GIS Substation Design and Execution

HV and EHV GIS application and design considerations

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Alstom Grid
GIS product Line
List of contents
Session 1 – April 8th, 2014

- GIS introduction
- Surrounding conditions
- GIS vs. indoor AIS
- Replacing an outdated AIS by a GIS
- Reliability – availability - maintainability
GIS introduction

SF6 properties

- A GIS is the implementation, within a complete HV substation, of the remarkable sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) properties in terms of voltage withstand and current interruption

SF6 main data

- Neutral gas: insulators and live parts are perfectly protected from contamination and oxidation
- Density 6.15 kg/m³ at atmospheric pressure
  - To be considered in access rules / low points
- Reversibility of electric arc dissociation
  - Circuit-breakers chambers most often require no maintenance
- High liquefaction temp, -25/30°C for 6.3/5.5 bar @ 20°C
  - Liquefaction shall be avoided
  - The lower the pressure, the lower operating temperature and lower ratings
- Dimensional comparison, at 362 kV, of a support insulator on its frame, within an air-insulated substation (AIS) and a GIS element

- GIS technology enables to divide by 10 to 25 the area of a HV switchyard
GIS technology enables to divide by minimum 3 the height of a HV switchyard.
GIS introduction
SF6 properties – current interruption capability

- Arc cooling
  - High dissociation energy
- Free electrons capture
  - Fluor ions electronegativity
- Fast recovery of voltage withstand
  - Very fast recombination of dissociated molecules
- Oil to SF6 move, through compressed air, enabled to drastically simplify circuit-breakers
  - At 550 kV, number of breaking chambers has been divided by up to 6, while both short-circuit current and breaking requirements went up

Canada - Mica - 550 kV - old 6-breaks CB replaced by 2-breaks modern CB
Brazil – Tucurui – 550 kV
GIS introduction
Applications - Transmission

UK – Norton – 420 kV
GIS introduction
Applications - Distribution

USA - Anaheim – 69 kV
Surrounding conditions
Overview

- GIS perfectly match all surrounding conditions
  - Air pollution
  - Saline contamination
  - Altitude above sea level
  - Sand winds / storms
  - High humidity in tropical / equatorial countries
  - Earthquake areas
  - Hazardous areas
  - Installation under the ground level
  - Installation in multi-storey buildings

- GIS have minor environmental impact
  - Low visual impact
  - Low electromagnetic disturbances
Surrounding conditions
Retrofit / extensions

France - Lille - 245 kV
GIS has more bays than previous AIS
Surrounding conditions
Retrofit / extensions

France - Strasbourg - 72 kV
Surrounding conditions
Pollution - urban / industrial

France - Paris – 72 and 245 kV
Surrounding conditions
Saline contamination – sea side / offshore

Spain – Biscaya – 420 kV on sea side

UK – Barrow wind farm – 132 kV offshore platform
Surrounding conditions
Hot conditions

Saudi Arabia - Qassim - 420kV
Outdoor temperature up to +55°C
Surrounding conditions

Cold conditions

Canada – Sainte Marguerite – 330 kV
-50 °C (-58 °F) outdoor temp
Surrounding conditions
Dry and sandy conditions

Saudi Arabia – Jubail – 420kV
Surrounding conditions
Wet conditions

- 100% humidity rate does not impact GIS operation
- Gasket material shall prevent any electrochemical process

Thailand – South Thonburi – 245 kV

Singapore – 72 kV GIS
Surrounding conditions
At high altitude above sea level

- SF6 density is not impacted, thus GIS voltage withstand remains unchanged

Peru – Pachachaca – 245 kV
4100 m a.s.l.

