

Equation based model for losses in electric machines

A compact algebraic model for electric machine losses
for applications in vehicle simulation and optimal control of vehicle speed

Lars Eriksson, Professor
Vehicular Systems, Dept. of Electrical Engineering
Linköping University
Presentation @ ModProd 2025 Workshop

Paper Submitted to IFAC Advances in Automotive Control 2025, Eindhoven, The
Netherlands

ModProd – February 4, 2025

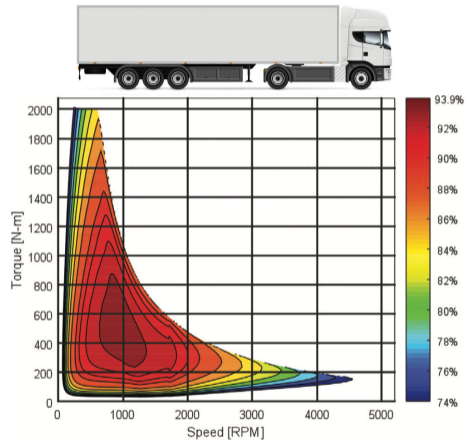
- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

The purpose and use

- Energy optimal control of vehicle propulsion
- Describe and adhere to machine constraints
- Software have algorithmic differentiation
- Utilize algebraic models for efficient optimization
- Energy consumption models that are algebraic

The problem and goal

- Detailed motor data not always available
- Efficiency (or loss) maps are often available
- Only **speed** and **torque** information available
- Develop an **algebraic efficiency model** suitable for efficient numerical optimal control



From data sheet: HVH410-15



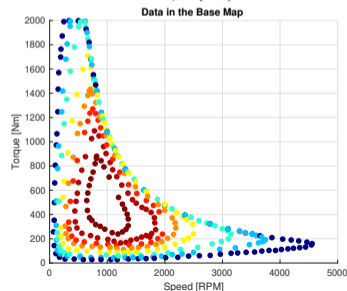
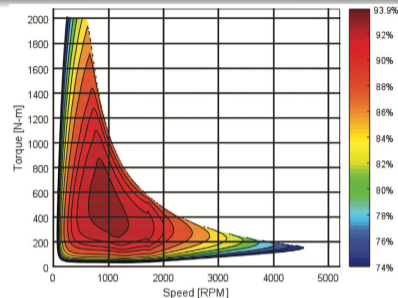
- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process**
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

Development Procedure

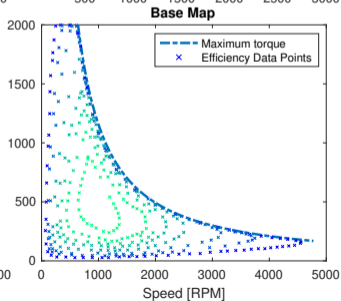
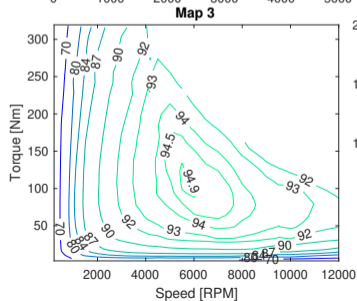
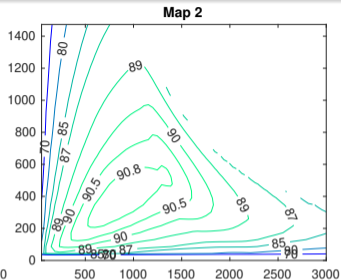
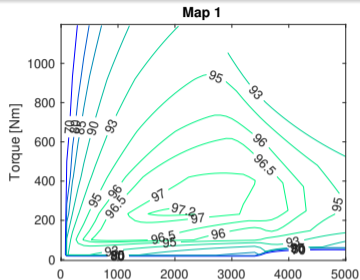
- Model the machine losses
- Digitized efficiency lines of an available map
 - Data and points in the data digitized
- Study the behavior of the losses
- Identify behavior of losses
- Describe each term with equations
- Compile the model
- Develop fitting process

