

# TRANSFORMING POWER INTO SUCCESS



Excellence in  
Space Power Electronics





# **Electric Propulsion Innovation & Competitiveness**

## **Workshop 2023**

### **Multifunctional PPU (thrusters up to 900W)**

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# SPICA PPU Modularity

Generally, the application of Electric Propulsion can be categorized into the needs for:

- Orbit Raising -> max. thrust
- Station Keeping -> max. impulse

Based on the internal Digital Control Unit, the M-PPU will be capable to be set into two different operation modes:

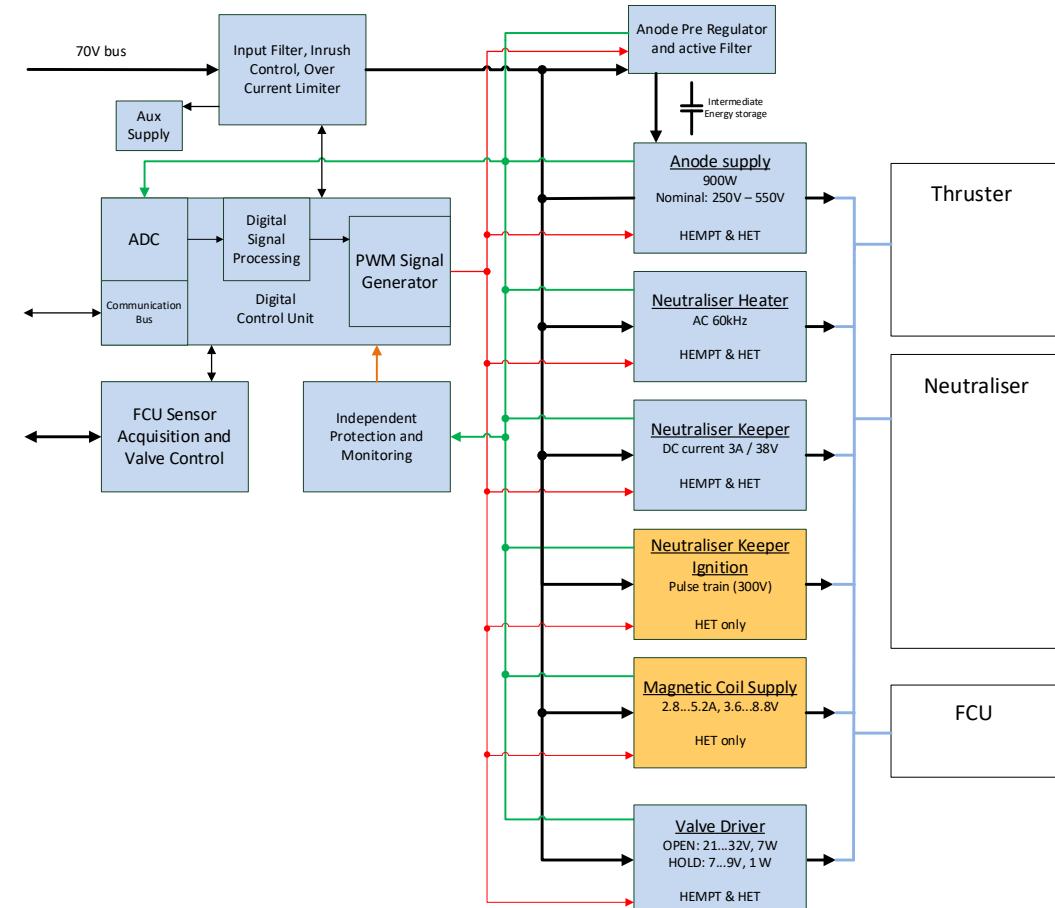
- Mode 1: HET BHT600
- Mode 2: HEMPT EV0



# PPU Modularity

The modular approach is based on the experience, that several functional blocks of a HEMPT and a HET PPU are quite similar.

