

INVESTIGATING THE EFFECTS OF HUMIDITY AND TEMPERATURE FOR  
LCL COMPENSATION WIRELESS POWER TRANSFER

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To my beloved parents, thank you.



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## ABSTRACT

In recent years, there has been much research in designing an inductive wireless power transfer system. The main challenge for this technology is the efficiency of the system. In designing a Wireless Power Transfer (WPT) system for long-distance applications, the gain bandwidth or Q-factor is a factor that should be considered as it affects the resonant coupling of the transmitter and receiver pads. An insufficient Q-factor will result in weak coupling or possible energy loss due to the attenuation characteristics of the environment, such as resistive and radiation losses. However, a system with too much Q-factor would cause the resonant coils to be very sensitive to the environment, such as temperature, humidity, and human proximity. Since wireless power transmission devices use power electronics technology, this technology is also affected by environment factors such as temperature and humidity. This research therefore, investigates the effect of temperature and humidity in LCL compensation wireless power transfer systems as well as study the safety of the magnetic field generated by the system. This project was carried out into two distinct phases: the first was a simulation analysis for the proposed system using JMAG-Designer software and the second phase was an experimental setup based on the simulated system. The hardware design was tested on the various temperature and humidity levels to observe the impact of the change in efficiency of the system. The results shows that the efficiency of both the simulation and experiment are high at 94.8% and 91.7% respectively, when the distance is low. However, as the distance increased, the efficiency decreased to 68.5% for simulation and 66.6% for experiment at 10 cm distance. Regarding the temperature and humidity setup, the temperature was set between 27-degree Celsius (room temperature) and 60-degree Celsius, while the humidity was set between 60% which is at room temperature and 99%. The result was showed that temperature and humidity have a very small changes on the efficiency of the system, with an error margin of 1%. Therefore, it was concluded that the efficiency can only be affected by the distance between the coils, load resistance, and frequency value.

## ABSTRAK

Dalam beberapa tahun kebelakangan ini, terdapat banyak penyelidikan dalam mereka bentuk sistem pemindahan kuasa tanpa wayar (WPT) induktif. Cabaran utama untuk teknologi tersubat adalah kecekapan sistem. Untuk sistem (WPT) yang digunakan dalam aplikasi jarak jauh, lebar jalur keuntungan atau faktor Q adalah faktor yang harus dipertimbangkan kerana ia mempengaruhi gandingan resonan pad pemancar dan penerima. Faktor Q yang tidak mencukupi hanya akan mengakibatkan gandingan yang lemah atau kemungkinan kehilangan tenaga disebabkan oleh kehilangan gelombang sinaran elektromagnet. Walau bagaimanapun, sistem dengan faktor Q yang terlalu banyak akan menyebabkan gegelung resonans menjadi sangat sensitif kepada persekitaran seperti suhu, kelembapan dan kedekatan manusia. Memandangkan peranti WPT menggunakan teknologi elektronik kuasa, teknologi ini turut dipengaruhi oleh persekitaran seperti suhu dan kelembapan. Penyelidikan ini mengkaji kesan suhu dan kelembapan dalam sistem WPT pampasan LCL serta mengkaji keselamatan medan magnet yang dihasilkan oleh sistem. Kerja-kerja ini dibahagikan kepada dua peringkat: analisis simulasi untuk sistem yang dicadangkan menggunakan perisian JMAG-Designer dan diikuti dengan persediaan eksperimen berdasarkan sistem simulasi. Reka bentuk perkakasan akan diuji pada pelbagai tahap suhu dan kelembapan untuk melihat kesan perubahan kecekapan sistem. Daripada keputusan tersebut, didapati bahawa kecekapan kedua-dua simulasi dan eksperimen adalah tinggi apabila jaraknya rendah iaitu masing-masing pada 94.8% dan 91.7%. Walau bagaimanapun, apabila jarak semakin bertambah kecekapan berkurangan kepada 68.5% untuk simulasi dan 66.6% untuk eksperimen pada jarak 10 cm. Bagi persediaan suhu dan kelembapan pula, suhu ditetapkan daripada 27- darjah Celsius kepada 60 darjah Celsius, dan kelembapan ditetapkan daripada 60% iaitu pada suhu bilik kepada 99%. Hasilnya diperhatikan bahawa suhu dan kelembapan mempunyai perubahan yang sangat kecil dengan margin ralat 1% pada kecekapan sistem. Oleh itu, disimpulkan

bahawa kecekapan hanya boleh dipengaruhi oleh jarak antara gegelung, rintangan beban, dan nilai frekuensi.



