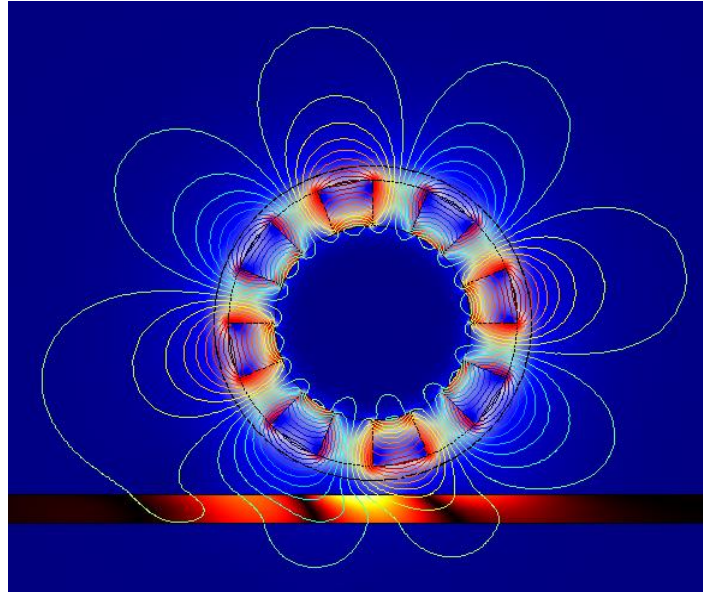


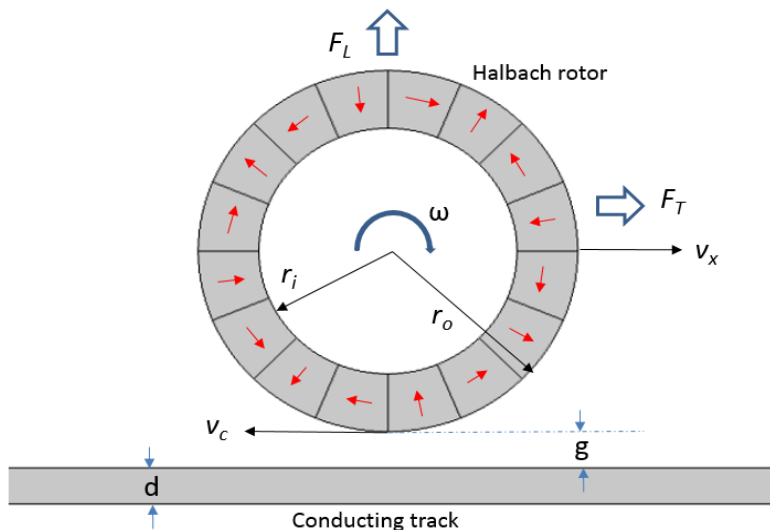
Electrodynamic Wheel (EDW) Magnetic Levitation using COMSOL Multiphysics



Introduction

- The mechanical rotation of a magnetic source such as a radially magnetized Halbach rotor above a passive conductive guideway, such as aluminum, will induce eddy-currents in the guideway (geometry in next slide). This will result in an opposing magnetic field being created that interacts with the source magnetic field to produce both lift and thrust/drag forces simultaneously
- The production of the thrust or braking force depends on the relative slip speed defined as the difference between the circumferential speed, and the translational speed. If the circumferential speed is greater than the translational speed (for positive slip), a thrust force is generated and vice-versa.

Geometry of the EDW Maglev structure



$$Slip = \omega_m r_o - v_x$$

$$\omega_e = \omega_m P$$

Where:

v_x : translational velocity

v_c : circumferential velocity

ω_m : mechanical angular frequency

ω_e : electrical angular frequency

P : number of pole-pairs

- Electrodynamic Wheel (EDW) maglev consists of a multi-pole Halbach rotor rotating and/or translationally moving over a conductive guideway.
- The Halbach rotor and conducting guideway are separated by air-gap “g”.
- The direction of magnetization is shown with a red-arrow in the Halbach rotor.
- The lift and the thrust/drag forces are generated simultaneously.

