

# Substation Arresters

## Overview of ongoing research

Chris Engelbrecht

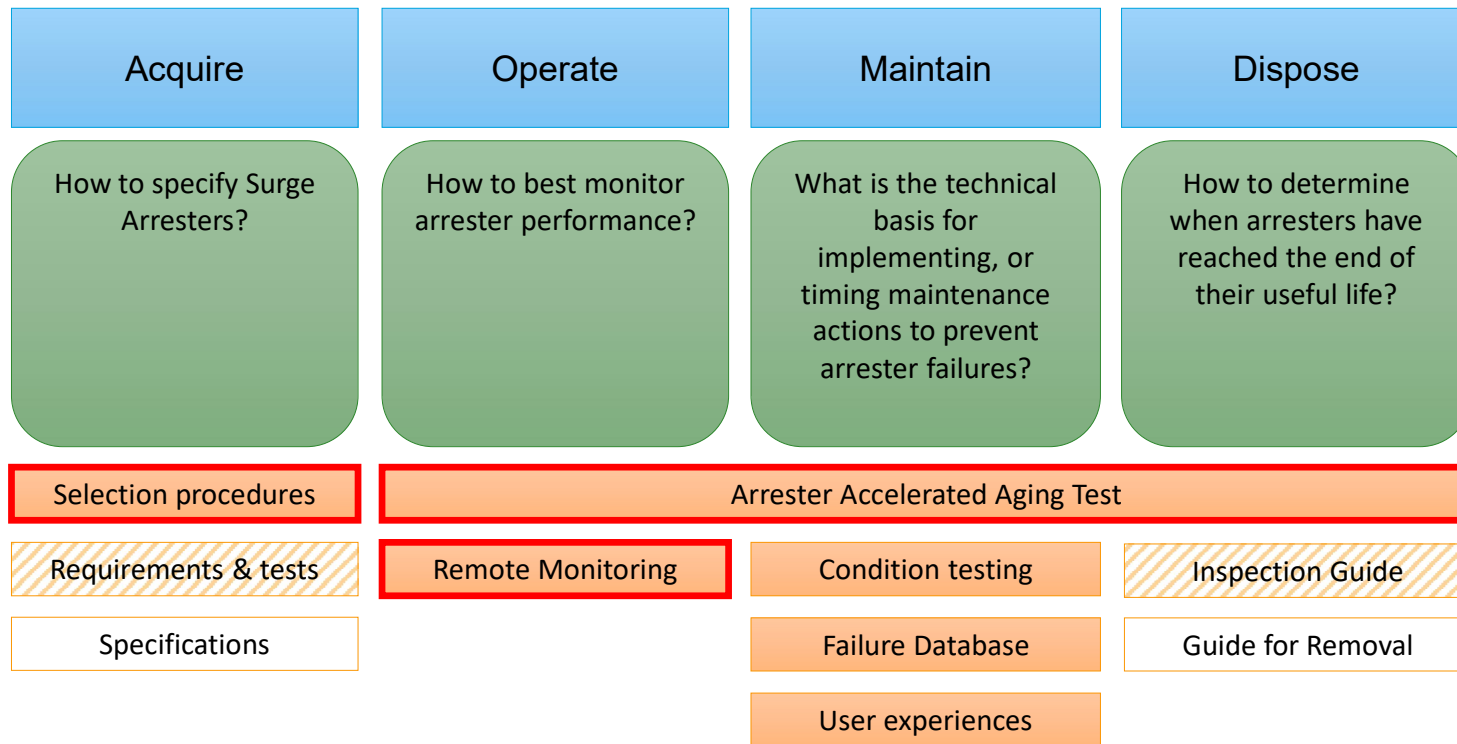
**CIRCUIT BREAKERS, GAS INSULATED  
SUBSTATIONS, GROUND GRID CORROSION AND  
OTHER SUBSTATIONS EQUIPMENT TASK FORCE**

EPRI, Charlotte, NC

August 29, 2019



# Objectives



# Progress

Acquire

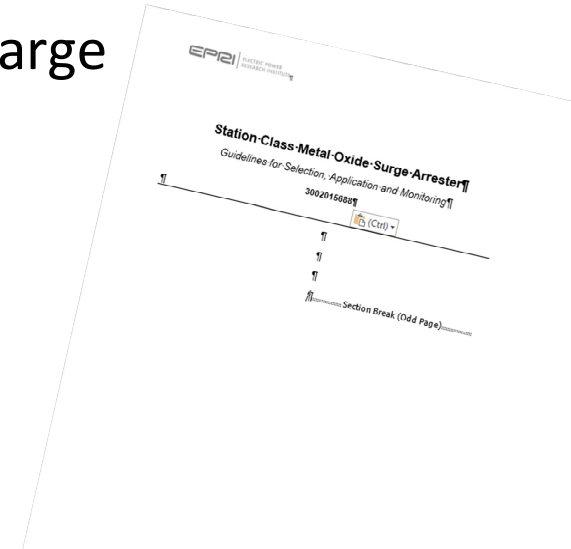
How to specify Surge Arresters?

Selection procedures

Requirements & tests

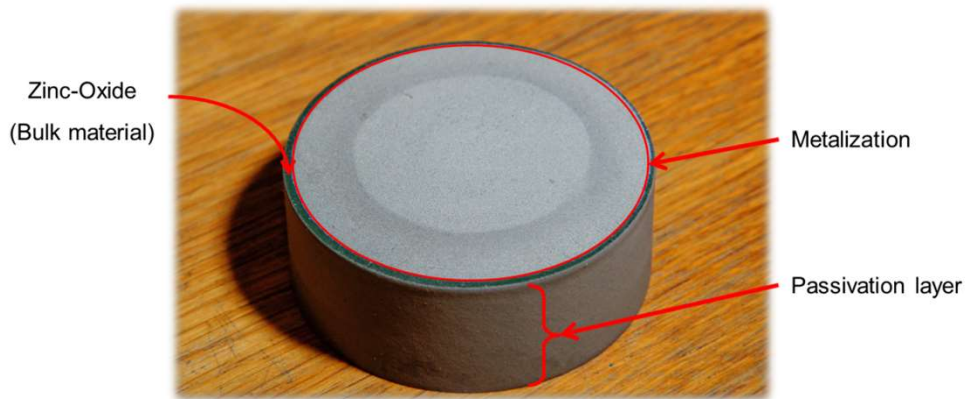
Specifications

- Review of New Arrester Standards
  - ANSI and IEC
  - Identify Strengths and weaknesses
  - Explain new way of specifying discharge energy requirement
  - Guidelines on how to select arrester characteristics
  - Report PID 3002015688
    - Updated Selection guidelines



