# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

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- **1. Superconductors for power systems**
- 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters
- 3. Magnetic bearings ("magnetic levitation")
- 4. *Magneto-hydrodynamic (MHD) energy conversion*
- 5. Fusion research







# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

### 3. Magnetic bearings ("magnetic levitation")

#### **Used literature**

Schweitzer, G.; Traxler, A.; Bleuler, H.: Active magnetic bearings, Hochschulverlag, ETH Zurich, 1994 Schweitzer, G.; Maslen, E. H. (ed.).: Magnetic Bearings: Theory, Design, and Application to Rotating Machinery , Springer, Berlin, 2010 Chiba, A.; Fukao, T. et al.: Magnetic Bearings and Bearingless Drives, Newnes – Elsevier, Oxford, 2005 Hellinger, R.; Mazur, T.; Nothaft, J.: Stationary components of the long-stator propulsion system for high-speed maglev systems, REE, Oct. 1998, No.9 (1998), 10 pages Nijhuis, A. B. M.; Schmied, J.; Schultz, R. R.: Rotordynamic Design Considerations for a 23 MW Compressor with Magnetic Bearings, Proc. Of the "Fluid Machinery Symposium", Den Hague, April 1999, 12 pages Schneider, T.; Binder, A.; Chen, L.: Design Procedure of Bearingless High-Speed Permanent Magnet Motors, Int. Symp. on Electromagnetic Fields in Mechatronics, Electrical and Electronic Engineering (ISEF), 15-17 Sept. 2005, Baiona, Spain, CD-ROM, paper no. EE-3.12, 6 pages Schöb, R.: Centrifugal pump without bearings or seals, WORLD PUMPS, p. 2-5, 2002 Redemann, C.; Meuter, P.; Ramella, A.; Gempp, T.: 30 kW bearingless canned motor pump on the test bed, Proc. of 7<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Magnetic Bearings, p. 189 - 194, Zürich, Switzerland, Aug. 23-25, 2000



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### **New technologies of electric** energy converters and actuators

- **3. Magnetic bearings ("magnetic levitation")**
- 3.1 Basics of magnetic levitation
- 3.2 Electro-magnetic levitation
- 3.3 Electro-dynamic levitation
- 3.4 High speed trains with magnetic levitation
- 3.5 Superconducting magnetic bearings



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#### 3.1 **Basics of magnetic levitation**



magnetic bearings

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**3.1 Basics of magnetic levitation** 

### **3.1 Magnetic bearing principles**

- Levitation force = Magnet force: a) with reluctance forces, b) with Lorentz-forces.
- Passive (non-controlled, self-stable) und active (controlled) magnetic levitation
- **Electro-magnetic levitation (EML):** *Maxwell*'s stress on magnetized matter ( $\mu > \mu_0$ )

Attractive magnetic force

#### active (controlled) levitation

**Electro-dynamic levitation (EDL):** Force through eddy currents used

**Repulsive magnetic force** 

passive (self-stable) levitation

**Diamagnetic levitation:** Force on diamagnetic matter ( $0 < \mu < \mu_0$ )

**Repulsive magnetic force** 

passive (self-stable) levitation



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### 3.1 Basics of magnetic levitation Earnshaw-Theorem

#### • Earnshaw-Theorem: 1842:

The position of electric or magnetic poles of opposite polarity is not stable, if the attractive force between them is proportional to the inverse square of the distance between the poles.

- This is valid for all materials with  $\mu_r \ge 1$ , therefore for EML-Systems. For that case the *Earnshaw* theorem will be proven later in this chapter.
- For diamagnetic materials ( $0 \le \mu_r < 1$ ) the position is stable without control.
- As eddy currents excite fields, opposing the primary inducing field, the resulting field is smaller than the primary one. Hence the system acts like a diamagnetic system:  $0 \le \mu_r < 1$ . It is stable without control.
- Self-stable levitation systems:
  - electro-dynamic levitation (EDL)
  - superconducting bearings (e. g. Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect)

**Facit:** The electro-dynamic levitation principle works only well in structures without ferro-magnetic material, so that the repulsive force is not reduced by an attractive one.



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### **Performance of active magnetic bearings**

• Magnetic force *F* acts only in <u>one</u> direction and is only <u>attractive</u> ( $\mu_r \ge 1$ )



Example: Levitated compressor wheel





### Magnet bearing attack angle $\alpha$ of force







### Inductance and force of active magnetic bearings

• Inductance *L* of excitation coil:  $L = \Psi / i = N \cdot \Phi / i = N \cdot B \cdot A / i$ 

$$L = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta} \cdot A \quad \text{or with} \quad x = \delta \cdot \cos \alpha \quad \vdots \quad L = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2x} \cdot A \cdot \cos \alpha$$

• **Example:** Air gap 1 mm, Area 1 cm<sup>2</sup>, Coil current 12 A, N = 200,  $\alpha = \pi/8$ :

$$B = \mu_0 \frac{N \cdot i}{2\delta} = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \cdot \frac{200 \cdot 12}{2 \cdot 10^{-3}} = 1.5T$$

$$L = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta} \cdot A = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \cdot \frac{200^2}{2 \cdot 10^{-3}} \cdot 10^{-4} = 2.5mH$$

$$F_m = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{(N \cdot i)^2}{(2\delta)^2} \cdot A = 181N$$

$$F = 181 \cdot \cos(\pi/8) = 167N$$

A body with a mass m = 17.0 kg at 1 mm distance from the electro magnet can be *levitated*  $(m \cdot g = 17 \cdot 9.81 = 167 \text{ N})$  against the gravity force.



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### Magnet bearing force: Effect of current and distance



Source: Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings

The magneto-static force increases with the square of current (neglecting saturation) and decreases with the inverse square of the air gap distance.

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### New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

#### Summary: Working principle of an active magnetic bearing

- Magnetic attractive force used for levitation, basically unstable
- Electrically excited coils for magnetic field generation
- Control of levitation gap via distance measurement and controlled coil current
- Stabilization by control of levitation gap via fast switching power electronics



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### Mathematical linearization of the bearing force

- Bearing as actuator; linearization around working point ("Gravity current" i<sub>0</sub>, x<sub>0</sub>)
- Deviation from working point  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta i$ : small change around  $(i_0, x_0)$
- **<u>Example</u>**: Working point: current  $i_0 = 12$  A,  $x_0 = 1$  mm,  $\Delta x = 0.1$  mm,  $\Delta i = 1$  A:

 $\Delta x/x = 0.1, \Delta i/i_0 = 0.08: (\Delta x/x)(\Delta i/i_0) = 0.1.0.08 = 0.008 << 1$ 

• <u>Counting sense</u>:  $\Delta i$  is counted positive, if the current increases:  $i = i_0 + \Delta i > i_0$ But  $\Delta x$  is taken positive, if the air-gap length decreases:  $x = x_0 - \Delta x < x_0$ 

$$F = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot (i_0 + \Delta i)^2}{4(x_0 - \Delta x)^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos^3 \alpha \approx \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{4x_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos^3 \alpha \cdot \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta i}{i_0} + \frac{2\Delta x}{x_0}\right)$$
$$F \approx \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{4\delta_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos \alpha \cdot \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta i}{i_0} + \frac{2\Delta x}{x_0}\right) = F_0 + k_{i,1} \cdot \Delta i + k_{x,1} \cdot \Delta x$$

•  $F_0$ : Force in working point (e.g. = Gravity force)

 $k_{i,1}$ : "Force-current-factor" (N/A),  $k_{x,1}$ : "Force-distance-factor" (N/mm)



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### **Force linearization for a single-sided AMB**

$$F = \frac{\mu_0 N^2 A}{4} \cdot \cos^3 \alpha \cdot \frac{(i_0 + \Delta i)^2}{(x_0 - \Delta x)^2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta i / i_0 << 1, \Delta x / x_0 << 1:}{\frac{i_0^2 \cdot (1 + \Delta i / i_0)^2}{x_0^2 \cdot (1 - \Delta x / x_0)^2} \approx \frac{i_0^2}{x_0^2} \cdot \frac{1 + 2\Delta i / i_0}{1 - 2\Delta x / x_0} \approx \frac{i_0^2}{x_0^2} \cdot (1 + 2\Delta i / i_0) \cdot (1 + 2\Delta x / x_0) \cong \frac{i_0^2}{x_0^2} \cdot (1 + 2\Delta i / i_0 + 2\Delta x / x_0)$$

$$F \approx \frac{\mu_0 N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{4x_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos^3 \alpha \cdot \left(1 + \frac{\Delta i}{i_0} + \frac{\Delta x}{x_0}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow F \approx F_0 + k_{i,1} \Delta i + k_{x,1} \Delta x$$
Technical limit for linearization:  $\Delta i / i_0 < 0.5, \Delta x / x_0 < 0.5$ 
Error less than:  $(\Delta i / i_0)^2 < 0.25, (\Delta x / x_0)^2 < 0.25$ 





### **Example:** Bearing force after linearization

• Air gap 
$$\delta_0 = 1$$
 mm, Area 1 cm<sup>2</sup>, Coil current  $i_0 = 12$  A,  $N = 200$ ,  $\alpha = \pi/8$ :  
 $F_0 = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{4\delta_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos \alpha = 167N$   
 $k_{i,1} = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0}{2\delta_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos \alpha = \underline{27.8N/A}$   $k_{x,1} = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{2\delta_0^3} \cdot A = \underline{362N/mm}$ 

**Force-distance-factor:** independent of number of coil turns, if  $\Theta = N i$  used Force-current-factor: depends on number of coil turns

#### **Conclusion:**

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- Small air gap at the working point provides in electromagnetic bearings a higher bearing force with a smaller necessary bearing excitation.
- The parameters  $k_{i,1}$  und  $k_{x,1}$  and the "offset force"  $F_0$  strongly depend on the working point parameters ( $i_0, \delta_0$ ).







