

An introduction to Life-HTS: Liège University finite element models for High-Temperature Superconductors

Benoît VANDERHEYDEN

Dept. of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
School of Engineering
Liège Université, Belgium

B.Vanderheyden@uliege.be
people.montefiore.ulg.ac.be/vdh



Outline

Introduction to Life-HTS

- Life-HTS: scope and framework
- A sketch of the FEM method
- Structure of a GetDP problem

Life-HTS

- Content and structure
- Tackling non-linearities
- Integration over time
- Single time step
- Final remarks

Practical examples

References

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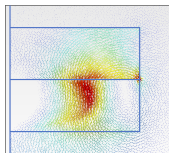
Single time step

Final remarks

Practical examples

References

Life-HTS, scope and framework



life-hts.uliege.be

- ▶ Life-HTS: Liège University finite element models for High-Temperature Superconductors
- ▶ Numerical models for systems that contain both superconducting and ferromagnetic materials

More specifically:

- ▶ Transient analysis for calculating
 - ▶ field maps,
 - ▶ magnetization,
 - ▶ eddy currents,
 - ▶ losses,
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ Stable schemes for dealing with non-linear constitutive laws
- ▶ Includes a coupled A-H formulation for combining ferromagnetic and superconducting materials

Liège University



campus



Montefiore Institute

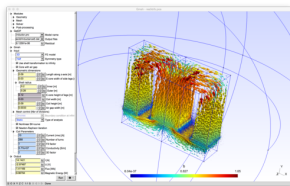
The city of Liège



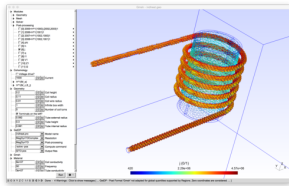
General framework

Under the hood: **ONELAB** 

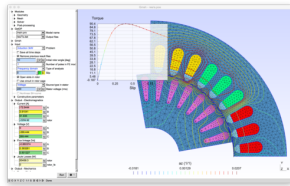
- ▶ Open Numerical Engineering **LAB**oratory, see onelab.info. ONELAB is the main interface and contains
 - ▶ **Gmsh**, a mesh generator,
 - ▶ **GetDP**; a finite element solver.
- ▶ Developed at ULiège by the research group of C. Geuzaine (in collaboration with J.-F. Remacle, UCLouvain, for Gmsh).
- ▶ Open-source, available for Windows, macOS, and Linux.



transformer



induction heating



rotating machine

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A simple 1D boundary value problem

► Solve

$$-\frac{d}{dx} \left(a(x) \frac{du}{dx} \right) + b(x) u = f, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

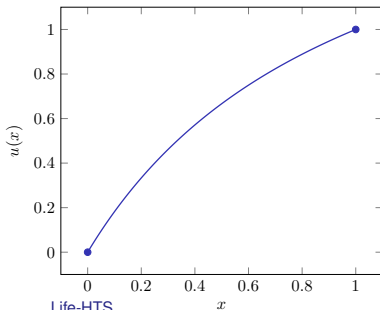
with

$$a(x) = 1 + x, \quad b(x) = \frac{1}{1+x}, \quad f(x) = \frac{2}{1+x},$$

and the Dirichlet boundary conditions $u(0) = 0$ and $u(1) = 1$.

► Solution

$$u(x) = \frac{2x}{1+x}$$



FEM method, step 1

- Approximate $u(x)$ in a finite dimensional space

$$u_m(x) = \phi_0(x) + \sum_{\ell=1}^m \gamma_{\ell} \phi_{\ell}(x),$$

with $\phi_0(x) = x$ such that $\phi_0(0) = 0$ and $\phi_0(1) = 1$, whereas

$$\phi_{\ell}(0) = 0, \quad \phi_{\ell}(1) = 0, \quad \ell = 1, \dots, m.$$

Functions $\phi_{\ell}(x)$ with $\ell > 0$:

- linearly independent
- satisfy **essential**¹ boundary conditions
- their superposition spans an **approximation space**, \mathcal{H}_m^0 , of dimension m .

¹as opposed to natural conditions, arising from an integral term in the weak form.

FEM method, step 2

- Define the residual

$$r(x) = -\frac{d}{dx} \left(a(x) \frac{du_m}{dx} \right) + b(x) u_m - f(x),$$

and require $r(x)$ to be orthogonal to \mathcal{H}_m^0 :

$$(r, \phi_k) = 0, \quad k = 1, \dots, m,$$

where $(u, v) = \int_0^1 u(x)v(x)dx$. This gives, for $k = 1, \dots, m$

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^m \gamma_{\ell} \left(-\frac{d}{dx} \left(a(x) \frac{d\phi_{\ell}}{dx} \right), \phi_k \right) + (b(x) \phi_{\ell}, \phi_k) = (f, \phi_k),$$

with $\gamma_0 = 1$.

FEM method, steps 3 and 4

- **Integrate by part** to relax the differentiability requirements on ϕ_k and seek for a **weak solution**,

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^m a_{k,\ell} \gamma_\ell = (f, \phi_k) - a_{k,0},$$

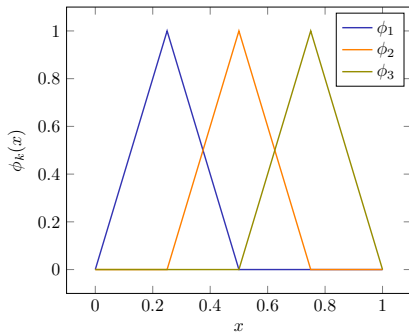
where

$$a_{k,\ell} = \left(a \frac{d\phi_\ell}{dx}, \frac{d\phi_k}{dx} \right) + (b \phi_\ell, \phi_k), \quad k = 1, \dots, m, \quad \ell = 0, \dots, m.$$

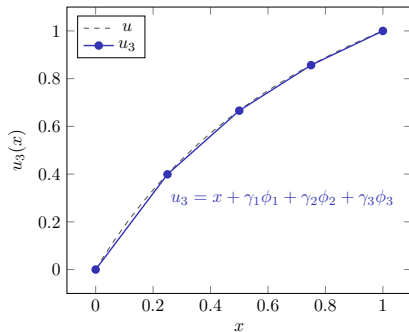
- Choose functions ϕ_k with a **restricted support**. The resulting matrix elements $a_{k,\ell}$ vanish for most values k, ℓ .
A **sparse system** is obtained, which **saves** computational cost.