Goal – A model structure that generalizes

- Validate model structure and process on other maps containing new data



Four Example Maps - One Base Map



Four maps

Varying shapes of iso-efficiency lines

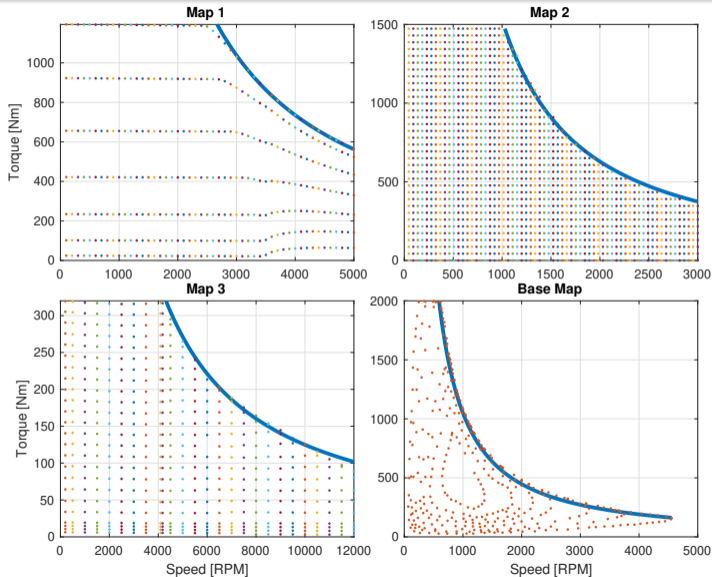
- East–West
- South West–North East
- South East–North West
- North–South

–Can the model capture these?



- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements**
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

Machine Data – Compute Losses from the Efficiency Maps

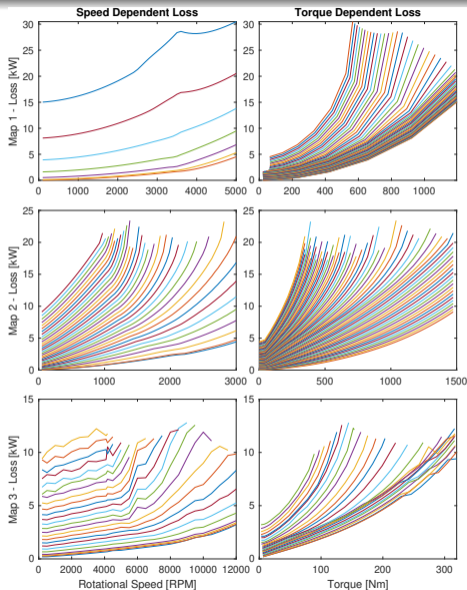


- Data from four machines
- Compute power losses
- $T, \omega, \eta, \Rightarrow P_l$