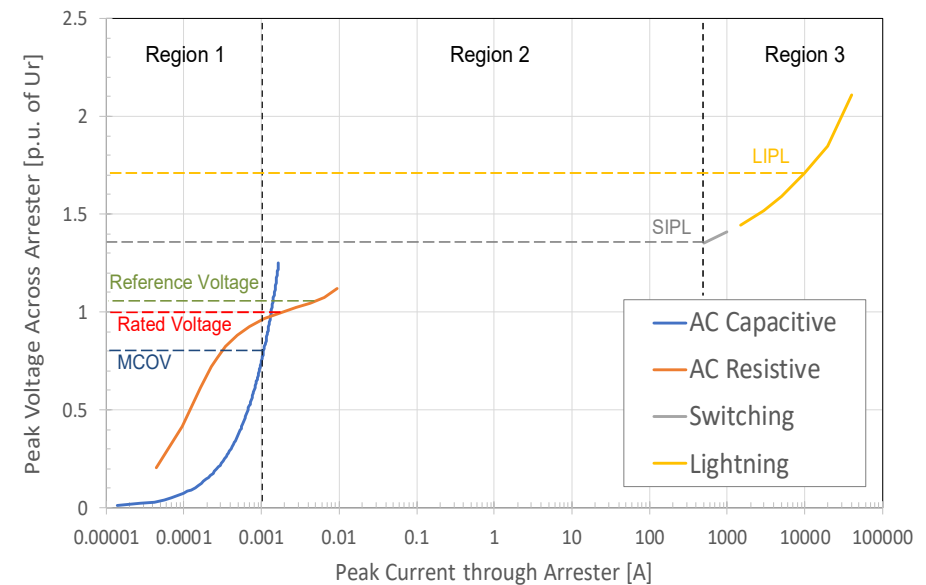
# Updated Selection guidelines

- Introduction to Metal Oxide Arresters
  - Functioning
  - Construction
  - Long term performance



# Updated Selection guidelines

- Characterization of Arresters
  - Review of IEC 60099-4 and IEEE C62
  - Characterization
    - for Power Frequency Voltages
    - of Protective Characteristics
    - of Energy Handling Characteristics

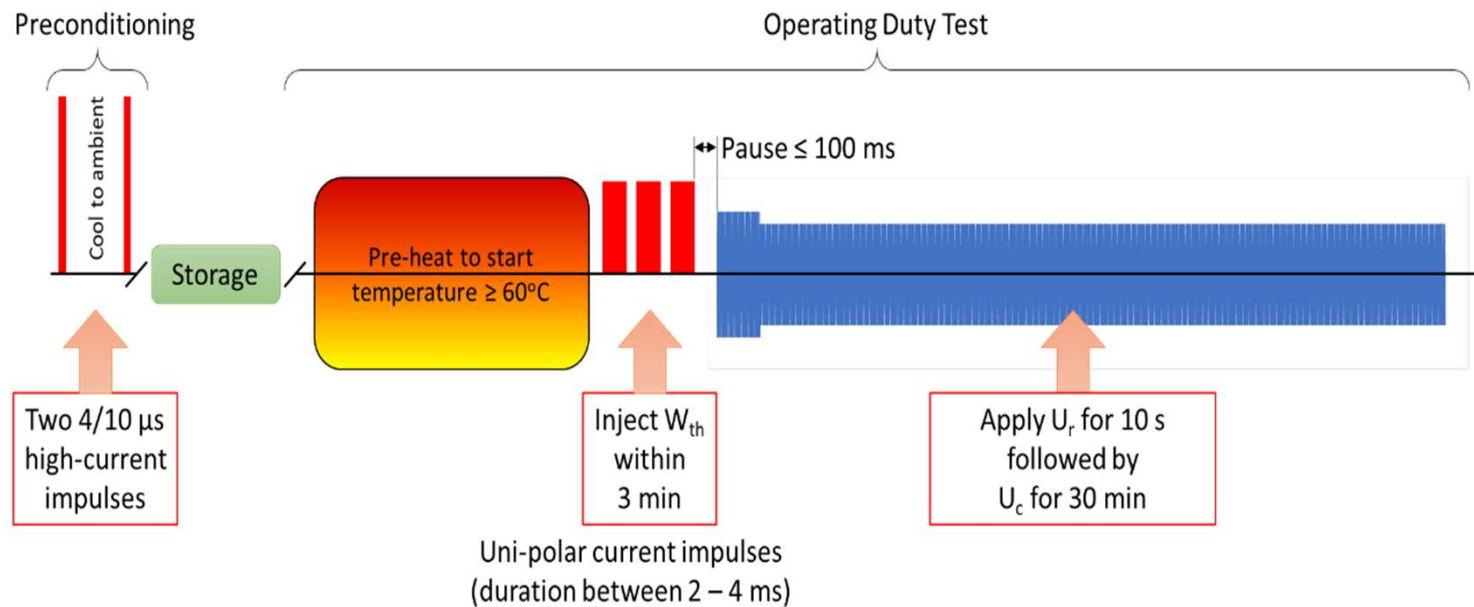


# Energy Handling Capability

- The ability of the arrester to conduct surges without being overloaded.
  - Thermal energy absorption refers to the ability of the complete arrester to cool down under normal operating conditions after it has conducted a surge and so avoid thermal runaway.
  - Impulse energy handling refers to the ability of the blocks, by themselves, to withstand the thermal and mechanical stresses the block is subjected to by single-shot energy injection.

# Determining Thermal Energy Rating ( $W_{th}$ )

- IEC 60099-4



# Determining Impulse Energy Rating

- Impulse handling capability

$$I = Kt^{-\delta}$$

- For 400 Joules/cm<sup>3</sup> for a low current ac test
- to 1200 to 1700 Joules/cm<sup>3</sup> for very fast high-current impulses.

$$\delta \approx 1$$

- Therefore:

