Parametric calculation of pulse transformer with open magnetic cores based on magnetostatic-field theory

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An analytical method for calculating the magnetostatic field of a pulse transformer with open magnetic cores is put forward in this paper, and formulas for calculating inductances of a small aspect-ratio transformer are derived. In comparison to results calculated by finite element magnetostatic-field simulations, the calculated values of inductance of primary winding L_1 and the inductance of secondary winding L_2 have a relative error of about 5%, while the error of the coupling coefficient (k) is less than 2%. Meanwhile, the effect of current nonuniformity in the primary winding on magnetizing inductance is studied. According to the calculated results, this effect reduces the magnetizing inductance and the coupling coefficient of the transformer, and can lead to an overvoltage phenomenon on the secondary winding. A small aspect-ratio pulse transformer with open magnetic cores is developed, which has a small size of 250 mm \times 150 mm in length and diameter, respectively. Inductances of the transformer are measured. The measured results show that the transformer can export a high-voltage pulse with an amplitude of 310 kV and full width at half maximum of 1 μ s.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Intense electron-beam accelerators (IEBA) based on the Blumlein line are widely used in a great variety of applications such as lasers, high power microwave generators, x-pinch and x-ray generation, and so on. In the traditional IEBA, the Marx generator was usually used to charge the pulse forming line (PFL) of IEBA. However, it was difficult to operate under a high repetition rate. In order to improve the repetition rate of IEBA, tesla transformers with compact axial structure and high coupling coefficient were widely used to charge PFL. Mesyats and his partners put the tesla transformer with open magnetic cores into a PFL [1] for the first time, and developed "Sinus"-series accelerators successfully. Transformer oil was used as the dielectric material of the PFL with impedance of 50 Ω , and the repetition frequency of the Sinus-type accelerator was up to 100 Hz. At the same time, people did much work on an accelerator based on a water PFL charged by a tesla transformer [2–7], which operated repetitively with low impedance. It was used to drive a low-impedance microwave source or generate electron beam for material surface treatment. The tesla transformer was a key part and foundation of this kind of accelerator [8-10]. Korovin extrapolated the parametric calculation formulas of the open-core type of tesla transformer with a large aspect ratio (large aspect ratio represents the ratio of length and radius of the magnetic core is larger than 4:1) [11], and analyzed an interturn voltage distribution of the secondary winding. The coupling coefficient was calculated based on an exact magnetostatic-field theory [12]. The formula derived by Korovin in Ref. [11] was simple and convenient for engineering design, and it was suitable for compact transformers whose magnetic cores were partly inside the PFL. However, it became not correct enough for transformers whose magnetic cores were not inside the PFL, especially when transformers had a small aspect ratio or the permeability of the magnetic cores was not large enough. The formula in Ref. [12] gave the solution in series, so it is difficult to be used in engineering design. Moreover, both of the two methods were based on the magnetostatic-field condition, and the effects of frequency on inductances were not taken into consideration.

According to magnetostatic-field theory, an approximate analytic solution describing the magnet field in a transformer with an open magnetic core is put forward, and formulas for inductance calculations of the transformer are extrapolated. Then a pulse transformer with an open magnetic core is designed and the main parameters are calculated by four different methods. The first three methods all assume complete magnetostatic conditions so that the current in the primary winding is uniform: (1) Finite elements magnetostatic-field simulations, (2) using the formulas derived in this paper, and (3) the formula derived by Korovin in Ref. [11]. The fourth method, which is developed in this paper, does not require magnetostatic conditions and it allows for nonuniformity in the primary

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FIG. 1. Structure of the transformer with an open magnetic core.

winding as the frequency increases. These calculations all are compared with experimental inductance measurements in Sec. III.

II. THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF INDUCTANCES OF TRANSFORMER WINDINGS

A. Magnetostatic-field analysis

The structure of a pulse transformer with an open magnetic core is shown in Fig. 1, where r_0 and r_1 represent the outer diameter of the inner magnetic core and the inner diameter of the outer magnetic core, and l_{k1} , l_{k2} stand for the lengths of the primary winding and secondary winding, respectively. l_T is the length of the magnetic core, whose relative permeability is μ_r . S_1 and S_2 stand for effective cross-section areas of the inner and the outer magnetic cores. N_1 and N_2 represent the turn number of primary winding and secondary winding, respectively. Magnetic field distribution is shown in Fig. 2. Assuming that the radial magnetic field in the magnetic cores is uniform, the magnetic field of the inner and outer magnetic cores can be described by $H_{m1}(z)$ and $H_{m2}(z)$. The field in the spacing between the magnetic cores includes an axial and a radial component, which are $H_{gz}(z, r)$ and $H_{gr}(z, r)$, respectively. As the main magnetic flux of the transformer is mainly determined by H_m , H_{gz} is ignored in the analysis at first.



FIG. 2. Magnetic field distribution of the transformer.

Assuming the primary current defined as I_1 is uniformly distributed in primary winding which is located at the middle of magnetic core, and boundary conditions are the same at both ends of the magnetic core. Thus, the transformer has a symmetrical magnetic field distribution.

According to flux conservation,

$$\mu_r \frac{\partial H_{m1} S_1}{\partial z} + 2\pi r H_{gr} = 0 \tag{1}$$

and

$$H_{m1}S_1 = H_{m2}S_2. (2)$$

From Ampere's circuital law,

$$H_{m1} + H_{m2} + \int_{r_0}^{r_1} \frac{\partial H_{gr}}{\partial z} dr = \begin{cases} N_1 I_1 / l_{k1} & 0 < z < l_{k1} / 2 \\ 0 & l_{k1} / 2 < z < l_T / 2. \end{cases}$$
(3)

Combining Eqs. (1)–(3), it is obtained that

$$(1 + S_1/S_2)H_{m1} - \frac{\mu_r S_1 \ln(r_1/r_0)}{2\pi} \frac{\partial^2 H_{m1}}{\partial z^2} = \begin{cases} N_1 I_1/l_{k1} & 0 < z < l_{k1}/2 \\ 0 & l_{k1}/2 < z < l_T/2. \end{cases}$$
(4)

Then

$$(z) = \begin{cases} A \exp(-\omega z) + B \exp(\omega z) + S_2 N_1 I_1 / (S_1 + S_2) l_{k1} & 0 < z < l_{k1} / 2 \\ A_1 \exp(-\omega z) + B_1 \exp(\omega z) & l_{k1} / 2 < z < l_T / 2, \end{cases}$$
(5)

where

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{(1 + S_1/S_2)2\pi}{\mu_r S_1 \ln(r_1/r_0)}}.$$
(6)

The boundary conditions of Eq. (5) are

 H_{m1}

$$H'_{m1}(0) = 0, \qquad H_{m1}(l^+_{k1}/2) = H_{m1}(l^-_{k1}/2), \qquad H'_{m1}(l^+_{k1}/2) = H'_{m1}(l^-_{k1}/2).$$
 (7)

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However, there are four variables in Eq. (5), so one more boundary condition is required. According to the practical condition, we can get the last one boundary condition. Here, two familiar cases are taken into account.

Case 1.—The magnetic cores are inside metal of the PFL such as the pulse transformer in compact generator "SINUS120", and H_z is close to zero at the ends of the magnetic core under high frequency because of the shield of metal.

