

DC Energy and DC Power Quality Reference Systems

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16 May 2024

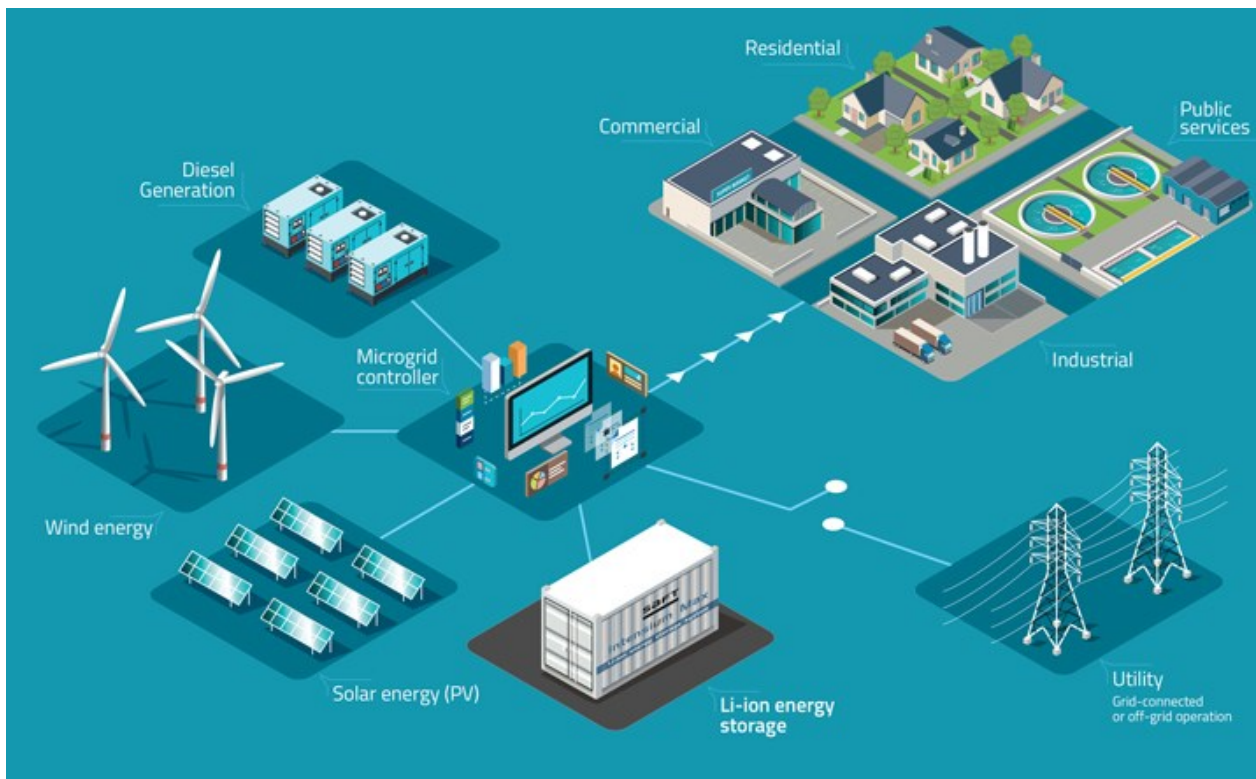
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DC Microgrids

In recent years, DC microgrids are becoming more and more popular solutions for **energy communities** or smaller sites (e.g., airports, railway stations) where **load profiles** can be foreseen with sufficient accuracy.



