



# Intelligent Electricity

Rajeev Ram, Program Director, ARPA-E

**2010: 30% of all electric power flows through power electronics**  
**2030: 80% of all electric power will flow through power electronics**

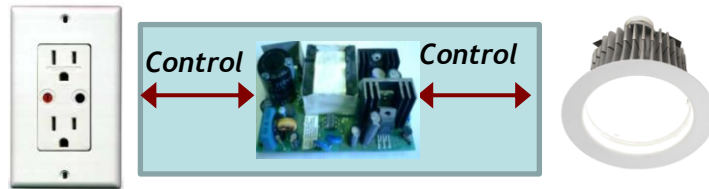
# ROLE OF POWER ELECTRONICS

2010: 30% of all electric power flows through power electronics

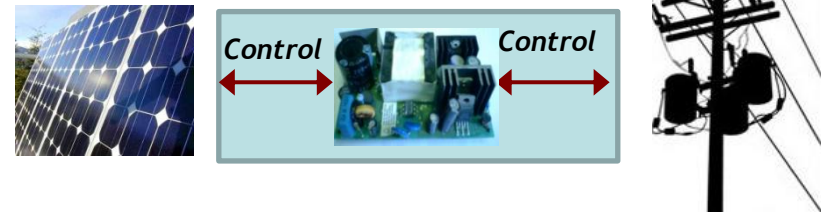
2030: 80% of all electric power will flow through power electronics



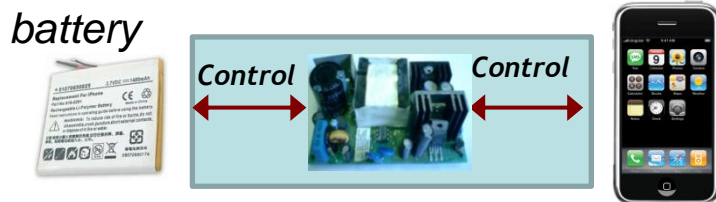
AC/DC Conversion



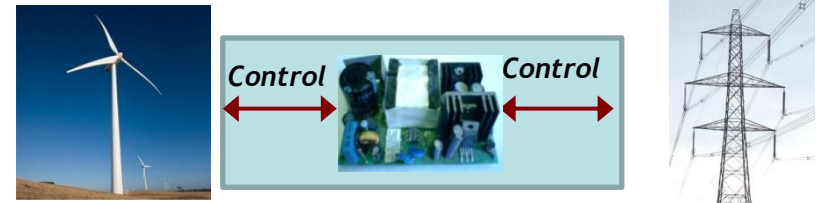
DC/AC Conversion



DC/DC Conversion



AC/AC Conversion



# POWER MAGNETICS WHITE SPACE

>92% Dimmable  
LED Driver



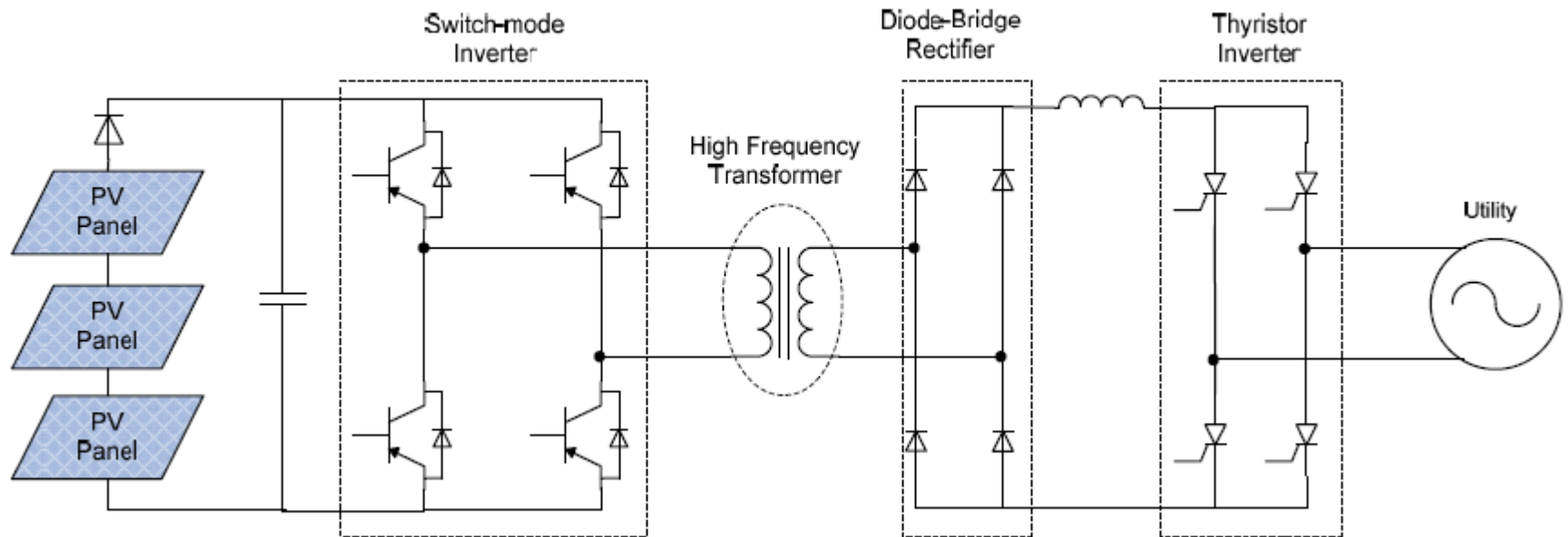
1MW PV Inverter

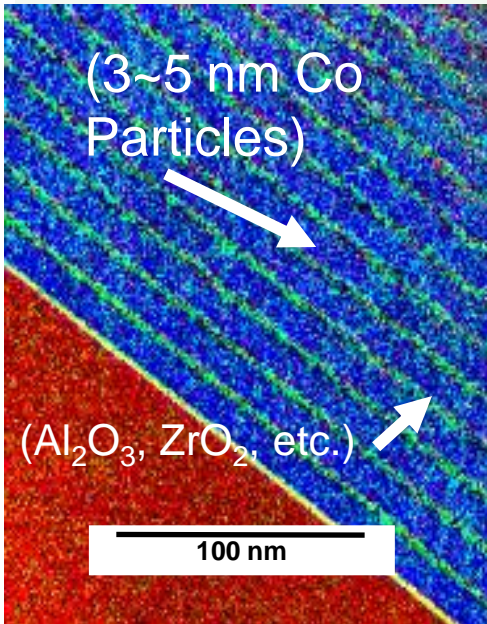


	10 W	1000 W	100 kW	10 MW
50 kHz	N/A	Now: ferrite, amorphous	Now amorphous, ferrite, nanocrystalline	Future: existing and new materials
500 kHz	Now: ferrite	Now: ferrite Future: new materials	Future: new materials	
5 MHz	Now: thin- film	Future: new materials		
50 MHz	Future: thin- film and air core			

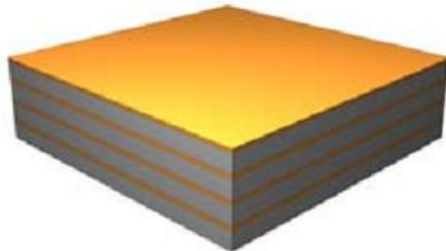
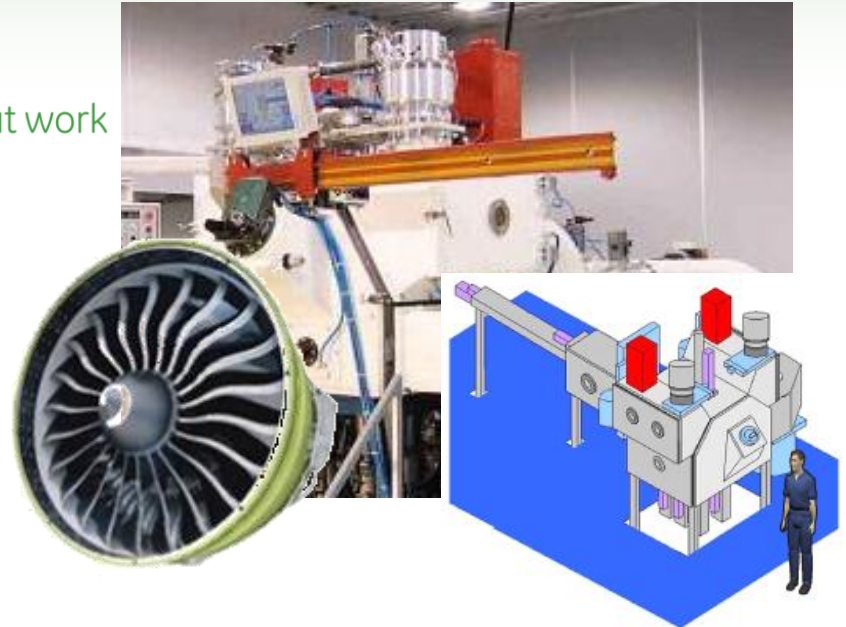
# HV SWITCHES AND HI-FREQUENCY TRANSFORMERS