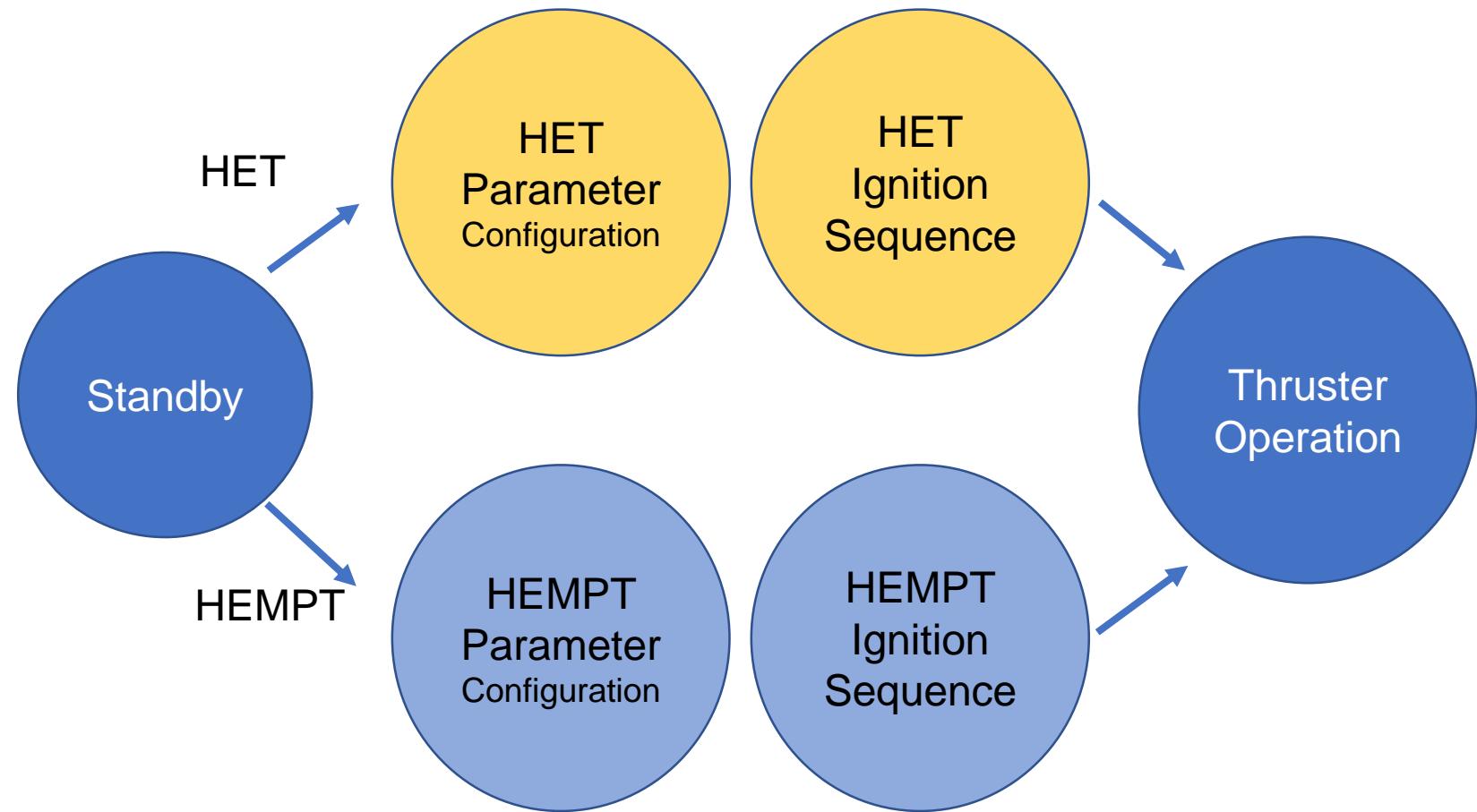
- HEMPT and HET
- additional for HET



# PPU Control Modes



- Individual control parameters.
- Individual ignition sequence.
- Common operation (thrust control).





