

Noise studies with Crab Cavities in the SPS for  
the HL-LHC project



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University of Liverpool for the degree of Doctor in Philosophy

by

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Day Month Year



# **Abstract**



## **Acknowledgments**

## List of Figures

4.1	Cut of the CC cryomodule [7]. . . . .	7
4.2	Installation of the cryomodule in the SPS-LSS6 zone [8]. . . . .	7
4.3	Diagram of the SPS HT monitor [11]. . . . .	9
4.4	Example $\Delta$ and $\Sigma$ signals from the HT monitor with respect to the longitudinal position within the bunch over several SPS revolutions, after the basic post processing (Ref. [11]) but before the baseline correction. The different colors indicate the signals from different turns. . . . .	10
4.5	2D representation of example $\Delta$ and $\Sigma$ signals with respect to the longitudinal position within the bunch obtained from the HT monitor over several SPS revolutions. . . . .	11
4.6	HT monitor baseline correction for the SPS CC tests. . . . .	12
4.7	HT acquisitions before and after the synchronisation of the SPS main RF with the CC. . . . .	12
4.8	Intra-bunch offset from the CC kick expressed in mm after the removal of the baseline. . . . .	13
4.9	CC voltage calibration from the HT monitor. . . . .	14
4.10	Illustration of the crabbing from the HT monitor signal. . . . .	15
4.11	Sketch of the SPS rotational wire scanners [17] . . . . .	16
4.12	Vertical beam profile obtained from the BWS.41677.V instrument. The measured data points (light blue) are fitted with a four parameter Gaussian (orange) to obtain the beam size. The calculated emittance is also shown. . . . .	16

## List of Tables

4.1	Main machine and beam parameters for the emittance growth studies with CCs in SPS in 2018 . . . . .	6
4.2	Crab cavities parameters for the emittance growth studies in SPS in 2018	8
4.3	Parameters for computing the CC voltage from the example HT mon- itor measurements discussed in this chapter . . . . .	14

# List of Symbols

$E_b$	Energy
$f_{rev}$	Revolution frequency
$V_{RF}$	Main RF voltage
$f_{RF}$	Main RF frequency
CC	Crab Cavity
$V_{CC}$	CC voltage
$f_{CC}$	CC frequency
$\phi_{CC}$	CC phase
$Q_x$	Horizontal tune
$Q_y$	Vertical tune
$Q_s$	Synchrotron tune
$\psi_y$	Vertical phase advance
$\beta$	Relativistic beta
$\gamma$	Relativistic gamma (Lorentz factor)
$N_b$	Bunch intensity i.e. number of particles (here protons)
$Q'_x$	Horizontal first order chromaticity
$Q'_y$	Vertical first order chromaticity



# Contents

<b>Abstract</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>List of figures</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>List of tables</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>List of symbols</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Basics of accelerator beam dynamics</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3 Theory of Crab Cavity noise induced emittance growth</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Experimental studies 2018: Operational setup and beam instrumentation</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1 Machine and beam configuration . . . . .	5
4.2 Crab Cavities in the SPS . . . . .	6
4.2.1 Operational considerations . . . . .	8
4.3 SPS Head-Tail monitor . . . . .	9
4.3.1 Post processing in the presence of Crab Cavities . . . . .	11
4.3.2 Crab Cavity voltage calibration . . . . .	13
4.4 SPS Wire Scanners . . . . .	15
4.5 ABWLM and wall current monitor . . . . .	18
<b>5 Experimental studies 2018: Measurements and analysis</b>	<b>19</b>
5.1 Experimental procedure . . . . .	19
5.2 Injected RF noise . . . . .	19

## 0. Contents

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5.3 Comparison with the theory . . . . .	20
<b>6 Investigation of the discrepancy</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>7 Simple model of describing the decoherence suppression from impedance</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>8 Application and impact for HL-LHC</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>9 Conclusion</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>A Appendix Title</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>28</b>

# **1 | Introduction**

This is the introduction of my PhD thesis.

In 2018, two prototype Crab Cavities (CCs) were installed in the SPS to be tested for the first time with proton beams. A series of dedicated machine development studies was carried out in order to validate their working principle and answer various beam dynamic questions. One of the operational issues that needed to be addressed concerned the expected emittance growth due to noise in their RF system, which is the main subject of this thesis. As mentioned in chapter 3 a theoretical model had already been developed and validated by tracking simulations [1]. As a part of the first experimental campaign with CCs in SPS a dedicated experiment was conducted to benchmark these models with experimental data and confirm the analytical predictions. The objective of this chapter is to provide an overview of the machine setup for the CC experiments and introduce the instruments and methods used for measuring the beam parameters of interest for the emittance growth studies.

## 2 | Basics of accelerator beam dynamics

For a gaussian beam distribution the normalised beam emittance is defined as:

$$\epsilon_x = \frac{\sigma_x(s)^2 - \delta^2 D_x^2(s)}{\beta_x(s)} \beta \gamma \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\sigma_x(s)$  is the beam size,  $\beta_x(s)$  is the beta function,  $D_x(s)$  is the dispersion fat a specific location s along the accelerator,  $\delta = \Delta p / p_0$  is the momentum spread and  $\beta, \gamma$  the relativistic parameters. Similar expression is valid for the vertical plane, with the difference that there is no dispersion.

