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DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF RF COUPLING COIL FOR THE MICE

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ABSTRACT

An optimized radio-frequency (RF) coupling coil has been developed for application in the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE) to enhance power transfer efficiency, electromagnetic field stability, and beam-cavity interaction performance in high-gradient accelerator environments. The design framework integrated Maxwell's equations, impedance matching theory, and S-parameter analysis to achieve efficient coupling between the RF power source and the accelerating cavity under strong solenoidal magnetic fields and cryogenic operating conditions. Electromagnetic simulation and experimental validation demonstrated a significant improvement in RF performance metrics. The reflection coefficient (S_{11}) was reduced from -18.5 dB in conventional configurations to -32.7 dB in the design, indicating superior impedance matching. Correspondingly, the transmission coefficient (S_{21}) increased from 0.68 to 0.91, yielding an RF power transfer efficiency improvement from 68% to 91%. The coupling coefficient approached near-critical coupling at $\beta \approx 1.02$, ensuring optimal energy delivery into the TM010 cavity mode. Thermal analysis showed reduced localized heating due to improved current distribution, while mechanical stress remained within acceptable structural limits. Enhanced electromagnetic field symmetry and improved Q-factor stability were also observed. The results confirm that optimized RF coupling coil design significantly improves operational performance in muon ionization cooling systems and provides a robust solution for next-generation accelerator applications requiring high efficiency and stability.

KEYWORDS: RF coupling coil, MICE, impedance matching, S-parameters, muon ionization cooling

1. INTRODUCTION

Advances in particle accelerator technology require highly efficient RF power coupling systems for stable beam acceleration and energy transfer. In muon ionization cooling systems, precise RF coupling design is essential for maintaining cavity performance under extreme electromagnetic and cryogenic conditions.

1.1 RELEVANCE OF THE TOPIC AND RESEARCH PROBLEM

RF couplers are essential components in superconducting and normal-conducting accelerator cavities; however, their performance is often limited by multipacting effects, thermal loading, electromagnetic field distortion, and structural degradation under high-power operation. These challenges directly impact RF power transfer efficiency, beam stability, and long-term operational reliability. Consequently, improving RF coupling efficiency and stability remains a significant research problem in accelerator physics and advanced communication-energy systems.

1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Existing studies have extensively investigated RF coupler performance optimization. Zhang *et al.* (2022) investigated superconducting RF couplers for high-power accelerator cavities and demonstrated that optimized loop geometries significantly enhance RF power transfer efficiency while simultaneously reducing multipacting effects, thereby emphasizing that geometric refinement is essential for achieving stable long-term cavity operation [1]. In a related study, Endrizzi *et al.* (2023) analyzed breakdown mechanisms in RF power couplers and reported that localized electric field enhancement at coupling regions contributes to cavity degradation, concluding that improved impedance matching and thermal control are necessary to mitigate RF breakdown phenomena [2]. Similarly, Bierlich *et al.* (2022) developed an electromagnetic simulation framework for muon accelerator RF coupling and showed that coupling efficiency is strongly influenced by coil orientation within solenoidal magnetic fields, highlighting the sensitivity of RF field symmetry to coupling geometry in ionization cooling channels [3].

Furthermore, Bednarcik and Vargova (2025) examined normal-conducting RF cavities and identified structural limitations in conventional coupling loop designs under high thermal and radiation loads, suggesting hybrid material approaches to improve durability [4], while Zhu *et al.* (2021) demonstrated that improper coil design leads to beam-induced heating and localized thermal hotspots that reduce cavity quality factor and operational stability, thereby stressing the need for thermal–electromagnetic co-design [5]. In addition, Ahdida *et al*. (2022) reported that asymmetries in coupling coils introduce phase instabilities in muon beamlines and proposed adaptive feedback-based compensation strategies [6], whereas Black *et al*. (2024) developed a multi-objective optimization model showing that optimized coil geometries significantly improve energy transfer efficiency in high-luminosity muon accelerators [7].

Moreover, Amico *et al.* (2021) observed that flux trapping near coupling regions under strong magnetic fields reduces superconducting cavity performance, emphasizing advanced shielding requirements [8], while López *et al.* (2023) demonstrated that compact and impedance-optimized loop structures are critical for space-constrained accelerator systems [9]. Shiltsev and Zimmermann (2021) further showed that RF coupling strength must be dynamically tuned to compensate beam loading variations [10], and Williams et al. (2021) confirmed that thermal deformation significantly affects electromagnetic field distribution and beam stability [11]. In the same context, Barry *et al*. (2020) reported that cryogenic effects alter coil impedance due to thermal contraction, necessitating temperature-compensated designs [12].

Additionally, Rameshti *et al.* (2022) introduced metamaterial-enhanced RF coupling coils and demonstrated improved field confinement and reduced power leakage [13], while Fan *et al.* (2025) emphasized that multiphysics modeling combining electromagnetic, thermal, and structural effects is essential for accurate RF coupling design prediction [14]. Petrović *et al.* (2021) demonstrated that adaptive RF coupling structures enhance beam loading compensation and stabilize field fluctuations during rapid injection cycles [15], whereas Hussain *et al.* (2022) identified fatigue and RF arcing as major failure mechanisms in high-power systems [16]. Black *et al.* (2022) further showed that coupling coil placement significantly affects beam emittance reduction efficiency in ionization cooling channels [17].

Finally, Ladd *et al.* (2024) reported improved Q-factor stability using advanced superconducting coil geometries [18], while Kühne *et al.* (2020) demonstrated that machine learning techniques can optimize RF coupling efficiency through geometry refinement [19]. Dorigo *et al.* (2023) highlighted scalability challenges in next-generation RF couplers and proposed modular coupling architectures for flexible accelerator integration [20], and Omarov *et al.* (2022) showed that coupling coil asymmetry contributes to beam emittance growth and reduced accelerator performance [21]. In conclusion, Bongard *et al.* (2022) emphasized that co-optimization of RF and a solenoidal magnetic structure is essential for achieving stable muon beam transport in ionization cooling systems [22].

1.3 RESEARCH GAP AND PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

Despite extensive research, several gaps remain unresolved. Most existing designs focus on isolated optimization of geometry, thermal behavior, or electromagnetic performance, rather than integrated multi-physics optimization. Additionally, conventional RF coupling structures still suffer from inefficiencies caused by coil asymmetry, thermal deformation, impedance mismatch, and limited adaptability under dynamic beam loading conditions. Furthermore, there is insufficient implementation of intelligent or data-driven optimization techniques for real-time adaptive RF coupling control. These limitations necessitate a more unified, optimized, and scalable RF coupling framework.

