



## Research on the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field of a motorized spindle

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**Abstract.** The air-gap state between the stator and rotor is an important indicator to measure the performance of a motorized spindle. It affects the temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle and the machining accuracy of the mechanical parts. Since the accurate thermal model is the basis of the research on the temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle, in this paper, firstly, the mechanical loss, electrical loss and magnetic loss of the motor under different air-gap eccentricities are calculated and the heat-generating power of an angular-contact ball bearing is obtained based on Harries contact theory. Secondly, the thermal model of the motorized spindle is established and the steady-state temperature field of the motorized spindle is simulated by using ANSYS, and the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field of the motorized spindle is discussed. Finally, the circumferential temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle with the air-gap eccentricity is verified by experiment. The results show that the air-gap eccentricity has a significant influence on the non-uniform temperature field of the motorized spindle.

### 1 Introduction

A motorized spindle is the key component of the Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine tool. Its performance has an important impact on the quality of parts processing, machine performance and production efficiency. After the motor is assembled, the air gap is formed between the stator and rotor. Ideally, the fixed air gap is evenly distributed, and thus the magnetic field is generated. However, the air gap is always eccentric due to the assembly errors, parts manufacturing errors and workload. The air-gap eccentricity will cause unbalanced magnetic pull, which makes the uneven temperature rise. Most studies show that up to 75 % of the total geometric errors of the workpiece are caused by the thermal characteristics of the motorized spindle (Mayr et al., 2012). Therefore, it is of great theoretical significance and practical value to study the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle.

Many scholars have studied the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the motor. As early as in the 20th century, Smith (1911) and Smith and Johnson (1912) preliminarily studied the influence of air-gap eccentricity on unbalanced magnetic tension and loss. The results showed that the iron loss and unbalanced magnetic tension increased with the increase in eccentricity, which laid a foundation for the research on the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the motor performance. Ellison and Yang (1971) analyzed the flux density and permeability wave in the air gap of the induction motor. It was found that the eccentricity of the rotor would cause the induction motor to produce a series of pole-pair force waves. The predicted noise composition was verified by experiments. Li et al. (2007) analyzed the vibration of the three-phase induction motor with static eccentricity. The results showed that the eccentric fault could be detected by a vibration signal. Guo et al. (2003) expressed the air gap in the form of Fourier series. The unbalanced magnetic pull force

caused by eccentricity was calculated, and the influence of eccentric force on vibration was analyzed. Kim et al. (2014) studied the influence of the rotor static eccentricity on the magnetic force on the stator surface and magnetic harmonic spectrum. The static eccentricity of the rotor will increase the first and 31st harmonic components. Abdi et al. (2015) used the finite-element method to calculate the unbalanced magnetic tension of a brushless doubly-fed motor with different rotor eccentricities. This would increase the vibration and noise of a brushless doubly fed motor (BDFM). Han and Palazzolo (2016) adopted the magnetic equivalent circuit method to model the motor. It had been parameterized. The radial and tangential forces increased with the increase in eccentricity. He et al. (2016, 2017a, b) obtained a detailed formula of unbalanced magnetic tension by studying the unbalanced magnetic tension under different forms of static eccentricity. Oumaamar et al. (2017) predicted the influence of air-gap static eccentricity on the related frequency of the neutral line voltage spectrum through analysis. It indicated that the voltage spectrum of the neutral point was more sensitive to the air-gap static eccentricity. Bindu and Thomas (2018) proved the applicability of the vibration signal and stator current signal in diagnosing static eccentricity through experiments on three-phase squirrel-cage asynchronous motors with static eccentricity. Ding et al. (2015) studied the influence of different air-gap static eccentricity on magnetic field strength and core loss based on electromagnetic theory and the finite-element method. However, there are relatively few studies on the air-gap eccentricity to the various losses of the motorized spindle motor.

In the research of temperature field simulation of the motorized spindle, Bossmanns and Tu (1999, 2001) analyzed the energy flow distribution of the motorized spindle based on the finite-difference method. The calculation methods of heat transfer coefficients at different heat dissipation boundaries of shafting were presented. The steady and transient temperature fields were analyzed, and they were verified by experiments. Yan et al. (2016) established the network method of spindle transient analysis on the basis of considering the heat-structure interaction. The improved bearing and system model were studied. The advantage of the transient model was verified by experiments. Chen et al. (2013) used the finite-element method to conduct thermal simulation based on the power flow model. Experimental verification was carried out. It can be seen that the above studies established the thermal model of a high-speed motorized spindle and simulated the temperature field. However, the temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle was analyzed symmetrically, and the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the motorized spindle heating and temperature field distribution is not considered. The temperature fields obtained were uniformly distributed.

Therefore, in this paper, the thermal model of the motorized spindle is established based on the consideration of the influence of air-gap eccentricity on motor loss. Secondly,

based on the established thermal model, the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle is studied by the finite-element method, and the temperature field distribution law of the motorized spindle in the circumferential direction is obtained and verified by experiments.

## 2 Motorized spindle heating model considering air-gap eccentricity

In our research, since the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field of the motorized spindle is mainly studied, the influence of other factors is ignored, and the variation law of heat generation of the motor and bearing under different eccentricity is only calculated in this chapter.

### 2.1 The power loss of the motor considering air-gap eccentricity

As shown in Fig. 1, the geometric center of the stator and rotor and rotating center of the rotor are coincident when there is no eccentricity. However, when the air gap is eccentric, they do not coincide. Considering dynamic eccentricity, it is assumed that  $\alpha_1 = 0$  at the smallest air gap of the motor. Because the inner diameter of the stator is much larger than the air-gap length, the air-gap length  $\delta$  at  $\alpha_1$  is calculated by the following formula:

$$\delta(\alpha_1, t) = r_1 - r_0 - e \cos \alpha_1 = h - e \cos \alpha_1, \quad (1)$$

where  $h$  is the uniform length of the air gap, and  $e$  is the eccentricity of the rotor.

Motor loss is generally divided into four categories: mechanical loss, electrical loss, magnetic loss and additional loss. The proportion of additional loss in the total loss is very small, about 1%–5% of the rated power. So, the additional loss is ignored, and the first three losses are mainly calculated.

Mechanical loss is mainly the friction loss between the rotor and air during high-speed rotation. It is mainly generated in the air gap between stator and rotor. Therefore, there will be different mechanical loss at a different air-gap position. The shear moment required for rotor operation at a certain speed is

$$T = r_0 \cdot \int \tau dA = \int_0^{2\pi} \mu \frac{r_0^3 l \omega_1}{\delta} d\alpha_1. \quad (2)$$

So, the power of mechanical loss is calculated by the following formula:

$$P_w = \omega_1 \cdot T = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\mu l \omega_1^2 r_0^3}{\delta} d\alpha_1, \quad (3)$$

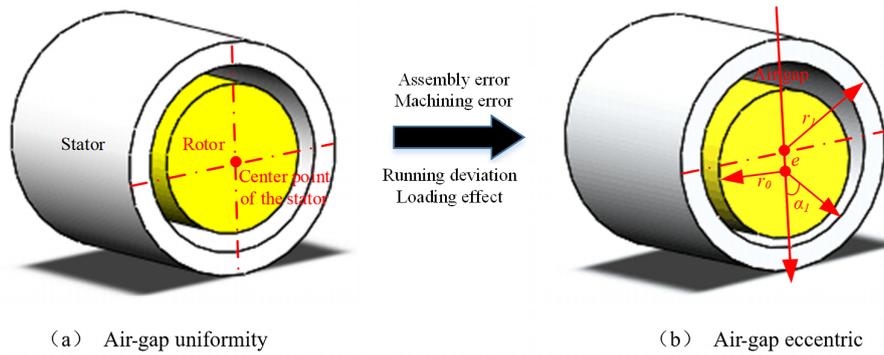


Figure 1. Air-gap eccentric state of the motor.

where  $r_0$  is the outer diameter of the rotor;  $\tau$  is the shear stress of air, and  $\mu$  is the dynamic viscosity of air;  $A$  is the surface area of the rotor, and  $l$  is the rotor length.

