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# On the Estimation of the Short-Circuit Impedance of Power Transformers Using Fractional Order Calculus[*]

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**Abstract** — *This paper reports investigation on the estimation of the short circuit impedance of power transformers, using fractional order calculus to analytically study the influence of the diffusion phenomena in the windings. The aim is to better characterize the medium frequency range behavior of leakage inductances of power transformer models, which include terms to represent the magnetic field diffusion process in the windings. Comparisons between calculated and measured values are shown and discussed.*

## 1 Introduction

Neglecting displacement currents, an electromagnetic field in conductive media is described by a diffusion type equation. In power transformers, a non-linear diffusion is considered to occur within their core, whereas a linear diffusion is supposed to occur in the windings and usually modelled by leakage impedances. The precise estimation of

these leakage impedances, prior to transformer building, is very important to tune the transformer de-rating $K$ factor and to calculate or optimize several power supply network characteristics, such as short-circuit currents, network protection sub-systems, and assess power quality.

Conductors, like copper or aluminum, standing diffusion process of magnetic fields at frequency $\omega$ ($\omega > 0$), such as skin and proximity effects, are supposed to typically show an impedance $Z_{cond}$ proportional to the square root of $\omega$, $Z_{cond} \propto \omega^{1/2} \, e^{i\pi/4}$, ($i = (-1)^{1/2}$). This behavior can be obtained solving the magnetic field diffusion equations within the conductor. If measured impedances, including terms from diffusion phenomena, show arguments different from $\pi/4$ and magnitudes not proportional to $\omega^{1/2}$, the diffusion process they represent might be described by a differential equation with non-integer derivatives, usually called a fractional order differential equation.

This paper extends the magnetic field diffusion equations to situations where $\alpha$, the order of the time partial derivative in the diffusion equation, assumes fractional values [1], leading to conductor impedances taking the form $Z_{cond} \propto \omega^{\alpha/2} e^{i\alpha\pi/4}$. The fractional approach, will be shown to provide a better description of the transformer short-circuit impedance behavior with frequency.

The magnetic field diffusion at the power transformer windings is studied, with Maxwell equations extended with a fractional order Faraday law. Solving the fractional order differential diffusion equation obtained, the voltage drops in the frequency domain and equivalent leakage impedance components, due to diffusion, are found.

From the relevant Maxwell equations, extended with a fractional order Faraday law, section 2 proposes a magnetic field fractional order diffusion model. Section 3 applies the fractional order diffusion model to power transformers, to calculate the winding fractional dispersion impedance and section 4 give suitable high and low frequency approximations. Section 5 shows some results concerning short-circuit impedances of power transformers.

## 2   Magnetic Field Fractional Order Diffusion

Motionless magnetic field systems, consisting primarily of magnetizable and conducting materials with conductivity $1/\rho$, permittivity $\varepsilon$, permeability $\mu$ and characteristic length $l$, operated at frequencies $\omega << [l \, (\varepsilon\mu)^{1/2}]^{-1}$ (quasi-steady regime), experience mainly magnetic field diffusion. Assuming all materials to be electrically linear, homogeneous, isotropic, negligible charges [2] and neglecting displacement currents ($1/\rho >> \varepsilon\omega$), when compared to conduction currents, the relevant Maxwell and material equations [3, 4], are $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$, $\nabla \times \vec{H} \approx \vec{J}$, $\vec{B} = \mu\vec{H}$, $\vec{E} = \rho\vec{J}$, where $\nabla$ is the nabla operator, $\vec{B}$ is the magnetic flux density vector, $\vec{H}$ is the magnetic field vector and $\vec{J}$ is the electrical current density vector.

### 2.1   Fractional Order Faraday's Law

Fractional order Faraday's law [1] is expressed as a differential equation with fractional order $\alpha$, being an extension of the classical Electrical field $\vec{E}$ Faraday's law:

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -_m D_t^\alpha \vec{B}, \tag{1}$$

where $_m D_t^\alpha$ represents the time $t$ partial derivative of fractional order $\alpha$ [5, 6, 7], defined

for $t > m$ (here $m = 0$), or:

$$_mD_t^\alpha \vec{B} = \frac{\partial^\alpha}{\partial t^\alpha}\vec{B} \ \text{ for } \ 0 < \alpha < 2 \ \text{ and } \ t > m \tag{2}$$

The Riemann-Liouville partial derivative of fractional order $\alpha$, applied to function $f(x, y)$, regarding variable $x$, for $x > m$, is calculated as:

$$_mD_x^\alpha f(x, y) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)}\frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n}\int_m^x \frac{f(\tau, y)}{(x - \tau)^{\alpha - n + 1}}\, d\tau \tag{3}$$

where $n$ is an integer satisfying $n - 1 < \alpha < n$; and $\Gamma$ represents the gamma function [8].

