

International Conference  
On Harmonics and Quality of Power, ICHQP  
Ljubljana 2018

**Why the Power Theory has a Limited Contribution  
to Studies on the Supply and Loading Quality  
?**

**Leszek S. Czarnecki**  
Louisiana State University, USA

Harmonics were born  
in 1822

**in Jean Baptist FOURIER  
mind.**

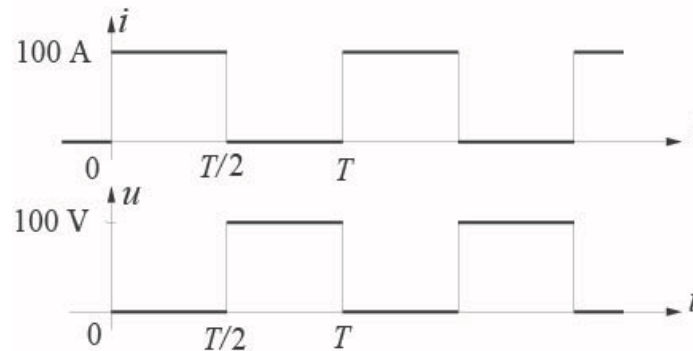
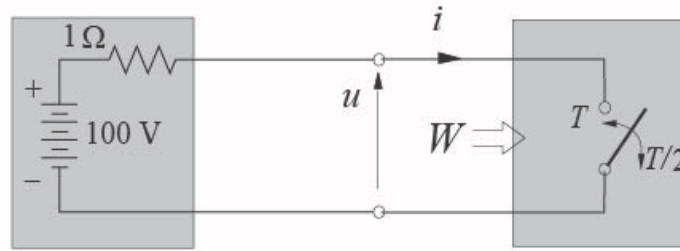
Fourier used them for a description of the heat transfer

**Harmonics do not exist  
as physical entities**

“a harmonic”  
is only a mathematical concept

When a harmonic leaves our mind and attempts  
to live  
as a physical entity

**it can cause  
major misconceptions on power phenomena**



$$u(t) = U_0 + \sqrt{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n \cos(n\omega_1 t + \alpha_n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n \quad i(t) = I_0 + \sqrt{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \cos(n\omega_1 t + \beta_n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} i_n$$

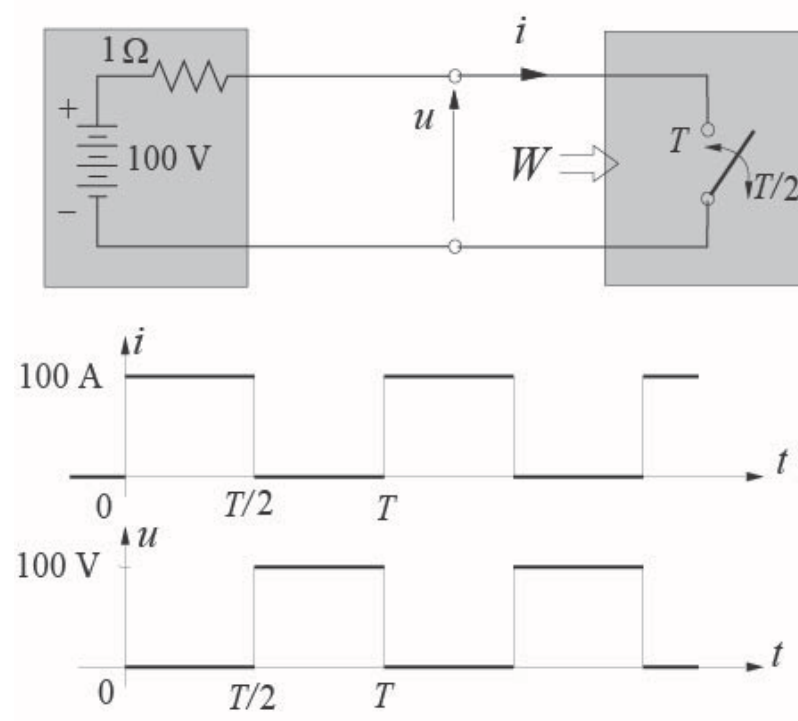
If harmonics do exist as physical entities,  
than the rate of the energy flow

$$p(t) = \frac{dW}{dt} = u(t) i(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} u_r \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} i_s = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n \cos(n\omega_1 t + \psi_n)$$

is an infinite sum of oscillating components

$$p(t) = u(t) i(t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} u_r \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} i_s = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n \cos(n\omega_1 t + \psi_n)$$

If harmonics are physical quantities, the energy flows even in an open circuit



$$p(t) = \frac{dW}{dt} = u(t) i(t) = 0$$

It is not clear, who used for the first time  
the phrase:

**“power quality”**

Taking into account that

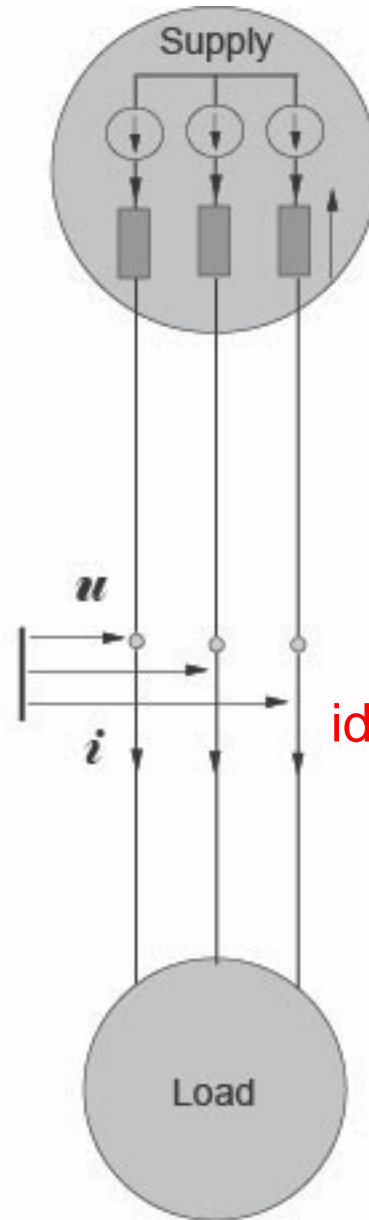
**the power  
does not have quality**

the career of this phrase  
into papers, journals, conferences, company names

**is really astonishing**

**“Power Quality Meter”:**

Voltage & current asymmetry  
Voltage & current harmonics  
Transients  
High frequency noise  
Rms value variance



?

Where are  
sources of deviation  
from  
ideal voltages and currents

?

