

## Article

# Line-Start Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor Supplied with Voltage Containing Negative-Sequence Subharmonics

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**Abstract:** In some power systems, the voltage waveform contains frequency components less than fundamental, called subharmonics or subsynchronous interharmonics. Voltage subharmonics can be both positive- and negative-sequence, independent of their frequency (order). Subharmonics exert harmful effects on sundry electrical equipment, especially on rotating machinery; they cause various noxious phenomena, such as a local saturation of the magnetic circuit, increases in power losses and windings temperature, and torque pulsations leading to vibration of unacceptable severity. Notably, previous works reported excessive vibration of rotating machinery only under no-load, while under full load, rather moderate vibration occurred. This study deals with vibration analysis of a line-start permanent magnet synchronous motor (LSPMSM) supplied with the voltage containing negative-sequence subharmonics. Experimental investigations were conducted for a 3 kW, four-pole production LSPMSM for subharmonics of various values and frequencies. Voltage subharmonics of values significantly less than reported in real power systems were found to cause unacceptable vibration, especially under full load.

**Keywords:** AC motors; interharmonics; permanent magnet motors; power quality; subharmonics; synchronous motors; vibration; voltage distortions



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## 1. Introduction

A prevalent power quality disturbance is from voltage waveform distortions. In practice, the voltage waveform is not a perfect sine but contains various additional frequency components. The undesirable components are usually harmonics, but in some systems [1–3], subharmonics (subsynchronous interharmonics) and interharmonics (SaIs) also occur—that is, components of a frequency less than fundamental or those that are not integer multiples of the fundamental frequency. Of note, subharmonics are often understood as a kind of interharmonics, but in some works (e.g., [4–6]), they are considered separately because of their especially negative effect on electrical equipment [7].

The presence of SaIs in a power system usually originates from the work of various power electronic appliances, renewable sources of energy, and loads of a fluctuating nature, including double-frequency conversion systems (inverters and high-voltage DC links), wind power stations, photovoltaic plants, arc furnaces, laser printers, AC motors driving piston compressors and other time-varying loads [2,8–22]. SaIs can also occur in an inverter output voltage because of voltage fluctuations in the DC link [6,13,23]. In fact, cyclic voltage fluctuations [7,24–26] are a superposition of the fundamental voltage component and SaIs [7,27,28].

Various works have reported voltage subharmonics of values up to about 1% in real power systems. For example, in [1], significant SaIs were observed in a building located near steelworks, containing numerous non-linear receivers. The maximal value of the squared subharmonics subgroups of frequencies 5, 10, . . . , and 45 Hz was 0.99% for the

10-minute aggregation time. Authors in [3] analysed a subharmonic resonance of a wind farm. During the resonance, a voltage subharmonic of 8.1 Hz with a value of 1–2% occurred (based on correspondence with the authors of [3]). Furthermore, [2] reported a subharmonic value of 0.9% and frequency of 45 Hz, accompanied by interharmonics values of 1.17%, 0.89%, and 0.931% and frequencies of 135, 225, and 405 Hz, respectively. SaIs contamination was found in a system supplied with diesel generators, caused by high-power top-drive and mud-pump variable frequency drives.

As is well known, the sequence of voltage harmonics is linked to their order (in practice, frequency). Contrastingly, voltage SaIs can be both positive- and negative-sequence, independent of their frequency [21]. In practice, the sequence of SaIs is interconnected with their origination [21].

Subharmonics and, interconnected with them, voltage fluctuations cause various noxious phenomena in transformers, light sources, control systems, and power electronic and measurement equipment [4,7,16,24,27,29,30]. Especially sensitive to subharmonics is rotating machinery (based on [5,14,23,27,31–39]). Subharmonics have been reported to cause excessive transverse and torsional vibrations, increases in power losses and windings temperatures, local saturations of magnetic circuits, and speed fluctuations. Particularly high levels of vibration, even leading to drivetrain destruction [12,18], occur under a resonance condition [5,12,18,24,27,33,34]. The most exposed to harmful torsional vibration are drivetrains containing large synchronous generators and motors (based on [10,14]). As a result, allowable levels of voltage SaIs can significantly differ for various installations (e.g., low- vs. medium-voltage generation installations).

Power quality standards generally do not include permissible levels of voltage SaIs. For instance, Standard EN 50160: Voltage characteristics of electricity supplied by public distribution systems [38] states, “The level of interharmonics is increasing due to development of the application of frequency converters and similar control equipment. Levels are under consideration, pending more experience”. Of note, the comment concerns both interharmonics and subharmonics, understood as subsynchronous interharmonics. IEEE-519:2022 Standard for harmonic control in electric power systems [39] discusses the necessity of SaIs limitation, presenting two alternative proposals of limiting curves for non-generation installations. One curve generally limits subharmonics to 0.5%, and the other limits them to 0.3%.

