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**A Brief Report on Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance
Motors**

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1 Introduction

This concise report provides a comprehensive overview of Permanent Magnet Assisted Reluctance Motors (PMSynRelM), focusing on essential information to maintain clarity and conciseness. While the covered parts could be expanded further, the brevity of the paper is intentionally preserved to ensure its readability and clarity.

The references used in this paper were selected based on the criteria such as rating, relevance and publication date. This approach ensures that the paper reflects modern trends in the field to the fullest extent. Certain principles used when designing or controlling PMSynRelM drive were developed in earlier publications when the PMSynRelM structure was not popular as nowadays is. But the controlling principles developed still work and are being improved for today's application requirements.

This paper is organized as follows: Firstly the most used design of the stator and rotor with permanent magnets is presented. Then the general mathematical model used for controlling the machine with corresponding control strategies used for controlling the PMSynRelM and other permanent magnet machines are briefly explained. The next section is dedicated to comparing the PMSynRelM to other popular motor structures used in the automotive and traction field. The paper ends with section briefly presenting the latest research interests in the field of PMSynRelM drives.

2 Design

The (PMSynRelM) is widely used for its significant advantages of small size, low losses, high efficiency, wide constant power range and better performance than general synchronous reluctance motors SynRelM. [1, 2]

2.1 Stator and Rotor

Numerous methodologies exist for connecting the stator winding. While research papers traditionally focus on standard Delta or Star winding configurations, the authors in [3, 4] propose a novel configuration which elevates the torque performance without altering the stator current called the Star-Delta hybrid winding. The main idea of the hybrid Delta-Star connection is to split the standard phase wiring into two parts. The one part is for the Delta connection, the other for Star connection. Then the coils of wiring are connected to series. Motors utilizing hybrid stator winding with PMs inserted in the rotor flux barriers may exhibit constant power factor over 0.9. [4]

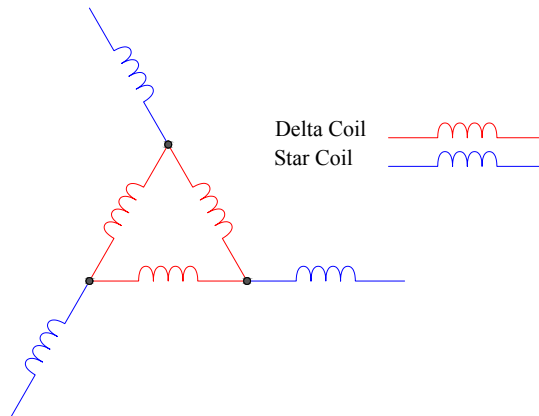


Figure 2 - 1 Hybrid Star-Delta wiring of PMSynRelM.

In [4] the authors manufactured and proposed four prototypes of SynRelM. The prototypes consist of

two stators, with either conventional star winding or hybrid star-delta winding, and two rotors, with ferrite permanent magnets or without. Maxwell transient simulations were carried out on the four prototypes, which were then manufactured and experiment on.

According to [4] the researches state, that when using the hybrid stator winding connection, the efficiency increase is rather low compared to efficiency increase when comparing SynRelM with and without PMs, thus creating PMSynRelM. This outcome raises a question: Is the utilization of the hybrid delta-star winding truly worthwhile?

2.2 Magnets

PMSynRelM are very often compared to Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motors (PMSM) in terms of power, torque density, efficiency and costs. Both of the machine types are widely used in automotive field. Though the PMSM are very popular [5], the permanent magnets (PMs) used in the conventional design are often made of rare-earth materials such as neodymium or dysprosium. That is the motivation why PMSynRelM motors with rare-earth-free materials are now being the subject of many research studies. Experiments comparing the production-used PMSM and the prototype PMSynRelM show, that the proposed prototype in [6] achieve close values of power density and an efficiency as rare-earth PMSM counterpart, but with much lower costs [7].

it has been observed that strategically placing the PMs at the center of the flux barrier forces magnetic flux lines to traverse through the flux barriers along the q -axis direction. This leads to reduction of a linked magnetic flux along the q -axis and therefore improvement of the output torque. [4, 8]

Possible placement of PMs in the rotor structure of PMSynRelM is depicted in Fig. 2 - 2.

