Specifying Standby Generator Set Requirements for Data Centers

PowerHour webinar series for consulting engineers

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08/10/22 Noon Eastern / 9 AM Pacific

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- Interact with Cummins experts and gain access to ongoing technical support
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- Attendees are in “listen only” mode throughout the event.
- Use the Zoom Q&A Panel to submit questions, comments, and feedback throughout the event. Time is allotted at the end of the PowerHour to address Q&A.
- If the audio connection is lost, disconnected or experiences intermittent connectivity issues, please check your audio connection through the "Join Audio" or "Audio Connectivity" button at the bottom left of the Zoom application.
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Q&A Button:

- For technical questions on today’s topic
- Ask at anytime
- Not all questions may get answered but we’ll do our best!

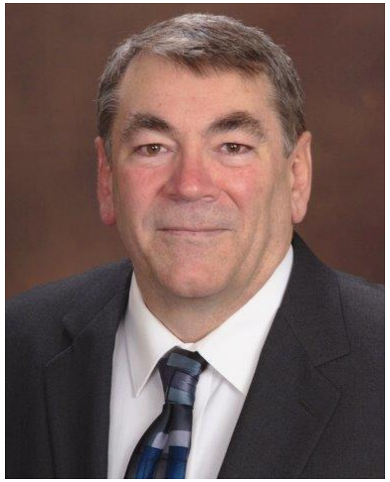
Chat Button:

- For general PowerHour or Zoom questions

Meet your panelists

Cummins instructor and panelists:

Mark Taylor
Technical Marketing Advisor
Cummins Inc.



Earnest Glaser
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Technical Marketing Specialist
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Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in this course shall not be considered the official position of any regulatory organization and shall not be considered to be, nor be relied upon as, a Formal Interpretation.

Participants are encouraged to refer to the entire text of all referenced documents. In addition, when it doubt, reach out to the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

Course Objectives

Data Center Design Challenges: Specifying Standby Generator Set Requirements

Data centers are unique, not only in their design for utmost reliability and cost-effectiveness, but also in their load profiles. Data center loads can pose unique challenges that may significantly differ from their "traditional" industrial or commercial standby counterparts. Differences may include power factor, non-linear loads leading to harmonic voltage distortion, and load acceptance of active power. This PowerHour is here to help by exploring some of the load characteristics that are unique to data centers, and provide some generator set specification advice to help you mitigate some of those challenges.

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify safe alternator operating zones on an alternator reactive capability chart to ensure proper operating conditions on the generator
- Recognize how a generator accepts different loads typical to data center applications and define specification requirements and operating sequences for each type
- Recognize the tradeoffs in properly specifying an alternator for data center applications

What are some examples of data center power system design challenges you have encountered?

Recap the Basics

Generator Set Ratings

- ISO 8528 ratings overview
- Uptime Institute requirements

Rating	Emergency Standby Power	Prime Rated Power	Limited Time Prime	Continuous Operating Power	Data Centre Power
Load Profile	Variable	Variable	Constant	Constant	Variable OR Constant
Max Annual Run Hours	200	Unlimited	500	Unlimited	Unlimited

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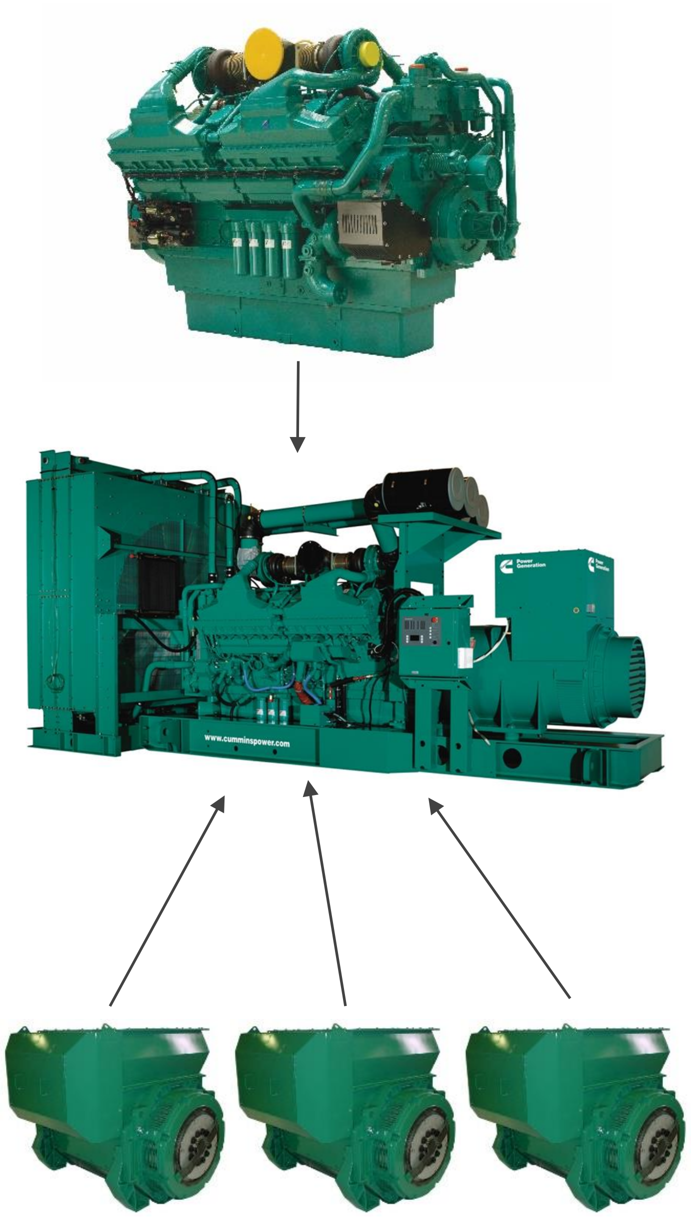
Considerations for Generator Set Selection

- Altitude and temperature derate
- Overview of loads



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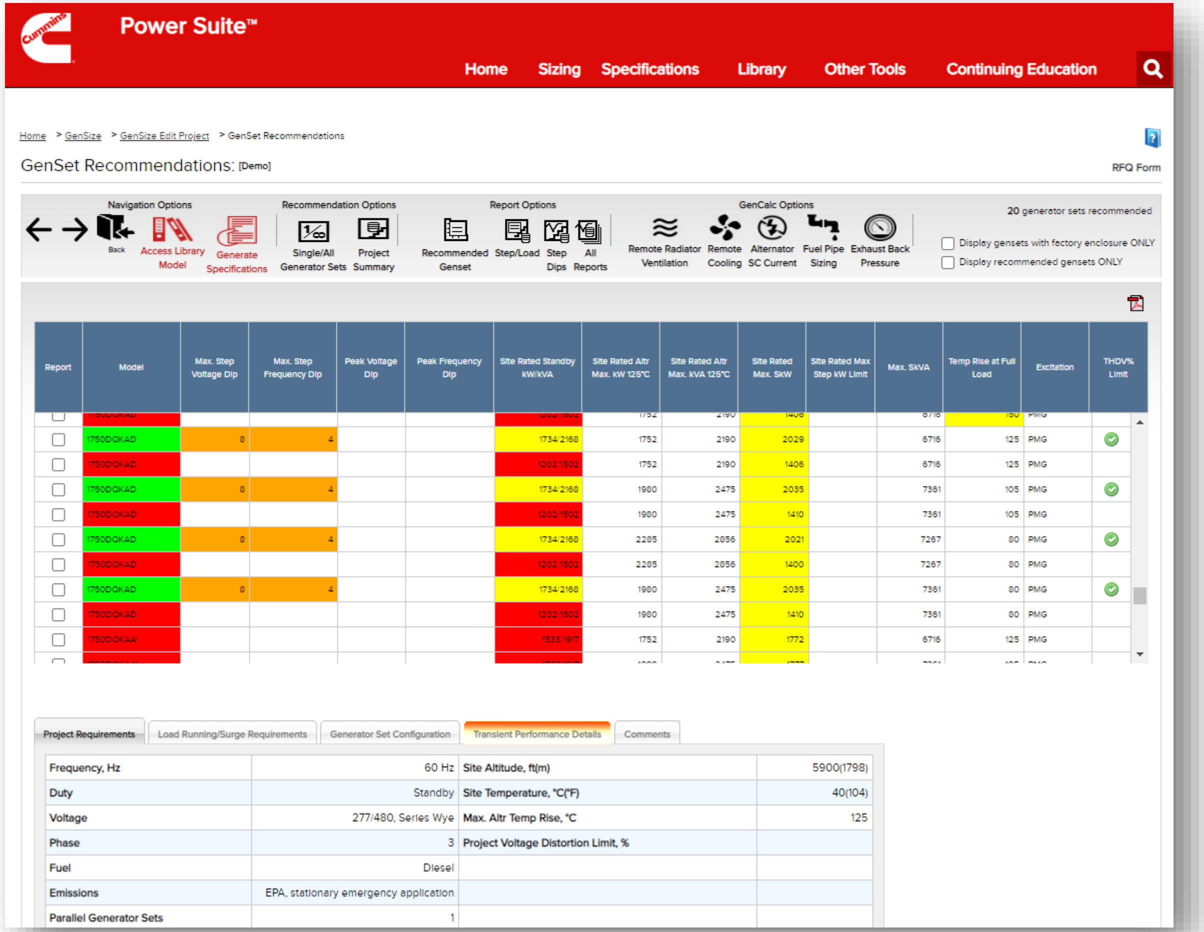
Generator Set Sizing Software

- Fundamentals of inputting loads
- How to use Cummins GenSize



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Emissions and Air Permitting of Generator Sets

- Meeting EPA and Local requirements
- Overview of emissions constituents, data sheets

