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Ramping loss and mechanical response in a no-insulation high-temperature superconducting layer-wound coil and intra-layers no-insulation coil

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The layer-wound coil has a great potential in nuclear magnetic resonance and magnetic resonance imaging owing to the better spatial homogeneity of the magnetic field. However, high-temperature superconducting (HTS) coil wound by no-insulation (NI) layer-wound technique has been verified with a long field delay time. A new method named the intra-layer no-insulation (LNI) winding technique has been proposed to reduce the charging delay time of the coil. This paper is mainly to study and compare the ramping loss and mechanical characteristics of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil. The results indicate that the total ramping loss can be significantly reduced by using the LNI winding method. The effects of the ramping rate of power supply current and the contact resistivity on the ramping loss are also discussed in the paper. Furthermore, the stress distributions in the layer-wound coil and LNI coil are compared, where the cooling process and Lorentz force are both considered. It can be found that the copper sheet of the LNI coil experiences relatively higher stress than its $(RE)Ba₂Cu₃O_x$ (REBCO) conductor layer. Meanwhile, the magnitude of stress generated in the REBCO conductor of the LNI coil is slightly different from that of the layer-wound coil.

high-temperature superconducting coil, ramping loss, stress

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1 Introduction

The no-insulation (NI) high-temperature superconducting (HTS) coil is wound directly without turn-to-turn electrical insulation $[1]$. When a local quench occurs, the current of the NI coil can bypass local hotspots due to low contact resistance [\[2](#page-13-1)[–5](#page-13-2)]. Namely, this characteristic drastically reduces the Joule heating generated in the coil during the thermal runaway, which prevents local overheating and damage [[6,](#page-13-3)[7](#page-13-4)]. Thus, the NI coil has a self-protecting feature during the local quench $[8-11]$ $[8-11]$ $[8-11]$. However, the current can also flow

along the radial direction of the coil through low contact resistance during charging and discharging, which leads to a long magnetic field delay time [\[1](#page-13-0),[12–](#page-14-2)[14\]](#page-14-3).

In comparison to the NI pancake-wound coil, the NI layerwound coil has a longer magnetic field delay time, which has been validated in previous publications [[15,](#page-14-4)[16](#page-14-5)]. However, the layer-wound coil can provide better spatial homogeneity of the magnetic field, which is popular in nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) [\[16](#page-14-5)[–19](#page-14-6)]. To mitigate long magnetic field delay time, a new winding method has been proposed, named 'intra-layer noinsulation (LNI)' coil [\[20](#page-14-7),[21\]](#page-14-8). Specifically, a polyimide sheet and a copper sheet are both inserted between different layers

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of the layer-wound coil. The experimental results indicate that not only can LNI coil reduce the magnetic field delay time, but also has high thermal stability [\[22\]](#page-14-9).

In the charging process, the ramping loss of the NI coil mainly includes two parts: the magnetization loss induced by flux creep in the superconducting layer $\sqrt{23-27}$ and contact loss generated by radial current between turns [\[28\]](#page-14-12). For large-scale NI magnets, the ramping process of the power supply current is usually interrupted several times because of the temperature rise induced by ramping loss [\[29\]](#page-14-13). Furthermore, there are more and more concerns about the mechanical damage of HTS magnets [\[30–](#page-14-14)[34](#page-14-15)]. The delamination has been observed in superconductor tapes after the quench of the magnet [\[35\].](#page-14-16) Moreover, large hoop stress is generated by the prestress and strong electromagnetic force in a high magnetic field, which may affect the critical current of the coils [[36](#page-14-17)[,37](#page-14-18)]. The supporting structure might be damaged because of a large unbalanced axial force in the magnet [[38,](#page-14-19)[39](#page-14-20)]. Therefore, it is meaningful to clearly understand the distributions of the loss and stress in order to operate NI magnets safely.