## BASE CASE





imagination at work



Deposit Material Layers



Fabricate Toroidal Component



Wind Wire



# MINIATURE (FAST) MAGNETICS NEEDS FAST SWITCHES

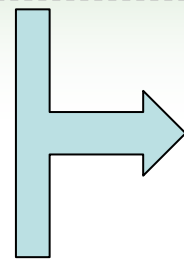
Bandgap (energy to 'free electron') increases



Breakdown voltage increases



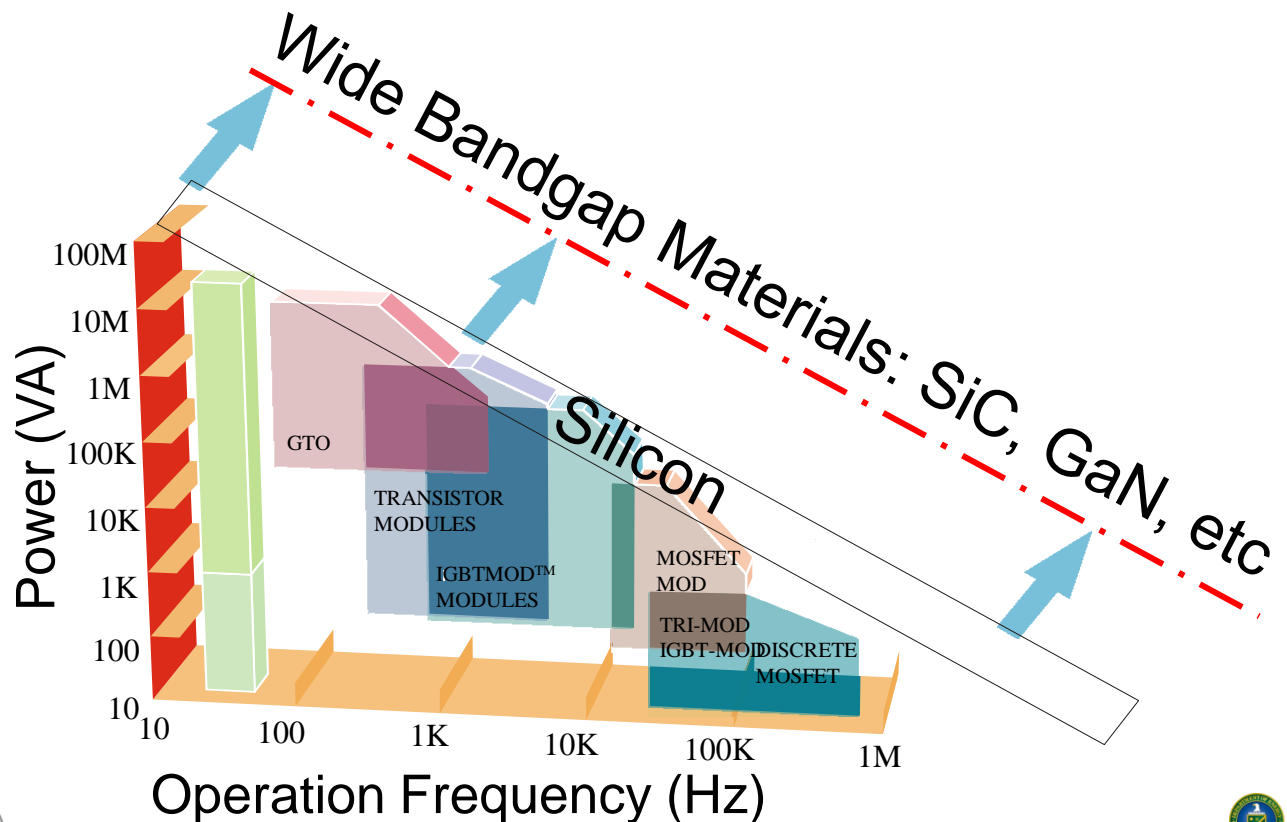
Drift region can be decreased



Reduces transit time

Increases frequency

Reduces on-resistance

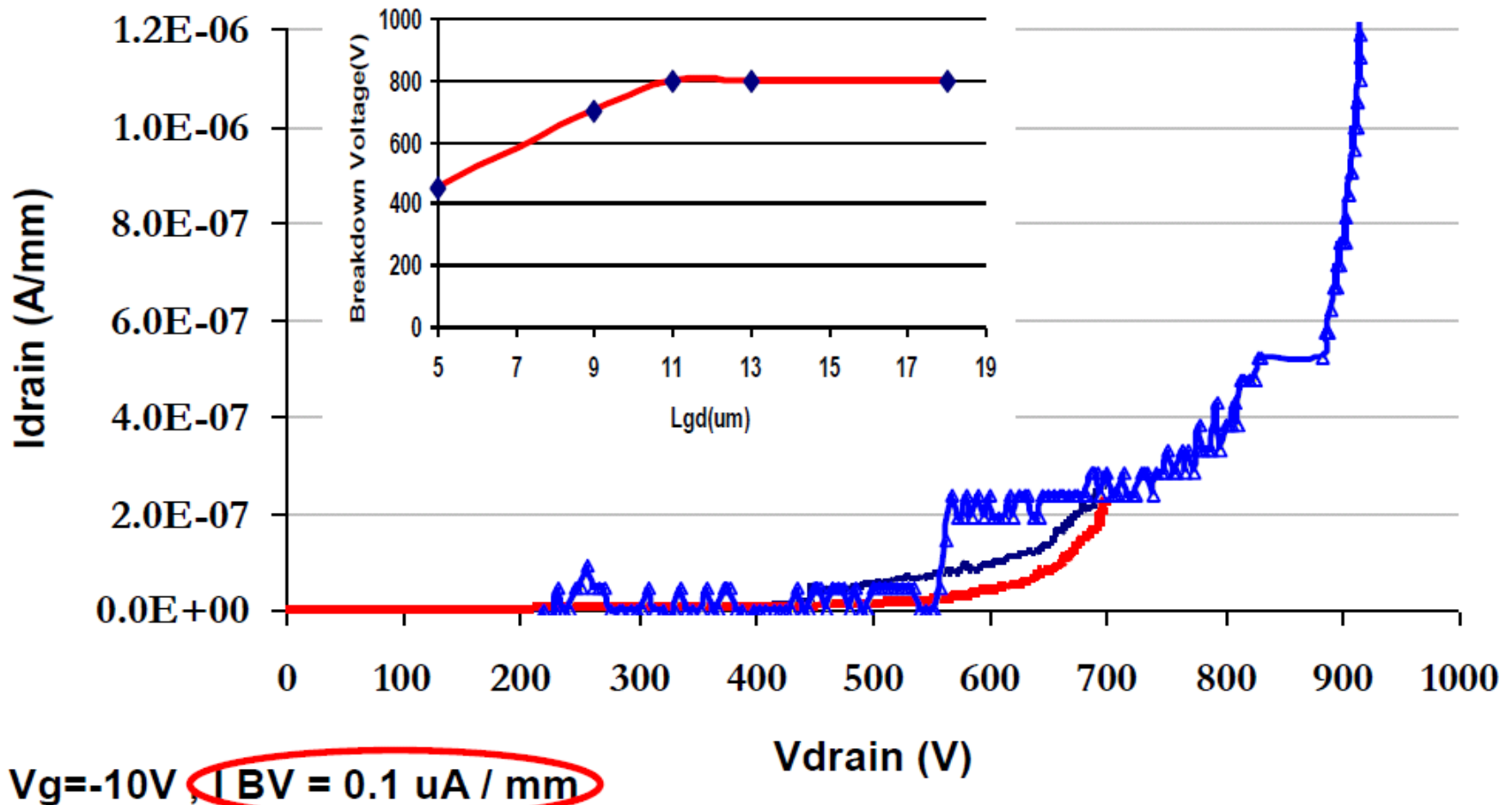


# AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRONICS

- 600V GaN-on-Si with sintered interconnects & double-side cooling.
- Reduce energy losses and cost by at least 50% relative to Si IGBT