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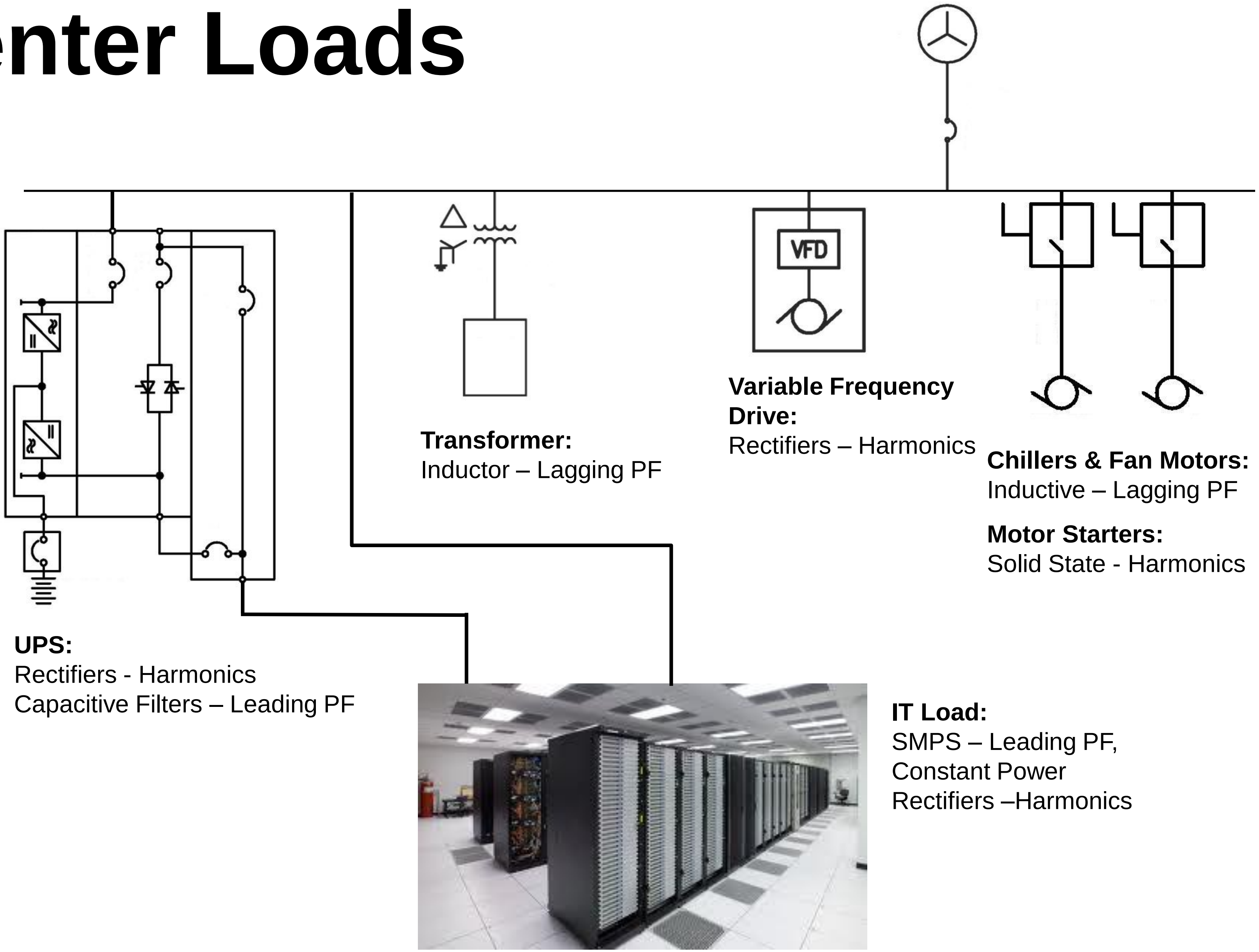
Related Content

PowerHour Recordings

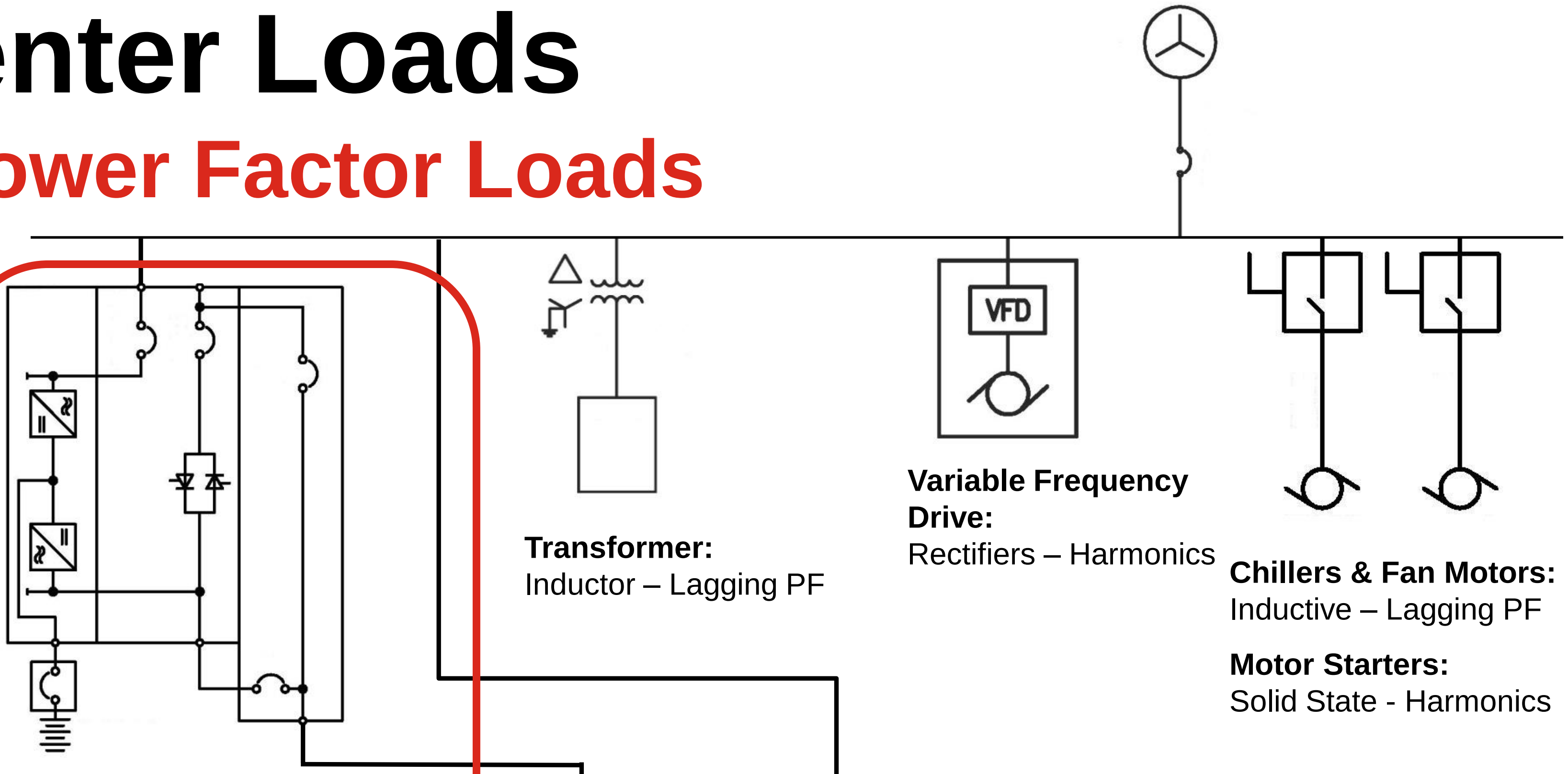
- Generator Set Ratings for Data Centers and Other Applications
- Considerations for Generator Set Selection
- Introduction to GenSize
- Advanced: Transient Performance and Motor Loads
- Emissions and Air Permitting of Generator Sets

Data Center Loads



Data Center Loads

Leading Power Factor Loads



Transformer:
Inductor – Lagging PF

Variable Frequency Drive:
Rectifiers – Harmonics

Chillers & Fan Motors:
Inductive – Lagging PF

Motor Starters:
Solid State - Harmonics

UPS:
Rectifiers - Harmonics
Capacitive Filters – Leading PF

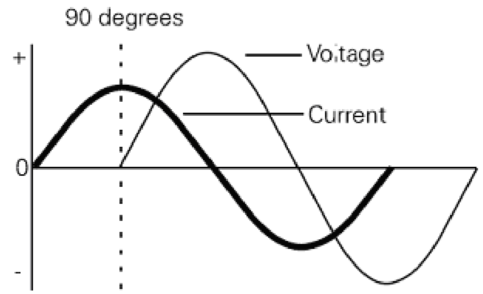
IT Load:
SMPS – Leading PF,
Constant Power
Rectifiers –Harmonics

