

# 23-Synchronous Generators

ECEGR 3500

Text: 12.5

Electrical Energy Systems

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# » Overview

- Excitation
- Induced frequency
- Induced EMF
- Equivalent Circuit
- Armature Reaction
- Power Relationship
- Approximate Power Relationship

# » Introduction

- AC machines (generators, motors) have similar stators
- Rotors are different
  - Induction
  - Synchronous

In AC generators, the emf is induced in a stationary coil. The term “armature” refers to the windings in which the emf is induced and current flows when connected to a load.

# » Introduction

## Advantages of armature windings in the stator:

- Larger coils can be used since they are located in the stator
- High power rated slip rings can be avoided
- Easier to cool stator than rotor
- Easier to construct the armature winding if it is in the stator
- Easier to electrically insulate the stator

# » Stator

- Houses armature windings
- Contains large gauge coils (low resistance)
- Conductors are symmetrically arranged to form a balanced poly-phase winding
- Induced emf can be in kV range
- Power ratings can be in MVA range



# → Armature Windings

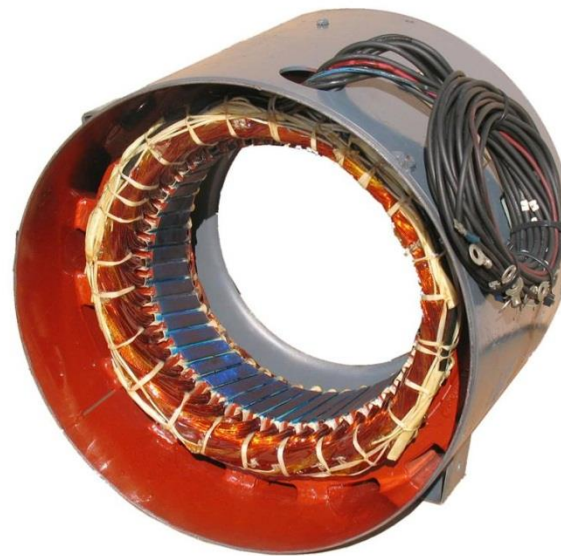
- Common for the armature (stator) windings to be three-phase
- Windings are identical, but displaced by  $120^\circ$  electrical
- Can be delta or wye connected (generators)
  - wye is common if higher voltage is needed
    - neutral point is grounded
- Windings are commonly double layer
  - Equal number of slots and windings

## » Salient vs Cylindrical

- Early machines used salient pole stators
  - Salient poles still used in rotors
- Modern machines use cylindrical stators

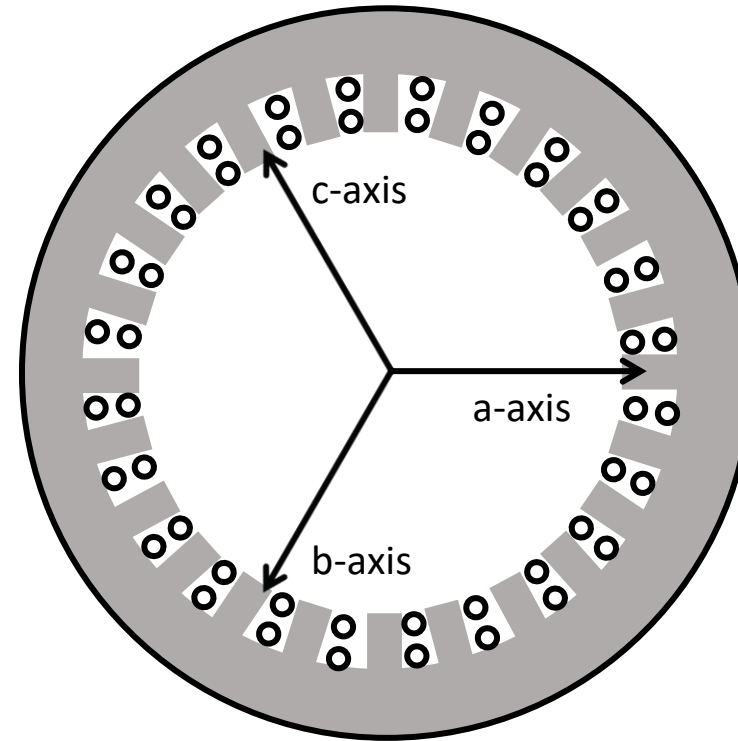
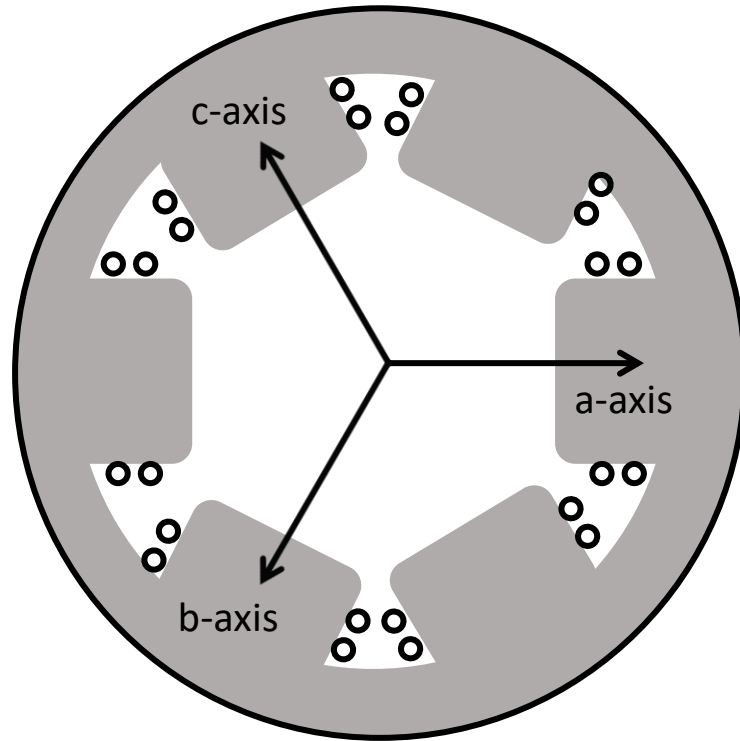


