Frequency-Domain Circuit Model and Analysis of Coupled Magnetic Resonance Systems

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Abstract

An explicit frequency-domain circuit model for the conventional coupled magnetic resonance system (CMRS) is newly proposed in this paper. Detail circuit parameters such as the leakage inductances, magnetizing inductances, turn-ratios, internal coil resistances, and source/load resistances are explicitly included in the model. Accurate overall system efficiency, DC gain, and key design parameters are deduced from the model in closed form equations, which were not available in previous works. It has been found that the CMRS can be simply described by an equivalent voltage source, resistances, and ideal transformers when it is resonated to a specified frequency in the steady state. It has been identified that the voltage gain of the CMRS was saturated to a specific value although the source side or the load side coils were strongly coupled. The phase differences between adjacent coils were $\pi/2$, which should be considered for the EMF cancellations. The analysis results were verified by simulations and experiments. A detailed circuit-parameter-based model was verified by experiments for 500 kHz by using a new experimental kit with a class-E inverter. The experiments showed a transfer of 1.38 W and a 40% coil to coil efficiency.

Key words: Coupled magnetic resonance system, Inductive power transfer, Magnetic resonance, Wireless power transfer system

NOMENCLATURE

$L_{ls}$: leakage inductance of a source coil
$L_{lt}$: leakage inductance of a transmitter coil
$L_{lr}$: leakage inductance of a receiver coil
$L_{lb}$: leakage inductance of a load coil
$L_{ms}$: magnetizing inductance of a source coil
$L_{mt}$: magnetizing inductance of a transmitter coil
$L_{mr}$: magnetizing inductance of a receiver coil
$L_{ml}$: magnetizing inductance of a load coil
$C_s$: compensation capacitance of a source coil
$C_r$: compensation capacitance of a transmitter coil
$C_l$: compensation capacitance of a receiver coil
$r_s$: internal resistance of a source coil
$r_l$: internal resistance of a transmitter coil
$r_r$: internal resistance of a receiver coil
$r_L$: internal resistance of a load coil
$R_{in}$: internal resistance of a voltage source
$R_L$: load resistance
$R_S$: sum of $R_{in}$ and $r_s$
$R_{st}$: equivalent resistance from a source coil to a transmitter coil
$R_{sl}$: equivalent resistance from a load coil to a receiver coil
$R_{sr}$: equivalent resistance from a source coil to a receiver coil
$R_{tl}$: equivalent resistance from a load coil to a transmitter coil
$R_{tr}$: equivalent resistance from a source coil to a load coil
$R_{rl}$: equivalent resistance from a load coil to a source coil
$V_{th}$: Thevenin equivalent voltage of a transmitter coil
$V_{rh}$: Thevenin equivalent voltage of a receiver coil
$V_{lh}$: Thevenin equivalent voltage of a load coil
$\omega_o$: source angular frequency
$G_{oc}$: open circuit voltage gain between a source and a load without $R_L$
$G_{vl}$: voltage gain between a source and a load with $R_L$ 

I. INTRODUCTION

As mobile electronic devices and robots have evolved and...
become widely used regardless of the time and place, it becomes a very important issue to resolve the "power hungry problem" by freely charging devices anytime and anywhere. To solve this problem, wireless power transfer technologies have been proposed [1]-[9]. However, these technologies, which are based on inductive coupling, have been limited to the proximity since the transferred power is drastically reduced over large distances. In 2007, an innovative wireless power transfer system, the coupled magnetic resonance system (CMRS), was proposed [10]. This system also uses magnetic fields, but it has two more coils, a transmitter coil and a receiver coil, which are fully resonated at a specific resonant frequency. This system can light up a 60 W light bulb, which is placed over 2 m away from the power source, with about a 45 % coil-to-coil efficiency. After this work was presented, many similar studies have been conducted by several researchers [11]-[14]. Intel demonstrated another CMRS called a wireless resonant energy link (WREL) [11]. Sony Corp. also announced a CMRS capable of a 60 W transfer over a distance of 50 cm with a coil-to-coil efficiency of 80 % [12]. The Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) also presented experimental results for its CMRS by lighting LED lamps [13].

