

USAGE AND ADVANTAGE OF FAST SWITCHING MV CONVERTERS FOR GRID EMULATION

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GE Vernova, Power Conversion

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Agenda

- Company presentation
- Core products
- Grid emulation
- Fast switching MV converters
- Summary

COMPANY PRESENTATION

For the new era of energy... a new company
with full focus on the energy transition



75K+

Employees globally in

100+

Countries

POWER

Gas Power, Hydro Power, Nuclear, Steam Power

WIND

LM Wind Power, Onshore Wind, Offshore Wind

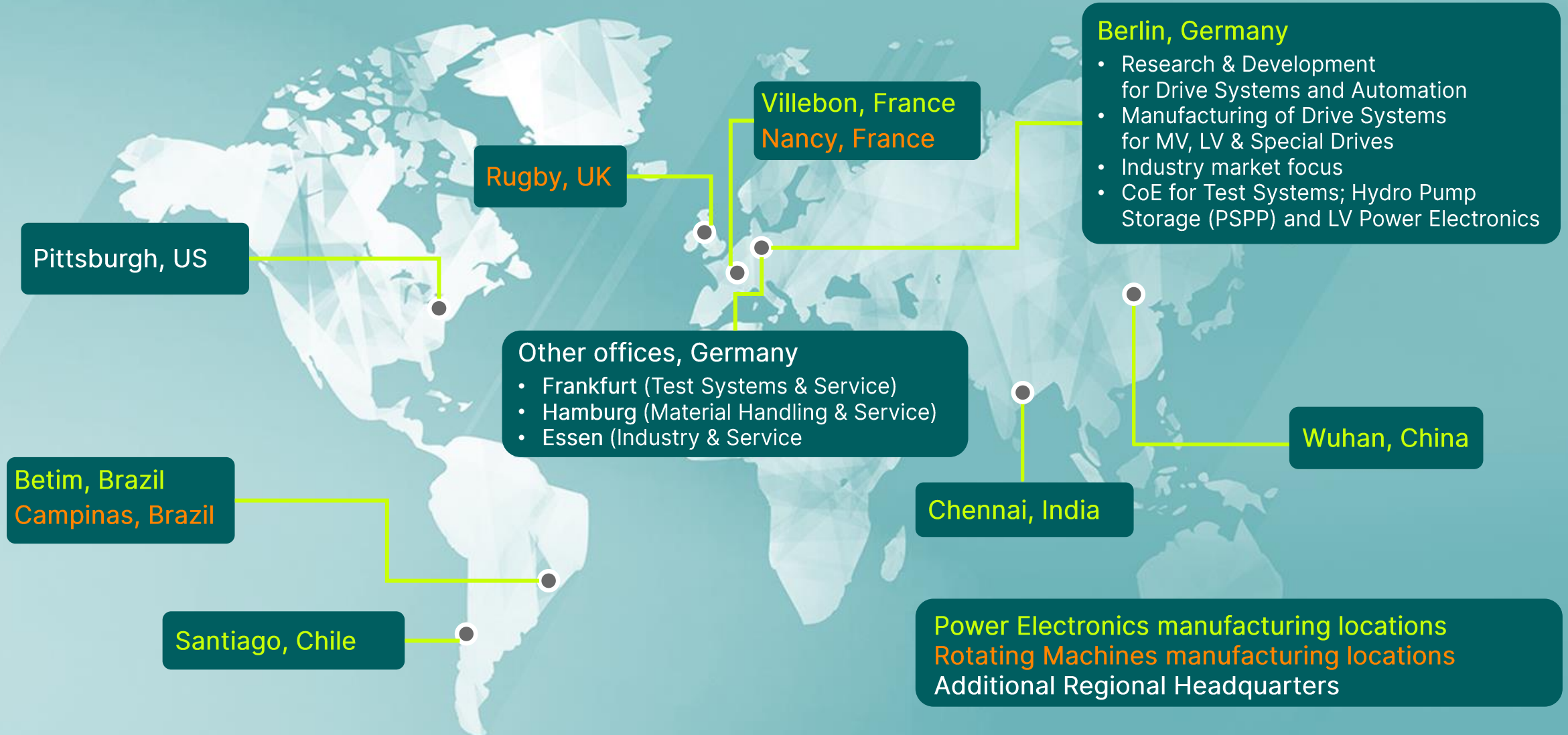
ELECTRIFICATION

Grid Solutions, Power Conversion, Solar & Storage
Solutions, Electrification Software

ACCELERATORS

Advanced Research, Consulting Services, Financial Services

Power Conversion worldwide – a global network



Serving mission critical sectors, driving the electric transformation of the world's energy infrastructure



Power

- Power Generation
- Power Supply & Primary Distribution
- Power Quality



Oil & Gas

- Upstream
- Midstream
- Downstream
- LNG



Industry

- Steel & Metals
- Mining & Hydrometallurgy
- Hydro Pump storage
- Rail
- Research & Test
- H2 & Microgrids



Marine

- Naval
- Offshore Industries
- Transportation
- Ports

Services

CORE PRODUCTS

OUR CORE PRODUCTS

POWER ELECTRONICS

- High power density
- High reliability and availability
- Power scalability

CONTROL & AUTOMATION

- Innovative design and supply of automation and control solutions
- High efficiency and enhanced asset availability through remote monitoring and data analytics



Low Voltage Drives

Modular and compact low voltage drives for reliable performance from 0.2 to 4MW at 270 up to 900V

- ✓ LV8
- ✓ LV7
- ✓ LV3



Medium Voltage Drives

Reliable, high performance medium voltage variable speed drives from 3 to 100+ MW at up to 33kV

- ✓ MV73XX
- ✓ MV76XX
- ✓ MM7



Special Voltage Drives

Air cooled excitation & startup converters, LCIs, rectifier, cyclo converters and liquid cooled thyristor-based units

- ✓ MiniSemi
- ✓ PowerSemi
- ✓ SemiPol
- ✓ PAXX
- ✓ PWXX



Control & Automation

- ✓ High Performance Controller (HPCi)
- ✓ Power Electronic Controller (PECe)
- ✓ Asset Management, analytics and operator Interface



