

APRIL 12, 2019

Fast Circuit Protection

For DC & more-DC Systems

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Presentation Overview

System trends: Need for faster breakers

Increased Arc Voltage Interruption

Current Injection (with Pre-charged Capacitor)

Resonance Current Injection (No Pre-charge)

Hybrid Interruption (Arc-less)

Solid State Circuit Breaker

ABB Innovation: Switch on the future

System Trends – Needs for Faster Breakers

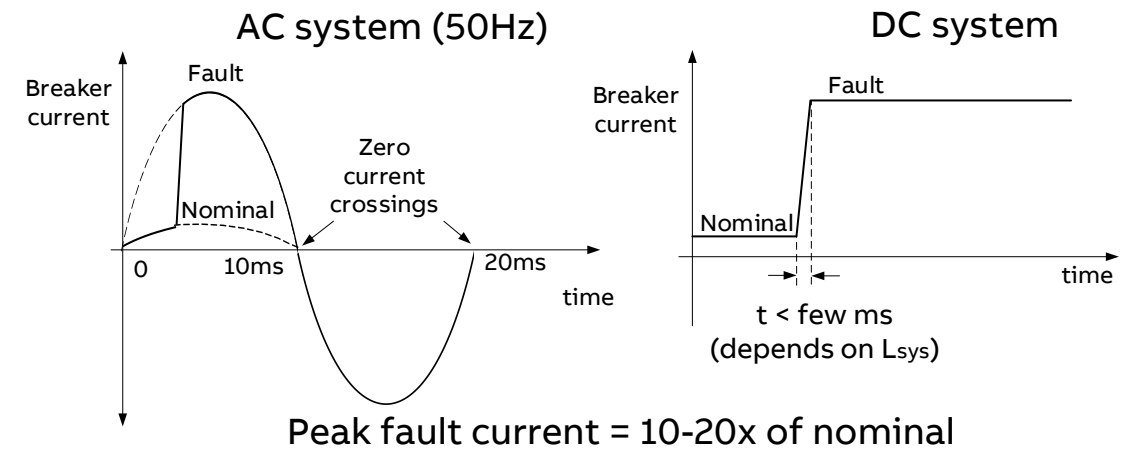
Emerging DC & more-DC systems

Native and more-DC systems

- PV systems
- Datacenters
- Energy storage systems
- DC ships
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure

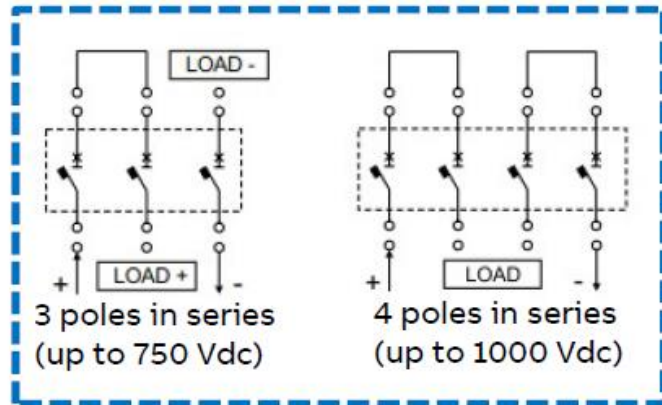
Challenges in DC protection

- No natural zero-crossing (unlike AC systems)
- Delay in action results in higher fault current that becomes increasingly difficult to break
- Natural system inductances may be limited



