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TECHNICAL REPORT



International comparison of measurements of the magnetic moment using vibrating sample magnetometers (VSM) and superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) magnetometers

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Overview.....	7
3 Samples.....	8
3.1 Hard ferrites.....	8
3.2 Magnetic tapes.....	8
4 Measuring quantities and measuring conditions.....	8
4.1 General.....	8
4.2 Hard ferrite spheres.....	8
4.3 Magnetic tape samples.....	9
4.4 Role of the measuring temperature.....	9
5 Analysis of the measured quantities.....	10
Annex A (informative) International comparison of measurements of the magnetic moment using vibrating sample magnetometers and SQUID magnetometers.....	15
Annex B (informative) Participants.....	30
Bibliography.....	31
Figure 1 – Isotropic and anisotropic ferrites: standard deviations.....	12
Figure 2 – Magnetic tape samples: standard deviations.....	12
Figure 3 – Isotropic and anisotropic ferrites: weighted uncertainties.....	13
Figure 4 – Magnetic tape samples: weighted uncertainties.....	13
Figure 5 – Normalized best values $y_i / \langle y \rangle$ of the coercive field strength H_{CJ} and maximum energy product $(BH)_{max}$	14
Figure A.1 – Dispersion of the J_{800k} values measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic ferrite sample HF-Iso1.....	16
Figure A.2 – Dispersion of the J_r values measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic ferrite sample HF-Iso1.....	17
Figure A.3 – Dispersion of the H_{CJ} values measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic ferrite sample HF-Iso1.....	18
Figure A.4 – Dispersion of the H_{CB} values measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic ferrite sample HF-Iso1.....	19
Figure A.5 – Dispersion of the $(BH)_{max}$ values measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic ferrite sample HF-Iso1.....	20
Figure A.6 – Dispersion of the J_{800k} values measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic ferrite sample HF-Aniso1.....	21
Figure A.7 – Dispersion of the J_r values measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic ferrite sample HF-Aniso1.....	22
Figure A.8 – Dispersion of the H_{CJ} values measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic ferrite sample HF-Aniso1.....	23
Figure A.9 – Dispersion of the H_{CB} values measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic ferrite sample HF-Aniso1.....	24
Figure A.10 – Dispersion of the $(BH)_{max}$ values measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic ferrite sample HF-Aniso1.....	25
Figure A.11 – Dispersion of the m_{400k} values measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample A1.....	26

Figure A.12 – Dispersion of the m_r values measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample A1	27
Figure A.13 – Dispersion of the $S = m_r/m_{400k}$ values measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample A1	28
Figure A.14 – Dispersion of the H_{CJ} values measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample A1	29
Table A.1 – Magnetic polarization value J_{800k} at $H_a = H_{peak} = 800$ kA/m measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic hard ferrite HF-Iso1	15
Table A.2 – Remanent magnetic polarization J_r measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic hard ferrite HF-Iso1	17
Table A.3 – Coercive field H_{CJ} measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic hard ferrite HF-Iso1	18
Table A.4 – Coercive field H_{CB} measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic hard ferrite HF-Iso1	19
Table A.5 – Maximum energy product $(BH)_{max}$ measured by the participating laboratories on the isotropic hard ferrite HF- Iso1	20
Table A.6 – Magnetic polarization value J_{800k} at $H_a = H_{peak} = 800$ kA/m measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic hard ferrite HF-Aniso1	21
Table A.7 – Remanent magnetic polarization J_r measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic hard ferrite HF-Aniso1	22
Table A.8 – Coercive field H_{CJ} measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic hard ferrite HF-Aniso1	23
Table A.9 – Coercive field H_{CB} measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic hard ferrite HF-Aniso1	24
Table A.10 – Maximum energy product $(BH)_{max}$ measured by the participating laboratories on the anisotropic hard ferrite HF- Aniso1	25
Table A.11 – Magnetic moment m_{400k} measured at at $H_a = H_{peak} = 400$ kA/m by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample 1A	26
Table A.12 – Remanent magnetic moment m_r measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample 1A	27
Table A.13 – Squareness ratio $S = m_r/m_{400k}$ measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample 1A	28
Table A.14 – Coercive field H_{CJ} measured by the participating laboratories on the magnetic tape sample 1A	29

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF MEASUREMENTS OF THE MAGNETIC MOMENT USING VIBRATING SAMPLE MAGNETOMETERS (VSM) AND SUPERCONDUCTING QUANTUM INTERFERENCE DEVICE (SQUID) MAGNETOMETERS

FOREWORD

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IEC 62797, which is a technical report, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 68: Magnetic alloys and steels.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
68/448/DTR	68/454/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical report can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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INTRODUCTION

Following a proposal made at the meeting of IEC TC 68 Working Group 2 (Magnetic alloys and steels – Measuring methods) in Braunschweig (PTB, 13-14 November 2006), an intercomparison exercise was started regarding the measurement of the magnetic moment by means of the vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) method. The VSM finds widespread use in industrial and research laboratories, because of its sensitivity, ruggedness, and relative simplicity of use [1]¹. It is not an absolute method and requires calibration by means of a reference sample. This is typically represented by a very pure Ni sphere, calibrated by means of an independent method [2]. The VSM is generally applied for the characterization of hard magnetic materials, but, depending on the specific sensitivity of the apparatus, can also be used to test paramagnetic and diamagnetic materials. Its application to magnetically soft materials is generally restricted to the determination of the saturation magnetization. In fact, being an open circuit method, the VSM is not suited to the measurement of the magnetization curve of soft magnetic materials.

The basic aim of this comparison is to verify the degree of reproducibility of the method, a prerequisite for the prospective development of a related IEC measuring standard. The existing ASTM Standard A894/894M-00 [3] is devoted to the determination of the saturation magnetization of nonmetallic magnetic materials. Ten different research laboratories, listed in Annex B, agreed to participate in the comparison exercise. Each laboratory was assumed to have appropriate traceability of measurements and was required to determine the measurement uncertainty according to the ISO/IEC Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement [4]. Two laboratories used superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) magnetometers.

The comparison was coordinated by INRIM (Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica, Torino, Italy) and the Hannam University (Taejon, Korea). A summarizing paper on these experiments was presented at the International Workshop on One- and Two-Dimensional Measurement and Testing (Vienna, September 2012) and is to be published on the Int. J. Appl. Electromagnetics and Mechanics [8].

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF MEASUREMENTS OF THE MAGNETIC MOMENT USING VIBRATING SAMPLE MAGNETOMETERS (VSM) AND SUPERCONDUCTING QUANTUM INTERFERENCE DEVICE (SQUID) MAGNETOMETERS

1 Scope

This Technical Report provides the results of an international comparison of measurements of the magnetic moment, using vibrating sample magnetometers (VSM) and superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID) magnetometers.

The basic object of this comparison is to verify the degree of reproducibility of the method employed as a prerequisite for the prospective development of a related IEC measuring standard.