Rotating machinery supplied with voltage containing SaIs is the subject of numerous research works. They usually concern either multi-megawatt powertrains [10,14] or induction motors [5,23,28,31–35]. Furthermore, the effect of SaIs on the line-start permanent magnet synchronous motor (LSPMSM) [40,41] was only preliminarily analysed in the authors’ works [36,37]. Of note, the investigations [36,37] were restricted to currents and vibration under positive-sequence subharmonics. However, determining the permissible levels of voltage SaIs requires comprehensive investigations of their effect on various elements of a power system, including the increasingly popular LSPMSM—a possible successor to the induction motor.

In addition, previous research [5,35–38] indicated high transverse vibration of the rotating machinery for no-load, while in other load conditions, the observed vibration was generally moderate. At the same time, at least temporarily, many motors carry a load much less than rated [42,43], but this is not typical. In practice, most motors usually work with significantly greater loads [43].

In light of the above considerations, the objectives of this study are formulated as follows: (1) to demonstrate that voltage subharmonics can cause high vibration of rotating machinery for both no-load and full load, and (2) to examine the vibration of the LSPMSM under negative-sequence voltage subharmonics. The results of this research can be useful for power quality standard modification.

## 2. Origin of Voltage Subharmonics and Interharmonics

The presence of voltage SaIs in the power system usually originates from the work of power electronic equipment, renewable energy sources, and time-varying loads.

The most important SaIs source is considered to be a double-frequency conversion system (DCS) [13], which is a power electronic appliance connecting two AC systems of various frequencies [16]. The DCS comprises a rectifier and an inverter interconnected by a DC link [13,16,21]—in practice, a capacitor or an inductor. During the DCS operation, voltage or current ripples occur in the DC link, which may result in SaIs presence in both input and output sides of the DCS [13,16,21,23]. The frequencies of subharmonics ( $f_{sh}$ ) and interharmonics ( $f_{ih}$ ) occurring in the input side of the DCS are (based on [16,21])

$$f_{sh/ih} = f_1 \mp f_r, \quad (1)$$

$$f_{sh/ih} = f_h \mp f_r, \quad (2)$$

where  $f_1$  is the fundamental frequency,  $f_r$  is the frequency of ripples occurring in the DC link, and  $f_h$  is the harmonic frequency characteristic for the given kind of converter, for example, 250 Hz or 350 Hz (in a 50-Hz system). In practice, the DCS containing a  $p_1$ -pulse rectifier and a  $p_2$ -pulse inverter produces SaIs of frequencies equal to [16,21]

$$f_{sh/ih} = (p_1 m \mp 1) f_1 \mp p_2 n f_o \quad (3)$$

where  $f_o$  is the output frequency of the DCS,  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

The above dependency (3) can be likewise applied to cycloconverters [16]. Of note, the PWM inverter produces additional interharmonics, whose frequency depends on the modulation frequency, strategy, and depth [15,16].

SaIs generated by DCSs can be of both positive and negative sequences. In other words, if the frequency described by (1) is greater than zero, the resulting subharmonic or interharmonic component is of positive sequence. Similarly, if the frequency calculated with (2) is positive, the SaI sequence is the same as the same sequence of the harmonic frequency  $f_h$  [21]. On the contrary, if the frequency determined with (1) or (2) is negative, the SaI sequence is the opposite of the sequence of the fundamental or harmonic component of frequency  $f_h$  [21], respectively.

Furthermore, ripples occurring in the DC link can be considerably amplified by resonance phenomena, resulting in high SaI contamination. For example, ripple amplification was reported [13] for inverter output voltage fluctuations corresponding to the natural torsional frequency of a power train. This phenomenon can be especially significant for the low inertia moment of a driven appliance [13].

Another reason for SaI occurrence is the work of renewable energy sources, such as photovoltaic plants [18,22] and wind power stations [3,7,12,20]. In the case of wind turbines, the presence of voltage fluctuations and subharmonics originates from such sources as tower resonance, blades passing in the front of the tower, small differences in the blades, wind turbulences, and rotor electrical or mechanical asymmetry [7,12]. Another SaI source is the DCS used in some wind turbines. In addition, in plants equipped with double-fed induction generators, the harmonics of the rotor circuit converter can be transmitted to the stator as SaIs [12].

Especially high SaI contamination [3] may occur during the sub-synchronous interaction of a power plant [3,20]. Of note, the interaction is not characteristic only for wind turbines but may also appear in thermal power stations [20]. The interaction may be categorised as subharmonic resonance and device-dependent sub-synchronous oscillations [20]. It can be either a purely electrical phenomenon or an event involving the torsional resonance of the generator rotating mass [20]. The sub-synchronous interaction can be initiated by a resonance of an LC circuit consisting of various system elements, including compensation capacitors, transformers, and generators, especially after the failure of a transmission

line [20]. Additionally, subharmonic resonance can be triggered by the interaction of the current loop controller of the converter of a double-fed induction generator or the interaction between a generator and various power electronic appliances, such as high-voltage DC links, voltage source converters, and power system stabilisers [20].