The electrical losses of the stator and rotor windings are different with different air gaps. The current at the uneven air gap is  $k_1$  times that at the average air gap by analyzing the uneven air gap and the rate of current change. Then the power of electrical loss with air-gap eccentricity can be calculated by the following formula:

$$P_{ec} = \int \frac{[1 + k_1 \cdot (h - \delta) / h]^2 P_e}{2\pi} d\alpha_1. \tag{4}$$

The motorized spindle uses a three-phase asynchronous motor as the drive. Alternating magnetic fields are generated between the air gap, and that generates the magnetomotive force. The fundamental wave magnetomotive force of the stator winding is as follows:

$$\begin{cases} F_1 = \frac{4}{\pi} \times I_1 N_1 \sin \omega_f t \cos p\alpha, \\ F_1 = \frac{4}{\pi} \times I_1 N_1 \sin(\omega_f t + \frac{2\pi}{3}) \cos(p\alpha + \frac{2\pi}{3}), \\ F_1 = \frac{4}{\pi} \times I_1 N_1 \sin(\omega_f t - \frac{2\pi}{3}) \cos(p\alpha - \frac{2\pi}{3}). \end{cases} \tag{5}$$

The synthesis of three-phase fundamental wave magnetomotive force is the synthesis of a fundamental wave of the stator coil. Considering the fundamental wave distribution factor and pitch factor, it is as follows:

$$F_d(\alpha, t) = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \times \frac{I_1 N_1}{p} k_{d1} k_{p1} \cos(\omega_f t - p\alpha), \tag{6}$$

where  $I_1$  is the effective value of the stator-phase current;  $N_1$  is series turns of stator single-phase winding;  $p$  is the polar logarithm;  $k_{d1}$  is the fundamental wave distribution factor of the stator;  $k_{p1}$  is the stator fundamental wave pitch factor; and  $\omega_f$  is the phase current angular frequency and  $\alpha$  is an electrical angle.

The rotor's fundamental wave synthesis emf is as follows:

$$F_Z(\alpha, t) = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \times \frac{I_2 N_2}{p} k_{d2} k_{p2} \cdot \cos \left[ \omega_f t - p\alpha - \left( \frac{\pi}{2} + \varphi_1 + \varphi_2 \right) \right], \tag{7}$$

where  $I_2$  is the effective value of the rotor phase current;  $N_2$  is the series turns of single-phase rotor winding;  $k_{d2}$  is the fundamental wave distribution factor of the rotor;  $k_{p2}$  is the fundamental pitch factor of the rotor;  $\varphi_1$  is the angle of the stator current hysteretic stator voltage; and  $\varphi_2$  is the angle of stator voltage with the rotor current hysteretic.

$$\begin{cases} \varphi_1 = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{X_{1\sigma}}{R_1} \right), \\ \varphi_2 = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{sX_{2\sigma}}{R_2} \right), \end{cases} \tag{8}$$

where  $X_{1\sigma}$  is the stator leakage reactance;  $X_{2\sigma}$  is the leakage reactance of the rotor;  $R_1$  is the resistance of stator winding;  $R_2$  is the resistance of rotor winding and  $s$  is the slip.

Then, the air-gap fundamental wave synthesis emf is as follows:

$$F(\alpha, t) = F_d(\alpha, t) + F_z(\alpha, t), \tag{9}$$

$$\begin{cases} F_{d1} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \frac{I_1 N_1}{p} k_{d1} k_{p1}, \\ F_{z2} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \frac{I_2 N_2}{p} k_{d2} k_{p2}. \end{cases} \tag{10}$$

Because the stator and rotor fundamental wave synthesis magnetomotive force is relatively static, then

$$F(\alpha, t) = F \cos(\omega_f t - p\alpha - \beta). \tag{11}$$

Among them,

$$\begin{cases} F = \sqrt{F_{d1}^2 + F_{z2}^2 + 2F_{d1}F_{z2} \cos \theta}, \\ \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + \varphi_1 + \varphi_2, \\ \tan \beta = \frac{F_{z2} \cos(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)}{F_{d1} - F_{z2} \sin(\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)}. \end{cases} \tag{12}$$

In the motorized spindle, the air-gap length is small, and the eccentricity is also small. We only need to consider the first third magnetic harmonic. Therefore, the air-gap permeability is as follows:

$$\Lambda(\alpha_1, t) \approx \frac{\mu_0}{h} \left[ 1 + \varepsilon \cos(\alpha_1) + \varepsilon^2 \cos^2(\alpha_1) + \varepsilon^3 \cos^3(\alpha_1) \right]. \tag{13}$$

The air-gap magnetic density is as follows:

$$B = \mu_0 \frac{F(\alpha_1, t)}{\delta(\alpha_1, t)} = \wedge(\alpha_1, t) F(\alpha_1, t), \quad (14)$$

where  $F$  is the air-gap fundamental wave synthesis magnetomotive force.

Magnetic loss is caused by hysteresis and eddy current in cores. When circulating magnetization, hysteresis power loss per unit mass can be written in the following formula:

$$P_t = C f B_m^2, \quad (15)$$

where  $P_t$  is hysteresis power loss;  $C$  is the constant related to the grade of electrical steel;  $f$  is the magnetization frequency and  $B_m$  is the maximum magnetic induction intensity.

When the magnetic field in the iron core changes, the loss caused by the induced current is called eddy current loss. The eddy current loss of the stator and rotor of the motor is expressed as follows:

$$P = \frac{\pi^2 t_1^2 (f B_m)^2}{6 \rho r_c}, \quad (16)$$

where  $P$  is the eddy current loss power,  $t_1$  is the iron core thickness,  $\rho$  is the density of the iron core and  $r_c$  is the resistivity of the iron core.