In previous studies [10], [11], the equivalent models for the CMRS, which are the coupled mode theory [10] and scattering parameters [11], are very complicated. They are not quite useful for practical designs because theoretical parameters such as the coupling factor and the impedance matching concept were used without using lumped elements. As a result, the analyses can hardly be conducted without the aid of computers. They cannot clearly show what parameters limit the power transfer due to a lack of explicit closed form design equations. Furthermore, they operate at extremely large quality factor, Q (~2,000) and a high resonant frequency (~13.56 MHz). Hence it has been a difficult problem to design appropriate coils for these CMRS. Closed form analysis results for coupled resonators have been proposed [14]. However, it was conducted only for two resonant coils, the source and the load coils. Therefore, the analysis results could not explain a CMRS where three coupled resonators exist.

In this paper, an explicit equivalent circuit model of a CMRS, which includes all of the detail parameters for four coils and three magnetic couplings, is proposed. By applying an appropriate full resonance scheme, the CMRS is simply modeled as an equivalent voltage source with resistors regardless of its complexity. The analysis results of the proposed model are verified by simulations and experiments with good agreements.

II. PROPOSED CIRCUIT MODEL AND STATIC ANALYSIS

A. Simplified Equation Circuit of the CMRS

The modeled CMRS is composed of a power source, four coils, four resonant capacitors, and a load, as shown in Fig. 1. The power source can be either a switching inverter or an analog amplifier. The capacitors for the transmitter and receiver coils, i.e., $C_T$ and $C_R$ can be either parasitic or lumped. For a complete and detail description of the CMRS, the coupling transformers in Fig. 1 are fully resolved by minute circuit elements including ideal transformers, as shown in Fig. 2. In other words, each coil is composed of a leakage inductance $L_n$, a magnetizing inductance $L_{mr}$, an internal resistance $r$, and an ideal transformer. The weak couplings between the source and receiver coils, the source and load coils, and the transmitter and load coils are neglected from consideration for the sake of a convenient analysis. Under the condition of using the lumped compensation capacitor, the circuit parameters shown in Fig. 2 represent the sum of all of the serial components, e.g., $L_{T1}$ represents the sum of the source side secondary leakage inductance and the transmitter side primary leakage inductance. For circuit symmetry, $L_{mr}$ is intentionally split into two. The proposed equivalent circuit is now simplified by applying the fully resonance scheme [6] to all four resonant circuits at the source angular frequency $\omega_s$, respectively.

Fig. 3 shows the circuit simplification of the series-series resonant circuit, where the capacitances of $C_1$ and $C_2$ satisfy the fully-resonant conditions of (1) and (2), respectively.

$$j\omega_s L_{mn} + \frac{j\omega_s L_{m2}}{n^2} + \frac{1}{j\omega_s n^2 C_2} = 0 \quad (1)$$

Under the fully-resonant condition, by applying (1), the parallel circuit of $L_{mn}$ and the secondary impedance reflected to the primary, as shown in Fig. 3 (b), are simplified to $L_{mn}$ and its equivalent resistance $n\omega_s^2 L_{mn}^2 / R_s$, as shown in Fig. 3 (c).

$$j\omega_s L_{m1} + j\omega_s L_{m2} + \frac{1}{j\omega_s C_1} = 0 \quad (2)$$

By applying (2) again, Fig. 3 (c) can be simplified to Fig. 3 (d), which is composed of only pure resistors. $x$ denotes an arbitrary stage, i.e. the source, transmitter, receiver, or load stage.

By applying the same approach to the CMRS, it is equivalently transformed from the load coil to the source coil and simplified step by step, as shown in Fig. 4 (a)-(e). Fig. 5 shows the equivalently simplified circuits of the CMRS transformed to each coil, respectively. Under the fully-resonant condition for the CMRS, the equivalent resistance transformed to each coil of the source, transmitter, receiver, and load can be given in (3) - (8).
Fig. 1. Overall configuration of the coupled magnetic resonance system (CMRS) showing magnetic coupling.

Fig. 2. Proposed explicit circuit model with all circuit parameters included showing symmetry.

(a) Equivalent circuit of series-series resonant circuit.

(b) Equivalent circuit from the source side.

(c) Equivalent circuit simplified by applying (1).

(d) Equivalent circuit simplified by applying (2).