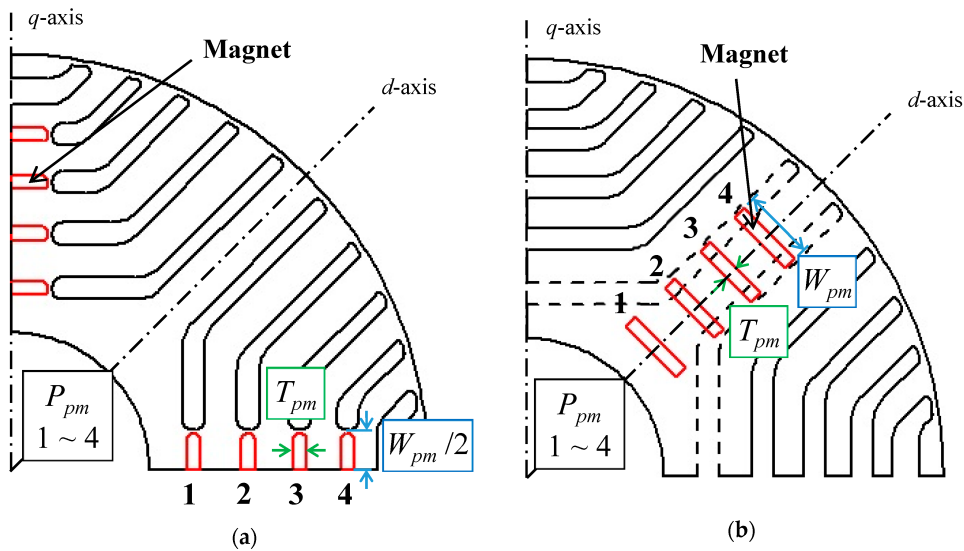
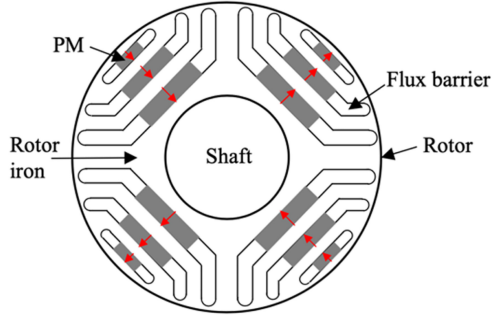
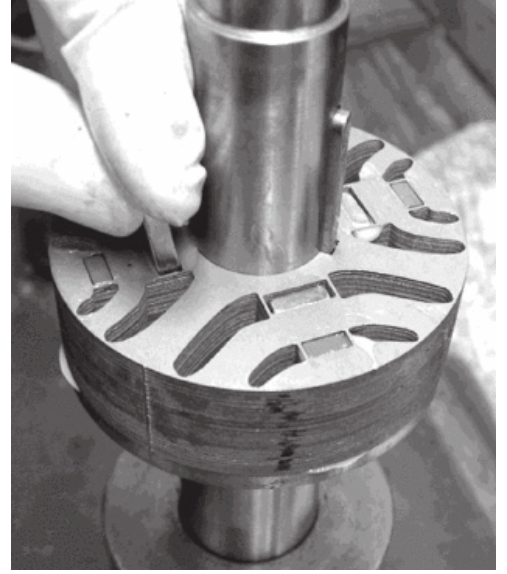


Figure 2 - 2 Different approaches to permanent magnet orientation in the rotor structure of a Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance Motor: (a) PM embedded along the flux barriers, facing the q -axis; (b) Permanent magnets are crossing the flux barriers, therefore facing the d -axis. [8]

Design of the PMSynRelM rotor with PMs oriented solely in the q -axis is depicted in the figure 2 - 3a. The proces of inserting the permanent magnets to the flux barriers in the rotor is depicted in Fig. 2 - 3b.



(a) Rotor design of a Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance Motor with permanent magnets oriented solely in the q -axis. [9]



(b) Process of inserting the permanent magnets to the rotor of a Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance Motor. [10]

Figure 2 - 3 Position of permanent magnets in a rotor design.

3 Control

3.1 Mathematical model

The stator voltage equation of PMSynRelM denoted in the general axis k may be written as follows

$$\underline{u}_1^k = R_s \underline{i}_1^k + \frac{d\underline{\psi}_1^k}{dt} + j\omega_k \underline{\psi}_1^k. \quad (3 - 1)$$

Where \underline{u}_1^k (V) is space vector of stator voltage, R_s (Ω) is stator resistance, \underline{i}_1^k (A) space vector of a stator current, $\underline{\psi}_1^k$ (Wb) space vector of a stator flux linkage, ω_k (rad s^{-1}) general angular speed.

