



#### B.5.4. Utilisation des matériaux plastiques réticulés à l'aide des radiations nucléaires dans la construction des câbles

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#### RÉSUMÉ

On a étudié comparativement des échantillons de XLPE réticulés chimiquement et radiochimiquement. L'irradiation a été réalisé dans l'air, à la température de la chambre. Les doses totales ont été comprises entre (50-300)KGy. On a étudié l'influence du degré de réticulation sur les propriétés électriques et mécaniques des échantillons. À l'aide de l'analyse spectrophotométrique IR on a mis en évidence des modifications structurelles des matériaux. On décrit un modèle qui puisse expliquer la formation des microcavités dans le XLPE sous l'influence des radiations.

#### 1. Introduction

In the modern technology of the cables there are utilised: Low Density PE-LDPE, Medium Density PE-MDPE, High Density PE-HDPE, crosslinked PE-XLPE, Very Low Density PE-VLDPE[1]. VLDPE is an amorphous polymer with a degree of crystallization of 0% and a very different density from  $0,915 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , which is the density of conventional PE. At present, the most insulations of the cables of medium and

#### B.5.4. The utilization of cross-linked plastic materials by means of the nuclear radiations in the construction of the cables

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#### ABSTRACT

Samples of XLPE chemically crosslinked and radiochemically crosslinked was comparatively studied. The irradiations have been effectuated in air, at the room temperature. The total doses have varied between (50-300)KGy. The influence of the crosslinking degreee on the mechanical and electrical behaviour was studied. Structural changes were observed by means of IR spectrophotometric analyses. A model of forming of the microcavities in XLPE through irradiation was described.

high tension utilize crosslinked PE. By crosslinked of the PE macromolecules, its temperature of function rises from approximately  $70^\circ\text{C}$  to  $90^\circ\text{C}$ . At the same time, in this case, less chain-ends appear, the mechanical resistance rises and as a result, one gets an improved resistance at the appearance of the trees. Among the chemical methods of crosslinking of PE, we mention: the utilization of peroxides, by steam but by using hot