Parameters and Material Properties

- The parameters used in the model are shown in the table below. The parameters like inner and outer radii of the rotor, angular speed and translational velocity are defined here.

Parameters

Label: Parameters 1

Parameters

Name	Expression	Value	Description
ro	50[mm]	0.05 m	Outer radius of Halbach rotor
ri	34[mm]	0.034 m	Inner radius of Halbach rotor
v_x	0[m/s]	0 m/s	Translational velocity of Halbach rotor
wm0	1000[rpm]*2*pi	104.72 1/s	Angular rotational speed
t	0[s]	0 s	

- The material properties used in the model are listed below.

Material	Electrical Conductivity (σ)	Relative permeability (μ_r)	Relative permittivity (ϵ_r)
Aluminum track	3.03e7[S/m]	1	1
Air	0 [S/m]	1	1

Modeling Approach

- A 2D, Rotating Machinery, Magnetic Interface available in the AC/DC module is used to model the EDW.
- The Rotating Machinery, Magnetic interface combines the Magnetic Fields and the Magnetic Fields, No Currents interfaces solving for both the Magnetic Vector and Scalar potentials.
- The magnets are arranged in an Halbach array to concentrate the magnetic field on the outer surface of the rotor.
- Velocity(Lorentz) term is used to define translational velocity of maglev (rotor) on to the Aluminum track.

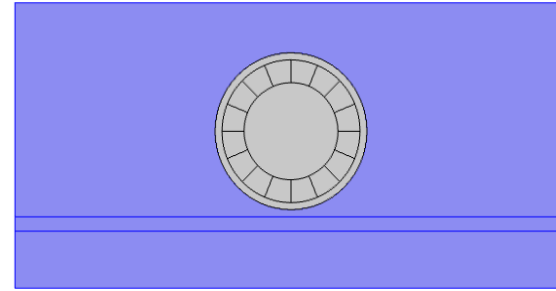
Modeling Approach Contd....

- In the geometry, two unions are created as shown in the figure below

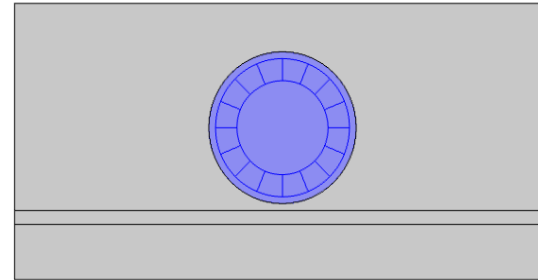
The image shows the COMSOL Geometry 1 tree on the left, listing various objects: Circle 1 (c1), Circle 2 (c2), Difference 1 (dif1), Rotate 1 (rot1), Rectangle 1 (r1), Rectangle 2 (r2), Circle 3 (c3), Difference 2 (dif2), Circle 4 (c4), Union 1 (uni1), Union 2 (uni2), and Form Assembly (fin). Two blue arrows point from Union 1 and Union 2 in the tree to their respective property windows on the right.

Union 1 Property Window:
Label: Union 1
Union
Input objects: r1, dif2
Active
 Keep input objects
 Keep interior boundaries
Repair tolerance: Relative
Relative repair tolerance: 1E-6

Union 2 Property Window:
Label: Union 2
Union
Input objects: rot1(1), rot1(2), rot1(3), rot1(4), rot1(5), rot1(6), rot1(7), rot1(8)
Active
 Keep input objects
 Keep interior boundaries
Repair tolerance: Relative
Relative repair tolerance: 1E-6



Stationary domains



Rotating domains

Modeling Approach Contd....

