



**Chair of  
Sustainable Electric Networks  
and Sources of Energy (SENSE)**



**Microgrids Research at SENSE/TU Berlin:  
Overview with a Special Focus on Integration of Tidal Energy**

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# Outline

## 1. Introduction to TU Berlin: Overview and Research Rank

## 2. Introduction to SENSE: Research Overview

## 3. Selected Research with Relation to Microgrids

- MERGE
- *E*-MERGE Laboratory
- Control of Electric Vehicles for Improved Grid Security
- Modeling of Next-generation Aircraft Power Systems
- Benchmarking Technology

## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids

- Tidal Current Characteristics
- Technology
- Grid Connection



# 1. Introduction to Technische Universität Berlin

## Overview



Students (2010):  
about 29,000

Professors (2010):  
320

Doctorates (2010):  
376



# 1. Introduction to Technische Universität Berlin

## Research Rank of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

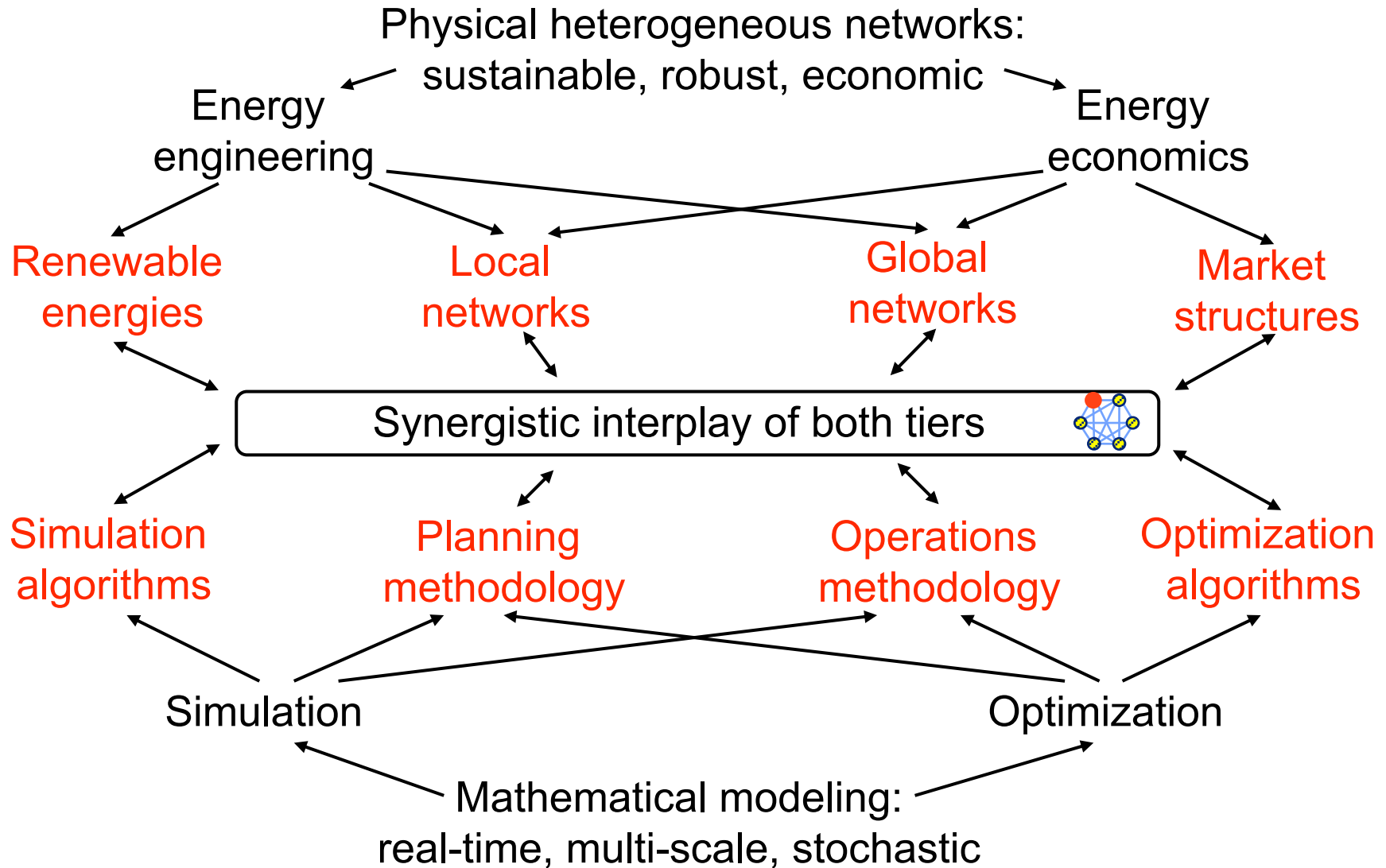
- Centre for Higher Education (CHE) Development published the results of the research assessment exercise for ECE Schools in 2008
- **SENSE** Chair is part of this top-ranked ECE School

University	Achieved top positions	Compared to 2004	Absolute				Relative			
			a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
RWTH Aachen	6	++	●	●	●	●		●		●
<b>TU Berlin</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>+</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
TU Darmstadt	6	++	●	●		●	●	●		●
TU Dresden	6	++	●	●	●	●	●		●	
Uni Freiburg	5	+		●	●		●	●	●	
Uni Karlsruhe	6	++	●	●		●	●	●		●
TU München	6	++	●	●	●	●			●	●

