



Countering Threats from Transients in Magnetics

Victor W. Quinn
Director of Engineering & Technology
Exxelia US Magnetics Design Center
vquinn@exxelia.com

585-230-4368

www.exxelia.com

Agenda

*“Failures are often caused by **latent** microscopic instabilities.”*

- Threats
- Causes
- Natural Transient Response
- Susceptibilities
- Dynamic Effects
- Product Development Plan
- Threat Prevention Examples
- Summary Checklist
- References



Threats from Transients

- Unexpected operating waveforms from transients
 - Concentrated stress densities
 - EMI
 - Circuit malfunction
 - Protective shutdown
 - Breakdown of insulation
 - System failure

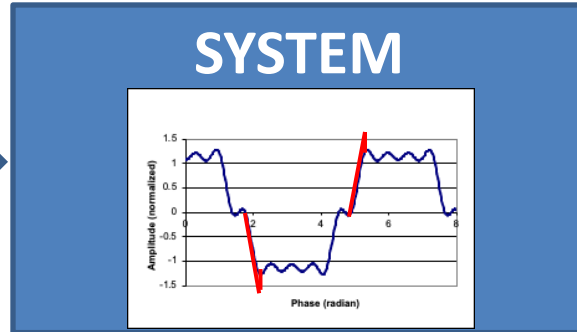
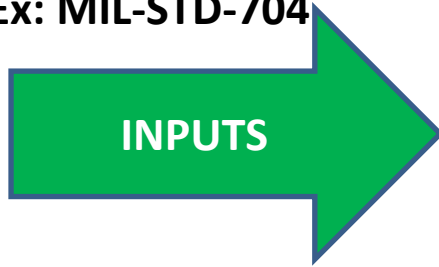


Collapse of newly opened Tacoma Narrows Bridge on November 7, 1940

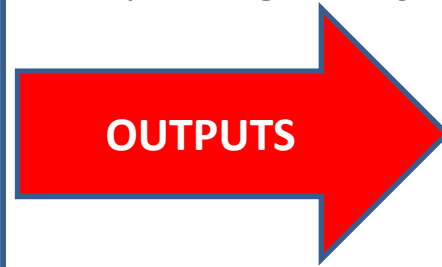
Causes of Electrical Transients

- Dynamic inputs or outputs for system in final application

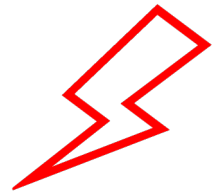
Ex: MIL-STD-704



Ex: MIL-STD-461

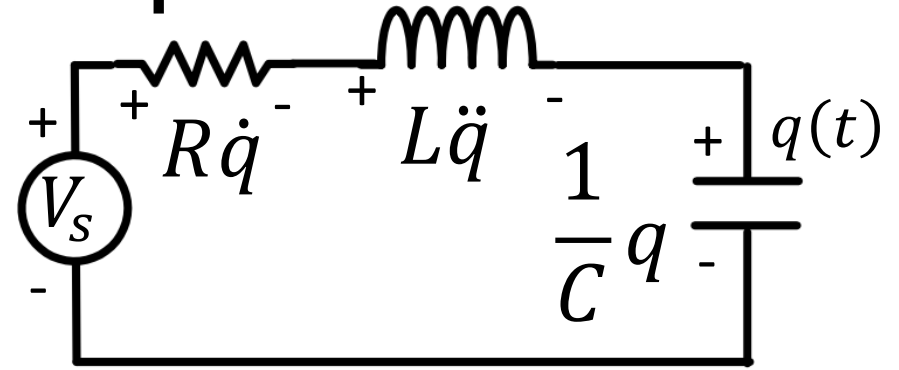
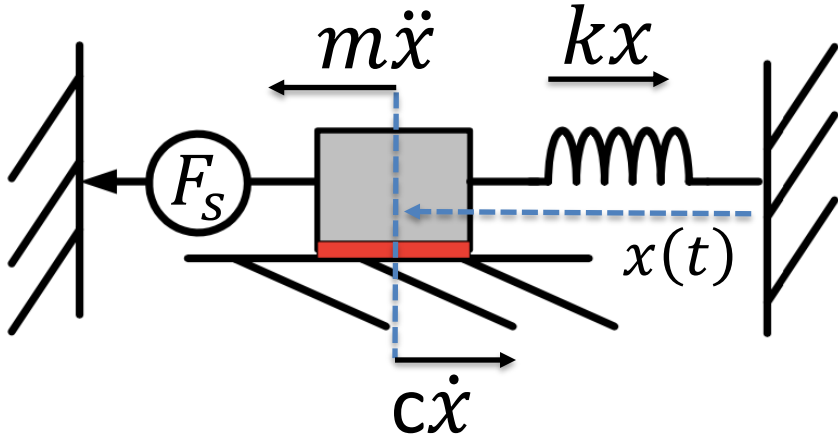


- Dynamic environmental conditions



- **Inherent** signal variations within system's circuits (dependent on RLC dynamics, transfer functions and component nonlinearities)

Natural Response



$$F_S = c\dot{x} + m\ddot{x} + kx$$

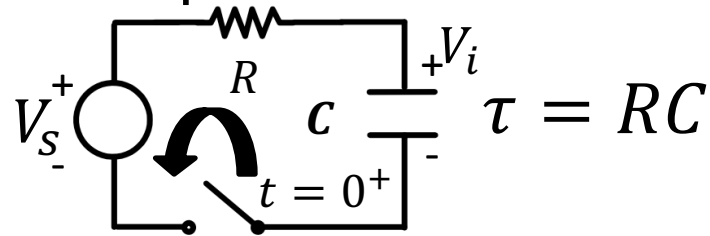
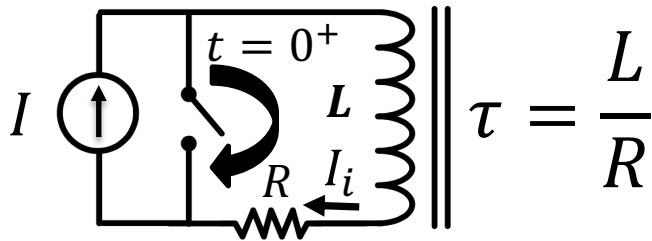
- Natural systems described by differential equations
- Transient condition disrupts normal forcing function