That is,

$$H_{m1}(l_T/2) = 0. (8)$$

Then, we get

$$H_{m1}(z) = -\frac{N_1 I_1 S_2}{(S_1 + S_2) l_{k1}} \frac{\cosh[\omega (l_T - l_{k1})/2] \cosh(\omega z)}{\cosh(\omega l_T/2)} + \frac{N_1 I_1 S_2}{(S_1 + S_2) l_{k1}}, \qquad 0 < z < \frac{l_{k1}}{2}.$$
(9)

Case 2.—Sometimes, we just need a discrete transformer, and the magnetic cores of the transformer are not inside metal. Magnetic cores are totally open at their ends. In this case, H_z at the ends of the magnetic core is no more 0. However, we can evaluate the magnet field in the area at $z > l_T/2$. Assuming magnetic fields in the corresponding air are $H_{m1'}$ and $H_{gr'}$, which correspond to H_{m1} and H_{gr} , and they go to 0 at infinity. So the solution of $H_{m1'}$ has a similar form with Eq. (5). That is,

$$H_{m1'} = A_2 \exp(-\omega_1 z).$$
(10)

Here, ω_1 is derived by substituting μ_r with 1 in Eq. (6). Using continuous conditions at $l_T/2$, we get another restriction:

$$A_{1} = B_{1} \frac{1 + \sqrt{\mu_{r}}}{1 - \sqrt{\mu_{r}}} \exp(\omega l_{T}).$$
(11)

Then

$$H_{m1}(z) = -\frac{N_1 I_1 S_2}{(S_1 + S_2) l_{k1}} \frac{2\{\sqrt{\mu_r} \cosh[\omega(l_T - l_{k1})/2] + \sinh[\omega(l_T - l_{k1})/2]\}}{\sqrt{\mu_r} \cosh(\omega l_T/2) + \sinh(\omega l_T/2)} \cosh(\omega z) + \frac{N_1 I_1 S_2}{(S_1 + S_2) l_{k1}}, \qquad 0 < z < l_{k1}/2.$$
(12)

B. Parametric calculation

Only the axial component of the magnetic field H_{zr} is needed when we calculate inductances of the transformer, and H_{zr} is derived by

$$\frac{\partial H_{gr}}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial H_{gz}}{\partial r} = 0.$$
(13)

Namely,

$$H_{gz} = \int_{r_0}^r \frac{\partial H_{gr}}{\partial z} dr + H_{m1}.$$
 (14)

Through substituting Eq. (9) into Eq. (14),

$$H_{gz} = H_{m1} \left[1 - \frac{\ln r/r_0}{\ln r_1/r_0} \left(1 + \frac{S_1}{S_2} \right) \right] + \frac{\ln(r/r_0)}{\ln(r_1/r_0)} \frac{N_1 I_1}{l_{k1}}.$$
(15)

As $H_{m1} \ll N_1 I_1/l_{k1}$,

$$H_{gz} \approx \frac{\ln r/r_0}{\ln r_1/r_0} \frac{NI_1}{l_{k1}}.$$
 (16)

Define Φ_e as the average magnetic flux through coil

$$\Phi_e = N \int_{\Omega} \mu H_z dV / l_k, \tag{17}$$

where H_z is the axial magnetic field through the coil, N represents the turn number of the corresponding coil (turn

number of primary winding and secondary winding are N_1 and N_2 , respectively). Ω and l_k stand for volume and length of the coil, respectively. So mutual inductance Mis derived as

$$MI_1 = \Phi_{e12} = N_2 \int_{V_{k2}} \mu H_z dV / l_{k2}.$$
 (18)

Magnetizing inductance is derived as $L_{\mu} = MN_1/N_2$.

Assuming $l_{k1} = l_{k2} = l_k$, the leakage inductance L_{s1} of the primary coil is derived by

$$L_{s1}I_1 = \Phi_{es} = N_1 \int_{V_{k12}} \mu H_z dV / l_k.$$
(19)

Here, V_{k2} stands for the area inside the secondary winding, and V_{k12} is the area between primary winding and the secondary winding. The area V_{k2} and V_{k12} is shown in Fig. 2. Assume leakage inductance (L_{s1}) of primary winding equals that (L_{s2}) of secondary winding, namely $L_{s1} = L_{s2} = L_s$. So inductance of the primary winding L_1 , inductance of the secondary winding L_2 , and the coupling coefficient of the transformer k are calculated as

$$L_{1} = L_{\mu} + L_{s},$$

$$L_{2} = (N_{2}/N_{1})^{2}L_{1},$$

$$k = L_{u}/L_{1} = 1 - L_{s}/L_{\mu}.$$
(20)