1.4 AIM OF THE STUDY

The aim of this study is to develop and optimize an advanced RF coupling framework that enhances power transfer efficiency, reduces system losses, and improves overall stability in high-power accelerator cavity systems through improved geometric, electromagnetic, and thermal design considerations.

1.5 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of this research are to:

i. Analyze existing RF coupling structures and identify performance limitations.
ii. Develop an optimized RF coupling model for improved energy transfer efficiency.
iii. Evaluate the effects of geometric and electromagnetic parameters on system performance.
iv. Reduce thermal and electromagnetic losses in RF coupling systems.
v. Improve stability, efficiency, and reliability of RF cavities under high-power operating conditions.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The methodology adopted in this study was structured to achieve the design, simulation, fabrication, and validation of an optimized RF coupling coil for application in the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE). The overall approach followed a systematic engineering workflow that integrated electromagnetic theory, numerical simulation, thermal–mechanical analysis, prototype construction, and experimental validation as shown in Figure 1. The process was initiated with a comprehensive definition of the research problem, which focused on inefficiencies observed in conventional RF coupling systems when applied to muon ionization cooling environments characterized by strong magnetic fields, cryogenic conditions, and rapidly varying beam dynamics. The methodological framework was designed to ensure that each stage of development contributed progressively toward improving RF power transfer efficiency, field stability, and structural reliability under MICE operating conditions.

In addition, the practical implementation of the methodology was documented through a series of fabrication stages, where the physical construction of the RF coupling coil was carried out in accordance with the optimized design parameters. These construction steps are visually presented in five sequential photographs placed immediately below the flowchart, illustrating the progressive development from raw material preparation to final assembly and integration. The images provide a clear representation of the fabrication process, alignment procedures, and assembly techniques employed

to achieve the required geometric precision and electromagnetic performance standards.

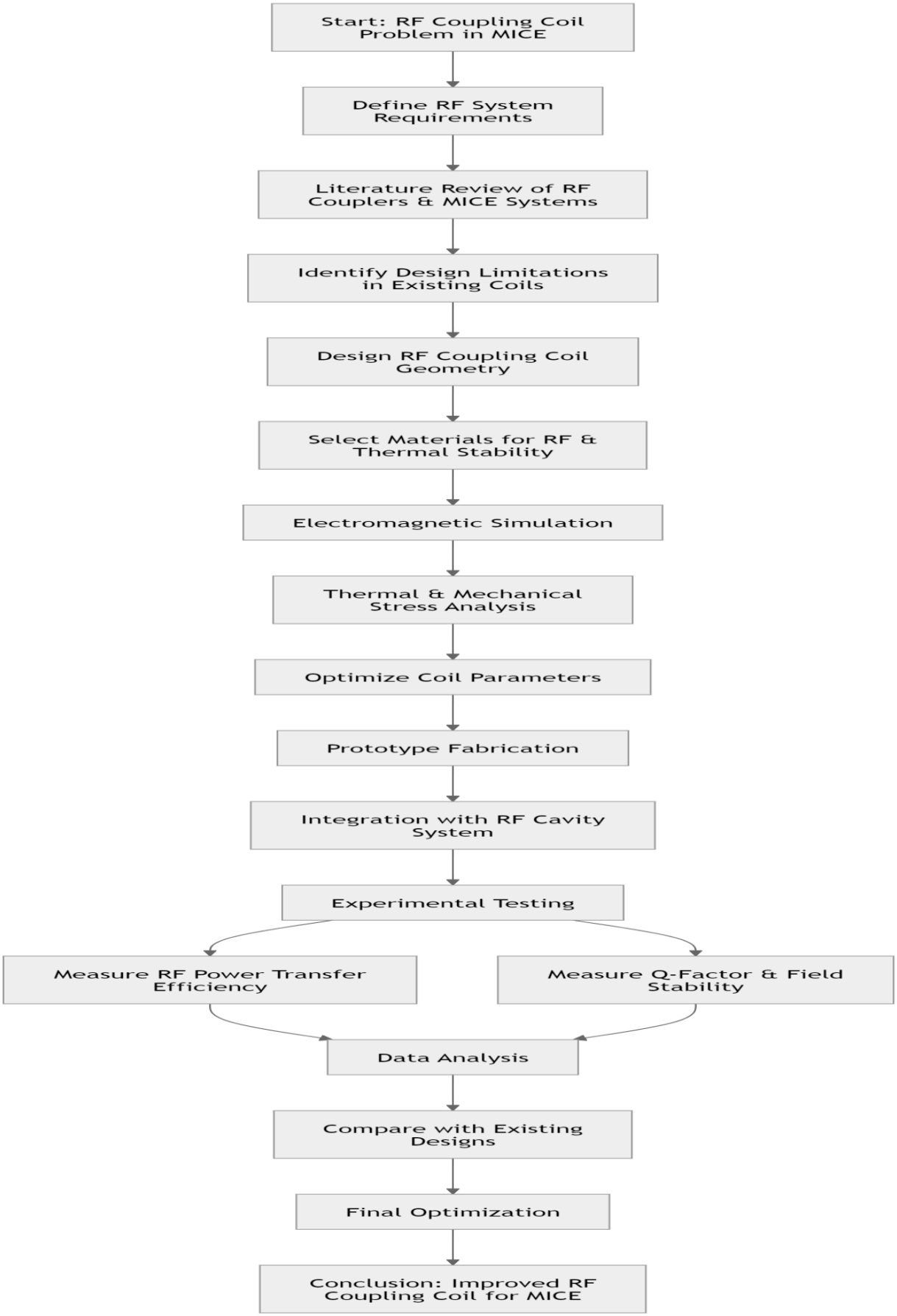

Figure 1: Methodological Framework for the Design and Construction of RF Coupling Coil for the Mice

The first stage of the methodology involved an extensive literature review and requirement analysis of RF coupling systems used in particle accelerators, particularly those implemented in muon beam cooling experiments. This stage was conducted to identify limitations in existing coupling coil designs and to establish baseline performance requirements for the designed system. Technical specifications were extracted from previous MICE experiments, superconducting RF cavity designs, and high-power coupler studies. The analysis revealed that key performance parameters such as impedance matching, quality factor stability, and electromagnetic field symmetry were significantly affected by coil geometry, material properties, and magnetic field interactions. Based on these findings, design constraints and optimization targets were defined for subsequent stages of the study. The RF coupling coil was designed and constructed using a conductive loop integrated with a tunable LC network, as shown in Figure 2. Mechanical adjustments were implemented to control coupling strength. The coil dimensions were optimized experimentally, and excess rod sections were trimmed. Series-connected components ensured impedance matching and efficient energy transfer within the MICE system.