$$V_S = R\dot{q} + L\ddot{q} + \frac{1}{C}q$$

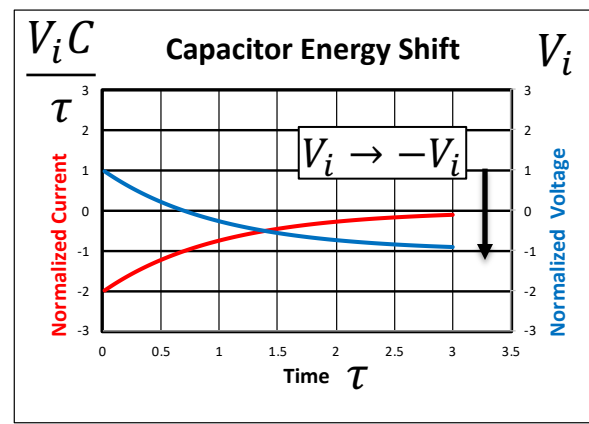
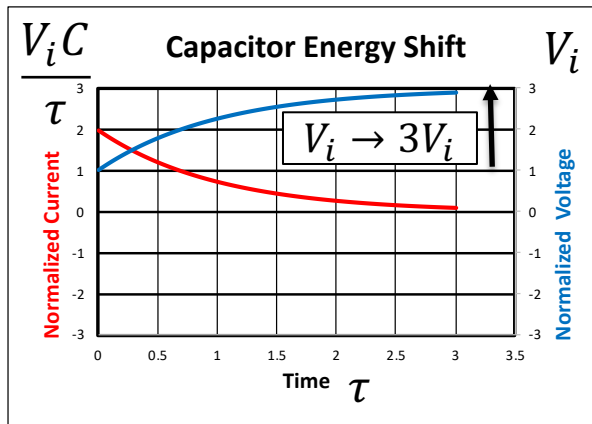
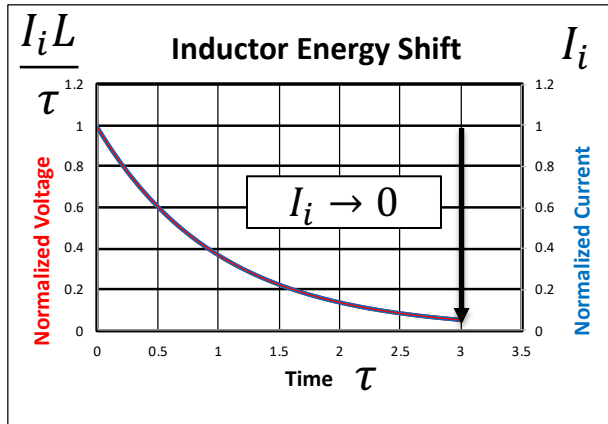
- Reactive components
 - Amplification
 - Oscillation
 - Decay

Passive Components

- Resistor dissipates energy to bleed power from a circuit.

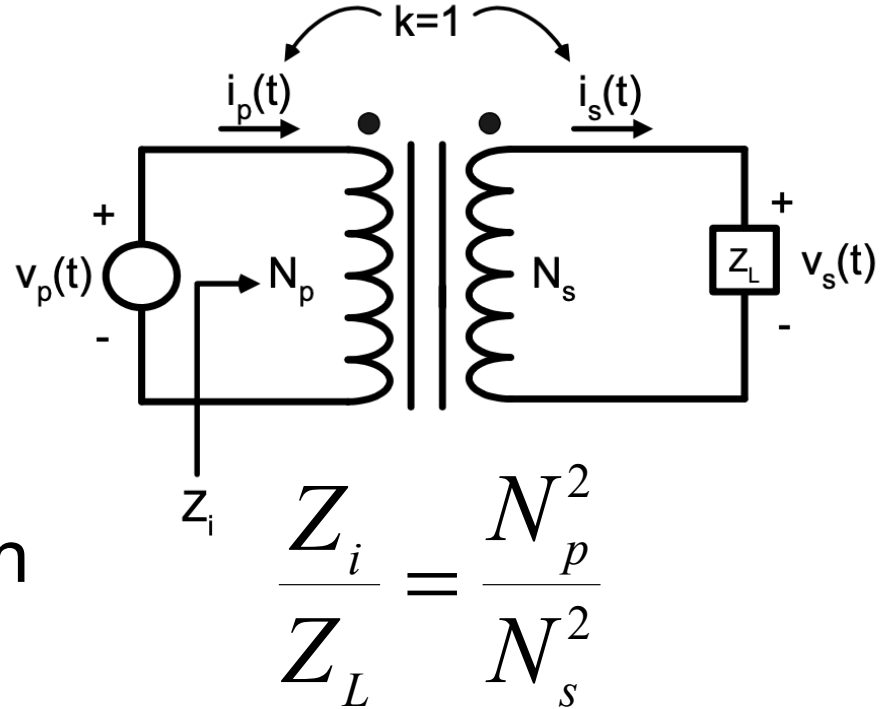


- Inductor generates voltage to slow the change in its current.
- Capacitor absorbs or releases charge to slow the change in its voltage.

