



FEUP FACULDADE DE ENGENHARIA
UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO

DEMec - Dep. of Mechanical Engineering
SAIC- Automation, Instrumentation and Control Section
Master in Mechanical Engineering

Electromechanical Systems

1st Year- 2nd Semester
2025-2026

Support documents to TP classes

Introduction
DC motors

Paulo Abreu

2026 Edition

This work is exclusively intended to support the classes of Electromechanical Systems, of the Master Degree in Mechanical Engineering at DEMec, FEUP. Its reproduction and/or distribution outside this scope requires the prior written consent of the author.

Electromechanical Systems

Introduction DC motors and BLDC motors

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2025-2026

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Contents

1. Introduction & Systems Context
2. Physics Fundamentals
3. Brushed DC Motors
4. Brushless DC (BLDC) & Advanced Control

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Introduction

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Course Objectives

- To provide Knowledge and understanding of technological aspects in the field of **electromechanical drives**

- Present and develop a set of concepts and knowledge in the areas of
 - Electric drives and motor types
 - Mechanical transmission elements
 - Switching, control, and protection devices for electrical circuits and motors
 - Control and supervision equipment

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Course Learning Outcomes (I)

At the end of the course, students will be proficient in:

- **System Identification:** identifying the structure and components of an electromechanical drive system
- **Operational Principles:** describing how various motors (DC, stepper, induction, and servo) work
- **Data Analysis:** performing a critical analysis of technical data from motor manufacturers
- **Specification:** analyzing and specifying switchgear components for protection and control

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Course Learning Outcomes (II)

At the end of the course, the students will be proficient in:

- **Mechanical Integration:** analyzing and specifying mechanical transmission elements (e.g., gearboxes, couplings)
- **Sensing Principles:** describing the functional principles of various sensors used in drive systems
- **Sensor Specification:** analyzing and specifying sensing elements for system integration
- **Power Electronics:** describing the working principle and characteristics of frequency inverters (VFDs)
- **System Synthesis:** analyzing and specifying overall solutions for electromechanical drive systems that meets specific industrial performance and efficiency standards

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Program

- Architecture of electromechanical drive systems
- Electrical Power Supply Systems
- Electric motors: DC motors, induction motors, stepper motors, and servo motors
- Mechanical transmission systems and sensing elements
- Electromechanical switchgear for protection and control
- Frequency inverters (VFD) and multi-axis motion controllers
- System Design & Implementation
 - Selection and sizing of actuators and transmissions, with a view to energy efficiency, and considering the current Standards and Regulations
 - Selection of power amplifiers (drives)
 - Parameterization and implementation of controllers

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Methodology and Assessment

- **Learning Approach**
 - TP classes for the presentation of concepts, technological information
 - One 1,5 h session per week (planned 13 classes)
 - PL classes, in the Laboratory of “Automatizmos Industriais” (L004)
 - One 1,5 h session per week (planned 12 classes)
 - Autonomous Study
- **Evaluation**
 - Written exam: 100%
- **Registration of attendance in TP and PL classes**
 - The maximum number of absences is 25% of the effective classes in TP and PL

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SE and Moodle

- Use of Moodle platform:

https://sigarra.up.pt/feup/pt/moodle_portal.go_moodle_portal_up?p_codigo=209979

- Share multimedia content
- Share knowledge and support documents
- Contribute to building and sharing information

Bibliography

- Specific documents prepared for this curricular unit, to be available on Moodle, to support TP classes and PL classes

Complementary Bibliography

- Paul C. Krause, Oleg Wasynczuk; Electromechanical motion devices. ISBN: 0-07-035494-4
- Austin Hughes; Electric motors and drives. ISBN: 0-7506-4718-3

Eletromechanical Systems (SE) Course Context

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SE: The Macro Context Digitalization

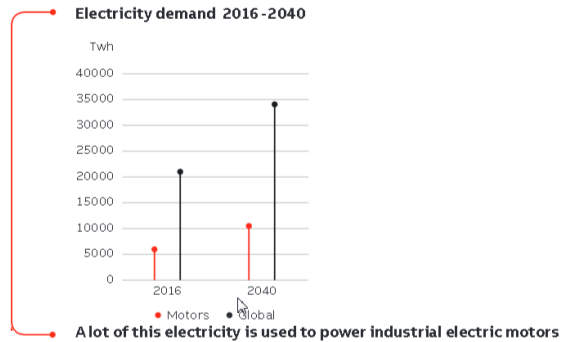
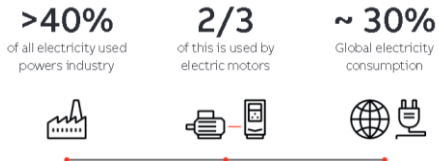
- Key concepts
 - Digitalization / IoT / Digital Twins / Industry 4.0/ Industry 5.0
- Technologies supporting digitalization
 - Computer-based devices/communications/networks
 - Edge computing
 - Cloud-based data storage/ data processing
 - Artificial Intelligence / machine learning
 - 5G networks
- Need for Digital Enterprise at all levels/ Plant /City / Country

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SE: The Macro Context

Global energy consumption and electrical motors



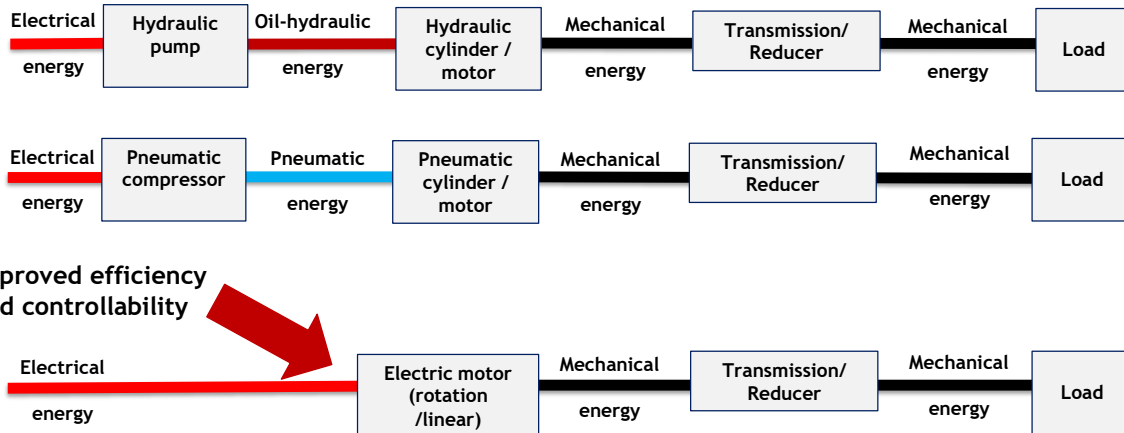
Sources: <https://new.abb.com/drives/energy-efficiency>
<https://new.abb.com/motors-generators>

SE: The Macro Context

Factory Automation



SE: The Macro Context Power Drive Systems



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Electric motors

- Energy conversion device based on the principles of electromagnetism, specifically on the interaction between magnetic fields and electric currents



$$P_{\text{ele}} [\text{W}] = V [\text{V}] * I [\text{A}]$$

$$P_{\text{mec}} [\text{W}] = T [\text{Nm}] * \omega [\text{A}] \quad (\text{rotational motion})$$

or

$$P_{\text{mec}} [\text{W}] = F [\text{N}] * v [\text{m/s}] \quad (\text{linear motion})$$

