Research Article

Application of Magnetic Coupling Resonant Wireless Power Supply in a Torque Online Telemetering System of a Rolling Mill

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The torque of the main drive system is one of the most important force and energy parameters of the rolling mill, and the strain type torque online telemetry system is a practical method for measuring torque parameters. The strain gauges and transmitters on the rotating shaft are driven by a high-frequency induction power system. Their installation, debugging, and maintenance are cumbersome, and their very low power transmission efficiency (PTE) has become a challenging problem for online telemetry systems. In this paper, a magnetic coupling resonant wireless power supply method is utilized to replace the high-frequency induction power supply. Through theoretical and experimental research, it is concluded that the magnetically coupled resonant wireless power supply method can realize long-distance power supply, overcoming many shortcomings of the high-frequency induction power supply system. In the laboratory, a maximum PTE of 83.7% is obtained for a transmission distance of 50 mm. Under the influence of environmental factors common for the transmission shaft of a rolling mill, the PTE decreases by 34%, but normal operation of the system can be achieved by adjusting the compensation capacitance. The proposed system provides a guarantee for a long-term stable power supply on the measured axis of a rolling mill torque online telemetry system.

1. Introduction

The main drive torque of a rolling mill is one of the most important force and energy parameters in the rolling process. It not only reflects the load of the main drive system, but also reflects the dynamic property of the torque. Therefore, online real-time monitoring of the torque signal can aid in optimizing the rolling schedule, maximizing the efficiency of the rolling mill, accurately determining faults, and avoiding production accidents, making the rolling mill safe, efficient, and reliable.

Presently, the domestic online rolling mill torque telemetry system mainly depends on imports from the United States. The system consists of the wireless transmission of torque signals and a high-frequency induction power supply. The high import price, cumbersome installation, and poor after-sales service have a great impact on the application of the system. The domestic wireless signal transmission technology is mature, but the field application stability of high-frequency induction power supply technology is poor.

After many years of research, University of Science and Technology Beijing has made great progress on a domestic online remote measuring system for rolling mill torque [1]. The proposed magnetically coupled resonant wireless power supply system replaces the high-frequency induction power supply system [2] (Figure 1). It eliminates the need for strict adjustment of the installation gap between the static power supply ring and the rotating ring (3–7 mm is generally required), enables long-distance misalignment installation, easy disassembly of the inner ring on-site (without first disassembling the outer ring), and solves many problems related to field installation, debugging, installation, maintenance, and other shortcomings.

In recent years, magnetically coupled resonant radio power transmission technology has become a challenging global research hotspot. The system design, topology
structure, model establishment, and simulation of magnetic coupling resonance wireless power transfer (MCRWPT) technology have been deeply studied, and great progress has been made. In 2007, the US MIT research team took the lead in proposing MCRWPT technology and successfully lit 60 W light bulbs with 40% PTE at a 2 m distance [3]. In 2008, the Intel Seattle Laboratory Research Group achieved 60 W power transmission within 1 m with 70% PTE [4]. In 2009, Tokyo University of Japan established a functional relationship between the resonant frequency and the relative position of the resonant coil and conducted an experimental study [5]. In 2011, a Stanford University scientific research team theoretically analyzed 10 kW power transmission within 1.98 m [6]. In 2013, Florida International University found that the PTE of magnetic resonance coupling in different media can be optimized [7]. In 2018, Yonsei University proposed that an asymmetric coil can improve the efficiency and the degree of freedom in terms of position. At transmission distances of 50 mm and 300 mm, they realized transmission efficiencies of 96% and 39%, respectively [8]. South Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology designed a T-type ferrite wireless power transmission system and operated the system in an experiment with the transmission of 205 W power and a total efficiency of 71% [9].

