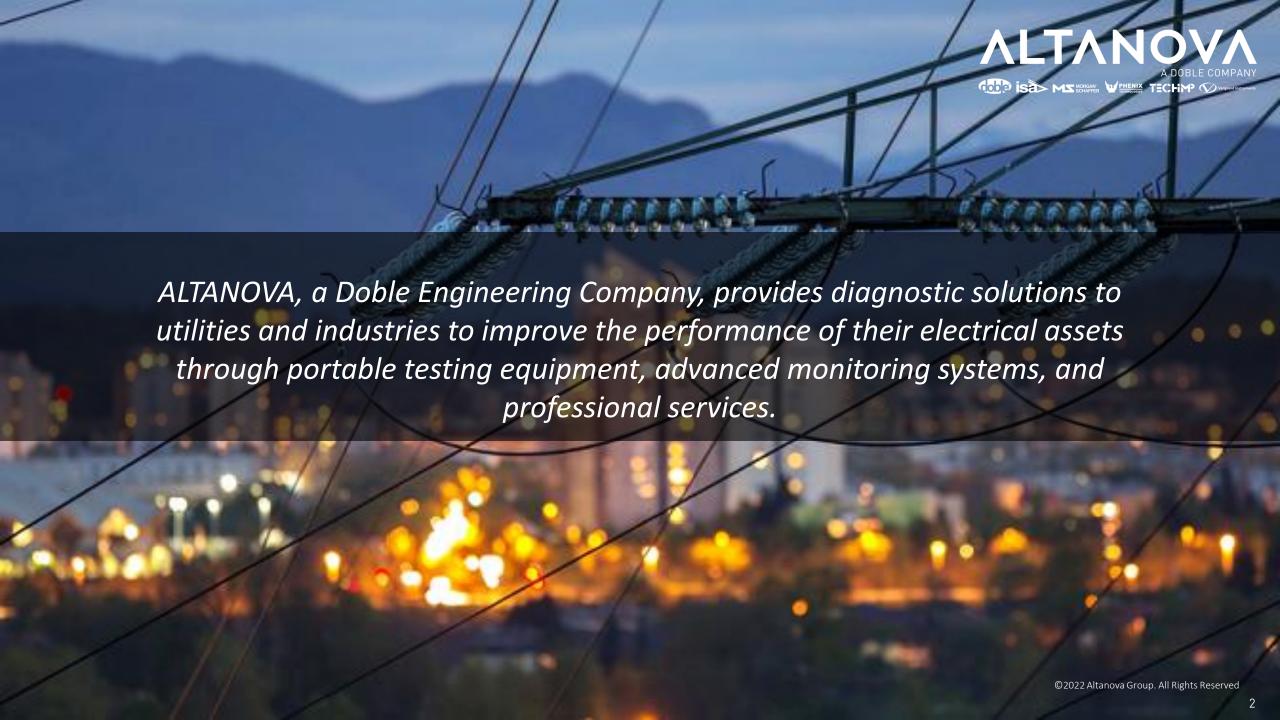


High Voltage Circuit Breaker testing

Simone Meneghin Regional Sales Manager smeneghin@doble.com



Altanova History



1938 I.S.A. Istrumentazioni Sistemi Automatici S.r.l.

is established in Taino ITALY

1999 TECHIMP was born as a spin-off from the

University of Bologna ITALY.

2017 I.S.A. and TECHIMP merge giving

birth to the ALTANOVA GROUP

2019 INTELLISAW joins ALTANOVA GROUP

2021 ALTANOVA GROUP becomes part of ESCO

Technology Group and joins the Doble

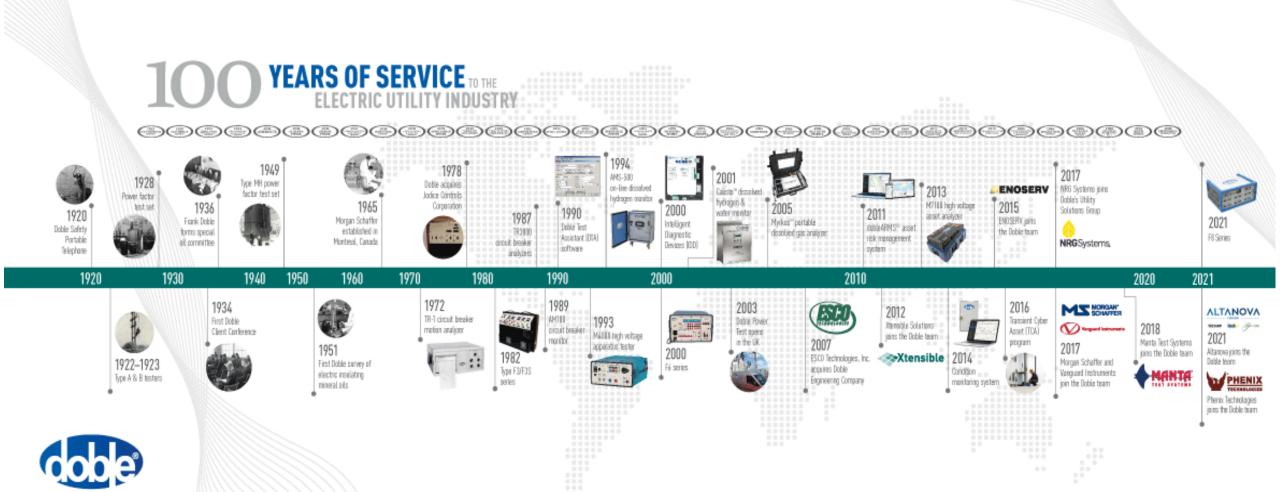
Engineering Company, as part of the USG

division.



Doble History





Altanova Today















PRODUCT BRANDS













Our Solutions



Electrical Test Equipment

Essential for day-to-day maintenance tests of electrical assets. Useful in specific phases of the asset lifecycle:

- Procure
- Operate
- Maintain
- Decommission.

Professional Services

Diversified offer according to the electrical asset lifecycle:

- Installation and commissioning
- Diagnostic test
- Data analysis
- Consultancy
- Training.



Monitoring Systems

Shift from a time-based maintenance to a condition-based maintenance.

Focus on predictive maintenance and shift in focus from electric asset value cost to network outage costs.

Strong evolution of digitalization trend in the power industry.

Testing And Monitoring Solutions For:



- Power transformers
- Circuit breakers
- HV gas insulated switchgears
- MV/HV/EHV cables
- MV/LV switchgears
- Batteries

- Current & voltage transformers
- Protective relays
- Meters and transducers
- Rotating machines
- Variable speed drives
- Overhead lines







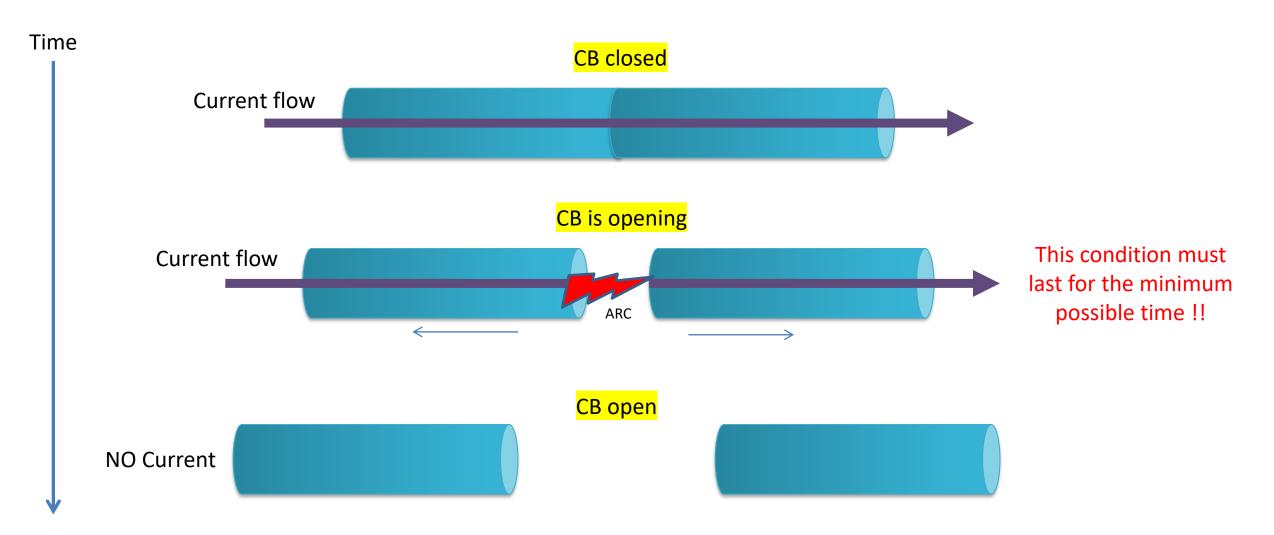
Circuit breaker is an automatically operated electrical device, design to close or open contacts inside the chambers, thus closing and opening an electrical circuit under load or fault conditions

Its task is to sustain the load current, during its normal operation, and to interrupt the fault current in the

FASTEST POSSIBLE TIME

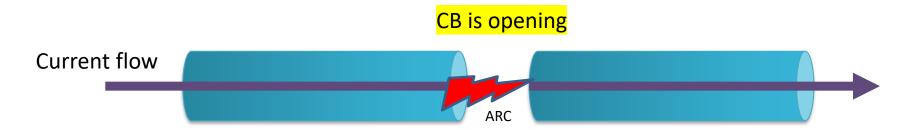
Once a fault occours





The opening time is the most important parameter





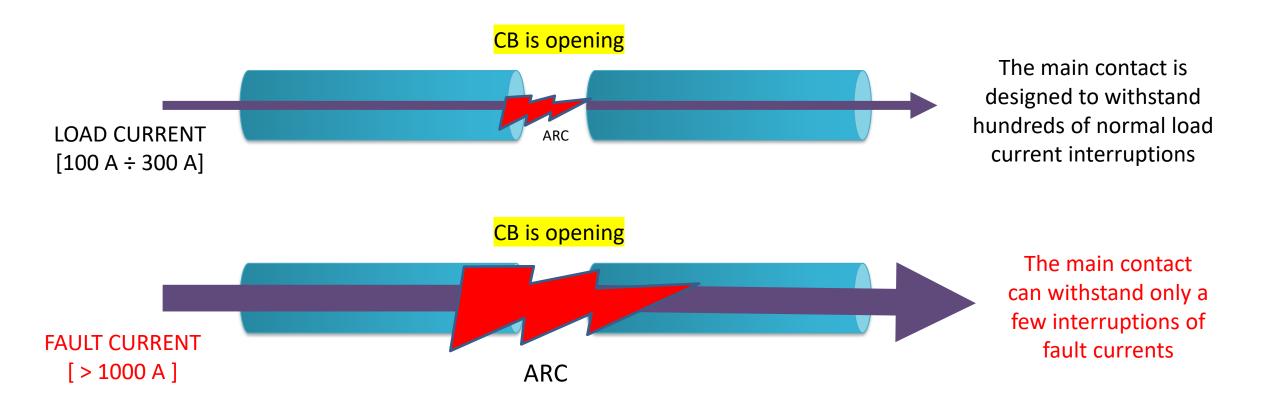
The electric arc can damage the conductors if it lasts too long!

The opening time must always last no more than a few tens of milliseconds



Risks due to the electrical arc





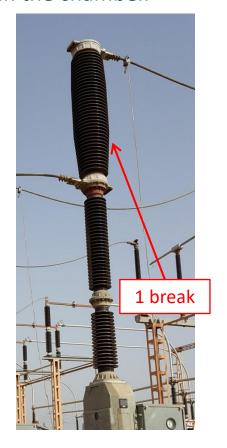


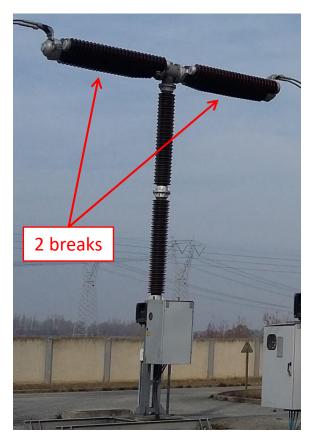
How an HV circuit breaker looks

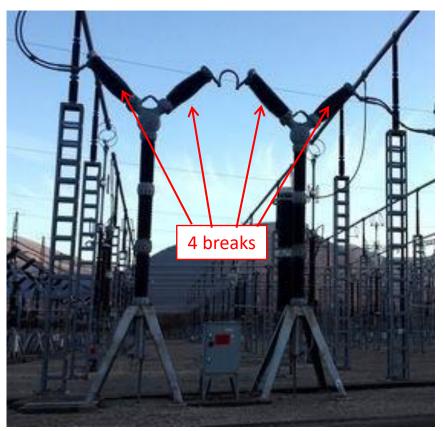


Breaking chambers

High voltage circuit breakers can have more than one moving contact (breaker) connected in series, used to interrupt the load or fault current. More than one single moving contact is required above 230 kV in order to properly quench the arc in the chamber.