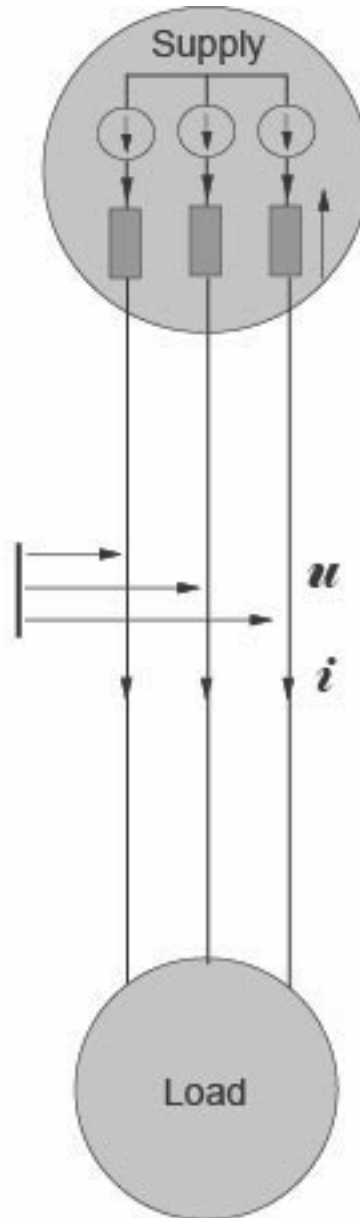


Voltage asymmetry  
Voltage harmonics  
Transients  
High frequency noise  
Rms value variance

**Degraded supply quality  
SQ**



**Reduction  
of energy conversion  
effectiveness  
and  
financial losses**



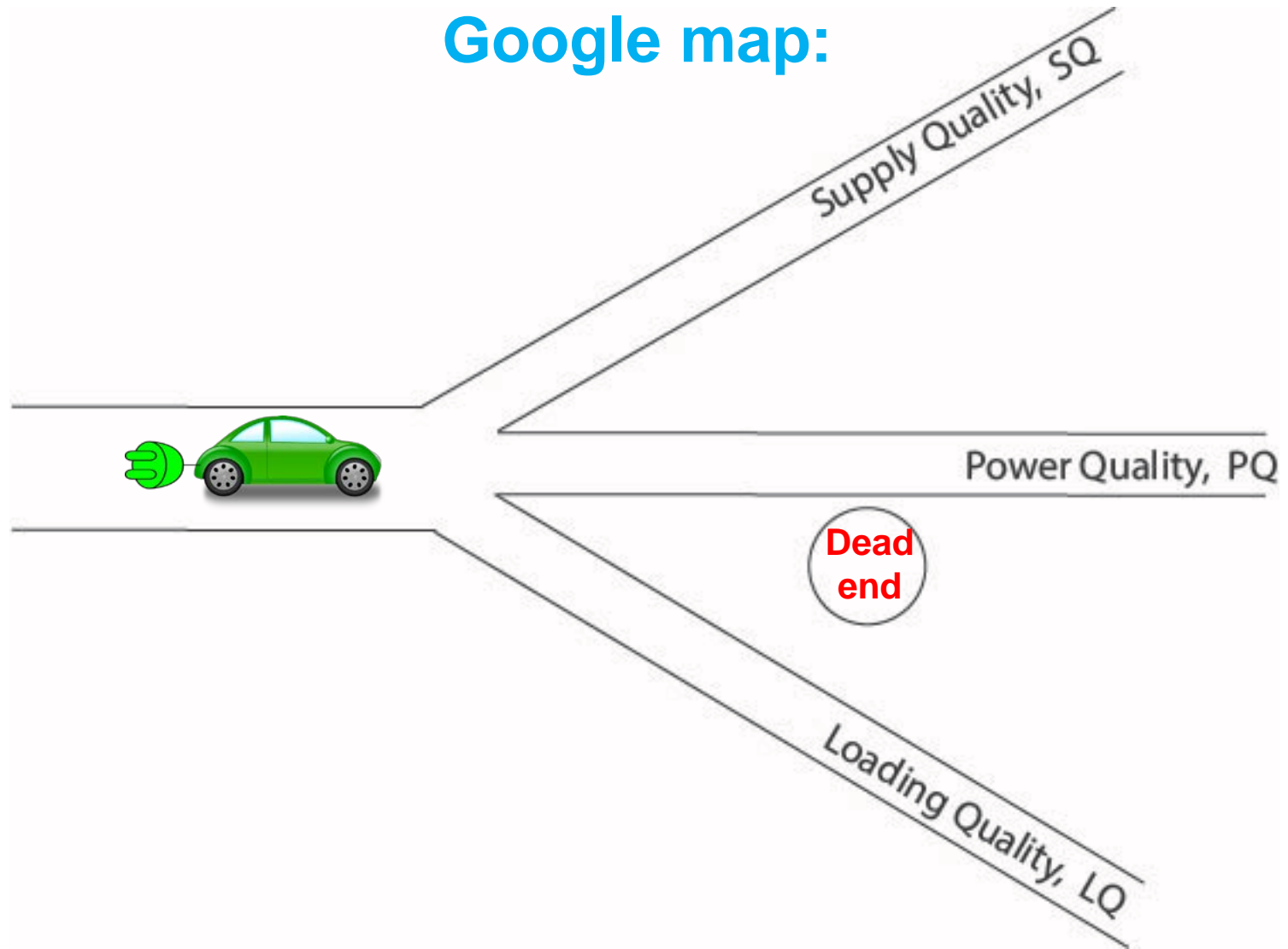
**Profits reduction**

**Degraded loading quality  
LQ**



Reactive current  
Scattered current  
Unbalanced current  
Current harmonics  
HF noise  
Transient currents  
current with variable rms value

## Google map:



Power properties of a load,  
its powers, power factor, generated distortion, asymmetry,  
current RMS variation  
are a components  
of the Loading Quality (LQ)

Components of a degraded  
Supply Quality (SQ),

meaning

the supply voltage distortion, variation of the RMS value,  
asymmetry, transients

affect

power properties of the load

Therefore,

studies on the Loading Quality (LQ), on the Supply Quality (SQ)

and studies on Power Properties (Power Theory)  
of electrical systems

**cannot be separated.**

Why the Power Theory has a Limited Contribution  
to Studies on the Supply and Loading Quality  
?

There are two reasons for that:

**The first reason:**

Explenation of power phenomena  
in systems with nonsinusoidal voltages and currents  
has occured to be

one of the most difficult problems  
of the electrical engineering

**The second reason:**

## **A Misconceptions Defence System (MDS)**

has evolved in the Electrical Engineering community  
to defend various misconceptions  
often trusted  
with a sort of a religious zeal





**Charles Proteus Steinmetz**



Einstein and Steinmetz.

**In Einstein's company...**

Hundreds scientists worked on it  
and hundreds papers over the whole XIX century  
were published.

