



Optimizing Power Density and Efficiency of a Double-Halbach Array Permanent-Magnet Ironless Axial-Flux Motor

Kirsten P. Duffy – University of Toledo / NASA GRC



Background



Hybrid Electric and Turboelectric Aircraft Propulsion

Boeing SUGAR



NASA STARC-ABL



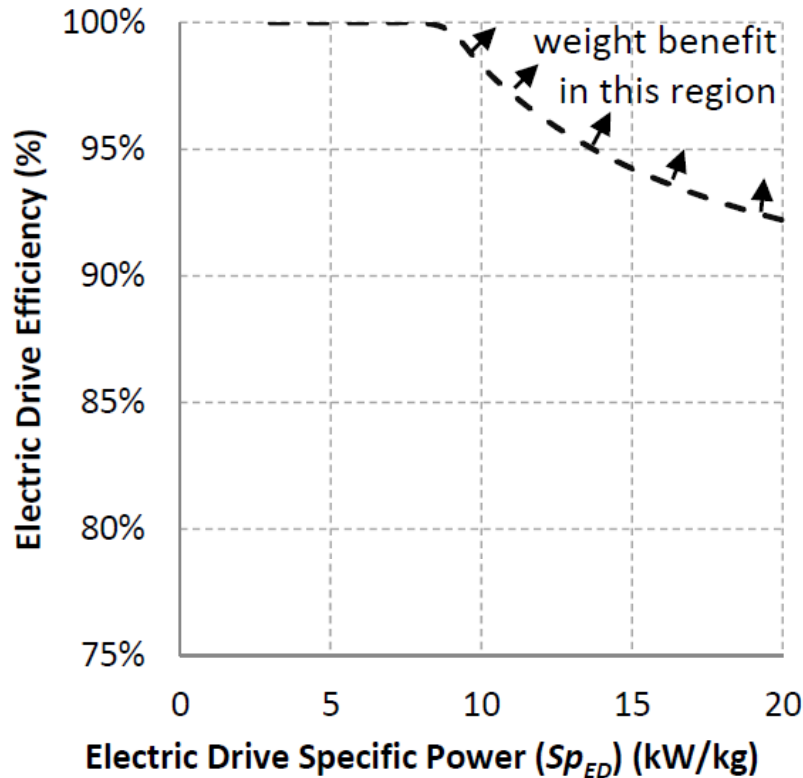
NASA N3X



Turboelectric Propulsion Benefits

Electric drive = motor + generator + other electrical components

Break-Even on Weight



Each aircraft configuration will yield combinations of power density and efficiency required to achieve net benefit



From Jansen et al. "Turboelectric Aircraft Drive Key Performance Parameters and Functional Requirements"



Target Application



- Example – HEIST (Hybrid-Electric Integrated Systems Testbed)
- 31-foot span wing section
- 18 fans directly driven by electric motors
- Motors powered by batteries
- Motor dimensions: 5.5” diameter, 2” length
- Target: 13 kW power at 7200 RPM

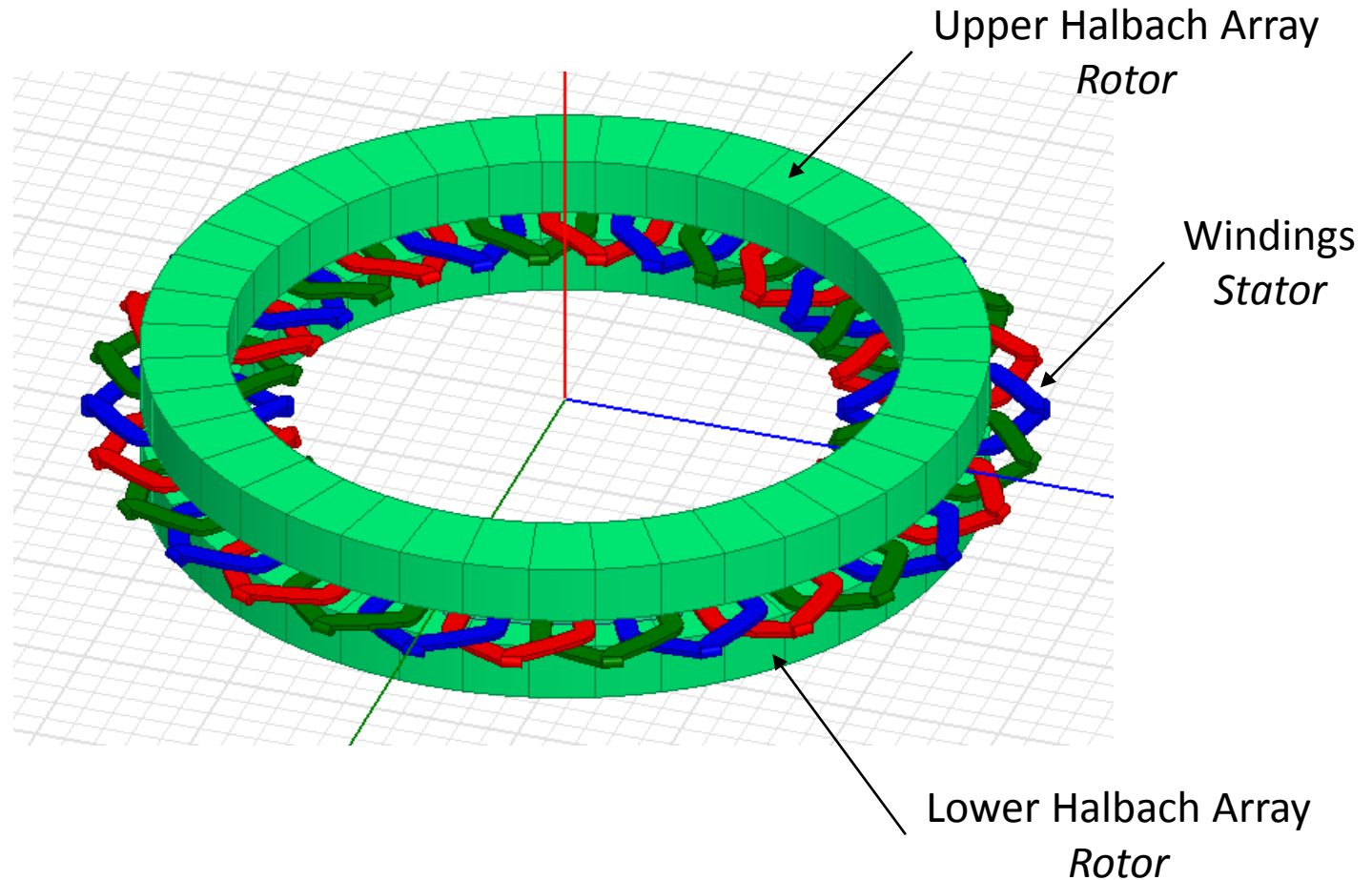
➤ *Our motor design: target 13 kW/kg and 1% loss*



<http://climate.nasa.gov/news/2286/leaptech-demonstrates-electric-propulsion-technologies/>

