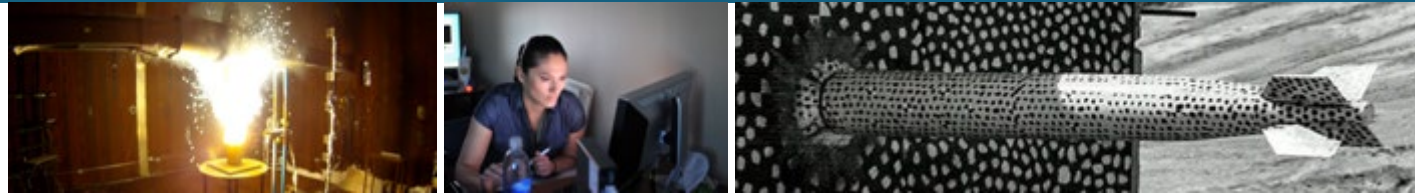


# Development of Modular Hardware Architectures for Medium Voltage Energy Storage Systems



*PRESENTED BY*

Jake Mueller

**Project Team:** Luciano Garcia Rodriguez, Andy Dow, Michael Rios  
DOE Office of Electricity Energy Storage Program Peer Review  
October 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Presentation ID: 802

# Power Capacity Need for a Net-Zero 2050 Scenario



## How much capacity\* do we need from storage?

- Up to 460GW from long duration storage by 2050<sup>1</sup>
- About 160GW from short duration storage by 2050<sup>2</sup>

\*For power electronics, MW is more meaningful than MWh

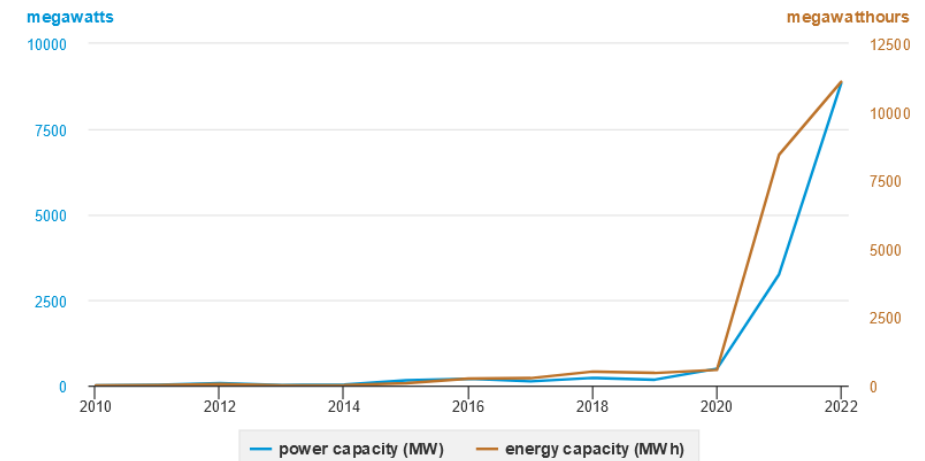
**620GW in 26 years is...**

... 24GW/year

... 65MW/day

...2.7MW/hour

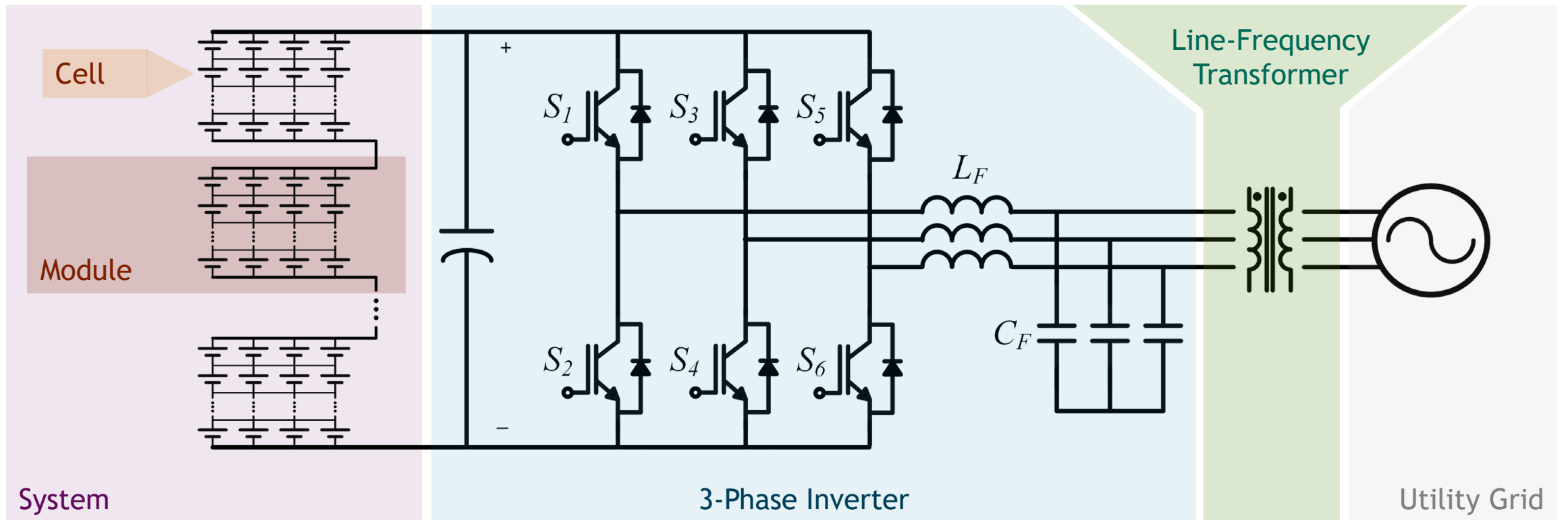
U.S. battery storage capacity in 2010 through 2022

