

DC Microgrid in buildings in China

HAO Bin

Professor Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture
Secretary of PEDF of China Association of Building energy Efficiency

2025-11-12



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

CONTENT

1. Who are we
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings
3. Research, products and demonstrations



1. Who we are



Alliance of Direct Current Building (ADB) was established in January 2018 – the hardest time

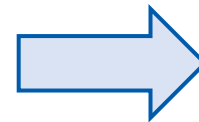
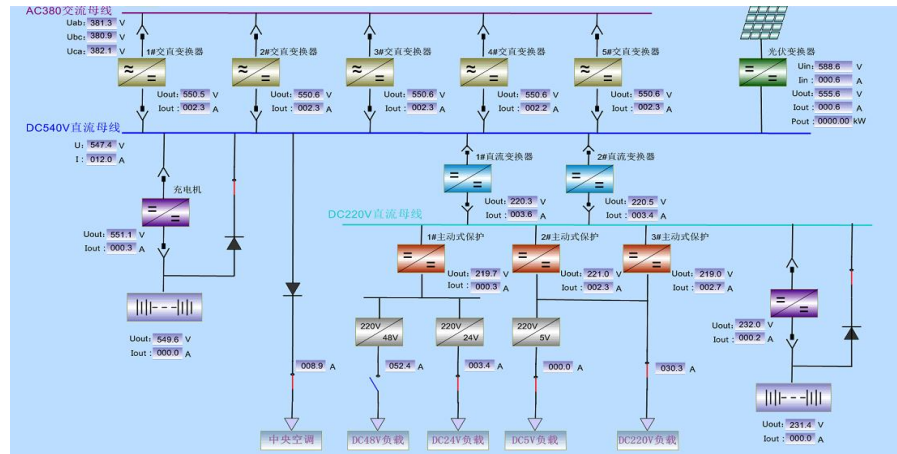
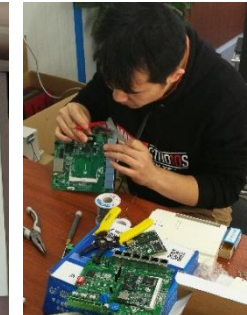
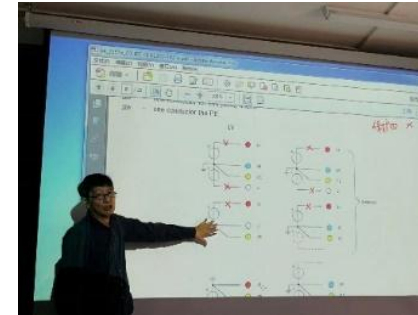
U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) Joint Research Projects on Building Energy Efficiency

2016-2017



- NO Design Standard
- NO Experience
- NO partner
- Few DC Products
-

2018-2019



- Opinion changing



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



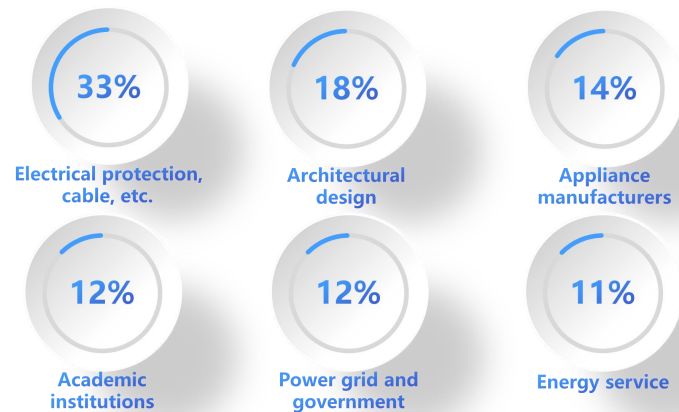
中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

1. Who we are

The Committee of PEDF, which is an authorized technical committee, was established in **September 2021** in China according to the national policy of carbon neutrality, and **more than 100 members** have joined, including institutes, universities, equipment manufacturers, power grid enterprises, etc.



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



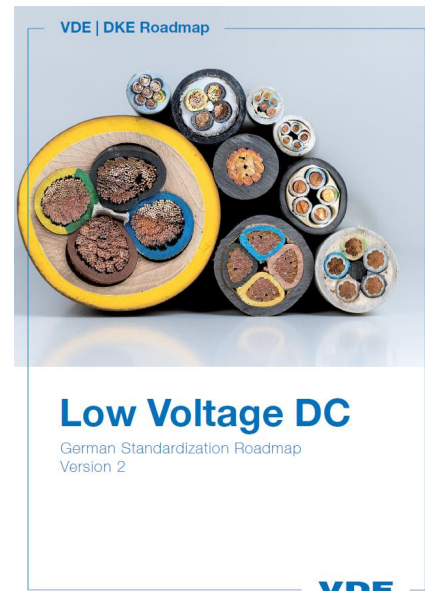
中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

1. Who we are

As early as 2018, the international community conducted technical research and standardization on LVDC (LVDC standardization roadmap, 2018).



2018



2018



2018



2020



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE

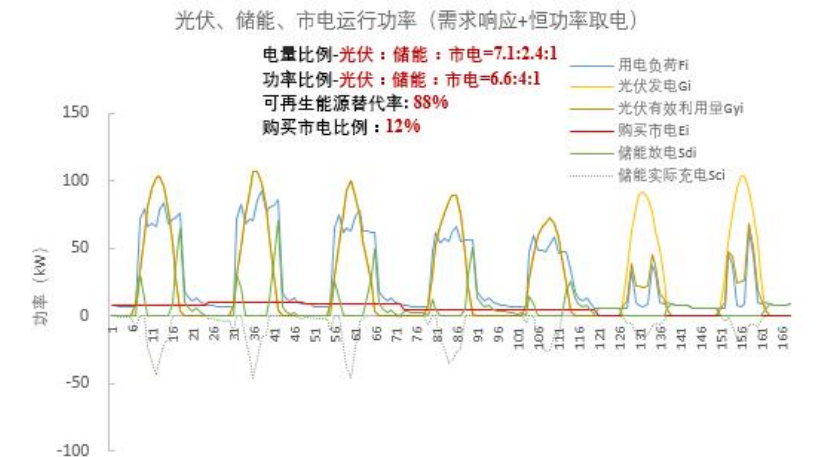
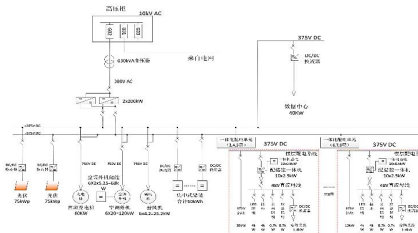
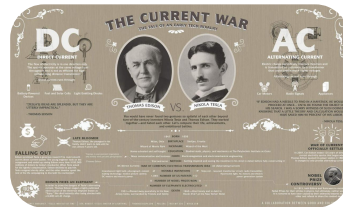
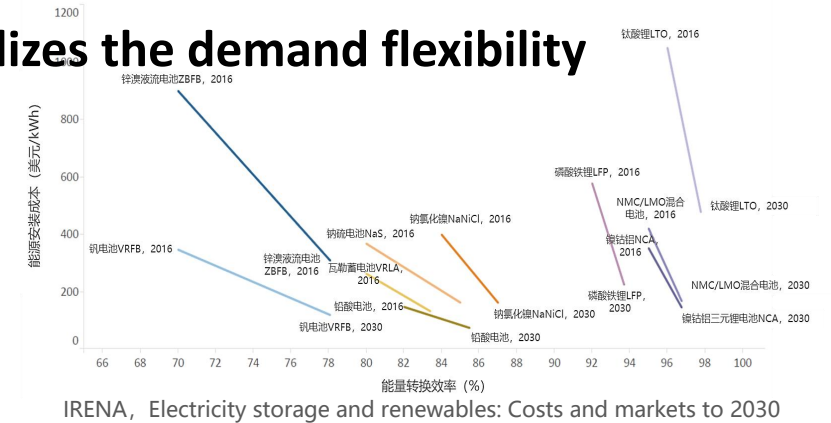


中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

1. Who we are

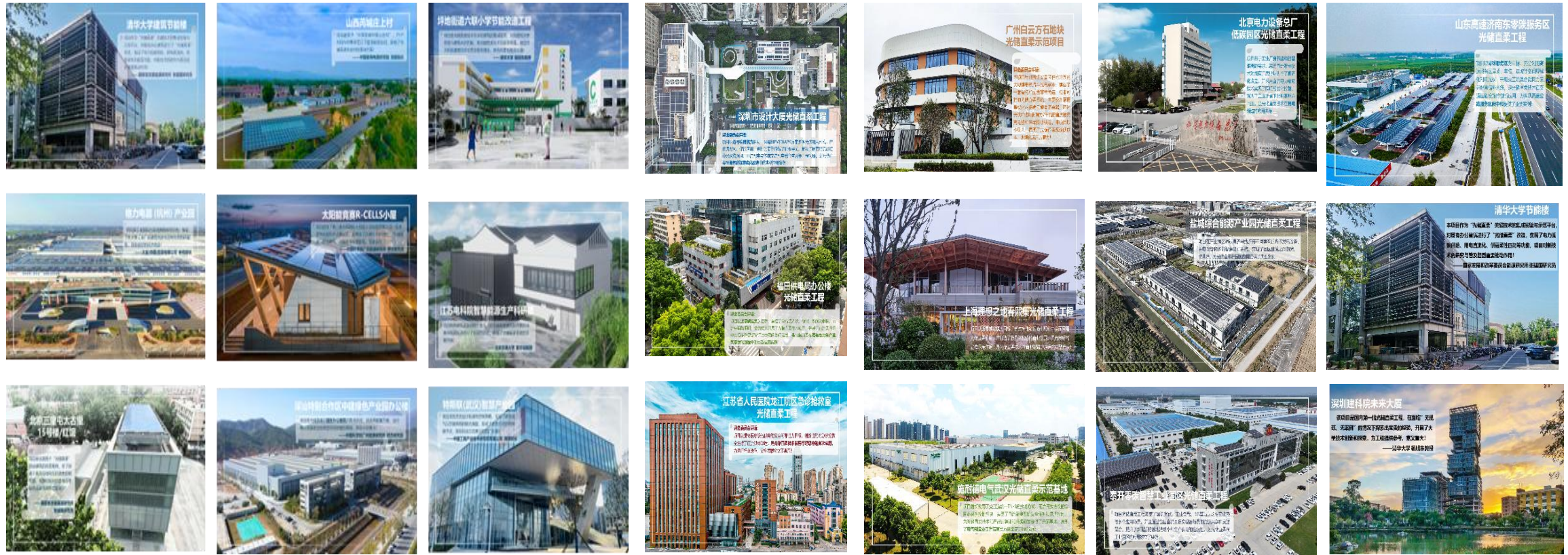
What is PEDF?