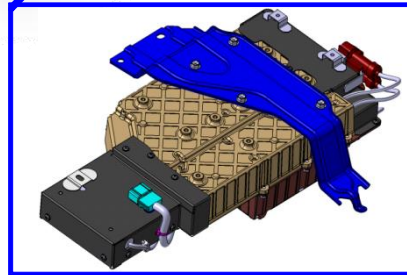
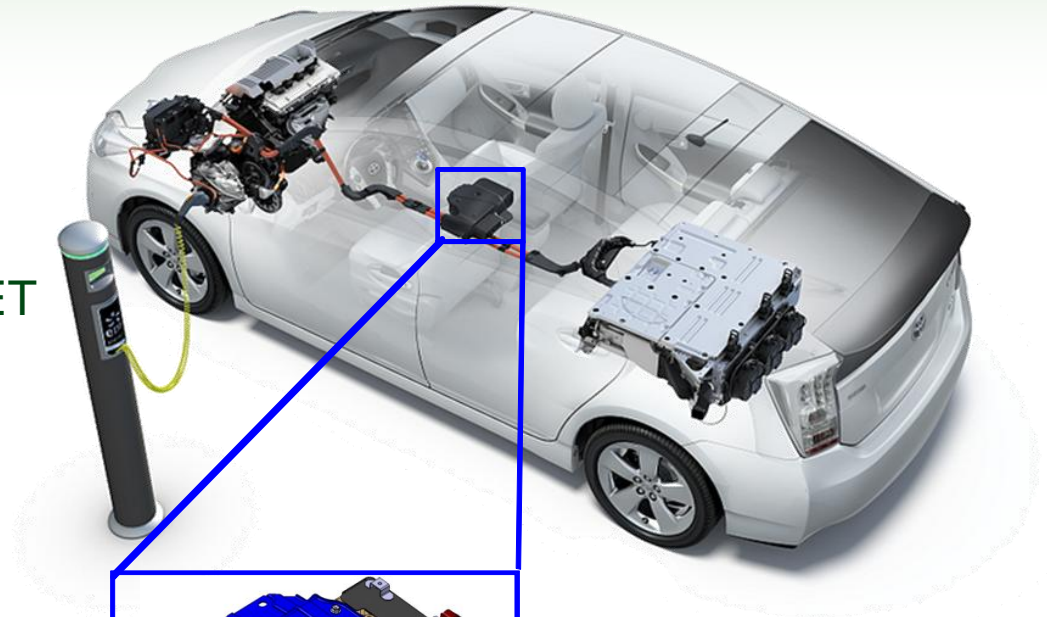
(  $W_g=100 \text{ mm}$ ,  $L_g=2\mu\text{m}$ )

$I_{on}/I_{off}(600 \text{ V}) > 10^6$



# AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRONICS

- Develop a Multi-Chip Power Module for  $>500$  kHz
- Develop 1200V, 20A SiC MOSFET with isolated, integrated SiC gate drive
- Small, lightweight, few materials, low cost
- $>94\%$  efficiency,  $> 5\text{kW/kg}$ ,  $> 100\text{W/in}^3$
- Integrate into Prius vehicle and demonstrate operation



Present Plug-in Charger

Proposed Next Generation High Frequency Charger

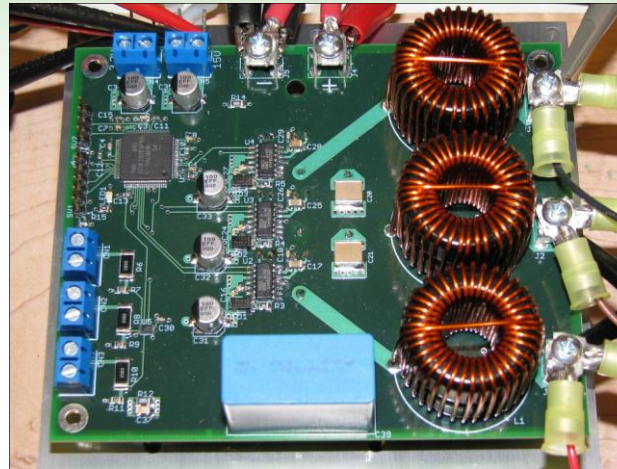
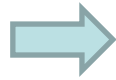
SiC Enables  
10 x Size/Cost  
Reduction



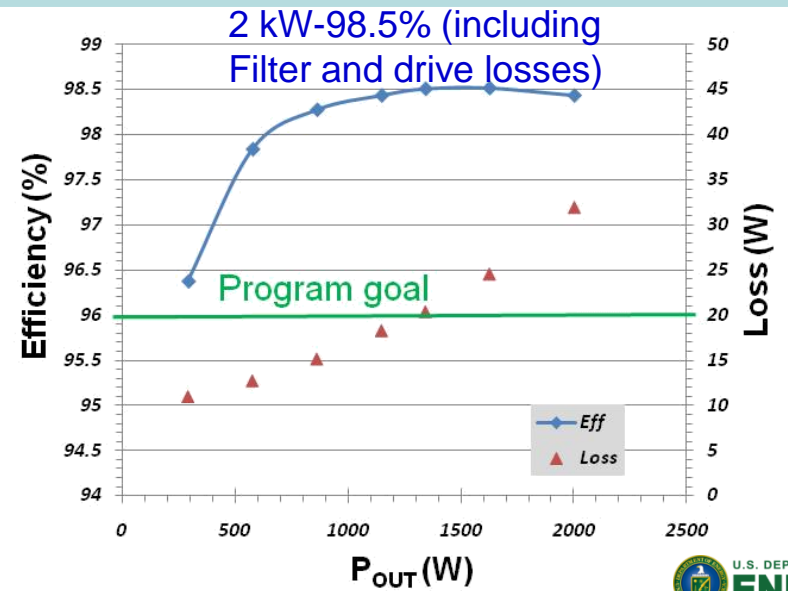
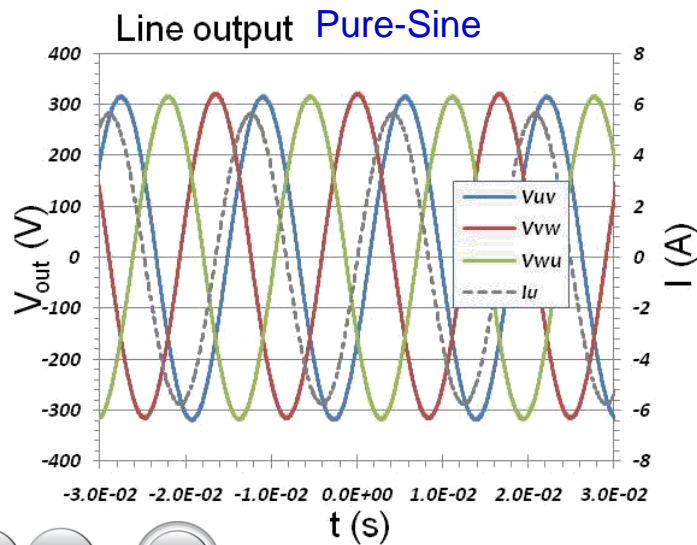