Numerical example

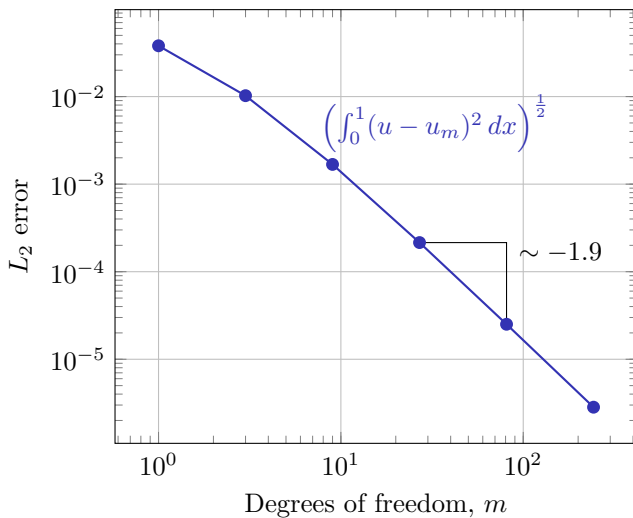
Function space: use nodal functions (here, $m = 3$),



Approximate solution:



Quality of the solution



FEM method: summary

- ▶ Need a **function space** for the approximations u_m ,

$$u_m(x) = \phi_0(x) + \sum_{\ell=1}^m \gamma_{\ell} \phi_{\ell}(x), \text{ with boundary conditions}$$

- ▶ Solve $(r, \phi_k) = 0, \dots$
- ▶ ... in the **weak form**, to get the linear system

$$A \cdot x = b,$$

with

$$A_{k,\ell} = \left(a \frac{d\phi_{\ell}}{dx}, \frac{d\phi_k}{dx} \right) + (b\phi_{\ell}, \phi_k), \quad x_{\ell} = \gamma_{\ell}, \quad \text{and} \quad b_k = (f, \phi_k).$$

In GetDP, a problem is described by specifying the **function space** and the **weak form** equations!

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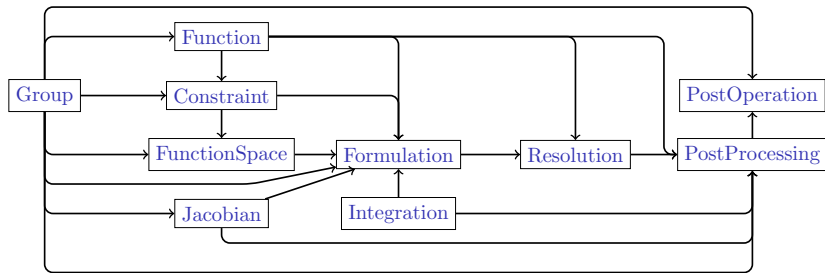
Final remarks

Practical examples

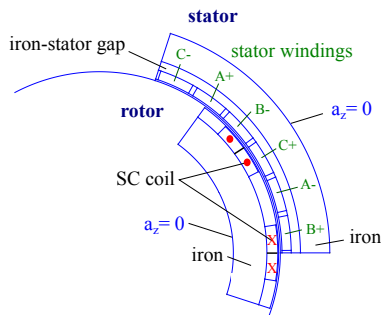
References

GetDP: main structure

- ▶ **GetDP: General environment for the treatment of Discrete Problems**
- ▶ In practice, a text script describing the **problem definition structure**.
- ▶ Needs an input **mesh** (e.g., defined with Gmsh)
- ▶ Definition structure based on different **objects**:



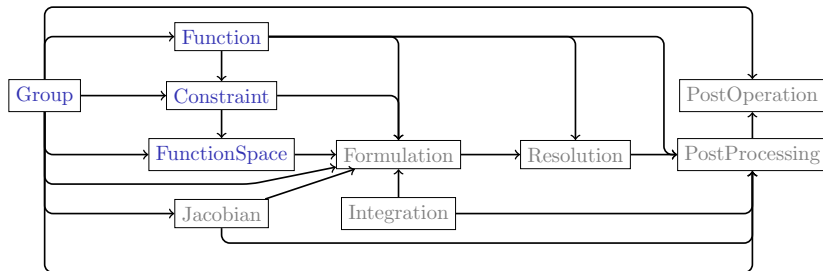
A magnetostatic example: rotating machine



- ▶ Rotating machine, 3 MW of power
- ▶ **Rotor:**
 - ▶ 5 pairs of poles, each pole is a coil of fixed current density
 $j_c = 100 \text{ A/mm}^2$
 - ▶ a rotating iron cylinder ($\mu_r = 1000$)
- ▶ **Stator:**
 - ▶ distributed copper coils of fixed, three-phase, currents = 10 A/mm^2 .
 - ▶ a fixed iron cylinder ($\mu_r = 1000$)

Goal: compute magnetostatic field for different stator-rotor relative angles

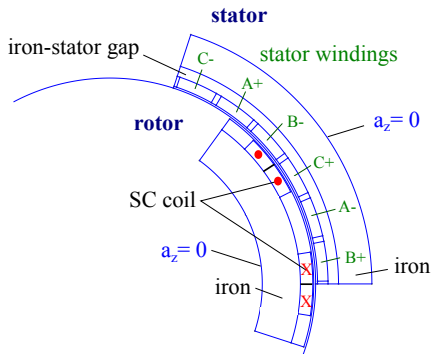
GetDP, objects, 1st part



Let's walk you through the objects step by step ...

Magnetostatic example: Group

File `motor.pro`



Definition of the domains:

```
Group {
  ...
  Rotor_Iron += Region[ ROTOR_IRON ];
  Stator_Iron += Region[ STATOR_IRON ];
  ...
  B_p = Region[ STATOR_INDUCTOR ];
  A_m = Region[ (STATOR_INDUCTOR+1) ];
  C_p = Region[ (STATOR_INDUCTOR+2) ];
  B_m = Region[ (STATOR_INDUCTOR+3) ];
  A_p = Region[ (STATOR_INDUCTOR+4) ];
  C_m = Region[ (STATOR_INDUCTOR+5) ];
  ...
  SurfOut = Region[ ROTOR_BND_IN ];
  SurfOut += Region[ STATOR_BND_OUT ];
  ...
  OmegaC_stranded += Region[ { A_p, A_m, ...
}
```

Here, uppercase parameters are integers used in the geometry definition to represent subdomains.

Magnetostatic example: Function

File `motor.pro`

Define constants, simulation parameters, geometry parameters, ...

```
Function{
  ...
  DefineConstant [ec = 1e-4]; // Critical electric field [V/m]
  DefineConstant [jc = {1e8, Name "Input/4 Material Properties/2jc (A/m2)"}];
    // Critical current density [A/m2]
  ...
  DefineConstant [convergenceCriterion = 0];
  DefineConstant [tol_energy = 1e-6]; // Relative tolerance on the energy estimates
  DefineConstant [tol_abs = 1e-12]; // Absolute tolerance on nonlinear residual
  DefineConstant [tol_rel = 1e-6]; // Relative tolerance on nonlinear residual
  DefineConstant [tol_incr = 5e-3]; // Relative tolerance on the solution increment
  ...
  // Rotation parameters/constants
  rpm = 60*f/p; // Turn per minute
  omega = 2*Pi*rpm/60; // Rotation speed (rad/s)
  ...
}
```

FunctionSpace and Constraint

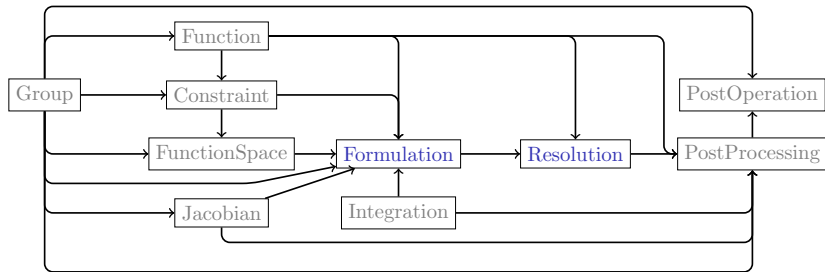
- In `motor.pro`, define a Dirichlet condition on the exterior boundary `SurfOut`:

```
Constraint {
  { Name a ;
    Case {
      {Region SurfOut ; Value 0 ;}
    }
  }
  ...
}
```

