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Dynamic Processes of Electric Motors for Operating some Aircraft Equipment

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Abstract - In this paper are detailed some results obtained within a European program in the field of avionics. The objectives of the program and the implementation team are briefly presented. A number of technical details are provided regarding the electric motor used to steer an airplane's running gear: advantages, comparative densities between the motor used (HDD) and the competitive motors, cross-section of the used motor, winding scheme of the motor, motor scheme with partial short-circuit. The mathematical model of the motor is presented, Simulink scheme of a simulation program in case of using a voltage inverter and a series of simulations obtained with its help (MSMP supplied by a voltage inverter, transmission ratio 1000, inertia10000 Nm² and MSMP supplied by an inverter with prescribed currents, transmission ratio 1000, inertia 10000 Nm²). The paper concludes with the conclusions obtained by conducting the research. It is mentioned that the following notable results were obtained: decrease with 30% of the production and maintenance costs, decrease with 10% of the airship weight, carrying out a drive with a probability to lose the functionality.

Cuvinte cheie: *avionica, motor electric, model matematic, program Simulink, simulări.*

Keywords: *airplane, electric motor, mathematic model, Simulink program, simulations.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The problems developed in this paper are of great practical interest. They refer to the electrical operation of various systems in the equipment of aircraft [1], [2], [3], [4], [5].

A team from the University of Craiova, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, was part of the European project team STREP (Specific Target REsearch Project) DRESS -Distributed and Redundant Electro-mechanical nose wheel Steering System, no. 030841, team coordinated by Prof. eng. PhD Sergiu Ivanov [6].

This project was financed by the European Commission by the financing program PC6.

The project had thirteen partners; their surveys are presented in the following table [7].

The objectives of DRESS consisted in:

- study and validation of a redundant electromechanical actuator;

- study and validation of a control system based on a distributed architecture.

A special attention was paid to the shimmy phenomenon (new systems of oscillations damping by using an electromechanical system).

TABLE I. Project participants

No.	Participant name	Coun try	Tasks		
			Management		
1	MESSIER-	ED	Specifications & assessments		
	BUGATTI	FR	System architecture design		
			Technology education		
- Saab			Actuator design, integration &		
2	Avionics	8	validation		
2	AIRBUS	1 117	Specification		
3	UK	UK	Final tests		
	MESSIER-	FR	Landing gear & test rig design		
4			Landing gear actuator integration &		
4	DOWTY		validation		
			Shimmy damping analysis		
5	INSA	FR	Research & optimum design of		
	Toulouse		actuator & complex test rig		
6	UC	р	Research & optimum design of power		
0	Louvaine	D	electronics		
7	University	RO	Research & optimum design of		
/	of Craiova		electric motors		
0	Universite	FR	Research & optimum design of		
0	Alsace		system control		
	Dudamast	Н	Research & optimum design of		
9	UTE		distributet architecture		
	UIL		Safety analysis		
10	TTTech	А	Manufacture of RDC & power		
10			electronics prototype		
11	Equip Aero	FR	Manufacture of mechanical parts for		
11			the prototype		
12	Stridsberg	S	Manufacture electrical motor		
12	PT		prototype		
13	Institut of	Ы	Manufacture of dummy nose landing		
15	aviation	11	gear test rig		

The electrical drive was preferred for the front alighting gear of the airships for replacing the classical variants, with a lot of drawbacks, variants consisting in an electrohydraulic drive with pinion - cremaillere or push-pull system (for large airships).

The implementation of the electromechanical technology for the front alighting gear has a series of advantages [8]:

- the decrease of the total weight of the airships and of the time necessary for standing and maintenance;

- the decrease of the production and maintenance costs;

- the traffic improvement and the safety increase during the ground operation, even in conditions of poor visibility, up to the limit of zero visibility;

- possibility to integrate in a completely automatic future system of ground guidance.

The simulations validation has been made by means of some tests on a prototype.

The test was carried out on a testing stand with a simplified alighting gear, connected to the control system, stand carried out in the project.

The research collective of the University of Craiova was involved in three work packages (WorkPackages):

WP 340 - Shimmy damping control;

WP420 - Electric motor / power card technology study and modelling;

WP430 - Thermal analysis and modelling.

The researches carried out by this collective have been used by the work package WP410 (Power architectures studies/Actuator sizing), which finished the architecture and dimensioned the electromechanical system, as well as by the package WP710 (Modelling evaluation), which integrated the models of all subsystems (automatic control, power electronics, motor, mechanical demultiplier, alighting gear, airplane) for the simulation of the whole system of the airplane.

