



*Performance  
Analysis of DC  
Primary Power  
Protection in  
Railway Cars using  
EMTP-RV*

Event: EMTP-RV User Group meeting

Location: New Orleans

Presenter: Maxime Berger

Title: Jr. Eng., M.A.Sc. candidate

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**Further details will be provided in the following reference:**

M. Berger, C. Lavertu, I. Kocar, J. Mahseredjian, « Performance Analysis of DC Primary Power Protection in Railway Cars using a Transient Analysis Tool », Vehicle Power and Propulsion Conference (VPPC), 2015 IEEE, Oct. 2015 [Digest Accepted]

## *Performance Analysis of DC Primary Power Protection in Railway Cars using EMTP-RV*

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# Agenda

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**Introduction**

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**Why using a transient simulation tool?**

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**Building the model**

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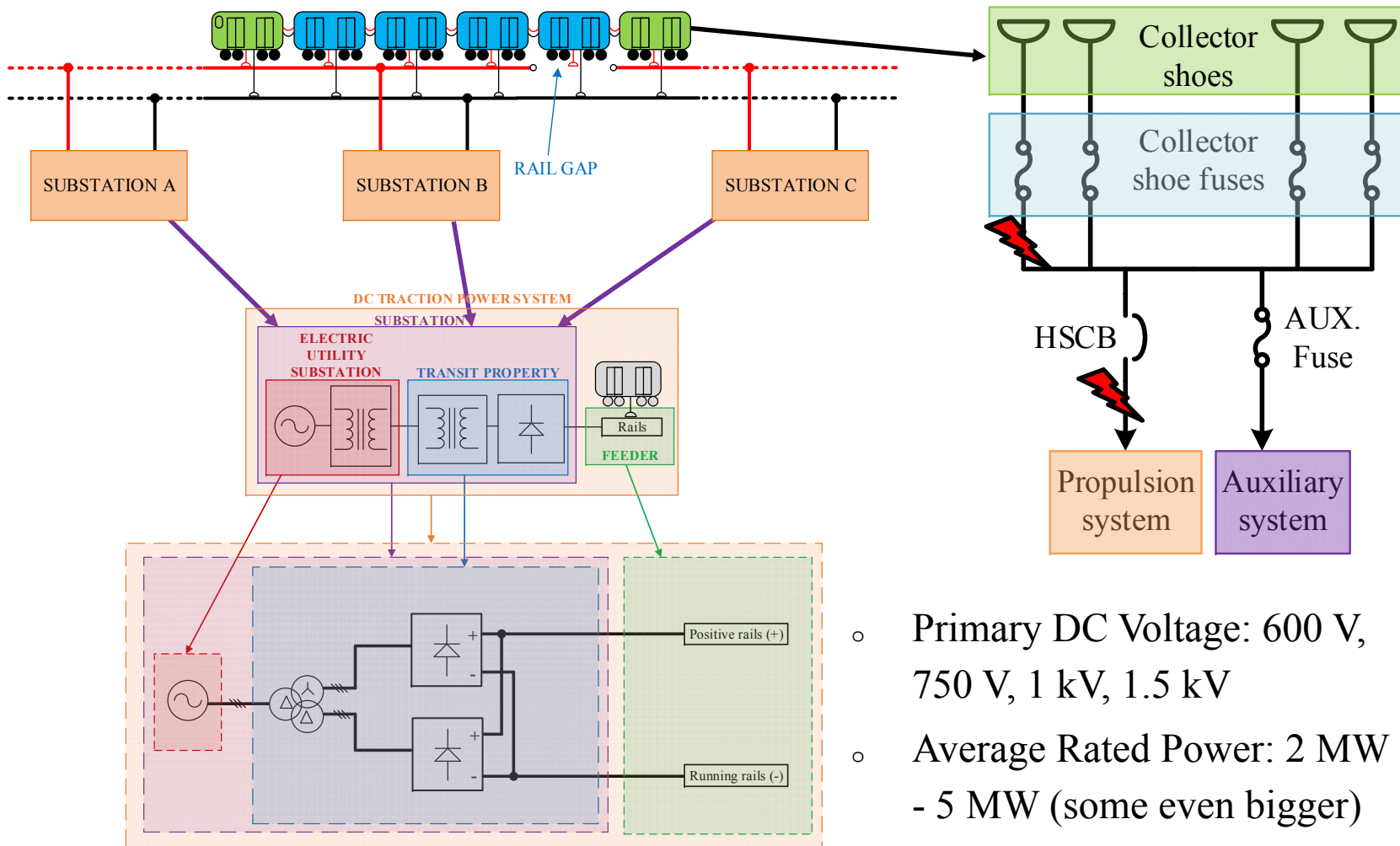
**Case Study**

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**Conclusion**

# Introduction

## Context



- Primary DC Voltage: 600 V, 750 V, 1 kV, 1.5 kV
- Average Rated Power: 2 MW - 5 MW (some even bigger)

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## Introduction

### Short-Circuit Protection Studies in Railway Cars

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#### General Objectives:

- Equipment and cables protection
- Limit high thermal and magnetic energy (typically undercar)

#### Specific Objectives:

- Determine available fault level
  - Define Ratings and Settings of the protective devices
  - Evaluate fault duration
  - Assess selectivity of protective devices
  - Determine protection performance under different scenarios
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## Why using a transient analysis tool ?

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A transient analysis tool is used since:

- Traditional AC RMS Time-Current Curves (TCCs) are of a limited use in DC.
- AC Let-Through Curves are also of limited use and may not be always available in DC.

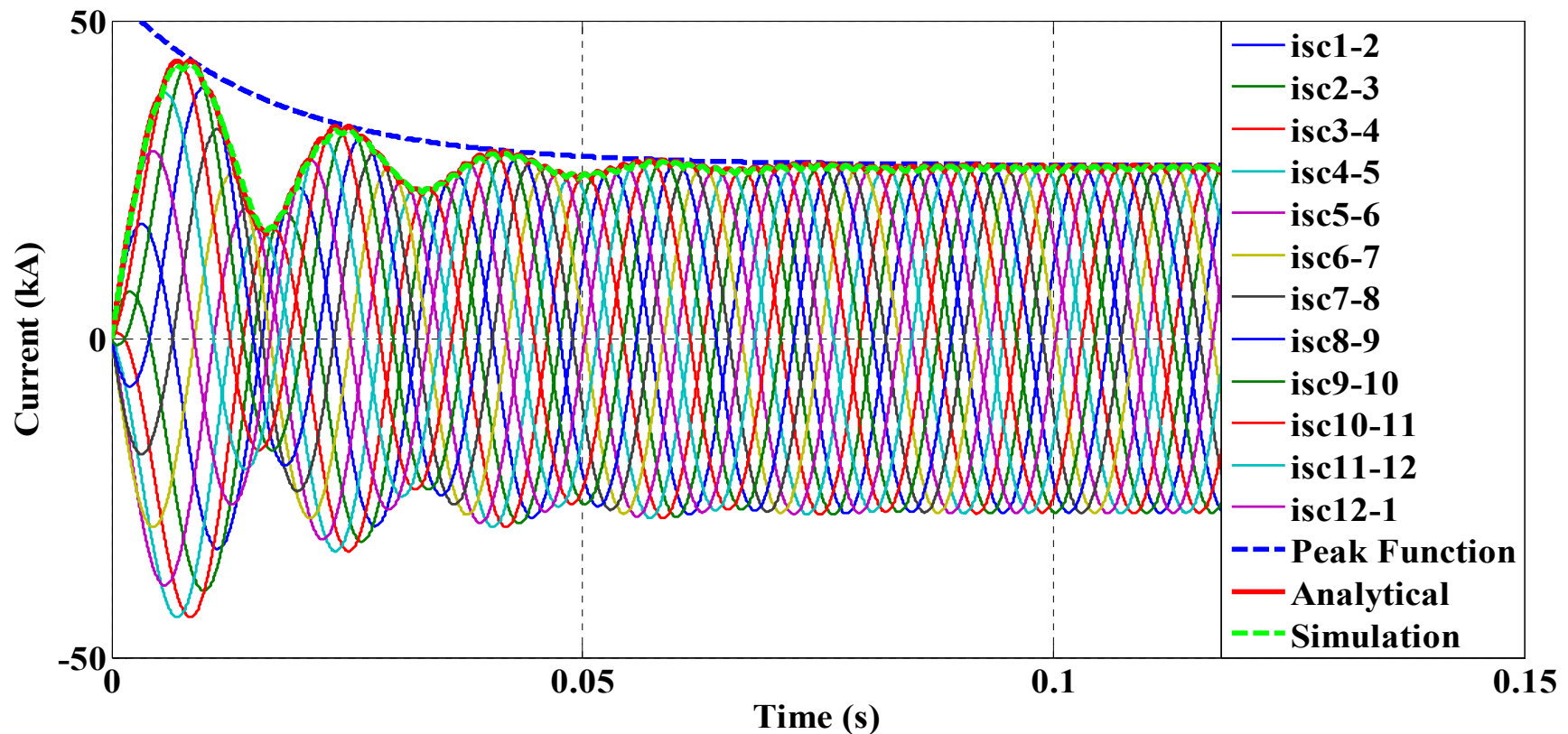
We will see why...