### Linearization of the bearing characteristic

### a) by differential feeding

b) by differential windings



The cost increases: Two electro magnets instead of one, <u>but</u> the force changes **linear** with the bearing control current - until iron saturation starts.





### Bearing characteristics with "differential feeding / windings"

• Two bearings: Two forces: Linear characteristics, "offset force" F<sub>0</sub> eliminated!

$$F = F^{+} - F^{-} = \frac{\mu_{0}N^{2}A}{4} \cdot \cos^{3}\alpha \cdot \left(\frac{(i_{0} + \Delta i)^{2}}{(x_{0} - \Delta x)^{2}} - \frac{(i_{0} - \Delta i)^{2}}{(x_{0} + \Delta x)^{2}}\right)$$
$$F \approx \frac{\mu_{0}N^{2} \cdot i_{0}^{2}}{x_{0}^{2}} \cdot A \cdot \cos^{3}\alpha \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta i}{i_{0}} + \frac{\Delta x}{x_{0}}\right) \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \underbrace{F \approx k_{i}\Delta i + k_{x}\Delta x}_{i_{0}}$$

•  $k_i = 2k_{i,1}$ ,  $k_x = 2k_{x,1}$ : "Force-current-factor" and "force-distance-factor" increase two times with a double-sided bearing. Inductance *L* increases also two times (series circuits !) for differential windings (case b)).

$$k_i = \frac{\mu_0 N^2 i_0 A}{\delta_0^2} \cdot \cos \alpha \qquad \qquad k_x = \frac{\mu_0 N^2 i_0^2 A}{\delta_0^3}$$

• **<u>Example</u>**:  $\delta_0 = 1 \text{ mm}$ , A = 1 cm<sup>2</sup>,  $i_0 = 12 \text{ A}$ , N = 200,  $\alpha = \pi/8$ :

$$k_i = \underline{55.6N/A} \qquad \qquad k_x = \underline{724N/mn}$$

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Force linearization of a double-sided AMB

$$F = F^{+} - F^{-} = \frac{\mu_{0} N^{2} A}{4} \cdot \cos^{3} \alpha \cdot \left(\frac{(i_{0} + \Delta i)^{2}}{(x_{0} - \Delta x)^{2}} - \frac{(i_{0} - \Delta i)^{2}}{(x_{0} + \Delta x)^{2}}\right)$$
  
$$\Delta i / i_{0} << 1, \Delta x / x_{0} << 1:$$

 $F^+ \approx F_0 + k_{i,1}\Delta i + k_{x,1}\Delta x$   $F^- \approx F_0 - k_{i,1}\Delta i - k_{x,1}\Delta x$  $F = F^{+} - F^{-} = F_{0} + k_{i,1} \Delta i + k_{x,1} \Delta x - (F_{0} - k_{i,1} \Delta i - k_{x,1} \Delta x) = 2k_{i,1} \Delta i + 2k_{x,1} \Delta x$  $k_i = 2k_{i,1}$   $k_x = 2k_{x,1}$   $\Rightarrow$   $F \approx k_i \Delta i + k_x \Delta x$  $F \approx \frac{\mu_0 N^2 \cdot i_0^2}{x_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos^3 \alpha \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta i}{i_0} + \frac{\Delta x}{x_0}\right)$ Technical limit for linearization:  $\Delta i / i_0 < 0.5$ ,  $\Delta x / x_0 < 0.5$ Error less than:  $(\Delta i / i_0)^2 < 0.25, (\Delta x / x_0)^2 < 0.25$ 



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### Gravity force balance in a double-sided AMB





$$F \approx k_i \varDelta i + k_x \varDelta x$$

The mass m shall be held at  $\Delta x = 0$ :  $F = k_i \varDelta i + k_x \varDelta x = k_i \varDelta i = m \cdot g$ A controlled current of  $\Delta i = m \cdot g / k_i$ is necessary! The upper winding is fed with:  $i_0 + m \cdot g / k_i$ 

The lower winding is fed with:  $i_0 - m \cdot g / k_i$ 

The maximum levitated mass  $m_{max}$  is determined by:  $i_0 - m_{max} \cdot g / k_i = 0$  $m_{\rm max} = i_0 k_i / g$ Then the force of the lower magnet is zero and the resulting force is maximum!



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### **Coil resistance and losses per axis**

	a) Differential feedin	g b) Differential windings
Number of coils	2	4
Turns/coil	N/2 + N/2 = N	Ν
Coil wire cross section (for $\Delta i_{max} = i_0$ )	q	q/2
Max. current density $J$	$= (\Delta i_{\max} + i_0)/q = 2i_0/q$	$\Delta i_{\rm max}/(q/2) = i_0/(q/2) = 2i_0/q$
Turn length	l <sub>w</sub>	l <sub>w</sub>
Resistance/coil	$R = \frac{N \cdot l_{w}}{\kappa \cdot q}$	$R^* = \frac{N \cdot l_w}{\kappa \cdot (q/2)} = 2R$
Total losses	$R \cdot (2i_0)^2 = 4Ri_0^2$	$4R^*i_0^2 = 8Ri_0^2$
with $\Delta i_{max} = i_0$	$(i_0 - \Delta i = 0, i_0 + \Delta i = 2i_0)$	Two times losses at full current
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### **Comparison: Differential feeding vs. differential windings** for an x- and a y-axis AMB

	Differential feeding	Differential windings
Number of DC-excitations	4	2
Constant current source	0	1
Losses at maximum current	100 %	200 %

<u>At max. current</u>: Magnet force is maximum  $\Rightarrow$  Force of lower magnet is zero  $\Rightarrow i_0 = \Delta i$ 

- Differential feeding: Lower magnet has no losses!

$$\Theta = N(i_0 - \Delta i) = Ni = 0, i = 0, P = R \cdot i^2 = 0$$

Upper magnet has maximum losses!

$$\Theta = N(i_0 + \Delta i) = N2\Delta i, i = 2\Delta i, P = R \cdot i^2 = 4R\Delta i^2 \qquad P_{\text{res}} = P$$

- Differential windings:

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Losses *P* in lower magnet = Losses *P* in upper magnet: Factor 2:  $P_{\text{res}} = 2P$ Per magnet:  $\Theta = N(i_0 - \Delta i) = Ni_0 - N\Delta i = 0, i_0 = \Delta i, P = 2R^* \cdot \Delta i^2 = 4R\Delta i^2$ 





## Measured Current-Force-Characteristic of a radial magnetic bearing with differential feeding

#### **Dimensions:**

Bearing bore diameter d = 90 mm, bearing length b = 70 mm, nominal air gap  $\delta_0 = 0.4$  mm



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Summary: Linearization of the bearing force

- Magnetic attractive force depends on square of current vs. gap
- Linearized force depends linear on control current
- Linearization done by opposing magnet coils either by differential windings or differential current feeding
- Linearization allows a linear PID-control of the gap



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### **Design of magnetic radial bearings**

- Double-sided AMB: Two opposing magnets work along one coordinate axis
- Two coordinate axes are controlled per radial bearing
- a) Hetero-polar bearing

Field lines perpendicular to rotor axis Change of field polarity during rotation Frequency:  $f = 2 \cdot n$ : Eddy current & hysteresis losses in the rotor

#### b) Homo-polar bearing

Field lines along to rotor axis No change of field polarity during rotation Frequency: f = 0: Nearly no rotor losses





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### **Magnetic radial bearing**



Source:

Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings



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### Specific load force f of radial magnetic bearings

- $f = F / (d \cdot b)$  : on projected area  $d \cdot b$  related load force
- **Example:** Iron yoke saturation limit B = 1.5 T,  $\alpha = \pi / 8$ :

With pole shoe width p = Slot width of the winding: For the pole follows:

$$A = p \cdot b = \frac{d\pi}{2 \cdot 8} \cdot b \quad \Rightarrow \quad f = \frac{F}{d \cdot b} = \frac{B^2}{\mu_0} \cdot \left(\frac{d\pi \cdot b}{2 \cdot 8}\right) \cdot \cos \alpha \cdot \frac{1}{d \cdot b} = \frac{B^2}{\mu_0} \cdot \frac{\pi}{16} \cdot \cos \frac{\pi}{8} = 32 \,\text{N/cm}^2$$

