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## Data in brief

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## Data Article

## Online database of Power Hardware In-the-Loop tests



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## ABSTRACT

The online database presented in this article provides information about Power Hardware In-the-Loop (PHIL) tests to allow the reproducibility of the experiments. The data were collected through published papers and manufacturer data sheets. The database is hosted on an open subversion platform, which allows a continuous improvement of the data. Furthermore, a GUI interface has been developed to ensure the integrity of the database and its traceability. The access to PHIL test data will facilitate reliable findings for the reproducibility of PHIL experiments.

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## 1. Data

Power Hardware In-the-Loop (PHIL) is a test system technique which combines the system simulation flexibility with the fidelity of complete hardware test. It is based on a Digital Real-Time Simulation (DRTS) that communicates with a Power Amplifier (PA), which exchanges real power with the

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Specifications Table

Subject	Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Specific subject area	Power Hardware In-the-Loop, Rapid prototyping, Smart grid
Type of data	Microsoft Access® file
How data were acquired	Power Hardware In-the-Loop test literature System manufacturer data sheets
Data format	Raw and pre-processed Dynamic tables with GUI interface (.accdb)
Parameters for data collection	Power Hardware In-the-Loop test data, gathered in the scientific literature, and datasheet information of the systems.
Description of data collection	Published Power Hardware In-the-Loop (PHIL) tests have been reviewed, extracting the main information for reproducibility purposes. The resulting database was completed by gathering information from manufacturer data sheets of the components used in these tests.
Data source location	Research Centre for Energy Resources and Consumption, Parque Empresarial Dinamiza. Avda. Ranillas 3D, 1ª Planta, 50018 Zaragoza, Spain
Data accessibility	Public Repository The updated database file is made available in a GitHub repository Repository name: Zenodo Data identification number: 10.5281/zenodo.3571368 Direct URL to data: <a href="https://zenodo.org/record/3571368#.XfFJlPyCGUk">https://zenodo.org/record/3571368#.XfFJlPyCGUk</a>

**Value of the Data**

- These data contain the main information gathered from Power Hardware In-the-Loop (PHIL) tests. The database can be used to reproduce PHIL tests and provide support in the selection process of PHIL systems.
- Researchers can quickly find examples of PHIL experiments to obtain methods and insights to develop their own tests.
- This database has been uploaded to an open subversion platform (GitHub) [1], where the scientific community has the potential to improve and update the data, giving a complete perspective of the current developed PHIL tests to date.
- It is expected that this online database will be a useful tool which helps and boosts the improvement of the smart grid and the rapid prototyping of new systems.

Hardware-Under-Test (HUT). This data article describes a database which contains information about PHIL tests, organized in eight different interconnected dynamic tables. The Unified Modeling Language (UML) representation of these dynamic tables is shown in Fig. 1. The variables contained in every table and their description are shown in Tables 1–8.

The database is implemented in Microsoft Access [2]. This software provides the possibility of dynamic classification of all available parameters of Power Hardware In-the-Loop (PHIL) tests, allowing the organization of the information without requiring programming skills. Furthermore, a user management system (Fig. 4) and a GUI interface (Figs. 5–7) are included to add, modify and update the online database. It also offers the possibility of showing information as a table or as a form, and users can copy and paste data to other database software to process them.

**2. Experimental design, materials, and methods**

A significant number of PHIL test reports have been collected from the scientific literature. The main data were extracted from these publications for reproducibility purposes. Some representative examples of these publications gathered in the database are [3–8]. The information of PHIL systems used in the tests was completed by extracting data from manufacturer datasheets and from PHIL review articles [9–16]. Publications with insufficient information were excluded.

Summary statistics of one of the most important variables included in the database are presented in Figs. 2 and 3. If any paper describes two or more tests, in which the same HUT type has been test or the same system has been simulated [7,8], it only counts once.