### **3 | Theory of Crab Cavity noise induced emittance growth**

## **4 | Experimental studies 2018: Operational setup and beam instrumentation**

The theoretical model for the transverse emittance growth caused by amplitude and phase noise in a CC was introduced in Chapter 3. In 2018, a dedicated experiment was conducted in the SPS to benchmark this model against experimental data and confirm the analytical predictions. In this chapter, the machine setup, the beam configuration and the instrumentation used for the emittance growth studies with CCs in the SPS are presented.

The chapter is structured as follows: Section 4.1 describes the experimental machine configuration. Thereafter, Section 4.2 elaborates on the installation and the operational aspects of the CCs in the SPS. In Sections 4.3- 4.5 the instruments used for the parameters of interest (see Chapter 3, Eq....) i.e. CC voltage, emittance and bunch length are discussed, including the post processing methods where it was performed by the author.

### **4.1 Machine and beam configuration**

For studying the long-term emittance evolution special cycles were set up in the SPS which are called "coast" beam cycles with bunched beams. During them, the bunches circulate in the machine at constant energy for long periods, from a few minutes up to several hours, similarly to the HL-LHC case.

To make sure that the SPS machine can be used as a testbed for the emittance growth studies with CCs an extensive preparatory campaign was carried out over the years 2012-2017 [2, 3, 4]. The primary concern was the natural emittance growth

## 4. Experimental studies 2018: Operational setup and beam instrumentation

that was observed in the machine (without noise), as it needed to be well characterized and be kept sufficiently small in order to distinguish and understand the contribution from the CC noise. From these studies, it was concluded that the optimal coast setup is at 270 GeV, with low chromaticity and bunches of low intensity. Moreover, as the natural emittance growth was found to be a single bunch effect four bunches were used to reduce the statistical uncertainty of the measurements.

During the experiment the Landau octupoles were switched off. Nevertheless, a residual non-linearity was present in the machine mainly due to multipole components in the dipole magnets [5, 6]. Last, the transverse feedback system was switched off. The main machine and beam parameters of the experiment of 2018 are listed in Table 4.1. It should be noted, that no measurements of chromaticity are available from the day of the experiment. However it was ensured that it was corrected to small positive values.

Table 4.1: Main machine and beam parameters for the emittance growth studies with CCs in SPS in 2018

Parameters	Units	Values
$E_b$	[GeV]	270
$f_{rev}$	[kHz]	43.375
$N_b$	[p/b]	$3 \times 10^{10}$
bunches	[-]	4
bunch spacing	[ns]	524
$f_{RF} / V_{RF}$	[MHz] / [MV]	200 / 3.8
$Q_x / Q_y$	[-]	26.13 / 26.18
$Q'_x / Q'_y$	[-]	$\sim 1.0 / \sim 1.0$
$Q_s$	[-]	0.0051

### 4.2 Crab Cavities in the SPS

For the SPS tests two prototype CCs of the Double Quarter Wave (DQW) type, CC1 and CC2, were fabricated by CERN and were assembled into the same cryomodule



which is shown in Fig. 4.1 [7]. The cryomodule was installed in the SPS-LSS6 zone, Fig. 4.2, and was placed on a mobile transfer table [8]. The table moved with high precision and without breaking the vacuum the cryomodule in the beamline for the CC tests and out of it for the usual SPS operation. For the noise induced emittance growth studies only CC2 was used. Nevertheless, the parameters for both CCs are shown in Table 4.2 for completeness.

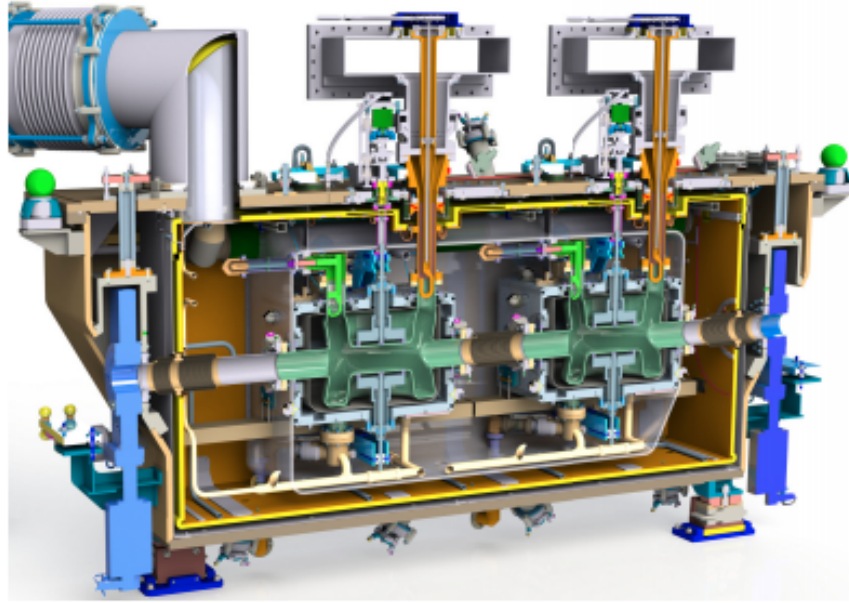


Figure 4.1: Cut of the CC cryomodule [7].