salient pole



cylindrical

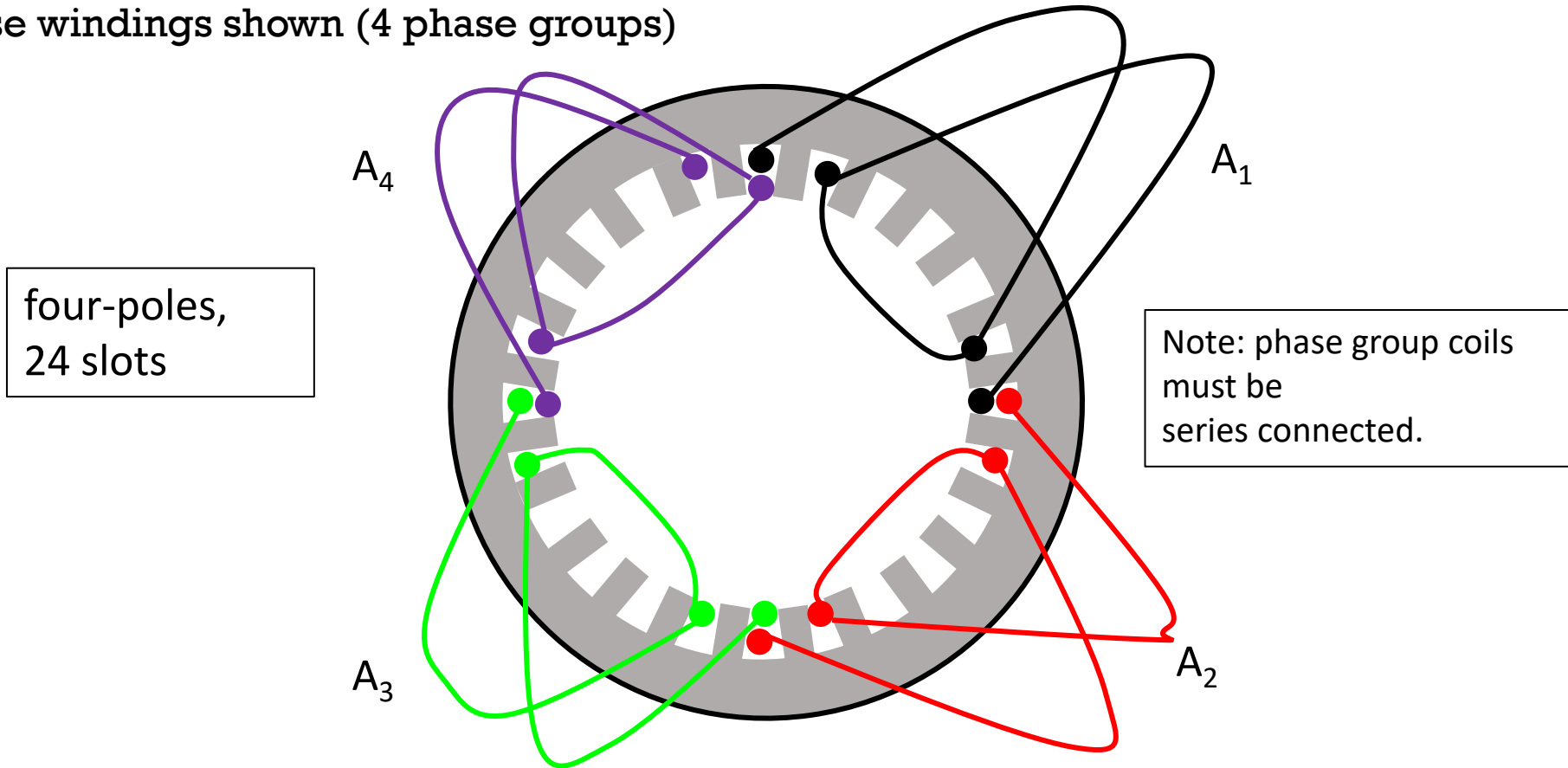
# Salient-Pole vs Cylindrical



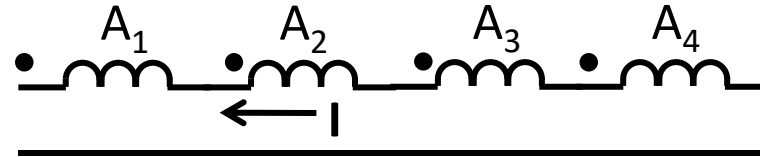


# Armature Windings

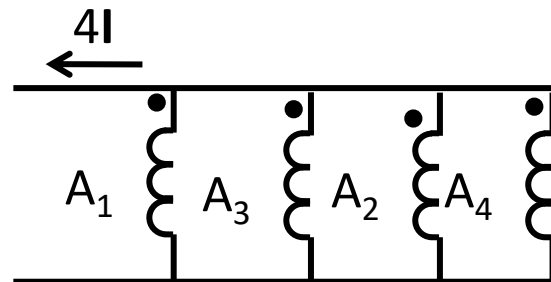
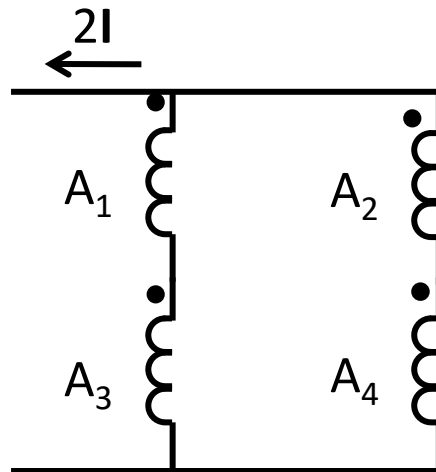
- Coils in each phase group are connected in series
- A-phase windings shown (4 phase groups)



