

Progress On Meshed Offshore HVDC Transmission Networks

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Content

- ▶ PROMOTioN
- ▶ HVDC Circuit Breaker Testing
 - HVDC circuit breaker technology
 - Test circuit requirements
 - AC short-circuit generator based test circuit
 - Test results – mechanical circuit breaker with active current injection



European Commission energy strategy

By 2030.....



40%

cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels



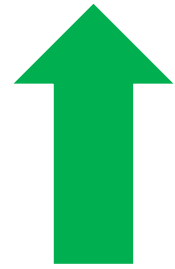
27%

share of renewable energy consumption



27%

energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario



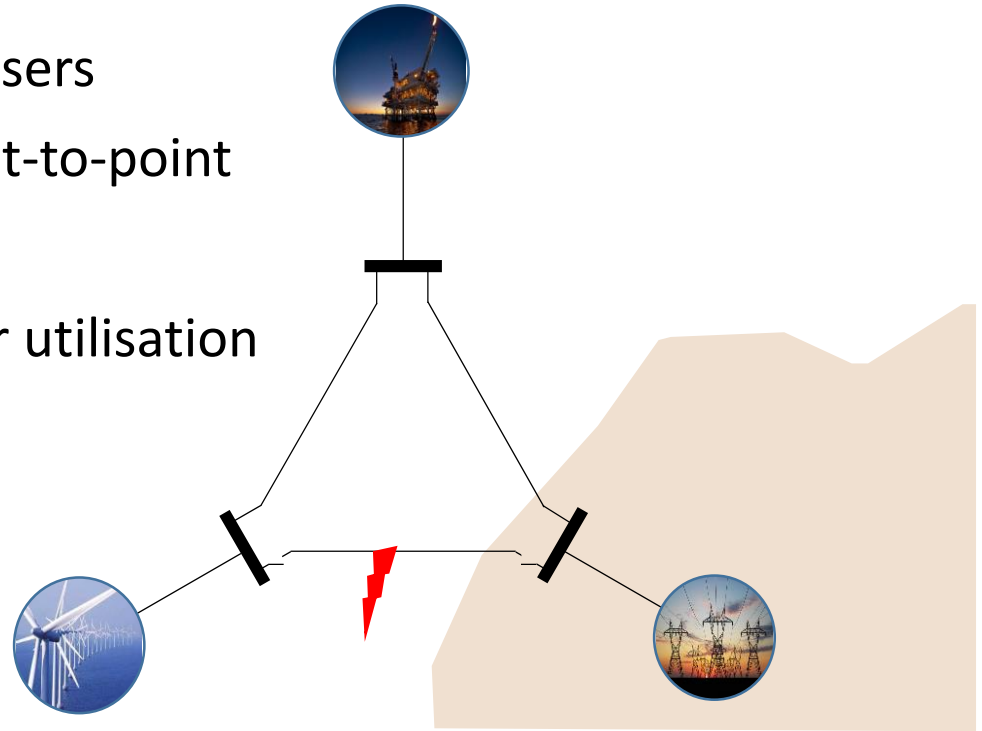
15%

electricity interconnection target

Offshore meshed HVDC transmission network

Need

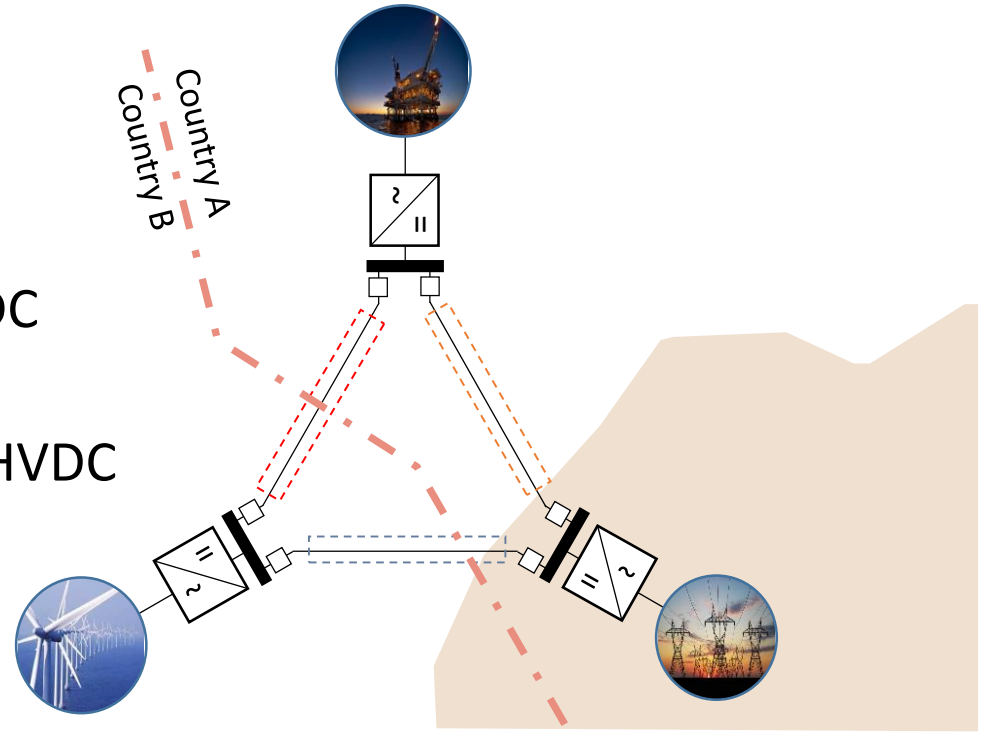
- ▶ Different types of offshore users
- ▶ Traditionally connected point-to-point
- ▶ Interconnector function
- ▶ Dedicated connection, lower utilisation
- ▶ Reliability offshore
- ▶ Mesh offers benefit



