Paris Session 2022



Shaping power transmission

DC-DC converters for DC networks 84 PS1/2 Question 1.17: DC-DC converters are gaining significance and new types are being proposed. How do DC-DC converters compare with other types of AC-DC converters in terms of power osses? How do they compare to AC-DC donverters in terms of harmonic emissions? SuperGrid Piotr Dworakowski, France

Group Discussion Meeting

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DC-DC converters for DC networks

- Enabling technology for the future DC networks
 - interfacing LVDC, MVDC and HVDC



- Role
 - to adapt the voltage between two DC systems similar to the transformer in AC networks
 - to provide power flow controllability and fault current blocking (or limiting)
- Types
 - bidirectional or unidirectional (step up or step down)
 - isolated or non-isolated
 - monolithic or modular

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DC-DC converters for DC networks

- Power losses
 - HVDC isolated IGBT ~98%
 - HVDC non-isolated IGBT >98%
 - MVDC isolated SiC ~99% top figure
 - LVDC isolated SiC >99% bottom figure

- Harmonics
 - HVDC equal or lower than MMC DC side harmonics
 - MVDC/LVDC very low harmonics thanks to medium frequency operation (>>1 kHz) enabled by SiC

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20 kV 250 kW prototype





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