Increased Arc Voltage Interruption

Achieving higher arc voltage



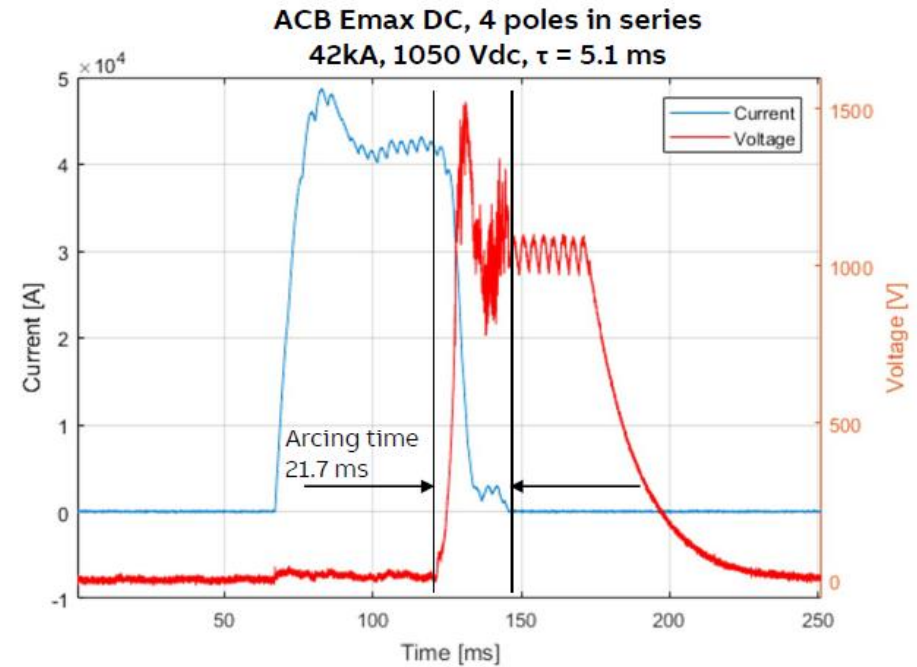
Pros

- Simple and low cost concept
- Low loss

Cons

- Large arc energy and time
- Difficult to scale
- Contacts wear

DC current interruption



Current Injection (with Pre-charged Capacitor)

Specifications

Based on 3 pole AC vacuum circuit breaker built and tested

- One pole for current interruption
- One pole for current injection
- One pole as disconnecter

Ratings

- $U_{NOM}=12kV$
- $I_{NOM}=2.5kA$
- $I_{INTERRUPTED}=15kA$

Pre-charged capacitor for current injection

Commutation of current between three branches

Current finally interrupted by the surge arrester

Pros

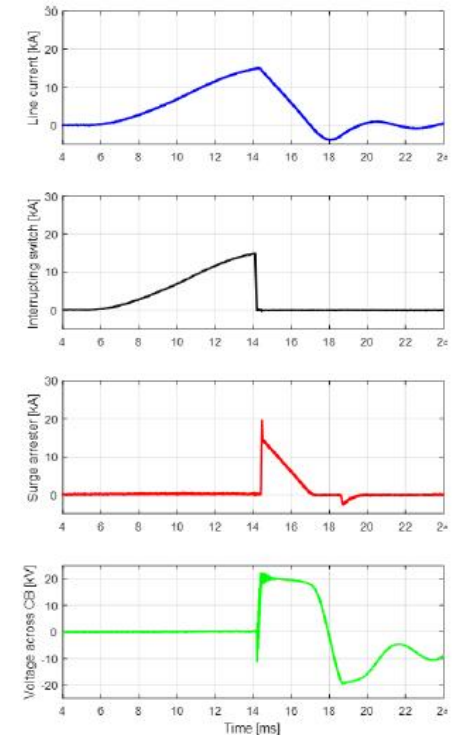
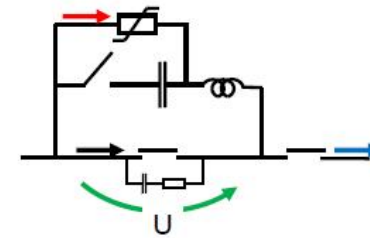
- Simple and low cost
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- Contacts wear

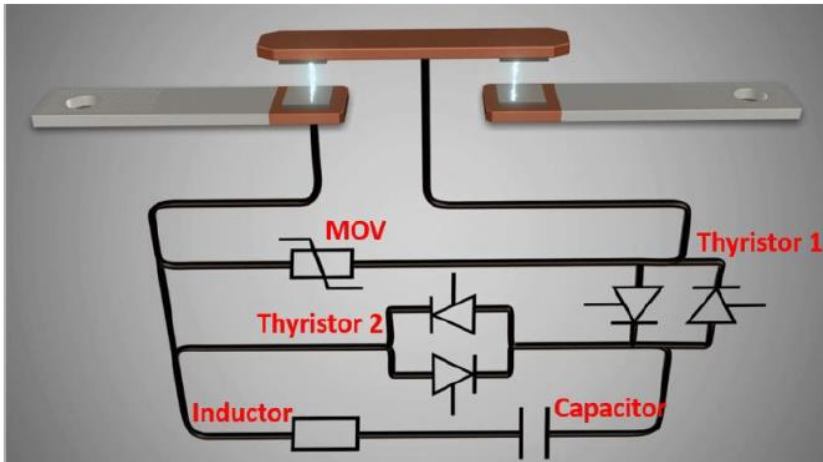
Prototype and results

High power test results



Resonance Current Injection (No Pre-charge)

