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# Design and Simulation of a Brushless Self-excited Air-core Compensated Pulsed Alternator

Wenhao Li, Caiyong Ye, *Member, IEEE*, Fei Xiong, Xin Liang

**Abstract** — A novel brushless self-excited air-core compensated pulsed alternator (BSACPA) is presented in this paper. It consists of two sub-machines in cascade, among which one serves as an exciter and the other works as a generator. The rotor windings of the two sub-machines are connected by reverse phase sequence to realize reversal of the magnetic field. The stator windings are connected by a rectifier to realize brushless self-excited structure. As an air-core CPA of new topology, it is necessary to derive its mathematical model and carry out a comparative design. Thus, this paper focuses on the detailed design and analysis of a BSACPA prototype, which includes dimensional design and equivalent circuit establishment. Besides, the critical speed is also acquired. Accordingly, the numbers of winding coil turns are designed to increase the discharge current and power based on the theoretical analysis. Finally, the analysis and design are verified by finite-element analysis.

**Index Terms** — Brushless self-excited air-core compensated pulsed alternator (BSACPA), dimensional design, equivalent circuit.

## NOMENCLATURE

$a_r$	Rotor inner radius
$b_r$	Rotor outer radius
$I_0$	Rated exciter field current
$I_{out}$	Discharge current
$k_{\Delta n}$	Descend ratio of the rotating speed
$m_{rw}$	Rotor winding mass
$n_r$	Rotor rotating speed
$\Delta n_r$	Rotor rotating speed drop after the discharge process
$n_0$	Rated rotor rotating speed
$t_k$	Discharge duration
$J_r$	Rotor moment of inertia
$E_r$	Rotor kinetic energy storage
$\Delta E_r$	Rotor kinetic energy storage consumption after the discharge process
$P_k$	Discharge power
$\eta$	Efficiency
$\rho_c$	Conductor resistivity
$\rho_r$	Rotor average density
$\beta$	Ratio of rotor axial length and outer radius
$\lambda$	Ratio of rotor inner radius and outer radius
$\Omega_r$	Rotor angular frequency

$a_{ij}$	Parallel branch number
$n_i$	Magnetic field rotating speed
$f_i$	Magnetic field rotating frequency
$I_{ij}$	Winding current
$k_{Nij}$	Fundamental winding factor
$k_{irs}$	Coupling coefficient
$l_i$	Effective axial length
$L_{ij}$	Self-inductance per phase
$L_{ij\sigma}$	Leakage inductance per phase
$m_{ij}$	Phase numbers
$M_i$	Magnitude of mutual inductance per phase
$N_{ij}$	Number of coil turns per phase
$p_i$	Number of pole-pairs
$r_{ij}$	Average radius of winding
$J_{ij}$	Current density of winding
$Q_{ij}$	Joule heat of winding
$R_{ij}$	Resistance per phase
$S_{ij}$	Cross-sectional area of coil conductor
$X_{ij}$	Reactance per phase
$Z_{ij}$	Impedance per phase
$\tau_{ij}$	Pole distance at the average radius of winding

In the above symbols, the subscripts are defined as follows:  $i$  is 1 or 2 where 1 represents the exciter and 2 represents the generator respectively.  $j$  is r or s where r represents the rotor windings and s represents the stator windings.

## I. INTRODUCTION

COMPENSATED pulsed alternator (CPA, or Compulsator) is one of the most promising pulsed-power supplies for electromagnetic launchers [1]. It has been under development for decades with a wide range of configurations to improve the power density and energy density [2], [3]. The lately developed CPAs are usually air-core and multiphase [4], [5]. The brush and slip-ring mechanisms are employed to achieve self-excitation [6], [7]. However, with the characteristics of high rotating speed and large field current [8], [9], the brush and slip-ring mechanisms usually bring a number of problems such as serious wear and heat, low reliability and efficiency. Therefore, a novel brushless self-excited air-core compensated pulsed alternator (BSACPA) is proposed in this paper.

As shown in Fig.1, the connection of two sub-machines in cascade realizes the brushless structure. The left sub-machine works as a rotating-armature exciter and the right one works as a rotating-field generator. The exciter rotor winding (ERW) and generator rotor winding (GRW) are both multiphase and connected by reverse phase sequence, which is able to increase the electrical frequency of the current in the generator stator windings (GSW). The GSW is of four

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phases and double layers, which can be used to discharge as well as connect to the exciter stator winding (ESW) through a four-phase rectifier to achieve self-excitation. Because of the air-core structure, the coupling between the ESW and GSW is weak and can be ignored.