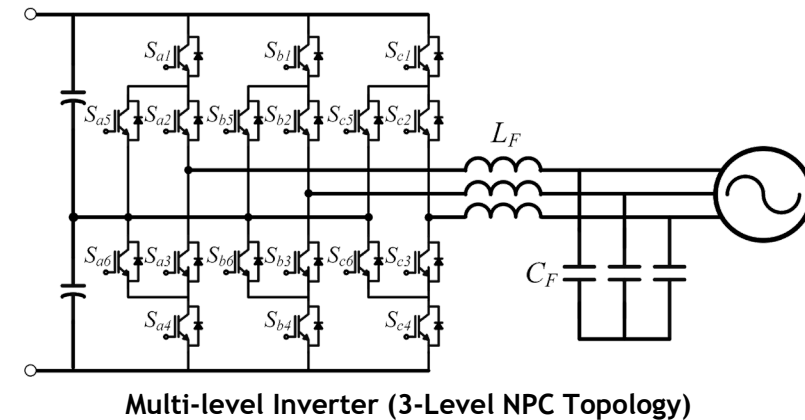
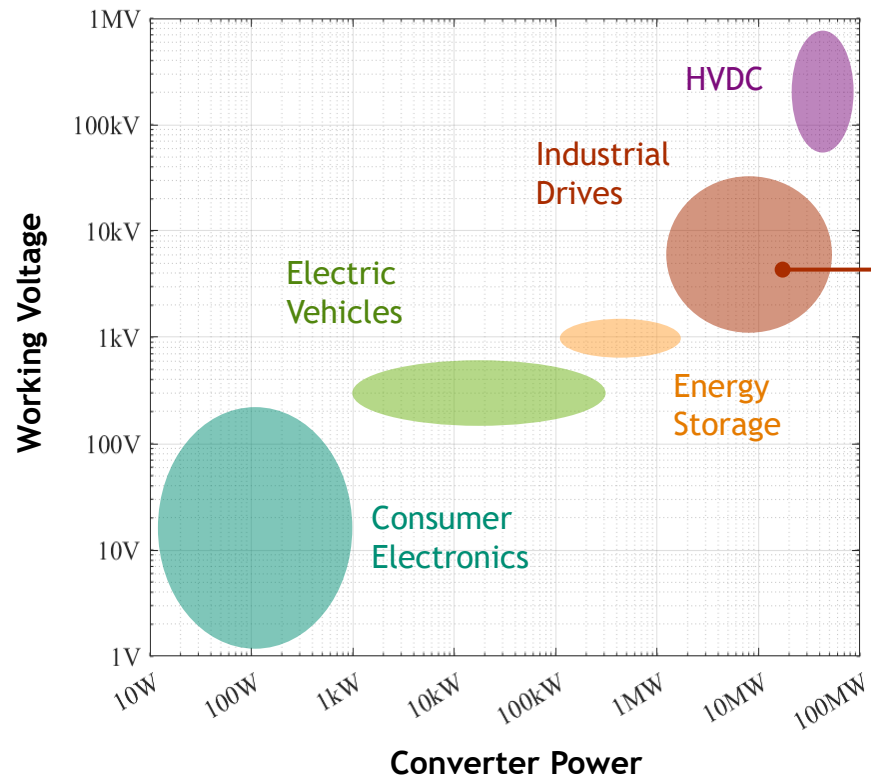


Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), *Annual Electric Generator Report and Preliminary Monthly Electric Generator Inventory*, February 2022

Note: MW is megawatts; MWh is megawatt-hours. Data are end-of-year operational nameplate capacities at installations with at least 1 MW nameplate power capacity.

# Conventional Power Conversion System





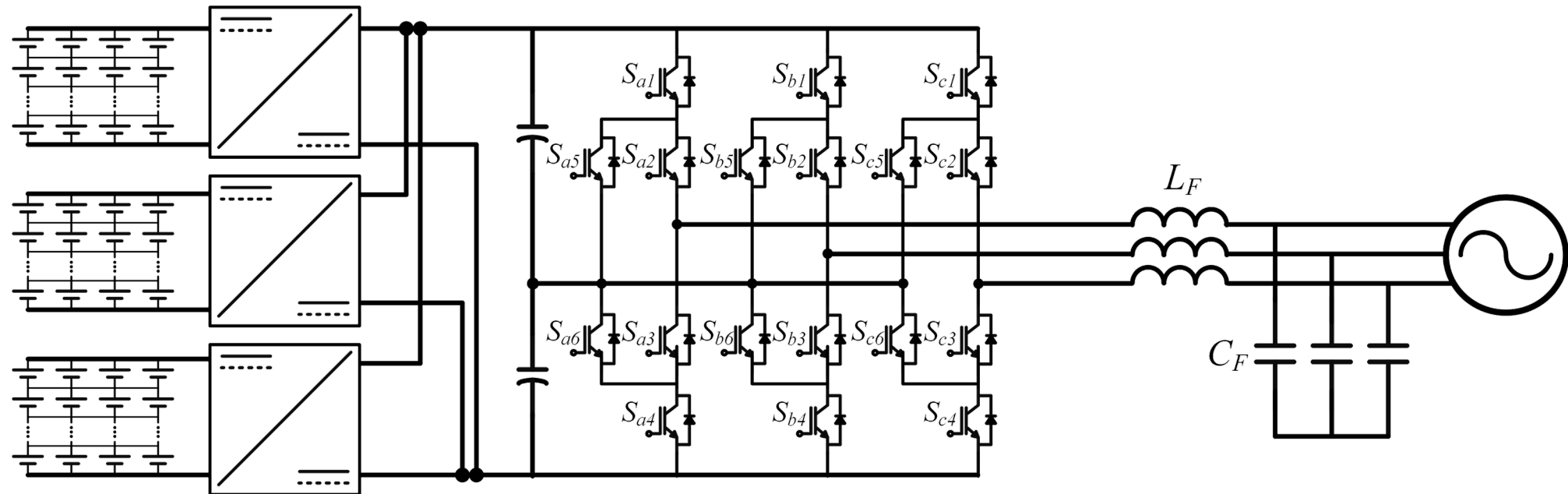
Overview of Industrial MV Drives

Manufacturer	Type	Power	Voltage (kV)	Topology	Semiconductor
ABB	ACS 1000	0.3 – 5 MVA	2.3; 3.3; 4.0; 4.16	3L-NPC-VSC	IGCT
	ACS 6000	3.0 – 27 MVA	2.3; 3; 3.3	3L-NPC-VSC	
	ACS 5000	1.7 – 24 MVA	4.16; 6.0; 6.6; 6.9	5L-NPC-HB-VSC	
Siemens	Sinamics SM150	5 - 28 MVA	3.3	3L-NPC-VSC	IGCT
	Sinamics GM150	0.6 - 10.1 MVA	2.3; 3.3; 4.16; 6; 6.6	3L-NPC-VSC	MV IGBT
	Perfect Harmony	0.3 - 30 MVA	2.3 - 13.8	ML-SCHB-VSC	LV / MV IGBT
Alstom <sup>(1)</sup>	VDM6000	0.3-8.0 MVA	2.3; 3.3; 4.2	4L-FLC-VSC	MV IGBT
	VDM7000	7.0-9.5 MVA	3.3	3L-NPC-VSC	PP-MV-GTO
TMEIC GE <sup>(2)</sup>	Dura-Bilt5i MV	7.5 MW	4-4.2	VSI-3L-NPC	IGBT
	TMdrive-XL85	30-120 MVA	7.2	VSI-5L-NPC-HB	GCT

<sup>(1)</sup> Convertteam <sup>(2)</sup> Association between General Electric, Toshiba and Mitsubishi Electric

H. Abu-Rub, J. Holtz, J. Rodriguez and G. Baoming, "Medium-Voltage Multilevel Converters—State of the Art, Challenges, and Requirements in Industrial Applications," in *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*, vol. 57, no. 8, pp. 2581-2596, Aug. 2010.