# Parameter / Configuration

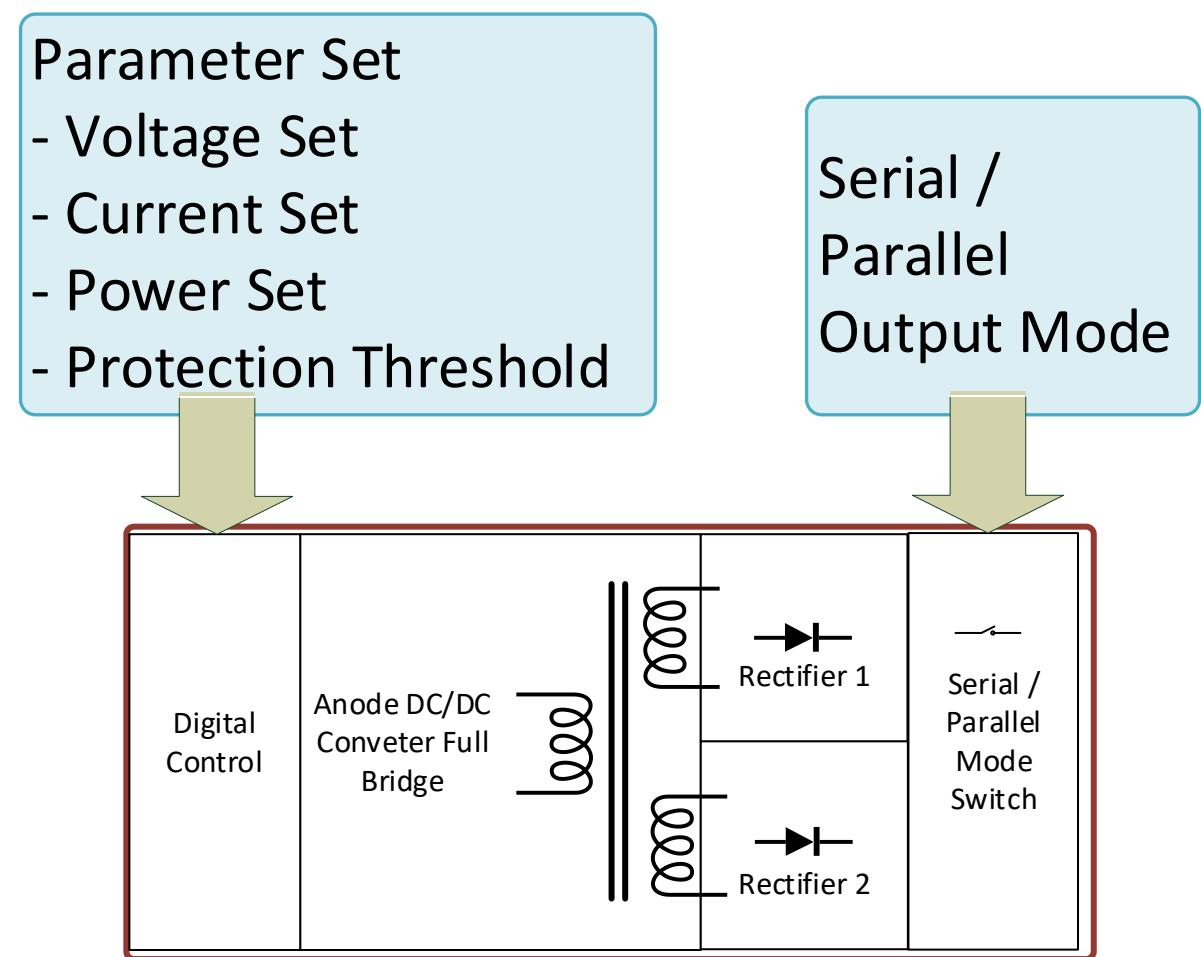


	HET		HEMPT	
Anode Supply	active	parallel output mode; 100...380V / 2,4A	active	serial output mode; 320...640V / 1,2A
Neutralizer Heater Supply	active	8V / 7A (DC)	active	14V / 3,5A (AC 60kHz)
Neutralizer Ignitor Supply	active	350V pulse	mute	-
Neutralizer Keeper Supply	active	30V / 1A	active	40V / 2,5A
Magnetic Coil Supply	active	16V / 5A	mute	-

