US Patent & Trademark Office Patent Public Search | Text View

United States Patent Application Publication

Kind Code

August 14, 2025

Inventor(s)

August 14, 2025

DOWLING; Alexander Eli et al.

VERTICAL RANGE ESTIMATION FOR TIRED MACHINE

Abstract

A battery electric machine configured to carry a payload includes a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the battery electric machine; a battery module including battery terminals configured to connect to a primary battery and provide power to the propulsion system; and a processing circuit configured to calculate a total mass based on a sum of a payload mass of the payload and a machine mass of the battery electric machine. The processing circuit is further configured to monitor an existing potential energy of the primary battery, estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the existing potential energy, and estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the existing potential energy.

Inventors: DOWLING; Alexander Eli (Mt. Hicks, AU), THOMPSON; Brodie Lee (West

Ulverstone, AU), HEROLD; Robert A. (Brimfield, IL)

Applicant: Caterpillar Inc. (Peoria, IL)

Family ID: 1000007697044

Assignee: Caterpillar Inc. (Peoria, IL)

Appl. No.: 18/440509

Filed: February 13, 2024

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: **B60L50/60** (20190101); **B60L58/13** (20190101); **B60L58/16** (20190101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC **B60L50/66** (20190201); **B60L58/13** (20190201); **B60L58/16** (20190201);

Background/Summary

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0001] The present disclosure relates generally to a tired machine with a vertical range estimator. BACKGROUND

[0002] A battery electric machine is a machine that uses an electric engine to operate. A battery may supply power to the electric engine for operation. An underground battery electric machine, such as a hauler or a haul truck, may be used in an underground mine for hauling a payload. A hauler is one type of rubber-tired vehicle. Underground mining frequently necessitates material transfer from one vertical elevation to another via underground machinery that moves from one vertical level to another vertical level within an underground mine. For example, when operated in the underground mine, the underground battery electric machine may move from one vertical elevation to another vertical elevation within the underground by moving on an incline (e.g. uphill) or a decline (e.g., downhill) from one vertical level to another vertical level of the underground mine. Typically, the vertical levels are configured in predetermined offsets that are spaced roughly at equal intervals across a vertical delta.

[0003] The underground battery electric machine may include a means for estimating and displaying to an operator an available battery charge (e.g., a state of charge (SoC)) and, based on various parameters, a remaining rolling distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the available battery charge. However, in underground mining applications, operators tend to measure movement in terms of a vertical distance traveled within the underground mine, rather than a horizontal distance traveled or rolling distance traveled. For example, the operator may have a better sense of how much vertical distance needs to be covered for performing a desired task, rather than how much horizontal distance needs to be covered for performing the desired task. For example, the operator may need to know how many vertical levels up or down the underground battery electric machine can travel within the underground mine on a remaining charge. Rolling distance may not be a good indicator that allows the operator to the estimate the number of vertical levels up or down the underground battery electric machine can travel on the remaining charge. Thus, a remaining vertical distance that can be traveled on the available battery charge may be more meaningful to the operator of the underground battery electric machine than a remaining rolling distance. Moreover, having uncertainty with respect to the remaining vertical distance that can be traveled on the available battery charge can cause the operator to develop range anxiety. [0004] In the upward case, uncertainty with respect to the remaining vertical distance that can be traveled on the available battery charge may cause the underground battery electric machine to become stranded (e.g., on a ramp, or on a wrong level), thus disrupting operations and/or requiring a charging machine to rescue the underground battery electric machine. In a downward case, uncertainty with respect to the remaining vertical distance that can be traveled on the available battery charge may cause the underground battery electric machine to become stranded (e.g., on a ramp, or on a wrong level), or enter a derated state which may slow down machine traffic behind the underground battery electric machine, thus disrupting operations by causing congestion. [0005] The method of providing vertical distance information for a battery electric machine of the present disclosure solves one or more of the problems set forth above and/or other problems in the art. The method of providing vertical distance information of the present disclosure may also be used in tired machines that use other types of power sources, such as gasoline or diesel fuel. **SUMMARY**

[0006] In some implementations, a battery electric machine configured to carry a payload includes a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the battery electric machine; a battery module comprising battery terminals configured to connect to a primary battery and

provide power to the propulsion system; a processing circuit configured to monitor an existing potential energy of the primary battery, estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm and the existing potential energy, and estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm and the existing potential energy; and a display configured to indicate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.

[0007] In some implementations, a tired machine configured to carry a payload includes a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the tired machine; a battery module comprising battery terminals configured to connect to a battery and provide power to the propulsion system; a vertical distance estimator comprising at least one processor, where the vertical distance estimator is configured to determine the payload mass of the payload, wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to monitor a state of charge (SoC) of the battery and calculate a first potential energy value of the battery and a second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC, wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the first potential energy value, and wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the second potential energy value; and a display configured to indicate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.

[0008] In some implementations, a method of providing vertical distance information for a tired machine configured to carry a payload includes supplying, by a battery module, power from a battery to an electric motor; calculating, by a processing circuit, a total mass based on a sum of a payload mass of the payload and a machine mass of the tired machine; monitoring, by the processing circuit, an SoC of the battery; calculating, by the processing circuit, a first potential energy value of the battery and a second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC; estimating, by the processing circuit, a remaining upward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the first potential energy value; estimating, by the processing circuit, a remaining downward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the second potential energy value; and displaying, by a display, the vertical distance information, including the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] FIG. **1** shows a battery electric machine that includes a vertical distance estimator according to one or more implementations.

[0010] FIG. **2** shows a schematic block diagram of a system of a battery electric machine according to one or more implementations.

[0011] FIG. **3** shows an example of an efficiency table according to one or more implementations.

