

MAGNETICS

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1 Magnetic and electric circuit analogy

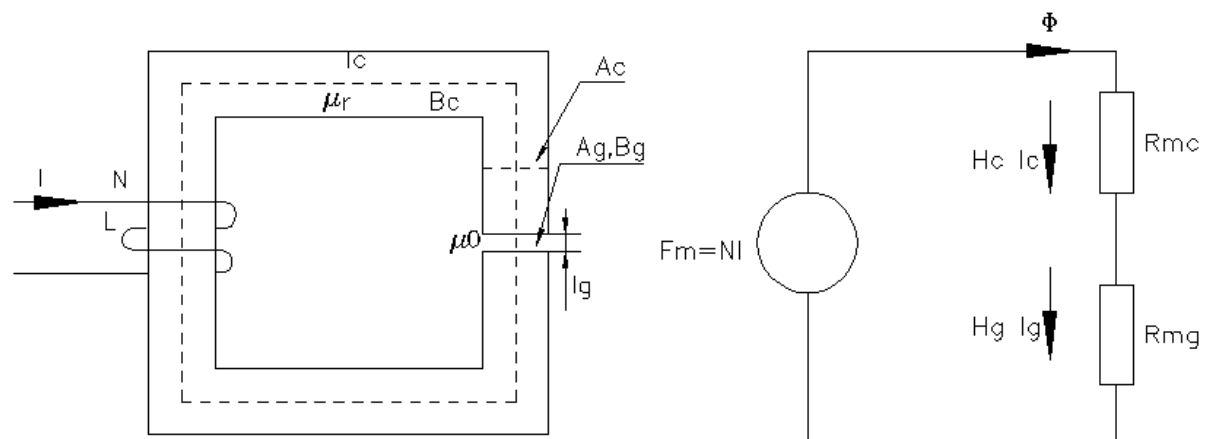


Figure 1: Magnetic circuit

I = current in winding (A)

F_m = Magnetomotive force (A)

N = Number of turns (unitless)

L = Inductance of winding (H)

μ_0 = Permeability of vacuum, $4\pi \cdot 10^{-7}$ (H/m)

μ_r = Relative permeability of material (unitless)

R_{mc} = Reluctance of the magnetic circuit in core ($A/V_s = 1/H$)

R_{mg} = Reluctance of the magnetic circuit in air gap ($A/V_s = 1/H$)

l_c = Length of magnetic circuit in core (m)

l_g = Length of magnetic circuit in air gap (m)

A_c = Cross section of magnetic core (m^2)

A_g = Cross section of air gap (m^2)

V_c = Core volume (m^3)

V_g = Air gap volume (m^3)

B_c = Flux density in core (T)

B_g = Flux density in air gap (T)

H_c = Magnetic field strength in core (A/m)

H_g = Magnetic field strength in air gap (A/m)

E = Energy (J)

$$R_{mc} = \frac{l_c}{\mu_0 \mu_r A_c}$$

$$R_{mg} = \frac{l_g}{\mu_0 A_g}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{F_m}{R_m} = \frac{NI}{\frac{l_c}{\mu_0 \mu_r A_c} + \frac{l_g}{\mu_0 A_g}}$$

$$L = \frac{N^2}{R_m}$$

$$B_c = \frac{\Phi}{A_c}$$

$$B_g = \frac{\Phi}{A_g}$$

$$H_c = \frac{B_c}{\mu_0 \mu_r}$$

$$H_g = \frac{B_g}{\mu_0}$$

1.1 Energy of the magnetic field

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \iiint BH dV = \frac{1}{2} \iiint \frac{B^2}{\mu} dV$$

Energy density

$$E_d = \frac{B^2}{2\mu} \left[\frac{J}{m^3} \right]$$

Energy density in core:

$$E_{dc} = \frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0 \mu_r}$$

Energy density in air gap:

$$E_{dg} = \frac{B_g^2}{2\mu_0}$$

Energy stored in core:

$$E_c = E_{dc} V_c = \frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0 \mu_r} A_c l_c$$

Energy stored in air gap:

$$E_g = E_{dg} V_g = \frac{B_g}{2\mu_0} A_g l_g$$

If A_g can be assumed to be equal to A_c (field at gap does not “spread out”)

$$\frac{E_g}{E_c} = \frac{\frac{B_g}{2\mu_0} A_g}{\frac{B_c}{2\mu_0\mu_r} A_c} = \mu_r \frac{l_g}{l_c} \gg 1$$

Because μ_r is large for ferromagnetic materials (thousands), most of the energy is stored in the air gap. Also, magnetic field is stronger by μ_r in the air gap (assumed flux density is constant, $B_c=B_g$):

$$\frac{H_g}{H_c} = \frac{\frac{B_g}{\mu_0}}{\frac{B_c}{\mu_0\mu_r}} = \mu_r$$

1.2 Energy stored in an inductance

p = Power supplied by the source

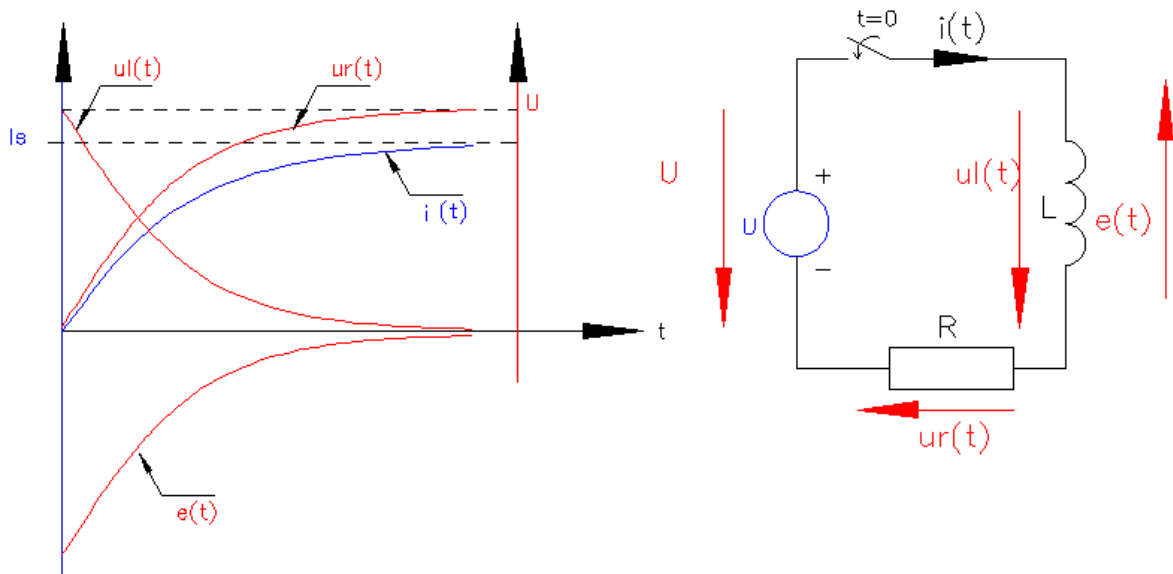
p_L = Power of inductor L

p_R = Power of resistor R

u_L = Voltage across inductor L

I_s = Stationary state current

Switch closes at $t=0$.