China – Sergu – 550 kV
4000 m a.s.l.
Surrounding conditions
In severe earthquake areas

Santiago 245 kV GIS perfectly withstood the major Feb 2010 earthquake, 8.8 magnitude

- Main international stds
  - IEEE 693 (1997)
- Main national stds
  - Venezuela ETGS/PAS 001 Rev 01 (1999)
  - New Zealand TZ 7881, TZ 7967
  - Canada SN 29.1a (1990)
  - India IS 1893 (1984)
  - China GB/T 13540-92
Surrounding conditions
Hazardous areas

France – Flandres refinery - 100 kV - GIS and trafos building can withstand a major blast – GIS is split in two parts to improve power availability
Surrounding conditions
Under the ground

Canada - 330 kV - 140 m below the ground surface

France – Paris center
245 kV underground GIS
Surrounding conditions
In multi-storeys buildings

Boston - Kingston St. - Power tfrs on ground floor, 362 kV and 1<sup>st</sup> 115 kV GIS on floor #1, 2<sup>nd</sup> 115 kV GIS on floor #2
GIS vs. indoor AIS

- Indoor AIS features several weak points
  - No rain-cleaning of insulators
    - Need to periodically remove dirt, requiring multi-days shutdown
  - Need of heating and ventilation, even sometimes of dryers
  - Internal failure mitigation can raise tough safety issues

69 kV AIS in building – main busbars
Replacing an outdated AIS by a GIS

- Associated with HV cables, GIS enables replacing an AIS with minor disturbances
- New GIS is installed and tested while pre-existing AIS remains in operation
- GIS bays are connected, one by one, to lines and transformers
- AIS is eventually removed and its area can be used for any other purpose
Replacing an outdated AIS by a GIS

- Main topics to go through
  - Asset condition
  - Site issues
  - Health and safety issues
  - Operational complexity
  - Outage requirements
  - System security
  - Capital cost
  - Resource requirements
  - Environmental impact

Temporary HV cables can ensure continuity of operation
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability Overview

- Reliability
  - Condition monitoring
  - Experience & design
  - Manufacturer’s recommendations

- Maintainability
  - Accessibility
  - Gas partitioning
  - Bay sequence
  - Preventive maintenance
  - Safety rules

- Operation continuity = Availability
  - Mean time to repair (MTTR)
  - Isolating devices
  - Redundancy
  - Spares + tools + support availability
  - Single-line diagram
  - Quality
  - Drivers
  - Steps
  - Objective

Experience & design

Preventive maintenance

Accessibility

Gas partitioning

Bay sequence

Spares + tools + support availability

Isolating devices

Quality

Drivers

Steps

Objective

- 2014/04 - Houston - CED – GIS - 27
Mitigating a major failure requires to carefully analyze the non-availability (NA) at 3 times

Just after the failure
- Single-line diagram and redundancy are main topics which mitigate NA

During the repair
- Accessibility, safety rules, gas partitioning, bay sequence, spares + tools + support availability, are main topics which mitigate NA
- NB: repairing a major failure, for instance an internal flashover, generally requires to replace the entire compartment where the failure occurred, including all gas barriers of the defective compartment

During the HV tests
- Isolating devices, jointly with SLD, are main topics which mitigate NA
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability

NA upon failure

- Manufacturer’s recommendations
- Condition monitoring
- Accessibility
- Gas partitioning
- Safety rules
- Experience & design
- Preventive maintenance
- Maintainability
- Bay sequence
- Spares + tools + support availability
- Operation continuity = Availability
- Mean time to repair (MTTR)
- Reliability
- Quality
- Redundancy
- Single-line diagram
- Drivers
- Steps
- Objective

IEEE
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
NA upon failure

- SLD impacts immediate (=just after failure) operation
  Mitigation: bypass, transfer bus, BB disconnectors, etc.
  - Single busbar is quite available as soon as redundancy is properly implemented
    - NB: single longitudinal disconnector does not prevent complete busbar shutdown, in case major failure occurs in the said disconnector, as per “Murphy’s law”
  - Double busbar – single CB enables to shutdown no more than one bay, after appropriate switching
  - Ring and 1,5 CB diagrams mitigate CB NA
    - Drawback: all CBs operate twice more (center CB only in 1,5 CB)
    - Transfer busbar shall have same availability level as main busbar(s)
- NA of different SLD’s shall be assessed later on in this presentation
● SLD’s with a single CB per feeder
  ● Intended to balance investment and availability
  ● Easier network management
SLD’s with two CB ‘s or more per feeder

