



**Key Note Speech HV & Emerging Applications** 

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## Cost-Aware $\eta$ - $\rho$ - $\sigma$ Multi-Objective Optimization of SiC Power Electronic Converter Systems

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## Motivation

Potential of SiC Design Challenge Multi-Objective Optimization Virtual Prototyping



#### Potential of SiC in Next Generation Renewable Energy Systems





## Design Challenges

- SiC Converter Design Target: Improve Converter Performance
- State-of-the-Art Analysis and Design Methodologies
- Single-Objective Optimization (e.g. Efficiency OR Power Density)
- No Cost Considerations
- Non-Systematic Hardware Prototyping
- Mutual Coupling of Performance Measures
  - Concurrent Improvement not Possible
- Expensive SiC
   Costs are Most Important Criterion in Industry



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## Advanced η-ρ-σ Virtual Prototyping Design Methodology



- Systematic Approach
- Comprehensive and Detailed Modeling

- Multi-Objective Pareto Optimization
- Consideration of Efficiency, Volume (Weight), and Costs



#### Challenges



## Virtual Prototyping Routine

System-Level Optimization Component-Level Optimization System Modeling Multi-Physics Modeling Costs Modeling



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#### Main Virtual Prototyping Routine



### Main Virtual Prototyping Routine

- Distinction Between System- and Component-Level Optimization
- Waveforms Couple Component Performance
- System-Level Variables
   Determine the Waveforms
- Topology

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- Modulation Scheme (f<sub>sw</sub>,...)
- Component Values (L, C,...)
- System-Level Variables are Computational Expensive
- Independent Optimization of Components Based on Component-Specific Design Variables



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#### System-Level Design and Optimization



• Advanced 5L-DAB



• Switching Frequency Iteration  $f_{sw} \in [50, 75, ..., 300] \text{ kHz}$ 





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#### System-Level Design and Optimization











#### Converter Behavior Model



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### Waveform Model

- Precise Waveforms Essential for Accurate Component Dimensioning
- Consideration of Non-Linear Switching Transitions
- Finite-Speed Switching due to C<sub>oss</sub> and Parasitic Capacitances
- Mandatory to Detect ZVS / Incomplete ZVS
- Modifies Transferred Power Emulation of Controller Activities Required



#### Complete ZVS: $\frac{1}{2}L_{\sigma}I_1^2 \ge Q_{oss}(V_{dc}) \cdot V_{dc}$



 $C_{0SS1}$ 

 $S_1 = V_{ds1} = 0$ 

 $S_2$   $V_{ds2} = V_{dc}$ 

 $V_{\rm dc}$ 



**Incomplete ZVS:**  $\frac{1}{2}L_{\sigma}I_1^2 < Q_{oss}(V_{dc}) \cdot V_{dc}$ 







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#### Component-Level Design and Optimization

- Waveforms as Prerequisite of Component Dimensioning
- Nominal Operating Point Waveforms
- Worst Case Operating Point Waveforms
- Independent Optimization of Components Possible
- Neglect of Undesired/Small Parasitic Electromagnetic Coupling
- Neglect of Undesired/Small Parasitic Thermal Coupling
- Only Considered Coupling Effect is Desired/Dominant Conducted Waveforms



# Semiconductor and Cooling System Design Routines



# Semiconductor and Cooling System Design Routines

- Semiconductor and Cooling System Optimization
- Combined Optimization
- Multi-Physics and Cost Models
- Various User-Defined Constraints
- Only Optimized Cooling Systems
- Optimized Cooling Systems Based on Off-Line Routine
- Temperature-Dependent Semiconductor Losses
- Iterative Temperature/Loss Calculation Until Sufficient Convergence
- Numeric Approach No Closed-Form Solutions



#### Semiconductor Multi-Physics Modeling (1)

#### Conduction Loss Model

- Takes into Account the Time-Varying Current
- Temperature-Dependent
- Interpolated Data Sheet Parametrization

$$P_{c}^{fet}(i_{ds}(t), T_{j}, V_{gate}) = \frac{1}{T} \int_{0}^{T} R_{ds,on}(i_{ds}(t), T_{j}, V_{gate}) \cdot i_{ds}^{2}(t) dt$$