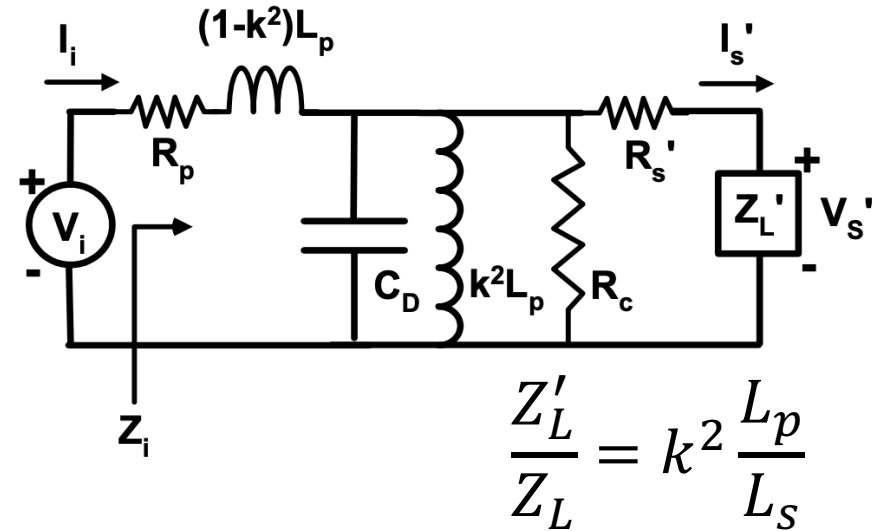
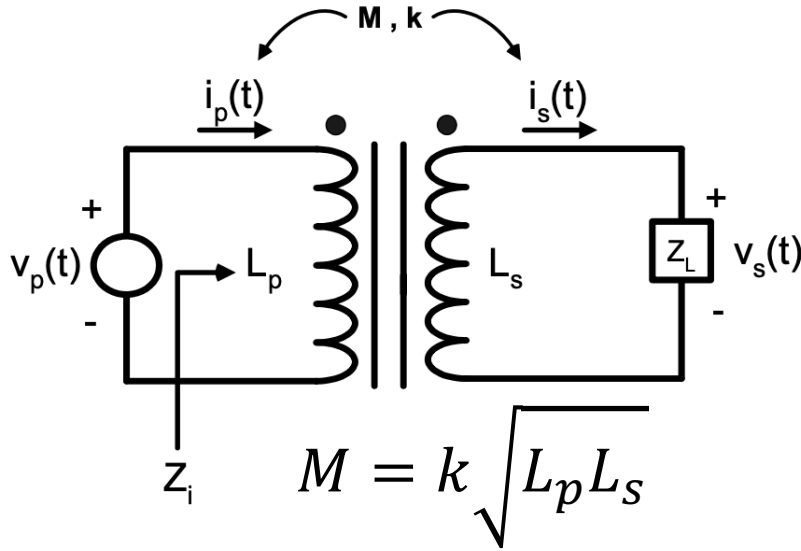


Ideal Transformers

- Transform impedance
 - Increase or decrease dynamic voltage
 - Decrease or increase dynamic current
- Transmit power between Isolated Circuits



Transformer Equivalent Circuit

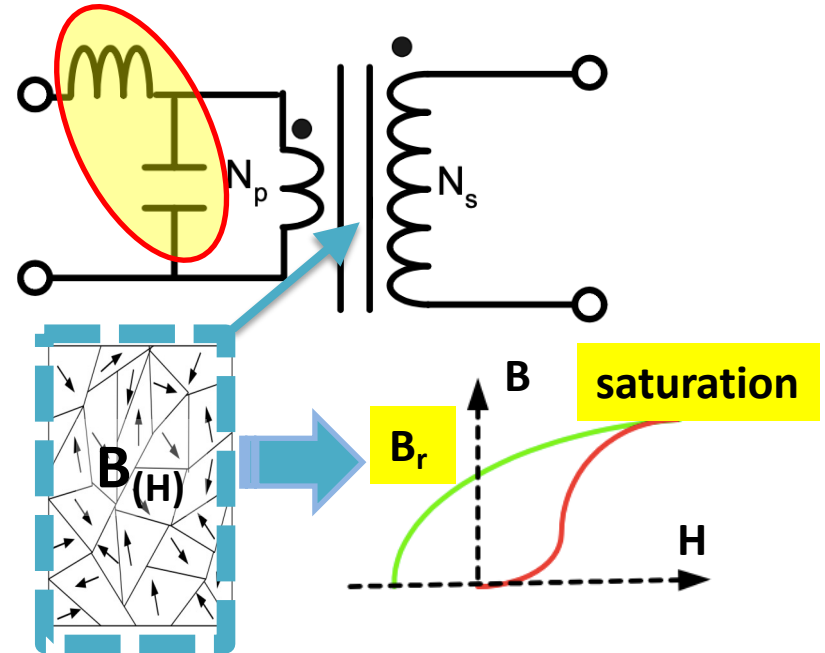


- Inherently loaded with other passive components
- Transient effects

- **Amplification**
- **Oscillation**
- **Saturation**
- **Breakdown**

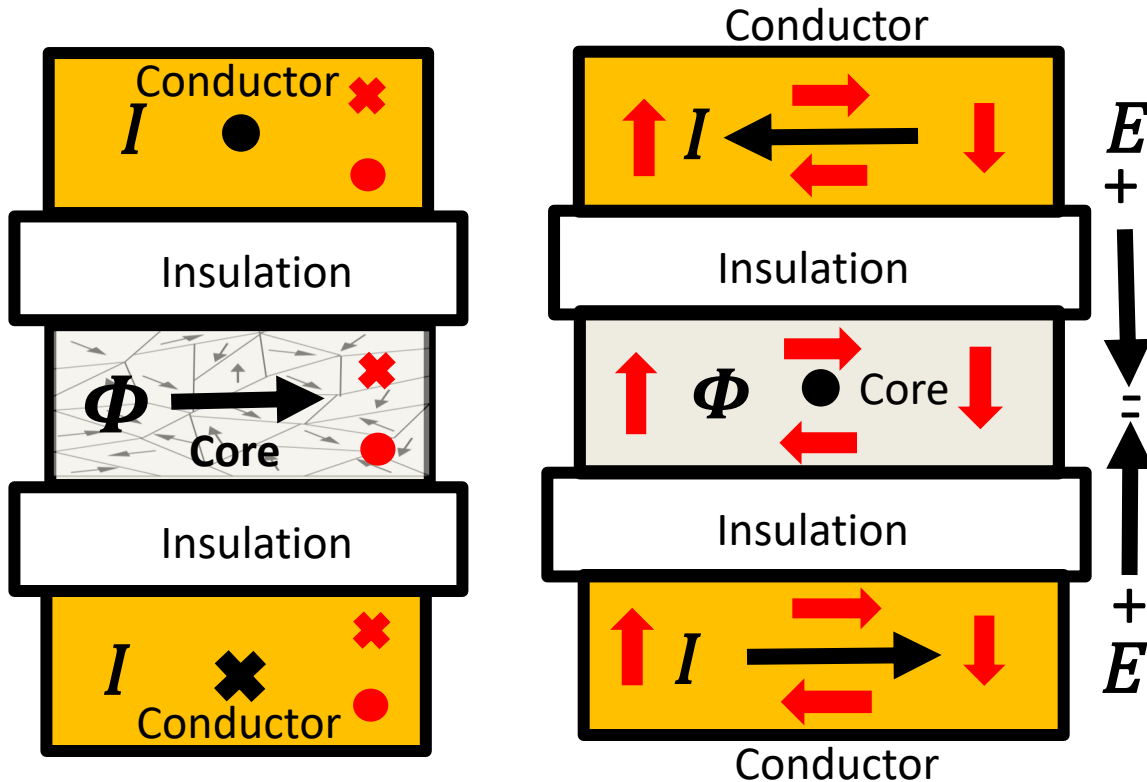
Susceptibilities

- Inherent capacitive loading from high voltage windings
- Nonlinearities
 - Magnetization dynamics
 - Hysteresis
 - Nonlinear permeability
 - Saturation
- Saturation risks
 - Turn on phase dependency
 - Volt – Second unbalance
- Flux Remanence Risks
 - Reduced flux headroom for start up or residual magnetic moment