PROs

- Improved conversion efficiency
- Higher flexibility and reliability

CONs

- Interference from (to) AC side
- Lack of metrology infrastructure

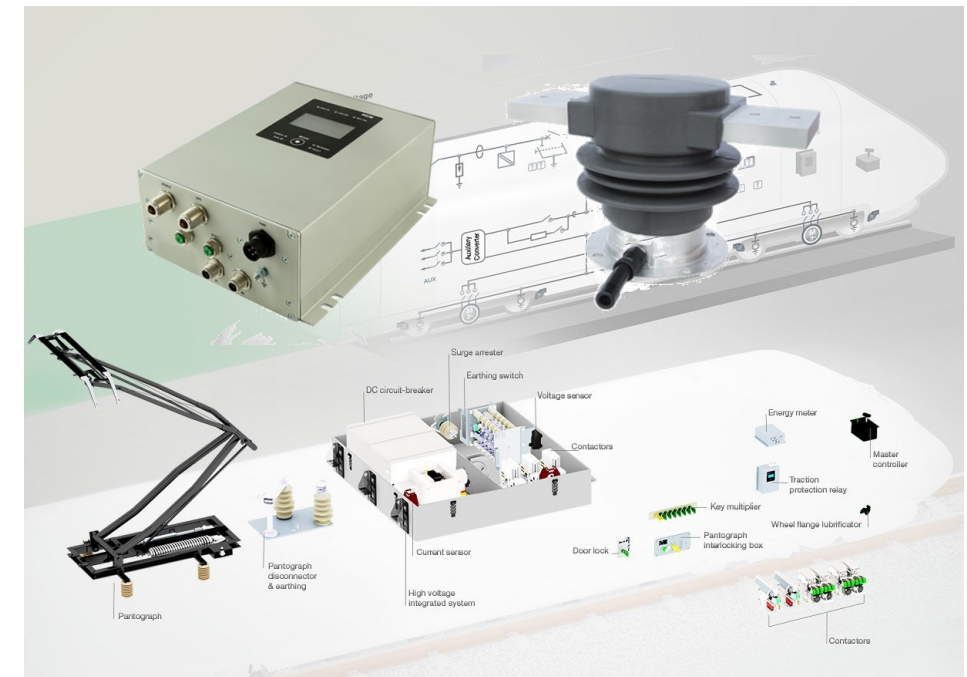
source: <https://www.aceongroup.com/>

DC Revenue Metering

The measurement infrastructure is mainly related to **safety** or **revenue metering** applications.



source: <https://eepower.com/>



source: <https://www.secheron.com/>

Normative Open Issues

IEC 62052-11:2020

DC power is the product of DC voltage and current, in turn defined as the **average value** of voltage and current signals.

- *Which sampling rate?*
- *Which averaging interval?*
- *Which reporting / update rate?*
- *Which ADC front-end bandwidth?*

EN 50470-4:2023

Frequencies **up to 10 Hz** shall be considered part of the measurand and the averaging interval shall be **long enough** to minimize the effect of AC power components.

- *Is ripple noise or (active) power?*



DC grids – WP3

The project **DC grids** aims at setting up an **improved metrology infrastructure** for DC power & energy meters.

