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# Advanced Simulation Methods for Smart Grids

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Antonello Monti

**RWTH**AACHEN  
UNIVERSITY

# Cooperation between RWTH and E.ON

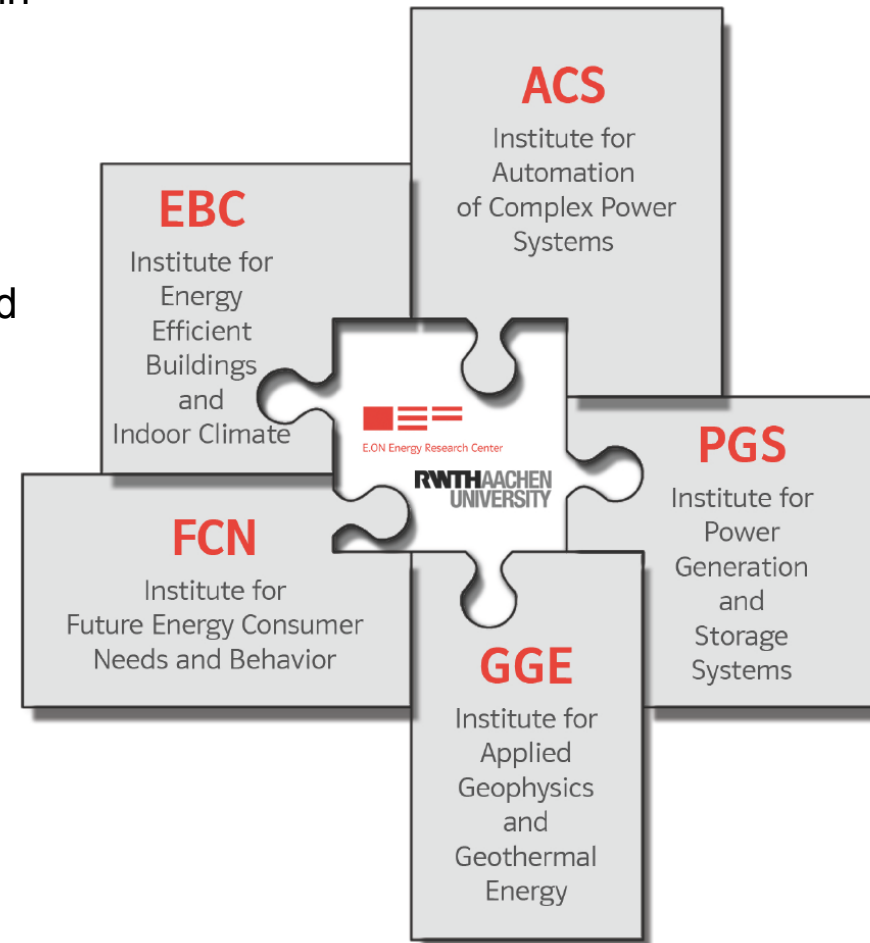


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- June 2006: the largest research co-operation in Europe between a private company and a university was signed
- Five new professorships in the field of energy technology were defined across 4 faculties
- Research Area: Energy savings, efficiency and sustainable power sources



Groundbreaking E.ON ERC Main Building, April 2008

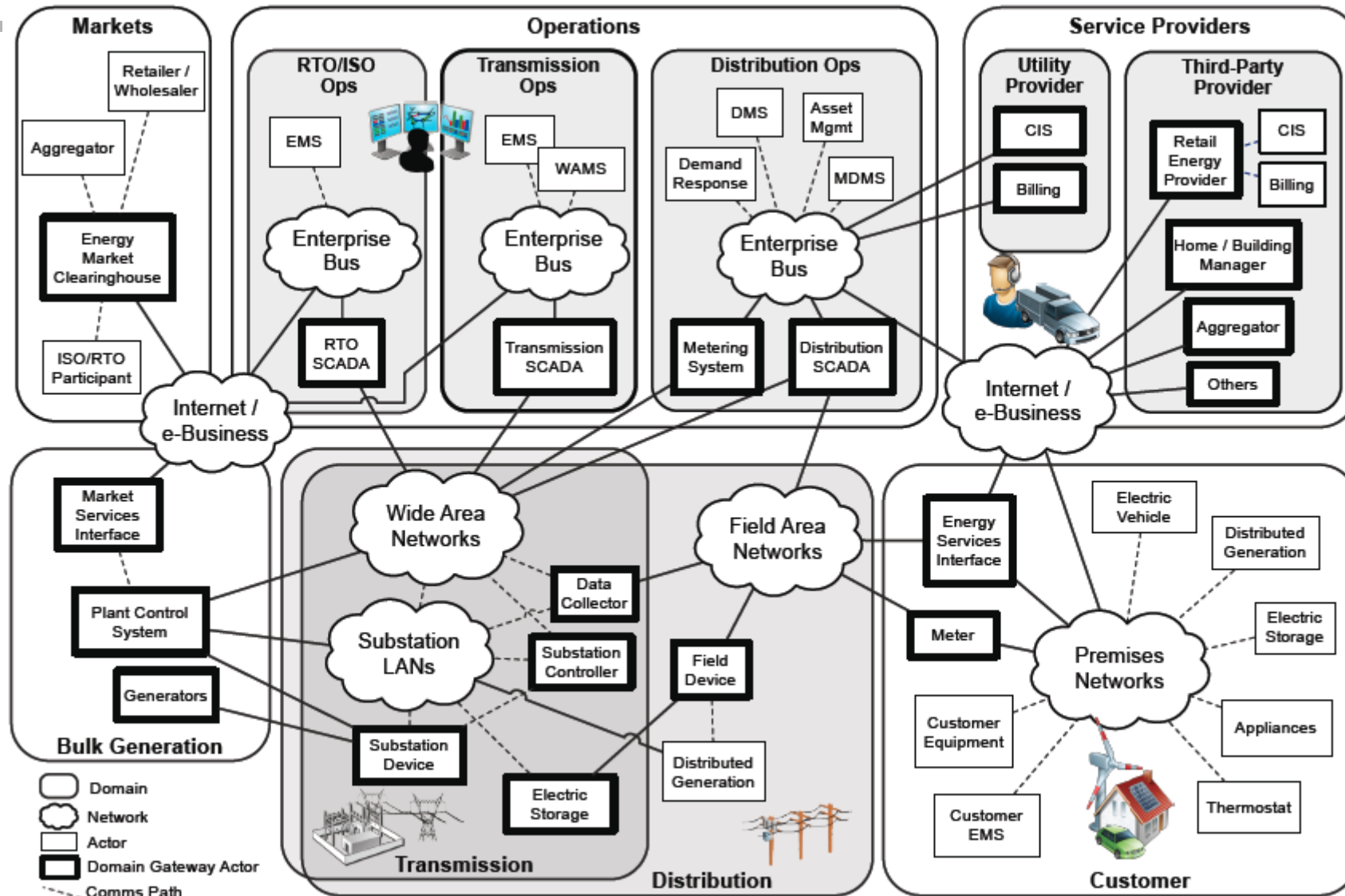




# Smart Grid – stake holders and connections



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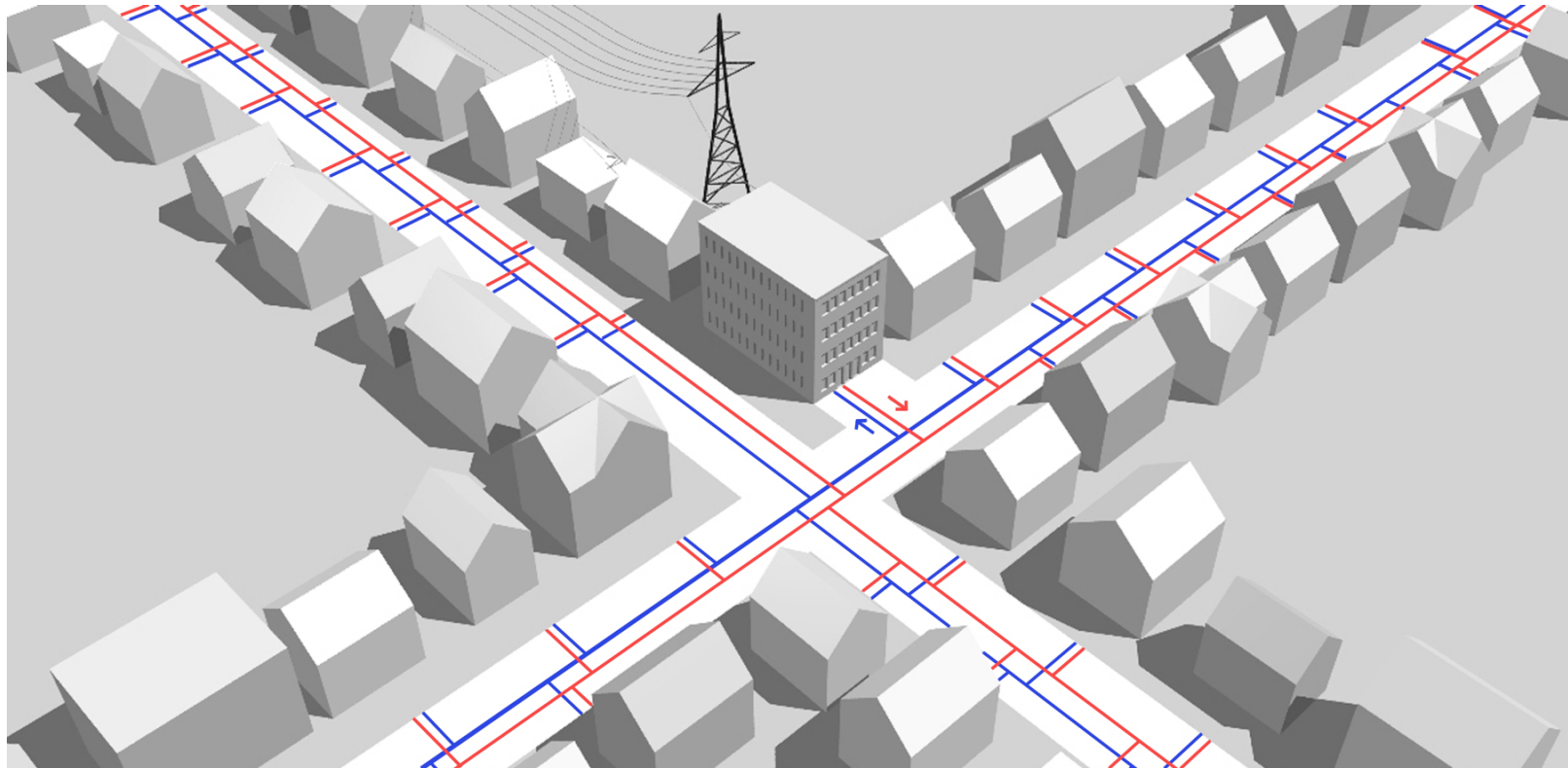
NIST Smart Grid Framework 1.0 Sept 2009