The difference between the principle of induction coupling and magnetic coupling system was examined and analyzed at South China University of Technology, whose work provided a theoretical basis for further optimizing the two system models [10]. Research at Hebei University of Technology showed that impedance matching has a large influence on PTE and output power, and their work proposed an optimization method for PTE and output power [11]. By establishing a T-type equivalent circuit model, Tianjin University of Technology obtained the dynamic transmission curve and constraint function of a transmission system and found the functional relationship of maximizing PTE [12]. From the analysis of a series-parallel equivalent circuit model, Southeast University concluded that output power and PTE are closely related to frequency, and the optimal operating frequency was obtained through simulation and experimental analysis [13]. Through the study of a dual relay wireless power transmission system at Southeast University, it was concluded that output power and PTE are the highest when the optimal turn value exists in the receiving coil [14]. Through several parameter circuit models of a transmission system, the conditions of maximum load power under different coupling conditions were obtained [15]. Chongqing University used equivalent circuit theory to model and analyze a system, provided the method to calculate the optimal frequency of PTE and optimal frequency of transmission power, proposed concepts of optimal resonant frequency and an efficiency synchronization factor, and obtained the conditions of synchronization between PTE and maximum power [16]. A parameter dynamic adjustment method based on a chaos optimization algorithm proposed by Hunan University improved the efficiency of a noncoaxial system coil, which has significance for the analysis of radio power transmission systems [17]. Research at Hebei University found that the single resonance structure of multisource coils can reduce the load voltage change caused by the magnetic field distribution by utilizing the coupling between loads [18].

Research institutions for MCRWPT technology transfer efficiency and studies of power transfer theory are ample. However, there is a lack of experience in the development and application of engineering practice and equipment. Research and problem-solving in this area is a challenge. In the work presented here, MCRWPT technology is studied in the torque telemetry system of a rolling mill to evaluate an engineering application and gain practical experience.

2. Theoretical Research

2.1. System Composition. MCRWPT technology uses a space electromagnetic field as a medium, uses two or more electromagnetic systems with the same resonant frequency and high quality factor, and realizes wireless power transmission through a magnetic coupling resonant method. A high-frequency induction power supply is based on the principle of electromagnetic induction using a high-frequency power supply to generate a magnetic field with air as a magnetic medium to make an inner and outer loop coil induction power supply. The installation distance between the inner and outer loop coils must be within several millimeters to supply normal induction power. MCRWPT technology, which utilizes the magnetic coupling resonant technology, can achieve high-efficiency power transmission with a larger dislocation range of the inner and outer rings, and it can facilitate installation of the rolling mill torque online telemetry system.

The MCRWPT system consists of four parts: a power supply module, an electromagnetic transmitting module, an electromagnetic receiving module, and a load module, as
shown in Figure 2. The power supply module is composed of a rectifier and a high-frequency inverter, which provides suitable resonant frequency voltage input for the electromagnetic transmitting module. The electromagnetic transmitting module converts a high-frequency input voltage into a high-frequency magnetic field, and strong magnetic coupling occurs between the space electromagnetic field and the electromagnetic receiving module. The electromagnetic receiving module converts magnetic energy into electric energy and outputs it to the load module through constant voltage rectification. The electromagnetic transmitting and receiving modules are key parts of the power supply system. Functionality of the transmitting and receiving modules in the resonant state ensures the power transmission. Therefore, the transmitting and receiving modules are composed of high quality factor resonant coils with identical structures and parameters and a resonant compensation capacitor. In the torque telemetry system, the transmitter and strain gauge and parameters and are resonant compensation capacitor. In the resonant state ensures the power transmission. 

According to Kirchhoff’s law, the equations of the circuit in Figure 5 are listed in (1) and (2):

\[ R_1 i_1 + R_2 i_1 + j\omega L_1 i_1 + \frac{i_1}{j\omega C_1} - j\omega M i_2 = U_S, \]  
\[ -j\omega M i_1 + j\omega L_2 i_2 + R_2 i_2 + R_1 i_2 + \frac{i_2}{j\omega C_2} = 0. \]  

(1)  
(2)