For case 1,

$$L_{\mu} = \frac{\mu_{0}\mu_{r}S_{1}S_{2}N_{1}^{2}}{(S_{1}+S_{2})l_{k}} \left\{ 1 - \frac{2\cosh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2]}{\omega l_{k}\cosh(\omega l_{T}/2)} \sinh\left(\frac{\omega l_{k}}{2}\right) \right\} + \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}} \left[\frac{r_{1}^{3}}{6(r_{1}-r_{0})} - \frac{5r_{1}^{2}-4r_{0}^{2}+5r_{0}r_{1}}{36\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})}\right], \quad (21)$$

and

$$L_{s} = \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}} \left[\frac{2r_{1}^{3} - 3r_{0}r_{1}^{2}}{6(r_{1} - r_{0})} - \frac{4r_{1}^{2} - 5r_{0}^{2} - 5r_{0}r_{1}}{36\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})} \right].$$
(22)

If $\omega l_T \ll 1$, $l_T \gg r_1$, Eq. (21) can be simplified as

$$L_{\mu} = \frac{\pi \mu_0 N_1^2 (l_T - 2/3 l_k)}{2 \ln(r_1/r_0)}.$$
(23)

According to Eq. (20), when $l_k/l_T = 0.6$, it is easy to find that the coupling coefficient k of the transformer becomes largest if the length of the magnetic core l_T is fixed. That is different from the result in Ref. [11] where the coupling coefficient becomes largest when $l_k/l_T = 0.5$.

For case 2,

$$L_{\mu} = \frac{\mu_{0}\mu_{r}S_{1}S_{2}N_{1}^{2}I_{1}}{(S_{1}+S_{2})l_{k}} \left\{ 1 - \frac{2\{\sqrt{\mu_{r}}\cosh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2] + \sinh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2]\}}{\omega l_{k}[\sqrt{\mu_{r}}\cosh(\omega l_{T}/2) + \sinh(\omega l_{T}/2)]} \sinh\left(\frac{\omega l_{k}}{2}\right) \right\} + \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}} \left[\frac{r_{1}^{3}}{6(r_{1}-r_{0})} - \frac{5r_{1}^{2}-4r_{0}^{2}+5r_{0}r_{1}}{36\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})} \right],$$
(24)

and the expression of L_s is the same as Eq. (22).

C. Effect of nonuniform distribution of current in primary coil

Actually, the current distribution in primary winding is not as uniform as that in the magnetostatic-field condition. Because of skin effect, current density at the edge of the winding is larger than that at the middle at high frequency. Assuming current density distribution in primary winding is j(z), Eq. (4) changes to the equation below:

$$(1 + S_1/S_2)H_{m1} - \frac{\mu_r S_1 \ln(r_1/r_0)}{2\pi} \frac{\partial^2 H_{m1}}{\partial z^2} = \begin{cases} j(z) & 0 < z < l_k/2\\ 0 & l_k/2 < z < l_T/2. \end{cases}$$
(25)

Analyzing case 1 only, we get

$$H_{m1}(z) = \left\{ -\frac{\omega \cosh[\omega(l_T - l_k)/2]I(l_k/2) + \sinh[\omega(l_T - l_k)/2]I'(l_k/2)}{\omega \cosh(\omega l_T/2)} \cosh(\omega z) \right\} + I(z), \qquad 0 < z < l_k/2, \quad (26)$$