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## LIST OF SYMBOLS

$B$	-	Magnetic field density
$C_1 \text{ or } C_p$	-	Primary capacitor
$C_2 \text{ or } C_{ps}$	-	Secondary capacitor
$D_{out}$	-	Outer diameter
$D_{in}$	-	Inner diameter
$E$	-	Electric field
$\epsilon_0$	-	Electricity permittivity of free space ( $F.m^{-1}$ )
$f_r$	-	Resonant frequency
$I_1 \text{ or } I_p$	-	Primary current
$I_2 \text{ or } I_s$	-	Secondary current
$J$	-	Current density
$K$	-	Coupling coefficient
$L_1 \text{ or } L_p$	-	Primary inductor
$L_2 \text{ or } L_s$	-	Secondary inductor
$l$	-	Length of the coil
$M$	-	Mutual inductance
$\mu$	-	Permeability of a substance
$\mu_r$	-	Permeability of the magnet of free space
$\mu_0$	-	Permeability of the medium
$N$	-	Number of coils turns
$\eta$	-	Efficiency
$P_L$	-	Load power or output power
$Q$	-	Quality factor
$R_1 \text{ or } R_p$	-	Primary resistor
$R_2 \text{ or } R_s$	-	Secondary resistor
$R_L \text{ or } R_e$	-	Load resistor
$T$	-	Spacing between turns

$V_1 \text{ or } V_p$	-	Primary voltage
$V_2 \text{ or } V_s$	-	Secondary voltage
$w$	-	Diameter of the wire
$\omega_0$	-	Operating frequency
$Z_p \text{ and } Z_s$	-	Primary and secondary impedance
$\nabla$	-	Curl which measures the strength of B



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AC	-	Alternating current
ADC	-	Analog to digital converter
AWG	-	American wire Gauge
CCS	-	Code composer studio
CMRS	-	Coupled magnetic resonance system
CPT	-	Capacitive power transfer
CMT	-	Coupled mode theory
DC	-	Direct current
DSP	-	Digital signal processor
EMF	-	Electric and magnetic field
EM	-	Electromagnetic
EV	-	Electric vehicle
E-field	-	Electric fields
FCC	-	Federal Communications Commission
FEA	-	Finite Element Method
H-field	-	Magnetic fields
ICES	-	The International Committee on Electromagnetic Safety
ICNIRP	-	International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
IEEE	-	Institute of Electrical Electronic Engineers
IGBT	-	Insulated-gate bipolar transistor
IPT	-	Inductive power transfer
MMF	-	Magneto motive force
MF	-	Medium frequency
MOSFET	-	Metal–oxide–semiconductor field-effect transistor
PP	-	parallel-parallel
PS	-	Parallel-series
PWM	-	Paulse width modulation
Q-factor	-	Quality factor



RF	-	Radio frequency
SAR	-	Specific absorption rate
SS	-	Sries-series
SP	-	Series-parallel
VLf	-	Very low frequency
WPT	-	Wireless power transfer
ZVS	-	Zero voltage switching



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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Research Background

Electric and electronic appliances are typically powered by a wire that transfers electricity [1]. However, this is inconvenient for the following reasons: the incapability of moving the equipment while charging, broken cables, the necessity to establish an electrical connection during rainy weather conditions, and safety risks. Even though some of the equipment use battery for their mobility, there are some limitations with the batteries such as capacity, size, and efficiency which make them inconvenient and do not solve this limitation [2]. To overcome this limitation wireless power transfer (WPT) has been introduced in the past few decades. The benefit of WPT is that it transmits power from the primary windings to the secondary windings without any mechanical contact. WPT technology is used in various applications such as medical implants, mobile phones, and electric vehicles (EV) [3].