DC Power Reference System

Pure DC conditions

- DC Voltage: 0 → 1000 V
- DC Current: 0 → 800 A

Distorted DC conditions

- AC Magnitude: 0 → 10 %
- AC Frequency: 100 mHz → 150 kHz

Power quality disturbances

- Sinusoidal & triangular ripple
- (Voltage) dip and swells

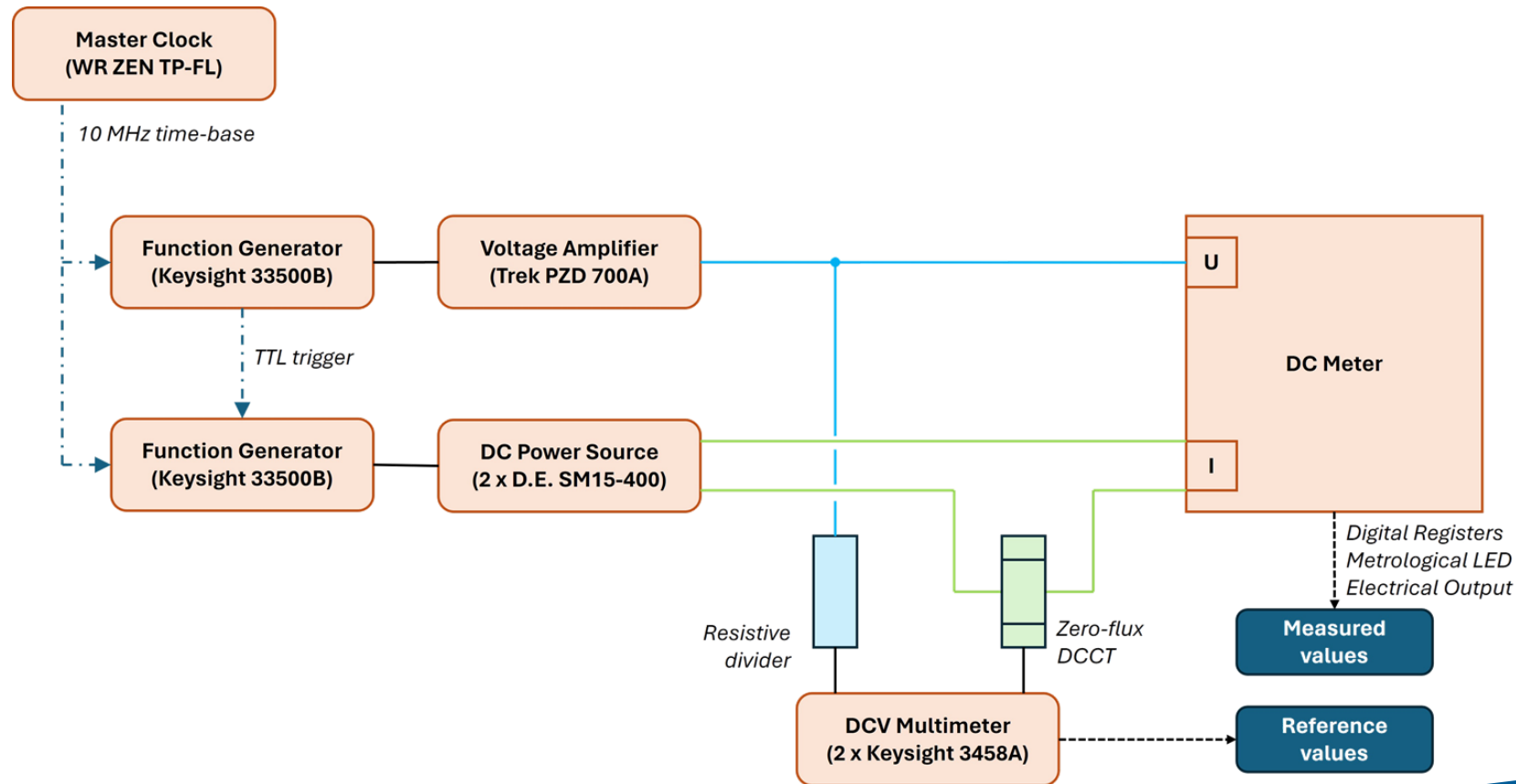


- ① METAS (CH)
- ② INRiM (IT)
- ③ LNE (FR)
- ④ VSL (NL)
- ⑤ PTB (DE)

