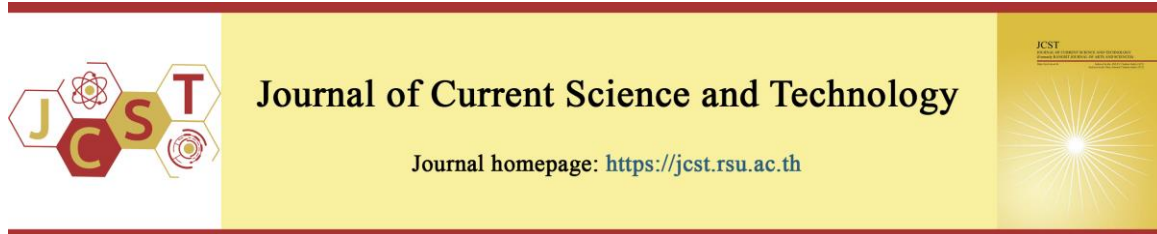


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## Recent Advances in Cogging Torque Reduction for Radial-Flux PMSMs: A Systematic and Bibliometric Review

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### Abstract

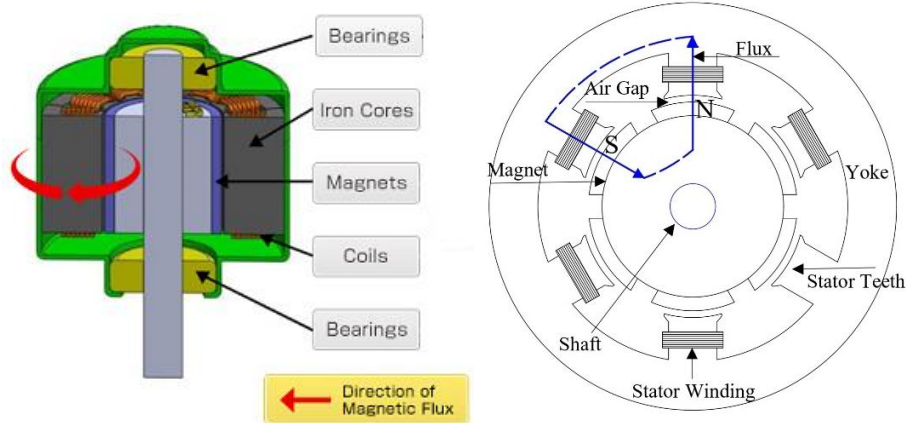
Cogging torque remains a critical barrier to achieving torque smoothness, energy efficiency, and structural reliability in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (RF-PMSMs), particularly in low-speed and variable-speed renewable energy systems. This study presents a systematic literature review (SLR) of 64 peer-reviewed journal articles, categorizing cogging torque mitigation strategies into five key domains: stator geometry, rotor geometry, magnet geometry, winding layout, and non-geometric techniques. To complement the synthesis, bibliometric mapping was performed using VOSviewer, and a Thematic Map was generated via Biblioshiny (Bibliometrix R) from article metadata. This integrated approach not only identifies widely adopted techniques but also uncovers underexplored yet high-potential research fronts. In particular, niche and emerging themes are highlighted as promising directions for innovation. The review also underscores the importance of multi-objective design optimization, advanced material strategies, and real-world validation under manufacturing and operational constraints. Overall, the study provides a structured and forward-looking contribution to advancing RF-PMSM design, with specific novelty in cogging torque reduction for high-performance and sustainable energy applications.

**Keywords:** RF-PMSMs; stator geometry; rotor geometry; magnet geometry; winding layout; non-geometry techniques

### 1. Introduction

The adoption of Permanent Magnet Synchronous Machines (PMSMs) has increased due to their clear advantages over excitation-based machines. Replacing rotor excitation with permanent magnets eliminates slip rings and external current sources, thereby enhancing system reliability (Hussien et al., 2022). This design also lowers rotor copper losses and improves thermal stability (Azom & Khan, 2025). Moreover, reduced conversion losses contribute to higher efficiency (Nguyen et al., 2025), while superior power density and power factor make PMSMs attractive for energy-efficient systems (Yu et al., 2024).

Permanent Magnet Synchronous Machines (PMSMs) are classified as rotary or linear and further divided by flux orientation into radial-flux and axial-flux types. Radial-flux PMSMs, producing flux perpendicular to the rotor shaft, are favored for their simple manufacturing and robust structure (Xiang et al., 2025), and their practicality in generator applications has also been confirmed (Wei et al., 2021). As shown in Figure 1, a radial-flux permanent magnet machine is characterized by magnetic flux oriented perpendicular to the rotor shaft.



**Figure 1** PMSMs radial-flux general topology. Adapted from Hassan et al. (2022), “Direct torque control of non-salient pole AFPMs with SVPWM inverter,” *International Journal of Power Electronics and Drive Systems*, 13(4), 2014–2023.

Cogging torque remains a major limitation of PMSMs, arising from interactions between rotor magnets and stator teeth as flux seeks paths of minimum reluctance. This torque component adversely affects machine starting performance (Patel et al., 2023), induces torque ripple (Kanapara & Badgajar, 2020), mechanical vibration (Abduh et al., 2025), acoustic noise (Hu et al., 2022), efficiency degradation (Song et al., 2021), and back-EMF distortion (Youssef et al., 2025). These effects are particularly pronounced under low-speed operating conditions (Bu et al., 2021). Thus, reducing cogging torque is not only a design goal but also a prerequisite for smooth operation, efficiency, and durability in permanent magnet machines.