$$K = I t$$

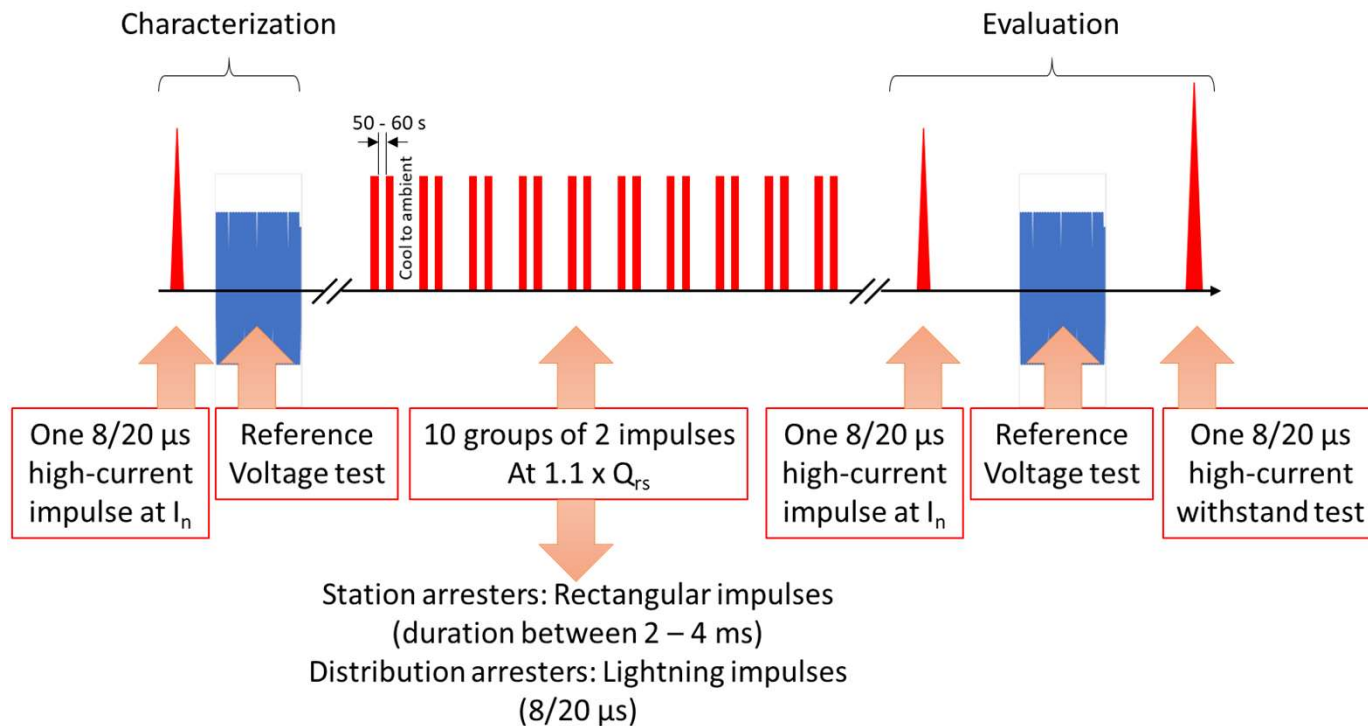
Charge transferred is a constant





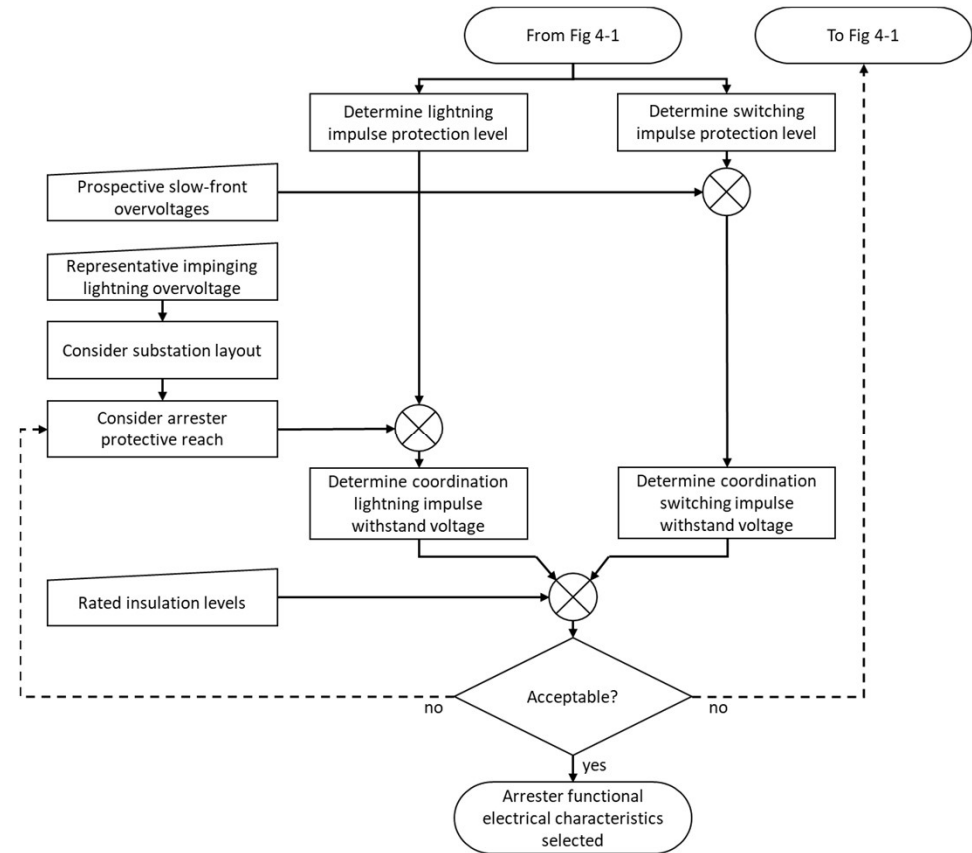
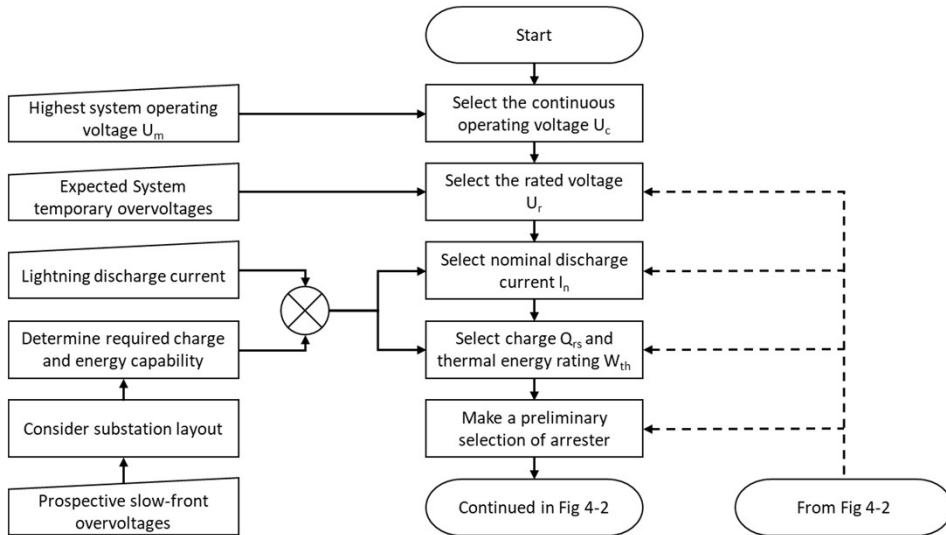
# Determining Impulse Energy Rating ( $Q_{th}$ )

- IEC 60099-4



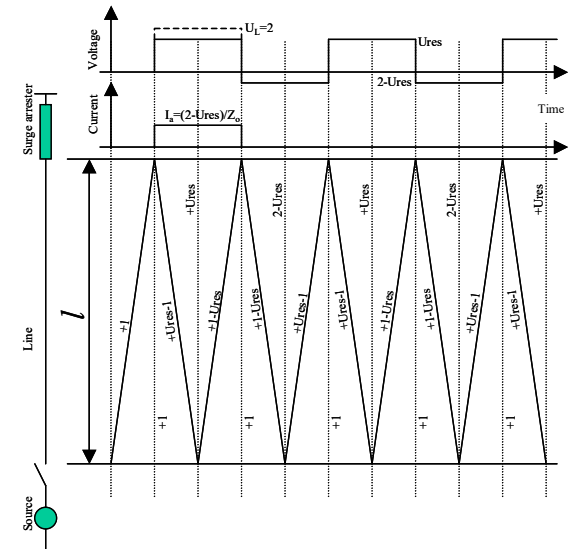
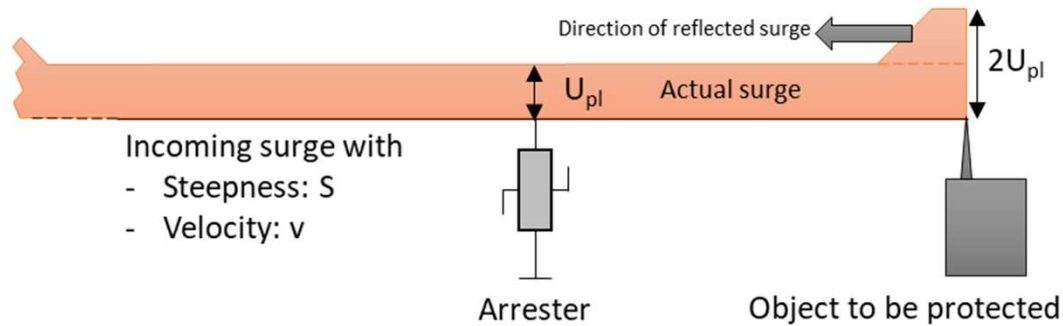
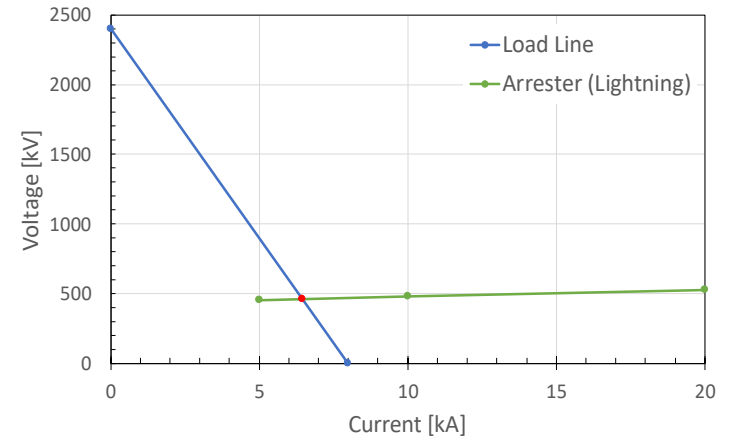
# Selection of Arresters

