

Advanced Electric Drives

Dr Xu (Daisy) Deng

Newcastle University Academic Track (NUAcT) Fellow

Electrical Power Research Group



A bit about me



BSc – Electrical Engineering
MEng – Fault-tolerant Bearingless Motor Drives

NUAA, Nanjing, **China**



JYPE exchange programme, Tohoku University

TU, Sendai, **Japan**



Post-Doc: RA and Senior RA

Newcastle, **UK**

Newcastle, **UK**

PhD – Drive system for a multi-phase SR Drives (Electrical Engineering)
Newcastle University

NUAct Fellowship – Advanced Electric Drives
May. 2021 - present

Electric Motor Drives are ubiquitous



Electric drive in a vacuum cleaner (< 1 kW)



Washing Machines (1-2 kW)



EVs (50-200kW)



Blender (300 W–1.2 kW)



HVAC in commercial buildings

- 50 billion electric motors and drives
- responsible for about 45% of the total electric energy consumption
- global market of \$18 billion
- Most EMDs are cost-driven and less efficient

My Vision: Future Advanced Electric Motor Drives

Key features

- Higher power density
 - Increased sustainability
- More intelligent

Challenges

- Reliance on PM
- Bulky passive components
- Bearing speed limits and lifetime

Enablers

- Integration concept
- WBG devices (SiC and GaN)
- Smarter energy control technology
- Levitation technology

My research

- **Rare-earth free Switched Reluctance Motor drives**
- **Integrated Motor Drives**
 - **Energy Controller**
 - Bearingless SRMs
- High-speed PMSM drives
- High frequency power converters

SRM Drives- Motor

Rotor:

- No winding or permanent magnet

Stator:

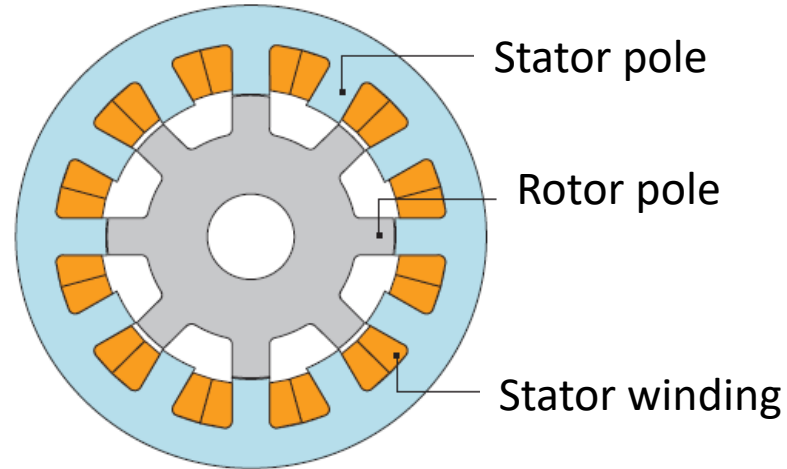
- Concentric windings

Advantages:

- Simple structure
- Low manufacturing cost
- High system reliability
- Wide speed range

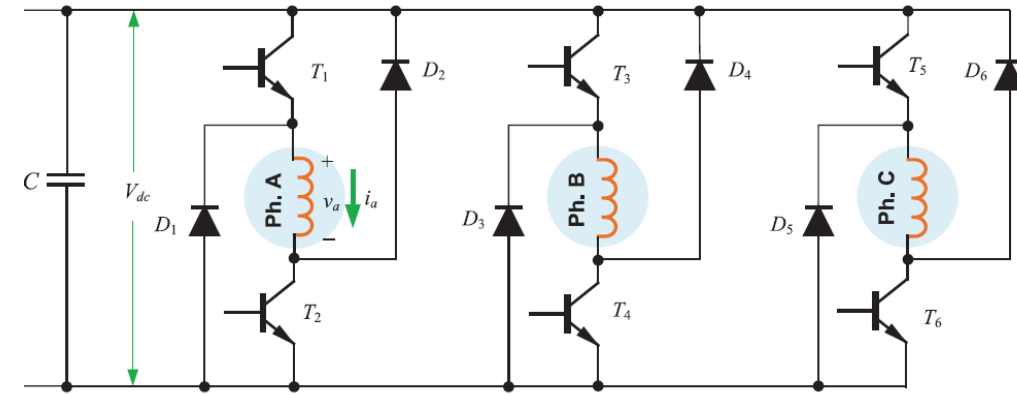
Application:

- SRMs are contenders for electric vehicle traction drives



Disadvantages:

- high torque ripple
- vibration and acoustic noise
- requirement of relatively large DC-link capacitors
- no off-the-shelf inverter module