DC microgrid, integrated Distributed PV and energy storage, realizes the demand flexibility



1. Who we are

PEDF continuously promotes more 300 hundreds LVDC demonstration projects.



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

CONTENT

1. Who are we
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings
3. Research, products and demonstrations



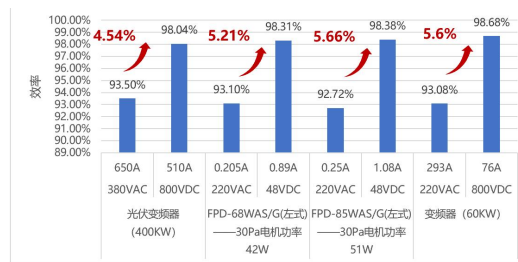
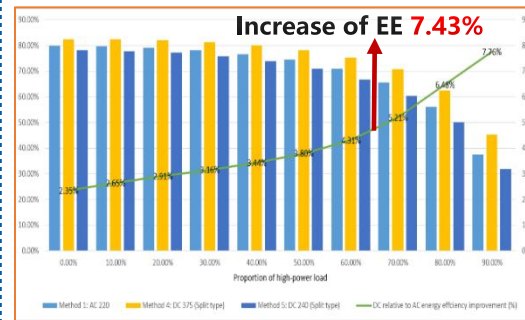
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

➤ Advantages of LVDC in building

LVDC supplies **50%** appliances/
50% energy consumption

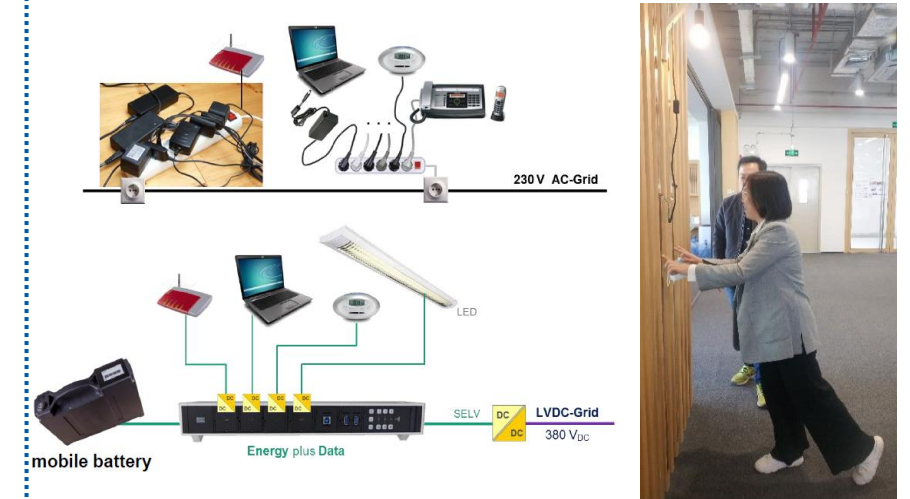


Energy efficiency increasing



离心式水机直流化能效比

More simple and safe



2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

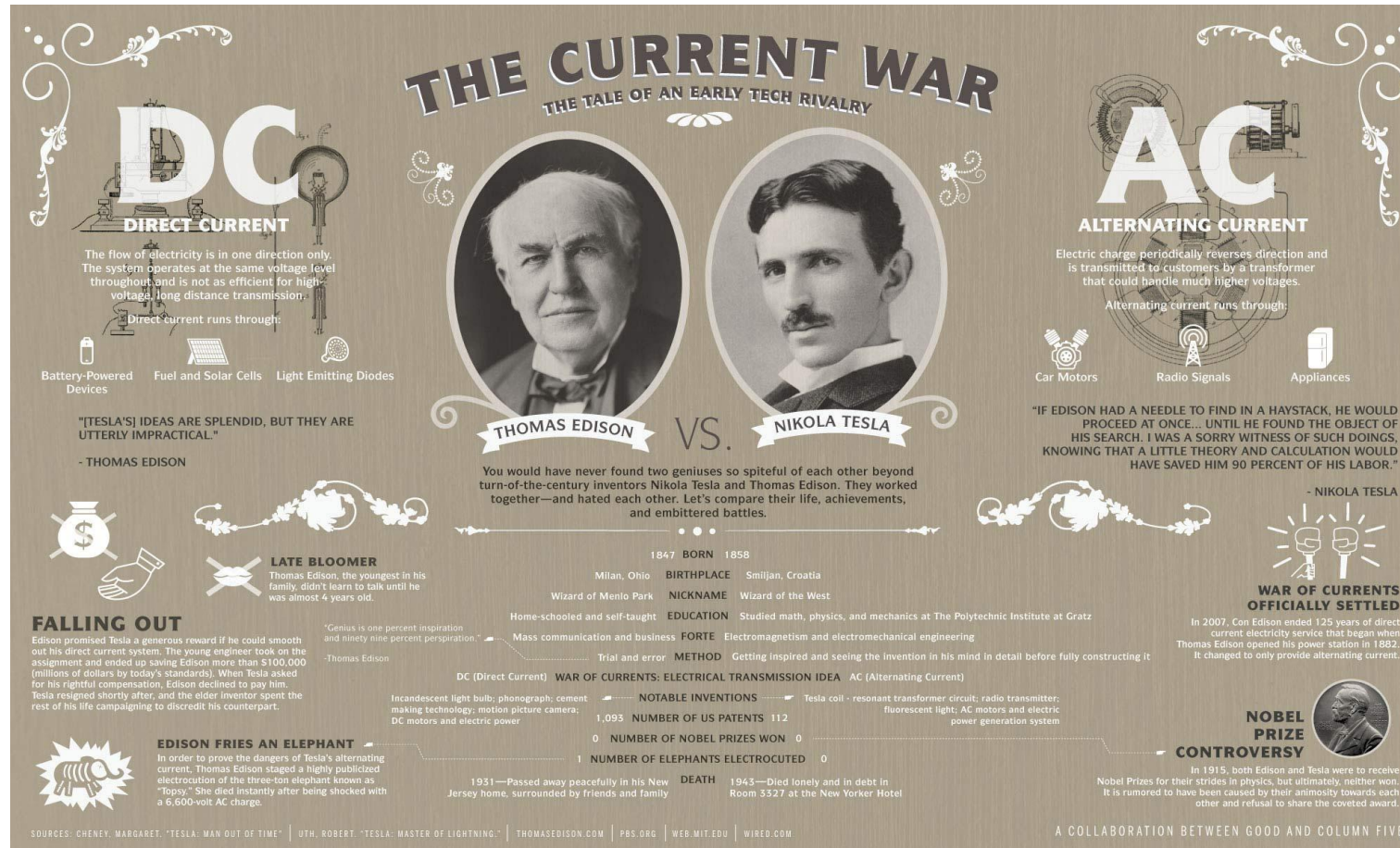
LVDC

Not only for

- Efficiency
- Safety
- Affordability
- Convenience

But

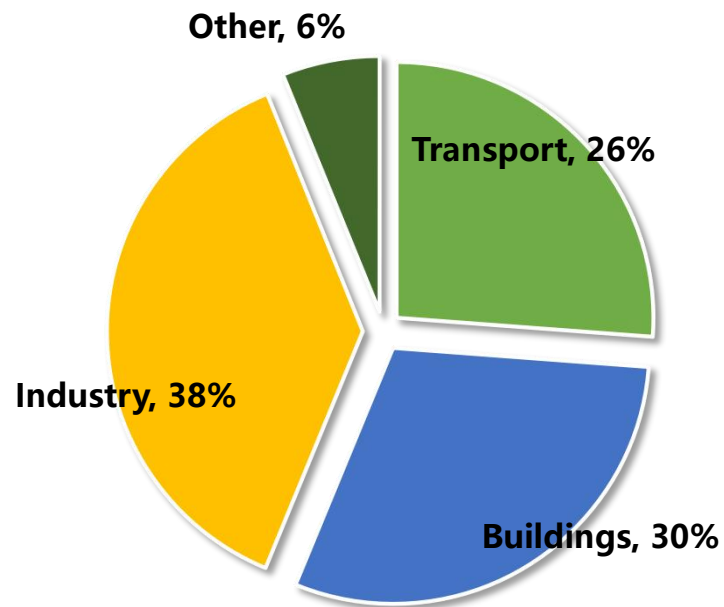
- High penetration of RE
- Improve the load flexibility
- Joint Zero CO2 Emission



