Models of adaptation of the milking machines systems

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Abstract. Two systems of milking machines were considered - biotechnical and vacuum. Methodology for estimation of efficiency of the "machine-animal" biotechnical system was worked out. The dependences of the efficiency parameters of the technical system operation were analyzed. The $K_{SMO}$ operator load factor of the milking machine was proposed. The factor characterizes the technological process of the machine milking. The analytical dependences were worked out for the simulation of the productivity of milking machines and oscillation of the vacuum-gage pressure. As to the simulation results, when the vacuum pipeline diameter was increased the oscillation of the vacuum-gage pressure decreased. The results of analysis and theoretical researches on technological process of the cow machine milking gave a possibility to define the requirements to the improvement of technological process and technical equipment, which will provide the increase of efficiency of the milking systems. Usage of the developed cyber-physical system of the machine milking of cows will increase the productivity of the milking machine in 1.26...1.85 times. At the vacuum gage pressure oscillation of $\Delta p = 2500$ Pa the suction ability of milking machine will be $E=4.093$ m/s accordingly. The defined index of efficiency of the adapted systems functioning of the milking machine is $K_{SMO} = 55.3$.

Key words: milking machine, mathematical model, vacuum, amplitude, load factor.

1 Introduction

We will consider the process of cows milking as a biotechnical system of the "person-machine-animal", that does possible the functional ensuring of realization of the genetic potential of the cow productivity with the interaction of objects of this system. Efficiency of functioning of the biotechnical system depends on the parameters of its objects that ensure the quality and efficiency of technological functions.

As a basic performer of the technological process of milking, the milking machine provides adaptation of the technical system to physiology of milk ejection of the cow through vacuum gage pressure with preset parameter and possibility of its adjusting. The milking machine provides also the parameters control and maintenance at the set level during milking of cows. Pulsating air system of milking machine is the peculiarity of unit arrangement that changes the configuration and functional possibilities. Pulsating air system gives an opportunity also to work autonomically, or in composition of the automatic control system of technological process (Industrial Control – IC) of the machine milking. To operate in the composition of IC the milking machine was additionally completed by the measuring device of milk ejection intensity, microprocessor control unit and other elements of electronics [1, 2]. However, the vacuum gage pressure forming is still one of important factors of the parameters forming directly that does possible adaptation of the "machine-cow" system. The question of parameters adaptation of the milking machine systems was examined by Dmytriv V.T. and other [3-5], where influence of the technological and construction parameters on work mode of systems is analyzed. Also, the stability of vacuum gage pressure was estimated directly by the group of researchers consisting of Pazzona A., Murgia L., Zanini L. et al., depending on the method of adjusting in the vacuum pipeline or in a milking machine. They set that stabilizing of vacuum by the regulator of gravitational type is more dynamic, and the permanent to time is twice more lower from the computer-based system [6]. An analogical conclusion is also in accordance with research results of the regulators of pulsating vacuum gage pressure [7]. In particular Reinemann D.J., Schuring N. and Bade1 R.D. investigated the vacuum gage pressure oscillation depending on: a) configuration of the vacuum and milk hose systems (length of pipelines, hose diameter and other parameters influencing the losses of pressure); b) flowrates of milk in the milk pipeline; c) rates of air movement in the vacuum pipeline. They set that the vacuum gage pressure was raised up as in a vacuum- and milk pipeline, so in the under-teat chamber of the teat cup in the process of diminishing of the intensity of milk ejection [8].

The analysis of research works shows that the grounding of parameters of the effective functioning of the cows milking bioengineering system requires the development of conception and methodology of

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optimization of the mentioned system parameters and the same for the technical constituent of this system. Optimization of the bioengineering system parameters is also important for the increase of efficiency of milking machines.

