intel Corp.



## ► Moore's Law



## ► Metcalfe's Law



# → Green / Zero CARBON Datacenters (1)

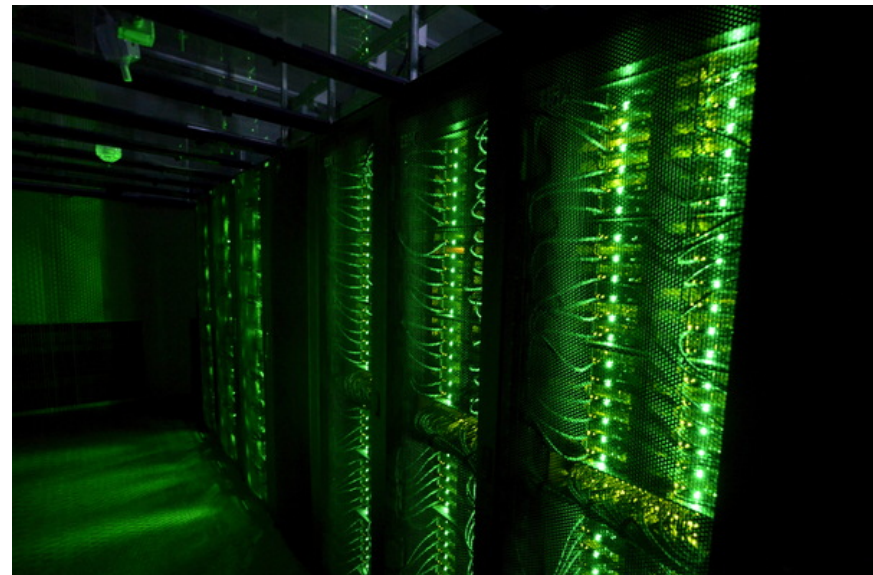
## ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Ranging from Medium Voltage to Power-Supplies-on-Chip
- Short Power Supply Innovation Cycles
- Modularity / Scalability
- Higher Power Density (!)
- Higher Efficiency (!)
- Lower Costs

Server-Farms  
up to 450 MW  
99.9999% / <30s/a  
\$1.0 Mio./Shutdown

Since 2006  
Running Costs >  
Initial Costs

Source: REUTERS/Sigtryggur Ari



33 Watts



60 Watts

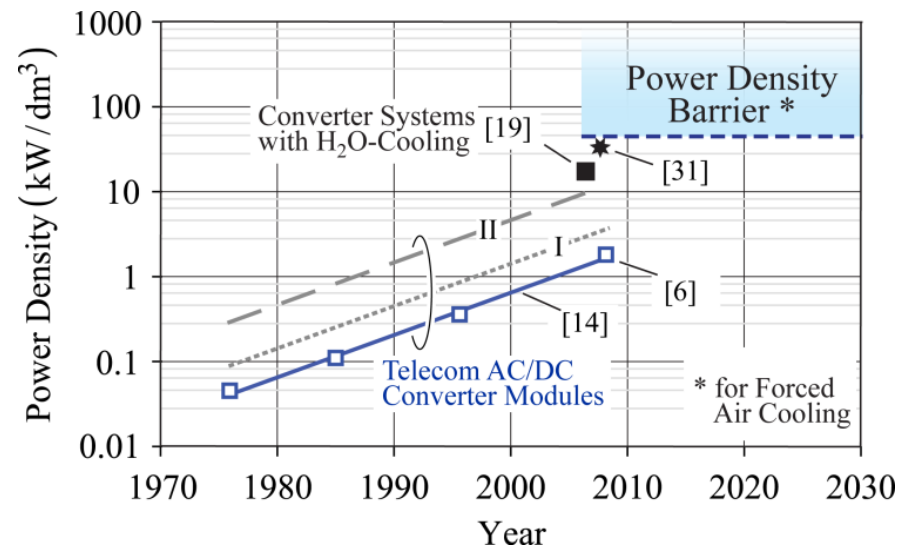


## → Green / Zero Datacenters (2)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Ranging from Medium Voltage to Power-Supplies-on-Chip
- Short Power Supply Innovation Cycles
- Modularity / Scalability
- Higher Power Density (!)
- Higher Efficiency (!)
- Lower Costs

► Power Density Increased by Factor 2 over 10 Years



## → Fully Automated Manufacturing – Industry 4.0

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Lower Costs (!)
- Higher Power Density
- Self-Sensing etc.

Source:  TESLA MOTORS

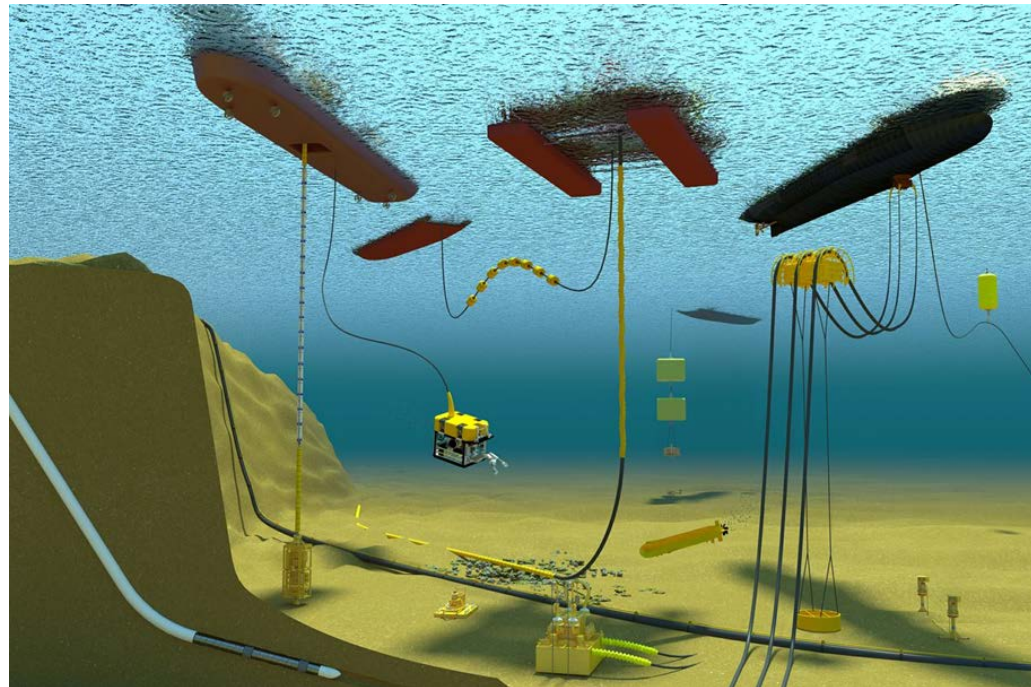


## → Fully Automated Raw Material Extraction

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- High Reliability (!)
- High Power Density (!)

Source: matrixengineered.com



- ▶ ABB's Future Subsea Power Grid → "Develop All Elements for a Subsea Factory"

## Global Megatrends

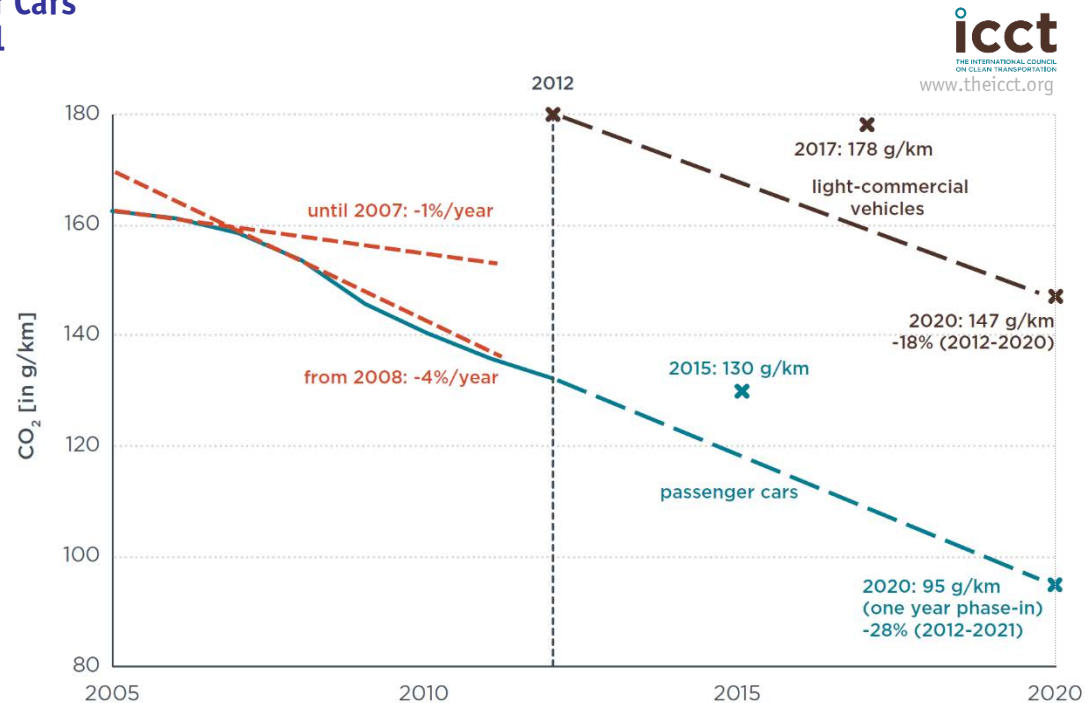


*Climate Change*  
*Digitalization*  
***Sustainable Mobility*** →  
*Urbanization*  
*Alleviate Poverty*  
*Etc.*

## ► Sustainable Mobility

### ■ EU Mandatory 2020 CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Targets for New Cars

- 147g CO<sub>2</sub>/km for Light-Commercial Vehicles
- 95g CO<sub>2</sub>/km for Passenger Cars
- 100% Compliance in 2021



- Hybrid Vehicles
- Electric Vehicles

## → Electric Vehicles

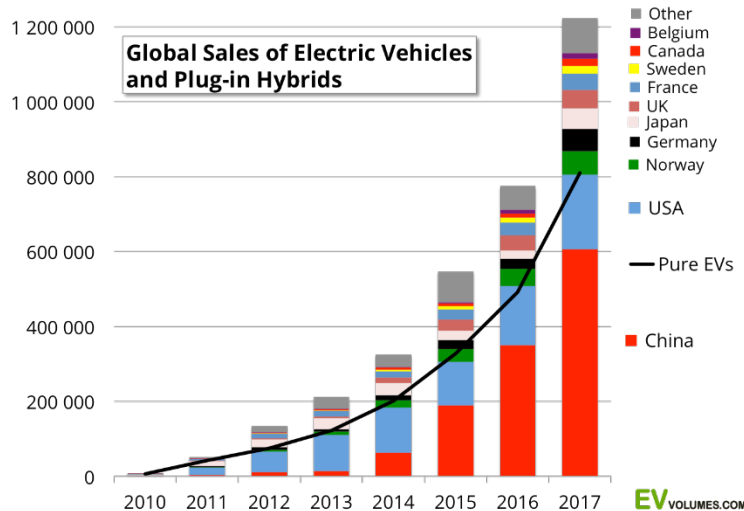
### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics - Drivetrain / Aux. / Charger

- Higher Power Density
- Extreme Cost Pressure (!)



Faraday Future

FF-ZERO1  
750kW / 322km/h  
1 Motor per Wheel  
300+ Miles Range  
Lithium-Ion Batteries along the Floor

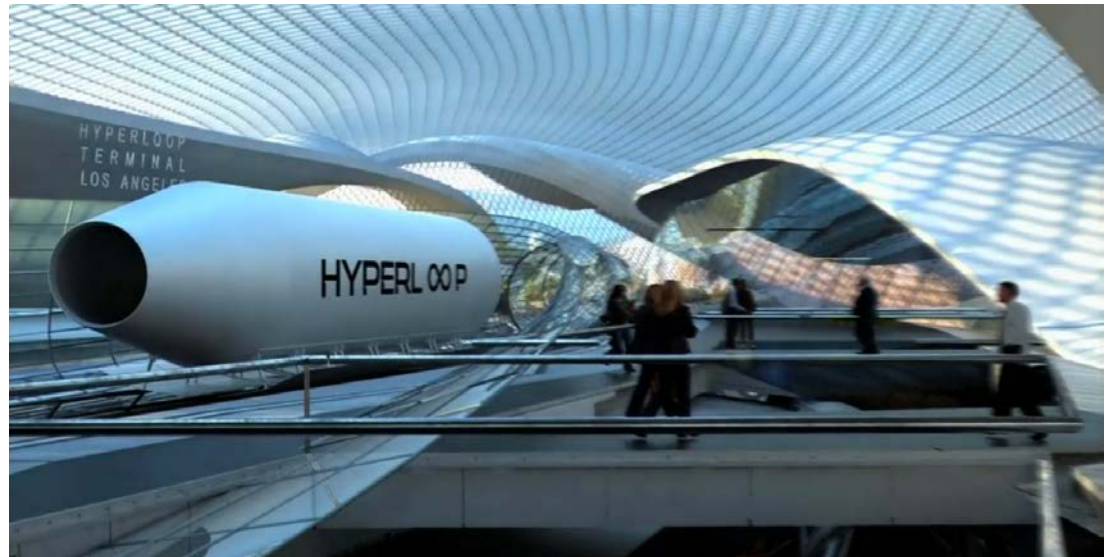


## → *Futuristic Mobility Concepts (1)*

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Hyperloop
- San Francisco → Los Angeles in 35min

 **HYPERLOOP**  
POD COMPETITION  
[www.spacex.com/hyperloop](http://www.spacex.com/hyperloop)



- ▶ Low Pressure Tube
- ▶ Magnetic Levitation
- ▶ Linear Ind. Motor
- ▶ Air Compressor in Nose



## → *Futuristic Mobility Concepts (2)*

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

#### — Cut Emissions Until 2050

- \* CO<sub>2</sub> by 75%,
- \* NO<sub>x</sub> by 90%,
- \* Noise Level by 65%

Source:

**EADS**

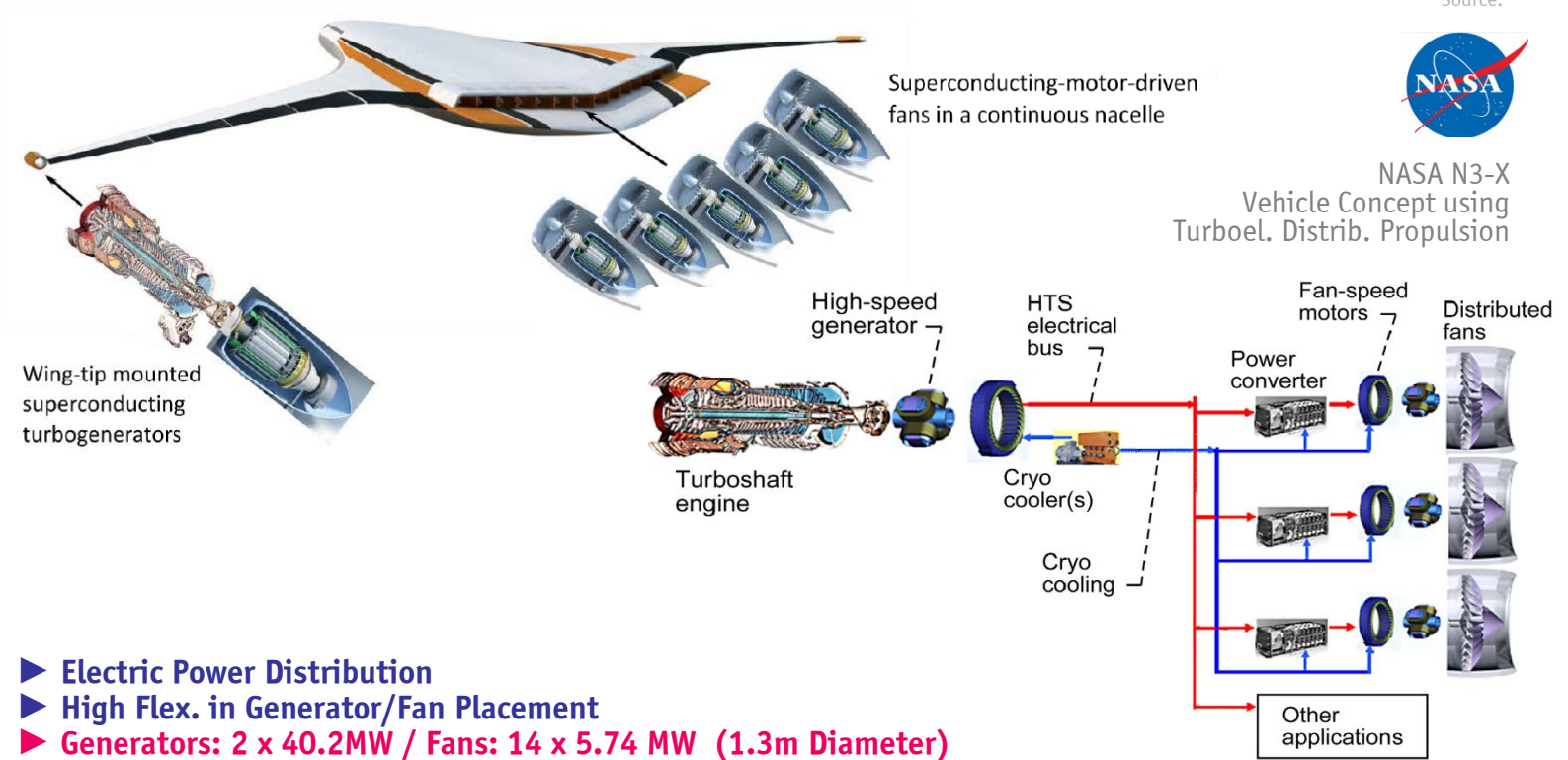
Future Hybrid  
Distributed Propulsion Aircraft



- ▶ Eff. Optim. Gas Turbine
- ▶ 1000Wh/kg Batteries
- ▶ Distrib. Fans (E-Thrust)
- ▶ Supercond. Motors
- ▶ Med. Volt. Power Distrib.

