Novozhilov's Motor

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An interesting but a very simple motor has been designed. It operates on the basis of heating differences of its components due to temperature variations of contacting environments or due to variable radiation intensity.

Motor structure

The motor structure (see Fig.1) includes a metal or plastic wheel (1). In the center of the wheel there is an axis (2), on which spoke ends are fixed (3). Other spoke ends come through a hole in the wheel rim. On the spoke end there are weights, for example, in the form of small balls (4).

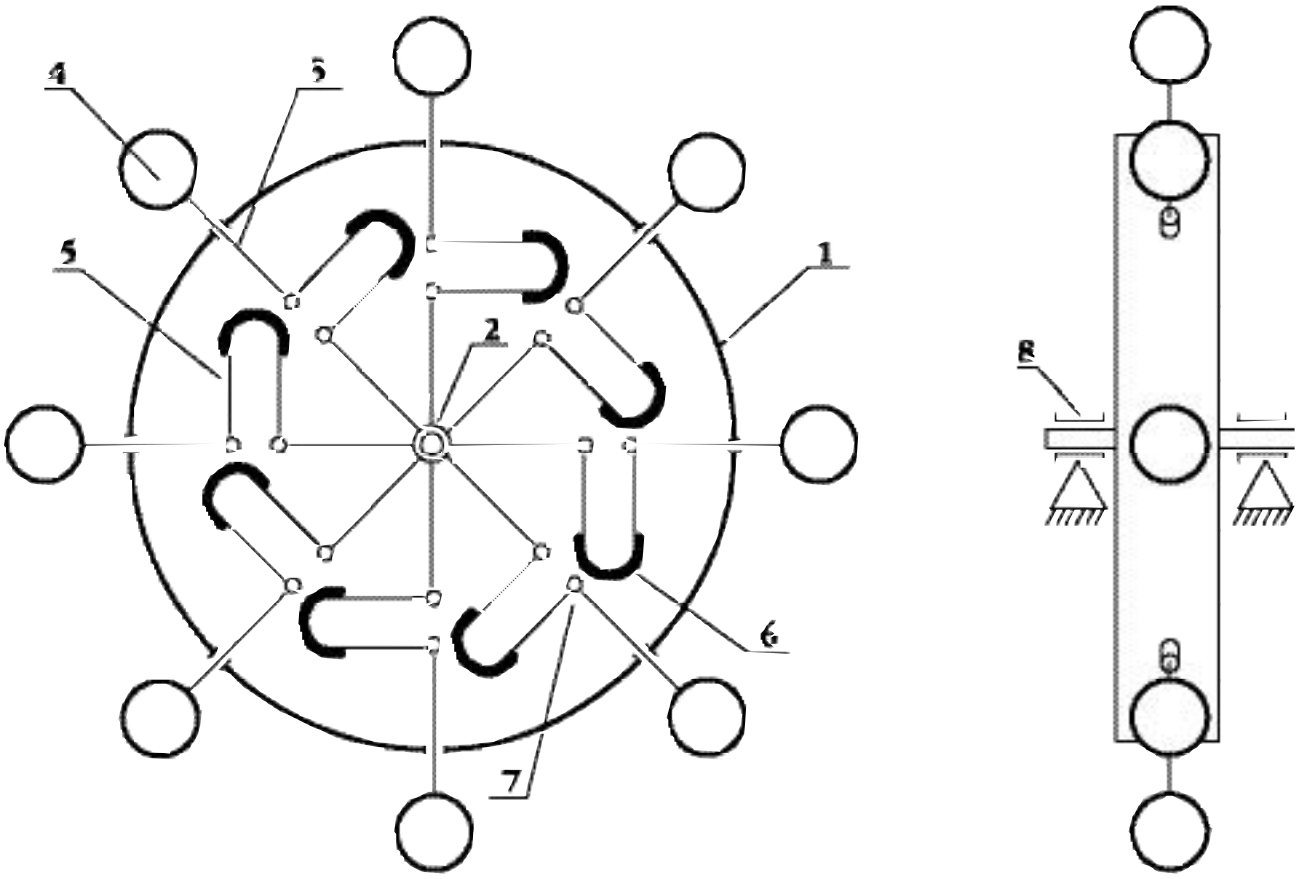

Fig.1
Motor

The structure peculiarity is preconditioned by a loop-shaped part placed on each spoke (5), which has a form of a metal strip or core. An arched bimetal component is built in the center of each loop-shaped part (6). Joints can be fixed at the joining point of loop-shaped parts and spokes to simplify the motor movement (7).

