

# MEDOW



**MULTI-TERMINAL DC GRID FOR OFFSHORE WIND**



***Building the Grid for the Future***

Gen Li

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# ***Agenda***

- ❖ ***What is MEDOW?***
- ❖ ***Why DC Grids***
- ❖ ***How DC Grids Operate***
- ❖ ***Challenges and Remaining Issues***
- ❖ ***Q&A***

## About me

### Bachelor



**Thesis:** *The study of penetrating a 10MW solar plant into Jilin Province's power grid*

Supervisor: Prof. Yan Gan gui

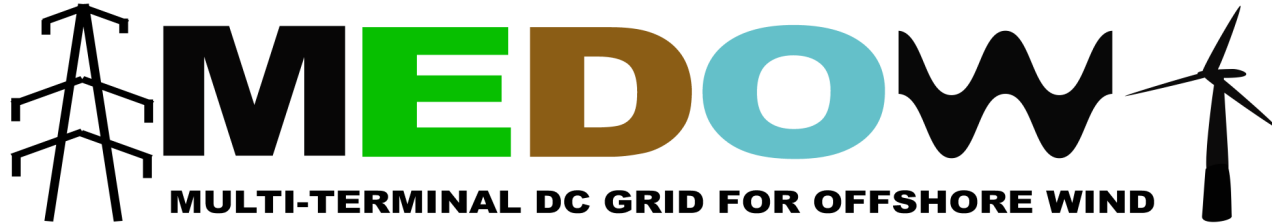
### Master



**Thesis:** *Implementing virtual power plant concept in Singapore distribution power grid*

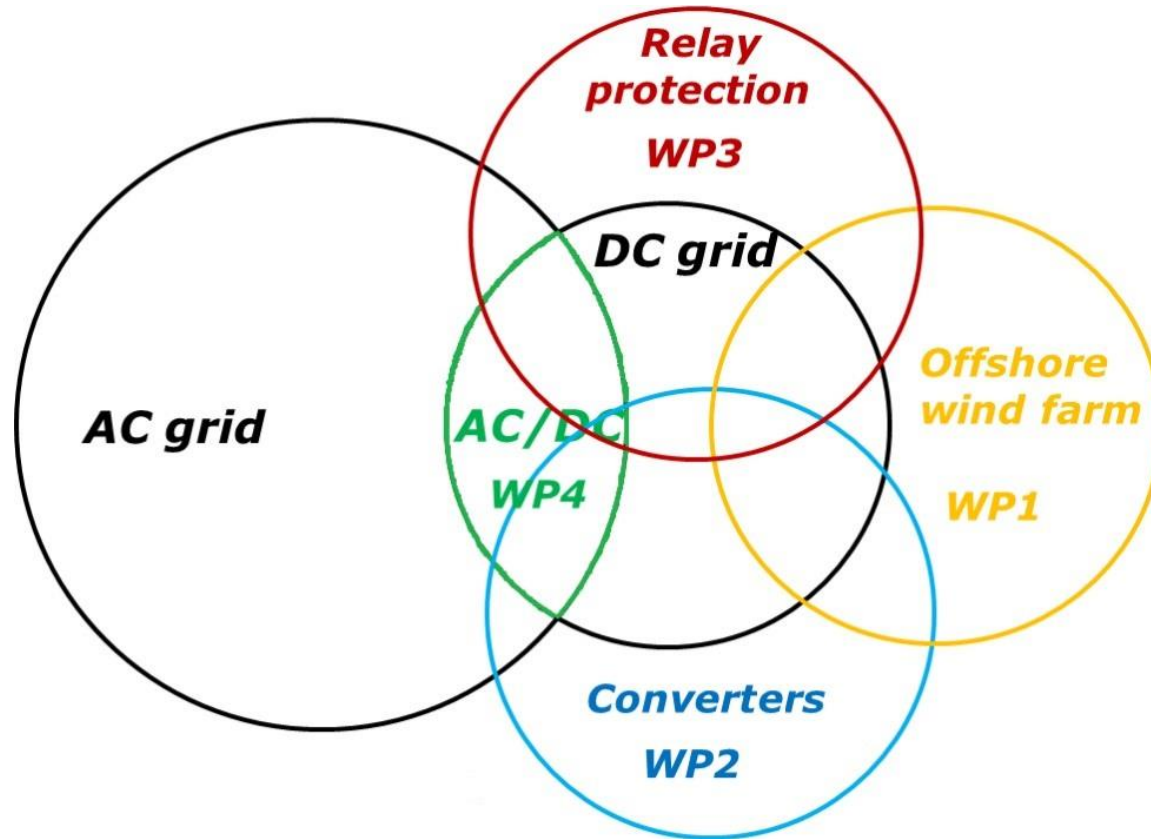
Supervisors:  
Assoc Prof. Gooi Hoay beng and Wang Peng

What is MEDOW



**MEDOW** is a €3.9 million Marie Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) consisting of 11 partners (5 universities and 6 industrial organisations) with collective expertise on the manufacturing, design, operation, and control of multi-terminal DC grids.

What is MEDOW



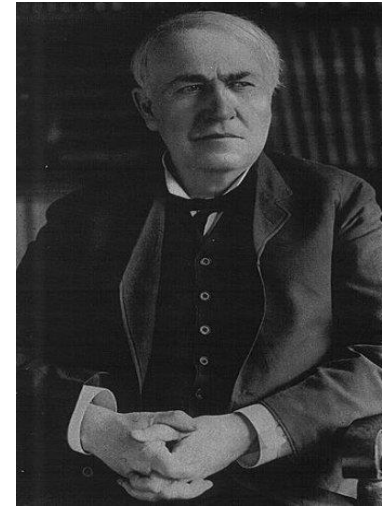
WP1: Connection of offshore wind power to DC grids