## → Futuristic Mobility Concepts (3)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics



## Global Megatrends



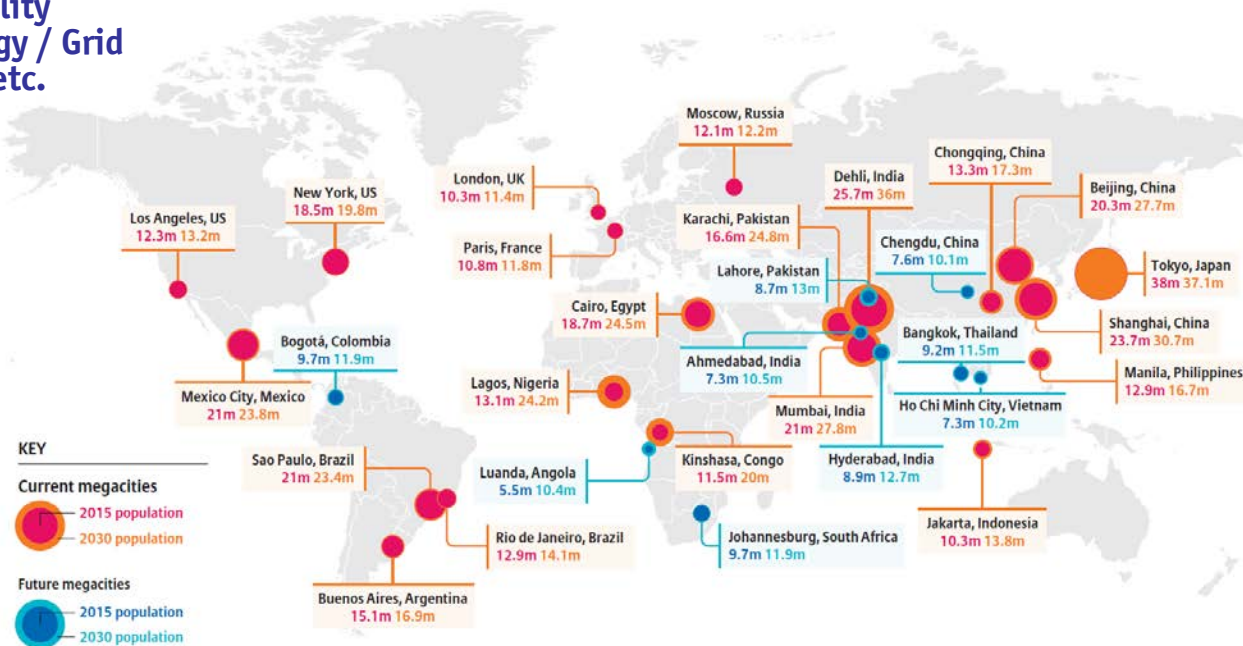
*Climate Change*  
*Digitalization*  
*Sustainable Mobility*  
**Urbanization** →  
*Alleviate Poverty*  
*Etc.*

## ► Urbanization

- 60% of World Population Exp. to Live in Urban Cities by 2025
- 30 MEGA Cities Globally by 2023

- Smart Buildings
- Smart Mobility
- Smart Energy / Grid
- Smart ICT, etc.

Source: World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision



### ► Selected Current & Future MEGA Cities 2015 → 2030

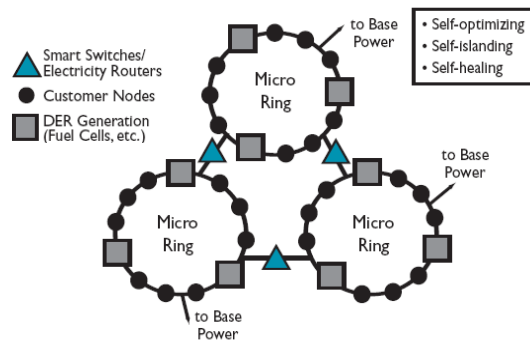
## → Smart Cities / Grid (1)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- *Masdar* = "Source"
- Fully Sustainable Energy Generation
  - \* Zero CO<sub>2</sub>
  - \* Zero Waste
- EV Transport / IPT Charging
- to be finished 2025



Source: ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE



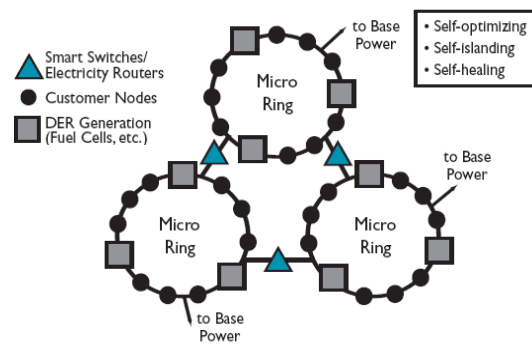
## → Smart Cities / Grid (2)

### ■ Enabled by Power Electronics

- Masdar = "Source"
- Fully Sustainable Energy Generation
  - \* Zero CO<sub>2</sub>
  - \* Zero Waste
- EV Transport / IPT Charging
- to be finished 2025



Source: ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE



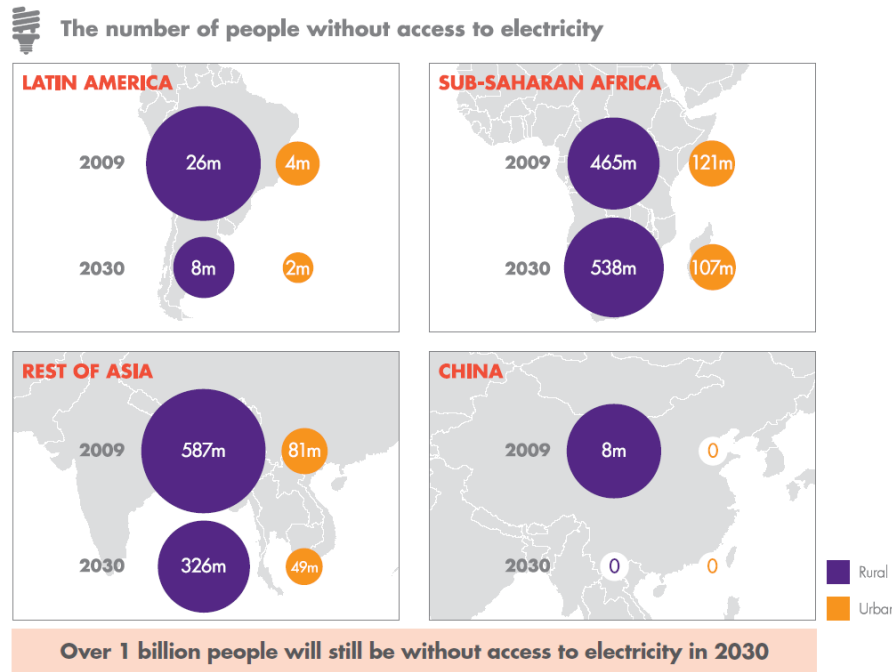
## Global Megatrends



*Climate Change*  
*Digitalization*  
*Sustainable Mobility*  
*Urbanization*  
**Alleviate Poverty** →  
*Etc.*

## ► Alleviate Poverty

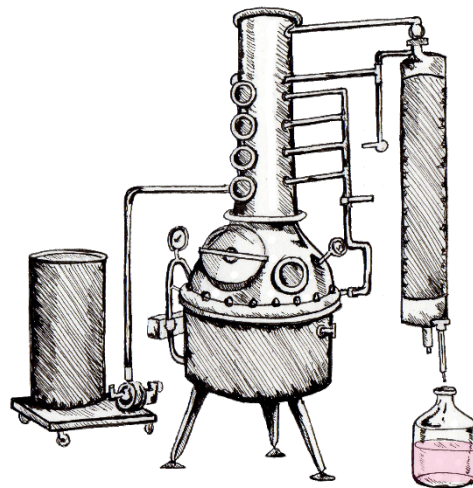
- 2 Billion People are Lacking Access to Clean Energy
- Rural Electrification in the Developing World



Source: IEA, Dalberg Analysis, IFC

- Urgent Need for Village-Scale Solar DC Microgrids etc.
- 2 US\$ for 2 LED Lights + Mobile-Phone Charging / Household / Month (!)





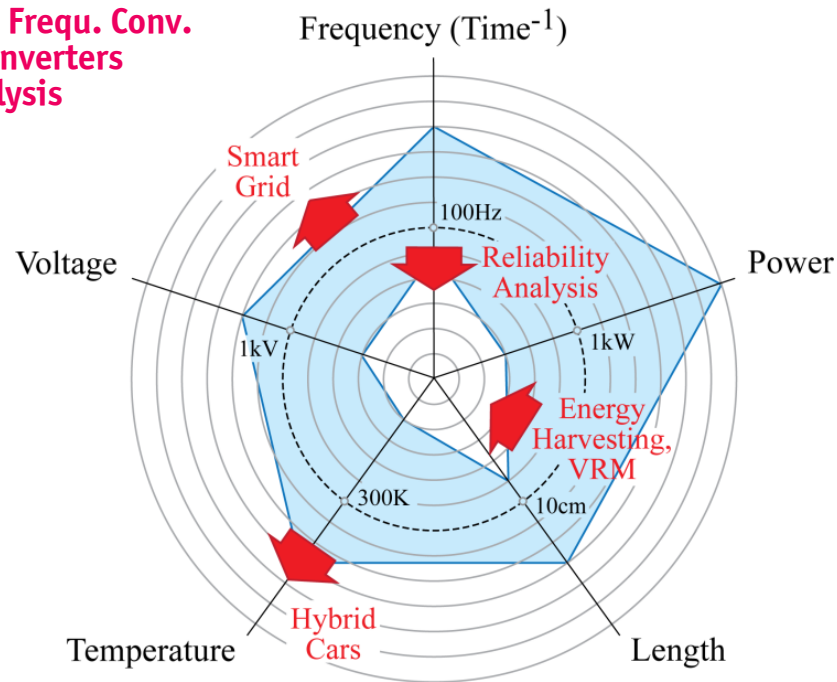
Source: whiskeybehavior.info

... in **Summary**

## ► Current / New Application Areas (1)

- Power Electronics Covers an Extremely Wide Power / Voltage / Frequency Range
- Extensions for *SMART xxx* / Mobility Trends / Availability Requirements

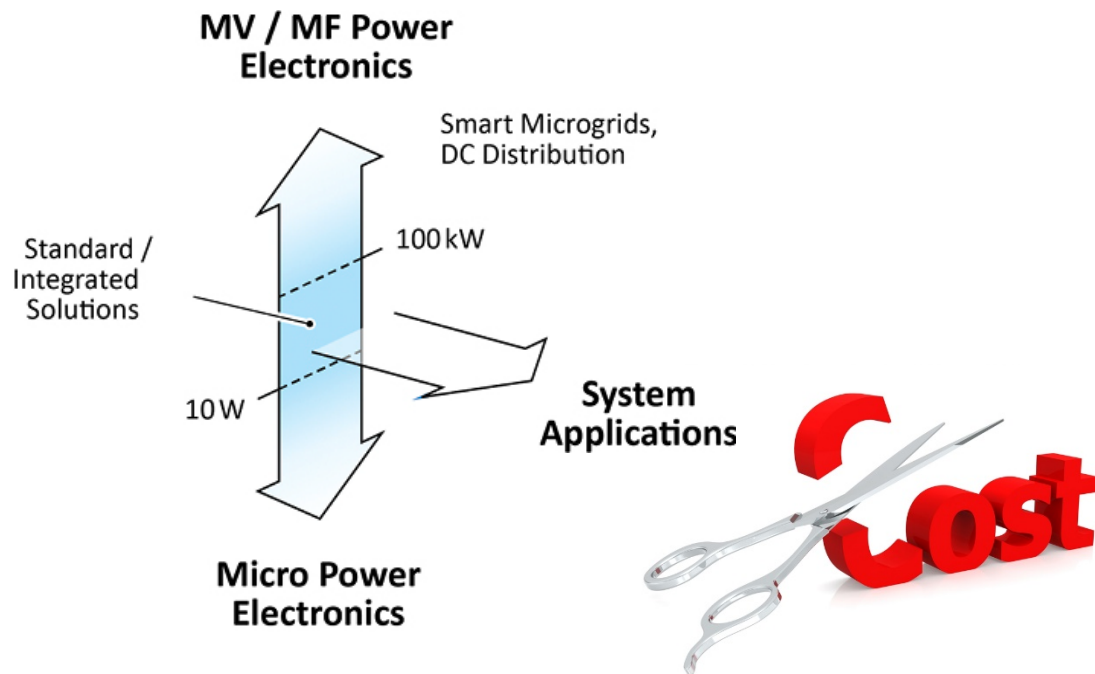
- Medium-Voltage / Medium. Frequ. Conv.
- 3D-Integr. of Low Power Converters
- Life-Cycle & Reliability Analysis



## ► Future Extensions of Power Electronics Application Areas

## ► Current / New Application Areas (2)

- Commodityization / Standardization for High Volume Applications
- Extension to Microelectronics-Technology (Power Supply on Chip)
- Extensions to MV/MF



- **Cost Pressure as Common Denominator of All Applications (!)**
- **Key Importance of Technology Partnerships of Academia & Industry**

## Power Converter Design Challenges



*Mutual Coupling of Performances*

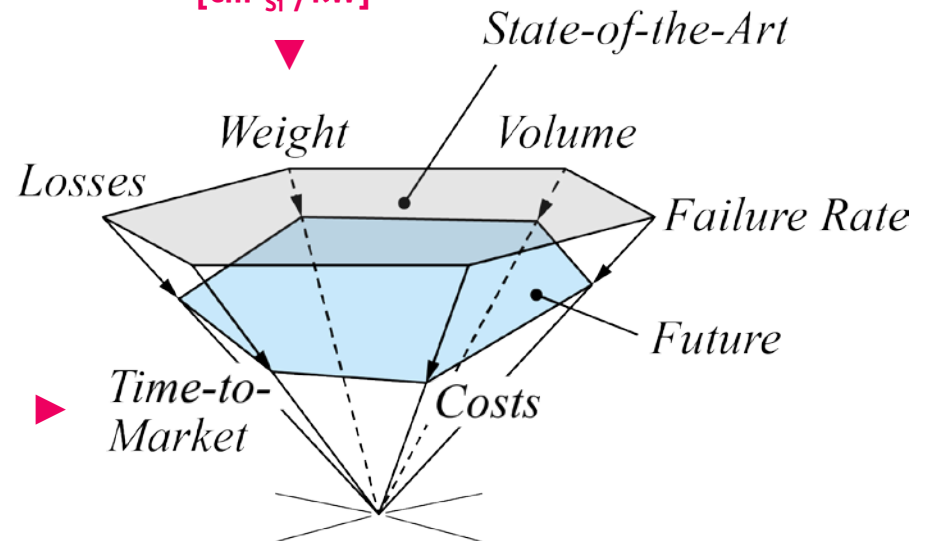
## ► Required Power Electronics Performance Improvements

Environmental Impact...

$[kg_{Fe} / kW]$   
 $[kg_{Cu} / kW]$   
 $[kg_{Al} / kW]$   
 $[cm^2_{Si} / kW]$

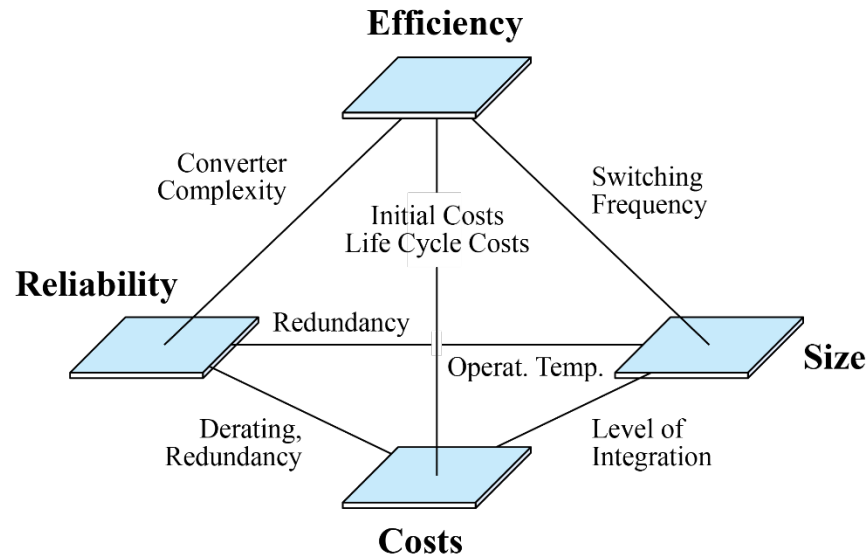
### ■ Performance Indices

- Power Density  $[kW/dm^3]$
- Power per Unit Weight  $[kW/kg]$
- Relative Costs  $[kW/\$]$
- Relative Losses  $[\%]$
- Failure Rate  $[h^{-1}]$



## ► Multi-Objective Design Challenge (1)

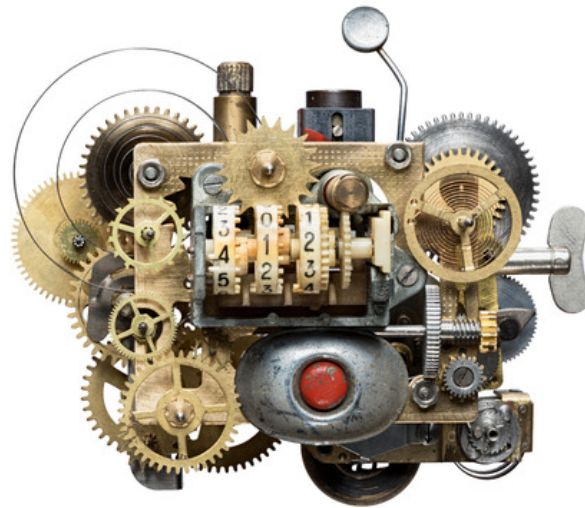
- Counteracting Effects of Key Design Parameters
- Mutual Coupling of Performance Indices → Trade-Offs



- Large Number of Degrees of Freedom / Multi-Dimensional Design Space
- Full Utilization of Design Space only Guaranteed by Multi-Objective Optimization

## ► Multi-Objective Design Challenge (1)

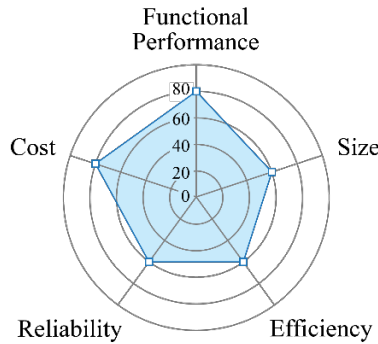
- Counteracting Effects of Key Design Parameters
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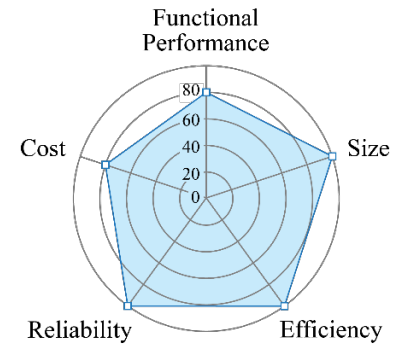
- Large Number of Degrees of Freedom / Multi-Dimensional Design Space
- Full Utilization of Design Space only Guaranteed by Multi-Objective Optimization