Power p supplied by the source:

$$p(t) = u(t)i(t) = p_L + p_R = u_L \cdot i + i^2 R$$

$$u_L = L \frac{di}{dt}$$

$$p(t) = L \frac{di}{dt} i + i^2 R$$

Because

$$p = \frac{dE}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{Li \cdot di + i^2 R dt}{dt} \rightarrow dE = Li \, di + i^2 R dt$$

$$\int_0^E dE = \int_0^{I_s} Li \, di + \int_0^t R i^2 dt$$

The first integral represents the energy stored in the inductance

$$\int_0^E dE = \frac{1}{2} L \int_0^{I_s} i^2$$

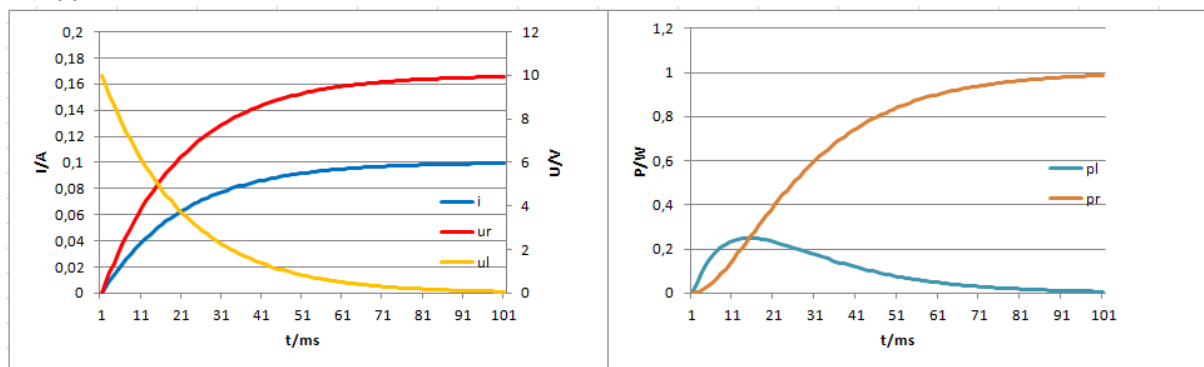
$$E = \frac{1}{2} L I_s^2$$

Example:

U=10V

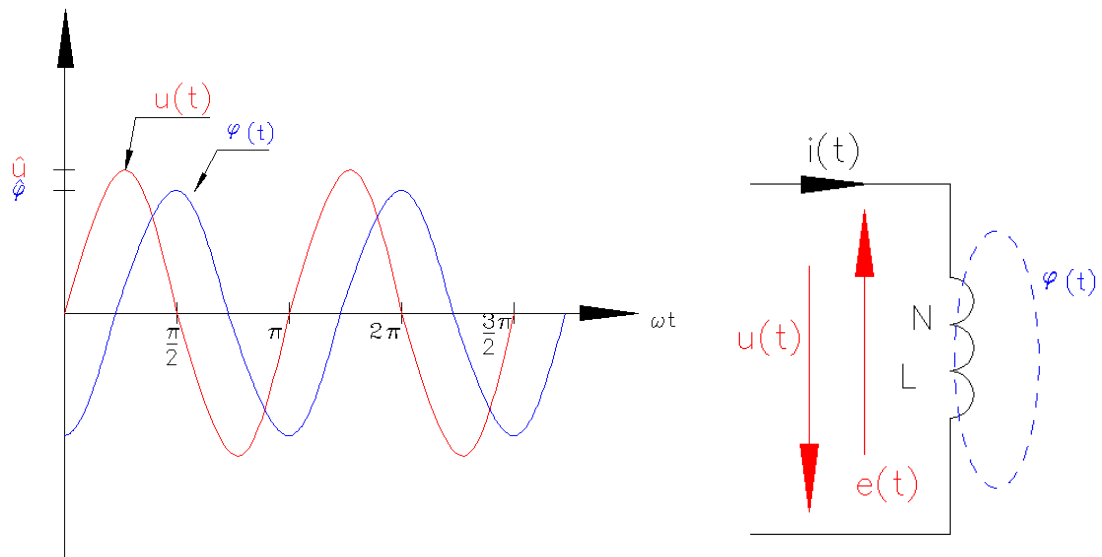
L=2H

R=100 Ω



$$E = \frac{1}{2} * 2Vs/A \left(\frac{10V}{100V/A} \right)^2 = 0,01Ws$$

1.3 EMF equation



Assume

$$u(t) = -e(t) = \hat{u} \sin(\omega t),$$

$$e(t) = -N \frac{d\Phi}{dt} \rightarrow u = N \frac{d(\hat{\phi} \sin(\omega t))}{dt} = N\omega\hat{\phi} \cos(\omega t)$$