## 2.2 Heating calculation of angular contact ball bearings

Bearing heating will lead to changes in grease and fitting state, thermal deformation and other phenomena. It has an important influence on the machining characteristics of the motorized spindle. Its heat is mainly generated by the friction of the bearing. The friction torque of the bearing is divided into components of inner and outer rings. Then it becomes the local component of the contact area (Harris and Kotzalas, 2007), which can be written as follows:

$$M_{ij} = D_w \left[ 0.225 f_0 (\gamma_1 \omega_1)^{\frac{2}{3}} d_m^3 + 0.5 f_1 \left( \frac{P_{0i}}{C_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} P_{1i} d_m \right] / z d_0, \quad (17)$$

$$M_{oj} = D_w \left[ 0.225 f_0 (\gamma_1 \omega_1)^{\frac{2}{3}} d_m^3 + 0.5 f_1 \left( \frac{P_{0o}}{C_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} P_{1o} d_m \right] / z d_i, \quad (18)$$

where  $D_w$  is ball diameter;  $f_0$  is the coefficient that depends on bearing design and lubrication mode;  $\gamma_1$  is the kinematic viscosity associated with lubricants;  $d_m$  is the pitch circle diameter of ball bearing;  $f_1$  is the coefficient related to bearing type and load;  $P_0$  is the equivalent static load of the bearing;  $C_0$  is the rated static load of the bearing;  $P_1$  is the equivalent load determining the friction moment;  $Z$  is the number

of balls;  $d_i$  is the diameter of the contact point of the inner channel and  $d_o$  is the diameter of the contact point of the outer channel.

Another important cause of bearing heating is the spin friction moment between rolling body and raceway contact area. The spin friction torque in the contact area of the inner and outer rings is as follows:

$$M_{si} = 3 K_{si} Q_i a_i \varepsilon_i / 8, \quad (19)$$

$$M_{so} = 3 K_{so} Q_o a_o \varepsilon_o / 8, \quad (20)$$

where  $K_{si}$ ,  $K_{so}$  are the friction coefficient between the ball and the contact area of the raceway;  $Q_i$ ,  $Q_o$  are normal contact loads between the ball and the raceway.  $a_i$ ,  $a_o$  are the semi-axis length of the Hertz contact ellipse.  $\varepsilon_i$ ,  $\varepsilon_o$  are elliptic integrals of the second kind.

Therefore, the power of bearing heating is as follows:

$$H_{ij} = \omega_{rolli} M_{ij} + \omega_{si} M_{si}, \quad (21)$$

$$H_{oj} = \omega_{rollo} M_{oj} + \omega_{so} M_{so}, \quad (22)$$

where  $\omega_{rolli} = -\omega_i d_m / D_b$ ,  $\omega_{rollo} = -\omega_o d_m / D_b$ .  $H_{ij}$ ,  $H_{oj}$  are the heating power generated by the contact area between the rolling body and the inner and outer raceway.  $\omega_i$ ,  $\omega_o$  are the rolling angular velocity of the raceway with respect to the inner and outer rings of the rolling body.  $\omega_{si}$ ,  $\omega_{so}$  are the spin angular velocity of the rolling body with respect to the contact area of the inner and outer circles.

As shown in Fig. 2, the motorized spindle heating model with different rotation speeds is constructed from the collection of each motor loss and bearing heating under different eccentricities.

## 2.3 Simulation parameters of the motorized spindle heating considering air-gap eccentricity

According to the above calculation model, the temperature field simulation parameters of the motorized spindle under different air-gap eccentricity are calculated. Since the theoretical average air gap between the stator and rotor of the motorized spindle is 300  $\mu\text{m}$ , the mechanical power loss, electrical loss, and magnetic loss varying with rotating speed under the eccentricity of 0, 25, 50, 75 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$  are calculated, respectively.

The calculation results of mechanical loss are shown in Fig. 3. The mechanical loss increases with the increase in rotating speed and eccentricity, and it increases more obviously with the increase in eccentricity at the same speed.

The electrical loss of the stator and rotor under different eccentricities varies with the rotating speed as shown in Figs. 4 and 5. The electrical loss increases with the increase in rotating speed and eccentricity. It can be seen from the figures that the greater the air-gap eccentricity is at the same speed, the more obvious the variation of the electric loss of the stator and rotor is. Therefore, the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the electrical loss is not negligible.

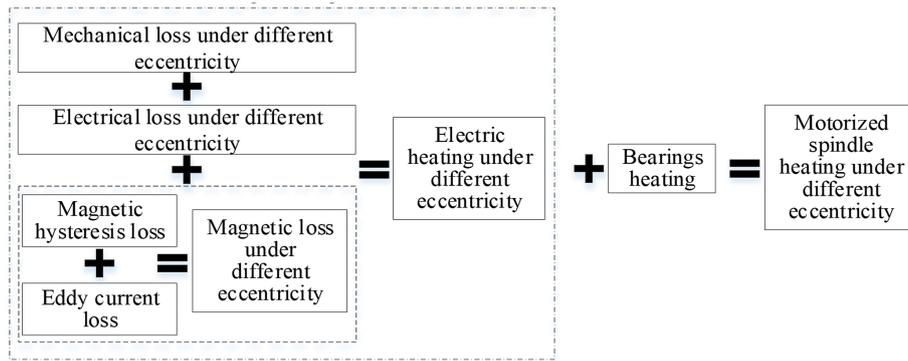


Figure 2. Motorized spindle heating model considering air-gap eccentricity.

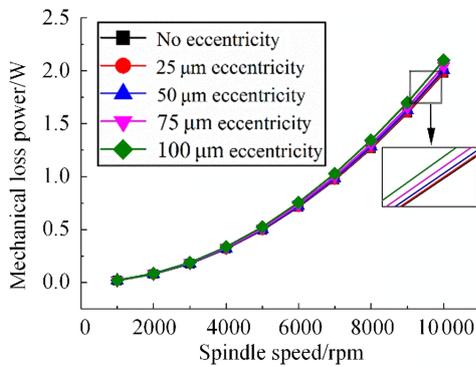


Figure 3. Mechanical loss power under different air-gap eccentricities.

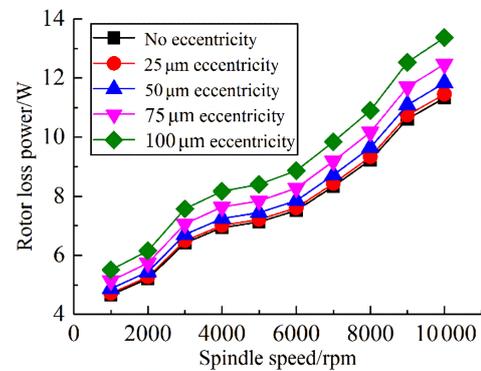


Figure 5. The electrical loss of the rotor with different eccentricities.

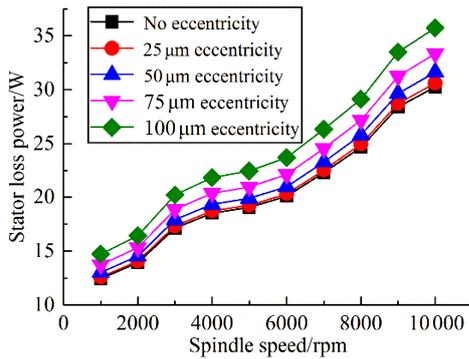


Figure 4. The electrical loss of the stator with different eccentricities.

