

# Power Architecture and Magnetics to Unlock the Potential of WBG Semiconductor Devices

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### **Princeton Power Electronics Research Lab**







### **Emerging Trends in Power Electronics**





#### **Extreme Performance and Complex Functions**

#### **Extreme High Density**



#### **Very High Efficiency**

#### **Extreme Environment**









#### Opportunities - Rapid advances in semiconductors



Challenges - Passive components dominating the size



- > Switching at higher frequencies
- Reduces energy storage requirements
- Reduces passive component size
- L, C values  $\propto 1/f$



- Limitations of higher frequencies
- Switching loss
- Core loss
- Material property
- Parasitics

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### **Architectures to Unlock the Potential of WBG Devices**



- Extreme Performance: Hybrid-Switched-Capacitor Architecture Extreme Performance CPU Voltage Regulators
- Sophisticated Functions: Control of MIMO Power Flow Modeling and Control of Multiport Energy Routers
- Enabling New Applications: Dual Frequency Wireless Power Transfer Compensate for Impedance Variation with Reactance Steering Network







**Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer** 



**CPU Voltage Regulator** 

**MIMO Energy Router** 



Nvidia 8 x GPU Al Server 230 $V_{AC}$  - 400 $V_{DC}$  - 48 $V_{DC}$  - 1 $V_{DC}$ , >10 kW



#### Extreme performance 48V-1V PoL

#### Processor-Level

- High current (>1,000 A/core)
- High conversion ratio (48 V-1 V)
- Fast control bandwidth (>1 A/ns)
- High density (>100 A/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- High efficiency (>95%)
- Server-Level
- Modular loads (up to 16 GPUs together)
- Core-to-core communications

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# **Vertical Power Delivery for Microprocessors**

- Power consumption per core as high as 2 kW
- Silicon power density still rapidly growing ...





Process Node/Geometry [nm]









#### Nvidia Tesla V100 Accelerator – 16 Phase Buck



#### **Traditional PoL Architectures**

- Buck Derived Solutions
- High conversion ratio (48:1)
- Narrow ON/OFF
- Low duty ratio
- Poor inductance utilization
- Almost impossible to control

#### Transformer Based Solutions

- High turns ratio (48:1)
- Complicated dynamics
- Difficult to do current mode control
- Transformer leakage and parasitics
- Lack of magnetics in MHz range



## **Hybrid Switched-Capacitor-Magnetics Approach**



#### > Energy Density of Capacitors vs. Inductors

- Capacitors are 100x denser than inductors
- Switched capacitor circuit suffers loss and regulation



> Charge Sharing Loss of Switched Caps



- Hybrid inductive and capacitive energy transfer
- Capacitive energy transfer for power density
- Inductive energy transfer for efficiency and regulation
- M. D. Seeman and S. R. Sanders, "Analysis and Optimization of Switched-Capacitor DC–DC Converters," in *IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics*, vol. 23, no. 2, pp. 841-851, March 2008.

## **LEGO-PoL: Granular Building Block Approach for PoL**





 J. Baek, Y. Elasser, and M. Chen, "3D LEGO-PoL: A 93.3% Efficient 48V-1.5V 450A Merged-Two-Stage Hybrid Switched-Capacitor Converter with 3D Vertical Coupled Inductors," APEC 2021.

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#### Soft-Charging Operation of SC Circuit

Dynamics of Current Balancing





 J. Baek, Y. Elasser, and M. Chen, "3D LEGO-PoL: A 93.3% Efficient 48V-1.5V 450A Merged-Two-Stage Hybrid Switched-Capacitor Converter with 3D Vertical Coupled Inductors," APEC 2021.

### **Multiphase Coupled Inductor for Voltage Regulation**





#### **Four Phase Vertical Coupled Inductor**





 J. Baek, Y. Elasser, and M. Chen, "3D LEGO-PoL: A 93.3% Efficient 48V-1.5V 450A Merged-Two-Stage Hybrid Switched-Capacitor Converter with 3D Vertical Coupled Inductors," APEC 2021.

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• M. Chen and C. R. Sullivan, "Unified Models for Coupled Inductors Applied to Multiphase PWM Converters," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, accepted.