WP2: Investigation of voltage source converters for DC grids

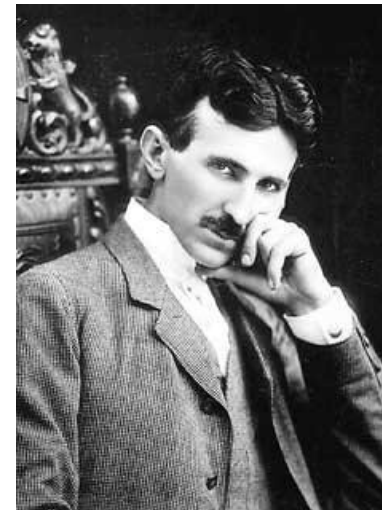
WP3: Relaying protection

✓ **WP4: Interactive AC/DC grids**

Why DC grids



**Thomas Edison**  
1847 –1931

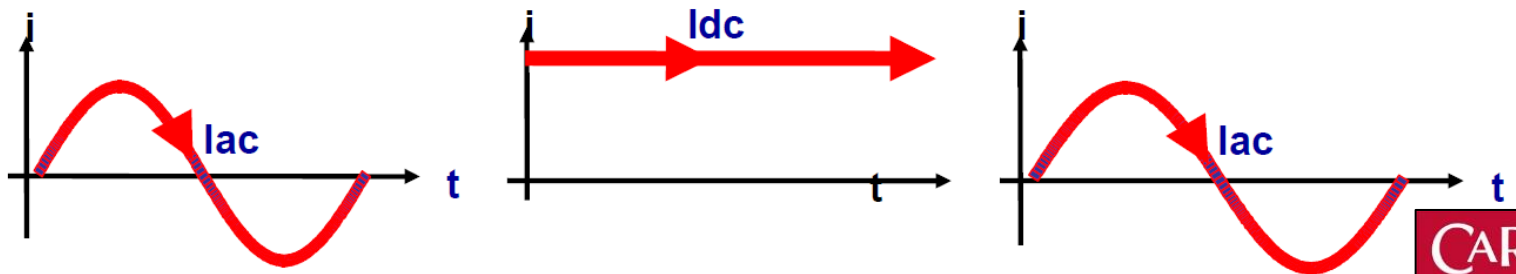
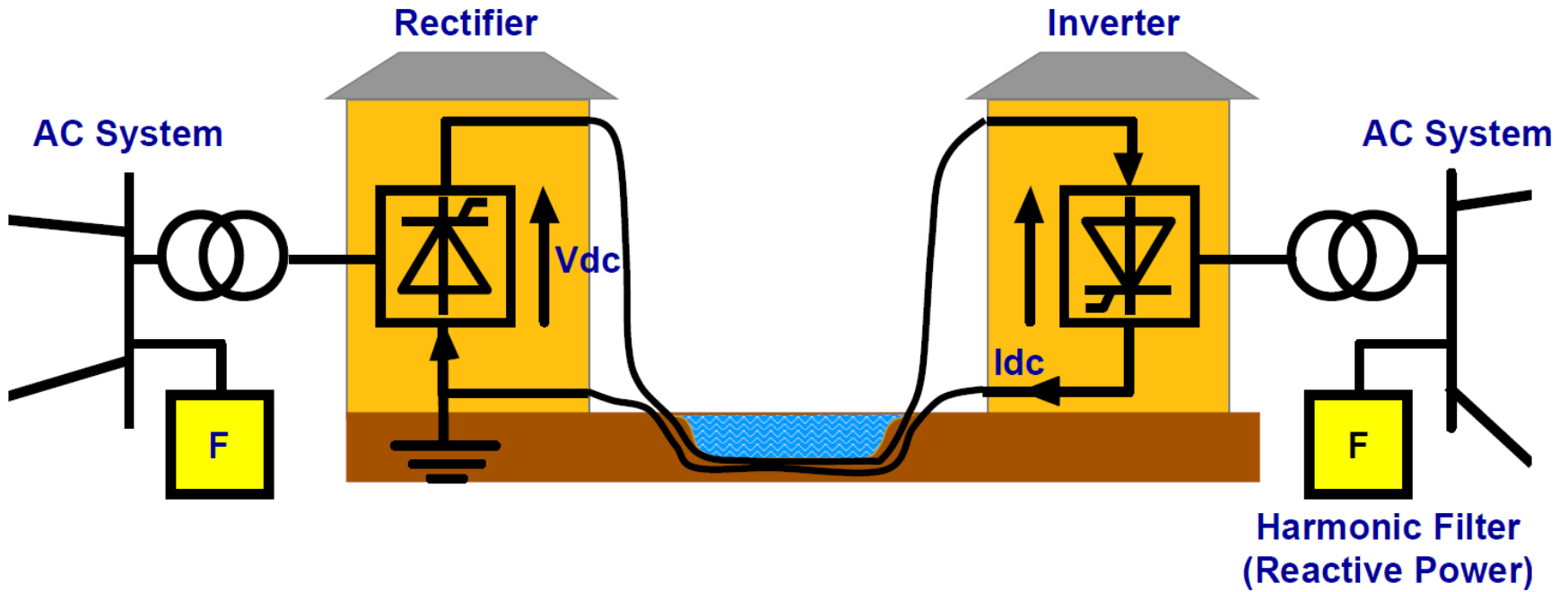


**Nikola Tesla**  
1856 –1943



Why DC grids

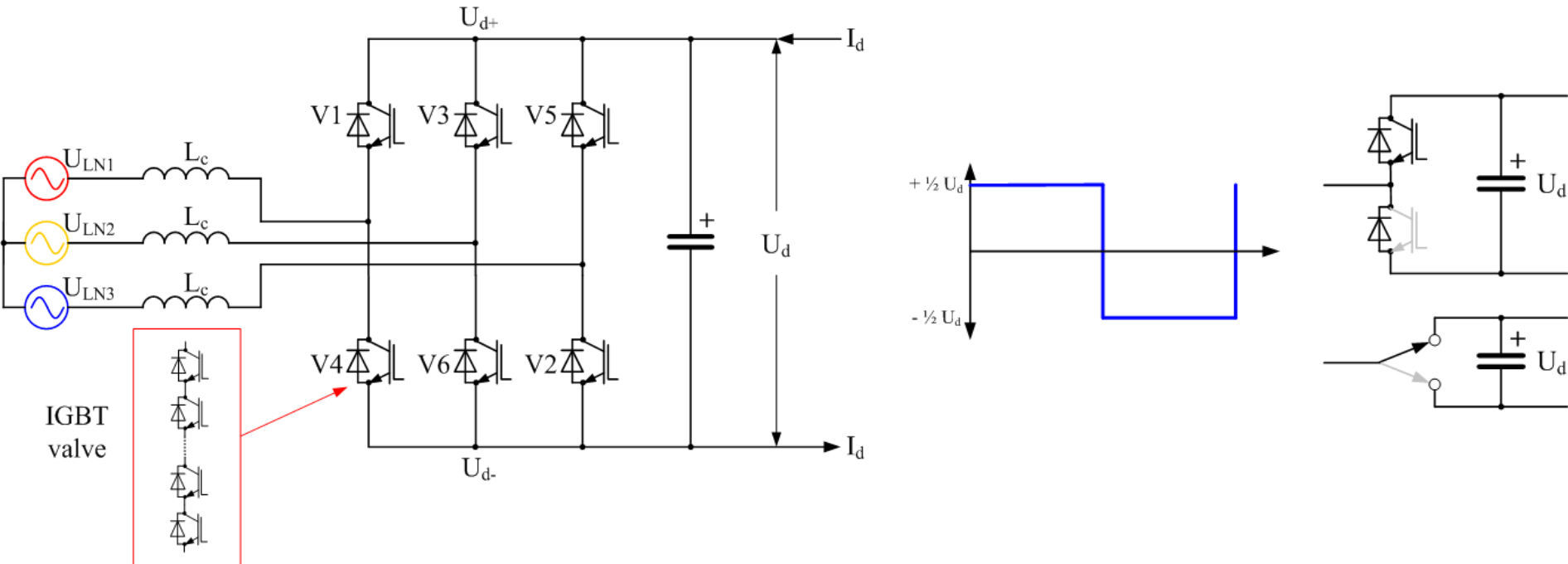
From alternating current to direct current and back