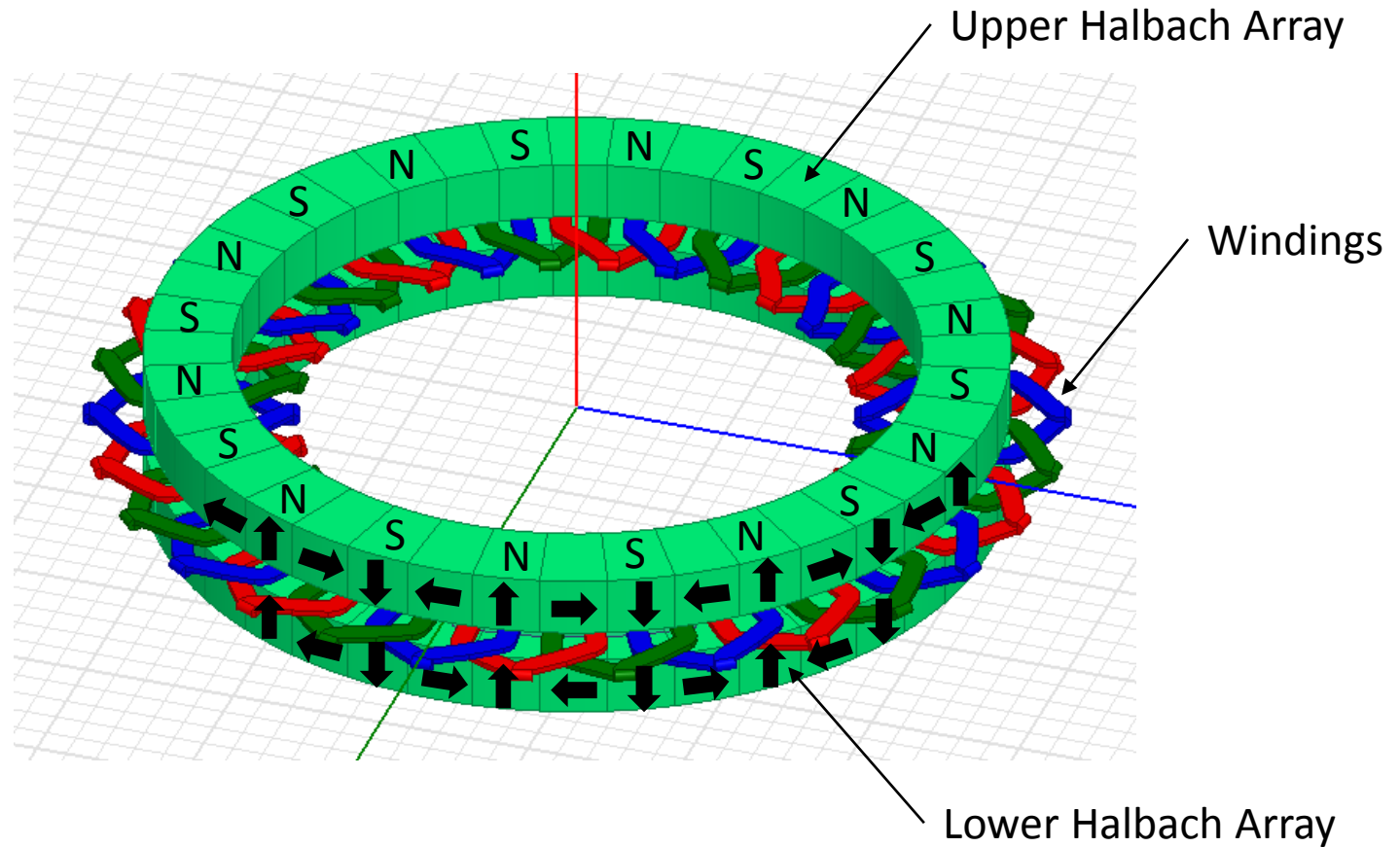
Analysis

Double-Halbach PM Array Ironless Axial Flux Motor



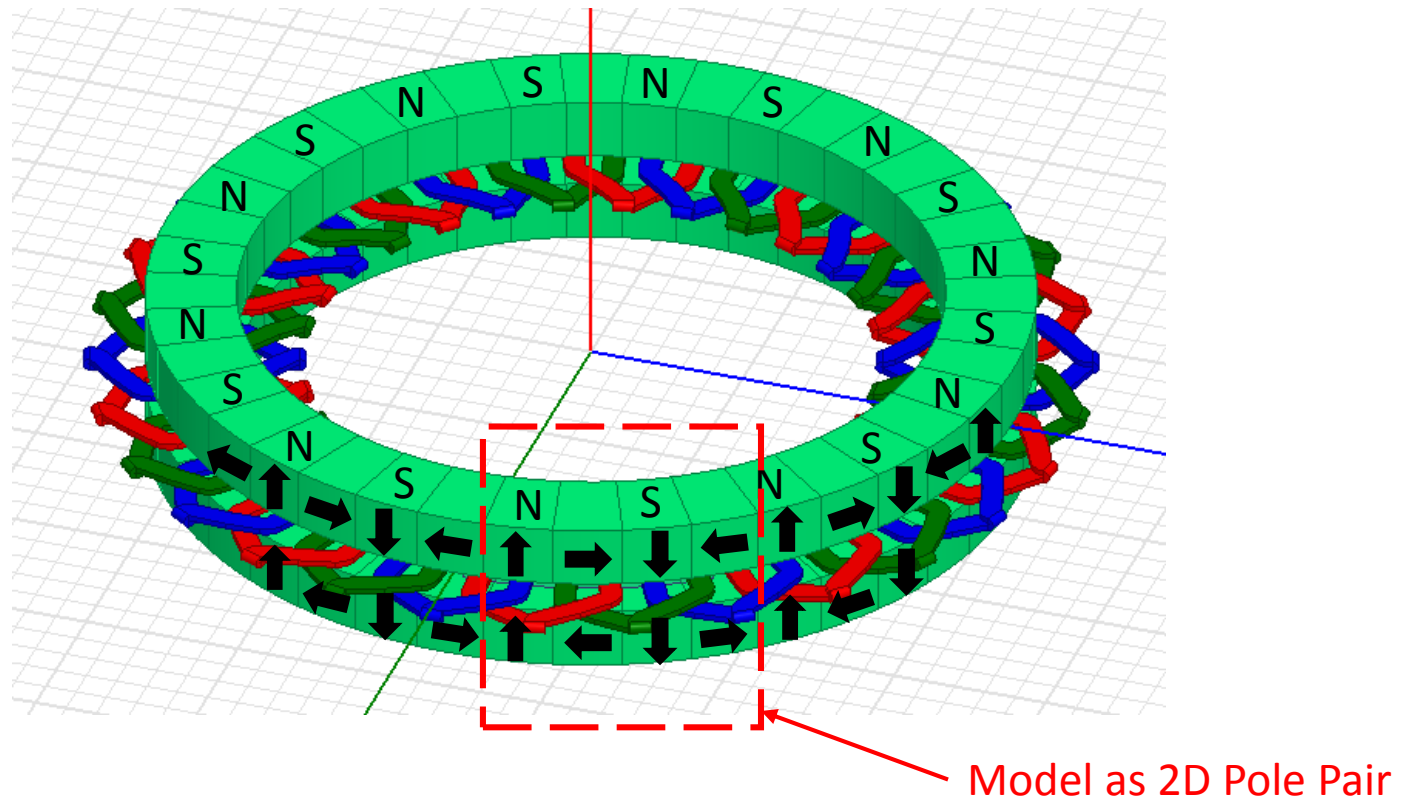
Analysis

Double-Halbach PM Array Ironless Axial Flux Motor



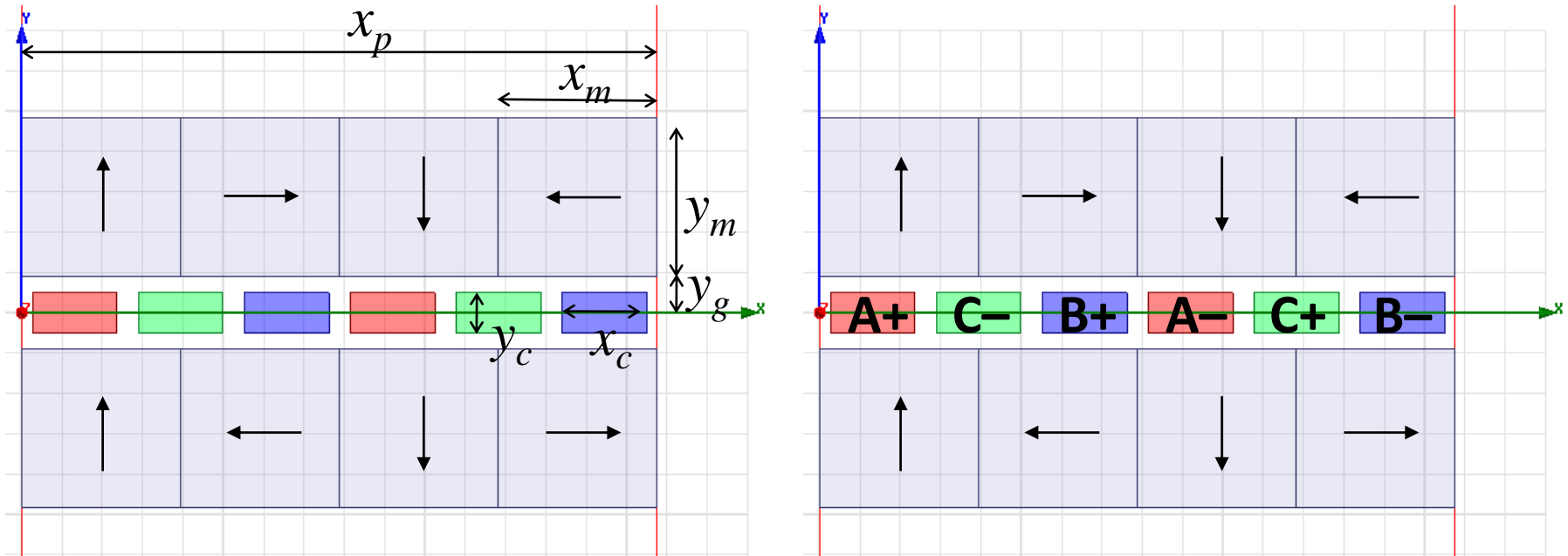
Analysis

Double-Halbach PM Array Ironless Axial Flux Motor



Analysis

Pole Pair Analysis

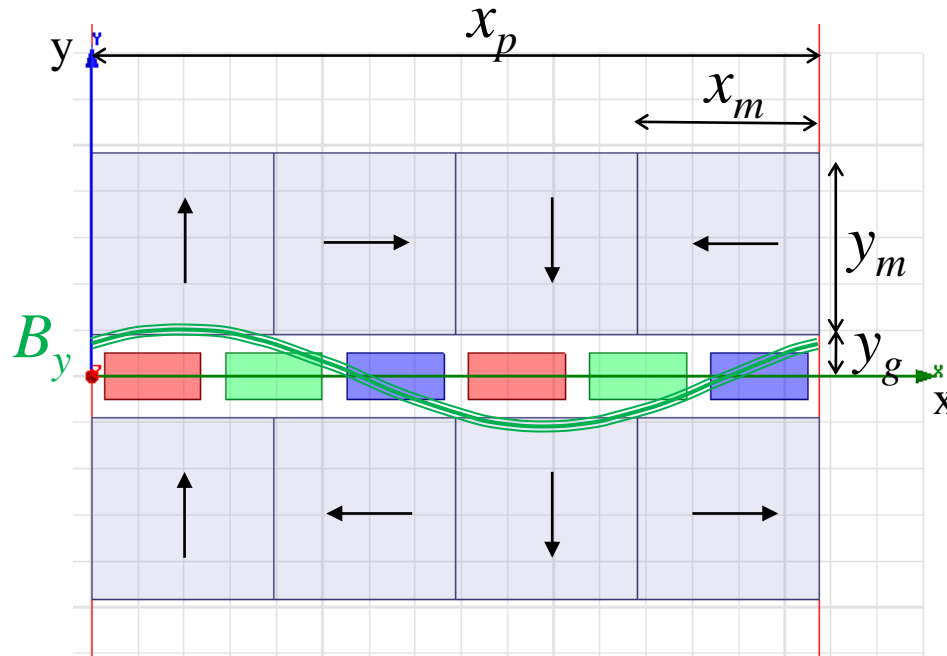


2D magnetostatic pole pair model allows for simple equation-based analysis



Analysis

Pole Pair Analysis



$$B_y = 2B_R e^{-ky_g} (1 - e^{-ky_m}) \frac{\sin(\epsilon\pi/n_m)}{\pi/n_m} \cos kx \cosh ky$$

