Introduction to Power Converters
Converters

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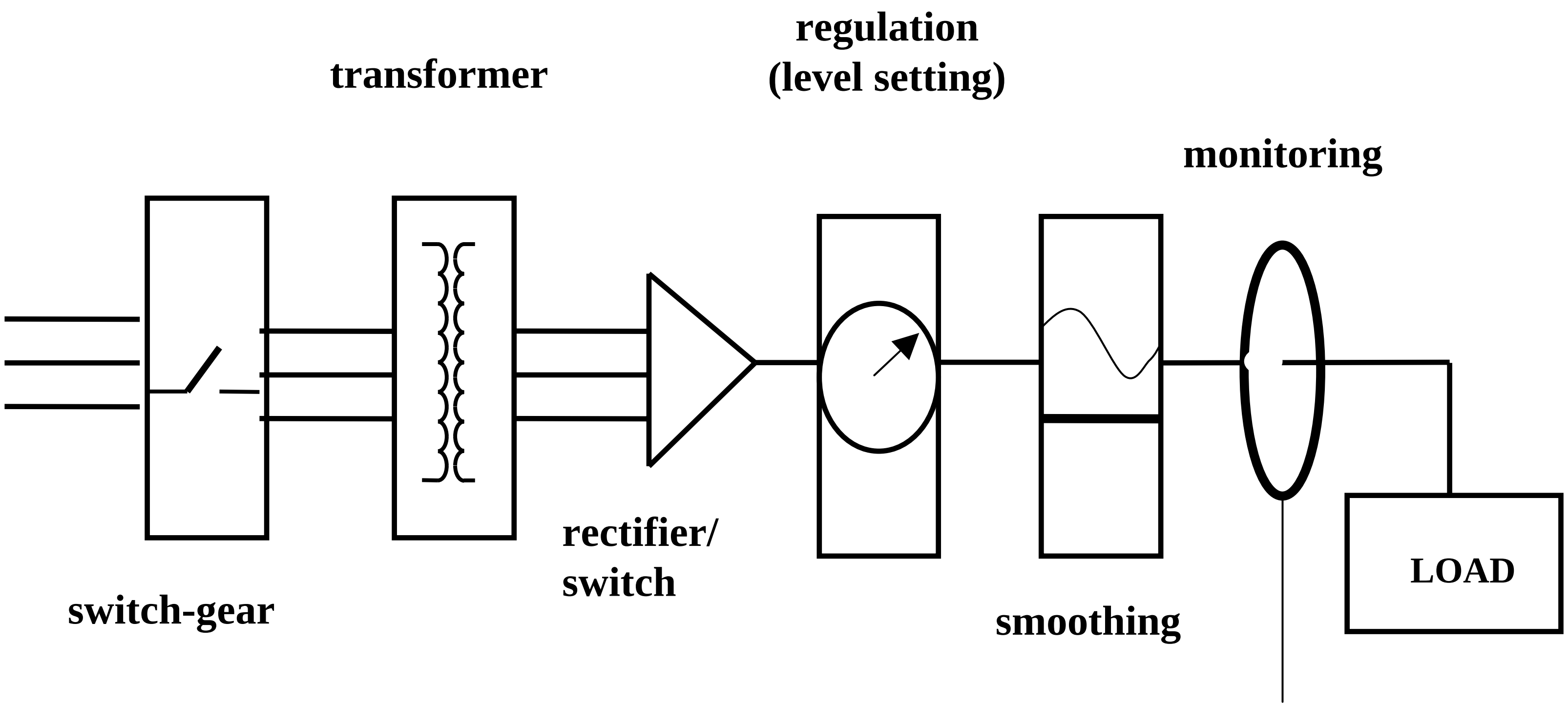
Contents

Basic components – structure.



Basic components (cont.)

i) switch-gear:

- on/off;
- protection against over-current/over-voltage etc.

ii) transformer:

- changes voltage – ie matches impedance level;
- provides essential galvanic isolation load to supply;
- three phase or (sometimes 6 or 12 phase);

iii) rectifier/ switch (power electronics):

- used in both d.c. and a.c. supplies;
- number of different types – see slides 6, 7, 8;

Basic components (cont.)

iv) regulation:

- level setting;
- stabilisation with high gain servo system;
- strongly linked with ‘rectifier’ [item iii) above];

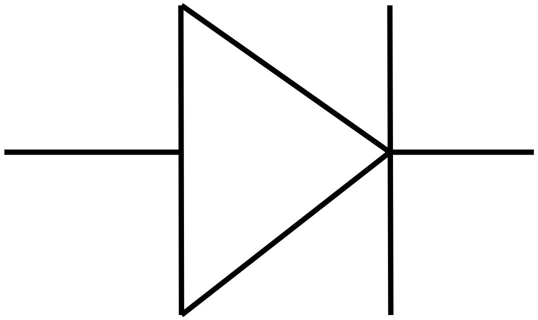
v) smoothing:

- using either a passive or active filter;

vi) monitoring:

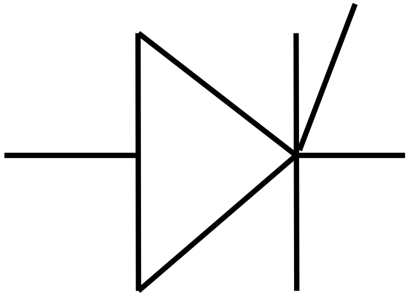
- for feed-back signal for servo-system;
- for monitoring in control room;
- for fault detection.

Switches - diode



- conducts in forward direction only;
- modern power devices can conduct in ~ 1 μs;
- has voltage drop of (< 1 V) when conducting;
- hence, dissipates power whilst conducting;
- ratings up to many 100s A (average), kVs peak reverse volts. volts.

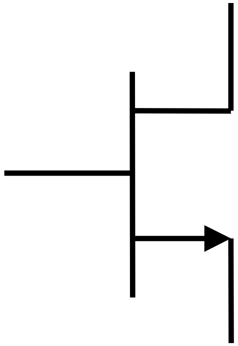
Switches - thyristor



- Withstands forward and reverse volts until until ‘gate’ receives a pulse of current;
- then conducts in the forward direction;
- conducts until current drops to zero and reverses (for short time short time to ‘clear’ carriers);
- after ‘recovery time’, again withstands forward voltage;
- switches on in ~ 5 μs (depends on size) – as forward volts drop, drop, dissipates power as current rises;
- therefore dI/dt limited during early conduction;
- available with many 100s A average, kVs forward and reverse reverse volts.

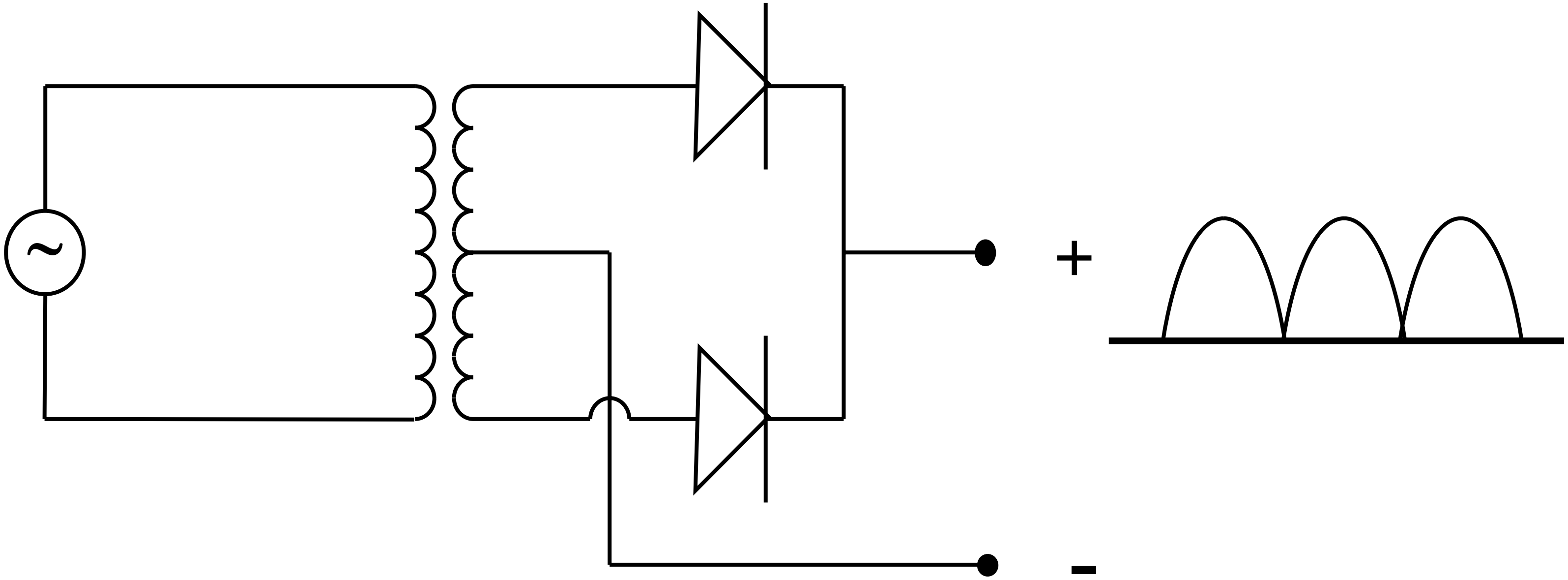
Switches – i.g.b.t. s

The insulated gate bi-polar transistor (i.g.b.t.):



- gate controls conduction, switching the device device on and off;
- far faster than thyrisitor, can operate at 10s 10s kHz;
- is a transistor, so will not take reverse voltage (usually a built-in built-in reverse diode;
- dissipates significant power during switching;
- is available at up to 1 kV forward, 100s A average.

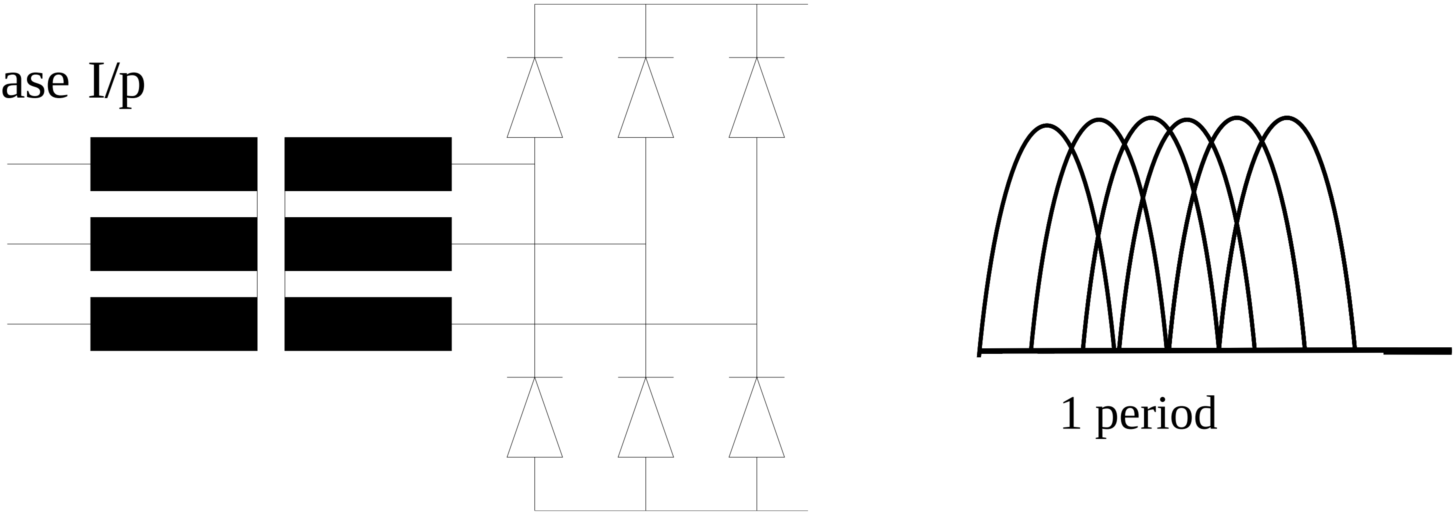
DC – single phase full-wave rectifier



Classical ‘full-wave’ circuit:

- uncontrolled – no amplitude variation;
- large ripple – large capacitor smoothing necessary;
- only suitable for small loads.

