Optimal Design of Power Transformer with Advance Core Material using ANSYS Technique

Shabana Urooj, Tanya Singh, Mohammad Amir and Mohd Tariq

Abstract — Due to indulge behavior of core materials and losses that leads to degradation of transformer efficiency. This research paper evaluating the optimal performance of transformer with designing of a newly core material namely as Mo.Me⁶. A possibility of increment in the efficiency for designed proposed model of transformer is observable. Also, a comparative analytical study based on the different designs of core type transformer with various core materials. The design and evaluation are performed on the Maxwell ANSYS electronic desktop platform, which provides an optimized design of transformer for practical applications. Whether it is a power transformer having lower frequency applications use in electronic circuits such as rectifying circuits or higher frequency applications power distribution circuit, etc. All transformer designs require performance evaluation in the working field and better efficiency to optimize the overall three-phase type core transformer. In this paper, proposed Mo.Me⁶ material with improved physical properties have been present of transformer efficiency and optimal design of core. The criteria include the changes in some effective parameters of the core, bringing out advancement in the working efficiency of the transformer. There is an opportunity to have a choice of desired material as designed particularly for the customer need making it will be more reliable and more suitable for various changeable conditions. For more efficient and effective working of transformer, this paper suggests core design with ANSYS techniques to achieve mentioned high efficiency with lower losses.

Index Terms — ANSYS (Analysis System), Mo.Me⁶ (Modified Material of Conductivity 10⁶ Sie/m), Power Transformer.

I. INTRODUCTION

In today’s world, electricity is one of the most vital components of modern society. The utility of transformers for power transmission was invented by Nikole Tesla in 19th century. From turning on a light bulb to running big factories every machine needs some source to work and the most needed source is electricity. Whether it is transmission or distribution, main component in electric power is transformer. The transformer had been playing an important role at various voltage levels for the interconnected power system [1]. At some frequency electrical power is transformed is one circuit to others by a static piece of equipment recognized as transformer [2]. In transformer, electrical energy is being transferred by magnetic coupling from one to other systems in the circuit without any requirement of relative motion within the parts.

In the core of transformer, a time-variant magnetic flux can be created by the application of alternating voltage to one winding with the introduction of voltage in another winding, as per mutual induction law. Faraday introduced the principle of transformer in 1831. An ideal transformer having no losses means its windings are free from ohmic resistance as well as magnetic leakage is considered as ideal transformer [3]. However, practically losses occur in the transformer, as output obtained from the transformation is not as same as the input applied. The law of energy states that “energy cannot be created nor be destroyed but can be transferred from one phase to another” and in this transfer of energy, losses occur. From past it has been noticed that two types of transformers have been in application that is core type and shell type of transformer. Transformers used as power transformers are one of the major apparatus in the power system [4]. Medium and large power transformers are very important and vital component of electric power systems [5]. Generally, power transformers are significant power devices where electromagnetic phenomena should subsist the severe short circuit current situations [6]. Distribution power transformers are also vital equipment of the distribution system, for transfer the electric power by step-up/down voltages in suitability with power distribution system to power consumers or power industry [7].

The condition monitoring of power transformers is of excessive importance while considering the consistency and safety perspective in a dynamic system. Nowadays the research on motoring of transformers is taking a great phase as many sensors are used in this method to check the working of transformer components, which can be core/winding type. Earlier in 2017, S. Anoop and N. Aufal [8] had proposed criteria for the selection of sensors that are used in advance monitoring systems of the transformer’s winding. Like that the core monitoring system control system can be developed. A power transformer fault can lead to severe damage to the whole system itself and its surroundings. As the increasing concern on the transformer, recently in 2018 S. Kittan [9] did research leading to a discussion about actual HI (Health Index) methods through study. After that, the selection of a better method has been considered for the transformer. In this research paper a new material has been designed which led to

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Shabana Urooj, Department of Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering, Princess Nourah Bint Abdulrahman University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
(e-mail: shabanaurooj@ieee.org)
Tanya Singh, Department of Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering, Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, India.
(e-mail: tstanyasingh26@gmail.com)
Mohammad Amir, Department of Electrical Engineering, Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology (MMMUT), Gorakhpur, India.
(corresponding e-mail: md.amir@ieee.org)
Mohd Tariq, Department of Electrical Engineering, ZHCET, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.
(e-mail: tariq.ee@zhcet.ac.in).