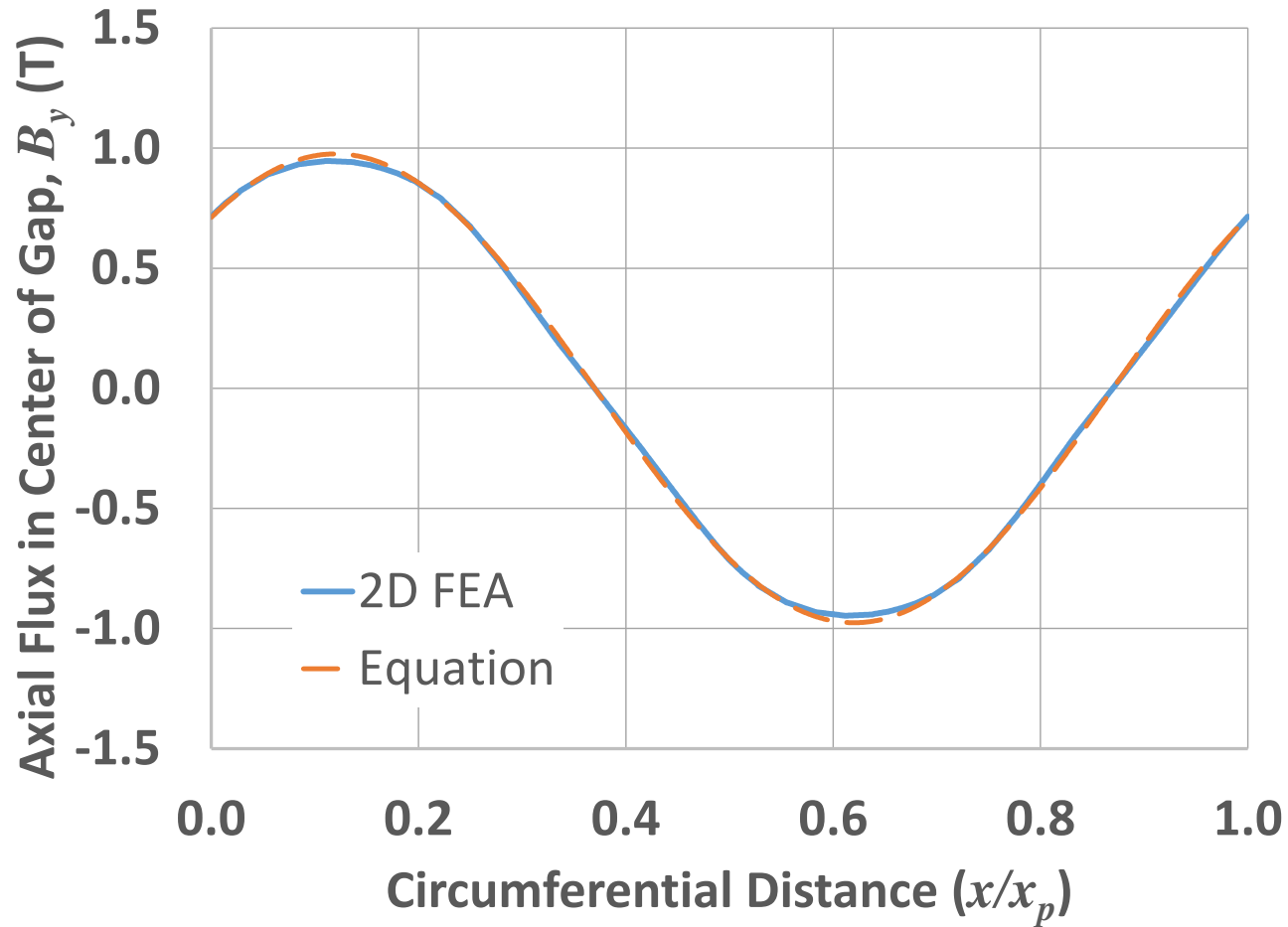
$$F_c = J\Delta r \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} B_y dx dy$$

$$k = 2\pi/x_p$$



Analysis

Pole Pair Analysis

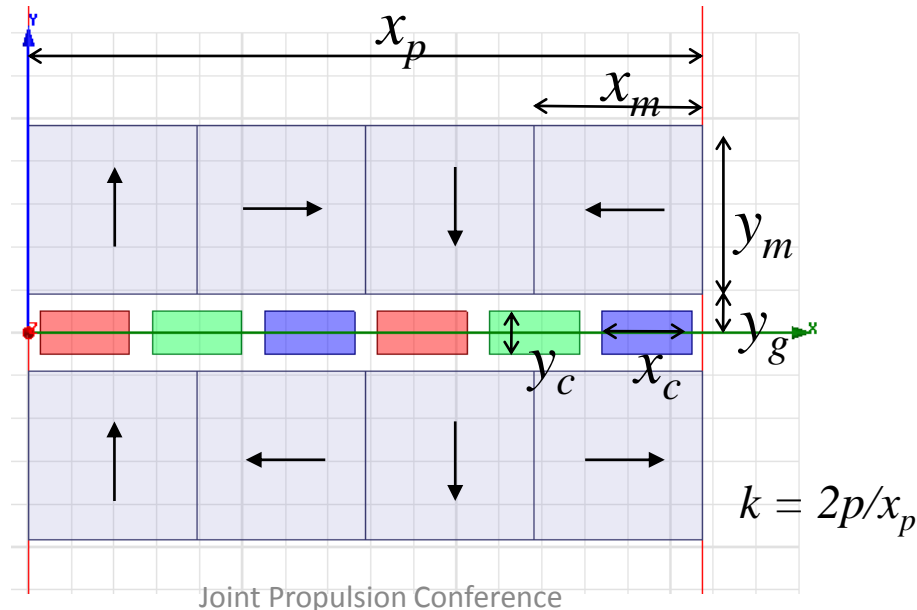


Analysis

Force/Torque/Power

$$F_c = [2JB_R \Delta r y_g y_m] \left[\frac{e^{-ky_g}}{ky_g} \right] \left[\frac{1 - e^{-ky_m}}{ky_m} \right] \left[\frac{\sin(\epsilon\pi/n_m)}{\pi/n_m} \right] \sin kx \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} \sinh ky \Big|_{y_1}^{y_2}$$

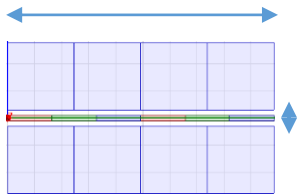
$$F_p = \sum_{c=1}^6 F_c \quad T = pr_a F_p \quad P = T \omega_r = T \text{ RPM } \pi/30$$



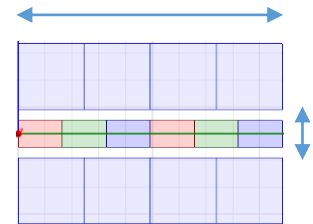
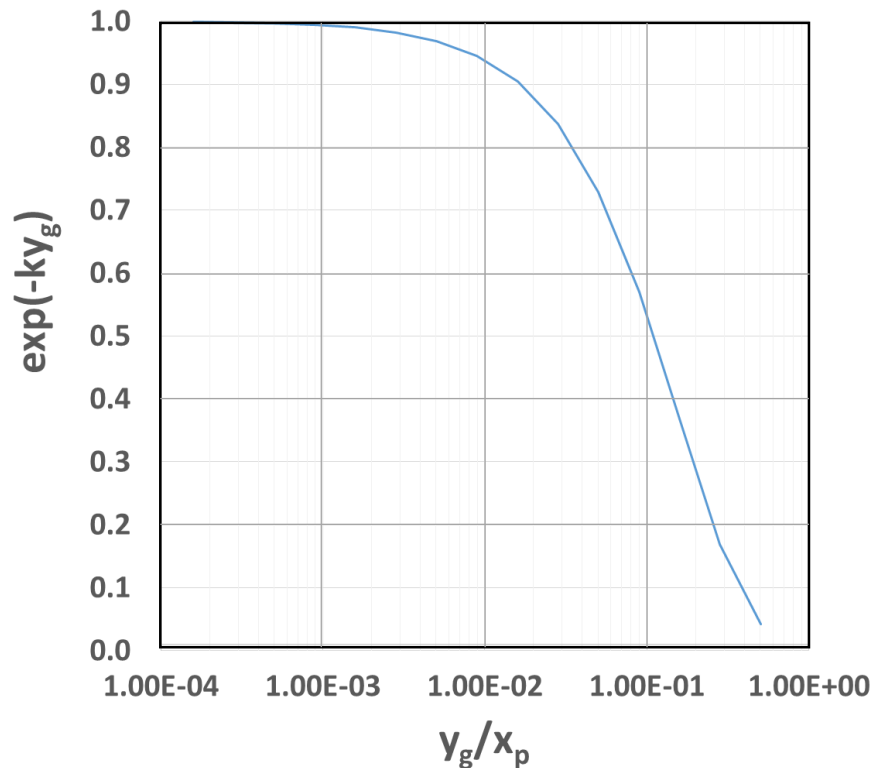
Analysis

Power Density – Based on Magnet Mass

$$\frac{P}{m_m} \propto \left[\frac{JB_R v_{tip}}{\rho_m} \right] \left[e^{-ky_g} \right] \left[\frac{1 - e^{-ky_m}}{ky_m} \right] \left[\frac{\sin(\epsilon\pi/n_m)}{\pi/n_m} \right]$$



*Small gap / pole size
high power density*



*Large gap / pole size
low power density*

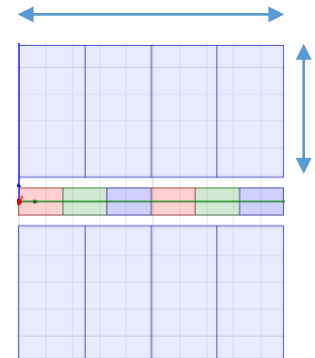
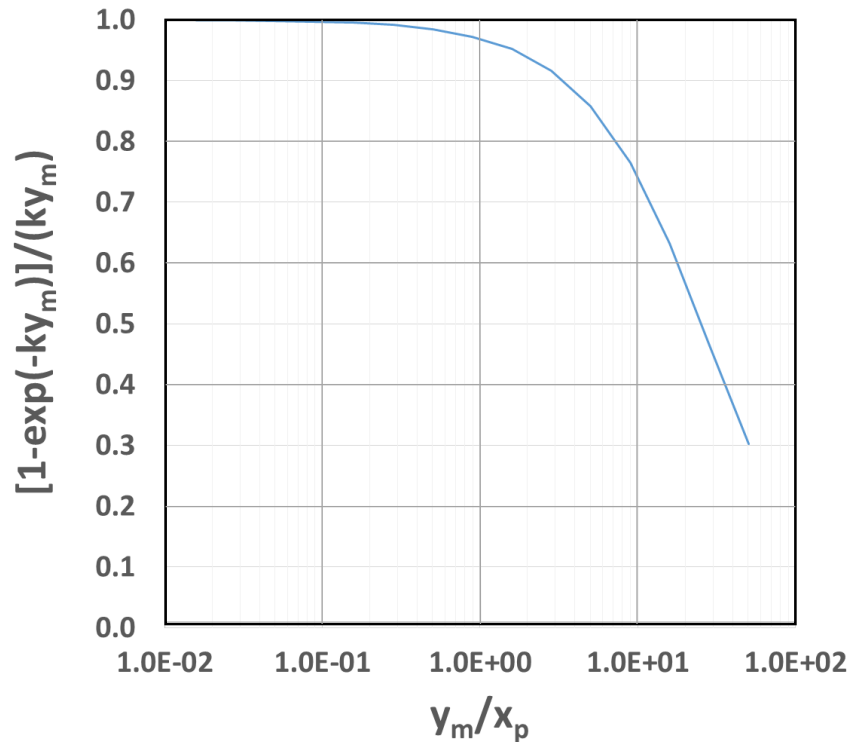
Ratio of gap to pole size