This paper is mainly to analyze and compare the ramping loss and mechanical behaviors of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil. An equivalent axisymmetrical circuit model combined with a T-A formulation is built to calculate the ramping loss. The mechanical behaviors of the coils are analyzed with a homogeneous mechanical model. The descriptions of the numerical model are given in [Sect. 2.](#page-1-0) [Sect. 3](#page-4-0) discusses the ramping loss and the effects of two factors. In [Sect. 4,](#page-7-0) the distributions of stress in the coils are shown in three different cases. The conclusions are summarized in [Sect. 5.](#page-11-0)

2 Numerical model

In the following part, two different coils are investigated in the simulation. One is a forty-layer and ten-turn NI layer-wound coil, and the other is an LNI coil. [Figure 1\(](#page-1-1)a) and (c) show the cross section and equivalent circuit for the layerwound coil, respectively. The corresponding diagrams of the LNI coil are shown in [Figure 1\(](#page-1-1)b) and (d). Meanwhile, the serial number of each turn is defined according to the di-

[Figure 1](#page-1-1) (Color online) (a), (b) The schematic of an NI layer-wound coil and LNI coil; (c), (d) the equivalent circuit model for an NI layer-wound coil and LNI coil.

rection of the transport current. In the simulation, $n_1(1 \le n_1 \le 40)$ is defined as the number of layers from the innermost layer to the outermost layer of the coil, and n_1 (1 \le n₂ \le 10) is defined as the number of turns from the bottom to the top of the coil. In the simulation, the coils are wound by $(RE)Ba₂Cu₃O_x$ (REBCO) tapes, where the parameters are given in the ref. [\[40\].](#page-14-21) The detailed parameters about the coils and the REBCO tapes are shown in [Table 1](#page-2-0) [[20,](#page-14-7)[40](#page-14-21),[41\]](#page-14-22).

2.1 Equivalent circuit model

The current in each turn is calculated by an equivalent axisymmetrical circuit model [[16,](#page-14-5)[20](#page-14-7),[40,](#page-14-21)[42](#page-14-23)], as shown in [Figure 1](#page-1-1)(c) and (d). For the layer-wound coil, the current of each turn can flow into adjacent turns through the contact surface. The governing equation can be derived from Kirchhoff's voltage law at each independent circuit mesh, which can be expressed as follows:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\sum_{k=1}^{400} \left(M_{1,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + M_{20,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} \right) + \left(V_{sc,1} + V_{sc,20} \right) \\
+ \left(R_{r,2} i_{r,2} - R_{r,1} i_{r,1} \right) = 0, \\
\sum_{k=1}^{400} \left(M_{2,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + M_{19,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} \right) + \left(V_{sc,2} + V_{sc,19} \right) \\
+ \left(R_{r,3} i_{r,3} - R_{r,2} i_{r,2} \right) = 0, \\
\vdots \\
\sum_{k=1}^{400} \left(M_{390,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + M_{391,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} \right) + \left(V_{sc,390} + V_{sc,391} \right) \\
- R_{r,390} i_{r,390} = 0,\n\end{cases} (1)
$$

where $M_{j,k}$ is the self inductance $(j = k)$ and mutual inductance ($j \neq k$) between the *j*th and *k*th turns of the coil. $V_{\text{sc},k}$ represents the voltage of the superconductor layer. i_k and $i_{r,j}$ represent the circumferential current and the radial current in each turn, respectively. The subscript k ($1 \le k \le 400$) and *j* $(1 \le j \le 390)$ both represent the turn number. $R_{r,j}$ represents the contact resistance, which can be calculated as

$$
R_{r,j} = \frac{\rho_r}{S_j},\tag{2}
$$

where ρ_r and S_j are the contact resistivity and the surface area of the *j*th turn. The typical value of contact resistivity is 70 μΩ cm² [\[41\].](#page-14-22) The radial current $i_{r,j}$ can be calculated by the power supply current and circumferential current. The self and mutual inductances are calculated on the basis of the Neumann formula as follows [\[43\]](#page-14-24):

$$
M_{j,k} = \frac{\mu_0 r_j r_k}{4\pi w^2}
$$

\n
$$
\times \int_{h_k}^{h_k + w_{2\pi} h_j + w_{2\pi}} \int_0^{h_j + w_{2\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos(\theta - \Theta)}{\sqrt{r_j^2 + r_k^2 - 2r_j r_k \cos(\theta - \Theta) + (z - Z)^2 + \text{eps}}}
$$

\n
$$
\times d\theta dz d\Theta dZ,
$$
\n(3)

where θ , Θ , *z*, and *Z* are the positional variables related to the intersection angle and the width of each turn. *w* is the width of HTS tape. r_j and r_k represent the distances from the central axis of the coil to *j*th and *k*th turns, respectively. h_j and h_k are the height of *j*th and *k*th turns, respectively. A small amount (eps = 1×10^{-10}) is added to the calculation to avoid the singularity when calculating the self inductance $(j = k)$.