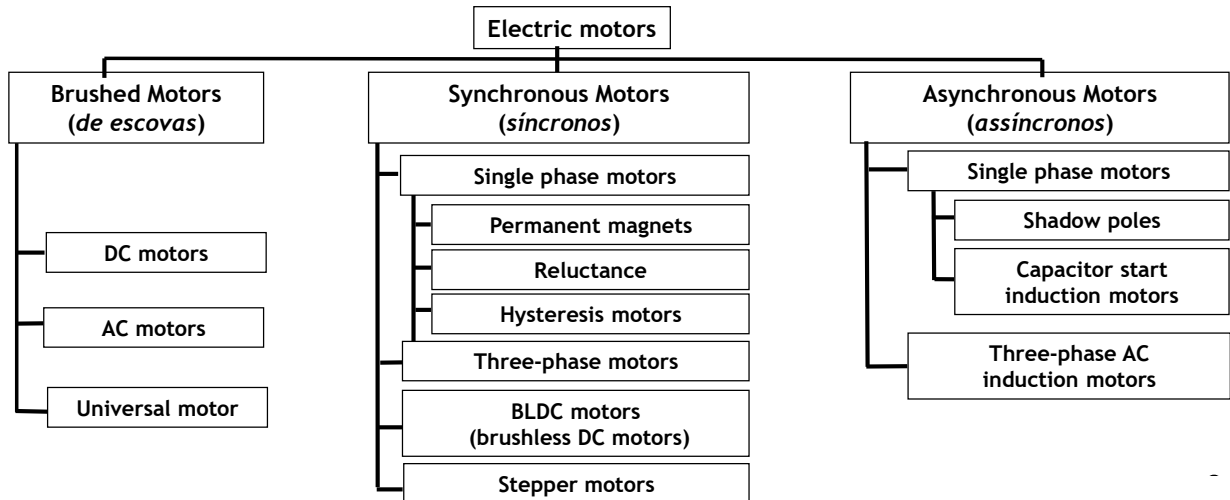
$$\text{Efficiency} = P_{\text{mec}} / P_{\text{ele}}$$

The efficiency of electric motors is typically very high, much superior to what can be achieved with pneumatic or hydraulic actuators

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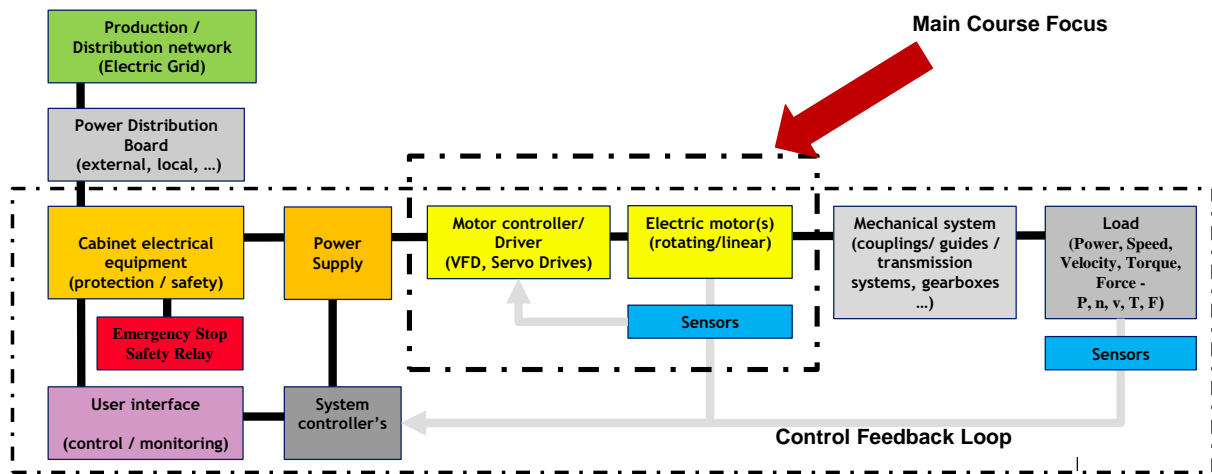
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Electric Motors classification Working principle/source of energy



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Electromechanical Drive System Architecture



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Drive Technologies

- Generators
- Electric Motors
 - Geared motors
 - Gear units/couplings
- Converters, inverters, drivers
- Low-voltage components (switchgear)

- Software tools for engineering and selection
- Digitalization in drive technologies

Multiple types of electric motors + Multiple drives

- Very important choice of Motor + Drive
- High impact on energy efficiency
 - [IEC/EN 60034-30-1:2014](#) Efficiency classes of line-operated AC motor (IE code, IE1 to IE4)
 - [IEC 60034-30-2:2016](#) Efficiency classes of variable speed AC motors
 - [IEC61800-9-2:2017](#) Energy efficiency indicators for power drive systems and motor starters
 - [EU Ecodesign Regulation EU 2019/1781](#): requirements for electric motors and variable speed drive (to start in 2021 and 2023) (see also [ABB](#) info)

Physics Fundamentals

Electromagnetism and electric motors

The operation of all electric motors is predicated on the interaction between magnetic fields and electrical currents, governed by three fundamental **principles of electromagnetism**. These principles define how electrical energy is converted into mechanical work (rotational or linear) through magnetic coupling

- **1st Principle** - Generation of **Magnetic Fields** - An electric current flowing through a conductor generates a surrounding magnetic field
- **2nd Principle** - **Lorentz Force** - A current-carrying conductor placed within an external magnetic field experiences a mechanical force
- **3rd Principle** - **Electromagnetic Induction** - (Generator/Back-EMF Action)
An electrical circuit subjected to a varying magnetic flux (ϕ) will have an induced electromotive force (voltage) across its terminals

Electromagnetism and electric motors Generation of Magnetic Fields

- **1st principle:** Generation of **Magnetic Fields** -an electric current flowing through a conductor generates a surrounding magnetic field
 - **Straight Conductor:** a current i flowing through a straight wire produces a magnetic field density B in concentric circles around the conductor.
 - **Mathematical Definition:** the magnetic flux density is defined by:

$$B = \frac{\mu}{2\pi \cdot r} \cdot i \quad [\text{T}]$$

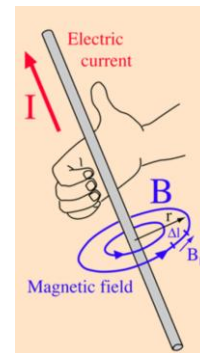
with $\mu = \mu_r \mu_0$ is the magnetic permeability of the material

with μ_r being the relative permeability and

μ_0 is the permeability in the vacuum, ($\mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ [N/A}^2\text{]}$)

For ferromagnetic materials, such as iron and nickel,

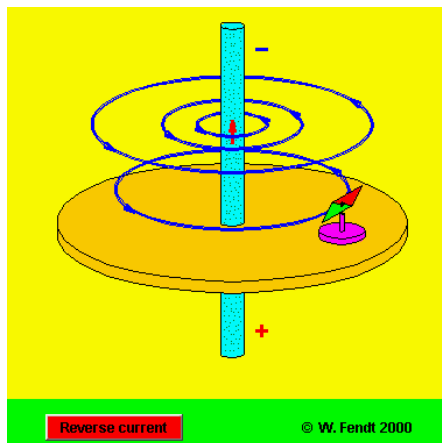
$$\mu_r = 100 \dots 100000 \text{ [N/A}^2\text{]}$$



<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/index.html>

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Electromagnetism and electric motors Generation of Magnetic Fields



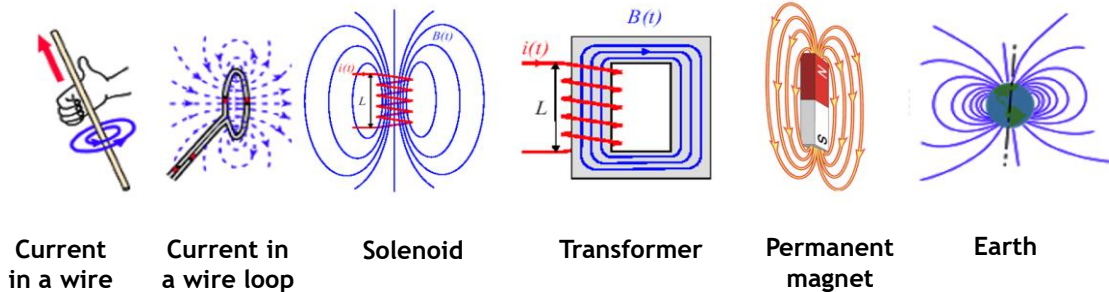
https://www.walter-fendt.de/html5/phen/magneticfieldwire_en.htm

Reverse current

© W. Fendt 2000

Electromagnetism and electric motors Magnetic Fields

Sources of magnetic fields



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Electromagnetism and electric motors Generation of Magnetic Fields

Solenoids and Coils: when a conductor is wound into a coil, the individual magnetic fields of each turn reinforce one another, creating a concentrated flux similar to a permanent magnet

