# Improved full-range equivalent circuit and energy balance of the dynamo type flux pump

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### Wednesday, June 23, 2021



8<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Numerical Modelling of High Temperature Superconductors 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Nancy, France

# Outline

- Motivation and case study
  - ✓ Geometric parameters, assumptions, types of load
- The FEM model of the FP based on the Volume Integral Equations approach
  - Discretization and solving system, FEM based equivalent circuit, Energy balance and efficiency
- Numerical results, equivalent circuits and their limits
  - ✓ Operation with impressed DC current V-I characteristic and energy balance
  - ✓ Partial and complete equivalent circuit
  - Static and transient analysis (charging of RL load)
- Conclusion

### HTS (dynamo) flux pump – some references

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## HTS dynamo flux pump technology - status and applications

- A DC voltage is produced at the terminals of a dynamo flux pump device, in which a superconducting tape is exposed to a travelling magnetic field produced by a permanent magnet (or more) that cyclically passes on it.
- This counterintuitive and widely debated effect has been widely confirmed by experiments.



• HTS (dynamo) Flux pump enables the contactless energization and current maintainment (resistive voltage drop compensation) of superconducting magnets system

O Tuvdensuren, H J Sung, B S Go, T T Le, M Park and I K Yu, Structural design and heat load analysis of a flux pump-based HTS module coil for a large-scale wind power generator, Journal of Physics: Conference Series, Volume 1054, (ISS2017)



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### The case study

The considered flux pump consists of a 12 mm width HTS wire exposed to a rotating PM

An external two-terminal component (or load) is connected to the terminals of the HTS wire



3D view of the flux pump connected to the external component.

The generator convention is assumed for the flux pump: P = V I



### Simulated operating conditions:



### **RL load**



 $L_{\text{ext}} = 0$  $R_{\text{ext}} = 0$ short circuit operation of the FP

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Schematic 2D section view of the flux pump

Same geometry and data as in *M. Ainslie, et al. «A new benchmark problem for electromagnetic modelling of superconductors: the high-Tc superconducting dynamo,» Superconductor Science and Technology, August 2020.* 

- A constant critical current density Jc, independent of the magnetic field B, is considered ([14], [19])
- The dependence of Jc on B may significantly improve the performance of the flux pump, though leaving the general trends and findings unchanged ([13], [15], [18], [20])

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## The FEM model of the FP based on the Volume Integral Equations (VIE) approach

• Faraday's for moving field

$$\mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}^{\mathrm{J}}}{\partial t} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{PM}} - \nabla \varphi$$

(term  $v \times B^{PM}$  is equivalent to  $\partial A^{PM} / \partial t$  used in other numerical approaches)

- Ends effects are neglected 2D Cartesian approximation is exploited
- The HTS layer is divided in a finite number of rectangular elements. The effect of substrate and shunt materials the tape are neglected
- The E-J power law is assumed for modeling the superconductor

$$\rho(J)J = -\frac{\partial A^{J}}{\partial t} - \omega \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{PM}} - \nabla \varphi$$

$$F(J)^{n-1}$$

with 
$$\rho(J) = \frac{E_0}{J_c} \left(\frac{J}{J_c}\right)^n$$

• The usual weighted residual approach is used for obtaining the finite dimensional solution:



A. Morandi and M. Fabbri, «A unified approach to the power law and the critical state modeling of superconductors in 2D», 2015, SUST 28(2)

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Solving system (undetermined)  $\mathbf{M} \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{I}_{w} = -\mathbf{R} \mathbf{I}_{w} - \mathbf{U} - \mathbf{1} \frac{V}{I^{PM}}$ 

currents  $I_{w}$  of the wires of the

voltage V across the flux pump

**Unknowns:** 

subdivision

8

$$m_{hk} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{S_h} \int_{S_k} \ln \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^2} \, dS' \, dS$$
$$r_{hh} = \rho \left(\frac{I_h}{S_h}\right) \frac{1}{S_h}, \quad r_{hh} = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad h \neq k$$
$$u_h = -\omega \frac{1}{S_h} \int_{S_h} \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{B}^{\text{PM}} \, dS$$

