

# Electromagnetic simulation of generators

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- RESULTS



# INTRODUCTION

- As a result of increasing trends on the wind energy applications, the explorations on different types of generators take attention world-widely.
- While many efforts have been given on modeling the new topologies of the electric machines, the cogging torque and phase voltage ripples have been main problems among the scientific manners.
- Since the multiple stator generators (MSGs) with permanent magnets (PMs) have higher energy densities compared to the other commercial generator systems, finite element analysis (FEA) of such generators shed a light on design optimization techniques on wind-related renewable energy explorations.

- PM generators with multiple stator systems can have minimal cogging torque values, if an appropriate design can be realized.
- In fact, the radially and angularly directed flux lines can help to minimize the undesired ripples and torques.
- According to the detailed analyses, the field morphology can have different orientations as also known from the claw pole machines, however the heating, losses and signal distortions become the main problems.
- In this lecture, main ideas on FEA in electromagnetics and its application to a novel axial flux generator will be given. At the end of the course a sufficient literature on the studied machines will be given.



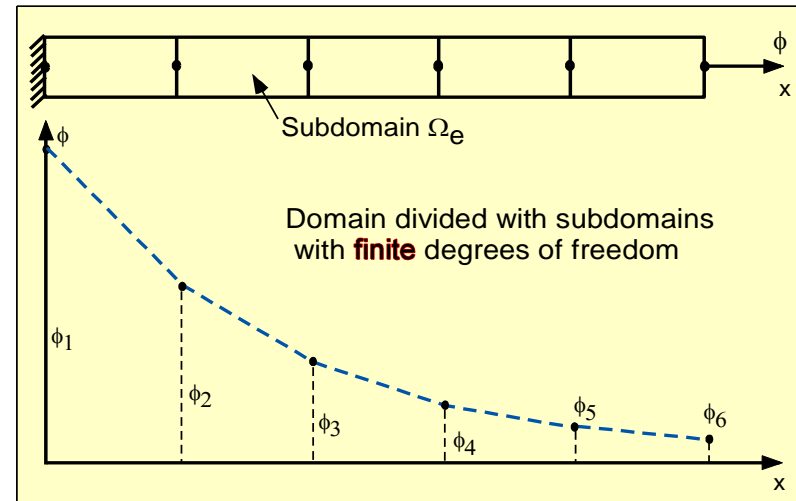
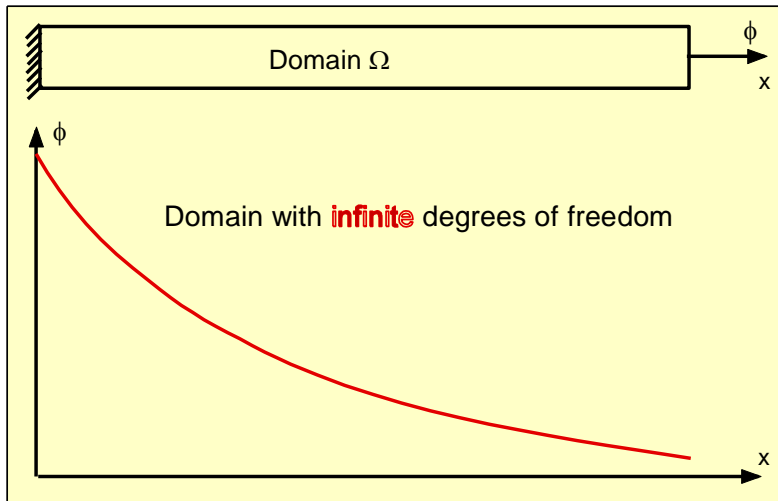
# FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSIS (FEA)

- Fundamental Concept of FEM
- Maxwell's equations
- Boundary value problems for potentials
- Nodal finite elements
- Edge finite elements



# FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT OF FEM

- A continuous field of a certain domain having infinite degrees of freedom is approximated by a set of piecewise continuous models with a number of finite regions called elements.



- Red line-Continuous field over the entire domain.
- Blue line-Finite number of linear approximations with the finite number of elements

Advantages of FEM are as follows:

- Model irregularly shaped bodies
- Compute general potential conditions
- Model bodies composed of different magnetic or non-magnetic materials (i.e. Ferromagnetic, diamagnetic and paramagnetic)
- Solve unlimited numbers and kinds of boundary conditions
- Able to use different element sizes in places where potential or general electromagnetic fields are concentrated
- Handle non-linear behavior using linear approximations
- Reduce System Cost

FEM Packages



FEM packages have 2 main types:

- Large Commercial Programs
  - Designed to solve many types of problems
  - Can be upgraded fairly easily
  - Initial Cost is high
  - Less efficient
- Special-purpose programs
  - Relatively short, low development costs
  - Additions can be made quickly
  - Efficient in solving their specific types of problems
  - Can't solve different types of problems





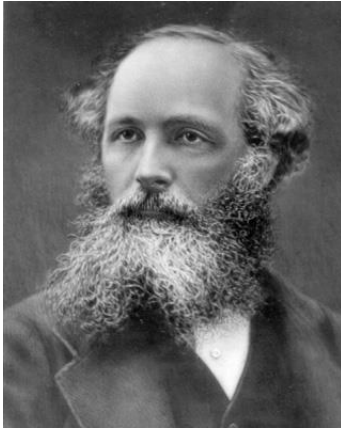
Some commercial packages are as follows:

- Algor
- ANSYS MAXWELL and FLUENT
- COSMOS/M
- STARDYNE
- IMAGES-3D
- MSC/NASTRAN
- SAP90
- GT-STRUDL
- SUPERFISH



# FINITE ELEMENT METHOD

- Maxwell's equations



$$\begin{aligned} \text{curl} \mathbf{H} &= \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} \\ \text{curl} \mathbf{E} &= -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \text{div} \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\ \text{div} \mathbf{D} &= \rho \end{aligned}$$

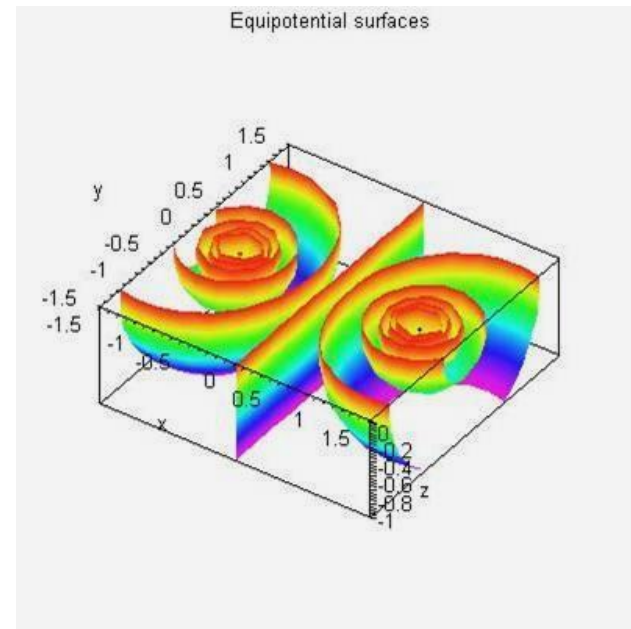
$$\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}; \quad \mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}; \quad \mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E}$$



- A numerical solution method for a well-defined material and media
- It solves differential equations
- Boundary values are important
- Everything should be defined in a closed solution cell



In order to solve an electromagnetic problem, the fields on a certain computational volume should be determined. Therefore the main fields for that purpose are POTENTIALS (i.e.  $A$  and  $V$ ). Thus for these potentials, one should determine the boundary values on the structure.

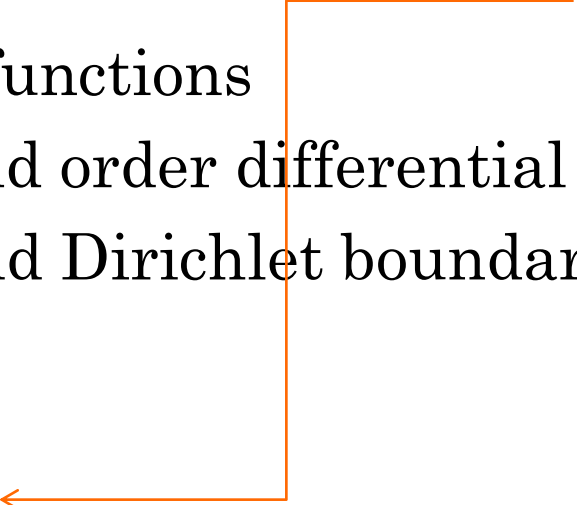


- Boundary value problems for potentials:

- ✓ Continuous functions
- ✓ Satisfy second order differential equations
- ✓ Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions



- Boundary value problems for potentials

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  - ✓ Satisfy second order differential equations
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- 



- Boundary value problems for potentials
  - ✓ Continuous functions
  - ✓ Satisfy second order differential equations
  - ✓ Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\mathbf{B} = \text{curl} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} - \text{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$$

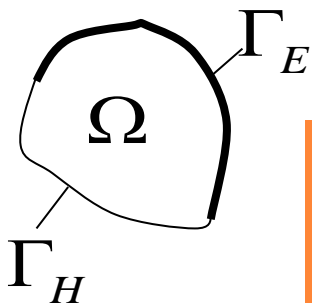


- Boundary value problems for potentials
  - ✓ Satisfy second order differential equations

$$\text{curl} \mathbf{H} - \mathbf{J} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\text{curl}(\mu \text{curl} \mathbf{A}) + \sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} + \sigma \text{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} + \varepsilon \text{grad} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\text{div}(\mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}) = 0$$



$$-\text{div}(\sigma \frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} + \sigma \text{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} + \varepsilon \text{grad} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2}) = 0$$

in a closed domain  $\Omega$

- Boundary value problems for potentials
  - ✓ Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions



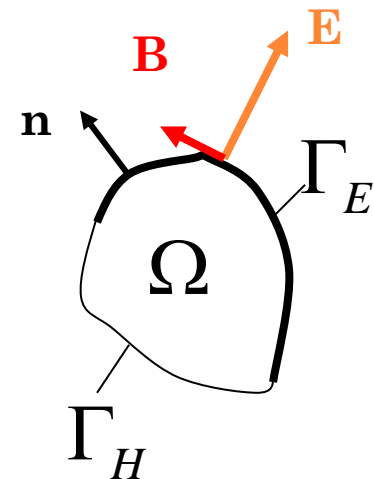
Prescription of tangential  $\mathbf{E}$  (and normal  $\mathbf{B}$ ) on  $\Gamma_E$ :

$$\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{n} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{n} - \text{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n} \cdot \text{curl} \mathbf{A}$$

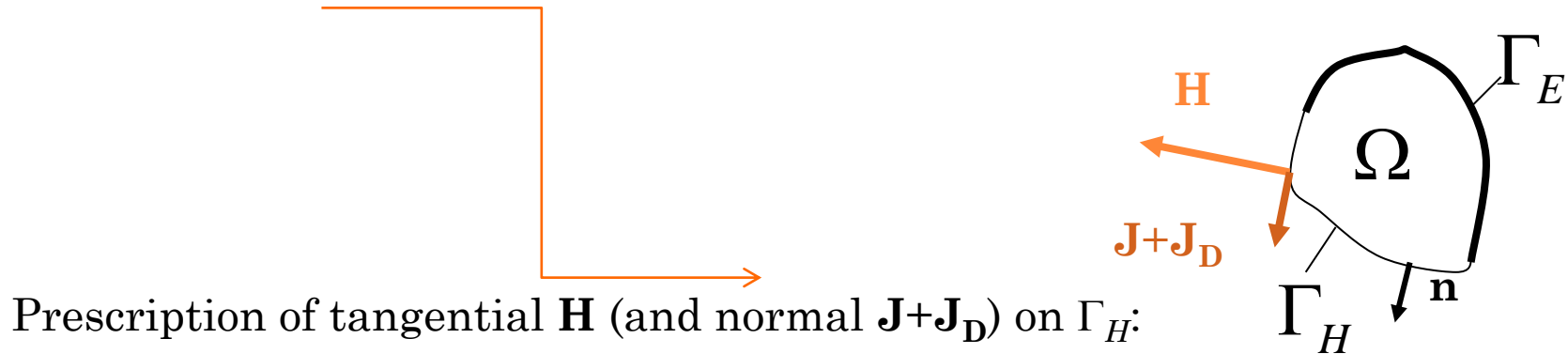
$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{a}_0$ ,  $\mathbf{n}$  is the outer unit normal at the boundary

$$V = V_0$$





- Boundary value problems for potentials
  - ✓ Neumann and Dirichlet boundary conditions