# Smart Grid of grids



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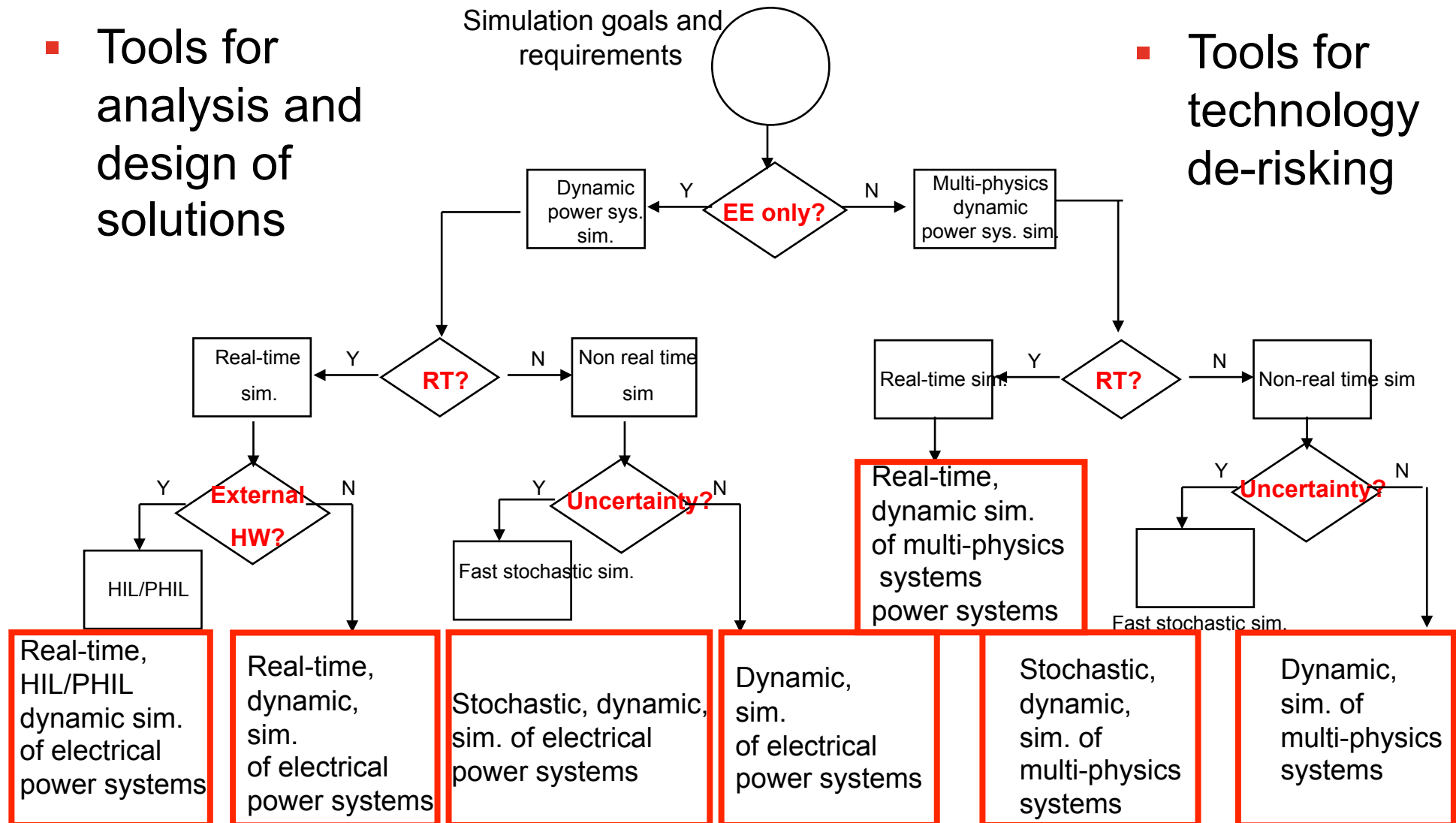
- Interdependent infrastructures: electrical, gas, heat, communication  
→ interdisciplinary analysis and design
- Stochastic behavior of some renewable sources and loads





- Tools for analysis and design of solutions

- Tools for technology de-risking



# Non real-time simulation



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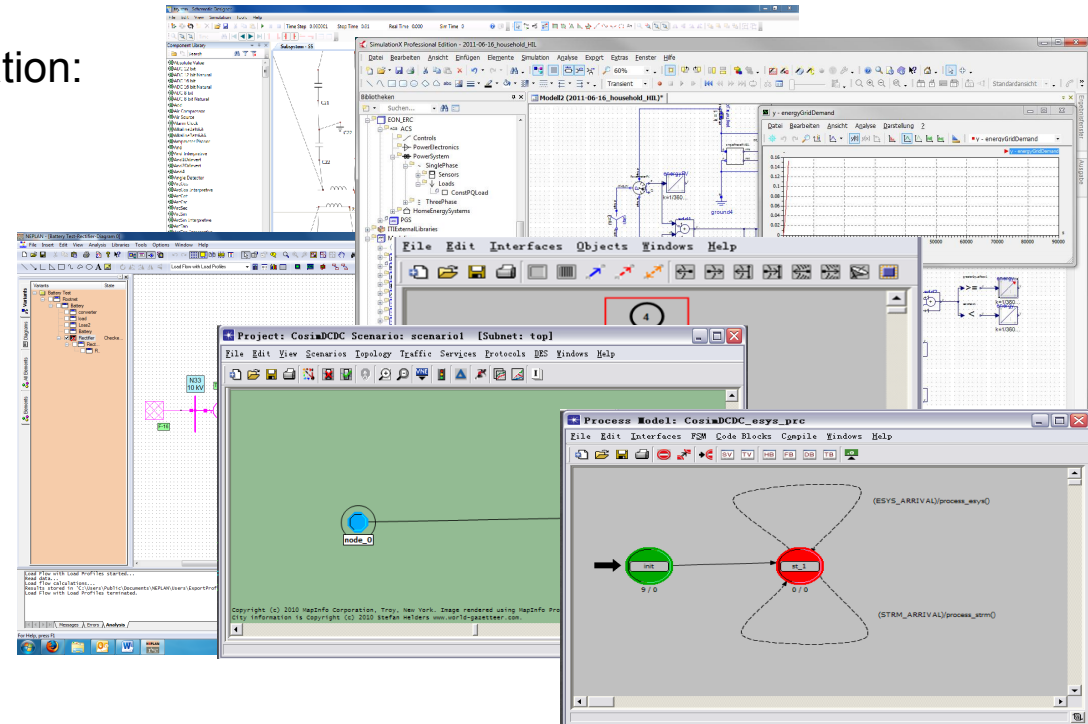
## ■ Different tools depending on the application:

### ■ Physic-systems

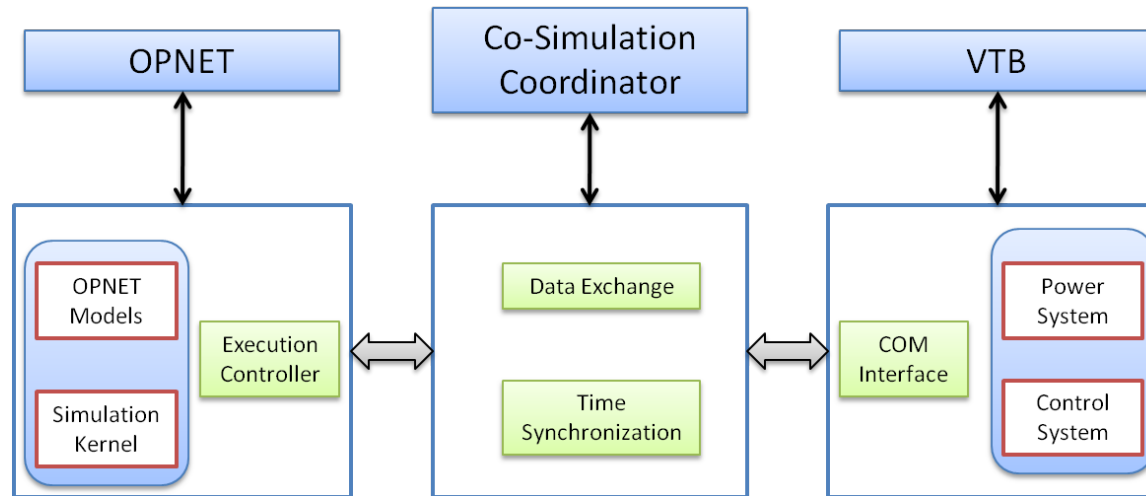
- Virtual Test Bed
- Matlab-Simulink
- Neplan
- SimulationX(Modelica)

### ■ Communication

- Opnet



Smart Grid requires a system approach, how to integrate different simulation tools ?