# Parallel Multi-Stage Power Conversion System

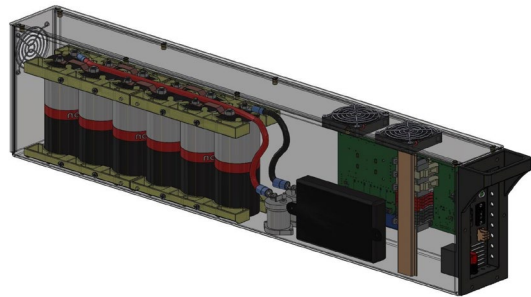
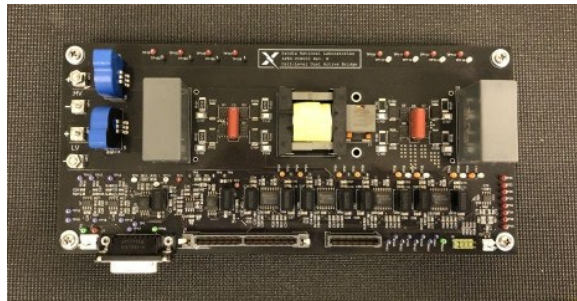




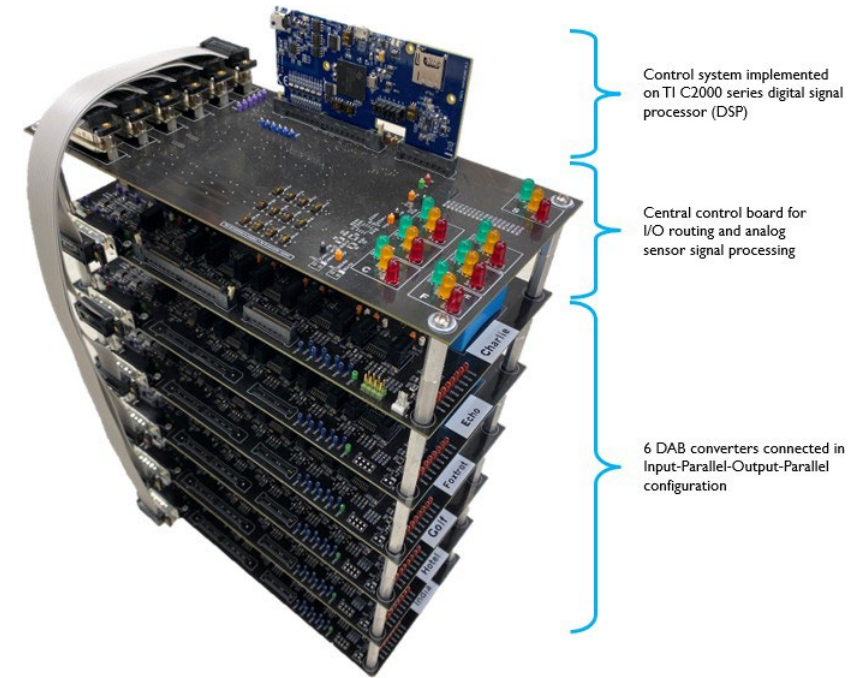


# Previous Work – Parallel Systems

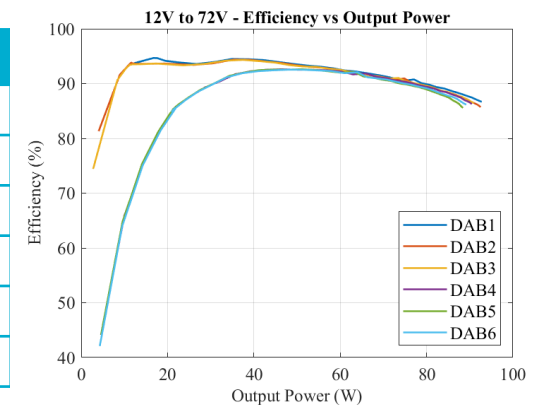
- Parallel system of isolated DC-DC converters tested in FY22
- Demonstrated 6x parallel converters, each with voltage gain of 6
- Strategic distribution of load among converters leads to efficiency improvements at the system level
- Integrated converters with gain of 2 into hybrid storage system with Li-ion and lead acid batteries