Principles of HVDC

Why DC grids

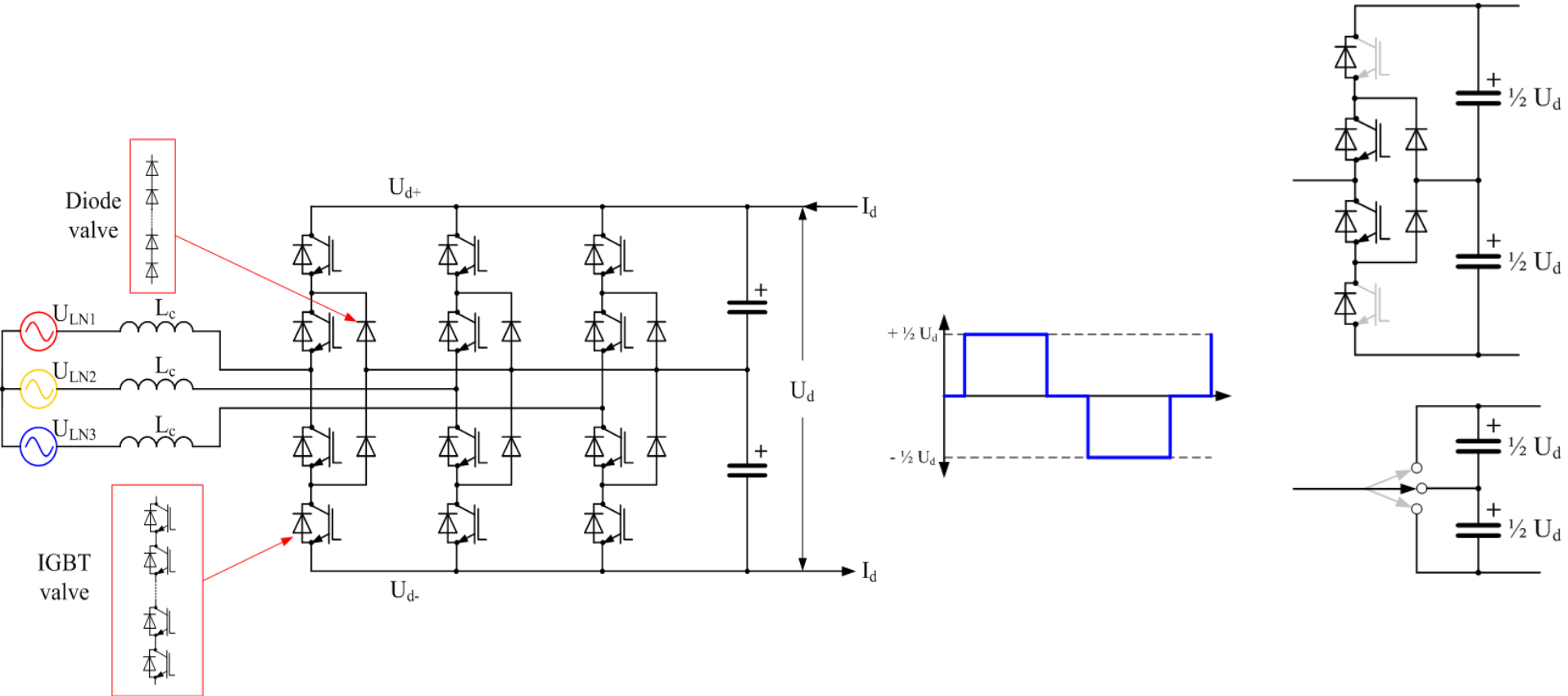
❖ Technical progress



Two-level VSC

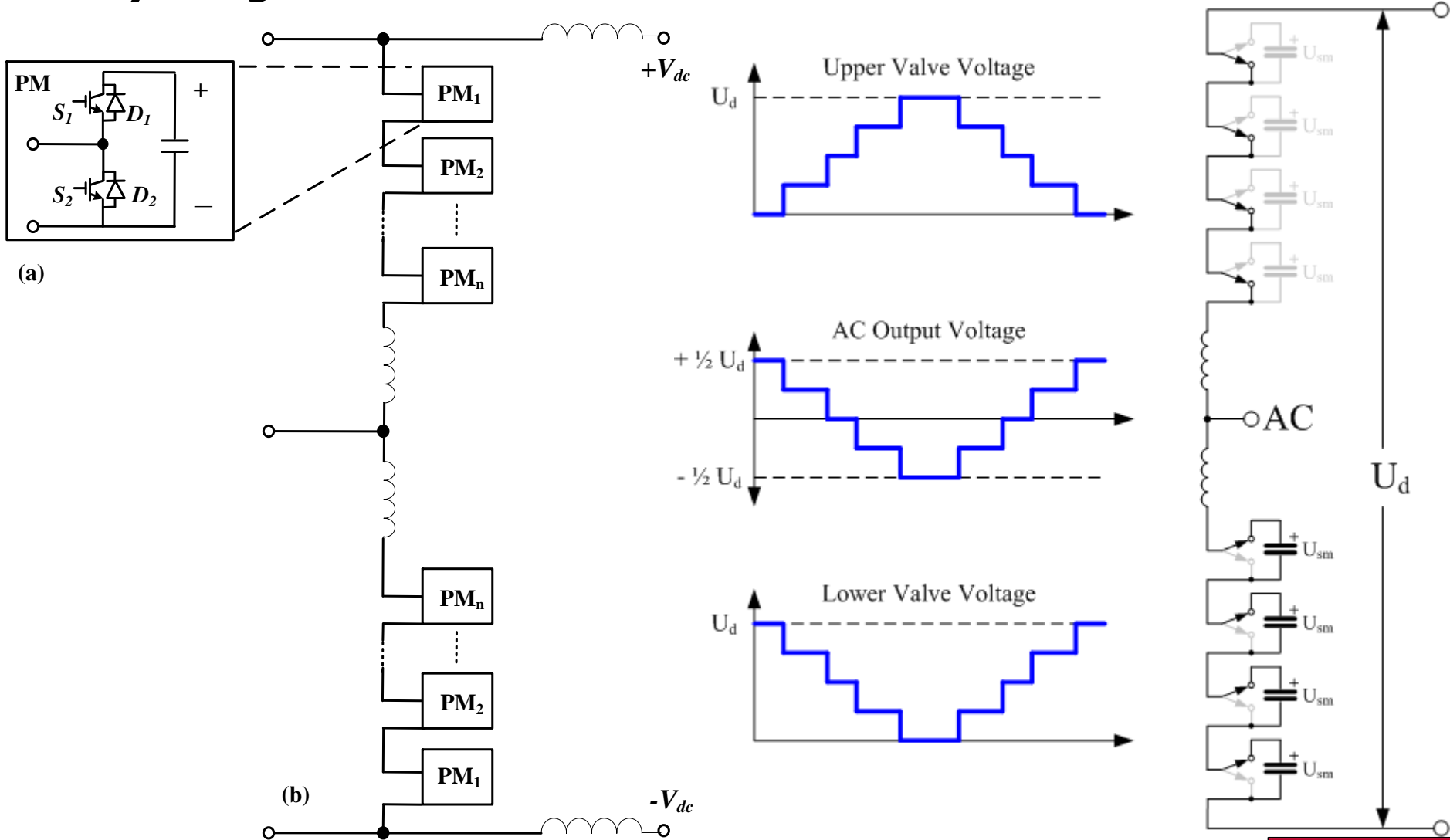


Why DC grids



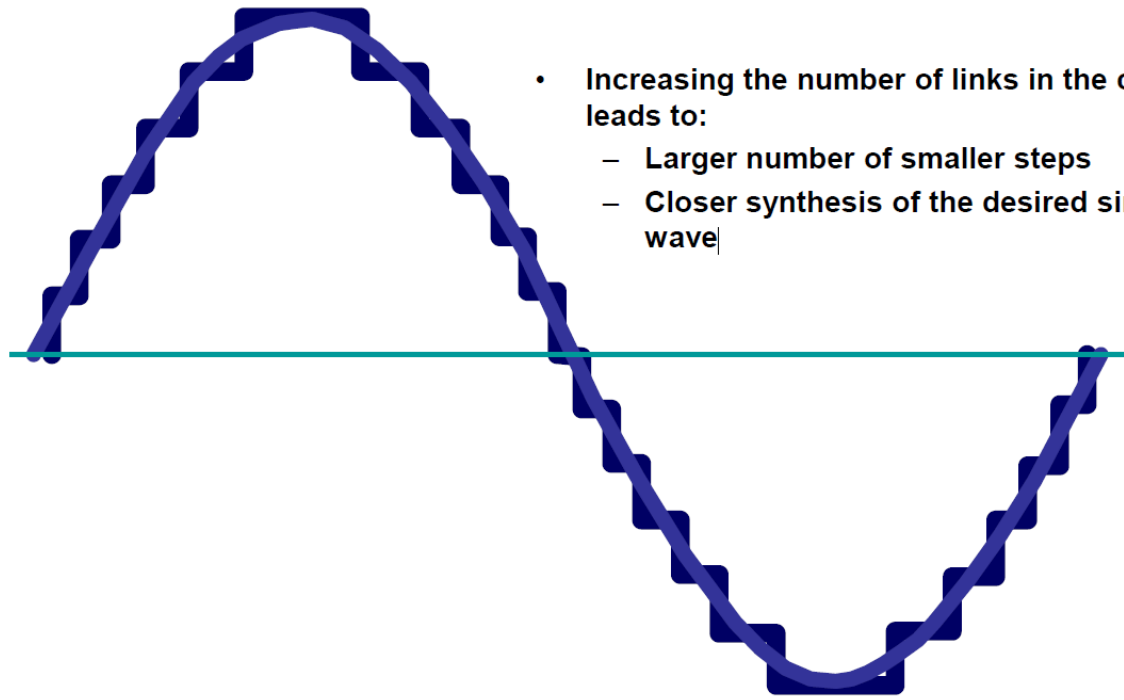
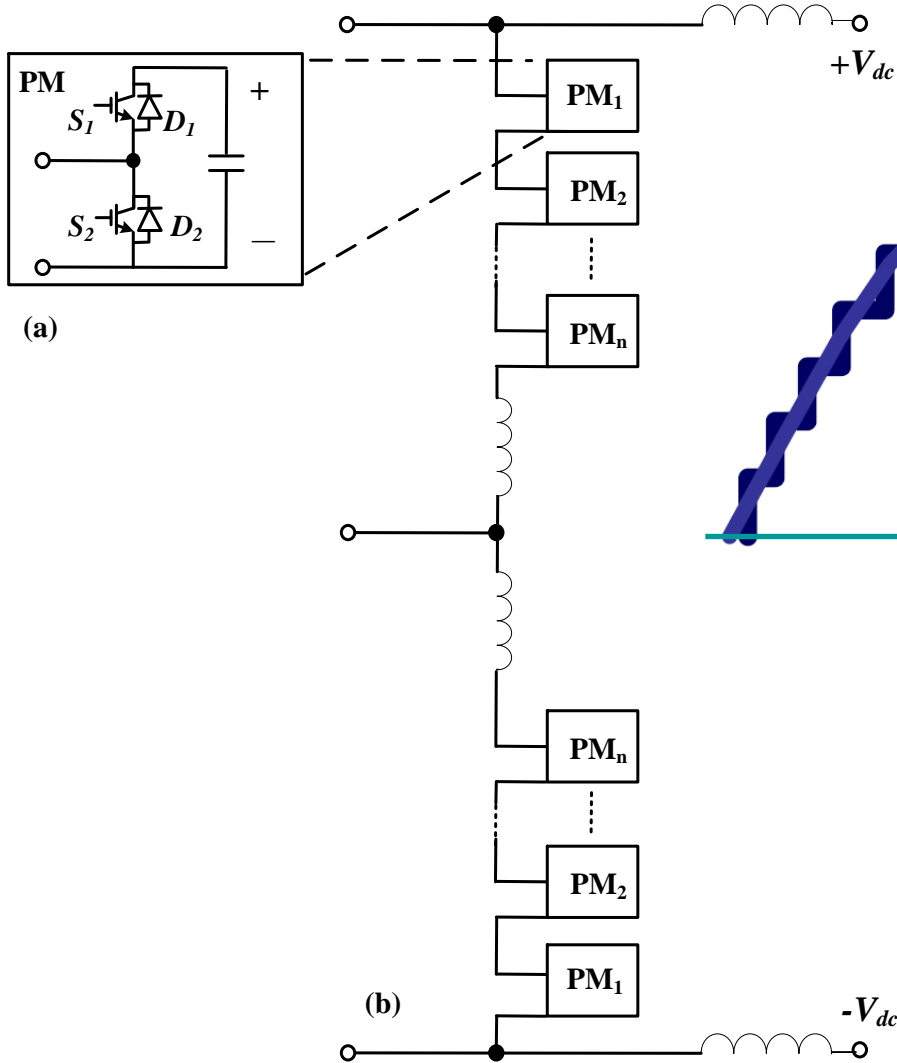
Three-level VSC