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# Why using a transient analysis tool ?

## Short Circuit Current Waveform

- ❑ Short-circuit current waveform depends on the substation rectifiers transient response: It is neither AC nor DC [8].



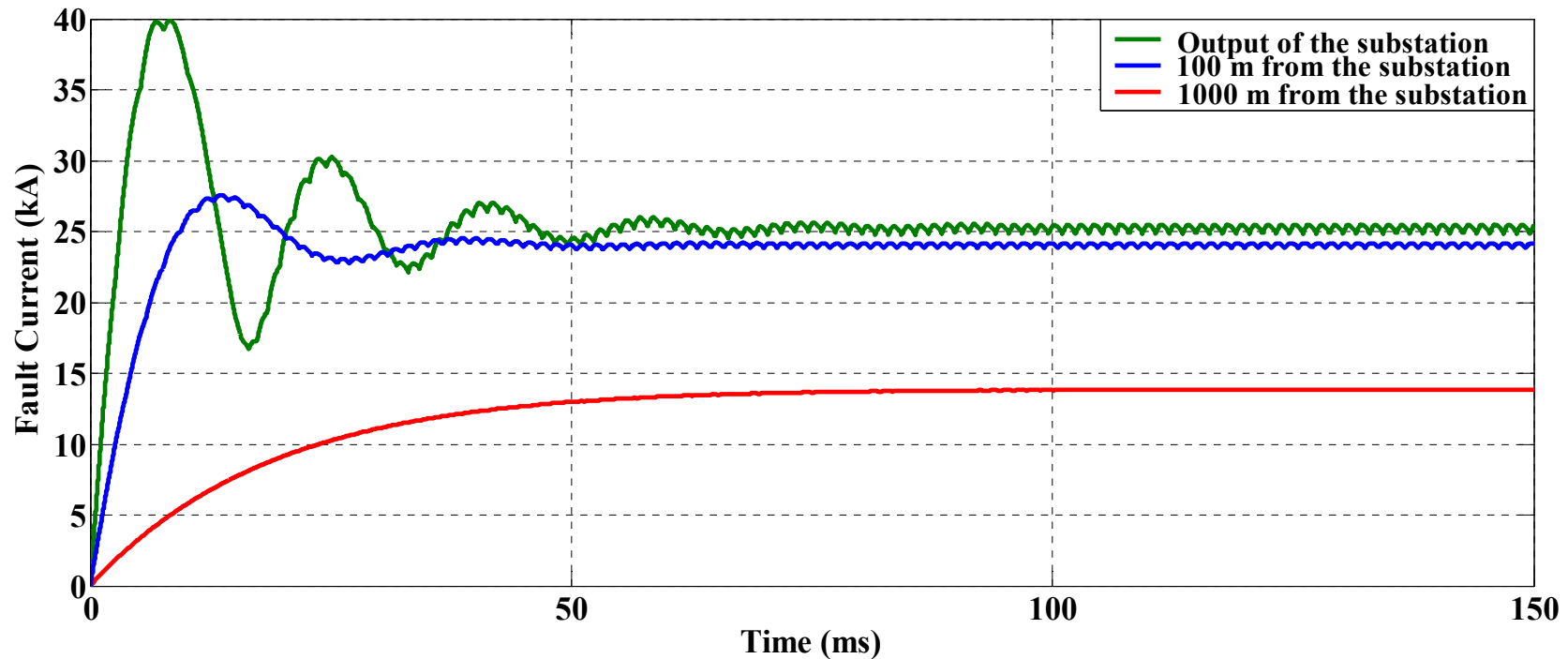
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# Why using a transient analysis tool ?

## Fault Level

- ❑ Fault level depends on the location of the train throughout the DC traction system due to the track parameters – (Close, Max. Energy, Remote)



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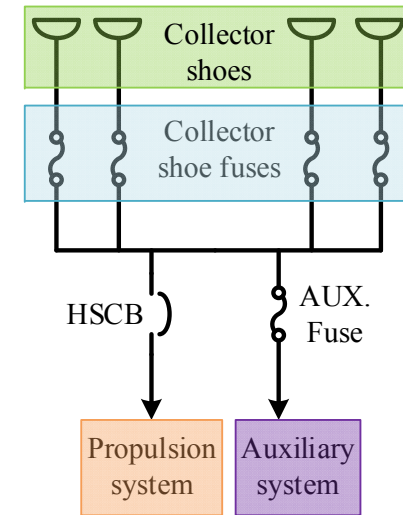
# Why using a transient analysis tool ?

## Current-Limiting Fuses vs High Speed Circuit Breaker

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### ❑ Current-Limiting Fuses (CLF) and High Speed Circuit Breaker (HSCB) :

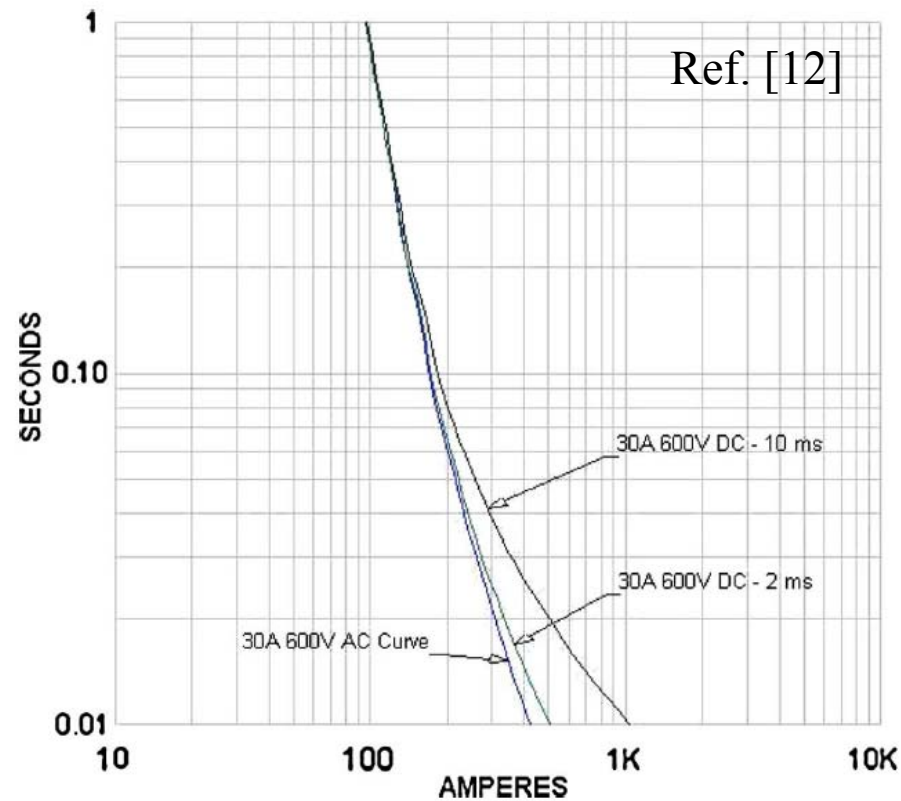
- ❖ Different detection mechanisms:
  - HSCB: Magnetic
  - CLF: Thermal
- ❖ Sophisticated arcing mechanism.
- ❖ MOST IMPORTANT: Likely to break transient current.
- ❖ Downstream HSCB energy limitation have an impact on the energy seen by the upstream fuses.