Digital

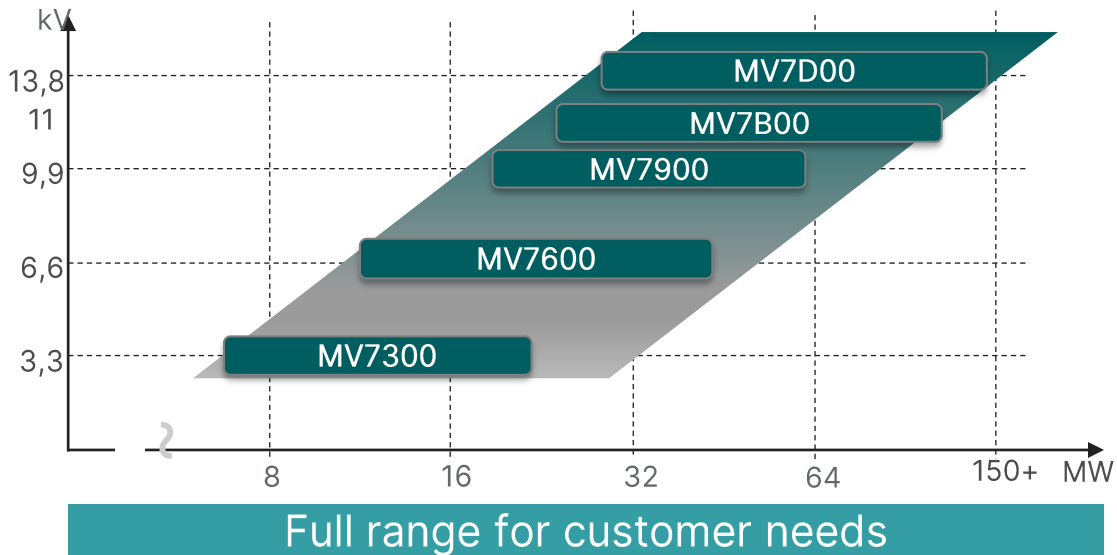
Power Conversion's Asset Performance Management (APM)

- ✓ Rotating machine analytics
- ✓ Drive Analytics

Digital Metals

MV7 SERIES

Proven MV7 medium-voltage drive [\(link\)](#) solution on various industry applications



MV7 is a drive technology delivering efficient and flexible control of electric power to all driven equipment

| Oil & Gas | Marine | Power & Industry |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Electrical LNG | Cruise ships | DSVC, Statcom |
| Electric steam cracker | Offshore drilling vessels | Hot and cold rolling mills |
| Gas transportation | Research vessels | Mine winders, SAG mills |
| High-speed | Mega-yachts | Water pump and transport |
| CO ₂ injection | Merchant vessels | <u>Wind test benches</u> |
| Booster | Navy support vessels | Pumping storage |
| LNG carriers | | Boiler feed pumps |
| Starter / Helper | | Rail SFCs, power supplies |
| Subsea | | |

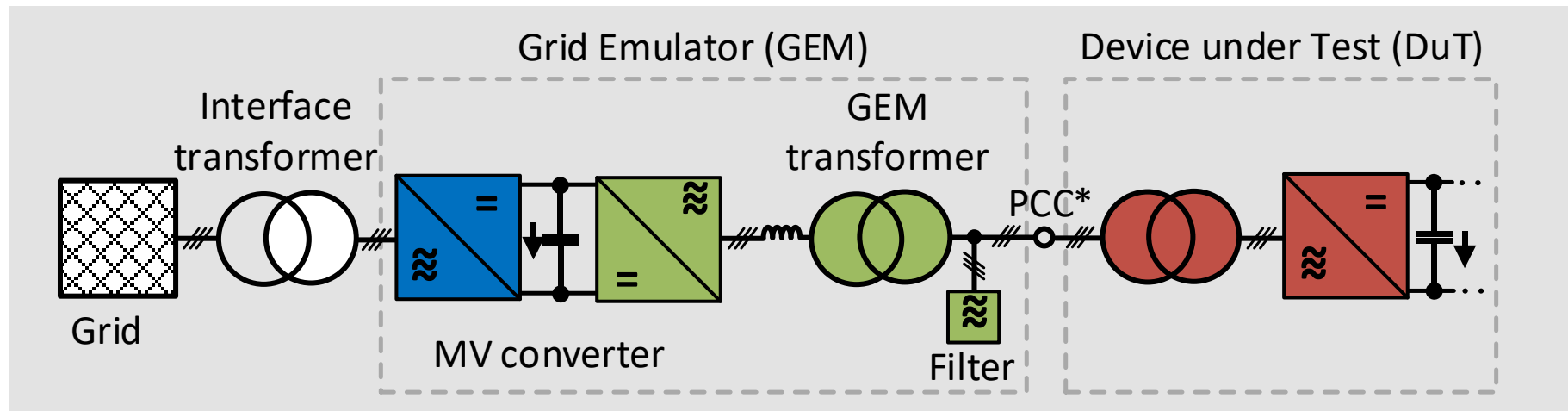
| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>HIGH PERFORMANCE</p> <p>High power density solution for various motor types (induction, synchronous, high-speed & permanent magnet) up to 100MW</p> | <p>RELIABILITY</p> <p>Extensive track record with more than 19 GW installed since 2005 allowing for more than 80 million hours of operation in various applications</p> | <p>MODULARITY</p> <p>MV7 drive provides a flexible, modular approach that uses common building blocks to achieve a customized solution</p> |
|---|--|---|

GRID EMULATION



Grid Emulation

- Use of MV converters with comparatively low switching frequency
- Devices under test up to appr. 15 MW
- Typical and new requirements for grid emulators (GEM):
 - Frequency range for cont. operation 45 – 65 Hz
 - Voltage range for continuous operation 90 – 110%
 - Voltage range for dynamic operation 0 - 150 %
 - Emulation of short-circuit ratio > 3
 - Total harmonic voltage distortion $THD_v < 2\%$
 - Harmonic injection with likely reaching up to 100th order