- In `formulations.pro`, define the approximation space for the vector potential $\mathbf{a} = (0, 0, a_z(x, y))$ (node-based):

```
FunctionSpace {
  ...
  // 1: In 2D with in-plane b
  // a = sum a_n * psi_n (nodes in Omega_a)
  { Name a_space_2D; Type Form1P;
    BasisFunction {
      { Name psin; NameOfCoef an; Function BF_PerpendicularEdge;
        Support Omega_a; Entity NodesOf[All]; }
    }
    Constraint {
      { NameOfCoef an; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint a; }
    }
  }
}
```

GetDP, objects, 2nd part



Magnetostatic example: equations

- ▶ Start with $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j}$ with $\mathbf{h} = (1/\mu) \mathbf{b}$.
- ▶ The permeability μ is defined piece-wise: $\mu = \mu_0$ in SC, $\mu > \mu_0$ in FM, ...
- ▶ Eliminating \mathbf{h} and \mathbf{b} , we have

$$\mathbf{curl} (\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{j}, \quad \text{with} \quad \nu = 1/\mu.$$

- ▶ Project LHS-RHS on the test functions \mathbf{a}'_k :

$$\left(\mathbf{curl} (\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}), \mathbf{a}'_k \right)_{\Omega} - \left(\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{a}'_k \right)_{\Omega_c} = 0$$

Magnetostatic example, weak formulation

- Integrate by parts, using the equality

$$(\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})_{\Omega} = \langle \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\Gamma} + (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v})_{\Omega},$$

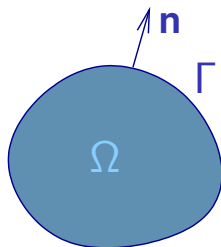
where

$$(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})_{\Omega} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega, \quad \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle_{\Gamma} = \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \, d\Gamma,$$

to get

$$\left(\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}'_k \right)_{\Omega} + \left\langle \mathbf{n} \times (\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}), \mathbf{a}'_k \right\rangle_{\Gamma} = \left(\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{a}'_k \right)_{\Omega_c}.$$

Here the surface term $\left\langle \mathbf{n} \times (\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}), \mathbf{a}'_k \right\rangle_{\Gamma}$ vanishes due to boundary conditions.



Magnetostatic example: Formulation

File `formulation.pro`

The formulation equations are a direct transcription of the weak formulation. Here, the actual formulation, simplified for a linear ferromagnetic law and a static problem:

```
Formulation {
  { Name MagDyn_avtot; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name a; Type Local; NameOfSpace a_space_2D; }
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ nu[] * Dof{d a} , {d a} ];
                 In MagnLinDomain; Integration Int; Jacobian Vol; }
      Galerkin { [ -js[] , {a} ];
                 In OmegaC_stranded; Integration Int; Jacobian Vol; }
    }
  }
}
```

Notes:

- ▶ d is an exterior derivative, here the curl operator.
- ▶ `Dof{a}` denotes an unknown (it goes in \mathbf{x} , in $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$).
- ▶ Each Galerkin term must either be linear w.r.t. `Dof{ }` (bilinear term, LHS $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x}$) or not involve `Dof{ }` (linear term, RHS \mathbf{b}). Galerkin terms are summed, with a sum implicitly set to 0.

Magnetostatic example: Resolution

File `resolution.pro`

The place where you write the operations to be performed.

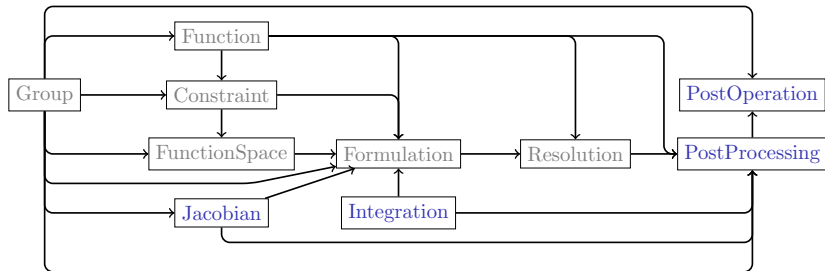
The simplest one:

```
Resolution {  
  { Name MagSta_a;  
    System {  
      { Name A; NameOfFormulation MagDyn_avtot; }  
    }  
    Operation {  
      Generate[A]; Solve[A]; SaveSolution[A];  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Otherwise, specify

- ▶ the `non-linear iteration` scheme
- ▶ the `time-stepping` strategy

GetDP, objects, 3rd part



Magnetostatic example: Jacobian

File: `formulation.pro`

Jacobian: associated with the geometry (2D, axisymmetric, ...)

```
Jacobian {  
  // For volume integration (Dim N)  
  { Name Vol ;  
    Case {  
      If(Axisymmetry == 0)  
        // Classical transformation Jacobian  
        {Region All ; Jacobian Vol ;}  
      Else  
        // Axisymmetric problems  
        ...  
        // Second-type, better suited to PerpendicularEdge basis functions  
        {Region Omega_a ; Jacobian VolAxisSqu ;}  
      EndIf  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Magnetostatic example: Integration

File: `formulation.pro`

Integration: specifies the type of integration (here, Gauss quadrature) and the number of points

```
Integration {  
  { Name Int ;  
    Case {  
      { Type Gauss ;  
        Case {  
          { GeoElement Point ; NumberOfPoints 1 ; }  
          { GeoElement Line ; NumberOfPoints 3 ; }  
          { GeoElement Triangle ; NumberOfPoints 3 ; }  
          ...  
        }  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Magnetostatic example: PostProcessing / PostOperation

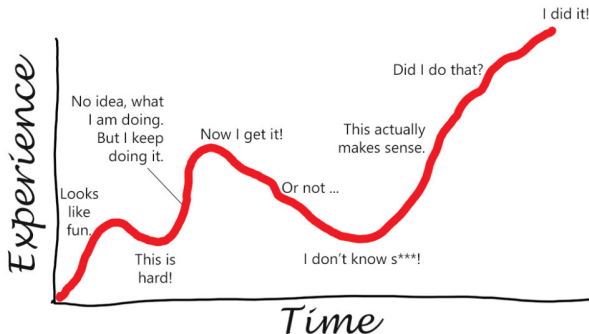
Files `formulations.pro` and `motors.pro`

```
PostProcessing {
  { Name MagDyn_avtot; NameOfFormulation MagDyn_avtot;
    Quantity {
      { Name a; Value{ Local{ [ {a} ] ;
        In Omega; Jacobian Vol; } } }
      { Name az; Value{ Local{ [ CompZ[{a}] ] ;
        In Omega; Jacobian Vol; } } }
      { Name b; Value{ Local{ [ {d a} ] ;
        In Omega; Jacobian Vol; } } }
      ...
    }
  }
}
```