$$P_l = T \omega \left(\frac{1}{\eta} - 1 \right)$$

- Maximum torque curve
- Regular and irregular grids

Power Losses – Torque and speed dependence



Trends for power losses

- Speed – Convex growth

$$P_{loss} = c_1 \omega^2$$

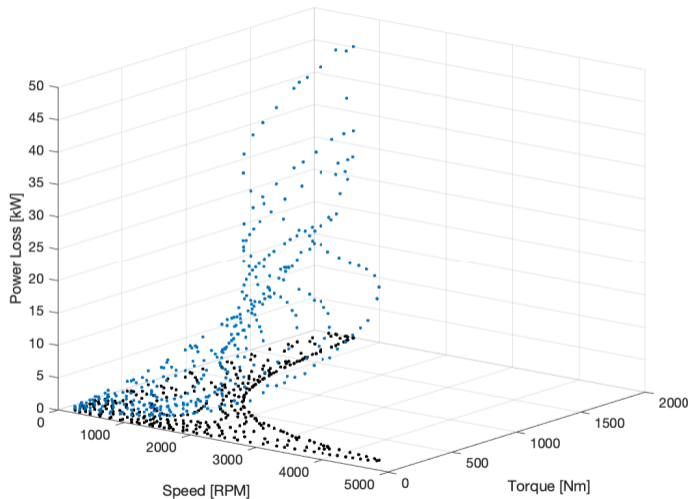
- Torque – Convex growth

$$P_{loss} = c_2 T^2$$

- Losses are not shifted with offset, fan out at higher powers

$$P_{loss} = c_3 \omega T$$

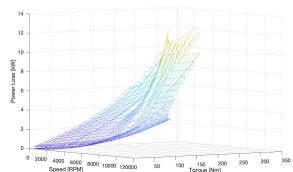
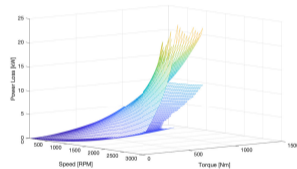
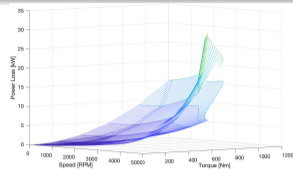
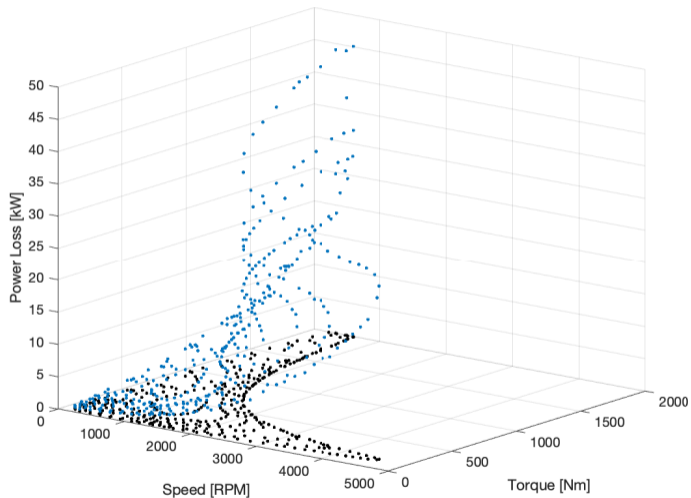
Observation – Accelerating Power Losses near Torque Max



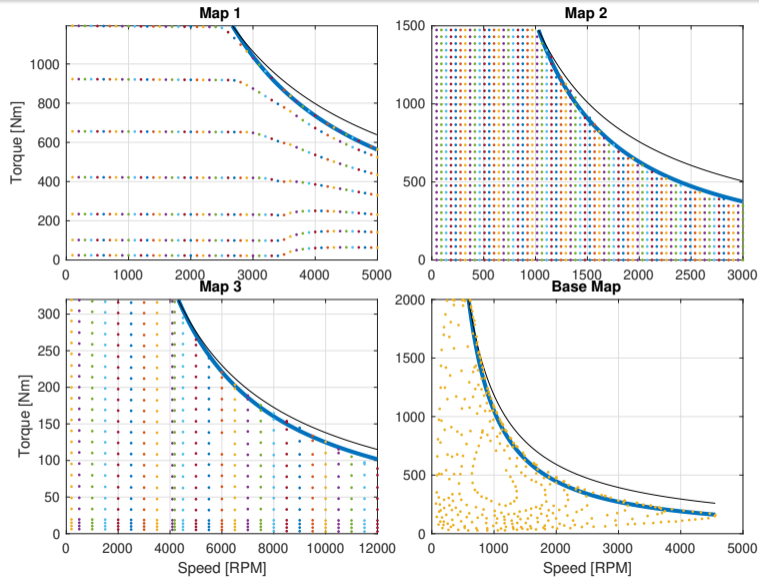
Power losses

- Losses accelerate near max torque line
- Field weakening control

Confirming Accelerating Power Losses near Torque Max



Maximum Torque Model



Max Torque Line

- Black - Max Power
 $T(\omega) = \frac{k}{\omega}$

Key result

- Blue - Power function
 $T(\omega) = \frac{k}{\omega^\alpha}$
 $\alpha \approx 1.2$

Maximum Torque Function

The maximum torque, denoted \hat{T} is speed dependent and switches between two characteristics:

- 1 The maximum torque T_m up to design speed ω_m .
- 2 A speed dependent fall-off rate, following a power function in speed.