# Why using a transient analysis tool ?

## CLF vs HSCB – Detection mechanism

- ❑ Effect of the fault circuit L/R ratio on fuse Time-Current Curve (TCC)

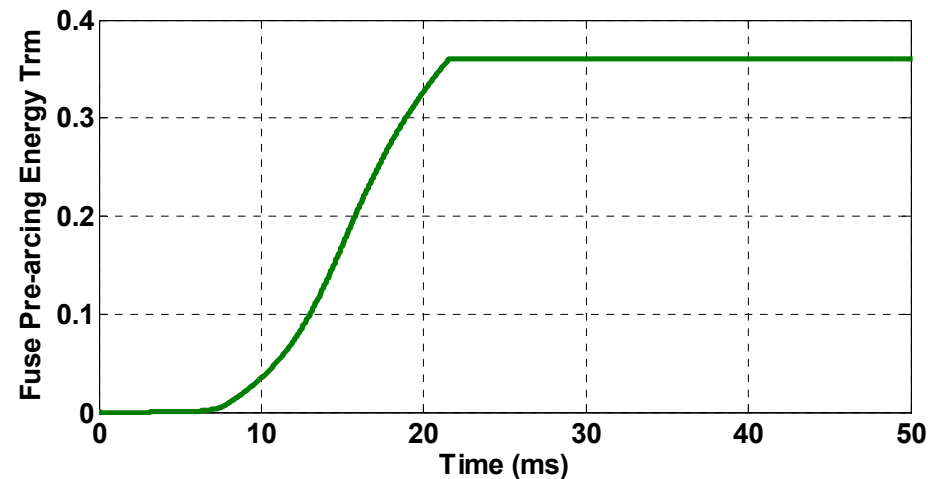
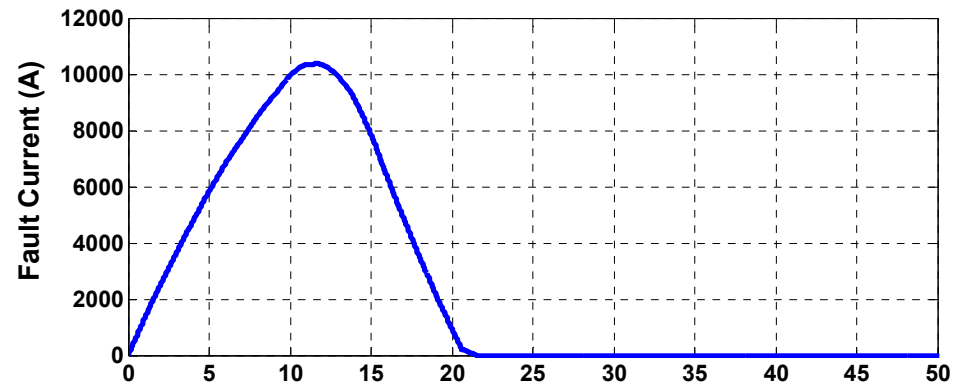
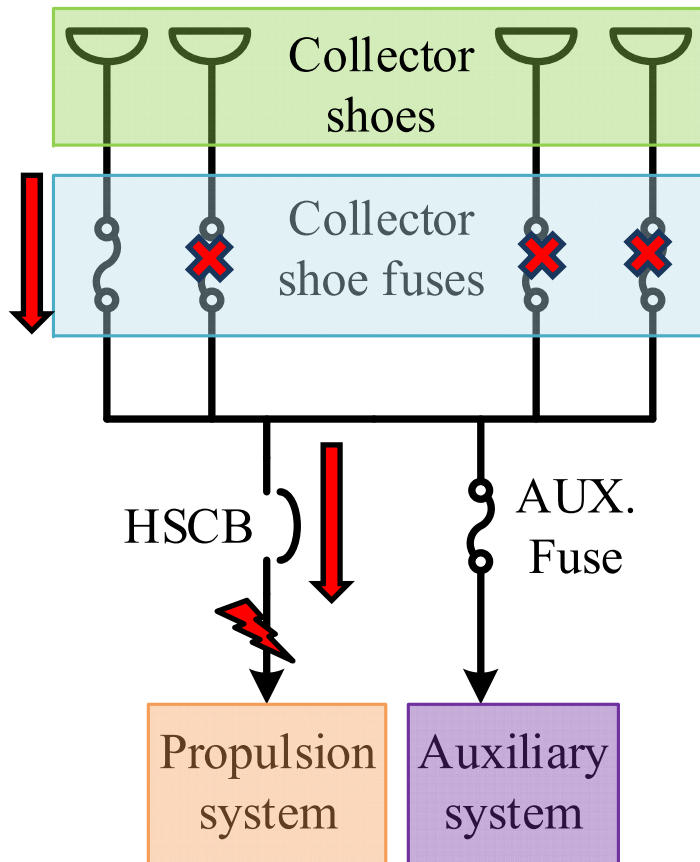


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# Why using a transient analysis tool ?

## CLF vs HSCB – HSCB Energy Limitation Impact on the CLFs

Case with the HSCB breaking the fault current (with  $I_d = 2000A$ ):



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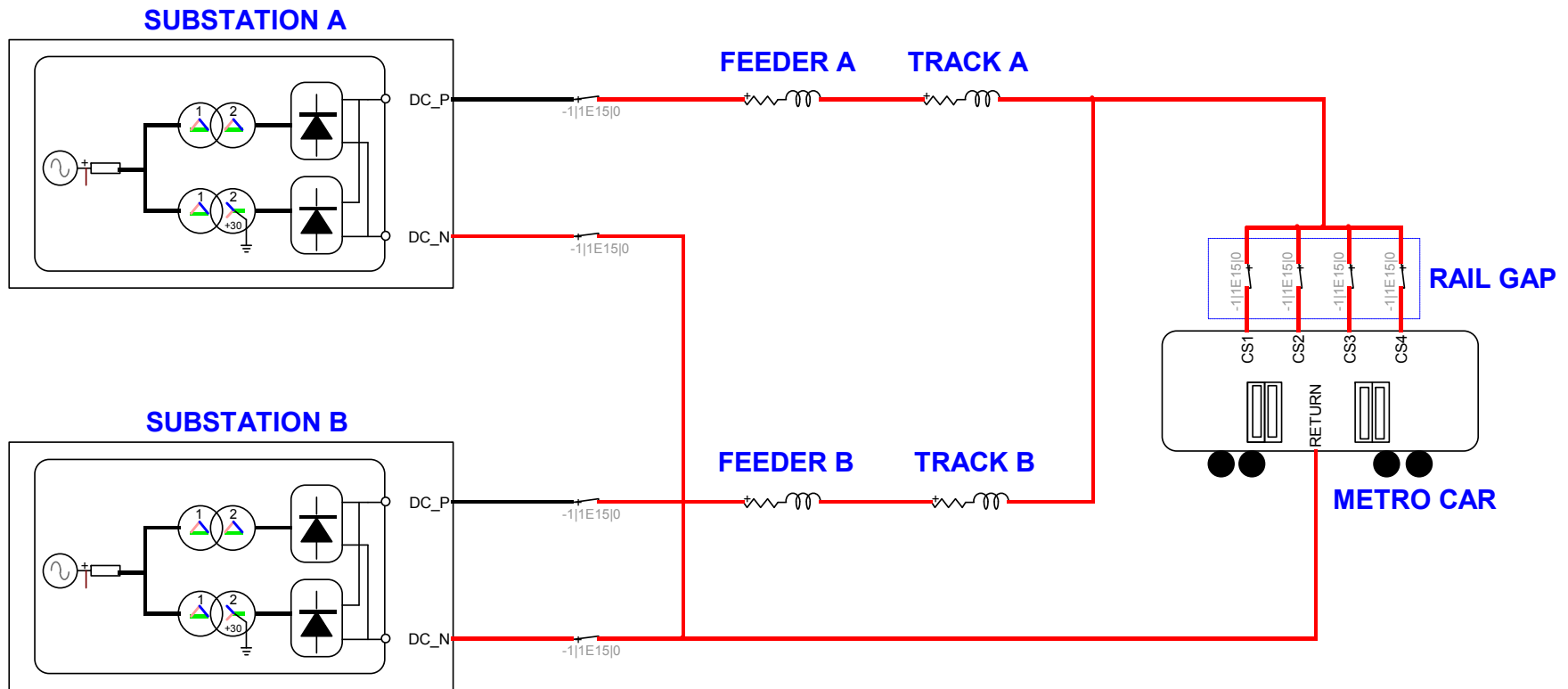
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# Building the model