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change in the working efficiency of the designed transformer. Similarly, new techniques and methods are designed to check the working of upcoming new core material.

In 2019, F. R. Ismagilov [10] developed a core material of amorphous magnetic material as a new material for the core. Here the authors have developed the new transformer rectifier unit. Here amorphous is used in transformer core material to improve efficiency. The losses are the main factor also in transformer owning cost [11]. The stability and reliability of the power transformers in power system applications mainly depends on the quality of employed ferrite cores [12]. Here, transformer core plays an important role in the working efficiency of transformer. New designing of core material has added an advantage of analyzing the working efficiency of transformer. Although the efficiency of power transformers for high-power convention, there are substantial quantities of power losses, that radiates heat inadequately into the ambient air [13], [14].

Improvement in the efficiency of transformer can be done by deducing electrical losses ($P_T$) comprising of both core ($P_{\text{CORE}}$) and copper losses ($P_{\text{Cu}}$) presenting in the following equation.

$$P_T = P_{\text{CORE}} + P_{\text{Cu}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

$$\text{Efficiency} \ (\eta) = \frac{\text{output}}{\text{input} + P_T} \times 100\%$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

In our proposed methodology, we are focusing on the losses occurring in the core which have to be minimized for improving three phase core type transformers. The reason is that while designing transformers main consideration should be focused on core losses as it comprises 70% of total losses in the transformer [15]. In this paper for the designing and comparison, purpose ANSYS electronics desktop software has been used. This software is a global platform, which provides opportunity for the simulation of various power system, power electronics components for the field of electrical engineers [16]. The whole simulation has been performed in 3D. The reason is that most parameters directly affects the performances of transformer that can be seen in the 3D simulation [17]. Generally, inner structure parts of the transformer analysis are unpredictable and based on the electric field distribution in inner structure transformer [18] only specify 2D models. Therefore, these are the reasons why simulation is better in 3D rather than 2D simulation.

Section II of the manuscript contains the beginning of the idea with thoughtful procedure of introduction followed with explanation of methodology and the proposed model with material description of the completely generalized system with its parameters. Section III, this section presents the outcome of the results in a tabular manner with different results applied for the various designs simulated in the software. Last section includes conclusion, also presents the material optimization for future scope and the research work can be achieved further based on feasibility.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SYSTEM

A. Material Design for Power Transformers

The transformer designed in the software is a core type of transformer in which windings are wounded around all cores of the transformer. The following is the design of the proposed model.

Here, in the given Fig. 1, the transformer is a three-phase model which works in transient system. The voltage phases are cosine in nature. This figure depicts all three axis and dimensions x, y and z. The excitation in windings is applied in x-z direction. The yellow color symbolizes the core, and the green ones are windings wounded on the core of the following are the system terminologies used:

a) Region: It is the confined box which is designed in all three dimensions. It is used to provide an environment for the transformer to work desired medium. (value used region: 40, 250 and 40).

b) Transient system: The transient system has been taken to ensure the working of the transformer with varying voltage in all three phases.

c) Coil terminal: The terminals of coil have been selected to provide excitation in the coil terminal.

d) Materials used: The material used for the following are given below:

- **For core**: The material used in the core of the proposed model of the transformer is based on the parameters taken with B-H curve and Core loss curve. Here the material is termed as Mo.Me\textsuperscript{6}. Also, iron has been used to compare the working of the transformer.

- **For winding**: The copper material has been selected here because it's a good material used in the winding section and has been in use for achieving better performance.

- **Standard parameters**: The following are the parameters, which have been used in the designing of the core transformer.

  - $V_{\text{Peak}}$: Peak voltage of the transformer.
  - $R$: Resistance of the winding terminal.
  - Rating: The values of rating are taken accordingly for different applications.
  - Conductivity: Conductivity is referred as to the degree
at which in a material there is a cause of flow of current that is it conducts electricity [19]. It is the ratio of current density to the electric field, in which there is a flow of current in the material. Here it is taken as (\(e^6\)) or 1000,000 Siemens/m.