Power Density – Based on Magnet Mass

$$\frac{P}{m_m} \propto \left[\frac{JB_R v_{tip}}{\rho_m} \right] [e^{-ky_g}] \left[\frac{1 - e^{-ky_m}}{ky_m} \right] \left[\frac{\sin(\epsilon\pi/n_m)}{\pi/n_m} \right]$$



*Small magnet thickness
to pole size
high power density*

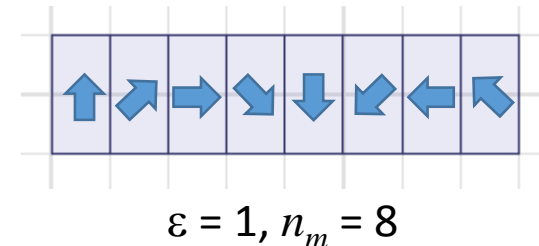
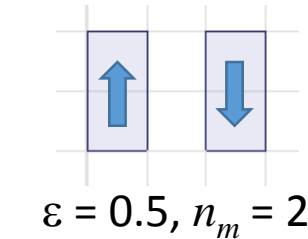
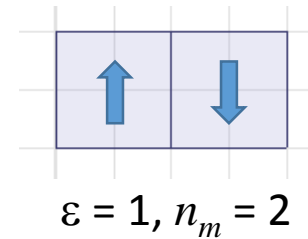
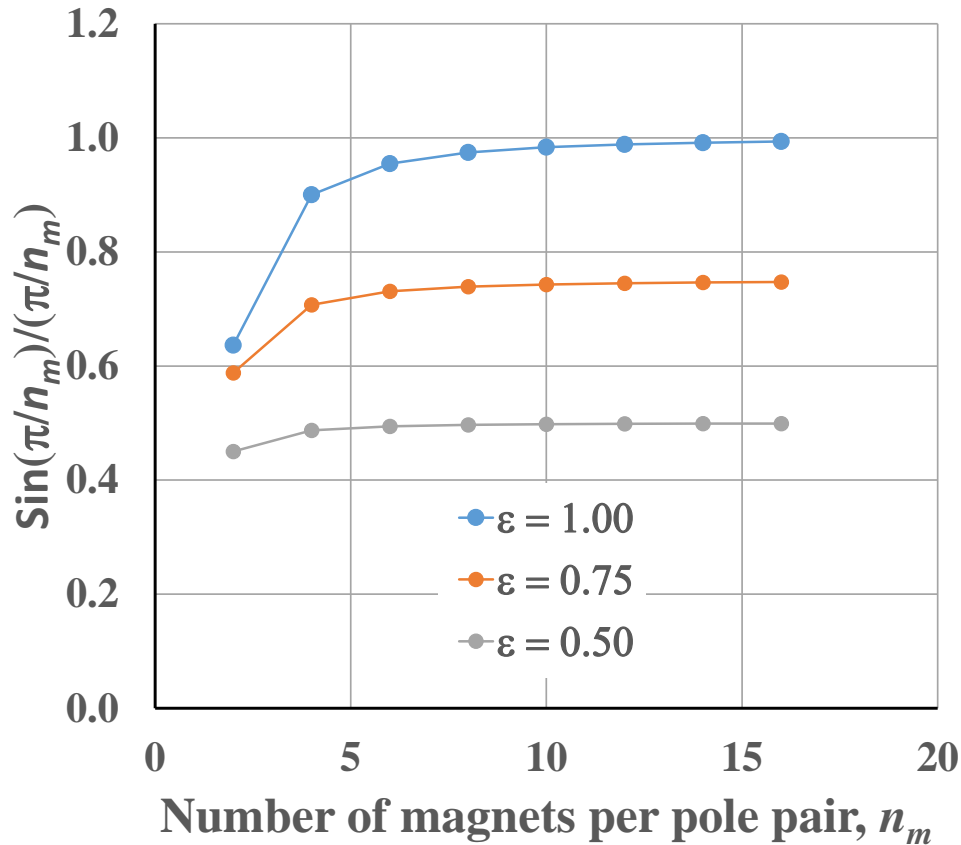


*Large magnet thickness
to pole size
low power density*

Ratio of magnet thickness to pole size

Power Density – Based on Magnet Mass

$$\frac{P}{m_m} \propto \left[\frac{JB_R v_{tip}}{\rho_m} \right] [e^{-ky_g}] \left[\frac{1 - e^{-ky_m}}{ky_m} \right] \left[\frac{\sin(\epsilon\pi/n_m)}{\pi/n_m} \right]$$





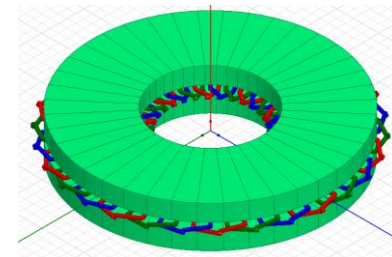
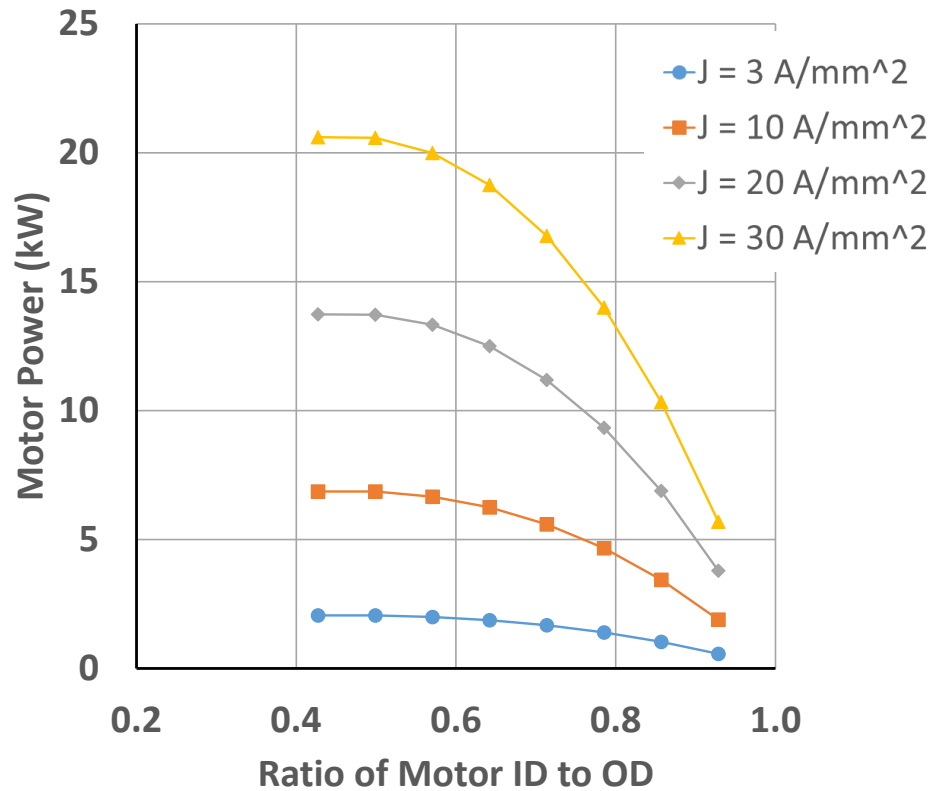
Analysis



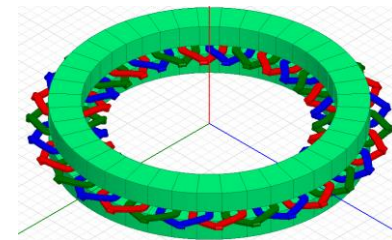
Parameter	Value
Target power	13 kW
Target power density	13 kW/kg Based on magnet and winding mass only
Target loss	< 1% Including magnet and winding losses only
Outer diameter	5.5 inches (140 mm)
Magnet remanence flux, B_R	1.4 T (NdFeB)
Current density, J	3 A/mm ² (natural convection) to 30 A/mm ² (liquid cooling)
Electrical frequency, f	< 2000 Hz ≤ 16 pole pairs at 7200 RPM

Results

Power



Low ID/OD

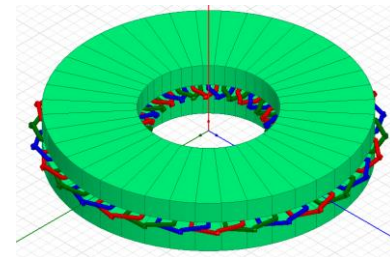
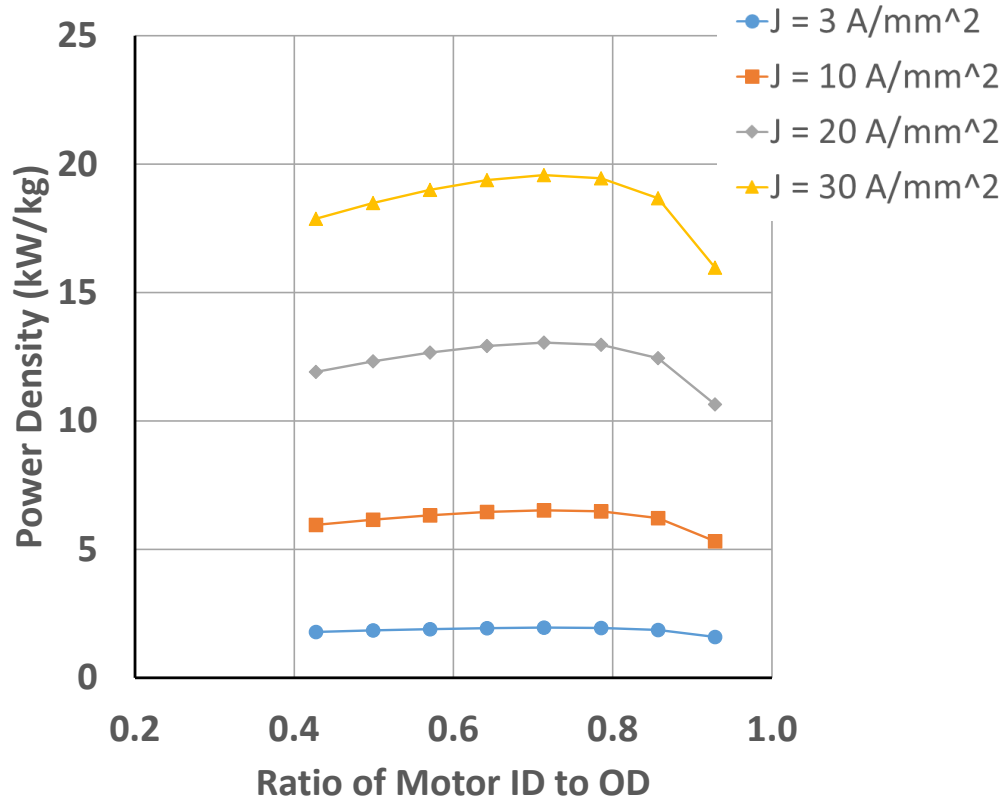


