DC Motor Theory

Objective: To understand and derive DC motor dynamics

1. Lorentz's Law of electromagnetic forces



Lorentz's Law: a current-carrying wire in a magnetic field will induce an electromotive force

2. Loop of wire: What happens?



- A. Current flows in direction shown (red arrows)
- B. Left part of loop moves down. Right part moves up (blue arrows)

3. Creating rotary motion



- C. Commutators allow loop to rotate 180 degrees
- D. Current then reverses direction
- E. Consequently have constant CCW motion

4. Motor Property 1 – Torque is proportional to current

Question: What is an inductor? **Answer:** Another name for a coil or loop of wire

Inductors oppose the change in current. Mathematically this is:

$$V_L = L \frac{dI}{dt} \begin{cases} L: \text{ inductance [H]} \\ V_L: \text{ voltage drop [V] across the inductor} \\ I: \text{ current [A]} \end{cases}$$
(1)

As motor turns, then:

- A. dl/dt increases and hence V_L increases
- B. Induced voltage opposes applied voltage and limits current

C. Induced voltage is called back EMF

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$$V = IR + e \begin{cases} V: \text{ Applied voltage} \\ I: \text{ Current through coil} \\ R: \text{ Coil resistance} \\ e: \text{ Back EMF (induced by coil rotation} \end{cases}$$
(2)

$$V = IR + e$$

$$e = K_e \omega \qquad \begin{cases} \text{Back EMF proportional to coil's rotational speed } \omega \\ K_e \text{ is called the Back EMF constant} \end{cases}$$
(3)

Hence from (2) have:

$$V = IR + K_e \omega \tag{4}$$

D. Torque coil makes available is proportional to current:

$$T = K_t I \qquad \left\{ \begin{array}{c} K_t & \text{is called the torque constant} \end{array} \right. \tag{5}$$

NB: torque is independent of voltage

- E. Lemma the back EMF and torque constants are equal
- **Proof:** Mechanical power output by shaft equals electrical power minus heating losses

$$P_m = P_e - I^2 R \qquad \begin{cases} P_m & \text{is the mechanical power} = T \omega \\ P_e & \text{is the electrical power} = VI \end{cases}$$
(6)

Hence (6) becomes

$$T\omega = VI - I^2 R \tag{7}$$

Subbing (5) and (4) into (7) yields

$$K_t I \omega = (IR + K_e \omega) I - I^2 R$$
$$= I^2 R + K_e \omega I - I^2 R$$
$$= K_e I \omega$$

Therefore proved that

$$K_t = K_e \tag{8}$$

5. Motor Property 2 – Motor speed increases then torque decreases

With Lemma (8) can rewrite (4) as

$$V = \left(\frac{T}{K}\right)R + K\omega \tag{9}$$

Alternatively

$$\omega = -\frac{TR}{K^2} + \frac{V}{K} \tag{10}$$

• Equation (10) says as motor speed increases, the torque decreases

6. Motor Dynamics – Equations of Motion

Newton:
$$J\ddot{\theta} = T = KI$$
 (11A)

Lorentz:
$$V = L \frac{dI}{dt} + IR + K\dot{\theta}$$
 (11B)

Taking Laplace yields:

$$Js\Omega = KI \tag{12A}$$

$$V = LsI + IR + Ks\Omega \tag{12B}$$

Consequently have

$$I = \frac{J_S \Omega}{K}$$

Substituting into (12B) yields

$$V = \frac{Ls^2 J\Omega}{K} + \frac{Js\Omega R}{K} + K\Omega = \Omega\left(\frac{JLs^2}{K} + \frac{JsR}{K} + K\right) = \Omega\left(\frac{s^2 JL + sJR + K^2}{K}\right)$$

Hence

$$\frac{\Omega}{V} = \frac{K}{s^2 J L + s J R + K^2}$$

Second order ODE. Time plot?

$$\frac{\Omega}{V} = \frac{K}{s^2 J L + s J R + K^2}$$

If inductance is low, then

$$\frac{\Omega}{V} = \frac{K}{sJR + K^2}$$
 First order ODE
Time plot?