

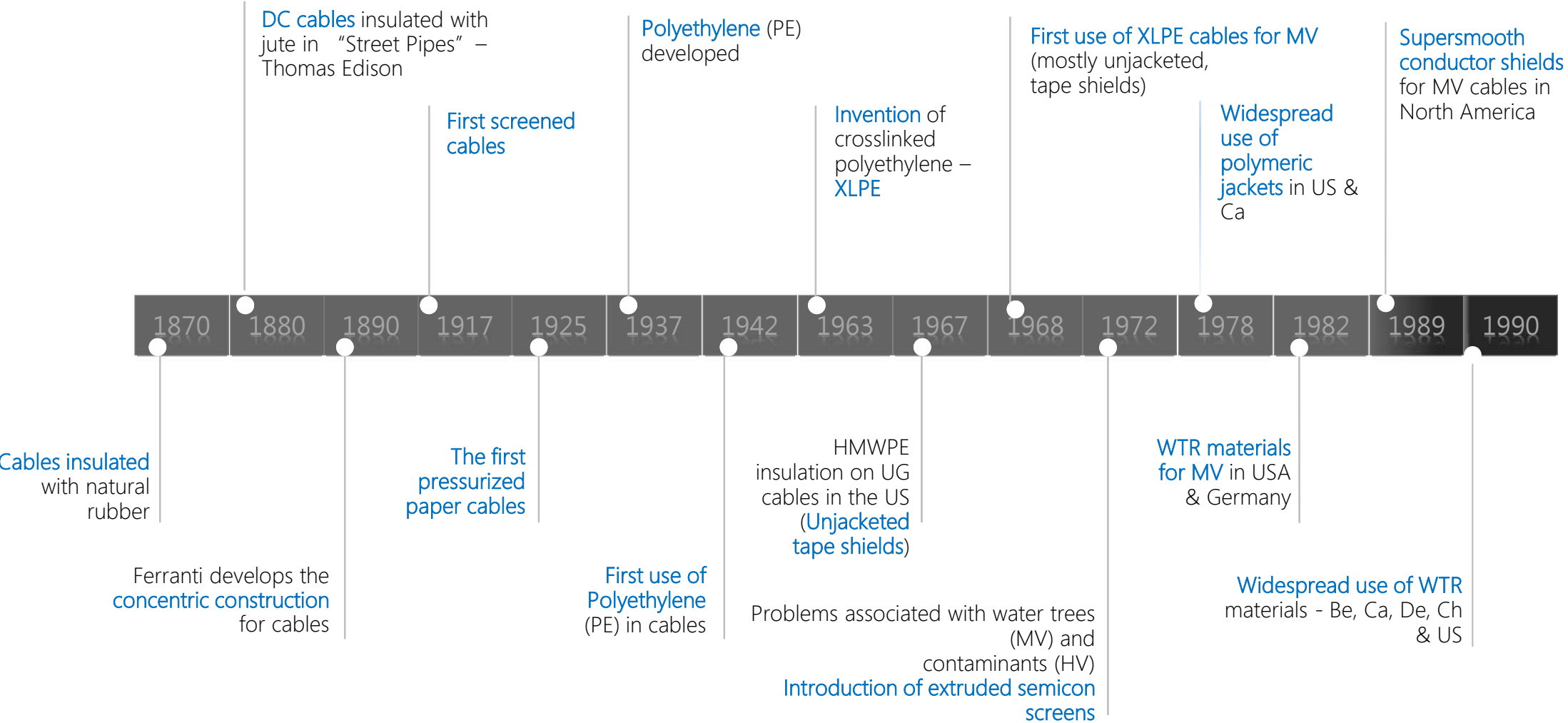
# *Condition assessment on HV and MV cable systems*

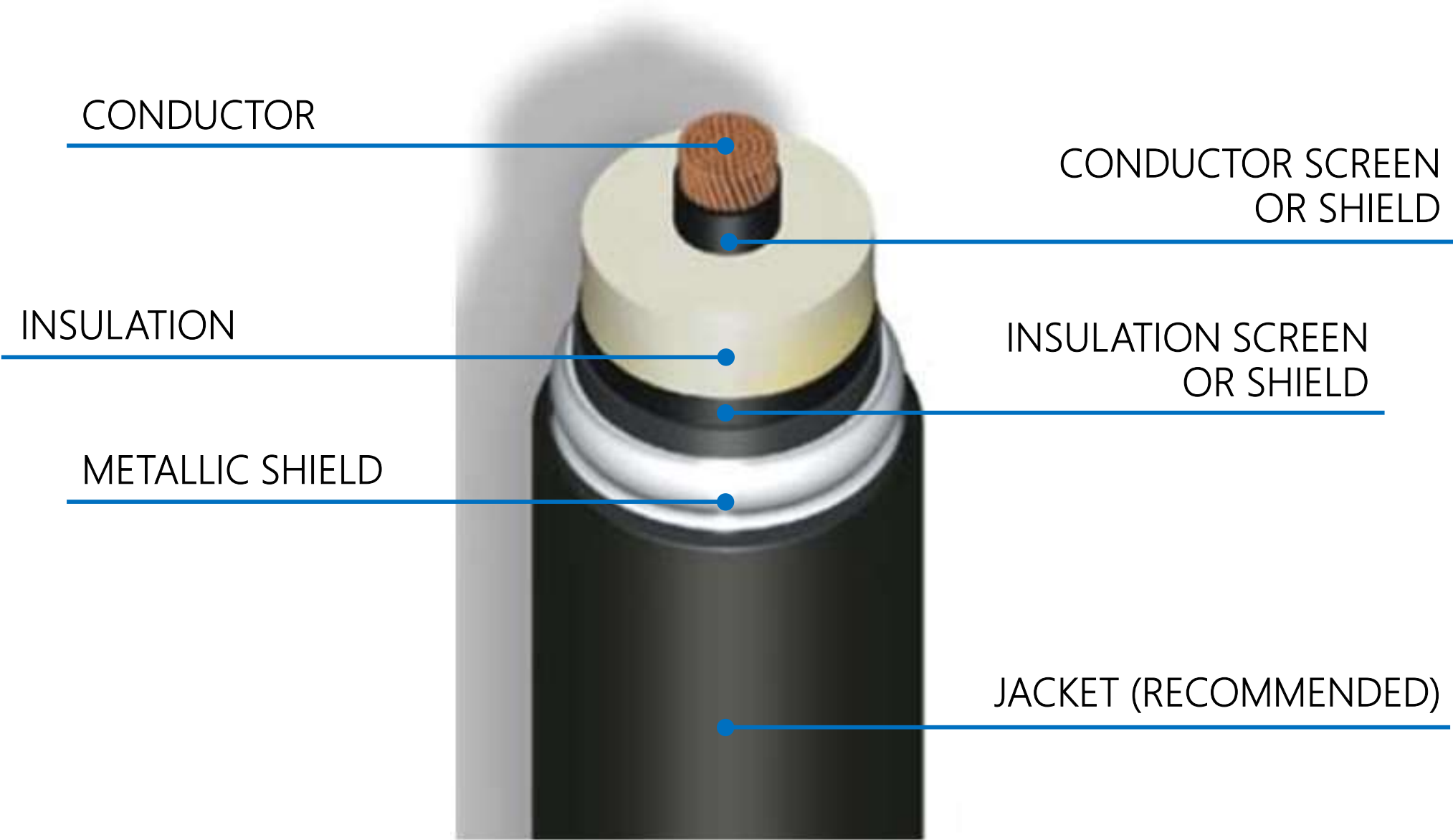


- Construction technology for Cable systems
- Sensor technology
- PD Measurements on HV Cables
  - ✓ Commissioning Test (offline) (sequential/Simultaneous/Soak Test/RTS)
  - ✓ On-Line test
  - ✓ Prerequisites for testing
- PD measurements on MV Cables
  - ✓ Commissioning Test (offline) (generally by Grid or VLF)
  - ✓ On-Line test
  - ✓ Prerequisites for testing
- Localization Techniques
- Tan-Delta tests on Cables
- Permanent monitoring
- DTS for HV Cables
- Case Studies

# *Construction technology for Cable systems*

# Construction Technology





CONDUCTOR

CONDUCTOR SCREEN  
OR SHIELD

INSULATION

INSULATION SCREEN  
OR SHIELD

METALLIC SHIELD

JACKET (RECOMMENDED)

400kV XLPE Insulation 800mm<sup>2</sup>

# Construction Technology: Conductor shield

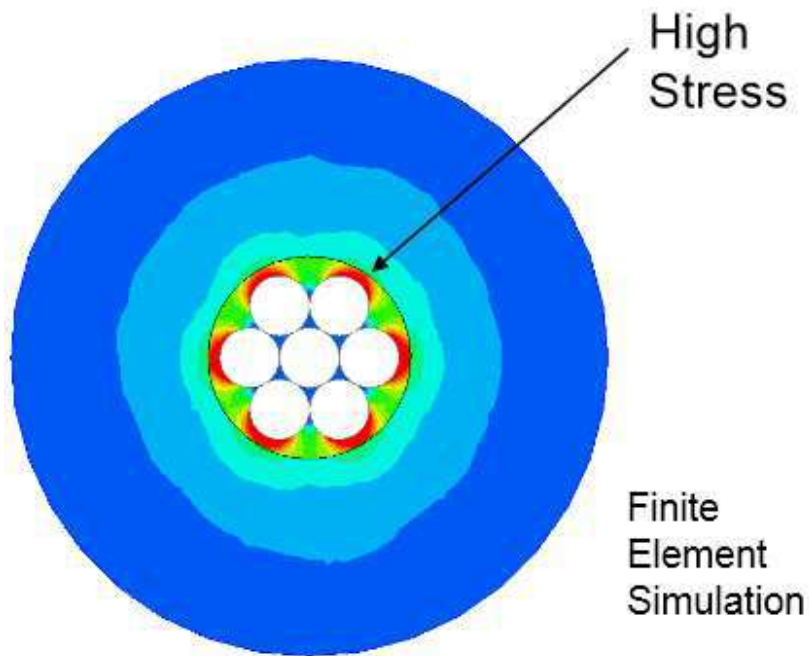
For conductor cross-sections larger than 1000 mm<sup>2</sup>, segmented conductors must be produced to reduce considerably their resistance to alternating current by reducing the skin effect.

Conductor shield provides for a smooth interface between the conductor and the insulation.

With no conductor shield, electric field lines are concentrated, creating high stress points at the conductor/insulation interface.

Conductor shields are semiconductive.

Semiconducting materials are based on carbon black that is dispersed within a polymer matrix.



