

# ELEC6089 High Voltage Insulation Systems Assignment 1

## HV AC 275kV Bushing Design

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### Abstract

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## 1 Introduction

The design of electrical equipment always involves an aspect of insulation design. For the safe and efficient operation of electrical equipment it is necessary to have an electrical circuit and a means of isolating this circuit from the surrounding environment [1]. Power systems contain a complex structure of generators, transmission lines, transformers, switchgear and more. All of these different devices require an appropriately selected insulation material in order to isolate the mechanical casings and support structures from the high voltage components [2].

The purpose of this report is to describe the design and simulation of a high voltage bushing. Bushings are an integral part of power system insulation. IEEE standard C57.19.00 describes a bushing as “an insulating structure, including a through conductor or providing a central passage for such a conductor, with provision for mounting on a barrier, conducting or otherwise, for the purpose of insulating the conductor from the barrier and conducting current from one side of the barrier to the other.”[3]. Bushings are required for situations such as connecting the external conductor to the internal windings of a transformer through the walls of the metal oil tank. The walls of the transformer housing will be grounded, but need to be shielded from the incoming high voltage conductor, hence the use of an insulating bushing [1]. An example of this application can be seen in figure 1.1, as 400kV grid conductors enter an oil filled transformer casing. The shedding on the outer cylinder can be seen in figure 1.1 which helps increase electrical strength in wet conditions [1].

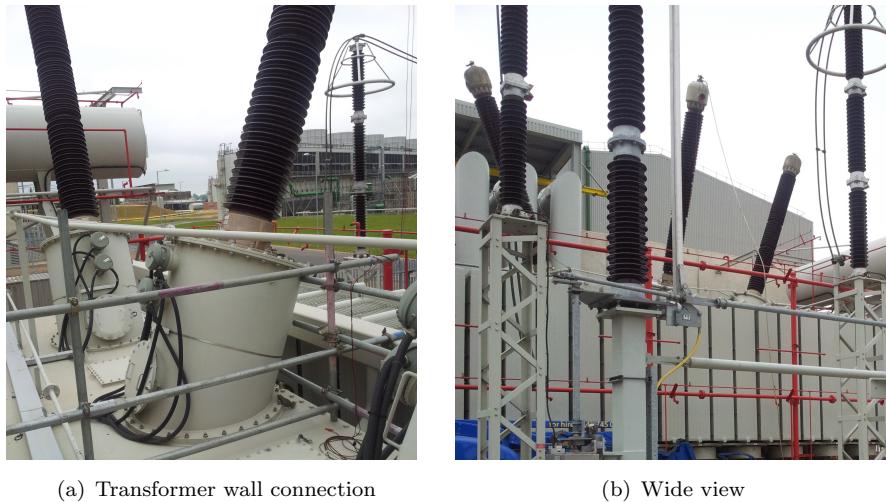


Figure 1.1: High Voltage Bushings on the 400kV Transformers at Staythorpe CCGT Power Station, Newark, UK (Taken by TJS)

## 2 Electrical Breakdown in High Voltage Systems

There are some consequences that need to be taken into account when designing systems for operation in high voltage. High voltage systems generate a higher electric potential to their surrounding objects which are usually at earth potential, these arise large electric potential gradients or electric fields. The values of high field regions within the electric field may cause electrical breakdown and partial discharges leading to failure in the system [4]. It is therefore important to design systems to minimise the chance of these events. Electrical breakdown is the action of electrical conduction across an

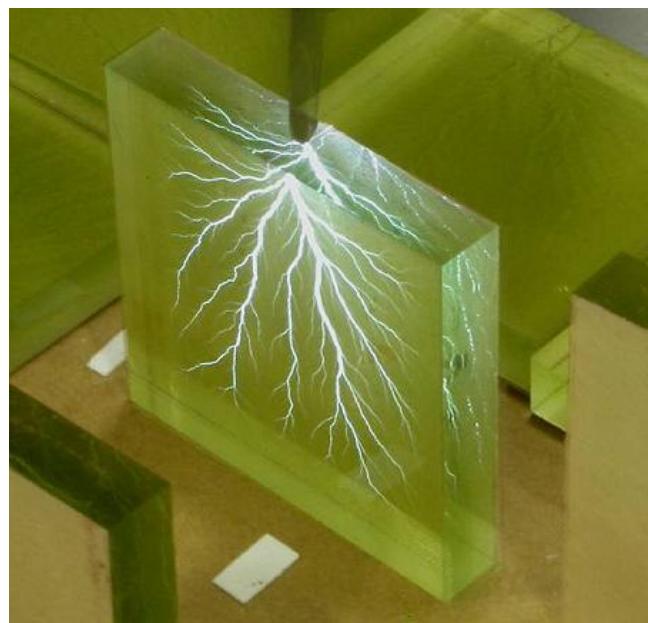


Figure 2.1: Electrical tree tracing the path of damaged insulation caused by electrical breakdown

insulating medium, usually dielectric, when the voltage across this medium exceeds the breakdown voltage subject to the type of material of the insulation. This usually happens when the potential

difference is extremely high and arcing can be seen in gaseous insulating mediums. This can cause changes to the compounds in the insulating medium and also cause damage to equipment in the form of treeing as shown in figure 2.1.

There are different types of electrical breakdown to consider. The main types of electrical breakdown that are involved in high voltage insulation systems are general breakdown in the system, surface flashover, partial discharge in the dielectric insulation as well as corona discharge in air.

## 2.1 General Breakdown

In the case of high voltage transformer bushing, there is a combination of both high electric fields and a close proximity to the grounded surroundings. Clearly then, bushing is designed to insulate the conductor from ground. The most basic form of bushing is non-condenser bushing [5]. It is the radial component of the tangential electric field that causes this typical breakdown directly from the conductor to the grounded flange. Due to the high voltage requirements, insulation must have a very high dielectric constant; typical materials used are Resin-impregnated paper (RIP) and Oil-impregnated paper (OIP). The importance of this bushing is that as the electric strength of the insulation increases, radial thickness may be reduced [5]. Typically the general breakdown strength of bushings is very high relative to PD inception and is a secondary concern.

## 2.2 Surface Flashover

The partnering electric breakdown effect for solid, non-condenser bushing is surface flashover; breakdown caused by the electric field travelling from the conductor to the surroundings via the surface of the bushing. The properties governing the axial height of the bushing are both the axial electric field and the surrounding medium [5]. Typically the criteria for surface flashover breakdown is much lower than general breakdown, and improvements to the bushing have primarily been in shaping the axial field distribution. This investigation considers an air-to-oil bushing and as oil is more than twice as strong dielectrically as air at atmospheric pressure the air end must be approximately twice as long [6]. This 'creepage length' is, in industrial applications, increased by the use of ceramic shedding which will not be investigated in this case study. However it is important to note that it will typically increase the effective axial length of the bushing by a factor of 4.

## 2.3 Partial Discharge

Partial Discharge (PD) is defined by the British Standards 60270:2001 as a localized electrical discharge that only partially bridges the insulation between conductors and which can, or can not, occur adjacent to a conductor and as a consequence of local electrical stress concentrations in the insulation [7]. The most common cause of partial discharge is a void, originating from manufacturing imperfections, within the dielectric material where the void contains material of a lower electrical breakdown strength (gas or air) than the dielectric material. Under high electric fields across the dielectric insulation these voids will experience local electrical breakdown as the rate of charge increase is greater than decay and inception voltage is exceeded. Due to these conditions, PDs typically occur under intense tangential electric field and electron emission results [8] and as the discharges spread across the surface of the solid dielectric breakdown will occur [4]. In order to ensure the insulation system can sufficiently reduce the chance of PD, the inception voltage of the insulation must be relatively high compare to the operating voltage of the conductor.

Partial discharge is a primary cause of ageing within High Voltage systems, this is because each successive discharge applies electro-mechanical forces to the void itself and the insulation progressively deteriorates [9]. Therefore reducing tangential electric fields and measurement of PDs is of high importance.

## 2.4 Corona Discharge

Corona discharge is the ionisation of fluid around a conductor of high electric potential. The ionisation of the surrounding fluid is due to the discharge from the conductor. In high voltage systems, corona discharge occurs most commonly from the conductor to air surrounding the conductor as illustrated in figure 2.2. Corona discharge occurs at area of intense electric field, but not sufficiently intense to cause arcing. This type of breakdown might not cause fatal damage to the insulation, but would shorten the life time of the insulation system. It also represents power losses to the surrounding, so it is important to design insulation system minimising the effect of corona discharge.



Figure 2.2: Corona discharge appearing on the insulation surface of high voltage conductor

## 3 Overview of Grading Methods

Electric field stress control is important in the design of many power system elements, especially cable terminations and bushings [2]. Failure of a bushing can damage the power transformer it is protecting, which can be an expensive mistake [1]. Bushings are required to withstand Electrical, Mechanical and Thermal stresses as defined in the IEEE standard C57.19.00 [3]. The design of the bushing is largely determined by the insulation material chosen and the resolution of these conflicting sources of stress. A good bushing design has insulation that can withstand the applied voltage and thermal characteristics appropriate for the current carried by the conductor [6].

The problem grading methods attempt to resolve is laid out in figure 3.1. The grounded transformer casing is shown in light grey which is perpendicular to the the bushing insulation shown in dark grey and the high voltage conductor in white. The top of the bushing is exposed to air, while the other side is exposed to transformer oil. Conducting a numerical analysis or simulation would show that the conductor surface within the plane of the transformer casing and at the points marked by red crosses would experience high electric field stress. The bushing insulation is designed to withstand the high electric field between the conductor and the transformer casing, however at the points marked with crosses the interface between the solid insulation and the air/transformer oil would cause surface



Figure 3.1: The Bushing Problem

discharge leading to relatively low flashover voltages [4]. It is therefore necessary to develop methods of reducing electric field stress to a more uniform distribution for both functional purposes and the economic use of space and materials [2].

### 3.1 Low Voltage and DC Solutions

There are several methods that can be used dependant upon the application. Low voltage solutions include internal and external screening electrodes, while resistive stress control can be used for DC applications. Sometimes these solutions are used in combine to achieve the acceptable result.

#### 3.1.1 External Screening Electrode

External screening electrodes are parts outside the conductor and are not electrically connected to the conductor, they are made of metal conductors and some designs use aluminium as the material. Corona ring designs are intended to reduce the electric field strength around the bushing terminal, hence reducing the chance of corona or partial discharge and grading ring designs are intended to reduce the potential gradient of insulator, hence reducing the chance of electrical breakdown. These screening electrodes come with various shapes according to the different designs. The main types of design take the shape of sphere, toroid or ring, these are shapes which prevent regions of intense electric field strength by varying the electric potential distribution and help contain electric field as much as possible. The reduction in corona discharge not only reduces the power loss, it also suppresses the ageing speed of the insulator. Examples of these can be seen on figure 1(a) and figure 1(b), where they are placed at the top of the bushings. The diameters of these designs are closely related to the electric field strength around the electrode, so the diameters of these designs must be carefully considered in order to avoid electrical breakdown.

### 3.1.2 Internal Screening Electrode

Internal screening electrodes are also used to control the electric potential distribution so the electric field strength is within acceptable level to avoid chance of breakdown. They are placed inside the insulator and usually in a pressurised gas. Some existing designs have the shape of internal electrode in a 3D cone like shape and maybe referred as a deflector and there are also designs which are disk shape. An example of the field distribution with the cone shape deflector inserted is demonstrated in figure 3.2.

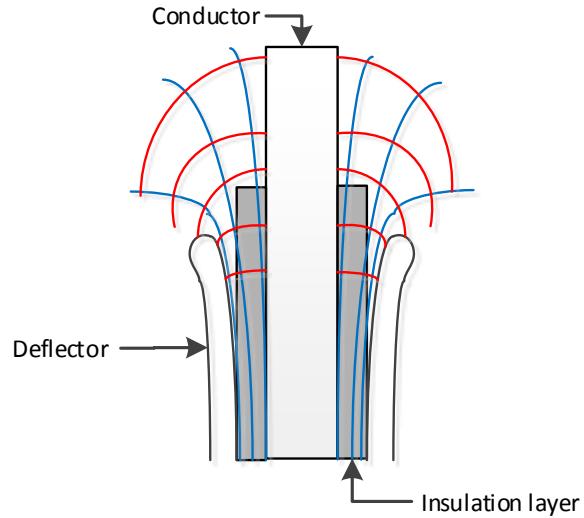


Figure 3.2: Field distribution with deflector

## 3.2 Capacitive Grading

Capacitive grading was first proposed by R.Nagel of Siemens in a German paper published in 1906 [6]. The value of this type of arrangement was quickly recognised, and is now industry standard practice for AC bushing designs for 25kV - 1500kV applications [2]. The general concept of the design is illustrated in figure 3.3, showing the isolated foils inserted inside the solid bushing insulation. Shown in red in figure 3.3 is the potential field with no grading, and in blue with the isolated conductive foils inserted. It shows that the whole dielectric is much more evenly stressed with the capacitive grading method.

The insulation is stressed in both a radial and axial direction, which sum to give the tangential field. The radial component  $E_r$  can cause breakdown of the insulating material, while the axial component  $E_z$  can cause surface discharge along the boundary [10]. Attention must be paid to the design and shape of the boundary, so that the critical value for inception voltage for surface discharge is not exceeded [11]. These can be seen in green in figure 3.3. These sum up to give the tangential field  $E_t$ .

