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# Low-frequency behavior of laminated electric steel sheet: investigation of ferromagnetic hysteresis loops and incremental permeability

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#### Abstract:

The frequency dependence of ferromagnetic hysteresis and the related core losses is still an open question. From scaling relations up to space discretized and simultaneous contributions resolutions, different levels of accuracy in the estimation of these losses can be reached. Below a given frequency known as the quasi-static threshold, it is well admitted that the hysteresis cycle remains unchanged. A precise evaluation of this threshold is fundamental to simulate and evaluate precisely the magnetization behaviors under higher frequencies. But this estimation is complex, especially through the unique observation of the hysteresis cycles and because of instrumentation limitations. In this manuscript, we propose an alternative and simple method to precisely refine this threshold's estimation. By using an alternative magnetic signature known as the magnetic incremental permeability butterfly loop ( $\left|\frac{\mu_{IP}}{\mu_{IP}}\right|$  (H)), improvements are proposed in observing the very low-frequency magnetization behaviors and assessing the quasi-static threshold. This work constitutes a leap forward in understanding the magnetic low-frequency behaviors of laminated electric steel sheets.

### **Keywords:**

Quasi-static behavior, magnetic incremental permeability, ferromagnetic hysteresis, frequency dependence.

#### 1 - Introduction

Ferromagnetic laminated cores can be found in many electromagnetic devices used to convert energy through a magnetic way. The electromagnetic conversion efficiency has been continuously improved, fueled by constant signs of progress in understanding ferromagnetic materials. Generations of researchers have dedicated their works to this problem, but questions remain open. The dynamic dependence of the magnetization processes is one of them. Even if the first manuscript on this topic has been published in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century [1][2], the number of recent (last year) publications is impressive [3]-[11]. A plausible explanation for this surge of interest can be found in the evolution of electromagnetic devices: faster, compacter, and more efficient, forcing the magnetic materials over unprecedented dynamic conditions.

The frequency dependence of the ferromagnetic laminated cores has multiple origins: some of them, like the domain wall bulging, the domain wall displacement, and the magnetization rotation, take place at the micrometric scale. Others, like the magnetic field diffusion and the related macroscopic eddy currents, occur at a much larger scale. Each of these behaviors is characterized by its own time constant and its own frequency dependence [12]. They all manifest themselves through the dynamic evolution of the hysteresis cycle. The hysteresis cycle is the standard magnetic signature. It gives the variations of the magnetic induction  $B_a$  (averaged through the cross-section) as a function of the tangent surface magnetic excitation  $H_{surf}$ , assuming both these vector quantities in a collinear situation. Below a given frequency known as the quasi-static threshold, the frequency dependence of the hysteresis cycle becomes insignificant, and the hysteresis shape remains unchanged. According to the well-admitted Statistical Theory of Losses (STL) [13]-[15], beyond the quasi-static threshold (in the upward

direction) under sinusoidal  $B_a$  imposed conditions, the hysteresis area of a laminated electric steel sheet (also known as the magnetic losses W) follows the trajectory depicted in Fig. 1 below:

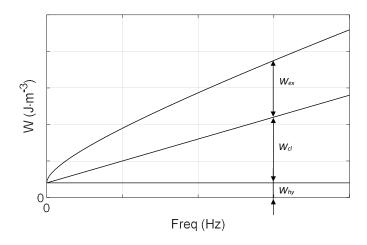


Fig. 1 – Magnetic losses W distribution as a function of the frequency.

In [14], Bertotti proposed the following mathematical expression for the simulation of these magnetic losses:

$$W = W_{h\gamma} + W_{cl} + W_{ex} \tag{1}$$

$$W_{cl} = \frac{\sigma d^2}{12} \int_0^{1/f} \left(\frac{dB_a}{dt}\right)^2 dt \tag{2}$$

$$W_{ex} = \sqrt{\sigma SGV_0} \int_0^{1/f} \left| \frac{dB_a}{dt} \right|^{1.5} dt \tag{3}$$

Here,  $W_{hy}$ ,  $W_{cl}$ ,  $W_{ex}$  are the hysteresis losses, the classic losses, and the excess losses, respectively. G = 0.1356 is a dimensionless coefficient,  $V_0$  a statistical parameter linked to the microstructure, d the lamination thickness, and  $\sigma$  the electrical conductivity. STL is remarkable in many ways, including its applicability to various materials (electrical steel, Armco iron, NiFe alloys ...). Still, STL also shows limitations mostly due to the ignorance of the skin effect, which restricts the efficiency of the method to the low-frequency range ( < to a few hundred hertz in the case of typical electrical steels) [16]. In [17][18], alternative developments were proposed to

improve the magnetic hysteresis frequency dependence simulation. In both cases, the magnetic diffusion equation (Eq. 4) was solved using a 1D finite differences method and replacing the vector quantities by their magnitudes, assuming local B and H in a colinear situation.

