

RF CONTROLS EXPERIENCE WITH THE JLAB IR UPGRADE FEL^{*}

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Abstract

The JLAB IR free electron laser FEL upgrade makes use of energy recovery in the linac to accelerate up to 10 mA of electron beam current up to 105 MeV by using 26 superconducting cavities and one normal conducting cavity in various configurations. Two of the injector cavities are operated near crest and the buncher cavity is operated at the zero crossing. This paper will describe some of the RF controls issues associated with operating these cavities.

INTRODUCTION

Equations (1) and (2) are the general klystron power (P_{Kly}) and phase control requirements (ψ_{Kly}) for a cavity [1]

$$P_{Kly} = \frac{(\beta+1)L}{4\beta Q_L (r/Q)} \left\{ \left(E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B \right)^2 + \left(2Q_L \frac{\delta f}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B \right)^2 \right\} \quad (1)$$

$$\psi_{Kly} = \arctan \left(\frac{2Q_L \frac{\delta f}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B}{E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B} \right) \quad (2)$$

where P_{Kly} is the klystron power {W}, E is the cavity accelerating gradient {V/m}, (r/Q) is the shunt impedance { Ω /m}, $R_C = Q_L(r/Q)$ is the coupling impedance { Ω }, β is the cavity coupling where $\beta = (1+Q_0)/Q_L \gg 1$ for our purposes, I_0 is the magnitude of the vector sum of the beam currents in the cavity, ψ_B is the phase of the vector sum of beam currents in the cavity with respect to accelerating RF field ($\psi_B = 0$ is defined as beam being on crest and in phase with the cavity's electric field), ψ_{Kly} is the phase difference between klystron power and the cavity electric field and $\delta f = \delta f_D + \delta f_S$ is the detune frequency of the cavity or the difference between the generator frequency and the cavity's resonant frequency. There are two parts to this detuning. The first is the quasi-static detuning (δf_S) due to static Lorentz force detuning, helium pressure fluctuations, mechanical tuners, etc. The second is dynamic detuning (δf_D) due to microphonic and dynamic pondormotive effects. In both cases the root cause is a

deformation of the cavity shape. The challenge for the RF control systems in ERLSs is to control the cavity gradient during both CW and pulsed beam loading.

RF Control System

In the JLAB IR FEL upgrade, the relative phase and absolute amplitude of the electric field in the cavities is controlled using a closed loop analog control system. It was developed in the early nineties for the CEBAF accelerator.[1] It was designed for a CW moderately beam loaded system where the beam was generally on crest (i.e. $\psi_{Kly} \approx 0$).

A simple block diagram of the RF system is shown in Figure 1. The phase detectors, amplitude and phase modulators are multiplier circuits operated at 70 MHz and the drive signal is upconverted and down converted using mixers. The amplitude detector is an ovenized crystal detector. The calibration of the module is done off line and the lookup tables are stored in the supervisory processor that is part of the RF module. Part of the function of this supervisory processor is to linearize and scale the phase and amplitude signals prior to providing said values to EPICS.

Both the amplitude and phase control loops are simple proportional control loops with a low frequency gain boost. The narrow band gain, i.e. typically less than 150 Hz, and broad band gain, i.e. out to 2 MHz, have separate gain controls with up to 50 dB of dynamic gain control that can be adjusted using the EPICS control system. Additionally, in the case of SRF cavities, the system has a low pass filter which is used to insure that the loop gain is less than one for any signals that occur at the $4/5 \pi$ or $6/7 \pi$ modes for the 5-cell and 7-cell cavities respectively. While this is relatively easy for the 5-cell cavities where the nearest mode is approximately 4 MHz below the fundamental it becomes more difficult for the 7-cell cavities where the nearest mode is approximately 2 MHz below the fundamental mode.

The output of the low level RF (LLRF) systems are used to drive klystron based high CW power amplifiers. The klystron power levels are 2 kW, 100 kW and 8 kW for the buncher, injector and ERL cavities respectively. Between each of these devices and the cavities are circulators, which are not shown.