## ► Multi-Objective Design Challenge (2)

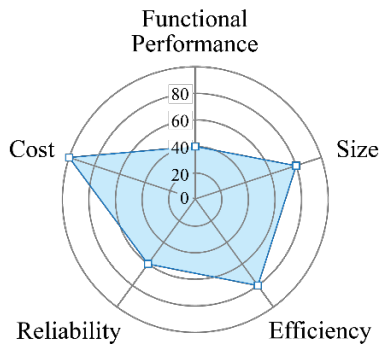
- **Specific Performance Profiles / Trade-Offs Dependent on Application**



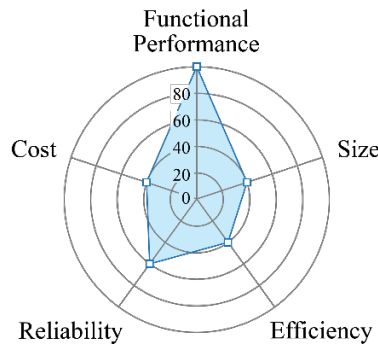
**Industry Applications**



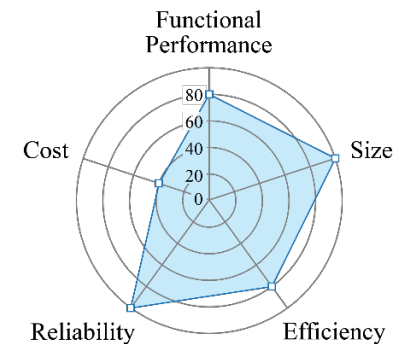
**Information & Communication Industry**



**Domestic Applications**



**Laboratory Applications**



**Aerospace Applications**

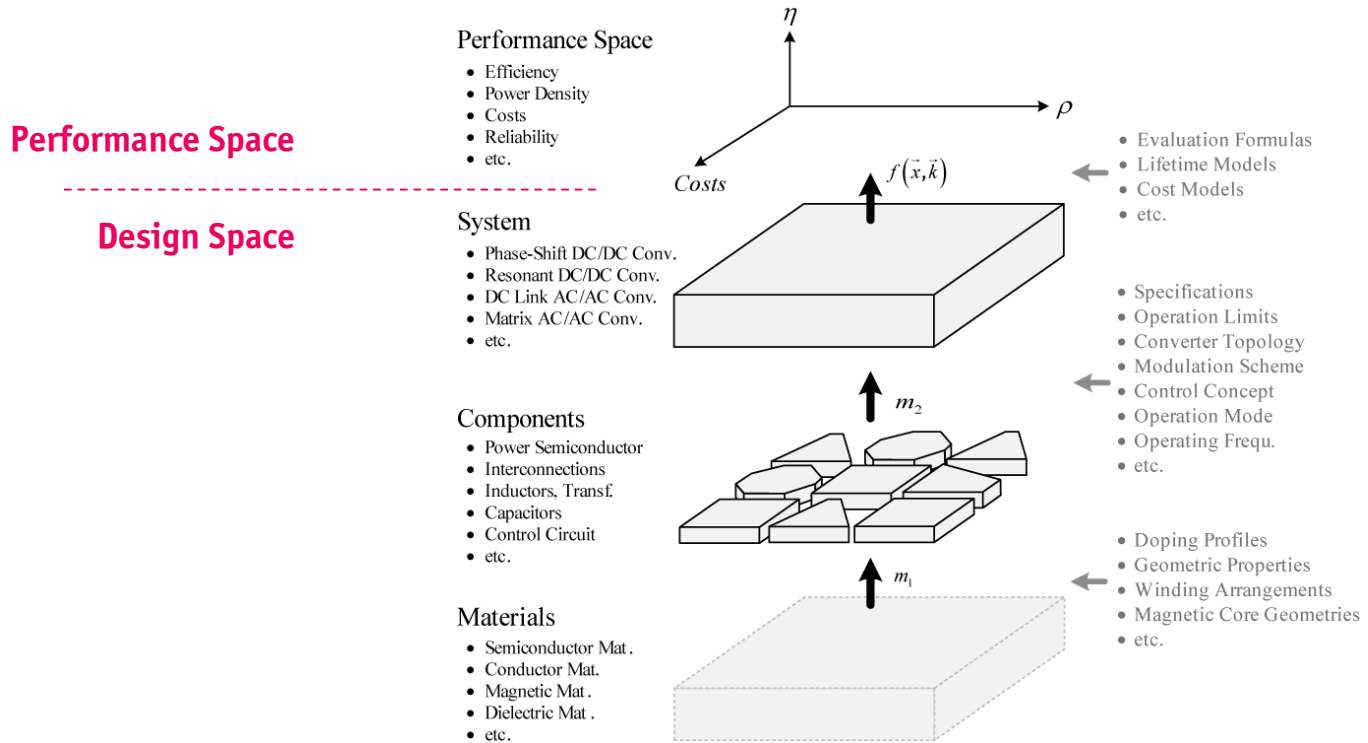




## Multi-Objective Optimization

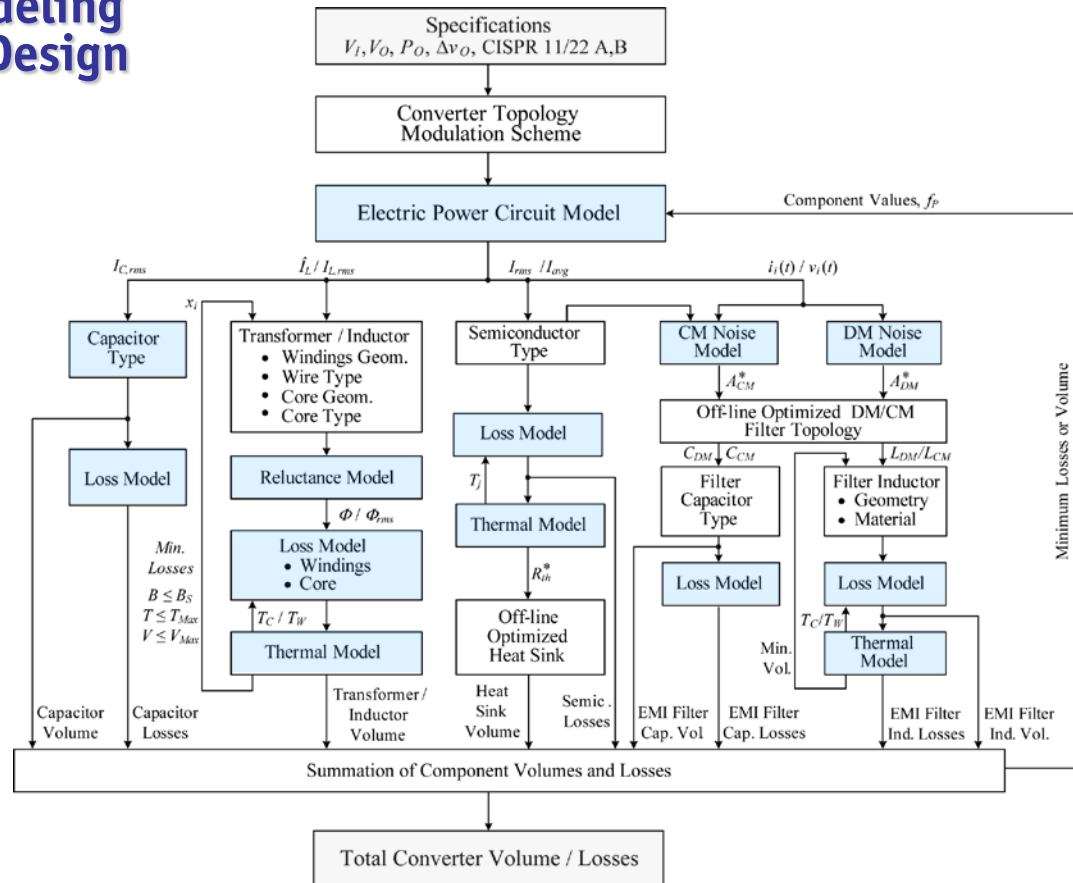
*Abstraction of Converter Design*  
*Design Space / Performance Space*  
*Pareto Front*  
*Sensitivities / Trade-Offs*

# ► Abstraction of Power Converter Design



→ Mapping of "Design Space" into System "Performance Space"

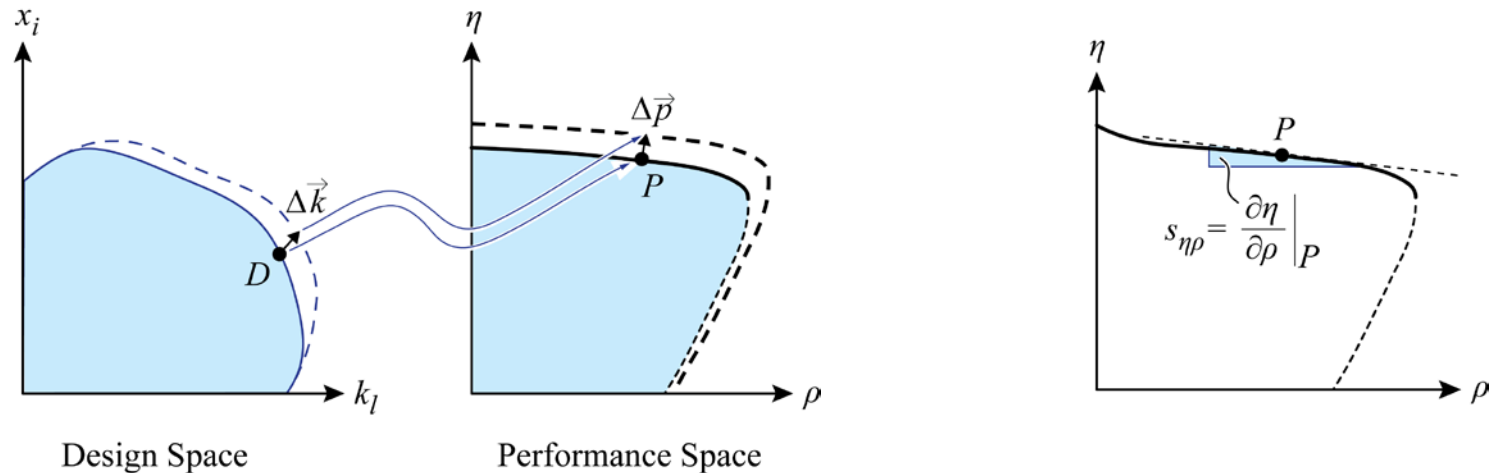
## ► Mathematical Modeling of the Converter Design



→ Multi-Objective Optimization – Guarantees Best Utilization of All Degrees of Freedom (!)

## ► Multi-Objective Optimization (1)

- Ensures **Optimal Mapping** of the “Design Space” into the “Performance Space”
- Identifies **Absolute Performance Limits** → **Pareto Front / Surface**

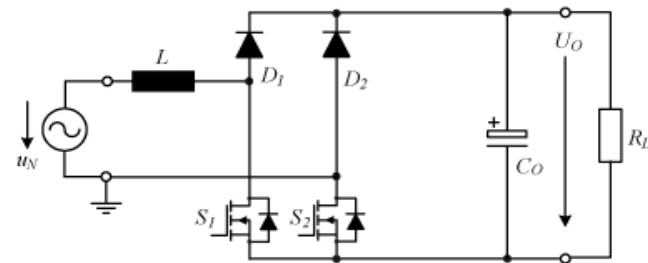


- Clarifies **Sensitivity**  $\Delta \rho / \Delta k$  to Improvements of Technologies
- **Trade-off Analysis**

## ► Determination of the $\eta$ - $\rho$ -Pareto Front (a)

### ■ Comp.-Level Degrees of Freedom of the Design

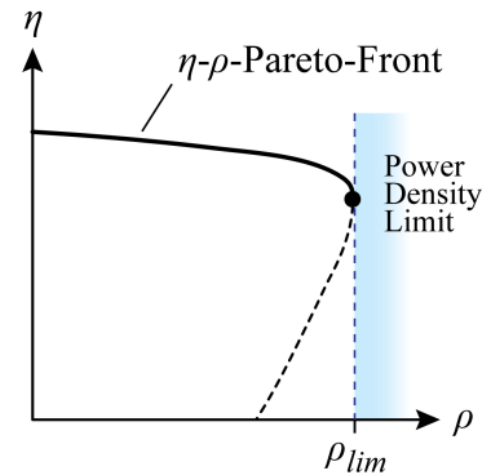
- Core Geometry / Material
- Single / Multiple Airgaps
- Solid / Litz Wire, Foils
- Winding Topology
- Natural / Forced Conv. Cooling
- Hard-/Soft-Switching
- Si / SiC
- etc.
- etc.
- etc.



### ■ System-Level Degrees of Freedom

- Circuit Topology
- Modulation Scheme
- Switching Frequ.
- etc.
- etc.

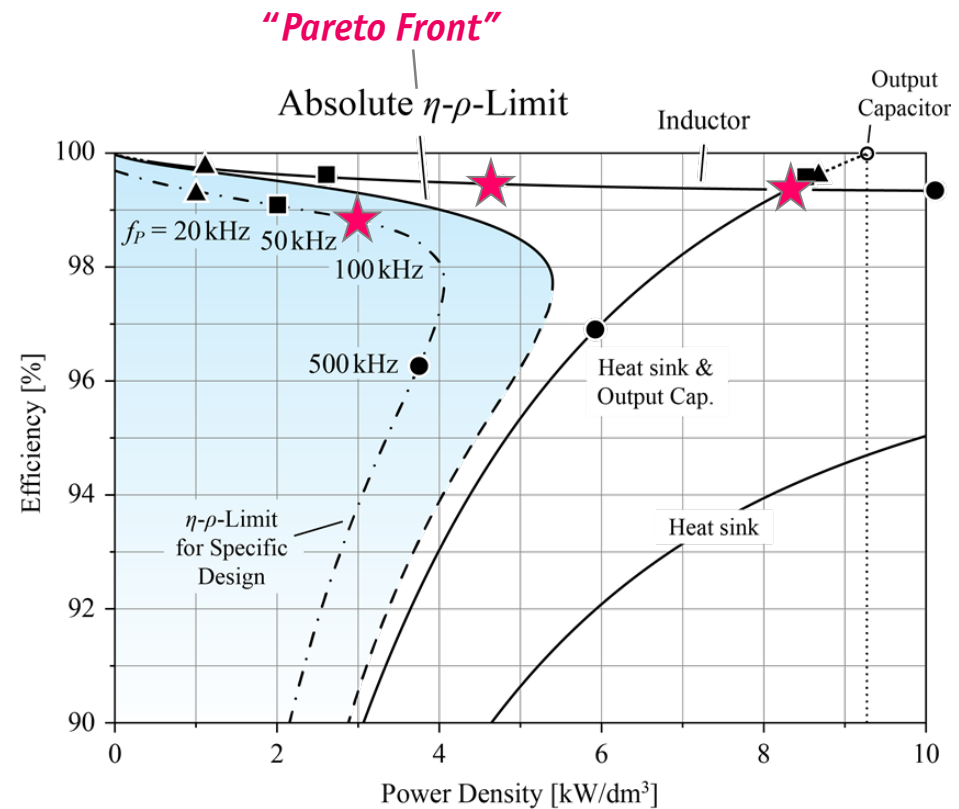
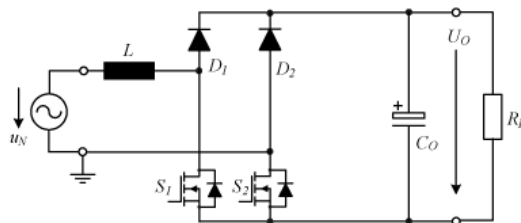
### ■ Only $\eta$ - $\rho$ -Pareto Front Allows Comprehensive Comparison of Converter Concepts (!)



