

## Three Phase SquirrelCage Induction Motor design RMxpert analysis

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**Abstract:** This paper presents the design of three-phase induction motor (IM) for high speed with torque speed curves suitable for vehicle propulsion applications. First, analysis of induction motor with the classical approach to machine design is presented and this method is verified by a commentary on contemporary design using RMxpert and design optimization techniques. This paper will describe how RMxpert analysis can be utilized to design and model the performance of rotary electrical machines. Maxwell 2D Design software is used as finite element analysis tool to design and model the performance of 5 hp, 4-pole, 2400 rpm induction motor.

**Keywords:** Induction motor, locked rotor torque, power factor, efficiency, genetical algorithm

### I. INTRODUCTION

In order to optimize motor geometries and parameters, Cagerotor induction motor (IM) is widely accepted as the most potential candidate for electric propulsion owing, to their reliability, robustness, less maintenance and ability to work in hostile environments. These induction motors require special attention during its design process (Boldeo and Nasar (2002)). A primary consideration for induction motor designer is the design of motor with high starting torque, better efficiency and power factor. There are many design components like stator core diameter, core length, air gap length, stator and rotor slot shape and many others parameters which are considered during design process to achieve the desired performance (Parasiliti and Bertoldi (2003)).

Induction motors used for electric propulsion are principally similar to that for industrial applications. Nevertheless, these induction motors need to be especially designed according to Indian road transportation standards. Laminated thin silicon core should be used for the rotor and stator to reduce the iron loss, while copper bars should be adopted for squirrel cage to reduce winding loss. All housings should be made of cast aluminum to reduce the total motor weight. Low stray reactance is also necessary to work under flux weakening operation as addressed by Rama et al. (1997). Concerning motor performance for Electric Vehicle (EV) operation, high torque at low speeds, low torque at high speeds and instantaneous overloading capability are desired for hill climbing, highway cruising and vehicle overtaking, respectively.

Computer Aided Designing (CAD) techniques are employed by Wirasingha et al. (2008), Wan et al. (2005) and Finken et al. (2008). In general, the two-dimensional finite element method (FEM) is used to carry out both steady state and dynamic electromagnetic field analysis. Moreover, it is becoming interested in three-dimensional FEM-based thermal field analysis of induction motors. The reason is due to the fact that the skin effect of the motor generally causes a considerable variation of the loss density distribution with respect to time during starting, hence resulting in a serious transient thermal stress on both rotor bars and end-rings.

### II. THREE PHASE INDUCTION MOTOR AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS

The basic considerations for an induction motor design include magnetic loading, the peak of fundamental component of radial flux density in the air-gap of the motor, core length, air-gap length, number of poles, number of stator and rotor slots, stator tooth width and slot depth, thermal resistance at each part of the thermal circuit, speed, torque and efficiency, torque per unit weight and weight of copper and magnetic iron core etc. are used. Along with these requirements, the key challenges are better utilization of steel, magnet and copper, better electromagnetic coupling, better geometry and topology, better thermal design, cooling and understanding the limits of motor performance. Achieve higher power per unit weight, higher torque per unit weight and better performance etc. As suitable specification is needed

for a battery operated IM under lower voltage. The specifications are given in Table 1.

**Table 1. IM specification**

Power rating	5 hp
Type	3-phase
Base frequency	80 Hz
Line-to-line voltage	110V
No. of poles	4
Ambient temperature	50 deg. C
Insulation Class	Class B
Degrees of Protection	IP55
Cooling type	TEFC
Efficiency	84%
Power Factor	0.86
Duty Cycle	70% duty
Bearing	Insulated type

**Design Methodology**

The design process of induction motor is an iterative process. The machine designer first assumes the efficiency and power factor at the rated condition. The below mentioned design process is done as per (Say (2002) and Pyrhonen et al.

$$O = \frac{h.p. \times 0.746}{\eta \cos \phi} \tag{1}$$

where,  $\eta$  = Efficiency and  $\cos \phi$  = power factor

The main dimension of the motor is calculated using (2)

$$D^2 L = \frac{O}{C_s n_s} \tag{2}$$

where,

$$C_s = 1.1 k_w B_{av} ac \times 10^{-3}$$

$D$  is stator bore diameter

$L$  is core length

$n_s$  is synchronous speed in r.p.s.

