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Digitalisation of power electronics: state estimation & smart control

Digitalisation of power electronics

Introduction

Introduction

Digitalisation – ins and outs of power electronics digitalisation

Technical constraints:

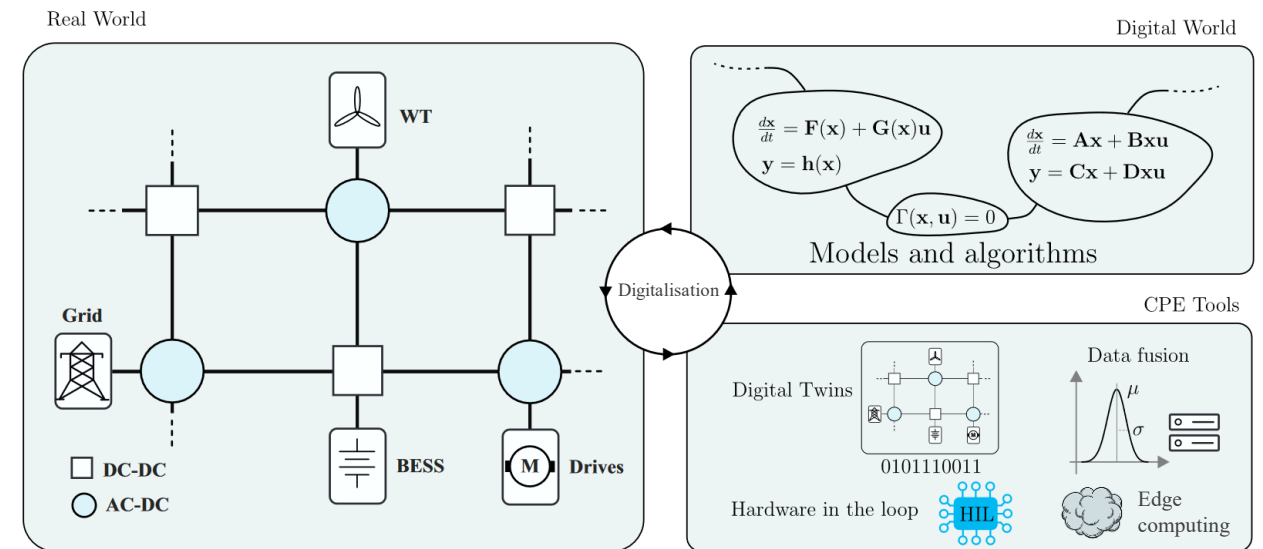
- Complexification of systems, intrinsically multi-physic
- New applications, reduced tolerance to failures and uncertainty
- Reduced robustness of new WBG devices
- Limited computing resources available

Economical & societal constraints:

- Design and profit margin reduction
- Increased design cycle speed
- Sustainability: efficiency, resource scarcity, e-waste reduction
- Privacy vs. data sharing & processing

➤ Performance improvement:

- Comes from hardware and software combination
- Through system-level design and optimisation
- Using minima extra sensing, and better using available data