a Third-party funds  
 b Publications  
 c Inventions  
 d Ph.D. graduates



## 2. Introduction to SENSE: Research Overview

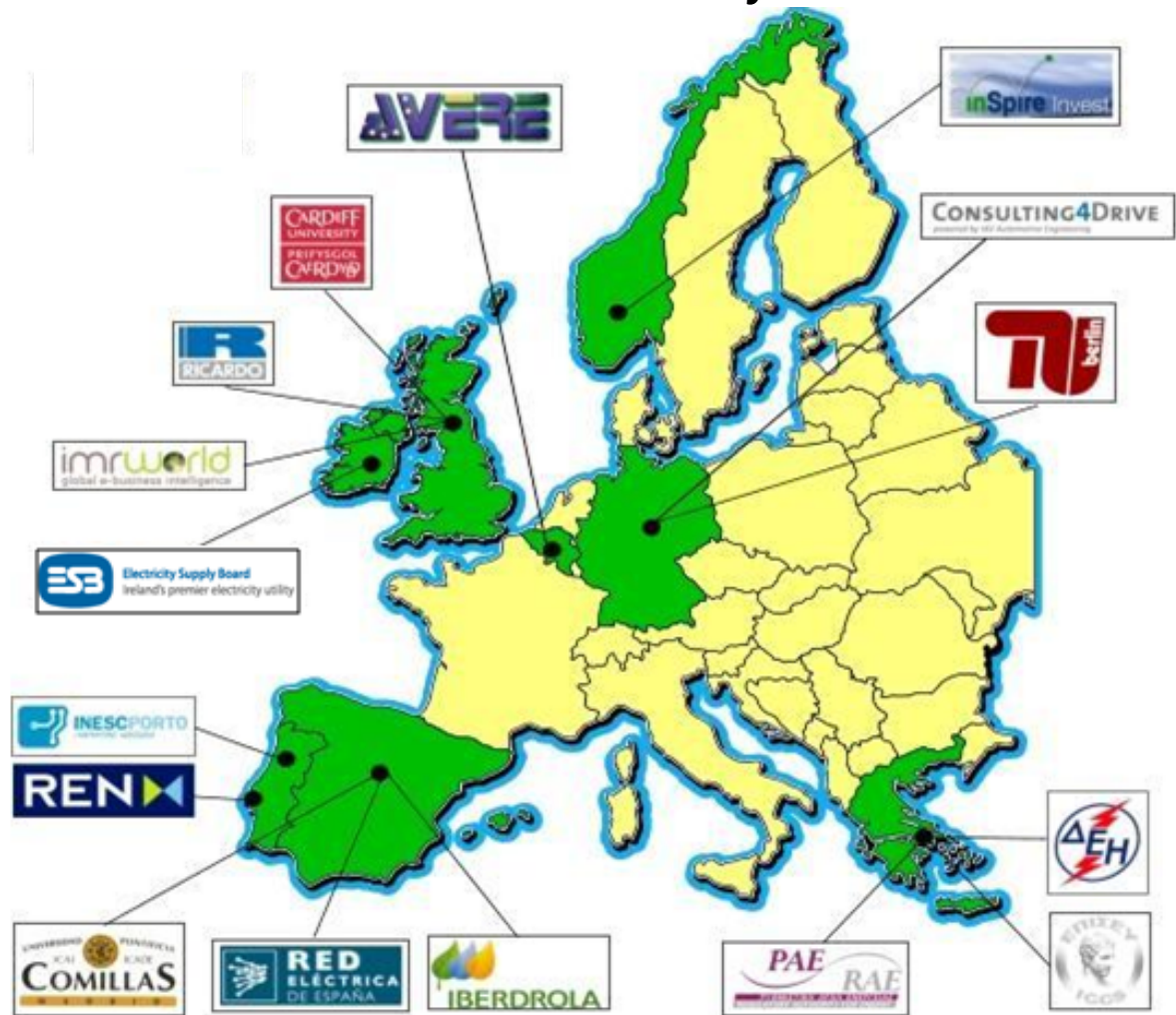


### 3. Selected Research: Selected Topics

- Selected sponsored research with **microgrid relation** at SENSE:
  - MERGE – Cooperation with European Union
  - *E-MERGE* Laboratory – Cooperation with German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology
  - Control of Electric Vehicles for Improved Grid Security – Cooperation with industry
  - Modeling of Next-generation Aircraft Power Systems – Cooperation with industry
  - Benchmarking Technology – Cooperation with CIGRE
  - Tidal Energy Conversion – Cooperation with Reiner Lemoine Foundation

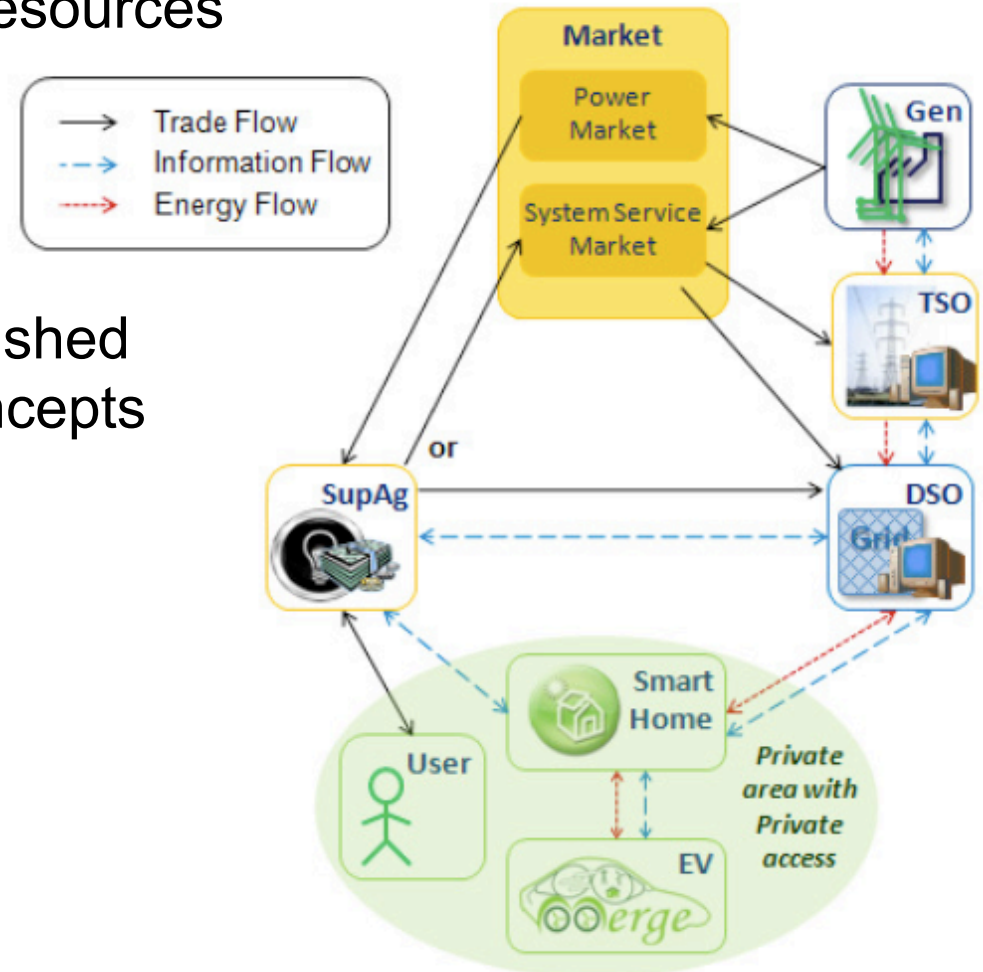
### 3. Selected Research: **MERGE – Partners**

- *MERGE: Mobile Energy Resources in Grids of Electricity*
- Partners: see map
- Project coordinator:  
Prof. Nikos Hatziargyriou