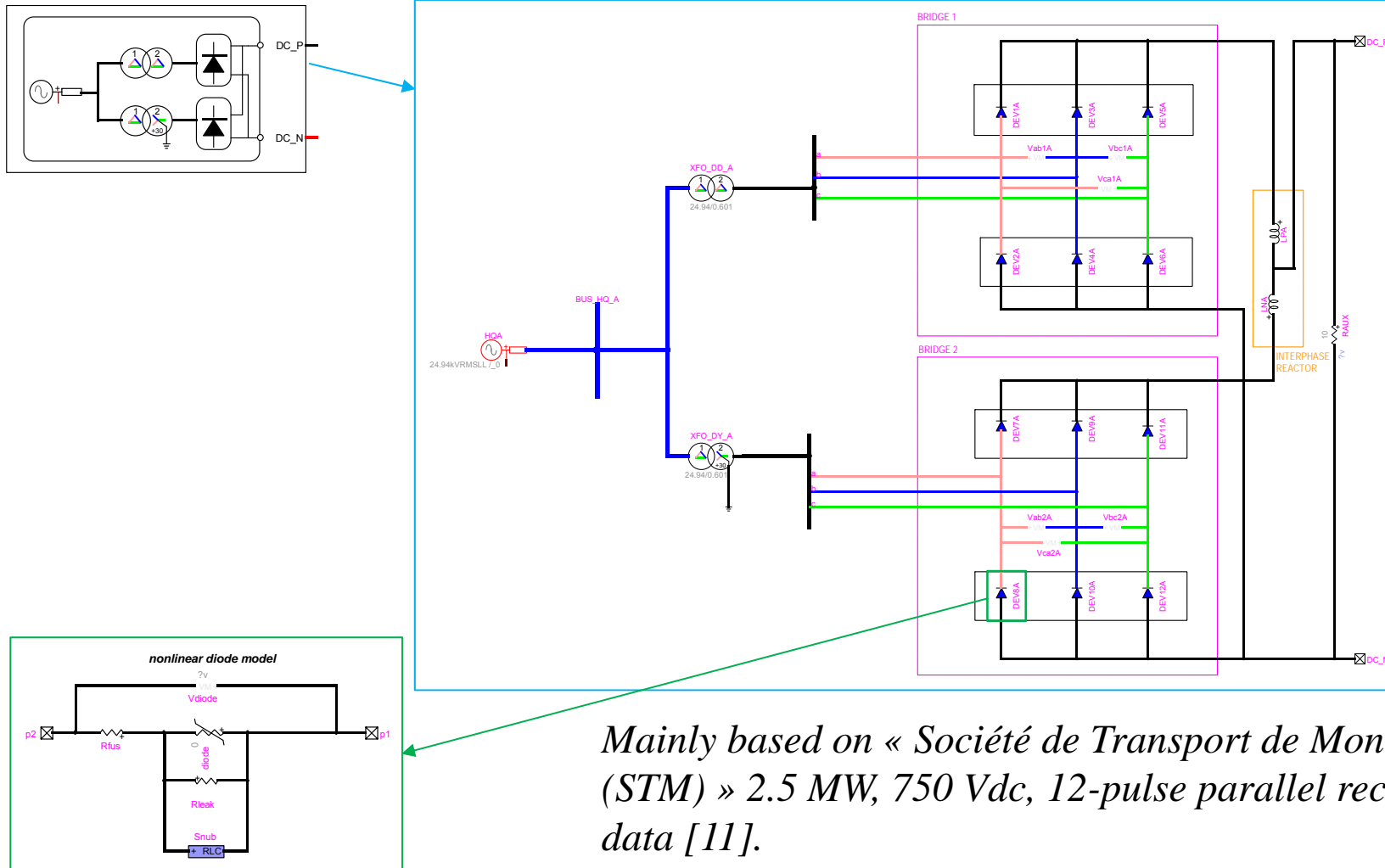
## DC Traction System Model



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# Building the model

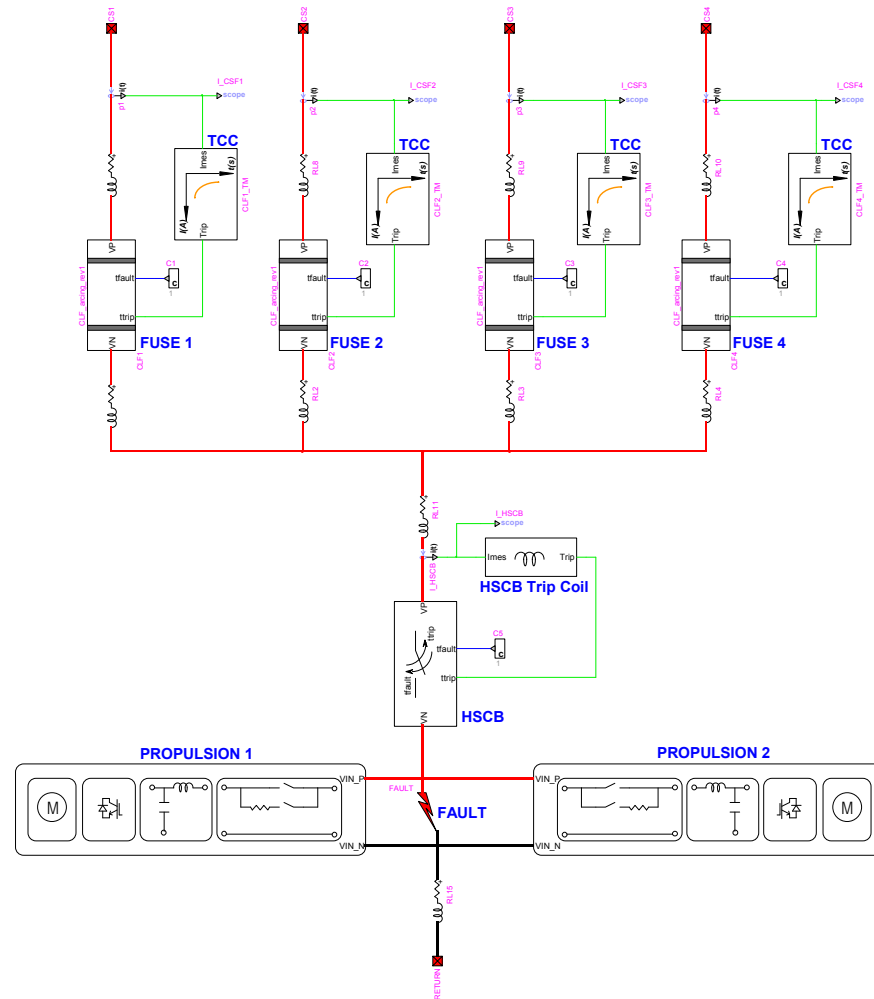
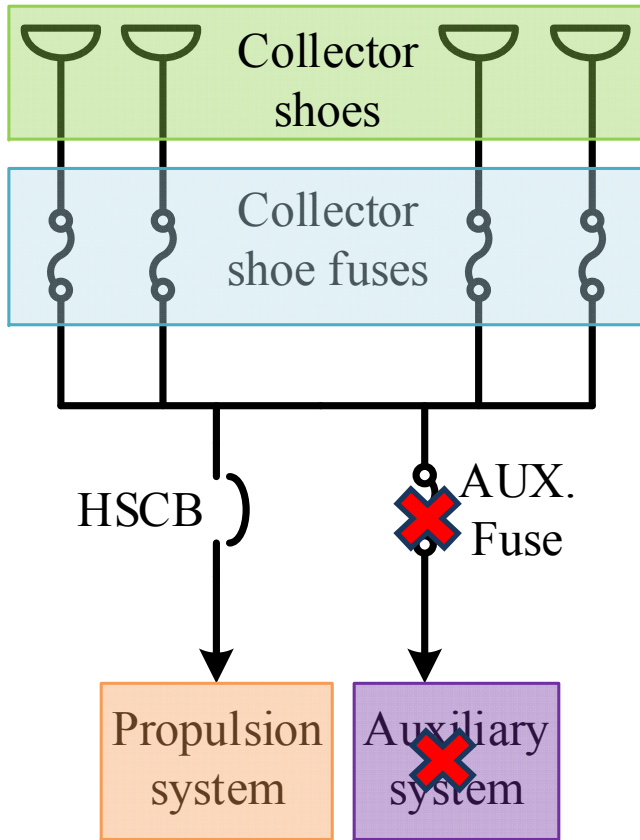
## Substation Model