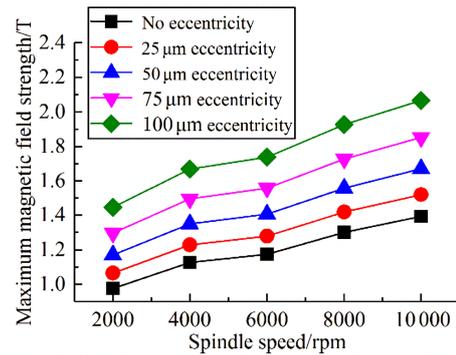


Figure 6. Maximum magnetic field strength with different rotating speed and eccentricity.

The maximum magnetic field strength under different eccentricities obtained by calculation is shown in Fig. 6. At the same rotation speed, the maximum magnetic field strength increases with the increase in eccentricity compared with the situation without eccentricity. The maximum magnetic field intensity increases by 9.09 %, 19.91 %, 32.81 % and 48.15 %, respectively, when air-gap eccentricity is 25, 50, 75 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

The hysteresis loss of the motor stator is proportional to the square of the maximum magnetic field strength. Therefore, the stator hysteresis loss varies with the variation of air-gap eccentricity, which is shown in Fig. 7. The stator hysteresis loss increases with the increase in rotating speed under the same eccentricity, and it changes significantly with the increase in rotating speed.

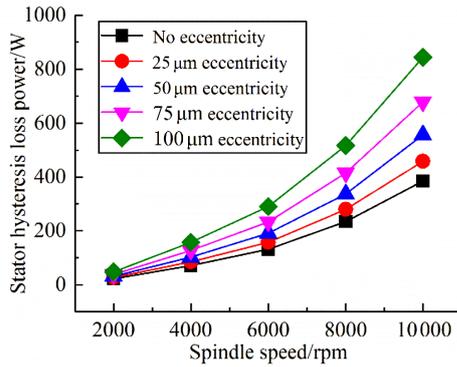


Figure 7. Stator hysteresis loss power with different rotating speed and eccentricity.

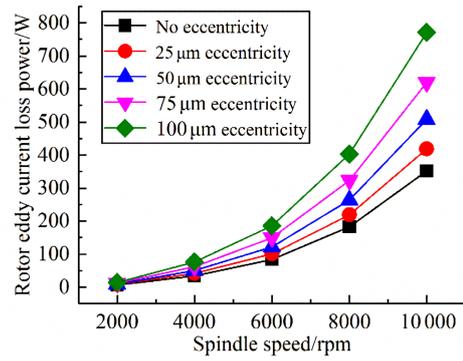


Figure 9. The rotor eddy current loss power with different rotating speed and eccentricities.

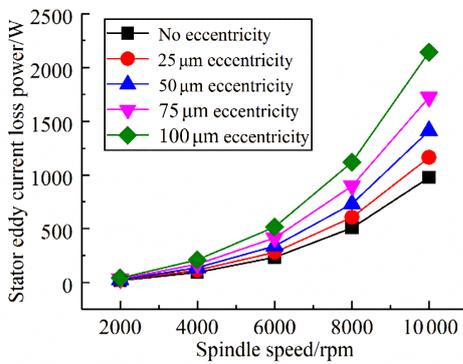


Figure 8. The stator eddy current loss power with different rotating speed and eccentricities.

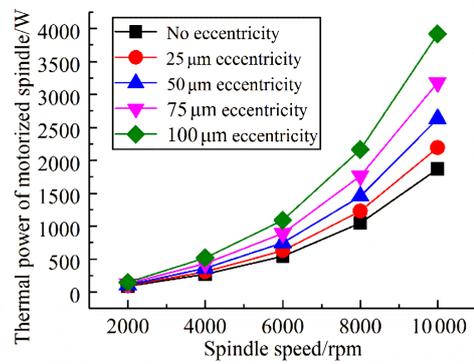


Figure 10. Thermal power of the motorized spindle under different eccentricities of each speed.

The eddy current loss of the stator and rotor is also closely related to the maximum magnetic field strength. It varies with the air-gap eccentricity too. The calculated eddy current loss of the stator and rotor with different eccentricities varies with the rotation speed, as shown in Fig. 8 and 9. The greater the eccentricity is, the greater the eddy current loss is, and the eddy current loss increases faster and faster with the increase in eccentricity.

According to the motor loss power under different eccentricity and bearing heating power, the overall heating power of the motorized spindle with different eccentricities at each speed is obtained. As shown in Fig. 10, the overall heating power of the motorized spindle increases with the increase in eccentricity, and the higher the rotating speed, the more obvious the increase in heating power with eccentricity.

### 3 Study on temperature field simulation of the motorized spindle considering air-gap eccentricity

#### 3.1 Temperature field simulation of the motorized spindle without eccentricity

The 3D model of the motorized spindle is established by SolidWorks, and the minor components and small structure of the motorized spindle are simplified to simplify calculation. Based on the specific structure of the model and the solution requirements, a three-node triangular element is selected to mesh the bearings, the stator and rotor, rounded corners and mating surfaces. The divided model has a total of 147 511 nodes and 65 428 units, as shown in Fig. 11. The initial conditions are as follows: the ambient temperature is 16 °C; the coolant temperature is 16 °C; the coolant flow is 10 L min<sup>-1</sup>.

According to the theory of heat transfer, there are three basic modes of heat transfer, namely heat conduction, heat convection and heat radiation (Minkowycz et al., 2015). Because in the actual working conditions the radiation heat transfer is very little, only thermal conduction and convection of the motorized spindle are considered here. Taking 2000 rpm as an example, the relevant thermal model parameters and

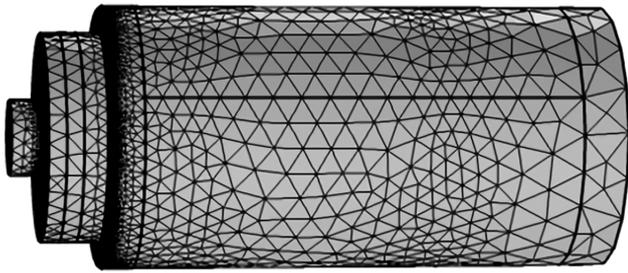


Figure 11. Gridding of the motorized spindle.

boundary conditions are shown in Table 1. In Table 1,  $\lambda$  is the thermal conductivity.  $\omega_\delta$  is the average air-gap velocity.  $u_t$  is the circumferential velocity of the rotor end.  $c_0$ ,  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants measured in the experiment, 9.7, 5.33 and 0.8, respectively. Based on the finite-element method, the steady-state temperature field is simulated at 2000, 4000, 6000, 8000 and 10 000 rpm, respectively.

According to the structure and heat-transfer characteristics of the motorized spindle, the circle corresponding to the front-end cover is selected as circle 1 to analyze the distribution of the circumferential temperature field at different rotating speeds. In order to facilitate the analysis, the center of circle 1 is taken as the origin, and the rectangular coordinate system is established. The positions of eight measuring points are shown in Fig. 12.

Because the influence of air-gap eccentricity is not considered in the simulation, the circumferential steady-state temperature field at each speed obtained by simulation is relatively uniform and in a symmetrical state.