Why DC grids



Modular Multilevel Converter

Why DC grids



- Increasing the number of links in the chain leads to:
  - Larger number of smaller steps
  - Closer synthesis of the desired sine wave

Modular Multilevel Converter

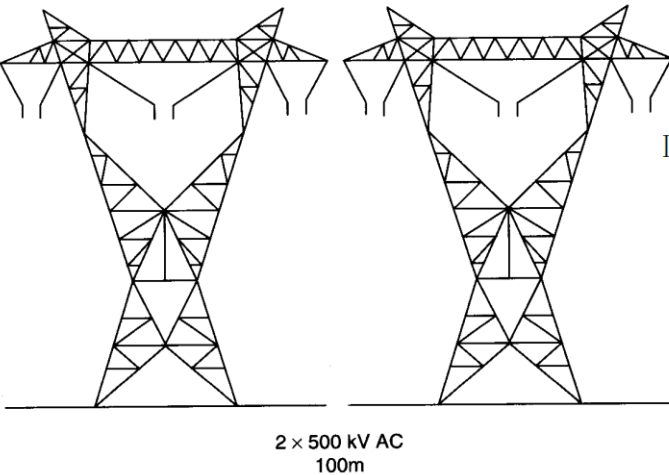
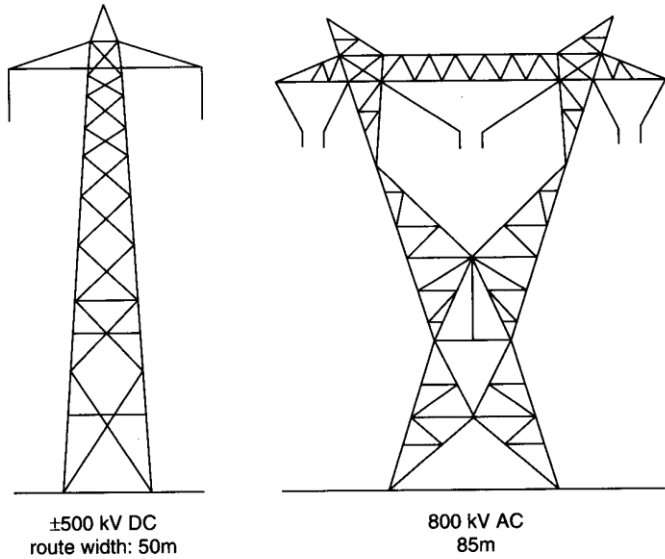
❖ ***Policy that drives grid development***

Environmental: EU has initiated 20/20/20 goals for 2020

- 20 % of energy consumption by Renewable Energy Sources (RES)
- 20 % GHG/CO<sub>2</sub> reduction
- 20 % efficiency increase

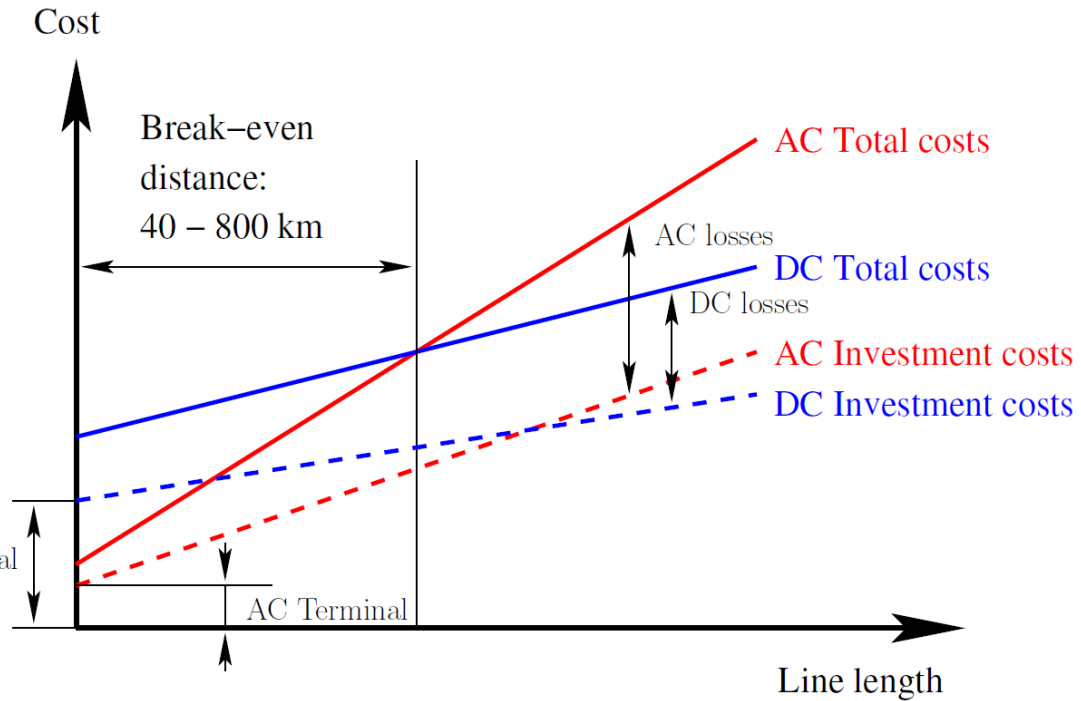
❖ ***Policy makers, environmental organizations, technology providers and energy companies strive for "more grid"***