## 2.2 Fractional Order Diffusion Vector Equation for $\vec{H}$ Field Inside Conductors

Applying the curl operator to $\nabla \times \vec{H} \approx \vec{J}$, $\nabla \times \left(\nabla \times \vec{H}\right) = \nabla \times \vec{J}$, substituting $\vec{J}$ from $\vec{E} = \rho\vec{J}$, $\nabla \times \left(\nabla \times \vec{H}\right) = \frac{1}{\rho}\left(\nabla \times \vec{E}\right)$, and $\vec{E}$ from (1), it follows that $\nabla \times \left(\nabla \times \vec{H}\right) = -\frac{1}{\rho}\left[_0D_t^\alpha\vec{B}\right]$. As, from $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ and $\vec{B} = \mu \cdot \vec{H}$, $\vec{B}$ and $\vec{H}$ present zero divergence, using the vector identity $\nabla \times \left(\nabla \times \vec{H}\right) = \nabla\left(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}\right) - \nabla^2\vec{H}$, (4) is obtained.

$$\nabla^2\vec{H} - \frac{\mu}{\rho}\left[_0D_t^\alpha\vec{H}\right] = 0 \tag{4}$$

The above differential equation describes a magnetic field "diffusion phenomenon" [4]. The equation (4) is an ordinary integer order differential equation if $\alpha = 1$, or a fractional order differential equation if $\alpha \neq 1$. Therefore, (4) is the fractional extension of the classical diffusion equation $\nabla^2\vec{H} - (\mu/\rho)\left[\partial\vec{H}/\partial t\right] = 0$.

In the following section, (4) will be applied to power transformers, to obtain a better model for the transformer short-circuit impedance behavior with frequency, specially in the medium to high frequency range (300-6000 Hz) which includes most current harmonics when the transformer supplies non-linear loads.

## 3 Fractional Order Diffusion Equation Applied to Transformers

### 3.1 Fractional Order Diffusion Vector Equation for Leakage Field $\vec{H}$ in One Turn

This work applies to single-phase transformers, with coaxial or concentric cylindrical windings, as shown in Figure 1a). The transformer has a ferromagnetic core and two windings. The main induced magnetic flux path (shown in dashed line) is assumed to be all inside the core, and links all the turns of all windings (unity magnetic coupling). The leakage flux (shown in solid lines) through the air or insulators, only partially links the windings turns. Since, compared to the core, air or insulating material present much higher reluctance, leakage inductances are assumed to be linear.

Figure 1b) depicts the magnetic flux lines at the winding 1 head. Line A represents flux linking all the turns of winding 1, but only partly the turns of winding 2. Therefore, there is magnetic coupling between windings due to leakage flux (mutual inductance). Flux represented by line B links only all the turns of winding 1, meaning a magnetic coupling between all turns of winding 1. Flux in line C means magnetic coupling between some turns of winding 1.
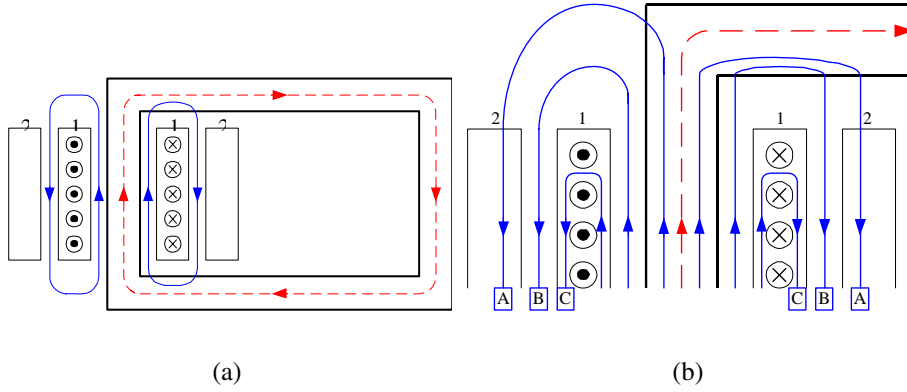
Figure 1: Main (dashed line) and leakage (solid line) fluxes: (a) in the transformer; (b) in the winding head.