The steady-state temperature field simulations at 2000, 4000, 6000, 8000 and 10 000 rpm are obtained. The circumferential steady-state temperature field of each measuring point of circle 1 at different rotating speeds is shown in Fig. 13. Because the influence of air-gap eccentricity is not considered in the simulation, the circumferential steady-state temperature field at each speed obtained by simulation is relatively uniform and in a symmetrical state.

### 3.2 Temperature field simulation of the motor considering eccentricity

It is assumed that the lowest part of the motor is the minimum air-gap position. The end surface temperature field of the motor under 0, 25, 50, 75 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$  air-gap eccentricity is obtained. The positions of the minimum air-gap eccentricity and maximum air-gap eccentricity are named the lower half and upper half, respectively. The simulation boundary conditions of 25  $\mu\text{m}$  eccentricity are shown in Table 2.

### 3.3 Analysis of simulation results considering air-gap eccentricity

Firstly, the overall temperature field distribution of the stator and rotor without air-gap eccentricity and with different eccentricity values is analyzed, and Fig. 14 shows part of the results. At 2000 rpm, the maximum temperature is 25.67 and 32.409  $^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively, when the air-gap eccentricity of the motor is 25 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ . Compared with the non-eccentric state, the temperature increases by 5.33 % and 32.99 %, respectively, which is consistent with the calculation in the previous chapter. With the increase in air-gap eccentricity, the loss of the motor increases gradually, which leads to the increase in temperature rise of the stator and rotor. Further, the circumferential temperature field of the stator and rotor also presents a non-uniform state.

The circumferential temperature of the stator and rotor in the different air-gap position is shown in Fig. 15. At the smallest air-gap position, the motor generates more heat. Therefore, the temperature of the stator and rotor is highest in this position, which is 31.658  $^\circ\text{C}$  of the stator and 31.215  $^\circ\text{C}$  of the rotor. The temperature of the motor decreases with the increase in air-gap length. This will result in asymmetric distribution of the circumferential temperature field between the stator and rotor, and there is a large temperature difference between the stator and rotor, 0.703 and 0.585  $^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively.

The maximum circumferential temperature difference of the stator end surface under different eccentricities is shown in Table 3. When the air gap is evenly distributed, the circumferential temperature field of the stator is evenly distributed. When the air-gap eccentricity is 25, 50, 75 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , the maximum temperature difference of the stator circumferential temperature field is 0.173, 0.342, 0.519 and 0.703  $^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively. With the increase in air-gap eccentricity, the maximum temperature difference in the circumferential direction of the stator increases gradually; that is, the degree of non-uniformity in the circumferential temperature field increases.

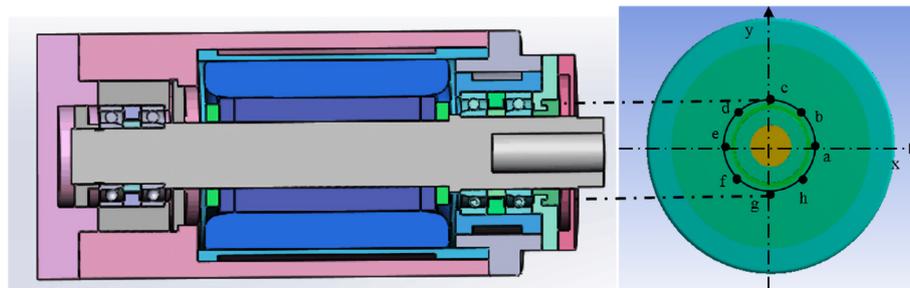
## 4 Experimental study

### 4.1 Design of experimental scheme

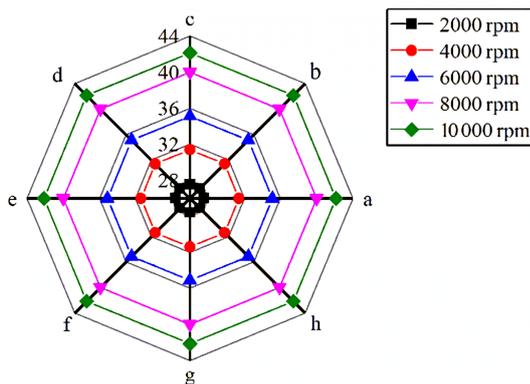
In order to verify the accuracy of the temperature field simulation of the motorized spindle and explore the actual distribution law of the temperature field of the motorized spindle, a non-contact motorized spindle temperature test bed with static eccentricity is built. The motorized spindle is produced by the Luoyang Bearing Research Institute. The air-gap eccentricity in the initial assembly of the motorized spindle is ensured by the top wire at the stator housing position (as shown in Fig. 16). Since the air gap of the motorized spindle used in our experiment is required to be 300  $\mu\text{m}$ , the static eccentricity is set to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the static eccentricity measured by the air-gap gauge is 90  $\mu\text{m}$ . The experi-

**Table 1.** Thermal boundary conditions and thermal model parameter.

The boundary conditions	Heat transfer coefficients	Value
Heat transfer between front bearing and cooling water jacket	$h = Nu_f \lambda / d_2$	62.14
Heat transfer between stator and cooling water jacket	$h = Nu_f \lambda / d_2$	102.93
Heat transfer between the air gap	$\alpha_\delta = 28 (1 + \omega_\delta^{0.5})$	81.53
Heat transfer at the rotor end	$a_t = 28 (1 + \sqrt{0.45} u_t)$	78.78
Heat transfer of the moving part of the spindle end	$\alpha_z = (c_0 + c_1 u^{-c_2})$	27.46
Heat transfer between shell and environment		9.7
Heating rate of the stator/W m <sup>-3</sup>		57 801
Heating rate of the rotor/W m <sup>-3</sup>		36 240
Heat generation rate of outer ring of front bearing/W m <sup>-3</sup>		167 840
Heat generation rate of inner ring of front bearing/W m <sup>-3</sup>		25 8711
The rate of heat production of the front bearing ball/W m <sup>-3</sup>		1 308 943
Heat generation rate of outer ring of rear bearing/W m <sup>-3</sup>		154 248
Heat generation rate of inner ring of rear bearing/W m <sup>-3</sup>		257 093
Heat generation rate of rear bearing ball/W m <sup>-3</sup>		1 290 573



**Figure 12.** End circumference and measuring point distribution.



**Figure 13.** Circumferential steady-state temperature field distribution of circle 1 at different rotating speeds.

mental system includes infrared thermography, a frequency converter, a water-cooling machine and a control system. A frequency converter is used to control spindle-rotating speed and display frequency and current. The water-cooling machine is used to provide a fixed flow of circulating coolant and display the coolant-setting temperature, real-time tem-

**Table 2.** Thermal model parameters considering eccentricity.

Thermal load and boundary conditions	Value
Heating rate of the upper part of the stator/W m <sup>-3</sup>	63 165
Heating rate of the lower part of the stator/W m <sup>-3</sup>	68 827
Heat generation rate of the upper part of the rotor/W m <sup>-3</sup>	37 222
Heat generation rate of the lower part of the rotor/W m <sup>-3</sup>	43 354
Heat transfer coefficient between the air gap/W (m <sup>2</sup> °C) <sup>-1</sup>	81.53
Heat transfer coefficient of the rotor end/W (m <sup>2</sup> °C) <sup>-1</sup>	78.78
Heat transfer coefficient of the stator cooling jacket/W (m <sup>2</sup> °C) <sup>-1</sup>	62.14

perature and ambient temperature. Each device is shown in Table 4.