Conceptual circuit



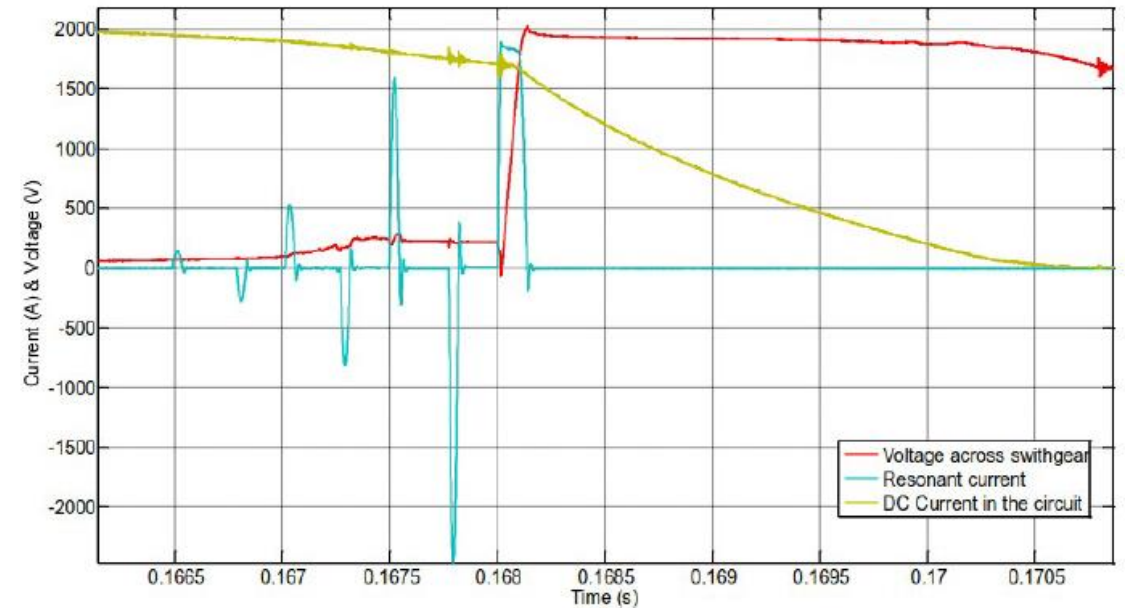
Pros

- Simple concept
- Scalability
- Low loss

Cons

- Medium arc energy and time
- Limited short-circuit capacity
- Limited speed by mechanical switch

Test results



2000 A, ~1800 VDC interruption in ~8 ms

Hybrid Interruption (Arc-less)

Specifications

Based on IGBT switches for current interruption in parallel with main current carrying fast mechanical switch

Ratings

- System voltage 12kV
- Nominal current 2kA
- Short-circuit current 25kA
- Maximum limited current peak 13kA
- Trip level 5.6kA
- Time from trip to bypass contact opening 0.35ms
- Time from trip to power electronics turn-off 0.7ms

Pros

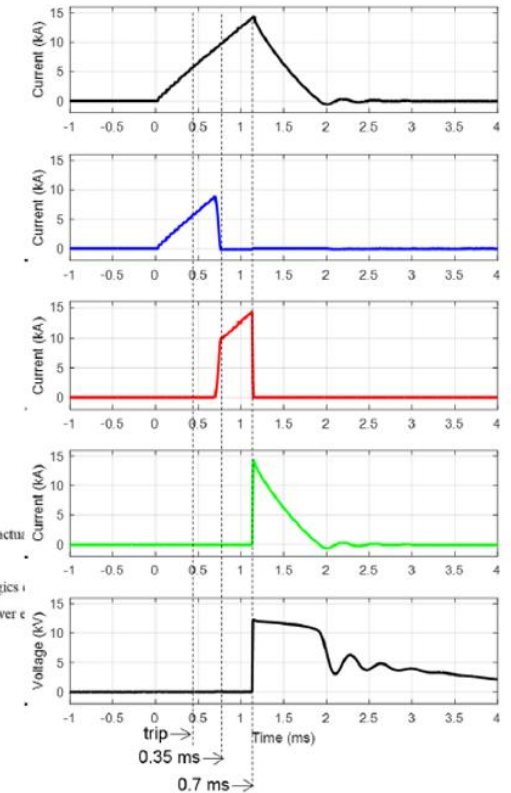
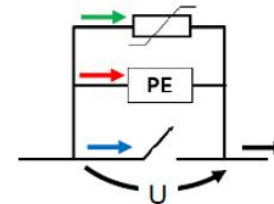
- Simple concept
- Low loss