In the motor structure described arched bimetal components become straight when heated. The motor axis ends are placed in bearings (8).

To initiate the motor movement the loop-shaped parts need to be in mediums (zones) with different temperature. For instance, the lower part of the wheel may be placed into hot water (9) and the upper part will stay in the air (10).

Motor operation

When the motor is in a medium with identical temperature, for example, in the air, the temperature of all bimetal components will also be the same; therefore, they have identical form. In this case all spokes will similarly project over the wheel rim and all weights have similar distance from the wheel axis.

This state makes the whole system balanced and immovable. But if the motor wheel is partly placed into water with the temperature exceeding that of the ambient air **the bimetal components in water will become straight and shift the axis weights from the wheel axis.** This phenomenon initiates motor operation.

Let us consider this process in more detail.

On touching water, the bimetal component in the loop-shaped part becomes straight and shifts a weight from the wheel axis. The wheel becomes unbalanced, obtains torque and turns clockwise. This rotation makes the following bimetal component on the next loop-shaped part of the following spoke touch water. This bimetal component also becomes straight and shifts a weight from the wheel axis, generating an increased torque that turns the wheel clockwise.

At the same time a bimetal component comes from hot water on the left side of the wheel in zone “A”. The component cools and restores its initial form, i.e. it curves more and pulls the weight on the spoke to the rotation axis. This leads to a decrease of its counterclockwise torque that affects the wheel.

The loop-shaped parts on the left side (A) and the right side (B) of the motor wheel will cause asymmetry in the number of weights projected by the spokes. On the motor left side (A) the weights will be projected from the wheel axis when the spokes are located in corner “C”. On the right side (B) the weights on the spoke axes will be shifted from the axis when the spokes are located in corner “D”. Fig.2 shows that corner “D” is far larger than corner “C”. This means that more weights will be shifted on the right side of the wheel in zone “B” than on the left side in zone “A”.

Fig.2 shows that the wheel weights generating a clockwise torque are projected on the right side. On the left side in zone “A” only one weight is projected and it generates a counterclockwise torque. More weights shifted from the wheel axis on the right side will generate a greater clockwise torque than the weights shifted from the wheel axis on the left side. This is the cause of the wheel clockwise rotation.

This interesting effect is achieved due to the loop-shaped parts on the wheel spokes with bimetal components placed on them. When the next wheel spoke reaches corner “D”, the bimetal component connected with it touches hot water, becomes straight and shifts the corresponding weight further from the wheel rotation axis. The motor wheel continues rotation, making the next bimetal component touch water. It is also heated, becomes straight and shifts the corresponding weight from the wheel rotation axis. The wheel continues rotation. Bimetal components are touching water in succession. On the left side, in zone “A”, the bimetal components successively come out of hot water, cool in comparatively colder air, return to the initial sharply curved form and pull the weights on spokes to the wheel rotation axis. This is the reason for the wheel torque to decrease.

Mass movement from the axis in a rotating object commonly causes reduction of rotation speed. And, on the contrary, the rotation speed increases when the mass comes close to the axis. In motor zone “A” the weights come close to the rotation axis after the corresponding bimetal components come out of hot water, and the same number of weights move from the center in zone “B”, i.e. these effects on the rotation wheel compensate each other.

In essence this is a heat machine. The heat transfer from a warmer medium – water – to the cold medium – air – is achieved owing to the heat capacity of the band-form bimetal component. This is the reason for fast heating and cooling processes. Due to the fact that bimetal components are not large, not so much heat is needed for their heating.

The motor will operate when the air temperature exceeds that of water but in this case it rotates counterclockwise.

There is another model of this motor when nitanol components are used instead of bimetal ones. Nitanol is a memory metal alloy that changes shape when reaching certain temperature. In this instance, the nitanol component is normally curved but becomes straight when heated (for example, up to 50^0 C), and the weight on the spoke end moves from the wheel rotation axis initiating rotation of the wheel. That means similar operation of a nitanol-based and bimetal-based motor.

The motor structure is very simple and its operation does not require power or fuel supply: it is enough to place its wheel into the water the temperature of which is different from that of the air.

The motor structure may be further developed: for example, a focused sun ray can be used for the heating purposes; the bimetal component can be heated with a common electric lamp on one side of the wheel, the required heat may come from a heating radiator, stove or burning gas-jet. Such motor may be heated when installed on a mantelpiece, etc.