The physical diagram of the motorized spindle temperature test bed and the overall structure layout are shown in Fig. 17.

The vibration signal measured by the experiment can be used to detect the eccentric state of the motor (Li et al., 2007). In order to determine whether there is eccentricity in the initial assembly of the motorized spindle, the vibration tests of the motorized spindle at 4800 and 13 200 rpm were carried out by using the B&K data acquisition instrument and a three-way acceleration sensor. Its vibration signal

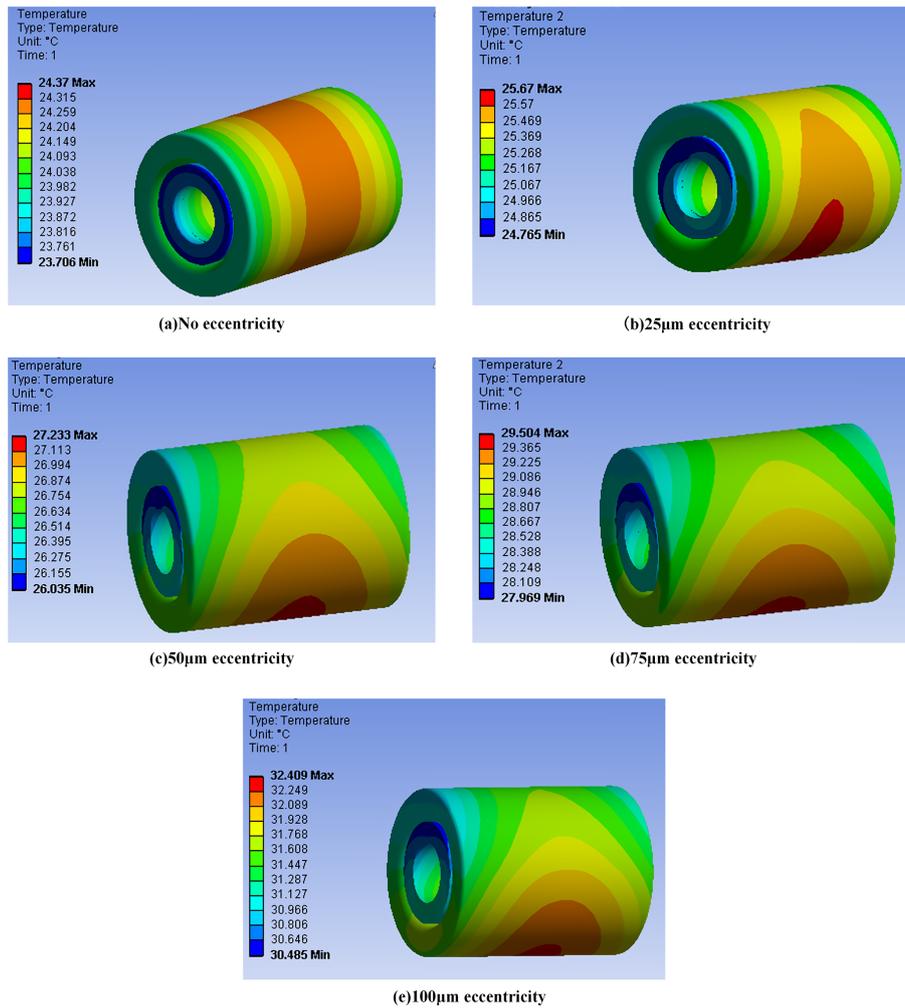


Figure 14. The influence of air-gap eccentricity at 2000 rpm on the temperature field of the stator rotor.

Table 3. The circumferential maximum temperature difference of the stator under different air-gap eccentricity.

Eccentricity/ $\mu\text{m}$	0	25	50	75	100
The maximum circumferential temperature difference/ $^{\circ}\text{C}$	0	0.173	0.342	0.519	0.703

and spectrum diagram after fast Fourier transform are shown in Figs. 18 and 19. The air-gap eccentricity of the motorized spindle will cause unbalanced magnetic tension and thus produce vibration of a different frequency. When its static eccentricity exists, the unbalanced magnetic tension will cause the vibration of the motorized spindle with a frequency of 4 times for the motorized spindle with two pole pairs. As can be seen from the figure, the corresponding 4-fold frequency conversion amplitude is large at different speeds, while other frequency conversion is relatively small. It shows that the initial assembly of the motorized spindle has a certain static eccentricity.

Taking the temperature field of the motorized spindle under no load as the main part, the motorized spindle tempera-

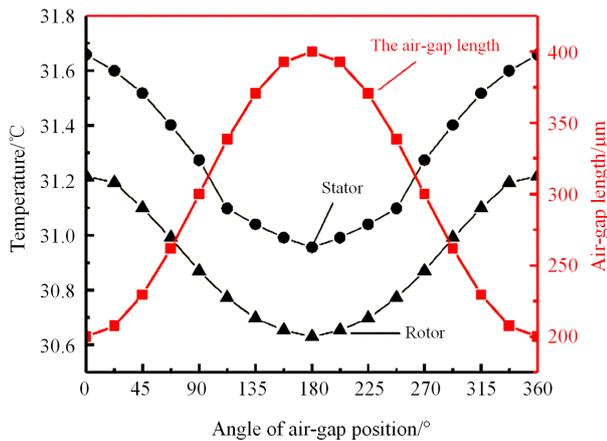
ture test bed is used to comprehensively explore the steady-state temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle end surface at different speeds (2000, 4000, 6000, 8000 and 10 000 rpm). The setting parameters of the infrared thermal imager are 1 m away from the object, 50 % relative humidity, and 0.95 sensitivity. The initial conditions of this group of experiments are consistent with those of simulation experiments.

#### 4.2 Analysis of experimental results

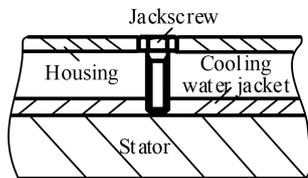
The temperature field cloud diagram of the motorized spindle end surface at 2000 rpm and different times is shown in Fig. 20. The end surface temperature field presents a non-

**Table 4.** Non-contact temperature test bed equipment parameters.

Part	Model	Note
Computer	LenovoZ480	4 GB of memory
Inverter	VFD32	380 V, 15 kW
Infrared thermal imager	FLIRT630	The temperature range is $-40-150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the accuracy is $\pm 0.01\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
Water-cooling machine	MCW-35C	Cooling capacity is 3.5 kW, the input power is 1.9 kW
Motorized spindle	A type	Rated power is 10 kW, rated current is 24 A



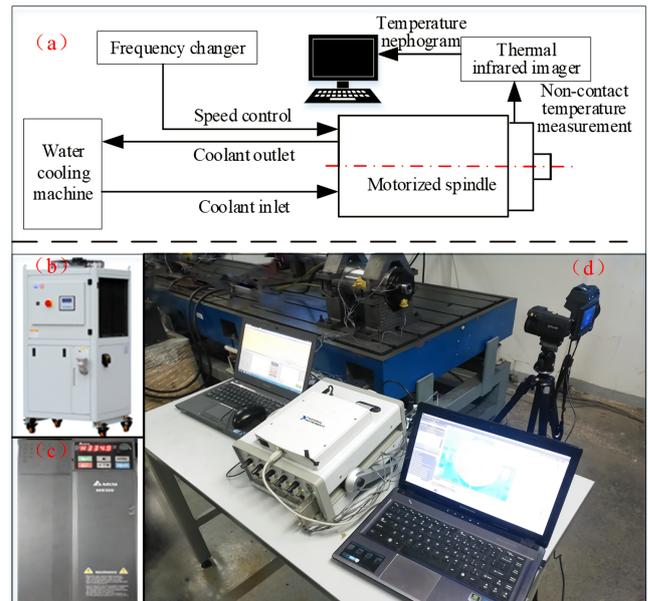
**Figure 15.** The temperature of the stator and rotor with 100 μm eccentricity at different air-gap positions.



