

AppLHy! – Transport and Application of Liquid Hydrogen

Michael Wolf, KIT, 28.03.23

Hydrogen flagship projects

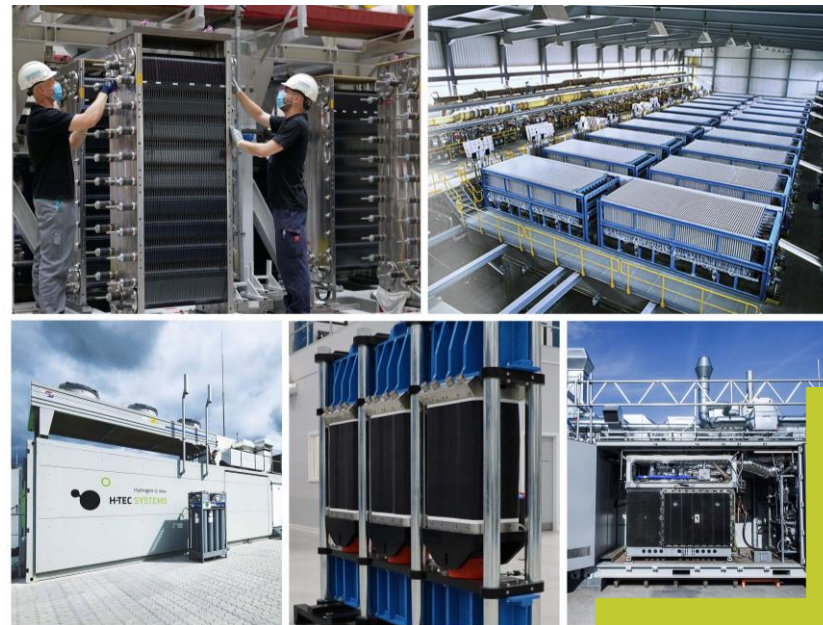
- ▮ Project duration: 04/2021 – 03/2025
- ▮ Funding: approx. 705M €
- ▮ > 230 Partners

The three hydrogen flagship projects are a central contribution of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to the implementation of the National Hydrogen Strategy. Taken together, they represent one of the BMBF's largest funding initiative on the subject of energy transition.



H₂Giga

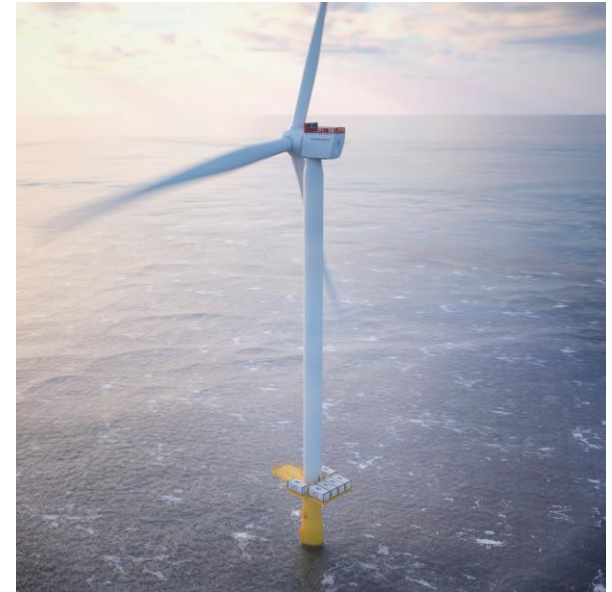
H₂Giga researches and develops technologies for the industrialization and upscaling of water electrolysis – a prerequisite for producing green hydrogen on a gigawatt scale.



Photograph ©: Siemens Energy AG, thyssenkrupp AG, H-TEC Systems GmbH, ITM Power Linde GmbH, Sunfire GmbH (from top left to bottom right)

H₂Mare

H₂Mare is researching the offshore production of green hydrogen and other Power-to-X products with novel wind energy applications. They have an integrated electrolyser and storage tank and do not require a grid connection.



Source: © Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy

TransHyDE

- Project duration: 04/2021 – 03/2025
- 83 + approx. 20 associated partners
- Project volume: approx. 181M €,
- Funding: approx. 135M €

TransHyDE develops various supra-regional storage and transport infrastructures for green hydrogen, evaluates, demonstrates and scales them up.

