•Experiment Study on an Inductive Superconducting Fault Current Limiter Using No-Insulation Coils

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Introduction

- A novel inductive superconducting fault current limiter (iSFCL), using NI coils as the secondary shielding winding, is fabricated and tested, which is based on that the NI coil can shield alternating magnetic field [1].
- The impedance variation test is conducted using a current source. And the fault current limiting is conducted on a 40 V / 3.3 kA short circuit platform, whose voltage can be adjusted from 0 to 40 V.
- This research is aimed to verify the feasibility of applying the NI coils into iSFCL, which is a trial on the AC power area of NI coil.

Experiment Setup

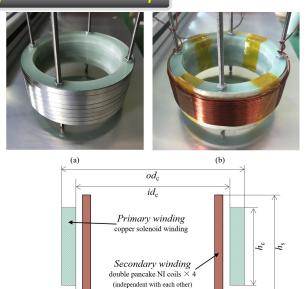


Fig. 1. Photos of the iSFCL prototype, (a) the secondary shielding winding and (b) the copper winding. (c) Diagrammatic sketch of the iSFCL prototype.

Table 1. Specifications of YBCO tape and NI coil

| Specifications | Values |
|--|---|
| Tape width | 4.8 mm |
| Thickness | 0.25 mm |
| I _c / n-value (@77 K, Self-field) | 40 A / 28 |
| i. d. / o. d. | 110 mm / 113 mm |
| Height | 9.6 mm |
| No. of turns | 10 |
| I _{c-coil} (@77 K) | 28 A |
| Time constant | 1.49 s |
| Equivalent turn-to-turn resistor | 0.015 mΩ |
| | Tape width Thickness $I_{\rm c}$ / n-value (@77 K, Self-field) i. d. / o. d. Height No. of turns $I_{\rm c-coil}$ (@77 K) Time constant |

Table 2. Dimensions of the iSFCL prototype.

| Item | Specifications | Values |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Secondary shielding winding | Height, $h_{\rm s}$ | 40 mm |
| | i. d. / o. d., id_s / od_s | 110 mm / 113 mm |
| | No. of NI coils | 4 |
| | Total no. of turns, $N_{\rm s}$ | 40 |
| Primary copper winding | Height, h _c | 30 mm |
| | i. d. / o. d., $id_{\rm c}$ / $od_{\rm c}$ | 115 mm / 118.5 mm |
| | No. of turns, $N_{\rm c}$ | 50 |
| Total | Gap between primary winding and secondary winding, gap | 1 mm |
| | | |

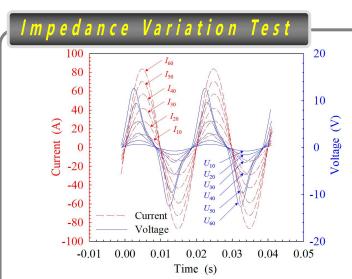


Fig. 2. Waveforms of current and voltage of the iSFCL prototype under different currents (50 Hz) in two cycles.

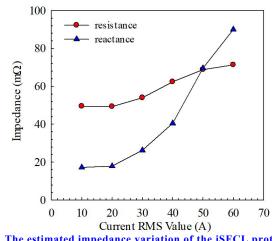


Fig. 3. The estimated impedance variation of the iSFCL prototype under different currents (50 Hz).



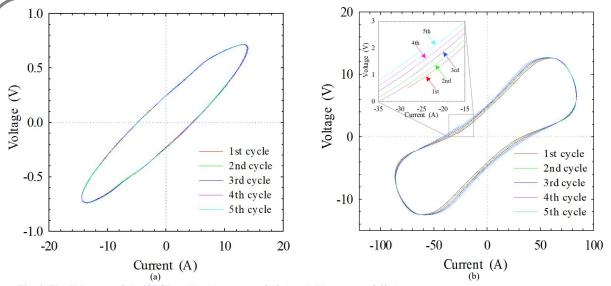


Fig. 4. The U-I curve of the iSFCL under (a) current of 10 A and (b) current of 60 A.

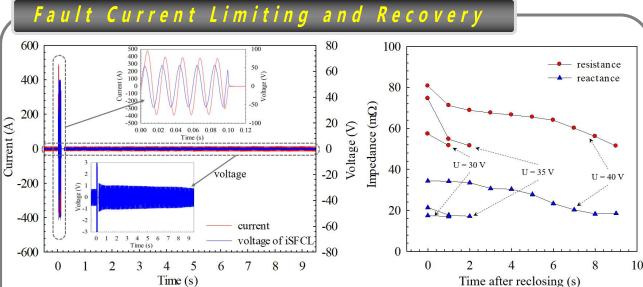


Fig. 5. Fault current limiting. The peak fault current of 3.3 kA is limited to 478 A. After 100 ms recovery, the circuit is reclosed to simulate the auto-reclosing in actual power grid.

Fig. 6. Recovery of the iSFCL under different voltage of the short circuit experiment platform.

Conclusion

- The result shows that the iSFCL impedance is very sensitive to the operating current. It can rise from 49.5+17.2 j m Ω to 71.3+90 j m Ω when operating current rises from 10 A to 60 A.
- The iSFCL can successfully limit the fault current from 3.3 kA to 478 A in the first peak. Also, the recovery of the iSFCL is tested. The recovery speed of the secondary winding is very fast, while that of the copper winding is much slower. An improvement of adding another primary superconducting winding will be carried on in the next step.

[1] D. Qiu, J. Zhang et al., "Feasibility Study of Closed-Loop No-Insulation Coil to Shield Alternating Magnetic Field," IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond., vol. 27, no. 6, pp. 1-5, Sep. 2017.