Before proceeding, it is first necessary to introduce some terms. Firstly, the radius of the foil is referenced from the centre of the conductor, and termed  $r_n$ . The spacing between each foil is defined in equation 1.

$$S_n = r_n - r_{n-1} \quad (1)$$



Figure 3.3: Field Distribution both without capacitive grading (shown in red) and with capacitive grading (shown in blue), modified from [2]

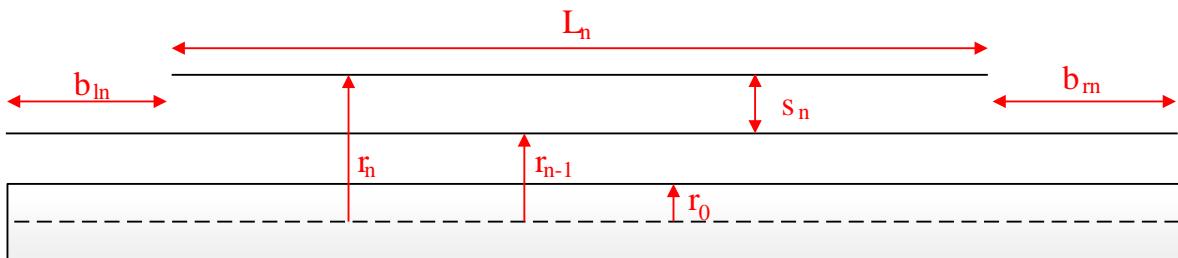


Figure 3.4: Symbols for calculating capacitive grading, modified from [10]

Additionally, the length of each foil is referred to as  $L_n$  and the difference in length on the right and left side between each foil is termed  $b_{ln}$  and  $b_{rn}$ . Symmetric double sided capacitive grading is achieved when  $b_{ln} = b_{rn}$  [10]. The total number of foils in the system is  $N$ . Also note that subscript  $n$  denotes the outermost foil.

Inserting isolated conducting foils forms a set of coaxial capacitor units [4]. The equation for the capacitance of one of these capacitors depends on the radial displacement  $r_n$  and length of each foil  $L_n$ , as in equation 2.

$$C_n = \frac{2\pi\epsilon L_n}{\ln\left(\frac{r_n}{r_{n-1}}\right)} \quad (2)$$

The most widely used method to choose the dimensions and locations of the foils is double sided capacitive grading, of which there are two variants; radial grading and axial grading [10]. The aim of capacitive grading is to evenly distribute the electric field between the foils. To achieve this, an even voltage difference between foils is required as in equation 3, where  $V$  is the total voltage difference between the conductor and the casing,  $N$  is the number of foils required and  $\Delta V$  is the voltage between

each foil [12].

$$\Delta V = \frac{V}{N} \quad (3)$$

For the voltage between each foil to be constant, as in equation 3, the capacitance between each consecutive pair of foils must also be constant. This is expressed as  $C_n = C_{n-1} = \dots = C_0$

### 3.2.1 Radial Grading

The radial spacing and dimension of each foil is determined in the following derivation, which has been verified and modified from [4]. In radial grading, the radial component of the electric field  $E_r$  is kept constant between all the foils. The radial electric field is related to the voltage difference and the spacing between each foil, as in equation 4.  $\Delta V$  is already defined as a constant from equation 3, and so to have equal field the foil spacing  $S_n$  should also be constant.

$$E_r = \frac{\Delta V}{S_n} = \text{Constant} \quad (4)$$

Given this condition and equation 2 for coaxial capacitance, the length of each foil is required to change from foil to foil. The lengths and radii of consecutive foils can be calculated from the relationship in equation 5.

$$C_n = \frac{2\pi\epsilon L_n}{\ln(\frac{r_n}{r_{n-1}})} = C_{n-1} = \frac{2\pi\epsilon L_{n-1}}{\ln(\frac{r_{n-1}}{r_{n-2}})} = \dots = C_1 = \frac{2\pi\epsilon L_1}{\ln(\frac{r_1}{r_0})} \quad (5)$$

The common factor of  $2\pi\epsilon$  cancels from equation 5 giving a simple equation linking the lengths and radial displacements of consecutive foils, as in equation 6.

$$\frac{L_n}{\ln(\frac{r_n}{r_{n-1}})} = \frac{L_{n-1}}{\ln(\frac{r_{n-1}}{r_{n-2}})} = \dots = \frac{L_1}{\ln(\frac{r_1}{r_0})} \quad (6)$$

An approximate solution for thin foils can then be found. Under the thin foil assumption,  $r_n = r_{n-1} + S_n$  and  $\frac{S_n}{r_n} \ll 1$  even for the smallest radii of the inner foil. This is shown in equation 8.

$$\ln(\frac{r_n}{r_{n-1}}) = \ln \frac{1}{1 - (\frac{S_n}{r_n})} \approx \frac{S_n}{r_n} \quad (7)$$

$$L_n r_n \approx L_{n-1} r_{n-1} \approx \dots \approx L_1 r_1 \quad (8)$$

Equation 6 can then be used to determine an exact solution while equation 8 can be used to find an approximate solution in conjunction with initial data regarding the length and radial displacement of the first foil and the spacing of the foils to calculate the parameters of all the other foils in the bushing. Nevertheless, it should be noted, at this stage, that  $r_0$  refers to the surface of the conductor.

### 3.2.2 Axial Grading

In axial grading, the axial component of the electric field  $E_z$  is kept constant between all of the foils. The following equations prove that the length of each foil must decay by a constant value for each consecutive foil, and the radius at which it is placed is determined by a simple iterative formula.

The axial electric field is related to the voltage difference and the length change between each consecutive foil as in equation 9. Under symmetric capacitive grading,  $b_n = b_{ln} = b_{rn}$  with reference to figure 3.4.  $\Delta V$  is already defined as a constant from equation 3, and so to have equal field, the change in foil length  $b_n$  should also be constant.

$$E_z = \frac{\Delta V}{b_n} = Constant \quad (9)$$

The relationship between  $L_n$  and  $b_n$  is defined in figure 3.4, as explained in equation 10.

$$L_n = L_{n-1} - 2b_n \quad (10)$$

Since equation 9 requires the change in foil length  $b_n$  to be constant, equation 2 for coaxial capacitance requires the radius of each foil to change from foil to foil. This can be simplified to a similar form as equation 6, except that the initial information required, in this case, are different. The necessary parameters are: the length of the first foil( $L_1$ ), the radius of conductor and first foil( $r_0, r_1$ ). However, for initial calculation of  $L_n(n = 1, 2, \dots, N)$  the size of the constant difference in length between each of the foils should be known. All other lengths and radii can then be calculated.

In case of axial grading where different material is used on each side of the bushing ( $b_{ln} \neq b_{rn}$ ) similar calculation is carried out for each side. The total length of each foil is found by adding  $L_{ln}$  and  $L_{rn}$ . Furthermore, position of each foil could be calculated using the recursive formulae at equation 11

$$r_n = r_{(n-1)} \exp\left(\frac{L_n}{L_1} \ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_0}\right)\right) \quad (11)$$

## 4 Design Details

The reference model for this project is shown in figure 4.1. The reference design is a paper impregnated with oil bushing with 21 aluminium foils of  $100\mu m$ . One side of the bushing is exposed to air, the other to oil, similar to a transformer bushing. The diameter of the conductor is 100mm, the bushing diameter is 300mm. The length of the first foil is 5000mm long, and fixed 2mm into the bushing at the conductor voltage. The outer foil is also set 2mm inside the bushing and is directly connected to the earthed flange. The conductor is used at 275kV AC voltage, and the design was taken from a bushing that was in operation for around 30 years.

### 4.1 Design Issues

In section 3.2 the initial information required for both radial and axial grading includes the length and radial displacement of the innermost foil. In the reference design the following initial information is given.



Figure 4.1: The reference problem taken from [13]

Table 4.1: Initial Information for Reference Design

Initial Information	Value
Conductor Diameter (ID)	100mm
First Foil Length $L_1$	5000mm
First Foil Radius $r_1$	52mm
Outer Bushing Diameter (OD)	300mm
Outer Foil Radius $r_{21}$	148mm

This information intuitively fits radial grading best, since there is no requirement to assume the length of the outermost foil. However, there is a discrepancy between the standard literature problem and the reference design. The first foil is connected to the high voltage conductor, and the last foil is connected to the earthed flange. This is to eliminate the electric field on the boundary interface as far as possible on both sides of the bushing, so that the voltage drop occurs exclusively inside the bushing insulation.

This has an impact on the calculations described in section 3.2. Since the innermost foil is at the same voltage as the conductor, there is no capacitance between them, as shown in figure 4.2, hence the first foil shown on the diagram is not index 0 for the iterative calculation. The derivation of the iterative equations assumes a capacitance between the current foil and the previous foil (or conductor) ( $r_n, r_{n-1}$ ). The first foil in figure 4.1 is therefore indexed as 0 and not 1.

This means that there is not sufficient initial information to proceed with either radial or axial grading, since the first non-connected foil length  $L_1$  is not given. The iterative equations require the first non-connected foil length  $L_1$  for radial ( $L_1$  &  $r_1$  for axial) grading to be known as shown in equation 12 and 13. In axial grading all radii variables are known due to the even spacings under radial grading. In the axial grading case, the length of foils are known due to known parameters  $b_{ln}$  and  $b_{rn}$ .



Figure 4.2: Diagram to explain the assumptions required

$$L_2 = L_1 \frac{\ln(\frac{r_2}{r_1})}{\ln(\frac{r_1}{r_0})} \quad (\text{Radial grading}) \quad (12)$$

$$r_2 = r_1 \exp\left(\frac{L_2}{L_1} \ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_0}\right)\right) \quad (\text{Axial grading}) \quad (13)$$

If this is not taken into account then a flawed design will be produced in both cases. Equations 14 and 15 show a wrongly described first iteration of the radial and axial grading formula. For radial grading the resulted design is shown in figure ???. This shows that the length of second foil is much bigger than the first foil. This is clearly wrong, and does not give the hyperbolic shape from the beginning of the foils.

$$L_1 = 5000 \frac{\ln\left(\frac{56.8}{52}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{52}{50}\right)} = 11256\text{mm} \quad (\text{Radial grading}) \quad (14)$$

$$r_2 = 52 \exp\left(\frac{49418}{5000} \ln\left(\frac{52}{50}\right)\right) = 54.05\text{mm} \implies r_{21} = 103.52\text{mm} \quad (\text{Axial grading}) \quad (15)$$

In order to proceed with the calculations there must be an assumption of the length of the first unconnected foil. A reasonable assumption is that this follows the hyperbolic shape of the other foils in radial grading and also in axial grading it is assumed to be the first unconnected foil. These assumptions in both cases help to evenly distribute the electric field radially or axially accordingly. To achieve this design mathematically, the following assumptions are made:

1. Foil 0 is not connected to the HV conductor for both cases.
2. The conductor surface is spaced a distance of  $S_n$  from foil 0 in **radial grading**.
3. The conductor surface is spaced an adjustable distance from foil 0 in **axial grading**.

The reason of each assumption according to the design constrains are explained as following:

- Assumption 1 is required to be able to use the capacitor derived iterative formula on foil 0.
- Assumption 2 is required so that the radial spacing is kept constant.
- Assumption 3 is required so that axial grading could be calculated with a varying parameter value for  $r_0$ . This makes it possible to adjust the initial gap so that the last foil will be placed exactly at 148mm.

The first iteration has been calculated under these assumptions, giving the result in equations 16 and 17 which are expected values. The remainder of foil parameters can then be calculated using the iterative formulas in each grading.

$$L_1 = 5000 \frac{\ln\left(\frac{56.8}{52}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{52}{47.2}\right)} = 4558mm \quad (\text{Radial grading}) \quad (16)$$

$$r_2 = 52 \exp\left(\frac{49418}{5000} \ln\left(\frac{52}{50 - 1.007}\right)\right) = 55.15mm \implies r_{21} \simeq 148mm \quad (\text{Axial grading}) \quad (17)$$

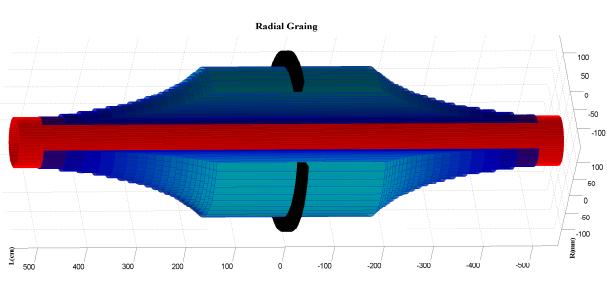
## 5 Matlab Calculations

Two Matlab scripts were developed for computation of radial and axial grading. These scripts were built to be easily customisable for any number of foils and any initial values, to cater for the calculation of improved designs. They also automatically outputs data in a form for direct input into the COMSOL model, auto-updates a L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>Xfile containing the data to form results table and displays the results in both 2D and 3D plots for quick design verification.

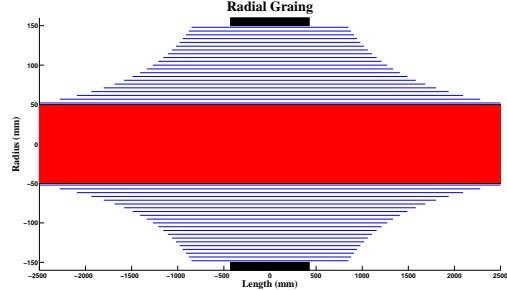
### 5.1 Matlab Radial Grading

In case of radial grading the code takes a required number of foils, and the inner and outer dimensions of the bushing, to calculate the radial location and length of each foil using the radial grading method as described in section 3.2 and also using the assumptions made for radial grading design on 4.1.

For current design with specified parameters, the script plots the calculated foil positions in a 3D graph shown in figure 5.1. Also the 2D plot of this design is shown in figure 1(b). This figure illustrates the hyperbolic shape which was expected for radial grading. These figures allows a quick verification of the scripts accuracy before proceeding to simulation.



