EPA Conference on the SF6 and the Environment: Emission Reduction Strategies

Electrical Insulation Performance of Extremely Small Amount of SF₆ in N₂ Mixture and the SF₆ Reduction Rate for Electric Power Apparatus

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Abstract:

From the view points to reduce SF₆ gas consumption in electric power apparatus, it is very important to clarify the electrical insulation performance of SF₆/N₂ gas mixture, in particular, the one under an extremely small amount of SF₆ gas in N₂.

Firstly, an experiment for the partial discharge characteristics under non-uniform electrode configuration was conducted and it was elucidated that the partial discharge inception voltages were kept constant but the breakdown voltages were changed from about 100ppm of SF₆ content. Secondly, the mechanism was investigated and the generation of return stroke discharge was found playing the important role. Thirdly, the creepage discharge extension characteristics were investigated using the impulse voltage and it was pointed out that the small amount of SF₆ in N₂ strongly affected the discharge extension length, that is, the creepage insulation performance.

In addition, besides with the SF₆/N₂ mixture, the gas mixtures of O_2/N_2 and CO_2/N_2 were also investigated and the partial discharge characteristics were compared with the one in SF₆/N₂ mixture.

Finally, using the obtained data for SF₆/N₂ mixture, the reduction rate of SF₆ gas amount for the electrical insulation design of gas insulated switchgear (GIS) was discussed under the different conditions taking the rated current and the testing voltages for the apparatus into account.

PDIV, PSIV and BDV characteristics





Percentage of SF6 [%]

PDIV and BDV characteristics as a function of mixture rate of SF6.

(r=0.5mm, g=10mm, in SF6/CO2 gas)





PDIV and BDV characteristics as a function of mixture rate of SF6.

(r=0.5mm, g=10mm, in SF6/CF4 gas)





PDIV and BDV characteristics as a function of mixture rate of O₂. (r=2.5mm, g=50mm)



N₂/O₂ gas

PD light emission image and light intensity pulse waveform (r=2.5mm, g=50mm, θ= 85 95°)









PD current pulses at higher gas pressures. (r=0.5mm, g=20mm)











(d) P=0.4MPa Va=27.1kVrms

Experimental Setup for Partial Discharge Measurement



Electrode Configuration for Creepage Discharge



Voltage dependence of PD characteristics in 10ppm SF6 in N2

 $(k = 10ppm, \theta = 90^{\circ}, P = 0.1MPa)$



Selective measurement of primary and subsequent current pulses in SF6/N2 mixture



Needleelectrode 32mm Measured area of P.M.T. 50mm Plane electrode Gate pulse Current (2mA/div) Light intensity (1 a.u./div)

> 500ns/div (a) Primary and secondary pulse







Streak image of creepage discharge in N2/SF6 mixture



Time interval of step propagation and discharge step length



Step propagation velocity and ion drift velocity





Minimum tank diameter for different gas pressures as a function of SF6 content in N2 (6000A)



SF6 gas amount for different gas pressures as a function of SF6 content in N2.(6000A)



Gas Insulated Power Transformers (300MVA Base) Reduction of SF6 Gas Amount





Year