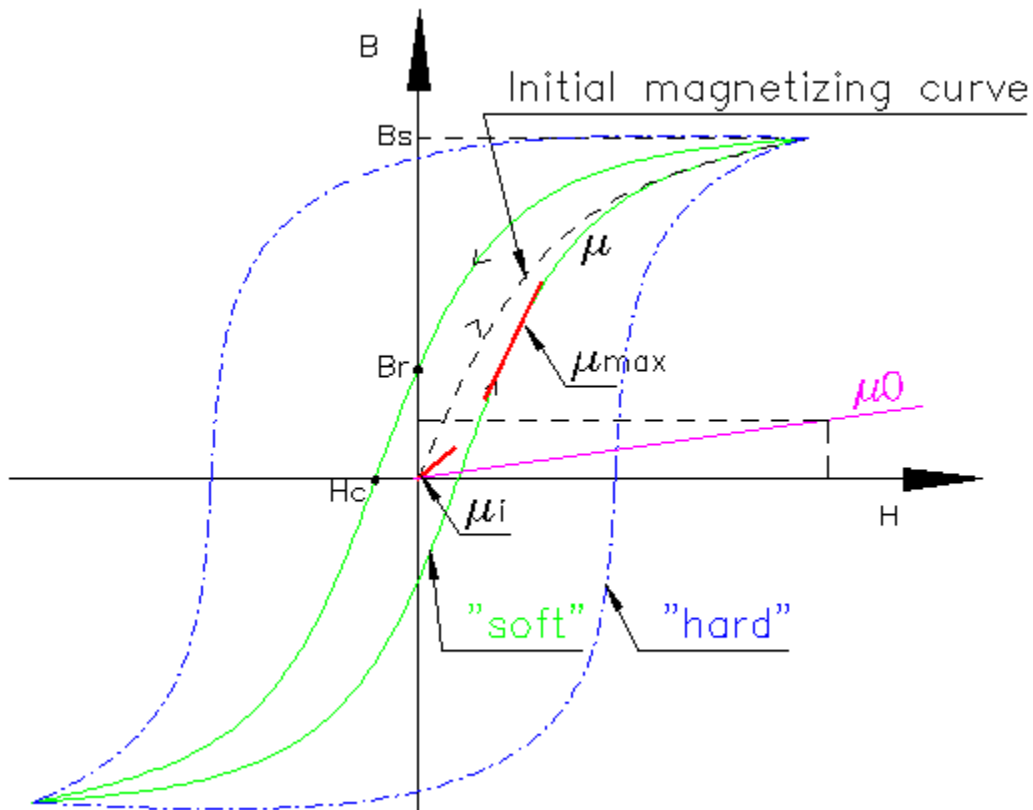
Maximum instant value of u is when $\cos(\omega t) = 1$, i.e. $\omega t=0$;

$$\hat{u} = N\omega\hat{\phi} = 2\pi f N \hat{\phi}$$

Because $u(t)$ is $\hat{u} \sin(\omega t)$, RMS- value of u is $U = \frac{\hat{u}}{\sqrt{2}}$

$$U = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{2}} f N \hat{\phi} \approx 4,44 f N \hat{\phi}$$

2 Measuring magnetic core properties



2.1 Relative permeability

Permeability of ferrous materials is not a constant. It depends on the magnetic field strength and temperature.

Definitions

a) initial permeability

The initial permeability μ_i defines the relative permeability at very low excitation levels and constitutes the most important means of comparison for soft magnetic materials. According to IEC 60401-3, μ_i is defined using closed magnetic circuits (e.g. a closed ring-shaped cylindrical coil) for $f \leq 10$ kHz, $B < 0.25$ mT, $T = 25$ °C

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \frac{\Delta B}{\Delta H_{(\Delta H \rightarrow 0)}}$$

2.1.1 Method 1

A_c = Area of cross section of the magnetic circuit (m²)

R_m = Reluctance of the magnetic path (A/Vs)

l_m = length of magnetic circuit (m)

μ_0 = permeability of vacuum, $4\pi \cdot 10^{-7}$ H/m

μ_r = relative permeability of material (unitless)

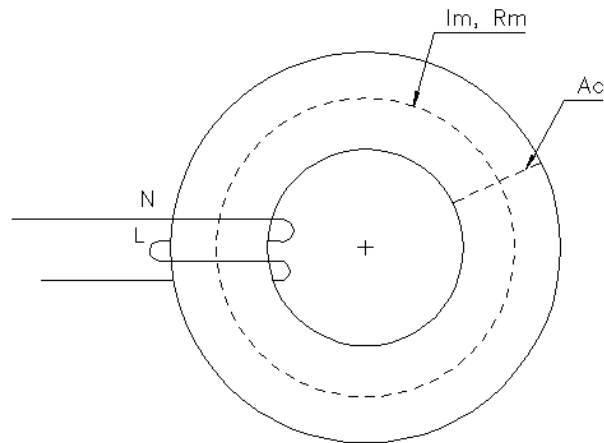


Figure 2: Relative permeability measurement principle method 1- Closed magnetic circuit

- Measure l_m and A_c (in m and m²)- easiest in case of a toroid core
- Calculate “air core inductance” L_0 (H)

$$R_m = \frac{l_m}{\mu_0 \mu_r A_c}$$

$$L_0 = \frac{N^2}{R_{m0}} = \frac{N^2 \mu_0 A_c}{l_m}$$

- Measure (e.g. with an LCR-meter) the inductance of winding with N turns

$$L_s = \frac{N^2 \mu_0 \mu_r A_c}{l_m}$$

- Divide L_s by L_0 to get μ_r of the material in question

$$\frac{L_s}{L_0} = \frac{\frac{N^2 \mu_0 \mu_r A_c}{l_m}}{\frac{N^2 \mu_0 A_c}{l_m}} = \mu_r$$

2.1.2 Method 2

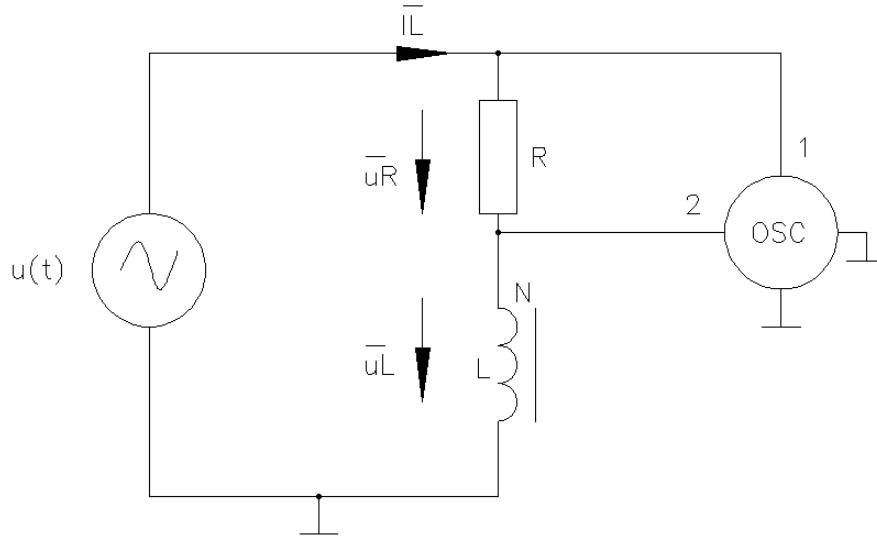


Figure 3: Relative permeability measurement principle method 2

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_m = \frac{l_m}{\mu A_c} \rightarrow \mu = \frac{l_m \Phi}{N I_L A_c} = \frac{l_m U}{N I_L A_c N \omega} = \frac{l_m U}{I_L A_c N^2 \omega} \\ R_m = \frac{N I_L}{\Phi} \\ u(t) = -N \frac{d\Phi}{dt} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = \frac{u(t)}{-N} \rightarrow$$

$$\Phi_{ave} = \frac{1}{\pi/2} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{u(t)}{-N} dt = -\frac{2\hat{u}}{\pi N} \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin(\omega t) dt = -\frac{2\hat{u}}{\pi N \omega} \left| -\cos(\omega t) \right|_0^{\pi/2} = \frac{2\hat{u}}{\pi N \omega}$$