## Follow IEC Approach



# Selection of Arresters

- Detailed explanation
  - Determining Rated Current
  - Energy handling capability
  - Verification of protective characteristics



# Monitoring Surge Arrester Condition

- Introduce Monitoring Techniques
- Available Devices
- Introduce EPRI Arrester Sensor



# EPRI Arrester Sensor

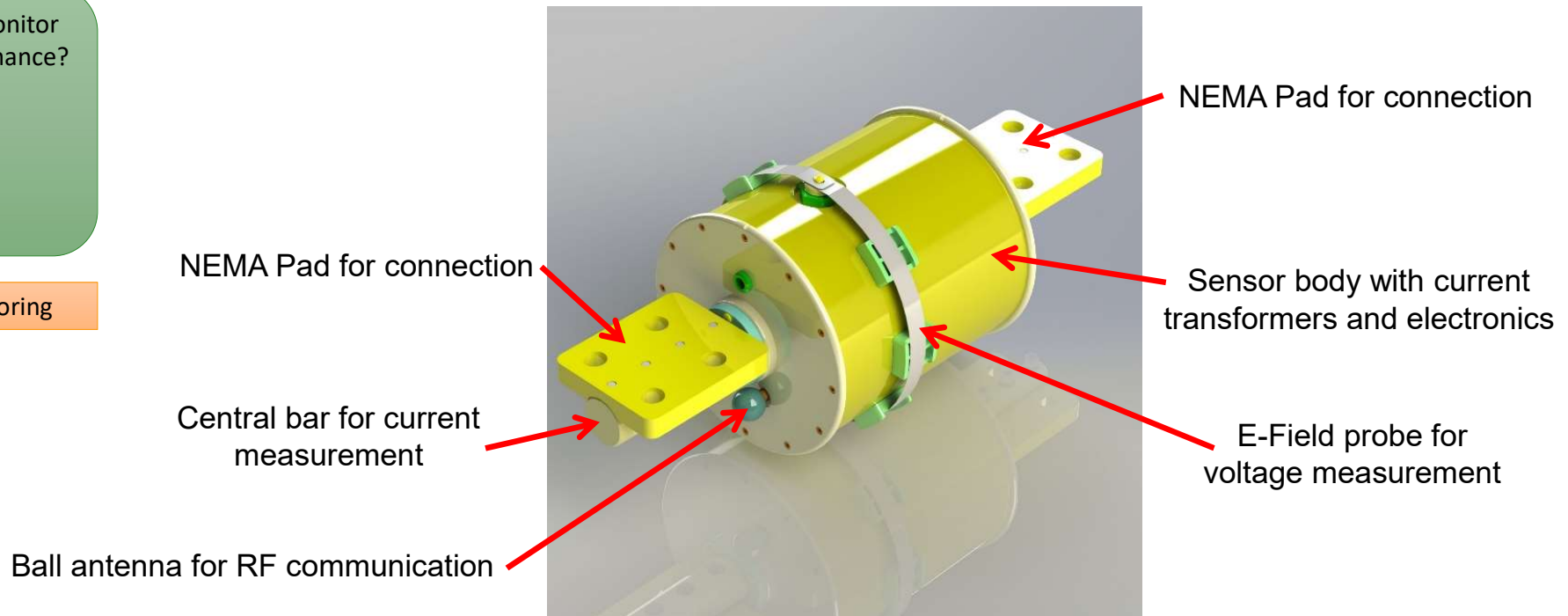
Operate

How to best monitor  
arrester performance?

Remote Monitoring

## EPRI Arrester Monitor

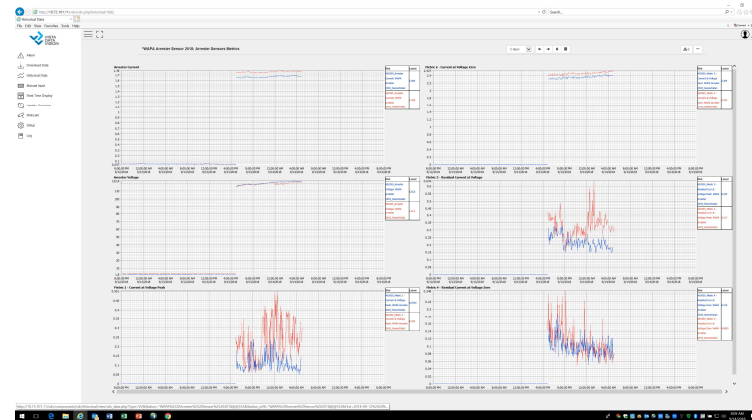
- Report “Surge Arrester RF Sensor - Development, Laboratory Testing and Field Demonstration”



# Arrester Monitor

## ▪ Metrics

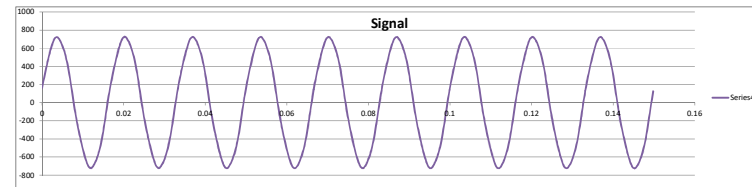
- Arrester Voltage (kVolts)
- Voltage F3 Component % (%)
- Voltage F5 Component % (%)
- Voltage F7 Component % (%)
  
- Arrester Current (uAmps)
- Current F3 Component % (%)
- Current F5 Component % (%)
- Current F7 Component % (%)
  
- Residual Current Peak (uAmps)
- Residual Current F3 Component (%)
  
- Metric 1 - Current at Voltage Peak (uAmps)
- **Metric 2 - Current at Voltage Zero (uAmps)**
- Metric 3 - Resid. Curr at V. Peak (uAmps)
- **Metric 4 – Resid. Curr at V. Zero (uAmps)**



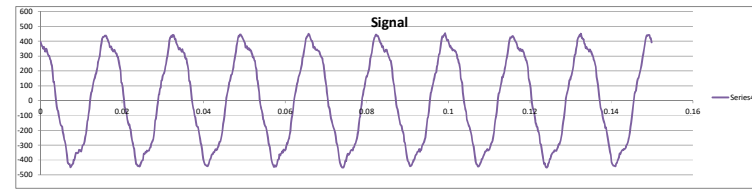
# Arrester Monitor

- Methodology
  - Measures current and “voltage”
  - Derives estimate of “resistive” current

