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*The Inductance Analysis of the Trapezoidally Railed Linear Synchronous Motor  
as Compared to the Zig-Zag Version for Maglev Applications*, S.M. Al-Kasimi  
and A.O. BaQubas, Umm-Ul-Qura Univ., Saudi Arabia . . . . . 1447

**THE INDUCTANCE ANALYSIS OF THE TRAPIZOIDALLY RAILED LINEAR  
SYNCHRONOUS MOTOR AS COMPARED TO THE ZIG-ZAG  
VERSION FOR MAGLEV APPLICATIONS**

Dr. Salman M. Al-Kasimi & Eng. A. O. BaQubas

Electrical and Computer Engineering Department,  
Umm-Ul-Qura University, Saudi Arabia  
Correspondance Address: P.O.Box: 6112, Makkah-Saudi Arabia

**Abstract:** *The trapizoidally railed linear synchronous motor provides a combined lift and thrust for maglev vehicles. Its magnet is U-shaped with split poles surrounded by inverter-fed coils distorting field among the four. Modified from Zig-Zag, its rail is trapizoidal and will propel to minimize reluctance. This paper obtains in theory the inductances of the new version compared to the old one for inverter design.*

**INTRODUCTION**

The Zig-Zag Linear Synchronous Motor, ZZLSM, providing a combined lift and thrust for maglev vehicles is shown in Fig1a. A maglev vehicle is a vehicle that is supported by magnetic attraction between a pair of iron tracks and controlled electromagnets fixed to its chassis. These are called boggies, one of which is shown in Fig1b. The main poles of ZZLSM are excited by field current through dc coils. Each of the main poles is split into two sub-poles that are surrounded by ac coils. McLean[1,2] and West[1,3] have chosen a rail shape shown in Fig.2a. Hence, with the ac coils around sub-poles excited such that the field is forced through sub-poles 1&3, the rail will move assuming constant air gap,  $z$ , to link sub-poles 1&3. When field is forced through sub-poles 2&4, the rail will move again to link sub-poles 2&4. As the switching of sub-pole coil-excitations synchronizes to rail position, a continuous motion is obtained. The ZZLSM is unable, due to symmetry, to start motion when the rail completely links sub-poles 1&3 or sub-poles 2&4 at a stop. This may be avoidable by another ZZLSM pair phased quarter of a cycle away.

Now for the same magnet, Al-Kasimi[4,5] and BaQubas[4] noted that if a trapizoidally shaped rail like the one shown in Fig.2b is used, then the ac coils around sub-poles can be excited to force field through sub-poles 1&3. Hence, the rail will move assuming constant air gap,  $z$ , to link sub-poles 1&3. The field is then forced through sub-poles 2&3. Hence, pulling the rail to link sub-poles 2&3. Forced through sub-poles 2&4, the field then pulls the rail to link sub-poles 2&4. Finally, when the field is forced into sub-poles 1&4, the rail will move to link them both. This completes one cycle and as excitations of sub-pole ac coils are synchronized to rail position, a continuous motion is obtained.

This Trapizoidally Railed Linear Synchronous Motor, TRLSM, is noted to have no symmetry position throughout its cycle. Hence, no need for a starter exists. Another feature is that the switching frequency is half that of the ZZLSM for same speed, since the rail cycle length of the TRLSM is twice that of the ZZLSM.

**NOTATIONS**

The symbols used in this paper are listed below:

- A sub-pole surface area
- $A_i, A'_i$  overlap area of sub-pole  $i$  in TRLSM, ZZLSM respectively
- $i_X, i'_X$  current flowing in phase X ac coils of TRLSM and ZZLSM respectively
- $I_D, I'_D$  field current flowing in TRLSM, ZZLSM dc coils
- $\lambda_n, \lambda'_n$  flux linkage of ac coil around sub-pole  $n$  in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $\lambda_{pX}, \lambda'_{pX}$  peak flux linkage per ac coil in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $\lambda_{Xn}, \lambda'_{Xn}$  flux linkage of phase X coils in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $L_X, L'_X$  self inductance of phase X coils in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $\mu_0$  permeability of air
- $m, m'$  peak mmf excitation per phase per sub-pole in both TRLSM and ZZLSM respectively
- $m_j, m'_j$  resultant mmf excitations around sub-pole  $j$  in both TRLSM and ZZLSM respectively
- $m_{Xj}, m'_{Xj}$  ac mmf of phase X armature winding per sub-pole in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $M_{AZ}$  mutual inductance of phase A coils due to current  $I_D$  in ZZLSM
- $M_D, M'_D$  net dc mmf excitation of field winding per pole in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $M_X$  mutual inductance of phase X coils due to current  $i_X$  in TRLSM
- $N$  number of turns of ac coil around any sub-pole
- $N_D$  number of turns of dc coil around any pole
- $\omega$  angular frequency of ac supply in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $\phi_i$  TRLSM flux due to  $m_i$ , which leaves sub-pole  $i$
- $\phi_j$  TRLSM flux due to  $m_j$ , which leaves sub-pole  $j$  (to sub-pole  $j$ )
- $\phi_{Xj}, \phi'_{Xj}$  flux due to all sub-polar mmfs that leaves sub-pole  $k$  in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $p$  pole pitch
- $\delta, \delta'$  phase angles of ac excitations in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $t$  time starting zero when rail completely links sub-poles 1&3
- $T, T'$  time period to complete one cycle in TRLSM, ZZLSM
- $u$  speed of rail relative to magnet
- $z$  energized air gap

**ASSUMPTIONS**

For simplicity, the following assumptions were made in the analysis to come.

1. All sub-poles have the same surface area,  $A$ .
2. AC coils around sub-poles are identical.
3. Width of slot in the main poles is negligible.
4. Fringing and leakage are negligible.
5. Steel and copper losses are negligible.
6. Air gap,  $z$ , is homogeneous over the sub-poles.
7. The energized air-gap faces equal areas both at rail surface above it and at magnet pole surface below it throughout motion. This is justified in view of assumption 3 above.
8. The energized area per pole is composed of two portions. Each portion belongs to one of the two adjacent sub-poles within the main pole and is assumed to vary sinusoidally between zero and  $A$ .
9. Speed of motor relative to track,  $u$ , is constant.
10. Field mmf excitations are constants.
11. Flux linkage for any ac coil varies sinusoidally between a minimum of zero when its sub-pole is fully uncoupled to rail and a maximum when its sub-pole is fully coupled to rail.
12. AC coils are fed with sinusoidal ac current phase-locked to rail.
13. Windage, friction and other drag forces are ignored.

### THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF TRLSM INDUCTANCES

#### Coil Connections for TRLSM

When the rail of TRLSM moves in the direction indicated in Fig.2b, flux linkages of ac coils will assume linear segments and can be approximated to sinusoidal variation as shown in Fig.3a. Note that  $\lambda_1$  &  $\lambda_2$  vary in-phase with each another and that  $\lambda_3$  &  $\lambda_4$  also vary in-phase with each another but in quadrature lag with  $\lambda_1$  &  $\lambda_2$  variations. The period of these variations is given by:

$$T = 4p/u,$$

with angular frequency,  $\omega$ , given by:

$$\omega = \pi u/2p. \quad (2)$$

Hence, to obtain maximum variation in flux linkage per phase, the ac coils are connected as shown in Fig.4a. Note that phase A leads B by a quarter of a cycle, and that the dc coils are connected so as to build constructive flux components.