```
PostOperation {
  { Name MagDyn;
    NameOfPostProcessing MagDyn_avtot;
    Operation {
      Print[ az, OnElementsOf Omega , File "res/a.pos", Name "a [Tm]", LastTimeStepOnly
        onelabInterface];
      ...
    }
  }
}
```

Postoperations can be performed after the resolution (to analyse results), or during the resolution (when auxiliary quantities are needed).

Learning curve



Check the tutorials and the numerous examples on onelab.info!

Magnetostatic example: demo!

Magnetostatic example: tips and tricks

A few tips on the syntax for fields:

- ▶ $\text{Dof}\{a\}$: indicates that the field $\{a\}$ is an unknown (i.e. is the vector x in $A \cdot x = b$)
- ▶ $\{a\}$: the last computed value of $\{a\}$
- ▶ $\{da\}$: the exterior derivative of $\{a\}$,
 - ▶ a 0-form field $\{a\}$, or scalar field (“continuous across nodes”), gives $\{da\} = \{\text{Grad } a\}$, a 1-form vector field (“continuous across edges”);
 - ▶ a 1-form field $\{a\}$ gives $\{da\} = \{\text{Curl } a\}$, a 2-form vector field (“continuous across facets”)

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- Final remarks

Practical examples

References

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Back to Life

- ▶ Life-HTS was developed by J. Dular, C. Geuzaine, and B. Vanderheyden
- ▶ Life-HTS is about solving Maxwell's equations in the magnetodynamic approximation,

$$\mathbf{div} \mathbf{b} = 0 \quad \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j} \quad \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b},$$

with

\mathbf{b} , the magnetic flux density (T),

\mathbf{h} , the magnetic field (A/m),

\mathbf{j} , the current density (A/m²)

\mathbf{e} , the electric field,

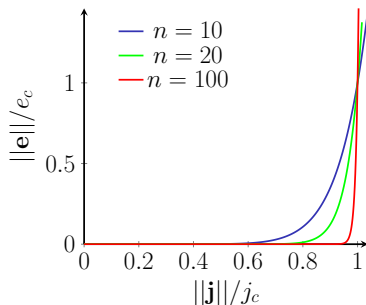
while the displacement current $\partial \mathbf{d} / \partial t$ is ignored.

- ▶ Need constitutive relationships relating \mathbf{b} to \mathbf{h} and \mathbf{e} to \mathbf{j} .

Constitutive laws

1. High-temperature superconductors (SC):

$$\mathbf{e} = \rho(\|\mathbf{j}\|) \mathbf{j} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \mu_0 \mathbf{h},$$



where the electrical resistivity is given as

$$\rho(\|\mathbf{j}\|) = \frac{e_c}{j_c} \left(\frac{\|\mathbf{j}\|}{j_c} \right)^{n-1},$$

with $e_c = 10^{-4}$ V/m,
 j_c , the critical current density,
 n , the flux creep exponent,
 $n \in [10, 1000]$.

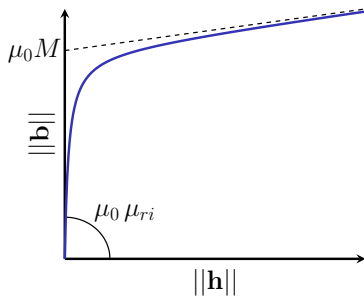
C.J.G. Plummer and J. E. Evetts, IEEE TAS **23** (1987) 1179.

E. Zeldov et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **56** (1990) 680.

Constitutive laws, cont'd

2. Ferromagnetic materials (FM): a non-linear, but anhysteretic law:

$$\mathbf{b} = \mu(\mathbf{b}) \mathbf{h} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{j} = 0.$$

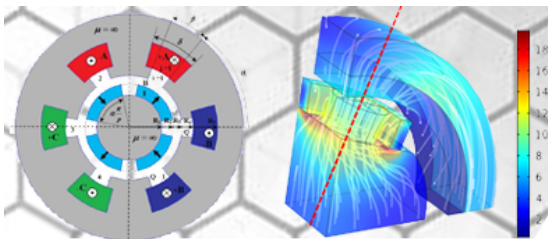


Typical values (supra50):

- ▶ initial relative permeability $\mu_{ri} = 1700$,
- ▶ saturation magnetization $\mu_0 M = 1.3 \text{ T}$.

Eddy currents are neglected.

Constitutive laws, extensions



One can also consider

- ▶ conductors and coils,
- ▶ permanent magnets,
- ▶ hysteretic ferromagnetic materials,
- ▶ type-I superconductors (need a London length).

Formulations

Two classes:

- ▶ a -formulation, which is b -conform,
 - ▶ enforces the continuity of the normal component of \mathbf{b} ,
 - ▶ much used in electric rotating machine design
- ▶ h -formulation, which is h -conform,
 - ▶ enforces the continuity of the tangential component of \mathbf{h} ,
 - ▶ much used for superconducting materials.

These formulations involve the constitutive laws in **opposite ways**,
⇒ **very different numerical behaviors!**

a -formulation (or A - v formulation)

- ▶ Introduce the **vector potential \mathbf{a}** and **electric potential v** :

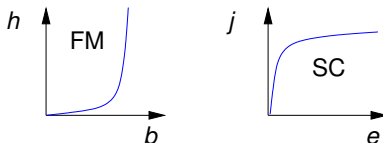
$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{grad} v.$$

This guarantees $\mathbf{div} \mathbf{b} = 0$ and $\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b}$.

- ▶ There remains to solve $\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j} = \sigma \mathbf{e}$,

$$\Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{curl} (\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}) = -\sigma (\partial_t \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{grad} v),$$

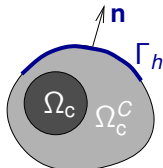
where $\nu = 1/\mu$ and $\sigma = 1/\rho$ are defined region-wise.