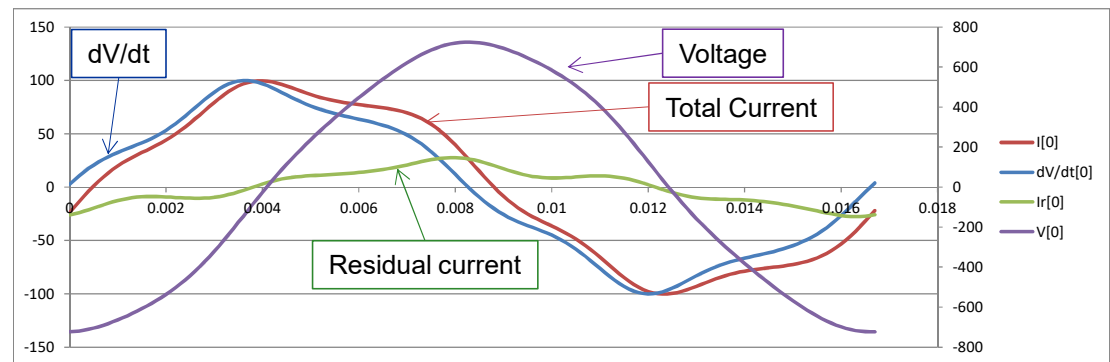
Sampled Voltage Signal



Sampled Current Signal

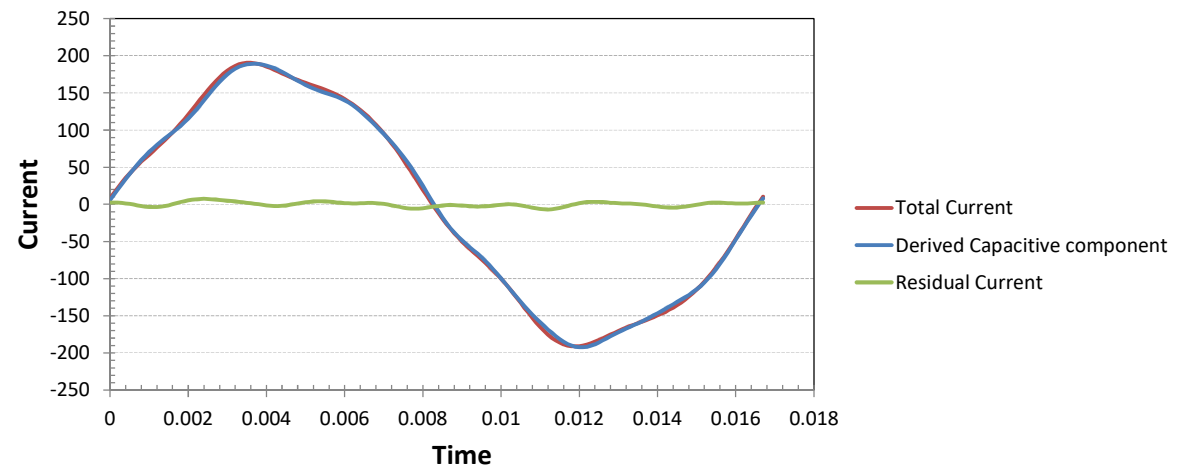
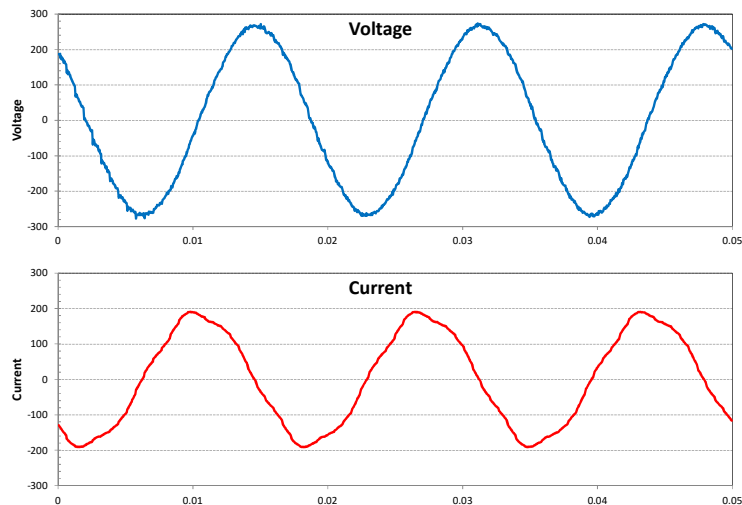


Reconstructed signals from Fourier analysis



# Functional Test (I)

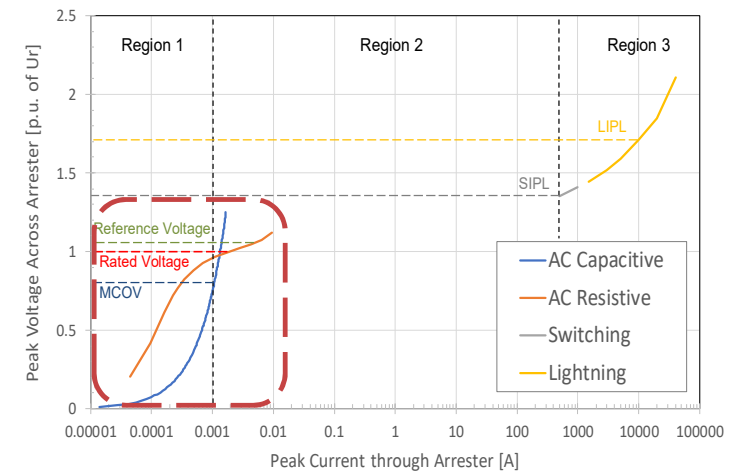
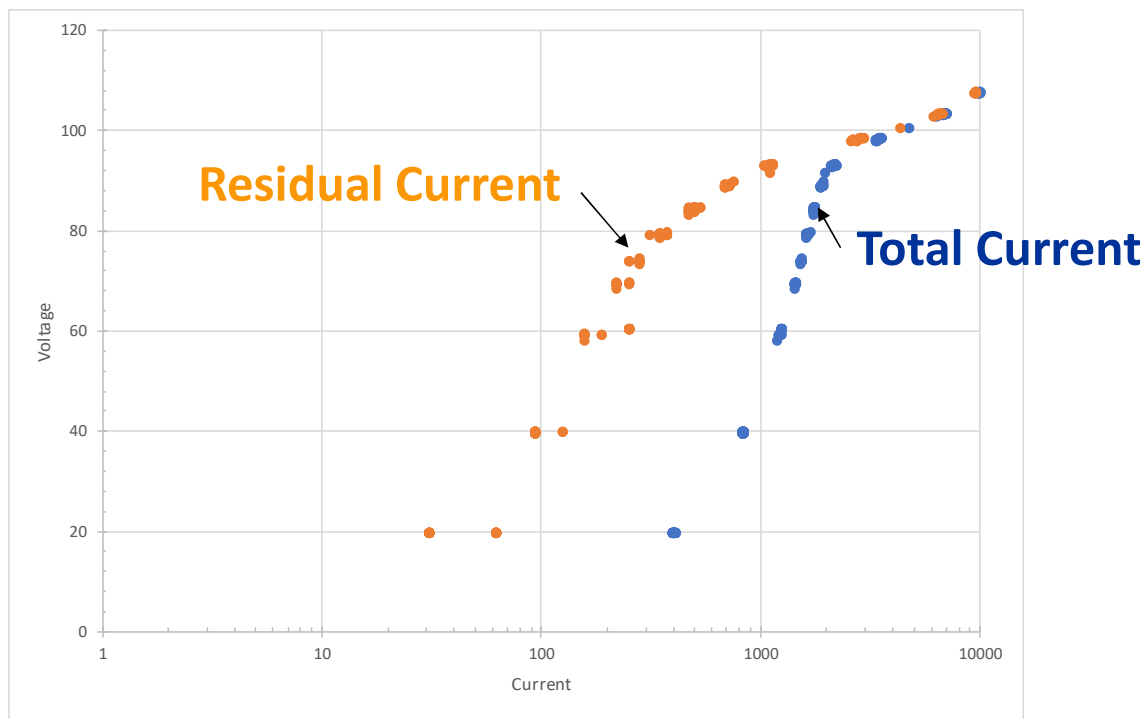
- Reconstruction of Capacitive Current
  - Bushing test
  - Source rich in harmonics