- VTB for dynamic, time domain simulation of the power system
- OPNET for simulating the communication system
- Co-Simulation coordinator:
  - Simulation time management
  - Data exchange

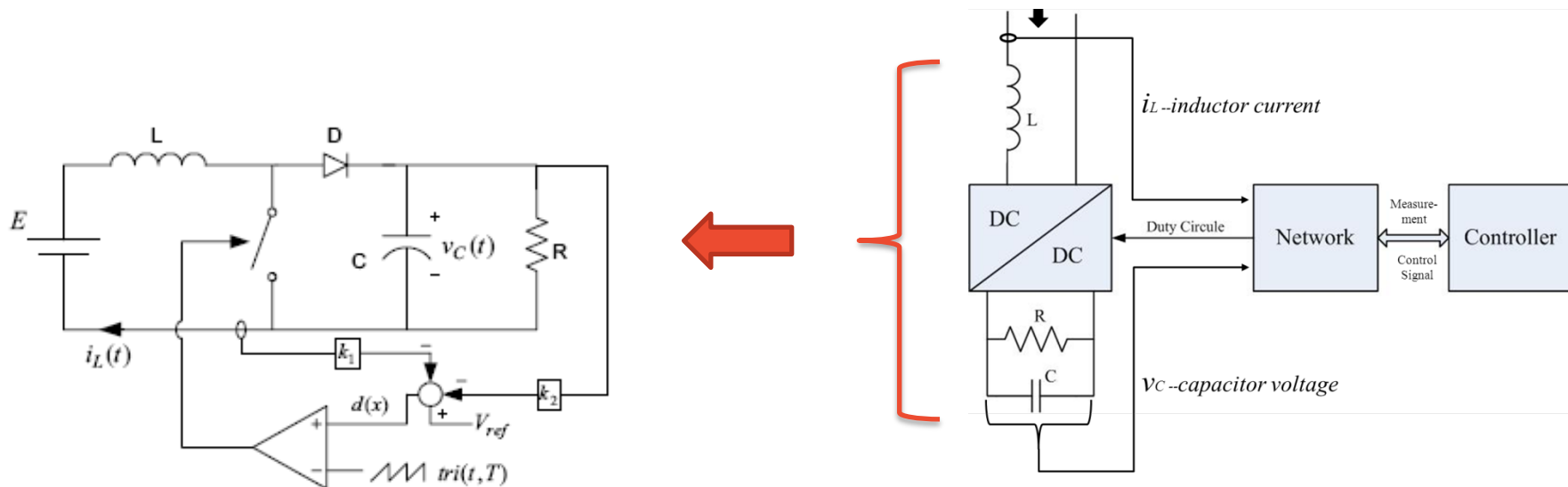


# Co-simulation: An example



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- Study of an information embedded power electronic system
- Example: power converter control over the network



E=4; L=5e-3; C=220e-6;  
k1=0.1; k2=-0.05; R=10;

$$\dot{X}_1 = -\frac{X_2}{L}(1-u) + \frac{E}{L}$$

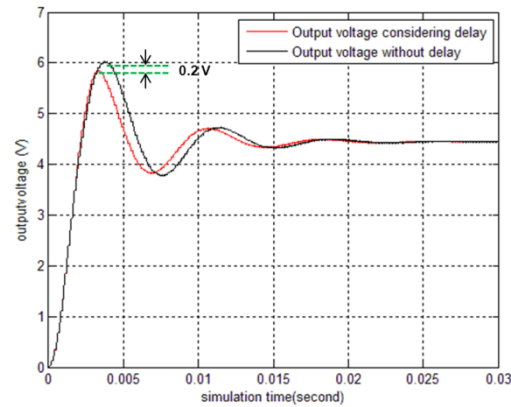
$$\dot{X}_2 = \frac{X_1}{C}(1-u) - \frac{X_2}{RC}$$

# Co-simulation: An example

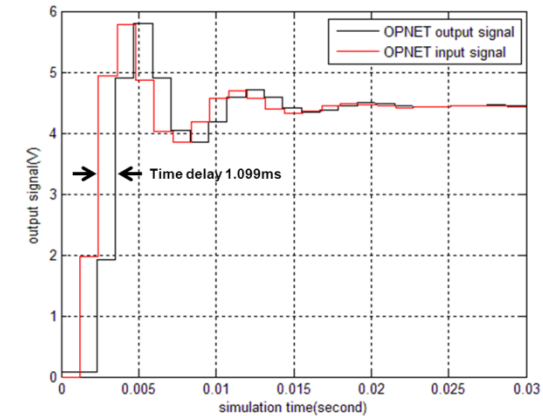


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1Mbps data rate

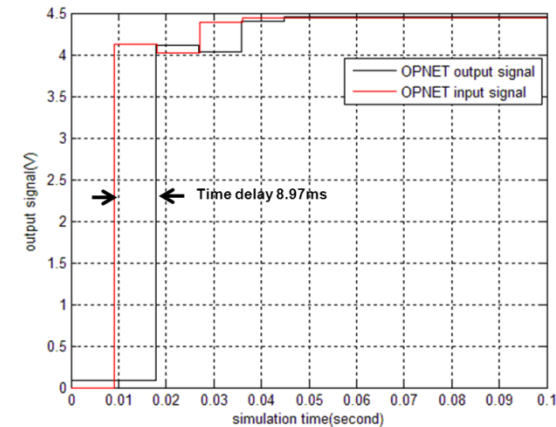
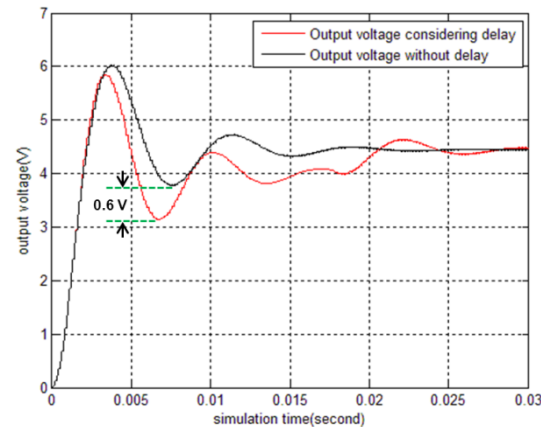


(a) Output voltage of the networked converter

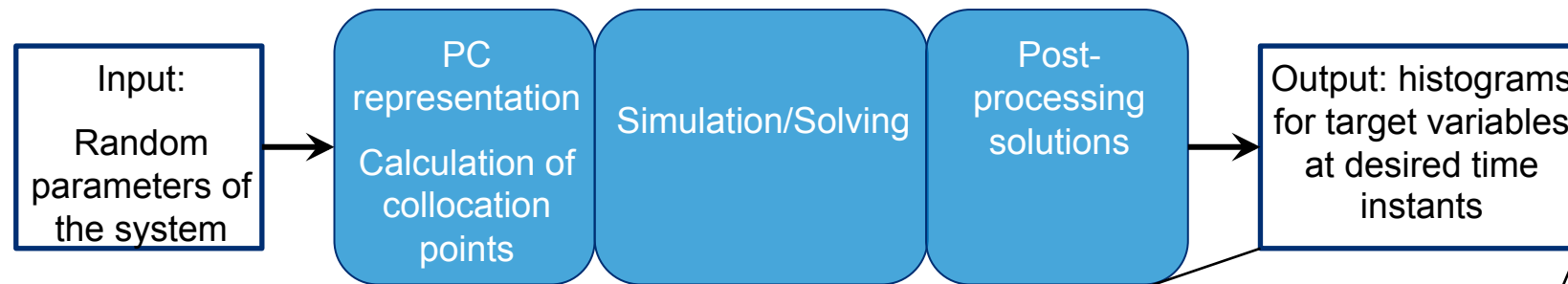


(b) Measured values of the output voltage input and output OPNET

100kbps data rate

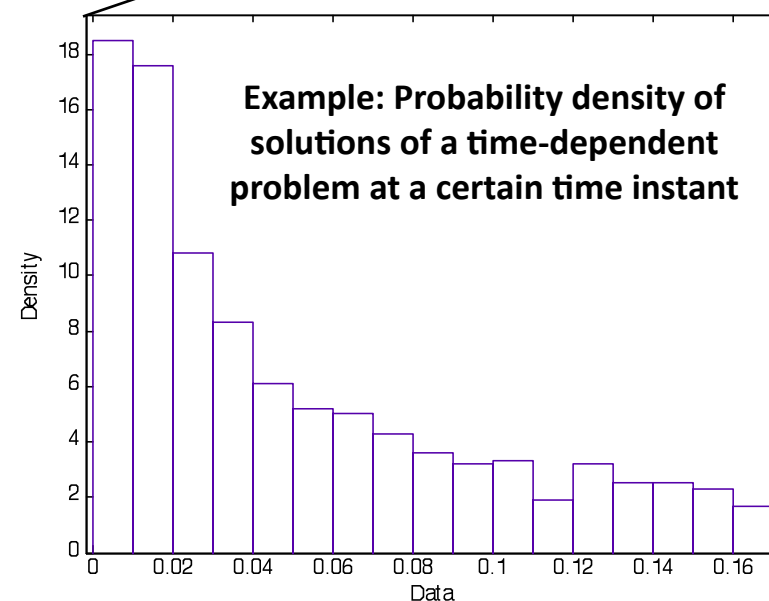


Main idea: Calculate PC coefficients of target variables via numerical integration



Four main steps:

- **Polynomial Chaos Representation** of parameters
- **Calculation of collocation points** and their combinations
- **Evaluation of the** system for each combination
- **Post-processing**