Under normal operation an SRF cavity is tuned such that $\delta f_S = 0$ by adjusting the mechanical tuners. Consider Equations (1) and (2) with no beam current. As $\delta f \Rightarrow 0$ the klystron power is minimized and $\psi_{Kly} \Rightarrow 0$. The normal conducting buncher cavity is

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Figure 1. Simplified block diagram of the RF system used in the JLAB IR FEL upgrade.

used to drive tuned by adjusting the cooling water flow and thus the cavity temperature. The phase difference between cavity field probe signal and the klystron forward power signal measured under these conditions is then used as a reference signal for tuning a cavity. This signal is monitored by the low-level RF system and when it changes by more than a fixed amount, i.e. 3 to 5 degrees for JLAB machines, the mechanical tuners are operated until the phase error signal is corrected. For the sake of discussion in this paper we will call this phase difference when tuned the zero tune angle.

EFFECTS OF INCOMPLETE ENERGY RECOVERY

In the Jefferson Lab IR FEL Upgrade we accelerate the first pass beam at 10° before crest in order to achieve bunch length compression and energy recover at 165° after crest to energy compress the large energy spread imposed on the beam by the FEL. This can lead to some interesting control issues.

Upon initial turn-on of the beam the klystron power and phase are given by the following.

$$P_{Kly} = \frac{(\beta+1)L}{4\beta R_C} \left\{ \left(E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B \right)^2 + \left(2Q_L \frac{\delta f_D}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B \right)^2 \right\} \quad (5)$$

$$\psi_{Kly} = \arctan \left(\frac{2Q_L \frac{\delta f_D}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B}{E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B} \right) \quad (6)$$

The cavity RF system resonance control algorithms will adjust the tuner until the phase difference between the klystron power and the field probe signal is set to its baseline value. Thus the mechanical tuner will shift the cavity frequency, δf , such that the average value of the numerator in Equation (6) is zero and the forward power is reduced. If one gives this added frequency shift the label δf_{S1} then the equation for the klystron power becomes:

$$P_{Kly} = \frac{(\beta+1)L}{4\beta R_C} \left\{ \left(E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B \right)^2 + \left(2Q_L \frac{(\delta f_D + \delta f_{S1})}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B \right)^2 \right\} \quad (7)$$

where

$$2Q_L \frac{\delta f_{S1}}{f_0} E = -I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B \quad \text{or} \quad (8)$$

$$\delta f_{S1} = -\frac{f_0 I_0 R_C \sin \psi_B}{2Q_L E} = -\frac{f_0 I_0 (r/Q) \sin \psi_B}{2E} \quad (9)$$

which cancels out the effects of beam loading in the second term. But this tuning process takes time tens of

seconds. During pulsed operation and while the system is tuning, the klystron must deliver sufficient power and appropriate phase shift from the previous state, to maintain the amplitude and phase of the electric field in the cavities at a level consistent with the energy acceptance of the machine. After the tuning has completed the equation for the klystron power becomes:

$$P_{Kly} = \frac{(\beta+1)L}{4\beta R_C} \left\{ \left(E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_B \right)^2 + \left(2Q_L \frac{\delta f_D}{f_0} E \right)^2 \right\} \quad (10)$$

Consider the next situation. The cavity tuners have completed the process of compensating for the reactive power and the forward power is now back at the baseline phase difference with the transmitted power signal. Suddenly, the beam turns off. It can be easily shown that when the beam current is turned off, the cavity starts out detuned by δf_{S1} and experiences an equal power transient and an equal, but negative, phase transient compared to the beam turn on transient. Again just as in the turn on transient the RF system must compensate for this transient until the cavity tuner has time to adjust the cavity length and reestablish the baseline phase difference between the forward and transmitted power.

An Example of Incomplete Energy Recovery

Consider the following scenario; first pass beam at a phase of 10° before crest, second pass beam at 165° after crest and a beam current of I_B . In theory this is the situation when the FEL is lasing with 2.5% extraction efficiency [4]. Simple vector math can be used to determine that the resultant beam current is $I_0 = 0.087 \times I_B \angle 77.5^\circ$. Figure 1 shows the power requirements for a 7-Cell JLAB upgrade cavity as a function of average beam current. The cavity parameters are $E = 10$ MV/m, $\delta f_D = 10$ Hz, and $Q_L = 2 \times 10^7$.