# Functional Test (II)

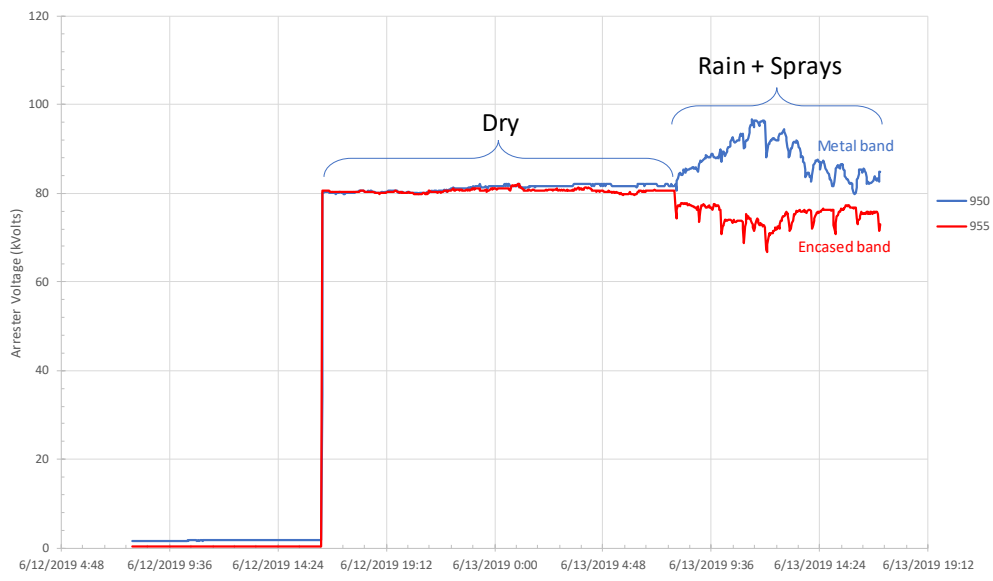
- Measurement of arrester V-I Characteristic



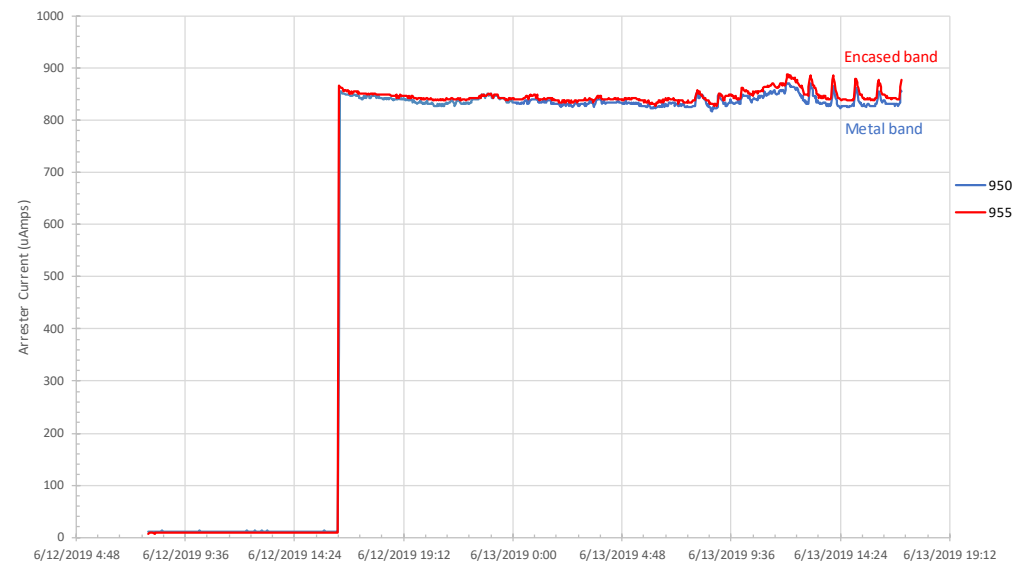
# Simulated Substation Test

- 138 kV Substation Mockup
  - “True” service conditions
  - Hourly rain showers
  - Quick access if modifications are required



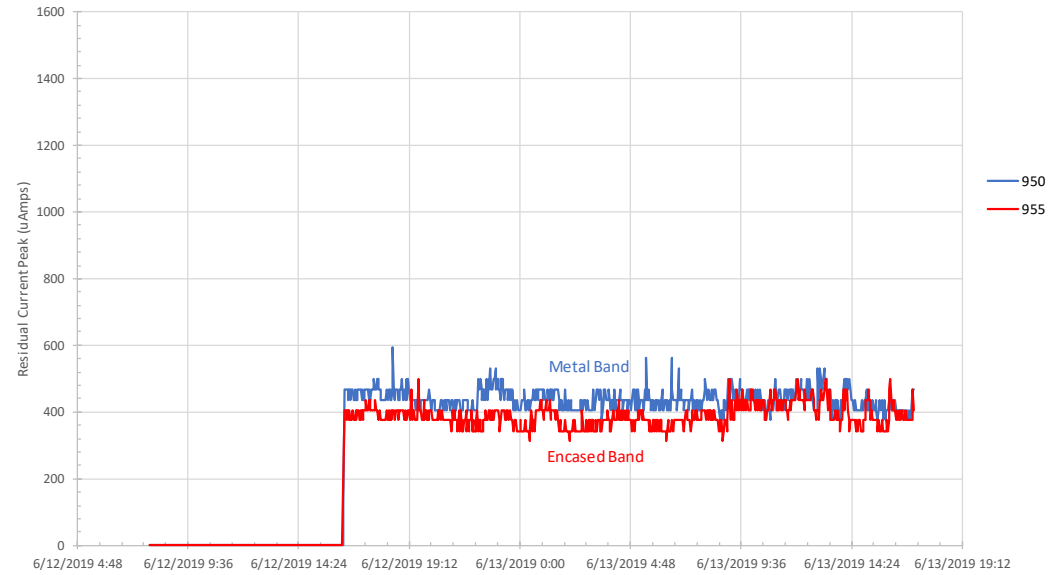
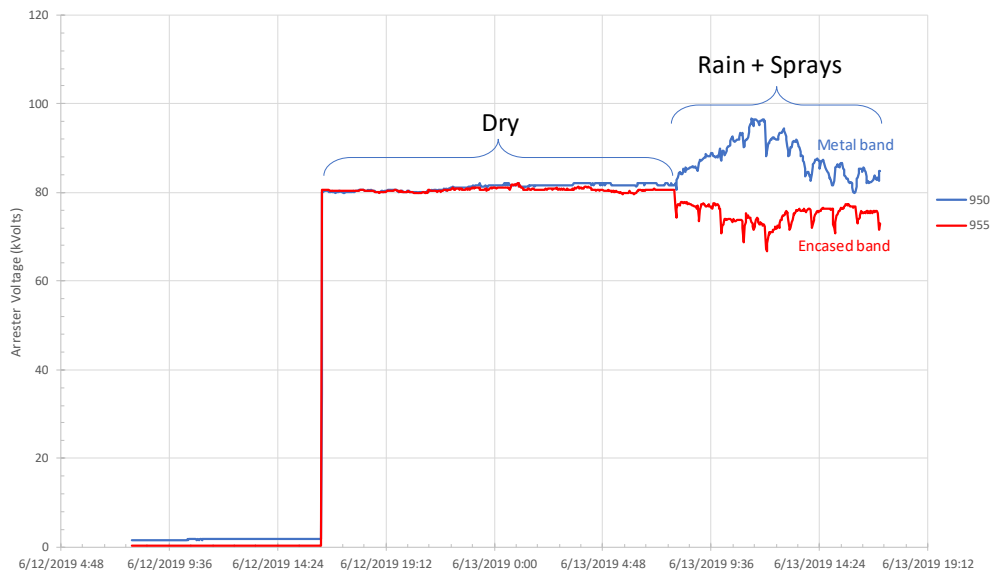