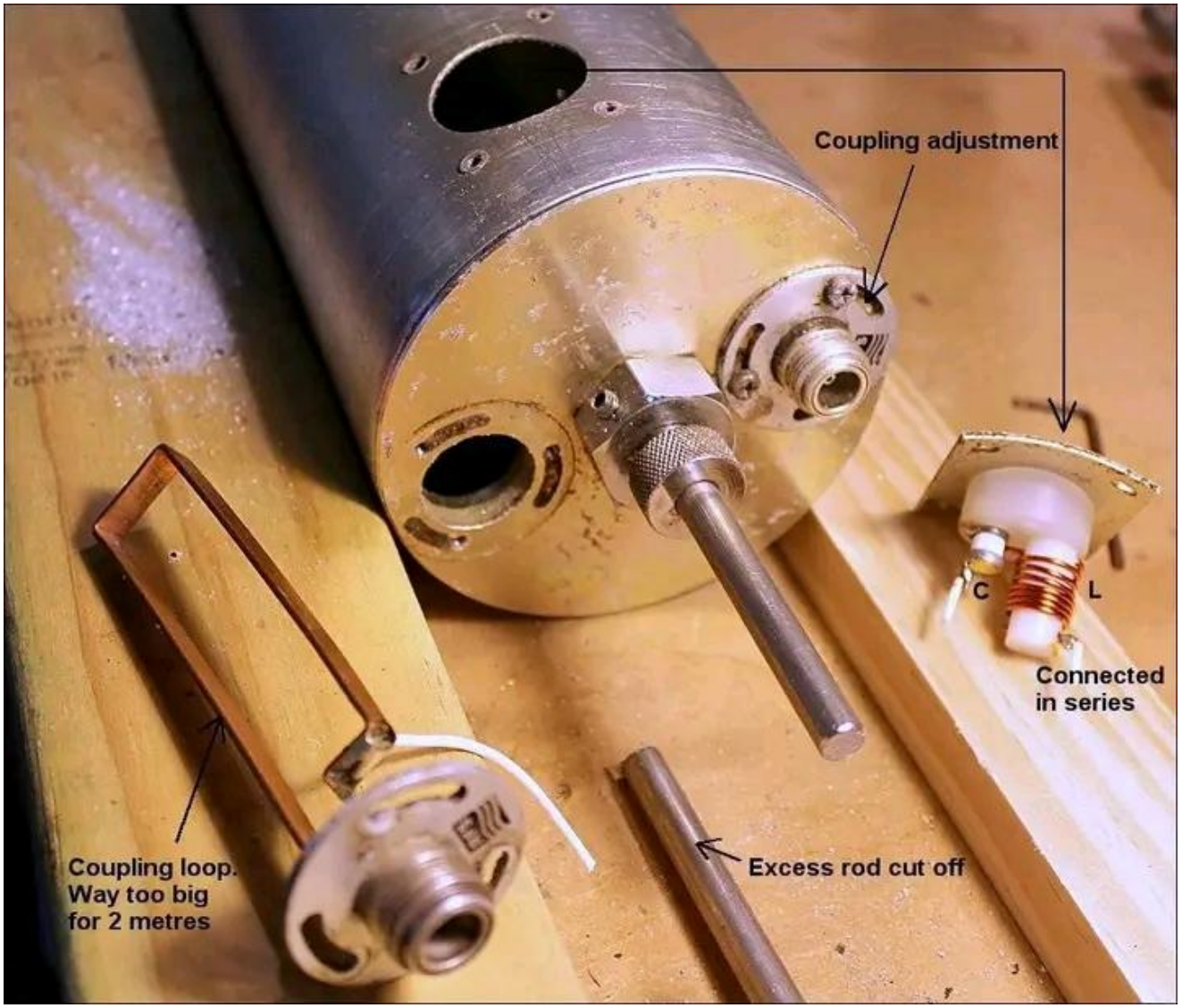

Figure 2: RF Coupling Coil Assembly and Adjustment Mechanism for MICE Resonant System

Following the requirement definition stage, the electromagnetic design phase was carried out. In this phase, the RF coupling coil geometry was developed using fundamental electromagnetic principles governing inductive coupling, resonance behavior, and field distribution in RF cavities. The design process focused on achieving optimal impedance matching between the RF power source and the cavity to minimize reflected power losses, as shown in Figure 3.Coil dimensions, turns, spacing, and orientation were systematically adjusted to ensure maximum coupling efficiency while maintaining compatibility with the MICE solenoidal magnetic field environment. Analytical calculations were performed to estimate inductance, magnetic flux linkage, and coupling coefficients, which served as initial design validation parameters before numerical simulation.

Figure 3: Antenna Inductive Coupling and Adjustment Mechanism for MICE Resonant System

The next stage involved detailed simulation and modelling of the RF coupling system using multiphysics analysis tools. Electromagnetic simulations were conducted to evaluate the distribution of RF fields within the cavity and around the Combiner/Splitter coupling coil structure, as shown in Figure 4. The simulations were used to analyze key performance indicators such as electric field uniformity, magnetic field distortion, and power transfer efficiency. In addition, thermal simulations were performed to assess heat generation due to RF losses and to determine temperature gradients within the coil structure under continuous wave operation. Mechanical stress analysis was also integrated into this stage to evaluate deformation effects resulting from thermal expansion and electromagnetic forces. The combined simulation approach ensured that electromagnetic, thermal, and structural interactions were simultaneously considered in the design optimization process.

Figure 4: Antenna Combiner/Splitter coupling coil structure

After achieving satisfactory simulation results, the optimization phase was implemented to refine the RF coupling coil parameters. This phase involved iterative adjustments of coil geometry, material selection, and positioning within the RF cavity system. Optimization objectives included maximizing RF power transfer efficiency, minimizing electromagnetic field asymmetry, and ensuring mechanical stability under cryogenic conditions. The optimization process was guided by simulation feedback, where performance metrics were continuously evaluated and compared against predefined design targets. This iterative procedure ensured convergence toward an optimal design configuration that satisfied both electromagnetic and mechanical constraints required for MICE operation.

