

# Power Converter Systems

---

Graduate Course EE8407

**Bin Wu** PhD, PEng

**Professor**  
ELCE Department  
Ryerson University

## Contact Info

Office: ENG328  
Tel: (416) 979-5000 ext: 6484  
Email: [bwu@ee.ryerson.ca](mailto:bwu@ee.ryerson.ca)  
<http://www.ee.ryerson.ca/~bwu/>



**Ryerson Campus**

---

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

1

EE8407

## Topic 2

---

### High-Power Semiconductor Devices



---

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

2

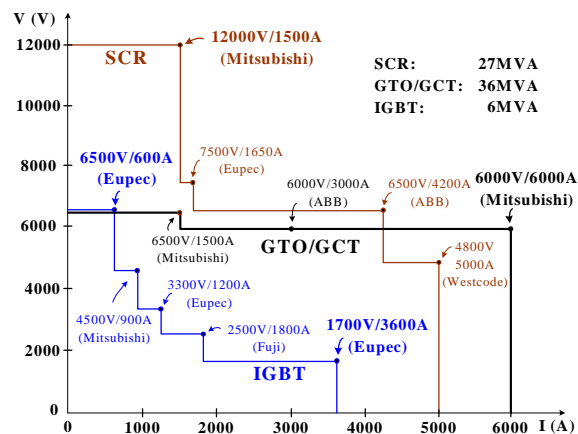
## High-Power Semiconductor Devices

### Lecture Topics

- Power Diode
- SCR Thyristor
- Gate Turn-Off Thyristor (GTO)
- Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor (GCT)
- Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT)
- Switch Series Operation

## High-Power Semiconductor Devices

### • Device Rating



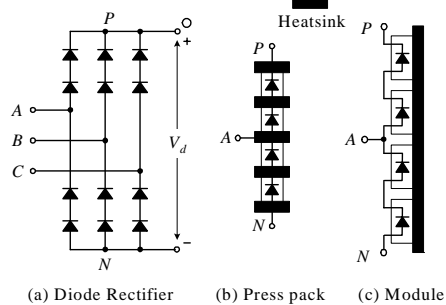
## Power Diode



4500V/800A press pack and 1700V/1200A module diodes

## Power Diode

### • Heatsink Assembly



#### Press pack device:

- Double sided cooling
- Low assembly cost and high power density
- Preferred choice for high voltage high power applications

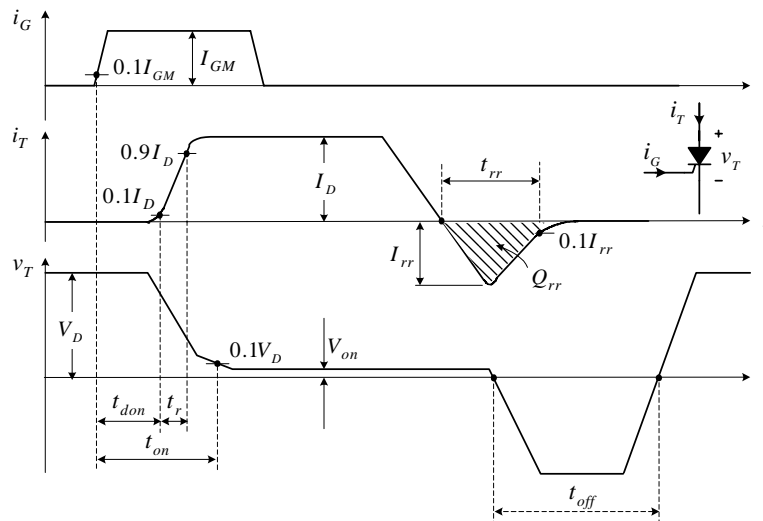
# SCR Thyristor



4500V/800A and 4500V/1500A SCRs

# SCR Thyristor

## • Switching Characteristics



## SCR Thyristor

### • Main Specifications

#### 12000V/1500A SCR Thyristor

Maximum Rating	$V_{DRM}$	$V_{RRM}$	$I_{TAVM}$	$I_{TRMS}$	-
	12000V	12000V	1500A	2360A	-
Switching Characteristics	Turn-on Time	Turn-off Time	$di_T/dt$	$dv_T/dt$	$Q_{rr}$
	$t_{on} = 14\mu s$	$t_{off} = 1200\mu s$	$100A/\mu s$	$2000V/\mu s$	$7000\mu C$
$V_{DRM}$ – Repetitive peak off-state voltage $I_{TAVM}$ – Maximum average on-state current $Q_{rr} = \frac{t_{rr} I_{rr}}{2}$ – Reverse recovery Charge			$V_{RRM}$ – Repetitive peak reverse voltage $I_{RRMS}$ – Maximum rms on-state current Part number – FT1500AU-240 (Mitsubishi)		