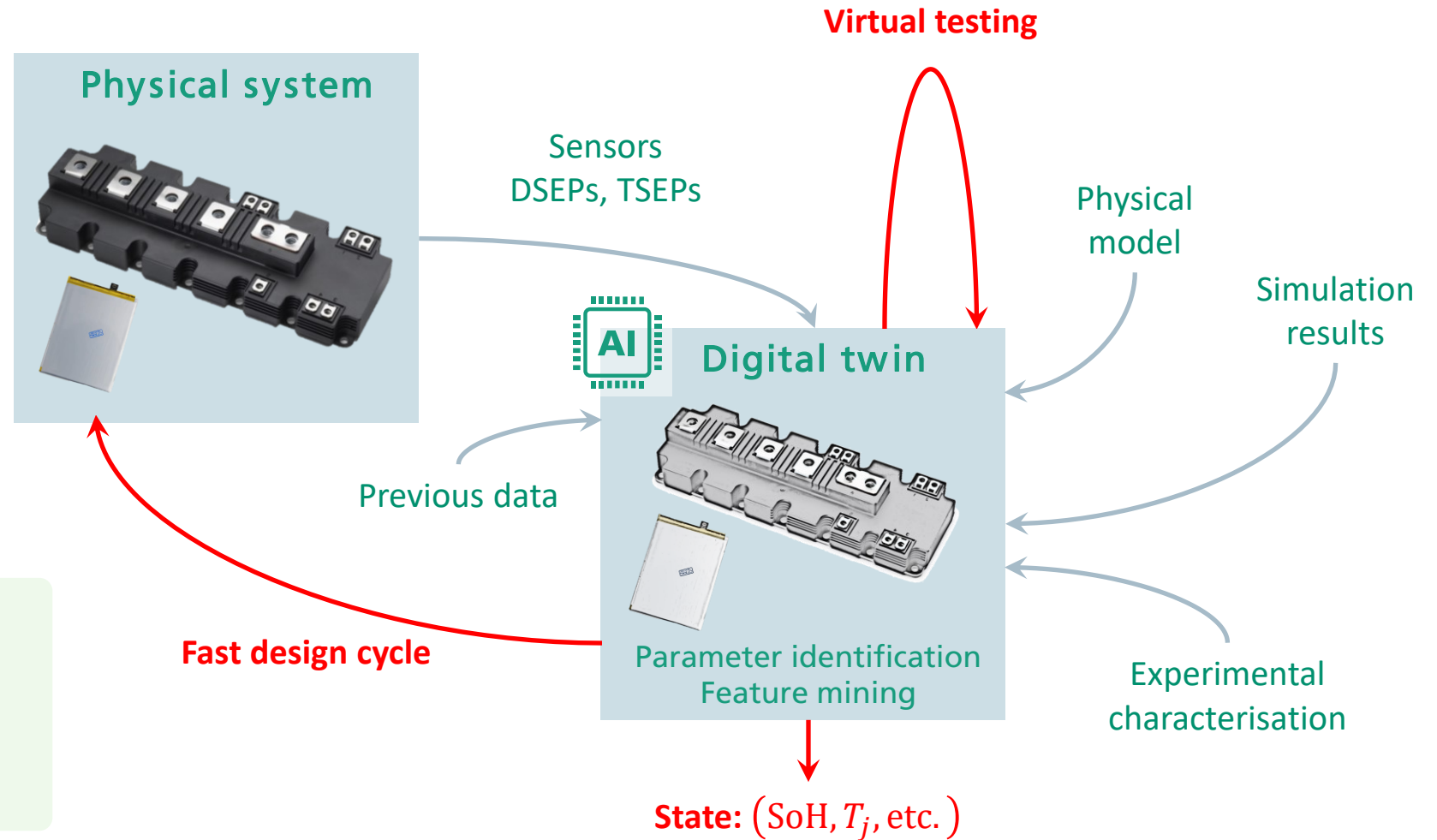


Digital twins, data-fusion... AI-powered

Tools for the digitalisation of power electronics

Digital twins

A versatile high accuracy virtual replica of devices and systems

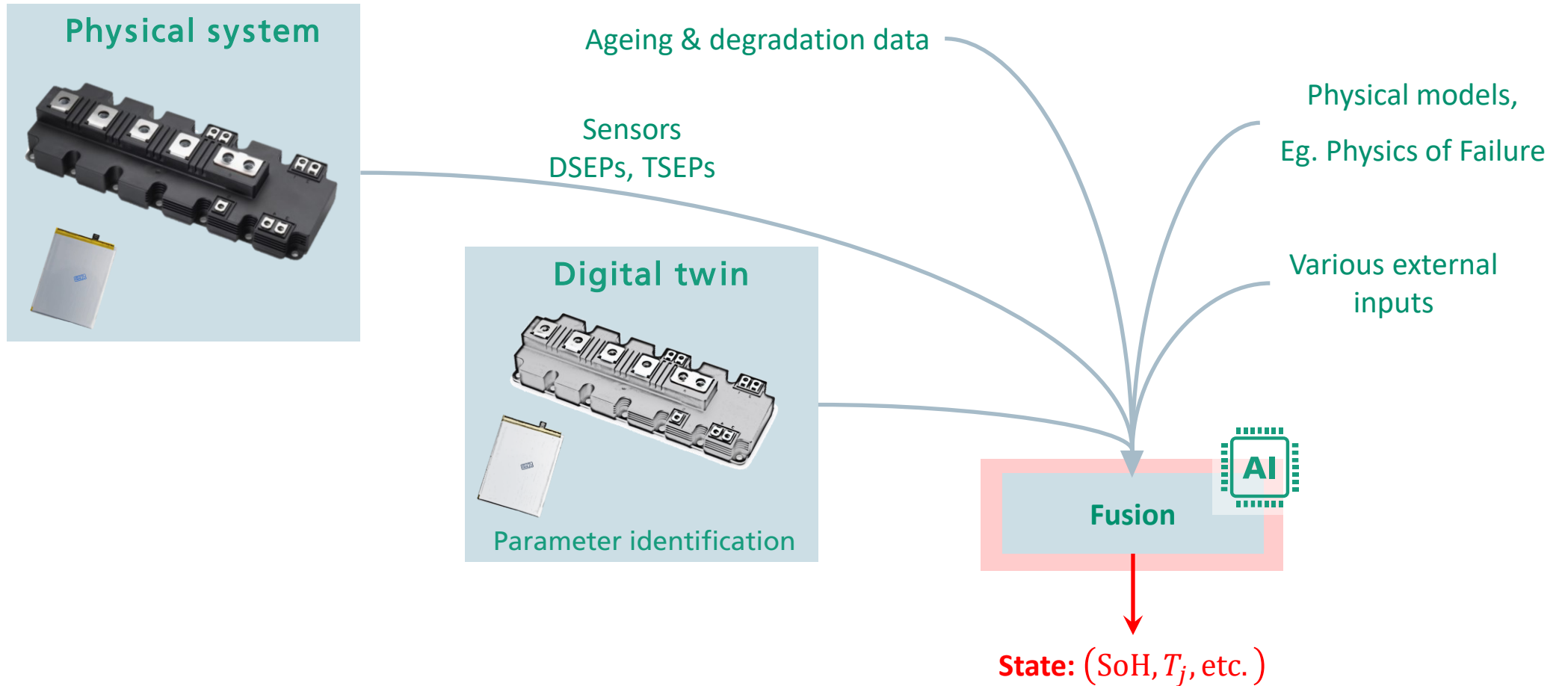


Digital twins are:

- Measurement-calibrated model
- Highly accurate
- Suitable for real time simulation
- Can be dynamically updated

Data Fusion

Combining information from different sources to achieve high accuracy



Smart data processing for estimation of temperature, SoH, SoC...

State identification using advanced digital tools :
use-cases

Power module thermal Digital Twin

Condition monitoring through online thermal impedance identification

Challenge:

- Complex online SoH estimation: degradation precursors (eg. Vce) are multi-variable and have low-sensitivity

Our approach:

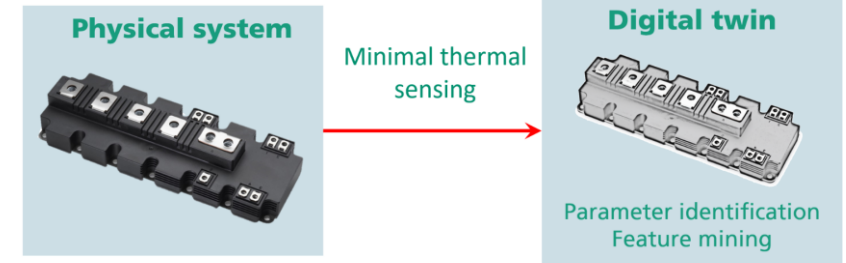
- Online thermal model identification, using minimal sensing
- Identification using Kalman filter, PSO, LSQ, etc.

User benefits:

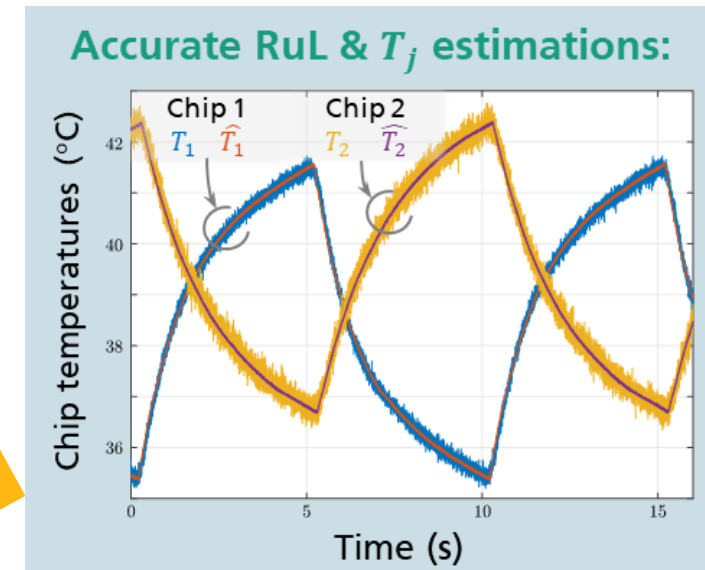
- Online monitoring of thermal system ageing
- Design margin reduction, owing to accurate T_j estimations
- Improved lifetime through active thermal control & PQ-power curve extension

- J. Kuprat, et al., "Real-Time Thermal Characterization of Power Semiconductors using a PSO-based Digital Twin Approach," Eur. Conf. Power Electron. App. (EPE ECCE Eur.), 2022
- J. Kuprat, et al., "Thermal Digital Twin of Power Electronics Modules for Online Thermal Parameter Identification". IEEE J. Emerging Sel. Topics in Power Electron, 2023.

First thermal digital twin



State: (SoH, T_j , etc.)



Experimental validation:
Identification of
3-cell Foster model

Data-fusion for power module condition monitoring

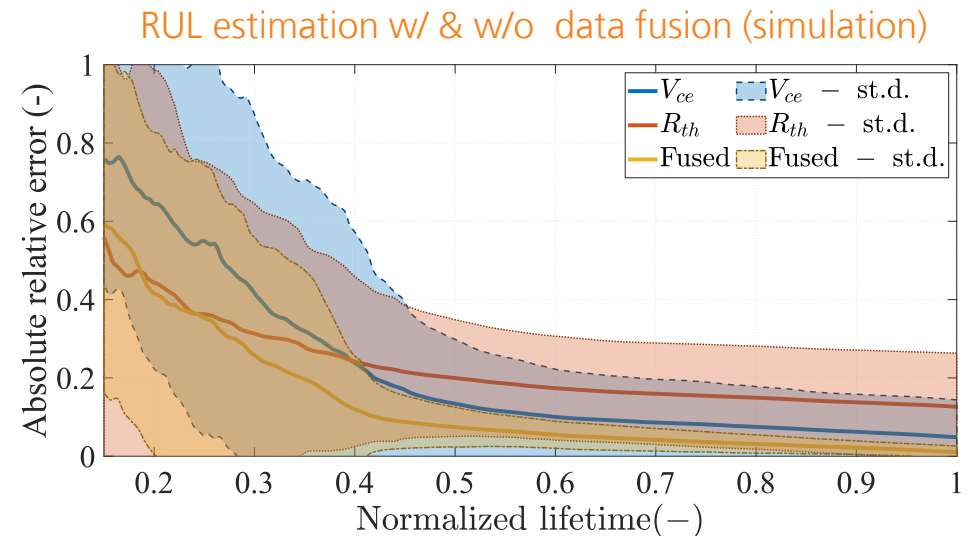
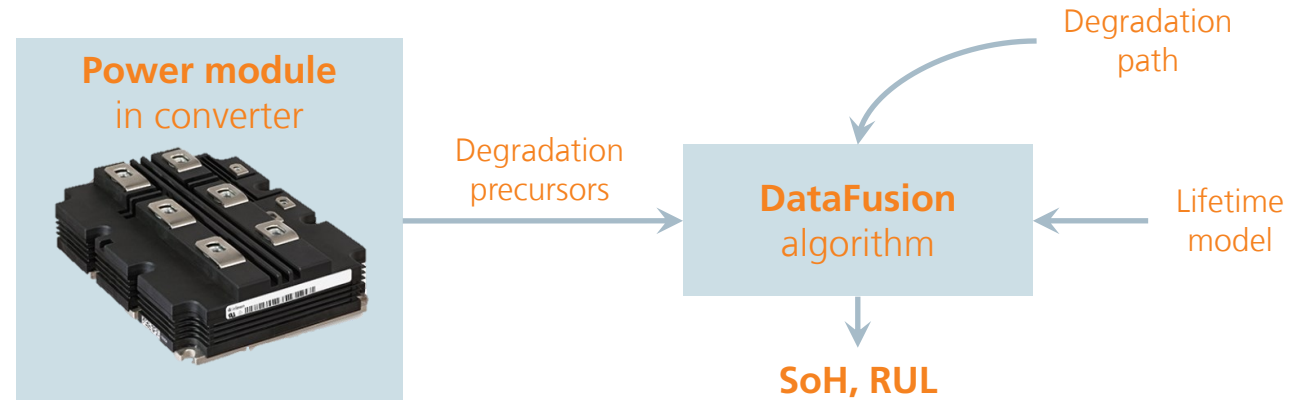
First results

Approach:

- Optimally merge SoH estimations from multiple degradation precursors (V_{ce} , R_{th})
- Validation using Monte-Carlo simulations

Results:

- Quasi-systematic **reduction in error & uncertainty of SoH and RuL estimation**, vs use of a single precursor
- Increased accuracy of online condition monitoring
- Reduced impact of degradation path uncertainty
- Improved robustness vs. sensor shifts and failure



M. Votava, et al., "Multi-sensor Data Fusion for Prediction of Remaining Useful Life of IGBT Power Modules", accepted to ESREF'24

Artificial intelligence

ML based T_j Estimation of an IGBT using V_{ce}

Effective thermal monitoring is essential for reliable operation of IGBTs

Temperature sensitive Electrical Parameter (TSEP)

- On-state voltage (V_{ce}) : proportional to junction temperature (T_j)
- But, a low sensitivity \rightarrow Supplement is required.
- Machine learning can be used to improve
- Inflection point of V_{ce} and I_c profile.