This study contributes a comprehensive and methodologically rigorous synthesis of cogging torque reduction strategies in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (RF-PMSMs). Unlike prior reviews that primarily focus on individual aspects—such as stator slotting or rotor shaping—this article systematically integrates 64 peer-reviewed studies spanning stator geometry, rotor geometry, magnet geometry, winding layouts, and non-geometric approaches, thereby offers a holistic perspective that is absent in earlier surveys. Furthermore, it addresses a critical research gap by coupling a systematic literature review (SLR) with bibliometric analysis, which enables not only the consolidation of state-of-the-art knowledge but also the identification of underrepresented yet high-potential research fronts within the Niche and Emerging quadrants of the thematic Map. This integrated approach represents the key novelty of the

work, as it provides explicit insights into overlooked torque characteristics, design sensitivities, and underexplored methodological directions. Overall, the contribution of this study lies in establishing a structured and forward-looking framework that guides future innovations in RF-PM machine design and cogging torque mitigation, differentiating it from existing reviews.

## 2. Objectives

The objectives of this review are formulated to ensure methodological clarity and highlight the unique contributions of the study, as follows:

1. To systematically identify, classify, and analyze cogging torque reduction techniques in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (RF-PMSMs), based on 64 peer-reviewed articles published between 2020 and June 2025, covering stator geometry, rotor geometry, magnet geometry, winding layout, and non-geometric strategies.

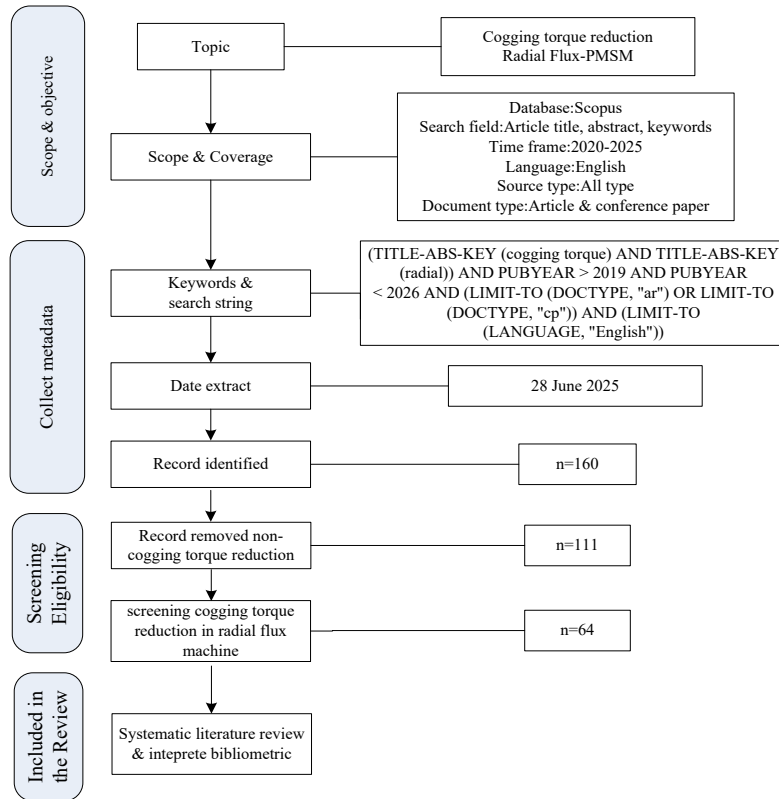
2. To integrate systematic review findings with bibliometric analysis using VOSviewer and Biblioshiny (Bibliometrix R) to map research clusters, highlight underexplored yet high-potential themes, and formulate future directions for advancing cogging torque reduction in RF-PMSMs.

## 3. Materials and Methods

### 3.1 Materials

The literature search involved formulating precise terms, expanding them with relevant synonyms, and systematically screening retrieved articles using predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria. From this process, only high-impact and





**Figure 3** Article selection process using PRISMA method

**Table 1** PICOC criteria

Criteria	Description
Population	Rotary permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs) with radial-flux topology
Intervention	Application of geometric modifications (e.g., stator geometry, rotor geometry, permanent magnet configuration, and winding layout) and non-geometric techniques (e.g., control techniques, material selection, and magnetic field manipulation) aimed at mitigating cogging torque and torque ripple.
Comparison	Comparative evaluation of geometric versus non-geometric modifications in terms of their effectiveness in reducing cogging torque and torque ripple
Outcome	Development of PMSM designs with minimized cogging torque and torque ripple, leading to smoother operation and enhanced performance
Context	Applicable to both generator and motor systems across various domains, including renewable energy, electric vehicles, precision actuators, and industrial automation

**Table 2** Research questions (RQ)

Research Question Number
<b>RQ1:</b> What stator geometric modification techniques have been proposed to reduce cogging torque in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs)?
<b>RQ2:</b> What rotor geometric modification techniques have been proposed to reduce cogging torque in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs)?
<b>RQ3:</b> What magnet geometric modification techniques have been proposed to reduce cogging torque in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs)?
<b>RQ4:</b> What winding layout modification techniques have been proposed to reduce cogging torque in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs)?
<b>RQ5:</b> What non-geometric techniques have been investigated for cogging torque mitigation in radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (PMSMs)?
<b>RQ6:</b> What research gaps or future directions can be derived from current cogging torque reduction techniques in radial-flux PMSMs?