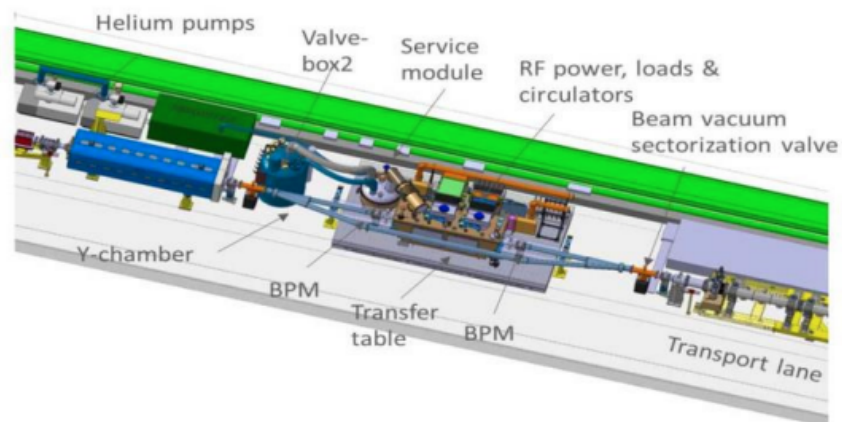


Figure 4.2: Installation of the cryomodule in the SPS-LSS6 zone [8].

## 4. Experimental studies 2018: Operational setup and beam instrumentation

Table 4.2: Crab cavities parameters for the emittance growth studies in SPS in 2018

Parameters	Units	Values	
		CC1	CC2
crabbing plane	[-]	vertical	vertical
s-location	[m]	6312.72	6313.32
$V_{CC}$	[MV]	0	1
$f_{CC}$	[MHz]	400	400
$\beta_{x,CC} / \beta_{y,CC}$	[m]	29.24 / 76.07	30.31 / 73.82
$\alpha_{x,CC} / \alpha_{y,CC}$	[m]	-0.88 / 1.9	-0.91 / 1.86
$D_{x,CC} / D_{y,CC}$	[m]	-0.48 / 0	-0.5 / 0

### 4.2.1 Operational considerations

For the beam tests with the CC in the SPS the approach regarding the energy ramp and the adjustment of the phasing with the main RF system needed to be evaluated and they are briefly discussed here.

#### Energy ramp

SPS receives the proton beam at 26 GeV from the PS. It was found that the ramp to higher energies could not be performed with the CC on, as the beam was getting lost while crossing one of the vertical betatron sidebands due to resonant excitation [9]. Therefore, it was established that the acceleration has to be performed with the CC off and its voltage must be set up only after the energy of interest has been achieved. It is worth noting that this approach will also be used for in the HL-LHC.

#### Crab Cavity - main RF synchronisation

Another issue of concern was the fact that the CC operate at the fixed frequency of 400 MHz while the SPS main RF system operates at 200 MHz (see Tables 4.1 and 4.2). In order to make sure that the beam will experience the same effect from the CC each turn the SPS main RF has to be re-phased such as it becomes synchronous with the crabbing signal. For the studies at 270 GeV the synchronisation took place at the end of the ramp to the coast energy and shortly after the cavity was switched

on [10].

### 4.3 SPS Head-Tail monitor

The HT monitor was the main diagnostic device deployed for the calibration of the CC voltage. Additionally, it was used for the measurement and the physical illustration of the crabbing. This made it a very useful tool during the experiments as it provided a direct validation of the effect of the CC kick on the beam. The HT monitor was originally designed for measuring chromaticity and transverse instabilities. Therefore its use as a crabbing diagnostic should be explained here. The methods and procedures described in this section were developed at CERN and they are described here for the completeness of the thesis.

In the first part of this section some general information on the instrument along with example signals will be presented. Subsequently, the post processing of the HT signal in the presence of the CCs. Last, the calibration of the CC voltage from the HT data is described. The experimental data presented in this section were acquired at the SPS injection energy of 26 GeV with only one CC, CC1, at  $\phi_{CC} = 0$  for simplicity. That energy option was chosen to provide a better explanation of the methods used as the orbit shift from the CC kick is stronger and thus more visible than in higher energies.

#### General information

The HT monitor is a high bandwidth version of a standard beam position moni-

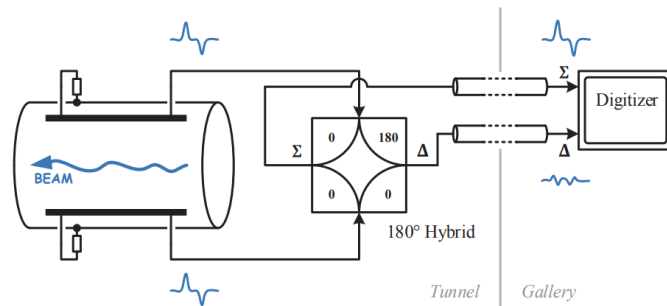


Figure 4.3: Diagram of the SPS HT monitor [11].

tor but it can measure the transverse offset within the bunch. This makes it ideal

for the measurement of the intra-bunch offset caused from the CC kick. Its reading consists of the sum  $\Sigma$  and the difference  $\Delta$  of the electrode signals of a straight stripline coupler (Fig. 4.3) [12, 11] over a defined acquisition period. The  $\Sigma$  signal is the longitudinal line density while the  $\Delta$  signal corresponds to the intra-bunch offset.