Voltage



Current

# Arrester Metrics

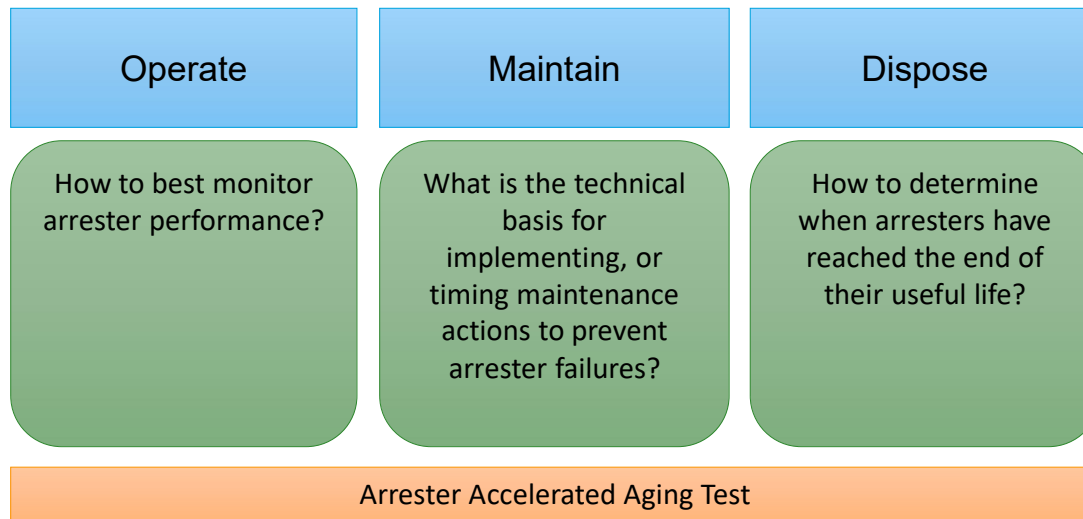


# EPRI Sensor Project: Next Steps

- RF Arrester Sensor
  - Field Demonstration to Collect Data
  - Lenox “substation”
  - Continual Development of Algorithms
    - Temperature Compensation
    - Phase Comparison
    - Trending
  - Thermal runaway test
    - Test and refine Algorithms



# Progress



- Development of an accelerated aging test
  - The improve understanding of aging of MOV block material and passivation



# Research Questions



Rating	Delta T (°C)
	<b>Recommendation</b>
A	No action required
B	Monitor or assess for further damage, or degradation
C	<b>Replace at earliest convenience (if polymer insulation)</b>
D	<b>Replace as soon as possible (if porcelain insulation)</b>



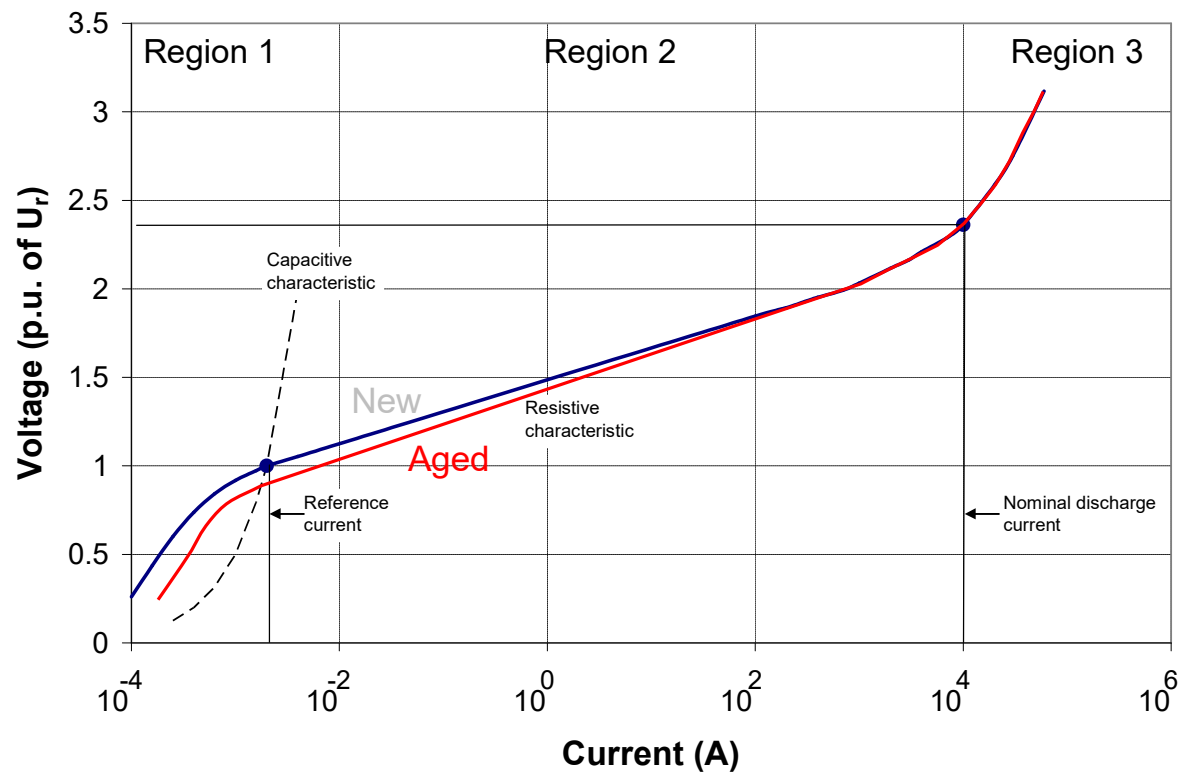
Why are these arresters heating?

What criteria should I use to determine arrester condition?

How can I improve my arrester specification to avoid this in the future?