# Winding Connections



low current, high voltage

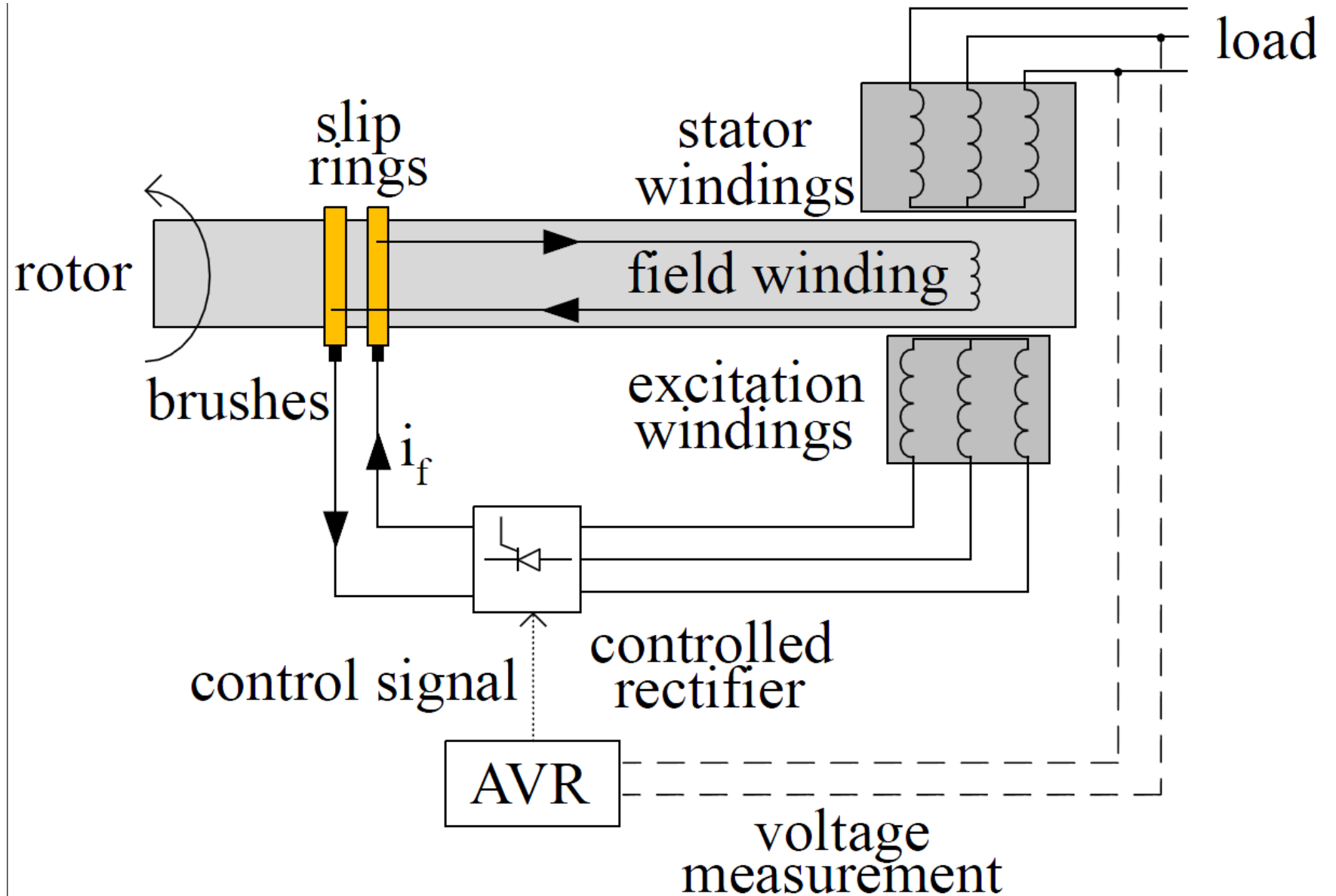


high current, low voltage

# Excitation

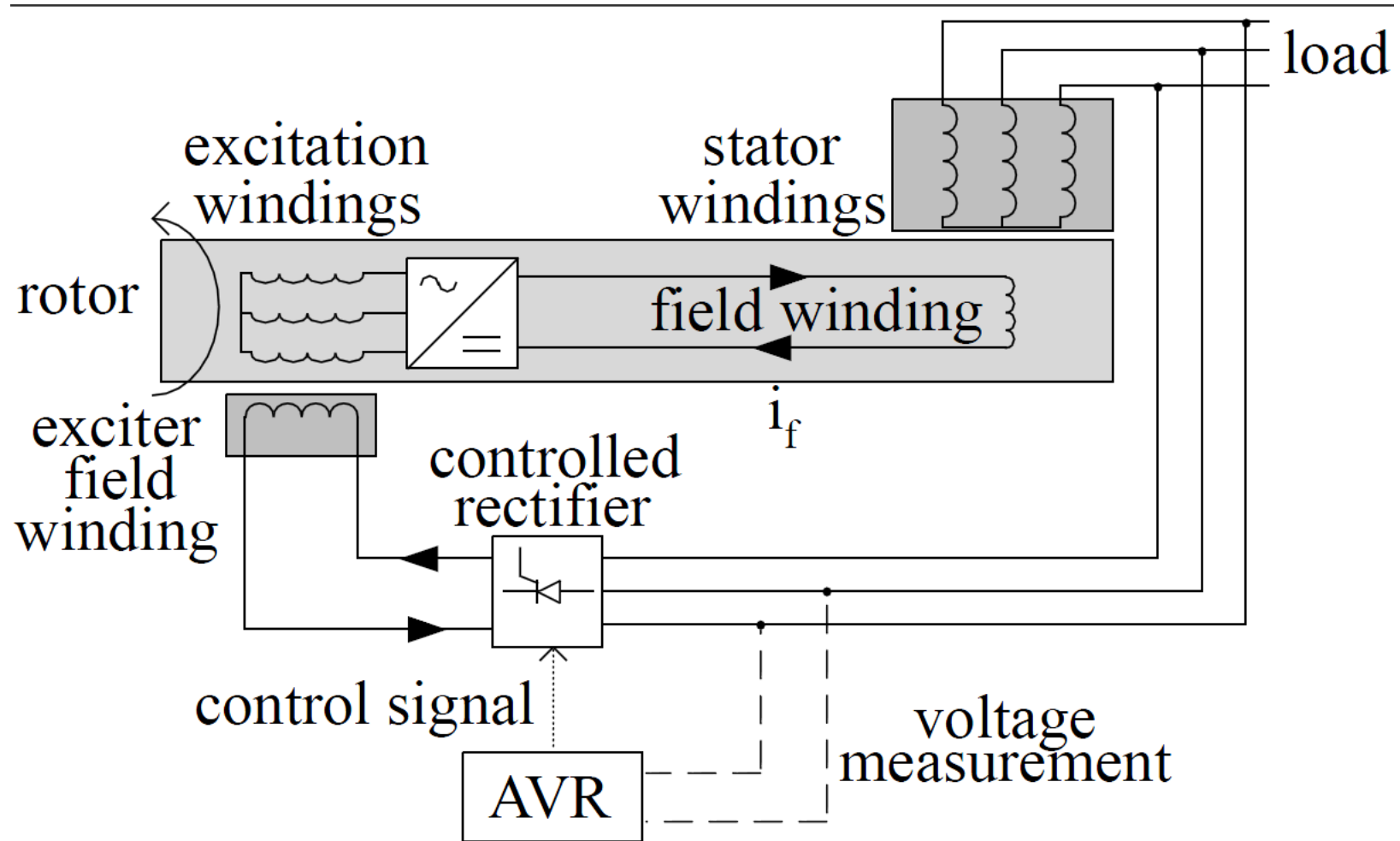
- Synchronous generators (motors) require revolving magnetic field
  - Permanent magnet
  - Field winding (dc)
- Exciter: supplies current to field winding ( $i_f$ )
  - DC generator
  - Brushless generator
  - Power rating: <3% of generator rating
- Field current is related to  $\phi_p$  by  $k_f$
- Automatic Voltage Regulator (AVR) controls the current to the field winding to maintain the desired terminal voltage

# Excitation



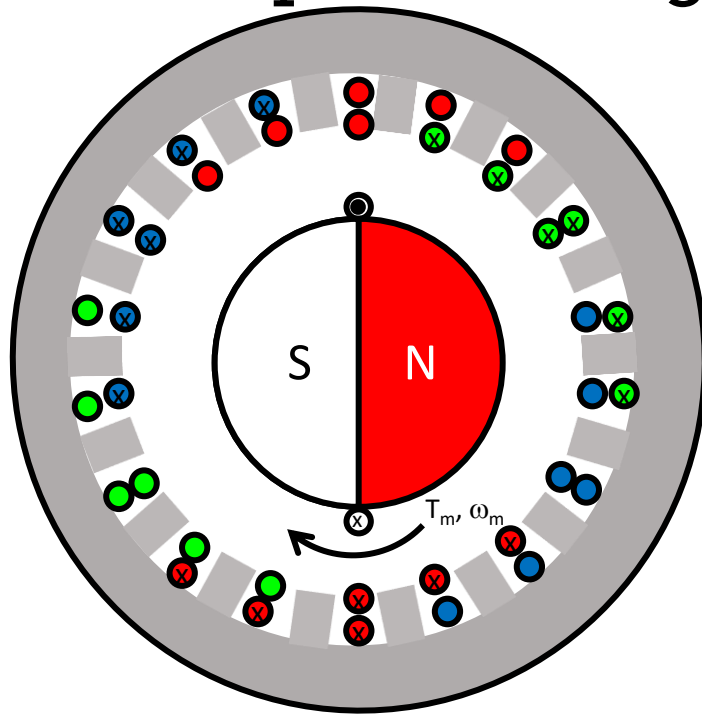
Voltage: 125 to 600VDC  
Automatically controlled  
(terminal voltage magnitude,  
reactive power)

# Brushless Excitation



# Induced Frequency

- 2-pole synchronous generator
- Balanced three-phase voltage induced



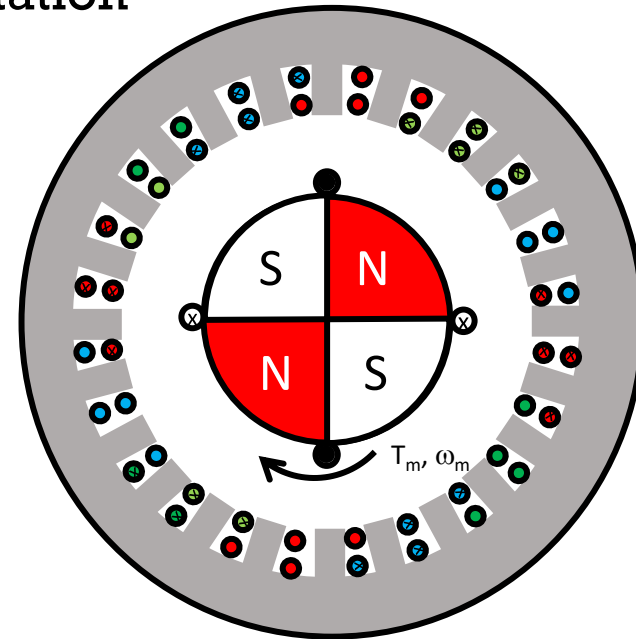
Two-pole machine:  
electrical frequency =  
mechanical frequency

# Induced Frequency

- 4-pole synchronous generator
- Each coil “sees” two Norths and two Souths per rotation
  - Two electrical sinewaves for each mechanical rotation

- In general:

$$f = \frac{f_m P}{2} = \frac{N_m P}{120}$$



## » Exercise

What is the fastest speed (in rpm) a generator shaft may rotate at and still produce 60Hz AC voltage?