For driving the electromechanical system we studied, owing to the high density of delivered power, there has been chosen the variant of permanent-magnet synchronous motor.

From the multitude of variants of such motors, taking into account the previous experience of two partners (SAAB AB and Stridsberg Powertrain AB), the option was the motor produced by Stridsberg Powertrain AB type HDDb09N [9].

This motor is a special type of permanent-magnet synchronous motor, with independent phases, characterized, according to its producer, by a four-six times higher power density over the classical synchronous motors (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Comparative densities between the motor used (HDD) and the competitive motors [2].

II. TECHNICAL DETAILS

From constructive point of view, the phase windings of the used motor does not coexist in the slots, so, on one hand, the phases are magnetically separated and, on the other hand, the solution redundance is improved (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. Cross-section of the used motor [2].

In addition, it is equiped with six half-phases which are physically and magnetically separated and which can be each supplied to a bridge one-phase inverter (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3. Winding scheme of the motor [1].

As we can note, the motor model is obtained by concatenating two machines without mutual inductances between phases, with an angular displacement of 180°.

Among possible damages of the motor, there has been analyzed the case of the partial shortcircuit of a few turns. In this case, the equivalent circuit is presented in the following figure.



Fig. 4. Motor scheme with partial shortcircuit [6].

III. MOTOR EQUATIONS

The machine equations in this case, according to [9], become:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} u_{a1} \\ u_{c2} \\ u_{b1} \\ u_{a2} \\ u_{c1} \\ u_{b2} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_{a1} \\ i_{c2} \\ i_{b1} \\ i_{a2} \\ i_{c1} \\ i_{b2} \\ i_{a12} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} \end{bmatrix} \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} i_{a1} \\ i_{c2} \\ i_{b1} \\ i_{a2} \\ i_{c1} \\ i_{b2} \\ i_{a12} \end{bmatrix} + (1) \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{4\pi}{3} \right) \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{4\pi}{3} \right) \\ -\sin \left(P\theta_m - \frac{5\pi}{3} \right) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{\Phi}_m \begin{bmatrix} K_{T11} \left(-\sin P\theta_m \right) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ K_{T12} \left(-\sin P\theta_m \right) \end{bmatrix} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

where:

$$[\mathbf{R}] = \begin{bmatrix} R_{s11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_s & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & R_s & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & R_s & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_s & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & R_{s12} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\mathbf{L}] = \begin{bmatrix} L_{s11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & M_{s12} \\ 0 & L_s & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & L_s & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & L_s & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_s & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_{s12} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(3)$$

The notations used are the classic ones used for supply voltages, currents through equivalent windings and motor parameters.

The electromagnetic torque expression is:

$$T_{em} = -K_T \left(i_{c2} \sin\left(P\Theta_m - \frac{\pi}{3}\right) + i_{b1} \sin\left(P\Theta_m - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) + i_{a2} \sin\left(P\Theta_m - \pi\right) + i_{c1} \sin\left(P\Theta_m - \frac{4\pi}{3}\right) + i_{b2} \sin\left(P\Theta_m - \frac{5\pi}{3}\right) \right) + K_{T11} \left(-i_{a1} \sin P\Theta_m\right) + K_{T12} \left(-i_{a12} \sin P\Theta_m\right).$$

$$(4)$$

As we can note, the motor can also be used as threephase machines without star connection of the phases, its supply being ensured by three one-phase inverters, bridge or star, supplied to a three-phase inverter.

IV. SIMULINK PROGRAMS

The Matlab-Simulink [10] programs carried out in the frame of this project enable the simulation of several combinations motor-controller.

For each combination, there can be simulated different damages which could occur in different operation conditions.

For example, there is presented the Matlab-Simulink block scheme of a program for simulating the operation of such a motor (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5. Simulink scheme of a simulation program in case of using a voltage inverter [8].

V. SIMULATIONS

By means of such a progam, there have been obtained a series of simulations; a few of them are presented below, figures 6 and 7.





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Fig. 6. MSMP supplied by a voltage inverter, transmission ratio 1000, inertia10000 Nm².





Fig. 7. MSMP supplied by an inverter with prescribed currents, transmission ratio 1000, inertia 10000 Nm².

These simulations were very useful finishing off the final variant, being obtained comparative results for a large variety of dimensions of motor, the optimum variant being chosen among them.

The project finality was a protype which was tested on the test stands of the project coordinator Messier-Bugatti [9].

VI. CONCLUSIONS

This paper presents some results obtained within a European project in which a team from the University of Craiova also took part.