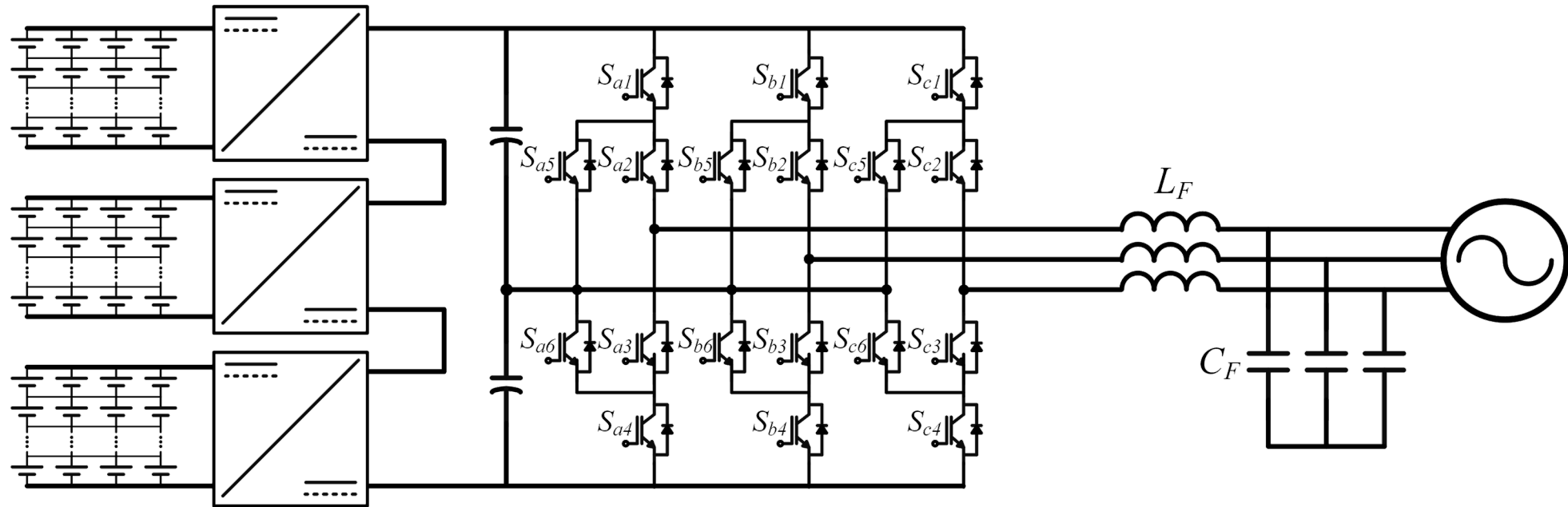
## Parallel System Prototype



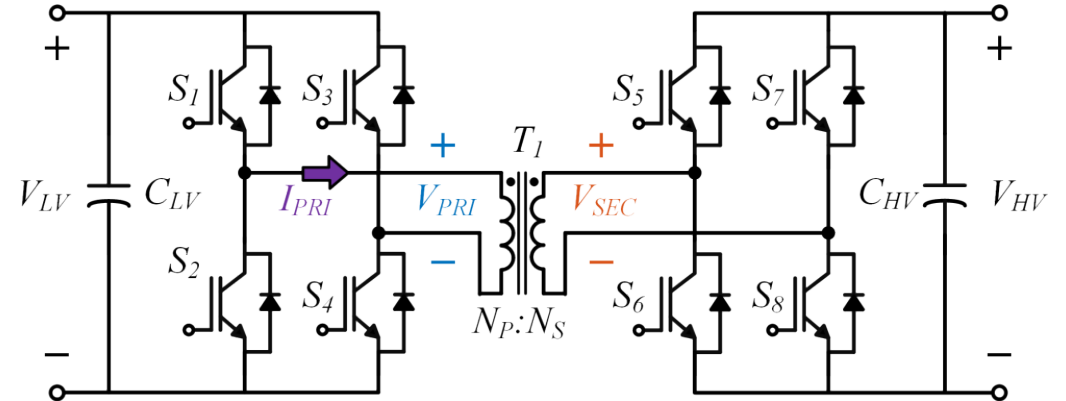
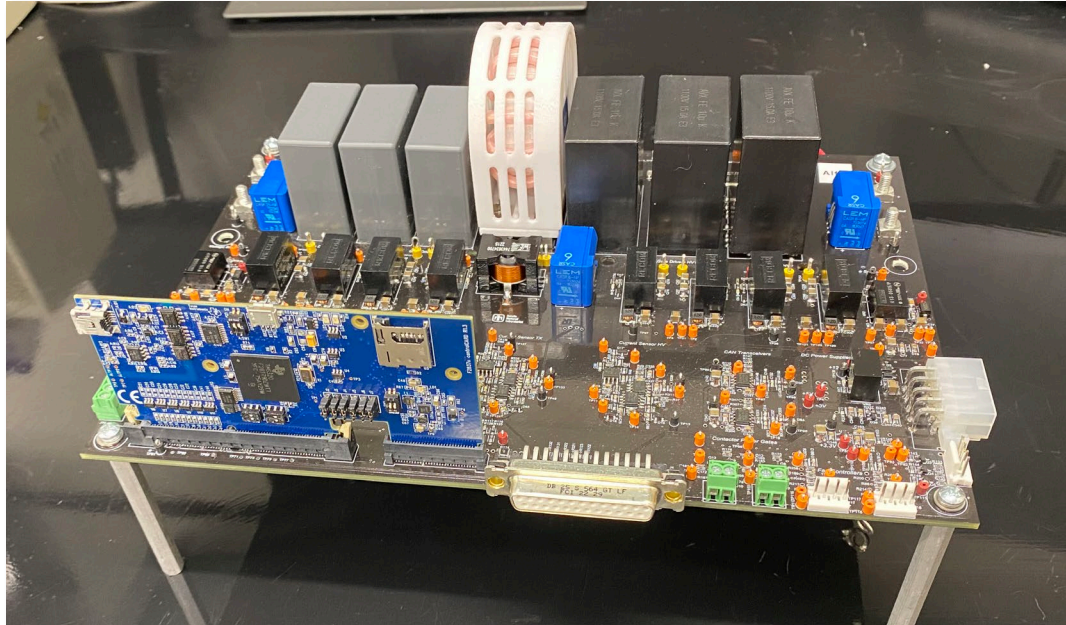
System Specifications	
Low-Side Voltage	12V nom
High-Side Voltage	72V nom
Switching Freq	100kHz
Rated Power (Module)	±85W
Transformer Turns Ratio	1:6
System Voltage Gain	6



# Series Multi-Stage Power Conversion System



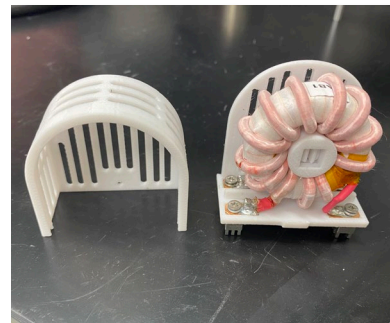
# Isolated DC-DC Converter Prototype



- Dual active bridge circuit topology
- Controlled via on-board DSP or external control board
- Local voltage, current, temperature sensing
- On-board contactor, indicator, and fan control
- Digital comms with higher level controllers (I2C, CAN, SCI)
- Ferrite core transformer with custom fixturing
  - Toroid for in-place replacement with experimental magnetics
- Voltage range intentionally oversized
  - 1200V SiC MOSFETs at high-voltage bridge
  - High-side creepage and clearance suitable for >1kV

## Converter Specifications (Base Config)

Nominal Low-Side Voltage	24V
Nominal High-Side Voltage	144V
Switching Frequency	100kHz
Rated Power	±350W
Transformer Turns Ratio	1:6
Leakage Inductance (Ref Secondary)	66μH