DC 3 phase diode rectifier



Rectifier

3 phase I/p

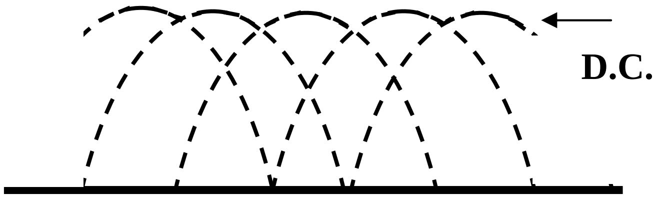
1 period

Three phase, six pulse system:

- no amplitude control;
- much lower ripple (~ 12% 6th harmonic – 300 Hz) but low-low-pass filters still needed.

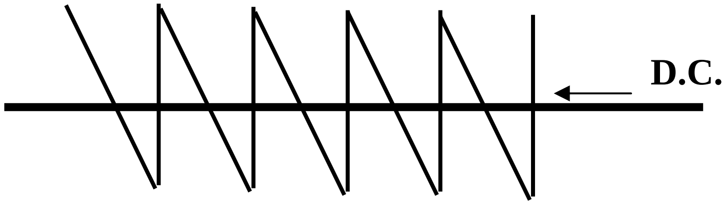
Thyristor phase control

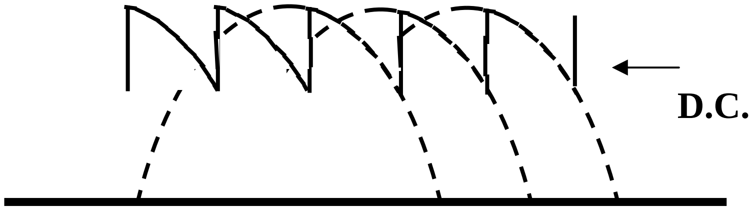
Replace diodes with thyristors - amplitude of the d.c. is controlled by retarding the conduction phase:



Full conduction – like diode

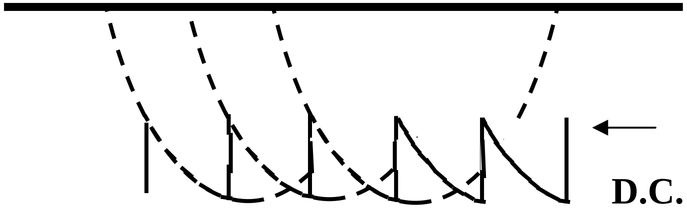
Zero output



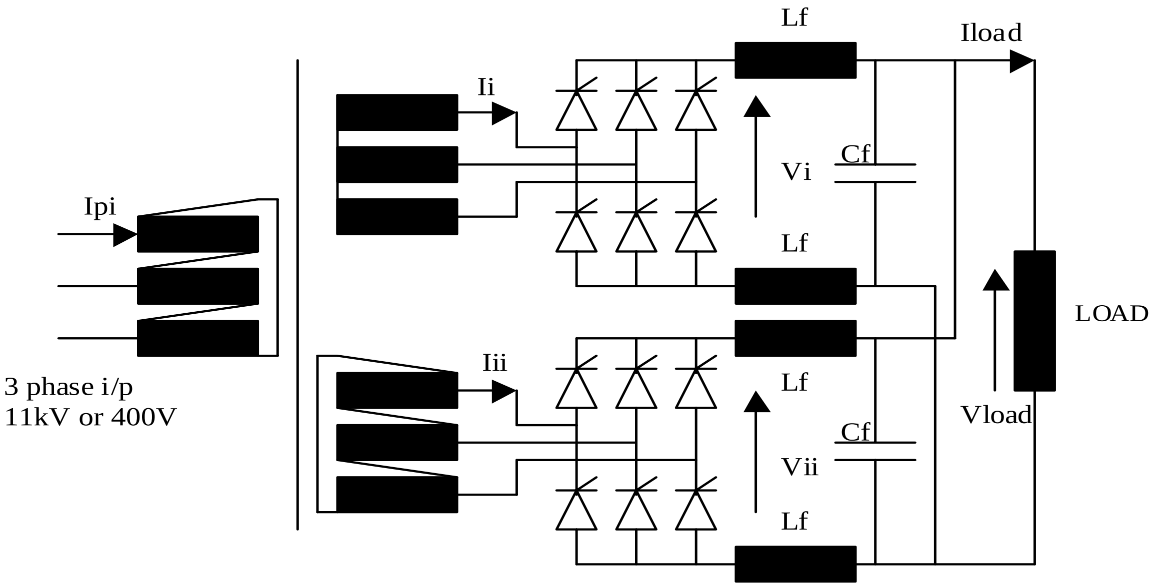


Half conduction

negative output – ‘inversion’ (but current must still be positive).



Full 12 pulse phase controlled circuit.



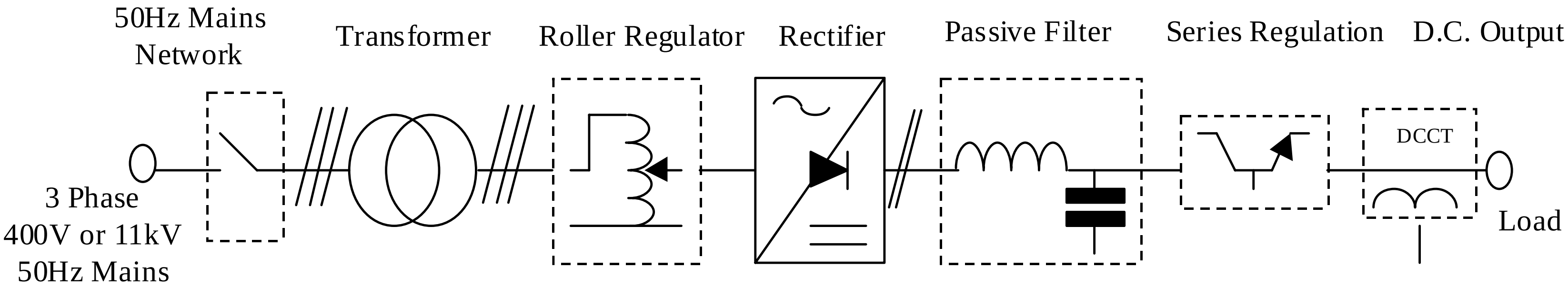
- like all thyristor rectifiers, is ‘line commutated’;
- produces 600 Hz ripple (~ 6%)
- but smoothing filters still needed.

The thyristor rectifier.

The ‘standard’ circuit until recently:

- gave good precision (better than 1:10^3);
- inversion protects circuit and load during faults;
- has bad power factor with large phase angles (V and I out of out of phase in ac supply) ;
- injected harmonic contamination into load **and** 50 Hz a.c. a.c. distribution system at large phase angles.

Example of other (obsolete) systems.

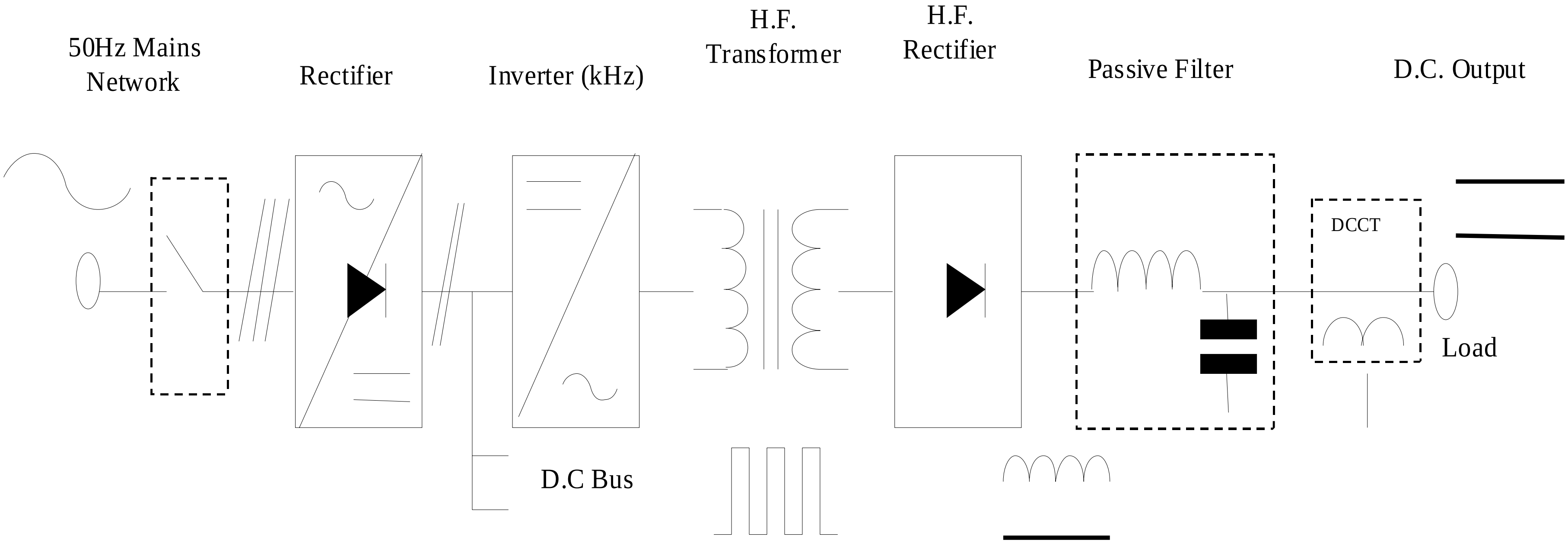


This circuit uses:

- a variable transformer for changing level (very slow);
- diode rectification;
- a series regulator for precision (class A transistors !);
- good power factor and low harmonic injection into supply and load.

Modern ‘switch-mode’ system.

The i.g.b.t. allows a new, revolutionary system to be be used: the **‘switch-mode’** power supply:



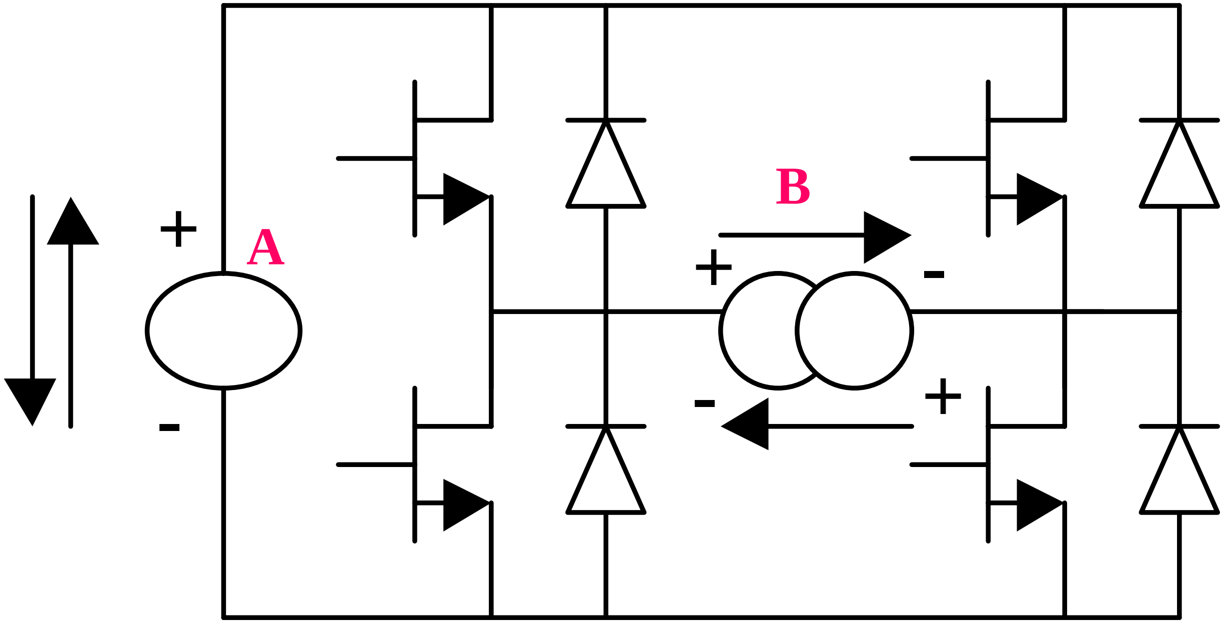
Mode of operation

Stages of power conversion:

- incoming a.c. is rectified with diodes to give ‘raw’ d.c.;
- the d.c. is ‘chopped’ at high frequency (> 10 kHz) by an inverter using i.g.b.t.s;
- a.c. is transformed to required level (transformer is much much smaller, cheaper at high frequency);
- transformed a.c. is rectified – diodes;
- filtered (filter is much smaller at 10 kHz);
- regulation is by feed-back to the inverter (much faster, therefore greater stability);
- response and protection is very fast.

Inverter

The inverter is the heart of the switch-mode supply:



The i.g.b.t. s provide full switching flexibility – switching on or off according to external control protocols.