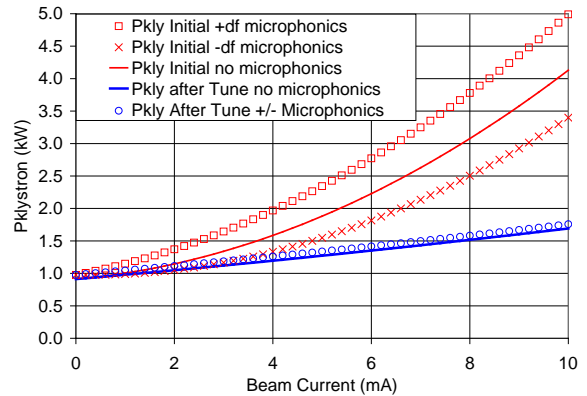


Figure 1. Klystron power requirements as a function of beam current, I_B , initially after the beam current is turned on and after tuner restores the field probe to the nominal value.

Figure 2 shows the transient and steady state phase shifts associated with the same beam loading and cavity parameters. It should be noted that for times long compared to the response time of the control system, a cavity and its associated control system does not know the difference between detuning caused by microphonics and steady state detuning that are the results of the cavity not being properly tuned.

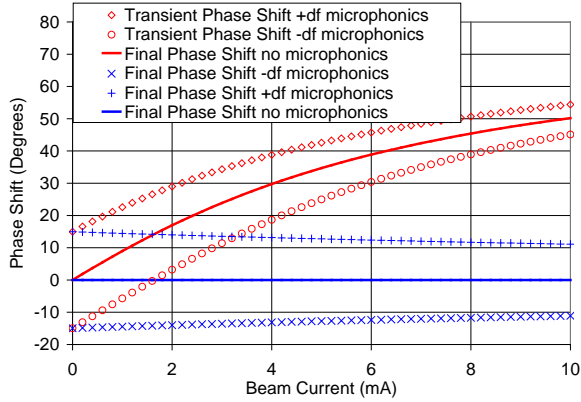


Figure 2. Klystron phase shifts under the same conditions as that shown in Figure 1.

Data From the JLAB FEL Upgrade

During October 2006 beam operations, RF power and detune angle data were recorded which support the general trends in Figures 1 and 2. In this experiment two sets of data were taken. In the first, the tuner was

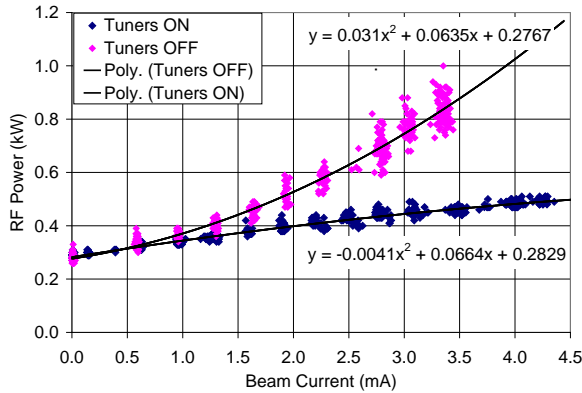


Figure 3. RF power as a function of beam current with the cavity tuners on to compensate for the reactive power (blue) and with the tuners off (red).

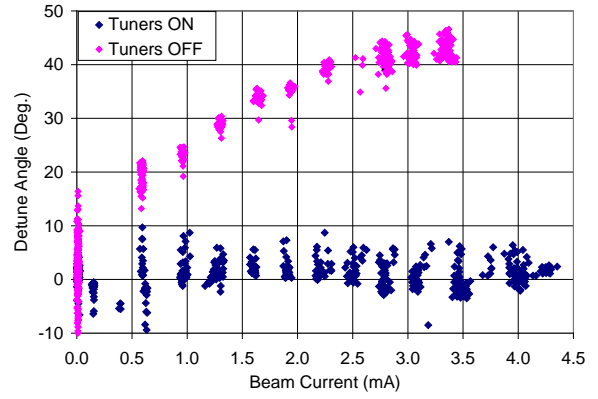


Figure 4. Phase difference between klystron drive and cavity field probe as a function of beam current with the cavity tuners on to compensate for the reactive power (blue) and with the tuners off (red).