The rise in the temperature of transformer is affected by the thermal resistance of transferring heat from conductor to ambient air, while for consideration of transformer design, material properties like dielectric and mechanical properties are placed on topmost priority. But here other parameters are considered as because electrical conductivity is playing an important role in the designing application.

g) **Mass density:** The mass density has been changed accordingly in the designing form based on requirements, where:

- **Conductivity:** 100,000 Siemens/m.
- **B-H curve:** for this curve, following conditions are there which are observable in Fig. 3.
  - **Yes:** This means the B-H Curve is nonlinear.
  - **No:** This means the curve is linear.

Where, magnetic flux density (B) is in tesla and H is in ampere/meter. The nonlinear curve shows that the material takes nonlinear characteristics of which for every point the plot has been calculated.

h) **Winding voltages:**

- **For Phase I:**
  \[ V_{\text{Peak}} (1 - e^{-60 \times \text{time}}) \times \cos(2 \pi, 50 \times \text{time}) \]

- **For Phase II:**
  \[ V_{\text{Peak}} (1 - e^{-60 \times \text{time}}) \times \cos(2 \pi, 50 \times \text{time} + \frac{2}{3} \times \pi) \]

- **For Phase III:**
  \[ V_{\text{Peak}} (1 - e^{-60 \times \text{time}}) \times \cos(2 \pi, 50 \times \text{time} + \frac{4}{3} \times \pi) \]

i) **Peak Voltage:**

\[ V_{\text{Peak}} = \text{Rating} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}} \]

Table 1, showing the necessary parameters based on their outcome. Here, two types of input have been considered. That is for Table 3 instance 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 with 30\(\Phi\)-20KV input has been used. While for Table 4 instance 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 with 30\(\Phi\)-200KV input has been used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Table 3</th>
<th>Table 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rating of Transformer</td>
<td>20KV</td>
<td>200KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Core material Mo,Me(\alpha) and Iron</td>
<td>Mo,Me(\alpha) only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Winding material</td>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>Copper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>50Hz</td>
<td>50Hz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are some other parameters, which effects core loss selection curve of the core material like working life age of transformer is reduced by the harmonic distortion causing further heating in transformers parts and minimizing its
appropriate operation [22]-[24]. These phenomena are demonstrated through flowchart in Fig.4 as follows:

- **Stage 1**: From starting the selection of core loss frequency the steps follows to selection of parameters.
- **Stage 2**: Then values of proposed model are selected. They can be based on the utility and working conditions.
- **Stage 3**: The graph automatically calculates the values of the mentioned error constants and curve of required core material is plotted.
- **Stage 4**: The selection of characteristics of B-H curve follows the selection of the behavior of core material.
- **Stage 5**: Hence, core material properties are defined significantly. In Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 both curves are given with their properties, which are depicted as in the Fig. 5. For the prevention of catastrophic failure or to minimize probability for unwanted outage.

Therefore, proper monitoring of transformers is very much essential with good and regular maintenance [25], [26].

**Flowchart**:  
Start  
Selection of core loss tab at one frequency (50 Hz) for electrical steel  
Selection of parameters in core loss unit  
Calculate the values of error constant:  
Kh (hysteresis loss), Kc (core loss) and Ke (eddy current loss)  
Values obtained of young’s modulus and poissons ratio  
Core loss curve obtained  
Is B-H curve linear?  
Linear curve that is permeability is 1  
B-H curve obtained  
Non linear curve to be constructed between B and H  
Stop

![Fig. 5. Analysis of linear and nonlinear behavior of B-H curve.](image)

In case of fault detection and reduction of unusual power transformers plays an important role in power system. It is also important to detect the operating characteristics of transformer with repeat to desired time as well as the reliability of the equipment. It is well identified that power transformers certainly suffer the impacts of short-circuit electromagnetic forces in deal [27]. It states that AI based system is very convenient tools for power transformer early hidden faults accomplishes the opportunity and accurateness of prime analysis [28]-[31].

\[
B = \mu H = \frac{\Phi}{A} \tag{4}
\]

Similarly, from the above the Fig.6 and Fig.8 the following conclusion can be made that, the energy density of the core material Mo.Me⁶ is greater than iron signifying that the volume of the core material will be low. Hence, the core material required will be used in lesser quantity. Thus, cost and size of the transformer required will be low.
k) For Iron core material:

![Diagram of transformer core depicting the energy density](image1)

![Diagram of transformer core depicting the magnetic flux density field on the core (referred from Table 2)](image2)

III. SIMULATION RESULT ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS

A. Performance Evolution of Different Core Materials

The results which are depicted in the tabular format with comparative analysis, based on the performance and the changing parameters, defines the working efficiency of the core transformer.