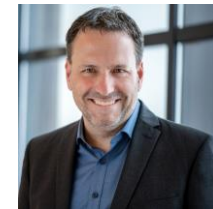
Coordinators



Robert Schlögl



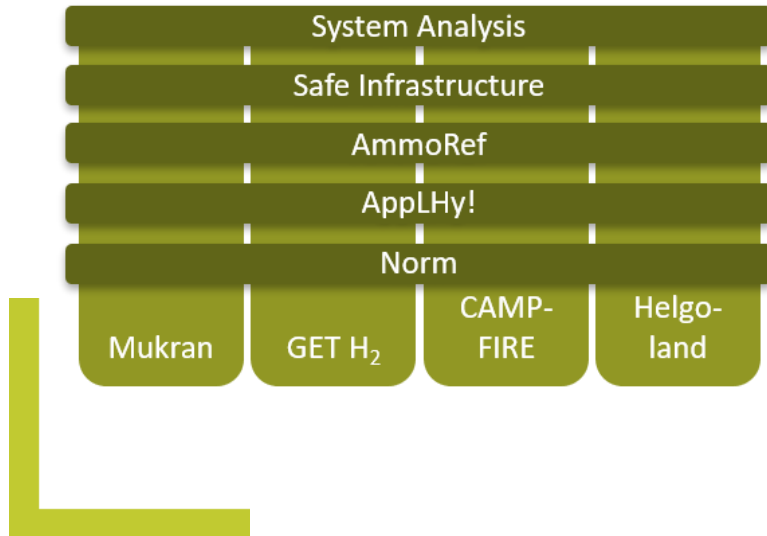
Mario Ragwitz



Jimmie Langham



Organizational Structure



- ▮ Four projects are implementing pilots for H₂ transport technology options and demonstrating industrial scaling.
- ▮ They are supported by five research associations through
 - ▮ developing solutions to obstacles that arise.
 - ▮ evaluation of technologies and necessary framework conditions.
 - ▮ developing an implementation plan as a recommendation to policy makers.

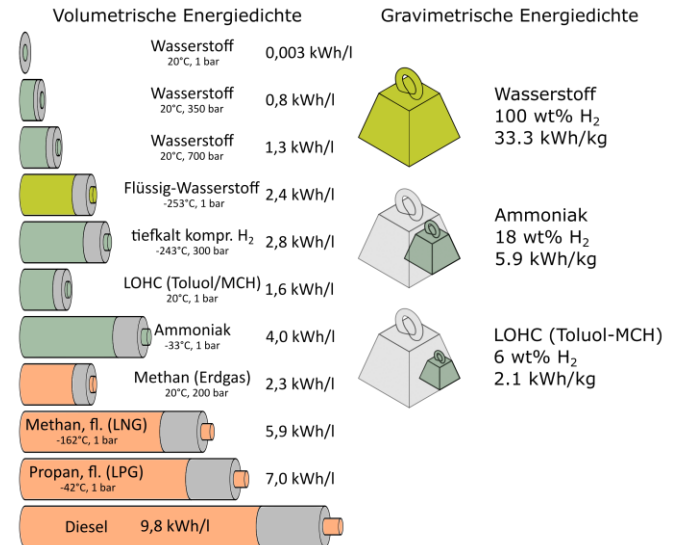
TransHyDE-Project AppLHy! – Transport and Application of Liquid Hydrogen (LH₂)

- ▮ Project duration: 04/2021 – 03/2025
- ▮ Project volume: approx. € 17 million, funding: approx. € 15 million
- ▮ 8 partners, 1 associated partner



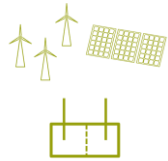
Properties and advantages of liquid hydrogen (LH₂)

- moderate volumetric (2.4 kWh/l) and high gravimetric (33.3 kWh/kg) energy density
- High purity
- Storage & transport at low pressure
- Energy requirement (renewable) for H₂ liquefaction at the point of H₂ generation
- No high temperatures needed for H₂ release
- Ready for use as fuel e.g. in commercial vehicles, trains, ships, airplanes and in industrial scale use for decades (e.g. semiconductor industry, aerospace)