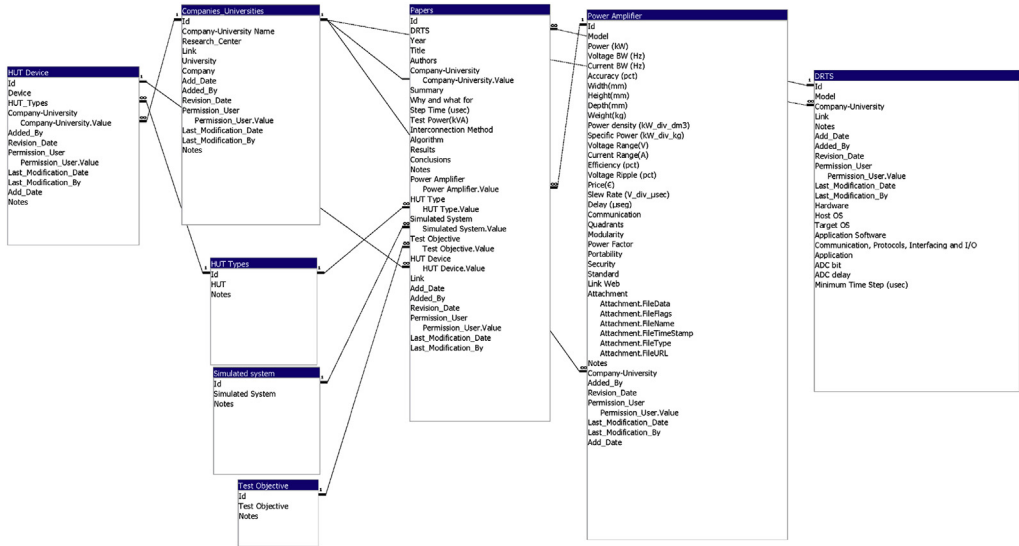


Fig. 1. UML representation of the database entity-relationship model.

Table 1

Variable description of “HUT Device” table.

HUT Device		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Device	Categorical	Name of the device
HUT_Types	Categorical	Type of Hardware Under Test (HUT), taken from the dynamic table “HUT Types”
Company-University	Categorical	Name of the company, university and/or research centre which develops the item, taken from the dynamic table “Companies_Universities”
Added_By	Categorical	User who adds the item
Add_Date	Date	Date of the item addition, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Revision_Date	Date	Date of the last revision of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Permission_User	Categorical	Users who have the permission to modify the item
Last_Modification_Date	Date	Date of the last modification of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Last_modification_By	Categorical	User who made the last modification

Table 2

Variable description of “HUT Types” table.

HUT Types		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
HUT	Categorical	The different types of Hardware Under Test (HUT) used in the experiments: Circuit Breaker, Car: FTP-72 driving cycle, Nonlinear circuit, Linear Circuit, SFCL (Superconducting Fault Current Limiter), OCR (Overcurrent relays), Smart Transformer (ST), Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Distributed Energy Storage Systems (DESS), PV Inverter, Virtual Synchronous Generator (VSG), High Speed Generator, AC/DC power conversion module (PCM), Voltage Source Converter (VSC), Electric Drive, Physical Analog Subsystem (PAS), Generator, Statcom, Wind Inverter, Battery Inverter and House. If it is not defined in the test, it is selected “not shown”

**Table 3**  
Variable description of “Simulated System” table.

Simulated System		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Simulated System	Categorical	The different systems simulated in the Digital Real-Time Simulator (DRTS) in the experiments: Lithium Battery, Short-Circuit, Grid Voltage, Electric Ship, Electric Grid, PV, Wind Turbine, Electric Motor/Generator, Gas turbine generator, On Load Tap Changer (OLTC). If there is not a specific system, the field is empty

**Table 4**  
Variable description of “Test Objective” table.

Test Objective		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Test Objective	Categorical	The main objective of the described test: Check PHIL Behaviour, Test HUT and/or Test Simulated System. If there is no main test objective specified, the field is empty

In order to increase the comprehension and traceability of the items in the database, some non-categorizable fields have been added. A field called “Notes” has been added in every table, with the purpose of adding some extra information which is interesting for the readers. Furthermore, a web link of the item has been added in [Tables 5–8](#). Moreover, the “Paper” table ([Table 6](#)) includes a “Summary”, “Why and what for”, “Results” and “Conclusions” to add the subjective information of the paper. The table “Power Amplifier” ([Table 7](#)) includes a field “attachment” where the datasheet of the system can be added.