Custom Transformer Fixture



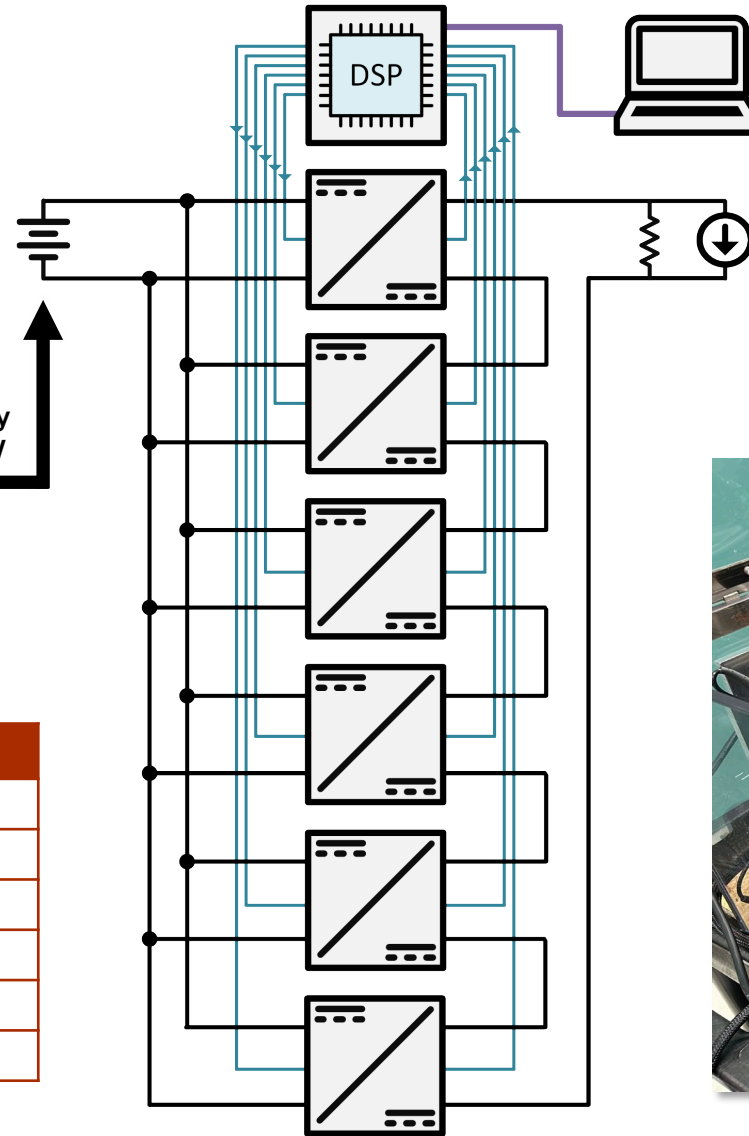
# 9 System Configuration



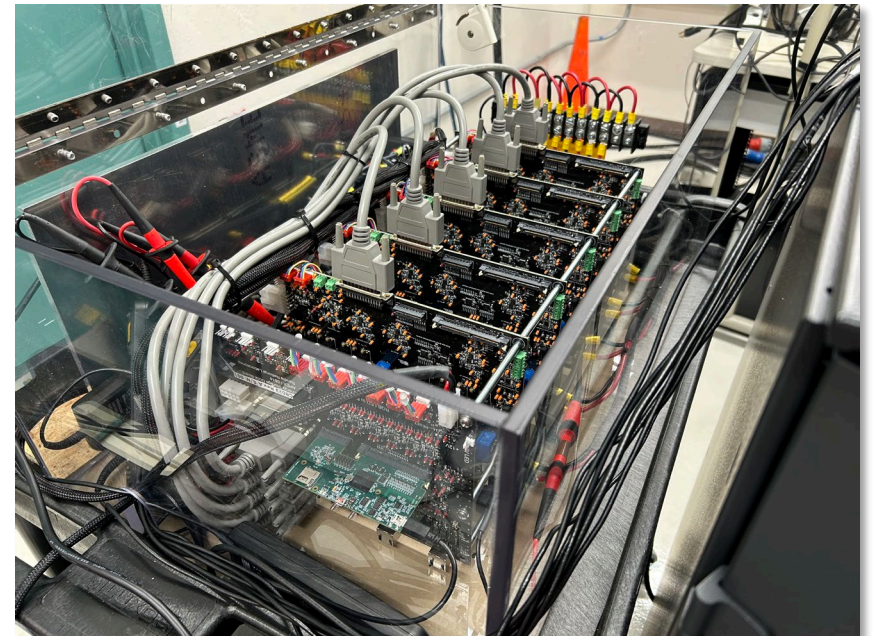
## Single Input Case



DC Power Supply  
500V/40A/10kW



- Initial experiment is single-input case
- Fixed DC source at nominal input voltage
- Multi-converter system controlled by central DSP board
- Serial communication link with local PC for operator commands, datalogging, etc.



System Specifications	
Nominal Low-Side Voltage	24V
Nominal High-Side Voltage	864V
Number of Modules	6*
Rated Power (Module)	±350W
Rated Power (System)	±2.1kW
System Voltage Gain	36