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# Building the model

## Car Model

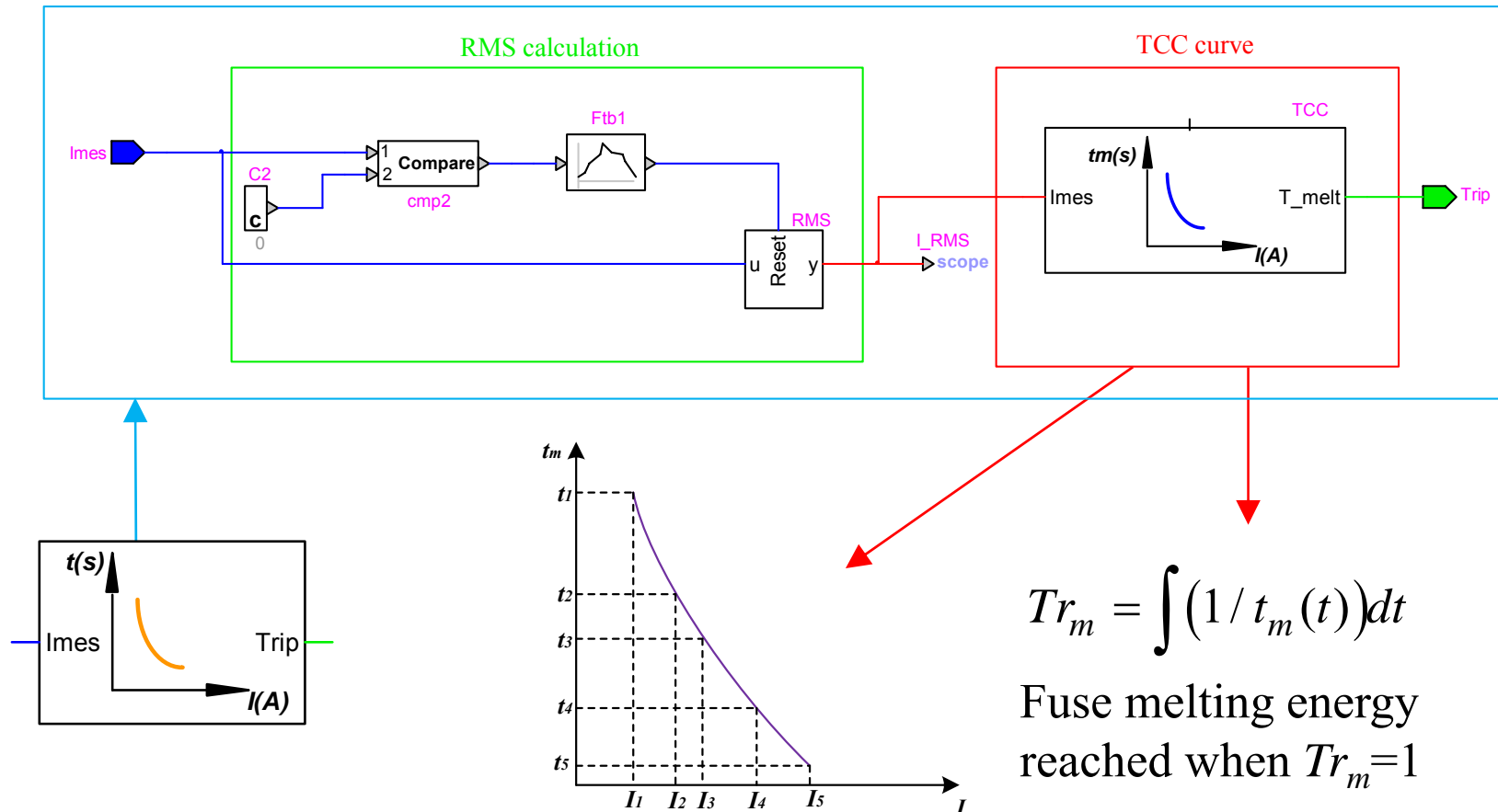




# Building the model

## Current-Limiting Fuse (CLF)

### Fuse Time-Current Curve (TCC) Model (Melting Time):

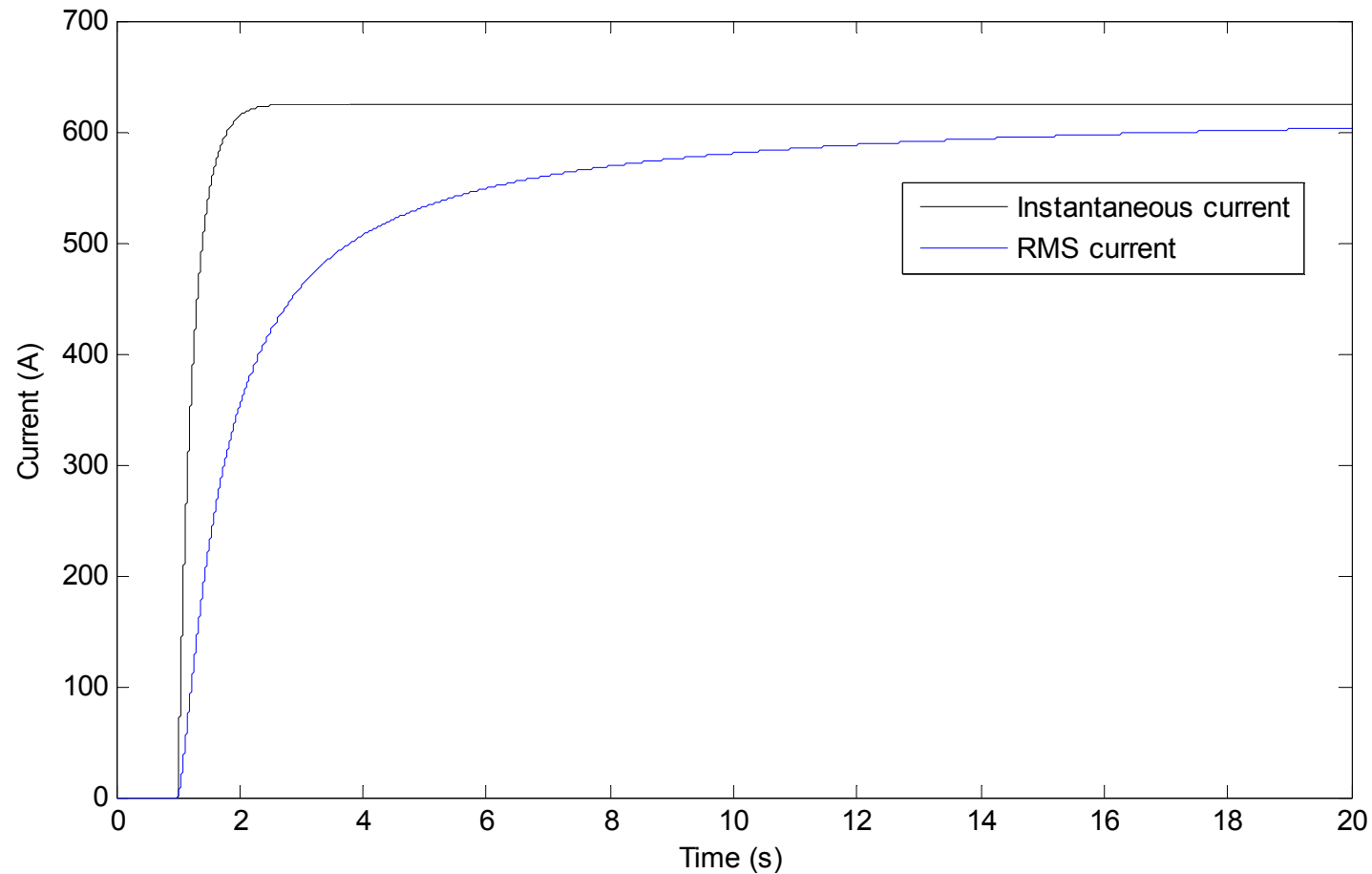


# Building the model

## Current-Limiting Fuse (CLF)

