

# Design Methods and Tools for Power Electronics

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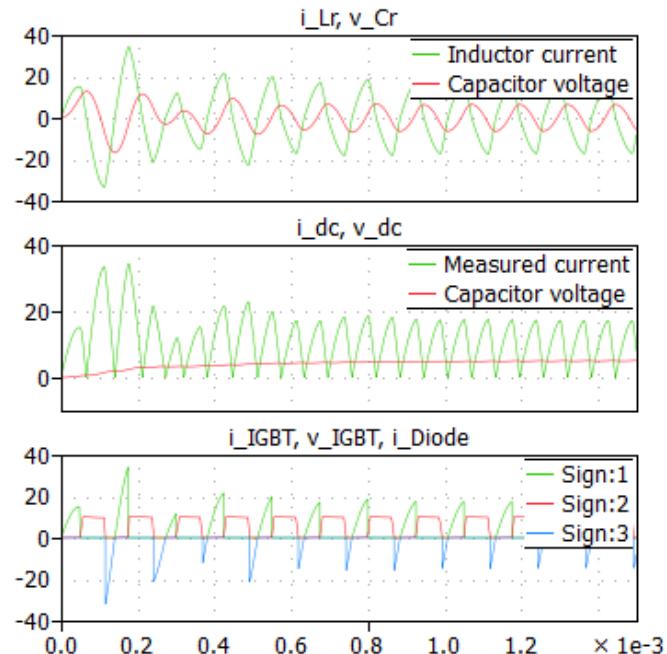
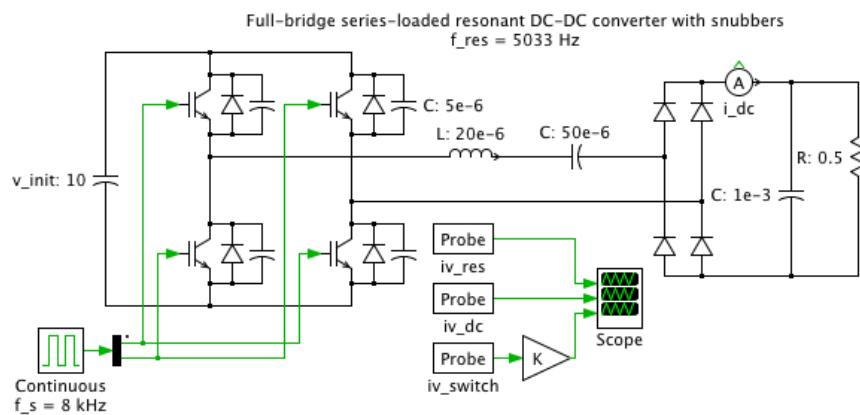
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# Outline of the presentation

- Simulation vs Design
- Semi Analytic Design
- Designing with objects and optimization

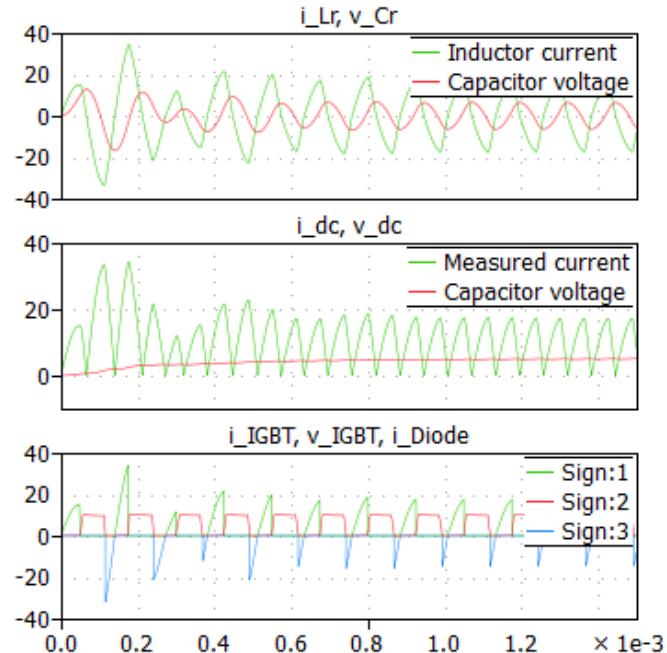
# **SIMULATION VS DESIGN**

# Standard simulation tools



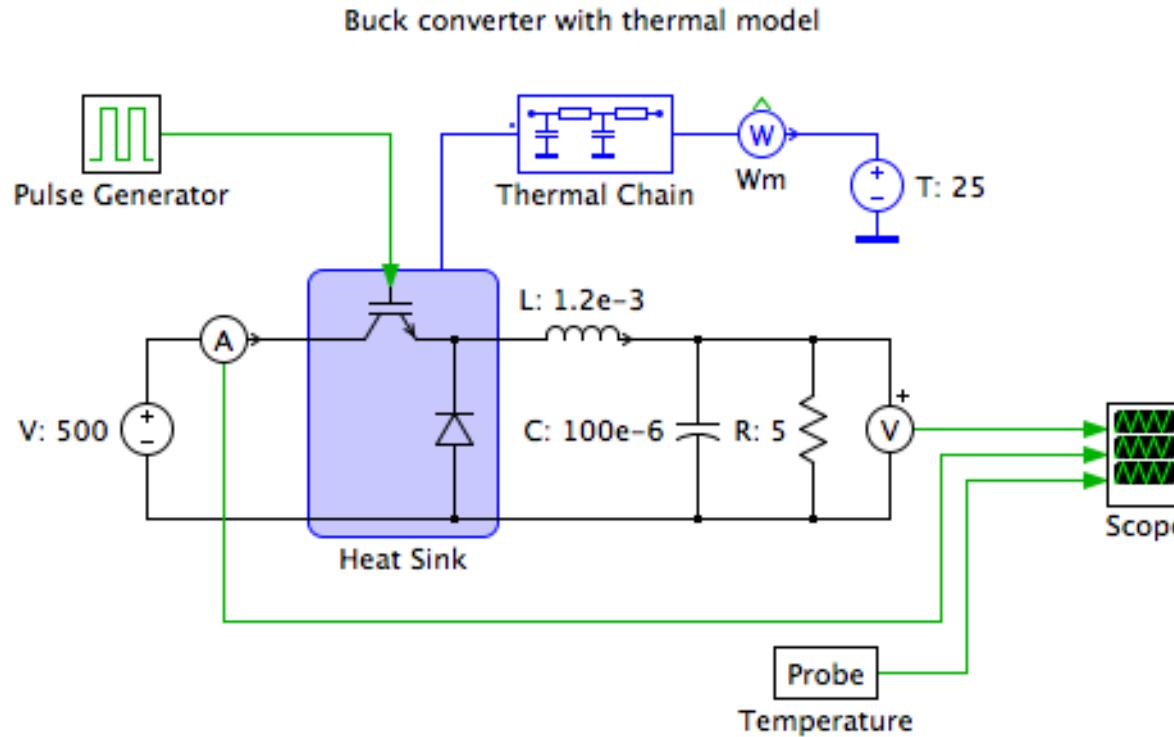
Simulation is an injection :  
one circuit gives a single set of waveforms.

# Design tools



Design is NOT an injection :  
there can be an infinity of solution for a given set of specifications  
(and sometimes NO solution!...)

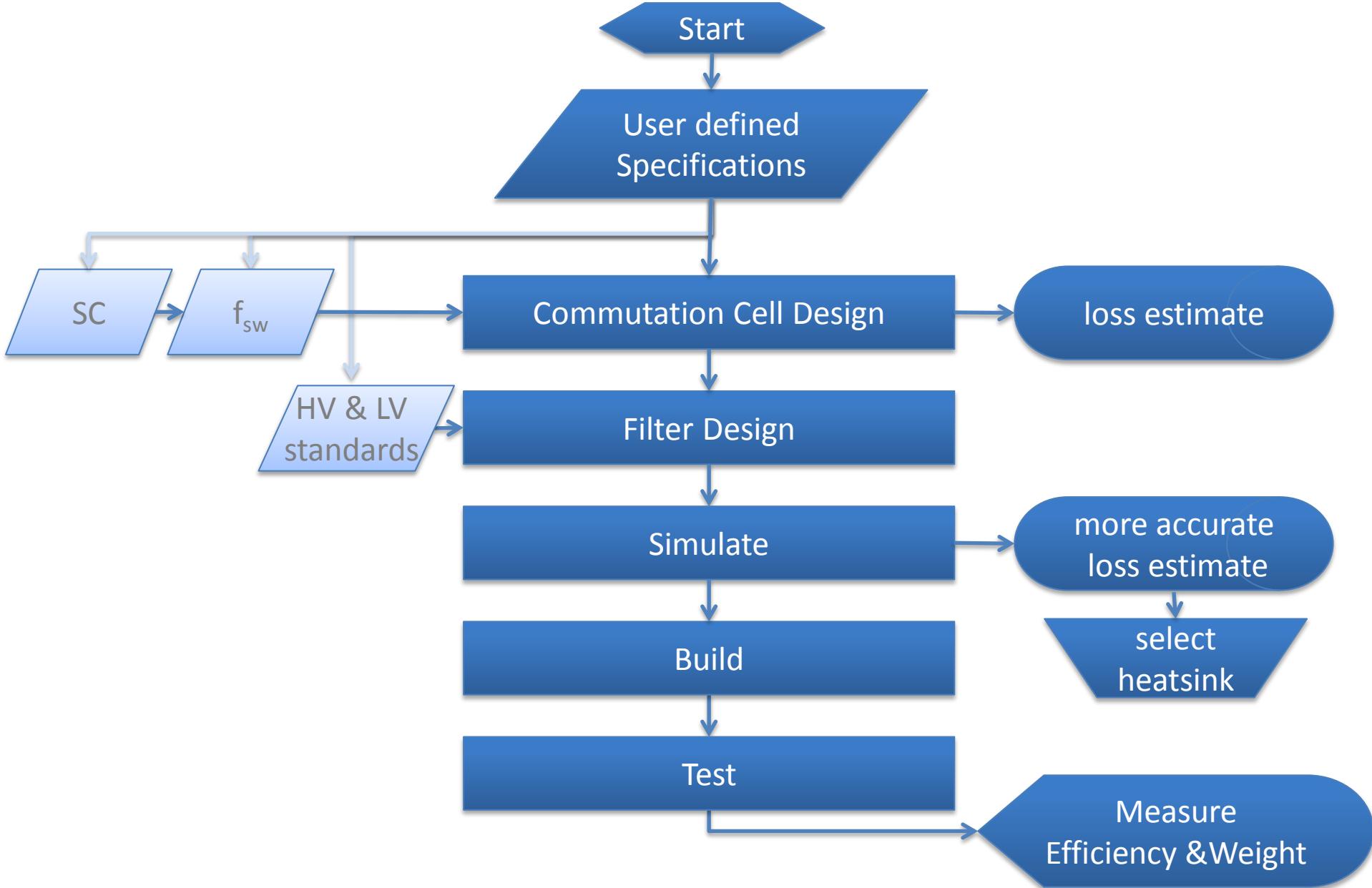
# Hidden quantities in standard simulation tools



Which of the components in this circuit is the biggest? => L? C? the heatsink?  
Which of the components in this circuit is the most expensive?  
If L is halved and C doubled to get the same voltage ripple, will the filter be smaller?  
Or less expensive?

# **SEMI ANALYTIC DESIGN**

# A standard design process



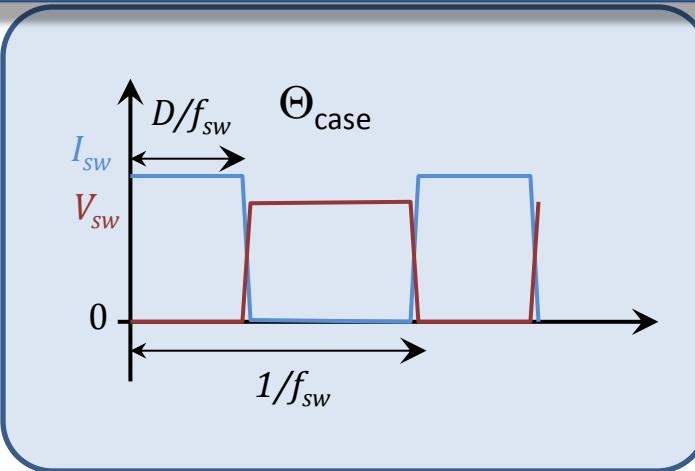
# **COMMUTATION CELL DESIGN**

# *Find the MacroSwitch with the best efficiency*

## *Rules of the game*

- a) Define a global switch requirement (Voltage current, Frequency, Duty Cycle, Case Temperature,..)
- b) Evaluate the limit of operation of a switch to determine how many must be connected in series and parallel to fulfill requirements
- c) Evaluate losses and other characteristics of the design
- d) Repeat a) to c) for each component and compare results and make a choice

## 1-Define MacroSwitch requirements



## 2-Find number of series connected switches

*Voltage to be switched*

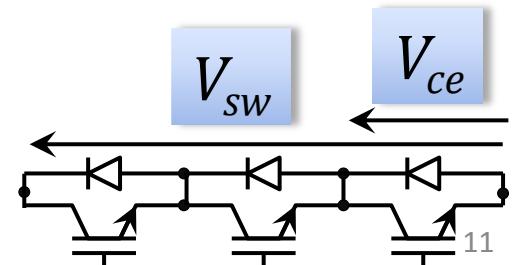
+

*Maximum collector-emitter voltage in switching mode*



*Number of series connected switches*

$$n_{Series} = \text{int}\left(\frac{V_{SW}}{V_{\text{margin}} \cdot V_{CE\max}}\right) + 1$$

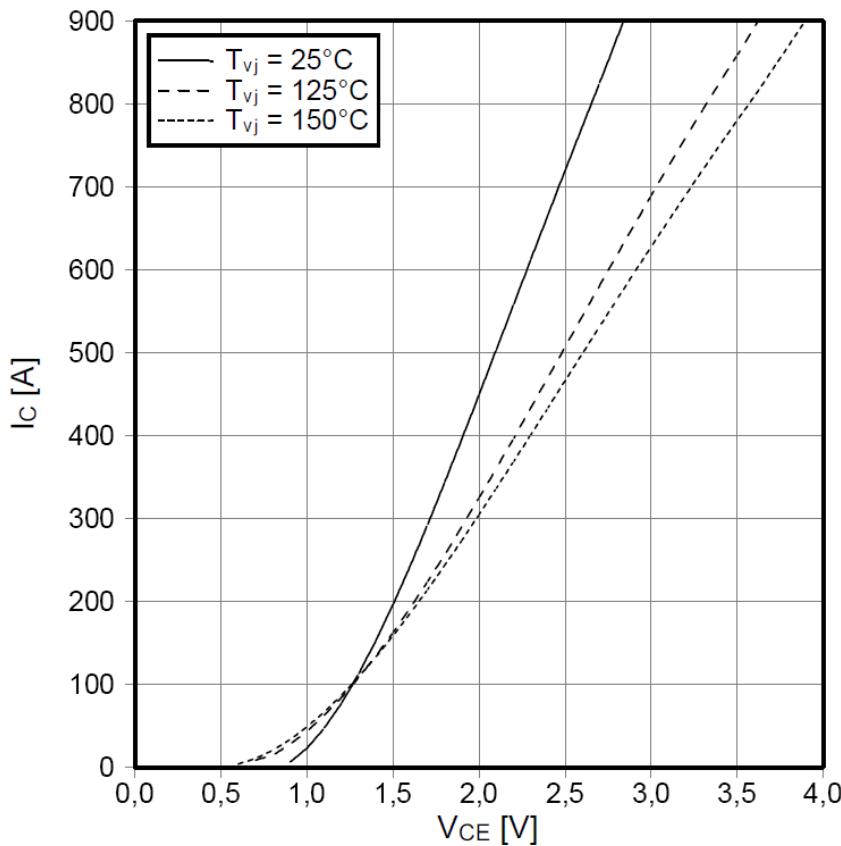


### 3-Find Maximum Current per switch for this profile : evaluate variation of losses as a function of the current

output characteristic IGBT-inverter (typical)

$$I_C = f(V_{CE})$$

$$V_{GE} = 15 \text{ V}$$

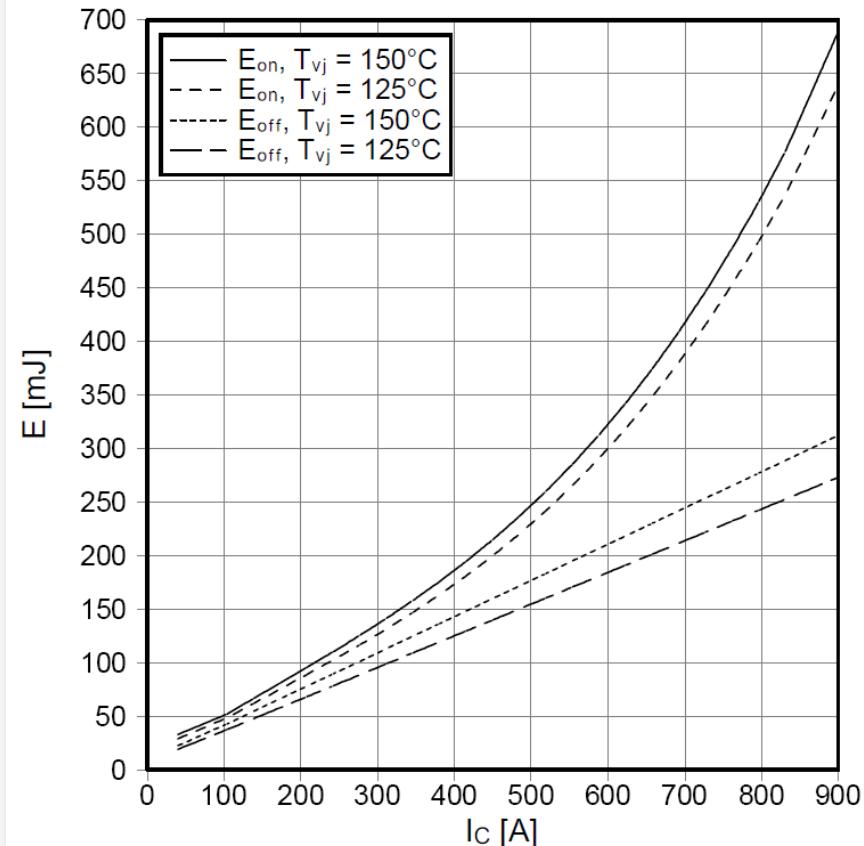


$$\Rightarrow P_{cond} = V_{CE} I = (V_T + R_T I) I = V_T I + R_T I^2$$

switching losses IGBT-inverter (typical)

$$E_{on} = f(I_C), E_{off} = f(I_C)$$

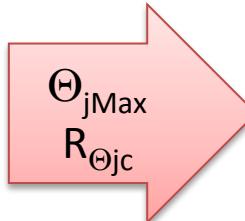
$$V_{GE} = \pm 15 \text{ V}, R_{Gon} = 2.7 \Omega, R_{Goff} = 4.7 \Omega, V_{CE} = 900 \text{ V}$$



$$\Rightarrow P_{sw} = f_{sw} E_{on,off} = f_{sw} (A_{on,off} + B_{on,off} I + C_{on,off} I^{12})$$

### 3-Find Maximum Current per switch for this profile : solve thermal equation

Conduction losses  
+  
switching losses



$I_{max}(f_{sw})$

Conduction losses + Switching losses = Maximum Power extracted

$$D.(R_T \cdot I^2 + V_T \cdot I) + f_{dec} \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} [(A_{on} + A_{off}) + (B_{on} + B_{off}) \cdot I + (C_{on} + C_{off}) \cdot I^2] = \frac{\Delta\theta}{R_{th}}$$

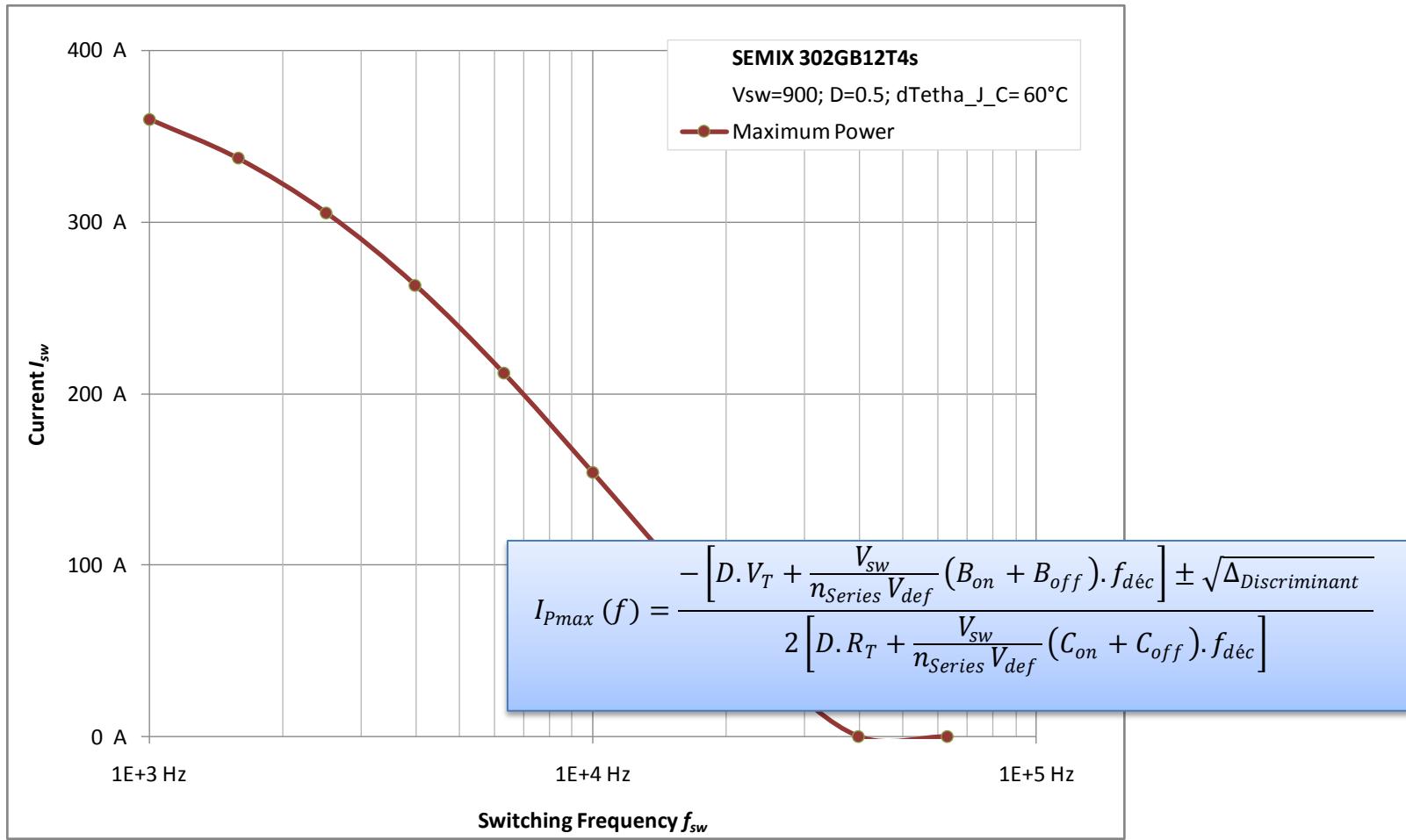
$$\Delta_{Discriminant} = \left[ D \cdot V_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (B_{on} + B_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right]^2 - 4 \left[ D \cdot R_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (C_{on} + C_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (A_{on} + A_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} - \frac{\Delta\theta}{R_{th}} \right]$$

$$\left[ D \cdot R_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (C_{on} + C_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right] \cdot I^2 + \left[ D \cdot V_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (B_{on} + B_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right] I + \left[ \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (A_{on} + A_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} - \frac{\Delta\theta}{R_{th}} \right] = 0$$

$$I_{Pmax}(f) = \frac{- \left[ D \cdot V_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (B_{on} + B_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right] \pm \sqrt{\Delta_{Discriminant}}}{2 \left[ D \cdot R_T + \frac{V_{sw}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} (C_{on} + C_{off}) \cdot f_{dec} \right]}$$

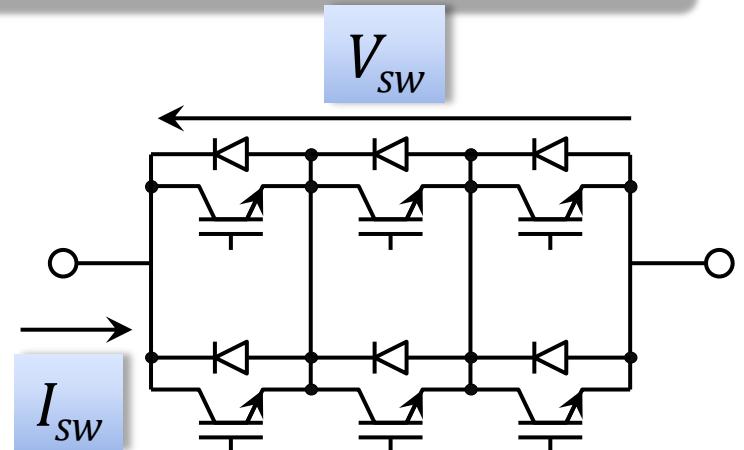
# *Current /frequency operating area of a switch*

## *Maximum Power*



## 4-Find number of parallel connected switches

$$n_{Par} = \text{int}\left(\frac{I_{\text{required}}}{I_{\text{allowed}}^{\max}}\right) + 1$$



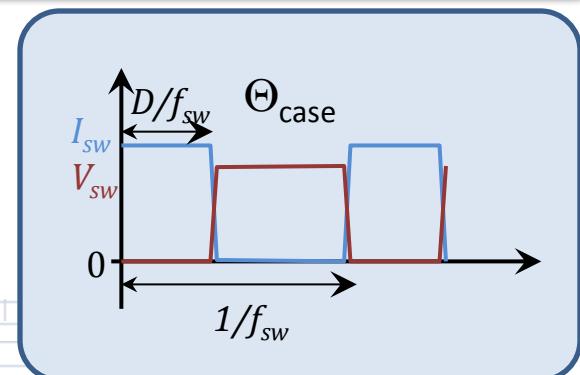
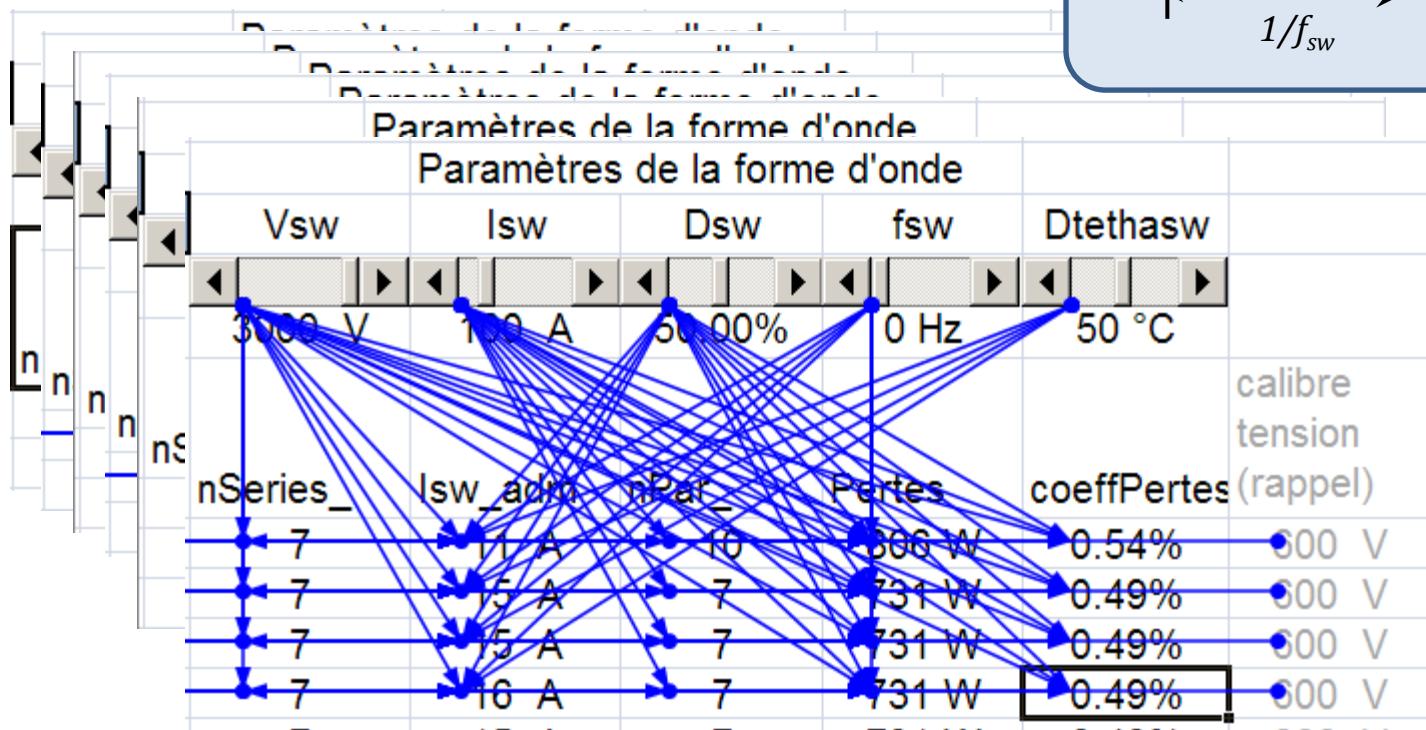
## 5-Find losses and efficiency

$$\text{Pertes}_{\text{composant}} = D \cdot \left( R_T \cdot \left( \frac{I}{n_{Par}} \right)^2 + V_T \cdot \frac{I}{n_{Par}} \right) + f_{\text{déc}} \frac{V_{SW}}{n_{Series} V_{def}} \left[ (A_{on} + A_{off}) + (B_{on} + B_{off}) \cdot \frac{I}{n_{Par}} + (C_{on} + C_{off}) \cdot \left( \frac{I}{n_{Par}} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\text{Efficiency} = 1 - \frac{n_{Series} \cdot n_{Par} \cdot \text{Pertes}_{\text{composant}}}{P_{out}}$$

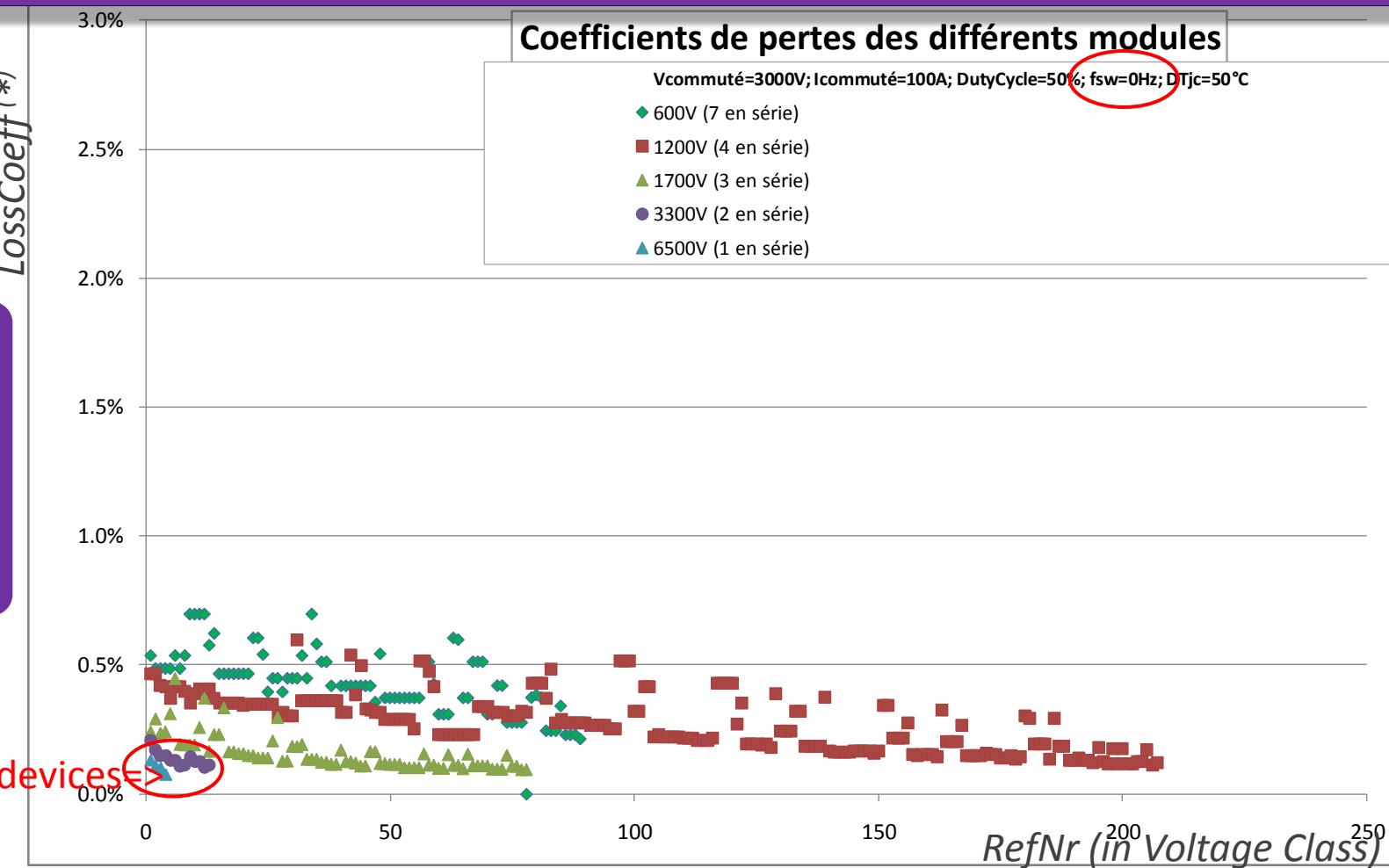
# 6-Build a MacroSwitch with each component of the database