The simultaneous solutions to (1) and (2) give the current of the transmitting and receiving coils, respectively:

\[ i_1 = \frac{U_S}{R_1 + j\omega L_1 + (1/j\omega C_1) - (j\omega M/R_2 + R_2 + j\omega L_2 + (1/j\omega C_2))} \]  
\[ i_2 = \frac{j\omega M U_S}{(R_2 + R_1 + j\omega L_2 + (1/j\omega C_2))(R_1 + j\omega L_1 + (1/j\omega C_1)) - (j\omega M)^2} \]  

(3)  
(4)

When the system is in the resonant state, the structure and parameters of the transmitting and receiving coils are identical, and the impedance of the transmitting and receiving ends matches. Therefore, if \( C_1 = C_2 = C, \) \( L_1 = L_2 = L, \)

\( \omega = 2\pi f = (1/\sqrt{LC}), \) and \( R_1 + R_3 = R_2 + R_L = R, \) the system PTE of the system is maximized. Thus, formulas (3) and (4) can be simplified as follows:

\[ i_1 = \frac{U_S R}{R^2 - (j\omega M)^2}, \]  
\[ i_2 = \frac{j\omega M U_S}{R^2 - (j\omega M)^2}. \]  

(5)

From this, it can be concluded that the output and input power of the system are, respectively,
\[
P_{\text{in}} = U_1 i_1 + i_1^2 R = \frac{U_1^2 R (R^2 + \omega^2 M^2)}{(R^2 + \omega^2 M^2)^2} + U_2^2 R^2 R = \frac{U_1^2 R (R^2 + \omega^2 M^2)}{(R^2 + \omega^2 M^2)^2}.
\]

From formulas (6) and (7), the PTE of the system can be calculated as follows:

\[
\eta = \frac{P_{\text{out}}}{P_{\text{in}}} = \frac{\omega^2 M^2 R_L}{(R^2 + R_L^2 + \omega^2 M^2)}.
\]
Table 1: Modeling parameter.

| Parameter name             | Numerical value |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Drive shaft diameter (mm)  | 200–900         |
| Coil diameter (mm)         | 200–900         |
| Coil turns                 | 5               |
| Power supply amplitude (V) | 5               |
| Power frequency (MHz)      | 1–10            |
| Resistance value of telemetering device (Ω) | 325 |

The self-resistance of the coil is [21]

\[
R = \frac{\omega \mu_0}{2\sigma} \frac{l}{2\pi a}.
\]  

In the formula, \( \sigma = 5.7 \times 10^7 \text{ s} \cdot \text{m}^{-1} \) is the conductivity of the coil copper wire, \( l \) is the length of the coil, and \( a \) is the diameter of the coil.

Evaluation with the Origin data analysis software shows that the PTE of the system varies as the resonant frequency of the system varies from 1 to 10 MHz, the coil spacing varies from 50 to 600 mm, and the coil diameter is set to 200, 400, 700, and 900 mm. The analyzed cases are shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6(a) shows that when the coil diameter is 200 mm and the distance between transmitting and receiving coils is more than 100 mm, the PTE of the system is close to zero. When the distance between transmitting and receiving coils is less than 100 mm, the PTE of the system observably changes, with a smaller distance between coils corresponding to a higher system PTE. Increasing the resonant frequency of the system improves the PTE, providing significant benefits. Figure 6(d) shows that when the coil diameter is 900 mm, the PTE of the system observably changes with a change in resonant frequency and coil spacing. When the frequency increases and the coil spacing decreases, the PTE of the system increases continuously, and when the coil spacing is less than 200 mm, the PTE of the system exceeds 50%. Through comparison, it can be seen that when the coil diameter is larger, a change in coil spacing and frequency has a greater impact on the PTE, and a higher PTE can be maintained. When the coil diameter is smaller, the overall PTE of the system is low, and only by reducing the coil spacing can the PTE of the system be significantly improved.

The results of the theoretical study show that the PTE of a power supply system varies with the resonant frequency, the coil spacing, and the coil diameter. When applied to a rolling mill, depending on the diameter of the axis installed in a telemetry system and the field environment, the power supply system can achieve higher PTE by choosing appropriate power frequency, matching capacitance, and coil spacing for a given coil diameter.