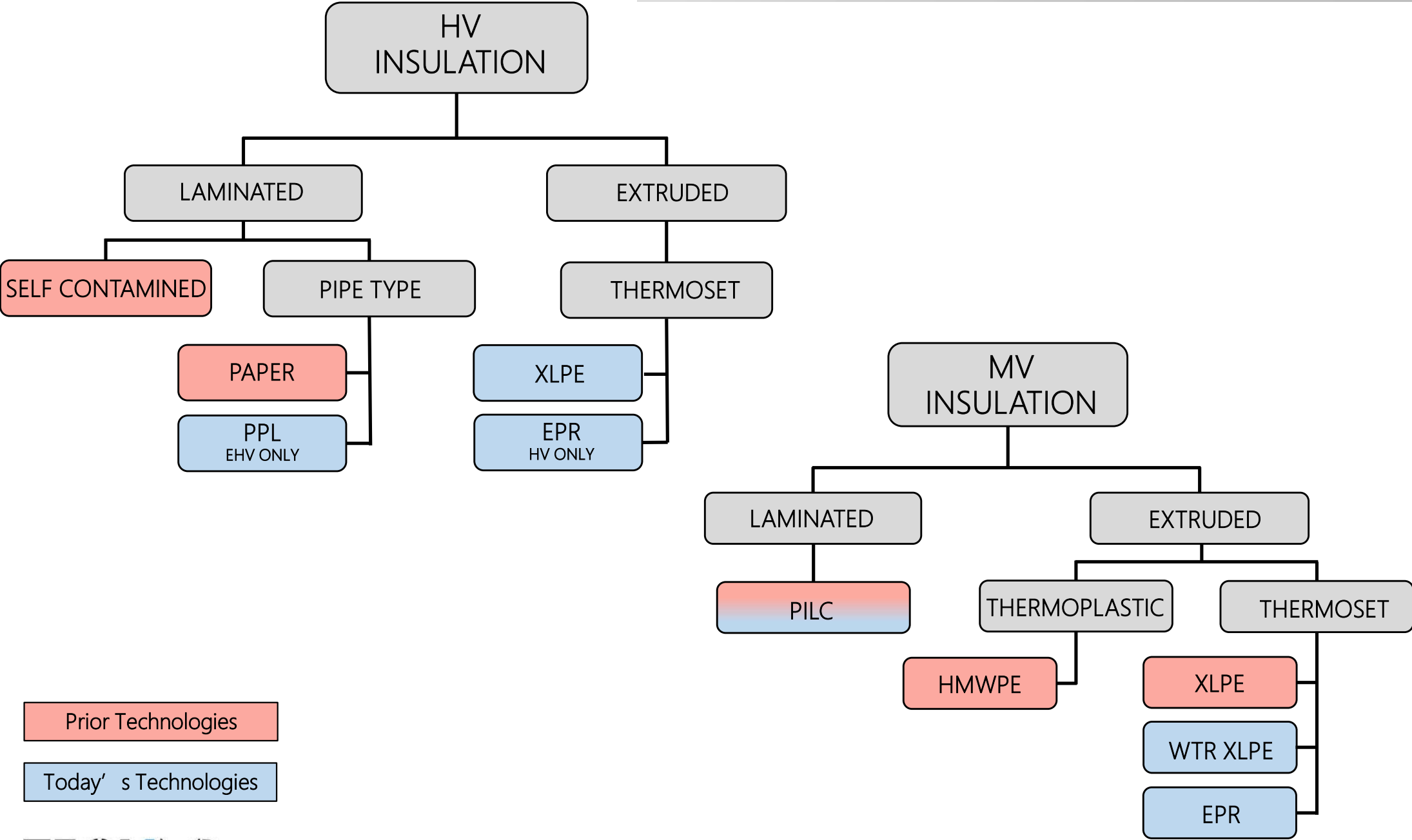
Contains voltage between the conductor and ground:

- Must be clean;
- Must have smooth interfaces with the conductor and insulation shields;
- Must be able to operate at the desired:
  - ✓ Electrical Stress
  - ✓ Temperatures

Higher service gradients require better insulation qualities. These materials should be perfectly clean, this is particularly important, as their long-term performance can be considerably affected, even by micro- impurities.

Precautions to ensure cleanliness should be taken both during the production of raw materials and throughout the entire cable fabrication process.

# Construction Technology: Insulation



Prior Technologies

Today' s Technologies



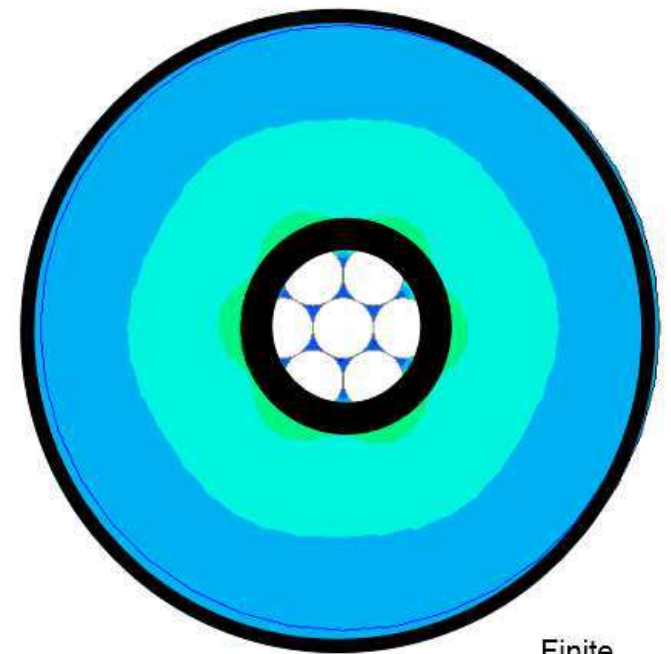


For all cables, the external protection is provided by a polyethylene sheath. Over this insulation, the application of a waterproof metallic sheath, which also acts as a screen, is generally required.

When both shields are:

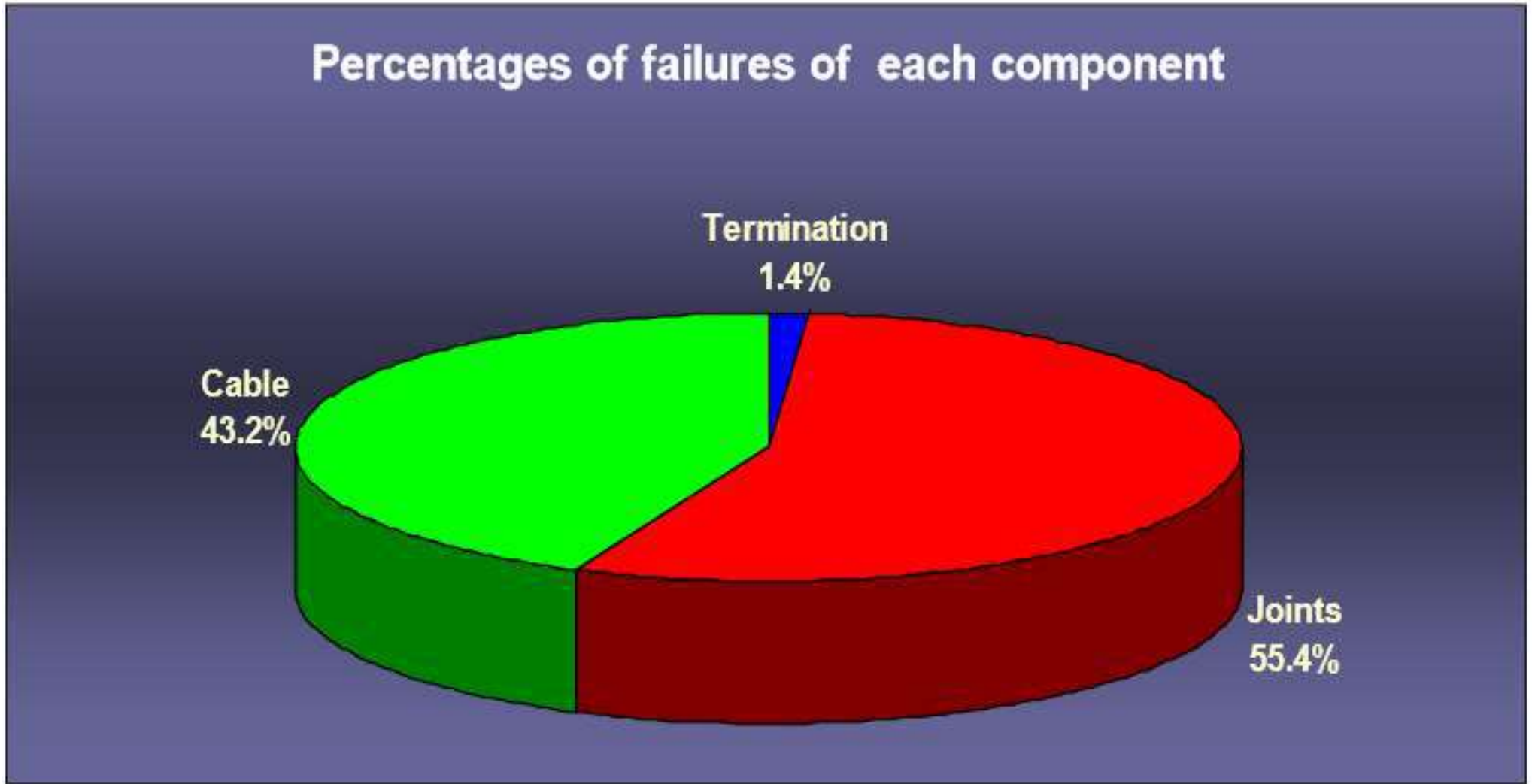
- Smooth;
- Intact;

Then, electric field lines are uniform, with a controlled electrical stress distribution.

