# CHARACTERISTICS OF THRUST MAGNETIC BEARING AND ITS EFFECT ON RADIAL ONES IN THE SYSTEM

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# ABSTRACT

Static and dynamic mechanical characteristics of a thrust magnetic bearing are studied due to the runner disk inclination. Application refers to a thrust magnetic bearing for a turbo-expander/compressor. The static tilt of the runner disk has remarkable influence on the mechanical characteristics of thrust magnetic bearing, changes the static load distribution between two radial magnetic bearings and exerts violent coupling effect among a thrust magnetic bearing and two radial magnetic bearings. Such a finding can be used for the coupled electromechanical dynamics analysis of rotor system equipped with magnetic bearings.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Since 1990, an important discovery in rotorhydrodynamic bearing system dynamics is the coupled action of thrust bearing upon the lateral vibration in a rotor system. In the pioneering research of Mittwollen et al. (1990)<sup>[1]</sup>, a series of rotor-dynamic coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing were defined and used for the investigation of the action of thrust bearing upon the lateral vibration in which the static tilt of the runner was neglected. Afterwards, in the research of Yu Lie et al. (1995)<sup>[2]</sup>, a general analysis method was developed to investigate the coupled dynamics of a rotor equipped with journal and thrust hydrodynamic bearings simultaneously. Considerations included the effects of static tilt parameters of the rotor on rotor-dynamic coefficients of thrust hydrodynamic bearing and the action of thrust hydrodynamic bearing upon the system dynamics. However, up to now, the effects of static tilt parameters of the rotor on rotor-dynamic coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing and the coupled action of thrust

magnetic bearing upon the lateral vibration in a rotor system have not been studied thoroughly in a public literature. Few literatures dealt with the mechanical characteristic of a thrust magnetic bearing in the past. The influence of the time constants in the control loop on the maximal achievable dynamic stiffness of thrust magnetic bearing were investigated in P.K.Budig et al.  $(1994)^{[3]}$ . For convenience, the axial vibration is regarded as an independent degree of freedom in great majority of literatures <sup>[4-7]</sup>. And it is supposed that the runner disk parallels with the magnets. Only two stiffness coefficients of force-displacement and forcecurrent are concerned in the rotor-dynamic coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing. The dynamic characteristic of the thrust magnetic bearing is qualitatively similar to that of thrust hydrodynamic bearing in many aspects except for the force coming from magnetic field. The effect of thrust magnetic bearing upon the lateral vibration in a rotor system is not negligible. When the effect is studied, the stiffness coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing are more than two. Therefore it is very necessary to research the mechanical characteristics of a thrust magnetic bearing comprehensively.

#### **CHARACTERISTIC COEFFICIENTS**

Fig.1 is the schematics of a thrust magnetic bearing in Cartesian coordinates. The movement of the runner disk in space is defined by the speed  $v_x$ ,  $v_y$  and  $v_z$  of its center of mass and three rotational velocities  $\omega_x$ ,  $\omega_y$  and  $\omega_z$ . The  $F_x$ ,  $F_y$  and  $F_z$  are the components of resultant force of magnets 1 and 2 attracting the runner disk 3. The  $M_x$ ,  $M_y$  and  $M_z$  are the components of couple moment. When the runner disk tilts, the definition of  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  in *O-xyz* inertial coordinates is shown in Fig.1(*c*)



(a) Thrust magnetic bearing

(b) Structural parameters



## FIGURE 1: Schematic of a Thrust Magnetic Bearing

# **Static Characteristics**

Suppose  $W_{0t}$  is the axial external load supported by the runner disk in static balance point  $(z_0, \varphi_0, \psi_0)$ . The  $i_{z0}$  is correspondent control current. And the static point of operation is defined as  $s_0(z_0, \varphi_0, \psi_0, i_{z0})$ . Then the load capacity of the thrust magnetic bearing is the total attraction on the runner disk:

with

$$\boldsymbol{F}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = -\boldsymbol{F}_{xo}\boldsymbol{i} - \boldsymbol{F}_{yo}\boldsymbol{j} - \boldsymbol{F}_{zo}\boldsymbol{k}$$
(1)