The voltage equation denoted in dq -axis is as follows

$$\underline{u}_1^{dq} = R_s \underline{i}_1^{dq} + \frac{d\underline{\psi}_1^{dq}}{dt} + j\omega_1 \underline{\psi}_1^{dq}, \quad (3 - 2)$$

where ω_1 (rad s^{-1}) is electrical angular speed of a stator rotating magnetic field. When the equation eq. 3 - 2 is denoted in vector components and the subscript "1" for stator is omitted the equation may be rewritten to

$$\underline{u}_d = R_s i_d + \frac{d\psi_d}{dt} - \omega_1 \psi_q, \quad (3 - 3)$$

$$\underline{u}_q = R_s i_q + \frac{d\psi_q}{dt} + \omega_1 \psi_d. \quad (3 - 4)$$

Equations for flux linkages denoted in the d, q -axis if PMs are embedded along the q -axis are

$$\psi_d = L_d i_d, \quad (3 - 5)$$

$$\psi_q = L_q i_q + \psi_{PM}. \quad (3 - 6)$$

Where L_q (H), L_d (H) are inductances in d -axis and q -axis respectively, ψ_{PM} (Wb) is a flux linkage of permanent magnets. Very often the PM flux linkage is oriented negatively in the q -axis when respecting the vector orientation the equation 3 - 6 can be rewritten as

$$\psi_q = L_q i_q - \psi_{PM}. \quad (3 - 7)$$

The general equation for electromagnetic torque is then

$$T = \frac{3}{2} p_p |\underline{\psi}_{dq} \times \underline{i}_{dq}| = \frac{3}{2} p_p (\psi_d i_q - \psi_q i_d). \quad (3 - 8)$$

where p_p (-) is number of pole pairs.

After the substitution of 3 - 5 and 3 - 7 to 3 - 8 the torque equation may be rewritten as

$$M = \frac{3}{2} p_p (L_d i_d i_q - (L_q i_q - \psi_{PM}) i_d) = \frac{3}{2} p_p (L_d i_d i_q - L_q i_q i_d + \psi_{PM} i_d). \quad (3 - 9)$$

As evident from eq. 3 - 8, when the linkage flux of PMs is oriented in the negative direction relative to the q -axis (as illustrated), an increased value of flux linkages ψ_{PM} results the to a higher electromagnetic torque magnitude.

The phasor diagram is illustrated in Fig. SynRelM is depicted in the figure 3 - 1. Effect of PMs layer and position in rotor on the phasor diagram may be observed in [2].

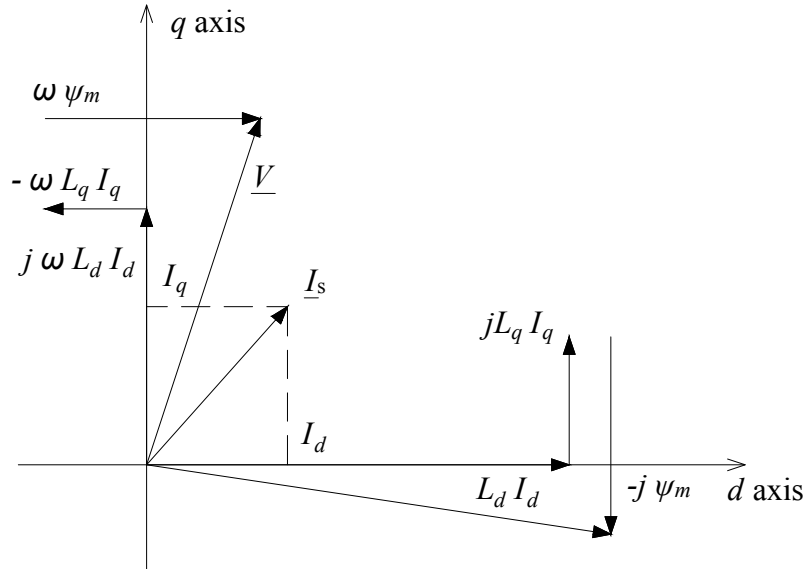


Figure 3 - 1 Phasor diagram of the Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance Motor when the flux of permanent magnets ψ_m is oriented in the negative q -axis direction.