For the LNI coil, although adjacent turns are insulated by a polyimide sheet, the current can flow into the copper sheet through the contact surface. Therefore, the governing equation according to Kirchhoff's voltage law can be expressed as follows:

$$
\sum_{k=1}^{400} M_{1,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + V_{sc,1} + (R_{r,2}i_{r,2} - R_{r,1}i_{r,1}) - i_{Cu,1}R_{Cu,1} = 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{k=1}^{400} M_{2,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + V_{sc,2} + (R_{r,3}i_{r,3} - R_{r,2}i_{r,2}) - i_{Cu,2}R_{Cu,2} = 0,
$$
\n
$$
\vdots
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{k=1}^{400} M_{400,k} \frac{di_k}{dt} + V_{sc,400} - R_{r,400}i_{r,400} - i_{Cu,400}R_{Cu,400} = 0,
$$
\n(4)

where $i_{\text{Cu},k}$ and $R_{\text{Cu},k}$ represent the current and the resistance of the copper sheet of each turn, respectively. Here, it is assumed that the current of the copper sheet mainly flows

along the axial direction, and the effect of mutual inductance between the superconductor layer and the copper sheet is neglected.

In addition, the voltage of the superconductor layer can be calculated as

$$
\begin{cases}\nV_{sc,k} - V_{n,k} = 0, \\
i_k = i_{sc,k} + i_{n,k}, \\
V_{sc,k} = E_c l_k \left(\frac{i_{sc,k}}{I_{c,k}}\right)^n, \\
V_{n,k} = i_{n,k} R_{n,k},\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(5)

where $V_{n,k}$, $i_{n,k}$, and $R_{n,k}$ are the voltage, current, and resistance of the normal layers, respectively. $i_{sc,k}$ is the current of the superconductor layer. The *E*-*I* power law is used for describing the electrical characteristics of the superconductor layer $[44]$. Critical electrical field E_c and *n* value are taken as 1×10^{-4} V/m and 31 [\[5\]](#page-13-2), respectively. $I_{c,k}$ is the critical current in a magnetic field, which can be calculated as [\[45\]](#page-14-26)

$$
I_{c,k} = \frac{I_{c0}}{\left(1 + \sqrt{(kB_{\parallel})^2 + B_{\perp}^2 / B_c}\right)^b},\tag{6}
$$

where B_{\parallel} and B_{\perp} are the magnetic fields parallel and perpendicular to the tape surface, respectively. I_{c0} is 768.45 A, which represents the critical current of the tape at the environment temperature of 20 K [\[40\]](#page-14-21). The parameters *k*, *b*, and B_c are 0.063, 1.46, and 4.14, respectively $[40]$.

The contact loss power and energy generated by the radial current can be calculated by [\[40\]](#page-14-21)

$$
\begin{cases}\nW_r = \sum_k i_{r,k}^2 R_{r,k}, \\
Q_r = \int W_r dt,\n\end{cases} \tag{7}
$$

where W_r and Q_r are contact loss power and energy, respectively.

2.2 T-A formulation

T-A formulation is used with the above equivalent axisymmetrical circuit model to calculate electromagnetic characteristics of superconducting coils $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$. The calculations can be implemented with commercial finite element method (FEM) software COMSOL. For the two-dimensional problem, the superconducting layer is approximated as a line structure according to the thin strip approximation. The governing equation of T-A formulation can be expressed as $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$ $[46,47]$

$$
\mathbf{J} = \nabla \times \mathbf{T},
$$

\n
$$
\nabla \times (\rho \nabla \times \mathbf{T}) = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t},
$$

\n
$$
\nabla \times (\frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{J},
$$

\n
$$
\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A},
$$

\n(8)

where **J**, **T**, **B**, and **A** are the current density vector, current vector potential, magnetic flux density vector, and the magnetic vector potential, respectively. ρ and μ are the resistivity and the magnetic permeability.