a-formulation in practice

► Function space

$$\mathbf{a} = \sum_{e \in \Omega} a_e \psi_e \quad \text{and} \quad v = \sum_{i \in C} V_i v_i,$$



Ω_c : conductors

Γ_h : where $\mathbf{h} \times \mathbf{n}$ is fixed

Here, ψ_e are edge functions and v_i are source potential functions, while \mathbf{a} is gauged in Ω_c^C .

► Weak form

$$(\nu \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{a}, \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega} - \langle \mathbf{h} \times \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{a}' \rangle_{\Gamma_h} + (\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_c} + (\sigma \operatorname{grad} v, \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_c} = 0,$$

$$(\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{a}, \operatorname{grad} v')_{\Omega_c} + (\sigma \operatorname{grad} v, \operatorname{grad} v')_{\Omega_c} - \sum_{i \in C} l_i \mathcal{V}_i(v') = 0.$$

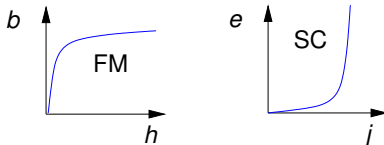
h -formulation

- ▶ In the non-conducting domain, we have **curl $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$** (no current!). Thus, introduce the **scalar magnetic potential ϕ** such that **$\mathbf{h} = -\text{grad } \phi$** .
- ▶ Need to solve **curl $\mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b}$** , together with **curl $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j}$** :

$$\text{curl } (\rho \text{ curl } \mathbf{h}) = -\partial_t (\mu \mathbf{h}),$$

where μ and ρ are defined regionwise.

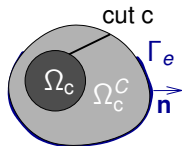
- ▶ Side note: **div $\mathbf{b} = 0, \forall t$** , if it does for $t = 0$, as **curl $\mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b}$** .



h -formulation in practice

► Function space

$$\mathbf{h} = \sum_{e \in \Omega_c} \mathbf{h}_e \psi_e + \sum_{n \in \Omega_c^C} \phi_n \mathbf{grad} \psi_n + \sum_{i \in C} l_i \mathbf{c}_i.$$



Ω_c : conductors

Γ_e : where $\mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{n}$ is fixed

where ψ_e , ψ_n , and \mathbf{c}_i are edge, nodal, and cut functions.

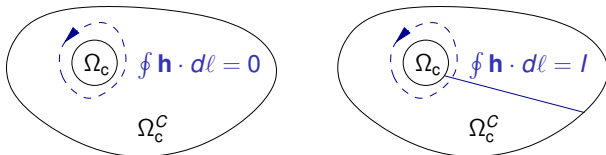
► Weak form

$$\begin{aligned} & (\partial_t(\mu(\mathbf{h}) \mathbf{h}), \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega} + (\rho(\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}) \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega_c} \\ & - \langle \mathbf{e} \times \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{h}' \rangle_{\Gamma_e} + \sum_{i \in C} V_i \mathcal{I}_i(\mathbf{h}') = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Why cuts?

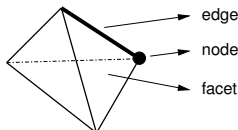
- ▶ In Ω_c^C , we have $\mathbf{h} = -\mathbf{grad} \phi$.
- ▶ Hence, along a closed contour around a conductor Ω_c carrying a current I ,

$$\oint_C \mathbf{h} \cdot d\ell = 0 \neq I \quad !?$$



- ▶ This is an example of a multiply connected non-conductive domains. **Cuts** are introduced to obtain simply connected domains [1]; also, ϕ is made discontinuous across cuts.
- ▶ **Essential conditions:** currents are introduced through cut functions.

A side note on elements



Nodal functions

$$\phi = \sum_{j=1}^N p_j \phi_j.$$

- ▶ p_j is the value of ϕ on node j .
- ▶ ϕ is continuous accross elements.

Edge functions

$$\mathbf{a} = \sum_{i=1}^M a_i \mathbf{a}_i.$$

- ▶ a_i is the line integral of \mathbf{A} along the edge i ,
i.e. $a_i = \int_{\text{edge } i} d\ell \cdot \mathbf{a}.$
- ▶ The tangential component of \mathbf{a} is continuous accross elements.

The structure of Life

- ▶ Based on a **time-varying** and **non-linear** weak formulations,

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}, t) \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}(t),$$

where $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{a}, v)$ or $x = (\mathbf{h}, \phi)$.

- ▶ **Structure**: two imbricated loops,
 1. time-stepping, with adaptative time steps,
 2. iterative solution of the non-linear weak formulation.

Outline

Introduction to Life-HTS

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Structure of a GetDP problem

Life-HTS

Content and structure

Tackling non-linearities

Integration over time

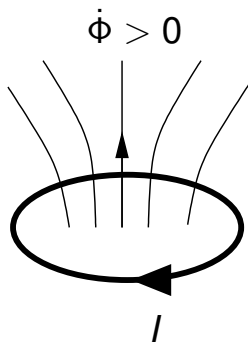
Single time step

Final remarks

Practical examples

References

To fix ideas: A superconducting ring