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} = \sigma \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt} \rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial z^2} = \sigma \frac{dB}{dt} \tag{4}$$

Where z is the depth direction. Interesting development can be found in [19] for the establishment and resolution of Eq. 4, including the expression of the boundary and initial conditions. The resolution of Eq. 4 in itself is impossible and only goes through the simultaneous resolution of a so-called material law. The material law bonds the discretized  $B_i$  and  $H_i$  locally. Its simplest expression is given below:

$$B_i = \mu_0 \mu_r H_i \tag{5}$$

$$B_a = \frac{\sum B_i}{n} \tag{6}$$

Where n is the space discretization number of nodes. Solving Eq. 4 and 5 simultaneously is relatively straightforward, but the resulting magnetic losses are limited to the classic losses (Eq. 1). Bonding  $B_i$  and  $H_i$  using a frequency-independent hysteresis model (Eq. 7) like the J-A model or the Preisach model [20][21] in their original configuration is another option. It improves the magnetic losses W simulation by adding the hysteresis losses  $W_{hy}$  taking into account but the excess losses term  $W_{ex}$  (Eq. 1) is still missing.

$$B_i = f_{static}(H_i) \tag{7}$$

Due to hysteresis,  $f_{static}$  cannot be expressed analytically. It connects the input and the output of the quasi-static hysteresis model for every simulation step.

A complete consideration of W can eventually be obtained by giving a frequency dependence of the material law. Different options have already been tested for the frequency dependence of this material law [22], eq. 8 below is one of them:

$$\rho\left(\frac{dB_i}{dt}\right) = H_i - f_{static}^{-1}(B_i) \tag{8}$$

but excellent results have been obtained with Eq. 9:

$$\delta \left| \beta \left( \frac{dB_i}{dt} \right) \right|^{0.5} = H_i - f_{static}^{-1}(B_i) \tag{9}$$

Where  $\rho$ ,  $\beta$  can be constant and defined as specimen parameters or expressed as a function of B for an even better accuracy [18][23].  $\delta=\pm 1$  a directional variable [18]. Fig. 2 below gives the low-frequency dependence of W (Fig. 2 – b), and of the coercivity  $H_c$  (Fig. 2 – c) as obtained using Eq. 8 for the material law. For these simulations,  $B_a$  was imposed sinus with a maximum value equal to 1.4 T, and the inverse Jiles-Atherton (J.A.<sup>-1</sup>) model [24] was used for the  $f_{static}^{-1}(B_i)$  contribution. The simulation parameters are given at the top right-hand side, and some of the related hysteresis cycles are shown on the left-hand side. For these parameters, we used those of a typical Non-Oriented (NO) grains electric steel lamination collected in [25]:

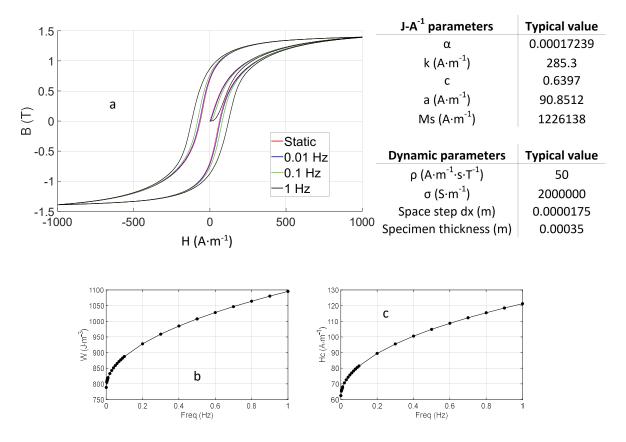


Fig. 2 – a Low-frequency B(H) simulated hysteresis cycles, Fig. 2 – b Hysteresis area variations as a function of the frequency W(f), Fig. 2 – c Coercivity variations as a function of the frequency  $H_c(f)$ .