- Intended to mitigate CB failure

- Ring busbar
- One circuit-breaker and a half
- Double busbar - double circuit-breaker
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability

NA upon repair

![Diagram showing relationships between Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability]

- Manufacturer’s recommendations
- Condition monitoring
- Accessibility
- Safety rules
- Experience & design
- Preventive maintenance
- Maintainability
- Gas partitioning
- Bay sequence
- Spares + tools + support availability
- Redundancy
- Single-line diagram
- Isolating devices

Operation continuity = Availability

- Quality
- Mean time to repair (MTTR)
- Drivers
- Steps
- Objective

2014/04 - Houston - CED – GIS - 33
Accessibility

- Despite commonplace, this matter shall be carefully consider, in order to avoid “domino effect”
• Safety rules
  • Specific safety rules: no additional mechanical stress shall be applied to any pressurized gas-barrier.
  • Any component removal – with its gas barriers - requires to de-energize, then de-pressurize all adjacent electrical circuits.
• Safety rules
  • Safety rules and gas partitioning deeply impact the repair process
  • Repair process impacts compartments close to repair zone and can require complete substation shutdown
    Mitigation: partitioning and shield insulators
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability

NA upon repair

- Gas partitioning - Case 1: non-partitioned main busbar
  - Replacement of just one faulty busbar disconnector, or one circuit-breaker, can require to shutdown the complete substation
  - Reasoning made of “passive” components is wrong, since many items, such as sliding conductors, and grounding switches, are actually as “active” as anywhere else in the GIS

Partitioning concept to avoid
Main busbar failure repair requires to drain all busbar isolators
=> Complete substation shutdown during repair
Gas partitioning - Case 2: partitioned main busbar

Partitioned main busbar enables to limit the impact of a major failure to a small compartment and subsequently decrease the repair time.

- Medium-class partitioning => 5 bays shutdown during repair
- Medium-class partitioning => 3 bays shutdown during repair
- Best partitioning => Single bay shutdown during repair
Availability of spares, tools and support staff

- This issue is quite too often disregarded at tender stage
  - Despite a very high MTTR, “Murphy’s law”, again, can apply
  - It can drastically impact repair time and revenues
  - GIS life expectancy is significantly longer than AIS

- Spares
  - Supply time is ranging from zero, when stored in GIS room, to more than 6 months, when equipment is phased out
  - Selection depends on SLD

- Tools
  - Tools will be consistently made available, versus spares
  - Capital spares generally require special tools

- Support staff
  - Only large organizations can have continuously and sufficiently trained staff, otherwise manufacturer’s support is a must
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
NA during HV tests

- Manufacturer’s recommendations
- Condition monitoring
- Accessibility
- Safety rules
- Experience & design
- Preventive maintenance
- Gas partitioning
- Maintainability
- Bay sequence
- Quality
- Mean time to repair (MTTR)
- Redundancy
- Single-line diagram
- Operation continuity = Availability
- Spares + tools + support availability
- Isolating devices

Drivers
Steps
Objective

2014/04 - Houston - CED – GIS - 40
HV tests impact

- GIS features short clearances and high electric fields
  => High-voltage tests are mandatory to ascertain reliable operation after heavy maintenance
- Disconnectors cannot withstand network voltage on one terminal while the other terminal is connected to HV test voltage
- Without specific features, such as additional isolating gaps, HV tests can require to de-energize the complete substation

Mitigation

- Double isolating gap between tested (shutdown) busbar and the other busbar
- Isolating devices: implemented transversally (e.g. MID) or longitudinally (e.g. busbar longitudinal disconnectors)
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
NA during HV tests

- Longitudinal isolating devices

Aluminium smelter - 245 kV GIS with N-1 continuous availability
Transversal isolating devices

- MID provides an additional gap between main busbar isolator and CB
- Operation must be achieved from the outside, with no degassing, in order to shorten the repair process and prevent the need of further HV tests

Double busbar common point assembly with close-close MID (normal position)

Double busbar common point assembly with open-close MID (right-side double gap)
• Maintenance isolating device (MID) drastically improves GIS availability during maintenance, repair, HV tests and extension
  • MID mainly provides a second disconnecting gap, in order to continuously operate all bays but one, even during HV tests
  • MID provides 3 positions
    • Both gaps closed: normal operation
    • Left gap open: right bus remains energised
    • Right gap open: left bus remains energised
• MID cuts undelivered energy costs, and subsequently reduces TCO
Non-availability (NA) of a circuit is the sum of the non-availabilities of each item of such circuit.