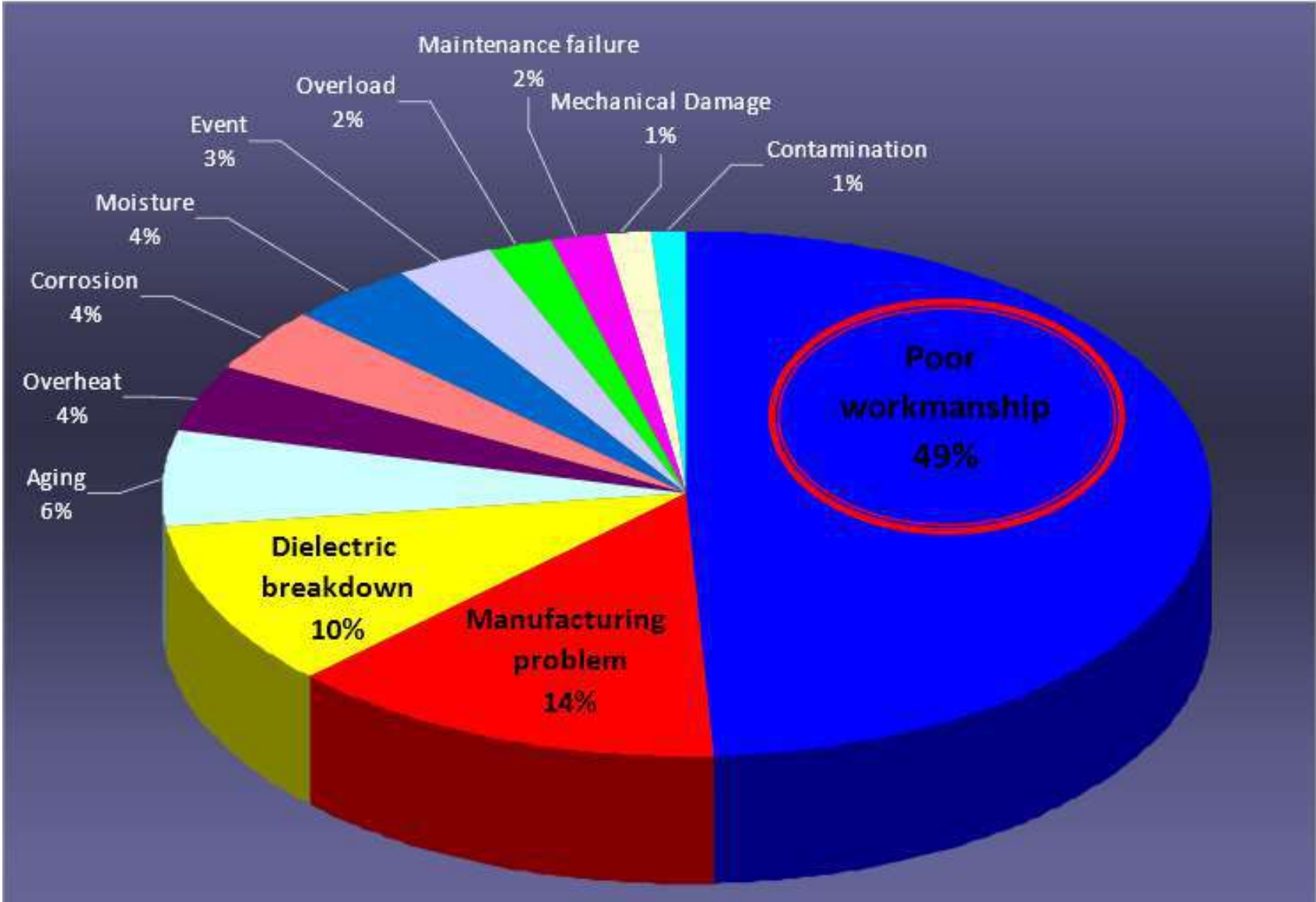


Finite  
Element  
Simulation

Failure modes



# Failure modes

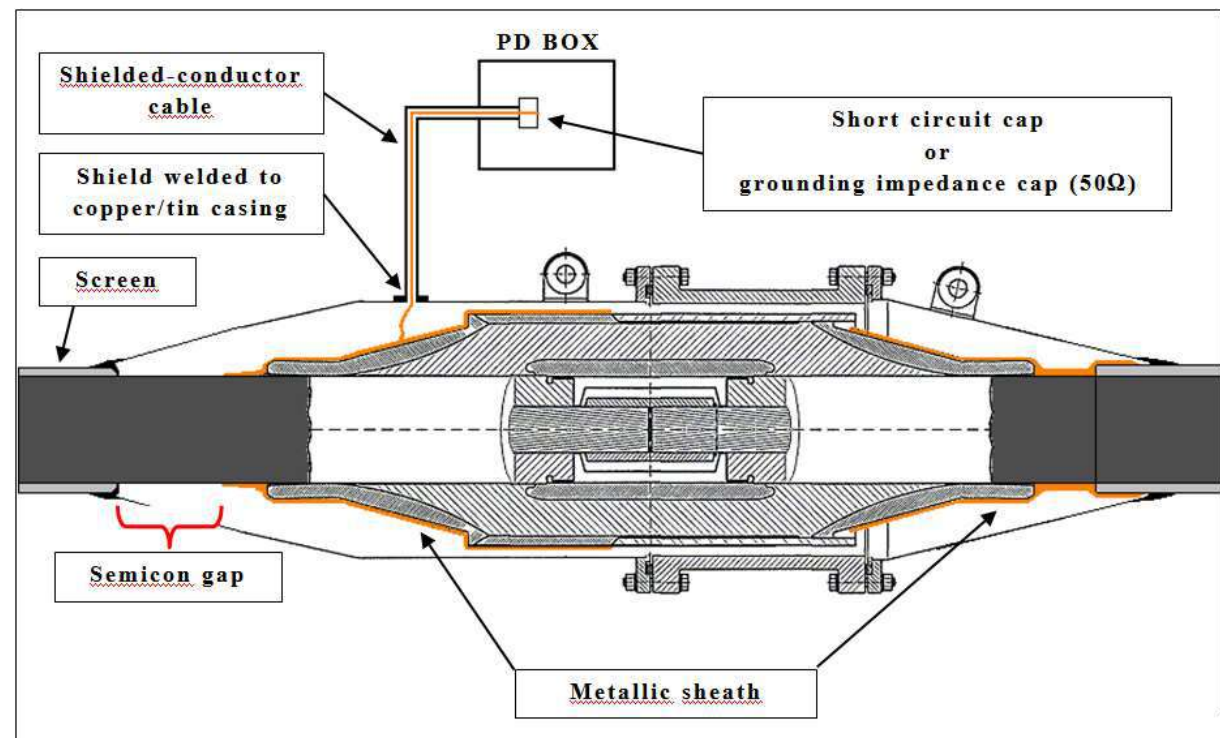


# *Sensor technology for Cables*

**Embedded Capacitive tap**, if available, are provided by the cable manufacturer during the cable installation:

Typically used for:

- on/off line tests and permanent monitoring
- straight/sectionalized joints and terminations



**Techimp PQ** is a quadrupole suitable for on site and factory tests. When connected to the HV circuit through an High Voltage Impedance, e.g.:

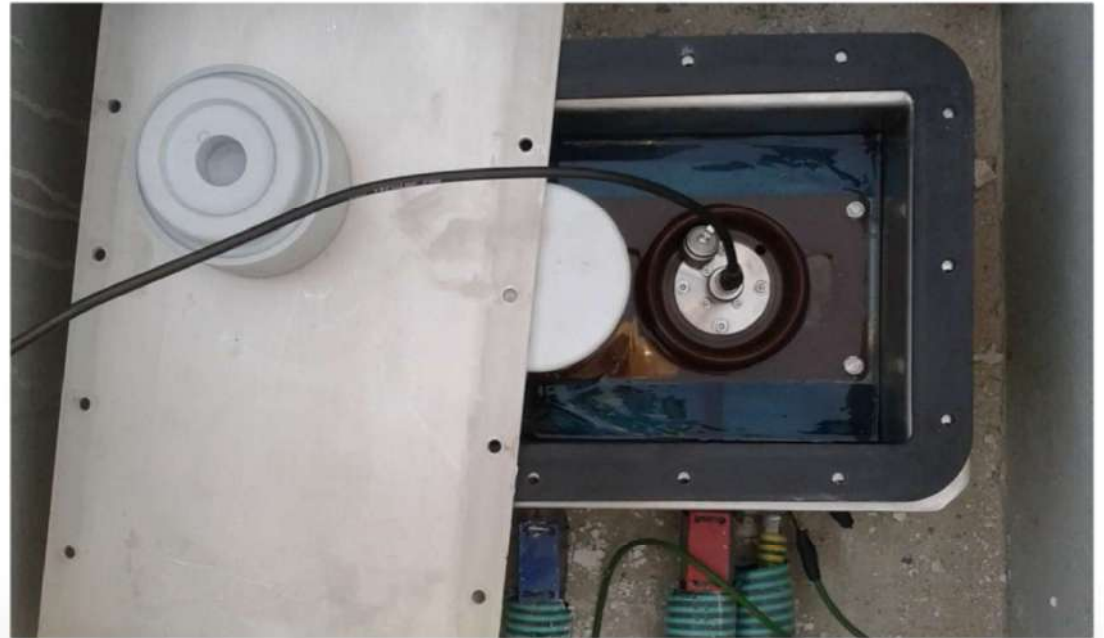
- joint capacitive tap;
- condenser bushing capacitive tap;
- capacitive coupler;

It provides both synchronization and PD signal.





# Sensor technology for cables



## Techimp HFCT (High Frequency Current Transformer)

is an inductive sensor for partial discharge measurements. It is suitable for on/off line PD tests on many electrical systems (cables, transformers, rotating machine, etc..). It has to be applied to the ground connection of the system to be tested.