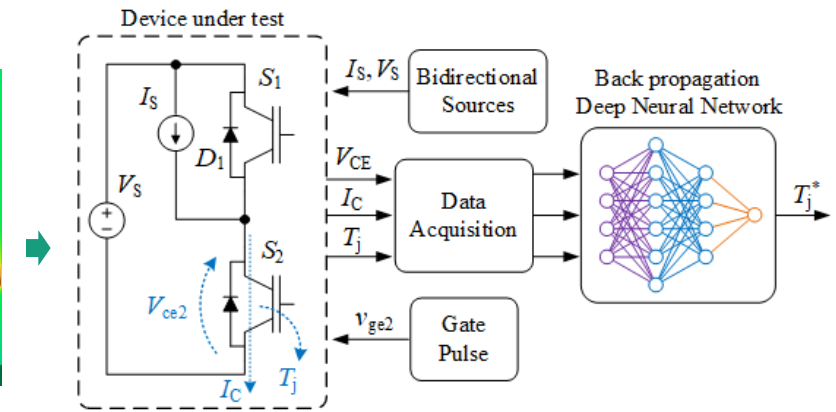
Machine learning (Supervised learning) achieve improved accuracy of the estimation. reduce the need for direct measurements.

Result and Conclusion

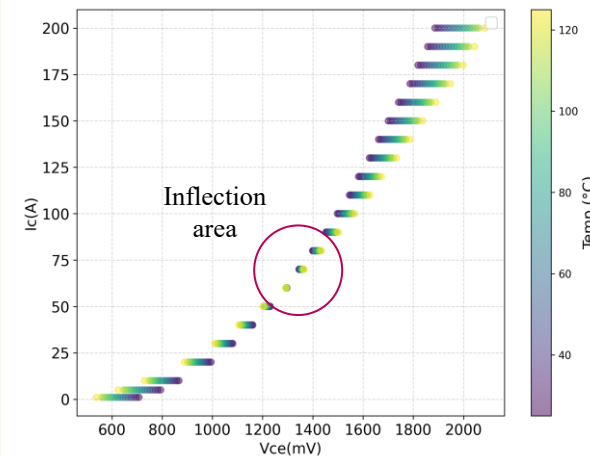
Key findings includes model prediction accuracy near inflection area: Support Vector Regression (SVR) : 99%



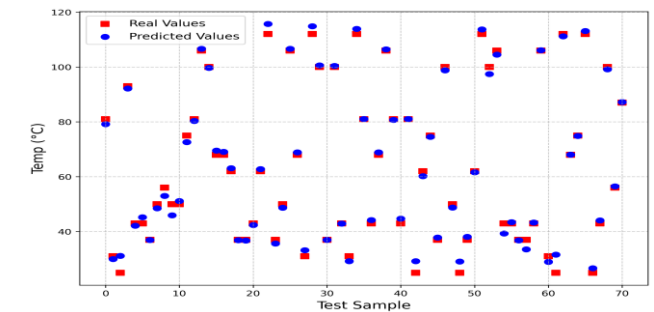
IGBT open module under test



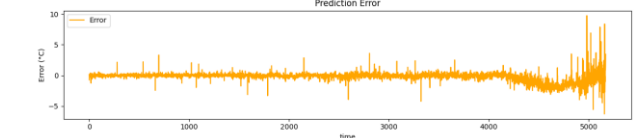
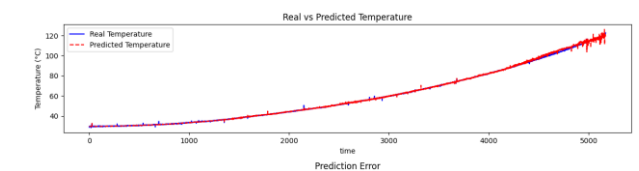
Configuration of T_j estimation using ML with V_{ce}



Junction temperature according to V_{ce} and I_c



Validation of Sequential model predictions



Validation under continuous conditions

Battery management systems

Simultaneous state-of-charge (SOC) and Temperature balancing in lithium-ion batteries

Challenge:

- Lithium ion battery performance in term of efficiency, lifetime and safety is directly a function of battery internal states, i.e. SOX.
- Internal states are difficult to measure directly and precise estimation techniques are required

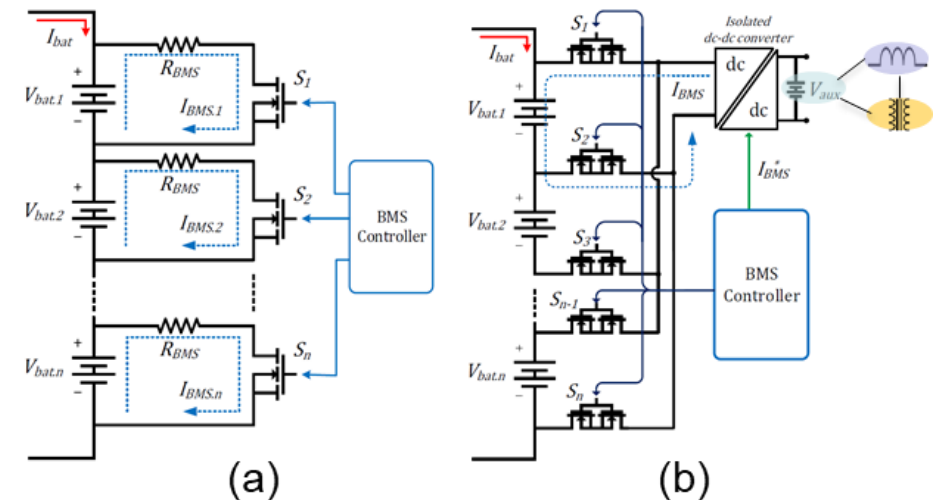
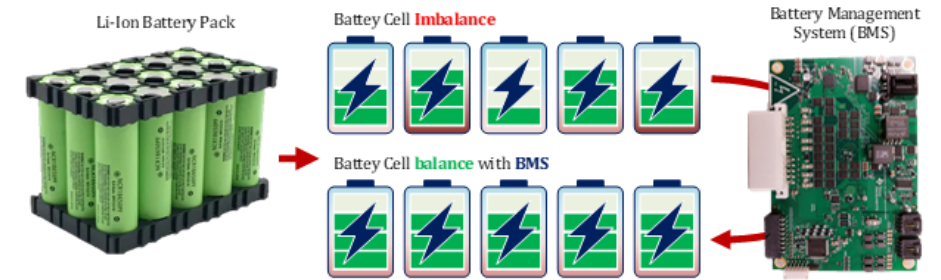
Our approach:

- Application of Unscented Kalman Filter (UKF) for SOC estimation
- Utilization of passive and active balancing as well as reconfigurable batteries
- Reinforcement Learning (RL) for SOC and Temperature balancing

User benefits:

- Prolongation of battery lifetime
- Increased safety margins owing to active temperature control and balancing

- K. Harwardt, J. Hung, H. Beiranvand, D. Nowotka, and M. Liserre, "Lithium-Ion Battery Management System with Reinforcement Learning for Balancing State of Charge and Cell Temperature ", Powertech 2023, Belgrade.