Explore IGBT  
database



# *Find the IGBT-based MacroSwitch with the best efficiency*

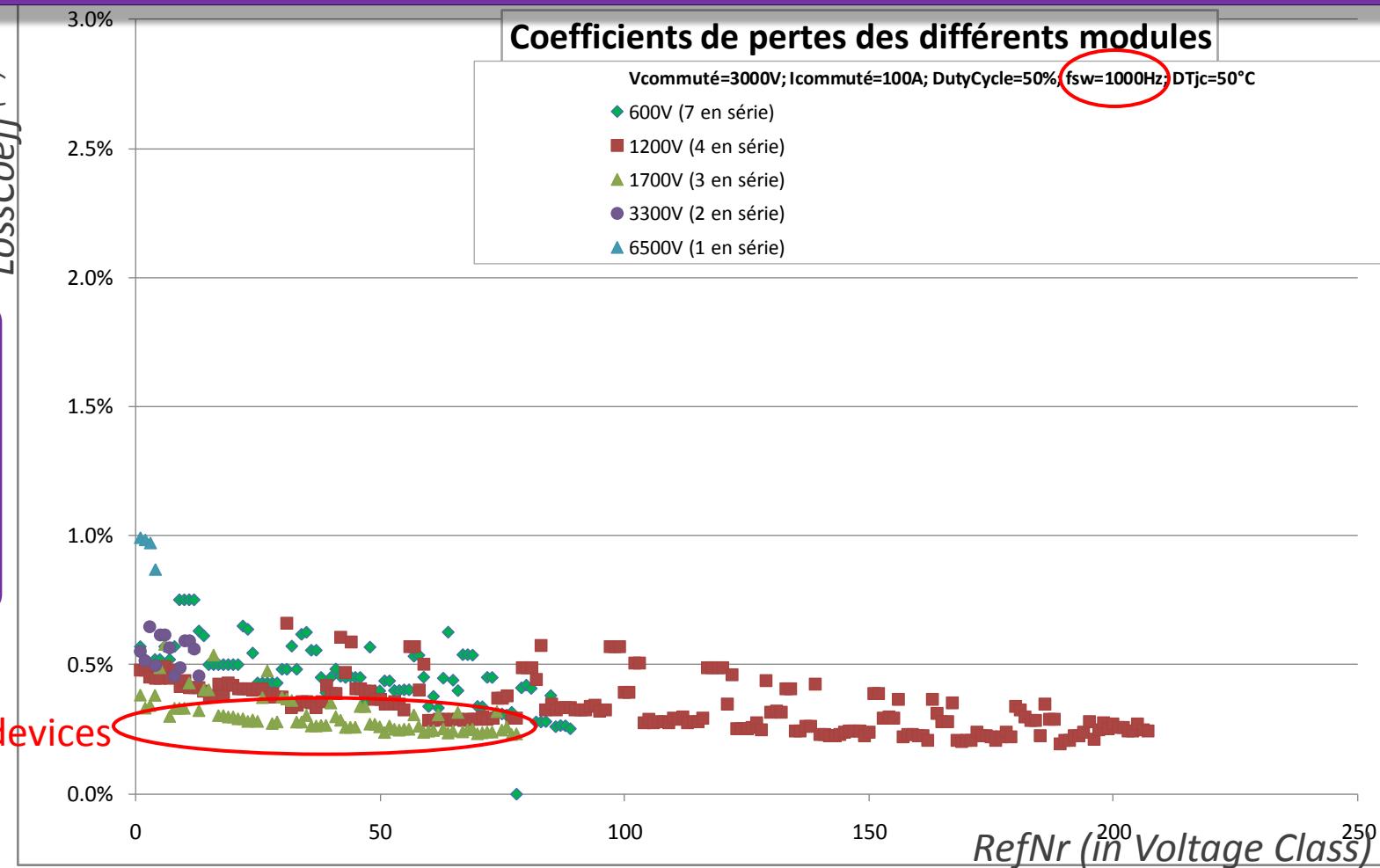
Explore IGBT  
database



(\*) $\text{LossCoeff} = \text{Loss in one switch} / \text{Output Power}$  (Buck converter configuration)

# *Find the IGBT-based MacroSwitch with the best efficiency*

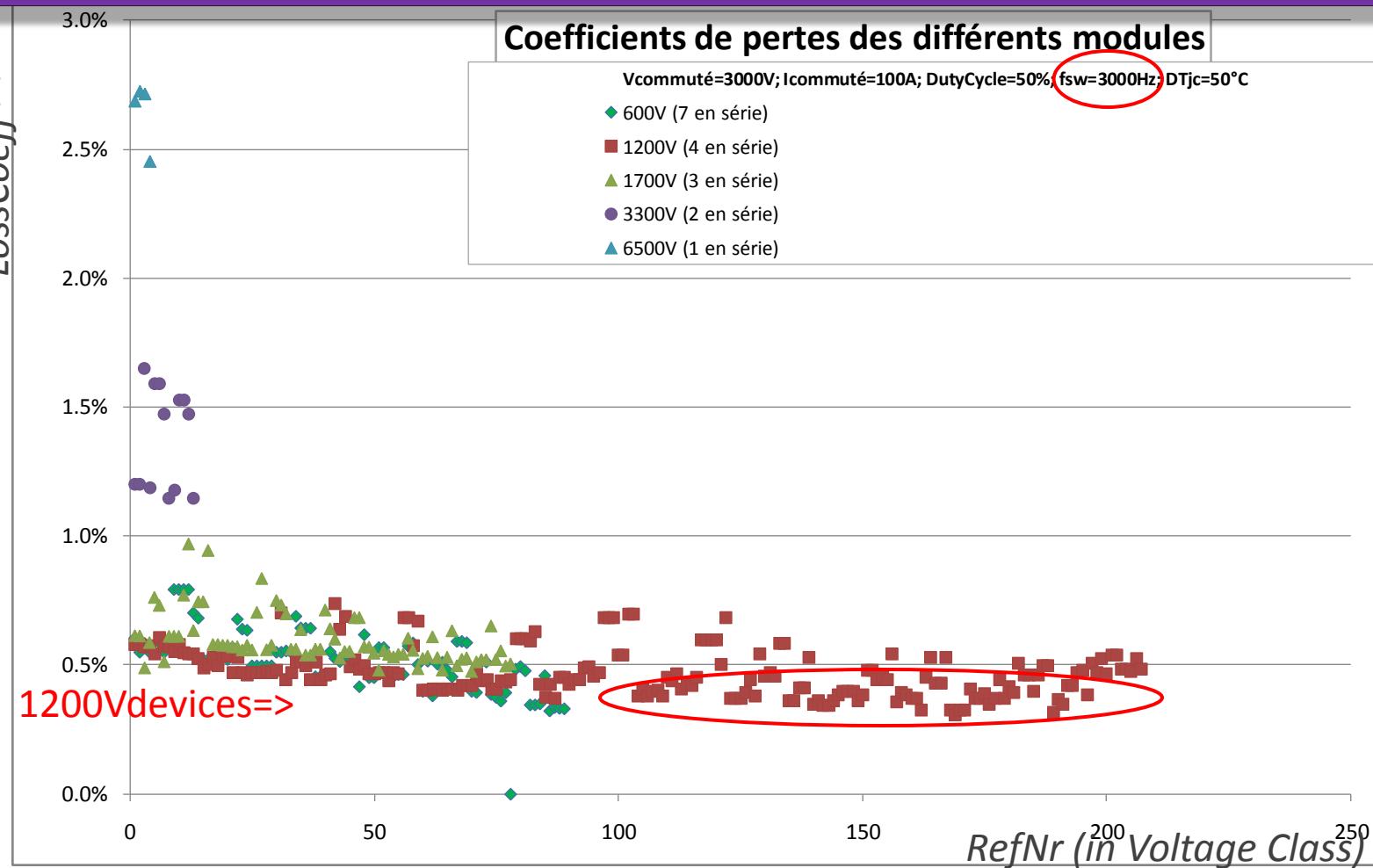
Explore IGBT  
database



(\*) $\text{LossCoeff} = \text{Loss in one switch} / \text{Output Power}$  (Buck converter configuration)

# *Find the IGBT-based MacroSwitch with the best efficiency*

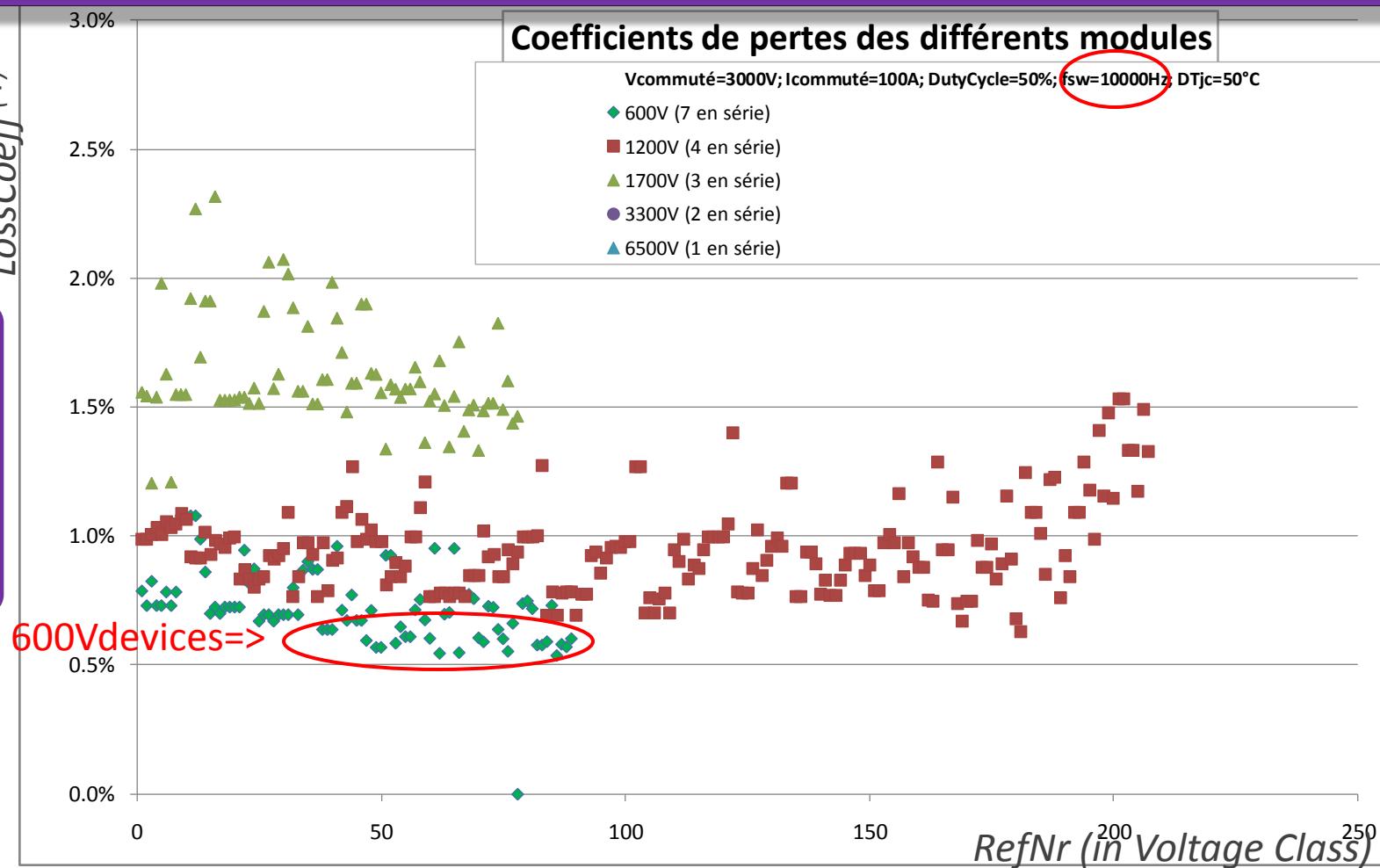
Explore IGBT  
database



(\*) $\text{LossCoeff} = \text{Loss in one switch} / \text{Output Power}$  (Buck converter configuration)

# *Find the IGBT-based MacroSwitch with the best efficiency*

Explore IGBT  
database



(\*) $\text{LossCoeff} = \text{Loss in one switch} / \text{Output Power}$  (Buck converter configuration)

# **EXTENSION OF THE METHOD FOR VOLTAGE SOURCE INVERTERS WITH COMPLEX CONTROL PATTERNS**

## Rules of the game

Split the system in :

- a modulation/topology dependant subsystem,
- and a device specific subsystem.

$$P_{cond} = \frac{1}{T} \int_T^T v.i.dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_T^T (V_T + R_T i).i.dt = V_T \left( \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T i.dt \right) + R_T \cdot \left( \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T i^2 dt \right) = V_T \cdot i_{avg} + R_T \cdot i_{RMS}^2$$

$$P_{switching} = f_{\text{mod}} \cdot \left( \sum_{OFF \Rightarrow ON} \frac{V_{cell}}{V_{def}} (A_{on} + B_{on} \cdot I_{cell} + C_{on} \cdot I_{cell}^2) + \sum_{ON \Rightarrow OFF} \frac{V_{cell}}{V_{def}} (A_{off} + B_{off} \cdot I_{cell} + C_{off} \cdot I_{cell}^2) \right)$$

$$P_{switching} = \frac{f_{\text{mod}}}{V_{def}} \cdot \left( A_{on} \sum_{OFF \Rightarrow ON} V_{cell\_on} + B_{on} \sum_{OFF \Rightarrow ON} V_{cell\_on} \cdot I_{cell\_on} + C_{on} \sum_{OFF \Rightarrow ON} V_{cell\_on} \cdot I_{cell\_on}^2 + A_{off} \sum_{ON \Rightarrow OFF} V_{cell\_off} + B_{off} \sum_{ON \Rightarrow OFF} V_{cell\_off} \cdot I_{cell\_off} + C_{off} \sum_{ON \Rightarrow OFF} V_{cell\_off} \cdot I_{cell\_off}^2 \right)$$

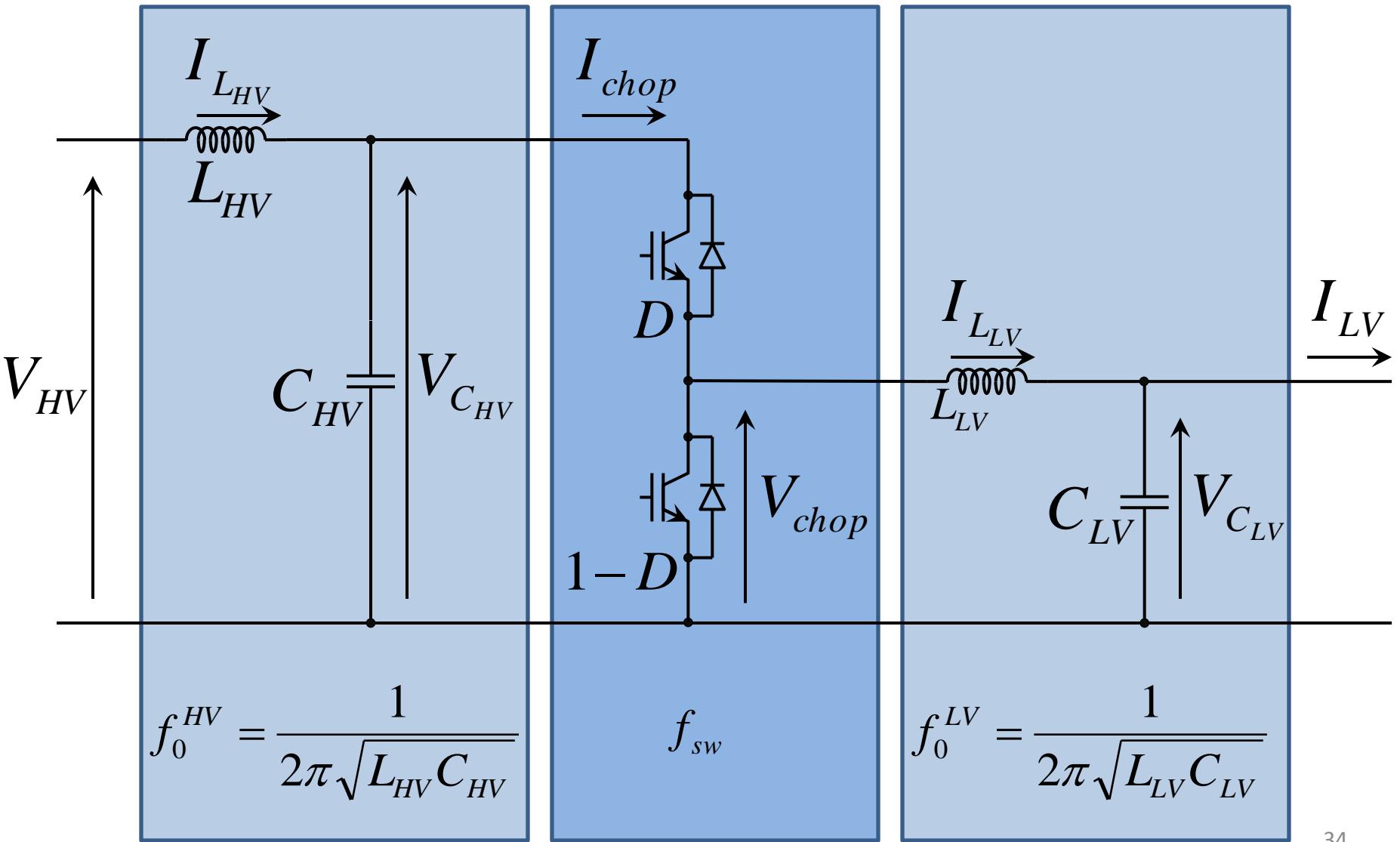
# PASSIVE COMPONENTS FOR MULTILEVEL CONVERTERS

## ***Rules of the game***

- Establish design criteria for filters and specific/internal components
- Apply them to all configuration
- Compare stored energy
- Evaluate converter size or cost based on a combined lost/stored energy criterion

# **FILTER DESIGN FOR MULTILEVEL CONVERTERS**

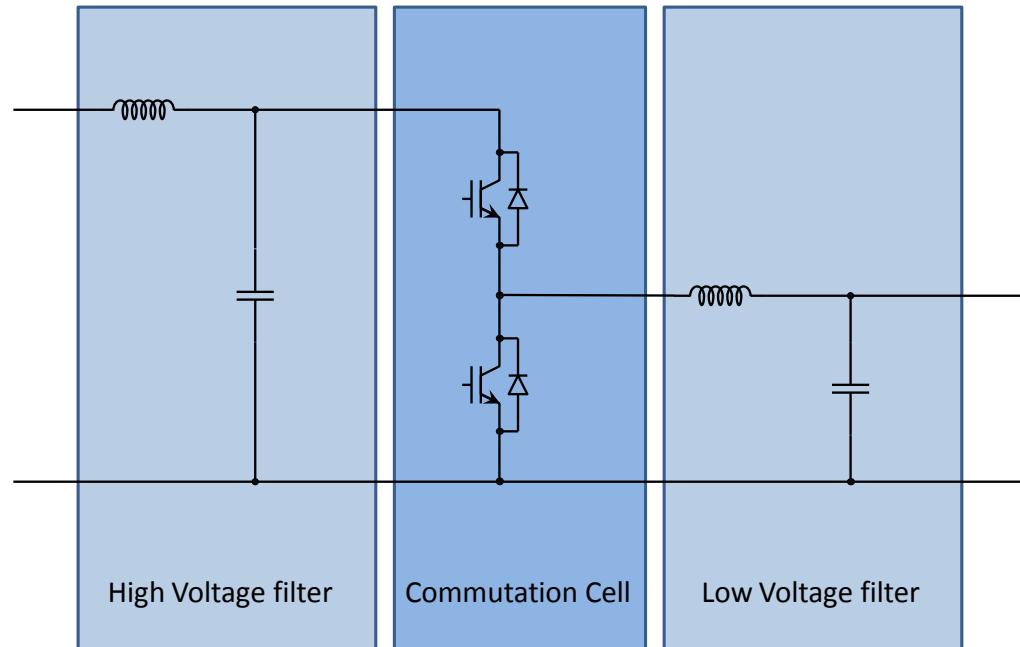
# Commutation Cell with Filters



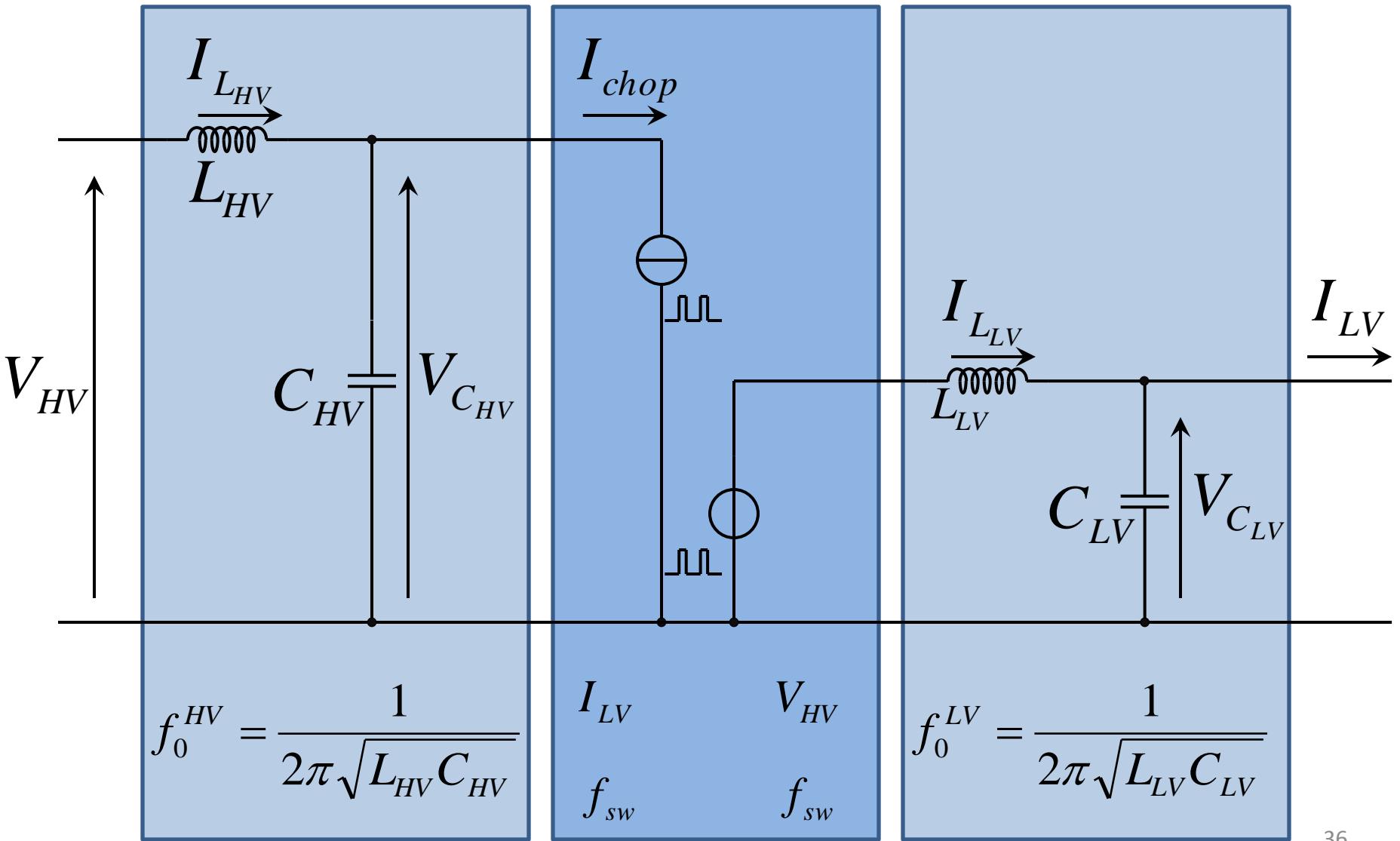
# *One (of the many) approach of filter design*

## Different functions of passive components

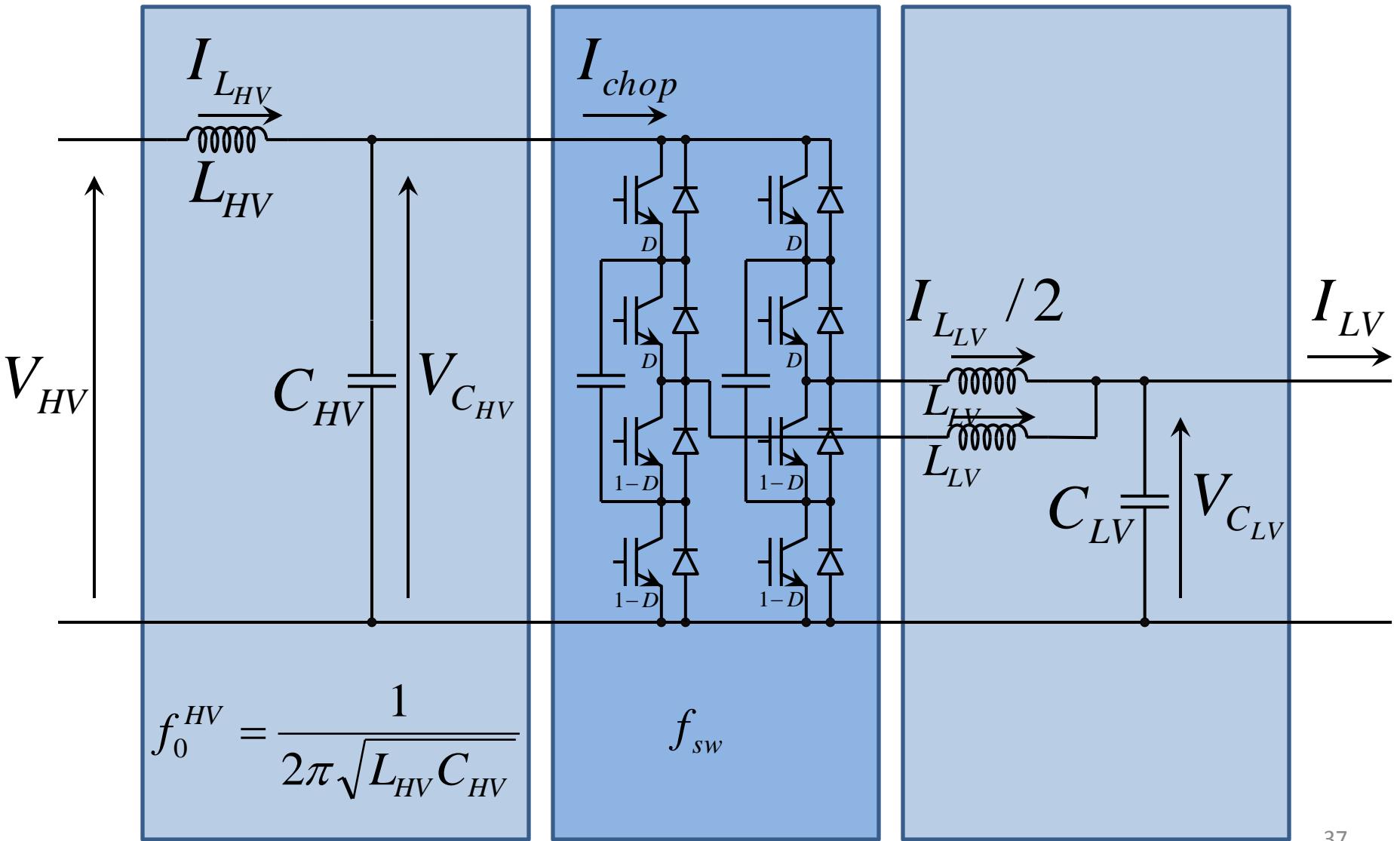
- Limit the impact of the converter on the external world :  
=> limit the ripples of current on HV side and voltage on the LV side (Steady-state)
- Limit the impact of the external world on the converter :  
=> limit HV and LV variations induced by load steps (Transient response)
- Limit the impact of the converter on itself :  
=> limit the ripples of current ripple and and HV voltage ripple (Steady-state)



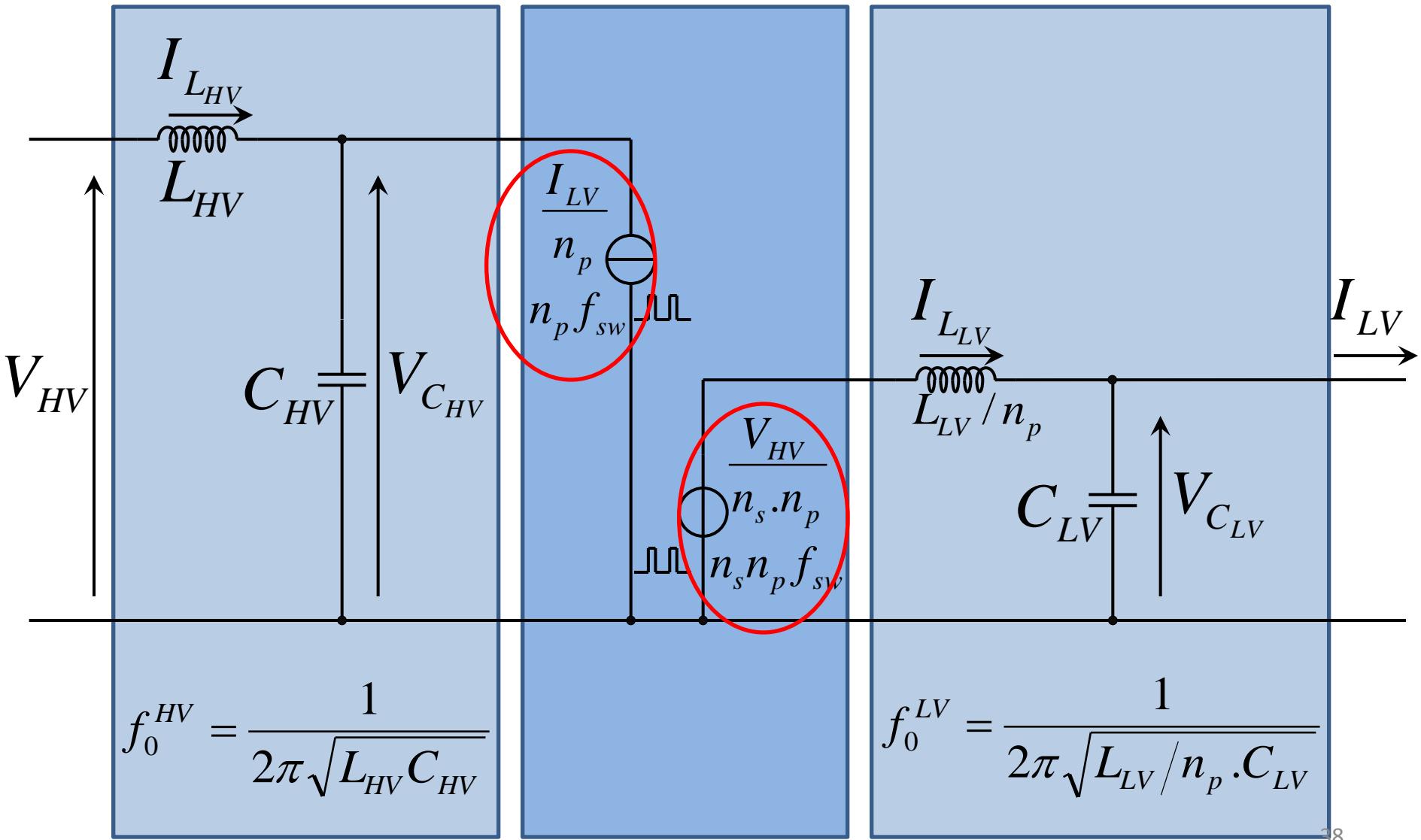
# AC Equivalent circuit of a Two-Level Cell



# Series-Parallel MultiLevel Cell with Filters



# AC-equivalent circuit of Series-Parallel MultiLevel Cell



# *Steady state, time domain : worst case ripples*

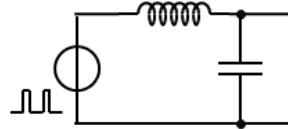
*Pulsation on the Low Voltage side (2<sup>nd</sup> order filter)*

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V_{\text{ripple}\%}^{\text{LV}} &= \frac{V_{\text{pk-ripple}}^{\text{LV}}}{V_{\text{HV}}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{n_p n_s} \left( \frac{f_0^{\text{LV}}}{n_p n_s f_{\text{sw}}} \right)^2 \\ f_0^{\text{LV}} &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{L_{\text{LV}} / n_p \cdot C_{\text{LV}}}} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{L_{\text{LV}} / n_p C_{\text{LV}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi (n_p n_s)^{1.5} f_{\text{sw}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2} V_{\text{ripple}\%}^{\text{LV}}}}}$$

*Pulsation on the High Voltage side (2<sup>nd</sup> order filter)*

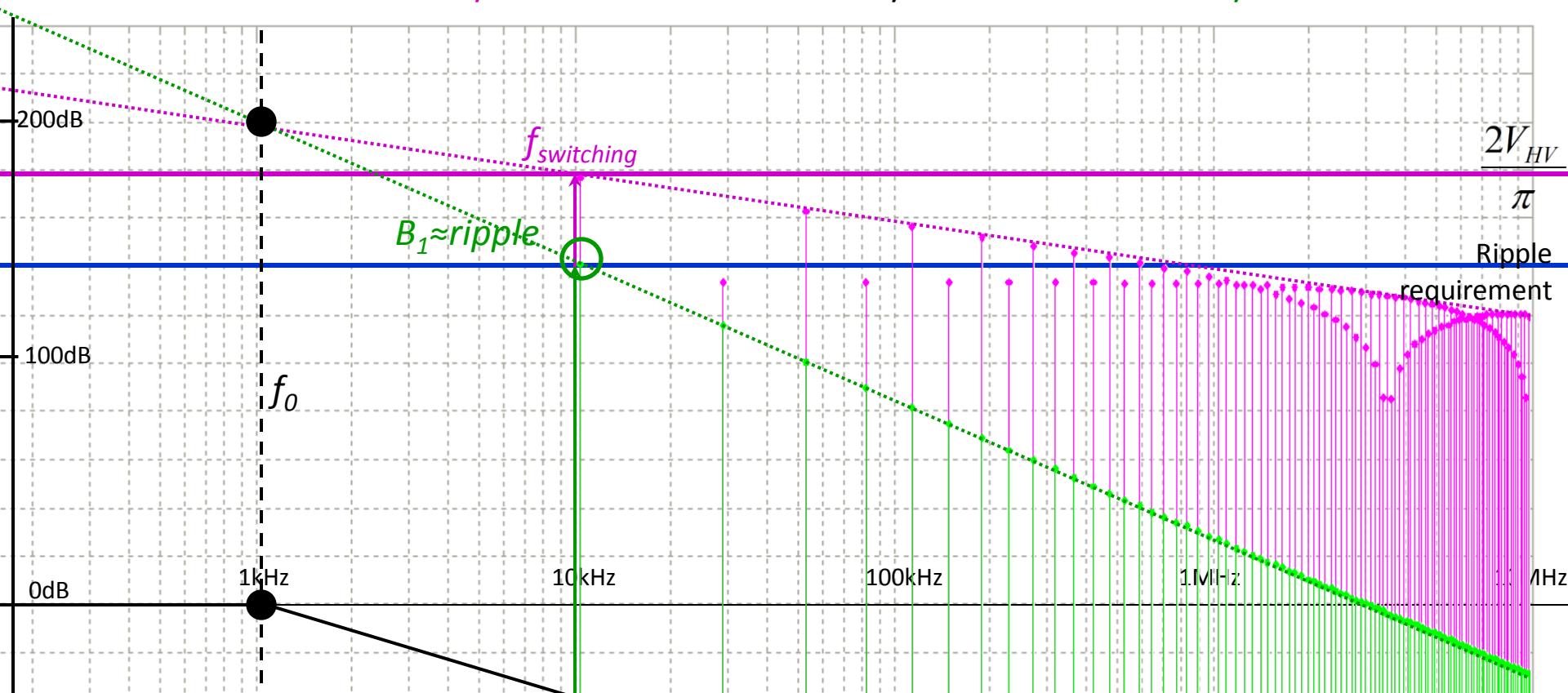
$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_{\text{ripple}\%}^{\text{HV}} &= \frac{I_{\text{pk-ripple}}^{\text{HV}}}{I_{\text{LV}_{\max}}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{n_p} \left( \frac{f_0^{\text{HV}}}{n_p f_{\text{sw}}} \right)^2 \\ f_0^{\text{HV}} &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{L_{\text{HV}} \cdot C_{\text{HV}}}} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{L_{\text{HV}} C_{\text{HV}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot n_p^{1.5} f_{\text{sw}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2} I_{\text{ripple}\%}^{\text{HV}}}}}$$

