

SF<sub>6</sub> 가스 중 미소 방전을 가진 봉에 평판 간극의 교류 전압 파괴 특성  
 A.C. Breakdown Characteristics of a Rod-to-Plane  
 Gap with a Small Discharge Current in SF<sub>6</sub> Gas.

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### 1. Introduction

A discharge, which is caused by an alternating voltage applied between the defective contactors in SF<sub>6</sub> gas insulated equipment such as SF<sub>6</sub> gas insulated switchgear (GIS), sometimes causes an accident breakdown between the conductor and the inner wall of GIS. This accident breakdown is big problems for power system and various electronic equipments. Considering this, the three-electrode gap in this paper consists of two rods facing each other together with a plane electrode. The rod-rod electrode simulates a defective contactor in GIS.

The breakdown (BD) between the rod-rod gap and plane electrode simulates an accident breakdown between the conductor and the inner wall of GIS.

We observed that the reduction of the breakdown voltage ( $V_{BD}$ ) between a rod-rod gap and the plane electrode in presence of a small discharge (discharge of rod-rod gap, SD) depends on magnitude of a small discharge current (I), gas pressure (p) and rod-plane distance (d).

### 2. Experimental apparatus and techniques.

Figure 1 is experimental circuit and gap configuration. We installed the model gap in a cylindrical stainless steel chamber 0.25[m] in diameter and 0.65[m] long in length, and performed various experiments while varying the rod-plane distance d ( $6 \times 10^{-3} \sim 2 \times 10^{-2}$ [m]),

the gas pressure p(0.5, 1[atm]) and magnitude of the I ( $I_s=0.3A, I_1=1A$  peak).

The CCD camera, the video tape recorder (SL-HF3000, Sony Co.) and colour video printer (GZ-p11 sharp, Co.) are used for the observation of the BD channels. The main breakdown characteristics were investigated with d, p, I and discharge channels under the condition that  $d/D$  is 0.03 [rod-rod distance ( $d$ ):  $3 \times 10^{-4}$ m, rod diameter (D):  $10^{-2}$ m].

The values of  $V_{BD}$  were determined by arithmetical meanvalue from the values of breakdown voltages for ten times measurements.

### 3. Results and discussion

As shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, all characteristics of  $V_{BD}$ -d increase with increasing d. These characteristics are similar to general characteristics for the SF<sub>6</sub> [1, 2, 3]. It is observed that  $V_{BD}$  shows the highest value among the three characteristics when the SD does not occur.

For this investigation, we observed BD channels by CCD camera technique when the SD is in existence and not. As the result, the typical configurations are shown in Fig. 4. In this observation, the BD occurred between near edge of the plane electrode and stem position of the rod electrode when the SD is not in existence (Fig. 4. a). On the other hand, the BD occurred between center of the plane electrode and the tip of the rod electrode or SD channel when the SD occurred