## Gate Turn-Off (GTO) Thyristor



4500V/800A and 4500V/1500A GTOs

## Gate Turn-Off (GTO) Thyristor

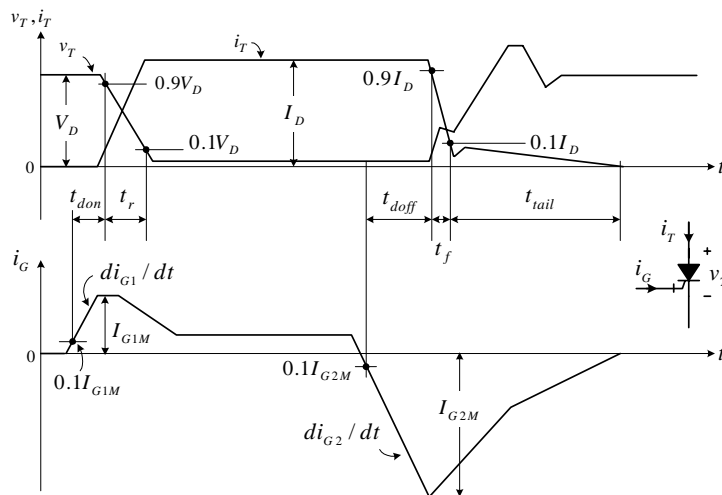
### • Symmetrical versus Asymmetrical GTOs

Type	Blocking Voltage	Example (6000V GTOs)	Applications
Asymmetrical GTO	$V_{RRM} \ll V_{DRM}$	$V_{DRM} = 6000V$ $V_{RRM} = 22V$	For use in voltage source inverters with anti-parallel diodes.
Symmetrical GTO	$V_{RRM} \approx V_{DRM}$	$V_{DRM} = 6000V$ $V_{RRM} = 6500V$	For use in current source inverters.

$V_{DRM}$  - Maximum repetitive peak (forward) off-state voltage  
 $V_{RRM}$  - Maximum repetitive peak reverse voltage

## Gate Turn-Off (GTO) Thyristor

### • Switching Characteristics



## Gate Turn-Off (GTO) Thyristor

### • Main Specifications

#### 4500V/4000A Asymmetrical GTO Thyristor

Maximum Rating	$V_{DRM}$	$V_{RRM}$	$I_{TGQM}$	$I_{TAVM}$	$I_{TRMS}$	-
	4500V	17V	4000A	1000A	1570A	-
Switching Characteristics	Turn-on Switching	Turn-off Switching	$di_T/dt$	$dv_T/dt$	$di_{G1}/dt$	$di_{G2}/dt$
	$t_{don} = 2.5\mu s$	$t_{doff} = 25.0\mu s$	500A / $\mu s$	1000V / $\mu s$	40A / $\mu s$	40A / $\mu s$
	$t_r = 5.0\mu s$	$t_f = 3.0\mu s$				
On-state Voltage	$V_{T(on-state)} = 4.4V$ at $I_T = 4000A$					
$V_{DRM}$ - Repetitive peak off-state voltage			$V_{RRM}$ - Repetitive peak reverse voltage			
$I_{TGQM}$ - Repetitive controllable on-state current			$I_{TAVM}$ - Maximum average on-state current			
$I_{RRMS}$ - Maximum rms on-state current			Part number - 5SGA 40L4501 (ABB)			

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

13

## Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor (GCT)



6500V/1500A Symmetrical GCT

GCT = Improved GTO + Integrated Gate + Anti-parallel Diode (optional)