The maximum torque function can be expressed as

$$\hat{T}(\omega) = \begin{cases} T_m, & \text{for } \omega \leq \omega_m \\ T_m \left(\frac{\omega_m}{\omega}\right)^{\alpha_T}, & \text{for } \omega > \omega_m \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where the exponent can be determined from the maps and for the Base Map it is $\alpha_e \approx 1.226$.

The model has three parameters that can be determined from data. T_m is determined directly from the maximum torque in the map data or data sheet, while α_T and ω_m are tuned to data. A first estimate for ω_m is obtained from the maximum power P_m extracted either from the data sheet or map data, as $\omega_m = \frac{P_m}{T_m}$.

A first estimate for α_T is around 1.2, and ω_m is the design speed, but both ω_m and α_T might benefit from being adjusted to fit the data for best agreement.

Maximum Torque Formulation

The base expression for the maximum torque is expressed as

$$\hat{T}(\omega) = \begin{cases} T_m, & \text{for } \omega \leq \omega_m \\ T_m \left(\frac{\omega_m}{\omega}\right)^{\alpha_T}, & \text{for } \omega > \omega_m \end{cases}$$

The connection between T and ω at the maximum torque line can be expressed as.

$$T = T_m \left(\frac{\omega_m}{\omega}\right)^{\alpha_T}$$

This can be expressed as an [implicit equation](#)

$$\frac{T}{T_m} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{\alpha_T} = 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \frac{T}{T_m} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{\alpha_T} - 1 = 0$$

An [accelerating loss](#) can now be expressed using this function in an [exponential](#).

$$P_l = e^{a_5 \left(\frac{T}{T_m} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{\alpha_T} - a_7\right)} = e^{-a_5 a_7} e^{a_5 \frac{T}{T_m} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{\alpha_T}} = c_4 e^{c_5 \frac{T}{T_m} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{\alpha_T}}$$

where c_5 , c_6 , and α_T are parameters used to fine-tune the shape of the growth.



- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure**
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

The complete model, based on the observations, is expressed as

$$P_l(\omega, T) = c_0 + c_1 \omega^2 + c_2 T^2 + c_3 \omega T + c_4 e^{c_5 \frac{T}{T_m}} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m} \right)^{c_6}$$

Seven (7) tuning parameters where 5 appear linearly.

- Solving full equation with nonlinear least squares had problems to converge.
- Convergence depended highly on initial conditions.
- Separate into two problems, nonlinear outer ($i \in [5, 6]$) and linear inner problem.



- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process**
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

The complete model equation

$$P_l(\omega, T) = c_0 + c_1 \omega^2 + c_2 T^2 + c_3 \omega T + c_4 e^{c_5 \frac{T}{T_m}} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{c_6} \quad (2)$$

5 parameters appear linearly $c_i, i \in [0 - 4]$, 3 parameters appear nonlinearly $c_i, i \in [5 - 7]$.

- Give initial guess on the three parameters $c_i, i \in [5 - 6]$.
- Iterate NLLS with Marquart-Levenberg (ML) algorithm for 3 parameters $c_i, i \in [5 - 7]$.
- Internally in the loss function used by ML when $c_i, i \in [5 - 6]$ are given, the parameters $c_i, i \in [0 - 4]$ can be determined with the linear least squares method.

Future Work

- Compare fitting in Power domain and η domain
- Evaluate the model and method on more maps



- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation**
- 7 Conclusions

Maximum Torque Function (constraints in optimal control) 🔥 ☠️

$$\hat{T}(\omega) = \begin{cases} T_m, & \text{for } \omega \leq \omega_m \\ T_m \left(\frac{\omega_m}{\omega}\right)^{\alpha_T}, & \text{for } \omega > \omega_m \end{cases}$$

