Resonant Phenomena Occurring in Alternating Current Circuit

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There is a classical (according to manuals) notion that resonant phenomena can not influence on efficiency of a transformer or a motor as in a capacitive circuit or in an inductive circuit power produced at minimal power at the input of an oscillation circuit is reactive (let us remind that active power is measured at active resistance).

At the beginning of the last century this aspect was viewed differently. Advantages of a resonant case in alternating current circuits were used in practice. Let us appeal to a rare book by J. Claude-V. Ostwald named "Electricity and its applications by popular language" (I.N. Kushnerev Press, Moscow, 1914, p. 463).

"The phenomenon proceeds in a corresponding electric circuit as well as it occurs in hydraulic model: if self-induction and capacity parallel connected with each other are under influence of an alternating electric propulsion force then the total current coming through the system is equal to the difference of currents which pass two certain paths.

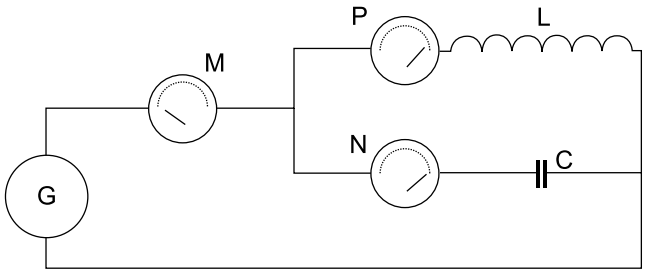

Fig.1

... join ammeters to the general circuit (M) and to either path (P and N). If P demonstrates 100 Amperes and N demonstrates 80 Amperes then the total current will be equal to 20 Amperes instead of 180 Amperes. Thus alternating current has its own "summary" so we should consider its condition. ...capacity introduction compensates self-induction action in some way... let us begin to change the self-induction by moving a core into. What will happen if the current coming through the coil achieves 80 Amperes, i.e. is equal to the current observed in the path with a capacitor?

As you guess, since the total current is equal to difference between currents passing the paths then now it will be equal zero. It is an incredible case:the device produces zero current dividing into two paths and in each of these paths current is equal to 80 Amperes. It is a good example for the first acquaintance with alternating current, isn't it?"

Andrey A. Melnichenko (Moscow) is one of modern investigators who research this phenomenon. Any motor of alternating current can be considered as inductance. A circuit consists of motor coils and some capacitor connected in series with the motor winding. Thus if we take the circuit, consisting of motor coils and a capacitor which is connected in series to motor winding and adjust it in resonance, then mechanical power occurring on the motor shaft is produced at zero (minimal) power consumption of an alternating current source.

Melnichenko applied a simple method of voltage increase by meanse of resonance: he succeeded in obtaining of normal voltage for operation of standard motors of 50 Hz 220 V from a source of 50 Hz 110 V and 70 V. The circuit consumption for overcoming of its active resistance (of coils) can be considered as insignificant. Low frequency currents require a large capacitor. Nevertheless even at higher frequency, for example at 400 Hz, the system can be compact and effective. This method is worth to be applied in a scheme consisting of an alternating current motor in resonance mode and an electric generator which has a stable load. Change of load causes change of rotation speed therefore the system requires to be readjusted for resonance.

Experiments with powerful alternating current motors (about 100 Amperes as J.C. Ostwald wrote) working in resonance mode should demonstrate all advantages of the resonance mode application.