

Defining Brushless DC Motors #2 of 4: **Relationship between Motor Sensitivity (Kt) & back emf (Kb)**

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In my first blog I presented an overview of a simple six-step procedure for defining a permanent magnet BDCM. In this second blog, I will show you how to establish the relationship between motor sensitivity (Kt) & back emf (Kb).

The expressions for torque and emf (electro-motive force) in a DC motor are [REF 1]

$$T = K\Phi I \quad \text{EQU (1)}$$

and,

$$E = K\Phi\Omega \quad \text{EQU (2)}$$

where:

T = torque

I = armature current

E = EMF

Ω = angular velocity

Φ = air gap flux per pole

P = number of poles per revolution

N_s = number of conductors in series

This can be determined from:

$N_s = \frac{z}{p^1}$ where z = number of conductors, and p^1 = number of parallel paths.

The DC current motor is an energy converter: i.e. electrical energy is converted to mechanical energy. The developed mechanical power is equal to the generated electrical power (neglecting friction) or

$$K\Phi = \frac{T}{I} = \frac{E}{\Omega} \quad \text{EQU (3)}$$

The value of K can be derived as follows:

For N_s conductors in series, the average emf is: [REF1]

$$E = N_s \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta t} \left[\frac{wb}{s} \right] = N_s \phi \left[\frac{wb}{pole} \right]_p P \left[\frac{poles}{rev} \right] \frac{n}{60} \left[\frac{rev}{sec} \right] \quad \text{EQU (4)}$$

Now substitute EQU (4) into EQU (2) to get:

$$(N_s \phi p^n) / 60 = K \phi \Omega$$

$$\therefore K = \frac{N_s p^n}{60 \Omega} \quad \text{EQU (5)}$$

Note that $\Omega = 2\pi n/60$

$$\therefore K = \frac{N_s P}{2\pi} \quad \text{a constant} \quad \text{EQU (6)}$$

As a result we see that K is a constant determined by the number of poles and conductors in the motor.

For a permanent magnet DC motor (e.g. samarium cobalt) ϕ , air gap flux per pole is constant since the field current and, thereby, flux density is constant.

Therefore, the expressions for torque and EMF in a DC permanent magnet motor are:

$$T = K_t I \quad \text{EQU (7)}$$

and,

$$E = K_b \Omega$$

$$\therefore E = K_b n$$

$$\text{where } K_b = K_b' \frac{2\pi}{60} \quad \text{EQU (8)}$$

In EQUs (7) and (8):

$$\frac{T}{I} = K_t = \text{motor sensitivity constant, } \frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{amp}}$$

$$\frac{E}{n} = K_b = \text{back emf constant, } \frac{\text{volts}}{1000 \text{ rpm}}$$

Substituting EQUs (7) and (8) into EQU (3) we see that

$$K_t = cK_b$$

EQU (9)

Where c is a conversion factor:

recall
$$K_t = \frac{T}{I} = \frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}}$$

and
$$K_b = \frac{E}{n} = \frac{\text{volts}}{\text{Rpm}}$$

therefore
$$\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{amp}} = c \frac{\text{volts}}{\text{Rpm}}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}}}{\frac{\text{volts}}{\text{rpm}}} = \frac{\text{in-oz-Rev}}{\text{volt-min-Amp}}$$

volt-sec-Amp (min) = newton-meter
(60 sec)

Since VI has units of $\frac{\text{Joules}}{\text{sec}}$

add 1 Joule = 1 Newton-meter by definition

$$\therefore \frac{\text{in-oz-Rev}}{\text{volt-min-Amp}} = \frac{\text{in-oz-Rev}}{\text{Newton-meter}} \frac{\text{min}}{60 \text{ sec}}$$

$$\frac{\text{in-oz-Rev}}{\text{Newton-meter}} \frac{\text{min}}{60 \text{ sec}} \frac{\text{Newton}}{.2248 \text{ lb}} \frac{2\pi \text{ Radians}}{\text{Rev}} \frac{1 \text{ lb}}{16 \text{ oz}} \frac{\text{meter}}{39.37 \text{ in}}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\text{in-oz-Rev}}{\text{Newton-meter}} (.0007395) = \frac{\text{in-lb}}{\text{in-lb}} = 1$$

$$\frac{\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}}}{\frac{\text{volts}}{\text{Rpm}}} (.0007395) = 1$$

$$\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}} (.0007395) = \frac{\text{volts}}{\text{Rpm}}$$

$$\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}} = 1352 \frac{\text{volts}}{\text{Rpm}}$$

$$\frac{\text{in-oz}}{\text{Amp}} = 1.352 \quad \frac{\text{volts}}{1000 \text{ Rpm}}$$

More to come

We now have established the relationship between motor sensitivity (Kt) & back emf (Kb). In the upcoming blogs we will derive the constants and finally give an example.

Stay tuned!

Let's Talk

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