If an electrical conductor, of length L , is wound in a coil, having N turns, then it will create a magnetic field inside of flux density B

$$\|\vec{B}\| = B = \mu \frac{N}{L} \cdot I$$

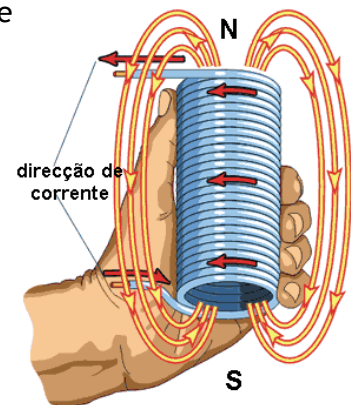
B : magnetic field density, [T] (Tesla)

μ : magnetic permeability of the environment [N/A²]

N : number of turns [-]

L : length of conductor [m]

I : current [A]



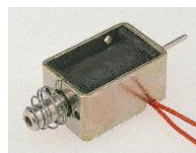
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Electromagnetism and electric motors

Solenoids

- A solenoid is seen as an **electric actuator** that implements a **movement (linear or rotary) of limited amplitude**
 - It takes electrical energy as input and converts it into an electromagnetic field. This magnetic field exerts a magnetic force that attracts a moving ferromagnetic component, causing it to move



Linear Solenoid,
momentary action,
240 V AC



Rotary Solenoid, DC,
momentary action,
rotation angle 45° or 95°

- ✓ The solenoid can be operated in a digital mode (in most cases) or in an analog mode.
- ✓ One of the most used applications of solenoids is in relays, contactors, and solenoid valves

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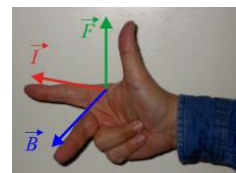
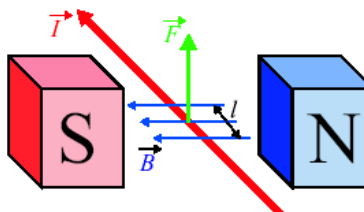
Electromagnetism and electric motors

Lorentz Force

- **2nd principle:** Lorentz Force: a current-carrying conductor placed within an external magnetic field experiences a mechanical force
 - **Force Vector:** the force F is perpendicular to both the current i and the magnetic field B
 - **Mathematical Definition:**

$$\vec{F} = (\vec{i} \times \vec{B}) \cdot l \quad [\text{N}]$$

$$F = (i \cdot B) \cdot \sin(\alpha) \cdot l \quad [\text{N}]$$



Note:

- The Force is oriented according to the three-finger rule
- This principle is the primary driver for torque production in most industrial motors

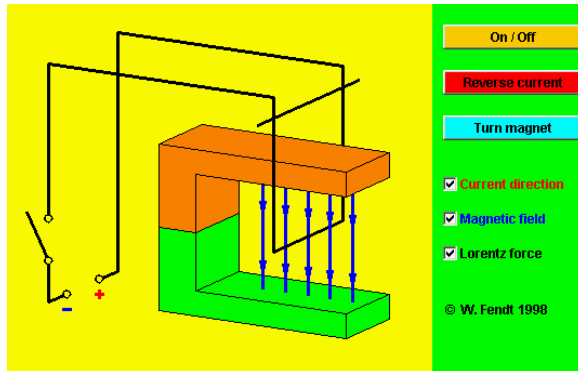
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Electromagnetism and electric motors Lorentz Force

2nd principle: Lorentz Force

$$\vec{F} = (\vec{i} \times \vec{B}) \cdot l \quad [N]$$



https://www.walter-fendt.de/html5/phen/lorentzforce_en.htm

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Electromagnetism and electric motors Electromagnetic Induction

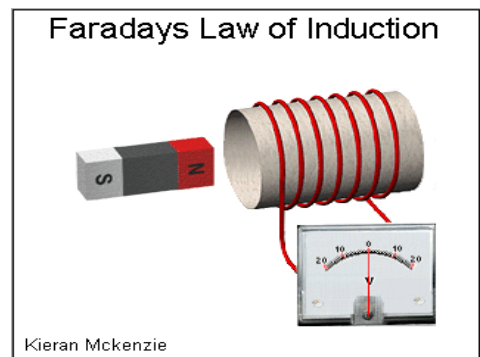
3rd principle: Electromagnetic Induction (Generator/Back-EMF Action)

An electrical circuit subjected to a varying magnetic flux (ϕ) will have an induced electromotive force (voltage) across its terminals

- **Faraday's Law:** the induced voltage (e) is proportional to the rate of change of magnetic flux (ϕ) linkage

$$e = -N \frac{d\phi}{dt} \quad N - \text{Number of Turns in the coil}$$

- **Lenz's Law:** the polarity of the induced voltage is such that it creates a current whose magnetic field opposes the change in the original flux
- **Significance in Motors:** in a running motor, this principle creates Back-EMF, which opposes the supply voltage and inherently regulates the motor's current and speed

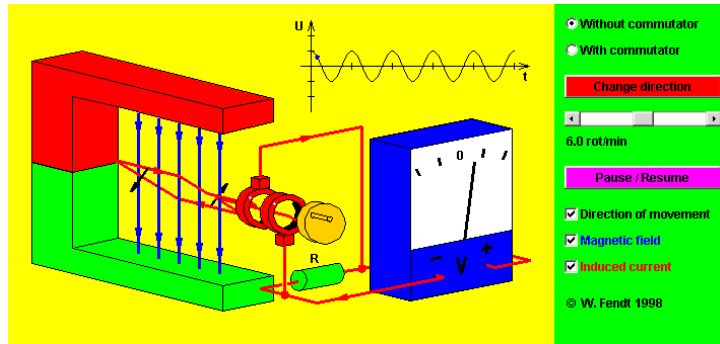


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Electromagnetism and electric motors Electromagnetic Induction

Induced voltage direction

https://www.walter-fendt.de/html5/phen/generator_en.htm



The direction of the induced voltage is such that the electric current and the resulting electromagnetic forces tend, by their effect, to oppose the change in flux

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Mechanisms of Torque and Force Production

The basic operating principle of all motors lies on the torque/force production due to the magnetic forces acting on the rotor/forcer, which translates into obtaining a rotational/linear movement

The torque/force production can be related to two different mechanisms:

- **Lorentz Force:** forces acting on current-carrying conductors within the rotor's magnetic circuit
- **Reluctance Force:** force generated by the tendency of a magnetic circuit to minimize its "magnetic resistance" or reluctance

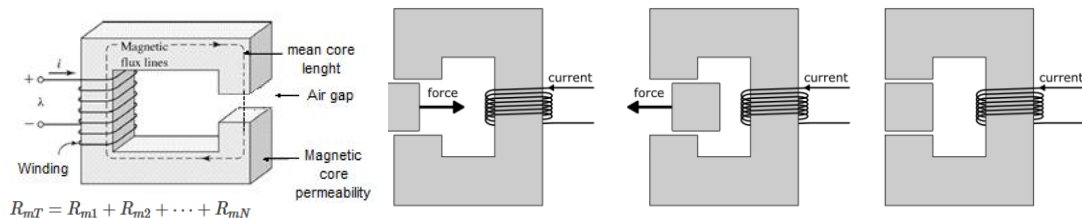
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Electromagnetism and electric motors Reluctance Force

The **reluctance force** is generated through a change of the magnetic resistance (magnetic reluctance) and not a force that acts on a current-carrying conductor.