Dynamic Stress Densities

Conductor Turn around core



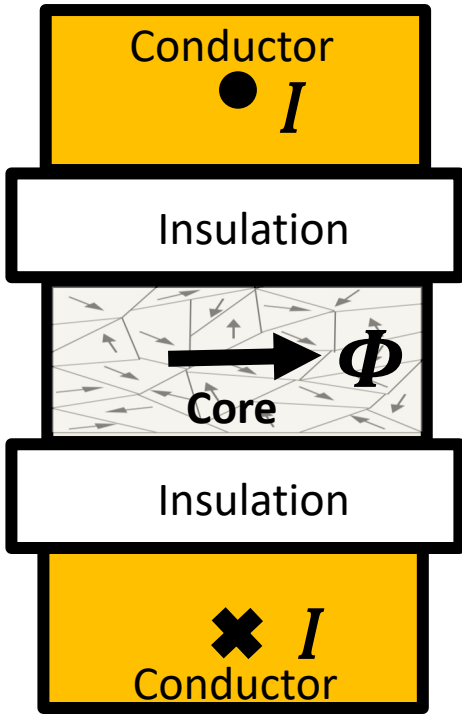
Induced eddy currents cause

- attenuation (& delay) of stress densities within volumes
- increased peak stress densities near surface for given net flux

Eddy Currents Increase Stress

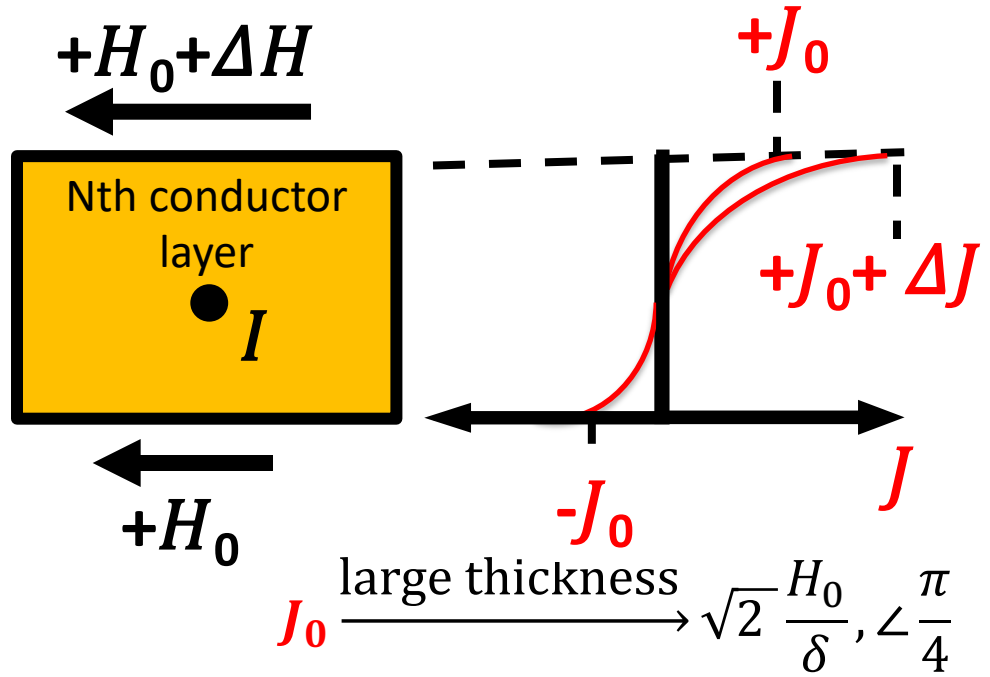
B flux density
 J current density

Conductor Turn around core



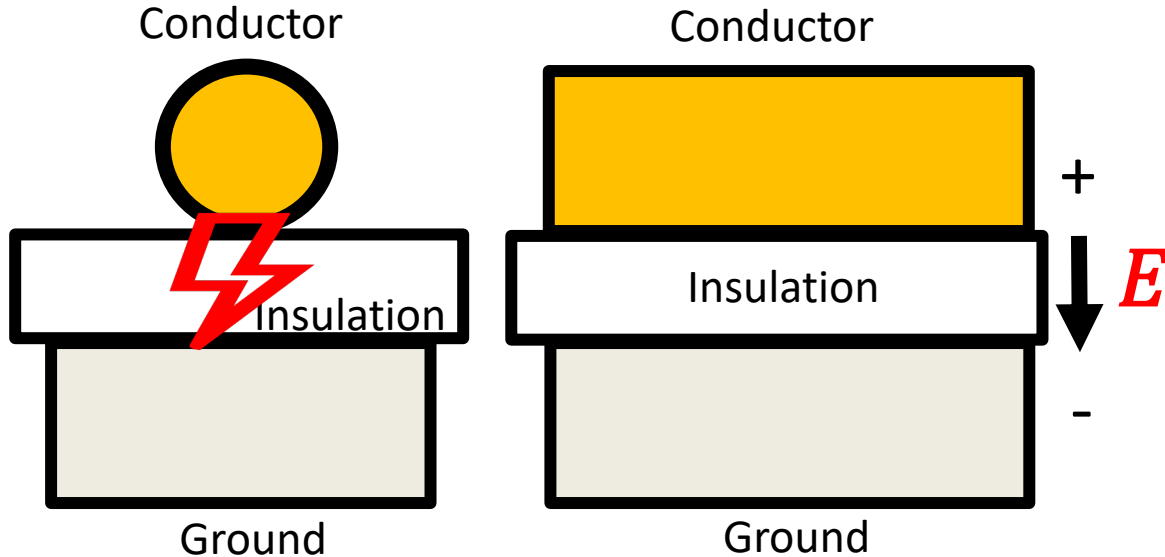
Flux crowding increases peak flux density and increases loss

Nth conductor layer in proximity field of N-1 layers



Nth layer loss may be $2N^2$ x the loss from skin depth assumption.