# Ripples : from time domain to frequency domain

$$A_n = \frac{2V_{HV}}{n\pi} \sin(n.\pi.D)$$


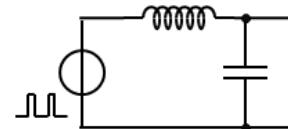
$$B_n = \left( \frac{f_0}{f_{sw}} \right)^2 \frac{2V_{HV}}{n^3 \pi} \sin(n.\pi.D)$$

-20dB/dcd + -40dB/dcd = -60dB/dcd



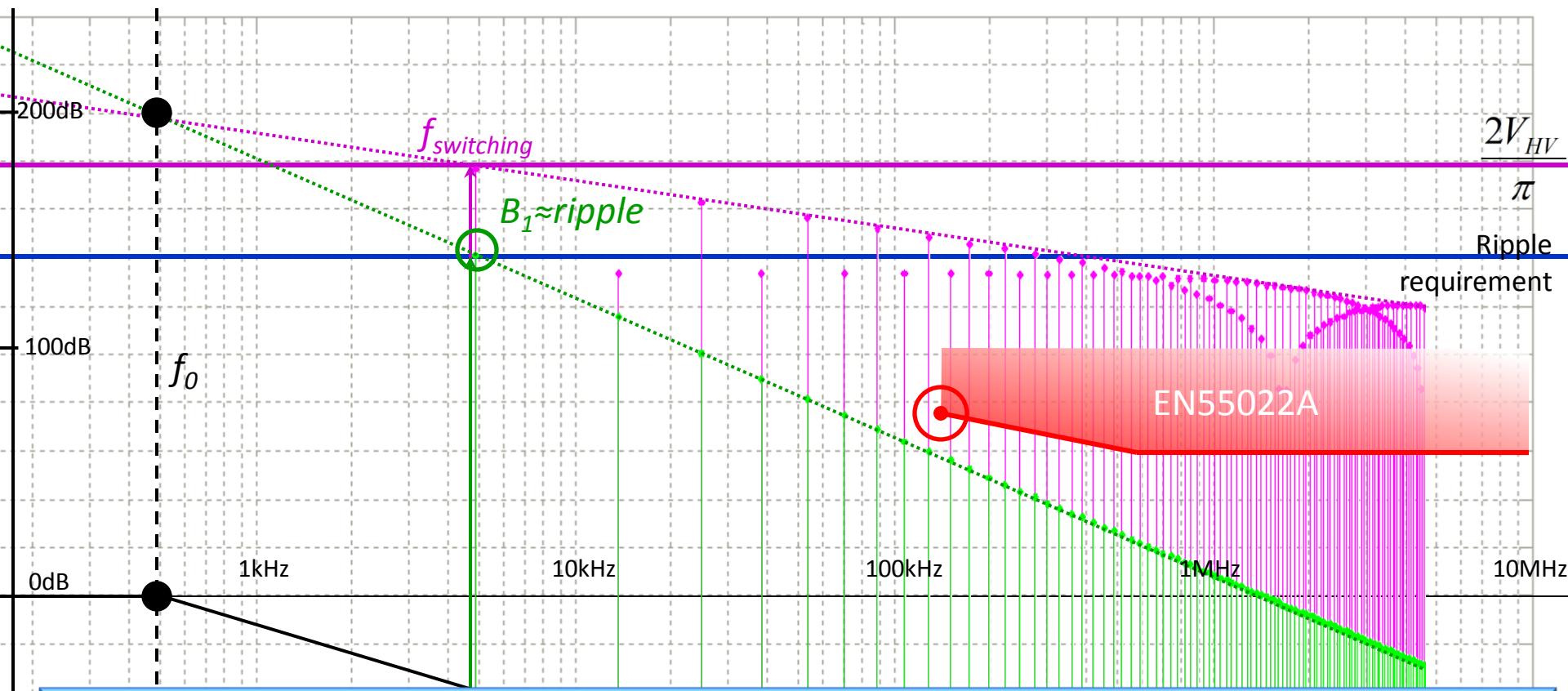
=>Conclusion : the ripple requirement allows increasing  $f_0$  when increasing  $f_{switching}$

# EMC standards : frequency domain formulation

$$A_n = \frac{2V_{HV}}{n\pi} \sin(n.\pi.D)$$


$$B_n = \left( \frac{f_0}{f_{sw}} \right)^2 \frac{2V_{HV}}{n^3 \pi} \sin(n.\pi.D)$$

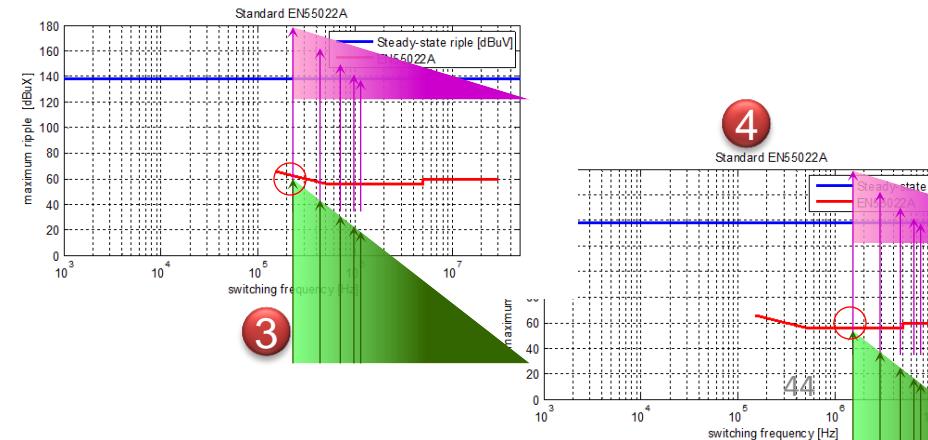
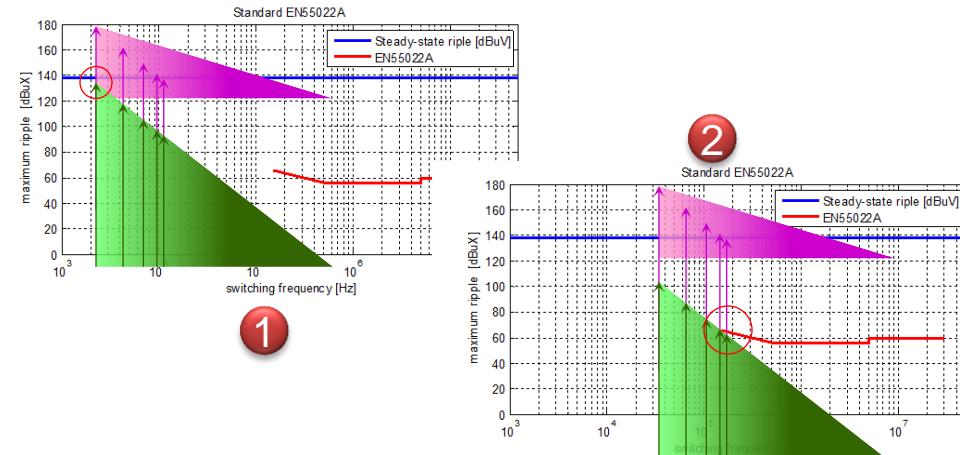
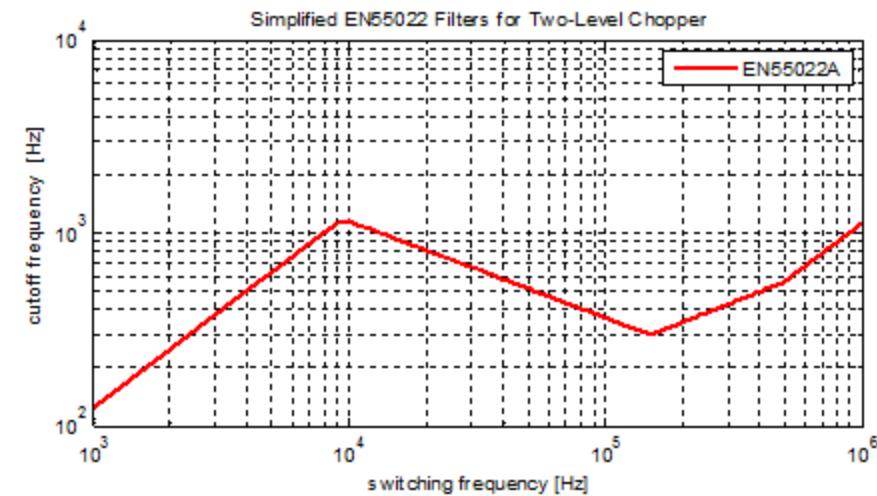
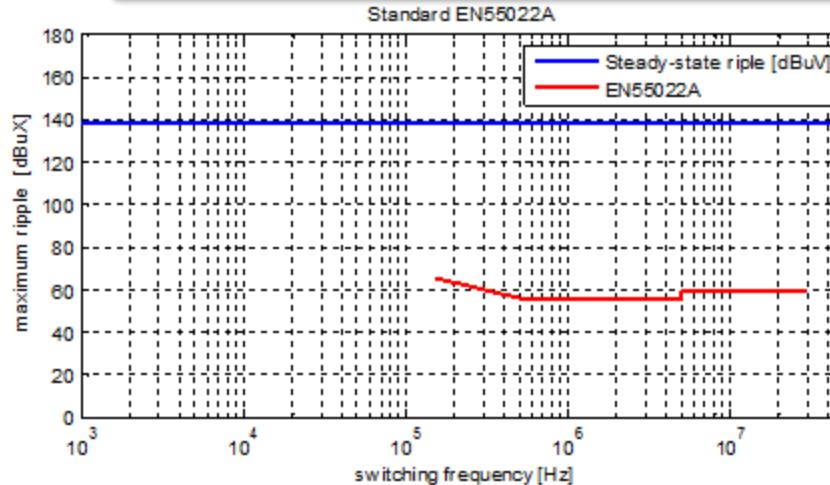
-20dB/dcd + -40dB/dcd = -60dB/dcd



=>Conclusion : salient point of EMC standards imposes decreasing  $f_0$  when increasing  $f_{switching}$

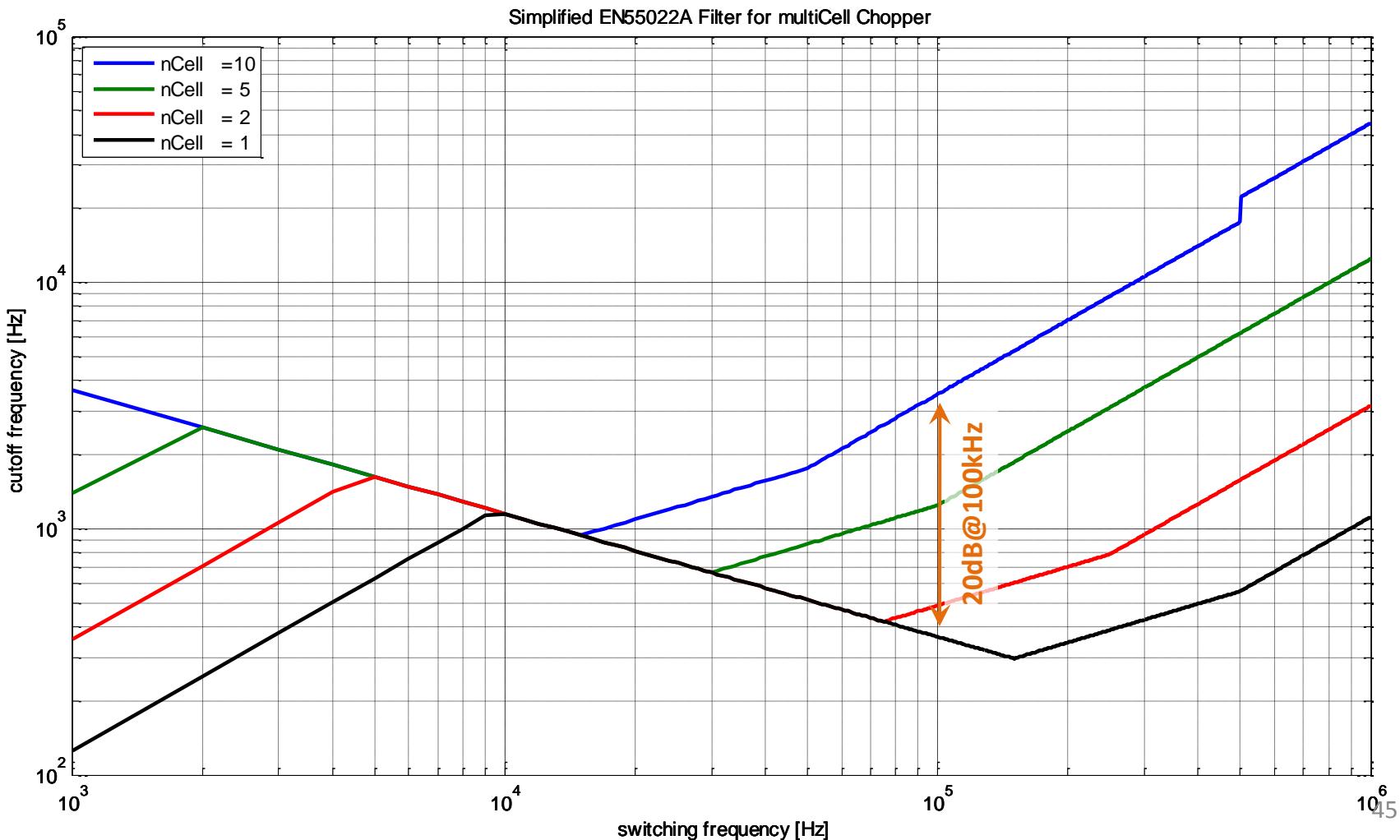
# Steady state : ripples and standards combined

## Required cut-off frequency vs switching frequency



# Steady state : ripples and standards combined

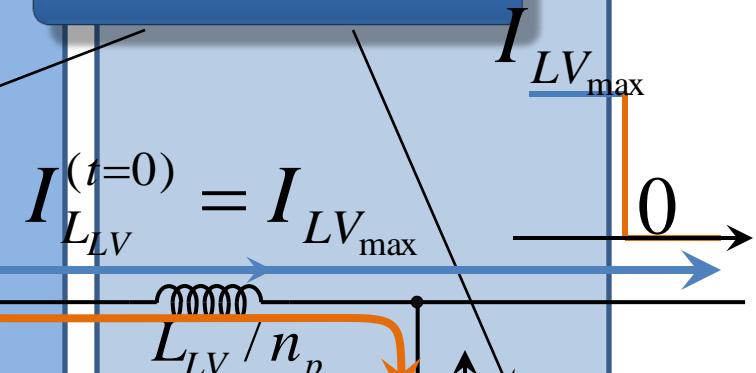
*Required cut-off frequency vs switching frequency  
for MultiCell converters*



# Step response, average model : full load => no load

**Worst Case :**  $D = 100\% ; I_{L_{HV}}^{(t=0)} = I_{LV_{max}}$

Voltage overshoots

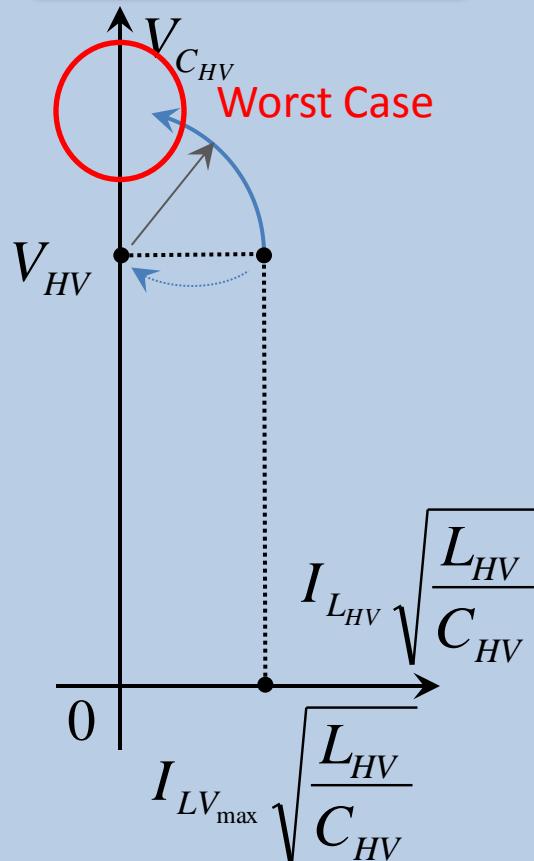


**Best response of the control to limit  
overshoot on LV side : impose  $D=0$**

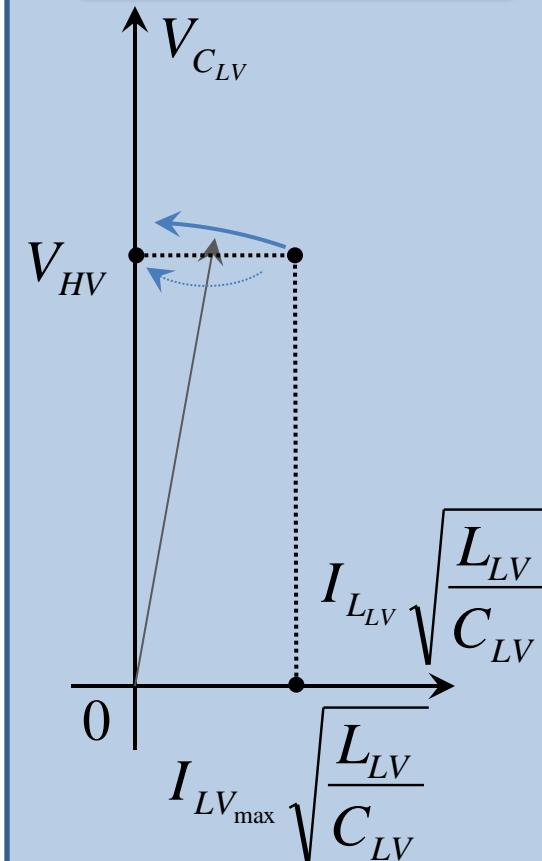
# Step response, state plane analysis

## full load => no load

*High Voltage Side*



*Low Voltage Side*



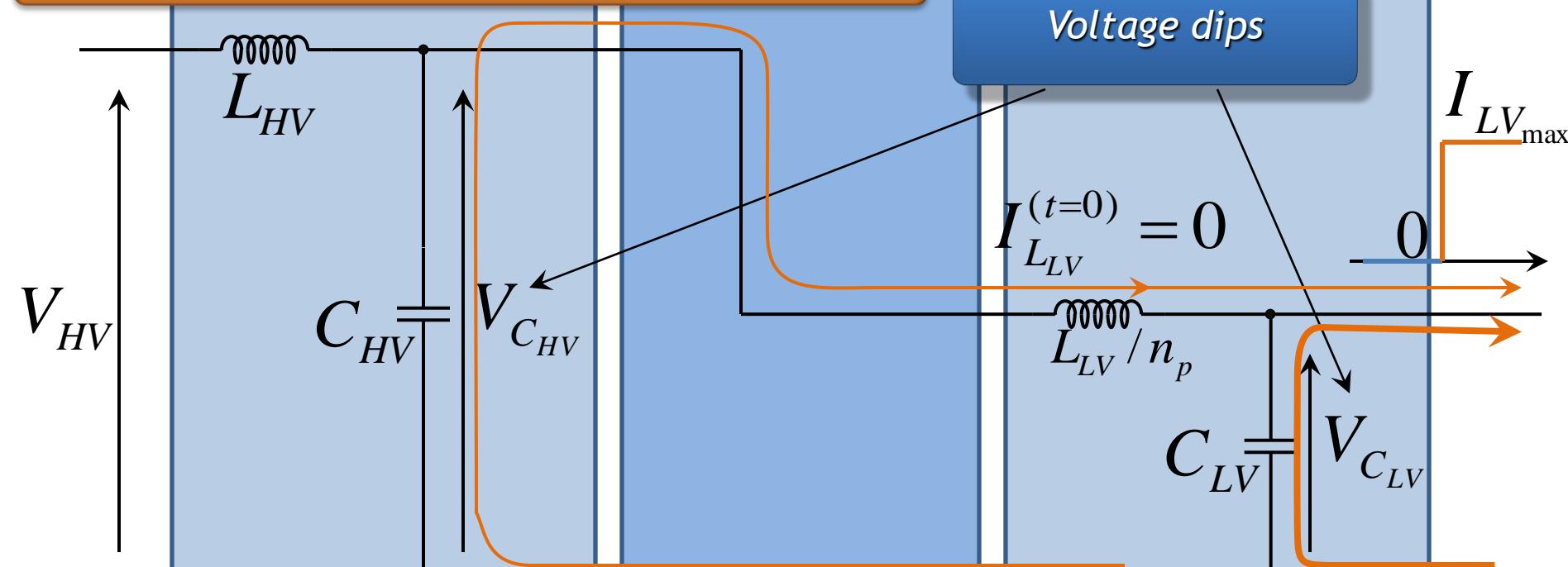
**Full load => no load : dynamic requirement HV side**

*Limit the voltage overshoot on the High Voltage Side*

$$V_{ovrsh\%}^{HV} = \frac{I_{LV} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{L_{HV}}{C_{HV}}}}{V_{HV}} \dots \Rightarrow \dots \sqrt{\frac{L_{HV}}{C_{HV}}} = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{ovrsh\%}^{HV}}{I_{LV \max}}$$

# Step response, average model : no load => full load

**Worst Case :**  $D = 100\% ; I_{L_{HV}}^{(t=0)} = 0$

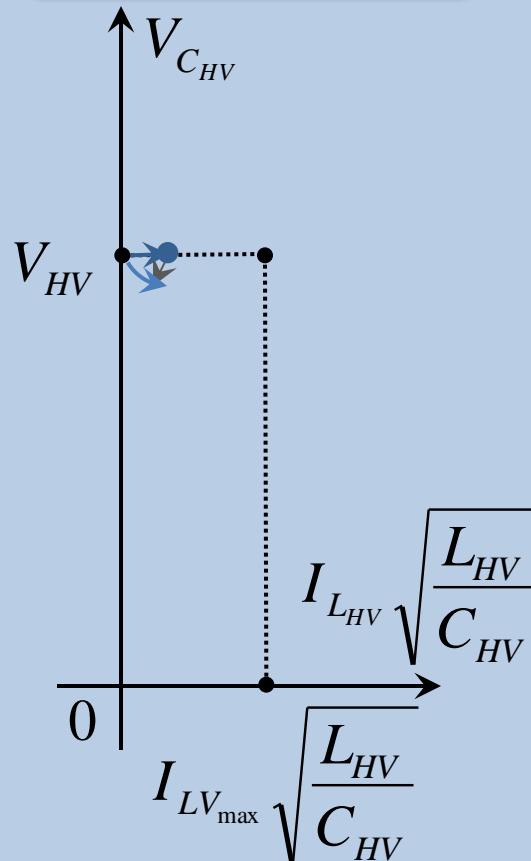


**Best response of the control to limit  
voltage dip on LV side : maintain  $D=100\%$**

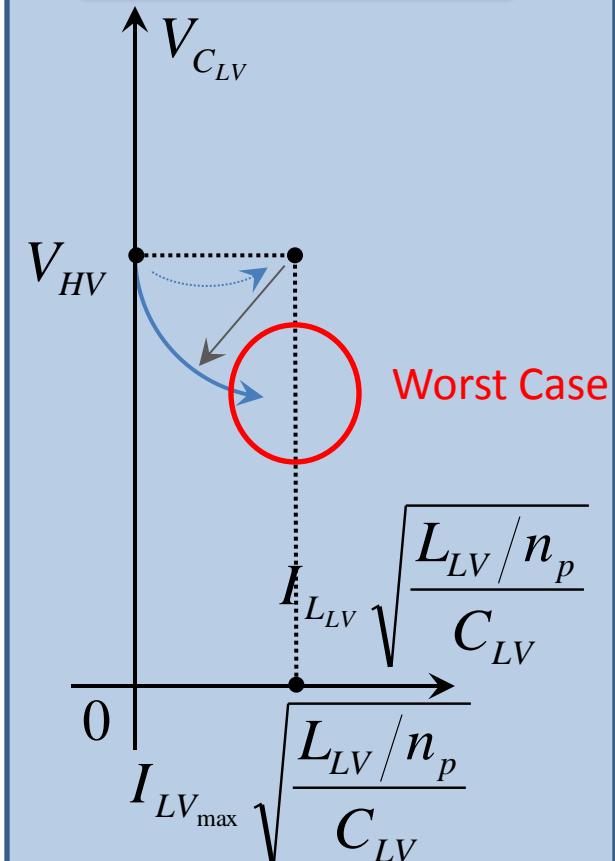
# Step response, state plane analysis

*no load => full load*

High Voltage Side



Low Voltage Side



## No load => Full load : dynamic requirement LV side

*Limit the voltage dip on the Low Voltage Side*

$$V_{dip}^{LV} = \frac{I_{LV} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{L_{LV}}{n_p C_{LV}}}}{V_{HV}} \dots \Rightarrow \dots \sqrt{\frac{L_{LV}/n_p}{C_{LV}}} = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{dip}^{LV}}{I_{LV_{max}}}$$

# Calculation of the components

## High Voltage side

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_{Cell} = n_p \\ Rip \% = I_{ripple\%}^{HV} = \frac{I_{pk-ripple}^{HV}}{I_{LV_{max}}} \\ f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_{HV} \cdot C_{HV}}} \end{array} \right.$$

## Low Voltage side

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_{Cell} = n_p \cdot n_s \\ Rip \% = V_{ripple\%}^{LV} = \frac{V_{pk-ripple}^{LV}}{V_{HV}} \\ f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L_{LV}/n_p \cdot C_{LV}}} \end{array} \right.$$



$$f_0 = \min \left( n_{Cell}^{1.5} f_{sw} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2} Rip \% } \quad ; \quad \sqrt{gab(\max(f_{salient}, n_{Cell} \cdot f_{sw})) \frac{\pi \cdot \max(f_{salient}, n_{Cell} \cdot f_{sw})^3}{2V_{HV} \cdot f_{sw}}} \right)$$

# Calculation of the components

## High Voltage side

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{L_{HV}}{C_{HV}}} = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{ovrsh\%}^{HV}}{I_{LV_{max}}} \\ \sqrt{L_{HV} \cdot C_{HV}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{HV}} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} L_{HV} = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{ovrsh\%}^{HV}}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{HV} I_{LV_{max}}} \\ C_{HV} = \frac{I_{LV_{max}}}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{HV} V_{HV} \cdot V_{ovrsh\%}^{HV}} \end{cases}$$

## Low Voltage side

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{L_{LV}/n_p}{C_{LV}}} = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{dip\%}^{LV}}{I_{LV_{max}}} \\ \sqrt{L_{LV}/n_p \cdot C_{LV}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{LV}} \end{cases}$$

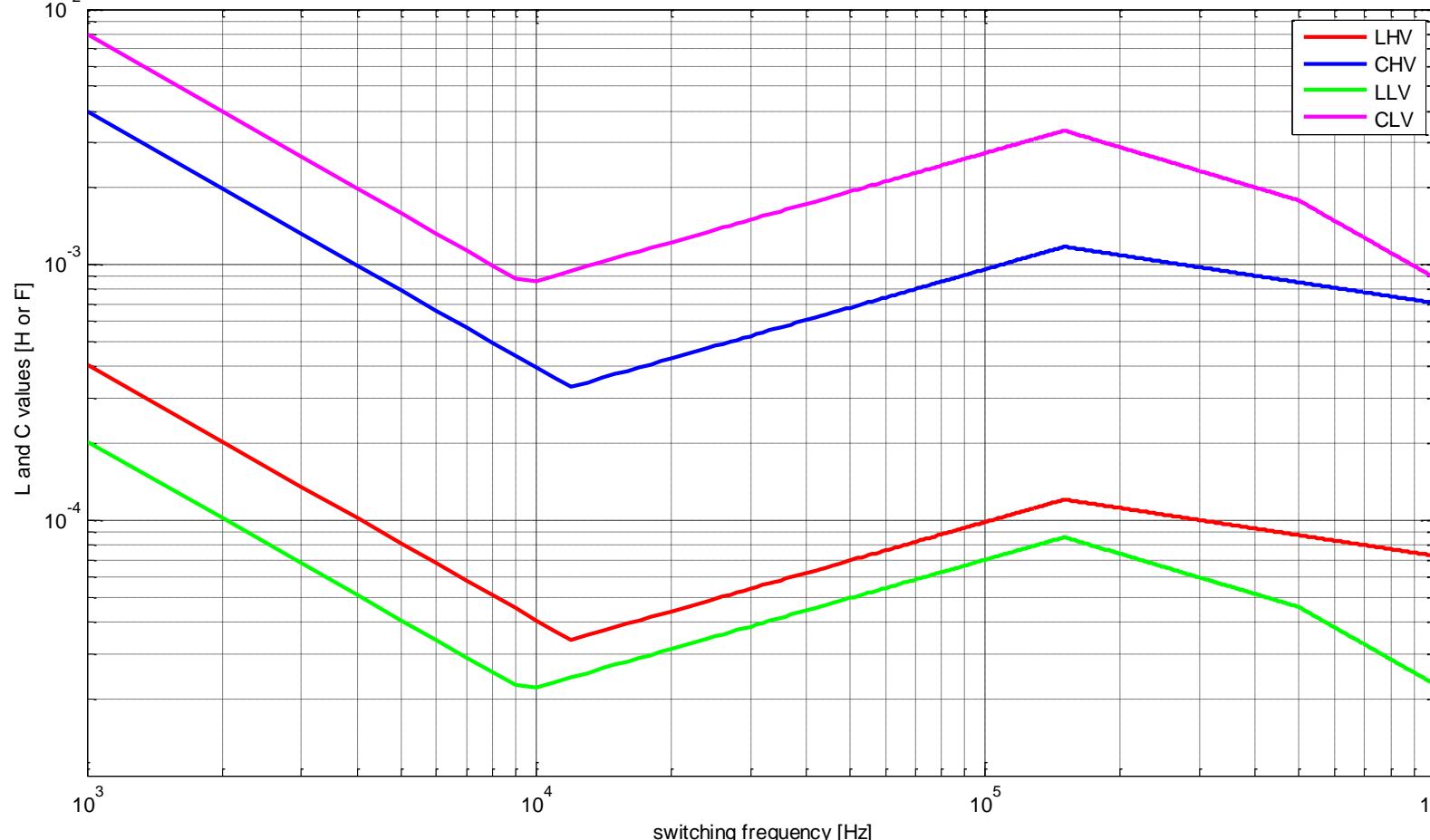
$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} L_{LV}/n_p = \frac{V_{HV} \cdot V_{dip\%}^{LV}}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{LV} I_{LV_{max}}} \\ C_{LV} = \frac{I_{LV_{max}}}{2\pi \cdot f_0^{LV} V_{HV} \cdot V_{dip\%}^{LV}} \end{cases}$$

# Calculation of the components

Example #1 : 2-level converter

=> from 10 to 150kHz, the tendency is an *increase* of passive components

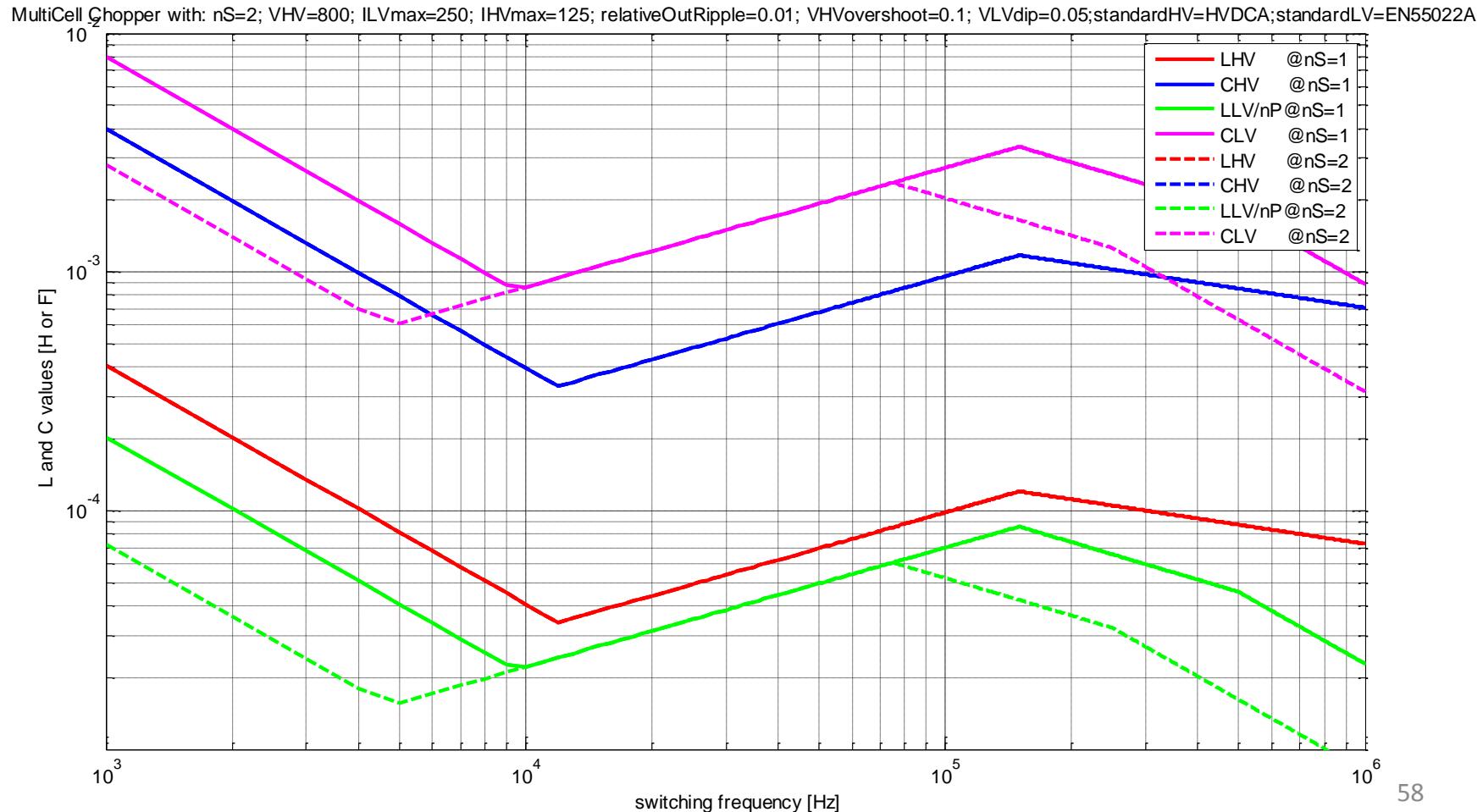
MultiCell Chopper with: nS=1; VHV=800; ILVmax=250; IHVmax=125; relativeOutRipple=0.01; VHVOvershoot=0.1; VLVdip=0.05; standardHV=HVDCA; standardLV=EN55022A