Ground data are the numbers of failures and sample size recorded in the CIGRE brochure titled “Report on the second international survey on high voltage gas insulated substations (GIS) service experience”, dated February 2010.

Presentation is focused on 145 kV data.
# Reliability-Availability-Maintainability

## Availability assessment

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<th>Voltage class (kV)</th>
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availability (hour/year) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Failure non-
availability (ppm) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Repair duration (h) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Repair non-
availability (hour/year) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Repair non-
availability (ppm) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Test duration (h) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Test NA (hour/year) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Test NA (ppm) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Total NA (%) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |

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<th>Item</th>
<th>1 m of 3ph. busduct</th>
<th>SBB-1 feeder without buffer</th>
<th>SBB-half GIS without buffer</th>
<th>DBB-1 feeder without buffer</th>
<th>DBB-overall GIS without buffer</th>
<th>1CB/2/1 feeder without buffer</th>
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| Total              | 1 507               | 456                         | 1 463                       | 0                            | 674                           | 0                             | 0                           |

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| Total              | 264                 | 410                         | 1 242                       | 1 464                        | 410                           | 278                           | 278                          |

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| Total              | 127                 | 112                         | 22                          | 22                          | 48                            | 3                             | 3                            |
Assessed SLD’s

- Single busbar
- Double busbar – single CB
- Double busbar – single CB with bypass
- Double busbar – single CB with transfer busbar
- One and a half circuit-breaker
Bus coupler (double busbar SLD)

- Coupler is a circuit-breaker bay which normally features one CT on either CB side in order to provide the appropriate BB protection (87N)
- Coupler CB shall usually be replaceable while at least one BB remains energized during the repair
- The later requires to have one buffer compartment between CB and one busbar isolator
Bus tie

Bus tie is a circuit-breaker bay which normally features one CT on either CB side in order to provide the appropriate BB protection (87N)

Single busbar diagram:

- No special gas partitioning is usually required, despite any bus tie CB repair/HV test would shutdown the entire substation

Double busbar diagram:

- No special gas partitioning is usually required
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
Availability assessment

- Single busbar
  - 2*6 CB bays with double busbar isolator (full redundancy)
  - Sectionalized (double DS) single busbar is acceptable, for industrial application, when full redundancy is implemented
Double busbar

- 6 feeders + 1 coupler
- Buffers significantly decrease NA
- With no availability features, double busbar is not that much better than single busbar
- With availability features, double BB is much better than single BB
- Appropriate partitioning mitigates repair NA but does not mitigates HV tests NA
- Isolating devices (when they do not require compartment opening and gas treatment) mitigate HV tests NA
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
Availability assessment

- One and a half circuit-breaker / ring diagram
  - No actual event can jeopardize the entire GIS
  - However, some events can shutdown two feeders at a time
  - Buffers decrease NA
  - One ½ CB still features significant NA, since center CB operates twice more often than a CB in single/double bus SLD
  - The latter is even more detrimental for any CB in a ring diagram
Reliability-Availability-Maintainability
Availability assessment

- Double BB with transfer BB
- Double BB with bypass
  - Equivalent SLD’s in terms of NA
  - Still complete substation can be shutdown

![MTTR=15 days Graph](image)

MTTR = 15 days
Non-availability rates are in ppm (parts per million)

- 300 ppm = 3 hours per year
- Additional NA during HV tests
- Additional NA during repair
- Immediate NA
Notice: spares and tools delivery time can be extensive.
Your questions and comments are welcome!
List of contents
Session 2 – April 9th, 2014

- Civil interfaces
- Buildings
- High-voltage interfaces
- Low-voltage interfaces
- GIS elements
- Monitoring
- Project execution process
- The “digital substation”
Civil interfaces
Important features to consider