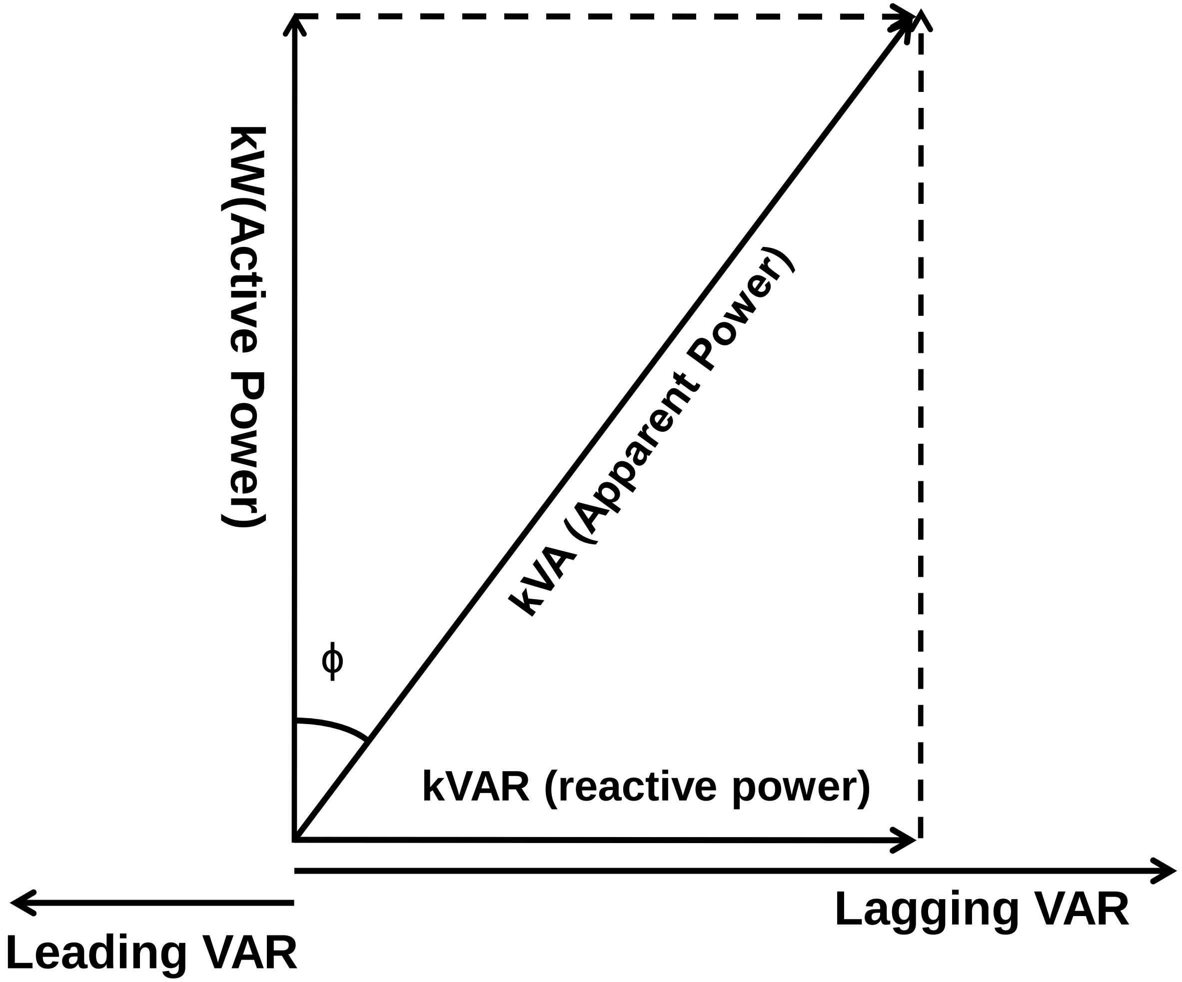
Leading Power Factor Loads

Importance of Power Factor

Capacitive Loads

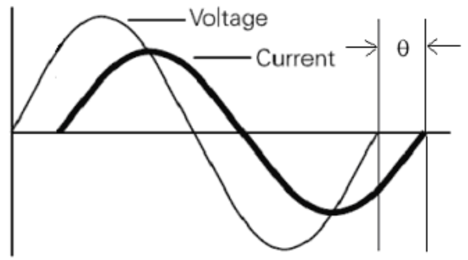
- Charge/release energy
- Current leads voltage
- E.g. Power factor correction (Capacitor) banks





Inductive Loads

- Resists change to current
- Current lags voltage
- E.g. Motors



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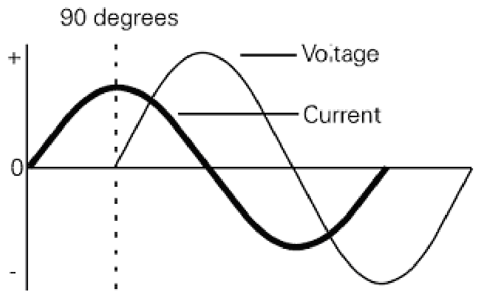

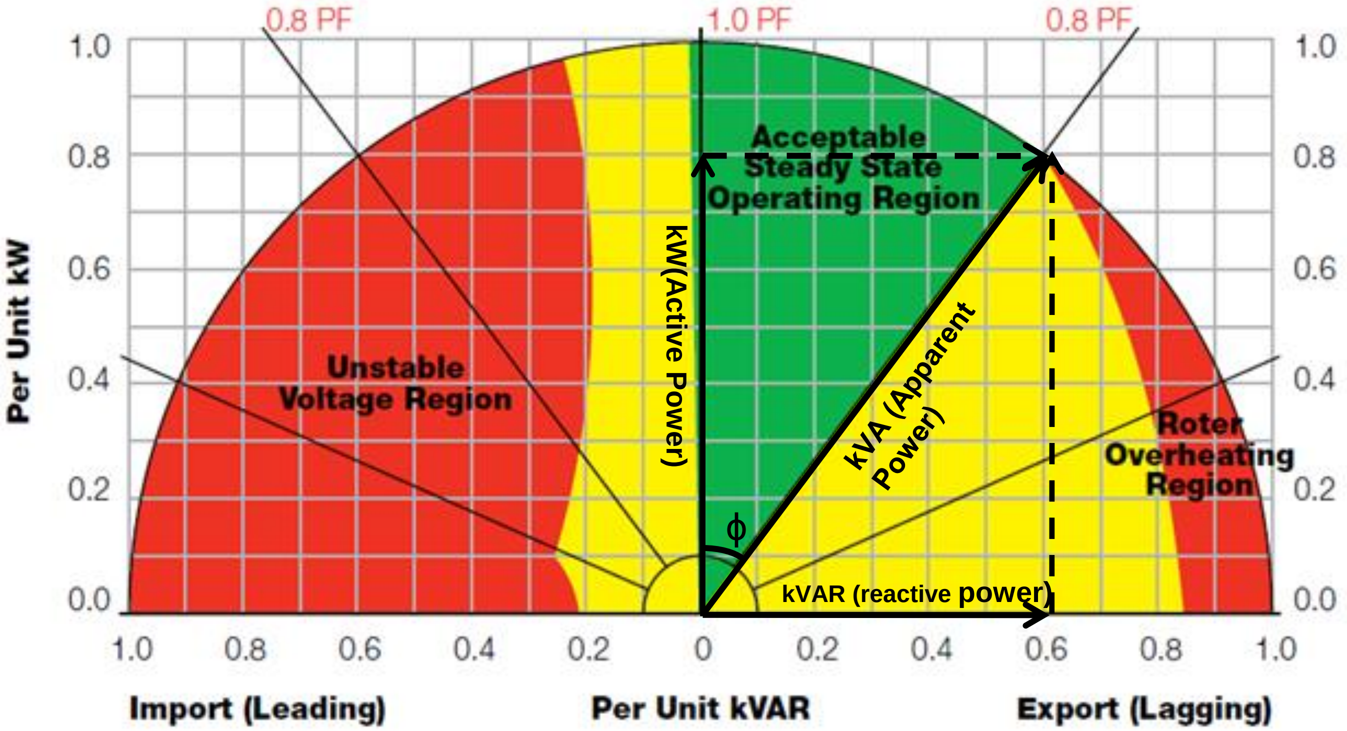

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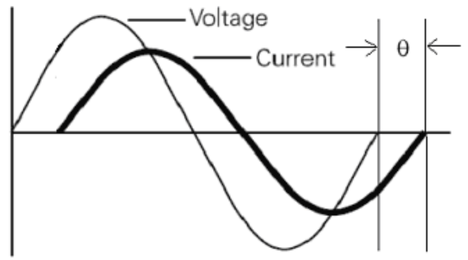
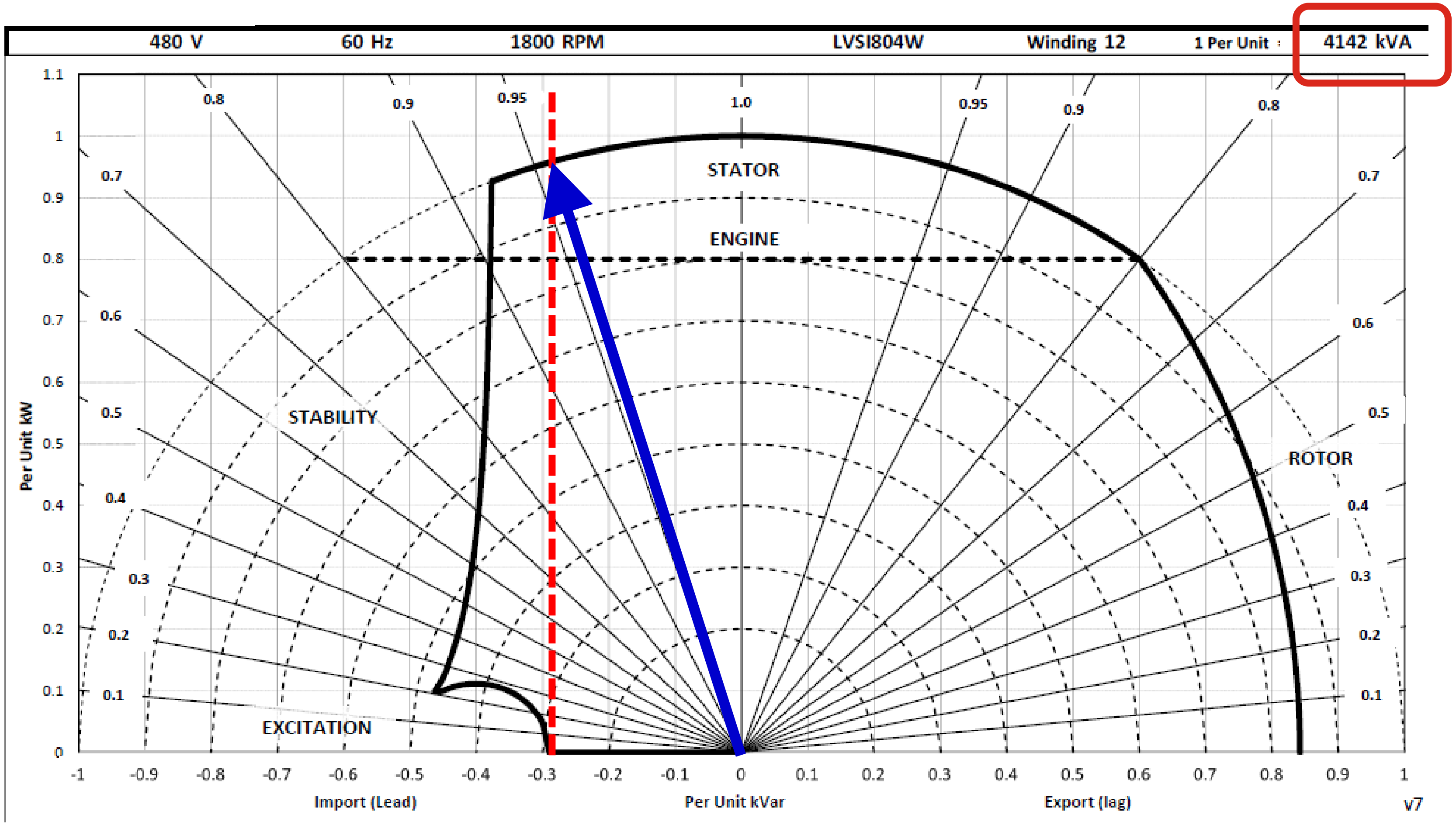