Figure 2a) shows the winding $q$ layers, with $m$ turns in each layer, together with a leakage flux path. To calculate the magnetic field $\vec{H}$ in one turn of layer $k$, assume the turn with internal radius $r_k$ and the magnetic field direction shown in Figure 2b). To obtain a closed solution, consider the magnetic field with cylindrical geometry, with vector components only in the z-axis direction. Then, in cylindrical coordinates, $\vec{H}$ is $\vec{H} = H(r,t) \cdot \vec{a}_z$. Its Laplacian, in cylindrical coordinates, is $\nabla^2 \vec{H} = \vec{a}_z \nabla^2 H(r,t)$, giving (5), which is substituted into (4), to derive (6).

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} = \vec{a}_z \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} H(r,t) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} H(r,t) \right] \tag{5}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} H(r,t) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} H(r,t) - \frac{\mu}{\rho}\, {}_0 D_t^\alpha H(r,t) = 0 \tag{6}$$

Equation (6) describes, in cylindrical coordinates, the fractional diffusion phenomenon of the magnetic field strength $H(r,t)$ in one winding turn.

## 3.2  Leakage Magnetic Field $\vec{H}$

Assuming zero initial conditions and applying Laplace transform ($t$ is the independent variable) to (6), (7) is obtained, where $H(r)$ is the magnetic field strength in the Laplace transform domain.

$$\frac{d^2}{dr^2} H(r) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} H(r) - \frac{\mu}{\rho} s^\alpha H(r) = 0 \tag{7}$$

Multiplying (7) by $r^2$, using a new variable $x$, defined in (8), where $i = (-1)^{1/2}$ and $\delta$ is the fractional skin depth, for $n = 0$, (9) is derived.

$$x = \frac{i}{\delta}\, r, \quad \delta = \sqrt{\rho/(s^\alpha \mu)} \tag{8}$$

$$x^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} H(x) + x \frac{d}{dx} H(x) + \left(x^2 - n^2\right) H(x) = 0 \tag{9}$$



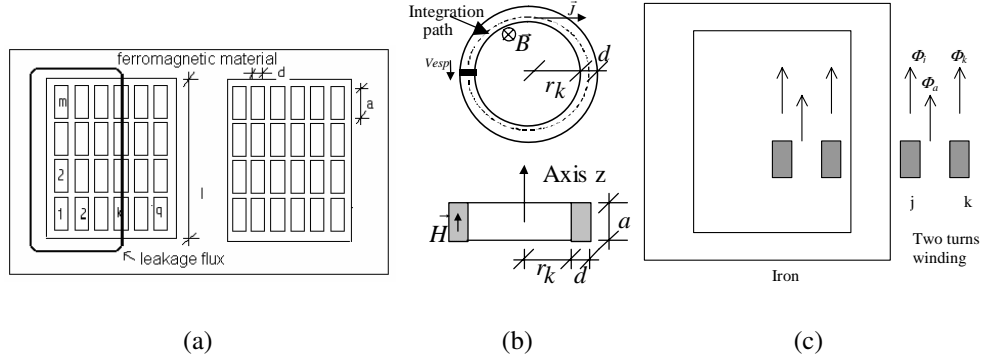(a)                    (b)                    (c)

Figure 2: (a) Winding with $q$ layers, and $m$ turns per layer; (b) Cross-sections of turn $k$ in layer $k$ of Figure 2a) winding; (c) winding with two turns.

The identity (9) is a classical Bessel differential equation [8] of order $n$ ($n = 0$). For $x_k + d' > x > x_k$, (9) has a family of solutions $H(x) = A\ J_0(x) + B\ Y_0(x)$, where $J_0(x)$ and $Y_0(x)$ are respectively the zero order first and second kind Bessel functions. The $A$ and $B$ parameters are calculated using boundary conditions. The domain of the $x$ variable, in terms of $r_k$ and $d$ (Figure 2b) is:

$$x_k = \frac{i}{\delta}\ r_k, \quad x_k + d' = \frac{i}{\delta}\ (r_k + d) \tag{10}$$