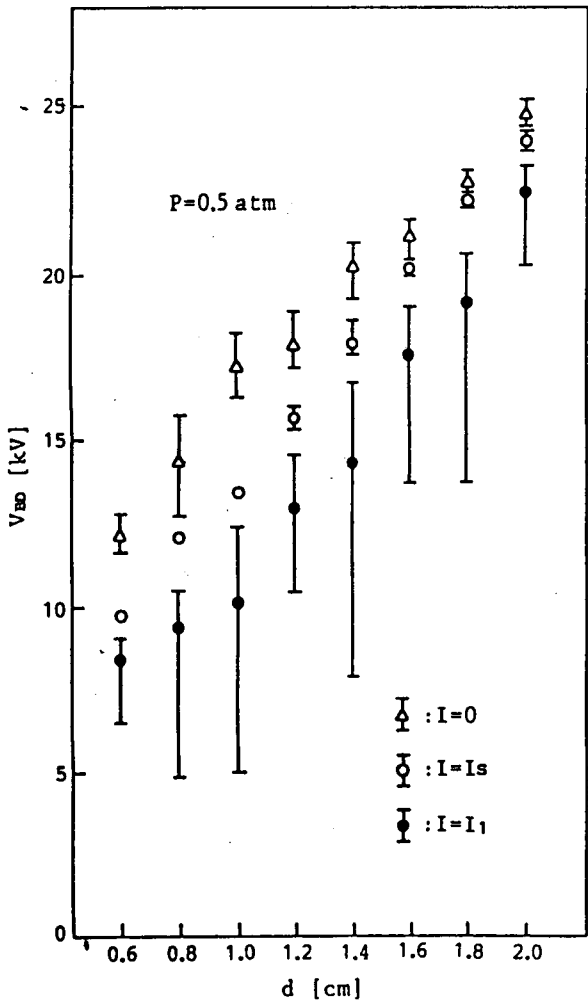


Fig.2, Characteristics of  $V_{BD}$ - $d$  ( $P=0.5$  atm).

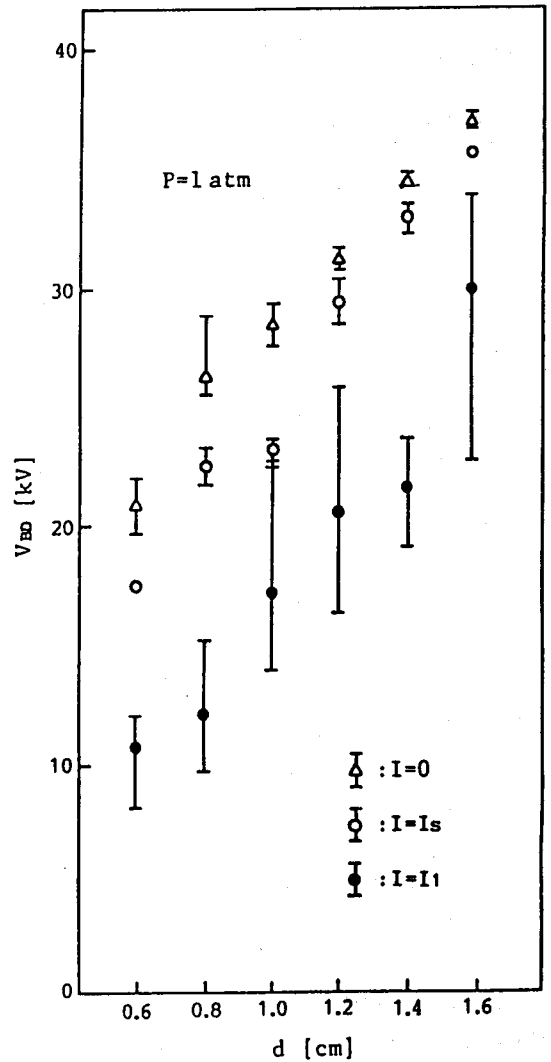


Fig.3, Characteristics of  $V_{BD}$ - $d$  ( $P=1$  atm).

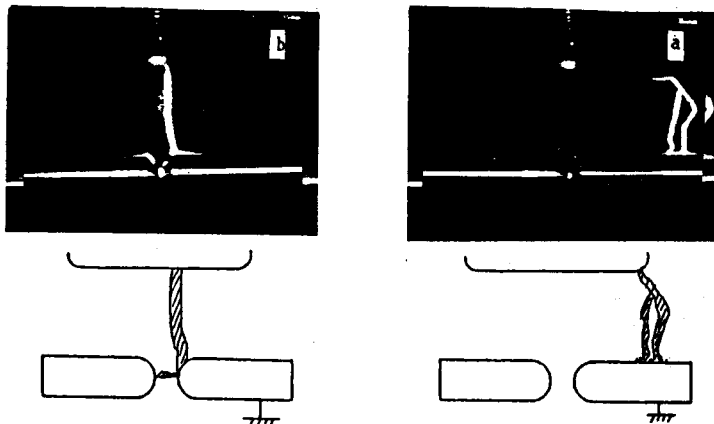


Fig.4, Photographs and configurations for the BD channel with  $P=0.5$  atm

and  $d=12$  cm. (a: small discharge current  $I=0$ , b: small discharge current  $I=I_s$ ).

as shown in Fig.4.b.