The raw signals from the HT monitor require a specific post processing procedure, which is described in Ref. [11], in order to give useful information. Figure 4.4 shows some example signals obtained from the HT monitor after the basic post processing is applied. Moreover, Fig. 4.5 shows a 2D representation of the HT monitor reading. It is worth noting here that in the specific example a clear periodic oscillation of the vertical intra-bunch offset (vertical  $\Delta$ ) signal is observed. This is a result of the main RF system not being synchronous with the CC frequency.

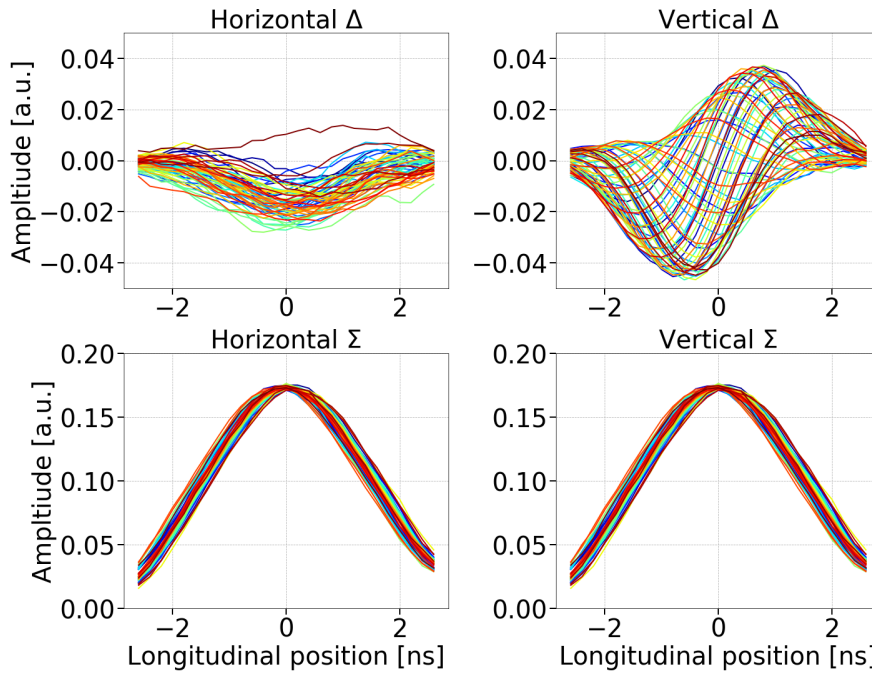


Figure 4.4: Example  $\Delta$  and  $\Sigma$  signals from the HT monitor with respect to the longitudinal position within the bunch over several SPS revolutions, after the basic post processing (Ref. [11]) but before the baseline correction. The different colors indicate the signals from different turns.

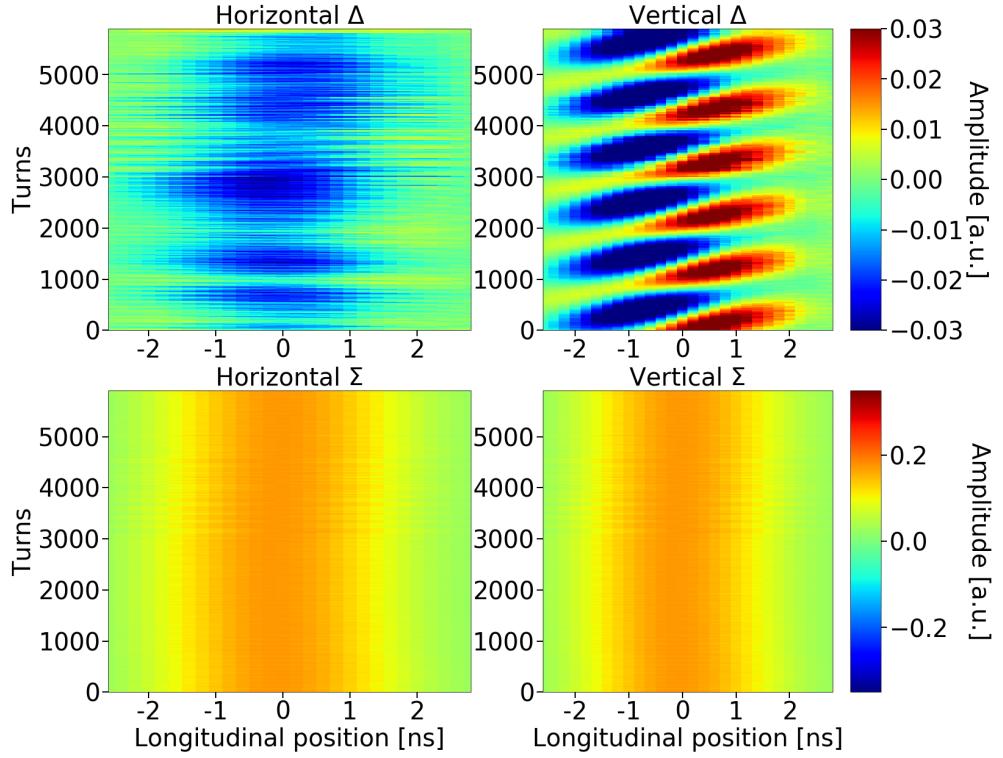


Figure 4.5: 2D representation of example  $\Delta$  and  $\Sigma$  signals with respect to the longitudinal position within the bunch obtained from the HT monitor over several SPS revolutions.