## Exercise

What is the fastest speed (in rpm) a generator shaft may rotate at and still produce 60Hz AC voltage?

$$f = \frac{f_m P}{2} = \frac{P}{4\pi} \omega_m$$

$$60 = \frac{P}{4\pi} \omega_m$$

$$\frac{60 \times 4\pi}{2} = \omega_m$$

$$\omega_m = 377 \text{ rad/s} = 60\text{Hz} = 3600 \text{ rpm}$$

Prime mover shaft may rotate at higher speeds if a gearbox couples it to generator shaft

## → Induced EMF

- We next examine the induced emf in a synchronous generator
- Flux linking a single stator coil ( $\phi_c$ ):  $\phi_c = \phi_p k_p \cos(\omega t)$
- Induced voltage in coil with  $N_c$  turns:  $e_c = N_c \phi_p \omega k_p \sin(\omega t)$
- Maximum induced voltage:  $E_m = N_c \phi_p \omega k_p$

$k_p$ : “pitch factor”. A scalar value ( $<1$ ) accounting for the span of the coil (1 for full pitch)  
 $\Phi_p$ : flux per pole (Wb)

## → Induced EMF

- RMS value of the induced emf:

$$E_m = N_c \phi_p \omega k_p$$

$$|E_c| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} E_m = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} 2\pi f N_c k_p \phi_p = 4.44 f N_c k_p \phi_p$$

- Induced voltage in a phase group, accounting for the number of coils in series, pitch factor and the distribution factor, is:

$$|E_{pg}| = n k_d E_c = 4.44 n N_c k_p k_d f \phi_p$$

$$|E_{pg}| = 4.44 n N_c k_w f \phi_p$$

$$k_w \triangleq k_p k_d \text{ (winding factor)}$$

$k_d$ : “distribution factor”. A scalar value ( $<1$ ) accounting for any overlap of the coils of the same phase (1 if the coils are in the same slot)

## → Induced EMF

- If a generator has “a” parallel paths and P poles, then the emf per phase is:

$$|\mathbf{E}_a| = \frac{P}{a} 4.44 n N_c k_w f \phi_p$$

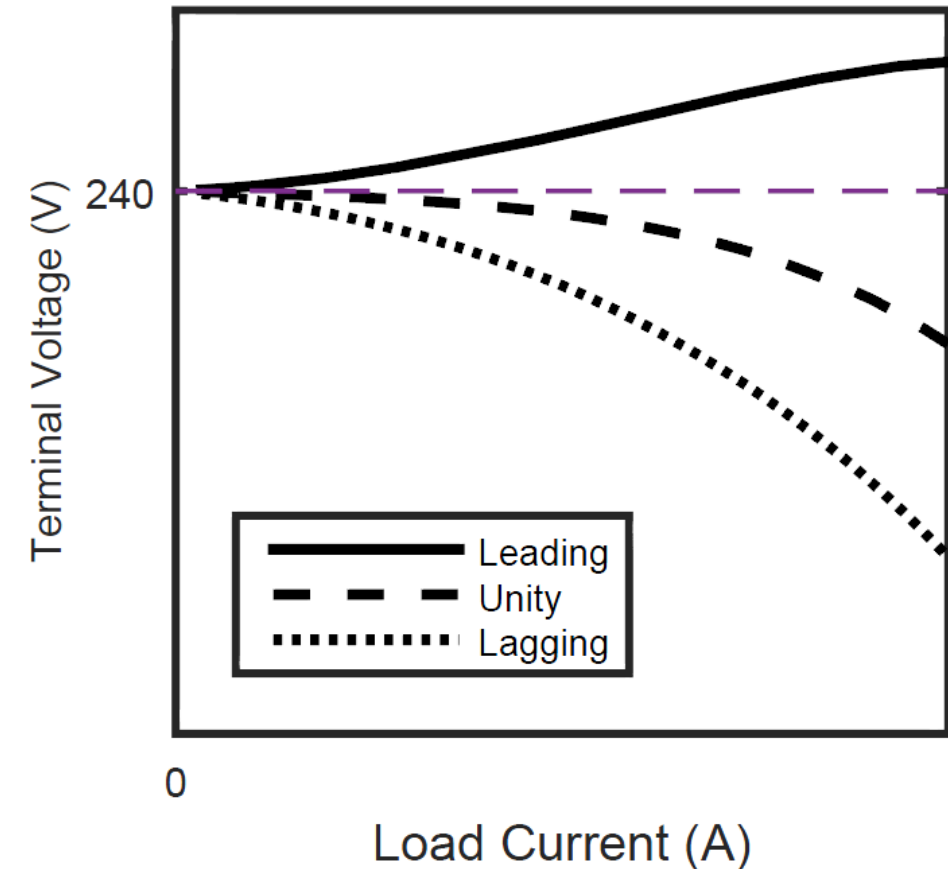
$$N_e \triangleq \frac{P n N_c k_w}{a}$$

- $N_e$ : effective turns per phase

- We can then write:  $|\mathbf{E}_a| = 4.44 N_e f \phi_p$

## → Equivalent Circuit

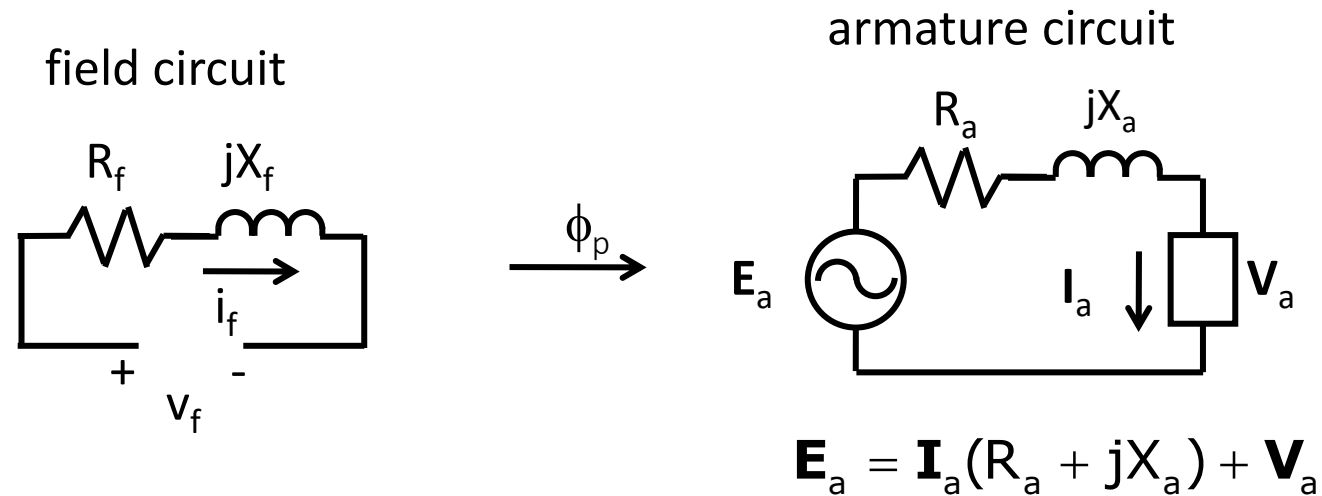
- Generator terminal voltage ( $V_a$ ) of a synchronous generator depends upon the load
  - Terminal voltage may be greater or lesser than induced emf
  - Will usually be higher when the power factor is leading
  - Assumes generator is not grid-connected
- Terminal voltage is affected by:
  - Armature resistance voltage drop
  - Armature leakage reactance voltage drop
  - Armature reaction



