

1.5 Acceleration, deceleration, starting & stopping:

An electrical drive operates in three modes

- ✓ Steady state
- ✓ Acceleration including Starting
- ✓ Deceleration including Stopping

We know that

$$T = T_1 + J \frac{d}{dt} (\omega_m)$$

According to the above expression the steady state operation takes place when motor torque equals the load torque. The steady state operation for a given speed is realized by adjustment of steady state motor speed torque curve such that the motor and load torques are equal at this speed. Change in speed is achieved by varying the steady state motor speed torque curve so that motor torque equals the load torque at the new desired speed. In the figure shown below when the motor parameters are adjusted to provide speed torque curve 1, drive runs at the desired speed ω_m .

Speed is changed to $\omega_m 2$ when the motor parameters are adjusted to provide speed torque curve

When load torque opposes motion, the motor works as a motor operating in quadrant I or III depending on the direction of rotation. When the load is active it can reverse its sign and act to assist the motion. Steady state operation for such a case can be obtained by adding a mechanical brake which will produce a torque in a direction to oppose the motion. The steady state operation is obtained at a speed for which braking torque equal the load torque. Drive operates in quadrant II or IV depending upon the rotation.

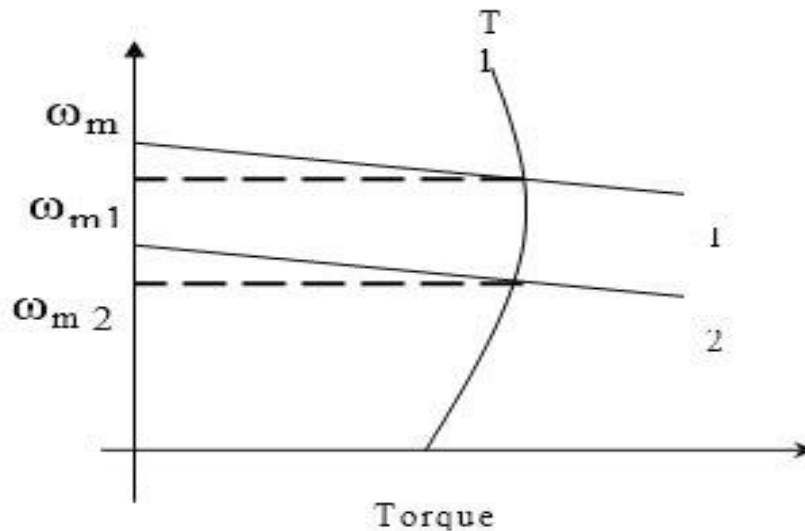


Figure 1.2.1 Speed Torque principle

(Source: "Fundamentals of Electrical Drives" by G.K.Dubey, page-32)

Acceleration and Deceleration modes are transient modes. Drive operates in acceleration mode whenever an increase in its speed is required. For this motor speed torque curve must be changed so that motor torque exceeds the load torque. Time taken for a given change in speed depends on inertia of motor load system and the amount by which motor torque exceeds the load torque.

Increase in motor torque is accompanied by an increase in motor current. Care must be taken to restrict the motor current within a value which is safe for both motor and power modulator. In applications involving acceleration periods of long duration, current must not be allowed to exceed the rated value.

When acceleration periods are of short duration a current higher than the rated value is allowed during acceleration.

In closed loop drives requiring fast response, motor current may be intentionally forced to the maximum value in order to achieve high acceleration. Figure shown below shows the transition from operating point A at speed.

Point B at a higher speed ω_{m2} , when the motor torque is held constant during acceleration. The path consists of AD1E1B. In the figure below, 1 to 5 are motor speed torque curves. Starting is a special case of acceleration where a speed change from 0 to a desired speed takes place. All points mentioned in relation to acceleration are applicable to starting.

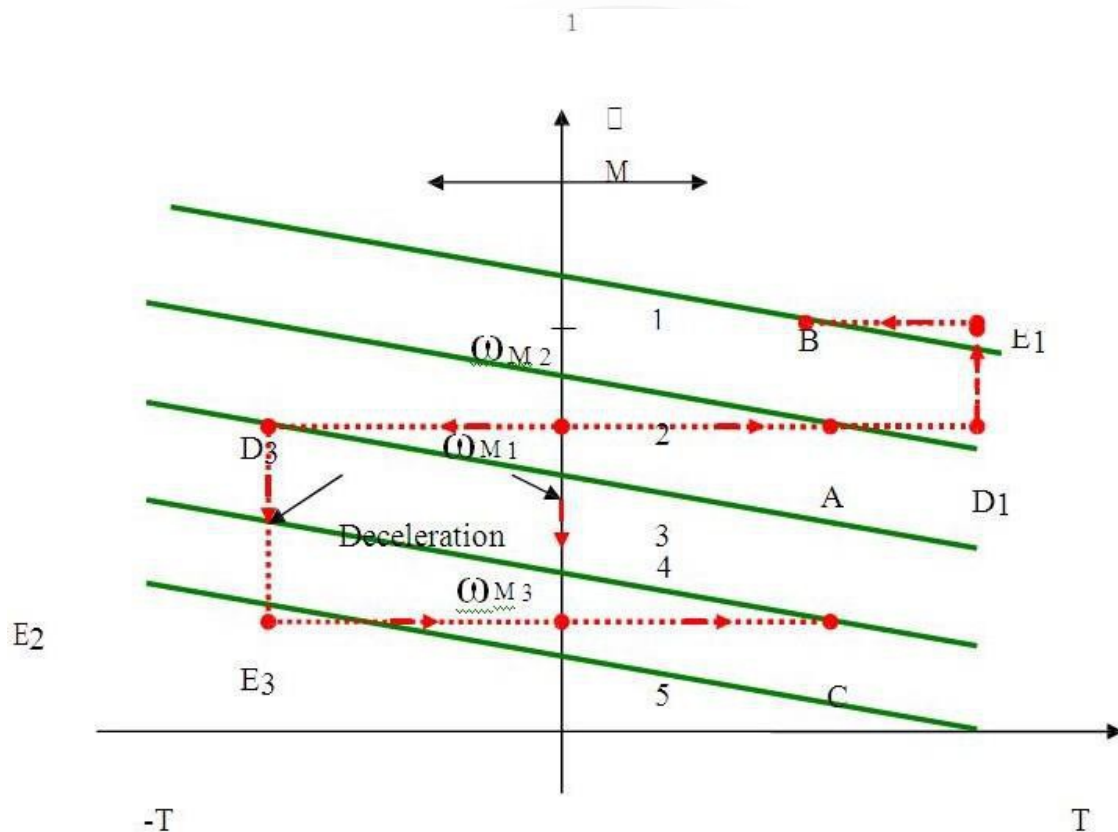


Figure 1.5.2 Acceleration and Deceleration of motor

(Source: "Fundamentals of Electrical Drives" by G.K.Dubey, page-33)

The maximum current allowed should not only be safe for motor and power modulator but drop in source voltage caused due to it should also be in acceptable limits. In some applications the motor should accelerate smoothly, without any jerk. This is achieved when the starting torque can be increased stepless from its zero value. Such a start is known as soft start.