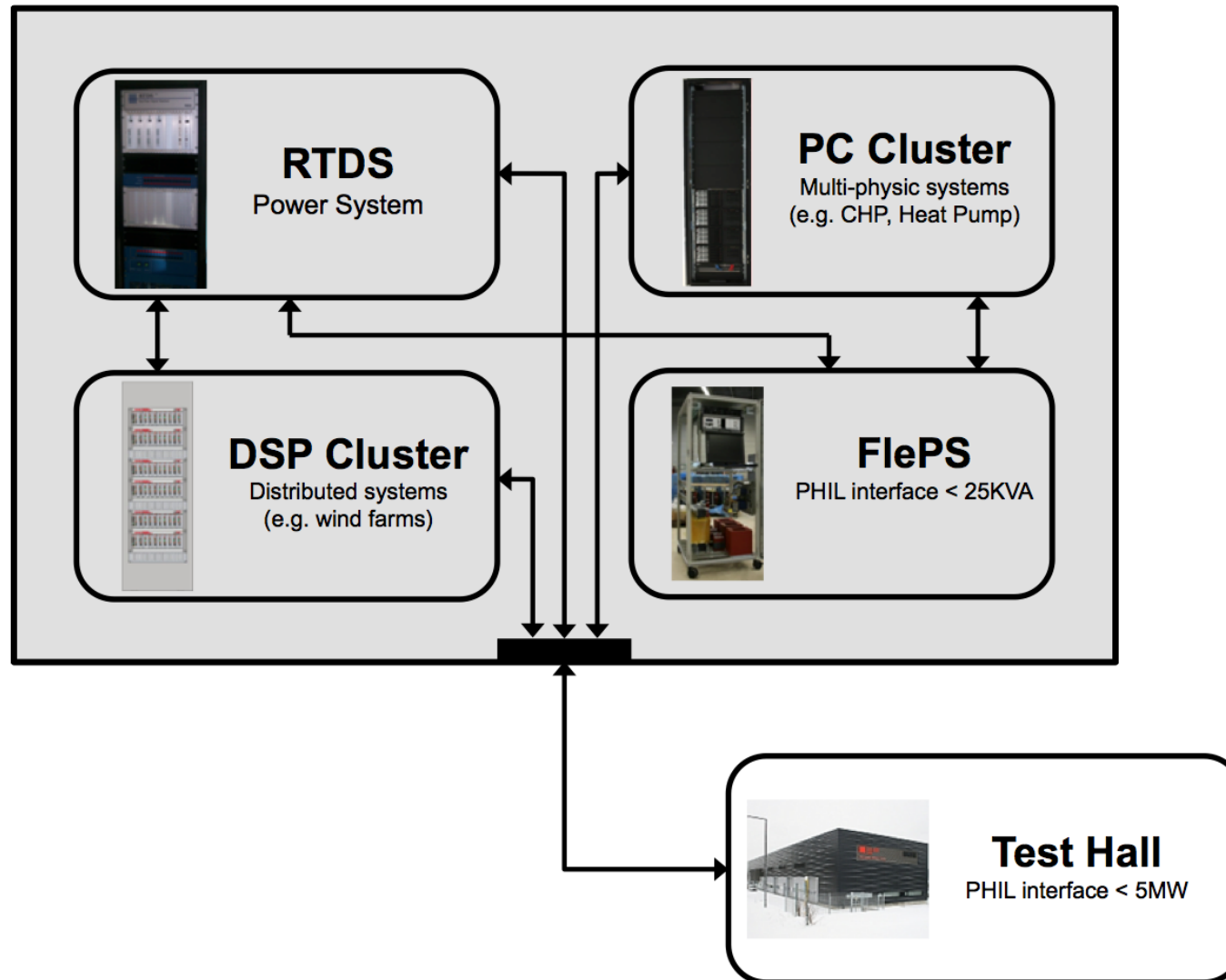




# The Real-Time Simulation Lab



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# Real Time Digital Simulator (RTDS)



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## ■ Description: (one rack)

- 4 Giga Processor Cards
- 1 Workstation Interface Card
- 1 Network Communication Card
- Analog and digital I/O

## ■ Applications:

- State of the Art for power system real-time simulation
- Test of communication standard
- HIL test: through dedicated connections for relays and many analog and digital I/O
- PHIL test: through Grid Emulator
- Stochastic analysis



# DSP Cluster



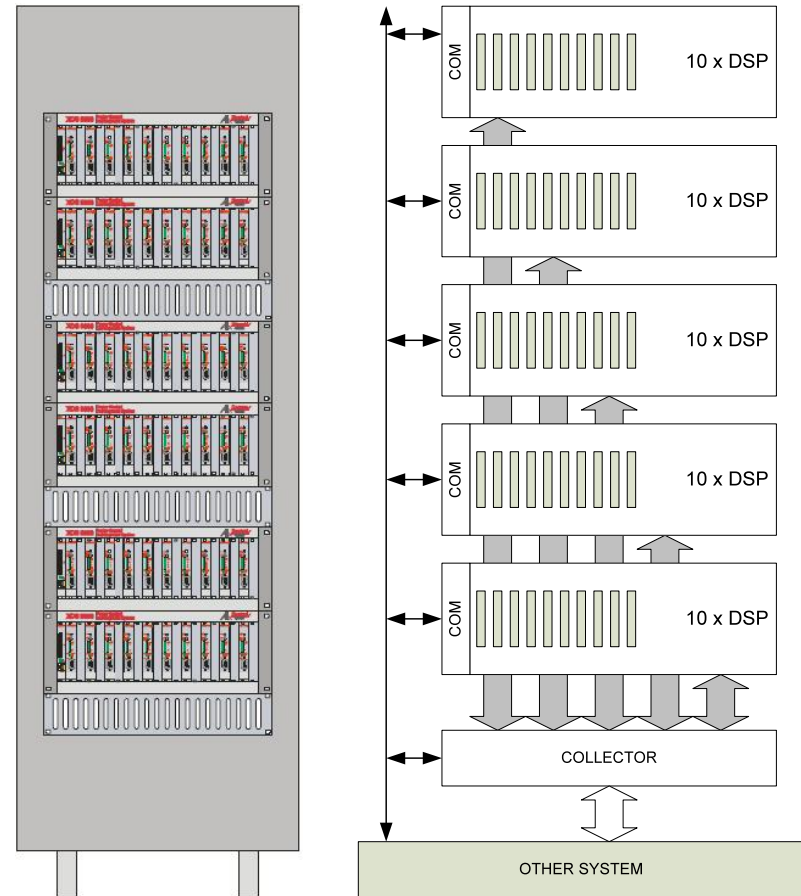
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## ■ Description

- Multi DSP modular real time simulator
- Each board:
  - 1DSP, 1FPGA
  - Various I/O board

## ■ Applications:

- Simulation of distributed system
  - Wind Farms
  - PV systems
- Hardware In the Loop, Power Hardware In the Loop





## ■ Description:

- Each node:
  - 4 Processors, 32 cores
  - 128 GB RAM
  - 5 PCI connections
- Four Node for a total of 128 cores and 512 Gb of RAM
- InfiniBand and Ethernet connection

## ■ Applications:

- Real time and non real time simulation of multi-physic system
- Modelica support
- Stochastic analysis.
- Support for standard scientific tools like Matlab.
- Easy to replicate, expand and upgrade