A lot of mutually conflicting concepts and  
misinterpretations  
were dissaminated in the electrical engineering

The most advanced results  
of studies  
on power properties of electrical systems and compensation  
were obtained in the frame of  
the Currents' Physical Components (CPC) – based Power Theory

The very core of CPC is the load current decomposition

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{i}}(t) = \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_a(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_r(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_s(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^n(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^p(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^z(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_G(t)$$

All, seven, current components  
are associated  
with distinctive physical phenomena in the load

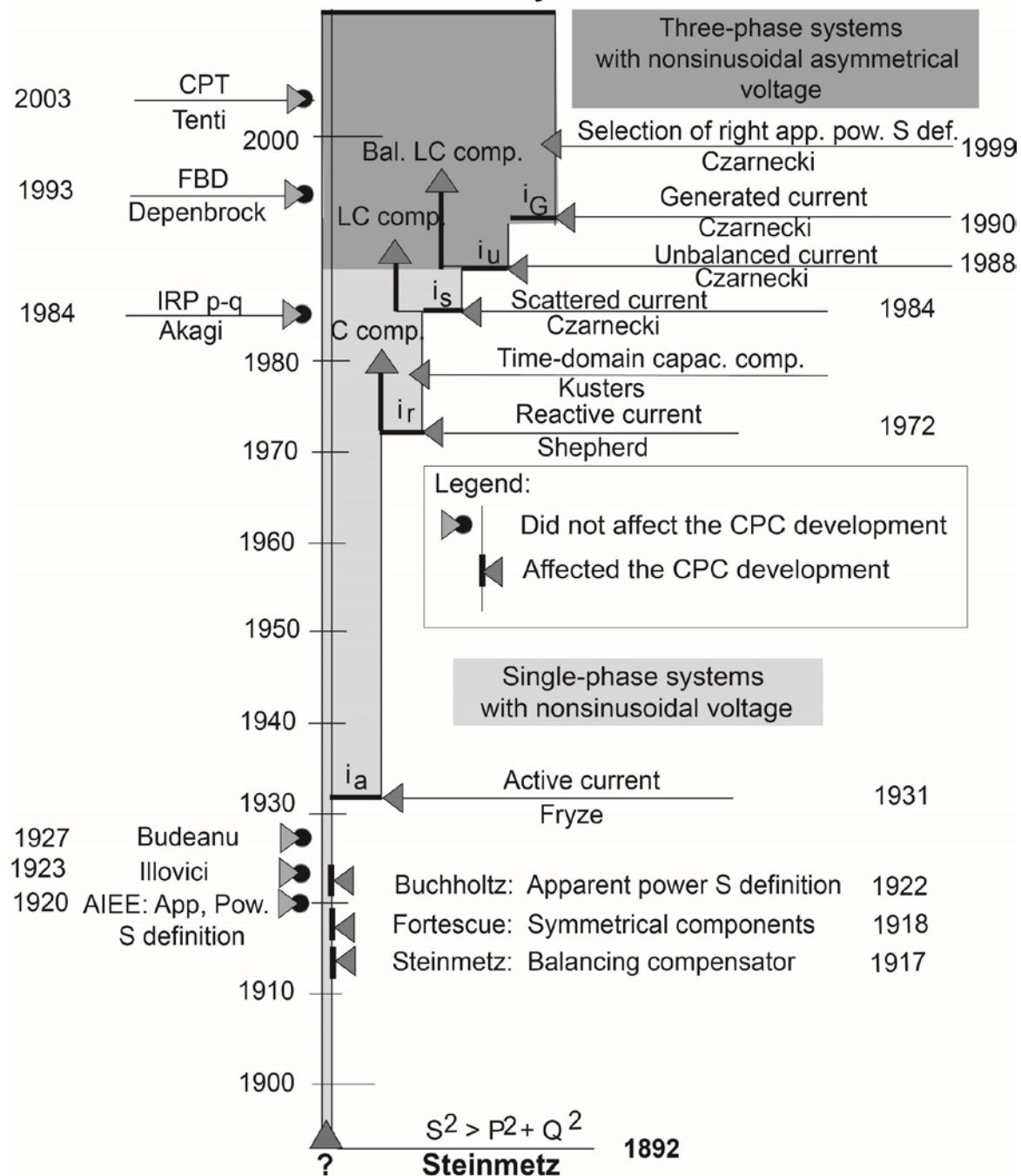
This decomposition  
is valid  
for electrical systems of any complexity and any load

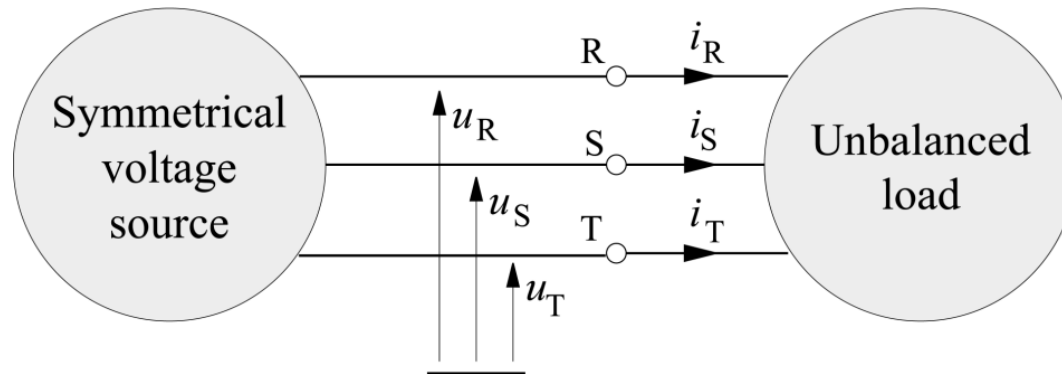
All currents in CPC decomposition  
**are mutually orthogonal**  
so that their three-phase RMS values  $\|\cdot\|$   
satisfy the relationship

$$\|\mathbf{i}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{i}_a\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_r\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_s\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_u^n\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_u^p\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_u^z\|^2 + \|\mathbf{i}_G\|^2$$

# Currents' Physical Components (CPC)

## Power Theory





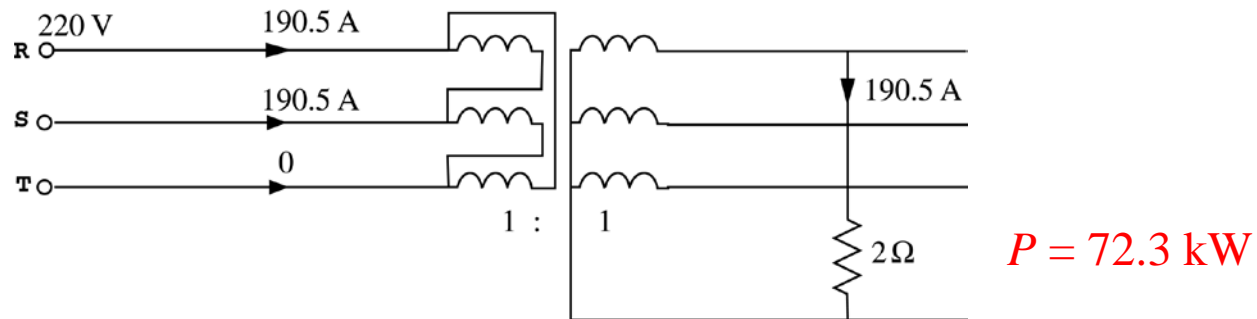
Apparent power definitions:

$$S = S_A = U_R I_R + U_S I_S + U_T I_T$$

$$S = S_G = \sqrt{P^2 + Q^2}$$

$$S = S_B = \sqrt{U_R^2 + U_S^2 + U_T^2} \sqrt{I_R^2 + I_S^2 + I_T^2}$$

Which of these three definitions is right?



$$S = S_A = U_R I_R + U_S I_S + U_T I_T = 83.8 \text{ kVA}$$

$$S = S_G = \sqrt{P^2 + Q^2} = 72.3 \text{ kVA}$$

$$S = S_B = \sqrt{U_R^2 + U_S^2 + U_T^2} \sqrt{I_R^2 + I_S^2 + I_T^2} = 102.7 \text{ kVA}$$

$$\lambda_A = \frac{P}{S_A} = 0.86 \quad \lambda_G = \frac{P}{S_G} = 1 \quad \lambda_B = \frac{P}{S_B} = 0.71$$

Which is the right value of the power factor?