- Building
  - Concrete slab planarity
  - Dilatation joints / slab size
  - Wall columns distance
    - Accommodate GIB wall hatches
  - Floor beams distance
    - Accommodate HV cable floor hatches
  - LV cables hatches / trenches / trays
- Unloading area
Civil interfaces
Important features to consider

- Outdoor civil works (CW)
  - Ground settlement
  - Trenches, pipes, etc.
  - Access, clearances
  - Water drainage
  - Grounding

CW movements AFTER GIS erection (h4, h5, ω, Θ, E0)

- a) Maximum relative movement of two GIS slabs at expansion joint (if applicable)
- b) Maximum relative movement of GIS slab and outdoor foundations (further to settling effect) (if applicable)
Civil interfaces
Important features to consider

- Floor design
  - Accommodate CB dynamic loads
  - Floor flexibility shall be avoided to prevent excess movements which stress live parts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural frequency of GIS slab (Hz)</th>
<th>Equivalent static load (kN)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
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<td>18.8</td>
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<td>22.5</td>
<td>126</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Buildings
Conventional brick / concrete building

Switzerland – Oberuzwill – 145 kV
Buildings
Steel frames and panels building

Switzerland – Wimmis - 72 kV

USA – Port
Arthur – 69 kV
Buildings

Prefabricated electrical building - steel

Canada – Jackpine – 13 CB bays in a steel PEB
Concrete PEB can hardly accommodate more than a few bays

- Associated to a prefabricated basement
- Resilient design

**France - Lussagnet - 72 kV - gas liquefaction plant**

Complete bay, including protection, control and LV auxiliaries was installed within a couple of days
Mobile substations can:
- Be rated up to 362/420 kV
- Accommodate up to 4 bays
- Integrate both GIS and transformer, up to 145 kV

Algeria – 245 kV mobile substation

Spain – 145 mobile substation – 4 CB
HV interfaces
SF6-air bushing

- Features to specify
  - Ambient temp range
  - Earthquake withstand
  - Voltage withstand
  - Insulator material
    - Porcelain, composite
  - Creepage distance
    - Based on phase-to-phase voltage
  - Mechanical loads
  - Altitude a.s.l.
  - Terminal material and dimensions
  - IEC 60137-2008 std.

India – Bhavini – 245 kV
HV interfaces
HV cable connection

- Features to specify
  - IEC std no. 62271-209
    - To avoid tough site difficulties
  - Cable termination types
    - Dry-type, plug-in / Fluid-type, not plug-in

- Important issues
  - Bending radius
  - Cable laying/support
  - GIS test requirements
    - Cable disconnection during tests

72 kV plug-in cable terminations

Plug-in cable termination – 72 kV
HV interfaces
HV cable connection

- **Cable test requirements**
  - AC tests only need to open the cable disconnector
  - DC tests (obsolete) require to disconnect the cable from the GIS
  - Cable test bushing shall be supplied by cable manufacturer

- **Enclosure continuity**
  - Varistors shall be installed at GIS enclosure - cable sheath interface to provide smooth circuit to transients
  - 6 varistors per phase are typical
HV interfaces
Direct transformer connection

- IEC 61639 – 1996
- GIS test requirement
HV interfaces
Main busbars

- Recently issued standard
  - IEEE C37.122.6: IEEE Recommended Practice for the Interface of New Gas-Insulated Equipment in Existing Gas-Insulated Substations Rated above 52 kV

- Main issues to decide
  - Dimensions
  - Materials
  - SF6 density
  - Mechanical loads
    - Thermal expansion
    - Earthquake withstand
  - HV tests
  - Who is responsible?
LV interfaces

- Local control cubicle types / location
  - Stand-alone
    - Along the opposite wall
    - Close-by GIS bay
  - Integrated in GIS bay
- Protection relays
  - Can be integrated in LCCs

Australia – Barrow Island – 145 kV

Canada – Jackpine – Protection relays in integrated LCCs
GIS elements
Typical bay overview