The PICOC framework establishes the scope of this SLR by structuring keywords that guide reference searches and research question formulation. This structured method ensures consistency and thematic alignment. The PICOC elements Population (P), Intervention (I), Comparison (C), Outcome (O), and Context (C) are outlined in Table 1. Based on these, Table 2 summarizes the main objective: to identify and categorize cogging torque reduction techniques in radial-flux PMSMs, covering both geometric and non-geometric strategies. This classification addresses RQ1–RQ5, while the synthesis informs gap identification and guides future directions under RQ6.

#### 4. Result and Discussion

In the general expression of electromagnetic torque, as presented in equation (1), the cogging torque is represented by the second term of the equation:

$$T = \frac{1}{2} i^2 \frac{dL}{d\theta} - \frac{1}{2} \phi^2 \frac{dR}{d\theta} + Ni \frac{d\phi}{d\theta} \quad (1)$$

where  $\phi$  is the magnetic flux,  $L$  is the inductance,  $R$  is the reluctance,  $N$  is the number of turns,  $i$  is the current, and  $\theta$  is the rotor position. Since inductance is inversely proportional to reluctance, as expressed in equation (2), this relationship directly links variations in reluctance to the magnitude of cogging torque.

$$L = \frac{\lambda}{i} = \frac{N^2}{R} = N^2 P \quad (2)$$

To address this parasitic effect, cogging torque reduction methods focus on minimizing air-gap flux

variations and smoothing reluctance changes through both geometric and non-geometric strategies. In practice, these include stator slot and tooth modifications, rotor pole shaping, optimized magnet geometries, advanced winding layouts, and control-based approaches. Each method aims to weaken the reluctance variation ( $\frac{dR}{d\theta}$ ) or redistribute flux density in the air gap, thereby suppressing cogging torque while preserving average torque and overall machine efficiency.

#### 4.1 Stator Geometry Techniques

Cogging torque arises mainly from the interaction between rotor-mounted permanent magnets and the stator slot structure, making stator teeth and slot geometry modification an effective mitigation strategy. Key techniques include teeth shaping, teeth pairing, unequal teeth width, chamfering, slot opening variation, slot skewing, slotless design, and fractional-slot winding. These approaches are summarized in Table 3 under stator geometry modification techniques.

As an illustrative example, Figure 4 compares cogging-torque waveforms for 9S8P, 9S10P, 12S10P, 12S14P, 12S8P, and 12S4P. The traces show that slot-pole selection shifts dominant cogging orders and peak-to-peak amplitudes: co-prime or near co-prime pairs (e.g., 9S10P) tend to distribute harmonics and yield smoother torque, whereas pairs with common factors (e.g., 12S8P, 12S4P) strengthen slot-pole alignment and elevate ripple. This highlights the need to tune S/P combinations to weaken air-gap permeance modulation and reduce cogging torque in RF-PM machines (Xiang et al., 2024).

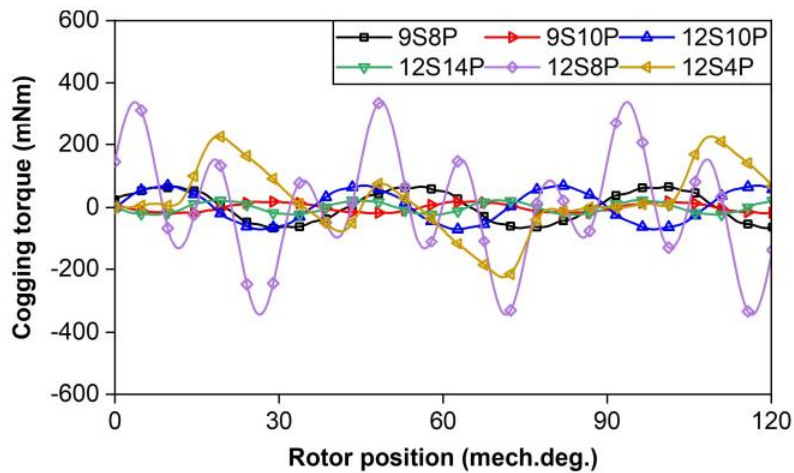


Figure 4 Influence of Slot and Pole Number Combinations on cogging torque

**Table 3** Stator geometry techniques

No	Techniques	References
1	Teeth:	
	teeth shaping	Kim & Jung, 2020; Xiang & Zhu, 2022; Jhankal & Patel, 2024; Won et al., 2024; Jang et al., 2024
	unequal teeth width	Tong et al., 2020; Yang et al., 2022
2	Slot:	Krishnan et al., 2024; Sayed & Erturk, 2021
	slot opening variation	Choi et al., 2024; Vukotić et al., 2020
	slot skewing	Dajaku, 2021; Liu et al., 2023
	slotless design	Tong et al., 2020; Yang et al., 2022
	Fractional-Slot	Krishnan et al., 2024; Sayed & Erturk, 2021

Teeth shaping has proven effective in reducing cogging torque while enhancing auxiliary performance. A tooth pairing method achieved approximately 50% cogging torque reduction without lowering the average torque (Kim & Jung, 2020). Optimization of tooth edge inset width (TEIW) reduced cogging torque by 48.24% (9.66 Nm to 5.00 Nm) with negligible impact on torque (Jhankal & Patel, 2024). Circular chamfers were the most effective for cogging torque reduction (~30%) (Won et al., 2024), while linear and eccentric chamfers better suppressed torque ripple and vibration further applied surrogate-based tooth-tip chamfering, achieving 82% lower cogging torque, 80% less torque ripple, a 12% torque density increase, and 42% material savings (Jang et al., 2024).