# Anode Supply Modes

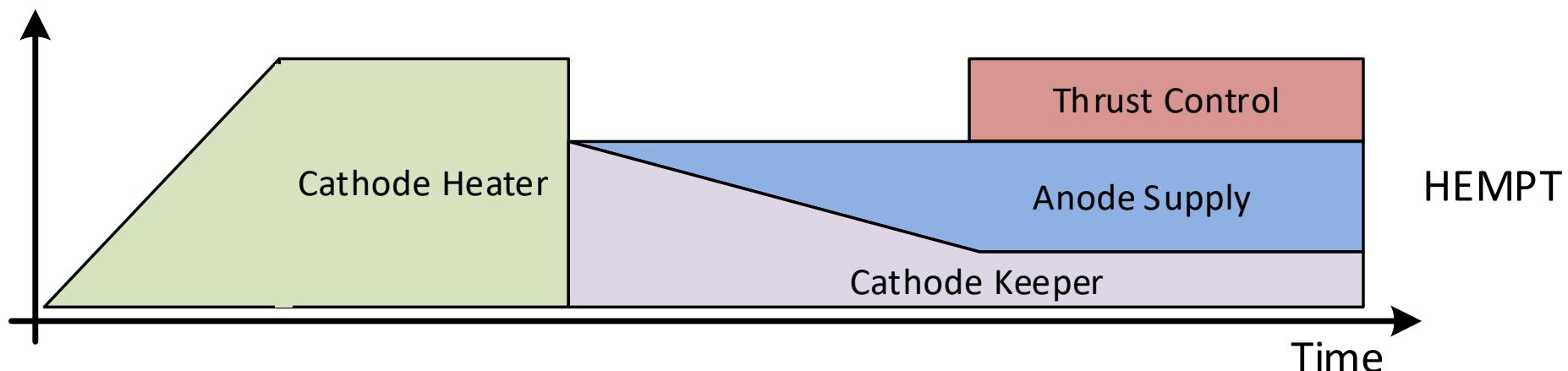
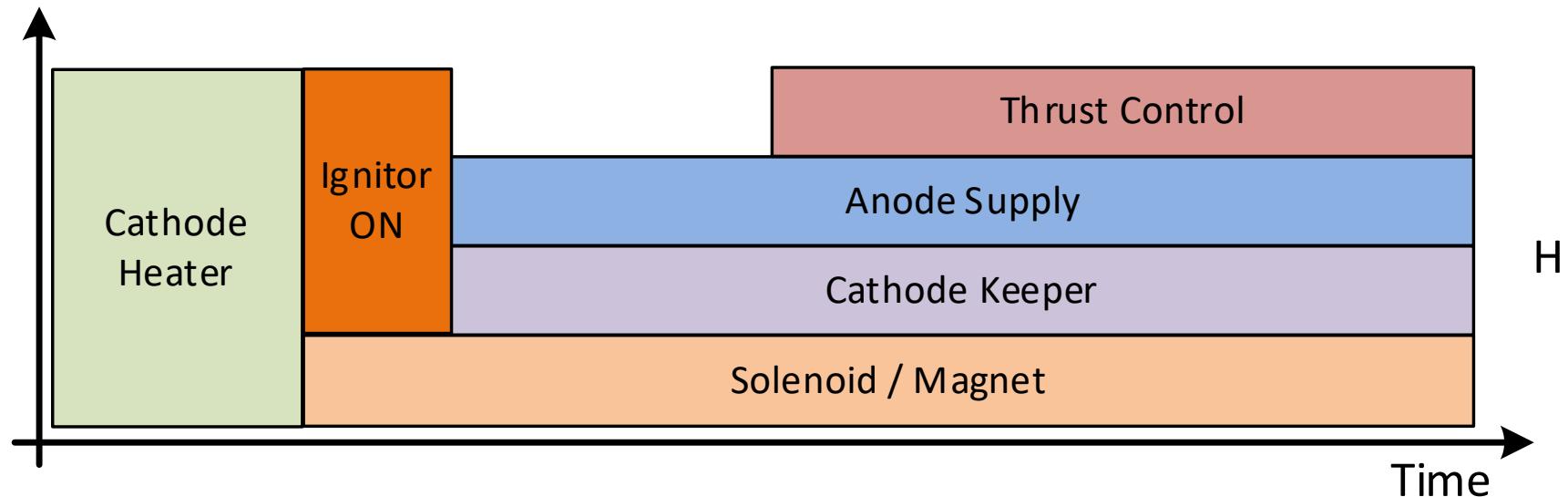