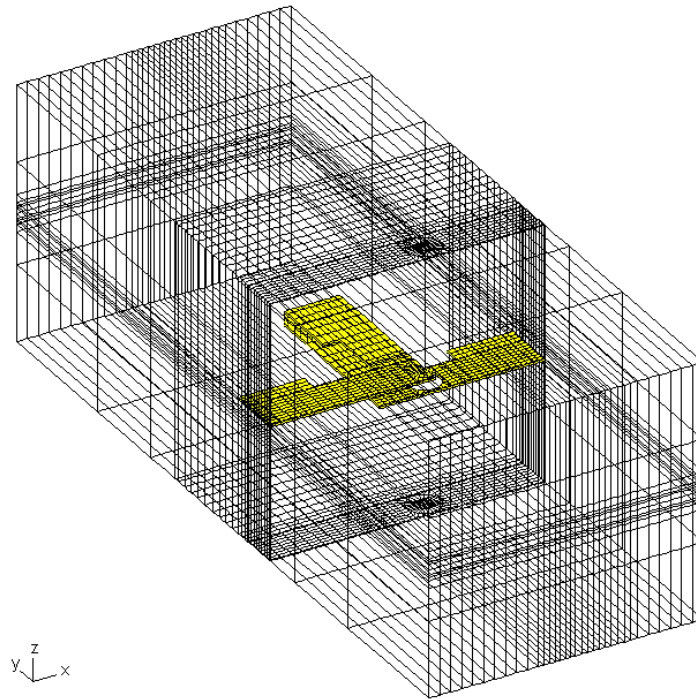
$$\mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{n} = \mu \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{n},$$

$$\left(\mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n} = -\sigma \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} + \operatorname{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n} - \varepsilon \left(\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} + \operatorname{grad} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

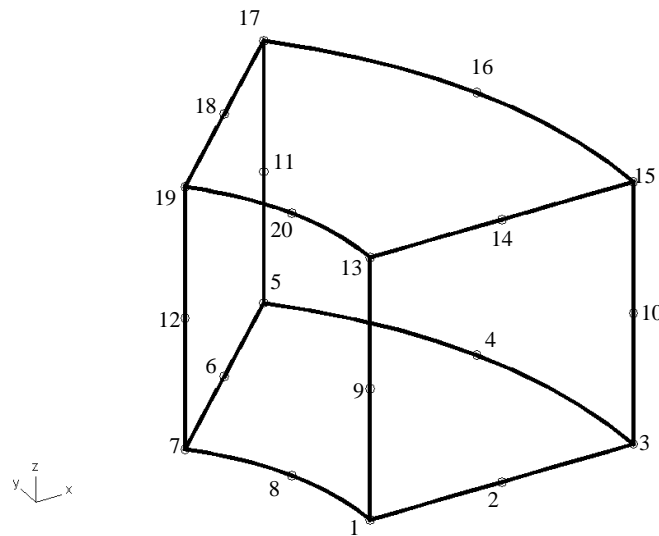
$$\mu \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{K},$$

$$\sigma \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} + \operatorname{grad} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n} + \varepsilon \left(\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} + \operatorname{grad} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2}\right) \cdot \mathbf{n} = -J$$

## ○ Finite element discretization



## ○ Nodal finite elements



Shape functions:

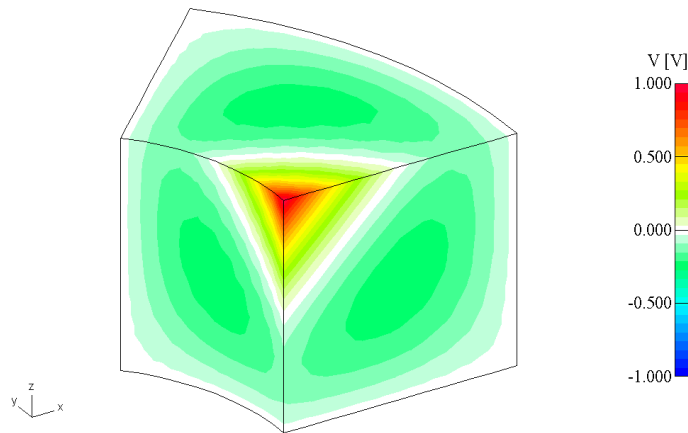
$$N_i(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{in node } i, \\ 0 & \text{in all other nodes.} \end{cases}$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, n_n$$

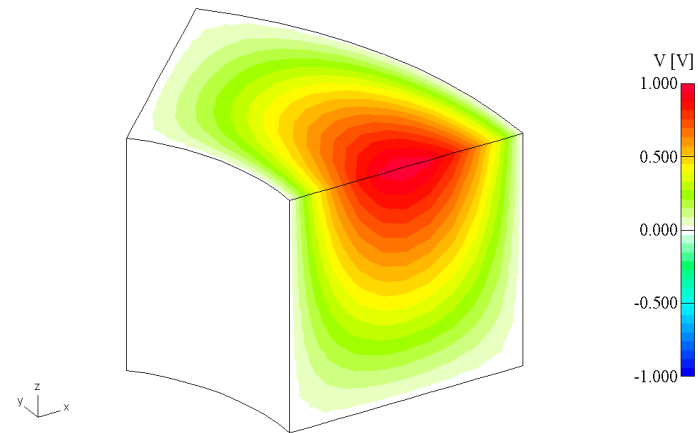


## ○ Nodal finite elements

Corner node



Midside node



Shape functions:



$$N_i(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{in node } i, \\ 0 & \text{in all other nodes.} \end{cases}$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, n_n$$



## ○ Nodal finite elements

Basis functions for scalar quantities (e.g.  $V$ ):

Number of nodes:  $n_n$ , number of nodes on  $\Gamma_D$ :  $n_{Dn}$

$$n = n_n - n_{Dn}, \quad \text{nodes on } \Gamma_D: n+1, n+2, \dots, n_n$$

$$V(\mathbf{r}, t) \approx V^{(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^n V_k(t) N_k(\mathbf{r})$$



## Linear independence of nodal shape functions

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n_n} N_i = 1$$

Taking the gradient:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n_n} \text{grad } N_i = 0$$

The number of linearly independent gradients of the shape functions is  $n_n - 1$  (tree edges)

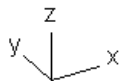
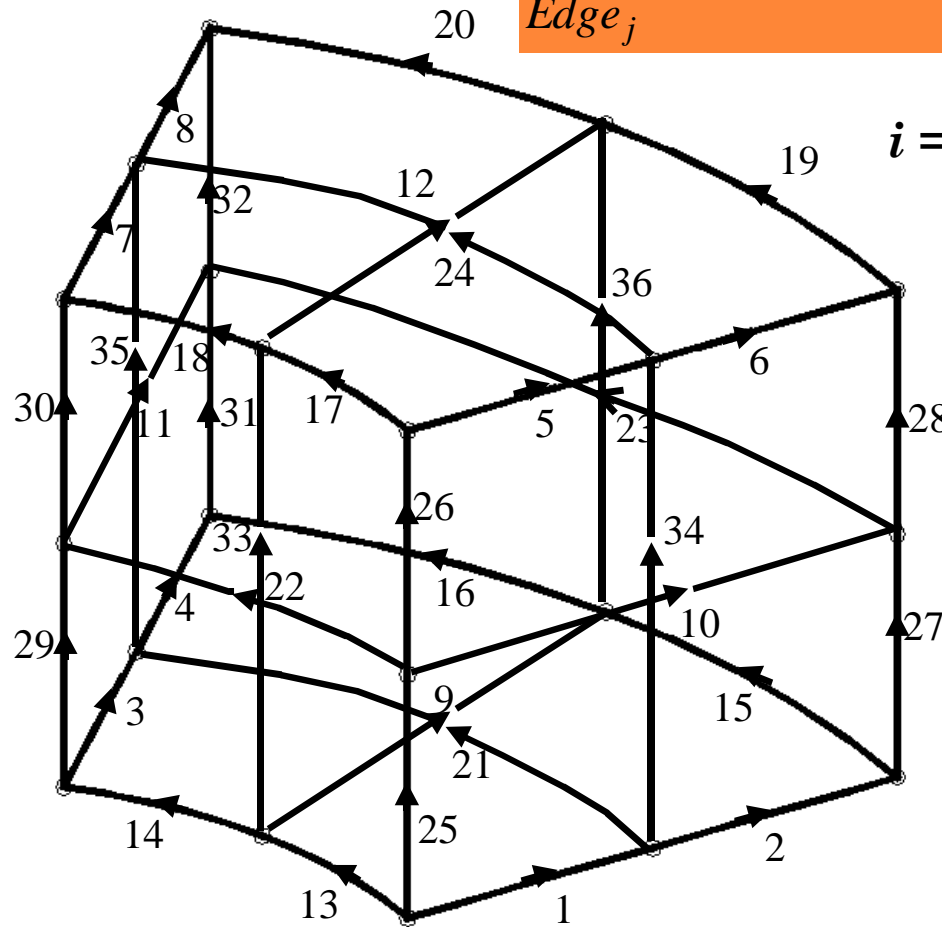


- Edge finite element

Edge basis functions:

$$\int_{Edge_j} \mathbf{N}_i(\mathbf{r}) \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

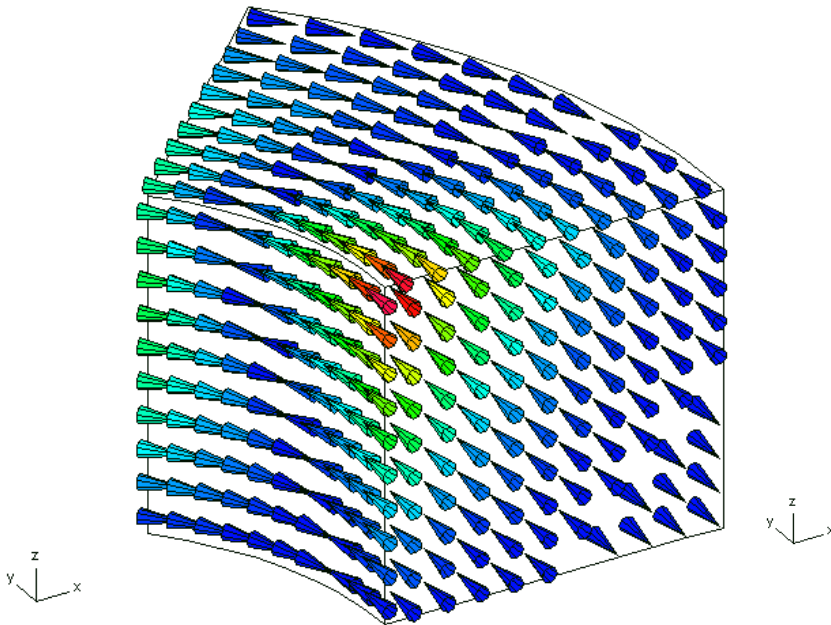
$i = 1, 2, \dots, n_e$



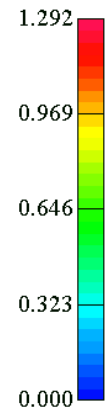
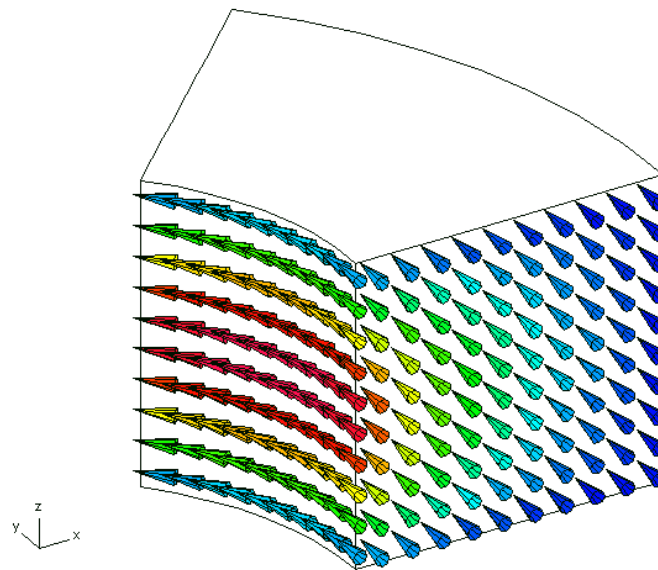
## ○ Edge finite element

### Basis functions

#### Side edge



#### Across edge





- Edge finite element

Basis functions for vector intensities (e.g.  $\mathbf{A}$ ):