The operation steps of BSACPA are shown as follows. Firstly, the whole machine should be dragged to the rated rotating speed. Then, with the “seed-current” injected into the ESW, the exciter induces multiphase currents in the ERW. Next, the multiphase currents flow into the GRW by reverse phase sequence, function as the field current and induce four-phase currents in the GSW. After that, the four-phase currents flow back into the ESW as the exciter field current. With the cycles of the above steps, the currents in BSACPA increase exponentially, consuming the kinetic energy stored in the rotor. Finally, the GSW begins to discharge to a load when the self-excited currents reach the required value.

A novel structure with two air-core sub-machines connecting in cascade is employed in BSACPA. The designed parameters can significantly influence its final performance. Thus, it is necessary to develop its mathematical model and carry out a comparative design. In section II, its dimensional and electrical parameters are designed. In section III, the mathematical model and the self-excited condition are analyzed. In section IV, the numbers of winding coil turns of the prototype are determined. In section V, the design of BSACPA is verified by finite-element analysis.

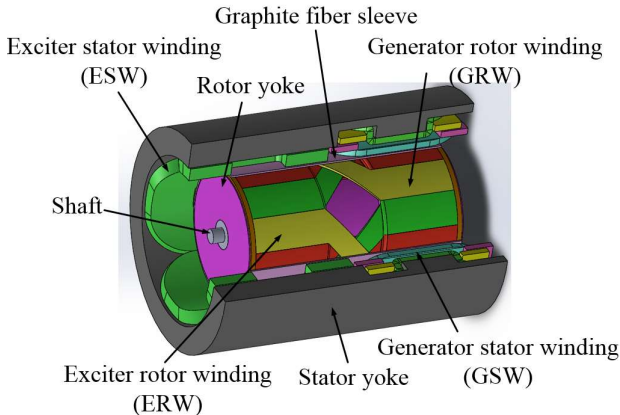


Fig.1. Three-dimensional view of BSACPA

## II. DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

The performance parameters such as the energy density and power density, mechanical parameters e.g. the line velocity of the rotor outer edge, electrical parameters including the self-inductance, mutual inductance and resistance of each winding are all closely related to the main dimensions. Thus, the first step of design should be the main dimensional design. The dimensions mainly include the inner and outer diameters of the rotor and stator yokes, the effective axial length of the rotor, the thickness and axial length of each winding, the thickness of the graphite fiber sleeve and the length of the air gap. The dimensional design of BSACPA depends on the energy storage and the peak power [10].

The energy storage can be determined by the peak power. Because the rotating speed drops after the discharge process, the formula about the descend ratio of rotating speed  $k_{\Delta n}$  and the kinetic energy storage  $E_r$  can be given as:

$$\frac{\Delta E_r}{E_r} = 2 \frac{\Delta n}{n} - \left(\frac{\Delta n}{n}\right)^2 = 2k_{\Delta n} - k_{\Delta n}^2 \quad (1)$$

The energy consumption  $\Delta E_r$  can be given as:

$$\Delta E_r = P_k \cdot t_k / \eta \quad (2)$$

The rotor kinetic energy storage  $E_r$  can be given as:

$$E_r = \frac{1}{2} J_r \Omega^2 = \frac{\pi^3}{3600} \rho_r \cdot \beta \cdot (1 - \lambda^4) \cdot b_r^5 \cdot n^2 \quad (3)$$

$\beta$  and  $\lambda$  are recommended by the following values [11]:

$$\begin{cases} \beta = l_r / b_r = 2.0 - 4.0 \\ \lambda = a_r / b_r = 0.4 - 0.7 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Assume that the target discharge power  $P_k$  is 2.5 MW, the discharge duration  $t_k$  is 4 ms, the machine efficiency  $\eta$  is about 50% and the rated rotor rotating speed  $n_0$  is 20000r/min. It is expected that after a cycle of pulsed discharge process, the descend ratio of the rotating speed  $k_{\Delta n}$  is not over 10%. Hence, the rotor kinetic energy storage  $E_r$  is determined to be about 100 kJ and the rotor moment of inertia  $J_r$  should be about  $0.0456 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^2$ . The rotor yoke inner and outer diameters are designed to be 60mm and 150mm respectively and the rotor axial length is designed to be 600mm.

The thickness of the windings should be moderate. On the one hand, the winding cannot be too thin. Otherwise, the resistance will be too large, leading to the winding overheating or failing self-excitation. On the other hand, it cannot be too thick either. Because the thicker the windings are, the weaker the coupling between the field and armature windings is. The thicknesses of the rotor windings and stator windings are designed to be 5 mm and 20 mm, respectively.