[0012] FIG. **4** is a flowchart of an example process associated with vertical range estimation for a battery electric machine.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0013] This disclosure relates to a battery electric machine, which is applicable to any machine that includes a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the battery electric machine. The battery electric machine may include a battery module comprising battery terminals configured to connect to a battery and provide power to the propulsion system. For example, the

battery electric machine may be an underground battery electric machine, a rubber-tired machine, a hauler, a haul truck, an underground articulated truck, a tractor, an excavator, a dozer, or the like. [0014] The battery electric machine may include a vertical distance estimator that calculates a remaining height or a remaining vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel on an available battery charge. The vertical distance estimator may provide two directional estimations for remaining vertical distance, including one remaining vertical distance (e.g., a remaining upward vertical distance or a remaining uphill vertical distance) that the battery electric machine can travel before battery depletion, and another remaining vertical distance (e.g., a remaining downward vertical distance or a remaining downhill vertical distance) that the battery electric machine can travel before battery saturation. In other words, the vertical distance estimator may calculate two directional estimations for remaining vertical distance, including a first remaining vertical distance if the battery electric machine were to travel uphill from a current position, and a second remaining vertical distance if the battery electric machine were to travel downhill from the current position. The battery electric machine may include a display that receives remaining vertical distance information received from the vertical distance estimator and displays the remaining vertical distance information (e.g., uphill vertical range and downhill vertical range) to the operator. Providing the remaining vertical distance information to the operator may help to prevent the operator from developing range anxiety and may facilitate more efficient operation of the battery electric machine and/or may enable more efficient navigation in an underground mine, including improved coordination between vehicles traversing the underground mine. The display may also be configured to indicate the available battery charge (e.g., SoC) to the operator. A horizontal distance estimator may also be configured to calculate remaining rolling distance information for uphill and downhill travel, and provide the remaining rolling distance information to the display. [0015] The vertical distance estimator may calculate the remaining vertical distance information as a function of efficiency data that may be initially estimated based on an environment and/or an estimated performance of the battery electric machine. The efficiency data may be updated based on historical trips by the battery electric machine. Efficiency data may be recorded by the vertical distance estimator based on the performance of the battery electric machine. Additionally, or alternatively, efficiency data may be received from one or more other battery electric machines (e.g., via machine-to-machine communications) and/or from a site control system that has historical data. Efficiency tables may be used to store the efficient data. The efficiency tables may include efficiency tables associated with a primary battery and a secondary battery. In addition, the efficiency tables may include efficiency data for uphill travel and downhill travel for each battery. Thus, the efficiency tables may include an uphill primary battery efficiency table, a downhill primary battery efficiency table, an uphill secondary battery efficiency table, and/or a downhill secondary battery efficiency table. The efficiency tables may be lookup tables that may be used to assess a machine efficiency that is used in conjunction with factors such as vehicle mass, payload, rolling resistance, or the like, to output a height (e.g., available vertical distance) that can be travelled by the battery electric machine given a current SoC. [0016] The primary battery may be swapped with a replacement primary battery to be recharged at

a charging station. Thus, the primary battery may serve as a primary power source to provide electricity to the propulsion system during ordinary operations, and the secondary battery may be used for operating the battery electric machine during a battery swap of the primary battery. After the battery swap, the secondary battery may remain on the battery electric machine to be recharged by the replacement primary battery. Thus, the vertical distance estimator may factor in an amount of recharge energy needed from the replacement primary battery to recharge the secondary battery for calculating the two directional estimations for remaining vertical distance.

[0017] FIG. **1** shows a battery electric machine **100** that includes a vertical distance estimator according to one or more implementations. The battery electric machine **100** may be a rubber-tired machine, such as a haul truck used for underground mine applications, that is configured to carry a

payload, such as dirt, minerals, or other material. A tired machine may be a machine that rolls on tires for movement. The battery electric machine **100** may include an electric motor **102**, a battery module **104**, one or more electronic control units (ECUs) **106**, one or more sensors **108**, and a display **110**. The electric motor **102** may be part of a propulsion system that is configured to propel the battery electric machine **100**. For example, the electric motor **102** may cause the wheels of the battery electric machine **100** to rotate.

[0018] The battery module **104** may include battery terminals configured to connect to a primary battery and provide power to the propulsion system (e.g., to the electric motor **102**) and other electric components of the battery electric machine **100**, such as the ECUs **106**. The primary battery may be removably inserted into a battery slot or receptacle of the battery module **104**. For example, the primary battery may be swapped with a replacement primary battery. The battery module **104** may include battery terminals configured to connect to a secondary battery and provide secondary power to the propulsion system (e.g., to the electric motor **102**) and other electric components of the battery electric machine **100**, such as the ECUs **106**. For example, the battery module **104** may connect and route power to the electric motor **102** and other electric components of the battery electric machine **100** when the primary battery is depleted or when the primary battery is removed from the battery module **104** during a battery swap. Thus, the battery module **104** may control which battery is connected for supplying power. In addition, the battery module **104** may route power from the replacement primary battery to the secondary battery to recharge the secondary battery.

[0019] An ECU is any embedded system in vehicle electronics that controls one or more of the electrical systems or subsystems in a vehicle. Each ECU may include a microcontroller (i.e., a microcontroller unit (MCU)), a memory, various inputs (e.g., supply voltage, digital inputs, and/or analog inputs) and outputs (e.g., control outputs, driver outputs, and/or logic outputs), and communication links. Thus, each ECU may include one or more processors or processing circuits that receive and process information to generate one or more outputs. Thus, the ECUs may be nodes of in-vehicle networks, while edges of those in-vehicle networks may be communication networks.

[0020] A non-exhaustive list of ECU types includes an engine control module (ECM), an engine control unit, a transmission control unit (TCU), a transmission control module (TCM), a brake control module (BCM), a central control module (CCM), a central timing module (CTM), a general electronic module (GEM), a body control module (BCM), a suspension control module (SCM), a door control unit (DCU), an electric power steering control unit (PSCU), a human-machine interface (HMI), a seat control unit, a speed control unit (SCU), a telematic control unit (TCU), and a battery management system (BMS). Sometimes the functions of the engine control unit and the TCU are combined into a single ECU called a powertrain control module (PCM). In addition, the BCM may be configured to control an anti-lock braking system (ABS), electronic stability control (ESC), and/or dynamic stability control (DSC). The vertical distance estimator may be part of a BMS, and may include a processing circuit configured to estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on an available battery charge (e.g., SoC) and estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the available battery charge.

