Diagnostic Investigation of Tune and Tune Shift in the IPNS RCS

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Abstract. The Intense Pulse Neutron Source (IPNS) Rapid Cycling Synchrotron (RCS) accelerates 50 MeV protons to 450 MeV 30 times per second for spallation neutron production. Average current from the RCS has recently exceeded 16 µA with peak instantaneous current approaching 15 A. The RCS makes efficient use of 21 kV of RF accelerating voltage and uses phase-modulation between the two rf cavities to damp vertical instabilities. Split-ring electrodes in the ring suggest an anomalous tune shift that increases with time in the acceleration cycle. Based on a background gas pressure of 1 µTorr, the neutralization time for the beam is approximately 0.5 ms at injection suggesting the beam becomes fully neutralized relatively quickly in the cycle. Over-neutralization of the beam can lead to a positive tune shift that is presumably incoherent. Studies are underway to characterize the ionization within the RCS using the existing Profile and Position System (PAPS) and a newly installed Retarding Field Analyzer (RFA). Also a newly installed fast, deep-memory digitizing oscilloscope allows the entire history of a single acceleration cycle to be recorded from all four components of the split ring electrodes simultaneously at a rate of 250 MS/s.

INTRODUCTION

The Intense Pulsed Neutron Source (IPNS) Rapid Cycling Synchrotron (RCS) accelerates $3 \times 10^{12}$ protons from 50 MeV to 450 MeV, 30 times per second. The bare x and y tunes are $Q_x \approx 2.2$ and $Q_y \approx 2.35$. Observations of spectra recorded from capacitive pick-up electrodes within the RCS suggest that for a portion of the beam, the tune may be increasing for part of the accelerator cycle. In 1999, looking at data from these “Pie” position electrodes using a gated spectrum analyzer, a beam loss phenomena referred to as “pre-spill” was clearly seen to be the result of a resistive wall (vertical) instability as had been previously surmised. The instability causes a 50 percent loss of beam at the end of the acceleration cycle if left unchecked. The resistive wall instability is controlled through phase modulation (PM) of the rf accelerating voltage. The phase modulator or “scrambler,” varies the position of one of the two rf accelerating cavities by sinusoidal amplitude of 100 mrad ($6^\circ$) near twice the synchrotron frequency. The scrambler circuit also introduces amplitude modulation (AM) at the same frequency. “Slow-Q” (captured charge) signals with and without the scrambler are presented in Fig. 1.

RESISTIVE WALL INSTABILITY

Since the mid-1980s, the scrambler has been used to stabilize the bunch during the last few milliseconds of the acceleration cycle. Figure 2 shows two spectra taken just prior to extraction, 14 ms after injection, from a vertical pie electrode using an HP4396B spectrum analyzer (SA). The spectrum presented in Figure 2a is that with the scrambler modulation on from 9.5 ms to 11.5 ms, and that in 2b is with the scrambler off. Significant side-bands are in evidence in the latter spectrum and are believed to reflect the vertical tune, $Q_y$. Amplitudes of the sidebands are a strong function of circulating charge.

FIGURE 1. Captured RCS charge with and without PM.

The sidebands correspond to $(n \pm \nu_y)\nu_0$ for $n > Q_y$, in agreement with a resistive wall instability. The scrambler damps the transverse instability presumably by increasing the energy spread of the bunch. One way this can occur is by establishing a parametric oscillation, where the bunch rotates in longitudinal phase space while maintaining a constant emittance.

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FAST RING DATA

One concern regarding the SA is the degree to which it averages and possibly distorts the actual bunch signal during the cycle. To reduce noise, 10 sweeps are averaged to generate a single spectrum; each spectrum requires approximately 6 minutes to produce at a BW of 30 kHz. Thus at 30 Hz, we are sampling over 10,000 acceleration cycles; i.e., 10,000 bunches. The present generation of fast, deep-memory oscilloscopes makes it possible to produce fast spectra from a single 14 ms acceleration period. Using a Tektronix TDS7254 oscilloscope with 16 MB of fast memory, the entire RCS cycle can be recorded simultaneously on four channels at a rate of 250 MSamples per second. The penalty for speed is significantly higher noise with respect to the SA due to the greater oscilloscope bandwidth (2.5 GHz).