### 3. Selected Research: **MERGE – Scope**

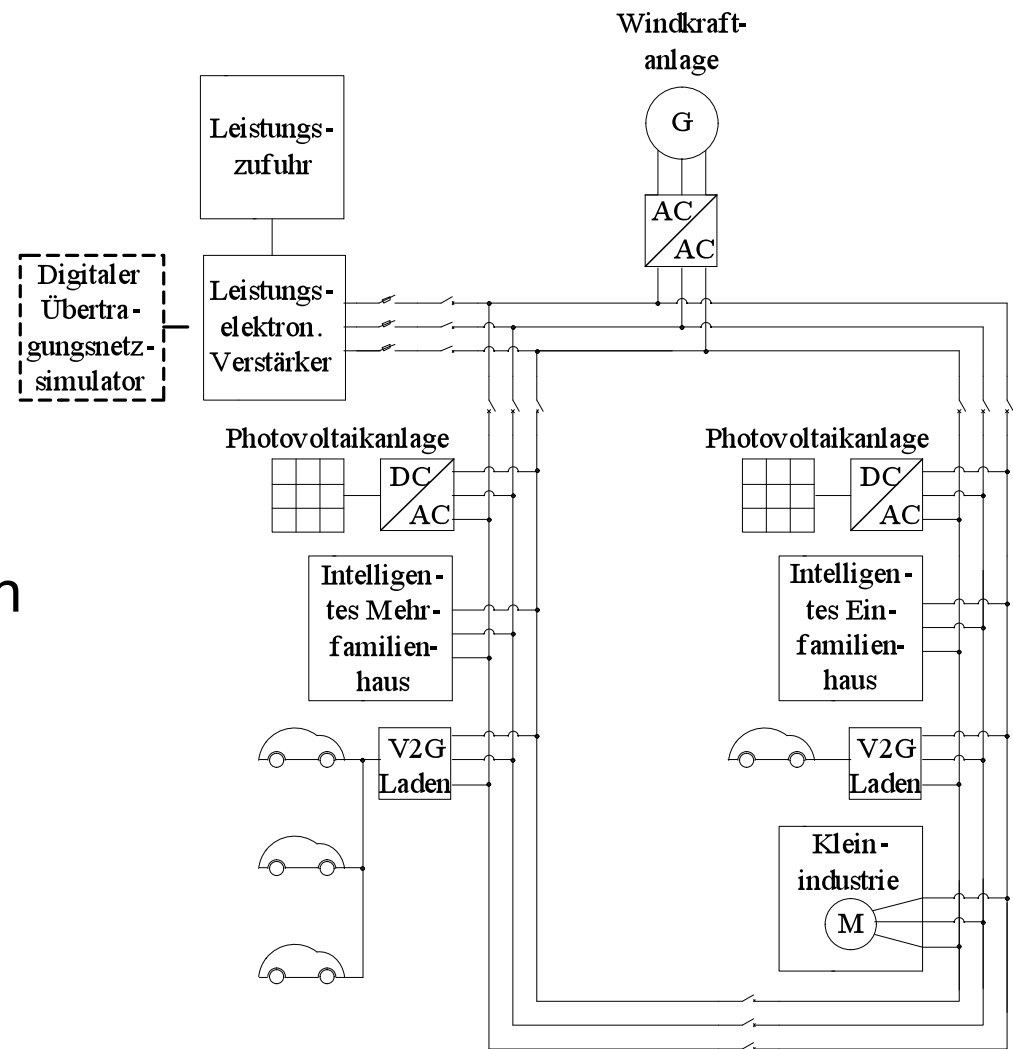
- MERGE offers novel methods of grid integration where electric vehicles are treated as valuable mobile energy resources
- Most suitable interactions between key actors were identified
- Interactions of MERGE are distinguished through extension of two known concepts from stationary to mobile resources:
  - **Microgrid**
  - Virtual Power Plant
- More information available at [www.ev-merge.eu](http://www.ev-merge.eu)





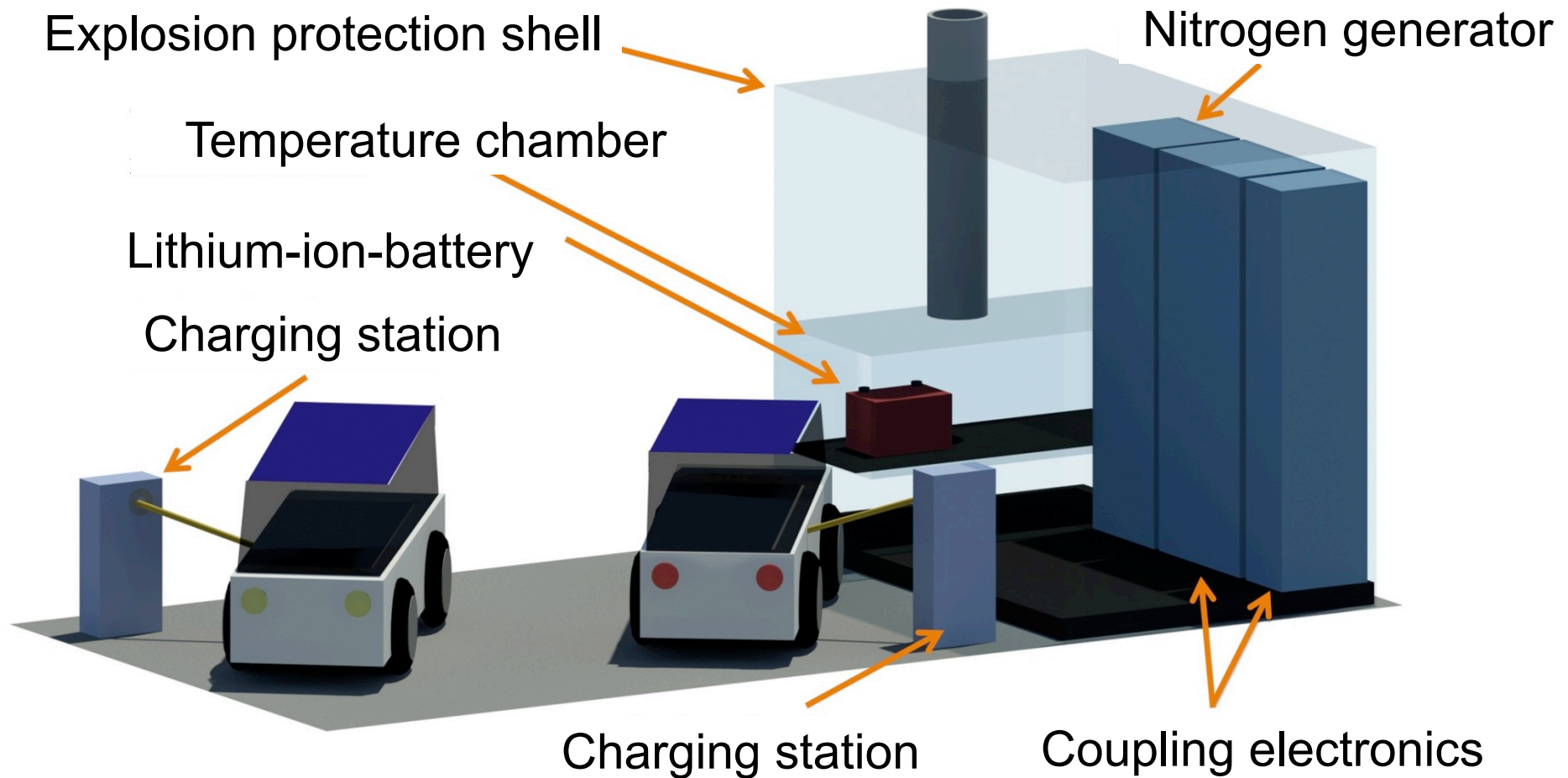
### 3. Selected Research: **E-MERGE Laboratory**