< BMS (a) Passive (b) Active >

Battery management systems

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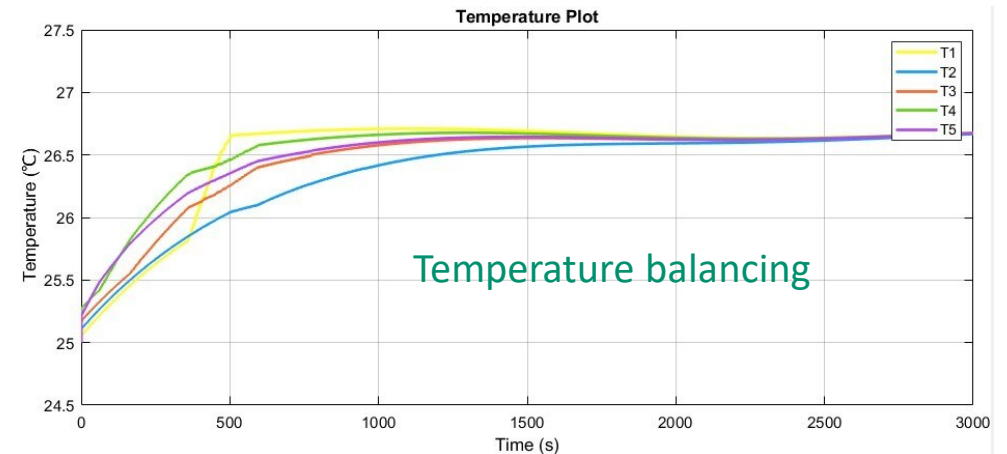
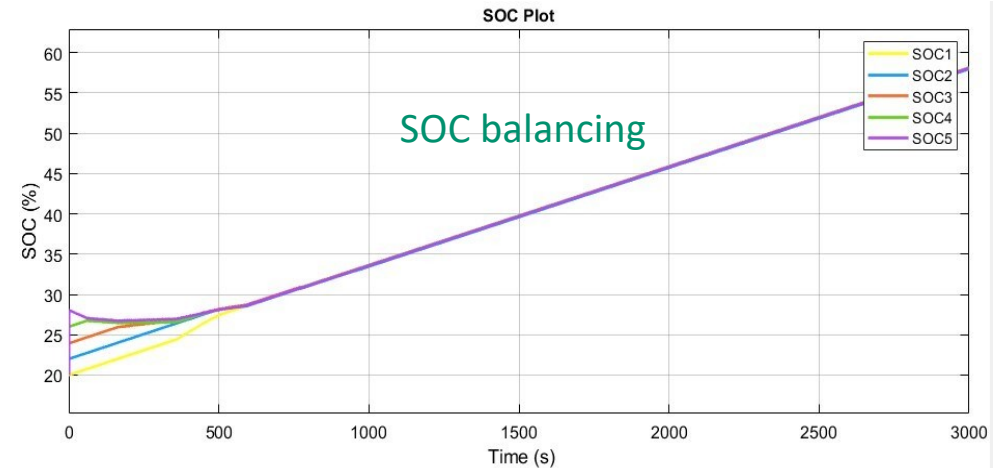
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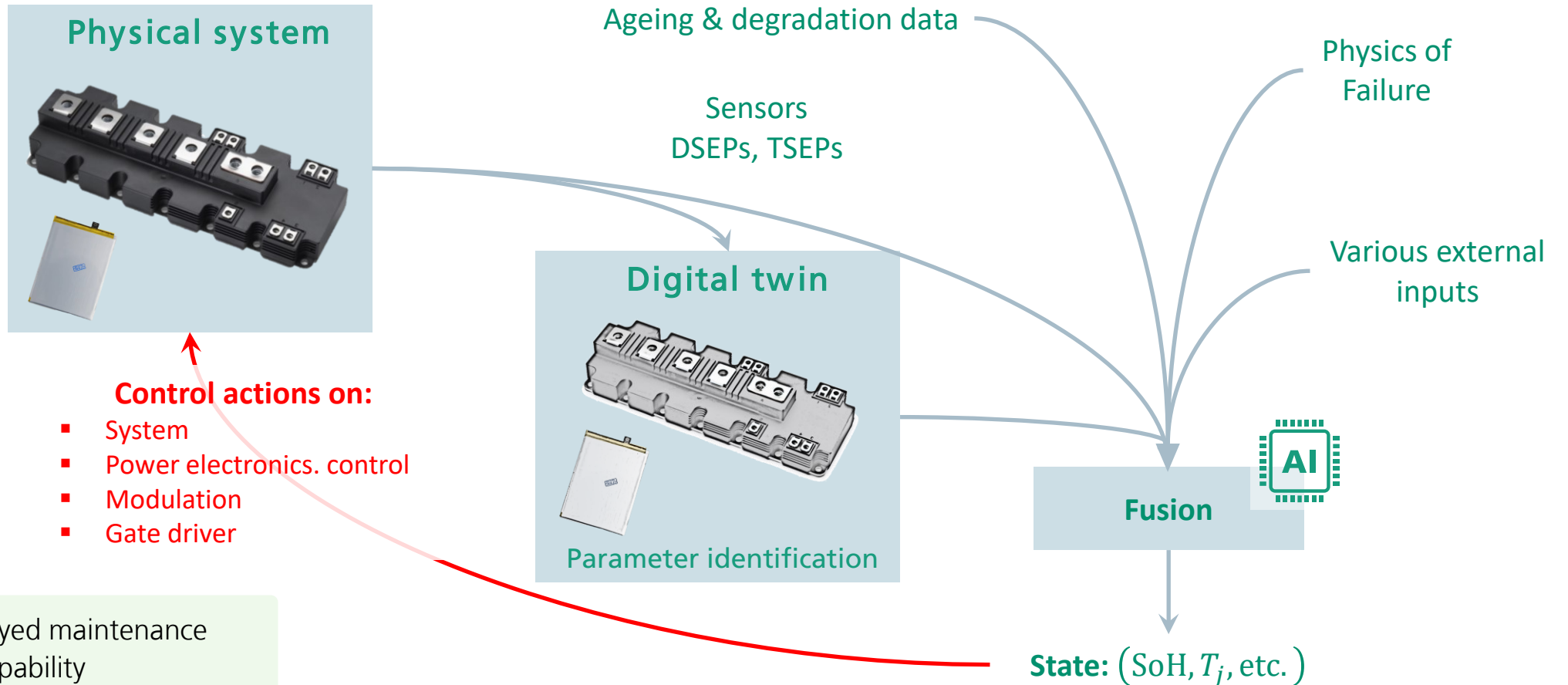
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Optimal multiobjective control of power converters and energy systems

Smart control of power electronics

Control for improved reliability and performances



- Reduced ageing, delayed maintenance
- Increased overload capability
- Balancing thermal stress of power devices

Power routing

Application example: Multiphase Drives (9 phases) in mine hoist

Highly stressful application

Asymmetry of power module leads to uneven thermal distribution

Higher number of phases:

- Power routing with reduced extra heating in other phases
- Fault Tolerance

Capability to work under soft unbalance conditions:

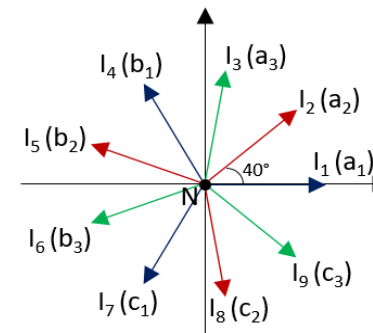
- Power routing maintaining magnetic balance

Our approach: power routing:

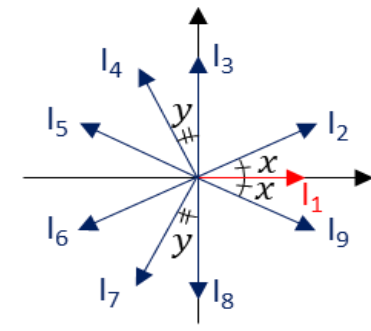
- Adjust phaseshift and amplitude of phase voltages



No power routing



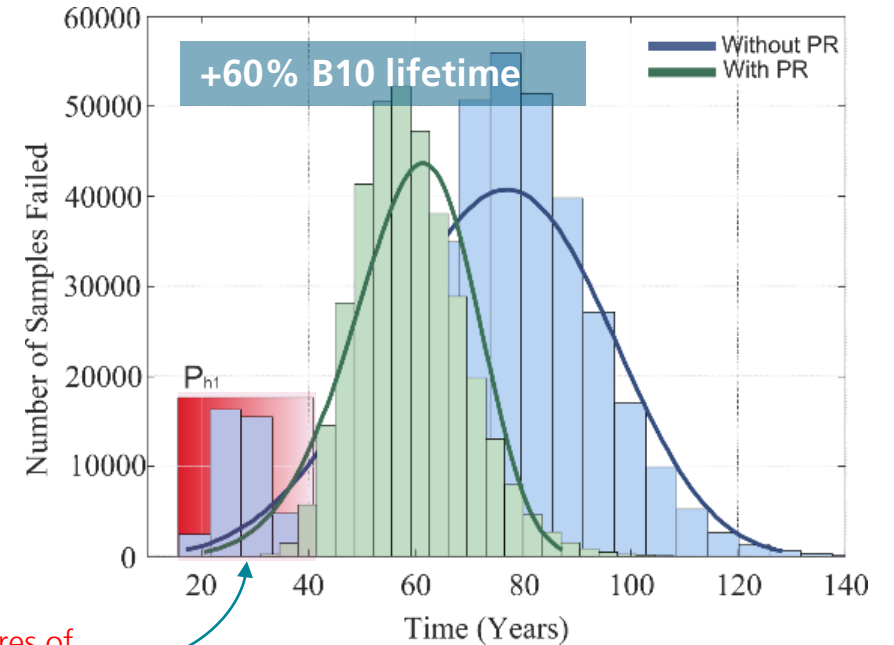
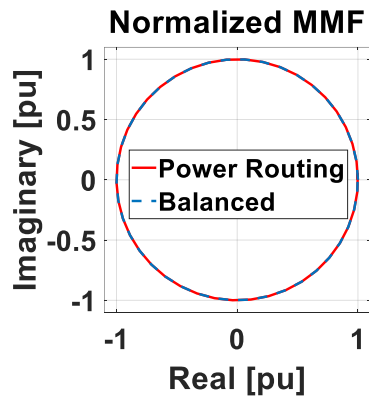
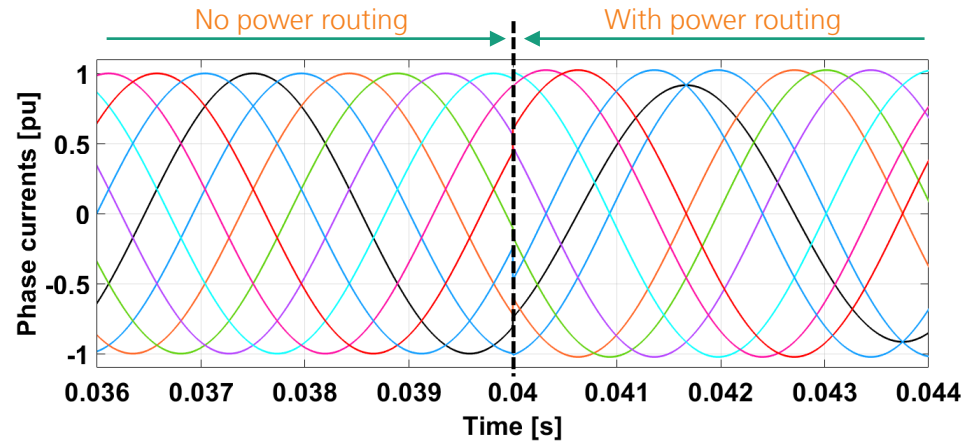
With power routing