If we specifically focused on the low-frequency behavior, it is worth noting the frequency effect affecting similarly  $H_c$ , and W. This result is evident on the  $H_c(W)$  curve (Fig. 3) below:

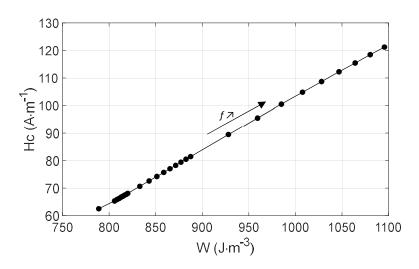


Fig. 3 – Coercivity variations as a function of the hysteresis Hc(<A>) under frequency increasing situation.

The correlation coefficient between  $H_c$ , and W calculated with Matlab® "corr" function is equal to 0.9999, confirming that in the low-frequency range, both indicators can be equally used to evaluate the frequency effect correctly.

Recently, alternative approaches using operators from the framework of the fractional derivative have been proposed for the simulation of the ferromagnetic hysteresis frequency dependence [25]-[29]. Anomalous fractional diffusion or fractional differential equations can be solved separately or associated with the classic methods to reach accurate results on extremely large frequency bandwidths. Time fractional derivative operators are intrinsically long memory dependent, especially well adapted to hysteresis. n the fractional-order constitutes an additional degree of freedom providing flexibility in the simulation process and improving the accuracy.

To conclude with this general overview of the ferromagnetic hysteresis frequency dependence, we can confirm that accurate simulation tools already exist. Still, limitations remain, and discrepancies can be observed for the extreme frequency levels of the working conditions, very low (< 0.1 Hz), and very high (> 1 kHz) frequency range. Multiple plausible reasons can be suggested to explain these limitations, including in the first line the lack of reliable experimental results.

In this manuscript, we especially focus on the very low dynamic dependence of the magnetization behaviors. According to the simulation results depicted in Fig. 2, variations are significant in the low-frequency range, and experimental validations specifically complex to obtain. Classic experimental set-ups for the electric steel magnetic characterization as described by the IEC international standards (IEC 60404 - 1-3) always use B-coils wound around the tested specimen to observe the magnetic Induction B or the magnetic polarisation J [30]-[33]. By

assuming the specimen magnetic state in a demagnetized configuration, a good approximation of B(t) can be obtained through the resolution of Eq. 11 below, where n is the B-coil number of turns,  $\emptyset$  the magnetic flux and S the specimen cross-section:

$$e(t) = n\frac{d\phi}{dt} \tag{10}$$

$$B(t) = \frac{1}{nS} \int_0^t e(t)dt$$
 (11)

$$\mu_{DP}(t) = \frac{dB(t)}{dH(t)} = \frac{1}{nS\frac{dH(t)}{dt}}e(t)$$
(12)

Eq. 12 above gives the time dependence of the Magnetic Differential Permeability (MDP,  $\left|\underline{\mu_{DP}}\right|$ ). Just like the usual hysteresis cycles, plotted as a function of  $H_{surf}$ , it can be used as an indicator of the magnetization frequency dependence.

Eq. 10 gives the electromotive force due to the magnetic flux variations during the magnetization process. In the low-frequency range, extremely weak levels can be reached:  $\approx 20$   $\mu V$  for a 200 turns B-coil at 1 mHz, 1.5 T, and 30 x 0.35 mm cross-section. Such a weak amplitude is complex to manipulate, and a precise estimation of the related hysteresis cycle, magnetic loss, and dynamic dependence almost impossible. In most cases, the weak dynamical contribution under low-frequency levels is ignored, and the quasi-static threshold is set in an overestimated frequency.

In this manuscript, we proposed to refine the low-frequency dependence of the magnetization behaviors by observing them differently. The Magnetic Incremental Permeability (MIP,  $|\underline{\mu_{IP}}|$ ) (defined in subsection 2-a) and more specifically, the MIP butterfly loops  $|\underline{\mu_{IP}}|$  ( $H_{surf}$ ) of NO electric steel specimens are measured at different levels of low-frequency excitation field (from 1 mHz to 1 Hz). These butterfly loops are compared to the real static one