Besides, the magnetization loss power $W_{\rm sc}$ and energy $Q_{\rm sc}$ in superconducting layers can be calculated as [\[40\]](#page-14-21)

$$
\begin{cases}\nW_{\rm sc} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J} \, \mathrm{d}\Omega, \\
Q_{\rm sc} = \int W_{\rm sc} \, \mathrm{d}t.\n\end{cases} \tag{9}
$$

2.3 Mechanical model

The two-dimensional axisymmetric homogenous mechanical models for two coils are also built to calculate and compare their mechanical behaviors. In order to reduce the calculation, the REBCO tapes are simplified as an equivalent anisotropic homogeneous material. During the operation, the coil will experience the cooling process. In addition, the coil is also subjected to the Lorentz force. Thus, the effects of thermal strain induced by the cooling process and the Lorentz force on the mechanical deformation of the coil should be taken into account in the simulation. The skeleton and overband of the magnet are not taken into account in this paper. In order to avoid the rigid displacement along the axial direction, it is assumed that the bottom of the coil cannot move along the axial direction, and thus the axial displacement of the bottom boundary is fixed in the simulation. The upper boundary of the coil is assumed to be free because of the coil being in compression along with the height during the cooling and charging. Due to the self-supporting turn effect, the inner and outer boundaries of the coil are chosen to be free [[39](#page-14-20)[,48](#page-14-29),[49\]](#page-14-30). Since the number of layers along the radial direction is relatively less, the prestress during the winding is lower and neglected in the simulation. The mechanical governing equations are calculated as [\[50](#page-15-0),[51\]](#page-15-1)

$$
\begin{cases}\n\tilde{\rho}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial \sigma_r}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zr}}{\partial z} + \frac{\sigma_r - \sigma_\varphi}{r} + f_r, \\
\tilde{\rho}\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial \sigma_z}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \tau_{rz}}{\partial r} + \frac{\tau_{rz}}{r} + f_z,\n\end{cases} \tag{10}
$$

$$
\varepsilon_r = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r}, \ \varepsilon_\varphi = \frac{u}{r}, \ \varepsilon_z = \frac{\partial w}{\partial z}, \ \gamma_{zr} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial r}, \tag{11}
$$

where $\tilde{\rho}$ is the density, *u* and *w* represent radial and axial displacements. The subscripts *r*, *φ*, and *z* represent radial, circumferential, and axial directions, respectively. f_r and f_z are the radial and axial components of the Lorentz force, which can be expressed as follows:

$$
f_r = J_{\varphi} B_z, \quad f_z = -J_{\varphi} B_r. \tag{12}
$$

The constitutive relations in the cylindrical coordinate system can be expressed as

$$
\varepsilon_r = \frac{\sigma_r}{E_r} - v_{\varphi r} \frac{\sigma_{\varphi}}{E_{\varphi}} - v_{zr} \frac{\sigma_z}{E_z} + \varepsilon_r^{\text{ th}},
$$
\n
$$
\varepsilon_{\varphi} = -v_{r\varphi} \frac{\sigma_r}{E_r} + \frac{\sigma_{\varphi}}{E_{\varphi}} - v_{z\varphi} \frac{\sigma_z}{E_z} + \varepsilon_{\varphi}^{\text{ th}},
$$
\n
$$
\varepsilon_z = -v_{rz} \frac{\sigma_r}{E_r} - v_{\varphi z} \frac{\sigma_{\varphi}}{E_{\varphi}} + \frac{1}{E_z} + \varepsilon_z^{\text{ th}},
$$
\n
$$
\gamma_{\varphi z} = \frac{\tau_{\varphi z}}{G_{\varphi z}}, \gamma_{zr} = \frac{\tau_{zr}}{G_{zr}}, \gamma_{r\varphi} = \frac{\tau_{r\varphi}}{G_{r\varphi}},
$$
\n(13)

in which *υ*, *E*, and *G* are Poisson's ratio, Young's modulus, and shear modulus, respectively. The thermal strain induced by temperature variation during the cooling process can be expressed as

$$
\varepsilon^{\text{th}} = \int_{T_0}^{T} \alpha \, dT,\tag{14}
$$

where α and T_0 are the coefficient of thermal expansion and initial temperature of the coils. The equivalent elastic modulus, Poisson's ratio, and thermal expansion coefficient can be estimated by the homogenization method [\[52\].](#page-15-2) Detailed mechanical parameters for different conductor materials are shown in [Tables 2](#page-4-1) [[53–](#page-15-3)[62\]](#page-15-4) and [3](#page-4-2). Note that the mechanical equations are also solved by commercial FEM software COMSOL.