Liquid Hydrogen (LH₂) supply chain

Green H₂ Production



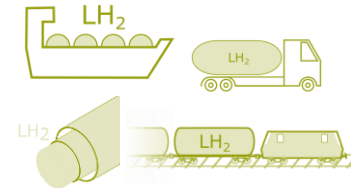
Liquefaction



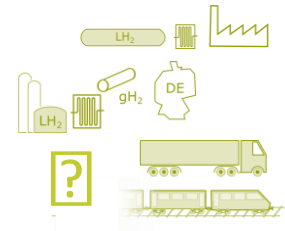
Storage



Transportation

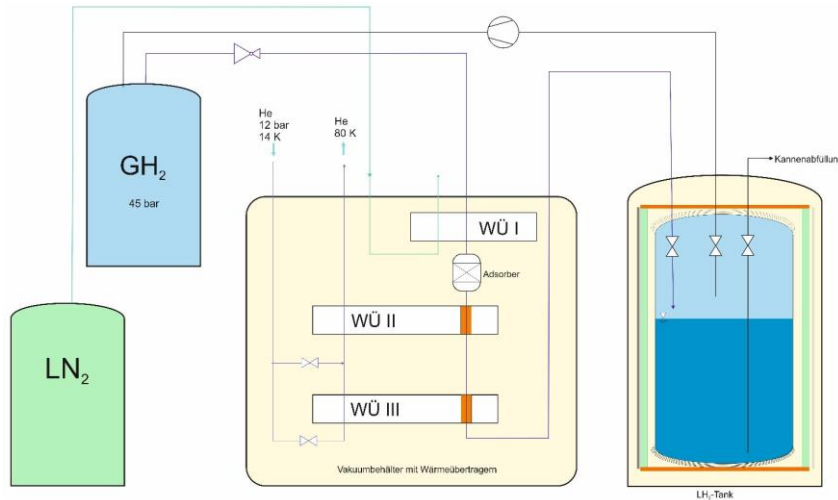


Use



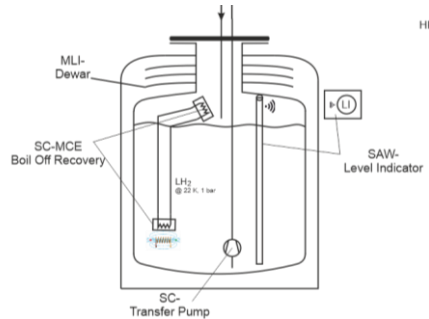
AppLHy! addresses relevant aspects along the LH₂ supply chain

Hydrogen liquefaction



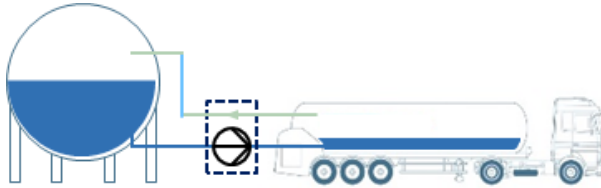
- Key parameters of the H_2 liquefier under development at KIT:
- LN_2 pre-cooling
- Further cooling & OP-Shift using a Helium mass flow from an 600 W Helium cryoplant
- Targeted LH_2 flow rate: ~ 175 l/h
- LH_2 storage capacity: ~ 2000 l LH_2

Efficient hydrogen storage



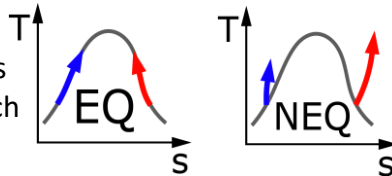
- Research into efficient, integrated LH₂ storage and the components required for this, such as
 - Contactless LH₂ level measurement
 - Re-liquefaction
 - LH₂ pumps
- Damping of surface acoustic waves (SAW) in LH₂ confirmed
- SAW sensors are working in LH₂ and can be used as LH₂ level meter

Focus: improve efficiency of LH₂ distribution



1. Modelling & Simulation of LH₂ distribution chain

- Software tool for LH₂ distribution is developed
- it includes typical operation required for LH₂-handling: de-pressurization of vessel by venting, loading of vessel by liquid, transport with heat inleak, pressurization by means of LH₂-evaporation, off-loading, sloshing etc.
- It is based on equilibrium approach (for sloshing and de-pressurization) as well as on non-equilibrium approach for other operations