- Data Sheet Parametrization Insufficient
- Measured Switching Losses

$$P_{sw}(I_{on}, I_{off}, V_{on}, V_{off}, T_{j}) = \frac{1}{T} \cdot \sum_{i}^{N_{sw}} \left[ E_{on}(I_{on,i}, V_{on,i}, T_{j}) + E_{off}(I_{off,i}, V_{off,i}, T_{j}) \right]$$





#### Semiconductor Multi-Physics Modeling (2)

#### Incomplete ZVS Loss Model

- Incomplete Charg./Discharg. of Coss
- Analytical Approach Instead of Involved Measurements
- Experimental Verification

$$P_{iZVS} = f_{sw} \cdot \left[ E_{oss2}(\Delta V) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot C_{par,tot} \cdot \Delta V^{2} + \Delta Q_{dc} \cdot V_{dc} - \left( E_{oss1}(V_{dc}) - E_{oss1}(V_{dc} - \Delta V) \right) \right]$$

#### Thermal Model

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• Links Junction Temperature and Semiconductor Losses

$$T_{j,x} = T_{amb} + R_{th,j2c,x} \cdot P_{SC,x}(T_{j,x}) + R_{th,c2hs,x} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_{co}} P_{SC,i}(T_{j,i}) + R_{th,hs2amb} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_{cs}} P_{SC,i}(T_{j,i})$$







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#### **Cooling System Multi-Physics Modeling**

P<sub>SC,tot</sub> N<sub>channel</sub>

T

d<sub>sink</sub>

ł

C<sub>sink</sub>

Ţ

bsink

₹

- **Fluid Dynamics Model**
- **Determine Air Flow in Heat Sink**  $\dot{V}: \Delta p_{\text{tot}}(\dot{V}) - \Delta p_{\text{fan}}(\dot{V}) = 0$
- **Thermodynamics Model**
- Calculate Thermal Resistance
- Analytical Model with Empirical • **Parameters**
- **Experimentally Verified Models** ٠

$$R_{\text{th,conv}}(\dot{V}) = \left[\rho_{\text{air}} c_{\text{air}} \dot{V} \cdot \left(1 - e^{-\frac{h \cdot A_{\text{eff}}}{\rho_{\text{air}} c_{\text{air}} \dot{V}}}\right)\right]^{-1}$$

ŕ

L<sub>fan</sub> L<sub>duct</sub>

Lsink



Volume Flow  $\dot{V}$  (dm<sup>3</sup>/s)







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#### Magnetics Design Routine

- Magnetics Optimization
- Component Values Given by Iteration of Global System Loop
- Multi-Physics and Costs Models
- User-Defined Constraints
- Very High Number of Design Variables
- Temperature-Dependent Core and Winding Losses
- Iterative Temperature/Loss Calculation Until Sufficient Convergence
- Numeric Approach No Closed-Form Solutions



#### Magnetics Multi-Physics Modeling (1)

- Reluctance Model -
- Non-Linear Core Material Permeability
- Air Gap Reluctance Calculation Considers the Fringing Flux

$$N_{\text{wdg}} \cdot i_{L} = \Phi_{L} \cdot \left[ \frac{l_{\text{mag,core}}}{\mu_{0} \ \mu_{\text{r}}(B) \ k_{\text{fill}} \ A_{\text{core}}} + R_{\text{mag,ag}} \right]$$
$$R_{\text{mag,ag}} \propto \mu_{0} \left[ \frac{w_{\text{core}}}{l_{\text{ag}}} + \frac{2}{\pi} \left( 1 + \ln \frac{\pi h_{\text{w}}}{4 l_{\text{ag}}} \right) \right]$$



- Thermal Model
- Anisotropic 3D Resistance Network
- Heat Transfer Mechanisms
  - ► Conduction
  - Radiation
  - Natural Convection