FIGURE 2. Bunch Spectra near extraction a) with scrambler and b) without scrambler.

To evaluate the above concern, a comparison has been made of spectra obtained from both the SA and oscilloscope with the data given in Figure 3. Approximately 0.3 ms after injection, the top pie electrode signal recorded with the SA exhibits strong sidebands as shown in Figure 3a. The sample period is 0.1 ms. Likewise, sideband structure can also be seen in the spectra generated from TDS7254 oscilloscope data and presented in Figure 3b. The time data was recorded at the same point in the cycle from an adjacent pie electrode during an 80 microsecond period (20 kS interpolated to \(2^{15}\) values for the FFT). The individual bunch shape recorded with the oscilloscope differs slightly from that of SA but both represent an average. Note that the noise floor is several orders of magnitude higher for the oscilloscope generated spectrum. The noise level in the SA data is typically in the range of \(10^{-12}\) W. Sidebands indicate a vertical fractional tune of 0.28; the horizontal tune is 0.20. Irrespective of the noise level, the two techniques do indicate similar spectral features.

FIGURE 3. Comparison of top pie electrode data recorded with a) SA and b) oscilloscope 0.3 ms after injection.

SCRAMBLER STUDIES

The scrambler helps to damp oscillations that are indicative of destructive instabilities; these oscillations can appear as spectral features such as the sideband structure shown in Figure 1b. While the scrambler removes one type of narrow band (coherent) structure from the spectra, it introduces other features which are broader in nature. Figure 4 presents pie spectra at two times in the RCS cycle, 10 ms and 11 ms after injection. The latter curve has been shift downward two orders of magnitude to make it more visible. The scrambler begins at 9.4 ms after injection; however, only the primary bunch harmonics are visible at 10 ms. One millisecond later, the spectrum has changed with a pair of broadband, transverse modulation features present on either side of the bunch harmonics. The modulation features are thought to be transverse because they do not appear on longitudinal diagnostics.
such as the beam current toroid (CT) or resistive wall
monitor (RWM) in the RCS. Thus, coupling from
longitudinal motion into the transverse plane may also
help to damp the resistive wall instability. The broad
sidebands are not present when the scrambler is off.

Knowing that the scrambler generates sidebands,
an effort was made to see if the these spectral features
could be observed elsewhere in the acceleration cycle.
The scrambler electronics allows for two modulation
periods at different times in the cycle. Keeping one at

\[ \Delta \nu(\tau) = -\frac{I_0(\tau)R\left(1 - \gamma^2(\tau)f_n(\tau)\right)}{I_0\epsilon_0\beta^2(\tau)\gamma^2(\tau)} \]  

where \( f_n \) is the fractional neutralization. If over-
neutralization is allowed and \( f_n(t) = t/\tau_n \), where \( t \) is
time measured from injection, then the tunes predicted
by Eq. 1 are as presented in Fig. 5. Some of the
structure in the measured tunes may be the result of
the pulsed quadrupole magnets in the RCS, the current
waveforms of which are given at the bottom of Fig.5.

**DISCUSSION AND FURTHER WORK**

Neutralization through ionization means electrons and
ions are generated in the background gas, perhaps
leading to the formation of a plasma. A plasma sheath
forming around the beam would both shield the space
charge potential of the beam from the wall as well as
carry image current. Plasma formation would be
enhanced in the combined-function magnet sections of
the RCS which cover just over half of the beam path.
Charge confinement times in the magnets should be
longer then in the field-free straight sections.
Liberated charge is restricted to follow magnetic field
lines which lead quickly above and below the beam to
a stainless steel liner. Secondary emission from the
liner produces more electrons which are again forced
to follow field lines back to the beam. An electron

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**REFERENCES**