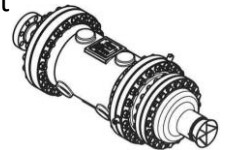


2. Observations / Learning

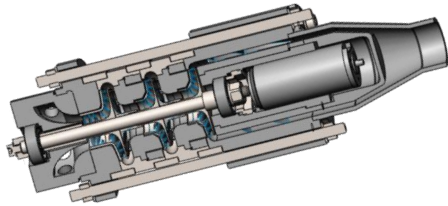
- Considerable difference in results between equilibrium-based and non-equilibrium-based approach
- Rapid operations are more efficient in terms of liquid loss
- Development of accelerated procedures and corresponding hardware components is required to take the advantages of rapid loading

3. Development of centrifugal LH₂ pump

- Centrifugal LH₂ pump can help to accelerate LH₂ transfer processes and make them more efficient
- First centrifugal LH₂ pump is available from Linde's Cryostar



Efficient LH₂ transfer – development of LH₂ pumps



TU Dresden

Novel LH₂ turbo pump with ball bearing for filling of LH₂ tanks (low pressure)

Status

- ✓ Design of the impeller completed
- ✓ Pump in detailed engineering
- x Choice of bearing ongoing



ScIDre GmbH

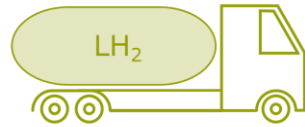
Cryopump with superconducting bearings



Status

- ✓ Positioning of superconducting bearings tested in LN₂
- ✓ Safety assessment and analysis of natural frequencies completed

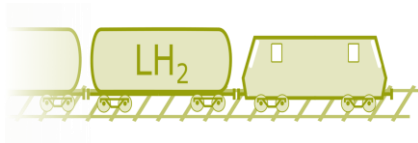
LH₂ Transport options



- ▮ LH₂ Delivery Trailer / Truck
 - ▮ Status: in operation in Germany



- ▮ LH₂ ships [7,11,12]
 - ▮ Status: capacity of largest LH₂ ship: 1250 m³ (~ 90 t) LH₂
designs ongoing for ships up to 160.000m³ (~10.000 t)
Large-scale import hubs for LH₂ are not existing yet.



- ▮ Railway tank wagon [6]
 - ▮ Status: in operation – but not in Germany

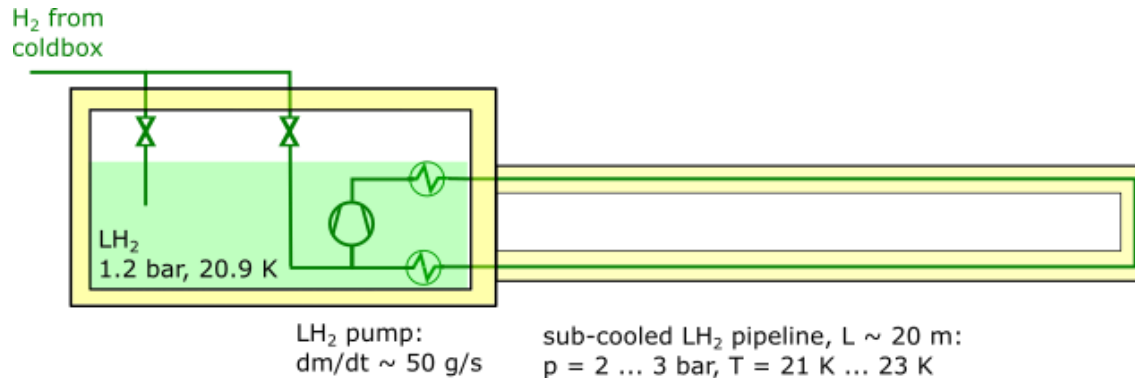


- ▮ LH₂-Pipelines [6,13]
 - ▮ Status: in operation only in industrial facilities

Trailer-based LH₂ supply chain exists, international supply chain needed

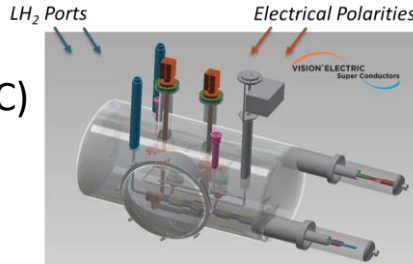
LH₂ pipeline

- ▮ H₂ massflow from the liquefier coldbox is expanded in a LH₂ pump cryostat.
- ▮ LH₂ pump + heat exchangers supply a LH₂ pipeline with 50g/s sub-cooled LH₂