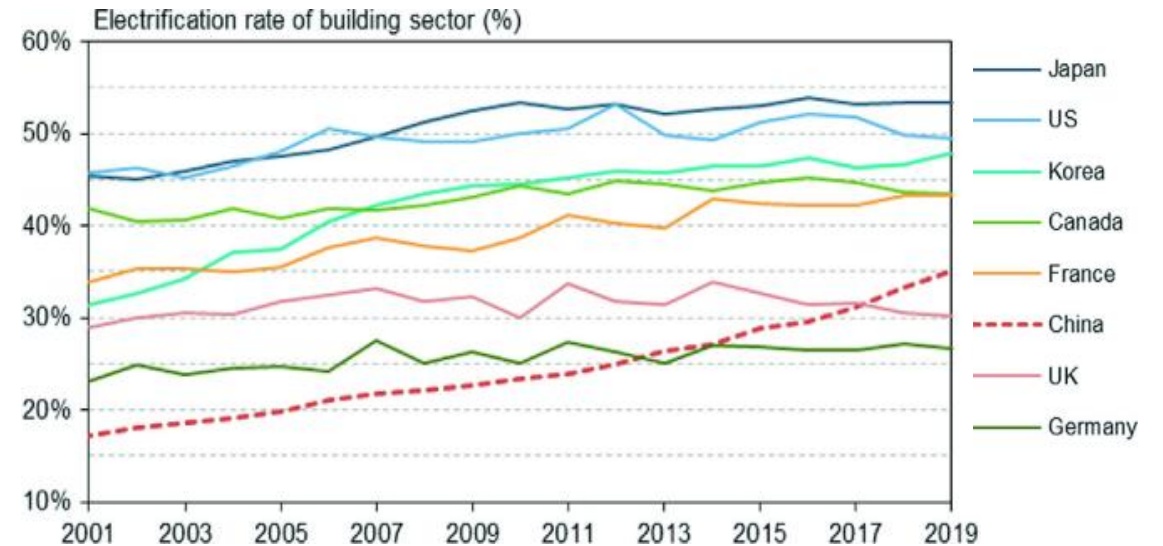
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

- Building electricity consumption brings challenges to energy saving.

Building sector accounts **30%** in total final energy consumption worldwide



Building electrification has been on the rise over the past two decades (especially in China)



Source: IEA World energy outlook 2023
China's Building Energy Use and GHG Emissions, 2022

2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

➤ **Toward ZEB** - How does the building sector achieve carbon neutrality?



National Definition of a Zero Emissions Building

Part 1: Operational Emissions from Energy Use, Version 1

June 2024

Criteria

At a minimum, a building that achieves zero operational emissions from energy use meets the following criteria:

- 1. Energy efficient:** The building is among the most efficient.
- 2. Free of on-site emissions from energy use:** The building's direct GHG emissions from energy use equal zero.
- 3. Powered solely from clean energy:** All the energy used by the building, both on-site and off-site, is from clean energy sources.

2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

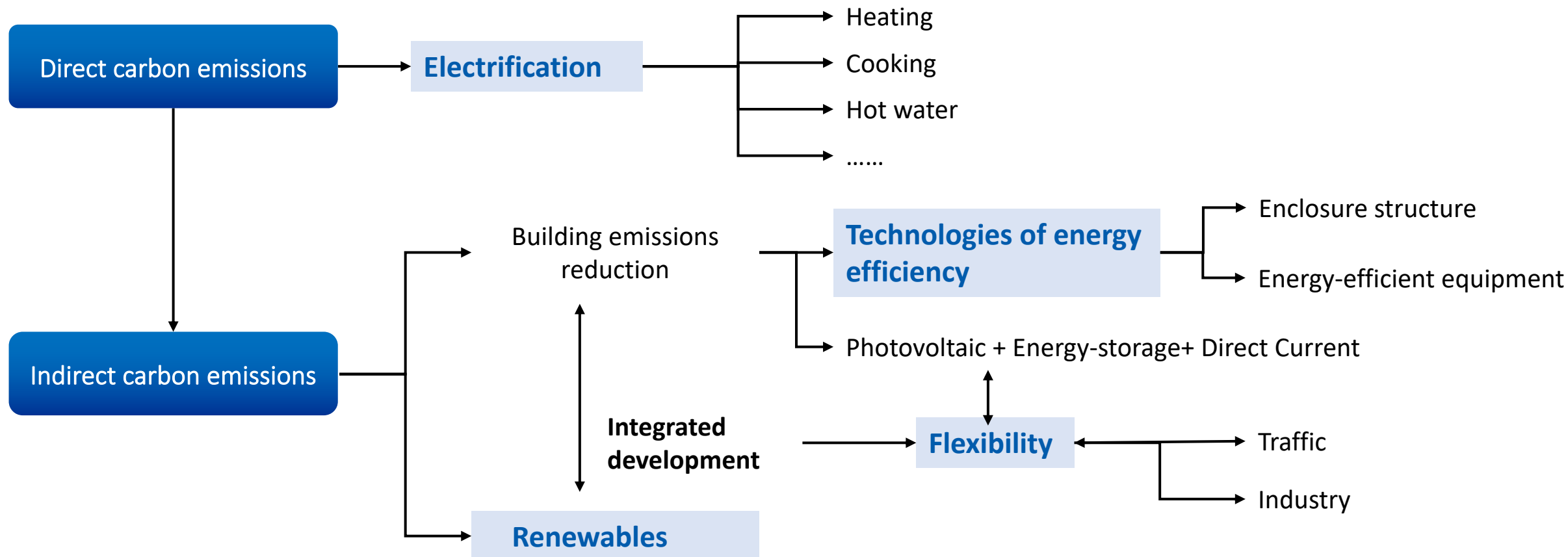
➤ EU ZEB

- All new buildings to be zero-emission buildings (ZEBs):
 - From 2028 public buildings owned by public bodies
 - From 2030 all new buildings
- ZEB will require:
 - Zero on-site emissions from fossil fuels
 - A very low amount of energy with a view to cost-optimal level but at least (NZEB -10%)
 - Supplied by:
 - renewables from onsite, nearby, renewable energy communities
 - energy efficient DH&C
 - energy from carbon-free sources
 - Life cycle GWP calculation (from 2028 for new bdgs >1000m² useful floor area, from 2030 for all new buildings) and disclosure through EPC
- Explanatory video: [Zero-emission buildings - the new EU standard](#)



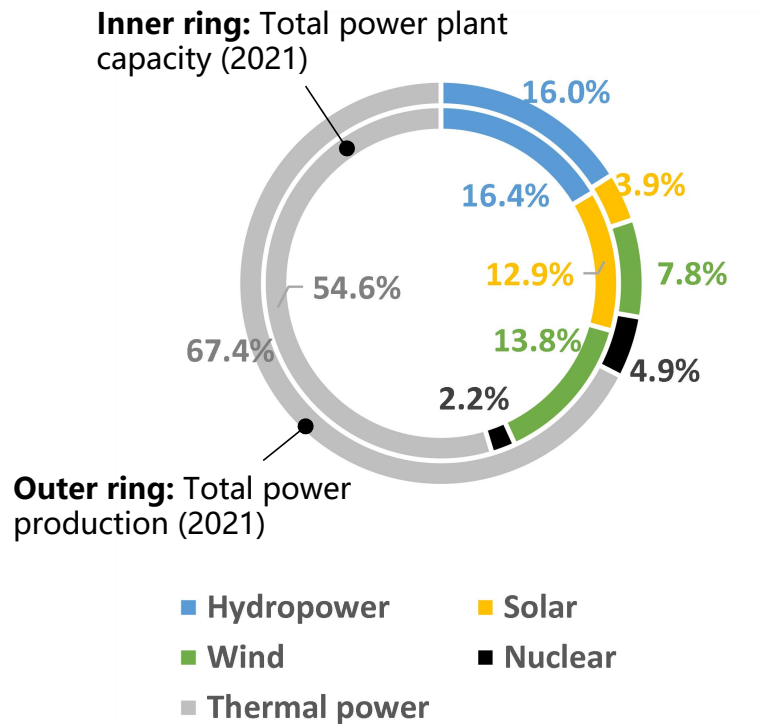
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

➤ **Toward ZEB** - How does the building sector achieve carbon neutrality?



2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

➤ Where the ZCE electricity comes from?