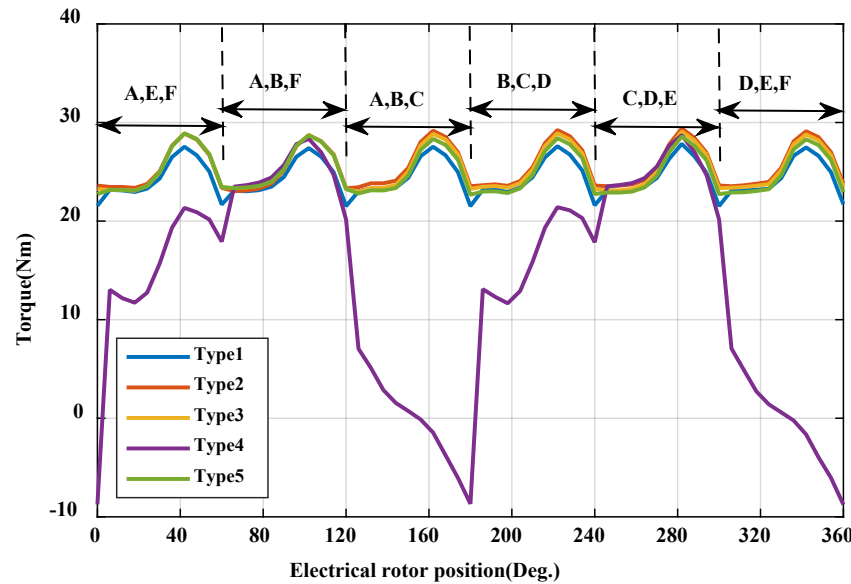
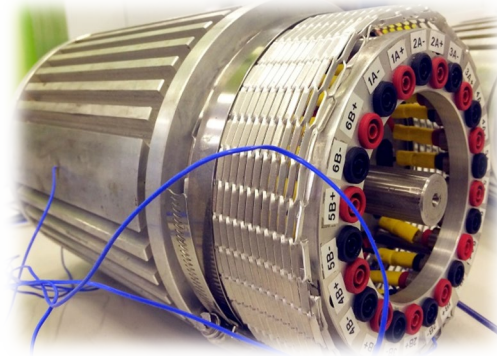
Proven Off-highway Switched Reluctance technology



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SRM Drives- Motor

Why Six-phase 12/10 pole SRM?

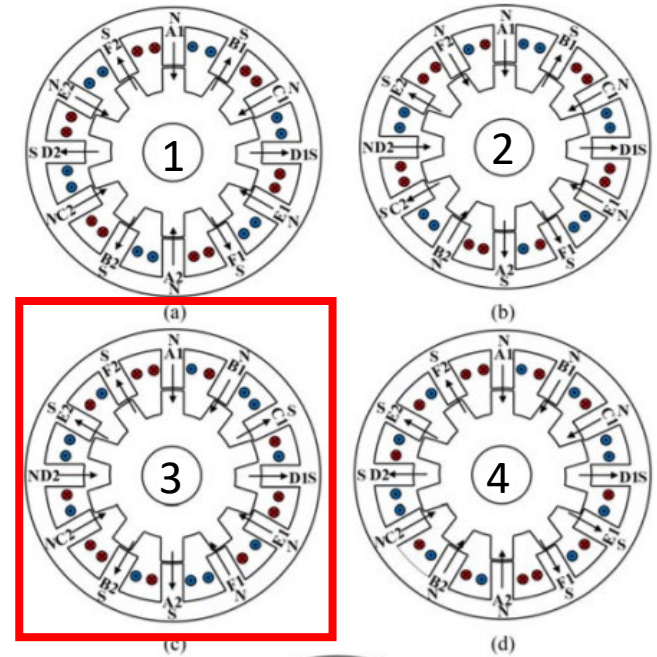


Average Torque and TRR comparison under current control

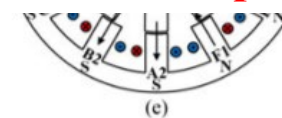
	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5
T_{av} (Nm)	24.4	23.9	23.2	14.2	20.4
TRR(%)	27.2	29.2	16.7	243.0	58.8

What's the optimum winding connection?

- high average torque
- low torque ripple
- less coupling between phases



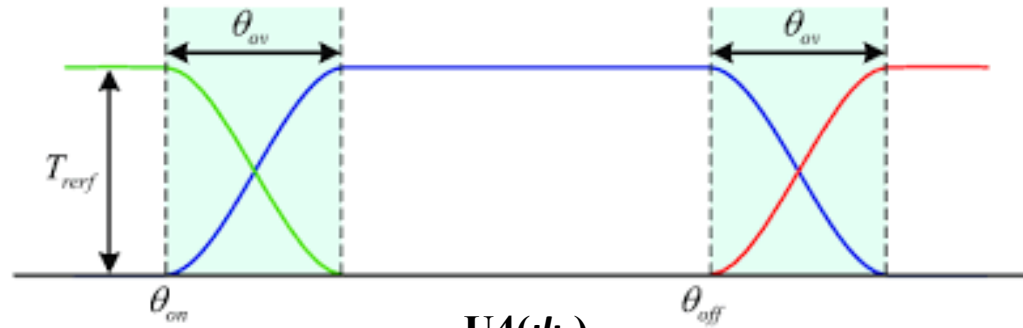
- **Average torque**
- **Low TRR**
- **Lower coupling**



- machines with higher phase numbers
- lower torque ripple
- less phase current for a given power rating
- better fault-tolerant ability
- more overlapping between phases