Fig. 3. An example of simplification process for a series-series resonant transformer circuit from the source side.

\[
R_{cST} = \frac{(n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} = \frac{(n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + r_S + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} \tag{3}
\]

\[
R_{dLR} = \frac{(n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + r_S + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} \tag{4}
\]

\[
R_{cSR} = \frac{(\omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} \tag{5}
\]

\[
R_{dLS} = \frac{(\omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + r_S + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} \tag{6}
\]

\[
R_{cSL} = \frac{(n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2 \tag{7}
\]

\[
R_{dLS} = \frac{(n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2}{r_T + (r_T + r_S + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2) + (n_2 \omega L_{mS})^2} \tag{8}
\]

The equivalent voltage transformed to each coil of the source, transmitter, receiver, and load can be given in (9) - (11).

\[
V_{Tth} = \frac{j n_1 \omega L_{mS}}{R_S} \frac{V_S}{R_S} \tag{9}
\]

\[
V_{Rth} = \frac{j \omega L_{mS}}{r_T + R_{cST}} \frac{V_{Tth}}{n_1 \omega S} \frac{L_{mS}}{r_T + R_S + r_S} \frac{V_T}{V_S} \tag{10}
\]
\[ V_{Lm} = \frac{j \omega L_{mL}}{r_L + R_e} V_{rth} = -\frac{j n L_{mT} L_{mL}}{r_L + \left( n R_s \right)^2} \left\{ r_L + \frac{R_s \left( \omega L_{mT} \right)^2}{r_L + \left( n R_s \right)^2} \right\} V_S \] (11)

Fig. 4. Equivalent circuit transformation from the load coil to the source coil.
The current flowing through the each coil, as shown in Fig. 5, can also be obtained by using the equivalently transformed resistance and voltage given in (3)–(11). Under the fully-resonant condition for the CMRS, the open circuit voltage gain $G_{V_o}$ between the source voltage $V_S$ and the induced voltage of the load coil $V_{Lth}$ for the no load condition can also be found from (11) and given in (12). The overall system voltage gain from the source coil to the load coil is given in (13). From the equivalent circuits in Fig. 5 and the Thevenin equivalent voltages given from (9) to (11), it has been verified that the phases of the voltage and current in each coil were in-phase because each coil had only pure resistance when each coil was fully resonated. However, the phases between adjacent coils were found to be sequentially different by $\pi/2$ since the resonant current built up the induced voltage at the magnetizing inductance of the adjacent coil by $\pi/2$. The $-j$ sign, which appears in (11), was the result of three successive phase shifts, as shown in Fig. 6. These phase relationships should be considered for lowering the EMF levels. As the phase of the current in each coil differs by $\pi/2$, an EMF cancellation scheme should be employed for each coil. In other words, there is no simple way of cancelling the EMF generated from four coils by an EMF cancel coil, for example.

$$G_{V_o} = \frac{V_{Lth}}{V_S} = \frac{n_i n_s \omega L_{ms} L_{mt} L_{nd}}{r_T R_S + \left(n_i \omega L_{ms}\right)^2} \left[ r_T + \frac{R_S \omega^2 L_{ms}^2}{r_T R_S + \left(n_i \omega L_{ms}\right)^2} \right]$$

$$G_T = \left| \frac{V_L}{V_S} \right| = \frac{R_L}{R_{cSL} + r_L + R_L} = \frac{n_i n_s \omega L_{ms} L_{mt} L_{nd}}{r_T R_S + \left(n_i \omega L_{ms}\right)^2} \left[ r_T + \frac{R_S \omega^2 L_{ms}^2}{r_T R_S + \left(n_i \omega L_{ms}\right)^2} \right] \left( \frac{R_L}{R_{cSL} + r_L + R_L} \right)$$
B. Further Simplification of a Symmetric Circuit

When all of the internal resistances are identical and the circuit parameters are symmetric as given in (14), (12) is drastically simplified to (15).

\[ r_S = r_T = r_L = r, \quad L_m = L_{ml} = L_m, \quad n_1 = n_2 = n \]

\[ R_{eq} = \left( \frac{n \omega m L}{r} \right)^2 \]

(14)

\[ G_{vo} = \frac{\omega mLmR_{eq}}{r(r + R_{eq}) + \left( \omega mLm \right)^2} \]

(15)

The open circuit voltage gain \( G_{vo} \) of (15) increases as \( R_{eq} \) or \( L_m \), when \( n \) increase, as shown in (14), but decreases when \( R_S \) increases.