This article describes the motor model that can be used as a toy. Being supplied with looking-glass units it may be applied to get various luminous effects or may be installed in the shop showcases, or else at exhibitions. This motor is also able to operate in a gravity force environment, even on the Moon. There direct sun rays may heat bimetal components to 200^0 C, and the temperature of the components located in the shadow almost reaches absolute zero, i.e. the temperature difference in this instance is over 400^0 C, which enables constant efficient motor operation.

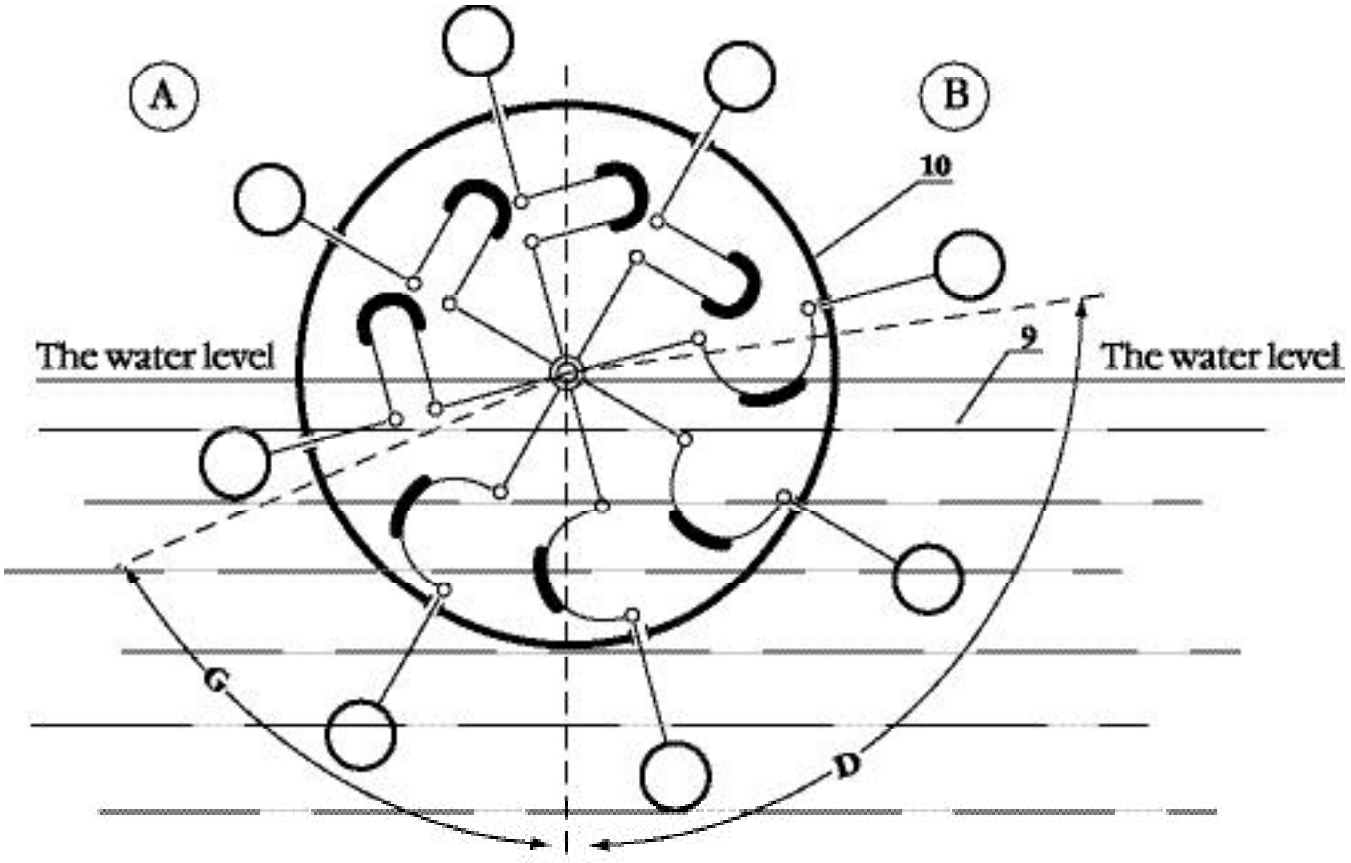

Fig.2
The motor in operation