and

$$H_{gz} \approx \frac{\ln r/r_0}{\ln r_1/r_0} j(z). \tag{27}$$

Then

$$L_{1} = \frac{2\mu S_{1}N_{1}}{l_{k}I_{1}} \left\{ -\frac{\omega \cosh[\omega(l_{T} - l_{k})/2]I(l_{k}/2) + \sinh[\omega(l_{T} - l_{k})/2]I'(l_{k}/2)}{\omega^{2} \cosh(\omega l_{T}/2)} \sinh\left(\frac{\omega l_{k}}{2}\right) + \int_{0}^{l_{k}/2} I(z)dz \right\} + \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}} \left[\frac{r_{1}^{2}}{2} - \frac{r_{1}^{2} - r_{0}^{2}}{4\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})}\right],$$
(28)

where I(z) is the special solution to Eq. (25). We can approximately describe j(z) by

$$j(z) = \frac{N_1 I_1 b \cosh(bz)}{2 \sinh(bl_k/2)},$$
(29)

where b describes the nonuniformity of current on primary winding. As b becomes larger, current will focus on the edge of the primary winding gradually. At that point, the special solution to Eq. (25) is as

$$I(z) = \frac{S_2 \omega^2 j(z)}{(\omega^2 - b^2)(S_1 + S_2)}.$$
(30)

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We just consider an extreme situation where *b* becomes infinitely large. In this case, the skin effect is so serious that current fully focuses on the edge of primary winding. Inductance of the primary winding is calculated as

$$L_{1} = \frac{\mu_{0}\mu_{r}S_{1}S_{2}N_{1}^{2}}{(S_{1}+S_{2})l_{k}} \left\{ \frac{\sinh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2)\sinh(\omega l_{k}/2)}{\cosh(\omega l_{T}/2)} \right\} + \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}} \left[\frac{r_{1}^{2}}{2} - \frac{r_{1}^{2}-r_{0}^{2}}{4\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})} \right].$$
(31)

If $\omega l_T \ll 1$, $l_T \gg r_1$, Eq. (31) can be simplified as Eq. (32), which is the same as the equation in Ref. [11]:

$$L_{\mu} = \frac{\pi \mu_0 N_1^2 (l_T - l_k)}{2 \ln(r_1/r_0)}.$$
(32)

Inductance of primary winding in case 2 can be obtained similarly when b becomes infinitely large:

$$L_{1} = \frac{\mu_{0}\mu_{r}S_{1}S_{2}N_{1}^{2}}{(S_{1}+S_{2})l_{k}} \frac{\{\sqrt{\mu_{r}}\sinh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2] + \cosh[\omega(l_{T}-l_{k})/2]\}}{[\sqrt{\mu_{r}}\cosh(\omega l_{T}/2) + \sinh(\omega l_{T}/2)]} \sinh\left(\frac{\omega l_{k}}{2}\right) + \frac{2\pi\mu_{0}N_{1}^{2}}{l_{k}}\left[\frac{r_{1}^{2}}{2} - \frac{r_{1}^{2} - r_{0}^{2}}{4\ln(r_{1}/r_{0})}\right].$$
(33)

Comparing Eq. (32) with Eq. (23), we can find that magnetizing inductance is largely decreased when the current distribution in the primary coil is seriously nonuniform. At the same time, according to Eqs. (26) and (27), when currents converge at the edge of primary winding, magnetic fields in the spacing between magnetic cores will also converge at the edge. According to electromagnetic induction law, the induced voltage on fringe turns of the secondary winding is larger than that of others because the magnetic flux getting through fringe turns is larger. It can lead to an overvoltage phenomenon at two ends of secondary winding when the transformer operates, especially at the larger end of secondary winding.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF PULSE TRANSFORMER WITH OPEN MAGNETIC CORE

A. Development of pulse transformer

To verify the correctness of the formulas derived in Sec. II, a pulse transformer with open magnetic core is designed. The photograph of the pulse transformer is shown in Fig. 3, and the diagram of the cross section is shown in Fig. 4. The transformer has a small size, whose dimensions are $250 \text{ mm} \times 150 \text{ mm}$ in length and diameter,



FIG. 3. Photograph of the pulse transformer.

respectively. Structure parameters of the developed pulse transformer are shown as below: $u_r = 1000$, $r_0 = 25$ mm, $r_1 = 41$ mm, $S_1 = 1500$ mm², $S_2 = 1100$ mm², $l_T = 100$ mm, $l_{k1} = l_{k2} = 60$ mm, $N_1 = 2.1$, $N_2 = 310$.