Leading Power Factor Loads

Example Exercise

ALTERNATOR OPERATING CHART



Generator Set Rating: 3000 kW (3750 kVA @ 0.8 pf lagging)

Alternator Rating: 4142 kVA

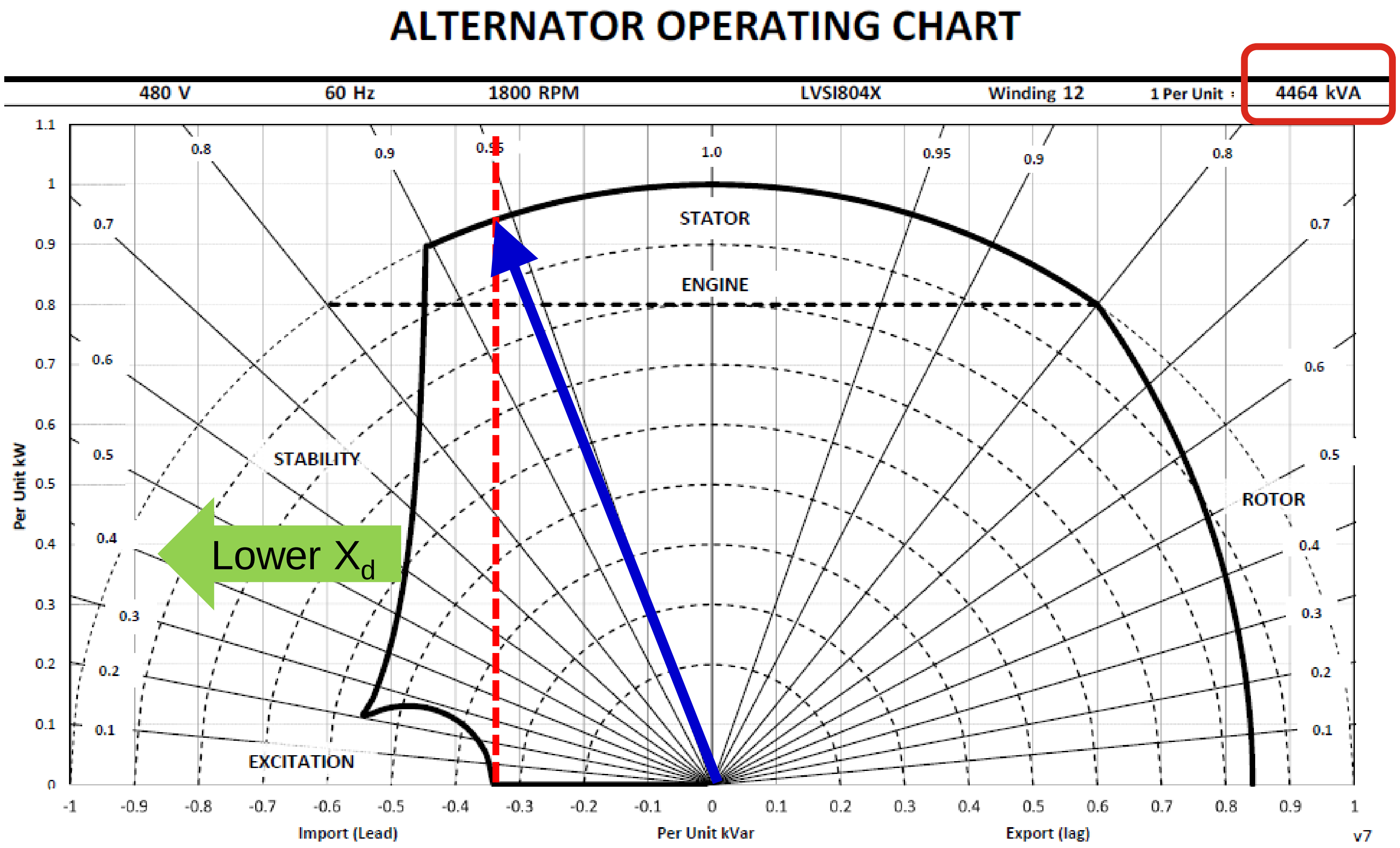
Leading VAR capability ~ 0.3 pu

0.3 * 4142 = 1242 kVAR

Leading VAR capability = .33 pu based on genset rating (1242 / 3750 = .33)

Leading Power Factor Loads

Example Exercise



Generator Set Rating: 3000 kW (3750 kVA @ 0.8 pf lagging)

Alternator rating: 4464 kVA

Leading VAR capability ~ 0.35 pu

0.35 * 4464 = 1562 kVAR

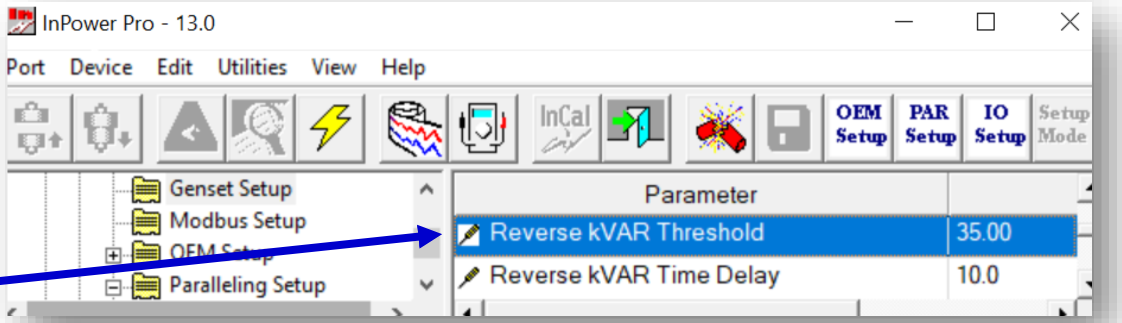
Leading VAR capability = 0.41 pu based on genset rating (1562 / 3750 = .41)

Leading Power Factor Loads

Key Takeaways

Key parameter is leading VAR, not PF

- Set reverse VAR protection accordingly



Low kW, high leading VAR is a risk

- Avoid operation in this region
- Disconnect PF correction or filter caps
- Select “Gen mode” if UPS supports

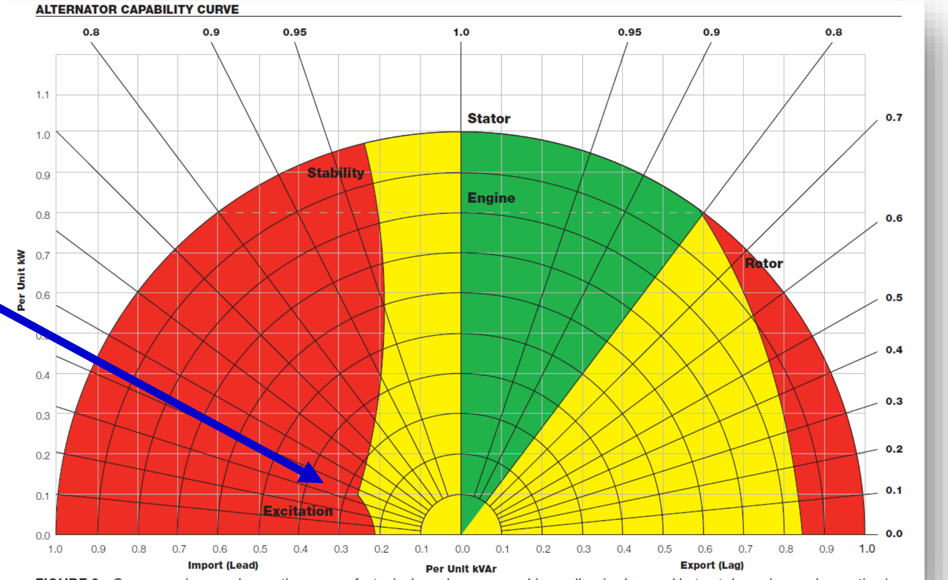


FIGURE 2 – Green area is normal operating range of a typical synchronous machine, yellow is abnormal but not damaging, and operating in

Recommendation: If your loads are operating at low-leading or lagging power factors, request a capability curve to ensure your alternator is operating within its safe limits.

Concept Check

Which of the following statements is true:

a) A generator set's leading VAR capability can be determined from the alternator operating chart.
b) Generator sets can operate at any power factor as long as there are power factor correction capacitors in the system.
c) Generator sets can not operate at leading PF of less than .95.
d) Generator sets can produce full rated output at any lagging power factor.