This force tends to minimize the total reluctance (magnetic resistance) in a magnetic circuit



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Classification of Electric Motors by Physical Operation

The diversity of motor types arises from how these fields are generated and interact with:

- **Energy Source:** DC (Direct Current) vs. AC (Alternating Current)
- **Field Generation:** permanent magnets vs. electromagnetic coils
- **Force/ Torque generation:** Lorenx force vs. Reluctance force
- **Commutation Strategy:**
 - **Mechanical Commutation (Spatial Switching):** used in brushed DC motors, where mechanical brushes change the current direction based on rotor position
 - **Electronic Commutation (Time/Electronic Switching):** used in Brushless DC (BLDC), stepper, and servo motors, where controllers vary the field in time to maintain rotation

Note that in BLDC motors and servomotors, while the rotor's position triggers the switching, we classify it as **Timed/Electronic** because a microprocessor is actively deciding when to fire the power transistors based on a clock frequency

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Course Overview of Motor Topologies

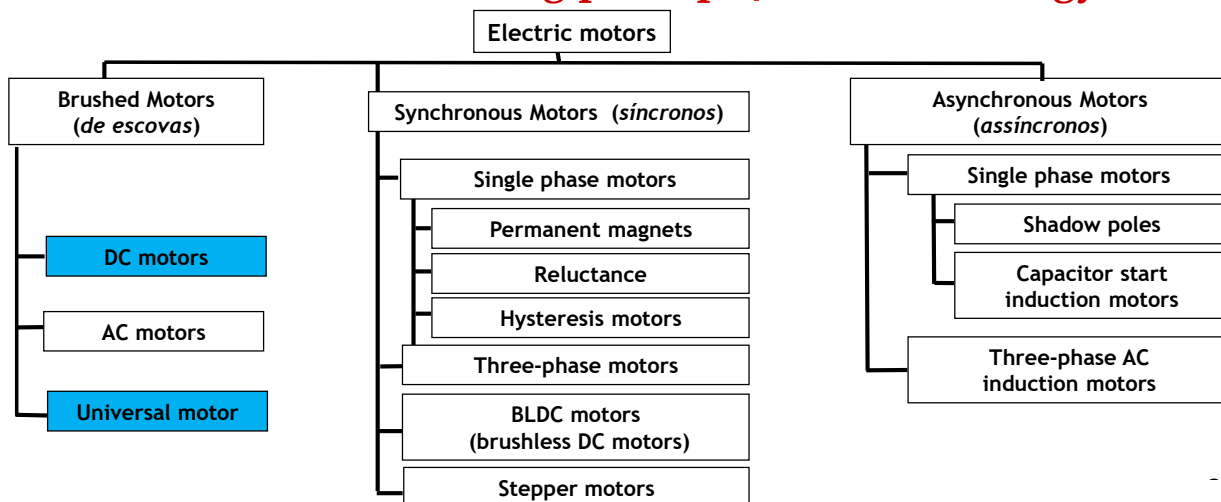
This course will specifically analyze the following technologies:

- DC Motors: Brushed configurations with permanent magnets or wound field coils.
- AC Motors: Focused on three-phase induction (asynchronous) machines.
- AC Synchronous motors
- Stepper motors: for discrete positioning and
- Servo motors for high-dynamic closed-loop control. Advanced

Variants:

- Brushless DC (BLDC), and Single-phase induction motors, Universal motors

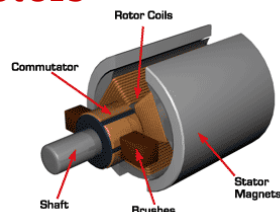
Electric Motors classification Working principle/source of energy



Brushed DC Motors

Core Components

- **Stator (Field/Excitation):** the stationary part. It provides the constant magnetic flux (Φ) via **Permanent Magnets (PMDC)** or **Field Coils (Wound)**
- **Rotor (Armature/Induzido):** the rotating assembly containing the armature windings
- **Commutator & Brushes:** the mechanical system responsible for **Spatial Switching**. Brushes (typically graphite) transfer current to the commutator segments (copper blades) to ensure the torque remains unidirectional as the rotor turns



✓interaction between magnetic fields by spatial switching

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Brushed DC Motors



www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAtPHANefQo

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Brushed DC Motors

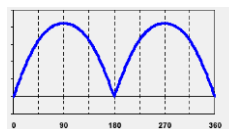
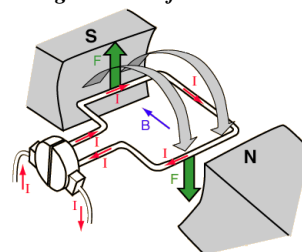
Topology Classification

- **Permanent Magnet (PMDC):** linear characteristics; ideal for small, efficient applications
- **Series Wound:** field coils in series with the armature. High starting torque; speed drops significantly with load
- **Shunt (Parallel) Wound:** field coils in parallel. Nearly constant speed; ideal for conveyors
- **Separately Excited:** field and Armature powered independently. Offers the highest degree of control flexibility

Permanent magnet DC motor: how it works

- Place a turn (loop), mounted on a support that allows it to have a rotational movement, in a fixed magnetic field, of flux density B
- Feed the turn with a current I , and torque will be generated, represented by the forces F
- The forces generated will make the coil rotate 90° , and it will be immobilized in this new position.
- If we later reverse the direction of the current in the loop, it will rotate an additional 90° and return to its initial position.

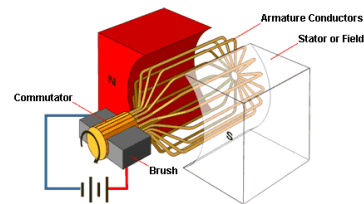
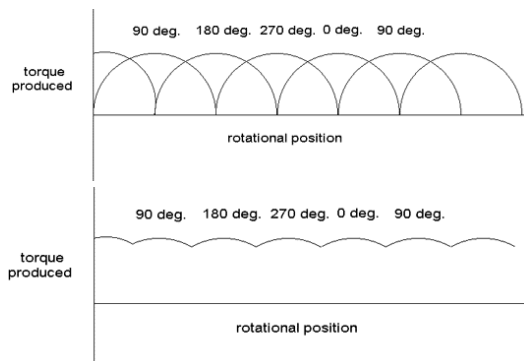
In a DC motor, the change of direction of the current is done through the use of the commutator



Resulting torque

Permanent magnet DC motor: how it works

- Increasing the number of turns decreases the ripple of the torque obtained



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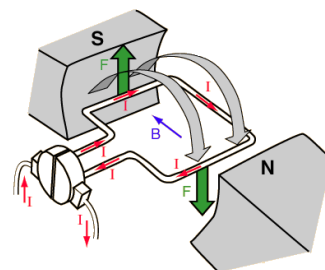
Permanent magnet DC motor: how it works

Counter-electromotive force (emf)

As the turn (loop) moves (rotates) within the fixed magnetic field, an electromotive force is generated, which translates into the induction of a current through the loop

This induced current is in the opposite direction to the current being supplied to the turn. Thus, the current flowing in the loop results from the difference between the supplied current and the induced current

This **induction** phenomenon is what makes a DC motor be used as a generator (mechanical energy is supplied and electrical energy is obtained)

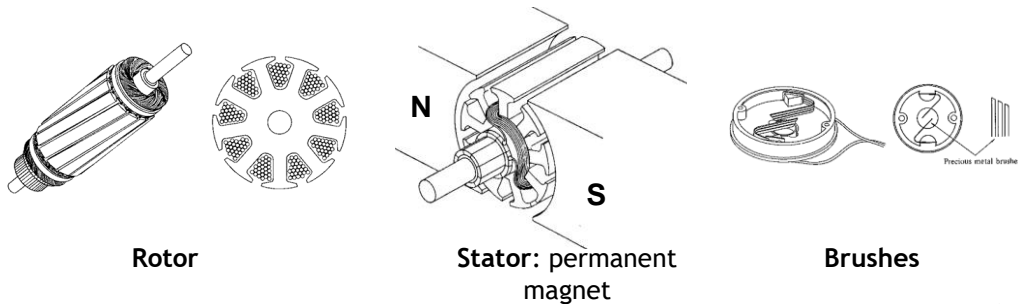


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Permanent magnet DC motor: how it works

- In the simplified motor model shown, the rotor had fewer turns. In fact, in order to create a stronger magnetic field in the rotor, several turns are used, that is, the rotor is wound



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Permanent magnet DC motor

Low voltage permanent magnet motor – TENV and TEFC 1/4 thru 1 Hp



Features:

- NEMA C-Face
- Class F insulation
- Double sealed ball bearings
- Top-mounted terminal studs for power connection on ratings 40-amperes and up

Applications:

- Battery operation for portable pumps
- Fans
- Augers
- Winches
- Lifts

- **Modelo CDP3445**

- Power 1 HP
- Nominal velocity 1750 RPM
- Armature 90 V
- Current 10 A
- Stator: permanent magnet