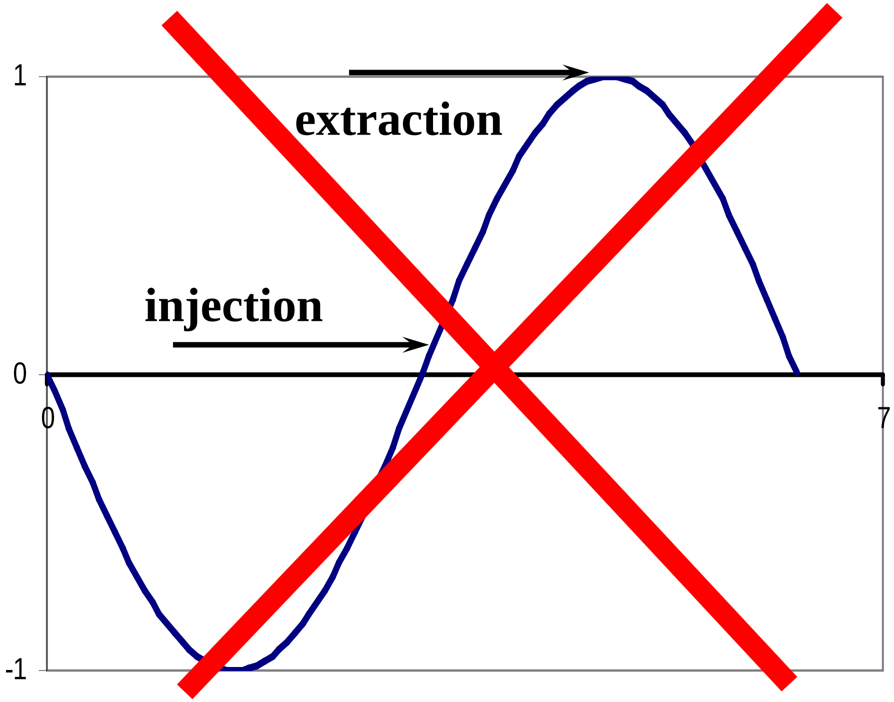
Point A: direct voltage source; current can be bidirectional (eg, inductive load, capacitative source).

Point B: voltage square wave, bidirectional current.

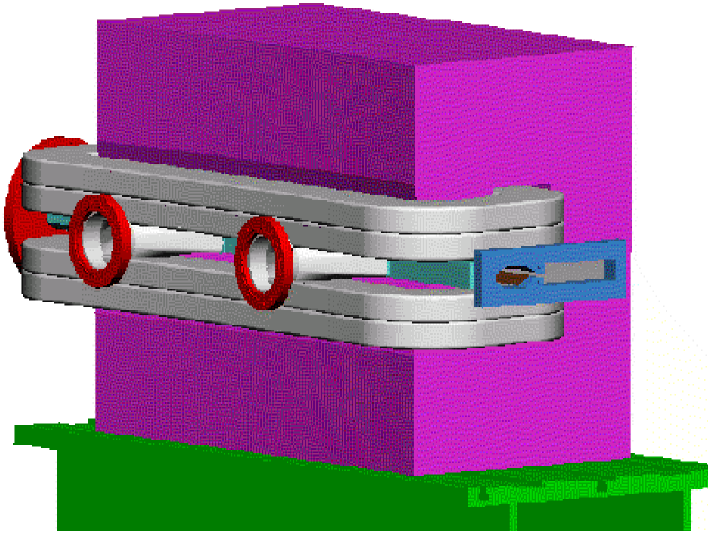
Cycling converters (use a.c. ?)

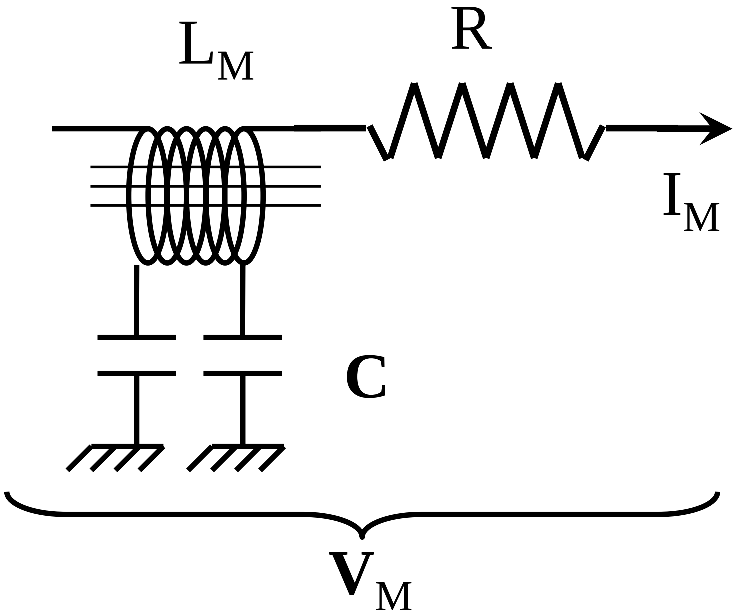
The required magnetic field (magnet current) is unidirectional – unidirectional –acceleration low to high energy: - so ‘normal’ a.c. ‘normal’ a.c. is inappropriate:

- only ¼ cycle used;
- excess rms current;
- high a.c. losses;
- high gradient at injection.



Nature of the Magnet Load





Magnet current:	I_M;
Magnet voltage:	V_M
Series inductance:	L_M;
Series resistance:	R;
Distributed capacitance to earth	C.

‘Reactive’ Power and Energy

voltage: $V_M = R\,I_M + L\,(d\,I_M/dt);$

‘power’: $V_M\,I_M = R\,(I_M)^2 + L\,I_M(d\,I_M/dt);$

stored energy: $E_M = \tfrac{1}{2}\,L_M\,(I_M)^2;$

$d\,E_M/dt = L\,(I_M)\,(d\,I_M/dt);$

so $V_M\,I_M = R\,(I_M)^2 + d\,E_M/dt;$

resistive power loss;

reactive’ power – alternates between +ve and –ve as field rises and falls;

The challenge of the cyclic power converter is to provide and control the positive and negative flow of energy - energy storage is required.

Waveform criteria – eddy currents.

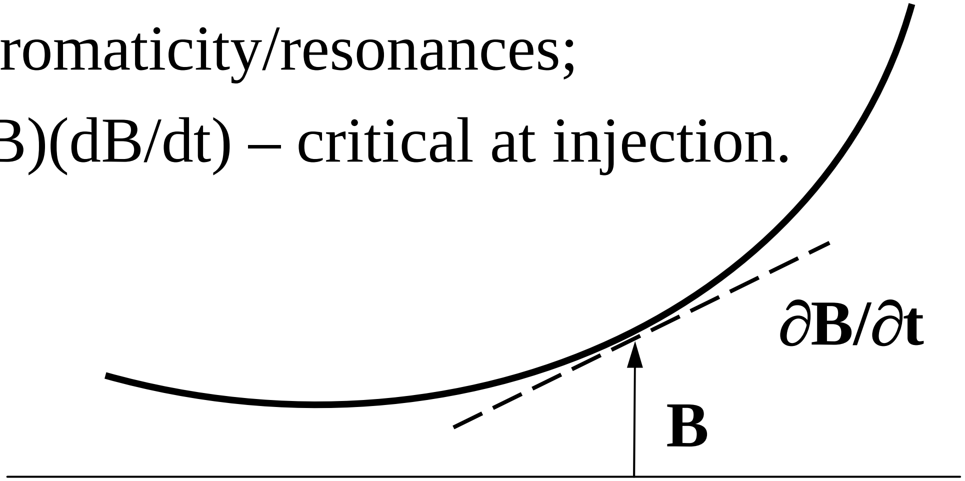
Generated by alternating magnetic field cutting a conducting surface:

eddy current in vac. vessel & magnet; $\propto \partial B/\partial t$;

eddy currents produce:

- negative dipole field - reduces main field magnitude;
- sextupole field – affects chromaticity/resonances;

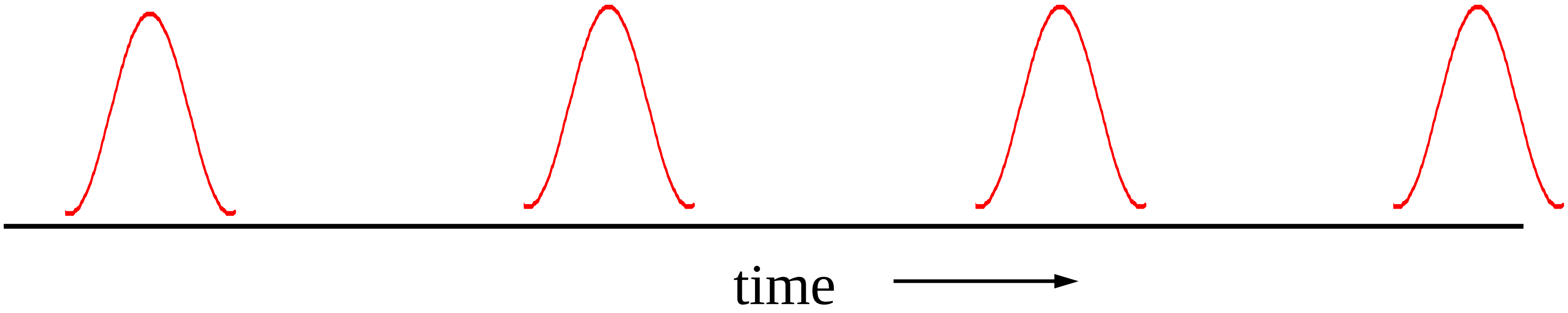
eddy effects proportional (1/B)(dB/dt) – critical at injection.
injection.



Waveform criteria – discontinuous operation operation

Circulating beam in a storage ring slowly decay with time – very inconvenient for experimental users.

Solution – **‘top up mode’** operation by the booster synchrotron – beam is only accelerated and injected once every n booster cycles, to maintain constant current in the main ring.



Fast and slow cycling accelerators.

‘**Slow cycling**’:

- repetition rate 0.1 to 1 Hz (typically 0.3 Hz);
- large proton accelerators;

‘**Fast cycling**’:

- repetition rate 10 to 50 Hz;
- combined function electron accelerators (1950s and 60s) 60s) and high current medium energy proton accelerators; accelerators;

‘**Medium cycling**’:

- repetition rate 01 to 5 Hz;
- separated function electron accelerators;

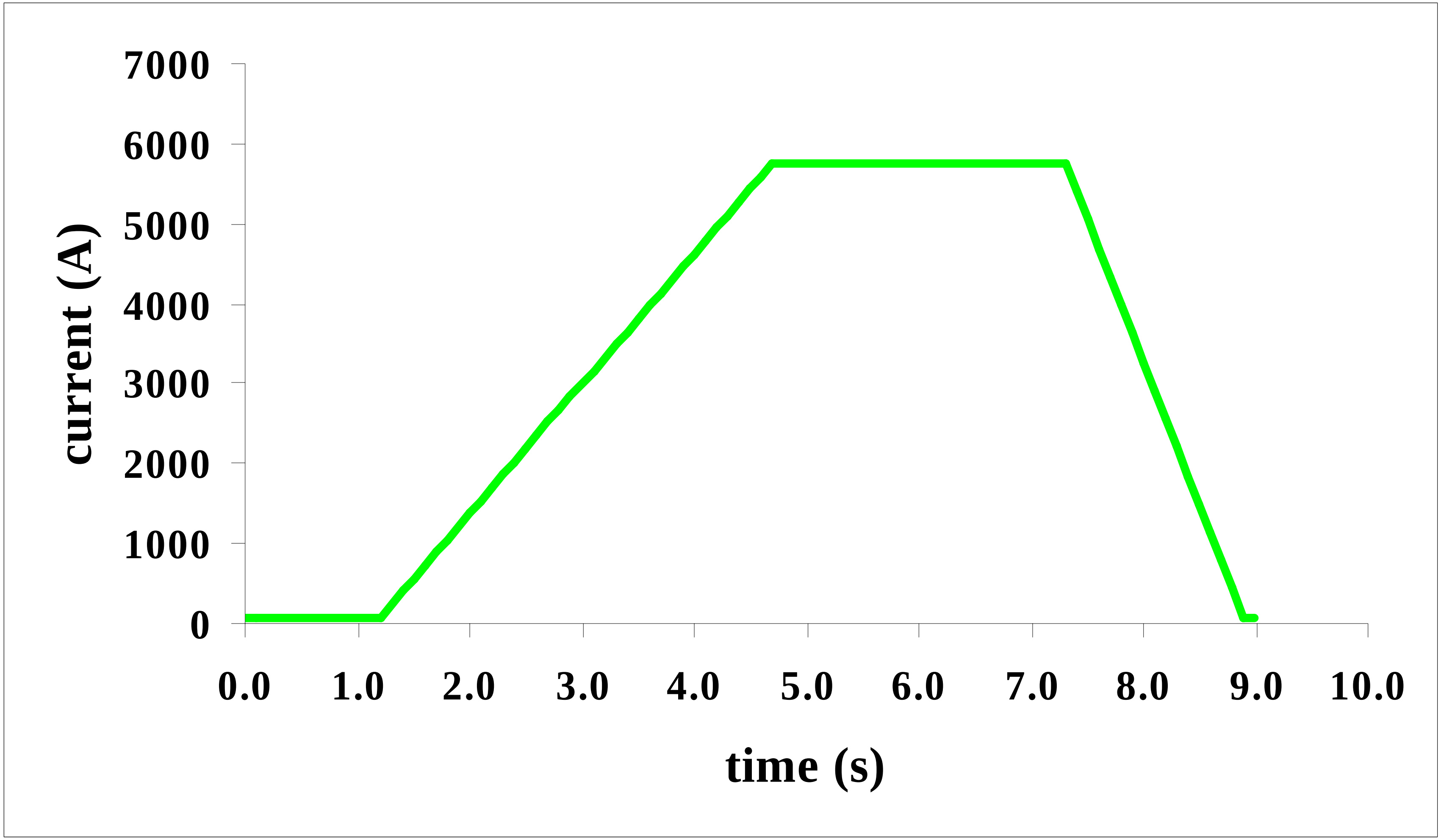
Example 1 – the CERN SPS

A slow cycling synchrotron.