HFCT Clamp 39mm specifications	
Bandwidth	1 MHz ÷ 80 MHz
Load Impedance	50 Ω
Overall dimension	115 mm x 145 mm x 33 mm
Connector	TNC
Hole dimension	Φ 39 mm

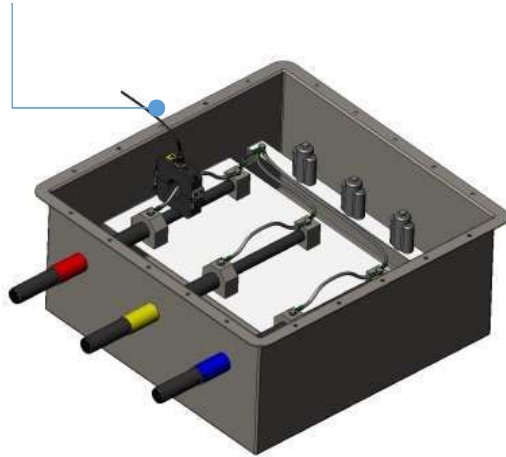




# Sensor technology for cables

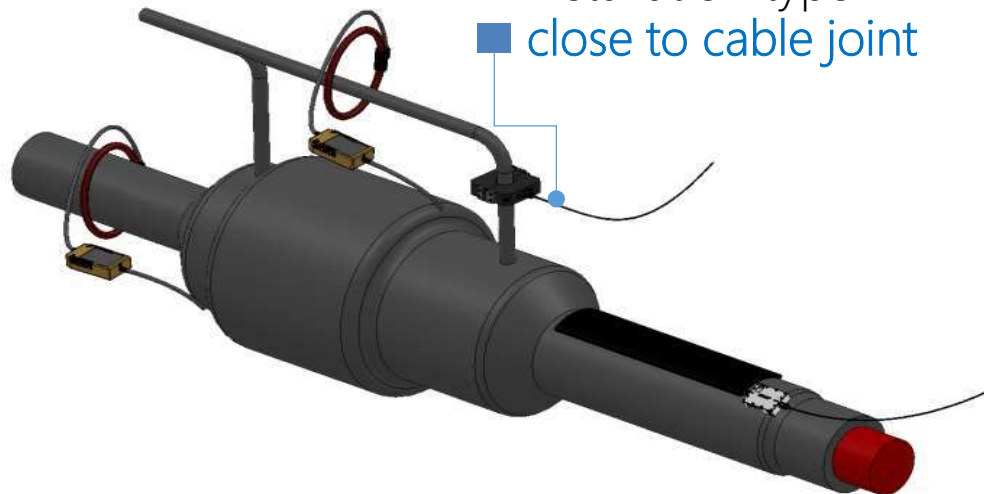


## Installation type I inside link box

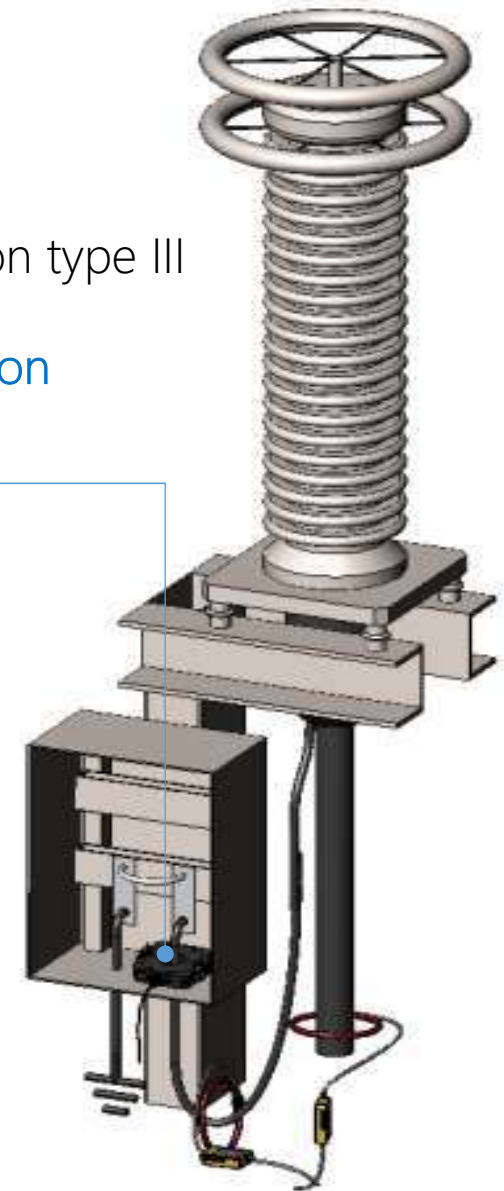


Note: Link boxes are used as a "joint" for the cable shield: left and right sides are connected Straight or CrossBonded.

## Installation type II close to cable joint



## Installation type III outdoor termination



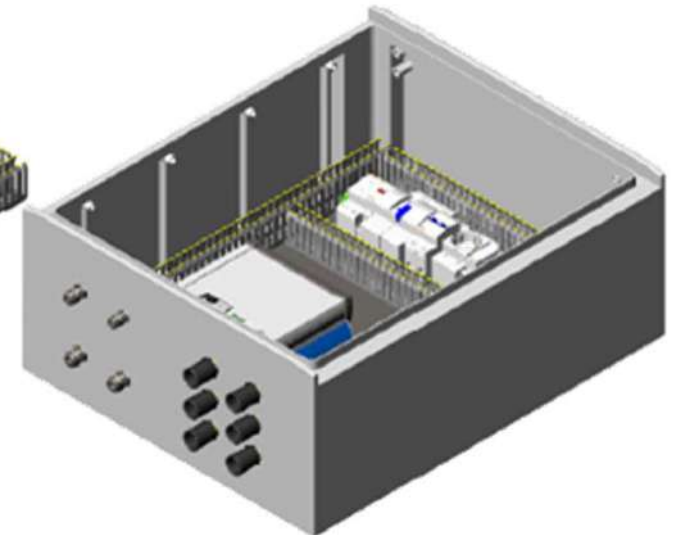
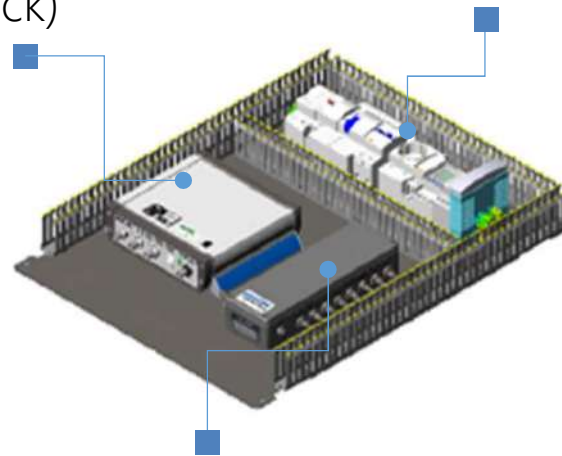
# Sensor technology for cables



In case of monitoring systems **Acquisition Box** will be installed. Each one contains one acquisition unit connected to three (or six) PD sensors (through coaxial cables) and HF signals coming from the PD sensors will be acquired.

PDScope (or PDCheck)  
PD measuring unit

LV Switch board  
Power supply and relay



Multiplex (OPTIONAL)  
Enable up to 6 PD channels

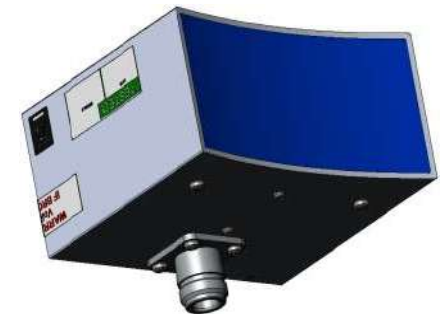


# Sensor technology for cables



**Techimp Horn antenna** is a PD sensor designed to pick up electromagnetic (EM) waves generated by a PD.

- Optimized to operate in UHF frequency range;
- It can be placed directly on the insulating ring of a GIS termination;
- Suitable for on-line/ off line PD measurement and monitoring;



HORN antenna specifications	
Bandwidth	500 MHz ÷ 3 GHz
Gain	2.7 – 7.1 dBi
Load Impedance	50 Ω
Overall dimension	70 mm x 100 mm x 50 mm
Connector	Type N

## Flexible Magnetic Coupler Sensor:

- direct magnetic coupling with the cable conductors
- wrapped around the HV cable in correspondence of the tested accessory (if the accessory is accessible);
- on/off line tests and permanent monitoring
- straight/sectionalized joints and terminations



FMC specifications	
Bandwidth	30 kHz ÷ 50 MHz (UWB amplifier)
Overall dimension	500 mm x 100 mm x 10 mm
Connector	BNC

# Sensor technology for cables





# *PD measurements on HV Cables*

*Commissioning Tests (Off-line)*

*On-line tests*



A commission test can be considered as the composition of those test, to be carried out after the cable system installation, defined by international standards (IEC62067 par.16 for HV cables).

**Purpose:** insure that the cable installation was done properly.

IEC62067 mention two main tests:

- DC voltage test of the oversheath;
- AC voltage test of the insulation.

**Note:** some additional tests can be performed by the manufacturer in order to check the cable characteristics after the installation.

Since cable drums are subjected to Quality control Tests, AC voltage test of the insulation, after the installation procedure, is the most important since it's main purpose is to check absence of installation defects.

"The A.C. test voltage to be applied shall be subject to agreement between the purchaser and the contractor. The waveform shall be substantially sinusoidal and the frequency shall be between 20 Hz and 300 Hz. A voltage either according to Table 4, column 11 or with  $1,7 U_0$ , depending on practical operational conditions, shall be applied for 1 h.

Alternatively, a voltage of  $U_0$  may be applied for 24 h."

Questions: how many defects (in terms of dimensions and positioning) can produce failure within one hour at the test voltage?

Could it be possible that a defect does not produce a fault in a short time?

Assuming a probabilistic approach, answer would be: Yes.

So, even if PD tests are not mentioned in the standard, common practice is to perform it. Considering Construction Technology aspects, even small impurities can reduce the expected life of the cable system.

Commissioning PD tests are carried in order to improve the degree of confidence that the cable system will be reliable.







