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## **ANALYSIS OF MICROSCOPIC RESISTANCE ON CONDUCTIVE CLOTHING FOR TRANSLUCENT INTENSITY ELECTRIC FIELD WAVE IN EXTRA HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINE 500 KV**

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### **Abstract**

This paper presents the analysis of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing to electric field from an extra high voltage transmission line of 500 kV. Through microscopic resistance measurements we showed that the use of conductive clothing purchased in 2004 can reduce the intensity of the electric field by 17.69 times and the use of conductive clothing purchased in 2008 can reduce the electric field intensity by 21.44 times. Meanwhile, the use of conductive clothing purchased in 2012 can reduce the electric field intensity by 23.92 times. Hence, this work can provide a clear evidence of the shielding efficiency of the conductive clothing against its life time service through microscopic resistance measurements that is proportional to the magnitude of electric field.

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Keywords and phrases: conductive clothing, electric field, microscopic resistance, safety protection.

## 1. Introduction

High voltage transmissions, communication antennas and other electrical equipment are sources of electromagnetic fields [1]. When a human body is exposed to an electric field for a long period of time, it can cause induced current in the body [2]. This is one reason for electric field to cause biological effect on humans working outdoor [3]. Each country has criteria for exposure to an electric field. These criteria are based on guidelines established by specialized organizations such as the International Commission on the Protection of Non-Ionization (ICNIRP) [4]. Exposure limits of constant electric field 5 kV/m for general frequency of 50 Hz is based on ICNIRP recommendations [5]. Thus, all risks related to the live-line maintenance activities have to be taken into consideration to assure the safety of the worker.

Currently, maintenance on transmission line high voltage has been using the maintenance method of energized condition in network maintenance without cutting the flow of electricity [6]. Conductive clothing is a tool to keep the safety of live-line working on high voltage [7]. However, increased microscopic resistance during its service such as in washing, frequent use and improper maintenance may cause deterioration of the cloth's performance. The ability of conductive clothing to protect the workers during live-line maintenance might be reduced and put the workers at high risk of danger. Therefore, the condition of conductive clothing should be always under high concern.

In this paper, we evaluate the microscopic resistance of the conductive clothing as a function of its life time. The results are expected as the evidence of the shielding efficiency of the conductive clothing when its life time service is considered.

## 2. Theoretical Review

### (1) Exposure limits of electric field and magnetic field

Recommendation of International Radiation Protection Association

(IRPA) and WHO 1990 for the limits of exposure of electric field and magnetic field 50-60 Hz can be seen in Table 1 as follows:

**Table 1.** Limits of exposure to 50/60 Hz electric and magnetic fields

Classification	Electric Field (kv/m)	Magnetic Field (mT)
Work environment		
- throughout the working day	10	0,5
- short time	30 (s/d 2 hour/day)	5,0 s/d 2 hour/day
- limbs (hands and feet)	-	25
General environment:		
- up to 24 hours per day	10	0,1 (outdoor)
- several hours per day **)		1

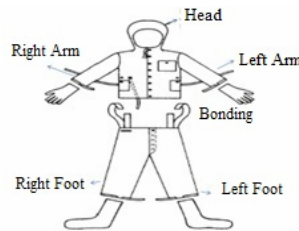
Source: IRPA Recommendation, INIRC and WHO 1990 [8]

(2) Conductive clothing

Conductive clothing is a most important protective equipment during high voltage live-line maintenance. Conductive clothing is used by bare hand method acting as a Faraday cage [9]. The new classification of conductive clothing is divided as follows [10]:

**Class 1:** Conductive clothing for use at nominal voltage up to 800 kV AC and ±600 kV DC.

**Class 2:** Conductive clothing for use at nominal voltage up to 1000 kV AC and +800 kV DC.



**Figure 1.** Complete conductive clothing parts.

The screening efficiency of any conductive clothing has to exceed 99% based on the current regulation of International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC 60895). This parameter is obtained from ratio leakage current of the human body [11]. A set of conductive clothing consists of conductive

clothes, conductive pants, conductive gloves, conductive socks and conductive shoes where these are all connected to each other. Parts of conductive clothing are shown in Figure 1.

### 3. Research Method

#### 1. Measurement of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing

Measurements of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing were done by providing the voltage and current on the clothes in complete accordance with the manual book of measurement of microscopic resistance of conductive clothing. The conductive clothing for the study were selected based on their lifetime. They were conductive clothing purchased in 2004, 2008 and 2012, respectively.

#### 2. Electric field measurement

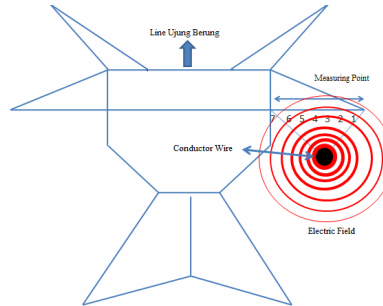
Electric field measurements were performed at the tower cross arm of 500 kV South Bandung-Ujung Berung T.70 phase T transmission line. The investigations were started from the end part of the cross arm above the isolator to the main body tower with a distance of each measurement as 1 meter. Figure 2 shows electric field measuring instrument. Measuring instrument used is HI-ELF 3604 Survey meter. This meter measuring unit in electric fields is V/m or kV/m meanwhile magnetic field is milli Gauss or Gauss. Figure 3 shows electric field measurement point.