# Why DC grids



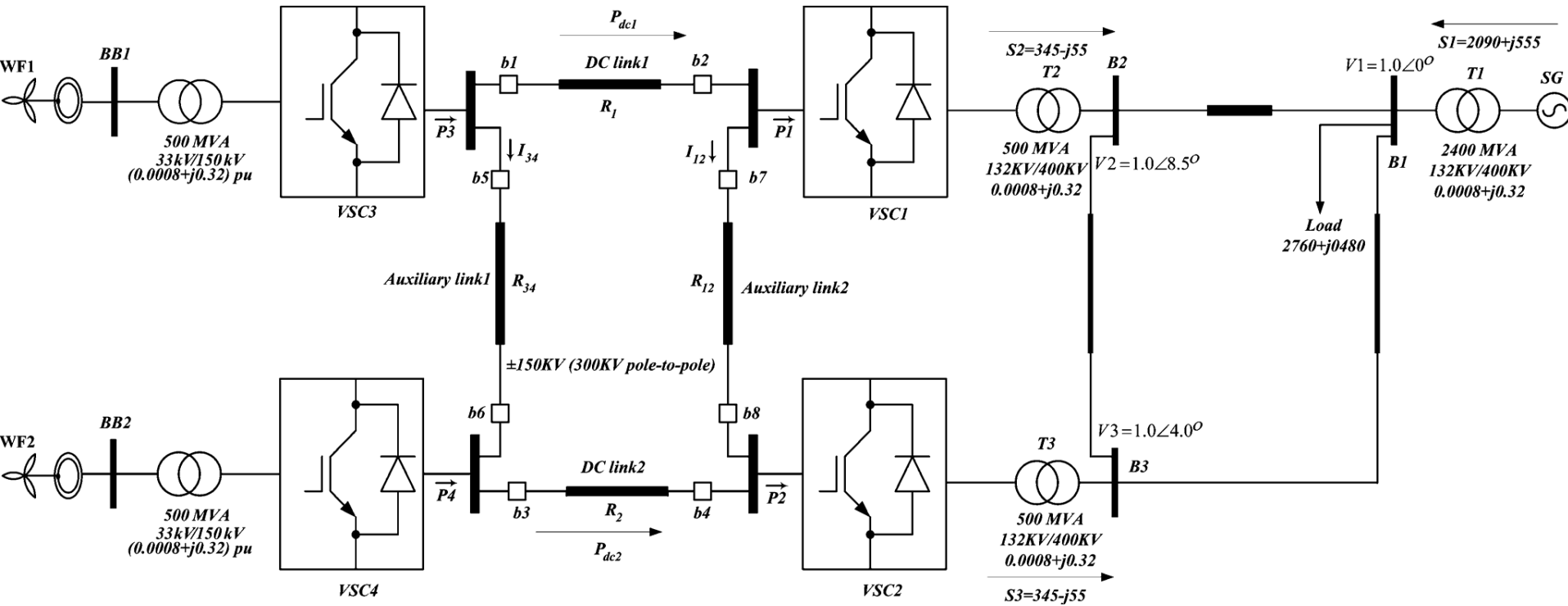
Right-of-Way

## ❖ Economics



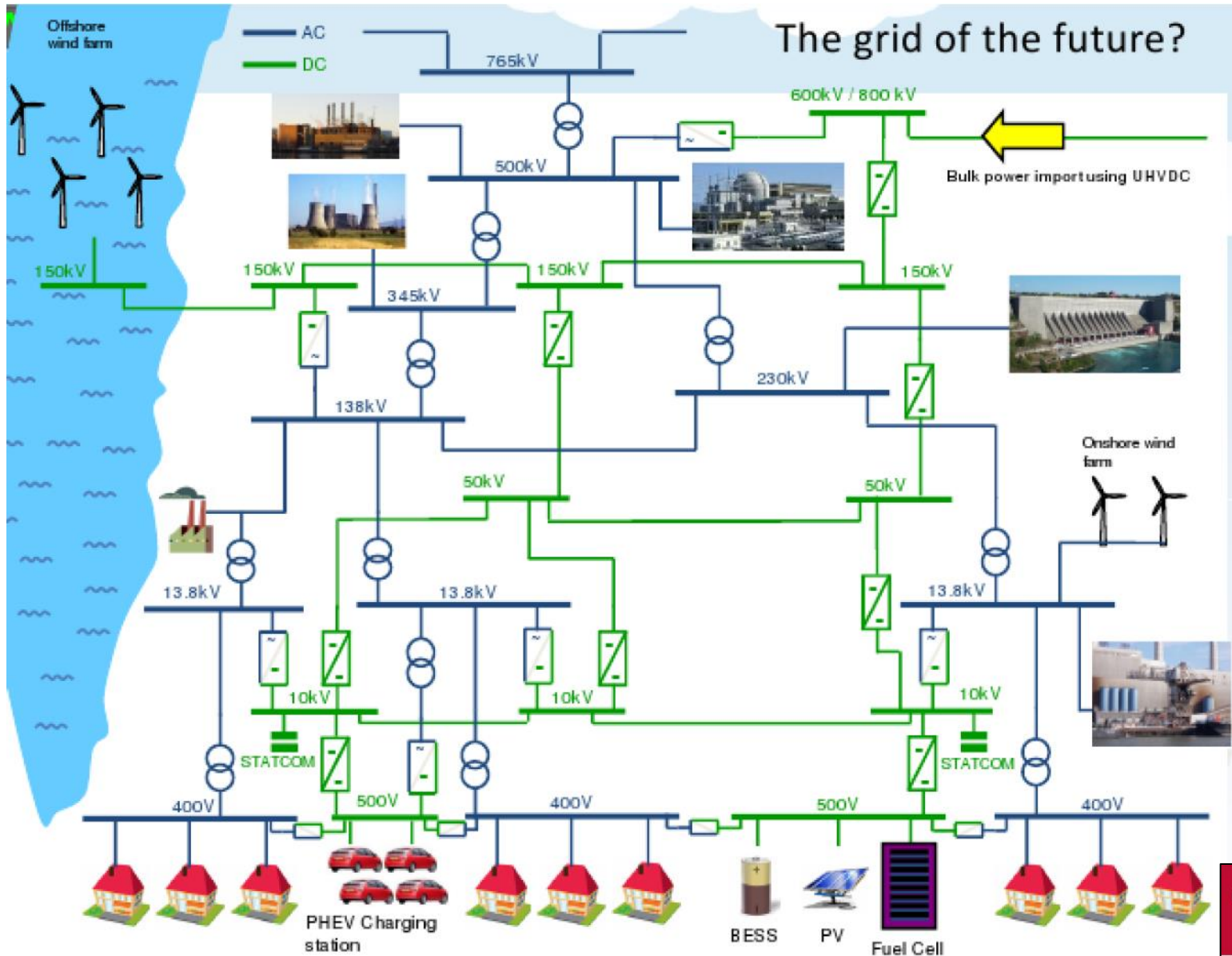
Comparison between AC and DC investment costs

How DC grids operate



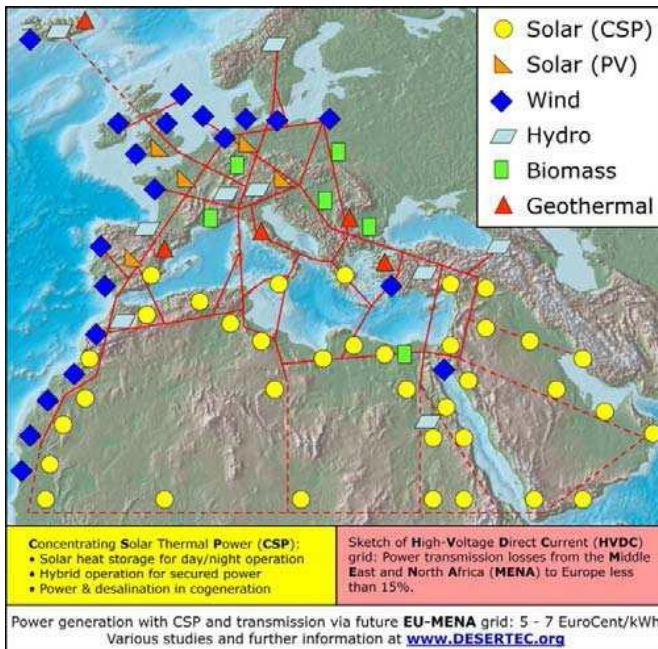
4-terminal HVDC grid with wind farm penetration