[0021] The one or more sensors **108** may sense a payload mass of the payload and generate at least one sensor signal representative of the payload mass. For example, the one or more sensors **108** may include one or more pressure sensors (e.g., strain gauges, piezoelectric sensors) and/or one or more torque sensors for sensing the payload mass. The vertical distance estimator may be configured to evaluate a pressure or strain sensed and extrapolate the pressure or the strain to the payload mass of the payload. The vertical distance estimator may be configured to evaluate a torque sensed during transit (e.g., torque at one or more of the axles or wheels) and extrapolate the torque to a mass value, such as the payload mass or a total mass. The total mass may be a sum of

the payload mass and a machine mass of the battery electric machine. Alternatively, the vertical distance estimator may receive payload mass information by another means, such as via machine-to-machine communication, a transmission from a site control system, and/or manual input from an operator. The vertical distance estimator may calculate the total mass based on preset values for the battery electric machine (e.g., a preset value for the machine mass) and a payload value added based on feedback from an onboard system. The vertical distance estimator may calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance as a function of the payload mass and/or the total mass.

[0022] The display **110** may indicate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance to the operator. Thus, the display **110** or an HMI may be electrically coupled to the vertical distance estimator for receiving the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance. The remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance may be indicated simultaneously on the display 110. [0023] FIG. 2 shows a schematic block diagram of a system 200 of a battery electric machine according to one or more implementations. The battery electric machine may be similar to the battery electric machine **100** described in connection with FIG. **1**. The system **200** may include the battery module **104**, one or more sensors **108**, and the display **110**. Additionally, the system **200** may include a propulsion system **202**, a BMS **204**, a transceiver (TRX) **206**, and an electric generator **208**. The propulsion system **202** may include the electric motor **102**. The battery module **104** may include battery terminals **210** configured to connect to a primary battery **212**, and battery terminals 214 configured to connect to a secondary battery 216 (e.g., an auxiliary battery). The battery terminals 210 and the battery terminals 214 may be selectively coupled and decoupled to a power routing network (e.g., a power bus) of the battery electric machine for providing power. For example, the secondary battery **216** may be decoupled from the power routing network, including the electric motor **102**, when the primary battery **212** is coupled to the power routing network, and the primary battery **212** may be decoupled from the power routing network when the secondary battery **216** is coupled to the power routing network. Additionally, the primary battery **212** may be coupled to the secondary battery **216** to recharge the secondary battery (for example, after a battery swap). Thus, the battery module **104** may, while using the primary battery **212** as a power source, recharge the secondary battery **216** with recharge energy routed from the primary battery **212**. [0024] Additionally, the battery electric machine may perform a regenerative function during downhill operation to recharge the primary battery **212**. For example, the battery electric machine may use regenerative braking while the battery electric machine is traveling downhill in order to recharge the primary battery **212**. The electric generator **208** may generate electricity during downhill operation and transfer the electricity to the battery module **104** for recharging the primary battery **212**. Thus, the primary battery **212** may be discharged toward depletion (e.g., a depletion limit) during uphill operations and may be charged toward saturation during downhill operations. The depletion limit may correspond to a full depletion of the primary battery **212** (e.g., 100% depleted) or to some margin above full depletion (e.g., 95% depleted). When the primary battery **212** reaches a saturation limit, the battery electric machine may operate in a derated state. For example, the saturation limit may correspond to a fully charged state (e.g., 100% charged or fully saturated) or some margin below full saturation, such as 95% saturated (e.g., 5% discharged). Operating the battery electric machine in the derated state may cause the electric motor **102** to operate at a reduced capability (e.g., reduced speed). As a result, it may be useful to the operator of the battery electric machine to be aware of a remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel before the primary battery **212** reaches the depletion limit, and to be aware of a remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel before the primary battery **212** reaches the saturation limit.

[0025] The remaining upward vertical distance may correspond to an increase in elevation relative to a current position or elevation of the battery electric machine, and the remaining downward

vertical distance may correspond to a decrease in elevation relative to the current position or elevation of the battery electric machine. In other words, the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance may correspond to vertical distances along a vertical plane, and the battery electric machine may be configured to travel along a driving plane or rolling plane that intersects the vertical plane.

[0026] The remaining upward vertical distance may be a first vertical range that the battery electric machine can travel in an upward vertical direction before reaching a depletion limit of an active battery, such as the primary battery **212**. The remaining downward vertical distance may be a second vertical range that the battery electric machine can travel in a downward vertical direction before reaching a saturation limit of the active battery. The active battery may be a battery that is presently coupled to the power routing network for supplying power.

[0027] The BMS **204** may include a vertical distance estimator **218** and a memory device **220** that is configured to store one or more vertical estimation algorithms that may be executed by the vertical distance estimator **218** to calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance. The memory device **220** may also store efficiency data, which may be stored in one or more efficiency tables, that the vertical distance estimator 218 may use in conjunction with the one or more vertical estimation algorithms for calculating the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance. The vertical distance estimator **218** may include processing circuitry, including one or more processors, configured to receive information, calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance based on the information, and provide the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance to the display **110** for output to the operator of the battery electric machine. The information may be provided to the vertical distance estimator **218** by one or more sensors **108**, by the transceiver **206**, and/or by the memory device **220**. The transceiver **206** may receive information from another battery electric machine or from a site control system. [0028] In some implementations, the vertical distance estimator **218** may be a controller configured to test and/or monitor battery performance parameters of a battery (e.g., SoC and state of health (SoH)), calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance, and provide the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance to the display **110**.

[0029] The vertical distance estimator **218** may determine the payload mass of the payload. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may determine the payload mass based on information received from one or more sensors **108**, by the transceiver **206**, by the memory device **220**, and/or from manual input from the operator. In some implementations, the one or more sensors **108** may sense the payload mass of the payload, generate at least one sensor signal representative of the payload mass, and provide the at least one sensor signal to the vertical distance estimator **218**. The vertical distance estimator 218 may receive the at least one sensor signal and determine the payload mass from the at least one sensor signal. The vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance as a function of the payload mass. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may use the payload mass as an input variable of the one or more vertical estimation algorithms. In some cases, the vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate a total mass M.sub.total based on a sum of the payload mass, indicated by the at least one sensor signal, and the machine mass of the battery electric machine, and calculate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance as a function of the total mass M.sub.total. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may use the total mass M.sub.total as an input variable of the one or more vertical estimation algorithms. The machine mass may be stored in the memory device **220** as a preset value and may be retrieved by the vertical distance estimator **218** for performing the calculations of the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.