### 4.3.1 Post processing in the presence of Crab Cavities

To obtain useful information from the HT monitor signal in the presence of the CCs there are a few steps that differ from the standard post processing procedure and they are described below.

#### Heat-Tail monitor baseline correction

One issue of concern is the correction of the  $\Delta$  signal baseline due to orbit offsets and non-linearities of the instrument [11]. During the normal post processing, the correction is achieved by computing the mean of the  $\Delta$  signals over all turns and then subtracting this static offset from the signal of each turn. However, in the SPS tests, where the CCs are well synchronised with the main RF system (Section 4.2), the crabbing signal is also a static intra-bunch position offset and thus would also be removed with the usual method.

Therefore, for the CC experiments a reference measurement had first to be made

with the CC unsynchronised. The mean of the  $\Delta$  signal over this reference period was the baseline which then was subtracted from the  $\Delta$  signals acquired after the synchronisation (Fig 4.6). The datasets before and after synchronisation are easily distinguishable in the 2D HT monitor reading as displayed in Fig. 4.7

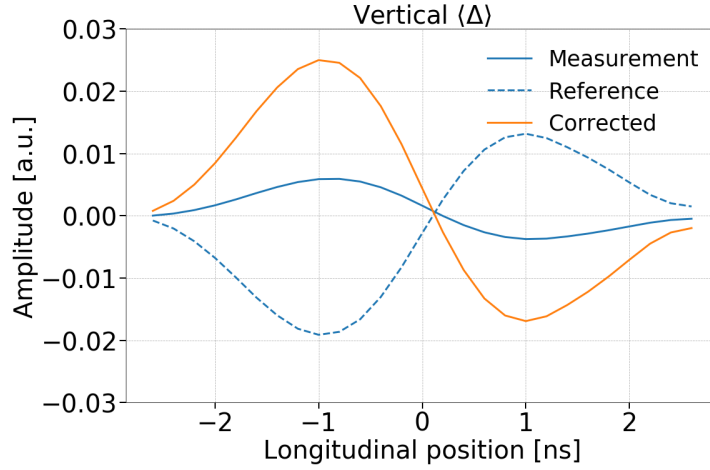


Figure 4.6: HT monitor baseline correction for the SPS CC tests.

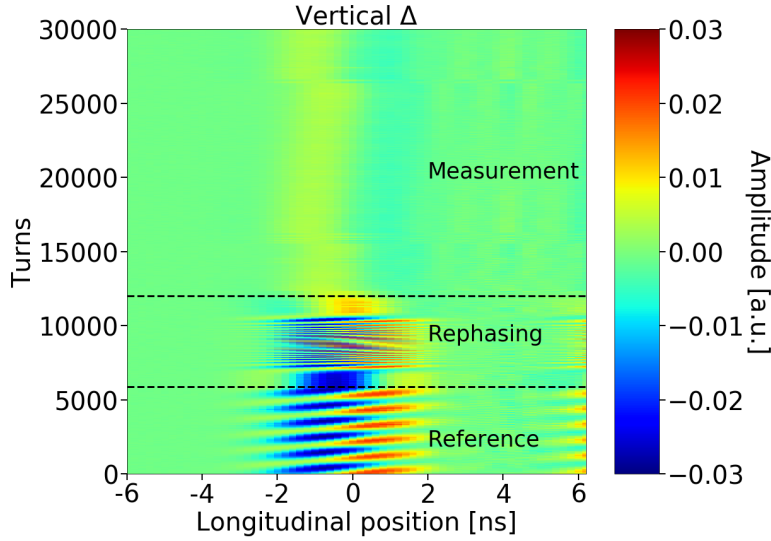


Figure 4.7: HT acquisitions before and after the synchronisation of the SPS main RF with the CC.

#### Headtail monitor calibration

The last step, to make the HT acquisitions meaningful is to convert the measured intra bunch offset,  $\langle \Delta \rangle$ , from arbitrary units to mm. The scaling is achieved by division with the  $\langle \Sigma \rangle$  signal and with a normalisation factor which is provided by the calibration of the HT monitor [13]. The normalisation factor for the SPS was mea-

sured at 0.1052 in 2018 [14]. Figure 4.8 shows the intra bunch offset from the CC kick in mm and after the baseline correction.