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❑ What is the RMS current in transient DC? [3]

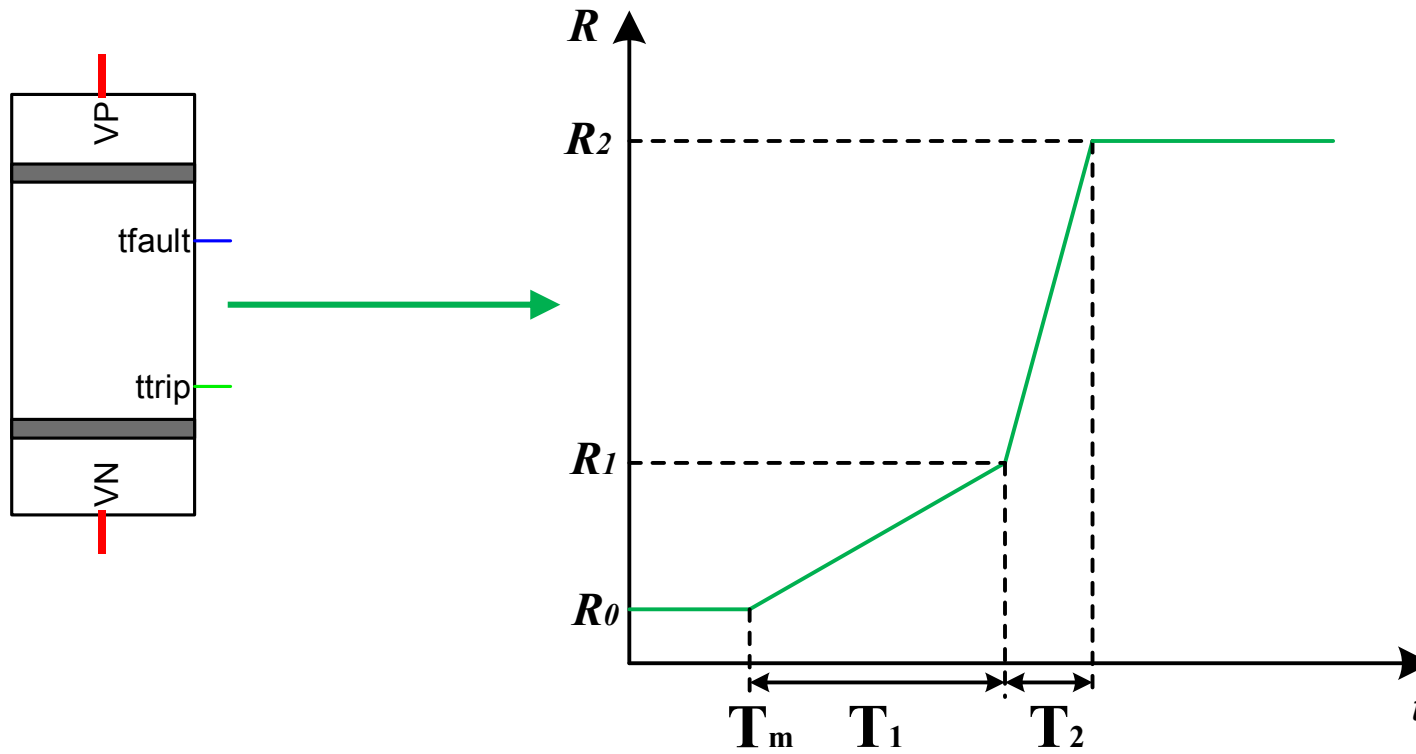


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# Building the model

## Current-Limiting Fuse (CLF)

Fuse arcing model (Piecewise linear increasing resistance):

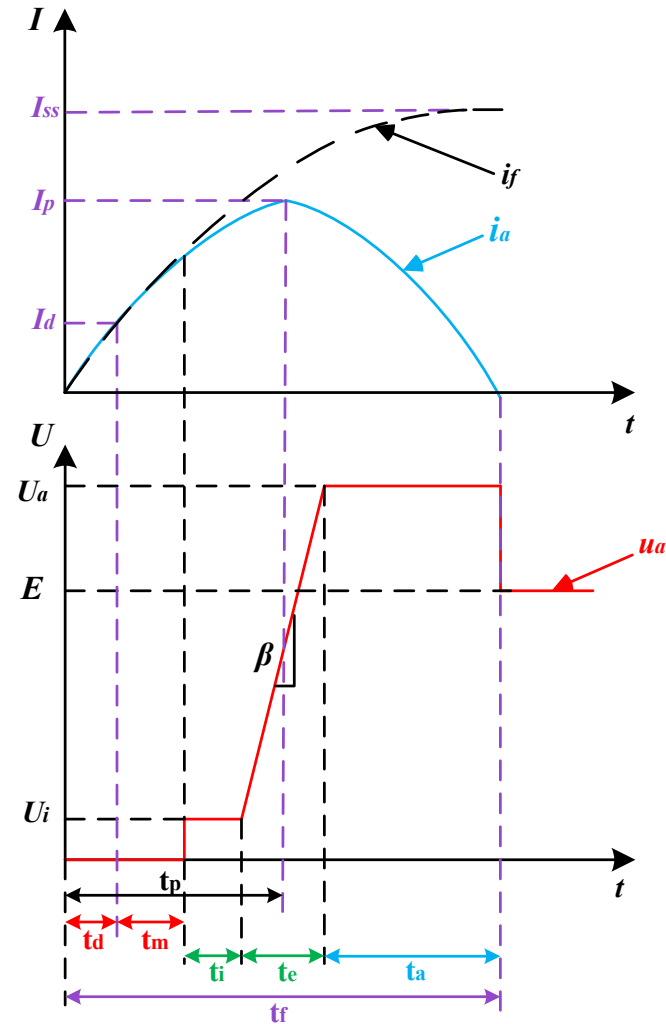
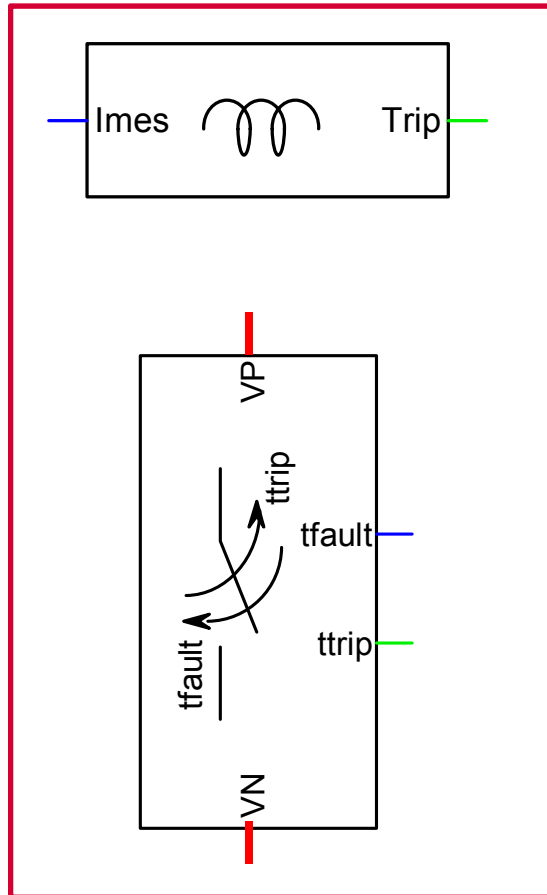