[0030] The vertical distance estimator **218** may monitor an existing potential energy of the primary

battery 212, estimate the remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass M.sub.total, and the existing potential energy, and estimate the remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the existing potential energy. The existing potential energy may correspond to the SoC of a battery, and may further depend on other battery variables, such as an SoH of the battery, and a nameplate capacity N.sub.c of the battery. "SoC" may refer to a remaining usable energy within the battery. SoC may exclude reserved upper and lower limits of the battery's energy and may also be inclusive of an imbalance present within battery cells of the battery. SoH may be a measure of the battery's degradation, where the battery's energy density has degraded over time due to use. The nameplate capacity N.sub.c may be a total energy available if the battery were to discharge at a 1 C rate over the course of one hour. The first vertical estimation algorithm may be provided by Equation 1, and the second vertical estimation algorithm may be provided by Equation 2.

[00001]
$$h_{up} = \frac{N_c \text{ .Math. SoC .Math. SoH .Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total .Math. }}} W_{\text{effu}}$$
 Eq. 1
$$h_{\text{down}} = \frac{N_c (1 - SoC) \text{SoH .Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total .Math. }}} W_{\text{effd}}$$
 Eq. 2

[0031] The remaining upward vertical distance is denoted by h.sub.up, and the remaining downward vertical distance is denoted by h.sub.down. In addition, gravity (e.g., 9.81 m/s.sup.2) is denoted by g, and may be used in conjunction with the total mass M.sub.total to calculate a total weight of the battery electric machine, including a machine weight and a payload weight. C.sub.joules represents a conversion from kilowatt-hour (kw-hr) to joules per second (J/s). [0032] The existing potential energy for uphill movement may be represented by N.sub.c.Math.SoC.Math.SoH, and the existing potential energy for uphill movement may be represented by N.sub.c(1-SoC)SoH. Thus, N.sub.c.Math.SoC.Math.SoH may correspond to a first potential energy value of the primary battery **212**, and N.sub.c(1–SoC)SoH may correspond to a second potential energy value of the primary battery **212**. The vertical distance estimator **218** may monitor the SoC and the SoH of the primary battery 212, and calculate the first potential energy value and the second potential energy value based on the SoC and the SoH according to Equations 1 and 2, respectively. In some cases, the first potential energy value may be limited or scaled down by a limit value Rlim to account for a depletion limit of the primary battery **212**. Similarly, the second potential energy value may be limited or scaled down by the limit value Rlim to account for a saturation limit of the primary battery **212**.

[0033] The vertical distance estimator **218** may estimate the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up that the battery electric machine can travel based at least on the first vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the first potential energy value. Furthermore, the vertical distance estimator **218** may estimate the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down that the battery electric machine can travel based on at least the second vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the second potential energy value.

[0034] Optionally, the remaining upward vertical distance may be calculated based on a weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu, and the remaining downward vertical distance may be calculated based on a weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd. The weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu may correspond to an uphill operational efficiency of the battery electric machine when using the primary battery 212 as a power source to travel uphill. Thus, the uphill operational efficiency may be an operational efficiency of the battery electric machine while using the primary battery 212 for uphill movement. Moreover, the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu may correspond specifically to a particular battery electric machine and a particular battery. The weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd may correspond to a downhill operational efficiency of the battery electric machine when using the primary battery 212 as a power source to travel downhill. Thus, the downhill operational efficiency may be an

operational efficiency of the battery electric machine while using the primary battery 212 for downhill movement. Moreover, the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd may correspond specifically to a particular battery electric machine and a particular battery. [0035] The vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the SoH of the primary battery **212**, calculate the SoC of the primary battery **212**, and calculate the existing potential energy based on the SoH and the SoC of the primary battery **212** (e.g., as a function of the SoH and the SoC). In some implementations, the vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the existing potential energy based on the SoH, the SoC, and a nameplate capacity N.sub.c of the primary battery 212 (e.g., as a function of the SoH, the SoC, and the nameplate capacity N.sub.c). [0036] The vertical distance estimator **218** may scale the existing potential energy by the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu for estimating the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up according to the first vertical estimation algorithm provided by Equation 1. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may scale the first potential energy value by the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu for estimating the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up. The vertical distance estimator **218** may scale the existing potential energy by the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd for estimating the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down according to the second vertical estimation algorithm provided by Equation 2. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may scale the second potential energy value by the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd for estimating the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down.

[0037] The memory device **220** may store an upward efficiency table and a downward efficiency table that are used by the vertical distance estimator **218** to calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu and the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd, respectively. The upward efficiency table may correspond to the battery electric machine using the primary battery **212**. The downward efficiency table may correspond to the battery electric machine using the primary battery **212**. The memory device **220** may also store a respective upward efficiency table and a respective downward efficiency table for each battery that may be used to supply power to the battery electric machine. For example, the memory device **220** may store a secondary upward efficiency table and a secondary downward efficiency table that are used by the vertical distance estimator 218 to calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu and the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd, respectively, when using the secondary battery **216**. In addition, the memory device **220** may also store a respective upward efficiency table and a respective downward efficiency table for a replacement primary battery that may be used by the vertical distance estimator **218** to calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu and the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd, respectively, when using the replacement primary battery.

[0038] Each upward efficiency table may be configured to store uphill trip data relevant to the battery electric machine and a corresponding battery. Each downward efficiency table may be configured to store downhill trip data relevant to the battery electric machine and a corresponding battery. The vertical distance estimator 218 may calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu based on the uphill trip data and scale the existing potential energy (e.g., the first potential energy value) by the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu to estimate the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up. The vertical distance estimator 218 may calculate the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd based on the downhill trip data and scale the existing potential energy (e.g., the second potential energy value) by the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd to estimate the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down. [0039] The uphill trip data may include at least one of a total uphill rolling distance, an average uphill grade, an uphill vertical distance, an uphill total mass, an uphill itrip data may include at least one of a total downhill rolling distance, an average downhill grade, a downhill vertical

distance, a downhill total mass, a downhill ideal battery energy, a downhill used battery energy, or a downhill trip efficiency value.