Cons

- medium arc energy and time
- Limited short-circuit capacity

Prototype and results

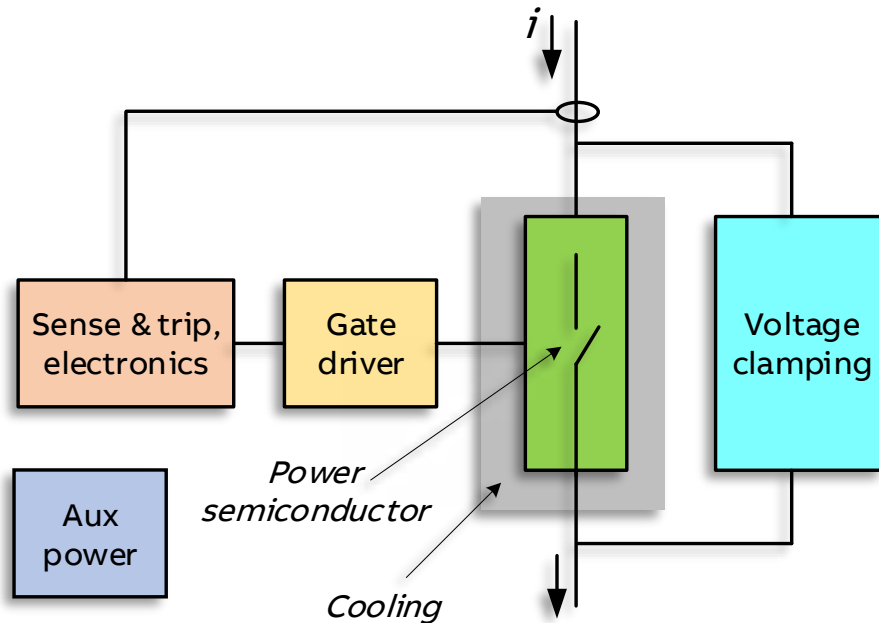
High power test results



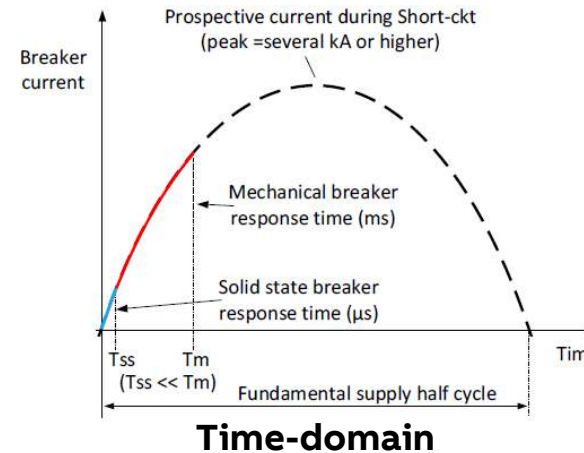
Solid State Circuit Breaker

Key elements & benefits

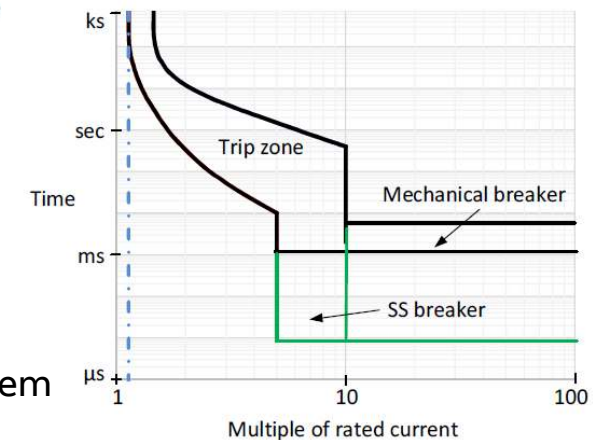
Key elements of SSCB



Key performance aspects



- Ultra-fast fault interruption
- Arc-less switching
- Reduced let through energy
- Reduced fault-stress on system