**Figure 16.** Schematic diagram of the motor spindle jacking wire.

uniform phenomenon at 10 min through analysis. With the increase in time, the non-uniform state gradually deepens until the initial thermal equilibrium state is reached at 40 min.

In the corresponding part of the front-end cover, circle 1 is selected to study the distribution rule of the circumferential temperature field at different rotating speeds. The circumferential steady temperature fields of each measuring point on circle 1 at each rotating speed are shown in Fig. 21. The maximum temperature appears at point g at each rotating speed (except 10000 rpm). For example, at 2000 rpm, the maximum temperature is 29.623 °C at point g and the minimum temperature is 28.158 °C at point c. Overall, the circumferential temperature field of circle 1 in operation is not uniform, and the non-uniform state of each rotating speed is that the temperature of the lower part is higher than that of the upper part. This is consistent with the simulation of temperature distribution considering air-gap eccentricity. There are



**Figure 17.** Experimental system principle and object diagram. (a) Schematic diagram of experimental design. (b) Water-cooling machine. (c) The inverter. (d) Experimental system structure diagram.

two reasons for this analysis. Firstly, in terms of heat dissipation, the heat-dissipating capacity of each component is uneven. So, the thermal expansion is not uniform. Further, with the working clearance changing, the circumferential thermal resistance also changes. These will lead to the spindle circumferential temperature field in an asymmetric state. Secondly, the existence of air-gap eccentricity in the motor leads to non-uniform heating power in terms of heat generation. High heat generated at small air gaps leads to higher temperature. As a result, the temperature of the lower part of the stator and rotor is higher and the circumferential temperature field presents a non-uniform state. Heat from the stator and rotor is transferred to the end cover along the axial direction, which leads to the non-uniform temperature field in the circumferential direction of the front-end cover. In addition, the air-gap eccentricity of the motor will also make the temperature of the stator and rotor increased.

Suppose the maximum temperature of the circumferential temperature field is  $T_{max}$  and the minimum temperature is

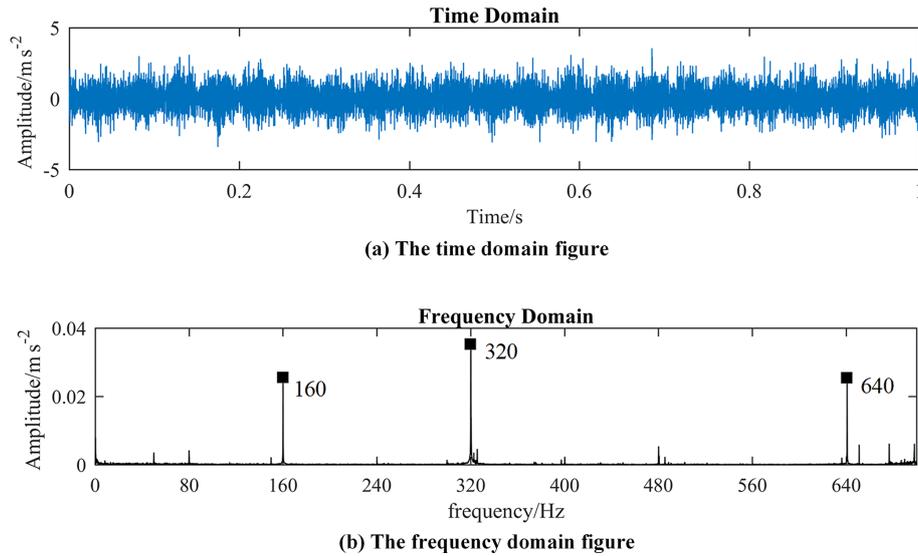


Figure 18. Vibration signal of the motorized spindle at 4800 rpm.

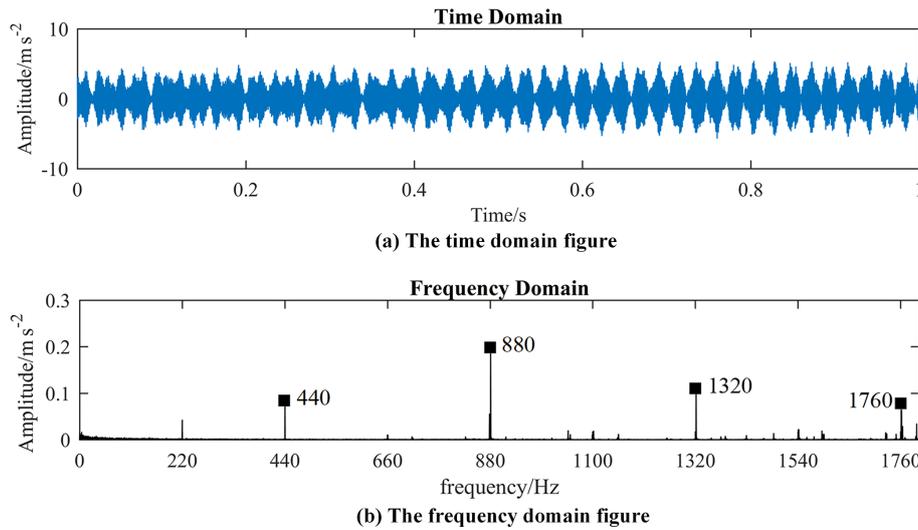


Figure 19. Vibration signal of the motorized spindle at 13 200 rpm.

$T_{\min}$ . Then the circumferential maximum temperature difference is calculated by  $\Delta T = T_{\max} - T_{\min}$ .

The degree of non-uniformity is expressed by the circumferential maximum temperature difference. The maximum temperature difference at each rotation speed on circle 1 is shown in Table 5. The maximum temperature difference increases from 1.465 to 3.468 °C with the increase in rotating speed. It indicates that the non-uniformity at circle 1 gradually deepens with the increase in rotating speed. The reason is the same as the calculated power loss trend of the motor. With the same eccentricity, each power loss of the motor increases significantly with the increase in rotating speed, and the loss difference at different circular positions is more obvious. Therefore, its circumferential non-uniformity deepens.

## 5 Conclusions

In this paper, based on the established thermal model, the influence of air-gap eccentricity on the temperature field distribution of a motorized spindle was studied and the circumferential temperature field distribution of the motorized spindle was revealed. The conclusions are as follows.