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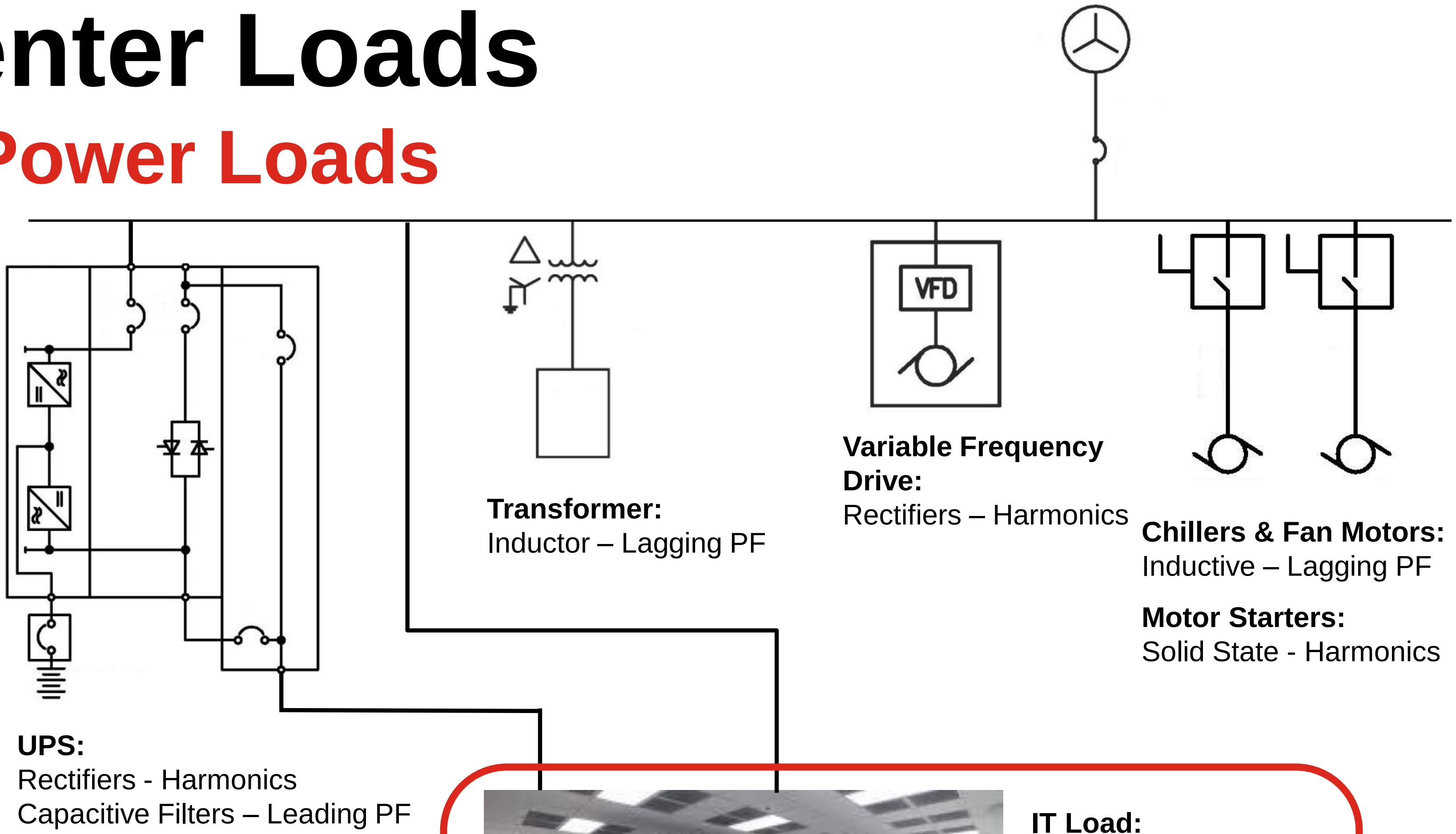
Data Center Loads

Constant Power Loads



IT Load:
SMPS – Leading PF,
Constant Power
Rectifiers –Harmonics

Constant Power Loads

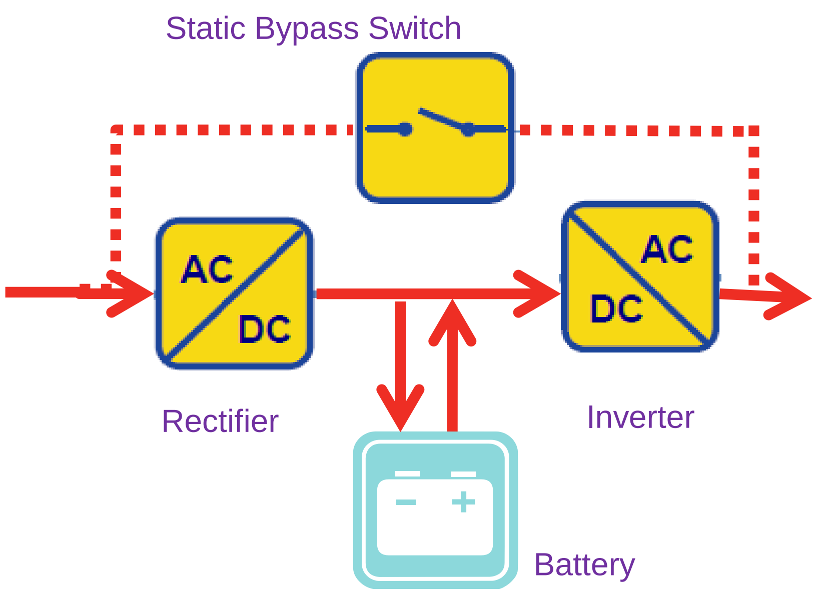
UPS with Walk-In Function

Server Switched Mode Power Supplies are active loads

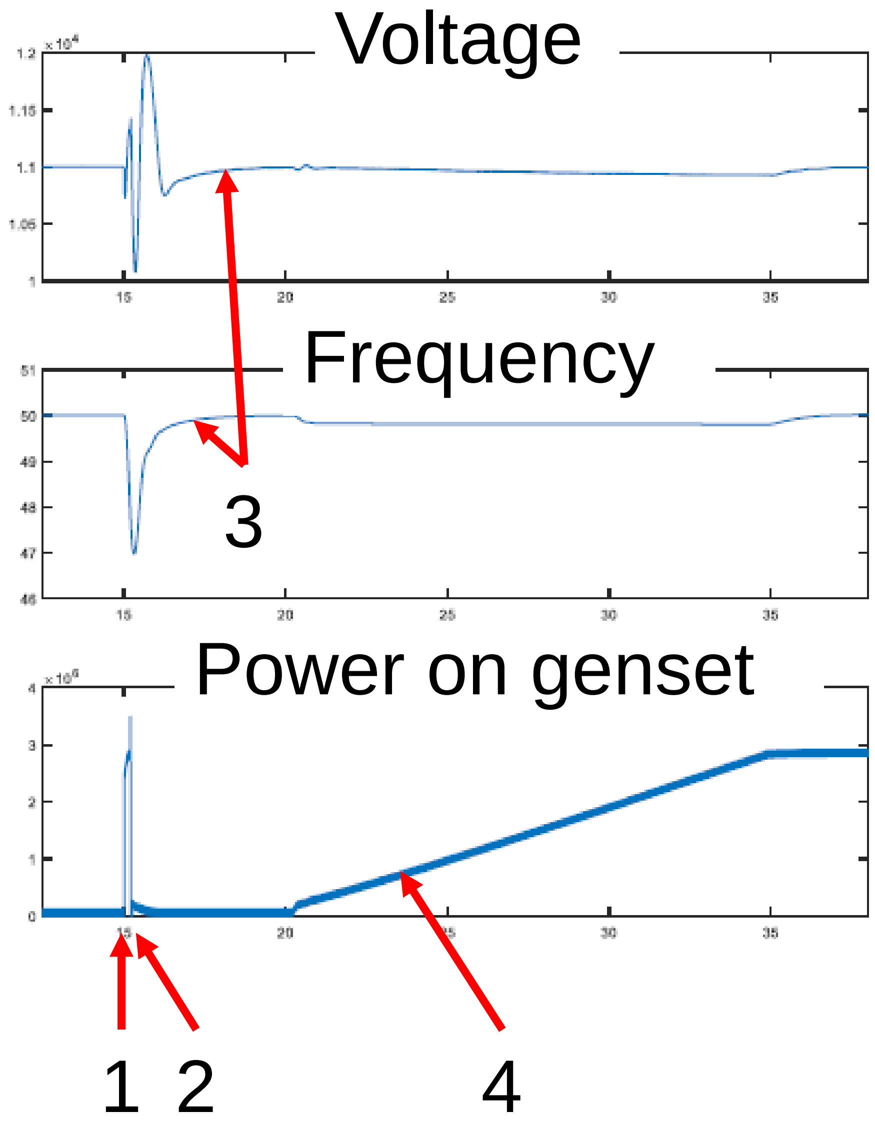
- Draw constant power
- As voltage drops current is increased
- V/Hz doesn't help

UPS with walk-in allows gen to take on 100% active power load step

- Allows batteries to take the load initially and then ramp on to the gen



Constant Power Load Acceptance

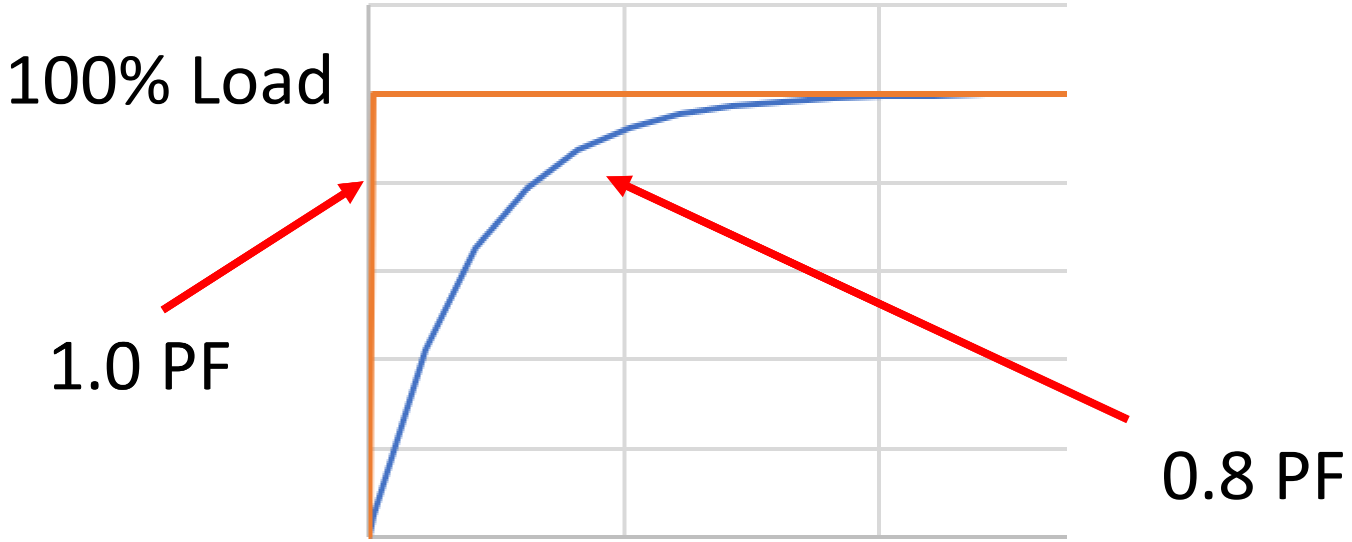


1. UPS senses voltage and frequency excursion
2. Transfers load to battery
3. Genset voltage and frequency recover and stabilize
4. UPS ramps load on to genset