Number of edges:  $n_e$ , number of edges on  $\Gamma_D$ :  $n_{De}$

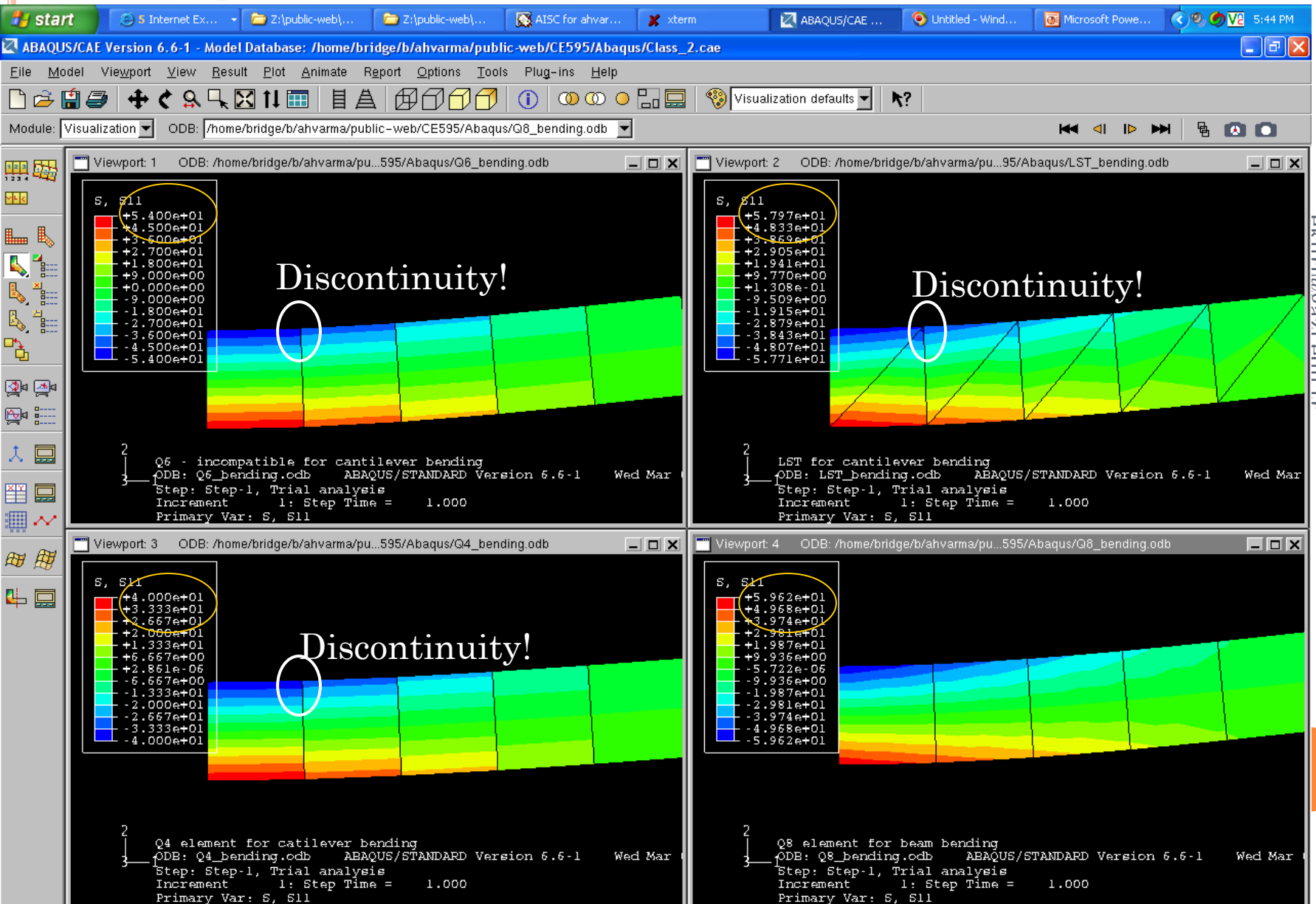
$n = n_e - n_{De}$ , edges on  $\Gamma_D$ :  $n+1, n+2, \dots, n_e$

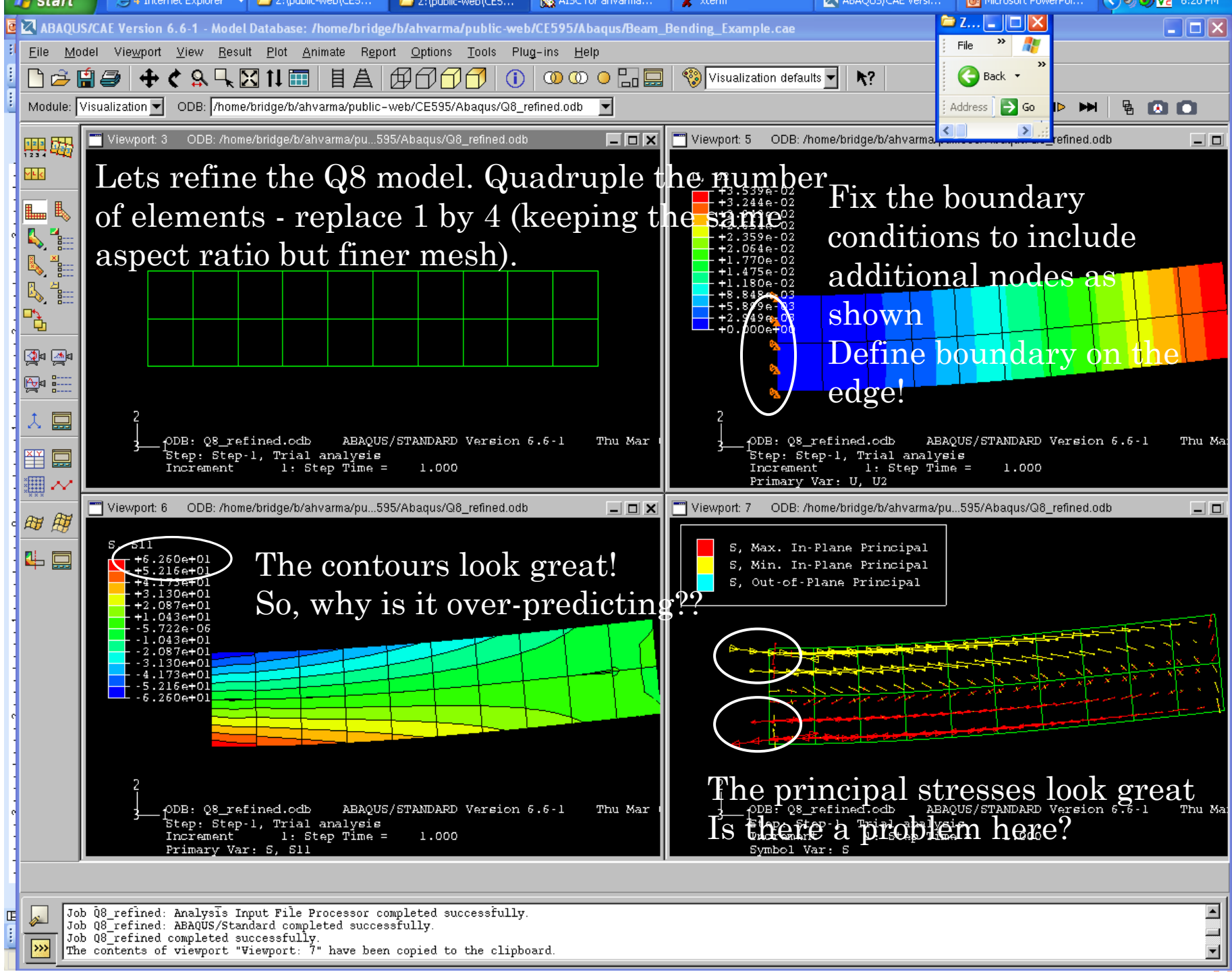
$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) \approx \mathbf{A}^{(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(t) \mathbf{N}_k(\mathbf{r})$$



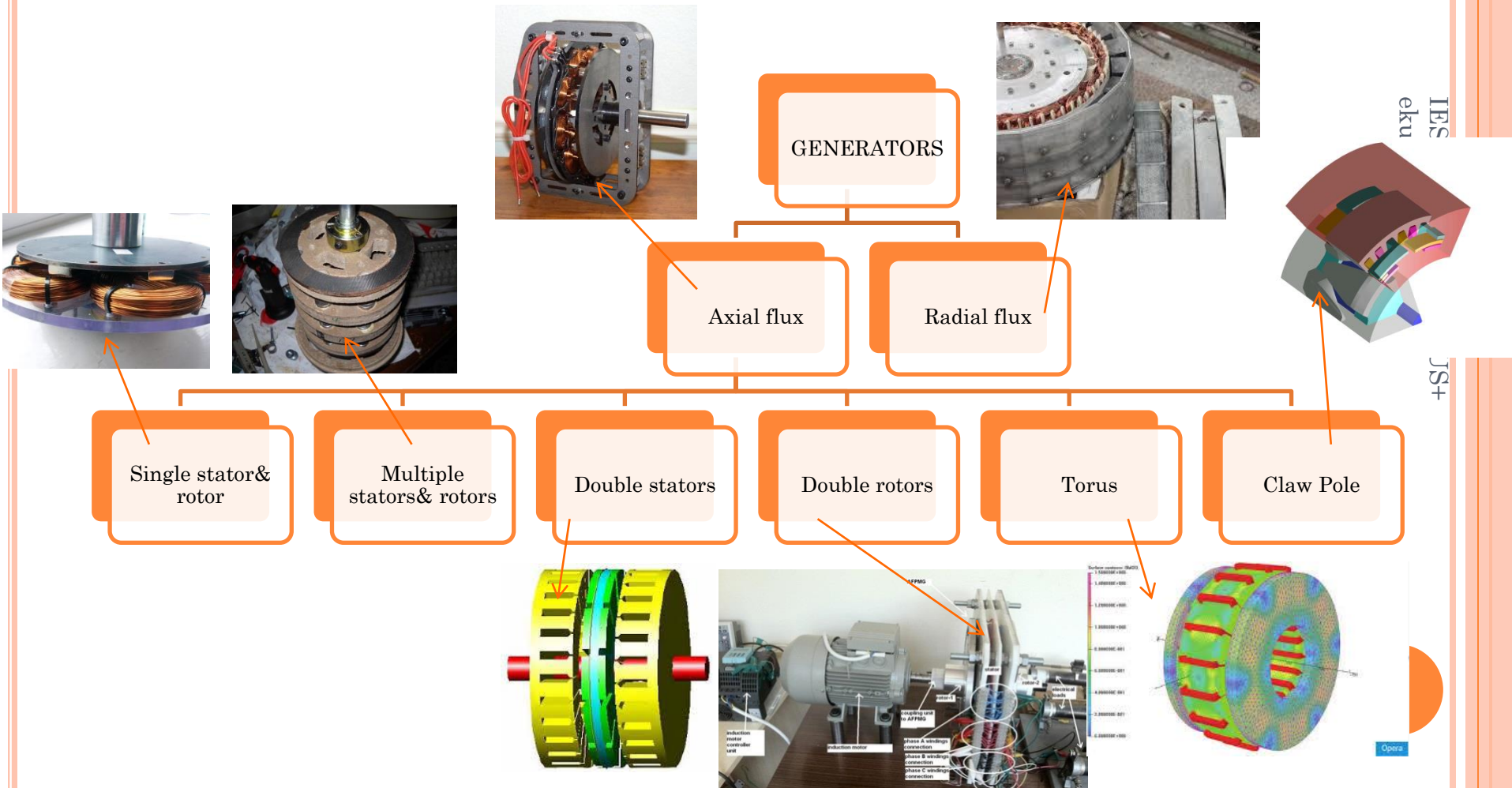
# FINITE ELEMENT METHOD ...

## ◦ Samples





# INTRODUCTION TO GENERATORS



# MOTIVATION

- The PMSGs suffer from the torque ripples arising from the electromagnetic design artifacts.
- The identification and the minimization of these ripples are of great importance in designing the machines.
- The parasitic torque ripples cause mechanical vibrations and acoustic noises in the machines.
- The most important contribution to the torque ripples is the cogging torque which stems from the magnetic interaction between the PMs and the stator slots.
- The air-gap reluctance should be constant as much as, when the rotor passes nearby the stator slots to minimize the torque ripples.
- There exist various cogging torque minimization techniques:
  1. The slot/magnet skewing,
  2. Displacing/shaping the magnets,
  3. Employing dummy slots/teeth
  4. Air-gap optimization techniques,
- In addition, second important artifact of the PMSGs is the temperature rise inside the machine.

Recent technological improvements on the production of permanent magnet (PM) materials and power electronics have enabled new design, construction and applications of permanent magnet synchronous generators (PMSGs).

The PMSGs are generally preferred over other generators and motors in the sense;

- ✓high efficiency,
- ✓high torque,
- ✓compact structure,
- ✓fast dynamic response.

If an appropriate air gap between rotor and stator and a suitable design shape are provided, one can use PMSGs in many applications which require minimal torque ripple, acoustic noise and reduced vibration.



# CASE STUDY (2 TYPES OF GENERATORS)

- Here we introduce a new axial-flux permanent magnet generator in order to give as a case study.
- The machine has single stator and double rotors at the left- and right-hand sides.
- The generator has different magnetic flux lines depending on the positions of cores and magnets.
- It was designed for wind energy applications.
- The transient solutions of finite element analysis (FEA) are obtained based on the equivalent circuit models subjected to three groupings (i.e. phases) and output currents, voltages and cogging torque values are simulated at various speeds.
- The machine can have different power ranges as function of airgap. Here it gives 600 W with 8 mm airgap.



# NUMERICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL CONSTANTS

- Total number of mesh elements over the entire volume: 930612
- Permanent Magnets: XG196/96  
(Magnetization= -763939A/m and density=7800kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Cores: M19 (density=7650 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Soft magnetic materials	Saturation flux density Bsat, [T] <sup>1</sup>	H( $\mu_{\max}$ ), [A/m] <sup>2</sup>	Relative permeability $\mu$ , [-]	Electric conductivity $\gamma$ , [MS]
M-19 Steel	1.99	79.577	4416	0

- Filling material: Polyester (electrical relative permittivity: 3.2)





# SINGLE PHASE GENERATOR

The second generator has 12 cores and 24 coils in the stator and 24 magnets are located in two rotors. Gen 2 is a single phase generator, however it can be easily transformed to a 3 phase generator.