2 Materials and methods

2.1. Effectiveness of the “operator-machine-animal” bioengineering system

The effectiveness of work of the machine milking operator (MMO) was determined by the productivity for the maximum system load. This parameter depends on the \( n_{\text{mu}} \) quantity of the milking units and the \( t_m \) duration of the milking of one cow (with consideration of the preparation and final operations \( t_m = t_{\text{mm}} + t_{p-f} \), and also the \( Z_{\text{li}} \) labour inputs:

\[
W_{\text{mu}} = f(n_{\text{mu}}, t_m, Z_{\text{li}}),
\]

where: \( W_{\text{mu}} \) – the productivity of the milking machine, cows/h, \( n_{\text{mu}} \) – quantity of the milking units, pcs., \( t_m \) – duration of the milking of one cow, h., \( Z_{\text{li}} \) – labour inputs, MJ.

Effectiveness of functioning of the technical system of milking was estimated by the quality parameter of its interaction and the \( Z_{\text{TS}} \) energy expense for the system functioning:

\[
\Delta p_{\text{VP}} = f(P_c, K_{f}, Z_{\text{TS}}),
\]

where \( \Delta p_{\text{VP}} \) – the amplitude of vacuum gage pressure oscillation, Pa, \( P_c \) – parameters of technical system elements, \( K_{f} \) – the quality coefficient of the interaction of technical system elements, \( Z_{\text{TS}} \) – the energy expense for the technical system functioning, MJ.

Effectiveness of the bioengineering system depends on the cow milk ejection that is limited by the pressure oscillation in the vacuum system of the milking machine. The milk yield decrease can be described by the function as a result of the vacuum gage pressure oscillation [9]:

\[
\Delta Q_{\text{m}} = Q_p \left[ \frac{e}{e+1} \left( \frac{2-E}{3-J} \right)^2 \right] \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{e+1} \left( \frac{2-E}{3-J} \right) \left( \frac{2-E}{3-J} \right)^2 \right],
\]

where \( \Delta Q_{\text{m}} \) – the loss of cow milk yield as a result of the pressure oscillation, MJ, \( Q_p \) – the potential of the cow milk yield, MJ, \( e \) – the ratio of the pressure oscillation duration to the total milking duration, \( E_i, E_2 \) – the suction ability of the milking machine with the modes accordingly \( p_{\text{in}} + \Delta p_{\text{VP}}/2 \) in \( p_{\text{in}} - \Delta p_{\text{VP}}/2 \), \( p \) – the vacuum gage pressure in the under teat chamber of the teat cup, \( J = E \cdot 2/3 \) – parameter of the milk ejection.

The suction ability of the milking machine was determined according to the described procedure [9]:

\[
E = K_f \cdot K_{\mu} \cdot (2 \cdot p/\rho_{\text{M}})^{2/3} / (K_f + 1)
\]

where \( K_f \) – the proportion of phases of the milking machine, \( K_{\mu} \) – flow coefficient, \( \rho_{\text{M}} \) – milk density, kg/m³.

On the basis of the above mentioned parameter the effectiveness of the milking machine system is expressed by the formula:

\[
K_{\text{MMO}} = \frac{t_m}{n_{\text{mu}}(t_{\text{mm}}-1)} \cdot \frac{t_f}{t_p},
\]

where \( t_m \) – duration of the one cow milking, \( t_{\text{mm}}=t_{\text{mm}}+t_{p-f} \), s [11], \( t_f \) – duration of the final operations, s. If the \( K_{\text{MMO}} > 1 \) – operator is underloaded, accordingly the milking machine is not overdone on the udder teats, if the \( K_{\text{MMO}} < 1 \) – the machine milking operator is overloaded and the schedule of preparation and final operations is not kept, or the milking machine is overdone on the udder teats of cow.

From the equation (6) we shall derive the formula for determining the optimal quantity of the milking machines, taking into account that \( t_{p-f} = t_p + t_f \), \( t_m = t_p + t_{\text{mm}} + t_f \):

\[
n_{\text{mu}} = \left[ \frac{K_{\text{MMO}} + t_f / t_p \cdot (K_{\text{MMO}} - 1)}{t_f / t_p} \right]^{1/2} - 1,
\]

where \( t_p \) – the duration of the preparation operations by the MMO, s.