#### Magnetic Sub-polar Excitations for TRLSM

Each of the sub-poles, in Fig.4a could be considered excited with two components:

1. dc due to the field current  $I_D$  flowing in the dc coil of  $N_D$  turns, thus giving a dc excitation magnitude of:

$$M_D = N_D I_D, \quad (3)$$

and:

2. ac due to the armature phase currents  $i_A$  or  $i_B$  flowing in the ac coil of  $N$  turns, thus giving an ac excitation magnitude of:

$$m_A(t) = N i_A(t) = m \cos(\omega t + \theta), \quad (4)$$

or:

$$m_B(t) = N i_B(t) = m \sin(\omega t + \theta). \quad (5)$$

Using Fig.4a and denoting  $m_1, m_2, m_3$  and  $m_4$  to be the resultant mmf excitations around sub-poles 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively, with positive sense when forcing flux to leave the sub-pole, then:

$$m_1(t) = -M_D - m_A(t), \quad (6)$$

$$m_2(t) = -M_D + m_A(t), \quad (7)$$

$$m_3(t) = M_D + m_B(t) \& \quad (8)$$

$$m_4(t) = M_D - m_B(t). \quad (9)$$

#### Energized Sub-polar Areas for TRLSM

With  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  and  $A_4$  defined as above; then these areas vary trapezoidally as shown in Fig.3a during the rail motion indicated in Fig.2b. Note that the sum of any two adjacent areas is constant and equals  $A$ .

For simplicity, these trapezoidal variations are assumed sinusoids between a maximum of  $A$  and a minimum of zero as shown by the dotted lines in Fig.3a. The equations describing these approximations are:

$$A_1(t) = (A/2) [1 + \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)], \quad (10)$$

$$A_2(t) = (A/2) [1 - \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)], \quad (11)$$

$$A_3(t) = (A/2) [1 + \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)] \& \quad (12)$$

$$A_4(t) = (A/2) [1 - \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)]. \quad (13)$$

#### Magnetic Sub-polar Fluxes for TRLSM

Let  $\phi_{ij}$  be the flux due to  $m_i$  that leaves sub-pole  $i$  to sub-pole  $j$ . Hence, each of  $m_1, m_2, m_3$  and  $m_4$  mmfs is driving an associated magnetic circuit similar to that shown in Fig.5. Hence, using the equations above for  $A_i$ , then:

$$\phi_{ii}(t) = \mu_0 A_i m_i (2A - A_i)/2Az \& \quad (14)$$

$$\phi_{ij}(t) = \mu_0 A_i m_j A_j/2Az. \quad (15)$$

Hence, applying superposition theorem to find the flux  $\phi_1(t)$  leaving sub-pole 1 due to all mmfs of  $m_1, m_2, m_3$  and  $m_4$ ; then:

$$\phi_1(t) = \phi_{11} - \phi_{21} - \phi_{31} - \phi_{41}.$$

Using (14) & (15) for  $\phi_{11}, \phi_{21}, \phi_{31}$  &  $\phi_{41}$  respectively and rearranging, then:

$$\phi_1(t) = \mu_0 A_1 [A_2(m_1 - m_2) + A_3(m_1 - m_2) + A_4(m_1 - m_4)]/2Az.$$

Using (6), (7), (8) & (9) for  $m_1, m_2, m_3$  &  $m_4$  and rearranging then:

$$\phi_1(t) = -\mu_0 A_1 [2M_D(A_2 + A_4) + m_A(2A_2 + A_2 + A_4) + m_B(A_2 - A_4)]/2Az.$$

Using (11), (12) & (13) for  $A_2, A_3$  &  $A_4$  and simplifying, then:

$$\phi_1(t) = -\mu_0 A_1 [2M_D + m_A \{2 - \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)\} + m_B \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)]/2z. \quad (16)$$

Similarly;  $\phi_2, \phi_3$  &  $\phi_4$  can be found to be:

$$\phi_2(t) = -\mu_0 A_2 [2M_D - m_A \{2 + \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)\} + m_B \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)]/2z, \quad (17)$$

$$\phi_3(t) = \mu_0 A_3 [2M_D + m_B \{2 - \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)\} + m_A \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)]/2z \& \quad (18)$$

$$\phi_4(t) = \mu_0 A_4 [2M_D - m_B \{2 + \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)\} + m_A \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)]/2z. \quad (19)$$