Unequal teeth width strongly affects cogging torque and vibration across slot–pole combinations. For a 12-slot/10-pole machine, a 0.7 tooth-width ratio reduced torque ripple and vibration by 8.2%, whereas in a 12-slot/8-pole design, vibration increased despite cogging torque suppression (Wu et al., 2023). In dual-stator machines, a squirrel-type unequal distribution cut torque ripple by 56.57% and cogging torque by over 50% without notable torque loss, underscoring its suitability for high-quality torque applications (Yao et al., 2024).

Slot opening variation alters air-gap flux distribution and slot permeance harmonics to suppress cogging torque. An analytical model combining subdomain, conformal mapping, and equivalent circuit methods was proposed, which accurately predicted cogging torque under eccentricity and magnet defects while also reducing computational cost (Tong et al., 2020). Combining two machine units with different pole/slot ratios but equal slot openings maximized the least common multiple of poles and slots, yielding substantial cogging torque reduction with standardized slot widths (Yang et al., 2022).

Slot skewing remains a proven method for reducing cogging torque and vibration. In six-phase

BLDC motors for EVs, a 10° skew lowered cogging torque from 0.557 Nm to 0.08 Nm while maintaining torque output (Krishnan et al., 2024). Similarly, in RF-PMSGs for small wind turbines, progressive skewing cut cogging torque by up to 56%, improving smoothness without affecting average torque (Sayed & Erturk, 2021).

Slotless stator designs eliminate cogging torque by removing slot–magnet interactions. In a column-type EPS motor, a slotless stator design reduced cogging torque by 90.5% and torque ripple by 48.1% while enhancing gravimetric power density (Choi et al., 2024). Across different rotor topologies, slotless machines consistently exhibited negligible cogging torque, underscoring their suitability for precision and noise-sensitive applications (Vukotić et al., 2020).

Fractional-slot concentrated winding (FSCW) reduces cogging torque by decoupling harmonics and improving torque quality. A 24-slot/20-pole configuration was shown to lower THD, reduce torque ripple, and achieve a high winding factor, resulting in a compact and efficient design (Dajaku, 2021). The effectiveness of fractional-slot concentrated winding in suppressing cogging torque and enhancing torque density was further confirmed, providing a strong theoretical foundation for high-performance RF-PM machines (Liu et al., 2023).

#### 4.2 Rotor Geometry Techniques

Key rotor geometry techniques for cogging torque reduction include rotor skewing, pole shaping, pole arc variation, flux barriers, and spoke-type structures, each strongly influencing air-gap flux and torque characteristics. Validated through analytical, numerical, and experimental studies, these methods suppress cogging torque while maintaining or enhancing electromagnetic performance. Table 4 summarizes the main findings from recent investigations into rotor geometry approaches.

As an illustrative example, Figure 5 illustrates the cogging torque waveform comparison between a conventional arc-shaped rotor and the proposed straight-shaped rotor in a small wind generator. The straight-shaped design reduces the abrupt permeance variation at slot openings, resulting in a more sinusoidal flux distribution. This modification led to a dramatic decrease in cogging torque, from 280.7 mNm in the baseline model to 16.2 mNm in the proposed configuration, corresponding to a 96% reduction, while maintaining nearly identical efficiency and EMF characteristics. Such results confirm that rotor shaping offers a highly effective strategy for minimizing cogging torque without incurring significant penalties in electromagnetic performance (Kang et al., 2024).

Rotor skewing is a well-established technique for reducing cogging torque, torque ripple, and vibration. A segmented skew rotor in a U-shaped PM motor was shown to reduce cogging torque from 55 Nm to 3 Nm, torque ripple from 42 Nm to 7 Nm, and noise by 22.4 dB without efficiency loss (Liu et al., 2022). A step-skewed PMSM optimized via transfer learning achieved over a tenfold reduction in 24th-order cogging torque while also cutting FEA

computation time (Won et al., 2023). A coaxial magnetic gear with skewed modulators and unequal air gaps lowered cogging torque from 49.45% to 5.76%, with additional reductions in core and eddy current losses (Khaledi & Kashani, 2025b). Adjusting magnet angles in segmented rotors further reduced cogging torque by 82.53%, confirming the simplicity and effectiveness of the method (Hua et al., 2024).

Rotor pole shaping is widely applied for harmonic suppression and cogging torque reduction. Eccentric pole profiles were shown to reduce total harmonic distortion from 36% to 7.8% and cogging torque from 40.57 Nm to 0.03 Nm (Zhou et al., 2022). Surface shaping in SPMSMs and IPMSMs lowered cogging torque to 1.7% and 0.6% of baseline values, with negligible penalties (Yamazaki & Seki, 2023). A hybrid star-type rotor topology achieved 56.02% cogging torque reduction and 17.67% iron loss reduction, verified through optimization and FEA (Khaledi et al., 2024). Permeance-based rotor shaping further achieved a 99% reduction in cogging torque, albeit with an 18% drop in back-EMF (Fang et al., 2025), while additional improvements were reported when this method was combined with rotor skewing (Bahrami-Fard et al., 2025).