2050-2060

Power resources	Capacity (GW)	Production (GWh)	Peak shaving (GW)	Description
Nuclear	200	1.5×10^6	/	
Hydropower	500	2.0×10^6	900	
Pumped storage	400	/		
Wind/Solar power plant	7000	9.0×10^6	500	Peak shaving by renewable energy generation
Thermal power plants	700	1.5×10^6	700	Only adjust seasonal power balance
Total	8800	14.0×10^6	-4900	

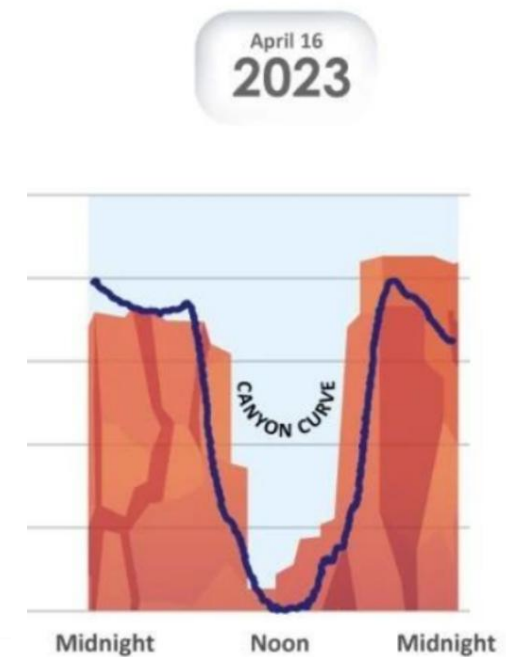
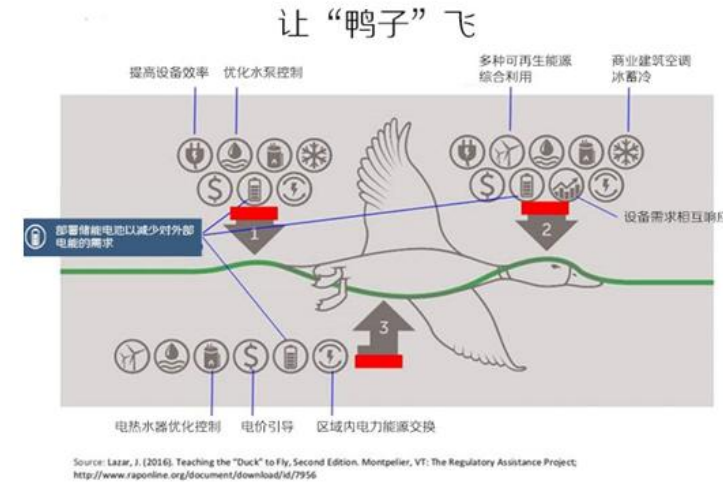
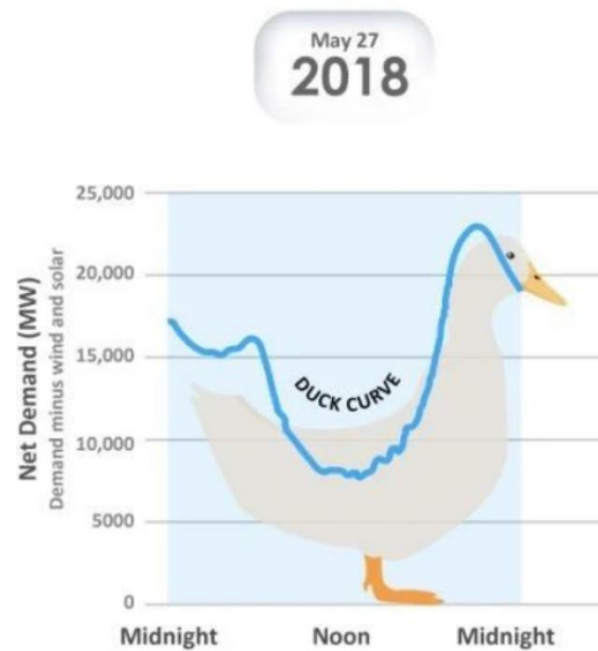
80% (between Pumped storage and Wind/Solar power plant)
60% (between Wind/Solar power plant and Thermal power plants)

Resource: Tsinghua University



2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

➤ Where the ZCE electricity comes?100h

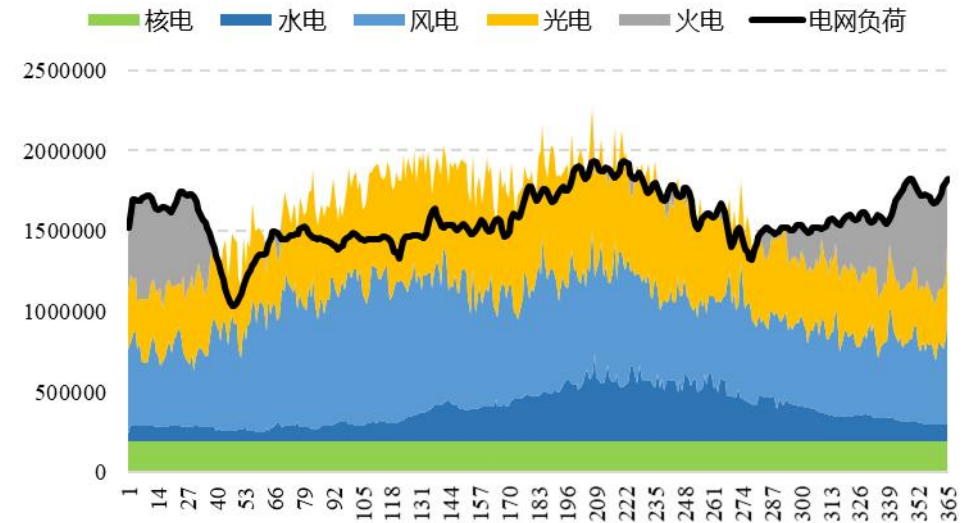
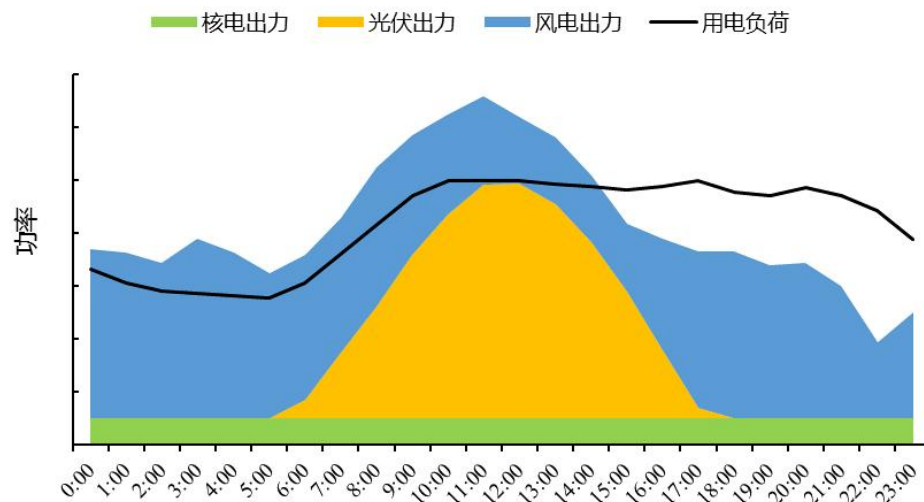


Resource: CAISO

Duck Curve & Canyon Curve

2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

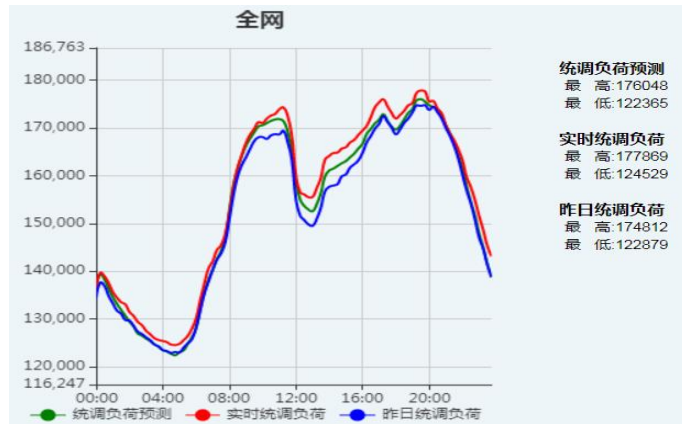
➤ Where the ZCE electricity comes? 8760h?



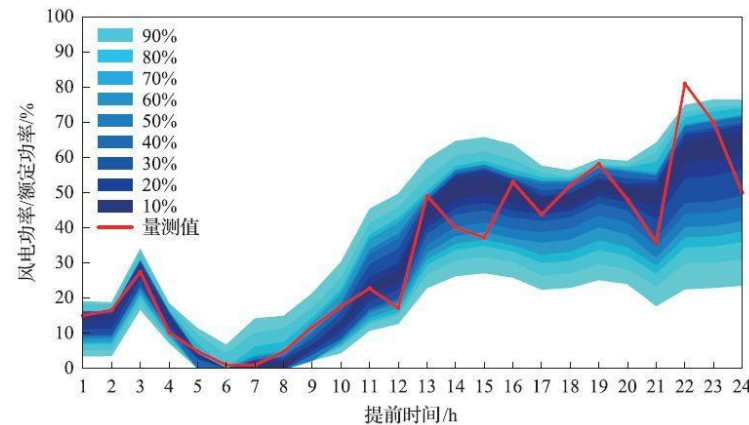
Day and annual curve of outputs of High penetration of wind and solar

2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

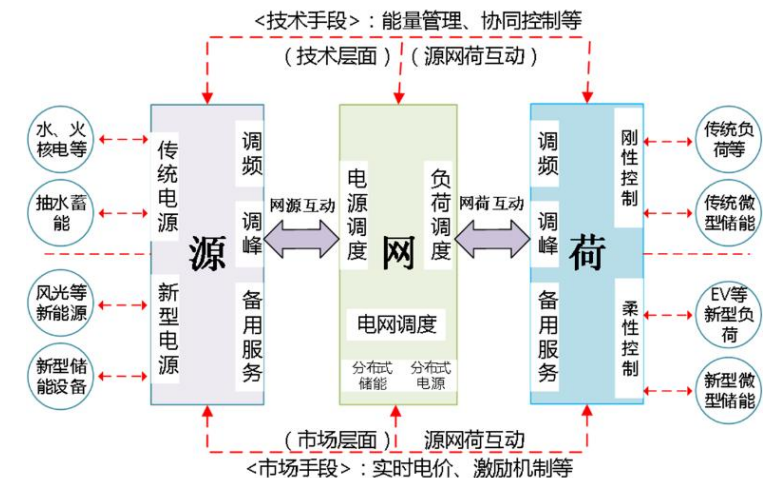
- Where the ZCE electricity comes from? - To predict renewables is more difficult than to predict load