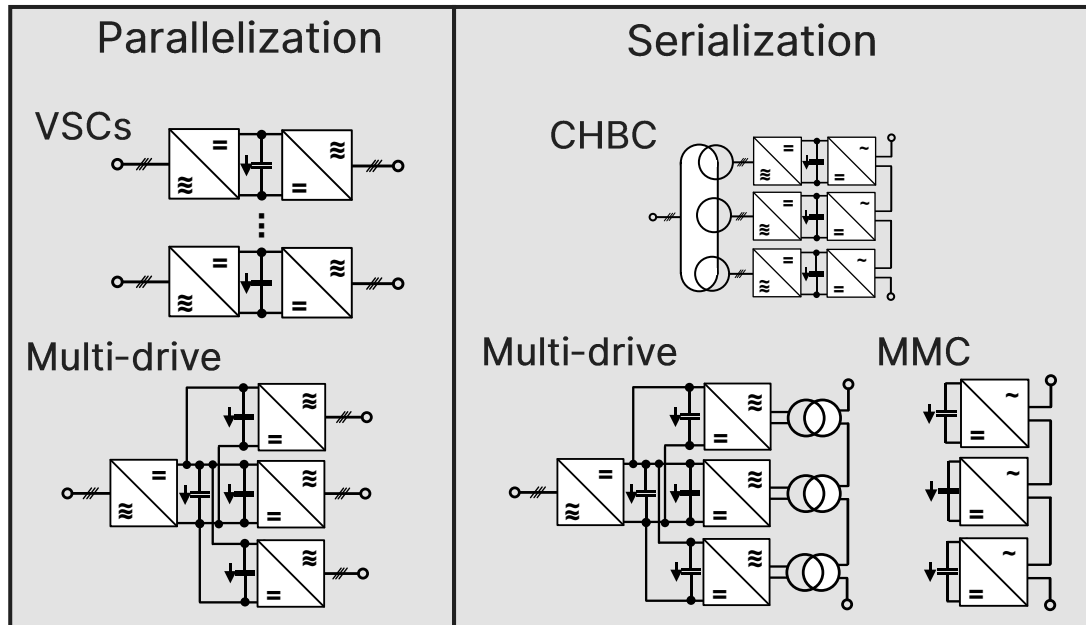


General setup of a grid emulator system

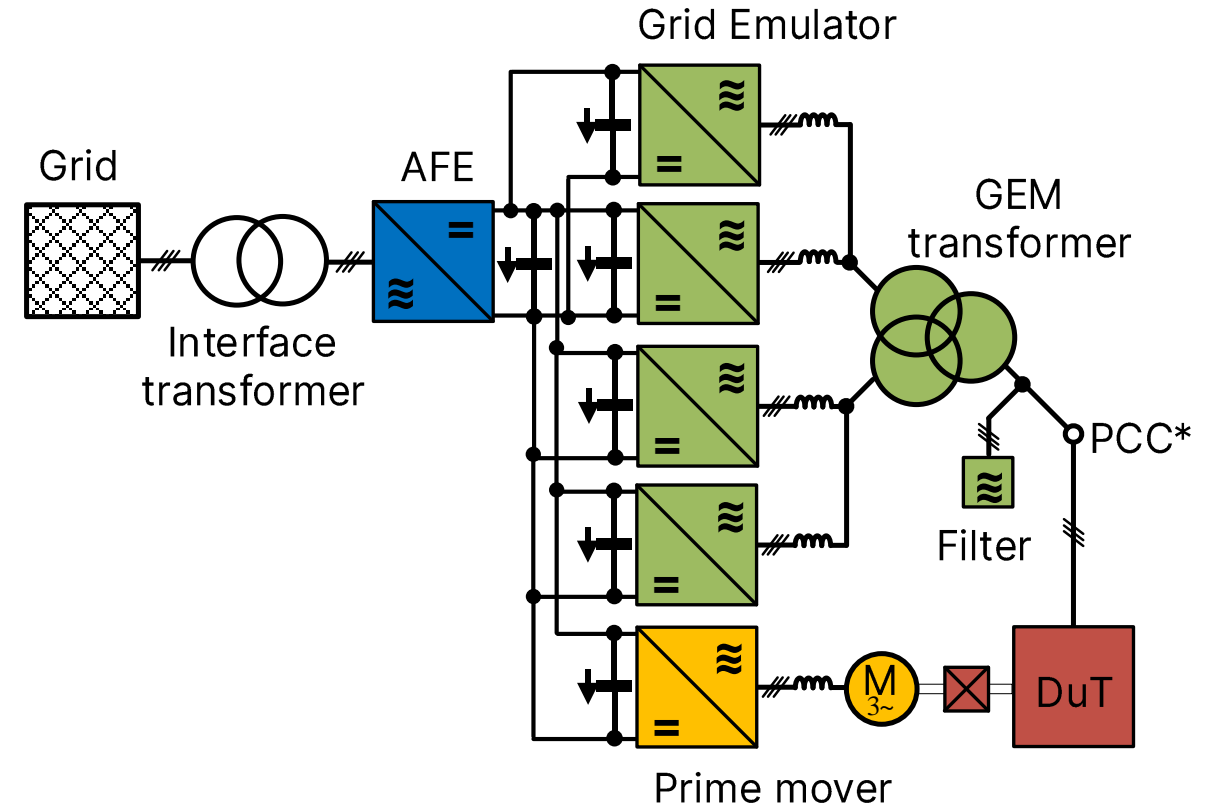
Grid Emulation

Configuration of grid emulator converters

- Parallelization and serialization concepts
- Derating of grid-emulator power



Converter configurations for grid emulation



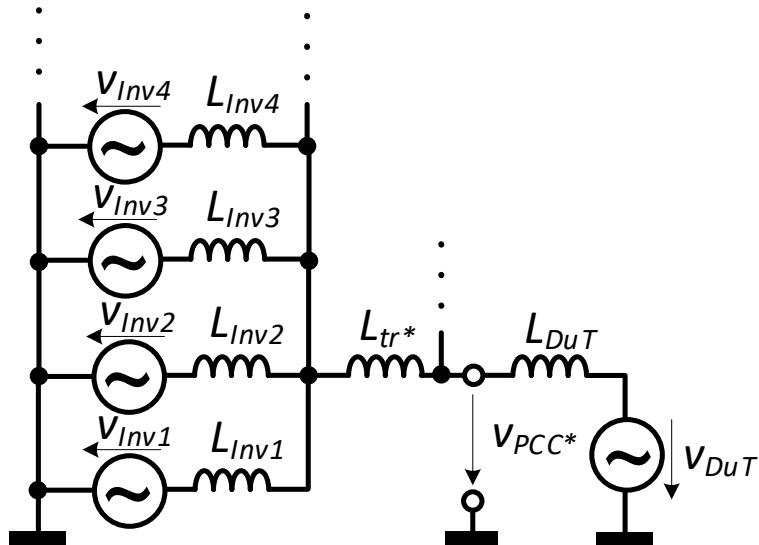
Grid emulator based on multi-drive converter system, cp. [1]

[1] C. Saniter and J. Janning, Test Bench for Grid Code Simulations for Multi-MW Wind