

Overview of the SPS LLRF upgrade

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CERN Accelerators Complex



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SPS RF Upgrade 2019-2020 (LS2)

High Lumi LHC Beam requirements

- Proton [1]:
 - Doubling intensity $\rightarrow 2.5 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ p+/bunch}$
- lons [2]:
 - 50ns bunch spacing \rightarrow slip stacking
 - long injection plateau (~40s) \rightarrow low noise

Main limitations

- Beam-loading
 - V_{RF} =1MV, ~2MV beam induced
- Longitudinal instabilities (impedance)





SPS RF Upgrade 2019-2020 (LS2)

RF systems :

- $4x \ 200MHz \ cavity \rightarrow 6 \ cavities$
- 2x 800MHz cavity



Fig3 – SPS Power upgrade



SPS 200MHz Cavities

- 4 Travelling wave cavities (TWC200)
- → Splitted into 6 cavities after LS2 (Better compromise with beam loading & Cavity Voltage)





Drift tubes structure



Fig4 – SPS TWC200

SPS 800MHz Cavities

2x 800 MHz Travelling wave cavities (Tunnel) 4x 60kW IOT amplifiers per cavity (Surface)

Center freq	800.888MHz
Phase advance per cell	π/2
Group velocity v_g/c	+0.035
Cell length	93.5 mm
Total length L (37 cells)	3.460 m
Series impedance R ₂	$0.647 M\Omega/m^2$

Disc-loaded structure

$$V_{800} \cong \frac{V_{200}}{10}$$



Fig5 – SPS TWC800

LHC proton beam (2-3.1010 protons/bunch) unstable without 800MHz system



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Fermilab - slip-stacking

SPS 800MHz Cavity Voltage





SPS 800MHz Vector Sum



Fig7 – RF Combiner





Fermilab - slip-stacking

SPS LLRF Upgrade



Fig9 - Current SPS Beam Control Systems



SPS LLRF Upgrade

Current system :

- NIM, Custom 6U Europa crate, VME
- Mostly analog
- Some designs from 1970s
- Only electronics for 4 cavities at 200MHz
 - (6 cavities installed after LS2)
- Lack of control
 - No cycle-cycle settings (PPM)
 - No remote control, no built-in diagnostic
 - Very time-consuming setting-up



Fig10 - Current SPS 200MHz RF feedbacks

Upgrade foreseen in LS2 (2019-2020)

- Beam loading compensation MUST be improved to cope with 2x I_{BEAM} (HiLumi LHC)
- Bunch per Bunch Beam Phase & Radial position measurement → 5-10GSPS
- Fixed-frequency acceleration (FFA) for ion acceleration \rightarrow **FPGA**
- Fixed-frequency sampling clock (lower noise) \rightarrow COTS
- Deterministic serial link for RF frequency distribution → White-Rabbit
- Momentum slip-stacking for 50ns ion bunch spacing, → SoC (FPGA+ARM, eg: ZYNQ)



SPS LLRF Architecture



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Fig11 – SPS LLRF Architecture April 2018







SPS LLRF Clock Generation/Distribution

Fixed-frequency sampling

- Big paradigm change for CERN synchrotrons
- Simplify clocking scheme
- Better noise performance (clock)
- Higher complexity in signal processing for bunch synchronous processing

White-rabbit support

- Reconstruction of sampling clock
 from White-Rabbit
- Aim for <130dBc/Hz (from 100Hz offset range)
- Scalable system

LLRF Backplane (Desy) compatible



CLKA & CLKB are 1-PPS aligned and independent CLKA frequency: 62.5MHz/125MHz/250MHz/500MHz CLKB frequency: 62.5MHz/125MHz/250MHz/500MHz

LO & REF frequency: up to 230 MHz CAL is not generated nor distributed. LO or REF can be programmed to generate a CAL signal

Fig15: eRTM for SPS LLRF (Courtesy Mattia Rizzi)



Fermilab - slip-stacking

SPS LLRF Beam control

Beam based loops

- B-field reception (White-rabbit)
- RF freq calculation (FPU)
- RF freq distribution (White-rabbit)
- Synchro Loop
- Phase loop
- Radial loop
- Cogging /Rephasing (extr. to LHC)
- Slip stacking (lons 50ns)

AMC:

- FMC Carrier, 2x FMC (HPC)
- SoC (FPGA+ARM)
- White-Rabbit (2x)
- MTCA.4

RTM :

- 4x SFP+, 3xQSFP+
- MTCA.4.1 (optional)





Fig16: Beam control in MTCA.4 (Courtesy A. Spierer)

SPS LLRF Beam Phase, Radial Position, Intensity

- Signals received from beam position monitors typically cover several GHz
- SPS RF frequency: 200 MHz \rightarrow bunch spacing 5 ns
- Direct sampling of beam signals with fixed sampling clock at >> GSPS
- Beam synchronous feature extraction in digital
- Beam instantaneous frequencies received via WR link
- System clocks are deterministic for every cycle ("absolute time", based on WR)



- Input channels ≥2
- Sampling rate ≥ 5 GSPS
- Analog BW ≥ 1 GHz
- Vertical Res. ≥ 8 bits
- Data output 200 MSPS
- Clocks derived from WR (125 MHz)





SPS LLRF MTCA.4.1 Equipment



Fig20: NAT-LLRF-Backplane (DESY, N.A.T. GmbH)



CERN SPS-LIU Schedule



- Q1 2018: MTCA Cavity controller tests on 200MHz cavity
- Q2/Q3 2018: Prototype HW for Beam control (FMC carrier) MTCA HW for Beam phase/Intensity measurement
- End 2018: CERN Accelerator complex stop \rightarrow Long Shutdown 2
- 2019-2020 : LLRF Upgrade
- Q4 2020 : LLRF commissioning
- Q1/Q2 2021: Beam commissioning & Run 3 $0.55A DC \rightarrow 1.1A DC$ (HiLumi LHC)







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Fig24 – One Turn Delay feedback with triple comb



MIMO feedback





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