Several methods have been considered in order to ensure information integrity, to increase readability, and to update the information periodically. These methods are described in the following subsections:

2.1. User management

The database allows modification after its publication. A user management system has been implemented to prevent anonymous database editing. The registration is done via email, with every

**Table 5**  
Variable description of “Companies\_Universities” table.

Companies Universities		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Company-University Name	Categorical	Full name of the company, university or research centre
Research_Center	Binary	1: yes, the item is a research centre 0: no, the item is not a research centre
University	Binary	1: yes, the item is a university 0: no, the item is not a university
Company	Binary	1: yes, the item is a company 0: no, the item is not a company
Added_By	Categorical	User who adds the item
Add_Date	Date	Date of the item addition, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Revision_Date	Date	Date of the last revision of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Permission_User	Categorical	Users who have the permission to modify the item
Last_Modification_Date	Date	Date of the last modification of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Last_modification_By	Categorical	User who made the last modification

**Table 6**  
Variable description of “Papers” table.

Papers		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Year	Integer	Year of publication
Title	Categorical	Name of the paper
Authors	Categorical	Authors of the paper
Company-University	Categorical	Companies, universities and/or research centres which carried out the test. These data are taken from the dynamic table “Companies-Universities” of <a href="#">Table 5</a>
Step Time ( $\mu\text{sec}$ )	Numerical	Real-time simulation step-time in $\mu\text{sec}$
DRTS	Categorical	Digital Real-Time Simulator used in the experiment. These data are taken from the dynamic table “DRTS” of <a href="#">Table 8</a>
Test Power (kVA)	Numerical	Maximum power achieved during the test in kVA
Interconnection Method	Categorical	Type/s of interconnection method between DRTS and PA: Analog signals, digital signals or not shown.
Algorithm	Categorical	Algorithm/s used during the test: Ideal Transformer Model (ITM), Transmission Line Model (TLM), Damping Impedance Method (DIM), Time-variant First-order Approximation (TFA), Partial Circuit Duplication (PCD)
Power Amplifier	Categorical	Power Amplifier used in the experiment. These data are taken from the dynamic table “Power Amplifier” of <a href="#">Table 7</a>
HUT Type	Categorical	Type of Hardware Under Test (HUT) used in the experiment. These data are taken from the dynamic table “HUT Types” of <a href="#">Table 2</a>
Simulated System	Categorical	System simulated in real-time in the Digital Real-Time Simulator (DRTS). These data are taken from the dynamic table “Simulated System” of <a href="#">Table 3</a>
Test Objective	Categorical	Main goal of the experiment. These data are taken from the dynamic table “Test Objective” of <a href="#">Table 4</a>
HUT Device	Categorical	Specific device used as a Hardware Under Test (HUT) in the experiment. These data are taken from the dynamic table “HUT Device” of <a href="#">Table 1</a>
Added_By	Categorical	User who adds the item
Add_Date	Date	Date of the item addition, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Revision_Date	Date	Date of the last revision of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Permission_User	Categorical	Users who have the permission to modify the item. Only the registered users can see this variable
Last_Modification_Date	Date	Date of the last modification of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Last_modification_By	Categorical	User who made the last modification

user having a unique username and password to enter the application. Only registered users are able to add new information to the database. Furthermore, only users with special rights can modify the information. Consequently, the database records the date and authorship of every addition/modification. Finally, a “guest” user allows non-registered users to read the database. [Fig. 4](#) shows the login window to enter to the online database.

## 2.2. Database GUI

[Fig. 5](#) shows the database GUI. It has three main groups: check, add and modify information. Each group allows users to check, add or modify the reports, Power Amplifiers (PA), Digital Real-Time Simulator (DRTS), Companies/Universities and Hardware-Under-Test (HUT) device tables respectively. All users can access the items in the check information group. However, to enter the other two groups it is necessary to be registered in the database.

[Fig. 6](#) shows the PHIL tests report table which holds all the information included in the reviewed publications and it is accessed by the “Table Reports” button in the database GUI ([Fig. 5](#)). [Fig. 7](#) shows the “form” to change PA data, which is opened by clicking the “Modify Power Amplifier” button in the database GUI ([Fig. 5](#)).