Mechanical characteristics

TENV - totally enclosed non ventilated

TEFC: Totally enclosed fan cooled

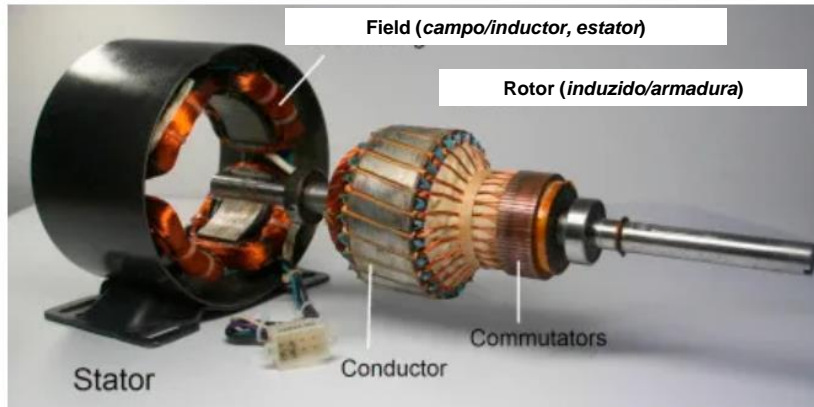
- NEMA 56 C- mounting frame
- sealed ball bearings

<https://www.baldor.com/mvc/DownloadCenter/Files/9AKK108394>

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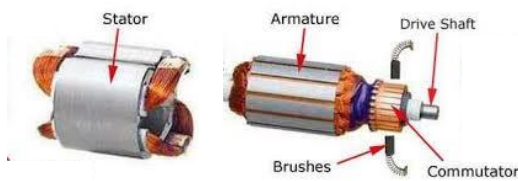
Wound DC motor



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Wound DC motor



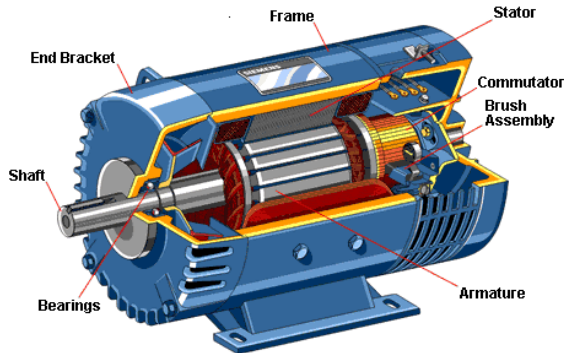
- Brushes:
 - Elements subject to wear
 - Brush replacement needed



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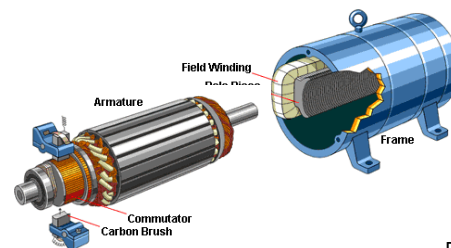
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Wound DC motor



www2.sea.siemens.com/Training

SIEMENS					
HP	10	RPM	1180	VOLTS	500
ARM AMPS	17.0	WOUND	SHUNT		
FLD AMPS	1.4/2.8	FLD OHMS 25C	156		
INSUL CLASS	F	DUTY	CONT	MAX AMBIENT	40° C
FLD WINDING CODE	C	FLD VOLTS	300/150		
TYPE	E	ENCL	DP	INSTR	
MOD		SER			
NPS9A13438AP				DIRECT CURRENT MOTOR MADE IN U.S.A.	
GE Motors					



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Wound DC motor (I)

Electromechanical Equations (Steady-State)

To analyze DC motors, we rely on two fundamental "bridge" equations that link the electrical and mechanical domains

1. The Voltage Equation (Kirchhoff's Law)

The total voltage supplied to the armature (V_a) must overcome the internal resistance (R_a) and the Back-EMF (E_a):

$$V_a = E_a + I_a R_a$$

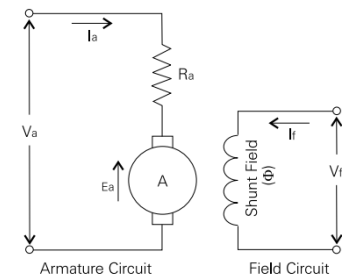
where

V_a = applied armature voltage [V]

E_a = Back EMF (counter electromotive force) [V]

I_a = armature current [A]

R_a = armature resistance [Ω]



2. The Back-EMF Equation

The Back-EMF is generated by the rotor conductors moving through the stator flux:

$$E_a = K \cdot \Phi \cdot \omega_a$$

where

Φ = Magnetic Flux [Wb]

K = Constructive motor constant [V/(Wb·rad/s)]

ω_a = Angular speed [rad/s]

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Wound DC motor (II)

Electromechanical Equations (Steady-State)

3. The Torque Equation

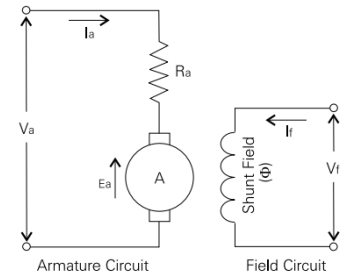
The interaction of the shunt and armature field flux produces torque. The mechanical torque (T) produced is directly proportional to the armature current:

$$T = K \cdot \Phi \cdot I_a$$

Note: In PMDC motors, $k \cdot \Phi$ is often combined into a single constant k_t [Nm/A] (Torque Constant)

Combining the equations, $\omega_a = \frac{V_a - I_a R_a}{K \cdot \Phi}$

If the flux remains constant, the speed changes linearly with the armature Voltage (V_a)

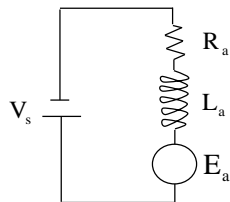


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Permanent magnet DC motor

Motor equivalent circuit



$$E_a = K_e \cdot \omega_m$$

$$T_m = I_a \cdot K_T$$

V_s motor supply voltage [V]

I_a Armature current [A]

R_a Armature resistance [Ω]

E_a counter electromotive force [V]

L_a inductance [H]

ω_m motor speed [rad/s]

K_e counter electromotive force constant [V/(rad/s)]

K_T torque constant [Nm/A]

T_m motor torque [Nm]

expressed in SI units $K_e \cong K_T$

Paulo Abreu ©

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Permanent magnet DC motor

$$V_s = I_a R_a + E_b = I_a R_a + K_e \omega_m$$

$$= \frac{T_m}{K_T} R_a + K_e \omega_m$$

$$\omega_m = \frac{V_s}{K_e} - \frac{T_m R_a}{K_e K_T}$$

$$T_m = \frac{V_s}{R_a} K_T - \frac{\omega_m}{R_a} K_e K_T$$

when $\omega_m = 0$, the stall torque is given by

$$T_0 = \frac{V_s}{R_a} K_T$$

when $T_m = 0$,

the no-load speed is given by :

$$\omega_{m0} = \frac{V_s}{K_e}$$

Under dynamic conditions

$$T_m = K_T I_a(t) = T_{load}(t) + b \omega_m(t) + J \frac{d\omega_m(t)}{dt}$$

$$V_s = I_a(t) R_a + L_a \frac{dI_a(t)}{dt} + E_b$$

$$= I_a(t) R_a + L_a \frac{dI_a(t)}{dt} + K_e \omega_m(t)$$

T_{load} load torque [Nm]

b viscous friction torque constant

ω_m motor speed [rad/s]

J inertia seen by the motor [Nm/s²]

L_a armature inductance [H]

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Performance Characteristics

The Torque-Speed Relationship

- By combining the equations above, we derive the linear relationship for a PMDC or Shunt motor:

$$\omega_a = \frac{V_a - I_a R_a}{K \Phi} = \frac{V_a}{K \Phi} - \frac{R_a}{(K \Phi)^2} T$$

- No-Load Speed (ω_0): the speed when torque is zero
- Stall Torque (T_s): the maximum torque produced when the motor is prevented from rotating ($\omega = 0$). At this point, the current I_a is at its maximum: $I_{stall} = V_a / R_a$