[0040] The upward efficiency table may include initial uphill trip data including an initial uphill trip efficiency value. Additionally, the vertical distance estimator 218 may collect or otherwise record the uphill trip data for one or more uphill trips, update the upward efficiency table with the uphill trip data for the one or more uphill trips, and, after each uphill trip of the one or more uphill trips, recalculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu based on the initial uphill trip efficiency value and the uphill trip data for the one or more uphill trips, and calculate the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up based on the updated weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu. The vertical distance estimator 218 may calculate an uphill trip efficiency value for each uphill trip of the one or more uphill trips based on respective uphill trip data, and calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu as an average of the initial uphill trip efficiency value and one or more uphill trip efficiency values calculated for the one or more uphill trips. An uphill trip may be required to satisfy predetermined trip operational criteria before uphill trip data and an uphill trip efficiency value are recorded in the upward efficiency table. The predetermined trip operational criteria may include: travel a minimum distance of 200 meters, exceed a speed of 5 kph, not be interrupted by a hoist event, and/or the payload mass stays within 5% during the trip. An upward efficiency table may be updated with uphill trip data while a corresponding battery is providing power to the battery electric machine. Thus, an upward efficiency table corresponding to the secondary battery **216** may be used in a similar manner described above.

[0041] The downward efficiency table may include initial downhill trip data including an initial downhill trip efficiency value. Additionally, the vertical distance estimator 218 may collect or otherwise record the downhill trip data for one or more downhill trips, update the downward efficiency table with the downhill trip data for the one or more downhill trips, and, after each downhill trip of the one or more downhill trips, recalculate the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd based on the initial downhill trip efficiency value and the downhill trip data for the one or more downhill trips, and calculate the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down based on the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd. The vertical distance estimator 218 may calculate a downhill trip efficiency value for each downhill trip of the one or more downhill trips based on respective downhill trip data, and calculate the downward efficiency value as an average of the initial downhill trip efficiency value and one or more downhill trip efficiency values calculated for the one or more downhill trips. A downhill trip may be required to satisfy the predetermined trip operational criteria before downhill trip data and a downhill trip efficiency value are recorded in the downward efficiency table. A downward efficiency table may be updated with downhill trip data while a corresponding battery is providing power to the battery electric machine. Thus, a downward efficiency table corresponding to the secondary battery **216** may be used in a similar manner described above.

[0042] As previously described, the battery terminals **214** are configured to connect to the secondary battery **216** for providing auxiliary power. The vertical distance estimator **218** may be configured to, while the secondary battery **216** is connected to the power routing network, monitor a secondary existing potential energy of the secondary battery **216**, estimate the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up that the battery electric machine can travel based on the first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the secondary existing potential energy, and estimate the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down that the battery electric machine can travel based on the second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the secondary existing potential energy. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up and the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down in a similar manner described above in connection to the primary battery **212**.

[0043] Moreover, the battery module **104** may, while using the primary battery **212** as a power source, recharge the secondary battery **216** with recharge energy routed from the primary battery

212. The primary battery 212 may be a replacement primary battery that has been inserted into the battery module 104 during a battery swap. The vertical distance estimator 218 may decrease the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up based on the recharge energy, and may increase the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down based on the recharge energy. The remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up may be decreased based on the recharge energy since the depletion of the primary battery 212 by the recharge energy decreases an amount of charge available to propel the battery electric machine uphill. The remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down may be increased based on the recharge energy since the depletion of the primary battery 212 by the recharge energy increases an amount of charge required to reach the saturation limit of the primary battery.

[0044] The first vertical estimation algorithm may be revised according to Equation 3 to account for the recharge energy provided from the primary battery **212** to the secondary battery **216**. The second vertical estimation algorithm may be revised according to Equation 4 to account for the recharge energy provided from the primary battery **212** to the secondary battery **216**.

[00002]
$$h_{up} = \frac{(N_c \cdot \text{Math. SoC} \cdot \text{Math. SoH - Esec}) \cdot \text{Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total}} \cdot \text{Math. Gjoules}} W_{\text{effu}}$$
 Eq. 3
$$h_{\text{down}} = \frac{((N_c \cdot (1 - SoC)SoH) + \text{Esec}) \cdot \text{Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total}} \cdot \text{Math. } g} W_{\text{effd}}$$
 Eq. 4

[0045] The recharge energy used to charge the secondary battery **216** is denoted by Esec. The recharge energy Esec is either subtracted from or added to a battery's base energy, and the weighted efficiency is applied to the recharge energy Esec.

[0046] In some implementations, the vertical distance estimator **218** may, based on the first vertical estimation algorithm, decrease the remaining upward vertical distance h.sub.up based on a first vertical distance value associated with the recharge energy Esec, and may, based on the second vertical estimation algorithm, increase the remaining downward vertical distance h.sub.down based on a second vertical distance value associated with the recharge energy Esec. For example, the first vertical distance value may be added to Equation 1, and the second vertical distance value may be added to Equation 2.

[0047] As described above, the first potential energy value may be limited or scaled down by a limit value Rlim to account for a depletion limit of the primary battery **212**. Similarly, the second potential energy value may be limited or scaled down by the limit value Rlim to account for a saturation limit of the primary battery **212**. Thus, the limit value Rlim may be a scaler representing a charge and discharge limit. For example, the limit value Rlim may represent 90% of a full charge for charging (saturation) or 10% of the full charge for discharging (depletion).

[0048] As a result, the first vertical estimation algorithm may be revised according to Equation 5 to account for the limit value Rlim. The second vertical estimation algorithm may be revised according to Equation 6 to account for the limit value Rlim. In some cases, different limit values may be used for the first vertical estimation algorithm and the second vertical estimation algorithm.