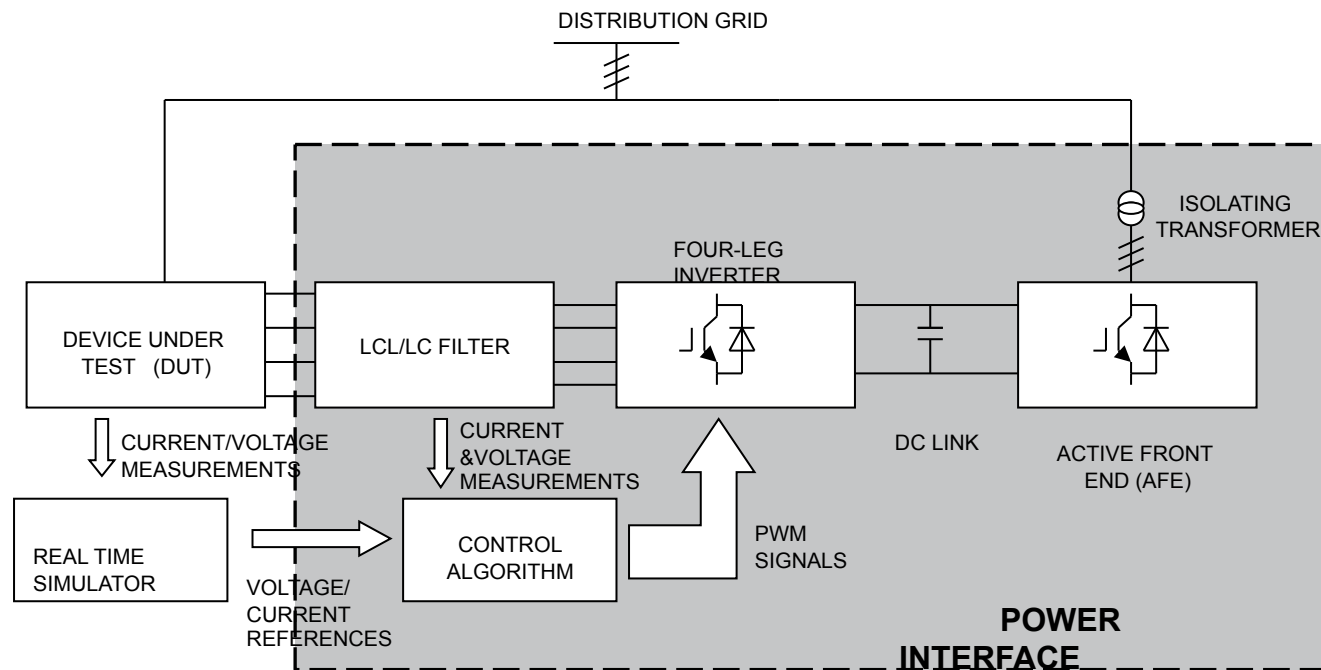


# Power Hardware In the Loop Interface: Flexible Power Simulator (FlePS)



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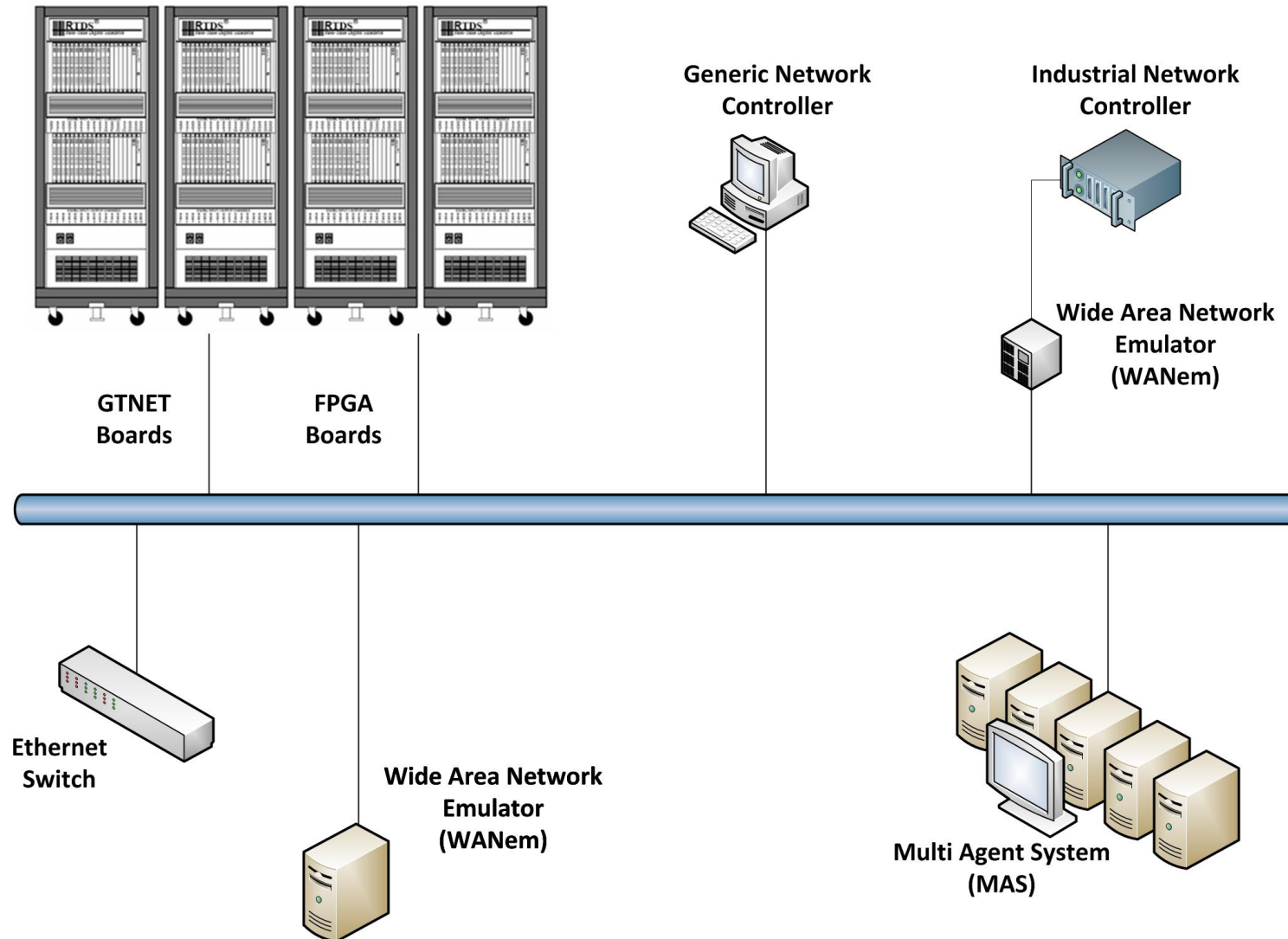
- Power rating: 25kVA
- Four phase output:
  - 1 three phase system with control of the neutral point
  - 2 independent single phase AC systems
  - 2 independent DC systems
- Switching frequency: 40kHz



# Laboratory Communication Infrastructure



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# Communication Emulation



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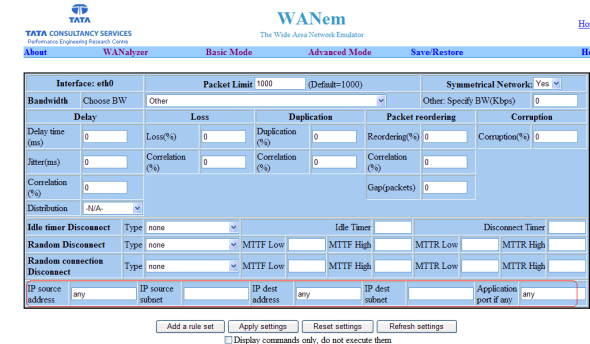
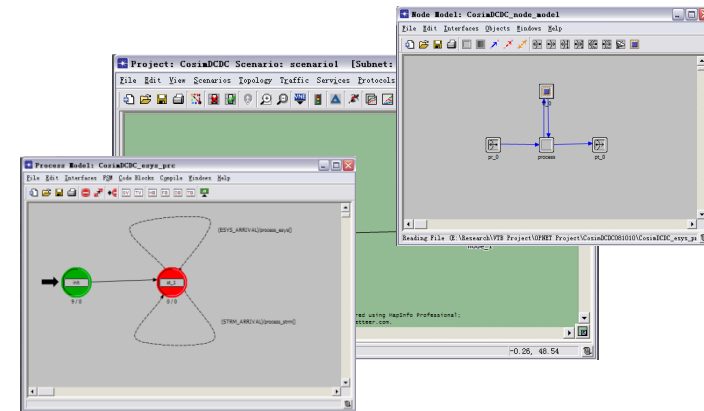
Goal: supporting the analysis of power systems with a reliable and accurate representation of communication networks

- Communication network simulated off-line using OPNET

Parameter  extraction

- Network emulated in Real Time using WANem (parameter can be defined in a stochastic way):

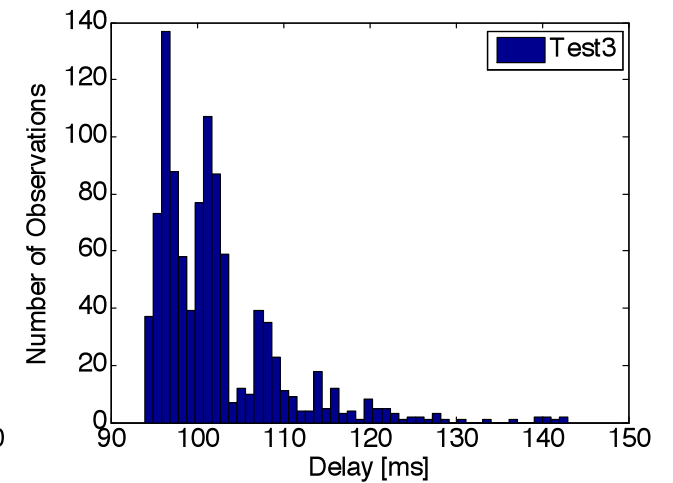
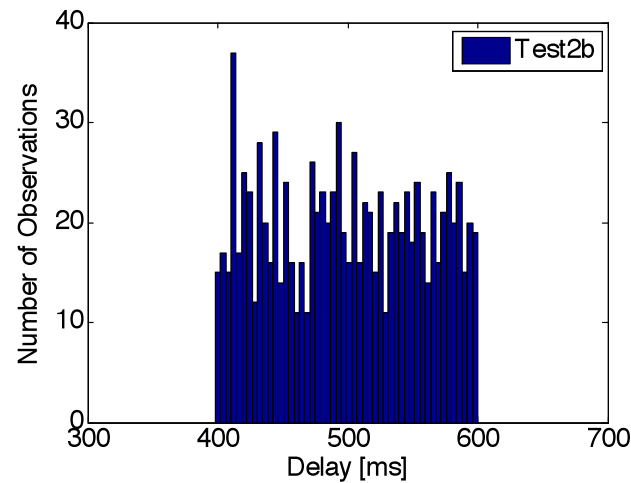
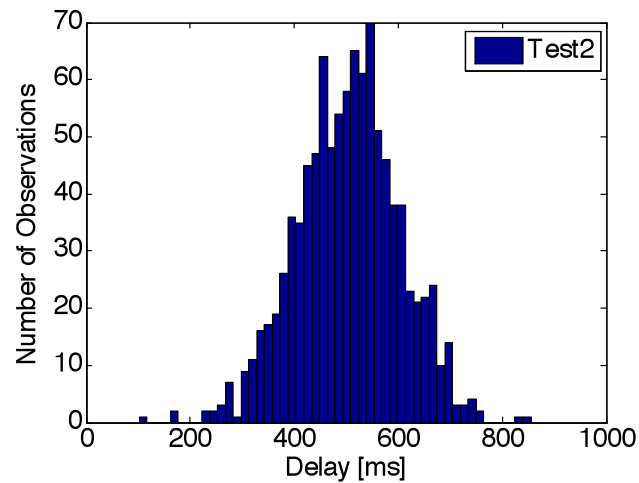
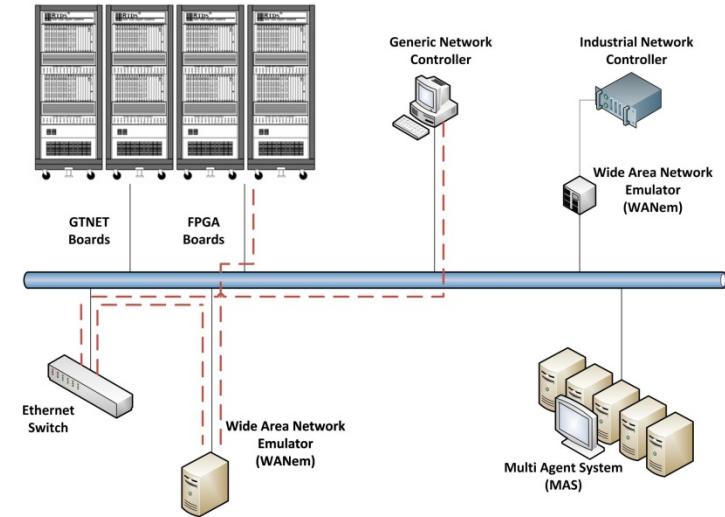
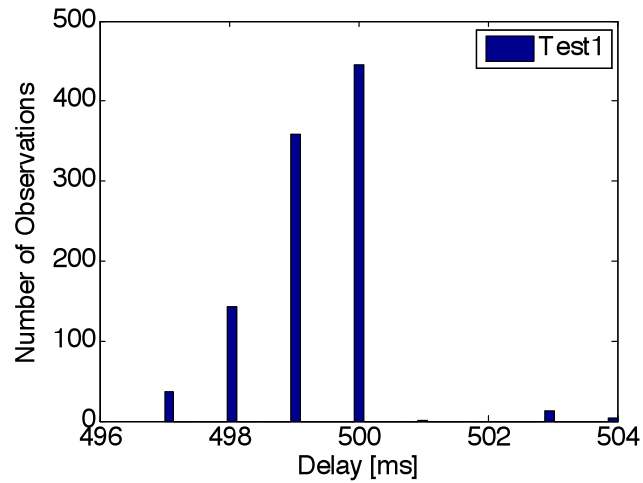
- Time delay,
- Packet loss,
- Packet corruption,
- Disconnections,
- Packet re-ordering