- The loaded tests prove that  $P=95W$  is available at  $\omega=500$  rpm.

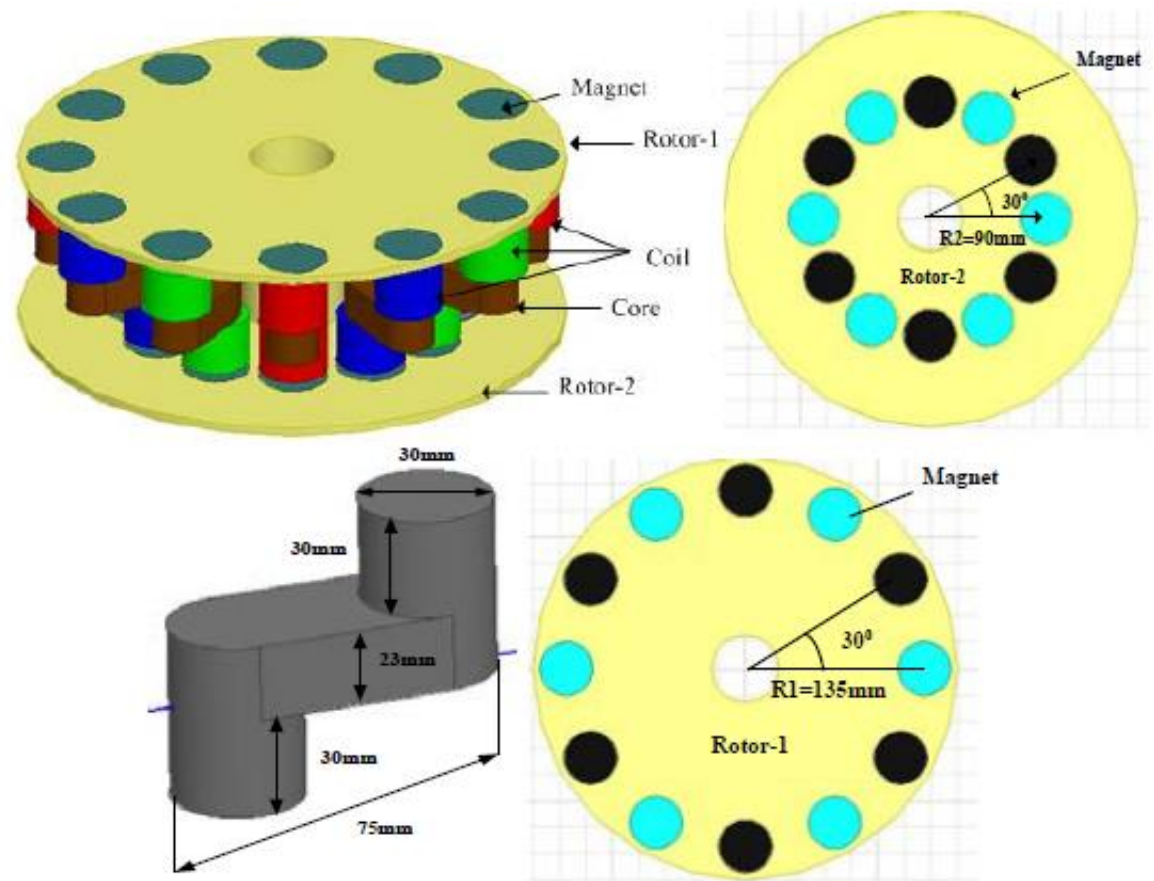
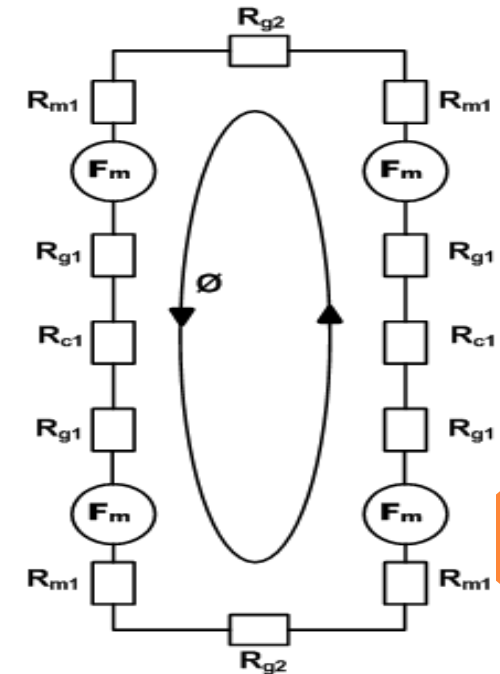
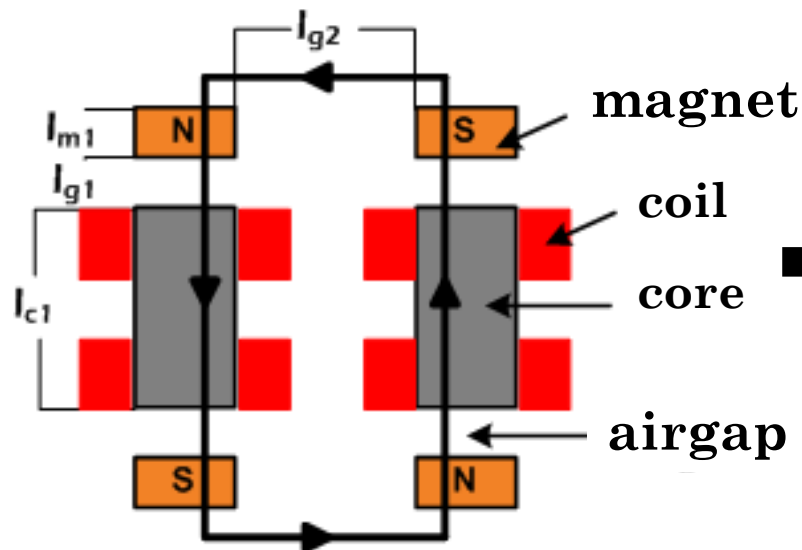
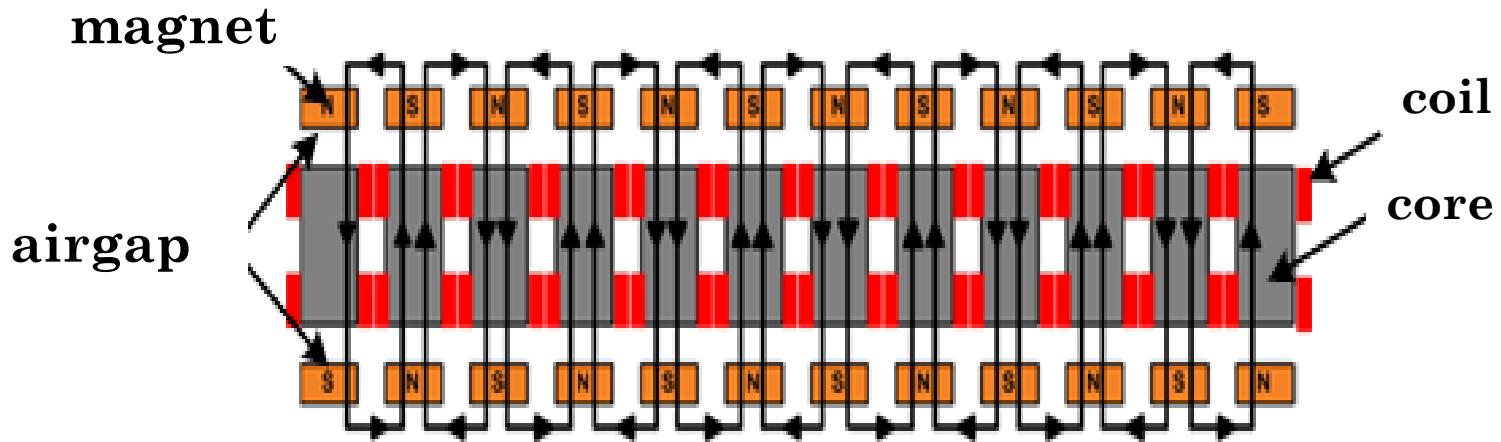
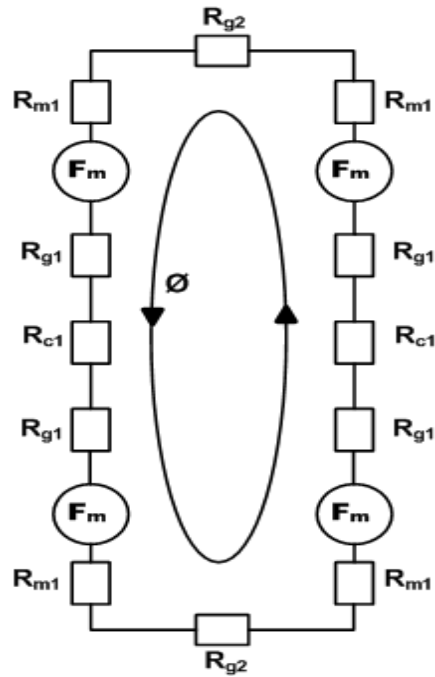


Fig. 3. Geometries of the second PMSG, two rotors with magnets and a core from the stator.

# THEORY OF SINGLE PHASE STRUCTURE





$$l_g = 4 \cdot l_{g1} + 2 \cdot l_{g2}$$

$$l_m = 4 \cdot l_{m1}$$

$$l_c = 2 \cdot l_{c1}$$

$$R_g = 4R_{g1} + 2R_{g2}$$

$$R_g = \frac{l_g}{\mu_o \cdot A_g}$$

$$R_T = R_g + R_m + R_c$$

$$R_m = 4R_{m1}$$

$$R_m = \frac{l_m}{\mu_o \cdot A_m}$$

$$R_c = 2R_{c1}$$

$$R_c = \frac{l_c}{\mu_{rc} \cdot A_c}$$

$R_g$ : Airgap reluctance

$R_m$  Magnet reluctance

$R_c$ : Core reluctance

$R_T$ : Total reluctance

$$\phi = \frac{H_m \cdot l_m}{R_T}$$

$$B_g = \frac{H_m \cdot l_m}{R_T \cdot A_g}$$

$$B_m = \mu_0 \cdot \mu_{rm} \cdot H_m + B_{rm}$$

$$B_g = \mu_0 \cdot H_g$$

$$B_c = \mu_{rc} \cdot H_c$$

- $B_m$ : Magnet flux density (T)
- $\mu_0$ : Vacuum permeability (H/m)
- $\mu_{rm}$  Magnet permeability (H/m)
- $H_m$ : Magnet magnetic field strenght (A/m)
- $B_{rm}$  Magnet reminiscence flux density (T)
- $B_c$ : Core flux density (T)