Once the diameter of the stator and length of the core is determined then winding part is calculated using (3)

$$T_s = \frac{E_s}{4.44 f \phi_m k_{ws}} \tag{3}$$

where,

$E_s$  is stator turn per phase.

$f$  is supply frequency

$\phi_m$  is flux density

$k_{ws}$  is winding factor

After the winding part is done, then the conductor and slot dimensions are calculated.

Finally the stator outer diameter is given by

$$D_s = D + 2d_{st} + 2d_{sc} \tag{4}$$

where,

$D_s$  is stator outer diameter

$d_{st}$  is depth of slot

$d_{sc}$  is depth of stator core

Once the stator design is completed, and then comes the rotor part.

Air gap length is a major part of induction motor design. The air gap length is given by

$$l_g = 1.6 \sqrt{D} - 0.25 \text{ mm} . \tag{5}$$

where,

$l_g$  is air - gap length

Then the no. of rotor slots are selected such that the difference between no. of stator slots and rotor slots should not be equal to  $0, \pm p, \pm 2p, \pm 3p, \pm(p \pm 1), \pm(p \pm 2)$  where  $p$  is no. of poles.

Now the dimensions of rotor slots are calculated. Then the end ring dimensions are calculated using (6).

$$A_e = \frac{I_b}{\pi p \delta_e} \tag{6}$$

where,

$S_r$  is no. of rotor slots

$I_b$  is rotor bar current

$A_e$  is end ring area

$\delta_e$  is current density in end rings

Finally, rotor diameter is given by

$$D_r = D - 2l_g \tag{7}$$

where,

$D_r$  is rotor outer diameter

The inner diameter of rotor lamination is calculated using

$$D_i = D_r - 2d_{rs} - 2d_{rc} \tag{8}$$

$D_i$  is rotor inner diameter

$d_{rs}$  is depth of rotor slot

$d_{rc}$  is depth of rotor core

The leakage inductance of a machine can be calculated as the sum of different leakage inductances is given as per (Pyrhonen et al. (2011)). The leakage inductance can be divided into the following partial leakage inductances:

- (i) air gap leakage inductance
- (ii) slot leakage inductance
- (iii) tooth tip leakage inductance
- (iv) end winding leakage inductance
- (v) skew leakage inductance.

Here, only slot leakage inductance is considered.

Slot leakage inductance is an inductance created by real leakage flux. The slot leakage inductance is given by

$$L_s = \frac{\mu_0}{S} \mu_r l N^2 \lambda_s \tag{9}$$

$$N = \frac{S}{2am} z_s$$

where,

S is no. of slots

m is no. of phase

l is equivalent core length

$\lambda_s$  is slot permeance factor

lN is no. of series turns

a is no. of parallel paths

$z_s$  is no. of conductors in a slot

Once the design is completed then we can calculate the performance parameters like efficiency, power factor and torque of the machine using circle diagram or equivalent circuit. The efficiency is given by (10)

$$\eta = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} = \frac{P_{out}}{P_{out} + \sum losses} \tag{10}$$

where,

$$\sum losses = P_{cs} + P_{al} + P_{core} + P_{mech} + P_{stray}$$

$P_{cs}$  is stator winding loss

$P_{al}$  is rotor cage loss

$P_{core}$  is core loss

$P_{mech}$  is mechanical loss

$P_{stray}$  is stray loss

The power factor can be calculated by equation (11)

$$\cos \phi = \frac{P}{3U_{ph,s} I_s \eta} \tag{11}$$

where,

$U_{ph,s}$  is stator voltage

$I_s$  is stator current

The electromagnetic torque is given by

$$T_m = \frac{3[U_s (1 - \frac{L_s}{L_m}) \frac{R_r'}{s}]^2}{\omega_s [ (R_s + R_r'/s)^2 + (\omega_s L_{sc} + \omega_s L_{rc}')^2 ]} \tag{12}$$

where,

$L_{sc}$  is leakage inductance of stator

$L_m$  is magnetizing inductance

$R_r'$  is rotor resistance referred to stator

$R_s$  is stator resistance

$L_{rc}'$  is leakage inductance of rotor referred to stator

#### 4. CASE STUDY

##### 4.1 Theoretical Calculations

The induction motor is designed using the conventional method as per the specification given in Table 1. All the dimensions are calculated and its performance is also evaluated. The efficiency of the machine is found to be 86%.