The thickness of the graphite fiber sleeve should be appropriate to guarantee its tensile strength and increase the coupling between the stator and rotor windings. Similarly, the thickness of the air gap should also be suitable to ensure the safety when BSACPA works at a high rotating speed and the coupling between the stator and rotor windings. They are both designed to be 1.5 mm.

Finally, a set of dimensional parameters of the prototype is shown in Table I.

TABLE I  
MAIN DIMENSIONAL PARAMETERS OF A PROTOTYPE

Symbol	MAIN PARAMETERS	Value
$n_0$	Rated rotating speed	20000 r/min
$p_1$	Number of pole-pairs of exciter	2
$p_2$	Number of pole-pairs of generator	2
$d_{ri}$	Inner diameter of rotor yoke	60 mm
$d_{ro}$	Outer diameter of rotor yoke	150 mm
$l_r$	Rotor axial length	600 mm
$l_1$	Effective axial length of the exciter	150mm
$l_2$	Effective axial length of the generator	150mm
$d_{rw}$	Thickness of rotor windings	5 mm
$d_{1s}$	Thickness of ESW	20 mm
$d_{2s}$	Thickness of GSW	10 mm
$d_s$	Thickness of graphite fiber sleeve	1.5 mm
$\delta_0$	Thickness of air gap	1.5 mm
$d_{si}$	Inner radius of stator yoke	166 mm
$d_{so}$	Outer radius of stator yoke	190 mm
$\eta_{1s}$	Surface occupancy of ESW	75%
$J_r$	Rotational inertia of rotor	$0.0456 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^2$
$E_r$	Kinetic energy storage of rotor yoke	100 kJ

### III. MATHEMATICAL MODEL AND SELF-EXCITED CONDITION

The mathematical model of BSACPA is established by analyzing its equivalent circuit. The working processes of BSACPA such as self-excitation and electrical discharge are complex. In order to simplify the analysis, only the steady state is concerned. Assuming that the field current in the ESW is constant, the discharge current in the GSW will be acquired and the relationship among the discharge current and other parameters will be obtained.

#### A. Electrical parameter expressions

Before the equivalent circuit is analyzed, electrical parameters such as self-inductance, mutual inductance and resistance of each winding should be deduced firstly.

Define  $k_{irs}$  as the coupling coefficient which represents the coupling strength between the field and armature windings. It is expressed as:

$$k_{irs} = \left(\frac{r_{ir}}{r_{is}}\right)^{p_i} \quad (6)$$

Self-inductance per meter length  $L_{ij}$  can be expressed as:

$$L_{ij} = \frac{2\mu_0 (N_j k_{Nij})^2}{\pi p_i} \quad (7)$$

where  $\mu_0$  is the relative permeability of vacuum.

Magnitude of mutual inductance between the rotor and stator windings at radii  $r_{ir}$  and  $r_{is}$  can be expressed as:

$$M_i = \frac{2\mu_0 k_{irs} (N_{ir} k_{Nir})(N_{is} k_{Nis})}{\pi p_i} \quad (8)$$

Leakage inductance of windings can be calculated by the self-inductance and the mutual inductance:

$$L_{ir\sigma} = L_{ir} - M_i \frac{N_{ir} k_{Nir}}{N_{is} k_{Nis}} = [1 - k_{irs}] L_{ir} \quad (9)$$

$$L_{is\sigma} = L_{is} - M_i \frac{N_{is} k_{Nis}}{N_{ir} k_{Nir}} = [1 - k_{irs}] L_{is} \quad (10)$$

The winding resistance without considering the end winding can be expressed as:

$$R_{ij} = \frac{\rho_c N_{ij} l_i}{a_j S_{ij}} \quad (11)$$

#### B. Single-phase equivalent circuit

The exciter can be regarded as a synchronous generator and its single-phase equivalent circuit is shown in Fig.2.

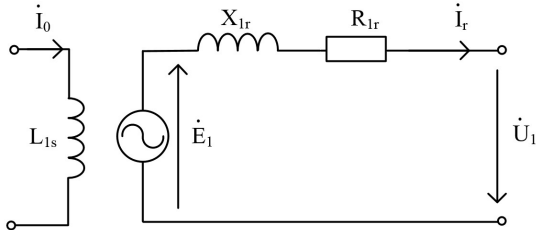


Fig.2. Single-phase equivalent circuit of the exciter.

In Fig.2,  $I_0$  is the rated exciter field current vector of the exciter,  $I_r$  is the ERW's current vector,  $E_1$  is the ERW's induced electromotive force vector,  $U_1$  is the output terminal voltage vector of the exciter.