allowed to operate and correct for the off-crest beam loading as the beam current was increased from 0 to 4.25 mA. In the second, the tuner was allowed to tune the cavity only when beam was off. The data was recorded from a JLAB 7-cell cavity which has a Q_L of 2×10^7 and was operated at 5.6 MV/m. The results are displayed in Figures 3 and 4 and illustrate the effects of the initial turn on requirements. Unfortunately, the forward power signal is not well calibrated and the exact state of the second pass phase was not well known. Thus these figures are provided only to demonstrate the effect rather than to quantify it.

An Example of Shifting From State to State

One typical scenario in an FEL is to switch from one state of energy recovery to another when the FEL goes into and out of a lasing state. When the FEL lases energy is transferred from the electron beam to the optical beam, the energy spread of the exhaust beam is dramatically increased and the overall energy of each electron bunch is reduced. This is shown in Figure 5. The lower energy bunches couple with the nonzero momentum compaction of the recirculator lattice to generate a change in the path length (or equivalently, a phase shift).

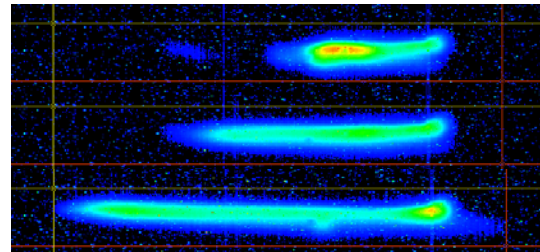


Figure 5. Synchrotron light emitted at the second arc of the JLAB IR-FEL Upgrade under different lasing conditions: Not lasing (top), weakly lasing (middle) and strongly lasing (bottom). The colors indicate the intensity of the synchrotron light [5].

In order to extract the beam at the end of the linac the second pass beam must have a moderate energy spread and therefore must be energy compressed. Due to the large energy spread imposed on the beam by the FEL, the bunch is decelerated between 10° and 15° before trough of the RF waveform to insure that a high energy tail will not “spill” over the trough. Such high energy tails lead to poor transmission and/or beam loss.

The Effect of Shifting From State to State

Assuming that the beam is not in a state of complete energy recovery prior to lasing, i.e. $\delta f_{S1} \neq 0$, the cavity starts with the dynamic power and phase requirements given in Equations (11) and (12) respectively where δf_{S1} is the detune frequency shift for the beam just prior to lasing and ψ_{B2} is the phase

$$P_{Kly} = \frac{(\beta+1)L}{4\beta R_C} \left\{ \left(E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_{B2} \right)^2 + \left(2Q_L \frac{(\delta f_D + \delta f_{S1})}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_{B2} \right)^2 \right\} \quad (11)$$

$$\psi_{Kly} = \arctan \left(\frac{2Q_L \frac{\delta f_D + \delta f_{S1}}{f_0} E + I_0 R_C \sin \psi_{B2}}{E + I_0 R_C \cos \psi_{B2}} \right) \quad (12)$$

of the resultant beam current when the first pass beam and the beam laser exhaust beam are summed in the linac. Assuming that the tuners run and the cavities are retuned to the zero tune angle necessary for lasing the static detune frequency, δf_{S2} , in this second mode will become:

$$\delta f_{S2} = -\frac{f_0 I_0 R_C \sin \psi_{B2}}{2Q_L E} \quad (13)$$

and you are back in a situation where there is minimum power that is given by Equation (10). Just as in incomplete energy recovery when the machine stops lasing the RF responds with an equal power transient and equal but negative phase transient as the transition from beam on (no lasing) to beam on (with lasing). There is an added set of transitions that must be also considered this is the transitions that occurs when going from a lasing state directly to beam off or from beam off directly to beam on with lasing. Such a transition will follow the same math as incomplete energy recovery where ψ_{B2} and δf_{S2} are substituted for ψ_{B1} and δf_{S1} respectively.