$i \cdot t$ trip curve

Solid State Circuit Breaker

Device selection

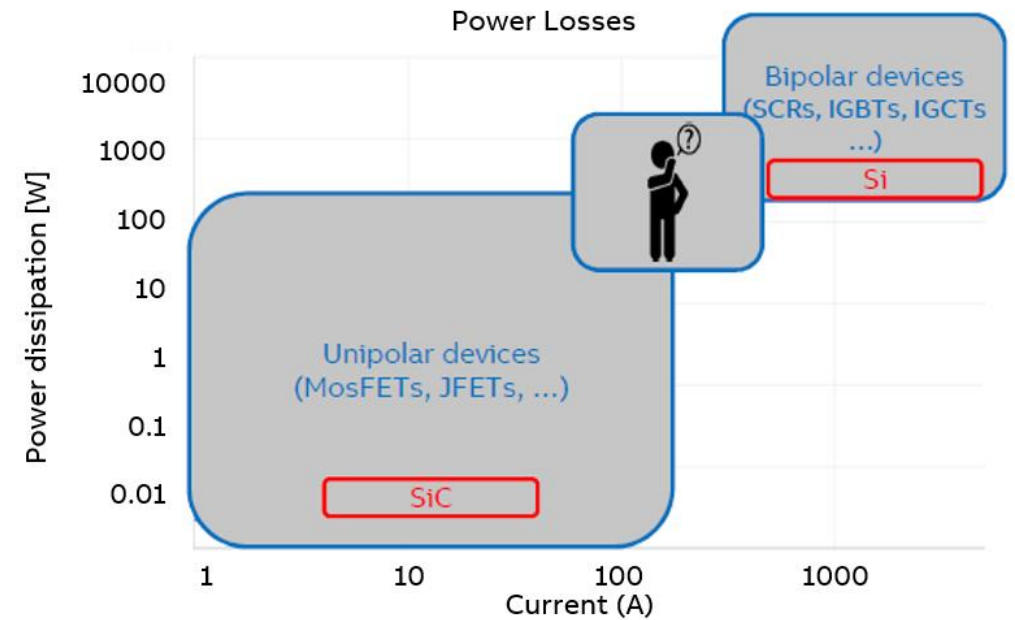
Device selection

In event switching devices, switching losses are not relevant

$$P_{loss} = P_{on} + \cancel{P_{switch}}$$

$$P_{loss} = \begin{cases} R_{on}(i, T)i^2 & \text{Unipolar devices} \\ & \text{(JFETs, MosFETs ...)} \\ V_T(i, T) \times i & \text{Bipolar devices} \\ & \text{(SCRs, IGCTs, IGBTs ...)} \end{cases}$$