### Magnetic Flux Linkages for TRLSM

Now, the flux linkage  $\lambda_A$  of phase A can be seen from Fig.4a to be:

$$\lambda_A = N(\phi_2 - \phi_1).$$

Using (16) & (17) for  $\phi_1$  &  $\phi_2$  and simplifying, then:

$$\lambda_A(t) = -\mu_0 N [2(A_2 - A_1)M_D - m_A \{2(A_2 + A_1) + (A_2 - A_1) \cos(\omega t + \pi/4) + (A_2 - A_1) m_B \cos(\omega t - \pi/4)\} / 2z].$$

Using (10) & (11) for  $A_1$  &  $A_2$  and simplifying, then:

$$\lambda_A(t) = -\mu_0 AN \{-2M_D \cos(\omega t + \pi/4) - m_A \{2 - \cos^2(\omega t + \pi/4) - m_B \cos(\omega t - \pi/4) \cos(\omega t + \pi/4)\} / 2z}.$$

This is simplified further to give:

$$\lambda_A(t) = \mu_0 AN \{4M_D \cos(\omega t + \pi/4) + m_A \{3 + \sin(2\omega t)\} + m_B \cos(2\omega t)\} / 4z. \quad (20)$$

Similarly, the flux linkage  $\lambda_B$  of phase B can be found as:

$$\lambda_B(t) = \mu_0 AN \{4M_D \cos(\omega t - \pi/4) + m_B \{3 - \sin(2\omega t)\} + m_A \cos(2\omega t)\} / 4z. \quad (21)$$

### Self and Mutual Inductances for TRLSM

With inductance  $L_A$ ,  $L_B$ ,  $M_{AB}$ ,  $M_{BA}$ ,  $M_{AD}$  &  $M_{BD}$  as defined earlier and using (20), (21), (3), (4) & (5), then:  $L_A$  is the flux linkage of phase A coils due to unit current in phase A coils and is given as:

$$L_A = \mu_0 AN^2 \{3 + \sin(2\omega t)\} / 4z. \quad (22)$$

$L_B$  is the flux linkage of phase B coils due to unit current in phase B coils and is given as:

$$L_B = \mu_0 AN^2 \{3 - \sin(2\omega t)\} / 4z. \quad (23)$$

$M_{AB}$  is the flux linkage of phase A coils due to unit current in phase B coils and is given as:

$$M_{AB} = \mu_0 AN^2 \cos(2\omega t) / 4z. \quad (24)$$

$M_{BA}$  is the flux linkage of phase B coils due to unit current in phase A coils and is given as:

$$M_{BA} = \mu_0 AN^2 \cos(2\omega t) / 4z = M_{AB}. \quad (25)$$

$M_{AD}$  is the flux linkage of phase A coils due to unit field current and is given as:

$$M_{AD} = \mu_0 AN N_D \cos(\omega t + \pi/4) / z. \quad (26)$$

$M_{BD}$  is the flux linkage of phase B coils due to unit field current and is given as:

$$M_{BD} = \mu_0 AN N_D \cos(\omega t - \pi/4) / z. \quad (27)$$

## REVIEW ANALYSIS OF ZZLSM INDUCTANCES

### Coil Connections for ZZLSM

When the rail of ZZLSM moves in the direction indicated in Fig.2a, flux linkages of ac coils will assume linear segments and can be approximated to sinusoidal variation as shown in Fig.3b. The period of these variations is given by:

$$T' = 2p/u, \quad (28)$$

with angular frequency,  $\omega'$ , given by:

$$\omega' = \pi u/p. \quad (29)$$

Hence, to obtain maximum variation in flux linkage per phase, the ac coils are connected as shown in Fig.4b.