Uncertainty of load prediction



Uncertainty of renewable generation

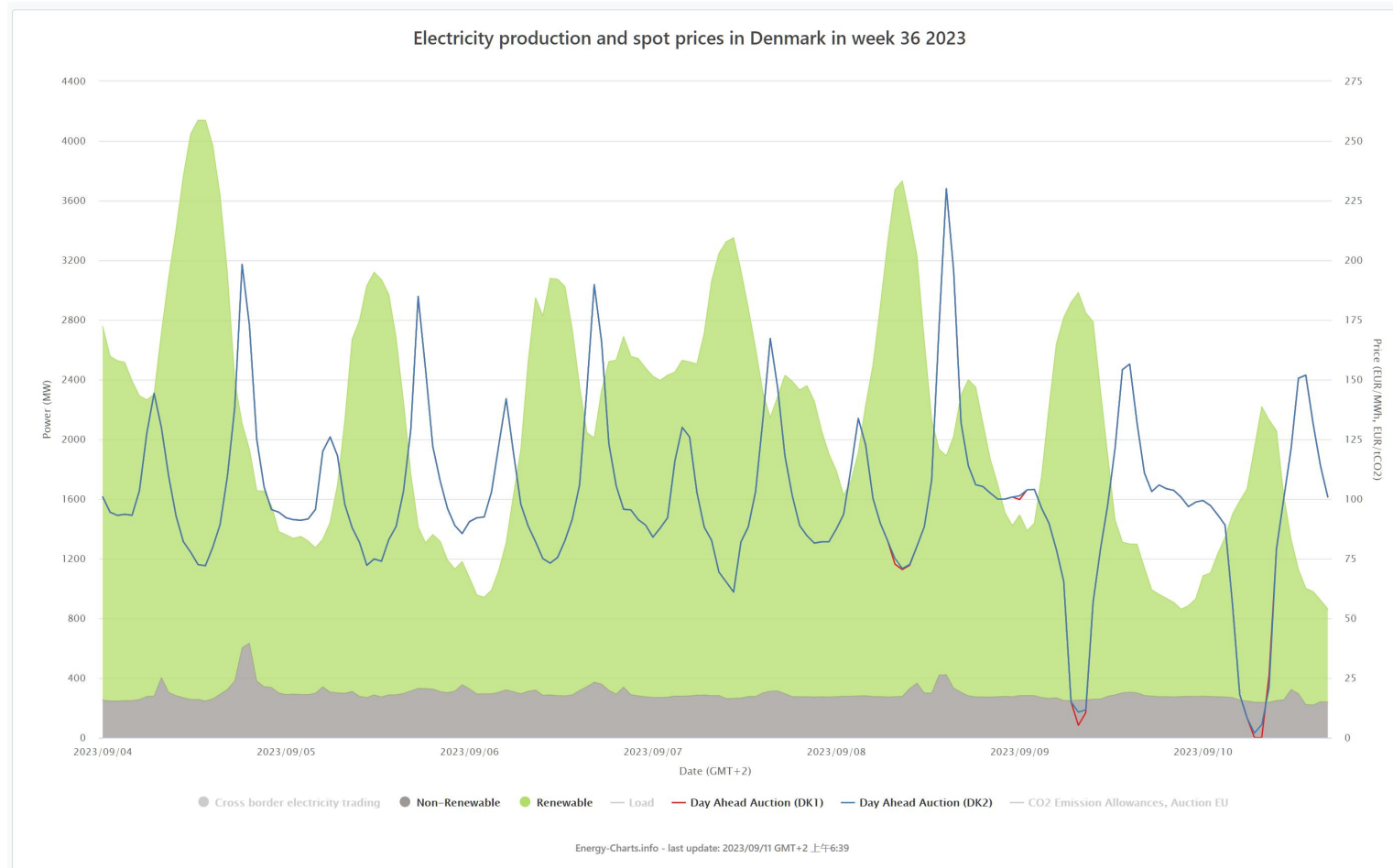


Hybrid methods to achieve energy balance

The relation between supply side and demand side is changing.

2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

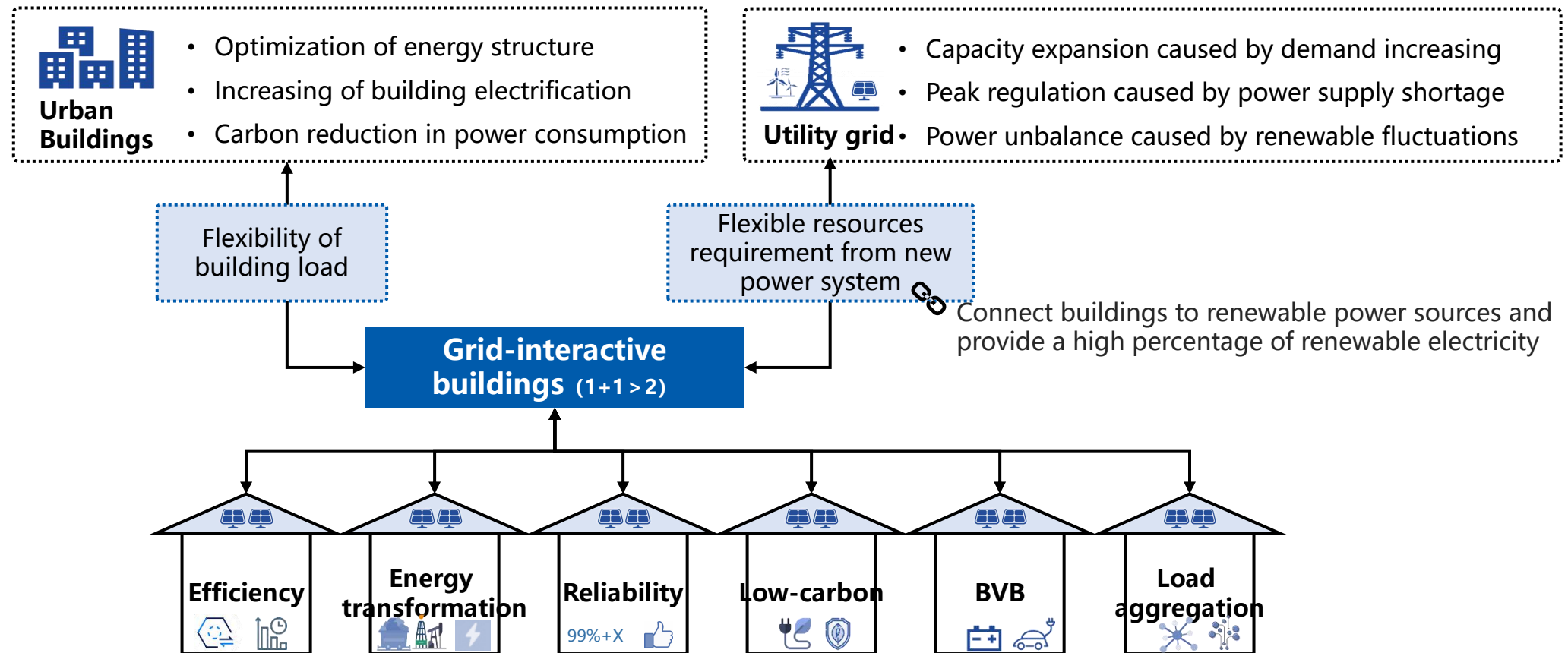
➤ What happen if we do nothing?