Hybrid pipeline = superconducting power cable + LH₂ pipeline

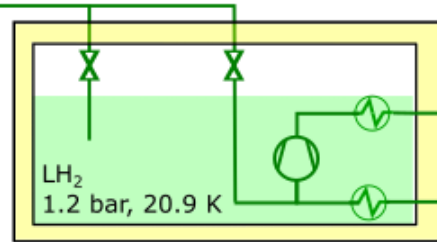
Current Leads
(design by VESC)



One conceptual design option of a hybrid pipeline:

- Electric: $U_r = \pm 10 \text{ kV}$, $I_r = 10 \text{ kA} \rightarrow P_{el} = 200 \text{ MW}$
- LH₂: $dp/dx = 10 \text{ Pa/m}$, $\dot{m} = 1,67 \text{ kg/s} \rightarrow P_{LH_2} = 200 \text{ MW}$

H₂ from
coldbox



LH₂ pump:
 $dm/dt \sim 50 \text{ g/s}$

sub-cooled LH₂ pipeline, $L \sim 20 \text{ m}$:
 $p = 2 \dots 3 \text{ bar}$, $T = 21 \text{ K} \dots 23 \text{ K}$

superconducting HTS DC power cable
 $I_r = 10 \text{ kA}$, $U \leq 10 \text{ V}$

Cryostat:
Vacuum & Multilayer
Insulation

(green) LH₂

HTS

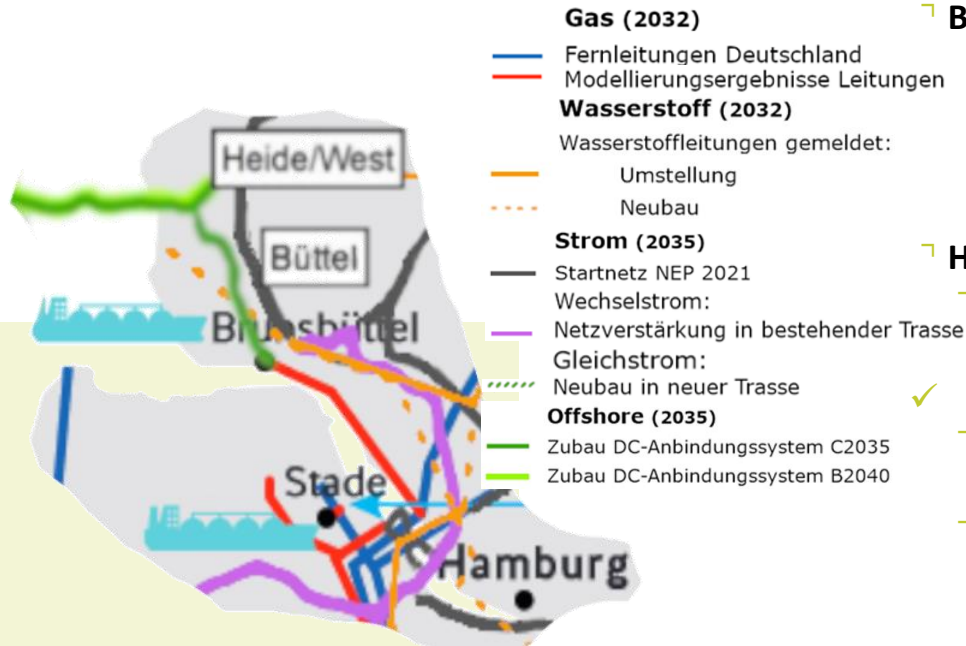
Copper

El. Insulator

150 mm
25 mm

Techno-economic case study of a hybrid pipeline

Considering Existing Network & Grid Development Plans



Brunsbüttel

- ▮ LNG Terminal (2022/2023): In Future Potentially a LH₂ Terminal
- ▮ Electrical Grid Interconnection Point: Onshore & Offshore

Hamburg

- ▮ Large H₂ Demand: 5-7,6 TWh/a in 2030 – Industry, Ships and Aircrafts

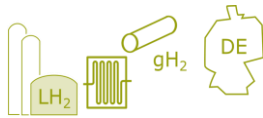
✓ Brunsbüttel → Hamburg

- ▮ High Flows of Hydrogen and Electrical Energy
- ▮ More Hydrogen Pipelines and Electrical Grids Needed

Applications of Liquid hydrogen (LH₂)