Princeton Coupl O Princeton Coupled Magnetics Design Tool By Princeton Power Electronics Research Lab						
Input Parameters	Duty Ratio (D)		Number of Phases (M)		Number of Turns per Winding $\langle N \rangle$	
Derived Parameters	Interleaving Boosting Inductance $(1/\delta)$		Number of Overlaped Phases (k)		Interleaving Ripple Compression $(\delta)$	
Method Name	Inductance Dual Model		Inductance Matrix Model		Multiwinding Transformer Model	
	$\mathcal{R}_L$		L <sub>S</sub>		L <sub>I</sub>	
Design Parameters	$\mathcal{R}_{C}$		$L_M$		$L_{\mu}$	
	$eta = rac{\mathcal{R}_C}{\mathcal{R}_L}$		$m{lpha}=-rac{L_M}{L_S}$		$ ho = -rac{L_{\mu}}{L_{l}}$	
Description Matrix	$N^{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{di_{1}}{dt} \\ \frac{di_{2}}{dt} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{di_{M}}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{R}_{L} + \mathcal{R}_{C} & \mathcal{R}_{C} & \dots & \mathcal{R}_{C} \\ \mathcal{R}_{C} & \mathcal{R}_{L} + \mathcal{R}_{C} & \dots & \mathcal{R}_{C} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathcal{R}_{C} & \dots & \mathcal{R}_{C} & \mathcal{R}_{L} + \mathcal{R}_{C} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{1} \\ v_{2} \\ \vdots \\ v_{M} \end{bmatrix}$		$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_M \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{iS}  L_M & \dots & L_M \\ L_M  L_S & \dots & L_M \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ L_M & \dots & L_M & L_S \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{di_1}{di} \\ \frac{di_2}{di} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{di_M}{di} \end{bmatrix}$		$\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_M \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} L_{\mu} + L_l & -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} & \dots & -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} \\ -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} & L_{\mu} + L_l & \dots & -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} & -\frac{1}{M-1}L_{\mu} & \dots & L_{\mu} + L_l \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} di_1 \\ di_2 \\ di_2 \\ di_3 \\ di_4 \\ di_4 \end{bmatrix}$	
Lumped Circuit Model	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		$\begin{array}{c} \text{Ideal current} \\ \text{equalizing transformer} \\ v_{1} & \underbrace{M_{1}}{M_{2}} \\ v_{2} & \underbrace{M_{1}}{M_{2}} \\ w_{M-1} \\ v_{2} & \underbrace{M_{1}}{M_{2}} \\ w_{M-1} \\ v_{M-1} \\ v_{M$	



• M. Chen and C. R. Sullivan, "Unified Models for Coupled Inductors Applied to Multiphase PWM Converters," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, accepted.

### **3D Stacked Packaging for Vertical Power Delivery**





### **Performance Summary**







780 A, 1 V, 1 A/mm<sup>2</sup>, 1,000 W/in<sup>3</sup>







### 780 A, 91.1% Peak Efficiency, 1000 W/in<sup>3</sup>, 1A/mm<sup>2</sup>







## **Alternative Designs for Extreme Efficiency**





• Y. Chen, H. Cheng, D. Giuliano, M. Chen, "A 93.7% Efficient 400A 48V-1V Merged-Two-Stage Hybrid Switched-Capacitor Converter with 24V Virtual Intermediate Bus and Coupled Inductors," APEC 2021.

### **Architectures to Unlock the Potential of WBG Devices**



Extreme Performance: Hybrid-Switched-Capacitor Architecture Extreme Performance CPU Voltage Regulators

Sophisticated Functions: Control of MIMO Power Flow Modeling and Control of Multiport Energy Routers

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**Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer** 



**CPU Voltage Regulator** 

**MIMO Energy Router** 

## Large Scale Modular Energy Systems









- MIMO power flow are highly dynamic
- Dynamically allocate power processing capability to different ports?





- Reconfiguration cells
- Sophisticated power flow
- Precise modeling and control

SECTOR STATE

 P. Wang and M. Chen, "Towards Power FPGA: Architecture, Modeling and Control of Multiport Power Converters," IEEE COMPEL, Padua, Italy, June 2018.

## **Reconfigurable Multicell MIMO Energy Router**





- Granular dc-ac building blocks as the "core"
- Magnetics as a central power processor "memory"
- Manage power in dc-domain instead of ac-domain
- Switch timing is important WBG devices





• Y. Chen, P. Wang, Y. Elasser, M. Chen, "Multicell Reconfigurable Multi-Input Multi-Output Energy Router Architecture," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Dec. 2020.

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- P. Wang and M. Chen, "Towards Power FPGA: Architecture, Modeling and Control of Multiport Power Converters," IEEE 19th Workshop on Control and Modeling for Power Electronics (COMPEL), Padova, 2018, pp. 1-8.
- Y. Chen, P. Wang, H. Li and M. Chen, "Power Flow Control in Multi-Active-Bridge Converters: Theories and Applications,"2019 IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition (APEC), Anaheim, CA, USA, 2019, pp. 1500-1507.
- Bhattacharjee, A. K., Kutkut, N., and Batarseh, I. "Review of Multiport Converters for Solar and Energy Storage Integration," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, 2007, 34, (2), pp. 1431-1445.



 Y. Chen, P. Wang, Y. Elasser, M. Chen, "Multicell Reconfigurable Multi-Input Multi-Output Energy Router Architecture," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Dec. 2020.







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**Operating Condition #1** 



#### Switching Frequency: 200 kHz

Y. Chen, P. Wang, Y. Elasser, M. Chen, "Multicell Reconfigurable Multi-Input Multi-Output Energy Router Architecture," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Dec. 2020.

### **Differential Power Processing for Data Storage**







• P. Wang, Y. Chen, J. Yuan, R. C. N. Pilawa-Podgurski, M. Chen, "Differential Power Processing for Ultra-Efficient Data Storage," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, April 2021.