### Magnetics Multi-Physics Modeling (2)

- Winding Loss Models
- Contribution of Skin and Proximity Effects Depending on Winding Geometry

$$P_{wdg}^{\boldsymbol{x}}(T_{wdg}) = \sum_{n=1} R_{dc}(T_{wdg}) \cdot \boldsymbol{X} \big( \xi(T_{wdg}, f_n) \big) \cdot \hat{I}_{L(n)}^2$$

- Round and Litz Wire
- Analytical Approach
- Mirroring Method for H<sub>ext</sub>
- Flat and Foil Winding
- 1D Approximations Inaccurate
- Interpolated Off-Line 2D FEM-Simulations









### Magnetics Multi-Physics Modeling (3)

- Core Loss Models
- i<sup>2</sup>GSE Appr. with Operating Point-Dependent Steinmetz Parameters from Loss Map

$$P_{\text{core}}^{\text{HF}} = k_{\text{fill}} V_{\text{core}} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i}^{N_{\Delta B}} \overline{k_i} |\Delta T_i|^{1-\alpha_i} |\Delta B_i|^{\beta_i}$$

- Multi-Parametric Core Loss Meas.
- Advanced Core Loss Measurement Setup
- Exp. Verification with Calorimetric Setup
- Mean Error < 10 % Factor 2 Better than DS







## Cost Modeling

- Novel Cost Models for i) Semiconductors, ii) Magnetics,
   iii) Capacitors, iv) Cooling Systems, v) PCBs and vi) Auxiliaries
- Challenges

- Non-Measurable and Confidential Cost Data, Distributor Prices Unreliable
- Complexity of Cost Structure
- Non-Product-Related Cost Factors (E.g. MOQ, Currency...)
- Time-Dependence of Costs

- Approach
  - Direct Manufacturer/Industry Data for Large MOQ to Minimize Overheads
  - Intuitive Models with Physical Variables
- Quotes Only in € or \$ and Similar MOQ > 10 000 Units
- Regular Updates





## Results Case Study I: DC/DC Converter System

Residential DC Microgrid Application Multi-Objective Optimization Hardware Prototype



#### Universal DC/DC Converter System for Residential DC Microgrid Applications

- High Converter Functionality Required for Universal Application
- Wide Input Voltage Range V<sub>dc1</sub>=[100,700] V
- Galvanic Isolation
- Bidirectional Power Flow
- High Part Load Efficiency
- Conventional 3-Level Dual Active Bridge (3L-DAB)
- Advanced 5-Level Dual Active Bridge (5L-DAB)
- 5 Instead of 3 Voltage Levels on Input Side
- Higher DOF Allows for Adv. Modulation







#### Converter Modulation Schemes



#### **Converter Modulation Schemes**

18

5

**Current Limit** 

4



(A)

Output Power  $P_{out}$  (kW)

3

2

 $I_{\rm ac1,rms}$ 

1

х





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300

200

100

0

■ 3L-DAB

#### Main Components and Materials

	•	Cree <mark>SiC MOSFET</mark> 80 mΩ 1200 V TO-247 2x/1x on Input/Output Side	<ul> <li>Scaled Cree SiC MOSFET 600/1200V TO-247</li> <li>Variable Chip Sizes with Equal Semiconductor Costs as SiC 3L-DAB</li> </ul>
		OR	OR
	•	Infineon <mark>Si IGTB</mark> T&F 25 A 1200 V T0-247	<ul> <li>Infineon Si IGTB T&amp;F 30/25 A 600/1200 V T0-247</li> </ul>
	•	2x/1x on Input/Output Side	• 1x/1x on Input/Output Side
		<ul><li>Optimized Aluminum Heat Sinks</li><li>Range of Low Power DC Fans</li></ul>	
		<ul> <li>EPCOS N87 Ferrite E &amp; ELP Cores</li> <li>Litz Wire with Range of Strand Diameters</li> </ul>	
The second secon		<ul> <li>EPCOS MKP DC Film Capacitors</li> <li>575/1100V Rated</li> </ul>	