- Control cubicle
- CB drive FK3
- Voltage transformer
- VT manual link
- Make proof grounding switch
- Combined isolator / grounding switch
- Combined isolator / grounding switch
- Circuit-breaker
- Current transformer
- Cable termination
GIS elements
Enclosures

- Aluminium alloy
  - No corrosion
  - Low resistance to return current
  - No eddy current losses
  - Lower weight
  - Industrial castings, except straight extruded / welded tubes
• Aluminium alloy material, most often
  • For light weight
  • For mechanical properties
  • Silver-plating for sliding contacts
GIS elements
SF6 sealing

- Sealing design requirements
  - Tightness (<0.5 % per year)
  - Lifetime (50 years)
  - Avoid under-gasket corrosion

- Gasket material is essential
  - No electrolytic corrosion
  - Lifetime
  - Tight across the temperature range
  - Tight dynamic sealing

- Sealing manufacture requires utmost care
  - Prevent leakages
    - Avoid scratches, hair, etc.
GIS elements

Insulators

- Insulators
  - Gas barriers
  - Support insulators

Gas barrier

Support insulator

3-phase gas barrier
GIS elements
SF6 accessories

- Each GIS compartment shall be associated with one set of accessories
  - Density sensor
    - Pressure switch, temperature-compensated with/without gauge
    - Analogue / digital sensor, for continuous monitoring
  - Most important is to ensure sensors are at same temperature as enclosures
    - Avoid pipes (circulating currents threats, too)
  - SF6 valve
    - Valves can be no return / tap
    - Section shall be high enough to enable appropriate vacuum (< 1 mbar) within a reasonable time
Each GIS compartment shall be associated with one set of accessories (cont’d)

- Moisture adsorber = Molecular sieve
  - Adsorption surface: 20 to 800 sq.m/g
  - Adsorption ratio; 10~20 %, by mass

- Pressure relief
  - Section shall be such that pressure does not go beyond the enclosure limit pressure
  - Heat-resistant deflectors shall protect personal in case of internal flashover
GIS elements
Circuit-breaker

- Main substation item
- Grading capacitors in case of several breaks per pole
- Tested at 10,000 Close/Open cycles
GIS elements
Circuit-breaker drive

- Different types
  - Spring drives, with no driving fluid
    - Recognized by CIGRE report as more reliable
  - Hydraulic drives
    - Gas storage
    - Spring storage
  - Pneumatic drives
    - Out-dated
    - Need of water draining
No move when CB is not operated, while hydraulic and pneumatic mechanisms daily require several pump starts for pressure topping-up.

Stable timing, insensitiveness to temperature and pressure, ideal for POW switching.
GIS elements
Disconnected (isolator)

- Does not break any other current than
  - Capacitive current of short lengths of GIS: < 0.1~0.5 A
  - Transfer current of double BB substations: 1600 A @ 10~40 V
- Can be associated with a grounding switch
GIS elements
Earthing (grounding) switch

- Speed
  - Low speed, sometimes combined with an isolator
  - High-speed, with short-circuit making capability

- Interrupting capability
  - Inductive coupling current, when both ends of a parallel OHL are grounded
  - Capacitive coupling current, when one end of a parallel OHL is grounded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rated voltage</th>
<th>Electromagnetic coupling</th>
<th>Electrostatic coupling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rated induced current A (r.m.s.)</td>
<td>Rated induced voltage kV (r.m.s.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>Class B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>72,5</td>
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<td>123</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GIS elements

Earthing (grounding) switch

- Insulation
  - Grounding switch is normally connected to the ground
  - Can be insulated for tests
    - Contact resistance
    - CB timing
    - CT primary injection
- Safety issue
  - Never disconnect a GS from ground when 0 voltage is not ascertained
GIS elements
Isolators and grounding switches – viewports

- Isolator: check full-open position
  => ascertain voltage withstand
- Grounding switch: check full-close position
  => ascertain capability to carry full short-circuit current
- Large viewports (approx. 2-3 inches diameter)
  - Can be used to both lighten and view
- Small viewports (less than 1 inch diameter)
  - Two viewports are required, one for lighting, second for viewing
- Viewport access
  - When access is too difficult, one shall use either a mirror device (arm’s length), or a video camera
GIS elements
Current transformer

