A method employing a lead-unity-lag adjustment on a power generation system is disclosed. The method may include calculating a unity power factor point and adjusting system parameters to shift a power factor angle to substantially match an operating power angle creating a new unity power factor point. The method may then define operation parameters for a high reactance permanent magnet machine based on the adjusted power level.

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ABSTRACT

A method employing a lead-unity-lag adjustment on a power generation system is disclosed. The method may include calculating a unity power factor point and adjusting system parameters to shift a power factor angle to substantially match an operating power angle creating a new unity power factor point. The method may then define operation parameters for a high reactance permanent magnet machine based on the adjusted power level.

2 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets
FIG. 2A

FIG. 2B
START MACHINE PARAMETER DEFINITION

DEFINE SYSTEM INPUTS

DEFINE NOMINAL POWER FOR UNITY PF OPERATION

COMPUTE MACHINE SHORT-CIRCUIT CURRENT

COMPUTE MACHINE BEMF

COMPUTE MACHINE REACTANCE

ACCEPTABLE DESIGN?

DESIGN ELECTRIC MACHINE

END

FIG. 3
START CONTROL

MEASURE BUS CURRENT AND VOLTAGE

COMPUTE CURRENT DEMAND

VOLTAGE REGULATOR & CURRENT DEMAND

TRANSFORM CONTROL ANGLE (θ) AND CURRENT TO (d, q)

CURRENT REGULATOR

TRANSFORM DQ VOLTAGES TO RX

SPACE VECTOR MODULATION

CONTROL POWER FACTOR ANGLE

θ = 0 WHEN DEMAND POWER = NOMINAL POWER
θ < 0 WHEN DEMAND POWER > NOMINAL POWER
θ > 0 WHEN DEMAND POWER < NOMINAL POWER

100 RPM ELECTRIC MACHINE

FIG. 4
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>VALUE</th>
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<td>%</td>
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<td>%</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
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<td>V_mNs</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>V_mNs</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIG. 6**
power generation system; determining a power factor angle
performance. One of the latest developments of machines
requirements has been created to satisfy system quality and
power quality and electromagnetic interference (EMI)
by electric drives. Therefore, substantial demand for
factor point based on the standard parameters; defining an
for the power generation system based on a power level
 tion system comprises defining standard parameters for the
new-generation hardware.

under MEA themes is the energy efficient aircraft where
has led to increased operating voltages and efforts to reduce
increased electrical power generation needs. The overall
increased power generation in that area has emerged. These
 systems, and electrical actuation. A typical example is the Boe-
ning the power generation system according to the reduced magnitude
power; determining a new unity of power factor point in the
power generation system for a DC power bus.

Power generation systems (PGS) play a significant role in
the modern aerospace/military industry. This is particularly
true in the area of more electric architecture (MEA) for air-
craft, spacecraft, and electric hybrid technology in military
ground vehicles. The commercial aircraft business is moving
ward MEA having no bleed-air environmental control sys-
tems (ECS), variable-frequency (VF) power distribution sys-
tems, and electrical actuation. A typical example is the Boeing
878 platform. In the future, next-generation commercial
aircraft may use MEA. Some military aircraft already utilize
MEA for primary and secondary flight controls among other
functions. Future space vehicles may require electric power
generation systems for thrust vector and flight control actua-
tion. Military ground vehicles have migrated toward hybrid
electric technology, where the main propulsion is performed
by electric drives. Therefore, substantial demand for
increased power generation in that area has emerged. These
systems should be more robust and offer greatly reduced
operating costs and safety compared to the existing Space
Shuttle power systems.

These new aerospace and military trends have significantly
increased electrical power generation needs. The overall
result has been a significant increase in the challenges to
accommodate electrical equipment to the new platforms. This
has led to increased operating voltages and efforts to reduce
system losses, weight, and volume. A new set of electrical
power quality and electromagnetic interference (EMI)
requirements has been created to satisfy system quality and
performance. One of the latest developments of machines
under MEA themes is the energy efficient aircraft where
electric power and heat management go hand to hand. There-
fore, overall system performance improvement and more spe-
cifically, power density increase may be necessary for the
new-generation hardware.

As can be seen, there is a need for a method and system to
improve power generation in aircraft.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one aspect of the present invention, a method employing
a lead-unity-lag power factor adjustment on a power genera-
tion system comprises defining standard parameters for the
power generation system; determining a power factor angle
for the power generation system based on a power level
defined in the standard parameters; calculating a unity power
factor point based on the standard parameters; defining an
operating power angle based on the unity power factor point;
adjusting the power generation system standard parameters to
shift the power factor angle to substantially match the oper-
ating power angle; and defining operation parameters for the
power generation system based on the unity power factor point.