\*5 of 6 modules used in results on following slides

# System Configuration

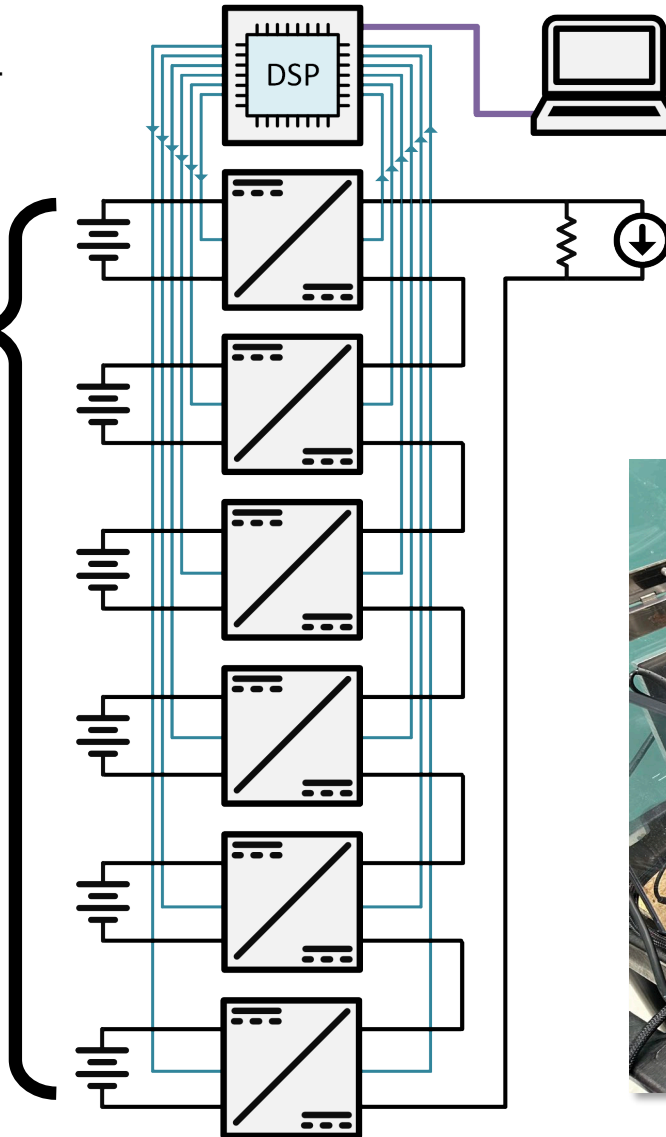


## Independent Input Case

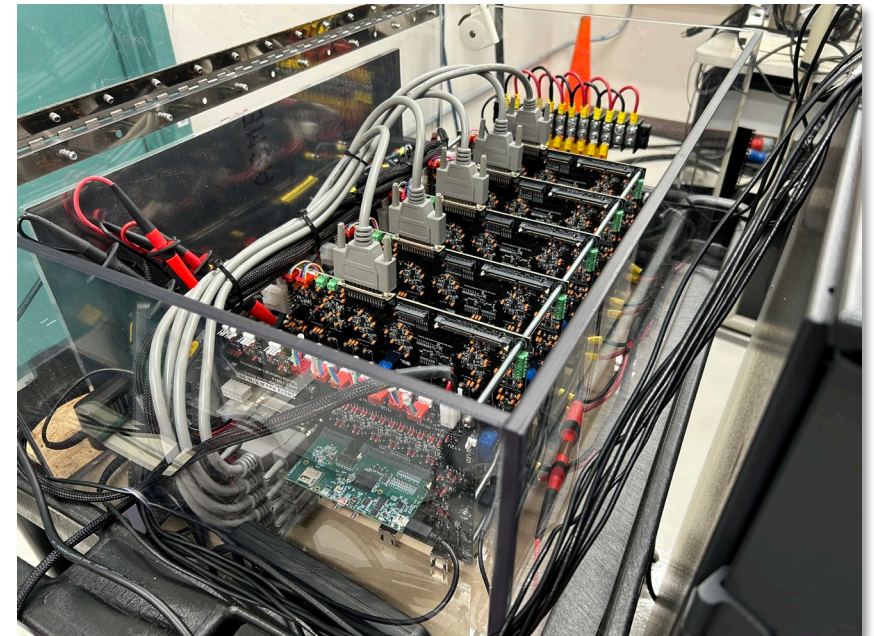


OPAL-RT runs real-time models of storage devices

6x DC Power Supplies  
50V/20A/1kW



- System specifications are designed around APEX lab's battery emulation capabilities
- Up to 12 bidirectional DC power supplies, controlled in real-time via OPAL-RT OP5700
- Programmable storage device parameters for emulation of different chemistries, power/energy capacities, states of health, etc.