- Ratings
  - Power
    - Quite often over-specified
  - Accuracy
  - Safety factor
    - No more an issue with modern measuring units
  - Saturation
    - To be carefully engineered

- Low ratios
  - Difficult to achieve with a single primary turn

- Overvoltage protection
  - Specific design to implement inside GIS
GIS elements
Voltage transformer

- Ratings
  - Power
    - Quite often over-specified
  - Accuracy
- Ferro-resonance
  - Mainly in case of CB grading capacitors
  - Can be avoided using a special inductance
  - Requires a specific study
GIS elements
Surge arrester

- Overhead line connections
  - Generally air-insulated
  - Sometimes gas-insulated
- Cable connection / direct transformer connection
GIS elements
Gas-insulated line / bus
Condition monitoring is an important driver of preventive maintenance, reliability and availability.

"better prevent than cure" concept
Monitoring SF6

- Internet link
- Copper wires
- Ethernet fiber optic

Local control cubicle

Sensors

BWatch sensor

Monitoring BCU

User-friendly HMI

Expert remote support
Monitoring
Circuit-breaker, isolator, grounding switch

- CB
  - Travel curve
    - Need of a sensor
  - Contact wear
    - $\sum I^2 \times t$

- Isolator / grounding switch
  - Operating time
  - Motor inrush current
Monitoring
Partial discharges / UHF

- More than 50% of defects have a dielectric origin
- Defects trigger partial discharge (PD) activity before any flashover
- PD trigger ultra-high frequency (UHF) radio waves
- Partial discharges cannot be easily and continuously monitored
- UHF signals are thus monitored, using capacitive couplers (antennas / UHF sensors)
Monitoring
Partial discharges / UHF

- EM waves are broadcast from 300 MHz up to 20 GHz
- UHF monitoring is applied to frequencies ranging from 300 MHz to 1,2 GHz
- Sensor location is essential
  - GIS manufacturer experience is a must
Electromagnetic noises can
  - hide typical PD signal
  - be interpreted as PD signal
Signal pattern analysis => defect type
Expert system helps in making decision
Point-on-wave switching

Intro

- Individual CB pole switching @ the appropriate time
- 2014 Singapore GIS Users Group features a conference on POW switching
Point-on-wave switching

Overhead lines

- Existing techniques to mitigate switching overvoltages impact
  - Closing resistors
  - Surge arresters
    - At line terminals, at some intermediate points
  - Point-on-wave (POW) switching
  - And/or combination of above means

- Additional requirements
  - Compensated overhead lines
    - Entails “beat waves”
Point-on-wave switching
Overhead lines

- Non-compensated line with capacitive VT
  - Faulted phase
    - Line is discharged by the fault
    - Reclosing at ZERO source-voltage
  - Healthy phase
    - Line has kept DC trapped charge
    - Reclosing at PEAK source-voltage with same polarity as DC trapped charge
Point-on-wave switching
Overhead lines

- No control measures
- Closing resistors (400 ohm) only
- Line terminal arresters plus SPC
- Closing resistors (800 ohm) only
- Line terminal and mid-line arresters plus SPC
- Closing resistors (800 ohm) only plus line end arresters
- Closing resistors (400 ohm) plus line terminal arresters

Controlled closing and line terminal arresters
Point-on-wave switching
No-load transformer switching

1) Large flux grading,
2) Transformer core driven into saturation,
=> Strong inrush currents

Core flux
Residual flux
Prospective flux
Instant of energisation

Core Saturation Characteristics

No-load current

IEEE

2014/04 - Houston - CED – GIS - 100
Point-on-wave switching
No-load transformer switching

- Random closing following random opening
- Inrush current peak value = 4500 A
Point-on-wave switching
No-load transformer switching

- Controlled closing subsequent to controlled opening
- Inrush current peak value = 500 A
Point-on-wave switching
Reactor switching

- Main issue: Current re-ignition during breaking
- POW will trigger opening in order to avoid short arcing times