[00003]
$$h_{up} = \frac{(N_c \text{ .Math. Rlim .Math. SoC .Math. SoH - Esec) .Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total .Math. }}} W_{\text{effu}}$$
 Eq. 5

$$h_{\text{down}} = \frac{((N_c(1 - SoC)SoH) . \text{Math. Rlim} + \text{Esec}) . \text{Math. Cjoules}}{M_{\text{total}} . \text{Math. } g} W_{\text{effd}} \quad \text{Eq. 6}$$

[0049] In some implementations, the vertical distance estimator **218** may be implemented in a gas-powered machine that includes a combustion engine. For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may use one or more vertical estimation algorithms, as similarly described herein, for calculating the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance based on a remaining fuel level. For a gas-powered machine, the remaining downward vertical distance may correspond to a number of vertical levels a gas-powered machine can travel downhill based on the remaining fuel level before the fuel source is depleted, and the remaining upward vertical distance correspond to a number of vertical levels the gas-powered machine can travel uphill based on the remaining fuel level before the fuel source is depleted. In some

implementations, the vertical distance estimator **218** may be implemented in a hybrid-powered vehicle that uses both a gas fuel source and a battery power source. Thus, the vertical distance estimator **218** may be configured for any type of power source.

[0050] FIG. **3** shows an example of an efficiency table **300** according to one or more implementations. The efficiency table **300** may be an upward efficiency table or a downward efficiency table. Thus, the efficiency table **300** may include initial uphill trip data including an initial uphill trip efficiency value, or may include initial downhill trip data including an initial downhill trip efficiency value. For example, trip 1 may correspond to initial trip data with a trip efficiency value of 0.85. The initial uphill trip data or the initial downhill trip data may be prefabricated (e.g., generated) by the site control system based on historical data and transmitted to the transceiver **206** by the site control system for entry into a corresponding efficiency table. Additionally, the efficiency table **300** may be associated with a primary battery, a secondary battery, or a replacement primary battery.

[0051] The trip data may include at least one of a total rolling distance, an average grade, a vertical distance, a total mass, an ideal battery energy, a used battery energy, and/or a trip efficiency value. The total rolling distance, the average grade, the vertical distance, the total mass, the ideal battery energy, and/or the used battery energy may be recorded during an approved trip segment, and may be used by the vertical distance estimator **218** to calculate the trip efficiency value for the approved trip segment. The vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the weighted upward efficiency value W.sub.effu as an average of the trip efficiency values of all approved uphill trip segments recorded in the efficiency table **300** and may calculate the weighted downward efficiency value W.sub.effd as an average of the trip efficiency values of all approved downhill trip segments recorded in the efficiency table **300**. FIG. **4** is a flowchart of an example process **400** associated with vertical range

[0052] estimation for a battery electric machine. For example, process **400** may be used to calculate and provide vertical distance information for a rubber-tired machine configured to carry a payload. In some implementations, one or more process blocks of FIG. **4** are performed by a battery electric machine (e.g., battery electric machine **100**). In some implementations, one or more process blocks of FIG. **4** are performed by another device or a group of devices separate from or including the battery electric machine, such as another battery electric machine or a site control system. Additionally, or alternatively, one or more process blocks of FIG. **4** may be performed by one or more components of system **200**, such as the battery module **104**, the BMS **204**, and/or the display **110**.

[0053] As shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include supplying power from a battery to an electric motor (block **410**). For example, the battery module **104** may supply power from a battery to an electric motor, as described above.

[0054] As further shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include calculating a total mass based on a sum of a payload mass of the payload and a machine mass of the rubber-tired machine (block **420**). For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the total mass based on the sum of the payload mass of the payload and the machine mass of the rubber-tired machine, as described above.

[0055] As further shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include monitoring an SoC of the battery (block **430**). For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may monitor the SoC of the battery, as described above.

[0056] As further shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include calculating a first potential energy value of the battery and a second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC (block **440**). For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may calculate the first potential energy value of the battery and the second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC, as described above.

[0057] As further shown in FIG. 4, process 400 may include estimating a remaining upward

vertical distance that the rubber-tired machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the first potential energy value (block **450**). For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may estimate the remaining upward vertical distance that the rubber-tired machine can travel based on the first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the first potential energy value, as described above.

[0058] As further shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include estimating a remaining downward vertical distance that the rubber-tired machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the second potential energy value (block **460**). For example, the vertical distance estimator **218** may estimate the remaining downward vertical distance that the rubber-tired machine can travel based on the second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the second potential energy value, as described above.

[0059] As further shown in FIG. **4**, process **400** may include displaying the vertical distance information, including the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance (block **470**). For example, the display **110** may display the vertical distance information, including the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance, as described above.

[0060] Process **400** may include additional implementations, such as any single implementation or any combination of implementations described below and/or in connection with one or more other processes described elsewhere herein. In some implementations, process **400** may be used in gaspowered machines, and the remaining downward vertical distance and the remaining upward vertical distance may be calculated based on a remaining fuel level. For example, the remaining downward vertical distance may correspond to a number of vertical levels a gas-powered machine can travel downhill based on the remaining fuel level, and the remaining upward vertical distance correspond to a number of vertical levels the gas-powered machine can travel uphill based on the remaining fuel level.

[0061] Although FIG. **4** shows example blocks of process **400**, in some implementations, process **400** includes additional blocks, fewer blocks, different blocks, or differently arranged blocks than those depicted in FIG. **4**. Additionally, or alternatively, two or more of the blocks of process **400** may be performed in parallel.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

[0062] The vertical distance estimator **218** may provide two directional estimations for remaining vertical distance, including one remaining vertical distance (e.g., a remaining upward vertical distance or a remaining uphill vertical distance) that the battery electric machine **100** can travel before battery depletion, and another remaining vertical distance (e.g., a remaining downward vertical distance or a remaining downhill vertical distance) that the battery electric machine **100** can travel before battery saturation.