V. Ferreira, R. Bastos, T. Souza, M. Liserre, , B. Cardoso "Power Routing to Enhance the Lifetime of Multiphase Drives", Energy Conversion Congress & Expo ECCE 2019.

Power routing

Application example: Multiphase Drives (9 phases) in mine hoist

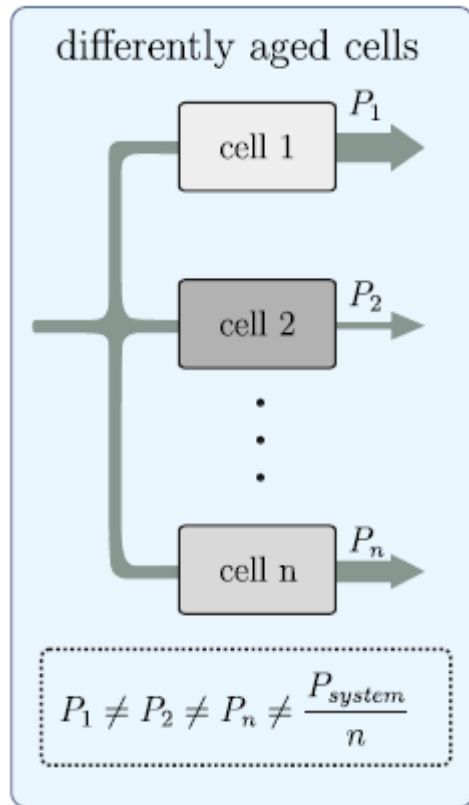


Early failures of highly stressed dies

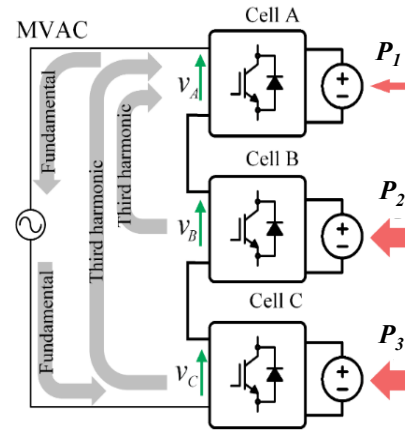
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Power routing

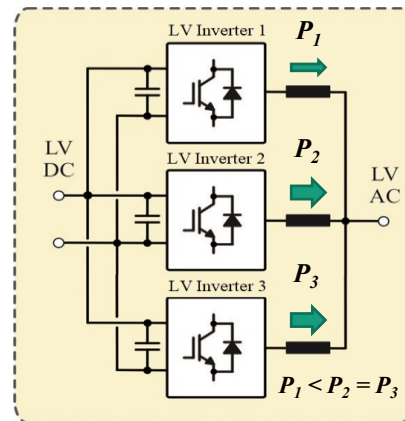
Application example: Modular Power Converters (CHB Multilevel / Parallel Converters)



Main principle of Power Routing



CHB multilevel converters



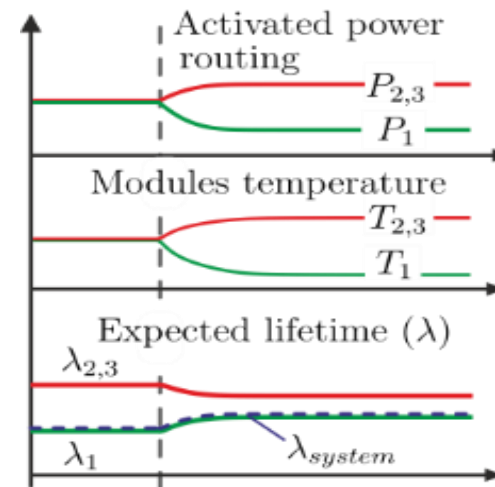
Parallel converters

Unequal power P_1 , P_2 and P_3 are processed

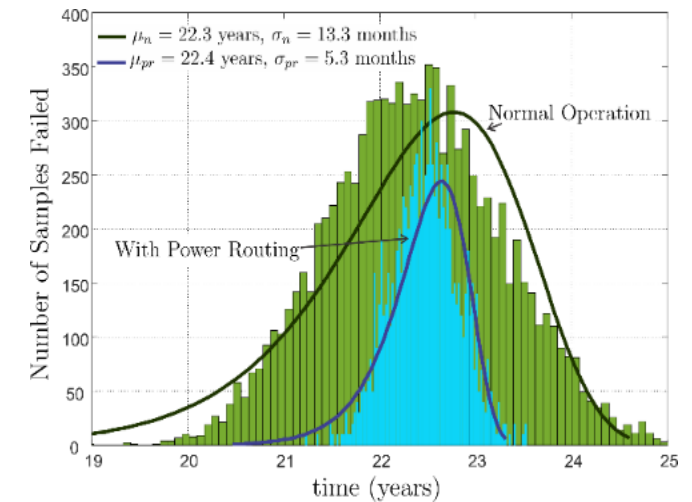
Devices connected to the cells suffer different stresses

Concept requires a sufficient margin of v_{grid} / v_{dc}

Potential of the algorithm is mission profile dependent



Unequal power processing (P_1 , P_2 and P_3) and result of the power routing

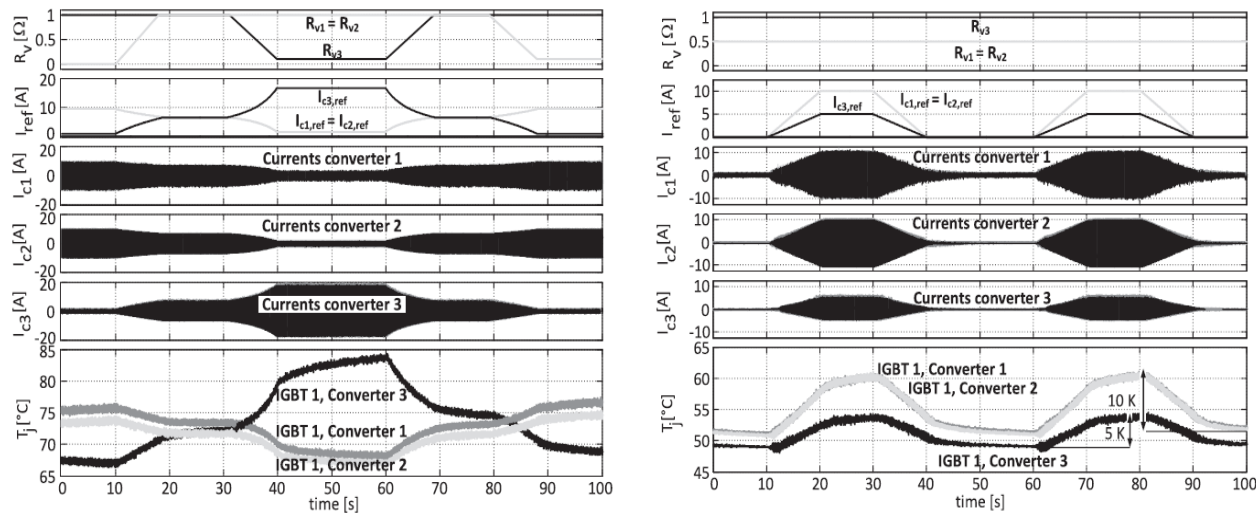


V. Raveendran, et al., "Thermal Stress Based Power Routing of Smart Transformer With CHB and DAB Converters," in IEEE Trans. on Power Electron., vol. 35, no. 4, pp. 4205-4215, 2020.