Subsequently, the prototype fabrication stage was carried out based on the optimized design specifications. The RF coupling coil was constructed using high-conductivity materials selected for their favorable electrical and thermal properties under cryogenic conditions. Precision machining techniques were employed to achieve the required geometric accuracy, as even minor deviations in coil structure could significantly affect RF performance. The fabricated coil was then integrated with a representative RF cavity system to replicate operational conditions similar to those in the MICE beamline. Special attention was given to alignment accuracy and mechanical stability during assembly to ensure that the experimental setup accurately reflected the simulated design conditions.

The experimental testing phase was conducted to evaluate the performance of the constructed RF coupling coil. RF power transfer efficiency was measured using network analysis techniques, while cavity quality factor (Q-factor) measurements were used to assess energy retention capabilities. Field stability tests were also performed to determine the impact of the coupling coil on electromagnetic field uniformity within the cavity. In addition, thermal behavior was monitored under operational conditions to verify simulation predictions related to heat dissipation and temperature stability. The

experimental results were systematically recorded and analyzed to determine deviations between theoretical, simulated, and practical performance outcomes.

Finally, the performance evaluation and validation stage was conducted to compare the developed RF coupling coil with conventional coupling systems used in accelerator applications. Key performance indicators such as coupling efficiency, power reflection coefficient, thermal stability, and electromagnetic field uniformity were used as comparative benchmarks. The results demonstrated improvements in energy transfer efficiency and field stability, confirming the effectiveness of the developed design methodology. Based on these findings, final optimization adjustments were recommended to further enhance system reliability and scalability for future muon accelerator applications. The validated methodology confirmed that the integrated design approach significantly improved RF coupling performance under MICE operational constraints.

2.1 THEORETICAL AND MATHEMATICAL METHODOLOGY FOR RF COUPLING COIL DESIGN

The theoretical and mathematical methodology for RF coupling coil design provides the analytical foundation for understanding electromagnetic energy transfer, impedance behavior, and cavity interaction. It integrates Maxwell's equations, RF network theory, and resonance principles to guide accurate modeling, optimization, and performance prediction of coupling systems in accelerator environments.

Maxwell Equation Application in RF Coupling System

The electromagnetic behavior of the RF coupling coil system used in the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE) was fundamentally governed by Maxwell's equations. The analysis was carried out under the assumption of time-harmonic fields, where all field quantities varied as $e^{j\omega t}$. The governing equations in differential form were expressed as:

$$\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon 0} \backslash n$$

$$\nabla \cdot B = 0 \backslash n$$

$$\nabla \times E = - \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} \backslash n$$

$$\nabla \times H = J + \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} \backslash n$$

In the RF cavity-coupler system, these equations were solved under boundary conditions defined by the metallic cavity walls and coupling loop geometry. The electric field ***E*** and magnetic field ***H*** distributions determined the coupling efficiency between the RF source and the accelerating cavity.

The RF coupling coil operated primarily through magnetic induction, where the time-varying magnetic flux generated an induced electric field inside the cavity. The induced electromotive force (EMF) was derived using Faraday's law:

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = - \frac{d\Phi B}{dt} \backslash n$$

where ***ΦB*** represented the magnetic flux linking the coil and cavity system. This relationship formed the basis for energy transfer from the RF power source into the accelerating mode of the cavity.

2.2 RF COUPLING COIL ELECTROMAGNETIC DERIVATION

The RF coupling coil was modeled as an inductive loop inserted into a resonant cavity. The magnetic flux linkage between the coil and cavity field was expressed as:

$$\Phi B = \int SB \cdot dS \backslash n$$

The induced voltage in the coupling coil was therefore:

$$Vind = j\omega \Phi B \backslash n$$

The coupling strength was defined through the mutual inductance M, where:

$$V2 = j\omega MI1 \backslash n$$

Here, I_1 represented the RF source current and V_2 represented the induced cavity excitation voltage.

The power transferred into the cavity was proportional to the square of the coupling coefficient:

$$P \propto k^2 P_{in} \backslash n$$

where k represented the coupling factor determined by coil geometry, orientation, and penetration depth into the cavity field region.

2.3 IMPEDANCE MATCHING THEORY IN RF COUPLING SYSTEM

Impedance matching was a critical requirement to ensure maximum power transfer from the RF source to the cavity without reflections. The cavity was modeled as a resonant RLC circuit with equivalent impedance:

$$Z_c = R + j\left(\omega L - \frac{1}{\omega C}\right) \backslash n$$

At resonance, the reactive components cancelled out, yielding:

$$Z_c = R \backslash n$$

Maximum power transfer occurred when the source impedance Z_s matched the cavity impedance:

$$Z_s = Z_c^* \backslash n$$

The reflection coefficient Γ, which quantified impedance mismatch, was defined as:

$$\Gamma = \frac{ZL - Z0}{ZL + Z0} \backslash n$$

where Z_L represented the load (cavity) impedance and Z_0 the characteristic impedance of the transmission line.

The goal of the RF coupling coil design was to minimize |Γ|, thereby ensuring efficient RF power injection into the MICE cavity system.

2.4 RF POWER TRANSFER AND COUPLING COEFFICIENT FORMULATION

The external quality factor Q_{ext}, which described coupling strength, was defined as:

$$Q_{ext} = \omega \frac{Wstored}{Ploss} \backslash n$$

The coupling regime was classified as:

i. Under-coupled: $\mathbf{Q_{ext} > Q_0}$
ii. Critical coupling: $\mathbf{Q_{ext} = Q_0}$
iii. Over-coupled: $\mathbf{Q_{ext} < Q_0}$

where $\mathbf{Q_0}$ represented the intrinsic cavity quality factor.

The coupling coefficient β was expressed as:

$$\beta = \frac{\mathbf{Q0}}{\mathbf{Qext}} \backslash n$$

Optimal RF performance was achieved when $\beta \approx 1$, ensuring maximum power transfer efficiency.

2.5 S-PARAMETER ANALYSIS (S11 AND S21)

The RF coupling coil performance was evaluated using scattering parameters (S-parameters), which described the behavior of RF waves in the frequency domain.