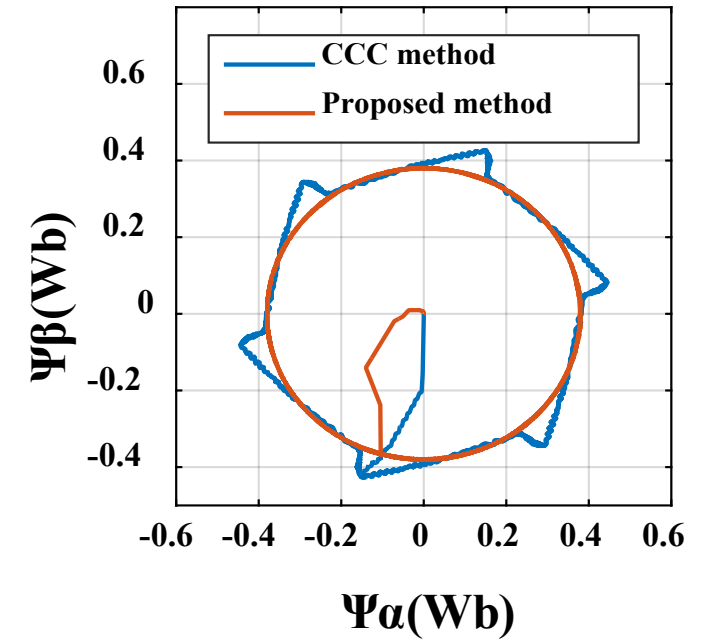
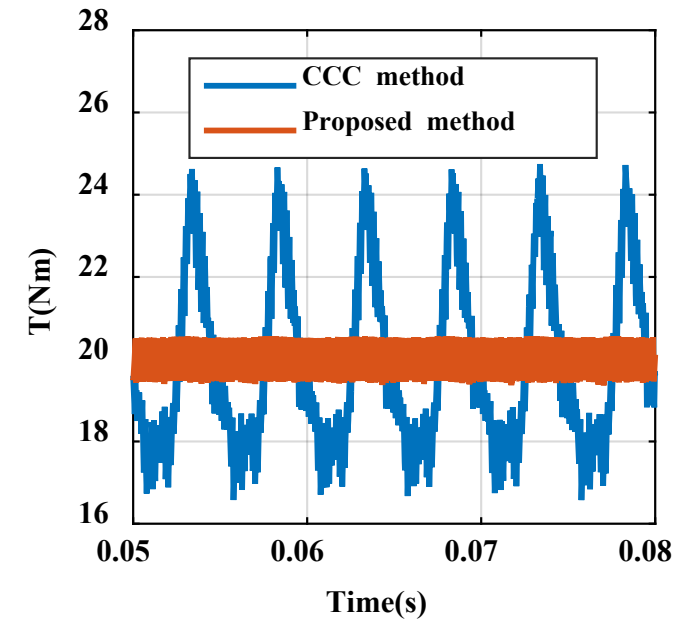
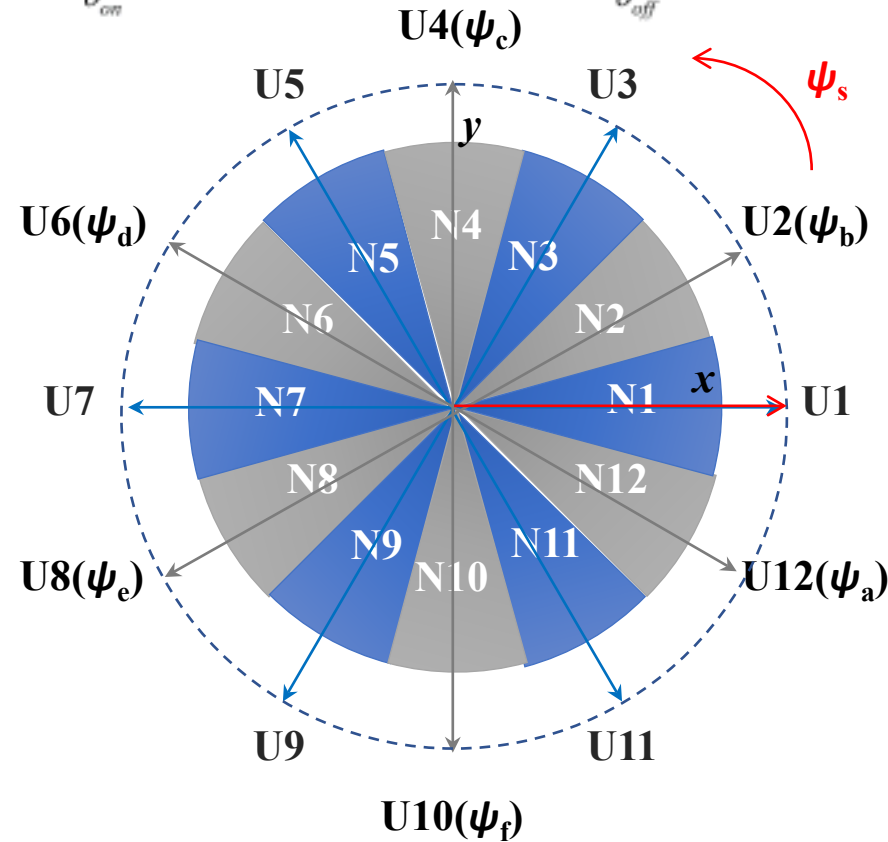
SRM Drives- Control