Power routing

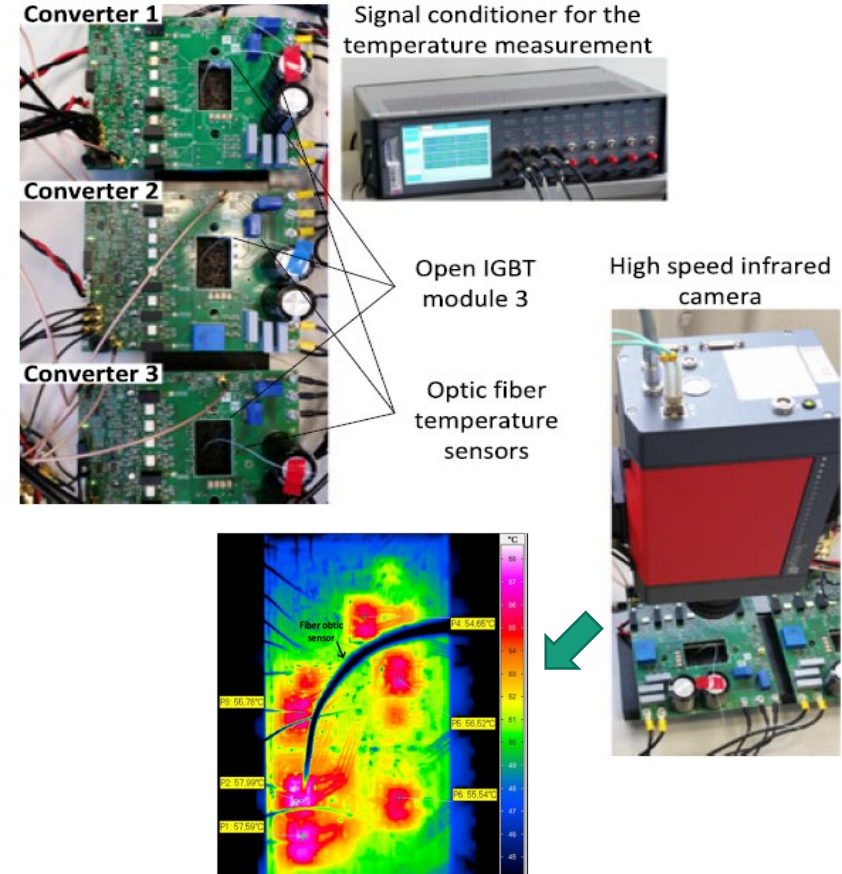
Application example: Modular Power Converters (CHB Multilevel / Parallel Converters)

- Junction temperature of modular converters can be managed by using Power Routing.
- ✓ Realization of Maintenance Scheduling



Experimental result of Power Routing in three parallel converters

M. Andresen, et al., "Lifetime-Based Power Routing in Parallel Converters for Smart Transformer Application," in IEEE Trans. on Ind. Electron., vol. 65, no. 2, pp. 1675-1684, 2018.



Experimental setups and junction temperature measurement results using high-speed infrared camera.

Charging strategies for lithium-ion batteries

Maximizing the real-time efficiency of the battery pack and battery system

Challenge:

- The elevated charging current rate (C-rate) to achieve fast charging can jeopardize the safety and lifetime of the lithium-ion batteries.

Our approach:

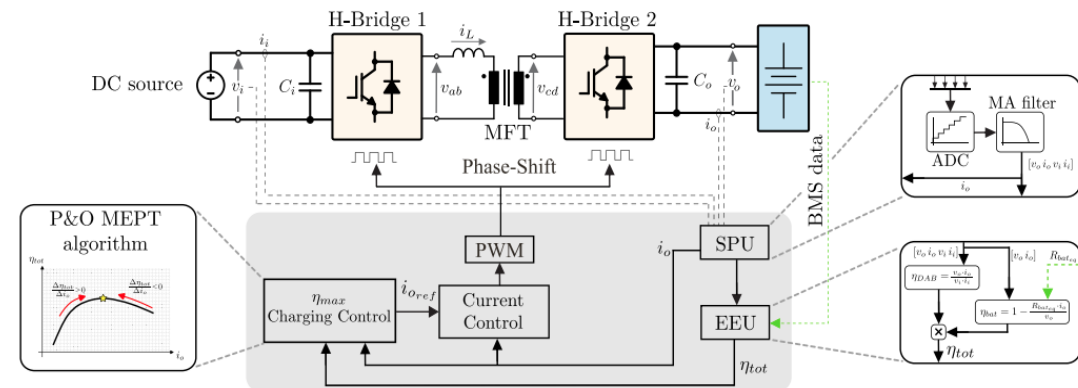
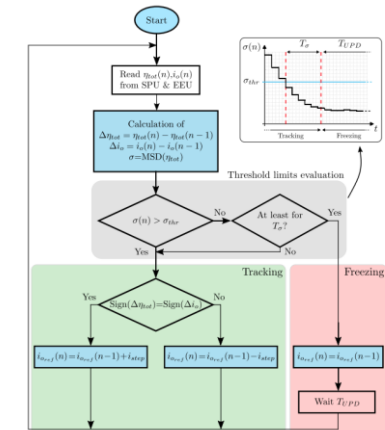
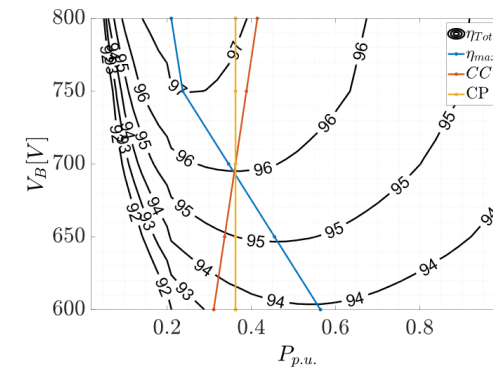
- Deriving varying current profiles charging strategies considering the internal states of the battery
- Computing the effect of battery voltage variation on the DAB losses
- Estimate the battery internal losses (equivalent circuit)

User benefits:

- Prolongation of battery lifetime
- Minimized power losses at the system level

η_{max} -Charging Strategy Numerical Algorithm

Efficiency Optimization



Implementation

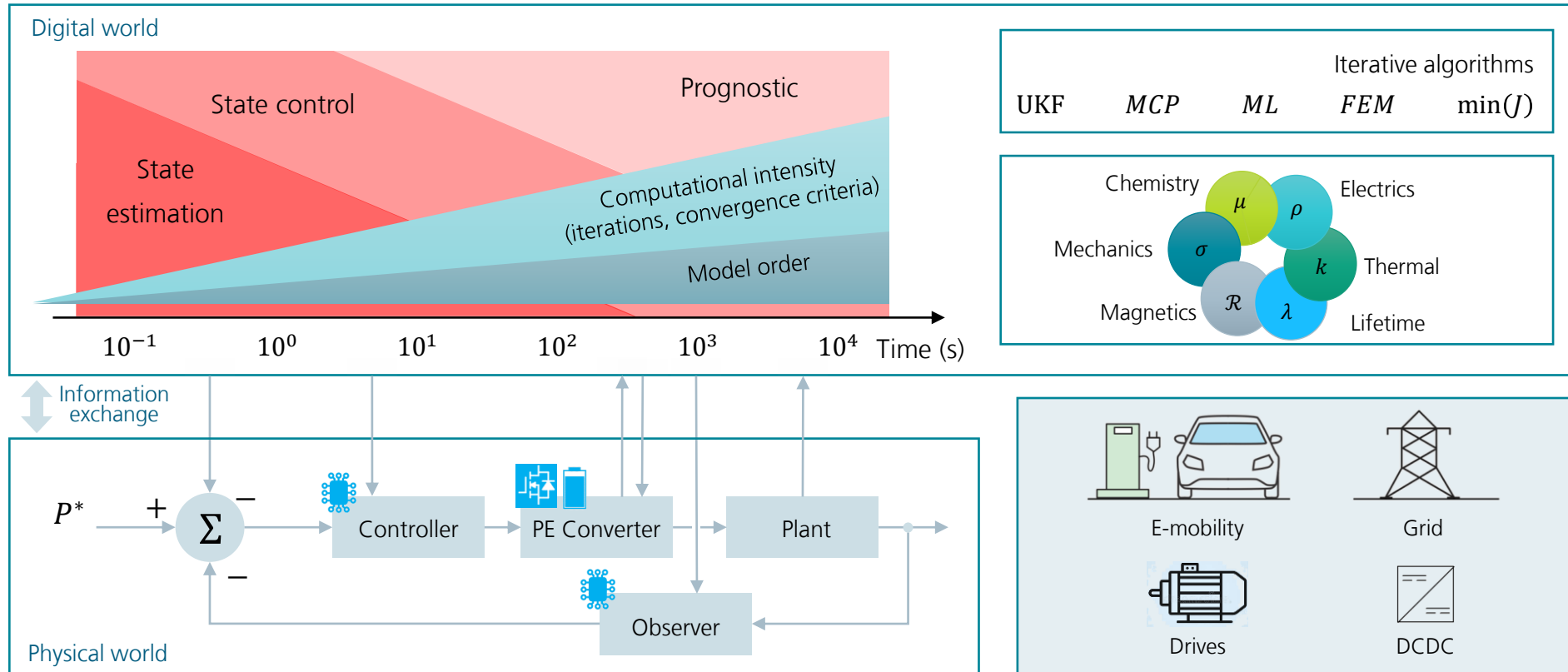
N. Blasuttigh, H. Beiranvand, T. Pereira, S. Castellan, A. M. Pavan and M. Liserre, " η_{max} -Charging Strategy for Lithium-Ion Batteries: Theory, Design, and Validation," in IEEE Trans. Power Electron., vol. 39, no. 7, 2024, doi: 10.1109/TPEL.2024.3381644.