Primary selection criteria

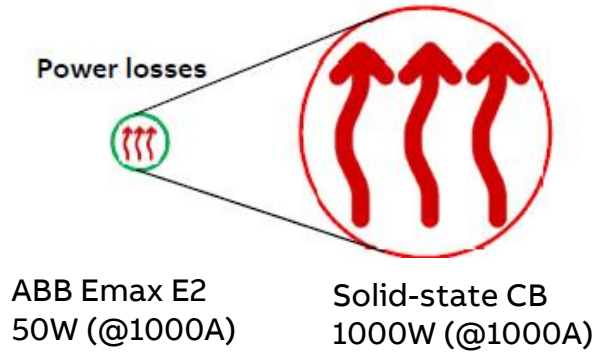


Si vs WBG
Unipolar vs Bipolar
Normally-on vs Normally-off

Solid State Circuit Breaker

Cooling

Mechanical vs Solid-state



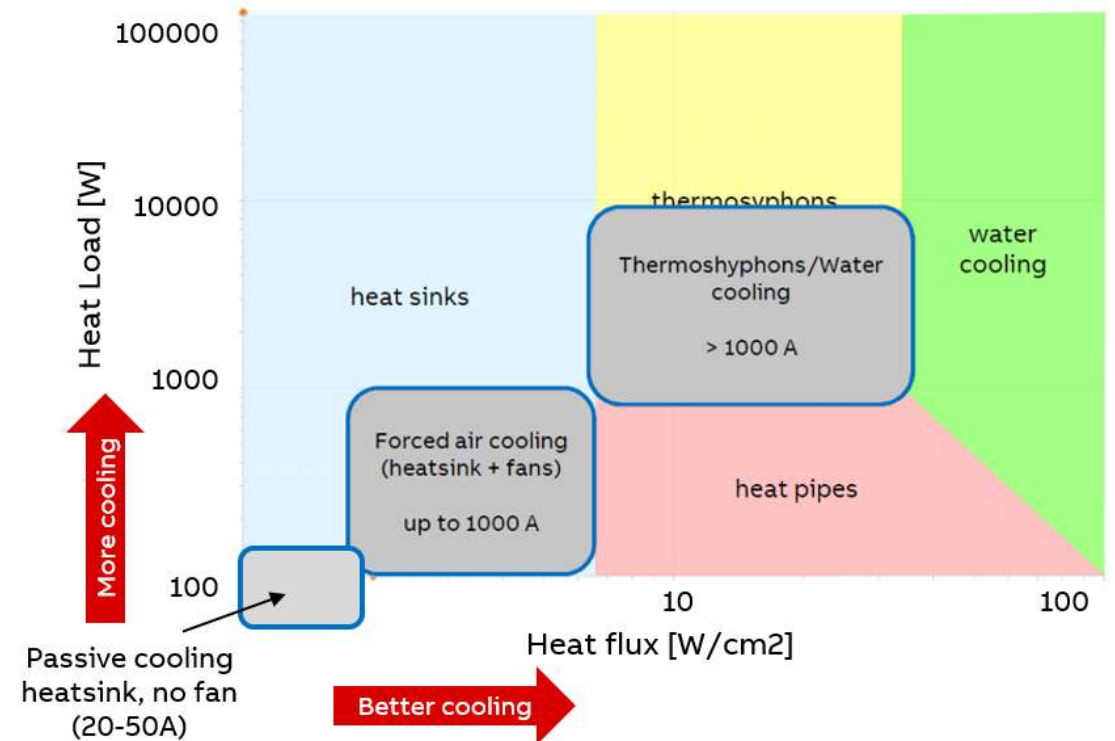
Electromechanical breakers

- Busbars and wiring are enough to dissipate the power loss

Solid state switching devices

- Needs additional cooling

More cooling vs better cooling

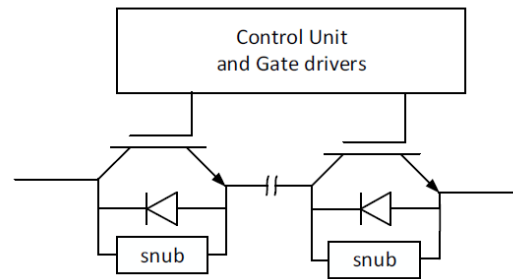


Solid State Circuit Breaker

Recent Trends & Literature

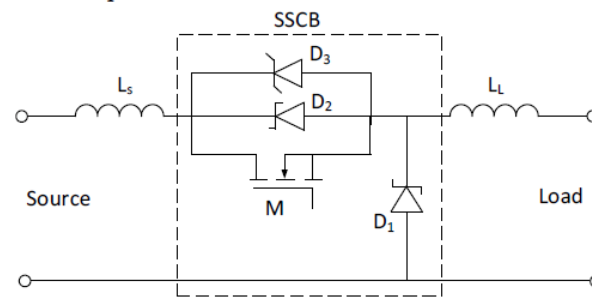
IGBT based MV breaker

- Series connection
- Fast switching
- Higher losses



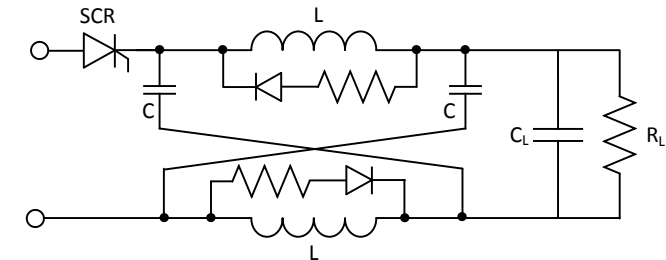
SiC MOSFET based breaker

- Low losses
- Ultrafast switching
- Thermal challenges



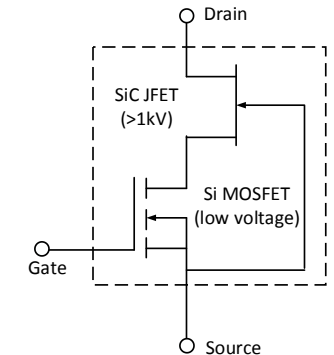
Z-source Thyristor based breaker

- Lower losses
- Resonance commutation
- Large passives



SiC JFET cascode breaker

- Low losses
- Ultrafast switching
- Additional LV Si MOSFET in series



Solid State Circuit Breaker

380Vdc, 20A

Specifications

Nominal rating

- 400V DC, 10-20A

Switching unit

- 4x30m Ω , 1200V MOSFETs

Interruption speed

- few μ s

Short-circuit capability (perspective current)