Taking into account the average distribution of the duration of preparation and final operations \( t_{\text{in}} = K_{\text{MMO}} \cdot n_{\text{mu}} \cdot \left[ t_f/2 \pm S(t_f) + t_f/2 + S(t_f) \right] \) the equation of the productivity of milking machine will have the appearance:

\[
W_{\text{mu}} = K_{\text{MMO}} \cdot n_{\text{mu}} \cdot \frac{t_{\text{in}}}{3600 \cdot n_{\text{mu}}} \cdot \frac{3600 - n_{\text{mu}}}{(1-n_{\text{mu}})} \cdot \frac{3600 - n_{\text{mu}}}{(1-n_{\text{mu}})}.
\]
where $I_{p_x,t_y}$ – the average value of the duration of preparation and final operations of the cow machine milking accordingly, $s$, $S_{p_x,t_y}$, $S_{t_y}$ – the root-mean-square deviation of the duration of preparation and final operations of the cow machine milking accordingly, $s$.

### 2.2 Amplitude of the pressure oscillation of vacuum system of the milking machine

The construction of the milking machine can be presented as the functionally finished elements, which are the constituents of the vacuum system of the milking machine (Fig. 1) [12].

Taking into account the law of mass conservation for the gas in the controlled volume by way of equation of the air motion mechanical energy and work for overcoming of the frictional force, the second airflow during the pumping-out of the vacuum system will be [13]:

$$m = S_{ax} \cdot \left( \frac{2 \cdot g}{1 + \xi} \cdot p_i \cdot \rho_i \cdot \left( \frac{1}{n_1} \right) \right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

![Fig. 1. The structure and functionally scheme of the vacuum system of milking machine: 1 - vacuum pump; 2 - vacuum reservoir; 3 - vacuum hose; 4 - vacuum gage pressure regulator; 5 - pulsator of the milking machine; 5.1 - chamber of the constant vacuum gage pressure; 5.2, 5.3 - chambers of the variable pressure; 5.4 - chamber of the atmospheric pressure; 6 - controller of the milking machine; 7 - interwall chamber of the teet cup; 8 - milk pipeline.](image)

Differential equation of the $V$ air volume pumping-out at the condition of $M$ air mass by the $\tau$ time equals to $dM = Vdp$ the mass increase [14]:

$$dM = S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \sqrt{p_i \cdot \rho_i} \cdot d\tau,$$ \hspace{1cm} (10)

where $\psi = \frac{2 \cdot g}{1 + \xi} \left( \frac{2}{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{n_1}}$ – velocity aspect ratio defines the pressure relation at the air pumping-out, $x$ – ratio of the current value of the vacuum gage pressure to the atmospheric pressure, $x = p_i / p_{at}$, $p_i$ and $p_{at}$ – current value of the pressure and the density in the volume $V$.

Taking into account that $\rho_i = \rho_{ax} \left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n_1}}$, the equation (10) will have the appearance:

$$dM = S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \sqrt{p_i \cdot \rho_{ax}} \cdot \frac{p_{ax}}{p_i} \cdot d\tau =$$

$$= S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \sqrt{p_{ax} \cdot \rho_{ax}} \cdot \frac{p_{ax}}{p_i} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot d\tau.$$ \hspace{1cm} (11)

Also taking into account that $dM = Vdp$, we will have:

$$dM = V \cdot \rho_{ax} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot d\left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right) = V \cdot \rho_{ax} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1} \cdot d\left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right),$$ \hspace{1cm} (12)

After the dependences of (11) and (12) were equated, the sign was accounted and formula was reduced by $(p_i / p_{ax})^{\frac{1}{2}}$, the differential equation of air pumping-out from the $V$ volume will have the appearance:

$$\rho_{ax} \cdot V \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1} \cdot d\left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right) =$$

$$= -S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \sqrt{p_{ax} \cdot \rho_{ax}} \cdot \frac{p_{ax}}{p_i} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot d\tau.$$ \hspace{1cm} (13)