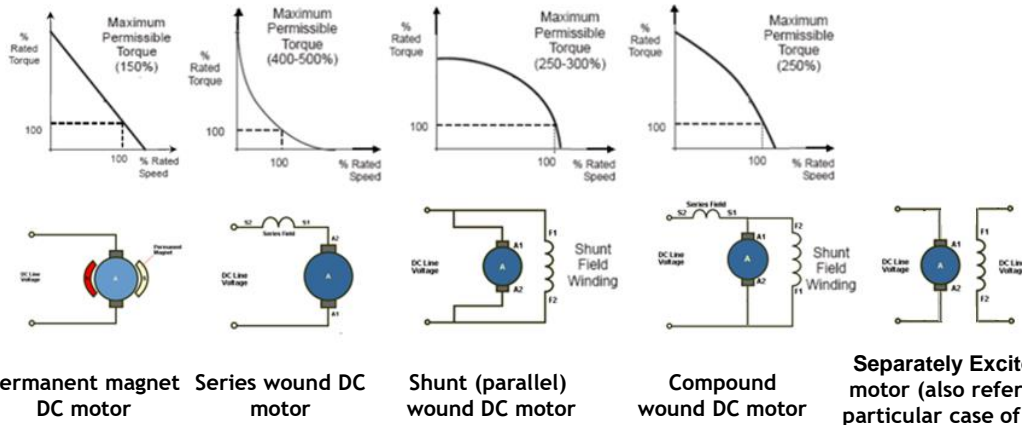
Power and Efficiency

- Electrical Power (P_{ele}): $V_a * I_a$
- Converted Power (P_{conv}): $E * I_a = T * \omega_a$
- Mechanical Output (P_{out}): $P_{conv} - P_{losses}$ (friction/windage)
- Efficiency (η): P_{out} / P_{ele}

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DC motors Torque-speed curve



Permanent magnet DC motor

Series wound DC motor

Shunt (parallel) wound DC motor

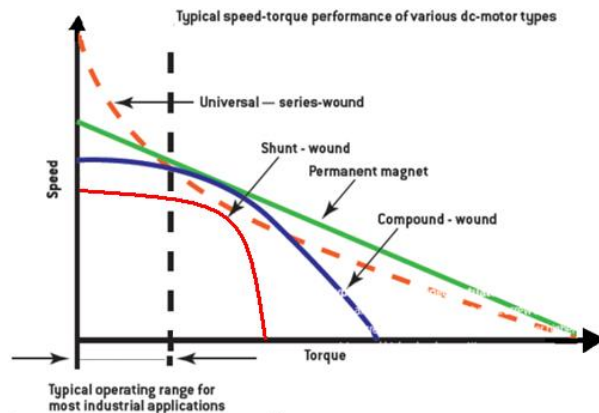
Compound wound DC motor

Separately Excited DC motor (also referred as particular case of shunt)

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DC motors Torque-speed curve comparison



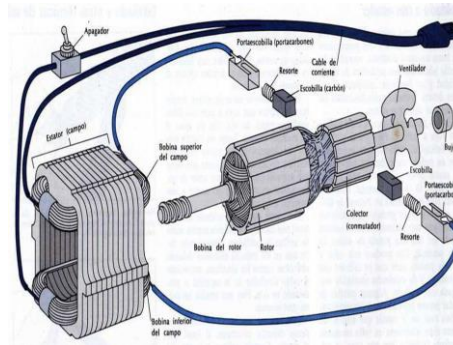
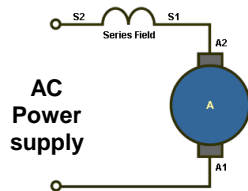
<https://www.designworldonline.com/a-new-look-at-an-old-motor/>

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Universal Motor

- Similar to a series wound DC motor, but operating with an AC supply



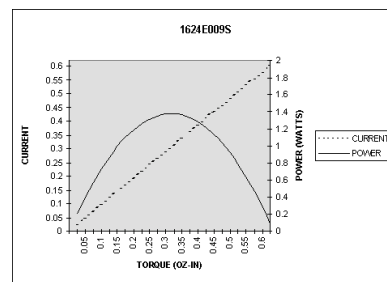
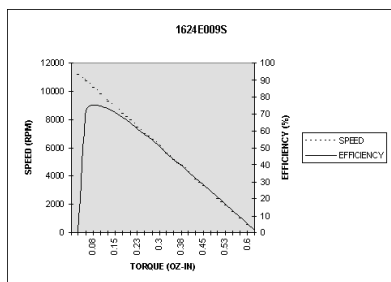
<http://maquinaseletricas.blogspot.pt>

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Permanent magnet DC motor

- Torque -speed and torque-current



<http://www.micromo.com>

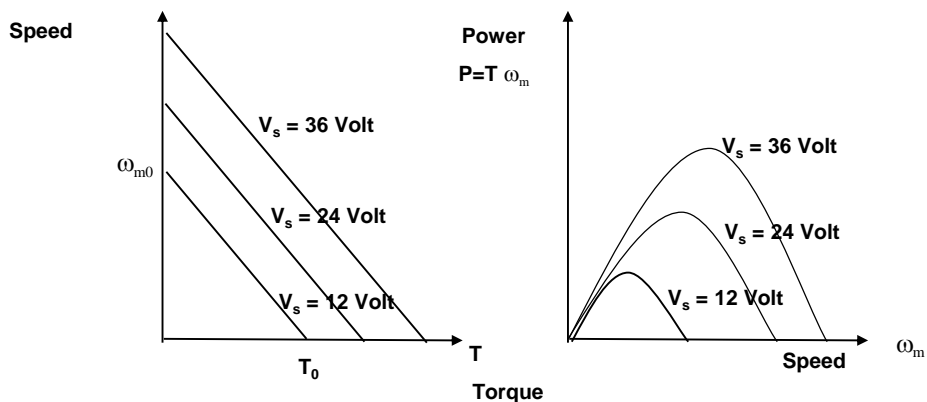
- Power
 - $P [W] = T [Nm] \cdot \omega [rad/s]$
 - $P [W] = F [Nm] \cdot v [m/s]$

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Permanent magnet DC motor

- Speed-Torque and Power-to-Speed Ratio



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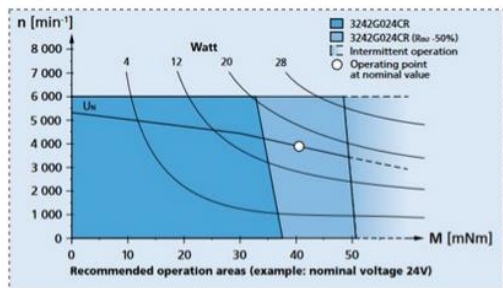
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Permanent magnet DC motor

Permanent magnet DC motor

- Torque -speed curves
- Motor Series 3242 024CR

Faulhaber CR motors



Series 3242 ... CR

Values at 22°C and nominal voltage		3242 G	024 CR
1	Nominal voltage	U_n	24
2	Terminal resistance	R	5
3	Efficiency, max.	η_{max}	73
4	No-load speed	n_0	5 300
5	No-load current, typ. (with shaft ø 5 mm)	I_0	0,117
6	Stall torque	M_{st}	189
7	Friction torque	M_f	4,8
8	Speed constant	k_n	231
9	Back-EMF constant	k_E	4,33
10	Torque constant	k_M	41,3
11	Current constant	k_i	0,024
12	Slope of n-M curve	$\Delta n / \Delta M$	28
13	Rotor inductance	L	540
14	Mechanical time constant	T_m	7,5
15	Rotor inertia	J	26
16	Angular acceleration	α_{max}	74

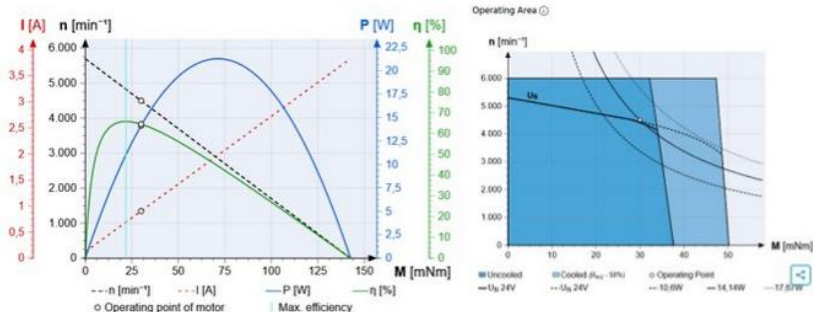
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Permanent magnet DC motor

- Speed-torque and current-torque curves
- Motor Series 3242 024CR

Faulhaber CR motors



Example for load requirements:
 30 mNm,
 4500 rpm

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Permanent magnet DC motor

- Faulhaber CR motors
- Motor Series 3242 024CR

Possible compatible drivers from Faulhaber

- Motion controller Series MC 5005 S, V3.0, 4-Quadrant PWM, with RS232, CANopen or EtherCAT interface; supply voltage: 12 ... 50 V DC. Max. continuous output current: 5 A. Max. peak output current: 15 A
- Speed controller, Series SC5004 P, 4-Quadrant PWM configurable via PC. Supply voltage: 6 ... 50 V DC. Max. continuous output current: 4 A. Max. peak output current: 8 A