By applying the same condition of (14) to the equivalent resistances \( R_{esL} \) and \( R_{dLS} \) given in (7) and (8), they are rewritten as follows:

\[ R_{esL} = \frac{R_SR_S\left( r + R_{eq} \right)}{r(r + R_{eq}) + \left( \omega mLm \right)^2} \]

(16)

\[ R_{dLS} = \frac{R_SR_S\left( r + R_{eq} \right)}{r(r + R_S + R_{eq}) + \left( \omega mLm \right)^2} \]

(17)

C. Ideal No Loss Case for the Symmetric Circuit

For an ideal no loss case for the symmetric circuit, \( r \) in (14) becomes 0 but \( R_S \) remains non-zero. Therefore, (15) - (17) can be further simplified in terms of \( G_{vo} \) as follows:

\[ G_{vo} = \frac{R_{eq}}{\omega mLm} = \frac{\omega m L}{R_S} \]

(18)

\[ R_{esL} = \frac{R_SR_S^2\left( \omega mLm \right)^2}{\left( \omega mLm \right)^2} = R_S G_{vo}^2 \]

(19)

\[ R_{dLS} = \frac{R_SR_S^2\left( \omega mLm \right)^2}{R_L\left( \omega mLm \right)^2} = \frac{R_S^2}{R_L} G_{vo}^2 \]

(20)

The source and load currents are found from Figs. 4 and 5, and (13) as follows:

\[ I_S = \frac{V_S}{R_S + R_{dLS}} \]

(21)

\[ I_L = \frac{G_{vo}V_S}{R_L + R_{dLS}} \]

(22)

By using (21), (22) and (18), the power efficiency of the CMRS is determined as follows:

\[ \eta = \frac{P_L}{P_S} = \frac{I_L^2 R_L}{\frac{V_S^2}{R_S} + \left( \frac{R_S}{R_L + R_{dLS}} \right)^2} = \frac{R_S G_{vo}^2}{R_L + R_S G_{vo}^2} \]

(23)

\[ = \frac{1}{1 + R_L / \left( R_S G_{vo}^2 \right)} = \frac{1}{1 + R_L R_m L_m / \left( \omega_m n^2 L_m^2 \right)} \]

From (23), the load resistance \( R_L \), as well as the source resistance \( R_S \), should be small for a high power efficiency.

On the other hand, the output power \( P_L \) can be obtained from (13), (18), and (19) as follows:

From (24), it can be seen that the output power decreases as the source resistance \( R_S \) increases, and an optimum source angular frequency \( \omega_m \) exists for maximum power delivery. It can also be seen that an optimum load resistance \( R_L \) exists for maximum power delivery as follows:

\[ P_L = \frac{V_S^2}{R_L} \left( \frac{G_{vo} R_L}{R_S + R_{dLS}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{R_S}{R_L + R_{dLS}} \right)^2 = \frac{R_L G_{vo} V_S^2}{R_S} \]

(24)

\[ \frac{\partial P_L}{\partial R_L} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_L = \frac{G_{vo}^2 R_S}{2} \]

(25)

Applying (25) to (24) results in the maximum output power as follows:

\[ P_{L,max} = \left. \frac{R_L V_S^2}{R_L G_{vo} + R_S G_{vo}} \right|_{R_L = \frac{G_{vo}^2 R_S}{2}} = \frac{V_S^2}{4R_S} \]

(26)

It can be seen from (26) that the source resistance is the ultimate limiting factor for the maximum power delivery as long as the power ratings of all the coils and capacitors are sufficiently high.

When \( R_S \) is zero, (24) becomes the following:

\[ P_L \left|_{R_S=0} \right. = \left. \frac{L_m V_S}{\omega_m n^2 L_m^2} \right| R_L \]

(27)

It can be seen from (27) that an ideal CMRS can provide more power for a large \( R_L \) and small \( \omega_m \). However, the effect of the other parameters in (27) on the output power are not straightforward. For the given physical dimensions, \( L_m \) is proportional to \( n^2 \). Hence its effect on the output power is negligible.
condition of the function generator was 12, so load resistance was determined to be the same value of 50 Ω. The function generator output was about 12 V in the no load condition, which meant all of the coils were open. However, it became about half when the CMRS properly operated at the fully-resonant frequency of 493.3 kHz.

By using the measured parameters of the CMRS experiments in Table 1, it was verified by PSIM simulations that the theoretical predictions of (15), (17), (23), and (24) were good with their simulation errors of less than 1%. The simulation results of the equivalent resistance \( R_{\text{eqS}} \) under the condition of (16) is shown in Fig. 8 (a). The equivalently transformed resistance \( R_{\text{eqS}} \) or \( R_{\text{eqL}} \) is highly dependent on the magnetizing inductance between adjacent coils such as \( L_{\text{ms}} \) and \( L_{\text{nl}} \) and it continuously increases as the magnetizing inductance increases. This is because the equivalently transformed resistance is proportional to the square of the product of the magnetizing inductance and the resonant frequency. In addition, the internal resistances of each coil also affect the equivalently transformed resistance because the transformed resistance is inversely proportional to the internal resistance as given in (3)-(8). Due to these high transformed resistances, the output power of the CMRS is limited.