# Communication Emulation



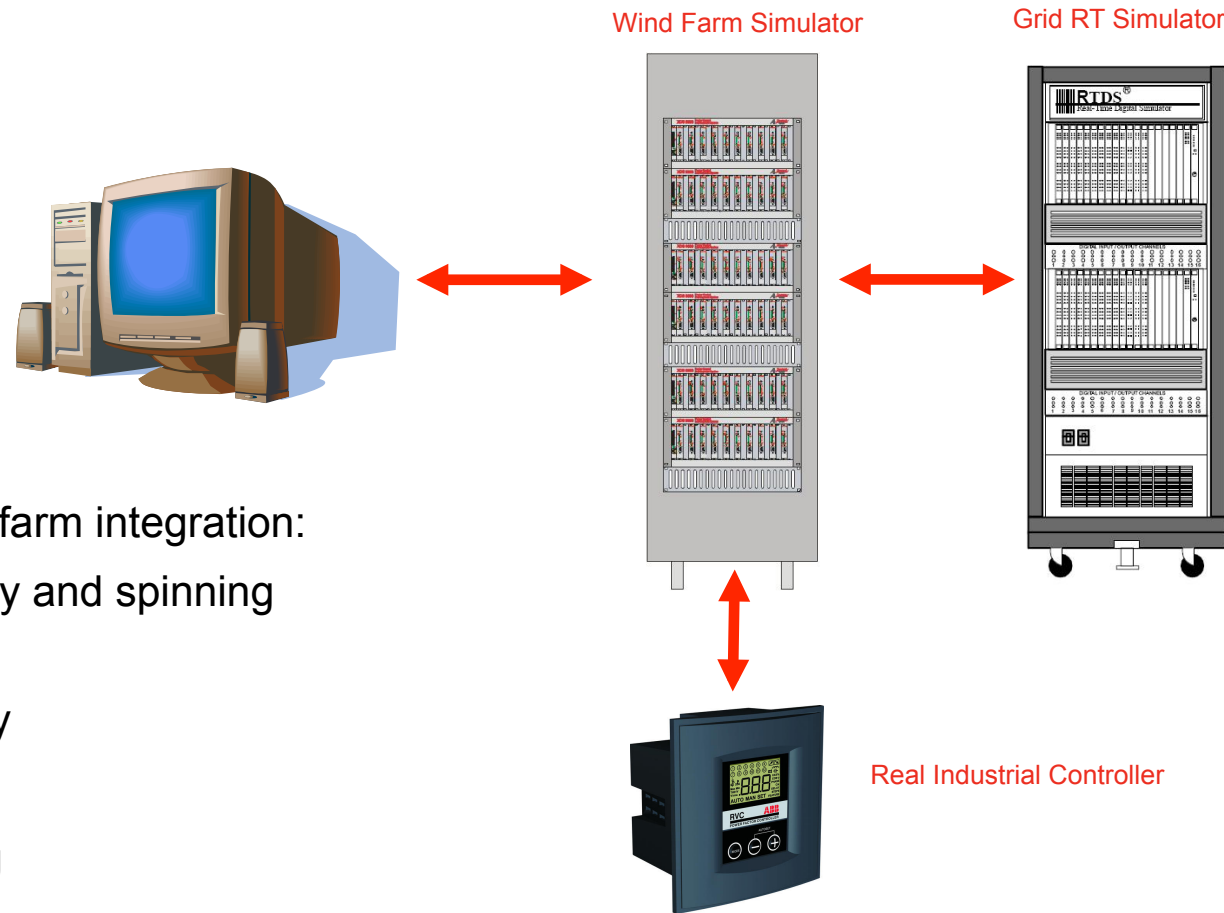
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# Sample project - RT for Large Wind Farm



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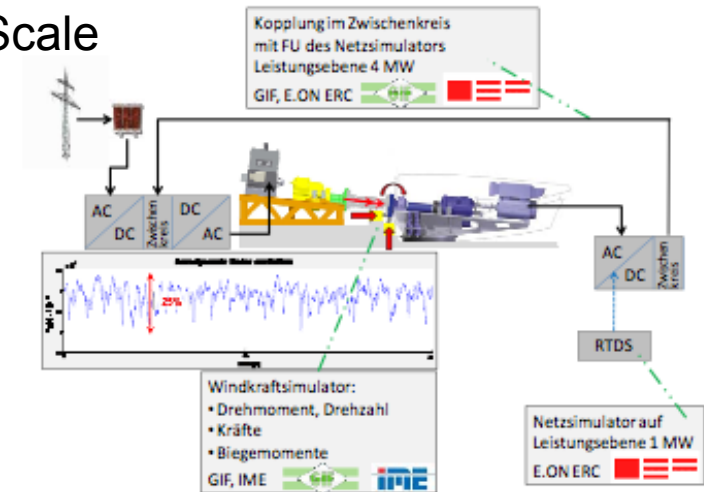
- Analysis of wind farm integration:
  - Intermittency and spinning reserve
  - Grid stability
  - Congestion
- Grid code testing

# Sample project - RT for Wind Tower testing



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- Design of a test-bench for Wind Towers in a 1:1 Scale
- Two steps project: first 1 MW and then 4 MW
- RT simulation of the Interface to the main grid
- Collaboration of many Institutes of RWTH



Antrieb	Hydraulische Belastungseinheit	Gondel-Prüfling mit Rotordurchmesser 52 m
Leistung $P_{nom} = 1 \text{ MW}$	Axialschub $F_{axial} = 750 \text{ kN}$	Leistung $P_{nom} = 850 \text{ kW}$
Drehzahl $n_{max} = 3800 \text{ min}^{-1}$	Radialkraft $F_{radial} = 800 \text{ kN}$	Drehzahl $n_{rotor} = 14\text{-}32 \text{ min}^{-1}$
Moment $M_{max} = 5300 \text{ Nm}$	Vertikalkraft $F_{vertikal} = 800 \text{ kN}$	Moment $M_{rotor} = 35\text{-}350 \text{ kNm}$
	Moment $M_{max} = 4 \text{ MNm}$	

WEA SYSTEMPRÜFSTAND

IME RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY

NRW  
Regionale Wettbewerbsfähigkeit und Beschäftigung

Ministerium für Innovation, Wissenschaft und Forschung des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen

