

# LESSON 23: SYNCHRONOUS ALTERNATOR VOLTAGE REGULATION

ET 332b

Ac Motors, Generators and Power Systems

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## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After this presentation you will be able to:

- Define voltage regulation of a synchronous machine
- Explain how saturation affects no-load voltage in a synchronous machine
- Compute voltage regulation using an approximate method that accounts for magnetic saturation.

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## SYNCHRONOUS ALTERNATOR VOLTAGE REGULATION

Defining equation

$$\%VR = \frac{|V_{nl}| - |V_{rated}|}{|V_{rated}|} \cdot 100$$

Where:

%VR = percentage voltage regulation

$V_{rated}$  = nameplate voltage rating of machine

$V_{nl}$  = open circuit voltage of machine when supplying rated load at rated voltage

Voltage Regulation related to size of  $X_s$ . Lower value is better. Indicates amount of field current change required to maintain rated voltage.

## COMPUTING VOLTAGE REGULATION

$V_{nl}$  is not  $E_{af}$ . Must include the effects of saturation to get accurate value of %VR.

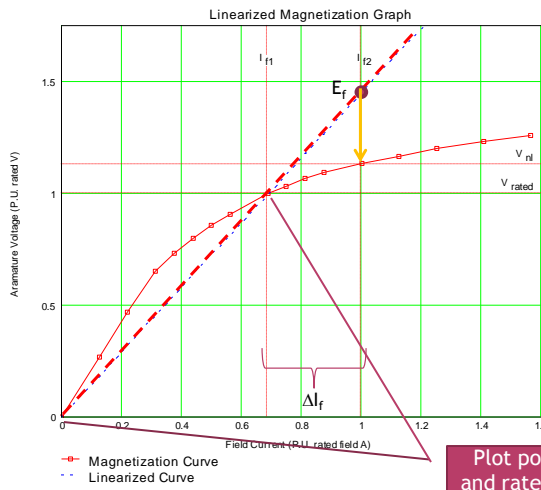
Use an approximate method to find  $V_{nl}$ . The hypothetical linearized magnetization curve estimates the value of  $V_{nl}$ . This is not equal to the open circuit voltage. We must include the voltage drop due to the synchronous reactance.

### Method for finding $V_{nl}$ using approximate method

- 1.) Compute value of  $E_{af}$
- 2.) Plot value of  $E_{af}$  on graph and intersect with linearized magnetization curve
- 3.) Project vertical line down to magnetization curve
- 4.) Project horizontal line from intersection of step 3 to voltage axis and read off value of  $V_{nl}$ .

## COMPUTING VOLTAGE REGULATION

Magnetization curve plots no-load voltage Vs field current.



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$$I_{f2} = I_{f1} + \Delta I_f$$

$I_{f1}$  = field I to produce rated voltage at no-load

$I_{f2}$  = field I to produce rated voltage at rated load.

$\Delta I_f$  = incremental increase in field I to compensate for  $X_s$  drop

## SYNCHRONOUS ALTERNATOR VOLTAGE REGULATION

**Example 23-1:** A three phase, 2-pole, 60 Hz alternator has a power rating of 6000 kVA at 13.8 kV. The armature is wye connected and has a synchronous reactance of 11.67 ohms/phase. It operates at rated kVA and rated voltage with a power factor of 90% lagging.

Find:

- excitation voltage ( $E_f$ );
- power angle ( $\delta$ );
- no-load voltage assuming no change in field current;
- voltage regulation;
- no-load voltage if field current is reduced to 85% of its value at rated load

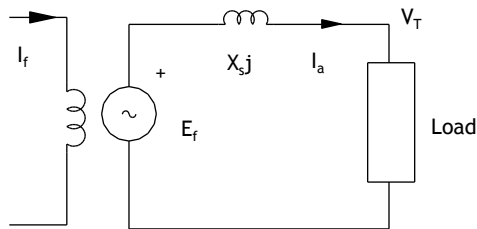
Use the no-load magnetization curve provide on previous slide.

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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (1)

Per phase model



Compute the value of  $E_f$ .

$$\bar{E}_f = \bar{V}_T + \bar{I}_a \bar{X}_s$$

$$\bar{X}_s = 11.67 \angle 90^\circ \Omega / \text{phase} \quad \bar{V}_T = \frac{13,800 \text{ V}}{\sqrt{3}} \angle 0^\circ \text{ V} \quad \text{Y-Connected}$$

$$S_T = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \quad \bar{V}_T = 7967 \angle 0^\circ \text{ V}$$

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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (2)