obtained under the constant excitation field of amplitude changed manually. A parallel between the  $\mu_{IP}$  and the  $\mu_{DP}$  frequency dependences is established by comparing them in a frequency window where both these signatures can be measured precisely (from 100 mHz to 1 Hz). The very similar variations of  $H_{c_{\mu IP}}(f)$  and  $H_{c_{\mu DP}}(f)$  frequency dependence of both the coercivities allows us to conclude that the dynamic of the MIP curve follows the same trajectory as the  $B_a(H_{surf})$  one. Based on this notation, the low-frequency dynamics of the tested specimens are estimated precisely by the observation of the accurate  $\left|\frac{\mu_{IP}}{\mu_{IP}}\right|(H)$  curves instead of the usual approximate  $B_a(H_{surf})$  hysteresis loops. Especially, an analytical expression of  $H_{c_{\mu IP}}(f)$  is provided to address quantitatively the very low-frequency magnetization behavior. Then, a precise estimation of the quasi-static threshold is obtained by superimposing this curve to the real static value obtained with constant excitation field bias of amplitude changed manually.

This manuscript is organized as follows:

The first section is dedicated to the description of the magnetic incremental permeability, the experimental set-up, and the tested specimens. The second section to the experimental results and the last section to the discussion and conclusions.

#### 2 – Experimental set-up

#### 2-a) Introduction to magnetic incremental permeability

The superimposition of a slowly varying, high amplitude magnetic excitation field  $H_{DC}$  to a low amplitude, high frequency ECT-type excitation  $H_{AC}$  (pancacke coil impedance monitoring with an LCR meter, as illustrated in Fig. 4) enables the measurement of the MIP signature: the

butterfly loop (evolution of the ECT coil impedance modulus  $|\underline{Z}|$  or of the incremental permeability modulus  $|\underline{\mu_{IP}}|$  as a function of the  $H_{DC}$  magnetic field).

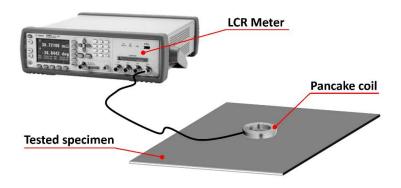


Fig. 4 – Eddy current nondestructive testing of a flat specimen.

The simultaneous magnetic excitation  $H_{DC}+H_{AC}$  generates a major hysteresis cycle trajectory slightly augmented from a large quantity of minor low amplitude asymmetric loops. The raw measurement as provided by the impedance meter gives the complex impedance of the sensor coil  $|\underline{Z}|$  but not the corresponding permeability. However, the well-known and accurate Dodd & Deeds (D&D) simulation method can be used to precisely convert the measured impedance into the corresponding impedance  $|\underline{\mu}|$  [23][34]-[36]. This conversion is not direct and goes through the establishment of a template curve  $\mu_r|Z|$  obtained by simulating the experimental situation considering the permeability as a parameter and testing it within a large window (0 <  $\mu_r$  < 5000). Fig. 5 below depicted the  $\mu_r|Z|$  template curve obtained for the sensor coil described in sub-section 2-b.

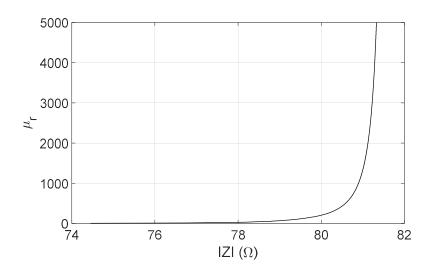


Fig. 5 – Relative permeability as a function of the impedance (template curve) obtained with the D&D simulation (f = 50 kHz)

As  $\mu_r|Z|$  is strictly increasing, the relative permeability associated with a given impedance can be obtained by interpolation.

It is worth mentioning that improved accuracy of the MIP butterfly can be observed by replacing the ECT coil with the combination of a Transmitter/Receiver coils sensor and a lock-in amplifier [37].

MIP has received considerable attention in the NDT&E services of the steel manufacturers and steel end-users industry as it is a remarkable indicator of mechanical residual stresses and strain [38][39]. MIP gives stable indicators well adapted to evaluate the mechanical sub-surface properties of tested specimens and their evolutions (creep, structural health monitoring ...). Finally, MIP can be used on flat and oversized specimens as surrounding coils are not required.