source: <https://european-union.europa.eu/>

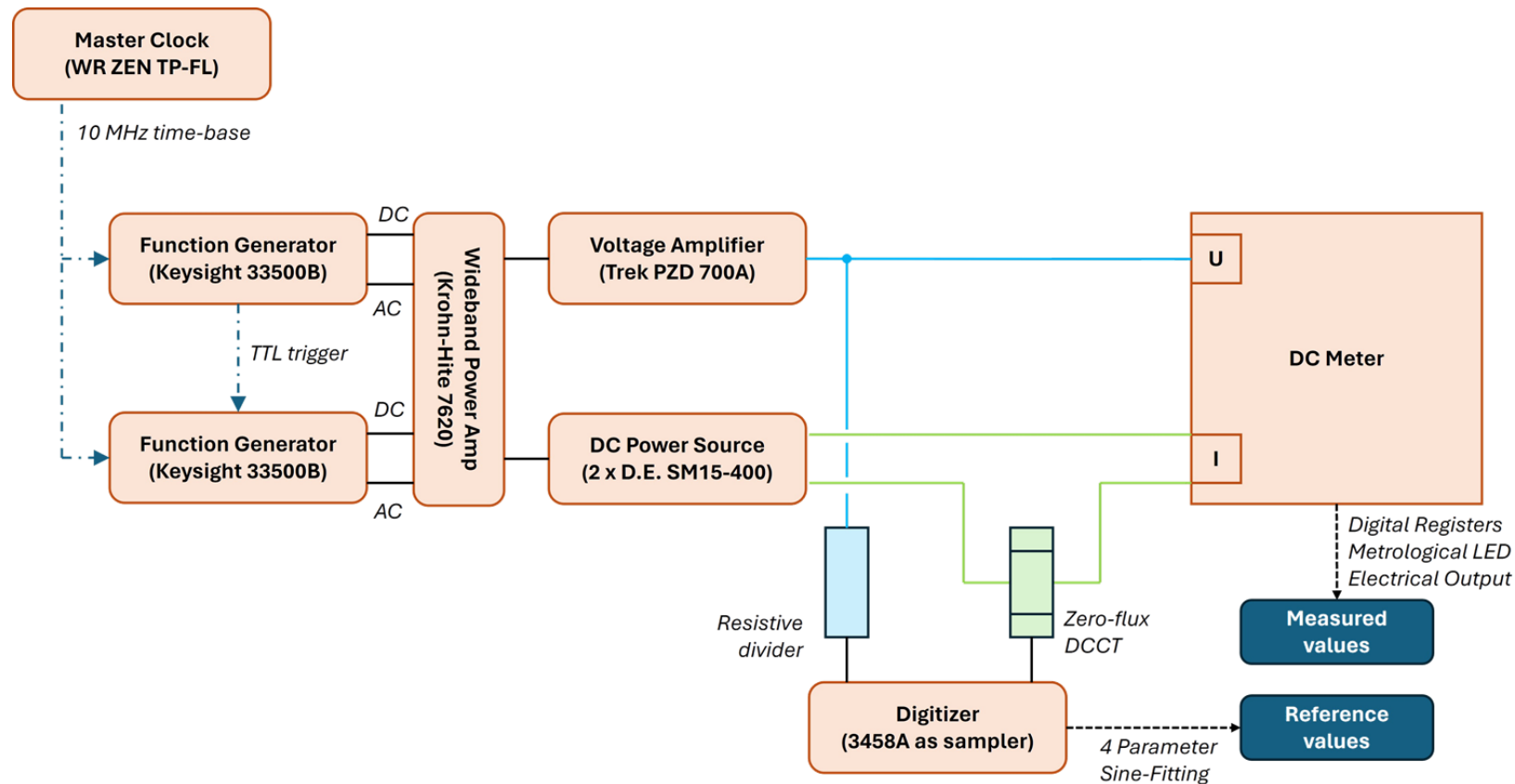
METAS Reference System

The measurement setup for meter testing in **pure DC conditions** (voltage up to 700 V, current up to 800 A).