Medium Voltage Switchgears







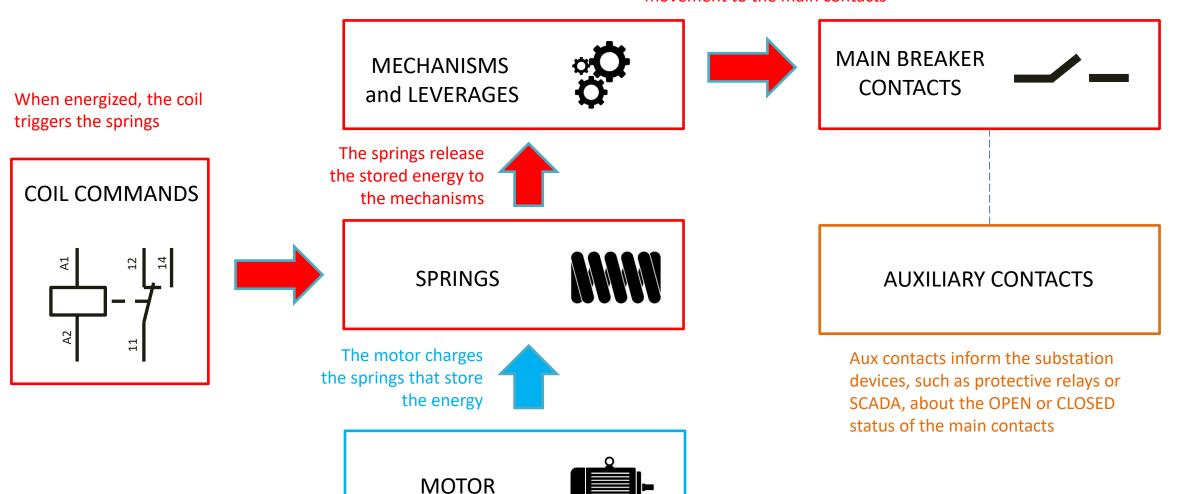
Most of the principles and concepts remain valid for medium voltage switchgears.

These devices are designed to operate at lower voltage, but basically do the same job as high voltage circuit breakers.

The operating chain



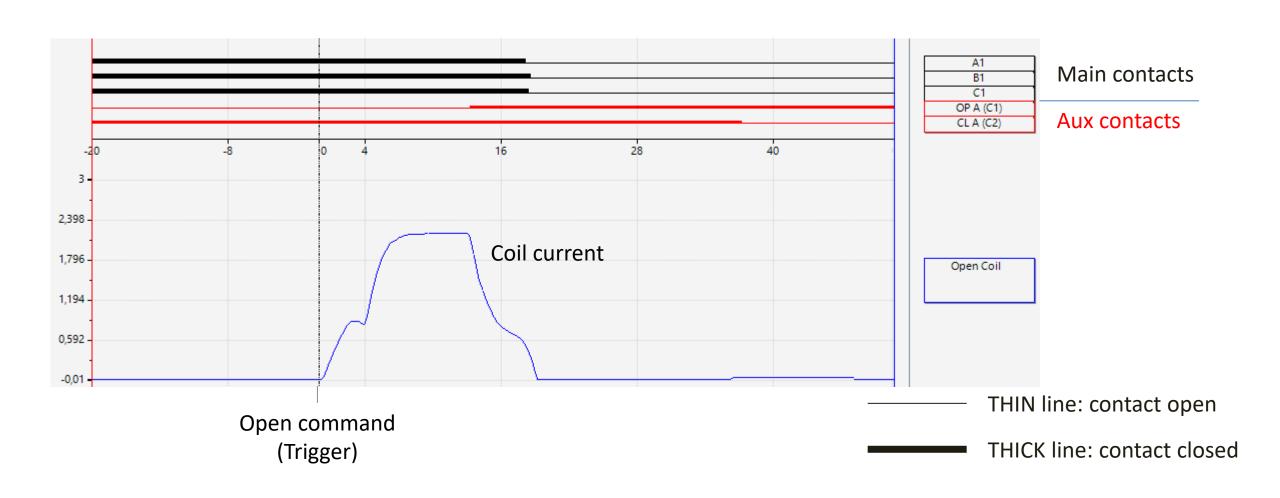
The leverages transfer the movement to the main contacts



The operating chain

Example: one break per phase CB





Which parameters should be kept under control?



CIRCUIT BREAKER ELEMENTS	PARAMETERS
COIL COMMAND	 Peak of the energizing current Flow time of the energizing current Shape of the energizing current
MAIN BREAKER CONTACT	 Opening and Closing time Static contact resistance Dynamic contact resistance (arcing contact)
AUXILIARY CONTACT	Switching time
PRE-INSERTION RESISTOR	Resistance valueInsertion time
MECHANISMS	Movement and speed
MOTOR	Operating current

Circuit Breaker Analyzer



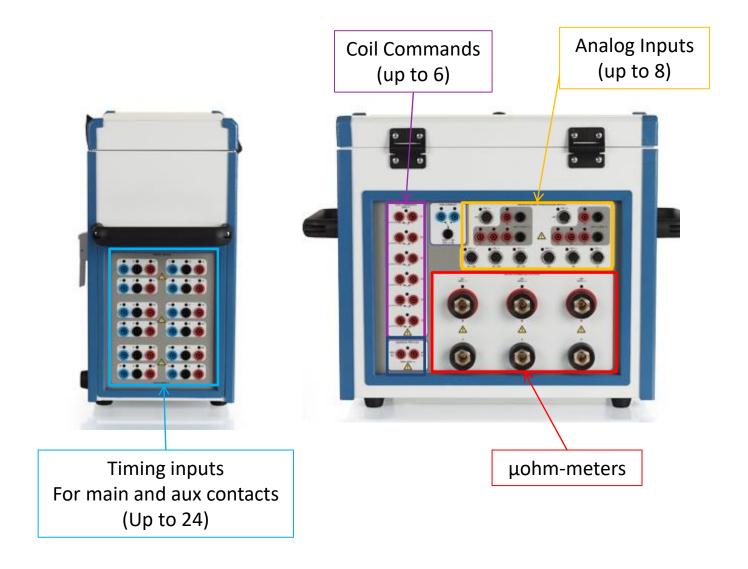
CBA 3000



Circuit Breaker Analyzer

CBA 3000





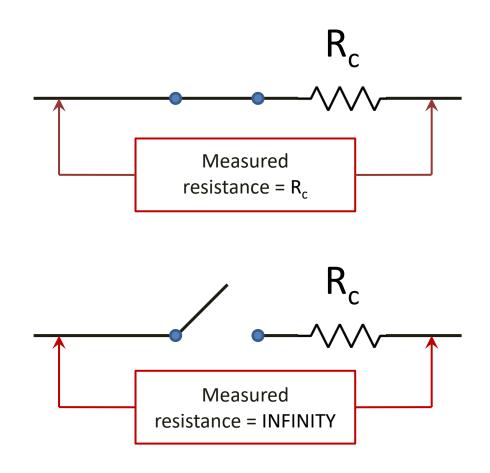


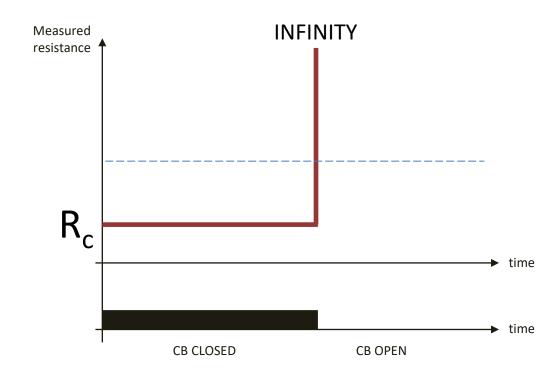
Opening and Closing time

Opening and Closing time



The normal way to understand if the main contact is open or closed, is to measure a resistance value



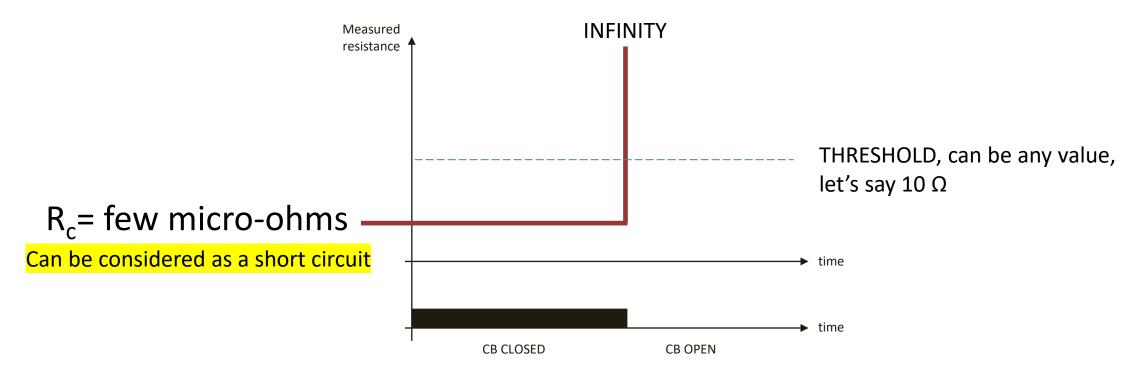


Opening and Closing time



In other words, it is necessary to find a way to distinguish a short circuit from an open circuit. To do so, it is necessary to decide a threshold:

- below the threshold, the contact is closed
- Above the threshold, the contact is open



Opening and Closing time - Test connections



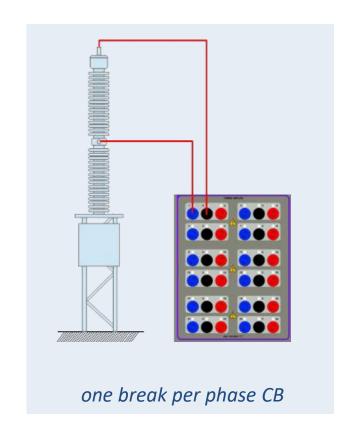
What do I need to perform a timing test for the main main contacts?

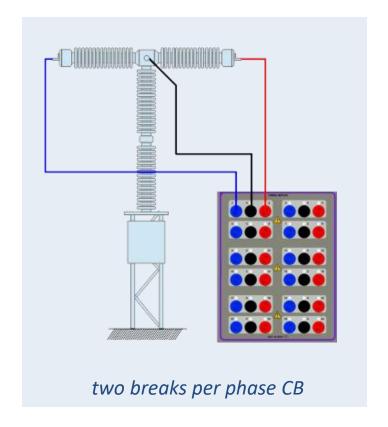
Coil command

The coil current is the reference to measure the time, when it starts to flow, the timer starts to count.

Timing input

used to monitor the CB contact status, and so to detect and measure its switch time.