The effective value of the ERW's induced electromotive force  $E_1$  is given by

$$E_1 = 4k_{N1} f_1 N_{1r} k_{N1r} \phi_1 \quad (12)$$

$$f_1 = p_1 n_r / 60 \quad (13)$$

where  $k_{N1}$  is the exciter magnetic field waveform coefficient.  $\phi_1$  is the magnitude of the magnetic flux per pole and can be expressed as:

$$\phi_1 = \frac{2}{\pi} B_{1rm} \tau_{1r} l_1 \quad (14)$$

$$\tau_{1r} = \pi r_{1r} / p_1 \quad (15)$$

where  $B_{1rm}$  is the radial magnetic flux density at the average radius of the ERW.

Because the radius of the ERW  $r_{1r}$  is less than the radius of the exciter stator winding,  $B_{1r}$  can be given as [12]:

$$B_{1rm} = \frac{\mu_0 K_{1s}}{2} \left(\frac{r_{1r}}{r_{1s}}\right)^{p_1-1} \quad (16)$$

where  $K_{1s}$  is the magnitude of the exciter field line current which is given as:

$$K_{1s} = \frac{2N_{1s} \cdot k_{N1s} \cdot I_0}{\pi \cdot r_{1s}} \quad (17)$$

According to (12)-(17),  $E_1$  can be expressed as:

$$E_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2}\mu_0}{30} (N_{1r} k_{N1r})(N_{1s} k_{N1s}) k_{irs} \cdot l_1 \cdot n_r \cdot I_0 \quad (18)$$

The generator can be regarded as an alternator whose rotating speed of magnetic field is larger than its mechanical rotating speed. Its single-phase equivalent circuit is shown in Fig.3.

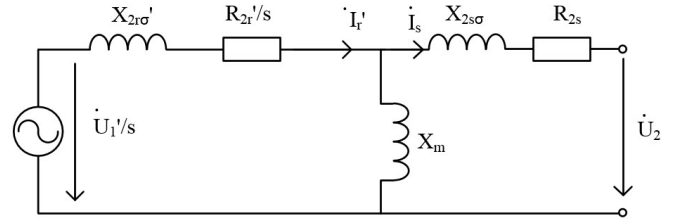


Fig.3. Single-phase equivalent circuit of the generator.

In Fig.3,  $I_s$  is the GSW's current vector and  $U_2$  is the output terminal voltage vector of the generator. The superscript in the figure represents that the parameters are under winding conversion. The parameters divided by slip ratio  $s$  means that they are under frequency conversion. The winding conversion and frequency conversion are given in (19)-(21).

$$k_e = \frac{N_{2s} k_{N2s}}{N_{2r} k_{N2r}} \quad (19)$$

$$k_i = \frac{m_{2s} N_{2s} k_{N2s}}{m_{2r} N_{2r} k_{N2r}} \quad (20)$$

where  $k_e$  is the voltage ratio and  $k_i$  is the current ratio.

$$s = \frac{n_2 - n_r}{n_2} = \frac{p_1}{p_1 + p_2} \quad (21)$$

Each parameters under winding conversion and frequency conversion can be referred to (22)-(25).

$$E' = k_e E \quad (22)$$

$$i' = i / k_i \quad (23)$$

$$R'/s = k_e k_i R/s \quad (24)$$

$$X' = k_e k_i \omega_1 L \quad (25)$$

$X_m$  is the generator excited reactance and its magnitude is given as:

$$X_m = \omega_1 k_e M_2 \quad (26)$$

Combining the equivalent circuits of the exciter and generator, the single-phase equivalent circuit of BSACPA can be obtained, as shown in Fig.4.

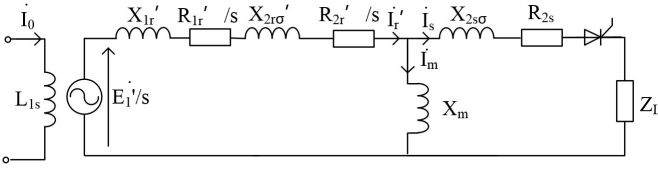


Fig.4. Single-phase equivalent circuit of BSACPA.