#### Finite element based equivalent circuit of the flux pump



**Algebraic-differential** 

Differential

solving system

Determined

### **Energy Balance**

$$\rho J \mathbf{i}_{z} = -\frac{\partial A^{J} \mathbf{i}_{z}}{\partial t} - (\omega \mathbf{i}_{z} \times \mathbf{r}) \times \mathbf{B}^{PM} - \nabla \varphi \mathbf{i}_{z}$$
  

$$\rightarrow \rho J^{2} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{2} J A^{J}\right) - \left(J \mathbf{i}_{z} \times \mathbf{B}^{PM}\right) \times \mathbf{r} \cdot \omega \mathbf{i}_{z} - J \nabla \varphi$$
  

$$\rightarrow -\omega l^{PM} \int_{S} \left(J \mathbf{i}_{z} \times \mathbf{B}^{PM}\right) \times \mathbf{r} dS = VI + l^{PM} \int_{S} \rho J^{2} dS + l^{PM} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{S} \frac{1}{2} J A^{J} dS$$

discrete equivalent

$$\omega l^{PM} \sum_{h} I_{h} \left( x_{h} B_{x,h}^{PM} + y_{h} B_{y,h}^{PM} \right) = V I + \sum_{h} \rho_{h} \frac{l^{PM}}{S} I_{h}^{2} + \frac{d}{dt} \left( l^{PM} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{h} \sum_{k} m_{hk} I_{h} I_{k} \right)$$

### Instant energy balance of the Flux pump

dissipated

power

$$T\omega = VI$$

with  $T = l^{PM} \int_{S} (J \mathbf{i}_z \times \mathbf{B}^{PM}) \times \mathbf{r} dS$ 

Mechanical power supplied to the rotor

Electric power delivered to the load



**Mechanical torque** of the rotor

Cycle efficiency of the flux pump

 $\eta = \frac{E}{E_{\text{maxbanical}}} = \frac{E}{E + E_{\text{ioule}}}$ 

$$-\int_{t}^{t+T} \omega T \, dt' = \int_{t}^{t+T} VI \, dt' + \int_{t}^{t+T} \omega T \, dt'$$
  

$$E_{\text{mech}}, \text{ mechanical energy} \text{ Be, Electric energy} \text{ delivered to the load } E_{\text{joule}}, \text{ disspitaed} \text{ energy}$$

**Energy balance in one cycle** 

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# Numerical results / electromotive force ( $v \times B^{PM}$ ) in one cycle



- electromotive force  $v \times B^{\rm PM}$  has zero average at all points and reaches about 150 mV peak at the middle of the tape
- term  $v \times B^{\rm PM}$  is coincident with  $\partial A^{\rm PM} / \partial t$  evaluated via numerical derivative



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## Numerical results / Terminal voltage of the FP at various impressed DC currents





- At all impressed currents, the terminal voltage is comprised between the min. and max. emf at any instant
- The voltage has non-zero DC component in one cycle, as a result of the distributed emf combined with the non-linear resistivity of the HTS
- The DC voltage can be positive or negative depending on the DC current. A monotone decrease of the voltage with increasing current is observed at all instants. As a result, a monotone decrease of the DC voltage with the impressed current is obtained

## Numerical results / Effect of rotation and V<sub>dc</sub>-I<sub>dc</sub> characteristic of the flux pump



### The maximum current I<sub>0</sub> (34.2 A) for which power generation is possible is much lower than the critical current I<sub>c</sub> of the tape (283 A).

• Supplying power to a load requiring a current greater than I<sub>0</sub> is not possible. For fixed air gap and angular velocity, I<sub>0</sub> is an intrinsic parameter of the flux pump and does not depend on the load connects to it.