TSF

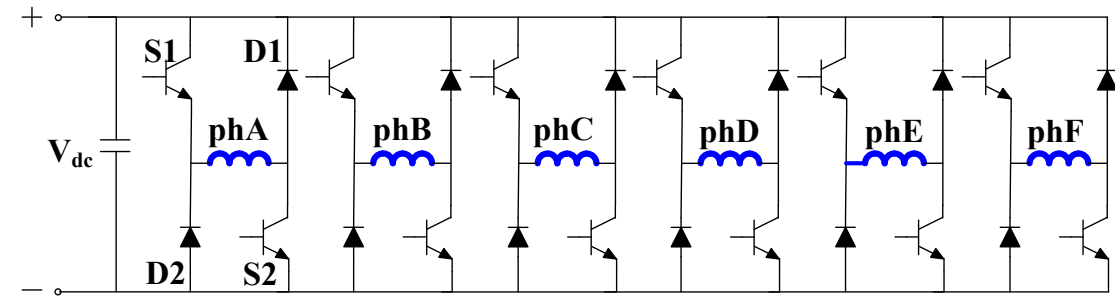


VS

DTC



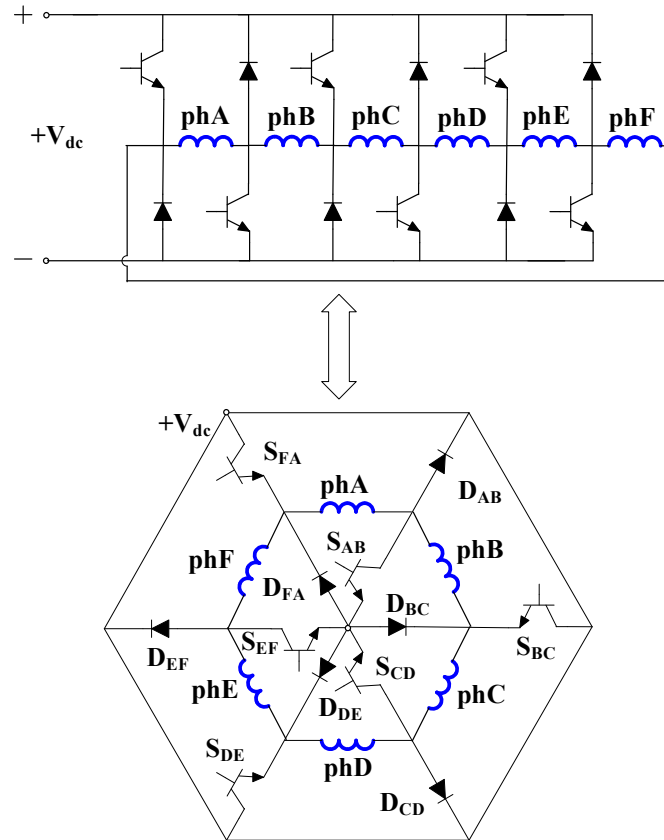
SRM Drives-Converter Topology



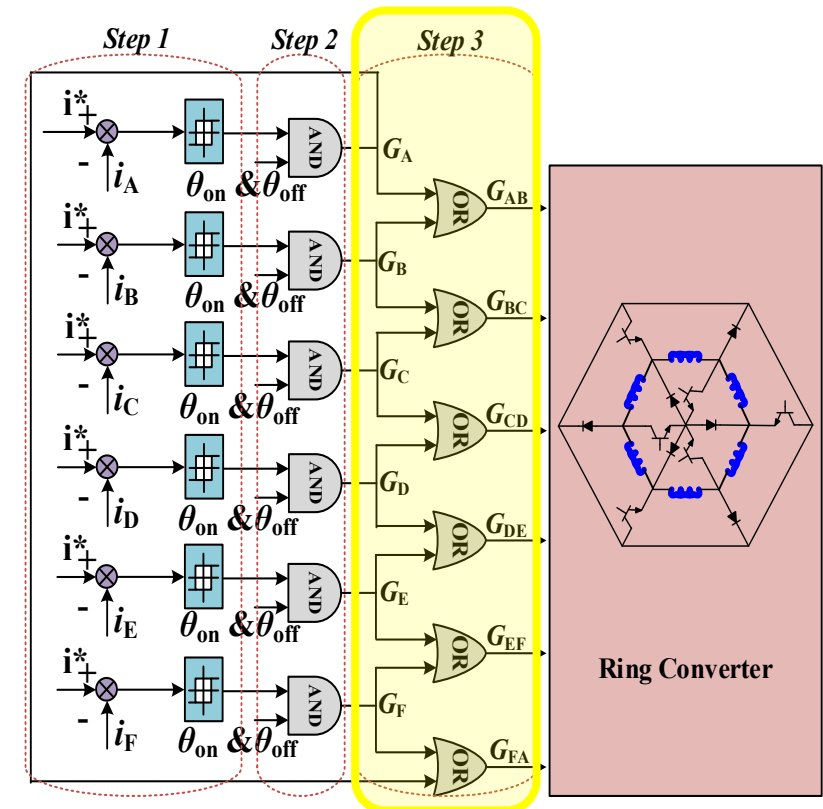
Features of the ideal converter for the multi-phase SRM

- Minimal number of switches;
- Minimal number of diodes;
- Minimal connections between the motor and converter;
- No additional energy storage element;
- Conventional and novel control techniques are applicable.

The proposed ring converter for the six-phase SRM



Modified control method



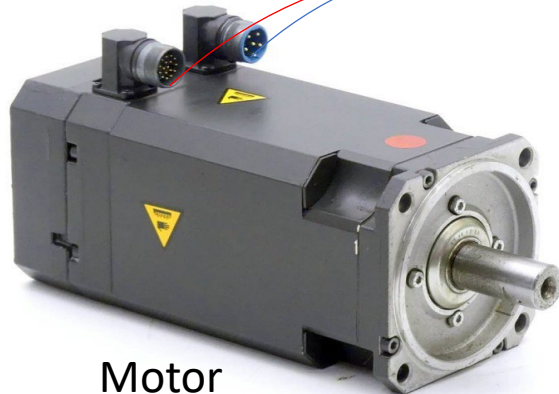
Integrated Motor Drives (IMDs)

By physically integrating power electronic converters and electrical machines we can use common structures and systems to greatly reduce material usage and energy consumption.