3 Numerical analysis of ramping loss

The numerical model of the layer-wound coil has been validated in previous publications [\[16\].](#page-14-5) The central magnetic field and the supply current of an LNI coil tested by the experiment [\[20\]](#page-14-7) are compared to the results of numerical simulation in [Figure 2.](#page-4-3) Here, the contact resistivity is 25 m Ω cm² according to ref. [\[20\]](#page-14-7). It can be found that the computational results are in agreement with the experimental results, and the magnetic field delay time constants are both 0.1 s. Therefore, the numerical model of the LNI coil is effective to estimate its ramping loss.

3.1 The ramping loss power in the coils

In this subsection, the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil are both ramped up to 200 A at a ramping rate of 5 A/s, and holds the current constant (*t*>40 s). The operating current of the coil is 51% of the critical current (390 A), and thus the exponential loss is ignored. [Figure 3](#page-5-0) shows the distributions of the circumferential current density, radial current density, and current density in the copper sheet at 40 s. It can be found that the LNI coil has a larger circumferential current and penetration zone than the layer wound coil. In each coil, the bottom and top turns have a more penetration zone than others, which is dependent on the distribution of the magnetic field. The magnetic field perpendicular to the tape surface at the top and bottom turns is higher than that at other

[Table 2](#page-4-1) Material parameters of different constituent materials [[53–](#page-15-3)[62\]](#page-15-4)

	Young's modulus E(GPa)	Poisson's ratio ν	CTE α $(x10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1})$
Copper	85	0.34	17.7
Hastelloy	175	0.307	14
Silver	76	0.37	17.1
REBCO	157	0.3	11
Buffer	170	0.226	9.5
Polyimide	3	0.34	20

[Table 3](#page-4-2) Equivalent mechanical parameters

[Figure 2](#page-4-3) (Color online) The comparisons of the central field from the experiment and simulation.

turns. Therefore, the coils at both ends have lower critical current owing to the anisotropy of the critical current, which leads to a deeper flux penetration. Moreover, it can be found that the radial current of the LNI coil is reduced compared to the layer wound coil. The distribution of radial current and current in copper sheet is staggered in different layers. In odd layers, the bottom turns have a higher current than the top turns. However, the current distribution shows an opposite trend in even layers.

[Figure 4](#page-5-1) gives the profiles of the total magnetization loss power of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil in the charging process. It can be found that the magnetization loss power of the layer-wound coil continues to increase (*t*>40 s), even if the power supply current reaches a stable state, as shown in Figure $4(a)$. The reason is that a number of inner turns in the layer-wound coil have a much smaller circumferential current than the power supply current due to a

[Figure 3](#page-5-0) (Color online) The distributions of the circumferential and radial current densities in the coil and current density in the copper sheet at 40 s. Note that the layer-wound coil has no copper sheet.

[Figure 4](#page-5-1) (Color online) The profiles of transport current and magnetization loss power in the ramping process. (a) Layer-wound coil; (b) LNI coil.

strong electromagnetic shielding effect [\[16\]](#page-14-5). At *t*=1600 s, most of the radial currents have transformed into the circumferential currents, and the magnetization loss power of the layer-wound coil starts to decrease. However, the magnetization loss power of the LNI coil reaches the peak value at 40 s, and then decreases rapidly (see [Figure 4\(](#page-5-1)b)). Moreover, due to the short charging delay time of the LNI coil, its magnetization loss power also needs less time to reach zero by comparing to the layer-wound coil.

[Figure 5](#page-6-0) shows the profiles of the contact loss power of the

layer-wound coil, the contact loss power, and the copper sheet loss power of the LNI coil. The contact loss power of the layer-wound coil reaches the peak value at 40 s, and then decreases slowly and drops to zero at about 3500 s. The reason is that the inner turns in the layer-wound coil have the largest radial current at 40 s, and thus the contact loss power reaches the peak value. Afterward, the radial current needs much time to transform into the circumferential current in the layer-wound coil, so that the contact loss power decreases slowly and drops to zero at about 3500 s. Although the

contact loss power of the LNI coil has a changing trend similar to the layer-wound coil, it can reduce to zero in a short time. Besides, the transporting current in the LNI coil can flow into the copper sheet, which could lead to copper sheet loss. It can be seen that copper sheet loss power has a similar trend compared with its contact loss power in the LNI coil. Overall, compared with the magnetization loss power in [Figure 4](#page-5-1), the contact loss power of the layer-wound coil has the main contribution to its total loss power. In the LNI coil, the copper sheet loss power is much lower than the contact loss and magnetization loss power.