Considerations for Operations at 100 mA

Next we look at the application of these considerations at a higher current. Two types of machines will be considered. In all cases the 15 Hz of microphonics effects are applied so as to increase rather than reduce the required power. We will consider a design where incomplete energy recovery and shifting from one state to another is part of the

machine design. In the second case we will look at the effect of a minor, $640 \mu\text{m}$, shift in path length on a machine that is designed for perfect energy recovery.

In the first example the beam will shift dynamically from incomplete energy recovery with a 177° phase offset between the accelerated and decelerated beams (State 1) to perfect energy recovery (State 2). In both states the accelerated beam is at -15° with respect to the crest. The energy recovered beam is at 165° and 162° for states 1 and 2 respectively. The cavity is a 5-cell structure at 748.5 MHz with an $(r/Q) = 1000 \Omega/\text{m}$. The operating gradient is 16.7 MV/m .

First we will look at the power requirements as a function of loaded Q. After that we will examine the transients that occur when switching the beam on and off and when switching from one state of energy recovery to another. Figures 6 and 7 show the power and phase requirements for the cavities described above as a function of loaded-Q.

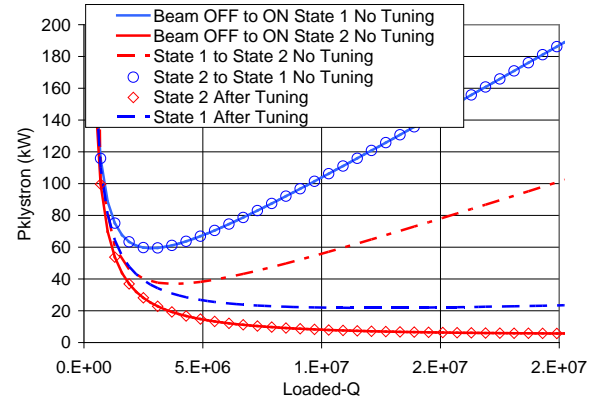


Figure 6. Required RF power as a function of loaded-Q showing the transient effects, no tuning changing state to state, and the steady state response after the tuners operate.

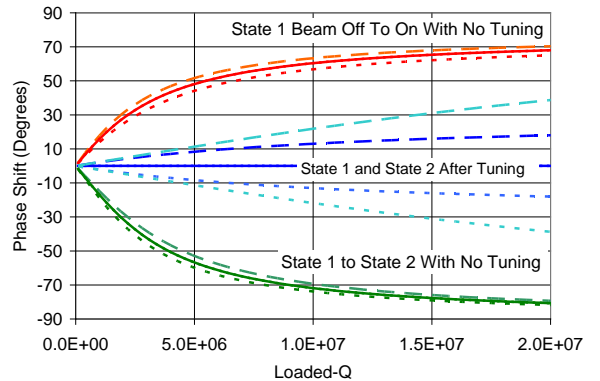


Figure 7. Phase shift due to detuning beam loading and microphonics effects.

If one were to select the loaded-Q on the basis of minimum steady state power with perfect energy recovery, you would select $Q_L = 1.2 \times 10^7$. Doing so means that the actual power required to survive (e.g.

the cavity gradient and phase remains sufficiently stable so as to maintain the beam energy within the acceptance of the machine) the full current state to state transients until the tuners respond is 120 kW. Looking at the worst case transient requires that the loaded-Q be set to 3×10^6 . Figures 8 and 9 show the power and current requirements for the different operating modes and transitions required of the system with the loaded-Q set to 3×10^6 .

As indicated in Figure 8 one would need at least 60 kW of RF power in order to operate the cavities in this mode. However, other operation modes could be considered. For example if State 1 is the turn on transients associated with turning the beam current on and State 2 is achieved by modifying the machine operation mode. One could turn the machine on at 75% of the operating current and ramp it up coincident with tuning the cavity, thus saving 20% of the RF power. Alternately, one could design a system using IOTs rated above 60 kW and design a DC power supply capable of maintaining that power level for several seconds and 40 kW for CW operation.