- *E-MERGE: Electro-Mobile Energy Resources for Grids of Electricity*
- Partner: German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi)
- Complementary to e-mobility field tests
- Realization of physical **microgrid** with integrated e-mobility in 2011
- Research on security and stability



### 3. Selected Research: **E-MERGE Laboratory**

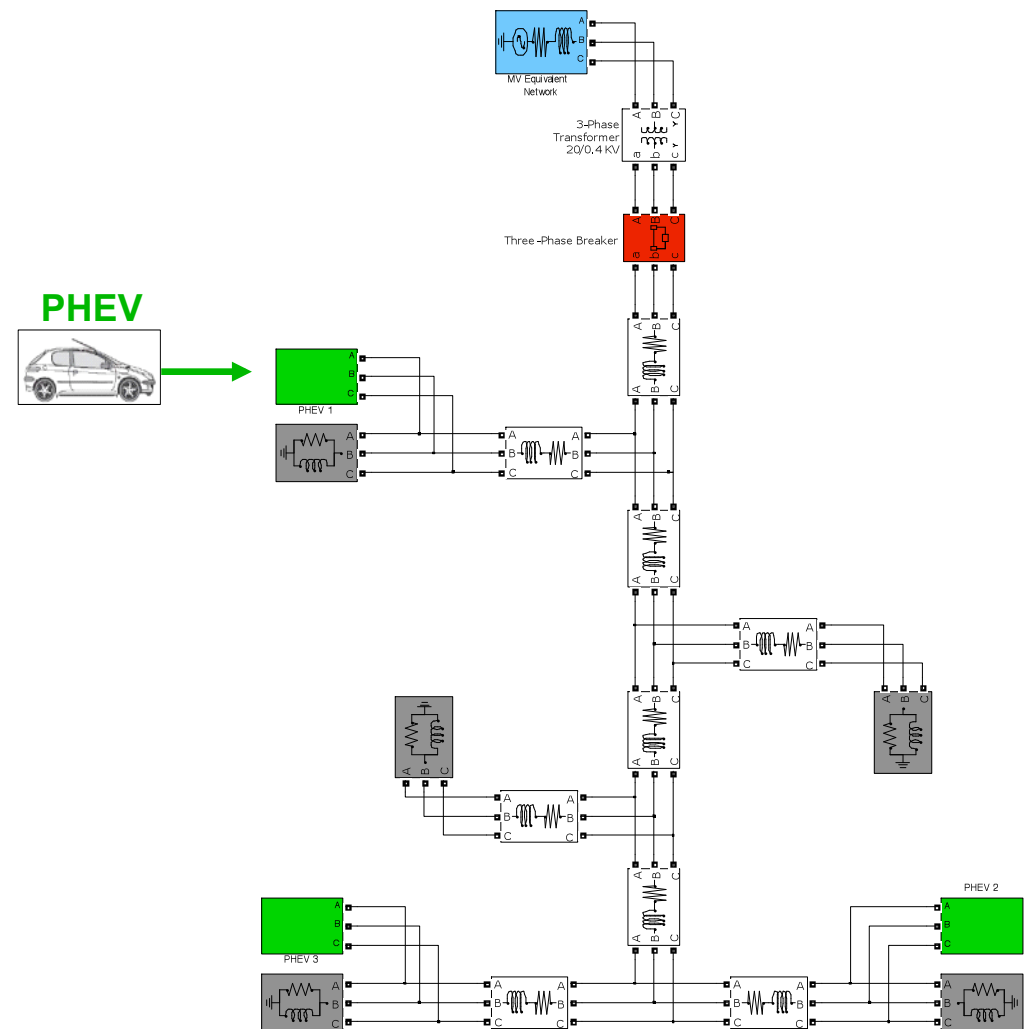
- As part of the laboratory, battery testing is an important feature