[0063] Since an operator of the battery electric machine **100** may have a better sense of how much vertical distance needs to be covered for performing a desired task, rather than how much horizontal distance needs to be covered for performing the desired task, the vertical distance estimator **218** may provide vertical distance information that may be more meaningful to the operator than remaining rolling distance. Moreover, displaying the vertical distance information may help to prevent the operator from developing range anxiety, and may enable the operator to operate the battery electric machine **100** more efficiently within an underground mine. [0064] In addition, the vertical distance information enables the operator to more efficiently navigate the underground mine before reaching a depletion limit or a saturation limit, and may enable the operator to better coordinate with other vehicles within the underground mine. For example, in the upward case, the vertical distance information may assist the operator in determining how many upward levels the battery electric machine **100** can travel (e.g., before the battery reaches a depletion limit) and may be used by the operator to prevent the battery electric machine from becoming stranded within the underground mine, thereby disrupting operations. In

the downward case, the vertical distance information may assist the operator in determining how many downward levels the battery electric machine **100** can travel (e.g., before the battery reaches a saturation limit) and may be used by the operator to prevent the battery electric machine from causing congestion within the underground mine, thereby disrupting operations. [0065] The foregoing disclosure provides illustration and description, but is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the implementations to the precise forms disclosed. Modifications and variations may be made in light of the above disclosure or may be acquired from practice of the implementations. Furthermore, any of the implementations described herein may be combined unless the foregoing disclosure expressly provides a reason that one or more implementations cannot be combined. Even though particular combinations of features are recited in the claims and/or disclosed in the specification, these combinations are not intended to limit the disclosure of various implementations. Although each dependent claim listed below may directly depend on only one claim, the disclosure of various implementations includes each dependent claim in combination with every other claim in the claim set.

[0066] When "a processor" or "one or more processors" (or another device or component, such as "a controller" or "one or more controllers") is described or claimed (within a single claim or across multiple claims) as performing multiple operations or being configured to perform multiple operations, this language is intended to broadly cover a variety of processor architectures and environments. For example, unless explicitly claimed otherwise (e.g., via the use of "first processor" and "second processor" or other language that differentiates processors in the claims), this language is intended to cover a single processor performing or being configured to perform all of the operations, a group of processors collectively performing or being configured to perform all of the operations, a first processor performing or being configured to perform a first operation and a second processor performing or being configured to perform a second operation, or any combination of processors performing or being configured to perform the operations. For example, when a claim has the form "one or more processors configured to: perform X; perform Y; and perform Z," that claim should be interpreted to mean "one or more processors configured to perform X; one or more (possibly different) processors configured to perform Y; and one or more (also possibly different) processors configured to perform Z." As used herein, "a," "an," and a "set" are intended to include one or more items, and may be used interchangeably with "one or more." Further, as used herein, the article "the" is intended to include one or more items referenced in connection with the article "the" and may be used interchangeably with "the one or more." Further, the phrase "based on" is intended to mean "based, at least in part, on" unless explicitly stated otherwise. Also, as used herein, the term "or" is intended to be inclusive when used in a series and may be used interchangeably with "and/or," unless explicitly stated otherwise (e.g., if used in combination with "either" or "only one of"). Further, spatially relative terms, such as "below," "lower," "above," "upper," and the like, may be used herein for ease of description to describe one element or feature's relationship to another element(s) or feature(s) as illustrated in the figures. The spatially relative terms are intended to encompass different orientations of the apparatus, device, and/or element in use or operation in addition to the orientation depicted in the figures. The apparatus may be otherwise oriented (rotated 90 degrees or at other orientations) and the spatially relative descriptors used herein may likewise be interpreted accordingly.

Claims

1. A battery electric machine configured to carry a payload, comprising: a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the battery electric machine; a battery module comprising battery terminals configured to connect to a primary battery and provide power to the propulsion system; a processing circuit configured to: monitor an existing potential energy of the primary battery, estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can

travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm and the existing potential energy, and estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm and the existing potential energy; and a display configured to indicate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.

- **2**. The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the remaining upward vertical distance is a first vertical range that the battery electric machine can travel in an upward vertical direction before reaching a depletion limit of the primary battery, and the remaining downward vertical distance is a second vertical range that the battery electric machine can travel in a downward vertical direction before reaching a saturation limit of the primary battery.
- **3.** The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the remaining upward vertical distance corresponds to an increase in elevation relative to the battery electric machine, and wherein the remaining downward vertical distance corresponds to a decrease in elevation relative to the battery electric machine.
- **4.** The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance correspond to vertical distances along a vertical plane, and the battery electric machine is a tired machine configured to travel along a driving plane that intersects the vertical plane.
- **5.** The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the processing circuit is configured to: calculate a total mass based on a sum of a payload mass of the payload and a machine mass of the battery electric machine, estimate the remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the existing potential energy, and estimate the remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the existing potential energy.
- **6**. The battery electric machine of claim 5, further comprising: at least one sensor configured to sense the payload mass of the payload and generate at least one sensor signal representative of the payload mass, wherein the processing circuit is configured to receive the at least one sensor signal and calculate the total mass based on a sum of the payload mass, indicated by the at least one sensor signal, and the machine mass of the battery electric machine, and wherein the at least one sensor includes a torque sensor or a pressure sensor.
- 7. The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein processing circuit is configured to calculate a state of health (SoH) of the primary battery, calculate a state of charge (SoC) of the primary battery, and calculate the existing potential energy based on the SoH and the SoC.
- **8**. The battery electric machine of claim 7, wherein processing circuit is configured to calculate the existing potential energy based on the SoH, the SoC, and a nameplate capacity of the primary battery.
- **9**. The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein processing circuit is configured to scale the existing potential energy by a weighted upward efficiency value for estimating the remaining upward vertical distance according to the first vertical estimation algorithm, wherein the weighted upward efficiency value corresponds to an uphill operational efficiency of the battery electric machine, and wherein processing circuit is configured to scale the existing potential energy by a weighted downward efficiency value for estimating the remaining downward vertical distance according to the second vertical estimation algorithm, wherein the weighted downward efficiency value corresponds to a downhill operational efficiency of the battery electric machine.
- **10.** The battery electric machine of claim 9, wherein the uphill operational efficiency is an operational efficiency of the battery electric machine while using the primary battery for uphill movement, and wherein the downhill operational efficiency is an operational efficiency of the battery electric machine while using the primary battery for downhill movement.
- **11**. The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the processing circuit includes at least one memory configured to store an upward efficiency table and downward efficiency table, wherein the

upward efficiency table corresponds to the battery electric machine while using the primary battery, wherein the downward efficiency table corresponds to the battery electric machine while using the primary battery, wherein the upward efficiency table is configured to store uphill trip data, wherein the downward efficiency table is configured to store downhill trip data, wherein the processing circuit is configured to calculate an upward efficiency value based on the uphill trip data and scale the existing potential energy by the upward efficiency value to estimate the remaining upward vertical distance, and wherein the processing circuit is configured to calculate a downward efficiency value based on the downhill trip data and scale the existing potential energy by the downward efficiency value to estimate the remaining downward vertical distance.

