## **Resonant Magnetics for Capacitive Wireless Power Transfer**

Khurram Afridi

**Cornell University** 



March 18, 2023

Power Magnetics @ High Frequency Workshop 2023

## Penetration of Electric Vehicles



- EV sales growing though not fast enough
- Hurdles in widespread adoption due to limitations in battery technology:
  - Limited range
  - Long charging times
  - High cost
- High EV penetration requires widely deployed public charging infrastructure



Global vehicle sales in 2022 Total: 66 million EV: 7.6 million (11.5%)

#### Global EV Stock (2022)

23 million (1.5%) out of 1.5 billion vehicles



## **Dynamic Charging**



- Minimize onboard energy storage
- Instead deliver energy to moving EVs from the roadway



**Overhead Catenary Lines** 



**Conductive Rails** 



**Dynamic Wireless Charging** 

Dynamic wireless charging could be viable way to drastically reduce batteries in EVs

## Inductive vs. Capacitive Wireless Power Transfer (WPT)











## Advantages of Capacitive Wireless Charging





- Inductive systems require Litz wire and ferrite cores for magnetic flux guidance and shielding
  - Expensive
  - Fragile and difficult to embed in roadway
- Inductive systems operate at relatively low frequencies to limit ferrite losses
  - Large and heavy
- Inductive systems have low misalignment tolerance and induce eddy currents in nearby metallic objects





- Capacitive systems simply use conductive plates, the fields are naturally directed (no ferrites or dielectrics), can operate at high frequencies, so can be:
  - Less expensive
  - Easier to embed in roadway
  - Smaller, lower profile and lighter
  - Capacitive systems have high misalignment tolerance and do not induce eddy currents in nearby metallic objects



## Conventional Wisdom Regarding Capacitive WPT





- Capacitive WPT usable for low-power small-gap applications
- Capacitive charging of EVs through tires has been tried
  - Low efficiency due to carbon black filler
  - Inadequate power transfer due to limited area



## History Behind Our Capacitive WPT Work



#### Nikola Tesla (1891)



Kumar, Pervaiz, Chang, Korhummel, Popovic & Afridi (2015)



M. Hutin & M. Leblanc (1894)



#### UC Berkeley PATH - RPEV (1994)



## Our Early Experiments with Capacitive WPT









## Challenges in Capacitive Wireless Charging



- Small coupling capacitance due to large gap between road and vehicle
- Need high frequency operation to achieve high power transfer levels
- Need high voltage/current gain to limit fringing fields and meet safety limits
- Need large reactive compensation





## Large-Airgap Capacitive Wireless Power Transfer









## Electric Vehicle Charging Environment



### **Overwhelming Parasitic Capacitances**





## Circuit Including Parasitic Capacitances





## Effect of Parasitic Capacitances





## Split-Inductor Matching Network





## Effect of Parasitic Capacitances with Split-Inductor





## Effect of Parasitic Capacitances with Split-Inductor





## Split-Inductor Matching Network













































## 6.78-MHz Capacitive Wireless Charging Systems





Output Power: 589 W

### Loss Breakdown Analysis





## **Coupled Inductors and Higher Frequency Operation**







## **Optimizing Coupled Solenoidal Inductors**



Jvol [A/n\*2] Wire Single Winding 5.00000+04 Air Z.0000E+04 Wire 2.6000E+04 2. 4000E+04 20008-00 Cross Section 2.0000E+D 1.0000E+04 6880E+84 MANDE AD 1.20005+04 1.0000E+04 **Plastic Tube** Plastic 8.0000E+03 6.0000E+03 Air Tube 1.0000E-01 2.0000E+03 0.0000E+00 Jvol [A/m^2] Wires Wires 3.00000 +04 **Stacked Parallel Winding** Air 2.00002+04 2. 50000 +04 2. YOURE +84 Cross Section 2.20000 +04 2.00000.+04 1.00002.01 1.50000+04 1.2000E+84 Plastic Tube 1.00000 +04 0.00002+85 **Plastic Tube** nvisible to show 6.00002+03 Air 4,00005+03 blue wire) 2.00000 +01 0.0000E+00 Jvol [A/m\*2] Wires 3.000000+01 Air Laterally-Adjacent Parallel Winding Wires 2.00005+0% 2.60002+04 2.10002+01 20005-4 Cross Section 2.00000+0 1. 1000310+0 GOOKEE +0\* 1.400000+ 1.20005-04 1.00005+04 **Plastic Tube** Plastic 0.000000+03 6.00002+03 Air Tube 4.00002+03 2.00002+03

0.00002+00

## Solenoidal Inductor Quality Factor Comparison







$$Q_{\rm L} = \frac{2\pi f L}{R_{\rm ac}}$$

## Solenoidal Inductor Impedance



#### Impedance of "4pLat" Solenoidal Inductor



Self-resonance frequency is only slightly higher than operating frequency

### **SRF-Inclusive Quality Factor**





$$Q_{\rm L,SR} = \left| Q_{\rm L} - \left( \frac{f}{f_{\rm SR}} \right)^2 \left( Q_{\rm L} + \frac{1}{Q_{\rm L}} \right) \right|$$



### Modified SRF-Inclusive Quality Factor





### Self-Resonant Frequency Modeling







### Solenoid Inductor Self-Resonant Frequency







## Quality Factor Improvement using Layered Foil





C. R. Sullivan, "Layered Foil as an Alternative to Litz Wire: Multiple Methods for Equal Current Sharing Among Layers," *Proceedings of the IEEE Workshop on Control and Modeling for Power Electronics (COMPEL)*, Santander, Spain, June 2014.

### **Interleaved-Foil Inductor**







## Semi-Toroidal Interleaved-Foil (STIF) Coupled Inductor





## Toroidal Interleaved-Foil (TIF) Coupled Inductor





## **Coupled Inductor Performance Comparison**







## Magnetic Field Containment Comparison





## 13.56-MHz STIF Inductor Based Capacitive WPT System







Output Power: 2256 W Full-Power Efficiency: 91% Peak Efficiency: 94% Power Transfer Density: 29.7 kW/m<sup>2</sup>

## 13.56-MHz TIF Inductor Based Capacitive WPT System





Operating frequency: 13.56 MHz



Output Power: 3756 W Power Transfer Density: 49.4 kW/m<sup>2</sup>



## **Optimal Aspect Ratio of Air-Core Toroidal Inductor**









## **Toroidal Inductor Modeling**





## **Comparison of Inductance Models**





- Numerical method value is bounded by analytical method values
- Inductance values from both analytical methods match well with numerical method value when inner radius is large

### **Optimal Ratio of Outer to Inner Radius**





Optimal ratio of outer to inner radius maximizes quality factor is bounded by:

$$1 + \sqrt{2} < \frac{r_2}{r_1} < e$$

## Potential for Further Improvements





## Summary and Conclusions







**Plug-in Charging** 



**Dynamic Wireless Charging** 

## Cornell High Frequency Power Electronics Group













# **Q & A**





## Quality Factor Comparison Between TIF and Solenoid



Minimum Number of Paralleled Wires needed in TIF Inductor for its Quality Factor to Exceed that of a Solenoidal Inductor of Same Volume



### **Optimal Ratio of Outer to Inner Radius**





- Computed using numerical method
- Sweet spot exits for any outer radius