

# Helicoidal Single-Layer Cylindrical Coil Self-Inductance Evaluation: A Didactic Method

Roberto Petry Homrich, Ernesto Ruppert Filho, and D. G. Pinatti

**Index Terms**—Biot–Savart Law, cylindrical coils, self-inductance calculations.

## I. SUMMARY

This paper presents a didactic mathematical method to evaluate the self-inductance of a nonmagnetic core single-layer cylindrical and helicoidal coil presenting voids between turns. This type of calculation, using Biot–Savart Law, is not usually presented in the traditional electromagnetic text books, but constitutes an excellent tool to show to the students how to apply the very important Biot–Savart Law, using vectorial calculus, in a special electromagnetic device. It also shows them that the results are more accurate than that gotten when using the traditional methods presented in the most adopted books, that don't consider the helicoidal shape and the voids between turns and usually make strong restrictive conditions to permit the self-inductance calculation.

**Roberto Petry Homrich** received the B.Sc. degree in electrical engineering from Catholic University of Pelotas, Brazil, in 1985 and the M.Sc. degree from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, in 1990. He is pursuing the Ph.D. degree at Campinas University (UNICAMP).

Since 1988, he has taught in the Electrical Engineering Department of Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and his research interests are electromagnetic devices and applications.

**Ernesto Ruppert Filho** received the B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Campinas University (UNICAMP), Campinas, Brazil, in 1971, 1974, and 1983, respectively.

Since 1972 he has been with Campinas University as a Faculty and his research interests are electric machines, motor drives, power electronics, and electrical energy system equipment.

**D. G. Pinatti** received the B.Sc. degree in civil engineering from the Engineering School of São Carlos-USP, São Carlos, Brazil, and the M.Sc. degree and Ph.D. degrees from Rice University, Houston, TX, in 1968 and 1969, respectively.

Since 1979, he has been with Campinas University and the Chemical Engineering faculty of Lorena as Professor and Researcher. His interests include refractory metals, superconductivity, cryogenics, biomass processing, and bioenergy.

CD-ROM folder MS3.

The authors are with the Computer and Electrical Engineering School, University of Campinas, 13082–970 Campinas, SP, Brazil.  
Publisher Item Identifier S 0018-9359(01)05705-3.