Longitudinal Laser Wire at SNS

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Spallation Neutron Source

- Neutron scattering facility to research properties of materials
- 1 GeV Protons create neutrons through spallation in Hg target



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Longitudinal size measurements

- BSM (Feschenko device)
 - Wire is used to strip electrons
 - RF deflector selects particular phase
 - Interceptive technique
 - Impossible to use in production
- BPM amplitude measurements vs. BPM position
 - Requires cavity scan and cavity blanking
 - Impossible to use in production
 - Requires beam dynamics model
- Laser wire
 - Number of striped electrons is negligible for ion beam
 - Completely non-intrusive
 - Can be used in production or studies



SCL Cav01a Phase, deg





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Layout





Layout





Layout















Beam size vs. distance from collimation lens after the fiber propagation

Mira 900 Ti:sapphire mode-locked laser

- pumped by a 10W Verdi-V10 solid-state laser
- synchronized to a stable RF source at 80.5MHz with a Coherent Synchro-Lock controller.
- pulse width (FWHM) of 2.5ps.
- peak power is variable up to 5kW.
- 30m long polarization-maintaining LMA fiber from Nufern
- fiber output pulse width ~ 10ps
- photo-ionized electron charge over one macropulse ~10pC
- wavelength 800nm



Experiment setup: Frequency Offset





Experiment setup: Phase Shift



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Phase shifting can be tricky

- · Two phase shifters connected in series
- Phase vs. bias non-linear
- Amplitude vs. bias not flat
- Second phase depends on first bias due to amplitude being non-flat
- Calibration independent phase measurement needed
- Photodiode inside laser enclosure connected to lock-in amplifier serves for phase monitoring
- Phase shifter needs to be buffered or it will contaminate base 80.5MHz and lock-in won't measure phase correctly





RVPT0003MAC phase shifter: phase/amplitude vs. bias



Data acquisition



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Can we average background?



If we stay at the same phase for several pulses, we can significantly reduce noise by simple averaging over total number of samples.

It works for background, signal and phase measurement.

Averaging is fast at 60Hz





Collect background (no laser involved) data ~ 60Hz. Partition data in batches of 1000. For every pulse calculate integral I[t] over [t0, t0+10uS]. For every t average the integral over batch.





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For several t plot I[t] vs. batch number





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Averaging doesn't work for 50uS pulse



Background conditions change at short pulse and low repetition rate

No slow drift anymore

Unknown origin of "jumps"

Looks like some sort of slow charging/fast discharging behavior

Limits measurements of low current beams ~ 7mA

Impossible to measure no space charge beams



Sanity check – "quadrupole" scanning



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Conclusions

- The LBSM is operational
- We can reliably measure production beam at 60 Hz with accuracy of at least 0.5° (or even better with averaging)
- Background during production full beam is no issue.
- The measured bunch size is ~10°, but design size is ~15°. It is hard to come up with a measurement imperfectness that shrinks the bunch.
- Background during accelerator studies with 50uS beam are affected by fast evolving background that prevents us to measure low current beams.
- We will continue exploring our options to reject background:
 - Will try faster detector to detect 80.5MHz
 - Will try optimizing magnet field to improve signal/background ratio
 - Will try to find the source fast changing background