- ▮ Goal: Local H₂ supply
- ▮ Benefits: high volumetric energy density of LH₂, high purity of H₂ from LH₂
- ▮ Status: Existing, e.g. in semiconductor industry, H₂ fueling stations (gH₂ and LH₂)



- ▮ Goal: supply of large-scale gH₂ grids, peak shaving
- ▮ Benefits: volumetric energy density of LH₂, highly dynamic feed-in, no further processing
- ▮ Status: not realized on grid-scale



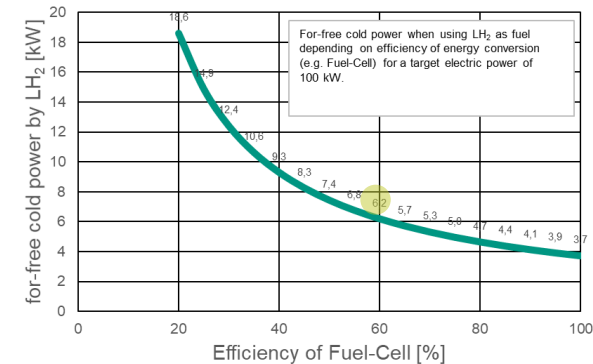
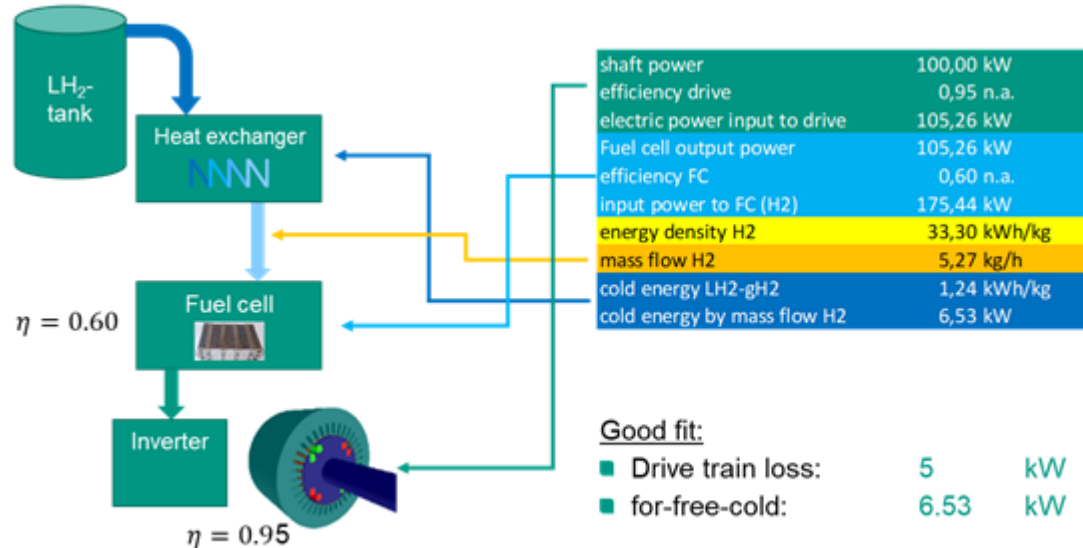
- ▮ Goal: CO₂-free aviation fuel
- ▮ Benefits: high gravimetric and volumetric energy density of LH₂
- ▮ Status: Research and Development ongoing



- ▮ Goal: CO₂ free fuel of large and heavy vehicles on non-electrified tracks
- ▮ Benefits: high volumetric energy density of LH₂, use of LH₂-cold for cooling
- ▮ Status: Research and Development ongoing / pre-series truck presented

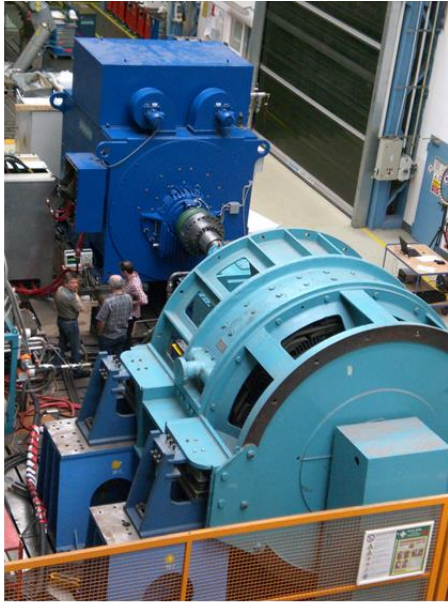
Local LH₂-based supply chains exist today, many future applications – both stationary and mobile

LH₂ –cooled motor with conventional drive-train



Cold of required LH₂ may be used to compensate the loss of conventional electric drives.