3. Experimental Results and Analysis

3.1. Experimental Design and Analysis. Based on the theoretical research results, coils with diameters of 700 mm and 400 mm are experimentally studied as shown in Figure 7.

The power supply frequency is 5 MHz, and the coil diameter is 700 mm and 400 mm, respectively. When the coil diameter is 700 mm and the coil spacing is 50 mm, the
waveforms of the primary coil supply voltage and the secondary coil induction voltage are obtained as shown in Figure 8.

The relationship between PTE and coil spacing is obtained by changing coil spacing. A comparison of PTE in terms of the experimentally and theoretically calculated efficiency of the system is shown in Figure 9.

From Figure 9, it can be seen that the PTE varies with coil spacing when the resonant frequency is fixed. For the 400 mm coil diameter, the PTE of the system changes

![Figure 6: Variation of η with f and D. (a) Coil diameter of 200 mm. (b) Coil diameter of 400 mm. (c) Coil diameter of 700 mm. (d) Coil diameter of 900 mm.](image)

![Figure 7: Experimental device setup photos. (a) Coil diameter 700 mm. (b) Coil diameter 400 mm.](image)
rapidly, and a high efficiency of power transmission can be maintained only when the coil spacing is less than 100 mm. When the coil diameter is 700 mm, the overall PTE of the system is greatly improved. The PTE of the system can still exceed 50% with coil spacing up to 250 mm. The experimental PTE trend is largely consistent with the results of theoretical research.

The developed rolling mill torque telemetry system based on magnetic coupling resonant wireless power supply has been installed and applied on the output axles of main drive motors of several continuous rolling mills, as shown in Figure 10(a). A limitation of the original inductive power supply mode is that the transmission distance cannot exceed approximately 7 mm to achieve stable power transmission. A magnetically coupled wireless power supply removes that limitation and can supply power efficiently and steadily over a large distance (generally approximately 200 mm), which significantly eases system installation and maintenance.

During the manufacturing and debugging of the equipment, the induction coil centers of the primary and secondary sides of the telemetry system pass through the axis, while the drive shaft of the rolling mill passes through the coil centers after being installed on-site. The presence of the drive shaft of a rolling mill changes the inductance of the coil and the mutual inductance between the coils, which makes the system unable to work in the resonant state and results in a decrease in PTE and power.

The field test results for the 400 mm diameter drive shaft are shown in Figure 10, and the test data results for the 400 mm shaft are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 shows that the primary side inductance change rate is 12.9%, the secondary side inductance change rate is 12.8%, and the PTE is reduced by 34%. The change of inductance under the influence of a transmission shaft can change the resonant state of the system. By adjusting the capacitance of the primary side resonant circuit, the system
can maintain a high PTE, thus ensuring that the telemetry equipment can maintain its normal working state.

The system has been running steadily for more than one year in several continuous rolling mills as shown in Figure 11(a). The real-time waveform of the collected torque signal is shown in Figure 11(b).

4. Conclusions

In this paper, the power supply of a rotating ring in an online torque telemetry system is studied. The developed magnetic coupling resonant wireless power supply system replaces the high-frequency induction power supply system. The relationship between mutual inductance, coil spacing, and PTE was obtained through mathematical derivation. Origin data analysis software was used to simulate the variation trend of system PTE for different coil diameters and transmission spacing. By designing an experimental platform to test the power transfer efficiency when the coil diameter is 700 mm and 400 mm when the pitch is 50 mm, the results show that the simulation results are basically consistent with the experimental results. In the field application, the PTE of the radio power transmission system was reduced by 34% due to the influence of the transmission shaft of the rolling mill. An adjustment of the primary compensation capacitance can allow the system to meet the normal power demand and ensure normal operation. The influence of the transmission shaft on the efficiency of power transmission in a telemetry system is the next key research direction.

Data Availability

The datasets supporting the conclusions of this article are included within the article.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.
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