(a) 3D Representation of foil radial position and length



(b) 2D Representation of foil radial position and length

Figure 5.1: Matlab Generated Plots of Geometric Radial Design

Table 5.1 shows the values obtained for radial grading. The final information required to be able to proceed to the axial simulation phase is the relative permittivity of each material. This was gathered from [10] and is shown in table 5.2.

Foil N.O	Radius(mm)	Length(mm)	Foil N.O	Radius(mm)	Length(mm)
1	52.00	5000.00	12	104.80	2420.43
2	56.80	4558.22	13	109.60	2312.01
3	61.60	4188.21	14	114.40	2212.90
4	66.40	3873.79	15	119.20	2121.93
5	71.20	3603.30	16	124.00	2038.15
6	76.00	3368.13	17	128.80	1960.73
7	80.80	3161.78	18	133.60	1888.98
8	85.60	2979.27	19	138.40	1822.29
9	90.40	2816.68	20	143.20	1760.16
10	95.20	2670.92	21	148.00	1702.12
11	100.00	2539.51	22	150.00	0.00

Table 5.1: Radial Grading Calculations Results

Material	Relative Permittivity ( $\epsilon_r$ )
Air	1
Oil	2.2
Paper Impregnated with Oil	4
Aluminium	$10^8$

Table 5.2: Relative Permittivity of Materials

## 5.2 Matlab Axial Grading

The axial grading script is similar to the radial grading script in design. However, as it is explained in reference [12], the constant difference of foil length in oil and air side of bushing ( $b_{air}$ ,  $b_{oil}$ ) is calculated by considering the value of flash over distance  $L_{air}$  and  $L_{oil}$ . These values are calculated by using the fact that average electric field strength along the boundary surface in oil side should be 3 to 4 Kv/cm and nearly 9 to 12 Kv/cm in air side of the bushing. These values are calculated using equation 18.

$$b_{air} = \frac{\Delta V}{900 \text{ v/mm}} \quad b_{oil} = \frac{\Delta V}{300 \text{ v/mm}} \quad (18)$$

Additionally, as shown in equation 19, in the calculation of  $r_2$  a parameter called  $R_{parameter}$  is subtracted from  $r_0$  to change the position of assumed conductor surface. The radius of the last foil ( $r_{21}$ ) could be correctly adjusted by making changes in this parameter and executing the script.  $R_{parameter} = 1.007\text{mm}$  was the best value found for this design.

$$r_2 = r_1 \exp \left( \frac{L_2}{L_1} \ln \left( \frac{r_1}{r_0 - R_{parameter}} \right) \right) \quad (19)$$

The script plots 2D and 3D plots of axial grading to the user. Figure 2(a) illustrates the 3D configuration of the design's axial bushing. The 2D plot of this design, which is shown in figure 2(b), shows a nearly straight line from first to last foil. In fact, the foil length reduction is constant on both sides ( $b_{oil}$ ,  $b_{air}$ ). But, as the Matlab script is using the exact calculation (Non-linear) rather than

the approximate method (Linear), the foil endings are not placed exactly on a straight line . It also illustrates that  $b_{air} > b_{oil}$  as it was expected due to the relative permittivity of each material. Finally the calculated values for axial grading, using this design method, are shown in 5.3. These values along the given parameters in table 5.2 were used for COMSOL simulations of this axial grading design.

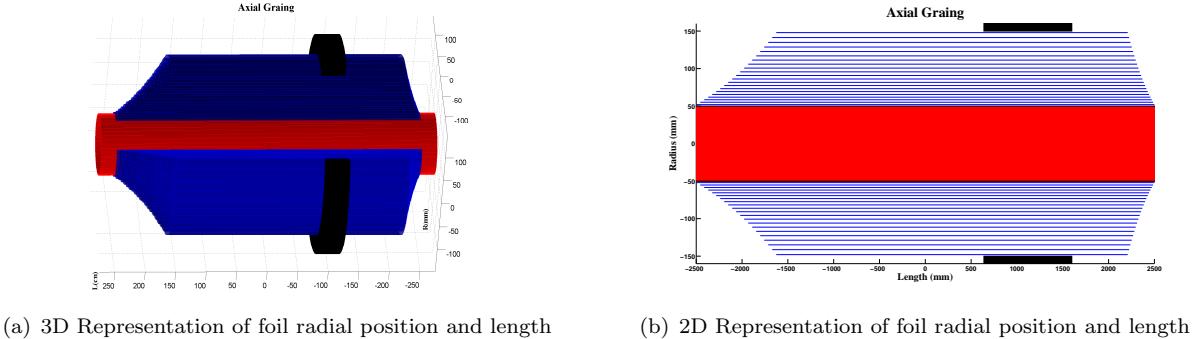


Figure 5.2: Matlab Generated Plots of Geometric Axial Design

Foil N.O	Radius(mm)	Length(mm)	Foil N.O	Radius(mm)	Length(mm)
1	52.00	5000.00	12	95.65	4359.84
2	55.15	4941.80	13	100.68	4301.64
3	58.46	4883.61	14	105.90	4243.44
4	61.92	4825.41	15	111.32	4185.25
5	65.53	4767.21	16	116.93	4127.05
6	69.32	4709.02	17	122.73	4068.85
7	73.26	4650.82	18	128.74	4010.66
8	77.39	4592.62	19	134.95	3952.46
9	81.68	4534.43	20	141.35	3894.26
10	86.15	4476.23	21	147.96	3836.07
11	90.81	4418.03	22	149.96	0.00

Table 5.3: Axial Grading Calculations Results

## 6 Modelling Results

The following simulations were completed using the COMSOL multiphysics software package. COMSOL is a professional finite element simulation package able to model a variety of physical features. The following models are created using the AC/DC module, which is used to simulate electric and magnetic fields [14]. Specifically, the electrostatics interface is used. This solves a charge conservation equation for a given voltage and spacial distribution of charge [14].

### 6.1 Finite Element Methods (FEM)

There are inherent difficulties in solving the partial differential equations that govern many practical engineering problems [4]. Despite knowing the equations and appropriate boundary conditions that govern a problem, many are complicated by irregular geometries or other discontinuities. Numerical

methods allow approximate solutions to be obtained for problems intractable by analytic methods [15]. In an analytic solution, the whole system is governed by a mathematical equation valid for the entire region of interest. Although these differential equations are often mathematically compact, it is difficult to obtain an answer unless the system is unreasonably simplified [15]. In FEMs, the complex geometry is broken into a series of much smaller and simpler geometries [4]. These geometries can be squares, rectangles or triangles in 2D or the 3D equivalent shapes. These simpler shapes form interconnected subregions for which an approximate function, usually a high order polynomial, can be used to represent the actual function. If the complex is split into an adequate number of simple shapes, these approximate functions closely matches the exact solution [15].

By default COMSOL uses a triangular discretisation to split up a complex geometry in a process called meshing. This forms an unstructured grid of triangles, allowing the mapping of complex or curved geometries. Other numerical methods such as Finite Difference Methods require a structured grid, hence FEMs are more flexible with regards to geometry [4]. Meshing requires an initial understanding of the expected outcomes of the problem, so that the mesh can be refined in areas of interest. Each triangular element is approximated by a linear interpolation of the potential at the vertices of the triangle. A set of linear algebraic equations are formed by minimising the error between the actual solution and a set of approximate linear trial functions [15].

## 6.2 Equation Derivation and Boundary Conditions

The electrostatics interface of the AC/DC COMSOL module uses the electric potential  $V$  to calculate static electric fields. A Poisson type partial differential equation is derived using classical electrostatics and Gauss' Law [16].

By taking Gauss's Law:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho v \quad (20)$$

the equation for electric flux density  $\mathbf{D}$ :

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mathbf{E} \quad (21)$$

this can be combined with the equation for a static electric field:

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V \quad (22)$$

to give by substitution:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \nabla \cdot (\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mathbf{E}) = -\nabla \cdot (\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \nabla V) = \rho v \quad (23)$$

which is more usually written:

$$\nabla^2 V = -\frac{\rho v}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \quad (24)$$

where  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of free space,  $\epsilon_r$  is the relative permittivity of the material,  $\mathbf{E}$  is the electric field strength and  $\rho v$  is the volume charge density.

In the special case where there is zero volume charge density, that is  $\rho v = 0$  then the equation simplifies to Laplace's Equation:

$$\nabla^2 V = 0 \quad (25)$$

The models used in this paper are 2D axisymmetric, meaning that a 2D model is used to describe a 3D object that can be rotated  $360^\circ$  about a central point  $r = 0$  to give a 3D geometry. This assumes that not only is the geometry the same in the  $\varphi$  direction, but also that the electric potential is constant. In

in this case, Poisson's equation can be rewritten in cylindrical coordinates for a 2D axisymmetric model, it is multiplied by  $r$  to ensure there are no singularities at  $r = 0$  [15].

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \end{array} \right]^T \cdot (r \left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \end{array} \right]) = -\frac{r\rho v}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \quad (26)$$

The boundary conditions are defined as the following:

1. All boundaries with the conductor and with foil 0 are set to  $V = V_0 = 275kV$
2. All boundaries with the transformer wall and with the outermost foil are set to  $V = 0$
3. The interface between two insulator sub-domains is defined by  $n \cdot (\mathbf{D}_1 - \mathbf{D}_2) = \rho v$  and  $n \times (\mathbf{E}_1 - \mathbf{E}_2) = 0$ . These equations specify that the normal component of the electric flux density is discontinuous at the interface between two dielectrics, and that the tangential component of the electric field is continuous across the dielectric interface.  $n$  is the normal outward vector pointing from dielectric 2 to dielectric 1.

### 6.3 Workflow

In order to simulate the electric field distribution within our bushing design, 2D axisymmetric models were created. The general workflow to achieve this is:

1. Build a geometry representing the physical structure of the bushing.
2. Assign each geometric domain a material. The material selection determines the relative permittivity  $\epsilon_r$  of each domain.
3. Define the charge conservation equation and all initial conditions. This includes setting which boundaries are at ground and conductor potential and setting boundary conditions.
4. Design a mesh. The geometry is split into smaller elements in order to compute the charge conservation equation. For designs with foils, special meshing parameters are required to speed up the process.
5. Carry out the study. This stage is the actual computation of the solution.
6. Post-processing - Display the results in a number of formats including 3D, 2D and 1D plots, or export the data for post-processing in Matlab.

### 6.4 Baseline Model

In order to minimise the computation time required for each model, it was necessary to determine the areas of interest in the model. A bushing geometry was built with no foils inserted, a high quality mesh was produced and the system was solved to find the electric field distribution throughout the bushing and the surrounding area.

The air and oil extends radially 2m from the end of the bushing and 1m in the axial direction. This is to understand the anticipated area of interest in the model. By considering figure 6.3 it is clear that there is very little happening further than 500mm radially from the bushing surface and there is very

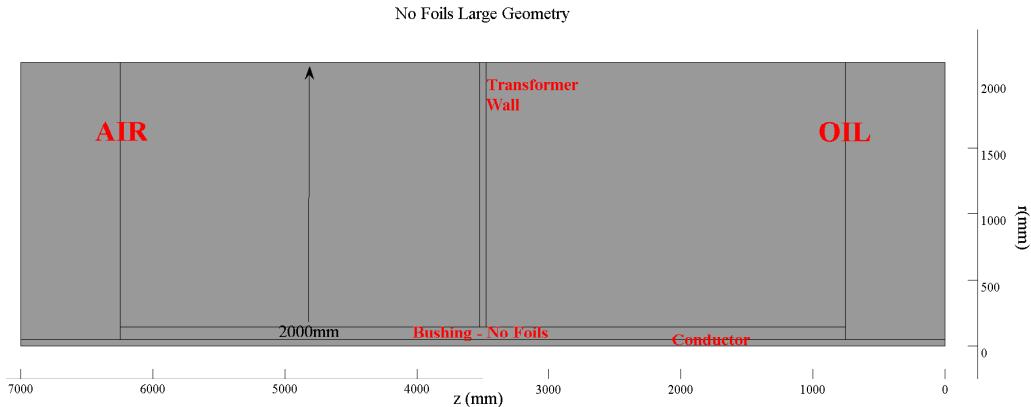


Figure 6.1: Baseline Model Geometry

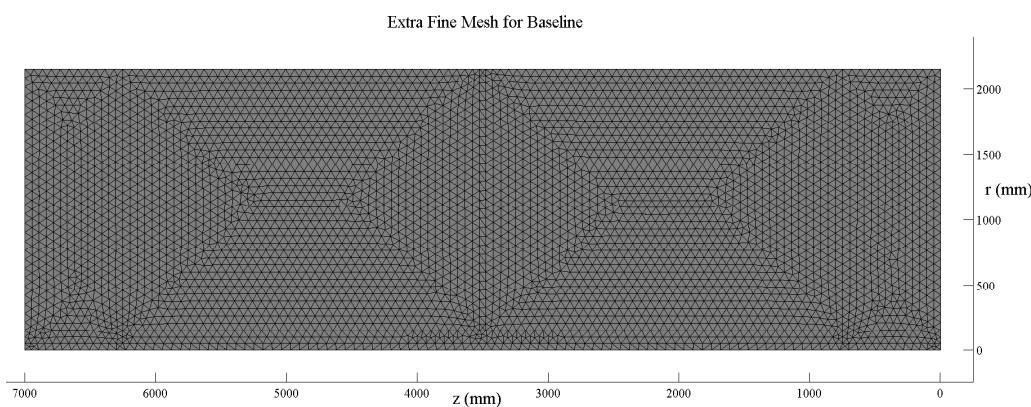


Figure 6.2: Extra Fine Meshing for Baseline Model

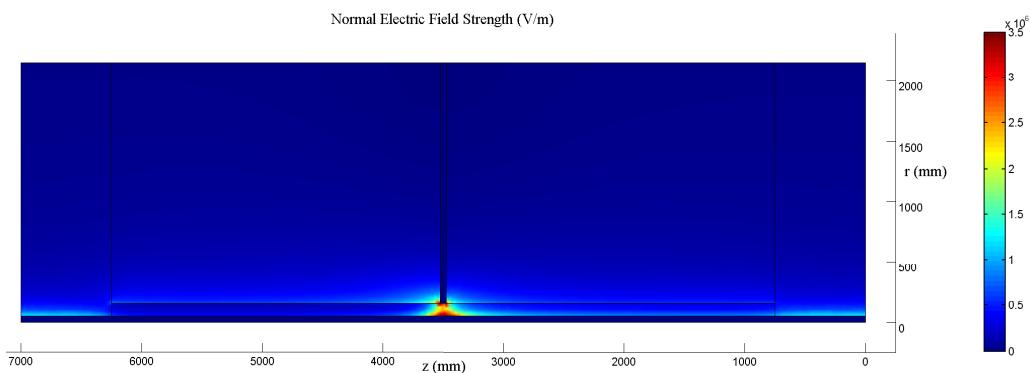


Figure 6.3: Normal Electric Field (V/m) for Baseline Model

little of interest further than 200mm in the radial direction. Therefore all further models will adhere to this geometry, ensuring that the area of interest is captured, while decreasing simulation times to a minimum.