Offshore meshed HVDC transmission network

Challenges

- ▶ Offshore requires cables
- ▶ Long cables require HVDC
- ▶ HVDC requires converters
- ▶ HVDC network requires HVDC protection system
- ▶ Protection system requires HVDC switchgear / circuit breakers
- ▶ Transnational network



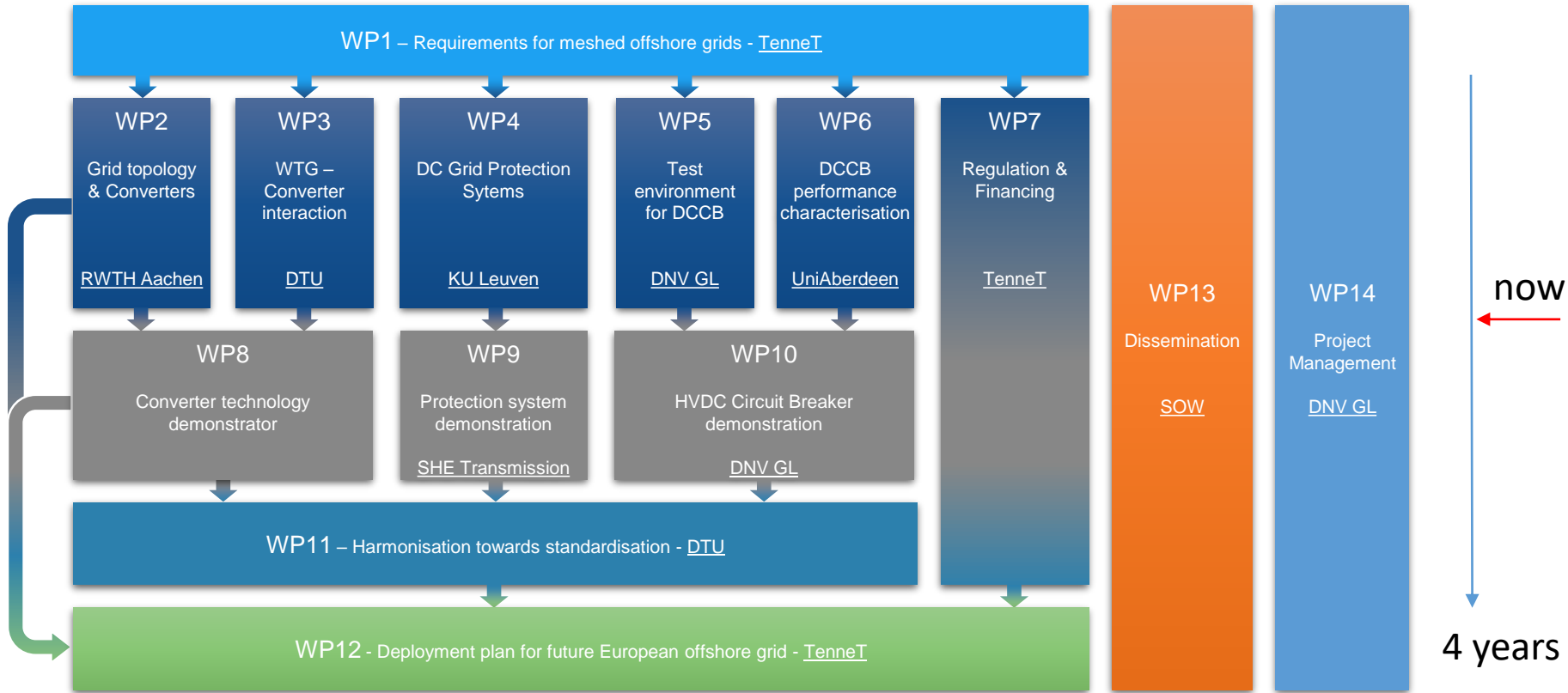
PROMOTioN

Objectives

1. Identify **technical requirements** and investigate possible **topologies** for **meshed HVDC offshore grids**
2. Develop **protection schemes** and **components** for HVDC grids
3. Establish components' **interoperability** and **initiate standardisation**
4. **Demonstrate cost-effective** offshore HVDC equipment
5. Develop recommendations for a coherent EU and national **regulatory framework** for HVDC offshore grids
6. Develop **recommendations for financing mechanisms** for offshore grid infrastructure deployment
7. Develop a **deployment plan** for HVDC grid implementation
8. **Disseminate** results



Project organisation



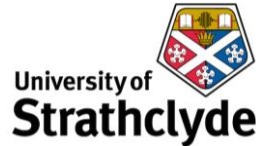
Partners

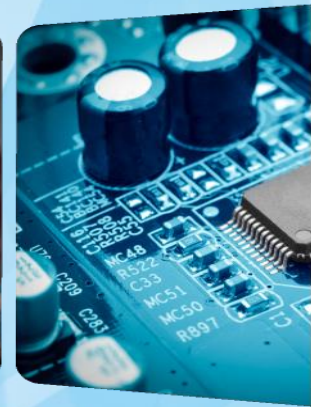
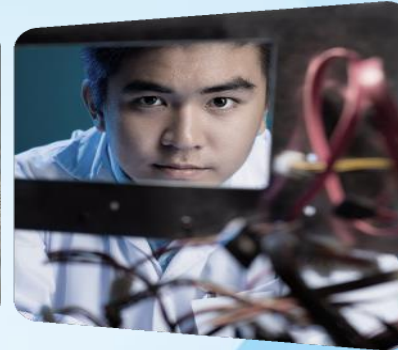
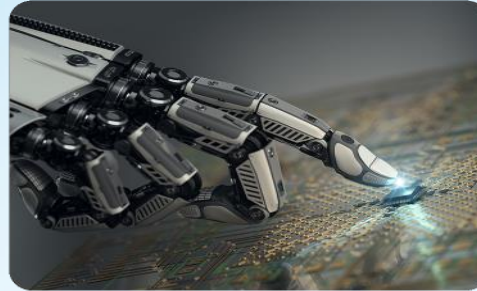
SCiBreak
Enabling the Supergrid