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{x0} \\ F_{y0} \\ F_{z0} \end{pmatrix} = F_0 \begin{cases} \sin \varphi_0 \\ \cos \varphi_0 \sin \psi_0 \\ \cos \varphi_0 \cos \psi_0 \end{cases} \approx F_0 \begin{cases} \varphi_0 \\ \psi_0 \\ 1.0 \end{cases}$$
(2)

$$F_0 = \iint_{\Omega} p_1 \Big|_{s_0} r dr d\theta - \iint_{\Omega} p_2 \Big|_{s_0} r dr d\theta$$
(3)

where  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are the magnetic stresses produced by magnets 1 and 2 respectively. The integration region  $\Omega$ includes the internal and external annular domains in Fig.1(b). The couple moment from the magnetic stress is

$$\boldsymbol{M}_{\boldsymbol{0}} = -\boldsymbol{M}_{\boldsymbol{x}\boldsymbol{o}}\boldsymbol{i} - \boldsymbol{M}_{\boldsymbol{y}\boldsymbol{o}}\boldsymbol{j} - \boldsymbol{M}_{\boldsymbol{z}\boldsymbol{o}}\boldsymbol{k} \tag{4}$$

$$\begin{cases} M_{x0} \\ M_{y0} \\ M_{z0} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} -\iint p_1 \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \cos \theta \ln \theta + \iint p_2 \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \cos \theta \ln \theta \\ \Omega & \Omega \\ -\iint p_1 \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \sin \theta \ln \theta + \iint p_2 \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \sin \theta \ln \theta \\ \Omega & \Omega \\ M_{y0} \psi_0 - M_{x0} \varphi_0 \end{cases}$$
(5)

#### **Rotor-dynamic Coefficients**

The increment of F in the case of small perturbation can be expressed by linear force stiffness coefficients:

with

$$\begin{cases} \Delta F_x \\ \Delta F_y \\ \Delta F_z \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{xz} & k_{x\varphi} & k_{x\psi} & k_{xiz} \\ k_{yz} & k_{y\varphi} & k_{y\psi} & k_{yiz} \\ k_{zz} & k_{z\varphi} & k_{z\psi} & k_{ziz} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta z \\ \Delta \varphi \\ \Delta \psi \\ \Delta i_z \end{bmatrix}$$
(7)

In Eq.(7), the  $k_{ls}$  (*l*=*x*, *y*, *z*; *s*=*z*,  $\varphi$ ,  $\psi$ ,  $i_z$ ) is defined as the force stiffness coefficients in *l* direction, corresponding to the displacement or angular displacement or control current

$$k_{ls} = \frac{\partial F_l}{\partial s} \tag{8}$$

and it is called as stiffness coefficient of forcedisplacement or force-angular displacement or forcecurrent with

$$k_{ls} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial s}\Big|_{s_0} = \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial s}\Big|_{s_0} r dr d\theta - \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial s}\Big|_{s_0} r dr d\theta$$

 $(s=z, \varphi, \psi, i_z)$  (9)

Similarly, introducing moment stiffness coefficients the increment of moment can be expressed as:  $\Delta M_0 = -\Delta M_{x0} i - \Delta M_{y0} j - \Delta M_{z0} k \qquad (10)$ 

with

$$\begin{cases} \Delta M_x \\ \Delta M_y \\ \Delta M_z \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{mxz} & k_{mx\varphi} & k_{mx\psi} & k_{mxiz} \\ k_{myz} & k_{my\varphi} & k_{my\psi} & k_{myiz} \\ k_{mzz} & k_{mz\varphi} & k_{mz\psi} & k_{mziz} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta z \\ \Delta \varphi \\ \Delta \psi \\ \Delta i_z \end{bmatrix}$$
(11)

Where

$$k_{mls} = \frac{\partial M_l}{\partial z} \quad (l=x, y, z; s=z, \varphi, \psi, i_z) \quad (12)$$