I demonstrated that the energy loss at its delivery  
is related to the power factor  $\lambda = P/S$   
only if  
the apparent power  $S$  is calculated  
from definition

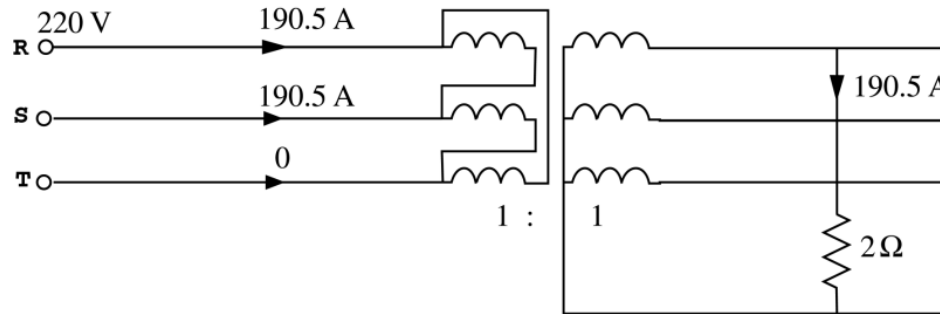
$$S = \sqrt{U_R^2 + U_S^2 + U_T^2} \sqrt{I_R^2 + I_S^2 + I_T^2}$$

Apparent power definitions:

$$S = U_R I_R + U_S I_S + U_T I_T$$

$$S = \sqrt{P^2 + Q^2}$$

result in a wrong value of the power factor  $\lambda$



$$S = \sqrt{U_R^2 + U_S^2 + U_T^2} \sqrt{I_R^2 + I_S^2 + I_T^2} = 102.7 \text{ kVA}$$

$$P = 72.6 \text{ kW}, \quad Q = 0$$

A common power equation has the form:

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q^2$$

$$102.7^2 = 72.6^2 + \text{????}$$

I have never met a power system engineer  
who was able to write a power equation for a three-phase system

## Misconceptions Defense System (MDS) in action:

According to reviewers and the editor:

Apparent power definitions and power factor  
are not sufficiently important  
to publish the described above problem  
in IEEE Trans. on Power Delivery

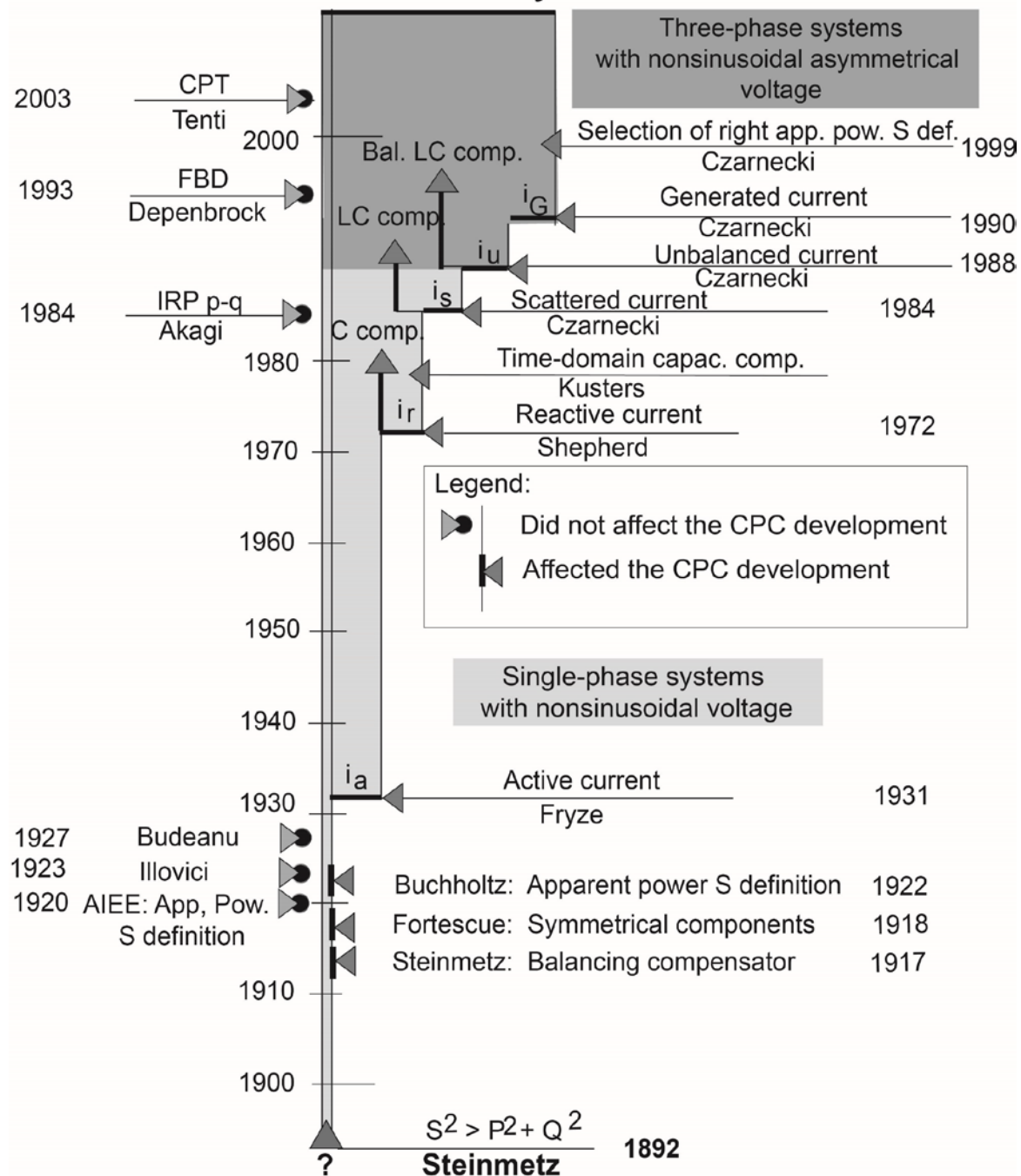
It was published in German journal  
Archiv fur Elektrotechnik:

L.S. Czarnecki, "Energy flow and power phenomena in electrical circuits:  
illusions and reality," *Archiv fur Elektrotechnik*, (82), No. 4, pp. 10-15, 1999.