A prominent source of SaIs includes time-varying loads, which can be divided into regularly fluctuating loads, e.g., welder machines, laser printers, and devices with integral cycle control, and irregularly fluctuating loads, such as arc furnaces [16]. The work of time-varying loads causes current modulation [7,16], resulting in voltage fluctuations [7,25,26,35]. At the same time, sinusoidal voltage fluctuations can be analysed as a superposition of the fundamental voltage component, a subharmonic component, and an interharmonic component of the following frequencies [7,27,31,35]:

$$f_{sh} = f_1 - f_m \quad (4)$$

$$f_{ih} = f_1 + f_m \quad (5)$$

where  $f_{sh}$  is the frequency of the subharmonic component,  $f_{ih}$  is the frequency of the interharmonic component, and  $f_m$  is the frequency of voltage fluctuations.

If the frequency described with (4) or (5) is greater than zero, the corresponding subharmonic/interharmonic component is of positive sequence; otherwise, it is of negative sequence (based on [21]). Additionally, periodic voltage fluctuations of any shape can be considered as the simultaneous occurrence of sinusoidal modulations of various frequencies [31].

A specific fluctuating load is the arc furnace, whose feature is the variation of the generated SaIs because of the chaotic arc behaviour [16]. Of note, for the AC arc furnace, the most significant SaIs occur around the fundamental frequency [16,19], while for the DC arc furnace, they occur near the harmonics produced by the rectifier [16]. The arc furnace generates both positive and negative sequence SaIs (based on [16,19,21]).

Other specific fluctuating loads include synchronous and asynchronous motors driving appliances of the pulsating anti-torque, e.g., the piston compressor [8]. The motors may inject especially significant SaI currents when the frequency of the torque pulsations corresponds to the natural torsional frequency of the rigid-body mode [8]. As an example, a 12 MW synchronous motor under an anti-torque pulsation of 50% of the rated value produced an SaI current of frequencies  $f_{sh} = 43$  Hz,  $f_{sh} = 57$  Hz, and values of about 10% of the rated current [8].

Also noteworthy are some receivers and components of the power system that cannot produce SaIs for themselves but generate them when the supply voltage contains a subharmonic or an interharmonic (based on [5,28]). For instance, the induction motor supplied with voltage containing a positive-sequence interharmonic injects a subharmonic of a frequency equal to  $2f_1 - f_{ih}$  into the power system [5,28]. Furthermore, the induction motor under a positive-sequence subharmonic generates an interharmonic of a frequency equal to  $f_1 + f_{sh}$  [5,28]. In one study, a 3 kW induction motor supplied with the voltage containing the subharmonic value of 1% and frequency  $f_{sh} = 26$  Hz injected a current interharmonic of frequency  $f_{sh} = 76$  Hz and value of 23% of the rated current into the power system [5]. This phenomenon is especially significant in the conditions of rigid-body torsional resonance caused by SaI presence in the supply voltage [5].

In summary, both positive- and negative-sequence SaIs can be generated by various commonly used electrical appliances.

### 3. Measurement Setup

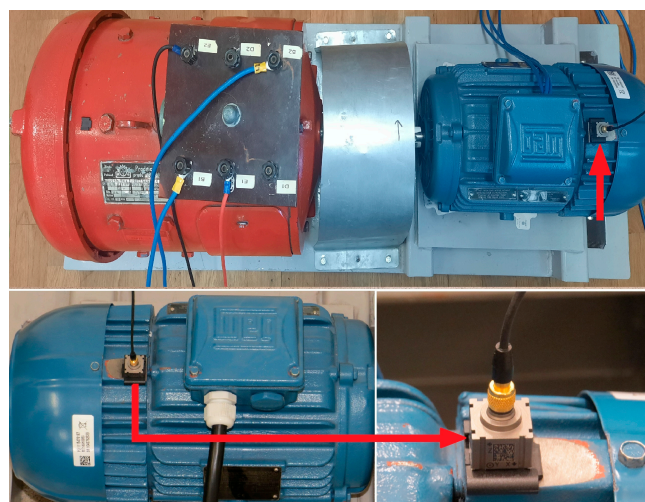
The experimental equipment comprised the LSPMSM, a multi-machine system for SaIs generation, power quality analysers and a Bruel&Kjear (B&K) system for vibration measurement. The system included a computer with the installed B&K Connect software (version 26.1.0.251), a standalone four-channel data acquisition module B&K type 3676-B-040, an accelerometer calibrator B&K type 4294, and a three-axis accelerometer B&K

type 4529-B (frequency range of 0.3–12,800 Hz, a sensitivity of  $10 \text{ mV/ms}^{-2}$ , maximum shock level peak of 5100 g, and weight of 14.5 g). Before each measurement session, the accelerometer was calibrated, and the measurements were taken and analysed with the chief provisions of the standard ISO 20816-1 Mechanical vibration—Measurement and evaluation of machine vibration—Part 1: General guidelines [44]. The accelerometer indications were recorded and recalculated into the broad-band vibration velocity [44] using the B&K Connect software (version 26.1.0.251).