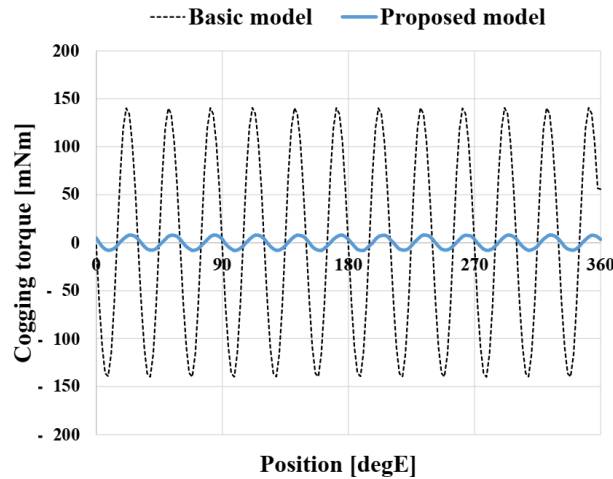


Figure 5 Influence rotor shaping on cogging torque

Table 4 Rotor geometry techniques

No	Techniques	Reference
1	Rotor skewing	Liu et al., 2022; Won et al., 2023; Khaledi & Kashani, 2025b; Hua et al., 2024
2	Rotor pole shaping	Zhou et al., 2022; Yamazaki & Seki, 2023; Khaledi et al., 2024; Kang et al., 2024; Fang et al., 2025; Bahrami-Fard et al., 2025
3	Spoke-type structure	Peng et al., 2022; Deepak et al., 2024
4	Flux barriers	Yamamoto & Hidaka, 2024; Mushenya & Khan, 2023

Spoke-type rotors strengthen flux paths and structural integrity while reducing cogging torque. A segmented spoke-type rotor with staggered pole widths was shown to reduce cogging torque, torque ripple, and vibration, delivering slot-skew-like performance with lower axial force and simpler manufacturability (Peng et al., 2022). Among four inner-rotor topologies, the spoke-embedded design achieved the lowest cogging torque of 0.028 Nm and the highest efficiency of 96%, confirming its suitability for low-power EVs and compact generators (Deepak et al., 2024).

Flux barrier modifications redirect magnetic flux to weaken cogging-inducing harmonics while preserving torque. An asymmetric flux-barrier structure in concentrated winding IPMSMs reduced torque ripple to 0.17 Nm under high load and 0.274 Nm under low load without compromising efficiency (Yamamoto & Hidaka, 2024). Alternating flux-barrier integration in a vernier machine also suppressed cogging harmonics and improved flux modulation, although detailed numerical results were not reported (Mushenya & Khan, 2023). These findings highlight flux barriers as effective solutions for high-precision, low-vibration PM machines.

#### 4.3 Magnet Geometric Modification Techniques

Magnet geometric modification techniques are pivotal for cogging torque reduction in radial-flux

permanent magnet machines, as they directly affect flux distribution, harmonic suppression, and electromagnetic symmetry. Recent advances include radial offset positioning, pitch skewing, magnet topology optimization, surface shape variation, fractional pole concentration, thickness adjustment, dual-layer configurations, and pole arc variation. These methods, validated through analytical models, finite element simulations, and experiments, demonstrate their impact on cogging torque suppression, efficiency improvement, and material utilization. Table 5 summarizes the key techniques and representative findings from high-impact studies.

As an illustrative example, Figure 6 illustrates the effect of magnet geometric modification through a straight-shaped rotor design, which redistributes the air-gap flux density to suppress cogging torque. This approach demonstrated that altering magnet surface geometry can achieve a substantial reduction in cogging torque up to 96% compared with the baseline—while maintaining efficiency loss below 0.2%. Such results highlight the effectiveness of magnet shaping as a practical and low-cost technique for improving torque quality in small wind power generators, offering a compelling direction for compact renewable energy applications (Jhankal & Patel, 2023).

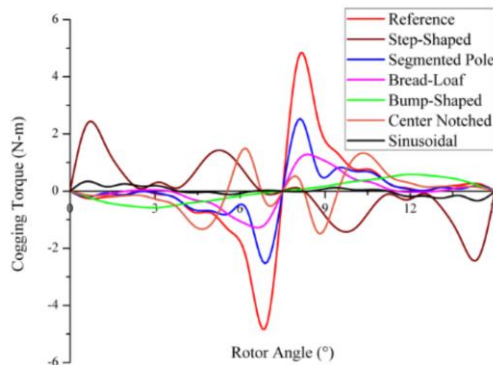


Figure 6 Influence surface magnet shape on cogging torque

Table 5 Magnet configuration techniques

No	Techniques	No. References
1	Radial Offset Magnet Positioning	Zamani Faradonbeh et al., 2020; Panchal et al., 2022
2	Pitch Skewing of Magnet	Constantin et al., 2022; Anuja et al., 2022; Chi et al., 2024
3	Topology Optimization of Magnet Area	Ruzbehi & Hahn, 2022; Mostaman, 2023; Tian et al., 2024
4	Surface Magnet Shape Variation	Kurt & Dalcıl, 2023; Jhankal & Patel, 2023; Sarac, 2023; Xiang et al., 2023
5	Fractional Pole Concentration	Qi et al., 2023; Said et al., 2024
6	Varying Magnet Thickness	Du et al., 2024; Xiang et al., 2024; Ganesh et al., 2022
7	Dual-Layer Magnet Configuration	Khaledi & Kashani, 2025a; Pan & Jing, 2021
8	Pole Arc Variation	Liang et al., 2020; Mostaman et al., 2023; Abduh et al., 2024

Radial offset positioning suppresses cogging torque by inducing harmonic phase cancellation. A 4° permanent magnet shift reduced cogging torque from 0.022 Nm to 0.003 Nm while maintaining acceptable THD (Zamani Faradonbeh et al., 2020). Similarly, angular displacement in surface-mounted PM BLDC motors achieved a 45.5% reduction (1.1 Nm to 0.6 Nm) and lowered back-EMF THD from 8.03% to 6.54%, confirming its effectiveness without sacrificing torque output (Panchal et al., 2022).