# Equivalent Circuit

## ■ Equivalent circuit

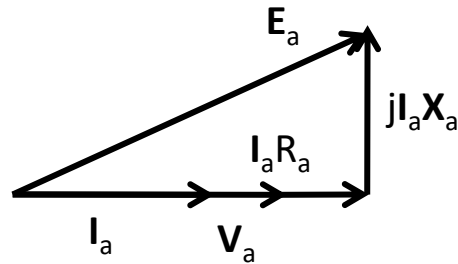
- $R_a$ : per-phase armature resistance (Ohm)
- $X_a$ : armature leakage reactance (Ohm)



# Equivalent Circuit

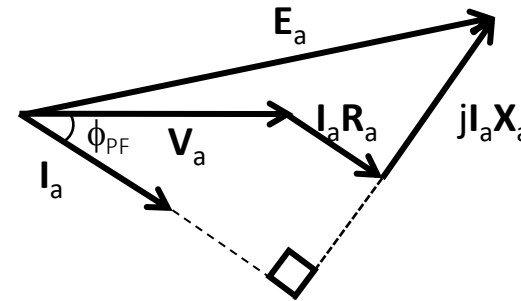
## Phasor diagrams (compare magnitude of $\mathbf{E}_a$ , $\mathbf{V}_a$ )

$$\mathbf{E}_a = \mathbf{I}_a(R_a + jX_a) + \mathbf{V}_a$$



Unity power factor

$\mathbf{V}_a$ : reference  
 $\mathbf{I}_a$ : in phase  $\mathbf{V}_a$  (unity PF)  
 $\mathbf{I}_a R_a$ : in phase with  $\mathbf{I}_a$   
 $j\mathbf{I}_a X_a$ : 90° out of phase from  $\mathbf{I}_a$   
 $\mathbf{E}_a > \mathbf{V}_a$

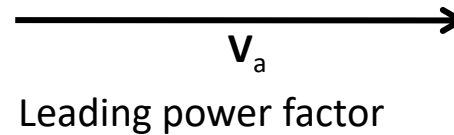


Lagging power factor

$\mathbf{V}_a$ : reference  
 $\mathbf{I}_a$ : lags  $\mathbf{V}_a$  (by  $\phi_{PF}$ )  
 $\mathbf{I}_a R_a$ : in phase with  $\mathbf{I}_a$   
 $j\mathbf{I}_a X_a$ : 90° out of phase from  $\mathbf{I}_a$   
 $\mathbf{E}_a > \mathbf{V}_a$

## » Exercise

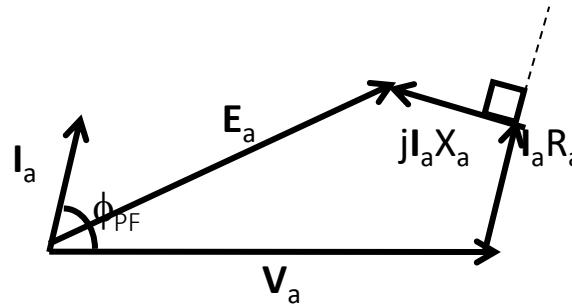
Draw the phasor diagram for a synchronous generator with a leading PF





## Exercise

Draw the equivalent circuit for a leading PF



Leading power factor

$V_a$ : reference  
 $I_a$ : leads  $V_a$  (by  $\phi_{PF}$ )  
 $I_a R_a$ : in phase with  $I_a$   
 $jI_a X_a$ :  $90^\circ$  out of phase from  $I_a$   
 $E_a < V_a$

$$\mathbf{E}_a = \mathbf{I}_a(R_a + jX_a) + \mathbf{V}_a$$

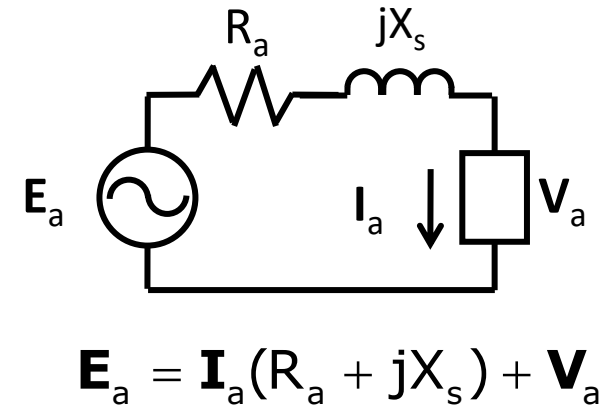
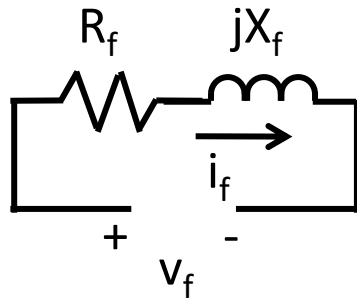
Possible for induced voltage  
to be greater than terminal voltage

# → Armature Reaction

- Flux in the armature is from two sources:
  - field winding
  - armature current (when connected to a load)
- Fluxes interact with each other
- Resulting distortion can have a profound effect on the operation of the machine

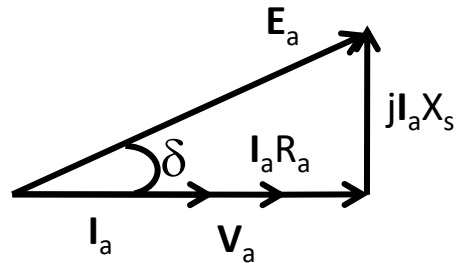
## Equivalent Circuit

- Model armature reaction by the “synchronous reactance”
  - $X_s$  : accounts for leakage reactance and armature reaction

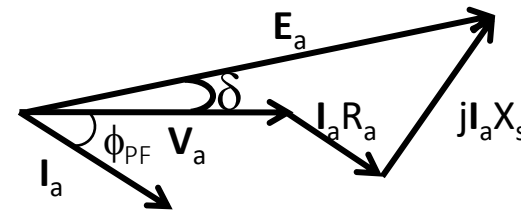


# Equivalent Circuit

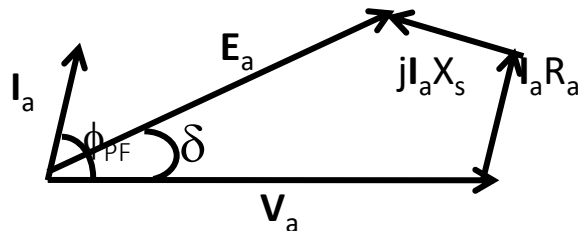
- Phasor diagrams of new per-phase circuit
  - $\delta$ : angle between  $\mathbf{E}_a$  and  $\mathbf{V}_a$  (induced voltage and terminal voltage), known as the *power angle* or *torque angle*