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# Building the model

## High Speed Circuit Breaker (HSCB)

### HSCB Detection and Opening:

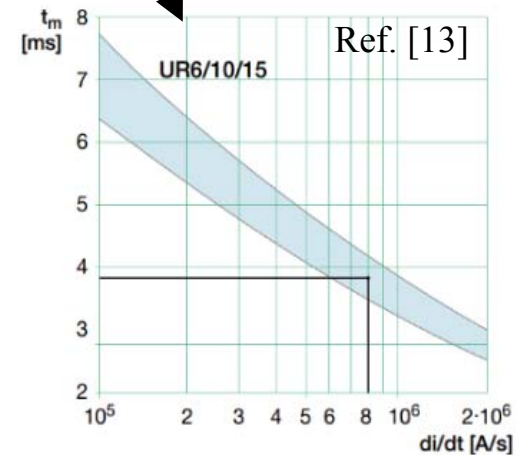
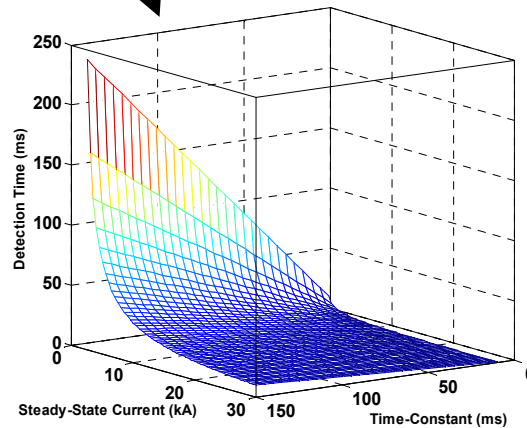
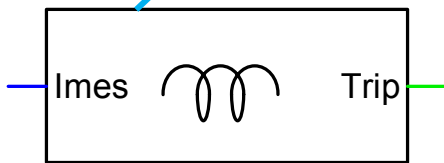
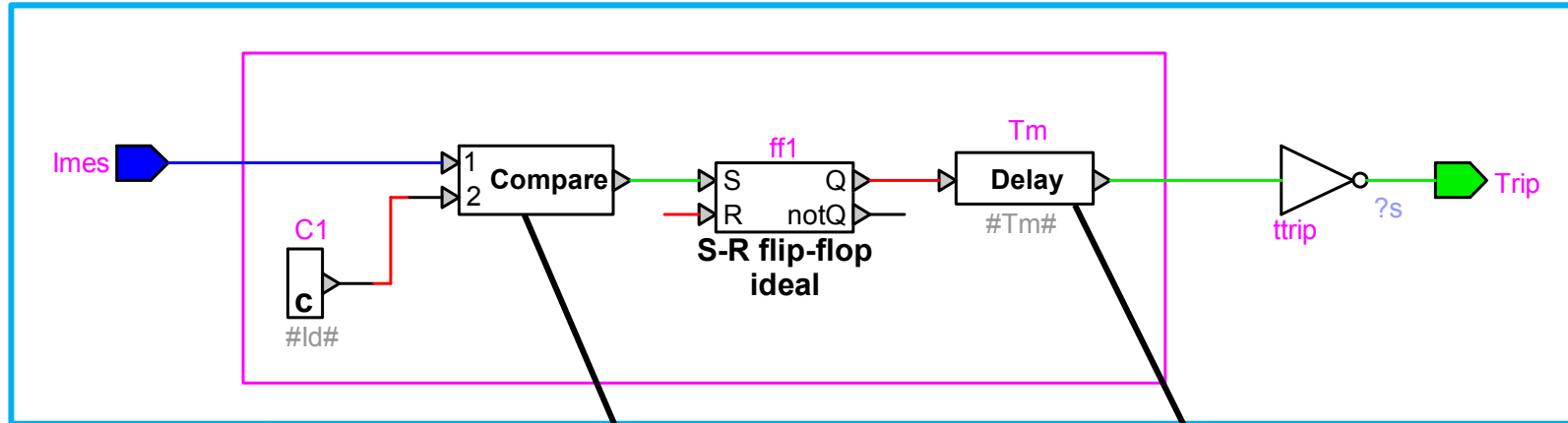


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# Building the model

## High Speed Circuit Breaker (HSCB)

### HSCB Detection (trip coil):



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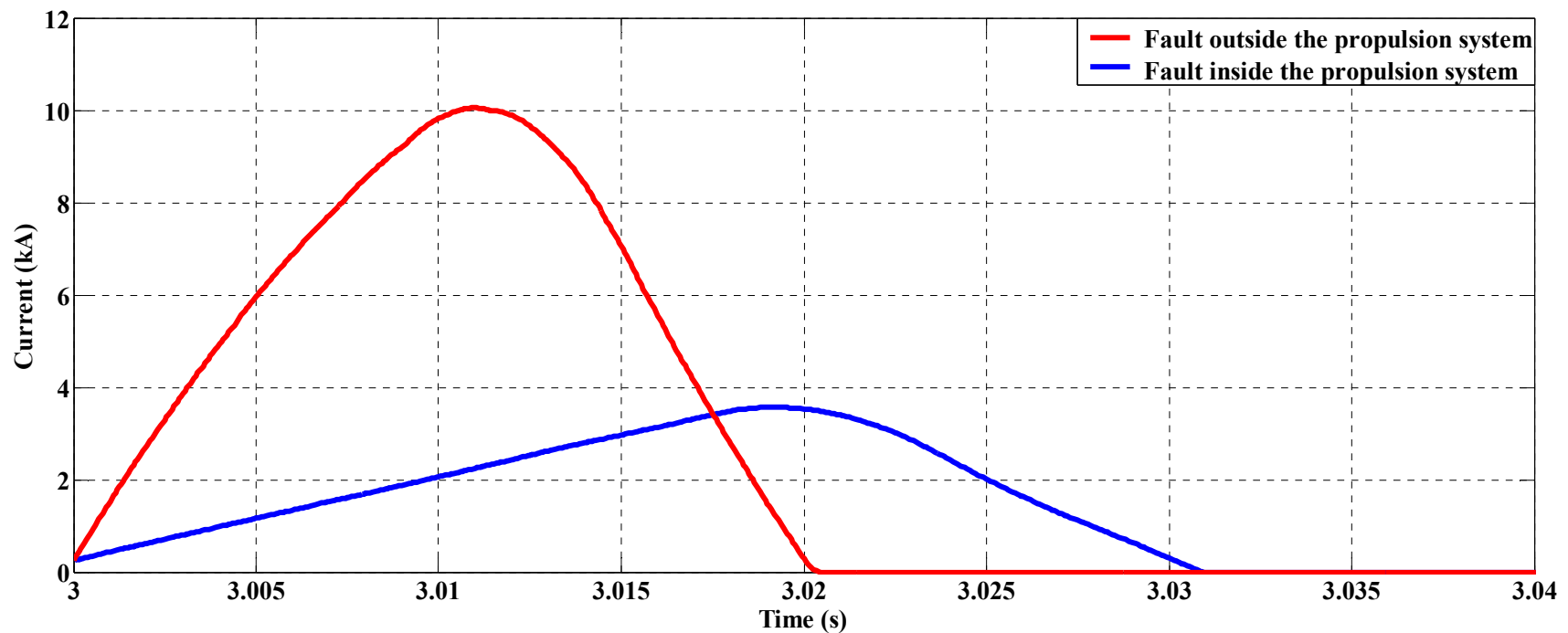
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# Case Study

## Case #1 – Fault inside vs outside the propulsion system

- In both case, the HSCB clears the fault.
- Extra damping of the filter inductors increases the fault clearing time.