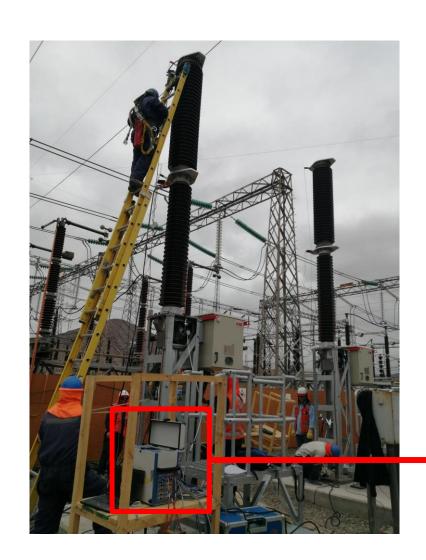


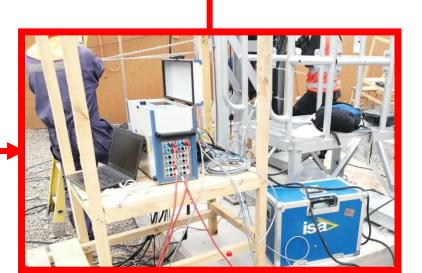


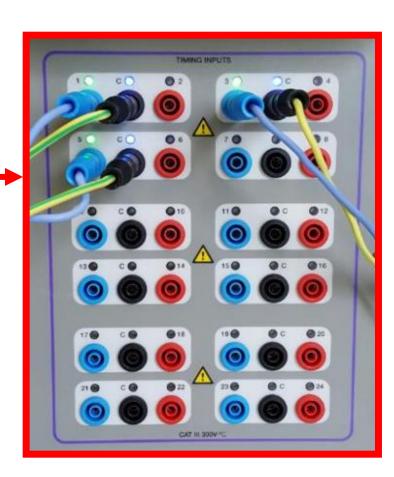
Circuit Breaker Analyzer





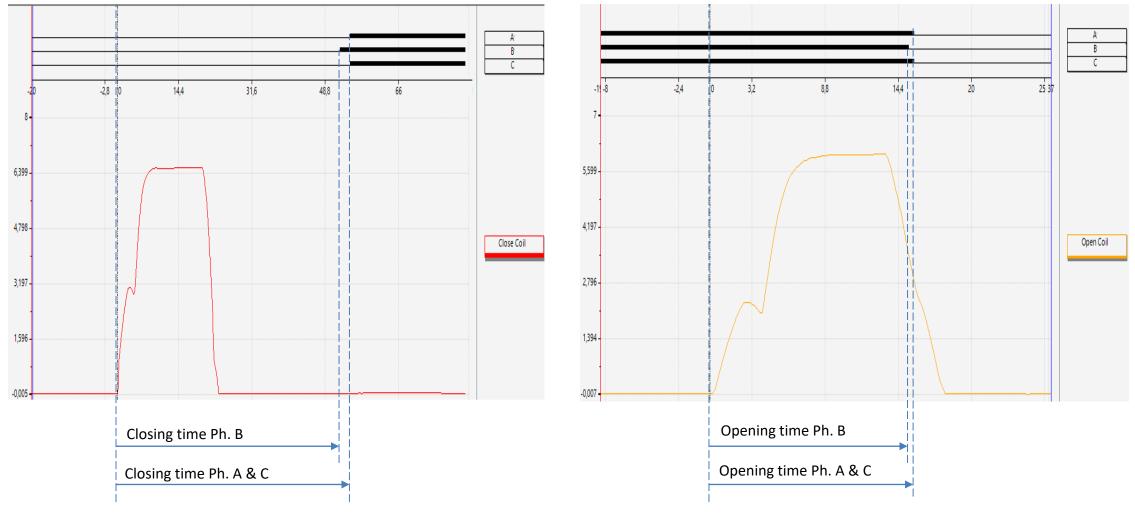






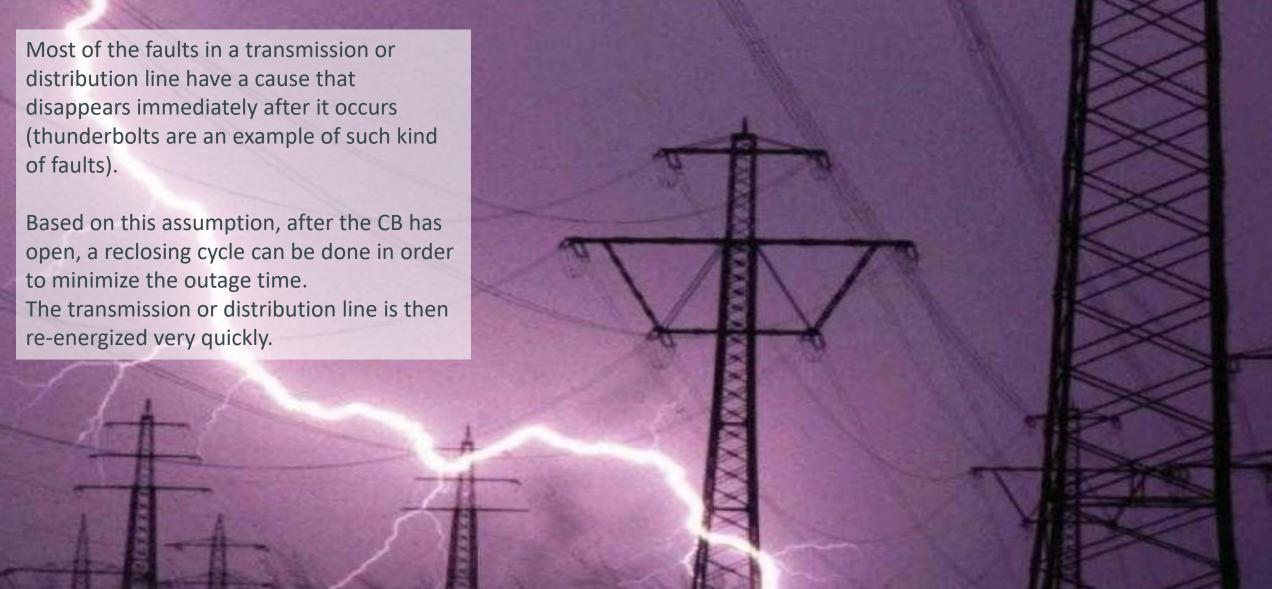


Opening and Closing time – Results example



Test of the reclosing cycle





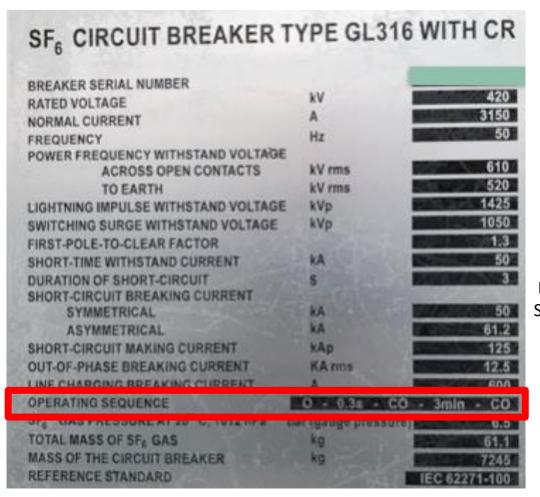
Test of the reclosing cycle

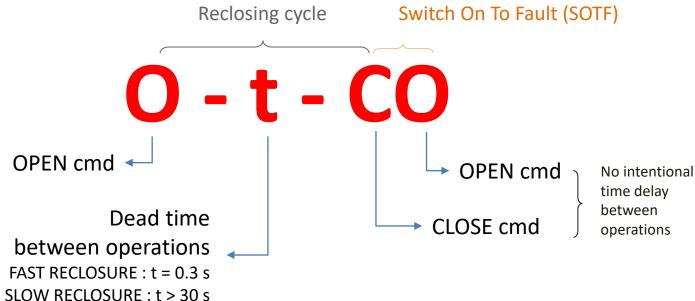




Test of the reclosing cycle





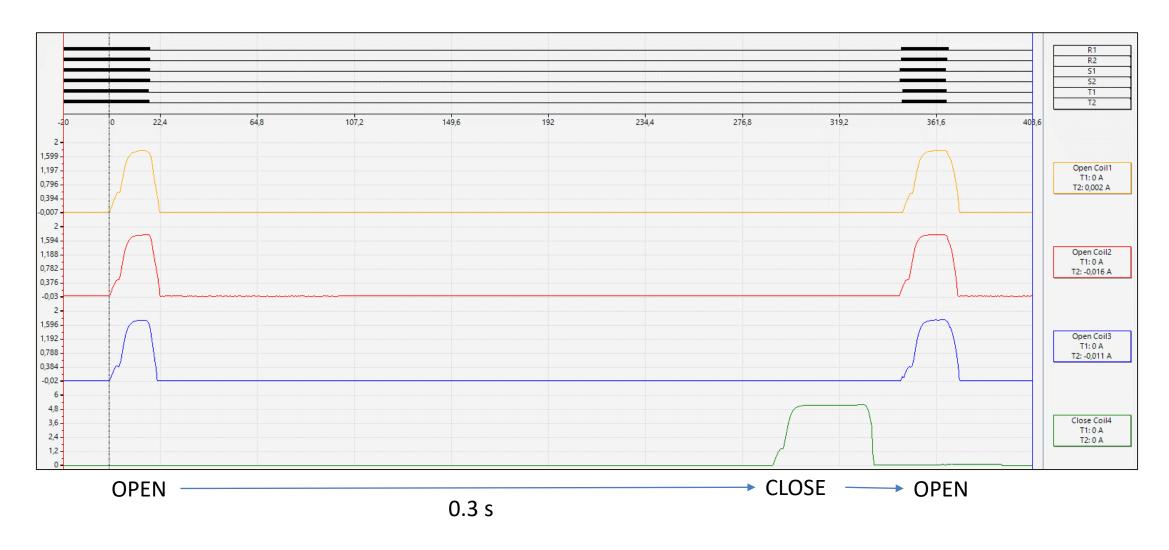


« Fast Reclosure + SOTF » is the most critical sequence

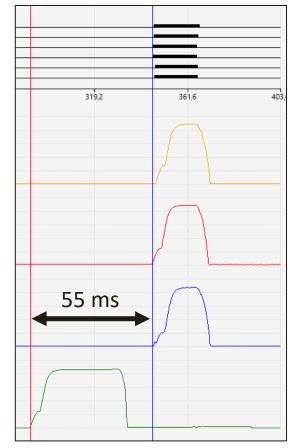
The springs must release all their energy in a very short time



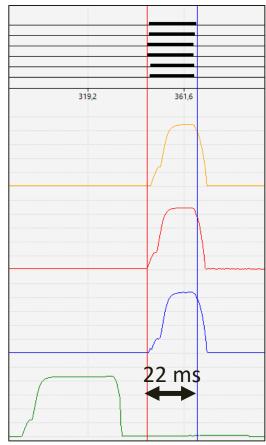
Test of the reclosing cycle - Results Example



Test of the reclosing cycle - Results Example

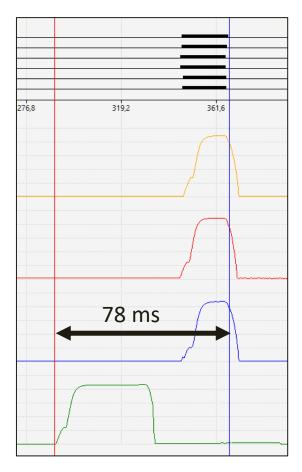


The 55 ms delay is due to a mechanism than avoid the overlap of a close and a open command



The time in which the main contacts remain closed is called DWELL TIME





Must be noted that the CB can perform a complete CO sequence in a very short time

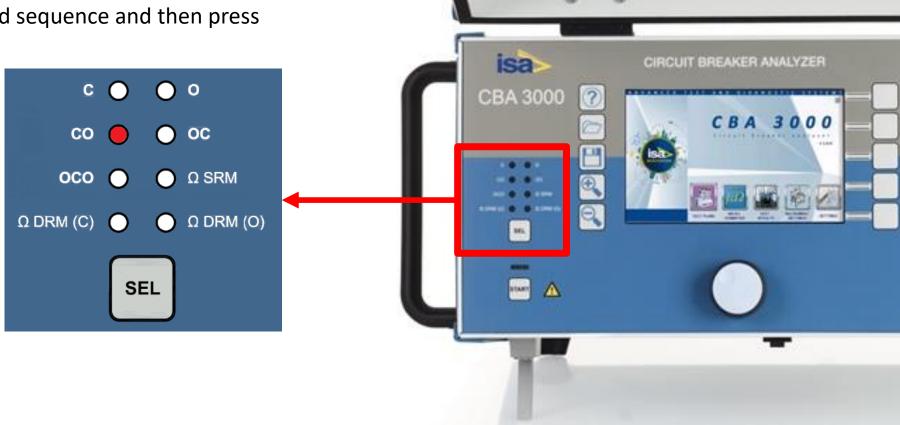
Test of the reclosing cycle - Results Example



CBA 3000 gives a very straightforward way to choose the sequence of operation to be executed

By means of the SEL button placed on the front panel, the operator can select the desired sequence and then press the START button.

