# **Torque of Three-Phase Induction Motor**

The physical meaning of the torque for rotating bodies is the turning force through a radius and the unit is in Newton per meter (Nm) as shown in the figure 1 below:



Figure 1 The Torque Representation for Rotating Bodies

Torque in three phase Induction Motor can be derived by using the equivalent circuit shown in Figure 2. In deriving the general expression for the torque of an induction motor, the effects of the magnetizing impedance ( $Z_m=R_c // X_m$ ) will be neglected. Because this magnetizing impedance is relatively large and its effect on the torque developed by the motor at full load is negligible.



Figure 2 Per Phase Equivalent Circuit with Neglected Mag. Impedance

From basic definitions, the per-phase torque developed can be expressed as in (1).

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\text{power developed}}{\text{rotor speed}} = \frac{I_2^2 R_L}{w_r}$$
(1)

The equivalent mechanical load resistance  $R_L$ :

$$\mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{L}} = \mathbf{R}_{2} \frac{1-S}{S} \tag{2}$$

Where **S** is induction motor slip which is calculated as follows:

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{\mathbf{W}\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{r}}}{\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{s}}} \tag{3}$$

$$W_{s} = \frac{2\pi N_{s}}{60} \quad \text{in rad/sec,}$$

$$W_{r} = \frac{2\pi Nr}{60} \quad \text{in rad/sec,}$$

$$W_{r} = W_{s}(1 - S) \quad (4)$$

Substituting (2), and (4) into (1), we get

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{I_2^2 R_2 \frac{1-S}{S}}{W_s (1-S)}$$
(5)

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\mathbf{I}_2^2 \mathbf{R}_2}{\mathbf{W}_s \mathbf{s}} \qquad \text{N.m / phase} \tag{6}$$

From the equivalent circuit, the magnitude of the current  $I_2$  is

$$I_{2} = \left| \frac{V}{Z} \right| = \frac{V}{\sqrt{\left(R_{1} + \frac{R_{2}}{S}\right)} + (X_{1} + X_{2})^{2}}}$$
(7)

From the above, the torque developed in terms of the motor's parameters can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\mathbf{V}^2}{\left[\left(\mathbf{R}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{\mathbf{S}}\right)^2 + (\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2)^2\right]} \quad \left(\frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{\mathbf{W}_s \, \mathbf{S}}\right) \qquad \text{N.m / phase}$$
(8)

So, the torque for **three** phase induction motor can be calculated according to the general expression as follows:

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{3 \, \mathbf{v}^2 \, \frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{s}}{\mathbf{W}_s \, \left[ \left( \mathbf{R}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{s} \right)^2 + (\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2)^2 \right]} \qquad \text{N.m}$$
(9)

The torque can also be represented by the expression below:

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{K S R_2 E_2^2}{R_2^2 + S^2 X_2^2}$$
(10)

Where, K is a function of the physical parameters of the motor.

#### **Torque-Speed Characteristic of Three Phase Induction Motor:**

The torque developed by three phase induction motors varies with the speed of the motor when it accelerates from full stop or zero speed, to maximum operating speed. Figure 3 shows the changes in the developed torque of the motor in accordance with motor speed.



Figure 3 Torque-Speed Characteristic of 3-Phase Induction Motor

#### Locked Rotor (Starting) Torque:

The locked rotor torque or starting torque is the developed torque by the motor when it starts from rest or zero speed. A high starting torque is more important for starting heavy or hard types of loads such as positive displacement pumps, cranes etc. A lower starting torque can be accepted in applications such as centrifugal fans or pumps when the required starting torque is low or close to zero.

#### **Pull-up Torque:**

The Pull-up Torque is the minimum torque developed by the motor when it runs from zero to full-load speed before it reaches the breakdown torque point. When the motor starts and begins to accelerate the torque in general decrease until it reaches a low point at a certain speed (at the pull-up torque point) before the torque increases until it reaches the highest torque at a higher speed (at the break-down torque point). The pull-up torque may be critical for applications that needs power to go through some temporary barriers achieving the working conditions.

#### Break-down (or Maximum) Torque:

Break-down torque is the highest torque available before the torque decreases when the machine continues to accelerate at running (working) conditions. The maximum torque occurs when rotor resistance and rotor reactance are equal, i.e.  $R_2 = S X_2$ , So,  $S_m = R_2/X_2$ , Where,  $S_m$  is the slip at maximum torque.

#### Full-load (or Rated) Torque:

The Full-load torque is the torque required to produce the rated power of the electrical motor at full-load speed. Figure 4 shows a typical torque–speed curve showing two different loads which have the same steady running speed (N). The solid line is the torque–speed curve of the motor, while the dotted lines represent two different load characteristics. Load (A) is typical of a simple hoist, which applies constant torque to the motor at all speeds, while load (B) might represent a fan. Tacc represent the accelerating torque, which is the difference between the torque developed by the motor and the torque required to run the load at that speed.



Figure 4 Typical Torque Speed Curve with Two Different Loads

The intersection of these characteristics gives the operating torque and speed of the motor. It is extremely important to accurately calculate the torque-speed characteristic of the driven load in order to ensure the selection of the suitable motor for this load.