Consider a superconducting ring subjected to a time-varying flux, $\dot{\Phi}$. The ring is modelled as a non-linear lump resistor with

$$R(|I|) = \frac{V_c}{I_c} \left(\frac{|I|}{I_c} \right)^{n-1},$$

where V_c and I_c are characteristic voltage and current, and n is a critical index.

Circuit equation:

$$\dot{\Phi} = R(|I|) I + L \dot{I}, \quad (1)$$

can be solved in one of two ways!

Ring, 1st way: solve for the current /

- ▶ Discretize in time: $t_j = j\Delta t, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$,
- ▶ Consider the implicit Euler method with $\dot{I} \approx (I_j - I_{j-1})/\Delta t$,

$$\dot{\Phi} = R(|I|) I + L \dot{I} \quad \rightarrow \quad \dot{\Phi}_j = V_c \frac{|I_j|^{n-1} I_j}{I_c^n} + L \frac{I_j - I_{j-1}}{\Delta t}.$$

- ▶ Make this adimensional by introducing $x = aI_j/I_c$, to obtain

$$b = |x|^{n-1} x + x, \quad (I\text{-form}), \quad (2)$$

where

$$a = \left(\frac{V_c \Delta t}{L I_c} \right)^{1/(n-1)} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \frac{\dot{\Phi}_j + L I_{j-1}/\Delta t}{a L I_c / \Delta t}.$$

Ring, 2nd way: solve for the voltage drop across R

- Solve now in terms of $V_j = RI_j$,

$$\dot{\Phi} = R(|I|) I + L\dot{I} \quad \rightarrow \quad \dot{\Phi}_j = V_j + L \frac{I_c |V_j/V_c|^{1/n-1} V_j/V_c - I_{j-1}}{\Delta t}.$$

- Make this adimensional with $x = cV_j/V_c$, to get

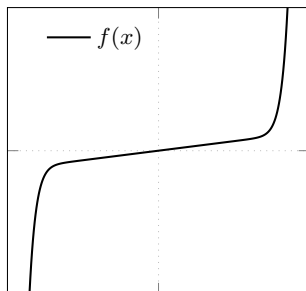
$$d = |x|^{1/n-1} x + x, \quad (\text{V-form}), \quad (3)$$

where

$$c = \left(\frac{\Delta t}{LI_c} \right)^{n/(n-1)} \quad \text{and} \quad d = \frac{\dot{\Phi}_j}{c} + \frac{LI_{j-1}}{c\Delta t}.$$

Ring example, summary

In each case, need to solve an equation of the form $f(x) = \text{Constant}$:

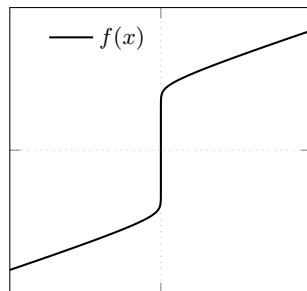


x

$$f(x) = |x|^{n-1} x + x$$

I-form

(\sim h-conform: Ampere)



x

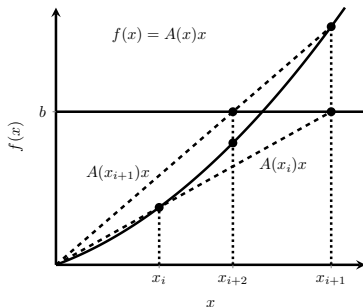
$$f(x) = |x|^{1/n-1} x + x$$

V-form

(\sim b-conform: Faraday-Lenz)

Solving a non-linear equation:

1. Picard iteration method (a fixed point method):

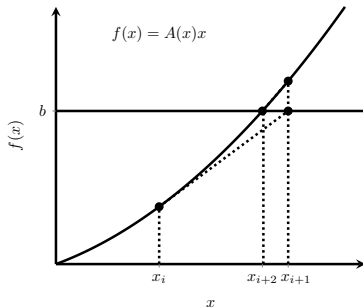


- ▶ Write $f(x)$ as $f(x) = A(x)x$.
- ▶ Get a first estimate x_0 .
- ▶ At each iteration i :
 - ▶ solve $A(x_i)x = b$;
 - ▶ $x_{i+1} := x$,
 - ▶ $i := i + 1$ and loop.

- ▶ May converge for wide range of first estimates x_0 .
- ▶ Convergence is slow!

Solving a non-linear equation: 2) Newton-Raphson method

2. Newton-Raphson iterative method:

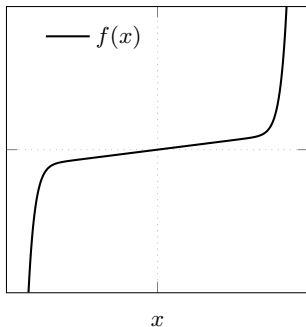


- Get a first estimate x_0 .
- At each iteration i ,

$$x_{i+1} := x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{df(x_i)/dx}.$$

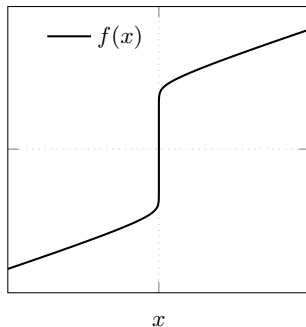
- Quadratic convergence, if the initial estimate x_0 is close enough.

A second look at the functions f



$$f(x) = |x|^{n-1}x + x$$

V-form (b-conform)



$$f(x) = |x|^{1/n-1}x + x$$

I-form (h-conform)

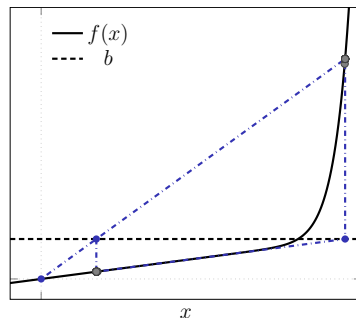
Which of Picard or Newton-Raphson should one use in each case?

Warning!

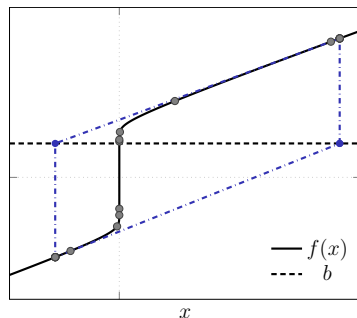


Beware of cycles!

Cycles can occur in each method, depending on the shape of the function $f(x)$:



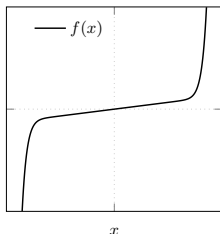
Picard iteration on an I-form.
Prefer Newton-Raphson!



N-R iteration on a V-form.
Prefer Picard!

Superconducting ring, conclusions

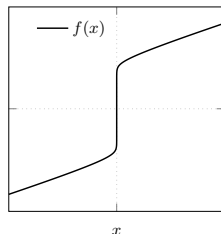
- ▶ At each time step, need to solve for a non-linear equation of the form $f(x) = b$.



$$f(x) = x^n + x$$

l-form (h-conform)

- ▶ Solve with Newton-Raphson
- ▶ Up to a quadratic convergence

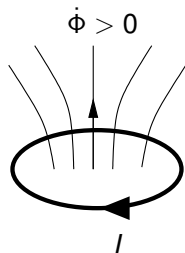


$$f(x) = x^{1/n} + x$$

V-form (b-conform)

- ▶ Solve with Picard
- ▶ Slow convergence

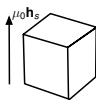
Superconducting ring: more comments



- ▶ Conclusions can be generalized to 1D, 2D, and 3D geometries:
 - ▶ I -form \mapsto h-conform formulations, use Newton-Raphson;
 - ▶ V -form \mapsto b-conform formulations, use Picard.
- ▶ When cycles occur, use relaxation methods?
Maybe, but we found no systematic stable scheme.

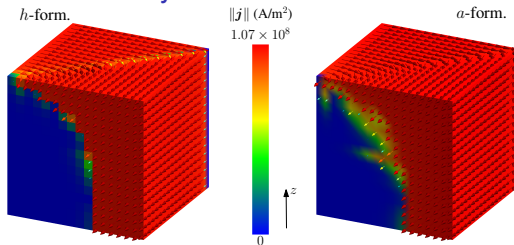
Illustration for a superconducting cube

System



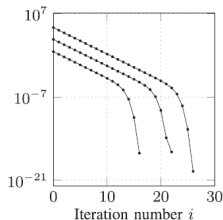
Side $a = 10$ mm.
 $\mu_0 \mathbf{h}_s = \hat{z} B_0 \sin(2\pi f t)$,
 with $B_0 = 200$ mT,
 $f = 50$ Hz,
 $j_c = 10^8$ A/m² and
 $n = 100$.

Current density distribution

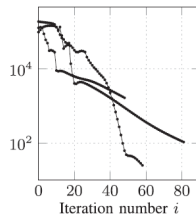


Residual

- ▶ L_2 norm of $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}$
- ▶ Left: h -formulation