Pitch skewing reduces cogging torque by redistributing magnetic flux and suppressing harmonics. Adjusting magnet angles cut cogging torque from 3.826 Nm to 0.0041 Nm and torque ripple from 167.5% to 25.7%, with only a 4.2% torque penalty (Constantin et al., 2022). Combining a 3° phase shift with asymmetric pole arc adjustment further reduced cogging torque by 66.6% and raised efficiency to 94.13% (Anuja et al., 2022). A skewed segmented magnet design also lowered cogging torque from 7.247 Nm to 2.047 Nm and slightly improved efficiency in a 5.5 kW outer-rotor SPMSM (Chi et al., 2024).

Magnet topology optimization reduces cogging torque while minimizing magnet usage. A binary genetic algorithm cut magnet volume by 22.2% while improving torque and back-EMF smoothness (Ruzbehi & Hahn, 2022). Local optimization in an RFPMG lowered cogging torque by 63%, saved 0.9 kg of magnet, and boosted voltage by 13.64% (Mostaman, 2023). A two-stage ISSA–NSGA-II model achieved a 16.7% reduction in cogging torque and an over 100% efficiency gain, demonstrating the effectiveness of system-level optimization (Tian et al., 2024).

Surface magnet shaping adjusts flux distribution to suppress cogging torque and harmonics. Inclined and skewed double-rectangular magnets reduced cogging torque by 80% and lowered THD to 1.85% (Kurt & Dalcali, 2023). A quasi-cylindrical pole pattern further provided an 82.3% torque reduction and 9% torque gain, experimentally validated in prototypes (Xiang et al., 2023).

Fractional pole concentration suppresses cogging torque by exploiting magnetic asymmetry. Unequal north–south pole arrangements shifted the cogging order, validated through prototype testing (Qi et al., 2023). Optimized pole-arc shaping within fractional poles reduced cogging torque by 99.04% while preserving torque output (Said et al., 2024).

Magnet thickness variation strongly influences cogging torque. Deviations in thickness and remanence altered cogging harmonics, while tolerance control

improved reliability (Du et al., 2024). A  $\pm 0.1$  mm variation induced a 7% torque deviation under eccentricity (Xiang et al., 2024), whereas interior magnet thickness optimization reduced cogging torque without affecting torque output in IPM motors (Ganesh et al., 2022).

Dual-layer magnet configurations enhance flux concentration and effectively mitigate cogging torque. A hybrid L-type design integrating rare-earth and ferrite magnets achieved an 85.5% reduction with reduced magnet volume, lower core losses, and only minor torque penalties (Khaledi & Kashani, 2025a). Similarly, an irregular dual-layer Halbach array cut cogging torque by 56.9% in the inner rotor and 76.5% in the outer rotor while improving flux concentration and torque smoothness in double-rotor PM machines (Pan & Jing, 2021).

Pole arc optimization effectively balances air-gap flux density while suppressing cogging torque. Adjusting pole arcs reduced cogging torque while also lowering vibration and noise, emphasizing its multiphysics relevance (Liang et al., 2020). An optimal pole arc ratio of 0.49 reduced cogging torque to 0.6986 Nm and improved voltage output, representing a 69.88% reduction compared with baseline (Mostaman et al., 2023). Combining pole arc adjustment with magnet reshaping achieved a 99.04% cogging torque reduction, underscoring its strategic value for renewable-energy generator design and sustainable power systems (Abduh et al., 2024).

#### 4.4 Winding Layout Modification Techniques

Winding layout modification is a key strategy for cogging torque reduction in radial-flux permanent magnet machines, as it shapes magnetomotive force distribution and harmonic alignment. Current studies highlight fractional-slot winding and optimized coil arrangements, which effectively reduce cogging torque, torque ripple, and unbalanced magnetic pull while improving efficiency and reducing copper usage. Table 6 summarizes these techniques, supported by analytical, numerical, and experimental validations demonstrating their impact on torque quality and overall performance.

As an illustrative example of winding layout modification, Figure 7 compares the cogging torque waveforms of RF-PMSGs wound with integral slot distributed winding (ISDW), Fractional-Slot distributed winding (FSDW), and Fractional-Slot concentrated winding (FSCW). The results, validated through 2D and 3D finite element simulations, show that FSDW achieved the lowest cogging torque and ripple torque,

while FSCW offered reduced copper mass and manufacturing simplicity at the expense of slightly higher distortion. ISDW exhibited the highest harmonic content and torque pulsation, underscoring the importance of winding selection in balancing electromagnetic performance, efficiency, and practicality for wind turbine generators (Iracheta-Cortez et al., 2024).

Fractional-slot winding disrupts slot/pole harmonic alignment, thereby reducing cogging torque and improving electromagnetic balance. Shifting from a 9-slot to a 12-slot design significantly lowered cogging torque and improved back-EMF symmetry under static eccentricity (Park et al., 2021). An optimized fractional-slot configuration achieved a 98.68% reduction in cogging torque and a 28.57% decrease in unbalanced magnetic pull while maintaining mechanical and electromagnetic robustness (Nur et al., 2024). Similarly, non-standard arrangements such as 8p13s further reduced torque ripple from 14% to below 1% with minimal radial force penalties, underscoring the potential of fractional-slot winding for enhancing torque quality in RF-PM machines (Königs et al., 2025).