From the Table 3 and Table 4 some comparative analysis can be made which are as follows:

- If B-H Curve is linear then the losses are minimized otherwise a nonlinear B-H characteristics core material increases the losses.
- By decreasing the winding resistance, the losses can be seen increasing.
- By decreasing the mass density and thickness of the core material the losses seems to be decreasing.
- In table 3 it is observed that for the material Mo.Me6 less losses occured compared to iron by changing core material.For small rating transformers for Mo.Me6 material losses occured 5 times less than iron when linear characteristics of B-H curve were present.
- For the instance (3) the no. of coil terminals are 70. The change in this parameter has also affected the losses as the losses are more if coil terminals have low resistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Core loss curve</th>
<th>B-H curve</th>
<th>Resistance of winding (m-ohm)</th>
<th>Average core loss</th>
<th>Average hysteresis loss</th>
<th>Average eddy current loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instance 1</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7860</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 2</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 3</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7860</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 4</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7860</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 5</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7860</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 6</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Core loss curve</th>
<th>B-H curve</th>
<th>Resistance of winding (ohm)</th>
<th>Average core loss</th>
<th>Average hysteresis loss</th>
<th>Average eddy current loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instance 7</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7650</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 8</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 9</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7650</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 10</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instance 11</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>Mo.Me6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Following Fig. 10 and Fig. 11 are the input voltage characteristics of core type transformer at different ratings, which showing the variation in input voltages based on proposed Mo.Me6 material.
B. Testing of Designed Mo.Me® Core Material

The input voltage graphs of Fig. 12 and Fig. 13 are showing the all three phase voltages with different phases in the transient system given as input to both the three-phase core type transformer. Similarly, 3D rectangular plots of input voltages are shown where: x-axis: time (ms), y-axis: time (ms) and z-axis: voltage (v).

a) For 3Ф transformer with 20 KV input rating: x-axis: time (ms) and y-axis: current (ampere), the graphs of current at different instance of the core transformer:
From all the above figures of the instance 1-6 represented in the tables following observations are referred from Table 3.

In the instance 1, 2 and 3 it is observable that the current graphs are not linear as they are having nonlinear B-H curve which have their effect on the current. As because the core material has an effect generating harmonics and distortions in the current which is in the transformer. In the instance 4, 5 and 6 it is observable that the current graphs are linear due to linear B-H curve. These curves are linear, and harmonics are not present.

b) 3Φ transformer with 200 KV input rating: x-axis: time (ms) and y-axis: current (in ampere).

The cause of distorted curves is due to some parameters, which have been already explained in the flowchart diagram of Fig. 5. From above all the figure 15 of the instance 7-11 represented in the tables following observations are made which are referred from Table 4.

In the instance 7, 8 and 9 it is observable that the current graphs are not linear as there is presence of some delay is present in the curves. The reason is that the B-H curve, which have their effect on the current. As because the core material has an effect generating harmonics in the current which is in the transformer. Harmonics are referred as voltages and currents appearing on power system at frequencies, which comprises of multiplications integers of generated frequency [32]-[34].

In the instance 10 and 11 it is observable that the current graphs are linear due to linear B-H curve. These curves are linear, and harmonics are not present. They can be observed having ideal current graph.

From above all the results it is well observable that how a transformer model behaves when its certain parameters are changed accordingly.

IV. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TRANSFORMER EFFICIENCY BASED ON DIFFERENT CORE MATERIALS

As the efficiency of transformer is defined by formulas:

\[ Total\ losses = Copper\ loss + Core\ loss \]  
\[ Efficiency (\eta) = \frac{Output}{Output + Total\ losses} \times 100\% \]
A. For Iron core material

**Magnitude of total phase current** total phase current:

\[ = 1.3489 + 0.4035 + 0.7889 = 2.5413 \text{ KA} \]

(For three phase \( = \frac{2.5413}{3} = 0.8471 \text{ KA} \))

Copper loss \( = I^2R \)