### **Differential Power Processing for Data Storage**





• P. Wang, Y. Chen, J. Yuan, R. C. N. Pilawa-Podgurski, M. Chen, "Differential Power Processing for Ultra-Efficient Data Storage," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, April 2021.

### **Battery Balancer with On-line Impedance Spectroscopy**



 M. Liu, Y. Chen, Y. Elasser, M. Chen, "Dual Frequency Hierarchical Modular Multilayer Battery Balancer Architecture," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, March 2021.

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## **MIMO Energy Management for Large Scale Systems**





Grid Scale Energy Storage

Solar Photovoltaic

High Power LED Lighting

- > Hardware, software, communication, thermal, algorithm and power co-design.
- Multi-input multi-output power management and grid interface.
- > Efficiency, power density, reliability, cost, thermal.



## **Architectures to Unlock the Potential of WBG Devices**



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#### kHz wireless power transfer

Higher efficiency Higher power transfer capability Large coil size Low tolerant to misalignment

#### **MHz wireless power transfer**

Lower efficiency Lower power transfer capability Small coil size High tolerance to misalignment



Support multiple frequency bands with wide impedance variation







# Challenges of HF WPT with Single Switch PAs

- Co-location of multiple receivers induces large impedance variation
- Class-E PAs are sensitive to load impedance variation (resistive and reactive)



Drain voltage of Class-E PAs with impedance/resistance variation



line for parallel connection J

A tunable switched-capacitor matching network









- Compensate for large reactance with small  $X_L$  and  $X_C$
- M. Liu, M. Chen, "Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer with Reactance Steering Network and Reconfigurable Receivers," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Jan. 2020.

### **Control of the Reactance Steering Network**

![](_page_35_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_2.jpeg)

Merge LF and HF Transmitters, and create mutual advantages

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **A Dual-Band Multi-Receiver WPT Prototype**

![](_page_37_Picture_1.jpeg)

Dual Band Operation: 100 kHz and 13.56 MHz Power Rating: 65 W@100 kHz, 65 W@13.56 MHz Input Voltage: 50 V (up to 80 V) Output Voltage: 30 V@100 kHz, 30 V@13.56 MHz Spacing: 2.8 cm distance, up to 3 cm misalignments Coil size: Coil\_HF (D=10 cm), Coil\_LF (D=20 cm)

![](_page_37_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_2.jpeg)

Example drain voltage without RSN

![](_page_38_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_5.jpeg)

2.0

5

Misalignment (cm)

2.5

3.0

![](_page_38_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Figure_7.jpeg)

M. Liu, M. Chen, "Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer with Reactance Steering Network and Reconfigurable Receivers," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Jan. 2020.

0.0

0.5

0.60

## **Decoupled Modulation of the Two Frequency Bands**

- Modulating power at 100 kHz
- Maintaining 10 W at 13.56 MHz

- Modulating power at 13.56 MHz
- Maintaining 10 W at 100 kHz

![](_page_39_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_39_Picture_9.jpeg)

## HF WPT Efficiency with "Very" Reactive Load

- RSN significantly improves the HF WPT efficiency with capacitive Xtx.
- RSN sacrifices more loss with very inductive load (due to circulating current).

![](_page_40_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Picture_4.jpeg)

 M. Liu, M. Chen, "Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer with Reactance Steering Network and Reconfigurable Receivers," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, Jan. 2020.

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## **Unlock the Potential of WBG Semiconductor Devices**

![](_page_41_Picture_1.jpeg)

- "Drop and replace" designs only leverage the "efficiency" benefits
- WBG devices enables architectural level innovations, including:
  - Very-small-footprint: more compact packaging and better thermal
  - > Ultra-fast-switching: more precise control and timing, smaller passives
  - Extended-design-space: reusing devices for multiple purposes at HF

![](_page_41_Picture_7.jpeg)

MIMO Energy Router

![](_page_41_Picture_9.jpeg)

**Dual-Band Wireless Power Transfer** 

![](_page_41_Picture_11.jpeg)

**CPU Voltage Regulator** 

![](_page_42_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 48V-1V CPU Voltage Regulator

- J. Beak et al., "Vertical Stacked 48V-1V CPU Voltage Regulator with 91.1% Efficiency, 1 A/mm<sup>2</sup> Current Density and 1,000 W/in<sup>3</sup> Power Density", IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, in preparation.
- J. Baek, Y. Elasser, and M. Chen, "3D LEGO-PoL: A 93.3% Efficient 48V-1.5V 450A Merged-Two-Stage Hybrid Switched-Capacitor Converter with 3D Vertical Coupled Inductors," APEC 2021.
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- P. Wang, Y. Chen, J. Yuan, R. C. N. Pilawa-Podgurski, M. Chen, "Differential Power Processing for Ultra-Efficient Data Storage," IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics, April 2021.

#### **Wireless Power Transfer**

![](_page_42_Picture_13.jpeg)