In figure 6.3, the normal electric field throughout the whole system is displayed. Electric field is usually taken to be a vector quantity, that is a magnitude and direction. For example, the electric field in the radial direction is termed  $E_r$  and in the axial direction is  $E_z$ . The normal electric field is not a normal vector, but an absolute value of the electric field strength at that point. This can be described mathematically as  $normE = \sqrt{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{E}}$ . It gives a reasonable interpretation of the electric field strength in either vector direction in the model, and will be used to compare all other models.

## 6.5 No Foils

In order to illustrate the requirement for capacitive grading within AC bushings, a simulation of a bushing with no foils was conducted. Figure 6.4 shows the geometry and materials used for each section. The conductor length is 6000mm and has a width of half the inner diameter, 50mm. The paper impregnated with oil insulation is 5500mm long in order to accommodate the first foil length of 5000mm with sufficient clearance. The transformer wall is modelled as a 50mm high aluminium block that is 500mm wide, and is placed vertically in the middle of the design. The surrounding oil and air are 500mm wide at the centre of the bushing, and extend to the length of the conductor. The paper impregnated with oil insulation is sloped to avoid sharp corners and high field strengths.

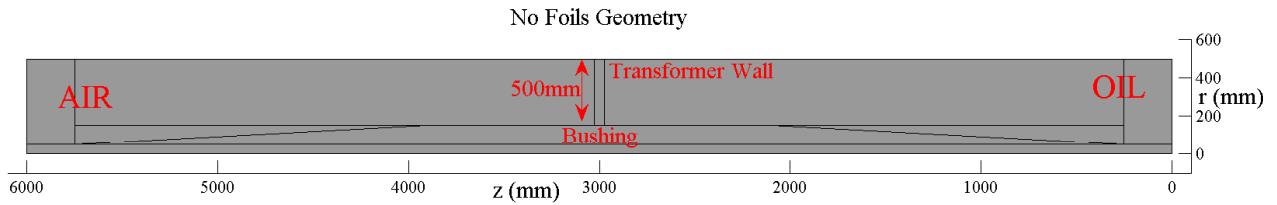


Figure 6.4: Geometry and Materials for No Foils Bushing

A very fine mesh was used in this model as shown in figure 6.5. This allows for the maximum level of accuracy in the results produced, and is possible since the geometry of this model is not over-complex. It was necessary to ensure the mesh in the plane of the transformer wall was very fine in order to sufficiently capture areas of very high field.

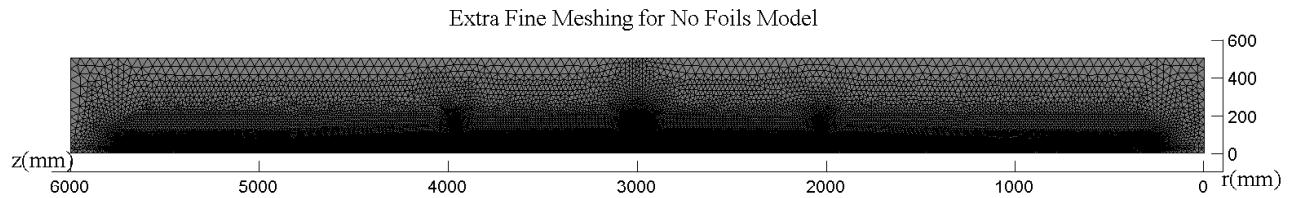


Figure 6.5: Extra Fine Mesh for No Foils Bushing

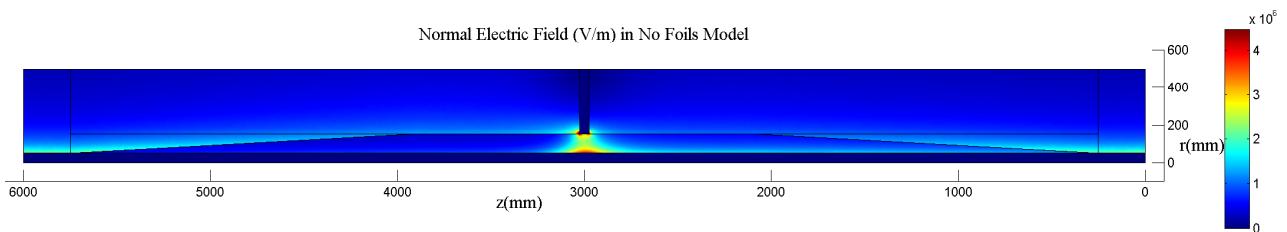


Figure 6.6: Normal Electric Field (V/m) for No Foils Bushing

The motivation for capacitive grading is clear in figure 6.6. The central area of stress in the plane of the transformer wall is shown in figure 6.7. The highest stress is shown at the corners of the transformer wall and in the plane between the transformer wall and the conductor. This reaches field strengths greater than  $3.5\text{kV/mm}$  which can cause the inception of partial discharge. This simulation bears close resemblance to figure 3.1 in section 3 of this report, which was used to describe the electric field problem. In order for this bushing to function within the design constraints, capacitive grading must be used.



Figure 6.7: Area of very high electric stress

## 6.6 No Grading

In order to rectify the high electric stress identified in the no foils model, isolated foils are introduced to capacitively grade the electric field. To prove the requirement for grading the lengths or radial displacement of the foils, a simulation where the foils are maintained at the same length was performed. This model was expected to fail the design criteria, proving that introducing isolated foils into the bushing achieves nothing and it is the radial or axial grading of the field that is critical. The bushing has 21 foils spaced at an even radial spacing, but with no change in length of each foil. Each foil is 1756mm in length, and is centred in the within the bushing.

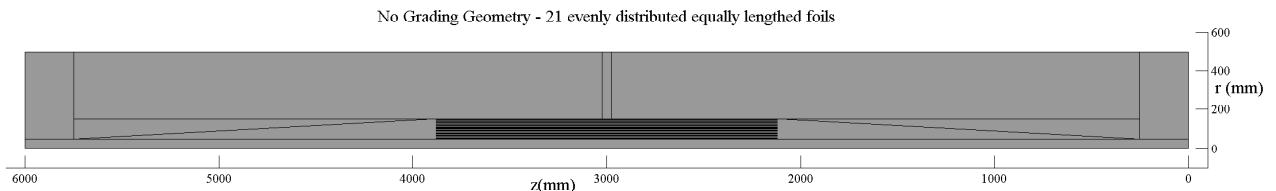


Figure 6.8: Geometry of the No Grading Model

Producing a finite element mesh for this model caused issues with long computation time. Even using the coarsest default setting, the meshing time was of the order of days. This is due to the difference in size of the aspects of the geometry. The foils are just 0.1mm thick, which requires a very small set of triangles in order to mesh this area. The other domains are up to 6000mm long, which is considerably larger and requires a different size of triangles.

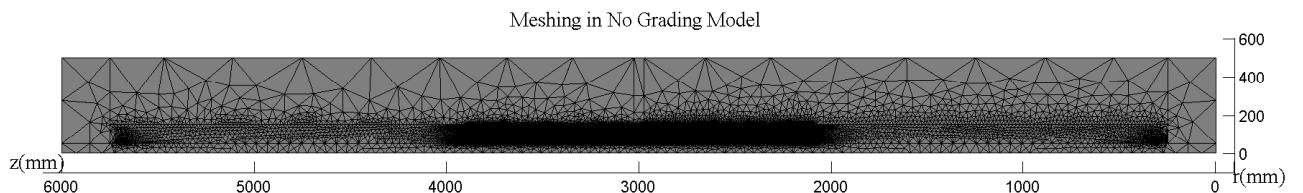


Figure 6.9: User defined meshing for no grading simulation - whole view

In order to solve the issue, a set of meshing rules were produced. Firstly, the mesh within the conductor and within the foils can be very coarse. Within a conducting material, no electric field is expected, hence there is no reason to finely mesh that area. Areas of interest or areas where the field changes rapidly need to have a very fine mesh to ensure the accuracy of the results is sufficient. The meshing rules dictated a minimum number of points at the tip of each foil, and along the surface of the bushing. This resulted in a refined mesh shown in figures 6.9 and 6.10.

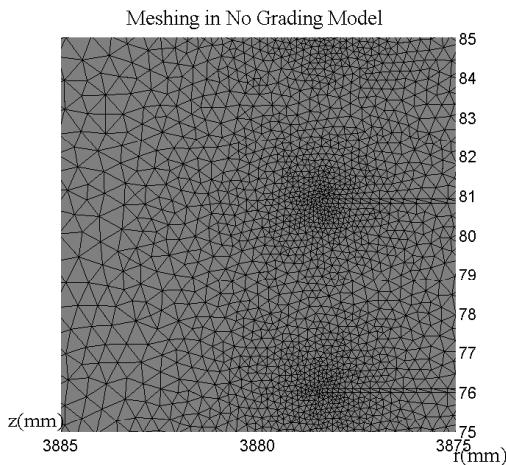


Figure 6.10: User defined meshing for no grading simulation - foil tip view

Once the geometry has been meshed appropriately, the system can be solved to determine the electric field strength throughout the model, as shown in figure 6.11.

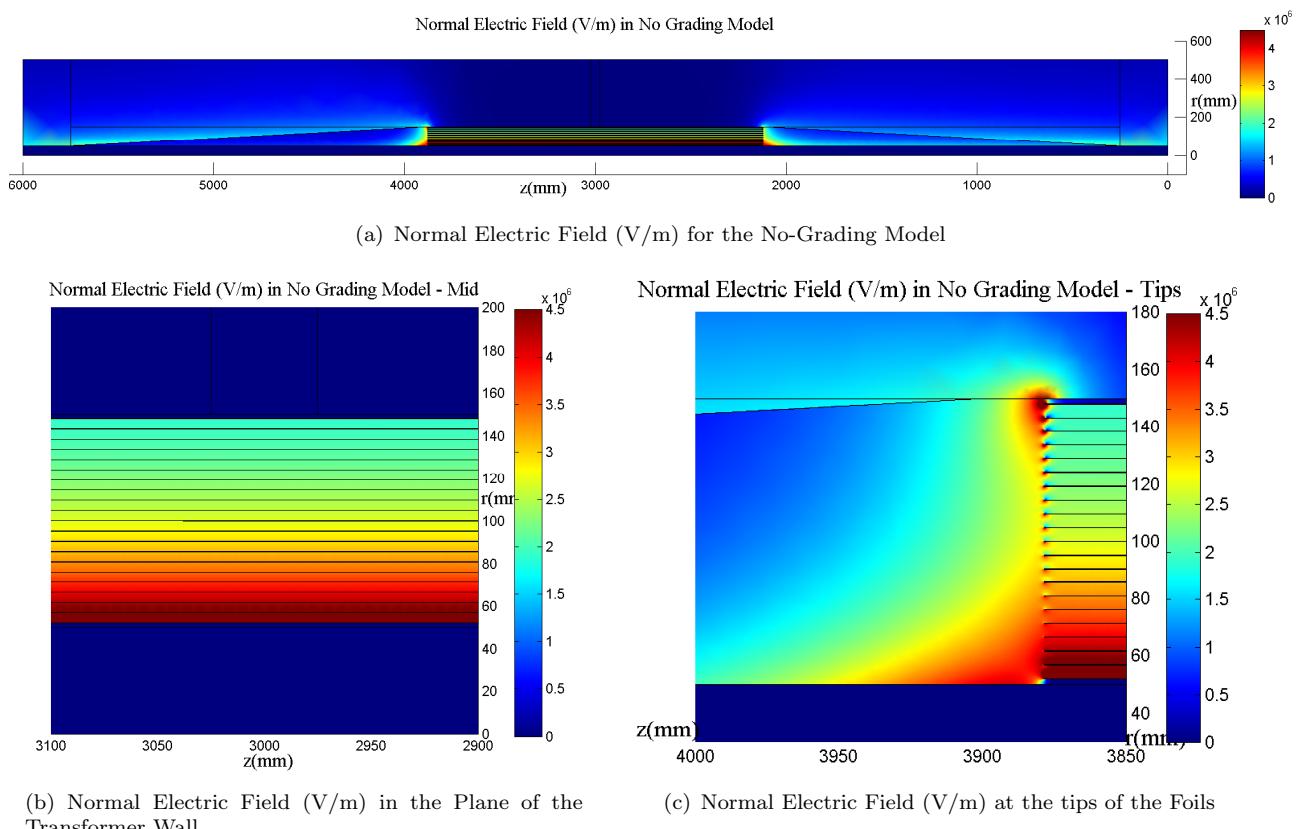


Figure 6.11: Examination of the Electric Field in the Non-Grading Model

Figure 11(b) shows the normal electric field in the plane of the transformer wall. The areas of very high field at the corners of the transformer wall have been eliminated by the use of the capacitive foils. However, the field close to the conductor is still very high. An additional issue is introduced by using capacitive foils. Considering figure 11(c), the tips of the foils cause some considerable disturbance of the electric field. This model achieves very little improvement, if at all, over the model with no foils.