### 3. Selected Research:

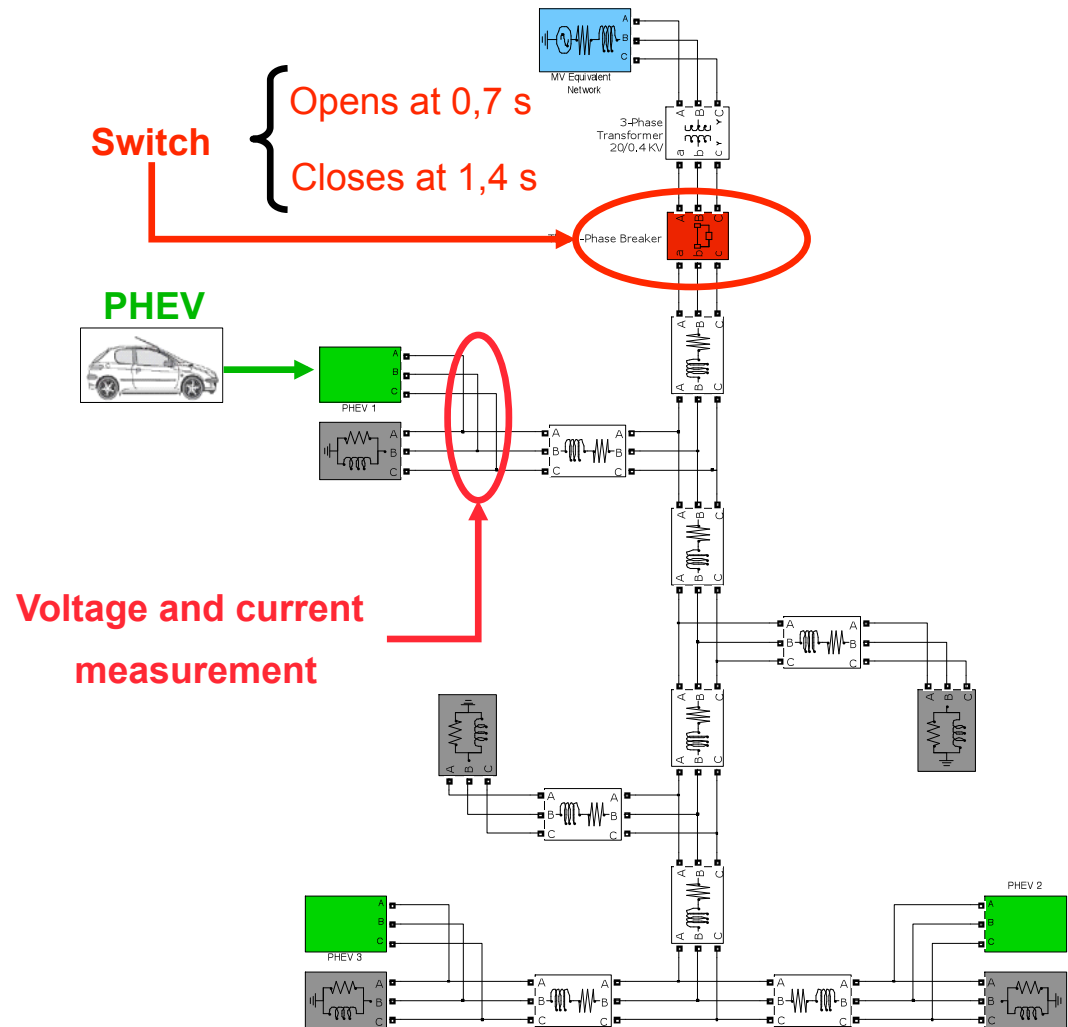
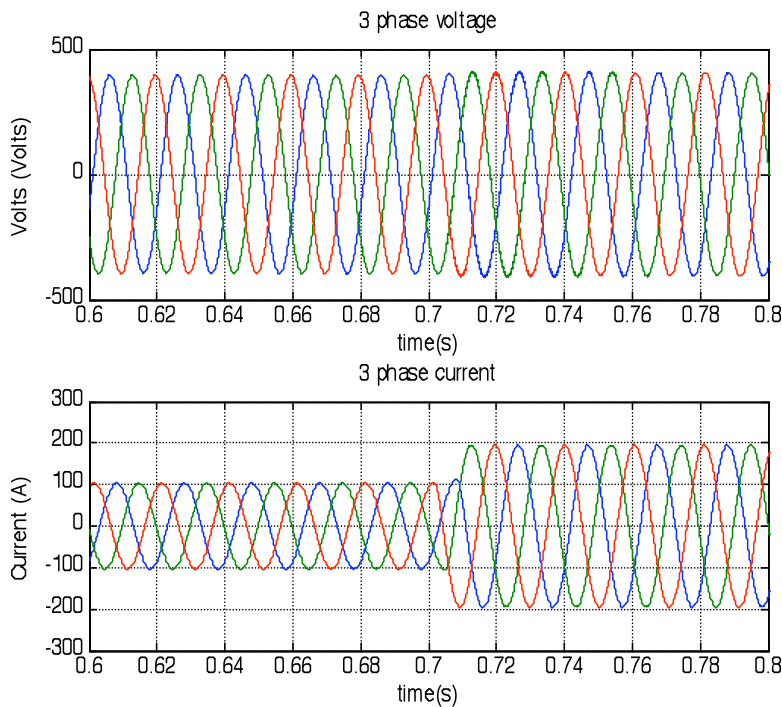
## Control of Electric Vehicles (EVs) for Improved Grid Security

- Partner: industry
- EVs shown to support microgrid behavior in distribution networks
- Validation in MATLAB/Simulink using SimPowerSystems toolbox
- Blocks:
  - White: lines and transformers
  - Grey: loads
  - Blue: equivalent network
  - Green: plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV)
  - Red: switch



# 3. Selected Research: Control of Electric Vehicles (EVs) for Improved Grid Security

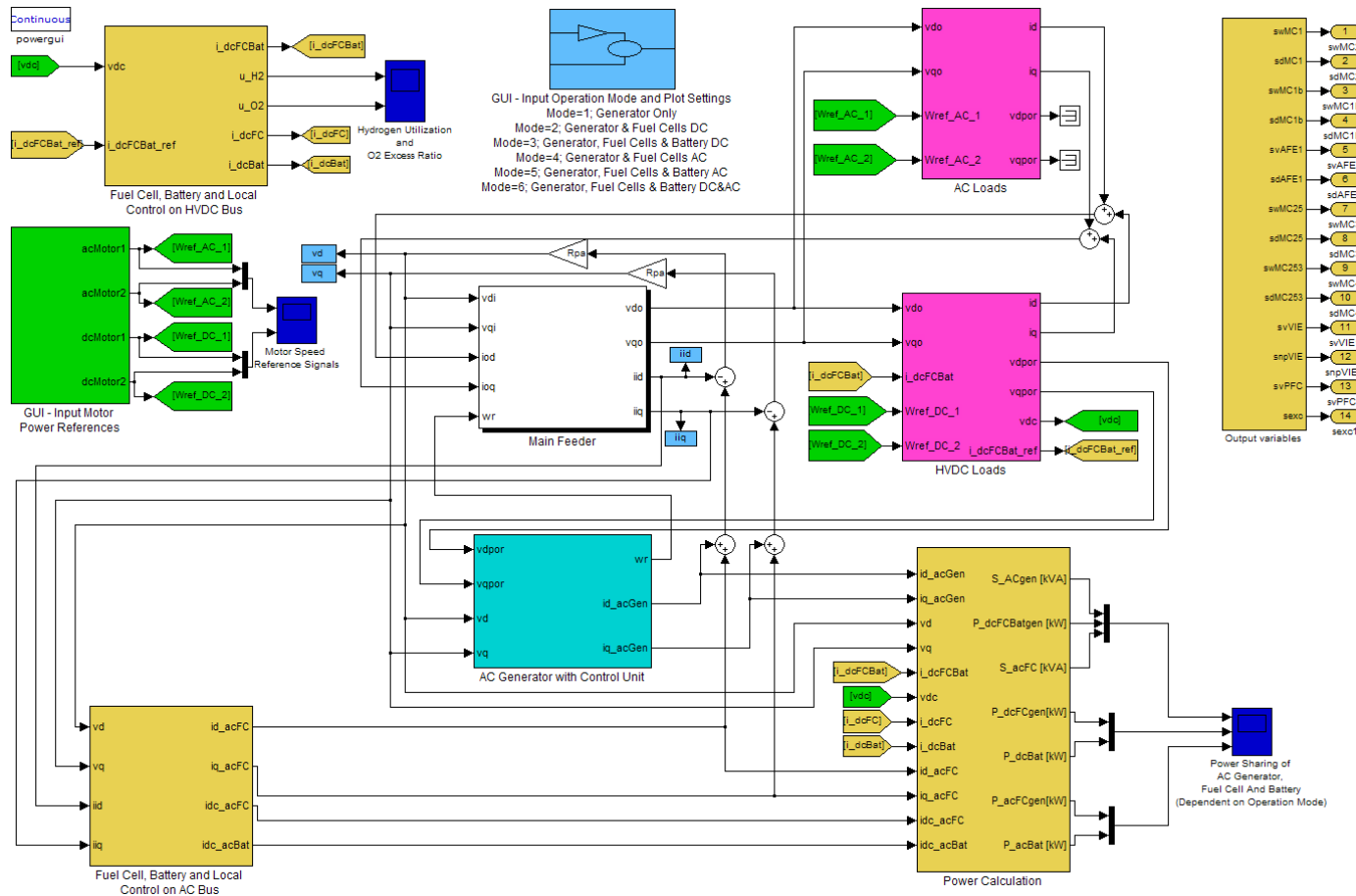
- Result: PHEVs deliver power for microgrid support
- Voltage and current at PHEV terminals:



### 3. Selected Research:

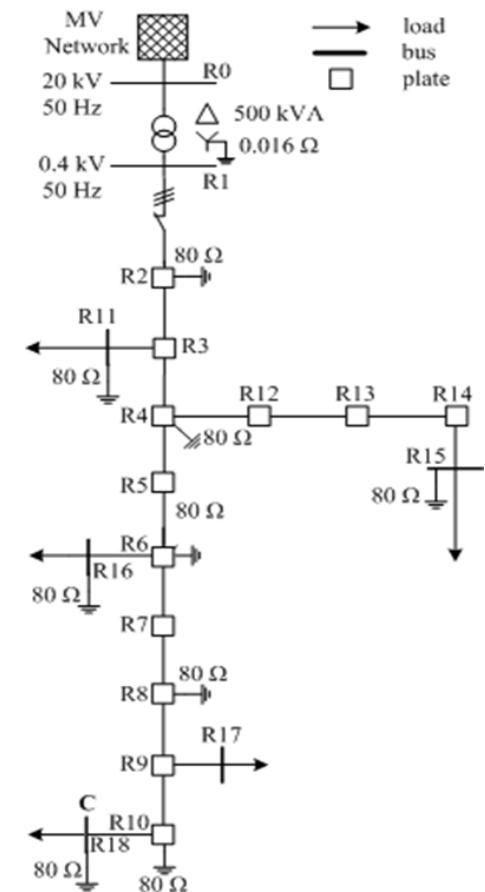
## Modeling of Next-generation Aircraft Power Systems

- Partner: industry
- Microgrid experience can be helpful to aircraft power system design



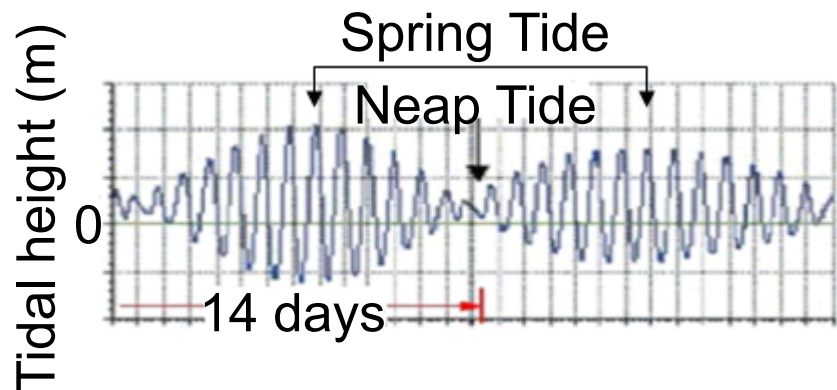
### 3. Selected Research: Benchmarking Technology

- Partner: CIGRE (Congrès International des Grands Reseaux Electriques)
- Need for having platform for testing technologies of distributed generation and microgrids was identified
- CIGRE Task Force C6.04.02 was founded
- Report on internationally recognized benchmark networks for performing the tests available in 2011

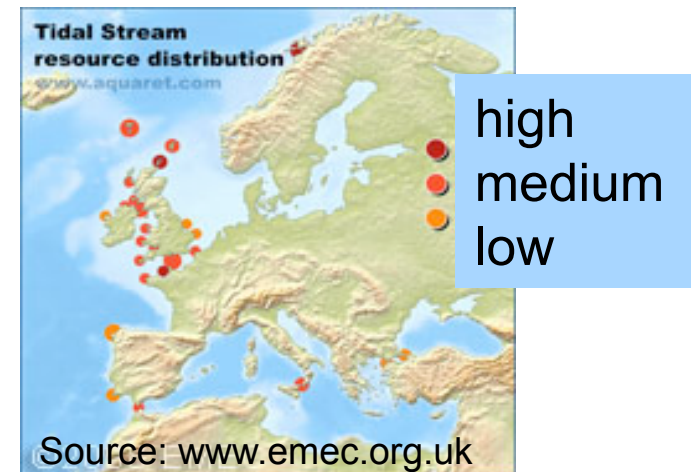


## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Tidal Current Characteristics

- Partner: Reiner Lemoine Foundation
- Tidal energy conversion systems exploit kinetic energy of sea currents
- Tides vary sinusoidally; ebb and flood occur twice during a lunar day of about 25 hours
- Among others, a 14-days cycle exists with spring tides (maximum) and neap tides (minimum)