High ID/OD

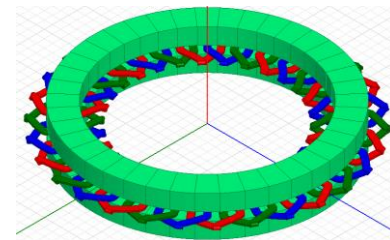
$y_c = 3$ mm, 16 pole pairs, magnet aspect ratio $y_m/x_m = 1$
16 pole pairs $\rightarrow f = 1920$ Hz

Results

Power Density



Low ID/OD



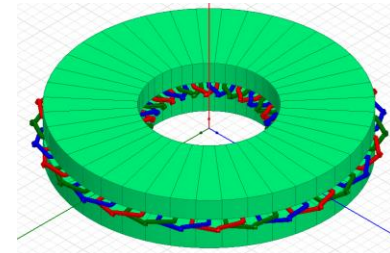
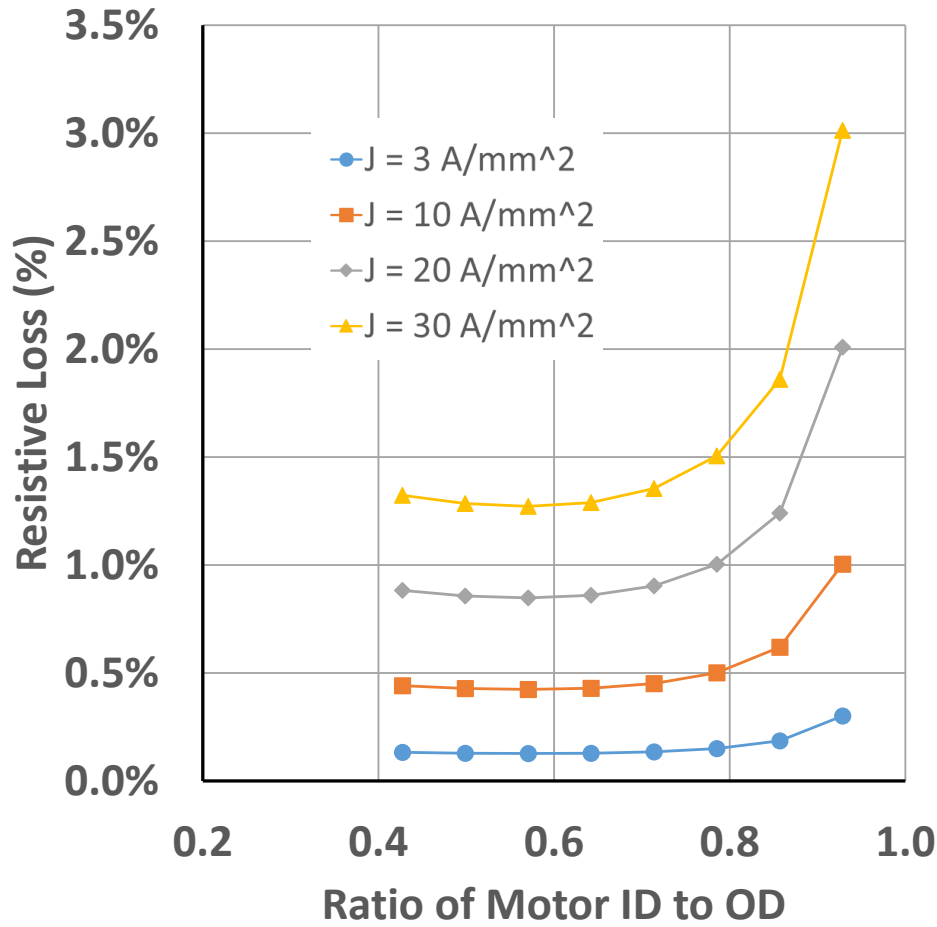
High ID/OD

$y_c = 3 \text{ mm}$, 16 pole pairs, magnet aspect ratio $y_m/x_m = 1$

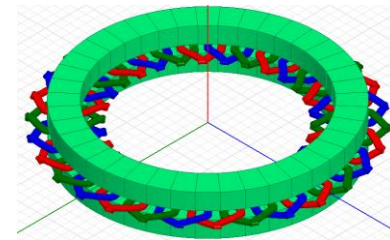
16 pole pairs $\rightarrow f = 1920 \text{ Hz}$