**When the Ampere's Law is applied,**

$$H_g \cdot l_g + H_c \cdot l_c = 4H_m \cdot l_m$$

$$\Phi = B_g \cdot A_g = B_m \cdot A_m = B_c \cdot A_c$$

$$\lambda = N_s \cdot \phi \qquad e = \frac{d\lambda}{dt}$$

$$e(t) = N_s \cdot \phi_{max} \cdot \omega \cdot \cos(\omega t)$$

$$P = m \cdot V_t \cdot I \cdot \cos\varphi$$

$$\Phi(t) = \Phi_{max} \cdot \sin(\omega t)$$

$$e(t) = N_s \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

$$P = m \cdot E \cdot I$$



# FLUX LINES

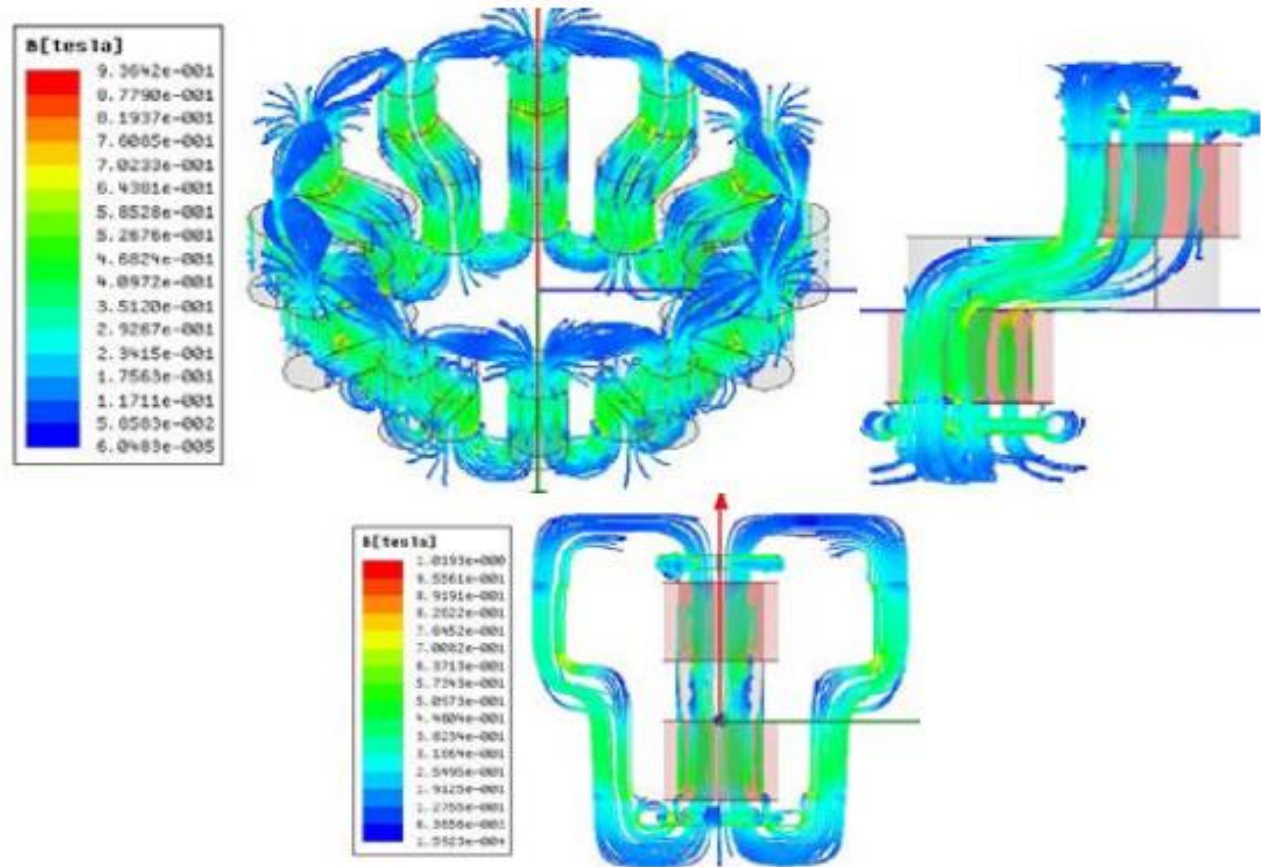
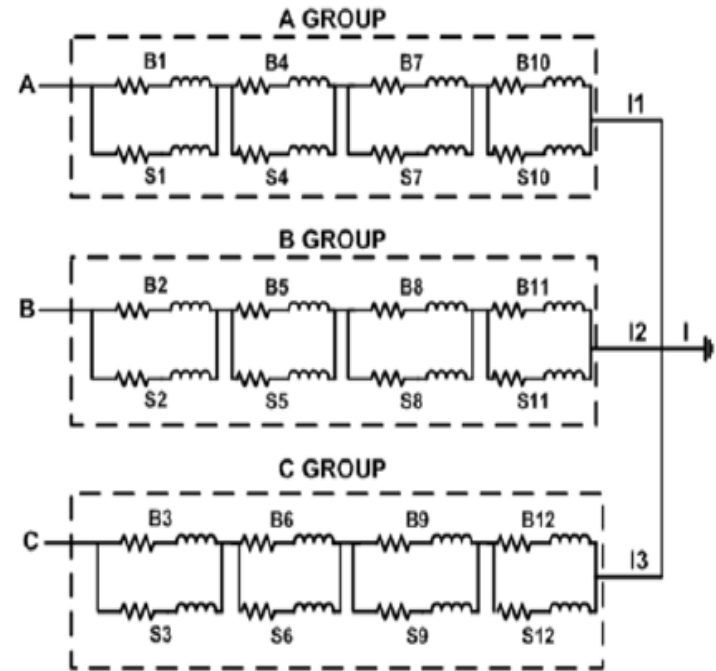


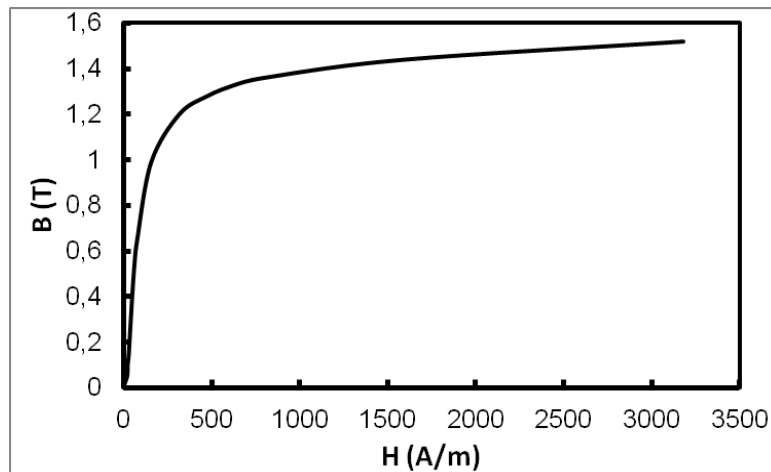
Fig. 5. Flux density lines.

# MAGNETODYNAMICS SIMULATIONS

- Magnetodynamics simulations have been performed for various angular velocities:  $\omega=100\text{-}600\text{ rpm}$  are presented here.
- In order to generate a raw AC power with unregulated voltage, we assign each group with the sum of the parallel attached upper and lower coils. Within this circuitry, phase voltages for each branch of star configuration can be increased twofold.



External circuit with three groupings A, B and C. Upper and lower coils are indicated by  $B_n$  and  $S_n$ .



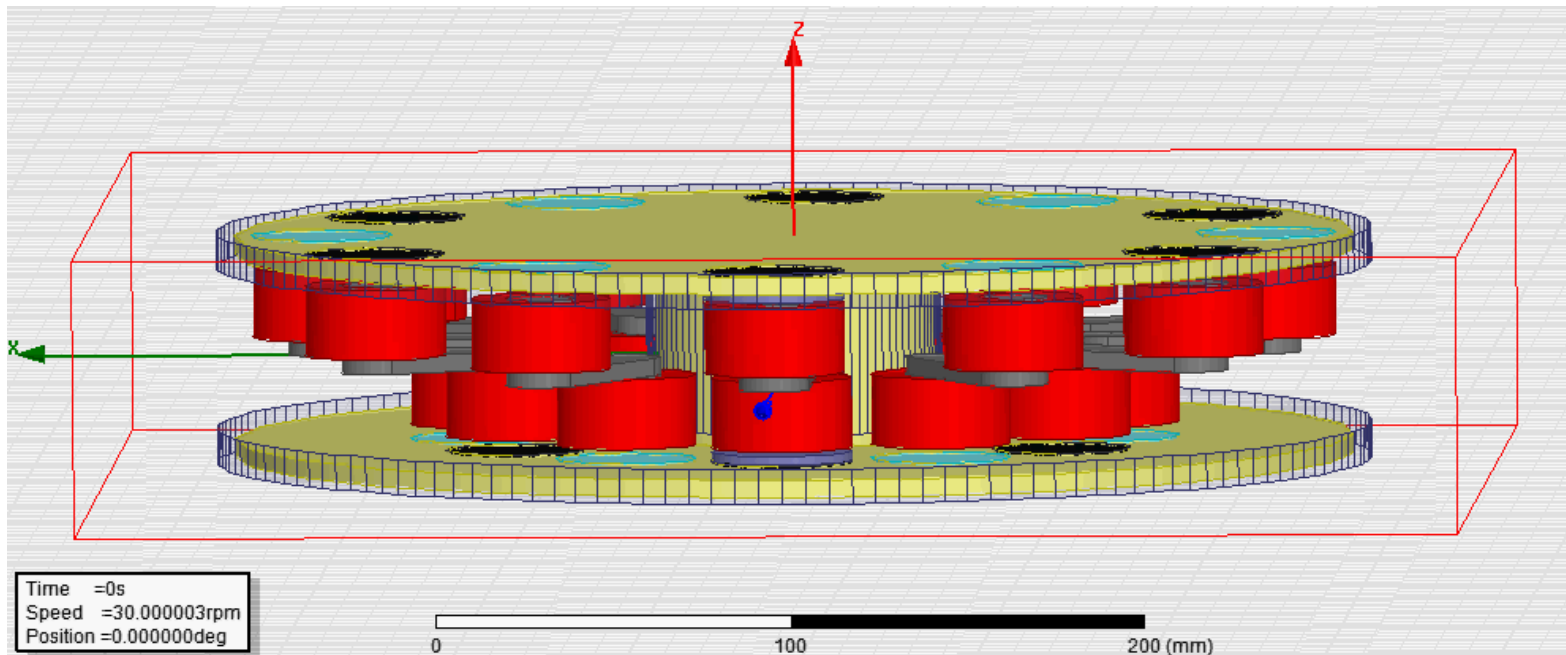
The B-H curve of core material in the simulation.

Design parameters of the proposed generator.

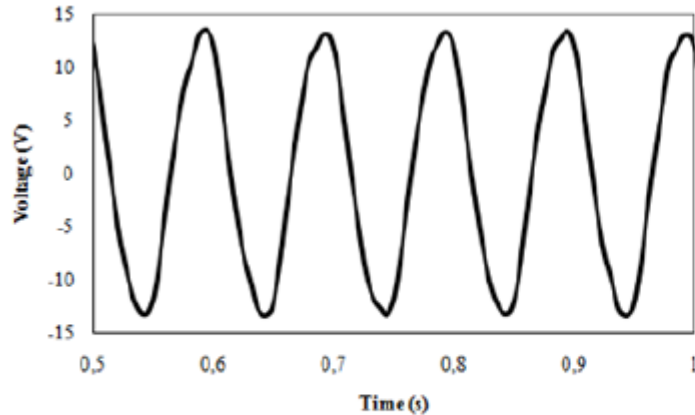
Components	Features
Inner radius of rotor $R_2$ (mm)	70
Outer radius of rotor $R_2$ (mm)	110
Inner radius of rotor $R_1$ (mm)	115
Outer radius of rotor $R_1$ (mm)	155
Inner radius of stator disc (mm)	70
Outer radius of stator disc (mm)	155
Coil inner diameter (mm)	30
Coil outer diameter (mm)	40
Phase	1
Winding turns	200
Wire diameter (mm)	0.75
Magnet type	NdFeB
Magnet shape	circular
Magnet diameter (mm)	40
Magnet thickness (mm)	5
Core material	M19
Core type	axially laminated
Air gap (mm)	5
Core coefficients ( $W/m^3$ )	
$K_h$	164.2
$K_c$	1.3
$K_e$	1.72
$K_{dc}$	0



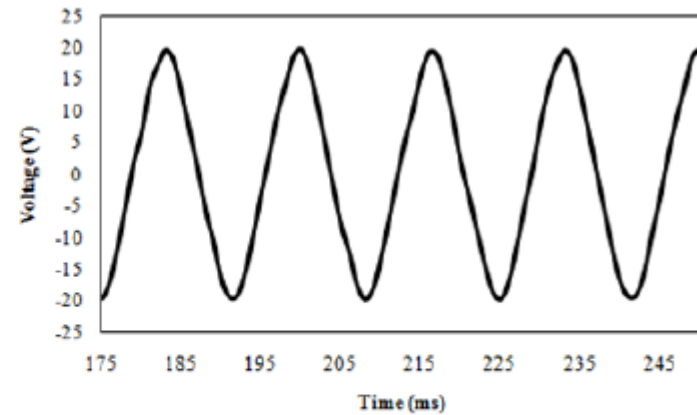
# MAGNETODYNAMICS



# RESULTS OF SIMULATION OF GEN2

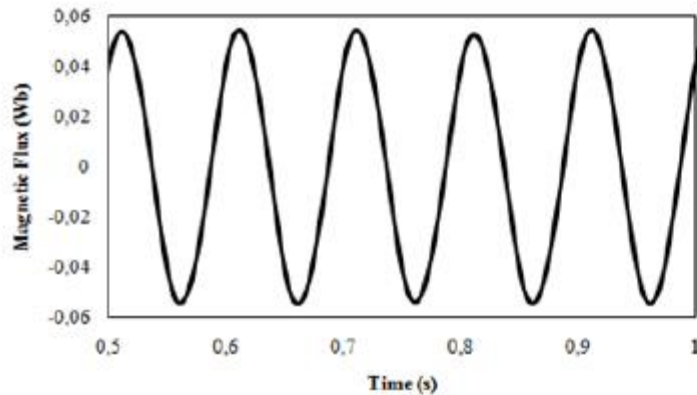


(a)

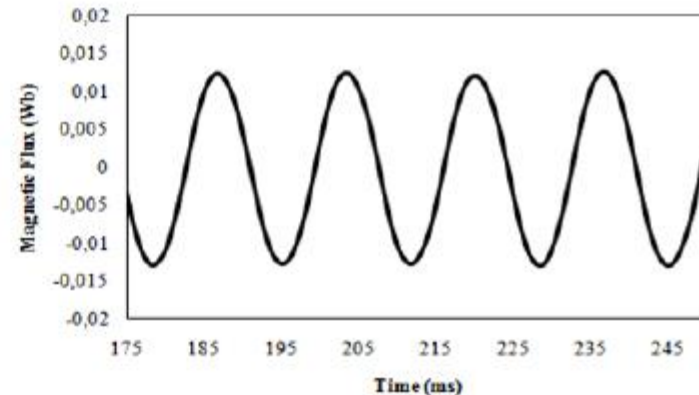


(b)

Fig. 9. Phase voltage versus time a) for  $\omega = 100$  rpm and b)  $\omega = 600$  rpm.