3.2 The ramping loss energy in the coils

The sum of the loss energy of all turns in each layer of the two coils is shown in [Figure 6.](#page-6-1) The loss energy shows nonuniform distribution along the radial direction in the whole ramping process. The results indicate that the layers located in the outer side and inner side of the coils have higher magnetization loss energy than other layers (see [Figure 6\(](#page-6-1)a)). Because the innermost and outermost layers of the coils have large circumferential current, magnetic flux penetration of these layers is deeper than other layers. As for the contact loss energy, due to the large radial current generated in the outer side of the coils, the turns in these zones have larger contact loss energy in the ramping process for the layer-wound coil (see [Figure 6](#page-6-1)(b)).

[Figure 7](#page-7-1) shows the sum of the loss energy of all layers in each turn of the two coils. The magnetization loss energy of the two coils shows a similar distribution trend. Meanwhile, the magnetization loss energy generated in top and bottom turns $(n_2=1$ and $n_2=10$) is about 57% of the total magnetization loss energy. These results are corresponding with the penetration zone distribution in [Figure 3.](#page-5-0)

Moreover, the turns in the upper and lower sides of the coil have large radial current, and thus the contact loss energy of both coils is higher in their top and bottom turns. However, the copper sheet loss of the LNI coil shows an opposite

[Figure 5](#page-6-0) (Color online) (a) The contact loss power of layer-wound coil; (b) the contact loss power and the copper sheet loss power of LNI coil.

[Figure 6](#page-6-1) (Color online) The distributions of loss energy along the radial direction of the coils in the ramping process. (a) Magnetization loss energy; (b) contact loss energy and copper sheet loss energy.

[Figure 7](#page-7-1) (Color online) The distributions of loss energy along the axial direction of the coils in the ramping process. (a) Magnetization loss energy; (b) contact loss energy and copper sheet loss energy.

distribution. The highest copper sheet loss is generated at the middle turns of the coil. [Figure 8](#page-7-2) shows the total loss energy in the two coils. It can be found that the total loss energy of the LNI coil increases more rapidly than the layer-wound coil due to a short charging delay time. One key result is that the total loss energy of the layer-wound coil is about ten times of the LNI coil in the whole charging process. Therefore, the LNI coil has a high thermal stability margin in the ramping process.

3.3 The effects of contact resistivity and ramping rate

[Figure 9](#page-8-0) shows the effect of different contact resistivities from 70 to 25000 $\mu\Omega$ cm² on the loss energy of the layerwound coil and LNI coil. With the increase of contact resistivity, the magnetization loss energy of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil has a little change due to unchanged flux penetration depth in a given power supply current. The contact loss energy of the layer-wound coil and the copper

[Figure 8](#page-7-2) (Color online) The profiles of total ramping loss energy of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil in the ramping process.

sheet loss energy of the LNI coil decrease with the increase of contact resistivity. However, the contact loss energy of the LNI coil increases rapidly when the contact resistivity increases from 70 to 10000 $\mu\Omega$ cm², and then it drops with the increase of contact resistivity. The contact loss energy is related to the contact resistance and the radial current. Higher contact resistivity can lead to less radial current in the coil, which causes the nonmonotonic trend of the contact loss energy. One key result is that the ramping loss energy of the LNI coil is significantly lower than that of the layer-wound coil, even if the two coils have the same contact resistivity.

[Figure 10](#page-8-1) shows the effect of different ramping rates of power supply current on the ramping loss energy of the layerwound coil and LNI coil. The magnetization loss energy of the two coils still has a little change in different ramping rates. The effect of ramping rate of power supply current is not significant on the contact loss of layer-wound coil due to the long charging delay time. However, with the increase of ramping rate, the contact loss and copper sheet loss energy of LNI coil almost have an approximately linear increase. This is because larger radial current and copper sheet current are generated in a larger ramping rate. Namely, the total ramping loss of LNI coil has an obvious increase in a large ramping rate of power supply current.

4 Mechanical characteristics

In this section, the mechanical responses of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil are discussed in the charging process. Compared to the typical layer-wound coil, a copper sheet and a polyimide insulation sheet are inserted into adjacent turns of the LNI coil, which can reduce the charging delay time and ramping loss of the coil. However, the inserted materials may affect the mechanical properties of the LNI coil. Here, a

[Figure 9](#page-8-0) (Color online) The effect of contact resistivities on the ramping loss energy. (a) Layer-wound coil; (b) LNI coil.