How DC grids operate

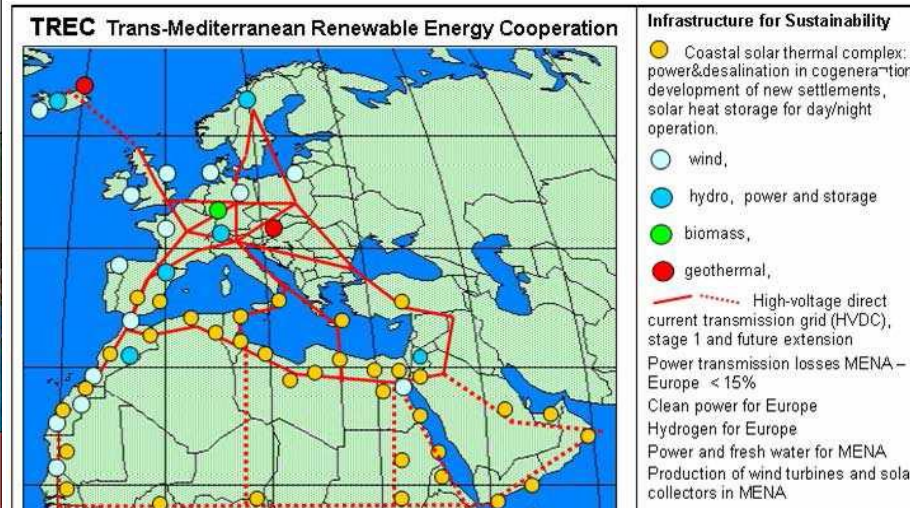


Vision of a future grid

## How DC grids operate

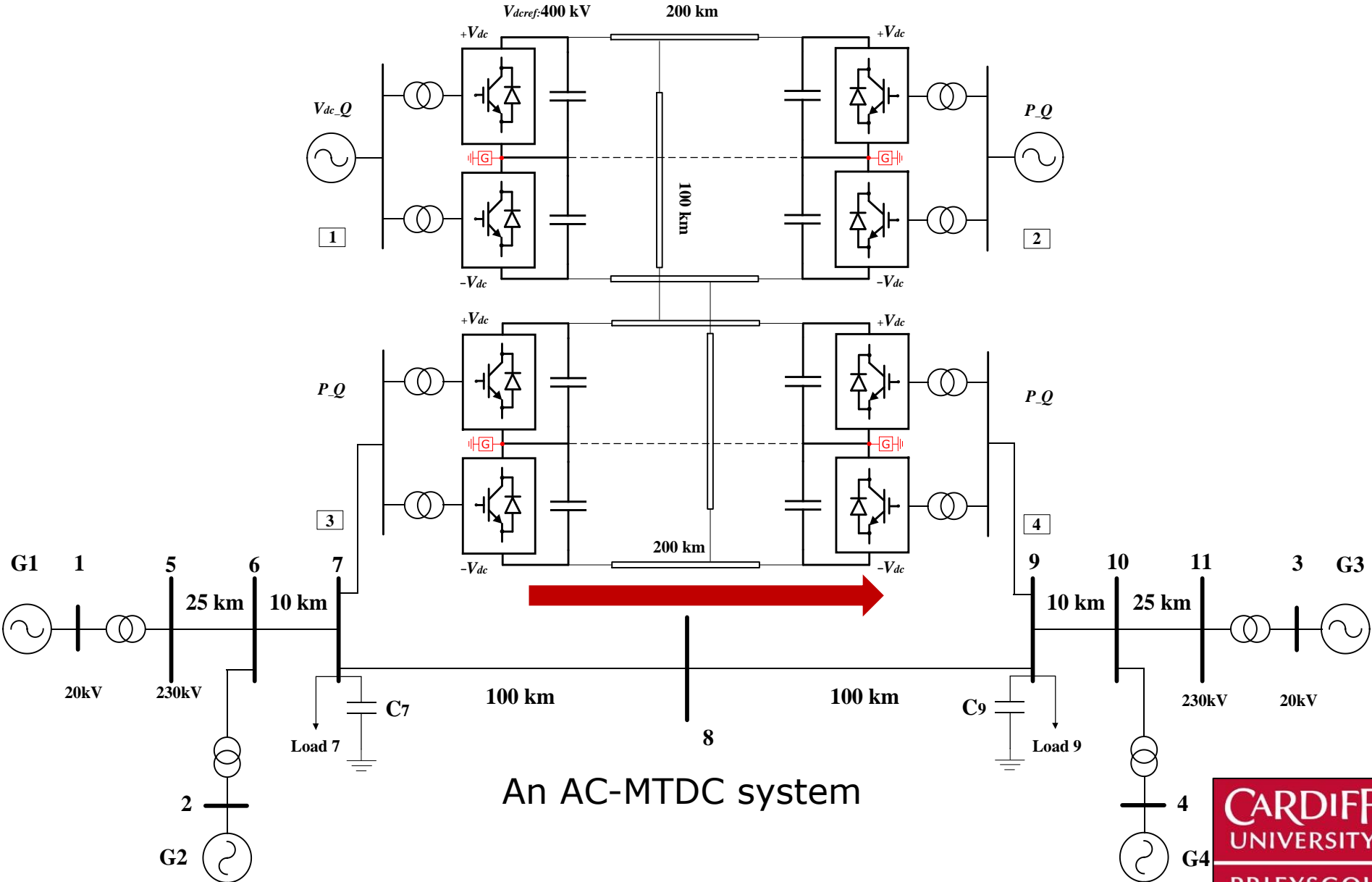


## Concept of Supergrid



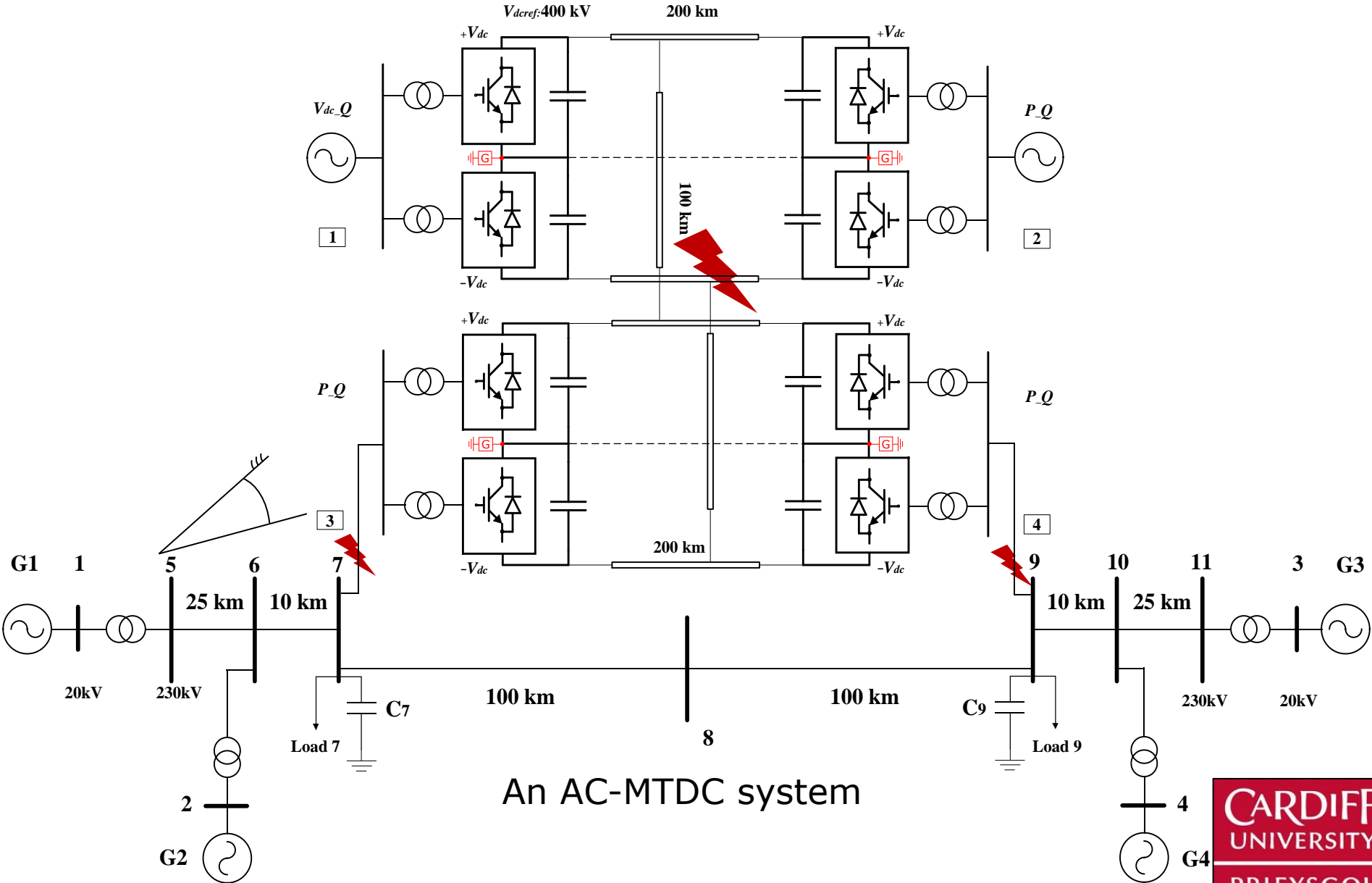


How DC grids operate



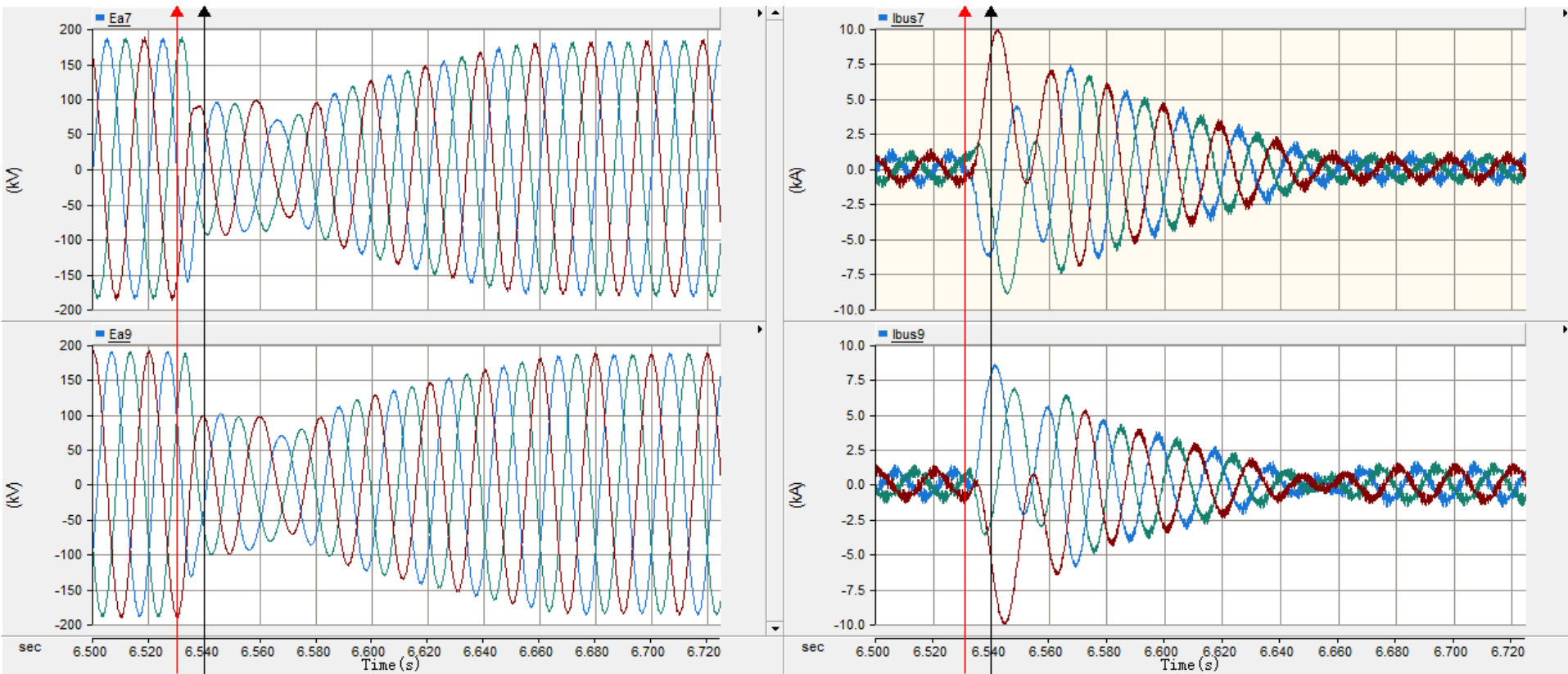