## ► Determination of the $\eta$ - $\rho$ -Pareto Front (b)

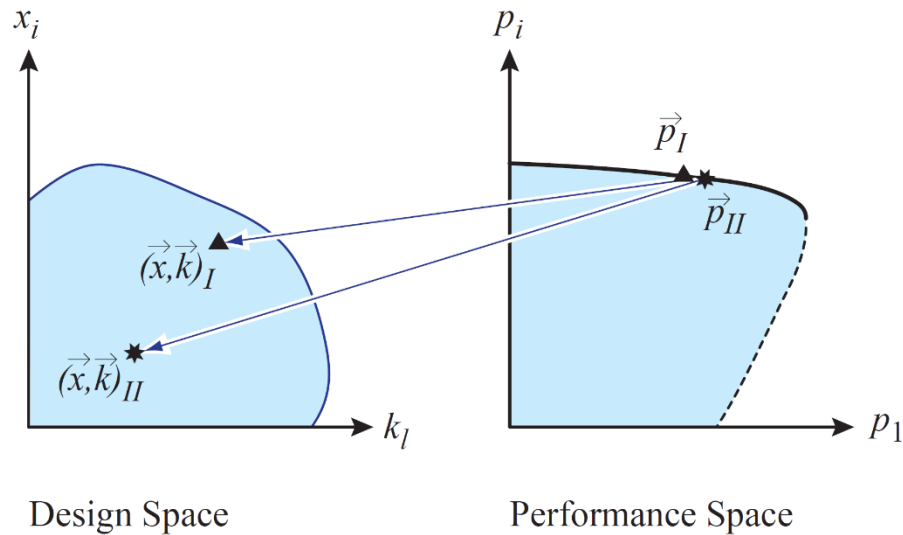
- Example: Consider Only  $f_p$  as Design Parameter
- Only the Consideration of All Possible Designs / Degrees of Freedom Clarifies the Absolute  $\eta$ - $\rho$ -Performance Limit

★  $f_p = 100\text{kHz}$



## ► Multi-Objective Optimization (2)

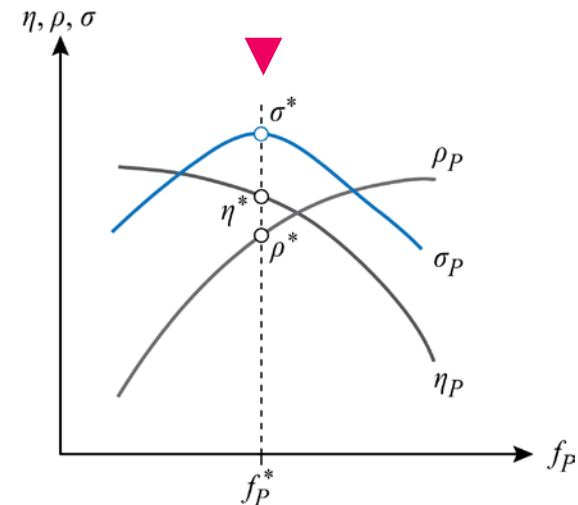
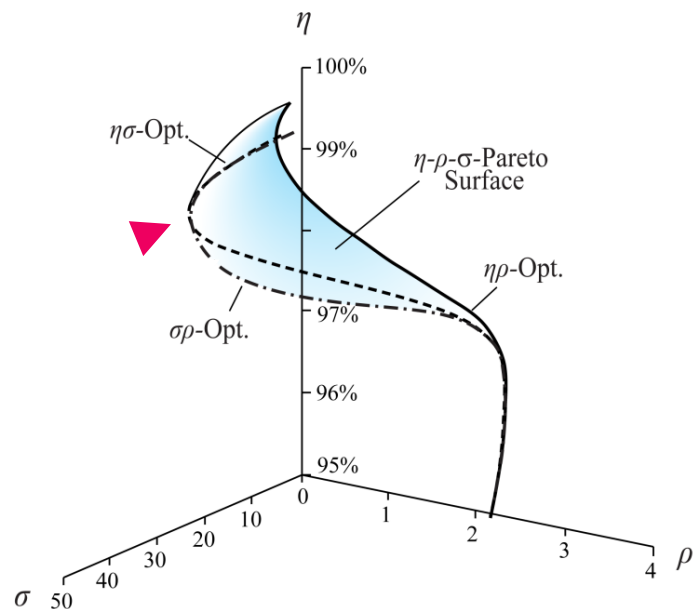
- Design Space Diversity
- Equal Performance for Largely Different Sets of Design Parameters



- E.g. Mutual Compensation of Volume and Loss Contributions (e.g. Cond. & Sw. Losses)
- Allows Optimization for Further Performance Index (e.g. Costs)

## ► Converter Performance Evaluation Based on $\eta$ - $\rho$ - $\sigma$ -Pareto Surface

- Definition of a Power Electronics *"Technology Node"*  $\rightarrow (\eta^*, \rho^*, \sigma^*, f_P^*)$
- Maximum  $\sigma$  [kW/\$], Related Efficiency & Power Density



- $\rightarrow$  Specifying Only a Single Performance Index is of No Value (!)
- $\rightarrow$  Achievable Perform. Depends on Conv. Type / Specs (e.g. Volt. Range) / Side Cond. (e.g. Cooling)



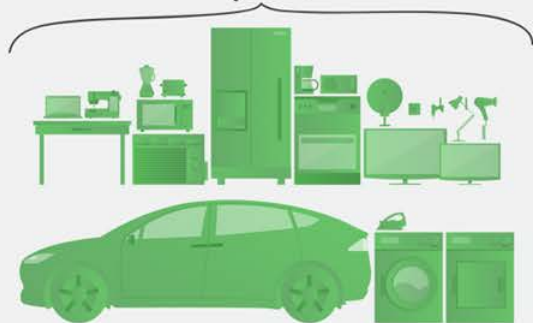
# Case Study: Google Little Box Challenge

*Introduction*  
*Technical Specification*  
*Little Box 1.0*  
*Little Box 2.0*

# LITTLE BOX CHALLENGE

Google | IEEE

If any of these:



Can run on something this size



(like a cooler)

then why not something this size?

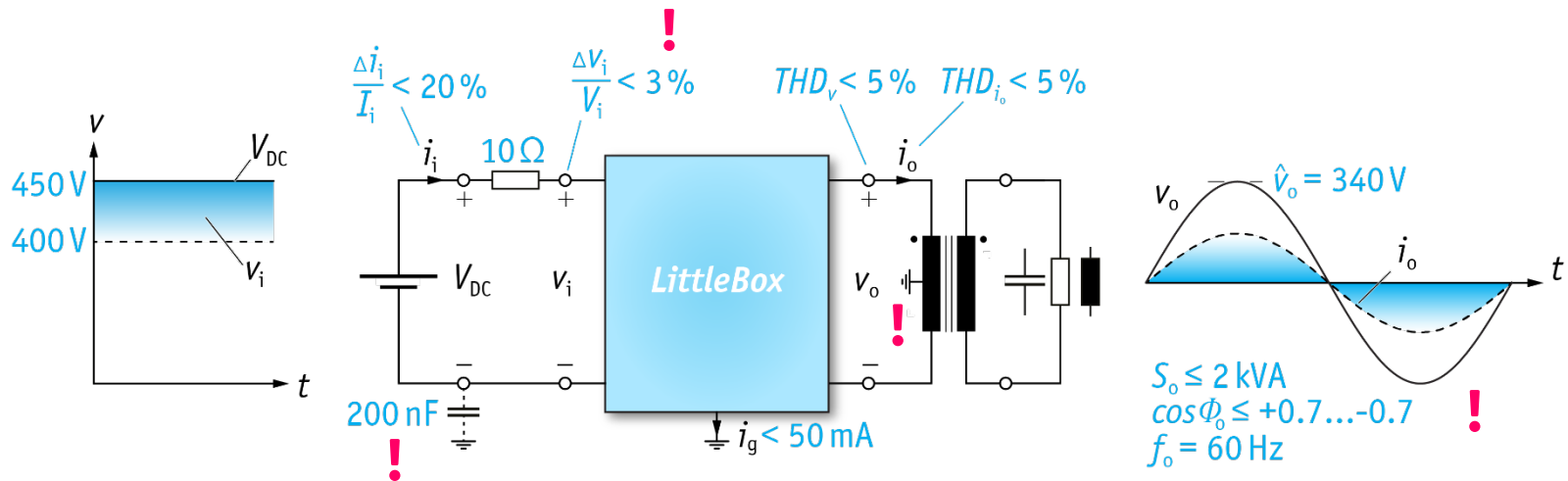


(like a tablet)

# LITTLE BOX CHALLENGE



- Design / Build the 2kW 1-Φ Solar Inverter with the Highest Power Density in the World
- Power Density > 3kW/dm<sup>3</sup> (> 50W/in<sup>3</sup>, multiply kW/dm<sup>3</sup> by Factor 16)
- Efficiency > 95%
- Case Temp. < 60°C
- EMI FCC Part 15 B



■ Push the Forefront of New Technologies in R&D of High Power Density Inverters

## The Grand Prize

- Highest Power Density ( $> 50\text{W}/\text{in}^3$ )
- Highest Level of Innovation

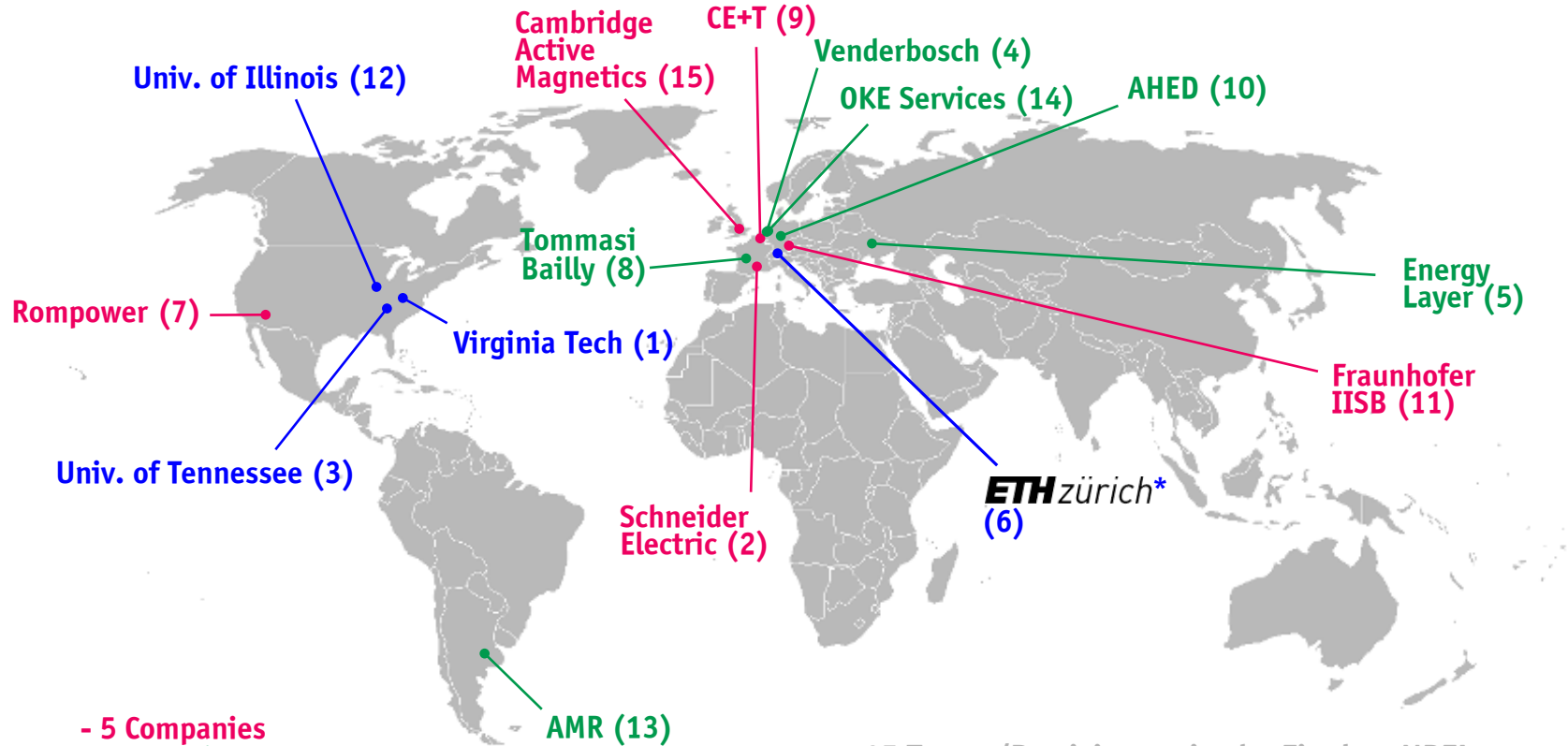


**\$1,000,000**

- Timeline
  - Challenge Announced in Summer 2014
  - 650 Teams Worldwide
  - 100+ Teams Submitted a Technical Description until July 22, 2015
  - **18 Finalists / Presentation @ NREL on Oct. 21, 2015, Golden, Colorado, USA**
  - Testing @ NREL / Winner will be Announced in Early 2016

# LITTLE BOX CHALLENGE Finalists

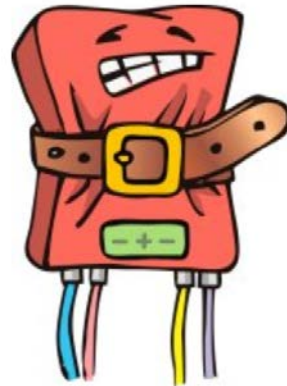
\* and FH IZM /  
Fraza d.o.o.



- 5 Companies
- 6 Consultants
- 4 Universities

15 Teams/Participants in the Final @ NREL  
*Note:* Numbering of Teams is Arbitrary

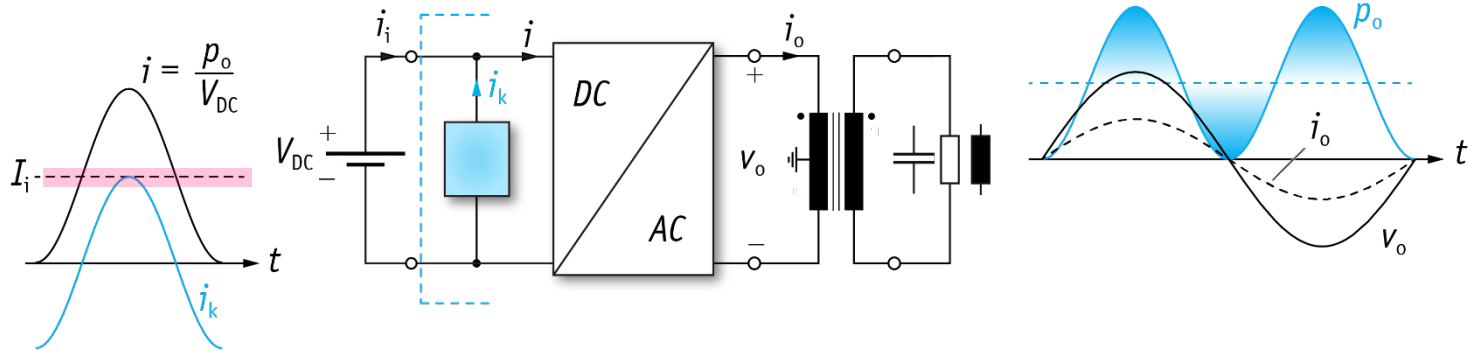
## Little Box 1.0



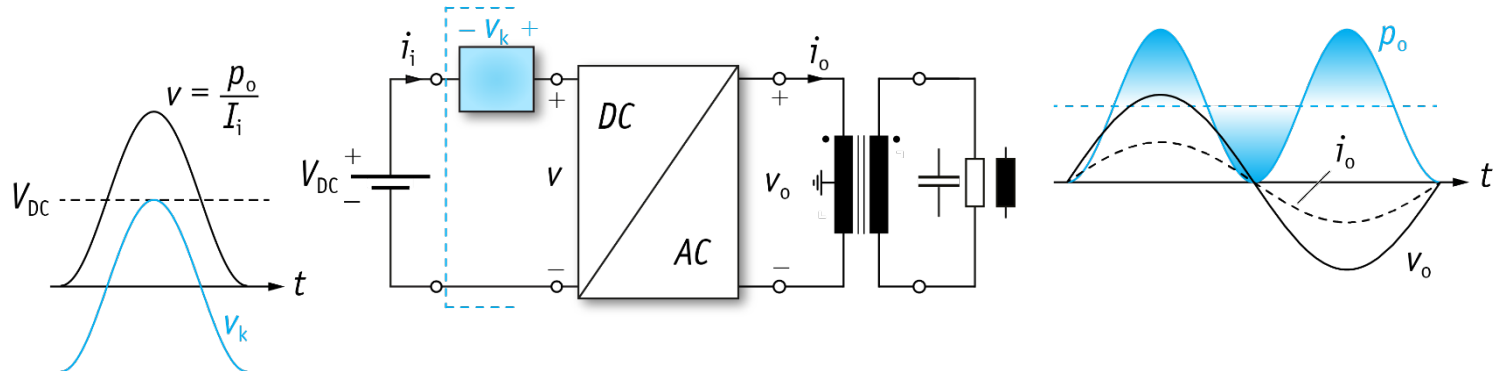
Power Pulsation Buffer  
Inverter Topology  
GaN Power Stage  
Multi Air Gap Inductor  
Thermal Management  
Performance of Prototype System

## ► Power Pulsation Buffer

### • Parallel Buffer @ DC Input



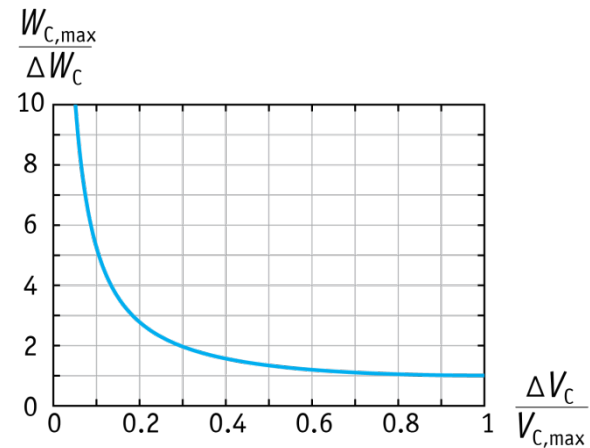
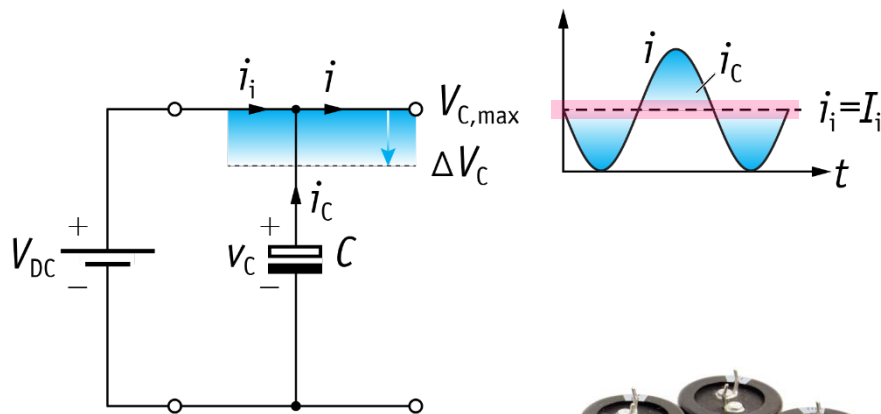
### • Series Buffer @ DC Input



### ■ Parallel Approach for Limiting Voltage Stress on Converter Stage Semiconductors

## ▶ Passive Power Pulsation Buffer

- Electrolytic Capacitor



$S_0 = 2.0 \text{ kVA}$   
 $\cos \Phi_0 = 0.7$   
 $V_{C,max} = 450 \text{ V}$   
 $\Delta V_C / V_{C,max} = 3 \%$



  
**EPCOS**  
 5 x 493  $\mu\text{F}$  / 450 V  
 $C = 2.46 \text{ mF}$

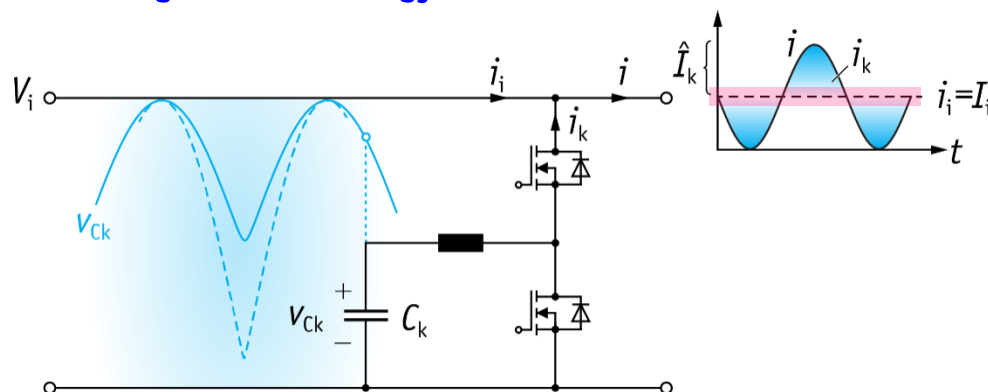
■  $C > 2.2 \text{ mF} / 166 \text{ cm}^3 \rightarrow$  Consumes 1/4 of Allowed Total Volume !