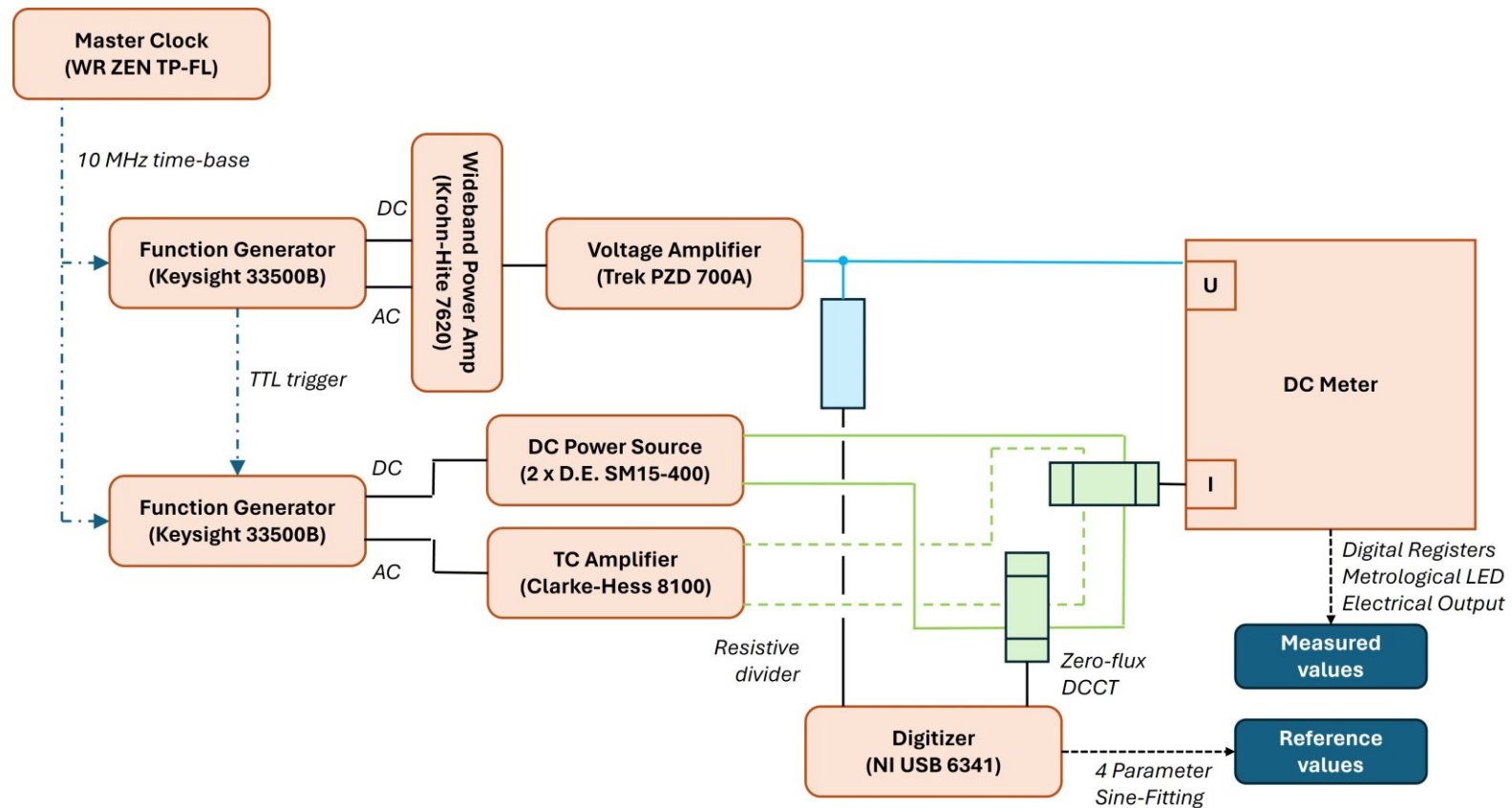
METAS Reference System

The measurement setup for meter testing in **LF distorted conditions** (magnitude & frequency up to 10% & 300 Hz).



METAS Reference System

The measurement setup for meter testing in **HF distorted conditions** (magnitude & frequency up to 10% & 150 kHz).



Inter-Lab Comparison

The validation of the reference systems has been carried out by means of an **inter-laboratory comparison** between METAS, INRiM and VSL.