Assuming that the load and the winding resistances are ignored, the magnitude of the discharge current deduced from Fig.4 can be expressed as:

$$I_{out} = \frac{k_{1r} k_{2r} \frac{N_{1r} k_{N1r}}{N_{2r} k_{N2r}} \cdot \frac{N_{1s} k_{N1s}}{N_{2s} k_{N2s}} \cdot I_0}{\frac{m_{2s}}{m_{2r}} \left( \frac{N_{1r} k_{N1r}}{N_{2r} k_{N2r}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{m_{2s}}{m_{2r}} + k_{2rs} \right) (1 - k_{2rs}) \frac{p_1 l_2}{p_2 l_1}} \quad (27)$$

### C. Four-phase equivalent circuit

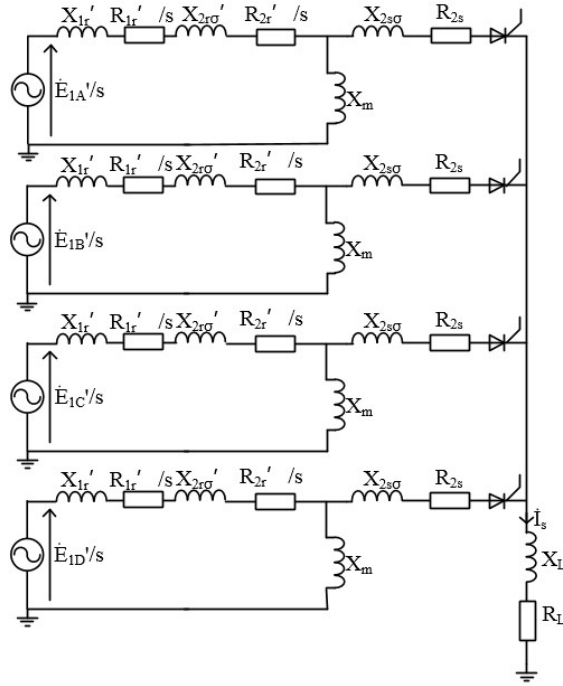


Fig. 5. Four-phase equivalent circuit of BSACPA.

In the four-phase equivalent circuit, the four-phase rectification, the commutation voltage loss, the stator winding resistances and the load resistance are all taken into consideration while the rotor winding resistances are ignored. Analyze the four-phase equivalent by Thevenin's theorem, the discharge current  $I_{out}$  can be expressed as:

$$I_{out} = \frac{4}{\pi} U_{oc} / \left( \frac{4}{\pi} R_{in} + \frac{2}{\pi} X_{in} + R_L \right) \quad (28)$$

where  $U_{oc}$  is the no-load voltage,  $R_{in}$  is the internal resistance,  $X_{in}$  is the internal reactance and  $R_L$  is the load resistance.  $U_{oc}$ ,  $R_{in}$  and  $X_{in}$  are given in (29)-(31).

$$U_{oc} = \frac{E_{1r}'}{s} \cdot \frac{jX_m}{\frac{R_{1r}'}{s} + \frac{R_{2r}'}{s} + j(X_{1r}' + X_{2r\sigma}' + X_m)} \quad (29)$$

$$R_{in} = R_{2s} \quad (30)$$

$$X_{in} = X_{2s\sigma} + \frac{X_m (X_{1r}' + X_{2r\sigma}')}{(X_m + X_{1r}' + X_{2r\sigma}')} \quad (31)$$

### D. Verification and discussion

The equivalent circuits is verified by the finite-element analysis (FEA), as shown in Fig.6. Each figure only changes one parameter while the other parameters are constant. The conditions for the above pictures are shown as follows:

- $N_{2s}=20, N_{1r}=2, N_{2r}=2, n_r=20000$  r/min,  $I_0=10$  kA when  $N_{1s}$  changes.
- $N_{1s}=100, N_{1r}=2, N_{2r}=2, n_r=20000$  r/min,  $I_0=10$  kA when  $N_{2s}$  changes.
- $N_{1s}=100, N_{2s}=20, N_{2r}=20, n_r=20000$  r/min,  $I_0=10$  kA when  $N_{1r}$  changes.
- $N_{1s}=100, N_{2s}=20, N_{1r}=20, n_r=20000$  r/min,  $I_0=10$  kA when  $N_{2r}$  changes.
- $N_{1s}=100, N_{2s}=20, N_{1r}=2, N_{2r}=2, I_0=10$  kA when  $n_r$  changes.
- $N_{1s}=100, N_{2s}=20, N_{1r}=2, N_{2r}=2, n_r=20000$  r/min when  $I_0$  changes.