**Table 7**

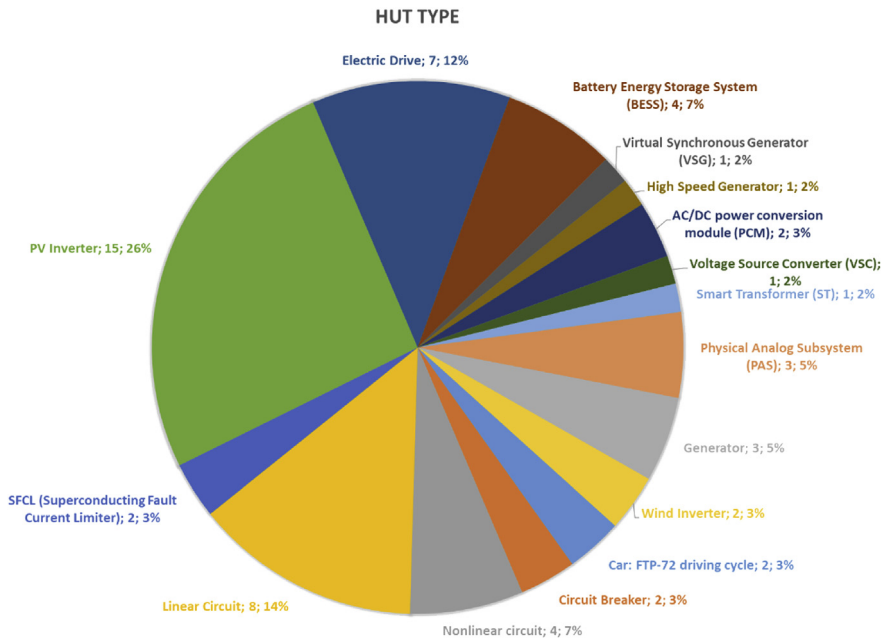
Variable description of “Power Amplifier” table.

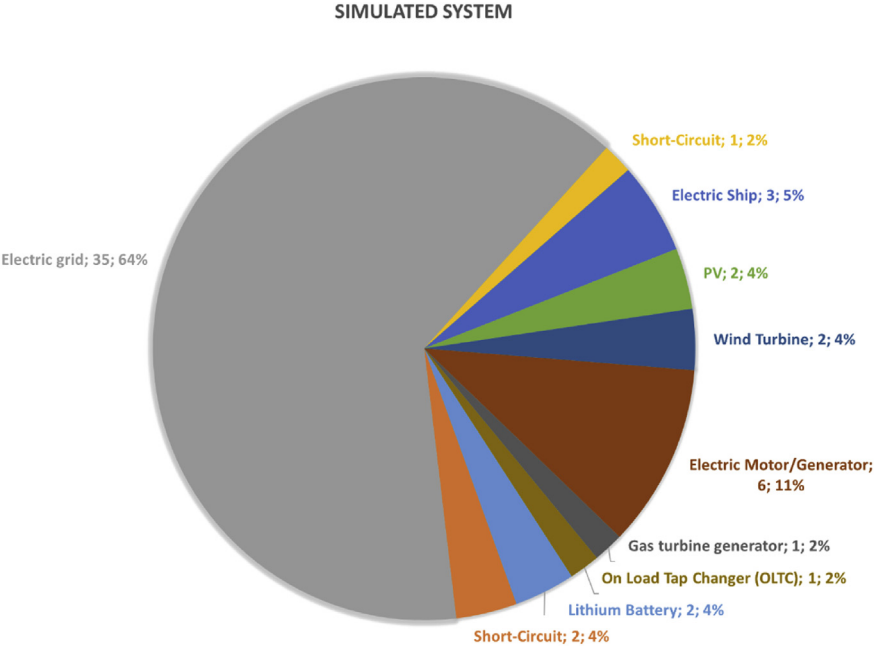
Power Amplifier		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Model	Categorical	Model name of the Power Amplifier (PA). If the brand of the PA is specified but not the model, the name of the brand with the label “(no model)” has been included in the database
Power (kW)	Numerical	Maximum power of the PA in kW
Voltage BW (Hz)	Numerical	Maximum bandwidth of the output voltage in Hz
Current BW (Hz)	Numerical	Maximum bandwidth of the output current in Hz
Accuracy (pct)	Numerical	Output accuracy of the PA in %
Width (mm)	Numerical	Width of the PA enclosure in mm
Height (mm)	Numerical	Height of the PA enclosure in mm
Depth (mm)	Numerical	Depth if the PA enclosure in mm
Weight (kg)	Numerical	Weight of the PA in kg
Power density (kW_div_dm3)	Numerical	Power density of the PA in kW/dm3
Specific Power (kW_div_kg)	Numerical	Specific power of the PA in kW/kg
Voltage Range (V)	Numerical	Range of the output voltage of the PA in V
Current Range (A)	Numerical	Range of the output current of the PA in A
Efficiency (pct)	Numerical	Efficiency of the PA in %
Voltage Ripple (pct)	Numerical	Maximum ripple of the output voltage of the PA in %
Price (€)	Numerical	Price of the PA in €
Slew Rate (V_div_μsec)	Numerical	Slew rate if the PA in V/μsec
Delay (μsec)	Numerical	Delay between the input and output of the PA in μsec
Communication	Categorical	Type/s of communication with the DRTS: analog, digital and/or optical link
Quadrants	Integer	Quadrants in which the PA can operate: 1,2,3 and/or 4.
Modularity	Categorical	Degree of combination of several power amplifiers: serialize, parallelize or nothing.
Power Factor	Numerical	Power factor of the PA in $\cos \phi$
Portability	Categorical	Portability of the PA: rack format, wheels, forklift openings or nothing
Security	Categorical	Protections of the PA: overtemperature, overvoltage, overcurrent, emergency stop or not show
Standards	Categorical	Standards accomplished by the PA: IEC/EN 50178, IEC/EN 50581, IEC/EN 61000-2-2, IEC/EN 61000-4-4, IEC/EN 61000-4-5, IEC/EN 61000-4-8, IEC/EN 61000-4-11, IEC/EN 61000-4-13, IEC/EN 61000-4-14, IEC/EN 61000-4-17, IEC/EN 61000-4-27, IEC/EN 61000-4-28, IEC/EN 61000-4-29, IEC/EN 61000-4-34, IEC/EN 61000-6-2, IEC/EN 61000-6-4, IEC/EN 60146-1-1, IEC/EN 60529, IEC/EN 61131-2, IEC/EN 61496-1, IEC/EN 61800-3, IEC/EN 62040-2, SEMI F47-0706, VDE 0126/EN 50438
Company-University	Categorical	Companies, universities and/or research centres which develop the PA. These data are taken from the dynamic table “Companies-Universities” of <a href="#">Table 5</a>
Added_By	Categorical	User who adds the item
Add_Date	Date	Date of the item addition, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Revision_Date	Date	Date of the last revision of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Permission_User	Categorical	Users who have the permission to modify the item
Last_Modification_Date	Date	Date of the last modification of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Last_modification_By	Categorical	User who made the last modification