Unity power factor



Lagging power factor

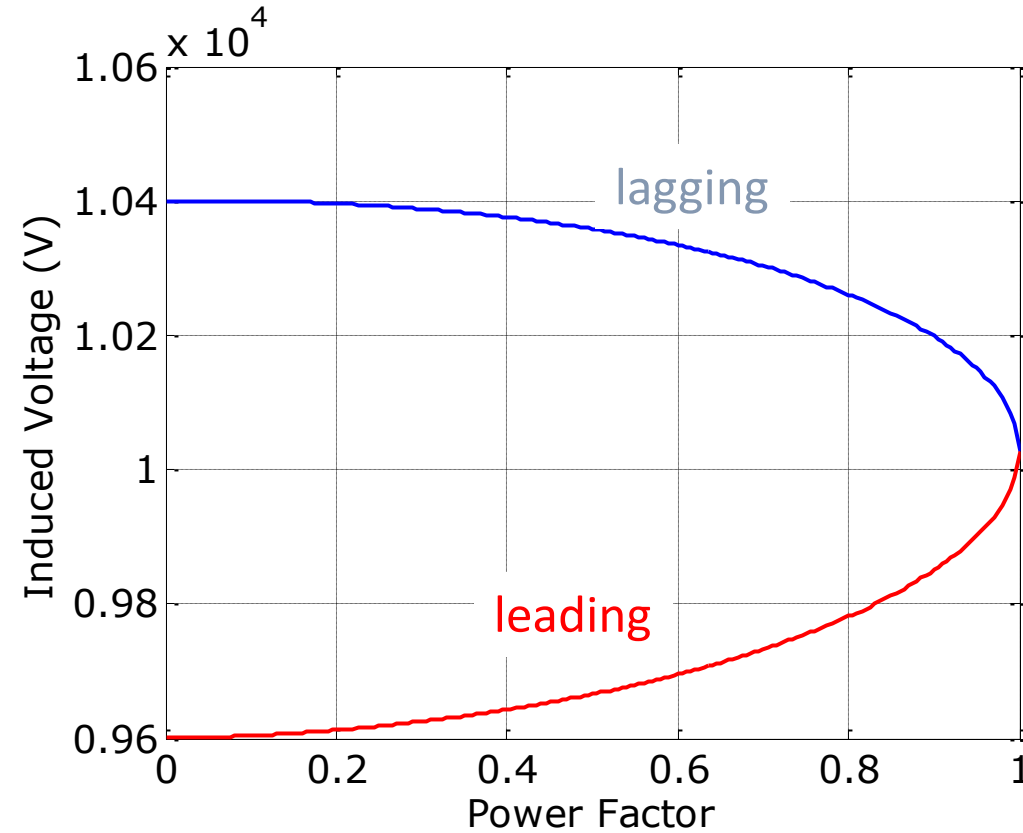


Leading power factor

$\delta$  is measured from  $\mathbf{V}_a$  to  $\mathbf{E}_a$   
 $\delta$  is positive for generators

# Equivalent Circuit

$E_a$  as a function of power factor.  
Terminal voltage ( $V_a$ ) held constant at 10kV.



## » Example

A synchronous generator has a per-phase synchronous impedance of  $0.2 + j4\Omega$ . The generator supplies a per-phase load current of 100A at a lagging power factor of 0.866 lagging. The per-phase terminal voltage is 10kV.

Compute the per-phase induced voltage.

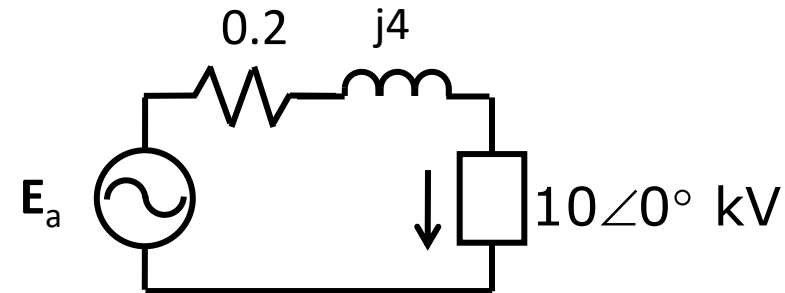
Compute the power angle.

## Example

- Per phase armature current:  $\mathbf{I}_a = 100 \angle -30^\circ \text{ A}$

- Solving the circuit:  $\mathbf{E}_a = 10.2 \angle 1.8^\circ \text{ kV}$

- Power angle: 1.8 degrees



$$\mathbf{E}_a = \mathbf{I}_a(R_a + jX_s) + \mathbf{V}_a$$

# » Voltage Regulation

- The voltage regulation of a synchronous generator is:

$$VR = \frac{|\mathbf{E}_a| - |\mathbf{V}_a|}{|\mathbf{V}_a|} \times 100$$

- $\mathbf{E}_a$ : induced emf, also the no-load terminal voltage
- $\mathbf{V}_a$ : terminal voltage at full load (V)



# → Power Relationships

- Mechanical power supplied to the shaft of a synchronous generator by the prime mover
  - steam turbine
  - combustion turbine
  - dc motor
  - others

# Power Relationships

- Mechanical power in:

$$P_{in,m} = T_s \omega_s$$

- $T_s$ : shaft torque (Nm)
- $\omega_s$ : shaft speed (rad/s)

- Total power in:  $P_{in} = T_s \omega_s + V_f I_f$

- Electrical power out:  $P_o = 3 | \mathbf{V}_a || \mathbf{I}_a | \cos \phi_{PF} = 3 \text{Re}\{ \mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{I}_a^* \}$

- Copper losses:  $P_{cu} = 3 | \mathbf{I}_a |^2 R_a$

## Power Relationships

- Power output:  $P_o = 3 | \mathbf{V}_a | | \mathbf{I}_a | \cos \phi_{PF} = 3 \operatorname{Re} \{ \mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{I}_a^* \}$ 
  - Requires knowledge (usually computation) of armature current
- Desired to have an equivalent expression of generator power output without having to compute armature current

# Power Expressions

- From the equivalent circuit:

$$\mathbf{I}_a = \frac{\mathbf{E}_a - \mathbf{V}_a}{R_a + jX_s} = \frac{\mathbf{E}_a - \mathbf{V}_a}{\mathbf{Z}_s}$$

- Power output:

$$P_o = 3\text{Re}\{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{I}_a^*\} = 3\text{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* - |\mathbf{V}_a|^2}{\mathbf{Z}_s^*}\right\}$$

$$= 3\text{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* \mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 \mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\} = 3\text{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* \mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} - j \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 X_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\}$$

- Above expansion uses:  $\mathbf{Z}_s = |\mathbf{Z}_s| \angle \theta_z$

$$\mathbf{Z}_s^* = |\mathbf{Z}_s| \angle -\theta_z$$

Recall that dividing by a phasor means dividing by the magnitude and subtracting the angle

$$\frac{1}{\mathbf{Z}_s^*} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{Z}_s^*} \frac{\mathbf{Z}_s}{\mathbf{Z}_s} = \frac{|\mathbf{Z}_s| \angle -\theta_z}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2 \angle -2\theta_z} = \frac{|\mathbf{Z}_s| \angle \theta_z}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} = \frac{\mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}$$

# Power Expressions

Continuing:

$$\begin{aligned} P_o &= 3\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* \mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} - j \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 X_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\} \\ &= 3\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* \mathbf{Z}_s}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} \\ &= 3\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{E}_a^* (R_a + jX_s)}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\} - \frac{|\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} \\ &= 3\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{|\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| (\cos \delta - j \sin \delta) (R_a + jX_s)}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}\right\} - \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} \\ &= \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a|}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} (R_a \cos \delta + X_s \sin \delta) - \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$\mathbf{E}_a = |\mathbf{E}_a| \angle \delta$$

$$\mathbf{V}_a = |\mathbf{V}_a| \angle 0^\circ = |\mathbf{V}_a|$$

Important result

# Power Relationships

- Power balance equation:

$$P_{in} = T_s \omega_s + i_f v_f = 3 | \mathbf{V}_a || \mathbf{I}_a | \cos \phi_{PF} + 3 | \mathbf{I}_a |^2 R_a + i_f v_f + P_r + P_{sl}$$