Results

$$I^2R \text{ Loss } P_c \quad P_c \propto \frac{J_{rms}^2 V_c}{\sigma \eta}$$



Low ID/OD



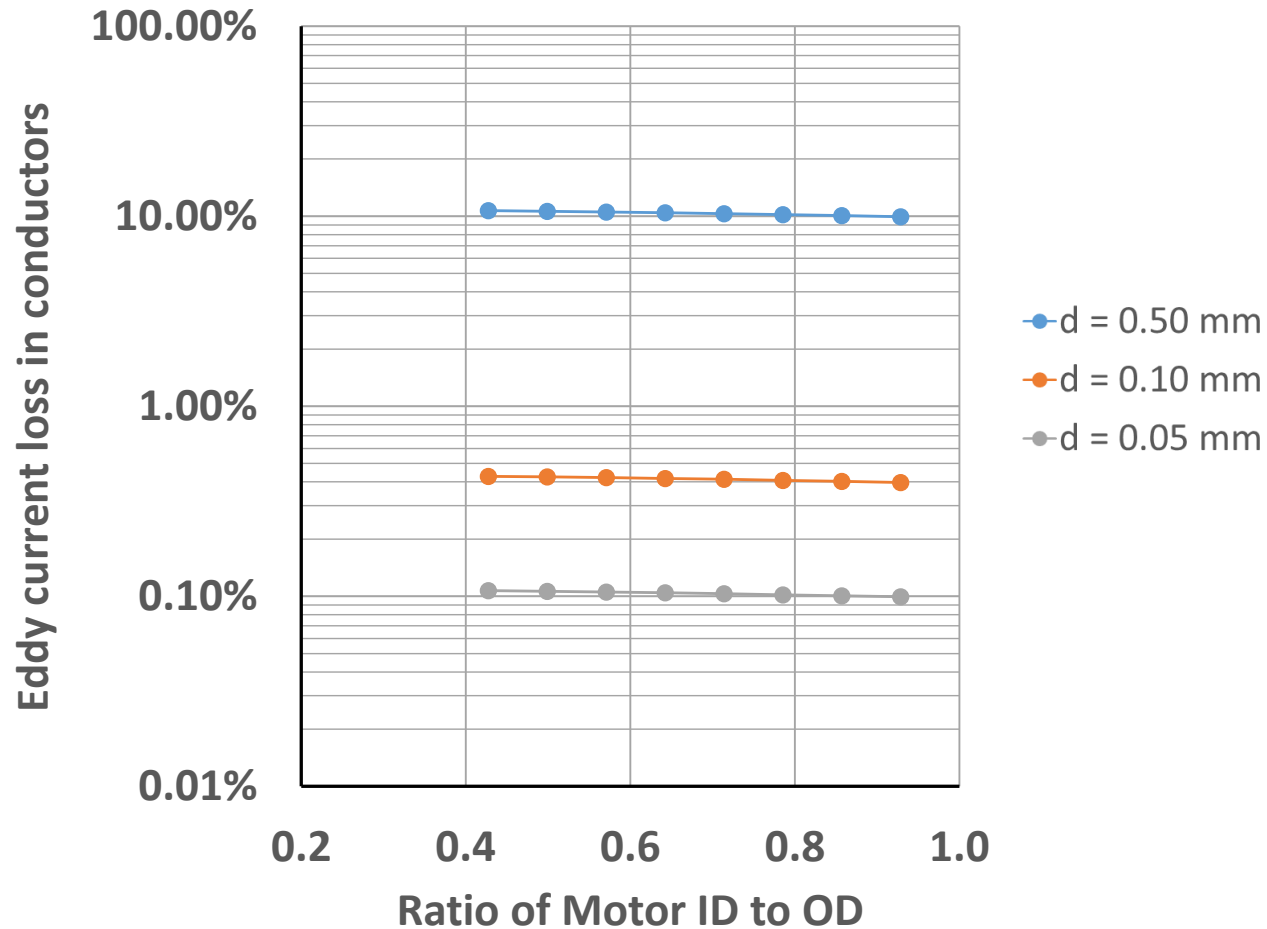
High ID/OD



Results

Conductor Eddy Loss P_e

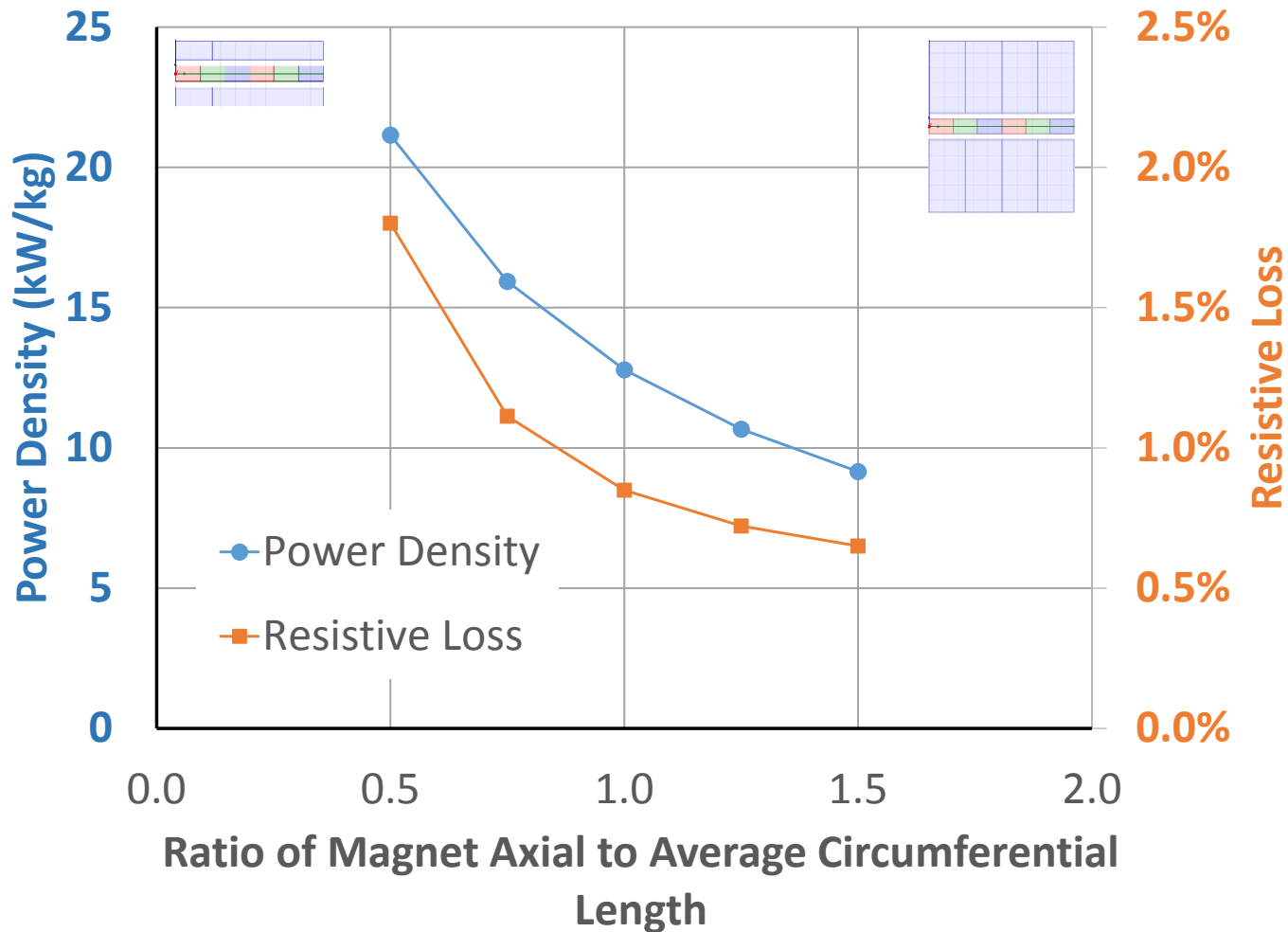
$$P_e \propto \sigma f^2 d^2 B_{pk}^2 V_c$$





Results

Effect of Magnet Aspect Ratio

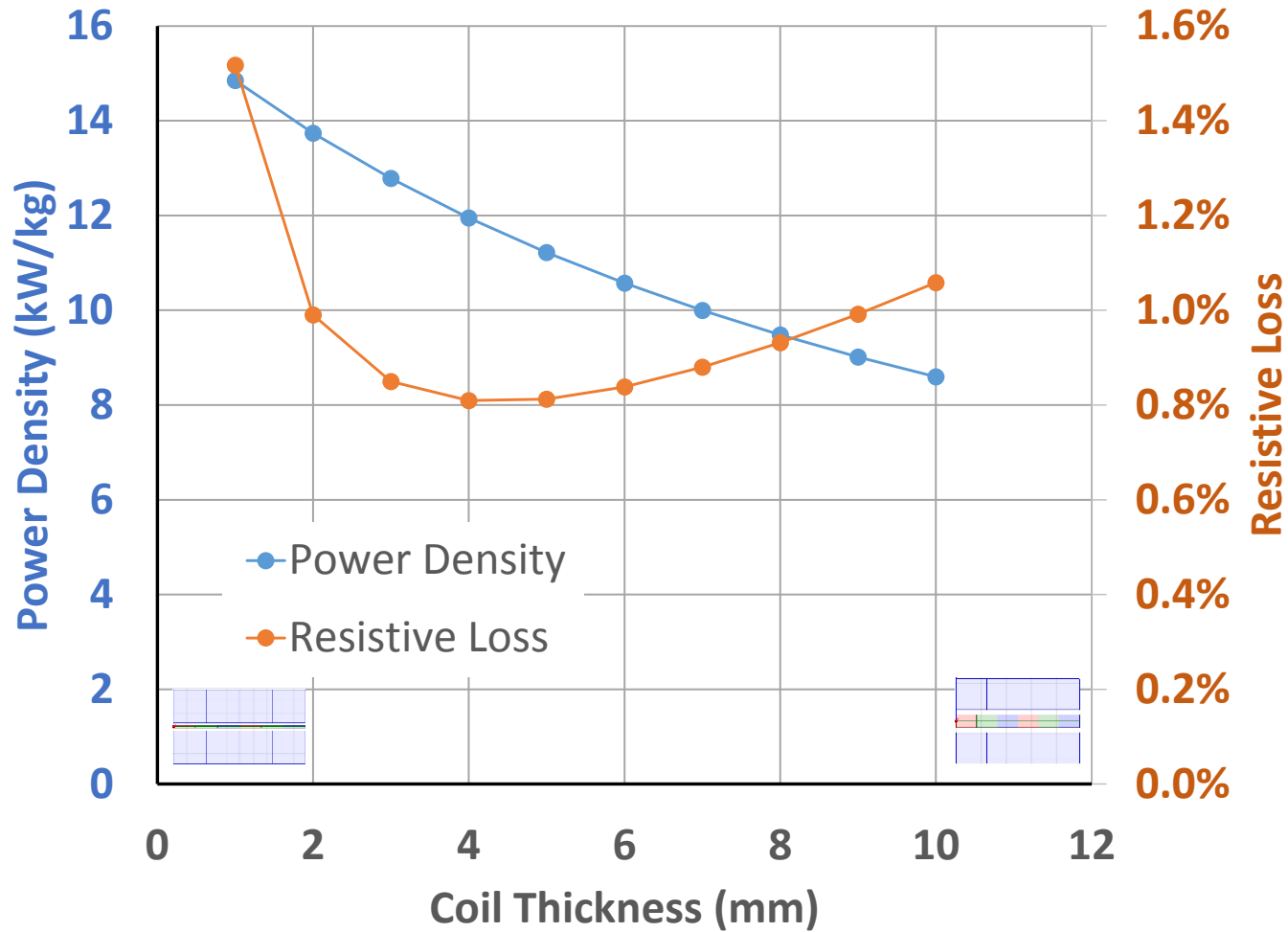


Rotor ID/OD = 0.6, $y_c = 3$ mm, 16 pole pairs



Results

Effect of Coil Thickness



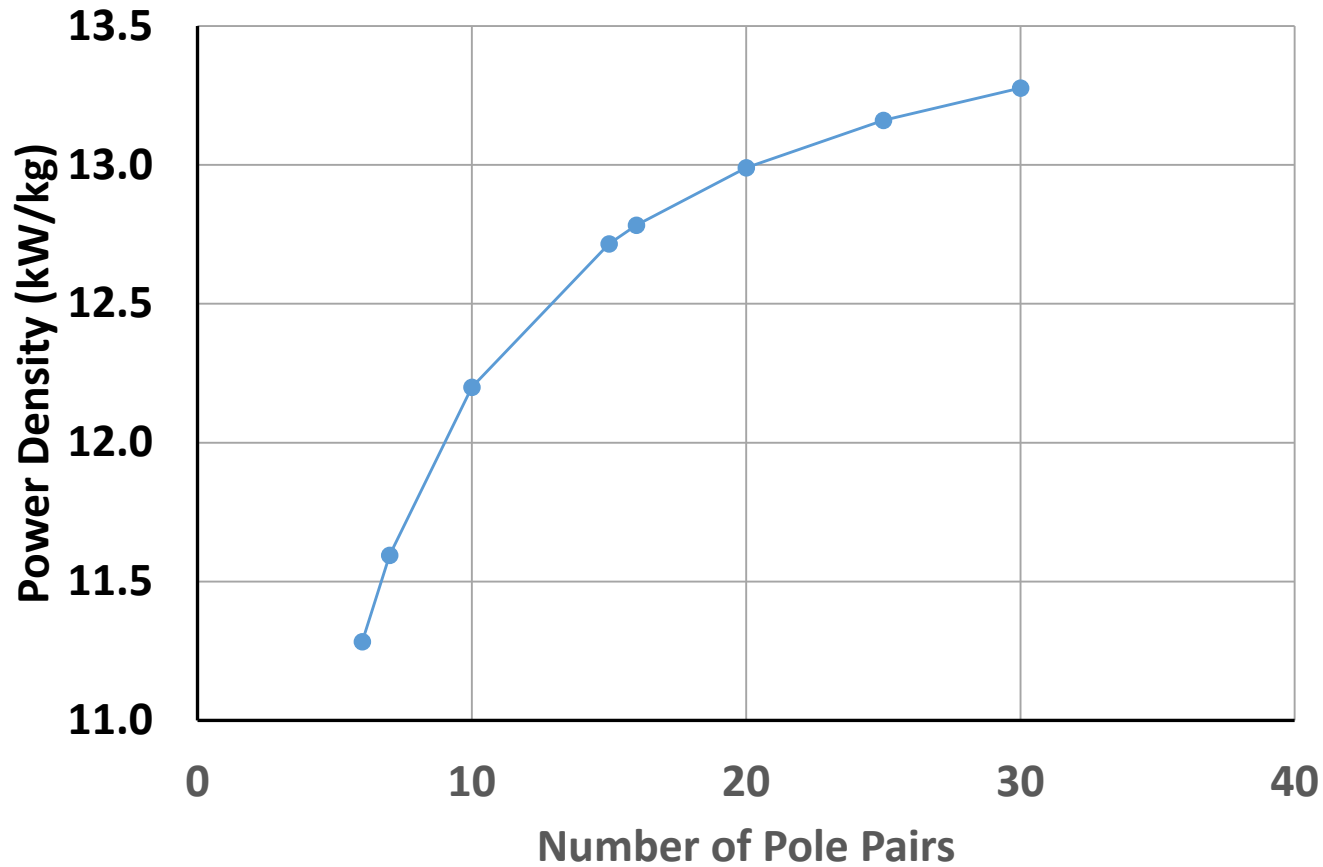
Rotor ID/OD = 0.6, $y_c = 3$ mm, 16 pole pairs