The LSPMSM tested was type WQuattro L100L-04 with 3 kW rated power. It was loaded with a DC machine (working as a generator), supplying a resistor bank. Table 1 lists the nameplate parameters of the LSPMSM, and Figure 1 shows a photograph with the mounted accelerometer. Because of some modifications, the results of vibration measurements presented in this study cannot be directly compared with previous research [36,37].

**Table 1.** Nameplate Data of the Investigated Motor WQuattro L100L-04.

Parameter	Value
Rated power (kW)	3
Rated frequency (Hz)	50
Rated voltage (V)	400
Rated current (A)	5.84
Rated power factor (–)	0.82
Rated rotational speed (rpm)	1500
Manufacturer	WEG Industries



**Figure 1.** Investigated motor and accelerometer.

The multi-machine system for subharmonic generation (based on [45]) comprised two synchronous generators coupled via a transformer with an experimentally selected number of turns. One generator (type Leroy Somer LSA 42.2M6 6/4, rated power  $S_{rat} = 23 \text{ kVA}$ , rated current  $I_{rat} = 33 \text{ A}$ , direct-axis synchronous reactance  $x_d = 190\%$ , quadrature-axis synchronous reactance  $x_q = 100\%$ ) was driven with a rotational speed corresponding to the fundamental frequency, and the other (type GTNSa132s2/08,  $S_{rat} = 6.5 \text{ kVA}$ ,  $I_{rat} = 9.9 \text{ A}$ ) was driven at the subharmonic frequency [5]. Voltage and current subharmonics were measured with a computer-based power quality analyser (with software elaborated by the authors, employing fast Fourier transform) and an estimator–analyser of power quality [46] developed at Gdynia Maritime University for commercial purposes and certified by the Polish Register of Shipping.

Figures 2 and 3 present a simplified diagram of measurement setup [36] and the flowchart of the vibration measurement (based on [35]), respectively.

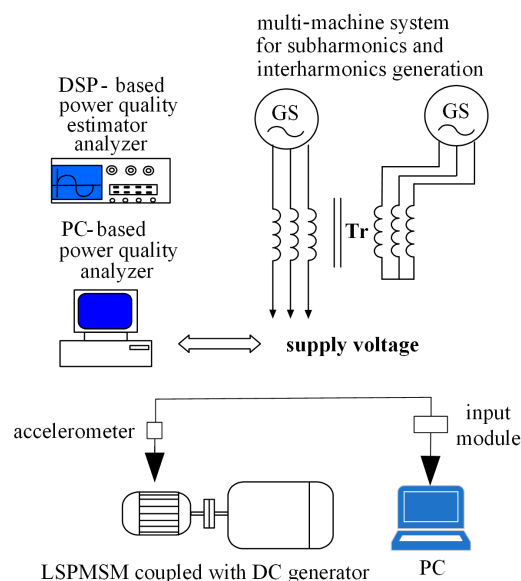


Figure 2. Simplified diagram of the measurement stand.

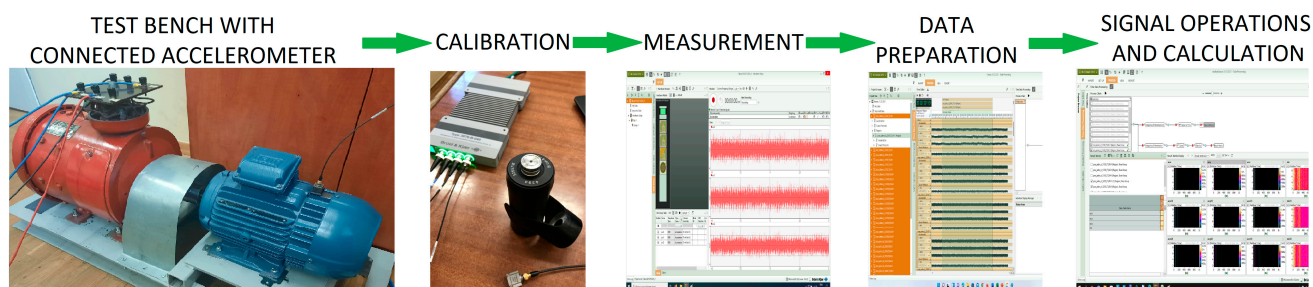


Figure 3. Flowchart of the vibration measurement.

