

Contents

1.	PROPERTIES AND HANDLING OF SF ₆ GAS	1
	Introduction	1
	General Properties	1
	Physical Properties	2
	Chemical Properties	7
	Heat Transfer Properties	9
	Toxicity	11
	Electrical Properties	11
	Handling of SF ₆ Gas	15
	Filling with SF ₆ Gas	16
	Absorption of Decomposition Products	19
	REFERENCES	20
2.	HIGH VOLTAGE BREAKDOWN IN SF ₆ GAS	21
	Introduction	21
	Breakdown Mechanism	21
	Uniform Field Breakdown in SF ₆	26
	Corona and Non-uniform Field Breakdown	31
	Estimation of Breakdown Voltage in Practical Systems	36
	Breakdown of SF ₆ in Mixtures with Other Gases	42
	Particle Initiated Breakdown	46
	Factors Affecting the Breakdown Strength of SF ₆ Gas	50
	Surface Flashover over Insulating Spacers in SF ₆	57
	REFERENCES	63
3.	ARC INTERRUPTION IN SF ₆	66
	Introduction	66
	Fundamental Arc Phenomena	67
	Plain Break Arcs in SF ₆	68
	Blast Arcs in SF ₆	73
	Current Chopping in SF ₆	91
	Current Research on Arc Interruption in SF ₆	94
	Arc Interruption in SF ₆ - Other Gas Mixtures	95

viii	Contents	
	REFERENCES	97
4.	SF ₆ GAS INSULATED SWITCHGEAR	100
	Introduction	100
	Advantages of SF ₆ Circuit Breakers	101
	Double Pressure Type Circuit Breakers	101
	Puffer Type Circuit Breakers (Up to 765 kV)	106
	Design Considerations of Puffer Circuit Breakers	107
	Operating Mechanism for Puffer Type Circuit Breakers	116
	Interrupter Geometries	118
	Design of Nozzle Geometry	120
	Self Extinction Type Circuit Breakers	124
	Maintenance Requirements and Reliability	126
	Future Trends of SF ₆ Gas Circuit Breakers	127
	SF ₆ Metal Enclosed Switchgear	128
	Advantages of SF ₆ Insulated Substations	129
	Requirements of SF ₆ Insulated Metal Clad Switchgear	129
	General Design Considerations	130
	Designs of Gas Insulated Switchgear and Components	136
	Description of Gas Insulated Switchgear and Components	139
	SF ₆ Gas Filling	146
	SF ₆ Gas Handling Plant	148
	Insulation Co-ordination for Gas Insulated Substations	151
	Future Trends of GIS	154
	REFERENCES	155
5.	SF ₆ GAS INSULATED EQUIPMENTS	156
	Introduction	156
	SF ₆ Gas Insulated Cables	156
	SF ₆ Gas Insulated Current Transformers	169
	Bushings for SF ₆ Technique	177
	General Testing Techniques of SF ₆ Insulated Power Apparatus	182
	REFERENCES	184
6.	HIGH VOLTAGE BREAKDOWN IN VACUUM	186
	Introduction	186
	Electron Emission in the Presence of Strong Electric Fields	187
	Pre-breakdown Phenomena in Vacuum	188
	Breakdown Mechanism	191
	Other Factors Affecting the Breakdown Strength of a Vacuum Gap	200
	Breakdown Across Solid Insulating Spacers in Vacuum	201
	Conclusions	210
	REFERENCES	211
7.	ARC INTERRUPTION IN VACUUM	214
	Introduction	214
	General Description of a Vacuum Arc	215
	Cathode Phenomena	216
	Vacuum Arc Plasma	221
	Anode Phenomena	222
	Arc Recovery Phenomena in Vacuum	225
	Future Work	229

	Contents	ix
	REFERENCES	230
8.	VACUUM SWITCHGEAR	232
	Introduction	232
	Advantages of Vacuum Interruption	232
	Vacuum Contactors and Interrupters	235
	Description of Vacuum Switches	236
	Operating Mechanisms for Vacuum Contactor	238
	Operating Mechanisms for Vacuum Interrupters	239
	Contact Materials for Vacuum Interrupters	242
	Contact Geometry for Vacuum Interrupters	252
	Manufacturing Techniques	259
	Applications of Vacuum Switchgear	264
	Maintenance of Vacuum Switchgear	272
	REFERENCES	273
	APPENDIX TO CHAPTER 1	275
	APPENDIX	277
	SUBJECT INDEX	279