### The effects of the rotation are:

- Shifting the VI curve into the first quadrant allowing power generation
- Increasing the power to be supplied for impressing a DC current out of the generation mode (power must be supplied which is converted, along with th mechanical one, in AC loss into the tape)



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## **Numerical results / Energy balance**



- Monotone trends (unidirectional transfer) are observed for mechanical energy, dissipated energy and energy exchanged with the external component
- Mechanical energy is always positive. No energy can be extracted from the rotor (motor behavior).
- The energy transferred to the external components can be both positive or negative (generator or the dissipative mode), depending on the DC current. In dissipative mode the energy absorbed by the external component is converted, along with the mechanical energy of the rotor, into heat
- Energy exchanged with the external component is much lower than the dissipation

#### Energy terms of the flux pump during ten cycles for different DC current

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### Average power in one cycle for different values of the DC impressed current and corresponding efficiency



- A positive average power is delivered to the external component in the range  $[0 I_0]$ .
- The mechanical power is always positive. The flux pump only never acts in the motor mode.
- Only a small part of the mechanical power is transferred to the external load. This is due to the inherent dissipation associated with the induced current, responsible for the DC voltage, occurring also in no load conditions.
- As a result, a maximum efficiency of 0.39% is reached at 17.1 A (I<sub>0</sub> /2).

It must be reminded that accounting for the dependence of Jc on the *B* field improveds the absolute performance f the FP, while leaving all presnete conclusion and tresnds uncehanged.

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## Partial and complete empirical equivalent circuits

• A monotone decrease of the voltage with increasing current is observed at all instants

V(t,I) = V(t,0) - R(t,I)I



A linear decrease, confirmed in experiments, of the average terminal voltage on the operating current in the interval ±100 A



We assume that, provided that the current *I* is in the linear interval  $\pm 100$  A, the constant effective resistance  $R_{effective}$  determines the difference between the instantaneous terminal voltage and the no load voltage



partial empirical equivalent circuit of the flux pump A TIME DEPENDENT CIRCUIT ALLOWING TRANSIENT SIMULATIONS

- Replacing R(t,I) with a constant R<sub>effective</sub> is a merely heuristic assumption, validated by comparison with FEM results
- It is pointed out that the equivalent circuit is supplied by the time dependent open circuit voltage V(t,0) and not by the open circuit voltage V<sub>average</sub> as it is usually assumed

• The partial equivalent circuit is not able to reproduce the dissipation that occurs in case of open circuit operation





AND TAKING LOSS INTO ACCOUNT

- The Thevenin equivalent of the complete empirical equivalent circuit coincides with the partial one (they are distinguishable from the external load )
- Both the partial and complete empirical equivalent circuits can be equivalently used for time domain analysis, provided that the linear limit is not exceeded. The complete equivalent circuit must be used for taking the loss into account.



- The current ripple during the whole charging is accurately calculated by means of the equivalent circuit
- The flux pump is completely characterized by means of:



 Once these parameters are defined any simulation can be accomplished provided that the linear limit is not is not exceeded

### **RL** load charging transient calculated by means of the equivalent circuit

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### Terminology: "short circuit operation" versus "current producing zero average voltage at the terminals"



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### Energy behavior: Average power in a cycle for different values of DC current and corresponding efficiency





- In agreement with experiment, the calculated average power in one cycle at the terminals follows a parabolic dependence and is maximum at  $I=I_0/2$ .
- Efficiency too is maximum at *I*=*I*<sub>0</sub>/2.
   Flux pump should be designed to operate at this rated current
- A drastic increase of efficiency is obtained if the dependence of *J*c on *B is* considered.

# **Findings and conclusion**

- In dynamo FP a significant part of the supplied mechanical power is inherently converted in heat due to overcritical currents induced to produce the DC voltage.
- The generator mode can only be achieved in a restricted range of current, independent on the load. In no conditions the FP can operate in motor mode.
- Maximum power transfer and efficiency are reached at the middle of the intrinsic generator range ( $I_0/2$ )
- An intrinsic resistance must be added to the equivalent circuit to take loss into account
- The equivalent circuit can be used for time domain simulations of any type, provided that the current is in the linear limit