### Magnetic Sub-polar Excitations for ZZLSM

With treatment similar to that of TRLSM, then the sub-polar excitations in Fig.4b could be given as:

$$m'_1(t) = -m'_3(t) = -M'_D - m'_A(t), \quad (30)$$

$$m'_2(t) = -m'_4(t) = -M'_D + m'_A(t), \quad (31)$$

where  $M'_D$  &  $m'_A(t)$  are given by:

$$M'_D = N_D I'_D / z, \quad (32)$$

$$m'_A(t) = N i'_A(t) = m' \cos(\omega' t + \theta'). \quad (33)$$

### Energized Sub-polar Areas for ZZLSM

The ZZLSM sub-polar areas vary triangularly as shown in Fig.3b during the rail motion indicated in Fig.2a. These variations are assumed sinusoids with equations given by:

$$A'_1(t) = A'_3(t) = (A/2) [1 + \cos(\omega' t)] / z, \quad (34)$$

$$A'_2(t) = A'_4(t) = (A/2) [1 - \cos(\omega' t)] / z. \quad (35)$$

### Magnetic Sub-polar Fluxes for ZZLSM

With similar treatment to that of TRLSM, then these fluxes are given by:

$$\phi'_1(t) = -\phi'_3(t) = -\mu_0 A'_1 (M'_D + m'_A) / z, \quad (36)$$

$$\phi'_2(t) = -\phi'_4(t) = -\mu_0 A'_2 (M'_D - m'_A) / z. \quad (37)$$

### Magnetic Flux Linkages for ZZLSM

Now, the flux linkage  $\lambda'_A$  of phase A can be seen from Fig.4b to be:

$$\lambda'_A = N(\phi'_2 - \phi'_1 + \phi'_3 - \phi'_4).$$

Using (36) & (37) for  $\phi'_1$  &  $\phi'_2$  and simplifying, then:

$$\lambda'_A(t) = 2\mu_0 N [(A'_1 - A'_2)M'_D + (A'_1 + A'_2)m'_A] / z.$$

Using (34) & (35) for  $A'_1$  &  $A'_2$  and simplifying, then:

$$\lambda'_A(t) = 2\mu_0 AN [M'_D \cos(\omega t) + m'_A] / z. \quad (38)$$

### Self and Mutual Inductances for ZZLSM

With inductance  $L'_A$ ,  $M'_{AD}$  as defined earlier and using (38), (32) & (33), then:  $L'_A$  is the flux linkage of phase A coils due to unit current in phase A coils and is given as:

$$L'_A = 2\mu_0 AN^2 / z. \quad (39)$$

$M'_{AD}$  is the flux linkage of phase A coils due to unit field current and is given as:

$$M'_{AD} = 2\mu_0 AN N_D \cos(\omega t) / z. \quad (40)$$

## CONCLUSION

The Zig-Zag Linear Synchronous Motor, ZZLSM, is a single phase linear machine that needs a starter; whereas the Trapezoidally Railed Linear Synchronous Motor, TRLSM, is

a two-phase self-starting linear machine. Operating both machines with same linear speed. TRLSM is advantageous over ZZLSM in that it is operating at half the switching frequency.

The self inductance of ZZLSM is constant, whereas that of TRLSM per phase varies sinusoidally at twice the synchronous frequency between one half and one quarter of the value for ZZLSM self inductance.

The mutual inductances in both machines due to field vary sinusoidally at the synchronous frequency with ZZLSM peaking at twice the peak of TRLSM.

Finally, the mutual inductances in TRLSM due to other-phase current vary sinusoidally at twice the synchronous frequency, peaking at half the minimum value (or equally quarter the maximum value) of the self inductance.