Now that the requirement for grading has been shown in section 6.6, and the requirement to use a formal axial or radial grading method in this section, the radial and axial designs can be compared.

## 6.7 Radial Grading

The COMSOL geometry for the radial grading model is shown figure 6.12. Each foil is an equal radial distance according to the radial grading method. The lengths of each foil are taken from table 5.1. The remainder of the geometry is identical to the No Foils and No Grading models.

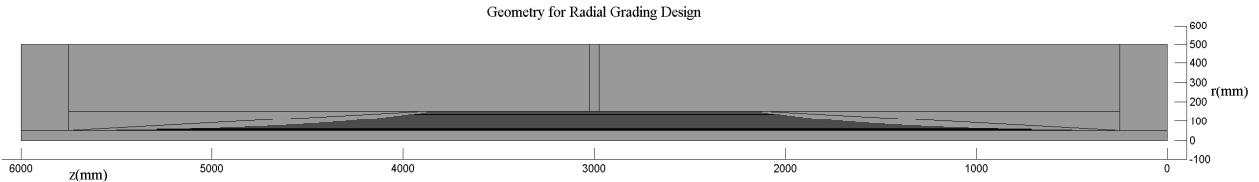


Figure 6.12: Geometry of the Radial Model

As with the No Grading model, the geometry in this design is very complex with a variety of scales. In order to reduce computation time but maintain a reasonable level of accuracy in areas of interest, the mesh was produced to the rules outlined for the No Grading model. The meshing for this model is shown in figure 6.13 and 6.14.

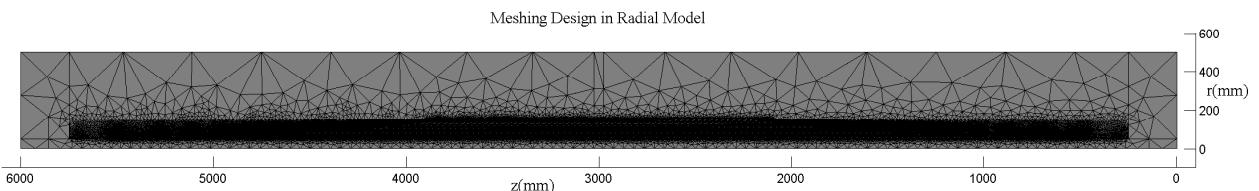


Figure 6.13: Meshing of the Radial Model

The model was then solved to find the normal electric field throughout the model. It can be seen in figure 21(a) that the field between the foils nearest the conductor is reduced below  $3.5\text{kV/mm}$ . This is now evenly spread in the radial direction, as expected due to the radial grading of the electric field. The electric field in the radial direction is much improved.

However, the axial electric field is not considered in the radial grading design method. The field at the foil tips is largely due to the axial field strength. It is necessary to inspect the strength of the electric fields at the tips of the foils. It can be seen in figure 21(b) that the electric field at the tips of the foil is as large as  $3.5\text{kV/mm}$ . Section 7 will take this observation further, to establish if it meet the design criteria.

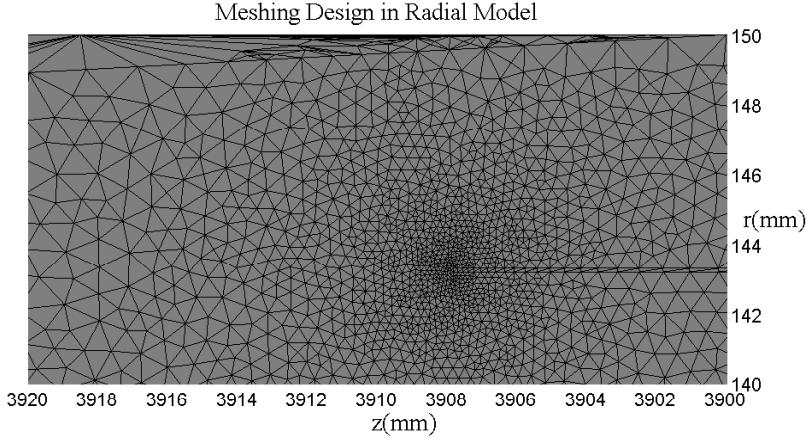


Figure 6.14: Meshing of the Radial Model Focused on a Foil Tip

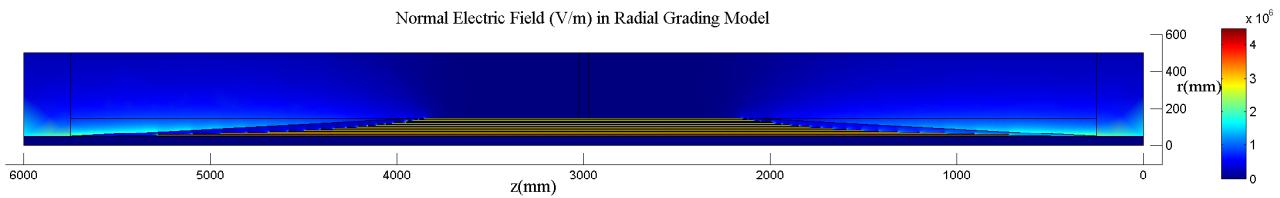
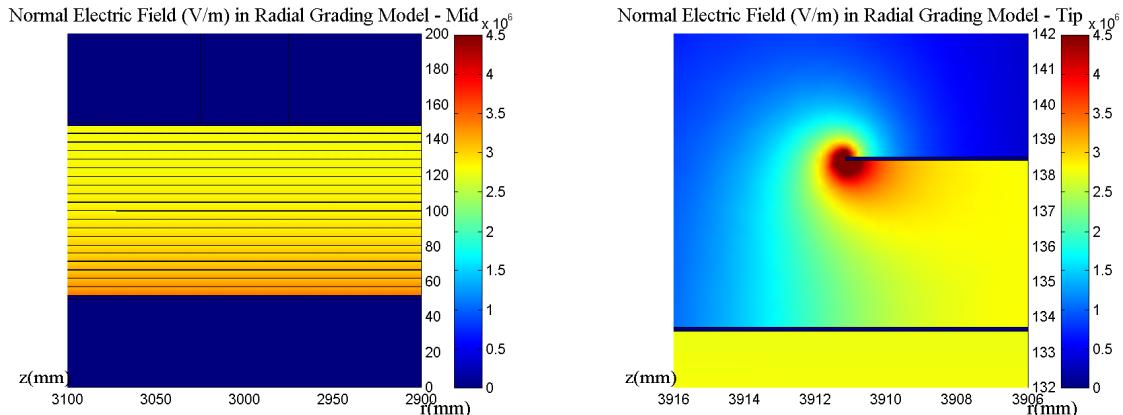


Figure 6.15: Normal Electric Field (V/m) for the Radial - Whole view



(a) Normal Electric Field (V/m) in the Plane of the Transformer Wall

(b) Normal Electric Field (V/m) at the tips of the Foils

Figure 6.16: Examination of the Electric Field in the Radial Model

## 6.8 Axial Grading

The asymmetric axial grading method results in an uneven geometry about the centre of the bushing. The lengths of each foil is determined in table 5.3. This requires the paper insulation to take a different profile than the other models in order to adequately cover the foils, as shown in figure 6.17. The air side has a much longer surface area due to the higher creepage distance of air.

The meshing for this model follows the design rules, in order to produce the finest mesh over the key points of interest, shown in figure 6.18. Particularly figure 6.19 shows the fine mesh around the tip of

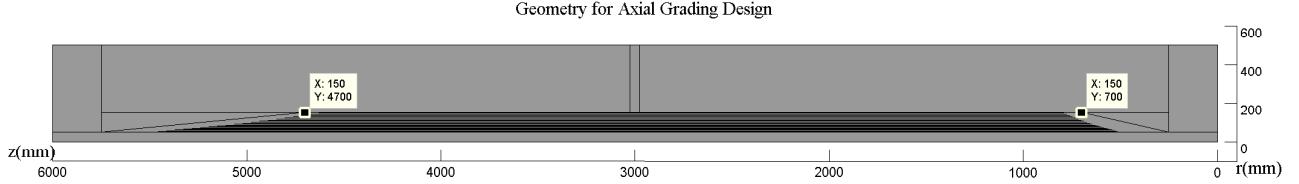


Figure 6.17: Geometry of the Axial Model

a foil, which is a key area of interest to determine if the PD inception condition is maintained.

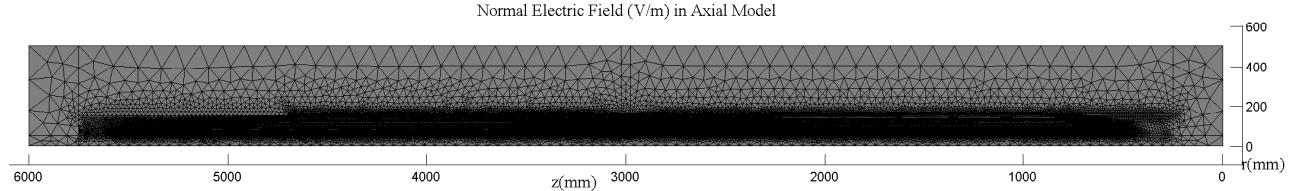


Figure 6.18: Meshing of the Axial Model

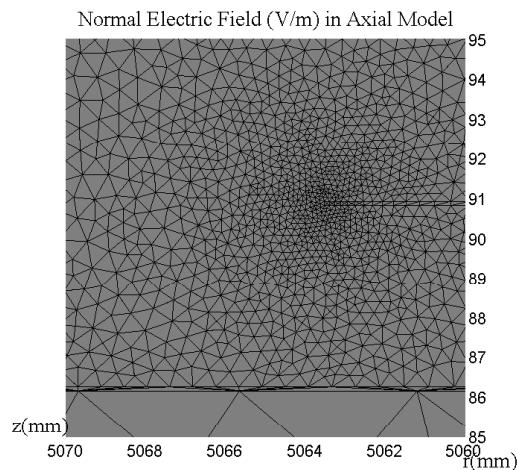


Figure 6.19: Meshing of the Axial Model Focused on a Foil Tip

The electric field problem can now be solved over the whole model. This produces the surface plots shown in figures 6.20 and 6.21. It can be seen that the field in the plane of the transformer wall is not well graded, as it is neglected in the axial design method. The field at the foil tips for which the main contributor is the axial field has a smaller area exposed to high field strengths than the radial method. However, it remains an issue to be considered. This will be discussed and contrasted with the other designs in the discussion in section 7.

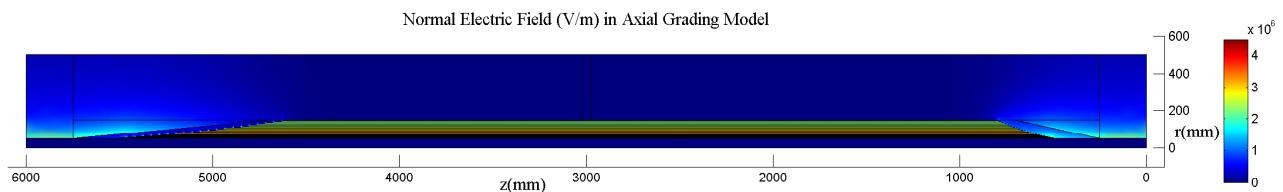
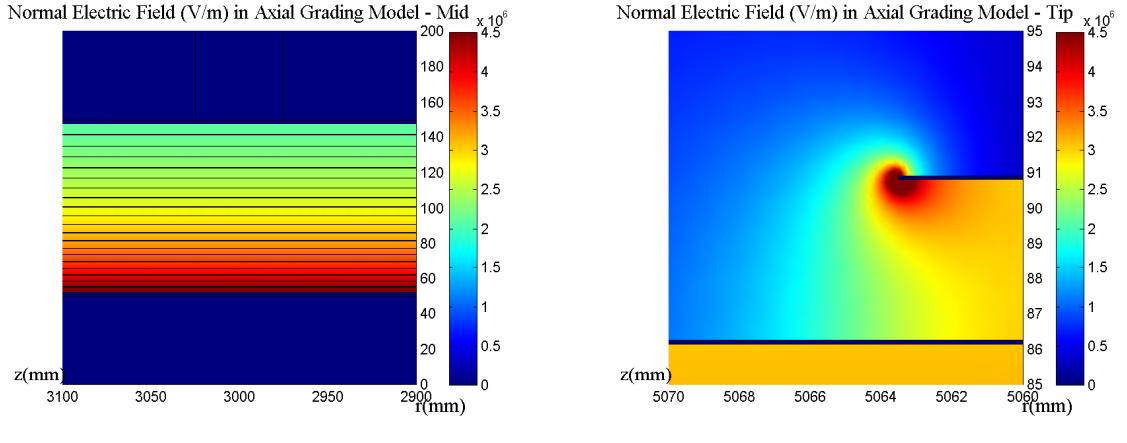


Figure 6.20: Normal Electric Field (V/m) for the Axial Model - Whole view



(a) Normal Electric Field (V/m) in the Plane of the Transformer Wall      (b) Normal Electric Field (V/m) at the tips of the Foils

Figure 6.21: Examination of the Electric Field in the Axial Model

## 7 Discussion

As has been outlined in this report so far, there are problems inherent within bushing design and multiple solutions to these problems. A full discussion and comparison will be made to determine the most accurate and reliable model for HV bushing design. Additionally, reasoning and justification for the incremental changes will outline the development of bushing and possible further improvements that could be made in design.