# HIGH EFFICIENCY MOTOR DRIVE GAN-SiC

Sub 20 KHz

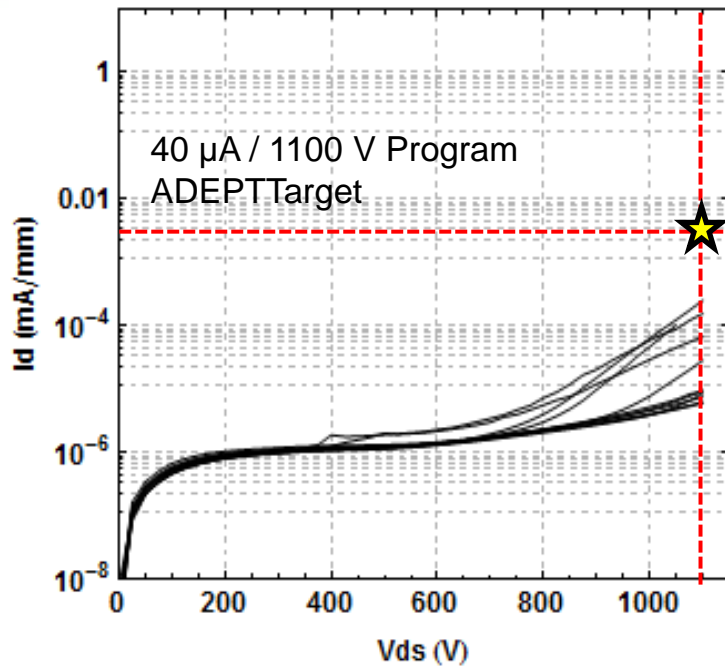


GaN/SiC 3-ph inverter with Integrated Filter, 100 KHz

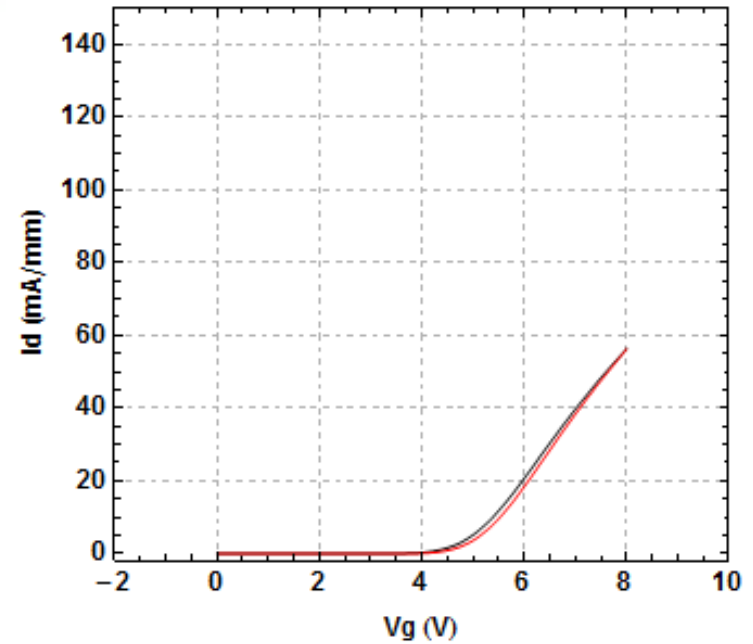


# ENHANCEMENT-MODE GaN-Si

transphorm



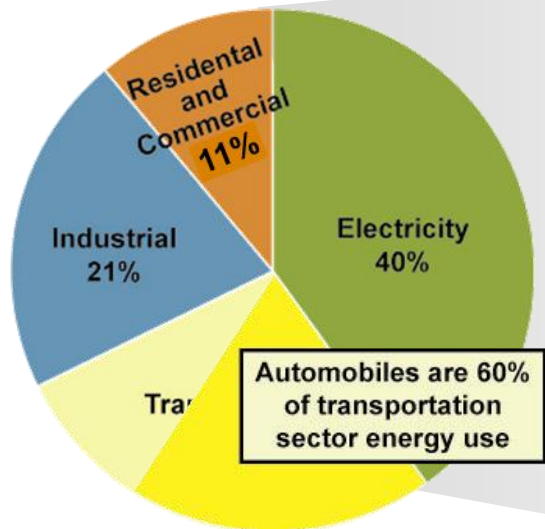
>1000V GaN on Si Material  
(Buffer structure)



Transfer characteristic of GaN on  
Silicon E-mode HEMT,  $V_t > 4$  V

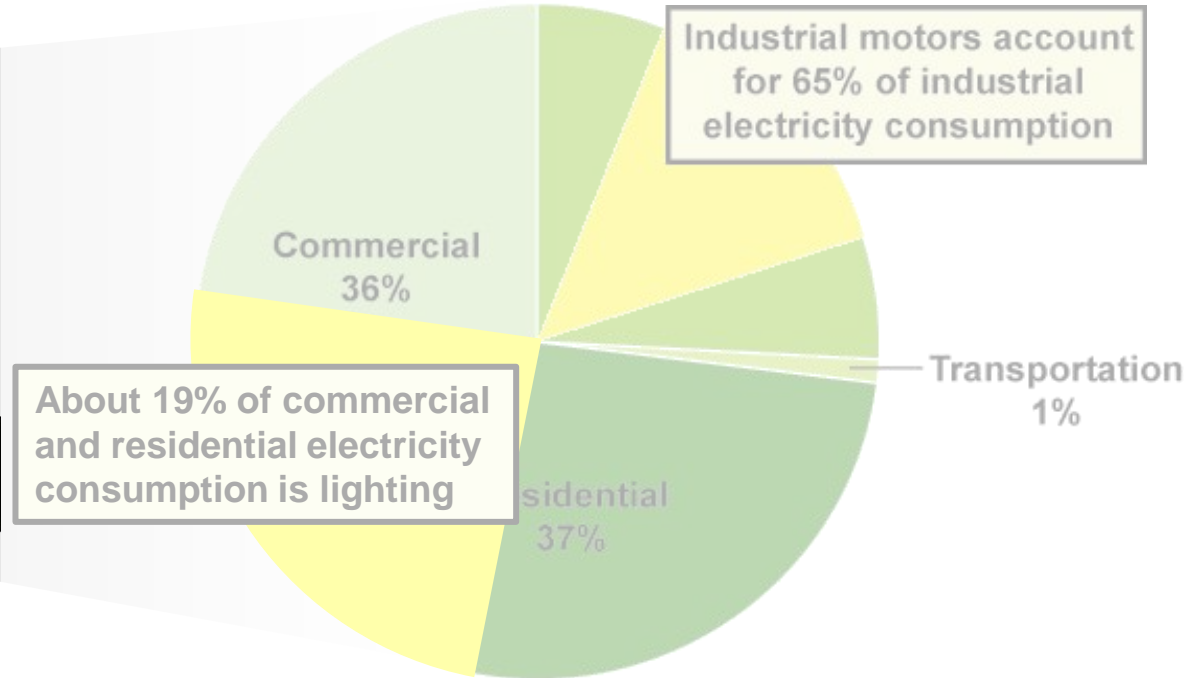
# ROLE OF POWER ELECTRONICS

Primary Energy Use by Sector



Automobiles are 60% of transportation sector energy use

Share of Electricity Consumed by Major Sectors of the Economy, 2008



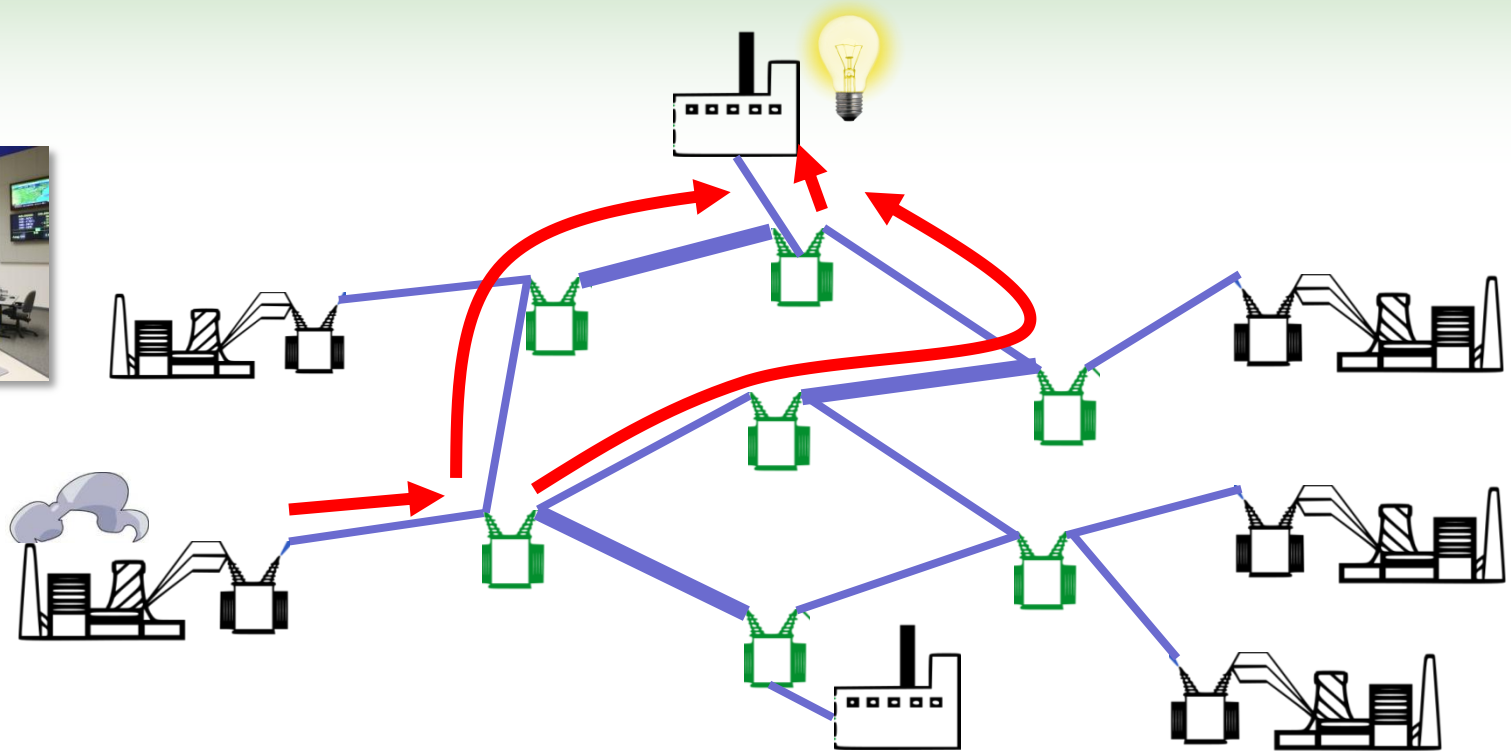
Industrial motors account for 65% of industrial electricity consumption