Boundary conditions can be obtained using the integral form of Ampère's law [2] and considering Figures 2a) and 2b). The magnetic field, at the surface inside the turn with radius $r = r_k$, with the current $i_s$ (in the Laplace domain), and considering $l$ as the length of the leakage flux path out of the core (Figure 1b), is $\oint \vec{H} \cdot \vec{dl} = \int_S \vec{J} \cdot \vec{ds} = F_{mm}$, where $F_{mm}$ is the "magnetomotive force" due to the currents crossing the surface limited by the integration contour. Therefore $H(r_k) = F_{mm}(r_k)/l\ = m\ k\ i_s/l$. Similarly, the magnetic field in the outside surface of the turn, $H(r_k + d)$, is $H(r_k + d) = F_{mm}(r_k + d)/l = m\ (k-1)\ i_s/l$. Using these relations together with (8) and (10), the values $A$ and $B$ of the family of solutions for (9) are determined to obtain the leakage magnetic field strength:

$$H(x) = \frac{1}{l} \left[ \frac{F_{mm}(r_k + d)\ Y_0(x_k) - F_{mm}(r_k)\ Y_0(x_k + d')}{J_0(x_k + d')\ Y_0(x_k) - J_0(x_k)\ Y_0(x_k + d')} \right] J_0(x) +$$

$$+ \frac{1}{l} \left[ \frac{F_{mm}(r_k)\ J_0(x_k + d') - F_{mm}(r_r + d)\ J_0(x_k)}{J_0(x_k + d')\ Y_0(x_k) - J_0(x_k)\ Y_0(x_k + d')} \right] Y_0(x) \tag{11}$$

This equation is difficult to use, since Bessel functions $J_0(x)$ and $Y_0(x)$ are given by infinite series. A possible simplification, suitable for high-frequency modelling of leakage inductances, is to use an asymptotic approximation $J_n(x)$ and $Y_n(x)$ [8] of Bessel

functions for high values of $x$, since, from (8), the argument $x$ of the Bessel functions increases with increasing frequency.

$$J_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \cos\left(x - \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \quad \text{for} \ \ n = 0, \ 1, \ 2, \ 3, \ ... \tag{12}$$

$$Y_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \sin\left(x - \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \quad \text{for} \ \ n = 0, \ 1, \ 2, \ 3, \ ... \tag{13}$$

Using (8), (10), (11), (12), (13), the fractional equation of the leakage magnetic field (in the Laplace domain) $\vec{H} = H(r) \cdot \vec{a}_z$ is obtained for $r_k < r < r_{k+d}$, being $H(r)$ given by (14), where sinh is the hyperbolic sinus:

$$H(r) = \frac{\sqrt{r_k\,(r_k + d)}}{l\ \sinh(d/\delta)}\left[\frac{F_{mm}(r_k + d)}{\sqrt{r_k\,r}} \sinh\left(\frac{r - r_k}{\delta}\right) - \right.$$

$$\left. -\frac{F_{mm}(r_k)}{\sqrt{r\,(r_k + d)}} \sinh\left(\frac{r - r_k - d}{\delta}\right)\right] \tag{14}$$

Next, the current density vector $\vec{J}$ in the winding turns is determined.

## 3.3   Current Density Vector $\vec{J}$ at the Winding Turns

The current density vector $\vec{J}$ is given from $\nabla \times \vec{H} \approx \vec{J}$ and the mentioned general solution of $H(x)$, giving $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \nabla \times [A\,J_0(x) + B\,Y_0(x)] \cdot \vec{a}_z \approx \vec{J}$, which can be solved, in cylindrical coordinates, to write $\vec{J} = \left[-\frac{d}{dx}[A\,J_0(x) + B\,Y_0(x)] \cdot \frac{d}{dr}x\right] \cdot \vec{a}_\phi$. Differentiating the Bessel equations [8], $\vec{J} = \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{\delta}[A\,J_1(x) + B\,Y_1(x)] \cdot \vec{a}_\phi$, using (8), (10), (12), (13), the values $A$, $B$ of the general solution of $H(x)$ in the Laplace domain, it is obtained $\vec{J} = J(r) \cdot \vec{a}_\phi$ for $r_k < r < r_k + d$, being $J(r)$ given by (15), where cosh is the hyperbolic co-sinus.

$$J(r) = \frac{\sqrt{r_k\,(r_k + d)}}{l\,\delta\ \sinh(d/\delta)}\left[\frac{F_{mm}(r_k)}{\sqrt{r\,(r_k + d)}} \cosh\left(\frac{r - r_k - d}{\delta}\right) - \right.$$

$$\left. -\frac{F_{mm}(r_k + d)}{\sqrt{r\,r_k}} \cosh\left(\frac{r - r_k}{\delta}\right)\right] \tag{15}$$

Equations (14) and (15) are useful to calculate the voltage in each winding turn.

## 3.4   Voltage per Winding Turn, Considering the Resistivity and Leakage Flux

The transformer is first considered to have a two turn winding (Figure 2c). Vector $\Phi_j$ represents the leakage flux linked by the conductor of turn $j$, $\Phi_k$ represents the leakage flux linked by the conductor of turn $k$, and $\Phi_a$ is the leakage flux across the insulating layers.