### 7.1 Success Criteria

In section 2 four criteria were mentioned to determine the efficacy of the design: general/intrinsic breakdown defined by the radial field, surface discharge defined by the axial field, partial discharge within the material defined by areas of high tangential field and corona discharge within air.

Regarding general breakdown it is the largest breakdown strength of the model and so the least likely to fail. High Voltage Engineering Fundamentals has it defined as well in excess of 1MV/cm [4]. The area of interest for this intrinsic breakdown is the line from the conductor straight to the flange, and a measurement of radial electric field.

Surface discharge is not as readily defined for typical graded designs, however a comparison can be made from shedding specifications. Shedding increases the effective creepage length of the bushing by a factor of 4 and for a typical design 40mm/kV is given as the required length for the operational voltage [5]. The IEC 60815 standard defines the creepage distance for ceramic insulators according to levels of pollution in the environment [17]. For bushings less than 300mm in diameter the creepage distance in very heavy pollution levels is 31mm/kV, which is lower than the extreme value quoted in [5]. The creepage distance is multiplied by the highest r.m.s phase-to-phase voltage within the equipment.

Fortunately and reasonably given its significance, partial discharge inception voltage is well defined for all types of insulation material. For resin-impregnated paper the value is 36kV/cm and for oil-impregnated paper the value is 45kV/cm, justifying the more common use of OIP [5]. Due to its nature, a simple investigation of trends is not sufficient to estimate areas of possible PD origins and

areas of interest must be found and tested against the inception voltage. They are typically located at the edges of foils or near the conductor itself.

Corona discharge can occur in both air and oil, however, since the inception voltage is much lower for air and the effects of weather and pollution affect the air side of the bushing much greater it is of higher importance. For the discussion, it will be studied as a subsection of surface discharge.

## 7.2 No Foils

Nowadays, solid bushing is only used for voltages below 25kV. This is due to a combination of all factors as shown in the previous figure 6.6. When simulated with a conductor ten times its rated voltage its flaws are clear. As mentioned previously, the primary criteria to solve are high electric fields inducing partial discharges and large axial fields causing flashover.

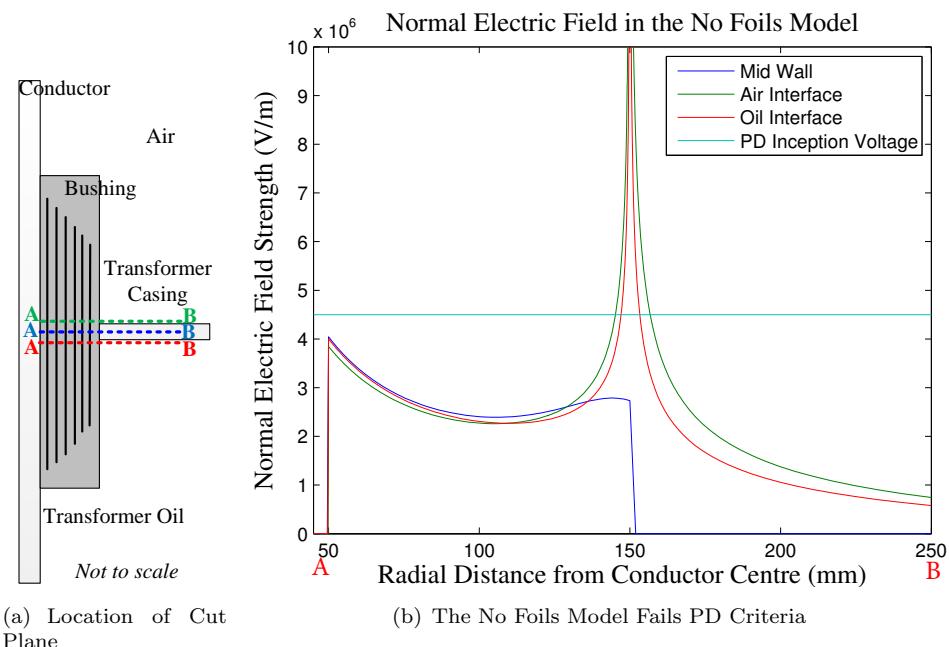


Figure 7.1: The Normal Electric Field in the No Foils Model

This is best illustrated with figure 1(b), not only are the fields present at the interface to the flange well in excess of the PD inception voltage, the location of these high electric fields also mean flashover is a serious risk due to the lack of shaping of the axial electric field distribution. A result of such localised electric stress is that because the field is greater than the PD inception voltage the voids will generate exponentially more discharges, leading to faster ageing and a much higher chance of breakdown. The solution, assuming keeping voltage constant, would be to increase the bushing height and width.

## 7.3 No Grading

The proposal to study a model of condenser bushing without any thought to grading exposes the fundamentals to grading design. Figure 2(b) shows that, for the most part the electric field is below the PD inception voltage, at least at the central interface. However looking at figures 11(b) and 11(c) show that the foil placement did not effectively shape the field at the bushing interface at the tips.

Beyond analysing the concentrations of electric field it is important to note that the distribution is non-linear; in comparison to the ideal goal of a linear drop of field across the capacitors [4]. The placement of the outermost foil serves as a location of high field density and although located far from the flange itself it would likely be a source of both PDs and corona discharges.

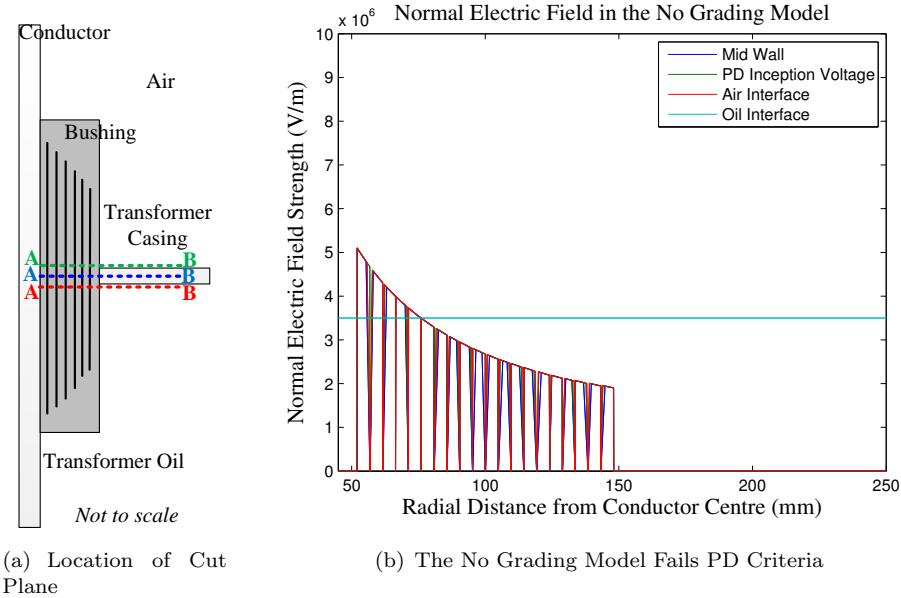


Figure 7.2: The Normal Electric Field in the No Grading Model

## 7.4 Comparison of Axial and Radial Grading Solutions

The design of both types of capacitive grading method were discussed in the previous sections. The difference in performance of the types in general is the radial grading will improve the intensity of the radial electric field and the axial grading will improve the intensity of the axial electric field. By improvement of intensity of electric field, this means the electric field according to the type of grading method is evenly distributed in a particular direction. Choosing the right design for different application is essential as this will reduce the chances of various types of electrical breakdown and hence the bushing design would be more durable.

There are two components of electric field cause different problems. The radial electric field is mainly responsible to the breakdown of insulating material, for example, electrical breakdown between foils. On the other hand, the axial electric field is mainly responsible to the surface discharges along the boundary of the insulation, for example, corona discharge to the surrounding.

### 7.4.1 Radial Electric Field

The maximum intensity of the radial electric field for the radial design is expected to be lower than the maximum of the axial design. This means the radial grading design would perform better to suppress the intensity of radial electric field. The radial electric field across the radial direction of both axial and radial grading designs are shown in figure 7.3.

The result clearly shows the peak value of electric field for the axial design ( $\approx 4.5 \times 10^3 kVm^{-1}$ ) is greater than the peak value of electric field for the radial design ( $\approx 3.5 \times 10^3 kVm^{-1}$ ). Also, from

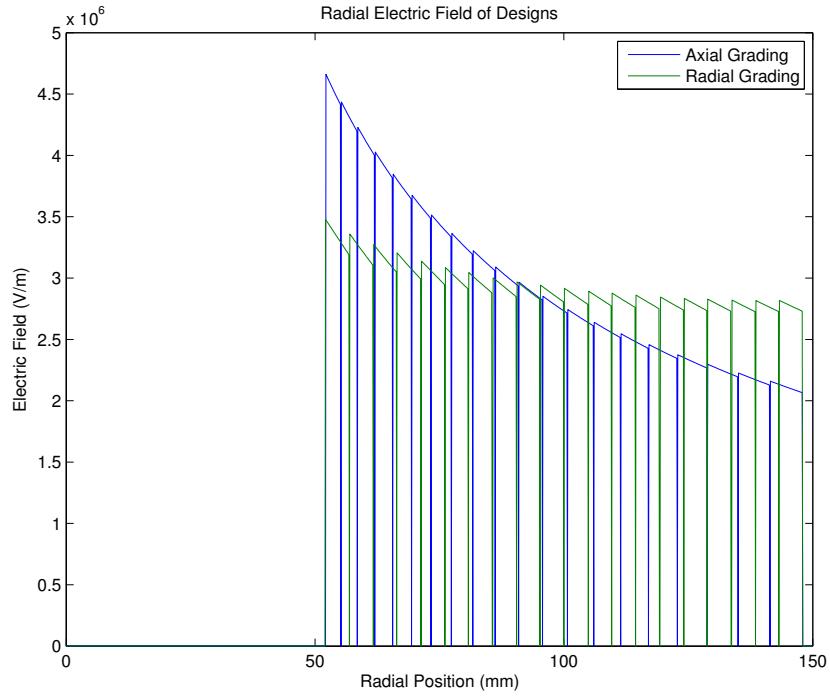


Figure 7.3: Radial electric field across the mid-point of the two designs of bushing.

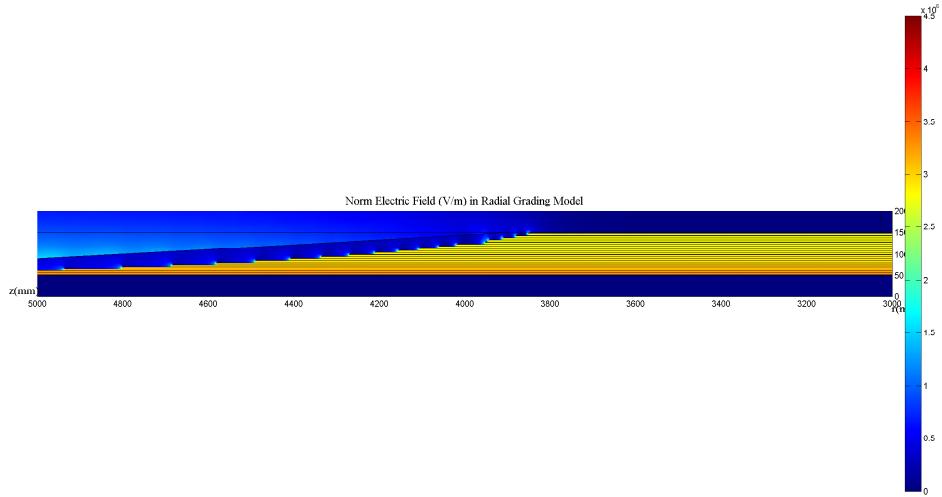


Figure 7.4: 2D surface plot showing the distribution of electric field from mid-point to the air end of bushing

From figure 7.3, the radial electric field of the radial grading design is more evenly distributed. This is the effect of grading, hence similar effect should be seen in the axial electric for axial grading design. The electric field distribution across any perpendicular cut lines to the foils would result in almost identical results, because the foils behave similar to capacitors in series. Electric field being constant across a capacitor and this is true across any two neighbouring foils. Figure 7.4 shows the electric field within foils from mid-point to the tips and very constant electric field is seen.

### 7.4.2 Axial Electric Field

The axial component of electric field is responsible for the surface discharges along the surface of the bushing design. Axial component of the field contributes to these surfaces, because the axial electric field at the edges of the foil are the most intense. Figure 7.5 shows the magnitude of electric field at each foil edge.

The result shows the radial design has a lower peak value of electric field at these edges of foil. However, this is not an expected result, because axial grading in theory shapes the surface of the insulation better to avoid intensifying of electric field at these edges. Also, a clearer maximum peak of electric field should be seen at the outermost foil of the radial graded design due to the sharp turn in the shape of the bushing design. Although the result shows a maximum peak at the last outermost foil, it is not significant and it is below the maximum value of electric field for the axial graded design. Although the radial graded design has lower maximum electric field than the axial graded design, the electric field generally is much greater than the partial discharge inception voltage for oil-impregnated paper insulation. This will result in partial discharge.