Conductor Shapes Increase E field intensity



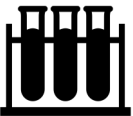
edge radius mils	5
clearance mils	50
Approximate Field Enhancement Factors:	
sphere & plane	9.90
cylinder & plane	3.76
adjacent cylinders	2.51

Thin conductors increase electric field intensity at edge, > **3 x average voltage stress**.

New Product Development Mitigations



DFMEA



DOEs

Materials



RRTs

Sub Assy

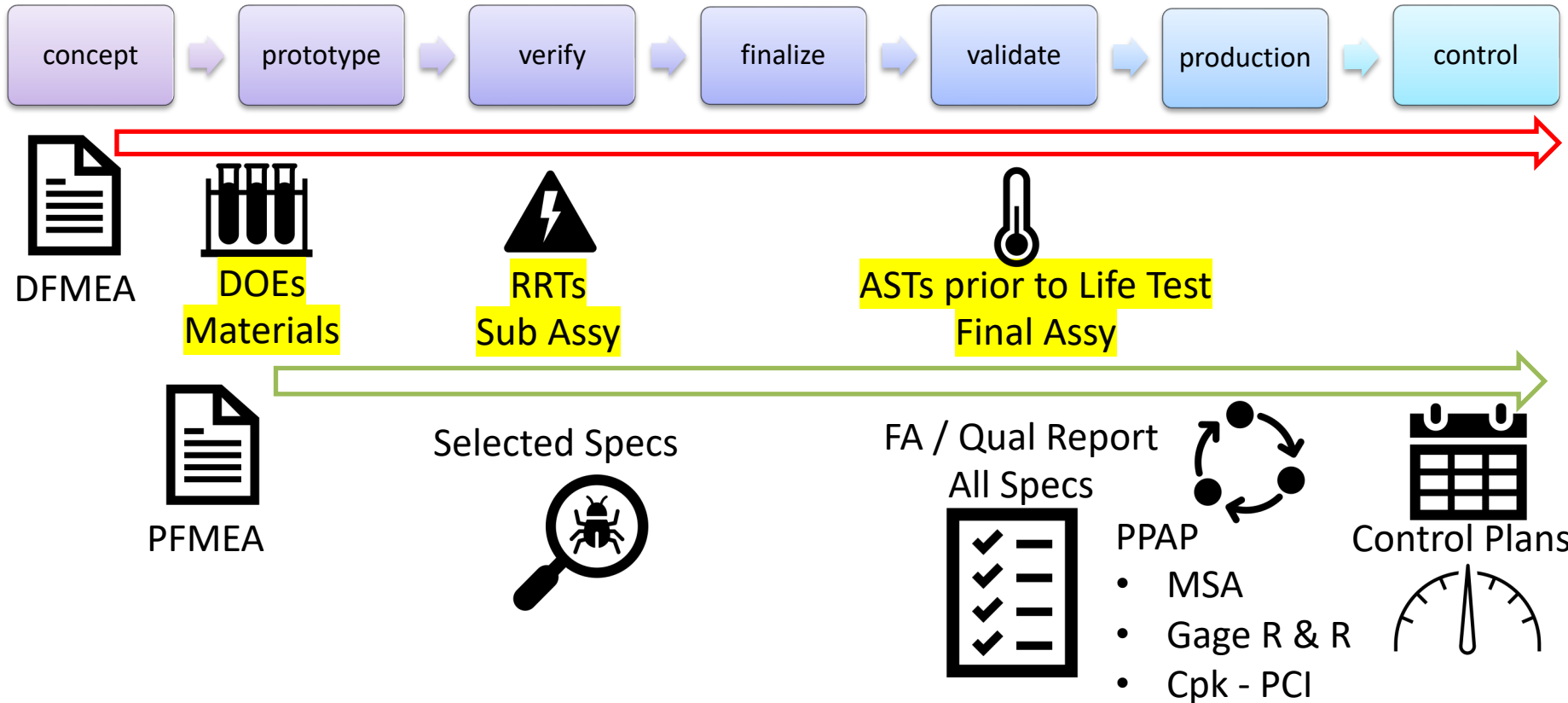


ASTs

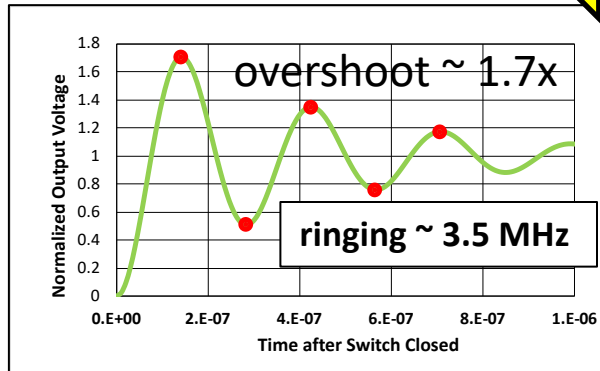
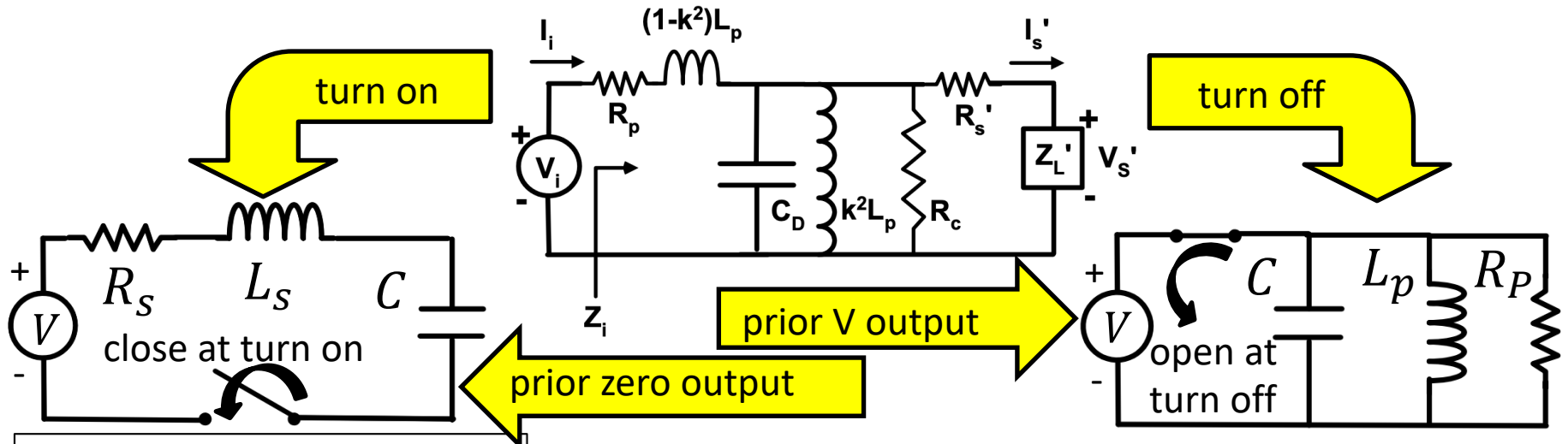
Final Assy