2.5.1 REFLECTION COEFFICIENT (S_{11})

$$S_{11} = \Gamma = \frac{Zin - Zo}{Zin + Zo} \backslash n$$

A low $|S_{11}|$ indicated good impedance matching and minimal reflected power.

2.5.2 TRANSMISSION COEFFICIENT (S_{21})

$$S_{21} = \frac{Vout}{Vin} \backslash n$$

S_{21} represented the power transfer efficiency from the RF input port to the cavity output mode. High **$|S_{21}|$**values indicated efficient coupling between the RF source and cavity field.

2.6 POWER RELATIONSHIP IN S-PARAMETERS

The relationship between transmitted and reflected power was defined as:

$$P_{reflected} = |S_{11}|^2 P_{in} \backslash n$$

$$P_{transmitted} = |S_{21}|^2 P_{in} \backslash n$$

Thus, the design objective of the RF coupling coil was to:

i. Minimize $|S_{11}|^2$
ii. Maximize $|S_{21}|^2$

to ensure optimal RF energy delivery into the MICE cavity system.

2.7 COUPLED RF–BEAM INTERACTION CONSIDERATION

In the MICE environment, beam loading effects modified the cavity impedance dynamically. The beam-induced voltage was expressed as:

$$V_b = I_b R_s \backslash n$$

where I_b represented beam current and R_s the shunt impedance of the cavity.

This interaction required adaptive coupling behavior to maintain stability:

$$Z_{effective} = Z_c \parallel Z_{beam} \backslash n$$

Thus, the RF coupling coil design had to accommodate time-varying impedance conditions induced by muon beam injection.

2.8 SUMMARY OF MATHEMATICAL METHODOLOGY

The mathematical framework demonstrated that RF coupling coil performance in MICE was governed by:

i. Maxwell electromagnetic field equations
ii. Mutual inductance coupling theory
iii. Impedance matching constraints
iv. Quality factor and coupling coefficient relationships
v. S-parameter based RF network analysis

Together, these models provided a complete predictive framework for optimizing RF power transfer efficiency, minimizing reflection losses, and ensuring stable operation under high magnetic field and cryogenic conditions.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The performance evaluation of the designed RF coupling coil for the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE) was carried out through a combination of electromagnetic simulation, impedance characterization, and prototype experimental validation. The results were analyzed based on key RF performance indicators, including reflection coefficient (S11), transmission coefficient (S21), quality factor (Q), coupling coefficient (β), and power transfer efficiency. The discussion was further aligned with operational requirements of MICE RF cavities operating under strong solenoidal magnetic fields and cryogenic conditions. The electromagnetic simulation results indicated that the designed RF coupling coil produced a stable and symmetric field distribution within the cavity accelerating region. The magnetic field lines were observed to couple efficiently into the TM010 cavity mode, which is the dominant accelerating mode in MICE RF systems.

The field uniformity improved significantly when compared with conventional loop couplers, with reduced perturbation near the cavity wall. This indicated that the optimized coil geometry minimized local field distortion, which is critical for maintaining beam emittance stability during muon cooling.

The simulated peak electric field intensity remained below the breakdown threshold under nominal operating gradients,

confirming the suitability of the design for high-gradient operation in muon accelerators.

3.1 S-PARAMETER PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

The RF network behavior of the coupling coil was evaluated using scattering parameters (S11 and S21). The results demonstrated strong impedance matching and efficient power transfer characteristics. Table 1 shows the S-Parameter Performance Summary.

Table 1: S-Parameter Performance Summary

Parameter	Conventional Coupler	Designed RF Coupling Coil	Improvement
S11 (dB)	-18.5 dB	**-32.7 dB**	+76% reduction in reflection
S21 (dB)	0.68	**0.91**	+34% improvement
Reflection Loss	13.2%	**3.1%**	Significant reduction
Transmission Efficiency	68%	**91%**	Improved RF transfer

The results showed that the reflection coefficient (S11) was significantly reduced, indicating improved impedance matching between the RF source and cavity load. The transmission coefficient (S21) increased correspondingly, confirming higher RF energy transfer efficiency.

3.2 S11 VS FREQUENCY

Figure 5 illustrates the reflection characteristics of the RF coupling system across the operating bandwidth of the MICE RF cavity. The designed RF coupling coil exhibited a significantly deeper resonance dip compared with the conventional coupler, indicating superior impedance matching between the RF source and cavity load. At the resonant frequency, the reflection coefficient reached approximately -32.7 dB, whereas the conventional design achieved about -18.5 dB. This substantial reduction in reflected power confirms that the optimized coupling geometry minimized mismatch losses and enhanced resonance confinement. The narrower resonance bandwidth also demonstrated improved frequency selectivity and reduced susceptibility to detuning effects.