[Figure 10](#page-8-1) (Color online) The effect of different ramping rates on the ramping loss energy. (a) Layer-wound coil; (b) LNI coil.

15 T background field is applied to the coils. The background field is assumed to be uniform in all computational domains, and the operating current of the coil is 200 A.

4.1 Prestress induced by the cooling process

The superconducting coil usually operates at low temperature, and thus thermal stress is induced by the process of cooling from room temperature to the operating temperature. [Figure 11\(](#page-9-0)a) and (b) show the distribution of average hoop stress in each layer of the bottom, middle, and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5, \text{ and } n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil. The hoop stress of the layer-wound coil is small in the cooling process. In the bottom turn of the coil, tensile hoop stress is generated at the inner layers while compressive hoop stress is generated at the outer layers. For the LNI coil, the hoop stress in the REBCO conductor layer has a similar distribution compared to the layer-wound coil; meanwhile, the hoop stress of the polyimide sheet is relatively small and has little change in different layers of the bottom turn of the coil. However, large hoop stress is generated in the copper sheet during the cooling process, where the inner copper sheet experiences maximum hoop stress. This is related to the differences of Young's modulus and thermal expansion coefficient for REBCO conductor, copper sheet, and polyimide sheet. The average hoop stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layerwound coil and the LNI coil is shown in [Figure 11\(](#page-9-0)c) and (d). It can be found that hoop stress shows a slight difference along the axial direction of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil. [Figure 12](#page-9-1) shows the averaged axial stress distributions for the layer-wound coil and LNI coil. The axial stress in the REBCO conductor layer of the LNI coil and the layer-wound coil is small in the cooling process. In the LNI coil, the axial

[Figure 11](#page-9-0) (Color online) Taking into account the cooling process, (a) and (b) are the average hoop stress in each layer of the bottom, middle, and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average hoop stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

[Figure 12](#page-9-1) (Color online) Taking into account the cooling process, (a) and (b) are the average axial stress in each layer of the bottom, middle, and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average axial stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

[Figure 13](#page-10-0) (Color online) In 15 T, only considering the Lorentz force, (a) and (b) are the average hoop stress in each layer of the bottom, middle and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average hoop stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1)$ and $n_1=40$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

stress shows slight differences along with the axial and radial directions, and large axial stress is still generated in the copper sheet of the LNI coil. During the cooling process, although the copper sheet of the LNI coil experiences large stress, the stress of the REBCO layer is slightly different from the layer-wound coil.

4.2 Electromagnetic stress induced by Lorentz force

The distributions of electromagnetic stresses induced by Lorentz force in the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil are investigated in this section. Here, we neglect the transient stress during the charging process, and only consider the stress distribution in the steady state. Figure $13(a)$ and (b) give the change of hoop stress in each layer of the bottom, middle, and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5, \text{ and } n_2=10)$ of the layerwound coil and the LNI coil. It can be seen that the hoop stress of the REBCO conductor gradually decreases from the inner layers to the outer layers in two coils. Meanwhile, the copper sheet also suffers from large hoop stress in the LNI coil, and the hoop stress in the polyimide sheet is much smaller than other materials. The hoop stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil is shown in Figure $13(c)$ and (d). It can be found that the hoop stress of the REBCO conductor in the innermost layers of two coils increases from the bottom turn to the top turn. However, in the outermost layers of two coils, the turns located in the middle part experience small stress, which is caused by non-uniform mechanical deformation of the coils under the action of electromagnetic force. Moreover, the hoop stress of the copper sheet along the axial direction also has a similar distribution, and the hoop stress of the polyimide sheet is still small.

[Figure 14](#page-11-1) shows the distribution of axial stress induced by Lorentz force in the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil. In the bottom turn of the coil $(n_2=1)$, compressive axial stress is generated at the inner layers while outer layers experience tensile axial stress. In the middle turn of the coil $(n_2=5)$, the distribution of axial stress has an opposite trend (see [Figure 14](#page-11-1)(a) and (b)). [Figure 14\(](#page-11-1)c) and (d) show that the highest axial stress is generated at the middle turn of the coil, while the top and bottom turns have lower axial stresses. In the LNI coil, the axial stress of the REBCO conductor is larger than the copper sheet, and the axial stress of the polyimide sheet is still small. In the case of only taking into

[Figure 14](#page-11-1) (Color online) In 15 T, only considering the Lorentz force, (a) and (b) are the average axial stress in each layer of the bottom, middle and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average axial stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1)$ and $n_1=40$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

account the Lorentz force, the stress distribution in the RE-BCO conductor of the LNI coil has little difference from that of the layer-wound coil.