# *PD measurements on MV Cables*

*Commissioning Tests (Off-line)*

*On-line tests*





# *Localization Techniques*

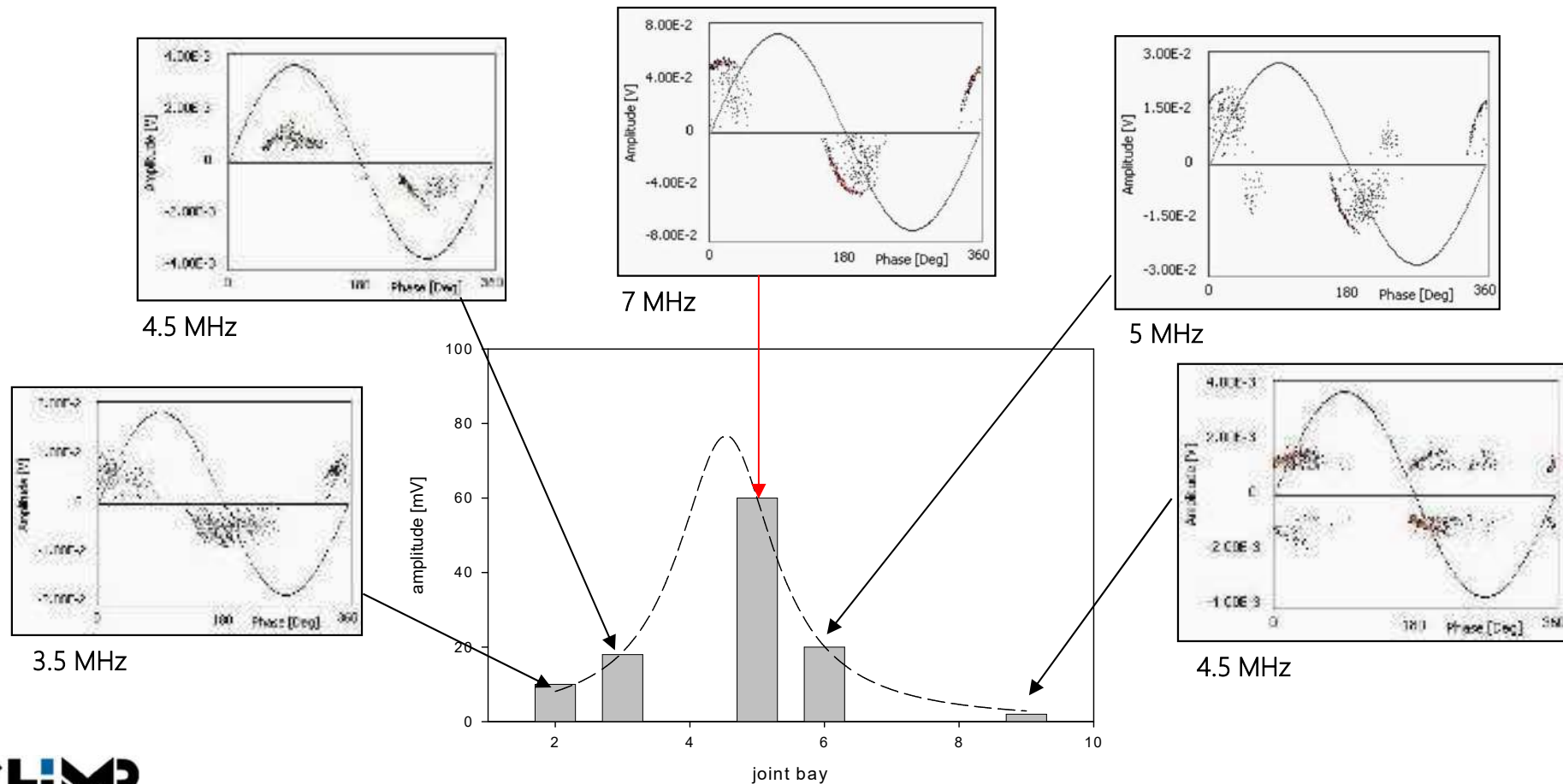
In case of Internal Partial Discharges detected it is possible to apply three different techniques in order to locate the source of the phenomenon along the cable rout.

- Techimp TF Map technology
- Time-Domain Reflectometry
- Arrival Time Analysis

All these techniques can be applied using Techimp Technology.

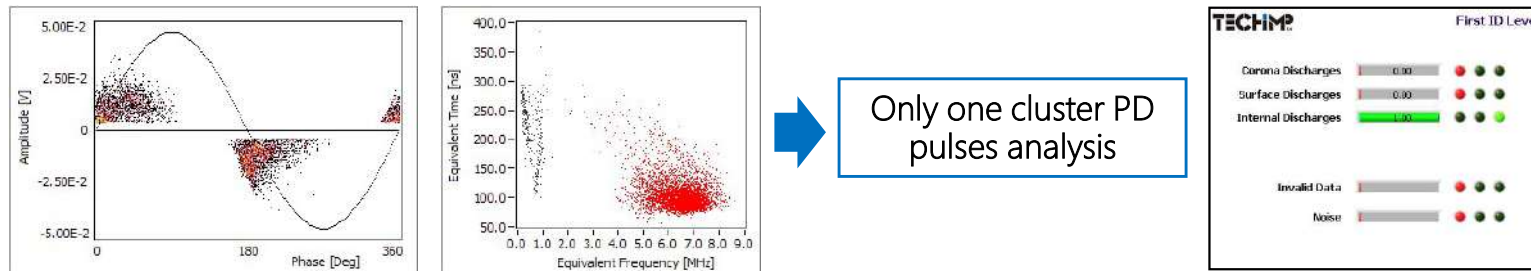
## Amplitude – Frequency analysis through T-F map separation

- PD phenomenon acquired in different location of the cable system
- Amplitudes (PD Pattern) and Frequencies (TF Map) are compared
- Detection point closer to the PD source can be identified

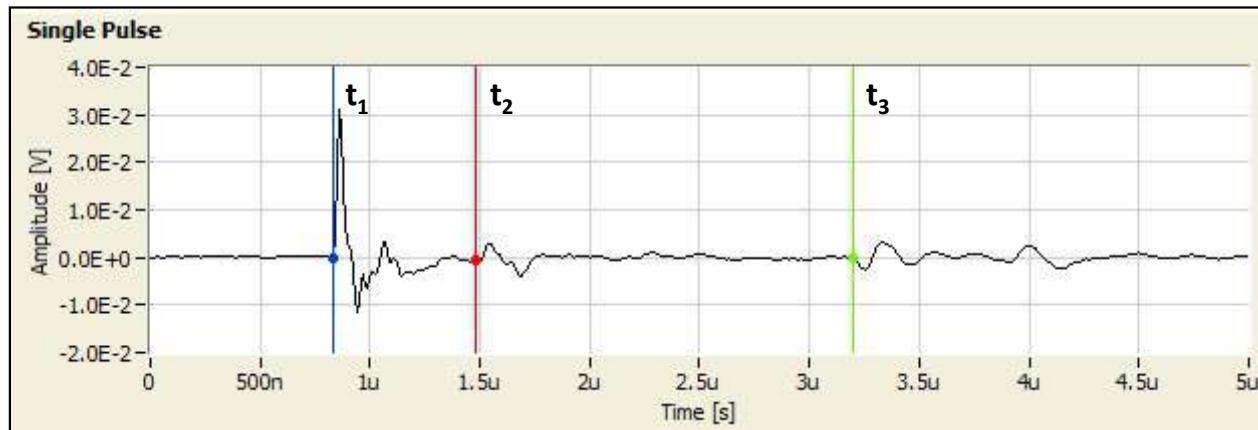


## Reflectometric technique (TDR )

- PD phenomenon acquired with waveform information (right time-length)
- Distance from detection point and PD source is evaluated



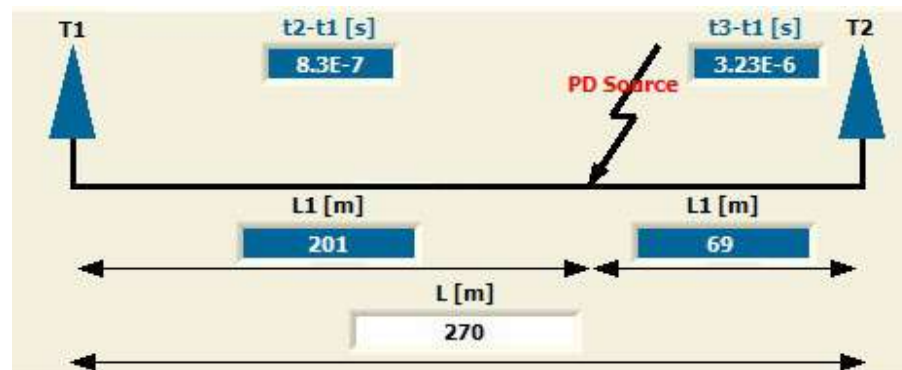
Only one cluster PD pulses analysis



Measurement point

PD source, first reflection

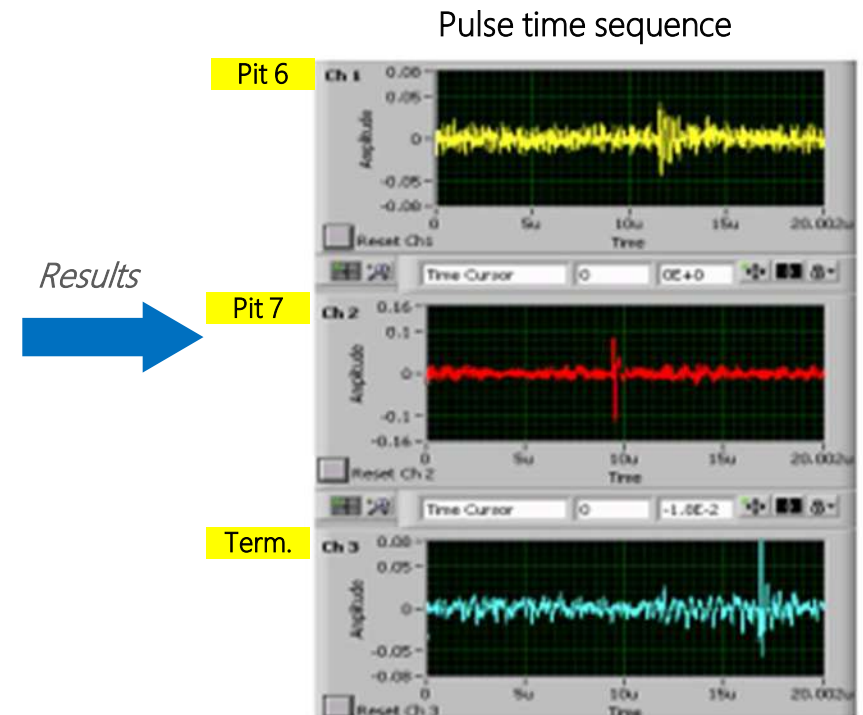
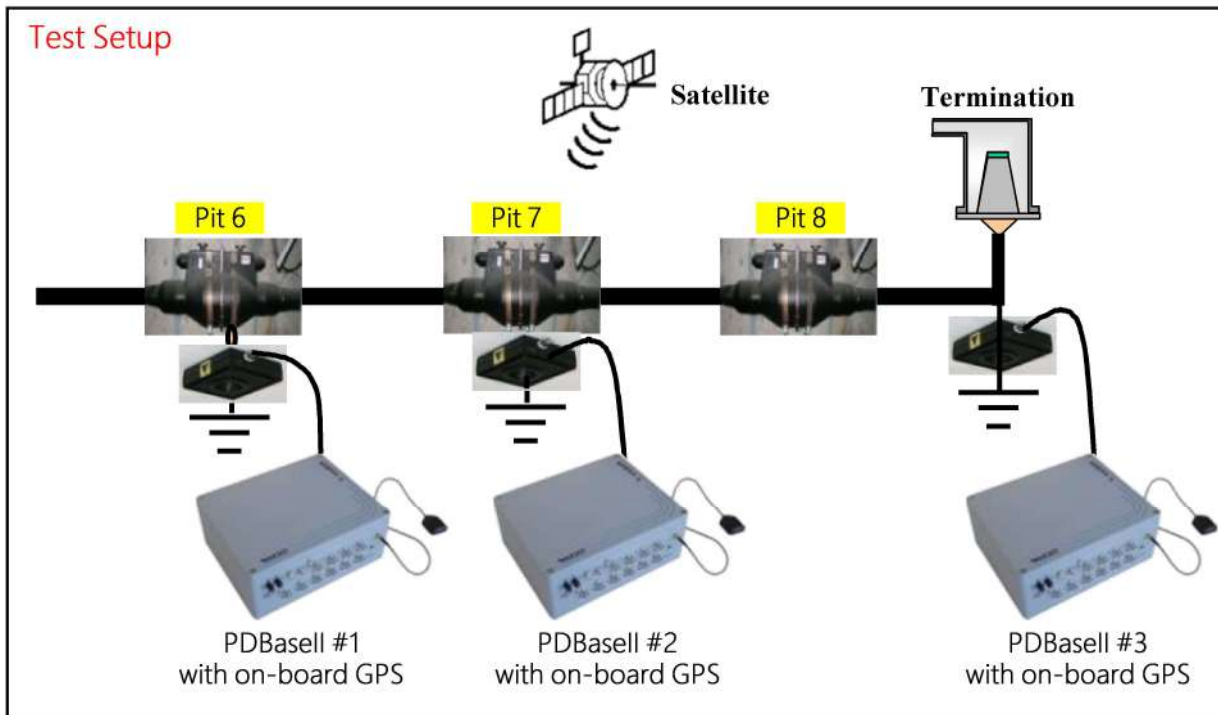
Second reflection