•Cobalt alloys: Saturation flux density increases to ca. 2 T:  $f = 60 \text{ N/cm}^2$ 

- Centrifugal force limit of the bearing rotor:
  - Tangential stress due to radial centrifugal force:  $\sigma = \rho \cdot v^2$  ( $\rho$ : mass density)
  - Rotors made of steel laminations: Yield strength  $\sigma = R_{p0.2} = 300 \dots 500 \text{ N/mm}^2 \Rightarrow v_{max} = \text{ca. 200 m/s}$ (lamination thickness 0.1 mm, 0.35 mm, 0.5 mm)
  - Amorphous metals: Thin sheets 0.035 mm thickness, temperature limit ca. 450 °C

Yield strength ca. 1500 ... 2000 N/mm<sup>2</sup>:  $v_{max} = ca. 400 \text{ m/s} = four times centrifugal forces$ 



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### **Magnetic axial bearing**



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### New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

#### Summary: Design of magnetic bearings

- Heteropolar vs. homopolar magnetic coil arrangements
- Heteropolar structure widely used (cheaper), but causes more eddy current losses
- Two coil pairs control two perpendicular axes in radial bearings
- One ring coil pair controls axial position in axial AMB



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**New technologies of electric** energy converters and actuators **Electromagnetic levitation** 3.2

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### Instability of magnetic bearings in uncontrolled operation

- Force equation for levitated rotor:  $m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + F = m \cdot g$
- Small deflection  $\Delta x$  from working point  $x_0$ :
  - $d^2x/dt^2 = -d^2\Lambda x/dt^2 = -\Lambda \ddot{x}$
  - $-m\varDelta \ddot{x} + F_0 + k_{i,1} \cdot \varDelta i + k_{x,1} \cdot \varDelta x = m \cdot g \qquad (F_0 = m \cdot g)$  $\Delta \ddot{x} - (k_{x1}/m) \cdot \Delta x = (k_{i1}/m) \cdot \Delta i$
- Homogeneous differential equation:  $\Delta \ddot{x} (k_{x,1}/m) \cdot \Delta x = 0$

Homogeneous solution:  $\Delta x(t) = C_1 \cdot \exp(\sqrt{k_{x,1}/m} \cdot t) + C_2 \cdot \exp(-\sqrt{k_{x,1}/m} \cdot t)$ 

e.g.: 
$$\Delta x(0) = \Delta x_0, \Delta \dot{x}(0) = 0$$
:  $\Delta x(t) = \Delta x_0 / 2 \cdot \left[ \exp\left(\sqrt{k_{x,1} / m} \cdot t\right) + \exp\left(-\sqrt{k_{x,1} / m} \cdot t\right) \right]$ 

Position deviation increases with exponentially with time; the rotor does not return back to its starting operation point. The working point is unstable.



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### **Static stabilization with a P-Controller**

• **Proportional controller:** Increase of  $\Delta x$  must be met with a current decrease  $-\Delta i!$ 

$$\Delta i = -K_p \cdot \Delta x$$

Assumption: Voltage source impresses enough current. The time constant T = L/R of the coil is neglected, the actual current follows the current demand immediately (current source operation).

$$\Delta \ddot{x} - (k_{x,1}/m) \cdot \Delta x = -(k_{i,1}/m) \cdot K_p \cdot \Delta x \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta \ddot{x} - \left(\frac{\kappa_{x,1} - \kappa_{i,1} \kappa_p}{m}\right) \cdot \Delta x = 0$$

• Solution of the differential equation:

If 
$$k = k_{i,1}K_p - k_{x,1} > 0$$
: Solution is an **un-damped sinus function**.  

$$\Delta x(t) = C_1 \cdot \sin(\omega_e t) + C_2 \cdot \cos(\omega_e t)$$
Natural frequency:  
 $\omega_e = \sqrt{\frac{K_p k_{i,1} - k_{x,1}}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$ 
e.g.:  $\Delta x(0) = \Delta x_0, \Delta \dot{x}(0) = 0$ :  $\Delta x(t) = \Delta x_0 \cdot \cos(\omega_e t)$ 

Working point is **stable**, but at any disturbance the levitated rotor oscillates without **damping** around  $x_0$ . Bigger current-force-factor  $k_i$  or  $k_{i,1}$  allows smaller  $K_p$ . If the distance-force-factor  $k_x$  or  $k_{x,1}$  is bigger,  $K_p$  must be bigger.



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### Mechanical analogy of P-control: Spring-mass-system

Spring force  $F_s = c \cdot (x - x_{s0})$ **Equilibrium at**  $x_0$   $m \cdot g = c \cdot (x_0 - x_{s0})$ **Newton's law**  $m \cdot \ddot{x} = m \cdot g - F_s$ 

$$m \cdot \ddot{x} = m \cdot g - c \cdot (x - x_{s0}) =$$
  
=  $m \cdot g - c \cdot (x_0 - x_{s0}) - c \cdot (x - x_0) =$   
=  $-c \cdot (x - x_0)$ 

Linear differential equation:  $m \cdot d^{2}(x - x_{0})/dt^{2} + c \cdot (x - x_{0}) = 0$  $\xi = x - x_0 : \ddot{\xi} = \ddot{x} \qquad m \cdot \ddot{\xi} + c \cdot \xi = 0$ 

#### Solution: (Undamped) Oscillation of the mass around $x_0$



Source: Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings

$$\xi(t) = A \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t) + B \cdot \cos(\omega \cdot t)$$
  $\omega = \sqrt{c/m}$ 

e.g.: 
$$\xi(0) = \Delta x_0, \dot{\xi}(0) = 0$$
:  $\xi(t) = \Delta x_0 \cdot \cos(\omega_e t)$ 



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### **Dynamic stabilization with a PD-controller**

•  $\Delta i = -K_{p} \cdot \Delta x - K_{d} \cdot d\Delta x / dt$ 

**D-component** in controller damps the stationary oscillations  $\Rightarrow$  working point is then dynamically stable.

• System differential equation for a double-sided bearing  $(k_i, k_x \text{ instead of } k_{i,1}, k_{x,1})$ :

$$\Delta \ddot{x} + \frac{K_d k_i}{m} \cdot \Delta \dot{x} - \left(\frac{k_x - k_i K_p}{m}\right) \cdot \Delta x = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Delta \ddot{x} + 2\alpha_d \cdot \Delta \dot{x} + \omega_e^2 \cdot \Delta x = 0$$
$$\Delta \ddot{x} + (d/m) \cdot \Delta \dot{x} + (k/m) \cdot \Delta x = 0$$

 Solution: Damped sinus oscillations:  $\Delta x(t) = C_1 \cdot \exp(-\alpha_d t) \cdot \sin(\omega t) + C_2 \cdot \exp(-\alpha_d t) \cdot \cos(\omega t) \quad \text{e.g.:} \Delta x(t) = \Delta x_0 \cdot e^{-\alpha_d t} \cdot \cos(\omega \cdot t)$ Angular frequency  $\omega$  slightly **smaller** than in non-damped case:  $\omega = \sqrt{\omega_a^2 - \alpha_d^2}$ 

•  $k = K_p k_i - k_x$ : Bearing-stiffness is limited by the maximum controller output.

 $d = K_d k_i$  : **Damping coefficient**, which has to be adjusted

Roughly:  $d \approx \sqrt{m \cdot k} \Rightarrow \alpha_d / \omega = 1 / \sqrt{3}$ : Compromise:  $\alpha_d / \omega \approx 0.1 \dots 1$ 



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### Adjusting of $K_{\rm p}$ und $K_{\rm d}$ of the PD-Controller

Angular frequency:  $\omega = \sqrt{\omega_{e}^{2} - \alpha_{d}^{2}}$ 

•  $k = K_p k_i - k_x$  : Bearing-stiffness

 $d = K_d k_i$  : **Damping** 

Roughly:  $d \approx \sqrt{m \cdot k} \Rightarrow \alpha_d / \omega = 1/\sqrt{3} = 0.58$ 

$$\frac{\alpha_d}{\omega} = \frac{\alpha_d}{\sqrt{\omega_e^2 - \alpha_d^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\omega_e^2}{\alpha_d^2} - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{k/m}{(d/(2m))^2} - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot k \cdot m}{d^2} - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot k \cdot m}{m \cdot k} - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{4 \cdot k \cdot$$

Typical adjustment for not too long oscillations:

$$\alpha_d/\omega \approx 0.1 \dots 1$$
:  $T_s/T = 2\pi (\alpha_d/\omega) \approx 0.6 \dots 6$ 



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### Damping of the transients oscillation of levitated bodies





$$\frac{\alpha_d}{\omega} = 1/\sqrt{3} \Longrightarrow \frac{T_s}{T} = \frac{\alpha_d}{f} = \frac{\alpha_d}{\omega} \cdot 2\pi = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} = 3.6$$

After  $T = T_s/3.6$ , hence ca. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the oscillation period, the oscillation has decayed to 1/e of the initial value.