An AC-MTDC system

How DC grids operate



An AC-MTDC system

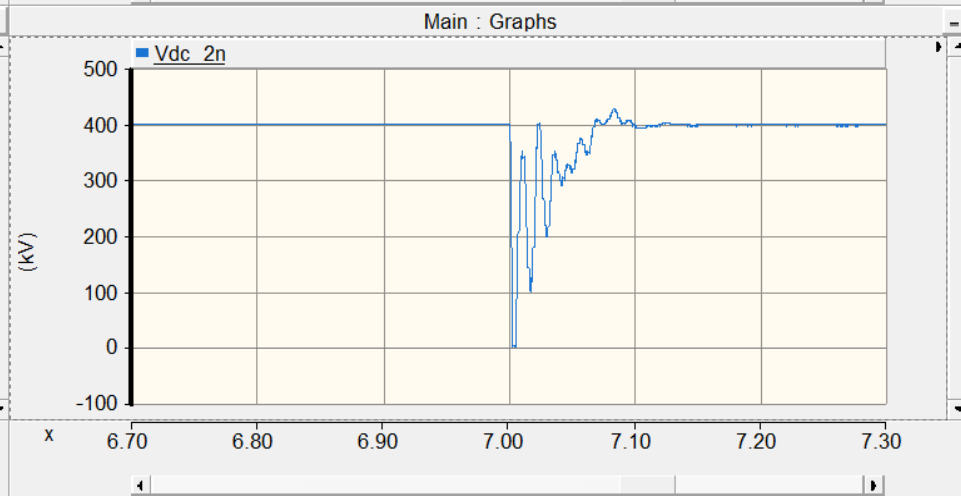
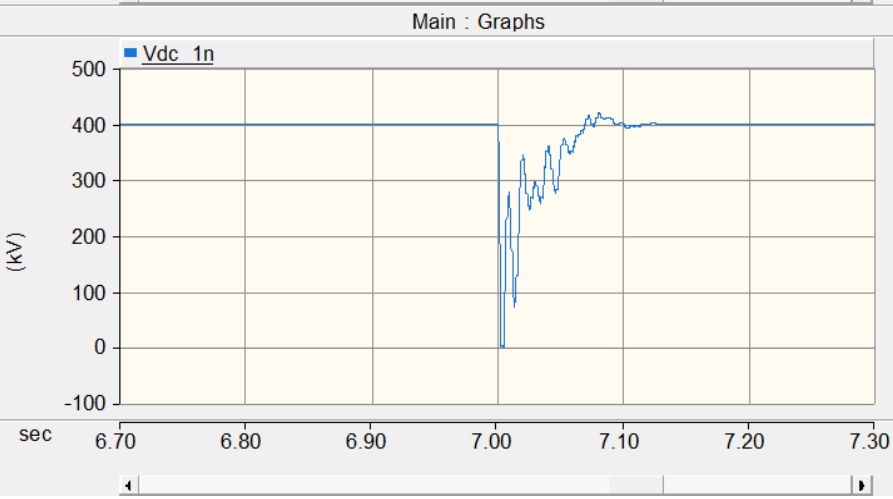
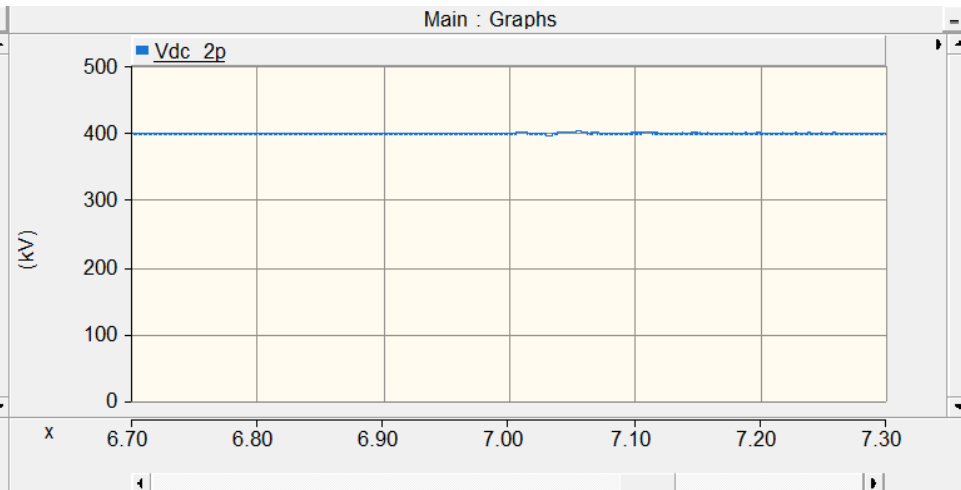
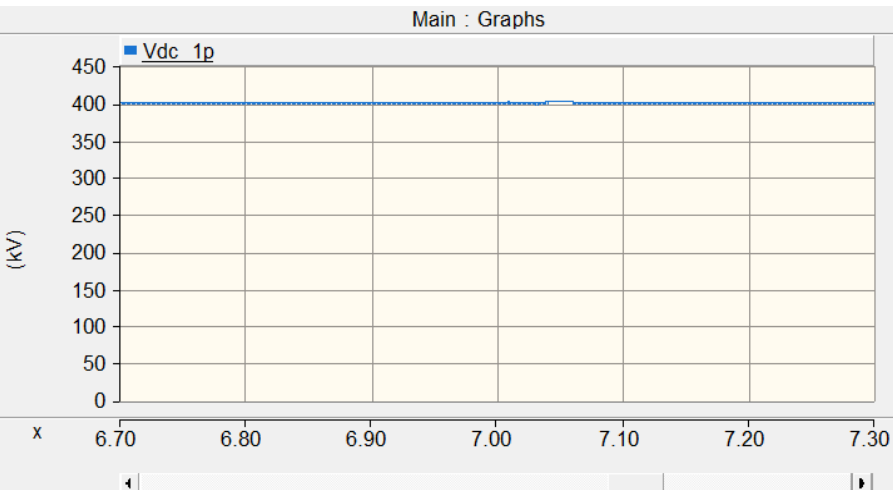
## How DC grids operate