## Ways of Improving Starting Torque of 3-ph Induction Motor:

For a certain range of rotor resistance, the starting torque  $(T_s)$  of the motor is proportional to its rotor resistance. Mathematically ( $T_s \alpha R_2$ ) So, if  $(R_2)$  is increased at motor starting that will make rotor circuit being more resistive and the starting torque is increased.

## **Adding External Resistance to the Rotor Circuit**

This method of improving starting torque is applicable for Wound Rotor type induction motor only. It is possible to increase the starting torque of the motor by adding an external resistance to the rotor resistance via slip rings as in Figure 5.



Figure 5 Effect of Adding an External Rotor Resistance for WRIM

### **Deep Bar Design:**

Leakage reactance  $(X_2)$  represents the rotor leakage reactance (reactance due to the rotor's flux lines that do not couple with the stator windings.) Generally, the farther away the rotor bar is from the stator, the greater  $(X_2)$  will be. Since a smaller percentage of the bar's flux will reach the stator. Thus, if the bars of a cage rotor are placed near the surface of the rotor, they will have small leakage flux and  $(X_2)$  will be small. The basic concept of deep bar design is illustrated in Figure 6.



At high slips (starting condition), the reactance is large compared to the resistances in the rotor bars, so all the current is forced to flow in the low-reactance part of the bar near the stator. Since the effective cross section is lower, the rotor resistance is higher. Thus, the starting torque is increased, and the starting current is reduced

At low slips (running condition) the rotor's frequency is very small, and the reactance of all the parallel paths are small compared to their resistances. The impedances of all parts of the bar are approximately equal, so current flows through all the parts of the bar equally. The resulting large cross-sectional area makes the rotor resistance quite small, resulting in good efficiency at low slips.

### **Double cage design:**

In a double cage induction motor two set of bars are used as shown in figure 7. One set with a small resistance is put deep to the rotor. A second cage with a high resistance is put close to the stator. At starting the leakage reactance is smaller at the bars close to the stator (those with the high resistance). Current flows mostly on the outer bars resulting in a high starting torque. As the rotor speeds up the frequency decreases the leakage reactance of both bars, and more current flows in the deep bars with the lower resistance. The torque speed characteristic of the inner cage is that of a normal induction motor, as in Figure 9.

At starting, the outer cage produces the torque, but when running the inner cage produces the torque. The combined characteristic of inner and outer cages is shown in this Figure. The double cage induction motor is highly efficient when running.



Figure 7 Double Cage Rotor Design and Characteristics for SCIM

#### **NEMA Motor Design Classes:**

NEMA classifies three-phase squirrel cage induction motors in four different design codes (A, B, C and D) according to locked rotor torque and current, breakdown torque, pull up torque, and percent slip.

#### **NEMA Design Class A:**

Rotor bars are quite large and are placed near the surface of the rotor. Low resistance (due to its large cross section) and a low leakage reactance X<sub>2</sub> (due to the bar's location near the stator) .Since R<sub>2</sub> is small, starting torque will be small. This design is the standard motor design. Typical applications as driving fans, pumps, and other machine tools.

#### **NEMA Design class B:**

It contain deep-bar rotor. The applications of this motor design type are similar to class A, and have largely replaced type A.

#### **NEMA Design class C:**

It contain double-cage rotor. At starting conditions, only the small bars are effective, and the rotor resistance is high. Hence, high starting torque. Used in high starting torque loads such as loaded pumps, compressors, and conveyors.

#### **NEMA Design class D:**

Rotor with small bars placed near the surface of the rotor (higherresistance material) High resistance (due to its small cross section) and a low leakage reactance  $X_2$  (due to the bar's location near the stator). Like a wound-rotor induction motor with extra resistance inserted into the rotor. The applications for this design type are extremely high-inertia type loads.

The typical torque speed characteristics for all design types (A, B, C, D) are illustrated in figure 8.





#### Notes about 3-phase Induction Motor Torque:

- I. To select a motor for a given mechanical load, the torque speed characteristic of the motor must be compared to that of the mechanical load. Manufacturers of motors will provide the characteristics of a motor (starting torque to rated torque ratio, maximum torque to rated torque ratio).
- **II.** The starting torque of the motor must be larger than the load requirement, or the motor will not be able to start rotating. As a

result, it will draw its locked-rotor current. This may cause a damage for the motor.

III. The maximum torque developed by a motor indicates the capability of the machine to overcome high transient load torques. A motor with a maximum torque that is relatively low may stall when a sudden load torque exceeds the motor's maximum torque.

#### **Crawling and Cogging of Induction Motor**

The important characteristics normally shown by a squirrel cage induction motors are crawling and cogging. These characteristics are the result of improper functioning of the motor that means either motor is running at very slow speed or it is not taking the load.

#### **Crawling of Induction Motor**

It has been observed that squirrel cage type induction motor has a tendency to run at very low speed compared to its synchronous speed, this phenomenon is known as crawling. The resultant speed is nearly 1/7th of its synchronous speed. Now the question arises why this happens? This action is due to the fact that harmonics fluxes produced in the gap of the stator winding of odd harmonics like 3rd, 5th, 7th etc. These harmonics create additional torque fields in addition to the synchronous torque as shown in figure -9.