TRACTEBEL Engineering
GDF SUEZ



rijksuniversiteit
 groningen



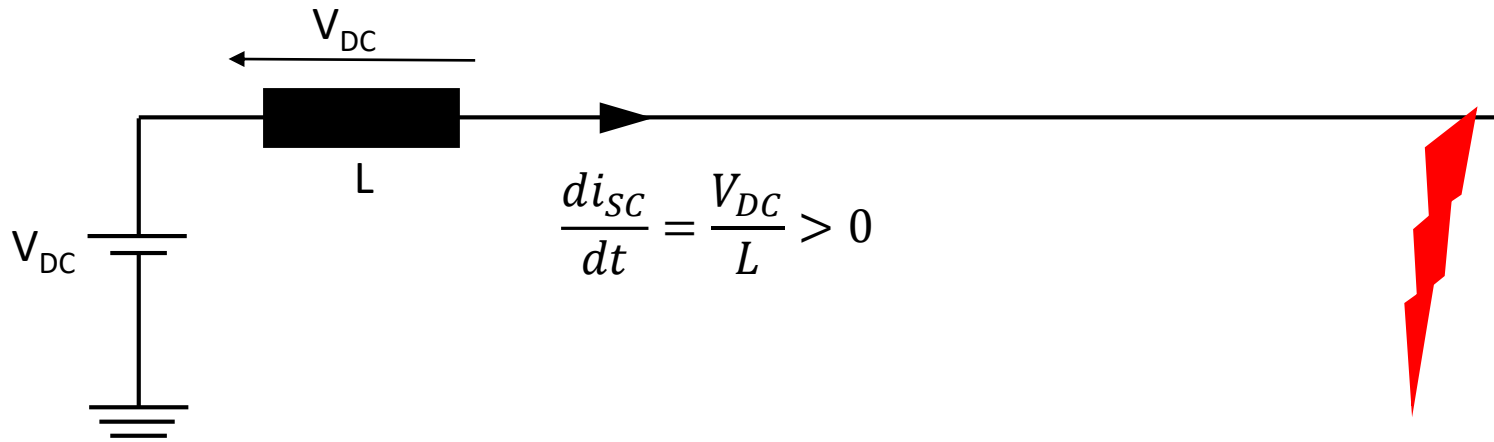


Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers



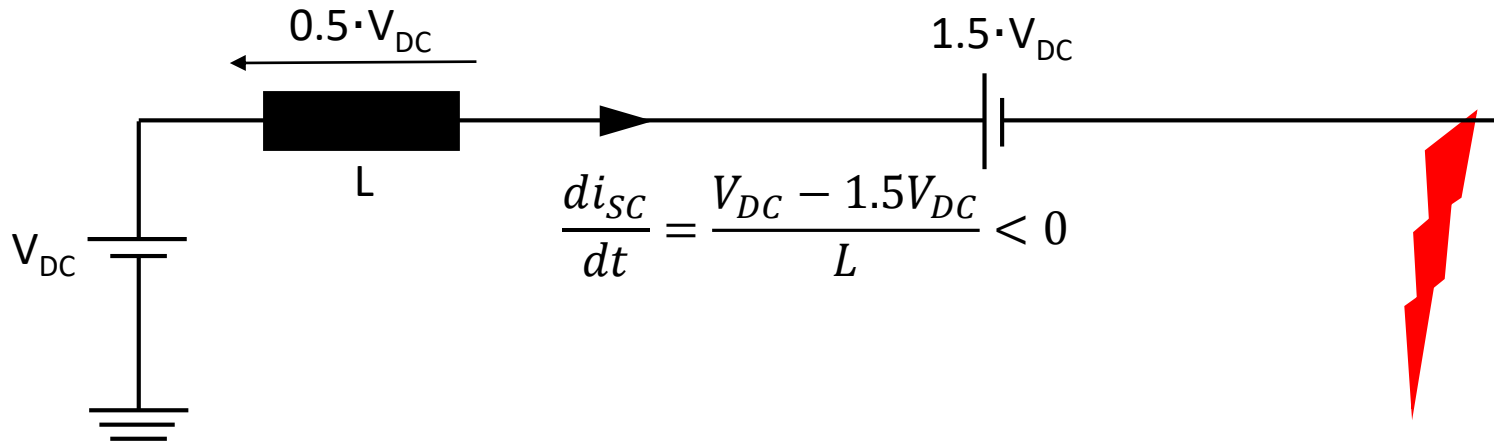
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle



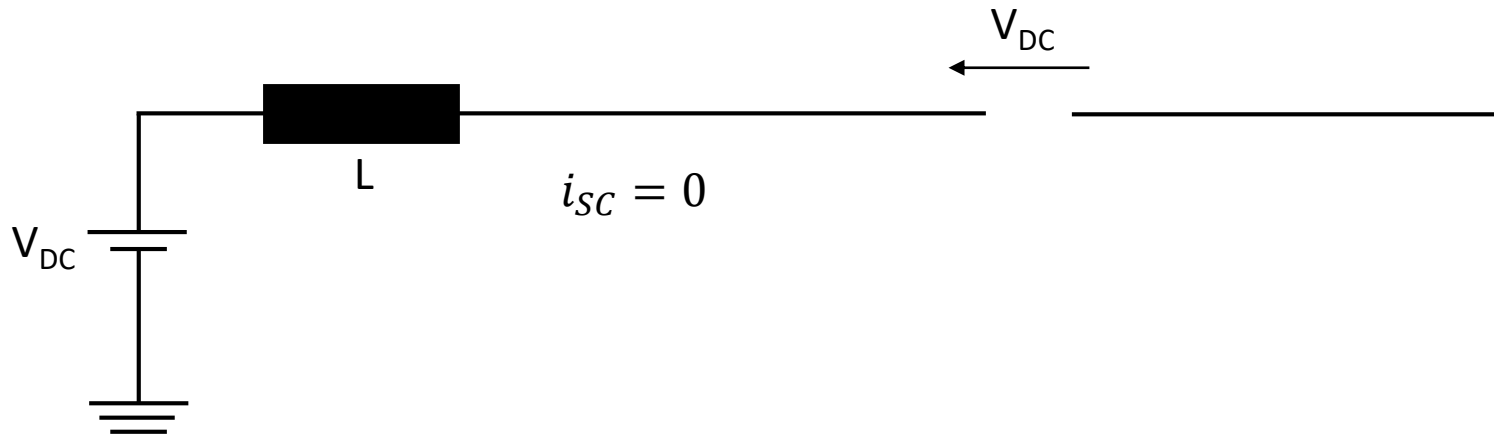
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle – current suppression by counter voltage



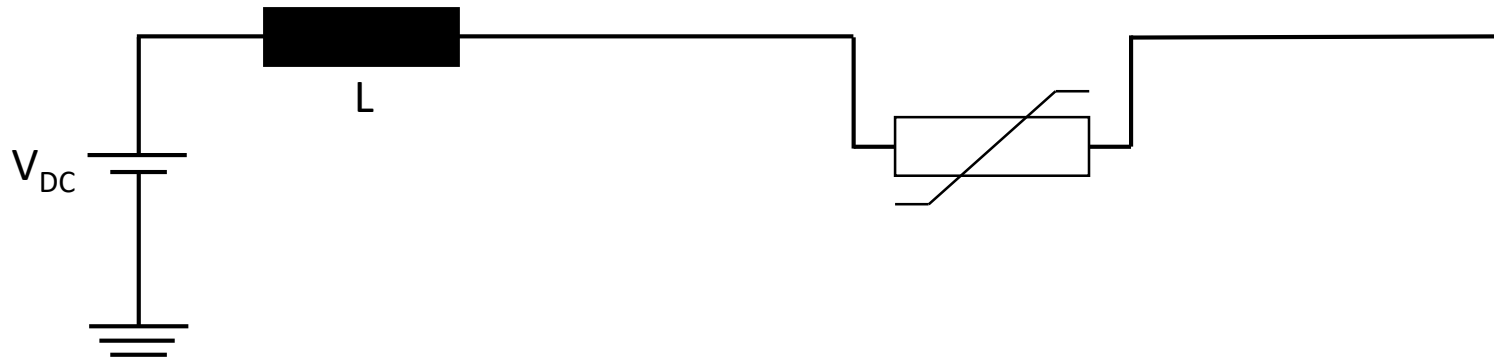
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle



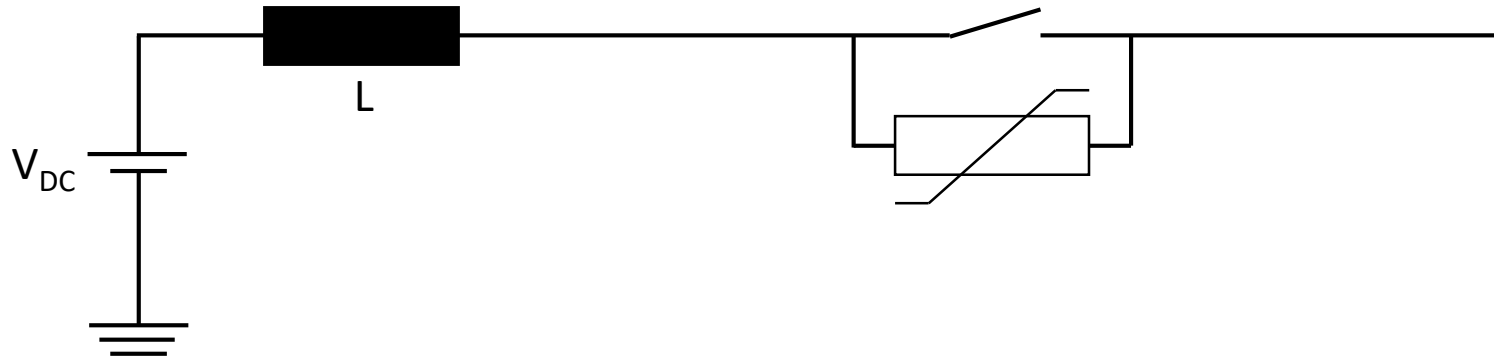
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle



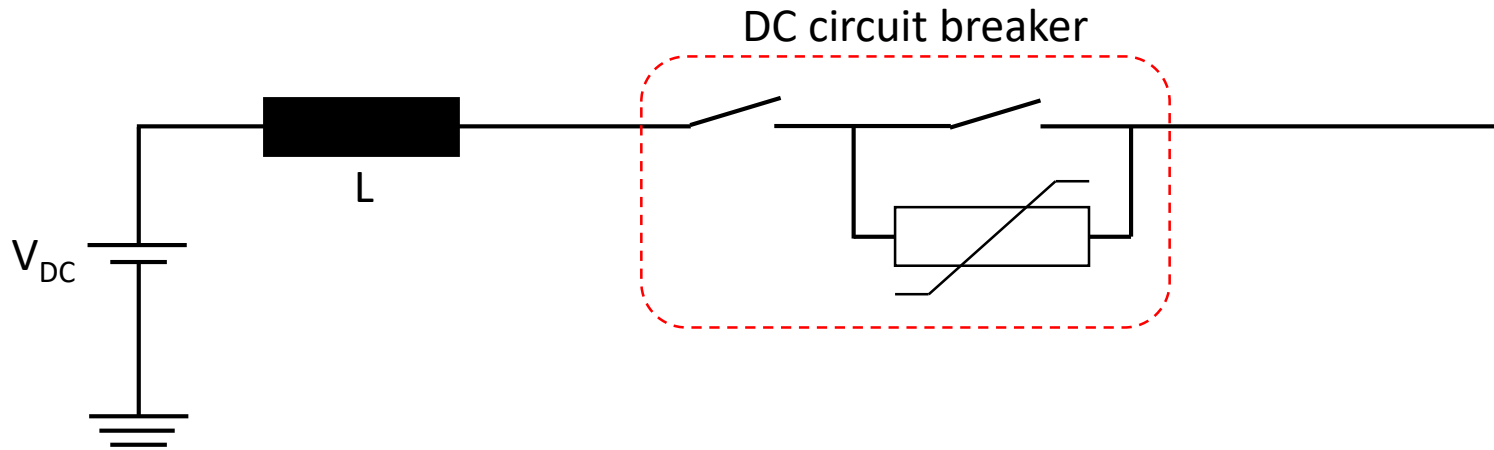
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle



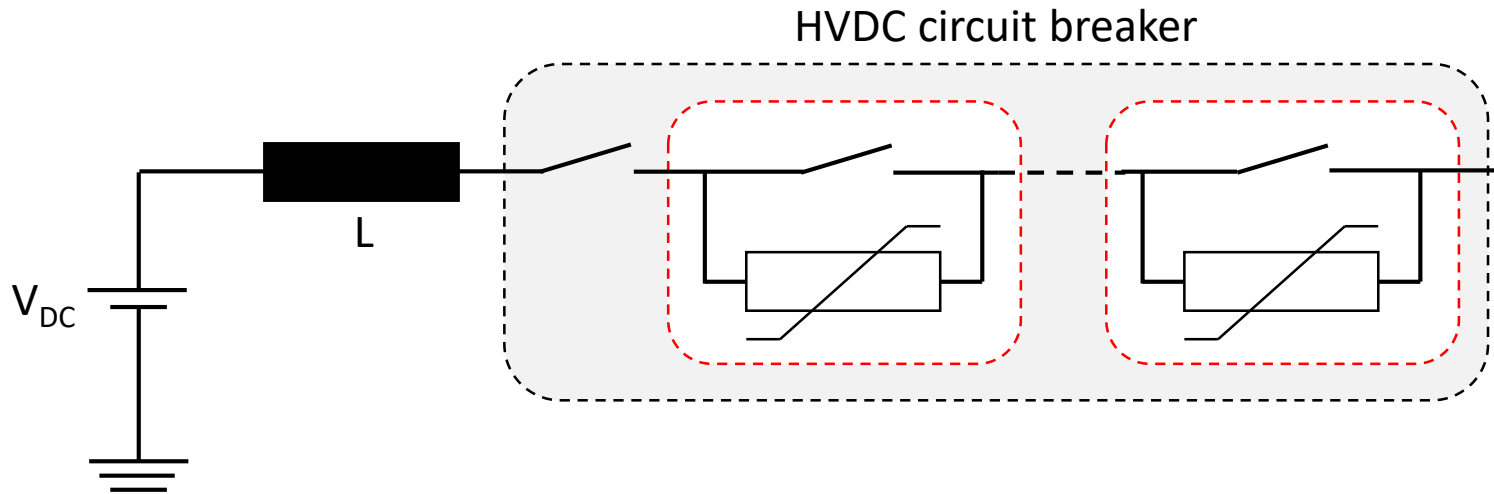
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

HVDC circuit breaker principle



Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

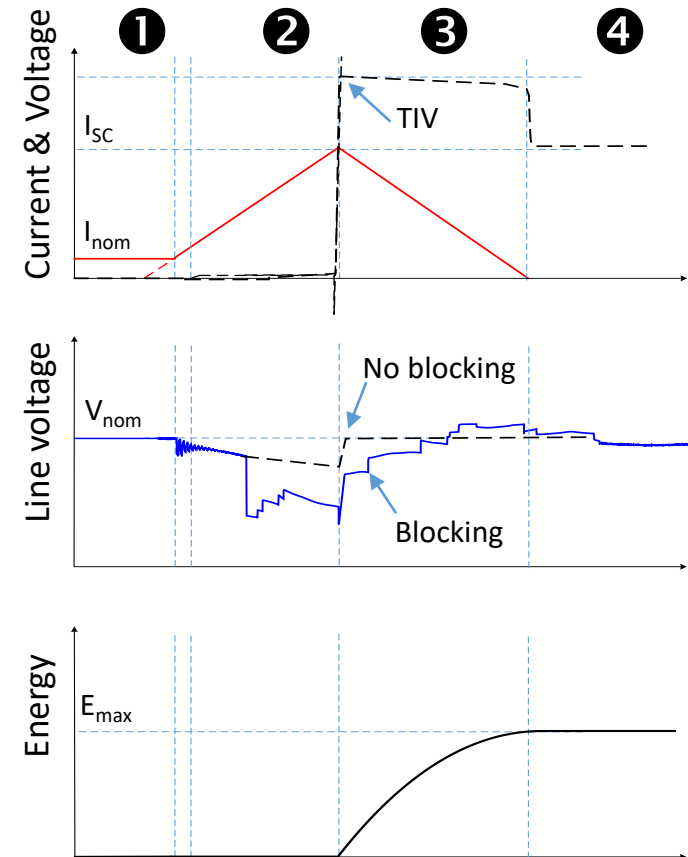
HVDC circuit breaker principle - modularity



Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

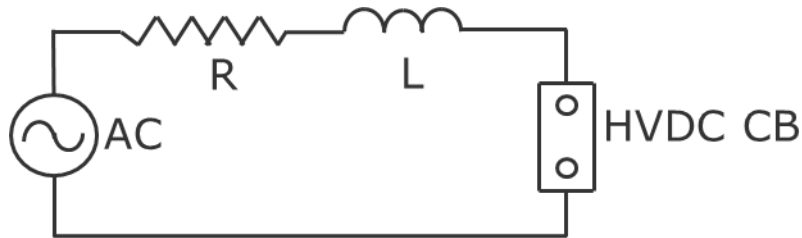
Current interruption test circuit requirements

1. Normal operation
 - Apply heating – Pre-condition
 - Supply power to auxiliary systems
2. Current commutation time
 - Supply sufficient di/dt
 - Bidirectional
3. Fault suppression time
 - Supply sufficient energy
 - Withstand Transient Interruption Voltage
4. Post suppression
 - Apply DC voltage stress



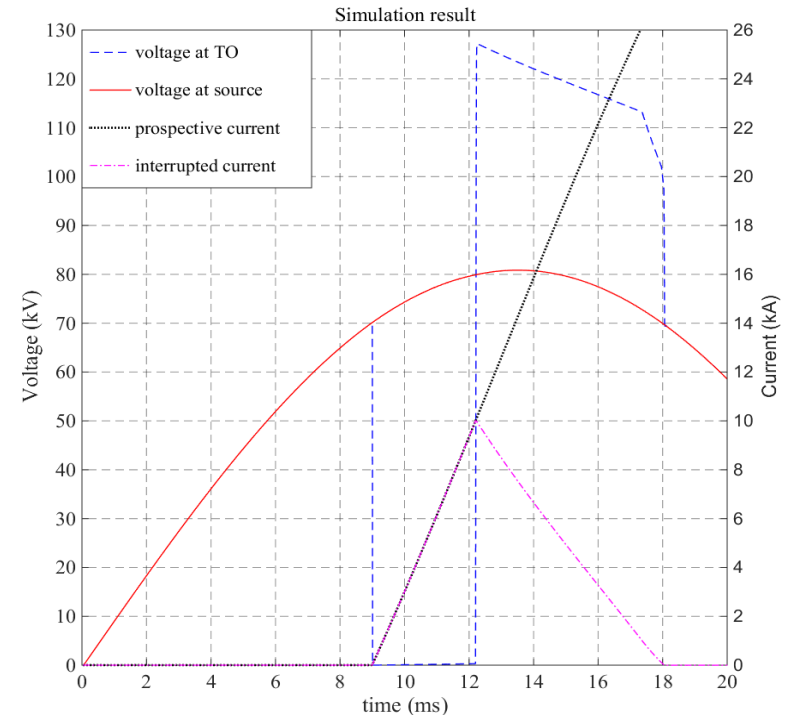
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