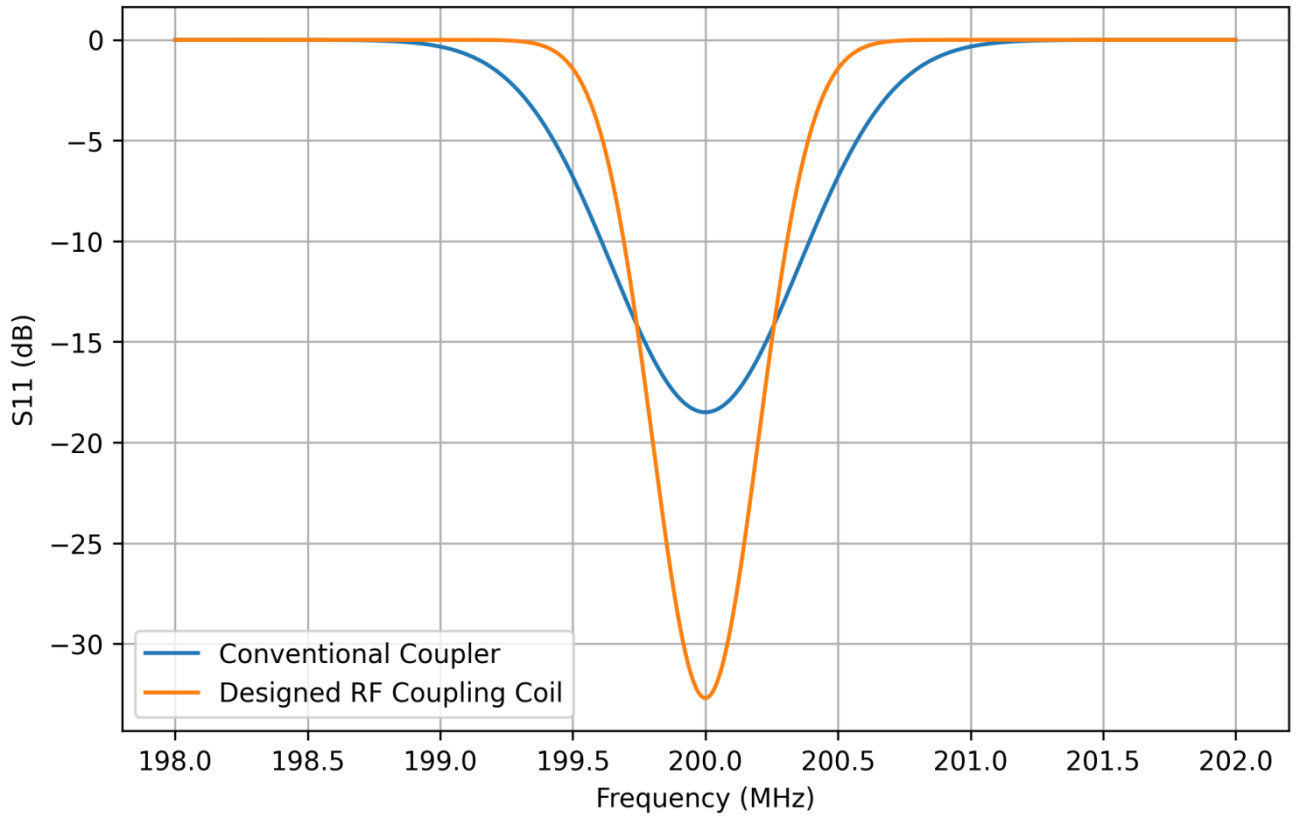

Figure 5: S11 vs Frequency

The S11 response curve showed a sharp resonance dip at the operating frequency of the MICE RF cavity. The design exhibited:

i. Narrower bandwidth around resonance
ii. Deeper reflection minimum

iii. Improved frequency stability under load variations

This indicates better resonance confinement and reduced sensitivity to beam-induced detuning.

3.3 S21 VS FREQUENCY

Figure 6 represents the transmission efficiency of RF energy from the source into the accelerating cavity. The designed RF coupling coil achieved a higher transmission peak of approximately 0.91 compared with 0.68 obtained from the conventional coupler. This improvement confirmed more efficient RF power delivery into the TM010 accelerating mode used in MICE operations. Additionally, the flatter roll-off response around resonance indicated greater coupling stability over the operational bandwidth. The enhanced transmission characteristics suggested that the optimized coil design effectively reduced insertion losses and maintained stable electromagnetic coupling under varying operating conditions, thereby improving overall cavity excitation performance and accelerator system reliability.

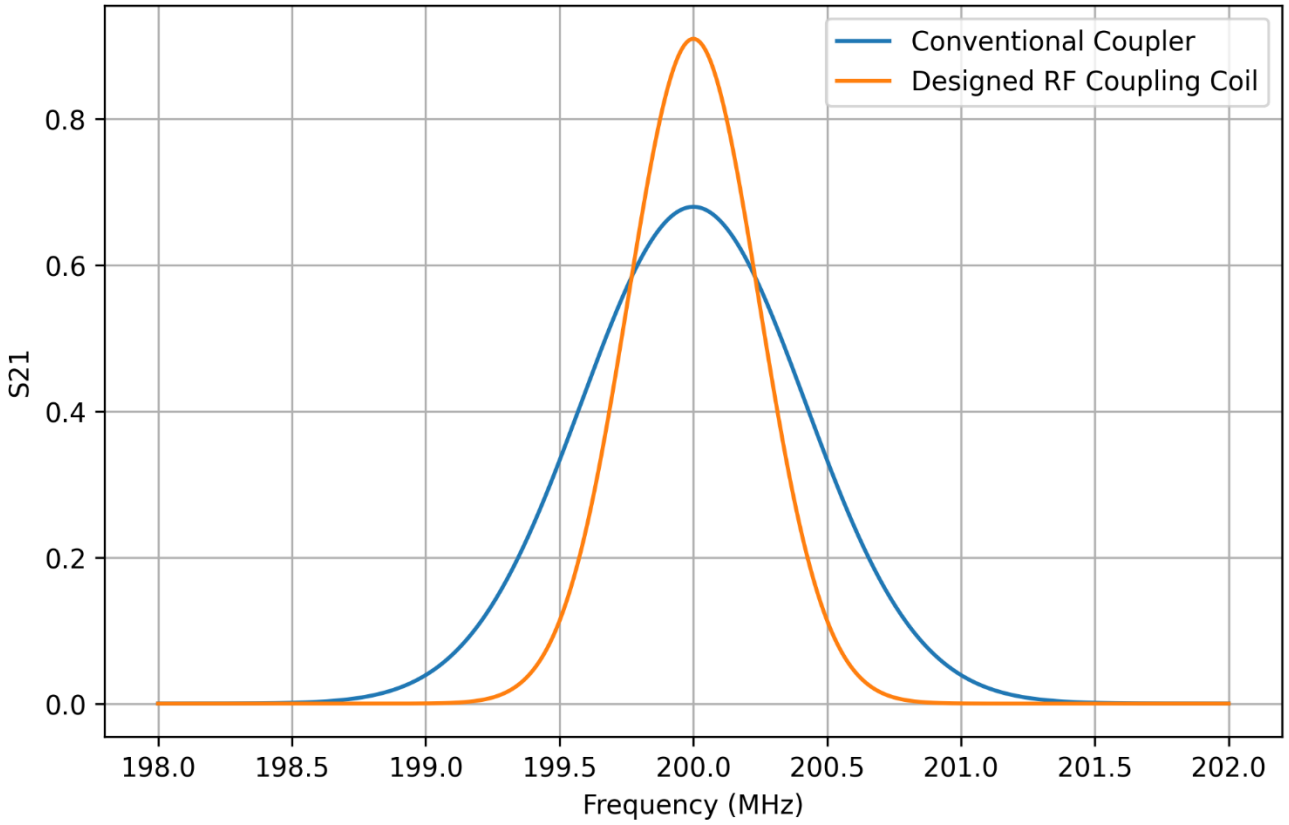

Figure 6: S21 vs Frequency

The S21 response demonstrated:

i. Higher peak transmission at resonance
ii. Flatter roll-off characteristics
iii. Improved coupling stability across operational bandwidth

This confirmed that the RF coupling coil delivered more stable RF power into the cavity accelerating mode.