Results



Effect of Number of Pole Pairs



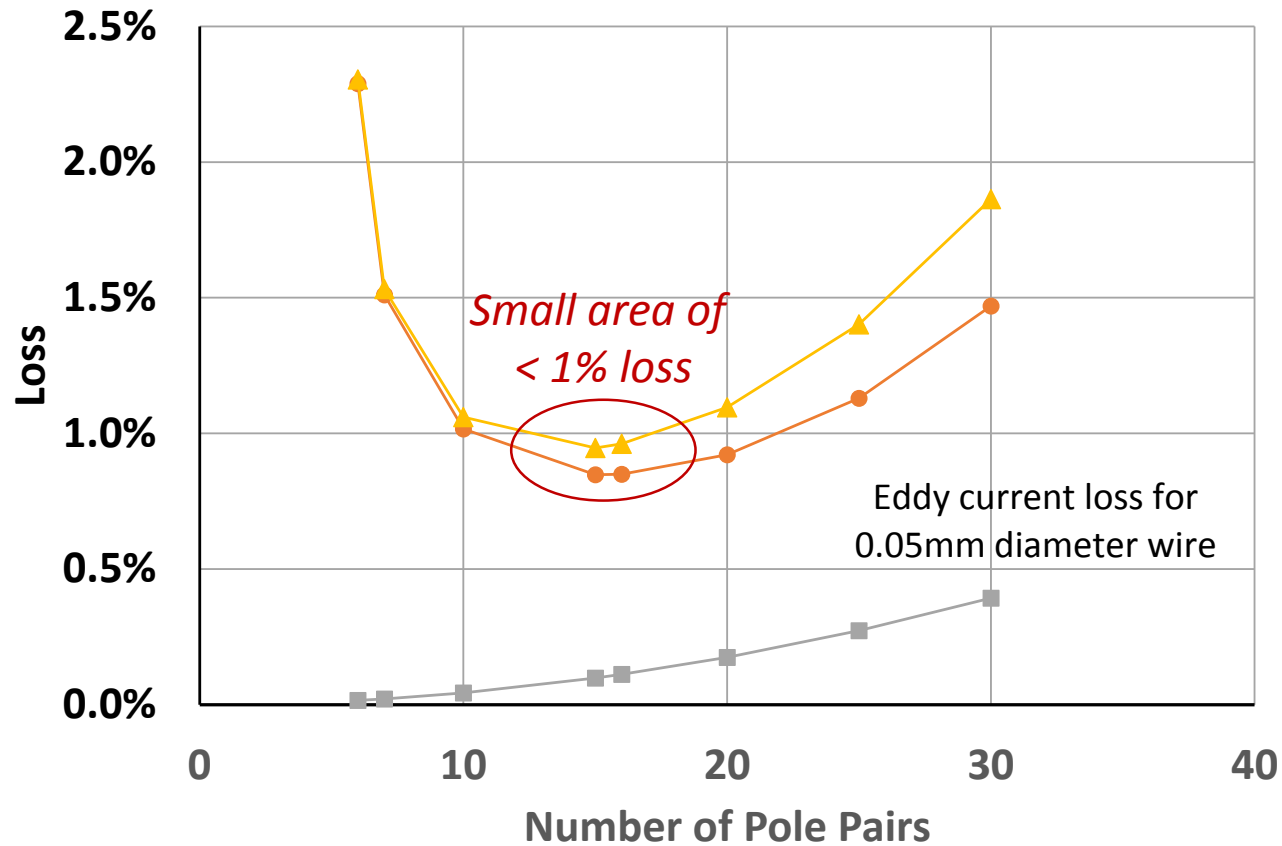
$$B_{max} = 1.0 \text{ T}$$



Results



Effect of Number of Pole Pairs



—●— Resistive Loss —■— Conductor Eddy Loss —▲— Resistive + Eddy Loss

$$B_{max} = 1.0 \text{ T}$$



Results



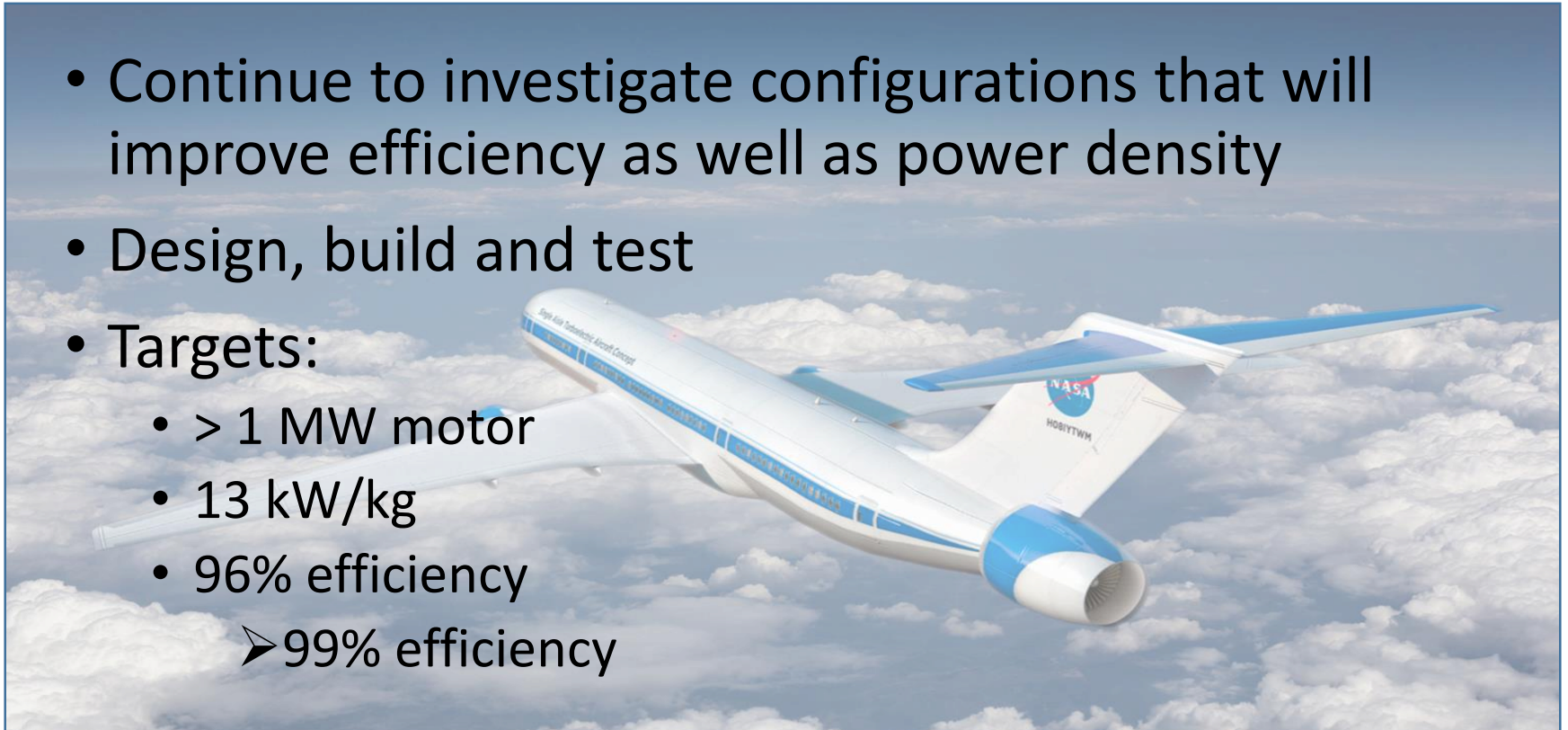
Final Motor Performance *Verified with Maxwell 3D FEA*

Parameter	Value
Power	13 kW at 7200 RPM
Power density	12.8 kW/kg Based on magnet and winding mass only
Loss	0.85% - conductor resistive loss 0.11% - conductor eddy current loss 0.02% - magnet eddy current loss (3D FEA)

ID/OD = 0.6, Coil thickness = 3 mm, 16 pole pairs, 20 A/mm² current density, and magnet aspect ratio = 1

- *Difficult to achieve goal of 13 kW/kg and 1% loss in this configuration*
- *Required 20 A/mm² which will require cooling*

- Continue to investigate configurations that will improve efficiency as well as power density
- Design, build and test
- Targets:
 - > 1 MW motor
 - 13 kW/kg
 - 96% efficiency
 - 99% efficiency





Acknowledgments



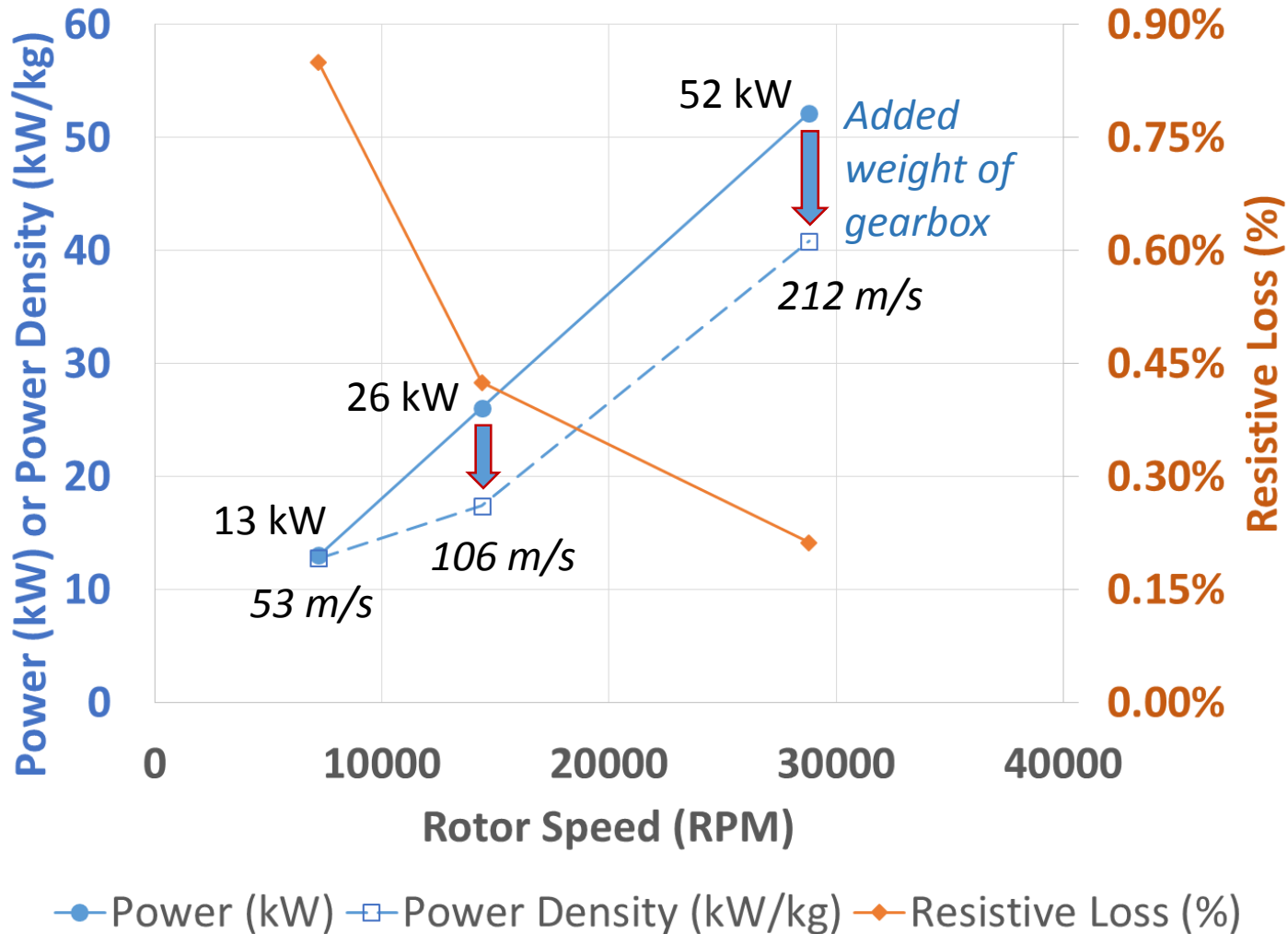
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Amy Jankovsky subproject manager