## 4. Results

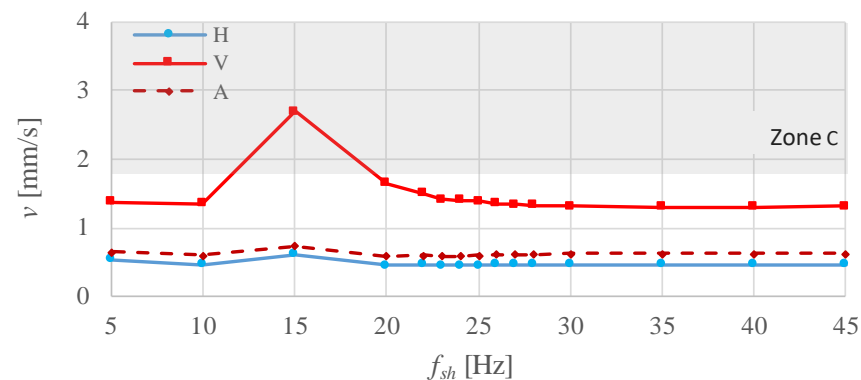
### 4.1. Assessment of Vibration Severity

Recommendations concerning the assessment of vibration severity are provided in the standard ISO 20816-1 Mechanical vibration—Measurement and evaluation of machine vibration—Part 1: General guidelines [44]. The standard [44] specifies four evaluation zones: Zone A, Zone B, Zone C, and Zone D. Vibrations corresponding to Zone A are generally characteristic of newly commissioned machines. Vibrations falling into Zone B are acceptable for long-term unrestricted operation, while those within Zone C can be accepted for a limited period, for example, until machine repair or replacement. Finally, vibrations within Zone D “are normally considered to be of sufficient severity to cause damage to the machine” [44].

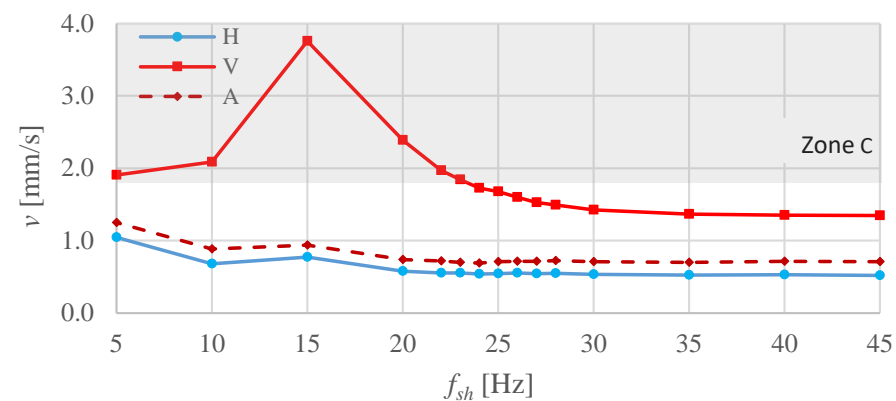
As the threshold values of each evaluation zone are not explicitly specified in the current standard [44], for this study, they were assumed based on its previous edition—ISO 10816-1 Mechanical vibration -- Evaluation of machine vibration by measurements on non-rotating parts — Part 1: General guidelines [47]. For low-power electric motors, vibrations of broad-band velocity [44,47] up to 0.71 mm/s correspond to Zone A, between 0.71 and 1.8 mm/s correspond to Zone B, between 1.8 and 4.5 mm/s correspond to Zone C, and exceeding 4.5 mm/s correspond to Zone D.

#### 4.2. Vibration under NoLoad

This subsection presents the results of investigations for the LSPMSM coupled with an unloaded DC machine. Figures 4 and 5 show the broad-band vibration velocity for subharmonics of values  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$  and  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ , respectively. As mentioned in Section 1, the subharmonics of values circa 1% were reported in real power systems [1–3]. As shown in Figures 4 and 5, the highest vibration occurred for  $f_{sh} = 15$  Hz. The maximal vibration velocity reached 2.70 and 3.755 mm/s for  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$  (Figure 4) and  $u_{sh} = 1\%$  (Figure 5), respectively, falling into Zone C. For frequencies  $f_{sh}$  below  $\sim 10$  Hz and greater than 20 Hz, the vibration velocity was much lower, generally within the limits of Zone B. Furthermore, the vibration velocities for the supply voltage without subharmonics (reference test) were 0.739 mm/s, 0.512 mm/s and 0.634 mm/s in the vertical, horizontal, and axial directions, respectively.



**Figure 4.** Measured broad-band vibration velocity in the horizontal (H), vertical (V), and axial (A) directions versus the voltage subharmonic frequency for subharmonic value  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$ .