3.2 Control strategies

Numerous options exist for controlling the PMSynRelM. The principles may be broadly categorized into two major groups: **Scalar Control** and **Vector Control**. The primary subcategories of vector control strategies are **Field Oriented Control** (FOC) and **Direct Torque Control** (DTC). These strategies use a different approach to minimize the torque ripple and to achieve desirable high dynamic performance. [11]

The general group decomposition is depicted in Fig. 3 - 2.

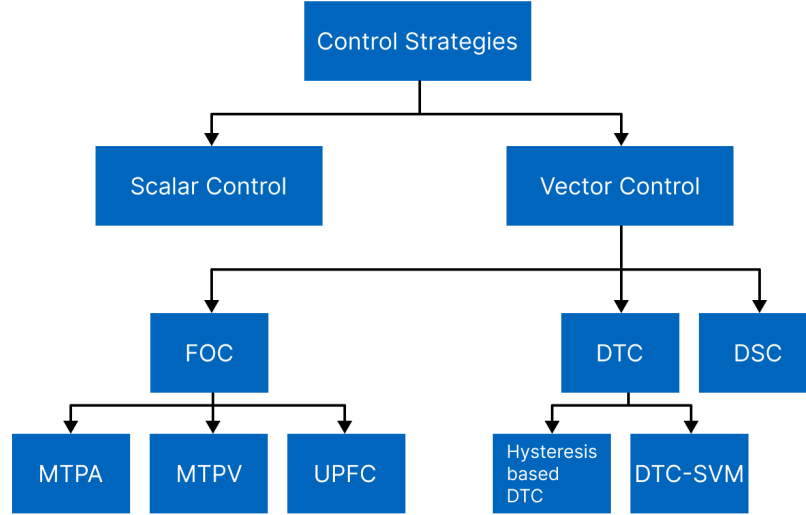


Figure 3 - 2 General diagram depicting major groups of control strategies for PMSynRelM. Graph inspired by [11]

3.2.1 Scalar Control

Scalar drive control is straightforward solution for controlling the drive. It is relatively simple to execute and there is no need of a high performance Digital Signal Processors (DSPs). However Scalar Control can not provide the dynamic performance and speed control compared to FOC and DTC. [11]

Scalar control is mainly known as a V/f (Voltage/frequency) control. The control methods mainly produce output voltage so the ratio between voltage and frequency is kept constant for the magnetizing flux to be the highest possible, so the torque is possibly maximized as well. Another methods use I/f (current/frequency) control based strategies. [12]

3.2.2 Vector Control

Vector control strategies became increasingly popular due to the lower cost and higher computational power of available DSPs. [11]

FOC control mainly uses the theory of space vectors and DTC the theory of controlling the electromagnetic torque and magnetic flux based on the desired speed and magnetization. Control strategies are different but objective is the same. The main aim of vector control strategies is to achieve the desired torque and flux values based on the reference values which are set as an input to the control strategy. [12, 11]

Maximum Torque Per Ampere (MTPA) PMSynRelM control

The main objective of the MTPA strategy is to achieve the reference (desired) torque with minimum value of stator currents in d and q -axis (i_d and i_q). According to [11], there are multiple methods how to realize the MTPA.

The control strategy is parameter dependent which may present a problem. In [13] authors present a robust online parameter estimation technique which improves the control strategy. With calculated and estimated parameters and measured stator currents the torque, which would the machine provide is calculated and then used as a reference value for further calculations. The proposed controller provides

increased robustness against the variations of motor parameters.

Maximum Torque Per Voltage (MTPV) PMSynRelM control

The higher the speed of rotor, the larger the magnitude of the back electromotive force (EMF), the larger magnitude of voltage provided from source is needed. When speed reaches the value, where nominal source voltage is reached, then the current flowing through stator wires must decrease due to the back EMF. Thus the voltage value restricts the current based on the rotor speed. In [14] the exemplar curves presenting MTPV are depicted. Another mathematical expression of the MTPV trajectory is presented in [15]. Cited paper also depicts the exemplar trajectories in the i_d-i_q plane.

The MTPV trajectories are plotted based on the current values in i_d-i_q , where the possible torque is at the peak. The maximum torque value in the diagram is based on the operation speed.

Unity Power Factor Control (UPFC)

In wide variety of applications it is required for the machine to work with maximum power factor. It is preferable to achieve a unity power factor, to eliminate reactive power consumption. In [16] two methods are proposed: 1) *controlling the d-axis stator current i_d* and 2) *controlling the angle of stator current space vector i_{stator}* .