Because flux is sinusoidal

$$\Phi_{ave} = \frac{2\sqrt{2} * \Phi}{\pi}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{2\hat{u}}{\pi N \omega} * \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\hat{u}}{\sqrt{2} N \omega} = \frac{U}{N \omega}$$

Relative permeability can be calculated

$$\mu_r = \frac{\mu}{\mu_0}$$

U is the RMS voltage of u2 in oscilloscope channel 2 (voltage over coil).

$$I_L = (U_1 - U)/R$$

Note that voltage shall be kept low enough to avoid core saturation.

2.1.2.1 Example using methods 1 and 2

Ferrite core of Figure 7:DUT of example 1

$$A_c = 7,33\text{mm} \times 3,33\text{mm} = 2,42 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$$

$$l_m = 0,032 \text{ m}$$

$$N=15$$

Method 1:

$$L_0 = \frac{N^2 \mu_0 A_c}{l_m} = \frac{15^2 * 4\pi * \frac{10^{-7} \text{ H}}{\text{m}} * 2,42 * 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2}{0,032 \text{ m}} = 213,7 \text{ nH}$$

Measured with an LCR meter at 1 kHz:

$$L_s = \frac{N^2 \mu_0 \mu_r A_c}{l_m} = 2,15 \text{ mH}$$

$$\frac{L_s}{L_0} = \mu_r = \frac{2,15 \text{ mH}}{213,7 \text{ nH}} = 10060 \approx 10000$$

Method 2:

$$R=18 \Omega$$

$$U = U_2 = 0,101 \text{ V}$$

$$I_L = (U_1 - U_2) / R = 0,125 \text{ V} / 18 \Omega = 6,94 \text{ mA}$$

$$\mu = \frac{l_m U}{I_L A_c N^2 \omega} = \frac{0,032 \text{ m} * 0,101 \text{ V}}{6,94 * 10^{-3} \text{ A} * 2,42 * 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 * 15^2 * 2\pi * 1 * 10^3 \frac{1}{\text{s}}} = 0,0135 \text{ H/m}$$

$$\mu_r = \frac{\mu}{\mu_0} = \frac{0,0136 \text{ H/m}}{4\pi * 10^{-7} \text{ H/m}} = 10843 \approx 11000$$

The result's absolute value is very sensitive on the estimation of dimensions l_m and A_c . Both methods are limited to cases where magnetic circuit is well defined and does not include an air gap.

2.2 Measuring magnetic core hysteresis loop

Area within the hysteresis loop is proportional to the losses in the core.

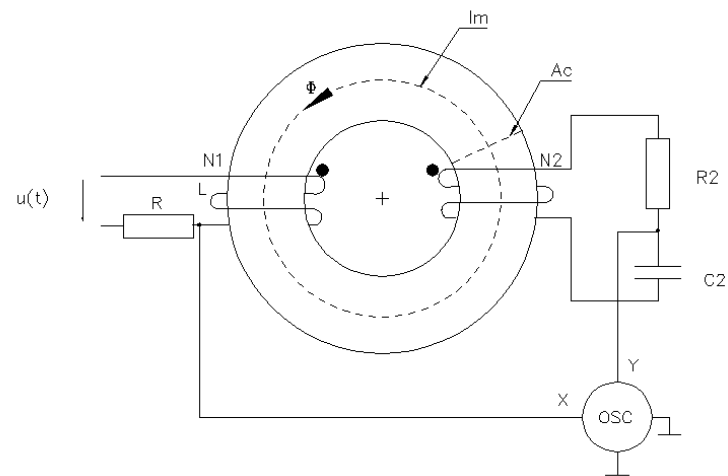


Figure 4: Measurement principle

For an inductor:

$$E = -N \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{-N A dB}{dt} \rightarrow B(t) = \int_0^t \frac{E(t)}{-N A_c} dt$$

$$\Phi = B A_c$$

$E = u(t) = U_p \sin(\omega t)$ = Voltage across inductor (V)

N = number of turns

A_c = Area of cross section of the magnetic circuit (m^2)

Φ = Magnetic flux (Wb)

B = Flux density (T)

H = Magnetic field strength (A/m)

l_m = length of magnetic circuit (m)