All the results will be displayed on the built-in color screen





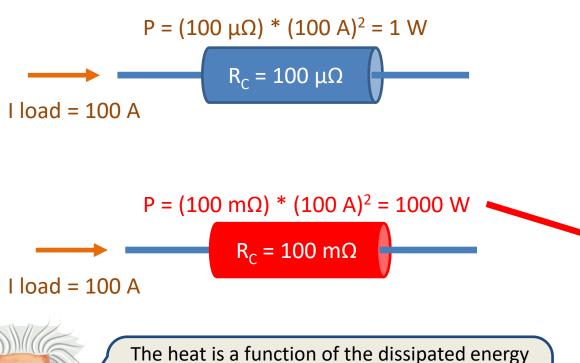
Static Contact Resistance

ALTANOVA

A DOBLE COMPANY

THORAN DEPHENIX TECHNOLOGY

Why does the main contact resistance have such a low value?



ENERGY = P * t

Higher is the resistance, smaller is the time to

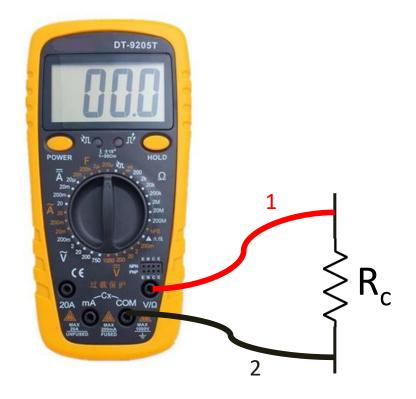
reach a high temperature

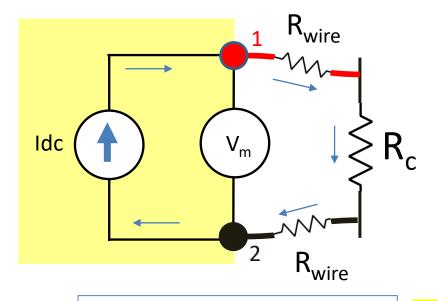


ALTANOVA A DOBLE COMPANY COLD ISS ME SCHAPER WELL TECHEN WO VALUE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO

Measure of resistance value – Two Wire method

The measure of a generic resistance value, at a first glance, seems a very simple operation. Any good multimeter can do this job.





The actual resistance value is $Vm = Idc * (R_C + 2R_{wire})$

$$R_{\text{meas}} = R_{\text{C}} + 2R_{\text{wire}}$$

The two wire method is not suitable to measure resistance values in the range of few micro-ohms

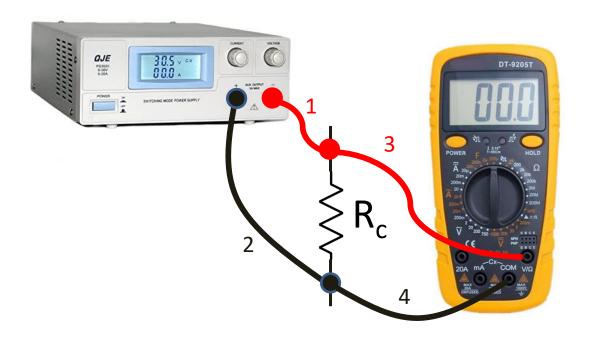
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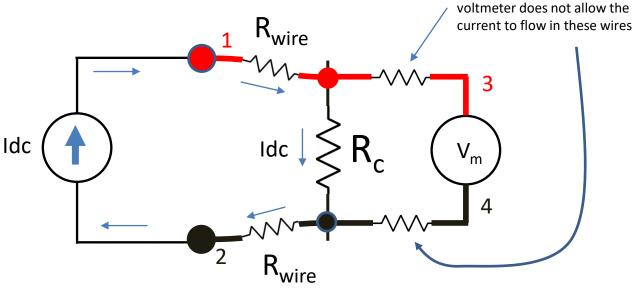
The input impedance of the

Measure of resistance value – Four Wire method

The multimeter can still be used, but as voltmeter rather than as ohm-meter.

The current must be generated from an external source.





The actual resistance value is Vm = Idc * R_C

$$R_{meas} = R_{C}$$

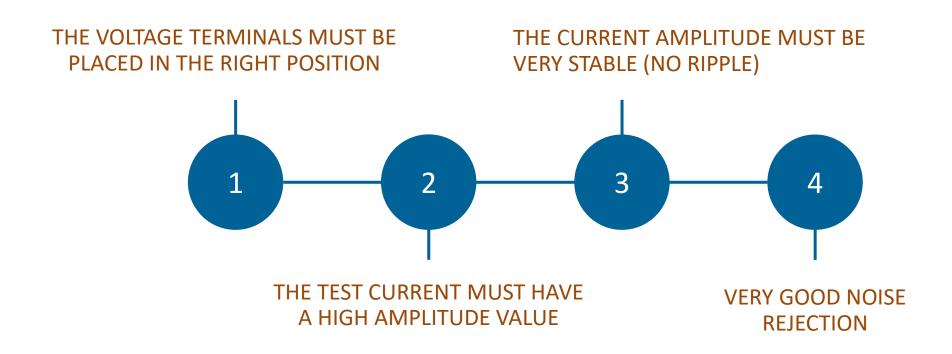
The four wire method is the correct method to be used

Static contact resistance



The four wire method does not always guarantee to get the most correct value.

The measure of micro-ohms needs precautions to be taken:

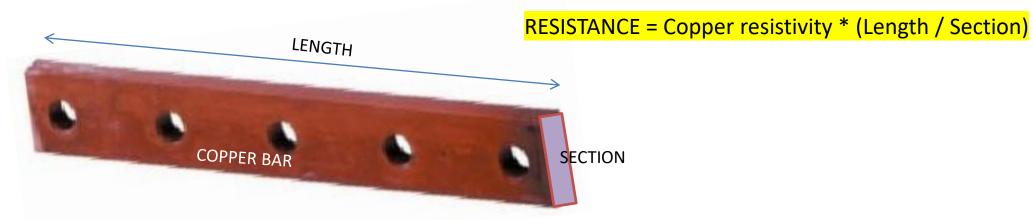


Static contact resistance



1

THE VOLTAGE TERMINALS MUST BE PLACED IN THE RIGHT POSITION



EXAMPLE

Copper resistivity = 0.017 [$\Omega * mm^2 / m$]

Length = 0.5 m

Section = 300 mm^2



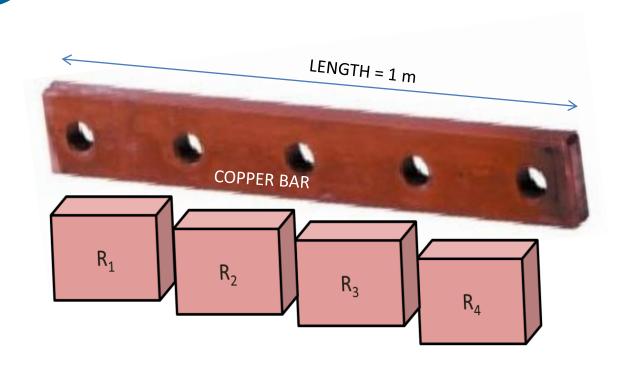
$$R = 0.017 \left[\frac{\Omega * mm^2}{m} \right] * \frac{0.5 [m]}{300 [mm^2]} \simeq 28 \,\mu\Omega$$

Static contact resistance



1

THE VOLTAGE TERMINALS MUST BE PLACED IN THE RIGHT POSITION



The copper bar can be seen as a sequence of shorter pieces, each one with its own resistance value.

In our example, we divide the bar in 4 pieces

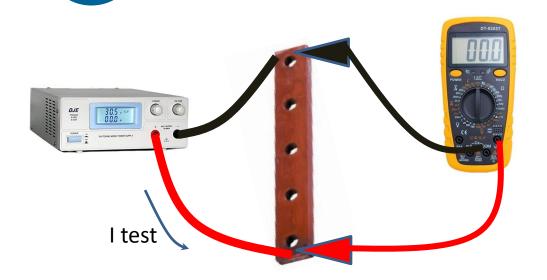
$$R = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + R_4 = 28 \mu\Omega$$

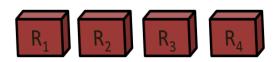
Static contact resistance



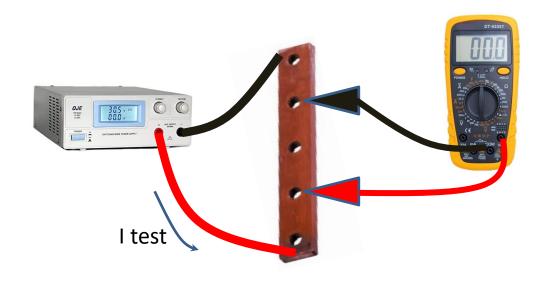
1

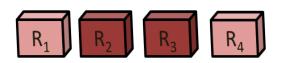
THE VOLTAGE TERMINALS MUST BE PLACED IN THE RIGHT POSITION





R measured = $R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + R_4 = 28 \mu\Omega$





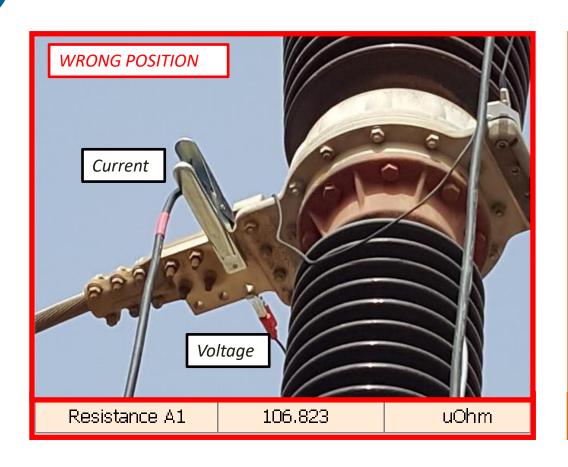
R measured = $R_2 + R_3 = 14 \mu\Omega$

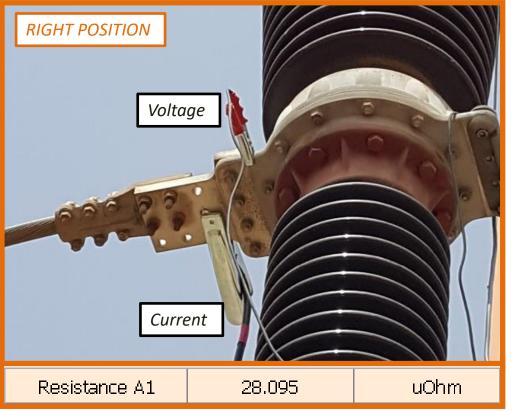
Static contact resistance



1

THE VOLTAGE TERMINALS MUST BE PLACED IN THE RIGHT POSITION



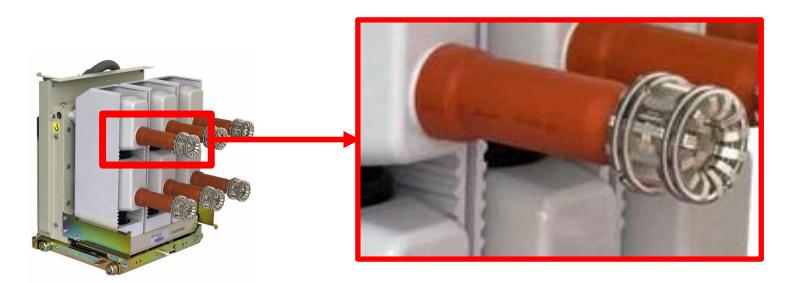


Static contact resistance



1

THE VOLTAGE TERMINALS MUST BE PLACED IN THE RIGHT POSITION



Special adapters may be required for proper connection of voltage terminals

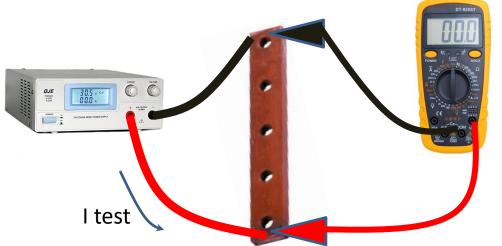
Withdrawable Circuit Breaker Switchgears (WCBS)

Static contact resistance



2

THE TEST CURRENT MUST HAVE A HIGH AMPLITUDE VALUE



V measured = 28 μ Ω * 10 A = 280 μ V



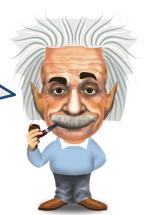
It is very difficult to measure voltges whose amplitude is less than 1 mV.