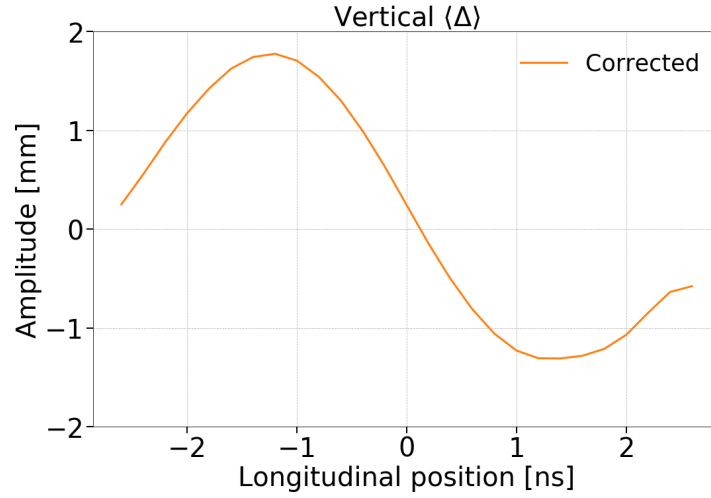


Figure 4.8: Intra-bunch offset from the CC kick expressed in mm after the removal of the baseline.

### 4.3.2 Crab Cavity voltage calibration

This section discusses the beam based measurement of the CC voltage from the HT monitor signal. The calibration was performed by calculating the kick required to reconstruct the measured intra-bunch offset using Eq. (4.1). Equation (4.1), which is obtained from Chaos' Eq. (1) from chapter 4.7.1 in Ref. [15], gives the vertical orbit shift (in meters) from the CC kick,  $\theta$ , at the HT monitor location as follows:

$$\Delta y_{HT} = \frac{\sqrt{\beta_{y,HT}}}{2 \sin(\pi Q_y)} \theta \sqrt{\beta_{y,CC} \cos(\pi Q_y - |\psi_{y,HT} - \psi_{y,CC}|)}, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $\beta_y$  is the beta function,  $Q_y$  is the tune, and  $\psi_y$  is the phase advance in tune units. The same applies for the horizontal plane. The indices HT and CC indicate the optic parameters at the location of the HT monitor and CC respectively.

The deflection from the CC is written as  $\theta = -\frac{qV(t)}{E_b}$ , where  $q$  is the charge of the particle,  $E_b$  the beam energy and  $V_{CC}(t) = V_{CC} \sin(2\pi f_{CC}t + \phi_{CC})$  is the voltage that a particle experiences while passing through the CC. Computing the maximum of  $V_{CC}(t)$  gives the cavity voltage,  $V_{CC}$ .

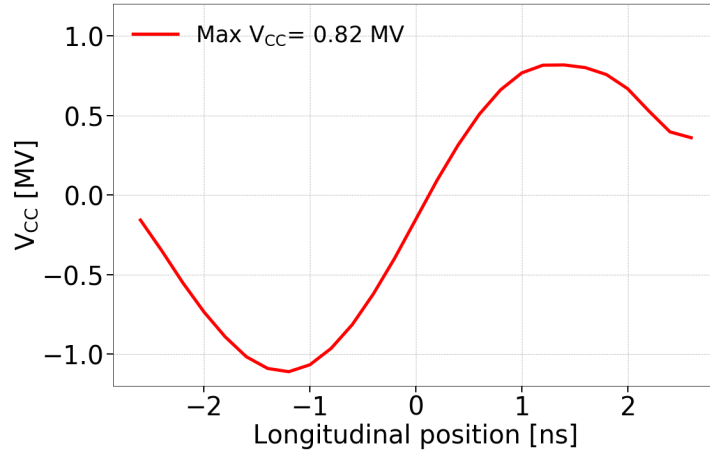


Figure 4.9: CC voltage calibration from the HT monitor.

It should be noted here, that the measured intra-bunch offset,  $\Delta y_{HT}$ , is inserted in Eq. (4.1) after removing the baseline and converting it in mm as discussed in Section 4.3.1. Figure 4.9 illustrates the cavity voltage computed from the HT signals shown already in this section. The corresponding beam and optic parameters are listed in Table 4.3

Table 4.3: Parameters for computing the CC voltage from the example HT monitor measurements discussed in this chapter

Parameters	Units	Values
$\beta_{y,HT} / \beta_{y,CC1}$	[m]	49.19 / 76.07
$\psi_{y,HT} / \psi_{y,CC1}$	[-]	15.68 / 23.9
$Q_y$	[-]	26.13
$E_b$	[GeV]	26

#### Reconstruction of crabbing

The reconstruction of the crabbing from the HT monitor measurements and the physical illustration of it are presented here. This technique was developed at CERN in 2018 and it was extensively used throughout the experimental campaign with CCs as alongside the calibrated voltage it gives a straightforward estimation of the applied CC kick, as illustrated in Fig. 4.10.

To obtain this physical illustration of the effect of the CC kick on the beam one needs



to modulate the measured longitudinal profile,  $\langle \Sigma \rangle$ , with the measured intra-bunch offset (e.g. Fig. 4.8). For the transverse plane a gaussian distribution is considered with  $\sigma$  obtained from the wire scanner (addressed in more details in the following section). The color code is normalised to the maximum intensity within the bunch.