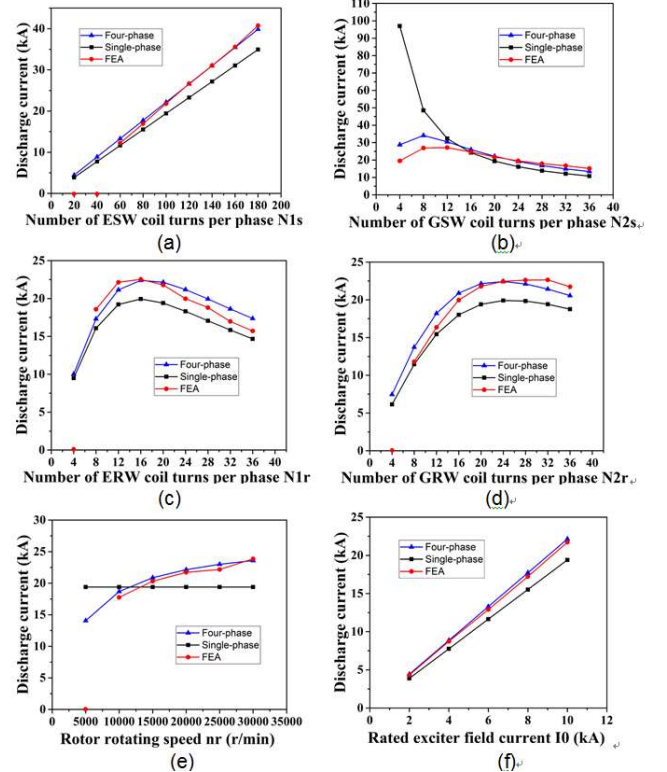


Fig. 6. Discharge currents versus each parameter for different analytical methods.

It can be seen from Fig.6 that the curves of FEA are more close to those of the four-phase equivalent circuit, which means the four-phase equivalent is more accurate than the single-phase equivalent circuit. It is because that the single-phase equivalent circuit is just a simplified model, ignoring the four-phase rectification and all the winding resistances. However, the relationships among the discharge current and each parameter can be determined generally from (27), which is deduced from the single-phase equivalent. The relationships can be concluded as follows:

- The value of  $I_{out}$  is proportional to the number of effective coil turns of the ESW  $N_{1s}$  while it is inversely proportional to the number of effective coil turns of the GSW  $N_{2s}$ .
- There are certain numbers of effective coil turns of the ERW  $N_{1r}$  and GRW  $N_{2r}$  making the value of  $I_{out}$  largest.

3) The value of  $I_{out}$  increases slightly with the increase of the rotor rotating speed  $n_r$ .

4) The value of  $I_{out}$  is proportional to the rated exciter field current  $I_0$ .

In conclusion, the mathematical model of the equivalent circuits and above rules can provide a guidance to the optimization of BSACPA parameters.

#### E. Self-excited condition

As shown in Fig.6, there are several zero points on the curve of FEA. It is because that the machine at these points is not able to self-excite. Whether BSACPA can work successfully is primarily decided by whether it is self-excited. Thus, it is important to determine the self-excited condition and obtain the value of the critical rotating speed.

Assume that the exciter field current is  $i_0^-$  at the time  $t_0^-$  and it will produce a discharge current  $i_{out}$  in the GSW at the time  $t_0^+$ . If the condition  $i_{out} > i_0^-$  is satisfied, the currents in the machine will rise exponentially and BSACPA is able to self-excite.

Thus, according to the formulas (28)-(31), the critical self-excited rotating speed  $n_e$  is given as:

$$n_e = \frac{k_{st} \cdot 15 \cdot (4 / \pi \cdot R_{2s} + R_{1s})}{(p_1 + p_2) [\sqrt{2} k_e M_1 \frac{L_m}{L_m + L_{1r} + L_{2r\sigma}} - (L_{2s\sigma} + \frac{L_m \cdot (L_{1r} + L_{2r\sigma})}{L_m + L_{1r} + L_{2r\sigma}})]} \quad (32)$$

$k_{st}$  is the correction coefficient, which is associated with the phase number, the current frequency and the filter inductance.

#### IV. DETERMINATION OF NUMBERS OF WINDING COIL TURNS

In section III, it can be found that the discharge current is closely relevant to the number of effective coil turns of each winding, the rotor rotating speed and the rated exciter field current. Thus, the numbers of winding coil turns can be designed to significantly improve the performance of BSACPA. In this paper, the goal of coil turns number design is to ensure the successful work as well as to improve the discharge current and power as much as possible. The machine works under the constant condition of the rated rotating speed (20000 rpm), the main sizes (Table I), the load impedance (10 mΩ) and the filter inductance (10 μH).