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### **Current-controlled magnetic bearing with PD control**

Linearized magnetic bearing characteristic





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### PD-controlled bearing – Transfer function in the Laplace-domain

• **PD-controller:** Initial conditions:  $\Delta x(0) = 0$  $L(\Delta i) = I(s) = -K_n \cdot L(\Delta x) - K_d \cdot L(d\Delta x/dt) = -K_n \cdot X(s) - K_d \cdot s \cdot X(s)$ **Transfer function**  $F_{PD}(s)$ :  $I(s) = F_{PD}(s) \cdot X(s)$   $F_{PD}(s) = -K_p - s \cdot K_d$ • Magnetic bearing: (PT<sub>2</sub>-behavior):  $s^2 X(s) - \frac{k_x}{2} X(s) = \frac{k_i}{2} I(s)$ **G(s):**  $X(s) = G(s) \cdot I(s)$   $G(s) = \frac{k_i}{m \cdot s^2 - k_r}$ **Transfer function** Two roots of "characteristic" polynomial: complex lm(<u>s</u>) **▲**  $p(s) = s^2 - k_r / m = (s - s_1) \cdot (s - s_2)$   $s_{1,2} = \pm \sqrt{k_r / m}$ s-plane  $0 / s_1$ **S**<sub>2</sub> Re(s) unstable root Prof. A. Binder : New technologies of electric energy converters DARMSTADT **Institute of Electrical** and actuators **JNIVERSITY OF Energy Conversion** 3 1/44 TECHNOLOGY

### PD-controlled bearing in the Laplace-domain

• Closed-loop controller action: step excitation:  $\Delta x_{set}(t)$ 



Laplace time-limit theorem:

 $\lim f(t) = \lim (s \cdot F(s))$  $t \rightarrow \infty$   $s \rightarrow 0$ 

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 $\frac{\Delta x_{act}(t \to \infty)}{\Delta x_{set}} = \frac{s \cdot X_{act}(s)}{\Delta x_{set}} = \frac{K_p \cdot (k_i / k_x)}{K_p \cdot (k_i / k_x) + 1} < 1$ 

0.

PD-controller: Rotor is levitated stable, but it remains a permanent deviation between actual and set-point value of the position of the levitated body. A bigger proportional gain K<sub>n</sub> yields a smaller steady-state deviation.



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 $\Delta x_{set}$ 

 $X_{set}(s) = \frac{\Delta x_{set}}{s}$ 

 $X_{act} = G \cdot I$ 

 $I = F_{PD} \cdot (X_{set} - X_{act})$ 

 $\frac{X_{act}(s)}{X_{set}(s)} = \frac{F_{PD}(s) \cdot G(s)}{F_{PD}(s) \cdot G(s) + 1}$ 

Time t



### **PID-controlled bearing in the** *Laplace***-domain**

• PID-controller: avoids a steady-state deviation between actual and setpoint value of the position of the levitated body

Time domain: 
$$\Delta i = -K_p \cdot \Delta x - K_d \cdot d\Delta x / dt - \frac{1}{T_I} \int \Delta x \cdot dt$$
  
Transfer function:  $F_{PID}(s) = -K_p - K_d \cdot s - \frac{1}{s \cdot T_I}$   
• "End value":  $\frac{\Delta x_{act}(t \to \infty)}{\Delta x_{set}} = \frac{s \cdot X_{act}(s)}{\Delta x_{set}} = \frac{F_{PID}(0) \cdot G(0)}{F_{PID}(0) \cdot G(0) + 1} = \frac{-\frac{k_i}{T_I}}{-\frac{k_i}{T_I}} = 1$ 

• a) Final deviation  $\Delta x = 0$ : Hence the AMB has a stationary infinite stiffness, since despite the load  $\Delta F_{Last}$  no deviation  $\Delta x$  of the set-point position occurs.

b) Dynamic deviation  $\Delta x \neq 0$  occurs during the control operation: Hence the AMB has a finite dynamic stiffness, which is considerably smaller than the mechanical bearing stiffness.



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### **Current controlled magnetic bearing with PID-controller**

• Linearized magnetic bearing characteristic, feed forward control of disturbance  $\Delta F_{Load}$ 



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Summary: **Control of active magnetic bearings** 

- Magnetic bearing inherently instable (EARNSHAW's theorem)
- Levitation gap is measured and controlled via the coil current
- Current P-control stabilizes, but is prone to oscillations
- PD-control damps the bearing oscillations
- PID-control puts steady state deviation of controlled levitation gap to zero



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New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation

- 3.2.1 Working principle of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.2 Linearization of the bearing force
- 3.2.3 Design of magnetic bearings
- 3.2.4 Control of active magnetic bearings
- 3.2.5 Voltage controlled active magnetic bearings
- 3.2.6 Components of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.7 Passive magnetic bearings
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### Voltage controlled AMB

• At high controller output signal: The DC chopper operates with a high voltage level. Maximum voltage is the DC voltage  $U_d$ . Current builds up with time constant T = L/R.

$$u = R \cdot i + \frac{d\psi}{dt} = R \cdot i + \frac{d(L(x) \cdot i)}{dt} = R \cdot i + \frac{dL}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} \cdot i + L \cdot \frac{di}{dt} \qquad x = x_0 - \Delta x$$

$$u_0 + \Delta u = R \cdot i_0 + R \cdot \Delta i - \frac{dL}{dx} \cdot \frac{d\Delta x}{dt} \cdot (i_0 + \Delta i) + L \cdot \frac{d\Delta i}{dt}$$

$$\boxed{\Delta \dot{x} \cdot \Delta i << 1:} \quad u_0 + \Delta u \cong R \cdot i_0 + R \cdot \Delta i - \frac{dL}{dx} \cdot \frac{d\Delta x}{dt} \cdot i_0 + L \cdot \frac{d\Delta i}{dt} \qquad u_0 = R \cdot i_0$$

**Voltage equation:**  $\Delta u \cong R \cdot \Delta i - \frac{dL}{dx} \cdot i_0 \cdot \Delta \dot{x} + L \cdot \Delta \dot{i} = R \cdot \Delta i + \underbrace{k_u}_{\underline{\omega}} \cdot \Delta \dot{x} + L \cdot \Delta \dot{i}$ 

• Voltage factor  $k_{\mu} = -i_0 dL/dx$ : By induction of motion due to the moving lev. body a voltage is induced in the bearing coil, from which the position of the body may be calculated. This is used with sensorless AMB.

• Note: 
$$k_i = -\frac{dL}{dx} \cdot i_0 = k_u$$
 Hence: Voltage-factor = Force-current-factor



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### Voltage factor k<sub>u</sub>

**Voltage factor:** 
$$k_u = -\frac{dL}{dx} \cdot i_0 = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta^2} \cdot A \cdot i_0$$
  $L = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta} \cdot A - dL/d\delta = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta^2} \cdot A$   
**Force-current factor:**  $k_i = \frac{dF}{di} \Big|_{i=i_0} = \frac{d}{di} \left( \mu_0 \cdot \frac{(N \cdot i)^2}{4\delta^2} \cdot A \right) = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta^2} \cdot A \cdot i_0 = k_u$ 

The "voltage-factor" is identical with the Force-current-factor !



### System equations of voltage-controlled magnetic bearings (1)

- Force in *x*-direction: mechanical equation:  $\Delta \ddot{x} (k_x / m) \cdot \Delta x = (k_i / m) \cdot \Delta i$ electrical equation:  $\Delta u = R \cdot \Delta i + k_i \cdot \Delta \dot{x} + L \cdot \Delta \dot{i}$  $\frac{3^{rd} \text{ order diff. equation (PT_3): } \varDelta \ddot{x} + \frac{R}{L} \varDelta \ddot{x} - \left(\frac{k_x}{m} - \frac{k_i^2}{m \cdot L}\right) \cdot \varDelta \dot{x} - \frac{R}{L} \cdot \frac{k_x}{m} \cdot \varDelta x = \frac{k_i}{m \cdot L} \varDelta u$  (T = L/R)
- Transfer function of distance:  $X(s) = G_u(s) \cdot U(s)$

$$\left(s^{3} + \frac{s^{2}}{T} - \left(\frac{k_{x}}{m} - \frac{k_{i}^{2}}{m \cdot L}\right) \cdot s - \frac{k_{x}}{T \cdot m}\right) \cdot \Delta X(s) = \frac{k_{i}}{m \cdot L} \cdot \Delta U(s)$$

$$G_{u}(s) = \frac{\frac{k_{i}}{m \cdot L}}{s^{3} + \frac{s^{2}}{T} - \left(\frac{k_{x}}{m} - \frac{k_{i}^{2}}{m \cdot L}\right) \cdot s - \frac{k_{x}}{T \cdot m}}$$



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# System equations of voltage-controlled magnetic bearings (2) Due to $k_i = k_x \cdot (x_0 / i_0)$ , $k_i / L = \mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2 \cdot i_0}{\delta_0^2} \cdot A \cdot \cos \alpha / \left( 2\mu_0 \cdot \frac{N^2}{2\delta_0} \cdot A \right) = i_0 / x_0$ and $x_0 = \delta_0 \cdot \cos \alpha$ we get: $k_x - k_i^2 / L = k_x - k_i \cdot (i_0 / x_0) = 0$



- $\Rightarrow$ Triple pole at s = 0: The un-controlled voltage-fed AMB is at the stability limit ! (BUT: The un-controlled current-fed AMB is completely unstable!)
- $\Rightarrow$  For stabilization of the voltage-fed AMB a higher order controller than PD is necessary!



