
A NEW METHOD OF DESIGNING TRANSFORMERS, PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATION

NICHOLAS M. OBOUKHOFF, Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater

New formulas to serve as foundations for a rational modernized design for transformers are presented as follows.

$$\Delta = k/\alpha\sqrt{\eta K_C/K_S} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

where Δ denotes the current density; α , the root-mean-square (rms) load factor; η , the core loss per pound of steel laminations; K_C , the cost of winding conductors per pound; K_S , the cost of core laminations per pound; and the value of k depends upon the average temperature of the conductor, being 715 for 80° C, 700 for 90° C, 685 for 100° C, 675 for 110° C, and 665 for 120° C.

$$A_S = C \alpha \sqrt{[(KVA) / 4f] [\Delta / \eta B] \times 10^8} \dots\dots(2)$$

where A_S denotes the net metallic cross-section area of the core; (KVA), the output in kilovolt-amperes; f , the frequency; B , the flux density in the core; and C is the output constant which usually varies within the limits 0.40 to 0.55 for a single-phase core-type transformer, averagely $C = 0.475$.

$$B_{\alpha'} / B_{\alpha''} = \sqrt{\alpha' / \alpha''} \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

where $B_{\alpha'}$ and $B_{\alpha''}$ are flux densities for α' and α'' rms values of load factor respectively. The formula (3) may be given the particular form

$$B_{\alpha} = 93,500\sqrt{\alpha} \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

for all practical values of α .

Where α_0 represents a usual load factor, this is the ratio of the arithmetical average load to peak load, while α represents the ratio of rms load to peak load. It is found that α exceeds α_0 by the amount $d\alpha_0$, so that

$$\alpha = \alpha_0 + d\alpha_0 \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

$$d\alpha_0 = 0.08(1 - \alpha_0) \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

The following formula is also useful for consideration:

$$\text{loss ratio} = 1/\alpha^2 \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

which means that the ratio of copper loss to that in the core should be correlated with rms load factor.

With the rated high and low tension voltages given and Δ , A_s , and B computed from the foregoing equations the designer is in position to find the number of turns of the windings and the size of the conductors for the desired α or α_0 ; in other words, the fundamental characteristics of the electric circuit will then be outlined. As to the magnetic circuit, in addition to A_s a tentative length for the mean magnetic path l_m is made determinable by following equations. For a single-phase transformer,

$$l_m = [\alpha^2/(1 + \alpha^2)] [(1 - e) / \eta e] [(KW) / \gamma A_s] \dots\dots(8)$$

For a three-phase transformer per phase,

$$l_{mp}h = [\alpha^2/3(1 + \alpha^2)] [(1 - e) / \eta e] [(KW) / \gamma A_s] \dots\dots(9)$$

where e denotes efficiency and γ the specific weight of the steel laminations.

This communication concerns a further development of a method previously discussed by the writer (Oboukhoff 1942) and is a preliminary report on a continuing investigation final results of which are to be published later.

LITERATURE CITED

Oboukhoff, N. M. 1942. Emergency overloading of air-cooled oil-immersed power transformers by hot-spot temperature. Suppl. Tr. Am. Inst. Elec. Engr. 61: 993-994.