Wye Connected, so  $\bar{I}_L = \bar{I}_p = \bar{I}_a$

$$|\bar{I}_a| = \frac{S_T}{\sqrt{3} V_L}$$

$$|\bar{I}_a| = \frac{6000 \text{ kVA}}{\sqrt{3} 13.8 \text{ kV}}$$

$$|\bar{I}_a| = 251.02 \text{ A}$$

Use power factor to find phase angle on armature current

$$F_p = 0.9 \text{ Lag}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}(F_p)$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}(0.9)$$

$$\theta = -25.84^\circ \text{ (-Lag)}$$

$$\bar{I}_a = 251.02 \angle -25.85^\circ \text{ A}$$

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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (3)

Now compute the value of  $E_f$  using the formula given previously

$$\bar{E}_f = 7967 \angle 0^\circ + (251.02 \angle 25.82^\circ)(11.67 \angle 90^\circ \Omega)$$

$$\bar{E}_f = 7967 \angle 0^\circ + 2929.6 \angle 64.2^\circ$$

$$\bar{E}_f = 9612.6 \angle 15.92^\circ$$

a.)  $|\bar{E}_f| = 9612.6 \text{ V}$     b.)  $\angle = 15.92^\circ$

c.) To find no-load voltage, use graph.  
Voltage axis and current scaled in P.U. based on

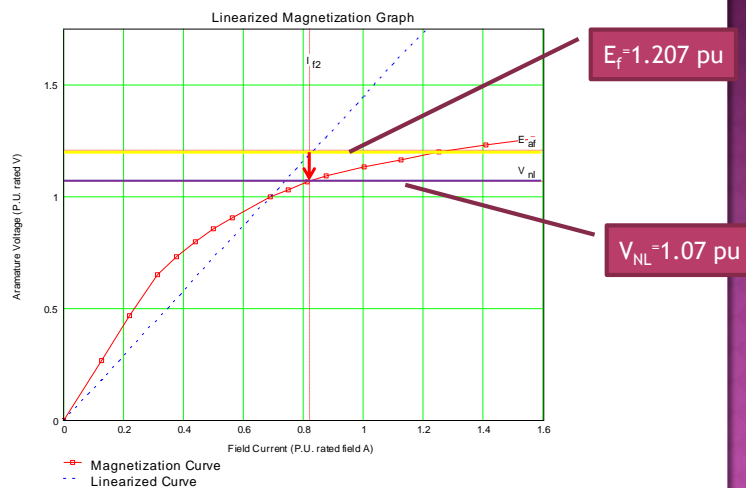
$$V_{\text{rated}} = 7967 \text{ V} \quad \text{P.U. } \bar{E}_f = \frac{|\bar{E}_f|}{V_{\text{base}}} = \frac{9612.6 \text{ V}}{7967 \text{ V}} = 1.207 \text{ p.u.}$$

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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (4)

Find  $V_{\text{nl}}$  using the approximate linearized magnetization curve. Plot the value of p.u.  $E_f$  on the graph



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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (5)

Convert to actual phase voltage by multiplying by  $V_{\text{base}}$

$$V_{\text{nl}} = V_{\text{base}} \cdot V_{\text{nlpu}} = 7967 \cdot 1.07 = 8525 \text{ V} \quad \leftarrow \text{Answer}$$

d.) now compute the %VR from rated voltage and the no-load voltage

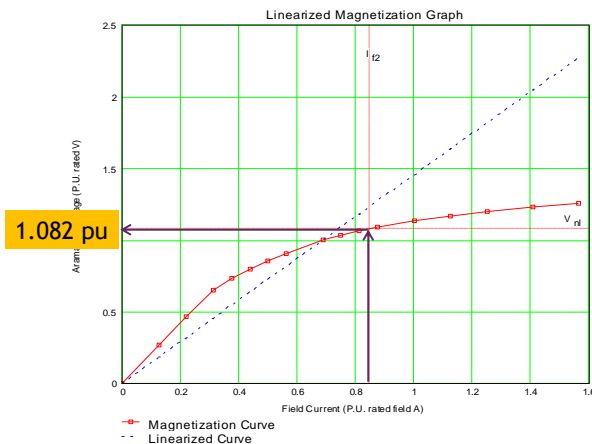
$$\%VR = \frac{|V_{\text{nl}}| - |V_{\text{rated}}|}{|V_{\text{rated}}|} \cdot 100\% = \frac{8525 - 7967}{7967} \cdot 100\% = 7\% \quad \leftarrow \text{Answer}$$

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## EXAMPLE 23-1 SOLUTION (6)

e.) Now find  $V_{\text{nl}}$  at 85% rated field  $I$  (0.85 pu). Read value from graph.



$$V_{\text{nlpu}} = 1.082 \text{ pu} \quad V_{\text{nl}} = 7967(1.082) = 8620 \text{ V}$$

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**END LESSON 23: SYNCHRONOUS  
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