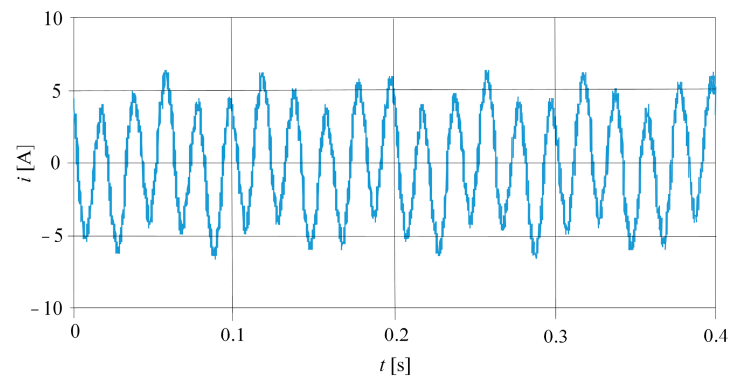


**Figure 5.** Measured broad-band vibration velocity in the horizontal (H), vertical (V), and axial (A) directions versus the voltage subharmonic frequency for subharmonic value  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ .

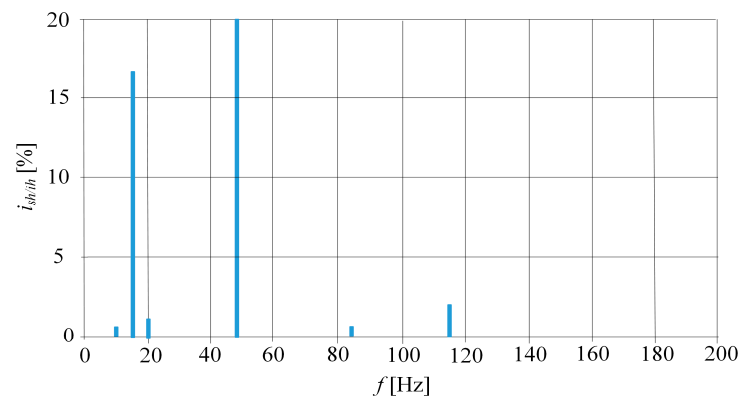
The primary source of excessive vibration under power quality disturbances is tangential electromagnetic forces (based on [5,48]), interconnected with the torque pulsations. In the case of rotating machinery supplied with voltage containing SaIs, torque pulsations are chiefly caused by the flow of current SaIs through the windings (based on [35]). In practice, SaI currents produce their own rotating magnetic field, interacting with the field because of the fundamental current harmonic [28].

An exemplary waveform of the supply motor current is shown in Figure 6 for the voltage subharmonic frequency  $f_{sh} = 15$  Hz and value  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ , with the spectrum of the current waveform presented in Figure 7. The current waveform contained a subharmonic of value  $I_{sh} = 16.72\%$  of the rated current ( $I_{rat}$ ) and an interharmonic of frequency 115 Hz and value  $I_{ih} = 2.86\%$  of  $I_{rat}$  and some minor components of frequency 10 Hz, 20 Hz, 85 Hz,

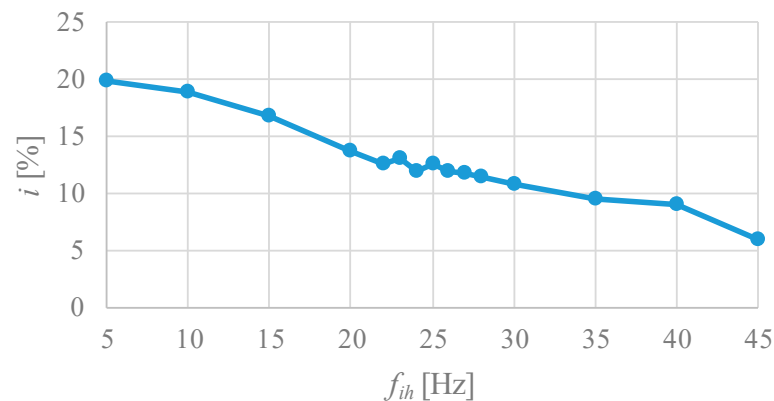
115 Hz and value 0.7%, 1.23%, 0.74%, 3.71% of  $I_{rat}$ , respectively. Next, Figure 8 presents the main current subharmonic component versus its frequency  $f_{sh}$ . The characteristic generally decreased as the frequency  $f_{sh}$  rose, and did not contain current peaks, characteristic of rigid-body resonance of the rotating mass [5,35–37]. For example, for the same power train (LSPMSM coupled with the unloaded DC machine) and positive-sequence subharmonics, the resonant peak occurred at the frequency  $f_{sh} = 10$  Hz [36]. In practice, for this  $f_{sh}$ , the current subharmonic was higher by  $\sim 50\%$  than those for  $f_{sh} = 5$  and 15 Hz [36].



**Figure 6.** Measured current waveform for the subharmonic of frequency  $f_{sh} = 15$  Hz and value  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ .



**Figure 7.** Spectrum of the current waveform presented in Figure 6. The frequency components are related to the rated current.