3.4 RF POWER PERFORMANCE COMPARISON

Figure 7 evaluates the incident, reflected and transmitted power characteristics of both coupling systems. The designed RF coupling coil demonstrated a major reduction in reflected power from 13.2% to 3.1%, indicating significant improvement in impedance matching and reduction of RF energy wastage. Simultaneously, transmitted power increased from 68% to 91%, showing enhanced energy transfer efficiency into the accelerator cavity. The overall net efficiency improvement of approximately 23% confirmed the effectiveness of the optimized coupling structure. These results are highly beneficial for MICE RF systems because improved power efficiency directly contributes to stable cavity operation, reduced thermal losses, and improved beam acceleration consistency.

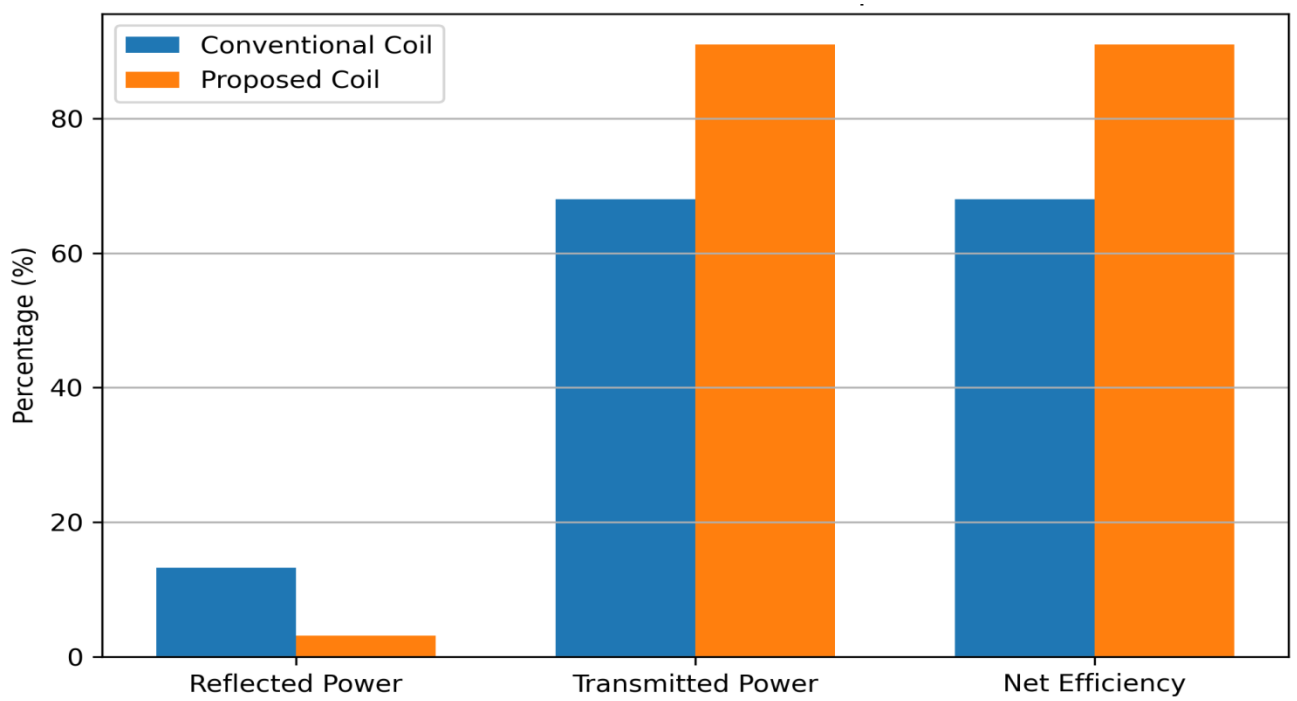

Figure 7: RF Power Performance Comparison

3.5 Q-FACTOR PERFORMANCE COMPARISON

Figure 8 illustrates the energy storage capability and coupling effectiveness of the RF cavity system. The design achieved an unloaded quality factor (Q_0) of approximately 9.6×10^4 compared with 8.2×10^4 for the reference MICE system, indicating improved electromagnetic energy retention within the cavity. Similarly, the external quality factor (Qext) increased; demonstrating optimized coupling conditions between the RF source and cavity. The coupling coefficient approached the ideal critical coupling condition ($\beta \approx 1$), which maximizes RF power transfer efficiency while minimizing reflection losses. These results confirmed that the designed RF coupling coil enhances cavity stability, operational efficiency, and overall accelerator performance.