Turbines, Design and Control, in IEEE Trans. on Power Electr., vol. 23, no. 4, pp. 1707 - 1715, July 2008

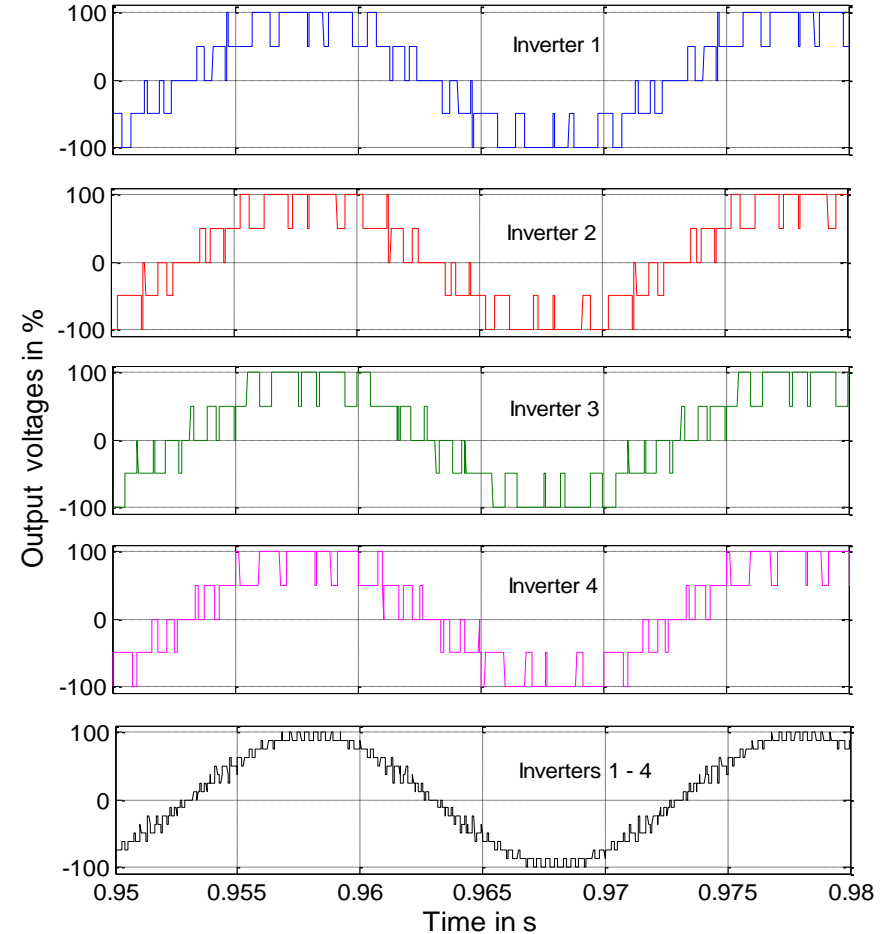
Grid Emulation

Paralleling of medium-voltage converters

- Pulse-interleaved pulse width modulation (PWM)
- Interposing (transformer) impedances
- Additional voltage levels at the GEM output



Equivalent circuit for parallelization of inverters



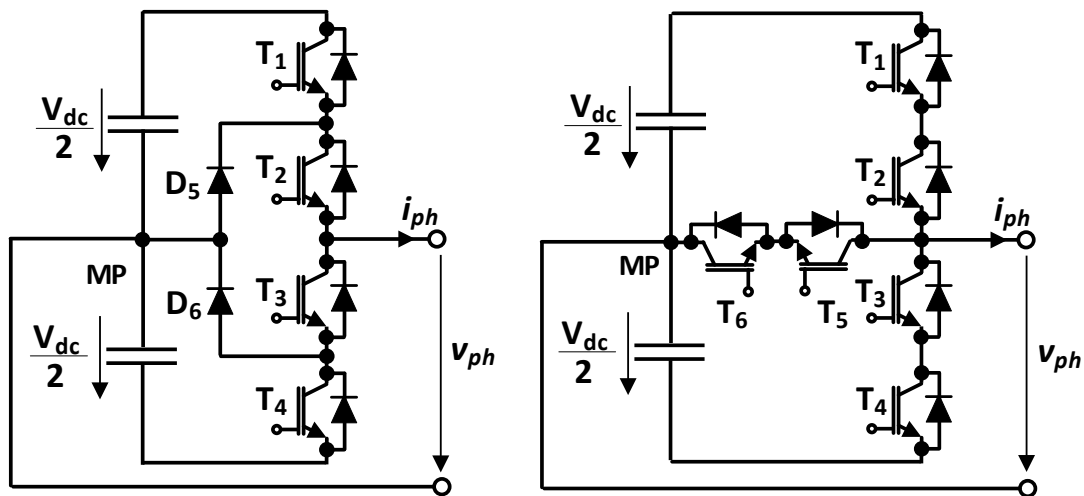
Modulated output voltage of four interleaved inverters ($f_{car}=750$ Hz)