Here, Line current \( (I_L) = \text{Phase current} \times \sqrt{3} \)

\[ I_L = 0.8471 \times \sqrt{3} = 1.4672 \text{ KA} \]

Copper loss\( = \frac{1.4672 \times 10^6 \times 2}{10^3} = 4.3053 \text{ KW} \)

**Total Losses**

\[ = 37.2892 + 4.3053 = 41.594 \text{ KW} \quad (7) \]

**Output power**

\[ = V \times I_L = 0.3514 \times 1.4672 \times 10^3 \]

\[ = 515.57 \text{ KW} \quad (8) \]

From equation (7) and (8):

\[ \eta_{\text{transformer}} = \frac{515.57}{(515.57 + 41.594)} \times 100 \]

\[ = 92.53 \% \quad \text{(with iron core material)} \]

B. For Mo.Me\textsuperscript{6} Core Material

**Efficiency**

\[ \eta_{\text{transformer}} = \frac{515.57}{(515.57 + 41.594)} \times 100 \]

\[ = 92.53 \% \quad \text{(with iron core material)} \]
**Magnitude of total phase current:**

\[
I = 1.3489 + 0.4035 + 0.7889 = 2.5413 \text{ kA}
\]

(For three phase = \(\frac{2.5413}{3} = 0.8471 \text{ kA}\))

**Copper loss** = \(I^2R\)

Here, Line current \((I_L) = \text{Phase current} \times \sqrt{3}\)

\[I_L = 0.8471 \times \sqrt{3} = 1.4672 \text{ kA}\]

Copper loss = \(\frac{1.4672^2 \times 10^6 \times 2}{10^3} = 4.3053 \text{ KW}\)

Total losses = 33.3005 + 4.3053 kW = 37.6058 KW (9)

**Magnitude of total three phase voltage:**

\[V_{ph} = \frac{0.2066 + 0.5126 + 0.3352}{3} = 0.3514 \text{ KV}\]

Output power = \(V \times I = 0.3514 \times 1.4672 \times 10^3\)

\[= 515.57 \text{ KW} \quad (10)\]

From equation (9) and (10):

\[
\eta_{\text{transformer}} = \frac{515.57}{(315.57 + 37.6058)} \times 100 = 93.20 \% \text{ (with MoMe}^6\text{ material)}
\]

Therefore, MoMe\(^6\) has better efficiency than iron core material. If the losses decrease, then automatically efficiency of transformer increases. The increase is observed when in the designed new material MoMe\(^6\) some defined parameters are changed accordingly. As for the new material MoMe\(^6\), doping criteria is one of the better idea to observe the effects on working of transformer. As because the core material plays important role in the transformer efficiency and losses. Just like other materials, MoMe\(^6\) has good conductivity which is 1000,000 Siemens/m. The Fig. 15, shows the parameters of MoMe\(^6\) which makes it a good conducting material.
conductivity and falls in the category of conductors as mentioned in table 5.

TABLE 5: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS BASED ON PROPERTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Material</th>
<th>Relative Permeability</th>
<th>Young’s Modulus (N/m²)</th>
<th>Poisson’s Ratio</th>
<th>Bulk Conductivity (Siemens/m)</th>
<th>Mass Density (w/kg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>19.5 × 10¹²</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>1.03 × 10¹⁷</td>
<td>7800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferrite</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1.29 × 10¹¹</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>4600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoMe⁶</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>7.6 × 10¹¹</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>8000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The nature of material can be changed accordingly through variations of parameters for different applications. Table.5 shows the improved and better core design of Mo.Me⁶, material which have good efficiency and less losses.

Due to the transient and sudden change in current, Hysteresis curve is used to examine the total core losses, which are not dependent of change in temperature as well as frequencies. Fig.23 (b) implements for gap thickness 0µm and 10A saturation current. Further which will showing that Mo.Me⁶ have improved hysteresis curve than other conventionally core materials. Thus, in this research we carried out the hardware validation of transformer core which ranges from lower to higher rating. In figure 23 (a) number of winding are 2 with 45 turns used. The material Mo.Me⁶ having primary permeability (µ₁) is 2000 ± 10% at 27 °C temperature, magnetic field strength (H) is 1200 A/m, mass conductivity 8000, saturation flux density (Bₛₘ) is around 440mT at 27°C and curie temp (Tₐ) is more than 210 °C.