- Control parameters configurable.
- Converter outputs can be configured as:
  - Serial – high voltage
  - Parallel – high current

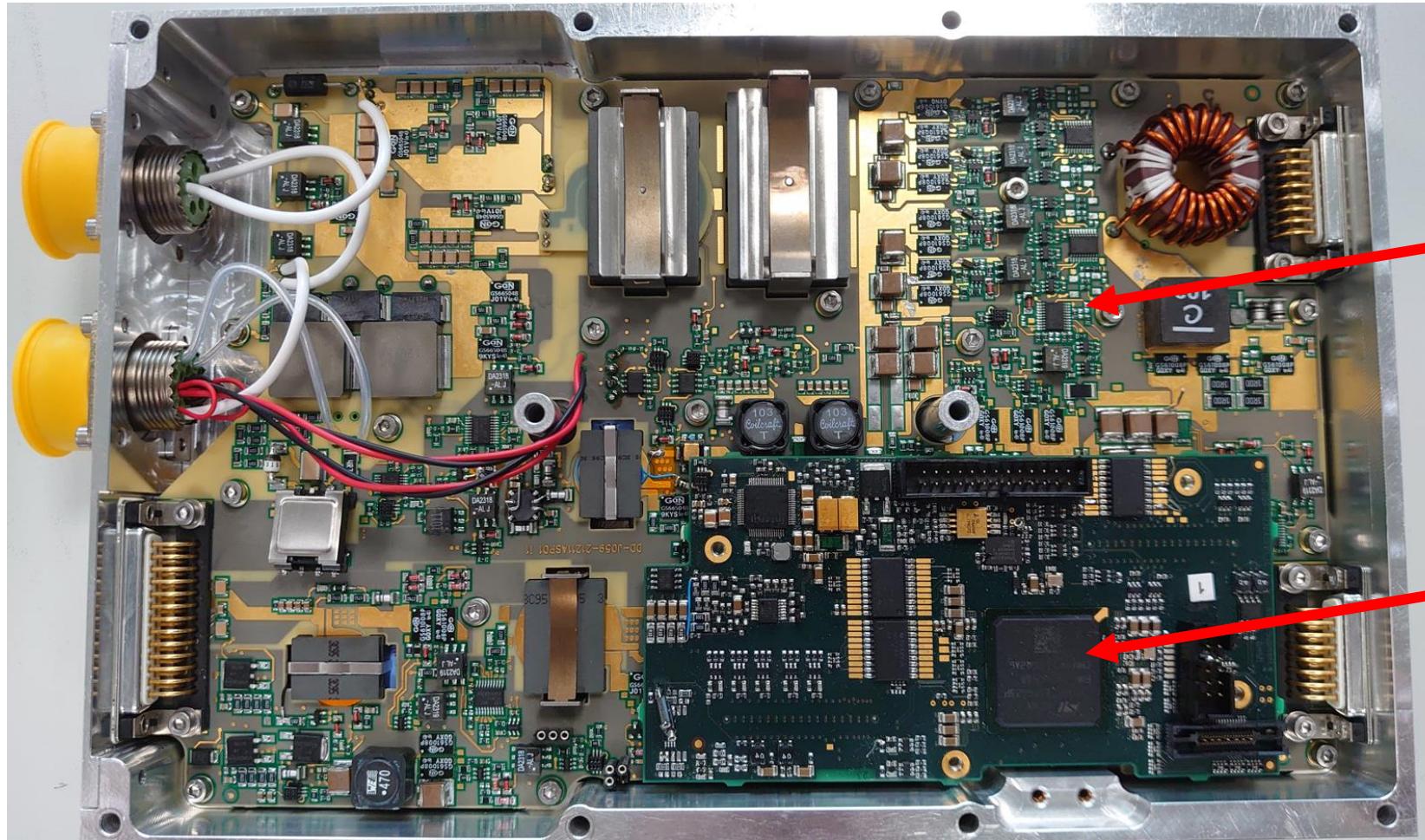


# Ignition Sequence

towards commanded operational point



# SPICA PPU

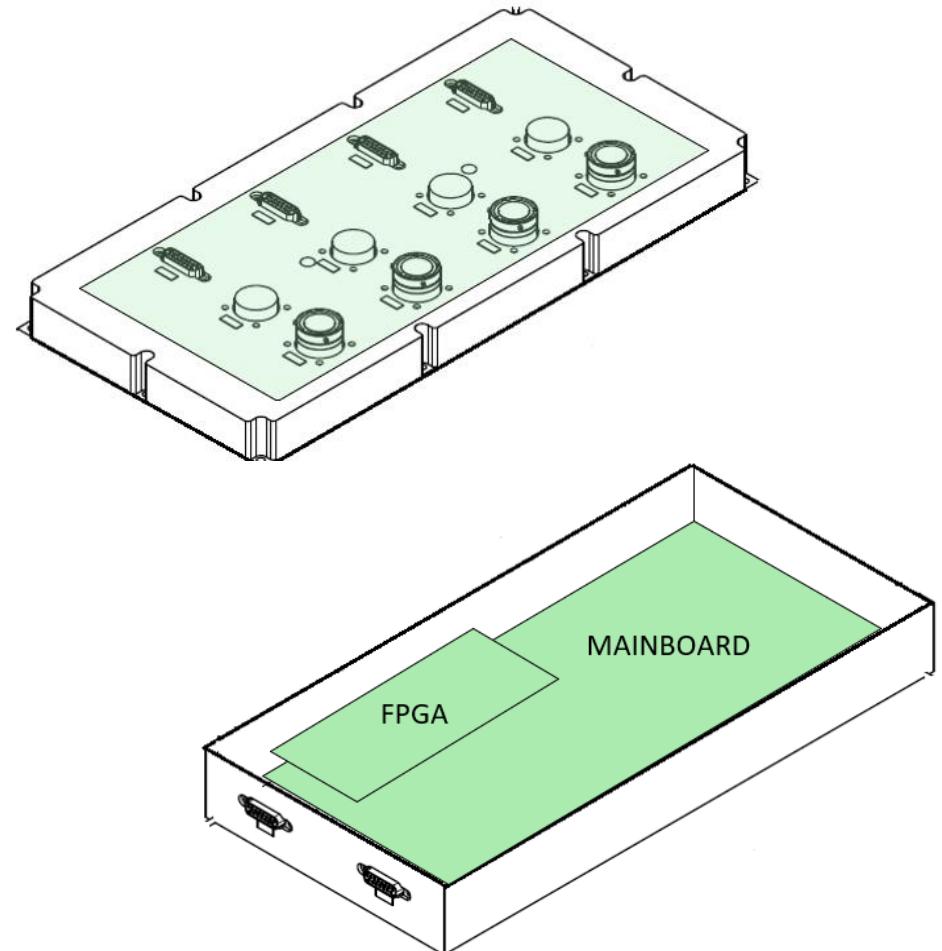


Mainboard

Dig.Ctrl. Board

# Switch Matrix

- By adding a switch matrix, (integrated on the PPU housing) it is possible to:
  - go into a hybrid dual use of the PPU
    - HET for orbit raising and
    - HEMPT for station keeping maneuvers
  - drive up to 6 dedicated thrusters from one SPICA PPU





# M-PPU

## Conclusion / Main advantages



- **Flexible**
    - the SPICA PPU can either serve HET or HEMPT
    - PPU operation configurable via digital control (no change on H/W)
  - **Scalable**
    - Hybrid or Dual operation from one SPICA PPU (HET & HEMPT)
    - Built-in switch matrix: driving up to 6 thrusters from one SPICA PPU
  - **Ready for high quantities**
    - mainly SMT technology used leading to optimized manufacturing effort (design to production)
    - full automated testing leading to short testing time (design to test)
  - Low mass and dimensions based on
    - Digital Control and GaN technology enabling
    - very high switching frequencies (approx. 600KHz) with the corresponding minimization of filters
    - Active Filtering of Thruster Oscillations leading to an additional significant reduction of the input and output filter size
- **Typical mass and dimensions; 900W SPICA PPU** (without switch matrix)
- Mass: 3,5kg
  - Dimensions : 180x370x40mm



# Thank you very much for your attention

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