About 19% of commercial and residential electricity consumption is lighting

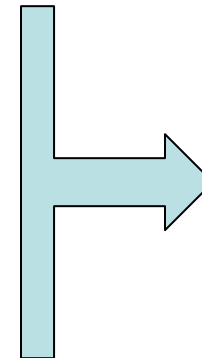
Source: Energy Information Administration, *Annual Energy Review 2008*

- 30-50% of cost for dimmable LED luminaire (ADEPT: MIT, Teledyne, CUNY)
- 20% energy loss in industrial motors due to mechanical throttling (ADEPT: Transphorm)
- 20% of material cost for HEV is power electronics (ADEPT: Delphi/IR, HRL/GM, APEI/Cree, CWRU)

# DELIVERING ELECTRICITY

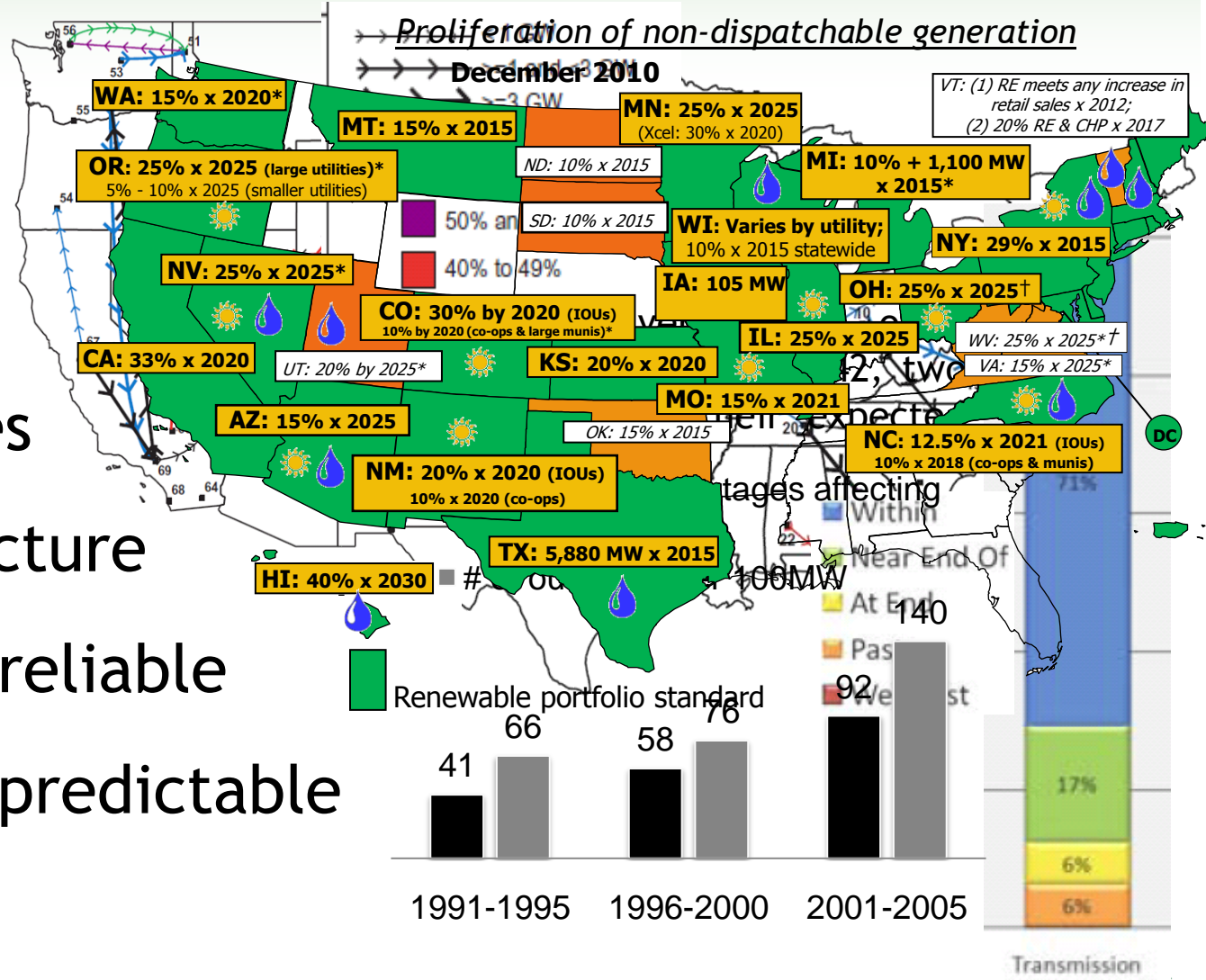


- Negligible storage - just in time delivery of power
- Centrally controlled
- Negligible control of path - Joules are indistinguishable