Conventional

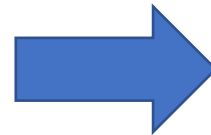
Disadvantages:

- Long cables
- Low power density (low speed)



(Power Electronics
and Controller)

Integration
concept



Early Stage Integrated Motor Drive

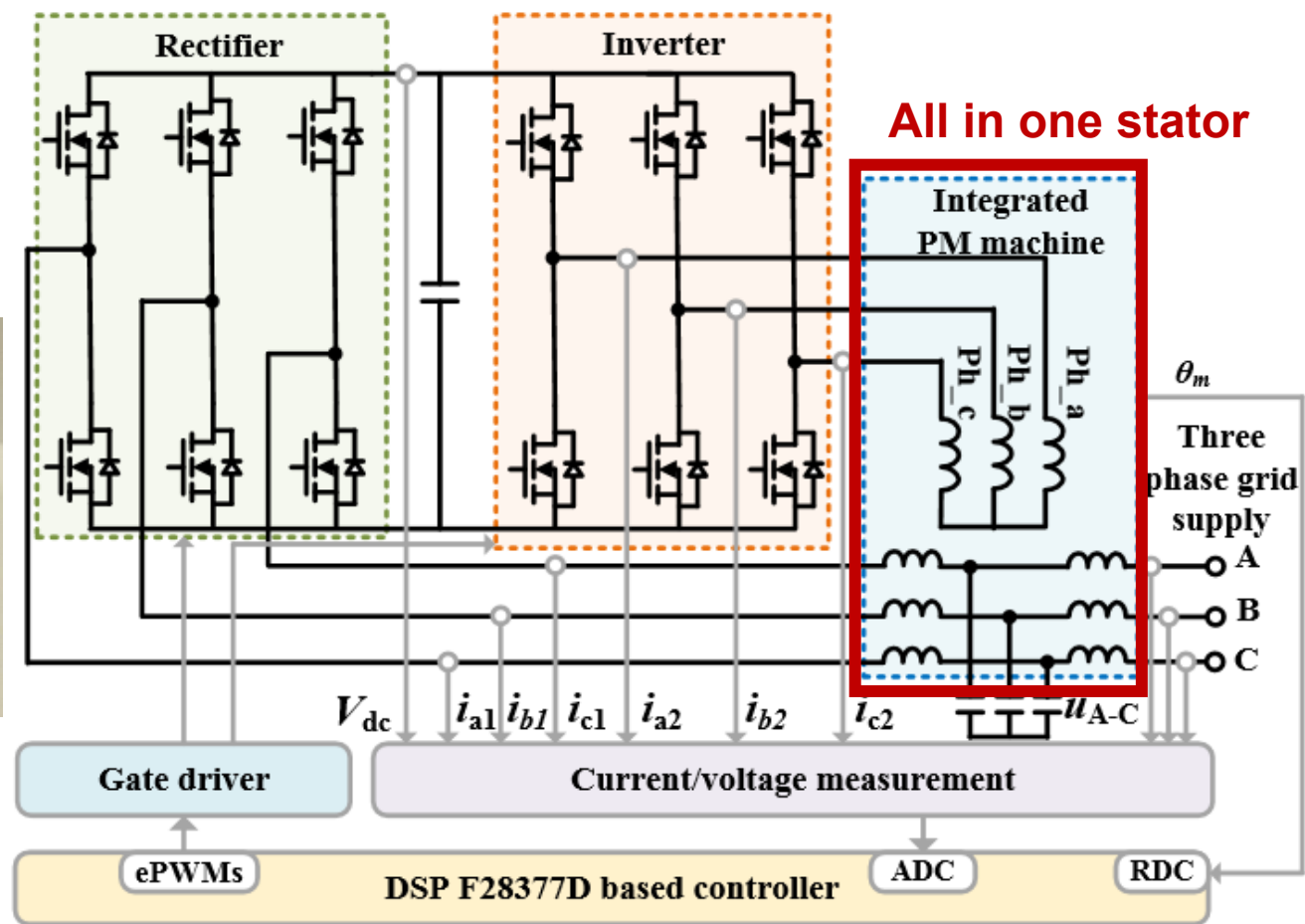
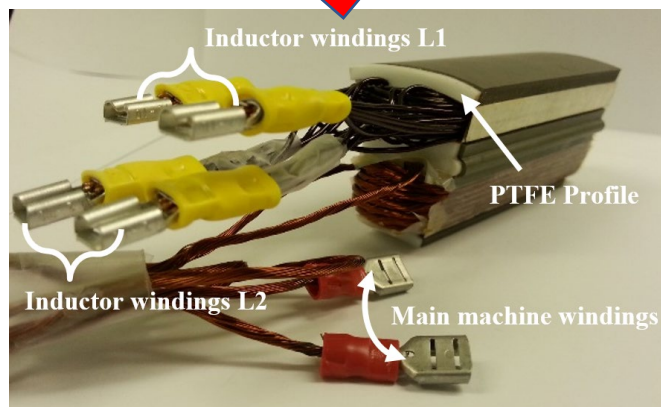
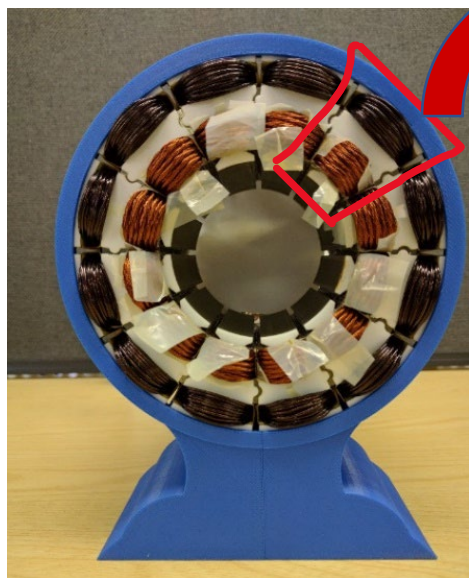


Remaining issues:

- Chunky passives
- Low power density

Integrated Motor Drives (IMDs)