Optimizing coil arrangements shapes flux distribution and harmonic behavior, offering a complementary route for cogging torque mitigation. A comparative study of ISDW, FSDW, and FSCW showed that FSDW minimized cogging torque and harmonic distortion, while FSCW provided balanced performance with reduced copper usage (Ortiz-García et al., 2023).

#### 4.5 Non-Geometric Techniques

Non-geometric techniques offer alternative pathways for cogging torque reduction by improving electromagnetic behavior beyond structural modifications. These include Halbach magnetization, control-based strategies, and material engineering, which suppress cogging torque through flux modulation, active regulation, or enhanced magnetic properties. Supported by analytical models, simulations, and experiments, these methods have proven effective in lowering cogging torque while improving torque smoothness, efficiency, and reliability. Table 7 outlines recent developments and outcomes that complement traditional geometry-based approaches.

Non-geometric techniques such as control-based methods effectively suppress cogging torque without altering machine geometry. As illustrated in Figure 8, torque ripple waveforms under three scenarios—cogging map off, cogging map on, and cogging map with CHC demonstrate progressive improvement in torque smoothness. The addition of a cogging torque map already reduces oscillations; however, integrating a Current Harmonics Controller (CHC) achieves the most significant ripple attenuation, ensuring precise current tracking and smoother torque production. This highlights how advanced control schemes can complement design-based methods by actively compensating cogging harmonics in real time (Sumega et al., 2020).

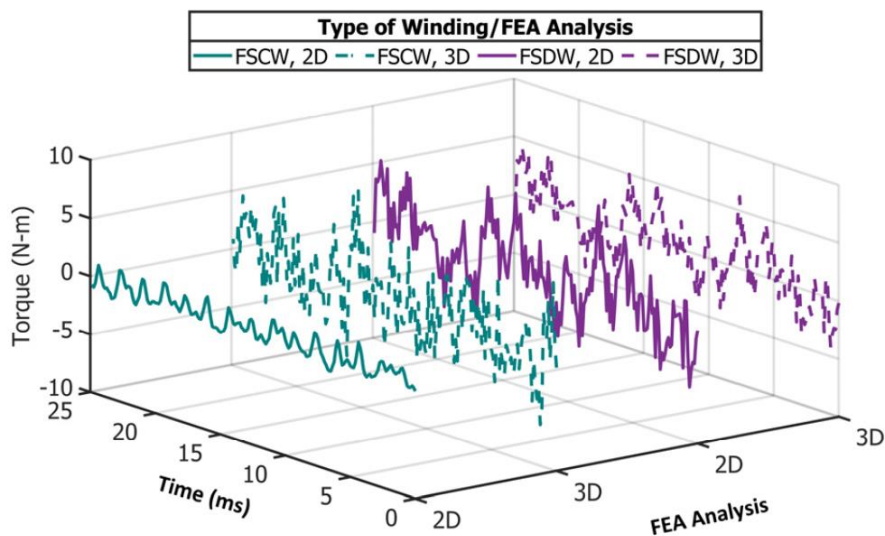


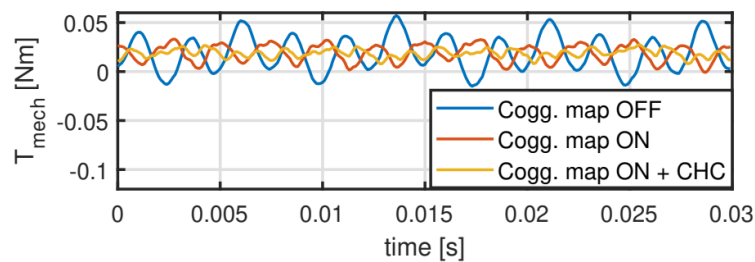
Figure 7 Influence winding layout modification on cogging torque

**Table 6** Winding layout techniques

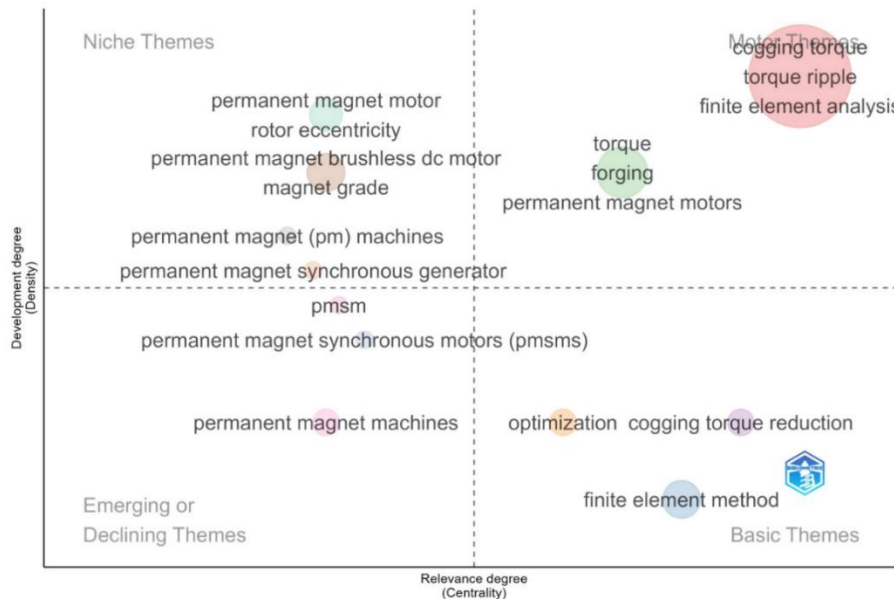
No	Techniques	References
1	Fractional-Slot Winding	Park et al., 2021; Nur et al., 2024; Königs et al., 2025
2	Coil/Winding arrangement pattern	Ortiz-García et al., 2023; Iracheta-Cortez et al., 2024