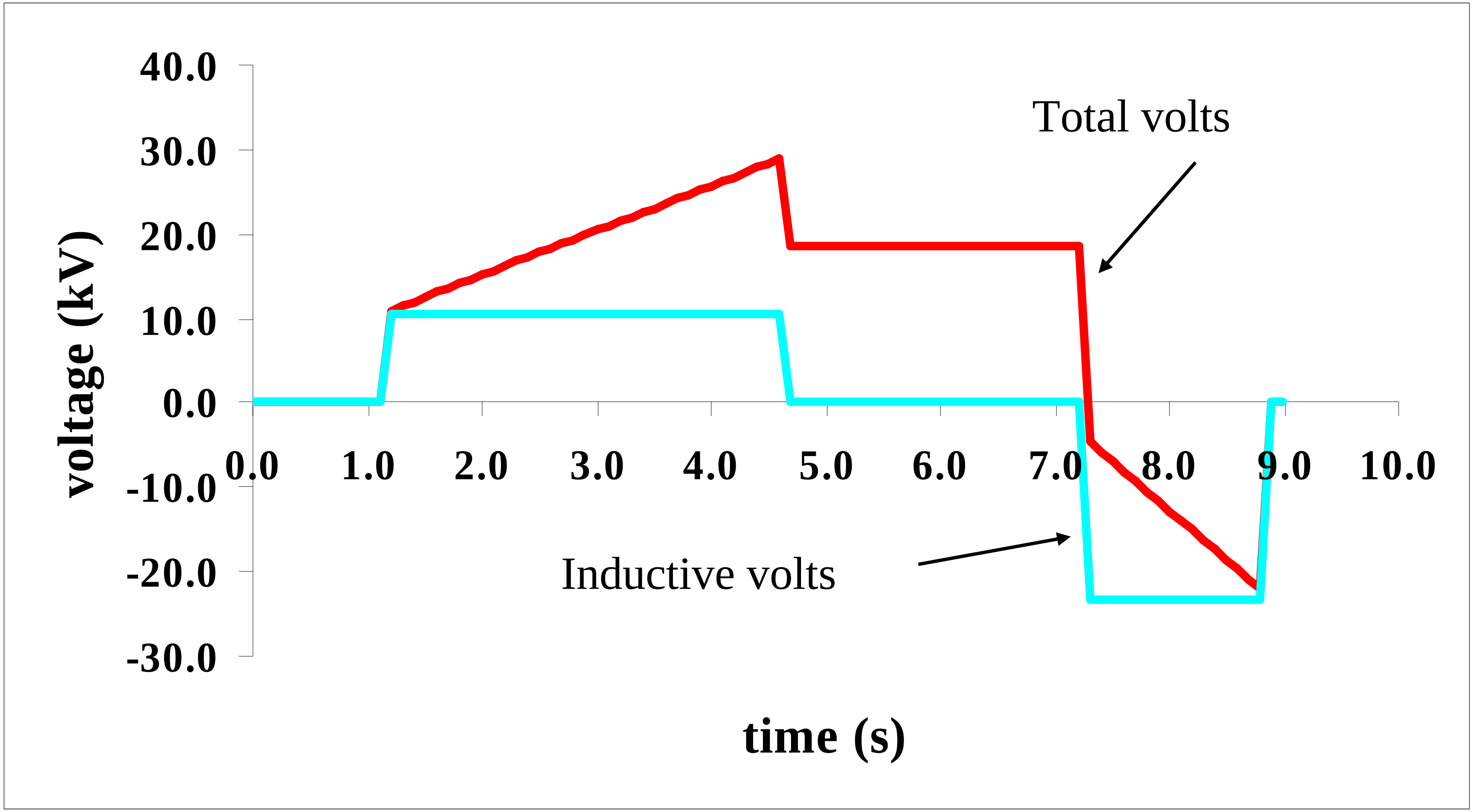
Dipole power supply parameters (744 magnets):

• peak proton energy	450	GeV;
• cycle time (fixed target)	8.94	secs;
• peak current	5.75	kA;
• peak dI/dt	1.9	kA/s;
• magnet resistance	3.25	Ω;
• magnet inductance	6.6	H;
• magnet stored energy	109	MJ;

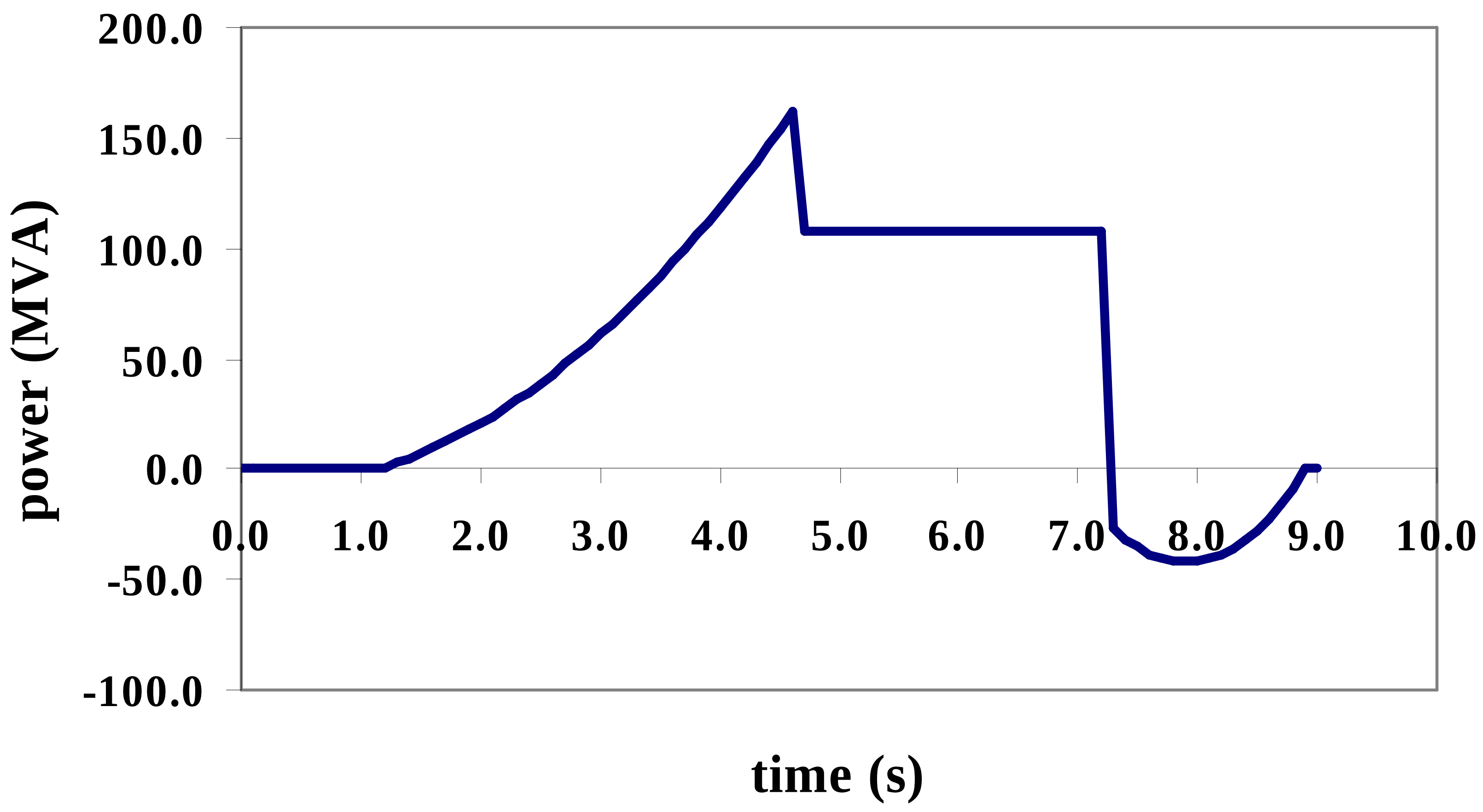
SPS Current waveform



SPS Voltage waveforms



SPS Magnet Power



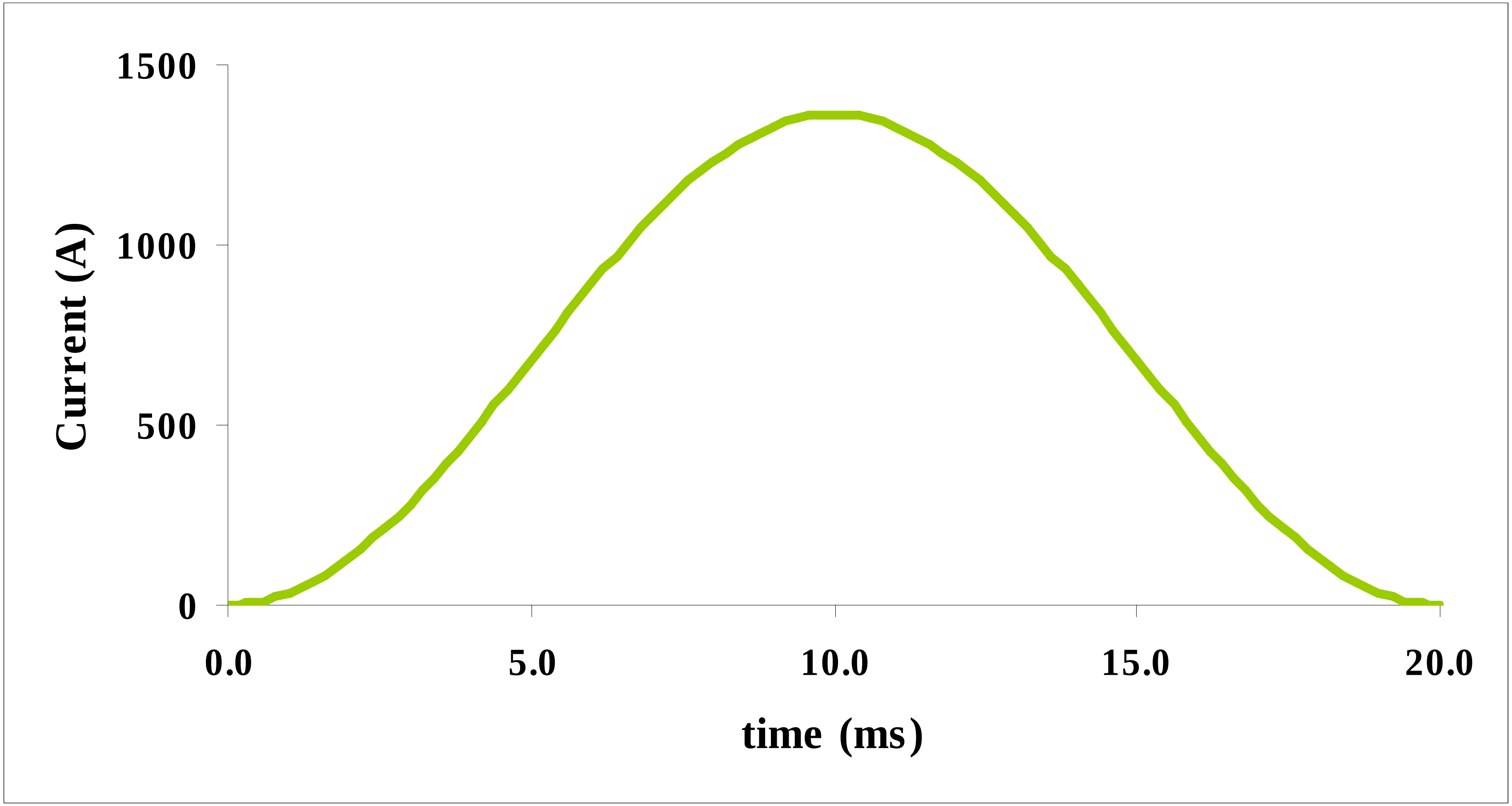
Example 2 – NINA (D.L.)