##### 4.2 Calculations using machine designing software

The induction motor is designed using the RMxpert software as per the specification given in Table 1. RMxpert software speeds the design and optimization process of rotating electric machines. RMxpert software is electric machine specific user friendly template based designing software. It has the features of optimization, parametric, sensitivity and many other analyses. It can create MAXWELL 2D and 3D model for electromagnetic analysis.

Critical performance data, such as torque versus speed, power loss, flux in the air gap, power factor and efficiency can be quickly calculated.

The performance parameter obtained from RMxpert software are given in Table 2

**Table 2. Performance parameter obtained from software**

Mechanical Shaft Torque (Nm)	15.3114
Efficiency(%)	88.9732
Power Factor	0.862243
Rated Slip	0.0307328
Rated Shaft Speed (rpm)	2326.24
Locked-Rotor Torque (Nm)	37.6459

It has been observed that the efficiency obtained by theoretical calculation is 86% and that from software is 88.97% which is very close to the theoretical result. The power v/s speed curve is plotted in Fig. 1. It is observed that that maximum power is delivered at 1900 rpm.

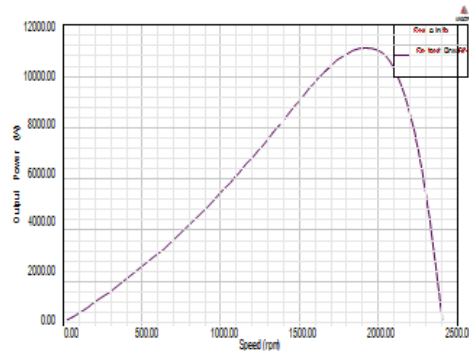


Fig. 1. Output power vs speed

The Torque vs speed curve is plotted in Fig. 2. The locked rotor torque is around 38 N-m, twice that of rated load torque. While breakdown torque is around 4 times that of rated value. These are decent figures for an electric vehicle.

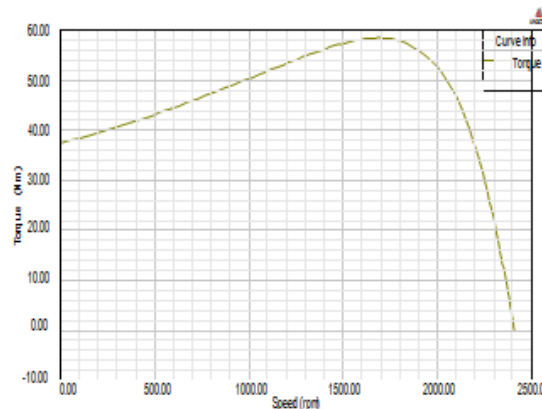


Fig. 2. Torque vs speed curve

The efficiency vs speed curve is plotted in Fig. 3. The maximum efficiency is at around 3.72 kW.

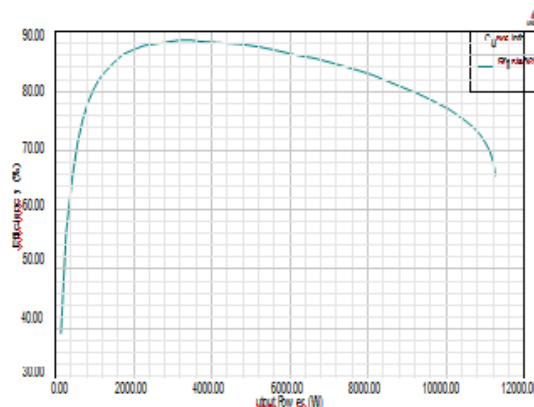
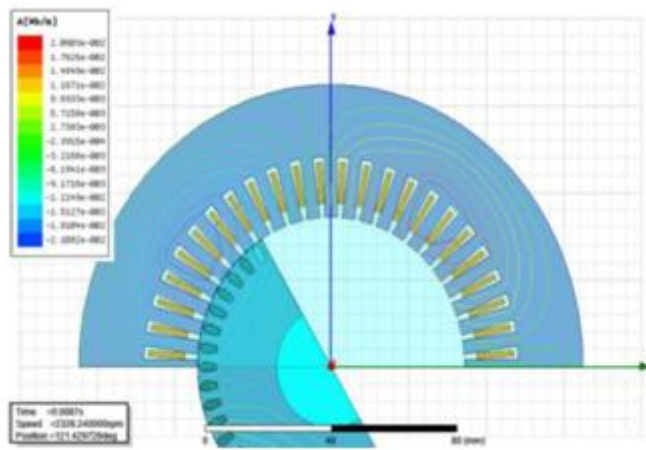


Fig. 3. Efficiency vs Output Power curve

Flux lines plot at rated speed is shown in Fig. 4. It is observed that the lines are not so dense.