FAST SWITCHING MV CONVERTERS

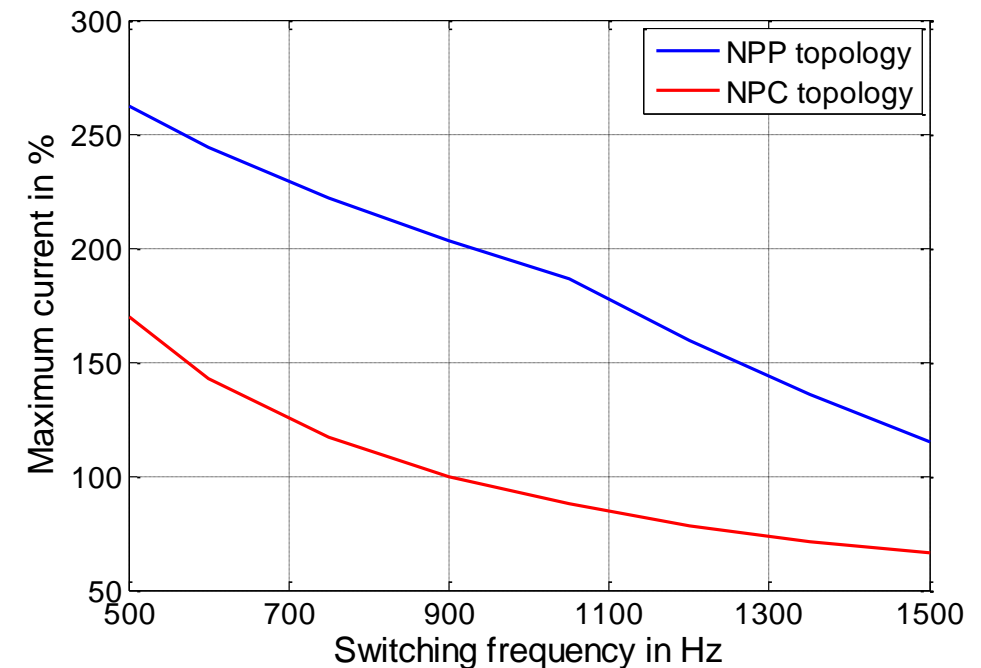
Fast Switching MV Converters

Topologies for MV converters

- Neutral Point Clamped (NPC)
- Neutral Point Piloted (NPP)
- NPP advantageous for higher switching frequency



3L NPC inverter (left) and NPP inverter (right)



Example calculation of maximum current against max. switching frequency for same semiconductors ($M=0.8$, $V_{dc}=5kV$, $PF=1$)

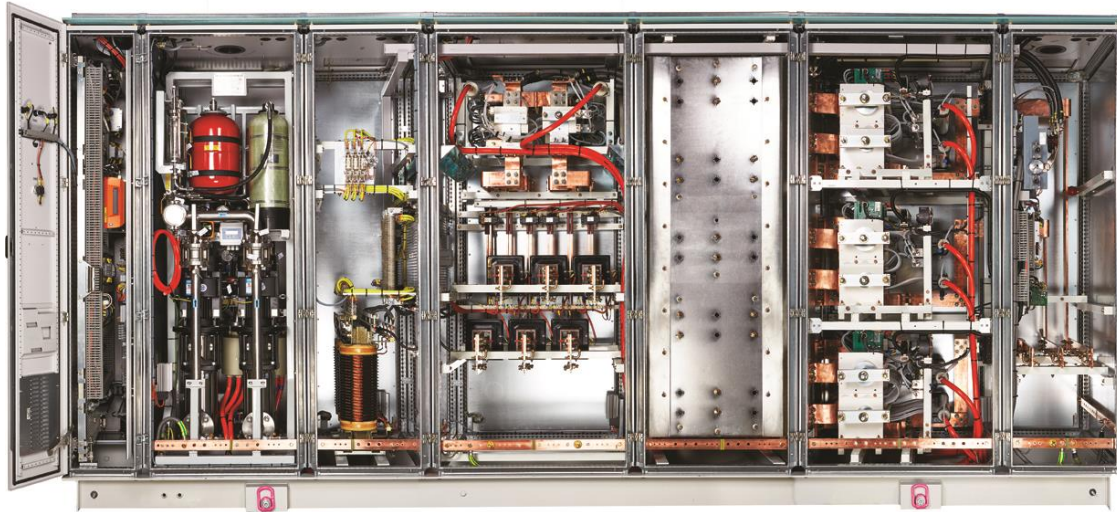
Fast Switching MV Converters

MV7 drive converter

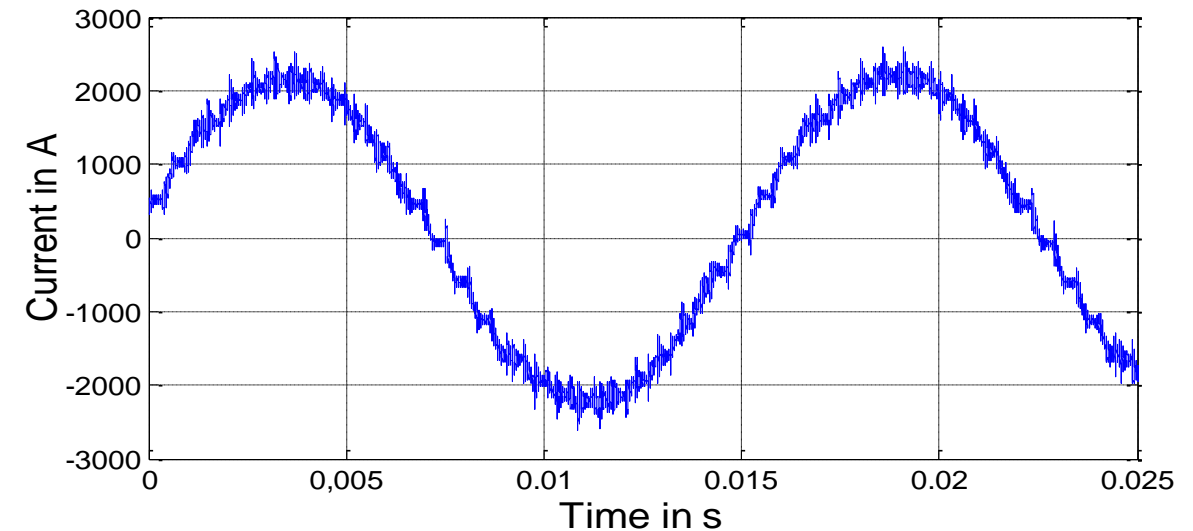
- Three-level NPP topology
- Press-pack IGBTs
- 3.3 kV_{ac} with up to 17 MVA