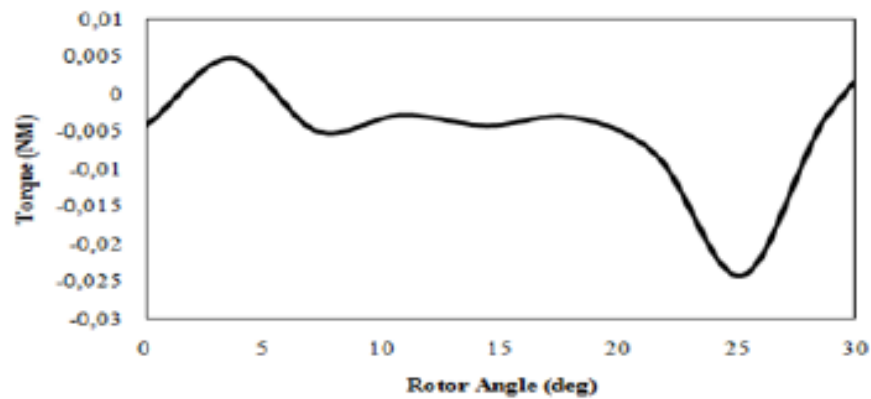


(a)

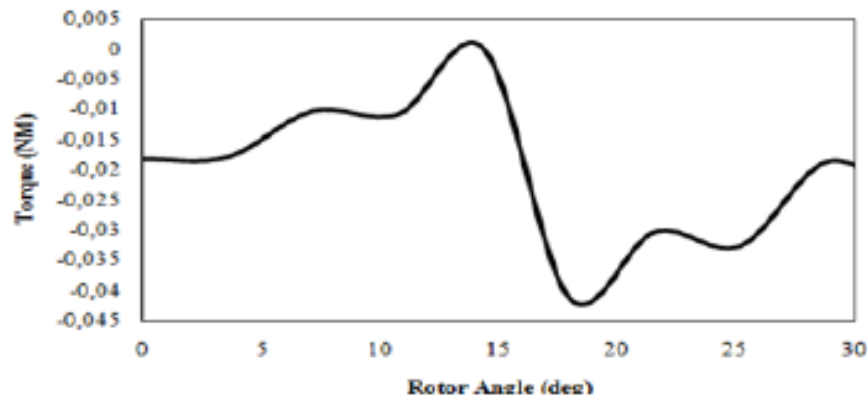


(b)

Temporal magnetic flux  $\phi$  variation: a) for  $\omega = 100$  rpm and b)  $\omega = 600$  rpm.



(a)

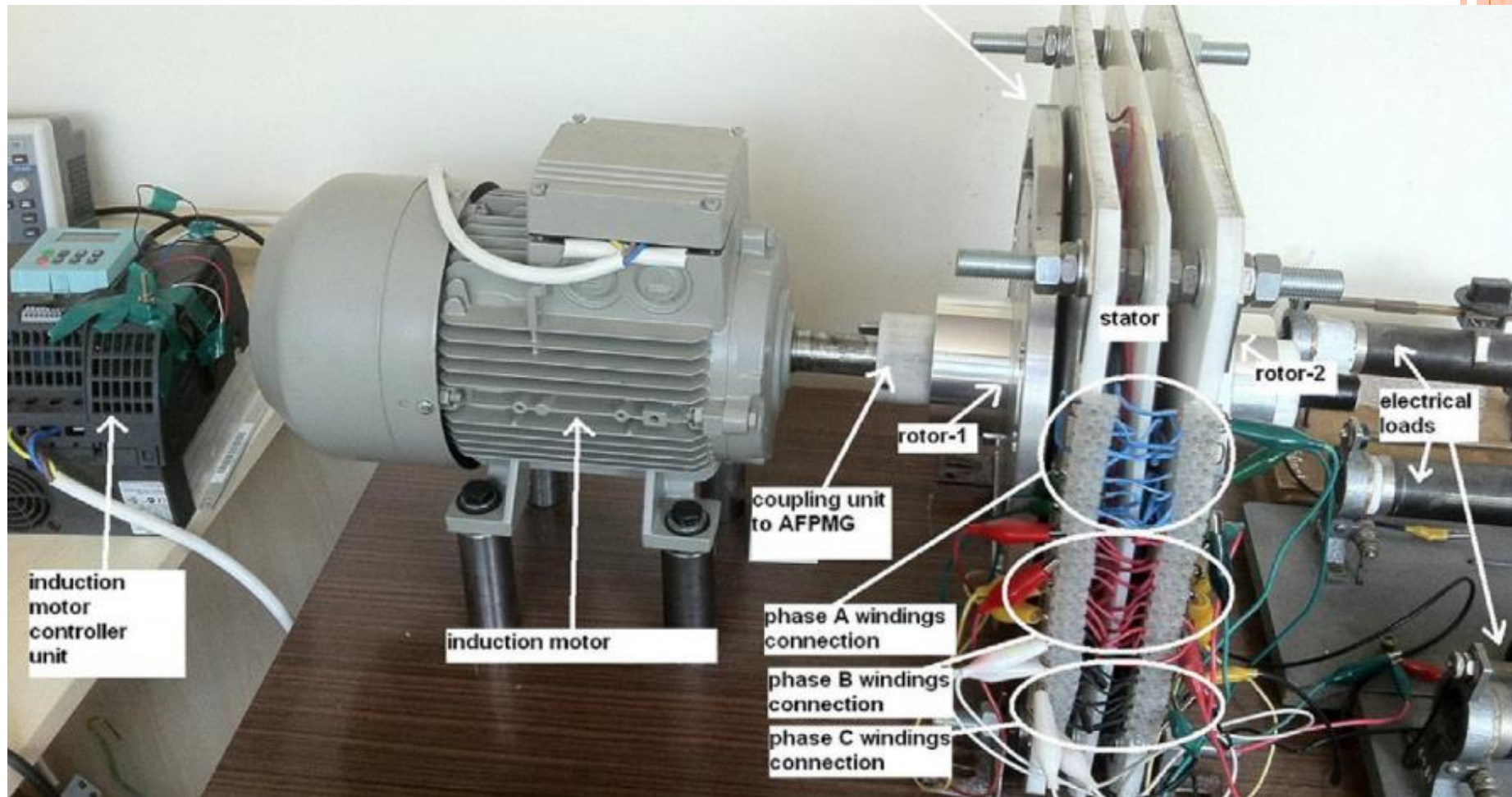


(c)

The cogging torques  $\omega = 100$  rpm and  $\omega = 500$  rpm.

The minimal and maximal cogging torque difference is 32 mNm.

# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



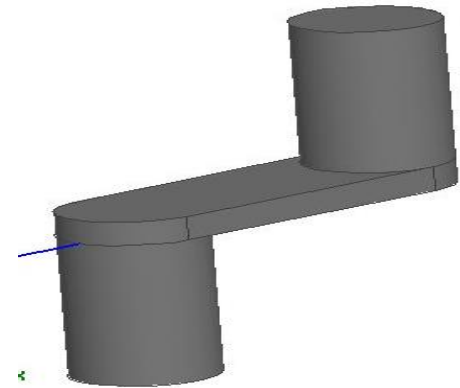
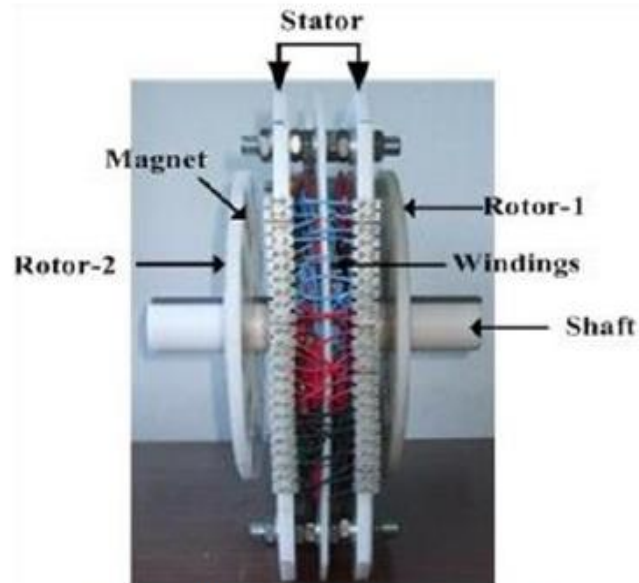
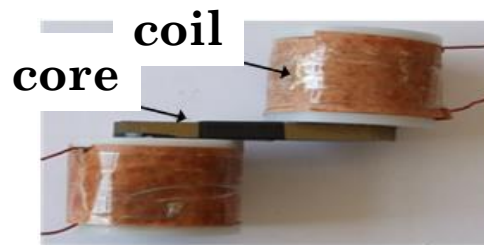
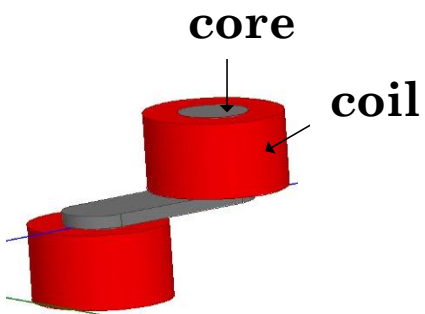
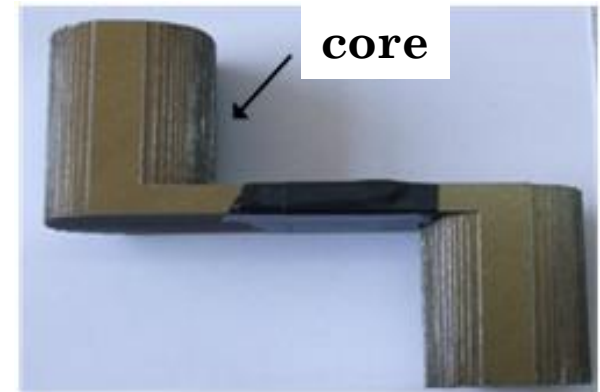
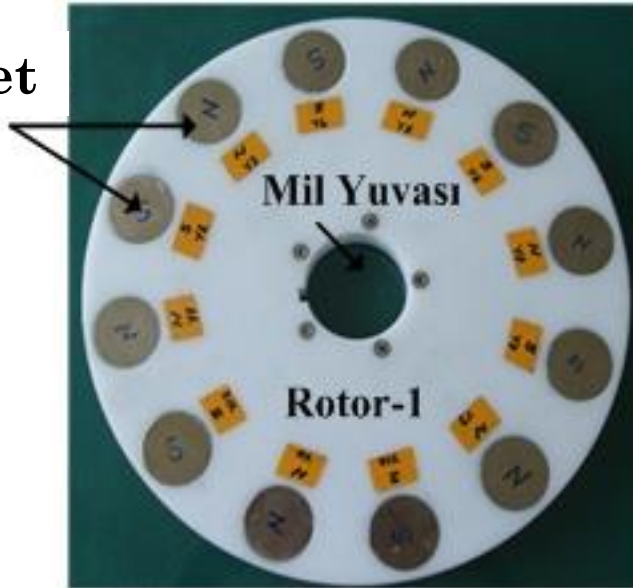


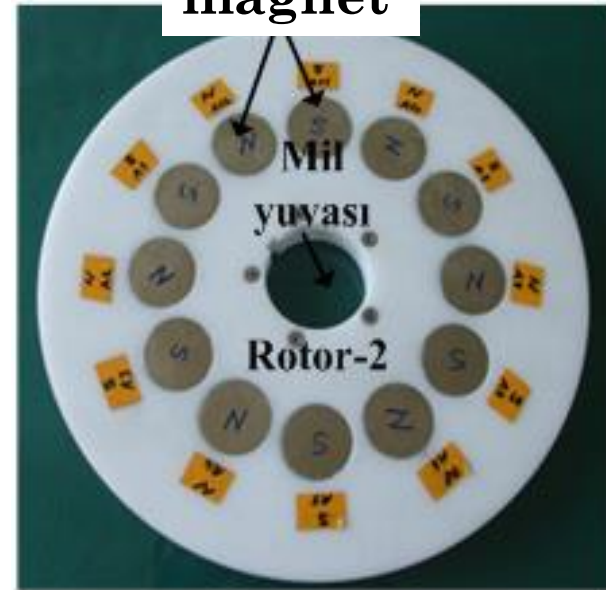
Fig. 16. The single phase generator with radial and axial fluxes. Each coil groupings are denoted by different color.