**Figure 8.** Measured current subharmonics versus their frequency for subharmonic value  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ , related to the rated current.



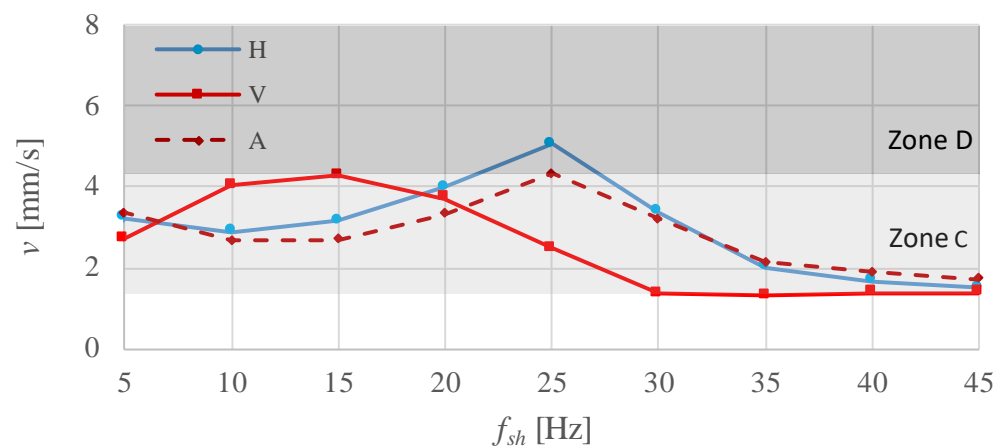
Although the observed vibration (Figures 4 and 5) was indirectly induced by the flow of the distorted current, the collocation of Figures 4, 5 and 8 shows that the vibration velocity was not directly interconnected with the value of current subharmonics. In practice, the vibration severity “directly depends on the mechanical behavior of the motor structure and the possibility of a resonance condition... on the structure of an entire unit or on the motor components” [48].

In summary, for the investigated motor, the negative-sequence voltage subharmonics resulted in high vibration around the resonant frequency of the mechanical structure, while for other frequencies, the vibration was comparatively low. Rigid-body resonance of the rotating mass was not observed.

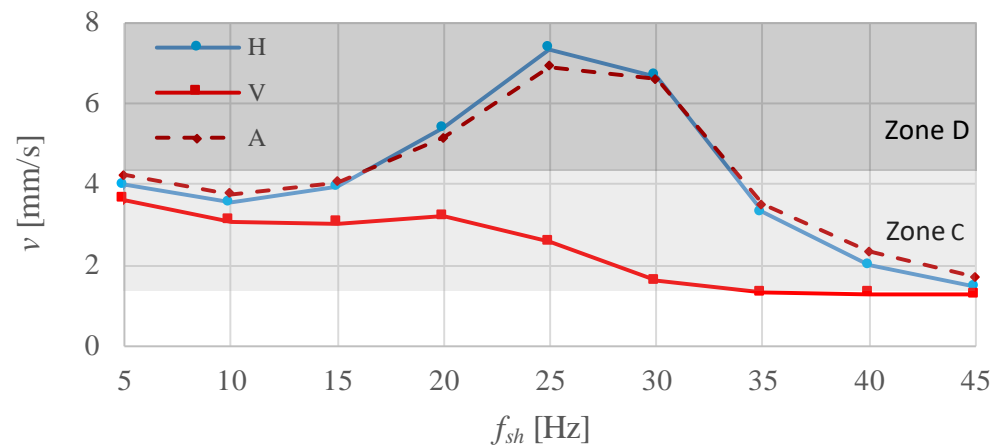
#### 4.3. Vibration under Rated Load

This subsection presents the results of the investigation on the vibration velocity under full load. Similarly to the previous subsection, the appropriate experimental investigations were carried out for the subharmonic of values  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$  and  $1\%$ . Additionally, the reference test was performed for the supply voltage without subharmonics; the measured vibration velocities were  $1.136 \text{ mm/s}$ ,  $0.825 \text{ mm/s}$ , and  $1.049 \text{ mm/s}$  for the vertical, horizontal, and axial directions, respectively.

Figures 9 and 10 show the characteristics of the broad-band vibration velocity versus the subharmonic frequency  $f_{sh}$ . The maximal vibration velocity reached  $5.058 \text{ mm/s}$  for  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$  (Figure 9) and  $7.344 \text{ mm/s}$  for  $u_{sh} = 1\%$  (Figure 10). Notably, these values were considerably greater than under no load (see Section 4.2). In contrast to the no-load condition, the vibration velocity took high values for the wide frequency range. For both the subharmonic values, almost all measurement points (except the vibration velocity for the frequency  $f_{sh} = 45 \text{ Hz}$ ) corresponded to Zones C and D. Of note, in Figures 9 and 10, the maximal vibration velocity occurred for the frequency  $f_{sh} = 25 \text{ Hz}$ , while for no load, the highest vibration velocity was observed for the frequency  $f_{sh} = 15 \text{ Hz}$ . According to the authors’ experience, the vibration under no load and full load significantly diverges (e.g., [5,35–37]). The differences may result from the non-linear coupling properties, among others. In particular, the coupling stiffness depends on the twist angle, which, in practice, is the carried torque. In addition, the anti-torque produced by the DC generator causes a change in the stress distribution of the structural components. At the same time, the vibration is extremely sensitive to the variation in any agents influencing the mechanical structure; a seemingly negligible change may significantly affect the vibration.