V. CONCLUSIONS

In our proposed methodology, the optimal design of core type power transformer and their performance analysis have been done. The calculation of losses parameters was employed that able to analyse the working of transformer in varying conditions whether they are associated with core parameters, ratings etc. There is an advantage of using the ANSYS software that it allows the user to change the working environment medium according to the need of the consumer. Also, toroidal transformers can be utilized for low frequency power applications as in the applications related to power electronics. The toroidal transformers are at commonly used where components volume or weight is at priority. AI based monitoring of transformer components is also a better method of application. AI based on-line monitoring is a tool that can assess the state of these valued assets in real time. Doping of core material opens up an opportunity for more distinct and varied results. But their working age and error generation cannot be predicted in this software. It can be use as the future work and opportunity to discuss these parameters by using AI techniques. As it will be more advent in the performance analysis using artificial neural networks approach that can be used to train the required left parameters. In this study, by reducing no-load losses, then overall efficiency can be increased which will enhance the life of power transformer. Manufacturer of the power transformer can experimentally implement the Mo.Me⁶ core material than other core materials for a lesser amount of losses with the help of finite element method.

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Dr. Shabana Urooj received the B.E. degree in electrical engineering and the M.Tech. degree in electrical with a specialization in instrumentation and control from Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India, in 1998 and 2003, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in biomedical instrumentation from the Department of Electrical Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia (A Central University), New Delhi, India, in 2011. She has approximately three years of industrial and more than 14 years of experience in academics. Since 2011, she has been a Faculty Member with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida, India. She has authored or coauthored over 75 papers, which are published in international journals and conferences proceedings. Her current research interests include material research, biomedical and environmental instrumentation, sensors system, and computer-based techniques for diagnosis of chronic diseases. Dr. Urooj has been a member of the Executive Committee of the IEEE Delhi Section, India, since 2010. She is an Associate Member of the American Ceramic Society and a member of the Electronic Division from 2012 to 2013. She is a member of the Computer Society of India and a Life Member of the Indian Society of Technical Education.

Ms. Tanya Singh was born in UP, India on October 1, 1996. She received her B.Tech degree in electrical engineering and M.Tech degree in the specialization of Power electronics and drives from the Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology (MMMUT A Govt. University), Gorakhpur, India, in 2018. A meritorious student throughout. Mr. Amir was a recipient of MHRD fellowship. Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) fellow also the researcher of several government and ministry funded projects. He is actively IEEE young professional of Asia pacific, also the reviewer of many prestigious international journals. He has published many research papers in Journals and International conferences. His current research interest includes; electric vehicles, intelligent optimization techniques, microgrid developments, renewable energy applications, energy management, smart microgrid and power market.

Mr. Mohammad Amir received the B.Tech degrees in electrical engineering from Integral University, Lucknow, India, in 2015, and the M.Tech. degree in specialization of power electronics and drives from the Madan Mohan Malaviya University of Technology (MMMUT A Govt. University), Gorakhpur, India, in 2018. A meritorious student throughout. Mr. Amir was a recipient of MHRD fellowship. Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) fellow also the researcher of several government and ministry funded projects. He is actively IEEE young professional of Asia pacific, also the reviewer of many prestigious international journals. He has published many research papers in Journals and International conferences. His current research interest includes; electric vehicles, intelligent optimization techniques, microgrid developments, renewable energy applications, energy management, smart microgrid and power market.

Dr. Mohd Tariq obtained his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, the master’s degree in machine drives and power electronics from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kharagpur and the Ph.D. degree from Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. He has worked as a Researcher at Rolls-Royce at NTU Corporate Laboratory, Singapore, where he has worked on the design and development of power converters for more electric aircraft. Before joining his Ph.D., he has worked as a scientist with the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, where he has worked on the design and development of BLDC motors for underwater remotely operated vehicle application. He also served as an Assistant Professor with the Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT), Bhopal, India. He is currently working as an Assistant Professor at Aligarh Muslim University wherein he is leading a team of multiple researchers in the domain of power converters, energy storage devices and their optimal control for electrified transportation and renewable energy application. He has authored more than 120 research articles in international journals/conferences including many articles in IEEE Transactions/Journals. He is also the founder chair of IEEE AMU SB and founder chair of IEEE SIGHT AMU.