#### 2-b) Experimental set-ups

Extremely low-frequency observation of the magnetization behaviors is complex due to the weak amplitude of the induced electromotive forces. There is an obvious parallel (as verified and

described in the third section of this manuscript) between the frequency dependence of  $\mu_{DP}$ ,  $\mu_{IP}$  and of the hysteresis cycle  $B_a(H_{surf})$ , but the low-frequency behavior is easier to observe through the MIP butterfly signature  $\left|\mu_{IP}\right|$   $(H_{surf})$ .

The first step of this research experimental tests consisted in the simultaneous acquisition of  $B_a(H_{surf})$  and of the MIP butterfly signature: evolution of the sensor coil impedance modulus  $|\underline{Z}|$  or of the incremental permeability  $|\underline{\mu_{IP}}|$  as a function of the tangent magnetic field excitation  $H_{surf}$ . A dedicated experimental set-up has been developed especially for this (Fig. 6 – a). A DC power amplifier (HSA 4014 by NF Corporation) driven by a frequency generator (Agilent 33220A) fed in low frequency current a 200 turns wound coil. This primary coil was associated with a U-shaped large section magnetic yoke for the generation of the  $H_{DC}$  low-frequency magnetic field excitation contribution (see Fig. 6 below). A shunt resistor plugged in series to the wound coil was used to observe precisely the current I and return the magnetic excitation  $H_{surf}$  indirectly. Both these quantities are linked through the Ampère theorem (Eq. 13), where L is supposed to be the mean magnetic path length:

$$H_{surf} \cdot L = N \cdot I \tag{13}$$

*B* was measured with a 500 turns B-coil wound around the tested specimen. The integration step was done numerically. Both drift and magnetic leakages corrections were performed in post-processing.

A pancake coil (Eddy Current Testing (ECT) coil) was placed on the surface of the specimen between the legs of the yoke. The dimensions of the ECT coil were as follows: 3.3 mm inner diameter, 3.95 mm outer diameter, 3.0 mm height, 275 turns, and 0.05 mm wire thickness. The lift-off was 0.39 mm. The coil impedance was measured using an LCR meter (ZM2375, NF

Corporation). All the LCR meter measurements are obtained with an error of less than 1%. The current of the ECT coil was controlled to an effective value of 1 mA using the LCR meter. The frequency of this AC magnetic field excitation was set to 50 kHz. The AC magnetic field contribution was maintained lower than a quarter of the coercivity to ensure reversible AC magnetization changes, i.e., to avoid irreversible domain wall jumps, as recommended by the literature [40]. The resulting data provided by the LCR meter consisted of the sensor coil impedance modulus, phase, real and imaginary parts. A calibration procedure was carried out to take into account the parasitic impedances due to the electrical wires and contacts, and finally, the D&D analytical expression was used to convert the impedance measurements into permeabilities. All the data were recorded using the Labiew® controller.

In parallel to this first configuration, a second one was developed to obtain a  $|\underline{\mu_{IP}}|$  ( $H_{surf}$ ) curve entirely discarded of dynamical effects (Fig. 6 – b). In this second configuration, the B-coil was removed, the power amplifier and the frequency generator were replaced by a regulated power supply. The excitation coil current was controlled manually and measured through the shunt resistor. The MIP butterfly loop was obtained through discrete  $\Delta H$  steps. The impedance measurement was done after a minimum of 50 seconds to avoid any transient phase issue.