Fig. 4. Flux line plot



In Fig. 5 Flux density plot at rated speed is shown. It can be observed that the stator yoke flux density is around 1.5T which is in the desired limit.

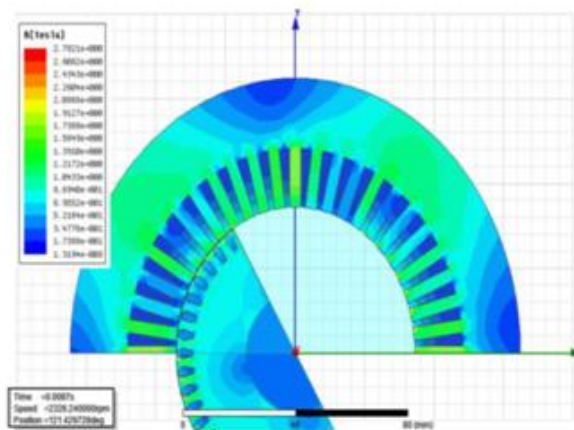


Fig. 5. Flux density plot

In Fig. 6, transient torque curve is plotted. It is found that the maximum peak transient torque is - 80Nm and the torque becomes stable at 30 ms. Since the air gap flux density takes time to attain its maximum and constant value, hence till that time due to inertia there is demagnetization of flux. Therefore negative transients torque is present.

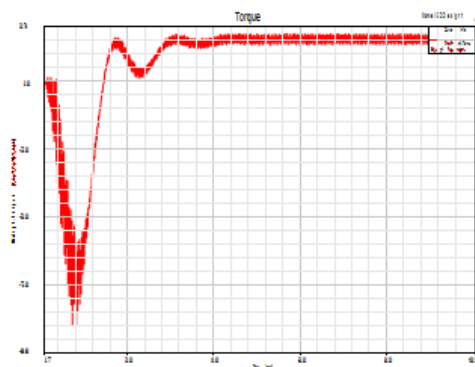


Fig. 6. Transient torque curve

4.3 Slot opening is kept constant and slot width is varied

A rectangular slot has been taken as shown Fig. 7. Its dimension is as given below. The slot width (bs1) is varied from 1.5 mm to 4 mm keeping the slot opening (bs0) fixed at 1 mm. The torque vs speed curve is shown in Fig. 8. Different parameters are shown in Table 3.

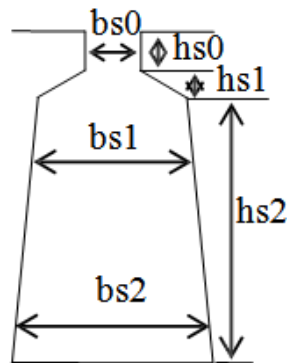


Fig. 7. Stator and rotor slot dimensions

Table 3. Different observation of variable slot width

Slot Opening (mm)	Slot Width (mm)	Locked Rotor Torque (Nm)	Stator Leakage Reactance (ohm)
1	1.5	24.179	0.278639
1	2.0	34.567	0.243259
1	2.5	40.647	0.224525
1	3.0	41.091	0.210076
1	3.5	48.206	0.194967
1	4.0	56.367	0.174367

It is observed that as the slot width (bs1) is increased the slot leakage permeance decreases and from equation (9) the stator leakage inductance decreases as seen in Table 3. And hence from equation (12) we can say that with less leakage inductance, less leakage reactance will be there, so the electromagnetic torque will be higher and therefore will have higher starting torque and break down torque as it is seen in Table 3 and Fig. 8