A fast cycling synchrotron

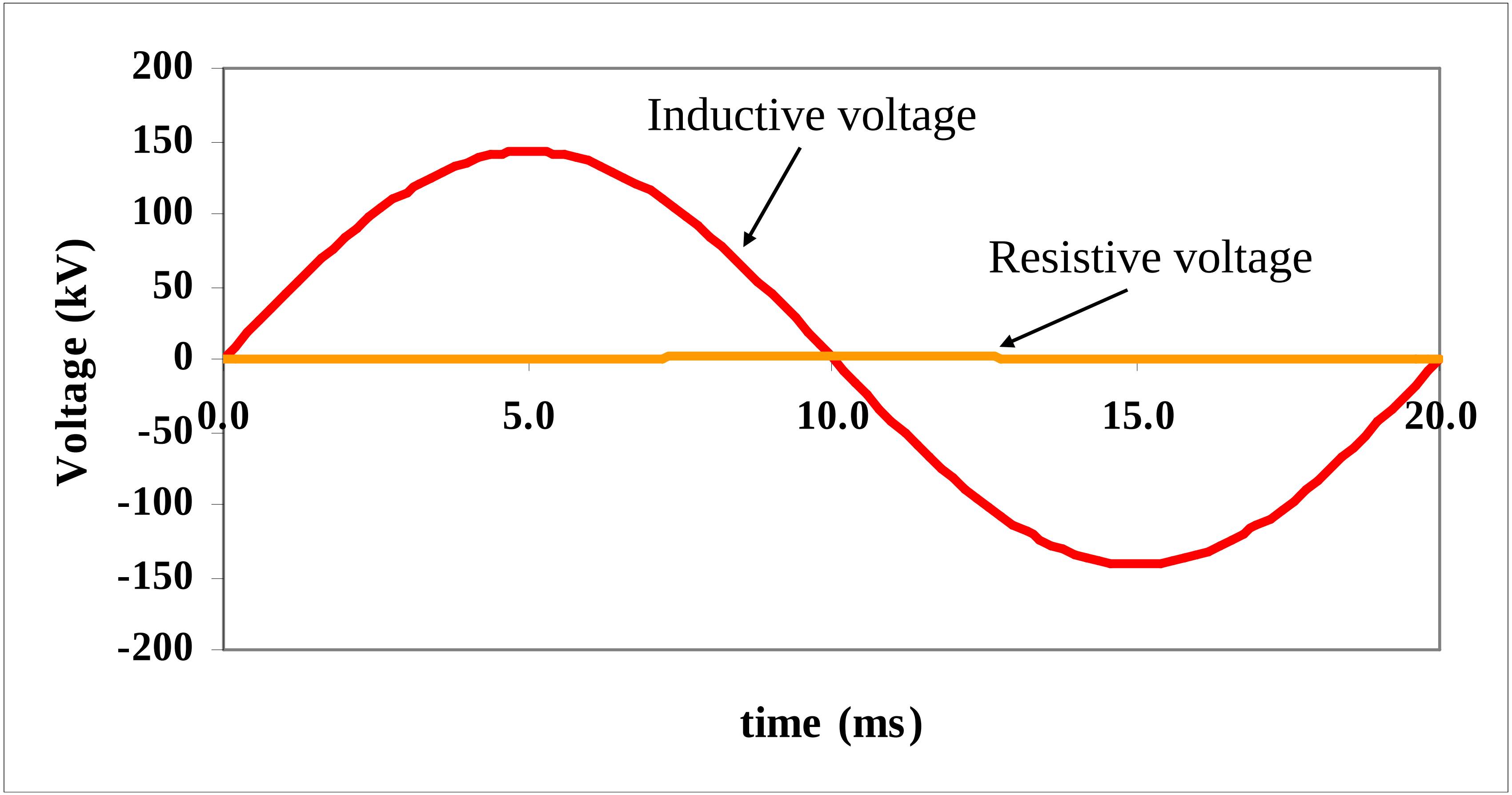
magnet power supply parameters;

peak electron energy	5.0	GeV;
cycle time	20	msecs;
cycle frequency	50	Hz
peak current	1362	A;
magnet resistance	900	mΩ;
magnet inductance	654	mH;
magnet stored energy	606	kJ;

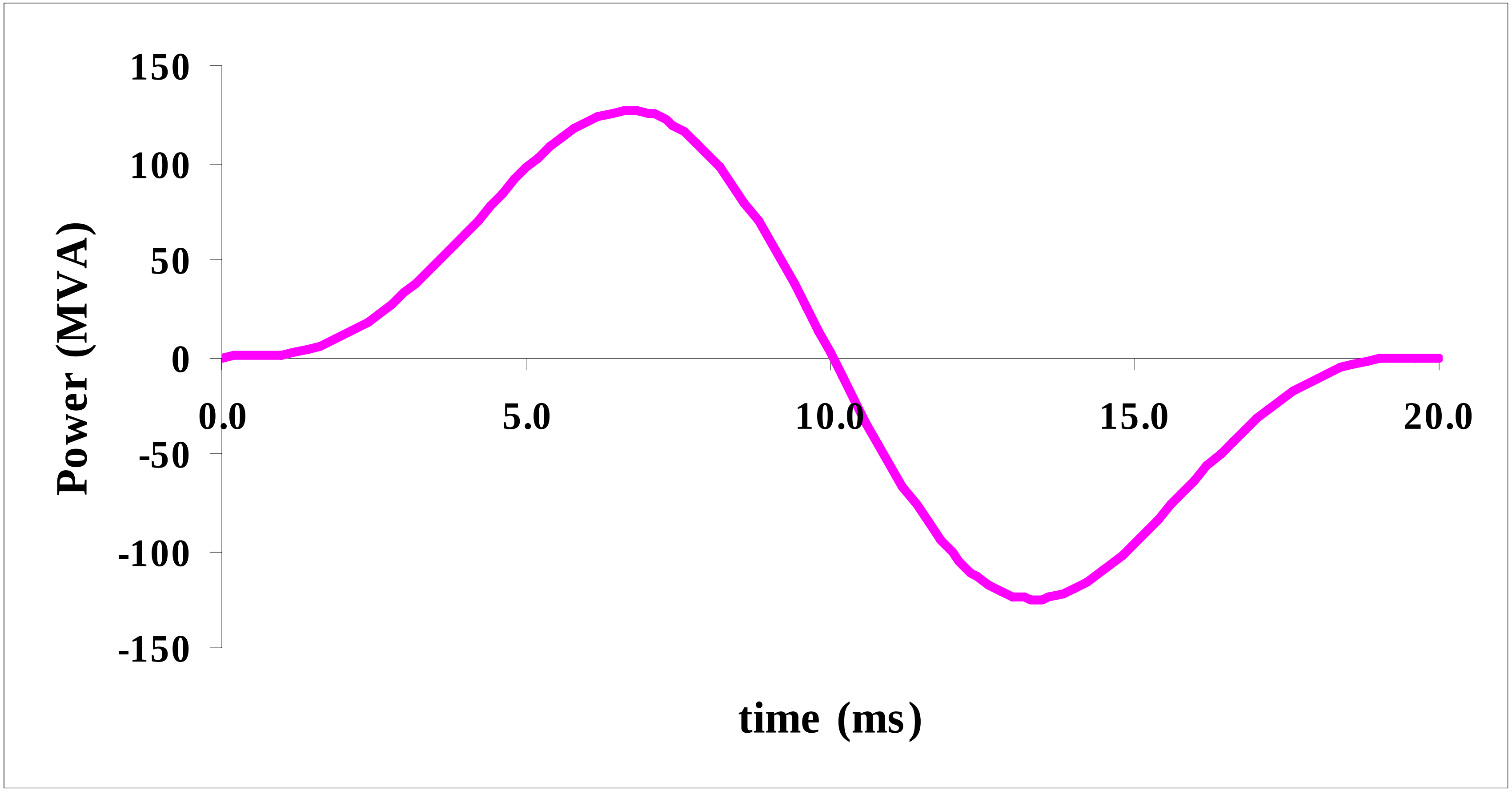
NINA Current waveform



NINA Voltage waveform



NINA Power waveform

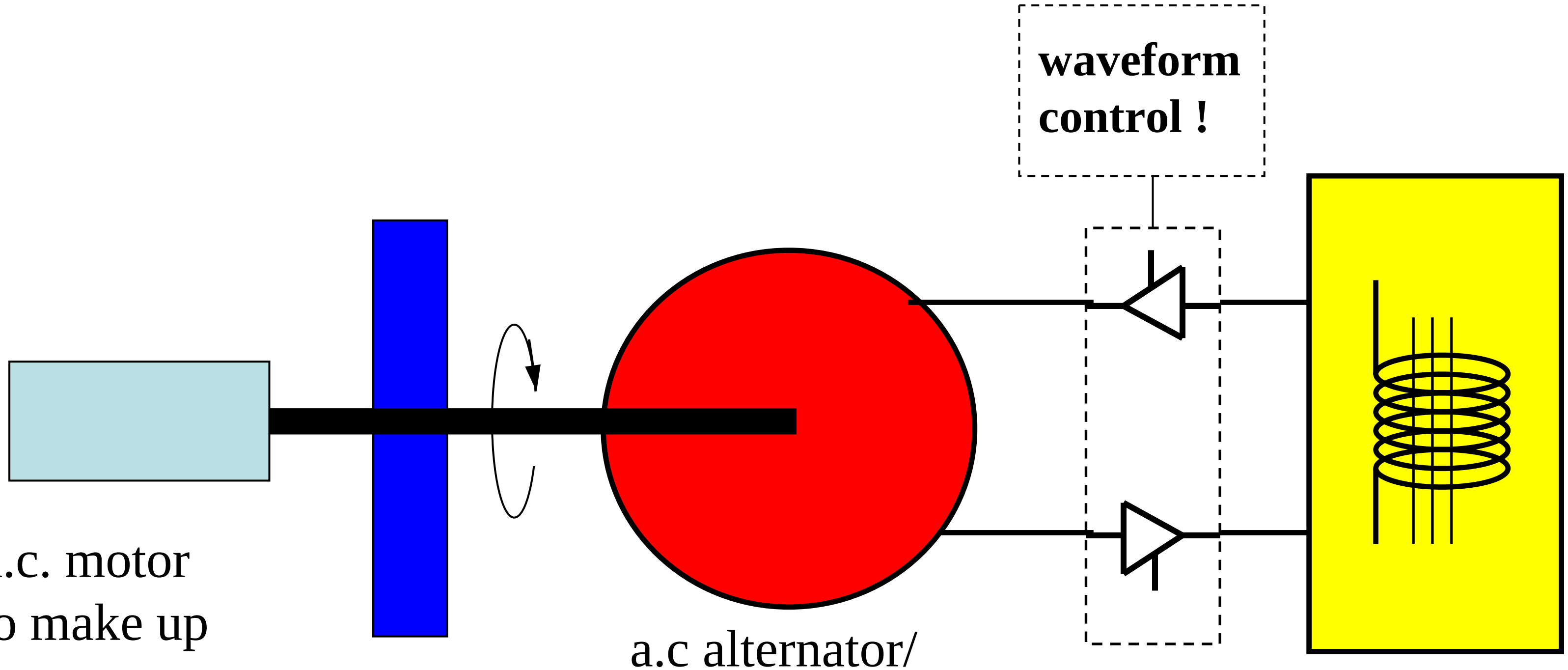


Cycling converter requirements

A power converter system needs to provide:

- a unidirectional alternating waveform;
- accurate control of waveform amplitude;
- accurate control of waveform timing;
- storage of magnetic energy during low field;
- if possible, **waveform control**;
- if needed (and possible) discontinuous operation operation for ‘top up mode’.