## ► Full Active Power Pulsation Buffer (1)

- **Large Voltage Fluctuation Foil or Ceramic Capacitor**
- **Buck- or Boost-Type DC/DC Interface Converter**
- **Buck-Type allows Utilizing 600V Technology**



CeraLink  
TDK



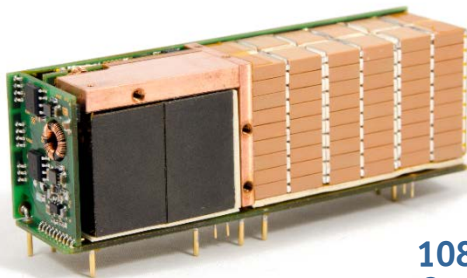
108 x 1.2  $\mu\text{F}$  / 400 V  
 $C_k \approx 140 \mu\text{F}$   
 $V_{ck} = 23.7 \text{cm}^3$

- **Significantly Lower Overall Volume Compared to Electrolytic Capacitor**

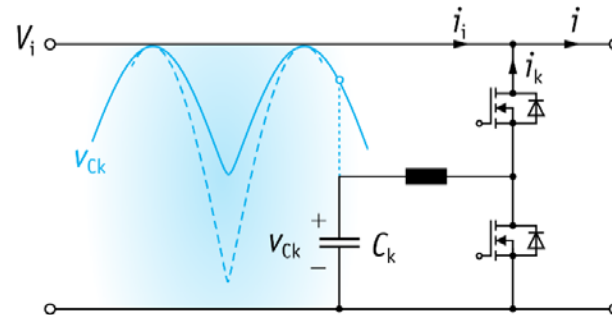


## ► Full Active Power Pulsation Buffer (2)

- Large Voltage Fluctuation Foil or Ceramic Capacitor
- Buck- or Boost-Type DC/DC Interface Converter
- Buck-Type allows Utilizing 600V Technology



$108 \times 1.2 \mu\text{F} / 400 \text{ V}$   
 $C_k \approx 140 \mu\text{F}$   
 $V_{Ck} = 23.7 \text{ cm}^3$



- Significantly Lower Overall Volume Compared to Electrolytic Capacitor

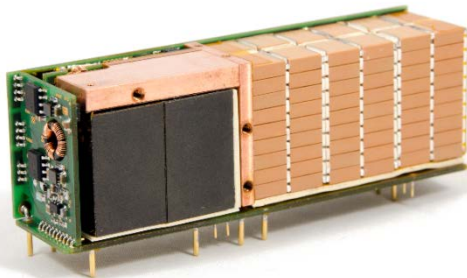


## ► CeraLink vs. Class II MLCC (X6S) Large-Signal Analysis

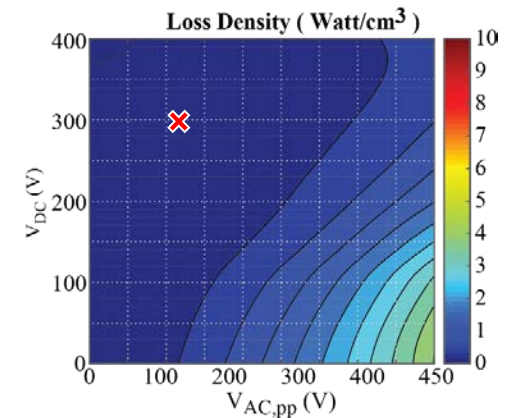
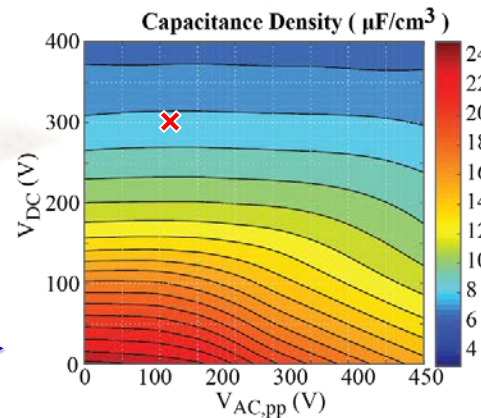
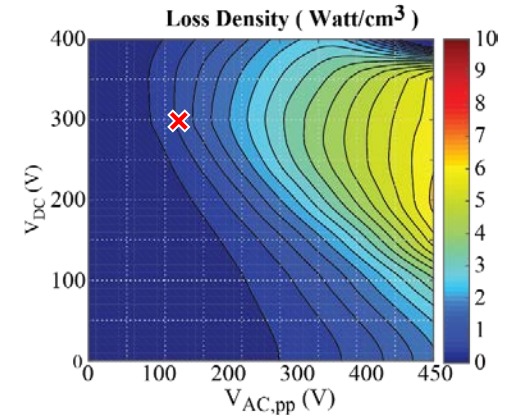
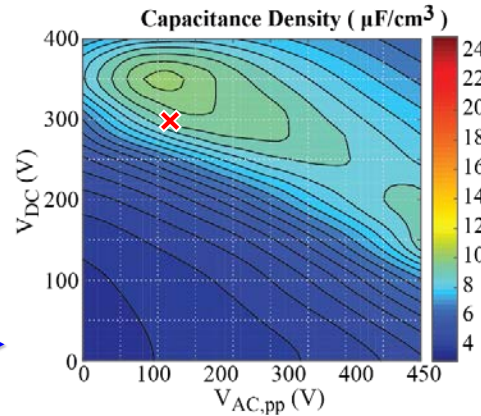
- Variation of DC Bias and Superimposed AC Voltage @ 60°C Operating Temp.

✗ Designed Op. Point

EPCOS/TKD  
CeraLink 2μF, 600V ►



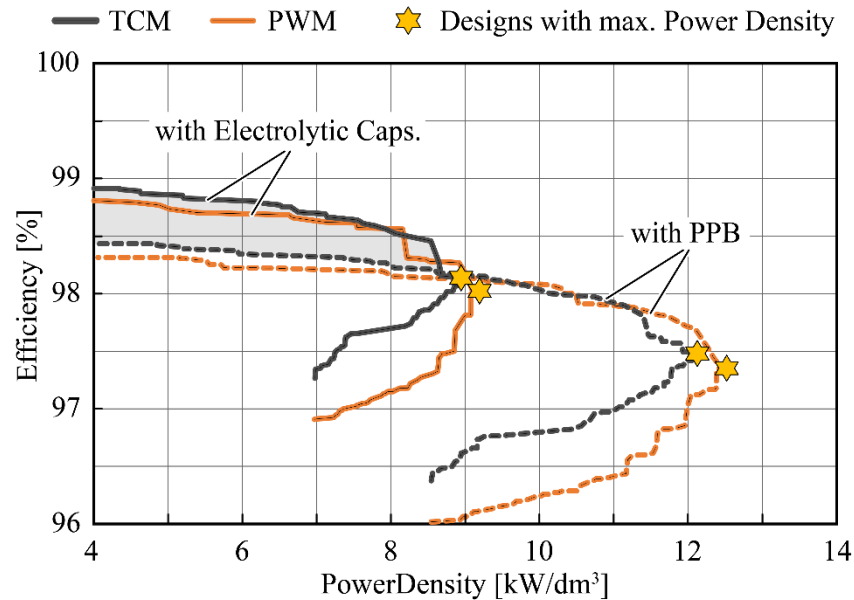
TDK Class II  
X6S MLCC 2.2μF, 450V ►



- PPB Design Optimiz. Requires Large-Signal Capacitance and Power Loss Data in All Operating Points

## ► Power Pulsation Buffer (PPB) vs. Electrolytic Capacitor

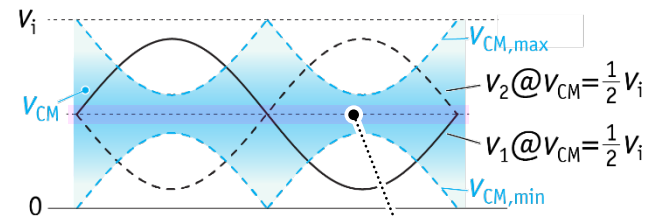
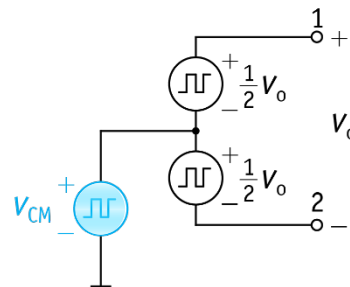
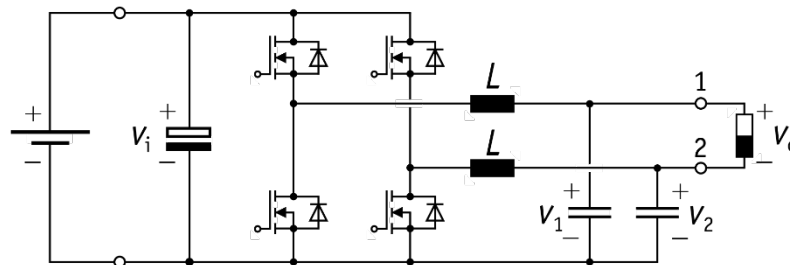
- Analysis for Google Little Box Challenge Specification  $\Delta V/V < 3\%$
- Efficiency Benefit of PPB only for  $\rho > 9\text{kW/dm}^3$



- Electrolytics Favorable for High Efficiency @ Moderate Power Density ( $\Delta\eta = +0.5\%$ )
- Electrolytics Show Lower Vol. & Lower Losses if Large  $\Delta V/V$  is Acceptable (e.g. for PFC Rectifiers)

## ► Symmetric PWM Full-Bridge AC/DC Conv. Topology

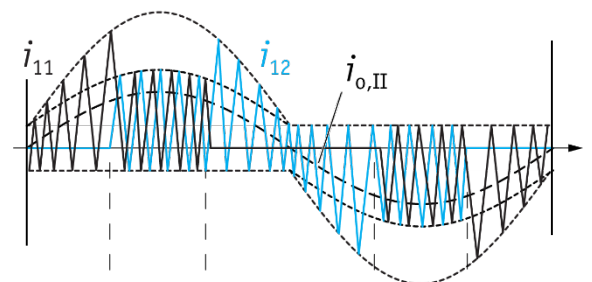
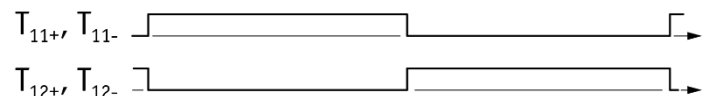
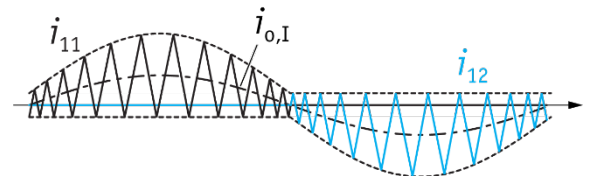
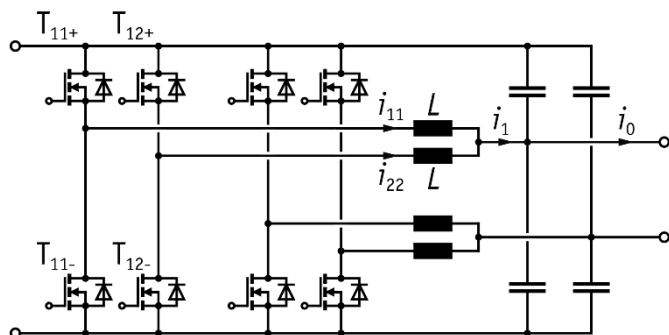
- Symmetric PWM Operation of Both Bridge Legs
- No Low-Frequency CM Output Voltage Component



- DM Component of  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  Defines Output  $u_o$
- CM Component of  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  Represents Degree of Freedom of the Modulation (!)

## ► 4D - Interleaving

- Interleaving of 2 Bridge Legs per Phase - Volume / Filtering / Efficiency Optimum
- Interleaving in Space & Time – Within Output Period
- Alternate Operation of Bridge Legs @ Low Power
- Overlapping Operation @ High Power

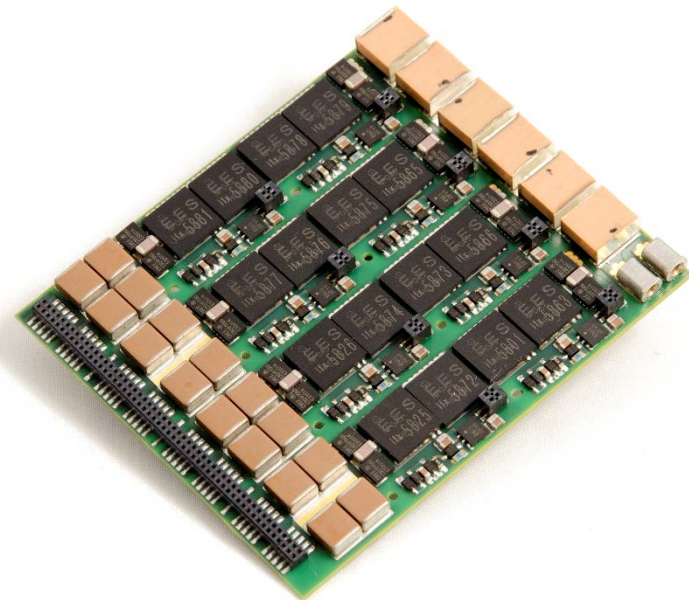
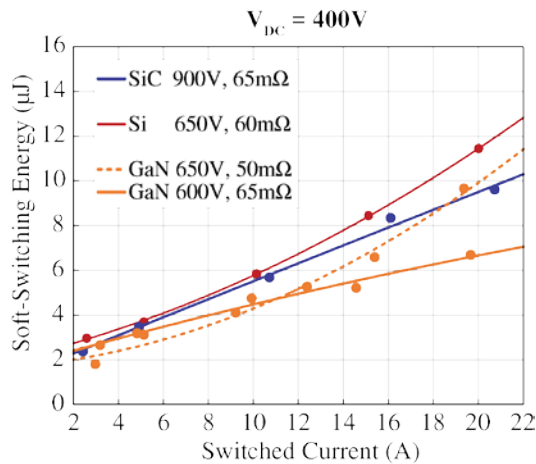
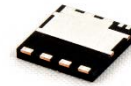


- Opt. Trade-Off of Conduction & Switching Losses / Opt. Distribution of Losses



## ► Selected Power Semiconductors

- 600V IFX Normally-Off GaN GIT - ThinPAK8x8
  - 2 Parallel Transistors / Switch
  - Antiparallel CREE SiC Schottky Diodes
- 1.2V typ. Gate Threshold Voltage
  - 55 mΩ  $R_{DS,on}$  @ 25°C, 120mΩ @ 150°C
  - 5Ω Internal Gate Resistance



- CeraLink Capacitors for DC Voltage Buffering

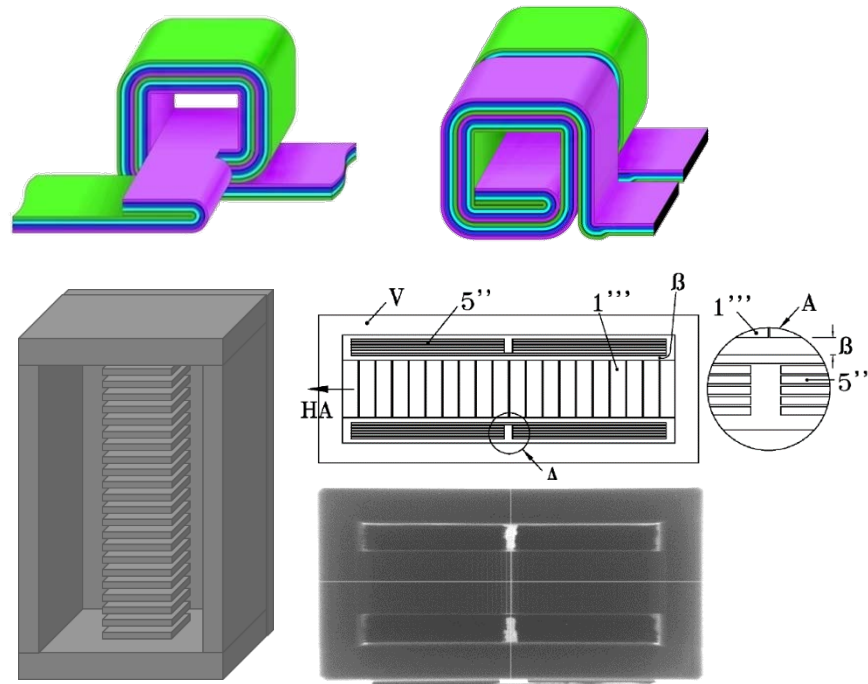
## ► High Frequency Multi Air Gap Inductor

- Multi-Airgap Inductor with Multi-Layer Foil Winding Arrangement Minim. Prox. Effect
- Very High Filling Factor / Low High Frequency Losses
- Magnetically Shielded Construction Minimizing EMI
- Intellectual Property of F. Zajc / Fraza

- $L = 10.5 \mu\text{H}$
- 2 x 8 Turns
- 24 x  $80 \mu\text{m}$  Airgaps
- Core Material DMR 51 / Hengdian
- 0.61mm Thick Stacked Plates
- 20  $\mu\text{m}$  Copper Foil / 4 in Parallel
- 7  $\mu\text{m}$  Kapton Layer Isolation
- 20m $\Omega$  Winding Resistance /  $Q \approx 600$
- Terminals in No-Leakage Flux Area