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Control Strategies for DC motors

Speed and torque can be controlled through three primary methods:

- **Armature Voltage Control (V_a):** most common; varies speed while keeping torque capability constant. Usually implemented via PWM (Pulse Width Modulation)
- **Field Control (Φ):** reducing field current increases speed but reduces torque (Field Weakening)
- **Armature Resistance Control (R_a):** using external rheostats; inefficient and rarely used in modern systems
- **Speed-torque tradeoff:** involves adjusting the load on the motor to control the speed and torque (for example: increasing the load, decreases the speed but increases torque)

Selection Criteria for Dc motors Generic considerations

When specifying a motor from suppliers like ABB, Crouzet, or Maxon, consider:

- **Duty Cycle:** S1 (Continuous) vs. S3 (Intermittent)
- **Thermal Limits:** the motor's ability to dissipate heat generated by $I_a^2 \cdot R_a$ losses
- **Dynamic Response:** high torque-to-inertia ratio for rapid acceleration

Selection Criteria for a permanent magnet DC motor

1. Thermal limitation: the motor must be able to dissipate the thermal power generated in the rotor winding $P_{\text{thermal}} [\text{W}] = I^2 [\text{A}] \times R_a [\text{W}]$
2. The current in the motor determines the torque produced $I_a [\text{A}] = T [\text{Nm}] / K_T [\text{Nm/A}]$
3. If the load torque is constant, the motor speed only depends on the supply voltage
4. Power is the product of speed and torque. Maximum power is obtained at the operating point which corresponds to half the no-load speed and half the torque (“stall torque”). *Rarely does a motor operate at full power due to thermal limitations*
5. Normally, a motor should run at 90% of “no-load speed” and at 10%-30% of “stall torque”
6. If it is necessary to use a reduction gear, the motor must be selected for the minimum operating speed, choosing a motor with an operating voltage higher than the supply voltage available for operation
7. Other factors to consider include motor size and weight, operating environment, mechanical loads, and service life

Selection Criteria for a permanent magnet DC motor

Efficiency

- The maximum efficiency of a permanent magnet DC motor is typically achieved when the motor develops approximately 10% of its starting torque (“stall torque”). Thus, if a particular application requires very high efficiency, the motor must be selected with a starting torque 10 times the required operating torque

Permanent magnet DC motor Motor parameters

Common specifications

- Power (mechanical) [W]
- Nominal voltage [V]
- No-load speed [rpm]
- No-load current [A]
- Stall torque (torque @ 0 speed) [Nm]
- Friction torque [Nm]
- Speed constant [rpm/V]
- Back-EMF constant [V/rpm]
- Torque constant [Nm/A]
- Terminal resistance [ohm]
- Rotor inductance [mH]
- Efficiency [%]
- Maximum speed and current permissible
- Continuous maximum current

- Mechanical specifications
- Mechanical time constant [ms]
The time required for the motor to reach a speed of 63% of its final no-load speed, from standstill
- Rotor inertia [Nm/s²]
 - Thermal resistances [°C/W]
 - Rth1 corresponds to the thermal resistance between the winding and housing
 - Rth2 corresponds to the thermal resistance between the housing and the ambient air
- Thermal time constant
- Operating temperature range
- Maximum rotor temperature [°C]
- Shaft bearings / Shaft load max.
- Shaft diameter [mm]
- Shaft play (axial e radial) [mm]
- Motor weight [g]

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Permanent magnet DC motor

- **Benefits**
 - Relatively simple power electronics
 - Easy speed and torque control
 - Low complexity and cost driver
- **Disadvantages**
 - The collector is the weak point (wear requires replacement)
 - Poorly withstands currents above the rated current
 - Heating problems

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Use of DC motors

- Wide range of use and applications
 - Small motors: appliances, power tools, low-power applications
 - Medium-sized motors: pumps, fans, conveyors
 - Large power motors: cranes, industrial machines, electric traction

Available large range of DC motors, from multiple vendors

- Permanent Magnet DC motors
 - DC micro-motors from Faulhaber (www.faulhaber.com), power 0.5 W/0.17mNm up to 160 W/224 mNm, supply voltage 1.5 V a 48V, dimensions $\varnothing 6$ up to $\varnothing 38$ mm, length 15 up to 90 mm, no load speed up to 20000 rpm
- Wounded DC motors
 - From WEG (www.weg.net), power up to 10,000 kW, supply voltage 100 up to 1000V, dimensions frame IEC 90 up to 1800
 - From Siemens Series SimoticDC (www.siemens.com), power from 30 kW up to 16,000kW, supply voltage up to 810 V, torque up to 44500Nm, speed up to 3600 rpm

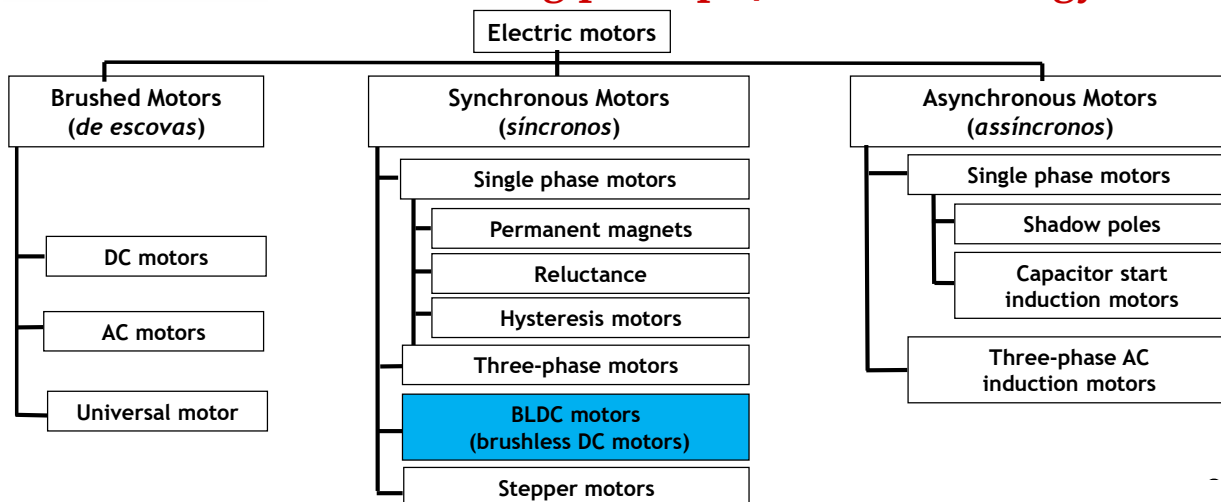
Suppliers of DC motors

- Small DC motors
 - Faulhaber: <https://www.faulhaber.com/en/>
 - Portescap: <https://www.portescap.com/>
 - Maxon: <https://www.maxongroup.com/en>

- Small-medium DC motors
 - Crouzet <https://www.crouzet.com/products/dc-motors>
 - ABB/Baldor <https://www.baldor.com/brands/baldor-reliance/products/dc-motors/permanent-magnet>

- Large DC motors
 - Simomotor <https://www.simomotor.com.cn/dc-motor/>
 - ABB <https://www.baldor.com/brands/baldor-reliance/products/dc-motors/integral-hp-and-rpm-iii>

Electric Motors classification Working principle/source of energy



BLDC Motors

The Brushless DC (BLDC) motor is a Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor (PMSM) designed to provide the performance characteristics of a conventional brushed DC motor but without the mechanical limitations of brushes and commutators

In a BLDC system, the traditional roles are reversed:

- **The Rotor:** contains permanent magnets (moving part)
- **The Stator:** contains the electromagnetic windings (stationary part)
- **Commutation:** performed electronically via an external or integrated **Driver**, rather than mechanically via brushes

BLDC Motors Key Technical Features

Unlike brushed motors, BLDC motors require a dedicated electronic drive circuit to operate. Their primary advantages include:

- **Operational Longevity:** no brush wear or carbon dust accumulation
- **High Power Density:** compact size relative to torque output
- **High Efficiency:** lower thermal losses in the rotor and no voltage drop across brushes
- **Low Electromagnetic Interference (EMI):** no electrical arcing/sparks

BLDC Motors Key Technical Features

- The BLDC motor needs a **Driver**
 - The Driver uses the rotor position signal to apply a voltage to the stator windings. This motor uses **electronic commutation**
 - The Driver can be external or, in particular cases, integrated into the motor
 - The rotor position detector can use a low resolution or high resolution devices
- The BLDC (brushless DC) motor combines characteristics of AC motors (brushless structure) and DC motors (current and voltage are respectively proportional to torque and rotating speed)
- The BLDC motor has a wide range of applications, from home appliances, computer fans, to automobiles

BLDC Motors The Principle of Electronic Commutation

The core challenge in a BLDC motor is knowing when to energize the stator coils to maintain continuous rotation. This is achieved through a closed-loop feedback system.