Hightech.NRW

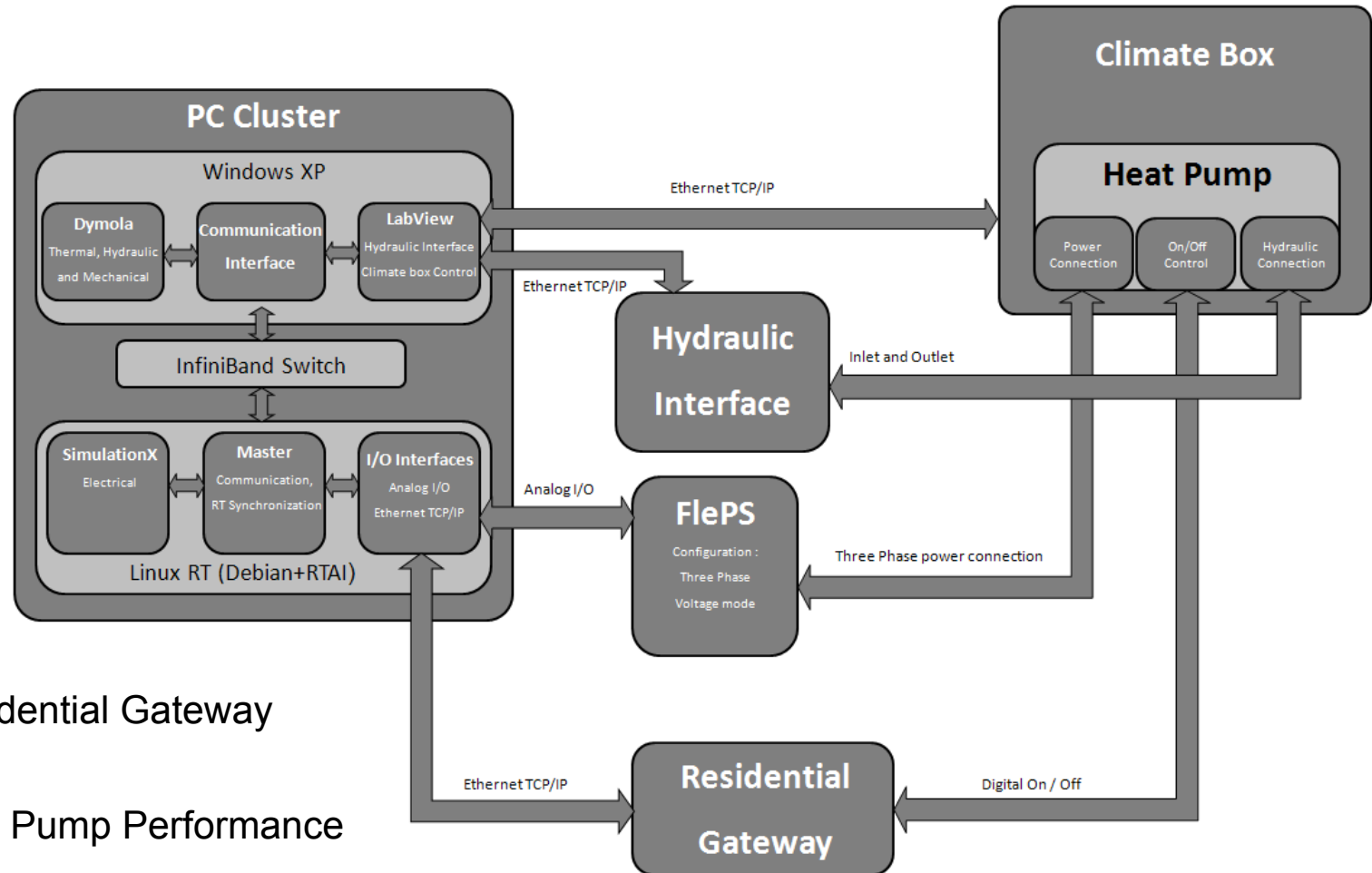
ERS  
Exploratory Research Space

Anspruchspartner:  
Dr.-Ing. Ralf Schölerer ☎ 0241/80-95797  
Dr.-Ing. Dennis Böse ☎ 0241/80-95662

# Sample project - Home Energy Systems



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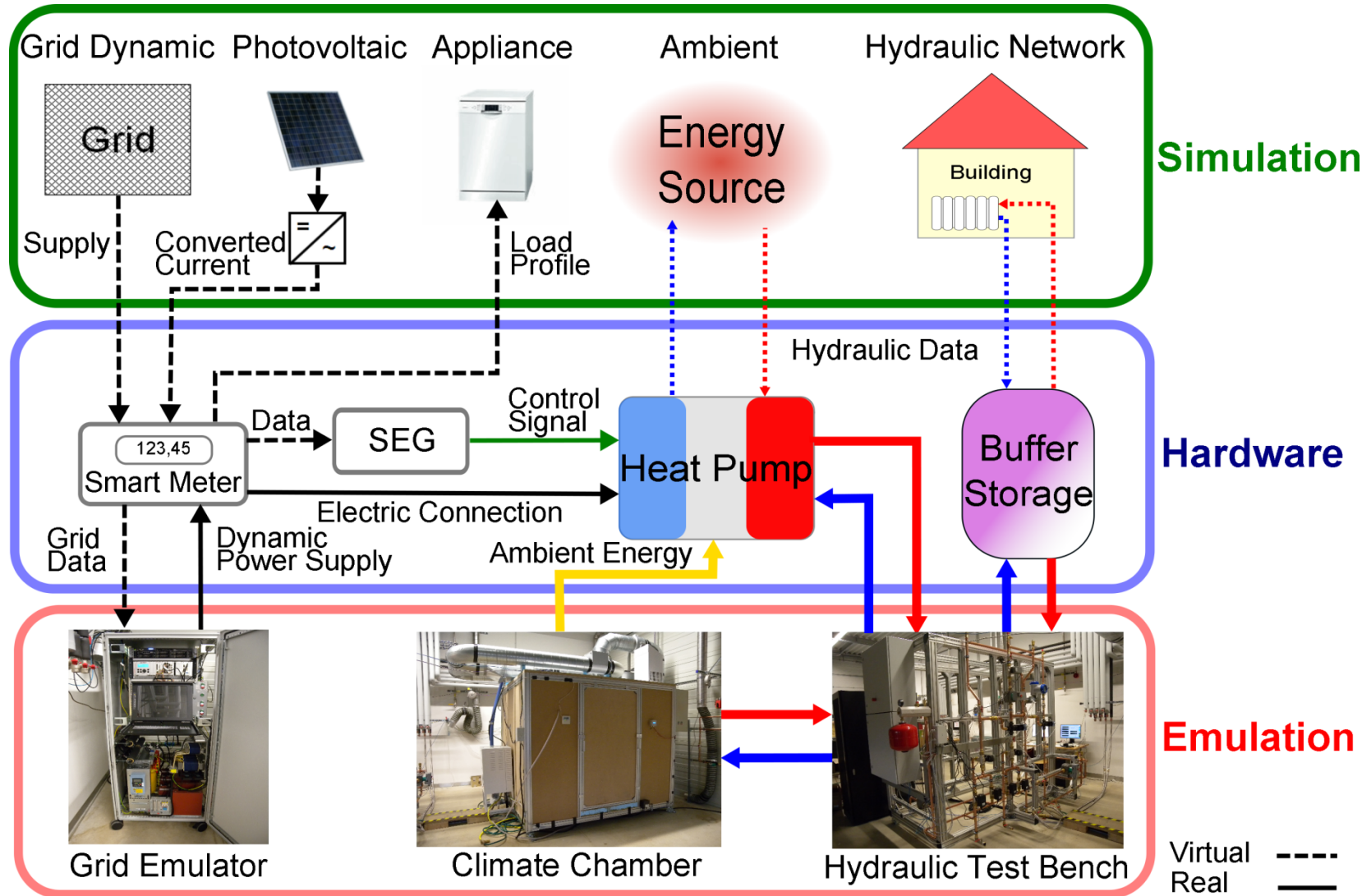
- Analysis of Residential Gateway strategies.
- Analysis of Heat Pump Performance



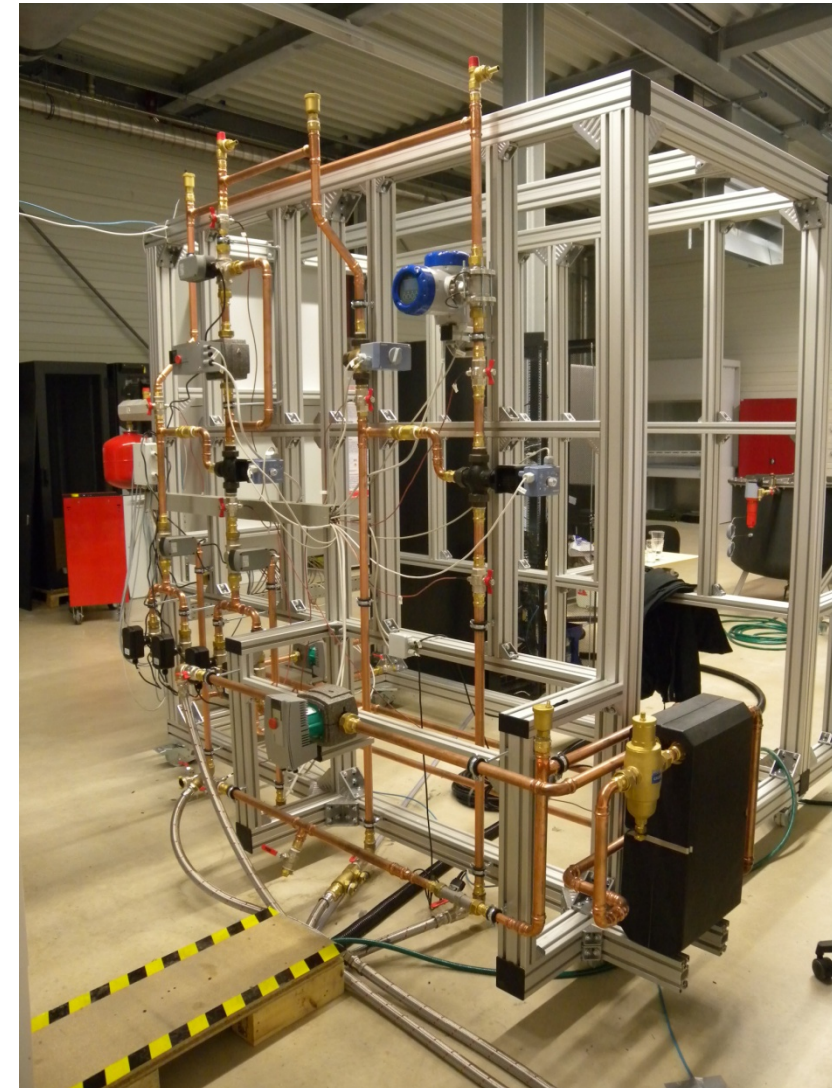
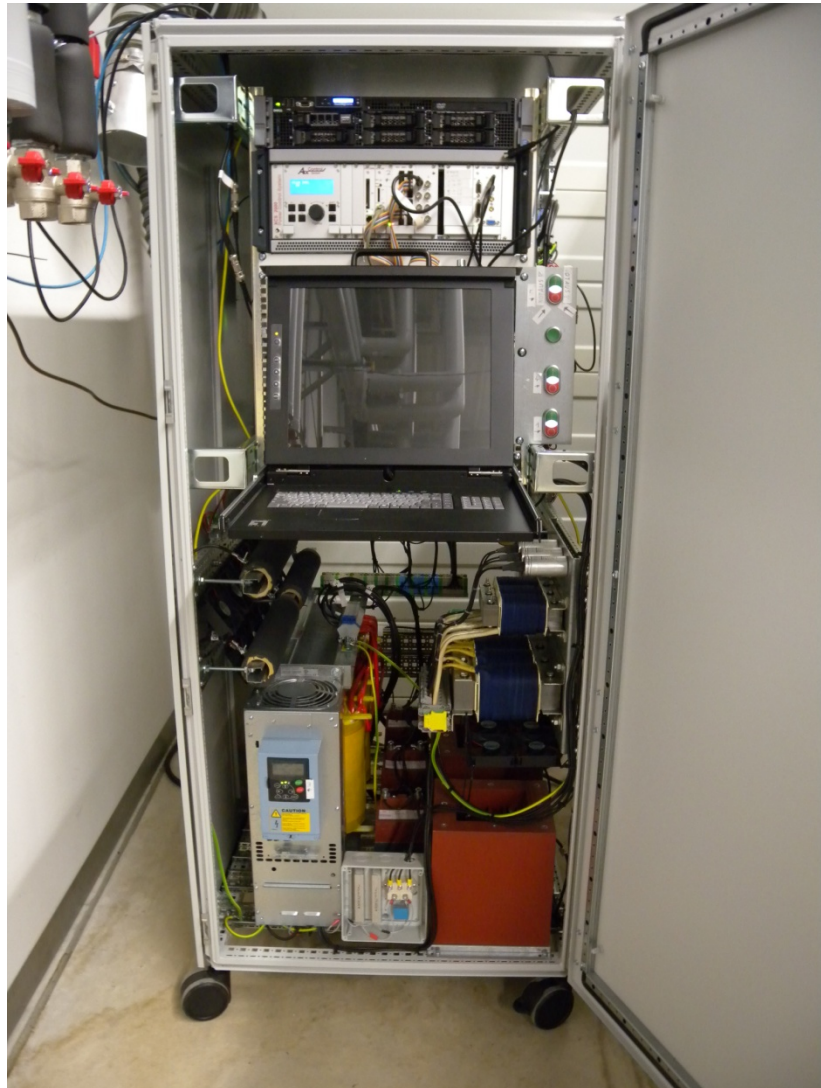
# Sample project – HIL for Home Energy Systems