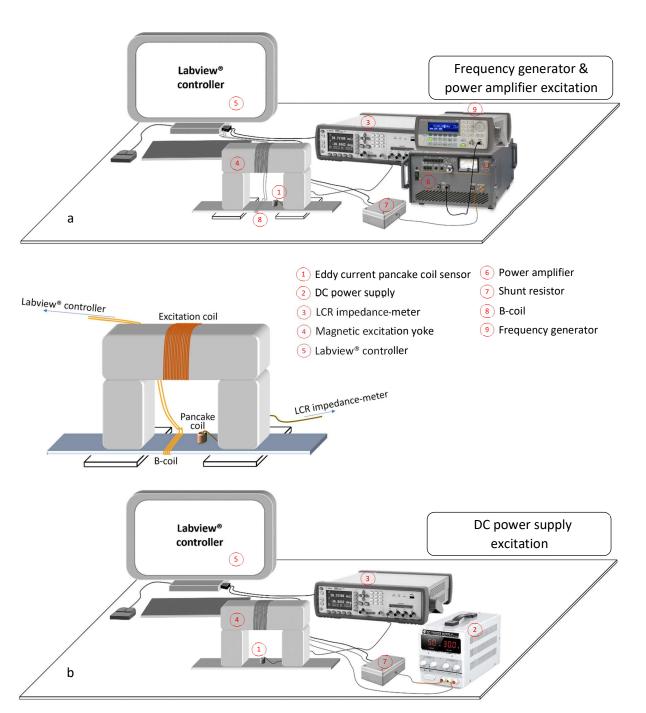


Fig. 6 – a Experimental set-up, first configuration for the simultaneous  $\left|\underline{\mu_{IP}}\right|$   $(H_{surf})$  and  $B_a(H_{surf})$  characterization, Fig. 6 – b Experimental set-up, second configuration for the static  $\left|\underline{\mu_{IP}}\right|$   $(H_{surf})$  characterization.

#### 2-c) Tested specimen

The tested specimens were all coming from the same batch. They were all electric steel, nonoriented grains (NO) FeSi laminations with a 3 wt % silicon content and referenced 35JNE250.

Tab. 1 below gives the physical properties as provided by the manufacturer.

Tab. 1 – Physical properties of the 35JNE250 specimens as provided by the manufacturer.

	Thickness	Density	Resistivity	Core loss - 50 Hz		Min. magnetic flux density at 5000 A.m-1	Min. Lamination Factor
	(mm)	(kg/dm <sup>3</sup> )	(μ <b>Ω.cm</b> )	(W/kg)		(T)	(%)
Grade				1T	1.5T		
35JNE250	0.35	7.65	47	1.02	2.3	1.67	95

	eld point N/mm²)		Strength nm2	Elongation %		Hardness HV (1 kg)
L	С	L	С	L	С	
349	351	468	482	21	22	182

<sup>&</sup>quot;L" and "C" means the specimens cut parallel and traverse to the rolling direction, respectively.

#### 3 – Experimental results

Fig. 7 below depicted the  $|\underline{Z}|(H)$  MIP butterfly loops measured with the Fig. 6 – a experimental set-up. H had a sinusoidal shape, and tests were done from 1 mHz to 1 Hz. The frequency effect manifests itself by a shift of the coercivity (Fig. 7), the position of the peak read on the  $H_{surf}$  axis and by an enlargement of the butterfly curve area and of the related indicators (curve width at 25% of  $\mu_{MAX}$ : DH25 $\mu$ , 50% of  $\mu_{MAX}$ : DH50 $\mu$  and 75% of  $\mu_{MAX}$ : DH75 $\mu$  as observed classically by the MIP NDT users [41]).

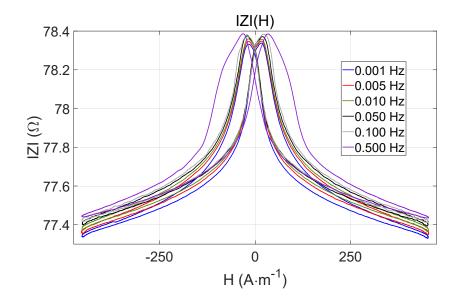


Fig. 7  $|\underline{Z}|(H)$  experimental loops with  $H_{DC}$  frequency varying from 1 mHz to 500 mHz.

Fig. 8 shows the related  $\mu_{r_{IP}}(H)$  butterfly loops obtained once the interpolation process described in subsection 2-a is over. As envisaged,  $|\underline{Z}|(H)$  and  $\mu_{r_{IP}}(H)$  butterfly loops exhibit very similar frequency dependences.

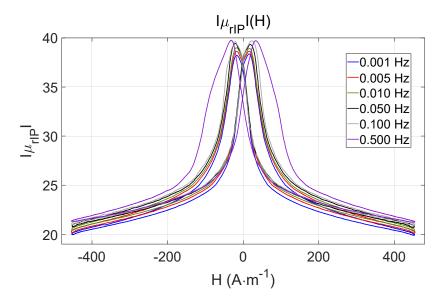
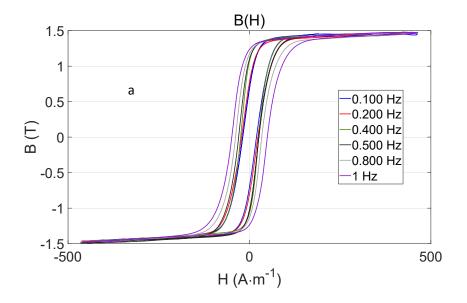


Fig. 8  $\,\mu_{r_{IP}}(H)$  experimental loops with  $H_{DC}$  frequency varying from 1 mHz to 500 mHz.