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### **Voltage controlled magnetic bearing systems**

• Coil with electrical time constant *L/R* 



- The voltage-controlled bearing has a weaker instability than the current-controlled bearing.
- A "sensorless" bearing is feasible.
- The power amplifier is mostly a simple voltage chopper with PWM.
- The power limit of the system is fully utilized, when the maximum voltage is applied.



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### "High-speed" current build-up



- Quick current **build-up**: Applying of a big "ceiling voltage"  $U_d$ : Current rises in minimum time  $t_{12}$  from a starting value  $I_1$  (set-point 1) to a new set-point value  $I_{f2}$  (setpoint 2).
- The time  $t_{12}$  is shorter than the electrical time constant T = L/R.
- A faster current build-up needs a higher ratio " $U_d/U_2$ ". This means a higher rating of the power amplifier.



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#### Summary: Voltage controlled active magnetic bearings

- At very fast movements the induced voltage in the coils cannot be neglected
- Instead of "impressed" current the impressed voltage has to be considered
- Control circuit becomes more complicated
- Usually one tries to avoid voltage control by a sufficient high inverter DC voltage
- The induced voltage effects may be neglected



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## New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation

- 3.2.1 Working principle of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.2 Linearization of the bearing force
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# 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation **Power amplifier (PA)**

- PA converts the controller output signal into the signal for the bearing coil current!
  - Analogue amplifier: Only small power rating up to 0.5...0.6 kVA because of the high losses.
  - Switching amplifier (Chopper): for bigger power ratings (due to lower losses!)





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### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Analogue amplifier**

• Analog amplifier: Continuously operated transistors as variable resistances, giving a "voltage divider"

$$u_t = U_d - u_n$$

 $T_2$ u<sub>m</sub>

At DC current operation:  $L \cdot di/dt = 0$ :  $u_t = U_d - R_{Cu} \cdot i$ 

**Example:**  $\pm U_d = \pm 150$  V, Coil resistance  $R_{Cu} = 2 \Omega$ , max. coil current i = 6 A:  $u_t = U_d - R_{Cu} \cdot i = 150 - 2 \cdot 6 = 138 \text{V}$ Transistor-power losses:  $P = u_t \cdot i = 138 \cdot 6 = 828W$ 

Source: Schweitzer. G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings

#### Facit:

The analogue amplifier has very high losses, so it is used only at low power levels.



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#### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** Source: Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active Switching amplifier magnetic bearings u(t)S<sub>1</sub> US $U_d$ R<sub>cu</sub> i(t) $U_d$ on Um. $S_2$ $T = 1 / f_T$

- Voltage chopped between  $\pm U_d$  and 0 with a fixed high switching frequency  $f_{\tau}$  (e. g. 50 kHz)

- Pulse width modulation PWM or Hysteresis-Control are applied.
- Transistors, operated a power switches, have a small threshold voltage  $u_s$  in the conducting state. Often MOS-FET technology is used, which allows high  $f_{\tau}$ .
- Higher  $f_{\tau}$  decreases current **ripple amplitude**, but may cause EMI through capacitive and inductive coupling into the position measurement system !

#### <u>Facit:</u> Switching amplifiers (Choppers) have lower losses, but cause a current switching ripple and often EMI problems !



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### Losses with switching amplifiers

- Transistor conduction losses: e. g.  $u_s = 2 \text{ V}$ , i = 6 A:  $P_D = 12 \text{ W}$ ;
- Transistor-switching losses, which are small in MOS-FETs.
- Eddy current losses in the AMB due to the current ripple with frequency  $2f_{\tau}$ .
  - a) Eddy current losses in the coil conductors
  - b) Increased iron core losses in the laminated stator iron
  - c) Additional eddy current and hysteresis losses in ferromagnetic levitated body

A free-wheeling diode is needed anti-parallel to the switching transistor to avoid an over-voltage, when the coil is switched off, and the stored magnetic energy  $L \cdot i^2/2$  has to be dissipated.





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- Per phase a full H-bridge is needed for four-quadrant operation = positive and negative current flow and voltage polarity in the AMB coil !
- DC link  $U_{d}$  feed all H-bridges of the used axial and radial AMBs for the TFM
- Per radial bearing = x- and y-coil: 2 H-bridges = 8 Transistors T, 8 free-wheeling diodes D



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#### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Bearing Position Measurement Sensors**

- Non-contact position measurement of the (moving) levitated body
- Inductive measurement: Coil with ferrite core is part of a resonant circuit 5 kHz ... 100 kHz. The ferromagnetic levitated body changes with  $\Delta x$  the coil inductance  $\Rightarrow$  oscillator detuning  $\Rightarrow$  Voltage amplitude U changes  $\Rightarrow$  Demodulation  $\Rightarrow$  U-Signal (after linearization) proportional to  $\Delta x$
- Eddy current sensors: HF AC current (1 ... 2 MHz) in a air-cored coil excites an air gap magnetic field  $\Rightarrow$  It causes eddy currents  $I_{\text{Et}}$  in the conducting levitated body  $\Rightarrow$   $I_{\text{Et}}$  increase with  $1/\Delta x$ . Their self-field reduces the coil inductance  $\Rightarrow$  Voltage amplitude U changes proportional with  $\Delta x$ . Aluminum body better suited as measuring surface than steel.
- **Capacitive measurement:** Sensor electrode and levitated conductive body form a capacitor  $\Rightarrow$  capacitance increases with  $1/\Delta x \Rightarrow$  HF AC current (50 kHz ... 5 MHz) causes a capacitive voltage drop proportional to  $\Delta x$ . High resolution: e. g. 0.02  $\mu$ m for 0.5 mm measuring range
- Magnetic measurement: The magnetic field *B* of a DC excited coil or PM penetrates the ferromagnetic levitated body  $\Rightarrow$  B increases with 1/ $\Delta x$ : B measured via Hall-probes etc.; Often probes arranged in a differential circuits for linearization of the B-signal
- **Optical measurement :** a) " Light barrier ", b) "Variable angle of reflection". Sensitive to dirt!



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### 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Inductive & optical position measurement sensors



### 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Eddy current & capacitive position measurement sensors





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### **Series oscillation circuit**

Output AC voltage <u>U<sub>R</sub></u>



### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** Amplifier power rating $\hat{U}_{max} \cdot \hat{I}_{max}$

• An unwanted oscillation of the levitated body induces a voltage u<sub>i</sub> in the magnet coil, which increases with oscillation frequency f. The feeding voltage u must overcome  $u_i$  to impress the necessary levitation current *i*.

$$u_i = -\frac{d\psi}{dt} = -N \cdot A \cdot \frac{dB}{dt} = -\mu_0 N^2 A \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right)$$

 $\delta_0$ 

• Voltage limit: Feeding voltage *u* is equal to *u<sub>i</sub>*:

Voltage limit (at 
$$R \cong 0$$
):  $u + u_i = 0 \implies u = -u_i$ 

Bearing force: 
$$F = \mu_0 A \frac{N^2}{4} \cdot \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right)^2 \qquad \frac{dF}{dt} = \mu_0 A \frac{N^2}{4} \cdot 2 \cdot \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right) = u \cdot \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right)$$

Design rule for maximum necessary amplifier power rating u<sup>i</sup>:

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = u \cdot \left(\frac{i}{\delta_0 - x}\right) \qquad \text{At zero position deviation } x = 0: \quad \frac{dF}{dt} = \frac{u \cdot i}{\delta_0}$$

For sinusoidal movement  $\omega$ :  $\omega_{\max} F_{\max} = U_{\max} \cdot I_{\max} / O_0$ 



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### **Auxiliary bearings as back-up**

Source:

Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings

Falling of the levitated rotating body into the auxiliary bearing sleeve Start

Sliding





repeating

bumps

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### Falling into the auxiliary bearings

• Interruption of voltage supply: Levitated body falls into the aux. bearings. Air gap of the aux. bearings must be smaller than the sensor air gap and the AMB air gap to avoid damage there.

• Rotating levitated body: Stored kinetic energy of the falling body is dissipated via friction into heat and deformation of the aux. bearings. So inverter-fed E-drives shall dissipate a part of the kinetic energy via the DC link into the resistive braking chopper. Hence the residual kinetic energy, which is dissipated in the aux. bearing, is reduced.

• Further improvement: Coupling of DC links of the E-drive and the AMB. Braking energy of the decelerated (generator operating) drive supports the voltage of the DC link capacitor. So the AMB may work longer, while the drive speed falls. Hence the dissipated residual kinetic energy in the aux. bearings is minimized.

• Sometimes: UPS is use for AMB.



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### **Examples for auxiliary bearings**



Source: Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings



## Bronze rings as non-lubricated sleeve bearings:

The softer bronze material is deformed in case of a "crash" and not the harder rotating steel shaft. The bronze rings can be exchanged more easily than the rotor shaft.