2. Background of LVDC in Buildings

Joint to reduce CO₂

Buildings + Power Grids



CONTENT

1. Who are we
2. Background of LVDC in Buildings
3. Research, products and demonstrations



3. Research, products and demonstrations

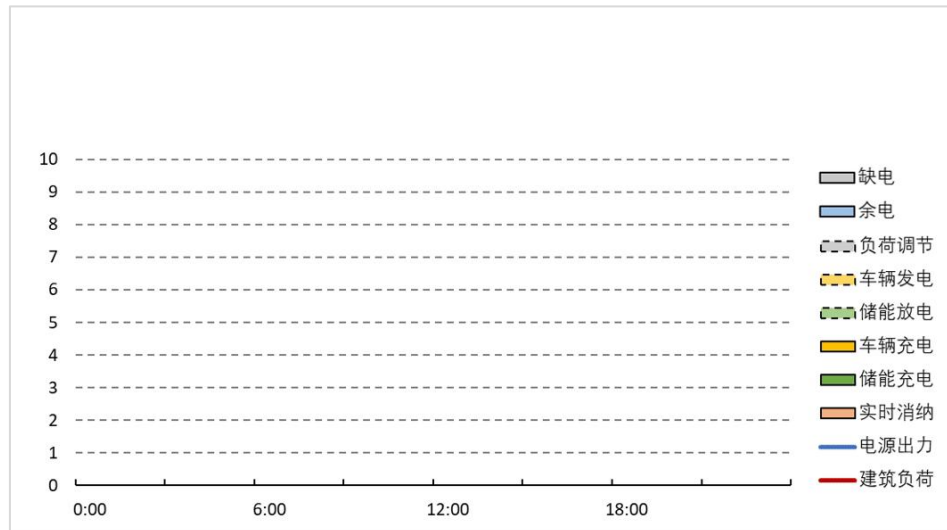
Research

Standards and codes

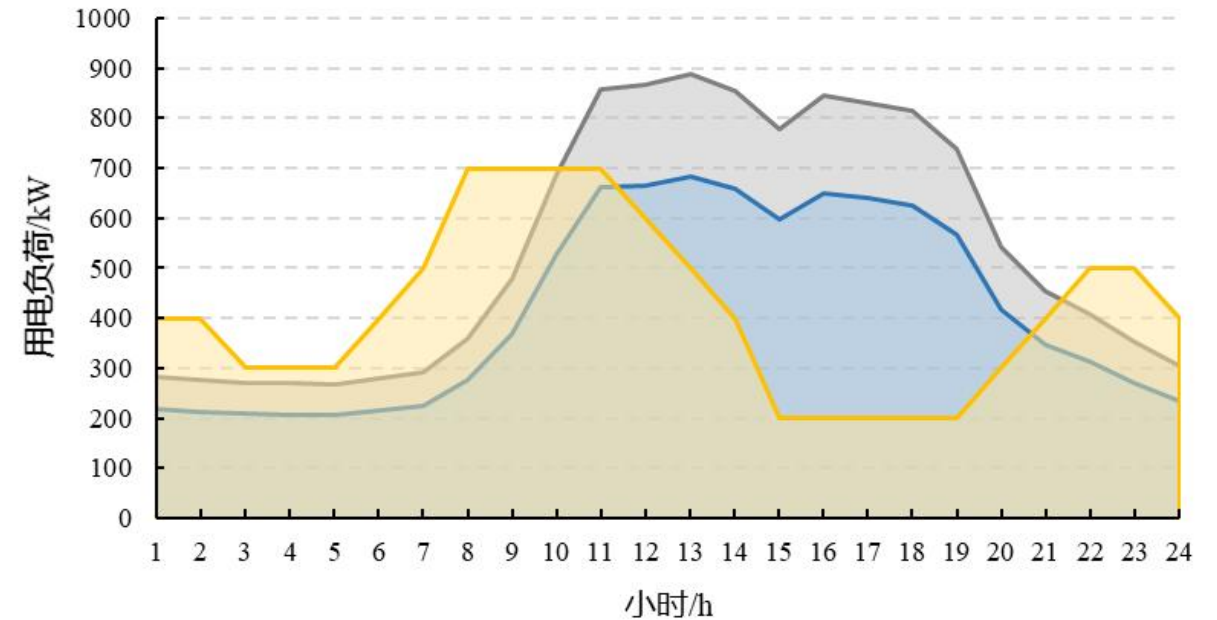
Products

Demonstrations

- Building load is flexible, and easy to follow the random of renewables.



Schematic diagram Building load flexibility



3. Research, products and demonstrations

Research

Standards and codes

Products

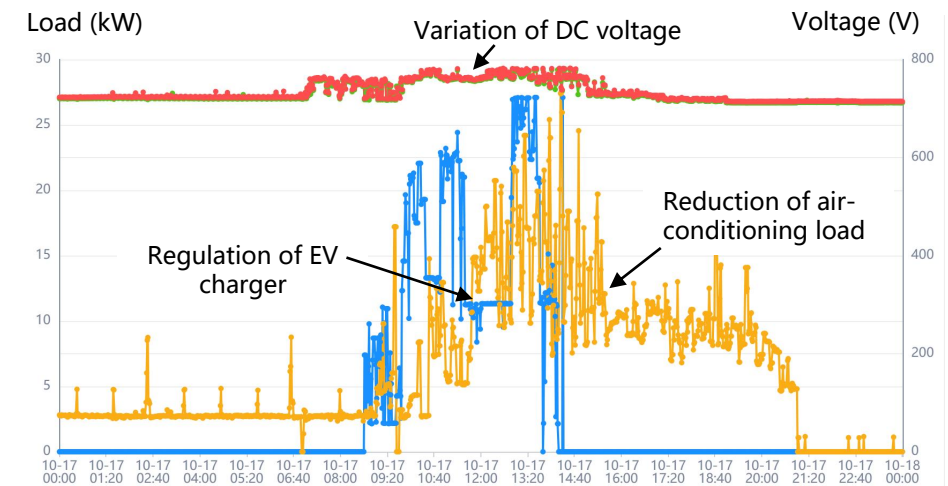
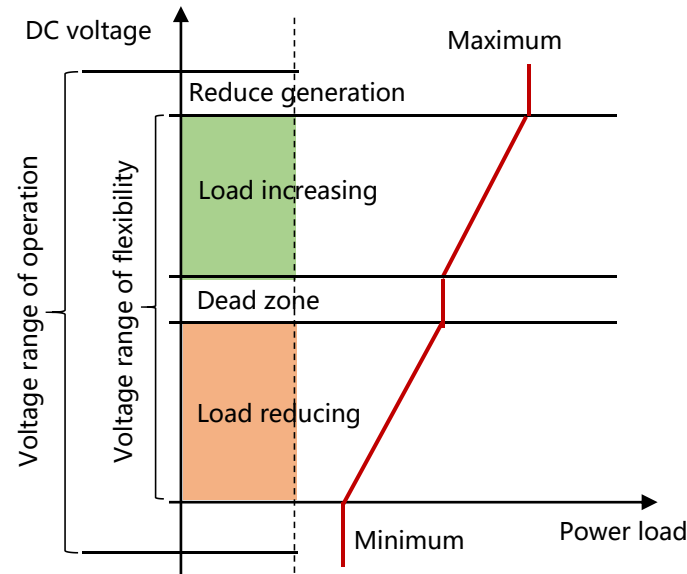
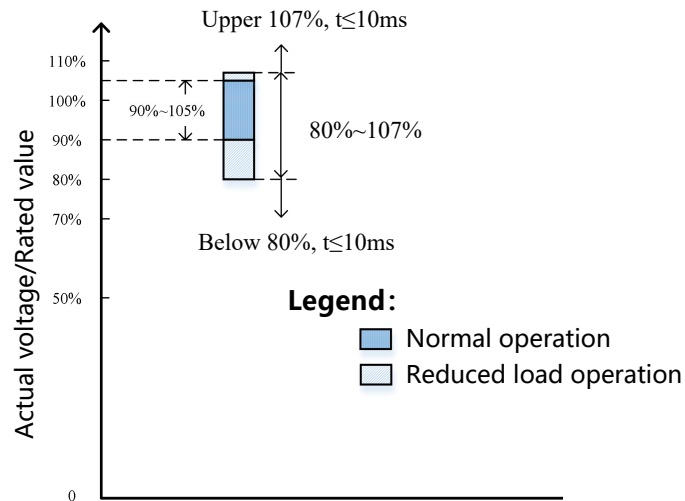
Demonstrations

➤ LVDC and Flexibility

DC equipment

Energy flexibility

Building load regulation



3. Research, products and demonstrations

Research

Standards and codes

Products

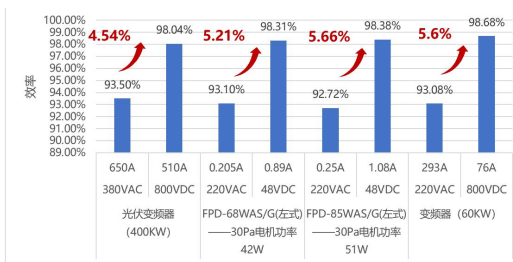
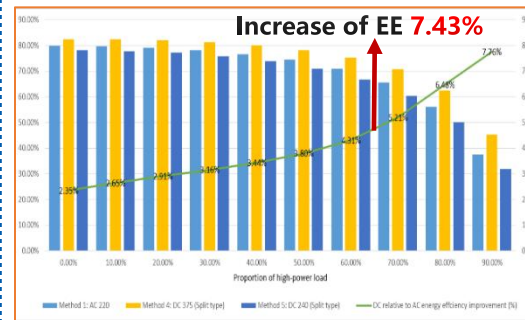
Demonstrations

➤ Advantages of LVDC in building

LVDC supplies **50%** appliances/
50% energy consumption

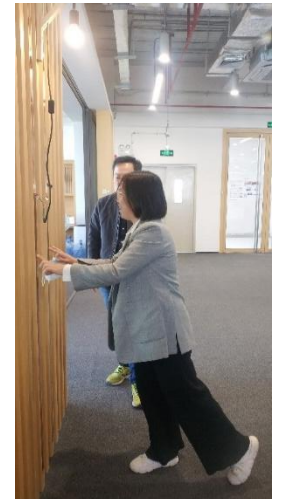
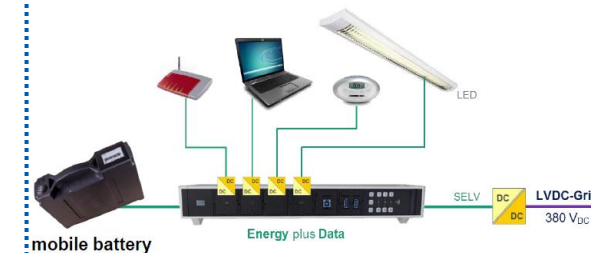