Digitalisation of power electronics: state estimation & smart control

Take away & discussion

Conclusion

Digitalisation for states estimation, prognostics, and control



Contact

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Fraunhofer Institute for Silicon
Technology ISIT

Digitalization Empowering the Future of Power Electronics

Special Session Smart Energy Conversion
ECCE Europe 2024

Dr. Martin Bischoff
Siemens Technology



Todays Focus Areas in Power Electronics are interdependent and empowered by the Digital Transformation.



CO2-Neutrality

25% of CO2 emitted by industry

Energy Efficiency

70% of el. power in industry for drives

Resource Efficiency

13% only, of global waste is recycled

Circular Economy & Novel business models

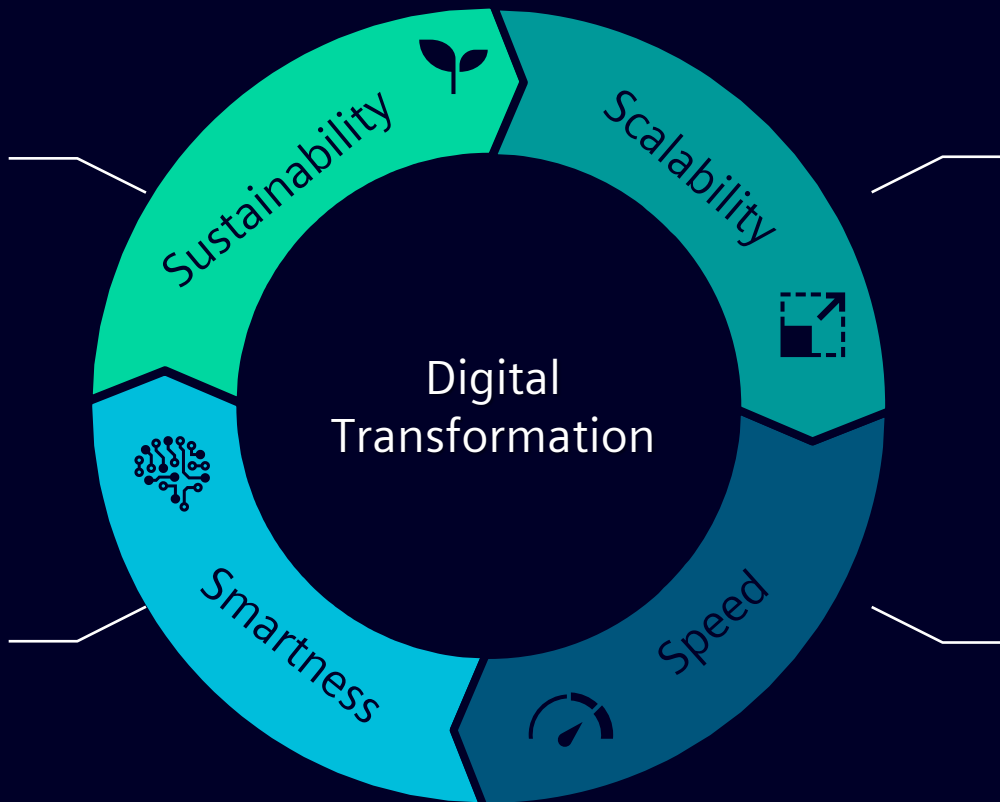
inverter-as-a-service, design implications

IT/OT Integration

Condition monitoring, preventive maintenance, lifetime extension

Internet of Things, Internet of Energy

Open APIs, updateability, interoperability monitoring & control



Fossil Era -> All-Electric Society

- Renewable energy
- Power grid
- Large-scale storage
- Battery storage
- Health care
- Data centers

Modular Building Blocks vs. Integrated System

Model-based development & AI for design optimization

Market-readiness of innovations Product cycles

HW products, embedded software, Digital services

Reduce time-to-market

Data management
Model-based development
Generative AI

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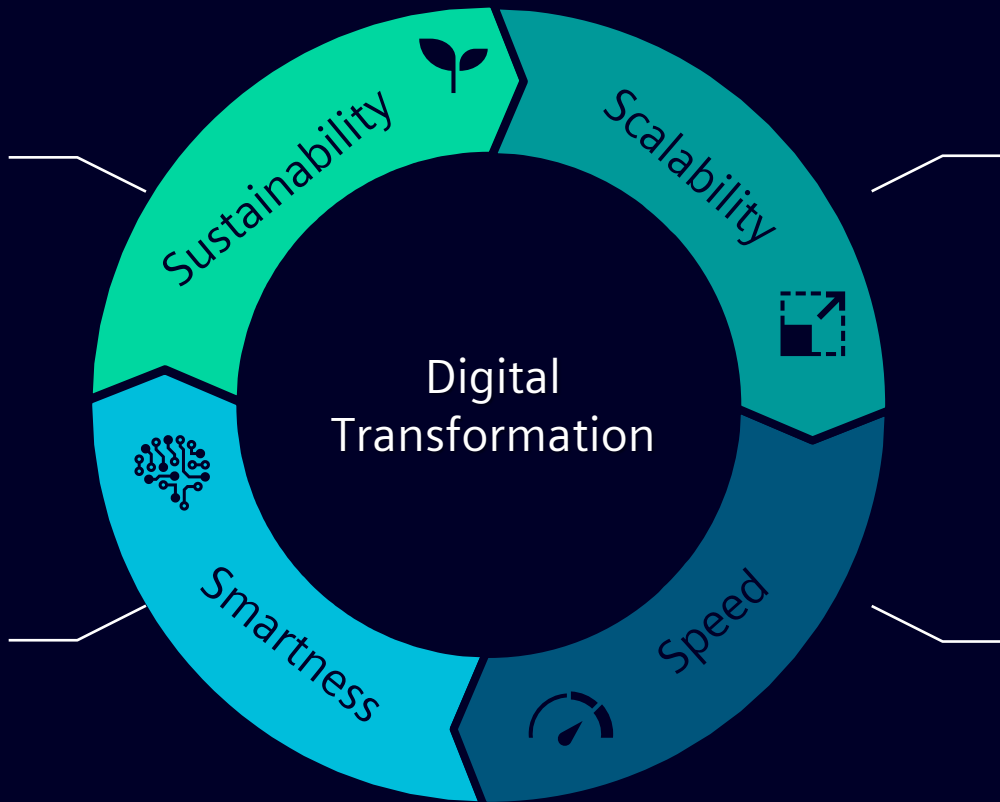
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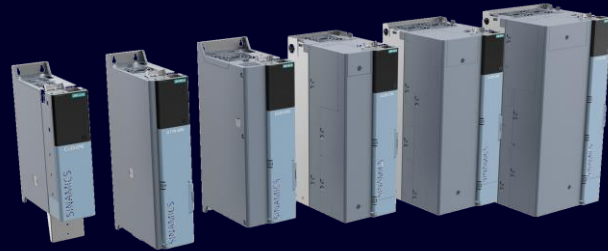
HW products, embedded software, Digital services

Reduce time-to-market

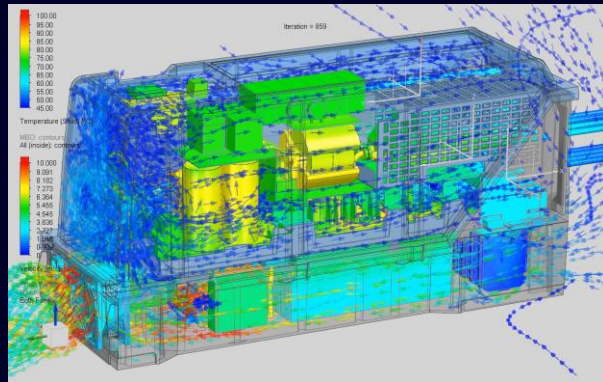
Data management
Model-based development
Generative AI

Model-based Inverter Certification

Siemens and UL Solutions demonstrate paradigm shift



Drive series G220 1.1kW - 55kW



Independent Model Verification & Validation Reports:

Door opener for the acceptance of simulation results in product certification as UL and CE.