According to [16] the UPFC allows wider speed range where the torque is constant. This results in a higher output power of the drive.

1) *controlling the d-axis stator current i_d*

Method compares the space angles of stator current and voltage space vectors to achieve the unity power factor. From the unity power factor condition the current i_d may then be expressed. Using the expressed current value, the voltage equations of the machine then may be modified to evaluate the steady-state performance at a unity power-factor. [16]

2) *controlling the angle of stator current space vector i_{stator}*

This method forces the space vector of a stator current to be aligned with space vector of a stator electromagnetic force. When the space vectors of a stator voltage and current will coincide the unity power factor will be achieved. [16]

3.2.3 Direct Torque Control

Compared to vector control the DTC is in fact simpler. It does not require the Pulse Width Modulation (PWM). During the sample period of DSP only one space vector of supply voltage is provided as an output from the inverter. The calculation and control is done in the stationary reference frame (eg. stator linked frame in $\alpha\beta$ axis). Hysteresis based DTC works on keeping the values of torque and magnetic flux (independently) in the hysteresis band of desired/allowed values. DTC needs only a portion of parameters which are necessary for vector control strategies, thus making the method very convenient. [11]

DTC Space Vector Modulation (SVM) utilizes DTC strategy but instead of hysteresis controllers and switching table to control the inverter the proportional-integral regulators with predictive controller are used. Control strategy proposed in [17] shows that for Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor the DTC-SVM results in lower torque ripple and harmonic current than conventional DTC.

3.2.4 Direct Self Control

DSC is very similar to the DTC strategy, which was published by Takahashi in [18] in 1989 for induction motor. The Direct Self Control strategy published by Depenbrock in [19] is in fact similar to DTC but the voltage space vectors follow the hexagonal path. In comparison to the DTC this strategy generally require lower switching frequency of the components.

There are many researches regarding the control strategies which leverage the main idea of presented strategies and perfects them for the specific application. The example diagram depicting selected sub-control strategies is presented in [12].

4 Comparison to other machines

When designing electric drives there are options on which motor to use in the application. That is why the comprehensive comparison of PMSynRelM and other types of motor is handy. This comparison study was well carried out in [20]. Authors compare the induction machine (IM), synchronous reluctance motor (SynRelM), permanent magnet assisted synchronous reluctance motor (PMSynRelM) and interior permanent-magnet machine (IPM).

The machines are compared based on the design parameters regarding electromagnetic performance, material cost and temperature. The authors in [20] conclude, that the electromagnetic performance of analyzed ferrite-based PMSynRelM are better than that of the IM and SynRelM without PM. The cost of materials for PMSynRelM is lower than the IPM. The torque ripple and the demagnetization of ferrites may be a problem when using the PMSynRelM. [20]

5 Recent research interest

Recent interest of research of PMSynRelM has been focused on improving the overall performance, cost and behaviour of permanent magnet assisted machines.

The improvement was achieved:

- using non-rare earth materials such as ferrites,
- novel hybrid stator winding structures,
- analyzing rotor structure types and motor parameters based on the permanent magnet position.

Some research focus on improving well known control strategies to achieve a better performance of the drive. When using ferrite based permanent magnets the main concern of these strategies is to minimize (or better eliminate) the possibility of a permanent demagnetization which could occur.

New types of motors and control strategies are proposed in [21]. Proposed motors utilize variable flux strategy where high stator current i_d value for a short amount of time may cause that the ferrite based permanent magnets are demagnetized. When the demagnetization is not needed the stator current i_d may again cause magnetization of permanent magnets. The proposed principle is still being developed and published about.

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Appendix A: List of symbols and abbreviations

A.1 List of abbreviations

DSC	Direct Self Control
DSP	Digital Signal Processor
DTC	Direct Torque Control
EMF	Electromotive Force
FOC	Field Oriented Control
IM	Induction Machine
IPM	Interior Permanent-Magnet Machine
MTPA	Maximum Torque Per Ampere
MTPV	Maximum Torque Per Voltage
PM	Permanent Magnets
PMSM	Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor
PMSynRelM	Permanent Magnet Assisted Synchronous Reluctance Motor
PWM	Pulse Width Modulation
SVM	Space Vector Modulation
SynRelM	Synchronous Reluctance Motor
UPFC	Unity Power Factor Control