Energy efficiency increasing



离心式水机直化能效比

More simple and safe



3. Research, products and demonstrations

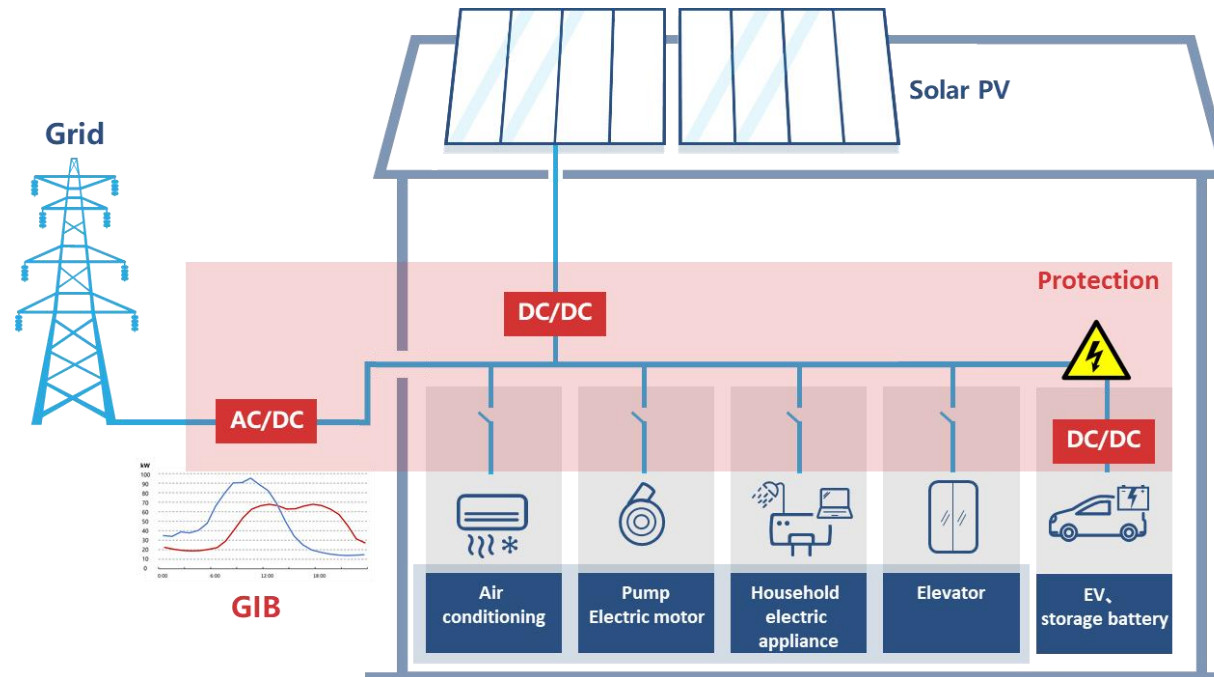
Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations

- LVDC technology development is supported by **National Key R&D Program of China**, which is highest research funding in China.



- 100+ DC electromechanical equipment products by 2025
- 20+ DC power converters and electrical protection equipment products by 2027

Distribution system

DC electromechanical equipment in PEDF buildings

Execution period: 2022~2026

End use

DC power distribution technologies in PEDF buildings

Execution period: 2023~2027



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

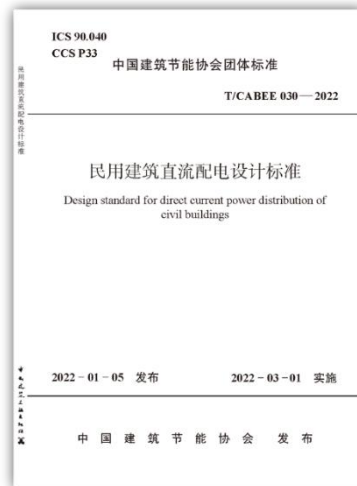
3. Research, products and demonstrations

Research

Standards and codes

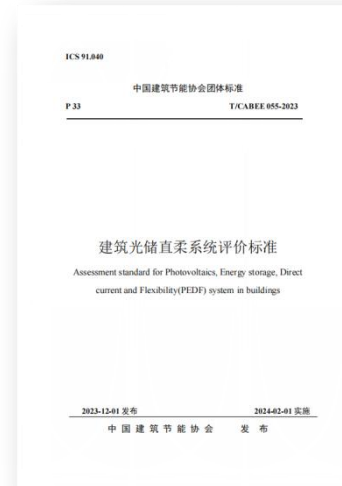
Products

Demonstrations



T/CABEE 030-2022

Design standard for direct current power distribution of civil building



T/CABEE 055-2023

Assessment standard for PEDF system in Buildings



T/CABEE 063-2024

General technical requirements for converter of PEDF system in buildings



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

3. Research, products and demonstrations

Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations

- **Power distribution devices** include converters, DC plus and socket, DC protection equipment.



DC plus and socket



DC protection equipment



DC converter

3. Research, products and demonstrations

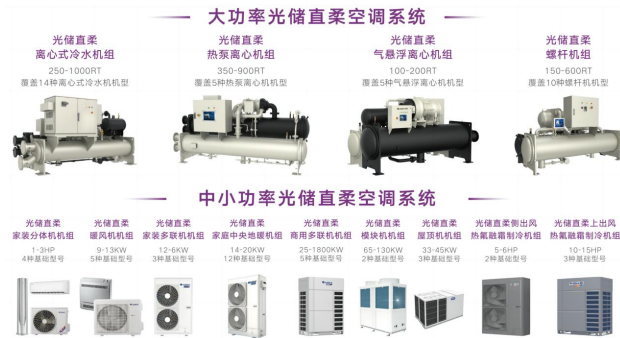
Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations

- **DC appliances** in China's market including air-conditioning, LED lighting, DC EV charger, refrigerator, rice cooker, etc.



DC Air conditioning



LED lighting



EV bidirectional charger



Refrigerator fans etc.

3. Research, products and demonstrations

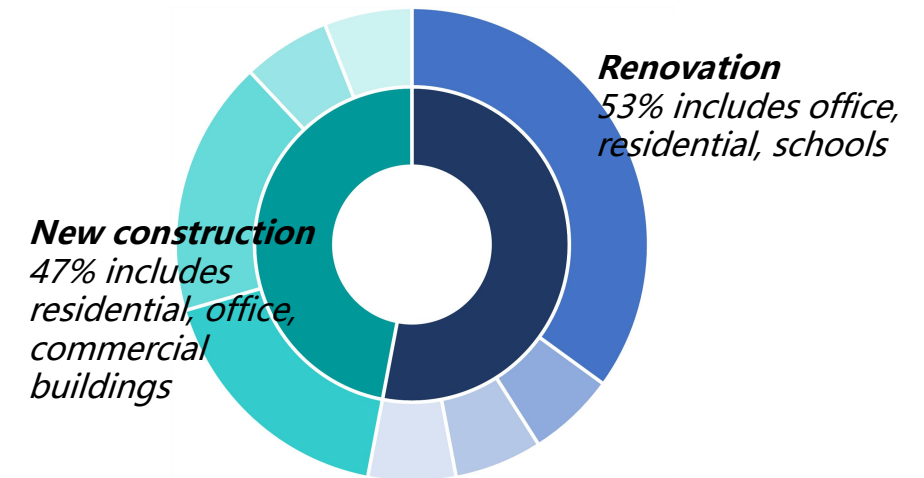
Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations

- PEDF system in buildings developed rapidly. **More than 200 projects** have applied PEDF technologies, including commercail buildings, residential buildings, transportation stations, industrial parks, etc.



Distribution of PEDF project in China

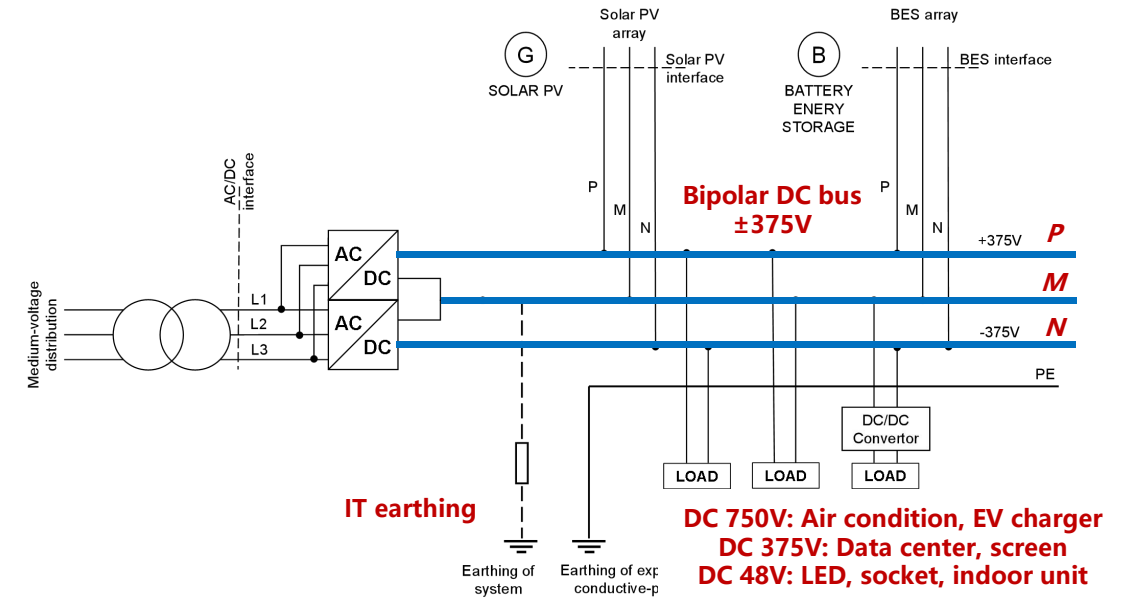
3. Research, products and demonstration projects

Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations



The IBR Future Complex (Shenzhen, China)

Building type	Office, Laboratory
Demonstration	Gross area: 6259m ² . The first LVDC building with large-scale in China. Bipolar DC bus distribution, IT earthing, voltage control approach, etc., are integrated in this building to supply DC power and explore the best solution for LVDC in buildings.
Owner	Shenzhen Institute of Building Research Co., Ltd



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑能效协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

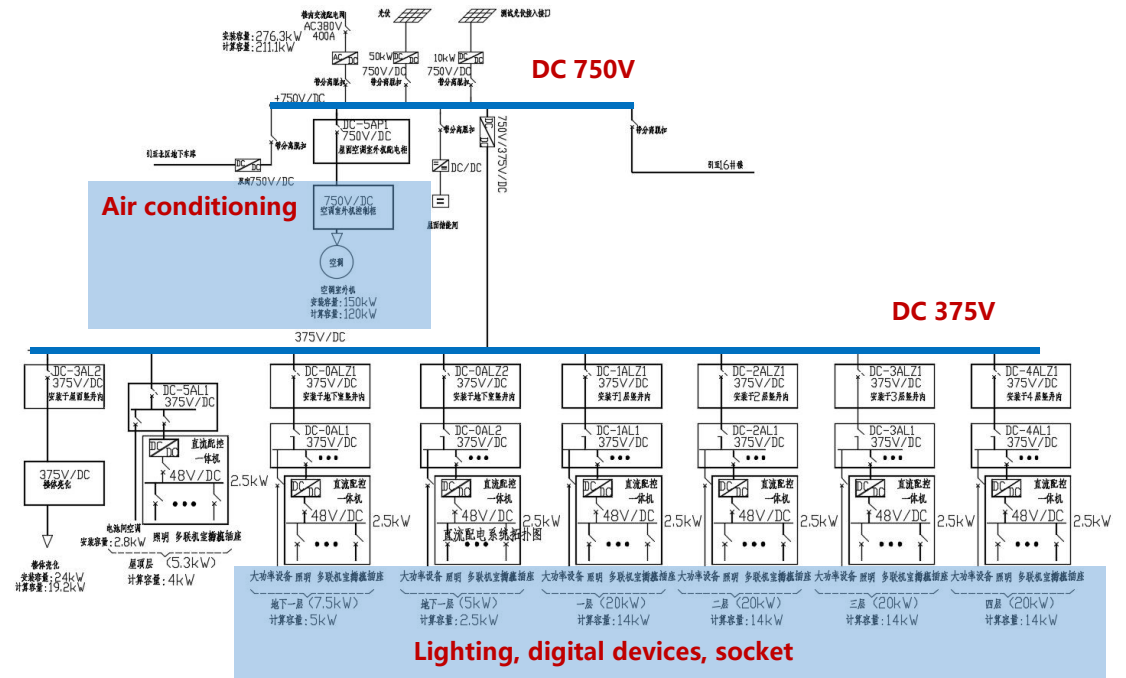
3. Research, products and demonstration projects

Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations



TaiKoo Li Sanlitun PEDF building (Beijing, China)

Building type	Commercial
Demonstration	Gross area: 3500m ² . The first commercial property renovation project of PEDF building in China. Using BIPV, energy storage and flexible load to achieve ZCB.
Owner	Swire properties



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

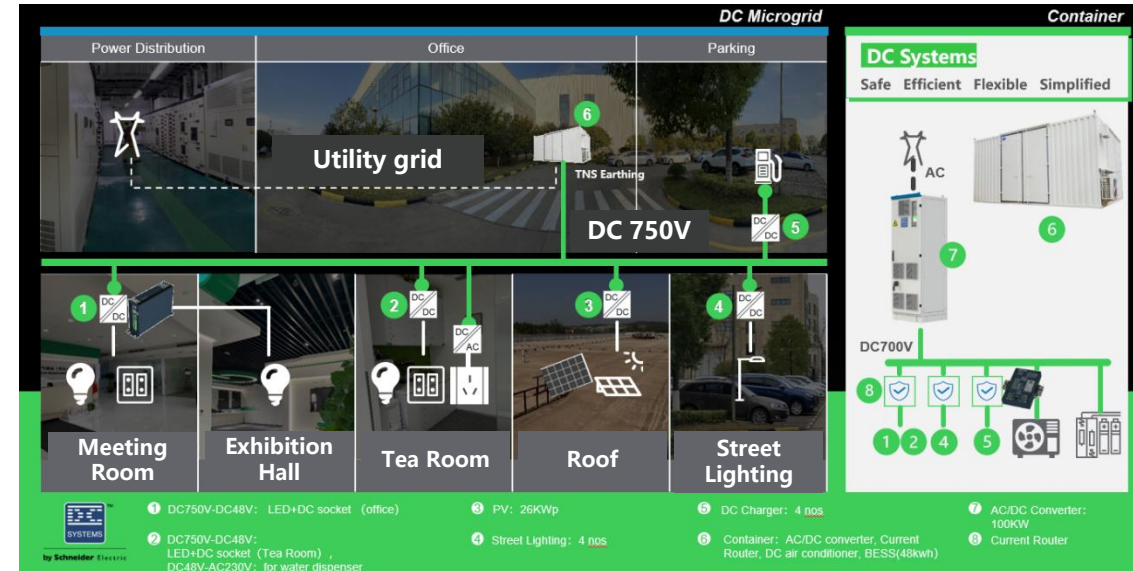
3. Research, products and demonstration projects

Research

Standards and codes

Products

Demonstrations



Schneider Electric PEDF Research Center (Wuhan, China)

Building type	Office
Demonstration	Gross area: 200m ² . The PV panels deployed on the roof achieve 100% green power supply for building load such as LED lighting, DC air conditioning, and EV-chargers. The performance of DC protection devices is verified.
Owner	Schneider Electric SAS (China)



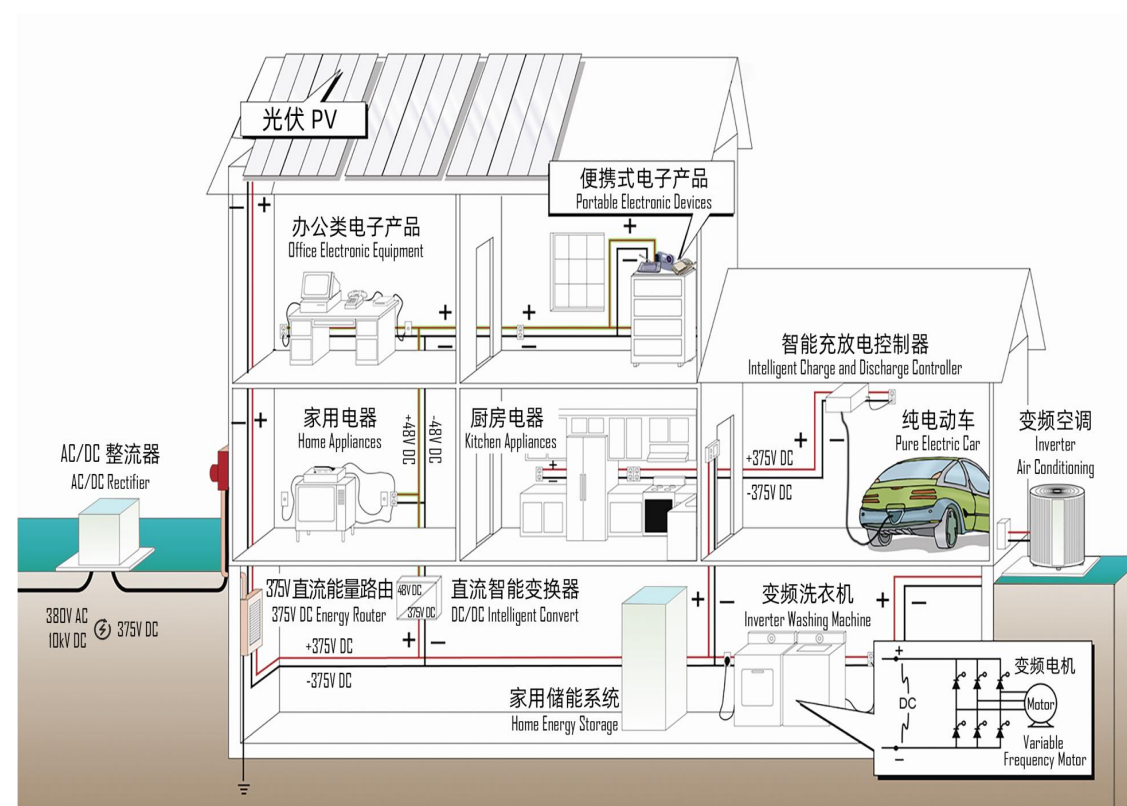
北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility

What the future building would be?

- Distributed solar PV
- Distributed Energy storage
- BVB (Building-EV-Building)
- DC microgrid
- Demand flexibility
- APR (active power response/Grid interactive)





One for all was yesterday, all for all is the future.

haobinbj@hotmail.com



北京建筑大学
BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF CIVIL
ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE



**中国建筑节能协会
光储直柔专业委员会**
Committee of Photovoltaic Energy storage
Direct current and Flexibility