■ 5L-DAB



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#### Optimization Results (1)

- 3L-DAB: SiC MOSFET vs. Si IGBT
- Higher Power Density of SiC Due to Higher Achievable f<sub>sw</sub>
  - Higher Efficiency of SiC
    ▶ Soft Switching (ZVS)
    ▶ Ohmic Characteristics in Part Load
    - Smaller Magnetics
- Higher Initial Costs of SiC Compensated by Lower...
  - Housing Costs
  - Installation Costs
  - Energy Costs (Losses)
- SiC MOSFET Clearly Superior!



#### **Optimization Results (2)**

- SiC 3L-DAB Superior over SiC 5L-DAB
- More Efficient ٠ Better Chip Area Utilization Overcompensates **Higher RMS Currents**
- **Higher Power Density** ٠ Smaller Capacitors As No Midpoint Balancing Required
- Lower Costs ٠

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- Lower # of Gate Drivers
- Simpler and More Reliable ٠
- **Power Density Limitation**
- Limited Relative Dead Time Less Charge Available at High  $f_{sw}$ 
  - Loss of Complete ZVS
- Capacitive Parasitics (Packaging!) ٠ As Limiting Factor



SiC MOSFET Switching Frequency  $f_{sw}$  (kHz)

[5,20] (kHz)

33/47

25

30

#### Experimental Verification – Hardware Prototype

- SiC 3L-DAB Hardware Prototype
- *P* = 5 kW
- $f_{sw} = 48 \text{ kHz}$
- $V_i = [100,700] V$
- $V_{\rm o}$  = 750 V

- Power Density 1.8 kW/dm<sup>3</sup>
- Peak Efficiency 98.5 %
- Average Efficiency 97.6 %
- High Efficiency / Power Density
   Despite High Level of Functionality





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#### Experimental Verification – Model Accuracy

- Excellent Loss Model Accuracy
- Mean Error: 2.5 %
- Max. Error 6.8 %

- High Waveform Model Accuracy
  - Non-Linear Switching Transitions
  - Incomplete ZVS

- High Thermal Model Accuracy
- Error Range: -15/+5 %
- Conservative







## Results Case Study II: DC/AC Converter System

Residential PV Application Concepts Multi-Objective Optimization LCC Analysis



## **PV** Converter System for Residential Applications



- 3-Stage Multi-String 3-Phase PV Converter System
- Boost Stage (MPP Voltage Range)
- DC/AC Inverter Stage
- EMI Filter Stage

- Systematic η-ρ-σ-Comparison of Si vs. SiC
  - Does SiC offer Advantages in PV?
- Find Useful Frequency Ranges
- Find Appropriate Core Material



#### Converter Topologies and Modulation Schemes

All Si IGBT
 3-Level PWM
 Inverter
 (3L-PWM)



All SiC MOSFET
 2-Level PWM
 Inverter
 (2L-PWM)



 All SiC MOSFET
 2-Level Double-Interleaved TCM
 Inverter
 (2L-TCM)





### Main Components and Materials



#### Main Virtual Prototyping Routine

- Additional Task: EMI Filter Design
- Filter Component Values as Dependent System Parameters
- Off-Line Filter Optimization

#### Global System Design Variables

- Topologies: {3L-PWM, 2L-PWM, 2L-TCM}
- Switching Frequency

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• Main Inductance Values / Current Ripple

$$\begin{split} \vec{\varPi}_{\rm sys}^{\rm 2LPWM} &: f_{\rm sw} \in [12,72] \, \rm kHz \ , \ \Delta I_{L,\max}^{\rm pp} \in [5,60] \, \% \\ \vec{\varPi}_{\rm sys}^{\rm 3LPWM} &: f_{\rm sw} \in [6,36] \, \rm kHz \ , \ \Delta I_{L,\max}^{\rm pp} \in [5,60] \, \% \\ \vec{\varPi}_{\rm sys}^{\rm 2LTCM} &: f_{\rm sw,min} \in [12,84] \, \rm kHz \ , \ k_{f_{\rm sw}} \in [4,12] \end{split}$$