Among the achievements of this program can be listed:

- decrease with 30% of the production and maintenance costs;

- decrease with 10% of the airship weight;

- carrying out a drive with a probability to lose the functionality.

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This paper was written as a tribute to Prof. eng. PhD Sergiu Ivanov.

Contribution of authors: First author -60%First coauthor -20%Second coauthor -20%.

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Harmonic Analysis of Electromagnetic Torque in Brushless Direct Current Motors

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Abstract - This study has aimed at establishing and analyzing the causes that produce oscillations of electromagnetic torque developed by brushless direct current motor. The study opportunity is given by the progresses obtained in command and power electronics, which made this motor performant from technical and economic viewpoint. The specialty literature reveals that important torque oscillations occur in this motor in a complete rotation. That is why, this study and the simulations presented here emphasize that there are five classes of slots relatively to the torque magnitude developed and the fact that all the slots are active, that meaning that the average torque developed occurs in the rotation direction. The harmonic analysis reveals that the torque distortion, within the five classes of slots, is variable between 51.03% and 97.63%. The torques computed for the slots classes are between the minimum limit of 0.029 Nm and the maximum one of 0.077 Nm. The low speed torque oscillations can be reduced with a high inertia moment, a speed reaction loop and a performant control system. The importance of the research theme is justified by what we have presented before and is a subject of major interest for engineering.

Cuvinte cheie: motor de curent continuu fara perii, design, cuplu electromagnetic, oscilatii de cuplu.

Keywords: brushless direct current motor, design, electromagnetic torque, torque oscillations.

I. IMPORTANCE OF DRIVING LIGHT VEHICLES WITH BRUSHLESS DIRECT CURRENT MOTORS

Electrical devices and installation supplied by local energy sources use permanent-magnet direct current motors, generally brushless motors. Such motors are also experienced in high-power drives: rolling mills, electrical cars and trucks [1-4].

These motors performances have increased by research, which has found new electro-technical materials and by developing the command and power electronics, which increased the conversion of the battery energy.

Brushless direct current motors are generally used for driving light vehicles: electrical bicycle, Fig. 1.a, [5], electrical motor scooter, Fig. 1.b, [6], electrical tricycle, Fig. 1.c, [7], trolleys for disabled, Fig. 1.d, [8].

In case of these vehicles (bicycle/motor scooter/tricycle/electrical trolley), the constructive solution adopted is closed, IP 44, and the motor is placed even in the wheel hub.

The constructive solution is with inner stator, made of steel sheets, with slots, where the winding is placed. The

rotor is an outer one, made of steel, shaped as a cylinder, and there are inner permanent magnets, stuck, shaped as a parallelepiped.



Fig. 1. Electrically driven light vehicles for people transport: a) bicycle; b) motor scooter c) tricycle d) trolley for disabled people.

In order to have high operation performances, rareearth based permanent magnets are used, [9-13]. Load operation means motor heating, because of the losses occurring inside the machine.

High currents and temperatures contribute to demagnetization. That is why, the drives that use brushless direct current motors and must be correctly designed.

The problem of the demagnetization caused by the load current is not considered because the current is permanently controlled and it is limited by the controller and the heating is verified by measuring the temperature.

This paper aims at identifying the causes which produce electromagnetic torque oscillations and at limiting these oscillations [14-18].

II. MODELLING AIR-GAP MAGNETIC FIELDS

The study is made with a brushless direct current motor having 2p=30 –number of poles, N_{cr}=27 –number of slots, Fig.2. The notations are as follows: β - command angle of the current in the phase *a*, α - geometrical angle of rotor displacement, γ -delay angle for the control of the current I_a . Case $\alpha = 0$, when the axis of the slot "1" passes through O. Thus, the following relations results:



Fig.2. Cross section through the motor.

If the slot opening is neglected, the armature can be considered as being smooth and, in these circumstances, the inductor magnetic field is modelled as a curvilinear trapeze on the entire magnet width. The field is zero on the distance between two successive magnets.

Based on these considerations, the air-gap magnitude has been modelled, Fig. 3, relatively to x [mm] coordinate or to α [°]. Thus, the air-gap magnetic induction curve has resulted relatively to the rotor position, Fig. 4:



Fig.4. Distribution curve of the air-gap magnetic induction on the entire machine.

On the stator there is a star-connection three-phase winding, no null wire and two series connected phases during the operation. The winding is made in double layer, with coils concentrated on teeth, being a basic constructive component, which condition machine energetic parameters and cost.