MV7 power stack



MV7 converter type MV7315-3L (NPP topology)

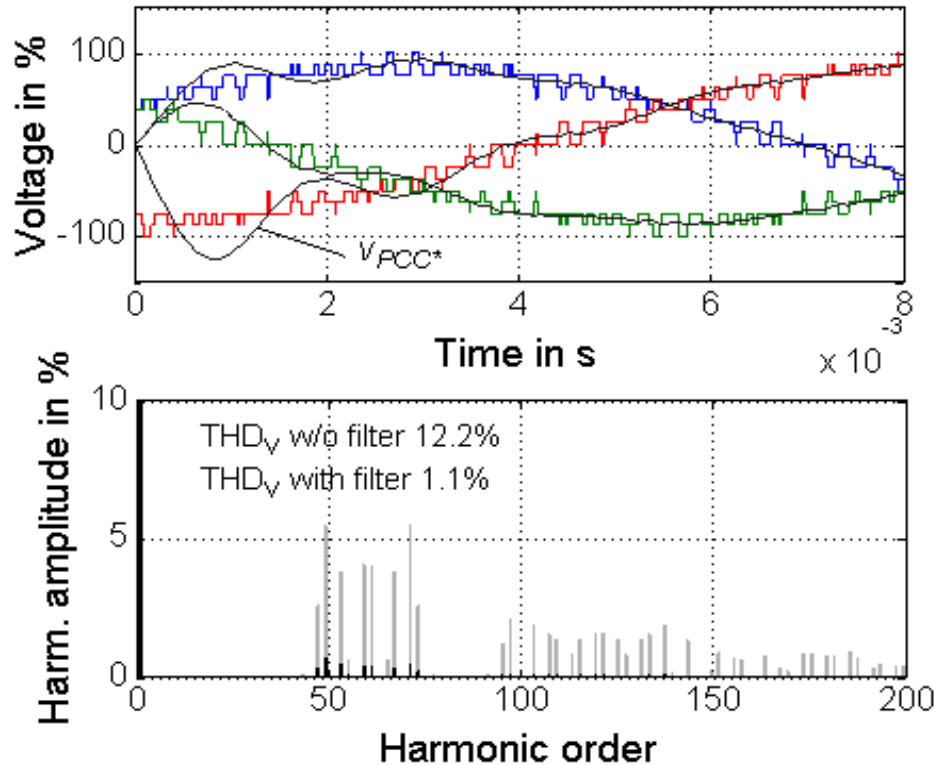


Output current of MV7315-3L ($f_{\text{car}}=1755$ Hz, 65 Hz)

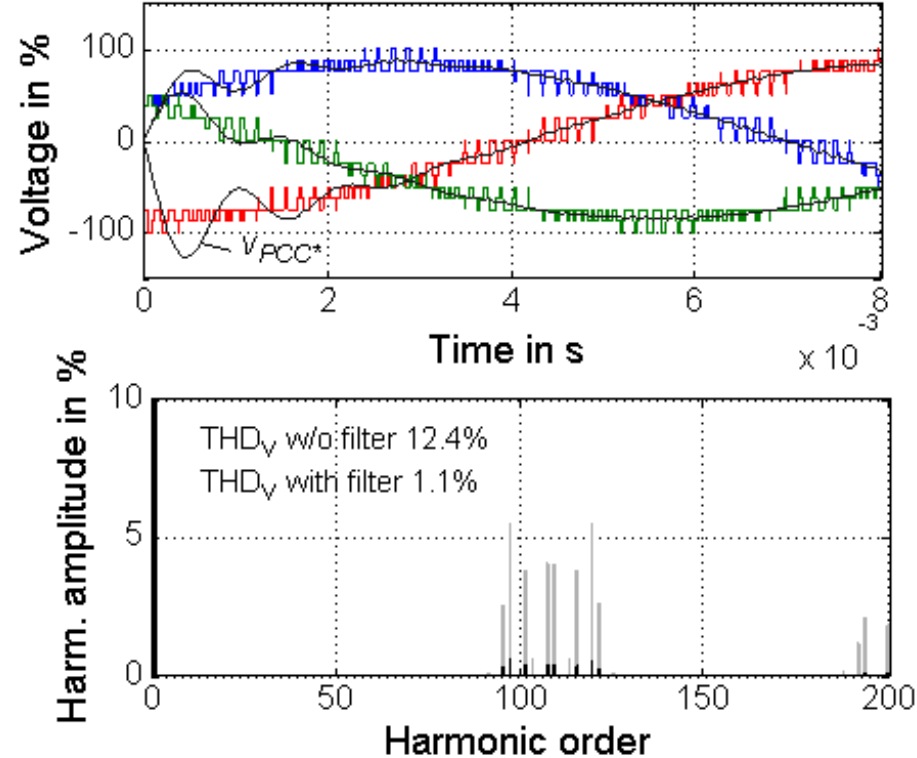
➔ Source: M. Geske, P. Sadowski, M. Janssen, J. Serra Rivas, H.S. Hildebrand: The neutral-point piloted inverter topology applied to grid emulation, ECCE Conf., Darmstadt, Germany, Sep. 2024

Fast Switching MV Converters

Advantage of high switching frequency: Smaller filter rating and higher dynamics



Simulated output voltages (top), harmonic rms amplitudes (bottom) for $f_{car} = 900$ Hz ($f_{cut-off} = 660$ Hz, $f_{N(PCC^*)} = 60$ Hz, 4 inv.)