Figure 9

The torque produced by these harmonics rotates in the forward or backward direction at Ns/3, Ns/5, Ns/7 speed respectively. Here we consider only 5th and 7th harmonics and rest are neglected. The torque produced by the 5th harmonic rotates in the backward direction. This torque produced by fifth harmonic which works as a braking action is small in quantity, so it can be neglected. Now the

seventh harmonic produces a forward rotating torque at synchronous speed Ns/7. Hence, the net forward torque is equal to the sum of the torque produced by 7th harmonic and fundamental torque. The torque produced by 7th harmonic reaches its maximum positive value just below 1/7 of Ns and at this point slip is high. At this stage motor does not reach up to its normal speed and continue to rotate at a speed which is much lower than its normal speed. This causes crawling of the motor at just below 1/7 synchronous speed and creates the racket. The other speed at which motor crawls is 1/13 of synchronous speed.

#### **Cogging of Induction Motor**

This characteristic of induction motor comes into picture when motor refuses to start at all. Sometimes it happens because of low supply voltage. But the main reason for starting problem in the motor is because of cogging in which the slots of the stator get locked up with the rotor slots. As we know that there is series of slots in the stator and rotor of the induction motor. When the slots of the rotor are equal in number with slots in the stator, they align themselves in such way that both face to each other and at this stage the reluctance of the magnetic path is minimum and motor refuse to start.

This characteristic of the induction motor is called **cogging**. Apart from this, there is one more reason for cogging. If the harmonic frequencies coincide with the slot frequency due to the harmonics present in the supply voltage then it causes torque modulation. As a result, of it cogging occurs. This characteristic is also known as magnetic teeth locking of the induction motor.

#### Methods to overcome Cogging

This problem can be easily solved by adopting several solutions as follows:

- The number of slots in rotor should **not** be equal to the number of slots in the stator.
- Skewing of the rotor slots, that means the stack of the rotor is arranged in such a way that it angled with the axis of the rotation.

## **Solved Examples**

Ex.1 : The speed - torque curve of an induction motor at its rated voltage of 230 volts rms line to line is shown in the figure below. The rated point at 10Nm and 1725 rpm is labeled in the figure. Calculate the rated power ,the rated slip, and the ratio of starting torque to rated torque?



#### Solution:

 $P = w T = (2\pi N/60) T = (2\pi \times 1725/60) \times 10 = 1808.5 W$ 

S = (Ns - Nr)/Ns = (1800-1725) /1800 = 0.0416

Ts/Tr = 14/10 =1.4

- Q3 : A 3 phase, 50 Hz, 6 pole wound rotor induction machine has the following per phase parameters referred to the stator side:
  - $\mathbf{R}_1$ Negligible = 0.003 H  $L_1$ =  $\mathbf{R}_2$ =0.3 Ω  $L_2$ 0.002 H = 0.1 H Lm =R<sub>c</sub> = Infinity

The voltage applied to each phase is 240 V<sub>rms</sub>. Find: the starting torque Ts? the maximum torque Tm? the speed at maximum torque?

SOLUTION : X1 = 2π f L1 = 2π ×50×0.003=0.942 Ω/ph

X2 = 2π f L2 = 2π ×50×0.002=0.628 Ω/ph

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{\mathbf{V}^2}{\left[\left(\mathbf{R}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{\mathbf{S}}\right)^2 + (\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2)^2\right]} \times \left(\frac{\mathbf{R}_2}{\mathbf{W}_s \ \mathbf{S}}\right)$$

Ws = $2\pi$  Ns/60 =  $2\pi$  1000/60 = 104.72 rad/sec Ns=120f/P = 120 ×50/6=1000 rpm

Ts at S=1

$$Ts = \frac{240^2}{\left[\left(0 + \frac{0.3}{1}\right)^2 + (0.942 + 0.628)^2\right]} \times \left(\frac{0.3}{104.72 \times 1}\right)$$
  
= 193.75 N.m

Tm at Sm =R2/X2 = 0.3/0.628 = 0.477

$$Ts = \frac{240^2}{\left[ \left( 0 + \frac{0.3}{0.477} \right)^2 + (0.942 + 0.628)^2 \right]} \\ \times \left( \frac{0.3}{104.72 \times 0.477} \right) = 361.31 N.m$$

Speed at maximum torque = Ns(1-Sm) = 1000(1-0.477)=523 rpm

## **H.W**: Solve the following question:

A 75 kW, 440 V, Y-connected ,3-phase, 6-pole, 50 Hz wound rotor induction motor has a full load slip of 0.04 and the slip at maximum torque of 0.2 when operating at rated voltage and frequency with rotor winding short circuited at the slip rings. Take X1=X2= 0.5  $\Omega$  /ph ,and assume the stator resistance to be negligible. Find: maximum torque ,and starting torque?

If the rotor resistance is now doubled by adding an external series resistance, determine: maximum torque ?