The EE community is well protected, however:  
This paper cannot be found on the IEEE Xplore

# Currents' Physical Components (CPC)

## Power Theory



## 1927: C.I. Budeanu:

Reactive power:

$$Q = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n I_n \sin \varphi_n$$

Distortion power:

$$D = \sqrt{S^2 - (P^2 + Q^2)}$$

## 1987: L.S. Czarnecki:

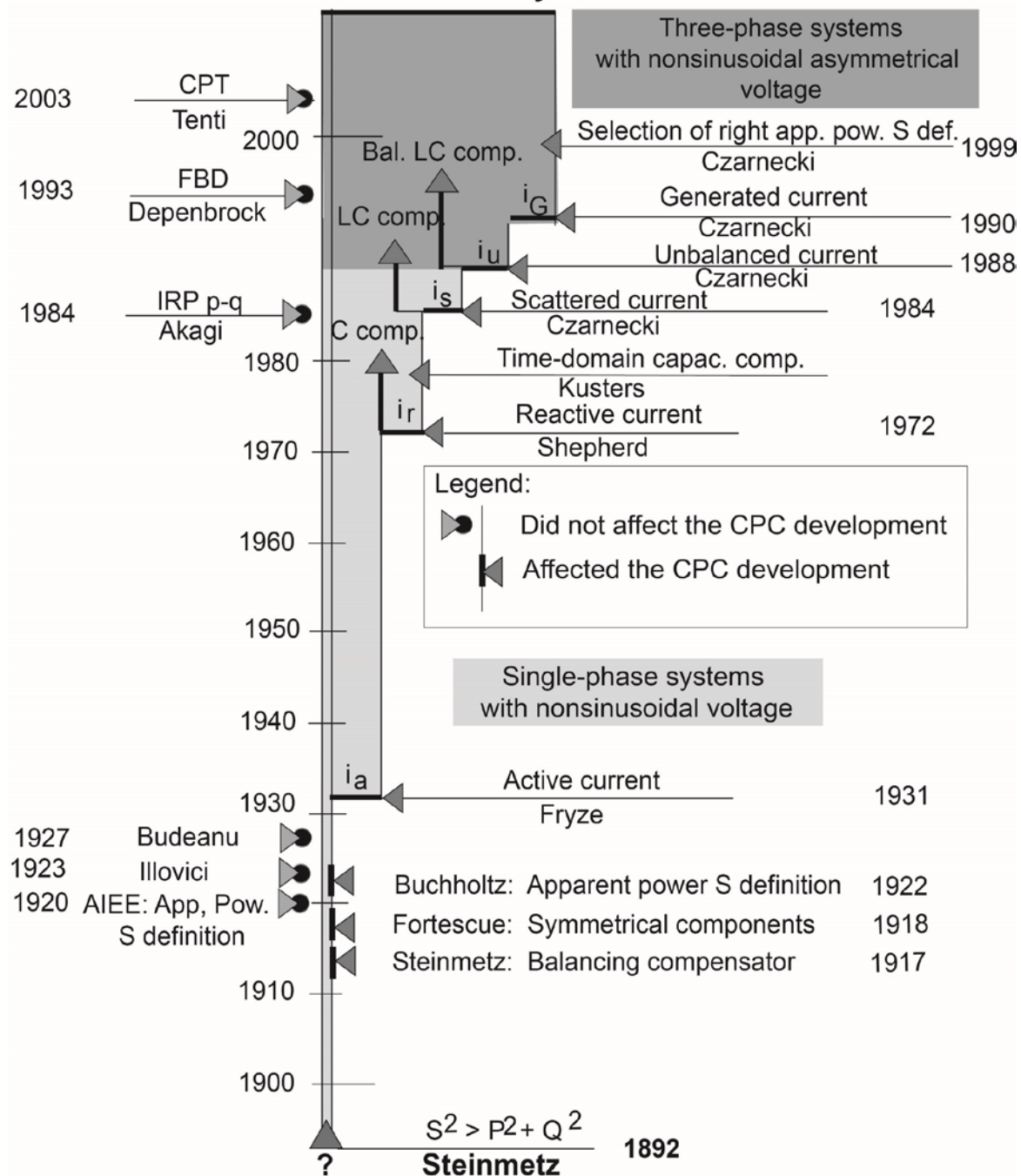
What is wrong with the Budeanu's concept of reactive and distortion powers  
and why it should be abandoned,  
IEEE Trans. on Instrumentation and Measurements

**2000: – The Misconceptions Defense System  
in action:**

The IEEE Standard 1459  
adopted, by a poll (!!),  
Budeanu's definitions of the reactive and distortion powers

# Currents' Physical Components (CPC)

## Power Theory

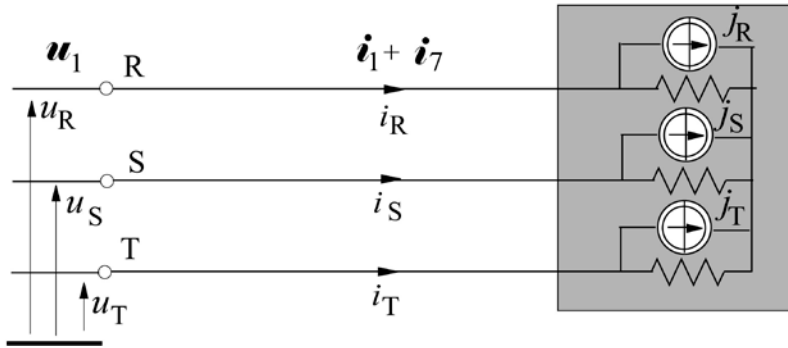




## Instantaneous Reactive Power pq Theory

$$u_R = \sqrt{2} U_1 \cos \omega_1 t,$$

$$i_R = \sqrt{2} I_1 \cos \omega_1 t + \sqrt{2} I_7 \cos 7\omega_1 t$$

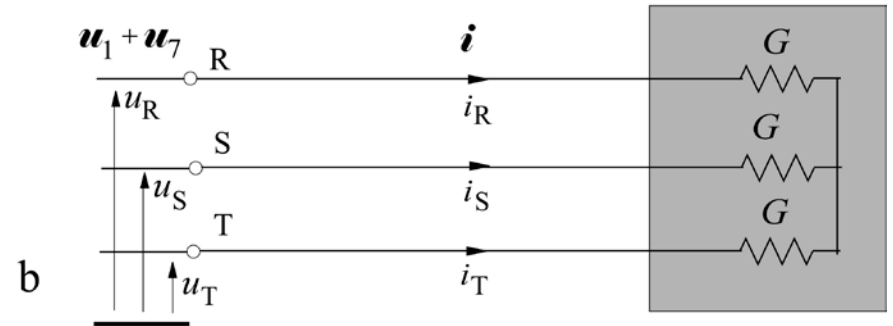


$$p = \bar{p} + \tilde{p} = 3U_1 I_1 + 3U_1 I_7 \cos 6\omega_1 t$$

$$q = 0$$

$$u_R = \sqrt{2} U_1 \cos \omega_1 t + \sqrt{2} U_7 \cos 7\omega_1 t$$

$$\mathbf{i} = G \mathbf{u}$$



$$p = \bar{p} + \tilde{p} = P + 6GU_1 U_7 \cos 6\omega_1 t$$

$$q = 0$$

These two circuits,  
substantially different with respect to properties  
are identical in terms of IRP p-q Theory