■ Dimensions - 14.5 x 14.5 x 22mm<sup>3</sup>

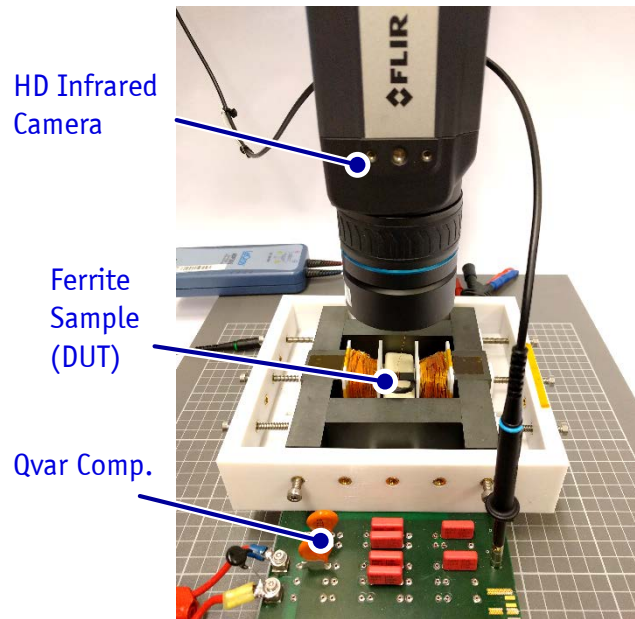




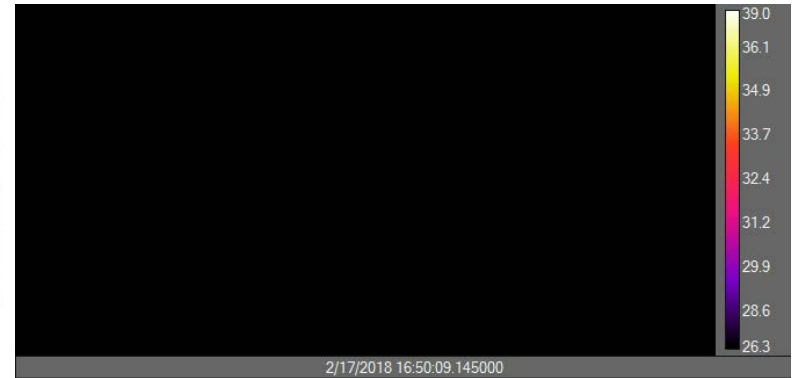
## ► Composite Core - Temperature Rise Recording

### ■ Temperature Rise Comparison of Solid Core and MAG Sample

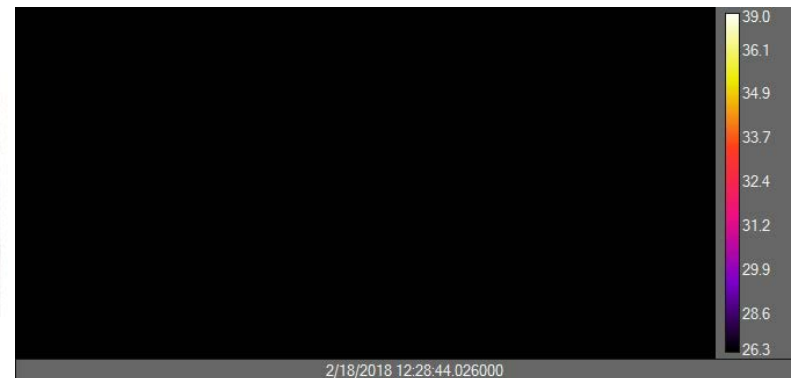
- Sinusoidal Excitation 100 mT / 400 kHz
- Solid 3F4 (1 x 21.6 mm) vs. MAG 3F4 (7 x 3mm)
- $\Delta T = 10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $T_0 = 26.3\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



▲ Surface Loss Test Setup W/ Res. Cap. Bank and Infrared Camera



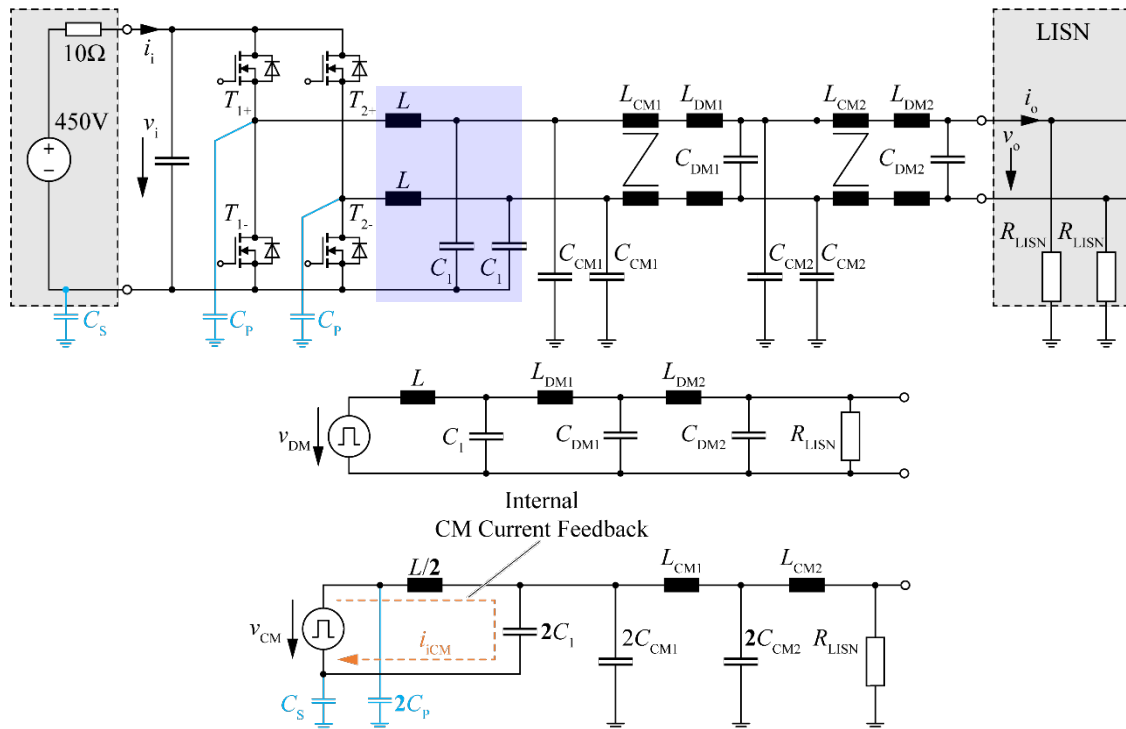
▲ 3F4 Solid Sample Temperature Rise



▲ 3F4 MAG Sample (7 x 3mm) Temperature Rise

## ► EMI Filter (1)

- Filter Structure with Internal CM Capacitor Feedback
- Filtering to DC- (and optional to DC+)

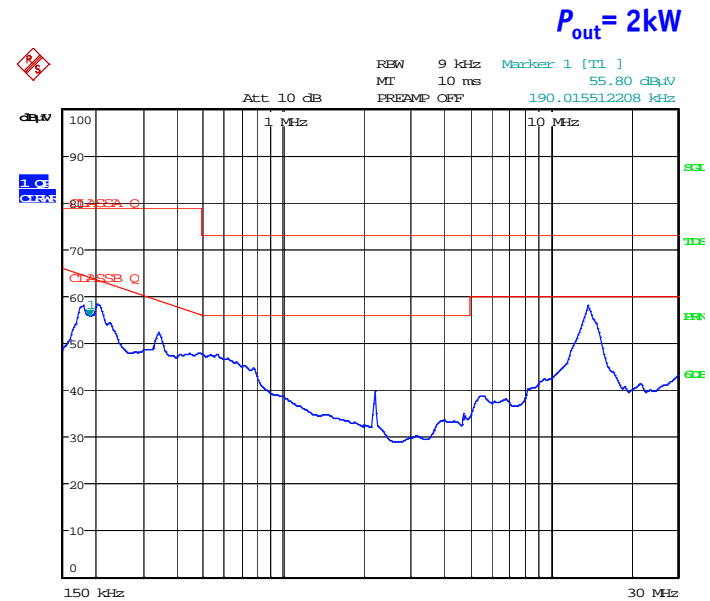
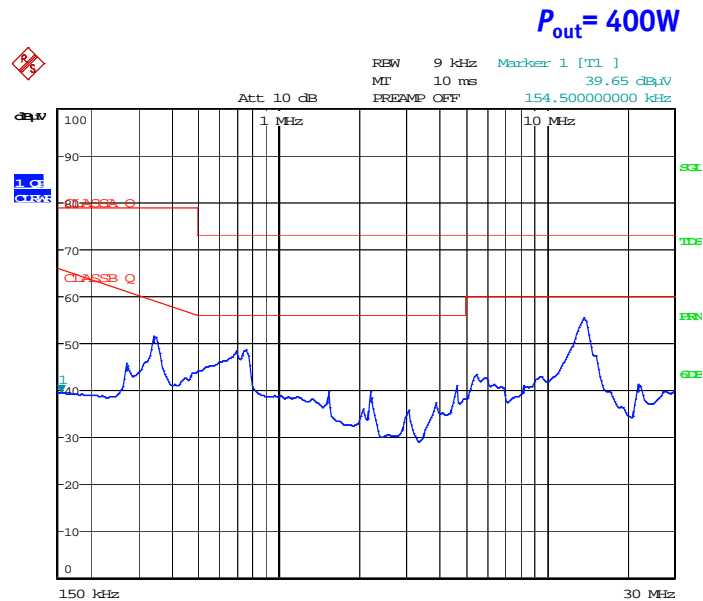


Test Receiver

- No Limitation of CM Capacitor  $C_1$  Due to Earth Current Limit →  $\mu\text{F}$  Instead of  $\text{nF}$  Can be Employed
- Allows Downsizing of CM Inductor and/or Total Filter Volume

## ► EMI Filter (2)

- System Employing Electrolytic Capacitors as 1- $\phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

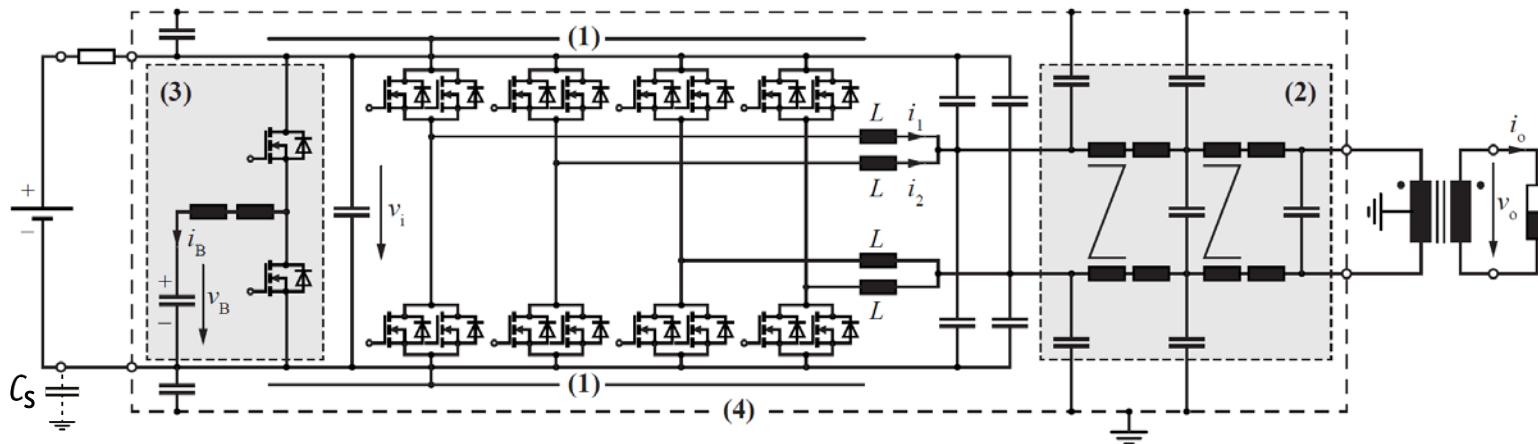


- Compliant to All Specifications

## ► Complete Little Box 1.0 Converter Topology

- Interleaving of 2 Bridge Legs per Phase
- Active DC-Side Buck-Type Power Pulsation Buffer
- 2-Stage EMI AC Output Filter

- (1) Heat Sink
- (2) EMI Filter
- (3) Power Pulsation Buffer
- (4) Enclosure

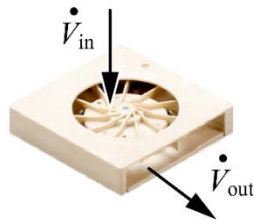


- ZVS of All Bridge Legs @ Turn-On/Turn-Off in Whole Operating Range (4D-TCM-Interleaving)
- Heatsinks Connected to DC Bus / Shield to Prevent Cap. Coupling to Grounded Enclosure

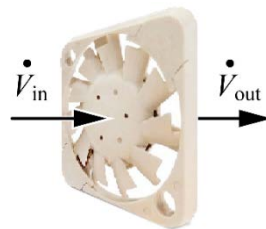
## ► Thermal Management Building Blocks

- Overall Cooling Performance Defined by Selected Fan Type and Heatsink

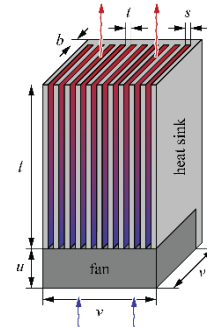
- Radial Blower



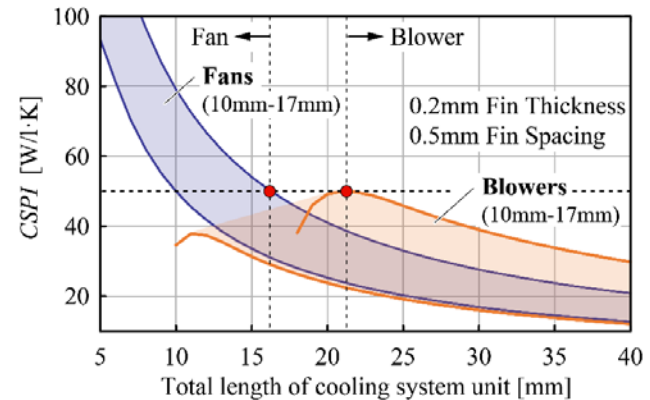
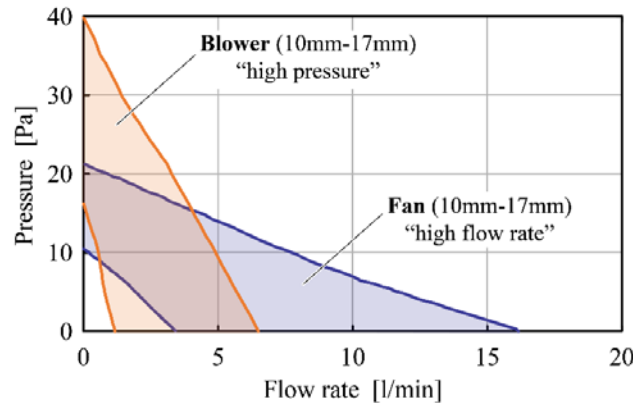
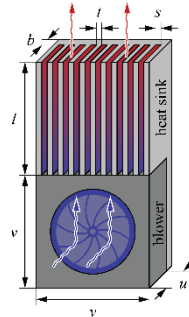
- Axial Fan



- Square Cross Section of Heatsink for Using a Fan



- Flat and Wide Heatsink for Blower

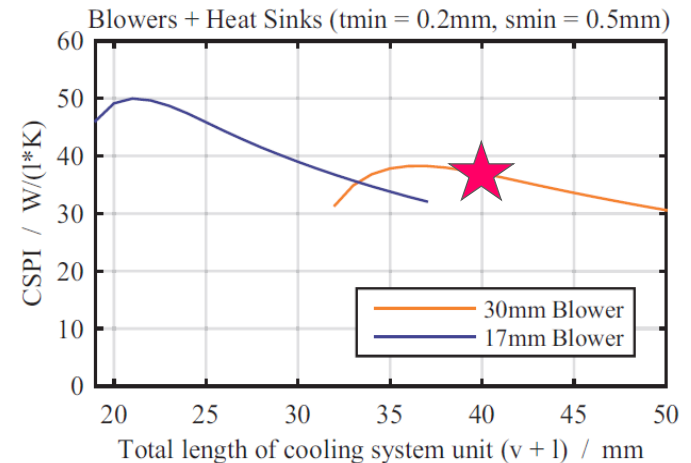
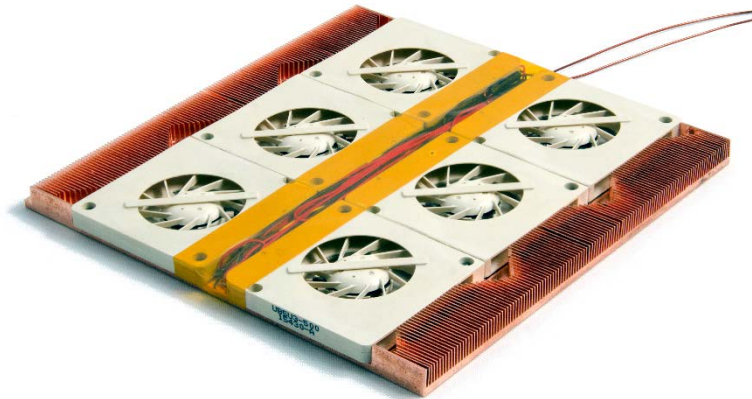


- Optimal Fan and Heat Sink Configuration Defined by Total Cooling System Length
- Cooling Concept with Blower Selected → Higher CSPI for Larger Mounting Surface

## ► Final Thermal Management Concept

- 30mm Blowers with Axial Air Intake / Radial Outlet
- Full Optimization of the Heatsink Parameters

- 200um Fin Thickness
- 500um Fin Spacing
- 3mm Fin Height
- 10mm Fin Length
- CSPI = 37 W/(dm<sup>3</sup>.K)
- 1.5mm Baseplate



- $CSPI_{eff} = 25 \text{ W}/(\text{dm}^3.\text{K})$  Considering Heat Distribution Elements
- Two-Side Cooling → Heatsink Temperature = 52°C @ 80W (8W by Natural Convection)

## ► Little Box 1.0 – Prototype (1)

- System Employing Active 1- $\Phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

- 8.2 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>
- 8.9cm x 8.8cm x 3.1cm
- 96,3% Efficiency @ 2kW
- $T_c=52^\circ\text{C}$  @ 2kW

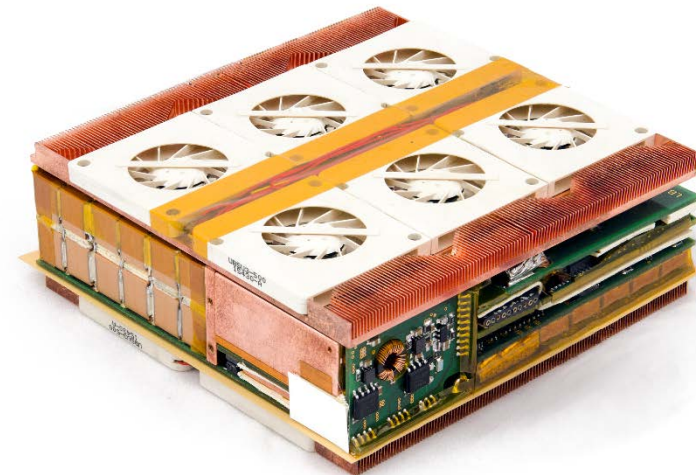
- $\Delta u_{DC} = 1.1\%$
- $\Delta i_{DC} = 2.8\%$
- $THD+N_U = 2.6\%$
- $THD+N_I = 1.9\%$

- Compliant to All *Original Specifications* (!)

