

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The Crone Pulse EM system is a time domain electromagnetic method (TDEM) that utilizes an alternating pulsed primary current with a controlled shut-off and measures the rate of decay of the induced secondary field across a series of time windows during the off-time. The system uses a transmit loop of any size or shape. A portable power source feeds a transmitter which provides a precise current waveform through the loop. The receiver apparatus is moved along surface lines or down boreholes.

The transmitter cycle consists of slowly increasing the current over a few milliseconds, a constant current, abrupt linear termination of the current, and finally zero current for a selected length of time in milliseconds. The EMF created by the shutting-off of the current induces eddy currents in nearby conductive material thus setting-up a secondary magnetic field. When the primary field is terminated, this magnetic field will decay with time. The amplitude of the secondary field and the decay rate are dependent on the quality and size of the conductor. The receiver, which is synchronized to the off-time of the transmitter, measures this transient magnetic field where it cuts the surface coil or borehole probe. These readings are across fixed time windows or "channels".

SYSTEM TERMINOLOGY

Ramp Time

"Ramp time" refers to the controlled shut-off of the transmitter current. Three ramp times are selectable by the operator; 0.5ms, 1.0ms, and 1.5ms. By controlling the shut-off rather than having it depend on the loop size and current ensures that the same waveform is maintained for different loops so data can be properly compared.

The 1.5ms ramp is the normally used setting for good conductors. It keeps the early channel responses on scale and decreases the chance of overload. The faster ramp times of 1.0ms and 0.5ms will enhance the early time responses. This can be useful for weak conductors when data from the higher end of the frequency spectrum is desired.

Time Base

Time base is the length of time the transmitter current is off (it includes the ramp time). This also equals the on time of the current. Eight time bases are selectable by the operator. They include the original time bases used in the analog system as well as time bases to eliminate the effects of powerline interference. The eight time bases are as follows: compatible to analog Rx: 10.89ms, 21.79ms; 60hz powerline noise reduction: 8.33ms, 16.66ms, & 33.33ms; 50hz powerline noise reduction: 10.00ms, 20.00ms, 50.00ms and 150ms.

Since readings are taken during the off cycles, the time base will have an effect on the receiver channels. Normally, a standard time base is selected for the type of system and survey being used, but this can be changed to suit a particular situation. A longer time base is preferred for conductors of greater time constants, and in surveys such as resistive soundings where more channels are desired.

Zero Time Set

The term "zero time set" or "ZTS" refers to the starting point for the receiver channel measurements. It is manually set on the receiver by the operator thus allowing adjustments for the ramp times and fine tuning for any fluctuations in the transmitter signal.

Receiver Channels

The rate of decay of the secondary field is measured across fixed time windows which occupy most of the off-time of the transmitter. These time windows are referred to as "channels". These channels are numbered in sequence with "1" being the earliest. The analog and datalogger receivers measured eight fixed channels. The digital receiver, being under software control, offers more flexibility in the channel positioning, channel width, and number of channels.

PP Channel

The PEM system monitors the primary field by taking a measurement during the current ramp and storing this information in a "PP channel". This means that data can be presented in either normalized or unnormalized formats, and additional information is available during interpretation. The PP channel data can provide useful diagnostic information and helps avoid critical errors in field polarity.

Synchronization

Since the PEM system measures the secondary field in the absence of the primary field, the receiver must be in