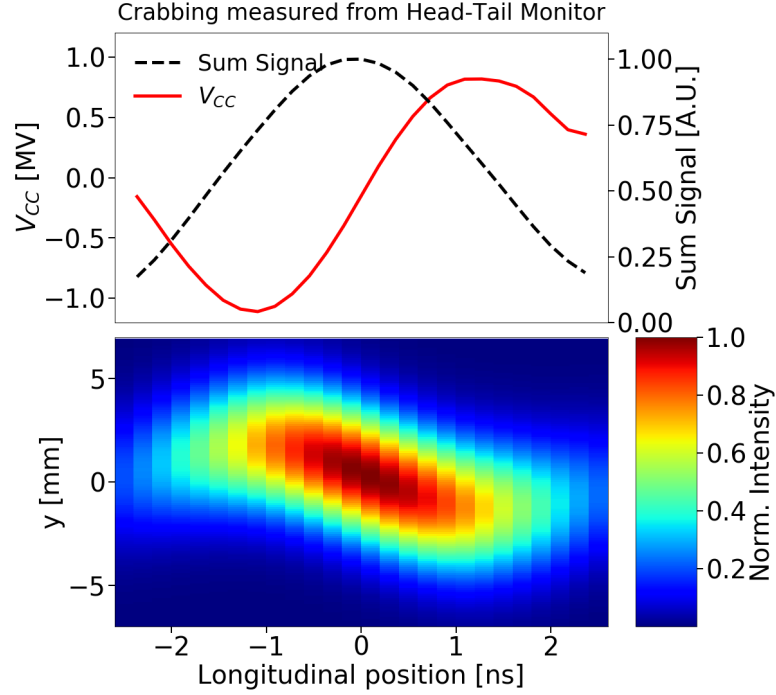


Figure 4.10: Illustration of the crabbing from the HT monitor signal.

## 4.4 SPS Wire Scanners

The SPS is equipped with wire scanners (WS) to measure the transverse beam emittance. The SPS WS system is described in detail in Ref. [16, 17]. For the SPS tests, the emittance was measured with rotational WS both for the horizontal and vertical plane (BWS.51995.H and BWS.41677.V respectively).

The working principle is shown in Fig. 4.11. A thin wire rapidly moves across the proton beam and a shower of secondary particles is generated. Their signal is then detected by a system of scintillator/photomultiplier (PM) outside of the beam pipe. By measuring the wire position and the PM current at it over multiple turns the transverse beam profile is reconstructed. An example of a vertical profile is shown in Fig. 4.12 (left).

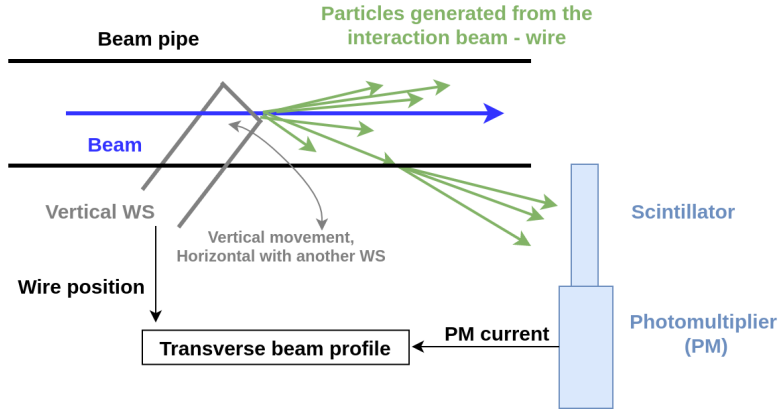


Figure 4.11: Sketch of the SPS rotational wire scanners [17]

### Fitting of transverse profiles

To obtain the beam size,  $\sigma$ , the transverse profiles from each scan are fitted with a four parameter Gauss function:

$$f(x) = k + Ae^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}, \quad (4.2)$$

where  $k$  is the signal offset of the PM,  $A$  is the signal amplitude,  $\mu$  is the mean of the Gaussian distribution and  $\sigma$  its standard deviation. The uncertainty of the measured beam size,  $\Delta\sigma$ , is defined as the one standard deviation error on  $\sigma$  which is computed from the square root of the diagonal elements of the covariant matrix.

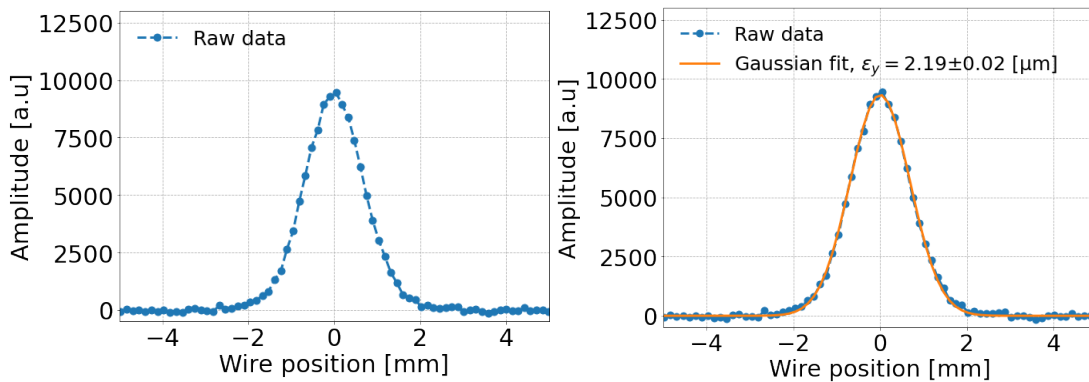


Figure 4.12: Vertical beam profile obtained from the BWS.41677.V instrument. The measured data points (light blue) are fitted with a four parameter Gaussian (orange) to obtain the beam size. The calculated emittance is also shown.