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# Sample project - Electrical and Hydraulic HIL Interfaces





# Sample project - climate chamber as HIL Interface



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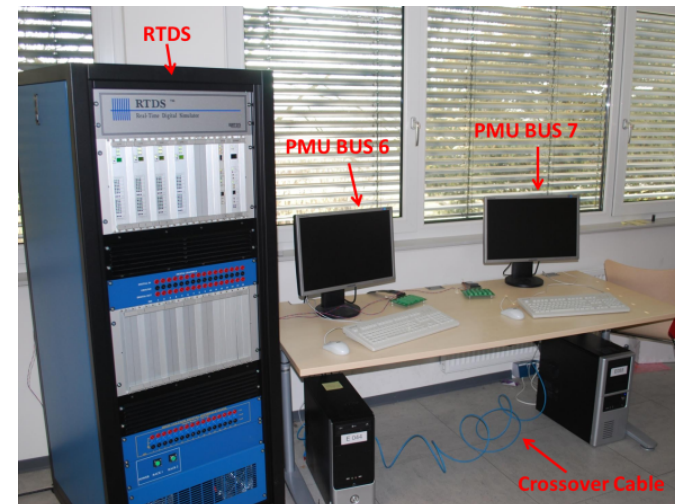
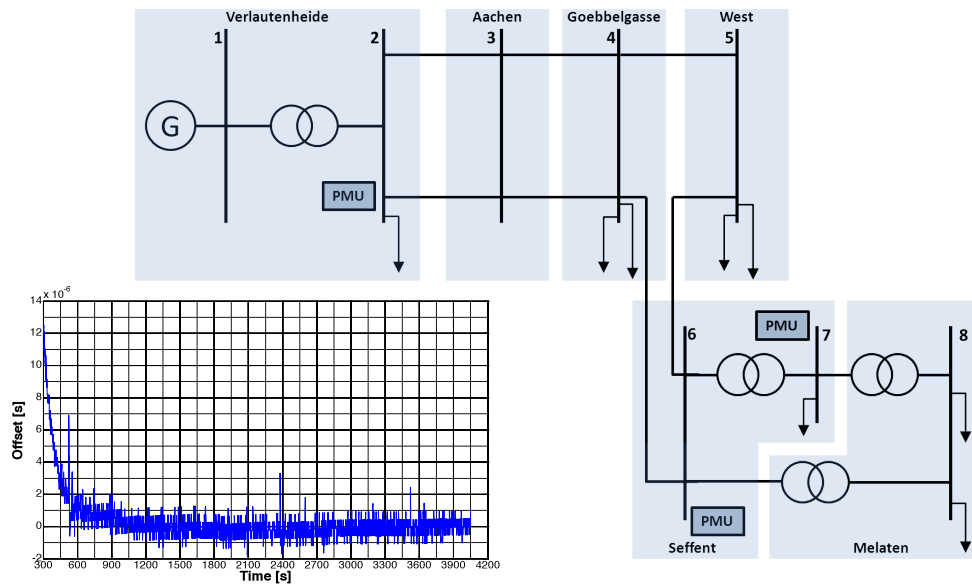
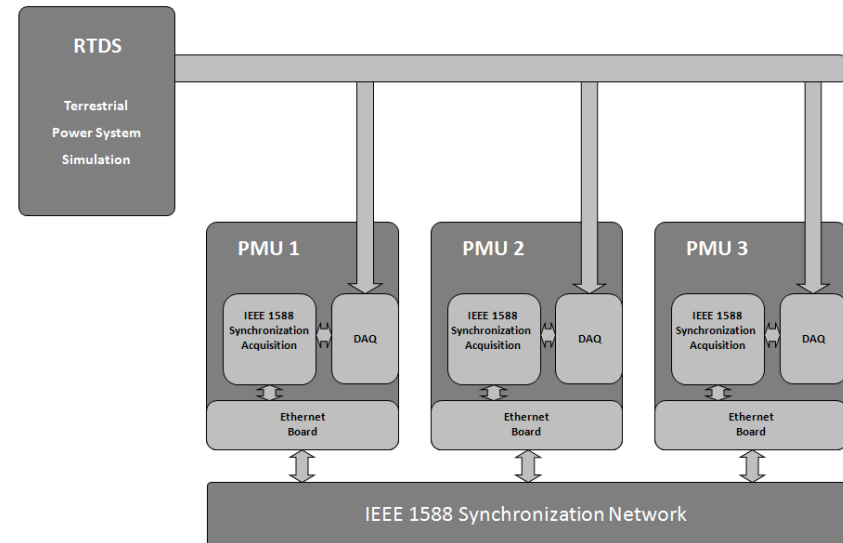
ACS | Institute for Automation of Complex Power Systems

# Sample project - Distributed Monitoring with PMUs



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- Investigate the software-only PTP synchronization method for Phasor Measurement Units
- Evaluate the impact of synchronization on the State Estimation process.



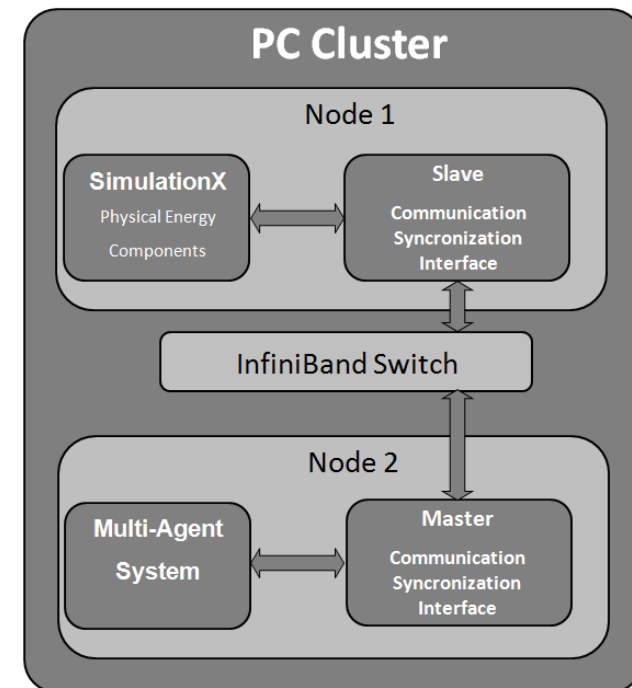
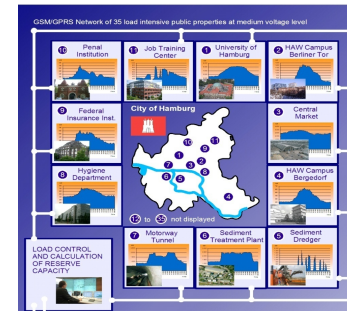
# Sample project – MAS for Distributed Monitoring and Control



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## SmartPowerHamburg

- Design of a Smart Grid System for the City of Hamburg
- Main focus on the Distributed Intelligence Infrastructure
- Final goal integration of different grids for a more flexible infrastructure (Electricity, District Heating, Storage, etc.)
- Development of an Agent Based simulation for validation of the concepts





- The smart grid is a complex system of heterogeneous, interacting infrastructures
- Current analysis, design, operation, monitoring methods must be advanced to enable the smart grid
- Real-time and non real-time Numerical simulation is the method to:
  - Analyze new solutions in the full, interacting system
  - De-risk the introduction of new technologies and components with HIL/PHIL testing: Test in the system, not as a stand alone!
- Multi-disciplinary dynamic simulation, real-time and non real-time is the new cutting edge computational advancement
- Interfaces for multi-disciplinary, real-time PHIL testing are the new cutting edge in hardware testing advancement