#### Ball bearings with loose inner ring:

Shaft falls into the loose inner rings and may rotate further via the balls of the aux. bearings.



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#### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** Losses in the AMB

- No bearing friction losses !
- Rotor iron losses P<sub>Fe.r</sub>: Braking torque due to iron losses in the ferromagnetic parts e.g. the rotor laminations (Hysteresis und eddy current losses).

 $M = P_{Fe,r} / (2\pi n) \quad P_{Fe,r} = P_{Fe,r,Hy} + P_{Fe,r,Ft} \quad f \sim n, P_{Fe,r,Hy} \sim f \text{ and } P_{Fe,r,Ft} \sim f^2: M \propto a + b \cdot f$ 

- Air friction losses *P*<sub>w</sub> act also as a brake. •
- In the bearing stator coils: Joule losses  $P_{Cu,s} = I^2 R$ , (also eddy currents losses in the • coil conductors due to the PWM current ripple)
- **Iron core losses** *P*<sub>Fe.s</sub> in the stator iron yokes due to the PWM current ripple ullet
- Losses in the power electronics  $P_{\text{Inv}}$ : •
  - a) Inverter: PWM-operation: Conducting and switching losses
  - b) Rectifier losses: for producing a DC voltage from the AC grid
  - c) Power supply losses for the electronic devices: for the sensor system and the

controller

Benchmark for total AMB losses  $P = P_{Cu,s} + P_{Fe,s} + P_{inv}$ : Rotor (Mass m) levitated • without rotation: *P/m* = 1 W/kg.



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### Braking torque of the magnetic bearing system


# **Rigid body oscillation of controlled systems**

- Radial bearing with controller and oscillating rigid body form the oscillatory system.
- "Rigid" body: No elastic deformation of the body occurs during the vibration! **Example:** P-controller: un-damped oscillations e. g.: in the x-axis

Intrinsic angular frequency:  $\omega_{e,x} = \sqrt{(K_{p,x}k_i - k_x)/m}$ 

- Oscillation in x- and y-direction is possible. *General:* Superposition of *x*- und *y*-oscillation: "Staggering" of the rotor
- **Two radial bearings:** Oscillation at the two radial bearings has two base modes:
  - In-phase oscillation in both bearings = Common mode oscillation
  - Opposite-phase oscillation in both bearings = **Differential mode oscillation**
  - In general: Superposition of common & differential mode oscillations
- Often the natural frequency of the diff. mode oscillation is higher than of the common • mode oscillation !  $f_{B,d.m.} > f_{B,c.m.}$



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## **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Rigid rotor vibration in elastic bearings**

- Magnetic bearings have a rather low dynamic stiffness due to the control delay.
- So the bearing oscillation frequency is lower than the rotor natural elastic bending frequency.
- So rotor is considered RIGID in the vibrating bearings ! Rigid body oscillations occur !





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## Bending vibrations of the elastic rotor

Rotor elasticity: Bending vibrations of the elastic flexible rotor
 Fundamental vibration mode (1. elastic mode): has two nodes, vibrates at the 1<sup>st</sup> natural frequency (= 1st eigen-frequency),
 Other vibration modes: 2. mode = 3 nodes, 3. mode = 4 nodes etc. at higher natural frequencies

**<u>Example</u>**: Rotor is considered as cylindrical beam (diameter  $d_{sh}$ , length L) with DISTRIBUTED mass along the beam. An infinite number of natural vibration modes exists. Ordinal number of bending modes *i* 



## Influence of rotor elasticity on the control system

- Does the sensor system observe the rotor vibration modes? If the radial position sensors are placed exactly at the vibration nodes, no ∆x is measurable ("Collocation" of sensor and vibration node).
- By bearing design it MUST be ensured, that the rotor vibrations are detected. So the **controllability of the vibration modes** is possible.
- By knowledge of the vibration modes one can distinguish, if the sensors are positioned left or right of a vibration node:
   So: ∆x-signal is in opposite phase / in phase with the rotor deflection: Hence the controller is programmed with / without change of the sign of the signal for the feedback. By that way the bearing force may damp the elastic rotor vibrations.
- The maximum output frequency of the controller must be above the natural frequency of the vibration mode, which shall be damped. Usually the first three rotor vibration modes should be damped in big drives (MW-range). In small drives often the eigen-frequencies are high enough to consider the rotor to be "rigid".



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## 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Natural bending vibration modes of a milling spindle rotor

• High-Speed-Alu-squirrel cage rotor, 2 radial & 1 axial bearing, 40 000 /min, 35 kW





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## New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

Summary:

**Components of an active magnetic bearing** 

- Fast switching power electronics, distance measurement, auxiliary bearings are needed
- Eddy current or capacitive distance sensors most widely used
- Rotor and AMB are an oscillating system with rigid and elastic vibration modes
- For smaller rotating machines usually the first bending frequency is high enough to consider a stiff rotor



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# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation

- 3.2.1 Working principle of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.2 Linearization of the bearing force
- 3.2.3 Design of magnetic bearings
- 3.2.4 Control of active magnetic bearings
- 3.2.5 Voltage controlled active magnetic bearings
- 3.2.6 Components of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.7 Passive magnetic bearings
- 3.2.8 Examples of magnetic bearings
- 3.2.9 Bearingless motors



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# **Passive permanent magnet bearings**

Rare earth permanent magnet arrangement: Due to Earnshaw's theorem it is only in combination with a controlled bearing part stable Source:

Reduced energy consumption, but lower dynamic bearing stiffness

Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings





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# **Passive radial magnetic bearing**

- <u>Example:</u> SmCo magnet ring pairs with 28 mm diameter gives a stiffness per ring pair of only 16 N/mm.
- **Stable** levitation is possible in radial direction.
- Axial direction is unstable and needs an AMB
- A higher number of ring pairs increases the bearing stiffness

Source:

Schweitzer, G. et al.: Active magnetic bearings





## New technologies of electric energy converters and **actuators**

## Summary: **Passive magnetic bearings**

- Basically unstable, but cannot be controlled
- Only in combination with a controlled bearing axis the other bearing axes may be equipped with passive bearings
- Less dynamical and static stiffness than controlled bearings, but cheaper



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# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation

- 3.2.1 Working principle of an active magnetic bearing
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## Magnetic bearing PM synchronous motor 40 kW, 40 000/min



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## 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Technical data of a radial magnetic bearing



Steady-state specific load force:

Short-time overload:

$$f = \frac{F}{d \cdot b} = \frac{600 \text{N}}{9 \text{cm} \cdot 4 \text{cm}} = 16 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{cm}^2}$$
$$f = 32 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{cm}^2}$$

 $F_{\text{Bearing}} = 600 \text{ N}$ 8-pole structure Rotor weight force 100 N Difference winding: Base excitation:  $N_0 = 45, I_0 = 6 \text{ A}$ Control excitation:  $N_1 = 18, I_1 = 15 \text{ A}$ Rotor lamination:  $d_{a} = 154 \text{ mm}$  $d_{\rm i} = 90 \, {\rm mm}$  $I_{\rm Fe} = 40 \, \rm mm$  $\delta_{\text{bearing}} = 0.4 \text{ mm}$  $\delta_{\text{aux. bearing}} = 0.2 \text{ mm}$ 

#### Source: EAAT Chemnitz



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# **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation PSM motor components** $n_N = 40000 \text{ min}^{-1}$ , $P_N = 40 \text{ kW}$ **Magnetic bearing stators** Stator with water jacket cooling & insulation cast end windings Source: TU Darmstadt

#### Bearing end shield with distance eddy current sensors

**PM Rotor** 





## **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation Crashed Rotor M1 and redesigned Rotor M2**

## **Crashed Rotor M1:**

#### PM Bandage Crash at 35000/min

- Breaking length
- PM active length



## **Redesigned Rotor M2**

Source: TU Darmstadt



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## **Calculated comparison of different control methods**





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# **PSM High Speed drives with AMB (1)**







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# **PSM High Speed drives with AMB (2)**

## - High-Speed drive allows

- smaller volume with higher power ("power comes from speed")
- *less mass* = higher power density
- gearless direct drive
- Low maintenance

-<u>Example:</u> Smaller compressor runner for 400 kW due to high speed 50 000 /min!

<u>In trend:</u> Due to higher speed increasing **no contact magnetic bearing** for using = WEAR FREE !