*Voltage at k turn due to i) the conductor resistance; ii) the self-leakage flux* $\Phi_k$. The winding voltage of turn $k$ depends on $i$) the conductor resistance; $ii$) the self-leakage

flux $\Phi_k$, *iii*) the leakage fluxes $\Phi_j$ and $\Phi_a$. The voltage of turn $j$ depends also on $i$) the conductor resistance; *ii*) the selfleakage flux $\Phi_j$, but leakage fluxes $\Phi_k$ and $\Phi_a$ do not induce a voltage since they do not link the turn $j$.

The magnetic flux density $\vec{B}$ has zero divergence. Therefore, using vectorial calculus it follows that:

$$\oint_l \vec{E} \cdot \vec{dl} +_0 D_t^\alpha \int_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = -\oint_l \nabla V \cdot \vec{dl} = 0 \tag{16}$$

From the electromagnetism viewpoint, this equation is the fractional Kirchhoff voltage law along a closed path. It will be used to calculate the winding voltage $V_{kk}$ of turn $k$ in layer $k$ (Figure 2c) of the winding (Figure 2a).

The calculation uses Ohm's law $\vec{E} = \rho \vec{J}$ and (16). Considering the integration path $l$ embracing the surface $S$, (Figure 2b), the voltage $V_{kk}$ at turn $k$, in Laplace domain, is $V_{k,k} = \int_l \rho \vec{J} \cdot \vec{dl} + s^\alpha \int_S \mu \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s}$. Then, for $r_k < r < r_k + d$, $V_{k,k} = \int_0^{2\pi} \rho r \vec{J} \cdot \vec{a}_\phi d\phi + s^\alpha \int_{r_k}^r \int_0^{2\pi} \mu r \vec{H} \cdot \vec{a}_z d\phi dr$. Substituting $\vec{J}$ from (15), $\vec{H}$ from (14), $F_{mm}(r_k) = m \; k \; i_s$, and $F_{mm}(r_k + d) = m \; (k-1) \; i_s$, the voltage per turn due to resistance and self-flux $\Phi_k$, (17) is obtained, where coth is the hyperbolic co-tangent, and csch is the hyperbolic co-secant.

$$V_{k,k} = \frac{2\pi\rho}{a\delta} \left[ r_k k \coth\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) - \left[(k-1)\sqrt{r_k(r_k+d)}\right] \operatorname{csch}\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) \right] i_s \tag{17}$$

Next, the voltage per turn due to the leakage flux of the remaining turns is determined.

*Voltage at turn k due to iii*) *the leakage fluxes* $\Phi_j$. To calculate the voltage $V_{kj}$ of turn $k$ (Figure 2c) due to the flux $\Phi_j$ across turn $j$, we use (16), without the term for the resistive voltage drop, since it is already included in (17), and write $V_{k,j} = s^\alpha \int_{S_j} \mu \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s}$ for $k \neq j$. The magnetic flux is evaluated at the surface $S_j$ of turn $j$ to give $V_{k,j} = s^\alpha \int_{r_j}^{r_j+d} \int_0^{2\pi} \mu r \vec{H} \vec{a}_z \, d\phi dr$ for $k \neq j$. Using $\vec{H} = H(r) \cdot \vec{a}_z$ and the $F_{mm}$ values in the previous equation, for $k \neq j$, $V_{kj}$ is:

$$V_{k,j} = \frac{2\pi\rho}{a\delta} \left[ \left[r_j(2j-1) + d(j-1)\right] \coth\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) - \right.$$

$$\left. - \left[(2j-1)\sqrt{r_j(r_j+d)}\right] \operatorname{csch}\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) \right] i_s \quad \text{for} \quad k \neq j \tag{18}$$

### 3.5  Winding Fractional Dispersion Impedance

The total voltage $V_b$ at the winding of Figure 2a), is obtained adding the voltages $V_{kk}$ and $V_{kj}$ of all the winding turns, $V_b = m \sum_{k=1}^q \left[ V_{k,k} + \sum_{j=k+1}^q V_{k,j} \right]$, giving, from (17) and (18), $V_b$ as:

$$V_b = \frac{2\pi\rho m}{a\delta} \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ r_k k \coth\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) - \left[(k-1)\sqrt{r_k(r_k+d)}\right] \operatorname{csch}\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) + \right.$$

$$\left. + \sum_{j=k+1}^{q} [r_j(2j-1) + d(j-1)] \coth\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) - \sum_{j=k+1}^{q} \left[(2j-1)\sqrt{r_j(r_j+d)}\right] \operatorname{csch}\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) \right] i_s \tag{19}$$