‘Slow Cycling’ Mechanical Storage



waveform control !

d.c. motor to make up losses

high inertia fly-wheel to store energy

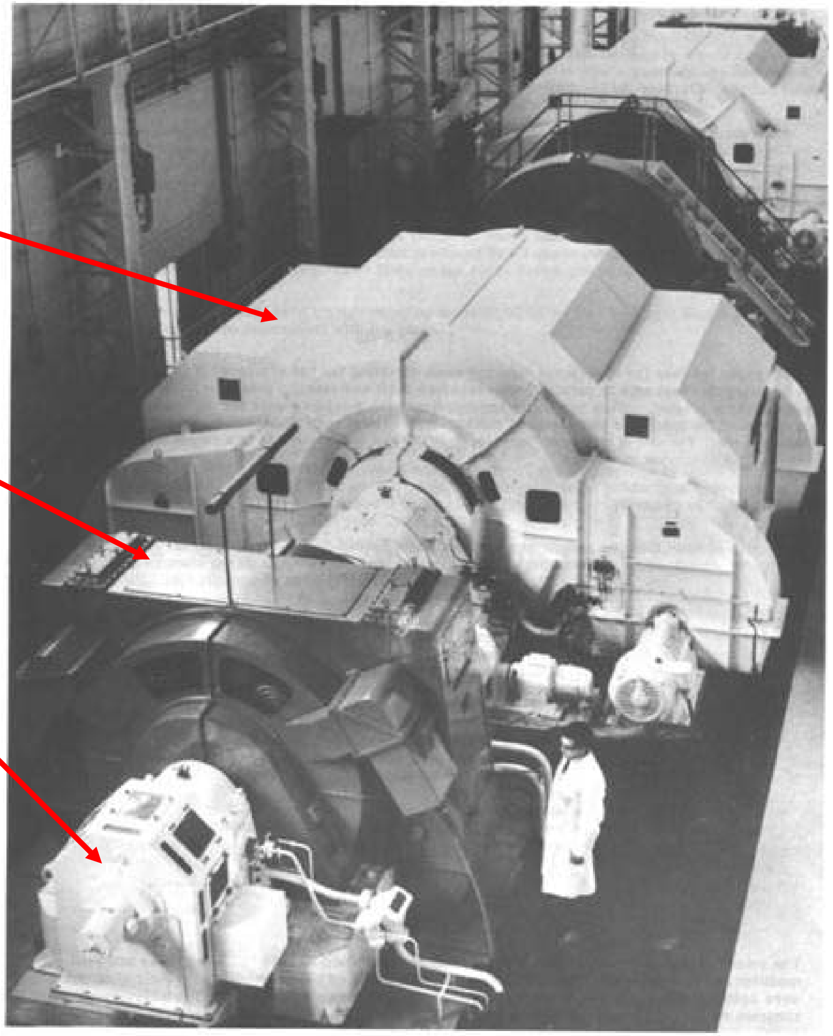
a.c alternator/ synchronous motor

rectifier/ inverter

magnet

Examples: all large proton accelerators built in 1950/60s.

‘Nimrod’



The alternator,

fly-wheel

and d.c. motor

of the 7 GeV weak-focusing synchrotron, NIMROD

‘Slow cycling’ direct connection to supply network network

National supply networks have large stored (inductive) energy; given the correct interface, this this can be utilised to provide and receive back the the reactive power of a large accelerator.

Compliance with supply authority regulations must must minimise:

- voltage ripple at feeder;
- phase disturbances;
- frequency fluctuations over the network.

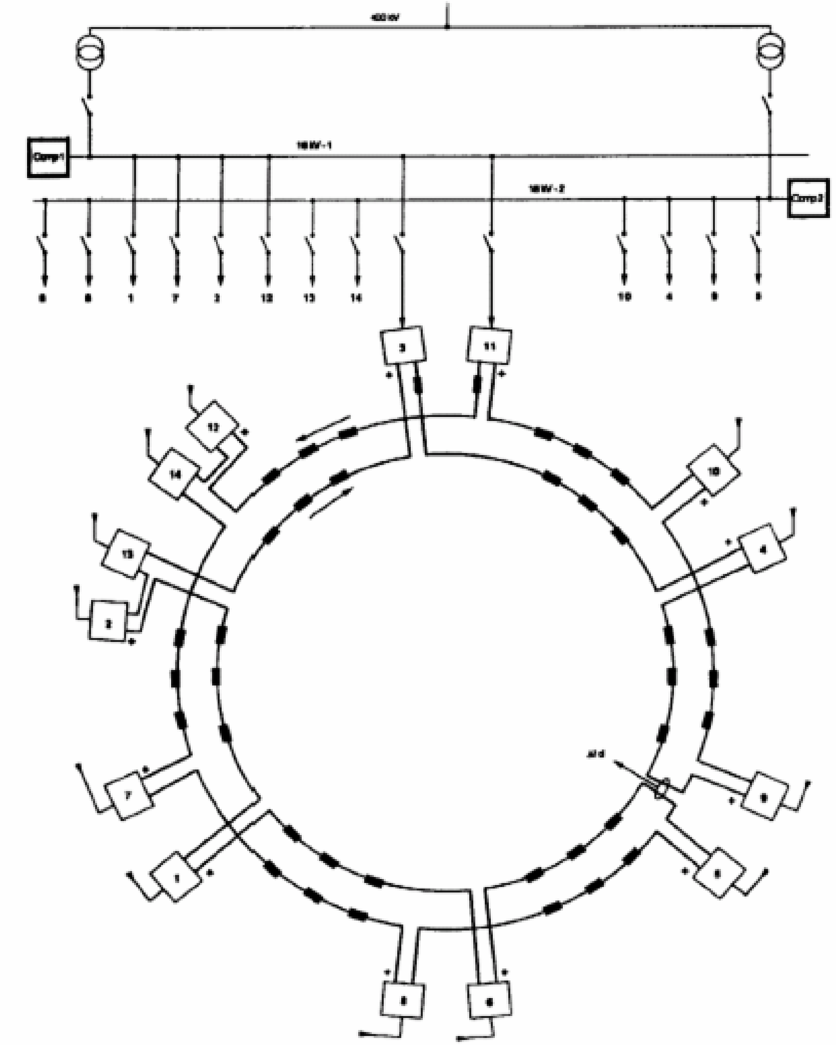
A ‘rigid’ high voltage line in is necessary.

Example - Dipole supply for the SPS

14 converter modules (each 2 sets of 12 pulse phase controlled thyristor rectifiers) supply the ring dipoles in series; waveform control!

Each module is connected to its own 18 kV feeder, which are directly fed from the 400 kV French network.

Saturable reactor/capacitor parallel circuits limit voltage fluctuations.



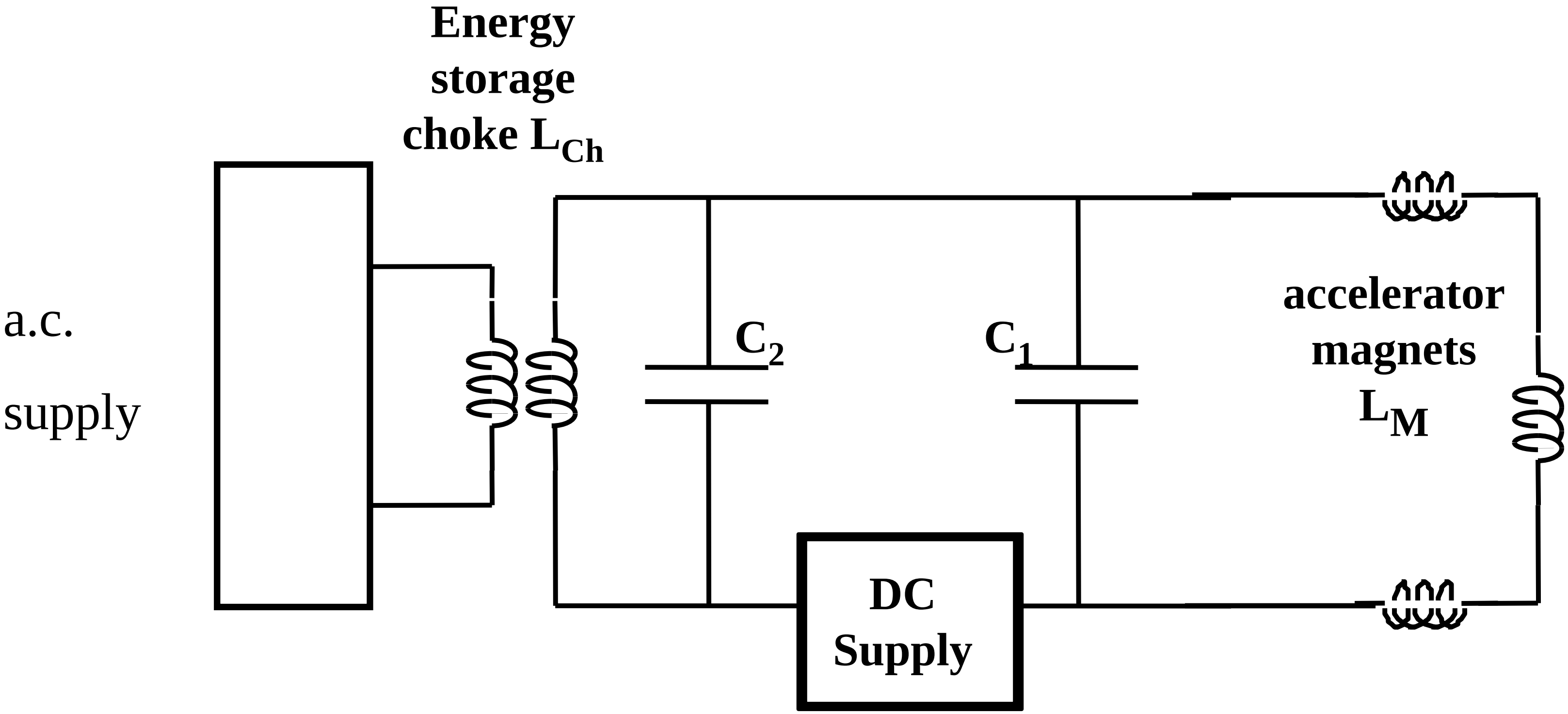
Medium & fast cycling inductive storage.

Fast and medium cycling accelerators (mainly electron synchrotrons) developed in 1960/70s used used inductive energy storage:

inductive storage was roughly half the cost per kJ of kJ of capacitative storage.

The ‘standard circuit’ was developed at Princeton-Pen Princeton-Pen accelerator – the ‘White Circuit’.

White Circuit – single cell.



Examples: Boosters for ESRF, SRS; (medium to fast cycling 'small' synchrotrons).

White circuit (cont.)

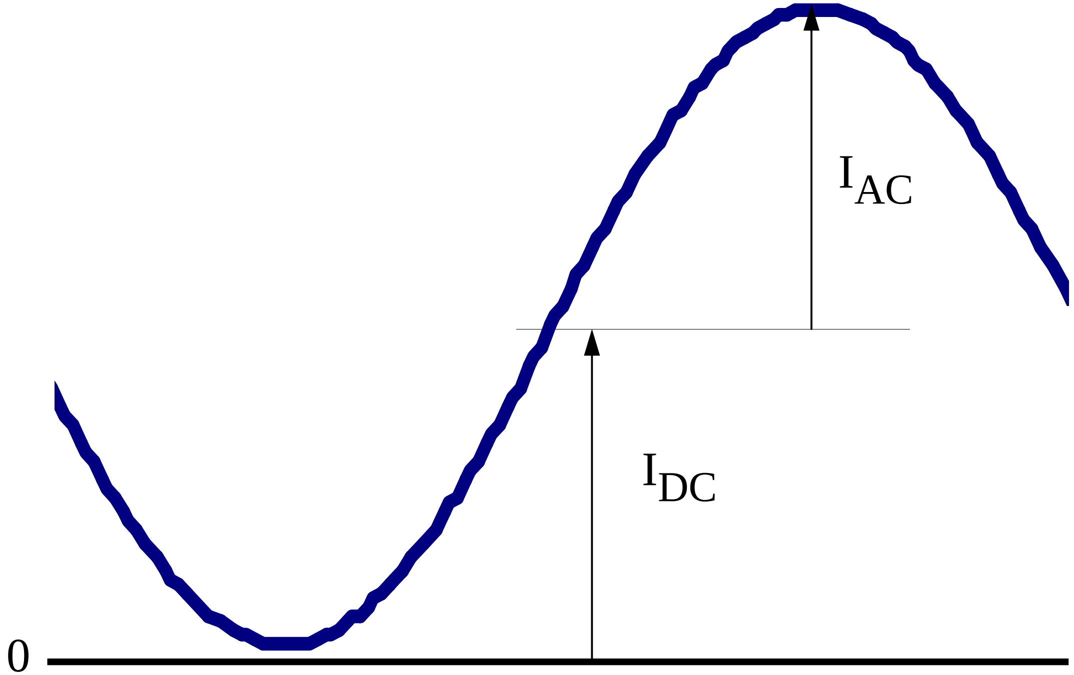
Single cell circuit:

- magnets are all in series (L_M);
- circuit oscillation frequency ω;
- C_1 resonates magnet in parallel: $C_1 = \omega^2/L_M$;
- C_2 resonates energy storage choke:$C_2 = \omega^2/L_{Ch}$;
- energy storage choke has a primary winding <u>closely coupled</u> to the main winding;
- only small ac present in d.c. source;
- no d.c. present in a.c source;
- <u>**NO WAVEFORM CONTROL.**</u>

White Circuit magnet waveform

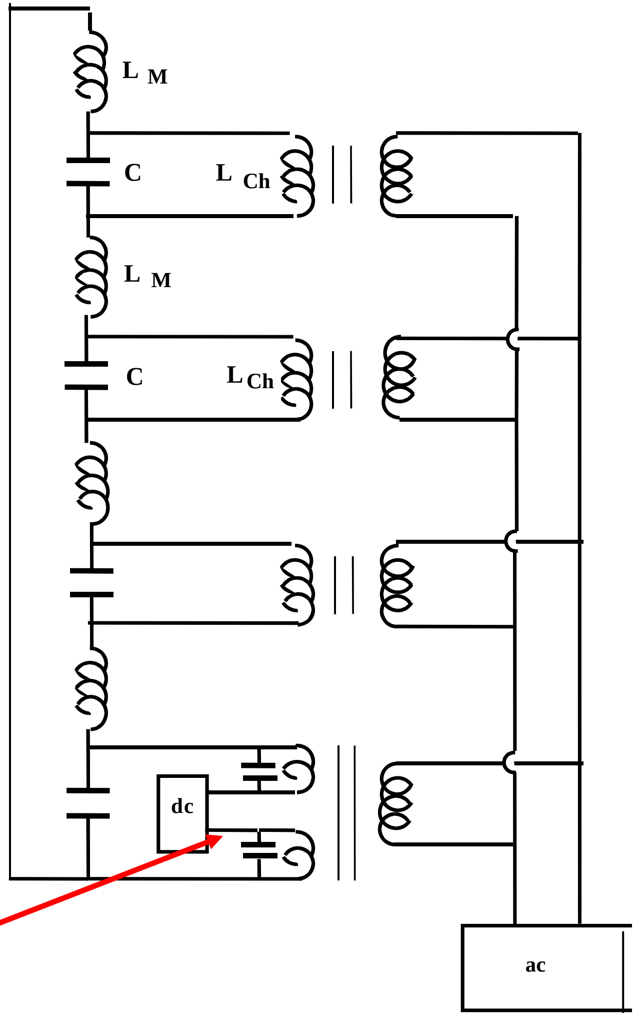
Magnet current is biased sin wave – amplitude of I_{AC} I_{AC} and I_{DC} independently controlled.

Usually fully biased,
so $I_{DC} \sim I_{AC}$



Multi-cell White Circuit (NINA, DESY & others)

For high voltage circuits, the magnets are segmented into a number of separate groups.



earth point

Multi-cell White circuit (cont.)

Benefits for an ‘n’ section circuit

- magnets are still in series for current continuity;
- voltage across each section is only 1/n of total;
- maximum voltage to earth is only 1/2n of total;
- choke has to be split into n sections;
- d.c. is at centre of one split section (earth point);
- a.c. is connected through a paralleled primary;
- the paralleled primary **must** be close coupled to secondary to secondary to balance voltages in the circuit;
- **still NO waveform control.**

Modern Capacitative Storage

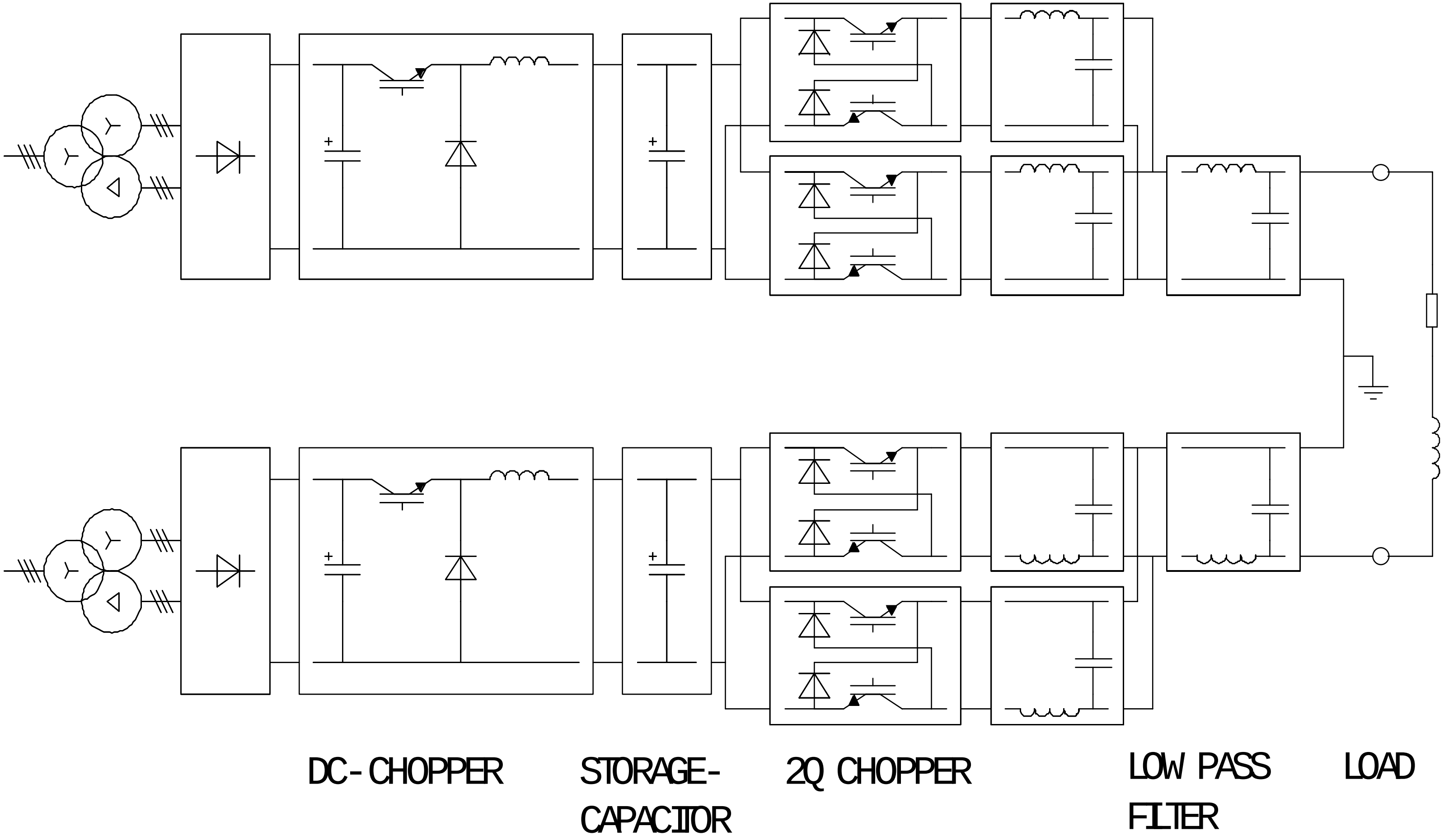
Technical and economic developments in electrolytic capacitors capacitors manufacture now result in capacitiative storage being being lower cost than inductive energy storage (providing voltage reversal is not needed).

Also semi-conductor technology now allows the use of fully fully controlled devices (i.g.b.t. s) giving waveform control at control at medium current and voltages.

Medium sized synchrotrons with cycling times of 1 to 5 Hz can Hz can now take advantage of these developments for cheaper cheaper and dynamically controllable power magnet converters converters –

WAVEFORM CONTROL!

Example: Swiss Light Source Booster dipole circuit. circuit.



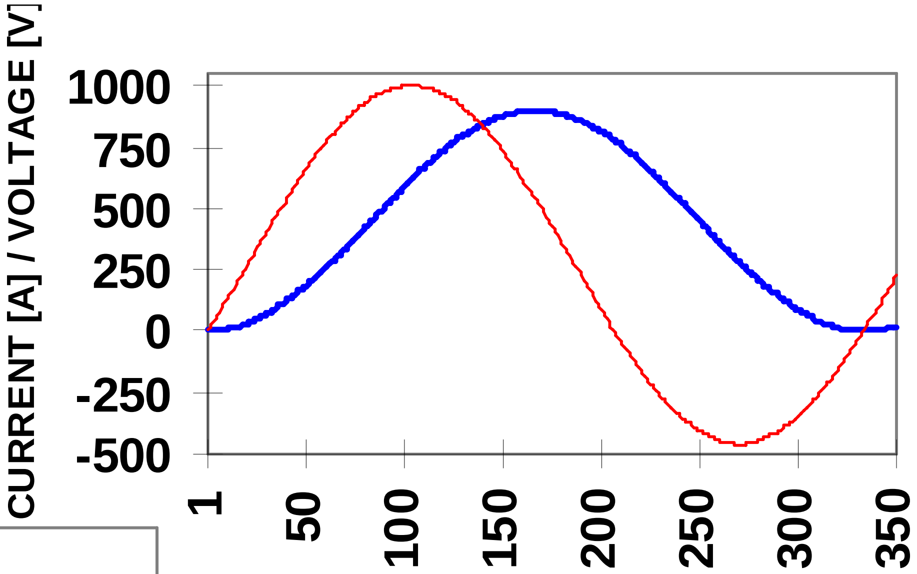
acknowledgment :Irminger, Horvat, Jenni, Boksberger, SLS

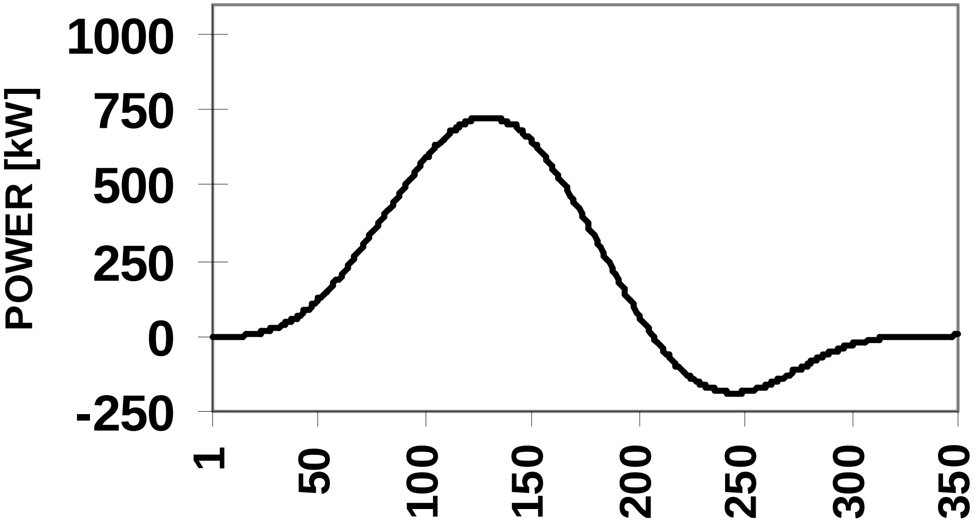
SLS Booster parameters

Combined function dipoles	48 BD 45 BF	
Resistance	600	mΩ
Inductance	80	mH
Max current	950	A
Stored energy	28	kJ
Cycling frequency	3	Hz