Integrating the Magnetics of an LCL Filter into a High-Speed Machine



EPSRC

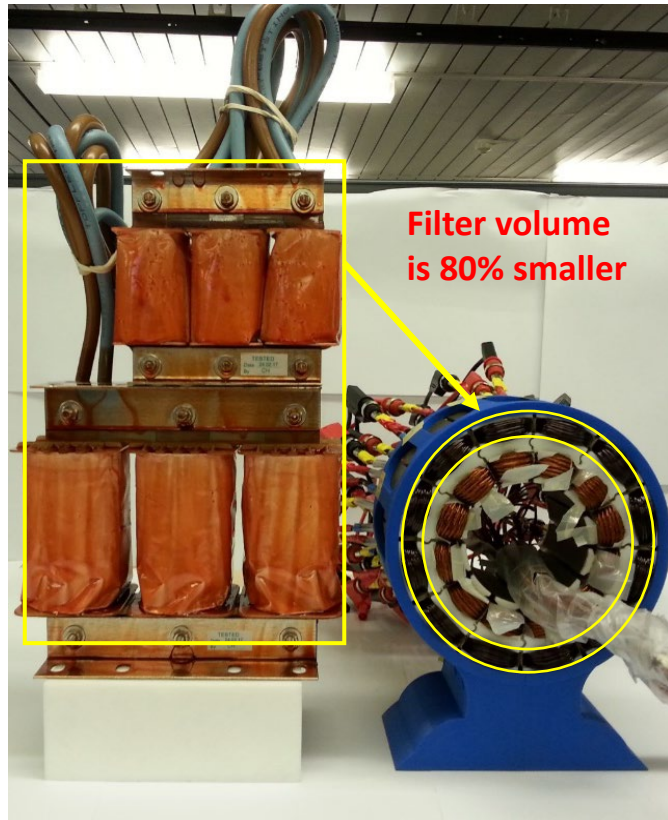
Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

POWER
ELECTRONICSUK
Underpinning Research

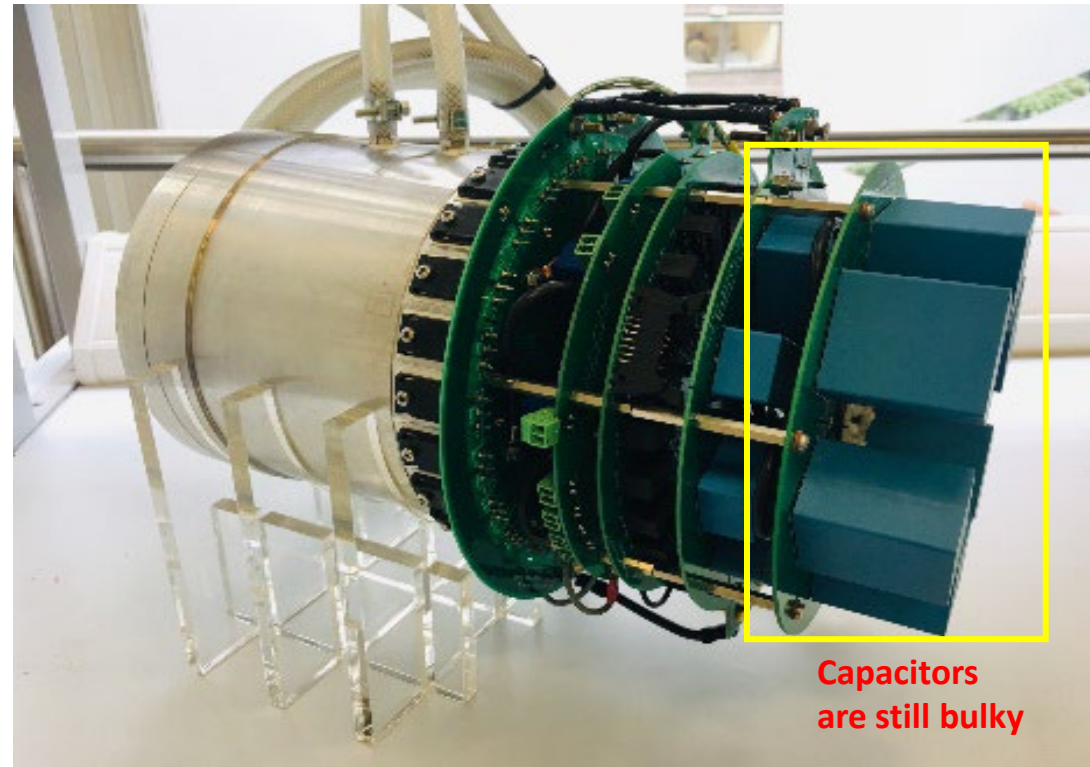
Integrated Motor Drives (IMDs)

Perspective on size

Industry filters (left) VS
Full machine stator with integrated filters (right)



Full Prototype



Contribution of this research

- High speed motor
- High frequency WBG
- Integrated inductive filters
- Thermal management

This work received the **Best Paper Award from the IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion** for recognition of excellence in the field of electric machines and drives.