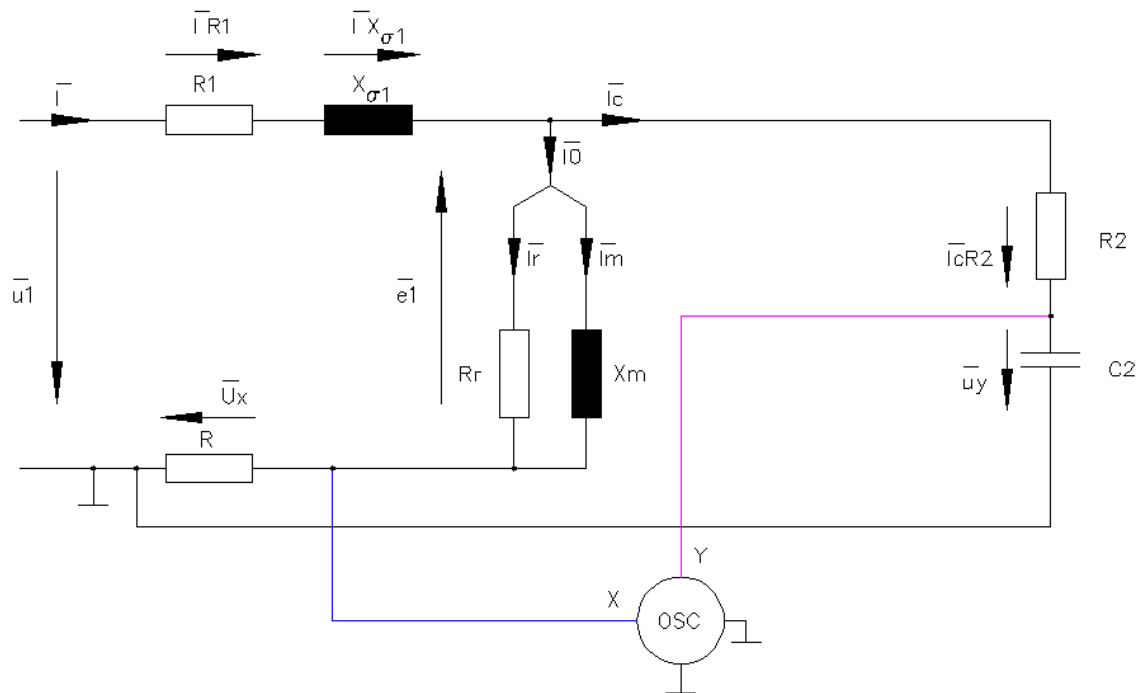


Figure 5: Equivalent circuit of device under test

R_1 = Primary winding resistance

$X_{\sigma 1}$ = Primary winding inductive stray reactance

R_r = Core iron loss resistance

X_m = Main magnetizing reactance

R_2 = Auxiliary resistor ($R_2 \gg 1/\omega C_2$)

R = Auxiliary resistor (small resistance)

C_2 = Auxiliary capacitor, forms an integrator together with R_2

Measuring hysteresis curve:

Voltage at oscilloscope horizontal plates (X) is proportional to the strength of the magnetic field H , because

$$u_x = IR$$

$$H = \frac{N_1 I}{l_m}$$

so

$$u_x = \frac{R l_m}{N_1} H = k_1 H$$

Voltage at oscilloscope vertical plates (Y) is proportional to magnetic flux density B , because if

$$R_2 \gg \frac{1}{\omega C_2}$$

And because I_r and I_c are small,

$$I \approx I_m$$

So

$$i_c \approx \frac{e_1}{R_2}$$

$$u_{c2} = u_y = i_c \frac{1}{\omega C_2} \approx \frac{e_1}{\omega R_2 C_2} \approx \frac{u_1}{\omega R_2 C_2}$$

$$u_1 \approx e_1 = N_2 \frac{d\phi}{dt} = N_2 \frac{d[\hat{\phi} \sin(\omega t)]}{dt} = N_2 \hat{\phi} \omega \cos(\omega t) = \omega N_2 \phi = \omega N_2 B A_c$$

And

$$u_y = \frac{\omega N_2 B A_c}{\omega R_2 C_2} = \frac{N_2 A_c}{R_2 C_2} B = k_2 B$$

k_1 = scale factor for H

k_2 = scale factor for B

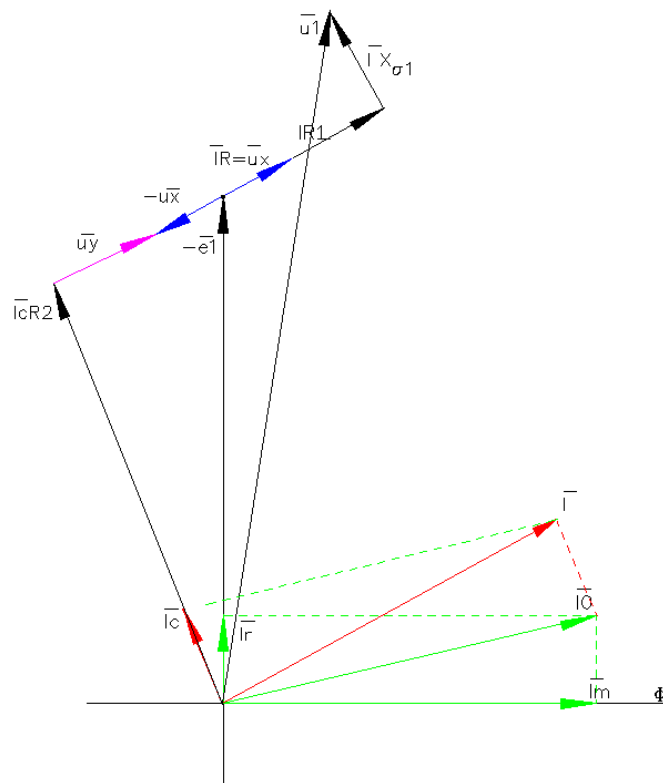


Figure 6: Vector diagram of hysteresis loop measurement (I_c and I_r are drawn exaggerated)

2.2.1 Example 1:

Toroid ferrite core, no air gap



Figure 7:DUT of example 1

Define the needed minimum number of turns N_{min} to achieve desired flux density B :

$$N_{min} = \frac{l_m B}{I \mu}$$

$\mu = \mu_0 \mu_r$ = permeability of material (H/m)

I = Current of winding (A) (depends on the voltage source $u(t)$ available)

$u(t) = U_p \sin(\omega t)$

$N_1 = 15, N_2 = 15$

$A_c = 7,33\text{mm} \times 3,33\text{mm} = 2,42 \times 10^{-5} \text{m}^2$

$l_m = 0,032 \text{m}$

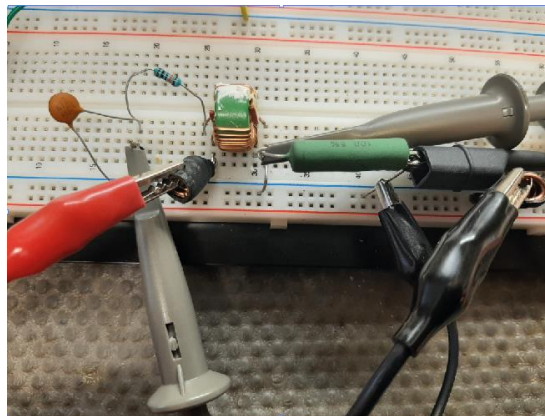
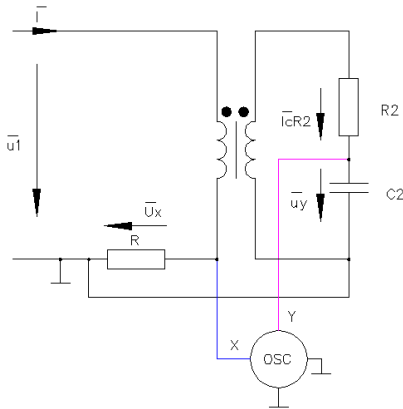