- Map transient stress and loss densities for review at Design Stages.
- Use DFMEA to identify and reduce risks of transients.
- Perform DOEs (Design of Experiments) on selected materials used for unprecedented stress density, physical size, operating level or environmental condition.
- Build selected subassemblies to perform RRTs (Risk Reduction Tests) of noted high risk regions before final assembly.
- Use ASTs (Accelerated Stress Tests) to verify design margins by probing induced failure modes.

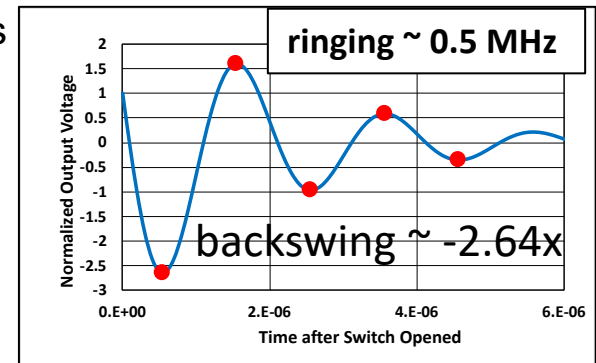
New Product Development for Risk Reduction



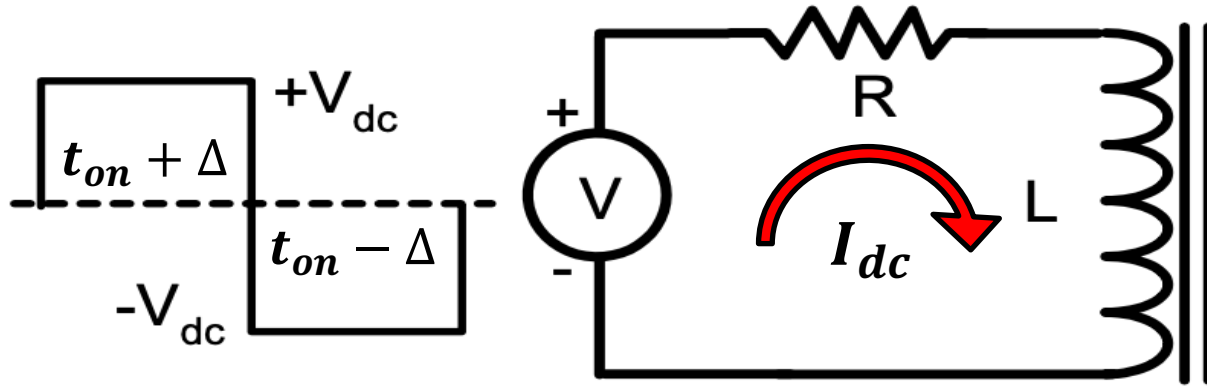
Step Up Transformer: Ringing and Overshoot



- Ringing frequency changes largely with interval.
- Overshoot \neq Backswing.
- Identify and control transformer parameters that impact ringing in each interval.



Volt – Second Unbalance: Bias Current Risk

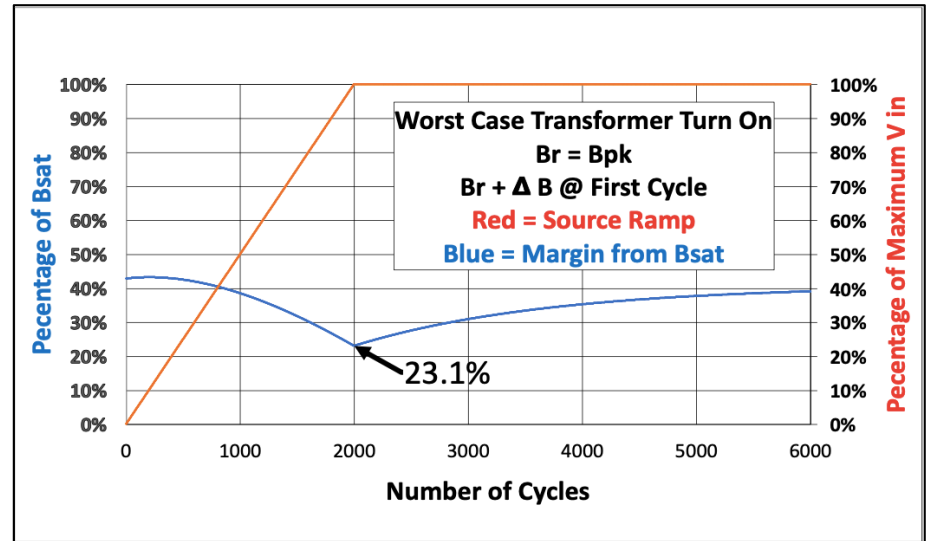
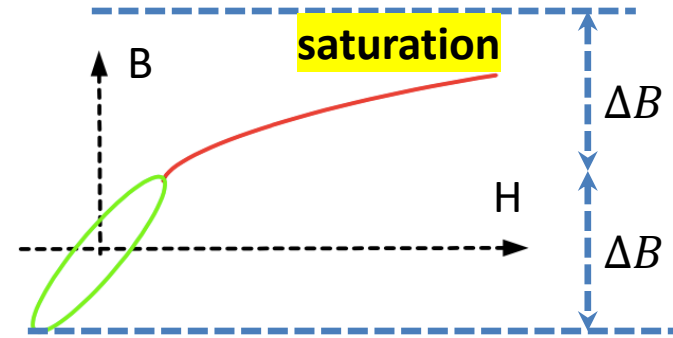