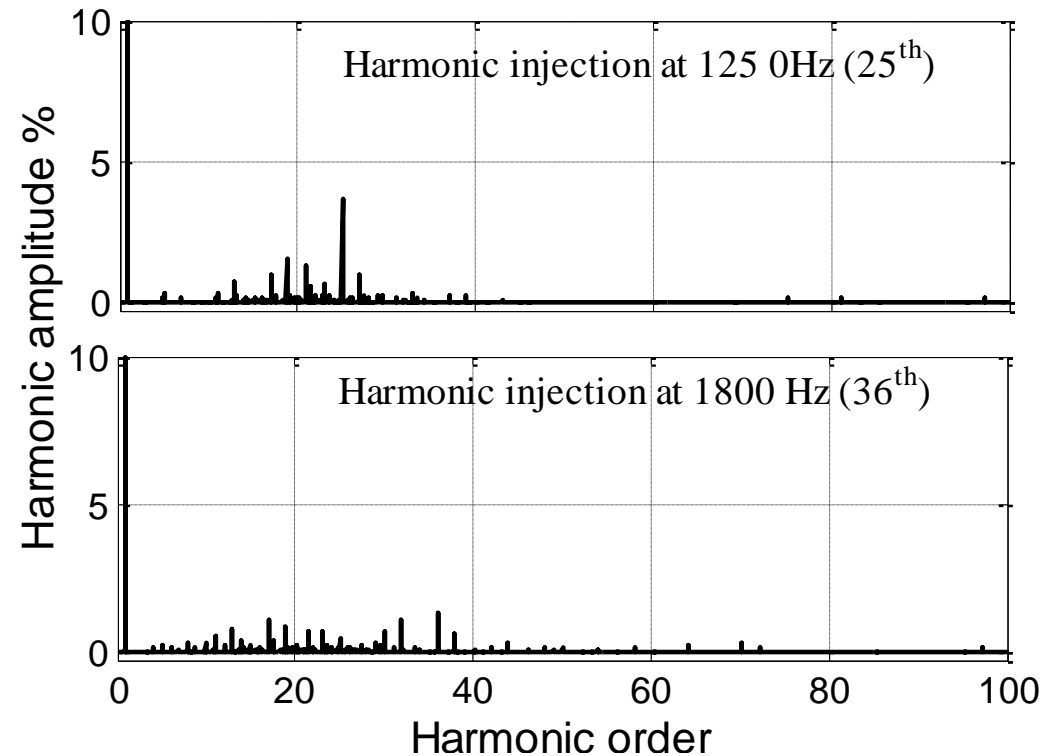
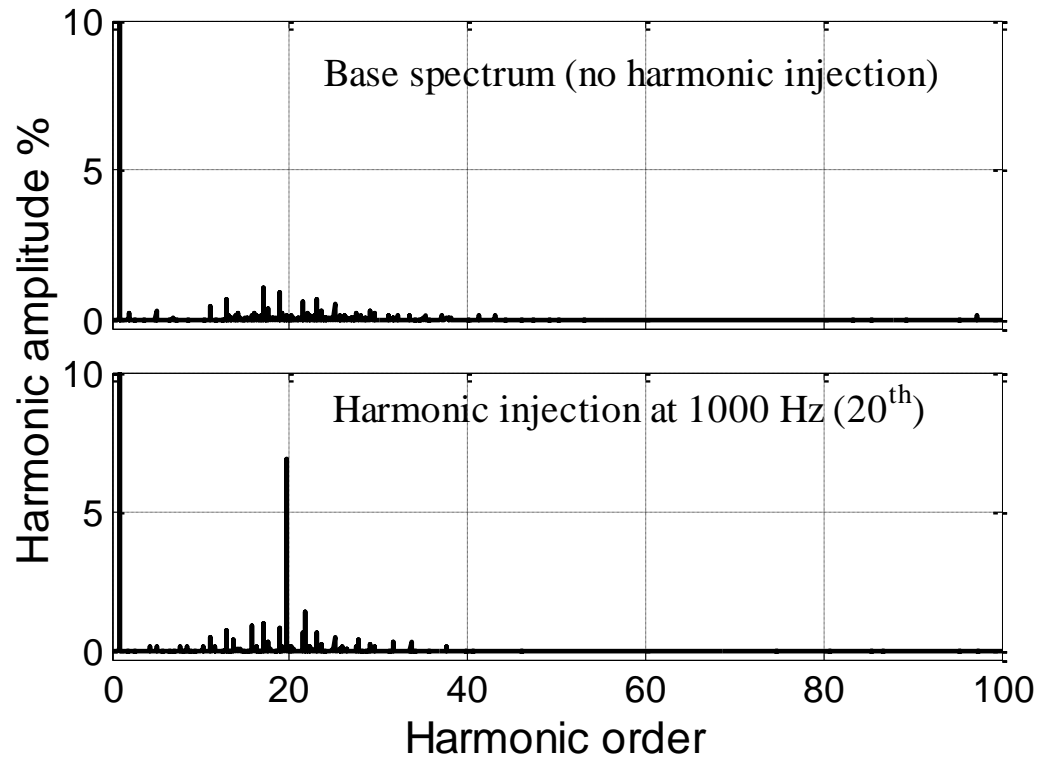


Simulated output voltages (top), harmonic rms amplitudes (bottom) for $f_{car} = 1620$ Hz ($f_{cut-off} = 1200$ Hz, $f_{N(PCC^*)} = 60$ Hz, 4 inv.)