## Calculation of the components

Example #2 : series 2-cell converter

=> the HV filter is unchanged,  $L_{LV}$  and  $C_{LV}$  are reduced if  $f_{sw} > 80\text{kHz}$

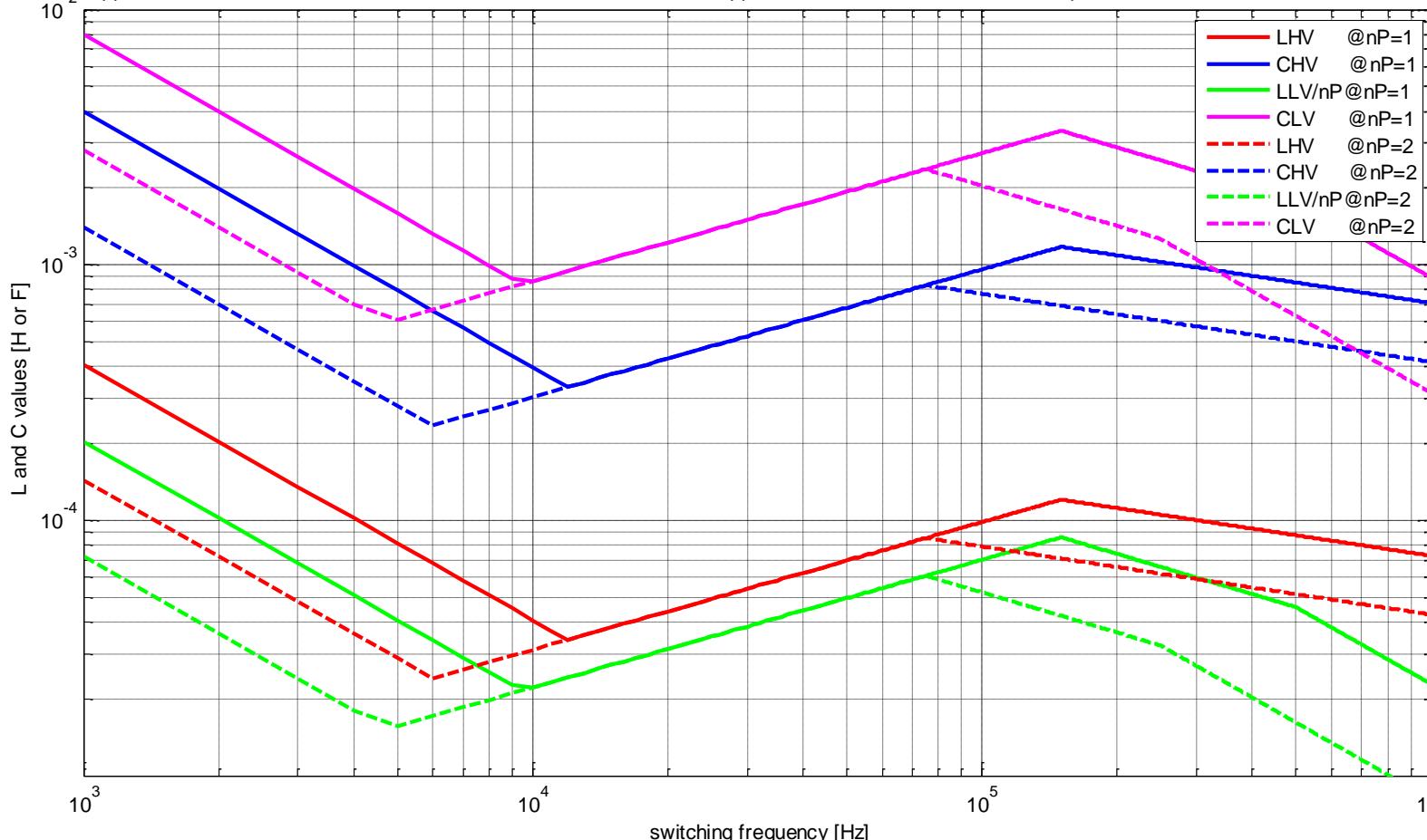


# Calculation of the components

Example #3 : parallel 2-cell converter

=> all passive components are reduced if  $f_{sw} > 80\text{kHz}$

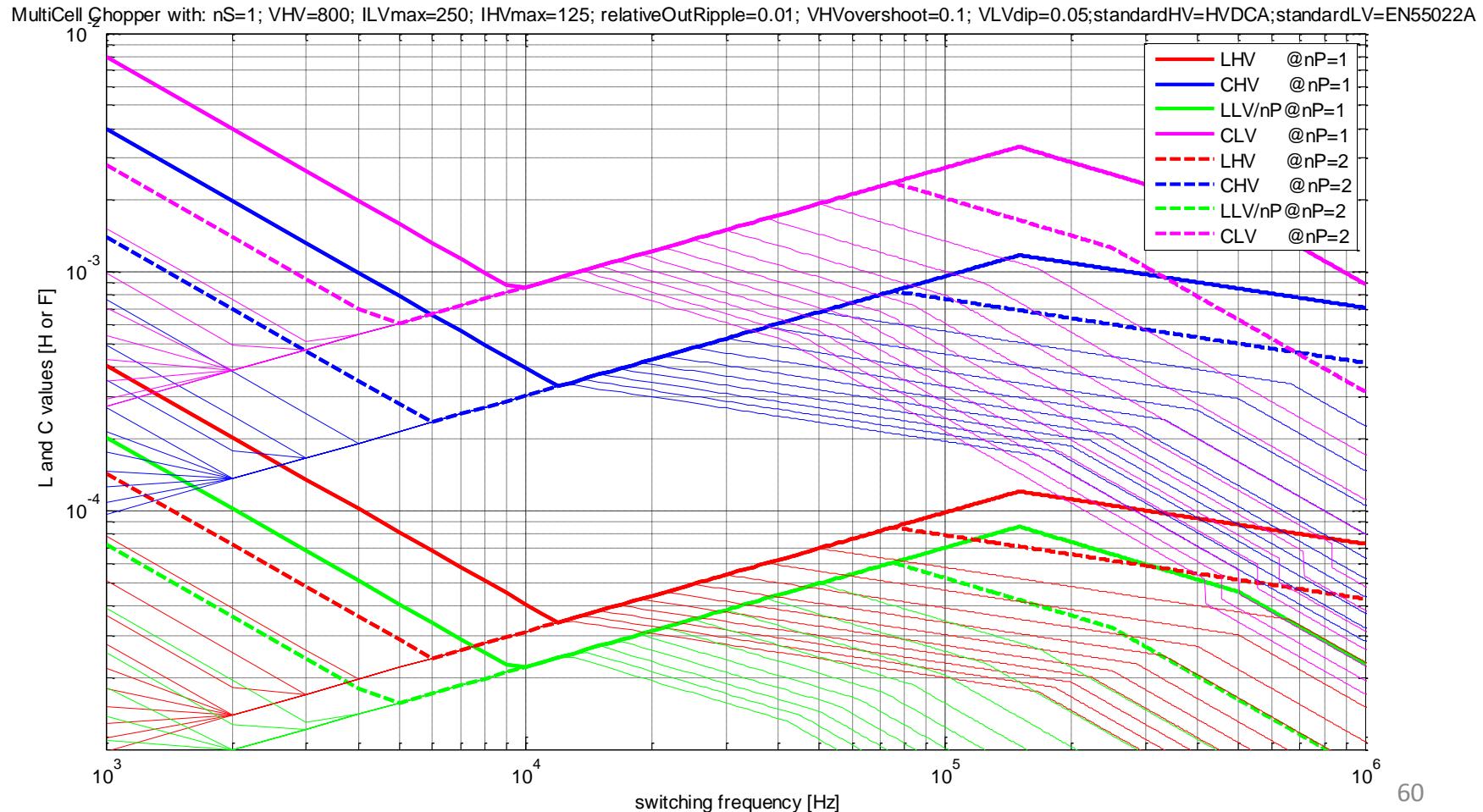
MultiCell Chopper with: nS=1; VHV=800; ILVmax=250; IHVmax=125; relativeOutRipple=0.01; VHVOvershoot=0.1; VLVdip=0.05; standardHV=HVDCA; standardLV=EN55022A



# Calculation of the components

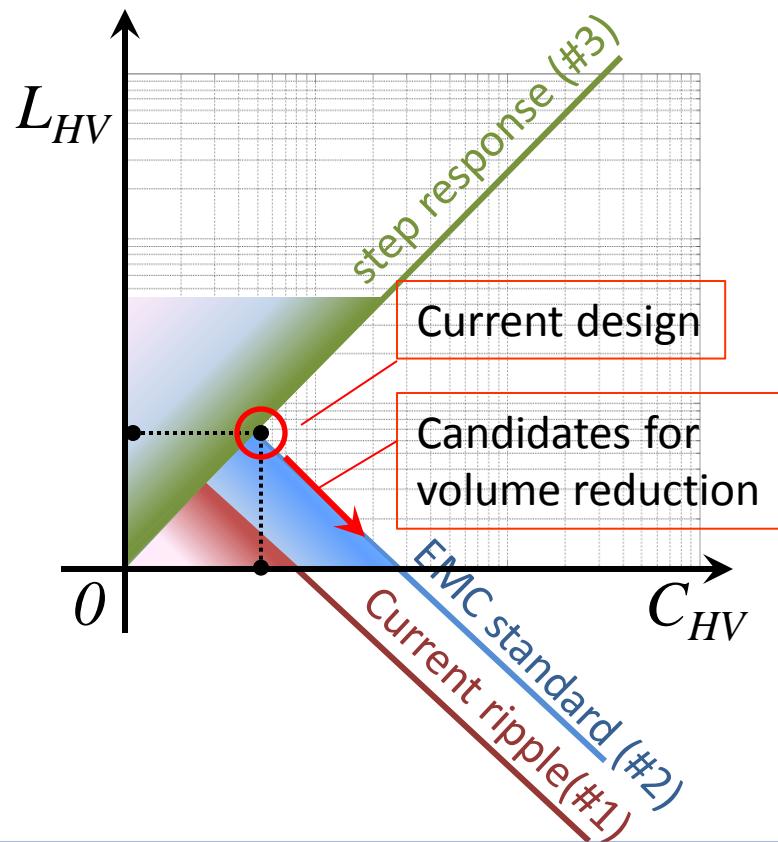
Example #4 : parallel multiCell converter

=> with 10 // cells, all passive components start decreasing at  $f_{sw} > 15\text{kHz}$

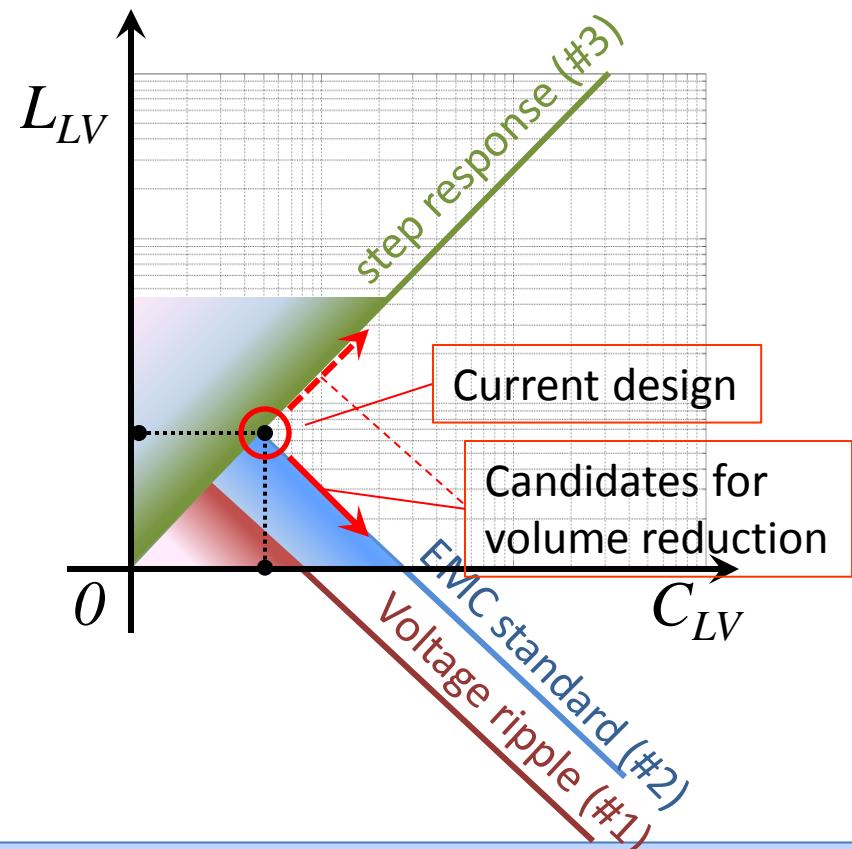


# Combined requirements

High Voltage side

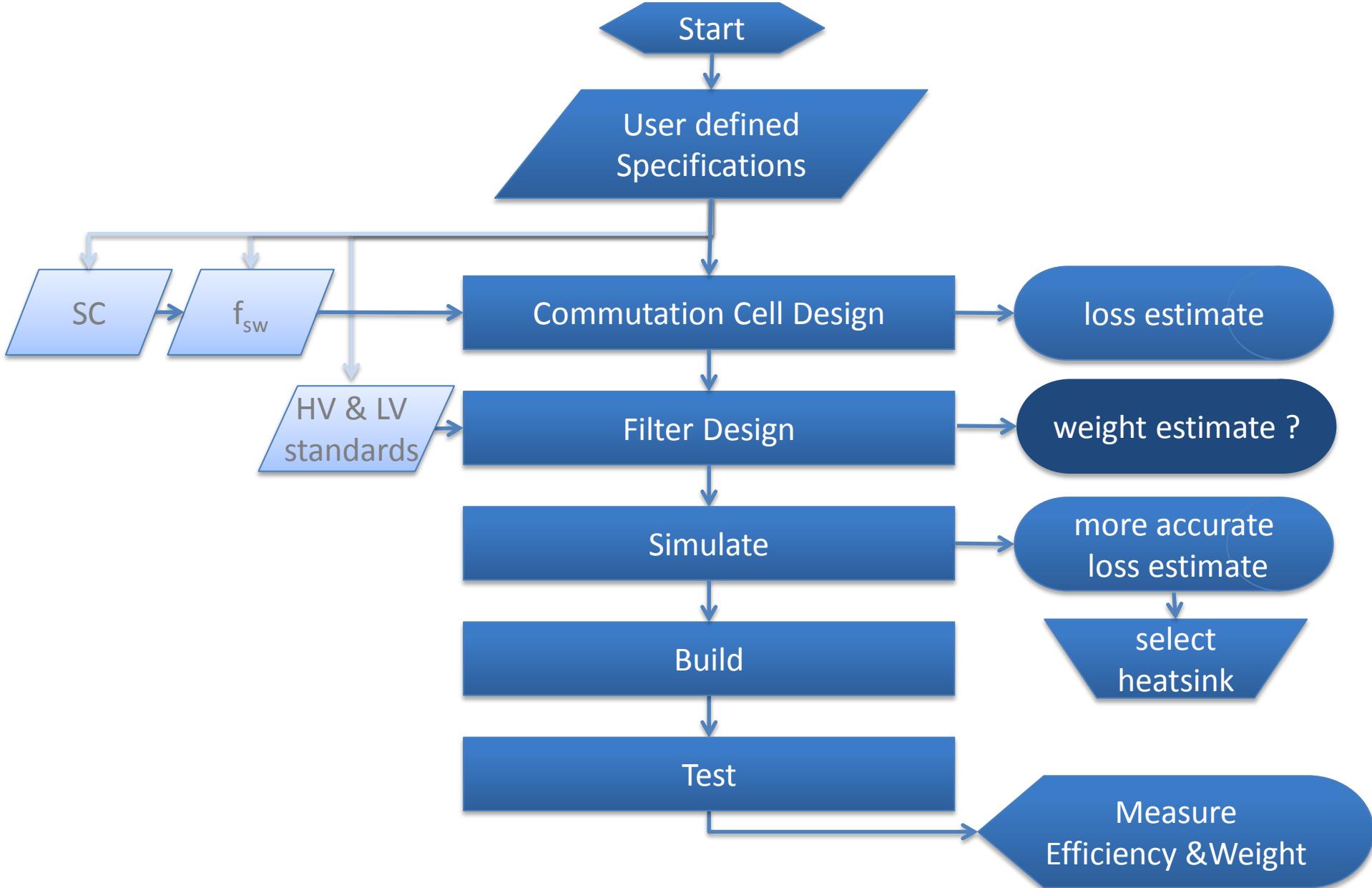


Low Voltage side



For the same amount of energy, magnetic components are (2 to 10 times??) bigger, heavier and more expensive than capacitor => Reducing the inductances and increasing the capacitance leaves room for optimization... 61

# A standard design process



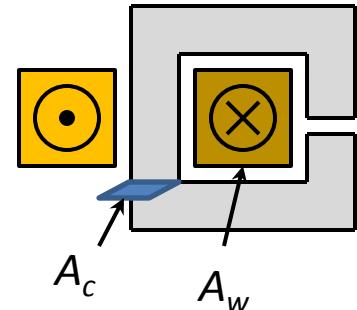
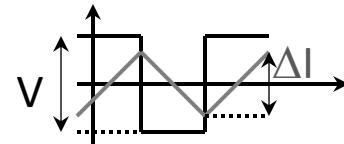
## **VOLUME OF PASSIVE COMPONENTS AND FILTERS FOR MULTILEVEL CONVERTERS**

# Area Product of Magnetic Components : Inductors

## Basic formulation

$$\hat{B} = \frac{L \cdot \hat{I}}{n_t \cdot A_c}$$

$$j_{eff} = \frac{n_t \cdot I_{eff}}{k_w \cdot A_w}$$



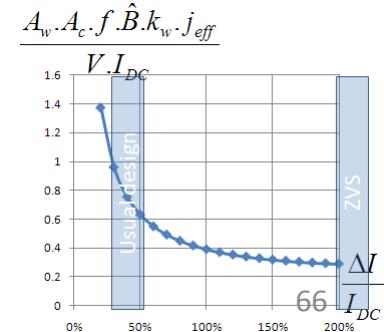
$$A_w \cdot A_c = L \cdot \hat{I} \cdot \frac{I_{eff}}{\hat{B} \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}$$

Advantage : allows selecting the core

Drawback :  $L$ ,  $\hat{I}$  and  $I_{eff}$  are not independent variables so the influence of  $L$  for example is not obvious

Taking into account :  $L = \frac{V}{4\Delta I \cdot f}$  ;  $\hat{I} = I_{DC} \cdot \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta I}{2I_{DC}} \right)$  and  $I_{eff} = I_{DC} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\Delta I}{I_{DC}} \right)^2}$

we get :  $A_w \cdot A_c = \frac{V \cdot I_{DC} \cdot \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta I}{2I_{DC}} \right) \cdot \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\Delta I}{I_{DC}} \right)^2}}{4(\Delta I / I_{DC}) \cdot f \cdot \hat{B} \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}$



# Area Product of Magnetic Components : Inductors

Improved

*Improved formulation #3 : combining copper losses and core losses*

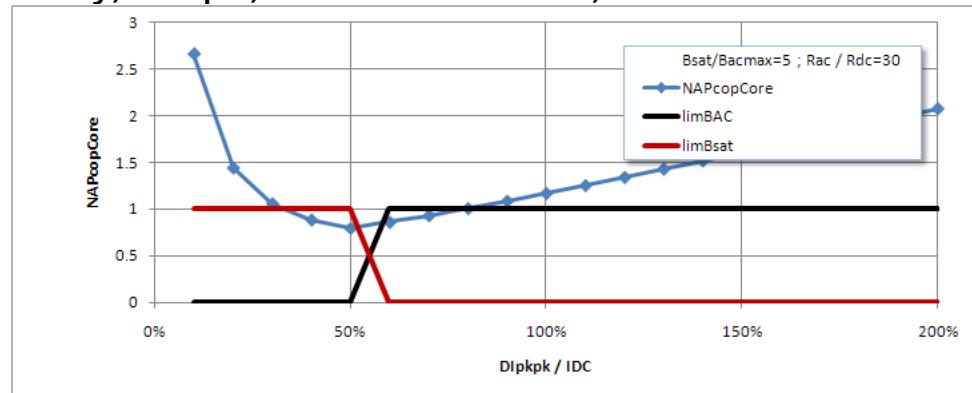
Limits on Core Loss Density and Copper Loss Density can be combined to form an Improved Normalized Area Product :

$$NAP_{core}^{copper} = \frac{A_c \cdot A_w \cdot B_{sat} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}{V \cdot I_{DC}} = \frac{1}{8} \max \left( 1 + \frac{2}{\Delta I / I_{DC}}; \frac{B_{sat}}{B_{AC \max}} \right) \cdot \sqrt{1 + \frac{R_{AC}}{R_{DC}} \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\Delta I}{I_{DC}} \right)^2}$$

Though elegant, this formulation could be misleading :

$B_{ACmax}$  and  $R_{AC}/R_{DC}$  are very difficult to determine a priori :

- $B_{ACmax}$  should be chosen to limit core temperature rise which in practice depends on  $f$  and core material (loss), size (volume/surface ratio), shape, cooling conditions...
- $R_{AC}/R_{DC}$  depends on  $f$ , shape, number of turns, conductor material...

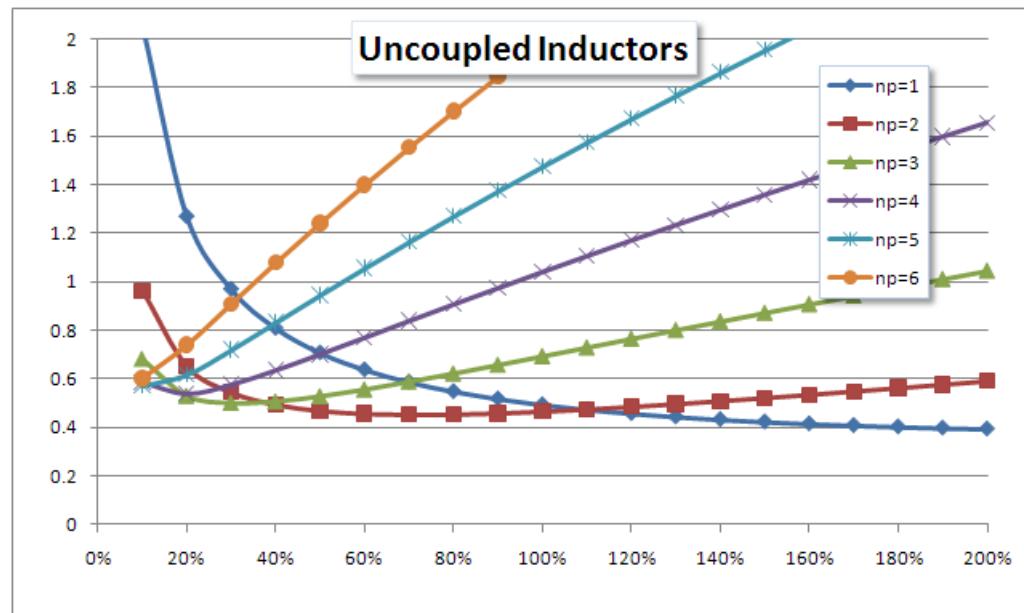


# Area Product of Magnetic Components : Inductors

Basic formulation

*Interleaved converters with uncoupled inductors*

$NVol$



$$\frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}}$$

$$NVol = \frac{Vol_{tot}}{K_{shape}} \cdot \left( \frac{\hat{B} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}{V \cdot I_{DCtot}} \right)^{3/4} = n_p \cdot \left( \frac{1}{8n_p} \left( 1 + \frac{2I_{DCtot}}{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot}} \right) \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}} \right)^2} \right)^{3/4}$$

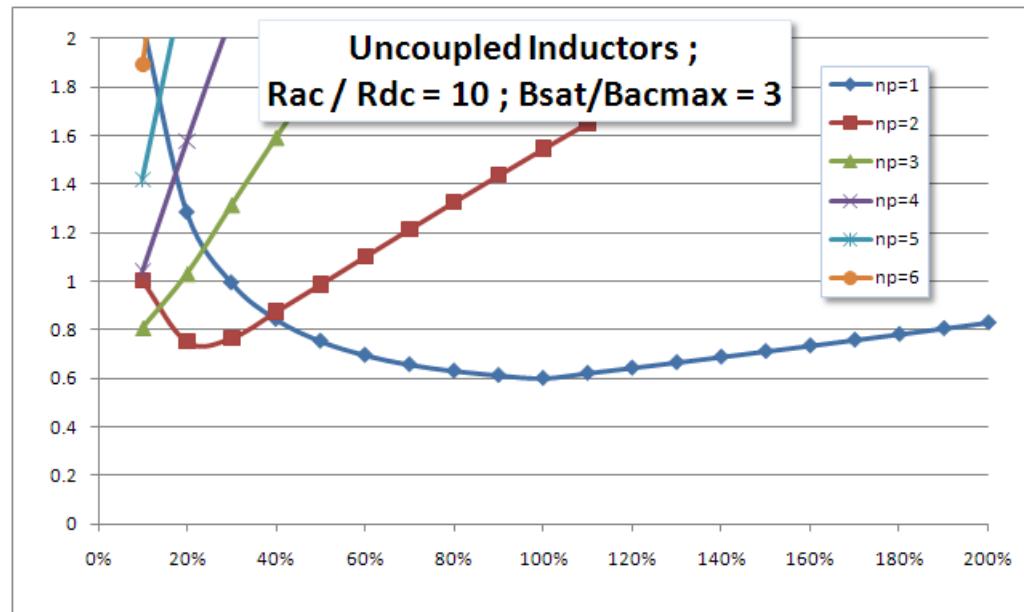
75

# Area Product of Magnetic Components : Inductors

Improved formulation

*Interleaved converters with uncoupled inductors*

$NVol$



$$\frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}}$$

$$NVol = \frac{Vol_{tot}}{K_{shape}} \cdot \left( \frac{B_{sat} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}{V \cdot I_{DC}} \right)^{3/4} = n_p \cdot \left( \frac{1}{8n_p} \max \left( 1 + \frac{2}{n_p^2 \Delta I_{tot} / I_{DCtot}} ; \frac{B_{sat}}{B_{AC\ max}} \right) \sqrt{1 - \frac{R_{AC}}{R_{DC}} \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{n_p^2 \Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}} \right)^2} \right)^{3/4}$$

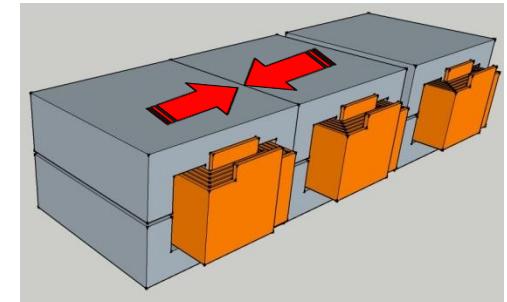
# Area Product of Magnetic Components : ICTs

Basic formulation

*Interleaved converters with coupled inductors (or InterCell Transformers = ICTs)*

Compared with uncoupled inductors:

- Fluxes unchanged ,
- Current ripples reduced



$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Delta I_{tot} &= \frac{\Delta I_{ind}}{n_p} \cdot n_p \\ I_{DCtot} &= n_p \cdot I_{DCind} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta I_{ind}}{I_{DCind}} = \frac{n_p \Delta I_{tot}/n_p}{I_{DCtot}/n_p} \frac{n_p^2 \Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}}$$

=> Total volume of the  $n_p$  coupled inductors :

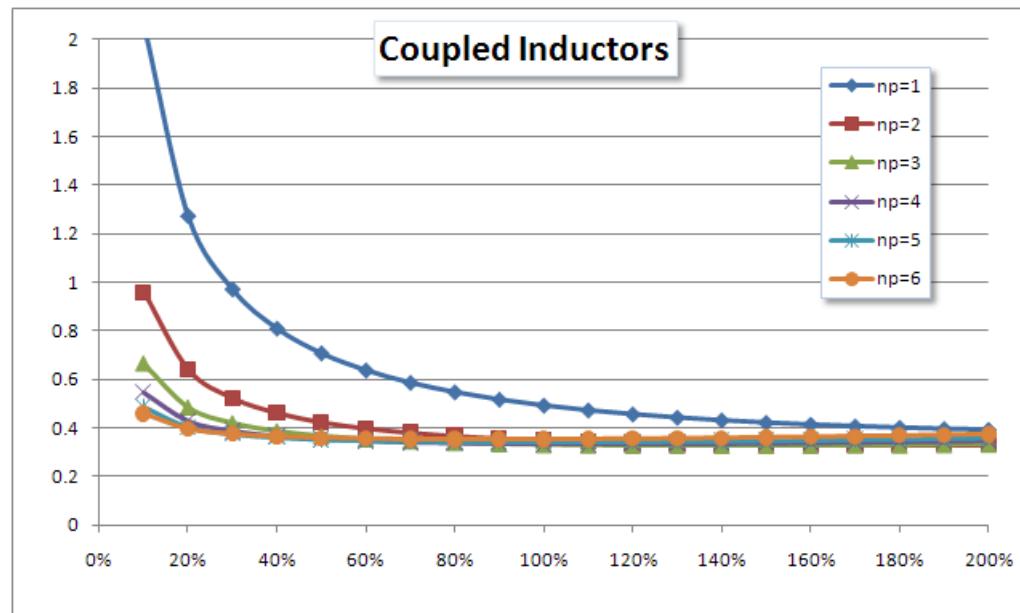
$$Vol_{tot} = n_p \cdot K_{shape} \left( \frac{V \cdot \frac{I_{DCtot}}{n_p} \cdot \left( 1 + \frac{2I_{DCtot}}{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot}} \right) \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}} \right)^2}}{8 \hat{B} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}} \right)^{3/4}$$

# Area Product of Magnetic Components : ICTs

Basic formulation

*Interleaved converters with coupled inductors (or InterCell Transformers = ICTs)*

$NVol$



$$\frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}}$$

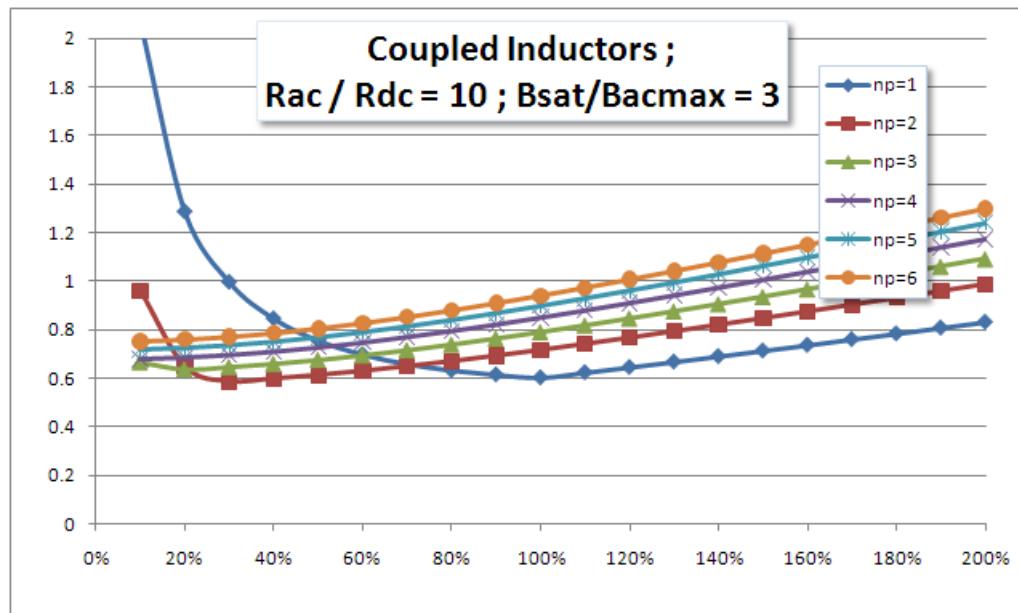
$$NVol = \frac{Vol_{tot}}{K_{shape}} \cdot \left( \frac{\hat{B} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}{V \cdot I_{DC}} \right)^{3/4} = n_p \cdot \left( \frac{1}{8n_p} \left( 1 + \frac{2I_{DCtot}}{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot}} \right) \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}} \right)^2} \right)^{3/4}$$

# Area Product of Magnetic Components : ICTs

Improved formulation

*Interleaved converters with coupled inductors (or InterCell Transformers = ICTs)*

NVol



Excel  
Link

$$\frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}}$$

$$NVol = \frac{Vol_{tot}}{K_{shape}} \cdot \left( \frac{B_{sat} \cdot f \cdot k_w \cdot j_{eff}}{V \cdot I_{DC}} \right)^{3/4} = n_p \cdot \left( \frac{1}{8n_p} \max \left( 1 + \frac{2}{n_p^2 \cdot \Delta I_{tot} / I_{DCtot}}; \frac{B_{sat}}{B_{AC\ max}} \right) \sqrt{1 + \frac{R_{AC}}{R_{DC}} \frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\Delta I_{tot}}{I_{DCtot}} \right)^2} \right)^{3/4}$$