**Figure 9.** Measured broad-band vibration velocity in the horizontal (H), vertical (V), and axial (A) directions versus the voltage subharmonic frequency for subharmonic value  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$ .



**Figure 10.** Measured broad-band vibration velocity in the horizontal (H), vertical (V), and axial (A) directions versus the voltage subharmonic frequency for subharmonic value  $u_{sh} = 1\%$ .

In summary, at full load, the measured vibration velocity was significantly higher than at no load. Additionally, for the investigated motor, the maximal vibration occurred for other frequencies at full and no load. A detailed analysis of the impact of load variation on the vibration will be a subject of future research.

## 5. Discussion

Voltage subharmonics exert a harmful impact on various electrical equipment, especially on rotating machinery. Among others, voltage subharmonics cause local saturations of the magnetic circuits, increased power losses and windings temperatures, torque pulsations, and unacceptable vibrations. Previous works on low-voltage machinery under subharmonics [5,28,31–37] focused on the negative phenomena appearing in the cage induction motor. The effects of voltage subharmonics on the LSPMSM were investigated in the authors' studies [36,37], but they were limited to positive-sequence subharmonics. In fact, both positive- and negative-sequence voltage subharmonics may occur in the power system, independent of their frequency (order) [21].

The previous studies on the rotating machinery under SaIs reported excessive vibration for no-load conditions, while in the load conditions, the vibration was generally moderate [5,35–37]. On the contrary, the results of the investigations presented in this work show that unacceptable vibration may occur for both no and full load. For the full-load condition with subharmonic values reported in real power systems ( $\sim 1\%$  [1–3]), the measured vibration reaches an extremely high level—the maximal vibration velocity exceeds the boundaries of the evaluation Zone D by 60%. In addition, for the subharmonics value  $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$ , the vibration velocity falls into Zone D, the region where machine damage can occur [46]. Furthermore, for no load, the measured vibration velocity was appreciably lower than under full load. For both the considered subharmonic values— $u_{sh} = 0.5\%$  and  $1\%$ —the maximal vibration velocity corresponded to Zone C. In practice, the vibration was undue for long-time machine operation.

To protect energy receivers against malfunctions, strict limits on voltage subharmonics should be introduced into power quality standards. The determination of the appropriate permissible limits requires vibration investigations on rotating machinery. The research should include LSPMSMs of various manufacturers, rated powers, and numbers of poles under both positive- and negative-sequence voltage subharmonics.

## 6. Conclusions

Previous works [5,35–37] reported excessive vibration of the rotating machinery under subharmonics in the no-load conditions, while the vibration observed under full load was generally comparatively low. In contrast, for the investigated LSPMSM under negative-sequence subharmonics, the vibration at full load was much more significant than at no

load. For the full-load condition with voltage subharmonics values significantly less than observed in real power systems, the maximal vibration velocity exceeds the threshold value of the evaluation Zone D [46]. Additionally, for the no-load condition, the vibration velocity was unacceptable, corresponding to Zone C. To protect energy consumers from malfunctions caused by subharmonics, their limits should be introduced into power quality standards and rules. Determination of the permissible subharmonic levels requires comprehensive investigations of various electrical equipment, including LSPMSMs.

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## Abbreviations

A	axial
AC	alternating current
B&K	Bruel&Kjaer
DC	direct current
DCS	double-frequency conversion system
H	horizontal
LSPMSM	line-start permanent magnet synchronous motor
Sals	subharmonics and interharmonics
V	vertical

## List of Symbols

$f_1$	fundamental frequency
$f_h$	harmonic frequency
$f_{ih}$	interharmonic frequency
$f_m$	voltage fluctuations frequency
$f_o$	DCS output frequency
$f_r$	DC link ripples frequency
$f_{sh}$	subharmonic frequency
$g$	gravitational acceleration
$I_{ih}$	current interharmonic
$I_{rat}$	rated current
$I_{sh}$	current subharmonic
$m$	zero or natural number
$n$	natural number
$p_1$	pulse number of the rectifier
$p_2$	pulse number of the inverter
$S_{rat}$	rated apparent power
$u_{sh}$	voltage subharmonic (related to the fundamental component)
$x_d$	direct-axis synchronous reactance
$x_q$	quadrature-axis synchronous reactance

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