The (13) formula is transformed and integrated with the limitations from 1 to $p_{ax} / p_i$ and from 0 to $\tau$:

$$\frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} = \left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n_1}} \cdot d\left( \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \right) = S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1} \cdot d\tau.$$ \hspace{1cm} (14)

The integration results define the duration of air pumping-out of the $V$ volume from the pressure $p_i$ to the vacuum gage pressure $p_{ax}$ and will be determined in series by the formula:

$$\frac{1}{n_1} \cdot \frac{1 - \frac{n_1}{2n}}{2n} = S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (15)

or

$$\tau = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \frac{n_1}{2n} \cdot S_{ax} \cdot \psi \cdot \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{p_i}{p_{ax}} \cdot \frac{1}{n_1} - 1}.$$ \hspace{1cm} (16)

To simulate the characteristic of the vacuum gage pressure changes in the vacuum system of the milking machine one has to know the time parameters of the vacuum pressure – the time interval of the air pumping out from the volumes of the variable vacuum gage pressure. From the equation (16) the dependences of pressure changes in time have been derived:
\[ p_i = p_A \frac{(\tau + 1)^{\nu^2} - (1 - n)^{\nu^2} \cdot S_{\text{mu}}^{\nu^2} \cdot \rho^{\nu^2} \cdot p_A}{4^2 \cdot V^{\nu^2} \cdot \rho^{\nu^2}}, \]

where \( V \) – the volume of chambers of the variable vacuum gage pressure of the milking machine, \( m^3 \), \( S_{\text{mu}} \) – the cross-sectional area of the pulsator drain port, \( m^2 \), \( \psi \) – velocity aspect ratio defines the pressure relation, \( m^3/s \), \( p_A \) – the air density in the vacuum pipeline, \( kg/m^3 \), \( n \) – polytropic coefficient, \( n = 1.41 \).

Thus, the quantity of pumped out air will be:

\[ G_i = \frac{p_i \cdot V}{R_{\text{g}} \cdot \Theta} \]

where \( V \) – the volume of chambers of the variable pressure, \( m^3 \), \( R_{\text{g}} \) – gas constant of the air, \( kg/(m\cdot\text{C}) \), \( \Theta \) – air temperature, \( ^\circ\text{C} \).

For connection of the \( i \) chambers with the given volume one can determine the volume, pressure and the air quantity accordingly [12]:

\[ V = \sum_{i=1}^{n} V_i, \quad p_V = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i, \quad G = \sum_{i=1}^{n} G_i \]

The amplitude of the vacuum gage pressure oscillation in the vacuum pipeline is determined by the formula:

\[ \Delta p_{VP} = \frac{R_{\text{g}} \cdot \Theta \cdot (G_{VP} + G + G \cdot (N_{\text{nu}} - 1) \cdot P(N_{\text{nu}}))}{V_{VP}} \]

where \( G_{VP}, G \) – the air quantity in vacuum pipeline and volumes of the variable vacuum gage pressure accordingly, \( kg \), \( V_{VP} \) – the volume of the vacuum pipeline of the specific pulsator, \( m^3 \), \( P(N_{\text{nu}}) \) – the probability of simultaneity and coincidence of the phase and work times of the specific pulsator:

\[ P(N_{\text{nu}}) = P(N_{\text{nu}}^+) \cdot P(N_{\text{nu}}^-), \]

where

\[ P(N_{\text{nu}}^+) = \frac{\eta_{\text{nu}}}{N_{\text{nu}}} \cdot \exp(-\eta_{\text{nu}}) \]

\[ P(N_{\text{nu}}^-) = \frac{\eta_{\text{nu}}}{N_{\text{nu}}} \cdot \exp(-\eta_{\text{nu}}) \]

3 Results

The productivity of the milking machine (equation 8) depends on the duration of preparation \( t_p \) and final \( t_f \) operations, duration of machine milking \( t_{\text{nu}} \) and the cow productivity. Also the productivity of the milking machine depends on the quantity of the milking units, which are operated by the MMO with the regulated load factor \( K_{\text{MMO}} \). The results of the modelling are shown in Fig. 2 and 3.