Figure 8:Schematic and test arrangement

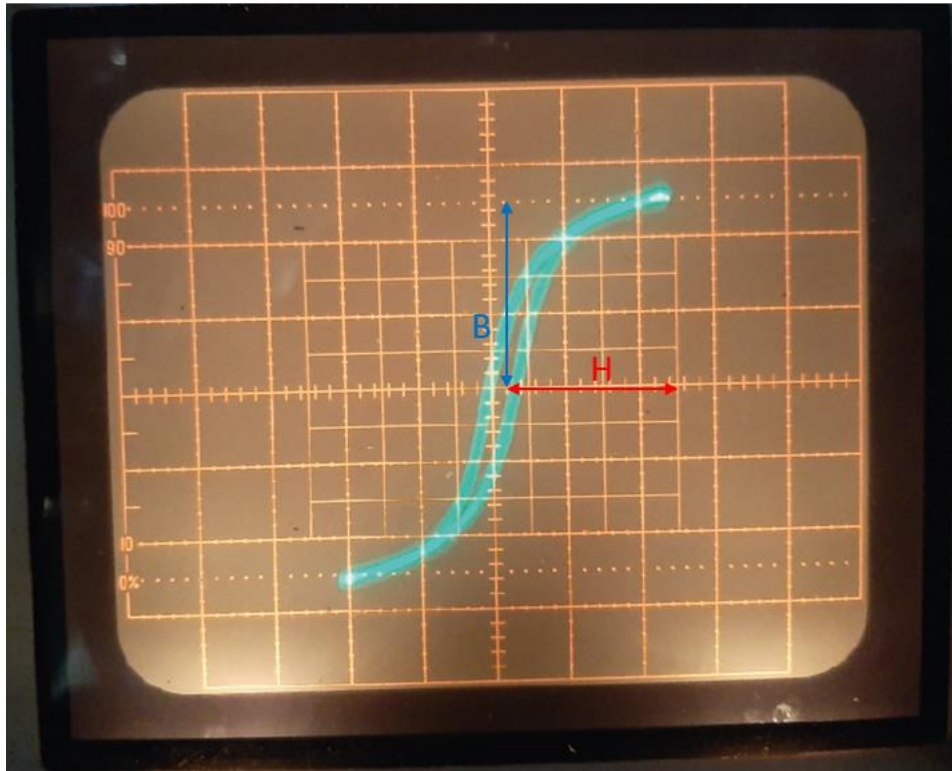


Figure 9: Hysteresis curve of DUT of example 1

X: 1V/div
Y: 100mV/div
R=18Ω
R₂= 100kΩ
C₂=3,6 nF

$$k_1 = \frac{R l_m}{N_1} = \frac{18 \text{ V/A} * 0,032 \text{ m}}{15} = 0,0384 \text{ Vm/A}$$

$$H = \frac{u_x}{k_1} = \frac{2,2 \text{ V}}{0,0384 \text{ Vm/A}} \approx 57,3 \text{ A/m}$$

$$k_2 = \frac{N_2 A_c}{R_2 C_2} = \frac{15 * 2,42 * 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2}{\frac{100 * 10^3 \text{ V}}{\text{A}} * 3,6 * 10^{-9} \text{ As/V}} = 1,008 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$

$$B = \frac{u_y}{k_2} = \frac{250 * 10^{-3} \text{ V}}{1,008 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}} \approx 0,248 \text{ T}$$

3 Switch mode power supply design example

Following calculation principle is based on "Switchmode Power Supply Handbook" by Keith Billings

Design a boost flyback converter with following general properties:

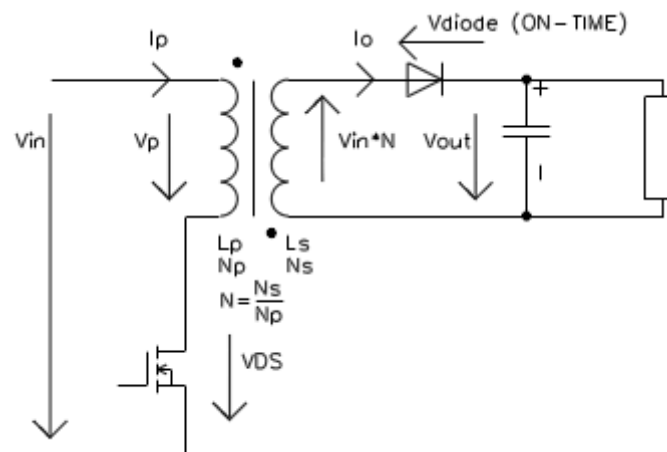
Supply voltage: 9V DC

Output voltage: 12V DC

Output current: 0,35A

Controller: LM2577

3.1 Basic topology of single ended flyback converter



I_p = Flyback transformer primary current

V_{in} = Supply voltage

V_p = Flyback transformer primary voltage

N_p, N_s = Number of turns in flyback transformer primary and secondary

L_p, L_s = Inductance of flyback transformer's primary and secondary

I_o = Flyback transformer secondary current

V_{out} = Output voltage

V_{DS} = Mosfet switch drain to source voltage

V_{dr} = Rectifier diode reverse voltage

V_{df} = Rectifier Diode forward voltage drop

T = Switch frequency period

A_e = Cross sectional area of transformer core

Initial design parameters

Parameter		Value	Unit
Input voltage	V_{in}	7,5-9	V_{DC}
Output power	P_{out}	4,2	W
Output voltage	V_{out}	12	V
Efficiency	η	85	%
Rectifier Diode forward voltage drop	V_{df}	0,7	V
Switching frequency	f	52	kHz

3.2 Select core cross section

Initially only the cross section of the core will be needed for calculation of primary minimum turns. Select $A_e = 64 \text{ mm}^2$. Core material property dependent A_L and required air gap l_g will be determined later.

3.3 Select maximum on-time

$$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{52 * 10^3 \text{ Hz}} = 19,2 \mu\text{s}$$

Maximum on-time will occur at minimum input voltage and maximum load. Here it is assumed that maximum on-time can not exceed 50% of the total period.

$$T_{ON(max)} = \frac{19,2}{2} \mu\text{s} \approx 9,6 \mu\text{s}$$

To allow some margin for control to operate well at minimum input voltage, let's select

$$T_{ON(max)} = 9,0 \mu\text{s}$$

3.4 Define minimum input voltage

$$V_{in(min)} = 7,5 \text{ V}$$

3.5 Select working flux density swing

$$\Delta B_{ac} = 200 \text{ mT (Peak-to-Peak value)}$$

3.6 Calculate minimum primary turns

$$N_{pmin} = \frac{V_{in(min)} T_{ON(max)}}{\Delta B_{ac} A_e} = \frac{7,5 \text{ V} * 9,6 * 10^{-6} \text{ s}}{200 * 10^{-3} \frac{\text{Vs}}{\text{m}^2} * 64 * 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2} = 5,6 \approx 6$$