High-Speed compressor

Source: Piller, Germany



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# Active magnetic bearings enlarge motor length



## A) Mechanical bearing for High-Speed:

- Spindle bearing ( = small balls = small centrifugal forces)
- Low friction: only oil lubricant, no grease
- Hybrid bearing (Ceramic balls)

## **Bearing "ball speed":** $v = d_m \cdot n \cdot \pi$

 $d_{\rm m} \cdot n$  : 1 ... 2 Mio. mm/min  $d_{\rm m}$ : bearing average diameter n: speed

## **B) Magnetic bearing for High-Speed:**

**Benefit:** maintenance free, lubrication free, wear free, active rotor influencing

- Special laminations

**Requirement: -** DC-excitation,

- DC-controller,

- AMB causes bigger axial length
- Hence lower bending frequencies
- Less dynamical stiffness

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- distance measuring, - mechanical bearing



## Large 2-pole 3-phase synchronous motor with AMB

2-pole 3-phase synchronous motor (Massive turbo rotor with electric excitation), with AMB, used as oilfree natural gas compressor drive

#### <u>Data:</u>

23 MW, 2x3.6 kV, 2x2.03 kA, 90 Hz

 $n_{\rm N} = 5400/{\rm min}$ 

 $n_{\rm max} = 7000/{\rm min}$ 

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Motor mass: 61.5 t, Rotor mass 9.2 t

Source: Siemens AG







# Radial magnetic bearing for the 23 MW motor

# Magnetic radial bearing

Two distance sensors for each *x*- and *y*-axis, connected as differential sensors

Bearing air gap 2 mm

Redundant AMB design: 2 AMBs in one radial magnetic bearing =  $4 \times 4 = 16$  poles

Digital bearing control



Source: Glacier Bearings, UK



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## **Distance and radial velocity sensors**

Enhanced rotor measurement system:

a) Distance and b) radialvelocity sensors:*x*- and *dx/dt*-measurement

Bore diameter of magnetic radial bearing: ca. 400 mm



Source: Glacier Bearings, UK



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## 2-pole 3-phase 23 MW synchronous motor with AMB

23 MW motor, air-air- - cooler removed

Stator end winding with coil connectors

DE side radial magnetic bearing

Auxiliary bearing



Source: Siemens AG, Germany



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## 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation 23 MW 2-pole synchronous motor with AMB during the test run

2-pole synchronous motor with AMB (Project NAM, Netherlands)

At the test bench of Siemens AG, Dynamowerk, Berlin

Load: Low speed watercooled eddy current brake, coupled by a gearbox

Fans and air-air-cooler removed

Motor is designed explosion proof for E(Ex)p

Speed range: 5400 ... 6300/min, which is above 1. critical bending speed (= first natural bending frequency)

Source: Siemens AG, Dynamowerk, Berlin



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## **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** 2-pole 23 MW synchronous motor with AMB at the gas field

2-pole synchronous motor coupled with gas compressor, both with AMB

Natural gas field Groningen/Holland, **Project NAM** 

Compressor with axial AMB, produces 60 bar gas pressure at nominal speed

Variable speed operation via two synchronous converters; Two 3phase windings, shifted by 30° el., yielding a 6-phase system

Motor explosion proof E(Ex)p due the natural gas storage operation



Source: Siemens AG



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## **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** High speed cage induction motors with AMB



15000/min, 4 MW squirrel cage – induction motor

- Drive for gas pipe line compressors

Source: Siemens AG

- Motor series 4 MW, 15000/min, 2.5 kNm ... 16 MW, 6000 /min, 25.5 kNm
- Copper cage, 2-pole motors, solid iron rotor, ca. 240 m/s circumferential speed
- Active Magnetic Bearing: Rotation above the first bending natural frequency
- Medium voltage IGBT-PWM-voltage source converter



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## Massive rotor witch copper cage and AMB as a compressor drive



- Rotor from solid steel, welded copper squirrel cage (Siemens patent)

Source: Siemens AG



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## End region of the squirrel cage rotor for the compressor drive

- High strength plastic axial fan blades for – reduction of centrifugal forces
- Rotor from solid steel
- Welded copper squirrelcage
- Squirrel cage end ring -

Source: Siemens AG





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## Magnetic levitation for industrial steam turbine (SIMOTICS)

AMB digital control duty cycle: 62.5 µs

AMB Stator: Thermal Class H 180°C

AMB Rotor 200°C Cooling air inlet 40°C, outlet 80°C

#### Steam turbine SST-600:

Used as a drive for water feeder pump in thermal power plant *Jänschwalde*, D

3600...5700/min 10 MW

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535°C steam at 36 bar Rotor mass 2.5 t

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AMB power 10 kW, Auxiliary bearings: Twin-row ball bearings

and actuators

Axial AMB

Radial AMB

Axial AMB

**Radial AMB** 



Source: Siemens AG, Germany



## **Magnetic levitation for industrial steam turbine**

## Advantages:

- Instead of oil-lubricated sleeve bearings (which need a 4000 I oil tank)
- 10 kW steady state power = only 10% of sleeve-bearing losses
- Hence: Total efficiency increased by 1%
- Only 0.05% of original oil volume needed = strong reduction of danger of fire
- Reduced maintenance

## Disadvantages:

- AMB is more expensive = higher investment costs

Source: BWK 67, 2015, no. 10, p. 42-43



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# Homopolar combined radial-axial active magnetic bearings



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## Homopolar combined radial-axial active magnetic bearings



Source: Nissle, B.: Master thesis, TU Darmstadt, 2011



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## Homopolar combined radial-axial active magnetic bearings



Source: Nissle, B.: Master thesis,



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TU Darmstadt, 2011

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Source: Levitec, Lahnau, Germany



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## Homopolar base field excitation $B_{\rm m}$ by the PM ring

- Permanent magnet ring is axially magnetized
- It excites a field  $B_{\rm m}$ , which is of uni-polar direction in the axial bearing (e.g. N-pole)

## AND

- of uni-polar direction in the radial bearing (e.g. S-pole)
- Thus this is a "uni-polar" (or homo-polar) active magnetic bearing.



Source: Nissle, B.: Master thesis, TU Darmstadt, 2011



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Permanent magnet

## **Radial levitation force in the homopolar AMB**


## Axial magnetic force in the homopolar AMB



- Reversing of force needs reversed coils currents for the radial and the axial AMB = bipolar current feeding!  $F_{ax} \sim B_m B_a \rightarrow -F_{ax} \sim B_m \cdot (-B_a)$ 

Source: Nissle, B.: Master thesis, TU Darmstadt, 2011

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## **Three-phase radial active magnetic** bearings



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## PM bias excitation and control excitation via three-phase inverter (operating at zero frequency = DC current)





## Radial air-gap flux density distribution of PM bias excitation











## Radial air-gap flux density distribution of control excitation

- PM flux density amplitude  $B_s$
- Two-pole field of control excitation
- <u>Example</u>:  $I_{\rm W} = -I_{\rm U}/2 = -I_{\rm V}/2$ ,  $I_{\rm U} + I_{\rm V} + I_{\rm W} = 0$













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## Superposition of bias and control field in the air-gap



- Operation of  $B_p + B_s$  below 1.7 T
- Hence iron unsaturated

 $B_{\rm p} = B_{\rm s}$ 

- Hence linear superposition of  $B_p(\gamma) + B_s(\gamma)$
- Linear control operation possible via  $B_s$
- Maximum field *B*<sub>p</sub> + *B*<sub>s</sub> in the W-axis (where maximum coil current flows!)

$$-\frac{Example:}{I_{W}} = -I_{U}/2 = -I_{V}/2, I_{U} + I_{V} + I_{W} = 0$$



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# Resulting bias and control air-gap field and corresponding radial force density (for $\mu_{Fe} \rightarrow \infty$ )



- Maximum radial force in the W-axis (where maximum coil current flows!)
- γ Hence: Via vector control of *i*<sub>U</sub>, *i*<sub>V</sub>, *i*<sub>W</sub> via
  PWM of the three phase voltages the angular position of the radial force vector
  may be shifted within -180° ≤ γ ≤ 180°
  continuously

- In the same way the radial force vector amplitude is adjusted continuously up to the limit value.

 $- \frac{Example:}{I_{W}} = -I_{U}/2 = -I_{V}/2, I_{U} + I_{V} + I_{W} = 0$  $B_{p} = B_{s}$ 



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### **Three-phase radial active magnetic bearings**



Source: Levitec, Lahnau, Germany, 2014



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## New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

#### Summary: Examples of magnetic bearings

- Wide range of power ratings for AMB from kW to MW-range
- Radial and axial magnetic bearings in commercial use
- Mainly for high speed, but also low speed applications
- Number of applications increase steadily
- Special combined axial-radial bearings with shorter total length available
- Special three-phase radial magnetic bearings with PM bias excitation allow the use of PWM three-phase inverter bridges
- Superposition of PM and electrical excitation to reduce losses



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## New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators 3.2 Electromagnetic levitation

- 3.2.1 Working principle of an active magnetic bearing
- 3.2.2 Linearization of the bearing force
- 3.2.3 Design of magnetic bearings
- 3.2.4 Control of active magnetic bearings
- 3.2.5 Voltage controlled active magnetic bearings
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- 3.2.7 Passive magnetic bearings
- 3.2.8 Examples of magnetic bearings

3.2.9 Bearingless motors



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## Operation principles of bearingless motors





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## Advantages of bearingless motors

Principle: Integration the AMB into the active length of the motor

- No DC-excitation for the AMB, so a conventional 3-phase inverter sufficient is for one radial bearing
- No DC-controller for the AMB, so a conventional field-oriented drive controller is sufficient for radial force bearing control (d-qcurrent-control)
- No special rotor laminations for the AMB: The motor itself IS the radial bearing = no additional bearing = BEARINGLESS
- For disc-like motor shape: Motor takes also the role of axial bearing
- Reduction of motor length is possible in comparison to AMB levitation