(13)

is stiffness coefficient of moment-displacement or moment-angular displacement or moment-current with

$$k_{mxs} = \frac{\partial M_x}{\partial s} = -\iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial s} \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \cos\theta dr d\theta + \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial s} \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \cos\theta dr d\theta$$

$$k_{mys} = \frac{\partial M_y}{\partial s} = -\iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial s} \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta + \iint_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial s} \Big|_{s_0} r^2 \sin\theta dr d\theta$$

$$(s=z, \varphi, \psi, i_z)$$
 (14)

 $(s=z, \varphi, \psi, i_z)$ 

# CALCULATION AND DISCUSSION

Fig.2 is the schematic of a rotor-magnetic bearing system in a turboexpander/compressor. A set of parameters from the thrust magnetic bearing in the calculation are  $R_1$ =33mm,  $R_2$ =47mm,  $R_3$ =67.2mm,  $R_4$ =75mm,  $W_{07}$ =1500N, the thrust bearing clearance  $c_{07}$ =0.5mm, the number of coil N=143, the bias current  $I_{01}$ =4.0A. The distance between two radial magnetic bearings is l=0.275m and the weight of rotor is 123N.



FIGURE 2: 5-axis controlled rotor-magnetic bearing system

in a turbo-expander/compressor

# Effects of Static Deflection of Runner Disk on Thrust and Radial Magnetic Bearings

Fig.3 shows the variation of the static characteristics of the thrust magnetic bearing versus static tilt parameters  $\overline{\phi_0}$  and  $\overline{\psi_0}$  ( $\overline{z_0}=0$ ,  $\overline{i_{z_0}}=0.25$ , "–" indicates non-dimension).

The  $\varphi_0$  and  $\psi_0$  have some influence on the static load capacity. Comparing with the case of  $\varphi_0 = \psi_0 = 0$ ,  $\overline{F_{z0}} = 0.4236$  (that is in the case of neglecting the influence of static tilt parameters), when  $\varphi_0 = \overline{\psi_0} = \pm 0.4$ , factor of 9.2%.



**FIGURE 3:** Variations of the static characteristics of the thrust magnetic bearing versus static tilt parameters  $\overline{\varphi_0}$  and  $\overline{\psi_0}$  ( $\overline{z_0}=0, \overline{i_{z0}}=0.25$ )

The couple moment caused by the static tilt of runner disk changes the static load distribution of the radial magnetic bearings and exerts violent coupling effect between the thrust and radial **magnetic bearings.** The components of moment  $M_{x0}$ and  $M_{\nu 0}$  increase with  $\varphi_0$  and  $\psi_0$ . When the  $\varphi_0 = \psi_0 = \pm 0.4$ , the absolute value of  $M_{x0}$  and  $M_{y0}$  is 23.428. The corresponding dimensional quantities are 31.880Nm. The resultant of couple moment M is 45.085Nm. This additional couple moment must be supported by two radial magnetic bearings at the distance of l (Fig.2). Each must support additionally the load 163.947N. The additional force load is 2.67 times as much as the gravity load (61.5N) of the rotor on each radial magnetic bearing. Therefore, the couple moment of the thrust magnetic bearing changes the static load distribution, static current and rotor-dynamic coefficients of two radial magnetic bearings and then influence on causes remarkable the dynamic performance of the whole rotor-magnetic bearing system<sup>[8]</sup>.

The coupling effect of the load capacity components  $\overline{F}_{x0}$  and  $\overline{F}_{y0}$  on the radial magnetic bearings is very small. For example, when the  $\overline{\varphi_0} = \overline{\psi_0} = 0.4$ ,  $\overline{F}_{y0} = 5.382 \times 10^{-4}$ , the corresponding dimensional quantity is  $F_{y0} = 1.83$ N. It is only about 1.5% of the gravity load of the rotor. Their coupling effects on the radial magnetic bearing and on lateral vibration are negligible. Because  $\overline{M}_{z0}$  is almost equal to 0, the effect of  $F_x$ ,  $F_y$  and  $M_z$  is negligible in the analysis of rotor dynamics and the effects of  $F_z$ ,  $M_x$  and  $M_y$  are only considered. They can be expressed linearly as

$$\begin{cases} \Delta F_z \\ \Delta M_x \\ \Delta M_y \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{zz} & k_{z\varphi} & k_{z\psi} & k_{ziz} \\ k_{mxz} & k_{mx\varphi} & k_{mx\psi} & k_{mxiz} \\ k_{myz} & k_{my\varphi} & k_{my\psi} & k_{myiz} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta z \\ \Delta \varphi \\ \Delta \psi \\ \Delta i_z \end{bmatrix}$$
(15)