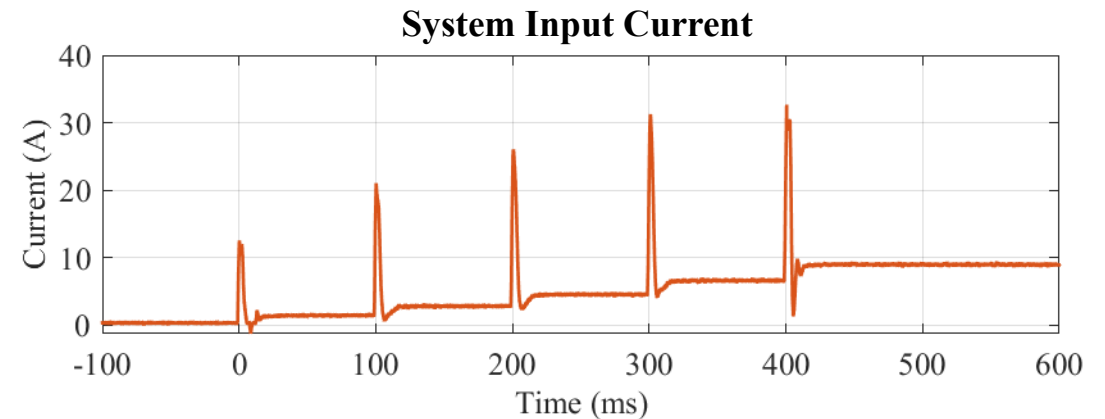
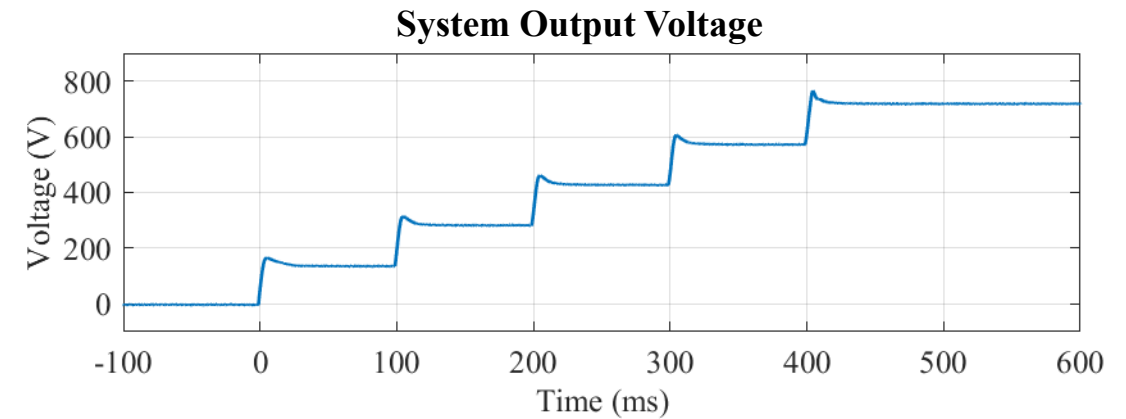
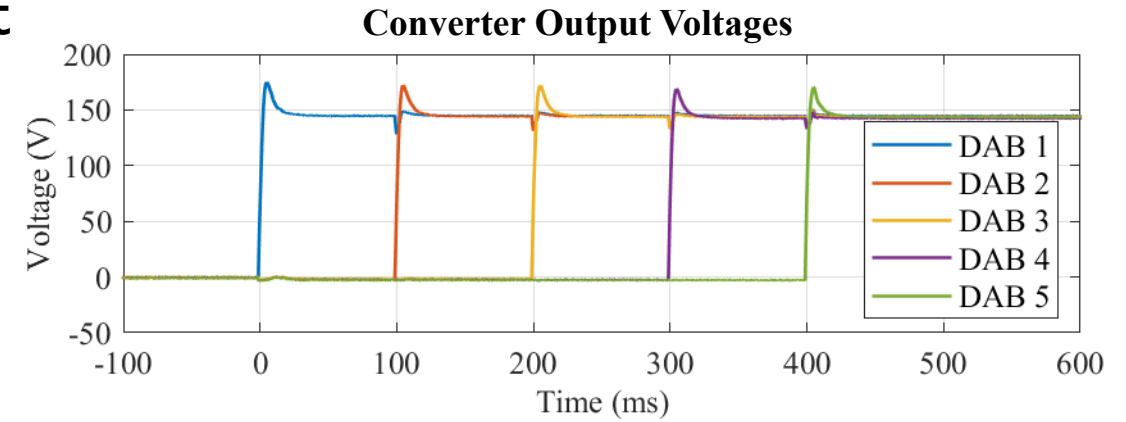
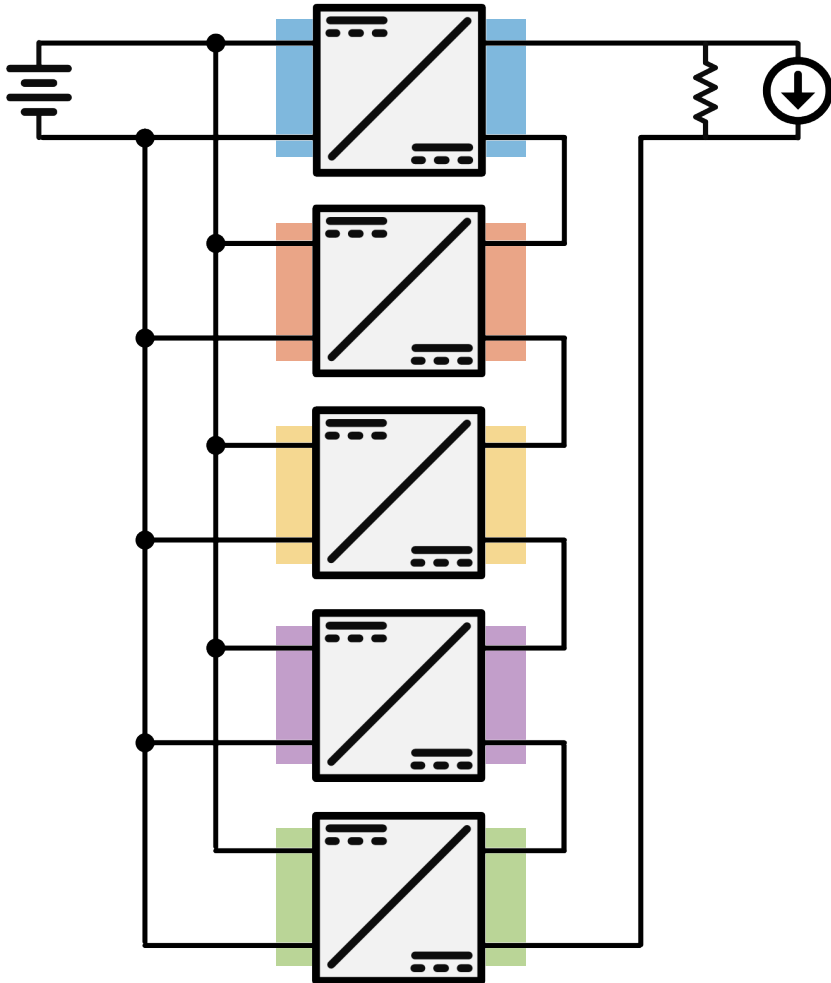
### System Specifications

Nominal Low-Side Voltage	24V
Nominal High-Side Voltage	864V
Number of Modules	6*
Rated Power (Module)	±350W
Rated Power (System)	±2.1kW
System Voltage Gain	36