- The identity pair, created around the outer diameter of the rotor, is used to ensure continuity of the fields between the stationary and rotating domains. Continuity condition is then applied using this identity pair in the physics settings

The image displays the COMSOL software interface with three main panels illustrating the setup of a continuity condition:

- Left Panel (Model Tree):** Shows the hierarchy for Component 1 (comp1). Under 'Definitions', 'Identity Pair 1 (ap1)' is highlighted. Below it, 'Rotating Domain 1' is expanded to show 'Equation View'.
- Middle Panel (Identity Pair Properties):** Shows the configuration for 'Identity Pair 1'. The 'Pair Type' is set to 'Identity pair'. Under 'Source Boundaries', boundary 11 is selected. Under 'Destination Boundaries', boundary 31 is selected. The 'Frame' section shows both source and destination frames set to 'Spatial (x, y, z)'.
- Right Panel (Continuity Properties):** Shows the configuration for the 'Continuity' condition. The 'Label' is 'Continuity 1'. Under 'Boundary Selection', the 'Selection' is set to 'Manual' and boundary 11 is active. Under 'Pair Selection', the 'Pairs' list includes 'Identity Pair 1 (ap1)'.

At the bottom center, a circular diagram shows a rotor with a blue ring representing the identity pair around its outer diameter.

Modeling Approach Contd....

- A new cylindrical coordinate system is defined to model the magnetization of the magnets in radial and circumferential direction.
- Ampere's law domain conditions are used to assign magnetization to the magnets. Once such example is shown below.

Component 1 (comp1)

- Definitions
 - Variables 1a
 - Global Variable Probe 1 (var1)
 - Global Variable Probe 2 (var2)
 - Integration 13 (intop13)
 - Rotor Magnets
 - Rotating Domains
 - Track
 - Identity Pair 1 (ap1)
 - Boundary System 1 (sys1)
 - Cylindrical System 2 (sys2)**

Cylindrical System

Label: Cylindrical System 2

Name: sys2

Settings

Frame: Spatial (x, y, z)

Coordinate names

First	Second	Third
r	phi	a

Origin

x (m)	y (m)
0	0

Rotating Machinery, Magnetic (mmm)

- Electric Field Transformation 1
- Ampère's Law 1
- Mixed Formulation Boundary 1
- Magnetic Insulation 1
- Initial Values 1
- Ampère's Law 2**
- Ampère's Law 3
- Ampère's Law 4
- Ampère's Law 5
- Force Calculation 1
- Velocity (Lorentz Term) 1
- Continuity 1

Magnetic Field

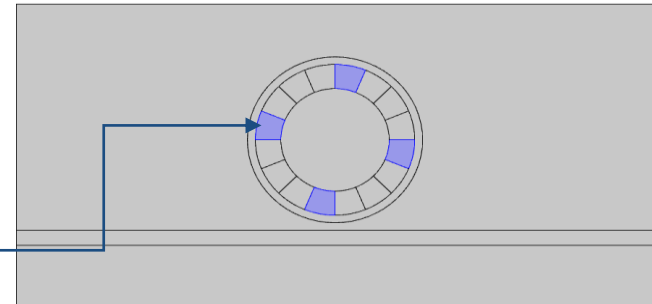
Constitutive relation: Remanent flux density

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mu_r \mathbf{H} + \mathbf{B}_r$$

Relative permeability: μ_r From material

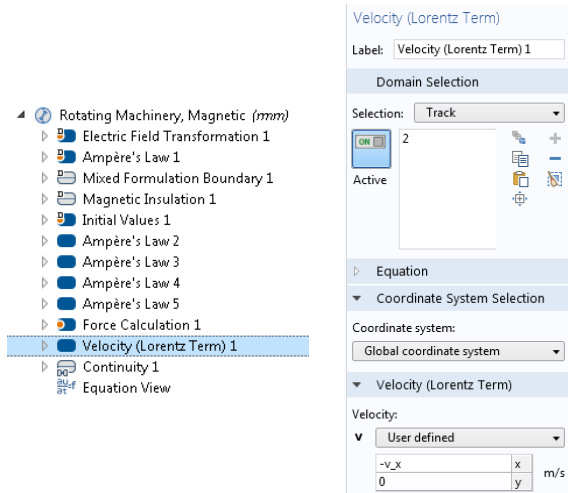
Remanent flux density:

	r	phi	T
\mathbf{B}_r	1.42	0	0

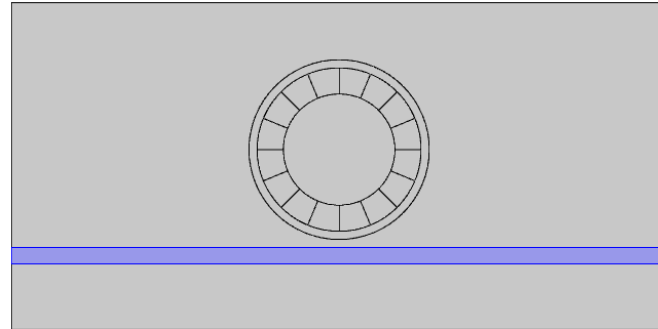


Modeling Approach Contd....