magnet

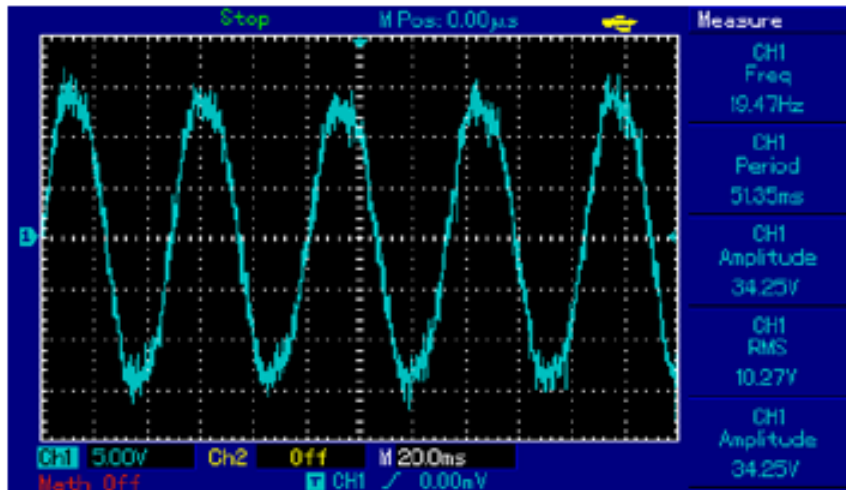


magnet

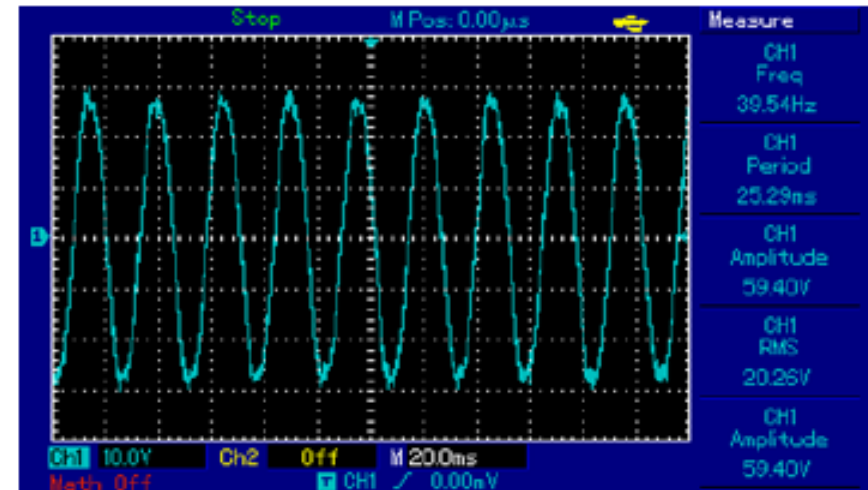




# VOLTAGE OUTPUTS OF GEN2



(a)



(b)

Fig. 17. No-load voltage outputs of Group A windings. The top and bottom waveforms were taken at 200rpm (a) and 400 rpm (b).

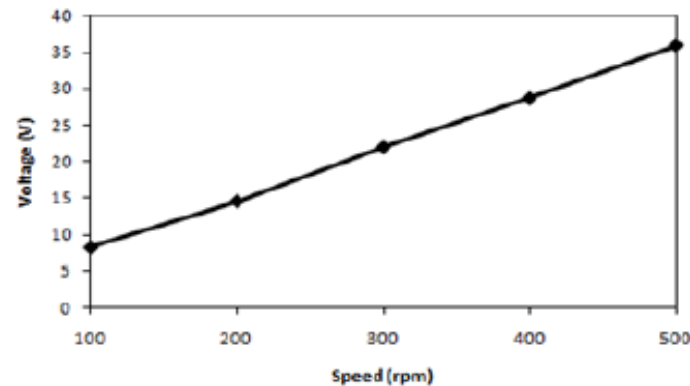
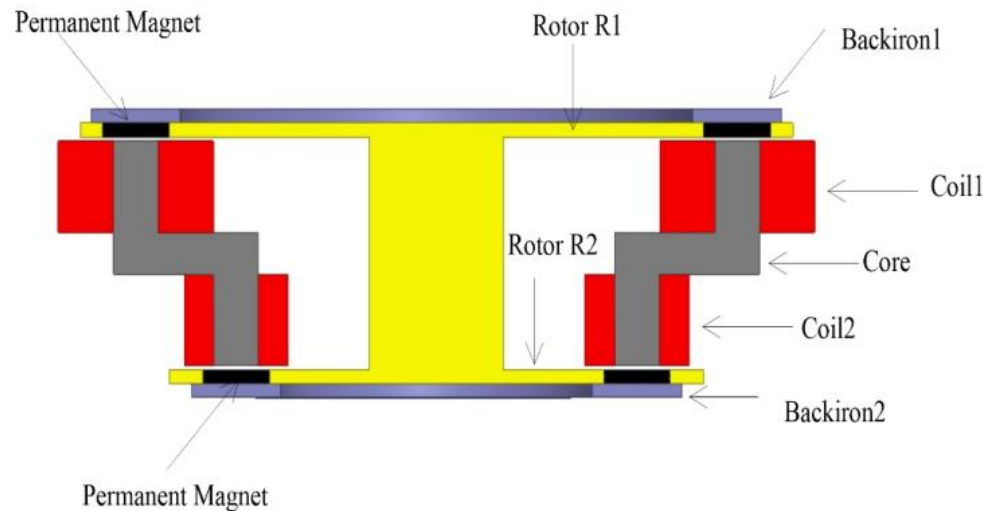


Fig. 18. The generated voltage  $U_{max}$  of Group A windings versus rotor speed.

# RESULTS FROM 3-PHASE MACHINE



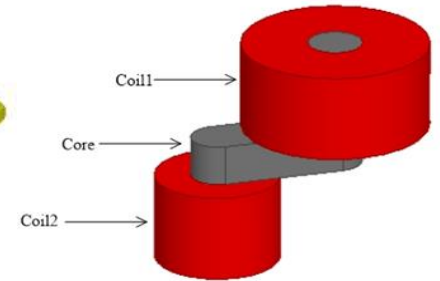
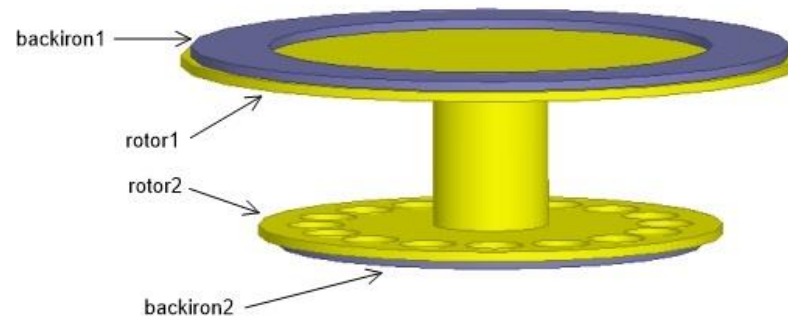
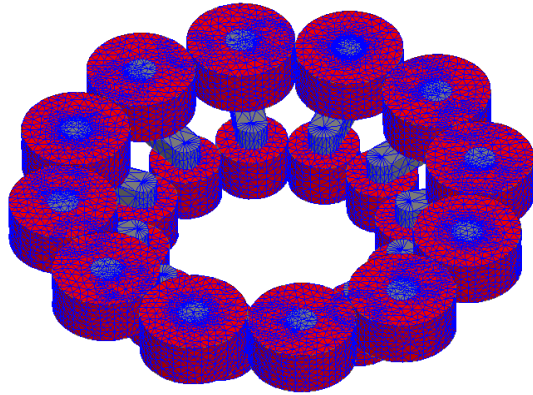
The air gap is adjusted as 1.5 mm for two sides of the stator located at the middle. The cross-section view of the PMG is shown in Fig. 1 . Two rotors are positioned on the upper and lower sides of a stator as seen in Fig. 1. Rotor-1 which has larger coils is located top, whereas the Rotor-2 is located bottom. The cores and the location of sample magnets are also obvious in Fig. 1.



**Table 1 – Design parameters of the machine.**

Components	Features
Inner radius of rotor $R_2$ (mm)	75
Outer radius of rotor $R_2$ (mm)	105
Inner radius of rotor $R_1$ (mm)	120
Outer radius of rotor $R_1$ (mm)	150
Inner radius of stator disc (mm)	70
Outer radius of stator disc (mm)	155
Thickness of <i>back-irons</i> (mm)	5
Radial width of <i>back-irons</i> (mm)	40
Coil inner diameter (mm)	30
Small coil outer diameter (mm)	46.4
Large coil outer diameter (mm)	69.6
Phase	3
Winding turns for large coil	300
Winding turns for small coil	200
Coil number	24
Wire diameter (mm)	0.75
Magnet type	NdFeB
Magnet shape	Circular
Magnet number	16
Magnet diameter (mm)	30
Magnet thickness (mm)	5
Core material	M19
Core type	Axially/radially laminated
Core number	12
Air gap (mm)	1.5



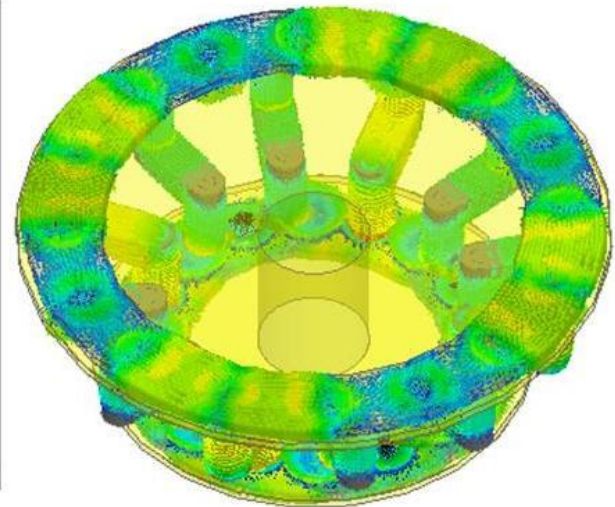
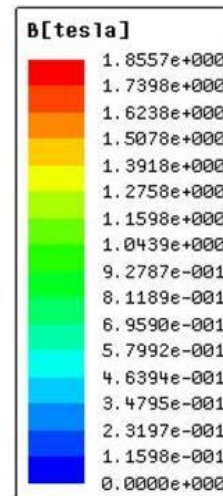
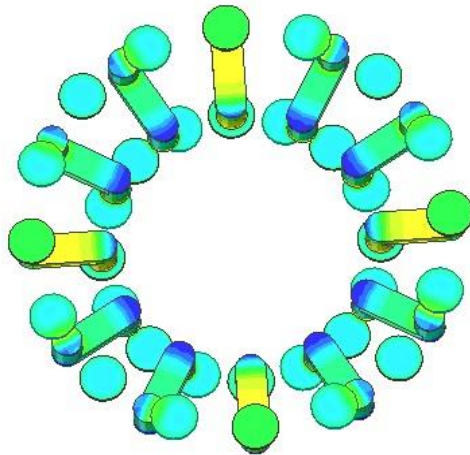
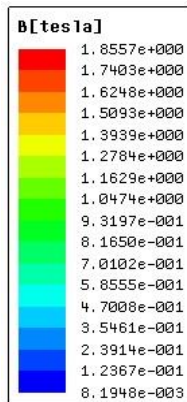


For the electrical connection of the windings, the windings at the top and bottom tips of each core have been connected in series. The adjacent core tips and coils are situated on the stator with an electrical angle of 22.5 degrees. In the rotor unit shown in Fig. 4(b), the magnet housings are indicated on the yellow filling material. There exist 16 circular pair poles in the machine. Note that there exist also housings at the top rotor for the same magnet sizes. The magnets are adjusted as 30 mm in diameter and 5 mm in thickness in the design. In order to sustain maximal flux, the backirons contacts the magnets at both sides.