The voltage gain of the CMRS increases as \( L_{\text{ms}} \) increases, as shown in Fig. 8 (b). By determining the optimum value of \( L_{\text{ms}} \) 2.1 µH, where the equivalently transformed resistance from the load to the source \( R_{\text{eqL}} \) is the same as the internal resistance of the voltage source \( R_s \), the maximum power was achieved, as shown in Fig. 8 (c). Fig. 8 (c) and Fig. 8 (d) also show that the internal resistance of each coil lowers the output power and the power efficiency. To get a high power and efficiency, the internal resistance should be sufficiently low. For example, the power efficiency was about 61% when \( r = 0.1 \) Ω, but it increased up to 90% when \( r = 0.01 \) Ω, as shown in Fig. 8 (d).

It has been verified by experiments that the phase of the voltage induced by each coil is consecutively different by \( \pi/2 \) and that the source voltage leads the output voltage by an expected \( \pi/2 \), as shown in Fig. 9. It has also been verified that the phase of the voltage and the current of each coil are same, as shown in Fig. 9. This is because there are only resistive components in the fully-resonant condition.

The voltage gain and the load power along the load resistance were also measured and compared with the theoretical prediction, as shown in Fig. 10. The voltage gain between the source and the load was increased as the load resistance increased, and it converged to 0.247 in measurement and 0.276 in calculation, as shown in Fig. 10 (a). When the CMRS was fully resonated, the measured output voltage was about 1.7 V, which was almost the same as the calculated load voltage of 1.67 V. In addition, it decreased from the maximum value as the operating frequency deviated from the resonant frequency, as shown in Fig. 10 (b). The maximum power was achieved when the load resistance was the same as the internal resistance of the voltage source, as shown in Fig. 10 (c).

### III. SIMULATION AND EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATIONS

The experimental kit is shown in Fig. 7, where the radius of all of the coils was 10.5 cm, and the number of turns for each coil was 10. The distance between the transmitter coil and the receiver coil was 40 cm. The magnetizing inductances, \( L_{\text{ms}} \) and \( L_{\text{nl}} \), were determined to satisfy the maximum power transfer conditions, \( R_s = R_{\text{eqS}} \) and \( R_L = R_{\text{eqL}} \). The measured parameters for the leakage inductances, magnetizing inductances, and internal resistances of the coils are listed in Table 1. The compensation capacitances of each coil for satisfying the fully-resonant condition were calculated from the extracted parameters and connected to each coil. The input resistance of the function generator was 50 Ω, so load resistance was determined to be the same value of 50 Ω. The function generator output was about 12 V in the no load condition, which meant all of the coils were open. However,
Fig. 8. Simulation results of the proposed explicit model along the \( L_{\text{mS}} \).

(a) Equivalent resistance from the load coil to the source coil along the \( L_{\text{mS}} \).

(b) Voltage gain along the \( L_{\text{mS}} \).

(c) Load power along the \( L_{\text{mS}} \).

(d) Power efficiency along the \( L_{\text{mS}} \).
(a) Waveforms of the voltages of the source, load, and receiver coils.

(b) Waveforms of the voltages of the source and load coils, and the current of the source coil when $R_L = 50 \, \Omega$.

(c) Waveforms of the voltages of the source and load coils, and the current of the load coil when $R_L = 50 \, \Omega$.

Fig. 9. The waveforms of the CMRS in fully-resonant condition.

### Table I

**Parameters and Measured Values for Experiments**

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Fig. 10. Comparison of the measured data and the calculated data of the CMRS.

Fig. 11. Secondary voltage of the source transformer ($v_T$ of the CMRS and each coil current in the resonant mode; the phase difference of each coil current is 90 degree in resonant mode: $V_s = 20 \, V, f_s = 500 \, kHz, R_L = 50 \, \Omega$).

Fig. 12. Comparison of the power between the calculation result and the experiment result vs. $R_L$: $V_s = 20 \, V, f_s = 500 \, kHz$.

Fig. 13. Comparison of the efficiency between the calculation result and the experiment result vs. $R_L$: $V_s = 20 \, V, f_s = 500 \, kHz, R_L = 50 \, \Omega$.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

This work was supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) grant funded by the Korea government (MEST) (No. 2010-0029179)
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REFERENCES


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