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Standard Test Method for Lamination Factor of Magnetic Materials¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers measurement of the lamination factor (Note 1) of a specimen composed of strips cut from magnetic material.

Note 1—Lamination factor is also termed space factor or stacking factor.

- 1.2 This test method shall be used in conjunction with Practice A34/A34M.
- 1.3 The values and equations stated in customary (cgs-emu and inch-pound) or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within this test method, SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with this test method.
- 1.4 This standard does not purport to address the safety concerns associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

A34/A34M Practice for Sampling and Procurement Testing of Magnetic Materials

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 The laminated test specimen is subjected to pressure in a compression device and the resulting volume is then determined from the measured specimen height, width, and length. An equivalent solid volume is calculated from the specimen mass and the true density of the specimen material. The ratio of

 $^{\rm 1}$ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A06 on Magnetic Properties and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A06.01 on Test Methods.

the calculated (equivalent solid) volume to the measured volume is the lamination factor.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Lamination factor, *S*, indicates the deficiency of effective steel volume which is due to the presence of oxides, roughness, insulating coatings, and other conditions affecting the steel surface.

5. Apparatus

- 5.1 *Testing Machine*—A compression testing machine or other compression device capable of exerting the specified pressure.
- 5.2 Metal Plates—Two flat, smooth, rigid metal plates with square edges and ends are required. They shall be of sufficient stiffness to distribute the pressure uniformly over the surface of the sample. Each plate shall be 8.46 in. [215 mm] long and have a minimum width of 1.97 in. [50 mm] so that the area of strips under pressure when testing 1.18-in. [30-mm] wide specimens will be 10 in.² [6450 mm²].
- 5.2.1 Extensions can be added to the plates to allow the use of micrometers or outside calipers instead of inside calipers for determining plate separation. Precautions must be taken to ensure that, within the limits of accuracy of the measurements, no significant deflection of these extensions result from the test pressure.
- 5.3 *Length-Measuring Tools*—Calipers or other devices of adequate accuracy for measurement of plate separation.

6. Sampling

- 6.1 Test strips shall be selected as representative of the surface condition. Core loss test specimens (Epstein test specimens) are normally used for this purpose.
- 6.2 In routine testing, where the core loss specimens are too small to conform to the number of strips requirement of Table 1, sufficient specimens may be combined to provide an adequate test specimen. The combined specimens must be of the same thickness and material, have similar surfaces, and be representative of the surface condition of the test lot.
- 6.3 When a referee test becomes necessary, the test specimen must be composed of strips taken from one lot of steel. It must be representative of the surface condition, thickness, and

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.