Not the  
internet

# STATE OF THE GRID

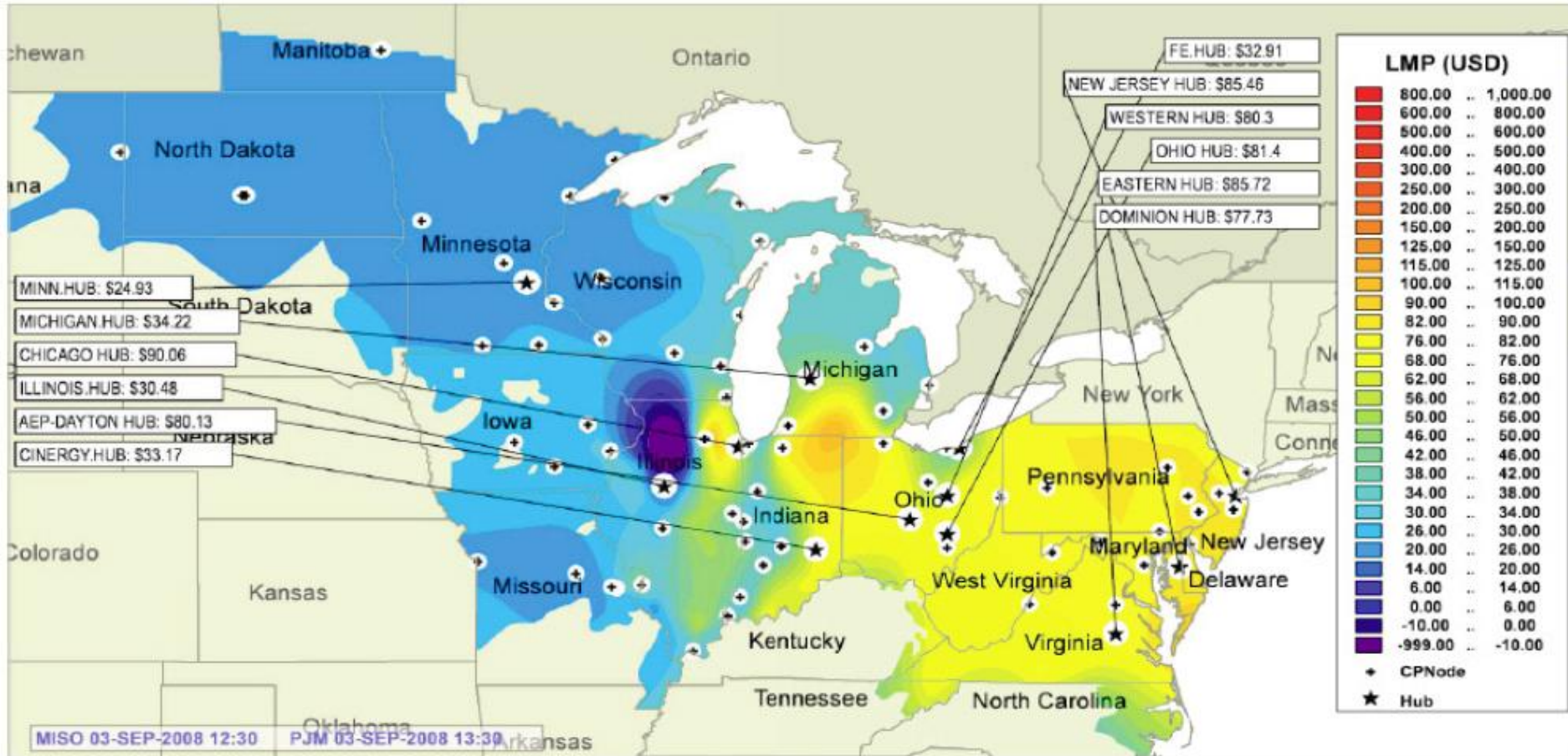


- Congested Lines
- Aging Infrastructure
- Increasingly unreliable
- Increasingly unpredictable



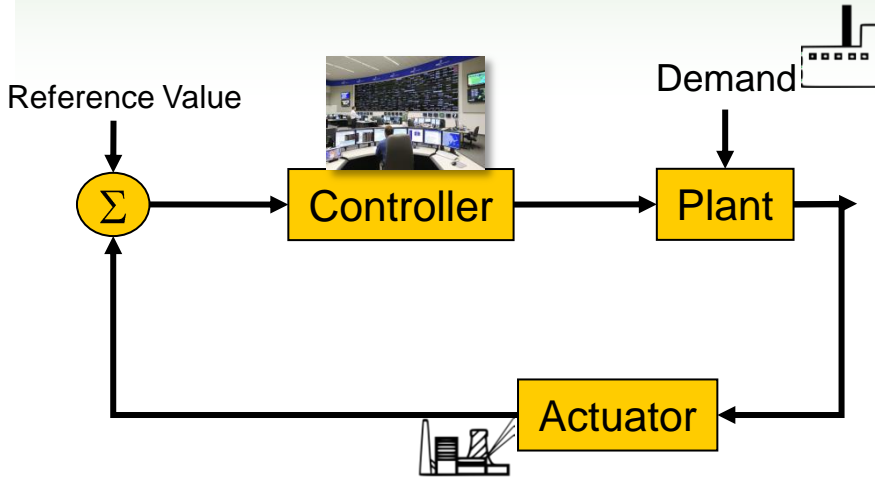
# INEFFICIENT MARKETS

## Location marginal pricing



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# CONTROL AND ACTUATION OF THE GRID



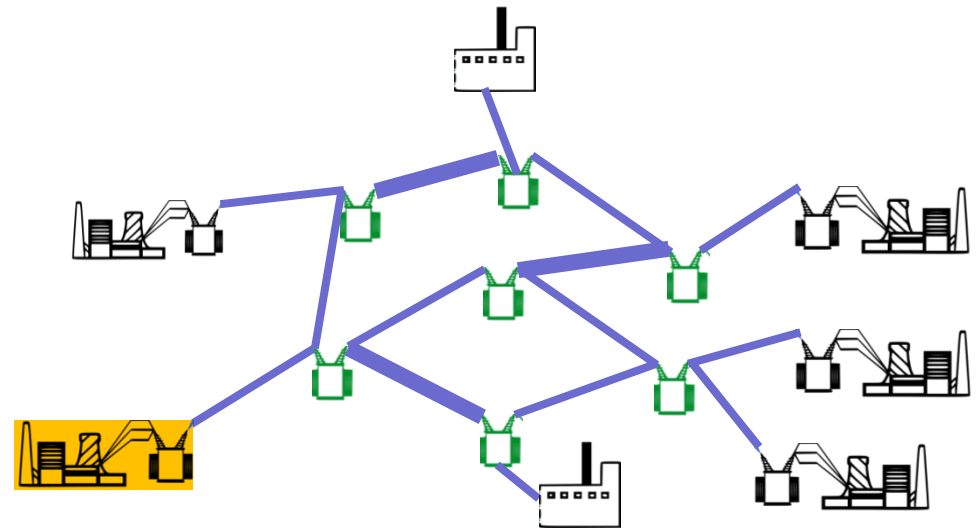
## Control in the Grid

Flexible AC Transmission System:

- Static VAR
- STATCOM
- UPFC

## Demand Response

Schedule demand  
(eg. large industrial loads)



## Grid Storage

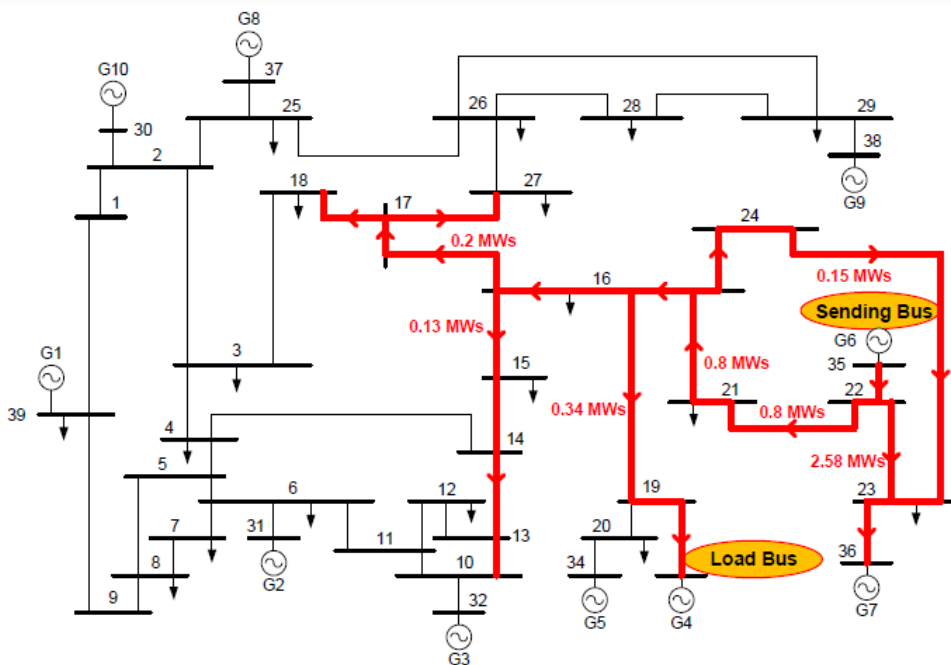
Dispatch of intermittent generation

# ROUTING ELECTRICAL POWER

GA Tech study of simplified IEEE 39 Bus system with 4 control areas, operation simulated for 20 years, 20% RPS phased in over 20 years, sufficient transmission capacity added each year to eliminate curtailment of renewable generation

## Today: Uncontrolled Flows

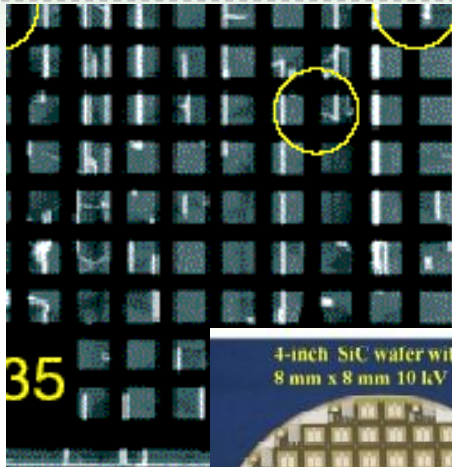
## Power Routing



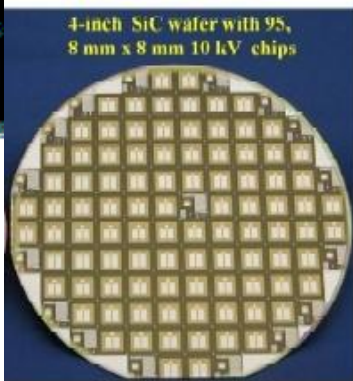
Base Case: 3.4 MW sent; 0.34 MW recd

- BAU case requires upgrade of 3 inter-regional paths, for a total of 186,000 MW-MILES
- Power flow control to route power along underutilized paths, 36,000 MW-miles of new lines needed, only 20% of BAU