![Fig. 2. Dependence of the productivity of the milking machine from the duration \( t_{\text{nu}} \) of machine milking of cow and ratio of \( t_p/t_{\text{mu}} \) by the \( t_f \rightarrow \text{max}, t_p \rightarrow \text{max} \).](https://example.com/image2)

![Fig. 3. Dependence of the productivity of the milking machine from the time \( t_{\text{nu}} \) of machine milking of cow and ratio of \( t_f/t_{\text{mu}} \), by the \( t_f \rightarrow \text{min}, t_p \rightarrow \text{min} \).](https://example.com/image3)
when \( t_f \to max, t_p \to max \), the productivity of the MMO work is not submitted to the specific law. The area on the 3-D graph of the 26...34 cows/hour productivity fits with the milking machine for the bucket milking, 34...50 cows/hour – pipeline milking in the barn, from 51 cows/hour – parlor milking.

The analysis of dependence of the productivity of the milking machine from the time \( t_{mm} \) of machine milking of cow and ratio of \( t_f/t_p \) (Fig.2) demonstrates when \( t_f \to min, t_p \to min \), the productivity of the MMO work is submitted to the second-order equation.

The area on the 3-D graph of the 29...36 cows/hour productivity fits with the milking machine for the bucket milking, 37...50 cows/hour with the pipeline milking in the barn, from the 51 cows/hour and high with the parlor milking.

Modelling of the pressure oscillation amplitude in the vacuum pipeline is demonstrated in Fig. 4.

\[ \Delta p_{vp} = \Delta p_{vp}^{max} \]  

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**Fig. 4.** Graphs of modelling of the vacuum gage pressure oscillation \( \Delta p_{vp} \) in the vacuum pipeline of milking machine in dependence of quantity of the milking units \( N_{nmu} \) with the coincidence in time of the phase and work times of pulsator with probability of \( P(N_{nmu}) \) for diameter of vacuum pipeline \( D \):

- \( a - D = 25.4 \) mm, milking unit with pneumatic pulsator;  
- \( b - D = 40 \) mm, milking unit with pneumatic and electric pulsator of the pair-wise action;  
- \( c - D = 50 \) mm, milking unit with pneumatic and electric pulsator of the pair-wise action.

Analysis of results of the vacuum pressure oscillations modelling shows that the maximum oscillations amplitude of vacuum pressure at a frequency of 1 Hz does not exceed \( \Delta p_{vp} = 1.4 \) kPa for vacuum pipeline of \( D = 40 \) mm diameter with a probability of \( P(N_{nmu}) = 0.76212 \). To vacuum pipeline with diameter of \( D = 25.4 \) mm the maximal oscillations amplitude of vacuum pressure is \( \Delta p_{vp} = 3.03 \) kPa with probability of \( P(N_{nmu}) = 0.628837 \).

For the number of milking machines which are working synchronous with the maximum probability of coincidence in time cycles and phase of pulsators work the vacuum pressure oscillations does not exceed \( \Delta p_{vp} = 2 \) kPa. For the vacuum pipeline of \( D = 50 \) mm diameter the vacuum pressure oscillations are

\[ \Delta p_{vp} = 800...812 \text{ Pa} \]  

with the maximum probability of \( P(N_{nmu}) = 0.93757...0.95773 \).

Graphic dependence of the vacuum pressure oscillation amplitude changes \( \Delta p_{vp} \) from the number of simultaneously working milking machines \( N_{nmu}^{*} \) with coincidence in time of the cycles and phases of pulsator work with probability \( P(N_{nmu}) \) and the vacuum pipeline D diameter was shown in Fig. 5.