\*5 of 6 modules used in results on following slides

# Hardware Results – Startup Transient

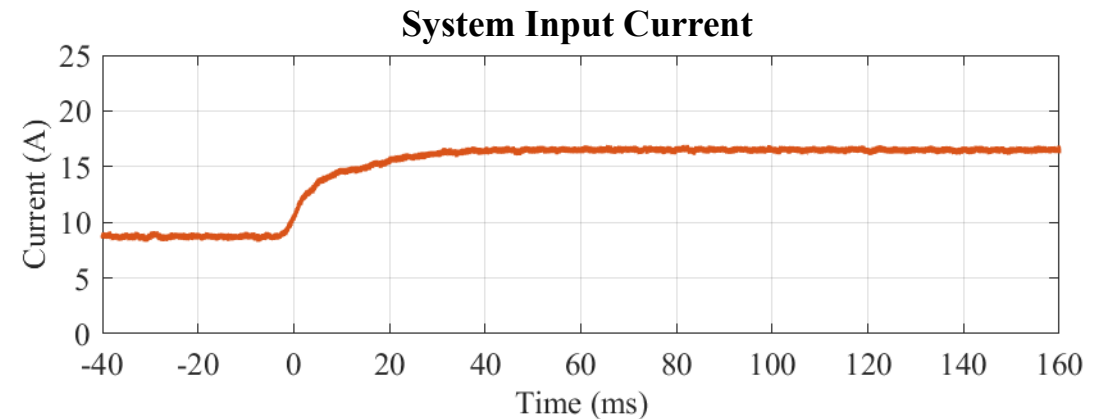
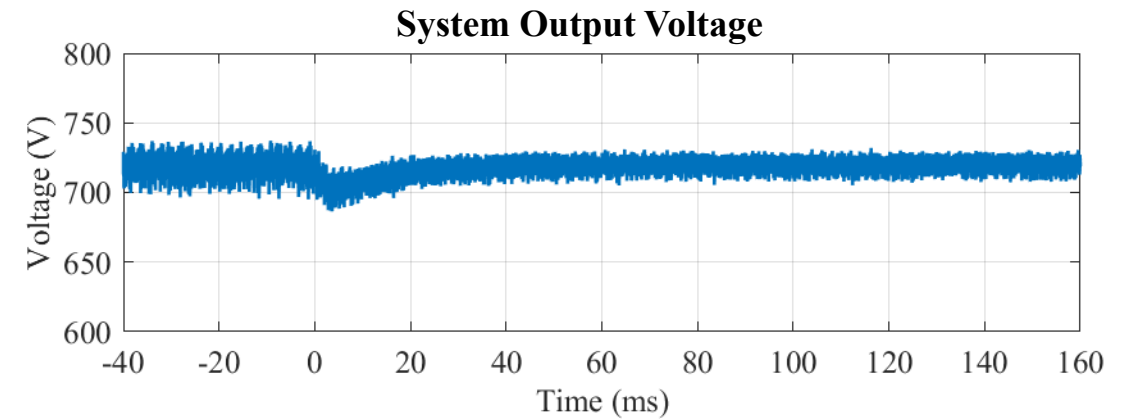
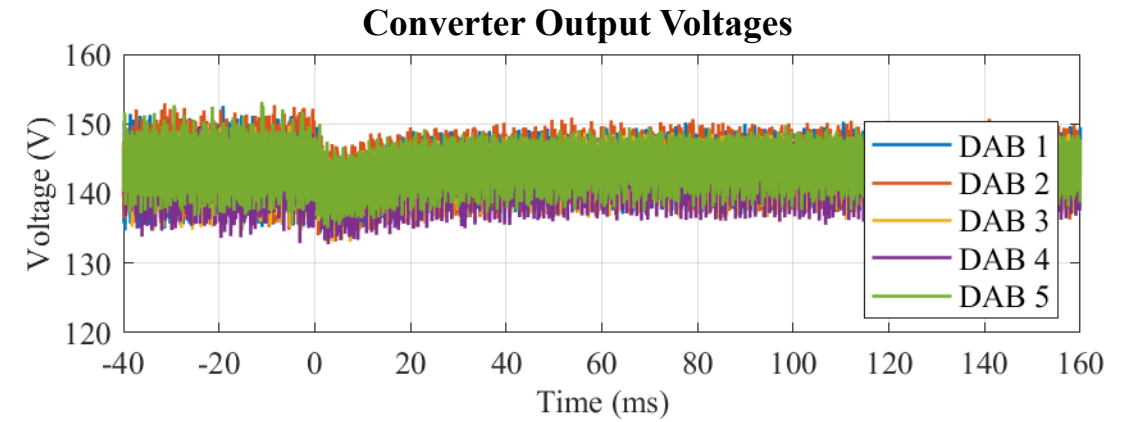
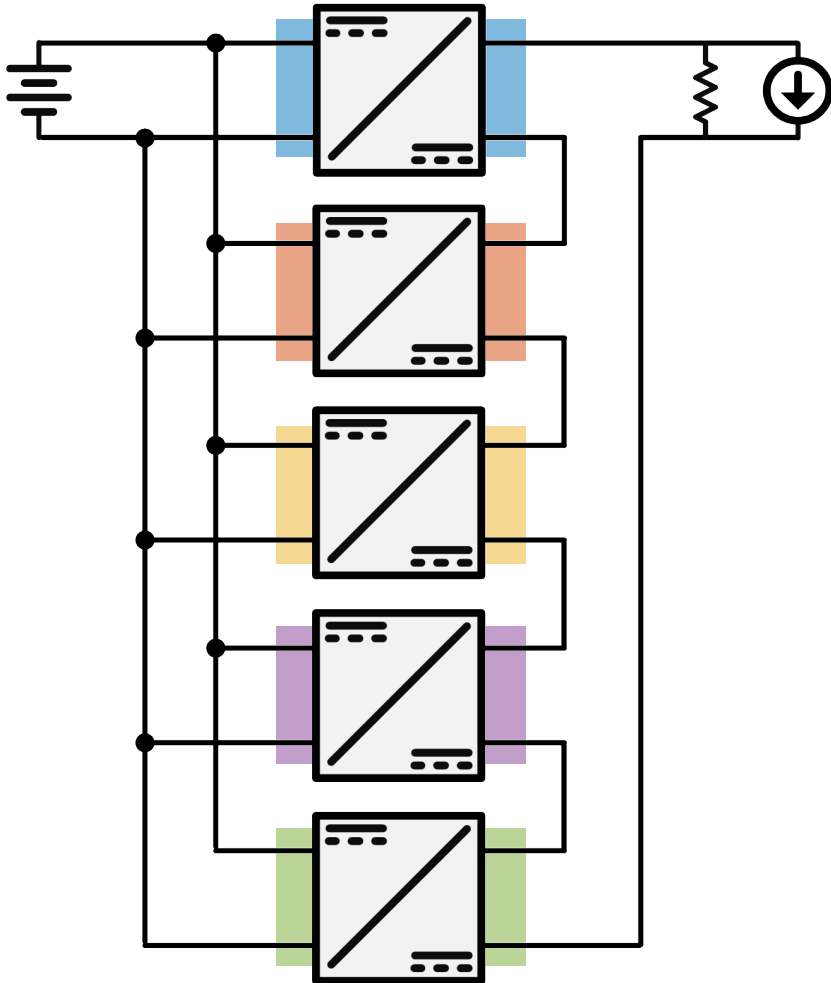
- Single input configuration
- Converters turn on sequentially, one every 100ms
- Goal is to verify voltage sharing in series outputs





# Hardware Results – Load Step

- Current load changes from 0A to 0.5A at  $t = 0s$
- Goal is to verify response to transient disturbance, minimal cross-coupling between converter controllers



## Summary and Future Work



- ❖ Existing power conversion architectures are **unable to meet the needs of next-generation energy storage systems**
- ❖ The key challenge is solving the disconnect between low-voltage/high-current battery cells and high-voltage/low current utility grids
- ❖ If a high voltage DC link can be generated, we can **draw on technologically mature medium voltage inverters** from MV drive applications
- ❖ Two solutions, both in need of further exploration:
  - High-gain DC-DC converters
  - Cascaded DC-DC converter structures
- ❖ For cascaded system architectures, there are two paths forward:
  - **Modeling and control** for storage modules with disparate power/energy ratings
  - Overcome practical barriers to **full-scale implementation**
- ❖ Goal in FY24: Scale up to medium voltage, demonstrate at 5kV



New medium voltage power electronics lab space in development, to be operational by end of FY24.





## Thanks For Your Attention

This work was supported by the US DOE  
Office of Electricity Energy Storage Program

*For further information, please contact:*

**Jake Mueller**

[jmueller@sandia.gov](mailto:jmueller@sandia.gov)