Based on the results of these phenomenological observations and previous papers [4,5], possible mechanisms by which the SD could initiate the BD may be explained as follows.

The gas density decreases with increasing the temperature of the circumference of the BD gap as the result of the SD. Therefore, the  $V_{BD}$  decreases with decreasing the gas density of the circumference of the BD gap.

Another version has it that the possible mechanism by which the SD initiates the BD would seem to be associated with the high local electric field around the SD channel enhanced by streamers protruding from its surface.

The  $V_{BD}$  when the SD current is  $I_1$  lower than that of  $I_2$  (Fig.2,3). The reasons are as follows. The first reason is that occurrence of heat when the SD current is  $I_1$  more than that of  $I_2$ . The second reason is that relative gap length when the SD current is  $I_1$  shorter than that of  $I_2$ . Because, the diameter of discharge channel increases with increasing the discharge current [6].

#### 4. Conclusions

The important results obtained from this investigation are as follows.

The reduction of the  $V_{BD}$  to plane electrode due to the small discharge (SD) depends on magnitude of the SD current, the gas pressure  $P$  and on the rod-plane distance  $d$ .

The possible mechanism by which the SD lowers the  $V_{BD}$  was discussed in terms of the results and discussion.

#### References

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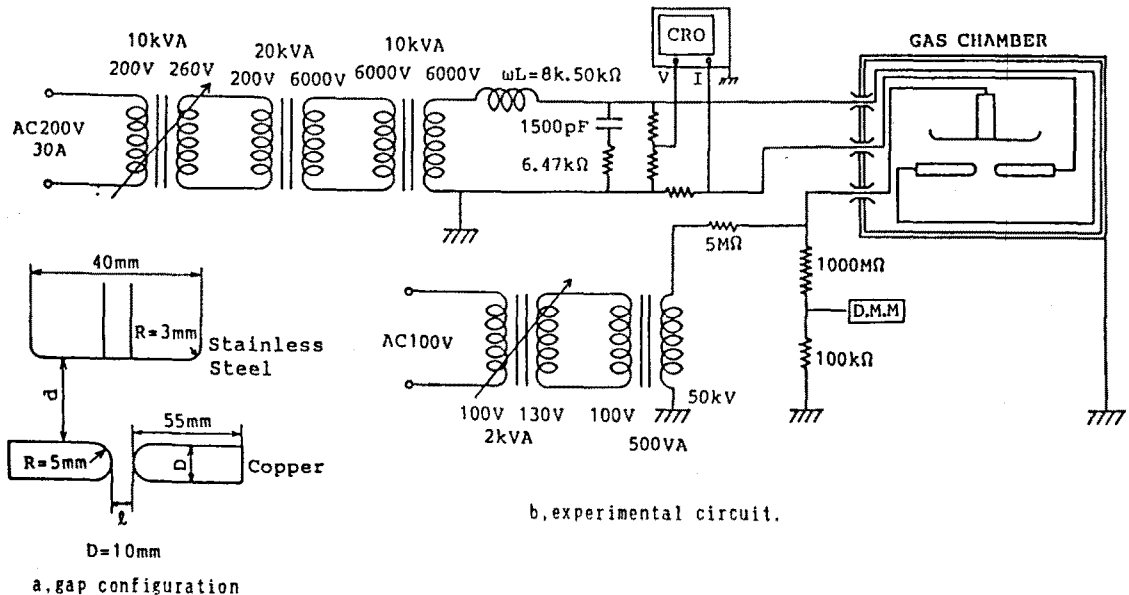


Fig.1, Experimental circuit and gap configuration.