- No Low-Frequ. CM Output Voltage Component
- No Overstressing of Components
- All Own IP / Patents



★ 135 W/in<sup>3</sup>



## ► Little Box 1.0 – Prototype (2)

- System Employing Active 1- $\Phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

- 8.2 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>
- 8.9cm x 8.8cm x 3.1cm
- 96,3% Efficiency @ 2kW
- $T_c=52^\circ\text{C}$  @ 2kW

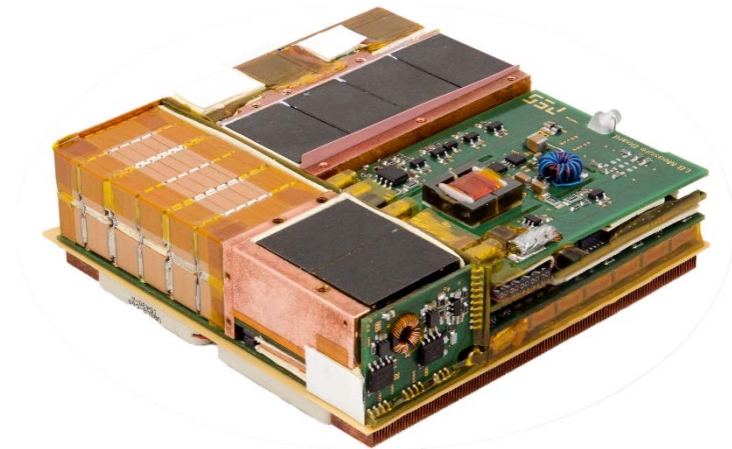
- $\Delta u_{DC} = 1.1\%$
- $\Delta i_{DC} = 2.8\%$
- $THD+N_U = 2.6\%$
- $THD+N_I = 1.9\%$

- Compliant to All *Original Specifications* (!)

- No Low-Frequ. CM Output Voltage Component
- No Overstressing of Components
- All Own IP / Patents



★ 135 W/in<sup>3</sup>





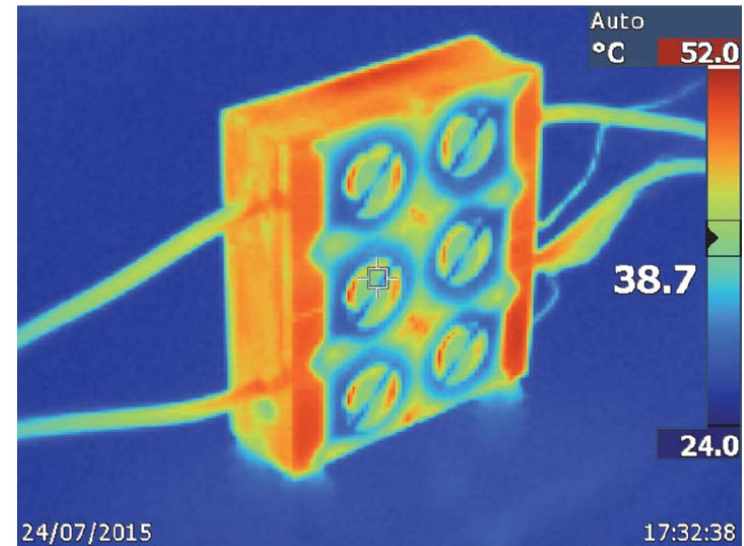
## ► Little Box 1.0 – Prototype (3)

- System Employing Active 1- $\Phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

- 8.2 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>
- 8.9cm x 8.8cm x 3.1cm
- 96,3% Efficiency @ 2kW
- $T_c=52^\circ\text{C}$  @ 2kW
- $\Delta u_{\text{DC}}= 1.1\%$
- $\Delta i_{\text{DC}}= 2.8\%$
- $\text{THD}+N_U= 2.6\%$
- $\text{THD}+N_I= 1.9\%$

- Compliant to All *Original Specifications* (!)

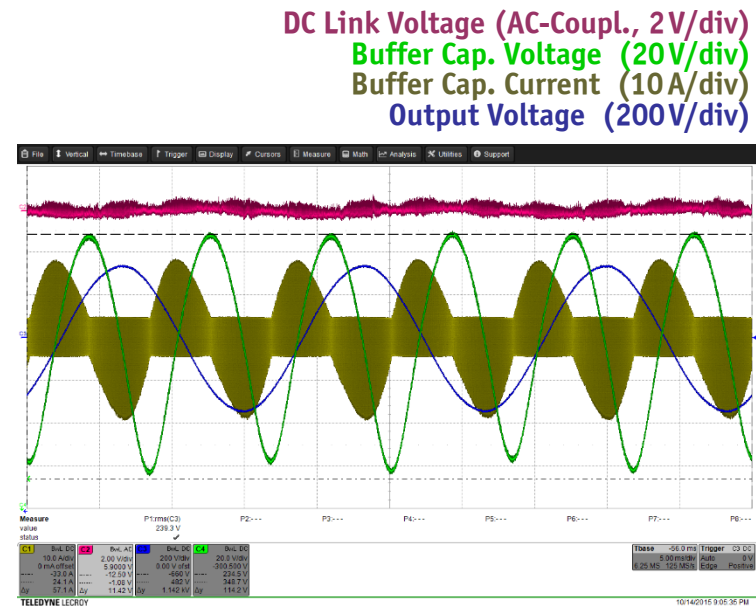
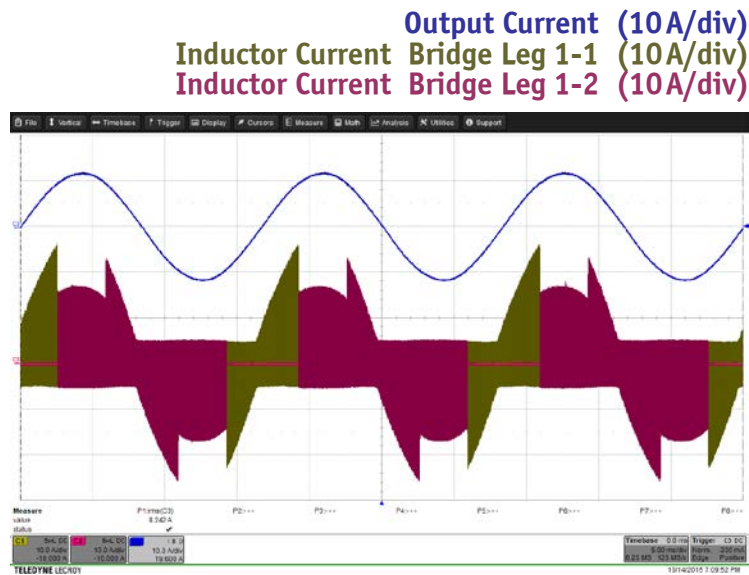
- No Low-Frequ. CM Output Voltage Component
- No Overstressing of Components
- All Own IP / Patents



## ▶ Little Box 1.0 – Measurement Results

- System Employing Active Ceralink 1- $\Phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

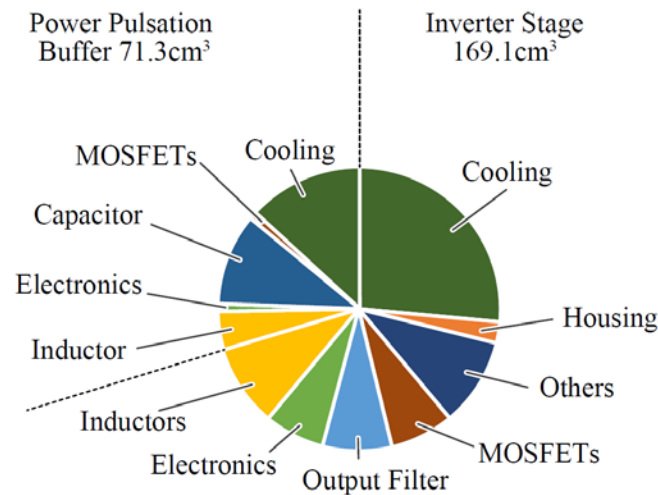
- Ohmic Load / 2kW



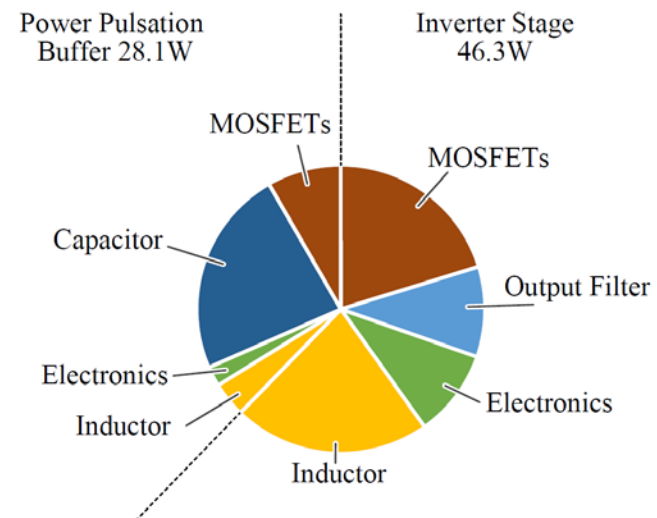
- Compliant to All Specifications

## ► Little Box 1.0 – Volume & Loss Distribution

### ● Volume Distribution (240cm<sup>3</sup>)

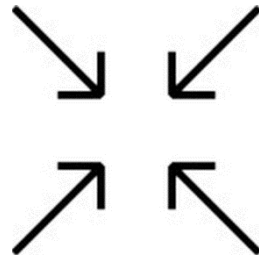


### ● Loss Distribution (75W)



- Large Heatsink (incl. Heat Conduction Layers)
- Large Losses in Power Fluctuation Buffer Capacitor (!)
- TCM Causes Relatively High Conduction & Switching Losses @ Low Power
- Relatively Low Switching Frequency @ High Power – Determines EMI Filter Volume

## Little Box 2.0

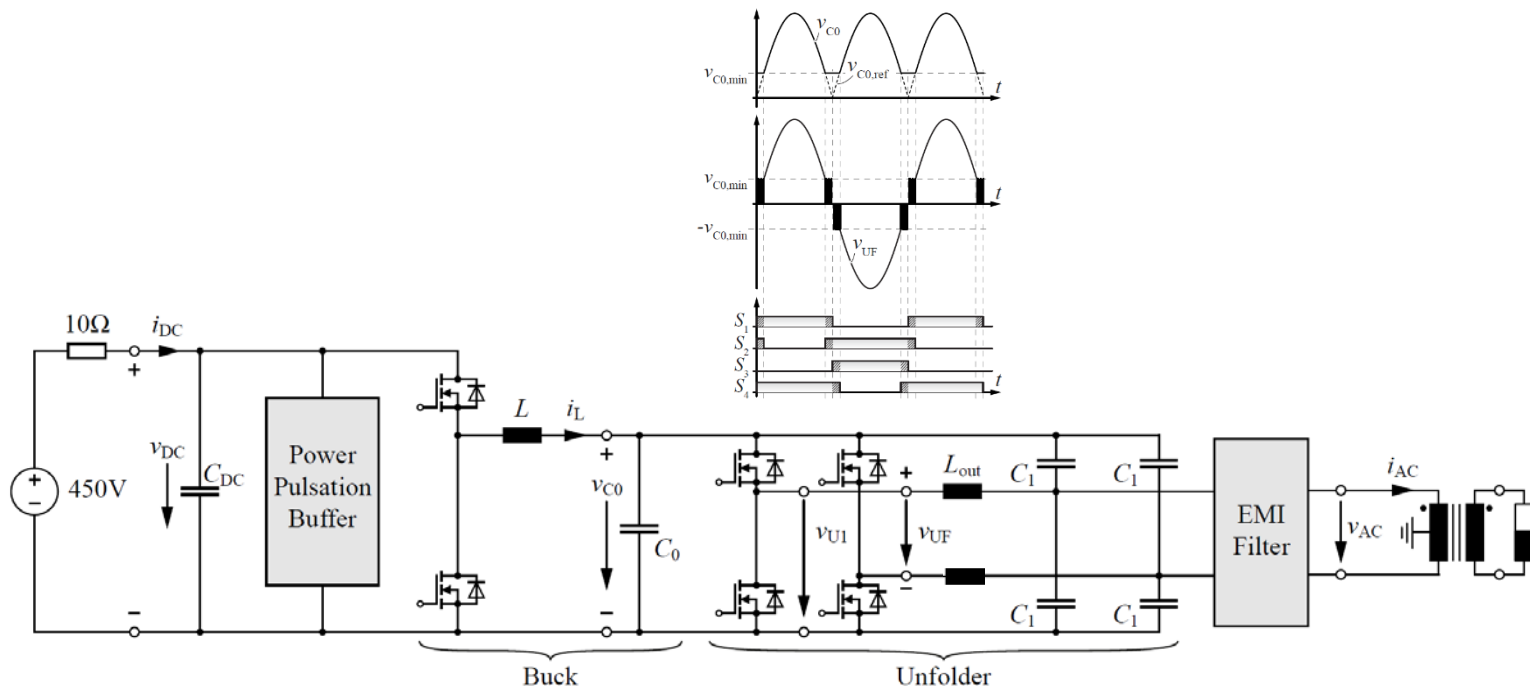


250 W/in<sup>3</sup>

DC/AC Converter + Unfolder  
PWM vs. TCM incl. Interleaving  
 $\eta$ -Pareto Limits for Non-Ideal Switches  
Preliminary Exp. Results

## ► Little Box 2.0 – New Converter Topology

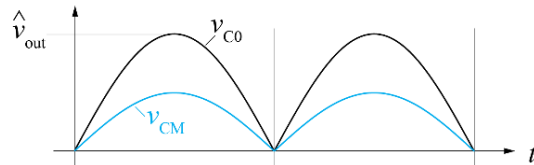
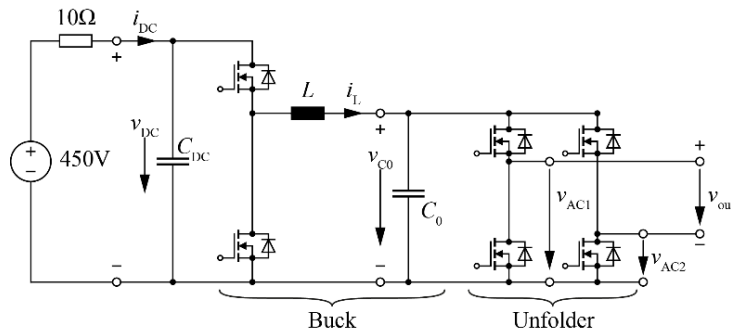
- **Alternative Converter Topology - DC/ | AC | - Buck Converter + Unfolder**
- **60Hz-Unfolder (Temporary PWM for Ensuring Continuous Current Control)**
- **TCM or PWM of DC/ | AC | - Buck-Converter**



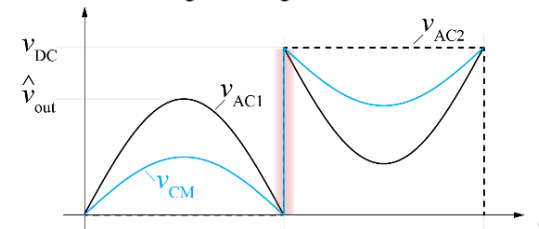
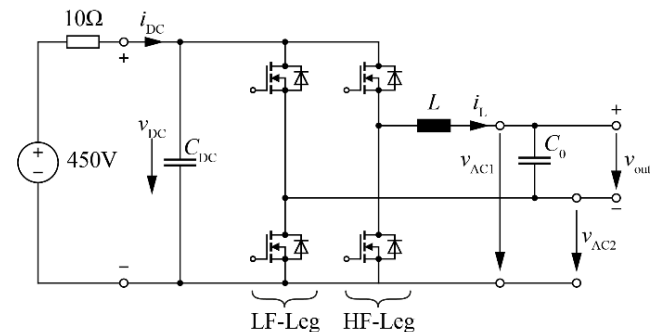
- **Full Optimization of All Converter Options for Real Switches / X6S Power Pulsation Buffer**

## ► Little Box 1.0 – New Converter Topology (2)

- **Alternative Converter Topology** → Only Single HF Bridge Leg + 60Hz-Unfolder
- **DC/|AC| - Buck Converter + Full-Bridge Unfolder** OR **HF Half-Bridge & Half-Bridge Unfolder**