3.7 Calculate secondary turns

Calculate volts per turn in primary

$$\frac{V_p}{\text{turn}} = \frac{7,5 \text{ V}}{6} = 1,25 \text{ V/turn}$$

Secondary turns rounded up to nearest integer

$$N_s = \frac{V_{out} + V_{df}}{V/\text{turn}} = \frac{12 \text{ V} + 0,7 \text{ V}}{1,25 \text{ V}} = 10,2 \approx 11$$

Volts per turn in the secondary would actually be

$$\frac{V_s}{\text{turn}} = \frac{12 \text{ V} + 0,7 \text{ V}}{11} = 1,15 \text{ V/turn}$$

Due to secondary turns roundoff, T_{on} and T_{off} must be adjusted to maintain volt-second equality:

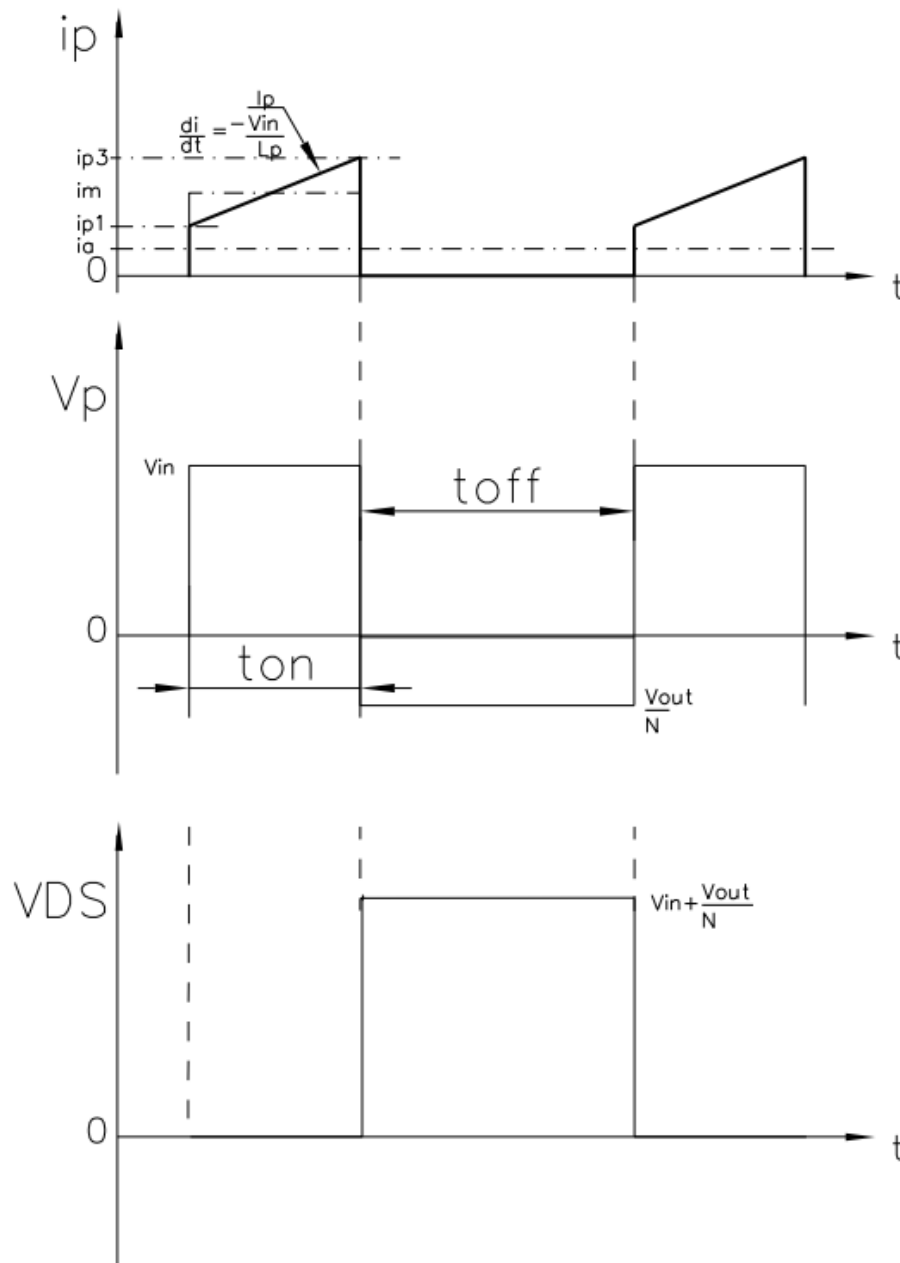
$$\frac{V_p T_{on}}{N_p} = \frac{V_s T_{off}}{N_s} \rightarrow T_{on} = \frac{N_p V_s T}{N_s V_p + N_p V_s} = \frac{6 * 12,7 \text{ V} * 19,2 \mu\text{s}}{11 * 7,5 \text{ V} + 6 * 12,7 \text{ V}} = 9,2 \mu\text{s}$$

3.8 Calculate primary inductance and core air gap size

I_a = Average current during period T

I_m = Mean current during T_{on}

Incomplete energy transfer mode with optimum primary inductance



$$V_{in} = L_p \frac{\Delta I_p}{\Delta t}$$

If by choice

$$i_{p3} = 3i_{p1} \rightarrow i_m = 2i_{p1}$$

Average current I_a during the whole period T can be calculated

$$I_a = \frac{P_{out}}{\eta V_{in}} = \frac{4,2W}{0,85 * 7,5V} = 0,66A$$

Therefore, mean current during time T_{on} is

$$I_m = \frac{I_a T}{T_{on}} = \frac{0,66A * 19,2\mu s}{9,2\mu s} = 1,38A$$

Change of current I_p during the on-period is $2i_{p1}=I_m$. Inductance of the primary can now be calculated:

$$L_p = \frac{V_{in} \Delta t}{\Delta i} = \frac{7,5V * 9,2\mu s}{1,38A} = 50\mu H$$

Assuming that all reluctance R_m is in the air gap l_g and the field will not spread out significantly in the air gap i.e. $A_e=A_g$:

$$R_m = \frac{l_c}{\mu_0 \mu_r A_e} + \frac{l_g}{\mu_0 A_g} \approx \frac{l_g}{\mu_0 A_e}$$

and

$$L_p = \frac{N_p^2}{R_m} = \frac{N_p^2}{\frac{l_g}{\mu_0 A_e}} \rightarrow l_g = \frac{\mu_0 N_p^2 A_e}{L_p}$$

air gap l_g

$$l_g = \frac{\mu_0 N_p^2 A_e}{L_p} \left[\frac{\frac{Vs}{Am} m^2}{\frac{Vs}{A}} = m \right] = \frac{4\pi * 10^{-7} * 6^2 * 64 * 10^{-6}}{50 * 10^{-6}} m = 0,058mm$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi * 10^{-7} \text{ H/m}$$