# Development of electrical aging test

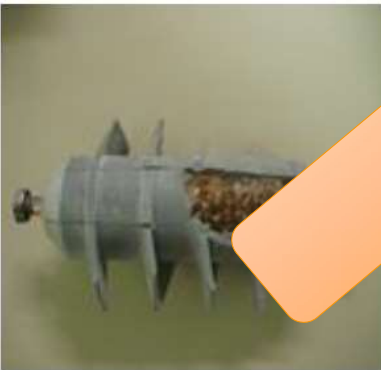
- Long Term Aging of Arresters



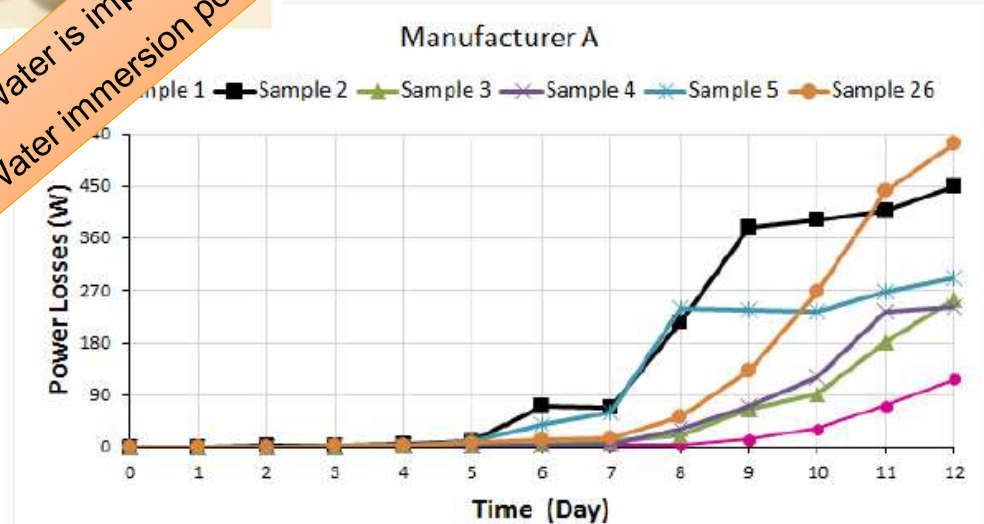
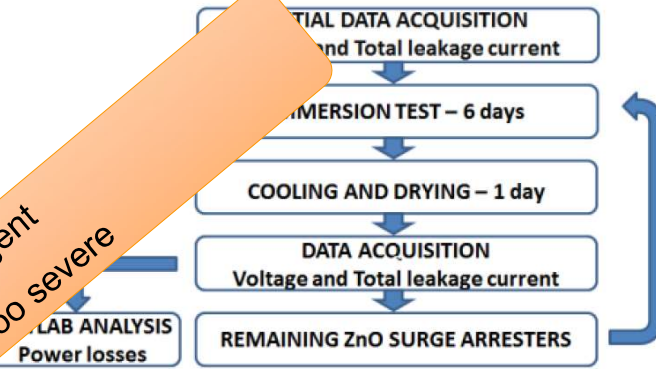


# Electrical Aging tests in Brazil

- Water immersion test

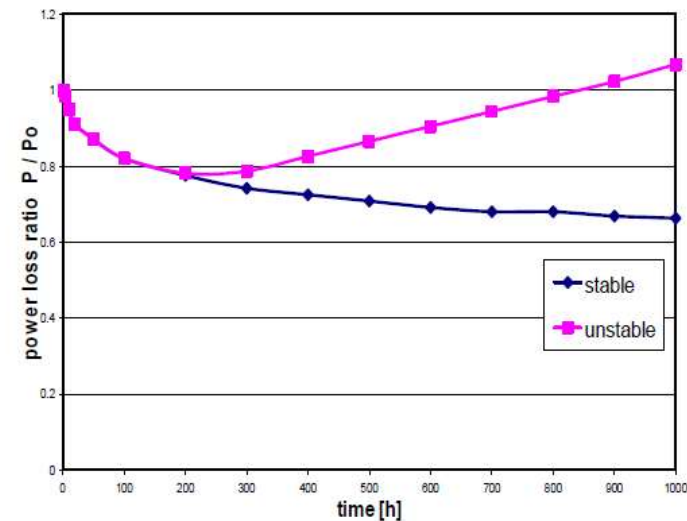


Water is important aging agent  
 Water immersion possibly too severe



# Proposal for Electrical Aging Test

- Modified 1000 h stability test
  - 1000 h constant (elevated) voltage test at 115°C
    - $\approx 0.93 U_r$  (MCOV  $\approx 0.8 U_r$ )
    - Monitor Power Loss
  - Test object
    - Complete distribution arrester
    - Sheds cut off to fit test chamber
  - Test chamber
    - Controlled environment
    - Steam injection



# Test Setup for Electrical Aging Test



Steam Generator

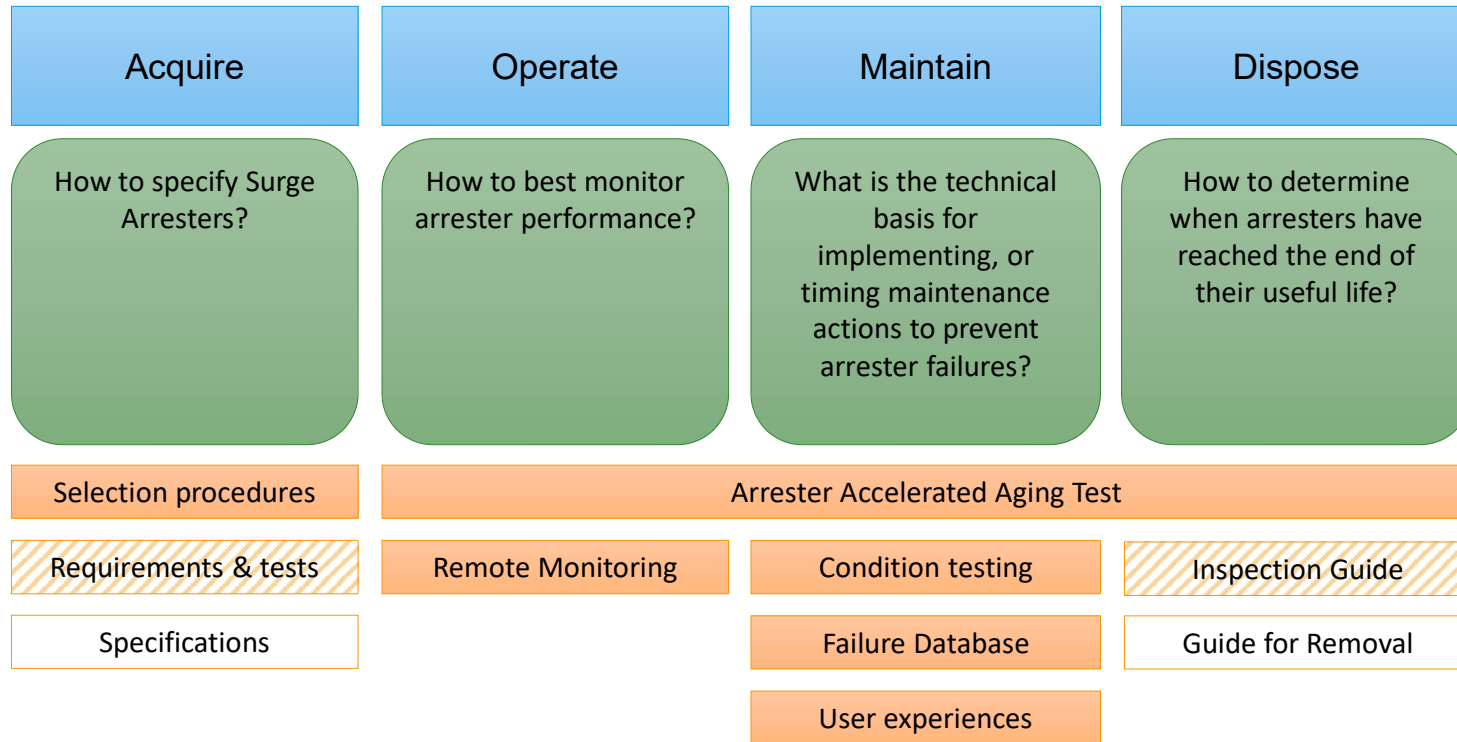


Testing Chamber



HV Source

# Objectives





# Together...Shaping the Future of Electricity