In another aspect of the present invention, a method for
moving a unity power factor point in a power generation
system comprises determining operation parameters for the
power generation system; generating a phasor diagram rep-
resenting operation of the power generation system according
to the operation parameters; defining a first vector represent-
ing a voltage terminal for the power generation system; defin-
ing a first angle based on a distance of the first vector from an
originating axis, wherein the first angle represents a power
factor angle and wherein the originating axis represents a
phase current reference vector for the power generation sys-
tem; defining a second vector representing an electromagnetic
field of the power generation system; defining a second
angle from the originating axis, wherein the second angle
represents a control angle; defining a third angle between the
first vector and the second vector representing a power angle
for the power generation system; calculating a reduction in
operational power for the power generation system; reducing
the power factor angle to cause the first vector to approach the
originating axis based on the reduction of the operational
power; determining a new unity of power factor point in the
power generation system according to the reduced magnitude
of the power factor angle; and adjusting the operation param-
eters for the power generation system according to the new
unity of power factor point.

In yet another aspect of the present invention, an electric
power generation system comprises a three phase bridge; a
DC link capacitor bank operatively coupled to the three phase
bridge; an EMI filter operatively coupled to the DC link
capacitor bank and a DC bus; a contactor disposed in opera-
tive contact between the EMI filter and the DC bus; and
wherein power flow in the power generation system is oper-
ated at a nominal power level for the system based on a unity
of power factor point adjusted upward from a zero power
point to the nominal power level. These and other features,
aspects and advantages of the present invention will become
better understood with reference to the following drawings,
description and claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is diagrammatic illustration of an EPGS topology
according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;
FIG. 2 is a phasor diagram illustrating qualitative representa-
tions of an operation of an EPGS according to the reduced
operating conditions;
FIG. 3 is a phasor diagram illustrating qualitative representa-
tions of an operation of an EPGS according to the reduced
operating conditions;
FIG. 4 illustrates a series of steps according to an exemplary
embodiment of the present invention;
FIG. 4 illustrates a series of steps according to an exemplary
embodiment of the present invention;
FIG. 5 is a plot depicting a comparative analysis of perfor-
mance between a conventionally operated EPGS and an
EPGS according to an exemplary embodiment of the present
invention; and
FIG. 6 is an exemplary table of operating parameters for an
EPGS according to an exemplary embodiment of the present
invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following detailed description is of the best currently
contemplated modes of carrying out exemplary embodiments
of the invention. The description is not to be taken in a limiting sense, but is made merely for the purpose of illustrating the general principles of the invention, since the scope of the invention is best defined by the appended claims.

Various inventive features are described below that can each be used independently of one another or in combination with other features.

Broadly, embodiments of the present invention generally provide a method and apparatus for moving the unity power factor point of a leading power factor system from zero power point to a power point where the machine operates predominantly. This operating point can thus become the nominal power of the system. This means, for operation of a system below this new operating power point, the system may operate with a lagging power factor. Operation above of this power point, the system will operate with a leading power factor. Thus, one may improve the power factor and, hence, one may also improve the efficiency of the system about the region where the system operates predominantly.

Referring to FIG. 1, a power topology of an electric power generation system (EPGS) in accordance with one exemplary embodiment of the present invention is shown. An exemplary EPGS used for an MEA application may be a high-reactance permanent magnet machine (HRPMM) 150. The topology depicts a three-phase bridge 110, a DC link capacitor bank 120, an EMI filter 130 for a DC bus, and a contactor 140. It should be understood that current and voltage measurement devices for control and protection purposes are shown for illustrative purposes. The contactor 140 may be an optional component for all applications. This exemplary topology has bidirectional power flow capability by applying an appropriate voltage to the machine terminals. A synchronous rotation of the HRPMM 150 may be performed for continuous motoring or self-starting. Power generation may actively regulate DC bus voltage to a desired value.