In the study of thermal model, mechanical loss, electrical loss and magnetic loss of the motor all increase with the increase in air-gap eccentricity. The mechanical loss power of 100 μm eccentricity increased by 6.31 % compared with that without eccentricity at 2000 rpm. The electric loss of the stator and rotor increased by 18.03 % and 18.04 %, respectively. Stator hysteresis loss increased by 1.17 times. The

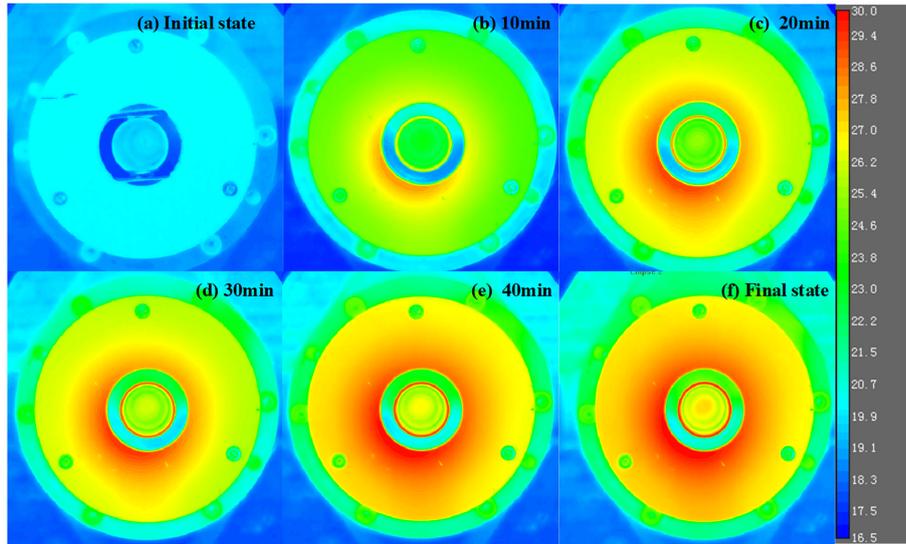


Figure 20. Transient temperature field distribution at different times of the motorized spindle at 2000 rpm.

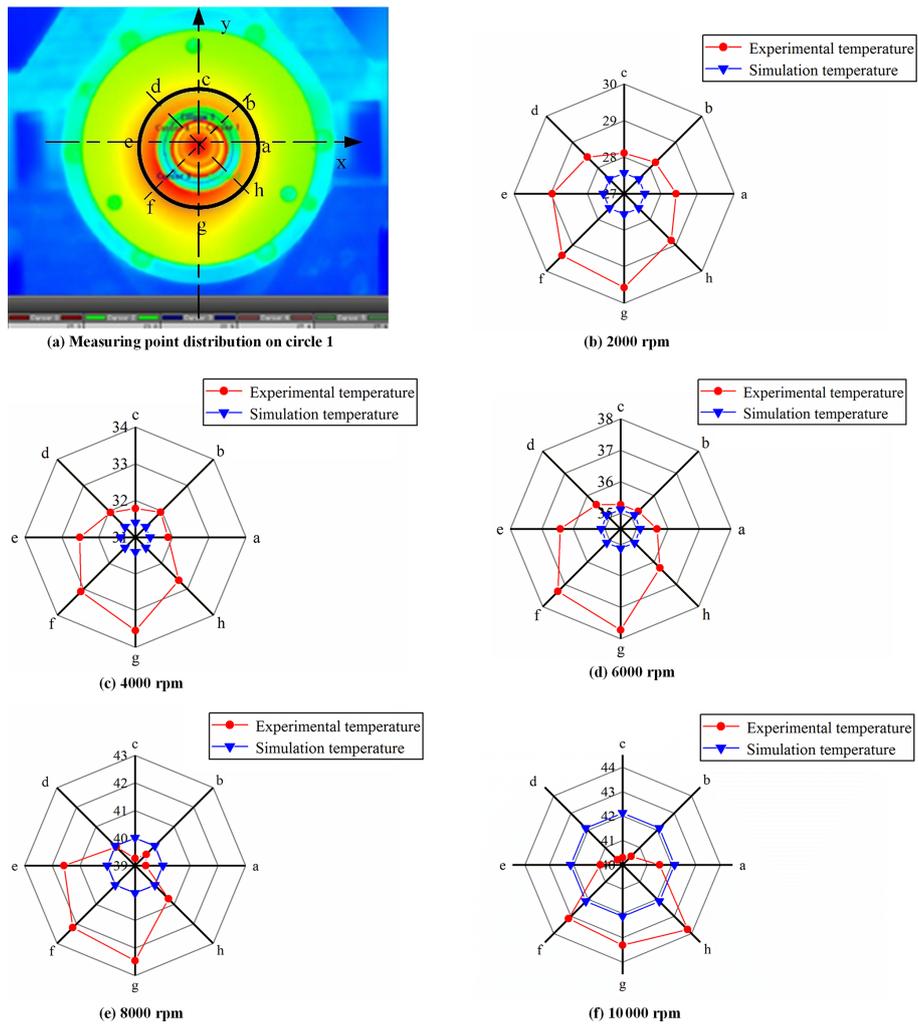


Figure 21. Circumferential temperature field of circle 1 at different rotating speeds.

**Table 5.** The maximum temperature difference of circle 1 at different rotating speeds.

Speed/rpm	2000	4000	6000	8000	10 000
Circumferential maximum temperature difference/°C	1.465	1.653	2.451	3.195	3.468

eddy current loss power of the stator and rotor increased by 1.19 times. It indicates that air-gap eccentricity has a great influence on motor loss. Therefore, air-gap eccentricity should not be neglected in the establishment of the thermal model.

Based on the finite-element method, the steady-state temperature field simulation study of the motorized spindle was conducted without considering air-gap eccentricity. The results show that the circumferential temperature field distribution is symmetrical, and the results of the temperature field after considering air-gap eccentricity show that the increase in air-gap eccentricity leads to the increase in temperature rise of the stator and rotor. Further, the temperature is higher at smaller air gap, and the circumferential temperature field is in a state of asymmetric distribution, and with the increase in eccentricity, the degree of non-uniformity increases up to 0.703 °C.

The steady-state temperature field experimental results of the motorized spindle at various rotating speeds show that the circumferential temperature field of the end cover is non-uniform, and the non-uniform state at each rotating speed is that the temperature of the lower half is higher than that of the upper half. It is consistent with the simulation results of temperature field considering air-gap eccentricity. The degree of non-uniformity gradually deepens with the increase in rotating speed.

This paper provides a theoretical basis for the accurate thermal characteristic analysis and the improvement of machined surface quality of the motorized spindle.

**Data availability.** All the data used in this paper can be obtained from the corresponding author upon request.

**Author contributions.** XL proposed the research route and completed the first draft; JL modified and improved the paper and supplemented relevant data; CL completed part of the experiment and data analysis; JH provided guidance for the experiment and paper framework; DW provided guidance and analysis for replenishing experimental data.

**Competing interests.** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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