

Limitations from LHC RF Fingers

Presenters: Chiara Antuono and Patrick Krkotić

G. Bregliozzi, S. Calatroni, E. De La Fuente, A. Galloro, B. Salvant, L. Sito, C. Zannini

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Fault recording in 2023

May 25-26, 2023: Pressure spikes within the vacuum sector A4L1 during the fill ID 8828 (1.63 · 10¹¹ p/b – 2358 bunches) lead to a beam dump due to losses.







Fill 8828: 2023-05-25 16:29:00 - 2023-05-25 18:02:00

Fault recording in 2023

ID212.7 RF Finger Module











Fault recording in 2023

Visual inspection:

- annealed/plasticised spring → localized temperature increase to more than 500°C
- localised extremely high temperature producing debris, sputtering and sublimation of austenitic stainless-steel spring
- cascade of failure with consequent loss of electrical contact of RF fingers on the transition tube perimeter











X-ray investigation

Inspection of all 71 modules present in the LHC machine

• 1 failed, 8 degraded





D 23% Reset 9

E Filter

A Ma



02

Understanding of the Failure Material and Production Analysis

Tension spring properties

Stainless Steel 1.4310 AISI 301 (X10CrNi18-8)

Good mechanical properties and corrosion resistance

• The material can theoretically be used up to +250°C

Effects of the bake-out cycle: elasticity of the spring versus different elongations (EDMS)

- As received: compatible with specifications
- 8 days 250°C bake out: no degradation
- 8 days 330°C bake out: removal of pre-load and length increase

Traction Tests Before and After Bake-Out





Thermal simulations

- Visual inspection and radiography indicate that heating of the spring is the triggering mechanism of the first module failure
- Finite Element Method simulations via COMSOL were conducted to determine the power deposition necessary to heat the spring in a steady state (EDMS)



uniform power distribution



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Thermal simulations

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RF finger production

In 2004, BINP initiated the production using a single sheet of CuBe

- RF Finger width 3.6 mm
- Distance between fingers 1.47 mm









03

Impedance Assessment Experiments and Simulations

Impedance measurements - field leakage





- Low frequency resonances (below vacuum pipe cut-off frequency)
 - Field leakage through RF fingers / transition tube
- It is the mechanism that allows some of the beam induced power to be dissipated on the spring





Electromagnetic simulation - field leakage

• The simulations confirmed the presence of field leakage from the fingers and the transition tube





Simulations vs Measurements : validation of the model



Virtual measurement setup reproduced in e.m. simulation



- Very **similar frequency response** between simulation and measurements
 - First resonance below 400 MHz
 - Several resonances below pipe cut-off frequency

The simulation model is used for impedance assessment



Beam induced power assessment



* Power loss calculation in separated and common beam chambers of the LHC, C. Zannini, G. Rumolo, G. Iadarola, 5th International Particle Accelerator Conference, Dresden, Germany, June 2014



Different scenarios studied

Design case

- Symmetric RF fingers distribution
- Perfect contact fingers-transition tube

Perfect contact

Ideal contact case

- Non symmetric RF fingers distribution
- Perfect contact fingers-transition tube



Degraded contact case

- Non symmetric RF fingers distribution
- Degraded contact fingers-transition tube

Lost contact case

- Non symmetric RF fingers distribution
- Lost contact fingers-transition tube



Impedance is more affected by production defects especially in presence of beam offset

Contact degradation between fingers-transition tube largely increases the beam induced power on the spring



Beam induced power loss on the spring





IP4, IP8: observed finger degradation

Pipe restrictions restriction beam pipe module beam pipe restriction Tos Pipe restrictions WBGA5R4 WBGCAR8.X

Beam pipe restrictions in both IP4,IP8

- In IP4,IP8 the degradation mechanism is somewhat different
 - Due to the restriction of the beam pipe \rightarrow cavity-like structures
 - Forest of quite strong resonances
 - power could be dissipated on the fingers
 - From thermal studies : it could explain fingers degradation









Possible Mitigation Strategies Ongoing Impedance and Vacuum Studies

Essence of the mitigation strategy

Replace and transform the current 71 modules in the ID212.7 RF contact with newly designed modules wherever it is possible to implement such a substitution . Anchor 'unnecessary' ID212.7 modules (EDMS)