3.9 Final specification of the core

Typically, the AL value, also known as AL factor, inductance factor, inductance coefficient, inductance per turn or inductance per square turn is given in the core's datasheet for gapped and non-gapped cores. An air gap closest to calculated in previous phase is selected.

$$A_L = \frac{L_p}{N_p^2}$$

RM8				
Material	AL/nH/N ²	Air gap/mm	Np(min)	Lp/μH
N48	630	0,10	6	22,6
N48	400	0,14	6	14,4
N48	315	0,17	6->13	11,3->53,2

As in this example, if the core material N48 was gapped 0,17mm, it turns out that the number of primary turns must be increased from 6 to 13 to achieve the required minimum primary inductance. Recalculation according to 3.7 and 3.8 must be in that case performed.

Alternatively, material with higher AL with a suitable air gap providing at least the minimum inductance required for the primary could be selected and keeping the primary turns as they were.

RM 8	
Core	B65811

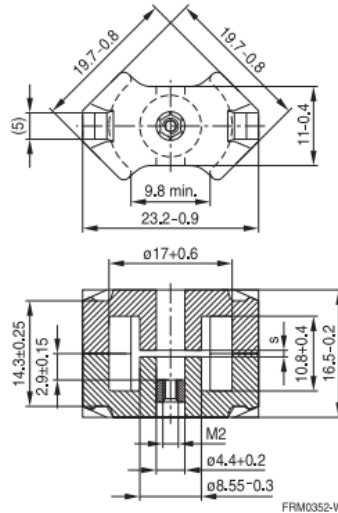
- To IEC 62317-4
- Cores without center hole for transformer applications
- Delivery mode: sets

Magnetic characteristics (per set)

	with center hole	without center hole	
$\Sigma l/A$	0.68	0.59	mm ⁻¹
l_e	35.1	38	mm
A_e	52	64	mm ²
A_{min}	—	55	mm ²
V_e	1825	2430	mm ³

Approx. weight (per set)

m	10.7	12	g
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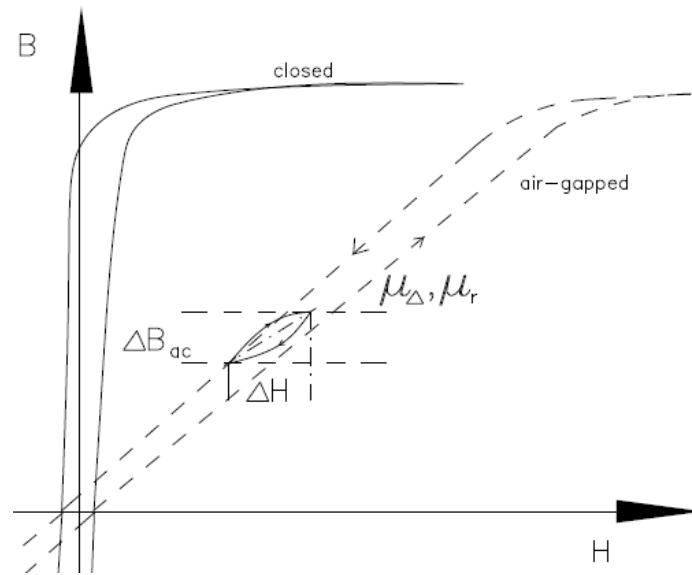


Gapped

Material	A_L value nH	s approx. mm	μ_e	Ordering code ¹⁾ -D with center hole -F with threaded sleeve -J without center hole
N48	250 ± 3% 315 ± 3% 400 ± 3% 630 ± 5%	0.23 0.17 0.14 0.10	134 169 215 338	B65811+0250A048 B65811+0315A048 B65811+0400A048 B65811+0630J048
N41	160 ± 3% 250 ± 5% 630 ± 5% 1600 ± 10%	0.49 0.24 0.11 0.04	76 118 298 756	B65811J0160A041 B65811J0250J041 B65811J0630J041 B65811J1600K041
N87	250 ± 3% 400 ± 3%	0.30 0.18	118 189	B65811J0250A087 B65811J0400A087

3.10 Calculate flux density swing AC component

$$B_{ac(p-p)} = \frac{V_{in(min)} * T}{N_p * A_e} = \frac{7.5V * 19.2 * 10^{-6}s}{13 * 64 * 10^{-6}m^2} = 173mT$$



3.11 Calculate contribution of the flux DC component

Using an equation for solenoid magnetic field in the air gap with average primary DC current I_a

$$B_{DC} = \frac{\mu_0 N_p I_a}{l_g} = \frac{4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \frac{Vs}{Am} * 13 * 0,66A}{0,17 * 10^{-3}m} = 63 \text{ mT}$$

$$B_{max} = B_{ac} + B_{DC} = 173mT + 63mT = 237mT$$

3.12 Check B_{max} against core material flux density characteristics at 100 °C to leave sufficient margin for saturation.

SIFERRIT materials				
N48				
Material properties				
Preferred application		Resonant circuit inductors		
Material		N48		
Base material		MnZn		
Color code (adjuster)		—		
	Symbol	Unit		
Initial permeability (T = 25 °C)	μ_i		2300	±25%
Meas. field strength	H	A/m	1200	
Flux density (near saturation) (f = 10 kHz)	B_S (25 °C)	mT	420	
	B_S (100 °C)	mT	310	
Coercive field strength (f = 10 kHz)	H_c (25 °C)	A/m	26	
	H_c (100 °C)	A/m	19	
Optimum frequency range	f_{min}	MHz	0.01	
	f_{max}	MHz	0.1	
Relative loss factor	at f_{min}	$\tan \delta / \mu_i$	10^{-6}	<4
	at f_{max}		10^{-6}	<6
Hysteresis material constant	η_B	$10^{-6}/mT$	<0.4	
Curie temperature	T_C	°C	>170	
Relative temperature coefficient	α_F	$10^{-6}/K$		0.3 ... 1.3
at 25 ... 55 °C				0.3 ... 1.3
Mean value of α_F		$10^{-6}/K$	0.70	
at 25 ... 55 °C				
Density (typical values)		kg/m ³	4700	
Disaccommodation factor at 25 °C	DF	10^{-6}	2	
Resistivity	ρ	Ωm	3	
Core shapes	RM, P			