WPT technique is adopted rapidly in many sectors, including transportation and various other fields of approach in which certain parameters vary. For instance, the number of coils and their shape, compensation topologies, frequency control, and inverter design is being implemented to get the maximum power transfer efficiency [4].

Several approaches are used to build a WPT. They depend on the distance between the transmitter and receiver, the operating frequency, and the amount of transmitted power [5]. WPT has two types of fields: far-field and near-field. Table 1.1 shows the distinction between the two types of fields. Near-field WPT systems are classified into inductive and capacitive power transfer. The most often-used approach is inductive power transfer (IPT), which is based on magnetic induction. The IPT

system has made significant contributions in theoretical development and industrial implementations for wireless power delivery [6], [7]. Hence, it was used in this research.

Table 1.1: Main differences between far-field and near-field [5]

<b>WPT</b>	<b>Far Field</b>	<b>Near Field</b>
Range	Long	Short-Mid
Phenomenon	Coupled mode theory	Induction theory
Frequency	Mega Hertz	Kilo Hertz
Efficiency	Low	High

The technique for wireless power transfer is that it eliminates the use of traditional wires. Instead, it transfers energy from the power supply to the targeted load via air. This technique consists of far-field and near-field transmissions. The far-field technique uses systems such as microwave, optical, and acoustic to transfer the energy from the source to the load. Whereas the near-field transmission uses electric and magnetic fields to transfer energy from the source to the load. It is noteworthy, that most of the WPT techniques use a near-field technique, which can be classified into two methods: i.e., magnetic induction (IPT) and electrostatic induction or capacitive power transfer (CPT) [8].

The reliability of electronic systems for operating in all types of environments has become a necessity. During operation, electronic components are exposed to a variety of stresses, including electrical, thermal, electrostatic discharge (ESD), EMI, and others. Temperature and humidity may impact the dependability of operation and be one of the causes of electronic component failure. There are numerous research articles and initiatives on electronic equipment like transformers and inductor, because thermal heat loss in electronic devices produces unexpected issues in system [10]. However, no active research on the effect of temperature and humidity on current WPT systems in the market has been done yet. The effect of temperature and humidity dissipation of a WPT system device can be minute if the machine deals with low power. However, when the system's power and frequencies increase, substantial power loss might occur because of the WPT system characteristics (such as proximity effects by many turns of wiring, and sensitivity to resonance frequencies).

This research proposed and investigated the effect of temperature and humidity which could negatively affect the efficiency and performance of any electronics device that includes WPT. As well as to model and design a WPT system using JMAG-designer, and to study the safety limits of the electromagnetic field produced by the coupling coil.

## 1.2 Problem Statement

To ensure the capability of energy transfer at longer distances, the resonance coupling must depends on a rate determined by the gain-bandwidth (Quality factor) [11]. Insufficient Q-factor simply results in weak coupling or possibly loss of energy due to the damping nature of the environment including resistive and radiative losses. However, too much Q-factor would result in the resonant coils being very sensitive to its surroundings i.e., temperature, humidity, and human proximity [12]. Although there are claims by certain researchers that the WPT system is immune to harsh environments, there are very few literature to support this claim.

Temperature and humidity are very important factors to consider when designing electronics appliances because any increase in temperature and humidity can reduce the lifespan of any electronic components and might even damage it. Besides that, they also have an impact on conventional charging as the device may take longer to charge when the temperature and humidity increase [13]. The WPT system uses a magnetic field to transfer power from one end to another, (that is, the magnetic coupling between a primary and a secondary winding). The electrical power can flow from the mains source to the load [14]. That magnetic field can be affected by the surrounding temperature and humidity.