For this reason, the recommended test current is 100 A

V measured = 28 $\mu\Omega$ * 100 A = 2.8 mV

The junction between two different conductor material, here represented by the copper bar and the voltage terminal, generates a voltage whose value falls the range of few microvolt (SEEBECK EFFECT).

This voltage acts as an offset, and must be compensated.

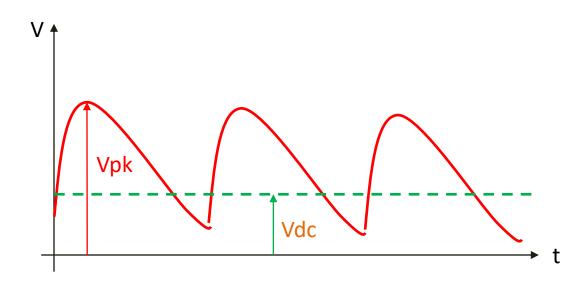


Static contact resistance



3

THE CURRENT AMPLITUDE MUST BE VERY STABLE (NO RIPPLE)



The DC component must be calculated from the «non-DC» waveform

Possible causes of inaccuracy

- Mathematical approximations
- Vpk >> Vdc: the full scale range error can be higher than Vdc (e.g. range of 1V to measure 1 mV)



Static contact resistance



4

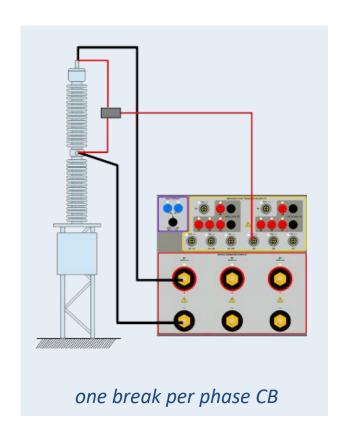
VERY GOOD NOISE REJECTION

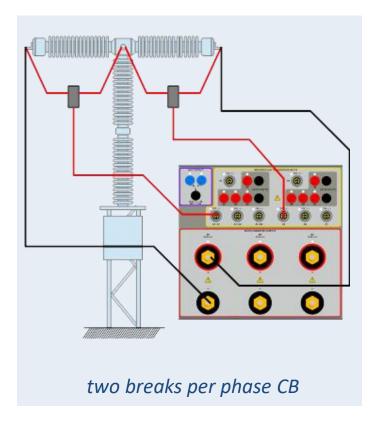




Static contact resistance – measurement setup









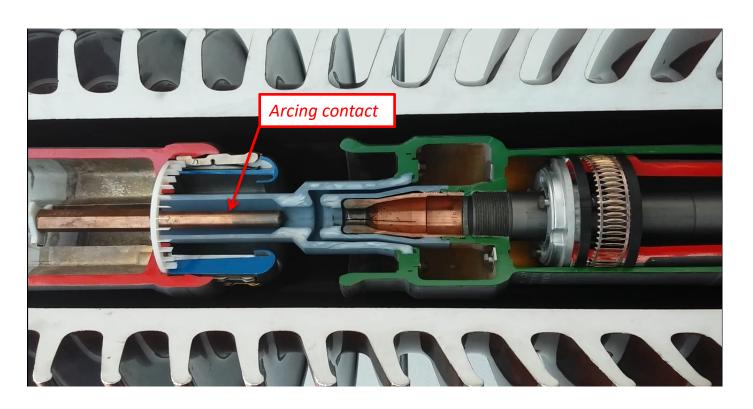


Dynamic Contact Resistance

Dynamic contact resistance



Dynamic contact resistance measurement (DCRM) is the method to assess the conditions of the arcing contact



HOW TO PERFORM THE MEASURE

- 1. Start the current generation
- 2. Issue the OPEN command
- 3. Keep the current until the main contact is fully open
- 4. Record the current variations with at least 10 kHz as sample frequency (time resolution 100 μs)

The measurement setup is the same as the SCR

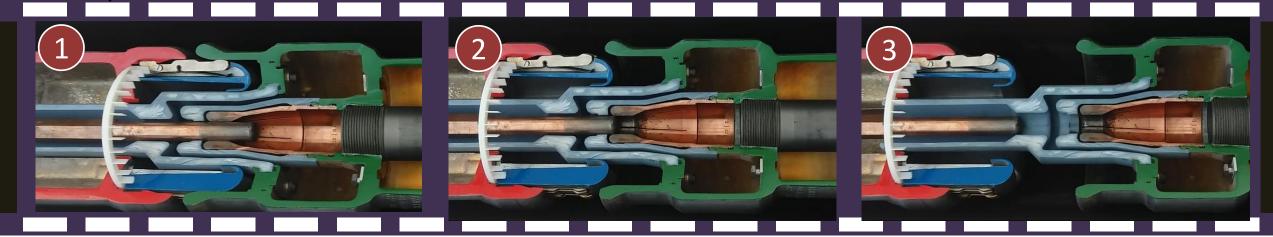
ALTANOVA

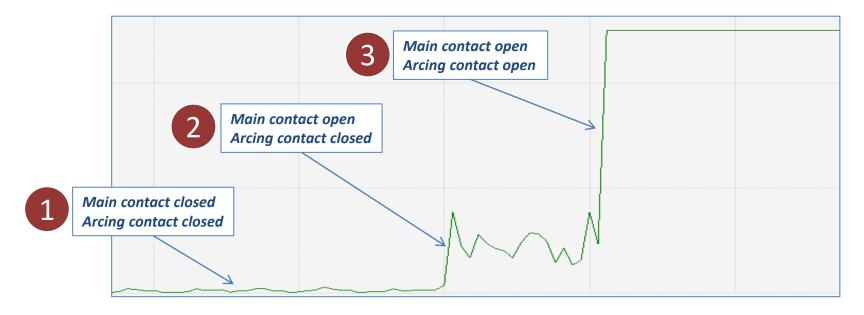
A DOBLE COMPANY

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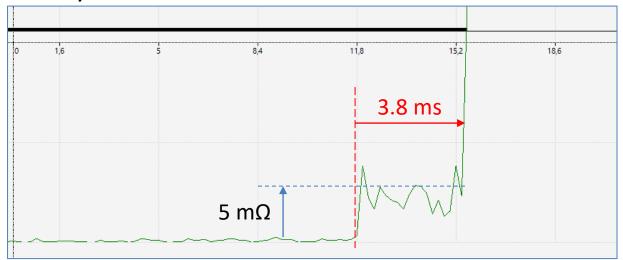
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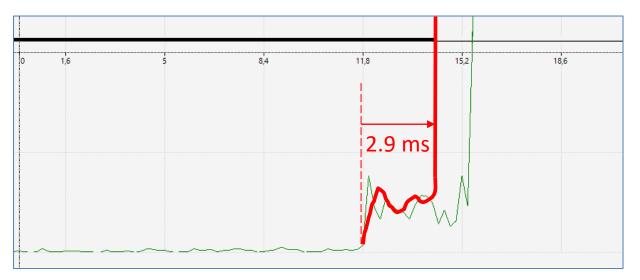
Dynamic contact resistance





Dynamic contact resistance





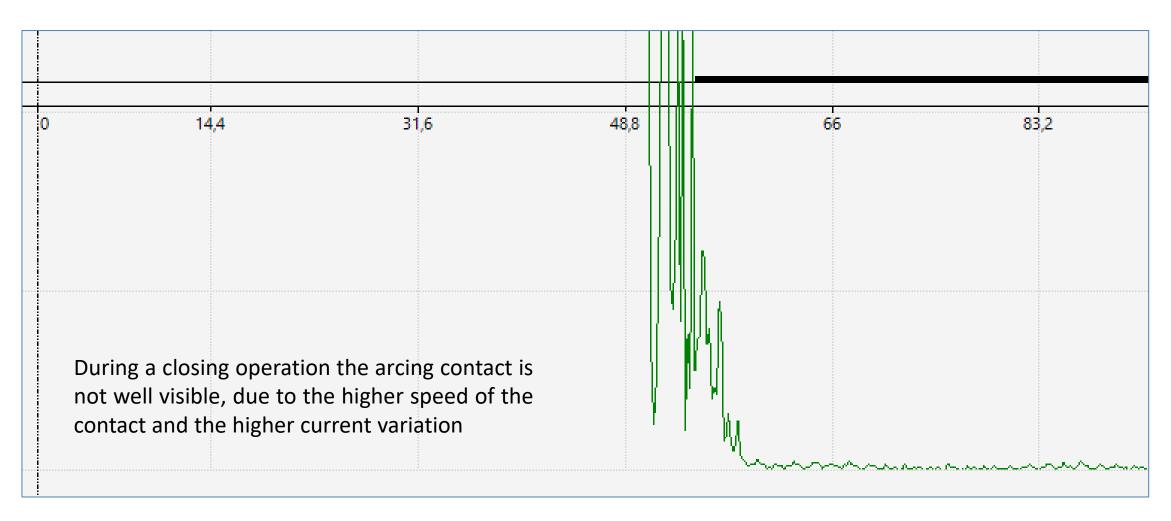


- Each time the CB interrupts the fault current, part of the arcing contact surface burns, then the equivalent length is reduced.
- The arcing contact length reduction can be seen as a reduction of the opening time.
- The length can be measured in millimeters, but the use of movement transducers is required (explained later on)

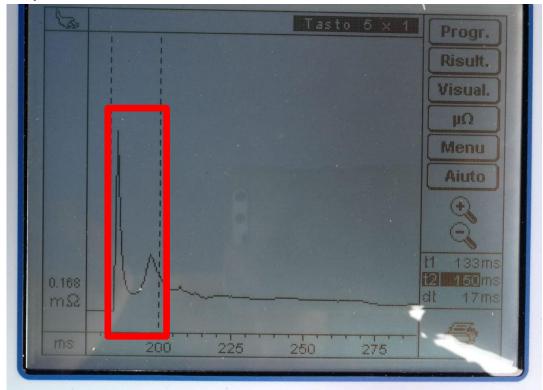
The minimum acceptable length is defined by the CB manufacturer.

Dynamic contact resistance



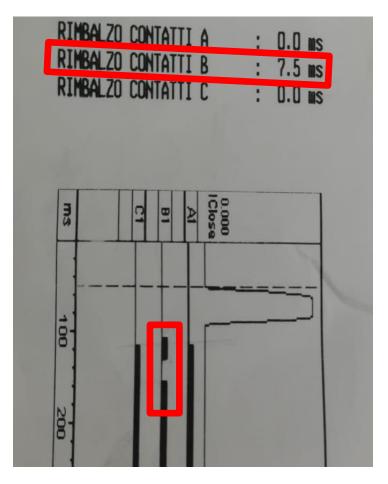


Dynamic contact resistance



DCRM can confirm the presence of bounces measures during the timing measurement (performed by ISA CBA 1000)





Bounce detected on phase B after a closing operation



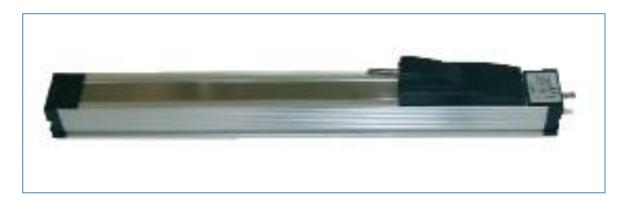


Motion analysis purpose is to acquire the actual movements of the mechanisms and leverages of the CB during an opening or closing operation.

This is achieved by coupling a position transducers with the CB's mechanism.



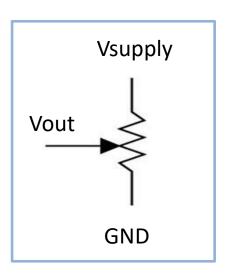
Rotary digital transducer

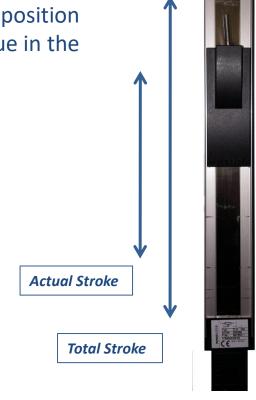


Linear analog transducer



Analog transducers are variable resistors: depending on the position of the cursor *Vout* has a value in the range $0 \ V \div V supply$





In order to get the trend, expressed in mm, of the actual movements, must be found the following correlation:

$$K = rac{\Delta V_{out}}{\Delta mm}$$
 (Circuit Breaker)



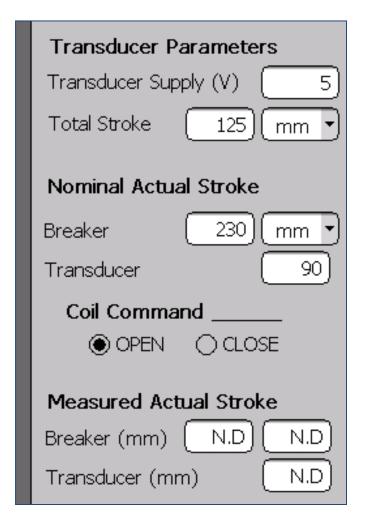
- Transducer voltage supply
- *Transducer total stroke*maximum movement (mm or deg.) of transducer

With this two parameters is possible to obtain the transducers movement (mm) from its measured voltage, during tests.