- unlimited

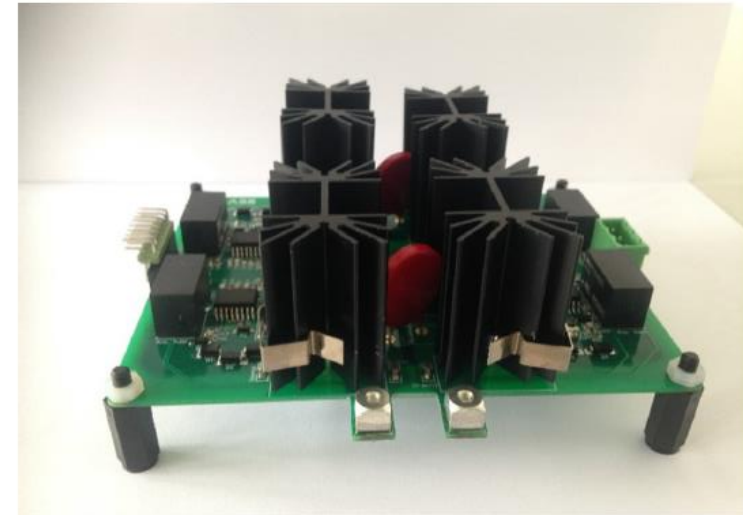
Power Loss

- 12W, passive air-cooling

Sense and Trip

- Current measurement and high-speed microprocessor

Prototype



Power Solid State Circuit Breaker

1kVdc, 1.5kA

1kV 1.5kA SS DCCB

Solid-state DC circuit breaker based on cutting-edge technology

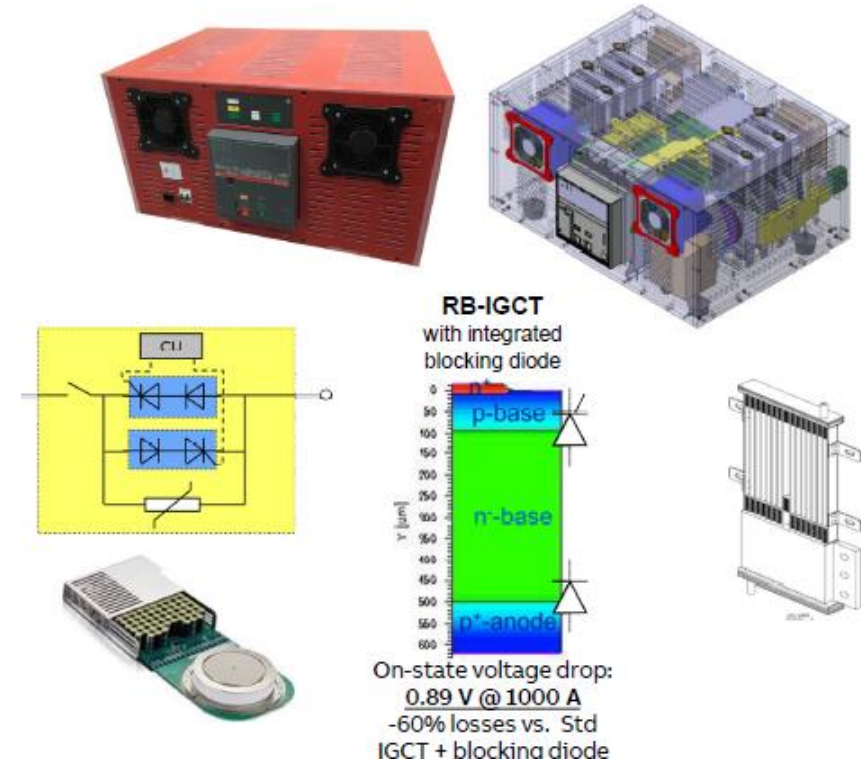
- Low-losses ($V_T < 1V$) RB-IGCT (2.5kV) optimized for event-switching
- Air cooling based two-phases thermosyphons (PHP technology)
- High-speed trip and control unit

Unmatched performances

- Ultrafast $< 1ms$ (faster than high-speed fuses!)
- Breaking capacity $> 200kA$ prospective (fault current limited to 3-5kA in $< 1ms$)
- 99.7% efficiency

Applications DC ships Dc microgrids, battery energy storage systems (BESS)