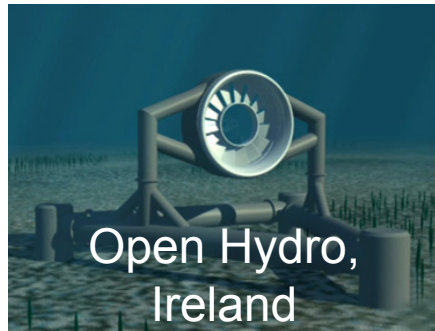


Source: www.epri.com



## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Technology

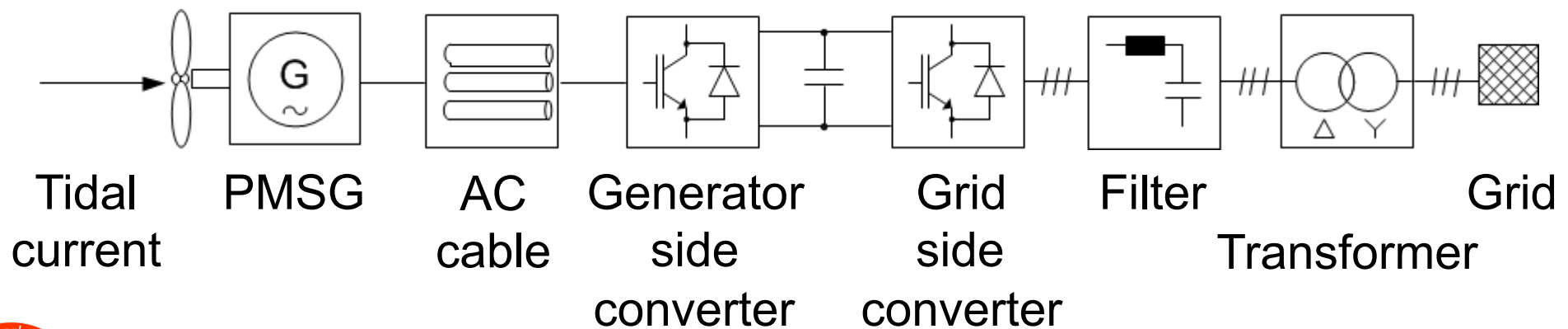
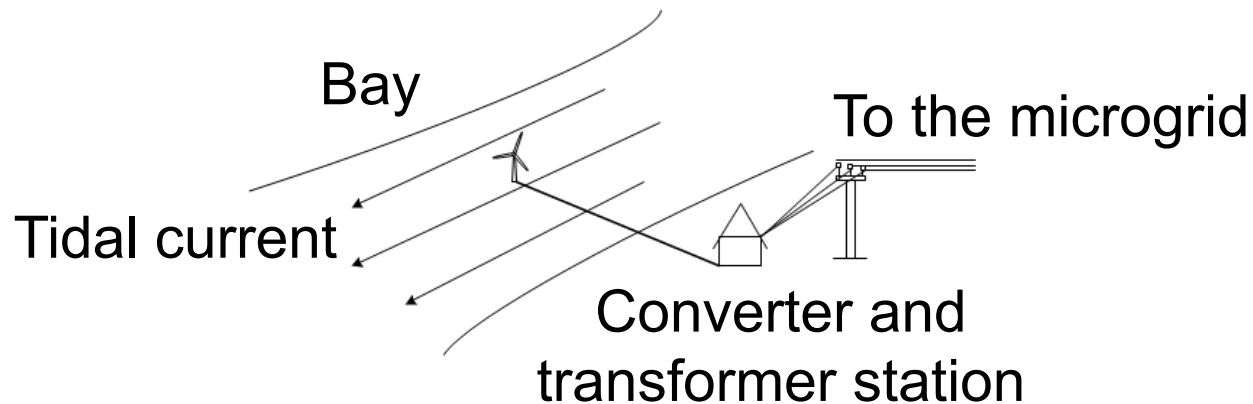
- Horizontal axis turbines are predominant
- Blade length up to 15 m — much smaller than wind turbine rotor blades due to high water density
- Duct concentrates the flow towards the rotor





## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Structure

- Our research has centered on AC power transmission to shore
- Idea is here to put generator side converter on the shore instead of under water



## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Cause of Traveling Waves

- High-frequency switching occurs at generator side converter
- Challenge as traveling waves on cable may cause overvoltage at generator
- **Pulse rising time  $t_r$**  at converter and **traveling time over cable  $t_t$**  are the influencing parameters
- Generator behaves close to open circuit, converter similar to short circuit
- Therefore, **reflection coefficients  $\Gamma_{\text{gen}}$  and  $\Gamma_{\text{con}}$**  can be approximated at generator and converter for first analysis as follows:

With  $Z_{\text{gen}} \gg Z_c \gg Z_{\text{con}}$

$$\Gamma_{\text{gen}} = \frac{Z_{\text{gen}} - Z_c}{Z_{\text{gen}} + Z_c} \approx 1$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{con}} = \frac{Z_{\text{con}} - Z_c}{Z_{\text{con}} + Z_c} \approx -1$$

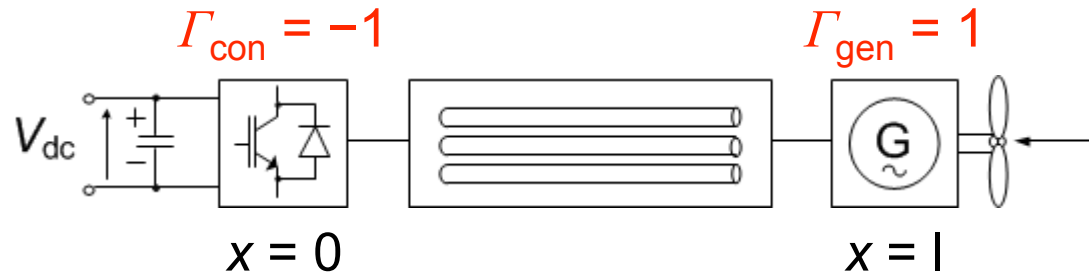
$Z_{\text{gen}}$ : generator impedance

$Z_{\text{con}}$ : converter impedance

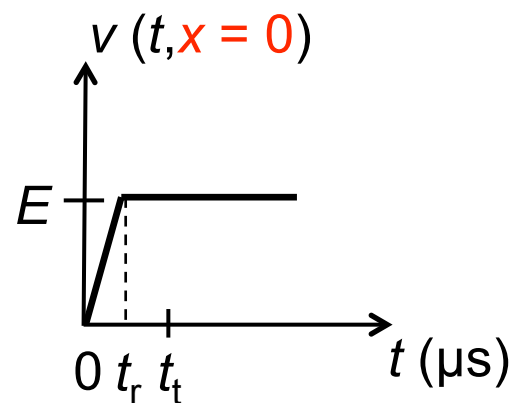
$Z_c$ : characteristic cable impedance

## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Analysis Setup

- In order to analyze the traveling waves, the following setup is considered

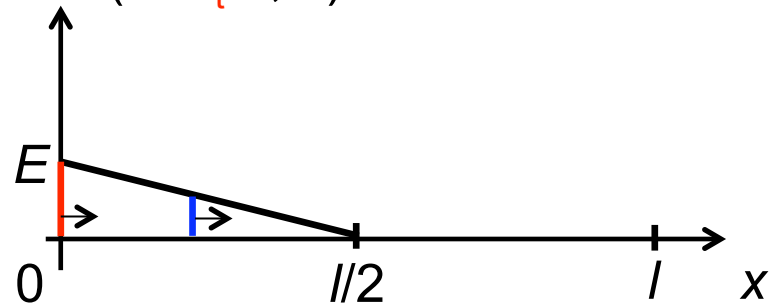


- Waves need traveling time  $t_t$  to move from one to the other end of cable
- The test function is a ramp with  $t_r = t_t/2$  applied at location  $x = 0$



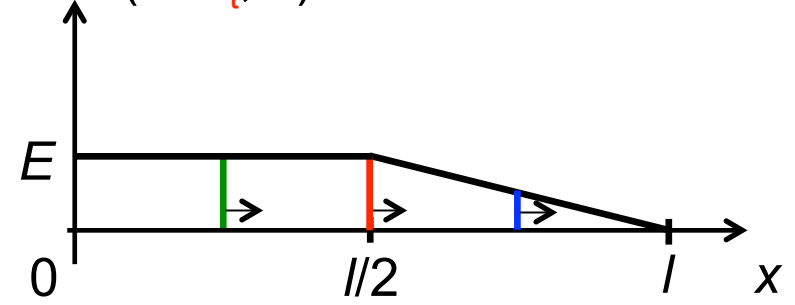
## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Cable Voltage Profiles