 Largely Application-Invariant Component Design Routines



•

•

9 kHz

#### EMI Filter Design Routine



- Determination of DM and CM Harmonic Spectra
- ٠
- ٠ Appropriate Routine for Component Selection



#### Optimization Results – Pareto Surfaces

- Total of 48 Design Variables
- > 400 000 Pareto-Optimal Designs

- Resulting Core Materials
- EPCOS Ferrite N87
  - **Dominant Results in all Topologies**
- METGLAS Amorphous Iron 2605SA1
  - Dominant Results Only for 3L-PWM



#### Pareto Surfaces & Sampling Trajectories

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#### Optimization Results – Pareto Surface Investigations



#### Optimization Results – LCC Post-Processing



- Mapping into 1D Cost Space to Facilitate Selection of Candidate System
- Proposed: \_\_\_\_\_ Life Cycle Costs (LCC) / Net Present Value (NPV) Analysis \_\_\_\_

$$LCC = \Sigma_{\text{components}} + \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{life}}} \left[ \Sigma_{\text{capital}}(q) + \Sigma_{\text{loss}}(\sigma_{\text{kWh}}) \right] \cdot \frac{1}{(1+q)^n}$$
$$N_{\text{life}} = 10 \text{ years} \quad q = 5 \%/_{\text{year}} \quad \sigma_{\text{kWh}} = 0.2 \notin/_{\text{kWh}}$$

#### Optimization Results – LCC Post-Processing

- Best System SiC 2L-PWM @ 44kHz/50% Ripple
- 22% Lower LCC than Si 3L-PWM
- 5% Lower LCC than SiC 2L-TCM
- Further Advantages
- By Far Simplest Design
- Lowest Engineering/Manufacturing Costs
- Presumably Highest Reliability
- Unique Benefits from Combination SiC / 2L Topology / High-Ripple Op.
- 2L Topology
  - Highest Chip Utilization
  - Lowest Component Costs
- High Ripple
  - Inexpensive Ferrite Inductors
  - ZVS in Part Load Operation



Best System: SiC 2L-PWM  $V_{\rm mpp}$ S<sub>dc</sub>  $C_{dc}$ S<sub>12</sub> |i⊷ 2 🛓 2L-TCM ▼ 3L-PWM ▼ 2L-PWM V *LCC* = 770 € *LCC* = 806 € LCC = 984 € *LCC* Share (%)  $\Sigma_{\rm rev}$  $\Sigma_{\rm rev}$  $\Delta I_{L,\max}^{pp}$ 50 % 50 % 44 kHz [24, 288] kHz 18 kHz **f**sw  $\overline{P}_{tot}$ 1.77 % 1.48% 2.79% 2.17 dm<sup>3</sup> 1.75 dm<sup>3</sup> 2.81 dm<sup>3</sup> V<sub>box,tot</sub> 335 € 402 € 354 €  $\Sigma_{\rm tot}$ 

#### Summary & Conclusions

- Advanced Virtual Prototyping Design Methodology for  $\eta$ - $\rho$ - $\sigma$  Multi-**Objective Optimization of Power Electronic Converter Systems**
- **Usefulness of Implemented Virtual Prototyping Routine**
- Solution to Complex Problems Feasible (48 Design Variables Demonstrated) ٠
- Extensive and Accurate of Modeling Framework ٠
- Unprecedented Detail of Results ٠
- Multitude of Post-Processing Possibilities (e.g. LCC Analysis) ٠
- **Case Studies:** i) Bidirectional Isolated Wide-Voltage-Range DC/DC and ii) PV DC/AC Converter Systems
- Only Multi-Objective Approach on System Level Can Reveal the Full Potential of SiC
- Combinations of SiC and Simple Topologies are Superior