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

14

## Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor

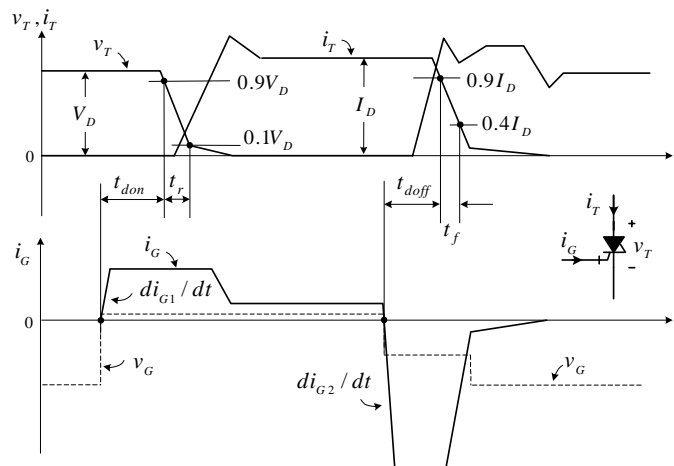
### • GCT Classifications

Type	Anti-parallel Diode	Blocking Voltage	Example (6000V GCT)	Applications
Asymmetrical GCT	Excluded	$V_{RRM} \ll V_{DRM}$	$V_{DRM} = 6000V$ $V_{RRM} = 22V$	For use in voltage source inverters with anti-parallel diodes.
Reverse Conducting GCT	Included	$V_{RRM} \approx 0$	$V_{DRM} = 6000V$	For use in voltage source inverters.
Symmetrical GCT (Reverse Blocking)	Not required	$V_{RRM} \approx V_{DRM}$	$V_{DRM} = 6000V$ $V_{RRM} = 6500V$	For use in current source Inverters.

$V_{DRM}$  - Maximum repetitive peak forward off-state voltage  
 $V_{RRM}$  - Maximum repetitive peak reverse voltage

## Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor

### • Switching Characteristics



## Integrated Gate Commutated Thyristor

### • Main Specifications

#### 6000V/6000A Asymmetrical GCT

Maximum Rating	$V_{DRM}$	$V_{RRM}$	$I_{TQRM}$	$I_{TAVM}$	$I_{TRMS}$	-
	6000V	22V	6000A	2000A	3100A	-
Switching Characteristics	Turn-on Switching	Turn-off Switching	$di_T/dt$	$dv_T/dt$	$di_{G1}/dt$	$di_{G2}/dt$
	$t_{don} < 1.0\mu s$ $t_r < 2.0\mu s$	$t_{doff} < 3.0\mu s$ $t_f - N/A$	1000A / $\mu s$	3000V / $\mu s$	200A / $\mu s$	10,000 A / $\mu s$
On-state Voltage	$V_{T(on-state)} < 4V$ at $I_T = 6000A$					
$V_{DRM}$ - Repetitive peak off-state voltage			$V_{RRM}$ - Repetitive peak reverse voltage			
$I_{TGRM}$ - Repetitive controllable on-state current			$I_{TAVM}$ - Maximum average on-state current			
$I_{RRMS}$ - Maximum rms on-state current			Part number – FGC6000AX120DS (Mitsubishi)			

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

17

## Insulated Bipolar Transistor (IGBT)



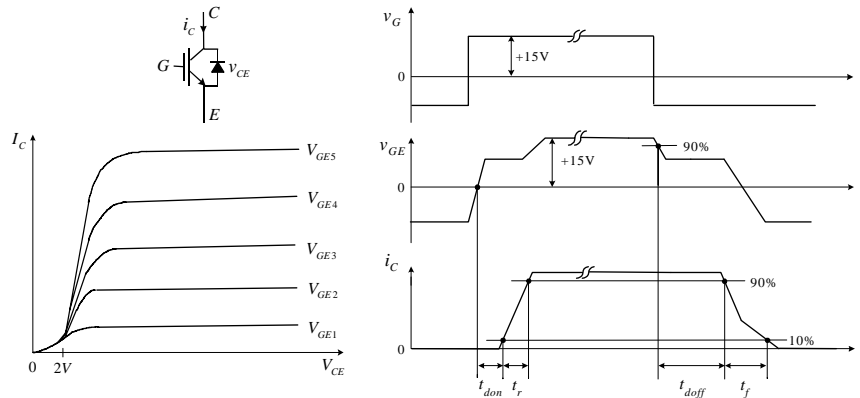
1700V/1200A and 3300V/1200A IGBT modules

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

18

## Insulated Bipolar Transistor (IGBT)

### • IGBT Characteristics



Static V-I Characteristics

Switching characteristics

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

19

## Insulated Bipolar Transistor (IGBT)

### • Main Specifications

#### 3300V/1200A IGBT

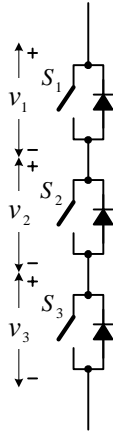
Maximum Rating	$V_{CE}$	$I_C$	$I_{CM}$	-
	3300V	1200A	2400A	-
Switching Characteristics	$t_{don}$	$t_r$	$t_{doff}$	$t_f$
	$0.35\mu s$	$0.27\mu s$	$1.7\mu s$	$0.2\mu s$
Saturation Voltage	$I_{CEsat} = 4.3V$ at $I_C = 1200A$			
$V_{CE}$ - Rated collector-emitter voltage				
$I_C$ - Rated dc collector current				
$I_{CM}$ - Maximum repetitive peak collector current				
Part number - FZ1200 R33 KF2 (Eupec)				