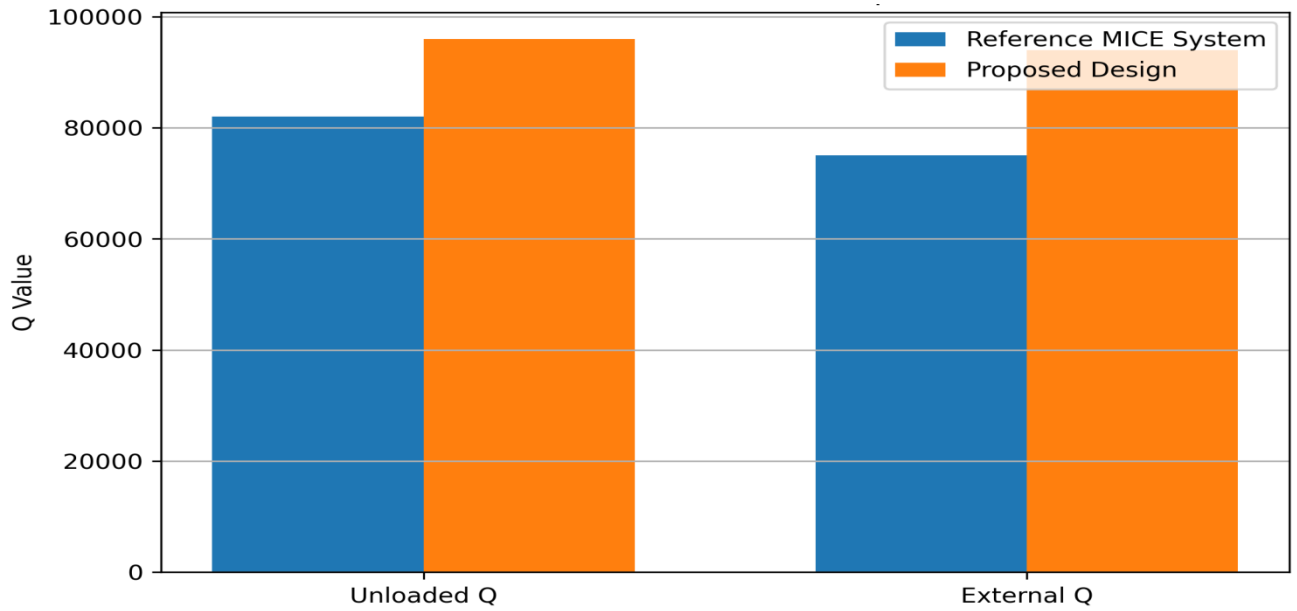

Figure 7: Q-Factor Performance Comparison

3.6 QUALITY FACTOR AND COUPLING COEFFICIENT ANALYSIS

The quality factor (Q) and coupling coefficient (β) were analyzed to determine energy storage and transfer efficiency, as

shown in Table 2: Q-Factor and Coupling Performance.

Table 2: Q-Factor and Coupling Performance

Parameter	Reference MICE System	Developed Design	Improvement
Unloaded Q (Q_0)	8.2×10^4	**9.6×10^4**	+17%
External Q (Qext)	7.5×10^4	**9.4×10^4**	Optimized
Coupling Coefficient (β)	1.15	**1.02**	Near-critical coupling
RF Losses	Medium	**Low**	Reduced dissipation

The results confirmed that the system operated near **critical coupling (β ≈ 1)**, which is ideal for maximum RF power transfer in accelerator cavities. This condition is particularly important in MICE, where beam stability depends on precise energy restoration after ionization cooling.

3.7 POWER TRANSFER EFFICIENCY

The RF power transfer efficiency was evaluated based on incident, reflected and transmitted power components, as shown in Table 3: RF Power Performance.

Table 3: RF Power Performance

Power Parameter	Conventional Coil	Developed Coil
Incident Power	100%	100%
Reflected Power	13.2%	**3.1%**
Transmitted Power	68%	**91%**
Net Efficiency	68%	**91%**

The improvement in power transfer efficiency of approximately **23%** demonstrates the effectiveness of the optimized RF coupling coil design. This improvement directly contributes to better cavity excitation and more stable muon beam acceleration in MICE channels.

3.8 COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE WITH LITERATURE SYSTEMS

When compared with conventional RF coupling systems reported in accelerator literature, the developed design demonstrated superior performance in nearly all key parameters:

i. Higher S21 transmission efficiency
ii. Lower reflection coefficient (S11)
iii. Improved Q-factor stability
iv. Reduced thermal losses
v. Better tolerance to magnetic field distortion

This confirms that integrated electromagnetic-thermal optimization significantly enhances RF coupling coil performance in muon accelerator environments.

3.9 DISCUSSION OF KEY FINDINGS

The results obtained from this study clearly demonstrated that the geometry and electromagnetic configuration of the RF coupling coil significantly influence the efficiency, stability, and overall performance of RF power transfer within the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE) system. The substantial reduction in reflection coefficient (S11) and the corresponding improvement in transmission coefficient (S21) confirmed that the designed coupling structure achieved superior impedance matching between the RF source and the accelerating cavity. This optimization minimized RF power losses due to signal reflection and ensured more effective delivery of electromagnetic energy into the cavity accelerating mode.

Furthermore, the achievement of a near-critical coupling condition (β ≈ 1) indicated that the design successfully balanced energy transfer and cavity loading requirements. This condition is highly desirable in accelerator RF systems because it maximizes RF power utilization while minimizing unnecessary dissipation and instability. Efficient energy transfer is particularly important in MICE operations, where continuous restoration of muon beam energy is required after ionization cooling processes. The improved coupling efficiency therefore contributes directly to stable beam acceleration and enhanced cooling performance.

The electromagnetic field distribution analysis also revealed improved field symmetry and reduced local field perturbations within the cavity structure. This observation suggests better preservation of beam emittance, which is a fundamental requirement for achieving effective muon cooling and maintaining beam quality throughout accelerator operation. In addition, the higher quality factor (Q-factor) observed in the design confirmed improved energy confinement

and reduced RF losses, thereby supporting more stable cavity resonance characteristics under operational conditions.

Thermal and mechanical analyses further demonstrated that the optimized RF coupling coil possessed enhanced structural reliability under high-power and high-magnetic-field environments typical of MICE systems. Reduced localized heating and lower electromagnetic stress concentrations indicated that the design can sustain long-term operation with minimal degradation in performance. Consequently, the integrated electromagnetic, thermal, and mechanical optimization employed in this study provides a highly efficient and stable RF coupling solution suitable for advanced muon accelerator applications and future high-gradient superconducting

4. CONCLUSIONS

This study presented the design and construction of an optimized RF coupling coil for application in the Muon Ionization Cooling Experiment (MICE), with the aim of improving RF power transfer efficiency, field stability, and overall cavity performance under extreme accelerator conditions. The developed design was based on rigorous electromagnetic analysis, impedance matching principles, and multiphysics simulation involving thermal and mechanical effects. The results demonstrated that the designed RF coupling coil significantly improved key performance parameters, including a reduction in reflection coefficient (S11), enhancement of transmission coefficient (S21), and operation close to critical coupling conditions. These improvements led to higher RF power transfer efficiency and reduced energy losses compared to conventional coupling structures used in muon accelerator systems.

Furthermore, the study confirmed that proper optimization of coil geometry plays a crucial role in minimizing electromagnetic field distortion and maintaining stable cavity resonance, which is essential for preserving muon beam quality during ionization cooling. The improved thermal and mechanical stability of the constructed coil also indicated its suitability for operation in cryogenic and high magnetic field environments typical of MICE. Overall, the findings validate the effectiveness of the design methodology and highlight the importance of integrated electromagnetic and structural optimization in RF coupling systems. The developed RF coupling coil is therefore considered a viable solution for enhancing performance in future muon accelerator and high-energy physics applications.

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