➔ Source: M. Geske, P. Sadowski, M. Janssen, J. Serra Rivas, H.S. Hildebrand: The neutral-point piloted inverter topology applied to grid emulation, ECCE Conf., Darmstadt, Germany, Sep. 2024

Fast Switching MV Converters

Advantage of high switching frequency:
Harmonic injection at higher orders & impedance scan at higher orders



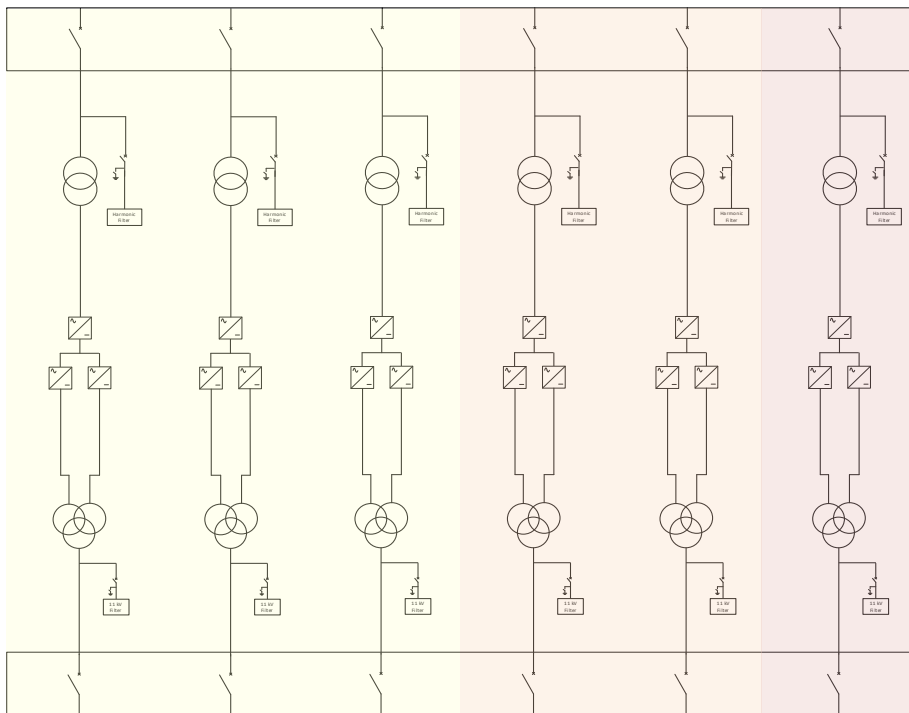
Measured voltage spectra of GEM at PCC* with disconnected DuT and 4 interleaved inverters + filter ($f_{N(PCC^*)}=50$ Hz)

➔ [Source: M. Geske, P. Sadowski, M. Janssen, J. Serra Rivas, H.S. Hildebrand: The neutral-point piloted inverter topology applied to grid emulation, ECCE Conf., Darmstadt, Germany, Sep. 2024](#)

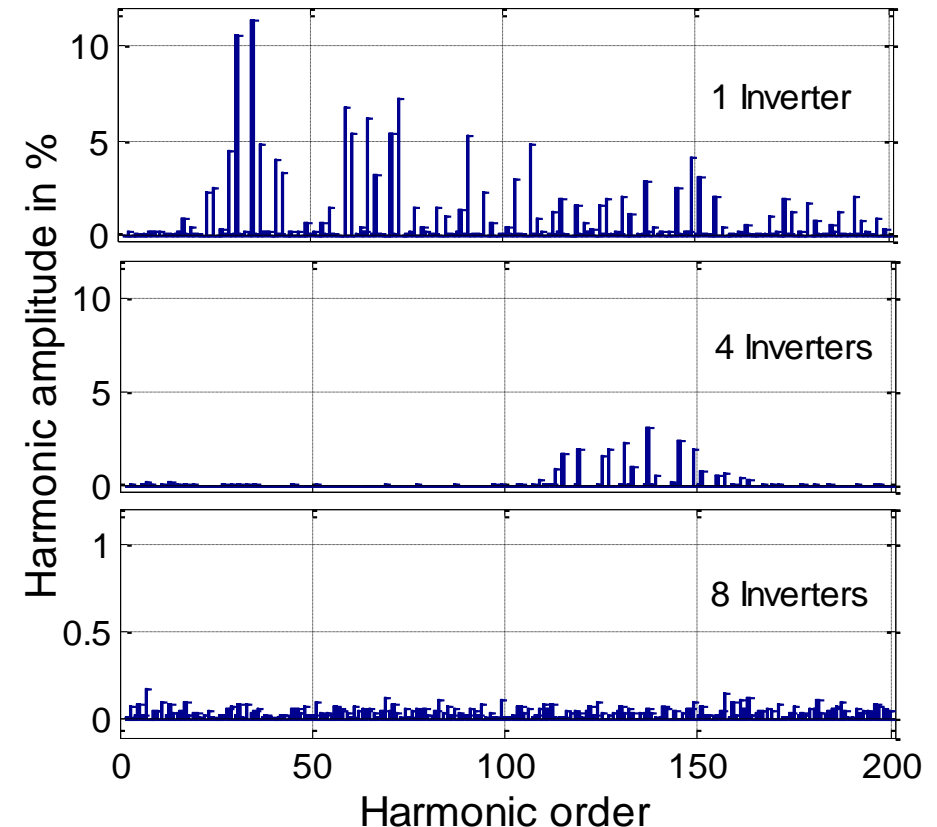
Fast Switching MV Converters

Scalability through parallelization

- Modular design (expandable, reconfiguration possible)
- Improved harmonic content with phase-shifted PWM



Example of modular concept for grid emulator



GEM voltage spectra: one inverter (top), four inverters (middle), eight inverters (bottom) ($f_{\text{car}}=1650$ Hz, no filter)

➔ Source: M. Geske, P. Sadowski, M. Janssen, J. Serra Rivas, H.S. Hildebrand: The neutral-point piloted inverter topology applied to grid emulation, ECCE Conf., Darmstadt, Germany, Sep. 2024

Summary

Grid emulator systems

- MV converters provide comparatively low switching frequency
- Require low THD_V and harmonic injection at higher orders, for example

Advantage of high switching frequency

- Smaller filter rating
- Higher dynamics
- Harmonic injection at higher orders

MV converter with NPP topology

- Can achieve higher switching frequency than NPC topology for same semiconductors
- Commercially available converters of MV7 series
- Scalability through parallelization of converters (expandable, reconfiguration possible)



GE VERNOVA