LH₂ –cooled superconducting motor (KIT)



Courtesy:
Siemens AG

HTS-Motor:

- power: 4 MW
- weight: 36 ton
- speed: 120 rpm
- poles: 8
- efficiency:
- cold loss: $<115 \text{ W}_{\text{max}} < 0.003\% \ll 6.2\%$

Nick, W., et al. (2012). "Test results from Siemens low-speed, high-torque HTS machine and description of further steps towards commercialisation of HTS machines." Physica C: Superconductivity and its Applications **482**: 105-110.

LH₂-fuel cell energized HTS-motors can be realized w/o additional cooling systems → high efficiency!

LH₂ –cooled superconducting Motor (KIT)

Example: high performance compact HTS motor for electric aviation

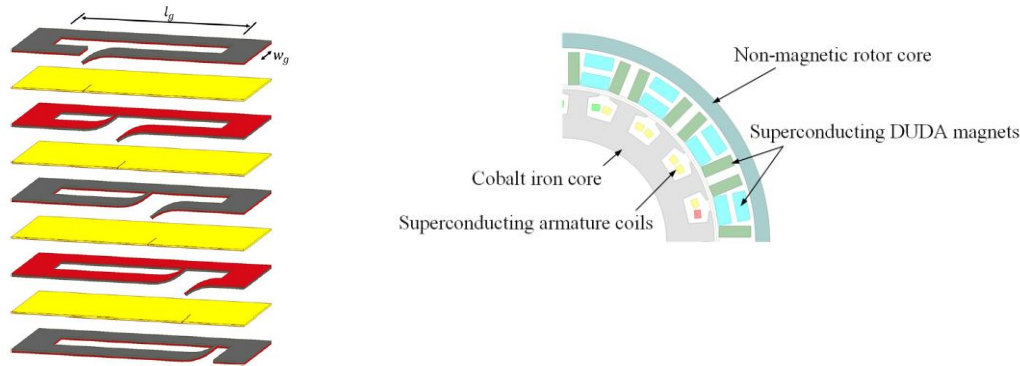


Figure 3. Exploded view of rectangular DUDA with gap of width w_g and length l_g . Red: HTS layers, grey: substrate, yellow: intermediate Kapton layer.

[Arndt, T., et al. (2021).
"New coil configurations with 2G-HTS and benefits for applications."
Superconductor Science and Technology **34**(9).]

[R. Wang, Y. Liu, J. Cao, L. Li, X. Liu, H. Xue, T. Arndt „Preliminary design optimization of a fully superconducting motor based on disk-up-down-assembly magnets“ accepted manuscript *Superconducting Science and Technology* - to be published soon]

Stator topology	AC losses (W)	Iron losses (W)	Armature current density (A/mm ²)	Specific power density (kW/kg)
Parallel teeth and 4 mm coils	1302	6980	102.30	9.98
Parallel slots and 4 mm coils	1317	6830	105.04	10.32
Parallel teeth and 2x2mm coils	1348	6520	105.87	10.89
Parallel slots and 2x2mm coils	1384	6160	110.75	11.55

The losses and specific power density of the four stator topologies while achieving an efficiency of 98%.

DUDA is enabling extremely compact high-current density windings of outstanding performance (>11 kW/kg @98%)

Conclusion

- ▮ **TransHyDE** develops storage and transport infrastructures for green hydrogen and addresses various H₂ transport vectors (gH₂ in pipelines and containers, LH₂, NH₃, LOHC)
- ▮ The TransHyDE project **AppLHy!** focuses on LH₂ and addresses key elements along the LH₂ supply chain:
 - ▮ H₂ liquefaction
 - ▮ Efficient storage systems
 - ▮ LH₂ transportation and transfer
 - ▮ Hybrid Pipelines
 - ▮ Applications and synergies of LH₂ – e.g. LH₂-cooled superconducting motor of high power density
- ▮ A **whitepaper LH₂** was prepared from authors of the AppLHy! project, available online:
 - ▮ [Link to the Whitepaper on LH₂](#)