(27) can be simplified as follows:

$$I_{out} = \frac{k_{1rs} k_{2rs} k_{Nr} k_{Ns}}{k_m k_{Nr}^2 + (k_m + k_{2rs})(1 - k_{2rs})k_p / k_l} \cdot I_0 \quad (33)$$

where  $k_{Nr}$  is the ratio of  $N_{1r} k_{N1r}$  and  $N_{2r} k_{N2r}$ ,  $k_{Ns}$  is the ratio of  $N_{1s} k_{N1s}$  and  $N_{2s} k_{N2s}$ ,  $k_m$  is the ratio of  $m_{2s}$  to  $m_{2r}$ ,  $k_p$  is the ratio of  $p_1$  to  $p_2$  and  $k_l$  is the ratio of  $l_1$  to  $l_2$ .

When the topology and dimensions of BSACPA have been determined,  $k_m$ ,  $k_p$  and  $k_l$  are determined as well. Thus firstly we should determine the values of  $k_{Nr}$  and  $k_{Ns}$  with the more accurate four-phase equivalent circuit.

In Fig.7, the green curve with square symbol illustrates that when  $N_{2r}$  is a constant (100), the discharge current peaks at 22.435 kA when  $N_{1r}$  is 84. The other three lines shows that the discharge current is constant if  $k_{Nr}$  does not change. In addition, the discharge current does not change a lot when  $k_{Nr}$  is around 1. As a result, taking the practical craft into consideration, the value of  $k_{Nr}$  is taken to be 1, and the values of  $N_{1r}$  and  $N_{2r}$  are both 2 to increase the winding

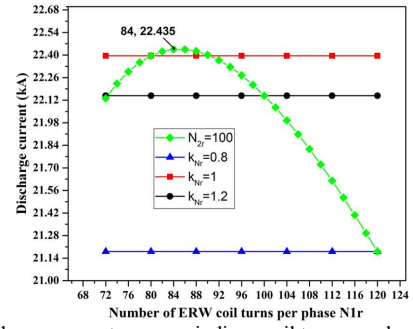


Fig. 7. Discharge current versus windings coil turns number of ERW.

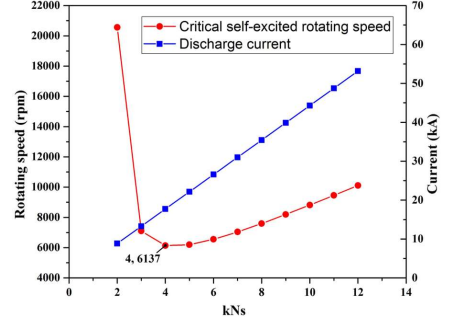


Fig.8. Discharge current and critical self-excited rotating speed versus  $k_{Ns}$ .

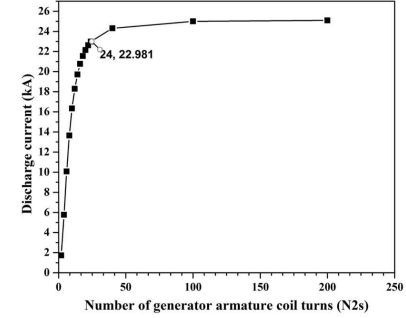


Fig.9. Discharge current versus  $N_{2s}$  when  $k_{Ns}$  is 5.

effective cross-section area.

In Fig. 8,  $N_{2s}$  equals to a constant of 20 and  $N_{1s}$  varies from 20 to 120. The blue curve with square symbol illustrates that the discharge current is proportional to  $k_{Ns}$ . The critical rotating speed reaches the minimum value (6137 r/min) when  $k_{Ns}$  is 4. When  $k_{Ns}$  is larger than 4, the critical self-excited rotating speed increases, which means that the self-excitation becomes more difficult. When the critical self-excited rotating speed becomes larger than the rated rotor rotating speed, the self-excitation fails and the machine cannot successfully work. Thus, the value of the discharge current and the critical self-excited rotating speed should be considered synthetically.

In terms of this prototype,  $k_{Ns}$  is determined to be 5. Once  $k_{Ns}$  is confirmed, the relationship between discharge current and  $N_{2s}$  is shown in Fig.9. From the picture, we can see that the amount of discharge current experiences a rise steadily first but then gradually levels off with the value of  $N_{2s}$  growing. It results from the internal resistance of the generator armature winding. As a result, the value of  $N_{2s}$  takes 24 and  $N_{1s}$  takes 120 correspondingly.