## Minimum volume of LV-side uncoupled inductors and InterCell Transformers

*Crossing( $f_1=f_2$ )*

$$1 + \frac{2}{n_p^2 \Delta I_{tot} / I_{DCtot}} = \frac{B_{sat}}{B_{AC\ max}} \Leftrightarrow \Delta I_{tot} / I_{DCtot} = \frac{2}{n_p^2} \frac{\frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}}{1 - \frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}}$$

⇒ Ripple giving the minimum volume of Magnetic Component :

*uncoupled*

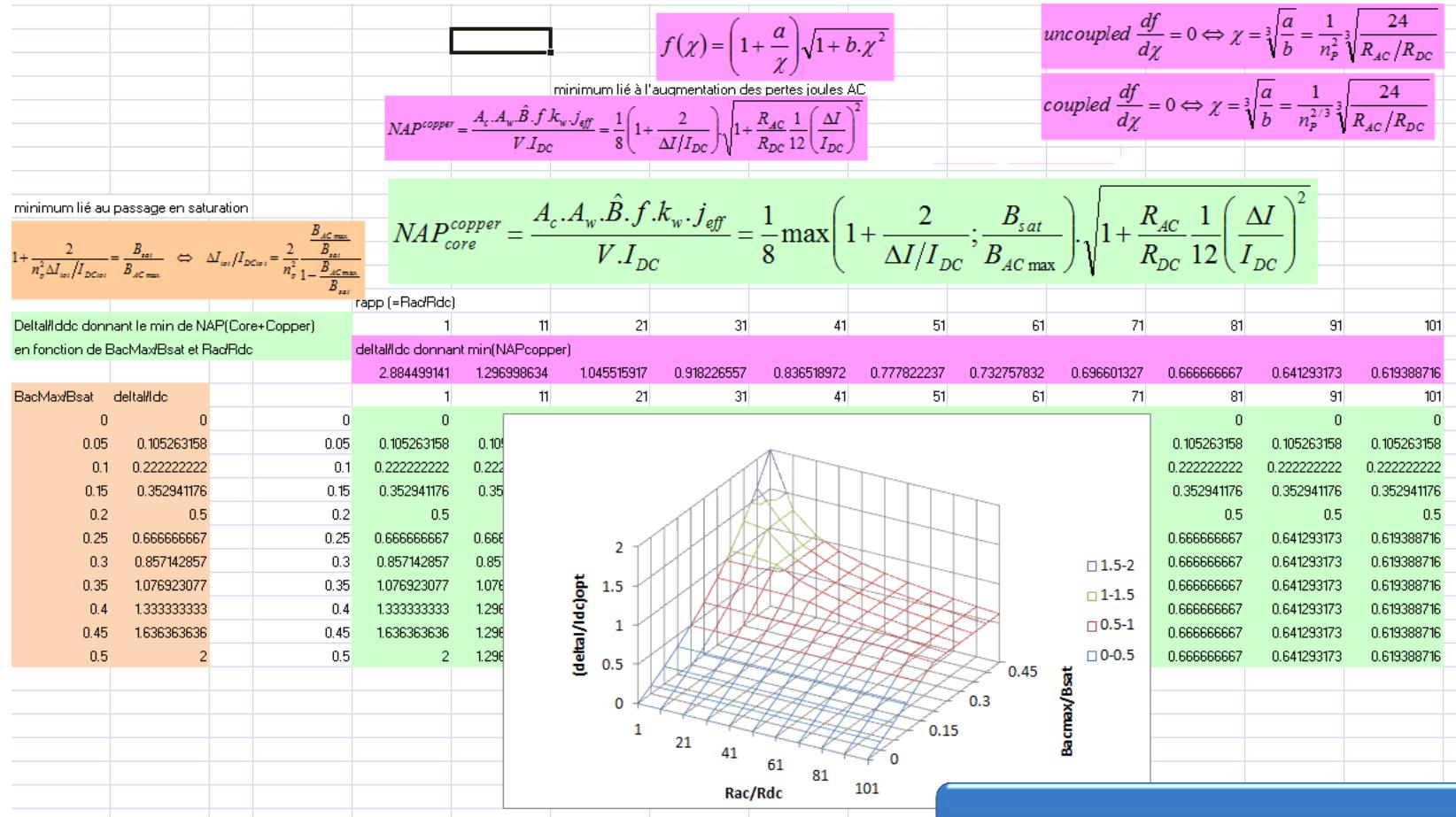
$$\chi = \min \left( \frac{1}{n_p^2} \sqrt[3]{\frac{24}{R_{AC}/R_{DC}}} ; \frac{2}{n_p^2} \frac{\frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}}{1 - \frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}} \right)$$

*coupled*

$$\chi = \min \left( \frac{1}{n_p^{2/3}} \sqrt[3]{\frac{24}{R_{AC}/R_{DC}}} ; \frac{2}{n_p^2} \frac{\frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}}{1 - \frac{B_{AC\ max}}{B_{sat}}} \right)$$

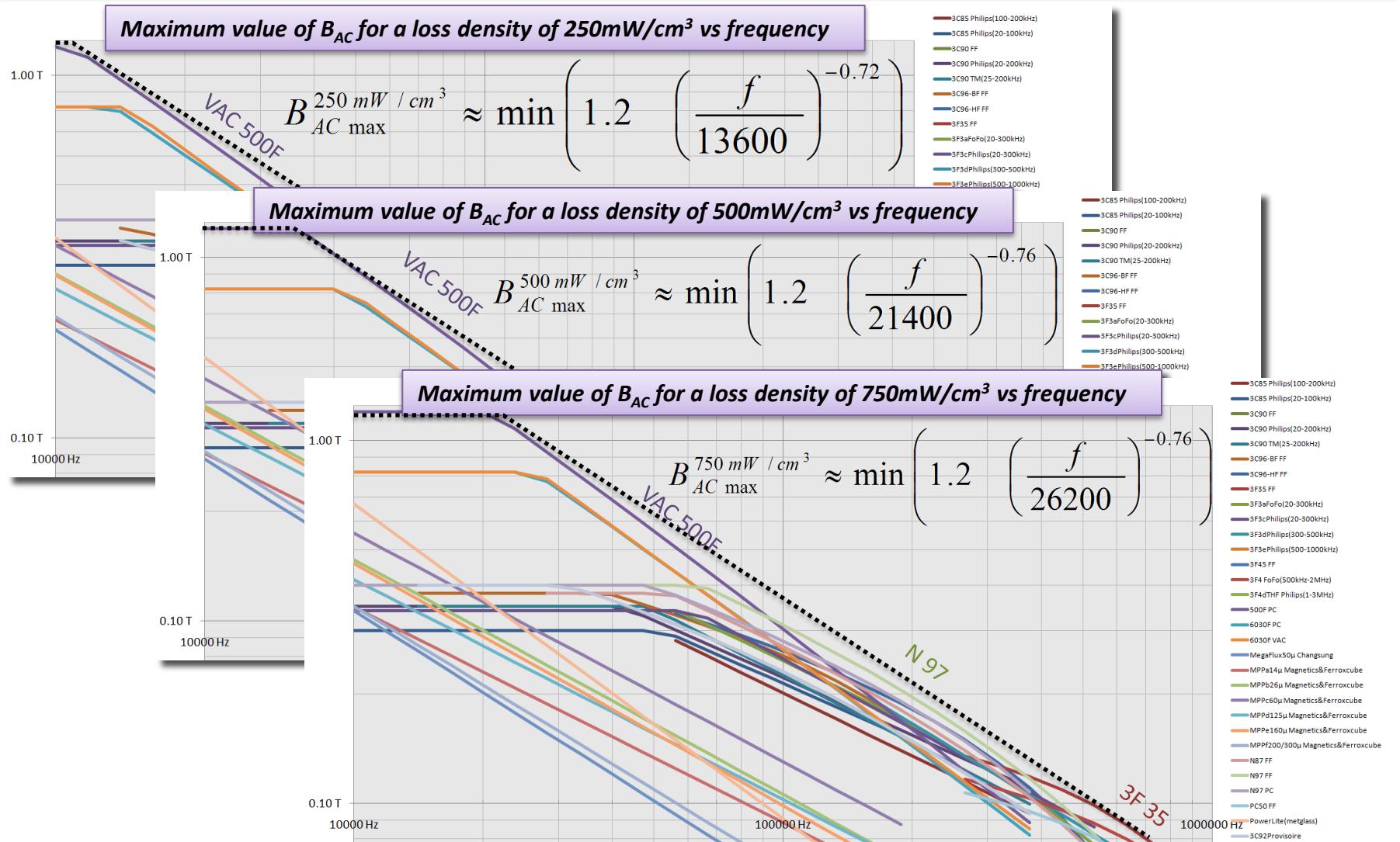
# Minimum volume of LV-side uncoupled inductors and InterCell Transformers

Ripple giving the minimum volume (as a function of  $B_{ACmax}/B_{sat}$  and  $\Delta I/I_{DC}$ )



# Minimum volume of LV-side uncoupled inductors and InterCell Transformers

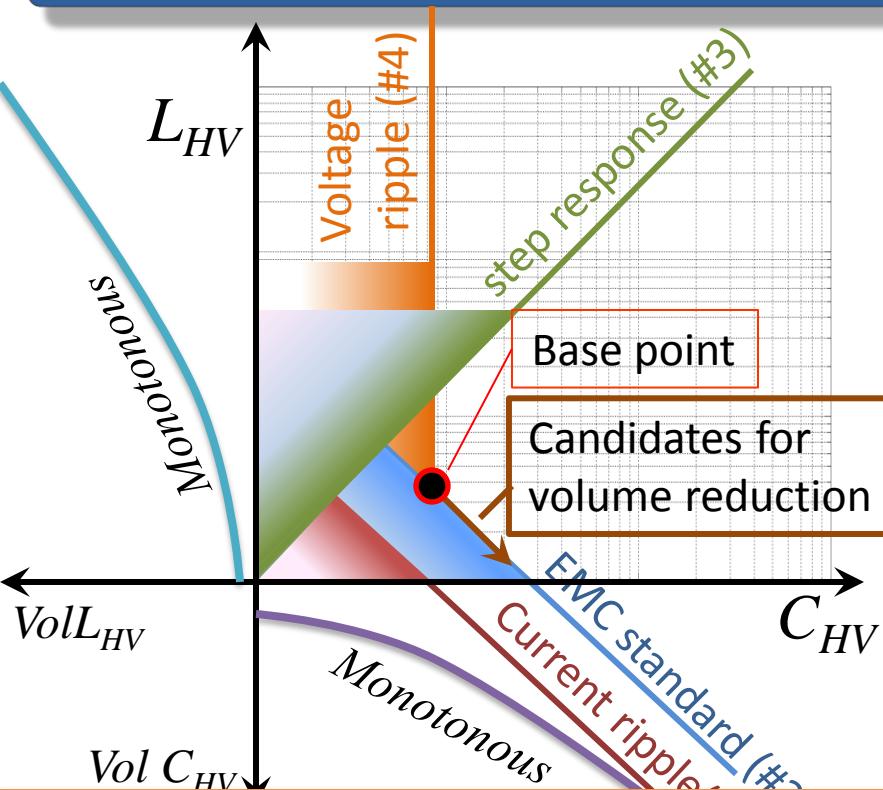
## Technology-related data : Core loss limitation



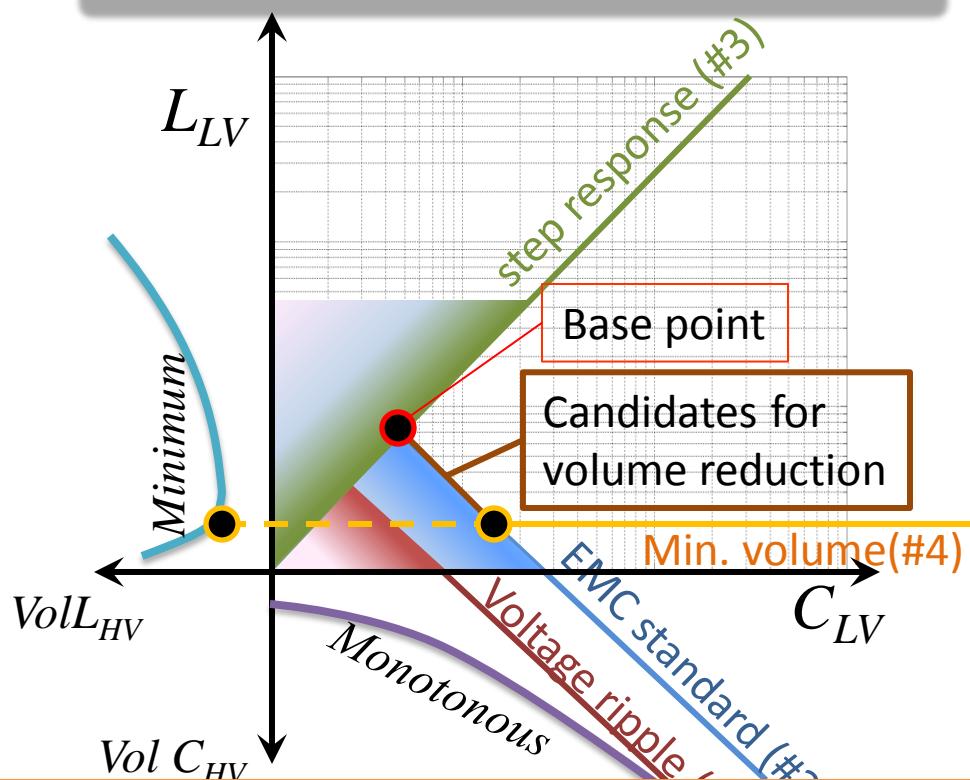
Req  
#1 + #2 + #3 + #4

# Filters with minimum volumes

High Voltage side



Low Voltage side



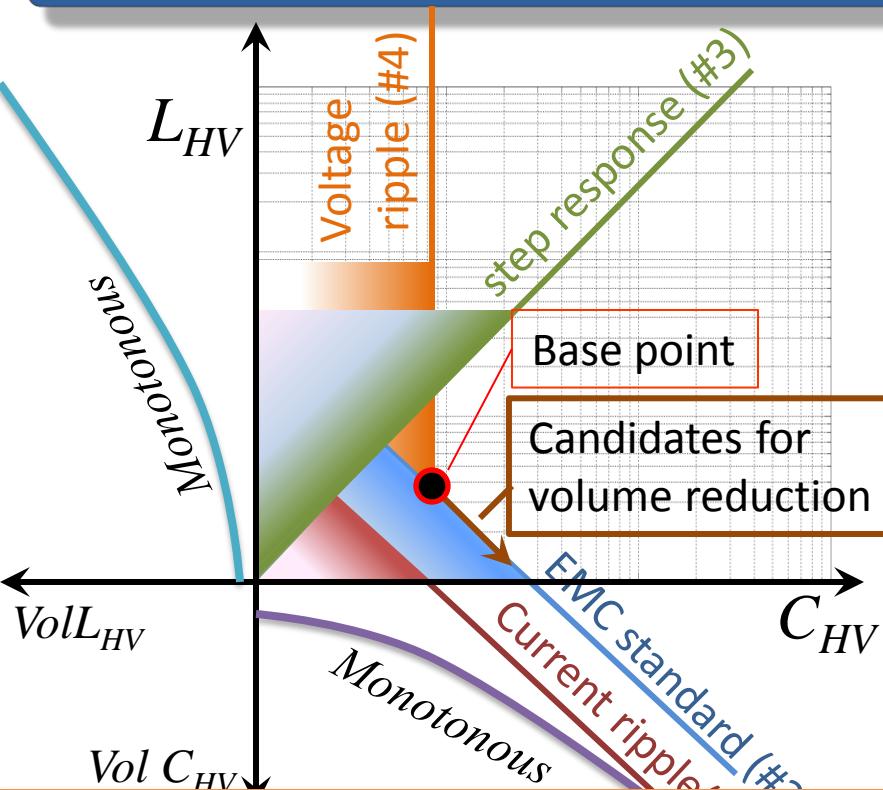
Feasible points all use a capacitance greater than that of the base point which means capacitors bigger than basepoint. Smaller filters can only be found by reducing the volume of the magnetic part.

For HV filter this is only possible by decreasing  $L_{HV}$  but for LV filter, the magnetic component with the smaller volume can be obtained for a smaller or higher inductance. The minimum volume of the whole filter will be found somewhere between these two values of inductances (base point inductance and inductance with the minimum volume), by following either the constant LC ( $L_{MinVol} < L_{BasePoint}$ ) or the constant  $L/C$  ( $L_{MinVol} > L_{BasePoint}$ ) line.

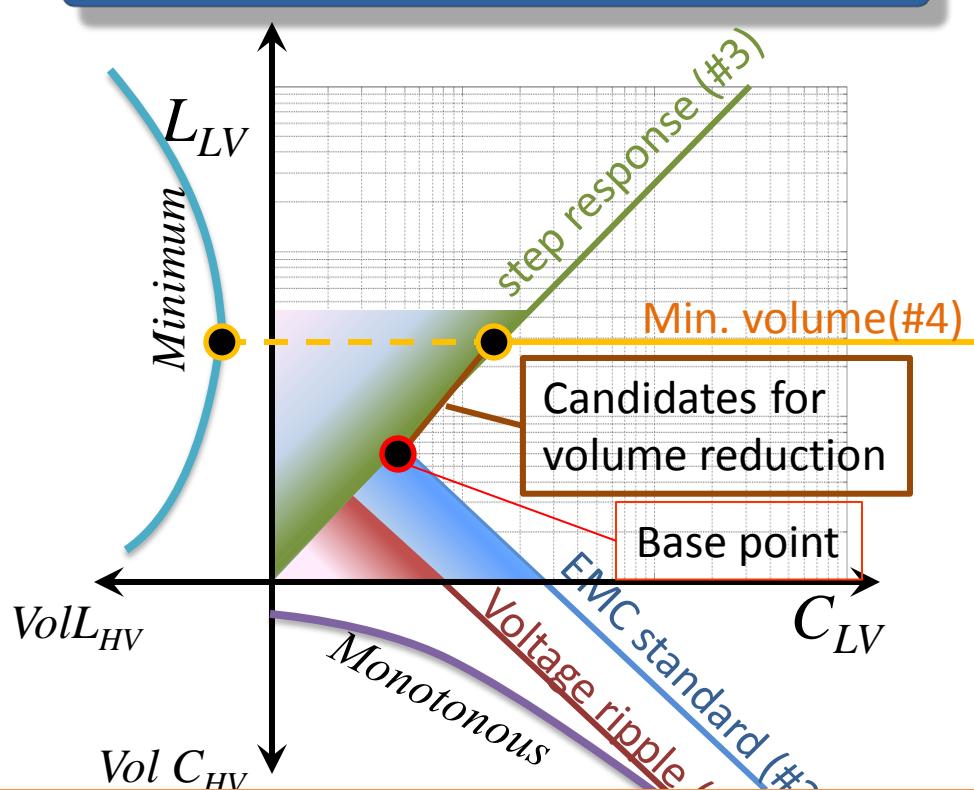
Req  
#1 + #2 + #3 + #4

# Filters with minimum volumes

High Voltage side



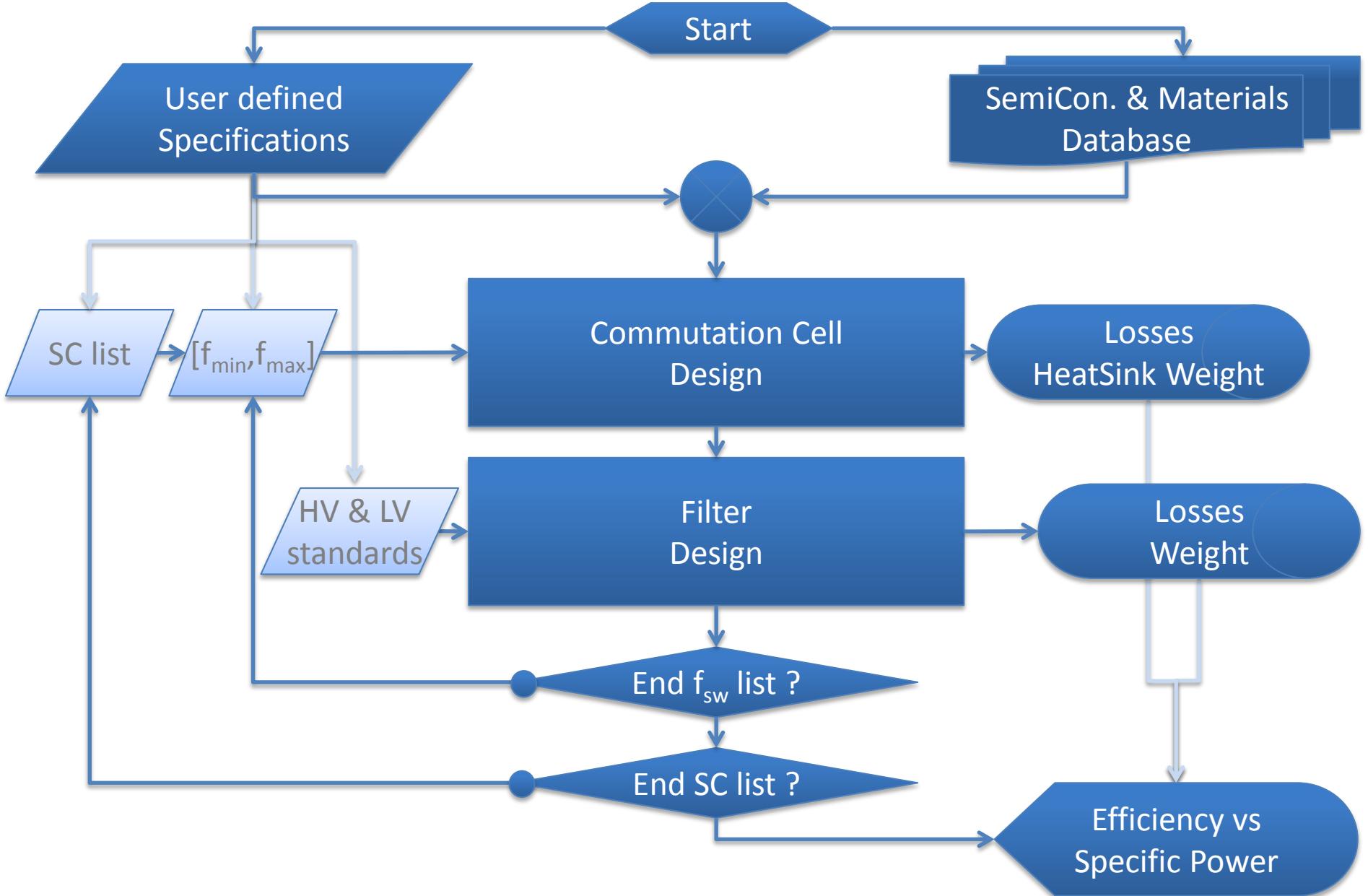
Low Voltage side



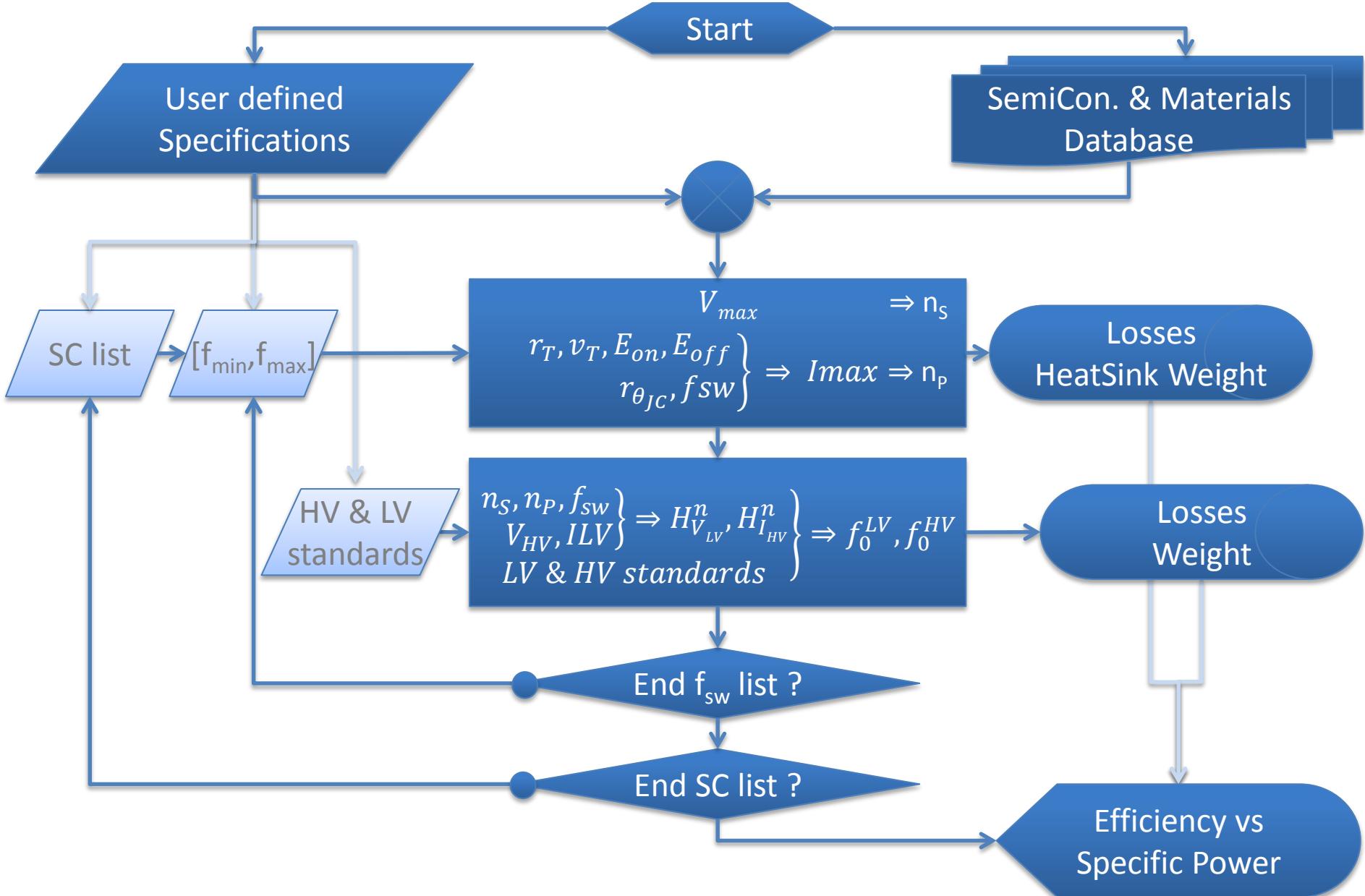
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# Design process

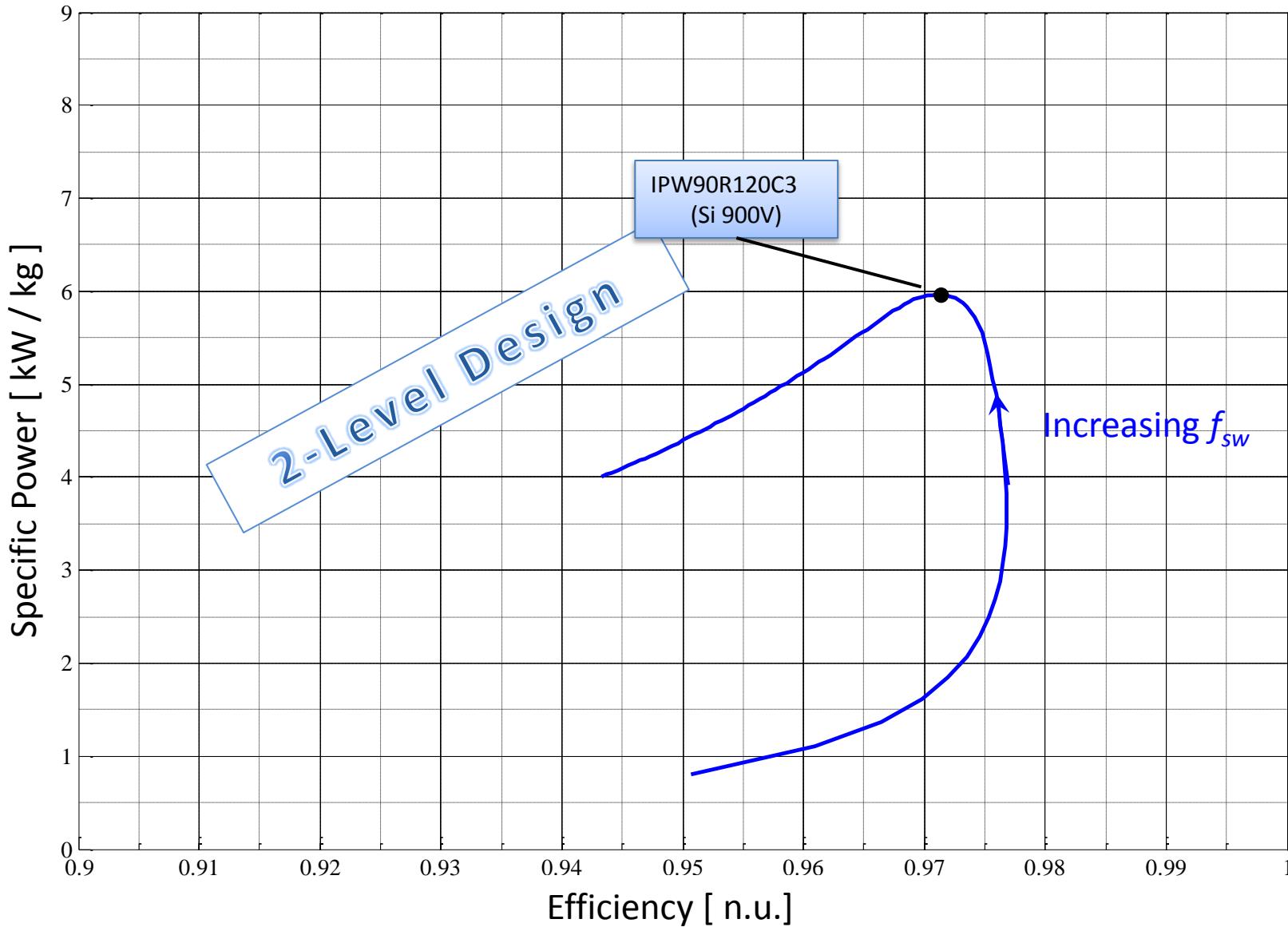


# Design process



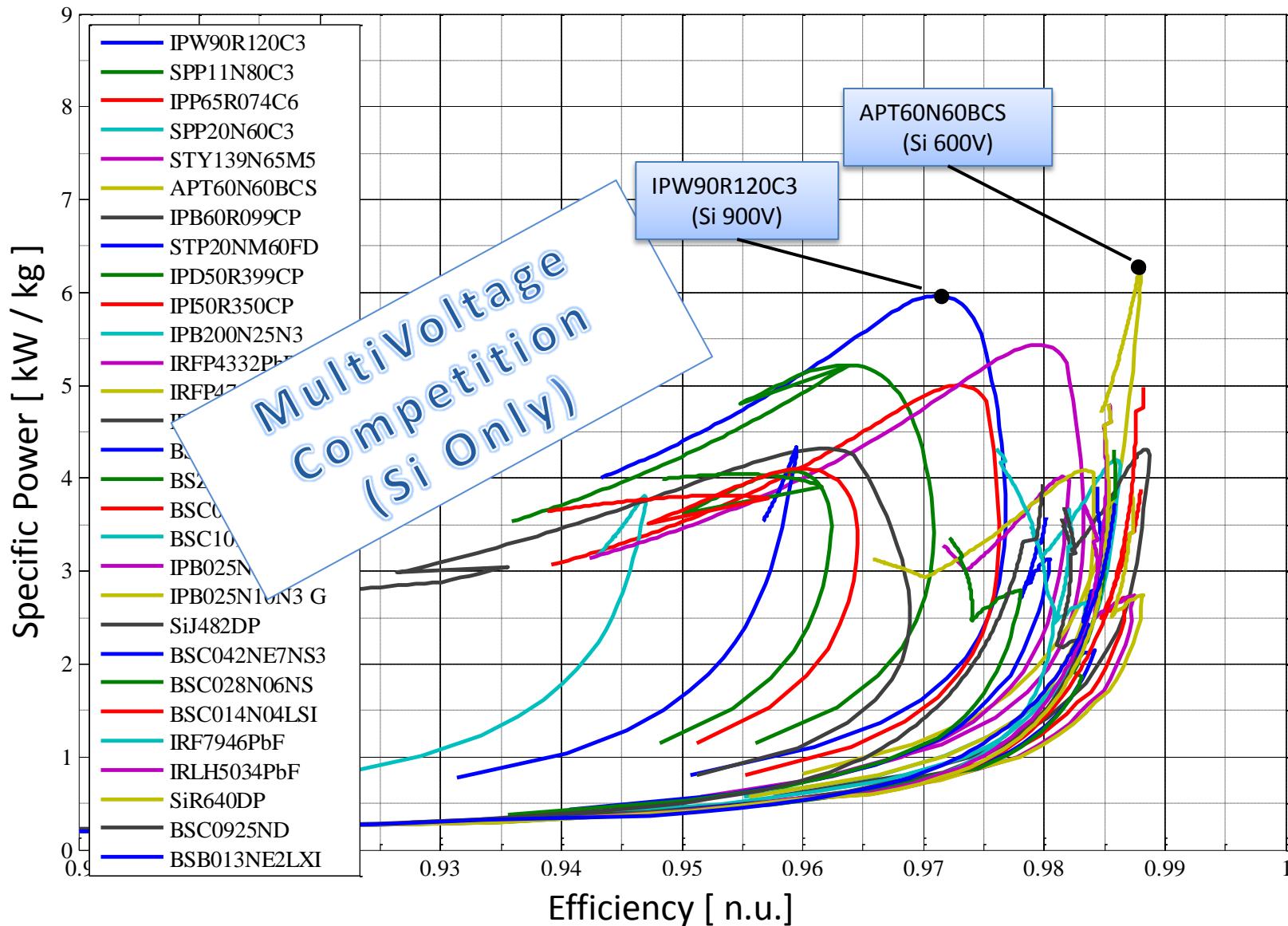
## Combining SC data and passive component data : feasible points in the (SpecificPower, Efficiency) plane

