- The single-phase induction machine is the most frequently used motor for refrigerators, washing machines, clocks, drills, compressors, pumps, and so forth.
- The single-phase motor stator has a laminated iron core with two windings arranged perpendicularly.
  - One is the main and
  - The other is the auxiliary winding or *starting winding*



- This "single-phase" motors are truly twophase machines.
- The motor uses a squirrel cage rotor, which has a laminated iron core with slots.
- Aluminum bars are molded on the slots and short-circuited at both ends with a ring.



Figure 42 Single-phase induction motor.



Figure 10 Squirrel cage rotor

## **Operating principle**

- The single-phase induction motor operation can be described by two methods:
  - Double revolving field theory; and
  - Cross-field theory.
- Double revolving theory is perhaps the easier of the two explanations to understand
- Learn the double revolving theory only

#### **Double revolving field theory**

- A single-phase ac current supplies the main winding that produces a pulsating magnetic field.
- Mathematically, the pulsating field could be divided into two fields, which are rotating in opposite directions.
- The interaction between the fields and the current induced in the rotor bars generates opposing torque

- The interaction between the fields and the current induced in the rotor bars generates opposing torque.
- Under these conditions, with only the main field energized the motor will not start
- However, if an external torque moves the motor in any direction, the motor will begin to rotate.



Figure 43 Single-phase motor main winding generates two rotating fields, which oppose and counter-balance one another.

#### **Double revolving field theory**

- The pulsating filed is divided a forward and reverse rotating field
- Motor is started in the direction of forward rotating field this generates small (5%) positive slip

$$s_{pos} = (n_{sy} - n_m) / n_{sy}$$

• Reverse rotating field generates a larger (1.95%) negative slip

 $s_{neg} = (n_{sy} + n_m) / n_{sy}$ 

#### **Double revolving field theory**

• The three-phase induction motor starting torque inversely depends on the slip

$$T_{m\_start}(s) := \frac{3 \cdot \left( \left| I_{rot\_t}(s) \right| \right)^2 \cdot \frac{R_{rot\_t}}{s}}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot n_{sy}}$$

- This implies that a small positive slip (0.01–0.03) generates larger torque than a larger negative slip (1.95–1.99)
- This torque difference drives the motor continues to rotate in a forward direction without any external torque.

#### **Double revolving field theory**

- Each of the rotating fields induces a voltage in the rotor, which drives current and produces torque.
- An equivalent circuit, similar to the equivalent circuit of a three phase motor, can represent each field
- The parameters of the two circuits are the same with the exception of the slip.

#### **Double revolving field theory**

- The two equivalent circuits are connected in series.
- Figure 44 shows the equivalent circuit of a singlephase motor in running condition.
- The current, power and torque can be calculated from the combined equivalent circuit using the Ohm Law
- The calculations are demonstrated on a numerical example



Figure 44 Equivalent circuit of a single-phase motor in running condition.

#### The results of the calculations are:

– Input power:

$$\mathbf{S}_{in} = \mathbf{V}_{sta} \mathbf{I}_{sta}^*$$

– Developed or output power:

$$P_{dev} = \left| \mathbf{I}_{pos} \right|^{2} \frac{R_{rot}}{2} \frac{1 - s_{pos}}{s_{pos}} + \left| \mathbf{I}_{neg} \right|^{2} \frac{R_{rot}}{2} \frac{1 - s_{neg}}{s_{neg}}$$



Figure 47 Single-phase motor mechanical output power and electrically developed power versus speed.

# Starting torque

- The single-phase motor starting torque is zero because of the pulsating single-phase magnetic flux.
- The starting of the motor requires the generation of a rotating magnetic flux similar to the rotating flux in a three-phase motor.
- Two perpendicular coils that have currents 90° outof-phase can generate the necessary rotating magnetic fields which start the motor.
- Therefore, single-phase motors are built with two perpendicular windings.

- The phase shift is achieved by connecting
  - a resistance,
  - an inductance, or
  - a capacitance

#### in series with the starting winding.

• Most frequently used is a capacitor to generate the starting torque.

- Figure 50 shows the connection diagram of a motor using a capacitor to generate the starting torque.
- When the motor reaches the operating speed, a centrifugal switch turns off the starting winding.



Figure 50 Single-phase motor connection.

- The centrifugal switch is necessary because most motors use a cheap electrolytic capacitor that can only carry ac current for a short period.
- A properly selected capacitor produces around 90° phase shift and large starting torque.



Figure 50 Single-phase motor connection.





Figure 51 Torque–speed characteristic of a small singlephase induction motor.

- A less effective but more economical method using shaded pole motors
- The motor has two salient poles excited by ac current.
- Each pole includes a small portion that has a shortcircuited winding. This part of the pole is called the shaded pole.
- The main winding produces a pulsating flux that links with the squirrel cage rotor.
- This flux induces a voltage in the shorted winding.

- The induced voltage produces a current in the shorted winding.
- This current generates a flux that opposes the main flux in the shaded pole (the part of the pole that carries the shorted winding).
- The result is that the flux in the unshaded and shaded parts of the pole will be unequal.
- Both the amplitude and the phase angle will be different.

- These two fluxes generate an unbalanced rotating field. The field amplitude changes as it rotates.
- Nevertheless this rotating field produces a torque, which starts the motor in the direction of the shaded pole.
- The starting torque is small but sufficient for fans and other household equipment requiring small starting torque.
- The motor efficiency is poor but it is cheap

- The motor has two salient poles excited by ac current.
- Each pole includes a small portion that has a short-circuited winding.
- This part of the pole is called the shaded pole



Figure 52 Concept of single-phase shaded pole motor.



Figure 53 Shaded pole motor for household fan.