# The Instantaneous Reactive Power $pq$ Theory misinterpretes power phenomena

2000: – The Misconceptions Defense System  
in action:

A reviewer of IEEE Transactions on Power Electronics:

“Everybody in EE community knows that  
The Instantaneous Reactive Power  $pq$  Theory  
is perfectly right:  
– reject the paper”.

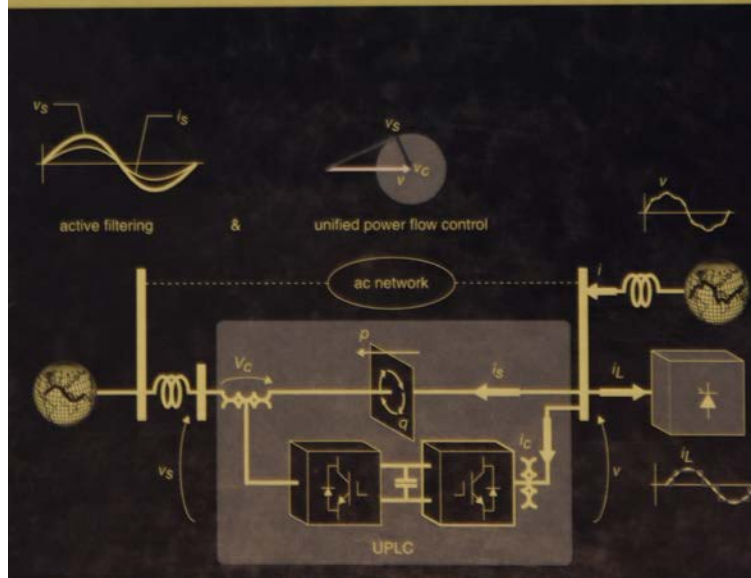
In the original paper on IRP  $pq$   
published in 1983  
the physical meaning  
of the Instantaneous Reactive Power  $q$   
was not provided

This physical meaning  
was for years  
a subject of studies and debates

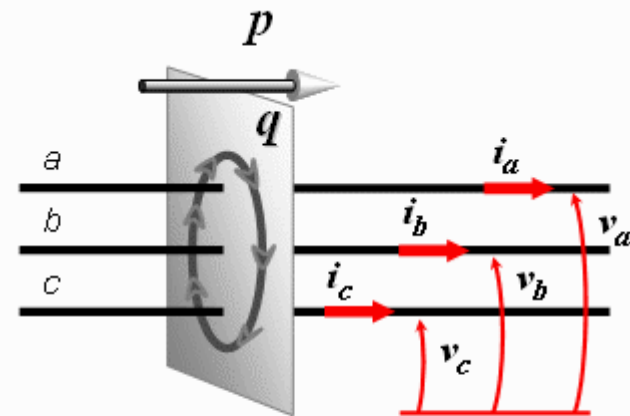
The physical meaning of  $q$  was provided  
24 years later, in 2007,  
in the book:

# Instantaneous Power Theory and Applications to Power Conditioning

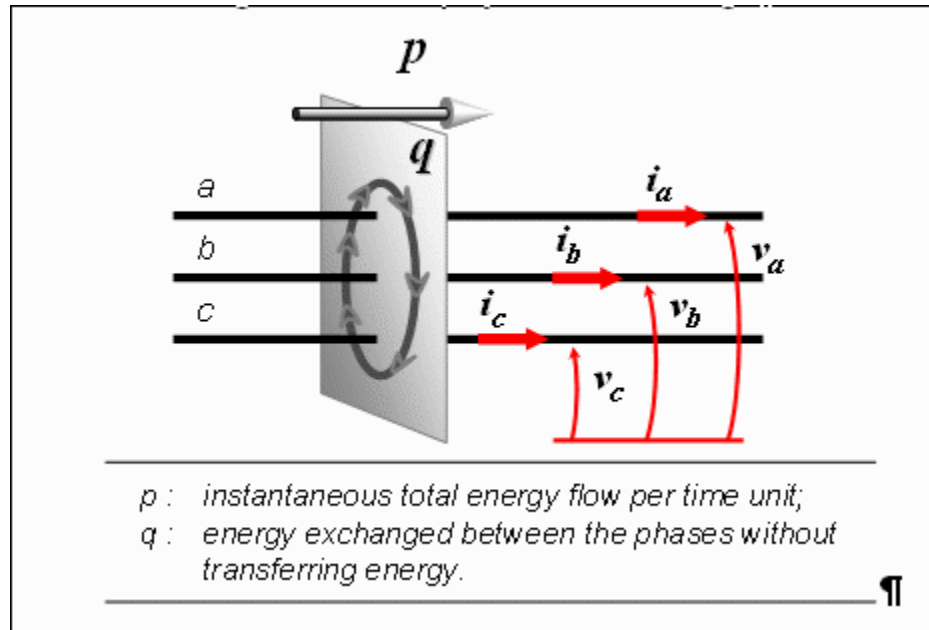
Hirofumi Akagi  
Edson Hirokazu Watanabe  
Mauricio Aredes



*“...the imaginary power  $q$  is proportional to the quantity of energy that is being exchanged between the phases of the system...” “Figure”..” summarizes the above explanations about the real and imaginary powers.”*



$p$  : instantaneous total energy flow per time unit;  
 $q$  : energy exchanged between the phases without transferring energy.