$V_{HV} = 600V$  ;  $D = 50\%$  ; Power=6kW; Coupled

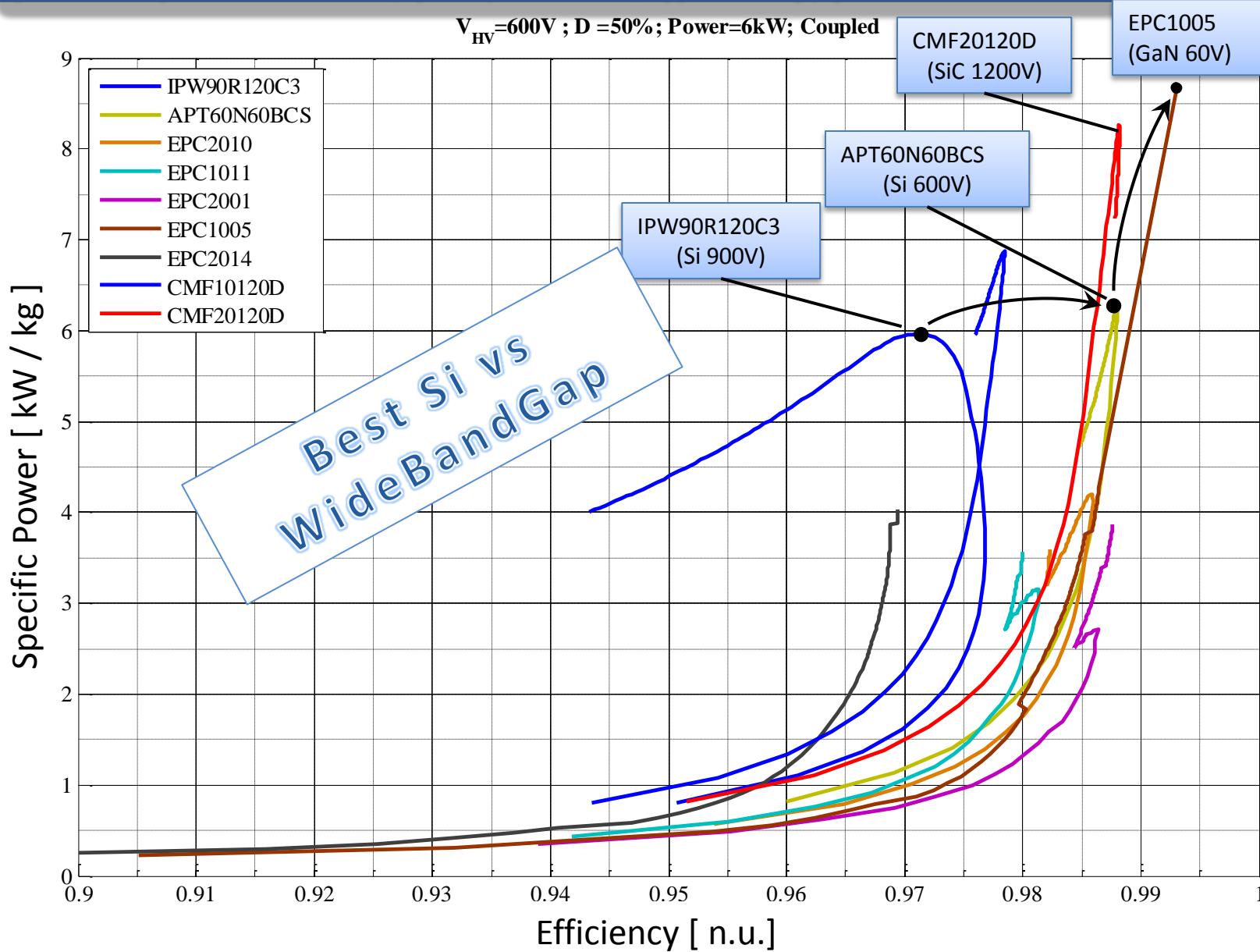


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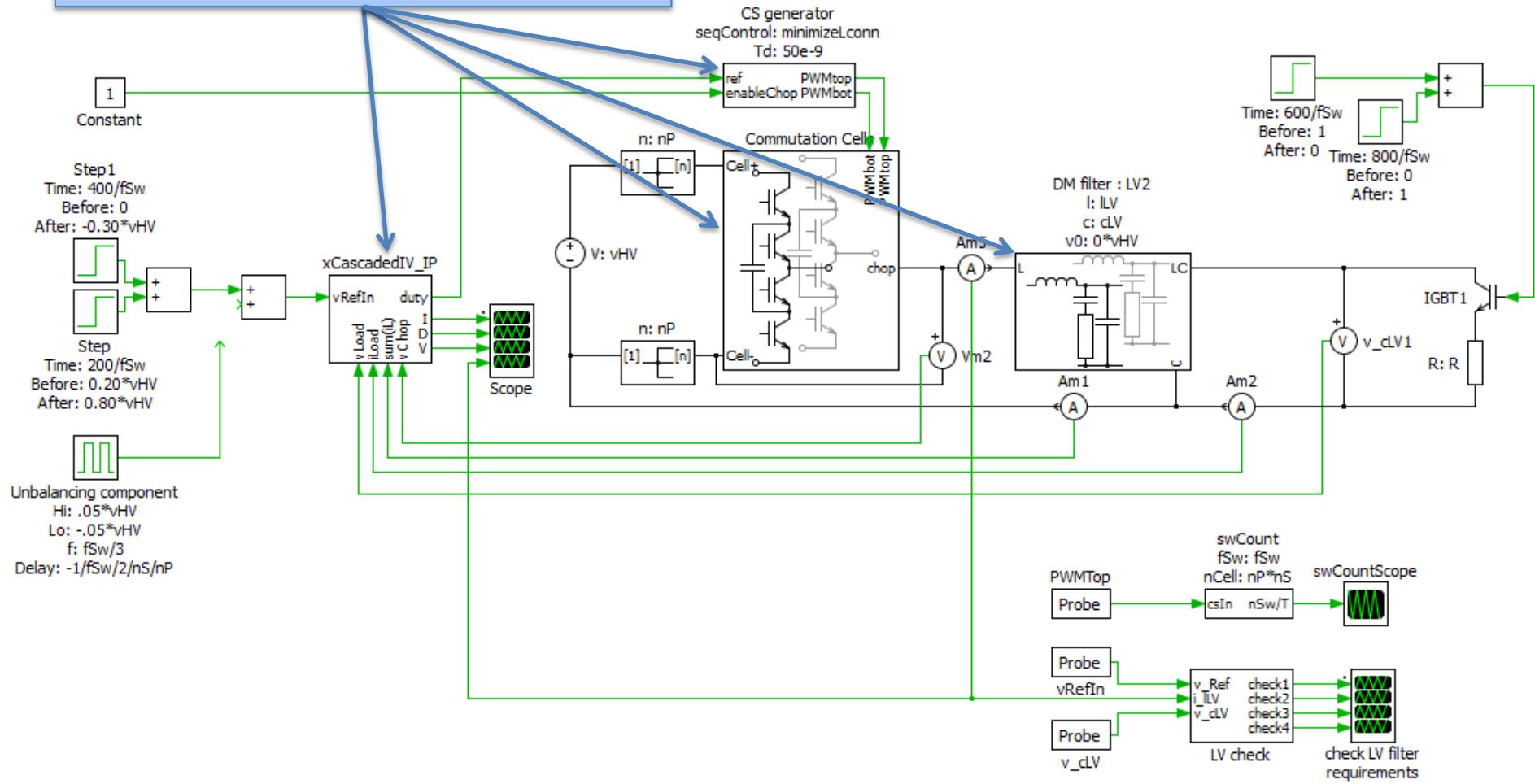


## Combining SC data and passive component data : feasible points in the (SpecificPower, Efficiency) plane

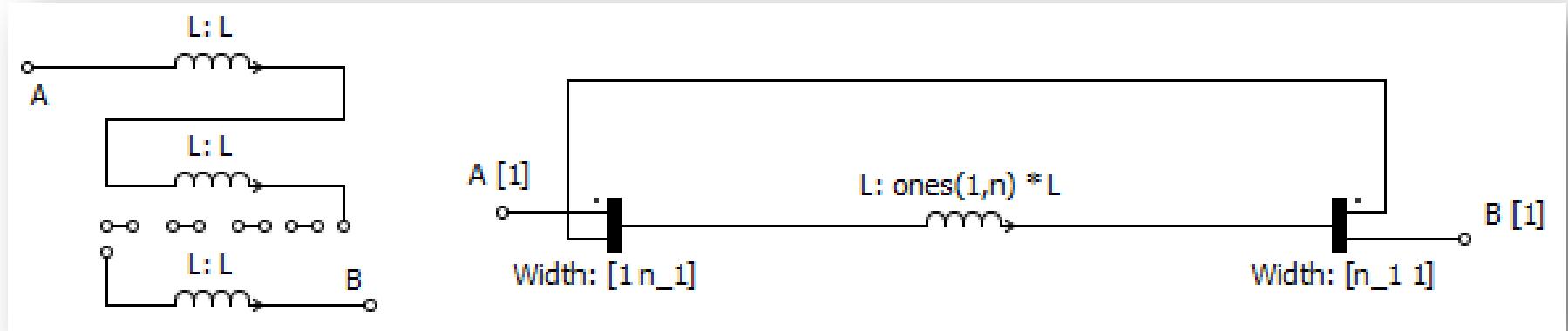
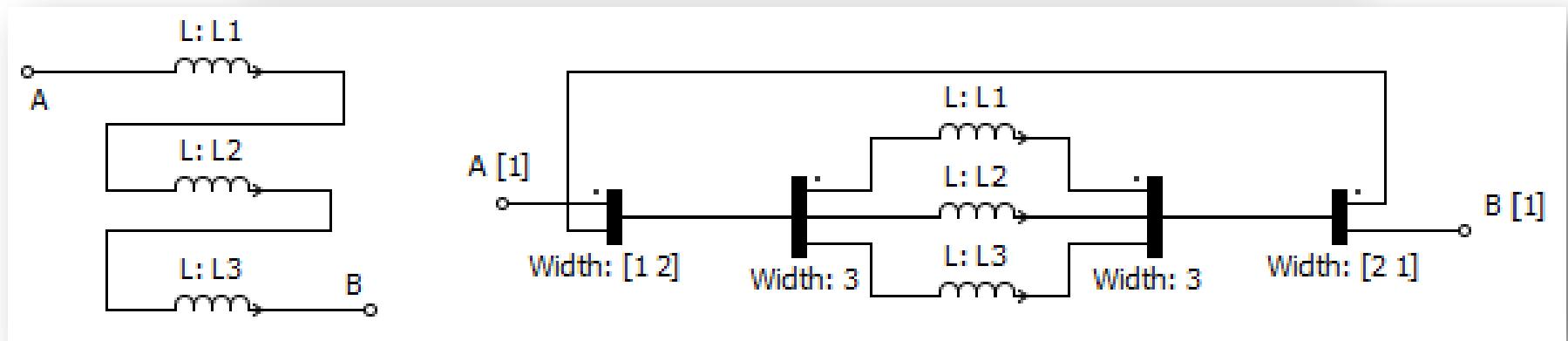
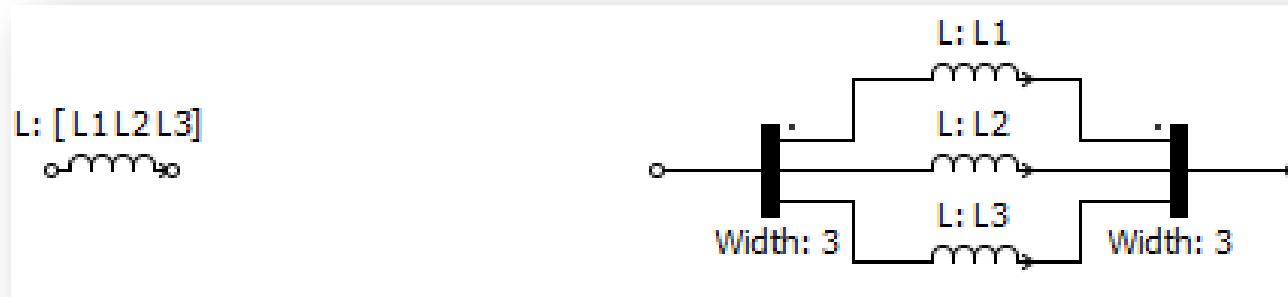


# Design check

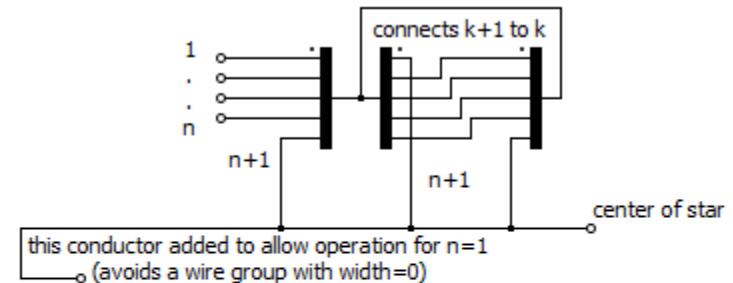
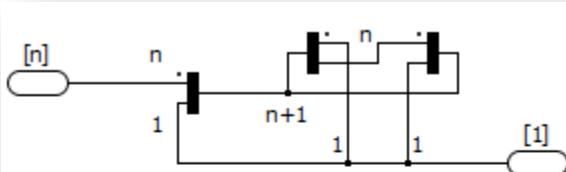
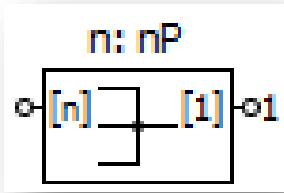
Main blocks are nS, nP compatible



# Graphic Vectorization in PLECS

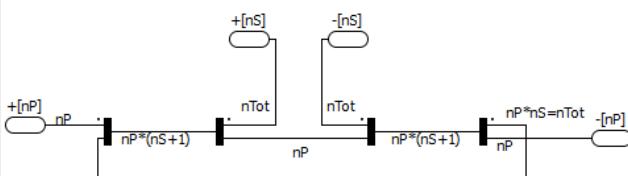
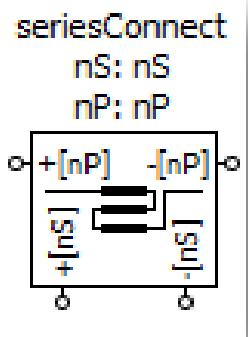


# Dedicated blocks to help vectorization

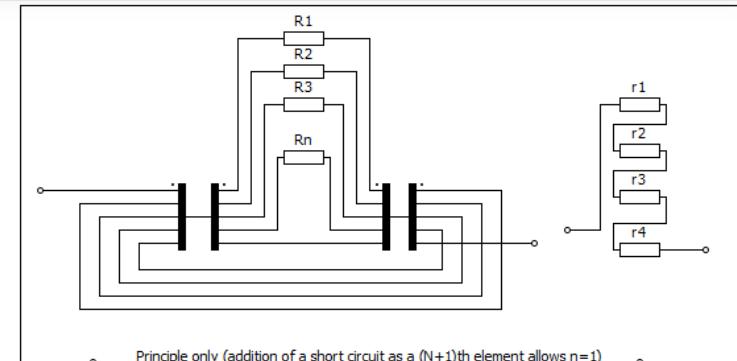


This block allows star connection of  $n$  terminals ( $n$  integer  $> 0$ ) and gives access to the center of the star.

Author : TM



Active part of the circuit

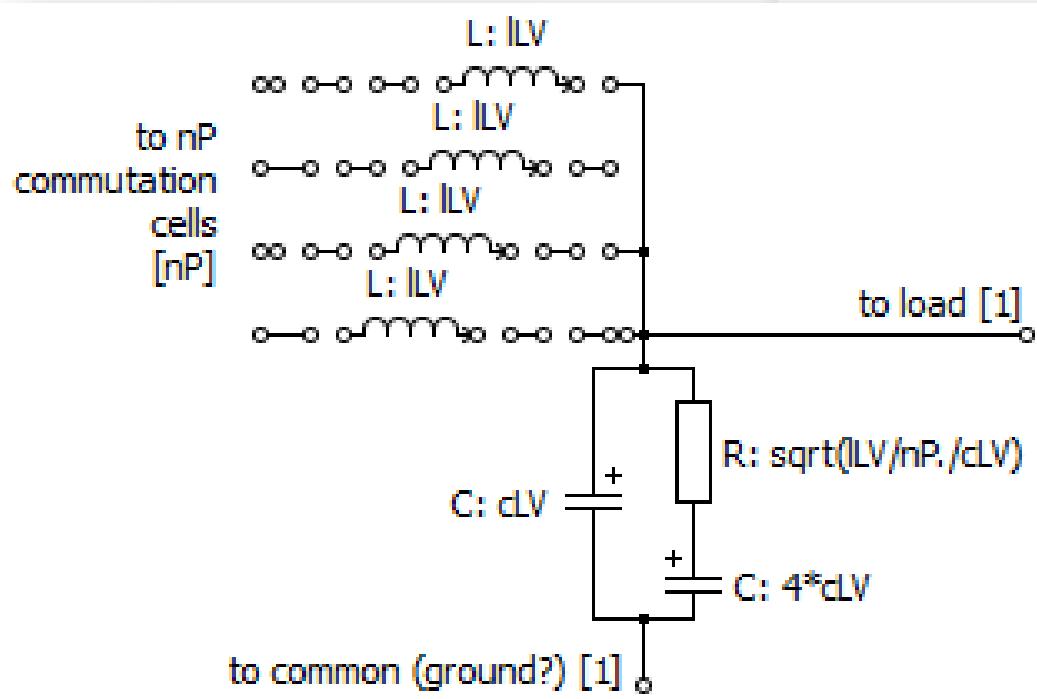
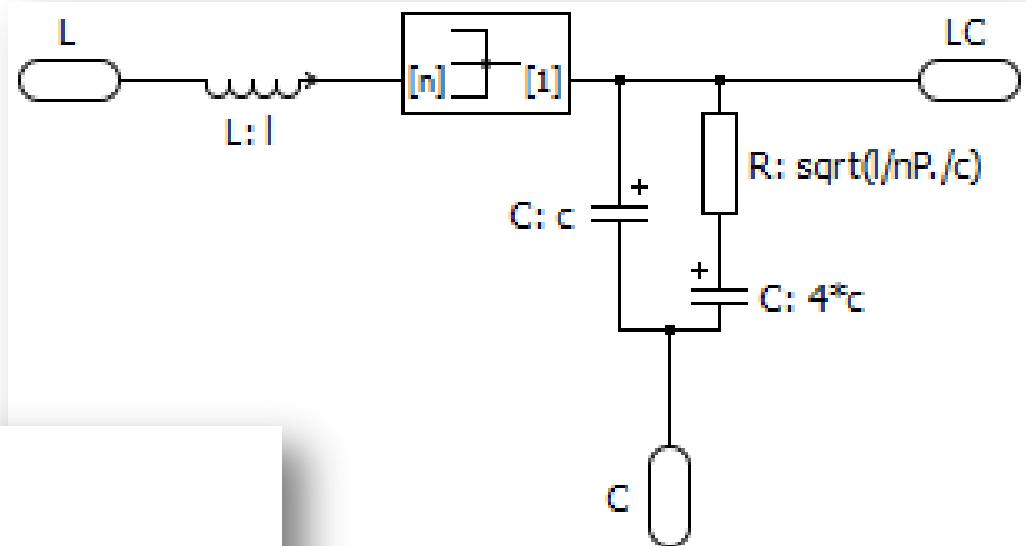
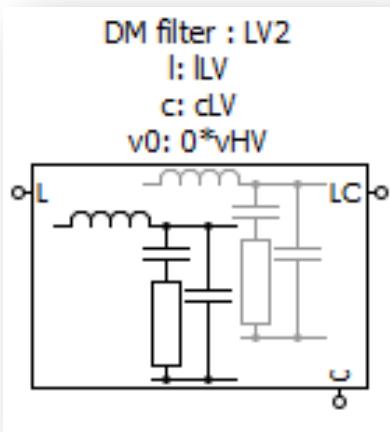


This block allows series connection dipoles.

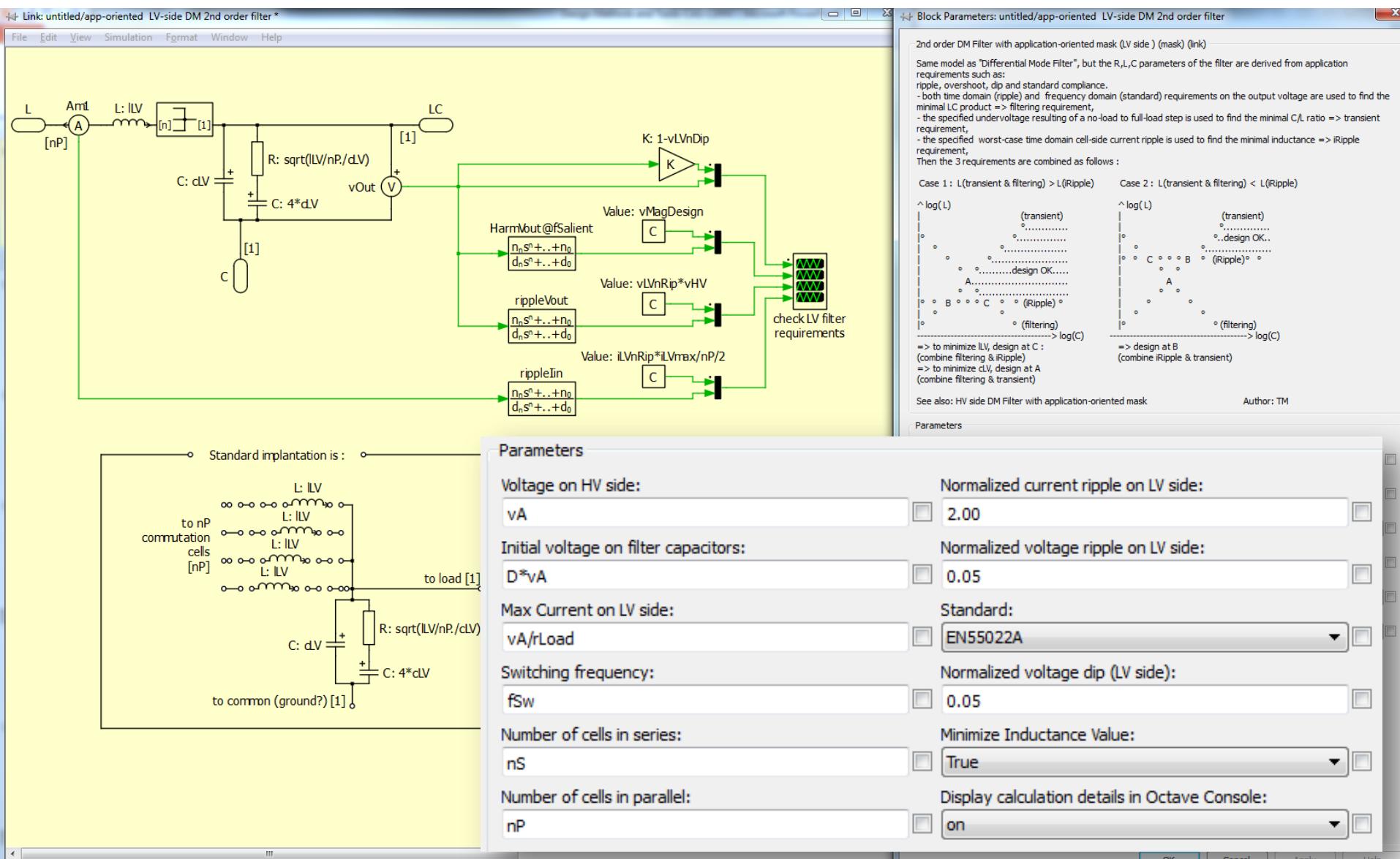
- If the dipole is defined as a single element, the number of elements in series is imposed by the number ' $n$ ' in the mask.
- If the dipole is defined as a vector, the number ' $n$ ' in the mask must be equal to the size of the vector of dipoles.

Author : TM

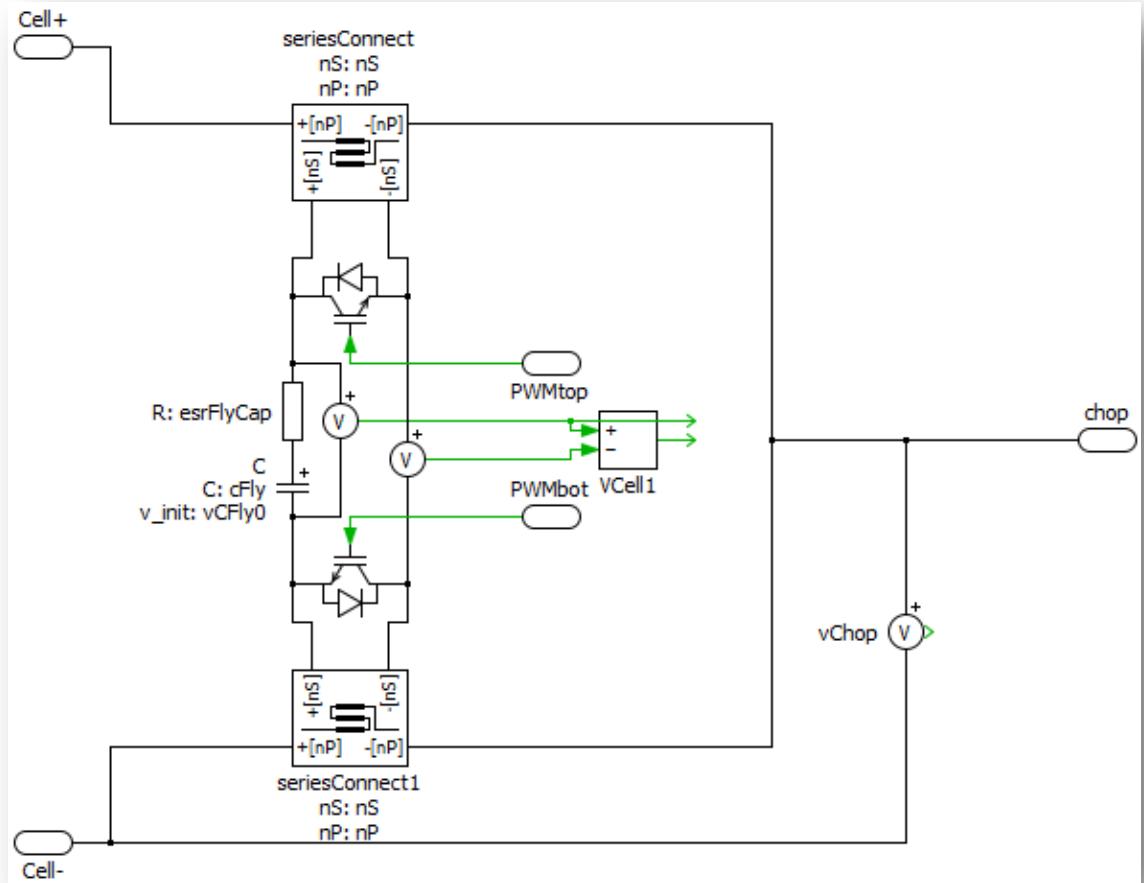
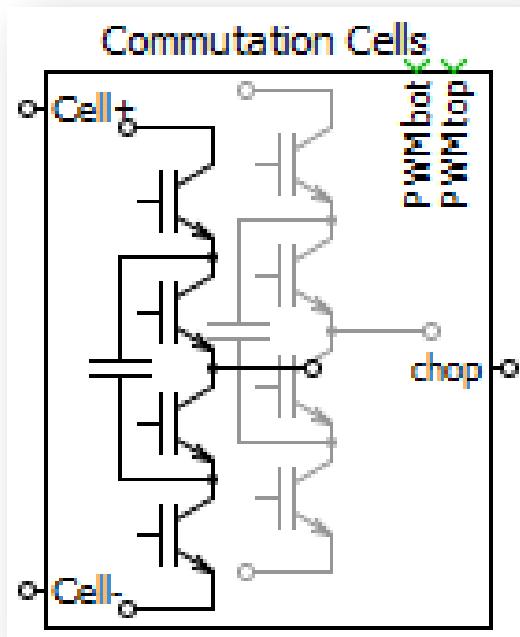
# Vectorized filters



# Vectorized filters with pre-design

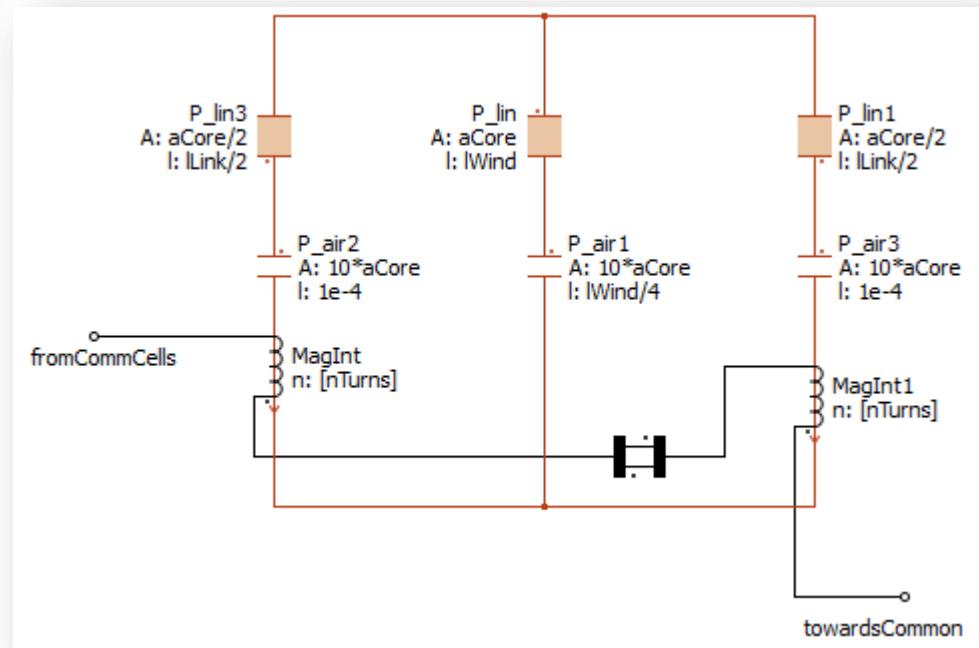
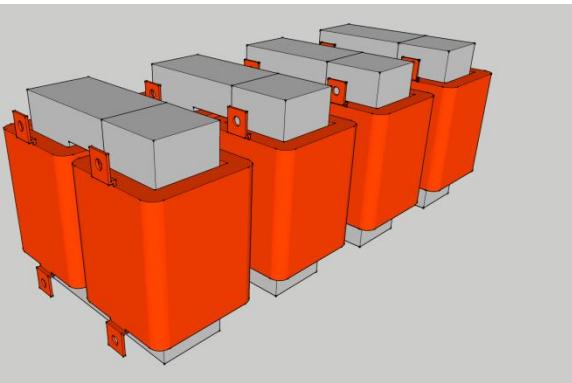
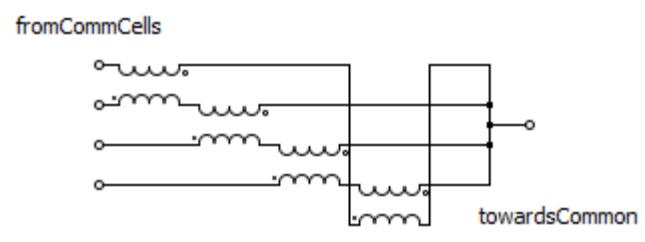


# Vectorized commutation cell

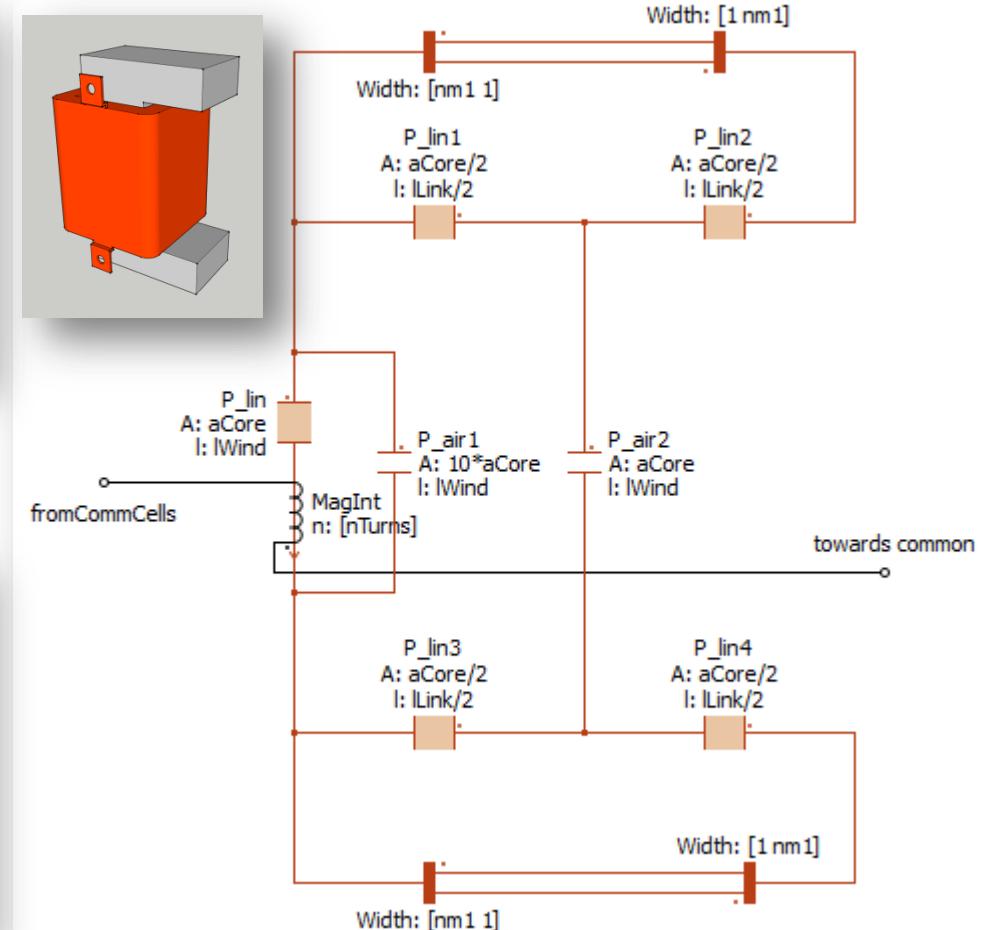
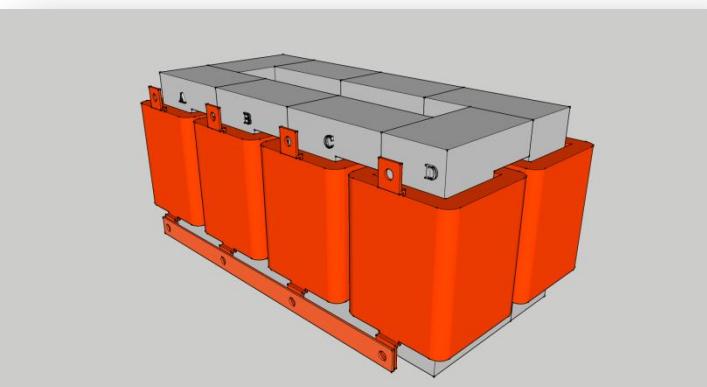
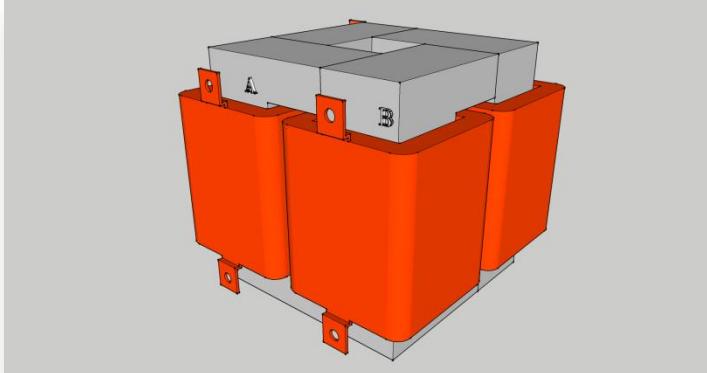


MacroCell is composed of Flying Cap Legs (nS commutation cells in series) that can typically be used in parallel connection (nP legs in parallel). Ideally, all commutation cells should all be controlled with the same duty cycle, but those in series with a phase-shift of  $2\pi/nS$ , and those in parallel with a phase-shift of  $2\pi/nP$ . When nP and nS are coprime, the input and output ripples are periodic at  $nP.nS.fSw$ .