In addition, after the number of each winding coil turns is determined, the temperature rise should be taken into consideration and checked. Because BSACPA works in an instantaneous operation, the heat energy produced by the windings is difficult to transfer to the surrounding environment in such a short time (milliseconds level). Thus,

the Joule heat is assumed to be thoroughly used to increase the temperature of the conductor [10]. Ref. [13] gives a minimum cross-sectional area to limit the temperature rise of the windings, as shown in (34).

$$S_a = I \sqrt{\frac{\alpha \cdot \rho_0 \cdot t}{\rho_m \cdot c \cdot \ln\left(\frac{1 + \alpha \theta_k}{1 + \alpha \theta_0}\right)}} \quad (34)$$

where  $I$  is the rms of the winding current,  $t$  is the time current exists,  $\rho_0$  is the resistivity of the conductor at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\alpha$  is the temperature coefficient of winding conductor,  $\rho_m$  is the mass density of armature winding conductor,  $c$  is the heat capacity ratio of conductor,  $\theta_k$  is the winding temperature after discharge, and  $\theta_0$  is the winding initial temperature.

Finally, the performance and electrical parameters of BECPA are shown in Table II.

TABLE II

ANALYTICAL PERFORMANCE AND ELECTRICAL PARAMETERS OF BSACPA

Symbol	Value	Symbol	Value
$N_{1s}$	120	$N_{2s}$	24
$N_{1r}$	2	$N_{2r}$	2
$L_{1s}$	518.14 $\mu\text{H}$	$L_{2s}$	27.30 $\mu\text{H}$
$L_{1r}$	0.24 $\mu\text{H}$	$L_{2r}$	0.24 $\mu\text{H}$
$M_1$	7.91 $\mu\text{H}$	$M_2$	1.80 $\mu\text{H}$
$L_{1s\sigma}$	128.00 $\mu\text{H}$	$L_{2s\sigma}$	6.94 $\mu\text{H}$
$L_{1r\sigma}$	0.08 $\mu\text{H}$	$L_{2r\sigma}$	0.08 $\mu\text{H}$
$R_{1s}$	19.14 m $\Omega$	$R_{2s}$	2.30 m $\Omega$
$R_{1r}$	0.06 m $\Omega$	$R_{2r}$	0.06 m $\Omega$
$k_e$	11.31	$k_i$	7.54
$\omega_2$	8377.58 rad/s	$s$	0.50
$I_0$	10.00 kA	$I_{out}$	22.98 kA
$R_L$	10.00 m $\Omega$	$P_{out}$	5.28 MW

## V. FINITE-ELEMENT ANALYSIS

The above designs are verified by the 2D finite-element analysis in order to save time and resource. The corresponding simulation model of the BSACPA prototype is shown in Fig.10.

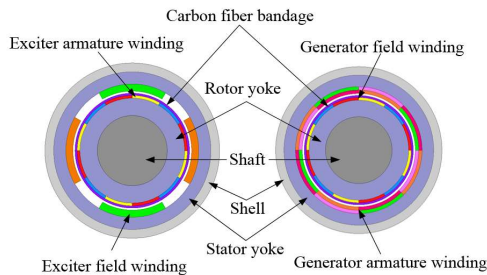


Fig. 10. Simulation model of BSACPA prototype.

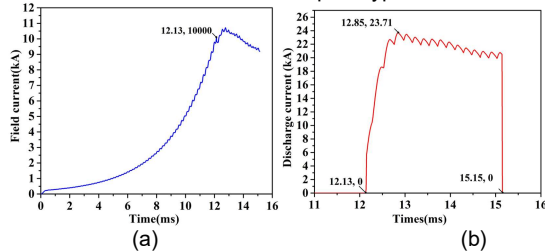


Fig. 11. Waveform of field and discharge current. (a) Exciter field current. (b) Discharge current.

In terms of the designed dimensional parameters, the field current and discharge current are shown in Fig.11. Fig.11 (a) shows the field current rises exponentially until the end of self-excitation at 12.13 ms. Fig.11 (b) illustrates the discharge current ascends in a very short time. The peaking current is

about 23.71 kA at 12.85 ms, which is only differed from the analytical value by 3% relative error. The peak power can reach about 5.6 MW accordingly.

In conclusion, the results of the simulations prove the validity of the design.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the structure of BSACPA is introduced and a set of dimensional parameters of a prototype are designed step by step. Then, a simplified mathematical model is presented. The analytical method of combining two equivalent circuits can be applied to other similar cascaded electrical machines. Besides, self-excited condition, the essential factor of successful self-excitation is obtained accordingly. Moreover, the determination of numbers of winding coil turns provides a complete process and solution to enhance the performance of BSACPA. Conclusively, this paper presents a detailed design process of a BSACPA prototype, which can also provide a guidance to other CPAs' design.

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