## Arrival Time Analysis (ATA)

- 3 Acquisition Unit installed in 3 different locations
- The units are connected through fiber optic link or other means to 1 oscilloscope
- Simultaneous acquisition from the three channels
- Post processing software analysis for localization of the PD source

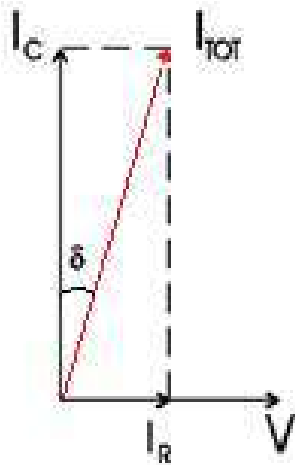
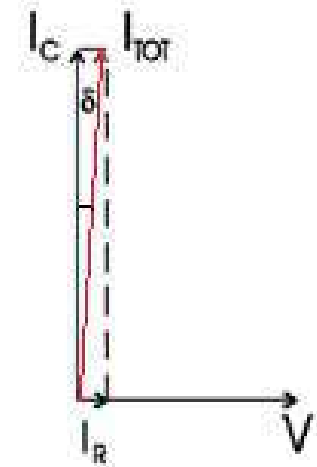
This analysis is 100% effective and conclusive to locate PD sources



# *Tan- $\delta$ Tests on Cables*

Tan Delta test, also called Loss Angle or Dissipation Factor testing, is a diagnostic technique for the cables (especially for the MV) useful to determine the quality of the cable insulation.

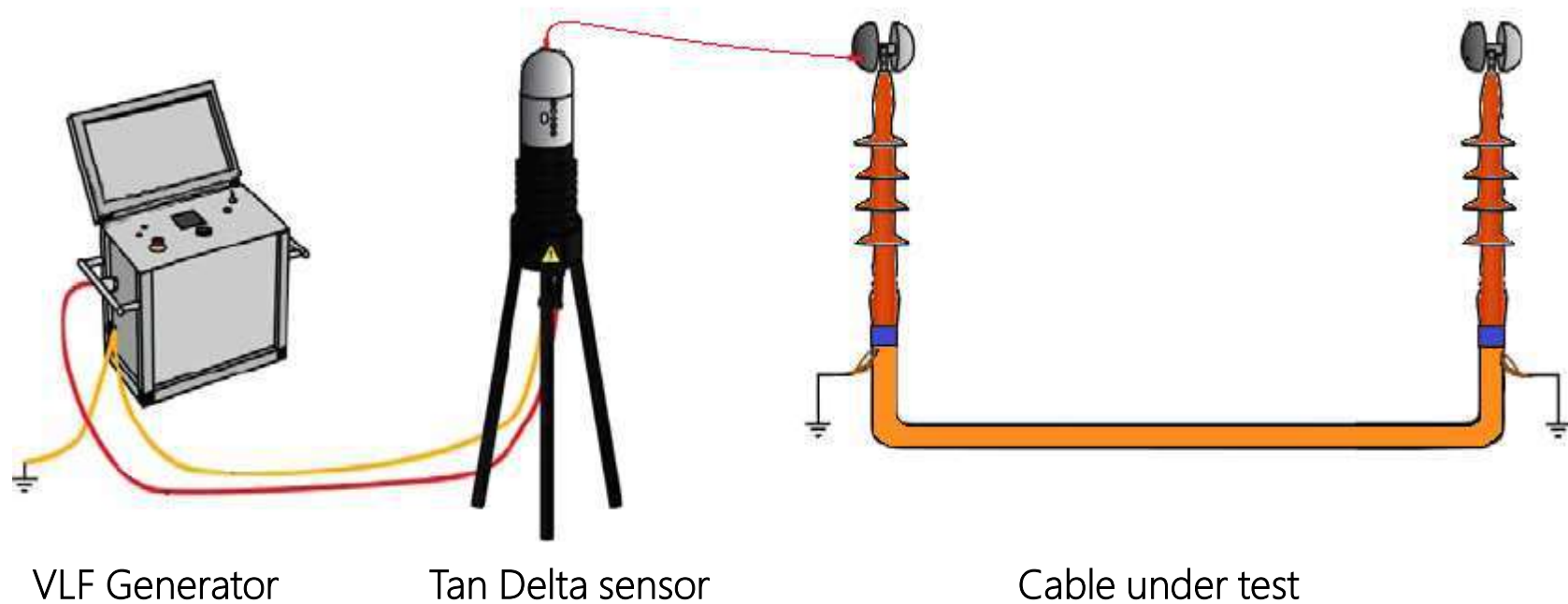
If the insulation of the cable is defects free (water trees, moisture, ect.) it acts like a ideal capacitance. The voltage and current are phase shifted of 90 degrees and the current that flows trough the insulation is almost only capacitive.



If there are some impurities in the insulation systems the related resistance decrease. Resulting in an increase in resistive current through the dielectric. The voltage and current are no longer phase shifted of 90 degrees, but something less ( $90-\delta$ ).

Tan Delta test is one of the tests reported in the International standard IEEE 400.2 for MV cable systems using Very Low Frequency voltage.

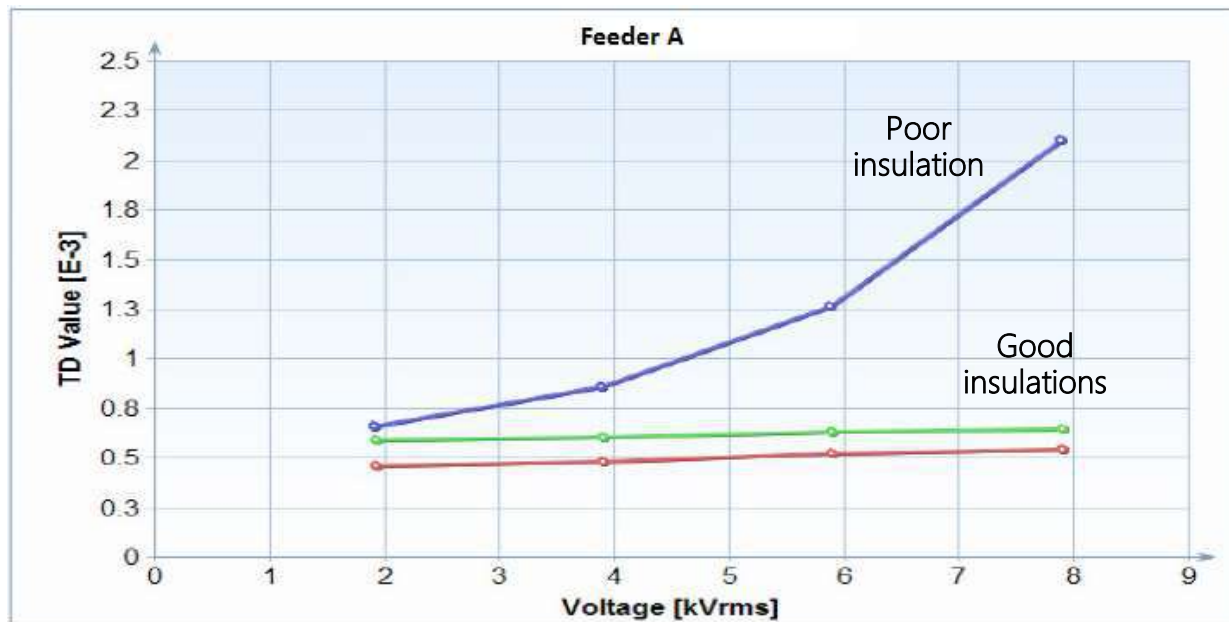
The cable must be disconnected from the network and connected to the testing kit.