**Table 8**

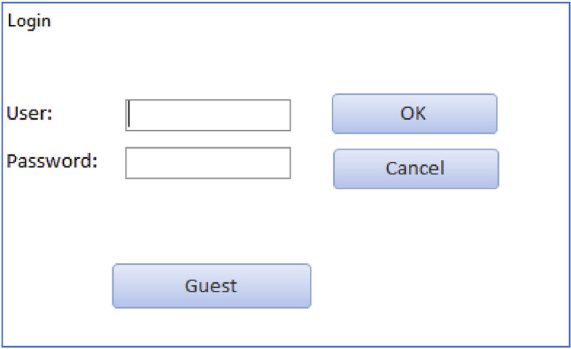
Variable description of “DRTS” table.

DRTS		
Variable	Type	Description
Id	Integer	Item Identifier
Model	Categorical	Model name of the Digital Real-Time Simulator (DRTS)
Company-University	Categorical	Companies, universities and/or research centres which develop the DRTS. These data are taken from the dynamic table “Companies-Universities” of Table 5
Hardware	Categorical	Hardware used to run the simulation: CPU, DSP, GPU and/or FPGA
Host OS	Categorical	Operative System of the host: windows or Linux
Target OS	Categorical	Operating System of the target: Linux based, QNX, Red Hat, VxWorks, QNX RTOS, Optimized Real-time kernel, FPGA
Application Software	Categorical	Software used to model and run the simulation: Matlab/Simulink, RSCAD, RT-Lab, Hypersim software suite, AdvantageDE
Communication, Protocols, Interfacing and I/O	Categorical	Supported communication, protocols, interfacing and I/Os of the DRTS: Gigabit Ethernet, Dolphin networking, IEC61850, C37.118, DNP3, Shared memory, Third party I/Os, Optical fiber, Fast back plane, Global bus hub, TCP/IP, Analog and digital I/O, PCI, PCIe. PXI, PMC, IEEE 1284C, Serial, UDP/IP, CAN, J1939, SFP
Application	Categorical	Type of application of the DRTS: Power systems, Real-time simulation of power electronics, Control and automotive systems, Multi-domain simulation, HIL testing, Specialization in avionics and maritime, Control system and/or Rapid prototyping
ADC bit	Integer	Number of bits of the DRTS ADC
ADC delay	Numerical	Delay of the DRTS ADC in $\mu\text{sec}$
Minimum Time Step ( $\mu\text{sec}$ )	Numerical	Minimum time step of the DRTS in $\mu\text{sec}$
Added_By	Categorical	User who adds the item
Add_Date	Date	Date of the item addition, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Revision_Date	Date	Date of the last revision of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Permission_User	Categorical	Users who have the permission to modify the item
Last_Modification_Date	Date	Date of the last modification of the item, in dd/mm/yyyy format
Last_modification_By	Categorical	User who made the last modification