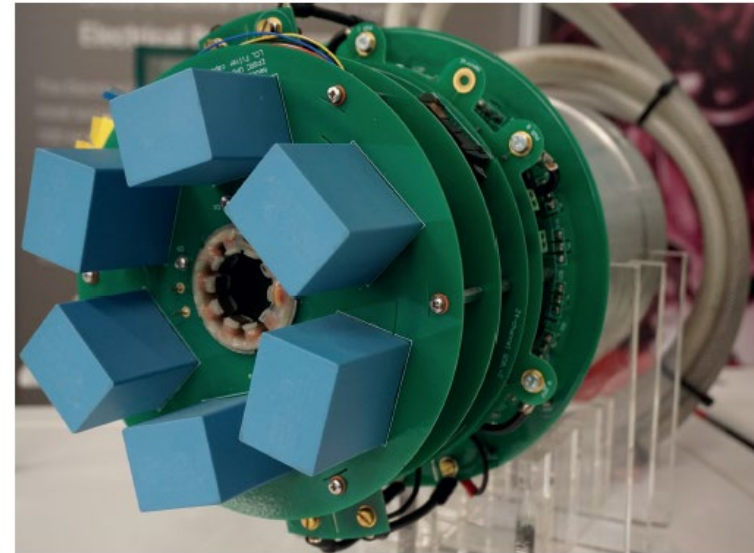
Integrated Motor Drives (IMDs)

Please get a copy if you are also passionate about IMDs!

IET The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

Integrated Motor Drives

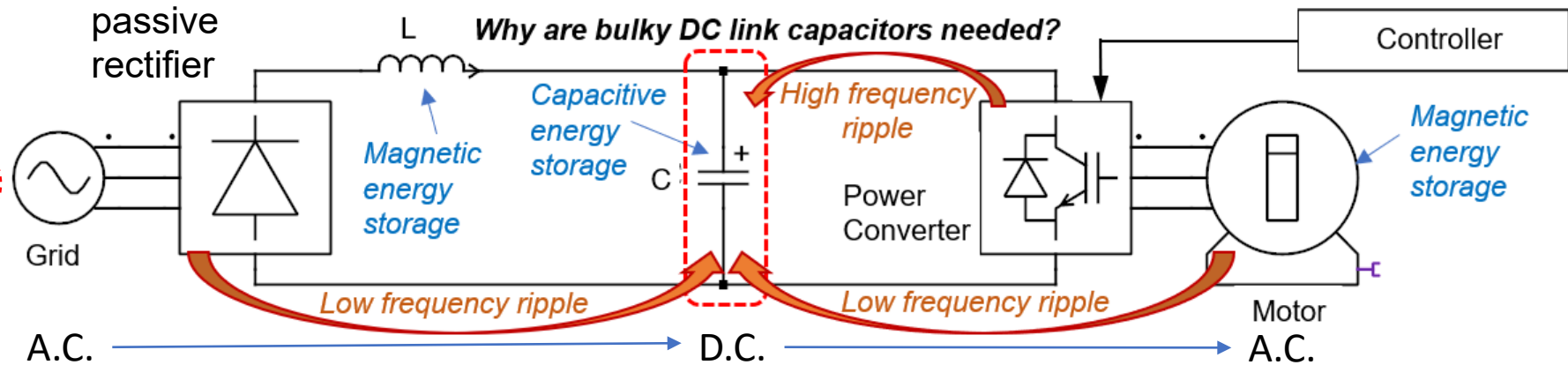
Edited by
Xu Deng and Barrie Mecrow



Bulky Energy Storage in Electric Motor Drives

DC link capacitors
in grid connected applications

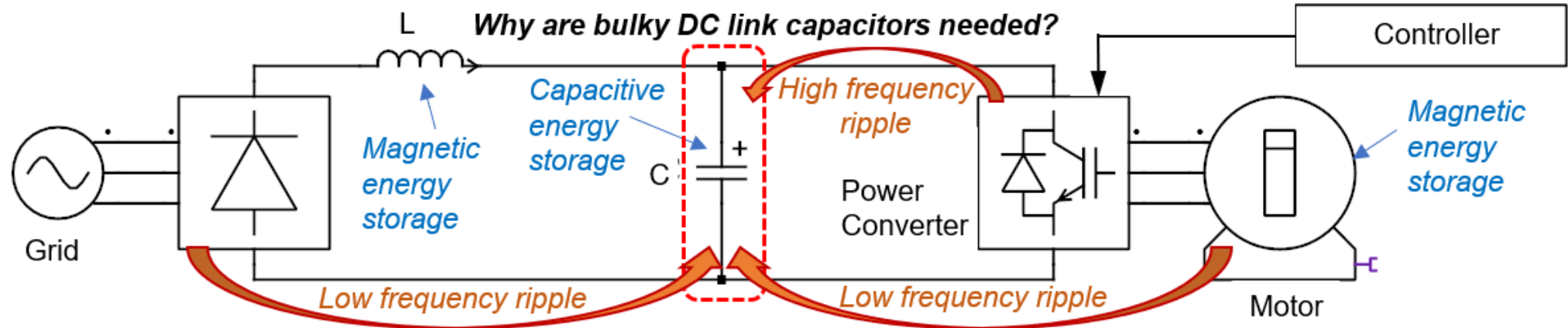
Simplified diagram of a grid connected motor drive system



- DC link capacitor handles **instantaneous mismatch in power**
- **Electrolytic capacitors** are commonly used
- **Ripple current** and **slow evaporation of electrolyte**
- **Short lifetime** and need replacing every 2-3 years