Although wireless power transmission offers numerous advantages, it also poses a possible safety issue due to human and animal exposure to the leaky magnetic field, which may have a negative effect on the general public's health. Due to the high power and frequency, a greater magnetic field is created when there is an air gap between the transmitter and receiver pads. This implies that the leaking magnetic field's frequency and amplitude must be carefully controlled to meet industry standards for safety [15].

Therefore, this study aims to model and design a WPT system that can transmit energy from the transmitter to the receiver as well as investigate the effect of

temperature and humidity on wireless power transfer, and study the safety risk of electromagnetic exposure of the system to the general public.

### 1.3 Objectives

1. To design and model a wireless power transfer system (WPT) using FEM JMAG-Designer.
2. To analyse the effect of load and input volt on the efficiency of the system.
3. To investigate the effect of temperature and humidity in WPT.
4. To study the safety and electromagnetic limits based on the specific absorption rate (SAR).

### 1.4 Scope of Study

The main purpose of this research was to analyze the effect of temperature and humidity on coil systems using inductive wireless charging systems which comprises of; efficiency vs distances (mm), efficiency vs resonant frequency, specific absorption rate, and design topologies.

- (i) This project entails the design of a wireless power transfer system that can transfer low voltage to a maximum of 200V.
- (ii) Frequency values are used to identify a suitable resonant frequency range between (10 kHz to 20 kHz) for different airgaps.
- (iii) The airgap used is between 0 to 100mm
- (iv) The design and analysis are carried out using JMAG-Designer ver16.0.01.
- (v) A prototype of WPT will be implemented based on the software specification, focusing on the transmitter and receiver pads.
- (vi) The study of electromagnetic exposure risk is based on the ICNIRP standard for magnetic field safety consideration.
- (vii) The temperature and humidity test are only performed on the experimental part due to lack of these parameters in the software.

## **1.5 Significance of Study**

In this study, an investigation of the effect of temperature and humidity on LCL topology WPT system was introduced. The finding of this study would help to understand how load affect the efficiency of the system, as well as to understand the effect of temperature and humidity on WPT system for a variety of applications such as laptops, scoters, etc... Therefore, the result of this study will contribute to the knowledge related to pad design using LCL compensation topology, and the safety risk of electromagnetic exposure to human body.

## **1.6 Thesis Outline**

This section briefly outlines the structure of this thesis, it will be divided into five chapters as explained below.

### **Chapter One: Introduction**

Chapter one is the introduction of this research thesis which includes the background of the study, problem statement, objectives, and scope, limitations, significance of study and finally, chapter summary.

### **Chapter Two: Literature Review**

Chapter two consists of a review of related literature regarding the current issue of wireless power transfer. This section also includes the types of WPT that have been studied before and the mathematical derivation of the formula of the system. Moreover, it also explains more about the research problem that will be addressed in this project.

### **Chapter Three: Research Methodology**

This chapter clarifies the method used to achieve the result of this study. It consists of an introduction, and simulation method which describes the software used in this project and the design parameters of the system. Furthermore, this chapter also