- $P_r$ : rotational losses (W)
- $P_{sl}$ : stray load losses (W)

- Constant losses grouped as:  $P_c = i_f v_f + P_r + P_{sl}$

## → Power Relationship

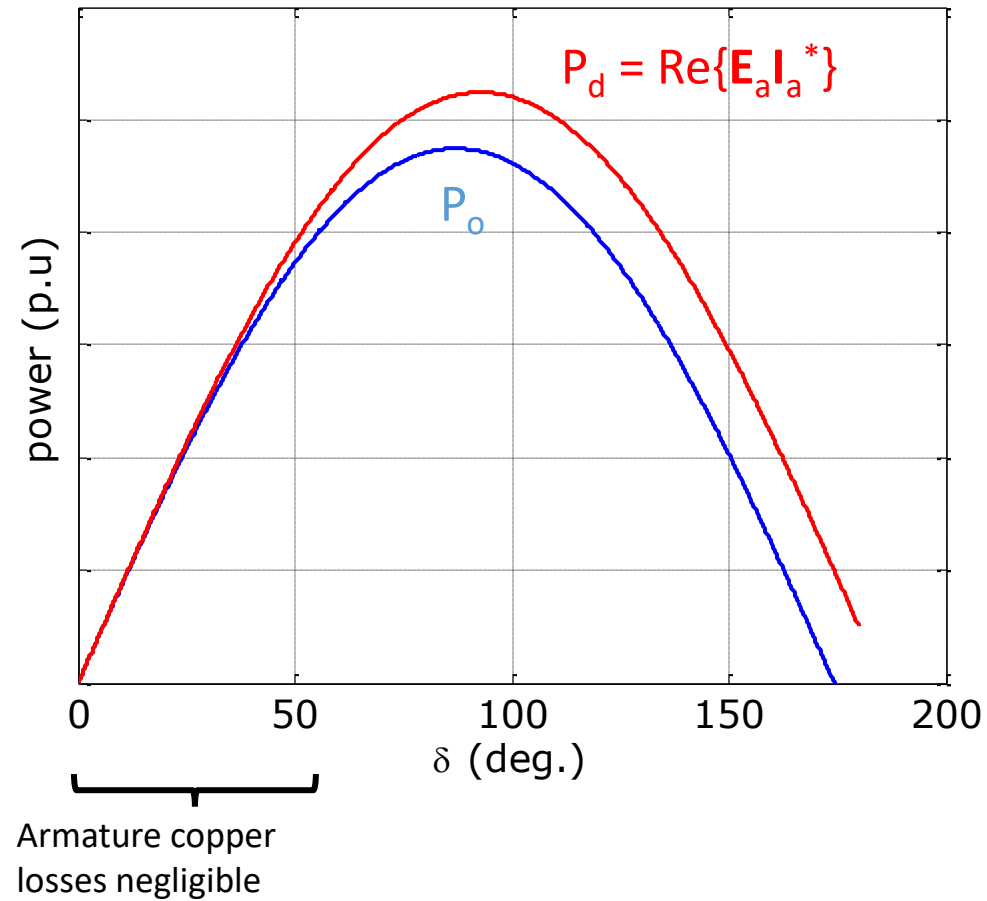
- Generator efficiency:

$$\eta = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF}}{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} + 3 |\mathbf{I}_a|^2 R_a + P_c}$$

- For maximum efficiency:

$$3 |\mathbf{I}_a|^2 R_a = P_c$$

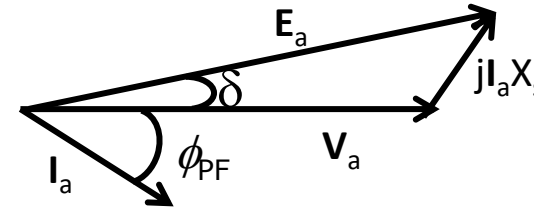
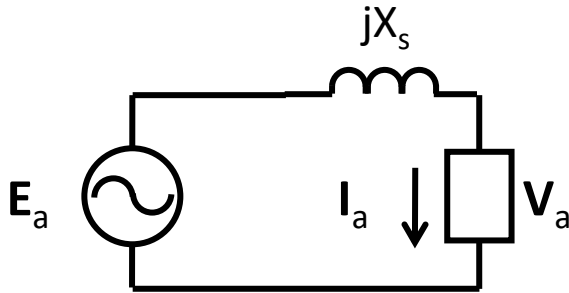
# Power Relationship





## Approximate Power Relationship

- Armature resistance is small
- Common to ignore it

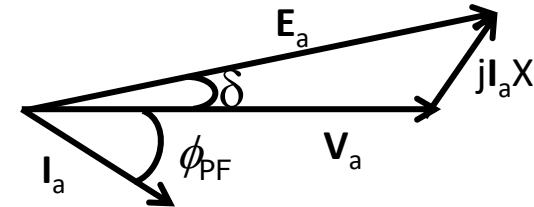


Example lagging PF load

# Approximate Power Relationship

Computing the real power output:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_a &= |\mathbf{E}_a| \angle \delta = |\mathbf{E}_a| \cos \delta + j |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta \\ \mathbf{I}_a &= |\mathbf{I}_a| \angle -\phi_{PF} = |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} - j |\mathbf{I}_a| \sin \phi_{PF} \\ \mathbf{V}_a &= |\mathbf{V}_a| \angle 0 = |\mathbf{V}_a| + j0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Euler's Identity}$$



Example lagging PF load

$$\mathbf{V}_a = \mathbf{E}_a - j\mathbf{I}_a X_s$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I}_a &= \frac{\mathbf{E}_a - \mathbf{V}_a}{jX_s} = \frac{|\mathbf{E}_a| \cos \delta - |\mathbf{V}_a|}{jX_s} + \frac{j|\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta - 0}{jX_s} \\ &= \frac{|\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s} - j \frac{|\mathbf{E}_a| \cos \delta - |\mathbf{V}_a|}{X_s} \end{aligned}$$

$$|\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} = \frac{|\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s} \quad (\text{equating real parts})$$

$$P_o = 3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s} \quad \boxed{\text{Important result}}$$

# » Approximate Power Relationship

- Synchronous generator power output (approximate)

$$P_o = 3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s}$$

- Assumes:
  - Armature resistance is zero
  - Constant speed
  - Constant field current
  - Cylindrical rotor