Deformable RF Fingers – DRF





Transformed ID212.7 Module in straight vacuum chamber

Fixed Positioning

 Reallocate the thermal expansion during bake-out cycles to designated bellows

Robust thermal endurance

 10 mm solid copper material, engineered to withstand substantial heat loads should they manifest

Impedance

• Expected to behave as a straight vacuum chamber





Optimised Bellows



07/12/23

13 Convolutions Bellow Ø 212.7 mm Stainless Steel

Secure choice concerning mechanical and thermal considerations

Rapid and cost-effective production

Higher impedance compared to the ID212.7 RF contact fingers

- Longitudinal and transverse impedance will be affected
 - to be studied in detail





Essence of the mitigation strategy

Replace and transform the current 71 modules in the ID212.7 RF contact with newly designed modules wherever it is possible to implement such a substitution. Anchor 'unnecessary' ID212.7 modules (EDMS)







Conclusion and Outlook

Do we expect additional failure in 2024 run?

- 1 Failure observed only in 2023 with a maximum total intensity of ~3.8e14 p. (with 1.63e11 ppb)
 - Localized heating on spring enhanced by the beam offset and production defects
 - 24 module will keep the original <u>spring+finger</u> design
 - No failure expected with ideal contact
 - Failure can occur due to degraded contact quality
 - An intensity threshold cannot be identified due to the strong dependence on contact quality
 - Other possible failure mechanism (preliminary results)
 - Damage of RF fingers in IP4,8
 - heating of the RF fingers due to the machine layout







BE-ABP

Chiara Antuono Elena De La Fuente Riccardo De Maria Stéphane Fartoukh Lorenzo Giacomel Nicolas Mounet Yannis Papaphilippou Giovanni Rumolo Benoit Salvant Leonardo Sito Carlo Zannini

EN-MME

Thibaut Coiffet Alessandro Dallocchio Florent Fesquet Ana Teresa P. Fontenla Damien Jerome Foresy Gonzalo A. Izquierdo Jean-Marc Malzacker Alexandre Porret Laurent Prever-Loiri



On behalf of...

TE-VSC

Giuseppe Bregliozzi Sergio Calatroni Paolo Chiggiato Isabel Cuevaz Thomas Da Silva Florent Fesquet Alessio Galloro Jan Hansen Patrick Krkotic **Fabrice Santangelo Orlando Santos** Josef Sestak **Benoit Teissandier** Marc Thiebert

<u>SY-RF</u>

Ivan Karpov Christine Vollinger

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Thank you for your attention!



Any questions?

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Simulations Vs measurements : validation of the model





Do we expect failure of the smaller modules?

Smaller diameter modules are expected to be less critical

- higher frequency modes
- Only 1 beam
- smaller beam offset
- less production defects
- lower impact of the machine layout



Smaller transition in terms of diameter



From G. Bregliozzi, LMC

- $_{\odot}$ How many modules built from 3 segments do we have in the LHC machine?
 - ID212.7 & ID196 -> 71 units in total
 - DN130 & DN100 have 2 segments: Less prone to gap problems (Max aperture <2-3 mm)
 - $\,\circ\,$ DN80 & DN63 one single segments: Respected the tolerances of the drawings.
- o Can this problem happen to the other RF inserts?
 - If the problem with the increased spacing is confirmed there is no reason to have the same failure module with warm modules inserts DN80 and DN63. DN130 and DN100 need further studies.



Spring Properties

Stainless Steel 1.4310 – AISI 301 (X10CrNi18-8)

- Good mechanical properties and corrosion resistance
- Capable of high tensile strength following cold work
- Tensile strength: 2239-2254 N/mm²
- Magnetic following cold work

Spring of module 5



...but most of it is totally amagnetic



The material 1.4310 can theoretically be used up to +250°C.

After production, the spring is heat treated. At least 30min at 250°. Then cool at room temperature.



X rays – A4L1





X Rays – VMBGA.B4R5.X – Module 3





X rays – A4L8 Double Beams





X rays – A4R8 (E4R8.X8) Double Beams





B4R8.X - VMBGC.E5R8.X





X rays – D5R4 Single Beam





Pictures of VMBGA.A5R4.B





Pictures of VMBGA.A5R4.B





Module 5 RF & Insert with new and old spring