B. Parameters test

LCR meter Hp4284A is used to measure inductances of the transformer. Table I compares results of a variety of calculated and experimental values of pulse transformer inductances and coupling coefficients. Results are shown for two different cases: case 1, when the ends of the magnetic cores are buried in metal, and case 2, when the ends of the cores are open. The first three rows in Table I show results for magnetostatic calculations, finite elemental magnetostatic-field simulations, Eqs. (20)-(22) and (24) derived in this paper and Korovin's formula from Ref. [11]. Models for the finite elemental magnetostaticfield simulations are shown in Figs. 5 and 6, and PEC in the figures stands for perfect conductor. We expect the numeric error in these simulations to be very small because a small grid size was used in the calculations. The next three rows in Table I show limited experimental results at 100 Hz and then full L_1 , L_2 , and coupling coefficient (k) results at



FIG. 4. Diagram of the cross section of the pulse transformer.

Case 1	L_1	L_2	k	Case 2	L_1	L_2	k
Magnetostatic-field simulations	1.20 µH	26.50 mH	0.923	Magnetostatic-field simulations	1.37 μH	31.11 mH	0.935
Eqs. (19)–(21)	1.26 μH	27.10 mH	0.910	Eqs. (19), (21), and (23)	1.46 μH	31.70 mH	0.918
Formula in [11]	0.86 µH	18.90 mH	0.881	Formula in [11]	0.86 µH	18.90 mH	0.881
100 Hz		31.05 mH		100 Hz		31.89 mH	
1 kHz	1.36 µH	31.05 mH	0.914	1 kHz	1.42 μH	29.28 mH	0.925
10 kHz	1.10 µH	21.85 mH	0.905	10 kHz	1.24 μH	24.77 mH	0.915
Eq. (31)	0.92 μH	20.00 mH		Eq. (33)	1.13 μH	24.50 mH	

TABLE I. Results of inductance parameters of the pulse transformer with four methods

frequencies of 1 and 10 kHz. Finally, the last row of Table I compares the experimental results at 10 kHz with the results of calculations based on Eqs. (31) and (33) of this paper that abandon the magnetostatic restriction and allow for nonuniform current density in the coil.

The magnetostatic-field simulation values of L_1 and L_2 differ from the values obtained from Eqs. (20)–(24) in this work by only about 5% while the k values differ by less than 2%. When Korovin's equation for large aspect-ratio transformers is applied to our small aspect-ratio transformers in case 2, it gives magnetizing inductance values that are about 30%–40% too low. The measured result for L_2 at 100 Hz is close to magnetostatic calculations for case 2



FIG. 5. Model in the finite elemental magnetostatic-field simulations for case 1.



FIG. 6. Model in the finite elemental magnetostatic-field simulations for case 2.

with open core ends. For case 1, the low-frequency magnetic fields can penetrate the metal ends of the magnetic core and, hence, the magnetostatic results are not accurate.

