

## Introduction of Superconducting Fault Current Limiter Research at KIT

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Mathias Noe, Prof. Dr. Tabea Arndt, Institute for Technical Physics March 2021

INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL PHYSICS (ITEP)



KIT – Die Forschungsuniversität in der Helmholtz Gemeinschaft

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- Fault Current Limiters Expertise
- Infrastructure
- International Working Groups

#### CURL10 Project (2000-2004)



- Objective: Development and field test a 10 kV, 10 MVA resistive type SCFCL with Bi2223 bulk material
- Partners: ACCEL, Nexans SuperConductors, RWE
- **KIT Tasks:** Characterization and test of Bi2223 FCL components

	4 <b>2</b> ,	Data	Value
Statistical Base		Voltage	10 kV
		Current	600 A
		Power	10 MVA
		Fault duration	60 ms
		HTS	Bi 2223 bulk
EUS and Frankers And Frankers		Op. Temp.	77 K, LN <sub>2</sub>
		Cooler	Stirling

Worldwide first field test of a resistive type SCFCL.

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#### Ensystrob Project (2009-2011)



- Objective: Development and test of a 12 kV, 800 A resistive type SCFCL with REBCO coated conductor tapes
- **Partners:** BTU, Nexans SuperConductors
- **KIT Tasks:** Development and test of REBCO SCFCL component



Data	Value
Voltage	12 kV
Current	800 A
Lim. Current	< 30 kA peak
Fault duration	120 ms
HTS	YBCO cc
Op. Temp.	77 K, LN <sub>2</sub>

Successful field test at Power Station Boxberg in Germany.

#### Ensystrob Project (2009-2011)



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- **Partners:** BTU, Nexans SuperConductors
- **KIT Tasks:** Development and test of REBCO SCFCL component



Successful field test at Power Station Boxberg in Germany.

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#### **Eccoflow Project (2010-2014)**





- Objective: Development and field test of a 24 kV, 1 kA resistive type SCFCL
- Partners: A2A, Air Liquide, CNRS, ENDESA, EPFL, RSE, ICMAB, LABEIN, Nexans, RWE, Vattenfall, KSE
- **KIT Tasks:** Task Leader SCFCL Design, Test and characterization



Data	Value
Voltage	24 kV
Current	1005 A
Lim. Current	< 17 kA peak
Fault duration	1 s
HTS	YBCO cc
Cooler	GM 300 W

Successful test at CESI high power laboratory in Milano.

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#### **Eccoflow Project (2010-2014)**





- Objective: Development and field test of a 24 kV, 1 kA resistive type SCFCL
- Partners: A2A, Air Liquide, CNRS, ENDESA, EPFL, RSE, ICMAB, LABEIN, Nexans, RWE, Vattebfall, KSE
- **KIT Tasks:** Task Leader SCFCL Design, Test and characterization



Successful test at CESI high power laboratory in Milano.

#### High Voltage Current Limiters (2008 and 2012)



- Objective: High Voltage Design of 115 kV and 154 kV resistive type SCFCL
- **Contractors:** Siemens CT, KEPRI
- KIT Tasks: Detailed High Voltage Design Study of Components, Cryostat and Bushings



Successful high voltage tests in projects according to IEC standard insulation coordination.

#### **High Voltage Current Limiters**



High Voltage Design Study for 154 kV SCFCL

#### Main content

- o Conceptual design
- Design of critical components
- Applicable test standards
- Test configurations



## ASSiST – Superconducting Fault Current Limiter in public grid (2012-2015-today)





#### **Objective:**

Design, Test and Installation of a MV-SFCL in a "feeder" of a public electric power grid – follow-up long-term operation agreed right from the beginning.

#### Partners:

Siemens EM, 3x Siemens CT, Trench, Stadtwerke Augsburg

- Contribution (Siemens-team): design, manufacturing, testing, FAC, installation, operation
- Contribution (Stadtwerke): providing space, infrastructure, workforce, data for specification

#### Contribution (ta):

Motivation, setting up of project consortium, planning, funding, boundary conditions, specifications

## ASSiST: 11 kV; 15 MVA SFCL











- Combination of HTS-technology and high-performance conventional components and products yields
  - high security level,
  - fast acting (37ms for switching, fast recooling ≤12 s.)
  - high compactness
- Redundant and re-condensing cooling system allows "life-time enclosed" operation with only electrical power supplies with high reliability and easy maintenance (yearly) (a failure of **2 coolers** can be handled for 4h until LN2-blowoff)→"invisible cooling system"
- Remote monitoring of operation offers new insights of grid conditions on MV level
- Maintenance on cooling system by order of the utility (once a year)
- The system is in continued operation.