- ▶ Right: a -formulation



(a) Newton-Raphson technique.

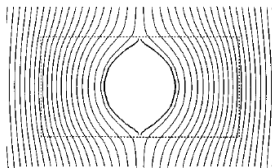


(b) Picard technique.

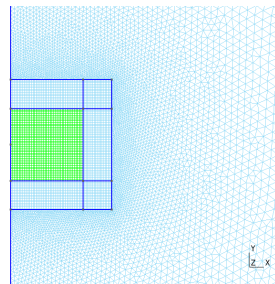
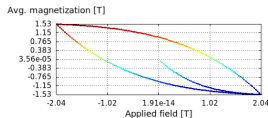
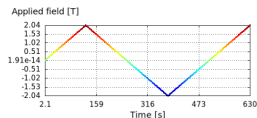
Demonstration

Magnetization of a superconducting pellet: phenomenology

Magnetize a cylindrical pellet of aspect ratio 0.5 (height/diameter) in an axial field of maximum $0.6 \times$ the penetration field:



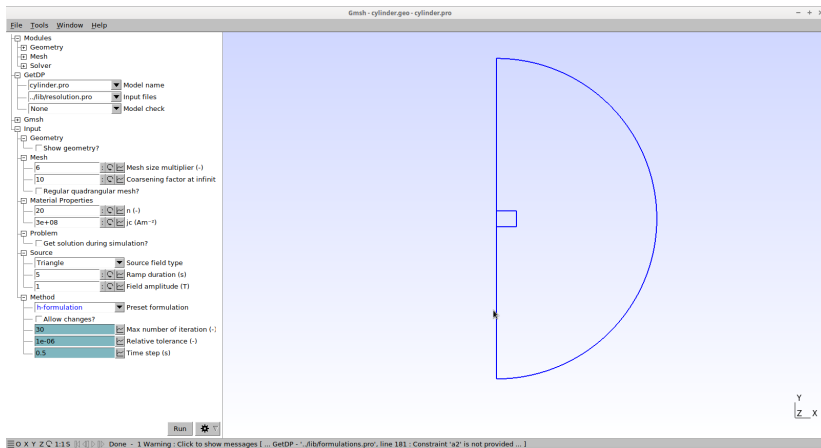
E. H. Brandt, PRB 58 (1998)
6506



→ movie case2.mpg

Demonstration

Magnetization of a superconducting pellet: h - and a - formulations



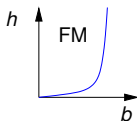
How about magnetic laws?

Conclusions on the non-linearities also apply to the magnetic constitutive laws:

► For an *a*-formulation:

- the term $(\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega}$ involves $\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}$, or \mathbf{h} as a function of \mathbf{b}

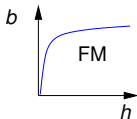
⇒ use Newton-Raphson





► For an *h*-formulation:



- the term $(\partial_t(\mu \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{h}'))_{\Omega}$ involves $\mu \mathbf{h}$, or \mathbf{b} as a function of \mathbf{h}

⇒ use Picard



Non-linearities: take-home message

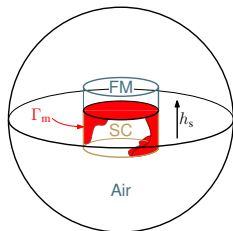
a	SC	FM
Laws		
Method	Picard	Newton

h	SC	FM
Laws		
Method	Newton	Picard

Coupled formulation

Combine the most efficient formulations, i.e.,

- ▶ for SC: h -formulation with Newton-Raphson,
- ▶ similarly, for FM: a -formulation with Newton-Raphson



Need a **coupling** through the boundary Γ_m :

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(\partial_t(\mu \mathbf{h}), \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega_{SC}} + (\rho \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega_{SC}} \\
 &\quad + \langle \partial_t \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{n}_{\Omega_{SC}}, \mathbf{h}' \rangle_{\Gamma_m} = 0, \\
 &(\nu \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_{FM+air}} - \langle \mathbf{h} \times \mathbf{n}_{\Omega_{FM+air}}, \mathbf{a}' \rangle_{\Gamma_m} = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Coupled formulation: efficiency

From TAS 30 (2020) 8200113

Example: SC cylinder of 12.5 mm, 5 mm height, $j_c = 3 \times 10^8$ A/m², $n = 20$,
 FM: supra50, cylinder of same size, 5 T applied in ZFC and reduced to 0 at 25 mT/s.

Formulation	Total h	Total a	Coupled
Linearization SC	NR	Pi	NR
Linearization FM	NR	NR	NR
Extrapolation	1 st	2 nd	1 st
Coarse	3268	4381	1071
Medium	4083	7539	1931
Fine	4422	14594	3753

Mesh	Coarse	Medium	Fine
Dofs	840	2800	10800
Δt (sec)	4	2	1

→ For the fine mesh, a speedup factor of ~ 1.2 !

Outline

Introduction to Life-HTS

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Life-HTS

Content and structure

Tackling non-linearities

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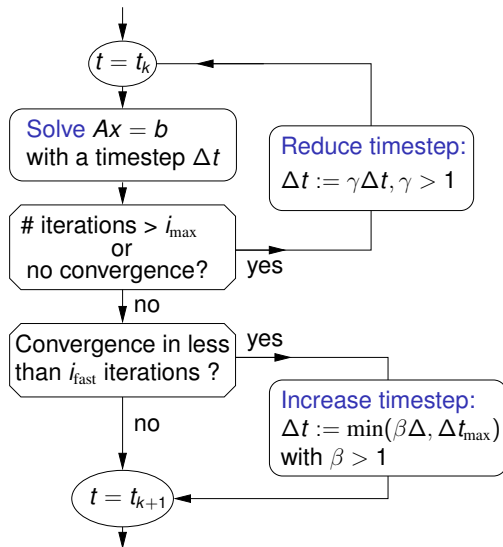
Single time step

Final remarks

Practical examples

References

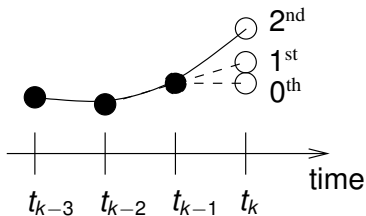
Adaptative time-stepping



Parameters:

- ▶ $\gamma = 1/2$
- ▶ $\beta = 2$
- ▶ $i_{\text{fast}} = i_{\max}/4$
- ▶ h-formulation:
 $i_{\max} = 500$
- ▶ a-formulation:
 $i_{\max} = 60$

Choosing the first iterate



Best results:

- ▶ 1st order for the h -formulation,
- ▶ 2nd order for the a -formulation.

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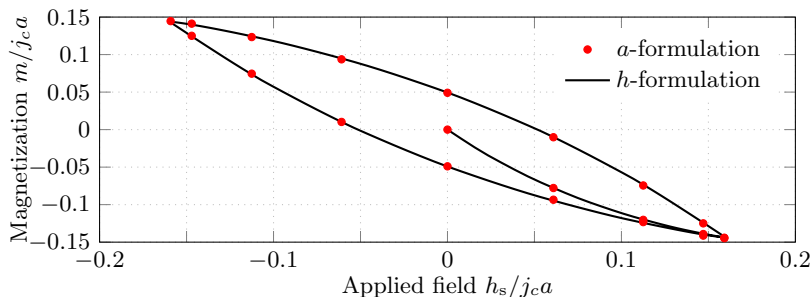
Single time step

Final remarks

Practical examples

References

Single time step



- ▶ For large values of n , can reduce the # of time steps in the a -formulation.
- ▶ Here, for a magnetization cycle
 - ▶ lines: h -formulation with 300 time steps
 - ▶ dots: a -formulation with 20 time steps
- ▶ In practice, accurate for \mathbf{j} and \mathbf{b} , but \mathbf{e} is underestimated!

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Single time step

Final remarks

Practical examples

References

Convergence criterion

- ▶ The residual is sometimes misleading (specifically with coupled formulation).
- ▶ Instead, we opted for monitoring the **electromagnetic power**, P :
 - ▶ h -formulation:

$$P = (\partial_t(\mu \mathbf{h}), \mathbf{h})_{\Omega} + (\rho \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{j})_{\Omega_c},$$