# SOLID-STATE TRANSFORMERS



NRL



## ➤ Significantly improved SiC IGBTs

- High voltage (20kV)
- Extremely efficient (>98%)
- Fast switching (50kHz)

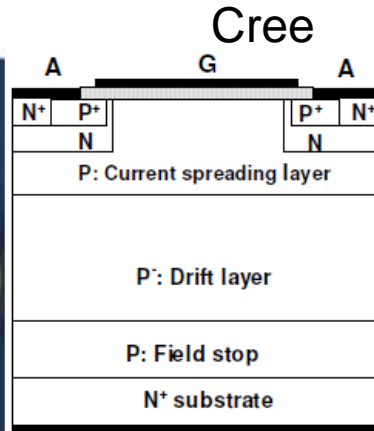


ABB  
NCSU



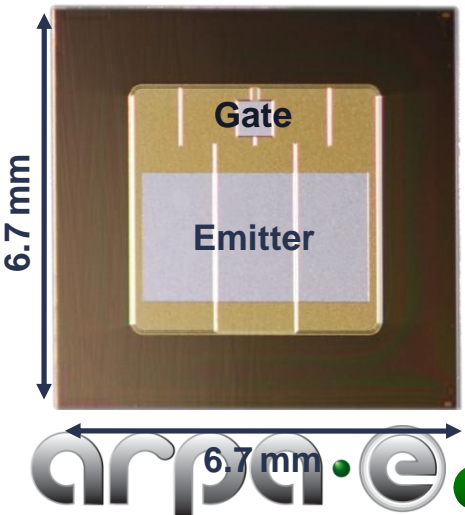
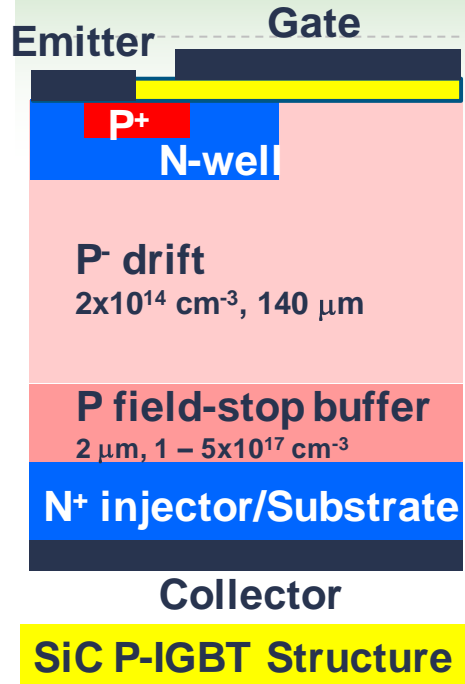
### COMPANY TO WATCH:

**Cree,**  
*Durham, N.C.*

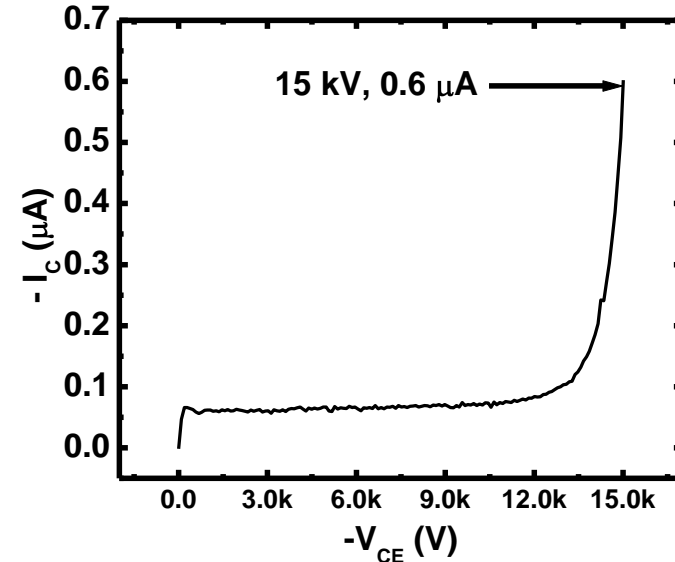
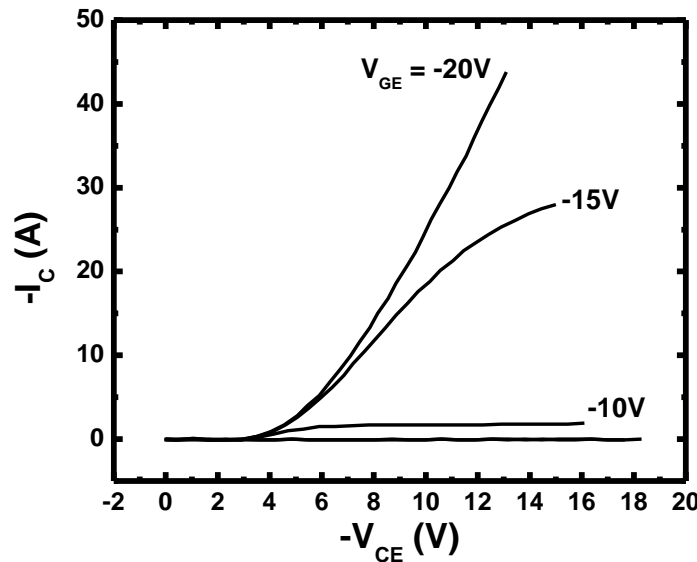
Efficient, high-temperature silicon carbide switches could slash power losses from silicon-based FACTS controllers by more than 50 percent. Cree leads a US \$3.7 million project with the U.S. government's ARPA-E high-risk energy R&D fund to engineer 15- to 20-kilovolt silicon carbide power modules ready for grid-scale power flows.

	Frequency	Mass	Volume
Today	60 Hz	8,160 lb	4.80m <sup>3</sup>
Tomorrow	50 kHz	100 lb	0.14m <sup>3</sup>

# 15 kV SiC P-IGBT



## Highest Breakdown Voltage Ever Reported for a Semiconductor Switch



$$V_F = 5.8V @ 5 A, V_{GE} = -20V$$

$$= 11.2 V @ 32 A (200 A/cm^2)$$

$$R_{on,sp} = 24 m\Omega\text{-cm}^2$$

$$(V_{GE} = -20V, V_{CE} = -11.2V)$$

**15 kV Blocking**  
( $V_{GE} = 0V$ )

*Room Temperature  
Device Characteristics*





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In today's integrated and digitized global market, where knowledge and innovation tools are so widely distributed. . . . :whatever can be done, will be done. The only question is will it be done by you or to you.