Reduced frequency AC short-circuit generator based test circuit



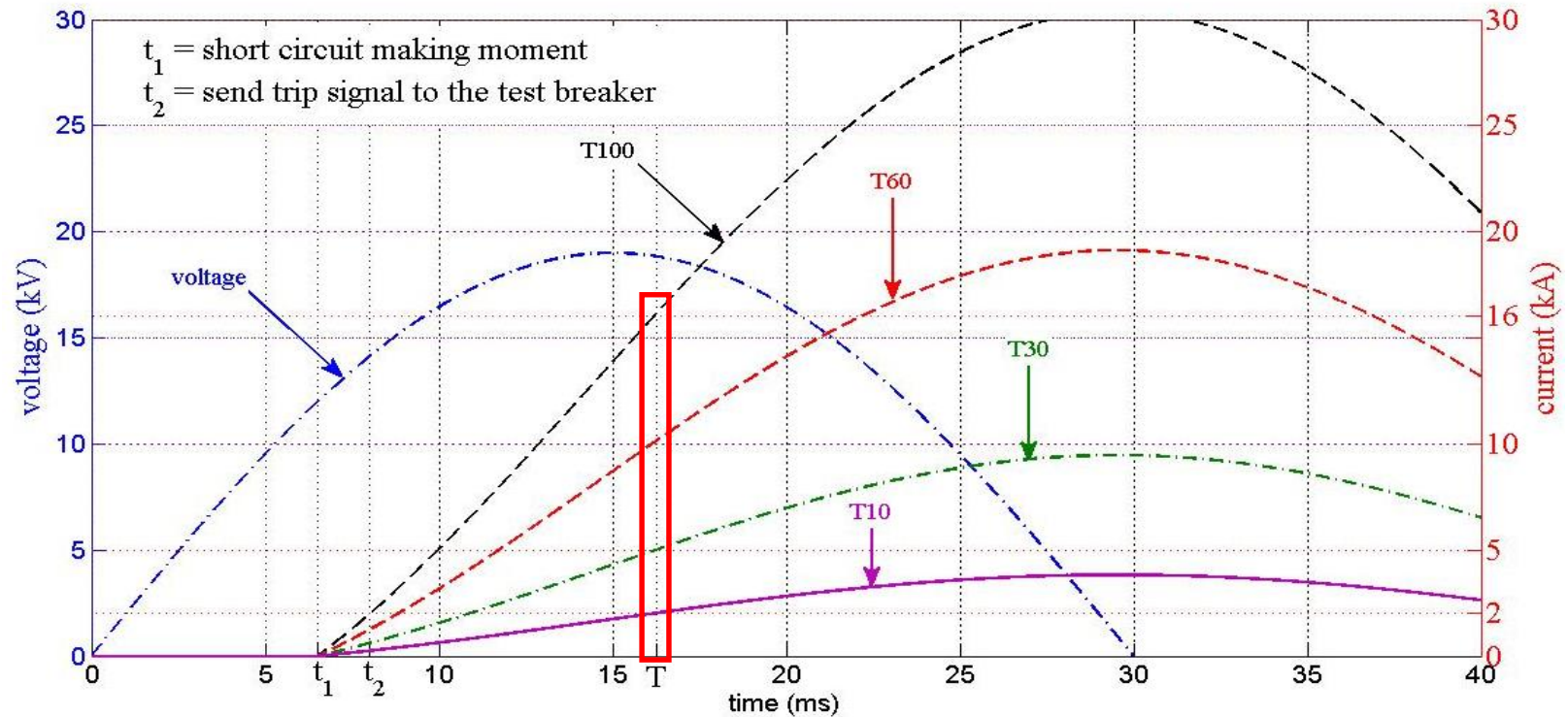
▶ Test circuit parameters

- Generator frequency
- Circuit inductance
- Magnitude of source voltage
- Making angle



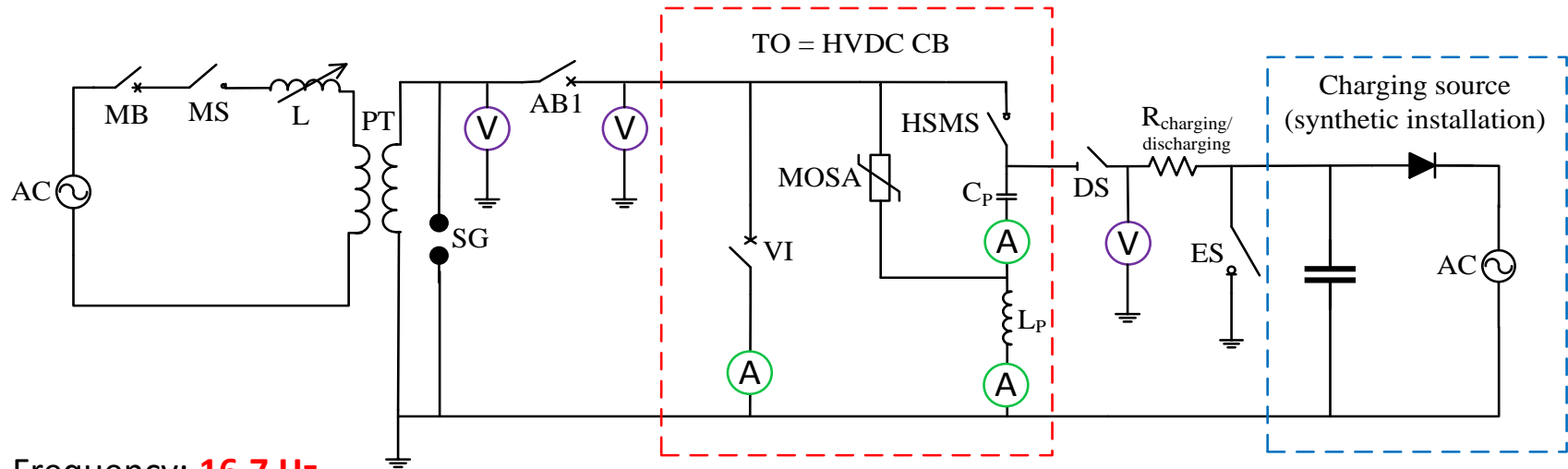
Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

Realizing test duties



Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

Implementation with mechanical circuit breaker with active current injection



Frequency: **16.7 Hz**

Interrupting current: **± 2 kA - ± 16 kA**

Breaker operation time: **8 ms**

Voltage rating: **72.5 kV / 108 kV**

Energy dissipation: **1 - 4 MJ**

- VI: Vacuum Interrupter
- HSMS: High Speed Making Switch
- C_p : Capacitor
- L_p : Reactor

Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

KEMA Laboratory set-up

Triggered making gap

DCCB Control
Panel

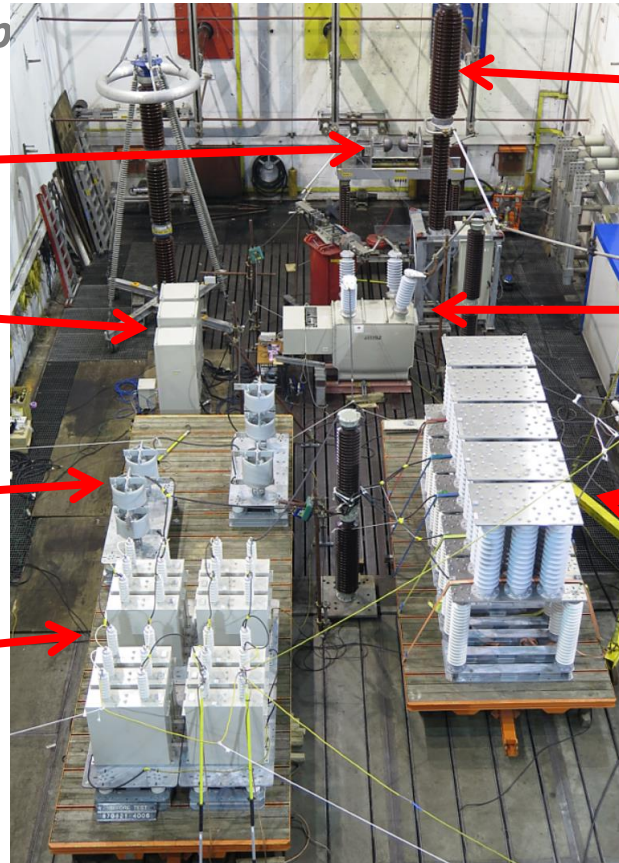
Reactors

Counter current
injection capacitors

Auxiliary SF₆ AC CB

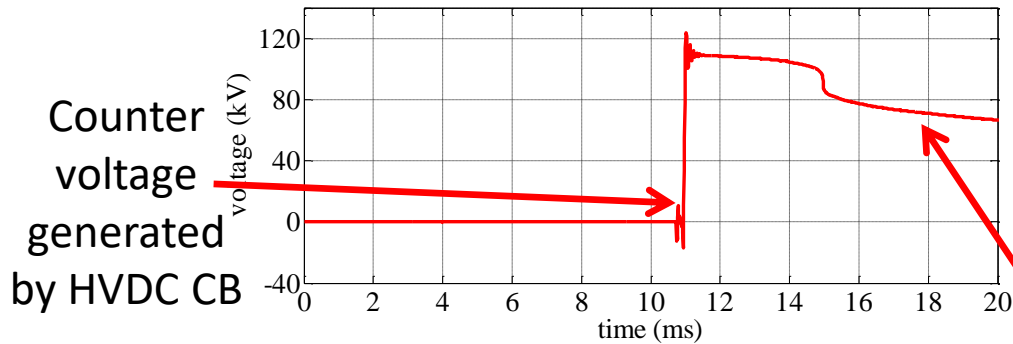
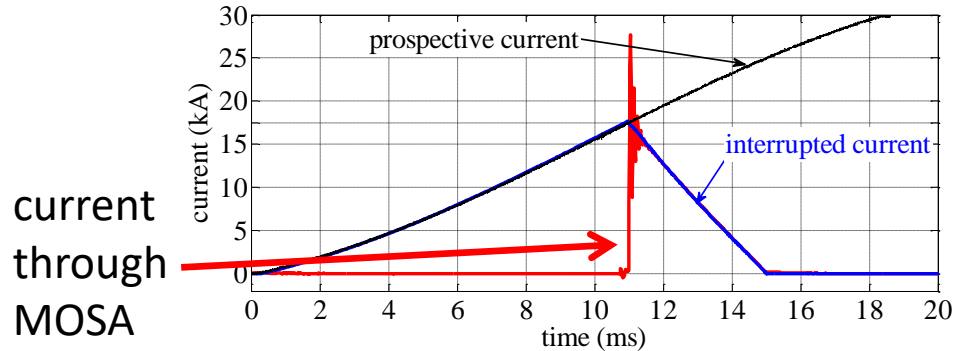
HV and making
vacuum interrupter
switch

Energy absorbing
MOSA

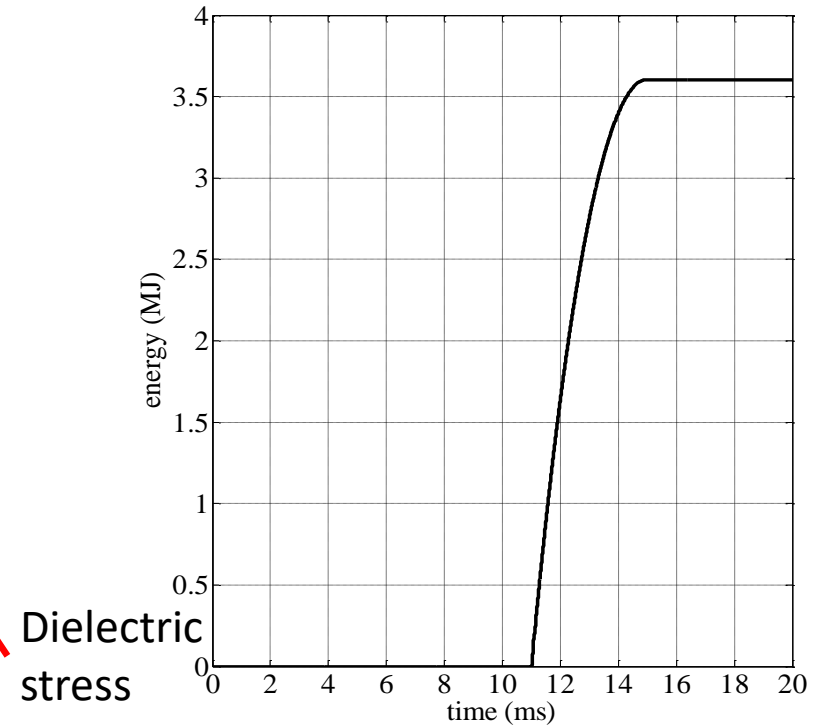


Test environment for HVDC circuit breakers

Test results – 16 kA positive & 3.6 MJ



Energy absorbed by HVDC CB



Conclusions

- ▶ HVDC technology required to enable development of large scale offshore wind and interconnection capacity in Northern Seas
- ▶ Meshed grids potentially offer advantages over radial connections
- ▶ PROMOTioN addresses technical, regulatory, economical and legal challenges to the implementation of a meshed HVDC network
- ▶ HVDC circuit breaker technology still immature but developing quickly
- ▶ Reduced frequency AC short-circuit generators can be used to test DC circuit breakers' current interruption performance
- ▶ Current interruption of Mitsubishi Electric mechanical circuit breaker with active current injection successfully demonstrated in KEMA Laboratories



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for Humanity*