Also bearingless motors require: - Position measurement, - Auxiliary bearings



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## Lateral force generation in the motor air gap = Bearing force

Generation of the<br/>torque MGeneration of a lateral force<br/>F in x-directionGeneration of a lateral force<br/>F in y-direction



 $N (S \leftarrow N) N$ 



Combination of a rotor field with  $p_1$  pole pairs with a stator field of  $p_1$ pole pairs generates the torque *M*  Combination of a rotor field with  $p_1$  pole pairs with a stator field with  $p_2 = p_1 \pm 1$  generates a lateral force *F* 

(Sequenz, H.:, Die Wicklungen el. Maschinen, Bd. 3, Springer, 1954)



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## Calculation of the lateral force

- Superposition of two air-gap field waves  $p_1$  and  $p_2 = p_1 \pm 1$ :

Drive field: e. g.::  $2p_1 = 2$ 

Levitation field: e. g.:  $2p_2 = 4$ 

$$B_1(\alpha,t) = \hat{B}_1 \cos(p_1 \alpha - \omega_1 t - \varphi_1)$$

e. g. excited by rotor permanent magnets

$$B_2(\alpha,t) = \hat{B}_2 \sin(p_2 \alpha - \omega_2 t - \varphi_2)$$

Excited by stator current loading:

$$A_2(\alpha,t) = \hat{A}_2 \cos(p_2 \alpha - \omega_2 t - \varphi_2)$$

 $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ : position angles of rotor field amplitude  $B_1$  and stator current loading amplitude  $A_2$  on the periphery (circumference angle  $\alpha$  in mech. degrees)

Lateral force/area in the air gap:  $f = F/A_{\delta}$ 

(r: radial, t: tangential, z: axial)







 $F_x$ : Horizontal force  $|F_{v}$ : Vertical force

as levitation forces



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- Frequencies in motor and levitation winding must be equal:  $\omega_1 = \omega_2$ . The lateral forces are independent of frequency!

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_x \\ F_y \end{pmatrix} = k_i \cdot I_2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\varphi_1 - \varphi_2) \\ \pm \cos(\varphi_1 - \varphi_2) \end{pmatrix} = k_i \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -I_{2,d} \\ \pm I_{2,q} \end{pmatrix}$$
 *d*-current - component *d*-current - component



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## **Bearingless motor concepts**

#### 2 Half motors + Axial bearing

**1 short bearingless motor ("disc" type)** 

Bigger power/High-Speed: cylindrical rotor Small power/Low-Speed: Pancake rotor



Axial bearing Radial bearing 1 Radial bearing 2 = Half motor 1 = Half motor 2



- Axial bearing via magnetic pull of PM-rotor with big air gap:
- Stabilization of tilting rotor via magnet pull  $\Rightarrow$  only <u>one</u> controlled bearingless motor is necessary, if the motor is axially short!



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## "Disc" type bearingless PM motor "Temple type"



Source: Levitronix, Schweiz

#### Advantages:

Hermetically encapsulated pump

- no pollution of the medium
- no rotating seals
- no leakage

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- simply exchangeable impeller rotor
- no wear, high life time





Source: Levitronix, Schweiz

#### In addition:

Additional information can be acquired via the feeding electronics about the machine operation data:

- Measurement of flow rate, pressure, etc. without additional sensors



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## "Disc" type bearingless PM motor 2<sup>nd</sup> generation = recued size

- Bearingless drive for the semiconductor technology (clean room)
- Bearingless mixer in biology und medicine technology
- Bearingless pumps for sensitive mediums
  - e. g.: bearingless blood pumps as
    - extracorporeal blood pumps,
    - implantable blood pumps.

Typical power & speed range :

100 W ... 4 kW 1000 ... 4 000 /min



Extra-corporeal blood pump drive with bearingless disc PM motor 20 W

Source: ETH Zürich Sulzer AG Switzerland



Extra-corporeal blood pump drive with bearingless disc PM motor 4 800 /min, 8.1 W, "HeartMate III"

> Source: HeartMate III, Levitronix, Switzerland Thoratec Corp., USA



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#### **Bearingless combi motor: Bearingless motor + magnetic bearing**

- For bigger powers rating in the kW-range:

<u>*Example*</u>: Prototype for "Canned rotor pump":  $P_N = 30$  kW,  $n_N = 3000$  /min (= hermetically encapsulated pump rotor for dangerous or sensitive medium)

#### **Conventional bearing** system of canned rotor pumps:

Sealed stator, wet rotor with wet sleeve bearings, featuring bearing wear, endangered by dry run



#### Advantages of bearingless Combi Motor:



- no mechanical bearings (except aux. bearings)
- high operation life time
- Pumping also possible for medias, which are not producing a necessary lubrication film in the sleeve bearings



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## **Bearingless motors: Research - development**







Four pole reluctance rotor Source: TU Chemnitz/TU Dresden

Bearingless induction machine Source: ETH Zürich

- All main types of poly-phase AC motors were built as prototypes !
  - Induction rotor (wound for the purpose of rotor loss reduction)
  - Special squirrel cage rotors
  - PM Synchronous rotor
  - Synchronous Reluctance Motor / Switched-Reluctance Motor
- Mainly universities research since ca. 1990:
  - ETH Zürich/Switzerland, Tokyo/Japan, Linz/Austria, TU Darmstadt, TU Dresden



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## Prototype: Bearingless combi motor for 60 000 /min





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### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** Bearingless combi motor prototype 600 W / 60 000 /min



Axial sensor Magnetic PM-Rotor Measuring Compressor axial & radial measuring track runner track bearing

#### **Bearingless motor**

- Stator: Surface natural air flow cooling
- Rotor: PM-rotor: NdFeB-Magnets as sleeves
- Carbon fiber bandage

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#### Control of combi motor by ML51008 (LEVITEC)

Source:

TU Darmstadt & Levitec, Lahnau



#### Completed Tests:

- Rotation up to 60 000 /min
- For 60 000 /min: Controlleroptimization of *d-q-*currentcontroller for the levitation winding
- Losses measurement
- Presented at Hannover Fair Industry 2007



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### **3.2 Electromagnetic levitation** Calculation of bearingless PM motor 40 kW / 40 000 /min

Source.

TU Darmstadt

- Numerical field calculation for levitation force

<u>Example</u>: 20 kW half motor: Active iron length:  $I_{Fe} = 60$  mm, mech. air gap: 1 mm



	analytical values	<b>FE results</b>	Deviation
$B_{\delta,1}$ (No load)	0.51 T	0.514 T	0.8 %
Nominal torque <i>M</i> <sub>N</sub>	5.31 Nm	5.41 Nm	1.9 %
Nominal lateral force F	N 144 N	144 N	0 %



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## Rotor of a bearingless PM combi motor 40 kW, 40000/min



#### **Bearingless motor: Two 3-phase Stator windings:**

- Four poles: Drive winding  $2p_1 = 4$
- Six poles: Levitation windings  $2p_2 = 6$
- Over-speed test for the rotor successful up to 44000/min (185 m/s)
- Electric tests up to nominal speed successful



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## **Totally bearingless PM motor**



- Two half bearingless machines represent the two radial magnetic AMB.
- Due to their conical shape (CBM = conical bearingless motor) at different field components in the left and right half machine an additional axial force is generated.
- No extra axial AMB is needed = "Totally" bearingless system!

Source: TU Darmstadt, G. Munteanu, 2012



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## d-q-Current control for the totally bearingless PM motor



- The torque per half machine is generated by the *I*<sub>q</sub>-current of the drive winding with the rotor PM field.
- The radial levitation force per half machine is generated via the  $I_d$  and  $I_q$ -current of the levitation winding with the rotor PM field.
- The axial force per half machine is generated by the axial component of the resulting magnetic pull due to the  $I_{d}$ -current of the drive winding with the rotor PM field.
- The *I*<sub>d</sub>-current of the drive winding does not generate a torque with the rotor PM field, but is only increasing or decreasing the total air gap field.
- By decreasing (left) and increasing (right) the air-gap field, a resulting axial force to the right is generated.

Source: TU Darmstadt, G. Munteanu, 2012

DE: Drive End, NDE Non-drive End



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## **Prototype of totally bearingless PM motor**





*Prototype:* 18000/min, 1 kW: Per half machine: 500 W with 2-pole drive and 4-pole levitation winding. Successfully tested!



Source: TU Darmstadt, G. Munteanu, 2012



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## New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

#### Summary: Bearingless motors

- Combination of motor propulsion and levitation force = motor is bearing!
- Two motor halves give two radial bearings
- Separate poly-phase levitation and drive winding in stator necessary
- Different bearingless motor types possible, but PM synchronous machine dominates
- Three-phase inverter with field-oriented control also for levitation winding
- With conical rotor also the axial bearing force is generated by the machine
- Bearingless motors up to now only for small power (e.g. extra-corporal blood pumps) in commercial use



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