Why – Customer Challenge

- Certification requires exhaustive physical tests -> high costs, efforts & long time-to-market

How – Technical Approach

- Perform tests on digital simulations

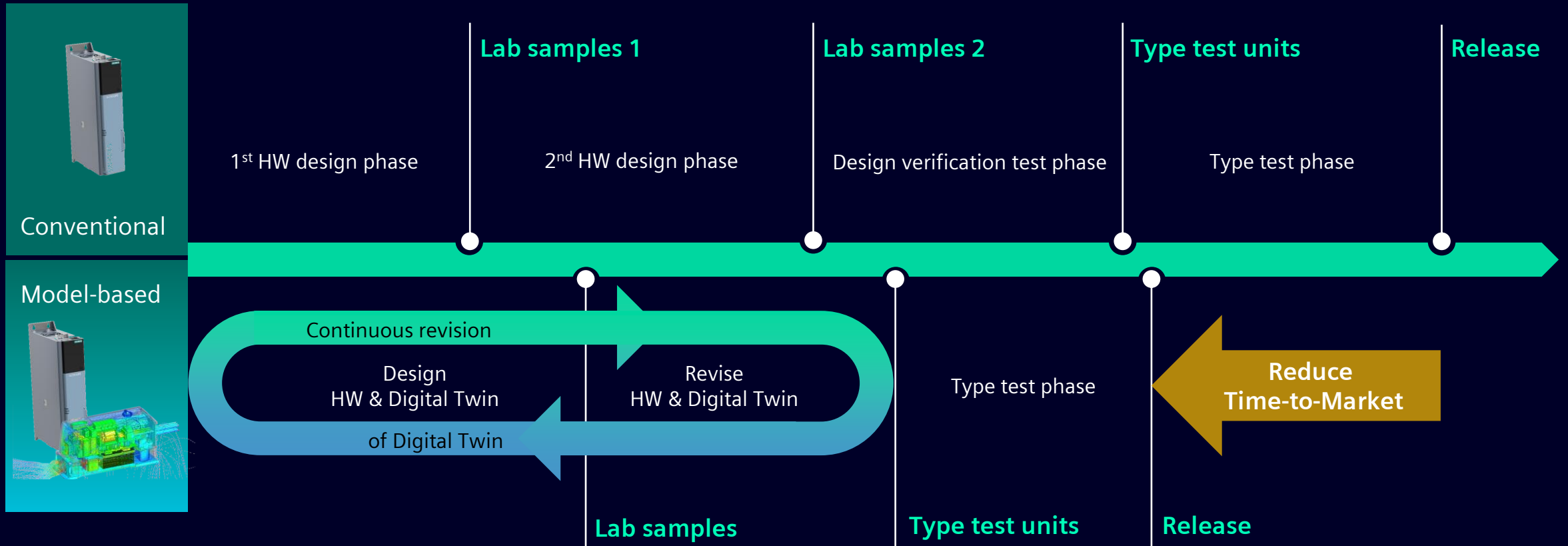


What - Benefits

- Reduced costs and efforts for tests
- Accelerated time-to-market
- Reduced development risk by continuous tests during development (agile)
- Better design space exploration
- Scalability by parallelization

Model-based Design Process

Reduce Time-to-Market & Increase Product Quality



Digital Drive Train

Predictive maintenance of motors and drive applications using AI



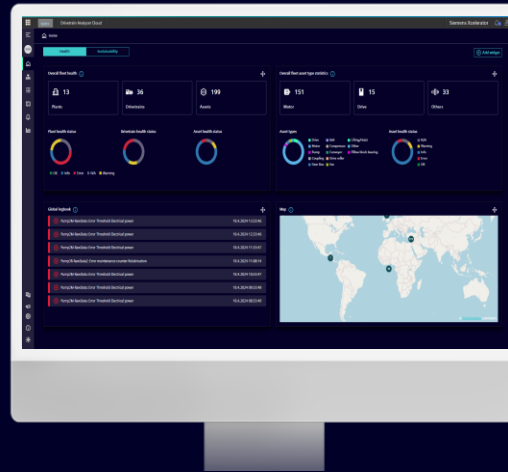
Drivetrain Analyzer Cloud

Cloud-based monitoring solution



Connection Module IOT

Plug-&-play connectivity
Sensor module for induction
motors of any brand



Insights Hub App

- Operation state monitoring
- Anomaly & fault detection
- Energy & maintenance optimization

Why – Customer Challenge

42 % of unplanned downtime due to equipment failure
which costs manufacturers up to 50 bn USD / year¹

How – Technical Approach

Condition Monitoring: Compare motor operation w/ reference model

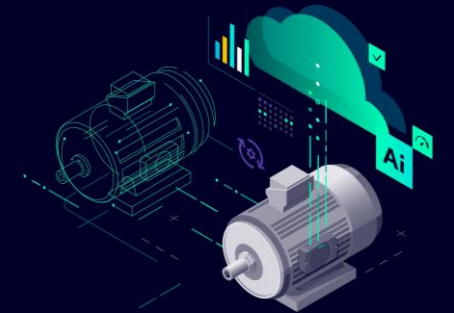
Fault Identification: AI-based frequency analysis

What - Benefits

Up to 30% lifetime extension
by optimized maintenance schedules

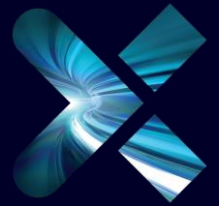
8 % - 12 % productivity increase
by avoiding unexpected production stops

10 % energy cost and CO2 reduction
by data analytics & AI



Siemens Xcelerator

The open digital Business Platform for accelerating the digital transformation



Contact



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ENGINEERING
TOMORROW



Smart converters for Gaudino S.R.L.

Jonas Spoorendonk

ECCE Europe Energy Conversion Congress & Expo, Darmstadt 2024-09-05



About the presenter



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Head of Sales and Business Development
Danfoss Drives Digital Services

Mobile: +49 151 4631 9953

Email: js@danfoss.com

Smart Converters for Gaudino S.R.L

Some wording

Smart features include

- Edge functionality based on native processing power of the converters
 - “Drive as a sensor”, using the native sensors of the converter
 - External sensors using the native connection ports of the converter
-
- **Smart services include**
 - Platform functionality, cloud-based or on-premise
 - External devices, not native to the converter, with edge capability, gateways, and memory
 - (Additional) analytic power in the platform
 - People, expert and admin users, who enrich the data and normally provide the main value

Smart Converters for Gaudino S.R.L

The case

Background

- Rivoira Group is a leading producer of apples, kiwis and other fruit
- Gaudino S.R.L. makes high quality refrigeration systems, supplier to Rivoira
- Danfoss is a producer of frequency converters, supplier to Gaudino

Challenges

- Rivoira cannot afford plant downtime, especially during the apple harvest seasons. Unforeseen downtime translates into a very high cost.
- Gaudino have warranty obligations and other liabilities for delivered machines, and generally want to protect their stellar reputation
- Gaudino deliveries include a control system, but this does not allow them to be "predictive" or do trouble-shooting. They asked Danfoss for support in finding a solution to this need



Smart Converters for Gaudino S.R.L

Technical solution



Condition Based Monitoring

- Smart feature for predictive maintenance, integrated in Danfoss drives
- Anomaly detection, with baselining
- Stator current, load envelope, vibration and other adjacent sensors,

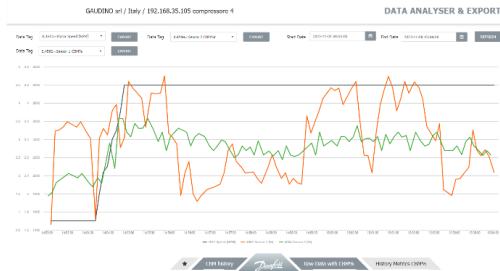
DrivePro Remote Monitoring

- Smart service, based on IOT platform
- Remote control of the situation with automatic alerts, data history and secure access for off-site users
- Inhouse experts of Gaudino can escalate support cases to Danfoss service partners whenever necessary

Smart Converters for Gaudino S.R.L

November 2023

- **Historical performance of the system:** several grid-side voltage surges were detected that would have damaged the machine over time. Rivoira brought the issue to power utility Enel for a solution



- **Detection of a small load-side anomaly, caused by a valve with a developing fault:** Rivoira replaced the valve under warranty without much effort, thus avoiding much bigger problems and cost from damage to the compressor and inverter.
- see also <https://youtu.be/bdlAPyICQDg>



Smart Converters for Gaudino S.R.L

Key takeaways

- For Rivoira, the value was avoidance of downtime
- For Gaudino, the value was reduced warranty cost and good customer satisfaction
- Value creation was enabled by the smart converters, smart features and services, but the main value was created by the engineers of Gaudino
- Real-life smart converter functionality is still mainly about anomaly detection, and about how to deliver alerts and historical data to expert users in a smart way. The automated diagnostic capability is quite limited.
- All this could have been done with traditional technology, but setting it up with fieldbus and MES would be extensive and expensive work, with unwanted impact on sub-systems



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