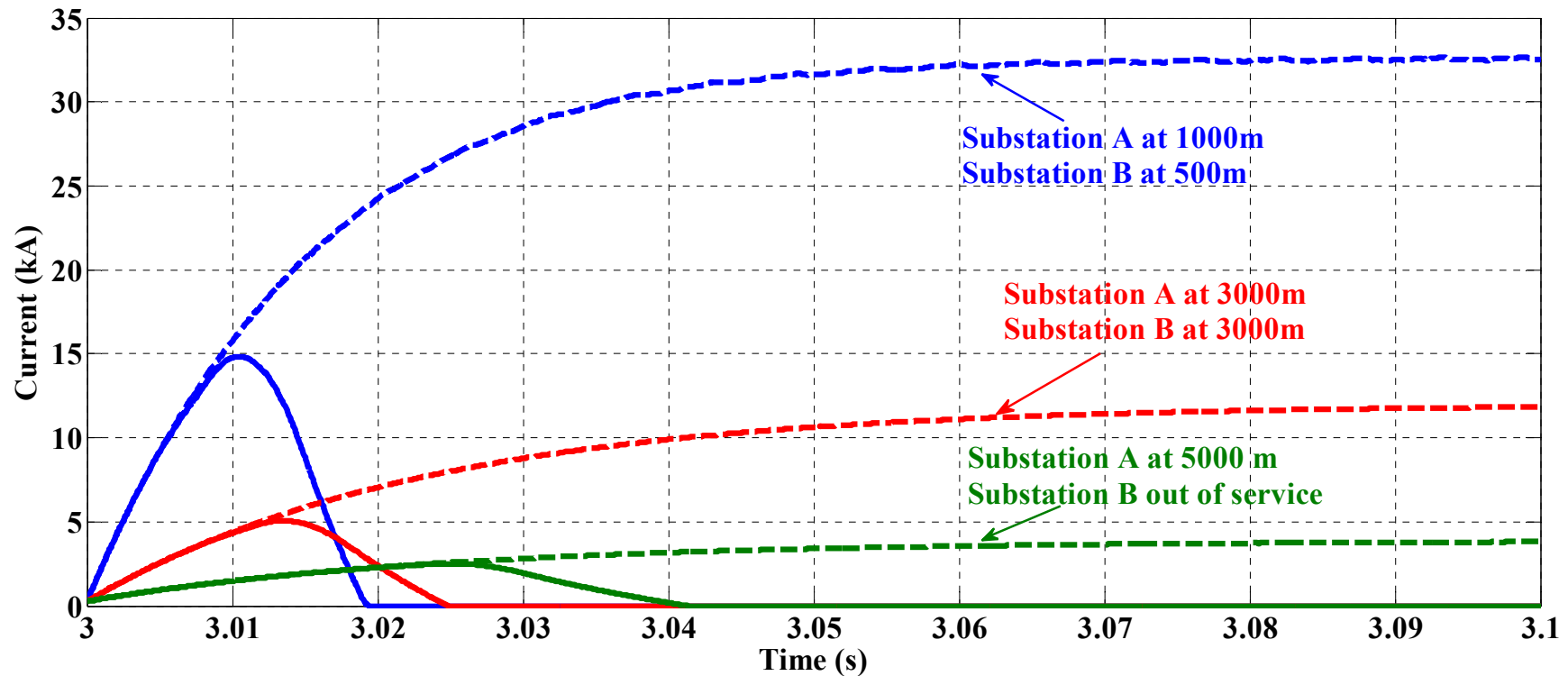


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# Case Study

## Case #2 – Fault current and HSCB operating time (different location)

- In all cases, the HSCB clears the fault.
- Track inductance increases the fault clearing time.



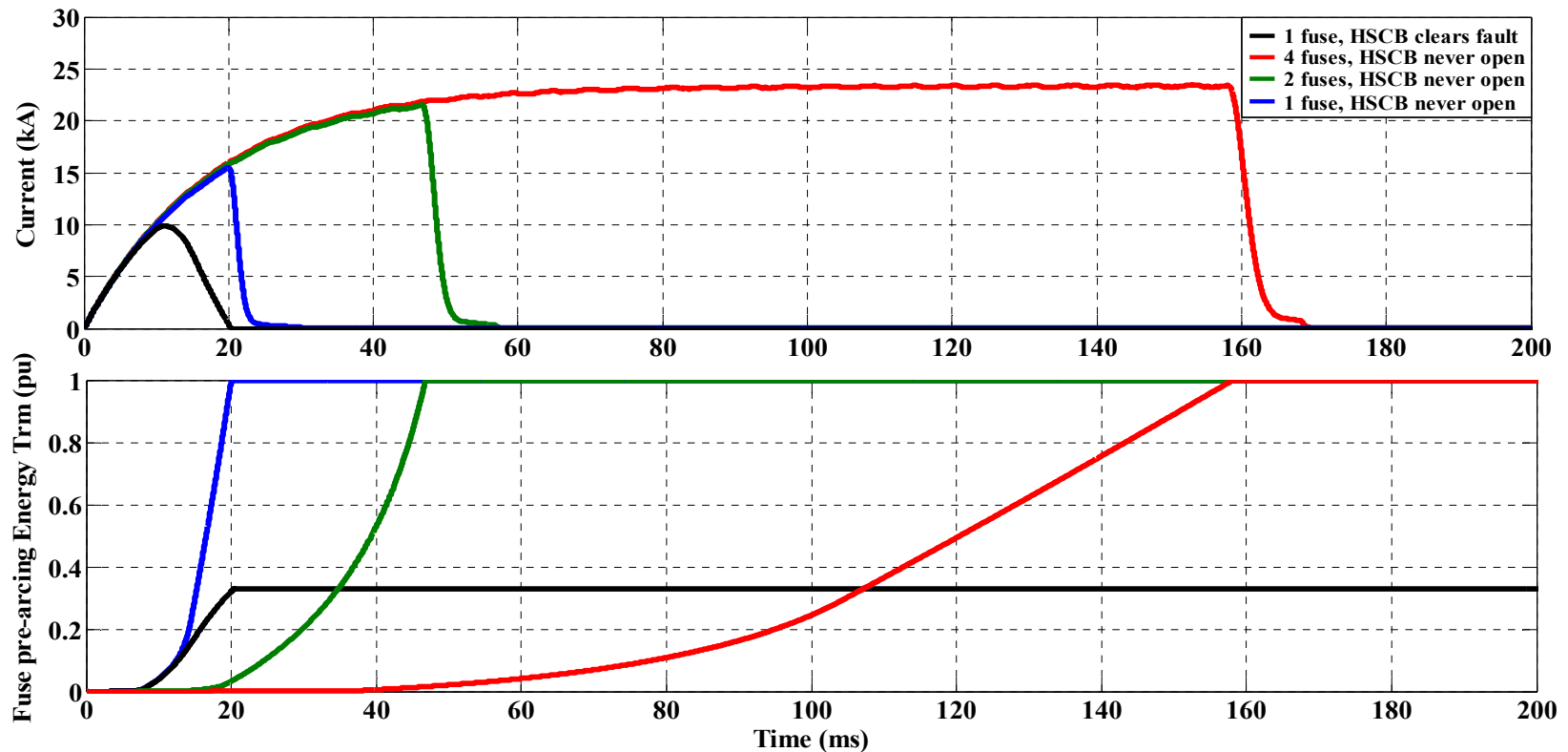
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# Case Study

## Case #3 – Different car configurations and operating conditions

- **Black:** Selectivity of a single fuse in series with the HSCB
- **Red, Green, Blue:** (4), (2) or (1) fuse sharing the current



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## Conclusion

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- By working closely with transit authority, fuse and HSCB manufacturers, the proposed tool could be used by railcar design engineers to study the performance of primary power protection.

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