However, The points which are taken in to consideration are the highest values of electric field locally which drops off rapidly moving away from the point. While the sum of these points is approximately 0.03% of the volume of the overall bushing design, hence, this can be considered as an affordable problem in the bushing design. Also, in the model, all the foils are considered to terminate with a 90° bend. In reality, designs may use various techniques to suppress the effect of this bend. Some designs use semi-conducting material at the ends of the foil.

### 7.4.3 Surface Flashover

Surface flashover is the partial discharge along the surface of the insulation, this is caused by an intense electric field. The parameter which takes into account of surface flashover is the creepage distance as mentioned previously. The typical value for calculating the creepage distance is 35mm/kV and for more polluted environments, a higher value of creepage distance might be considered.

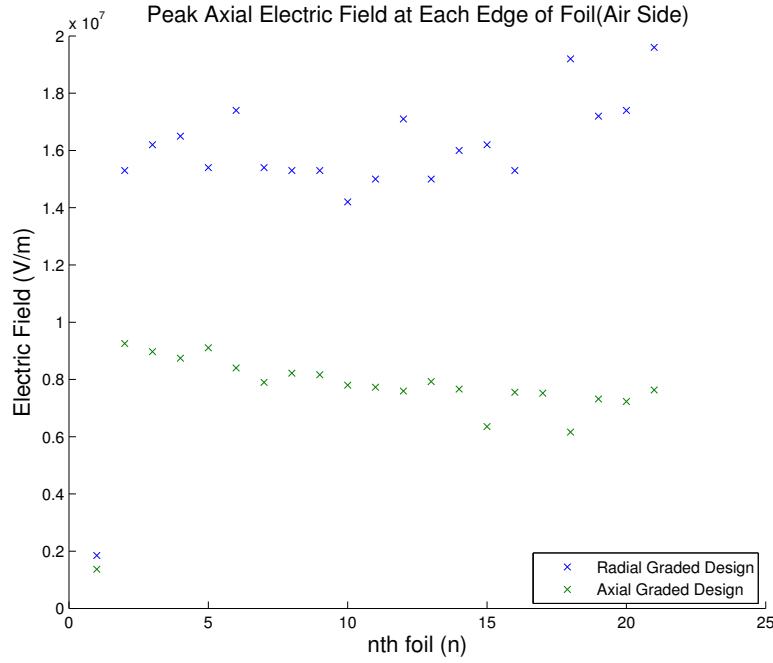
In bushing designs, the creepage distance is increased by the addition of a shed around the bushing. These shed designs increase the creepage distance of insulation designs by increasing the surface length. Designs of shed can have varying ratios between creepage distance to axial length [18], designs for more polluted environments have bigger ratios.

According to the typical value to calculate the creepage distance, for a 275kV design, the creepage distance required is 9625mm. Where the designs of bushing in this report has axial length of approximately 3m, the ratio of minimum nominal creepage distance to axial length required is 3.2:1.

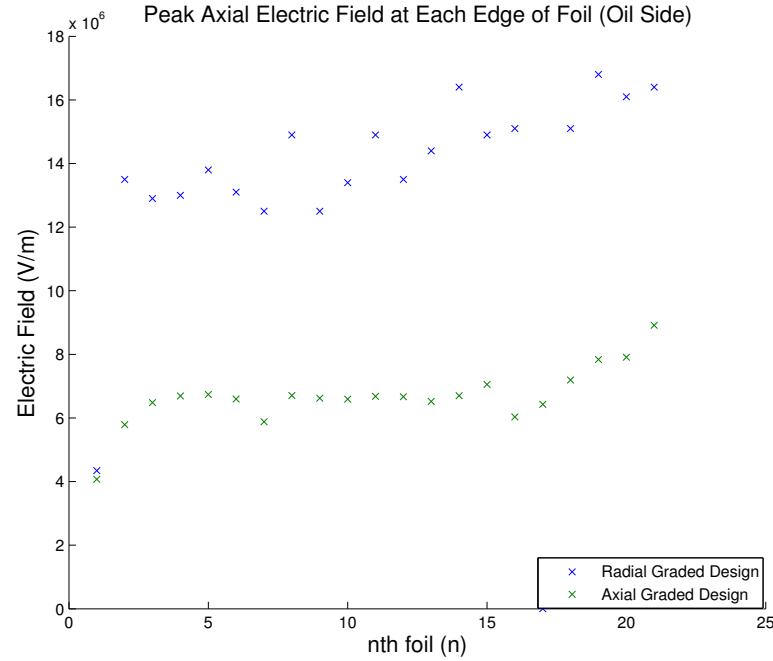
These sheds provide a greater creepage distance to reduce the chance of surface flashover, however, they have little affect on the electric field of the bushing. Hence, addition of shed does not reduce corona discharge.

## 7.5 Choice of Design

From the results shown in the previous sections, the graph of variation in radial electric field shows the peak radial electric field for the axial graded design, the limit of 4.5kV/mm is just exceeded. While the radial graded design has radial electric field below the limit. However, the axial electric field in both designs exceeds the limit by a few times in some places. More importantly, the axial electric field for



(a) Air side axial electric field



(b) Oil side axial electric field

Figure 7.5: Electric field at the edge of each foil.

the radial graded design is in general approximately twice as much as the axial graded design. Hence, the results show the radial design suppresses more in radial electric field, while the axial electric field is suppressed more in the axial graded design as expected. The choice of which design to use would depend on the effect of the axial and the radial electric field. Whether the doubling effect in the axial

electric field would cause a bigger problem or would the excessive radial electric field cause a bigger problem. According to the weakness for bushing designs, the axial electric field usually cause more problems as the breakdown within foil would require a higher electric field than surface discharge along the boundary layer. So, the axial graded design would be used when taken all these factors into consideration.

## 8 Conclusions

Conclusions.

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## A Individual Contributions

Team Member	Contribution
Thomas J. Smith 23914254	-
David Mahmoodi 99999999	-
Brendan Hickman 99999999	-
Patrick P. L. Fong 23875771	-

## B Meeting Minutes

### B.1 Meeting 1 - Kick-off Meeting

<b>Purpose</b>	ELEC6089 Bushing Design Kick Off Meeting
<b>Date and Time</b>	Thursday 20th February 13:30
<b>Venue</b>	GDP Lab Zepler Building, Highfield Campus
<b>Participants</b>	TS (Thomas Smith), DM (David Mahmoodi), BH (Brendan Hickman), PF (Patrick Fong)
<b>Apologies</b>	None
<b>Agenda</b>	Review what we understand of the project so far. Understand the tasks required. Agree expectations of work and schedule. Agree date and agenda of next meeting.

#### B.1.1 Minutes of the Meeting

ID	Subject	Notes and Discussion	Action
1.0	Research prior to the meeting	BH uploaded the course text to the Facebook working group which has a section on stress control by floating screens. TS uploaded a project from KTH university that had similar guidelines and had a useful description to compound the lecture notes for the module. All agreed to research the topic further and read these sections by the next meeting	<b>ALL A1.0</b>
2.0	Current understanding of task	The group discussed the task at hand. We need to design the bushing using the iterative formulas from the lectures and then build a COMSOL model. The design must be either radial or axial in grading method.	-
3.0	Work Breakdown	The group tried to identify the work to complete. This includes research into field design and grading methods, calculating the bushing design, simulating and report writing. None of these tasks can be completed in parallel, and all need the previous in order to complete the task. Hence each member needs to research, and have knowledge of the design and simulation process. It will become clearer who will be assigned responsibility for what shortly. Currently, remain with all needing to complete research	-
4.0	Next Meeting	First meeting with G. Chen in 2 weeks, Tuesday 4th March. Before then have a first model and have begun verification. Have group Latex template for collaboration, good layout and presentation marks. Use Github. Next meeting on Wednesday 26th.	-

### B.1.2 Action List

ID	Action	Comments	Status
A1.0	Research	All to start research. Make notes of all sources. At least reviewed the lecture notes and Kuffel.	Open 20th Feb

*Next Meeting: 26th Feb 2014, Location & Time TBA*

## B.2 Meeting 2 - Progress Meeting

<b>Purpose</b>	ELEC6089 Bushing Design Progress Meeting
<b>Date and Time</b>	Wednesday 26th February 11:30
<b>Venue</b>	GDP Lab Zepler Building, Highfield Campus
<b>Participants</b>	TS (Thomas Smith), DM (David Mahmoodi), BH (Brendan Hickman)
<b>Apologies</b>	PF (Patrick Fong)
<b>Agenda</b>	Review research progress. Clarify project understanding. Start design task. Identify further work.

### B.2.1 Minutes of the Meeting

ID	Subject	Notes and Discussion	Action
1.0	Research update	The present team members discussed the task in the context of Kuffel and KTH research. Agreed on bushing definitions and the theory behind capacitive grading. Also took time to verify that the lecture notes matched the explanation in Kuffel. Kuffel pages are 235-241. Also discussed why the capacitors were added, and established the iterative formula to use. All should continue to gain a firmer grounding of the required theory	<b>ALL A1.0</b>
2.0	Github and L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X	TS ran the present through the report template, what was required and how to use the distributed revision control system Git as hosted on GitHub. This should make collaboration much easier than using just our facebook group page.	-

ID	Subject	Notes and Discussion	Action
3.0	Grading Methods	DM left the meeting at this point to read the lecture notes. DA will also perform the grading and we can then use this to independently verify the design. TS and BH started on axial grading method. Both wrote matlab code to calculate spacings. The results were the same, hence reasonable level of confidence of validity.	<b>PF &amp; DM A2.0</b>
4.0	Remaining work	BH and TS identified the remaining work for actioning. The report has an introduction which requires review. Sections on Grading methods (why grade? LV solutions using electrodes, DC solution using resistivity, AC capacitive grading), AC grading types (discussion of axial and radial components of tangential fields, radial and axial derivation) and section on the design details (iterative formula, Matlab calculations, visio diagrams). The design must be built in COMSOL which represents significant work to understand COMSOL. Probably want to simulate a non-graded bushing as a baseline for discussion. Aiming to do both radial and axial grading simulations. Then discuss.	-
5.0	Assignment of work	BH and PF have a key deadline on tuesday 4th March hence largely unavailable until then. TS and DM to get started on tasks. Try and get simulations done before meeting with GC.	<b>TS &amp; DA A3.0 A4.0</b>
6.0	Next Meeting	First meeting with G. Chen Tuesday 4th March. Before then have a first model and have begun verification. Next meeting on Prior to this meeting.	-

### B.2.2 Action List

ID	Action	Comments	Status
A1.0	Research	All to start research. Make notes of all sources. At least reviewed the lecture notes and Kuffel.	Open 20th Feb
A2.0	Grading	Other members to perform axial grading calculations separately so that the results can be verified independently	Open 26th Feb
A3.0	COMSOL	Gain an understanding of COMSOL and attempt some simulations.	Open 26th Feb
A4.0	Reporting	Continue to document progress in the report.	Open 26th Feb

Next Meeting: 4th March 2014, Preceeding meeting with GC

### B.3 Meeting 3 - Progress Meeting

<b>Purpose</b>	ELEC6089 Bushing Design Progress Meeting
<b>Date and Time</b>	Tuesday 4th March Before Meeting with GC
<b>Venue</b>	Building 58, Highfield Campus
<b>Participants</b>	TS (Thomas Smith), DM (David Mahmoodi), BH (Brendan Hickman), PF (Patrick Fong)
<b>Apologies</b>	-
<b>Agenda</b>	<p>Review progress.</p> <p>Prepare Questions for Meeting.</p> <p>Identify further work required.</p> <p>Allocate work.</p>

#### B.3.1 Minutes of the Meeting

ID	Subject	Notes and Discussion	Action
1.0	Project Update	DM updated the group with his work in Matlab using the natural log derivation of the grading formula. TS updated the group with report progress and progress using COMSOL. Significant work completed by TS, including Introduction, an overview of grading methods, an attempt to derive the equations and initial COMSOL models. BH and PF have nothing to update due to another deadline just prior to the meeting.	-
2.0	Questions to ask in GC meeting	Meaning of dimensions for 'failed' 275kV bushing? Will it work, must we improve it? Will it fail without foils but work with?	-
2.1		Can we change the length or width of the bushing? The material/insulation of the bushing or the number of foils?	-
2.2		Check that TS output data/graphs are correct. Check conductor, meshing, and length of grounded aluminium transformer.	-
2.3		Should we have radial and axial grading to compare?	-
2.4		Can we design shedding in comsol for the air side as extra to bushing?	-
2.5		Should we count last boundary of oil-end interface as a capacitor, even take it into account?	-
2.6		Check formatting of paper	-
3.0	Meeting with GC	The Group attended a meeting with GC to gain some feedback on progress so far.	-
3.1		Answer to 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 - Later on, you can change dimensions but there are also other (better?) improvements	-

ID	Subject	Notes and Discussion	Action
3.2		Find/mesh tightly the areas of interest, the bushing and not the air to make the meshing more efficient. Look at the interfaces, at end of Al foil there is more chance of discharge. In the middle the field is symmetrical.	-
3.3		Graphs should be a clear demonstration of info, potential distribution and field strength 2/3. Check where the ground/transformer is, is it half in or more or less? Different flashover lengths, partial discharges etc.	-
3.4		The first and last foils are connected to the conductor and ground respectively. Flashover can go through interface of paper&oil	-
3.5		45 page maximum including appendices	-
4.0	Work Allocation	low voltage, DC solutions, electrode grading and external shaping investigation for the report	<b>PF A5.0</b>
4.1		Partial discharge, flashover (& voltages) and related criteria so we can judge how good a solution is	<b>BH A6.0</b>
4.2		Comsol, further learning + shaping of field	<b>TS and DM A7.0</b>
5.0	Next Meeting	Meet on 11th March - 1 week time	-