NI cRIO 9068



source: <https://www.ni.com/>

NI 9205

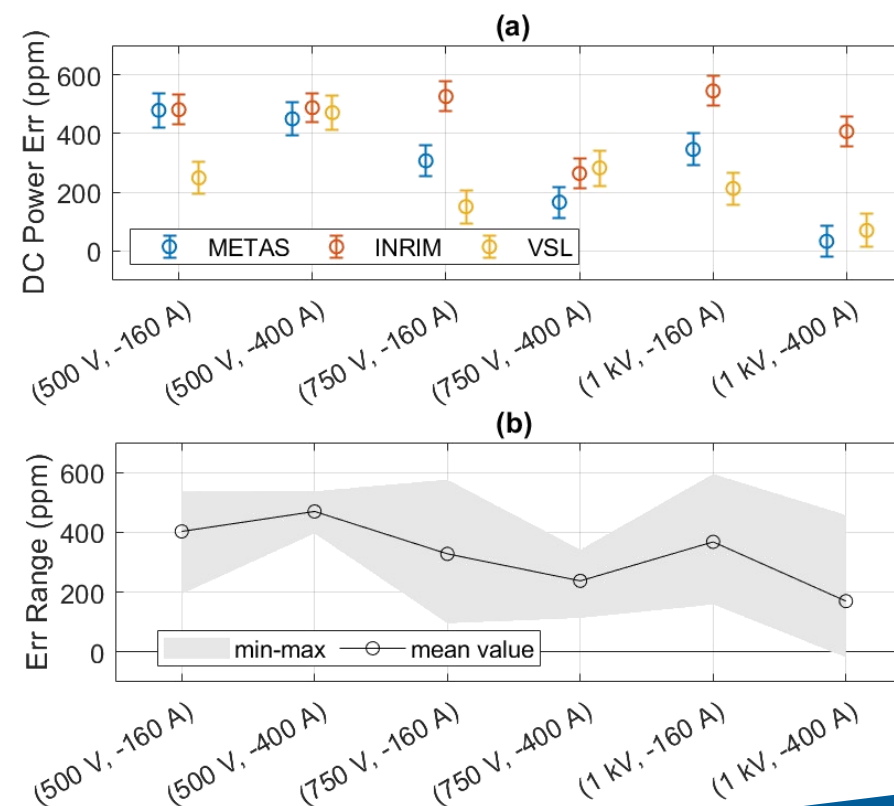
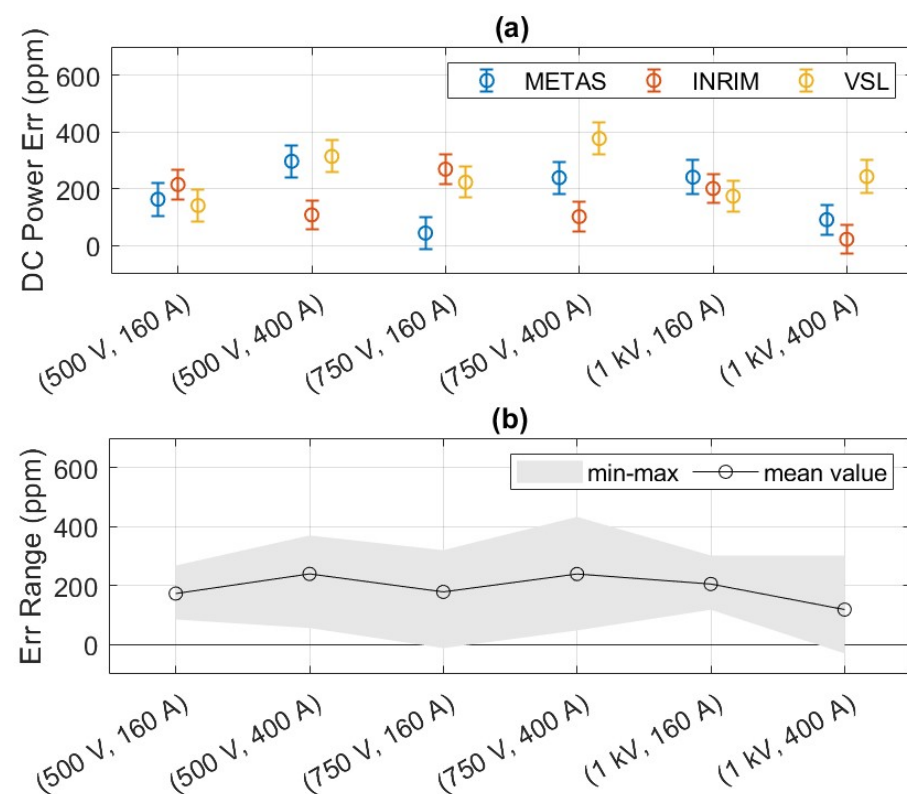


TRANSFER STANDARD

- FPGA controlled acquisition
- 100 kHz sampling rate
- Averaging interval 200 ms
- Adjustable rate (10, 5, 1, 0.2)
- 16-bit vertical resolution