One feature of this system provides a short-circuit current at the DC bus during generation to clear a fault. If the DC bus 160 is overloaded, the EPGS 100 may reduce the output voltage linearly to prevent components from overloading. Below certain voltage levels, a pure diode rectification may be used to supply desired current. The reactance of the electric machine 150 may be selected such that the short circuit of the electric power generation system 100 satisfies requirements of a DC bus short circuit current. One typical ratio between the DC bus short circuit current and the electric machine 150 short circuit current may be described as: $I_{DCSC}=1.35*IS_{DC}$ wherein $I_{DCSC}$ is the DC bus short circuit current and IS is the system short circuit current. The ratio may vary depending on component selection for the three phase bridge 110 and the electro-magnetic interference (EMI) filter 130. When a short circuit occurs within the power electronics 110, the HRPMM 150, or the interface between the HRPMM 150 and the power electronics 110, control of the generation process may be instantly discontinued. The failure current may be limited by the HRPMM 150 and may be comparable to the operating current.

Referring to FIGS. 2A and 2B, phasor diagrams of the HRPMM 150 operation in a complex plane may be used for sake of illustration and for providing qualitative assessments. FIG. 2A depicts a phasor diagram according to conventional operations of a power generation system. FIG. 2B depicts a phasor diagram with an adjusted power of nearly unity power factor according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention. The phasor diagram of an HRPMM 150 in operation can be created according to the following exemplary equation.

$$V_T=E_{EMF}+JIM*Z_s$$

The phase current vector, $I_M$, is aligned with the real (Re) axis of the complex plane. The leading power factor control is achieved by maintaining the power factor angle ($\theta$)<0 (negative). That means the machine phase current vector is ahead of the terminal voltage vector. The terminal voltage vector, $V_T$, is decomposed to two components real $[V_{Tr}]$ cos($\theta$) and imaginary $[V_{Ti}]$ sin($\theta$). Another angle $\alpha$, may be the angle between the electromotive force (EMF) voltage and the phase current $I_M$. The power angle $\delta$ defines the angle between the EMF voltage phasor and the terminal voltage phasor. The phasor $V_{EMF}^2=I_M^2*Z_s$ represents the internal machine (HRPMM 150) voltage drop.

In terms of application to the HRPMM 150, machine shaft power $P_T$ may be expressed as:

$$P_T=3*V_T*E_{EMF}*\sin(\delta)/X_s$$

wherein $V_T$ is the terminal voltage, $E_{EMF}$ is the HRPMM 150 back EMF voltage, and $X_s$ is the HRPMM 150 reactance.

Expressing output power may be described as: $P_{OUT}=P_T/\eta_{we} * \eta_{em}$ wherein $P_{OUT}$ is the output power of the HRPMM 150, $P_T$ is the shaft power, $\eta_{we}$ is the efficiency of power electronics, and $\eta_{em}$ is the efficiency of the HRPMM 150.

One expression describing the power angle ($\delta$) may be derived from the HRPMM 150 shaft power ($P_T$) and the output power ($P_{OUT}$) according to the following equation:

$$\delta = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\frac{P_{OUT}}{\eta_{we} \eta_{em}} * E_{EMF} * X_s}{3 * V_T * E_{EMF}}\right)$$

wherein the variables are described by the aforementioned equations.

In accordance with these equations, one may adjust the power angle ($\delta$) so that the power factor angle ($\theta$) is reduced and the terminal voltage $V_T$ phasor is shifted toward the Re axis of the complex plane. One exemplary result may be seen when comparing FIG. 2A to FIG. 2B where the power angle ($\delta$) approaches the angle $\alpha$. Thus, a unity power factor point of the electric power generation system 100 may be adjusted to operate where the system predominantly operates. Thus, in practice, defining the unity power factor point may be achieved by determining the EPGS 100 characteristic parameters. An exemplary table of input conditions and constraints for an EPGS 100 may be seen in FIG. 6.

Exemplary input conditions as illustrated in the table of FIG. 6 may include parameters 605 which may include a $P_{LOAD}$ 610, a $\eta_{we}$ 620, a $\eta_{em}$ 630, a $V_{EMF}$ 640, a $SC_{factor}$ 650, a $V_T$ 660, a $E_{EMF}$ 670, a frequency 680, and a $X_s$ 690. The $P_{LOAD}$ 610 may represent an output power at a load. The $\eta_{we}$ 620 may represent an efficiency of power electronics in the EPGS 100. The $\eta_{em}$ 630 may represent an efficiency of the HRPMM 150. The $V_{EMF}$ 640 may represent an output DC voltage in the EPGS 100. The $SC_{factor}$ 650 may represent a maximum short circuit DC current above a maximum operating current in the HRPMM 150. The $V_T$ 660 may represent the HRPMM terminal voltage. The $E_{EMF}$ 670 may represent a back EMF voltage of the HRPMM 150. The frequency 680 may represent the HRPMM 150 electrical operating frequency. The $X_s$ 690 may represent the HRPMM 150 reactance. Thus, in one exemplary...
operation, adjustment of those parameters may be made to achieve a desired unity power factor point as illustrated in the following exemplary methods.