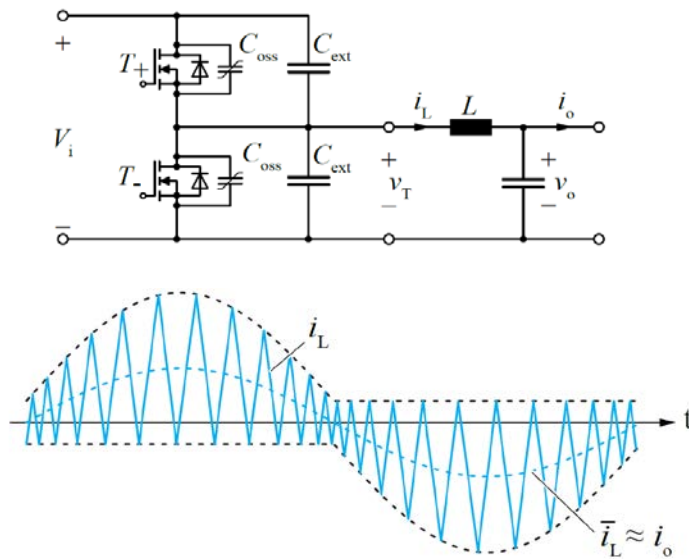
- $v_{C0}$  Easy to Generate/Control
- Higher Conduction Losses Due to FB-Unfolder
- Lower CM-Noise (DC &  $n \times 120\text{Hz-Comp.}$ )
- $C_{CM}=700\text{nF}$  Allowed for 50mA



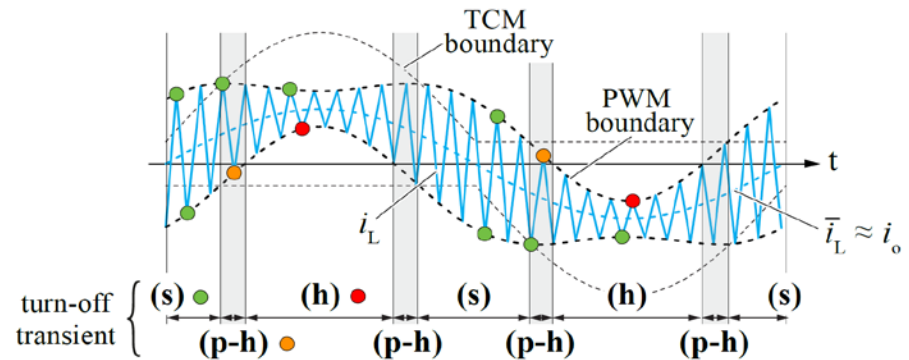
- $v_{AC1}$  More Difficult to Generate/Control
- Lower Conduction Losses
- Higher CM-Noise (DC and  $n \times 120\text{Hz-Comp.}$ )
- $C_{CM}=150\text{nF}$  Allowed for 50mA

## ► TCM Vs. PWM W/ Large Current Ripple

- **Very High Sw. Frequency  $f_s$  of TCM Around Current Zero Crossings**
- **Efficiency Reduction due to Residual TCM Sw. Losses & Gate Drive Losses Reduction**
- **Wide  $f_s$ -Variation Represents Adv. & Disadvantage for EMI Filter Design**



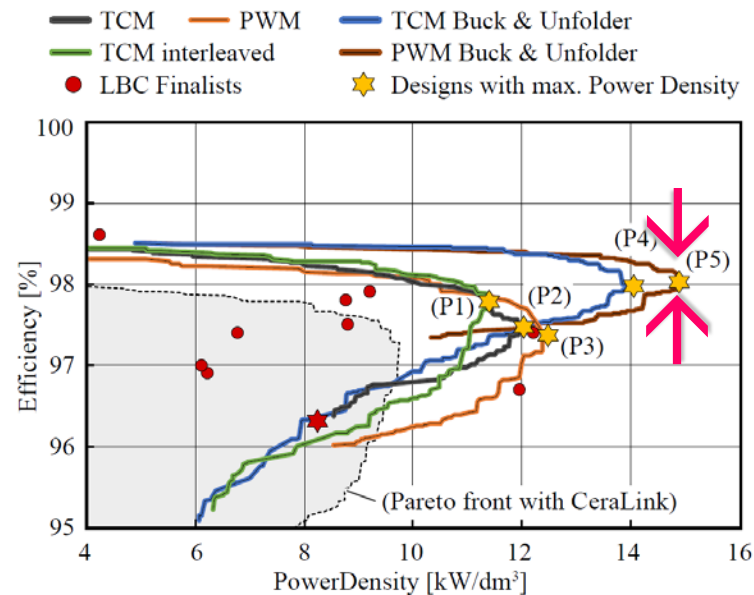
(s) Soft-Switching (ZVS)  
 (p-h) Partial Hard Switching  
 (h) Hard-Switching



- **PWM -- Const. Sw. Frequency & Lower Conduction Losses**
- **PWM @ Large Current Rippel -- ZVS in Wide Intervals**

## ▶ Little Box – Multi-Objective Optimization

- **DC/AC - Buck Converter + Unfolder & PWM Shows Best Performance**
- **Full-Bridge Employs 2 Switching Bridge Legs - Larger Volume & Losses**
- **Interleaving Not Advantageous – Lower Heatsink Vol. but Larger Total Vol. of Switches and Inductors**



■  $\rho = 250\text{W/in}^3$  ( $15\text{kW/dm}^3$ ) @  $\eta = 98\%$  Efficiency Achievable for Full Optimization



## ▶ Little Box 2.0 – Prototype

- System Employing Active 1- $\Phi$  Power Pulsation Buffer

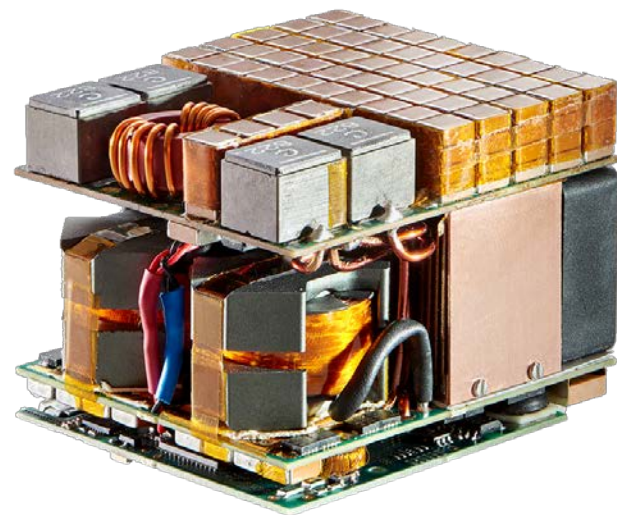
- 14.8 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>
- 6.0 cm x 5.0 cm x 4.5 cm = 135 cm<sup>3</sup>
- 97.8 % Efficiency @ 2kW

- Compliant to Revised Specifications (!)

- Compliant to 50 mA Ground Current Lim.
- No Overstressing of Components
- All Own IP / Patents

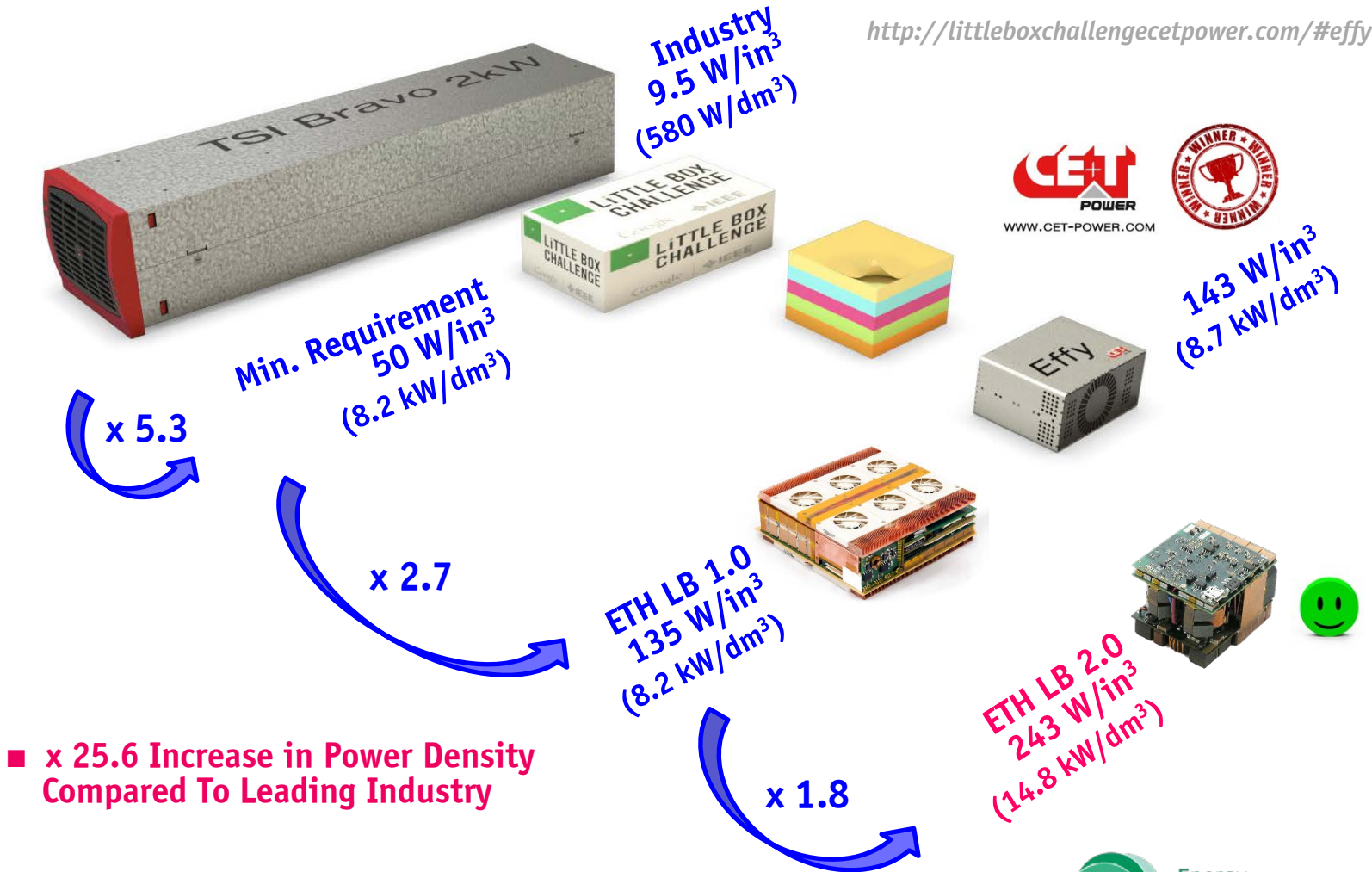


★ 243 W/in<sup>3</sup>



## ► Little Box 2.0 – Power Density Benchmark

<http://littleboxchallengecetpower.com/#effy>

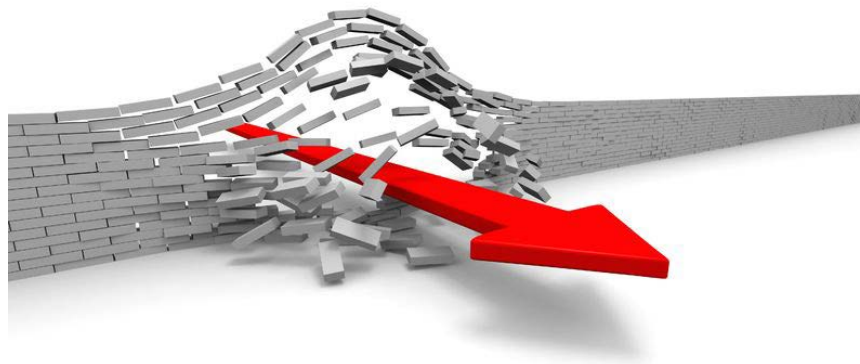


## Conclusions

*Summary  
Future Power Electronics Development  
"Stairway to Heaven"*

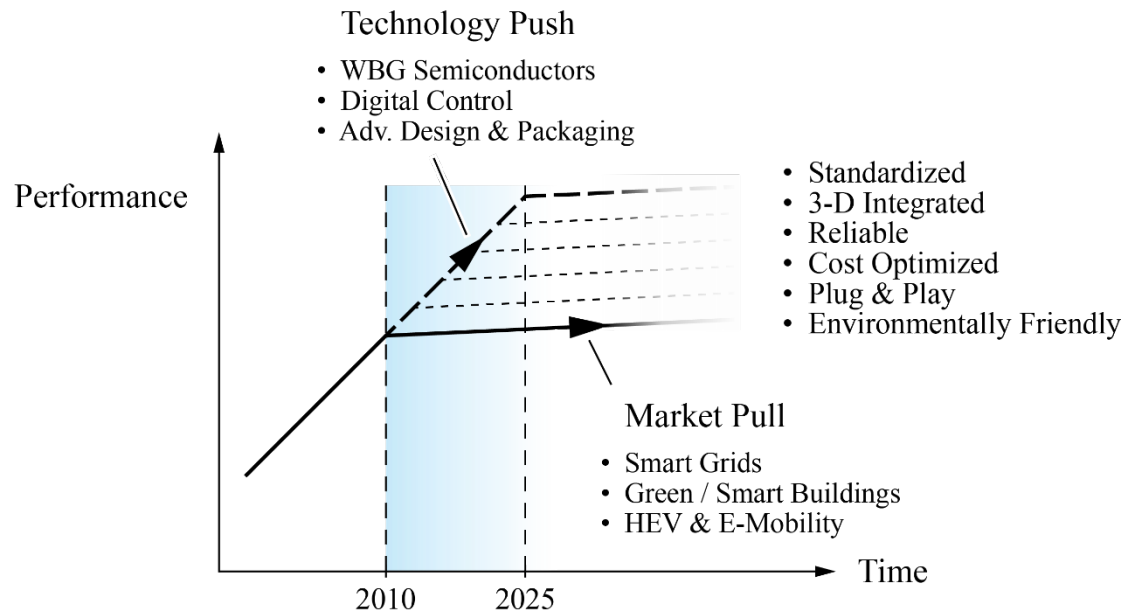
## ► Summary

- **Megatrends** – Renewable Energy / Energy Saving / E-Mobility / “SMART XXX”  
Demand Increasing Performance at Lower Cost
- Large Number of Degrees of Freedom – Materials / Components / Topology / Control
- **Multi-Objective Optimization** Allows To Identify Best Designs For Given Specs. and Side Conditions
- **ETH Among Top 10 Finalists** in the GLBC – Comp. To Realize the World Smallest 2 kW PV Inverter
- Little Box 1.0 x 14 Increase of Power Density Comp. to Industry Standard
- Further Improved Little Box 2.0 x 25 Increase of Power Density



## ► Future Development

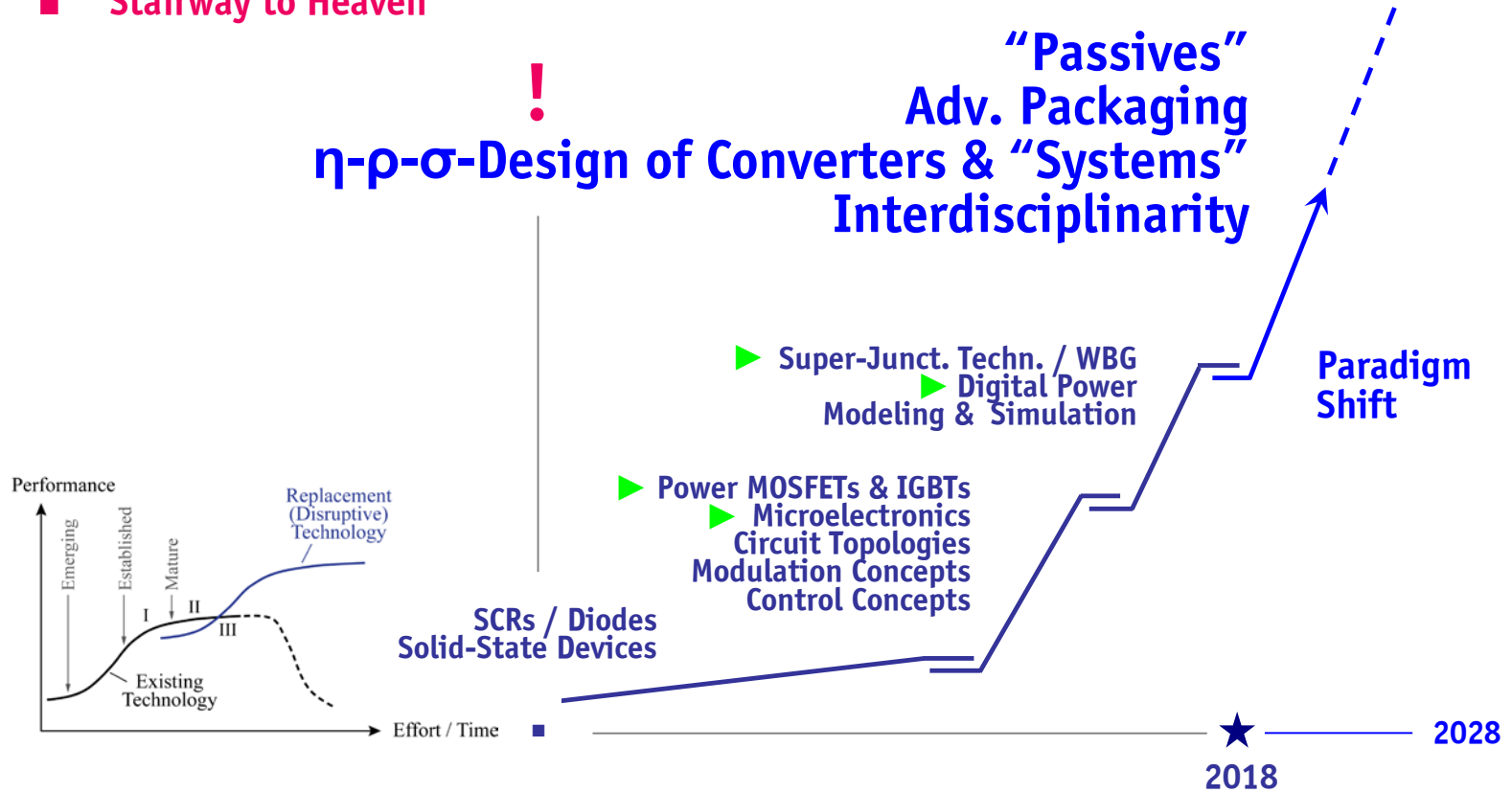
- **Megatrends – Renewable Energy / Energy Saving / E-Mobility / “SMART XXX”**
- **Power Electronics will Massively Spread in Applications**



- **More Application Specific Solutions**
- **Mature Technology – Cost Optimization @ Given Performance Level**
- **Design / Optimize / Verify (All in Simulation) - Faster / Cheaper / Better**

## ▶ Extrapolation of Technology S-Curve

### ■ "Stairway to Heaven"



**Thank You !**