Circuit-breaker current
Circuit-breaker recovery voltage
Point-on-wave switching

Capacitor bank switching

- Parallel capacitor banks switching entail high inrush currents and overvoltages
- Such phenomena occur upon making (switching-on)
- POW will trigger the closing order in order to make the current when voltage across CB is zero (⇔ busbar voltage is zero)
- Such issue is detailed in IEC and IEEE stds
- Long cables can benefit from same technology
Project execution process 1/3
RFQ process 1/1

- RFQ specification
  - Has to specify the functions / features / ratings to achieve
  - Has to let free the ways to get these achievements
Supervision of installation by a specialist of the GIS manufacturer is a must for the warranty coming-into-force.
Project execution process
Energizing

- As far as possible, in order to anticipate a failure (despite the HV tests), energizing shall be made in such a way that a failure would trigger a low short-circuit current.

- To achieve the above:
  - Length of the supply lines/cables shall be extended as much as possible.
  - A low power transformer shall be used to supply the energizing voltage.
In case of a failure inside an open BB isolator, both busbars will be tripped (same as in case of a coupler CB failure).

Fast operation restore requires to shortly find out the faulty disconnector.

Internal failure localisation system is appropriate to ascertain such a short localisation.

SF6 continuous monitoring can be fitted with appropriate features to provide this function.
The “digital substation”  
IEC 61850

• A crucial technology enabler

• Enables full digitalizing of substation signals, so that large data amounts can be managed and communicated for the real-time management of a modern power grid – a smarter grid.
The “digital substation” Architecture

The digital substation architecture can be divided into three levels:

1. **The station control area**
   - Communication within substation and control system, coordination with the substation operational functions and the station-level support functions.

2. **The protection and control level**
   - Protection and control of substation equipment includes IEDs traditionally called “secondary equipment” (protections, measurement devices, bay controllers, recorders...)

3. **The primary equipment process level**
   - Capture of voltage and current signals, consolidation, processing, and transmission of data via optical fibres: intelligent primary devices (electronic power and instrument transformers, circuit-breakers, disconnectors) and optic fibre have replaced traditional CT/VT systems and conventional cable wiring.
The “digital substation” Measuring

- Rogowski sensors dispense with the conventional CT core and instead implement windings as tracks on a multi-layer printed circuit board. The sensor output is a low level voltage, which is accurately correlated to the primary current.

- Capacitive dividers dispense with the conventional VT. Capacitors are built from special electrodes laid inside the enclosure.
Converters
Alstom Grid digital substations optimise the amount of electronics residing in potentially harsh outdoor environments.

The primary converters convert analog signals from the primary equipment into digital signals. Primary converters can be installed either directly in primary plant hardware or in cubicles.

Digital controllers (switch control units) are the fast, real-time interface to switchgear, mounted close to the plant which they command. They replace the hardwiring of inputs and outputs with an Ethernet interface to the yard.

Merging units
Merging units perform all the digital data processing necessary to produce a precise, time-aligned output data stream of sampled values according to the IEC 61850-9-2 standard. This processing includes tasks such as sampling, analog to digital conversion, scaling, precise real-time referencing and message formatting.

The design may vary with the applied technology of the instrument transformers (eg: optical, Rogowski, voltage dividers, or conventional wound instrument transformers), the switchgear type, mounting space available and also with the preferred substation communication architecture.
Customer benefits

- Proven algorithms of conventional applications remain unchanged, no need for reapprove
- Time-critical performance is maintained irrespective of the architecture, number of functions enabled, or extent of logic programmed
- Safer test and maintenance operations – no wired CT
- Accurate measurement capabilities
- Station bus communication redundancy available: PRP (Parallel Redundancy Protocol) and RSTP (Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol)
Issues to be managed

- Substation automation
- Redundant architectures
- Substation/grid control room communications
- Cyber security
With less wiring and fewer commissioning tests, asset management is grounded on a set of tools that optimize preventive maintenance and extend lifetime:

- Maximize the substation availability
- Operate assets, more efficiently and safely
- Optimize maintenance, repair and retrofit, with minimum outages
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