- Nominal actual stroke (Transducer)
- Nominal actual stroke (CB)
 expected actual travelling values of transducer and
 CB.

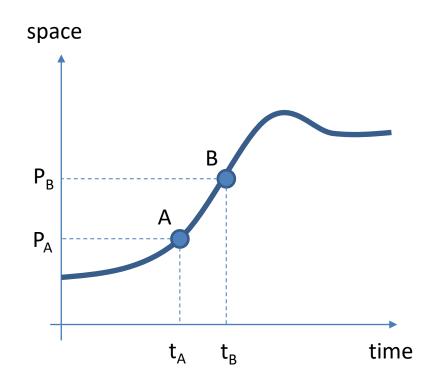
With this two parameters is possible to associate the transducer movement to the CB movement.

When calibrated they get measured and compared.





SPEED MEASUREMENT: must be defined of two *Datum Points* in order to calculate the speed between them:



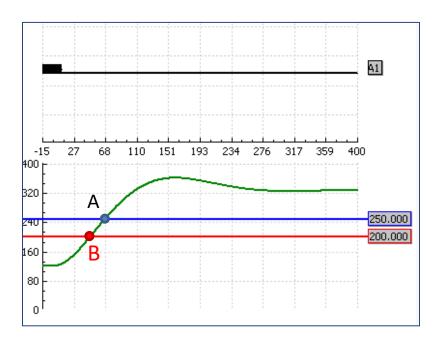
$$SPEED = (P_B - P_A) / (t_B - t_A)$$



Datum Point definitions

INDEPENDENT DATUM POINTS

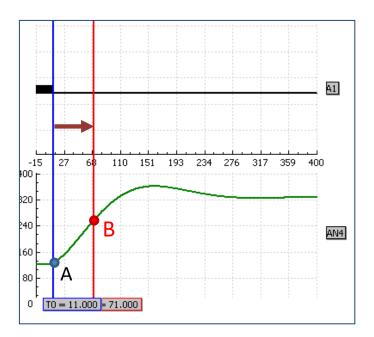
<u>Datum A</u> and <u>Datum B</u> can be placed where you like



TIME OFFSET

<u>Datum A</u>: automatically placed at the transition CO or OC

<u>Datum B</u>: placed at a predefined time offset from the transition

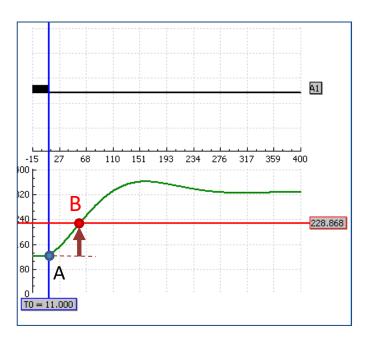


DISTANCE OFFSET

<u>Datum A</u>: automatically placed at the transition CO or OC <u>Datum B</u>: placed at a predefined distance offset from the transition

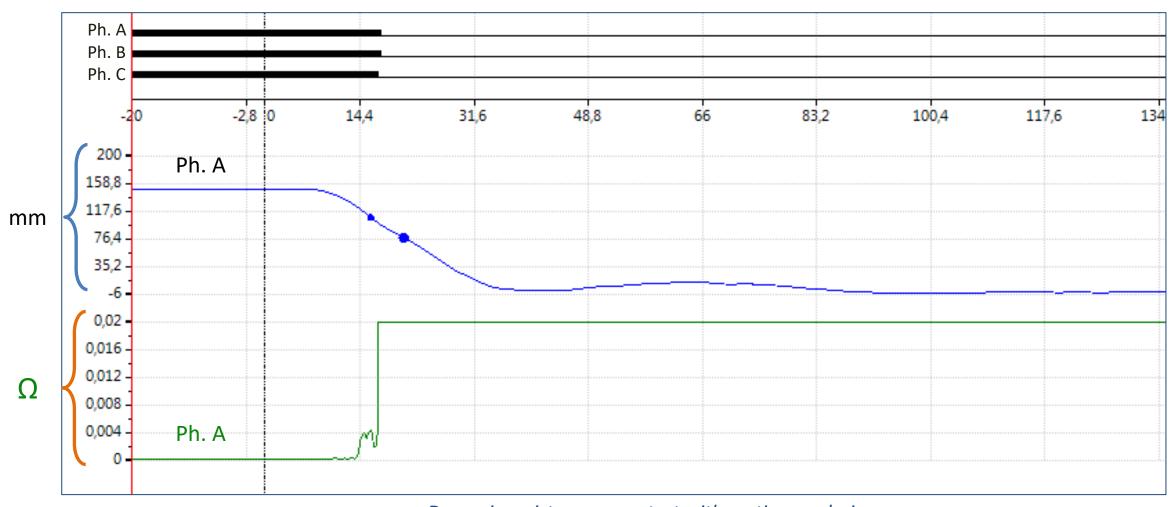
VLTVNO

SCHAFFER WPHENIX TECHIP

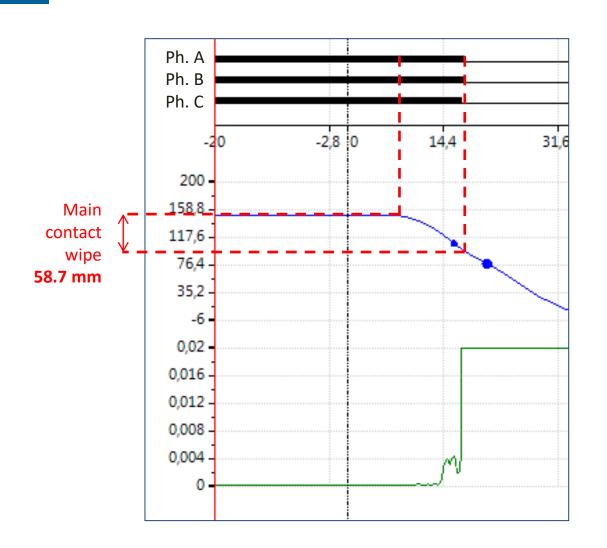


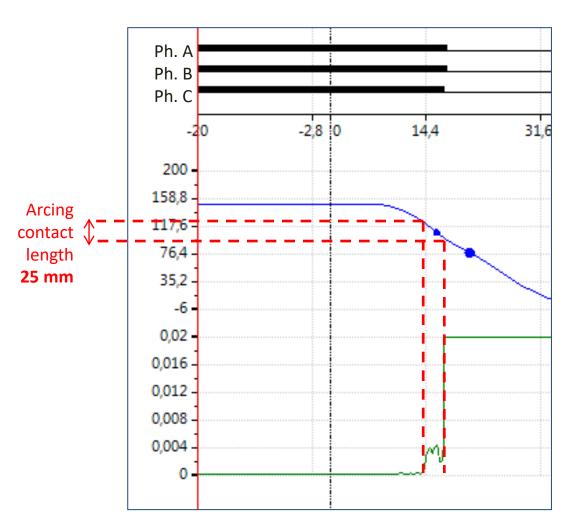
Test example



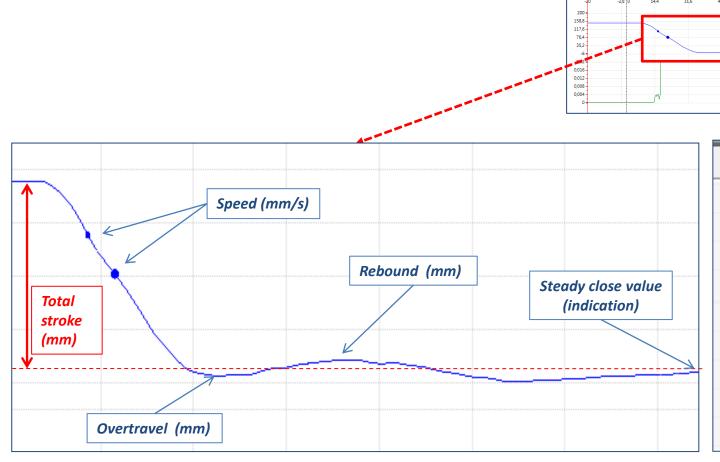










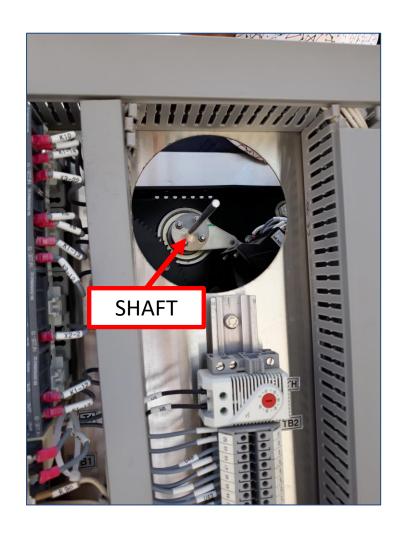


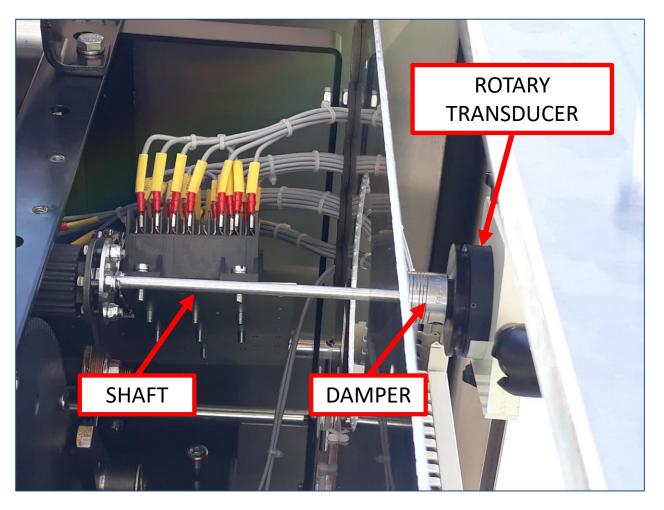
Description	Value	Unit
Session Date	18/01/2	
O Coil Current A	2,024	A
Flow Time O Coil Curr. A	16,4	ms
Open Time A	17	ms
Wipe A	58,699	mm
CO Overtravel A	5,871	mm
CO Rebound A	11,22	mm
Breaker Speed (CO) A	5,555	m/s
Total Stroke Open A	149,345	mm

Measured values from motion analysis

Motion analysis Mounting example



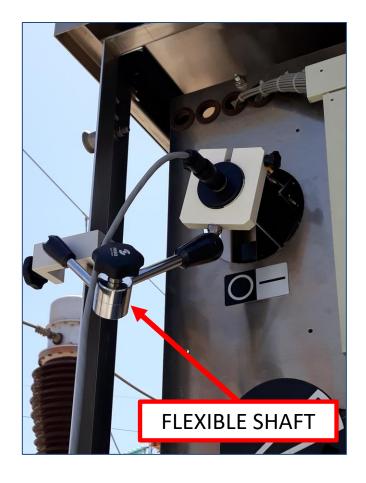




Motion analysis Mounting example





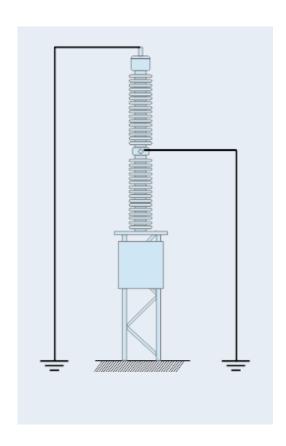




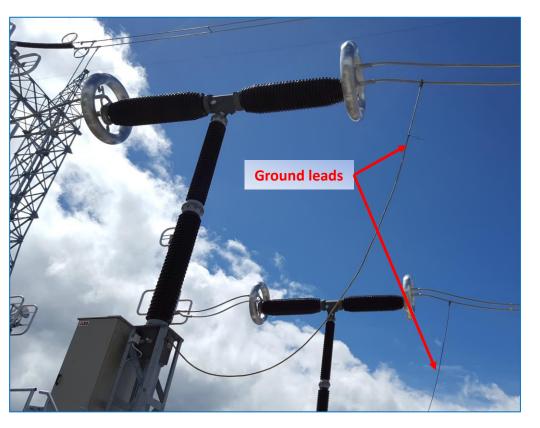
Working in safe conditions



When the CB is out of service, due to safety reasons, the two sides must be connected to the ground grid