### B.3.2 Action List

ID	Action	Comments	Status
A1.0	Research	All to start research. Make notes of all sources. At least reviewed the lecture notes and Kuffel.	Open 20th Feb Closed 4th March
A2.0	Grading	Other members to perform axial grading calculations separately so that the results can be verified independently	Open 26th Feb Closed 4th March
A3.0	COMSOL	Gain an understanding of COMSOL and attempt some simulations.	Open 26th Feb Closed 4th March
A4.0	Reporting	Continue to document progress in the report.	Open 26th Feb
A5.0	LV and DC	Research and document LV solutions and DC alternatives.	Open 4th March
A6.0	Criteria	Define a set of assessment criteria.	Open 4th March
A7.0	Simulations	Continue to refine Matlab script and develop COMSOL simulations accurately portraying what is happening so that the design can be assessed critically.	Open 4th March

*Next Meeting: 11th March 2014*

## C Code Listings

### Radial Grading Matlab Code

```
%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% ELEC6089 High Volatage Insulation Bushing Design
% Radial grading calculation
% Author - David Mahmoodi
% Date - 14/02/2014
%%%%%%%%%%%%%
clc; close all; clear all
% Declareing Given Variables
Voltage = 275000;
Inner_diameter = 100;
Outer_diameter = 300;
First_foil_length = 5000;
N = 21;
Foil_Thickness = 0.1;
First_Gap = 2;
Last_Gap = 2;
%% Defining new variables
Del_Voltage = Voltage/N-1; %Voltage between each foil
Del_Radius = ((Outer_diameter- Inner_diameter)-2*(First_Gap+Last_Gap))/(2*(N-1)); % Spacing
    between each foil
%Initialise vectors (22 for 3D plotting)
L = zeros(1,N+1);
Radius = zeros(1,N+1);
%% Calculation
L(1)=First_foil_length; %The first foil is 5000mm and connected to the conductor, no
    capacitance between conductor and this foil
r0 = Inner_diameter/2; %Radius of the conductor
Radius(1)= Inner_diameter/2 + First_Gap; % Radial position of first foil = 52mm
%Calculate the radial positions of all foils
for i=2:N
    Radius(i)=Radius(i-1) + Del_Radius;
end
% Refer to Section 2.2 for an explanation of this assumption
L(2)= log(Radius(2)/Radius(1))* L(1) / log(Radius(1)/(Radius(1)-Del_Radius)) ;
%Follow the iterative formula
for i=3:N
    L(i)= log(Radius(i-1)/Radius(i))* L(i-1) / log(Radius(i-2)/Radius(i-1));
end
%For plotting - add the outer shell
L(N+1)=L(N)-.5*L(N);
Radius(N+1)=Radius(N)+ Last_Gap;
%% Ploting
figure
plot(Radius(1:end-1),((6000+L(1:end-1))/2), 'o'); hold on
plot(Radius(1:end-1),((6000-L(1:end-1))/2), 'o');%axis equal

x=zeros(1,2*(N+1));
y=x; j=1;
for i=1:2:2*(N+1)
    x(i)=L(j)/2;
    x(i+1)=-L(j)/2;
    y(i)=Radius(j);
    y(i+1)=Radius(j);
    j=j+1;
end
y2=-y;
% 2D Plot
figure
axes('FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold')
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [-1.1.*x(1), - r0, 2.2*x(1), 2*r0]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor', 'r')

for i=1:2:2*(N)
    hold on
    line(x(i:i+1), y(i:i+1), 'LineWidth',2)
    line(x(i:i+1), y2(i:i+1), 'LineWidth',2)
```

```

%axis equal
end
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [-L(N+1)/2,Outer_diameter/2, L(N+1), 10]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor',[0, 0, 0])
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [-L(N+1)/2,-10-Outer_diameter/2, L(N+1), 10]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor',[0, 0, 0]);
title('Radial Graing','FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',34,'fontWeight','bold');
xlabel('Length (mm)', 'FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold')
ylabel('Radius (mm)', 'FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold')
xlim([x(2) x(1)]); ylim([y2(end)-10 y(end)+10])
% 3D Plot
K=50; scl=.1; % Z direction scaling value for plotting
p= 6*N/3+1; %adjusting the Cut in the 3D shap
figure
axes('FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold');
R=[r0 r0];
[X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,5*K);
Z(2, :) =( L(1)+ .1*L(1))*scl;
Z(1, :) = - Z(2, :);
surf(X,Y,Z, 'FaceColor',[1,0,0], 'EdgeColor', [1,0,0]);
for i=1:N
    hold on
    R=[Radius(i) Radius(i)];
    [X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,K);
    Z(2,:)= L(i);
    Z(1,:)= -L(i);
    X = X(:,1:p);
    Y = Y(:,1:p);
    Z = Z(:,1:p)*scl;
    testsubject = surf(X,Y,Z);
    set(testsubject, 'FaceAlpha',0.6, 'EdgeColor', 'b')
    axis equal
end
Ground=Radius(N+1)-1;
for i=1:30
    R=[Ground+i Ground+i];
    [X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,K);
    Z(2, :) = L(N+1)*scl;
    Z(1, :) = - Z(2, :);
    X = X(:,1:p);
    Y = Y(:,1:p);
    Z = Z(:,1:p)*scl;
    surf(X,Y,Z, 'FaceColor', [0,0,0], 'EdgeColor',[0, 0, 0]);
end
camlight
lighting gouraud
title('Radial Graing','FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold');
xlabel('R(mm)', 'FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold','Rotation',90,
      'HorizontalAlignment','right')
zlabel('L(cm)', 'FontName','Times New Roman','FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold',
      'HorizontalAlignment','right')
%% Saving results to file
FID = fopen('RadialVals21.tex', 'w');
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{table}[!htb]\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{center}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{tabular}{|c||cc|c||cc|}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\toprule\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\textbf{Foil N.0} & \\textbf{Radius(mm)} & \\textbf{Length(mm)} & \\textbf{Foil
    N.0} & \\textbf{Radius(mm)} & \\textbf{Length(mm)}\\\\\\ \\toprule\\n');
Max = floor((N+1)/2); L(N+1)= 00;
for i=1:Max
    fprintf(FID, '%.f & %4.2f & %4.2f & %.f & %4.2f & %4.2f \\\\\\n',i,Radius(i),L(i),(i+Max),
    Radius(i+Max),L(i+Max));
end
fprintf(FID, '\\bottomrule\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{tabular}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{center}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\caption{Radial Grading Calculations Results}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\label{table:radialvals}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{table}\\n');
fclose(FID);

```

---

```

SID = fopen('Radial-Points-Air.txt', 'w');
for i=1:N
    fprintf(FID, '%f\t%f\t\r\n', Radius(i), 3000.01+(L(i)/2));
end
fclose(SID);
SID = fopen('Radial-Points-Oil.txt', 'w');
for i=1:N
    fprintf(FID, '%f\t%f\t\r\n', Radius(i), 2999.99-(L(i)/2));
end
fclose(SID);

```

---

### Axial Grading Matlab Code

---

```

%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% ELEC6089 High Volatage Insulation Bushing Design
% Axial grading calculation
% Author - David Mahmoodi
% Date - 14/02/2014
%%%%%%%%%%%%%
clc; close all; clear all
%% Declareing Given Variables
Voltage = 275000; %Applied voltage (volt)
Inner_diameter = 100; %mm
Outer_diameter = 300; %mm
First_foil_length = 5000; %mm
N = 21;
Foil_Thickness = 0.1; %mm
First_Gap = 2; %mm
Last_Gap = 2; %mm
E_boundary_surface_Air = 300; %volt/mm
E_boundary_surface_Oil = 3*300; %volt/mm
%% Defining new variables
Del_Voltage = Voltage/N-1; %Voltage between each foil
b_Air = Del_Voltage/E_boundary_surface_Air;
b_Oil = Del_Voltage/E_boundary_surface_Oil;
%Initialise vectors (22 for 3D plotting)
L = zeros(1,N+1);
L_Air = zeros(1,N+1);
L_Oil = zeros(1,N+1);
Radius = zeros(1,N+1);
R_parameter=1.007; % Parameter for adje sting assumption value of r0
%% Calculation
L(1)=First_foil_length; %The first foil is 5000mm and connected to the conductor, no
    %capacitance between conductor and this foil
r0 = Inner_diameter/2 ; %Radius of the conductor
Radius(1)= Inner_diameter/2 + First_Gap; % Radial position of first foil = 52mm
L_Air(1)= L(1)/2;
L_Oil(1)= L(1)/2;
%Calculate the radial positions of all foils
for i=2:N
    L_Air(i)=L_Air(i-1)- b_Air;
    L_Oil(i)=L_Oil(i-1)- b_Oil;
    L(i)= L_Air(i)+L_Oil(i);
end
% Refer to Section 2.2 for an explanation of this assumption
Radius(2)= Radius(1)* exp( (L(2)/L(1)) * log(Radius(1)/(r0-R_parameter)));
%Follow the iterative formula
for i=3:N
    Radius(i)= Radius(i-1)* exp( (L(i)/L(i-1)) * log(Radius(i-1)/Radius(i-2)));
end
%For plotting - add the outer shell
L(N+1)=L(N)- .5*L(N);
Radius(N+1)=Radius(N)+ Last_Gap;

%% Ploting
figure
plot(Radius(1:end-1),3000+L_Air(1:end-1), 'o'); hold on %axis equal
plot(Radius(1:end-1),3000-L_Oil(1:end-1), 'o'); %axis equal
x=zeros(1,2*(N+1));
y=x; j=1;

```

```

for i=1:2:2*(N+1)
    x(i)=L_Air(j);
    x(i+1)=-L_Oil(j);
    y(i)=Radius(j);
    y(i+1)=Radius(j);
    j=j+1;
end
y2=-y;
% 2D Plot
figure
axes('FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold')
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [-1.1.*x(1), -r0, 2.2*x(1), 2*r0]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor', 'r')
for i=1:2:2*(N)
    hold on
    line(-x(i:i+1), -y(i:i+1), 'LineWidth',2)
    line(-x(i:i+1), -y2(i:i+1), 'LineWidth',2)
    %axis equal
end
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [L(N+1)/3,Outer_diameter/2, L(N+1)/2, 1000]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor',[0, 0, 0])
rect_H = rectangle('Position', [L(N+1)/3,-10-Outer_diameter/2, L(N+1)/2, 10]);
set(rect_H, 'FaceColor',[0, 0, 0])
title('Axial Graing','FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',34,'fontWeight','bold');
xlabel('Length (mm)', 'FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold')
ylabel('Radius (mm)', 'FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold')
xlim([x(2) x(1)]); ylim([y2(end)-10 y(end)+10])
% 3D Plot
K=50; scl=.1; % Z direction scaling value for plotting
p= 6*N/3+1; %adjusting the Cut in the 3D shap
figure
axes('FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold')
R=[r0 r0];
[X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,5*K);
Z(2, :) = (L_Air(1)+ .1*L_Air(1))*scl;
Z(1, :) = - Z(2, :);
surf(X,Y,Z, 'FaceColor',[1,0,0], 'EdgeColor', [1,0,0]);
for i=1:N
    hold on
    R=[Radius(i) Radius(i)];
    [X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,K);
    Z(2,:)= L_Air(i);
    Z(1,:)= -L_Oil(i);
    X = X(:,1:p);
    Y = Y(:,1:p);
    Z = Z(:,1:p)*scl;
    testsubject = surf(X,Y,Z);
    set(testsubject, 'FaceAlpha',0.8, 'EdgeColor', 'b')
    axis equal
end
Ground=Radius(N+1)-1;
for i=1:30
    R=[Ground+i Ground+i];
    [X,Y,Z] = cylinder(R,K);
    Z(2, :) = L(N+1) *scl;
    Z(1, :) = - Z(2, :);
    X = X(:,1:p);
    Y = Y(:,1:p);
    Z = Z(:,1:p)*scl-100;
    surf(X,Y,Z, 'FaceColor', [0,0,0], 'EdgeColor',[0, 0, 0]);
end
camlight
lighting gouraud
title('Axial Graing','FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',24,'fontWeight','bold');
xlabel('R(mm)', 'FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold','Rotation',90,'HorizontalAlignment','right')
zlabel('L(cm)', 'FontName', 'Times New Roman','FontSize',16,'fontWeight','bold','HorizontalAlignment','right')
%% Saving results to file
FID = fopen('AxialVals21.tex', 'w');
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{table}[%htb]\\n');

```

```
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{center}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\begin{tabular}{|c||cc|c||cc|}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\toprule\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\textbf{Foil N.0} & \\textbf{Radius(mm)} & \\textbf{Length(mm)} & \\textbf{Foil\\n');
N.0} & \\textbf{Radius(mm)} & \\textbf{Length(mm)}\\\\\\ \\toprule\\n');
Max = floor((N+1)/2); L(N+1)= 00;
for i=1:Max
    fprintf(FID, '%.f & %4.2f & %4.2f & %.f & %4.2f & %4.2f \\\\\\n',i,Radius(i),L(i),(i+Max),
    Radius(i+Max),L(i+Max));
end
fprintf(FID, '\\bottomrule\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{tabular}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{center}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\caption{Axial Grading Calculations Results}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\label{table:axialvals}\\n');
fprintf(FID, '\\end{table}\\n');
fclose(FID);

SID = fopen('Axial-Points-Air.txt', 'w');
for i=1:N
    fprintf(FID, '%f\t%f\t%r\\n',Radius(i),3000.1+L_Air(i));
end
fclose(SID);
SID = fopen('Axial-Points-Oil.txt', 'w');
for i=1:N
    fprintf(FID, '%f\t%f\t%r\\n',Radius(i),2999.9-L_Oil(i));
end
fclose(SID);
```

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