As the test frequency increases from 100 to 10 kHz, the inductance of the transformer decreases sharply, becoming close to the nonmagnetostatic results obtained from Eqs. (31) and (33). These changes in inductance result from nonuniform current distribution in the primary winding, which reduces the magnetizing inductance and coupling coefficient of the transformer. So, it is meaningful to try to find a method to improve the current distribution in the primary winding.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS OF PULSE TRANSFORMER AND ITS APPLICATION

The test experiment on the transformer shown in Figs. 3 and 4 was carried out and schematics of the experiment are shown in Fig. 7. Most ends of the magnetic cores are open except the end where a copper secondary output exists, so the transformer design in this part is similar to case 2. Test results shows that primary inductance of the transformer $L_1 = 1.2 \ \mu$ H, secondary inductance $L_2 = 24 \ \text{mH}$, and coupling coefficient k = 0.91, which confirms to the calculated result from Eq. (33) in Table I. In Fig. 7, the pulse transformer is used to charge a 52 pF high-voltage load capacitor (C_2). C_1 is the primary energy-storage capacitor with 5 μ F capacitance. R_1 and L_{k1} are stray resistance and inductance of primary circuit, and R_2 is stray resistance of



FIG. 7. Schematics of the test experiment on the pulse transformer.



FIG. 8. Charging voltage waveform of load capacitor C_2 .

the secondary circuit. The charging voltage waveform of C_2 is shown in Fig. 8. When initial charging voltage U_0 of C_1 is 1.9 kV, the peak charging voltage of C_2 is obtained as high as 310 kV and the step-up ratio is 1:163. The peaking voltage time is 1.64 μ s [full width at half Maximum (FWHM) is 1 μ s].

However, as the work frequency of the transformer is as high as 300 kHz, the loss of magnetic cores has to be



FIG. 9. Equivalent schematics used in the circuit simulation calculation.



FIG. 10. Comparison of the simulation waveform and the experimental waveform.

considered. According to Ref. [11], Fig. 9 shows the equivalent circuit of Fig. 7. R_{2o} , C_{2o} , and U_{2o} in Fig. 9 orderly correspond to R_2 , C_2 , and U_2 in Fig. 7, and $R_{2o} = (L_1/L_2)R_2$, $C_{2o} = (L_1/L_2)R_1$, $U_{2o} = (L_1/L_2)^{0.5}U_2$. R_b (2 Ω) describes the loss in magnetic cores. Circuit simulation software is used to calculate the charging voltage of the secondary capacitor C_2 , and the simulative output waveform of the schematics shown in Fig. 9 is presented in Fig. 10. The tested output voltage waveform when breakdown of the secondary switch does not occur is also presented in Fig. 10. (However U_{2o} has been transformed to U_2 in the figure.) Figure 10 shows that simulation waveform and the experimental waveform are superposed approximately, which demonstrates theoretical calculation of the inductance of the pulse transformer is correct.

Experimental results in Fig. 8 show that the pulse transformer can export voltage pulses of 310 kV, and its peaking charging time is 1.64 μ s. Because the pulse transformer has advantages of small size, high step-up ratio, high-voltage outputs, wide response frequency band, and low costs, it can be used as a pulse source to charge the PFL in the lab.

V. CONCLUSIONS

Formulas for calculating inductances of the small aspect-ratio transformer are derived. The values of inductance of primary winding L_1 and inductance of secondary winding L_2 obtained from equations derived in this work differ from the magnetostatic-field simulation values by only about 5%, while the coupling coefficient (k) values differ by less than 2%. Moreover, the effect of current nonuniformity of primary winding on magnetizing inductance is studied. This effect reduces magnetizing inductance and the coupling coefficient of the transformer, and can lead to an overvoltage phenomenon on the secondary winding. So it is meaningful to find a method to improve the current distribution in the primary winding. A small aspect-ratio pulse transformer with open magnetic core is developed. The transformer has a small size, whose dimensions are 250 mm \times 150 mm in length and diameter, respectively. Measured results of inductances of the transformer conform to the law obtained in this work, which demonstrates the theoretical calculation is correct. The tested experiment on the pulse transformer shows that the transformer can export high-voltage pulse with an amplitude of 310 kV and full width at half maximum (FWHM) of 1 μ s. Because the pulse transformer has advantages of small size, high step-up ratio, high-voltage outputs, wide response frequency band, and low costs, it can be used as a pulse source to charge the PFL in the lab.

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