1.  $v(t = t_t/2, x)$



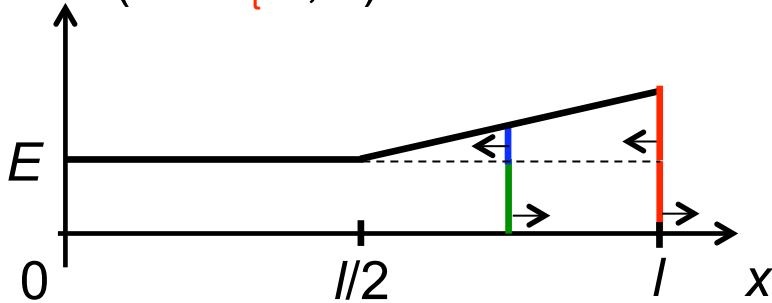
1. Pulse ramp stops rising at converter

2.  $v(t = t_t, x)$



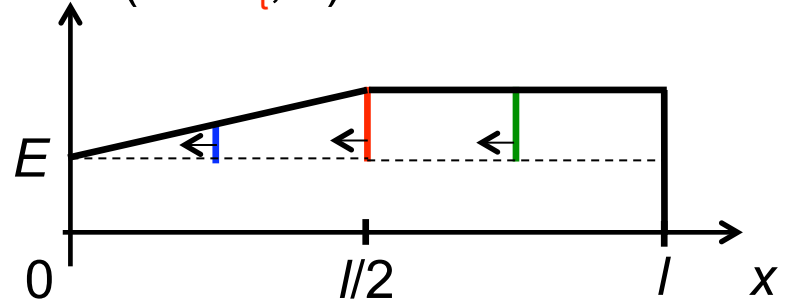
2. Start of ramp reaches generator

3.  $v(t = 3t_t/2, x)$



3. End of ramp reaches generator,  
voltage is doubled

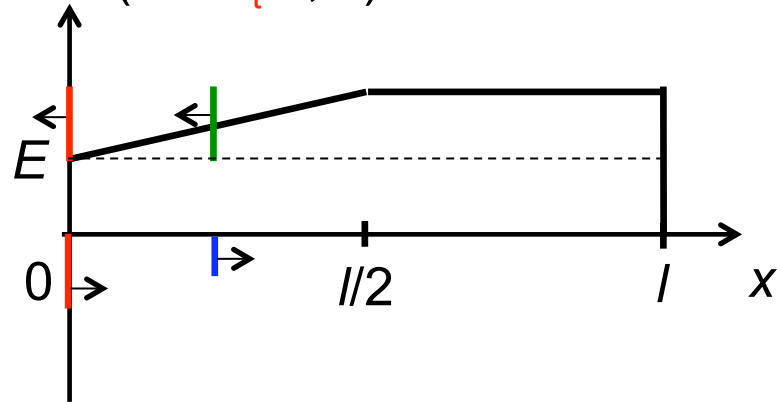
4.  $v(t = 2t_t, x)$



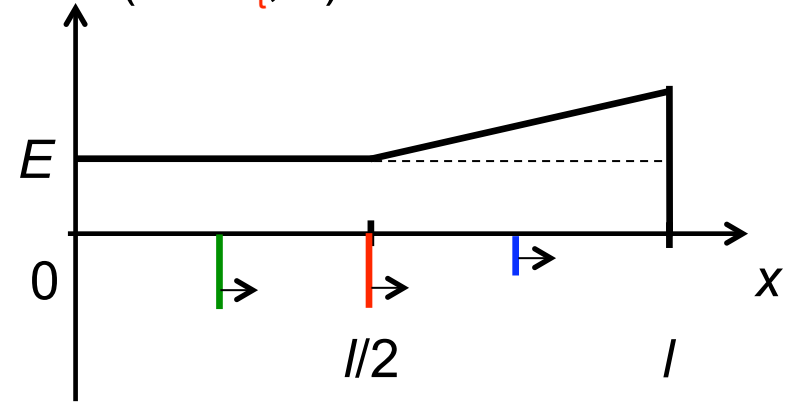
4. Start of ramp reaches converter  
after having traveled back to  $x = 0$

## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Cable Voltage Profiles

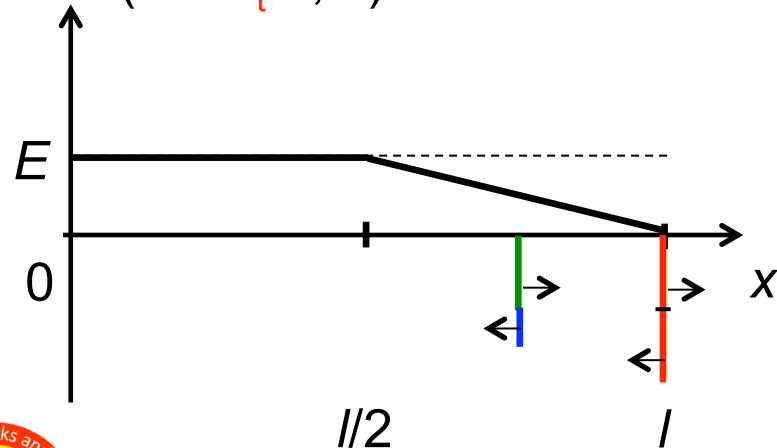
5.  $v(t = 5t_t/2, x)$



6.  $v(t = 3t_t, x)$



7.  $v(t = 7t_t/2, x)$



5. Back traveling wave is reflected with negative sign, then moving forward again
6. Forward traveling wave reaches generator again, reducing voltage
7. Pulse ramp fully back reflected for second time

## 4. Tidal Energy Conversion Systems for Microgrids: Grid Connection – Equation for Overvoltage

- Based on analysis, the following equations for the voltage at the generator terminals  $x = l$  at time  $t = t_r + t_t$  were developed:

$t_r$ range	$v(t_r + t_t, l)$
$t_r \in [0, 2t_t[$	$2E$
$t_r \in [2t_t, 4t_t[$	$4E \frac{t_t}{t_r}$

- Then, an equation for resulting per unit overvoltage at the generator terminals is obtained as:

$$\Delta V_{\max} = 4 \frac{t_t}{t_r} - 1 \quad \text{for example, if } t_r = 3t_t, \text{ overvoltage is 33\%}$$

- $t_r$  can for example be adjusted by filter, therefore the research result has an important practical value

**THANK YOU!**