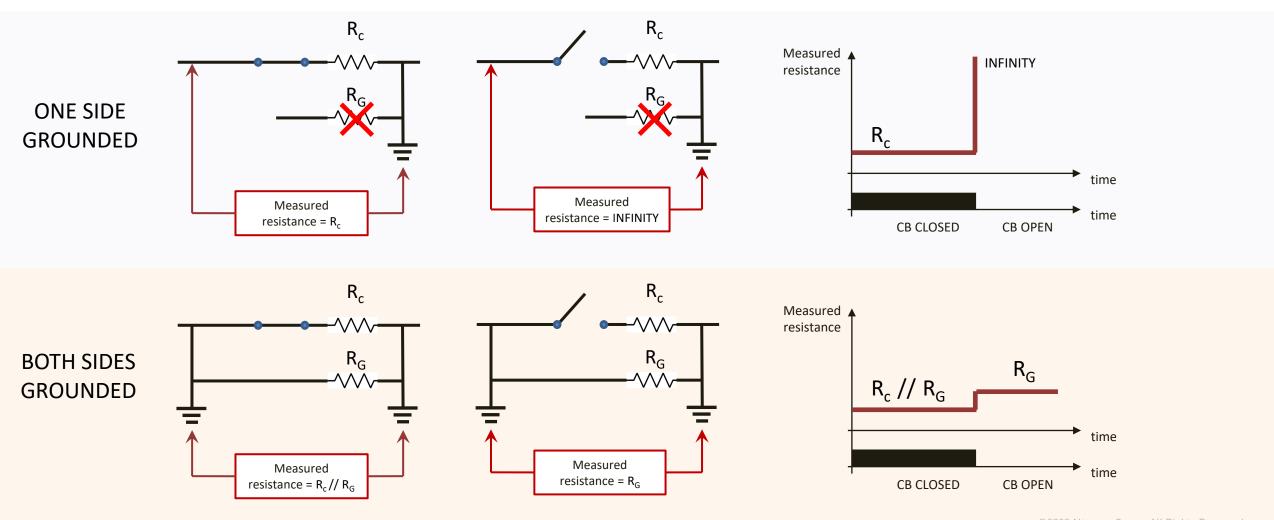




Working in safe conditions



This means that the ground leads and the substation ground grid are connected in parallel to the main contacts

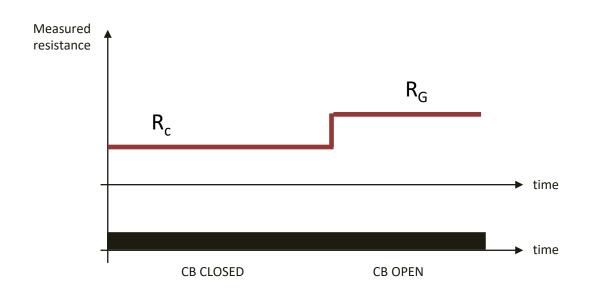


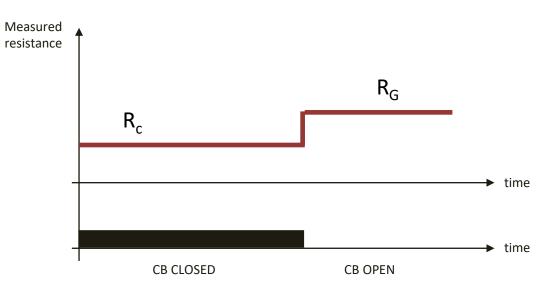


 R_c : tens of $\mu\Omega$

 R_G : hundreds of $m\Omega$

 $R_c // R_G \approx R_c : tens of \mu\Omega$







The traditional method for the timing measurement is not sensitive enough to detect such small resistance variation

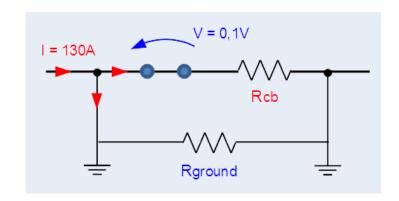


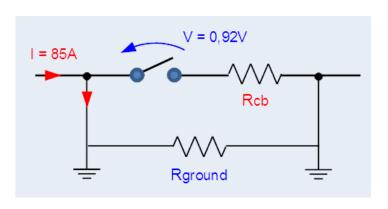
AN ADVANCED METHOD IS REQUIRED

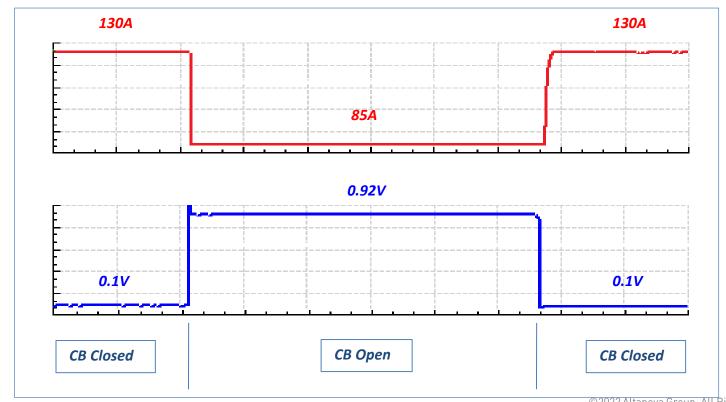
Working in safe conditions



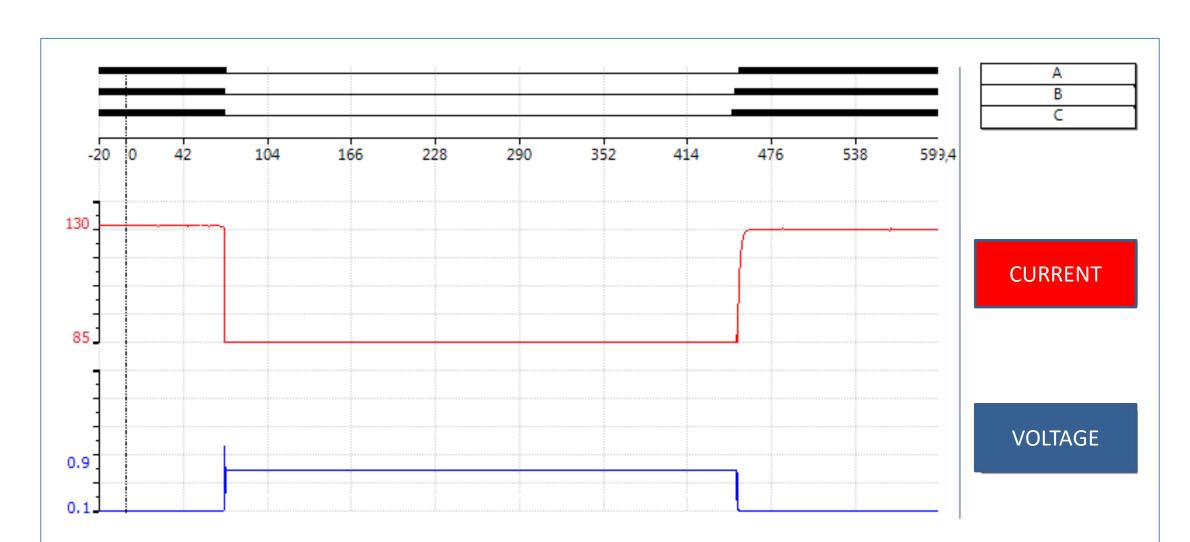
The advanced method consists in the injection of high DC and therefore in the evaluation of the voltage / current variations during the opening and closing operations









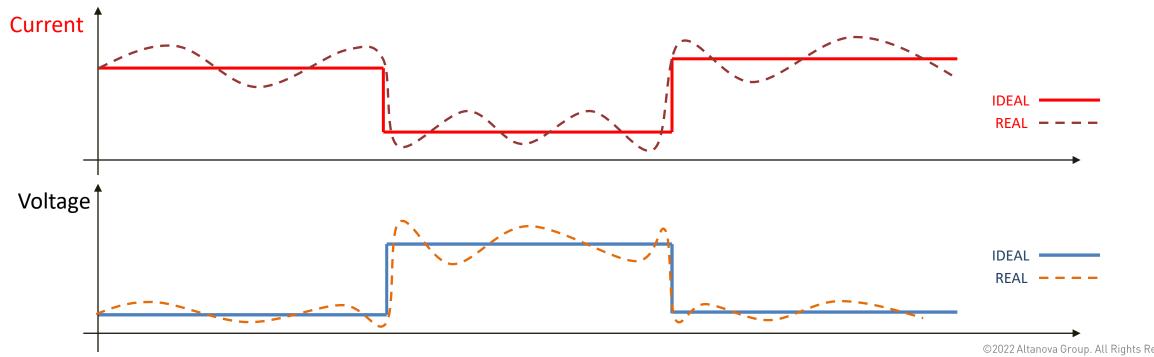




ISSUE: The voltage of a near live busbar induces current in the testing cables and into the ground leads, the time and the resistances accuracy measure can be badly affected

SOLUTION: Inject high current values and filter out the noise signals.

The current amplitude must be very stable, the generators must not introduce false variations.

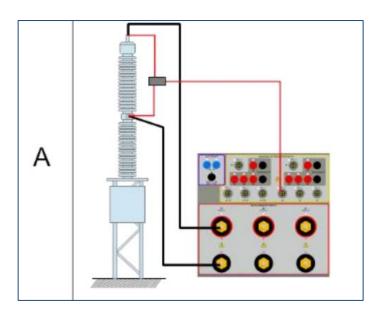


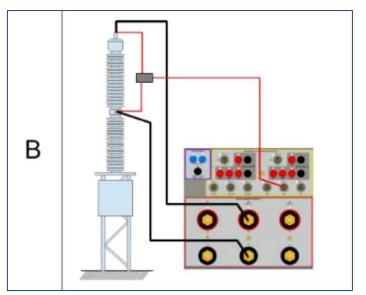


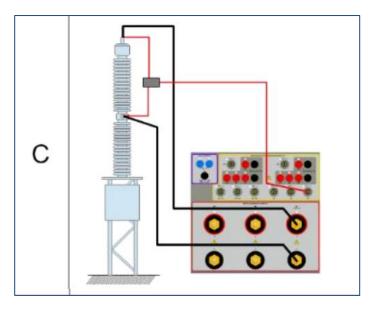


A SINGLE SETUP FOR ALL THE MEASUREMENTS!

The measurment setup for the timing test in BSG mode is the same also of the static and dynamic contact resistance measurement.







Example: one break per phase CB in BSG mode



GIS breaker operating time measurement

GIS Circuit Breakers



In gas insulated substation (GIS) the high voltage conductors are kept inside grounded metal enclosures, filled with SF6 gas. This includes circuit breakers, CTs, VTs, disconnectors, etc.



SF6 gas has a dielectric strength 2,5 times greater than air, and it is 100 times better for arc interruption. This allows to reduce the insulation space by 10 times compared to an air insulated substation (AIS).

GIS Circuit Breakers



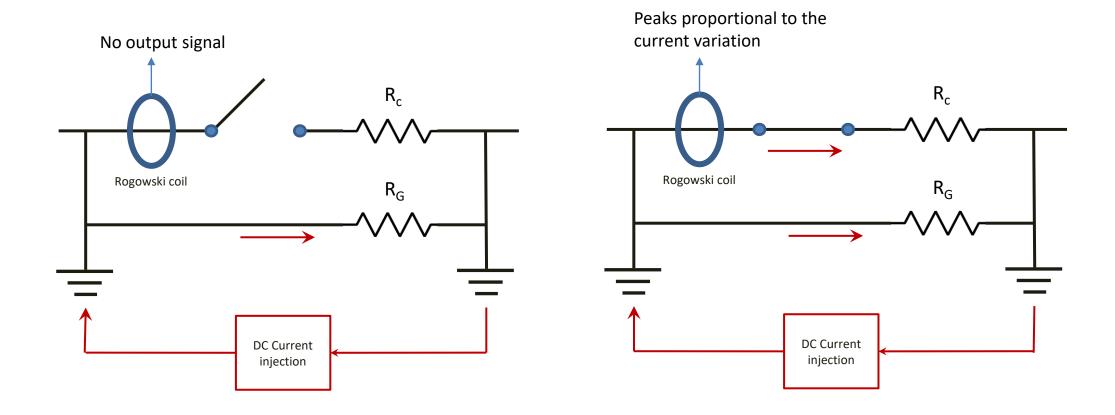
The enclosure is always strictly grounded through two earth disconnectors, at both sides of the CB.