acknowledgment :Irminger, Horvat, Jenni, Boksberger, SLS

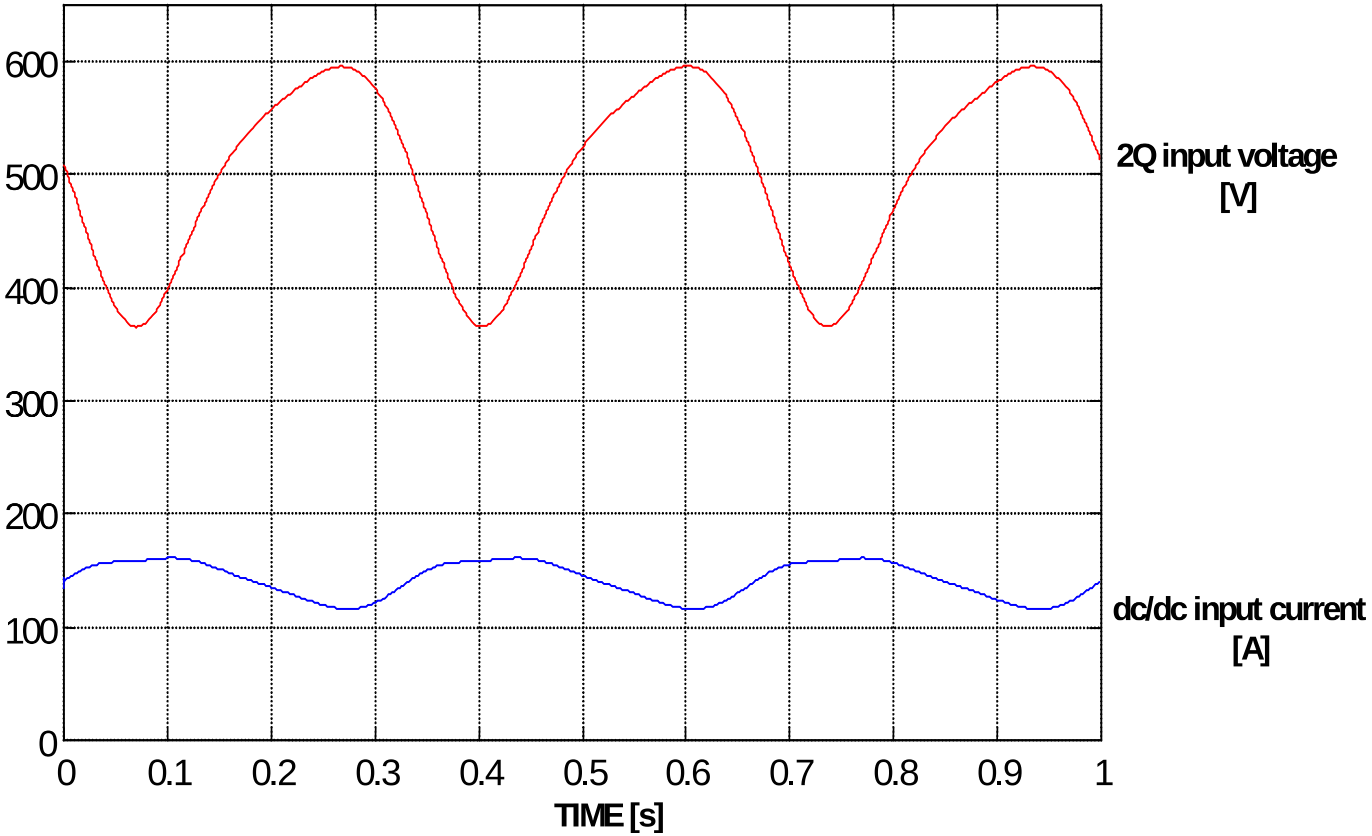
SLS Booster Waveforms





SLS Booster Waveforms

The storage capacitor only discharges a fraction of its stored stored energy during each acceleration cycle:



Assessment of switch-mode circuit

Comparison with the White Circuit:

- the s.m.circuit does not need a costly energy storage storage choke with increased power losses;
- within limits of rated current and voltage, the s.m.c. s.m.c. provides flexibility of output waveform;
- after switch on, the s.m.c. requires less than one second to stabilise (valuable in ‘top up mode’).

However:

- the current and voltages possible in switched circuits circuits are restricted by component ratings.

Diamond Booster parameters for SLS type circuit

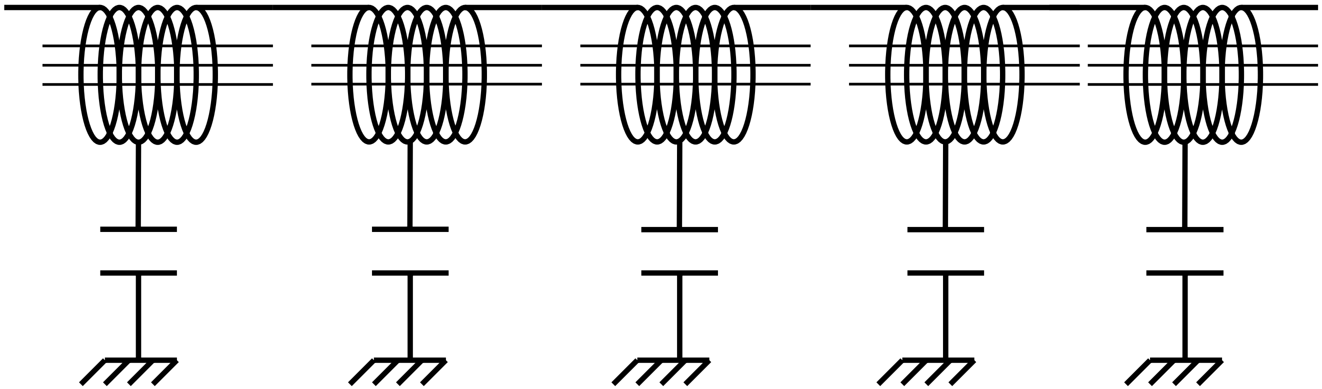
Parameter	low turns	high turns	
Number of turns per dipole:	16	20	
Peak current:	1271	1016	A
Total RMS current (for fully biased sine-wave):	778	622	A
Conductor cross section:	195	156	mm^2
Total ohmic loss:	188	188	kW
Inductance all dipoles in series:	0.091	0.142	H
Peak stored energy all dipoles:	73.3	73.3	kJ
Cycling frequency:	5	5	Hz
Peak reactive alternating volts across circuit:	1.81	2.26	kV

Note: the higher operating frequency; the 16 or 20 turn options were considered to adjust to the current/voltage ratings available from capacitors and semi-conductors; the low turns option was chosen and is now being constructed.

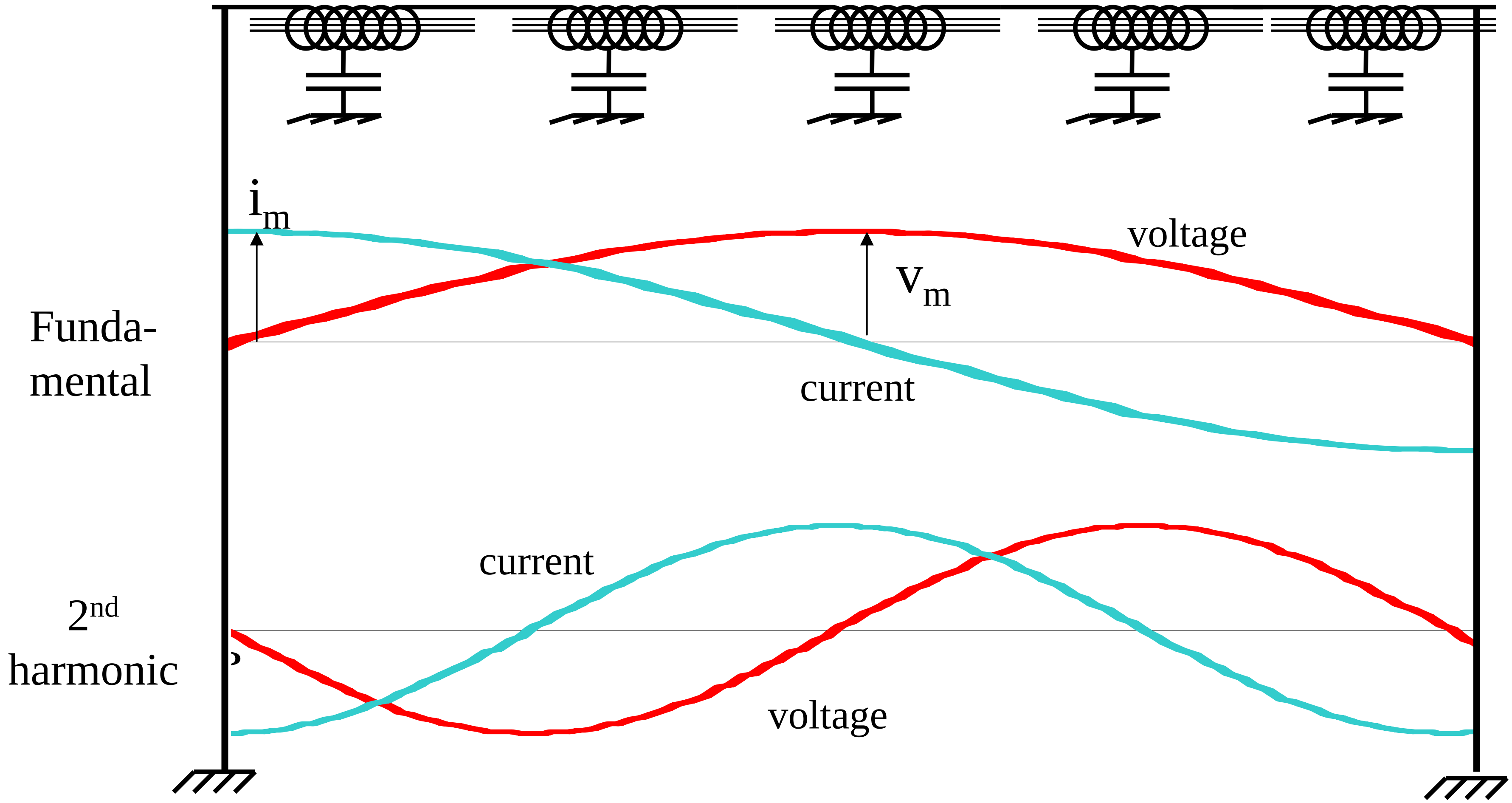
Delay-line mode of resonance

Most often seen in cycling circuits (high field disturbances produce disturbance at next injection); but can be present in any in any system.

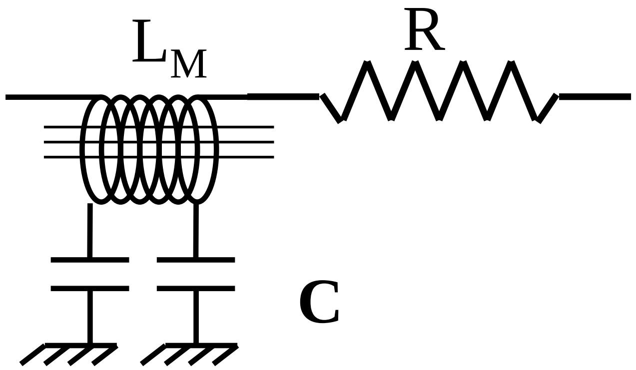
Stray capacitance to earth makes the inductive magnet string a string a delay line. Travelling and standing waves (current and and voltage) on the series magnet string: **different current in in dipoles at different positions!**



Standing waves on magnets series



Delay-line mode equations



L_M is total magnet inductance;

C is total stray capacitance;

Then:

surge impedance:

$$Z = v_m/i_m = \sqrt{(L_M/C)};$$

transmission time:

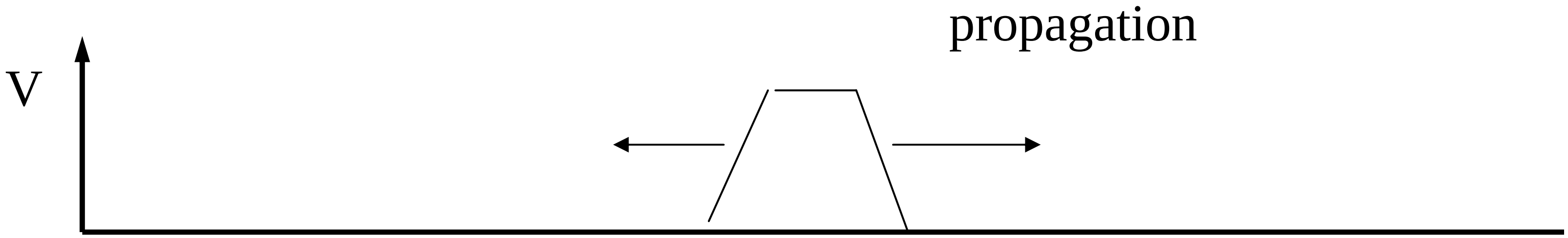
$$\tau = \sqrt{(L_M C)};$$

fundamental frequency:

$$\omega_1 = 1/\{ 2 \sqrt{(L_M C)} \}$$

Excitation of d.l.m.r.

The mode will only be excited if rapid voltage-to-earth earth excursions are induced locally at high energy in energy in the magnet chain (‘beam-bumps’); the next next injection is then compromised:



- keep stray capacitance as low as possible;
- avoid local disturbances in magnet ring;
- solutions (damping loops) are possible.