Constant Power Loads

Unity PF Transients

- Transient performance is typically documented at 0.8 PF
- Acceptance testing is typically done with resistive load banks (1.0 PF)
- Resistive loads often result in worse voltage transients than inductive loads



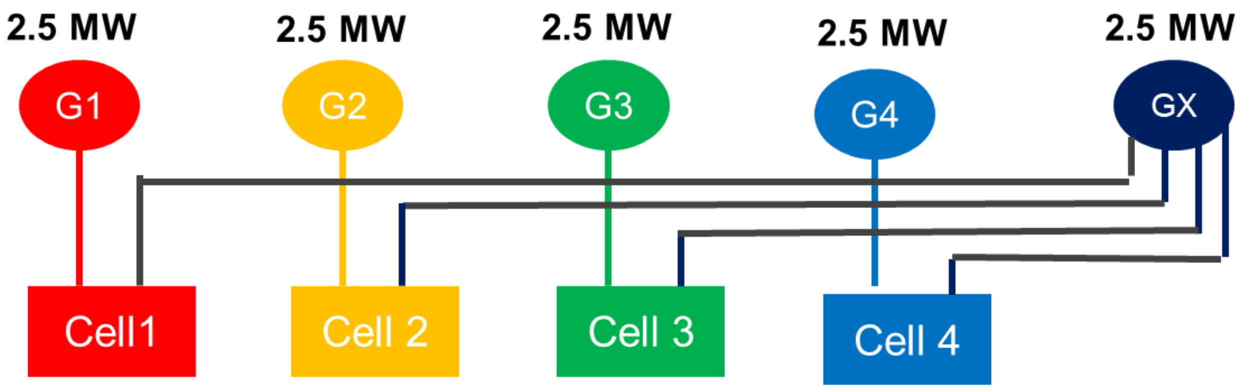
Testing at 0.8 PF

- Inductance creates a lag in kW load hitting the engine
- Governor response limits frequency dip
- V/Hz voltage roll off is reduced

Constant Power Loads

Transient Spec Recommendation

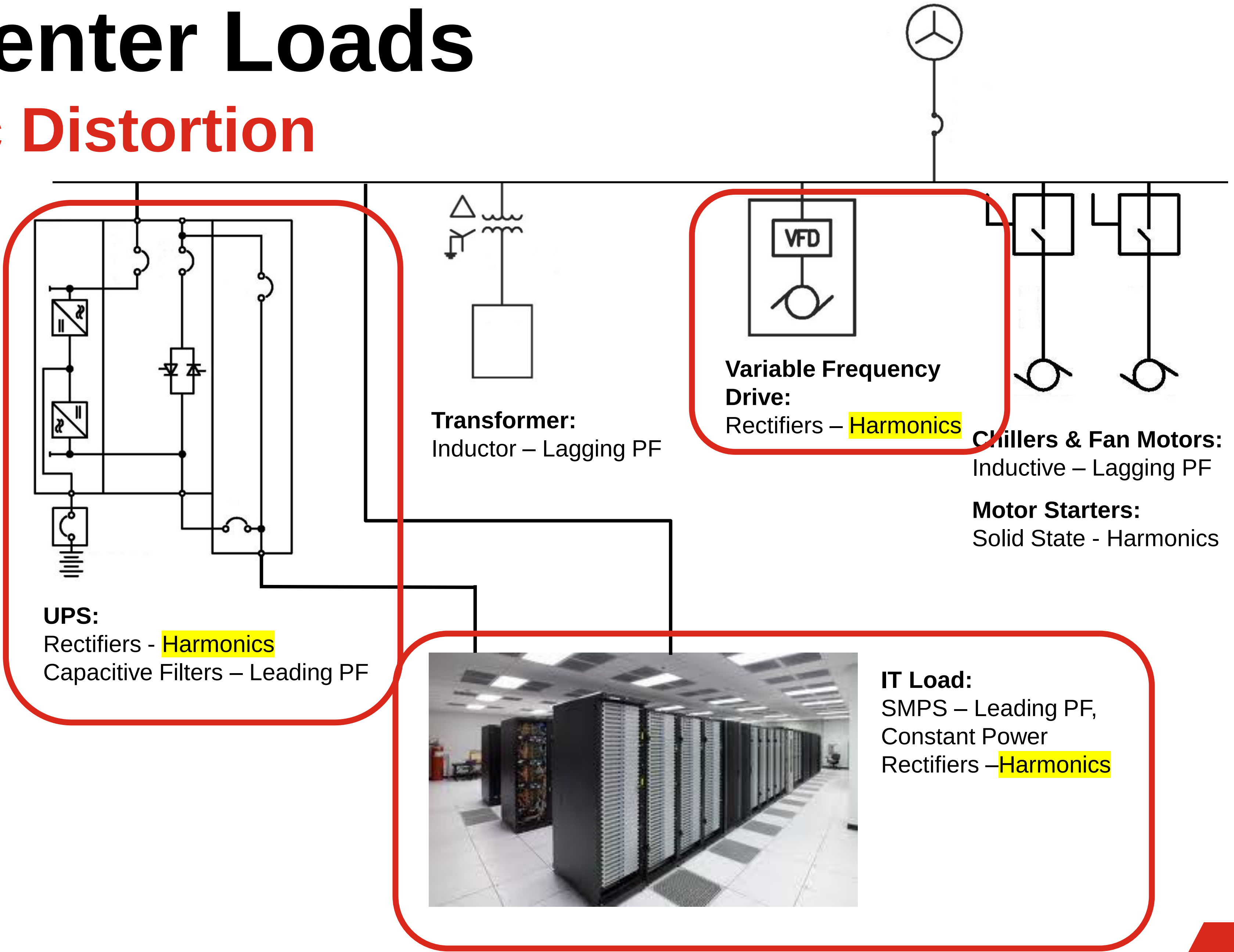
- Consider actual operating sequence
- Under what scenario will a 100% load acceptance be required?
  - Will this only occur in the event of a failover to a reserve gen?
  - Would a UPS walk-in function be more appropriate than a 100% load acceptance requirement?
- Specify realistic acceptance test



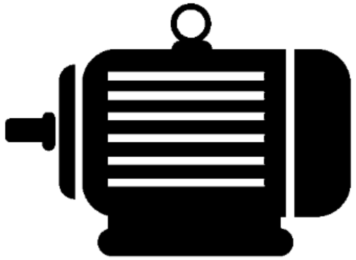
Spec Note Generator set manufacturer shall provide documentation from the manufacturer’s sizing software demonstrating compliance with specified transient limits.

Data Center Loads

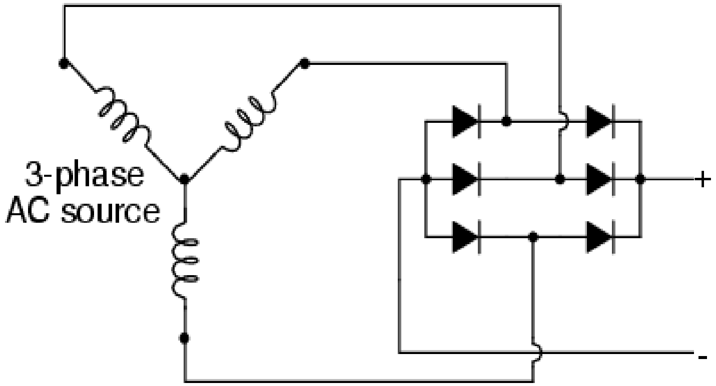
Harmonic Distortion



Harmonics and Non-Linear Loads



Three-phase, full-wave bridge rectifier circuit

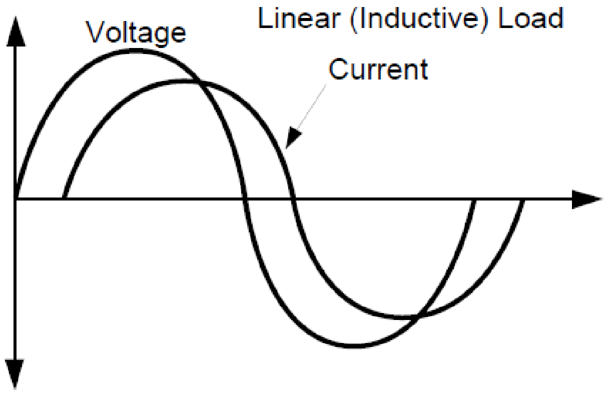


Motor Starters

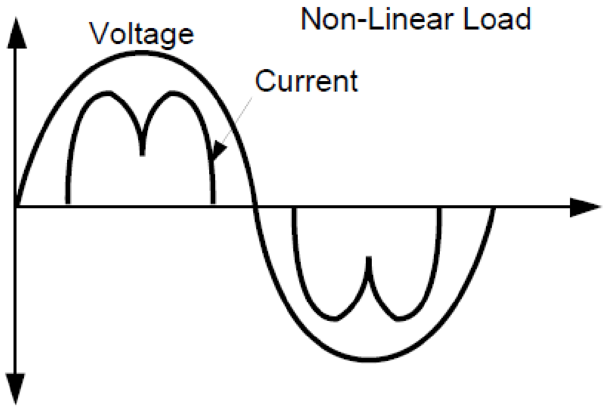
UPS

VFDs

Battery Chargers



A load in which the relationship between current and voltage is directly proportional.