**Table 7** Non-geometric techniques

No	Techniques	References
1	Halbach magnetization	Liu et al., 2021; Nobahari & Vahedi, 2022
2	Control-based	Sumega et al., 2020; Dini & Saponara, 2020; Nos et al., 2020
3	Material engineering	Nos et al., 2020; Thenmozhi et al., 2022b; Abbass & Ali, 2023



**Figure 8** Influence control base method on cogging torque



**Figure 9** Thematic map

Halbach magnetization improves flux uniformity, suppressing cogging torque and enhancing efficiency. An optimized design based on magnetic field energy equivalence reduced cogging torque compared with conventional surface-mounted types while preserving torque smoothness (Liu et al., 2021). Similarly, a modified Halbach array improved air-gap flux distribution, yielding stable torque and significant cogging torque reduction without requiring structural modifications (Nobahari & Vahedi, 2022).

A nonlinear scheme combining feedback linearization with an extended Kalman filter further minimized cogging torque in sensorless motors by embedding a deterministic torque model to ensure precise rotor estimation and robust suppression (Dini & Saponara, 2020). Likewise, a proportional-integral-resonant (PIR) controller compensated speed harmonics, reducing cogging torque and cutting speed pulsations 14-fold without requiring structural changes or additional sensors (Nos et al., 2020).

Material engineering exploits magnetic material properties to reduce cogging torque while sustaining overall performance. Comparative analyses demonstrated that Alnico-9NB minimized cogging torque while maintaining 95.4% efficiency and stable torque up to 3200 rpm (Thenmozhi et al., 2022a), whereas Ceramic 10 yielded the lowest cogging torque and smoothest torque profile, and NdFeB and Samarium Cobalt provided higher torque output for EVs despite slightly increased cogging (Thenmozhi et al., 2022b). Further studies confirmed that NdFeB magnets significantly reduced cogging torque and ripple compared with Alnico while delivering superior torque across operating ranges, underscoring material selection as a critical design factor (Abbass & Ali, 2023).

## 5. Future Works

Building on the systematic review of 64 peer-reviewed articles spanning stator geometry, rotor geometry, magnet geometry, winding layout, and non-geometric techniques this study integrates a bibliometric analysis through a thematic map generated from BibTeX metadata using Biblioshiny (Bibliometrix R), as shown in Figure 9.

The results reveal underrepresented, high-potential research areas, particularly those situated in the Niche and Emerging or Declining quadrants, thereby highlighting opportunities for innovation in cogging torque mitigation (Kaiser & Kuckertz, 2024; Catone, 2023).

Future research on cogging torque reduction in RF-PM machines should focus on areas that bridge technical maturity with conceptual novelty. A key direction is the systematic re-evaluation of conventional topologies such as stator slot shapes and rotor pole geometries through advanced finite element modeling and surrogate optimization. These approaches, aligned with niche and emerging themes, create opportunities to revisit overlooked torque traits and uncover design sensitivities that were previously underappreciated.

Material innovation also emerges as a critical vector for advancement. Exploration of alternative magnet grades, such as ferrite or Alnico, presents a path toward reducing cogging torque while addressing cost and thermal management in low-speed applications. This area, though isolated in current literature, is technically well-formed and thus primed for deeper integration.

## 6. Conclusion

This systematic literature review synthesizes cogging torque mitigation strategies for radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines (RF-PMSMs) by examining 64 peer-reviewed articles, categorized into five key domains: stator geometry, rotor geometry, magnet geometry, winding layout, and non-geometric techniques. Each category presents specific design approaches that contribute to cogging torque reduction with varying levels of implementation complexity and performance trade-offs. To deepen the analysis, bibliometric tools, including VOSviewer and Biblioshiny were used to generate a co-occurrence network and thematic map, which helped identify research clusters and underdeveloped areas. Notably, niche and emerging themes were revealed as promising directions for future research.

Despite considerable progress, challenges remain in integrating cost, manufacturability, and real-world validation into advanced designs. The field stands to benefit from multi-objective optimization frameworks, exploration of alternative magnetic materials, and stronger linkages between numerical simulations and experimental verification. This review provides a structured understanding of current strategies and offers guidance for future research to enhance torque smoothness, efficiency, and robustness in RF-PMSMs—particularly in renewable energy and industrial applications where precision and reliability are critical.

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## 8. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Term
RF-PMSMs	Radial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines
AFPMSMs	Axial-flux permanent magnet synchronous machines
IPMSMs	Internal permanent magnet synchronous machines
FSCW	Fractional-slot concentrated winding
SPMSMs	Surface permanent magnet synchronous machines
ISDW	Integral slot distributed winding
FSDW	Fractional-Slot distributed winding

Abbreviation	Full Term
EMF	Electromotive force
THD	Total harmonic distortion
9S8P	9 slot 8 pole
CHC	Current Harmonics Controller
PIR	proportional-integral-resonant

## 9. CRediT Statement:

**Hari Prasetijo:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation

**Mohammad Khairudin:** Conceptualization, Supervision

**Ketut Wirtayasa:** Conceptualization, Supervision

**Muhammad Syaiful Aliim:** Writing – Original Draft, Visualization

**Widhiatmoko Herry Purnomo:** Data Curation, Review & Editing

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