In the following figure (Fig. 9 – a), the  $B_a(H_{surf})$  hysteresis cycles are plotted from 100 mHz to 1 Hz. The frequency effect clearly manifests itself by an enlargement of the hysteresis loop area and by an increase of the coercivity. Such observations are confirmed by the quasi constant increasing slope of Fig. 9 – b and 9 – c, where the hysteresis loss W and the coercivities  $H_c$  are plotted as a function of the frequency f. It is worth noting that the hysteresis loss measurements (Fig. 9 – c) are higher than the manufacturer observations (350 J.m<sup>-3</sup> at 1.5 T 50 Hz). These discrepancies are mostly due to the difference between the magnetic excitation status (B imposed vs H imposed). Many additional sources of errors can justify such divergence, including the temperature, pressure, or deviating behaviors between specimen coming from different batches.



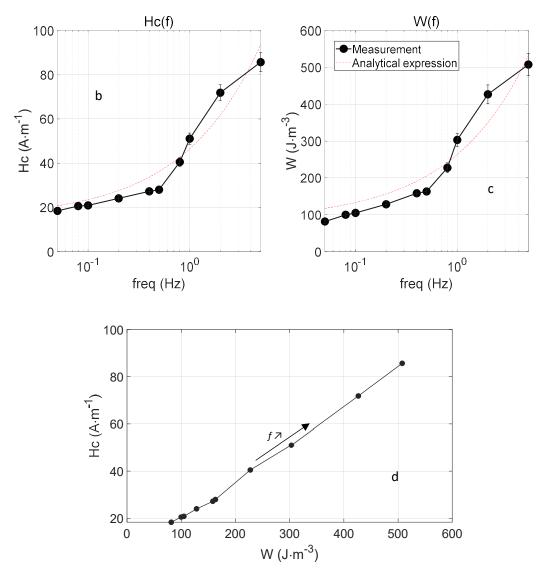


Fig. 9 – a B(H) experimental loops with H frequency varying from 100 mHz to 1 Hz, Fig. 9 – b Related coercivities Hc(f), Fig. 9 – c Related hysteresis loss W(f) (hysteresis loop area). Fig. 9 – d Coercivity as a function of the hysteresis loss Hc(W).

It is interesting to observe the very close variations of  $H_c(f)$  and W(f) (Fig. 9 b, c, d), the correlation coefficient calculated with Matlab® "corr" function is equal to 0.9988. It confirms, as noticed in simulation (Fig. 3) that both indicators can be used to evaluate the frequency effect.

In the following figure, Fig. 10, the frequency dependence of  $H_{c_{\mu DP}}(f)$  and  $H_{c_{\mu IP}}(f)$  is compared. The coercivities observed from both the permeability vs frequency curves show very similar trends in the [50 mHz - 1Hz] range, where both indicators can be observed correctly using

both the experimental set-ups. This observation confirms our expectations and the parallel between the frequency dependence of the MIP and the MDP. It also ensures that the very low-frequency behavior can be observed using the MIP butterfly loop.

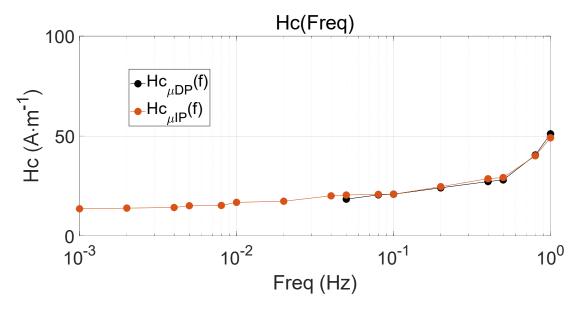


Fig. 10 Frequency dependence of the MDP and of the MIP coercivity.

The following result (Fig. 11) shows the MIP butterfly loops ( $|\underline{Z}|(H)$ ,  $\mu_{r_{IP}}(H)$ ) obtained under full static conditions (i.e., measured with Fig. 2 – b experimental set-up). The static coercivity read on this curve is slightly larger than 12 A·m<sup>-1</sup>.