- **12**. The battery electric machine of claim 11, wherein the uphill trip data includes at least one of a total uphill rolling distance, an average uphill grade, an uphill vertical distance, an uphill total mass, an uphill ideal battery energy, an uphill used battery energy, or an uphill trip efficiency value, and wherein the downhill trip data includes at least one of a total downhill rolling distance, an average downhill grade, a downhill vertical distance, a downhill total mass, a downhill ideal battery energy, a downhill used battery energy, or a downhill trip efficiency value.
- 13. The battery electric machine of claim 11, wherein the upward efficiency table includes initial uphill trip data including an initial uphill trip efficiency value, wherein the processing circuit is configured to collect the uphill trip data for one or more uphill trips, update the upward efficiency table with the uphill trip data for the one or more uphill trips, and, after each uphill trip of the one or more uphill trips, recalculate the upward efficiency value based on the initial uphill trip efficiency value and the uphill trip data for the one or more uphill trips, and calculate the remaining upward vertical distance based on the upward efficiency value, wherein the downward efficiency table includes initial downhill trip data including an initial downhill trip efficiency value, and wherein the processing circuit is configured to collect the downhill trip data for one or more downhill trips, update the downward efficiency table with the downhill trip data for the one or more downhill trips, and, after each downhill trip of the one or more downhill trips, recalculate the downward efficiency value based on the initial downhill trip efficiency value and the downhill trip data for the one or more downhill trips, and calculate the remaining downward vertical distance based on the downward efficiency value.
- **14.** The battery electric machine of claim 13, wherein the processing circuit is configured to calculate an uphill trip efficiency value for each uphill trip of the one or more uphill trips based on respective uphill trip data, and calculate the upward efficiency value as an average of the initial uphill trip efficiency value and one or more uphill trip efficiency values calculated for the one or more uphill trips, and wherein the processing circuit is configured to calculate a downhill trip efficiency value for each downhill trip of the one or more downhill trips based on respective downhill trip data, and calculate the downward efficiency value as an average of the initial downhill trip efficiency value and one or more downhill trip efficiency values calculated for the one or more downhill trips.
- **15.** The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the battery terminals are configured to connect to a secondary battery for providing auxiliary power, wherein the processing circuit is further configured to monitor a secondary existing potential energy of the secondary battery, wherein the processing circuit is further configured to estimate the remaining upward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the first vertical estimation algorithm, a total mass of the battery electric machine and the payload, and the secondary existing potential energy, and wherein the processing circuit is further configured to estimate the remaining downward vertical distance that the battery electric machine can travel based on the second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the secondary existing potential energy.
- **16**. The battery electric machine of claim 1, wherein the battery terminals are configured to connect to a secondary battery and provide a power swap with the primary battery, wherein the battery module is configured to, while using the primary battery as a power source, recharge the secondary

battery with recharge energy routed from the primary battery, wherein the processing circuit is configured to decrease the remaining upward vertical distance based on the recharge energy, and wherein the processing circuit is configured to increase the remaining downward vertical distance based on the recharge energy.

- 17. A tired machine configured to carry a payload, comprising: a propulsion system, including an electric motor, configured to propel the tired machine; a battery module comprising battery terminals configured to connect to a battery and provide power to the propulsion system; a vertical distance estimator comprising at least one processor, where the vertical distance estimator is configured to determine a payload mass of the payload, wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to monitor a state of charge (SoC) of the battery and calculate a first potential energy value of the battery and a second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC, wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to estimate a remaining upward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the first potential energy value, and wherein the vertical distance estimator is further configured to estimate a remaining downward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the payload mass, and the second potential energy value; and a display configured to indicate the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.
- **18**. The tired machine of claim 17, wherein the remaining upward vertical distance is a first vertical range that the tired machine can travel in an upward vertical direction before the battery reaches a depletion limit, and the remaining downward vertical distance is a second vertical range that the tired machine can travel in a downward vertical direction before the battery reaches a saturation limit.
- **19.** The tired machine of claim 17, wherein the vertical distance estimator includes at least one memory configured to store an upward efficiency table and downward efficiency table, wherein the upward efficiency table corresponds to the tired machine while using the battery, wherein the downward efficiency table corresponds to the tired machine while using the battery, wherein the upward efficiency table is configured to store uphill trip data, wherein the downward efficiency table is configured to store downhill trip data, wherein the vertical distance estimator is configured to calculate an upward efficiency value based on the uphill trip data and calculate the first potential energy value based on the upward efficiency value based on the downhill trip data and calculate the second potential energy value based on the downward efficiency value.
- **20.** A method of providing vertical distance information for a tired machine configured to carry a payload, the method comprising: supplying, by a battery module, power from a battery to an electric motor; calculating, by a processing circuit, a total mass based on a sum of a payload mass of the payload and a machine mass of the tired machine; monitoring, by the processing circuit, a state of charge (SoC) of the battery; calculating, by the processing circuit, a first potential energy value of the battery and a second potential energy value of the battery based on the SoC; estimating, by the processing circuit, a remaining upward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a first vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the first potential energy value; estimating, by the processing circuit, a remaining downward vertical distance that the tired machine can travel based on a second vertical estimation algorithm, the total mass, and the second potential energy value; and displaying, by a display, the vertical distance information, including the remaining upward vertical distance and the remaining downward vertical distance.