Since (17) and (18) do not include the induced voltage due the main flux (core flux, Figure 1), then, the ratio $V_b/i_s$ is the winding fractional dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$, in the Laplace domain:

$$Z_\sigma = P_1 \frac{d}{\delta} \left[ P_2 \coth\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) + P_4 \operatorname{csch}\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right) \right] \tag{20}$$

where $\delta$ is given by (8), and $P_1, P_2, P_4$ are real terms, only dependent on the turn dimensions and conductivity:

$$P_1 = \frac{2\pi\rho m}{ad}, \quad P_2 = \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ (k-1)^2 (r_k + d) + k^2 r_k \right] \tag{21a}$$

$$P_4 = \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ 2k(1-k)\sqrt{r_k(r_k+d)} \right] \tag{21b}$$

## 4 Asymptotic Behavior of the Winding Dispersion Impedance

### 4.1 High Frequency Asymptotic Behavior

Considering the fractional skin depth $\delta$ of (8) in the frequency domain, $\delta = \sqrt{\rho/[(i\omega)^\alpha \mu]}$, and frequencies $\omega$ high enough to satisfy $d >> |\delta|$, since $\coth(d/\delta) \approx 1$ for $d >> |\delta|$ and $\cosh(d/\delta) \approx 0$ for $d >> |\delta|$, the use in (20) of (21) will give the high-frequency asymptotic behavior (valid for $d >> |\delta|$) of the fractional dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$:

$$Z_\sigma = \sqrt{d^2\mu/\rho} \left[ \omega^{\alpha/2} e^{i\pi\alpha/4} \right] P_1 P_2 \tag{22}$$

Observe that $Z_\sigma$ is proportional to $\omega^{\alpha/2} e^{i\pi\alpha/4}$, or, in the Laplace domain, to $s^{\alpha/2}$. Therefore, even in the classical diffusion phenomenon ($\alpha = 1$) the high frequency dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$ shows a fractional derivative behavior of order 1/2 [2], being $Z_\sigma \propto \omega^{1/2} e^{i\pi/4}$. Moreover, if a given impedance, related to diffusion phenomena, departs from the behavior expressed in $Z_\sigma \propto s^{\alpha/2}$, one can say it might obey a fractional order differential diffusion equation (4), in which $\alpha \neq 1$.

However, this approximation is only valid for high frequencies. For dc and low frequencies, (22) is no longer valid, as can be seen in the next section.

## 4.2 Winding dc Resistance

To obtain the dc resistance, consider the differential conductance of the dashed path shown in Figure 2b), $dG = \frac{a\,dr}{\rho\,2\pi\,r}$, and integrate to obtain the conductance $G_k$ of one turn, $G_k = \int_{r_k}^{r_k+d} \frac{a\,dr}{\rho\,2\pi\,r} = \frac{a}{\rho\,2\pi} \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right)$. Then, as $R_k = 1/G_k = \frac{\rho 2\pi}{a\,d}\,d \big/ \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right)$, where ln is the natural logarithm, the winding resistance $R_{dc}$ considers the resistances of all turns:

$$R_{dc} = \frac{\rho\,2\pi\,m}{a\,d} \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ d \Big/ \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right) \right] = P_1 P_3 \tag{23}$$

where $P_1$ is given in (21) and $P_3$ is:

$$P_3 = \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ d \Big/ \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right) \right] \tag{24}$$

Equation (23) is useful to show that Bessel asymptotic approximations (12) and (13) lead to low frequency errors in (19) and (20), since $R_{dc}$ should be the limit of (20) as $\omega \to 0$, or $R_{dc} = \lim_{\omega \to 0} Z_\sigma$, giving $R_{dc} = P_1(P_2 + P_4)$.

This result does not equal (23), since (20) is not valid for low frequencies. However, studying (20) we can observe that the $P_2$ coth component defines the high frequency behavior, as the $P_2$ csch term is negligible for those frequencies, being only meaningful for low frequencies. Therefore, we propose an approximation for (20), which tries to enhance the behavior at low frequencies, without disturbing the validity for high frequencies [9]:

$$Z_\sigma = P_1 \left[\frac{d}{\delta}\right] \left[ P_2 \coth\left[\frac{d}{\delta}\right] + (P_3 - P_2) \operatorname{csch}\left[\frac{d}{\delta}\right] \right] \tag{25}$$

where the values of $P_1$, $P_2$ and $P_3$, are given by (21), (24) and $\delta$ by (8) (frequency domain).