- The Velocity (Lorentz Term) is used to specify the translational velocity of the maglev (rotor) on to the Aluminum track. This term is only applicable on non-magnetic materials and hence is applied to track to model a moving wheel.



The screenshot displays the COMSOL software interface. On the left, a tree view shows the model structure under 'Rotating Machinery, Magnetic (mmm)'. The 'Velocity (Lorentz Term) 1' node is selected. The main window shows the 'Velocity (Lorentz Term)' settings for the 'Track' domain. The 'Domain Selection' section shows 'Track' selected. The 'Equation' section shows 'Coordinate System Selection' set to 'Global coordinate system'. The 'Velocity (Lorentz Term)' section shows 'User defined' velocity components: $-v_x$ for the x-axis and 0 for the y-axis, with units in m/s.



- NOTE: The -ve sign for velocity means that it's the velocity of the maglev (rotor) itself.

Force Calculation

- The Force on the track is calculated using the Maxwell's Stress Tensor. Results are compared with the Lorentz forces calculated by integrating the Lorentz force terms over the track. Figure below shows the integration term and the variables defined to calculate the Lorentz forces.

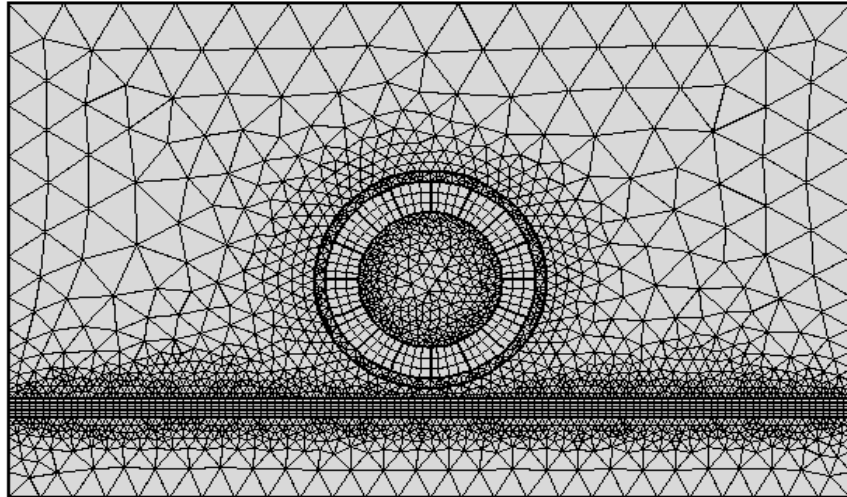
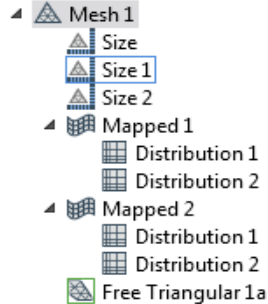
The image displays two panels from the COMSOL software interface. The left panel shows the 'Source Selection' dialog box, where the 'Geometric entity level' is set to 'Domain' and the 'Selection' is 'Manual'. The 'Integration 13 (intop13)' entity is selected and marked as 'Active'. The 'Advanced' section shows the 'Method' as 'Integration', the 'Integration order' as '4', and the 'Frame' as 'Spatial (x, y, z)'. The right panel shows the 'Variables' dialog box, where the 'Label' is 'Variables 1a' and the 'Geometric entity level' is 'Entire model'. Below this, a table lists the variables defined for the calculation:

Name	Expression	Unit	Description
Fy_Lorentz	-intop13(rmm.FLtZ)	N/m	Lift force on rotor
Fx_Lorentz	-intop13(rmm.FLtX)	N/m	Thrust force on rotor

- NOTE: The -ve sign on expression means that the force are calculated on the maglev (rotor).