AC voltage at PCCs (bus 7 &amp; 9)

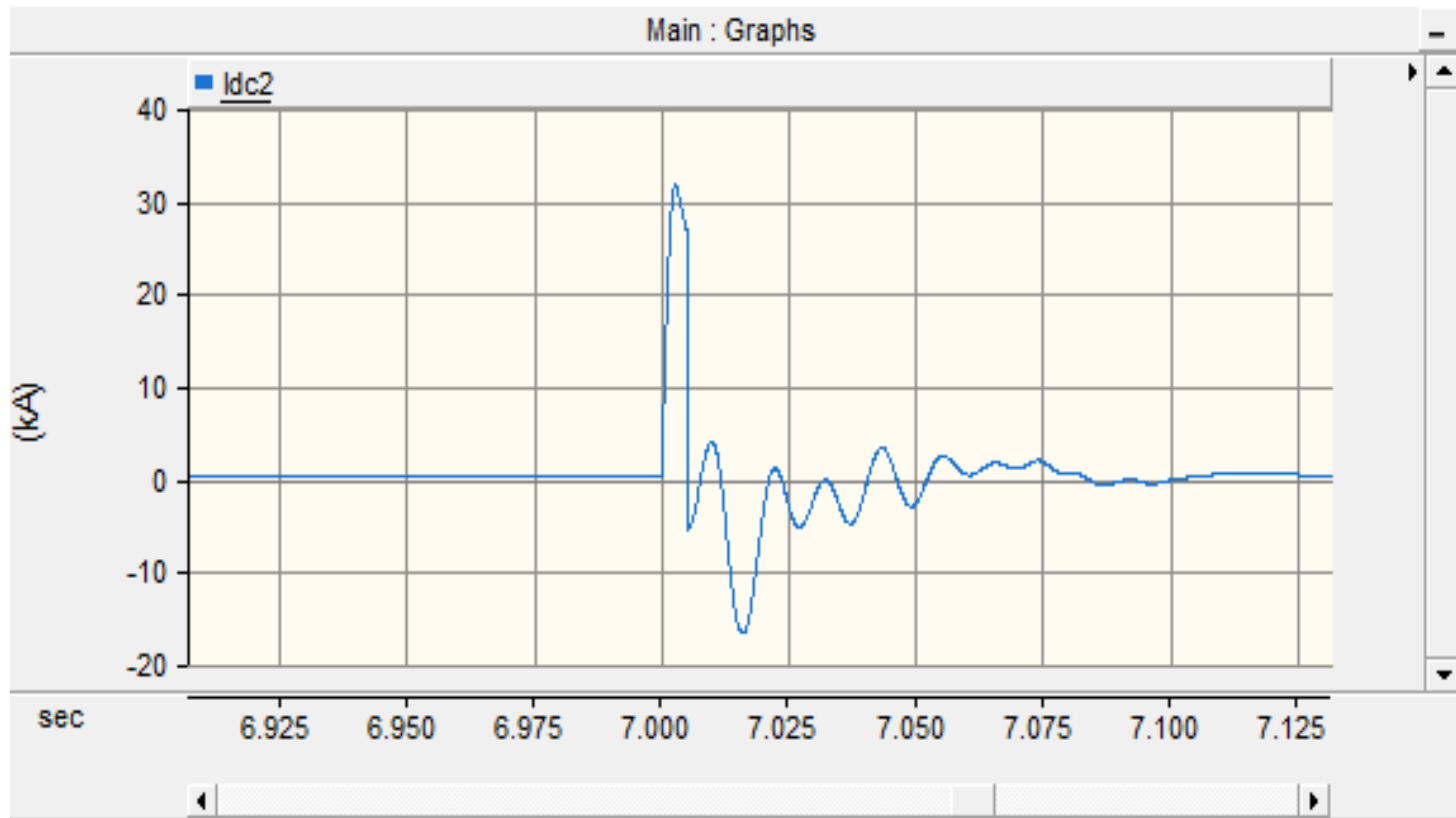
A line-to-ground fault occurs in the middle of the negative pole between converter 1 and 2 at 6.53s and cleared after 10ms.

How DC grids operate



DC voltage of converter 1 & 2

How DC grids operate



DC fault current

**Challenges  
and  
Remaining issues**

- ❖ ***Technical barriers***
- ❖ ***Policy, technology providers,  
energy companies***
- ❖ ***Economics***
- ❖ ***Nothing is perfect***



- [1] Dirk Van Hertem, Setting the scene: *Energy roadmap and the need for more transmission towards a supergrid*. EES-UETP Workshop on “HVDC and HVDC grids for future transmission”, Belgium, Dec, 2013.
- [2] Dirk Van Hertem, *DC grids as an option for future grids*. MEDOW training, Cardiff, Dec, 2013.
- [3] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HVDC\\_converter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HVDC_converter)
- [4] Dirk Van Hertem, High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) technology, Mar, 2011.
- [5] Kalcon, G.O.; Adam, G.P.; Anaya-Lara, O.; Lo, S.; Uhlen, K., "Small-Signal Stability Analysis of Multi-Terminal VSC-Based DC Transmission Systems," *Power Systems, IEEE Transactions on* , vol.27, no.4, pp.1818,1830, Nov. 2012

# Q & A

***Thank you for your time!***



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