The general formula for computing the normalised beam emittance from the beam

size,  $\sigma$  is described in Eq. (2.1). However, in the 2018 SPS operational configuration, the dispersion was small in the WSs location and thus its contribution to the beam size was considered to be negligible<sup>1</sup>. In that case, the normalised emittance can be calculated for both transverse planes simply from the beam size ( $\sigma$ ), the beta function at the WS location ( $\beta_{WS}$ ), and the relativistic parameters ( $\beta, \gamma$ ) as follows:

$$\epsilon = \frac{\sigma^2}{\beta_{WS}} \beta \gamma \quad (4.3)$$

The beta functions were 81.5 m and 62.96 m at the locations of the horizontal and vertical WS respectively, while  $\beta\gamma$  equals 287.8 for the studies at 270 GeV.

Considering that the relativistic parameters and the beta function are free of error, the uncertainty of the computed emittance,  $\Delta\epsilon$ , at a dispersion free region, depends only on the uncertainty of the measured beam size,  $\Delta\sigma$ , as:

$$\frac{\Delta\epsilon}{\epsilon} = \sqrt{\left(2 \frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma}\right)^2} = 2 \frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma}, \quad (4.4)$$

#### Further considerations

It is worth noting here, that during each measurement with the WS the beam profile is actually acquired twice as the wire crosses the beam at the forward direction (IN scan) and then backwards (OUT scan). For the 2018 measurements the emittance values obtained from IN and OUT scans,  $\epsilon_{IN} \pm \Delta\epsilon_{IN}$  and  $\epsilon_{OUT} \pm \Delta\epsilon_{OUT}$ , were found to be very similar (add order of difference). In the analysis of the 2018 measurements, the average emittance from the two scans,  $\epsilon_{avg} = \langle \epsilon_{IN}, \epsilon_{OUT} \rangle$ , is used. The uncertainty on the averaged emittance,  $\Delta\epsilon_{avg}$ , is computed as:

$$\Delta\epsilon_{avg} = \sqrt{\Delta\epsilon_1^2 + \Delta\epsilon_2^2}, \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\Delta\epsilon_1$  is the standard deviation of the  $\epsilon_{IN}$  and  $\epsilon_{OUT}$  and  $\Delta\epsilon_2 = \sqrt{\langle \Delta\epsilon_{IN}, \Delta\epsilon_{OUT} \rangle}$ .

<sup>1</sup>The dispersion at BWS.51995.H location in 2018 was  $D_x = -15$  mm. At 270 GeV,  $\delta$  is of the order of  $10^{-4}$ . Thus, from Eq. (2.1) the horizontal normalised emittance from the dispersion is foreseen at the order of  $10^{-11}$ . Comparing to the observed beam size during the CC tests of a few microns the dispersion is negligible

Finally, some emittance increase is expected during each wire scan, due to Coulomb multiple scattering. This effect has been extensively studied in Ref. [18]. For the rotational SPS WS and the energy of 270 GeV, at which the CC experiments were performed the expected emittance growth from the WS is expected to be small. However, a conservative number of scans were carried,  $\sim 20$  scans per bunch and per plane during  $\sim 1$  hour, in order to minimise the contribution from this effect.

### 4.5 ABWLM and wall current monitor

The bunch length was measured with two different instruments the ABWLM [19] and the wall current monitor [20]. The ABWLM measures the longitudinal profiles from which the bunch length is computed by performing a gaussian fit. The wall current monitor acquires also the longitudinal profiles but also the beam position relative to the monitor. The bunch length is estimated from the full width half maximum of the profiles assuming a gaussian distribution. No further details on the operation of these instruments are discussed here as the offline analysis was not performed by the author.

## **5 | Experimental studies 2018: Measurements and analysis**

This chapter is adapted from the the studies published in Ref. [21]

- Injected noise. Show two examples of amplitude and phase noise spectra. Reference to the chapter where the relation between the measured and the noise as mentioned in the theoretical model is explained.
- Emittance growth measurements. (maybe take the average growth from IN and OUT. Very similar in 2018. If you do this, change the error estimation and the discussion in Ch4.)
- bunch length measurements, from both instruments.
- Bunch profiles and relative position from wall current monitor unstable bunches.
- No losses were observed (don't show measurements). Maybe in the appendix you can add the intensity plot.

### **5.1 Experimental procedure**

### **5.2 Injected RF noise**

In order to characterize the CC noise induced emittance growth, controlled noise was injected into their LLRF system and the evolution of the bunch was recorded for about 20-40 minutes. The injected noise was a mixture of amplitude and phase noise up to 10 KHz, overlapping and primarily exciting the first betatron sideband at  $\sim 8$  kHz. The phase noise was always dominant.

### **5.3 Comparison with the theory**

## **6 | Investigation of the discrepancy**

## **7 | Simple model of describing the decoherence suppression from impedance**



## **8 | Application and impact for HL-LHC**

## **9 | Conclusion**

## **A | Appendix Title**

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