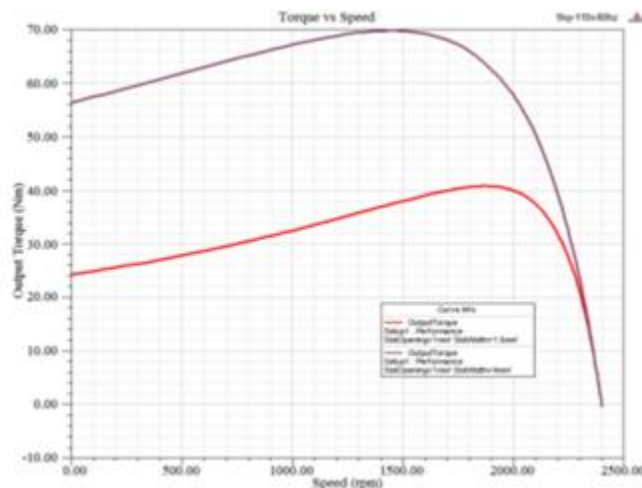


Fig. 8. Torque vs speed curve

4.4 Optimization using Genetic Algorithm of conventional design of induction motor

Optimization is the process of selecting the best solution for a certain problem from the various possible solutions. The solution is chosen in such a way that the design in regard to a particular feature is the best, and at the same time it should satisfy all the constraints imposed on its performance. Herein the optimization process of three phase induction motor the Genetic algorithm method is implemented. Two different types of cases are considered. In the first case, objective function taken are efficiency, power factor and locked rotor torque and each are optimized individually. In the second case, a goal is set up to get the desired performance in which all the three objective functions are given a desired goal and optimized simultaneously. The optimization is done using RMxpert software .

The rated efficiency is maximized and the objective function is given by (10).

Second objective function: Maximum locked rotor torque

The locked rotor torque is maximized and the objective function is given by (12).

Third objective function: Maximum power factor

The power factor is maximized and the objective function is given by (11).

In fourth case a goal setup is done. In this case, a desired goal is given for efficiency, locked rotor torque and power factor.

Table 4 gives the designed parameter used for optimization. The designed parameters need to be bound between upper and lower bound. The design parameters are shown in Fig. 7. The design constraints are given in Table 5.

A comparison is shown between Conventional design and optimized design in Table 6. It is observed that optimized design gives better result than conventional design.

**Table 4. Design parameters and their limits**

Design parameter	Description	Lower limit (mm)	Upper limit (mm)
$h_{s2}$	Stator slot height	5.25	15.75
$b_{s0}$	Stator slot opening	0.35	1.05
$b_{s1}$	Stator slot width	2.1	6.3
$b_{s2}$	Stator slot width bottom	1.85	5.55
$h_{r2}$	Rotor slot height	3	9
$b_{r0}$	Rotor slot opening	0.525	0.825
$b_{r1}$	Rotor slot width	0.35	3.3
$b_{r2}$	Rotor slot width bottom	0.8	2.1

Table 6 gives the comparison of the results of conventional design and optimized design.

**Table 5. Design constraints**

Air	0.7-0.90 T
Stator yoke flux density	1.4-1.7 T
Tooth flux density (stator)	1.4-2.1 T
Tooth flux density (rotor)	1.5-2.2 T
Rotor yoke	1-1.6 T
Stator winding current density	3-8 A/mm <sup>2</sup>
Rotor bar current density	3-8 A/mm <sup>2</sup>

## V. CONCLUSION

A basic design has been introduced here towards the requirement for a propulsion motor. First theoretical design was done using conventional method and then RMxpert software is used for the design. It is found that the theoretical result obtained matches the simulated result. It is observed that as the slot width is increased the torque increases.

The optimization of the conventional designed motor is done using Genetic algorithm. It is observed that the efficiency, power factor and locked rotor torque are improved.

More analysis and development can be done in future regarding parametric variations and optimization of some critical parameters as torque to weight ratio, efficiency etc. to achieve high performance propulsion motor

**Table 6. Comparison with conventional design and optimized design**

	Conventional design	Maximum efficiency	Maximum powerfactor	Maximum lockedrotor torque	Goal:Efficiency > 86% Powerfactor >0.86 Lockedrotortorque>45Nm
S					
hs2(mm)	10.	15.08	9.68	10.11	8
bs0(mm)	0.	1.01	0.55	0.35	0
bs1(mm)	4.	5.61	2.95	5.80	2
bs2(mm)	3.	3.88	3.58	4.75	4
R					
hs2(mm)	6	7.92	7.72	7.81	5
bs0(mm)	0.5	0.45	0.30	0.79	0
bs1(mm)	2.	2.44	2.39	3.15	2
bs2(mm)	1.2	1.50	0.96	1.28	1
Efficiency(%)	88.97	92.90	91.55	91.3	9 1
PowerFactor	0.8	0.67	0.86	0.60	0
Locked-Rotor Torque(Nm)	37.64	122.10	57.84	132.3	6 4

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