Referring to FIG. 3, a series of steps illustrate an exemplary method according to the present invention. In step 210, standard system parameters may be defined. Exemplary parameters may be extracted from a table of values such as that one shown in FIG. 6. In step 220, a unity of power factor operating power point may be defined for the system for a given power level based on the extracted system parameters. In step 230, a system short-circuit current may be computed. The short-circuit DC current may be described as: 

$$I_{SC} = \frac{P_{nom}}{V_{DC}} \times (1 + SC_{factor})$$

In step 240, a back EMF ($E_{EMF}$) voltage may be computed for the unity power factor power point. One exemplary equation that may be used to calculate the power factor (PF) as a function of the back EMF ($E_{EMF}$) may be described as:

$$PF(E_{EMF}) = \cos \left( \frac{\sqrt{V_I - E_{EMF} \cdot \cos(\delta)}}{\sqrt{E_{EMF}^2 + V_T^2 - 2 \cdot E_{EMF} \cdot V_T \cdot \cos(\delta)}} \right) \cdot \frac{\pi}{2}$$

wherein the variables are previously described. In step 250, a system reactance may be computed. One exemplary equation describing the system reactance may be described as:

$$X_e = \frac{E_{EMF}}{I_{dc}}$$

In step 260, the system parameters may be assessed for controllability. In step 270, a modified HRPMM may be designed based on the parameters obtained from steps 210-250.

Referring now to FIG. 4, an exemplary method of controlling the lead-lag-unity power factor is shown according to another exemplary embodiment of the present invention. In step 305, demand power may be computed from a measured bus voltage and current. In step 310, current demand may be computed from a difference between the computed demand power and nominal power. In step 315, a position decoder may be used to measure machine rotor position that may be used for reference frame transformations. In step 320, machine terminal currents may be measured and transformed to a Park vector in the stationary reference frame using the rotor position measured in step 315. In step 325, the current Park vector may be transformed from a stationary reference frame to a synchronous reference frame. In step 330, a voltage command error may be computed. The voltage command error may be computed based on the DC voltage and measured feedback voltage, and DC bus current feedback. In step 335, the voltage command error in step 330 may be regulated, and the regulated voltage error and the DC bus current feedback may be used to compute current command magnitude. In step 340, the current command magnitude and angle may be transformed into a vector in the synchronous reference frame. In step 345, a current command error may be generated from current feedback vector (step 320) and current command vector (step 340) and regulated. The current regulator outputs may be inverter voltage commands. In step 350, the inverter voltage command may be transformed back to the stationary reference frame. In step 355, space vector modulation may be used to transform inverter voltage command to desired machine terminal voltage.

Referring to FIG. 5, exemplary results showing a comparative analysis of machine current employing conventional operation of an electric power generation system against an exemplary operation of the EPoGS as a lead-unity-lag system according to an embodiment of the present invention is illustrated. Taking the lead-unity-lag system current as a percentage of the leading system current, it may be seen that the lead-unity-lag system of the EPoGS requires 10% lower current at full load than a system under conventional operation. Since the current at full load determines the rating of the system, this may be a significant efficiency improvement. Also, the rating of the three-phase bridge and machine-electronics may be reduced by 10%. Thus, reduced electric machine size and power electronics may be expected.

It should be understood, of course, that the foregoing relates to exemplary embodiments of the invention and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

We claim:

1. A method employing a lead-unity-lag adjustment on a power generation system, comprising:
   - defining standard parameters for the power generation system;
   - determining a power factor angle for the power generation system based on a power level defined in the standard parameters;
   - calculating a unity power factor point based on the standard parameters;
   - defining an operating power angle based on the unity power factor point;
   - adjusting the power generation system standard parameters to shift the power factor angle to substantially match the operating power angle;
   - defining operation parameters for the power generation system based on the unity power factor point;
   - computing a power generation system short circuit current;
   - computing a back EMF voltage for the unity power factor point;
   - computing an electric machine reactance; and
   - designing the power generation system to operate according to the unity of power factor point, the power generation system short circuit current, back EMF voltage for the unity power factor point, and the electric machine reactance.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the power generation system is a high-reactance permanent magnet machine.