The alternating stator currents are trapezoidal shaped, the duration of one pulse being of 120 electrical degrees. For $\alpha = 0$ the armature ampere-turn curve has been computed and plotted, Fig. 5.a, considering the ampere-turn concentrated in the slot axis.

Because it is a much distorted quantity, the harmonic analysis of the curve has been made, Fig. 5.b, the distortion factor has been computed, k_{dis} =98.6%, and a big number of important harmonics has been emphasized.

It is noticed that the 15-th order harmonic (which is not the most important one in terms of magnitude, Fig.5.a), accomplishes the condition of equality of the poles number on the two armatures (2p=30).



Fig.5. Armature reaction ampere-turn: a) curve and the 15-th order harmonic b) harmonic spectrum.

The air-gap dimension was numerically modelled at establishing the inductor magnetic field, so the curve of the reaction filed and the curve of the resultant field can be plotted, Fig.6.



Fig.6. Plan section through the analyzed motor and the curves of the magnetic fields, B –inductor , B_a –reaction, B_r –resultant for: a) entire machine; b) on two pole pairs.

If the time origin t=0 is considered when α = 0, the numerical modelling of currents results relatively to the rotor position and the currents control:

$$I_a, I_b, I_c = f(\alpha, \gamma)$$
(3)

The control device models, on a pole pair, the currents of the three phases of the winding relatively to β -electrical angle, dependent on the rotor position. For the slot N_{cx}, the geometrical angle is:

$$\zeta_{Ncx} = \alpha + \frac{360}{N_c} N_{cx} \tag{4}$$

The ampere-turn provided by a slot is:

$$\theta_{Ncx} = 0.5 \cdot n_c (I_x + I_y) \tag{5}$$

where, n_c –number of conductors/slot, I_x , I_y are the currents I_a , I_b or I_c , relatively to the slot distribution on zones and phases, made according to literature.

In most cases, it is considered that the ampere-turn of a slot is concentrated in its axis and at the air-gap level.

This way, a numerical modelling of the slots electromagnetic torques has been established, as follows:

$$M_{Ncx} = B(\alpha) \cdot \theta_{Ncx}(\alpha, \gamma, N_{cx}) \cdot l_{Fe}$$
(6)

The instantaneous value of the electromagnetic torque results by summing the elementary torques of the slots.

The research can be carried on by using a program which is based on the presented mathematical model. There will be noted $N_{p\alpha}$ –number of points for a complete rotation and $N_{p\gamma}$ –number of points in which the control is delayed, for a pole pair. Thus, the following angles result:

$$\alpha_{e} = k_{p\alpha} \frac{360}{N_{p\alpha}} \qquad k_{p\alpha} = 1, 2, 3..., N_{p\alpha}$$
(7)

$$\gamma_{e} = k_{p\gamma} \frac{360}{N_{p\gamma}} \qquad k_{p\gamma} = 1, 2, 3..., N_{p\gamma}$$
(8)

For all combinations of values α_e , γ_e which result, there are computed and memorized the instantaneous values and the average value of the torque provided by a slot, respectively the total average torque, for a complete rotation.

III. SIMULATIONS AND RESULTS OBTAINED

The mathematical model presented was the basis of a numerical computation program and the simulations carried out and their results obtained enable identifying the causes and establishing important conclusions regarding the electromagnetic torque pulsations in brushless direct current motor.

From economic and technical considerations, there have been identified the following four possibilities for the motor supply:

Six-pulse supply for a pole pair

- -normal sequence of phases
- -inverse sequence of phases
- Three-pulse supply for a pole pair

- normal sequence of phases

- inverse sequence of phases

In case of six-pulse supply and normal sequence of phases, the electromagnetic torque average value, for a complete rotation and different control angles, is presented in Fig. 7.



Fig.7. Electromagnetic torque average value in a complete rotation for different control angles of currents.

A. Control for the maximum total torque

From the analysis of this figure, it is noticeable that for γ =294° electrical angle, we have a positive maximum torque (for rotation sense to right) and for γ =114° electrical angle, we have negative maximum value (for rotation sense to left).

The maximum torques have equal absolute values, M_{max} =1.52 Nm. For the electrical angle γ =294°, the geometrical angle results ξ =294/15=19.6°, which shows where the first position transducer must be placed, relatively to the origin – point O, on the stationary armature. The other two position transducers are placed at each 120° electrical angle, in the rotation direction.

The average values, for a complete rotation, of the torques provided by each slot, are presented in Fig. 8 and Fig. 9.a shows the total torque curve, for a complete rotation of the motor. This curve is analyzed from harmonic viewpoint and a harmonic spectrum results in Fig. 9.c, where the important harmonics can be identified, which affect the torque curve, Fig. 9.b.