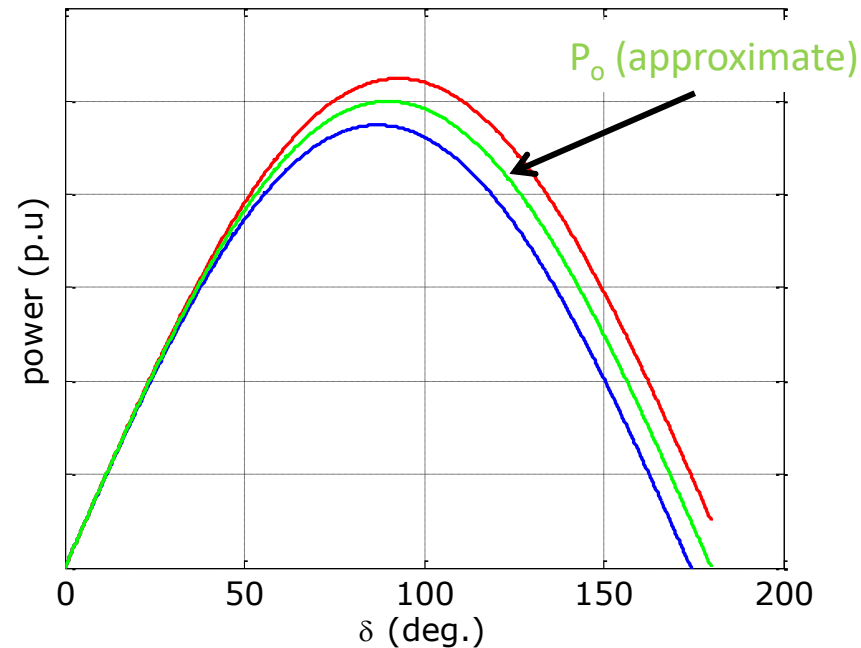
# ➤ Approximate Power Relationship

- Power-angle relationship:

$$P_o = \frac{3 |V_a| |E_a| \sin \delta}{X_s}$$

- Maximum power:

$$P_{dm} = \frac{3 |V_a| |E_a|}{X_s}$$



## → Power Relationship

- Torque developed (approximate):

$$T_d = \frac{P_d}{\omega_s} = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{\omega_s X_s}$$

- Maximum torque (approximate):

$$T_{dm} = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a|}{X_s \omega_s}$$

- Maximum power and torque occur at  $\delta = 90^\circ$

## » Example

A 2-pole synchronous generator has a per-phase terminal voltage of 7.5 kV, a per-phase induced voltage of 7.9 kV and a synchronous reactance of  $1\Omega$ . If the power angle is 15 degrees, compute the total real power delivered to the load. Assume the rotational losses are 1MW.

## » Example

A 2-pole synchronous generator has a per-phase terminal voltage of 7.5 kV, a per-phase induced voltage of 7.9 kV and a synchronous reactance of  $1\Omega$ . If the power angle is 15 degrees, compute the total real power delivered to the load. Assume the rotational losses are 1MW.

$$P_o = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s} = 46\text{MW}$$

Rotational losses are not electric, so we do not need to subtract them.

# Power Expressions

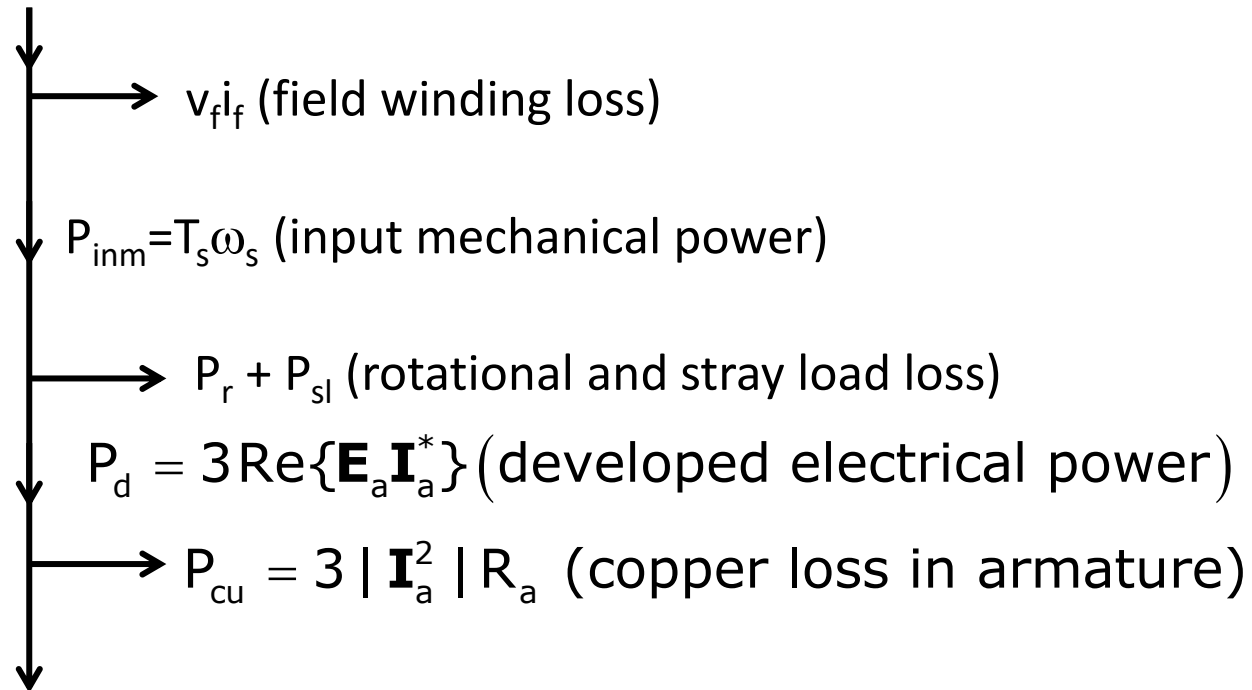
Several different forms of round-rotor power output:

$$\begin{aligned} P_o &= 3 | \mathbf{V}_a | | \mathbf{I}_a | \cos \phi_{PF} \\ &= 3 \operatorname{Re} \{ \mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{I}_a^* \} \\ &= \frac{3 | \mathbf{E}_a | | \mathbf{V}_a |}{| \mathbf{Z}_s |^2} (R_a \cos \delta + X_s \sin \delta) - \frac{3 | \mathbf{V}_a |^2 R_a}{| \mathbf{Z}_s |^2} \\ P_o &= \frac{3 | \mathbf{V}_a | | \mathbf{E}_a | \sin \delta}{X_s} \quad (\text{valid only if } R_a \text{ can be ignored}) \end{aligned}$$



# Power Relationship Summary

$$P_{in} = T_s \omega_s + v_f i_f \text{ (total input power)}$$



$$P_o = 3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} = 3 \text{Re}\{\mathbf{V}_a \mathbf{I}_a^*\} \text{ (output electrical power)}$$

$$= \frac{3 |\mathbf{E}_a| |\mathbf{V}_a|}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2} (R_a \cos \delta + X_s \sin \delta) - \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a|^2 R_a}{|\mathbf{Z}_s|^2}$$

# Power Relationship Example

Let:

$$v_f = 400V$$

$$i_f = 250A$$

$$P_r + P_{sl} = 2MW$$

$$Z_s = 0.2 + j4\Omega$$

$$\delta = 30^\circ$$

$$V_a = 10kV$$

$$|E_a| = 11kV$$

$$P_{in} = T_s \omega_s + v_f i_f = 44.21MW$$



$$V_f i_f = 0.1MW$$

$$P_{inm} = T_s \omega_s = 44.11MW$$

$$P_r + P_{sl} = 2MW$$

$$P_d = 3 \operatorname{Re}\{E_a I_a^*\} = 42.11MW$$

$$P_{cu} = 3 |I_a|^2 R_a = 1.14MW$$

$$P_o = \frac{3 |E_a| |V_a|}{|Z_s|^2} (R_a \cos \delta + X_s \sin \delta) - \frac{3 |V_a|^2 R_a}{|Z_s|^2} = 40.97MW$$

## Summary

- Exciters are used to supply DC current to the rotor of synchronous generators
- Frequency of induced voltage increases with the number of poles for a fixed mechanical speed
- Leakage reactance and armature reaction can be combined into  $X_s$ , the synchronous reactance
- Approximate power delivered by a synchronous generator is:

$$P_o = 3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{I}_a| \cos \phi_{PF} = \frac{3 |\mathbf{V}_a| |\mathbf{E}_a| \sin \delta}{X_s}$$