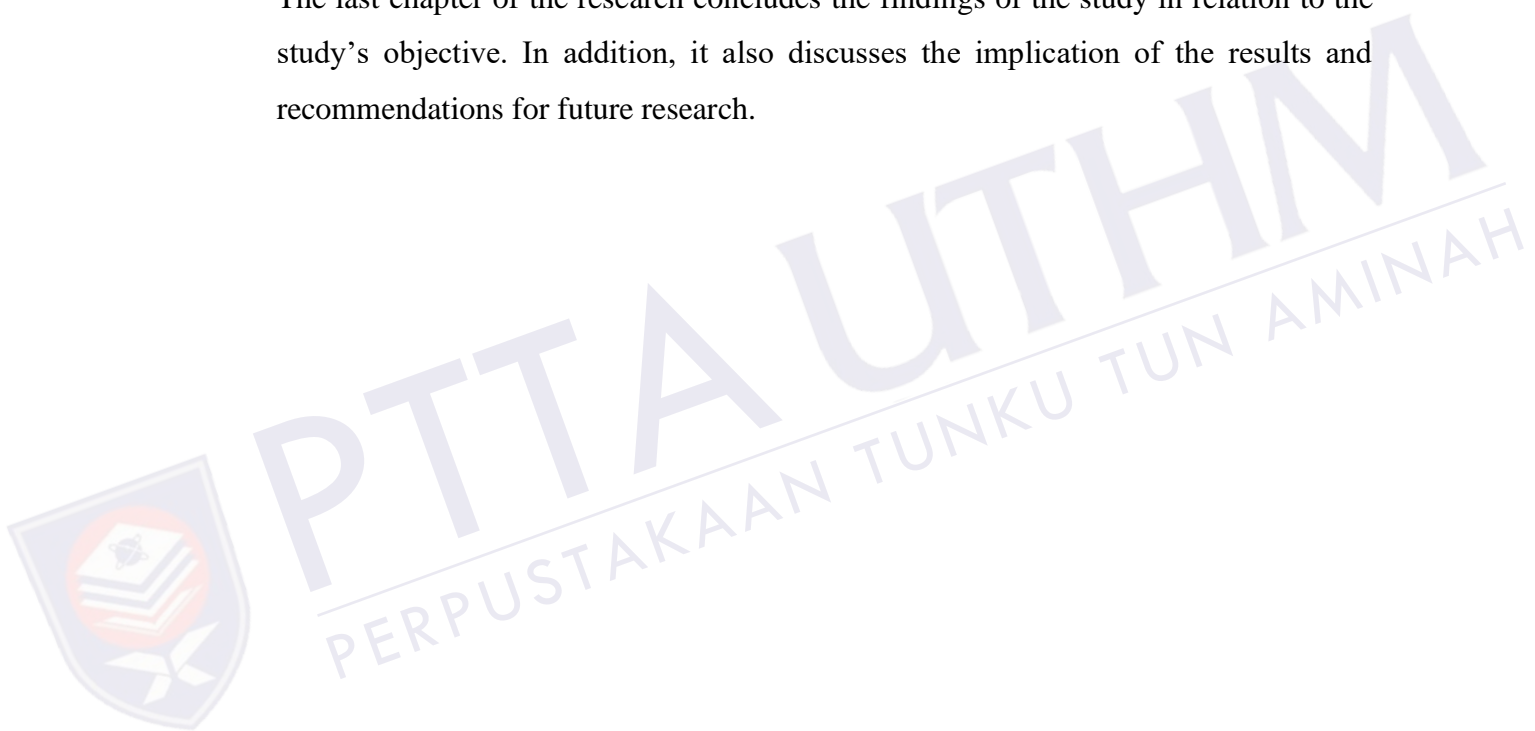
describes the experimental method which includes the design parameter of the system, equivalent circuit, devices, and components used to obtain the result.

#### **Chapter Four: Results and Discussion**

This chapter comprises of the results of the research from both simulation and experimental methods, as well as analyses the result and compares the simulation vs experiment of the system.

#### **Chapter Five: Conclusion and Recommendation**

The last chapter of the research concludes the findings of the study in relation to the study's objective. In addition, it also discusses the implication of the results and recommendations for future research.





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## APPENDIX A

### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

#### Conference Proceedings

1. Mahadi, I. A., & Yahaya, J. A. F. (2022, August). Performance Analysis of Different Shielding Material for A 100W Wireless Power Transfer System. In *Journal of Physics: Conference Series* (Vol. 2319, No. 1, p. 012006). IOP Publishing.
2. Coil Design Analysis and Performance Using Series-Parallel Inductive Power Transfer. (ICON3E 2021). Presented, but not published yet.

#### Journal Articles

1. Mahadi, I. A., & Yahaya, J. A. F. (2023). Performance analysis of inductive power transfer using JMAG-designer. *Bulletin of Electrical Engineering and Informatics*, 12(1), 33-41.
2. Evaluation Performance of Wireless Power Transfer System Using LCL Compensation Topology Under the Influence of Temperature and Humidity. Have not submitted yet (ISI journal).