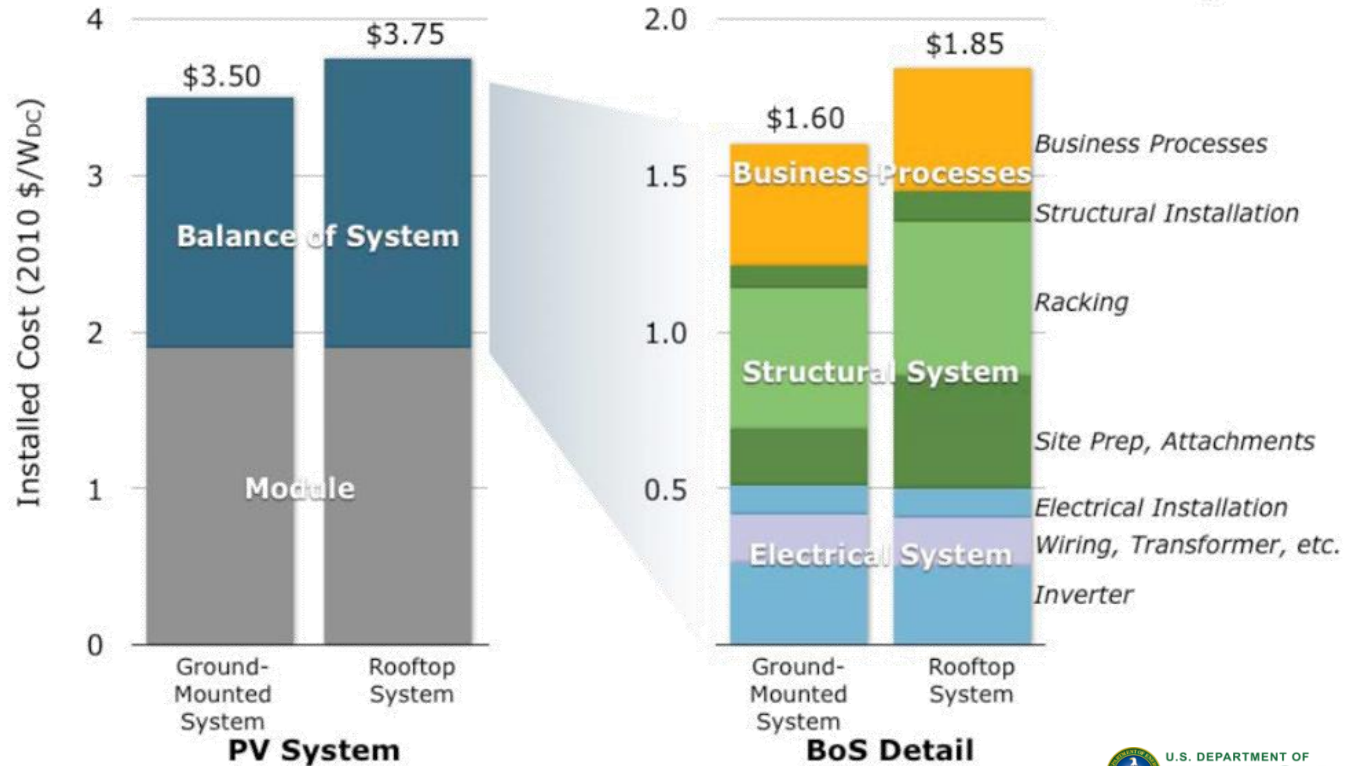
Thomas L. Friedman, Author, "The World Is Flat"

"Here, you see, it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that."

The Red Queen, *Through the Looking Glass*

# PV POWER ELECTRONICS




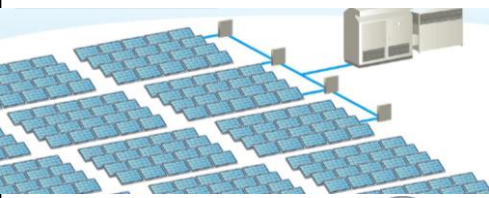
## BASE CASE



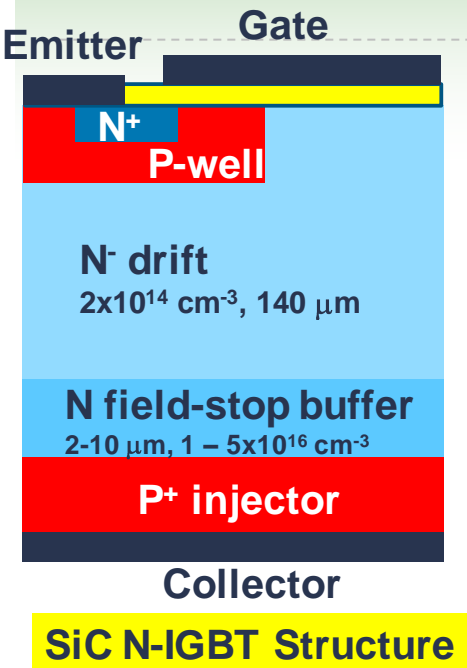
Source: Rocky Mountain Institute



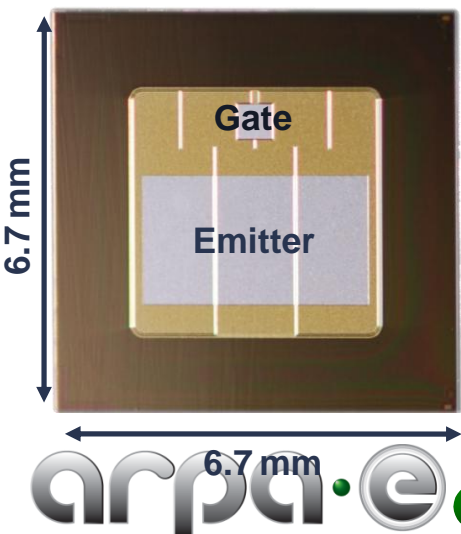
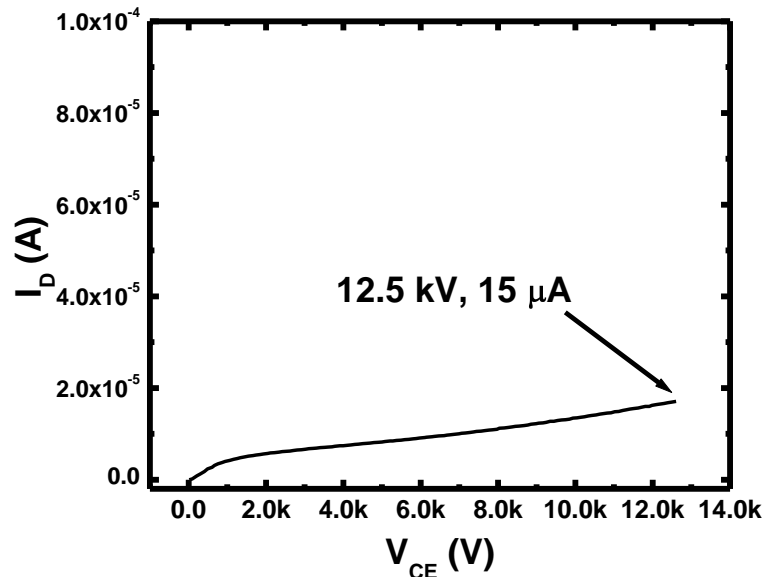
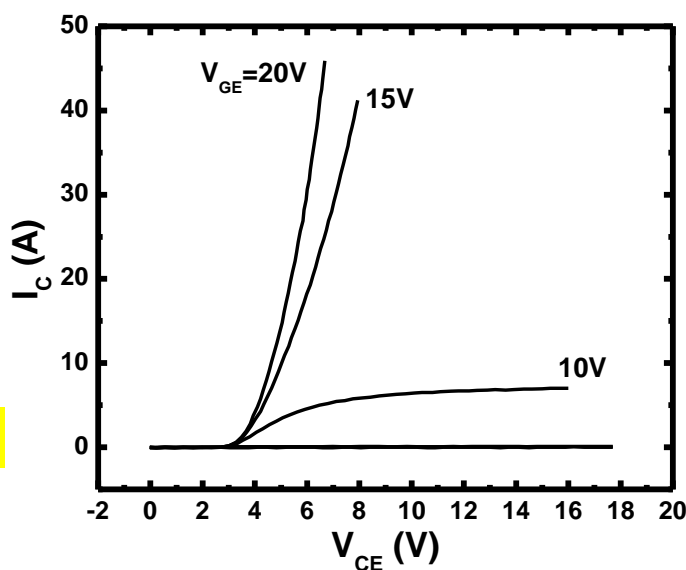
# SOLAR ADEPT TARGETS

System Categories	Cost	Voltage & Power	CEC Efficiency	Size
Category 1 	\$0.05/W	>3 converters/ module	>98% cell-to-AC MPPT	Single-chip DC/DC Inside Module Frame
Category 2 	\$0.20/W	>600 V >250 W	>98% cell-to-AC	< 2 lbs Integrated: < 10 parts
Category 3 	<\$0.10/W	100kW	>98% cell-to-AC MPPT	< 50 lbs
Category 4 	\$0.10/W	> 2 MW scalable	>98% module-to- grid	< 1000 lbs

# 12.5 kV SiC N-IGBT



## 12.5 kV SiC N-IGBT With Specific On Resistance ( $R_{on,sp}$ ) of Only 5.3 mΩ-cm<sup>2</sup> !



$$V_F = 4.1V @ 5 A, V_{GE} = 20V$$

$$= 6.1 V @ 32 A (200 A/cm^2)$$

$$R_{on,sp} = 5.3 \text{ m}\Omega\text{-cm}^2$$

$$(V_{GE} = 20V, V_{CE} = 6.1V)$$

12.5 kV blocking  
( $V_{GE}=0V$ )

Room Temperature  
Device Characteristics