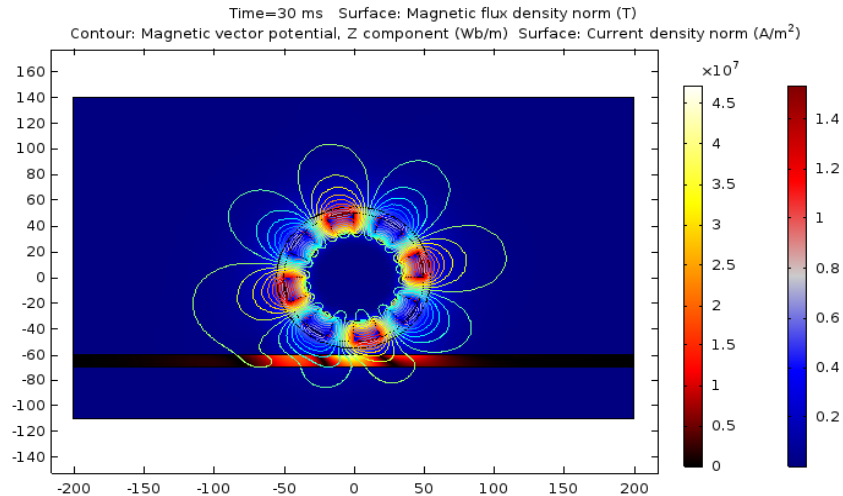
Meshing Sequence

- Figure below shows the meshing sequence implemented. The mesh around the edges of the rotor magnets and the destination boundaries of the of the identity pair are made finer compared to the stationary part to resolve the field between the rotating and stationary part. Mapped meshing is used on the track to properly calculate the eddy currents. Mapped mesh is also used in the magnet pieces.



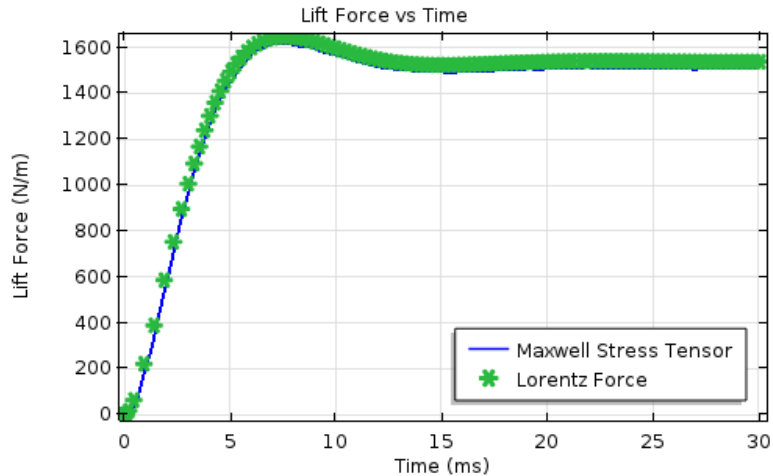
Results

- A stationary study to get the initial values followed by time dependent study is performed to correctly account for the magnetic fields from permanent magnets.
- Figure below shows the surface plots norm of the Magnetic Flux Density and Current Density at time=30ms. The contour plot shows the Magnetic vector potential