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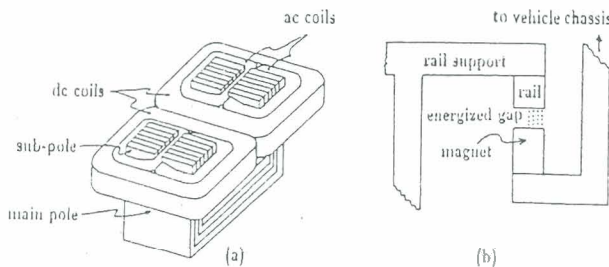


Fig 1 (a) ZZLSM magnet and (b) vehicle boggie

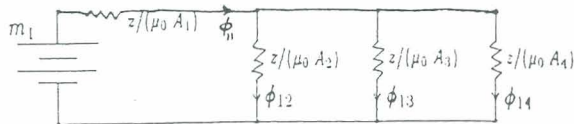


Fig 5 The magnetic circuit driven by  $m_1$  around sub-pole 1

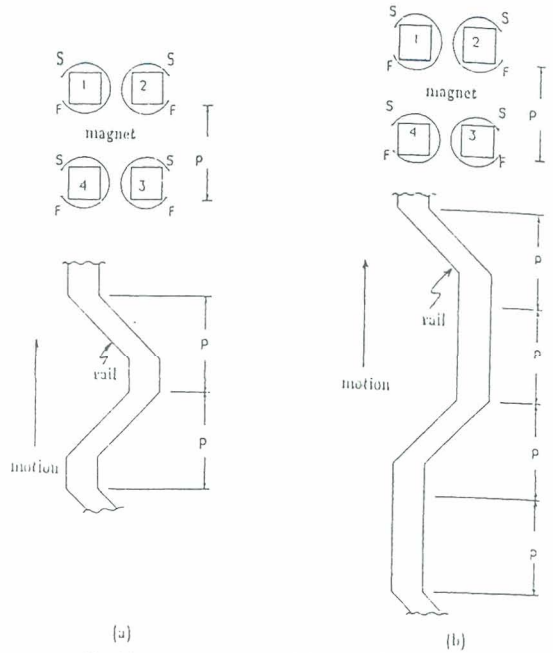


Fig 2 Magnet and rail of (a) ZZLSM and (b) TRLSM

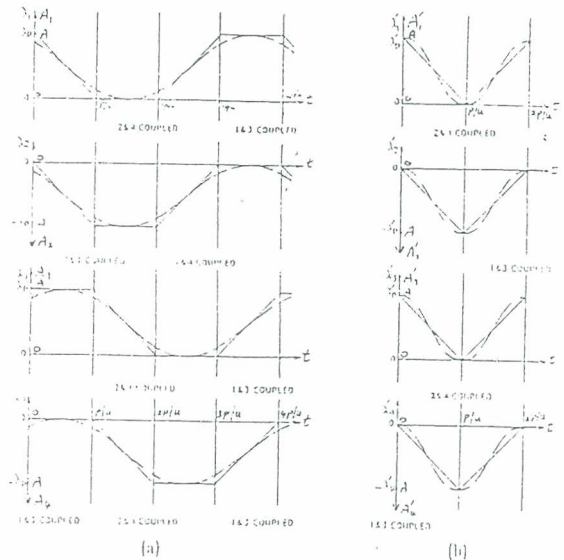


Fig 3 Sub-polar flux-linkages and areas for (a) TRLSM and (b) ZZLSM

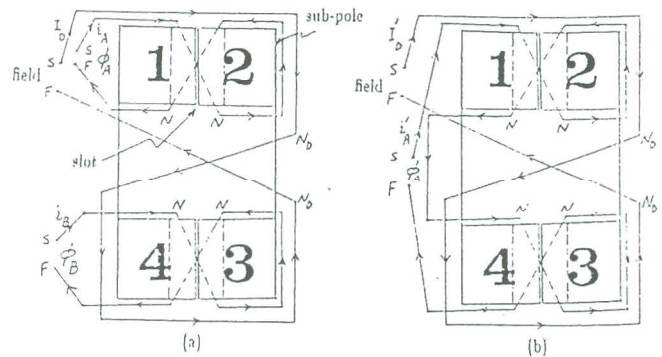


Fig 4 Coil connections for (a) TRLSM and (b) ZZLSM