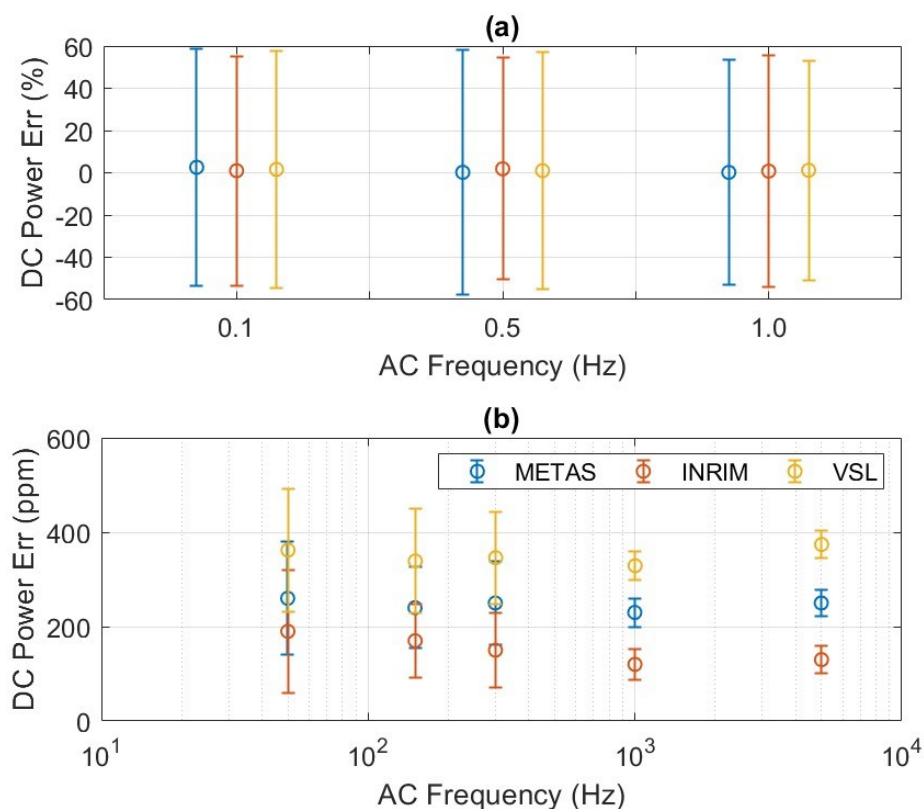
Comparison Results – Pure DC

The comparison between the results in Pure DC tests shows an **excellent consistency**.



Comparison Results – Distorted DC

In the presence of AC distortions, it is evident the **discrepancy** between lower (< 10 Hz) and higher AC frequencies.

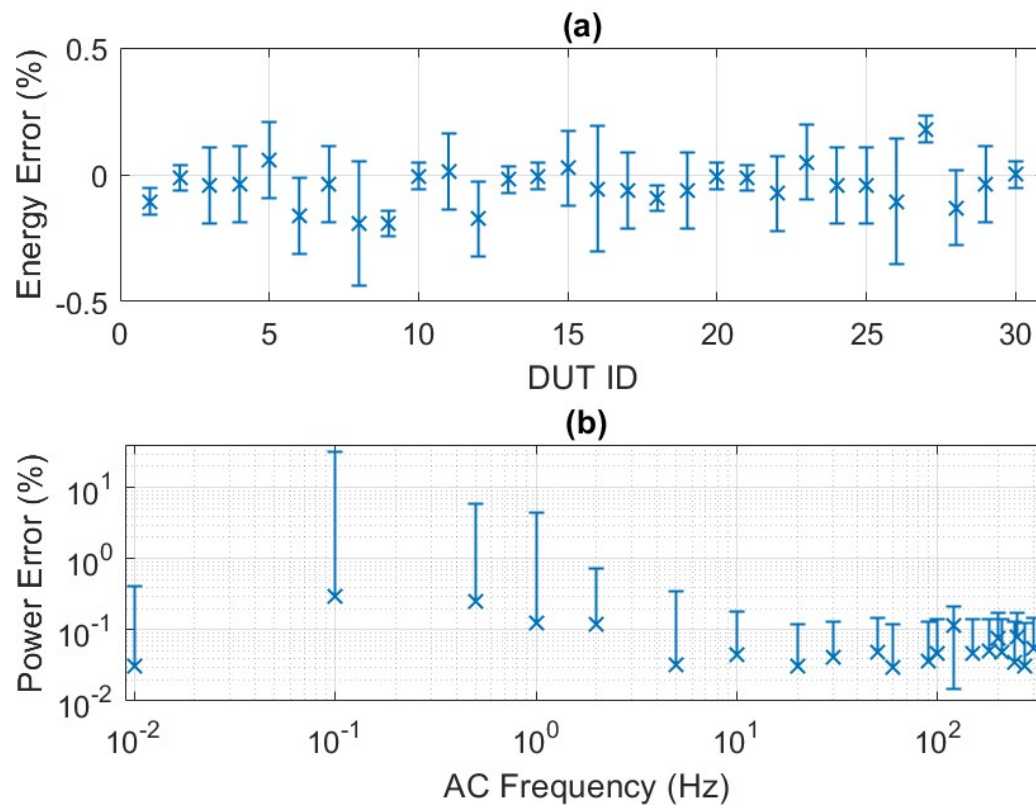


TEST CONFIGURATION

- DC Voltage: 750 V
- DC Current: 500 A
- AC Magnitude: 75 V
- AC Frequency: 0.1 – 5000 Hz
- Cos Phi: Random

Test on Commercial Device

Similar results have been obtained on a set of **30 commercial devices**, namely DZG GSH01 meters (class 1.0).



source: <https://www.dzg.de/>

Conclusions

- DC microgrids are **promising solution** for a more efficient integration of renewable energy sources.
- Injections of **AC components** and similar **PQ events** are not contemplated in current normative.
- There exist **metrology challenges** from both a technological and a methodological point of view.
- Development, characterization and validation of **reference systems** in several NMIs.
- Need for further analysis to set a well-acknowledged **definition of DC power** (energy).

Questions?

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