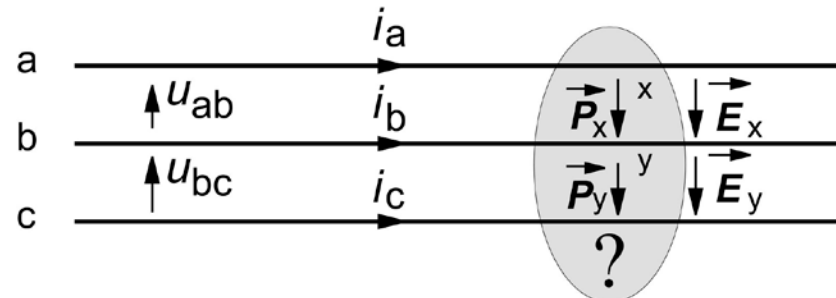
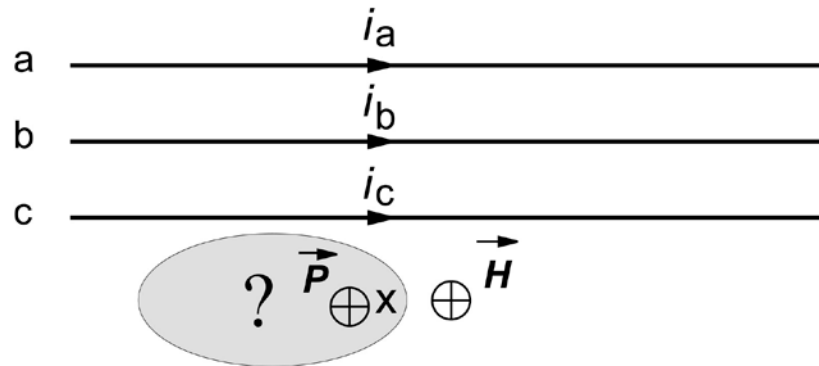
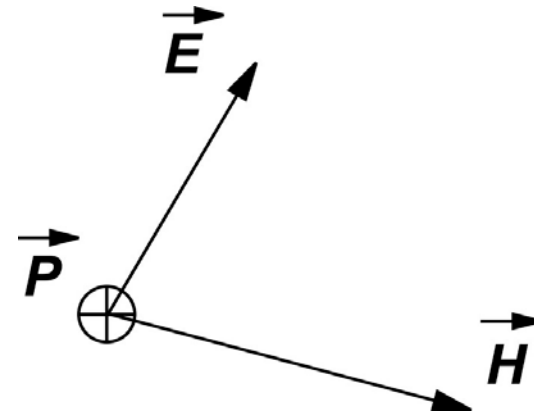
The phrase:

“ $q$ : energy exchange between the phases without transferring energy”

It seems  
it was supported  
by the Misinterpretations Defense System

# The energy flows in the direction of the Poynting Vector

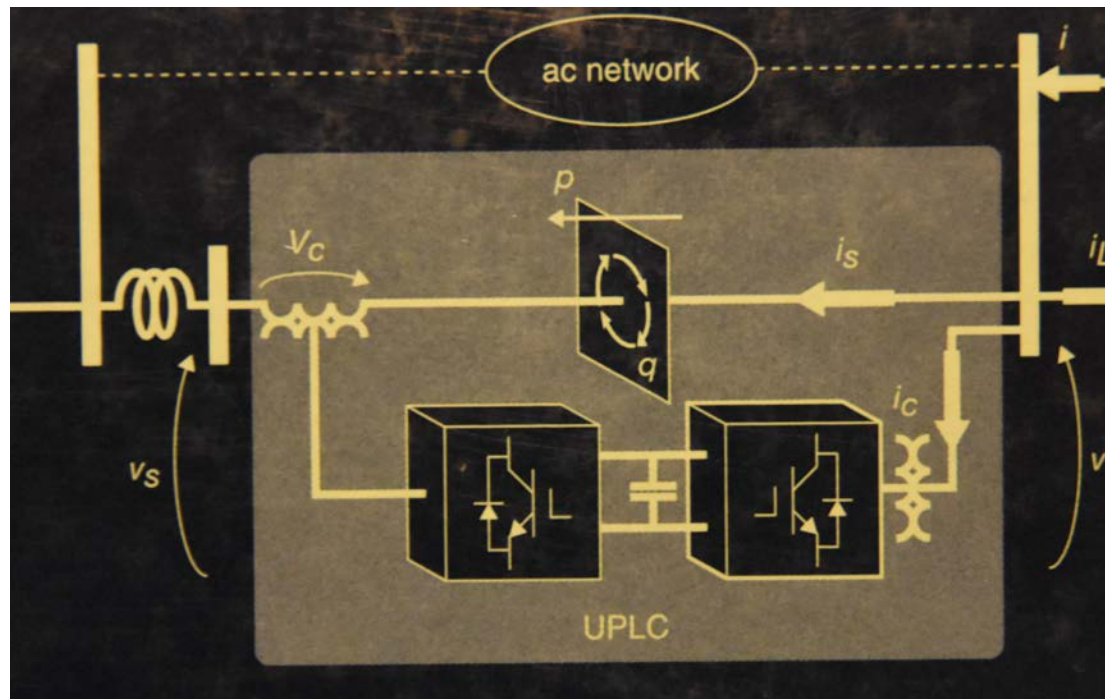
$$\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$$



## The MDS in action:

A reviewer for IEEE Trans. on Power Electronics:

“The author should provide with the manuscript the result of a poll run over the EE community, that this picture indeed suggests the energy rotation around supply lines”



2001: Z. Cekarski, A.E. Emanuel:  
“Poynting Vector and the Power Quality of Electric Energy”  
*European Transactions on Electric Power*

They suggested  
that power properties of electrical systems  
and the power quality  
should be described only in terms of the Poynting Vector

$$\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$$

Several papers followed this suggestion



The Misconceptions Defense System  
has failed  
to defense this idea, however

In the paper:

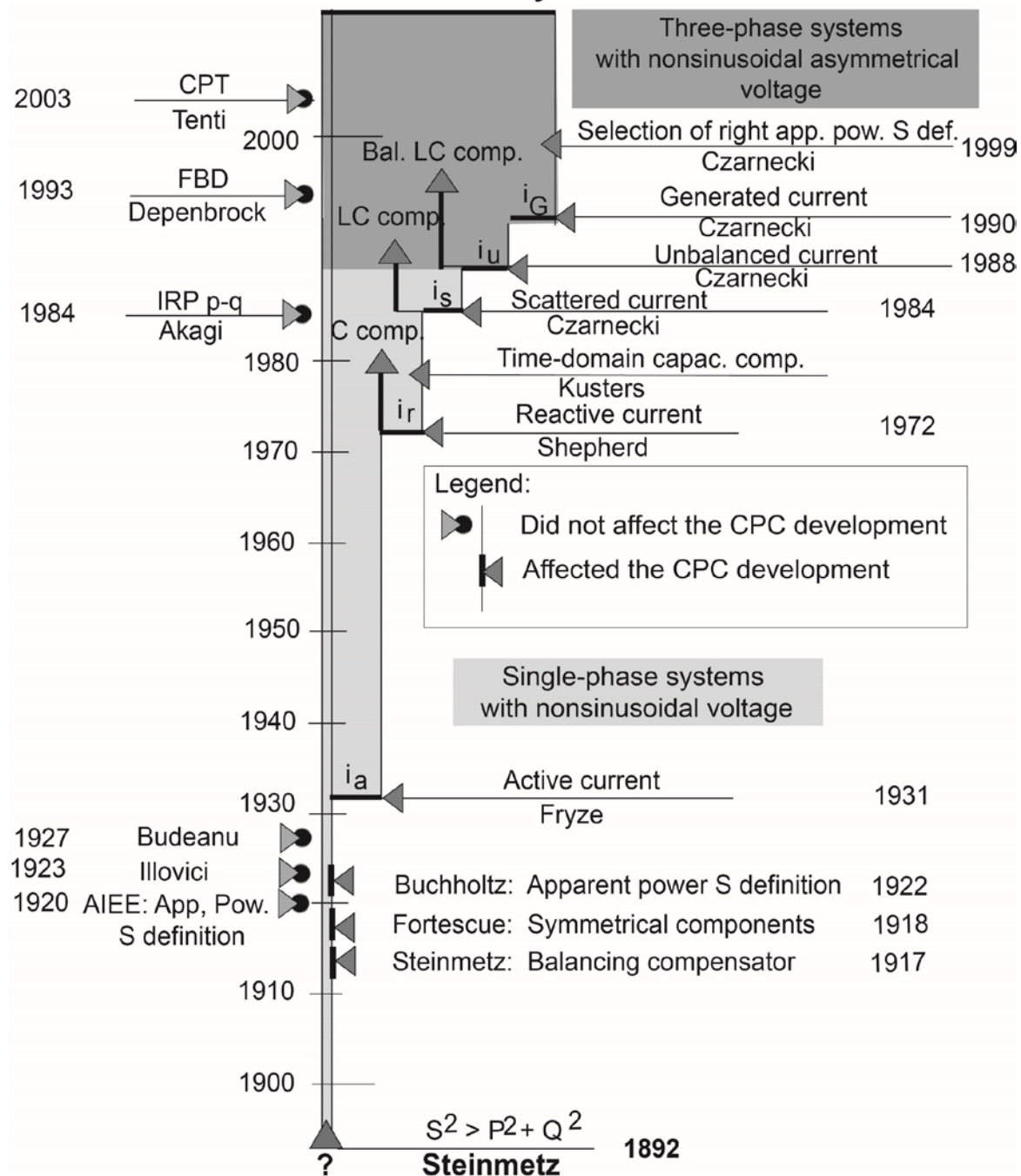
L.S. Czarnecki, “Could power properties of three-phase systems  
be described in terms of the Poynting Vector?”  
*IEEE Transactions on Power Delivery, 2006*

*It was shown that this idea has no sense*

We do not see papers  
on powers in terms of the Poynting Vector  
any more

# Currents' Physical Components (CPC)

## Power Theory



# Conservative Power Theory (CPT)

developed in 2003 by P. Tenti

This is a sort of the time-domain version  
of the Budeanu's power theory

**CPT:**

in the time-domain

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q_T^2 + D_T^2$$

**Budeanu:**

in the frequency-domain

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q_B^2 + D_B^2$$

**CPT:**

in the time-domain

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q_T^2 + D_T^2$$

**Budeanu:**

in the frequency-domain

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q_B^2 + D_B^2$$

**Analogy:**

There are no physical phenomena associated  
with the reactive and distortion powers

They do not provide right fundamentals  
for compensation

The reactive power in CPT is conservative  
in the same sense  
as the reactive power in Budeanu

There is a major difference, however.

In 1987, the paper:

L.S. Czarnecki, "What is wrong with the Budeanu's concept of the reactive and distortion powers and why it should be abandoned,"  
sent to  
*IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurements*  
was published

30 years later, the paper:

L.S. Czarnecki, "Critical comments on the Conservative Power Theory,"  
sent to  
*IEEE Transactions on Power Delivery*  
was rejected

## The effects of this difference:

We do not see papers on Budeanu's power theory  
and its applications, now,

while  
on the IEEE Xplore we can find  
more than 250 papers, including seven in the IEEE Transactions  
on  
applications of the Conservative Power Theory  
!

There are, of course, major errors in these papers,  
but perfectly protected by the Misconceptions Defense System

## Summary

Even if

power properties  
of electrical systems are not the main subject of studies  
on  
the Loading Quality (LQ)  
&  
the Supply Quality (SQ)

these properties are very important for such studies

## Summary

The Power Theory,  
which should be able to describe these properties  
cannot do help in these studies very much  
because of

numerous misconceptions on power properties  
of electrical systems

protected by sort of

a Misconceptions Defense System



# Summary

The Misconceptions Defense System

is nothing else than  
an exemplification the very fundamental Law of the Nature.

Sir Isaak Newton  
called

The Action and Reaction Principle

# Summary

Fortunately, this Principle does not stop  
the forward movement  
and eventually

The Currents' Physical Components (CPC) – based Power Theory  
shall be taught in power programs

# Summary

## The current decomposition into Physical Components

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{i}}(t) = \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_a(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_r(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_s(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^n(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^p(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_u^z(t) + \dot{\boldsymbol{i}}_G(t)$$

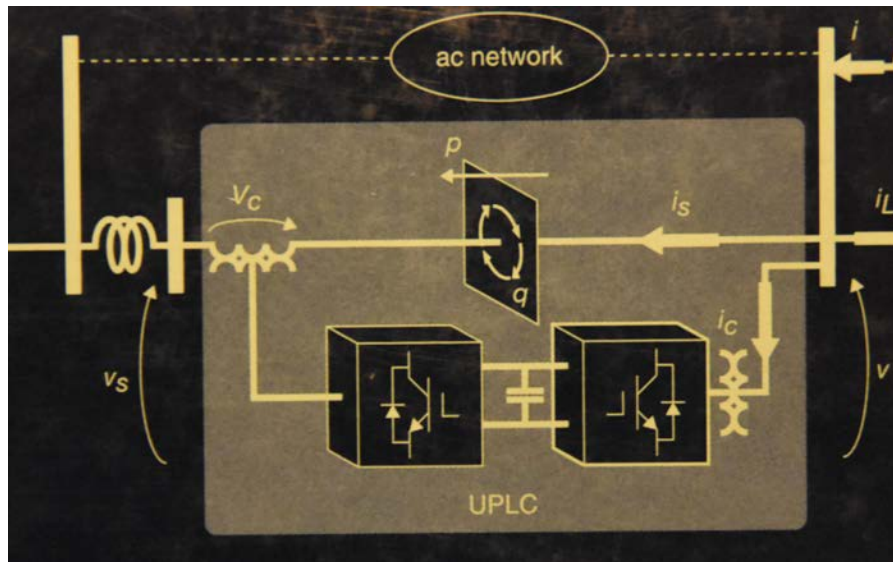
- Explains the energy flow related phenomena in systems of any complexity, linear, non-linear, and with periodic switching.
- Provides fundamentals for reactive compensator design.
- Provides fundamentals for switching compensator control.
- It was never challenged as incorrect.

## Summary

The CPC – based Power Theory  
provides  
a powerful tool for studies on SQ and LQ

# Summary

The activity  
of the Misconceptions Defense System  
makes the research on power properties of electrical systems  
even more exciting,  
it provides new challenges  
and a bit of fun,  
like this:



A reviewer for IEEE Trans. on Power Electronics:

“The author should provide with the manuscript the result of a poll, run over the EE community, that this picture indeed suggests the energy rotation around supply lines”

Thanks for your attantion!!