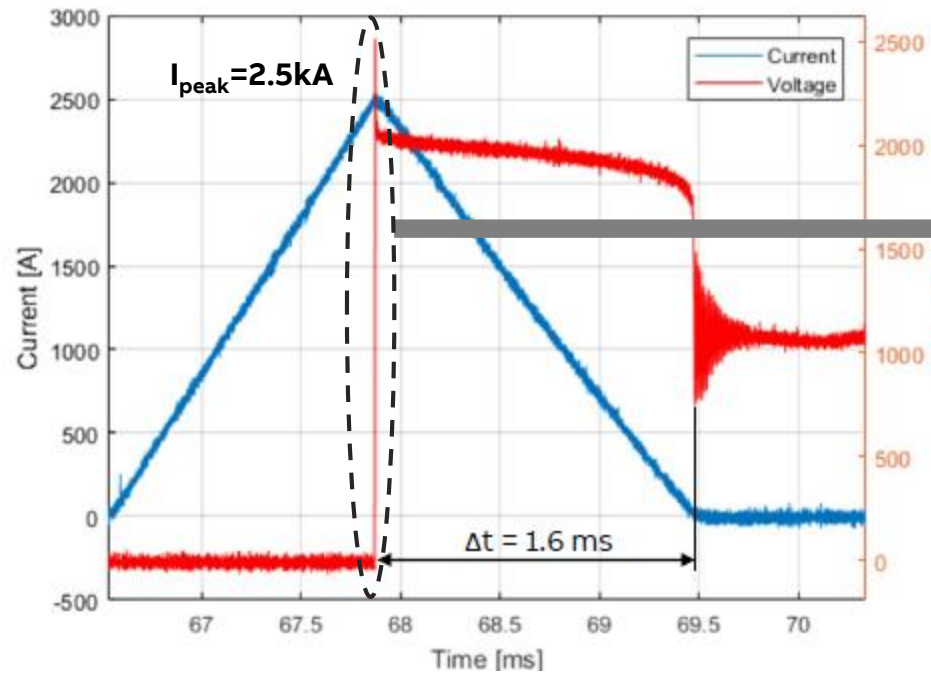
Prototype



Power Solid State Circuit Breaker

Switching performance

Breaker turn-off waveform



RB-IGCT turn-off

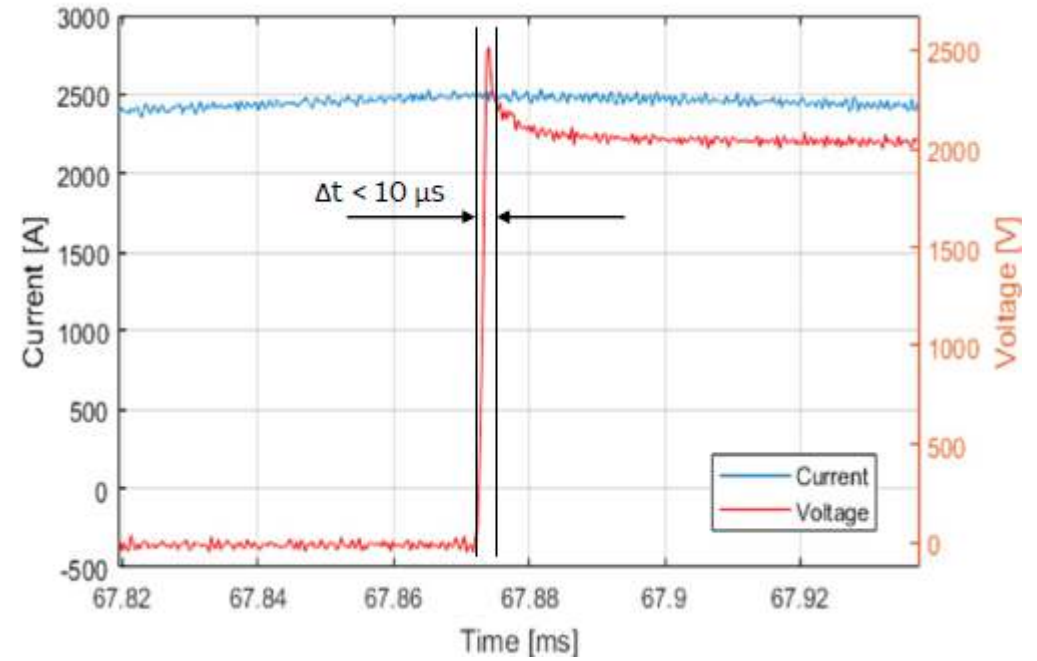


ABB reinvents the circuit breaker

Solid State DC Circuit Breaker



Presented at the Hannover Fair, April 1-5, 2019

Breakthrough features

- Nominal current from 1000 to 5000 A
- Voltage up to 1500 VDC
- Air and water (not deionized) cooling

- Fixed and plug-in versions

Target applications

- DC ships
- DC microgrids
- Battery storage
- Arc-safe solutions
- ...

Switch on the future!

ABB