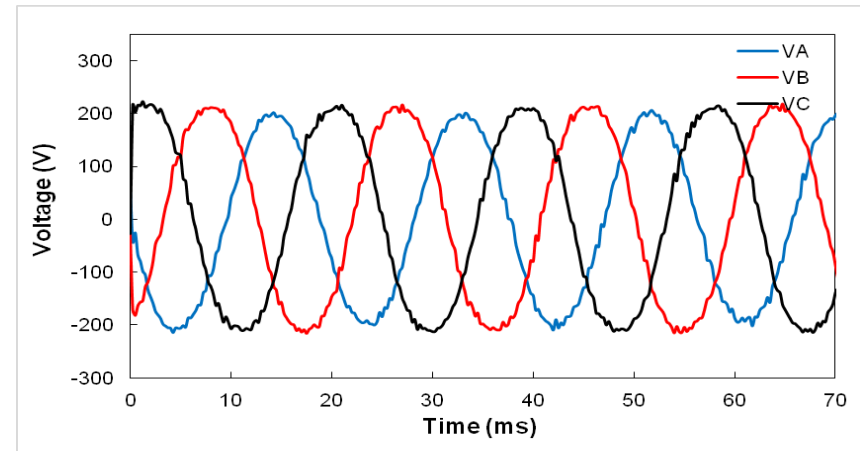
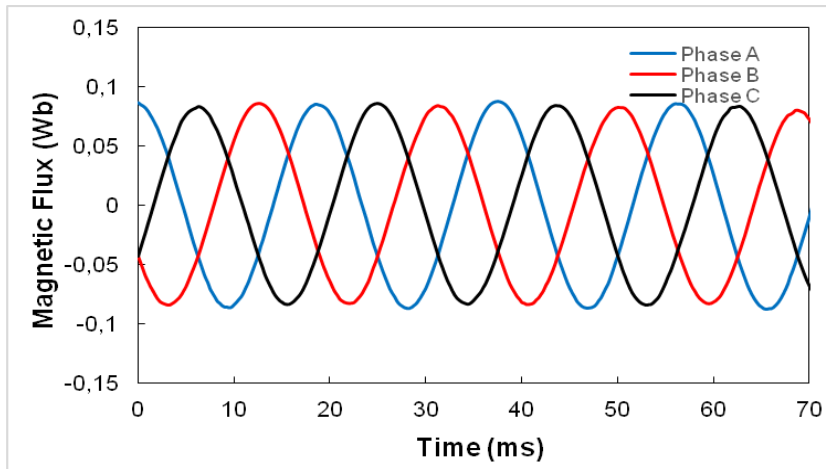


# MAGNETOSTATIC SIMULATIONS OF PMG

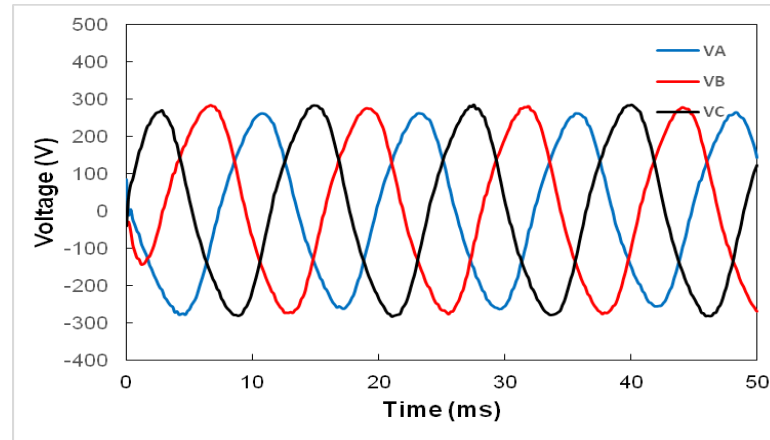
From top to bottom, Fig. 5(a) gives the minimal and maximal flux densities of 0.47 T and 1.3 T, respectively. Note that the flux densities become zero at the inner edges of cores.  $B$  becomes maximal in the core, when two magnets come nearby the core tips as usual. After each 22.5 degrees, four magnets come to the same angular position with the cores. Therefore these regions have the maximal flux on the cores.



# MagnetoDynamics Simulations of PMG

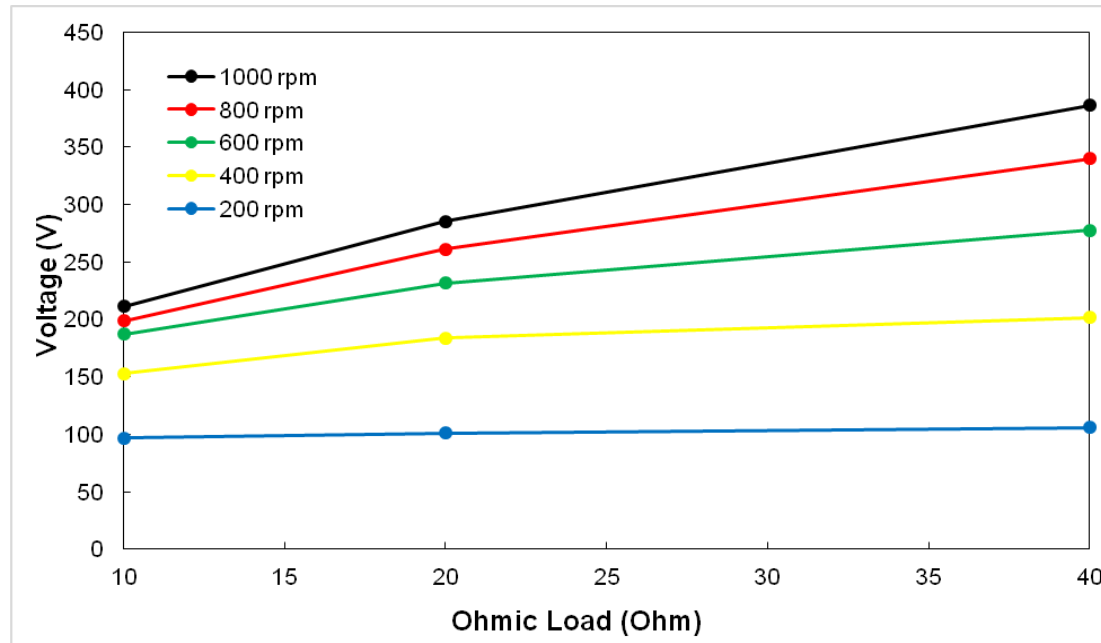


In another recent study of Kurt and Gor [23,24], the maximal magnetic flux of the machine without the backiron has been found as 0.02 Wb at 1000 rpm, whereas in the recent machine 0.08 Wb has already obtained at a lower speed (i.e. 800 rpm). Thus it is proven that the backiron unit in the rotor is vital to increase the flux of the recent machine. Besides, the optimization of the airgap value also assists to achieve that finding. Voltage waveform is shown at the right hand-side in the no-load case. Initially, It is obvious that the phases have correct phase shift with the same sinusoidal waveform. Indeed, the maximal amplitude of each phase is obtained with the phase shift of 120 degrees as usual. There exist slight harmonicity due to the transient numerical analyzes, since the time evaluation has not been kept so short. At the rotor speed 400 rpm, the maximal peak to peak voltage is found as  $V_{pp} = 222V$ .



In the case of electrical load (i.e 40 ohms), the maximal voltage value is obtained as 222 V for 600 rpm (see in Fig. 8(a)). It is also interesting that the harmonics decay at in simulations with electrical load . In laboratory experiments performed by other machines, these kind of harmonicity annihilations were also observed before after the addition of the load.





Simulations have been carried out for different electrical loads as seen in Fig. 10. According to the transient simulations, the maximal amplitudes increase upto  $V = 341$  V at the load 50 ohms for 1000 rpm. Indeed, the maximal voltage can be expected for slightly high loads. When the rotor speed increases, linearly the output voltage increases. However, the maximal amplitude becomes 100 V and it does not change for the rotor speed 200 rpm for each loads. While the speed decreases, the increment rate of the amplitude also decreases smoothly as also seen in previous experiments with other generators.

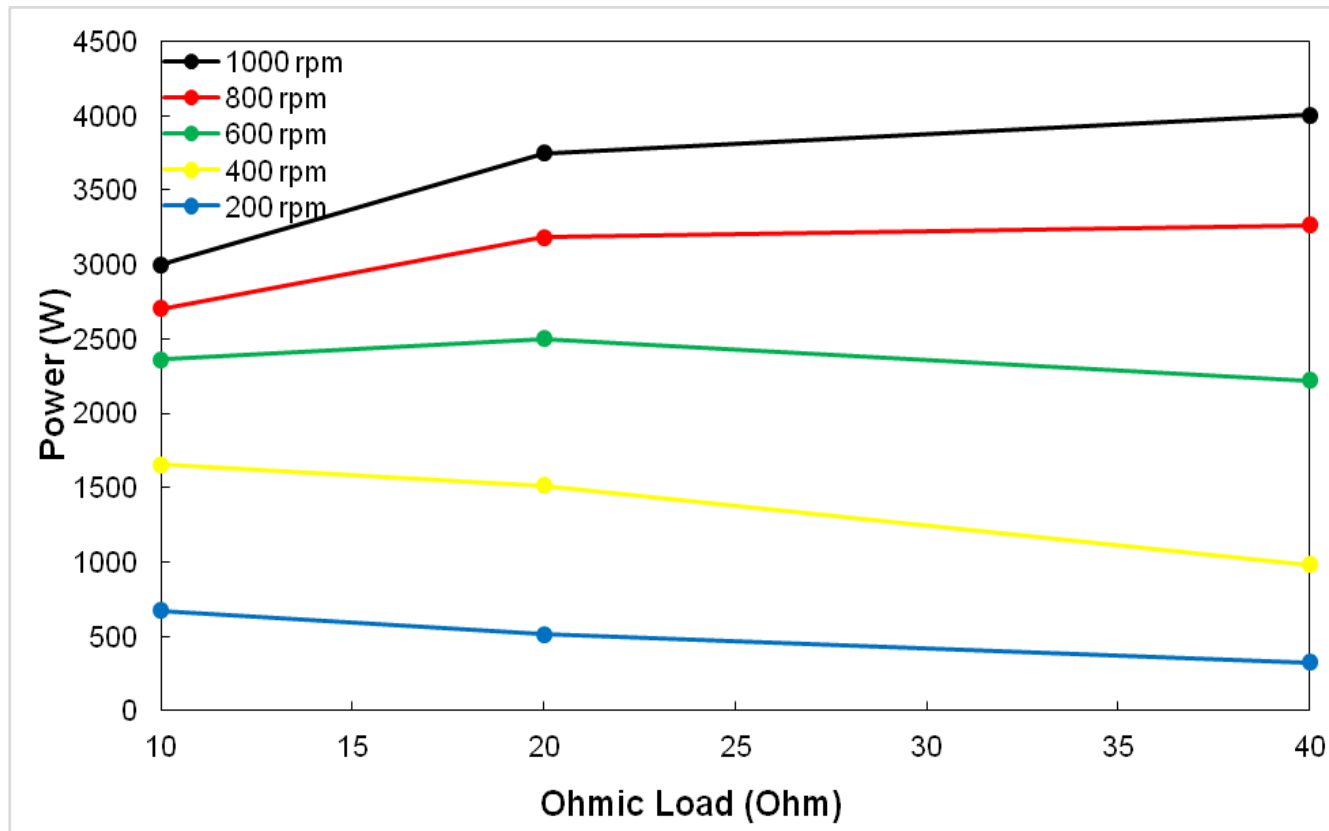
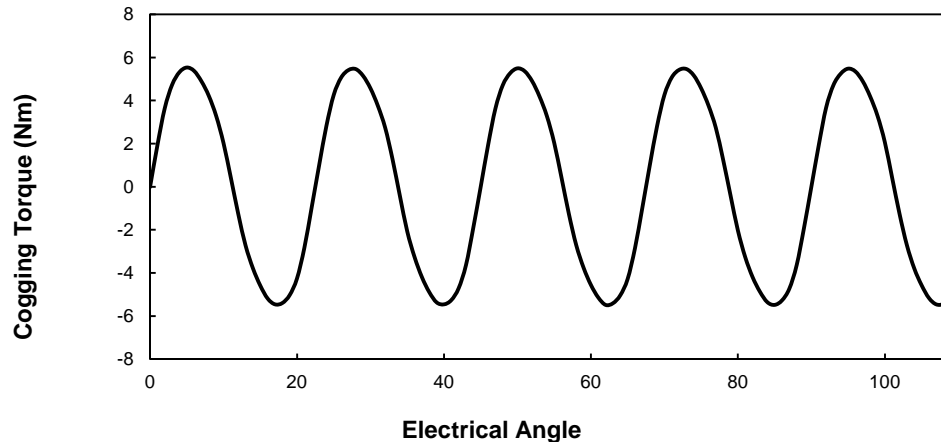


Fig. 11 gives the output power estimation for different ohmic loads in terms of different rotor speeds. Note that it is the power of three phases. While the rated power is obtained around 40 ohms for 1000 rpm, the maximal power gets to lower resistive loads such as 20 ohms and 10 ohms for lower rotor speeds as usual.



The detailed simulations indicate that the power of 4kW is available from the generator at 1000 rpm. The power density of the machine become  $P_v = 336 \text{ kW/m}^3$ , which is a good value for axial generators according to the literature if the power densities are considered between 6 kW/m<sup>3</sup> and 700 kW/m<sup>3</sup> [11].



Finally, the result of the cogging torque is given in Fig. 12. The net cogging torque value fluctuates between  $\pm 5.6 \text{ Nm}$ . Comparing the previous studies [6,21], it is a good value for an axial generator with cores and back irons. Since the flux increases at the vicinity of core tips, it produces a net torque. Note also that the new shaped core also assists to decrease the torque in that regard.





**Table 2 – THD values for various electrical loads at 1000 rpm.**

Ohmic load (Ohm)	THD (%)
50	3.4
40	3.4
30	3.2
20	3.1
10	2.9



# CONCLUSIONS

- A new axial-field permanent magnet generator (AFPMG) is designed and analyzed electromagnetically.
- This generator has single stator and double rotor.
- This configuration provides a higher magnetic flux density inside the coils and assists to decrease heat produced at high speed continuous operations. The studies on cooling continue.
- The flux lose is minimized by using seperated cores.
- Proposed machine has 24 coils and 32 magnets. But it can be transformed into a single phase phase machine by changing rotors with 12 magnets.



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THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH



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