Fig.9. Variation curve of the motor torque: a) for a complete rotation; b) the continuous component and the main harmonic; c) harmonic spectrum; d) torque curve for a pole pair.

The total torque curve for a pole pair is depicted in Fig. 9.d and the harmonic analysis results are filled in the Table I, where there is comparison with the previous results.

B. Analysis of electromagnetic field in each slot

Further on in this paper, a detailed analysis of Fig. 8 is made, in order to divide up in classes the 27 slots of the motor, relatively to the produced average torque. The results of this classification are filled in the Table II.

TABLE I. Analysis of the total torq	ue
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	Т	Distortion factor		
	Average value M _{med} [Nm]	Important M _k [harmonics [Nm]	K _{dis} [%]
Analysis for a complete rota- tion	1.497	M ₃₀ =0.646	M ₆₀ =0.069	40.21
Analysis for a pole pair	1.487	M ₂ =0.655	M ₄ =0.081	41.06

TABLE II. Slots divided up into classes

Class	Afferent slots	Torque average value
Ι	5, 6, 14, 15, 23, 24	M _{cr} =0.084 Nm
II	1, 10, 14	M _{cr} =0.077 Nm
III	2, 11, 19	M _{cr} =0.051 Nm
IV	4, 8, 13, 22	M _{cr} =0.038 Nm
V	3, 12, 21	M _{cr} =0.021 Nm

A slot is chosen for each class, the torque curves for a pole pair are presented, Fig. 10, and an analysis is made, from harmonic point of view, Fig. 11.

Any problems occur in the slots 3, 12, 21, where we see large positive and negative torque oscillations (Fig.10.c); in the slots 2, 11, 19 the oscillations are lower (Fig.10.b).

These oscillations cause superior torque harmonics which may exceed even the continuous component, Fig. 11.b and Fig. 11.c, an undesirable effect.

For the analyzed slots, in Fig. 12 there are depicted torque curves, where we have the continuous component, the important harmonic and the resultant torque. The final results of this analysis are detailed in table no. 3, where the distortion factor is also presented.





Fig.10. Variation curves for a pole pair for the torque provided by the currents passing the conductors of a slot.







Fig.12. Variation curves for a pole pair, for the continuous component, the second order harmonic and their sum.

TABLE III.	Analysis	of slot	torque	for a	period
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		Distortion factor		
Slot	Average value	Important l	K _{dis}	
no.	M _{med} [Nm]	M _k [Nm]		[%]
1	0.075	M ₂ =0.042	M ₈ =0.009	51.03
2	0.048	M ₂ =0.067	M ₆ =0.018	83.59
3	0.019	M ₂ =0.077	M ₄ =0.022	97.63
4	0.035	M ₂ =0.029	$M_6 = 0.008$	66.32
5	0.088	M ₂ =0.051	M ₄ =0.026	56.92

CONCLUSIONS

The research carried out has aimed at analyzing the causes which produce total torque oscillations, in the most favourable case, meaning six-pulse supply, direct sequence of phases and $\gamma = 294^{\circ}$ – control angle of the *a* - phase current.

The simulations presented before and the results filled in the Table III show that we have five classes of slots relatively to the magnitude of the torque provided and the fact that all slots are active, meaning the average torque developed is in the rotation sense. The torques computed for slots classes are within the minimum limit, M_{min} = 0.029 Nm, and the maximum one, M_{max} = 0.077 Nm.

The slots belonging to the classes I (six) and V (three) have an accepted value of the average torque and a small distortion factor, $k_{disMer,I}$ =51.03% and $k_{disMer,V}$ =56,92%.

The slots belonging to the classes II (three) and III (three) have high average torques, but they also have a high distortion factor, $k_{disMcr.II}$ =83.59% and $k_{disMcr.V}$ =97.63%.

The slots belonging to the class IV (four) produce the smallest torque, with a distortion factor $k_{disMcr.IV}$ =66.32%.

This is the explanation for high torque oscillations which occur in brushless direct current motors. An almost constant torque cannot be obtained with this motor, but it is possible to be close to fulfilling this requirement.

The torque variation for a pole pair is a major drawback and it is explained by an imperfect commutation of the phase currents and by the position occupied by slots in the inductor magnetic field.

The high inertia moment of the rotor and the high speed decrease the speed oscillations caused by the torque variations. A speed reaction loop and a performant control system can reduce substantially the torque oscillations at low speed.

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