- **Rotor Position Detection**
 - To synchronize the stator's magnetic field with the rotor's position, the driver must receive feedback. This is typically achieved using:
 - **Hall Effect Sensors:** usually three sensors that detect the magnetic poles of the rotor*low resolution detection)
 - **High-Resolution Encoders:** used in advanced servo applications for precise position and velocity control
- **Commutation**

The driver uses the rotor position data and translates to power the stator coils:

 - **Block Commutation:** the driver uses a six-step switching sequence (standard operation) to energize two out of the three phases at any given time
 - **Field-Oriented Control (FOC):** advanced drivers can use sinusoidal currents for smoother torque and higher efficiency

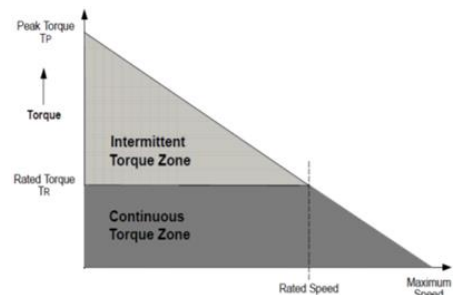
BLDC Motors Torque-Speed Relationship

The torque-speed curve of a BLDC motor is remarkably similar to that of a permanent magnet brushed DC motor

- **Speed Control:** adjusted by varying the average DC voltage applied to the windings using **Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)**
- **Linearity:** the relationship between torque and current, and between speed and voltage, remains largely linear

Operating Zones

- **Continuous Torque Zone:** the range where the motor can operate indefinitely without overheating
- **Intermittent Torque Zone:** high-torque peaks allowed for short durations (e.g., during acceleration) limited by the thermal constraints of the windings

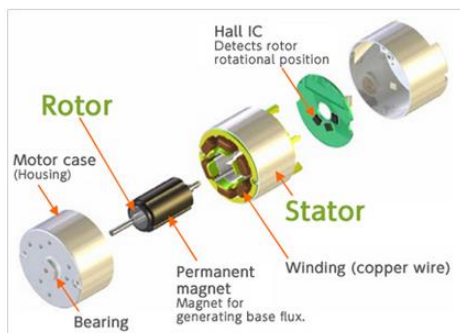


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BLDC Motors Inner rotor type

Inner rotor type (rotor inside the stator)



Advantages

- Rotor with a small moment of inertia
- High dynamic response
- High heat dissipation, as the coils are located on the outside

Disadvantages

- Reduced output torque
- Magnets can be damaged by centrifugal force

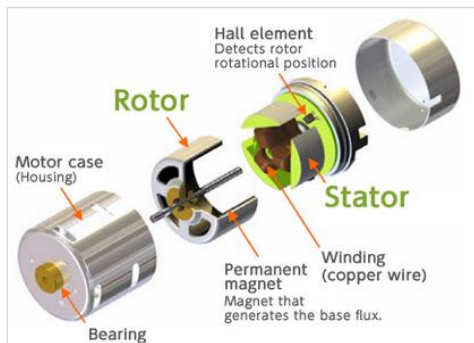
<https://www.nidec.com/en/technology/capability/brushless/>

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BLDC Motors Outer rotor type

Outer rotor type (rotor outside the stator)



Advantages

- easy to achieve high torque
- easy to achieve a stable speed
- Easy to create a structural base with the stator coil (coil directly installed on the printed circuit board)

Disadvantages

- the rotor is large (higher moment of inertia)

<https://www.nidec.com/en/technology/capability/brushless/>

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BLDC Motors

Maxon BLDC motor in 3D and AR



Maxon link

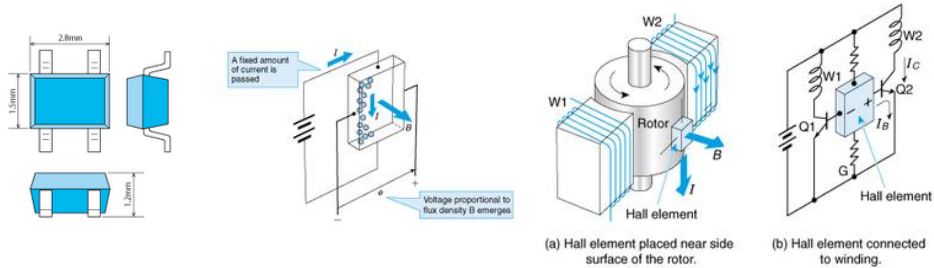


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BLDC Motors

Detection of rotor position: use of Hall sensors



Simplest principle of switching the current that flows through a brushless motor by the use of a Hall sensor and transistors

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BLDC Motors

- Example of a BLDC motor used in a computer fan

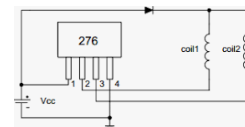


Dc motor 12 V, 0.24 A



BLDC Motor

- Rotor mounted in the exterior of the stator (rotor: permanent magnet)
- Stator with 2 windings (two pairs of poles)
- Integrated driver: AH266IC with Hall sensor and transistor driver for block commutation of stator windings



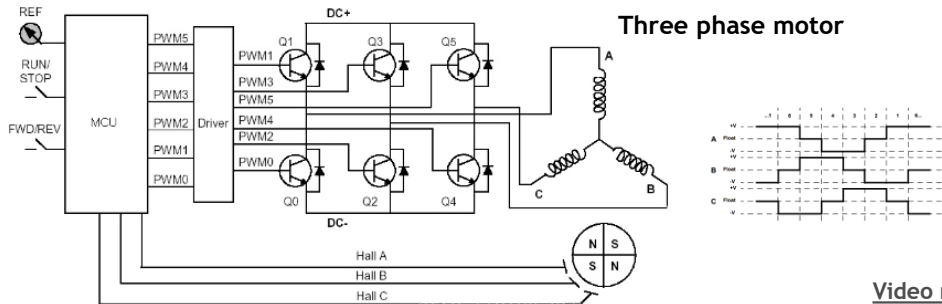
- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCEiOnuODac>

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BLDC Motors Block Commutation

- BLDC motor drive circuit



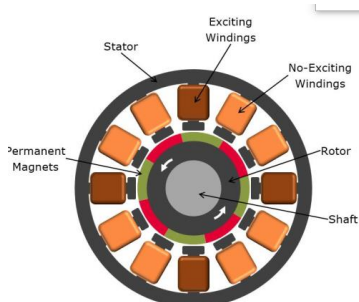
<https://www.bldcmotor.org/brushless-dc-motor-drive-circuit.html>

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BLDC motors

- Some BLDC motors can be fitted with high-resolution rotor position detectors (encoders) and, with sophisticated drivers, with field-oriented control (FOC), enabling torque, velocity, and position control. This type of control is similar to the one used with servomotors






Inner rotor / outer stator BLDC motor schematic (position detector not shown)

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Motor comparison

Designation	Power source	Stator	Rotor	Other key components	Driver	Type of commutation	Torque/speed curve
Permanent magnet DC motor	DC	Permanent magnet	Wounded	Commutator and brushes	Direct on line starter or use of PWM driver	Mechanical	
Universal motor/ DC serial motor	AC single phase or DC	Wounded	Wounded	Commutator and brushes	Direct on line starter or use of PWM driver	Mechanical	
DC shunt motor	DC	Wounded	Wounded	Commutator and brushes	Direct on line starter or use of PWM driver	Mechanical	
BLDC motor (brushless)	DC	Coil	Permanent magnet	Detection of rotor position (low resolution)	Need a driver (can be embedded with the motor)	Electronic	