$$I_{dc} = \frac{V_{dc}}{R} \cdot \frac{\Delta}{t_{on}}$$

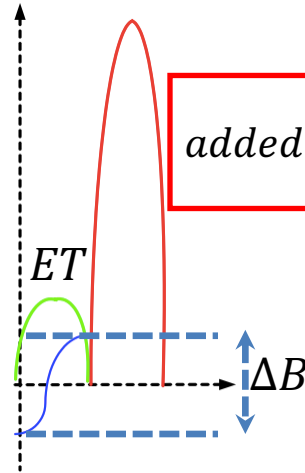
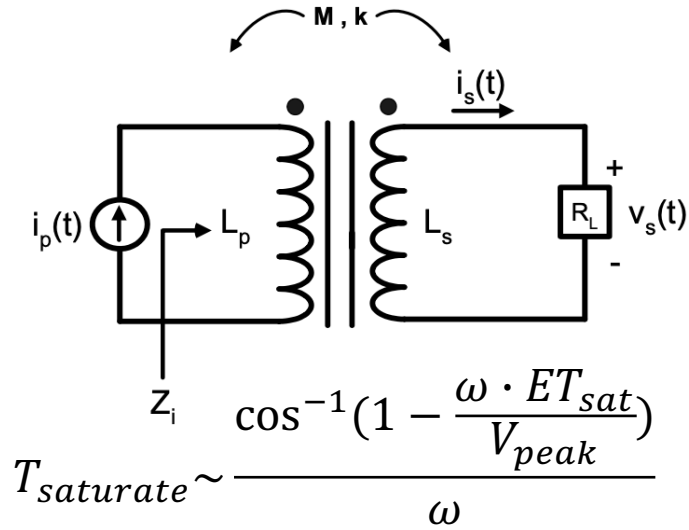
- Evaluate maximum bias current in transformers as generated by transient net Volt Second unbalance in drive or load circuits without capacitor blocks.

Transformer Soft Start: Prevent Saturation

- Design magnetics to withstand worst case phasing of turn on waveshape transients at minimum operating frequency and maximum voltage and temperature.



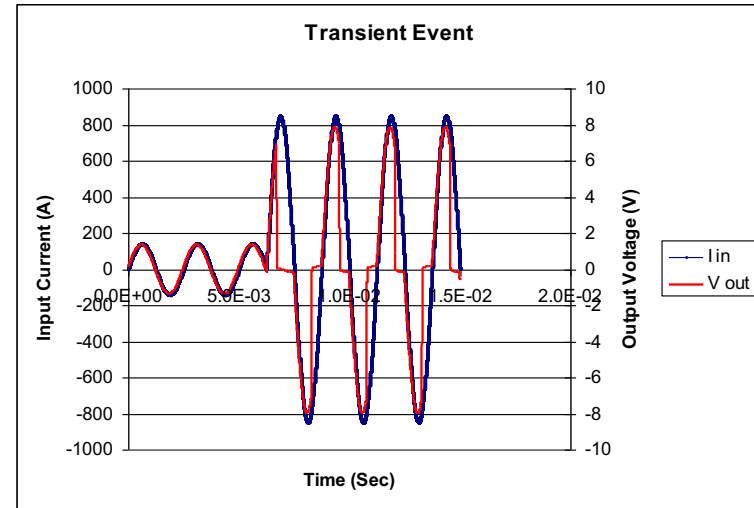
Current Transformer : Fault Current Detection



added $6 ET$ yields $+ 6 \Delta B$

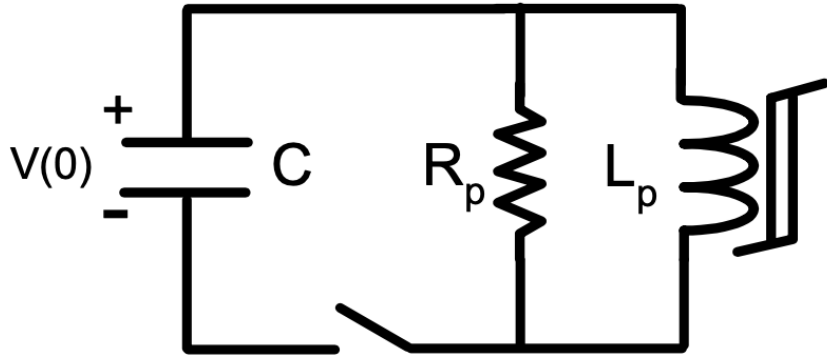
13x steady state flux density

- Aircraft frequency $\omega \sim 2\pi f$ with $f \sim 400$ Hz
- 100 ARMS Steady State
- Ex: 600 ARMS fault (849 Apk Transient)
- Use DOE to model magnetization curve.



State Space Simulation: PFN Saturating Current

High energy pulse

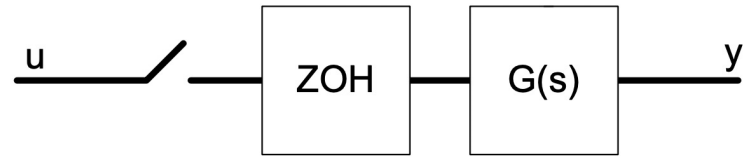


$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

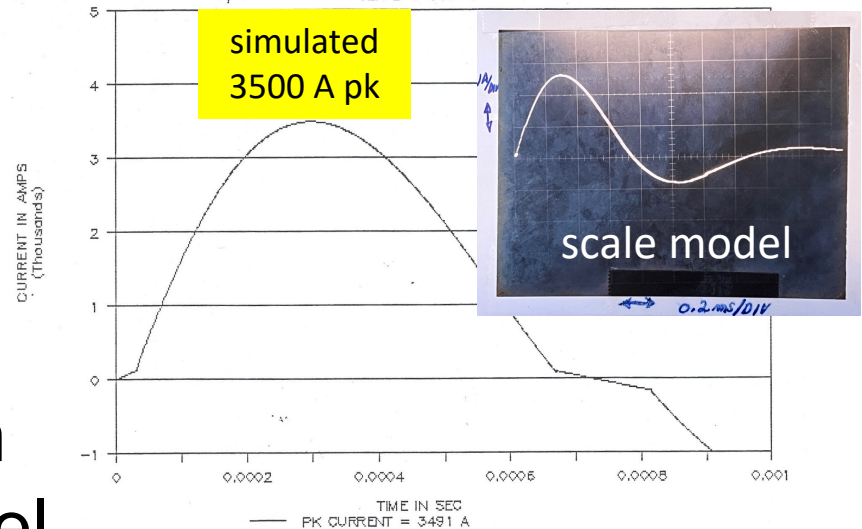
$$y = Cx + Du$$

$$G(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}B + D$$

- Verify computer simulation using empirical scale model.