Thanks to the non-cryogenic motor team members from NASA:

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- *Ryan Edwards*
- *Ralph Jansen*
- *Peter Kascak*
- *Andrew Provenza*



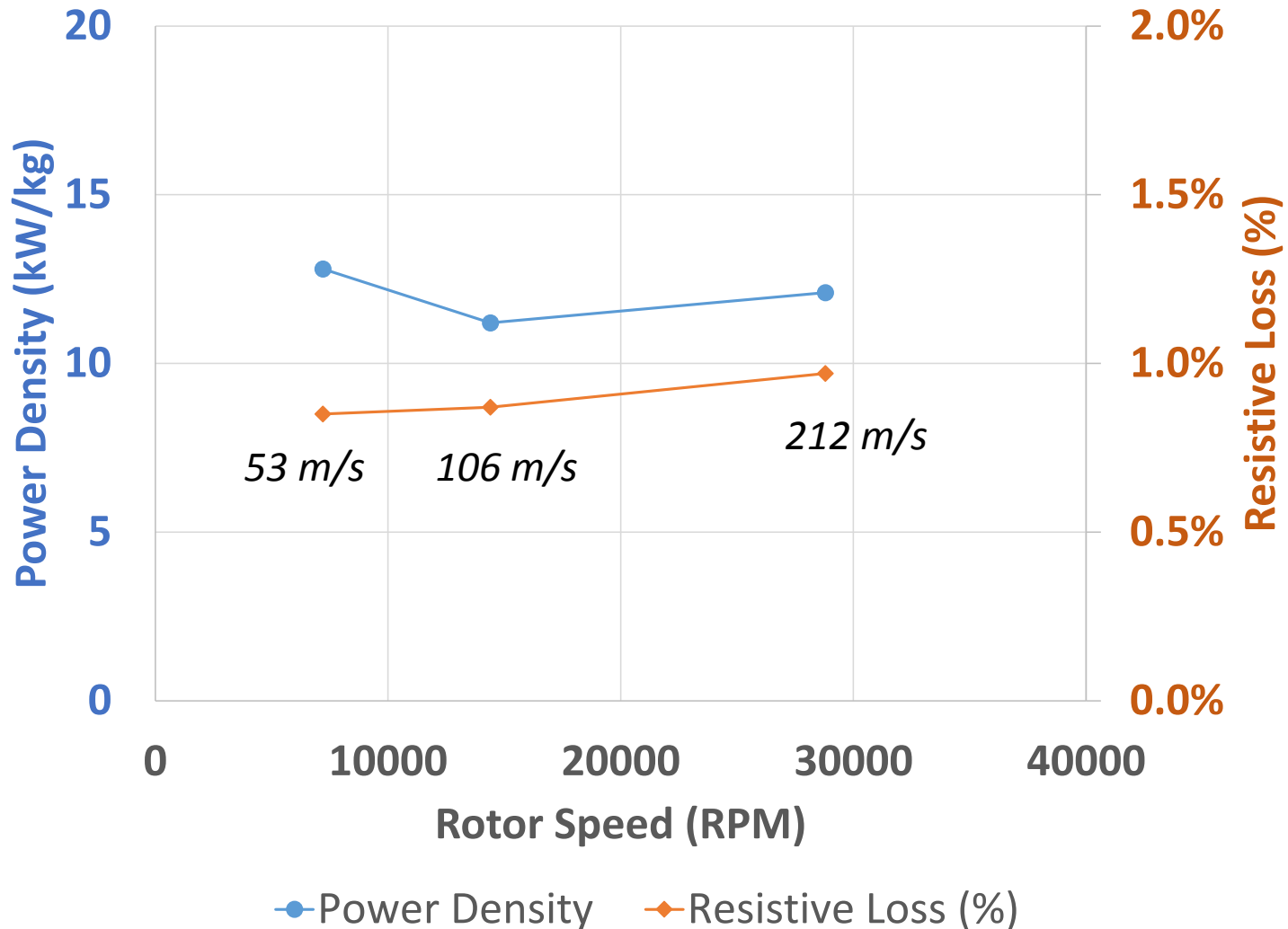
Results – Increasing Speed





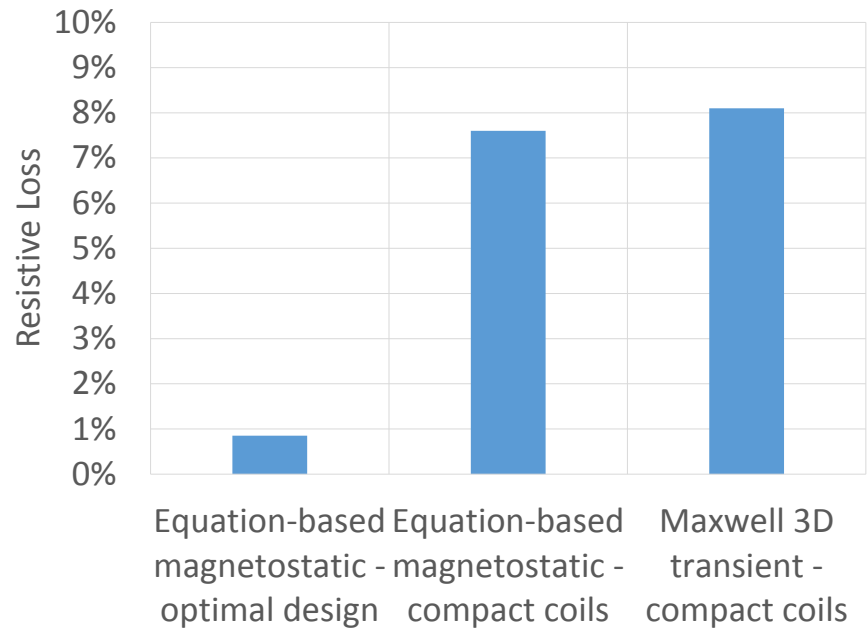
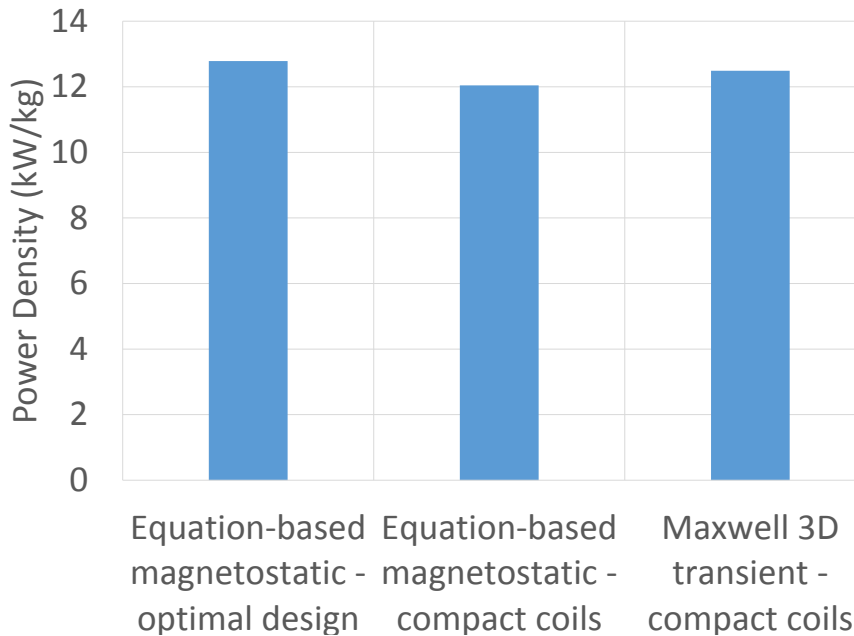
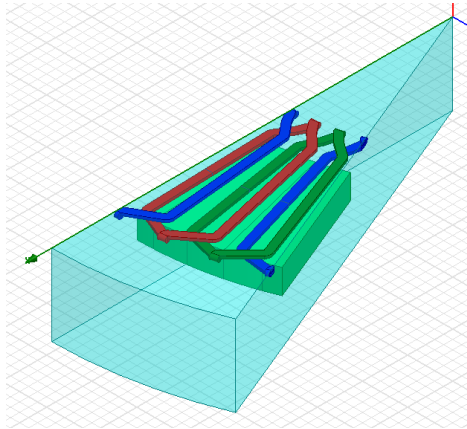
Results – Increasing Speed

Redesigned for 13 kW with Gearbox



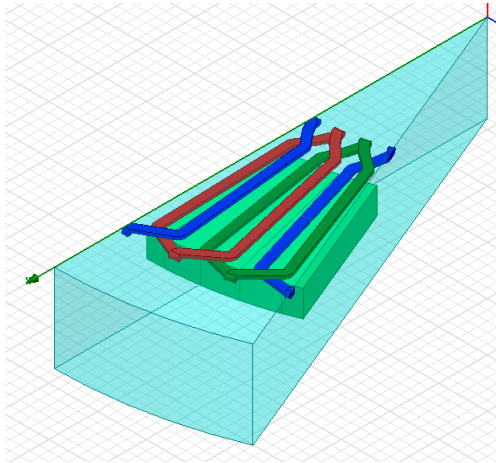


3D Transient vs 2D Static Results





3D Transient vs 2D Static Results



Analysis	Torque (N-m)	Resistive Loss (%)	Eddy Current Loss Conductors (%)	Eddy Current Loss Magnets (%)
Equation-based magnetostatic large coils/optimal	17.3	0.85%	0.11%	-
Equation-based magnetostatic compact coils/high J	16.3	7.6%	0.06%	-
Maxwell 3D magnetostatic compact coils/high J	16.6	-	-	-
Maxwell 3D transient compact coils/high J	16.9	8.1%	-	0.02%