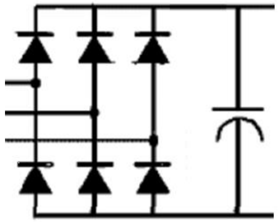


Load is switched on a sub-cyclic basis resulting in current that no longer conforms to the sinusoidal voltage.

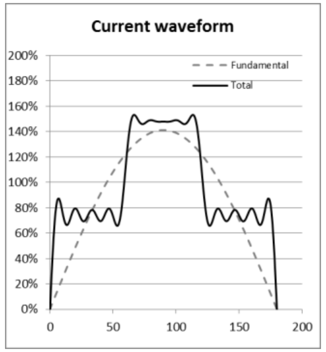
Harmonic Distortion

Supply Type

6 Pulse



Current Waveform

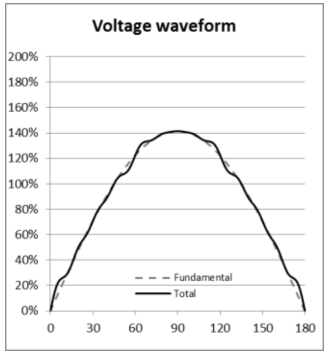


I-THD = 29%

Switching current on a sub-cyclic basis results in a distorted current waveform

Voltage Waveform

Transformer, SCR = 100

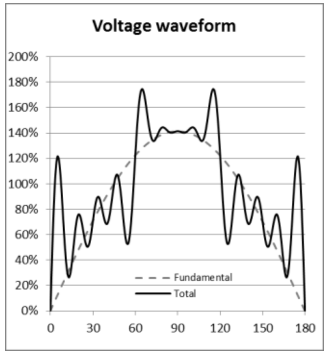


V-THD = 2.8%

The source (generator or utility transformer) induces current harmonic distortion on to the voltage waveform

Voltage Waveform

Genset X''_d = 12%, SCR = 8



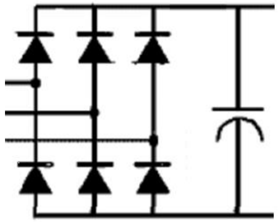
V-THD = 34%

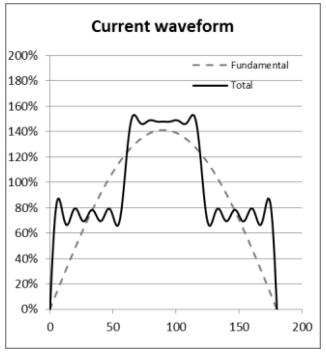
Induced voltage harmonic distortion is proportional to source impedance (inversely proportional to short circuit ratio)

Harmonic Distortion

Supply Type | **Current Waveform** | **Voltage Waveform** (Transformer, SCR = 100) | **Voltage Waveform** (Genset X''_d = 12%, SCR = 8)

6 Pulse





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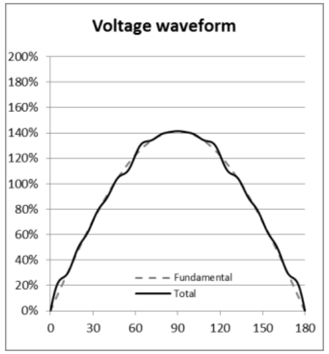

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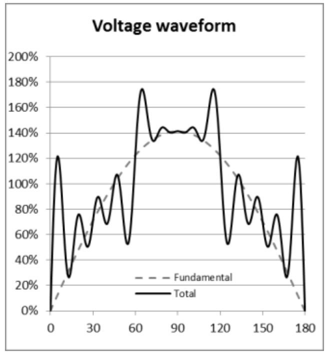
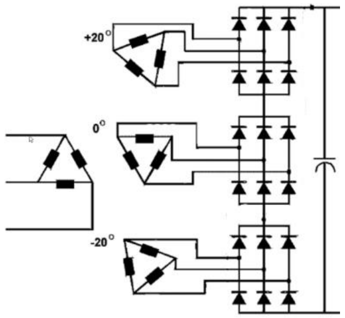
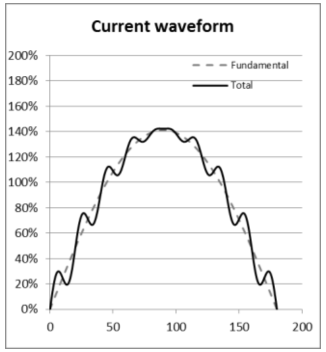


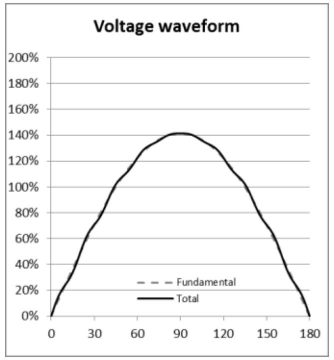
V-THD = 34%

18 Pulse

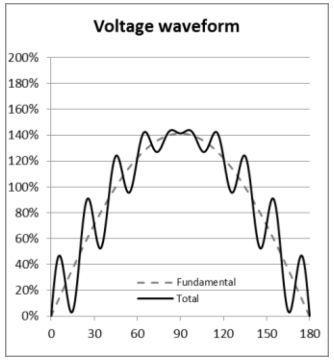




I-THD = 7.9%



V-THD = 1.4%



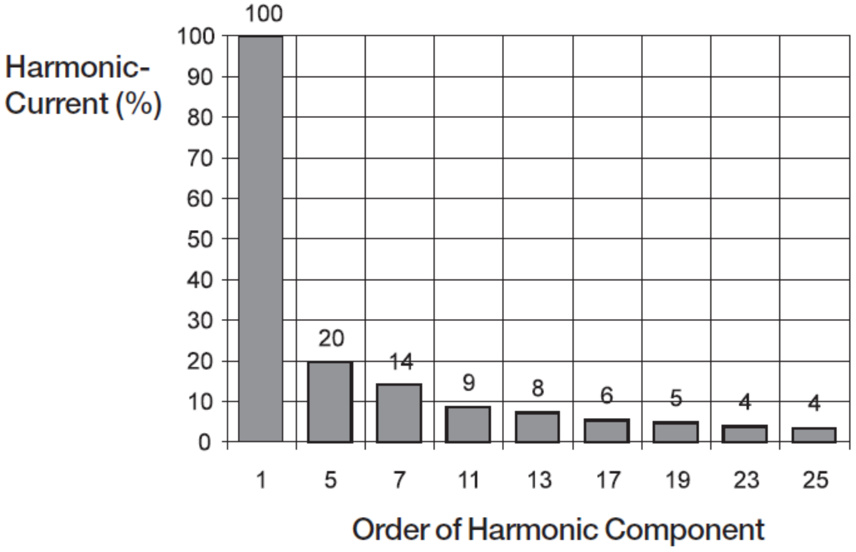
V-THD = 17%

Switching circuit and the source impedance both affect voltage harmonic distortion

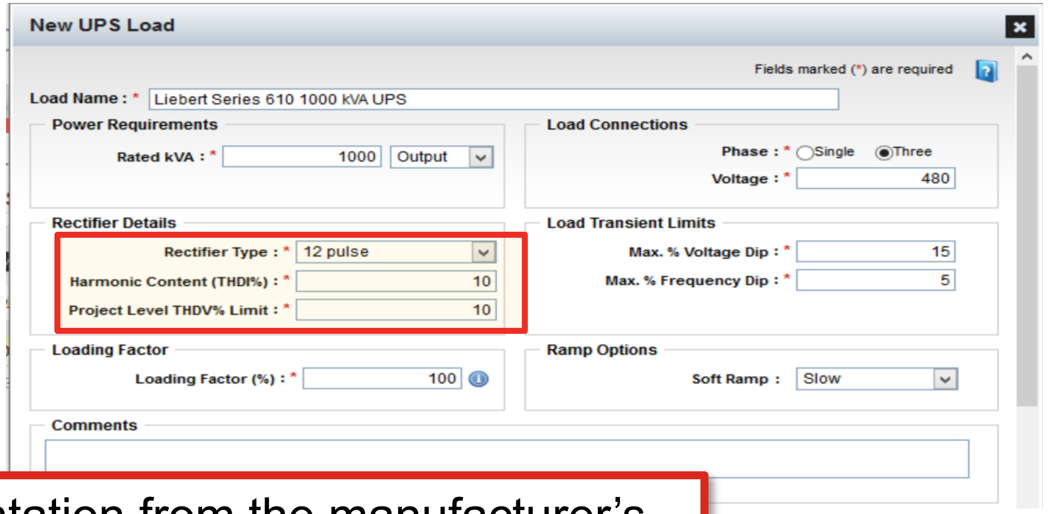
Power System Harmonics

Key Takeaways

- Harmonic Voltage Distortion is a function of load generated current distortion and the source impedence
  - For a generator set source impedence is the subtransient reactance X”d
  - Harmonic distortion will be worse when running on a generator than on the utility
- Harmonic distortion does not impact performance of alternators with separate excitation system
- Use generator sizing software to select generator set that will keep harmonic distortion within acceptable limits
  - This results in an optimally sized alternator



$V_{THD} = X * I_{THD}$



Spec Note Generator set manufacturer shall provide documentation from the manufacturer’s sizing software demonstrating compliance with specified harmonic distortion limits.

Concept Check

Which of the following statements is false:

a) The higher the Short Circuit Ratio, the lower the harmonics.
b) Generator Sets and Utility handle harmonics very similarly.
c) The lower the subtransient reactance (X”d), the lower the harmonics.
d) An 18 pulse rectifier induces less THDI% than a 6 pulse rectifier.