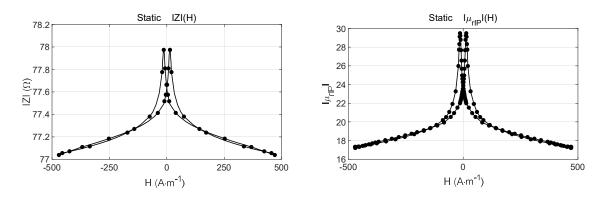


Fig. 11 Static  $|\underline{Z}|(H)$ ,  $\mu_{r_{IP}}(H)$  butterfly loops as measured using Fig. 6 – b experimental set-up.

The difference in terms of amplitude between Fig. 7, Fig. 8 at f=0.001 Hz and Fig. 11 – a, b can be explained by the transient phase observable on the evolution of  $|\underline{Z}|$  for each  $H_{DC}$  step and illustrated in Fig. 12 below:

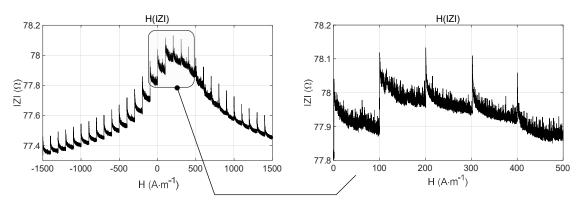


Fig. 12 Transient phase observation under increasing  $\mathcal{H}_{DC}$  steps.

In the experimental set-up description, we mentioned a wait of 50 seconds after every  $H_{DC}$  field variation and before any measurement to ensure a complete end of this transient phase. Under sinus excitation and even in the low-frequency range, we can consider the magnetic material as in a permanently transient regime, high enough to generate a small difference with the real static curve. It is interesting to observe in Fig. 12, the additional high-frequency contribution close to the coercivity probably due to some Barkhausen noise activity.

By superimposing the coercivity read on the static MIP curve to the results show in Fig. 10 as illustrated below (Fig. 13), the quasi-static threshold can precisely be estimated. In the case of the 35JNE250 specimens tested in this work, this threshold is set equal to 4 mHz.

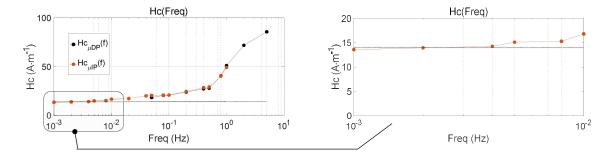


Fig. 13 Coercivities superimposition for the extraction of the quasi-static threshold.

Now, assuming the hysteresis losses as a function of the frequency curve W(f) as following the exact same trajectory as the coercivity read on the  $H_{c_{\mu IP}}(f)$  curves (Fig. 13), the low-frequency range dependence of the magnetic losses can be estimated precisely through an analytical function (Eq. 14 and 15 below):

$$f \in [0.001 - 0.1] Hz$$

$$Ec(f) = Ec_o(1 + 2.1f^{0.57})$$
 (14)

$$W(f) = W_0(1 + 2.1f^{0.57}) (15)$$

Where  $Ec_o$  and  $W_o$  are the static values of the coercivity and hysteresis losses, respectively.

#### 4 - Conclusion and discussion

The dynamic of the magnetization processes is complex. It relies on multiple interacting phenomena happening at different spatial scales and of different time constants. The very-low-frequency magnetic behaviors (weakly above the quasi-static threshold) are rarely observed and evaluated. The main reason for this comes from the weak amplitude of the electromotive forces induced in the B-coil sensors of the classic characterization set-ups. In this work, we propose to address the low-frequency behavior of a nonoriented grain electric steel lamination by using magnetic incremental permeability experimental observations. In the first step of this work, we aimed at establishing the parallel and the similarities of the B(H), the  $\left|\underline{\mu_{DP}}\right|$  (H) and the  $\left|\underline{\mu_{IP}}\right|$  (H) frequency dependences in the limited low-frequency range where all the properties can be observed correctly. The very-low-frequency dependence of the  $\left|\underline{\mu_{IP}}\right|$  (H) is proposed next, and a comparison between the real static result obtained under constant  $H_{DC}$  bias is used to set the

quasi-static threshold precisely. In the case of the 35JNE250 tested in this study, this frequency threshold is equal to 4 mHz. It is also interesting to analyze the scaling relation (Eq. 15) which has been proposed for the frequency of W in the low-frequency range, especially the power factor equal to 0.57, confirming a balance between the classic and the excess losses.

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