This test is performed applying the voltage by steps in order to evaluate:

- Differential VLF-TD between  $0.5U_0$  and  $1.5U_0$
- Mean VLF-TD at  $U_0$
- VLF-TD Time Stability at  $U_0$



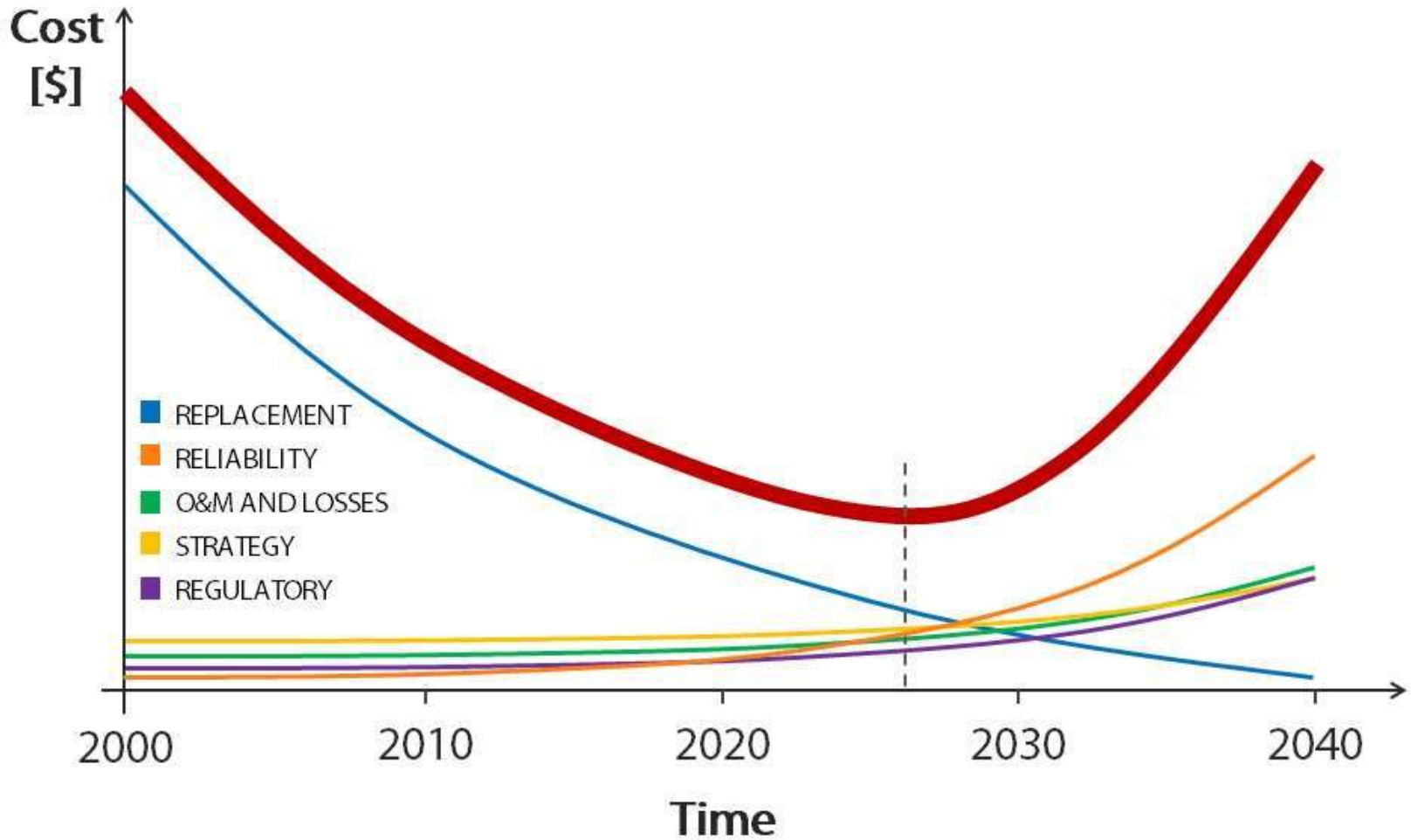
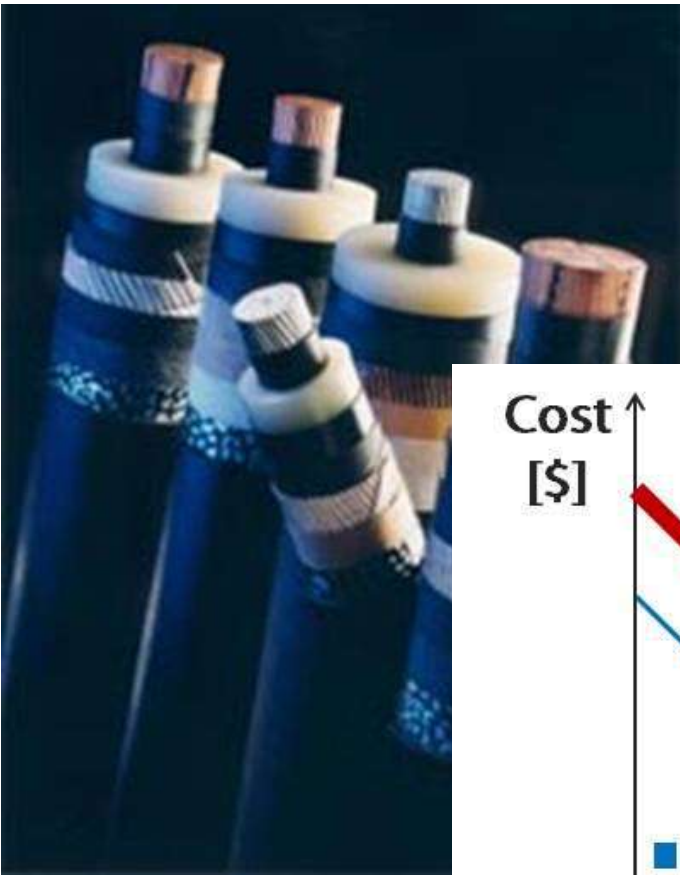
Good insulation has:

- Low value of mean VLF-TD at  $U_0$
- Stability during the test time
- Stability at different voltage levels.



Asset management and condition monitoring

# Construction Technology





*Case Studies*



# CASE STUDY

PD Commissioning test found harmful PD  
and proved by visual inspection

LOCATION | Europe

EUT | HV cable

RATED VOLTAGE | 150kV (phase-phase)

INSULATION | XLPE

TYPE OF TEST | Off-line Commissioning test

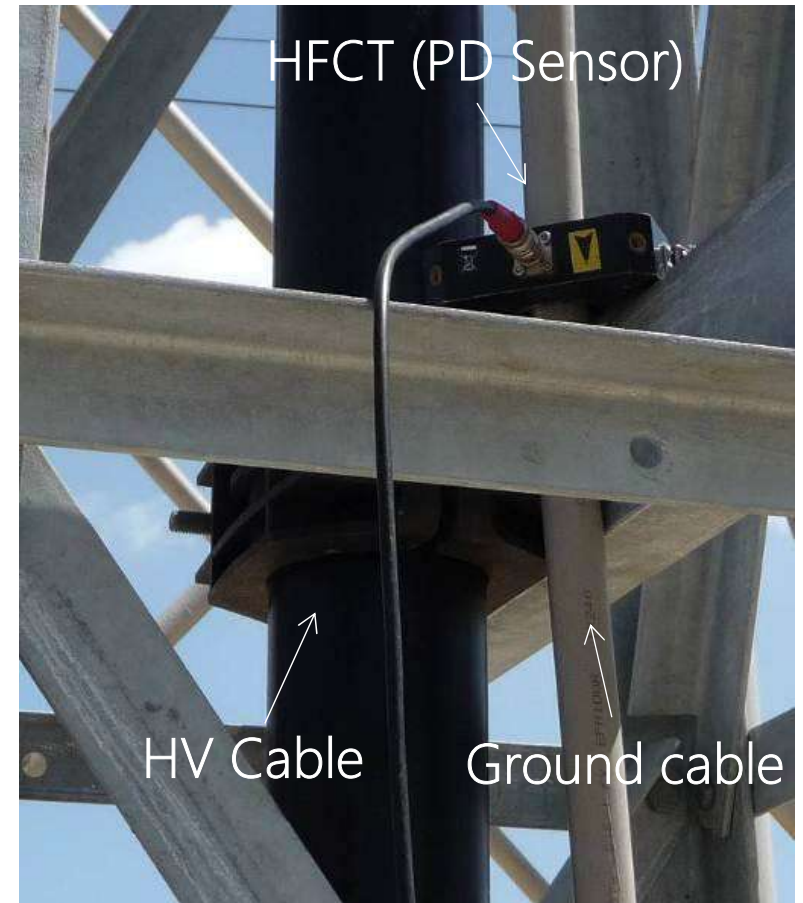
PD SENSOR | High Frequency Current Transformer

## Measurement Information:

- Test type: Off-line PD Commissioning Test
- Measurement type: Sequential
- Termination type: Outdoor, GIS termination
- Measurement date: 2011
- PD sensor: HFCT (High Frequency Current Transformer)
- Equipment under test: 150kV HV Cable
- Length of the cable: 58m
- Insulation type: XLPE