# Effects of Static Deflection of Runner Disk on the Rotor-dynamic Coefficients

Fig.4 shows variations of rotordynamic coefficients of the thrust magnetic bearing versus the static tilt parameters  $\overline{\phi_0}$  and  $\overline{\psi_0}$  ( $\overline{z_0}=0$ ,  $\overline{i_{z0}}=0.25$ ).



**FIGURE 4:** Variations of rotordynamic coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing versus the static tilt parameters  $\varphi_0$  and  $\overline{\psi}_0$  ( $\overline{z_0}=0, \overline{t_{z_0}}=0.25$ )

The Static tilt parameters  $\varphi_0$  and  $\psi_0$  have strong influence on the rotor-dynamic coefficients. Comparing with  $\varphi_0 = \overline{\psi}_0 = 0$ ,  $\overline{k_{zz}} = -1.4401$ ,  $\overline{k_{ziz}} = 1.6943$ ,  $\overline{k_{mx\psi}} = -1.8393 \times 10^4$ ,  $\varphi_0 = \overline{\psi}_0 = \pm 0.4$  causes  $\overline{k_{zz}} = -1.7153$ ,  $\overline{k_{ziz}} = 1.8502$ ,  $\overline{k_{mx\psi}} = -2.2009 \times 10^4$ , increasing respectively by factors of 19.1%, 9.2% and 19.7%. And the  $\overline{k_{z\varphi}}$ ,  $\overline{k_{z\psi}}$ ,  $\overline{k_{mxz}}$ ,  $\overline{k_{mx\varphi}}$  and  $\overline{k_{mxiz}}$  change respectively from 0 to  $\pm 36.054$ ,  $\pm 36.054$ ,  $\pm 28.103$ ,  $\pm 1867.5$  and  $\pm 11.0247$ .

The thrust magnetic bearing decreases the stability of the lateral vibration in the rotor system. It is because the  $\overline{k}_{mx\psi}$  (or  $\overline{k}_{my\phi}$ ) is always negative in any case <sup>[8]</sup>.

The stiffness coefficients of thrust magnetic bearing are more than two. Two stiffness coefficients  $k_{zz}$  and  $k_{ziz}$  were concerned only and the static tilt parameters  $\varphi_0$  and  $\overline{\psi_0}$  were not considered in the past great majority of literatures <sup>[4-7]</sup>. However, even if in the ideal case of  $\overline{\varphi_0} = \overline{\psi_0} = 0$ , at least  $\overline{k_{mx\psi}}$  and  $\overline{k_{my\phi}}$  are not equal to 0 in addition to  $\overline{k_{zz}}$  and  $\overline{k_{ziz}}$ . When the runner disk tilts, all 12 stiffness coefficients in Eq.(15) are not equal to 0. Therefore, at least the four stiffness coefficients  $\overline{k}$   $\overline{k}$   $\overline{k}$  and  $\overline{k}$  must be considered disk. At least twelve stiffness coefficients in Eq.(15) must be considered in general case of the  $\overline{\varphi_0} = \overline{\psi_0} \neq 0^{[8]}$ .

#### CONCLUSIONS

The static tilt of the runner disk has remarkable influence on the static and dynamic mechanical characteristics of the thrust magnetic bearing. The emerging coupling moment changes the static load capacity distribution of the radial magnetic bearings and exerts violent coupling effect between thrust and radial magnetic bearings. Therefore the coupling effect of thrust magnetic bearing must be considered in the study of dynamics of a rotor-magnetic bearings system.

The thrust magnetic bearing decreases the stability of the lateral vibration in the rotor system.

When the dynamics of a practical rotor-magnetic bearing system is studied, at least four stiffness coefficients of the thrust magnetic bearing must be considered in ideal case of  $\overline{\phi_0} = \overline{\psi_0} = 0$ . And at least twelve stiffness coefficients must be considered in general case of tilting runner disk.

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