The analysis of simulation results shows that with an increase of the number of milking machines the vacuum pressure amplitude is increased. From \( N_{nmu}^{*} = 8 \) with the \( n_{mu} = 8 \) probability of coincidence in time of the pulsator cycles and phases of \( P(N_{nmu}) = 0.592547 \) the oscillations amplitude of vacuum pressure will be \( \Delta p_{vp} = 4.72 \) kPa for the diameter of milking machines vacuum pipeline of \( D = 25.4 \) mm. For the vacuum pipeline diameter of \( D = 50 \) mm and the same number of milking machines the amplitude of vacuum pressure oscillations will be \( \Delta p_{vp} = 1.08 \) kPa.

**Fig. 5.** The dependence of change of the \( \Delta p_{vp} \) vacuum pressure amplitude oscillation from the number of simultaneous working milking machines \( N_{nmu}^{*} \) with coincident in time of pulsator cycles and phases and \( D \) machine vacuum pipeline diameter .

The maximum probability of coincidence in time of the pulsators cycles and phases is \( P(N_{nmu}) = 0.95773 \) for \( N_{nmu}^{*} = 4 \) machines, then the amplitude of vacuum pressure oscillations will be equal to \( \Delta p_{vp} = 3.55 \) kPa per one cycle of pulsator work (frequency of 1.0 Hz) for milking machines vacuum pipeline diameter of \( D = 25.4 \) mm and \( \Delta p_{vp} = 0.81 \) kPa for \( D = 50 \) mm.

### 3 Discussion and conclusion

The dependences (1-5) show that efficiency depends on the parameters of the technical system which have to provide the conditions for the milk take out from the cow udder in accordance with the physiology of milk lactogenesis and ejection with reduction of both the MMO labor inputs and energy expense in the process of milking machine system functioning.

The requirements of the machine milking process were fulfilled for the \( K_{MMO} \geq 1 \). The milking duration in
the ranging ratio of $t_1/t_2 = 0.5...0.8$ are reduced due to the optimal number of milking machines which are operated by MMO with the $K_{MIO} = 1$. At the conditions of $K_{MIO} < 1$ the MMO has no enough time to fulfil all operations by the requirements of the machine milking process due to unreasonable number of operated milking machines.

It can be noted that the maximum vacuum oscillation in milking machines vacuum pipeline is not more for the permissible parameters ($\Delta p_{ps} \leq 2.5$ kPa) at the milking in the cattle barn with a frequency of 1 Hz. With the diameter of vacuum pipeline increasing the amplitude of vacuum gage pressure oscillation is decreased.

The analysis and the theoretical studies of technological process of the cow machine milking make possible to define the requirements for the improvement of technological process and technical means with the efficiency rise of milking systems in the following way:
- to provide a flexible relationship amongst the intensity of milk ejection and constructive and technological parameters of milking machine systems, to provide the adaptation of the technical system into the function of milk ejection of each individual cow;
- to create of cyber-physical milking machine that would conform with the physiological characteristics of cows as to the milk ejection;
- to optimize of the organizational and technological and structural energetic parameters of technological process and milking machines for adaptation both the technical system and the physiological state of the cow organism.

Using of cyber-physical systems of cows machine milking increases the milking machines productivity by the 1.26...1.85 times.

For the vacuum pressure oscillations of $\Delta p_{ps} \approx 2500$ Pa the suction ability of milking machines for modes will be accordingly of $E_1 = 4.093$, $E_2 = 4.177$, $E_2 = 4.007$ m/s. For the milking machine phase proportions were taken the standard value. Accordingly the reducing of milk yields per cow in the energy equivalent is 65.1 MJ (3.08 MJ/kg). The energy equivalent of milk production will be 11450 MJ accordingly. The energy expenses of milking machine for the year in energetic equivalent will be 16556.4 MJ. The efficiency index of conventional milking machine will be $K_{RT31} = 46.6$. According to the results of studies of the technological process of milking, the 450 W (1.62 MJ) reducing of the vacuum machine drive power will enable annual saving of 1773.9 MJ. Accordingly in practice one can use the 1 MMO less with saving in the energy equivalent of 1.971 MJ. Then the efficiency index of adapted systems functioning of the milking machines will be $K_{RT32} = 55.3$. Accordingly, the efficiency index of the milking machines systems functioning will increase by 18.7%.

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