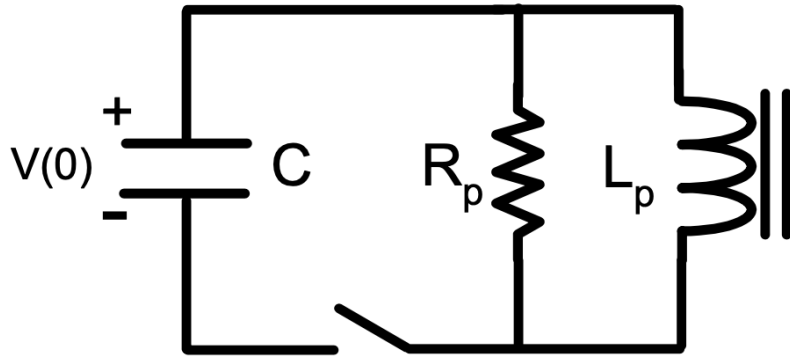


$$x(k+1) = Fx(k) + Gu(k)$$

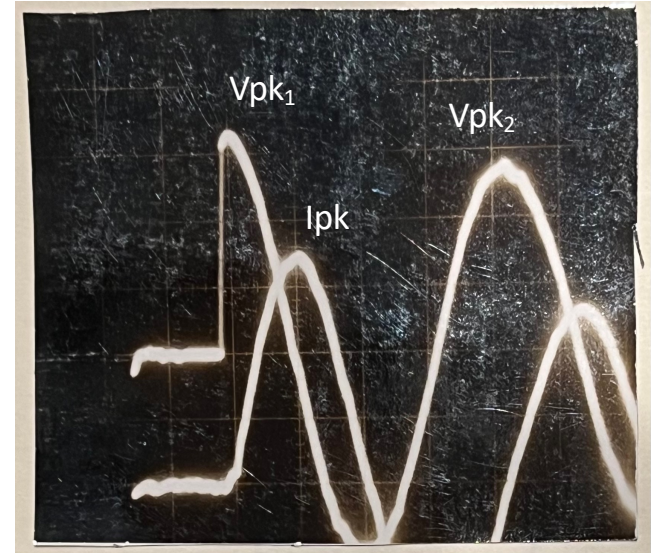


Inductor Verification: Transient Voltage Pulse

- Voltage pulse

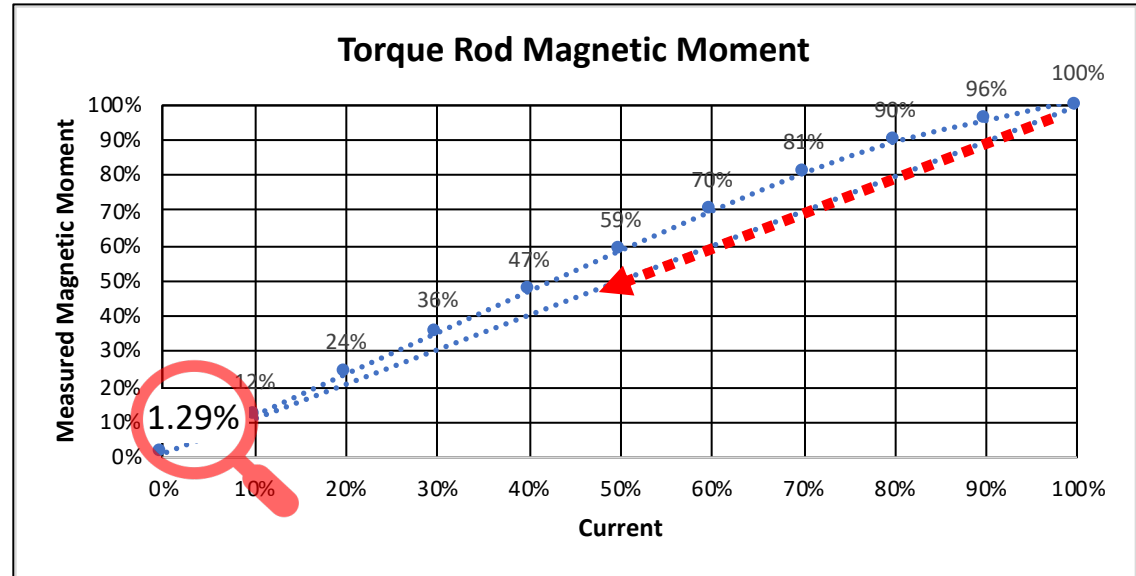
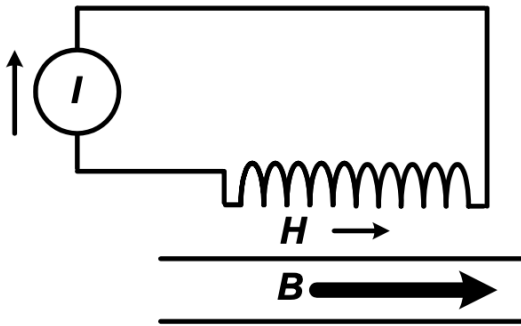


$$L = \frac{(Vpk_1)^{\frac{3}{4}} (Vpk_2)^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\omega Ipk}$$



- Measure component's effective inductance under extreme conditions throughout full scale production.

Magnetorquer Remanence: Residual Moment



- Verify residual magnetization does not cause excessive magnetic moment at turn off.

Counter Transient Threats in Magnetics



- Use high bandwidth instruments to detect latent transient amplification and persistent ringing at normal operating conditions.
- Evaluate worst case bias current for magnetics in switched mode circuits without capacitor blocks.
- Check flux density for worst case phasing of voltage turn on at minimum operating frequency and maximum voltage and temperature.
- Verify current transformers responsible for circuit protection can detect transient overcurrent despite saturation reduced output.
- Verify residual magnetization does not cause insufficient magnetization headroom or unacceptable radiated flux at turn off.
- Perform DOEs, RRTs and ASTs to mitigate risks through Design Stages.
- Employ CAPs, MOVs or similar to protect circuits susceptible to lightning.

References

- Hayt, William H., JR., Kemmerly, Jack E., ***Engineering Circuit Analysis*** (New York, McGraw-Hill, 1978).
- Grossner, Nathan R., ***Transformers for Electronic Circuits*** (New York, McGraw-Hill, 1983).