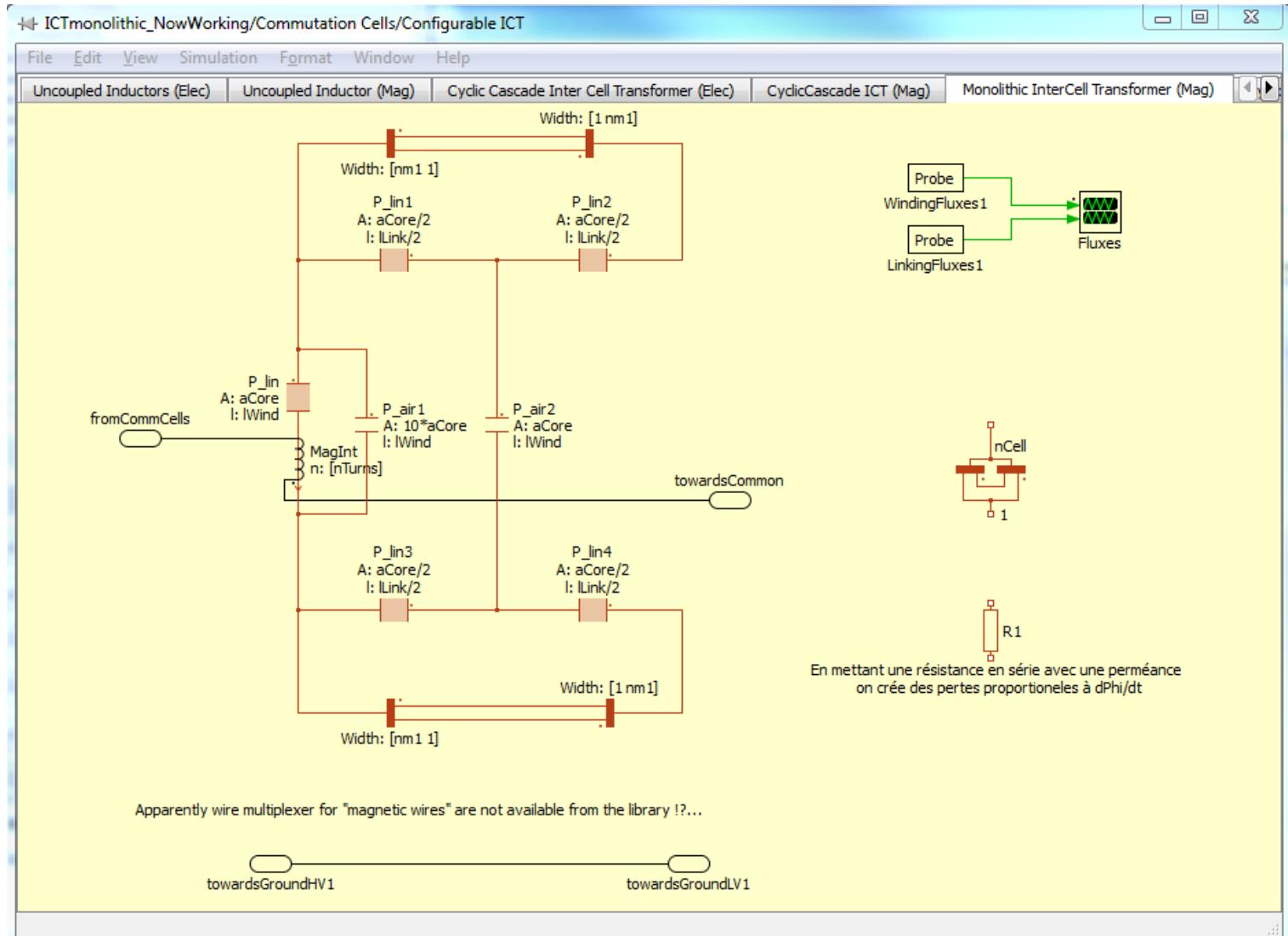
# Vectorized Cyclic Cascade InterCell Transformer



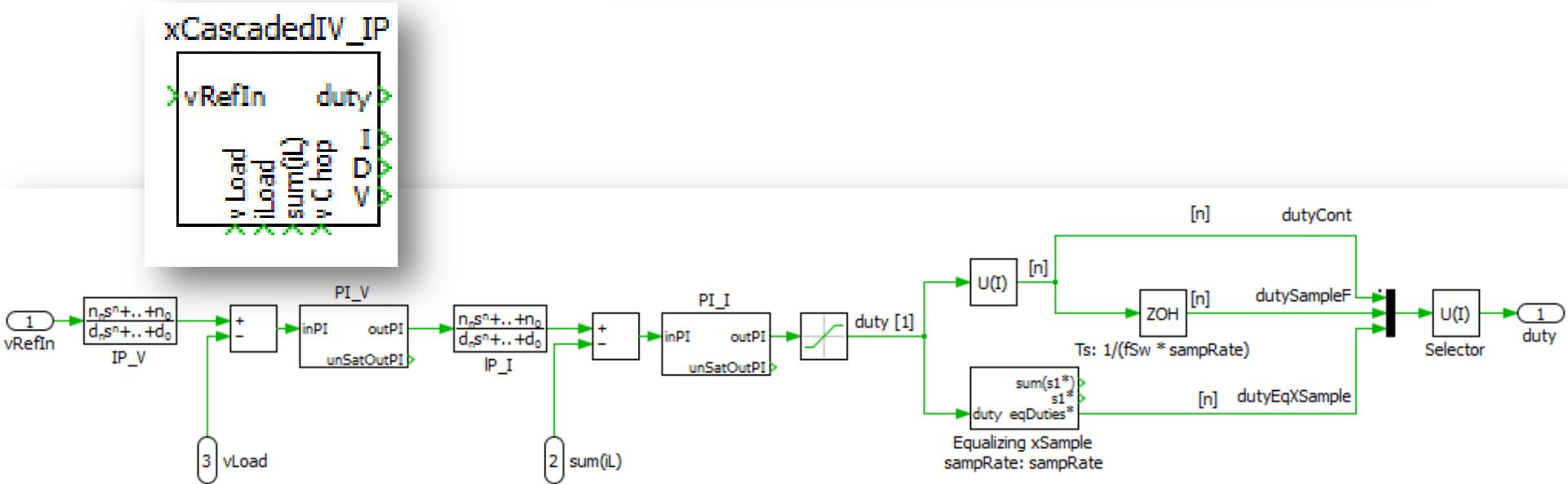
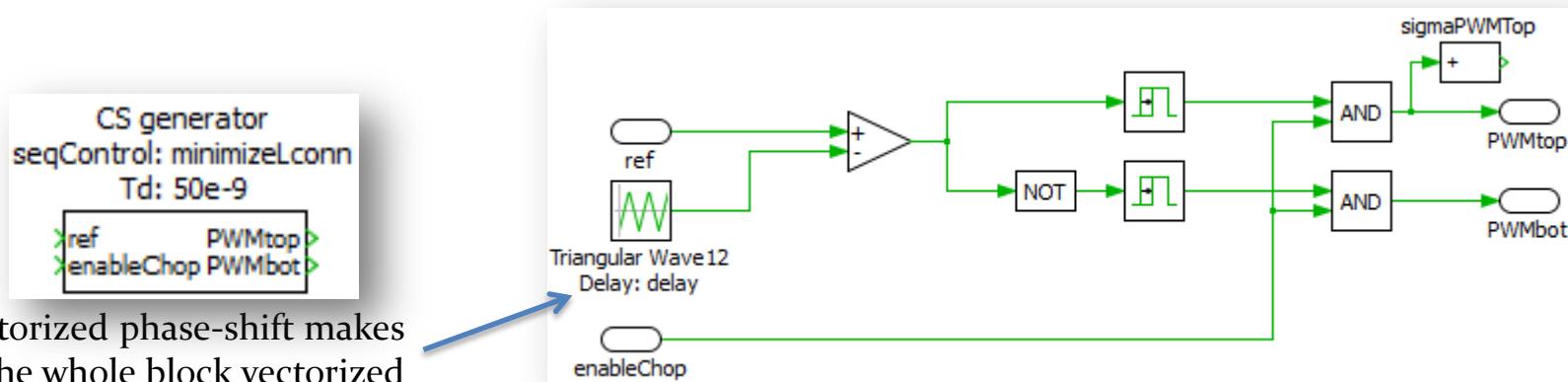
# Vectorized Monolithic InterCell Transformer



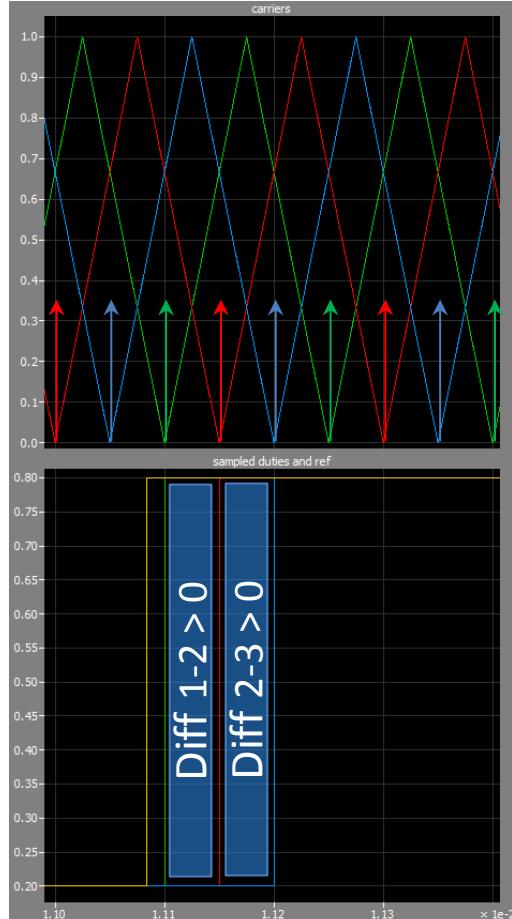
# Vectorized and configurable magnetic components for interleaved converters



# Vectorized regulator and control signal generator



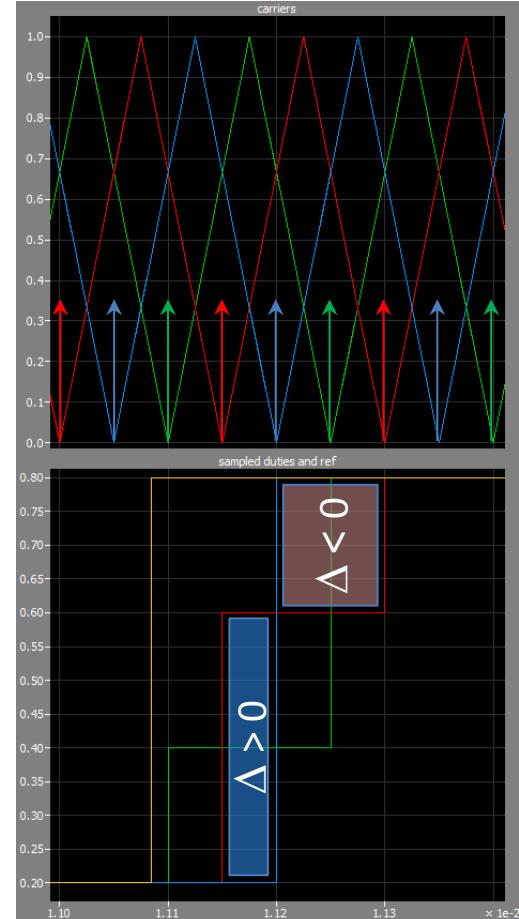
# Vectorized equalizing sampler



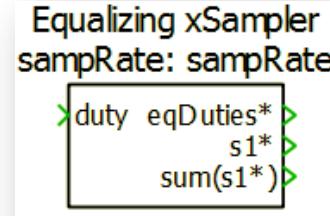
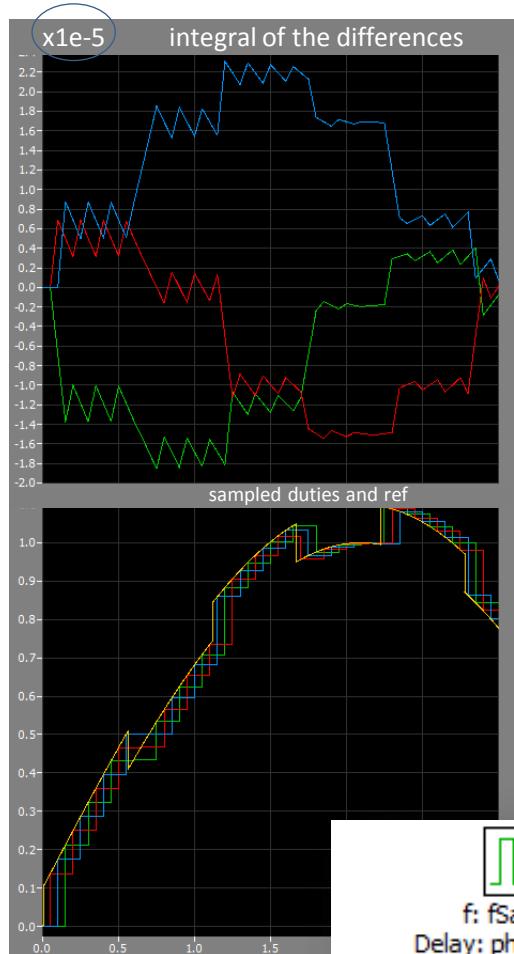
Delayed sampling causes errors on the integral of the difference that are never compensated for

Sampling must be synchronized with carriers to avoid multiple switching in the same period

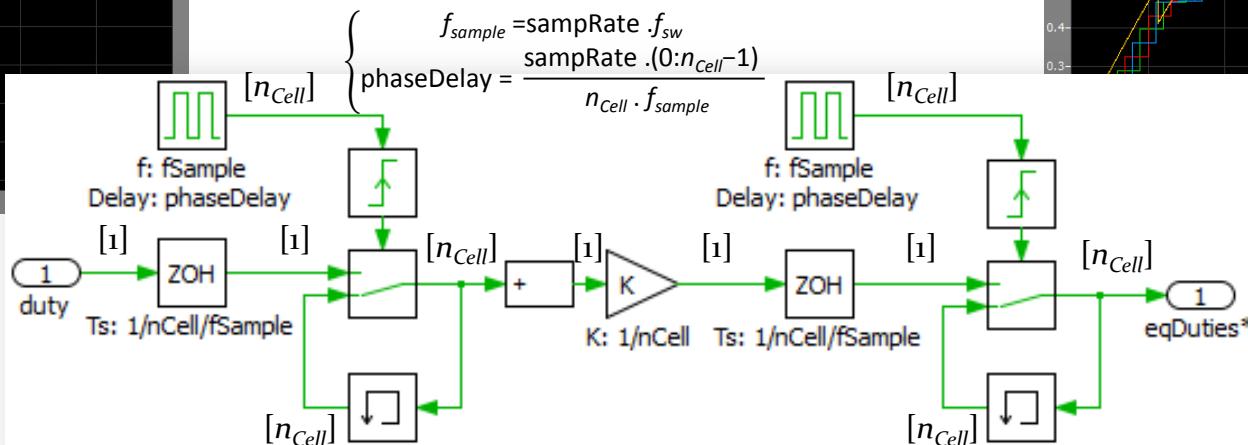
Each ref step must be handled to cancel the integral of the difference of any pair of control signals



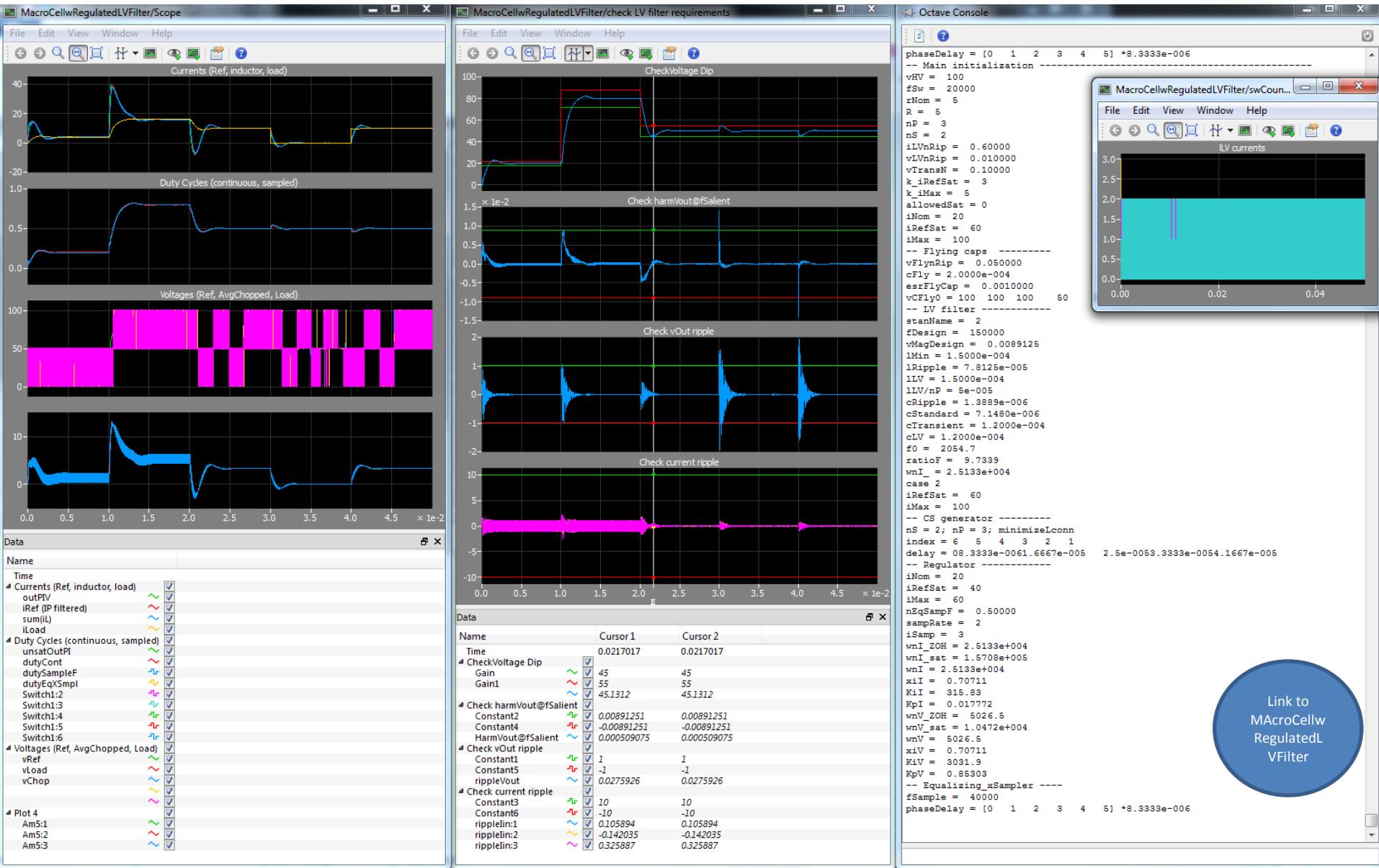
# Vectorized equalizing sampler



A simple circuit allows open-loop compensation of these unbalances without increasing the number of switchings



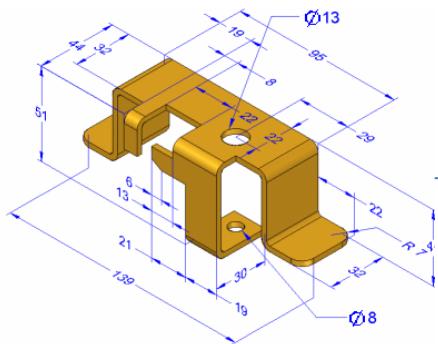
# Design check



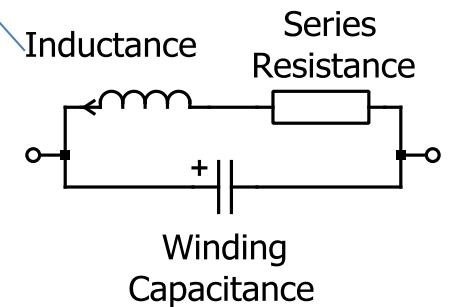
Link to  
MacroCellw  
RegulatedLV  
Filter

# **DESIGNING WITH OBJECTS AND OPTIMIZATION**

# A real-world object



Shape  
Dimensions  
Material



# A real-world object



The only part of a real-world object  
that is known to a standard simulator

Real World

Object

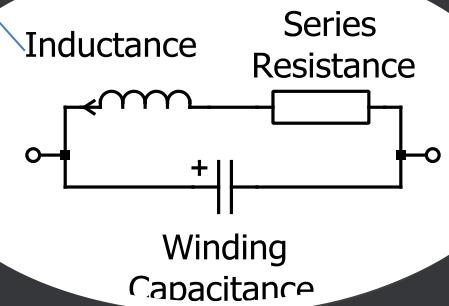


Dimensions

Material

Cost

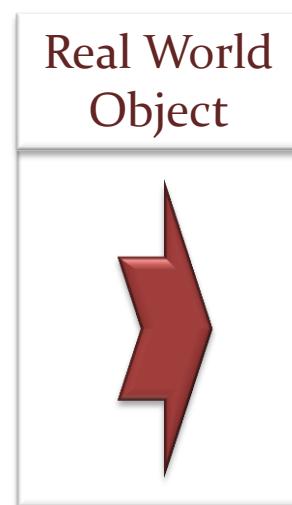
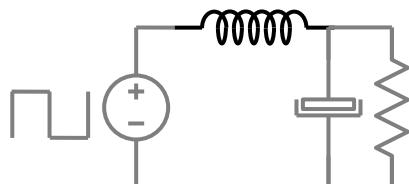
Model



# Designing a real-world object

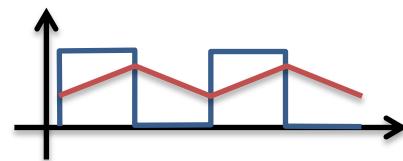
*Apply stimuli  
according to specifications :*

- Voltage,
- Current,
- Switching Pattern,
- Ambiant temperature
- ...



*Check compatibility  
with maximum ratings :*

- Peak voltage
- Peak & RMS current
- Peak induction
- Losses => Temperature
- ...



# Example : InterCell Transformer

**Figures - GUI\_ICT\_Ncells**

File Edit Debug Desktop Window Help

**Inputs**

Initial Values Variable in interval

- Conductor Width (ec) [1 mm] [0.2;5]
- Conductor Height (hc) [80 mm] [0.2;150]
- InterWinding Distance (eww) [0.1 mm] [1;50]
- Vertical Core Leg Width (eli) [34 mm] [30;34]
- Horizontal Core Leg Height (elih) [20 mm] [2;50]
- Core depth (di) [34 mm] [29;34]
- Number of Turns (Nt) [20] [15;38]
- Switching Frequency (Fs) [20 kHz] [1;1000]

Constraint Values Active

- Core Width (eimax) [300 mm]
- Core Height (himax) [300 mm]
- Max Output Current Ripple (loutmax) [150 App]
- Saturation Ratio (Ksatmax) [0.9]
- Maximum Losses (Pmax) [500 W]
- Maximum Volume (Volmax) [10000 cm<sup>3</sup>]
- Maximum Mass (Mmax) [25 kg]
- Maximum Price (Prmax) [0 Euros]
- Maximum Current Density (Jmax) [8 A/mm<sup>2</sup>]
- Maximum Temperature Rise (Dtmax) [45 °C]

Various Constants

- Horiz. Winding Core Distance (ewc) [2 mm]
- Insulation Thickness (eins) [0.4 mm]
- Vacuum Permeability (Mu0) [1.25664e-006]
- Nr of Harmonics Calculated (Nh) [200 mm]
- Duty Cycle (D) [0.5625]

**Project:** APC\_DCDC

Directory: C:\Users\YourNameHere\reLoad Stored Design in: CurrentDesign.mat

**Converter specs**

- Neells: 8
- Fswitch: 20 kHz
- Conv: Chopper
- bus: 400 V
- Iout: 675 Arms
- Tc: 125 °C
- Tmax: 55 °C
- Hexc: 36 W°C/m<sup>2</sup>

**ICT dimensions**

Aluminium

Rectangular Ladder

3C90 Provisoire

Vertical

**ICT:** Materials Geometry

**Perfs at a blink**

Manual Design

Draw ICT offsetY [0 mm]

Initial (X=0); Final (X=0.196) [m]

Evaluate

Clear Figure

**Outputs**

Optimized Values

- Conductor Width (ec) 0.351153 mm
- Conductor Height (hc) 69.8241 mm
- InterWinding Distance (eww) 1 mm
- Vertical Core Leg Width (eli) 30 mm
- Horizontal Core Leg Height (elih) 10.6733 mm
- Core Depth (di) 29 mm
- Number of Turns (Nt) 15
- Switching Frequency (Fs) 20 kHz

**Constrained Quantities**

- Core Width (ei) 99.5346 mm
- Core Height (hi) 9.9707 mm
- Max Output Current Ripple (rippleNHF) 8.20075 App
- Saturation Ratio (Ksat) [ ]
- Total Losses (PTotal) 360.899 W
- Total Volume (VolTotal) 1433.39 cm<sup>3</sup>
- Total Mass (MTotal) 5.62556 kg
- Total Price (PTotal) 0 Euros
- Total Current Density (JTotal) 3.52837 A/mm<sup>2</sup>
- Temperature Rise (DeltaT) 45 °C

**Main Characteristics**

- Bmax 0.36 T
- Total Weight 5.62556 kg
- Output Current Ripple 66.6058 App
- Total Core Losses 85.692 W
- Total Conductor Losses 273.207 W
- Total Losses 360.899 W
- Maximum Temperature 45 °C

**Post-Processing**

- FEMM: 2D FE + RAC=> Copper losses
- BvsT: B(t) wvfms+ iGSE=>core losses
- Loop
- Refine Optimization using FEMM and BvsT corrections

# Example : InterCell Transformer

**Figures - GUI\_ICT\_Ncells**

File Edit Debug Desktop Window Help

**ICT dimensions**

**Project:** APC\_DCDC

**Directory:** C:\Users\YourNameHere\reLoad Stored Design : CurrentBest.mat

**Filename:** CurrentBest.mat

**Converter specs**

**Thermal specifications:**  $T_c = 125^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\Delta T_{max} = 55^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $H_{exc} = 36 \text{ W}/\text{C}/\text{m}^2$

**ICT specs:**  $N_{cells} = 8$ ,  $F_{switch} = 20 \text{ kHz}$ ,  $N_{series} = 1$ ,  $I_{out} = 675 \text{ A rms}$ ,  $V_{bus} = 400 \text{ V}$

**Materials:** Aluminum

**Geometry:** Rectangular Ladder

**Perfs at a blink:** Shows core dimensions: Core Width (ei) 99.5346 mm, Core Height (hi) 91.9707 mm, Total Losses (PTotal) 360.899 W, Total Volume (VTotal) 1433.39 cm<sup>3</sup>, Total Mass (MTotal) 5.62556 kg, Total Price (PTotal) 0 Euros, Total Current Density (JeqrmsTotal) 3.52057 A/mm<sup>2</sup>, Temperature Rise (DeltaT) 45 °C.

**Constraints**

**Constrained quantities:** Core Width (ei), Core Height (hi), Max Output Current Ripple (rippleNHF), Saturation Ratio (Ksat), Total Losses (PTotal), Total Volume (VTotal), Total Mass (MTotal), Total Price (PTotal), Total Current Density (JeqrmsTotal), Temperature Rise (DeltaT).

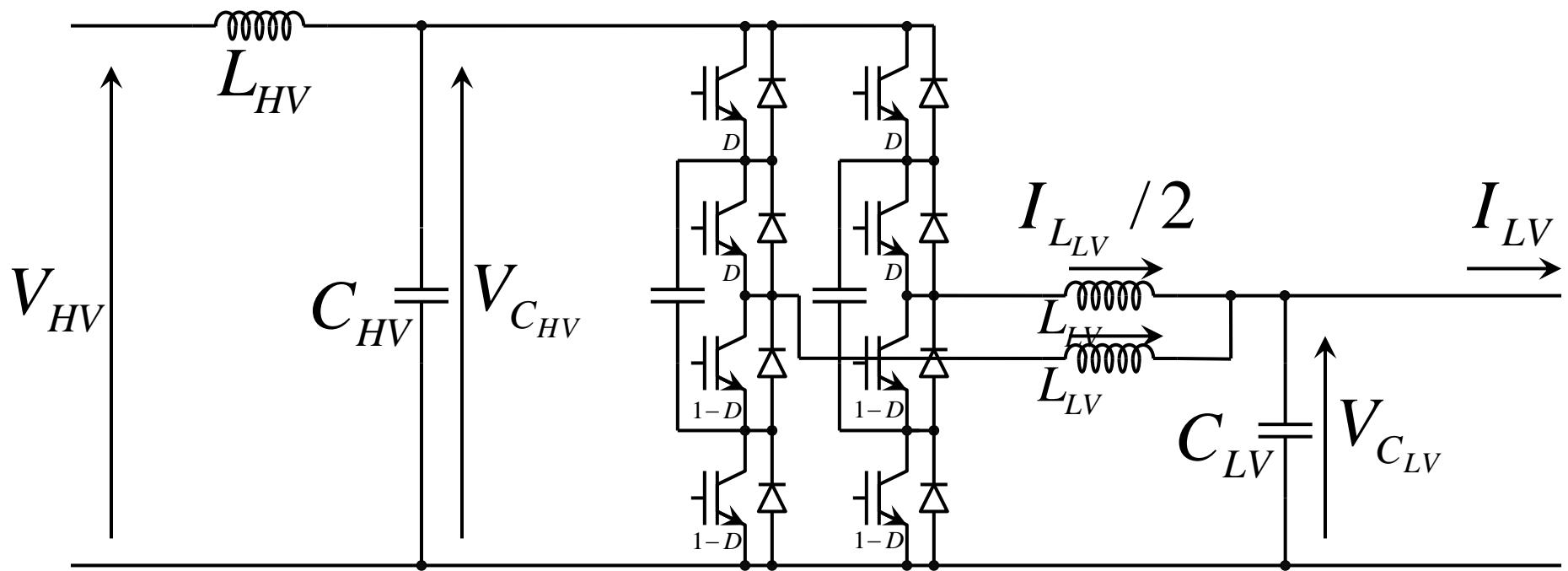
**Various Constants**

**Main Characteristics:** Bmax, Total Weight, Output Current Ripple, Total Core Losses, Total Conduction Losses, Total Losses, Maximum Temperature.

**1st Optimization**

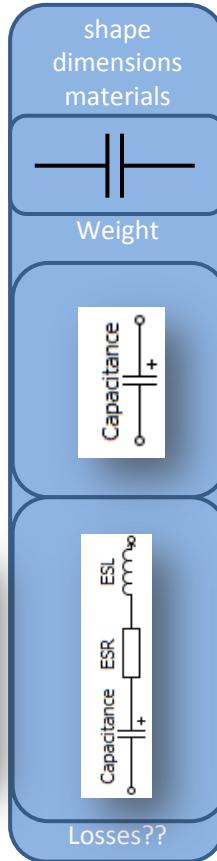
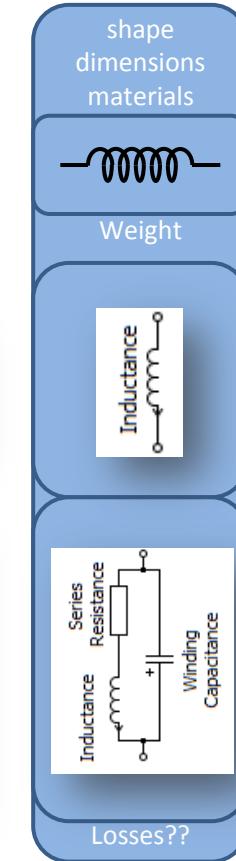
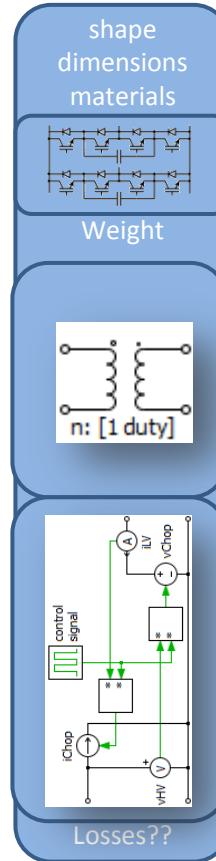
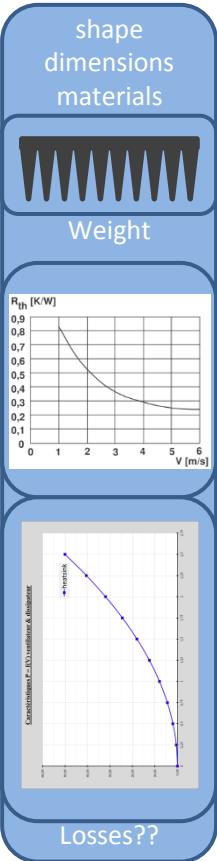
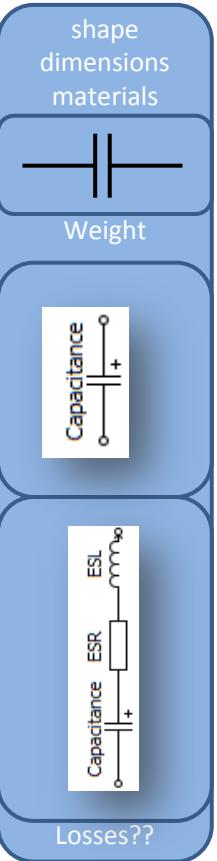
**Check and refine opt.:** FEMM: 2D FE + RAC=Core losses, Post-Processing: Refine Optimization using FEMM and BvsT corrections, Loop.