with $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}$;

- ▶ a -formulation:

$$P = (\partial_t \mathbf{b}, \nu \mathbf{b})_{\Omega} + (\sigma \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e})_{\Omega_c},$$

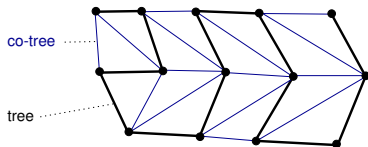
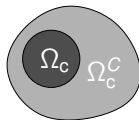
with $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{grad} \, v$.

- ▶ In practice, stop when $|\Delta P/P|$ is small enough.

Gauging the vector potential (spanning tree technique)

Required in 3D, or 2D with in-plane currents

$$\mathbf{a} = \sum_i \mathbf{a}_i \psi_i$$



For simplicity, assume no potential source v :

- ▶ in the conducting region Ω_c , \mathbf{a} is unique as $\mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{a}$, with $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{j}/\sigma$;
- ▶ in the non-conducting region Ω_c^C , \mathbf{a} is not unique, \rightarrow gauge:
 - ▶ Number of variables a_i = number of edges, too many!
 - ▶ Number of **independent** degrees of freedom = number of facets (one element of magnetic flux per facet).

Hence,

1. construct a suitable tree in the mesh,
2. impose $a_i = 0$ on the edges of this tree.

Newton-Raphson method for isotropic constitutive laws relating vector quantities

- Consider a constitutive law of the form

$$\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) = g(||\mathbf{x}||) \mathbf{x}.$$

Example: $\mathbf{e} = \rho \mathbf{j}$, or $\mathbf{b} = \mu \mathbf{h}$, ...

- To iterate with the Newton-Raphson method, linearize:

$$a_i(\mathbf{x}^{j+1}) \approx a_i(\mathbf{x}^j) + \sum_{k=1,3} (x_k^{j+1} - x_k^j) \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial x_k^j},$$

where j is the iteration index.

- This expansion can be cast in the form

$$\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}^{j+1}) \approx \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}^j) + \mathbf{J} \cdot (\mathbf{x}^{j+1} - \mathbf{x}^j),$$

where \mathbf{J} is the 3×3 Jacobian matrix.

Generic form of the Jacobian matrix

- ▶ Carrying out the partial derivatives, one easily gets

$$\mathbf{J}_{ik} = \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial x_k} = \delta_{ik} g(||\mathbf{x}^j||) + x_i x_k \frac{\partial g(||\mathbf{x}^j||)/\partial ||\mathbf{x}^j||}{||\mathbf{x}^j||}.$$

- ▶ A few examples can be found in the appendix of TAS 30 (2020) 8200113,
 - ▶ $\mathbf{e} = \rho \mathbf{j}$ and $\mathbf{j} = \sigma \mathbf{e}$ with a power law,
 - ▶ $\mathbf{b} = \mu \mathbf{h}$ and $\mathbf{h} = \nu \mathbf{b}$ with a non-linear magnetic law.
- ▶ Useful trick: sometimes, it is better to consider g as a function of $||\mathbf{x}||^2$, as this provides an additional power of $||\mathbf{x}||$ and avoids a divergence as $||\mathbf{x}|| \rightarrow 0$.

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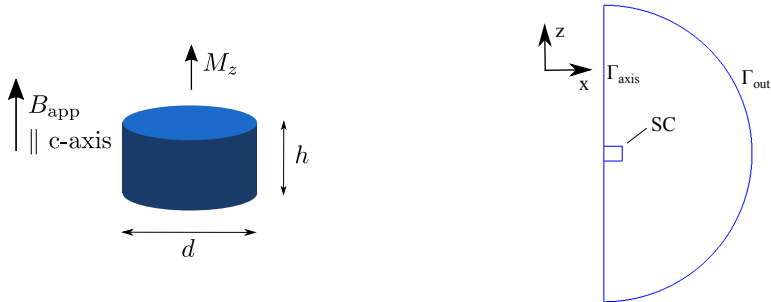
Life-HTS

- Content and structure
- Tackling non-linearities
- Integration over time
- Single time step
- Final remarks

Practical examples

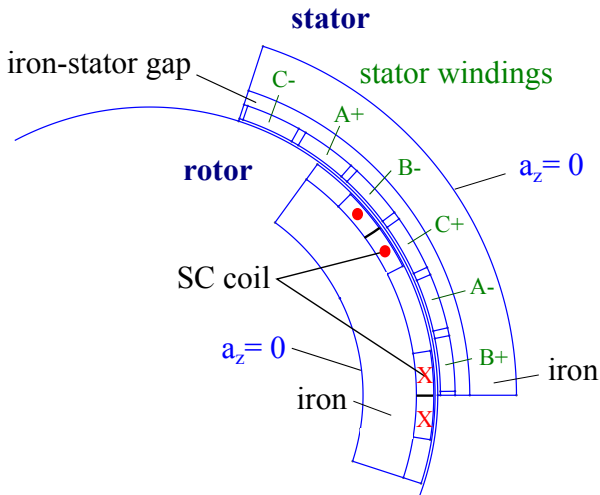
References

Magnetization of a superconducting pellet



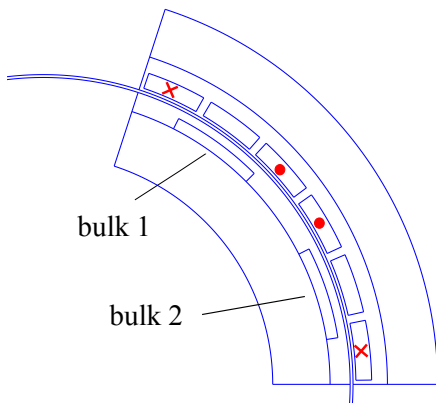
A demonstration of the h - and a -formulations in a problem with induced currents. Possibility to explore the method of large time steps in the a -formulation.

Magnetostatics in an electrical rotating machine



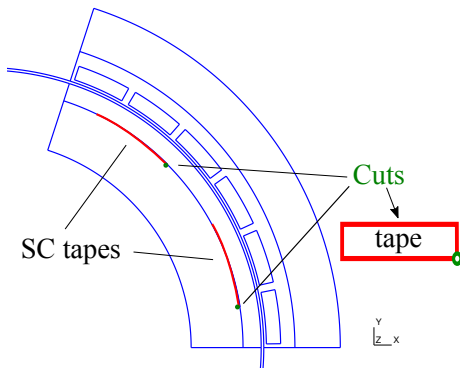
Magnetostatic resolution of the combined field for a rotor with an SC coil (imposed currents) and stator copper windings.

Rotor with trapped field magnets, magnetization with the stator winding



Example of a coupled formulation for an induced current problem.

Coupled formulation with transport currents



Example of a coupled formulation for a transport current problem.

Outline

Introduction to Life-HTS

- Life-HTS: scope and framework
- A sketch of the FEM method
- Structure of a GetDP problem

Life-HTS

- Content and structure
- Tackling non-linearities
- Integration over time
- Single time step
- Final remarks

Practical examples

References

References

- ▶ Onelab website, with codes, examples, and tutorials: `onelab.info`
- ▶ Life-HTS website: `http://www.life-hts.uliege.be/`
- ▶ *Finite Element Formulations for Systems with High-Temperature Superconductors*,
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That's Life!

Contacts: {b.vanderheyden,julien.dular,cgeuzaine}@uliege.be