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#### SmartCoil Project (2014-2018)



- Objective: Development and laboratory test of a 10 kV, 10 MVA air coil limiter type SCFCL
- Partners: Siemens
- **KIT Tasks:** Component test and Cryostat Design



#### SmartCoil Project (2014-2017)



- Objective: Development and laboratory test of a 10 kV, 10 MVA air coil limiter type SCFCL
- Partners: Siemens
- **KIT Tasks:** Component test and Cryostat Design





Successful small demonstrator test and manufacturing of 10 MVA demonstrator finished by 12/2017.

#### Fault Current Limiting Transformer (2013-2017)



- Objective: Development and laboratory test of a 1MVA current limiting transformer with recovery under load
- Partners: ABB
- **KIT Tasks:** Development of Superconducting winding and cryostat



Successful Design Confirmation and Current Limiting Tests.

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## Fault Current Limiting Transformer (2013-2017)



#### Main data

Name	Value
Nominal power	577.4 kVA
Primary winding (normal-conducting winding)	20 kV 28.9 A
Secondary winding (superconducting winding)	1 KV 577.4 A
Fault duration	60 ms
Current limitation 1st HW	13.55 kA
Limitation 1st HW in resp. to prosp. current	71.4 %
Current limitation 6th HW	6.5 kA
Limitation 6th HW in resp. to prosp. current	35.7 %



## FASTGRID Project (2017-2020)





Cost effective FCL using advanced supercon. tapes for future HVDC grids



Significant advances of the economical attractiveness of SCFCLs by improving REBCO tapes, especially in their current limitation mode

- Advanced REBCO tape
  - > Low standard deviation in term of critical current (I<sub>c</sub>) over the tape length
  - Electric field higher than 100 V/m (50 ms)
  - Critical current higher than 1000 A/cm-w at 65 K (self-field)
- Emerging REBCO tape
  - Tape with enhanced propagation velocity (CFD concept)
  - Sapphire substrate REBCO tape with ultra high electric fields
- Smart module of a HVDC apparatus
  - Current and voltage in the range of 0.5/1 kA and 30/50 kV
  - New functionality such as quench detection through optical fiber
  - Extensive testing of the module in relevant operating conditions



#### KIT Task Leader: Component Test

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#### **Cryogenic High Voltage Laboratory**

- 2 experimental cabins (one full screened)
- AC: 230 kV, 20 kVA
- Impulse: 360 kV
- DC: 200 kV (soon 300 kV)
- Schering-Bridge
- Partial discharge measurement
- 4 bath cryostats (till 0.3MPa)
- Cryogenic bushings (up to 230 kVrms AC, 550 kV standard lightning impulse)





Impulse testing of liquid nitrogen

Unique expertise in testing and characterization.

#### **Cryogenic High Voltage Laboratory**



Hand wheel

Bushing

Cryostat cover

Bubble protector

Simple sample: Sphere – plane electrodes



Inner cryostat setup



Cryostat and 230 kVrms AC supply



Nitrogen bubble generation during heating



Breakdown within liquid nitrogen

#### **Cryogenic High Voltage Laboratory**



AC breakdown and withstand voltages with bubbles caused by heating



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# International Working Groups of Prof. Dr. M. Noe with respect to SCFCLs and Cables



- Secretary of Working Group D1.15 "HTS materials and electrical insulation", International Council of Large Electric Systems (CIGRE)
- International Expert of Working Group D3.23, "Fault current limiters", International Council of Large Electric Systems (CIGRE)
- Convenor of Working Group D1.38 "Emerging test techniques common to HTS power equipment", International Council of Large Electric Systems (CIGRE)
- IEEE Task Force for Guide for Fault Current Limiter (FCL) Testing
- International Expert of Working Group D1.69 "Assessing emerging test guidelines for HTS applications in power systems", International Council of Large Electric Systems (CIGRE)
- International Expert of Working Group D1.64 "Cryogenic dielectric insulation", International Council of Large Electric Systems (CIGRE)

#### **Our Experts**



- Prof. Dr.-Ing. Mathias Noe, Director
- Prof. Dr. Tabea Arndt, Co-Director
- Andrej Kudymow, Head of Superconductivity for Energy Applications Laboratory
- Stefan Fink, Head of Cryogenics High Voltage Group
- Giovanni de Carne, Head of Power-Hardware-in-the-Loop Laboratory
- Prof. Steffen Elschner, Consultant from University Mannheim
- Plus engineers and technicians

#### **Key SCFCL References**



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- Schmitt, H, et. al. Application and Feasibility of Fault Current Limiters in Power Systems, CIGRE Technical Brochure 497 of Working Group A3.23, June 2012
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