# Designing a full system

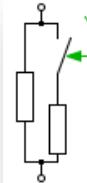
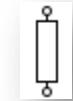


# Collect objects

Source

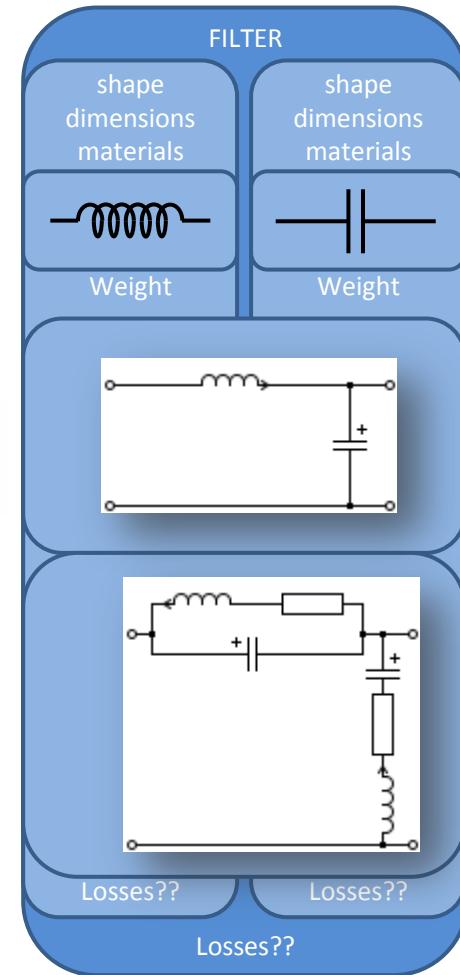
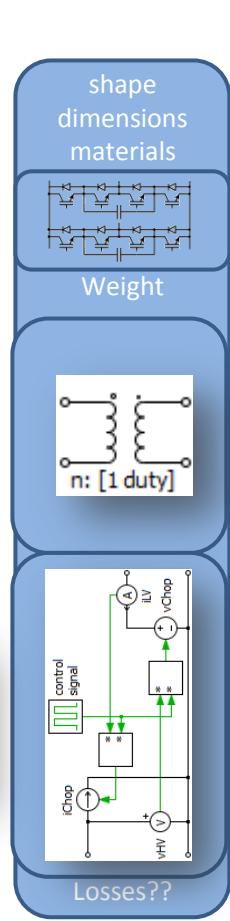
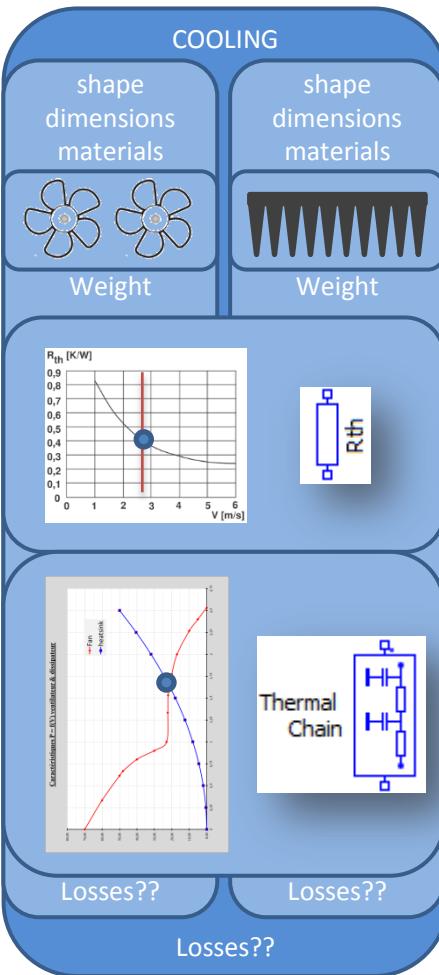
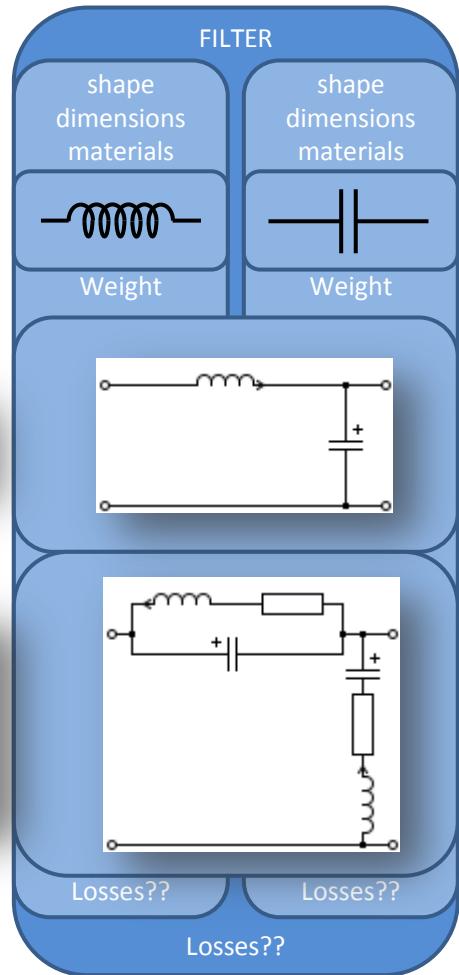


Load

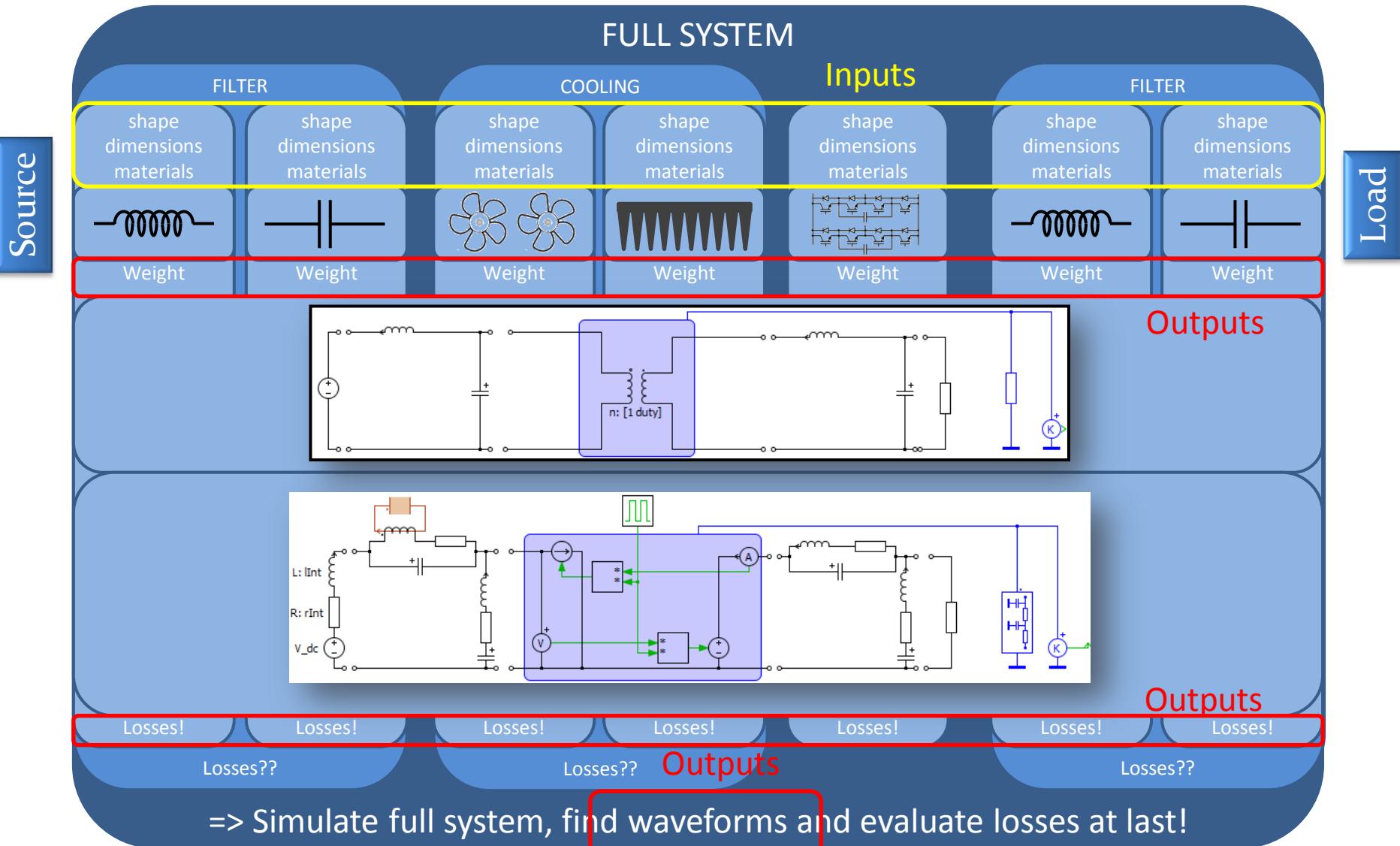


# Compose objects

Source



# Build full system model and solve



# Need for a fast solver

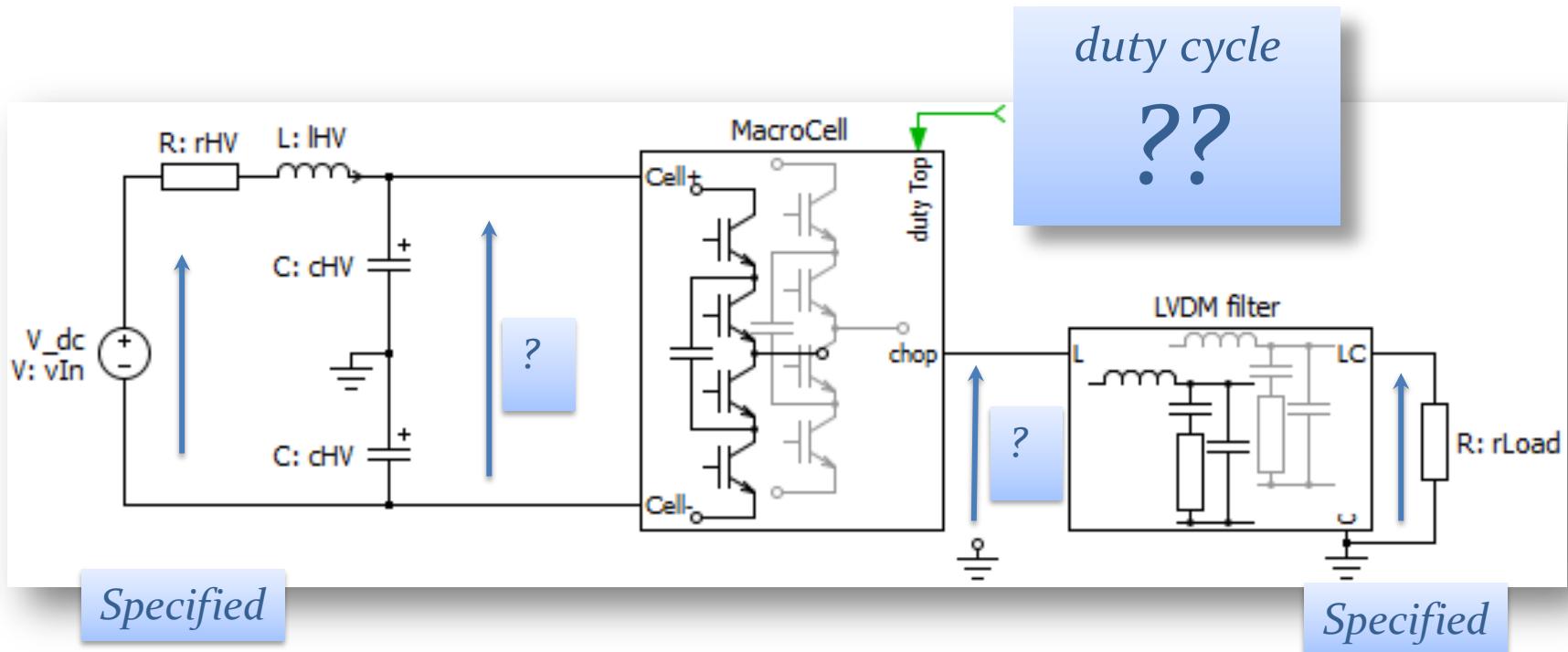
Steady-state waveforms are needed

- Accelerated determination of steady-state waveforms with a standard (time-domain) simulator is not the best choice.
- In most cases simplifications can be made to allow frequency domain analysis which inherently is a direct determination of steady state waveforms.

Main assumptions to allow standard frequency analysis (linear system) :

- Intrinsic non-linearities of components (saturation of permeability of magnetic materials, exponential  $V(I)$  characteristics of diodes, etc) can be neglected :
- Voltage/current ripple applied to commutation cells can be neglected to decouple the HV and LV sides,
- Influence of spontaneous commutations can be neglected,

# Direct determination of the operating point



# Principle used for approximate determination of the operating point

Assumptions :

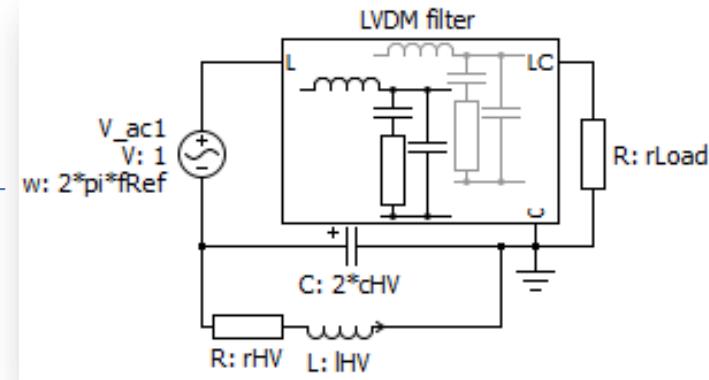
=> linear systems, lossless commutation cell,  $v_{HV}$  is constant

Apply 1V@fRef to the LV side and solve LV circuit

Find amplitude  $v_{load}$  per Volt and delay

Scale  $v_{AC}$  and select phase to match  $v_{load}$  specifications

Find power delivered by  $v_{AC}$  and scale for specs ( $P_{LV} \# v_{AC}^2$ )



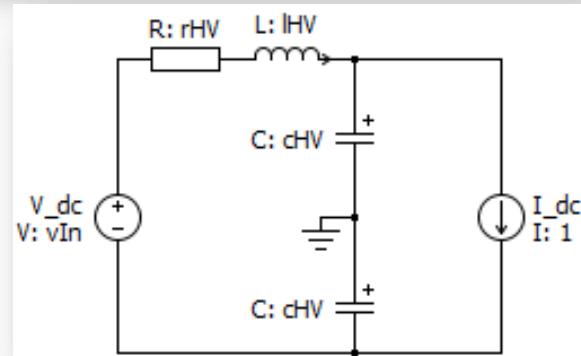
Lossless commutation cell =>  $P_{HV} = P_{LV}$

Constant  $v_{HV}$  => only  $i_{HV}^{DC}$  gives  $P_{HV}$

Solve HV circuit with  $I_{dc} = 1A$  and find internal resistance

Find  $i_{HV}^{DC}$  and  $v_{HV}$  such that  $P_{HV} = P_{LV}$

Find duty cycle so that  $v_{AC} = D(t) \cdot v_{HV}$



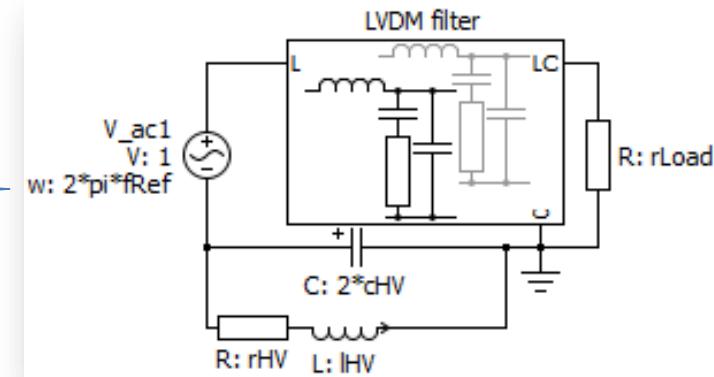
# Equations used for approximate determination of the operating point

Assumptions :

=> linear systems, lossless commutation cell,  $v_{HV}$  is constant

$$v_{AC}^{opPoint} = \frac{|v_{load}^{opPoint}|}{|v_{load}^N|} \angle (\varphi_{ref}^{opPoint} - \varphi_{load}^N)$$

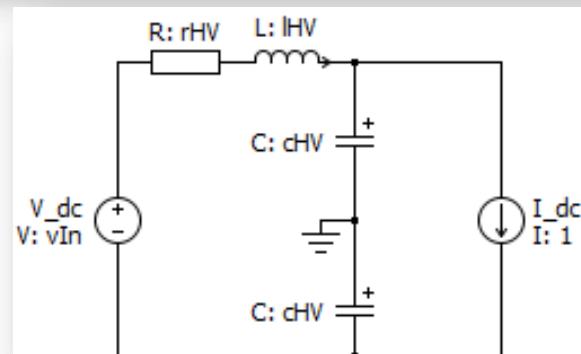
$$P_{AC}^{opPoint} = P_{AC}^N \left( \frac{|v_{load}^{opPoint}|}{|v_{load}^N|} \right)^2$$



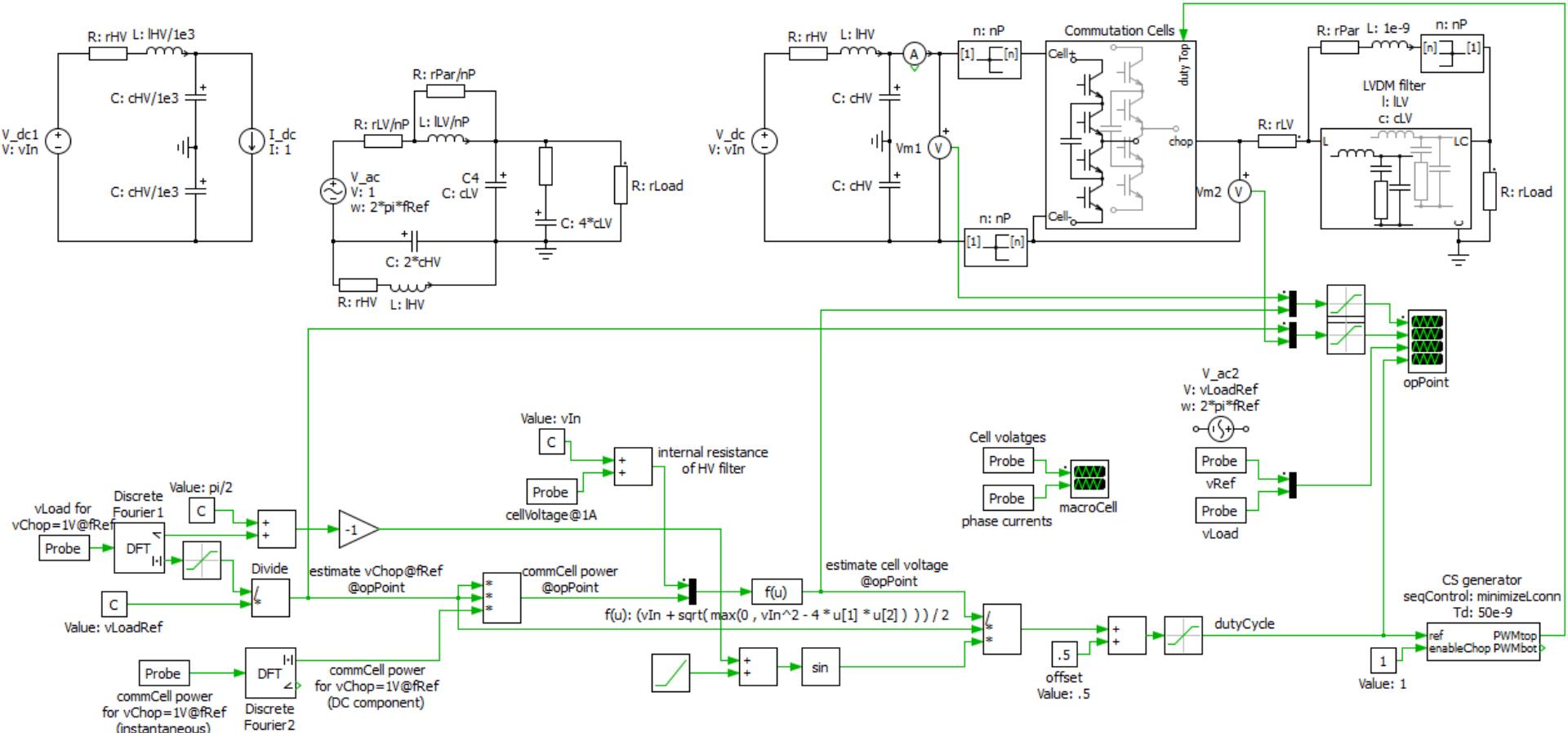
$$r_{int} = v_{in} - v_{HV}^N$$

$$v_{HV}^{opPoint} = \frac{v_{in}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{v_{in}^2 - 4 \cdot r_{int} \cdot P_{AC}^{opPoint}}}{2}$$

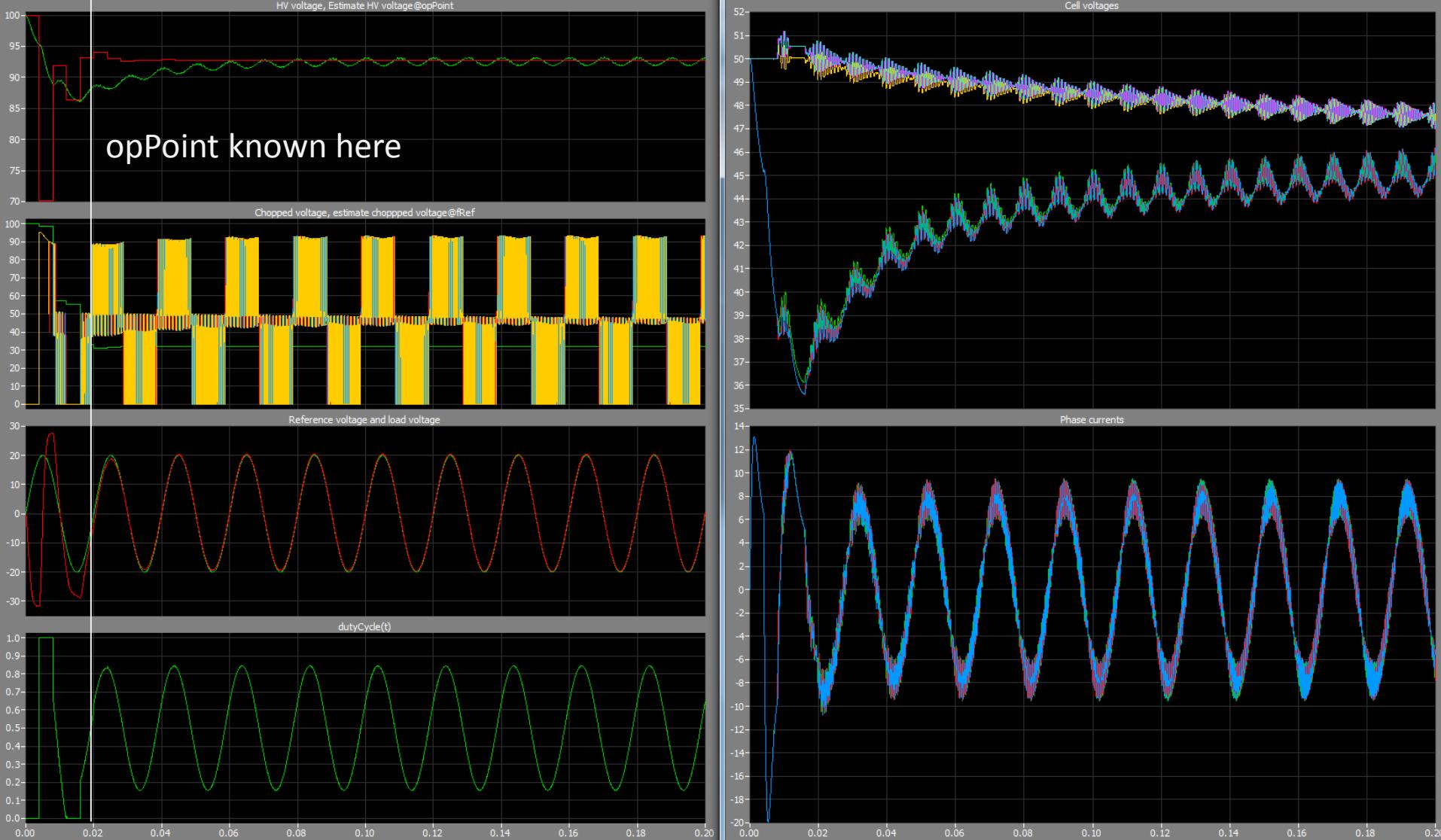
$$\Rightarrow duty(t) = \frac{v_{AC}^{opPoint}}{v_{HV}^{opPoint}}$$



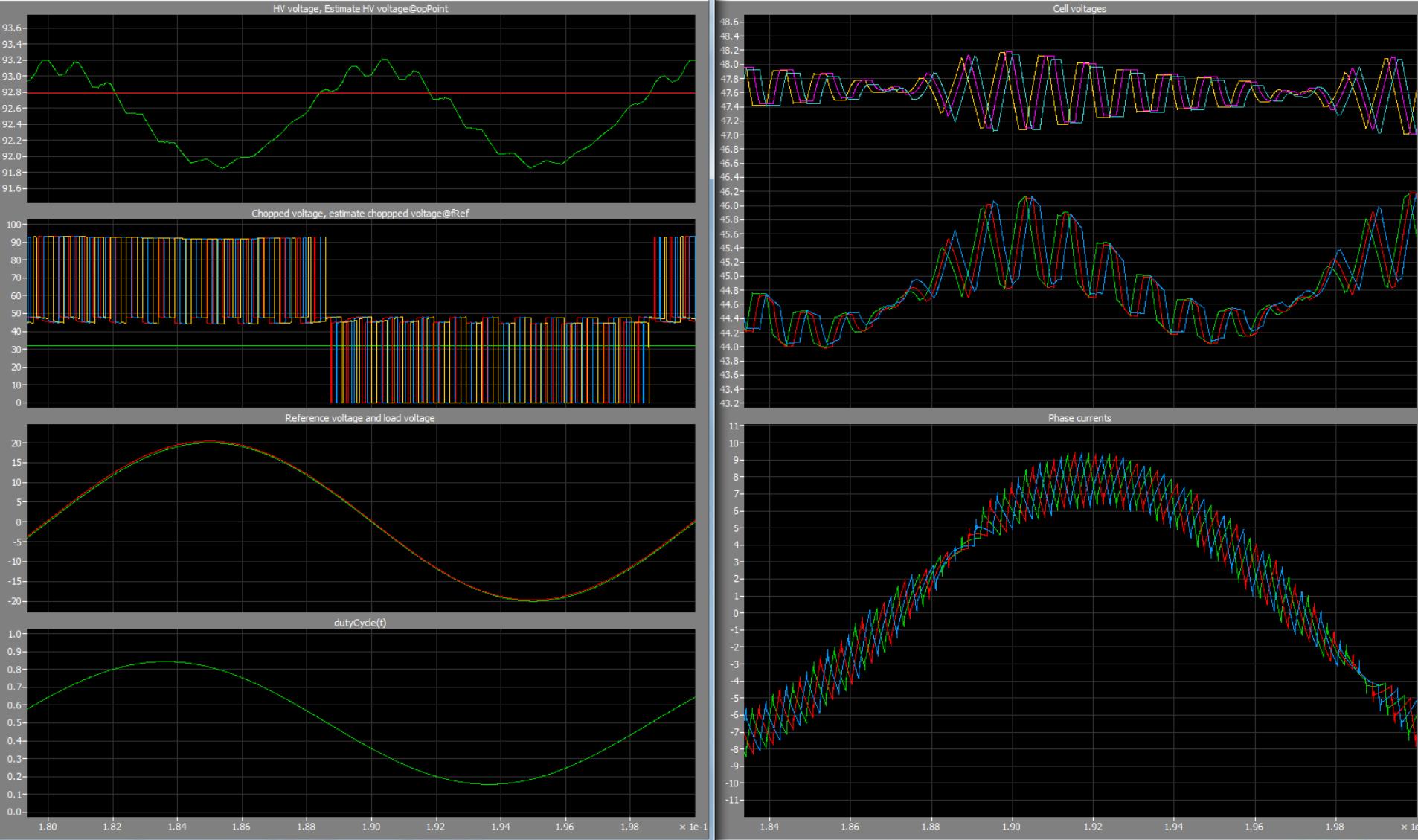
# Approximate time domain determination of the operating point



# Approximate time domain determination of the operating point

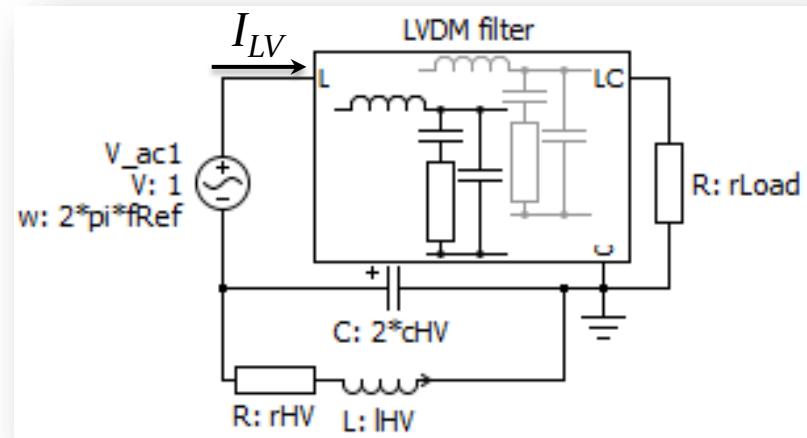
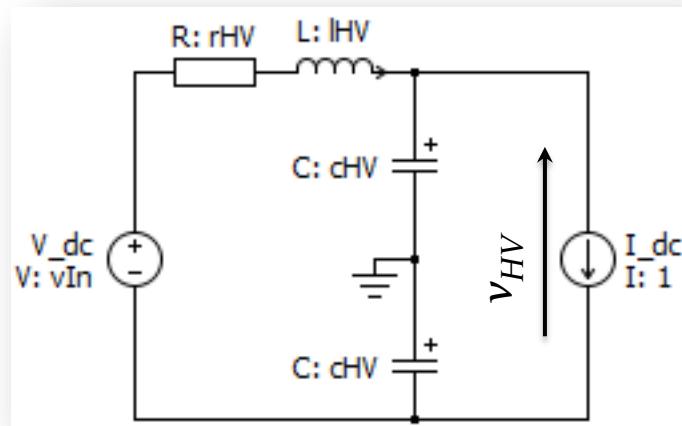


# Approximate time domain determination of the operating point



# Approximate frequency domain determination of the operating point

Solve separate ‘normalized’ circuit ( $I_{DC}=1A$  ;  $V_{AC}=1V \angle 0^\circ$ ) using a single frequency! ( $DC$  and  $f$ )



$$\begin{cases} r_{int} = v_{in} - v_{HV}^N \\ v_{HV}^{opPoint} = \frac{v_{in}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{v_{in}^2 - 4 \cdot r_{int} \cdot P_{AC}^{opPoint}}}{2} \end{cases}$$

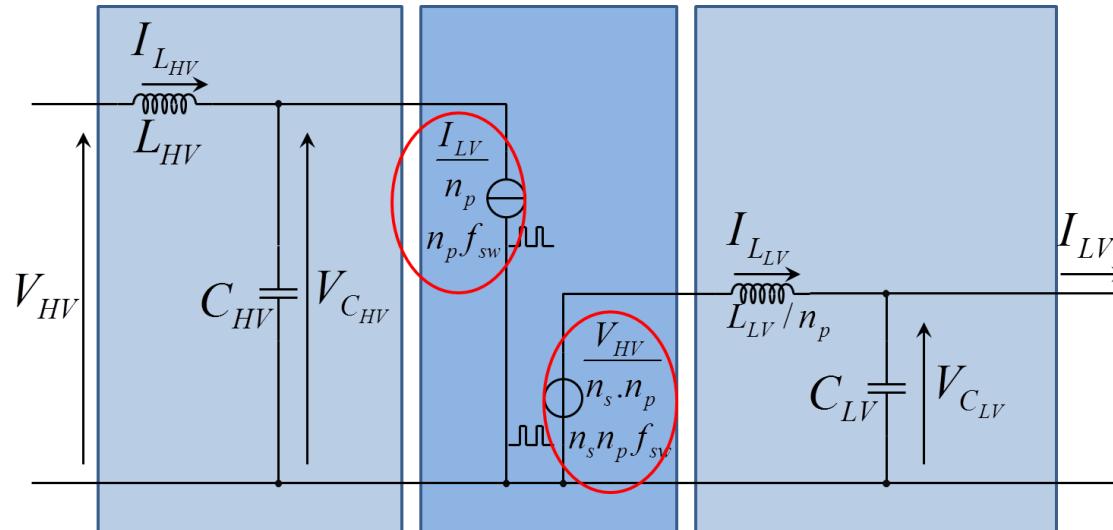
$$\begin{cases} v_{AC}^{opPoint} = \frac{|v_{load}^{opPoint}|}{|v_{load}^N|} \angle (\varphi_{ref}^{opPoint} - \varphi_{load}^N) \\ P_{AC}^{opPoint} = P_{AC}^N \left( \frac{|v_{load}^{opPoint}|}{|v_{load}^N|} \right)^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow duty(t) = \frac{v_{AC}^{opPoint}}{v_{HV}^{opPoint}}$$

# Full frequency domain analysis using the operating point

The control pattern  $duty(t)$  determined previously allows direct calculation of the steady state waveforms at a point that is very close to the specified point:

- The circuit is split in independant linear subcircuits
- The spectra of the sources are derived from  $duty(t)$ ,  $v_{HVDC}^{opPoint}$  and  $i_{LVf_{Mod}}^{opPoint}$  (time domain multiplication by  $duty(t)$  followed by FFT, or direct convolution of spectra)



- The circuit is solved in the frequency domain
- If necessary time waveforms regenerated using iFFT.

# Optimize at last...