**Fig. 2.** Percentage of the different HUT types used in the database tests.



**Fig. 3.** Percentage of the different systems simulated in real-time in the DRTS of the database tests.

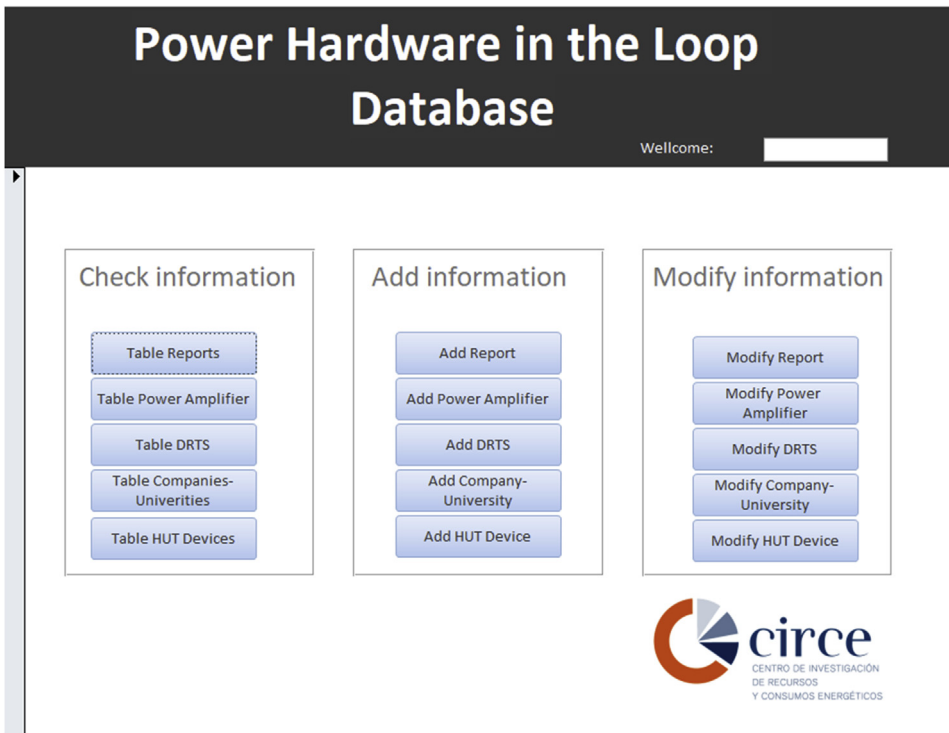


**Fig. 4.** Login window of the database. The “Guest button” allows non-registered users to read the database.

2.3. Database host

The database is uploaded to GitHub [1], which is an open-source version control system. It gives the possibility of changing and updating the database in an orderly manner, preventing the database from becoming outdated. However, since the Access database must be updated in GitHub as a binary file, only the main branch of the database could be useful to users. This form of centralised management enables better organised control of the database updating process. Consequently, this supervision technique will provide a third-party revision to prevent mistakes and any attempts of cheating.