## 4.3 Fractional Transfer Function High and Low Frequency Approximation

As seen, the fractional dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$, obtained in (20) or (22), is valid only for high frequencies [10]. However, an approximation to (20), able to describe both the high frequency and low frequency behavior must contain the contribution of the self $L_{dc}$ and mutual inductance of the windings [9]:

$$L_{dc} = \frac{m^2\pi\mu}{2l} \sum_{j=1}^{q} \left[ \frac{1}{\ln\left(\frac{r_j+d}{r_j}\right)} \left\{ \left[ 1 + 2(j-1)\ln\left(\frac{r_j+d}{r_j}\right) \right] (r_j+d)^2 - \right.\right.$$

$$\left.\left. - \left[ 1 + 2j\ln\left(\frac{r_j+d}{r_j}\right) \right] r_j^2 \right\} \right] + \frac{m^2\pi\mu}{2l} \sum_{k=1}^{q} \left[ \frac{k-1}{\left[\ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right)\right]^2} \left[\left[ 1 + (k-1) \cdot \right.\right.\right.$$

$$\left.\left.\left. \cdot \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right) \right] (r_k+d)^2 + \left\{ 1 + \left[ 2k\ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right) + (k+1) \right] \ln\left(\frac{r_k+d}{r_k}\right) \right\} r_k^2 \right] \right] \tag{26}$$

The approximation must also give the low frequency term $R_{dc} = P_1 P_3$ when $\omega \to 0$, and the high frequency factor $\omega^{\alpha/2} e^{i\pi\alpha/4}$ of (22) when $\omega \to \infty$. A candidate transfer function, proposed from (25), contains one zero and one pole, both fractional:

$$Z_\sigma = R_{dc} \frac{(1 + s\tau_1)^\alpha}{(1 + s\tau_2)^{\alpha/2}} = P_1 P_3 \frac{(1 + s\tau_1)^\alpha}{(1 + s\tau_2)^{\alpha/2}} \tag{27}$$

where $\tau_1 = (L_{dc}/R_{dc})^{1/\alpha}$, and the constant $\tau_2$ is calculated for high frequencies, considering $i\omega\tau_1 >> 1$ and $i\omega\tau_2 >> 1$ in (27), giving (28).

$$Z_\sigma = P_1 P_3 \frac{(1 + i\omega\tau_1)^\alpha}{(1 + i\omega\tau_2)^{\alpha/2}} \approx P_1 P_3 \frac{(i\omega\tau_1)^\alpha}{(i\omega\tau_2)^{\alpha/2}} \tag{28}$$

This equation must equal (22). Thus:

$$Z_\sigma \approx P_1 P_3 \frac{(i\omega\tau_1)^\alpha}{(i\omega\tau_2)^{\alpha/2}} = \sqrt{\frac{d^2\mu}{\rho}} \, (i\omega)^{\alpha/2} \, P_1 P_2 \tag{29}$$

$$\tau_2 = \left[ P_3 \, \tau_1^\alpha \left/ \left( P_2 \sqrt{\frac{d^2\mu}{\rho}} \right) \right. \right]^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \tag{30}$$

Using $\tau_1$ and (30), the fractional model (27) tries to reproduce the low frequency behavior, without disturbing the high frequency validity.

# 5   Results: Evaluation of Short-Circuit Impedance of Transformers

Data from a single-phase toroidal power transformer of 25 kVA, 7200 V in the high voltage side and 240 V/120 V in the low voltage secondary was used [11]. The proposed model for the transformer short-circuit impedance (Figure 3) includes an equivalent capacitor $C$, associated with the high frequency displacement currents, not considered in the previous analysis, $L$, the frequency independent inductance, and $Z_\sigma$, the fractional dispersion impedance associated with (27).

The values of $L = 45 \ mH$ and $C = 890 \ pF$ were calculated in a previous work [10, 11]. From the dimensions and short-circuit experimental data of the transformer [10, 12], $R_{dc}$, $\tau_1$ and $\tau_2$ were calculated and a non-linear regression was used to obtain the fractional order $\alpha$ that characterizes the $Z_\sigma$ impedance in (27). Table 1 shows the obtained results for fractional $\alpha$ (fractional order diffusion) and for $\alpha = 1$ (integer order diffusion). The best fit for short-circuit experimental data was obtained with $\alpha = 0.949$.
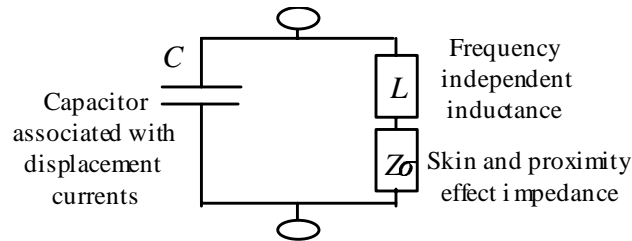