4.3 Stress induced by the cooling process and Lorentz force

Here, we take into account the effect of the prestress induced by the cooling process and electromagnetic stress induced by the Lorentz force on the mechanical behaviors of the coil. [Figure 15](#page-12-0) is the distributions of hoop stress, axial stress, and radial stress of layer-wound coil and LNI coil. In the LNI coil, the copper sheet and the polyimide sheet show different stress states from those of the superconducting layer. Moreover, it can be found that the radial stress of both coils is much smaller than the hoop and axial stresses, so we mainly discuss the hoop and axial stresses.

Figures [16](#page-12-1) and [17](#page-13-5) show the distributions of the hoop and axial stresses of the coils in this case. It can be seen that the distributions of the hoop and axial stresses are similar to those induced by Lorentz force (see Figures [13](#page-10-0) and [14\)](#page-11-1). Namely, the Lorentz force has the main contribution to the mechanical deformation of the coil in the high field. The hoop stress in the top and bottom turns of the coil is asymmetric due to the boundary condition. The hoop stress in the top turn of the coil has a similar trend to that in the bottom turn, while it is slightly higher than the hoop stress in the bottom turn. Moreover, it is worth noting that the stress of the copper sheet is slightly higher than the REBCO conductor in the LNI coil, while the stress of the polyimide sheet is still small by comparing with other materials. In the LNI coil, the maximum stress in the copper sheet is 255 MPa, and the maximum stress in the polyimide sheet is 14 MPa. However, the yield stresses of copper and polyimide can be 340 and 69 MPa, respectively [\[53](#page-15-3),[54\]](#page-15-5). The simulation results show that the LNI winding approach cannot enhance the risk of mechanical damage of the coil under this operating condition.

5 Conclusions

In this paper, we compare the ramping losses and mechanical behaviors of a layer-wound coil and an LNI coil. A hybrid numerical model has been implemented, which combines the equivalent circuit network model with the FEM model.

[Figure 15](#page-12-0) (Color online) The distributions of the hoop stress, axial stress, and radial stress of layer-wound coil and LNI coil. Here, the cooling process and the Lorentz force are taken into account and the background field is 15 T.

[Figure 16](#page-12-1) (Color online) In 15 T, taking into account the cooling process and the Lorentz force, (a) and (b) are the average hoop stress in each layer of the bottom, middle and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10$) of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average hoop stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

[Figure 17](#page-13-5) (Color online) In 15 T, taking into account the cooling process and the Lorentz force, (a) and (b) are the average axial stress in each layer of the bottom, middle and top turns $(n_2=1, n_2=5,$ and $n_2=10)$ of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively; (c) and (d) are the average axial stress in the innermost and outermost layers $(n_1=1 \text{ and } n_1=40)$ of each turn of the layer-wound coil and the LNI coil, respectively.

It can be found that the magnetization loss energy of the LNI coil and the layer-wound coil has little difference. However, compared with the layer-wound coil, the LNI coil has a lower contact loss energy due to the shorter charging delay time. The results also indicate that the LNI winding approach can significantly reduce the ramping loss energy in the whole charging process, and thus LNI coil has a higher thermal stability margin. The decrease of the ramping rate of power supply current can significantly reduce the total ramping loss energy of the LNI coil, while its effect on the total ramping loss energy of the layer-wound coil is less obvious. Furthermore, the increase of contact resistivity can significantly reduce the ramping loss of the two coils.

Finally, the distributions of stress in the coils are investigated in three different cases: the cooling process, the Lorentz force, and the combined action of the cooling process and Lorentz force. The hoop stress and axial stress of the REBCO conductor of two coils have a similar distribution in the three cases, and the stress of the polyimide sheet in the LNI coil is small. When considering the cooling process and Lorentz force, it can be found that the Lorentz force has the main contribution to the mechanical deformation of the layer-wound coil and LNI coil in the high field. Meanwhile,

the inserted materials have a negligible effect on the hoop stress and axial stress of the LNI coil.

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