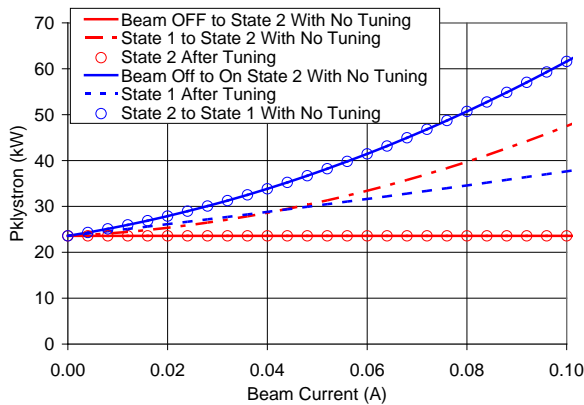


Figure 8. RF Power requirements for the example cavity with $Q_L = 3 \times 10^6$ as a function of beam current.

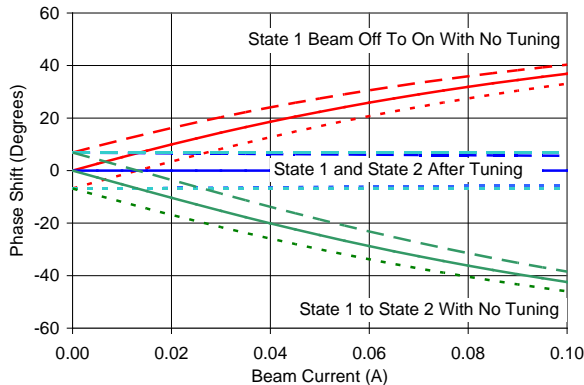


Figure 9. Dynamic phase control requirements as a function of beam current for the example cavity with $Q_L = 3 \times 10^6$.

For the second example we consider a machine that designed to operate with perfect energy recovery but

has acquired a path length error, and subsequently, a phase shift. For this example, the cavity is an ILC style 1300 MHz cavity operated at 20 MV/m with a microphonics allowance of 15 Hz. Assuming perfect energy recovery, the optimal loaded-Q should be 2.5×10^7 . Such a machine under ideal conditions would require 8 kW of RF power to function properly. However, if the second pass beam is shifted by as little as 1° the turn on and turn off transient power requirements would be 49 kW while the steady state requirement would increase to 12.6 kW. This is shown in Figure 10.

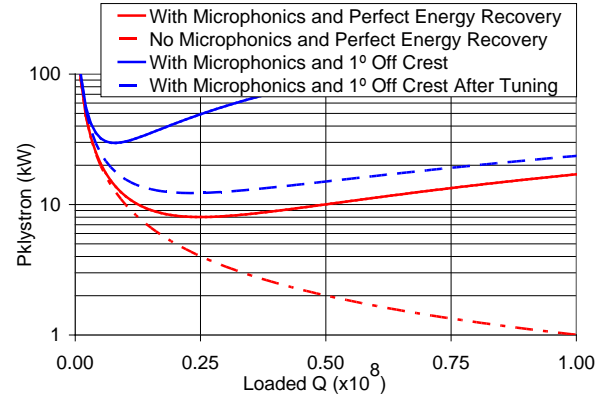


Figure 10. The effects of recovered beam being 1° off from perfect energy recovery, for an ILC cavity operated at 20 MV/m.

SUMMARY

Dynamic loading due to incomplete energy recovery is an issue for all machines that make use of energy recovered linacs. In some machines it is due to unintentional mismatch of the energy recovered beam with respect to the accelerated beam. In other machines such as those where a significant amount of energy is extracted from the beam between passes, it is intentional. In cases where there is the potential for rapid changes in the relative phase of the energy recovered beam, dynamic loading would be difficult to completely control using fast tuners. In such cases adequate headroom in the RF power would have to be designed into the system. Additionally, many other systems will be affected by this phenomenon. Examples include low-level RF systems, RF-power couplers and cavity tuners. For all these reasons proper machine design will require careful consideration of pass to pass phase parameters under the different operating scenarios. Additionally, tools need to be implemented to measure the phase difference between accelerated and decelerated beam at low or pulsed current as well at high current so that machine path lengths can be set and maintained to a high level of accuracy as the beam current is increased.

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