Modeling of superconductors interacting with non-linear magnetic materials: 3D variational principles, force-free effects and applications

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What is the optimum enery loss in superconductors?

Two tapes connected at the ends



For superconductors:



the highest possible!

Superconductors optimize the entropy production, not the loss!

Superconducors can be modelled as an optimization problem

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Talk available at **zenodo.org** Citable DOI

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General variational principle Power applications 3D modelling Non-linear magnetic materials

Flux-free effects cause anisotropic E(J)



Anisotropic power law:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{J}) = E_c \left[\frac{J_{\parallel}^2}{J_{c\parallel}^2} + \frac{J_{\perp}^2}{J_{c\perp}^2} \right]^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \cdot \left(\frac{J_{\parallel}}{J_{c\parallel}} \frac{J_{\perp}}{J_{c\parallel}} \mathbf{e}_{\parallel} + \frac{J_{\perp}}{J_{c\perp}} \mathbf{e}_{\perp} \right)$$

A Badia, C Lopez DOI: 10.1088/0953-2048/28/2/024003

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Minimum Magnetic Entropy Production (MEMEP)

Equations

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{J}) = -\frac{\Delta \mathbf{A}}{\Delta t} - \nabla \phi$$
 for given $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{J})$ relation $abla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$

are the Euler-Lagrange equations of



Minimum Magnetic Entropy Production (MEMEP)

You find J by minimizing the functional

$$L = \int_{V} dV \left[\frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{J} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{A}_{J}}{\Delta t} + \Delta \mathbf{J} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{A}_{a}}{\Delta t} + U(\mathbf{J}) + \mathbf{\nabla} \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{J} \right]$$
$$U(\mathbf{J}) = \int_{0}^{\mathbf{J}} d\mathbf{J}' \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{J})'$$

Cross-sectional models:

if you keep the current constrains, you can ignore the scalar potential

E Pardo et al. DOI: 10.1088/0953-2048/28/4/044003

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General variational principle

Power applications

Transformers

Magnets

3D modelling

Non-linear magnetic materials

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General variational principle Power applications Transformers Magnets 3D modelling Non-linear magnetic materials

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Transformer with Roebel cable in low-voltage winding

1 MVA 11 kV/415 V 3 phase transformer **Robinson Research Institute in Wellington and industrial partners**



Roebel cable solenoid



AC loss agrees with model

E Pardo et al. DOI: 10.1088/0953-2048/28/11/114008



General variational principle

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Transformers

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- Real geometry
- Continuous approximation
- Screening current induced field

3D modelling

Non-linear magnetic materials

General variational principle

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3D modelling

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Example winding

26 pancakes400 turns per pancake

pancake 1 radius=50 mm pancake 26

more than 10000 turns

Anisotropic field dependent J_c



Anisotropic field dependent J_c



Important screening currents



Detailed current density at all turns



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General variational principle

Power applications

- Transformers
- Magnets
 - Real geometry
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3D modelling

Non-linear magnetic materials

Continuous approximation

Pancake coil approximated by taking:

Less turns

No separation between turns



L Prigozhin, V Sokolovsky DOI: 10.1088/0953-2048/24/7/075012

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Practically the same results but faster!



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We computed up to 40000 turns



10000 turns: **2.7 hours** 40000 turns: **2 days**

fulfills requirements for high-field magnets

H W Weijers et al. 2014 IEEE TAS S Awaji et al. 2014 IEEE TAS

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Up to 500 000 elements in the superconductor



Computing time scales as second power

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Screening currents are important



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Screening currents are important

E Pardo arXiv:1602.05433 **Stationary state** after several cycles current time 0.8 0.6 0.4 magnetic field 0.2 B from at bore center screening 0 currents [T] -0.2 -0.4 -0.6 50 100 150 200 250 0 current [A]

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The variational method is efficient for large number of elements

Promising for 3D modelling

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General variational principle Power applications 3D modelling Non-linear magnetic materials General variational principle Power applications 3D modelling Novel variational principle Force-free effects in films 3D bulk

Non-linear magnetic materials

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Novel 3D variacional principle

M Kapolka, E Pardo arXiv:1605.09610

 $\mathbf{J} = \nabla \times \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{current potential}$

 $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{T}}$ is the minimization variable

$$L = \int_{V} \mathrm{d}V \left[\frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{J} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{A}_{J}}{\Delta t} + \Delta \mathbf{J} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{A}_{a}}{\Delta t} + U(\mathbf{J}) \right]$$

or

$$L = \int_{V} \mathrm{d}V \left[\frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{T} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{B}_{J}}{\Delta t} + \Delta \mathbf{T} \cdot \frac{\Delta \mathbf{B}_{a}}{\Delta t} + U(\nabla \times \mathbf{T}) \right]$$

You can forget about scalar potential!

Still easy to take transport currents into account

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Thin surface



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Model agrees with thin film formula

Power-law exponent **1000** Tape midplane

Applied field: 20 mT



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Flux-free effects in thin films



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Flux-free effect increases J_c

Perpendicular field component: 23 mT Film top view





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Asymmetric current saturation

Perpendicular field component: **50 mT** Film **top view**





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Non-linear magnetic materials

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3D bulk

Frequency: 50 Hz sinusoidal Power-law exponent: 100 $J_c = 10^8 \text{ A/m}^2$



Good resolution for 3D



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B_a

3D current flow



Vertical component is important



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Vertical component is important



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3D variational principle for the magnetic material

Reversible non-linear materials

Equation



is the Euler-Lagrange equation of

$$L_M = \int_V dV \left[\underbrace{U(\mathbf{M})}_{V} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_M \cdot \mathbf{M} - \mathbf{B}_a \cdot \mathbf{M} - \mathbf{B}_J \cdot \mathbf{M} \right]$$
$$U(\mathbf{M}) = \int_0^{\mathbf{M}} d\mathbf{M}' \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{M}')$$

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3D variational principle for the magnetic material

$$L_{M} = \int_{V} dV \left[\underbrace{U(\mathbf{M})}_{V} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_{M} \cdot \mathbf{M} - \mathbf{B}_{a} \cdot \mathbf{M} - \mathbf{B}_{J} \cdot \mathbf{M} \right]$$
$$U(\mathbf{M}) = \int_{0}^{\mathbf{M}} d\mathbf{M}' \cdot \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{M}')$$

Problem restricted to the magnetic material volume

Functionals for magnetic material and superconductor solved iteratively

Superconductor with non-linear magnetic substrate



Magnetic substrate saturates in part of the coil

100 turns, 50% of critical current



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Conclusions

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Cross-sectional variational method

Results agree with experiments: transformer

Models coils with more than 10 000 turns for real cross-section 40 000 turns for continuous approximation

Up to half million elements in the superconductor

High potential for 3D modelling

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3D modelling

Novel variational principle in T formulation

Takes force-free effects into account

Thin films:

Tilted magnetic field changes current patterns

Bulk samples:

3D current penetration

Significant vertical component due to shape effects

Full power of the method still not achieved!

Non-linear magnetic material

3D variational principle

Restricts to the material volume

Modelled coils with magnetic substrate for one hundred turns

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Variational methods are suitable for power and magnet applications

Thank you for your attention!

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Would you like to know more?

Talk available at zenodo.org

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AC loss in test coils agrees with experiments

E Pardo et al. DOI: 10.1088/0953-2048/28/4/044003





Magnetic field dependent J_c

Magnetic field dependent power-law exponent

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Thin surface

Frequency: **50 Hz** sinusoidal Power-law exponent: **30** $J_c = 10^{10} \text{ A/m}^2$



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Jc(B) dependence



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Power loss