This results in a resistance in parallel to the CB main contacts. The difference with AIS is that this resistance has an extremely low value (hundreds of $\mu\Omega$).

The measurement setup and the measurement principle CANNOT be the same as BSG mode for AIS breakers

GIS Circuit Breakers

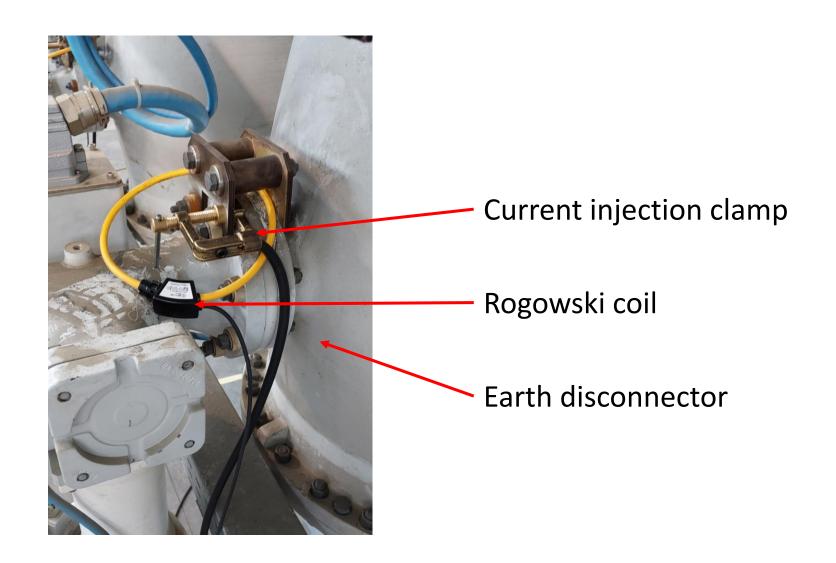




By means of Rogowski coils it is possible to detect signals that are generated only when the direct current changes amplitude, in correspondence with the opening and closing of the main contacts

GIS Circuit Breakers







Quick overview – Timing inputs





Board 2 *

Board 3 *

* optional



Each timing input board has 8 inputs.

The timing input board can be provided in two different models:

STANDARD board

Available settings:

- Main
- Auxiliary Dry
- Auxiliary Wet:15V or 77V

Other features:

• P.I.R. detection

ADVANCED board

Available settings:

- Main
- Auxiliary Dry
- Auxiliary Wet: settable voltage

Other features:

- P.I.R. detection
- P.I.R. measurement
- Transducer testing

Quick overview — Coil Commands



Board 1

Board 2 *

Board 3 *

* optional



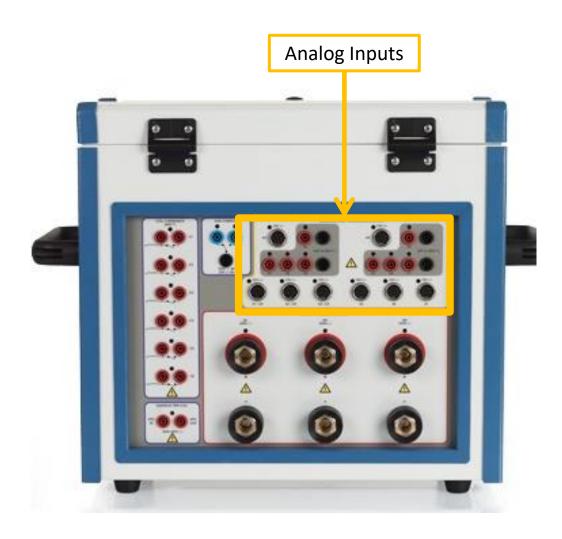
Each Coil Command board has 2 commands.

Possible settings:

- Open coil
- Close coil
- Phase selection(A B C ND)
- Range of measure: (3A 10A 60A)

Quick overview – Analog Inputs



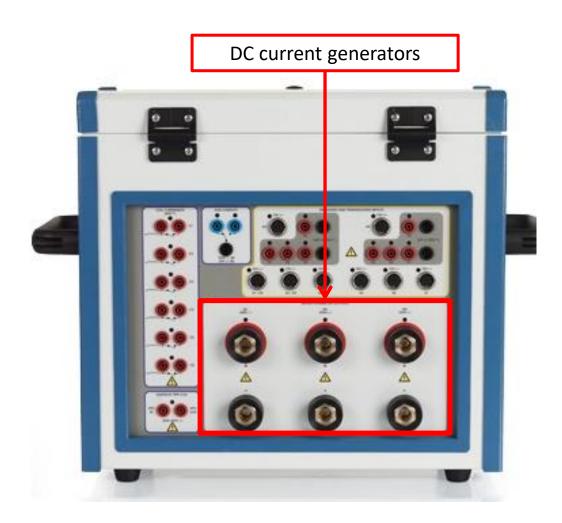


Each input is freely programmable as:

- Analog IN generic voltage input
- Micro-ohmmeter
- Analog/Digital Travel transducer for Motion analysis of circuit breakers
- Current clamp
 allows to directly measure/visualize the current
 flowing through the primary side of a clamp
- Pressure transducer allows to directly measure/visualize the pressure of SF6 gas taken from a transducer

Quick overview – DC current generators





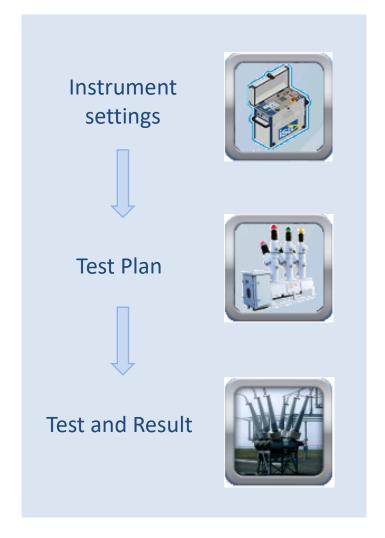
DC current generators allow to perform static and dynamic resistance tests with a current value up to 200 Adc.

Generation of current can be sustained for seconds, allowing to perform every necessary test.

The generators installed can be 0, 1 or 3. The advantage of having 3 generator is the possibility to perform faster three phase tests, and the possibility to perform tests in BSG mode.

Quick overview - Software





Instrument settings

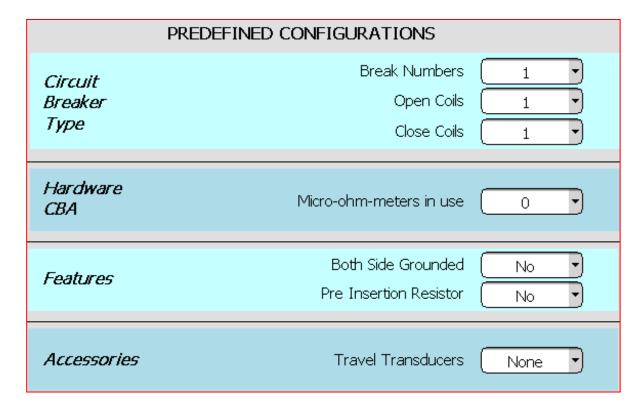
Choice of the right configuration for the tests to be executed

• Test Plan
definition of a list of tests to be executed in sequence

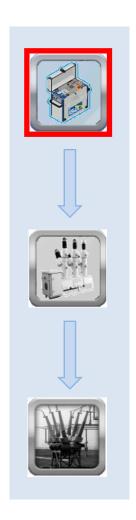
• Test and Results test execution and results visualization

Quick overview – Instrument settings

Predefined configurations are available for an easy and quick setting of the instrument



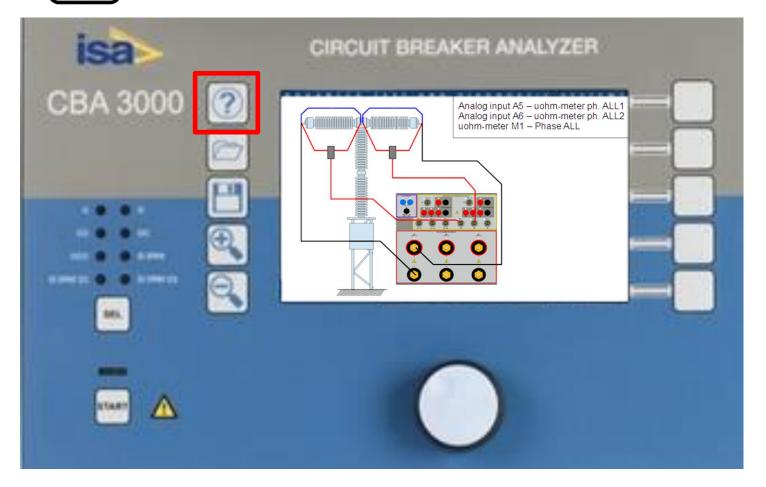




Quick overview – Instrument settings



To use the predefined configurations allows the possibility to show setup connections, pressing the help button.

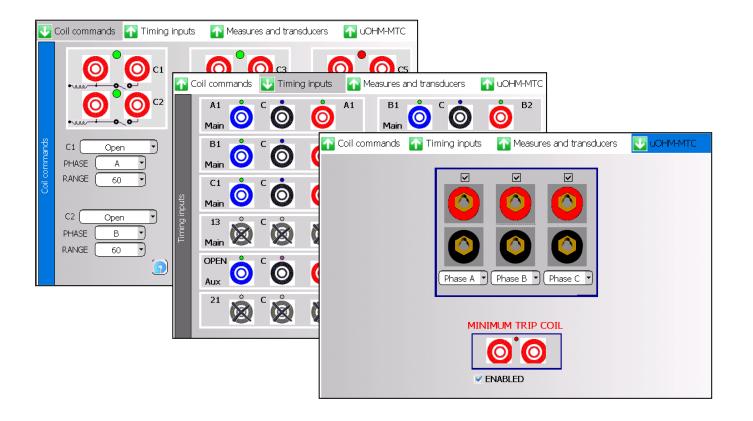






Quick overview – Instrument settings

Custom configurations allow to manually set every input/output of CBA3000 as you like







Quick overview – Test Plan

In the Test Plan section it is possible to define a list of operations to be executed in sequence



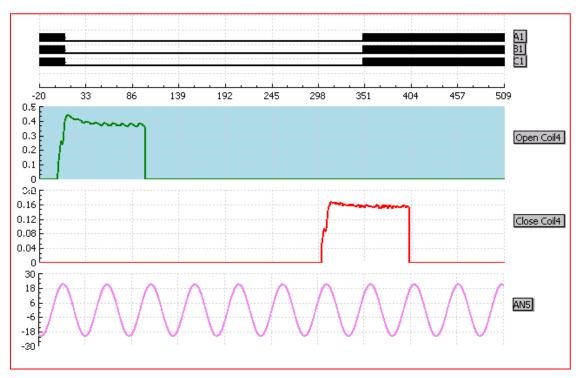




Quick overview – Test and results



In the Test & Result section it is possible to perform the list of tests defined in the test plan. The corresponding results are displayed accordingly:



Name	Value	Unit
C Coil Current	0.168	А
O Coil Current	0.442	А
Flow Time O Coil Curr.	100.000	ms
Flow Time C Coil Curr.	100.000	ms
Open Time First Release A1	6.400	ms
Open Time First Release B1	6.400	ms
Open Time First Release C1	6.400	ms
Close Time First Touch A1	44.800	ms
Close Time First Touch B1	44.800	ms
Close Time First Touch C1	44.800	ms
Open Time A1	6.400	ms
Open Time A DEF	6.400	ms
Open Time B1	6.400	ms
Open Time B DEF	6.400	ms
Open Time C1	6.400	ms
Open Time C DEF	6.400	ms



NUMERICAL RESULTS



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