**Fig. 5.** PHIL database user interface. Three menu bars are available: check, add and modify information.

Papers_Visualization									
Id	Year	Title	DRTS	Simulated System	Step Tir	Algorithm	Power Amplifier	HUT Type	Test Power
1	2014	Power hardware-in-the-loop implementation and verification of a real time capable battery model	eMEGAsim	Lithium Battery	10	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	TC.GSS.32.600.4WR.5	Car: FTP-72 driving cycle	0.345
2	2013	Hardware-in-the-loop simulation applied to protection devices testing	RT-LAB HIL Box 4U	Short-Circuit	30	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	Puisance+ (no model)	Circuit Breaker	0
3	2012	Implementation of a multi-rating interface for Power-Hardware-in-the-Loop simulations	eMEGAsim	Electric grid	10	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	SPS PAS1000	Linear Circuit	0,1
4	2007	Accuracy Evaluation of Power Hardware-in-the-Loop (PHIL) Simulation	RTDS	Electric Ship; Electric grid	60	Transmission Line Model (TLM)	PowerPak 3-3 - PEBB	Nonlinear circuit; Linear Circuit	16,7
5	2011	Evaluation of the Impact of Superconducting Fault Current Limiters on Power System Network Protections Using a Real Time Simulation	Hypersim	Short-Circuit	30	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	7796RLY	SFCL (Superconducting Fault Current Limiter)	0
6	2015	Stability and accuracy evaluation of a power hardware in the loop (PHIL) interface with a photovoltaic micro-inverter	RTDS	Electric grid	10	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	SPS PAS1000	Linear Circuit; PV Inverter	0,052
7	2017	Power-Hardware-In-Loop Setup for Power Electronics Tests	RTDS	Electric grid	45	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	SPS PAS15000	Smart Transformer (ST)	2
8	2012	Examination of LV grid phenomena by means of PHIL testing	RTDS	Electric grid	50	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	SPS PAS1000	PV Inverter	3
9	2017	Frequency response services designed for energy storage	Opal-RT	Electric grid	50	Not show	PM15I60F60	Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)	2
10	2017	Design considerations and test setup assessment for power hardware in the loop testing	RTDS	Electric grid	---	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM), DIM (Damping Impedance Method)	7224	PV Inverter	1
11	2012	Design, development and operation of a PHIL environment for Distributed Energy Resources	RTDS	Electric grid	---	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	PM15I60F60	PV Inverter	0,8
12	2017	Stability study of power hardware in the loop (PHIL) simulations with a real solar inverter	RTDS	Electric grid	50	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	7224	PV Inverter	0,09
13	2010	Real-time simulation the missing link in the design process of advanced grid equipment	Opal-RT	Electric grid	50	Not show	Not show	Distributed Energy Storage Systems (DESS)	5
14	2012	Power hardware-in-the-loop testing of a 500 kW photovoltaic array inverter	RTDS	Electric grid; PV	50	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	VVS_CAPS	PV Inverter	425
15	2012	A Power-Hardware-in-the-loop facility for microgrids	RTDS	Electric grid	50	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	Triphase(no model)	PV Inverter	0,95
16	2011	Real time simulation of a power system	RTDS	Electric grid	50	Ideal Transformer Model (ITM)	Triphase(no model)	Virtual Synchronous Generator	-

Fig. 6. “Table Reports” in the database GUI (Fig. 5), which contains the PHIL test manuscripts information of the database.

Modify Power Amplifier


Id	1	Power density (kW_div_dm3)	0,261	Power Facto	0,99	Added_By	E.Garcia
Model	TC.GSS.32.600.4WR.S	Specific Power (kW_div_kg)	0,329	Portability	Rack format	Revision_Date	
Company-University	Regatron	Voltage Range(V)	600	Modularity	Serialize, parallelize	Last_Modification_Date	11/06/2018
Power (kW)	32	Current Range(A)	66			Last_Modification_By	E.Garcia
Voltage BW (Hz)	-	Efficiency (pct)	91,5	Link Web	<a href="https://www.regatron.com/en/products-topcon/bidirectional-power-supply">https://www.regatron.com/en/products-topcon/bidirectional-power-supply</a>	Add_Date	28/01/2018
Current BW (Hz)	-	Voltage Ripple (pct)	0,5	Standard	EN 61000-6-2 EN 61000-6-4 EN 50178 EN 50581	Permission_User	
Accuracy (pct)	0,1	Price(€)	-	Security	Overtemperature, overvoltage, overcurrent, emergency stop		Attachment
Width(mm)	483	Slew Rate (V_div_usec)	0,32				
Height(mm)	399	Delay (useg)	25	Notes	-FS: Full Scale -Software: the system can simulate capacitor or battery. Also it is possible to test batteries or make possible to emulate a user curve in .csv		
Depth(mm)	634	Communication	Analog				
Weight(kg)	97	Quadrants	1,4				

Fig. 7. “Modify Power Amplifier” in the database GUI (Fig. 5), which gives access to the Power Amplifier data change form.

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## Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

## Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2020.105128>.

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