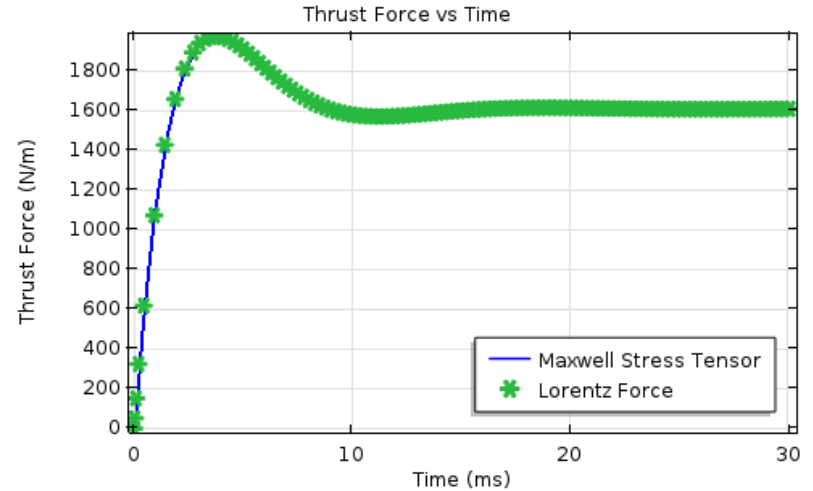


Results

- Comparison of the Lift and Thrust forces on the track calculated using Maxwell's Stress Tensor and the Lorentz force terms for a step change in

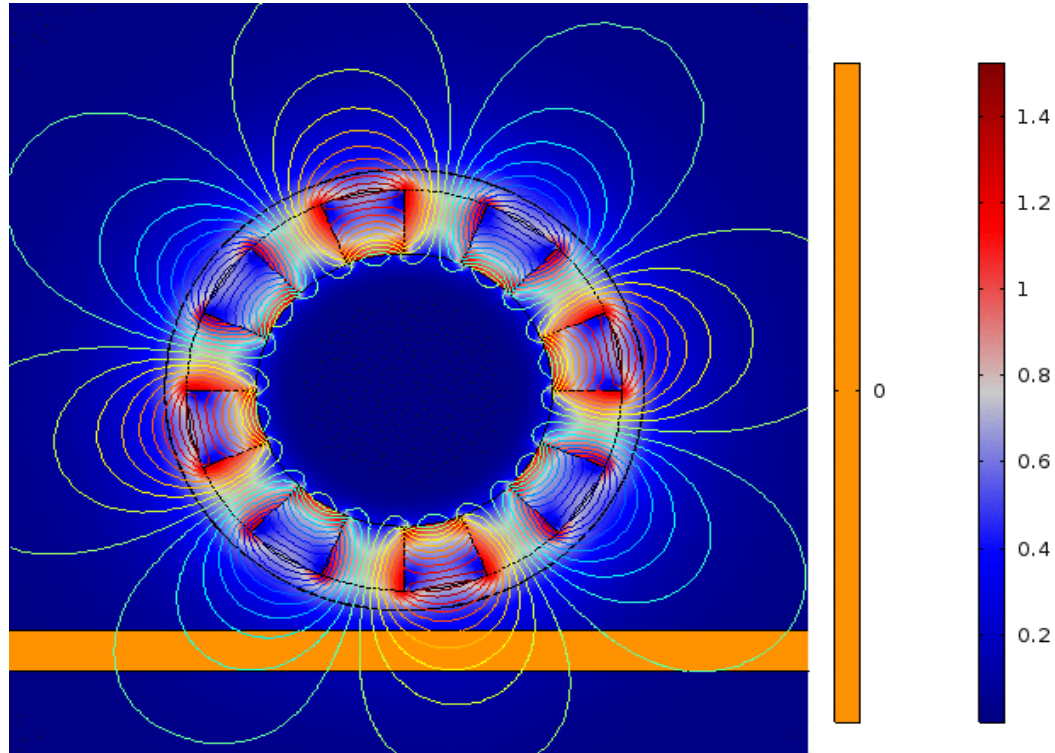


Comparison of lift forces on the track with Stress tensor and Lorentz Force method



Comparison of thrust forces on the track with Stress tensor and Lorentz Force method

