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Stability of thyatron switching in LCLS linac modulators

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Building from several years of study, it is determined that the dominant cause of pulse to pulse jitter in LCLS linac modulators is thyatron performance [1]. Without a stable thyatron, all other sources of jitter are dwarfed. To achieve long term stability in this environment, a highly de-rated off the shelf thyatron was selected to upgrade critical RF stations. After a year of operation, the thyatron has demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing thyatron related jitter in a way that allows for other jitter improvements to be pursued. The thyatron upgrade study is presented in this paper.

[1] F.J. Decker, A. Krasnykh, B. Morris, and M. Nguyen, "A Stability of LCLS Linac Modulators" IEEE IPMHVC 2012, San Diego, CA.

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