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d) An 18 pulse rectifier induces less THDI% than a 6 pulse rectifier

Temperature Rise

Insulation system:	Class H throughout						
3 ø Ratings	(0.8 power factor)		**60 Hz** (wind				
			416 (12)	440 (12)	480 (12)	600 (07)
163° C rise ratings	@ 27° C	kW	3680	3592	3920	3920
		kVA	4600	4490	4900	4900
150° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	3304	3496	3816	3816
		kVA	4130	4370	4770	4770
125° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	3096	3272	3571	3571
		kVA	3870	4090	4464	4464
105° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	2892	3056	3338	3338
		kVA	3615	3820	4172	4172
80° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	2512	2640	2900	2900
		kVA	3140	3300	3625	3625

Voltage Class	< 10 kV	> 10 kV
Insulation Class	H	F
Total Temperature	180 C	160 C
Nominal Temp Rise	125 C	105 C
Nominal Ambient Temp	40 C	40 C
Hot Spot Allowance	15 C	15 C

4464 kVA is maximum load for 180 °C insulation class

125 °C rise
+ 40 °C ambient
+ 15 °C hot spot variation
= 180 °C insulation limit

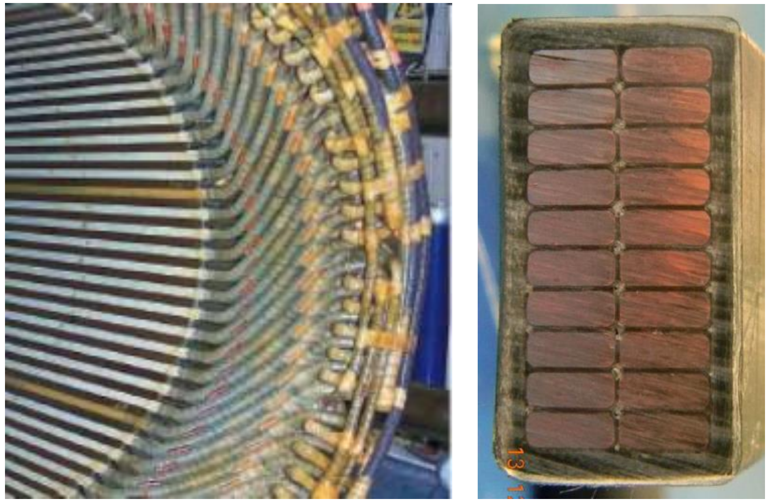
Spec Note Specify alternator temperature rise based on insulation class and ambient conditions.

Alternator Winding Type

Random/Wire Wound

- Easier to cool
- Easier manufacturing process
- Usually better waveform quality
- Less copper and steel to reach short circuit and motor starting capabilities

Form/Bar Wound



- Better for MV and HV applications
- More difficult to manufacture
- Greater mechanical strength
- Greater dielectric strength

Spec Note Specify generator performance criteria, not manufacturing method.

Specification Example

Specification Requirement:

Alternator maximum subtransient reactance shall not be greater than 12%.

Should an oversized alternator be selected?

An oversized alternator may have…

- Better harmonic performance
- Greater leading VAR capability
- Lower subtransient reactance

An oversized alternator may also have…

- Higher fault current
- Slower start time
- and may be more expensive!

3 Ø Ratings	(0.8 power factor)		60 Hz (windi			
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		kVA	4120	3940	4170	4550
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		kVA	4000	3840	4060	4430
125° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	3000	2872	3040	3314
		kVA	3750	3590	3800	4142
105° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	2760	2680	2840	3097
		kVA	3450	3350	3550	3871
80° C rise ratings	@ 40° C	kW	2424	2332	2468	2691
		kVA	3030	2915	3085	3364
3 Ø Reactances			380 (13)	416 (12)	440 (12)	480 (12)
(Based on full load at 125° C rise rating)						
Synchronous			2.700	3.120	2.948	2.700
Transient			0.193	0.220	0.208	0.191
Subtransient			0.142	0.161	0.152	0.140
Negative sequence			0.205	0.233	0.221	0.202
Zero sequence			0.027	0.031	0.029	0.027

Reactances at genset rating (3750 kVA)

Synchronous = 2.4 pu

Subtransient = .126 pu

Course Summary

Specifying Standby Generator Set Requirements for Data Centers

Identify safe alternator operating zones on an alternator reactive capability chart to ensure proper operating conditions on the generator

- Recognize the differences in generator load acceptance of active power, unity power factor and conventional lagging power factor loads and define specification requirements and operating sequences for each type
- Describe the impact of non-linear loads on harmonics
- Recognize the tradeoffs in properly specifying an alternator for data center applications

Recommendations

- Define the generator’s leading VAR requirements and identify the generator’s leading VAR capabilities. Specify alternator and operating sequences accordingly
- Consider UPS walk-in function rather than oversizing generator set for full load acceptance
- Specify transient requirements and acceptance test requirements that are representative of actual usage
- Use generator set sizing software to evaluate harmonic requirements

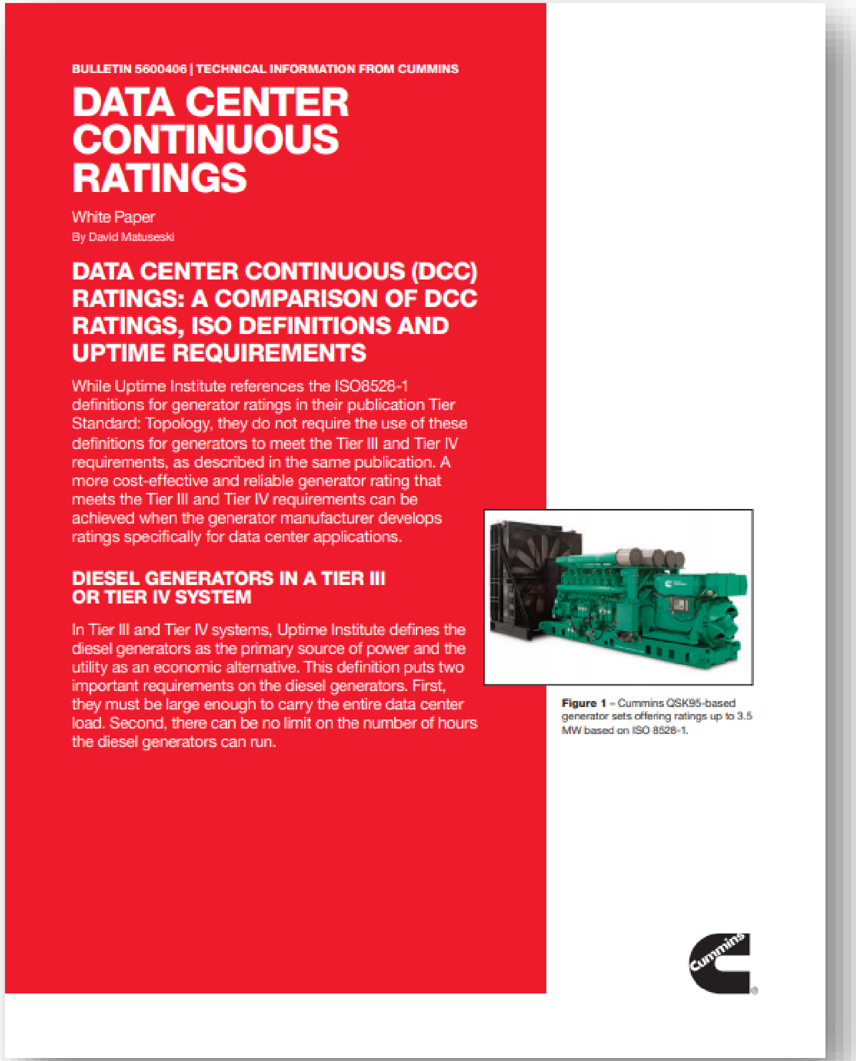
Additional Resources

Cummins White Papers

- Data Center Continuous (DCC) Ratings: A Comparison of DCC Ratings, ISO Definitions and Uptime Requirements (Nov 2019)
- Understanding ISO 8528-1 Generator Set Ratings (Nov 2019)
- Transient Performance of Generating Sets
- Specifying and Validating Motor Starting Capability

Cummins On-Demand Webinars

- Generator Set Ratings for Data Centers and Other Applications
- Common Failure Modes of Data Center Back Up Power Systems
- Using Fuel Cells to Address Energy Growth and Sustainability Challenges in Data Centers
- Advanced Generator Set Sizing Software: Transient Performance and Motor Load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DATA CENTER CONTINUOUS RATINGS

White Paper

By David Matuseski

DATA CENTER CONTINUOUS (DCC) RATINGS: A COMPARISON OF DCC RATINGS, ISO DEFINITIONS AND UPTIME REQUIREMENTS

While Uptime Institute references the ISO8528-1 definitions for generator ratings in their publication Tier Standard: Topology, they do not require the use of these definitions for generators to meet the Tier III and Tier IV requirements, as described in the same publication. A more cost-effective and reliable generator rating that meets the Tier III and Tier IV requirements can be achieved when the generator manufacturer develops ratings specifically for data center applications.

DIESEL GENERATORS IN A TIER III OR TIER IV SYSTEM

In Tier III and Tier IV systems, Uptime Institute defines the diesel generators as the primary source of power and the utility as an economic alternative. This definition puts two important requirements on the diesel generators. First, they must be large enough to carry the entire data center load. Second, there can be no limit on the number of hours the diesel generators can run.

Figure 1 – Cummins QSK95-based generator sets offering ratings up to 3.5 MW based on ISO 8528-1.

Q & A

Mark Taylor
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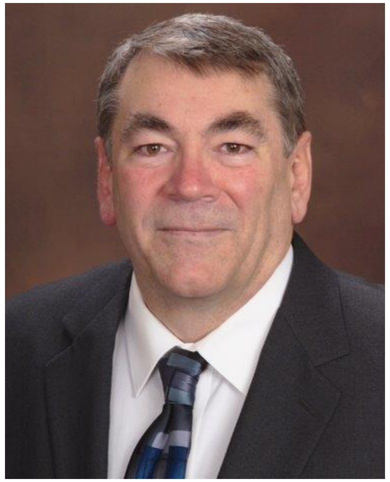

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