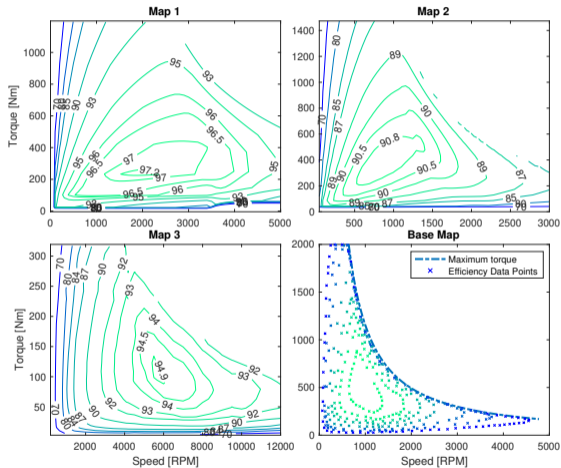
Two parameters to determine ω_m and α_T

Power Loss Model (Fuel Economy) 📦 📺

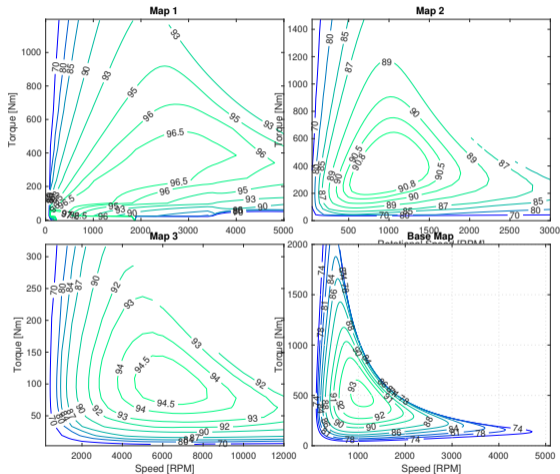
$$P_l(\omega, T) = c_0 + c_1 \omega^2 + c_2 T^2 + c_3 \omega T + c_4 e^{c_5 \frac{T}{T_m}} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_m}\right)^{c_6}$$

Seven unknown parameters to determine c_i , $i \in [0 - 6]$

Original Maps

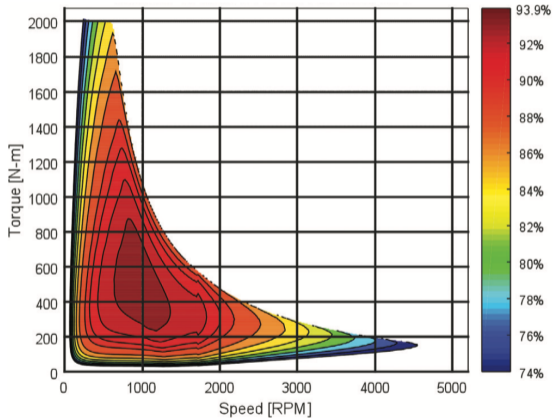


Models of the Maps

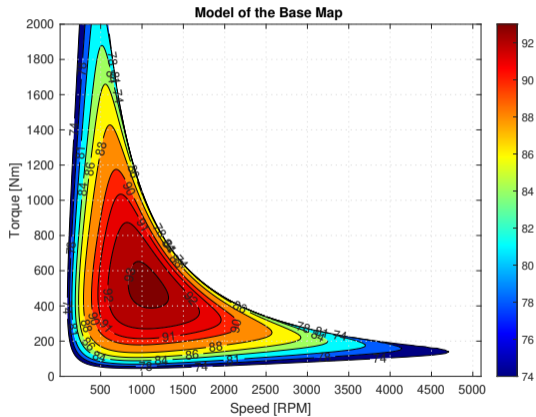


Visual impression of the maps are preserved in the model after fitting.

Original Base Map



Model of the Base Map





- 1 Introduction and Context
- 2 Development Process
- 3 Model Elements
 - Torque, Speed, and Power Dependence
 - Accelerating Losses Near Max Torque Line
 - Maximum Torque Model
- 4 Model Structure
- 5 Model Tuning Process
- 6 Summary and Evaluation
- 7 Conclusions

Current progress

- A compact and analytic model for electric machine power consumption has been developed
- The model describes the machine losses using base functions
 - Maximum torque function – Power function needed
 - Machine loss model based on nonlinear regression vectors and an implicit max torque function in an exponential
- A Marquardt-Levenberg based parameter-tuning method developed
- Visualization of the resulting model shows good qualitative agreement with the efficiency maps

Future work

- Compare fitting in Power domain and η domain
- Test robustness of the method and cover more machine types and efficiency maps
- Evaluate model flexibility and parameter variations

Questions?