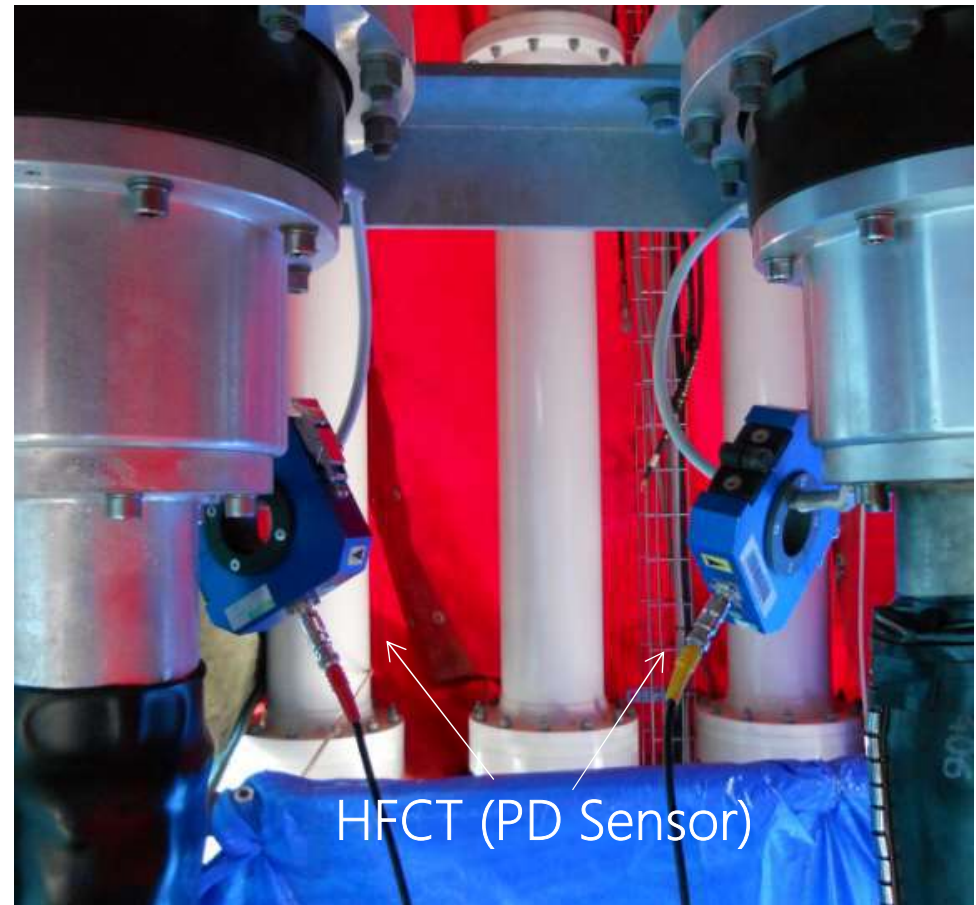


## Site Photo (Outdoor Termination Side)

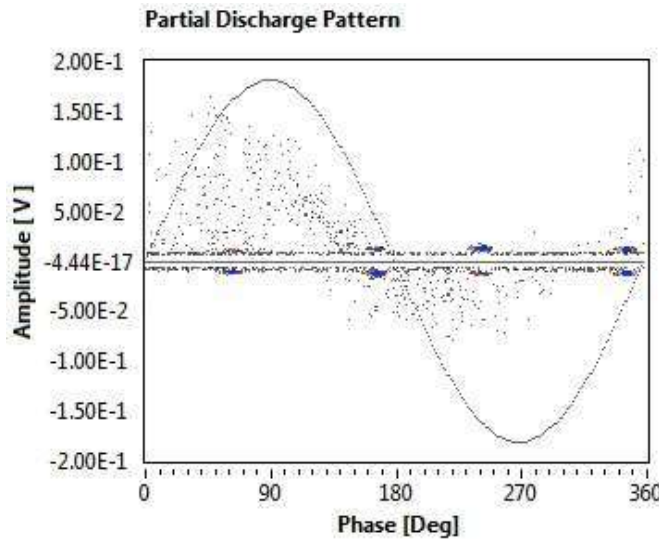




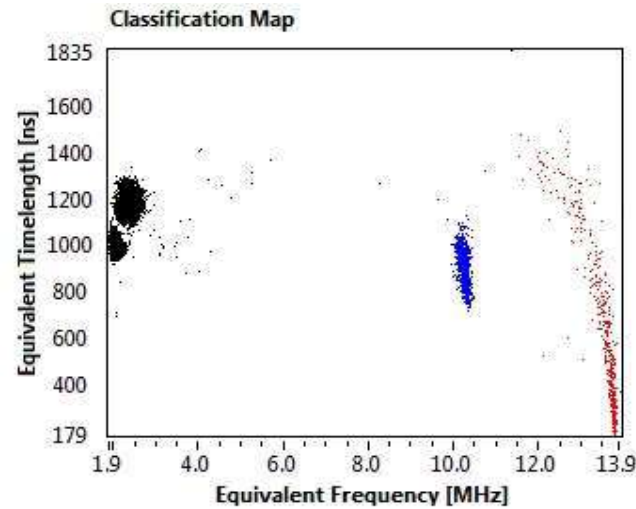
## Site Photo (GIS Termination Side)



Entire PRPD Pattern



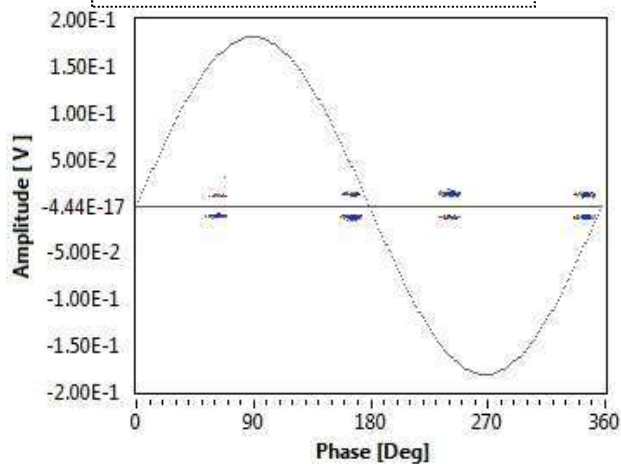
TF Classification Map



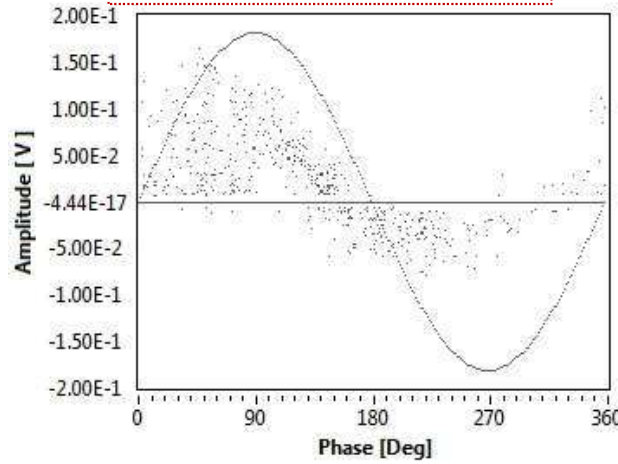
@90kV

Interface PD happening at the GIS termination on White phase

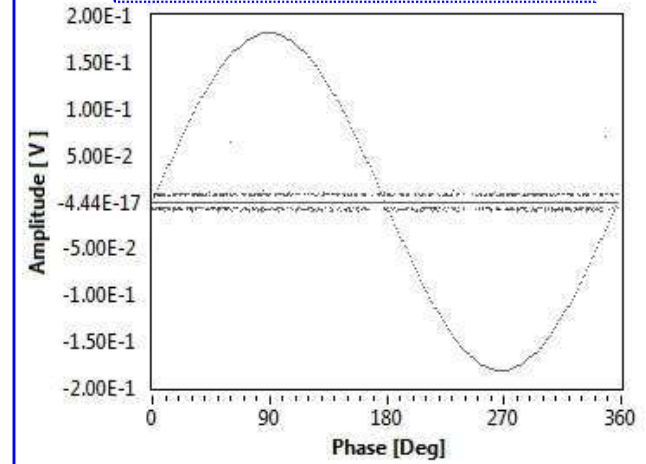
IGBT noise



Interface PD



Background noise



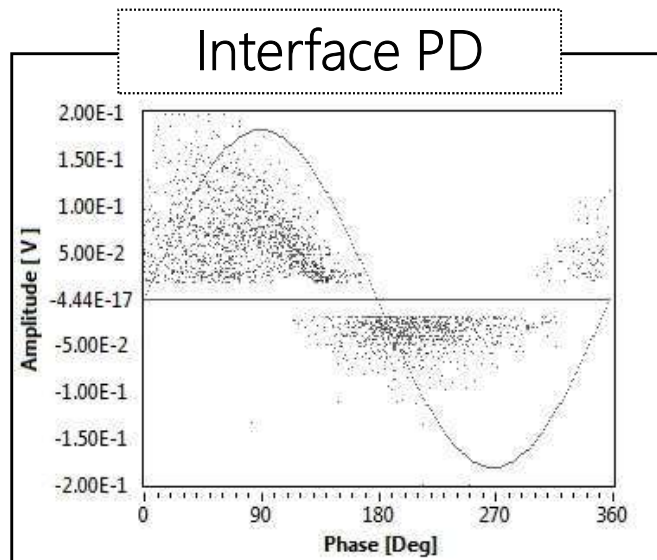
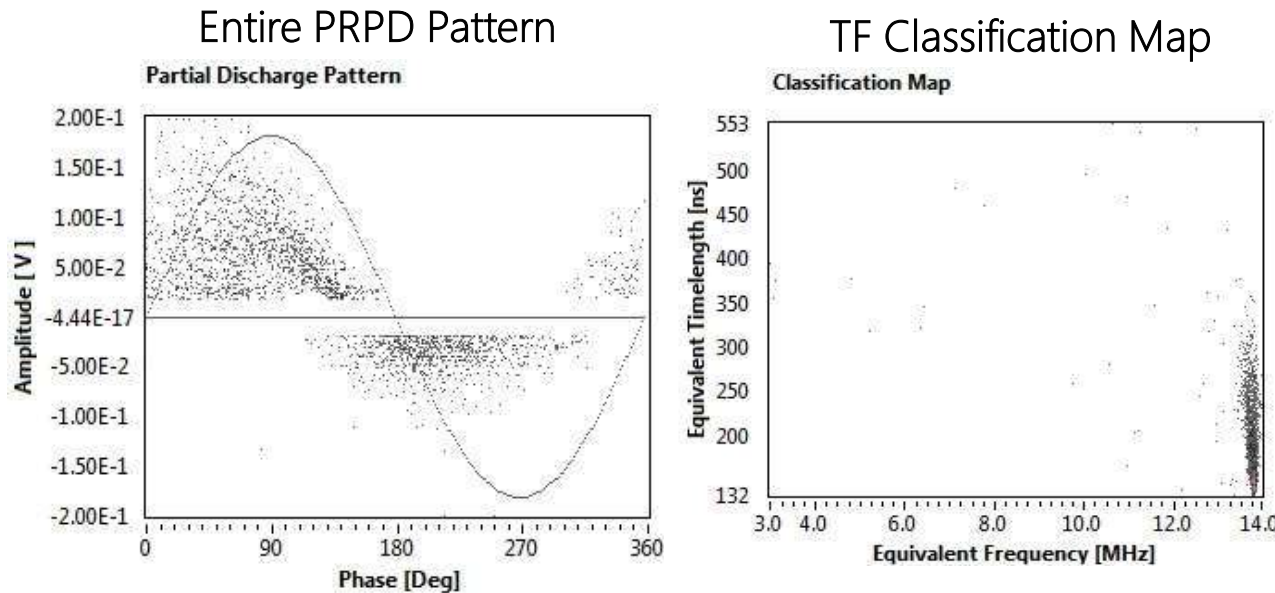


@100kV

Clear interface PD  
happening at the GIS  
Waveform confirms very  
typical PD pulse shape



TECHIMP suggestion !!  
Replacement of Termination

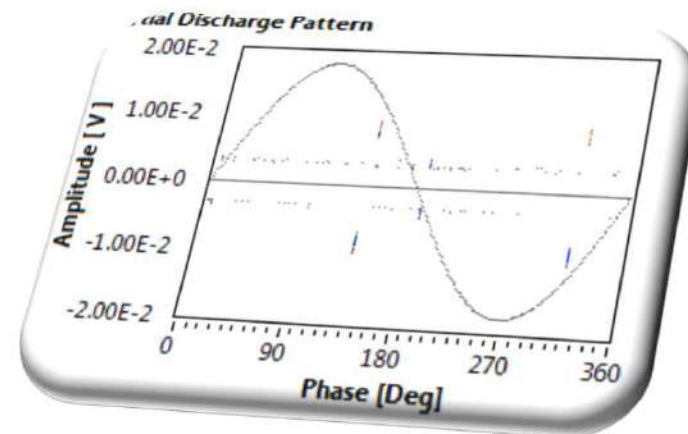


## Visual inspection



White phase GIS termination disassembled

It is clearly showed The burning trace had been found in the surface of stress con, which is the evidence of PD activities in the GIS termination detected by TECHIMP PD commissioning test !!



PD Commissioning test after replacement