Figure 3: Frequency dependent short-circuit impedance model for the power transformer.

| Parameter | $\alpha = 0.949$ | $\alpha = 1$ |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|
| $R_{dc}$ | 20.02 [$\Omega$] | 20.02 [$\Omega$] |
| $\tau_1$ | 1.59 [ms] | 1.44 [ms] |
| $\tau_2$ | 5.27 [$\mu s$] | 9.73 [$\mu s$] |

Table 1: Parameters of $Z_\sigma$ ($\alpha$ obtained by non-linear regression).

The magnitude, angle and real part values of the fractional impedance $Z_\sigma$, obtained using (27) and Table 1 values, are shown in Figure 4.

It can be seen (Figure 4a) that the $Z_\sigma$ magnitude does not show significant variations for the two values of $\alpha$ ($\alpha = 1$ and $\alpha = 0.949$), both integer and fractional approximations giving good results. The $Z_\sigma$ angle is slightly better approximated with $\alpha = 0.949$ (Figure 4b, solid curve), mainly in the medium frequency range (300 Hz to 6000 Hz), the classical approach ($\alpha = 1$) giving nearly 2% errors in that region. The classical approach ($\alpha = 1$) for the $Z_\sigma$ real part gives nearly 15% errors in the frequency range 300 Hz to 6000 Hz. The $Z_\sigma$ real part is clearly better approximated taking $\alpha = 0.949$ (Figure 4c, solid curve), also in the medium frequency range (300 Hz to 6000 Hz), a range of interest for power quality studies.
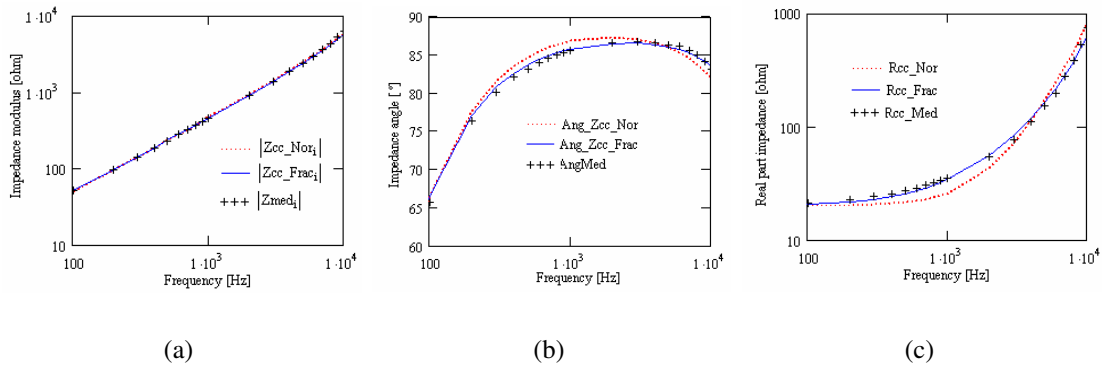


(a)  (b)  (c)

Figure 4: (a) Measured (Zmed) and calculated magnitude of the dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$ versus frequency, showing integer (Zcc_Nor) and fractional (Zcc_Frac) approaches; (b) Measured (AngMed) and calculated angle of the fractional dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$ versus frequency, showing integer (Ang_Zcc_Nor) and fractional (Ang_Zcc_Frac) approaches; (c) Measured (Rcc_Med) and calculated real part value of the fractional dispersion impedance $Z_\sigma$ versus frequency, showing integer (Rcc_Nor) and fractional (Rcc_Frac) approaches.

## 6  Conclusion

The assumption that electromagnetic fields diffusion phenomena in conducting media obey differential equations of fractional order, can be worked out with the same mathematics used to solve the problem using integer derivatives. The analytical results obtained

extend the existing studies, offer an extra degree of freedom, and enable better diffusion modelling, when compared to models with integer differential equations.

In the measured power transformer, the obtained fractional order is very close to unity ($\alpha = 0.949$), suggesting that the classical integer approximation is good enough for most purposes. However, the fractional zero-pole model, here parameterized, enables a better approximation, suggesting that this approach can be used to optimize the design and estimation of short-circuit transformer resistance, specially in the medium frequency range (300 Hz to 6000 Hz) where harmonics, transformer heating and power quality related problems can be significant.

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