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

20

## Device Series Operation

### • Cause of Voltage Imbalance



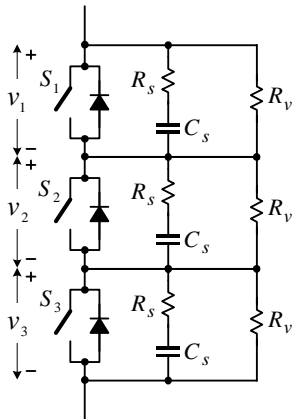
Type	Causes of Voltage Imbalance
Static Voltage Sharing	$\Delta I_k$ – Device off-state leakage current $\Delta T_j$ – Junction temperature
Dynamic Voltage Sharing	Device $\Delta t_{don}$ – Turn-on delay time $\Delta t_{doff}$ – Turn-off delay time $\Delta Q_{rr}$ – Reverse recovery charge of anti-parallel diode $\Delta T_j$ – Junction temperature
	Gate Driver $\Delta t_{GDon}$ – Gate driver turn-on delay time $\Delta t_{GDoft}$ – Gate driver turn-off delay time $\Delta L_{wire}$ – Wiring inductance between the gate driver and the device gate
$\Delta$ – Differences between series connected devices.	

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

21

## Device Series Operation

### • Equal Voltage Sharing



- $S_1, S_2, S_3$ :  
GTO, GCT or IGBT
- Voltage Sharing:  
 $V_1 = V_2 = V_3$  in steady state and transients
- Static Voltage Sharing:  
 $R_v$
- Dynamic Voltage Sharing:  
 $R_s$  and  $C_s$

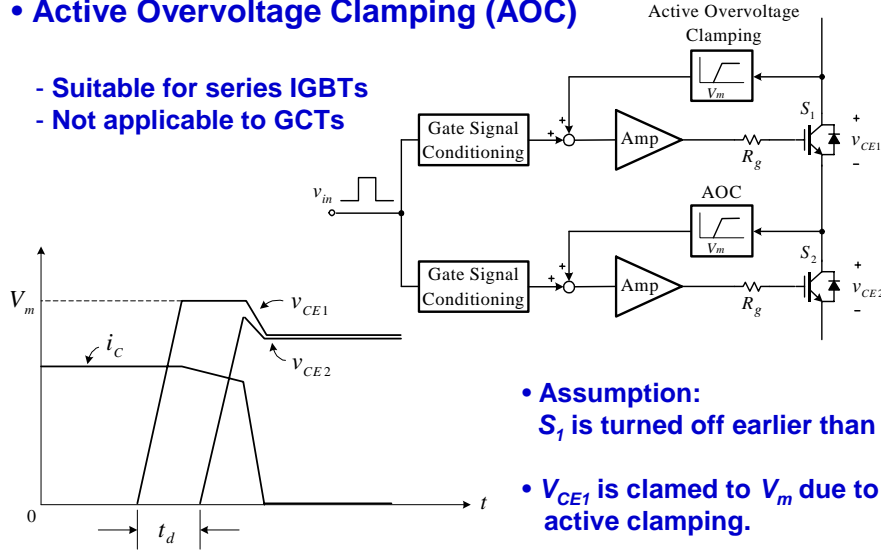
Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

22

## Device Series Operation

### • Active Overtension Clamping (AOC)

- Suitable for series IGBTs
- Not applicable to GCTs



- Assumption:  
 $S_1$  is turned off earlier than  $S_2$
- $V_{CE1}$  is clamped to  $V_m$  due to active clamping.

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

23

## Summary

Item	GTO	IGCT	IGBT
Maximum switch power (Device $V \times I$ )	36MVA	36MVA	6MVA
Active di/dt and dv/dt control	No	No	Yes
Active short circuit protection	No	No	Yes
Turn-off (dv/dt) snubber	Required	Not required	No required
Turn-on (di/dt) snubber	Required	Required	No required
Parallel connection	No	No	Yes
Switching speed	Slow	Moderate	Fast
Behavior after destruction	Shorted	Shorted	Open in most cases
On-state losses	Low	Low	High
Switching losses	High	Low	Low
Gate Driver	Complex, separate	Complex, integrated	Simple, compact
Gate Driver Power Consumption	High	High	Low

Textbook: Bin Wu, 'High-Power Converters and AC Drives', Wiley - IEEE Press, 2006, ISBN: 0-471-73171-4

24

RYERSON UNIVERSITY



Thanks