**Table 2.** Specification HI-3604 ELF Survey Meter [12]

Frequency range:	30-2000 Hz
Frequency Response:	$\pm 0.5$ dB (50-1000 Hz) $\pm 2$ db (30-2000 Hz)
Dynamic range:	0.2 mG – 20 G (magnetic field) 1 V/m – 200 kV/m (electric Fields)
Environmental:	10°C-40°C 5%-95% humidity
Detection	Single Axis
Response	True RMS



**Figure 2.** Electric field measuring instrument [13].



**Figure 3.** Illustration of electric field.

#### 4. Result of Research

##### A. Measurement results of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing

The measurement results of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing are provided in the following table.

**Table 3.** Measurement of microscopic resistance on conductive clothing

2004 Conductive Clothing												
Result Measurement	Point Measurement											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
V (V)	18.57	20.93	21.2	20.38	18.02	17.02	16.78	18.1	19.8	18.63	18.05	19.45
I (mA)	4.01	5.43	6.7	6.68	2.43	2.4	2.68	2.4	4.35	3.4	2.24	2.85
R ( $\Omega$ )	4630.9	3854.5	3164.1	3050.8	7415.6	7091.6	6261.1	7541.6	4551.7	5479.4	8058	6824.5
2008 Conductive Clothing												
Result Measurement	Point Measurement											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
V (V)	24.44	24.43	24.8	24.69	24.81	24.32	24.78	24.67	24.8	24.67	24.73	24.82
I (mA)	19.6	19.7	17.8	17.5	20	19.6	20	19.2	18.1	17.6	17.6	19.4
R ( $\Omega$ )	1246.9	1240.1	1393.2	1410.8	1240.5	1240.8	1239	1284.8	1370.1	1401.7	1405.1	1279.3
2012 Conductive Clothing												
Result Measurement	Point Measurement											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
V (volt)	20.6	21.26	21.08	20.44	21	20.33	17.48	16.85	16.55	16.33	16.85	17.23

I (mA)	65	230	187.1	184	171	152.2	330	199.4	178.2	253	163.6	189.5
R( $\Omega$ )	316.9	92.4	112.6	111.08	122.8	133.3	52.9	84.5	92.8	64.5	102.9	90

The microscopic resistance of conductive clothing was measured up to 12 points of measurement for each conductive clothing. The results are shown in Table 3.

The microscopic resistivity of conductive clothing was 5660.3  $\Omega$ , 1312.7  $\Omega$ , and 114.8  $\Omega$  for the conductive clothing purchased in 2004, 2008, and 2012, respectively.

### B. Test results and measurement of electric field

The results of the electric field direct measurements are shown in the following Figure 4.

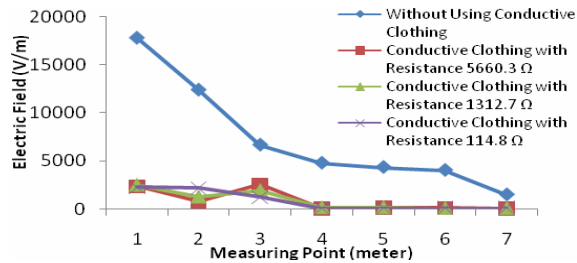


Figure 4. Graph of electric field measurements.

### C. Shielding efficiency analysis

The influence of Faraday cage from the conductive clothing were mathematically analyzed by calculating its effectiveness. The results show that the effectiveness of conductive clothing with a microscopic resistance of 5660.3  $\Omega$  (purchase in 2004), 1312.7  $\Omega$  (purchase in 2008) and 114.8  $\Omega$  (purchase in 2012) was 17.69, 21.48 and 23.92, respectively. This means that it can reduce the intensity of the electric field by 17.69 times for 2004 conductive clothing, 21.48 times for 2008 conductive clothing, and 23.92 times for 2012 conductive clothing. Thus, it is clearly seen that the performance reduces with increase in lifetime service. Additionally, the value of microscopic resistance of the conductive clothing has a strong correlation with its performance degradation. Higher the lifetime service of conductive



clothing will result into a higher microscopic resistance value and will degrade its performance.

## 5. Conclusion

(1) The use of conductive clothing with a resistance value of  $5660.3 \Omega$  can reduce the electric field received by the body up to 17.69 times than without using conductive clothing at the same location.

(2) The use of conductive clothing with a resistance value of  $1312.7 \Omega$  can reduce the electric field received by the body up to 21.44 times than without using conductive clothing in the same location.

(3) The use of conductive clothing with a resistance value of  $114.8 \Omega$  can reduce the electric field received by the body up to 23.92 times than without using conductive clothing at the same location.

(4) The value of microscopic resistance in conductive clothing is directly proportional to the magnitude of the penetrating electric field wave.

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