Energy Ripple in Electric Motor Drives

Simplified diagram of a grid connected motor drive system



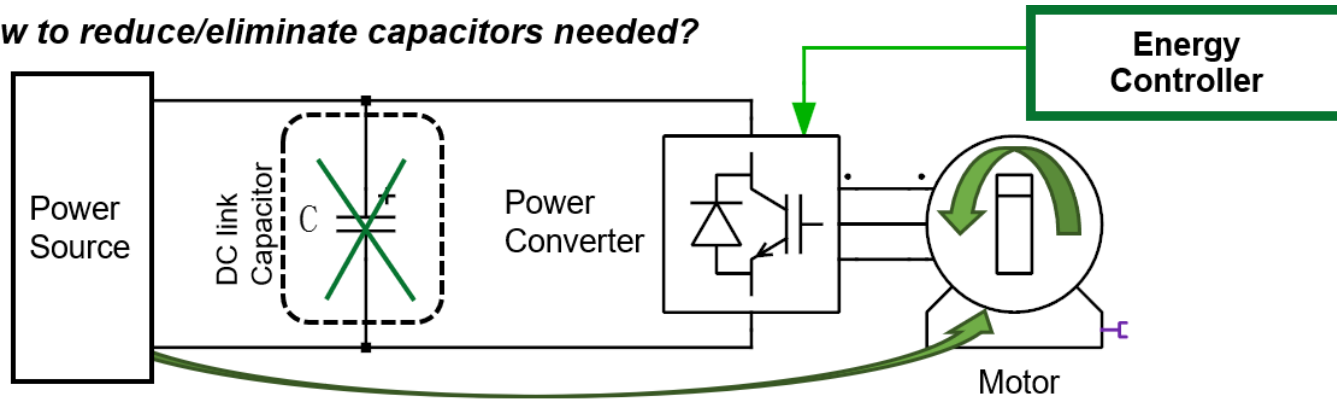
➤ Different types of ripple currents

- 1) switching action of the inverter will produce **high frequency current ripple**;
- 2) 300 Hz current ripple caused by using a passive rectifier;
- 3) torque ripple and change of stored energy in the motor would lead to **low frequency current ripple**.

➤ **Past research** on reducing DC link capacitors in EMDs has **either changed the hardware topology or solely focused on high frequency ripple reduction**

Energy Control Strategy to Reduce DC Link Energy Ripple

How to reduce/eliminate capacitors needed?

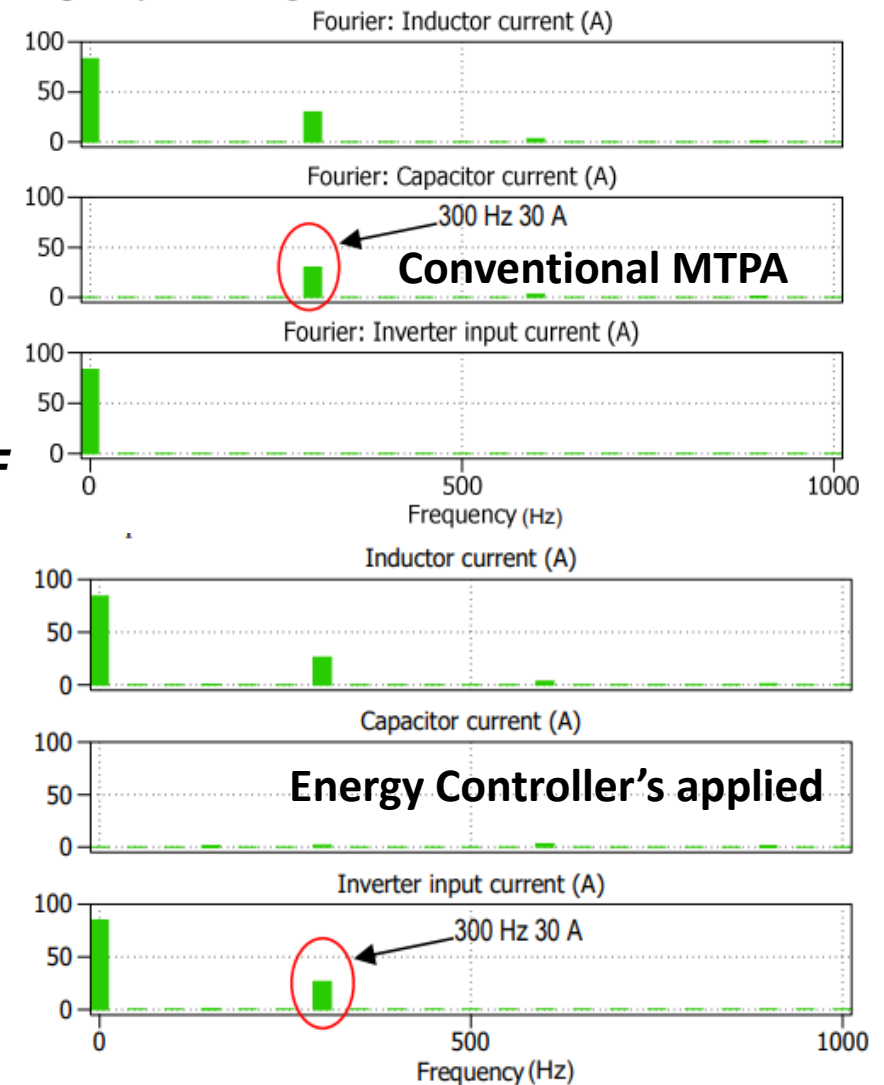


Case study: Grid connected PMSM drive with a sinusoidal back-EMF

$$T_m = \frac{3}{2}p[(L_d - L_q)i_d i_q + \varphi_m i_q]$$

$$P_{inv.} = T_m \omega_m + \frac{dW_f}{dt} + P_{loss} = T_m \omega_m + \underbrace{(i_d L_d \frac{di_d}{dt})}_{\text{Varying}} + \underbrace{(i_q L_q \frac{di_q}{dt})}_{\text{Fixed}} + P_{loss}$$

- Working with my PhD student (Jack Baines), we developed a **method for reducing the size and increasing the lifetime of DC link capacitors in drives**, resulting in industrial collaboration with **Nidec Control Techniques**.





Thank you!