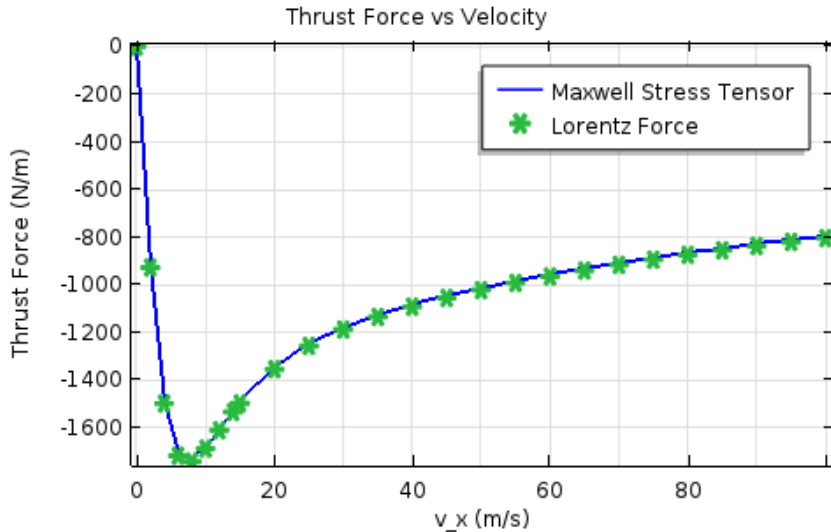
Results: Change in Velocity



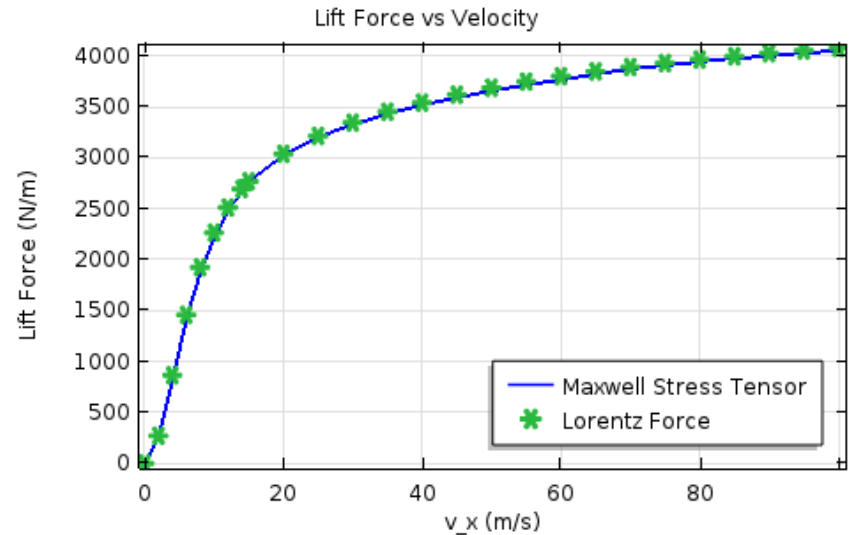
Animation of current density (in track) and magnetic flux density around with velocity changing from 0[m/s] to 100[m/s].

Results: Change in Velocity

- Comparison of the Lift and Thrust forces on the track calculated using Maxwell's Stress Tensor and the Lorentz force terms.



Comparison of thrust forces on the track with Stress tensor and Lorentz Force method



Comparison of lift forces on the track with Stress tensor and Lorentz Force method

References:

- J. Bird, An investigation into the use of electrodynamic wheels for high-speed ground transportation. PhD thesis, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2007.
- N. Paudel, Dynamic suspension modeling of an eddy-current device: An application to Maglev. PhD thesis, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, NC, 2012.
- S. Paul, Three-dimensional steady state and transient eddy current modeling. PhD thesis, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, NC, 2013.
- N. Paudel, S. Paul, and J. Z. Bird, [General 2-D steady-state force and power equations for a traveling time-varying magnetic source above a conductive plate](#), IEEE Transactions on Magnetics, 2012.
- N. Paudel, S. Paul, and J. Z. Bird, [General 2-D transient eddy current force equations for a magnetic source moving above a conductive plate](#), Progress In Electromagnetics Research B, 2012.

Conclusion

- Magnetic Levitation using Electrodynamic Wheel has been modeled using a wheel made with permanent magnets arranged in an Halbach array. The wheel is rotated at certain angular velocity and the translational motion of the maglev (rotor) is included on the track using Velocity (Lorentz Term).
- The Lift and Thrust forces are calculated using the Maxwell's Stress Tensor method and the Lorentz Force terms. A comparison of forces calculated by these two methods is performed.
- A close match in the values of forces between these two methods is obtained.